

TESTIMONY
OF THE
MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING
ON THE
PLANNING BOARD (FINAL) DRAFT AMENDMENT TO THE
*MASTER PLAN FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION:***

PATUXENT AREA RESOURCES

October 14, 2010

Good afternoon. For the record, I am Leslie Miles, Vice Chairman of the Historic Preservation Commission. I am pleased to appear today to present the HPC's recommendations on the Amendment to the *Master Plan for Historic Preservation* for resources in the Upper Patuxent region.

The HPC held two public hearings and three work sessions to evaluate thirty-six individual sites and two historic districts. Based on this review, we have found that fifteen resources meet the criteria for designation established in section 24A-3 of the County Code and twenty-two fail to meet those criteria. The HPC recommends that the one historic district and fourteen sites found to meet the designation criteria be added to the Master Plan for Historic Preservation. Two of these sites are not currently identified in the Locational Atlas. The HPC urges that the Planning Board act immediately to add the Chrobot House (#15/71) and the Basil Warfield Farm (#15/73) to the Atlas as an interim measure. The HPC also recommends that the Planning Board take immediate action to remove from the Atlas the twenty sites and one district found not to merit designation. Finally, the HPC recommends that one Locational Atlas resource be retained in the Atlas. These recommendations, along with the HPC's specific findings of eligibility and recommended environmental settings, are detailed in the Public Hearing

Draft Amendment and related documentation.

I am aware that the Planning Board will receive testimony from some witnesses who will ask the Planning Board to make different recommendations or argue that the HPC has erred in making its findings. I believe that the HPC has fairly evaluated each of these resources, consistent with the process established in the Historic Preservation Ordinance, and after deliberate consideration reasonably applied the designation criteria adopted by the County in making its recommendations for or against the designation of the resources included in this amendment. On behalf of the Historic Preservation Commission, I respectfully request that the Planning Board adopt our recommendations.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.