The Montgomery County Heritage Area is an initiative created by county leaders who seek to raise the profile of the county's heritage, ensuring that residents and visitors alike understand and value the county's full past. The State approval is the culmination of three years of deliberations and planning by Montgomery County's cultural and preservation leaders, county officials, and business leaders, all of whom see value in strengthening the link between the county's past and its future.

Partly, the group has been responding to an opportunity posed by the State's Heritage Area Program. The purpose of the Maryland Heritage Areas Program is to enhance the State's appeal to travelers who love history and culture, thereby creating greater economic activity and a healthier regional and State economy. Seizing this opportunity, the group has been pursuing designation of the Montgomery County Heritage Area (MCHA). Funds from the State program can be used to rehabilitate historic buildings, develop exhibits and educational heritage programs, produce guidebooks and communication materials, and even support a staff coordinator.

A key step in the process has been the preparation of the Management Plan for the proposed Heritage Area - to give the initiative strategic direction, an action agenda, and a framework for implementation. A diverse Advisory Committee representing many perspectives and organizations developed the plan with support from staff at Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) and assistance from a consultant team of heritage planners, market analysts, and designers. Advisory group meetings have been lively and interactive, as have the several public workshops held during the plan's development.

The Management Plan contains a full menu of projects and programs in support of the stated goals and strategies, including creating a "Virtual Visitor Center" on the web, developing thematic self-guided tours for the heritage area around key interpretive themes, developing and installing a well-designed system of interpretive kiosks and panels at key locations, and establishing engaging orientation gateways to the three major themes: Farming History, the Underground Railroad and Quakers, and Technological Innovation. Work is now beginning on applying for grants from the State and establishing the program in reality.

To obtain a copy of the "Montgomery County Heritage Area Management Plan" please call the Montgomery County Historic Preservation office: 301-563-3400.
Celebrating the MET’s 130th Anniversary
The Silver Spring Historical Society celebrates the 130th anniversary of the Metropolitan Branch of the B & O Railroad (called the MET) Saturday, May 3. Completed May 25, 1873, this railroad revolutionized agriculture and manufacture in Montgomery County. This line from Washington, D.C. carried all the trains west from Baltimore as well. It is now owned by CSX and carries the MARC rail commuter trains to Brunswick. The event will take place at the Silver Spring Train Station from 10 AM to 3 PM and will include speakers, displays and refreshments. Reservations, call: 301-565-2519.

2002 Preservation Awards Ceremony
The annual Preservation Awards Ceremony will take place on Wednesday, May 21 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the newly restored Silver Spring Train Station. The awards honor individuals and groups for significant contributions during the past year to preserve, restore, and interpret Montgomery County’s architectural and landscape heritage. Reservations are required. Call Committee Chair Brooke Fox: 301-990-0457 or write: foxbrooke@hotmail.com.

Preservation Conference
The annual Preservation and Revitalization Conference sponsored by the Maryland Historical Trust and Preservation Maryland will be held this year in Easton, Maryland on May 2-3. Each year the conference provides attendees with a diverse selection of educational sessions that examine current historic preservation and economic development issues and practices. One mobile workshop will look into the oyster industry and the Skipjack Restoration Project. For more information or to register call 410-685-2886, or log onto www.PreserveMd.org.

Montgomery County Heritage Days
Formerly called Montgomery County History Tour Weekend, this year’s county-wide celebration of its history will take place on Saturday and Sunday, June 28 & 30 from 12 noon to 4 p.m. Twenty-seven historic sites around the county will be open with special demonstrations, exhibits and tours. Visit www.montgomeryhistory.org, call 301-340-2825, or pick up a brochure at your local library.

Montgomery Preservation, Inc. Launches New Web Site
The non-profit group, Montgomery Preservation Incorporated (MPI), has just launched a new web site that covers preservation and historical education in all of Montgomery County and is most beneficial to the entire community. It has links to all of the historical organizations in the county, as well as updates on preservation news and alerts on preservation emergencies. This website is partially funded by a grant from the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission. Check it out at www.montgomerypreservation.org.

Archaeology Summer Workshops
Did you ever want to know what archaeologists do? Find out in an M-NCPPC Archaeology Summer Workshop at the Needwood Mansion, Derwood. Work side-by-side with Park Archaeologists on an archaeological site. Participants learn in a small group, hands-on setting. Activities include excavation, lab, projects, and a field trip. The advanced group’s experience will be more in-depth and intense. For information or an application call the Office of History & Archaeology: 301-840-5848.

Children’s Sessions (Ages 10 - 15 years)

| Beginner | Session I .............. June 23 – 27, 2003 |
| BEGINNER/INTERMEDIATE | Session II ............. June 30 – July 3, 2003 |
| (No Camp July 4) | |
| INTERMEDIATE* | Session III ............ July 7 – 11, 2003 |
| Advanced Field School* | Session IV ........... July 14 – 18, 2003 |
| (No Camp July 4) | |
| (No Camp July 4) | |
| *Participants must have archaeological experience | |
| Hours: 9 AM – 3 PM; Extended session: 3–5 pm ($55) Fees: | |
| Sessions I, II, III, IV, V: $220.00; Session II: $175.00; |
HAER
Documentation
Of the Canada Dry Bottling Plant

By Corri Jimenez

Placed on the Montgomery County’s Locational Atlas & Index of Historic Sites in 2001 by the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), the Canada Dry Bottling Plant at 1201 East-West Highway is having every square-inch of its 66,000 square feet documented through a measured drawing process, known as HABS/HAER documentation. Created in 1933 by the National Park Service, the Historic American Building Survey (HABS) sets the standards for historical recordation of existing structures through field measurement techniques. The Historic American Engineering Record (HAER), was developed in 1970, and is the industrial component to HABS that looks at the processes of how a building functions.

With the approved development plan, the Montgomery County Planning Board required historic documentation of the Canada Dry Bottling Plant as mitigation for partial demolition. Since mid-November 2002, Historic Preservation Planners Corri Jimenez and Robin Ziek have been leading this project in recording the building with approximately 25 volunteers. The measured drawing will be finalized as ink-on-mylar drawings, which will be preserved in the Library of Congress’ HABS/HAER Collection. In addition, HAER architect Christopher Marston and HAER photographer Jet Lowe from the National Park Service’s HAER program in Washington DC have supported these efforts with AutoCAD drawings and large format photography. Ultimately, all of the drawings, photographs, and field measurements will be accessible to the public via the Internet by logging on to the American Memory Collection website.

Designed in 1946 by New York City industrial architect Walter Monroe Cory, the Art Moderne Canada Dry Bottling Plant is a fine example of an industrial structure with a glass block facade, steel hopper windows, and neon signs. This building is worthy of HAER documentation because it has not been altered, and has many unique features including a catwalk that separates the administration offices from the manufacturing bottling operation. During a period when “mixed” drinks were on the rise, Canada Dry was a popular product, demonstrating its importance as an icon of the Cold War Era and its local importance in the Silver Spring area.

To learn more about HABS/HAER, check out the National Park Service website at www.cr.nps.gov/habshaer or check out the Library of Congress’ HABS/HAER Collection at http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/hhhtml.
Calendar

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

May
12  Peerless Rockville Preservation Excellence Awards and Reception, 7 PM, Rockville City Hall. 301-762-0096. www.peerlessrockville.org
14  HPC Meeting, 7:30 PM, MRO Auditorium, 8787 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring. Call 301-563-3400. www.mc-mncppc.org
17  Peerless Rockville Annual Progressive Dinner, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30 PM, various sites. 301-762-0096. www.peerlessrockville.org
21  Montgomery Preservation, Inc. Annual Awards Reception, 6:30 PM, Silver Spring Train Station. 301-990-0457. www.montgomerypreservation.org

June
28 & 29  Montgomery County Heritage Days, noon to 4 PM. More than 20 historic sites open to the public with special displays and demonstrations. Pick up a brochure at your local library or call 762-1492. www.montgomeryhistory.org

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

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