The Preservationist

Summer 2001

To HAWP or Not to HAWP, That is The Question

A Historic Area Work Permit is only needed when you wish to make any changes at your property that affect the original materials or exterior appearance. The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) will review your proposal in terms of the general context — either a historic district or individual site — and within the framework of applicable guidelines. Proposed alterations that need a HAWP include, but are not limited to, the removal of mature trees, the construction of additions or any new construction project, alterations to existing outbuildings, the installation of storm windows, the replacement of existing windows, the installation of a terrace, a pool, a driveway or any other kind of paving, and any change in materials — such as artificial siding or a different roofing material.

If you are wondering if a HAWP is required for a project you have in mind or if you have any questions about the historic preservation process at all, please call the Historic Preservation Commission office at 301-563-3400 to discuss your ideas with staff. The HPC has a track record of approving over 95% of the applications which it reviews and works cooperatively with owners of historic properties to develop proposals which will complement the site. However, as you begin thinking about projects that may change exterior features and elements of your historically-designated property in any way, it is very important to remember that the HPC will have to review the proposal before you begin work. Applications for a Historic Area Work Permit must be submitted to the Department of Permitting Service at least three weeks before the Historic Preservation Commission hearing at which you would like your case to be heard. For a list of hearing dates please call the Historic Preservation office at 301-563-3400.

Even major projects such as this chimney repair don’t require a HAWP if the building’s external appearance is not altered.

The warm weather of summer finally allows homeowners to pick up their fix-up projects where winter’s woes left them. Renewed activities include searching frantically for long-unused tools, hammering, putting, painting, etc. If you own a historic property and your projects qualify as ordinary maintenance, you don’t have to contact the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services for a Historic Area Work Permit (HAWP) application.

Ordinary maintenance work includes the kind of small-scale projects, such as spot repairs and painting, which are often done seasonally. Ordinary maintenance also includes some large-scale projects that are undertaken infrequently. This may include painting the entire house (which may include reglazing and repairing the existing windows), or replacing the existing roofing with matching materials. When the new materials and profiles exactly match the existing and the final exterior appearance of the historic building is completely unaltered, you can schedule your work without applying for a HAWP.

In This Issue:
- MPI Awards. Page 2.
- Ten most endangered sites. Page 2.
- County history tour and birthday celebrations approaching. Page 3.
- Preservation Grant schedule. Page 3.
Historic Preservation News and Notes

The 2001 Montgomery County Awards for Historic Preservation

On Friday, June 1 at the Brookeville Academy, Montgomery Preservation, Inc. gave out nine awards for excellence in historic preservation efforts. Thank you to HPC Commissioners Doug Harbit, Nancy Lesser, Steven Spurlock and Sue Velasquez for presenting awards at the ceremony.

The Montgomery Prize this year recognized an outstanding educational project, the Lincoln Park Historical Society's African American Heritage: A Journey through History, an African American Historical Map of Montgomery County, Maryland.

This is the first map ever produced specifically on African American historic sites in the county. It identifies 36 areas in the county that contain a total of more than 150 sites. This map-brochure was made possible through a grant from the Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission. To receive a copy call 301-251-2747.

Other awards were given for: an addition to a historic house at 108 Grove Avenue; and the restoration of a porch at 111 Grove Avenue, both in Washington Grove; the restoration of "The Sycamores" at 20529 Sycamore Grove Court in Rockville, and of "The Woolen Mill Worker's House" at 20529 Riggs Way in Brookeville; the restoration of and addition to the Chevy Chase Elementary School at 4015 Rosemary Street in Chevy Chase; the County Department of Public Works Transportation conversion of a vehicular bridge to a pedestrian bridge in the Germantown Historic District; and an Outstanding Architect Award for "Continuous Design Excellence and Preservation" to Alan Abrams, A.I.B.D.

If you are interested in receiving a copy of the awards in detail please e-mail Maria Hoey, MPI President, pescipub@aol.com, or call Nancy Urban at 301-589-6362.

Ten Most Endangered Sites

Also at the Awards Ceremony on June 1, Montgomery Preservation, Inc. presented its annual "Ten Most Endangered Historic Sites" list for 2001:
1. North Boundary Stone of the District of Columbia, Silver Spring (#35/34)
2. Moneysworth Farm, Clarksburg (#13/14)
3. Joseph White House, Boys (#18/14)
4. Black Rock Log House, Germantown (#18/33)
5. Gassaway Feed and Fertilizer Store, Germantown
6. Darby General Store, Beallsville (#17/1)
7. George Washington Carver High School and Junior College, Rockville
8. Park Street Elementary School, Rockville
9. Champayne Farmhouse, Aspen Hill (#27/12)
10. Odd Fellows Hall, Sandy Spring (#28/66)

For more information on these sites call MPI President Maria Hoey, 301-476-7617, pescipub@aol.com

Oakley Cabin Trail Cleared

Volunteers from The Friends of Oakley Cabin, Single Volunteers of Washington, D.C., teens from Female Achievers Maintaining Excellence (sponsored by the National Council of Negro Women), and other individuals helped to clear a half-mile trail from Oakley Cabin to Brookeville on June 9.

Most of this trail lies along the mill race that directed the water from the mill pond behind the Cabin to drive the wheel at the mill that sat at the corner of Brookeville Road and Georgia Avenue. This hiking trail will be marked with signs in the near future and will also have a foot bridge across the Reddy Branch creek. This trail will be a crucial part of the annual Maryland Emancipation Day celebration in November.
Montgomery County History Tour

Twenty-five historic sites and communities are opening their doors on Saturday and Sunday July 7 and 8 with special activities, tours and exhibits. Many of these places are not open to the public on a regular basis, so this may your only opportunity to visit a unique historical resource. All sites are open to the public free of charge.

Sample the richness of our local history, from enjoying a hayride at the Agricultural History Farm Park to seeing a model railroad at the Gaithersburg Historical Museum to admiring the unique architecture of the National Park Seminary in Silver Spring. There will be something for everyone, young and old, city and country, art, architecture, reenactors, crafts—pick and choose what tickles your fancy and plan a day of fun.

On Sunday the five sites in the Sandy Spring/Brookeville area will be connected by free shuttle buses: Oakley Cabin, Brookeville Academy, Sandy Spring Slave Museum, Sandy Spring Museum, and Woodlawn Manor.

Pick up a History Day brochure, complete with a list of sites, phone numbers, and maps, at your local library, park visitor center or county recreation center; call the Montgomery County Historical Society at 301-762-1492; or visit www.montgomeryhistory.org.

2002 Historic Preservation Grants

The Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission administers the Historic Preservation Grant Fund. $30,000 will be available through this fund for disbursement in fiscal year 2002. These grants are given to non-profit groups for historical activities and must be matched with local funding or in-kind services by the organization.

The types of activities for which the Commission will consider a matching grant include, but are not limited to: signs for historic sites or districts; walking tour handbooks of historic districts; feasibility studies for restoration or preservation of buildings owned or under the custody of non-profit organizations; public educational functions such as historical and archaeological surveys, slide shows, lectures, videos, exhibits, archiving, and oral histories. The HPC does not fund staffing or capital improvement (construction) projects.

FY 2002 Historic Preservation Grant Fund calendar:

mid-July — Applications mailed to interested parties; availability advertised in newspapers.

September 28 — Completed applications due.

September/October — Applications processed.

October — Application review by a committee of Historic Preservation Commissioners, who make recommendations to the full Commission which then votes on the proposals.

October 31 — Applicants notified of awards. Notice to proceed with the respective project(s) comes around January 1st depending on completion of executed documents. Completed project(s) are due the end of December 2002.

To receive an application for an HPC Historic Preservation Grant please call: Susan Soderberg, Historic Preservation Education and Outreach Planner, 301-563-3400.

July Historic Preservation Commission
Meetings to be held in Historic Districts

As in June, regular HPC meetings in July will be held in historic communities around the county. June’s meeting were in Silver Spring and Chevy Chase. The July 11th HPC meeting will be held at the Kensington Town Hall, and the July 25th meeting will be held in the Boyds Presbyterian Church Meeting Hall. Meetings will begin at 6 p.m. with an informal discussion with residents from 6 to 7, followed by the regular session. All are welcome.

This year’s annual Montgomery County birthday celebration will feature more reenactors and first-person impersonators such as Dr. Stonestreet and the Confederate spy Rose O’Neal Greenhow of last fall’s event. Montgomery County was officially formed on September 10, 1776. The celebration takes place from 12 noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, September 9 on the lawn of the Beall-Dawson House, 103 West Montgomery Avenue, Rockville. There is no rain date.
Calendar

July
7 & 8  Montgomery County History Tour, noon to 4 p.m. 25 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

11  HPC Meeting, 6 p.m., Kensington Town Hall. Call 301-563-3400.  www.mc-mncppc.org

25  HPC Meeting, 6 p.m., Boyds Presbyterian Church Meeting Hall. Call 301-563-3400.  www.mc-mncppc.org

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

September
9  Happy Birthday Montgomery County Celebration. 12 noon to 5 p.m. at the Beall-Dawson House, Rockville. Montgomery County Historical Society, 301-762-1492.  www.montgomeryhistory.org

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

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

28-29  Annual Montgomery County Farm Tour and Harvest Sale. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Pick up a brochure at your local library or call 310-590-2823.

October
6  Harvest Festival at the Agricultural History Farm Park, Derwood. 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 301-670-4661.

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

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

Montgomery County Historic Preservation Commission
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