

Appendix 6: Historic Preservation Program

Objective

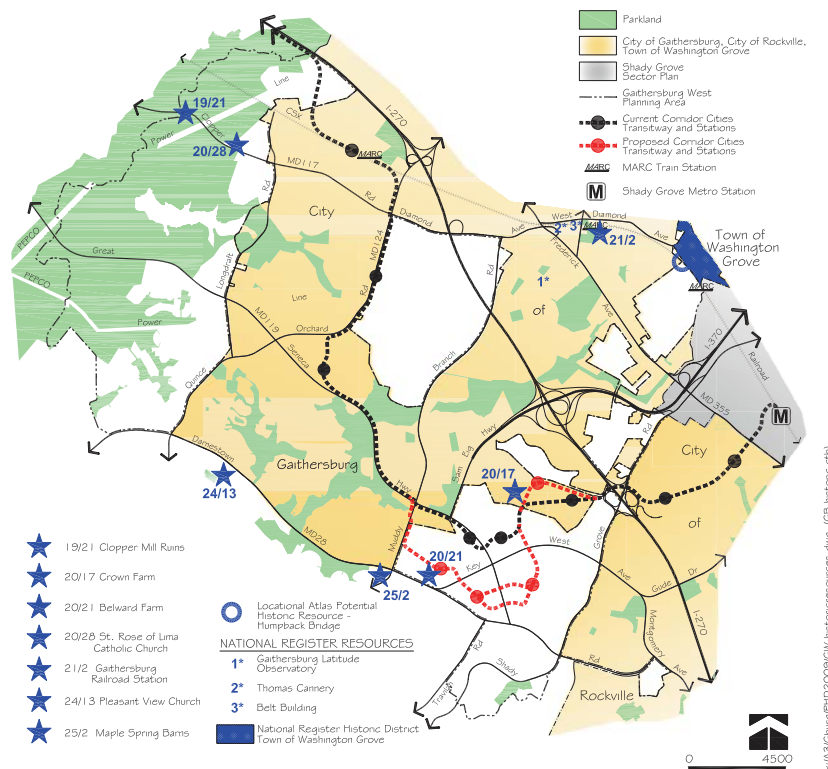
The intent of the County's preservation program is to provide a rational system for evaluating, protecting, and enhancing the County's historic and architectural heritage for the benefit of present and future generations. Historic sites and districts are essential elements of community identity and the unique character of the County and its communities.

The Master Plan for Historic Preservation and the Historic Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 24A of the Montgomery County Code, are designed to protect and preserve Montgomery County's historic and architectural heritage. Placement on the Master Plan officially designates a property as a historic site or historic district and subjects it to the procedural requirements of the Ordinance.

Any substantial changes to the exterior of a resource or its environmental setting must be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) and a historic area work permit issued under the provisions of the Ordinance, Section 24A-6. In accordance with the *Master Plan for Historic Preservation* and unless otherwise specified in the amendment, the environmental setting for each site, as defined in Section 24A-2 of the Ordinance, is the entire parcel on which the resource is located as of the date it is designated on the Master Plan.

Historic Sites in Gaithersburg West

Historic Resources



The Gaithersburg West Master Plan includes historic sites that were designated in the 1985 Gaithersburg Vicinity Master Plan (Belward Farm, St. Rose of Lima) and the 1989 Germantown Master Plan (Clopper Mill Ruins). Immediately bordering the area are Maple Spring Barns and Pleasant View Church, designated in the 2002 Potomac Subregion Plan. One resource is identified on the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites: the Humpback Bridge across the CSX tracks at East Deer Park Drive.

Area resources included in the National Register of Historic Places, described at the end of this section, are located in the City of Gaithersburg (Railroad Station, Belt Building, Thomas Company Cannery, and Observatory) and the Town of Washington Grove (Historic District).

Gaithersburg and Washington Grove have their own preservation programs and resources within these municipal boundaries, including locally designated historic sites, and are not subject to the County Preservation Ordinance.

The following historic sites in the Gaithersburg West Master Plan area are subject to the Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 24A of the County Code. The status indicates whether a property is designated on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation (Master Plan) or identified on the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites (Atlas). The England-Crown Farm, described in the text that follows, was designated as a historic site in the 1985 Gaithersburg Vicinity Master Plan but was subsequently annexed by the City of Gaithersburg and is no longer subject to the Preservation Ordinance.

Historic Name	Date	Location	Status	Resource Number
Clopper Mill Ruins	c1795; 1834	Clopper Rd at Waring Station Rd	Master Plan	19/21
Belward Farm	1891	9951 Key West Ave (10425 Darnestown Road)	Master Plan	20/21
St. Rose of Lima	1883	11715 Clopper Rd	Master Plan	20/28
Humpback Bridge	1945	East Deer Park Drive at CSX Tracks	Atlas	21/220

19/21 Clopper Mill Ruins (c1795; 1834), Clopper Road at Waring Station Road

The Clopper Mill Ruins are significant as one of the few remaining distinguishable mills in the County, representing an industry once essential to economic development. The popularity of the mill led to a road network connecting it with farms and markets in the region. Nicholas Sibert built the original mill on this site in the 1770s. About 1795, Zachariah MacCubbin rebuilt the mill, constructing a two-level stone structure. Clopper renovated and expanded the mill in 1834, adding a third story of bricks made at a manufactory on this estate. A stone in the mill's gable read "FCC 1834." An undershot water wheel used water from the Great Seneca Creek to turn the millstone. Business at the mill declined after the steam-powered Bowman Brothers Mill opened in 1888 in Germantown. Clopper's Mill was heavily damaged by fire in 1947. The ruins consist of stone and brick walls with no roof. Local fieldstone on the basement and first floor levels has corner quoins and heavy stone lintels.

The mill is located within Seneca Creek State Park. This plan supports stabilization of the mill ruins and historical interpretation of this site, such as a plaque or historic marker.

The Clopper Mill Ruins are remnants of the extensive property of Francis C. Clopper, influential businessman in



Montgomery County in the mid-1800s. Clopper's mansion, known as Woodlands, was located near the visitors center at Seneca Creek State Park. A prosperous owner of a woolen factory and mills, Clopper was a principle backer of the Metropolitan Branch in the 1850s, and was instrumental in persuading the B&O to take over construction of the railroad branch after the original company failed. Francis Clopper donated land both for a nearby railroad station, named in his honor, and for St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church.

Belward House Ignatius Beall Ward established the Belward Farm in the mid-1800s. Ward operated the Hunting Hill Post Office and Store, a community center located at the front of his farm, offering groceries and supplies for sale, mail delivery, wheelwrighting, and blacksmithing. The Belward



Farm complex includes a gambrel roof dairy barn, milk house and large frame cow barn. The

large, picturesque Belward House (c1891) is a significant example of late 19th century Victorian farmstead architecture with Queen Anne-style shingled gables, polygonal bay windows, and turned porch posts. In the second half of the 20th century, Ward's grand-daughter,

Elizabeth Beall Banks, continued the family tradition, residing here and farming the land. Ms. Banks died in 2002.



When the Belward Farm was designated a historic site, the setting was 108 acres. A Preliminary Plan was approved in 1996 subject to a condition specifying an environmental setting of 6.98 acres.

The development plan included provisions for open space on either side of the existing tree-lined driveway to maintain a view of the house from Darnestown Road, and open parking surrounding the designated setting, but was never built. A new proposal for development of the Belward Farm must include re-evaluating an appropriate setting for this historic resource.

Significant features of the setting include vistas of the farmstead from the south, east, and west along Key West Avenue/Darnestown Road; views of the farmstead from the north, east, and west along proposed CCT alignment; historic house, barns, and other historic outbuildings;

and mature trees in and around the farmstead. The modern house that Johns Hopkins University built for Elizabeth Beall Banks is not historic and may be substantially altered or demolished upon review by the Historic Preservation Commission.

20/28 St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church (c1883), 11715 Clopper Road

St. Rose of Lima is a fine example of a rural Carpenter Gothic chapel and is one of the earliest Catholic congregations in the mid-County region. The wooden, front-gable church has a steeply pitched roof, pointed arch windows and door. Sheltering the door, on the main (south) façade, is a bracketed door hood with king-post truss. Above, a rose window lights the interior. On the north end, gabled wings flank a polygonal hipped roof apse.



Influential property-owner Francis Cassatt Clopper established the first Catholic Church in the Gaithersburg area in 1838. A Protestant, Clopper had married Ann Jane Bryant, a fervent Catholic, and their children were reared in the Catholic faith. When the Cloppers moved to the area in 1812, the closest Catholic churches were in Rockville and Barnesville. They donated land from their estate on Clopper Road, and a church was built in 1838 and dedicated by Bishop Eccleston in 1846.

Following extensive remodeling in 1880, the church was re-dedicated, but was destroyed by fire three years later. Plans for the present church were immediately designed. The cornerstone for the new St. Rose's Church was laid on July 4, 1883. The cost of construction, completed the same year, was about \$3000. The church grounds include a champion Douglas fir tree.

20/17 England-Crown Farm (c1880-1894), 9800 Fields Road



Designated on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation, subsequently annexed by City of Gaithersburg.

This farm includes a frame house built by 1894 and an earlier log house. The main block of the frame L-shaped dwelling is five bays wide and one room deep. The cross-gable roof has wide unbracketed eaves and a cornice with deep side-gable returns. Gothic Revival influence is evident in the pointed-arch front-gable window and cutwork porch brackets, while heavy window cornices are typical of the Italianate style. First story windows extend down to the porch floor. Windows on side elevations have plain, flat window moldings. A log house, which may have been a tenant house, appears to date from the mid-1800s. The dwelling has a gable-end door, chimney in the opposite gable, and corner boxed staircase leading to a loft. Hattie England lived on this 76-acre farm by 1894.

21/220 Humpback/Deer Park Bridge (1945), East Deer Park Drive at CSX Tracks

In 2005, the Planning Board added the Humpback Bridge to the Locational Atlas and Index of Historic Sites as a potential historic site. The Humpback Bridge spans the railroad tracks near the Washington Grove station site. Located



adjacent to the City of Gaithersburg and the Town of Washington Grove, the bridge represents the origin and development of Washington Grove, Oakmont and Gaithersburg. The Humpback Bridge is a local landmark that is a unique established and familiar visual feature. The form and profile of the bridge are reflective of bridge construction from 1945, the year that the structure was erected. A timber bridge has been in place at this location since the 1880s. The bridge, which is maintained by MCDOT, was rehabilitated in 1988 and 2000. MCDOT conducted a comprehensive structural test to examine the condition of the East Deer Park Drive Bridge over CSX Railroad and published their findings in November 2008.

The study determined that timber supports were deteriorated and required replacement. MCDOT, working in cooperation with Planning Department staff, developed a rehabilitation program that provides for the replacement of existing timber bents with similar wooden bents in a compatible structural arrangement. Under Chapter 24A-10 of the County code, a determination that the project was a substantial alteration would have triggered an expedited review by the Historic Preservation Commission and the Planning Board to establish whether the bridge merited designation on the Master Plan for Historic Preservation. The in-kind replacement was found not to be a substantial alteration. The project is expected to take place in the summer of 2009.

Potomac Subregion Master Plan Historic Sites Adjacent to Gaithersburg West

24/13 Pleasant View Methodist Episcopal Church (1914) and Quince Orchard School (c1875) 11900 Darnestown Road

Pleasant View Church is representative of the post-Civil War era growth of the Methodist Church in general, and the Washington Negro Conference in particular. It is estimated that between 1870 and 1910, more than 66 percent of all new congregations in the County were Methodist. Reflective of the Gothic Revival tradition of church architecture, Pleasant View features lancet or pointed arch windows, and a three-part central entrance tower crowned with a crenellated turret. In 1950, a rear wing was built and the original church renovated to accommodate a pastor's study, choir room, and choir loft.



The Howard Brothers built the original church on the site in 1888. In 1914, that structure was in such poor condition that it was razed and rebuilt. The congregation was established about 1868, when the land was first acquired for a church. Early services were likely held in a nearby house until the church was built. In 1874, a school for black children was established in a Quince Orchard area house. After a fire destroyed the building in 1901, a school building, abandoned by the white population, was moved to the site. The latter, built about 1875, had been located on the opposite (north) side of Darnestown Road.

The Quince Orchard School is representative of the crowded and inadequate facilities that were the result of segregation in the late 1800s. In 1940, the school served 122 children in seven grades, making it the fifth largest

elementary school for blacks in the County. The following year the building was expanded with two additional rooms. Soon thereafter, the school consolidated with Tobytown and Seneca Colored Schools. After County wide integration of black students with white, the school building was used as a parish house for Pleasant View M.E. Church.

25/2 Maple Spring Barns (1942), 15021 Dufief Mill Rd

A prime example of an early 20th century, state of the art agricultural facility, Maple Spring Farm was once one of the State's leading dairy operations. The primary structure is the 19-bay long dairy barn (1942), with gambrel roof punctuated by four metal ventilators. The barn is highly visible on this section of well-traveled Darnestown Road in the densely populated Gaithersburg-Rockville area. The collection of outbuildings, built between c1918 and 1942, date from the heyday of specialized large-scale dairy farming.

Maple Spring Farm was recognized in the metropolitan region as a model dairy operation with its mechanized milking parlor, sanitary concrete interiors, and above average milk production. The 355-acre, 110-cow farm was owned and operated by Thomas Moore Garrett, a statewide agricultural leader who served as a director of the Farm Bureau, the Soil Conservation Board, and the Southern States Cooperative, and a charter member of the Maryland-Virginia Milk Producers Association, established in 1920. Other important agricultural structures include two terra cotta silos, a concrete block milk house, a two-story horse barn, one story wagon house/granary, and an equipment building. Still standing on an adjacent lot is the associated residence, located at the heart of a medical facility at 10810 Darnestown Road.



National Register Resources

21/5 Washington Grove Historic District (1873), Municipality

Known as The Town within a Forest, Washington Grove is a community with Carpenter Gothic cottages, mature oak trees, pedestrian walkways, public parks, forest preserve, and independent, community-oriented residents. Washington Grove began as a summer camp meeting ground established in 1873 by Methodist clergy of Washington, D.C. Founders selected a wooded site along the newly opened Metropolitan Branch of the B&O Railroad as a retreat from hot, malarial, urban summers. Sunday meetings drew as many as 10,000 worshippers.

The campground was laid out with six walkway avenues radiating from a circle upon which founders built a wooden tabernacle. Campers erected 250 tents along the avenues in the first year, soon replaced by small wooden tents, and later by narrow Carpenter Gothic cottages. Though the tabernacle no longer stands, the Sacred Circle site has been preserved as a park. In contrast to the Tent Department, an area called the Cottage Department was platted between the circle and the railroad station. Lots and cottages in the Cottage Department were more spacious than in the Tent Department, reflecting the evolution of the community in its first decade from a two-week meeting to a season-long retreat, later year-round residence.

The early cottages are Carpenter Gothic in style, with steeply pitched, front gable roofs, full-width porches, and bargeboard trim. The style is derived from the form of the tents they replaced and succeeded, ecclesiastical associations, and the romantic, rural ideal popularized by Andrew Jackson Downing in the mid-1800s.

Unlike most communities built on a grid, cottages were built to face pedestrian avenues. Wagons and horses were restricted to roads that ran behind the houses. Grove Avenue served as the Town's Main Street, extending from the train station, and leading to the Assembly Hall, hotel, and tabernacle. A defining feature of Washington Grove is its mature tree canopy. Beginning in 1880, the Camp Meeting Association established rules to restrict the cutting of trees for construction of cottages or widening avenues. In 1972, the Town dedicated more than half of its 200 acres to parkland and forest preservation.



Washington Grove joined the Chautauqua Circuit and built the Assembly Hall in 1901. The octagonal building, measuring 20 feet on each side, had no plumbing, heat or electricity, but it provided shelter for lectures and shows as well as religious services. In 1937, the Camp Meeting Association dissolved and the Town of Washington Grove incorporated. Residents renamed the Assembly Hall McCathran Hall in 1957, in honor of retiring Mayor Irving Leroy McCathran. The hall, now with a restored cupola and new office addition, serves as the town hall as well as meeting place. The bell hung in the portico once announced camp meeting services and today calls residents to the Annual Town Meeting and rings in celebration of the Town's Independence Day festivities.

21/2 Gaithersburg B&O Railroad Station(1884),
5 Summit Avenue, City of Gaithersburg

The Gaithersburg Station is a well-preserved example of a high-style, small-scale train station. Designed by Ephraim Francis Baldwin, architect for the B&O, the station was built in 1884, replacing an 1873 station. The picturesque brick structure (21 feet 7 inches by 56 feet 3 inches) has a front-gable central tower, patterned brickwork walls, and gable-end wood stickwork. The east 12 feet were added 1905-7 to increase storage. In 1894, an early telephone switchboard was installed in the station, the first to serve County residents. A small brick freight house, also designed by Baldwin and built in the 1880s, stands further east. Both structures have overhanging shed roofs supported by oversize brackets that provide shelter for trackside passengers. The freight house currently holds a railroad museum.



Gaithersburg Latitude Observatory (1899)
100 DeSillum Drive, City of Gaithersburg

This structure is one of six observatories located in the United States, Russia, Japan, and Italy that are associated with an important and long-lived program of international scientific cooperation. In 1899, the International Geodetic Association established the International Polar Motion Service. This worldwide cooperative effort among scientists studied the nature of the Earth's wobble on its rotational axis. From its construction in 1899 until the obsolescence of manual telescopic observation forced its closing in 1982, the Gaithersburg Latitude Observatory played an integral role in this scientific endeavor. The frame, 13-foot square structure has a gable roof constructed of two sections that move apart on wheels to accommodate an elevated telescope.



J. A. Belt Building (1903), 227 E. Diamond Avenue,
City of Gaithersburg

John A. Belt constructed this ornate Classical Revival building in 1903 to house his prosperous general store. A contemporary wrote that the “magnificent” Belt Building was “the largest mercantile house in Montgomery County and is filled to its utmost capacity with a choice stock of general merchandise.” Prominently located at the corner of Diamond and Summit Avenues, in the center of Old Town Gaithersburg, the two-story brick store has paneled, rusticated pilasters and a paneled parapet which is inscribed “1903 J. A. Belt.”



Thomas and Company Cannery (1917-8)

W. Diamond and N. Frederick Avenues, City of Gaithersburg

The largest and longest-lived cannery in Montgomery County, the Thomas and Company Cannery operated from 1917 until 1962. While Baltimore had been the center of the canning industry in the 19th century, the outbreak of World War I created a need to regionalize. Frank and Clyde Thomas were leaders in the 20th century canning industry in Maryland. In 1917, the Thomas family opened a cannery in Gaithersburg, the first in Montgomery County. The factory was the focus of local industry and economy, providing an important market for farmers, and employment for local and migrant workers. Built along the B&O Railroad to facilitate shipping, the brick cannery had three main parts that are still extant: the central processing section, the shipping section (left), and boiler plant (right). In 1956, the cannery was expanded with a front concrete-block ell.

