





## THE CHARGE

The Montgomery County Council requested the Montgomery County Planning Board to "review elements of an effective program of agricultural land preservation that would preserve farm activity without a large expenditure of public funds." Also, the Montgomery County Planning Board was specifically asked to "reconsider an agricultural zoning text amendment as an element of the preservation program." The Council also requested the staffs of the Montgomery County Planning Board, Agricultural Preservation Advisory Board and Committee, and Office of Economic Development to identify those geographic areas of the County which should be considered for agricultural land preservation.

These requests have culminated in the preparation of this Plan--The Functional Master Plan for the Preservation of Agriculture and Rural Open Space in Montgomery County. The Plan will specify development and preservation policies, plans, and objectives for the Agricultural Preservation Study Area as well as those development areas also located within the area to be preserved (See Agricultural Preservation Study Area Map). All other areas in the County that contain farmland are covered by existing master plans that recommend residential development and open space with agriculture assuming a secondary role. Specifically, the Plan supports the open space protection programs expressed in the Eastern Montgomery County, Rock Creek, Olney, Sandy Spring/Ashton, and Potomac Master Plans.

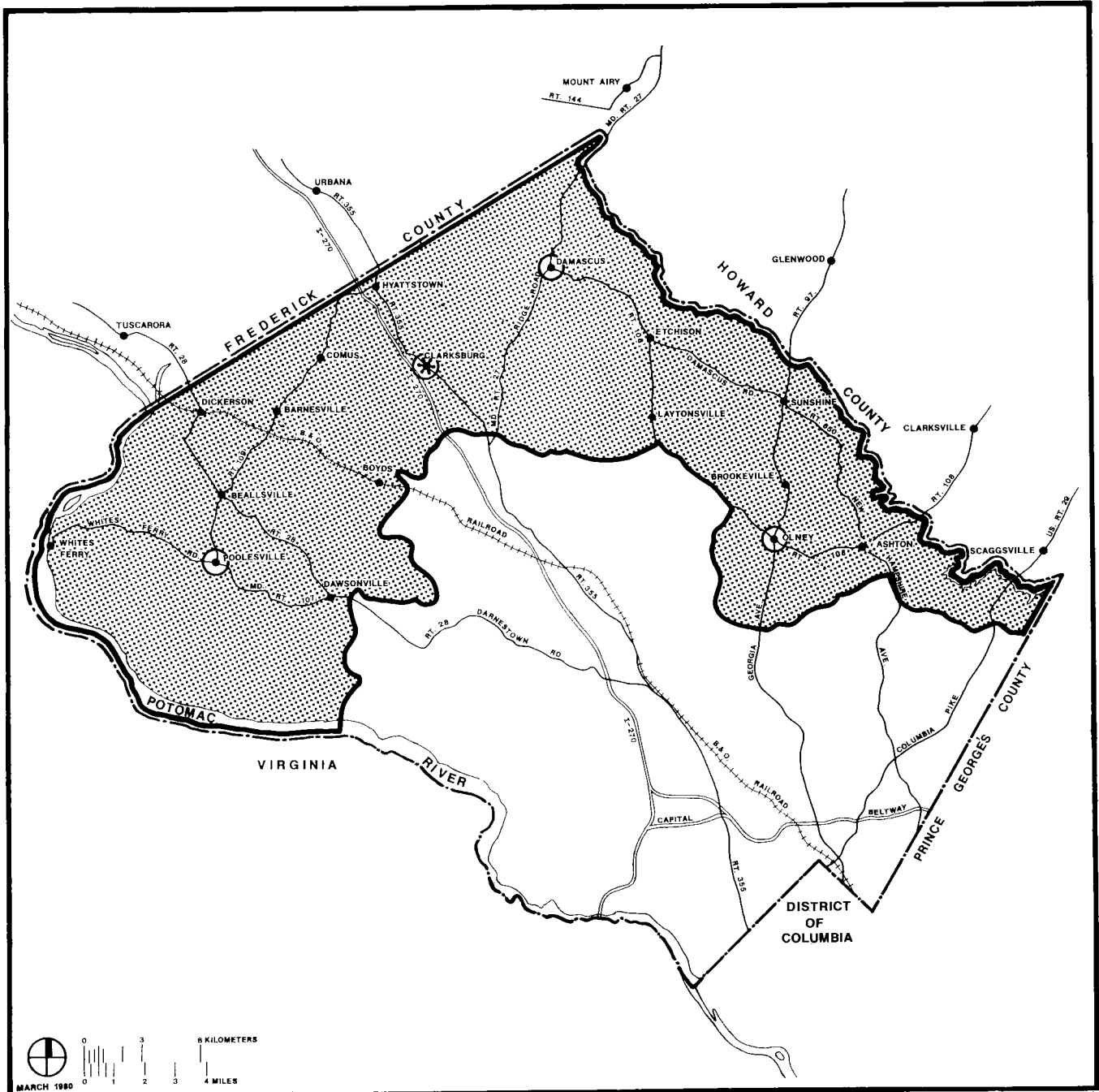
# AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION STUDY AREA

## Legend:

-  Montgomery County Boundary
-  Study Area Boundary
-  Satellite Community
-  Corridor City

ACREAGE PROFILE

Total County	323,000 Acres
Study Area	163,000 Acres
Agricultural Reserve	110,000 Acres



# FUNCTIONAL MASTER PLAN FOR THE PRESERVATION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL OPEN SPACE