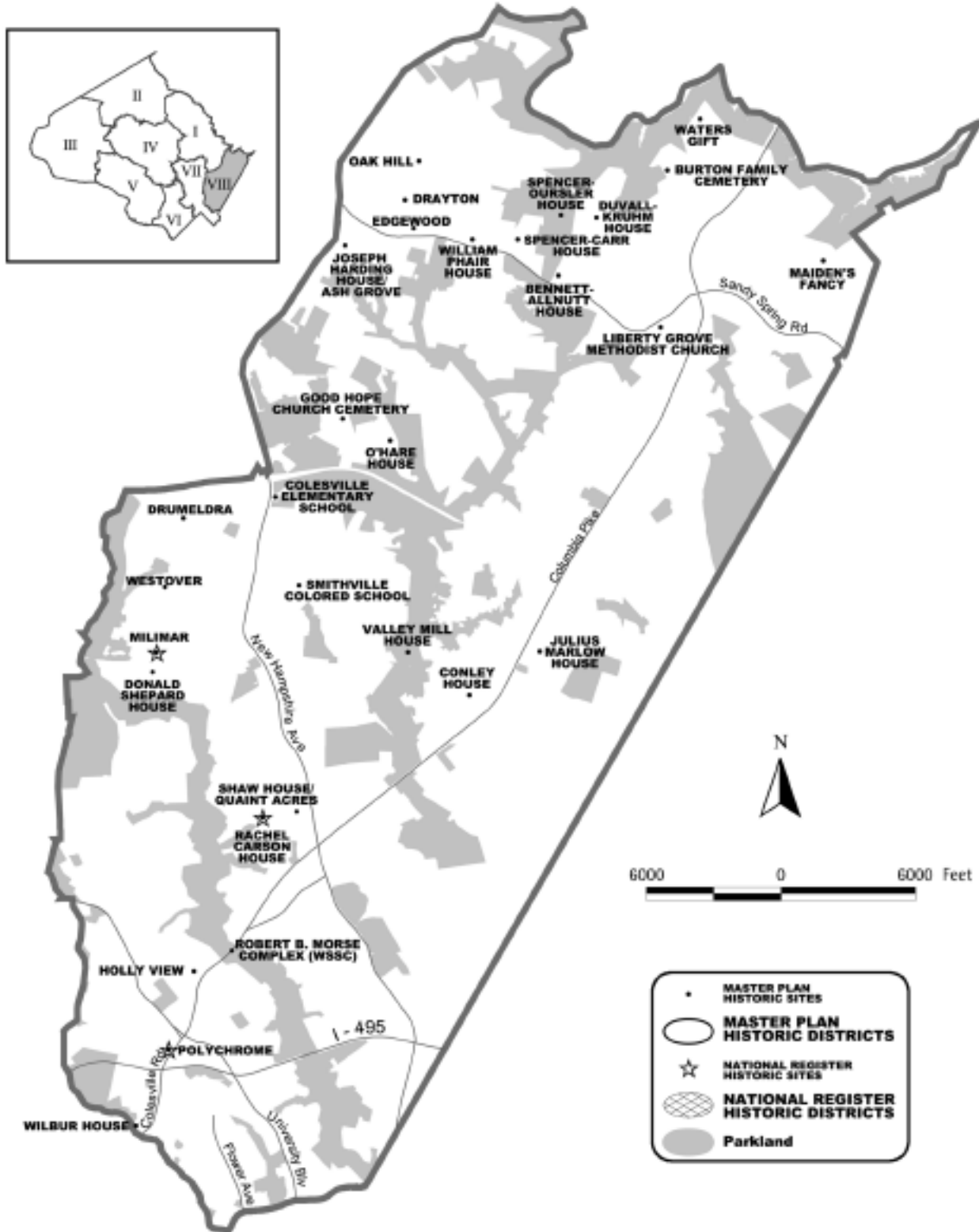


# VIII. EASTERN COUNTY



## VIII. EASTERN COUNTY HISTORIC DISTRICTS

### POLYCHROME HISTORIC DISTRICT (1934-5) NR

32/5

9900, 9904 Colesville Road; 9919, 9923, 9925 Sutherland Road

Master craftsman John Joseph Earley (1881-1945) built the five single-family dwellings that comprise the Polychrome Historic District in 1934-5. These unique houses are outstanding examples of the Art Deco style and reflect Earley's artistry and craftsmanship. Earley developed and patented a process whereby conventional wood frames were clad with pre-fabricated mosaic concrete panels. The concrete was stripped to expose brilliantly colored aggregate particles, creating an effect similar to impressionist or pointillist painting. In addition to their striking, richly ornamented appearance, these houses represent a relatively rare example of precast concrete panel construction in single-family housing for the time period. Earley's patented structural system led to widespread use of precast architectural concrete as a major exterior cladding material. The legacy of the Polychrome houses can be seen in thousands of curtain-wall buildings nationwide. In 1996, the historic district was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Polychrome houses are located on contiguous lots with adjoining back yards in a middle class suburban neighborhood in Silver Spring. Polychrome I was the prototype house, designed in collaboration with Washington architect J. R. Kennedy, and completed in 1934. Located on Colesville Road, Polychrome I (shown below) is a one-story dwelling, with a detached garage. Its immediate neighbor Polychrome II, is also one story yet has an attached garage. The houses on Sutherland Road are two stories tall with attached carports.



Constance Terry, MHCPPC, 1993

9919 Sutherland Road

32/5



Constance Terry, MHCPPC, 1993

Polychrome II, 9904 Colesville Road

Polychrome I, 9900 Colesville Road



Constance Terry, MHCPPC, 1993

## INDIVIDUAL SITES

WATERS GIFT (c1750; East wing c1800)  
3600 Dustin Road

15/65

John Waters, patriarch of a prominent local family and early settler in the region, built the original house at Waters Gift in c1750. The structure was a single-room chestnut log cabin with an exterior fieldstone chimney with soapstone fireplace. The east wing (right) was probably built about 1800. A newspaper advertisement in 1897 described the property with a frame dwelling house, corncrib, stable, tenant house, peach trees and a fine variety of cherry trees. The house was sheathed in redwood siding in 1972 when a rear shed addition was built.



Waters Gift (c1750; East wing c1800) 15/65

M-NCPPC, 1986

MILIMAR (c1760) NR  
410 Randolph Road

33/4

A Georgian brick house, Milimar is one of the few extant eighteenth century houses in lower eastern Montgomery County. Henry Lazenby II (born 1721), descendant of an early Maryland family, built the dwelling in 1760, on a 100-acre tract known as *Girl's Gift*. Lazenby served in the militia of Prince George's County (of which Montgomery County was then a part). Milimar was considered a mansion by the standards of its day when many settlers in this frontier area were living in single room log houses. Notable details include brick sawtooth pattern cornice, gauged brick arches above the windows, and quarter-round gable windows with tracery. The brick of the main façade is laid in Flemish bond while other sides are of common bond. In plan, the house is one room deep and has a center passage. As with many early houses, the cooking fireplace is located in a cellar kitchen. Fireplaces on the first and second levels are faced with uncommon soapstone tiles.



Milimar (c1760)

33/4

M-NCPPC, 1986

HOLLY VIEW (By 1783; Early to Mid 1800s)  
130 Kinsman View Circle

32/2

By 1783, Josiah Beane had built a 16' x 12' log house on this property. The overall form of the present structure, with extended roofline and two-story gallery porch, is similar to some of the County's earliest dwellings, including **No Gain** of Chevy Chase and the **Holland Houses** of Brookeville. The construction of this main block, however, may date as late as the 1850s, when proprietor of Burnt Mills, James L. Bond, owned the property. Comptroller of the U.S. Currency, James Meline purchased Holly View in 1881. Colonel Oliver Kinsman, a prominent Civil War veteran, purchased the property in 1886. It remained in his family's ownership for over 100 years.



Holly View  
(By 1783; Early to Mid 1800s)

32/2

M-NCPPC



M-NCPPC, 1986

Julius Marlow House (c1783-1805) 34/8

JULIUS MARLOW HOUSE (c1783-1805)  
2525 Musgrove Road

34/8

This handsome, well-built house is located on land granted to Archibald Edmonston in the early 1700s. Descendant Thomas Edmonston is credited with its construction. With its asymmetrical placement of windows and doors, the dwelling harbors reminders of medieval building traditions, though it has a classically inspired center hall plan. The Edmonston family sold the property in 1850 to Washington Duvall, State Delegate and later State Senator. The farm, one of many Duvall owned during the Civil War era, was probably not his residence. The house is named for prosperous farmer Julius Marlow who bought the farm in 1865. Marlow donated land for construction of two Episcopal churches in Four Corners and Fairland. The latter became St. Marks Episcopal Church. Not long after the Marlow family sold the property in 1925, new owners built the one-bay addition (at left). More recently, a rear addition was built and the house resided with redwood clapboards.



M-NCPPC, 1986

Valley Mill House (Late 1790s) 33/7

VALLEY MILL HOUSE (Late 1790s)  
1600 E. Randolph Road

33/7

Valley Mill House is a rare example of a brick miller's house built in the late 1790s. Peter Kemp, a miller from Frederick County, purchased a parcel of land on the Paint Branch in 1794, and soon built a mill and miller's house. Washington Duvall owned the mill complex in the Civil War era. A mainstay in the county's Democratic Party, Duvall served two terms in the State House of Delegates (1822, 1823) and was State Senator during the Civil War (1860-1865). Though the mill was rebuilt, then abandoned and dismantled, the brick miller's cottage still stands. Bricks on the main (south) façade are laid in Flemish bond while the rear and sides are laid in common bond. Decorative brickwork features random glazed bricks and a water table.



Clare Lise Cavitch, MNCPPC, 2001

Drumeldra (c1800+) 33/1

DRUMELDRA (c1800+)  
13910 Notley Road

33/1

Samuel Bonifant served in the Revolutionary War and owned a 227-acre farm. He, or his son John Bonifant, built Drumeldra about 1800. The Federal style brick house is constructed of large, irregular bricks laid in Flemish bond on the main façade and common bond on other sides. The last Bonifant to own Drumeldra was James, son of John Bonifant, who married Laura Craigen in 1860, as reported in the *Montgomery County Sentinel*. According to historian Roger B. Farquhar, a fire gutted the house some years after their marriage. The Bonifants were forced to sell the property when attempts at restoration depleted their funds. In 1883, Walter Brooke, prosperous farmer and contractor, bought Drumeldra from the Bonifants. Originally the dwelling had a side hall plan. The Greek Revival doorway, likely dating from the Bonifant restoration, features fluted pilasters and a dentil cornice. In the late 1800s, a frame side-wing addition transformed the plan into a center passage. After 1946, the side wing was encased in brick.

MAIDEN'S FANCY (1807) 15/67  
15701 Aitcheson Lane

Maiden's Fancy is a remarkably well-preserved Federal style brick dwelling with external chimneys. James Ray and Lucretia Waters Ray built the distinguished residence in 1807. In contrast to the typical two-room log structures of this era, Maiden's Fancy was considered a mansion. The symmetrical five bay structure has Flemish bond masonry on the main façade and gauged flat arch window lintels. A keystone over the front door is incised with the date 1807. A contemporary rear addition replaces an earlier log wing. The property includes a stone smokehouse.



Maiden's Fancy (1807) 15/67

Michael Dwyer, M-NCPPC, 1973

O'HARE HOUSE (c1825) 28/33  
14420 Basingstoke Lane

The O'Hare House is a well-preserved example of a brick folk house built c1825. One-room deep with a center passage plan, the modest dwelling has common bond brickwork, reflecting traditional building practices. Samuel Shreve, who likely built the house, resided in the dwelling until his death in 1861. The property was described in 1865 as containing a "very comfortable dwelling and all other necessary outbuildings, is well fenced, well watered, and about half of it is very heavily timbered with oak, hickory, and chestnut, and has a great variety of fruit trees on it." Shreve's daughter Ann and husband Christopher O'Hare and their descendants owned the farm until 1905. The property includes a brick smokehouse and a sizeable root cellar with a brick vaulted roof. The side wing of sympathetic design dates from 1986.



O'Hare House (c1825) 28/33

Nikosi Yearwood, M-NCPPC, 1999

BURTON FAMILY CEMETERY 15/76  
(c1832-1870s)  
3700 Block of Bell Road

This small family cemetery marks the contribution of the Burton family to the community known as Burtonsville. The graveyard is the last surviving historic site associated with the family. Buried here is Isaac Burton, the town's first postmaster, who died in 1873. His house on Birmingham Drive near Prince George's County line is extant but much altered. Located on a rectangular lot, the well-maintained cemetery has 23 plots laid in rows. Most of the stones are simple granite pylons without inscriptions. Family tradition holds that a large number of slaves were also buried here.



Burton Family Cemetery 15/76  
(c1832-1870s)

M-NCPPC



William Bushong, MNCPPC, 1984

Drayton (c1841-2; 1941)

15/51

DRAYTON (c1841-2; 1941)  
16100 Oak Hill Road

15/51

This residence is a distinctive example of a traditional 19<sup>th</sup> century log house transformed into a 20<sup>th</sup> century Neoclassical Revival house. Historically situated on an open, meadow-like setting, the property has been known as *The Manor* for over a century. Caleb Stabler built the original two-story log house. Drayton served for some years as a post office and Stabler was postmaster. He was a Quaker, notable progressive farmer, and community leader who was an incorporator of the Sandy Spring Bank (1868) and its first president. He operated a store in Ashton. This property is one of several historic sites built by the Stabler family. Caleb grew up at **Harewood**, later owned by his brother Edward Stabler. Caleb gave his sons tracts of land from his expansive holdings. **Oak Hill** and **Edgewood** were built on these land tracts. J. Dallas Grady, a wealthy Washington realtor, bought Drayton in 1939. He incorporated the log house into the present Neoclassical Revival house.

SHAW HOUSE/QUAINT ACRES (1851)  
713 Quaint Acres Drive

33/9

The Shaw House is a well-preserved frame farmhouse from the mid-1800s. Elbert Shaw built the dwelling on 370 acres, part of a tract his father had purchased in 1830. He and his wife Eliza and their six children operated



Lois Snyderman, MNCPPC, 1989

Shaw House/Quaint Acres (1851)

33/9

a farm and fruit orchard. Period documents describe the property as containing “a frame dwelling house of six rooms with a spacious kitchen and a cellar, a meat house, poultry house, dairy, large stable, carriage house, two corn sheds, a granary and a cow shed.” In the 1910s, Lacy Shaw, grandson of Elbert, operated the farm, raising mostly cucumbers and cabbages which he transported for sale at Central Market in Washington, D.C. After selling the farm to Dr. A. L. Quaintance in 1921, Lacy Shaw became active in county politics and civic affairs, serving as a County Commissioner for 15 years and as Commissioner for the Maryland-National Park and Planning Commission for 9 years. Quaintance was an accomplished entomologist who served as the Associate Chief at the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Bureau of Entomology. He operated a nursery and orchard on the property from 1921 to 1945. A c1946 subdivision of the surrounding area was named Quaint Acres in honor of Dr. Quaintance.

The main block, measuring 20' x 40', is one room deep with a center passage. In the mid-1900s a one-story front porch was removed and dormers were added to the main roof. During that era a Colonial Revival doorframe with broken pediment was installed at the main entrance. The original rear kitchen wing was demolished in the early 1900s when Dr. Quaintance built the existing one story rear wing.

SPENCER-CARR HOUSE (c1855; Rear ell 1870s)  
2420 Spencerville Road

15/55

A distinctive three-story, three bay house, the Spencer-Carr House was built c1855 with a rear addition dating from the 1870s. An illusion of added height is achieved through the incremental decrease in spacing between windows from the bottom level to the top together with decrease of window size. The center-passage house is constructed of brick and covered with weatherboard siding. Reputedly built by William Spencer, founder of Spencerville, the house has strong historical associations with the early development of the community and is a significant example of rural antebellum building traditions in the County.



Michael Dwyer, M-NCPPC, 1973

Spencer-Carr House  
(c1855; Rear ell 1870s)

15/55

WILLIAM PHAIR HOUSE (c1857-1865)  
2130 Spencerville Road

15/75

The Phair House is one of the earliest dwellings in the community of Spencerville, established in 1848 by William A. Spencer as a settlement of Pennsylvanians. Irish nurseryman William H. Phair settled in Spencerville in 1857 and built this one-room deep, center passage log house soon thereafter. Phair operated a stagecoach stop at the house, located along the road connecting the Sandy Spring-Ashton area with the Laurel depot. A community leader, Phair was elected postmaster in 1881, and was an officer in the Union Cemetery Association. Hewn log walls are visible on the second floor interior. The logs are connected with V-notches. In the early 1900s, a rear ell was built and in 1987 a kitchen addition infilled the ell.



William Bushong, M-NCPPC, 1994

William Phair House (c1857-1865)

15/75

EDGEWOOD (c1858+)  
16101 Oak Hill Road

15/52

Originally built c1858, Edgewood has strong historical associations with the Stablers, a prominent Quaker family associated with the settlement and agricultural development of Eastern Montgomery County in the 1800s. Robert Stabler built Edgewood about 1858 when he married. His father, Caleb, of Drayton, gave him the land. Robert was a prosperous farmer active in the Grange and one of the incorporators of the Sandy Spring Bank. The original dwelling was the 2½-story block, two rooms wide with a rear kitchen ell. Later, probably in the late 1800s, a new kitchen wing was added and the old kitchen converted into a dining room. About 1903, another rear wing was built (seen at far left), giving the house a roughly U-shaped plan. The dwelling is set within a grove of hardwood trees from which the property obtained its name.



M-NCPPC, 1986

Edgewood (c1858+)

15/52

BRUNETT HOUSE (c1861-5; 1939)  
605 St. Andrews Lane

32/6

The Brunett House illustrates the growing economic success during the county's transition from agrarian to suburban population in the early 1900s. Evidence suggests that the house was originally a three-bay, side-



M-NCPPC, 1993

Brunett House (c1861-5; 1939)

32/6

hall house, expanded later in the 1800s into a five-bay, center-hall house, and transformed with a Neoclassical style portico in 1939. Louis Brunett, a Virginian native of French ancestry with extensive Washington business interests, probably built the original house c1861-5. Brunett, with his wife and several children, prospered on the 94-acre farm. Louis died in 1895, and the family continued to own the property until 1930. By that time, the house had grown to a five-bay structure with center cross gable, and full-width, one-story bracketed porch.

In the 1930s, the Brunett House became the center for an advertising campaign designed to attract Washingtonians to bucolic country living in Montgomery County. E. Brooke Lee, World War I hero, real estate magnate, and county political boss, was the president of the North Washington Realty Company which developed a series of family estates in the Silver Spring area during the interwar period. Lee's real estate company bought the Brunett House in 1930 from the Brunett family and used the building for its headquarters for sales reps. Lee featured photos of



M-NCPPC, 1986

Spencer-Oursler House

15/58

the house in his ads, enticing buyers with descriptions of "the old homestead..amid its setting of century-old oaks...[and] gently rolling hills." Unfortunately, the Great Depression took its toll on the real estate business and the bank foreclosed on the property. In 1939, Walter B. Couper purchased the Brunett House and created an imposing and distinctive Neoclassical residence with a two story portico supported by square columns.

SPENCER-OURSLEER HOUSE  
(c1862; c1870, c1926)  
15920 Oursler Road

15/58

The Spencer-Oursler House is an L-shaped log and frame farmhouse. Hiram Spencer, son of Spencerville founder William H. Spencer, built the original c1862 log structure that now serves as the rear ell. About 1870, the house was enlarged. The property was then described as consisting of "a large, new frame dwelling house, two stories and an attic in height, with a smoke-



house, icehouse, stone vault, and other outbuildings...a fine peach orchard...promising young apple orchard...and on the porch, attached to the house, is a pump, furnishing excellent water." The main block of the house was originally two bays wide and one room deep. In c1926, Augustus (Gus) Oursler expanded the south (left) end of this section with another bay and probably built the large gabled wall dormer. Oursler owned the property until 1970, his parents Amelia and Charles having first acquired it in 1894. The stone vault, or root cellar, referenced above, was incorporated into the house as a rear wing.

BENNETT-ALLNUT HOUSE (c1862; Late-1800s)  
2708 Spencerville Road

15/59

The Bennett-Allnut House is a rare surviving example of a house with a double entrance on its main (south) façade. While this German building tradition is common in southeastern Pennsylvania, Montgomery County has only a half-dozen such houses. The twin front doors access two parlors, the principal rooms of the house. The T-shaped house has a main block built c1862 and a rear ell built in the late 1800s. A narrow boxed stair is in the main block's northwest corner. Three outbuildings date from c1862: a barrel vaulted brick and stone root cellar, smokehouse constructed of locally quarried Seneca sandstone, and a one-level livestock barn with hayloft. Plummer W. Allnut and family owned the property from 1944 into the 1980s.



William Bushong, M-NCPPC, 1994

Bennett-Allnut House  
(c1862; Late-1800s)

15/59

LIBERTY GROVE METHODIST CHURCH (c1863; 1921)  
3537 Spencerville Road

34/2

Liberty Grove Church represents the evolution of a rural community church. Methodist farm families in the Spencerville area first met at Frog Pond School, a log building named for a nearby marsh. The congregation acquired land and, in 1863, engaged Charlie Richter to build a frame church. Nicknamed Frog Pond Church, the original building was a front gable structure with center entrance flanked by double sash windows. After a fire damaged the church in 1900, it was rebuilt. In 1921, the distinctive bell tower with vestibule was added. A rear wing was built in 1927. Twenty years later, the still expanding congregation built a new church across the road. The historic church was then used for Sunday School classes. Currently the building houses commercial offices.



Nikosi Yearwood, M-NCPPC, 1999

Liberty Grove Methodist Church  
(c1863; 1921)

34/2



M-NCPPC, 1986

Duvall-Kruhm House (c1864)

15/60

DUVALL-KRUHM HOUSE 15/60  
(c1864)  
15900 Kruhm Road

The Duvall-Kruhm farmstead was a 19<sup>th</sup> century family farm, owned, worked, and maintained by descendants of the original builder to the present time. Lewis H. Duvall built the house and farm buildings, buying the 251-acre tract in 1851 and moving there two years later with his wife Jane Spencer. The Duvalls first lived in a log cabin, and then, by 1865, the present frame farmhouse. The dwelling is one-room deep and has a late example of a transitional two-room plan with the front door opening directly

into a room with an open staircase. Earlier hall-and-parlor house plans had corner stairs while most houses of this era had center hallways with open-string stairs. In 1868, Duvall built the massive bank barn that bears his name and the date, and by the following year he built the stone smokehouse. The blacksmith shop and granary were built by 1900. Lewis Duvall's youngest daughter Mary married Frederick Kruhm in 1903 and their descendants continue to own the farmstead.

JOSEPH HARDING HOUSE (1864; Rear ell c1908)  
1130 Harding Lane

28/27

Joseph Harding House  
(1864; Rear ell c1908)

28/27



Nkosi Yearwood, M-NCPPC, 1989

The Joseph Harding House represents the success of a hardworking farming family who worked and resided here for some 80 years. Joseph and Elizabeth Harding purchased the first 80 acres in 1844. With the profits made from his successful farm, Joseph Harding built a frame house, completed in 1864, replacing a log house he had built in 1844. He named this one-room deep, center-passage residence Ash Grove. Several years later he expanded the farm to 200 acres. Joseph Harding was tollgate keeper for the Ashton-Colesville Turnpike and was a founding member of a local Methodist church. Known locally as the potato king for his abundant production and sale of the crop, Harding built a stone basement in his house for potato storage. A rear ell was built on the house about 1908. Clarence and Bertha Bernard bought the farm from the Harding family in 1934 and outfitted the house with a Colonial Revival portico and dormers. An exterior chimney has a stone base and brick stack.

OAK HILL (c1865)  
16400 Oak Hill Road

15/53

Oak Hill is one of a series of farmhouses built by the Stablers, a well-known Quaker family in the Spencerville area. The main building has a gable front and wing form with a series of rear ell additions. The property was named, according to family tradition, for the large oak tree standing behind the house. Oak Hill reflects the growth and development of a prosperous farm enterprise managed by Frederick Stabler and his son Caleb between 1865 and 1908.



Oak Hill (c1865)

15/53

MNCPPC, 1986

GOOD HOPE METHODIST-EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND CEMETERY 28/31  
(Gravestones, 1880s+; Church 1914, later remodeled)  
14655 Good Hope Road

This church has been the focal point of an African-American community that has flourished since its post Civil War origins. The Good Hope settlement began with the emancipation of slaves who lived and worked on farms in the area. By 1872, the community was large enough to support its own church and gained title to a tract in order to erect a permanent struc-



William Bushong, MNCPPC, 1994



William Bushong, MNCPPC, 1994

ture and establish a cemetery. Citizens built the Good Hope Methodist Episcopal Church, which served residents of neighboring Holly Grove and Smithville as well as Good Hope. The current church was built in 1913 as a frame Gothic Revival building that was later remodeled into its current appearance. The cemetery has an irregular layout that surrounds the south and west sides of the church with about 100 plots that have a variety of grave markers dating from the 1880s to the 1980s.

Good Hope Methodist-Episcopal 28/31  
Church and Cemetery (Gravestones, 1880s+;  
Church 1914, later remodeled)

WESTOVER (1880s-1890s)  
240 Mowbray Road

33/2

Originally built about 1800, Westover was enlarged and renovated later in the century. The dwelling displays exuberant details and forms characteristic of the Victorian era. While the mansard roof is typical of the Second Empire style, the residence is predominantly Queen Anne in style, with its three-story corner tower, fishscale shingles, and sunburst



M-NCPPC, 1986

Westover (1880s-1890s)

33/2

decorated wraparound porch. The mansard roof has patterned slate shingles. By 1816, Evan Thomas built the original house on land he had inherited from his father, Samuel, in 1783. William Bradley, acquired it in 1876, farmed the property and renovated the old house in the Queen Anne style. Mary Bradley, William's wife, continued to live at Westover until 1953.

CONLEY HOUSE/GREEN RIDGE (c1902) 34/10  
12500 Old Columbia Pike

The large and elegant Conley House is an architectural statement of unusual urbanity and wealth in this community and era. A massive pedimented portico supported by



Michael Dwyer, M-NCPPC, 1975

Conley House/Green Ridge (c1902)

34/10

Tuscan columns distinguishes the Neoclassical style residence. The center bay of the five bay front façade has a Palladian-influenced doorway on the first level echoed by a three-part window on the second. Irish immigrant Thomas Y. Conley first established the farm in the 1830s, upon retiring from a Washington, D.C. dry goods store. Conley served in the State House of Delegates in the 1860s. Under the ownership of his grandson Edgar T. Conley, the farm reached its height in the 1920s, encompassing more than 600 acres. Following a stellar military career in which he rose to the rank of major general and received a Silver Star for his actions in the Spanish-American War, Edgar Conley retired to Green Ridge. Family members recall the traditional farming techniques used by Conley who denied use of modern machinery on his farm. The farmstead includes a stone springhouse and a stone gashouse.

SMITHVILLE COLORED SCHOOL (1927) 33/24  
800 Block of East Randolph Road

Built in 1927, the Smithville Colored School is significant in the history of early 20<sup>th</sup> century public education in Montgomery County. The two-room, one-story wooden schoolhouse is a rare historic resource that recalls

Smithville Colored School (1927)

33/24

the iniquities of the Jim Crow era and the struggle of the African American community to obtain better educational facilities during this era of segregation. It was built with financial assistance from the Julius Rosenwald fund, established by the founder of Sears, Roebuck and Company. Sears contributed to the construction of more than 5,000 schools for black children in the South before 1940. It is the most intact example of 15 Rosenwald Schools built in Montgomery County during the 1920s.



William Bushong, M-NCPPC, 1994

COLESVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (1929)  
14015 New Hampshire Avenue

33/12

One of the few remaining public schools built in the 1920s, the Colesville School is an important architectural landmark in the history of Montgomery County educational system. It was one of the earliest schools designed by a professional architect, rather than taken from a pattern book. Silver Spring architect Howard W. Cutler who designed many of the early schools for the county school system probably designed the Colesville School that was completed in 1929. The school represents new facilities built in an era of public school reform and mushrooming suburban growth when one-room rural schools were consolidated into larger regional schools.

The one-story brick structure is stylistically transitional, featuring both Colonial Revival details, with Flemish bond brickwork panels, fan-light transom, and stone corbels, as well as Art Deco motifs, including a stepped-up parapet and steel sash windows (later replaced). The school, stylish, large, and brick, stands in contrast to the frame two-room Smithville School built for black students in the same era.



Clare Lise Cavocchi, M-NCPPC, 2001

Colesville Elementary School (1929) 33/12

ROBERT B. MORSE WATER FILTRATION COMPLEX (1929-36) 33/22  
10700 and 10701 Colesville Road

The Robert B. Morse Water Filtration Plant is important in the early history of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) and the overall suburban development of Montgomery County. The Burnt Mills filtration plant, designed to function as the “water supply workhorse” of Montgomery and Prince George’s counties, was the region’s principal source of reliable clean water until the 1950s. At the height of its operations, this ambitious water supply project supplied the region with 10 million gallons of water a day and created the foundation of a water supply infrastructure that significantly influenced the direction and nature of residential development in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

This WSSC plant also has architectural importance as an example of Georgian Revival style architecture and as a period and type of public works design and construction. Although the Morse filtration apparatus has been removed from the site, the distinctive pump houses and dam structure still stand.



Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission, 1980

Robert B. Morse Water Filtration Complex (1929-36) 33/22

Robert B. Morse Water Filtration Complex (1929-36) 33/22



Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission



William Bushong, M-NCPPC, 1984

Donald Shepard House  
(1939; Addition 1941)

33/23

DONALD SHEPARD HOUSE (1939; Addition 1941)  
310 Springloch Road

33/23

The Donald D. Shepard House is an exceptional Colonial Revival estate residence built in 1939 with a wing addition in 1941. The North Springbrook neighborhood was once part of this 464-acre estate known to the Shepard family as The Farm. The expansive brick residence is a sophisticated example of early 20<sup>th</sup> century Colonial Revival design that may be attributable to the firm of Eggers and Higgins, associates of architect John Russell Pope. Pope completed his designs for the National Gallery of Art and Jefferson Memorial during this period. A prominent tax attorney, Shepard was the personal lawyer of Andrew W. Mellon. He was active in the design and planning of the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. and served as a trustee of the museum, the A.W. Mellon Endowment and Trust, and numerous other educational and philanthropic boards and organizations. The house was said to have been constructed with historic material including colonial-era brick, washed and re-used, for the walls and floors and cabinets imported from England.



M-NCPPC

Rachel Carson House (1956)

33/13

RACHEL CARSON HOUSE (1956) NR, NHL  
11701 Berwick Road

33/13

Designed by Rachel Carson, this simple ranch-style house was the home of this renowned biologist, naturalist, writer, and poet when she wrote her remarkable 1962 book *Silent Spring*. In this classic book of the modern environmental movement, she drew attention to the danger of chemical pesticides and herbicides to public health, underlining how these chemicals were poisoning the earth. This influential work dramatically altered the way Americans thought about the natural environment and led to the establishment of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1970. Carson died of breast cancer in 1964 at the age of 56. President Carter, in 1980, posthumously awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest official honor that can be bestowed upon a civilian, stating that Carson “created a tide of environmental consciousness that has not ebbed.” The Rachel Carson House was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1993.