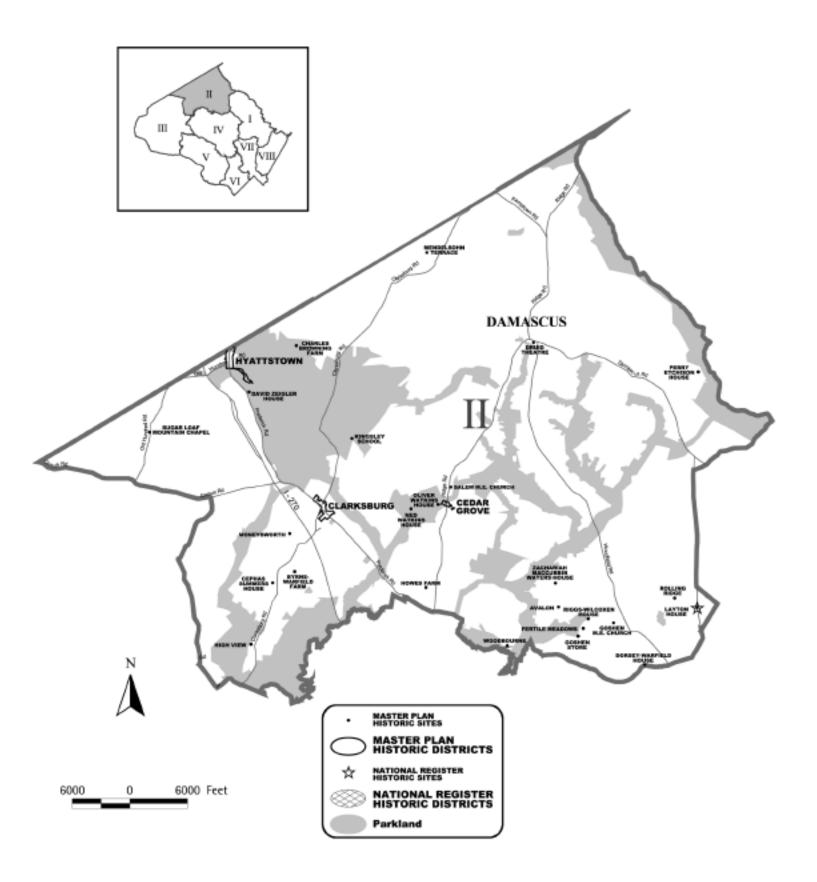
# II. NORTHERN COUNTY





Clarksburg Methodist Episcopal Church (1909)

# II. NORTHERN COUNTY HISTORIC DISTRICTS

#### CLARKSBURG HISTORIC DISTRICT (Platted Early1790s)

13/10

Early in the county's history, Clarksburg was a substantial center of commerce and transportation. John Clark surveyed the land and subdivided lots along Frederick Road in the early 1790s, yet the town's origins extended back to the mid-1700s. Michael Dowden built a hotel and tavern about 1754. A popular stop along the well-traveled Great Road between Frederick and Georgetown, Dowden's Ordinary is said to have provided lodging and entertainment for such well-known travelers as General E. Braddock, George Washington, and Andrew Jackson. According to tradition, John Clark's father William, from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, had chosen this location, at the intersection of two Indian trails, as early as 1735 as a site for trading with Native Americans. His trading post may



have influenced Dowden's choice for locating his ordinary.

John Clark built a general store and became the community's first postmaster. The post office, established 1800, was one of the first in the county. By 1850, the town was the third most populous in the county, and the residents numbered 250 by 1879.

One of the earliest structures in the community is found at the *Clark-Waters House*, 23346 Frederick Road. According to tradition, John

Clarksburg Store & Post Office





Clarksburg streetscape

13/10

Clark constructed the rear section in 1797. The building was enlarged and updated in the 1840s with the Greek Revival-style front section, under the ownership of Clark's daughter and son-in-law Mary and William Willson. One of the few remaining log buildings in the community is found at 23415 Frederick Road. Thomas Kirk probably built the *John Leaman House* (23415), now covered with clapboard siding, in 1801. John Leaman, a carpenter, purchased the house in 1871 and built the substantial rear addition around 1890.

John Clark, a Methodist, was a leader in organizing the *Clarksburg Methodist Episcopal Church* in 1788. The church has one of the oldest continuous Methodist congregations in the County. A log chapel was built on this site in 1794, a brick structure in 1853, and the present Gothic Revival-style church in 1909.

As a major stagecoach stop between Frederick and Georgetown, Clarksburg supported several inns and taverns. By the mid-1800s, the town also included general stores, a tannery and blacksmiths, and wheelwrights. William Willson probably built Willson's Store, 23341 Frederick Road, around 1842. In 1879, Clarksburg had 250 residents, making it the third most populous town in the County. The Queen Anne-style house at 23310 Frederick Road, known as Hill, Hammer was built c.1891-1900 by Clarksburg physician Dr. James Deetz and his wife Sarah. The name, Hammer Hill, comes from the tract name given this land in 1752. The William Hurley Shoe Shop, 23421 Frederick Road, probably built around 1842, is typical of early rural commercial structures in its simplicity and small scale. In the



early 20<sup>th</sup>-century, it housed Helen Hurley's millinery shop. The house, located behind the shop, originally consisted of the rear portion that was built by Arnold Warfield about 1800. The building may contain an early log section. Hurley family owners of the house and shoe shop included shoemaker William Hurley and Clarksburg Brass Band organizer J. Mortimer Hurley.

Clarksburg has historically been a bi-racial town. While many African Americans settled, after the Civil War, in communities separate from white settlements, freed slaves in Clarksburg built houses in and around the town. In 1885, John Henry Wims built his frame house in Clarksburg's center, at 23311 Frederick Road. The location of his dwelling near the post office was a convenience for Wims, one of the few black mail carriers working in the county.

One of the County's last and most elaborate remaining examples of a two-room schoolhouse is the *Clarksburg School*, 13530 Redgrave Place, built in 1909. One of the County's last and most elaborate remaining examples of the two-room schoolhouse, the Clarksburg School was in continuous use from 1909 to 1972. The cruciform-shaped building has a Colonial Revival-influenced design with pedimented and pilastered doorframe, oversize cornice returns, and gable overhang. Near the school are the sites of the earlier Clarksburg Academy (1833) and a one-room school.

Growth in Clarksburg declined in the late  $19^{th}$  century, when the B & O Railroad bypassed the town for nearby Boyds. The advent of the automobile and

improved roads brought something of an economic revival beginning in the 1920s. New boarding houses opened in town to accommodate the new auto tourism.



Clark-Waters House (1797; 1840s) 13/10

Clarksburg School (1909)



Clarksburg Grocery

13/10

1986

M-NCPPC,

13/10-1



Hyattstown streetscape

#### HYATTSTOWN HISTORIC DISTRICT (Platted 1798)

Hyattstown is an early settlement that developed along well-traveled roads linking coastal ports with the westward-moving frontier. The Great Road, known as Frederick Road or Route 355, opened about 1750 to connect the tobacco port of Georgetown with points west, via the county seat of Frederick. At that time, present-day Montgomery County was the southern portion of Frederick County. Part of the Great Road had been a trail used by Native Americans. The Great Road attained significance in the 1810s as an extension of the Federally-funded National Road. The linear nature of the town plan, known as the Pennsylvania plan, is characteristic of villages in Maryland's piedmont region and reflects German traditions.

In 1798, Jesse Hyatt, a Frederick County farmer, laid out a town, offering for sale 105 quarter-acre lots along the Great Road. Henry Poole built the first house in 1800 and became the town's first storekeeper. The

town, named Hyattstown for its founder, was incorporated in 1809. By the mid-1820s, the community included an innkeeper, a tailor, a carpenter, a blacksmith, a store-

During the Civil War, Union and Confederate troops skirmished in Hyattstown prior to the Antietam battle in 1862. The following year, Union troops halted in the town en route to Gettysburg. In July 1864, Jubal Early's forces, fresh from victory at

the Monocacy, swept through on their way to attack Washington.

The two main industries of the community were a tannery

keeper, and a constable.



Frederick Road, looking south, Postcard c1908



Hyattstown Methodist Church (1856) 10/59 Historic view

(site of present fire department) and a gristmill, the Hyattstown Mill (see individual site description). By the 1870s, Hyattstown's population had grown to some 150 residents, and by about 1900 to 275. Historically there have been three churches in the immediate community. The Hyattstown Methodist Church (26165) was organized in 1804. Carpenter John Gardner built the present brick structure in 1856. After the Civil War, the congregation split and the Methodist Episcopal Church South (26200) built a frame church in 1875. Gothic Revival influence is evident in pointedarch windows and bracketed cornice, yet shallow-pitched roof with cornice returns are Greek Revival. The Hyattstown Christian Church (26012), founded in 1840, is among the oldest disciple congregations in Maryland. The present frame building, with round-arched door and windows, and steeply-pitched roof with cornice returns, was constructed in 1871. The cemetery is even older, with the earliest burial being founder Jesse Hyatt, in 1813. The one-room Hyattstown School (1880), 26004 Frederick Road, served grades 1-7 for much of its use.

Many of the houses in Hyattstown include log sections that are covered with siding. The earlier houses, from the early and mid 1800s, are three-bay dwellings with little ornamentation. The Davis House (c1810-15), 26020 Frederick Road, is an uncommon example of a brick Federal-style dwelling in the north-



Hyattstown Christian Church (1871) 10/59

western part of the county. The cornice line of the five-bay house is enhanced by sawtooth brickwork and end chimneys are flush with north and south gable ends. Original owner George Davis is locally remembered for organizing the Hyattstown Volunteers in the War of 1812.

The Hyatt House, 26011 Frederick Road, believed to be one of the oldest buildings in town, has served as a hotel, store, and post office. Beginning in the early 1800s, the log and frame structure was built in several sections. James K. Polk reportedly stayed here in 1845 on his way to his Presidential inauguration. The grounds include a summer kitchen.

Many of the post-Civil War residences have cross gable roofs, bracketed cornices, or bargeboard (gingerbread trim). One-story additions that served as doctor's offices or post offices are reminders of the commercial uses that supplemented the residential nature of the buildings. In the late 20<sup>th</sup> century years, many of the old homes were abandoned due to polluted water. After a new sewage treatment plant opened in 1998, residents are restoring houses and Hyattstown is once again becoming a vital community.

# CEDAR GROVE HISTORIC DISTRICT (Mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century)

Cedar Grove is a crossroads community that grew around a small commercial core. In 1851, Oliver T. Watkins acquired 200 acres, well located on Little Seneca Creek, and, by 1865, constructed a frame house on a knoll, 23400 Ridge Road. This **Oliver Watkins Farm**, located in the Ovid Hazen Wells Park is an individual historic site (see separate description). When the Metropolitan Branch of the B & O Railroad opened in 1873, Ridge Road became a well-traveled route to the Germantown station. In this era, Watkins opened a general store. An 1879 promotion advertised "Cedar Grove, Oliver T. Watkins, Dealer in General M[erchandi]se., Country Produce taken in Exchange for

Goods — Dry Goods, Boots, Shoes, Liquors, etc." The *Cedar Grove* General Store, 23412 Ridge Road, built in 1909, is the successor to the original store and is built on the same site. The store is a two-story, front-

10/59-1

Davis House (c1810-15); photo late 1800s



Hyatt House 1 (early 1800s & additions) Historic view





Cedar Grove streetscape



Cedar Grove, 1907 postcard



Cedar Grove Store (1909)





Upper Seneca Baptist Church (1888) 14/27

gable structure, a commercial building form popular in rural communities from the early 1800s through the early 1900s. Residents gathered for special events in a meeting hall on the second floor. In 1877, Watkins established a post office in his store. By 1878, Watkins had built another house near the store. The *Oliver T. Watkins' House*, 23406 Ridge Road, is a sidegable folk house of frame construction. Over the years, the conveniently located house became a storekeepers' residence.

The Upper Seneca Baptist Church dates from 1888. Eleanor Watkins, wife of Oliver, donated the one-acre parcel of land. The structure, with front gable orientation, cornice returns, and round-arched windows, bears similarity with the Hyattstown Christian Church (1871). The addition of the church to this crossroads community increased Cedar Grove's importance as a rural center. The congregation, founded in 1805, is one of the oldest Baptist congregations in Maryland. Members of the Watkins family are buried in the cemetery.

After the death of Oliver Watkins in 1894, his heirs began to sell off land. James Obed King expanded the Cedar Grove community, building the Obed-Beall House (c1890s), 24311 Ridge Road, and the James O. King House (c1911), 24301 Ridge Road. King built the present Cedar Grove Store and lived in the adjacent Watkins house while keeping store in the early 1900s, continuing the tradition of the local shopkeeper living in the same community as his business. Cedar Grove is one of the few continuously operating crossroads communities in the county. Relatively unchanged over the years, it retains its original character and rural identity as a cohesive collection of 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century buildings that provide a community meeting place and focal point.

# INDIVIDUAL SITES

MONEYSWORTH FARM (By 1783; c1856-70) 22900 Whelan Lane

The earliest section of the dwelling is a rare example of an early one-room dwelling, built by 1783. Unlike southern and eastern Maryland examples that were typically built of frame or brick, this structure is built of rough-hewn logs, representing limited frontier resources. John Belt built the house by 1783, when he was assessed for one log dwelling. Through the early 1800s, Moneysworth was owned by William Willson, successful Clarksburg merchant and prominent citizen. Willson inherited the Clarksburg store from his father-in-law, community founder John Clark, and operated the store for over 40 years. During this period, Willson operated the Moneysworth farm with the help of slaves. In 1856, Edward Lewis bought the farm and Clarksburg store. The Lewis family brought the house into the 19<sup>th</sup> century by building a new front Greek Revival section. The property includes a front-gable log smokehouse possibly built in the mid to late 1700s.

14/38



Moneysworth Farm (By 1783; c1856-70)

13/14

ROLLING RIDGE (1790) 7215 Brink Road

A distinguished 1½-story Georgian style residence, Rolling Ridge is a fine and uncommon local example of Chesapeake English building traditions with its broad sloping roof, paired end chimneys and double pile plan. Classical brick pilasters between the outer bays and at the corners accentuate the symmetry of the five bay façade. The symmetrical exterior is reflected on the interior by a central passage and four equal size rooms. Robert Ober, a prosperous Georgetown merchant of English descent, built Rolling Ridge.

# GOSHEN STORE (Late 1700s; c1850) 21121 Goshen Road

One of the earliest structures in the area, Goshen Store was an important community gathering place. By 1792, a mill was built here, known as Goshen Mills. The earliest part of the extant building is the center log section with 12/8 sash windows. This structure may have served as a miller's house or as a mill store. As early as 1795, the mill complex included several structures. Ed Crow is the first known to have operated a store here, c1797-1803. He is said to have added the frame wing (now a kitchen, at right) that was used as an inn or boarding house. Both of these early sections are 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> stories tall with loft windows that have small 8-pane horizontal lights.



14/58

13/14

Rolling Ridge



Goshen Store (Late 1700s; c1850) 14/58

In addition to the store-inn, the Goshen community in 1800 contained two Goshen mills, blacksmith and copper shops, storehouses and smokehouses, log houses and a frame house. In 1853, Michael Pugh (Peugh) opened a post office at the Goshen Store and served as its postmaster. Goshen Store's main block (west) dates from this era. The threebay, two-story structure has an exterior brick chimney stack with stone base. Second story windows have Greek Revival style pedimented lintels with dentils. Scalloped bargeboard trim may date from the post-Civil War era. The Goshen Post Office remained open until 1905. In the 1920s-1930s Annie Prather, a midwife and an African-American, lived at the Goshen Store where she operated a store and boarding house.

FERTILE MEADOWS (c1790-1805)



Fertile Meadows (c1790-1805) 14/59



Riggs-Wilcoxen House (Late 1700s-Early 1800s)

fireplaces on both levels. A rear (south) wing was built after 1934.

The house may have been built by Joshua Pigman in the 1790s, or as late as 1805, by Samuel Robertson. Robertson, in 1803, acquired 150 acres known as Fertile Meadows. He expanded the estate to some 300 acres, and was later buried near the house with his wife Rachel and children. From 1819-1912, Fertile Meadows belonged to the Riggs family, beginning with George Washington Riggs, who lived in Baltimore. His son, Remus D. Riggs settled at Fertile Meadows with his wife Sarah Jane Coward, probably soon after their 1854 marriage. He managed the Goshen Mills complex with its massive three-story brick merchant mill and frame gristmill, hiring a miller to operate them. In addition to the house and cemetery, the property has a notable log smokehouse built with a wood shingle roof and brick chimney, and a board and batten corncrib.

RIGGS-WILCOXEN HOUSE (Late 1700s-Early 1800s) 8820 Huntmaster Road 14/60

This solidly-built house is one of the earliest brick houses in the up-county area. Built on a stone foundation, the  $18' \times 24'$ , one-room deep residence has interior end chimneys and a standing seam metal roof. On the front (south) façade, bricks are laid in Flemish bond while east and west sides are in common bond. Windows have 6/6 sash with flat-arch lintels

associated with the Goshen Mills complex. The main block is a five-bay, 1½-story frame structure. The cornice is boxed with an ogee bed molding. Windows are 9/9 sash. Interior finishes include batten doors, wrought-iron hinges, and random width pine floors. Next to the east fireplace is an open cupboard with butterfly shelves and an enclosed cupboard. A brick and frame kitchen wing on the east (left) has an interior box stair. The exterior chimneys on the east and west ends have free-standing brick stacks and heat only the first-story rooms. The interior chimney has on the first level. Dormer windows were originally 6/3 sash. Both first floor rooms in the main block have fireplaces flanked by small built-in cupboards. A 20th century rear wing was enlarged in 1990. The pedimented door surround on the front entrance is not original.

It is not known who built the house or exactly when. Members of the Davis family owned the property in the 1790s, including Lodowick Davis, organizer of the Goshen Methodist Episcopal Church. John Belt and family were owners from 1797-1817, followed by Benjamin Lyon, 1817-77. This house has been named for Eliza Wilcoxen, a tenant residing here through the mid-1800s, and Remus and Ledoux Riggs, owners from 1896-1907. An 1897 advertisement described the property as "a brick dwelling house containing nine rooms; stable, icehouse, corncrib, never failing spring of excellent water, and a fine young apple orchard."

# DORSEY-WARFIELD HOUSE (c1804) 7901 Warfield Road

The Dorsey-Warfield House is a two-story Federal style brick structure with a four-bay, asymmetrical façade. An attached, single-story kitchen wing and a 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-story wing compliment the main block of the house. The

entire building sits on a fieldstone foundation and has a gabled roof over a corbeled brick cornice. Exterior end chimneys accent the main block, while an interior end chimney services the kitchen wing. A few minor alterations have been made to the original construction of the building, but despite this fact, it remains distinctly intact.

The house represents a growing and changing locally prominent family for over three generations. Joshua Dorsey, a descendant of the large and well-known Maryland Dorsey family, built the house circa 1804. Dorsey was a tobacco farmer who owned over 800 acres of land in the area by 1867. Dorsey was also involved in local civic

development. He served as a trustee for the Goshen School starting in 1855; the school was constructed and servicing the community before 1865. In 1862, Dorsey's daughter, Rachel Virginia ("Jennie"), married John T. Warfield. In 1875 the house passed to Jennie and John Warfield when Joshua Dorsey died after a long, prosperous life at the age of 92.

The Warfields had two sons, Lee Clagett and Seth. Warfield conveyed the house and land to Clagett a few months prior to his death in 1921. At the time, Clagett had been married for six years. Clagett lived in the house of his forefathers until his death in 1973; his wife lived there until her death in 1998, at which time the house finally left the hands of the family that had lived and grown there for almost 150 years.



Dorsey-Warfield House (c1804) 14/63



Layton House (1804)

14/37

## LAYTON HOUSE (1804) NR 7000 Brink Road Municipality: Town of Laytonsville

An early example of an academically designed house in the Northern Region, the Layton House stands in contrast to the more typical folk housing which characterized this area from the late 1700s through the mid 1800s. The residence was the home of John Layton who opened a post office in the community. Formerly known as Cracklintown, the town was renamed Laytonsville in his honor. The house has been dated to 1804 when it was built by Henry and Margaret O'Neal, aunt and uncle of John Layton. Alexander Case, builder of several brick structures in Laytonsville, constructed the house. The three-bay brick house has outstanding Federal style features included parapeted gables, double interior end chimneys, and wooden lintels with corner blocks. The side-hall passage plan is articulated in the asymmetrical arrangement of the front façade windows. A rear ell has two-story gallery porches. The property includes a brick outbuilding that may have once served as a smokehouse, and a log slave quarter, moved on site from the Nellie Griffith Farm near Etchison.

ZACHARIAH MACCUBBIN WATERS HOUSE (c1817) 14/43 22005 Foxlair Road



This early frame house is best known as the birthplace of Zachariah MacCubbin Waters, a well-loved member of the prominent Waters fami-

ly who was one of the first dairy farmers in the Goshen area. His parents, Nathaniel and Achsah Dorsey Waters bought the property in 1817, eight years after their marriage, and according to family tradition, built the house at that time. The house bears similarity to Fertile Meadows. The main blocks of both have 9/6 sash windows, one internal and one external chimney, and a boxed cornice with ogee bed molding. Unlike Fertile Meadows, the Z. M. Waters House has an asymmetrical façade, being four bays wide, has a chimney with a stone base and brick stack, and is a story taller. The stone foundation is exposed on the west end and originally contained a basement kitchen. Weatherboards are random width. Zachariah, born 1833, obtained

ownership in 1870 and resided here with his wife Sara Virginia Magruder. Their home, known at the time as Locust Grove, was a popular site for neighborhood gatherings. In the early 1900s, their daughter, Mary Elizabeth Waters, built the two-story rear kitchen ell. On the property is a notable stone and frame springhouse. A board and batten carriage house or stable has a metal ventilator.

Zachariah MacCubbin Waters House 14/43 (c1817)

#### WOODBOURNE (*c*1805-18; 1845) 21000 Blunt Road

14/51

Woodbourne, the earliest of several Blunt houses in the area, has a picturesque setting on a knoll overlooking Blunt Road. The south-facing house, constructed of frame, log and brick, evolved under the ownership of five

generations of the Blunt family. The earliest section was a log house that was likely built between c1805-18. The log portion now comprises the west (left) two bays of the main block. About 1845, Harriet Dorsey Blunt encased the log house in brick and added the east three-bay section of brick. Harriet, who had married Samuel Blunt in 1818, inherited the property from her father Harry Woodward Dorsey, of Sycamore Hollow. With the addition, the house was transformed from a small, folk dwelling to a fashionable center-hall residence. The open-string staircase has a simple square newel post,



10/76

Woodbourne (c1805-18; 1845) 14/51

square balusters, and winder treads. A frame wing was later built on the west end. A two-story kitchen with board and batten siding, is connected to the north side of the west wing by an enclosed porch. A log dairy house has an upper level where a live-in tutor is said to have conducted classes. The farmstead includes a four-level timber frame barn and an ice house.

HYATTSTOWN MILL COMPLEX (Millers' House: Early 1800s; Mill: 1918) 14920 Hyattstown Mill Road

The Hyattstown Mill Complex, established before Hyattstown was platted in 1798, is a rare survivor of an industry once integral to the County's rural population. The first mill on the site was probably built by 1794 by Jesse Hyatt, founder of Hyattstown, and was probably a saw and gristmill. After a fire destroyed the mill and over 1500 bushels of wheat, Hyattstown residents helped to reconstruct the mill in 1918, using timbers from a dismantled distillery, Prices Distillery, located upstream. By the early 1900s, the evolving mill operation included a metal water wheel, a Kentucky Roller Mill, and alternative steam and gasoline power. The mill operations ceased in the 1930s. The oldest structure in the complex is the miller's house. The oldest part of the miller's house is the main front block, which likely dates from the early to mid-1800s, judging by its cornice returns and timberframe construction. The one-room deep section has a two-room plan with the front door opening directly into the larger room. The millrace is clearly visible along Hyattstown Mill Road.



Hyattstown Mill (1918)

10/52



Perry Etchison House (Early to Mid 1800s)

15/23



Charles Browning Farm (c1850) 10/52

#### PERRY ETCHISON HOUSE (Early to Mid 1800s) 6935 Annapolis Rock Road

The Etchison family, widespread in this part of the county, gave their name to a nearby crossroads community. The Perry Etchison House represents an upper Montgomery County farm from the mid-1800s. The dwelling has three sections. Two 1½-story, three-bay log structures stand at the center and west end. Between these two sections stands a large chimney with stone base and brick stack. In plan, each section is a single room with a staircase on the wall opposite the fireplace. The two-story Federal style east section is frame and has a three-bay façade with side entrance. West of the house is a barn constructed of two large corncribs flanking a thrashing floor. Behind the house are a log corncrib and a log smokehouse. The dilapidated buildings are in danger of demolition by neglect.

#### CHARLES BROWNING FARM (c1850) 13910 Lewisdale Road

The Charles Browning farmstead sits in a low valley overlooked by Sugarloaf Mountain, adjacent to the Little Bennett Golf Course. Charles Browning built the house, probably soon after he and his father Perry Browning bought the land in 1849. The original section was likely a three-bay, center entrance structure, now the west wing (right). The west external chimney with stone base has a fireplace only on the first level and a freestanding brick stack on the second level. In the later 1800s, the Browning family expanded the house to its present form with rear ell, east wing, and full-width porch. Considering the simple, folk form of the house, interior details are surprisingly sophisticated, with elegant mantels and scrolled stair ends. The latter bear similarity with the **Zeigler House**. A 1½-story kitchen building has board and batten siding and an external chimney. A bank barn has round-arched louvered windows.

> Other early outbuildings include a smokehouse, springhouse, and double corncrib. In 1919, Ernest Mullican bought the farm, adding a concrete block dairy barn and milk house.

# CEPHAS SUMMERS HOUSE (c1850-60) 13/25 22300 Clarksburg Road

One of the earliest houses from a Clarksburg area farm, the Cephas Summers House is a Greek Revival influenced house which retains many of its original features. The 3-bay house has a low-sloped, side-gable roof with cornice returns, 6/6 sash windows with wide frieze lintels, and classical porch columns. In 1850, Cephas and Mary Ann Summers acquired the 235-acre farm, which they owned until the early 1890s. The residence, as described

Cephas Summers House

13/25

in 1968, had eight rooms, including four bedrooms, no bathroom, a dirt floor basement, and was heated by coal stoves. The farmstead includes a frame corncrib and two sheds. The bank barn collapsed in the 1970s.

DAVID ZEIGLER HOUSE (Mid-1800s) 25321 Frederick Road

The Zeigler House is a log and frame structure that was the home of David A. Zeigler, a miller and farmer of 300 acres. The house's main block has a traditional one-room deep, center passage form with transitional early Victorian stylistic influence. Evidence of Greek Revival styling is seen in the low center pediment and main doorway with transom and sidelights, while Italianate scroll brackets embellish the cornice. The rear section of the house is reportedly of log construction. Narrow brick chimneys and asbestos siding are not original to the house. A saw and bone mill once stood at the bottom of the hill on Prescott Road. A Christopher Zeigler was listed as owning a mill nearby in 1807. David A. Zeigler, and his wife Eleanor Hyatt, who married in 1835, had 10 children. The property includes a handsome concrete block dairy barn and ruins of a frame bank barn.

# OLIVER WATKINS FARM (*c*1851-65; *c*1900-10) 23400 Ridge Road

Set on a knoll overlooking the **Cedar Grove Historic District**, the original part of this residence was the home of farmer and merchant Oliver T. Watkins. He acquired the land and married cousin Eleanor Brewer in 1851 and, by 1865, built a side gable timberframe structure facing south. Watkins later opened the Cedar Grove Store and became a prosperous merchant. Watkins died in 1894. In the early 1900s, Charles H. Barber and Nora Watkins Barber expanded and reoriented the house west-facing ell and a three-story corner tower. East and south

façades have cross gables adorned with sawtooth bargeboard. Both cross gables and the upper tower level have fishscale shingles and pointed-arch windows. A one-story porch with dentil cornice and classical columns wraps around the tower and extends across both east and south façades. A photograph taken before the house was expanded reveals that the south block was five bays wide with gable cornice returns, 6/6 sash windows, and with neither cross gable nor porch. A large bank barn on site has board and batten siding with faux round-arched windows, and a pair of fanciful metal roof ventilators with scalloped trim. M-NCPPC owns the farm.

# SUGAR LOAF MOUNTAIN CHAPEL (1861) 24700 Old Hundred Road

Sugar Loaf Mountain Chapel was the work of William T. Hilton, a skillful master builder who built many notable buildings in the Dickerson area. The building is an early brick example of a conscious attempt at style for a rural church. Greek Revival design influence is seen in the wide cornice, pedimented or shaped lintels, and front-gable orientation. Materials were obtained locally: wood cut nearby; bricks molded and fired on the adjacent Davis property; and slate roof shingles quarried in Little Bennett



David Zeigler House (Mid-1800s) 10/57

13/3

10/70

10/57



Oliver Watkins Farm (c1851-65; c1900-10)





Sugar Loaf Mountain Chapel (1861) 10/70



Sugar Loaf Mountain Chapel plaque 10/70

Creek valley. On a marble plaque in the front gable is the inscription, S. L. Mountain Chapel 1861. For years after its construction, Sugar Loaf Mountain Chapel was by far the most imposing church in the area. The chapel site is much older than the structure itself, being first dedicated for use as a Methodist church in 1788. The deed stated that the land was "for the Express purpose and intent of building a Preaching house thereon for the use of the people Call'd methodists." The chapel was used by the Methodist congregation until 1938. In more recent years, a Christian Community congregation has again used the building for church services. The cemetery, consecrated in 1788, contains the remains of early settlers and their descendants identified on some 75 gravestones.

# GOSHEN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH (1870) 14/41 8410 Brink Road 14/41

The architecturally distinctive Goshen M.E. Church is unmatched in the area. The brick structure features an unusual modified mansard roof in



which a standing-seam front-gable roof sits atop bell-cast eaves. The roof is dual pitched on the sides but has only one pitch on front and back. On the front façade, a round-arched hood, interrupting the cornice, shelters a clear rose window that lights an interior loft. Oversize scroll brackets support one-foot deep eaves on the front and side elevations. The structure incorporates material from an earlier church, probably including the light red, rough bricks on side and back walls, and possibly the Greek Revival style stone lintels. The front walls are constructed of smooth, dark red brick that were probably new to this structure, built in 1870. Walter West, Washington, D.C. architect, designed the church and S. G. Hensley constructed it. The graveyard contains headstones with handsome folk carving, at least one by John M. Heagy, Rockville stone merchant.

On this site was built one of the

Goshen Methodist Episcopal Church 14/41 (1870) earliest Methodist churches in the county, founded in 1790. Ignatius Pigman, who donated the acre of land, was the first Montgomery County native to become a Methodist circuit rider. In 1830, the congregation replaced their log structure with a brick church of about the same size as the present building. After the first brick church deteriorated, the present one was constructed. Since 1950, a Mennonite congregation has leased the church building.

MENDELSOHN TERRACE (1880) 11801 Bethesda Church Road

Mendelsohn Terrace is among the most elaborate local examples of Gothic Revival architecture. Builder John Mount constructed the house for George W. Walker in 1880. The house is traditional in form, with the main block of the ell-shaped house being three bays wide and one room deep with a center passage plan. Influence of the Gothic Revival style popular elsewhere in the mid-1800s is seen in this 1880 house in pointedarch windows, cross gables and wall dormers, scalloped bargeboard trim, and long-paired windows. The gable over the front entrance contains the construction date. Front rooms have 10-foot ceilings embellished with plaster medallions. The house was allegedly built with a bathroom, complete with wooden copper-lined tub. The house originally had German siding, which was replaced or covered with aluminum siding.

For over 50 years, Mendelsohn Terrace was the musical and literary center of Browningsville. Professor George Washington Wesley Walker gathered choirs and school groups here for musical and social events. The room west of the front hall (left) was the music room. Walker was music director and organist at nearby Bethesda Church. He had been born in 1837 in a log house on the farm that his family had acquired in 1830. A frame smokehouse has an overhanging gable surmounted with a bell whose ring can be heard throughout the farm. A late bank barn, built in the early 1900s, has corrugated siding and rusticated concrete block foundation with matching dairy house. The Walker family has continued to own the property into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

# HOWES FARM (*c*1884-92) 22022 Ridge Road

The Howes House retains its late 19<sup>th</sup>-early 20<sup>th</sup> century appearance and setting, and the farm includes many of its original outbuildings. Between 1884-1892, Eliza and James Robert Howes built the ell-shaped, frame house. The traditional main block is one-room deep with a center cross gable and center-hall plan. Dominating the hallway is a striking curved wooden staircase, which Howes ordered from Philadelphia. Rough timbers for the house were sawn from trees on the farm. One of nine children of Eliza and James, Joseph G. Howes acquired the farm in 1917 and made several improvements over the next decade. In the early 1920s, Joseph enlarged the house with a wrap-

around porch. He installed indoor plumbing in 1919 and electricity in 1928 and covered the house in pebble-dash stucco. The farmstead has several notable outbuildings: a double corncrib with attached machine shed, concrete block milk house, pump house, combined smokehouse/workers house, 2 silos and feed room, and water tank house. A bank barn (late 1800s) and dairy barn (1930s) were destroyed by fire. The property remained in the Howes family until the early 1970s.



10/12



Mendelsohn Terrace (1880)

10/12



Howes Farm (c1884-92)

10/48



High View/Burdette Hotel (1887) 13/30

### HIGH VIEW (1887) 21010 Clarksburg Road

13/7

Ned Watkins Farm (1892)

One of the grandest hotels built in the Boyds area, High View is representative of the post-railroad summer resort era in the Ten Mile Creek Valley. After the opening of the Metropolitan Branch of the B & O Railroad, several hotels operated in the area, serving Washingtonians fleeing the city heat. High View is noteworthy as a building designed and built as a hotel. Other local property owners added rooms onto their houses to accommodate boarders. Somerset T. Williams built this grand 22room hotel in 1887, naming it High View in honor of its setting on a knoll overlooking Ten Mile Creek Valley. Located in the community of Burdette, just outside Boyds, Williams' inn was also known as the Burdette Hotel. The substantial Second Empire style structure has a

mansard roof with patterned slate. The front façade has a polygonal projecting pavilion flanked by one-story porches, while two-story galleried porches open off the back of the house.

The Ned Watkins Farm has a fine collection of buildings representing an upper Montgomery County farm in the late 1800s. The three-bay residence, built in 1892, has a projecting central pavilion, steeply pitched roof, and central chimneys. Oversize diamond windows with shaped frames highlight front and side gables. A two-story bay

window projects from the south gable end. Farm buildings include a bank barn, smokehouse, corncrib, and chicken house. Ned Watkins, Cedar Grove farmer, built the house which remained in the family until 1940 when it was purchased by Ovid and Hallie Wells. Ovid Wells was a White House Secret Service agent.

# KINGSLEY SCHOOL (1893) 18400 Muncaster Road

The Kingsley School is one of the few remaining one-room schools in the county that retains its original appearance and setting. The school was built in 1893 in response to the need for a school within walking distance of farms located in the Little Bennett Creek Valley. County school commissioners provided architectural plans for the building, which opened to area students in September 1893. The front-gable building has a stone foundation and is covered with German siding. At the west end of the corrugated tin roof is the framework for a bell. Since the immediate area was known locally as Froggy Hollow, the school acquired the nickname of Froggy Hollow School. The school closed in 1935, when, after the Great Depression, local families left the area in search of work. The school is located in Little Bennett Regional Park, a public park owned and operated by the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission.



Kingsley School (1893)

SALEM METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH (1907) 23725 Ridge Road

The Salem Methodist Church is architecturally noteworthy as a late, rural example of a Gothic Revival frame church. A three-story entrance tower, dominating the front gable structure, has an open, bracketed belfry on the top level. The front façade of the main block has a pointed-arch stainedglass tracery window. The name Salem M.E. Church is inscribed in a stained-glass transom and in a northwest cornerstone, which also includes the construction date. The second-level of the tower and main block is enlivened with patterned shingles. A four-bay side wing is a social hall built in 1937. A church basement was excavated in 1954 for classrooms and aluminum siding was added to the lower level of the church in the 1960s. With the unification of the Methodist Church, the church's name was changed in 1969 to Salem United Methodist Church. The first Salem Church was a log structure built about 1869 near the present structure.

BYRNE-WARFIELD FARM (House c1912) 22415 Clarksburg Road

Edward D. Warfield built this unusual house about 1912. Its cubical form has a hip roof with broad cross gables on each of the four façades. Two front doors open into separate front rooms. Warfield, who raised corn, wheat, oats, and tobacco, built the bank barn in 1900. The barn has an open (unsupported) forebay, stone foundation, board and batten siding, and painted round-arched false windows. Edward Warfield and his wife Zertie Mullinix raised four children. including James Warfield, who carried on the family business. James expanded the farming operations to include dairying. His 16 head of cattle produced about 40 gallons of milk a day that was trucked into a dairy in Washington. Complying with county health regulations,

James Warfield built the sanitary concrete block dairy barn and milk house in the 1940s. John W. Byrne of Virginia operated a tobacco farm here from the 1860s to the 1890s. His tobacco barn was located on the site of the present house, and Byrne's house, partially built of log, once stood near the dairy barn. Additional extant outbuildings include a board and batten smokehouse and double corncrib with attached equipment shed.

# AVALON (c1920) 9400 Huntmaster Road

The Avalon house is a two-story, center-hall vernacular Colonial Revival dwelling that is built on the site of an earlier home. The house was constructed c1920 by Harry Blunt, Jr., son of a local miller and farmer who built the original house about 1870-1896. The original house was destroyed by fire.

#### 13/24

14/26





Byrne-Warfield Farm (House c1912) 13/24



(1907)

Salem Methodist Episcopal Church 14/26

11/6-2



Avalon (c1920)

14/55

Harry Blunt, Jr. contracted A.B. Mullet and Company to rebuild the home that fire had consumed. Mullet was exceptionally well known at the time for his monumental designs, such as that for the U.S. Treasury building under President Grant, and for the Old Executive Office Building on Pennsylvania Avenue. The home design reflects an obvious shift for Mullet: his design sought to reconstruct many of the original details of the first vernacular farm house by retaining the original chimneys and typical Greek Revival style façade symmetry. He also embellished the design with non-period elements, using broad width-to-depth proportions and an expansive wrap-around porch, which signify a shift towards the needs of the client versus strict adherence to typical elements of style. What results is an outstanding example of a Colonial Revival home that has elements of vernacular styles of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Its first owner, Harry Dorsey, originally used Avalon as a site for a gristmill as early as 1798. Both Harry Blunt, Sr. and Jr. used the land for crop farming and dairy cattle grazing from 1866 to 1951. William and Sarah Carl purchased the property in 1953 and produced grain and raised hogs. In the 1950s and 60s, Avalon hosted events for the Goshen Fox Hunt, of which William Carl was Hunt Master. The property has also been known as the Blunt-Carl Farm.

Druid Theatre (1945-7) 9840 Main Street

The Druid Theatre is a fine example of an early modern movie theater. The design combines elements of the zig-zagged Art Deco style, with its stepped marquis and parapet, and Art Moderne, seen in the plain wall surfaces and glass block walls flanking the entrance. The theater is based on



the design of Washington's Apex Theatre (no longer standing) by Baltimore architect John J. Zink. Many of the contractors involved in the Apex project also worked on the Druid. Zink's firm designed over 200 movie theaters along the eastern seaboard, including 11 in Washington. Completion of the 400-seat theater, begun in 1945, was delayed due to post-war material shortages. Opening in May 1947, the Druid was the first fully air-conditioned movie theater in the Damascus area and remained through the 1970s one of the few which was never part of a franchise chain. One-story, flat-roof wing sec-

Druid Theatre (1945-7)

11/6-2

tions, original to the structure, were leased for a variety of commercial purposes over the years. The Druid was named for its original owner, Druid Clodfelter, a Damascus native, who owned the theater until 1977.