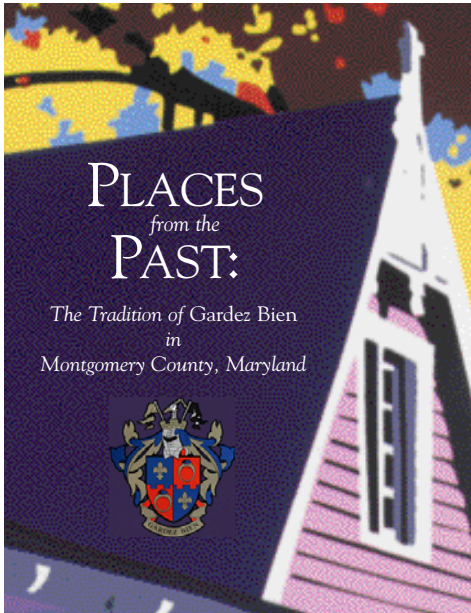


the Preservationist

Fall 2001



Author Clare Lise Cavicchi dedicates her new book to property owners and citizens who have protected historic sites for the enjoyment and education of present and future generations.

Hot Off the Press: Illustrated History of County Historic Sites

Montgomery County preservationists have long known about the county's rich heritage, and now information and photos have been compiled into a comprehensive book about our shared architecture and history. *Places from the Past: the Tradition of Gardez Bien in Montgomery County* is a beautifully illustrated publication with photographs, architectural drawings, and maps and includes both a 370-page book and a pull-out map of historic sites. *Gardez Bien* is the county motto adopted in 1976, meaning

to guard well or take good care. The book is dedicated to property owners and citizens who, through their hard work and commitment, have protected historic sites for the enjoyment and education of present and future generations.

Author Clare Lise Cavicchi documents the history of architecture and community planning in Montgomery County and presents an inventory of historic sites and districts. The first section of the book is a series of essays on building traditions, housing types, and outbuildings. The remainder of the work is a geographically organized inventory containing descriptions and photographs of every designated historic district and site in the county. Cavicchi, M-NCPPC historic preservation planner, has been researching historic resources in Montgomery County since 1989. For this publication she draws upon her own research as well as the wealth of material developed by other researchers over the years.

Montgomery County has an architectural legacy spanning over 250 years. Its abundant character stems in large part from the dual nature of this border county located in a border state. Building traditions and settlement patterns in the county are southern and

northern, British and German, rural and metropolitan. Situated in a state just south of the Mason-Dixon line, the county is yet heavily influenced by the north. Early settlers from the mid-18th century were English and Scottish tobacco planters who migrated from the Chesapeake and established staple crop plantations dependent on slave labor. In the late 18th and early 19th century came farmers from heavily Germanic areas of Pennsylvania and northern Maryland, who established family-operated diversified farms growing wheat and corn and raising cows and pigs.

After the nation's capital was carved in part from Montgomery County land in 1791, a metropolitan force began to shape a new duality in the previously rural landscape. Wealthy Washingtonians, including high-level government officials, established country estates in the county by the early 1800s. Later in the century, railroad and streetcar lines radiating from the city brought new communities populated by middle-class white-collar workers, many of whom hailed from the north.

Places from the Past will be available at the M-NCPPC publications desk at 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring; online at www.mc-mncppc.org/historic; or by phone: 301-495-4610. The publication will also be available at local bookstores and museums.

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Book Signing Reception

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

5 p.m.

Strathmore Hall

10701 Rockville Pike

North Bethesda

All are welcome!

RSVP 301-563-3400

Historic Preservation News and Notes



Celebration of Emancipation Day included a basket weaving demonstration at Oakley Cabin in Brookeville.

Maryland Emancipation Weekend

Montgomery County celebrated the freeing of the slaves in Maryland with a two-day event in November. On November 3, the contribution of local Quakers to the abolition movement that led to emancipation, and their secret work in helping slaves to escape on the Underground Railroad, was honored with a hike on the new *Rural Legacy Trail*—a one and a half mile trail from Woodlawn Manor to the “sandy spring” and the Town of Sandy Spring. Montgomery County Planning Board Chairman Art Holmes welcomed more than 150 visitors to Woodlawn and the trail. He was followed by Elisa Carbone, author of *Stealing Freedom*, a historical novel based on an actual successful slave escape from the area. Then the audience was regaled with the exploits of Anthony Cohen, who walked a route of the Underground Railroad from Sandy Spring to Canada and wrote *The Underground Railroad in Montgomery County*. The crowd then dispersed to either walk the trail, or take a free shuttle bus to the Sandy Spring Meeting House where the members of the Friends Meeting refreshed them with cider. The day ended at the Sandy Spring Slave Museum and African Art Gallery on Brooke Road where Ribs-on-the-Run supplied lunch and members of the Archie Edwards Blues Foundation played wonderful old-time music on the banjo and harmonica.

Maryland Emancipation Day

About 250 people attended the 5th annual Maryland Emancipation Day, November 4 at

Oakley Cabin in Brookeville. Helping to celebrate the freeing of slaves in Maryland on November 1, 1864 by the new state constitution were reenactors from the 54th Massachusetts regiment, Montgomery County Planning Board Commissioner John Robinson, and the Emory Grove Men’s Choir. Costumed docents gave hearth cooking and basket weaving demonstrations, and volunteers from the Friends of Oakley Cabin and the Underground Railroad led tours of the Cabin. Hot cider and cornbread were enjoyed by all.

Montgomery County Birthday

Good weather seems to always attend the celebration of our county’s founding. The annual celebration of “Happy Birthday Montgomery County” on September 9th was cosponsored by the Historic Preservation Commission and held at the headquarters of the Montgomery County Historical Society in Rockville. Twenty organizations had booths at the event which was attended by “Rose O’Neal Greenehow” and “Josiah Henson” along with the modern visitors. Proclamations commemorating the day by the State Senate and House of Delegates were read by elected officials, and County Council member Blair Ewing cut the birthday cake.

Smart Codes

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development has established a technical assistance Hotline for users of the new Maryland Building Rehabilitation Code. The new Code, which took effect throughout Maryland on June 1, 2001, establishes the Construction Code requirements for rehabilitation projects for all buildings over 1 year old. The hotline will provide assistance on how to use the new Code through the toll-free telephone number and e-mail address listed below. The Hotline service will operate from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. You can visit the Smart Codes website at www.dhcd.state.md.us for additional information.

Hotline toll-free number: 1-866-424-6269

Hotline e-mail: mdrehabcode@nibs.org

the Preservationist

The Preservationist is the official publication of the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Phone: 301-563-3400. Statements herein do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Commission. Created by the Historic Resources Preservation Ordinance (Chapter 24A, Montgomery County Code) the Commission is responsible for identification, designation, and regulation for purposes of protection, preservation, continued use, and enhancement of sites and structures of historical, archeological, architectural, or cultural value. Commission members are appointed by the Montgomery County Executive and confirmed by the Montgomery County Council.

Commission

Steven Spurlock AIA, Chair Susan Velasquez, Vice Chair
Steven Breslin Douglas A. Harbit Nancy Lesser
Julia O’Malley Lynne B. Watkins Kimberly Prothro Williams
Historic Preservation Coordinator Gwen Wright

Requests to be on the mailing list and content information should be directed to the Commission.

2002 Historic Preservation Grants

The Historic Preservation Commission voted on October 24th to award \$30,000 in matching grants to 13 county nonprofit groups for a variety of projects that will increase public awareness of our county's history, protect our county's heritage resources, and promote the preservation of historic structures. The funding is limited to non-capital projects and all of the projects must be completed before December 31, 2002.

- The **Town of Brookeville** will be creating a restoration plan for the historic school house in the town and putting up three historic signs—one for the schoolhouse, one for the “angel” sculpture, and one for the mill wheel on the Brookeville Academy grounds.
- The **Glen Echo Park Foundation** is doing a video on the 1921 Dentzel Carousel located in the Park. The HPC grant will be funding the “interview with Mrs. Dentzel” part of the video which will be filmed at Mrs. Dentzel's home in California.
- The **Historic Medley District** will be continuing their project of surveying all of the historic structures and districts in their area that have not been previously researched, and conducting workshops to train researchers.
- **Historic Takoma** has been awarded a second grant to continue to conduct and transcribe oral histories of long-time local residents. The questions, protocol, and background booklets they created for the four interviews they conducted last year have served as a prototype for other groups doing similar projects.
- The **Lincoln Park Historical Foundation** produced a wonderful map/brochure last year describing the African American Historic sites in Montgomery County. The HPC has awarded a grant to do further research, make corrections, and reprint this popular publication.
- This past year the **Montgomery County Historical Society** began leasing the *Waters House* in Germantown from M-NCPPC. Their plan is to make the house, barn and grounds into a historical resource center. Their grant is to produce a brochure on the Waters House and the History Resource Center.

- **Montgomery Preservation, Inc.** will be again hosting the annual Preservation Awards Reception in the spring, creating an “Endangered Site” list, and presenting the Montgomery Prize to a worthy recipient.

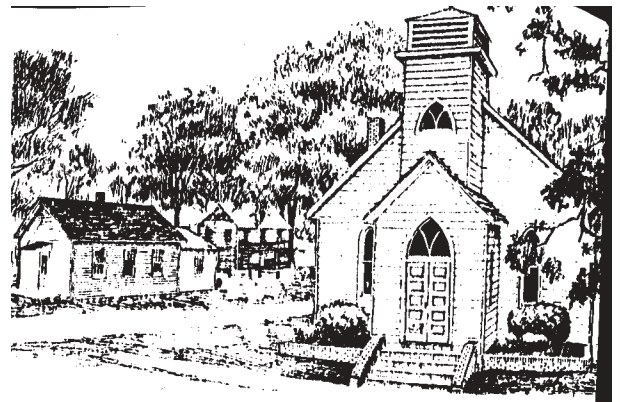
- **Peerless Rockville** has a new research project—to study the architectural and historical themes of 20th century Rockville. Not much investigation has been done previously of structures from the recent past, and this project will provide a reference for further research, public planning, preservation, and educational activities.

- The **Town of Poolesville** is accepting its first HPC grant to create a preservation plan for the historic cemetery at the Old Town Hall, previously a Methodist Church, built in 1826.

- “Preserving Oral History” is the funded project of the **Sandy Spring Museum**. They will produce six oral history video tapes, accompanied by written biographies, and pertinent historical information about the people being interviewed.

- The **Silver Spring Historical Society**, with the help of Walter Gottlieb and Final Cut Productions, will be making a video entitled “Silver Spring: A Sense of Place in the Suburbs.” This 30-minute documentary film will use historical photographs and modern imagery to depict the history and historic structures of this urban area.

- The Loving Charity Hall is the focus this year of the newly independent nonprofit **Warren Historic Site Committee**. The Hall is about to fall down and if it does we will no longer have an African American community in the state of Maryland with its original three structures: the church the school, and the social hall. The HPC grant will help to finance the rehabilitation plan for the Hall.



*Warren Historic Site,
Martinsburg, Maryland*

Money Appropriated to Survey State-Owned Historic Resources

The Maryland Historical Trust is working with state agencies to award \$750,000 in grants from a special fund created this year by the Maryland Legislature to finance the identification, evaluation and documentation of state-owned cultural resources. Urgent priorities and clearly defined projects will receive first consideration. A grant-funded survey will look at buildings, structures, objects, archaeological sites, cultural traditions and heritage landscapes. The current survey indicates that there are almost 2,000 historic structures owned by the state, including such well-known buildings as the Pikesville Armory (state police barracks), and lesser known structures scattered throughout state parks. In Montgomery County the state owns Black Rock Mill, Clopper Mill ruins, Seneca Church, Seneca Quarry Masters House, Howard Chapel Cemetery and the Howard family Cemetery, among others.

Calendar

December 2001

2 5th Annual Waters House Tree Lighting from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at the historic Waters House, Royal Crown Drive and Milestone Manor Drive in Germantown. Santa on a horse-drawn wagon, hot cider, carol singing. Call 301-762-1492 or visit www.montgomeryhistory.org.

5 HPC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., MRO Auditorium, 8787 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring. Call 301-563-3400. www.mc-mncppc.org

11 Maryland Historical Trust capital grant workshop. 10 a.m. to noon at the Department of Housing and Community Development, 100 Community Place, Crownsville. For information call Claudette Sherman at 410-514-7633 or write Sherman@dhcd.state.md.us.

4-Jan. 6 The historic Beall-Dawson House in Rockville will be decorated in old-fashioned holiday style and open for holiday candlelight tours on Tuesdays through Sundays, 12:30-4:30 p.m. 301-762-1492. www.montgomeryhistory.org

8 & 9 Candlelight Tours of the Bussard Farmhouse at the Agricultural History Farm Park, 18400 Muncaster Road, Derwood; noon to 8 p.m. For information call 301-670-4661 or visit www.montgomeryparksfnd.org/fg.

19 HPC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., MRO Auditorium, 8787 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring. Call 301-563-3400. www.mc-mncppc.org

January 2002

9, 23 HPC Meeting, 7:30 p.m., MRO Auditorium, 8787 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring. Call 301-563-3400. www.mc-mncppc.org

State Tax Credit Information

The Maryland Historical Trust has updated its website list of "Frequently Asked Questions" about rehabilitation tax credits offered by the state. Tax credit application materials and the recently released tax credit brochure can also be found at this site.

You can access this site at www.marylandhistoricaltrust.net under the "tax credit" section.

For additional information, call the Office of Preservation Services at 410-514-7627.

Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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