THE QUAKER NEIGHBORHOOD
OF SANDY SPRING, MARYLAND

by Edwin Bateman Morris, Sr.

The community near Washington called Sandy Spring (once described as not so much a community as an earnest state of mind) while modern and steadily moving on, yet pleasantly retains an appealing feel of the past. Modern urges blossom—its outstanding summer theatre, its top-flight hospital, its modern projects such as, architecturally important, its intent to have a well-studied building code. Yet the flavor of the past is there: meeting-house, bank and insurance office resting in their eloquent grove of ancient trees.

For more than two hundred years the community has been predominantly Quaker. As a result of the charter granted Cecil Calvert by Charles I, in the seventeenth century, Quakers, persecuted in England, came to Maryland. A large group came to Sandy Spring, and became well-known for efficient development and control. Their records were precise and exact, as a result of which they were not required to obtain county marriage licenses: and so on.

Their intent for a well-rounded and self-sufficient community caused them to establish an independent fire insurance company. Further, a bank was set up, having twenty-four directors, two of whom administered the banking business each month. The bank was open only on Wednesday afternoons. These two institutions developed steadily and strongly and now are among the most stable organizations of their kind in the country.

A gentleman named Snowden in the early 18th century owned many thousand acres in this part of Maryland known as Snowden Manor. The best way to distribute, divide and hand on property was daughters. Snowden had two, one of whom married James Brook, a great grandson of an earlier governor. The other married John Thomas, and the process of distribution, dividing and handing-on was on its way.

John Thomas in about 1740 built on this nuptially-acquired land the house "Cherry Grove," which burned down in about 1780 and was replaced by a lovely structure. This second "Cherry Grove" is still standing and is owned and nurtured (fortunate circumstance) by the architect George Riggs. Also, about the time of the first "Cherry Grove," the fine houses "Clifton" and "Norwood" were built, both simple and dignified and marked by distinguished brickwork.

The tradition that the bricks for these houses were brought from England is probably unfounded, since the community was far, far from any water transportation, and since there was such good clay in the vicinity. At the estate "Fair Hill" there was what was described as an "extensive pottery business," where were manufactured utensils, brick and, without doubt, tile, since these latter materials were used in the growing city of Washington.

There has always been a cooperative spirit in the community. For instance in early days there was one citizen who owned a pair of boots, which were always borrowed by anyone going to Annapolis. It would be appropriate if such boots could similarly be made available in the future for Ronald Senseman.

The settlement was called Sandy Spring because of the spring not far from the meeting house and not far from the present summer (Continued on Page 2)

"CHERRY GROVE"
Ben Elliott Speaks at Meeting of Northeast Montgomery Council

On September 15th Ben Elliott gave a talk to the Northeast Montgomery Community Council, at the Sandy Springs Library, on "How the future Development of Montgomery County can be accomplished without transforming the whole country side into a low density suburban development." His recommendations were:

1. Consideration for a master County plan which would offer belts of country side, parks or farms between developed areas. This plan would closely resemble the concept of towns and villages on the perimeter of the Washington-Metropolitan area.

2. In order to accomplish such a master plan, the zoning code of Montgomery County would have to be amended to cover the conditions of development in rural areas.

3. The preservation of buildings and residences of historic value.

4. The establishment of a County Fine Arts Commission as an advisory group.

5. That the residents of Montgomery County, in seeking better quality architectural design, support the efforts of the architects to strengthen the State Registration Law.

6. To encourage the appointment of an architect-planner to the Maryland National Park and Planning Commission.

These recommendations were offered to the Council for their consideration. The Northeast Montgomery Community Council displayed a tremendous interest in good architecture and good planning in the forthcoming development of the upper part of the County.

This Council is comprised of a representative group of all civic and service organizations. The Council urges that a member of the Potomac Valley Chapter, A.I.A., joins the Council. Ron Senseman, who also attended the meeting and gave comments, suggested Arthur Weidner, as he lives in the area. Mr. Weidner could keep the Chapter informed.

New Members of P.V.

We wish to welcome two new members to the Potomac Valley Chapter this month: Arthur E. Hald, Jr., Associate member, of 9917 Holmhurst Road, Bethesda and Carl Thomas Prior, Corporate member, of 1514 Constance Street, Silver Spring. Mr. Hald was a New York firm while attending school, then went into the Air Force. He is now in Ron Senseman's office.

Gene Glasgow
Tenders Resignation

Shortly after Gene Glasgow returned from South Dakota, our much liked and appreciated Gene Glasgow found it necessary to tender his resignation as Public Relations Counsel for the Potomac Valley Chapter. As yet, the Executive Committee has not accepted his resignation but as a necessity has explored the possibility of retaining other counsel. During the last two months the Public Relations Committee has, with considerable effort, carried the program and publications without the services of counsel. The work involved in carrying on our Public Relations program requires outside assistance as the Committee members cannot devote all the time necessary to carry out the many phases of this program. After due consideration the Executive Committee has interviewed and talked to the firm of House and Gerstin, Inc., Public Relations counsellors. Mr. Gerstin has expressed a great deal of interest in working with the Chapter and who have written our Executive Committee a letter as follows:

"Here are the areas in which I believe an effective Public Relations campaign could be engendered for the Potomac Valley Chapter of the A.I.A.:

1. A general study of purpose and direction to determine what civic, social, newspaper or trade activities could be undertaken.

2. More consistent use of the Metropolitan and local press.

3. Supervision of the monthly publication. I feel that the scope of Public Relations on your behalf is limited only by the amount of time you are willing to give it.

Sincerely,

House and Gerstin, Inc.
(Signed) Marvin J. Gerstin, Vice President"

The last paragraph in Mr. Gerstin's letter refers not only to the Executive Committee and Public Relations Committee but also to each member of the Chapter. Each member should daily be conscious of his obligation to the profession and assist in every way to better himself, his work and his profession. This means that some contribution on the part of each member to the public relations work will be expected. This situation will be discussed and the membership will be asked to voice their opinions. The Executive Committee has expressed the feeling that this problem should be brought to the membership and the final decision left in their hands.

Sub-station to Bagley and Soule

John Blake Murphy, County Architect, announced that Bagley and Soule are to do the Wheaton Glenmont Sub-station of Montgomery County Police.
Jack Cohen, Our New Treasurer
Is Busy With New Apartment Projects

Our new treasurer, Jack Cohen, is a very busy man these days, having increased his office staff recently to handle the influx of new apartment house projects. In addition to three others, he is working on an 8-story elevator apartment in Silver Spring—the first luxury apartment in this city. Jack has just finished the Laurel Park Apartments in Laurel, Md. and the Beth-El Synagogue on Old Georgetown Rd. in Bethesda.

Jack is one of those comparatively rare people in this area—a native Washingtonian—and is the proud father of 3 children, the latest a baby girl, born on Sept. 4th, whose name is Harriette. He has recently built a beach cottage on Fenwick Island, Del., which, according to Jack is built on a modular basis. This, he explains, gives a maximum of efficiency in construction, together with uniqueness of design.

Mr. Cohen’s office has specialized in builder’s houses of which 1,000 such homes have been built in the Greater Washington Area—an amount which approaches 10% of such building activity.

Jack started out to be an engineer, having attended Maryland University for 1 year and Catholic University. He soon decided to be a clean-cut American boy and contribute to the heritage of American art and architecture. Therefore he associated himself with our well-known Ron Senseman, and after a couple of years established his own business.

Cohen’s versatility is evidenced by his recent recognition as architect of the Mickelsons’ storefront which was displayed in the special June issue of the P.V.A. announcing the annual awards.

Jack is also very busily engaged as a director of the Board of Directors of the Suburban Maryland Builders. This is an organization that largely comprises building contractors but which leaves room for 2 architects. The chapter should be happy to have one of its members in this executive position.

We all wish well to Jack Cohen in his new job as treasurer of the Potomac Valley Chapter and as a new father that his past success will lead to new and brighter pathways—and we are sure—to a firmer place for the chapter which he represents so well.

Church Architectural Guild Holds Annual Conference

CHURCH ARCHITECTURAL GUILD OF AMERICA will hold its Annual Conference at Hotel Statler, in Los Angeles, February 17-19, 1959. Important features will be the annual exhibition of Church Architecture, and displays of stained glass, organs, church furnishings, works of art, building fabrics, etc.

Further information may be obtained from the Guild offices, Du Pont Circle Building, 1346 Connecticut Avenue, Suite 321, Washington, D. C.

Milt Prassas to Speak At Lutheran Banquet

Milt PRASSAS has been asked to be a speaker at the Lutheran Laymen's Fellowship of Washington at their annual banquet. Howard Mitchell, Director and Conductor of the National Symphony will be the main speaker. You may remember that Mr. Mitchell gave a talk last year to architects concerning the relationship between music and architecture. We are looking forward to his remarks at this banquet to show the relationship between religion and music.

Committee News

The Board of Education of Prince George's County has very recently forwarded to Ben Elliott of the Public Relations Committee, a letter expressing their appreciation of a booklet sponsored by the A.I.A. This booklet, entitled "Designing a Better Tomorrow" was sent to Mr. William S. Schmidt, County Supt.

"We in public education are very grateful for this contribution on the part of your profession to our guidance program and to the possible use of this pamphlet in our high school career day programs. I have taken the liberty of referring both the material and your offer to participate in any career day program to Dr. Katherine Fossett who is the Supervisor in charge of the Guidance Program. I feel confident that Dr. Fossett will acquaint our high school counselors of the generous contribution and offer of service made by your organization."

This material is an excellent Public Relations media with which most A.I.A. members are now familiar. A copy was also sent to the Montgomery County Board of Education.

From Ted Englehardt we have the following list of the members of the office practice committee:

Jack Cohen
John D'Espagnat
Harold Esten
Milton Prassas
Ted Cromar

The committee plans to continue the seminars that have been so successful in the past. Some of the topics for discussion will include "Errors & Omission Insurance," some legal discussion on wills and agreements and there will be further work on the A.I.A. contract forms when they are sent out from the Octagon.

Also there will be speakers on the various topics and the whole chapter is invited to attend these meetings. Refreshments will be

Information Regarding Architectural Education

ARCHITECT'S REVIEW COURSE to prepare for Registration Exams—at Northern Va. Center—1206 N. Quincy Street, Arlington Virginia. Monday nights—Beginning Sept. 22. Call JA 7-3125


FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIPS—address the Institute of International Education, Inc., 1 East 67th Street, N.Y. 21, N.Y.—for information on 1959-60 competition for graduate study abroad in many planning and architectural studies.

Nebraska Sends Roster

The Chapter has recently received a roster from the Nebraska Chapter of the A.I.A. which interests us very much. It is a 24-page cover-bound piece of distinctive typography which is an inspiration to this Chapter.
ARCHITECTURAL CONCRETE
Tecfab, Inc.
Precast structural insulating panels and window wall systems. Plastic Membrane and tile facings.
Beltville, Md. WE 5-3116

BUILDING EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS
The Hampshire Corporation
Acoustical Tile, Plastering, Flooring
Partitions, Roof Deck
4626 Annapolis Rd., Bladensburg UN 4-0300

National Brick & Supply Co., Inc.
High Pressure Block
High Pressure Concrete Brick
Belt Floor Pavers, Terra Cotta
Washington 11, D. C.
TU 2-1700

Mount Vernon Clay Products Co.
800 Hamlin St., N. E., Washington 17, D. C.
DE 2-6267

The Washington Brick Company
Modular Masonry Materials
4th and Decatur Sts., N.E., Wash. TU 2-3200

United Clay Products Company
Accurate Windows & Doors, Bricks, Carrier
Air Conditioners, Johns-Manville, and Bryant
931 Investment Bldg., Wash., D.C. DI 7-6877

FURNISHINGS AND EQUIPMENT
Klon Row
Saxony & Wels Toilet Partitions
5229 Watson St., Wash. EM 3-5649

Schatz Kitchen Equipment, Inc.
Washington's Oldest Mfr. of Kitchen Equipment for Restaurants and Schools
5011 Minn. Ave., N.E., Wash. 27, D. C. SP 3-5500

Baird Seating Company
Designers and Distributors of Furniture for Churches, Schools and Public Buildings.
Baltimore 23, Md.
Washington Phone: ME 8-2521

GENERAL
Cupples Products Corp.
Commercial and Residential Aluminum Windows
Cupples Curtain Walls
1024 Dupont Circle Bldg. AD 4-3583

James A. Cassidy Co., Inc.
Building Products
Modernfold Doors
8th and Lawrence Sts., N.E.
HU 3-8300

Builders Hardware Corp.
Architectural Hardware Consultants—Builders, Finishing Hardware
4908 St. Elmo Ave., Bethesda, Md. OL 6-6800

Phil Dieterich
Manufacturers Representative—Aluminum Windows, Widing Glass Doors, Curtain Walls
727 Old Chester Rd., Beth., Md. OL 4-7227

Fries, Beall & Sharp Company
Representative of Bargett & Co.
734 10th St., N.W., Wash. EX 3-1100

D. A. Hubbard Co.
Arts & Steel Products Corp.; Grant Pulley
and Hardware, PanelFab Aluminum
Doors, Frames, Insulated Panels
4070 Montgomery Ln., Beth., Md. OL 2-8433

Hope's Windows, Inc.
The Finest in Metal Windows
1820 No. Nash St., Arlington, Va. JA 5-8919

Floyd E. Koontz
Pella — Wood Folding Doors & Windows
Miami Medicine Cabinets & Mirrors
3350 K St., N.W., Wash. D.C. FE 3-2900

Rose Brothers Co.
For Roofing & Sheet Metal Work—Servicing the Washington-Metropolitan Area since 1892—
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Folding doors of all types
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T. M. Woodall, Inc.
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JU 9-3811

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Altimont Bros. Inc.
4929 Bethesda Avenue, Bethesda 14, Md.
OL 2-1700

E. A. Baker Company, Inc.
Builders
6480 Sligo Mill Rd., Takoma Park JU 5-8564

Warthen & Ward
General Contractors
10410 Montgomery Ave., Kensington, Md.
Lockwood 5-1186

Demory Brothers
General Building Contractors
Gaitersburg, Md. Gaith. 1066

Marvin J. Duncan and Co.
General Contractors
16315 Kensington Pkwy., Kews., Md. LD 4-7075

Hill and Kimmel, Inc.
General Contractors
1103 Wayne Ave., Silver Spring, Md.
JU 5-3911

Muth Brothers, Builders
4859 Cordell Ave., Bethesda, Md. OL 2-5113

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Gustin Gardens, Inc.
Architectural Landscaping
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Rockville Pike & Old George. Rd. WH 6-5000

MASONRY
A. Myron Cowell, Inc.
Masonry Contractor
JU 9-4380

6416 Ramsey Ave., Silver Spring JU 9-3340

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Cunningham Paint Company
Distributors: PVK Muraltone In
175 Colors for All Interior and exterior Masonry Walls
1236 - 20th St., N. W.
ME 8-2670

W. R. Winslow Co.
Distributors for: Benjamin Moore, Samuel
Cabot, and National Gypsum, Winslows Products
922 New York Ave., N. W., Wash. NA 8-6610

PLUMBING & HEATING
American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corp.
Specifications for Plumbing and Heating
8641 Cokesville Rd., Silver Spring JU 7-6000

Crane Co.
Manufacturers and Wholesalers of Plumbing,
Heating, Kitchens, Pipe, Valve, Fittings
10700 Hanna St., Beltsville, Md.
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802 Elsworth Drive, Silver Spring JU 5-1272

SPECIAL SERVICES
Joseph P. Sullivan
Estimating and Cost Analysis
On Government and Private Projects
6523 Luzen Ave., N. W., Wash., D. C.
RA 3-17

Tile Mfrs. Assn. of America
Edwin H. Morris
1604 K St., N.W., Wash.
NA 8-36

Foundation Test Service, Inc.
Foundation Investigations, Test Borings, Half
Testing, Auger Probe Borings, Rock Drilling
James J. Schubel, Geo. Mgr.
1605 Kennedy Pl., N.W., Wash.
RA 6-66

STEEL JOISTS
C. R. Coxeter and Company
Masonite Steel Products
8115 Fenton St., Silver Spring, Md. JU 9-73

TILE
O. R. Armstrong
I. S. Ceramic Tile Co., The Sports Ceramic Co., RS Curtain Wall Panels
2742 S. Buchanan St., Arlington 6, Va.
KI 9-08

The Mosaic Tile Co. of Virginia
Tile Manufacturer
Warehouse and Showroom
667 S. Ball St., Arlington, Va.
OT 4-5533

Standard Art, Marble & Tile Co.
Scagliola, Marble, Mosaic, Terrazzo, Tile,
Ceramic Slates
117 D St., N.W., Wash.
NA 8-7