Dumfries, Va.

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JUN 3 0 1977

Date

## Map of Occoqua TO 95 W 39 41 POPLAR ALLEY 32 6 50 28 37 27 25 MILL STREET 17 11, 12 (up) 7 (down) WALKING BRIDGE PL 52 1. Mamie Davis Park 19. Historic Ferryman's House \* 20. Ferryman's House Gifts - 491-4559 38. U.S. Post Office 2. Prince William Marina 39. Ebenezer Baptist Church 21. Country Kitchen - 494-2848 22. Town Hall & Police Department 3. Occoquan Inn 40. Peck; Peck & Williams 4. Blackbeard's Crab House 41. Colchester Shop 23. Mill Street Baptist Church 24. Bank of Virginia 5. Country Shop - 491-4514 6. Occoquan Leather - 494-8597 42. Back Stage 43. Lynn Electric Co. - 494-6962 7. The Undertaking - Artists' Co-op 8. Plants, Etc. - 494-6823 • 25. Jerry's Rings & Things - 494-2904 44. Enchanted Mirror • 45. Occoquan Workshop - 491-5779 46. Parrish Signs \* 26. Blackbeard's Inn - 494-9212 \* 9. Ebashae - 491-5984 \* 27. Full Scoop - 494-7986 10. Ink and Oil - 491-6321 23. Village Americana 47. Gordian Corp. Ervin Engineering - 491-3139 Karen's Spinning Wheel - 494-8333 Lynn's General Store - 494-9741 29. Kate Jones 48. Miller's Lighthouse - 491-5983 • 30. Country Greenery - 491-1565 31. Crêpe Marché 49. Virginia Peddler - 491-1553 50. Fashion Corner - 491-5311 14. Arrowsmith Archery • 32. Mountain Valley Handicrafts - 494-8565 51. Odd Fellows Hall 15. Woodbridge Canvas - 491-2869 \* 33. Mountain Valley Miniatures 52 (PL) Parking Lot 16. Occoquan Boat Club & Dry Dock \* 34. Green Gable Antiques - 491-3040 35. Cinnamon Cellar - 494-4489. \*Merchant's Association Members Marina - 494-6475 36. VFW Hall 17. Mill House Museum May. 1977 18. Historic Rockledge House 37. D. Felish School of Dance

OCCOQUAN

## Old and new, quiet and busy ...a hometown

By BONNIE REISS

Occoquan is an old town and a new town, a quiet town and a busy town, a tourist town and a hometown. In fact, Occoquan fits just about any kind of description there is for a town.

When Nathaniel Ellicott recorded the plats for the town of Occoquan in 1804 it had already been a commercial center for more than 50 years. There was a mill, a ferry to cross the river and a pier for shipping out copper and tabacco.

It is only speculation, but entirely possible, that George Washington may have stopped in town for many a tankard of refreshment during his horseback treks from Alexandria to Fredericksburg.

More recent history is the defense of the Confederacy against the Union troops by General Wade Hampton, whose headquarters were in the Hammill Hotel at the corner of Union and Commerce Streets. The building is still in use today and known now as the Beech-

wood Apartments.

The empty lot next to the Town Hall on Mill Street, site of numerous craft shows, antique sales and art displays, will be the location of a brand new structure called Waldon Place, the first completely new building in downtown Occoquan for several decades.

One of the main corners in town is taking on an entirely new look with the extensive remodeling of the Porter building at Union and Mill Streets. The addition of bay windows, new doors and stripped and varnished floors and stairways all blend together to make the oldand the new better for the six shops housed there.

It takes a lot of vision and creative know how to restore and rehabilitate buildings, buildings that some said should have been torn down, and end up with a charming complex such as the Ferryman's House and the Ferrylanding with the connecting brick walkway and pleasant gardens.

The soft flap-flap of the flag as it is stirred by a gentle summe breeze is often all that a person call hear as one sits on a bench it is manie Davis Park or on the actioning public wharf.

Sometimes the quietness of the Country Kitchen garden is broke only by the occasional call of a bin in the surrounding trees or the crunch of the gravel stone underfoot.

Boats of all sizes, from t canoes and jonboats for rent Lynn's Store to the 26-foot cruise that dock at the Prince Willia Marina, ply the waters of C coquan River.