III. Upper Potomac
III. UPPER POTOMAC
HISTORIC DISTRICTS

POOLESVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT (c1793) NR

Municipality

John Poole II established the community of Poolesville about 1793, selling half-acre lots from land he acquired from his father. The Poole family migrated here from Anne Arundel County. Poole built the John Poole House (1793), a one-room log store and opened a post office called Poole’s Store, Maryland. The building is now a museum operated by Historic Medley District. Within the first few years, merchants opened a second store, a tailor shop, and a tavern. The Dr. Thomas Poole House (1830-5) is an outstanding Federal style brick house with a handsome doorway with fanlight and sidelights. Dr. Thomas Poole built the house in the 1830s and his daughter and son-in-law built the side addition for a doctor’s office in 1865.

By 1850, there were 25 families living in Poolesville. The majority of extant houses date from this era. Notable among them are the Frederick Poole House (c1819; Late 1800s), Beeding-Poole House, and Willard-Sellman House. The Thomas Hall Building is a row of brick town houses built in 1800.

Several important community buildings are found in the Poolesville Historic District. Mid-nineteenth century churches are the Presbyterian Church (1848) and the Baptist Church (1865), with stepped gable façades, and St. Peter’s Episcopal Church (1847) with an 1890 brick steeple. The present Town Hall was built as a bank in 1907.

During the Civil War, Poolesville saw more activity than most any other town in Maryland, with the exception of Sharpsburg. The strategic location of the village on the road to White’s Ferry across the Potomac placed Poolesville in a difficult situation, given the divided loyalties of its inhabitants. By mid-1861, Union troops moved in with nearly 12,000 men camped in the town and its outskirts. Skirmishes in and near Poolesville in 1862 and 1863 resulted in
several dead and wounded. Periodically through the war, Poolesville had a major signal station for the Union Army. From the station, located in a Methodist Episcopal church (no longer standing), signals were relayed to other signal units, including Sugarloaf Mountain. Although three disastrous fires in the early- and mid-1900s destroyed about 25 individual structures, the remaining collection of 33 historic buildings makes Poolesville one of the largest remaining essentially mid-19th century communities in the county.

**BEALLSVILLE HISTORIC DISTRICT (Late 1700s)**

Beallsville served travelers and area residents for over two hundred years as a crossroads community. Located in the heart of the county’s agricultural district, it marks the intersection of two historic travel routes. Anglicans in the Beallsville area petitioned the General Assembly for a Chapel of Ease in 1734, and so the Monocacy Chapel was constructed on the road from Georgetown to the mouth of the Monocacy River (Rt 28). Nearby, Medley Hill became the first polling place in the area after the American Revolution. In September 1790, the Potomack-Federalist faction in Maryland’s early politics met in Beallsville to “consider the importance of the election for state and continental representatives.” Although defeated by the opposing Baltimore faction, they obtained single district elections of congressmen, as opposed
to elections at large. This was the start of the Medley Voting District, and the two-party system in Maryland.

Located on the 1838 mail route between Poolesville and Barnesville (Route 109), Beallsville was a favorite place for local farmers to meet, pick up mail, a few supplies, and learn the local news. In the mid-1800s, Beallsville had a post office, gristmill, blacksmith shop, wheelwright, and general store, as well as the Monocacy Chapel and several houses.

During the Civil War, Union soldiers stationed in the Poolesville area camped at Beallsville, a convenient knoll from which the two major roads could be observed. The Monocacy Chapel suffered great damage as soldiers used it as a horse stable and its pews for firewood. In September 1862, Confederate and Union soldiers clashed near Beallsville. The outnumbered Confederates retreated and lost their flag in the encounter. The next month, Confederate soldiers outsmarted Union forces by leaving the road near Beallsville to bypass them on their way to White’s Ford. In 1912, the Daughters of the American Confederacy built the present stone Monocacy Chapel commemorating the earlier brick chapel on the same site. The 30’ x 40’ chapel is constructed of rusticated, coursed ashlar blocks with quoins and features Gothic Revival-influenced pointed arch windows. Many of the Upper Montgomery County residents who served in the Confederate Army are buried in the Monocacy Cemetery. A memorial tablet lists 32 names. The 13-acre cemetery contains some 3,000 graves.

Beallsville has had a post office and general store since the early 1800s, located over the years at each of the intersection’s four corners. The northeast corner was the site of the Belt-Griffith Store, built in 1872 and demolished in 1983. A Log Smokehouse is the only structure remaining on the site. H.C. Darby operated a store on the southeast corner (now gone) before building the present Darby Store and Post Office in 1910 on the northwest corner. The two-story, front-gabled structure is typical of Montgomery County general stores built from the late 1800s through the early 1900s. The Staub Building on the southwest corner, 19800 Darnestown Road, was one of the first auto dealerships in the area. Built about 1921, the structure was later used as a feed store and post office before becoming a restaurant and post office.

The spacious Darby House (1921) at 19811 Darnestown Road illustrates the economic importance of the merchant in small communities.
As was typical of the period, the residence was located next to the family’s place of business, the Darby Store. The Staub House (1870s), at 19810 Darnestown Road has a wrap-around porch with turned posts, and a kitchen wing added in the 1920s by George Staub who operated the adjacent Staub auto dealership from 1923 to about 1936.

Completion of the B&O’s Metropolitan Branch in 1873 spurred development of nearby Sellman Station and brought increased travelers and commerce in Beallsville. During this era were built the Beagle House (19821 Darnestown Road) and the Bolden House (19831 Darnestown Road), both modest Gothic Revival-style cottages.

**SENeca Historic District (18th century+) NR**

The Seneca Historic District is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Sites in the district that are listed on the Montgomery County Master Plan for Historic Preservation are highlighted in bold. These properties are described in greater detail in the following section on individual sites in the Western Region. Exceptions are descriptions of Montanverde, Riley’s Lock House, and the Seneca Aqueduct, which are included with the Potomac Region sites.

The section of Montgomery County where the Seneca Creek flows into the Potomac River is an area of historic significance in the evolution from a colonial frontier to a united nation. A 1712 map calls Seneca Creek the “Riviere de Senecards,” noting its use as a canoe route by the Senecas, an Iroquois tribe from western New York. Others derive the place name “Seneca” from Iroquois words meaning “plenty of stone.”

Early landowners influential in the development of the Seneca area were Robert Peter and James Allnutt. A wealthy and influential merchant who was Mayor of Georgetown, Peter purchased Seneca land in 1781, and established 100-acre tenant farms. His sons developed sandstone and marble quarries along the Potomac River and built large, substantial houses on their properties. Peter family structures include Montanverde and Montevideo. James Allnutt owned the tract of land called Thomas Discovery. By 1791, Allnutt lived at a house on Sugarland Road, located near the present Homestead Farm House. Extant Allnutt family houses include The Springs (Early 1800s), east side of Sugarland Road; Rocklands (1870), Montevideo Road; and the Lewis Allnutt House (c.1900), Partnership Road.

Construction of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal made the stone more valuable, enabling easy passage to Washington markets. In 1831, the canal was open from Georgetown to Seneca. Significant canal-related sites and structures are the Seneca Sandstone Quarries, Quarry Master’s House,
Stone-Cutting Mill, Seneca Aqueduct, and Riley’s Lock House. Local residents built houses and outbuildings of stone quarried at Seneca. Outstanding Seneca sandstone buildings in the area include the Seneca School (1868), the Montevideo Overseer’s House (1835), and Rocklands, a high-style Italianate mansion built in 1870. In the 1790s, Seneca stone was quarried and rafted eight miles down the Potomac to the Potawmack Canal, a skirtsing canal at Great Falls, Virginia.

Seneca was a thriving town with several warehouses and stores, grist-mill, stonemaking mill, and a hotel. The community developed near the intersection of Seneca Creek and River Road, where a gristmill stood as early as 1780. John Darby and his son Upton purchased the mill in 1855 and built their residence nearby. The Upton Darby House is one of the few mill-related structures still standing. Wilson Tschiffely and sons operated the gristmill from 1902-1930. In 1901, Frederick Allnutt opened a general store in Seneca. The Seneca Store, now known as Poole’s Store, is the oldest general store in continuous operation in Montgomery County.

CHESAPEAKE & OHIO CANAL HISTORIC DISTRICT (1828+) NR

The 185-mile Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, built between 1828 and 1850, was an engineering marvel of its day. The canal improved the county’s economy, providing jobs, and transporting farm products, fertilizer, and other goods. The C & O Canal was declared a national monument in 1961, was designated on the National Register of Historic Places and named a national historic park. The National Park Service owns and operates the C & O Canal National Historic Park, protecting significant architectural and engineering features as well as an important natural environment. Many of the structures in the National Register Historic District are described individually in the following section.

BOYDS HISTORIC DISTRICT (1864+)

Boyds, a well-preserved and cohesive rural village in western Montgomery County, is representative of post-Civil War development and growth generated by the coming of the railroad to the area in the last quarter of the 19th century. It illustrates the impact of social and technological change on the area’s agricultural community over the past century. It also reflects the early role of black citizens in rural parts of the County.

There are three general areas within the historic district of Boyds: the commercial area north of the railroad along Barnesville Road, the Victorian-era residential streetscape along Clopper Road and upper White Ground Road, and the folk architecture of the freed black community farther south along White Ground Road.

Boyds was originally settled in 1753 on a tract of land named Resurvey of Gum Spring. The land was primarily farmed as a tobacco plantation, and the first residents were brought as slaves to the area. Following the abolition of slavery in 1864, some of the freedmen purchased property adjacent to the plantation. They built several of the houses and community buildings that stand along the southern section of White Ground Road.
Colonel James A. Boyd, a well-traveled Scottish contractor and stonemason who participated in the building of the Metropolitan Branch of the B&O Railroad, established the village of Boyds. In 1873, Boyd purchased 1100 acres of land on both sides of the newly-laid railroad track and built some of the first dwellings in Boyds to house railroad workmen. He then built his own residence as a progressive farming operation called Bonnie Brae, with several tenant houses and a dairy. His innovative dairy barn was a model of efficiency. An engine on the clean concrete floor shelled corn, cut hay, sawed wood, and pumped water to feed the cows and cool the milk before shipment on the railroad. Bonnie Brae no longer stands.

In a broad sense, the railroad had a major impact on Montgomery County's agricultural industry. Farmers imported fertilizer by rail, for example, that was said to triple farm yields. New and revolutionary farming ideas soon caught on, and Montgomery County entered a golden age
of agriculture in the last quarter of the 19th century. Hoyles Mill, at 15100 Barnesville Road, is one of only a handful of frame gristmills surviving in the County. From the railroad station, located near the mill, dairy farmers shipped milk by train to Washington markets.

Boyston thrived because of its agricultural activities and its proximity to the railroad. By 1879, the village had a population of 100. In addition, the railroad brought summer residents to the Boyds area to enjoy the rural setting away from the heat and congestion of the city. The Tottens built their grand residence Winderbourne, near Boyds in 1884 (see description below). Captain F. P. Meigs, a pomologist and beekeeper, built an elaborate home in 1879 with French, English, and Swiss detailing. It was one of the first residences in Montgomery County to have hot air heat and electric lights.

Boyd's Negro School is important as a surviving example of early education for rural black children in the county. Using material provided by the School Board, local residents built the 30' x 40' school that opened in 1895. Previously, local black children attended classes held in St. Mark's Church. One teacher taught students in grades 1-8 in one large, well-lit room warmed by a wood stove. Since the building had no plumbing, drinking water was hauled from Gum Spring and restrooms were in two outdoor privies. High school classes were not available for black students until a high school opened in 1936. The same year the Boyds School closed and students transferred to the Clarksburg Negro School. The Boyds-Clarksburg Historical Society has restored the school and placed a preservation easement on the building and land.

Architecturally, most of the dwellings in the village itself date from the 1870s and 80s and reflect vernacular Gothic Revival detailing, including a cross-gabled roof and bracketed porches. One of the earliest structures in the historic district is the David Maughlin House at 15215 Barnesville Road, built by 1866. James E. Williams of Clarksburg constructed many of the buildings in the district, including the Boyds Presbyterian Church (1876), the Presbyterian School (c1870s), and numerous houses for himself and his family. Several buildings in the historic district represent local African-American history. St. Mark's Methodist Church, 19620 White Ground Road, is a church dating from 1893, built for black congregants. The Duggens House, at 19701 White Ground Road, with two rooms on each level, is a typical example of post-Emancipation black housing.
INDIVIDUAL SITES

DRURY-AUSTIN HOUSE (Log: c1768; frame: c1805) NR 18/42
16112 Barnesville Road

This log and frame house is one of the few remaining structures in the Boyds area dating from the settlement period. The 1½-story log section was built c1768. Typical of vernacular log houses of the time, the house has exterior chimneys with fieldstone chimneys and brick stacks, and logs have V-notched joints and flat stone chinking. The one-room dwelling was furnished with “two featherbeds, two tables with six chairs, three chests, three pewter dishes, ten pewter plates, nine pewter spoons, one iron pot and a Dutch oven.” Planter Thomas Drury built the original log section on a site about 1200 feet away. John Austin moved the structure to its present site near a year-round spring, and added, about 1805, the timber frame section, a rear kitchen shed, and upgraded the dirt floor in the log house by installing wood floors.

OLD CHISWELL PLACE (c1778; c1826) NR 17/9
18125 Cattail Road

Old Chiswell Place is an early example of a modest tobacco plantation. George Frazier Magruder established the farm in 1778 when he moved here from Prince George’s County. The 1½-story frame section was the original house, described as “a frame dwelling house, 28 x 24 feet with 3 rooms on the lower floor and two on the upper.” By 1803, a log structure was moved to the gable end (left) of the house to serve as a kitchen. County surveyor, attorney and planter William Chiswell built the main brick section c1826, attached to the earlier structures by a partially enclosed passageway. Fashionably designed with Federal style gable parapets, the house features Flemish bond brickwork on the front façade. Farm buildings include a log smokehouse, stone springhouse, and a frame and log corncrib.

WHITE-CARLIN FARM (c1793) 18/12
920 Old Bucklodge Lane

A rustic Federal stone house and immense bank barn are key features of the White-Carlin Farm. In 1793, Stephen Newton Chiswell, owner of extensive land, gave 192 acres to his daughter Peggy Presbury White and her husband Nathan Smith White. The Whites raised tobacco, owned slaves, and constructed a mill. The house is constructed of local, undressed Seneca sandstone laid in irregular courses. Classical influence is evident in the symmetrical façade, keystone arches above first level windows, quoining blocks, and cornice enlivened with dentil molding. On
the interior, the open-string staircase in the central hall has a ramped balustrade with shadow rail on the wall. Deeply recessed windows have paneled jambs. In the parlor, round-arched keystone niches flank the centered fireplace. A highly decorative mantelpiece has reeded molding, slender pilasters, and fan motifs. This design is also found on mantels at the Joseph White House and Hanover.

With its collection of farm buildings, the White-Carlin Farm represents the eras of tobacco, wheat and dairy farming. Dominating the landscape is an enormous bank barn that represents a shift to wheat farming in the 1800s, and then dairying in the early 1900s. The barn, which was stabilized in 1996, is 140' x 45' on sandstone foundations and was aired with five wooden ventilators. In 1939, the barn housed 87 cows and 12 horses. An adjacent concrete block milk house supported dairy operations of that era. The farmstead includes a detached kitchen with massive stone chimney, springhouse with supported projecting roof, and smokehouse.

FRIENDS ADVICE (1795-1810; 1936) NR 18/15
19001 Bucklodge Road

The estate known as Friends Advice, built by the Dade family and their descendants, represents a progression of styles spanning more than a century. The T-shaped house was built in three distinct periods and types of construction. Between 1795 and 1810, Rev. Townsend Dade built a three-bay house of Seneca sandstone, now part of a rear wing. Granddaughter Mary Dade Wall and spouse William Wall built the rear frame kitchen wing in 1880, replacing the original 18th century log cabin. Their son, William Guy Wall, built the front Colonial Revival sandstone section, in 1936. The property includes outbuildings from all three periods. The oldest outbuilding is a Seneca sandstone springhouse inscribed with the date 1806. A bank barn dates from 1822. The smokehouse, ice house, and tenant house date from c1880. Also from that era is a terraced lawn in front of the house. About 1936, the sandstone garage/office and swimming pool were built.

The Dade family and descendants, who have owned Friends Advice for over two centuries, include several distinguished members. Rev. Townsend Dade was the founder of Christ Church and Falls Church in Alexandria during a period of great turbulence for the Church of England. His son, Col. Robert T. Dade, a three-term State Representative, led the fight against Maryland's secession from the Union before the Civil War. General Albert C. Wedemeyer, husband of Col. Dade's great-granddaughter Elizabeth Dade, is credited with formulating the strategy adopted by Allies to win World War II.
CHISWELL’S INHERITANCE (1796) NR
18200 Beallsville Road

One of the earliest houses in Western Montgomery County with a conscious architectural style, Chiswell’s Inheritance reflects the status of a successful tobacco planter. Joseph Newton Chiswell built the house on land patented the year of his birth (1746) and given by his father on his twenty-first birthday. On the exterior, the substantial brick dwelling expresses neoclassical influence, with a nearly symmetrical five bay front façade, Flemish bond brick and molded water table, and double-flue interior end chimneys. The interior floorplan, on the other hand, reflects medieval traditions, with the main entrance opening directly into living space without advantage of a passageway typical of Georgian style houses.

Uncommon in the region are glazed headers on the gable end with the inscription “C I” above the date “1796,” a feature found in Kent County houses of the era. The main floor has four rooms with the stair hall centered at the back of the house. Highly intricate woodwork sets this dwelling apart from other local houses. In the living room, built-in cupboards with butterfly shelves and keystone arches flank an elaborately detailed paneled fireplace wall. Unusual features of the cupboards in the living room and the library are interior windows. The dining room mantle is highlighted with dentils and fluting and joined by a carved chair rail. A stylish Chinese-influenced trellis railing accents a portion of the staircase. Sheltered under the unusually steep roof is a ½-story mortise and tenon beamed attic space. The 135-acre parcel includes a well-preserved bank barn, and a 1931 frame dwelling, Gray House, built as a tenant house and used for generations to house extended family. Inscribed stone boundary markers define the perimeter of the property.

HARRIS HOUSES
(First house: 1790s. Second House: Early 1800s with late 1800s changes)
23611 West Harris Road

These two houses, built by the Hays and Harris families, represent the evolution of residential building construction from the late-1700s to the mid-1800s. The oldest house, now a secondary structure, is thought to have been built in the 1790s. It was originally a log house (seen at far right of left photo) with a massive exterior stone chimney and has been expanded with several additions. Early in the 1800s, a second log house was built. William Hays, who acquired 225 acres of Hobsons Choice, was probably the builder. In 1827, Hays increased his property to 286 acres. The Harris family acquired the property in 1846. Abraham Harris is likely responsible for the present appearance of the main house.
house block. The house was updated, probably after the Civil War, to give a Gothic Revival appearance, with center cross gable, pointed arch window, and two story gallery porches with cutwork balustrade.

DARNALL PLACE (Late 1700s) NR
17615 Whites Ferry Road
This farmstead includes one of the finest collections of early farm buildings in the county. Simple, yet substantial, the buildings, constructed of uncoursed Seneca sandstone, are reminiscent of British farmsteads. The buildings likely date from the late 1700s. The dwelling consists of a two-room hall and parlor log structure covered with weatherboarding. Historic photographs show that a chimney once stood on the west (left) end. East of the main block, is a stone structure that was a detached kitchen and is now connected to the dwelling with a frame addition.

Further east, stands a stone slave quarter with an upper floor accessible only by an outside ladder. The complex also includes a two-room stone building used as a smokehouse and dairy, and a modest 20' x 40' stone barn. A cemetery enclosed by a stone wall contains remains of members of the Darnall family, with graves dating from 1830-1855.

EDWARD CHISWELL FARM (North section: c1800; south section: c1868-90)
20130 Wasche Road
The three-part stone and frame house represents an evolution of construction and is best known as the residence of Civil War officer Edward Jones Chiswell. Thomas Cooley built a 1½-story stone house about 1800, replacing an early-1700s log house. Located at the north end of the current dwelling, the structure is three-bays wide, built of undressed stone featuring keystone window lintels. The house had central entrances on front and back. Cooley operated his plantation with the help of 14 slaves. In 1814 Henry W. Talbott purchased the farm. He was a planter who was Justice of the Peace and member of the School Board. Talbott probably built the first level of the center section, which is constructed of cut and dressed stone with central entrances on both façades. According to tradition, the house was used as a Union hospital during the Civil War.

In 1868, Edward Chiswell acquired the farm that became known as Longview. During the war, Chiswell had served under relative and neighbor Col. Elijah Veirs White of the Virginia Calvary. Chiswell was joined in Virginia by many Montgomery County residents who were locally known as “Chiswell’s Exiles.” During the war, Chiswell was wounded twice, led a mission across the icy Potomac to capture horses from an encampment, and surrendered in Edward’s Ferry in 1865. Later that year he married Evalina Allnut. In 1868, they purchased this farm and probably soon thereafter built the southern section of the house. The three-bay block of undressed stone has heavy stone window lintels and
interior gable-end chimneys. The Chiswells, who raised six children on the farm, expanded the center block with a second story addition in the late 1800s. A cross gable roof and fishscale shingle siding exhibit Victorian era influence. Son Thomas continued to operate the farm after his father’s death in 1906. The farmstead, also known as Longview, includes a stone springhouse, stone ice house, and a large bank barn. East of the house is evidence of a terraced waterfall garden.

**Mount Carmel (Early 1800s; c1833)**
21515 Darnestown Road

Mount Carmel represents the agricultural development of Montgomery County from the colonial era through the Civil War. The house evolved through the changing needs of successive generations of the Veitch-Trundle-Gott family whose ancestors were early settlers of Maryland. The main two-story block of red sandstone dates from the early 1800s. A one-story stone wing was built before 1800 and is said to have been used for slave quarters, dairy and smokehouse. A frame section dating from c1833 connects the main section and dependency. An additional stone section is the kitchen wing extending behind the central frame section. A 1½-story stone slave quarter bears the date 1833 on one of its two stone and brick chimneys. In 1860 nine slaves worked the Mount Carmel plantation.

Thomas Veitch owned Mount Carmel in the late 1700s. He was a Justice of the second County Court. His daughter Mary married, in 1799, John L. Trundle, member of the Levy Court and County Commissioners, 1833-6. Their youngest daughter, Mary and her husband Richard Gott continued the family tradition by residing at Mount Carmel where they raised their seven children. Four of the Gott daughters married men who fought for the Confederates in the Civil War. The family hosted a visit from Stonewall Jackson in 1862. Mount Carmel was the scene of a series of Civil War skirmishes fought in and around the grounds, and frequent searches by Union troops looking for Confederate soldiers or supplies. In the mid 1800s, the Gotts built a gristmill, not far from the house, to grind grain into flour. The family acted in concert with the changing agricultural traditions in a shift from tobacco to wheat production. The mill ceased operation in 1910.

**Hanover (c1801-4) NR**
19501 Darnestown Road

For 160 years, five generations of one family lived at Hanover and farmed the surrounding acres. William Hempstone, Revolutionary War veteran, acquired part of a tract called Resurvey on Hanover between 1790 and 1801. Hempstone, by 1804, built the large brick house with a center hall plan. A one-story kitchen wing (right) was attached to the main block by
a covered walkway. The brick on the front façade of both sections is laid in Flemish bond. A box cornice, supported by a 10-inch curved molding, covers the rafter ends. After Hempstone’s death in 1828, his son Nathan inherited “the mansion farm” and was probably the one who added the Greek Revival doorway. About the same time, the west room was outfitted with a mantel that matches mantels found at the Joseph White House and White-Carlin House. In the post-Civil War era, the Hempstones enlarged and updated the house, enclosing the covered walkway with a two-story polygonal bay addition, and building a second story on the kitchen wing. The kitchen was converted into a dining room and a rear frame kitchen wing built. A brick wing replaced the frame kitchen wing in 1954. In the early to mid 1900s, the property was known as Charline Manor. The farmstead includes a double corncrib, gambrel roof dairy barn with terra cotta silo, and tenant houses.

ANNINGTON (1813) NR
24001 Whites Ferry Road

Situated on a commanding hill overlooking the C & O Canal and the Potomac River, dignified Annington represents an era of prosperity during the wheat boom of the early 1800s. The dwelling has a classical three-part composition with large central block of two-room deep, side-passage plan. The main south façade has Flemish bond brick while other façades are in common bond. Brick cornices are laid in a sawtooth pattern. Narrow double end interior chimneys are engaged on the main block by gable end parapets. Annington was built for Daniel Trundle about 1813 on a 555-acre tract. Born during the Revolutionary War, Trundle served on levy courts, County commissions, and in the Maryland House of Delegates (1822-9). Charles Willson is thought to have been Annington’s builder. Willson designed neighboring houses similar in proportion, detail, and plan.

Throughout the Civil War, Union soldiers occupied Annington, with its strategic lookout point. A well-known local story relates that Col. Robert Baker, Oregon Senator and close friend of President Lincoln, was Commander of Union troops stationed in Poolesville when he dined at Annington. The following day he was killed in the battle of Ball’s Bluff. According to tradition, Trundle named the estate after his daughter Ann, who later married prominent physician and State Legislator Stephen Newton Chiswell White and inherited her parent’s house. The Trundles and their descendants continued to reside at Annington until 1901. A brick outbuilding behind the house was a two-family slave quarter. The four-bay, 1½-story structure has doors in each of the center two bays.
INVERNESS (1818)
20700 Darnestown Road

Like Annington, the residence at Inverness is a substantial three-part Federal style brick residence. The estate is a visual reminder of the nearly self-sufficient lifestyle of farmers in the early 1800s, with its large grouping of outbuildings clustered around the substantial farmhouse. Four generations of the White family farmed the plantation, of originally 529 acres, from 1835 until 1959. The brick house was probably built in 1818. Gable-end chimneys on the main block and both wings feature pointed arch hoods on the stacks. The main block has a side hall plan. The west (right) kitchen wing contains a box staircase and brick fireplace with crane. A slave quarter built of log was expanded into a two-family structure with a stone addition. The notable bank barn has stone end walls, uncommon features in Montgomery County. Cereal grains were stored here waiting transport to mill and then to Georgetown market via canal barge. The striking collection of outbuildings includes a log blacksmith shop, log smokehouse, stone springhouse, and a corncrib with mortise and tenon frame.

OTOH TRUNLLE FARM (c1818-21)
20500 & 20501 Martinsburg Road

This important farm complex, with log house and stone bank barn and outbuildings, dates from the early 1800s. Between 1816 and 1818, Otho Trundle purchased six contiguous parcels of land totaling 238 acres. Evidence suggests that Otho’s original log house was a two bay structure, the right end of the present house. The dwelling is constructed of hand hewn timbers mortised and held together with pins, with a lean-to at the north (far right) end. This bedrock structure had a 4½-foot deep cellar and an exterior south fireplace. Later additions expanded the house on the other side of the chimney. After Otho Trundle died in 1821, his son William acquired the farm where he lived until his death in 1835.

The farmstead includes a magnificent stone bank barn with stone outsheds that flank the wagon ramp on the upper level. Sandstone quoins, sills and lintels highlight the stonework. Ventilator windows provide air circulation for hay stored above. On the downhill side, a wooden forebay cantilevered out between stone walls sheltered livestock stalls beneath the barn. An 1853 description, calling the house “indifferent,” states “the barn is of stone but somewhat out of repair.” A sandstone springhouse stands near the barn and another sandstone building, of undetermined use, is near the house. When this section of Martinsburg Road was built in 1879, road commissioners elected to locate it between the house and barn, dividing the two pairs of structures. The property remained in Trundle family ownership until 1884.
Mount Nebo is a well-preserved example of a transitional Federal-Greek Revival dwelling. The main block, built c1820, is a center passage, one-room deep dwelling. The timber frame structure is reinforced with brick nogging and sheathed with shiplap siding, in a practice typical of the era. On the interior, the stair hall features a ceiling medallion, and an open-string staircase decorated with ogee moldings and a walnut handrail with square balusters. Architraves in the hall and both rooms are reeded with bull’s eye cornerblocks. The interior was likely updated when the two-story east addition was built c1860.

The rear kitchen wing appears to have been built before the main block. Constructed of heavier timbers, this section has wide, low doors; and simpler, hand-cut woodwork. This rear structure, with its hall and parlor plan, probably served as the original plantation cottage before the main block was built. Red sandstone for the foundation and chimney may have come from a small quarry on the property near River Road.

The earliest direct reference to buildings on what became Mount Nebo was in the 1783 Tax Assessment when property known as “Bongey” contained one dwelling house, one framed barn, and three log houses. This was property Thomas Fletchall inherited from his father John Fletchall who had acquired land with appurtenances in 1765, whereon he resided and farmed and which either included the site of Mount Nebo buildings or immediately adjoined it. John died in 1777. Thomas Fletchall renamed his property Mount Nebo, receiving the patent in 1807. Thomas Fletchall was active in civic affairs, serving as tax commissioner, in 1794, and one of the first election district commissioners, in 1799. Victims of depressed times, the Fletchall family was forced to sell the farm. An 1832 advertisement described Mount Nebo as a two-story frame dwelling house attached to a frame back building with a frame kitchen adjoined, a new frame Switzer barn [bank barn], a brick dairy, and a garden with “handsome falls” in front of the house, “which commands a view of the river and the C & O Canal passing through the farm.” Mount Nebo includes a log smokehouse, ruins of the brick dairy or springhouse, foundations of other small outbuildings, and the Fletchall family cemetery. A modern barn was built on the foundations of the c1830 bank barn.
JOSEPH C. WHITE HOUSE (c1822-4) 18/14
17210/17320/17400 Moore Road

Joseph Chiswell White, a descendant of two of the first settler families in the Poolesville area, built this distinguished brick house soon after he inherited the property in 1822. White was an important contributor to the success of agricultural reform practices in the early 1800s. He was a successful tobacco and wheat farmer and a charter member of the Montgomery County Agricultural Society. Notable architectural details are ornate transom tracery, double rows of cornice dentils, and 9/6 windows. The bricks on the southeast façade are laid with Flemish bond bricks while remaining sides are in common bond. In plan, the house is one-room deep with a center passage. The stairway has a slender turned newel post and square balusters. The brick side wing was added in the 1950s, replacing a log kitchen and connecting covered walkway. The Whites and their descendants owned the property for over 160 years.

DOWDEN’S LUCK (c1824-40) NR 17/20
18511 Beallsville Road

Situated on a prominent knoll, Dowden’s Luck is a complex of farm buildings including a stone slave quarter, stone dairy, and brick smokehouse. John A. Chiswell established the Dowden’s Luck plantation in 1824, on 372 acres that had belonged to his father, Joseph Chiswell. In this era, tobacco continued to be a major crop in the Poolesville area. The plantation, only five miles from both the C&O Canal route to Georgetown and the Edwards Ferry route to Virginia, was well located for shipping to markets. After John Chiswell’s death in 1840, an inventory made in 1842 described the three extant outbuildings: a “stone dairy 12 x 15 feet,” the “slave quarter 16 x 24 feet,” and “brick smokehouse 12 x 15 feet.” The existing residence on site was built in 1992. The original two-story frame house, built between 1824 and 1840, was demolished in 1993. A “brick switzer barn” or bank barn described in 1842 no longer stands. The property includes remnants of a waterfall garden, a stone-banked three-level formal garden. The name Dowden’s Luck appears on all land transfers of this property beginning in 1823. Known in later years as the Wallace Poole House, the property was owned from 1855 to 1938 by the Poole family.

EAST OAKS (c1829) NR 17/24
21524 Whites Ferry Road

An outstanding complex of domestic and agricultural buildings, East Oaks exemplifies and documents upper-middle class agricultural architecture in Montgomery County. With a brick dwelling surrounded by ten farm buildings and dependencies, the East Oaks complex is rare in terms of its number and integrity of buildings, variety of materials, and quality of workmanship. As built c1829, the brick house has three sections: the main block, a rear ell and a south kitchen wing. The brickwork is embel-
Montevideo (1828-30)  17/58
16801 River Road
Located in the Seneca Historic District  NR

One of the finest Federal-era houses built in Montgomery County, Montevideo was built for a member of the locally prominent Peter family. Robert Peter, successful Scottish merchant and first mayor of Georgetown, owned a large tract of land in the Seneca area in the Revolutionary era. His grandson, John Parke Custis Peter, began the house in 1828, and completed it in 1830. He was a member of the Maryland House of Delegates (1828) and first president of the Montgomery County Agricultural Society (1846). John was the son of Thomas Peter and Martha Park Custis Peter, a granddaughter of Martha Washington, who lived at Tudor Place (1816) in Washington, D.C.

The design of Montevideo bears similarity with that of Tudor Place, which was designed by William Thornton, architect of the original U.S. Capitol. Thornton was a friend of the Peter family. The dwelling, constructed of Seneca sandstone, has two-foot thick walls and two sets of double internal end chimneys. Sheltered under an elliptical keystone arch, a fanlight surmounts the elegant doorway. Large Palladian-inspired three-part windows provide ample light for the center-hall, double pile dwelling. A small side-gable west addition built by 1936 was replaced in 1959 by the present three-bay addition with hipped roof echoing that of the main block. The name Montevideo relates to the view from the residence of Sugarloaf Mountain, 12 miles northwest. The property contains the Peter family graveyard, a smokehouse, and ice house. The barn was built in 1906, replacing the original stone barn. Since 1959, Montevideo has been the home of Mr. and Mrs. Austin Kiplinger.
EDWARD'S FERRY LOCK HOUSE (c1831) & LOCK #25
C & O Canal National Historical Park NR

Lock #25 is located at the intersection of the Chesapeake and Ohio (C & O) Canal with Edward’s Ferry Road. The ferry across the Potomac known as Edward’s Ferry had already been in operation about 30 years when the canal opened in 1831. With increased traffic brought by the canal, a small town grew up around Lock 25, complete with a lock house, a general store and post office, warehouse, and, by 1880, a population of 36 residents. The ruins of Edward’s Ferry Brick Store still stand nearby. Lock House #25 is one of the best-preserved lock houses on the C & O Canal. Built c1831, the building is a typical 1 1/2-story lock houses with the exception of the walls above the stone foundation, which are of brick. This 30‘ x 18‘ house has a cellar and two rooms on each main level. Walls of the main level are 20” thick.

MONOCACY AQUEDUCT (1833)
C&O Canal National Historical Park NR

Built to carry canal boats over the Monocacy River, the Monocacy Aqueduct is one of the finest masonry structures in the region. Between 1829 and 1833, master masons and laborers built the seven-arch aqueduct of dressed stone. The 516-foot structure, known as the crown jewel of the C&O Canal, is the largest of the canal’s eleven aqueducts and is built of white quartzite. An early, specially built railroad transported the white quartzite four miles from the source, a quarry at Sugarloaf Mountain. Keystones support each arch. A continuous flat stone parapet caps the side walls. A marble dedication stone, placed mid-river on the berm side, documents the completion date along with the names of canal company officials. The aqueduct, which was portrayed on the silver platters that were used at Maryland state banquets, has survived attacks both natural and manmade. During the Civil War, it survived several efforts by Confederate soldiers to blow it up. Flood waters bringing logs and debris have repeatedly battered its columns. After Hurricane Agnes of 1972 nearly destroyed the structure, National Park Service staff encased the aqueduct in a steel harness. Agnes also washed away much of the original iron railing. Floods in 1996 further damaged the structure. Following listing on the National Trust’s Most Endangered Places in the country, the National Park Service announced, in 1999, a $5.5 million restoration plan to replace the exterior steel braces with invisible interior supports.
Edward's Ferry Brick Store (c1850)
C & O Canal National Historical Park NR
The ruins of this small brick store, built c1850, serve as a reminder of the commercial nature of the vital community that thrived at this once-busy intersection. Eugene Jarboe, who moved here from the Frederick vicinity, opened the store, selling food and farm supplies. Jarboe later drowned in the canal while loading cattle. His children subsequently ran the store. After the store closed in 1906, a small wooden store took its place until the end of the canal era. The structure, measuring about 20’ x 40’, has a stone foundation with a full basement. Edward's Ferry Road runs along the side of the store. The front façade, facing directly onto the towpath, has a central doorway with flanking window openings, sharing a common lintel timber. Common bond brick have flat brick arches over door and window openings on side and rear façades. Remnants of interior plasterwork are still evident. Circular sawn floor joists are 2” x 12” beams.

Sycamore Landing (After 1827)
C & O Canal National Historical Park NR
Sycamore Landing was an important distribution center for farmers in the Poolesville vicinity. A warehouse was built on the inland side of the canal by 1878. Sycamore Landing is an area of great natural beauty. Van Deventer Island can be seen on the Virginia side of the Potomac. No historic structures remain.

Seneca Quarry (1785-1900) NR
Beyond 13333 Tschiffley Mill Road, near the C & O Canal
These quarries provided the red sandstone known as Seneca Sandstone used in building major public works projects in the Washington area. The initial major quarrying activities were in 1785 when the Potomac Company, headed by George Washington, constructed the Pawtomack Canal, a skirting canal on the Virginia side that enabled riverboatmen to bypass the Potomac’s Great Falls. The Company used Seneca stone for canal structures, including the outstanding early engineering feats that are the canal locks. The north and south porticos of the White House, built in 1824 and 1831, are of Seneca stone. The Chesapeake & Ohio Canal on the Maryland side used Seneca stone for its durability and proximity of stone to the canal route. Canal structures of Seneca stone include locks, lock houses, and the Seneca Aqueduct.

In addition to being easily shipped to market on the canal, the stone was durable. After being quarried, the stone hardened with prolonged exposure to air. Seneca stone built the original Smithsonian Institution building known as The Castle (1847-8) and the Washington Aqueduct in the 1850s. The reddish-brown stone enjoyed popularity through the mid-1800s as “Washington brownstone” used in townhouses and residences throughout the Washington area.

In quarrying the rock, typically three workers with sledge hammers would strike alternate blows on a drill bit held by a man sitting before them. They made 12” deep holes that were a foot apart, and then drove
wedges into the holes to split out the block. Workers roughly shaped rock with hammers on the spot and then blocks to the mill for shaping. The quarries provided an important source of economic development to the canal town of Seneca. By 1900, quarry operations ceased. The quality of stone had deteriorated beyond the point of usefulness. The Seneca Quarry is listed on the National Register of Historic Places both as an individual site and as a contributing resource in the Seneca Historic District.

**SENECA STONE-CUTTING MILL (c1837) NR**

Beyond 13333 Tschiffley Mill Road, near the C & O Canal

The magnificent ruins of this substantial stone-cutting mill are located on the east side of the stone quarry (see above). The original building was probably built in the 1830s. In later years, the structure was doubled in size to its present dimension. Four standing exterior and center walls, constructed of Seneca stone, are rough finished in rectangular blocks. Mule cars brought rough stone blocks on a narrow-gauge railroad. Water drawn from the canal powered a wheel, and later a turbine, which drove a shaft in a stone trough—still evident today. The shaft was connected to belts and pulleys which operated the cutting and polishing machines. Steel saws moved back and forth in an oscillating motion across the stone block sawing them, with assistance of water and abrasive sand, into the needed sizes. Workers transported the finished stone to Washington on canal boats. Located in the Seneca State Park, the mill is directly adjacent to the C & O Canal National Historic Park. The Stone-Cutting Mill is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing resource in both the Seneca Quarry individual site and Seneca Historic District listings.

**CANAL WAREHOUSE RUINS (After 1828)**

C & O Canal National Historical Park

Located near the vehicular entrance to the Monocacy Aqueduct, these ruins are a visual reminder of the commercial function of the canal. Boatmen used to tie canal boats in the adjacent now-dry basin. Dimensions and openings in the walls indicate that drivers may have brought their wagons into the lower level to unload grains onto the barges. The warehouse foundation is constructed of Seneca Sandstone, parts of which were dry-laid, without mortar. Corners are enforced with quoin blocks.
WAREHOUSE AND LOADING DOCK (After 1828) 16/7
C&O Canal National Historical Park, White's ferry Road

This ruin is one of two warehouse sites documenting the commercial function of the canal. Originally known as Conrad’s Ferry, White’s Ferry was named for Confederate Colonel Elijah Veirs White who operated this thriving commercial center from 1871 to 1886. By 1879, there was a complex of several structures at White’s Ferry, including a warehouse. Colonel White sold fertilizer, hardware, coal, plaster, and foodstuff. A two-story timber granary nearby stored grain form local farms.

SANDSTONE CULVERT (1833) AND IRON BRIDGE (1876) NR 16/8
C&O Canal National Historical Park, White’s Ferry and River Roads

White’s Ferry, formerly known as Conrad’s Ferry, was an important river crossing established as early as 1786. After the canal was dug, the sandstone culvert allowed access to the river front, though it was only passable in dry weather. By 1865, an all-weather approach was needed and a wooden bridge was built. Large red Seneca Sandstone abutments supported the bridge which was high enough for animal and barge passage beneath. The more permanent cast iron bridge was built in 1876. The 14-foot wide bridge was abandoned as increasing automobile traffic frequented White’s Ferry. The road now crosses the canal just upstream where a section of the canal has been filled in.

VALHALLA (1835; c1855-65) NR 17/12
19010 Whites Ferry Road

Built in 1835 and enlarged in the mid-1800s, Valhalla was among the earliest classically-influenced houses in the Poolesville area constructed of undressed Seneca sandstone. Previously the stone had been used almost exclusively for small cottages, foundations, slave quarters, barns, and other secondary structures. The original house is the three-bay eastern portion (left), built in 1835 for Sarah Poole and her husband Isaac Jones. The symmetrical façade with central entrance belies the medieval hall-and-parlor plan of this section. The door opens into the east room, while the enclosed staircase is built against the interior wall of the west room. Isaac Jones died in 1840 and Sarah remarried in 1852. After the house was severely damaged in a fire, the three-bay western portion was built, between 1855 and 1865, with a side hall plan. Both sections have Greek Revival stone lintels and matching four-light door transoms and 6/6 sash windows. All three mantels in the stone sections are matching, with reeded pilasters and beveled frieze. The mantels are of a design found in three other local houses dating from 1850-65, including Mt. Nebo. The slate roof was probably also installed on both sections about 1860, judging by the three-diamond design attributed to this era.

A log structure at the southeast corner of the house may date from the same era as the original block. Connected to the house by a 1938 frame addition, the log building is covered with asbestos siding and used as a kitchen. Another rear frame addition was built in 1954. Immediately behind the house stands a 12' x 10' stone dairy or springhouse (c1830s)
with cantilevered roof covering the entrance in a manner typical of such buildings in the early 1800s. Further south is a late 19th century barn. During the Jones’ ownership, the property was known as Friendship. The Bernsdorfs, long-time owners who acquired the property in 1944, renamed it Valhalla.

**SUSANNA FARM (c1835-44; 1877-8)** NR

17700 White Grounds Road

*Not yet evaluated for Master Plan designation*

Susanna Farm represents the steady improvement of Montgomery County farms through the 19th century. The farm was originally a 341-acre tobacco plantation operated by the Veirs family by 1786. Daniel Veirs named the farm after his wife and daughter. After nearly 30 years of farming, the Veirs family moved to Kentucky, in 1816, in an era when poor tobacco farming practices had depleted Montgomery County farmland of nutrients. William Brewer and his son Joseph steadily improved the farm in the early 1800s. A member of Medleys District Agricultural Society, Joseph was a proponent of farm revitalization and he diversified the farm with crops of wheat, rye, and corn. In 1870, Benjamin Franklin Dyson and Catherine Jane Pyles Dyson purchased Susanna Farm from Brewer's heirs. The Dysons raised the value of the farm several fold, raising large crops of wheat, corn, oats, potatoes and some tobacco. The Dyson's eleven children continued to operate the farm after their parents' death and then sold the farm in 1946.

The farmstead’s present appearance dates largely from the prosperous period of the Dyson’s ownership. The Dysons remodeled the old farmhouse in the Italianate style about 1878. The original section appears to be the west-facing block (left) of the ell-shaped structure. The five-bay dwelling has a central door with sidelights and four-light transom. The center hall plan is one room deep. North and south rooms have identical mantels. Chimney cupboards flank the fireplaces in the north rooms. A simple staircase has a paneled under stair, gently curved balustrade and circular newel post. The Brewers probably built this portion of the house. Joseph Brewer lived on the farm as early as 1835 and married Warnetta Sellman in 1844. Benjamin Dyson doubled the house in size in 1877-8 and gave the ten-room residence an Italianate character. The cornice is bracketed, second level windows are segmental arched and attic windows are round arched. Unifying the south elevation is a well-preserved Italianate style porch with bracketed, paneled posts and cutwork balustrade. The Dysons built the 60' x 38' bank barn (c1870s) that stands...
southeast of the main dwelling. The farmstead includes a 24' x 18' stone kitchen/slave quarter and a 14' x 12' frame smoke house, both of which probably date from the early 1800s. A double corn crib (c1900) is of mortise and tenon construction. A machine shed and hog house date from the mid-1900s.

**STONEY CASTLE (Mid 1800s with earlier rear ell)**

17301 Edwards Ferry Road (21111 Westerly Road)

Exceedingly generous proportions and substantial masonry construction are celebrated in the name of this early house. Stoney Castle is made of well-cut blocks of sandstone with large quoining blocks marking the corners, and lintels and sills of ashlar. Exterior design features exhibit a blend of mid-19th century architectural influences. At each gable end are double chimneys joined with a curtain wall, a feature typical of Federal era architecture of the early 1800s. Window openings are supported by Greek Revival type square lintels similar in style to those found at Milton, c1847. Gable ends are illuminated by round arched windows, also seen at Moneysworth, built after 1856. The two story Neoclassical portico was added in 1936, replacing a center wall dormer and one story full-width porch. A stone rear wing with center chimney and two-story gallery porch is believed to predate the main block. In the late 1700s and early 1800s, Robert Peter and son George Peter owned the property. Stephen and Mary Veirs White acquired the property in 1831. Born on site was their son Elijah Veirs White, later Colonel in the Civil War. Stoney Castle remained in the White family until 1949.

**RICHARD T. WHITE FARM (1846; c1890-1905)**

19701 Bucklodge Road or 19701 Slidell Road

This property, also known as the White-Turner farm, represents the evolution and expansion of a farmstead under several generations of the same family. Nathan S. White built the original stone three-bay dwelling in 1846. The date is inscribed on a brick chimney. Later on, the White family added the grand Queen Anne main block, possibly about 1903, when Richard T. White, Jr. inherited the property. The farm remained in the family until 1943. A rear frame addition dates from 1990. The property includes a two-story sandstone house said to have been used as slave quarters, probably dating from c1846 when the main house was built. A bank barn has stone foundation end walls that extend to close the forebay ends. This type of closed-forebay barn was most often built in the mid-1800s. A gambrel roof dairy barn has a terra cotta silo.
HILARY AND MATILDA PYLES FARM (Mid-1800s) 18/19
17300 Darnestown Road

The Hilary Pyles Farm includes a house built in several sections and a fine collection of early outbuildings. The original one-story log house, possibly dating from c1800 and now part of a rear wing, has a stone chimney with brick stack. The left three bays of the front section is believed to date from the mid-1800s. A one-story side wing may have been the original kitchen, although there is now no chimney standing. The right two bays of the main block were built more recently. From 1799 until 1824, Caleb Darby and family owned the property. Hilary Pyles and heirs owned the farm from 1837 until 1939. The farmstead includes a significant collection of outbuildings. An early bank barn has louvered windows with pedimented heads and horizontal weatherboarding. A two-story springhouse, covered with board and batten siding, has a loft room with gable-end access. One corncrib (possibly a tobacco house) is built of log with log rafters, while another crib is timber framed with log rafters.

GREENWOOD (c1850-5) 18/17
17601 Darnestown Road

Greenwood was the home of Dr. Nicholas Brewer, two-term State Senator and member of the 1867 Constitutional Convention. A sales notice of 1856 described the 300-acre property with “a substantial stoned dwelling (recently built), 2 stories high and a basement, barn, stabling, overseer’s house, smokehouse, cornhouse, icehouse, poultryhouses, etc.” During restoration, owners found an 1853 medical almanac in the house. The distinguished Federal-style residence is built of Seneca sandstone. Fluted Doric columns flanking the front door support a full entablature surmounted by an elegant fanlight. The house has a side-hall plan with double parlors separated by folding doors. Arched doorways lead from the hall to each parlor. The rear stone wing dates from the early 1900s and the entire house was covered with scored stucco in 1927. The property includes a substantial bank barn.

FREDERICK HAYS HOUSE (c1850-64) 12/11
17501 Barnesville Road

The Frederick Hays House is a well-preserved mid-1800s farmhouse built by a prosperous farming family. The ell-shaped dwelling is stylistically transitional, with Greek Revival cornice returns and lintels, and Gothic Revival center gable with bargeboard or gingerbread. The property is named for Frederick Hays who inherited the land upon the 1864 death of his father, influential landowner Leonard Hays. It is thought that the elder Hays, who owned extensive properties in and around Barnesville, built the house for his children or a farm manager. Frederick married Ida Hempstone in 1881 and they raised their family on the farm. The property was well situated along the Baltimore Road. After the Metropolitan Branch of the B&O Railroad opened in 1873, the family had easier access to markets to sell crops and purchase fertilizer. The property includes a substantial bank barn with closed forebay and stone foundation.
UPTON DARBY HOUSE (1855) 17/61
16401 Old River Road
Listed in the Seneca Historic District NR

The Upton Darby House is highly representative of the Seneca community which thrived in the second half of the 1800s. The center-hall, one-room deep house is traditional in form with Greek Revival style doorway transom and sidelights and 6/6 sash windows on the second level. More representative of the Victorian era are long 2/2 sash windows on the first level, elaborate scroll brackets on the porch, and a bracketed one story bay window on the east side. Both parlors have marble mantels with horseshoe-arched openings. The staircase is graced by a large turned newel post and round balusters. On the back of a stair riser is found the inscription, “Henry Young, Plasterer, Jun 14, 1855.”

John and Upton Darby, of Franklin County, Pennsylvania built the dwelling in 1855. The father and son team owned and operated Seneca Mills, a milling complex with origins in the late 1700s, located at the intersection of River Road and Tschiffely Mill Road. In 1900, Frederick Allnutt purchased the residence, living here while he operated the adjacent general store. Outbuildings include a stone springhouse and two-story frame stable, built in 1900. The house is included in the National Register Seneca Historic District.

JAMES PEARRÉ FARM (c1857-60) 12/5
17700 Comus Road
Situated in the shadow of Sugarloaf Mountain, the James Pearré Farm has been operated for close to a century by the Pearré family, substantial farmers and prominent citizens of early upper Montgomery County. James Pearré is thought to have built the house soon after he acquired the property in 1857 from his father. The center passage frame house has rare double external chimneys on one gable end that have stone bases and brick stacks. The front façade features a Greek Revival influenced doorway with transom and sidelights, and extra long windows on the first level. A 1914 ad described the 223-acre farmstead “improved by a large spacious dwelling house, containing 12 rooms, large halls, cellar and fine porches.” By this era the “mansion house” was supplied with “pure spring water” by means of “a hydraulic ram.” A fine, early bank barn (45’ x 70’), with stone foundation and closed forebay, has round-arched louvered windows and three wooden cupolas. The farmstead includes an outstanding collection of log outbuildings, with a double corn house with steeply pitched roof; smokehouse; dairy; and small barn.
BREWERTFARM (c1857-61) 12/38
20201 Darnestown Road

The Brewer Farm, part of a larger tract known as Woodstock, contains some important early stone outbuildings. The farm was in the Brewer family from 1834 to 1942. The Brewers moved to Montgomery County from Anne Arundel County, already possessing wealth and social position. Dr. William Brewer, of Aix La Chapelle, was a progressive farmer and founder of the State Agricultural Society who educated small family farmers in the use of modern tools and fertilizers. In 1857, George Brewer acquired this 276-acre property. Like his grandfather, William, and father, George Chiswell, George Brewer practiced modern farming techniques and Woodstock prospered.

George Brewer added improvements valued at $1,500 between 1857 and 1861. Still standing is a three-bay by one-bay stone dwelling that was likely used as slave quarters and a stone spring house. Other structures include a large corncrib, early 20th century garage and storage buildings, and stone ruins of a bank barn. No longer standing are a log structure, which according to tradition was used as a school house, a log smokehouse, a board and batten building with interior chimney, and dairy barn. The main house, remodeled and enlarged in 1908, was demolished about 1983. M-NCPPC recently acquired the property as part of the proposed Woodstock Equestrian Center.

DARBY MILLER’S HOUSE (c1864) 18/40
20320 Bucklodge Rd/20320 Slidell Rd.

The Darby Miller’s House is one of the last survivors of Buck Lodge, a once thriving community that grew around a gristmill on the Bucklodge Branch of Seneca Creek, and later prospered as a railroad stop. In 1864, John William Darby built the miller’s house near the White Mill, later known as the Darby Mill, which was operating by 1816. The main block of the L-shaped dwelling is a one-room deep, center passage dwelling with a cross gable roof and originally had a full-width front porch. The timber frame barn with chestnut beams dates from the same era as the miller’s house. It is an English one-level barn with a gable roof and triangular hay hood. The mill, which continued to operated into the 1900s, was destroyed by fire, though the mill race remains are evident about 50 yards from the house. A small frame building nearby was said to have been used as a slave quarter.
MOUNT EPHRAIM (c1868) 12/1
23720 Mt. Ephraim Road

This house is important architecturally as a fine example of builder William T. Hilton’s work, and historically as the reminder of the crossroads community of Mount Ephraim, located near the base of Sugarloaf Mountain. Ephraim G. Harris conducted a general merchandizing operation from the early 1860s onward, capitalizing on Civil War trade in the area. In 1868, he contracted William T. Hilton, local builder, to construct a residence reflective of Harris’s newfound affluence. The substantial brick house is a fine example of Hilton’s craft and his practice of using native construction material. Clay for the bricks was mined, molded and fired on site, roof slate was quarried nearby, and pine, oak and chestnut timber was cut from woodlots on Sugarloaf Mountain. Gothic Revival curvilinear lintels embellish doors and windows. Additional Gothic Revival features were lost when a center cross gable and a front porch were removed in the 1940s. The house has an original rear ell with two story gallery porches. A two-story detached kitchen, banked into the hillside behind the house, bears matching window lintels as the main house, and is brick on the upper level and stone on the lower.

ELIJAH CHURCH CEMETERY (Established 1870) 17/18
18100 Beallsville Road

The Elijah Church Cemetery is associated with Jerusalem, one of the largest and earliest African-American communities in the county. In 1868, trustees of the Elijah Church, free black men, purchased for $150 the one-acre parcel from the property known as Chiswell’s Inheritance. According to tradition, a camp for runaway slaves from Virginia was established outside of Poolesville in the winter of 1861-2. The camp is thought to be the origin of the Jerusalem community established after abolition. The cemetery, established in 1870, contains the remains of early Jerusalem settlers and their descendants. There are approximately 200 graves in the cemetery, the earliest of which dates from 1871. Five other gravestones date from the late 1880s, with another twelve from 1900-20. The community building known as Love and Charity Hall was located on this parcel of land until it was demolished in the 1930s. The hall was the original meetingplace for religious services until a church was built in 1909. The Elijah Rest Church takes its name from its first minister Elijah Awkard who owned a significant amount of land in the nearby Big Woods area by 1846. The original church was destroyed by fire in 1950 and replaced by the present structure.
ROCKLANDS (1870) 18/39
14525 Montevideo Road
Listed in the Seneca Historic District NR
Built of Seneca sandstone, the Rocklands mansion is one of the grandest Italianate mansions in the county. Benoni Allnutt, a successful farmer and distinguished community figure, built the house in 1870. Historian J. Thomas Scharf, in 1882, stated that “Mr. Allnutt’s home is one of the finest in the county...[It] is not only a handsome architectural specimen, but embodies all the comforts and conveniences that improved skill and refined taste could suggest.” The double-pile main block is laid in coursed, dressed stone with quoinned corners. The surfaces of the stones are tooled with horizontal lines. The east kitchen wing has uncoursed, untooled stone. On a west side lintel is carved the inscription B. Allnutt 1870. The well-preserved dwelling retains its original front portico and galleried side-wing porches, bracketed and paneled cornice, and roof balustrade.

The locally prominent Allnutt family originally settled in the area around 1750. Scharf described Allnutt as “a sterling member of the great army of useful workers; his example is acknowledged to be worthy of imitation,” and Rocklands was “a model and handsomely improved farm.”

The farmstead contains an outstanding collection of outbuildings some of which may predate the construction of the main dwelling. The bankbarn, with stone foundation and closed forebay, has louvered openings in rectangular form at each level and as gable-end lunettes. A two-story log house covered with board and batten siding and with external stone chimney may have been used for slave quarters. A log smokehouse has V-notched joints. Built of Seneca sandstone are a springhouse with extended gable roof and a two-room structure said to have been used as a dairy and blacksmith shop.

NATHAN DICKERSON POOLE HOUSE (1871) NR
15600 Edwards Ferry Road
The Nathan Dickerson Poole House is a high-style example of the type of Gothic Revival cottage promoted by Andrew Jackson Downing in the mid-1800s. Surrounded by wide lawns studded with mature trees, the elevated house commands far-reaching views extending over much of the surrounding countryside. A circular drive outlined with boxwoods and sheltered by arching maples is approached through brick gates. Nathan Dickerson Poole acquired his father’s farm in 1870 and the following year replaced a log house with a handsome farmhouse that he called River View. Known as River Dick to distinguish him from Poolesville town resident Richard Poole, Nathan Dickerson Poole (1843-1912) served as District Tax Collector and grew wheat, hay, corn, and clover on the farm. The 3 by 4 bay frame house, cruciform in shape, is well lit with pairs of long, segmentally arched
windows. The front façade features a large, steeply pitched central gable echoed by flanking dormers. The pedimented double-door entrance has oversize sidelights and transom. The front door opens into a large reception hall with rear fireplace. The parlor at left has a slate fireplace with mantel and the dining room at right features cornice molding. Two sets of stairs can be seen from the hall, the main stairway at front and a service stair at rear. The house lacks its original porches across the main block and flanking wings. The property has also been known as Riverview. Outbuildings include a bank barn with metal ventilators and terra cotta silo, and a double corncrib.

**WHITE-POOLE HOUSE** 12/14-2
(1870s with earlier log rear ell)
21600 Beallsville Road

The White-Poole House represents the railroad community of Sellman that thrived from the 1873 opening of the Metropolitan Branch until the 1930s. Also known as Barnesville Station, the community provided local access to the train for the town of Barnesville, located to the north. In 1882, Sellman had a population of 50. In addition to the railroad station, there were 3 stores, a post office, church, school and canning factory. The White-Poole House began as a log house built in the early to mid 1800s. In the railroad era, the front Gothic Revival block was constructed. The residence was home to two Sellman merchants: shoemaker James Carlisle, and general store keeper Oscar K. Poole.

**WINDERBOURNE** (1884) 18/10
15001 Barnesville Road

This high-style Queen Anne residence was the summer home of Enoch and Mary Totten. Mrs. Totten was the daughter of Timothy Howe, Wisconsin Senator and sole heir to the fortune of Elias Howe, inventor of the sewing machine bobbin. Howe’s bobbin, a lock stitch device known in those days as a winder, known was manufactured and sold by Singer and other companies worldwide. At his death in 1867, his fortune amounted to $13 million. Mary Howe Totten built her vacation estate in 1884, naming it Winderbourne in recognition of the winder device that brought her family fortune.

The Tottens chose a vacation home site adjacent to Bonnie Brae, the picturesque village-like Boyd estate. Situated on a hill overlooking Seneca Creek, Winderbourne was originally accessed from Clopper Road by a bridge across the railroad tracks, built in part and maintained by the railroad company. The house bears such unusual features as a grand sweeping staircase, great triangular fireplace and concealed downspouts leading to an underground cistern. The grounds were cultivated with imported trees and shrubs and outfitted with a gazebo and an ice pond.
Dickerson B & O Railroad Station (1891) 12/21
22211 Mt. Ephraim Road

One of the last survivors of a standardized railroad station design by architect E. Francis Baldwin is found at Dickerson Station. Like the larger scale station at Kensington, the 30' x 12' structure has an elaborately ornate construction date on its small trackside gable. Dickerson Station also features an unusual V-shaped agent’s bay that provided visibility of the waiting platform. In plan, the agent’s office separated two waiting rooms for men and women. A freight house formerly stood west of the station. The railroad community of Dickerson was named for enterprising farmer W. H. Dickerson who opened a general store and post office, and served as railroad agent, after the railroad cut through his property in 1865. He was postmaster for the community from 1871 to 1895. Even though the Metropolitan Branch was not completed for through service to Washington until 1873, Dickerson had rail connectors with Baltimore and the west as soon as the Monocacy Bridge was completed, almost a year earlier. This gave Dickerson a head start in bringing fertilizer and supplies to area farms. The Dickerson Quarries opened in 1898, employing local residents, transient workers, and adding more commerce to the town. In this era were constructed most of the buildings facing the tracks and along Big Woods Road.

Following a substantial fire in 1982, the station was restored and was reopened in 1986 for MARC train commuters.

St. Paul Community Church (1893) 17/41
and Cemetery (by 1884)
14730 Sugarland Lane

St. Paul Community Church, notable for its simple, classical detail, is the center of the African-American community of Sugarland. Freed slaves established the settlement on a series of adjacent small parcels of land purchased in the 1870s and 1880s. According to tradition, members of the Pleasants family, who were Quakers, sold the fertile farmland to the black settlers. This sale was unusual in the post-Civil War era when most other
black citizens were forced to settle on less desirable scrubland. In 1871 community founders constructed a log church. About 1893 residents engaged Scott Bell to construct the present front-gable structure that features a center bell tower and round-arched windows. Bell had also built a church and hall in Martinsburg. The oldest dated headstone in the cemetery was erected in 1884. Buried here are community founders, including Patrick Hebron, William Taylor, and Phillip Johnson. The latter, interviewed for the WPA in the 1930s, had been a slave on an Edward’s Ferry area plantation. St. Paul Church was the site of the first interracial marriage in Maryland, in 1967.

**SENeca Store (1901)**

16315 Old River Road

*Listed in the Seneca Historic District NR*

This store is the oldest general store in continuous operation in Montgomery County and one of the few surviving turn-of-the-20th-century commercial buildings in the County. The store has a traditional front-gable form with cornice returns and 6/6 sash windows reminiscent of the pre-Civil War Greek Revival era. The front porch posts are stripped whole tree trunks. On the interior, a closed string staircase in the rear east corner is enclosed with triple-beaded paneling.

Seneca was a thriving town supported by the stone-cutting industry, a gristmill, commercial canal traffic, and summering vacationers. The community had several warehouses and shops, a hotel, and several resort homes in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Frederick Allnutt, who had been running a store next to the canal for several years, built the frame store facing River Road in 1901. The Allnutt family operated the store for over 60 years. Since Raymond Poole began managing the business in 1965, it has been known as Poole's Store. The store is listed on the National Register as part of the Seneca Historic District.

**Warren Methodist Episcopal Church (1903)**

& Martinsburg Negro School (c1886)

22625 Whites Ferry Road

This complex of buildings is one of the most important African-American sites in Montgomery County. This rural community still retains its three major civic buildings: church, school, and benefit society lodge. Martinsburg, which began as a pre-Civil War crossroads village, was unusual in being a bi-racial community. At least one black settler was free before the Civil War. After
emancipation, former slaves remained here, purchased land, and continued to work as farmers or craftsmen. Warren M. E. Church was named for Isaac Warren, member of its first board of trustees and one of the few black landowners identified in the 1879 Hopkins Atlas of Montgomery County. Carpenter Scott Bell built the handsome Gothic-influenced church in 1903. Bell also constructed, in 1914, the Loving Charity Hall, the lodge hall for the Loving Charity Society, a community benefit group active throughout Maryland and headquartered in Richmond, Virginia. The large two-story hall served as a community center for plays, dances, lectures and other local events. It is one of the few surviving lodge halls in the state. The oldest building in the complex is the Martinsburg Negro School, probably built in 1886. The one-room school is a reminder of the unequal conditions for the education of blacks. One former teacher recalled out-dated textbooks cast off from white schools, and poorly paid teaching staff, yet recalled that every student was able to read and write, a remarkable achievement considering severely limited resources.

**Warfel Store (1918)** 12/14-3
21510 Beallsville Road

The Warfel Store is the last remaining commercial building of the Sellman community. Sellman developed alongside the Metropolitan Branch of the B&O Railroad and at its peak was a thriving settlement. The two-story building with front gable roof is a typical rural commercial structure of the late 1800s-early 1900s. Clarence O. Warfel acquired the land in 1897 and built the store in 1918. The Sellman community declined after Great Depression and after transportation shifted from the railroad to automobiles. The store building was later used for a residence.

**Martinsburg Road (1931)** 12/32
From Rt. 28 to Wasche Road fork

Martinsburg Road is one of the few surviving one-lane paved roads in Maryland. The road represents the burgeoning automobile era when a one-lane paved strip of road was the minimum requirement for drivers of early cars. Local residents originally petitioned for the road in 1838 to provide access to Gott’s Mill with connections to Edward’s Ferry and the C & O Canal. Soon after it was completed, stone walls were built on both sides. In 1899, the county had only 45 miles of hard surface road,
mainly on well traveled turnpikes. After widespread use of the automobile, the demand increased for hard surface roads. In 1931, a one-mile stretch of Martinsburg Road was paved with concrete 20 feet across. Sections of the road have been supplemented with gravel shoulders to provide extra width.

**LAWRENCE WHITE BARN (c1932-5)**
20900 and 21120 Martinsburg Road

This unusually fine dairy barn is one of only three Gothic roofed barns in the County. Walter Matthews bought the Lawrence White farm in 1932. He converted the traditional general farm into a dairy operation, delivering milk as far as Washington, D.C. Matthews built the barn during this era. In contrast to earlier general-purpose bank barns of post and beam construction, the modern dairy barn reflected new interest in sanitation. Concrete floors and walls were more easily cleaned and disinfected and ceilings with tight-fitting boards kept debris from falling below. Hopper windows and steel cupolas ventilated both levels. The arched roof with its self-supporting truss, or braced rafter frame, sheltered an unobstructed hayloft for increased storage capacity. The dairy barn is comprised of a large first level with dairy stanchions, airy second story hayloft, silo, and attached milk house. In 1935, Matthews converted part of the farm into Linden Park, a private retreat with a bandstand where local residents gathered for picnics and concerts. The site is once again a community gathering place as Sugarloaf Citizens’ Association, in a joint effort with Montgomery County government, has restored the barn for its headquarters.