

Town of University Park
Council Committee on Public Facilities and Services

Meeting Notes

March 14, 2016

7:00 PM

Conference Room

University Park Town Hall

6724 Baltimore Avenue

Present

Committee Members: Joe Thompson, Council Member, Ward 1; Bradlee Hess, Council Member, Ward 3; David Caskey, Council Member, Ward 5; Michael Cron, Council Member, Ward 6; James Gekas, Council Member, Ward 2 and Committee Chair.

Also Present: Roy Alvarez, Council Member, Ward 7, Michael Wynnyk, Chief of the University Park Police; John Brunner, Resident and former Mayor of University Park; Kenneth Roesel, Resident of University Park.

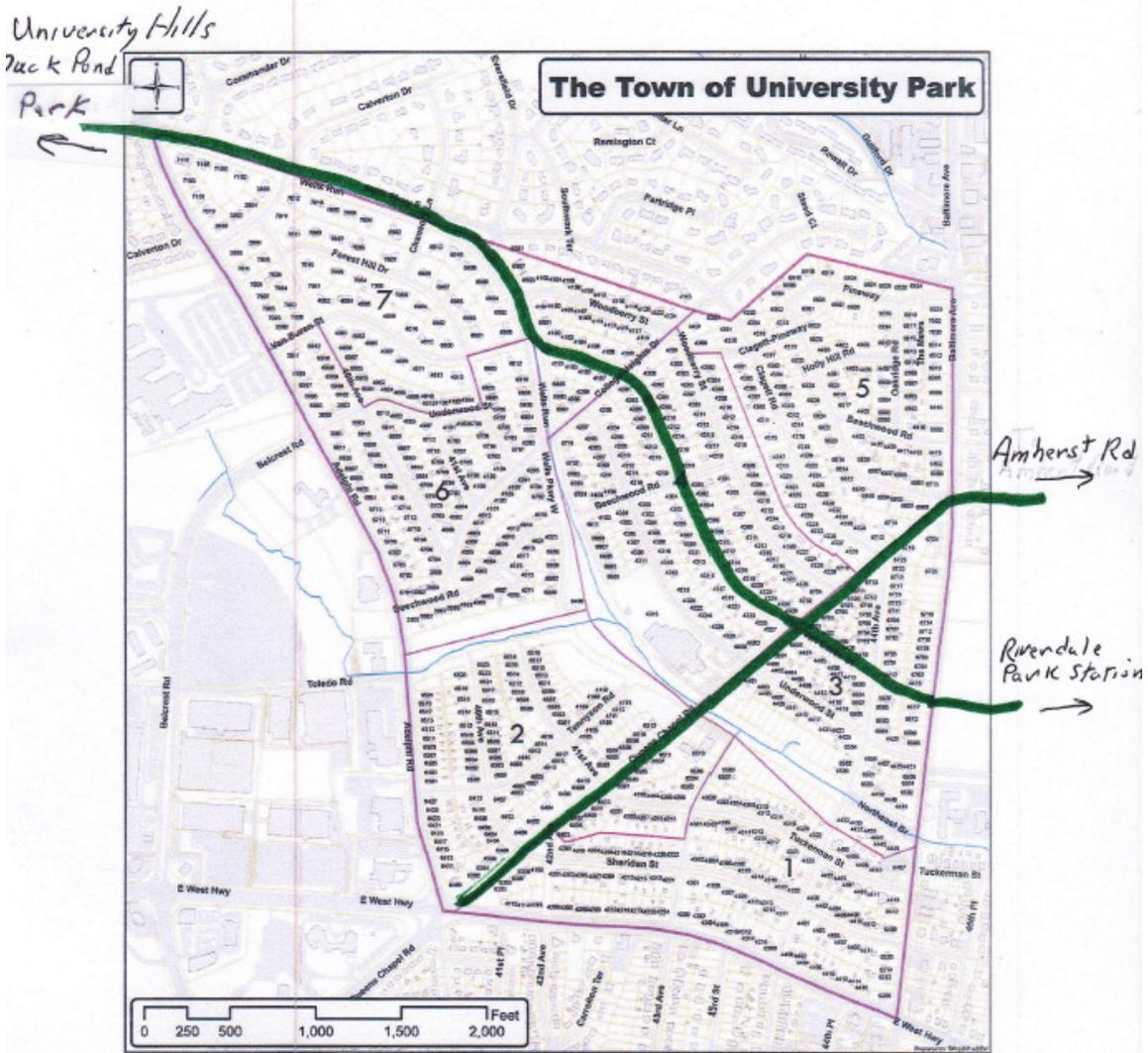
The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

1. Discussion on bicycling connectivity within and around University Park.

The Committee agreed on a 2016 Plan that embraces a forward-thinking and cost-effective approach to a bicycle roadmap within the Town that would connect to bicycle networks around the immediate vicinity. The Committee recognized the positive benefits of bicycling that include low-speed and low-volume streets with comfortable crossings, paved trails, and protected bike lanes, i.e., a low-stress bicycle environment.

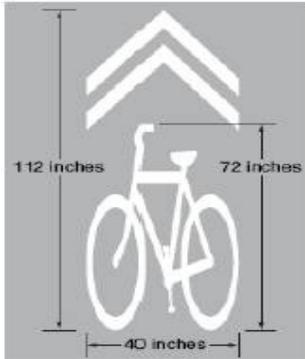
Chief Wynnyk provided the Committee a blueprint of the physical barriers to bicycling in the surrounding area which include short sections of bike lanes missing on major streets, segments of trail yet to be built, or difficult intersections along corridors that connect important destinations. These physical barriers, no matter how small, impact people's decisions about whether to make bicycling a part of their transportation routine. Chief Wynnyk stated that he is working with other officials from surrounding communities on connecting bicycle trails in the area.

Working from Chief Wynnyk's draft, the Committee focused on two bicycle routes through Town, one mainly following Queens Chapel Road (a current bicycle route) and one mainly following Wells Parkway and Van Buren Street. The highlighted streets in University Park (map below) designate the bike routes the Committee recommends connecting to bicycle routes outside of the Town:



The proposed designated Town vehicular roads would be shared by bike traffic with simple bicycle stencil painted road markings and/or signage on (1) Queens Chapel Road from Baltimore Avenue to Adelphi/East-West Highway, and (2) on Van Buren Street from Baltimore Avenue (providing access to Cafritz/trolley trail/College Park Metro/Riverdale Amtrak) through Town to Van Buren & Wells, continuing north on Wells Parkway to Adelphi Road.

The shared lane stencil bike markings are referred to as Sharrows by the Maryland State Highway Administration, and looks like this:



No part of the Town's roads would be exclusively dedicated as a bike route.

The Committee recommends that a bike station be located at the current bike rack on Queens Chapel Road near the tennis court which currently has electrical service in the immediate vicinity. This would accommodate bike-sharing companies such as Zagster to provide accessible bikes to the public. The Committee discussed, but did not recommend, a bike station powered by solar panels located at Van Buren Street and Wells Parkway.

The three main highways that surround the Town are shared bike/vehicle routes and are obviously not "bike friendly." Hence, as the Committee recognized, the 2016 Plan is to engage other public entities, namely, Maryland Capital Park and Planning Commission, the State Highway Administration (SHA), the University of Maryland, Prince George's County, and our neighboring municipalities, with the important goal of building and maintaining bicycle facilities that form a continuous and dense low-stress bicycle network with seamless connections to public transit, bike share, schools, neighborhoods, community destinations, and the regional bicycle network. Prince George's Council Member Dannielle Glaros, Vice-Chairman, is expected to convene a public discussion in the near future on this important matter.

The Committee recommends to the Council the following suggestions on the three major highways that surround University Park:

Adelphi Road along the western Town border is a Prince George's County bike/vehicle shared road. Improvements should be made to have a dedicated bicycle lane painted into the road to provide a low-stress option along this route for access to the High School/ Primary School/ Universities/ Library/ and also to slow traffic for the residents that live along Adelphi Road. With the pace of planned development in the area (e.g., the Prince George's Plaza Transit Development Plan (TDDP)), it would be prudent to establish Adelphi Road as a pedestrian, bicycle, low volume roadway as opposed to the trend of widening roads for increasing volume which continues to occur along East-West Highway.

Baltimore Avenue (Route 1), a Maryland State Highway along the eastern Town border, is a shared bike/vehicle route. SHA is making improvements for bicycle lanes in College Park and should be directed to extend those improvements to the DC line.

East-West Highway along the Town's southern border is also a Maryland State Highway. Each improvement over the past 20 years has widened roads to accommodate more volume and not included improvements to encourage alternative means of transportation. This section of roadway should have a dedicated bicycle lane in the far right lane which would provide a safety barrier for the 36 plus homes that border the town along that section of road.

2. The purchase and installation of Historic District signs in Wards 6 and 7 at the Adelphi entrances at Beechwood, Van Buren, Calverton, and Wells; in Ward 3 at the Baltimore Avenue entrance at Underwood; and replacement of two of the original signs at Beechwood @ Baltimore Avenue and 43rd @ East-West Highway which have been stolen/destroyed.

John Brunner reported that most of the town was recognized in 1996 as a national register historic district. Welcome signs were placed at entrances to wards 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Signs, however, were never installed in ward 6 and ward 7 since those wards were not recognized until 2006. He distributed a brochure which lists the historic properties and districts in Prince George's County, and explains the history, significance and benefits when properties are listed on the National Register. (A copy of the brochure is attached to the minutes.)

Mayor Carey stated that the purchase and installation of each sign would be about \$1,000 each. The Committee decided to recommend to the Town Council the installation of all seven signs at the entrances, as noted above, and to appear exactly as the other historic town signs for uniformity:



The Committee agreed that manufacturing the seven signs and bringing in construction equipment for their installation all at once would be more cost effective than doing the job over a few years. The Committee thus unanimously decided to recommend to the Council the purchase and installation of all seven signs at the same.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

The Prince George's County Historic Preservation Program



Old Courthouse

This brochure was prepared by the Historic Preservation Section, Countywide Planning Division of the Prince George's County Planning Department (M-CPDC). For more information, contact the Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission, c/o M-CPDC, County Administration Building, 1674 Governor Glenn Road/Drive, Upper Merion, MD 20779. Call 301-453-6250 or e-mail www.mcpdc.org/history.

Through the county's Historic Preservation Ordinance, the HPC can designate a property as a historic site if the property is listed in the county Inventory of Historic Resources and if it meets specific criteria of architectural or historical significance. Usually, a group of historic properties sharing significance and proximity can be designated as a historic district.

The process of designation involves the preparation of a research report documenting the history and architectural characteristics of the historic resource; this research may be initiated by the property owner or local citizens. The HPC then holds a public hearing to receive the comments of the residents and other interested parties and then makes a decision. The County Council takes appeal of the commission's decision on designations.

The Historic Area Work Permit Process

Changes to the exterior features of historic sites require a Historic Area Work Permit (HAWP), in addition to any other permits required by the county. Such changes include alterations, additions, demolition of exterior features, and grading work or landscaping that will affect the setting. Similarly, changes to a property within a designated historic district (including new construction) require a HAWP.



Upper Merion House

If alterations are planned for an unincorporated historic resource included in the Historic Sites and Districts Plan Inventory, a property owner should request a historic site evaluation. If, after that evaluation, a property is classified as a historic site, exterior work will require a HAWP. If the property does not meet the criteria to become a historic site, a HAWP will not be required. The HPC encourages owners to submit preliminary plans for its review before applying for a HAWP. Staff can provide technical assistance and information on financial incentive programs including tax credits and grant programs.

The Benefits of Preservation

Tax Credits and Grants

Historic site and historic district designation recognizes and protects the character of the designated property or area. Historic site owners are eligible to receive historic tax credits and grants from the HPC to plan or carry out projects. In addition, owners may be eligible for a Prince George's County Preservation Tax Credit on county property taxes of ten percent of the cost of approved restoration work, or five percent of the cost of non-approved new construction within a historic district. Owners may also qualify for preservation loan programs where such funds are available. Property owners are encouraged to contact staff and submit an application for tax credits prior to the commencement of work.



Upper Merion House

In cooperation with the Historic Preservation Commission, the Prince George's County Historic Property Grant Program was launched in 2008. Grants of up to \$100,000 are available for the acquisition, rehabilitation, preservation and restoration of historic property in Prince George's County. All work must meet the Secretary of the Interior's standards, and grant recipients must show a potential historic preservation investment on the property before receiving grant funds. The grants are available to individuals, nonprofit organizations and incorporated municipalities.

For more information, contact www.mcpdc.org/history/propertygrant.htm.

A Maryland state income tax credit of 20 percent of the qualified capital cost spent on rehabilitation for owner-occupied residential property and for nonresidential property can be taken by owners of (1) designated historic sites, (2) properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places, (3) contributing properties within historic districts listed in the National Register, or (4) contributing properties within county historic districts. The rehabilitation must comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and must be certified by the Maryland Historical Trust prior to beginning work. For information on eligibility for state and federal preservation tax credits and funding, contact the Maryland Historical Trust, 100 Community Place, Oceanville, MD 21088-2022, 410.514.1686 or e-mail marylandhistoricaltrust.net.

Prince George's County Archeology Review Process

The archeology component of the county's historic preservation program calls for a specialized approach to protecting resources. The ability to predict with reliability where archeological sites are located is an important goal of the county's program. In early 2004, the Prince George's County Planning Board passed an initiative to protect archeological sites during the development process. The Planning Board expressed particular interest in investigating the possible existence of slave quarters and green, as well as archeological evidence of the presence of Native American people. In November 2010, the Prince George's County Council enacted legislation authorizing the Prince George's County Planning Department/M-CPDC to require Phase I investigations as part of the subdivision application process to identify archeological sites within a property. County archeological guidelines were developed through the collaboration of Historic Preservation staff, professional archeologists, the Historic Preservation Commission, developers, real estate professionals, interested citizens, and other parties of concern. The results of the investigations have made substantial contributions to the understanding of the county's history, including slave life and the lives of Native



The Prince George's County Archeology Review Process

Americans. These discoveries have also enabled the county to protect historic landscapes and sites that would otherwise be lost forever.

The National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places is a list of properties acknowledged by the U.S. Government as worthy of recognition and preservation. The National Register is maintained by the Secretary of the Interior and administered by the National Park Service. Properties listed in the National Register include districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects that are significant to the nation, the state or to the local community. The National Register honors properties individually and within historic districts and provides recognition and serves as a planning tool.



John Chesnut Road Court

Listing in the National Register provides the following benefits to preserving historic properties:

- The prestige of national recognition that a property is of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering and/or culture. Recognition involves a multi-step process that includes professional evaluations of the significance of the property.
- Consideration in the planning for federal and state-funded projects. Procedures require careful consideration of any impacts on National Register properties by projects involving federal and state funds, licenses, permits, or tax benefits. There is no review for a project that uses private funds and does not require state or federal permits or licenses.
- Eligibility for federal income tax benefits that include (1) a 20 percent investment tax credit for certified rehabilitation of historic commercial, industrial, and rental residential buildings, and (2) a charitable donation deduction for the contribution of a perpetual easement to a qualified preservation organization.
- Eligibility for a Maryland income tax credit of 20 percent of the qualified capital costs for approved rehabilitation of owner-occupied residential buildings and for nonresidential buildings.
- Eligibility to apply for federal and state grants and low-interest state loans for historic preservation projects.

National Historic Landmarks

The National Historic Landmarks program, another cultural resources program of the National Park Service, was established in 1960 to identify and protect places possessing exceptional significance in illustrating the nation's heritage. National Historic Landmarks can be buildings, sites, districts, structures or objects determined by the Secretary of the Interior to be nationally significant in American history and culture. National Historic Landmarks are eligible for special federal grants and for technical preservation advice from the National Park Service, as well as for the benefits listed above for National Register properties.



Upper Merion House



Prince George's County Historical Society and Library

There are a number of nonprofit community organizations and government agencies active in historic preservation efforts. Here are just a few:

Prince George's County Historical and Cultural Trust (15 volunteers appointed by the County Executive), in cooperation with the HPC, has established a Countywide organization of volunteers, the Friends of Preservation, to support preservation efforts. The Friends of Preservation Newsletter, produced by the Historical and Cultural Trust, contains articles about preservation issues, the proceedings of the HPC, and information about preservation-related classes, tours and special events. Trust volunteers also run "The Normal Post," a recycling center for salvaged architectural elements. For more information, contact 301-457-4109 or e-mail www.pgchist.org.

The Prince George's County Historical Society and Library is a membership organization dedicated to promoting an appreciation of Prince George's County heritage. Incorporated at the Greenbelt Branch of the Prince George's County Public Library, the society maintains a research reference on county history, publishes a monthly newsletter, News and Notes, holds programs and special events for members, conducts guided tours and educational activities for the public, and sponsors historical and preservation activities with annual events. For information on Historical Society activities, contact 301-494-0250 or e-mail www.pghistory.org.

Prince George's Heritage, Inc., a countywide, nonprofit preservation organization staffed by volunteers, administers the Prince George's Heritage grants program and can award small grants for research and restoration projects. Prince George's Heritage works closely with the Historic Preservation Commission in education efforts. For more information, call Doug McIlwain, Chair, 301-455-8233 or doug@pgheritage.net.

The M-CPDC Natural and Historical Resources Division (Department of Parks and Recreation) offers interpretive programs at M-CPDC owned historic sites and a range of volunteer opportunities. The department also operates a membership program that allows individuals interested in rehabilitating historic properties to enter into long-term lease agreements. For more information, call 301-518-8613, or e-mail www.pgprdc.com/places/historicsites.html.

National Register Properties and Districts in Prince George's County

As of June 2009, 73 individual Prince George's County properties are listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Eleven historic districts and ten parkways are also included in the National Register, along with 16 archaeological sites and 12 surviving District of Columbia Boundary Markers. Recently, two National Register multiple property nominations have been prepared as master statements for African American residences and twentieth century apartment buildings/garden apartments in the county. Six National Historic Landmarks are also identified.

1. R & O Railroad Station, 151 Lafayette Avenue, Laurel, via C&D Transportation (March 1978)
2. Annapolis Mill, 21 Annapolis Street, Laurel, via City of Laurel (September 1976) (developed by Sea, December 1981)
3. Laurel High School, 707 Montgomery Street, Laurel, via Prince George's County (June 1978)
4. Annapolis Normal Institute and St. Joseph's Chapel (80-4, 80-5), 801 Annapolis Road, Beltsville (April 1978)
5. Howe Hill (82-4), 12229 Laurel Route Road, Laurel, via M-NCPPC (August 1984)
6. Mountbath (82-4), 9401 Mt. Airy Road, Laurel, via M-NCPPC (April 1978) (National Historic Landmark)
7. Spencraft Magnetics Test Facility (84-6), Oldfield Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, via NASA (December 1989) (National Historic Landmark)
8. College Park Airport (88-4), 4700 Gary, Frank R. Smith Drive, College Park, via M-NCPPC (September 1977)
9. O'Don House (87-22-10), 5804 Ruxton Street, Berwyn Heights (June 1987)
10. Hinkley Post Mill (88-1), 2308 Rosemary Lane, University Park (September 1977)
11. Harry Smith House (88-4-1), 4707 Olive Street, Riverdale Park (May 1988)
12. Riverdale (88-4-4), 4811 Riverdale Road, Riverdale Park, via M-NCPPC (April 2002) (National Historic Landmark)
13. Hyattsville Armory (88-41-8), 5240 Baltimore Avenue, Hyattsville (March 1988)
14. Hyattsville Post Office (88-41-4), 4225 Odessa Street, Hyattsville, via U.S. Postal Service (July 1988)
15. George Washington House (88-8-2), 4302 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, via James Memorial Trust (July 1974)
16. Magruder House (88-8-7), 4702 Annapolis Road, Beltsville, via Prince George's Heritage, Inc. (July 1976)
17. Market Master's House (88-8-8), 4308 49th Street, Beltsville (March 1988)
18. Bowersick (88-8-8), 2801 49th Street, Beltsville, via Town of Beltsville (August 1978)
19. Mount Hope (88-11), 1 Chantry Circle, Chantilly (November 1979)
20. Marlette (79-23), 8628 Red Station Road, Glass Dale, via M-NCPPC (July 1984)
21. D.R.S. Goodloe House (71A-8), 12839 Detzko Park Road, Bowie (October 1988)
22. Bowie Railroad Buildings (71B-4), 8814 Chestnut Avenue, Bowie, via City of Bowie (November 1988)
23. Williams Place (71B-3), 10200 White Marsh Park Drive, via City of Bowie (November 1988)
24. Relair Mansion (71B-4), 12207 Tully Grove Drive, Bowie, via City of Bowie (September 1977)
25. Relair Station (71B-4), 2608 Relair Drive, Bowie, via City of Bowie (May 1978)
26. Method (71B-6), 17100 Method Boulevard, Bowie (April 1986)
27. Deal's Phoenix (72-2), 7480 Landover Road, Landover (May 1978)
28. Addison Chapel (72-8), 8613 Addison Road, Rest Planters, via Prince George's Historical & Cultural Trust (April 1972)
29. Mount Luterite (73-10), 802 Largo Road, Largo (July 1987)
30. Pleasant Prospect (74A-4), 12008 Woodstone Road, Mitchellville (April 1978)
31. Bowersville (74B-18), 522 Church Road South, Upper Marlboro (March 1978)
32. Hamilton House (74B-7), 18810 Palford Hill Court, Mitchellville (November 1988)
33. Hazelwood (74B-12), 18811 Queen Anne Road, Queen Anne, via M-NCPPC (April 1986)
34. Cansard (75A-1), 8000 Walker Mill Road, Capital Heights, via M-NCPPC (May 1982)
35. St. Ignace Church (76B-6), 2400 Rockley Road, Ocean Hill (June 1974)
36. The Cottage and Outbuildings (76D-18), 11804 Old Marlboro Pike, Upper Marlboro, via Chesapeake Bay Foundation (July 1998)
37. Malwood Park (78-14), 23008 Old Marlboro Pike, Upper Marlboro (October 1978)
38. Mount Pleasant (79-4), 3421 Mount Pleasant Road, Upper Marlboro (November 1972)
39. Kingsway (79-19-10), 8410 Old Ocean Highway, Upper Marlboro (July 1976)



52. Mary Barnett House (81A-7), 9110 Resawynne Road, Clinton, via M-NCPPC (March 1978)
53. Wounding (81B-4), 11810 Thurl Road, Clinton (January 1980)
54. Pleasant Hill (82A-2), 7001 Ocean Station Road, Upper Marlboro (August 1982)
55. Woodstock (82A-13), 8708 88 Ocean Highway, Upper Marlboro (September 1987)
56. Beltsville (82A-26), 12104 Dulley Station Road, Ocean (September 1971)
57. Waverly (82B-8), 8601 Dorval Road, Ocean (June 1987)
58. Bellvue (84-20), 200 Missing Road East, Annapolis (August 1988)
59. William W. Early House (85A-22-8), 12607 Cherry Tree Crossing Road, Resawynne (June 1988)
60. Brookfield of the Berlys (86A-20), 12810 Mally Berry Road, Ocean (June 1987)
61. Coffin House and Store (86A-27-1), 86A-27-11, 10007 Ocean Road, Ocean (June 1987)
62. St. Paul's Church (86B-14), 12800 Dulles-Watwood Road, Beltsville (September 1977)
63. Old St. Mary's Rectory (87B-36-84), 10205 St. Mary's Church Road, Aquasco (September 1987)
64. Villa de Belles (87B-38-12), 22410 Aquasco Road, Aquasco (July 1988)
65. Sunnyside (87B-38-21), 14008 Dr. Steven Road, Aquasco (May 1987)
66. Chapel of the Immaculate (88A-22-27), 14770 Resawynne Road, Resawynne (December 2002)
67. St. Thomas Church (88A-27-1), 14200 St. Thomas Church Road, Ocean (December 2002)
68. Abraham Hall (88-22-7), 7612 Old Marlboro Road, Beltsville (March 2002)
69. Thomas J. Calloway House (79-48-32), 8943 Elm Street, Landover (March 2002)
70. Ridgely Methodist Episcopal Church (79-48-30), 8000 Central Avenue, Landover (March 2002)
71. St. Mary's Benedictine Society Hall (79-19-22), 14922 Frost Road, Upper Marlboro (March 2002)
72. William Butler House (79A-14), 8823 Ocean Hill Road, Ocean Hill (March 2002)
73. Hilltop Manor Apartments (89-08), 8302 Annapolis Road, Beltsville (December 2007)

- National Register Historic Districts**
 Greenbelt (87-4) November 1980 (National Historic Landmark)
 Hyattsville (88-12) March 1982 (boundary expansion December 2004)
 Mount Rainier (88-13) September 1980
 Baltimore-Washington Parkway (89-28) May 1991
 Redland Parkway (78A-22) June 1988
 University Park (88-28) October 1988
 Calvert Hills (88-27) December 2002
 Riverdale Park (88-4) December 2002
 West Riverdale (88-40) December 2002
 North Brentwood (88-41) November 2002

- National Register Archaeological Sites**
 (Address not public information)
 National Antislavery Site (88-88) August 1988
 The Woodlark (92A-41) December 1974
 Nottingham (82B-28) May 1975
 Annapolis Creek (82-2) July 1968 (National Historic Landmark)
 Penatney Park (80-12) August 1979

For more information about the National Register of Historic Places, consult www.nps.gov/history/nr/index.htm.

