

# ROUND HILL SECTION

## ROUND HILL—A Thriving Town in the Heart of a Rich Agricultural, Dairy and Fruit Belt

Surrounded by picturesque, forest-clad hills and colorful agricultural landscapes in northwestern Loudoun is situated the thriving and enterprising town of Round Hill. A town, in which the social and physical aspects so thoroughly represent the culmination of some of the "Old Dominion's" finer traditions and traits of character. Here too, are found those individuals, who by their firesides, listened attentively to their fathers and grandfathers tell how they would for six days clear and cultivate the land, which now embraces Round Hill and its suburban territory. Then on the seventh they would shoulder their muskets, as a protection from Indians or animal molestation as they escorted their families to the old Catoctin Church, (just north of Round Hill), the oldest continuously active Baptist church in the state of Virginia. So much for traditional history.

Round Hill, as well as the rest of Loudoun county was originally a part of six million acres which, in 1661, were granted by Charles II, King of England to Lord Hopton, Sir William Morton, Earl of St. Albans, Lord Cul-



BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF ROUND HILL, VA.

peper, Lord Berkeley, Sir Dudley Wyatt, and Thomas Culpeper. This grant comprised all the land lying between the Rappahannock and Potomac rivers to their sources. This territory was later known as the "Northern Neck of Virginia." After some little strife with the royalty of England, this domain, in its entirety, came into the hands of the second Lord Culpeper. From Culpeper the rights and privileges of the original grant descended through his daughter, Catherine, to her son, Lord Thomas Fairfax. Between the years 1725 and 1730 began the permanent settlement of what is now Round Hill and adjoining districts. The land was yet the property of Lord Fairfax. Settlers secured ninety-nine year leases on the land at the rate of two shillings (approximately 48 cents) per one hundred acres. Most of these early settlers were Germans from Pennsylvania and New York, while the rest were principally Quakers and

Scotch-Irish. Even now are some of the inhabitants able to proudly trace their ancestry back to those early settlers who began to fashion this section into an undisputed degree of fertility and productivity.

During a period of approximately twenty years prior to 1874, the settlement was known as Woodgrove (one mile north from Round Hill) was a place of no mean promise, it had its spacious tavern, post office, store, "wagon-stand" and dwellings. Thru here came much of the trade between Alexandria and the county quite a bit west of the Woodgrove section. Farm commodities and necessities, household goods, and general merchandise were transported by

covered wagons thru this historic place; and through here were carried the mails by stage or on horseback.

In 1874 the Washington and Old Dominion Railroad was extended from Clark's Gap to Round Hill. Simultaneously came the need of a name for the small village of that day. The name of Round Hill was offered by the town's first station master, Gilford G. Gugg; his inspiration came from a typographical freak in the form of

(Continued on page 4)

### Round Hill Section (Continued)

a round hill which was a part of the farm of the late J. Robert Cochran.

In 1900 the town was incorporated and the following officers were elected: Geo. J. Ford, mayor; Councilmen—J. E. Carruthers, E. H. Conrad, J. B. Taylor, L. O. Hummerly, and R. S. Paxson; Luther Hurst, Seargent.

Since the time of Round Hill's incorporation, its growth has been phenomenal, as is evidenced by its paved streets, sidewalks, water system, electric lights, and various thriving enterprises.

Each year the climate of Round Hill causes many summer boarders to leave the sweltering heat of their city homes, and enjoy a vacation of rest and comfort in a modern country village at the foot of the mountains.

This following bit of astonishing information will give a general idea of the healthful climate of Round Hill: "Loudoun County is located in the most healthful section of the world, as proven by statistics which place the death rate at 8.5 per 1000, the lowest in the tables of mortality gathered from all parts of the habitable globe." This information was gleaned from a reliable and recorded source which dates about 1905 or 1906.

The good health of the citizens of Round Hill is promoted and safeguarded by the town's water supply as well as the county's excellent climate.

In 1915, a gravity water system was installed which piped water from several of many exceptionally strong mountain springs, some five miles distant from the town. The water is brought from the mountains in cast iron pipes to the town's 200,000 gallon reservoir built on a very high point of Scotland Hill, about a mile from the corporate limits. From the reservoir the water comes to the town in six-

inch mains with a pressure of from 75 to 90 lbs. per square inch, dependent on the attitude of the measurement. This pressure, incidentally, is quite sufficient for any town's fire-fighting needs. This water system is the only municipally owned and operated water system in Loudoun county; and all through the state such systems are scarce in towns the size of Round Hill.

Round Hill maintains its own voluntary fire company with the necessary apparatus and equipment, which consists of two hose reels, 750 feet of standard 2½-inch fire hose, ladders on truck, axes, etc.

If the social and moral aspects of a community are measured by its churches, Round Hill deserved praise, as there are three splendid houses of worship—Baptist, Methodist, and Episcopal. These three churches are attractively and centrally located.

Our schools consist of a standard graded and a four-year accredited high school. Both are housed by a commodious stone building located on a beautiful six-acre tract at the edge of town.

A very important component part of thriving Round Hill is its National Bank. It is a member of the Federal Reserve System, member of the National and Virginia Banker's Association, and is a state depository. Its resources are nearly half a million.

It is quite fitting that the dairy industry of this section be mentioned. The following conservatively estimated figures rendered by the Round Hill National Bank show that there are invested in dairying projects in the Round Hill section about \$406,000.00 and that the approximate annual income from this source is \$148,000.00.

In Round Hill is operated a flour mill which has been in continuous operation for forty years. The

growth of that institution is proven by its subsidiary mill and grain elevator at Bluemont.

The town's streets are well paved and wide. It has sidewalks throughout the corporation, and its street lights are plentiful.

### TO THE SPORTSMAN

Where the Blue Ridge is its bluest—an old Virginia town with 1929 model ideas; sitting coyly under the eaves of a forestclad mountain with a river of jade at its feet.

If you like to hunt, fish, ride, swim, or hike—in short, if you're young—nowhere in America will you find better sportsmanships, congeniality, or hospitality than in this bit of the Valley.

Up at daybreak for a breakfast of country ham and eggs, and fried apples—eat as much as you like for you can tramp it all off—then a hike up a wandering wooded trail to the top of the mountain, for a glimpse of the heavenly Valley from a new angle, with a river diamond-bright, wandering horseshoe fashion far below.

Or if you'd rather catch a fighting, black bass, out of this same stream, it's right at your door, and the big one doesn't always get away.

If you're a lover of the thoroughbred, your visit will include horse shows, and perhaps even the following of the hounds.

You'll ramble among fields with a dog and a gun, and at the end of an all too short day, you'll return with never a care in the world—nor a wish, except for something more to eat.

Whether you want to take a party or come alone, with your supposed soul, you'll find just what you want, for the first time in a long and worthless life.

You sho' must come!

### BOOST!

Boost your city, boost your friend,  
Boost the lodge that you attend.  
Boost the street on which you're dwelling,

Boost the goods that you are selling.

Boost the people, 'round about you.  
They can get along without you,  
But success will quicker find them  
If they know that you're behind them.

Boost for every forward movement  
Boost for every new improvement,  
Boost the man for whom you labor,  
Boost the stranger and the neighbor.

Cease to be a chronic knocker,  
Cease to be a progress blocker,  
If you'd make your city better,  
Boost it to the final letter.

—Detroit Free Press.

### THE COUNTRY BOYS' CREED

I believe that the Country which God made is more beautiful than the City which man made that life out-of-doors and in touch with the earth is the natural life of man. I believe that work is work wherever we find it, but that work with Nature is more inspiring than work with the most intricate machinery. I believe that the dignity of labor depends not on what you do, but on how you do it; that opportunity comes to a boy on the farm as often as to a boy in the city, that life is larger and freer and happier on the farm than in the town, that my success depends not upon my location, but upon myself—not upon my dreams, but upon what I actually do, not upon luck, but upon pluck. I believe in working when you work and playing when you play, and in giving and demanding a square deal in every act of life.

(Continued on Page 5)