

Walk Arlington

Walkabouts



ARLINGTON COUNTY COMMUTER SERVICES

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8/15 Arlington County Commuter Services



stroll
ramble
pace
hike
trek
walk



self-guided adventures
around Arlington



ready

set

go

Adventure is just a step away

And WalkArlington, the Arlington County program that “gets more people walking in more walkable places more of the time,” can help you find it.

To start your adventure, WalkArlington has put together a series of self-guided walking tours of Arlington neighborhoods called **Walkabouts**. Each Walkabout lets you discover the beauty, history, and walkability of where you live, work, and play. Stride past Rosslyn’s gleaming skyscrapers. Amble along the peaceful sidewalks of Barcroft. Or journey in the footsteps of George Washington. Adventure is all around you – right here in town.

Let’s Walkabout

As you can see by the map on the right, there are lots of great Walkabouts to choose from, all captured here in this handy brochure. Full-page versions of individual Walkabout maps are available at walkarlington.com. Spanish-language Walkabout maps are also online. *Los mapas español también están disponibles online en walkarlington.com.*

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Step right up

This brochure guides you through 25 Walkabouts, highlighting the starting point, distance, and type of terrain you'll encounter on each route. And to figure out where to start, you can use Car-Free Near Me™ (carfreenearme.com), a web app developed by Arlington County Commuter Services, to make it easier to get around the County without a car.

Pick the route that's best for you. Or start with the first Walkabout and set a goal of walking them all! Take a friend, the kids, your dog, or strike out on your own – you can't go wrong. Just put one foot in front of the other, and you'll be on your way.

Step in time

It takes time and a lot of help from our friends to develop each Walkabout route. The 25 routes in this brochure represent more than a decade of work. As much as WalkArlington tries to keep up with all the changes in Arlington, some of our Walkabout routes may contain outdated information. If you encounter a change, help us stay in step by contacting info@walkarlington.com with your update. We'll note your correction in real time on walkarlington.com.

Step together

Creating these Walkabout routes is a community affair, so we'd like to recognize some of the partners who have contributed their time, energy, and expertise every step of the way.

Arlington Business Improvement Districts ■ Arlington Civic Federation ■ Arlington County Board ■ Arlington County Council of PTAs ■ Arlington County Fire Department ■ Arlington County Police Department ■ Arlington Historical Society ■ Arlington Pedestrian Advisory Committee ■ Arlington Public Schools ■ Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment (ACE) ■ Walk Friendly Community Walkabout Neighborhood Nominators ■

Arlington County Departments and Programs, including:

Arlington Initiative to Rethink Energy (AIRE), Community Planning, Housing & Development Commuter Services, Cultural Affairs, Economic Development, Environmental Services, FitArlington GIS Mapping Center, Historic Preservation, Human Services, Libraries, Parks and Recreation, Transportation, Transportation Engineering & Operations, and many more....



Go for the Gold



Thanks to the vision of County leaders, the expertise of staff, the support of partners, and the commitment of Arlington citizens, Arlington has developed a global reputation for walkability. In 2011, that reputation was affirmed when Arlington County was designated a **Gold-Level Walk Friendly Community**.

Walk Friendly Communities is a national recognition program developed by the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center to encourage towns and cities across the United States to establish or recommit to a high priority for supporting safer walking environments. A Walk Friendly Community is a city or town that has shown a commitment to improving and sustaining walkability and pedestrian safety through comprehensive programs, plans and policies.

Arlington's Gold-Level Walk Friendly Community designation came in the inaugural round of the initiative and was attributed to pedestrian programs like WalkArlington, activities and encouragement programs like Walkabouts, outstanding transit-oriented and pedestrian planning, a commitment to active transportation, and a willingness to step outside the status quo to improve walkability and health in the community. We hope you'll agree and help us keep earning our gold by walking the walk!

Walkabout maps with the Walk Friendly Community symbol were developed between 2012-2014, as part of WalkArlington's limited edition series of "Walk Friendly Community Walkabouts." This special series of Walkabouts was created to celebrate Arlington's recognition as a Gold-Level Walk Friendly Community. Neighborhoods featured on these Walk Friendly Community Walkabouts were nominated by residents and community organizations, who also helped develop and debut these "home-grown" routes.



Arlington Forest

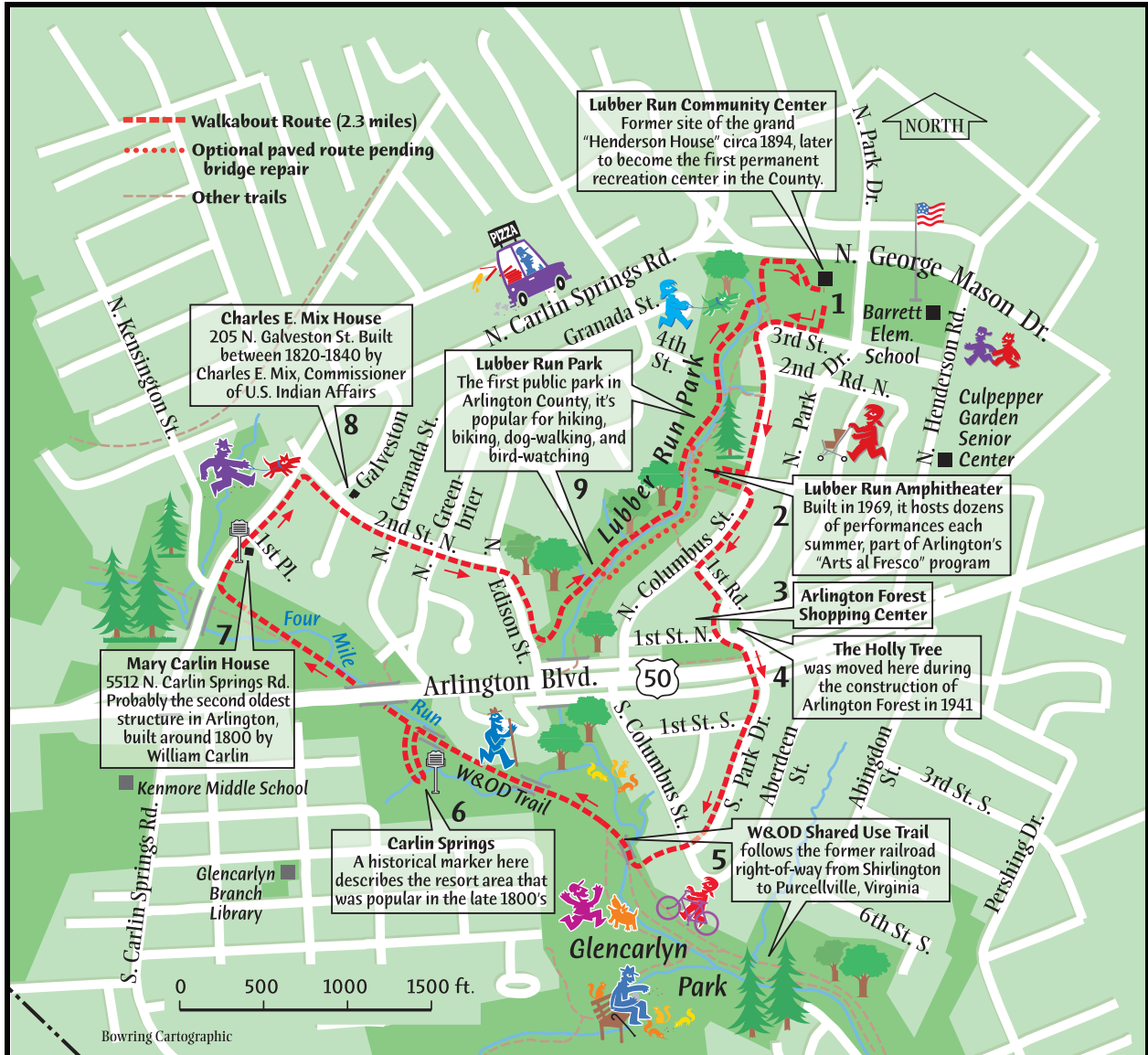
Description - (Moderately challenging, slight uphill)

Arlington Forest was designated a National Historic District by the National Park Service in 2005. The first Arlington Forest residence dates to 1894, when the Henderson House was built on a 468-acre summer estate. This Walkabout features Lubber Run Park and Amphitheater, a slice of Glencarlyn Park, and an entire neighborhood covered by a dense natural canopy of mature trees. To lengthen the walk, follow the W&OD Trail in either direction for as long as your feet will carry you.

Length - 2.3 miles

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - The Arlington Forest Citizens Association, 2007.



Arlington Ridge / Aurora Highlands



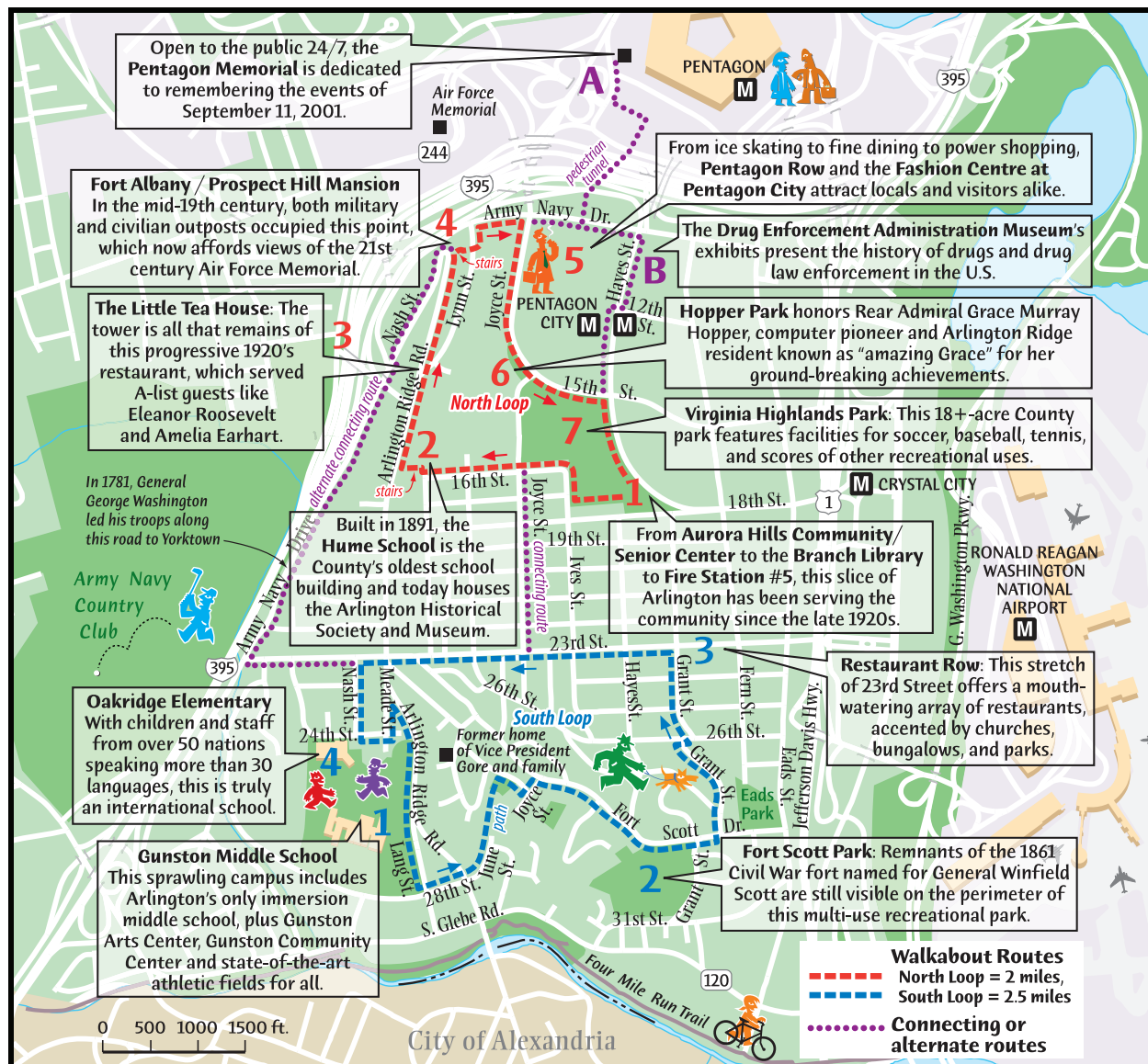
Description - (Mostly level but with stairs on North Loop; hilly residential streets on South Loop)

Home to local treasures like the Arlington Historical Society and national icons like the Pentagon, Arlington Ridge and Aurora Highlands encompass two distinct neighborhoods and four centuries of Arlington history. Over the years, these neighborhoods have seen it all — and thrived. To capture the highlights of such a diverse area in one Walkabout route, we've created two loops that can be explored separately or combined into one longer Walkabout.

Length - 2-mile and 2.5 mile loops + optional extension

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Four local residents contributed to development of this inaugural Walk Friendly Community Walkabout, 2012.



Ashton Heights

Description - (Relatively flat and easy)

Situated in the geographic heart of the county, Ashton Heights dates back to the early 1900s. This residential community grew up around the Clarendon electric trolley station and is noted for its eclectic architecture and strong conservation sensibility. This Walkabout begins and ends at the ever-fascinating Arlington Arts Center, a great addition to your tour, and passes by the home of longtime County Board member and avid walker, Jay Fisette.

Length - 1.75 miles

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Jay Fisette, Arlington County Board, 2005.



Ballston-Virginia Square

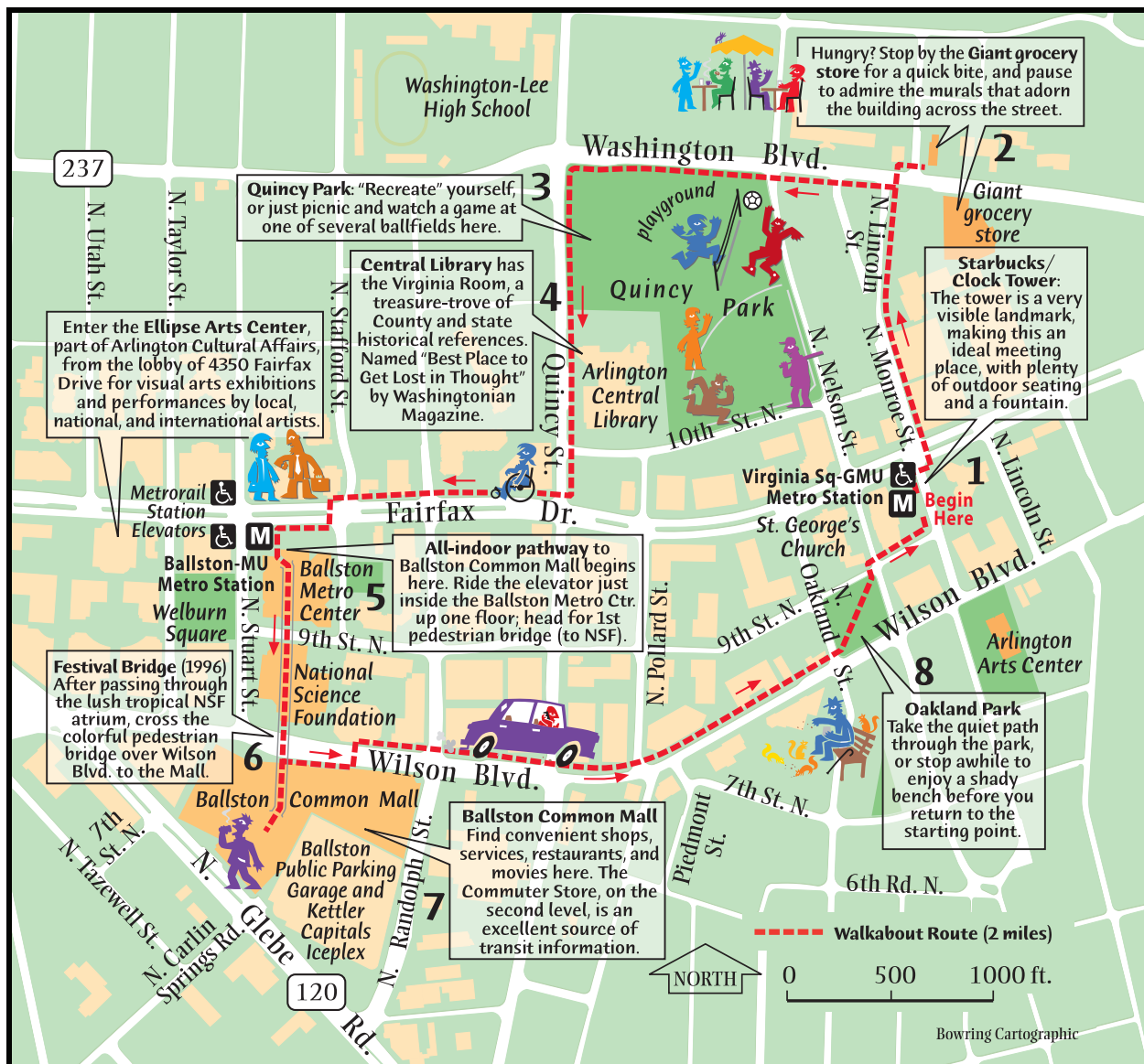
Description - (Fairly flat terrain, entirely wheelchair accessible)

Anchored by George Mason University, the Arlington Arts Center, and Quincy Park, Virginia Square is the educational, cultural, and recreational hub of Arlington. Ballston, the county's west-end downtown, includes the Ballston Common Mall, topped off with a public skating facility that's used for hockey practice by the Washington Capitals. This Walkabout also offers a state-of-the-art track at Washington-Lee High School, multi-media resources at Central Library, and a newly relocated Commuter Store on the Ballston Metro station plaza.

Length - Just under 2 miles

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Nancy Starnes, former Mayor of Sparta, NJ and VP, National Organization on Disability, 2008.



Barcroft

Description - *(Mostly easy, one steep downhill, one moderately difficult uphill)*

The Washington Post described Barcroft as “a photo album snapshot of an idyllic neighborhood from earlier times.” Dating back to the late 1800s, this community grew up around the Barcroft Mill and train station. Today it’s one of the friendliest neighborhoods around, with local residents playing an active role in preserving neighborhood camaraderie. The Walkabout also explores the sights and sounds of the Four Mile Run Trail.

Length - 1.6 miles

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Barcroft Elementary School and Barcroft Civic League, 2006.



Bluemont / Bon Air



Description - (Mostly level trails and streetscapes)

Bluemont/Bon Air boasts an unrivalled network of trails, no fewer than six parks, and a thriving retail core. Its central geographic location, shared history, and long-standing civic pride are forces that unify this multi-faceted neighborhood. From the days of Ball's Crossroads to the heyday of the railroad to the arrival of Capital Bikeshare, Bluemont/Bon Air has kept Arlington connected, in space and time, by rail, by bike and on foot. And the community has been involved every step of the way.

Length - 2.5 mile main loop with 1.5 mile extension

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Two longtime residents developed this second Walk Friendly Community Walkabout, 2013.



Cherrydale



Description - (Hilly, residential sidestreets and parkland, divided by busy commercial corridor)

Named after the cherry orchards planted here by early settlers in the 1800's, Cherrydale soon grew into a commuter railroad hub and convenient stop along Lee Highway, complete with a quaint downtown and charming early 20th century homes. Today's Cherrydale has a reputation for neighborhood pride and civic activism, as witnessed at its annual July 4th parade, community yard sale, and potluck gatherings.

Length - 2.5 miles

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Local residents and Cherrydale Civic Association officers helped develop this final Walk Friendly Community Walkabout, 2014.



Clarendon-Courthouse

Description - (Mostly level)

Trolley service brought rapid growth to this area in the early 1900s, and Clarendon became the economic center of the County through the 1950s. Immigrants from Vietnam and elsewhere opened shops and restaurants in the '70s and '80s, earning Clarendon the nickname "Little Saigon." Today, this neighborhood is a dynamic and diverse urban village, featuring shops, restaurants, residences, and two Metro stops, surrounded by tree-lined blocks of charming early 20th century homes.

Length - Approximately 2 miles
(2.3 miles with extension)

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Roni Freeman and the Clarendon Alliance, 2008.



Columbia Pike Hike I

Description - (Mostly flat with the exception of S. Englewood St.)

First traveled in 1801 when it was known as the Columbia Turnpike, Columbia Pike is an invaluable transportation corridor currently being transformed into a real walkable main street. Its vast array of eateries reflects the diverse backgrounds of the surrounding communities. This Walkabout is an easy perusal of the eastern end of Columbia Pike, South Arlington's main street.

Length - 1.9 miles plus optional 0.6-mile add-on

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Chris Zimmerman, Arlington County Board, 2006.



Columbia Pike Hike II

Description - (Flat with slightly hilly terrain; busy main corridor flanked by parkland and residential areas)

A continuation of Columbia Pike I, this Walkabout begins and ends at Town Center West, one of the main crossroads along this 200-year-old thoroughfare. This part of the Pike is also a cultural crossroads, linking nations and traditions from around the globe, as evidenced by the shops, restaurants, and businesses that thrive here, as well as the international residents who call this neighborhood home.

Length - 1.9 miles + two optional extensions

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - The Columbia Pike
Revitalization Organization, 2011.



Crystal City

Description - (Flat urban streetscapes and interior walkways, offset by parkland and riverfront trails)

Crystal City's industrial waterfront was transformed into a modern city through development in the 1960s. Ever-evolving, this urban village is now known for its world-class hotels and restaurants, businesses large and small, and an array of urban living options, served by transportation modes ranging from trains to planes, biking to walking.

Length - 1.9 miles + two optional extensions

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - The Crystal City Business Improvement District, 2015.



Dominion Hills

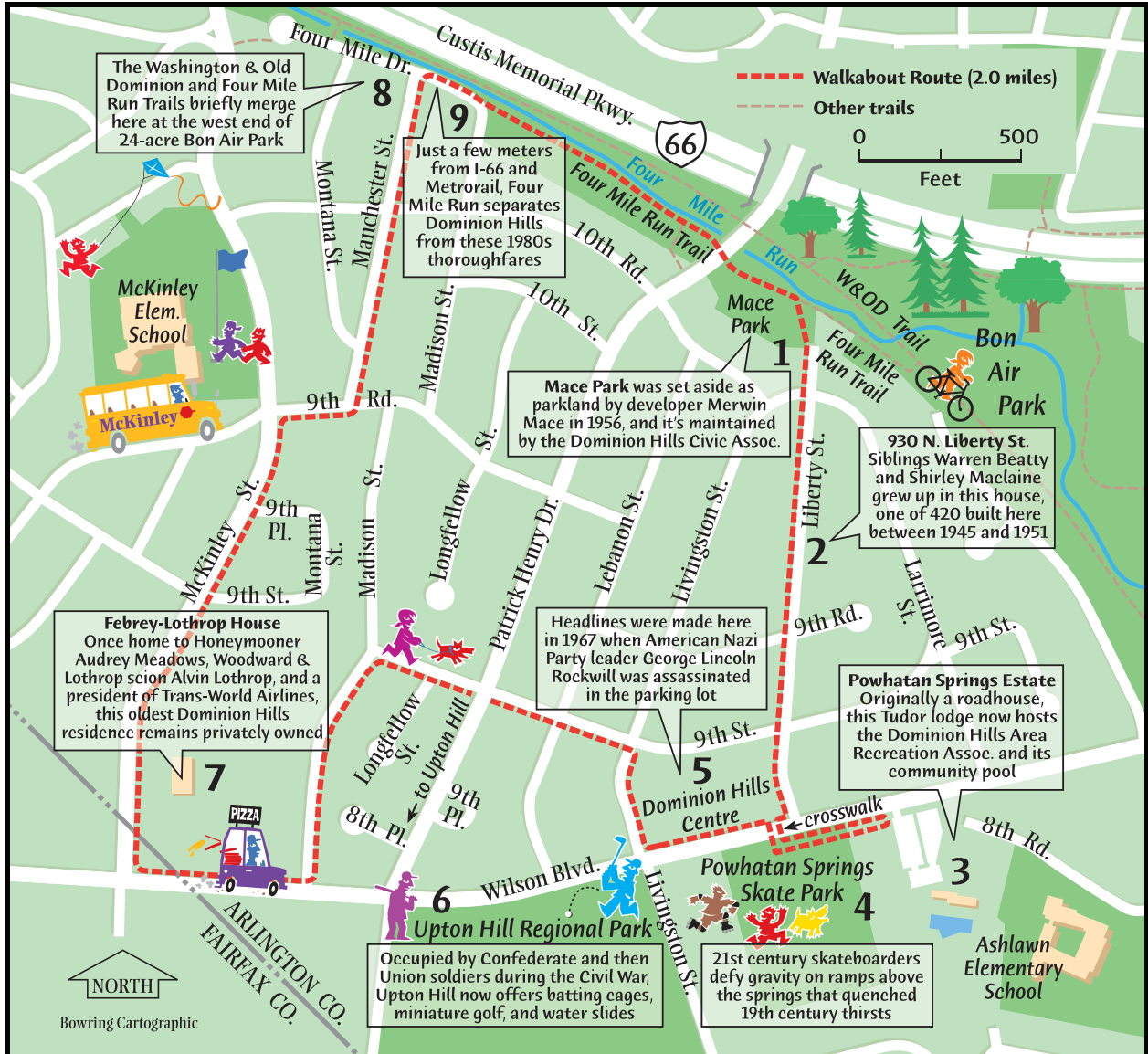
Description - *(Hilly, with winding streets, wide boulevards and paved trails)*

First settled by Native American tribes and then colonized by English settlers in the 1600s, this area remained largely rural from the Civil War through the early 1900s. The bucolic countryside was forever changed when Merwin A. "John" Mace bought land here in 1945. Naming it Dominion Hills, Mace built 420 homes by 1951. Today, Dominion Hills boasts 612 homes, two commercial buildings, and access to some of Arlington's most popular recreational facilities, all nestled within this arrowhead-shaped west Arlington neighborhood.

Length - Approximately 2 miles

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - The Dominion Hills Civic Association, 2008.



Donaldson Run

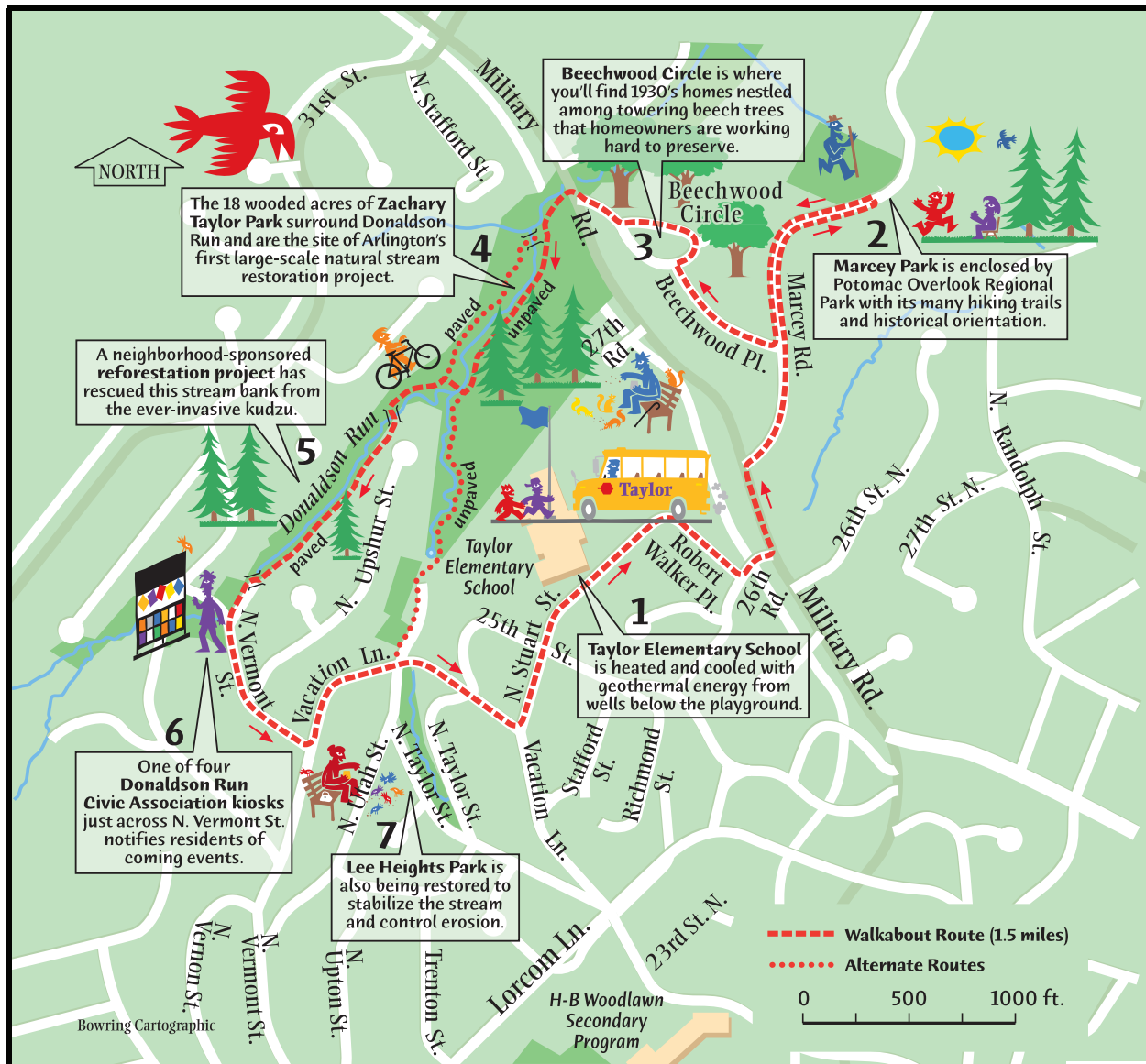
Description - (Relatively flat terrain on sidewalk and groomed pathways)

Starting at Taylor Elementary School with Lee Heights Park as the final destination, this walk travels through a neighborhood shaped in large part by the trees that shade the area's homes and yards. One of the highlights of the tour is Zachary Taylor Park. A prime example of how a streambed can be restored without rocks or concrete, it is the largest of the Stream Valley Parks and offers visitors a choice of a bike path or a mulched nature trail.

Length - 1.5 miles

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Larry Finch, Co-Chair, Parks Committee, Arlington County Civic Federation, 2006.



Fairlington

Description - *(Flat and easy terrain)*

Constructed close to the end of WWII, Fairlington is a nationally significant example of large-scale, publicly financed housing. Winding, tree-canopied routes take you through the Community Center, with its basketball courts and Friday night roller skating. Utah Park boasts Arlington's first "Community Canine Area." On King Street between I-395 and S. Wakefield St., you'll find one of the 40 markers setting the boundaries for the first layout of the nation's capital.

Length - 0.7 mile loop

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Paul Ferguson,
Arlington County Board, 2003.



George Washington's Forest

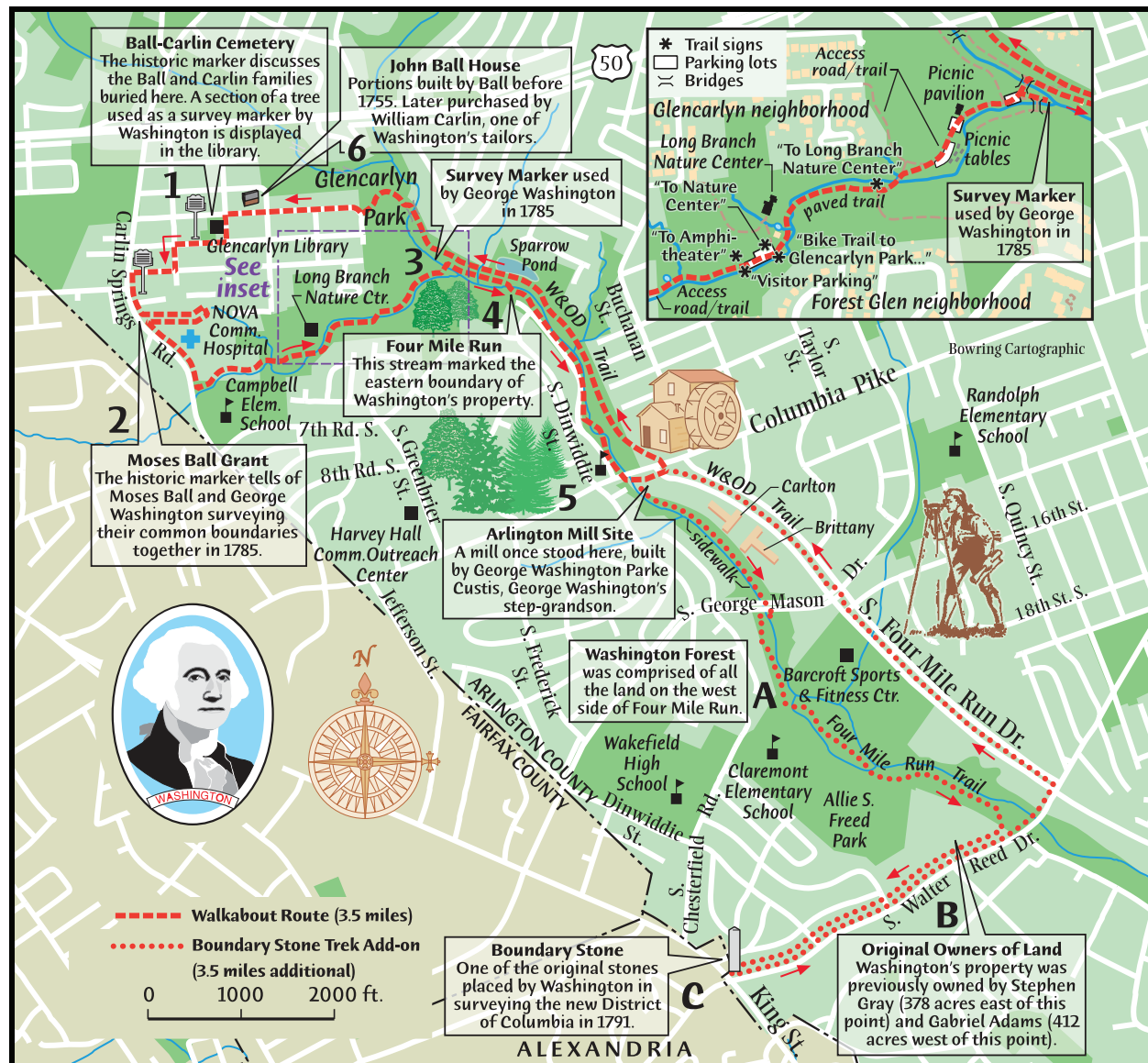
Description - (Slightly hilly, traversing streets as well as paved woodland trails)

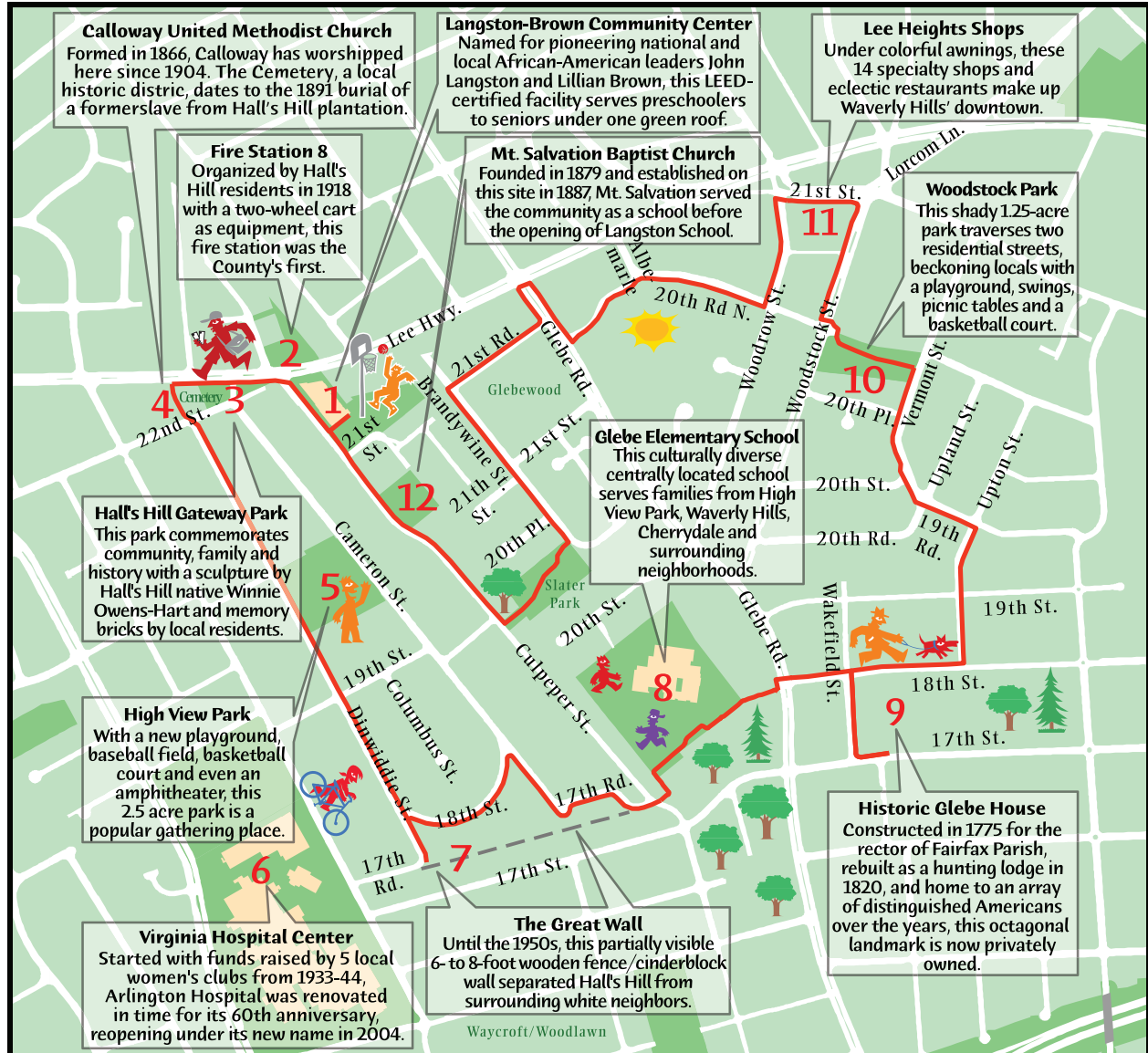
Washington purchased this 1200-acre tract of land in 1775. Now home to subdivisions and soccer fields, a small portion has been preserved as parkland. On the shorter version of the Walkabout, you can see the John Ball House—the oldest house in Arlington—and visit the site of a mill constructed by Washington's step-grandson, while the seven-mile version includes one of the original boundary stones that established the physical boundary of the District of Columbia.

Length - 3.5 or 7 miles

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Kevin Vincent, Arlington Historical Society, 2005.





Nauck

Description - (Rolling terrain, with one steep "Superman Hill" on Walter Reed Dr.)

Steeped in history, the pillars of this historically African-American neighborhood include the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, the Veterans' Memorial YMCA, named in honor of a cadre of African-American troops in WWII, and the lunchtime favorite, Weenie Beenie. The hills and occasional narrow walkways in Nauck offer a challenge, but the reward is in its discoveries—like the seasonal displays of colorful annuals at the main gateway to the community.

Length - 2.1 miles

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Dr. Alfred O. Taylor, Jr., Nauck Civic Association, 2006.



Old Glebe



Description - (Hilly and winding residential streets with sidewalks and parkland nature trails)

Tucked into the northern tip of Arlington County, this neighborhood seems far removed from the hustle and bustle of the surrounding D.C. metro area. From the timeworn earthworks of Fort Ethan Allen to the historic crossroads near Chain Bridge, the wooded oasis of Gulf Branch Nature Center to the graceful steeple of Walker Chapel, the Old Glebe neighborhood offers an escape from the daily grind, a microcosm of Arlington history, and above all, a paradise for walkers.

Length - 1.8 miles + optional extensions

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - The Old Glebe and Rivercrest Civic Associations contributed to the development of this third Walk Friendly Community Walkabout, 2013.



Potomac Overlook

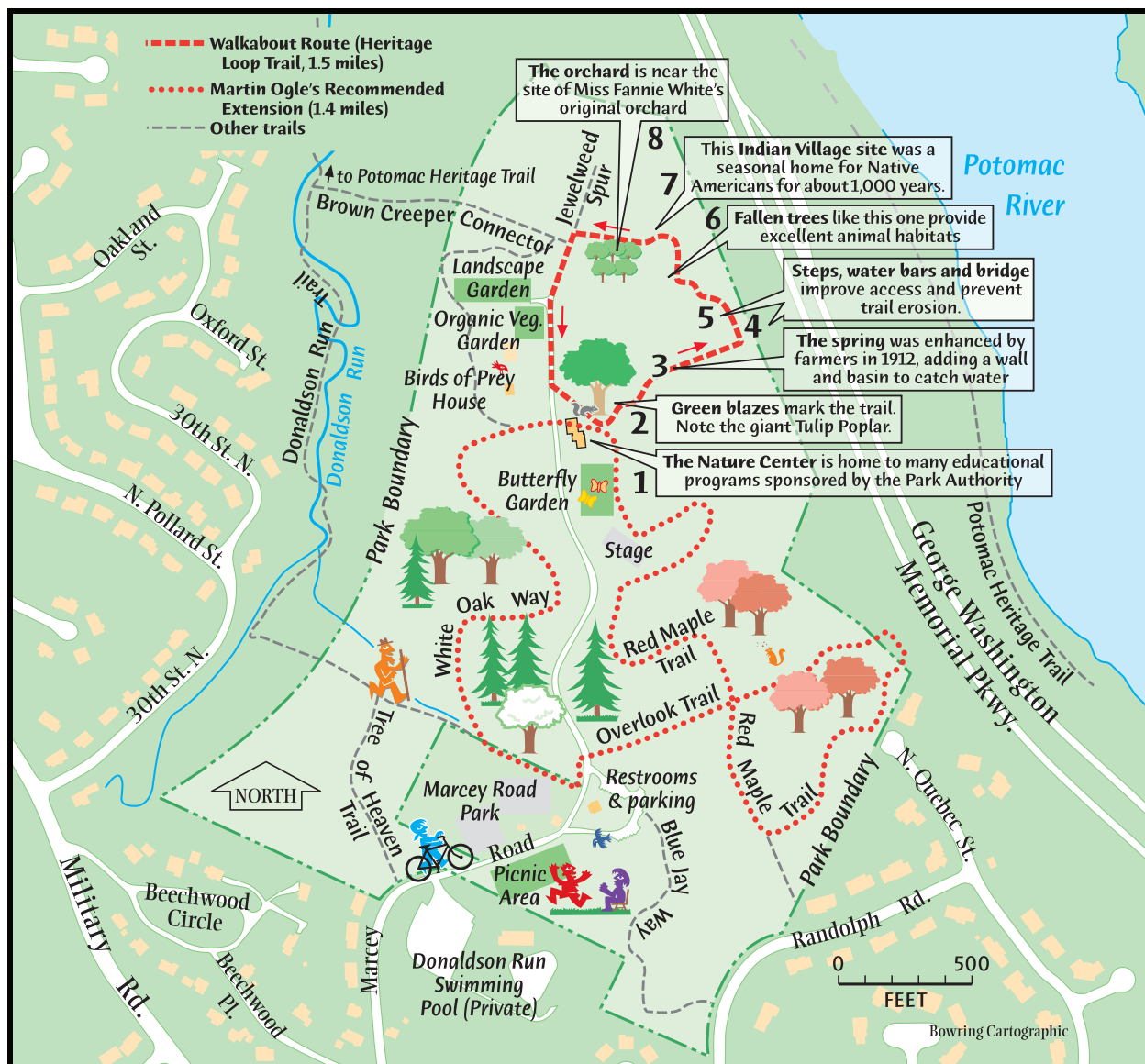
Description - (Unpaved and undulating)

A pleasant stroll through rolling, wooded parkland. This Walkabout begins at the Nature Center, a starting point for several very well maintained trails. The hike includes the site of a seasonal Native American village. Potomac Overlook Regional Park is open all year during daylight hours and hosts programs, concerts, and camps on a seasonal basis.

Length - 1.5 miles with an optional 1.4 mile extension

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Barbara Favola, Arlington County Board, and Martin Ogle, Nature Center, 2004.



Radnor / Fort Myer Heights

Description - (Mostly easy with some rolling terrain and one steep uphill)

Radnor/Fort Myer Heights is bordered by historic Fort Myer and Arlington National Cemetery to the south, and the Marine Corps War Memorial/Iwo Jima Park to the east. A friendly, diverse community dotted with mature trees and small green parks, it is also home to a mixture of apartments, town homes and high-rises, and a small urban woodland.

Length - 1.7 miles

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Stan Karson and Patricia Darneille, Radnor/Fort Myer Heights Civic Association, 2006.



Rosslyn

Description - (Hilly, with some stairways, skywalks, and building interiors)

Rosslyn has served as a proud gateway into Arlington dating back to the colonial era, when Awbrey's Ferry took passengers across the Potomac from Georgetown. The community that developed along the shore took its name from Ross Lynn, a local farm. Metrorail arrived in the late 1970s, cementing the area as a transportation hub. Today, Rosslyn is undergoing a second boom, with bold skyscrapers, majestic vistas, cultural and recreational attractions and plenty of transit options attracting more and more residents and visitors every day.

Length - Approximately 1 mile

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Rosslyn Renaissance and the Rosslyn Business Improvement District, 2009.



Shirlingington

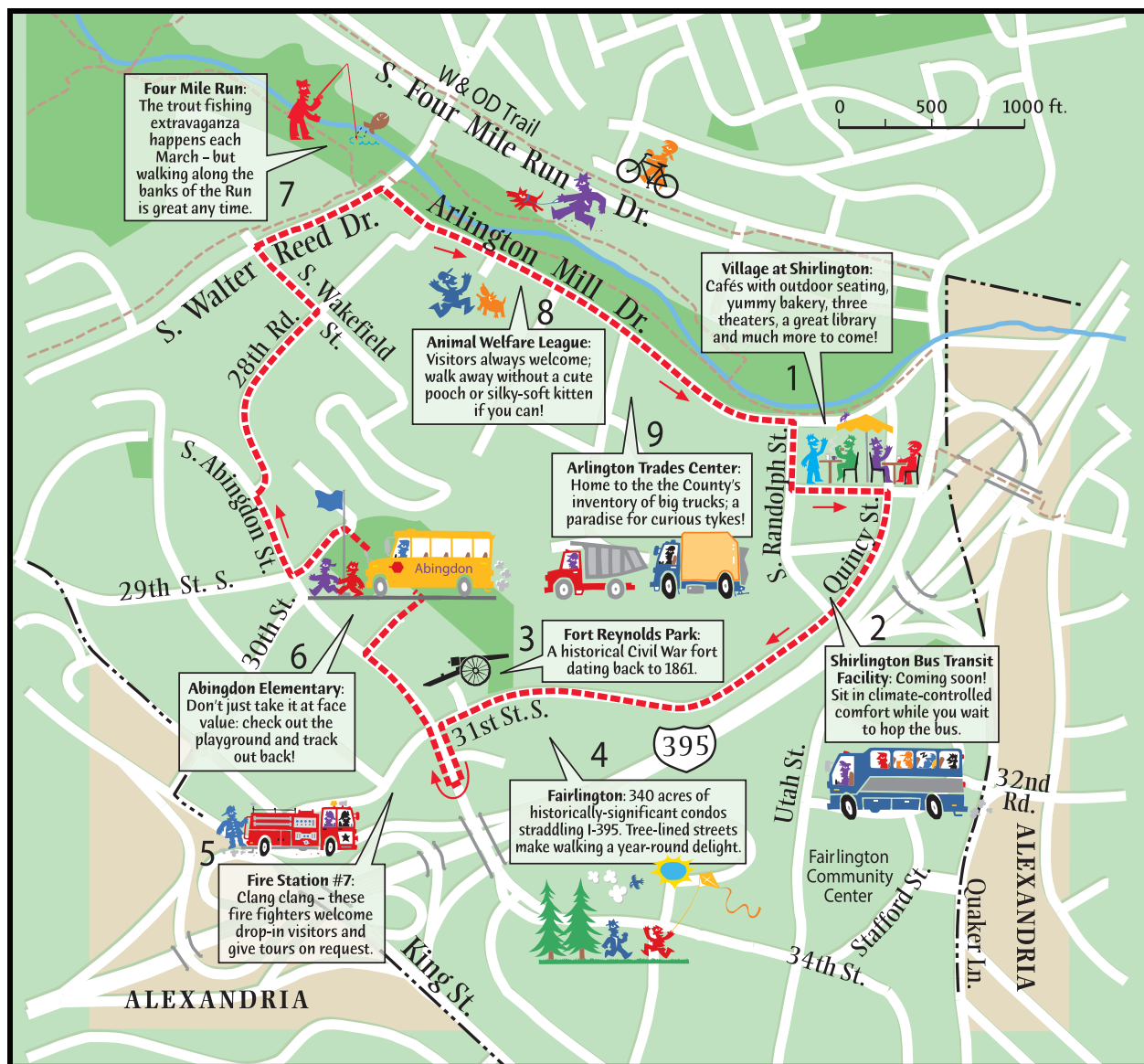
Description - (Mostly flat with a few short, steep passages)

Completion of the Pentagon in 1943 created a tremendous need for housing, which marked the beginning of boom times for Shirlingington. The desirability of the area increased when the Shirlingington Shopping Center opened in the 1940s. Today, residences, shops, restaurants, theatres, and a state-of-the-art library have transformed the "footprint" of the former Shopping Center into the downtown of this walkable, livable urban village.

Length - Under 2 miles

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Residents of Fairlington and Shirlingington, 2006.



Westover

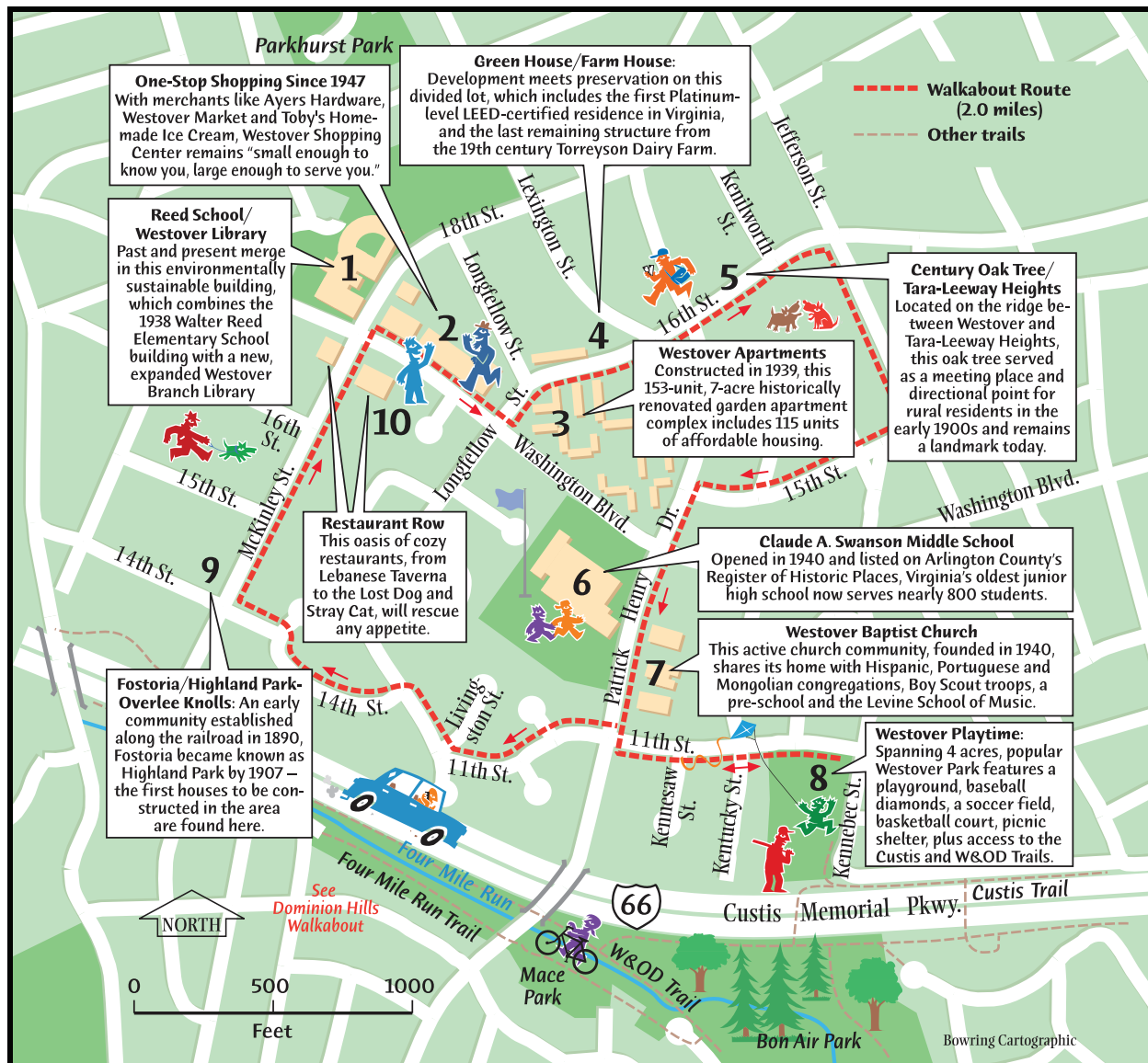
Description - (Rolling residential streetscapes and busy commercial center)

Westover was mostly farmland until 1940, when plots were subdivided for housing, the Westover Shopping Center was built, and Claude A. Swanson Junior High (now Middle) School opened. In 2006, Westover was added to the National Register of Historic Places. Today, with a mix of housing and access to public transit, multi-use trails, shops, restaurants, and services, this friendly, self-sufficient and supremely walkable neighborhood retains a mid-century character that evokes memories of a simpler time.

Length - Approximately 2 miles

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Westover Village, Highland Park-Overlee Knolls, and Tara-Leeway Heights Civic Associations and Westover Village Merchants, 2009.



Yorktown

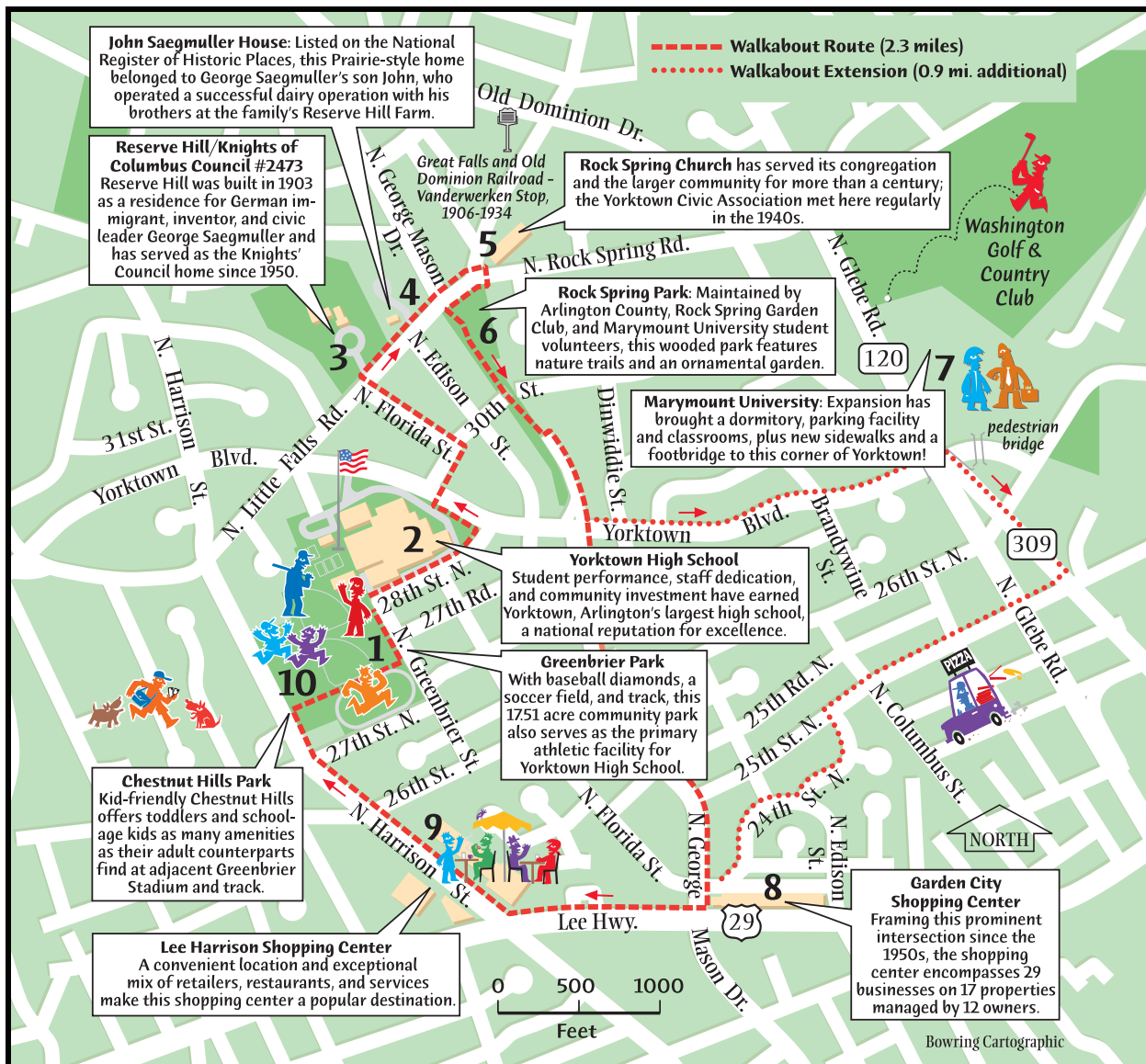
Description - (Slightly hilly with level sidewalks and pathways)

Once home to an Indian village and burial ground, yeoman farmers, and a wagon road that led from Four Mile Run to the Potomac, present-day Yorktown boasts top-rated Yorktown High School, popular Greenbrier Park, and bustling Lee-Harrison Shopping Center. Strong civic involvement has characterized Yorktown since the 19th century and contributes to the quality of life in this northwest Arlington neighborhood to this day.

Length - 2.3 miles with optional 0.9 mile extension.

How to Access - Visit Car-Free Near Me™ for all your transportation options.

Created with - Yorktown Civic Association, 2010.



The Arlington Way

Walk your way to good health

Stressed out? Not getting enough exercise? Need to clear your head? Step outside. Do your errands on foot. Take a lunchtime stroll. Go on a Walkabout—or blaze your own path! Whether you walk a few blocks or a few miles, you'll feel better.

Before you head out

Use your head and be good to your body. Visit walkarlington.com for walking tips for all conditions and all seasons. Winter, spring, summer, or fall; day or night; hot or cold, lace up your shoes and get out there. It's the Arlington Way.

Be a PAL and walk safely

Whether on two feet, two wheels, or four wheels, everyone needs to be a PAL to share our streets.



be a PAL

Predictable | Alert | Lawful

What's a PAL? Being a PAL means being:

- **Predictable:** Travel in a predictable way; don't make sudden, unexpected moves.
- **Alert:** Pay attention to your surroundings and to others around you.
- **Lawful:** Obey the traffic laws, whether in a car, on a bike or on foot.

Going on a Walkabout, out for exercise, or just getting from point A to point B? WalkArlington wants you to be safe, so be sure to visit walkarlington.com for tips on walking safety. Be safe, be seen, and be a PAL. It's the Arlington Way.

Share the way

Walking is just one way to get around Arlington. WalkArlington and our Arlington County Commuter Services partners invite you to try Arlington's Car-Free Diet, the easy, fun way to see how incredible it can be to live a car-free or car-lite lifestyle.

Arlington's
Car-Free Diet 

With so many ways to get around in Arlington, getting where you need to go without a car is practically a walk in the park. Whether you choose to walk, bike, carpool, ride ART or take Metro, you can save money, improve your health and clean our environment. To figure out all your car-free transportation options, visit Car-FreeNearMe™.



skip

stride

jog

run

roll



Walking Resources

Let your fingers do the walking and visit walkarlington.com for all this and much more!

- Downloadable full-page Walkabout maps
- Video Walkabouts hosted by Arlingtonians
- Spanish-language Walkabout maps
- Extensive up-to-date walking events calendar
- WalkArlington's monthly e-newsletter, The Pacer
- Pedestrian Advisory Committee information and links
- Arlington County contacts for pedestrian issues
- Safe Routes to Schools resources and contacts

WalkArlington is a program of Arlington County Commuter Services (ACCS), a bureau of the Arlington County Department of Environmental Services.

For general questions about WalkArlington, please contact info@walkarlington.com or call 703-247-9299.

Walk Arlington



Información en español

Descubre la belleza y la historia de Arlington explorando las áreas locales a pie. Para más información en español acerca de las diferentes excursiones, visita walkarlington.com.

