

CHRONOLOGY OF ARLINGTON BOUNDARIES

- 1742** Fairfax County (which then included Arlington) was created. (Rose, p. 28).
- 1791** The President ordered a survey to set the boundaries for the ten-mile-square seat of the federal government as provided for in the Constitution. This district will include Arlington. (Rose, p. 63).
- 1801** Congress took jurisdiction over the new federal district, and directed that that portion ceded by Virginia, including the Town of Alexandria, should be known as Alexandria County, District of Columbia. (Rose, p. 64).
- 1846-47** Alexandria County was retroceded by the federal government to the Commonwealth of Virginia. (Rose, pp. 81-83).
- 1851** A new Virginia Constitution specified that the governing body ("county court") of Alexandria County would include four members from the "country part of the County." The "country part" referred to the area now known as Arlington. Sixteen other members of the County Court were from the town of Alexandria. (Rose, p. 84).
- 1870** The city of Alexandria became a political entity separate from Alexandria County. (Rose, p. 126).
- 1915** The City of Alexandria annexed an area in the southern part of Alexandria County. (Rose, p. 170).
- 1920** The name Alexandria County was changed to Arlington County. (Rose, p. 176).
- 1929** The City of Alexandria annexed an additional area in the southern part of Arlington County. (Rose, p. 171).

Rose citations refer to C.B. Rose, Jr., *Arlington County, Virginia: A History*. Arlington: Arlington Historical Society, 1976.

An interesting sidelight to this chronology is found in Abraham Lincoln's Annual Message to Congress, December 3, 1861:

"The present insurrection shows, I think, that the extension of this District across the Potomac River, at the time of establishing the capital here, was eminently wise, and consequently that the relinquishment of that portion of it which lies within the State of Virginia was unwise and dangerous. I submit for your consideration the expediency of regaining that part of the District and the restoration of the original boundaries thereof, through negotiations with the State of Virginia."

Complete Works of Abraham Lincoln, Edited by John G. Nicolay and John Hay, Vol. VII, page 44. New York: Tandy Co., 1905.