ARLINGTON'S

SUMMER HILL PLANTATION

BY

Dorothea E. Abbott

In the southeast corner of Arlington County where woods, meadows, pastures, gardens and watercourses were part of nature beautiful we can now see the Water Pollution Control Plant (County Sewage Treatment Plant), the prominent smokestacks that rise from the county incinerator, the Glebe Sub-Station of Virginia Electric and Power Company, the Metrobus maintenance and storage area, automobile dealers, the railroad yard, the George Washington Memorial Parkway, and a part of the National Airport, all this on land that once produced the finest tobacco.

Summer Hill Plantation consisted of one hundred fifty acres. It was part of the original Howson Patent¹ purchased by John Alexander in 1669. His son, Robert Alexander, sold the land to John Pimmet in 1687. George Pimmet, his son, sold the tract to William Harper for 8,000 pounds of tobacco in 1707. Harper's son, John Withers Harper, of Prince William County, on March 20, 1732, sold the land to Thomas Pearson of Stafford County, for five shillings sterling.

The Pearson deed described the tract as being on the north side of Four Mile Creek and extending up the Potomac River, north, seventy five poles² (slightly less than one-fourth of a mile) to a White Oak corner tree, then west into the woods three hundred twenty poles (1 mile) to a marked Chestnut Oak tree, then south seventy five poles to the creek, and down the creek to the beginning, containing one hundred fifty acres.

From an on site examination of the property one surmises that the Chestnut Oak tree presently standing on the grounds of the Water Pollution Control Plant is the tree described in the deed as the northwest boundary marker.

This tall tree with its enormous trunk and large sweeping branches is indeed very old. An employee of the Arlington County Parks Department, Cleveland Harlow, has recently estimated the age of the tree to be approximately three hundred years. This is just one of the oldest trees in the county. It is located on a hill adjacent to the WPCP Maintenance Building.

There is a real estate transaction recorded in the Prince William County Index Book between "Pearson and Chapman" in Liber C 1735-1738 on pages 110 and 111. Unfortunately Liber C has been lost. This missing link could possibly have been the Deed of Transfer by Thomas Pearson for the one hundred fifty acres to Nathaniel Chapman.

Constantia Pearson of Stafford County, also known as Constant, married Nathaniel Chapman in 1732. Her sister, Susanna, married John Alexander in 1734. He owned land across Four Mile Creek, on the south side, where he built the mansion house called "Preston." It has been suggested that Constant wanted to live on the north side of the Creek so that she and Susanna would be neighbors, and it is feasible that her brother Thomas gave her and her husband the land on which they built "Summer Hill." Berry's map of 1741 shows a "Mr. Chapman's House" north of Four Mile Creek and "John Alexander's Quarters" on the south side of the Creek.

The Chapman family moved from Summer Hill to live in Maryland after Nathaniel Chapman purchased five hundred eighty acres called Grimes Ditch on October 27, 1750. Grimes Ditch was located on the Maryland shore of the Potomac River, in Charles County, about seven miles below Mount Vernon. Their long broad frame house has been described as being one and a half stories high with dormer windows, and close to the river. Chapman's Point takes its name from Nathaniel Chapman, as well as Chapman's Landing where the ferry made frequent stops during colonial days.

Nathaniel Chapman, an ironmaster, worked for the Principio Iron Company in Virginia and Maryland. In 1760 he was on horseback traveling between Washington and Baltimore when he was fatally stricken and buried near some iron works. His oldest son, Nathaniel, died one year later intestate so the estate descended to Pearson, the next living son. Pearson inherited property in Maryland and Virginia. Nathaniel's wife, Constant, stayed on at the Grimes Ditch tobacco plantation with her family until 1770. Then she and her son George returned to Summer Hill. Summer Hill was still part of her husband's estate and was inherited by her son Pearson. In 1767 Pearson sold the Summer Hill Plantation to his eighteen year old brother, George, for and in consideration of natural love and affection, plus "10 shillings."

In 1808 the Washington Turnpike Company came before the Marshal of the District of Columbia with a petition for George Chapman. The Company was extending and improving the road as directed by an Act of Congress entitled "an act for the establishment of a Turnpike Company in Alexandria County, in the District of Columbia, from the northeast corner of the Alms house lot to Bridge Point on Alexander's Island. They found that the said road will pass thru the lands of George Chapman, who resides outside the District of Columbia.

"A Jury was formed of twenty-four persons not related to the parties, to meet and value the land, and assess damages that George Chapman would sustain by opening the road one hundred feet. The Jury ascertained that the quantity of two and seven-eighths acres and six poles would be lost at ten dollars and one cent per acre."

When George Chapman died in 1814 his Summer Hill Tobacco Plantation passed to his wife Amelia. In 1816 their only daughter Louise married Alexander Hunter. Louise inherited Summer Hill when her mother died in 1823.

The Alexandria Canal Company, in its deed of August 16, 1847, paid twenty one hundred dollars for thirty acres of land to be used for the Alexandria and Georgetown Canal. These two tracts covered land on Summer Hill Plantation owned by Louise Hunter, and Abingdon Plantation purchased by her husband Alexander Hunter in 1835 which adjoined Summer Hill.

On Febrary 13, 1851 Louise Hunter placed the following advertisement in the Alexandria Gazette and the National Intelligence:

"For Sale or Rent the farm called Summer Hill adjoining the estate of the late Alexander Hunter in the County of Alexandria, Virginia. It contains 150 acres, 100 of which are open land in a very high state of improvement."

Louise Hunter signed a contract of sale with Samuel S. Williams, on February 27, 1851, for \$7,000.00, for Summer Hill with the following exclusion, "except for so much of this tract of land that is now occupied and used as a grave yard which is hereby reserved for the mutual interment of the families of said Williams and said Louise Hunter with the right of way thereto over the accostom road."

The History of Summer Hill Plantation Following Chapman Ownership

Major Gaspard Tochman and his wife, Appolonia, purchased Summer Hill from Samuel S. Williams, on June 4, 1853, for \$13,500.00, being free and clear except for a debt of \$1,500.00 at 6% interest due Louise C. Hunter. In 1854 Sidney F. Chapman, Mrs. Hunter's brother, gave a deed of release to Major Tochman which confirmed that his mother was the devisee of the estate Summer Hill from her husband, George, in 1814, and at her death it passed into the hands of her daughter Louise, and that the will was lost and not recorded.

Beginning in 1857 Major Tochman secured additional deeds of trust on his property. One deed in particular dated November 9, 1860 was when he mortgaged one hundred acres, east of the Alexandria and Georgetown Canal. A description of these one hundred acres in this deed is important because instruments of sale or deeds of trust, this being the one exception, have never described the location of the mansion house that probably was Summer Hill.

"... all that part of an estate, or plantation in the said County of (Alexandria) called Summer Hill, which lies on and is on the east by the Potomac River, on the south by Four Mile run so called, on the north by a farm or plantation called Abingdon, and on the west by a line run from the intersection of its Northern boundary line, with the Georgetown and Alexandria Canal, and running thence southerly with the line of the canal to a point due west of the southern most of the gate post on the corner of the hill south of the present temporary entrance to the mansion house on said premises: thence east in the direction to said gate post, to the line of the Alexandria railroad, and thence southerly by the line of the said railroad, to the Four Mile run, and containing one hundred acres more or less."

The original mortgage taken out by Williams from Louise Hunter and assumed by Tochman which was for \$1,500.00 had not been paid, the amount now being \$2,000.00 because of accrued interest.

"Gaspard Tochman prior to the first of January 1862 left his usual place of abode in the said County of Alexandria and went within the military lines of the Confederate States voluntarily, and has so remained leaving a large amount of the principal sum of notes unpaid and the interest on the sum was in arrears and unpaid for more than twelve months."

In order to secure payment for the three notes on the property that amounted to \$11,000.00 it was necessary to sell Summer Hill. It was advertised for sale by James M. Stewart, a trustee for the estate of I. Louis Kinzer, one of the mort-gagees who had died, in the *Virginia State Journal*, a newspaper published in the City of Washington.

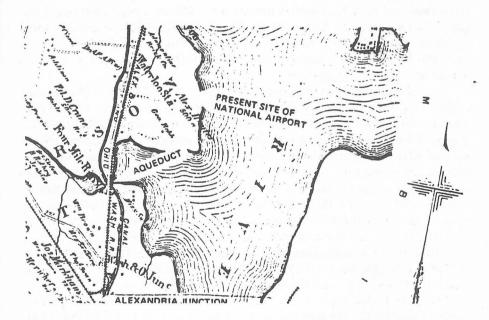
Summer Hill was sold at auction from the steps of the Alexandria Courthouse

to Ovando S. H. Peck on May 19, 1864.

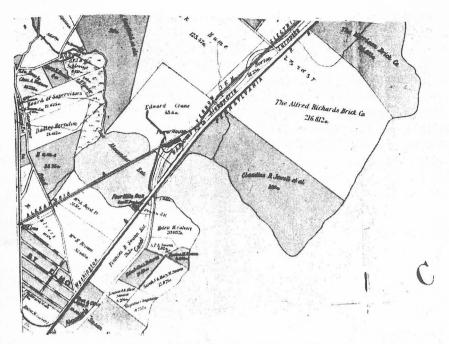
Subsequently the land of Summer Hill Plantation was divided. The Alexandria and Georgetown Canal established the east side and the west side of Summer Hill.

East of The Canal

The one hundred acres on the east side were auctioned and sold to John Martin in 1871 in front of the Mayor's office in the City of Alexandria. Martin sold ninety acres to George F. Raub in 1874. Martin also sold seven and a half acres to the Adams family, and they sold their land to Raub in 1877. Then in 1892 Raub sold to Edward Peck. Peck sold to Claudius B. Jewell and Henry Norton, tenants in common, in 1895, his one hundred acres of Summer Hill.



An excerpt from G.M. Hopkins' Atlas of Fifteen Miles Around Washington, D.C., 1878. G. Raub is erroneously called G. Robb. Note the black dots for Crane and Raub. They denote where their residences were located.



Excerpt of G. P. Strum's 1900 Map of Alexandria

In 1900 Claudius B. Jewell and Henry Norton set aside one acre of the land to lease to the Norton Manufacturing Company, for a period of five years, with a renewable lease, at a monthly rent of twenty-five dollars. In 1901 Jewell sold his undivided interest to Henry Norton. Norton then mortgaged the property. The five promissory notes of \$3,000.00 each at 5% interest were payable at the Riggs National Bank of Washington, D.C. to Claudius B. Jewell.

The Norton Manufacturing Company was a rendering plant. Their brick building was next to the river. They used waste scraps from stores and restaurants to make chicken feed and other products.

The Federal Government acquired a part of the land for the George Washington Memorial Parkway in the 1920's. It was opened in time for the Bicentennial Celebration of George Washington in 1932. When the United States Government exercised its rights of eminent domain and took the property for the National Airport in the 1930's the Company was forced to move. It is interesting to note that the second site was also taken by the Federal Government for the Pentagon. They then moved to Alexandria, and are now located in Baltimore, Maryland.

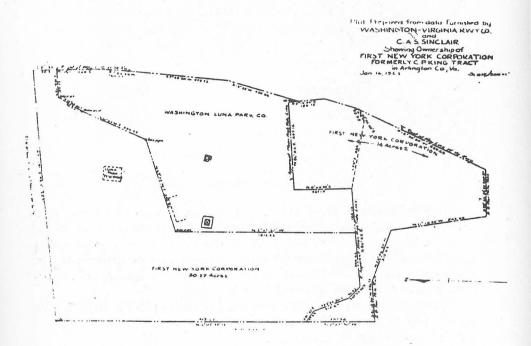
West of The Canal

A serious break occurred in the Aqueduct Bridge of the Alexandria and Georgetown Canal in 1886. As a direct result of the break the Company closed the Canal permanently.

The Washington, Alexandria and Mount Vernon Electric Railway (Trolley) established a railway system along the west bank of the defunct canal.

In 1895 the Railway Company began buying land along the canal for its 50' right of way. Edward Crane sold them six acres out of the forty acres he bought from James M. Stewart in 1873, being a part of the Summer Hill Plantation.

When the City of Alexandria closed the St. Asaph Race Track in 1904 the Electric Railway felt the monetary loss of the race track patrons. In order to stimulate business they developed the Washington Luna Park Company. On November 30, 1907, they negotiated with Clarence P. King, a trustee, for William and Julia Weedon, to buy approximately twenty acres for \$10,000.00, out of the fifty acres sold by Crane in 1905 to King-Weedon, for \$15,000.00.

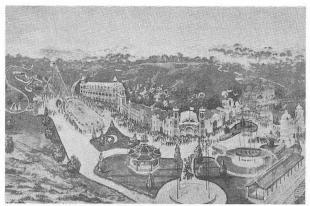


Plat from Deed Book 194 p. 493

Frederick Ingersoll of Pittsburgh was hired to design and build Luna Park. It cost \$350,000.00, and was opened in May 1906. The Park was a model of architectural fantasy that was designed to capture the imagination of its patrons. It was billed as a complete amusement center. There were sensational rides, boats that shot off the chutes from a 350' incline from the hill above the present Water Pollution Control Plant, into a shallow 80' lagoon where Glebe Road meets Route 1. There was an eight figure roller coaster, a dancing pavilion and roller skating rink, a band stand, vaudeville, a temple of mystery, shooting gallery, merry-go-round, moving picture theater, and a dining pavilion that could seat three thousand picnickers.

The railroad company proposed a new spur which had a station at Luna Park.

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WASHINGTON LUNA PARK, WASHINGTON, D.C.



WASHINGTON LUNA PARK, WASHINGTON, D. C.



THE CHUTES TOWER

A caption in the Luna Park brochure read, "It's A Short Ride To A Great Park." Also "Cars run direct to the Park every minute from Pennsylvania Avenue and 12th Street, Washington, D.C." The Luna Park Station was located at the present South Eads Street and S. 26th Street.

In spite of its being a great and unusual park patronage fell off some years later. The Park was abandoned after approximately fifteen years in operation when a fire destroyed many of the buildings.

The Circuit Court of Arlington County, at the February term in 1924, appointed Special Commissioners of Sale in the Chancery cause of Carroll Pierce, trustee, et al, complainants and Mary Treat, et al, defendants, to sell the land of the Washington Luna Park Company. The auction was held on the premises and the property sold to Richard B. Washington and Nelson T. Snyder, as tenants in common, on June 17, 1924, for \$6,500.00.

The two tracts of land around the park totaling 44.27 acres were sold by Clarence P. King to the New York Corporation in 1924. The same year the New York Corporation sold to Clarence R. Ahalt, for \$9,000.00. This land was part of the original Edward Crane farm of Summer Hill.

Washington and Snyder sold their land to J. R. Hayden, February 17, 1925, and he mortgaged the property for \$7,000.00. On September 18, 1934 J. R. Hayden and the Garfield Manor Corporation conveyed to the County Board of Arlington parcels of land on either side of the new Four Mile Run Road. At the present time we know the road as S. Glebe Road.

Washington, Alexandria & Mount Vernon Railway Company sold two of its 50' right of way tracts to the County Board of Arlington, for \$11,500.00, on September 5, 1934.

The former Luna Park tract of 19.18 acres was conveyed to Mrs. Katherine Hayden and her daughter Louise by J.R. Hayden on July 16, 1942. Then on August 31, 1950, Mrs. Hayden, her daughter Louise H. Deneale and her husband Stanley Deneale sold the land to the County Board of Arlington.

One of the last pieces of land purchased by the County in the area of the Water Pollution Control Plant was from Conrad V. and Charlotte G. Carlson on April 3 1965. The total amount of land now held by the County approximates one-third of what was the Summer Hill Plantation.

The Chestnut Oak Tree, a part of the old Plantation, stands today as a solitary sentinel against the encroachment of modern man.

The Chapman Family

In the sixteenth century two brothers, John and William Chapman, of the town of Hinckley, Leicestershire, England, emigrated to County Kerry, Ireland, under the auspices of their first cousin Sir Walter Raleigh. They had been given a grant of land there.

The elder brother John died without issue. William established his family in County Kerry. His son Benjamin was a captain in the Army. Benjamin's son Thomas came to America in 1617 with his wife and children, and settled in Virginia. The Chapman name can be found among the records of the earliest pioneers of the State. Jonathan Chapman, a descendant of Thomas, lived in Stafford County. The date of his birth is unknown. He married Jane Taylor. In Culbertson's history of the Chapman family the children are listed as: Nathaniel, George, John and Mrs. Johnson. Another source said the children were Taylor and Nathaniel and possibly others.

In 1742 Jonathan purchased six hundred fifty acres on Broad Run at Thoroughfare Gap in the Bull Run Mountains near The Plains, Virginia, There he and Nathaniel built the original Chapman mills. Ownership of the mills, according to a plaque on the north side of the present building, passed from Jonathan to Nathaniel, Pearson, John, George, and John Chapman. Chapman's mill began as a plaster mill where crushed limestone was ground into "plaster" for liming the fields. The present mill, downstream from the ruins of Chapman's earlier mill, was a grist mill, but probably burned between 1755-57. The mill was rebuilt in 1757-58 and enlarged, and functioned as a grist mill for the next one hundred years. As a result of a fire which destroyed most of the inner structure and machinery, the mill was rebuilt in 1858. Two floors were added under the supervision of Burr Powell, a master stonemason, from Loudoun County. During the Civil War the mill was used alternately by the Confederate and Union forces. When the Confederate forces occupied the area they used the mill for a meat curing warehouse and distribution center to provide meat for Beauregard's Army while at Manassas. When orders were given to evacuate Manassas, the Confederates burned large quantities of meat and also the interior of the mill to prevent Union troops from using it.

Following the death of John Chapman the property was sold to Robert Beverley who gave the mill and five hundred twelve acres to his son William in 1879. The - large stone five and a half story Chapman-Beverley Mill on the Fauquier, Prince William line can be seen today from I-66.

Jonathan Chapman died sometime before 1749. He was buried at Summer Hill Plantation. His burial site has been described as being "in the square of the garden." When the Federal Government acquired that part of Summer Hill for the National Airport, in 1938, they agreed to move the graves from the cemetery at Summer Hill to Pohick Cemetery in Alexandria County. Jonathan Chapman was not one of those moved. Could he still be buried in the garden?

Nathaniel Chapman (1710-1760) of Stafford County married Constantia, also known as Constant Pearson (1714-1791) also from Stafford County in 1732. She was the daughter of Captain Simon Pearson who owned or was part owner of many patents in Virginia. Four of his tracts were on or near Four Mile Run in Arlington or Fairfax Counties. When he died in 1733 his estate was divided among his children Constantia, Susanna, Thomas and Margaret.

Nathaniel and Constantia Chapman had six children:

ELIZABETH (1733-) married Dr. John Hunter.³ Buried at Summer Hill.

AMELIA (1735-1785) married William Locke Weems.

NATHANIEL, Jr. (1740-1761) died unmarried. Buried at Summer Hill.

LOUISA (1743-1781) was the third wife of George Washington's brother Samuel.

PEARSON (1745-1784) married Susannah Pearson Alexander. GEORGE (1749-1814) married Amelia Macrae in 1774.

Nathaniel Chapman worked as an ironmaster at the Principio Iron Company in Virginia. This English company of ironmasters and capitalists established their first iron works in Cecil County, Maryland, in 1715 on the Principio Creek from which it took its name. Another of their iron works was opened in 1731 at Jones Falls in Baltimore. In 1726 Augustine Washington leased some land on his Accokeek estate, twelve miles from Fredericksburg in Stafford County, to the Principio Iron Company for a furnace. By 1737 Augustine Washington was a partner in the company receiving one twelfth of the profits. The ore was carried two miles to the furnace and from the furnace six miles to the landing on the Potomac.

Just when Nathaniel began operating the Accokeek furnace is not known. However he placed a notice in the Virginia Gazette, November 3, 1752, listing a runaway, Robert Sayers, 26, from the Accokeek mines. By 1753 the mining operation at Accokeek was shut down because of the lack of ore. The Company continued operating in Maryland at their numerous other sites until 1775.

George Washington's *Diary* contained the following entry for March 14, 1760: "Mr Carlyle and his Wife still remained here. (Bad weather). We talked a good deal of a Scheme of setting up an Iron Work on Col. Fairfax's Land on the Shannandoah. Mr. Chapman who was proposed as a partner being a perfect Judge of these matters was to go up and view the Conveniences and determine the Scheme." Apparently George Washington and others considered Nathaniel Chapman an authority on such matters and relied on his judgement.

Augustine Washington named his friend Nathaniel Chapman as one of the executors of his will. He died in 1743. Lawrence Washington named his esteemed friend Nathaniel Chapman as one of the executors of his will besides Lord Fairfax, the testator's half brother, the future first President of the United States, and others. He died in 1752. Nathaniel was named the administrator of George Chapman's will of 1747 in which he left a legacy to Nathaniel's son Pearson who was two years old at the time.

Nathaniel Chapman was a charter member and treasurer of the first Ohio Company of Virginia which was formed in 1747. The purpose of this company was to settle families on land south of the Ohio River. In order to accomplish their objective it was necessary that they request from the Crown 500,000 acres of land with 200,000 acres to be granted immediately with 300,000 acres pledged if the Ohio Company built a fort and settled one hundred families in the territory within seven years. In June 1749, a few months after Sir William Gooch was ordered to grant the company its first tract of 200,000 acres, George Mason became a partner in the enterprise. Three months later Nathaniel Chapman stepped down as treasurer and Mason was elevated to the post, which proved to be a life time appointment.

An article appearing in the Virginia Gazette on January 17, 1750 described a lottery that was to be held at Belhaven for the purpose of raising money for the building of a church and a Market House. "The lottery to be under the care and management of Col. William Fitzhugh, Mr. George Mason, Mr. William Ramsay, Mr. John Carlyle, Mr. John Dalton, Mr. John Pagan, Mr. Gerrard Alexander, Mr. Nathaniel Chapman, and Major Augustine Washington who will dispose of the tickets and be on Oath and give Bond for faithful discharge of their trust." When Nathaniel Chapman was traveling on horseback between Washington and Baltimore in 1760, he was fatally stricken and was buried near some iron works in Baltimore County.

He died intestate; at least, no will has ever been found. Besides owning Grimes Ditch in Charles County, Maryland, he owned extensive tracts of land in Stafford, Prince William, Fauquier and Fairfax Counties. His estate descended to his oldest son Nathaniel. Nathaniel died in 1761 also without a will. The estate then descended to Pearson Chapman, as brother and heir of the second son of Nathaniel, by operation of the primogeniture law. Pearson was fifteen years old when he inherited his father's large estate. At the time of Nathaniel's death the family was living at Grimes Ditch, which is near Glymont, Maryland. His widow, Constant, remained at the home until 1770. She then returned to Summer Hill Plantation with her son George.

The year that Pearson and Susannah Pearson Alexander were married is unknown. Their three children were:

NATHANIEL (1764-1812) died unmarried

JOHN (1767-1772)

GEORGE (- 1827) Married Susan Pearson Alexander. They had twelve children: Pearson, Charles, Nathaniel, George, John, Alexander, Matilda, Frances, Susannah, Louisa, Helen and Georgianna.

A Maryland census of 1775 listed Pearson Chapman as residing at Pomonkey Hundred. The Glymont section between Pomonkey Creek and Mattawoman Creek was once called Cornwallis Neck because of the grants to Thomas Cornwallis, and that part of Cornwallis Neck in which Grimes Ditch is situated was officially known as Pomonkey Hundred.

Pearson Chapman was also a member of the Ohio Company. He held one share. In 1778 he gave George Mason his consent and approval of a petition and empowered Mr. Mason to act in his behalf as if he were present.

On May 31, 1781, George Mason of "Gunston" wrote to his friend Pearson stating that "his situation in Virginia is critical and dangerous; a very few weeks, unless the enemy can be checked, will place Maryland in the same predicament. Nothing can speedily extricate the two States but the arrival of a strong French fleet which there is reason to expect every day. I have given you the earliest information in my power that you may endeavor to secure your moveables by carrying them a few miles from the river, where I think they will be safe for some time. I beg the favour of you to let your people and cart assist my people in carrying up the things from the landing to the house, that the boat may return as quick as possible."

The Revolutionary War, which began in 1775, was moving south and getting closer to those living in Virginia and Maryland. The British warships were reported in the Potomac River. Mason was indeed apprehensive. He called upon Pearson to store his "moveables" in his house. Chapman's Landing was almost directly across from Gunston. Colonel Fitzgerald made such a bold show that the British did not land and so Gunston was not molested, and the crisis passed.

Constant Chapman was an intimate friend of George Mason's first wife Ann. In her will she "gives and bequeaths unto my friend Mrs. Ann Mason a mourning ring, the stone to be set round with diamond sparks, the said ring to be the value of three guineas and a half, and to be inscribed with my age and time of my death." Mrs. Chapman survived Mrs. Mason.

Pearson Chapman died in 1784, and was buried in the cemetery on the grounds of his plantation.

The white Georgian mansion house with six chimneys that one can see today, stands high on a bluff overlooking the Potomac River. It was probably built in the 1840's by Pearson, the son of George Chapman, and the grandson of Pearson Chapman. It is now known as Mount Aventine.

An historic plaque a short distance inside the gate at Mount Aventine commemorates "A landing used in crossing to Gunston Hall lying opposite. Washington attempted to cross here in 1786, but the roughness of the river prevented."

Constant Chapman died in 1791. At her request she was buried in the cemetery at Summer Hill. Mrs. Chapman left two wills. One was executed on September 18, 1774, and was presented for probate February 21, 1791, by her youngest son George. The second will was not presented for probate until April 17, 1798. Pearson, Mrs. Chapman's elder surviving son, had under the law of primogeniture come into the bulk of his father's estate. Because of this, Mrs. Chapman made her younger son, George, her residuary legatee, and the executor of her will, thereby causing family strife and litigation which lasted for three quarters of a century.

On June 9, 1774, George Chapman married Amelia Macrae. Her dowry consisted of 1974 acres of land in Fauquier and Culpeper Counties, and a lot in Richmond on Shockhoe Hill.

Their children were:

GEORGE HUNTER CHAPMAN, Jr. (1775-1835) died unmarried

NATHANIEL (1778-1853) born at Summer Hill. Became a well known doctor in Philadelphia. He married Rebecca Cornwell Biddle; their son John Biddle Chapman, married Mary Gabrilla Randolph, of Richmond, Virginia.

ALLAN M. Died unmarried

WILLIAM

FREDERICK AUGUSTUS Married Mary McRae, no children

SIDNEY F. (-1868) Married Ann N. Sharpe

LOUISE ANN ADELAIDE (-1868) Married Alexander Hunter.4 ABRAHAM

George and Amelia spent their lives at Summer Hill raising their eight children. By enlarging his agricultural operations George became a prosperous planter of tobacco. His sons received an education enjoyed by few young men of their day.

George died in 1814, and Amelia in 1823. They were buried in Summer Hill cemetery. Amelia's will bequeathed Summer Hill to her daughter, Louise C. Hunter. Louise sold the property in 1851 thus ending more than a century of Chapman ownership.

FOOTNOTES

¹ When Robert Howson sold his patent of 6,000 acres to John Alexander neither party checked to ascertain if a previous grant had been issued for all or part of the Patent. The Howson Patent extended from Hunting Creek, south of Alexandria, to the north line of the Arlington Plantation. It so happened that fifteen years before Howson's Patent, Margaret Brent was given a land grant that included the site that became the town of Alexandria. Her grant overlapped and included the site for the town named for John Alexander. It was necessary for John Alexander to pay a second time for his land. In 1674-5 Virginia land records note that he gave 10,500 pounds of tobacco in casks to the Brent heirs for their 700 acres.

² A pole is equivalent to 16', 5".

³ The Arlington Historical Magazine (1982), p. 36-45.

4 Ibid.

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Special Appreciation to: Mrs. Ann Woodward, Chapman family history

Mrs. Vivian Ford, Local history

Mr. Eugene Stewart, Public Works Engineer, Arlington County

Mr. Steve McDermott, Mechanic Crew Leader II, Arlington County, WPCP