

# **Access Routes**

**to the  
United States  
Geological Survey's  
National  
Center,  
Reston,  
Virginia**



**U. S.  
Department of the Interior  
Geological Survey**



**The National Center:** The U.S. Geological Survey, established in 1879 as a bureau in the Department of the Interior, is one of the Federal Government's major earth science research and fact-finding agencies. By 1960, the continued growth of the Survey's natural resources and environmental programs and activities led to the agency's headquarters personnel being housed in more than 30 different buildings scattered throughout the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. In 1962, Congress approved the construction of a National Center to consolidate the overall Survey's headquarters effort. A site in Reston's industrial/educational complex was selected and on July 15, 1971, ground was broken for the John Wesley Powell Federal Building.

Now more than 2,500 Survey employees are housed in this 1-million-square-foot structure, which is situated in a 105-acre wooded area. A separate building houses the Solid State Physics Laboratory in the same area.

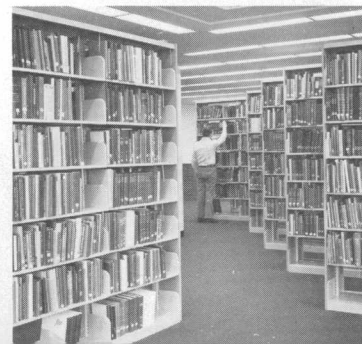
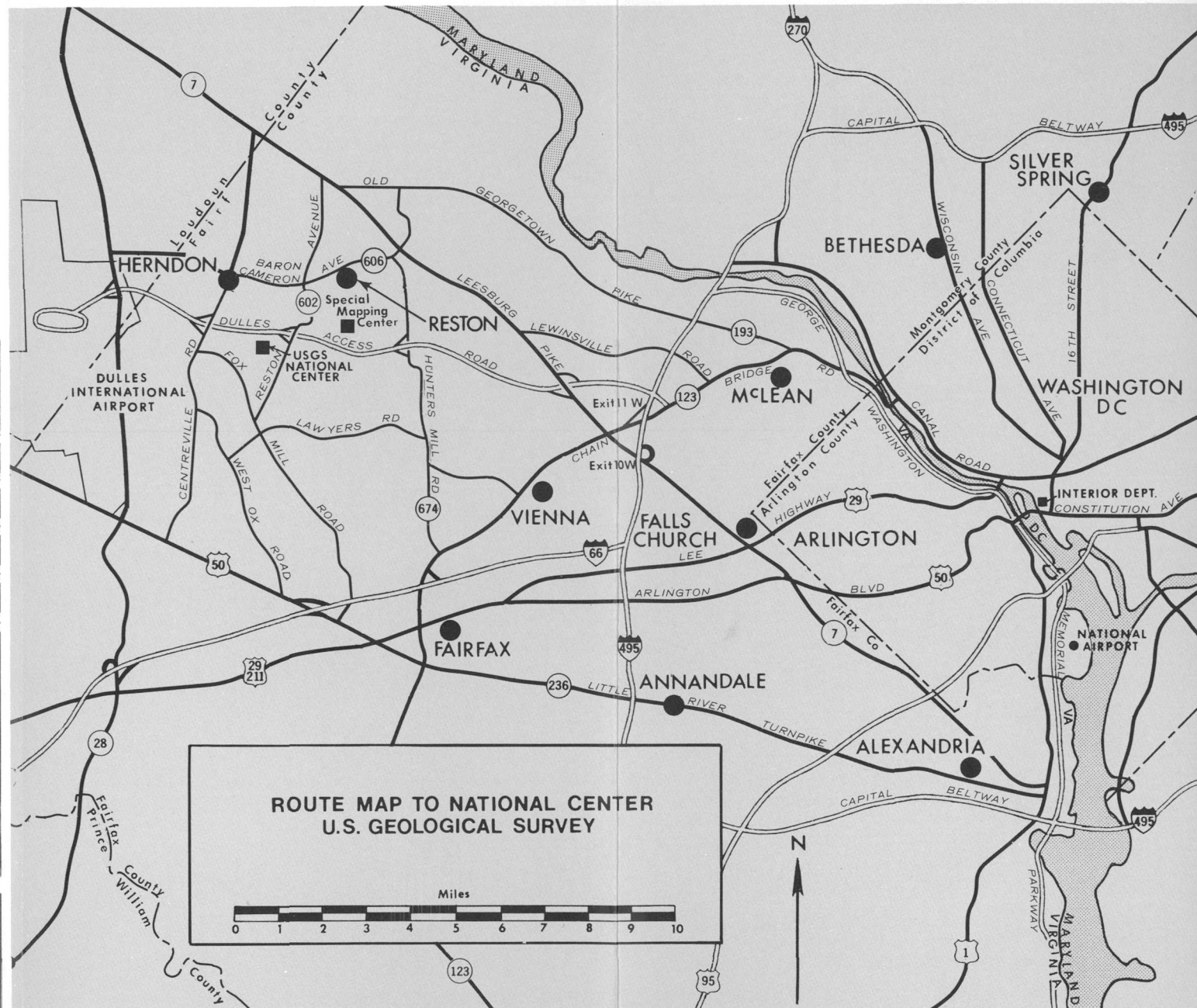
**Access Routes:** The U.S. Geological Survey's National Center is located in the new town of Reston, Virginia, which is about 18 miles west of Washington, D.C., and 5 miles east of the Dulles International Airport. Reston is approximately 20 minutes from the Capital Beltway (Interstate 495), and can be easily reached by Routes 7 and 606; or by Routes 66, 50, 608, and 602. The National Center is about ½ mile west of the intersection of Reston Avenue (Route 602) and Sunrise Valley Drive.

**Reston, Virginia:** This planned community was founded in 1962 on 7,400 acres (11.5 square miles) in Fairfax County, Virginia. Gently rolling, wooded hills surround the community. Reston itself is built around four mini-malls and a separate industrial park. About 200 firms and associations have located at the park.

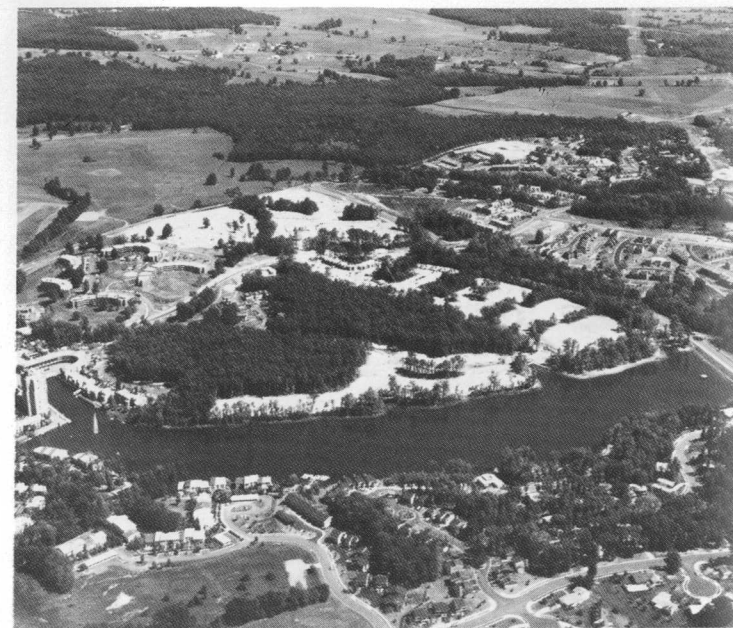
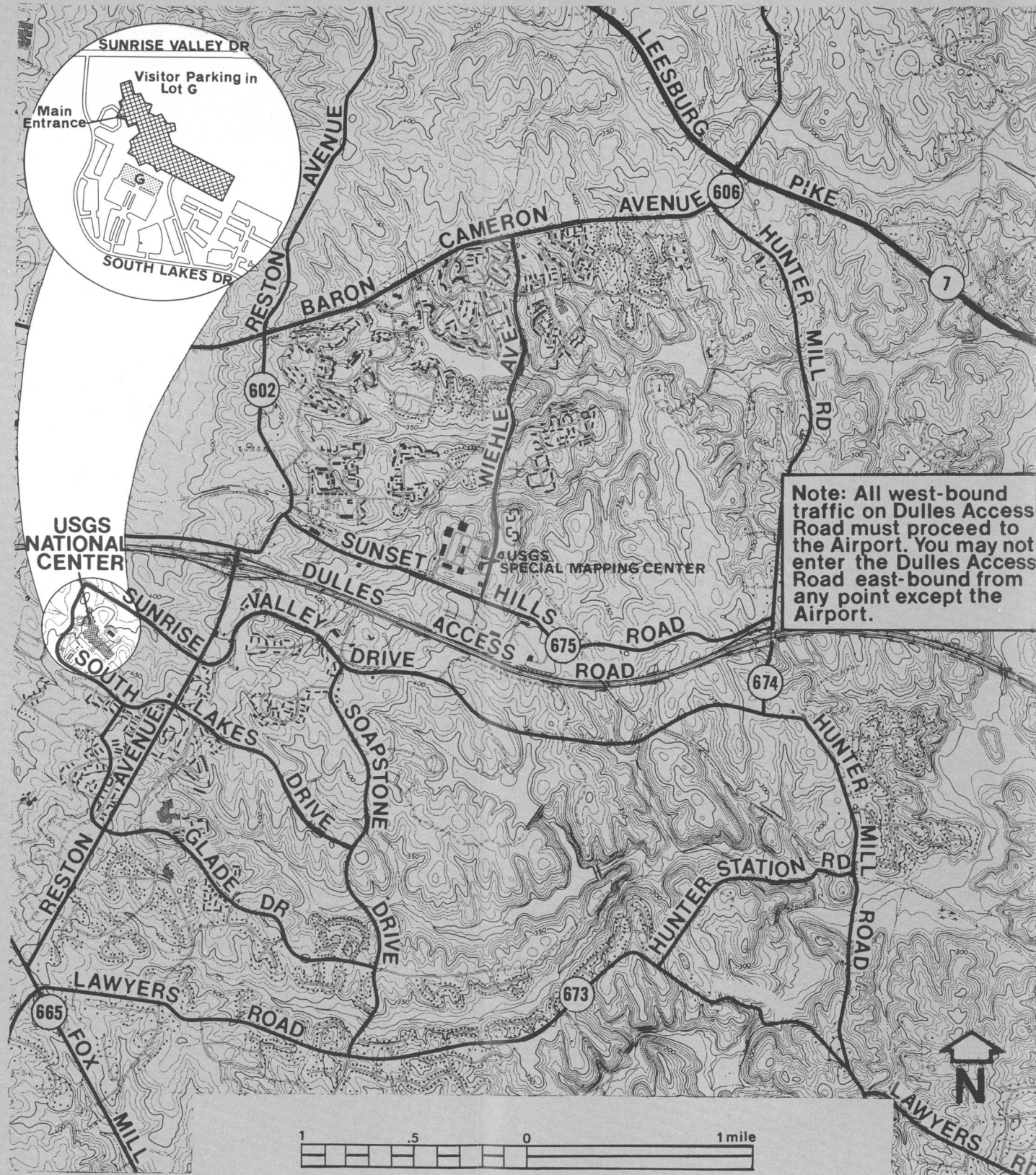
**Accommodations:** Several inns and motels are conveniently located in the area surrounding Reston. A few of them provide bus service for visitors to the Center.



**Transportation:** The National Center is reached most conveniently by automobile. The Reston Commuter Bus System offers over 30 Express Commuter buses to and from Washington, D.C., daily. Reston is also served by two Washington Metro bus routes that originate from the main bus terminal in Washington, D.C. The Common Ground bus, originating at the Lake Anne Village Center, provides transportation within Reston. The Geological Survey provides a shuttle service between the Interior Building in Washington, D.C., and the National Center for Government employees and visitors.







For further information about the U.S. Geological Survey and its National Center, contact:

Information Office  
 U.S. Geological Survey  
 119 National Center  
 Reston, Va. 22092  
 Phone: (703) 860-7444

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interests of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.



Cecil D. Andrus, Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior

V E. McKelvey, Director  
Geological Survey

