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The Lamond home will one day be the site of meetings and private parties.

Staff photo/Steve Hunt

'This Land is Our Land'

Lamond Tract Now County Park

By STEVE HUNT

Staff Writer

SOLD: 17.9082 acres of wooded land containing a single dwelling two-and-a-half story, 10-room brick home built in 1940 for \$4.6 million to the citizens of Fairfax County.

The house and land, presently known as the Lamond property, was purchased earlier this month by the Fairfax County Park Authority and is now officially county property.

Citizens are now free to walk around the land and take a look at what the park authority purchased for roughly \$5 per county resident.

However, it currently requires a bit of effort to get there.

The unpaved driveway leading to

the house at 7509 Fort Hunt Road is presently blocked with a chain to prevent unauthorized vehicles from driving up to the house.

Mark Holsteen, a property analyst with the planning and development division of the FCPA, and Joseph Sicenavage, a senior landscape architect of the planning and development division of the FCPA, said last week the property is not ready to accept public vehicular traffic for the time being.

And while eventually pedestrian access will be available to the park with no name from ei-

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Lamond Property Now County Park

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areas the supervisor for that district has solicited suggestions from the public before making a recom-

mendation.

The house will fall under the auspices of the FCPA's Historical Properties Rental Services and will even-

tuallly be available for rental to the public for weddings or wedding receptions and other private functions similar to Stoneybrooke Mansion.

Lamond Property Now Fairfax County Parkland

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ther Burtonwood or Admiral drives, right now, in order to do a person who have to scale a six-foot chain link fence topped with barbed wire.

The entrance to the property is on the west side of Fort Hunt Road, just north of Morningside Lane.

However, there is no place to park near the driveway. The closest place to park would either be on Sherwood Hall Lane, or for a less

traveled roadway a bit further south, the Paul Spring Parkway.

From the Paul Spring Parkway it is less than a 10-minute walk along the bike path on the east side of Fort Hunt Road. After crossing Sherwood Hall Lane, pedestrians have to cross Fort Hunt Road to reach the driveway.

While the Lamond Community Task Force has proposed the construction of a loop nature trail, there is no such trail now and hikers will have to make their own way around if

they choose to venture off the driveway.

The county now has legal title to the property, however, the former owner, Jaqueline Lamond, had 60 days from the date of the sale to remove her personal possessions from inside the home, according to Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland.

Mrs. Lamond has apparently not lived in the house for several months and has moved out much of the furnishings.

However, there is quite a bit of clutter such as plastic bags, old newspapers and magazines and other household items which still need to be removed.

In the attic, National Geographic magazines date back to the 1920s and old clothes and accessories, including spats which still have their original labels attached, are among

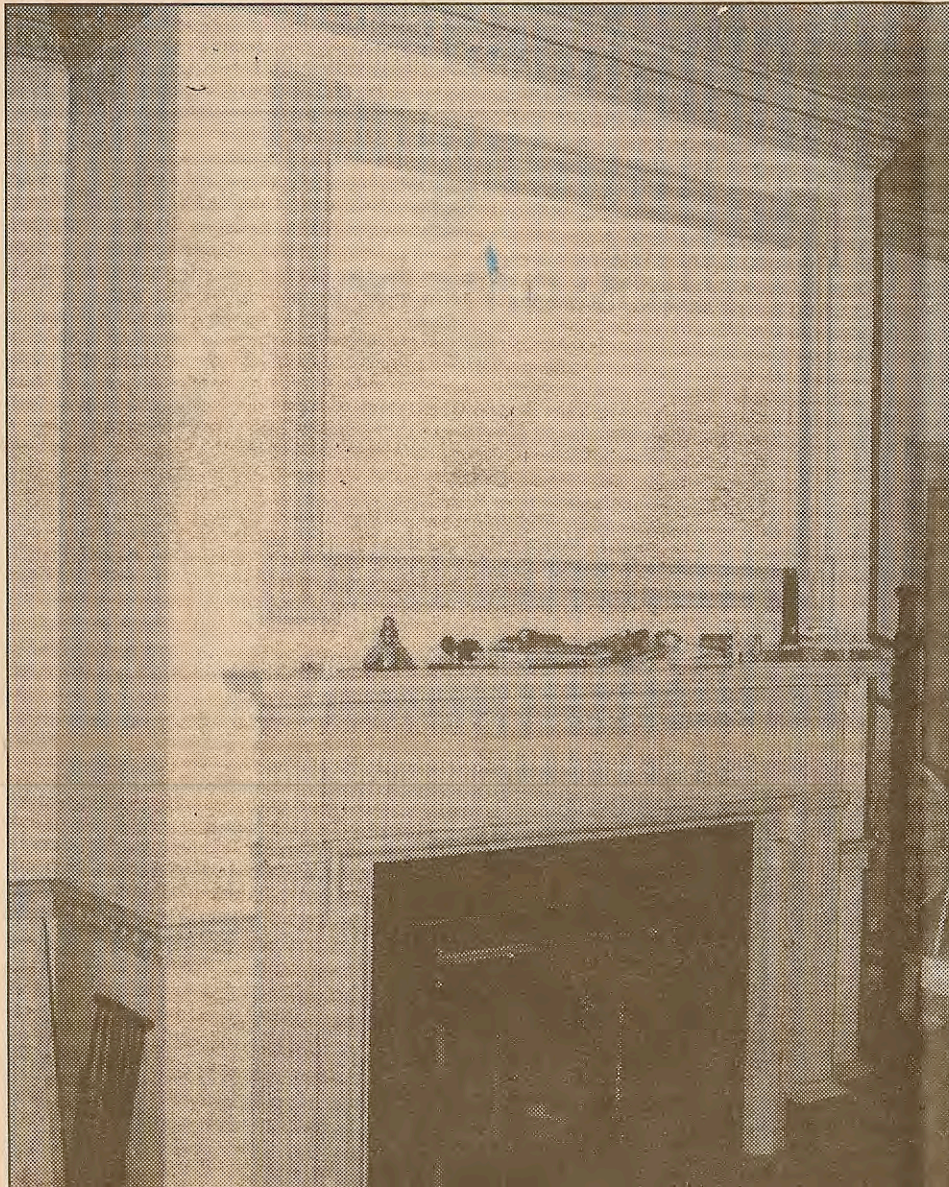
her personal property needing to be removed.

The acquisition of the Lamond property represents the largest single purchase, from a financial standpoint, that the FCPA has made in recent years, according to Holsteen.

From the 1998 park authority bond referendum, the FCPA has spent \$2 million for 28 acres in Lee District next to Huntley Meadows Park; \$615,000 in Mason District for 13 acres; \$1.7 million in the Dranesville district for 18 acres; and \$550,000 in Hunter Mill district for five acres (in that case the FCPA put up \$250,000 and the board of supervisors kicked in the other \$300,000).

Holsteen said he didn't know what the park would end up being named, but that in other

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Views of Lamond Property





Staff photos/Steve Hunt

Area residents are free to walk around on the Lamond property. In photos, clockwise from top right, a garden that apparently once included a fish pond; the woods were scenic in last week's snow; a view from the upstairs outdoor porch; the staircase in the main foyer; a porch inside on the first floor; a view of the house from the side.

