

Old Clifton Homes Enjoy New Youth

By Penny Whitley

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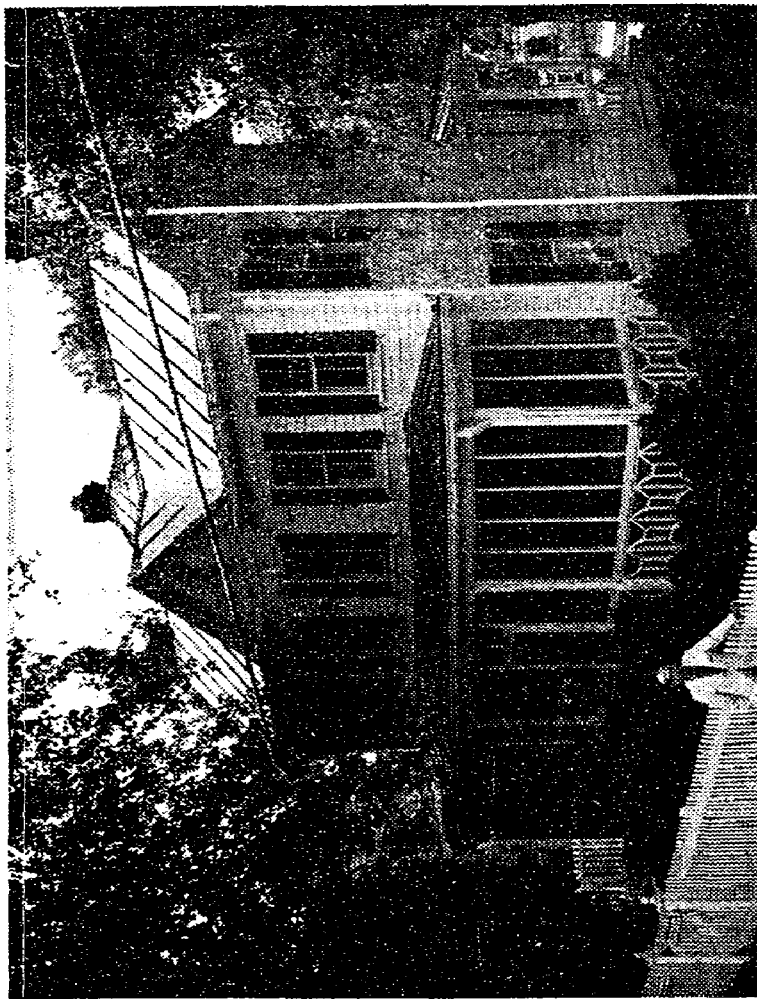
Old Clifton Homes Enjoy New Youth

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Once the largest town in Southwest Fairfax County and now the smallest, Clifton is beginning to look like a Victorian movie set.

Since 1961, A. Frank Krause Jr., Fairfax builder, developer and preservationist, has purchased 13 major Victorian properties in this town whose heyday began in the 1850s with the coming of the Virginia Midland Railroad. He has restored some properties for sale; others are still untouched.

Many Clifton houses were stored in the turmoil of restoring old buildings while preserving their original character, Krause has remained determined to restore Clifton to its former elegance. Entering Clifton on Route 1874, Quaker House at Chapel Rd. and Main St. dominates the scene. An elegant 3-story, mansard style See CLIFTON, Page F2



RESTORATION—Clifton, Va., developer Frank Krause stands in front of the 1890 Wallace Woodyard house, which he restored. The Victorian Chapel Road structure recalls Clifton's heyday when Presidents Arthur, Hayes and Grant weekend-ed at the Clifton Hotel, which is also slated for restoration by Krause.

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Showplace For Elegant Furnishings

CLIFTON, From F19

house has been claimed by Krause as his residence with restoration beginning next year.

Built by Louis Quigg for his sophisticated wife, it was a showplace for the most elegant of furnishings from New York. Krause, a latter-day Victorian type, will make it a showplace again. An art collector, designer, decorator and builder, he serves Fairfax County as chairman of the cultural requirements committee, Northern Virginia Cultural and Recreational Authority, and is the new president of the Fairfax County Cultural Association.

Historic Clifton houses are marked with descriptive placques. Encouraged by the Clifton Betterment Association, which initiated the first annual "Clifton Day" last October attended by 2000, purchasers of historic properties are going all out to maintain the town's Victorian aroma.

A central village green is the setting for an arts and crafts day. Future plans for the green include 19th century landscaping with a bandstand for outdoor concerts.

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