

**Heritage Tourism Alliance
of Montgomery County**

**Maryland Heritage Areas Authority
Boundary Amendment**

June 2018



Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County Heritage Montgomery Boundary Amendment, 2018

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	2
Heritage Area Historic Overview	4
Cultural Resources Overview	8
Natural Resources Overview	8
Seneca Creek State Park	9
Significance	9
Historical Sites Overview	10
Trails Overview	11
Theme Relationship	13
Potential Grants	14
Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission/ Montgomery Parks	14
Significance	15
Historic Sites Overview	15
Archaeological Site Overview	17
Trails Overview	17
Theme Relationship	24
Audubon Naturalist Society Woodend Sanctuary	25
Significance	25
Historic Sites Overview	26
Theme Relationship	26
Potential Grants	27
Germantown Station Historic District	27
Significance	27
Historic Sites Overview	28
Theme Relationship	28
Potential Grants	29
Pleasant View Historic Site	29
Significance	29
Theme Relationship	30
Potential Grants	31
Sandy Spring Slave Museum & African Art Gallery	31
Significance	31
Theme Relationship	32
Potential Grants	33
Smithfield School Museum & Education Center	33
Significance	33
Theme Relationship	34
Potential Grants	34

Heritage Tourism Alliance of Montgomery County MHAA Boundary Amendment - June 2018

INTRODUCTION

In 2002, after three years of discussion and planning, Montgomery County's leaders put forth a Management Plan for the Montgomery Heritage Tourism Alliance designated heritage area (Heritage Montgomery, HM). The plan includes four overarching aims that align with the State program's goals of tourism and economic development. They are:

- Raise the profile of Montgomery County's heritage
- Foster stewardship of historic buildings and sites
- Bring the county's history alive
- Encourage residents to become tourists, entice visitors to stay longer and return more often

We have expanded the original three heritage themes noted in the plan to four and have renamed them to increase marketability, inclusion, and appeal. They are:

Rivers, Roads, & Rails (Transportation Trails) highlights the C&O Canal with its lockhouses and engineering marvels, the Potomac River, and the Metropolitan Branch of the B&O Railroad that runs through communities dating back to the 1800s. Activities along Scenic Byways and Rustic Roads include enjoy hiking, biking, canoeing, train stations, and villages.

Crossroads & Cultures (African American & Quaker Heritage) represents Montgomery County's many rich and diverse cultural histories. These include the long-standing Quaker communities of Sandy Spring and Brookeville and the many early free black communities represented by local churches and preservation groups, community buildings, and cemeteries, as well as a number of early historic "crossroads" towns.

The Agricultural Reserve (Farms, Markets & Scenic Byways) encompasses 93,000 acres of protected farmland – one of the most successful countryside preservation programs in the U.S. The "Ag Reserve" showcases beautiful vistas, winding country roads, historic buildings, pick-your-own farms, villages, vineyards, and farmers markets.

Heritage Gems (Montgomery County's Past) features sites scattered throughout the heritage area representing the unique stories of history, culture, and nature found in Montgomery County, from historic houses to Civil War sites to parks, theatres, and historical societies.

At this time, the "technology" theme is not robust enough to stand on its own so it has been blended into the newly titled themes. This was done because our larger representatives of the technology theme are not open to the public and most of the accessible stories fit easily into another theme. For example, the C&O Canal is a former technology partner that is now represented in the Rivers, Roads, and Rails/Transportation Trails theme.

In 2018, we developed two African American Heritage Tours which include significant sites and stories in both the eastern and western portions of the county. A number of these sites are in State parks and the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) parks while others are near but not in the heritage area.

Also in 2018, a gateway is planned to open at White's Ferry, the last ferry crossing the Potomac River to and from Virginia. Visitors arriving at this gateway will be able to connect to trails and historic sites along the C&O Canal, Seneca Creek State Park, and M-NCPPC. Again, a number of these sites are in State parks and M-NCPPC parks in the heritage area.

In April 2013, Heritage Montgomery amended its boundaries to include the City of Rockville and its heritage assets.

At this time, May 2018, a number of sites thematically linked to Heritage Montgomery that provide significant depth to HM's offerings should be added to the heritage area. Several sites were simply overlooked in the original 2002 Management Plan, some were included partially, while others were not ready at that time to provide tourism /public interpretation and experiences.

The following is a list of sites we recommend for inclusion in the Montgomery County Heritage Area:

- The Maryland-National Capital Parks and Planning Commission/Montgomery Parks (M-NCPPC) – all sites, excluding modern sports facilities (partially included in the 2002 plan)
- Seneca Creek State Park – all sites, excluding modern sports facilities (partially included in the 2002 plan)
- Pleasant View Historic Site
- Sandy Spring Slave Museum and African Art Gallery
- Smithville Colored School
- Audubon Naturalist Society Woodend Sanctuary
- Germantown Historic District

These sites fall into three categories; M-NCPPC and Seneca Creek State Park are countywide park systems with associations to each HM theme; Pleasant View, Sandy Spring Slave Museum, and Smithville Colored School are African American heritage sites highlighting our cultural themes; and Audubon Naturalist Society Woodend Sanctuary and Germantown Historic District are two self-contained areas predominately linked to the Agricultural Reserve and Transportation /Rivers, Roads, and Rails themes, respectively.

While the Seneca Creek State Park sites are contiguous, the M-NCPPC sites are not. However, the M-NCPPC sites are specifically interpreted using the heritage area Management Plan and themes and are connected by trails. The addition of both park systems will allow for more thorough, accessible, and higher quality interpretation of all Heritage Montgomery themes. These parks are open regularly and are available to visitors by several modes of transportation – bicycle, horseback, canoe/kayak, on foot, as well as by automobile.

The current boundaries of both park systems are irregular and omit numerous trails and sites important to the heritage area and its visitors. At the time of the writing of the 2002 plan many bike and water trails were in early development and not included. Both park systems offer extensive opportunities to interpret archaeological, Native American, African American, agricultural, and transportation stories. Amending these boundaries will allow the parks and heritage area to offer a world-class visitor experience.

The next group of sites, Pleasant View (PV), Sandy Spring Slave Museum (SSSM), and the Smithville Colored School (SCS) sites are exceptional examples of the county's African American heritage. PV and SCS are survivors from and teaching opportunities for the poignant stories of slavery, Emancipation, Jim Crow, Segregation, and Civil Rights. PV is currently located roughly 150 feet outside the heritage area west of the Seneca State Park Muddy Creek Park and fronting Darnestown Road, a well-travelled major thoroughfare and bike route. SSSM is a modern museum with an extensive collection of African and African American art, exhibits, and artifacts. It is located just outside the Sandy Spring African American heritage core, which includes Woodlawn Museum, the Underground Railroad Experience Trail, Sandy Spring Museum, Sharp Street Church, Odd Fellows Lodge, Brookeville, and Oakley Cabin African American Museum and Park.

The Audubon Naturalist Society is located just outside the municipality of Chevy Chase and connected to the trail system of Rock Creek Park, a part of the heritage area. The organization presents natural resource conservation and best practices throughout the county with many heritage area partners, State, national, and local environmental groups and the Montgomery County Public School System. The society is noteworthy for its programs today and for the groundbreaking work of important early members, among whom was Rachael Carson. This site is interpreted as a "Cradle of Conservation" and a southern gateway to the Agricultural Reserve.

The Germantown Historic District abuts the historic B&O Railroad and train station, and thus the heritage area. It is a largely intact late 1800s train town with the original bank building that serves as a museum interpreting heritage area Transportation themes.

HERITAGE AREA HISTORIC OVERVIEW

Although the earliest inhabitants of the area that became Montgomery County were Native Americans, village settlements had long been abandoned by the time John Smith explored the area in 1608. By then, the region had become a buffer zone between the Piscataway Indians of Southern Maryland and the western Shawnee and northern Iroquois. The rich resources of the land made it a popular area for traveling, hunting, and foraging groups and for quarrying of stone materials. In fact, long before 1600, Native Americans in the area had stone quarries around Piney Branch Road, where they made bowls, projectile points, and other equipment. Several major Indian trails from that time are still traveled by today's automobile commuters on MD Route 355 and River Road.

When the first Europeans arrived to settle Maryland in the 1630s, Montgomery County was part of Charles, then Prince George's County. Earlier, a few explorers had ventured inland or up the Potomac River, and one, Henry Fleet, wrote in his journal of the area:

“The place is, without question, the most pleasant place in all this country, and most convenient for habitation, the air temperate in summer and not violent in winter. It aboundeth with fish...deer, buffaloes, bears, turkeys, the woods do swarm with them...the soil is fertile but above this place where the falls roar it is exceedingly mountainous.”

Though there were many farming-based settlements in Maryland in the 1600s, the land that would become Montgomery County had several natural barriers to large-scale agriculture. There is no navigable river beyond Great Falls, which is in the Piedmont region of the Potomac River Basin, and the fall line there has steep and rocky terrain. Furthermore, the land was not good for growing tobacco, the cash crop of the 1700s and early 1800s. Despite these barriers, landholders from Southern Maryland were anxious to expand their holdings and bought up many land patents in the area.

By 1715, the land was becoming settled mostly by tenant farmers renting from absentee landowners who were tobacco planters and merchants. The system encouraged land speculation because large amounts of property could be bought and immediately rented, requiring the tenant to make necessary improvements. Most housing was built of logs with one room on the first floor and attic sleeping space. There were outbuildings, including tobacco sheds. In 1729, the population had grown sufficiently to require appointment of the first road overseer, who looked after the roads going from Monocacy to Annapolis and the road from below the falls to Frederick.

Tobacco growers from the Tidewater area settled the southern part of the county while settlers from Pennsylvania were putting down roots in the northern part, growing wheat and other domestic crops. By 1745, the western frontier of Maryland had grown so much that Frederick County was established. Tobacco was equal to cash, and the quantity exported led to the creation of Georgetown in 1751 as a tobacco port and inspection station. More and more people settled in the county, which was becoming more prosperous; housing was upgraded to stone and brick, and Georgetown became quite a busy port. However, despite the prosperity, Montgomery County remained an area of small farms worked by landowners and tenant farmers. Many were slave owners, but most enslaved fewer than five individuals of African descent.

What we know as Rockville today was at the crossroads of the road from Poolesville and the Monocacy to Annapolis, and the main road from Georgetown to Frederick. By the late 1800s, Frederick County had become so populated that on September 6, 1776, the Maryland Constitutional Conventions passed a bill dividing Frederick into counties: Frederick, Washington, and Montgomery. The two new counties were named for war heroes. General Montgomery was from upstate New York and died in battle in Quebec in 1775. The boundaries of our new county were “beginning at the mouth of Rock Creek on the Potomac River and running thence with the said river to the mouth of the Monocacy, then with a straight line to Parr’s Spring (origin of the Patuxent) with the lines of the county to beginning.” The Northwest Branch of the Patuxent River, the eastern boundary, was a main artery of transportation with mills and bridges. (Now the dams at Triadelpi and Duckett have completely changed the nature of the river.)

The years from 1775 to 1800 were years of change and turmoil. The county provided regiments to the Continental Army and to the units that made up General Smallwood's Maryland Regiment. After the war, the men came home to a land that was showing the devastation that tobacco production can create. As the land wore out, many moved west to new land, but other industrious landowners began to look at new crops and agricultural methods.

Georgetown grew during the war years and became a major port and supplier for the army. For a short time, it was larger and more important than the new port of Baltimore. At the urging of George Washington, it was decided that the new capital city would be created from parts of Maryland and Virginia, and the land, including the portion of Montgomery County that was Georgetown, was ceded in 1792. The new capital, while it brought much wealth and prosperity to the county, took the county's only port and city. Although court and official business functions were already taking place in the county seat at Rockville, Georgetown remained county residents' economic center as well as the place for shopping and society.

New farming methods brought renewed prosperity, and the building boom in the nation's capital created employment. Montgomery County became an agricultural center, with county farmers leading the nation in revolutionizing farming methods. An agricultural exhibition, one of the first in the country, was held in 1846. The refrigerator, invented by Thomas Moore of Sandy Spring in 1803, and later the Chesapeake & Ohio (C&O) Canal, which began construction in 1828, made it possible for farmers to bring perishable products, like milk and butter, into the capital.

The building of the C&O Canal stimulated some economic activity but failed to become the economic engine investors had hoped it would. The canal itself was, however, an engineering marvel, with locks that could lift or lower a boat about eight feet and various creative solutions for moving water and building aqueducts. The C&O, once built, opened up new markets along its route and allowed for easier trading and transport of goods throughout the county and beyond. Many farmers began to diversify crops with wheat, oats, barley, and other grains. Others added or shifted to dairy farms, beef operations, and orchards.

The African American population consisted of both those who were enslaved and many small settlements of free blacks throughout the county. While Maryland was a slave state, there were few large plantations in Montgomery County requiring the level of slave labor found in other parts of the state. Because of the large number of free black communities and the large Quaker and Methodist communities who were sympathetic to the abolitionist movement, the county played an important role in the Underground Railroad. Most of this activity occurred in Sandy Spring where the Quakers had freed their slaves in the early 1800s for moral reasons.

The Civil War divided the county; Maryland remained in the Union, but Montgomery County, because of its geographical importance, was immediately occupied by Union troops. Support for the South was strong, and many young men crossed the Potomac to join the Confederate Army. The county's location resulted in both armies marching and countermarching across the landscape and in a number of skirmishes. The Battle of Ball's Bluff and General Jubal Early's unsuccessful attempt to take Washington, DC, were launched from Montgomery County. However, though continuously occupied by troops, no major damage occurred, setting the stage for rapid post-war growth in the county because of its proximity to the nation's capital.

After the Civil War, Montgomery County saw swift development, spurred on by the quick advancement of the Baltimore & Ohio (B&O) Railroad. Opening in 1873, the Metropolitan Branch of the B&O had a major impact on the county's economy through its freight and passenger service. Passenger service, when combined with the introduction of trolley cars, made it feasible for developers to build residential developments in the suburbs of Washington, DC and the rail line made the county's proximity to the District a pivotal factor in its economy. Many residents lived in the county and commuted to work in the capital, and many farmers sold their goods at markets within and surrounding the city. A metropolitan area was born.

Early suburban development followed the rail and trolley car routes stretching from Washington, DC, and by the late 19th century, the county began to see large scale, organized land development and homebuilding. Corporations like Chevy Chase Land Company owned interest in the trolley lines, bought large parcels of land, and participated in both developing and financing housing in given communities. This pattern of development slowly shifted the character of the county. In 1920, 78 percent of the land was used for farming, but by 1950, the total acreage in farming was only 67 percent. The trend to suburbanization had begun. Southern county housing developments created conflicting needs with the northern county area where farms dominated. The demand for new roads, sources of clean water, more schools, and such spurred the creation of Washington Suburban Sanitation Commission, separate taxing districts, a professional police force, and other institutions.

World War II brought more federal agencies and an influx of well-educated professionals to the metropolitan area. Many stayed on after the war, creating unprecedented growth; from the war's end until the 1970s, the county's population doubled every decade. These new residents brought with them a new level of sophistication in their expectations of local government. A movement to change the existing commission form of government into one of home-rule began and in 1948, the Charter Movement passed. The first Montgomery County Council was voted into office in 1949.

The population explosion slowed somewhat in the 1970s, but by then the stress of unchecked growth was showing. This rapid and continuing suburbanization led to a countywide concern that the agricultural heritage of the area would be lost.

In 1981, adoption of the Preservation of Agriculture and Open Space Functional Master Plan established the Agricultural Reserve. This 93,000-acre area designated for farming activities is predominantly located in the northern and western sections of the county. A number of county programs operate within the reserve, offering easements, grants, and other forms of assistance to farmers. The county was again a trendsetter through use of creative methods of urban planning. Today, the average farm size is 147 acres, and 43 percent of farms are larger than 50 acres. Within the Agricultural Reserve, 526 farms and 350 horticultural enterprises can be found. Elsewhere in the county, growth continues today, reinforced by employment trends and by modern day development of the I-270 corridor, the location of a long strand of technology businesses that employ a multitude of highly educated residents.

(pages 8-10, Management Plan, 5/10/18)

CULTURAL RESOURCES OVERVIEW

Cultural resources – people, arts, crafts, buildings, landscapes, and artifacts – of a region differ from historic resources in that they do not tell a story from the past; rather, they illustrate or explain the way of life, values, and (often ongoing) traditions of a culture. These can range in form from material and performance art to small towns with unique, intact traditions and a distinct quality of life. Examples of the latter can be found in towns like Poolesville. The heritage area also contains a number of African American cultural resources, including culturally significant homes, churches, social institutions, historically black neighborhoods, and more. A number of these are highlighted in the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture’s *Inventary of African American Historical and Cultural Resources* for Montgomery County. The myriad assets listed in this survey will be particularly important as the heritage area and Montgomery Parks already launched the Woodlawn Museum and continues to explore and begins to interpret the Underground Railroad and its impact on the county’s population and culture.

Cultural resources also include artifacts, which are much smaller tangible evidence of past and present societies. For example, the Montgomery County Historical Society possesses genealogical information, photos, period furniture, and much more. The Sandy Spring Slave Museum holds over 200 items related to slavery, including shackles, bills of sale, textiles, and rare books. The Sandy Spring Museum holds many artifacts and archival items related specifically to Sandy Spring history. The many museums and heritage collections in the county are available to utilize as storytelling tools for the Montgomery County heritage area.

(pages 15 – 16, Management Plan)

NATURAL RESOURCES OVERVIEW

Montgomery County provides a host of opportunities to explore outdoor natural, recreational, and scenic resources. Publicly owned lands (federal, State, and local parks) provide the most extensive access to the region’s natural resources. These include waterways of regional and national significance and an abundance of parks, ranging from small community parks to major recreational nature areas. Each offers its own level of scenic beauty and type of activities.

The C&O Canal National Historical Park is the principal federal park in Montgomery County, stretching along the Potomac River and providing numerous opportunities for recreation. It celebrates the waterway designed to connect the Chesapeake Bay and the Ohio River, which had a major impact on the farming industry of the county in its day. The almost level towpath, originally built as a path for mules pulling the canal boats, is particularly suited for hiking and bicycling and provides views of the scenic Potomac River Valley. The towpath runs continuously along the canal and links historic sites along the way, such as the Great Falls Tavern at Lock #20 and the Stone Cutting Mill ruins. Visitors may also take a mule-drawn canal boat ride and even camp overnight along the towpath.

The county contains several State parks, offering camping, fishing, hiking, horseback riding, and creek, river, or lakeside water access. Montgomery County also has a six-time Gold Medal

winning, national recognized park and trail system with about 30,000 acres owned and operated by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission. This system provides recreational park experiences, such as hiking and biking on maintained trails or canoeing, and more stewardship and cultural-based services, such as children's archeology and summer nature camps.

While the scenic character of the county varies from open space and cropland to town centers and commercial strips, there are opportunities to enjoy natural scenic beauty outside of the parks systems, often from a scenic roadway. For example, the C&O Canal Route State Scenic Byway is partially located in Montgomery County. In addition, Montgomery County has a designated rustic roads program, and to date, County Council has designated 66 rustic or exceptional rustic roads. These roads are identified in part for their outstanding natural feature borders, scenic vistas, and/or access to historic resources. They are also located primarily in the western and northern parts of the county, largely in the proposed heritage area boundaries.

SENECA CREEK STATE PARK

The Maryland State Park's mission is as follows:

The mission of the Maryland Park Service is to manage the natural, cultural, historical and recreational resources to provide for wise stewardship and enjoyment by people.

SIGNIFICANCE

Seneca Creek State Park opened in 1958. The Maryland General Assembly authorized funds for land purchases in each year from 1965 to 1968. The park continued development when, in the 1966, the General Assembly authorized funds for camping and picnicking sites, roads, utilities, buildings, and other features.

The park, comprised of 6,300 acres, extends along 14 scenic miles of Seneca Creek, as it winds its way to the Potomac River. The Clopper Day-Use Area contains many scenic areas, including the 90-acre Clopper Lake, surrounded by forests and fields. Picnicking, boat rentals, trails and a tire playground are just some of its recreational opportunities. A restored 19th-century cabin and a self-guided path interpret the history of the area. Nearby, the Schaeffer Farm Trail Area offers 12 miles of marked trails for hiking and mountain biking. The 16.5-mile Seneca Creek Greenway Trail follows the entire course of the creek from MD Route 355 to the Potomac River. Mid-May through June, the Schwartz Peony Gardens and field plants are in bloom.

The Park sees 703,458 visitors each year, presents, activities, regular and special programs and is maintained by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

Currently, only the western portion of the park as it runs along Seneca Creek is part of the heritage area. This division of the Park severs its tie to Clopper Lake (a part of the park) and the trails which lead under I-270 and connect to Wildcat Branch in M-NCPPC's Goshen Park trails which connect to the Patuxent River State Park trails.

Including the eastern and northeastern portions of Seneca Creek State Park places all of the historic, natural, cultural resources, and trails within the heritage area and eligible for tourism development efforts that run through the entirety of the State park, from the Potomac to the I-270 corridor where they connect with M-NCPPC's trails and the Patuxent Park.

Source: MD Department of Natural Resources, retrieved 4/16/2018
(<http://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/pages/central/senecahistory.aspx>)

HISTORICAL SITES OVERVIEW

As a cultural landscape, the land comprising Seneca Creek State Park exhibits the influences of three land uses. Historically, the land supported industry and agriculture. Since 1955, MdDNR's management decisions to maintain and to develop recreation facilities for the park have influenced the landscape. The current appearance of the park reflects the industrial and agricultural history of the area, as well as recent park policies for cohesive park management.

Many of the resources in the downstream section of the park contribute to the Seneca Historic District (MIHP # M: 17-63), which was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1977. This historic district recognizes the early history of the area from 1800 to the early twentieth century.

The ruins of four mills lie along the trails (#MIHP: 19-38) as well as the ruins of the Seneca Quarry and outbuildings, the source of the Seneca sandstone used in local buildings and the Smithsonian Castle.

See attachments for the complete list of historic sites.

Woodlands Estate

Located at the Park Office and Historic Area at 11950 Clopper Road, a self-guided interpretive path reveals the history of the Clopper Family and their estate home "Woodlands." Francis Cassatt Clopper was a prosperous merchant who moved to Montgomery County in 1812 and established a huge plantation farm off Clopper Road. Explore the archeological remains of the now-vanished plantation house and its outbuildings, and learn about daily life on a farm across four generations, from before the Civil War up to the middle 1950s.

Also located near the Park Office is Grusendorf Log House, the oldest surviving building from the original Germantown. Built by a German-American carpenter named Jakob Snyder in 1855, this one-room log cabin once stood near what is now the corner of Clopper Road and Great Seneca Highway. When the land on which the cabin stood was redeveloped in the 1980s, the historic home was relocated to Seneca Creek State Park. Park volunteers present interpretive programs and offer interior tours periodically on weekends from spring through fall.

Schwartz Peony Garden

The Schwartz Peony Garden is a living reminder of one of the great commercial horticulture operations in Montgomery County. Now located in Seneca Creek State Park's Day Use area, the garden was originally planted at Summit Avenue in downtown Gaithersburg.

Between 1915 and 1924, a prosperous real estate broker and flower fancier, Mr. Edwin P. Schwartz, collected heirloom peonies from dealers in Holland, France, England, and Germany, as well as the United States. Mr. Schwartz's mansion home, which once overlooked the garden, is now Gaithersburg City Hall. By the 1920s, the family had become prominent peony root-stock dealers, publishing a catalog offering hundreds of different varieties for order by mail. In the 1940s, the family moved their commercial garden operations to five acres in what is now Seneca Creek State Park.

Thousands of individual peony plants in scores of varieties still bloom in the park every May and June. Visit the display garden and walk the open fields to enjoy the spectacular flowers in all their colors and varieties.

Black Rock Mill

Black Rock Mill sits along Great Seneca Creek adjacent to Black Rock Road. Inside the walls of the now roofless old building are displays which tell the history of this 1815 grain-grinding mill. Featuring reinstalled gears and machinery, the displays give a cut-away view of the milling operation. Startling high water marks on the inside of the walls show the magnitude of the floods which have ravaged the Great Seneca valley from time to time over the last century.

Seneca Historic District

Closer to the confluence of Great Seneca Creek and the Potomac River are the Seneca Schoolhouse and Seneca Historic District, including the ruins of the Seneca Stone Mill and Quarries. Located at the end of Tschiffely Mill Road, the quarry is renowned for providing the signature red sandstone used to build the Smithsonian Castle. The nearby one-room schoolhouse, located at 16800 River Road, once served children of quarry workers and other members of the local community. Historic Medley District, Inc. now presents interpretive programs at the restored schoolhouse. Also nearby are Riley's Lockhouse and Seneca Aqueduct of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, both preserved by the National Park Service as part of the C&O Canal National Historic Park.

Waring Viaduct

The park's Seneca Greenway foot trail offers excellent views of the 110-year-old Waring Viaduct, a three-arch stone railroad bridge that soars high above Great Seneca Creek. Built by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to replace an older steel bridge on the same site, this majestic bridge still carries trains high above the Greenway and the valley of Great Seneca Creek. Access the viaduct by walking on the Seneca Greenway north from the Park Office at 11950 Clopper Road (1 mile) or south from the MD Route 355 trailhead parking lot (2 miles).

Source: MD Department of Natural Resources, retrieved 4/16/2018
(<http://dnr.maryland.gov/publiclands/pages/central/senecatrails.aspx>)

TRAILS OVERVIEW

Over 50 miles of trails open for hiking, horseback riding and bicycling wind through a variety of habitat in Seneca Creek State Park. Mountain biking and horseback riding are very popular at Seneca Creek, and the Schaeffer Farm Trails are considered a favorite place to ride.

Water trails

The trails run across the county connecting the C&O Canal and the Patuxant

Clopper Lake Trail System (this trail system is not in the HA)

The Clopper Day-Use Area offers over a dozen miles of trails, wrapping around the 90-acre lake, extending into park upland areas, and exploring Seneca Creek.

Lake Shore Trail

3.7 miles

Encircling the lake, this scenic trail offers continuous views across water from woodlands or open field settings. Several streams are bridged and shore locations offer good opportunities for wildlife observations of waterfowl, herons, fish, and turtles, as well as access to fishing.

The Woodlands (Clopper Lake)

0.15 miles

A short self-guided trail located adjacent to the Park Office interprets life on the “The Woodlands,” the former plantation home of the Clopper Family.

Old Pond Trail (Clopper Lake)

0.25 miles

Beginning near the Park Office, a short set of steps leads hikers to the Old Pond Trail. After crossing a small bridge, hikers can choose to walk left toward the park roads or right to continue through a marshy, wooded area and across a small creek. Connecting to the Great Seneca Trail from the Old Pond Trail can extend the hike.

Great Seneca Trail

1.2 miles

From the parking lot near the park office, follow the Great Seneca Trail along Great Seneca Creek. The trail wanders through fields and woods, eventually leading to Clopper Lake and Long Draught Creek.

Long Draught Trail

1 mile

Follow the Long Draught Trail along Long Draught Creek to observe signs of beaver activity. The trail continues to a bridge crossing, where hikers have the option of continuing onto the Greenway Trail, the Mink Hollow Trail, or hiking to the Wetland area for more wildlife observation.

Mink Hollow Trail

1.5 miles

The Mink Hollow Trail is accessed by parking at Quail Ridge. The trail, designed to connect with the Lake Shore and the Long Draught Trails, wanders through woods to a steep descent before arriving at a boardwalk along the marshy area of Long Draught Creek.

Schaeffer Farm Trail System

Schaeffer Farm is the hub of a trail system unique in Maryland. The trails at Seneca Creek State Park provide the backbone of a network that extends into most of the upcounty area. Configured in a series of loops, you can enjoy as few as four miles or go for an all-day adventure. It is possible to do a trail loop stretching 60 miles or more when you leave the trailhead. Linking the Seneca, Muddy Branch, and Potomac watersheds, visitors can journey from Schaeffer to Damascus to the Potomac and back. One of these larger loops has been recognized by the International Mountain Bicycling Association as one of the best and most important routes in the country.

White Loop (Schaeffer Farm)

3.3 miles

The White Loop is the gateway trail to Schaeffer Farm; all the other area trails branch off of it. At the far side of the loop there is a spur trail leading to Black Rock Mill and the Seneca Ridge and Seneca Greenway Trails.

Hiking/Biking/Equestrian Trails

Seneca Greenway

16.5 miles

Spanning from the C&O Canal and the Potomac River to MD-355, the Greenway provides the full panorama of Seneca Creek State Park.

Seneca Ridge Trail

5.8 miles

Located in the upland areas on the south bank of Seneca Creek, the Seneca Ridge Trail provides connection between Clopper Lake and Schaeffer Farm.

Seneca Bluffs Trail

7.5 miles

The Bluffs Trail creates a link between Black Rock Mill, MD-28, Poole's General Store, and the C&O Canal at Riley's Lock. Much of the trail hugs the rim of the river valley providing stunning views across Seneca Creek as it approaches the Potomac.

THEME RELATIONSHIP

Rivers, Roads, and Rails: Transportation Trails

- Seneca Creek and tributaries
- Rustic roads and farm roads
- Historic "politicians roads"
- River Road Scenic Byway
- C&O Canal towpath, lockhouses, lock architecture and machinery, Waring viaduct, and Seneca aqueduct
- B&O Railroad
- Seneca Quarry
- Route 355, Clopper Road, and River Road early Native American towpaths
- Civilian Conservation Corps

Crossroads and Cultures: African American and Quaker Heritage

- Seneca Quarry, local mills, and C&O Canal, important sites for day laborers from local African American communities
- Crossroads communities surrounding mills
- Underground Railroad sites along Seneca Creek, Potomac River, and C&O Canal
- African American communities and cemeteries located in vanished communities
- Civilian Conservation Corps
- Late Archaic, Paleo-Indian, and Woodland period archaeological sites
- Route 355, Clopper Road, and River Road early Native American towpaths

Agricultural Reserve

- Historic Clopper and Schaeffer farms
- Remains of four mills along Seneca Creek and tributaries
- Black Rock Mill exhibits
- Schwartz Peony Garden
- Clopper Lake water management
- Late Archaic, Paleo-Indian, and Woodland period archaeological sites

Heritage Gems: Montgomery County's Past

- Grusendorf Log House
- Old Seneca Primitive Baptist church and outbuildings (Kirkhill Farm)
- Park offices
- Seneca Schoolhouse
- Seneca Quarry
- Woodlands site and smokehouse
- Late Archaic, Paleo-Indian, and Woodland period archaeological sites

POTENTIAL GRANTS

Seneca Creek State Park will seek grant funding from MHAA, through its various friends groups and allied non-profits, for both capital and project investments. Among these will be new and expanded exhibits, interpretation, brochures, trail maps, and programs. As noted in the theme relationship section, many of the Park's resources are strongly aligned with HM's themes.

At this time, we are working with the Park finishing a mini-grant funded interpretive exhibit at the Black Rock Mill site and we continue to fund programs at Button Farm, a separate non-profit operating on a leased Park property.

MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION / MONTGOMERY PARKS

The mission of The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission is to:

- *Manage physical growth and plan communities*
- *Protect and steward natural, cultural, and historic resources*

- *Provide leisure and recreational experiences*

SIGNIFICANCE

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), a bi-county, local government agency, operates in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties. M-NCPPC was established by an act of the Maryland General Assembly in 1927 to provide long-range planning and park acquisition and development.

Montgomery M-NCPPC parkland is specifically acquired and designed to protect the Potomac and Anacostia River watersheds. M-NCPPC was instrumental in the formation of the Montgomery County Heritage Area and the development of the 2002 Heritage Area Management Plan.

The Montgomery Park system includes 421 parks across 36,895 acres, with over 500 lakes, and 457 miles of streams. There are over 238 miles of paved and natural surface trails serving hikers, bikers, and equestrians. Additionally, there are over 300 archaeological sites, 117 historic structures, 134 picnic areas, and 28 park activity buildings.

The park system is host to over 1.5 million visitors each year. In addition to regular programs, special programs and activities are offered. The parks are maintained by the M-NCPPC.

HISTORIC SITES OVERVIEW

See attached list of historic properties, not including archaeological sites. Virtually all of the historic sites in the County park system are designated on the Montgomery County Master Plan for Historic Preservation. Some of the properties in the inventories also have easements held by the Maryland Historical Trust.

Agricultural History Farm Park (the northern quarter of the park is in the heritage area)

The Magruder-Bussard farmstead is located within the 455-acre Agricultural History Farm Park in Derwood. Past farming practices are interpreted for the public in a historic farmhouse, barn, assorted farm buildings and a modern activity center. Programs include several annual events such as the Harvest Festival held in October. The park also has a champion Nordmann fir tree with a 9-foot trunk circumference. Within the park are the ruins of the Newmantown African American kinship-based community.

Josiah Henson Park (not in the heritage area)

Josiah Henson Park is the former plantation property where Reverend Josiah Henson was enslaved. This park in North Bethesda is a historic resource of local, state, national, and international significance because of its association with Reverend Henson, whose 1849 autobiography, *The Life of Josiah Henson, Formerly a Slave, Now an Inhabitant of Canada* inspired Harriet Beecher Stowe's landmark novel, *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The park is currently open only during a limited number of dates each season. Open house special events are free and open to the public. The park contains the Riley/Bolten House (1800-1815) and its

attached log kitchen (1850-51). The park is currently being developed as a state-of-the-art museum and interpretive center that will open to the public in 2020.

The Josiah Henson Park is part of the National Park Service National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom program.

Needwood Mansion and grounds (in the heritage area)

Needwood Mansion is a transitional Federal-Greek Revival brick dwelling built in 1856 on land granted in 1758 to John Cooke in the region now known as Rock Creek. Today it houses offices and laboratories of the Montgomery Parks Archaeology Program. Archaeology programs are regularly presented to the public at the property. Historic outbuildings include several sheds, a log building, and a slave quarter/spring house. Early residents were members of prominent Maryland families, among them the Robertsons and Bealls.

Carson Farm Special Park (not in the heritage area)

This park contains a well-preserved log smokehouse.

Hawlings River Stream Valley Park (not in the heritage area)

This park contains the Greenwood Miller's cottage, formerly frame and clad in the early 20th century in rubblestone, plus a small stone structure and millers shed.

Lois Y. Green Conservaton Park (not in the heritage area)

Green Farm Conservation Park in Gaithersburg has close to 200 acres of open space and the remaining Nathan Dickerson Farmhouse, a Greek Revival sidehall plan dwelling that still features mantels and historic floors.

Waters House Special Park (not in the heritage area)

This 3.9-acre park in Germantown consists of a house and farm structures that span more than 100 years of Montgomery County's agricultural and equine racing history.

The Waters House was built in parts, the oldest dating to the mid-1790s. Basil Waters built the small brick section of the house when he had inherited 200 acres from his father. In 1799, Basil Waters married Anne Pottinger Magruder, daughter of Revolutionary War hero Zadok Magruder. Overall, the house reflects the Italianate influence.

Charles Clark Waters was a horseman who raised racehorses. His most famous stud horse was a record-setting trotter named Kinster. The Pleasant Fields Stock Farm was well known in racing circles at the turn of the century. The bank barn, carriage house, and loafing shed were added during his tenure.

A small family burial plot on Hawk's Nest Lane is not on parkland, but is owned by the neighborhood housing association.

Today, Waters House residents include Montgomery Parks offices and Heritage Montgomery. The grounds are open to the public during regular park hours, from sunrise to sunset.

Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park (not in the heritage area)

Ovid Hazen Wells Recreational Park is a 290-acre recreational park located in Clarksburg. It contains two historic farmsteads: the Ned Watkins Farm and Oliver Watkins Farms. Both are elegant, two-story late Victorian frame farmhouses, and each farm contains a bank barn and other small agricultural buildings.

Brainard Warner Special Park (not in the heritage area)

This is the original 1894 house and carriage house of Kensington's town founder. First used as a summer home, the property was sold around 1914 to lawyer Thomas McKenney (whose case at the Supreme Court resulted in the creation of the reading of Miranda rights), who added a compatible side and rear wing. The high-style Queen Anne house sits on a large oval lawn and is the centerpiece of the Kensington Historic District, a local and National Register district.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE OVERVIEW

There are over 300 known archaeological sites in the county's park system, and many more that have yet to be identified. Archaeological sites range from prehistoric rock shelters and soapstone quarries to Civil War camps and blockhouses to plantations, many mills, free black communities, early commercial enterprises, burial grounds, and many other cultural sites. The known sites are inventoried on a Geographic Information System that is coordinated with that of the Maryland Historical Trust, and park projects are guided by predictive models that identified high and low potential areas for archaeological exploration.

TRAILS OVERVIEW

Agricultural History Farm Park Trails

4.7 miles

The trails within the Farm Park are all natural surface and lead through the surrounding fields and countryside.

Percheron Trail

The Percheron trail continues south under Airpark Road to the Pope Farm Nursery where a wide variety of trees, shrubs, and ornamental plants are grown for Montgomery County's 30,000-acre park system.

Blockhouse Point Conservation Park Trails

7+ miles

The majority of the trails are designated "hiking only". The rest are designated for "hiker/equestrian". Biking in this Park is prohibited except for the Muddy Branch Greenway Trail which travels south from Esworthy Rd and along the eastern edge of the park across a bridge to connect with the C&O Canal towpath. The towpath is owned and maintained by the National Park Service.

Bucklodge Conservation Park Trails

2.75 miles

Bucklodge Forest Conservation Park became the first acquisition by Montgomery County through the Legacy Open Space program, in October of 2000. The Legacy Open Space program is an initiative to identify and protect thousands of acres of exceptional open land and historic resources throughout the County. The Park, approximately 215 acres, is located in the northwest section of Montgomery County in the vicinity of Barnesville, MD. Generally, the topography of the Park slopes gently from the sides inward, toward the center of the property, and then southerly in the direction of the Bucklodge Branch. There are some small areas of steeper slopes located in the east section of the site.

Cabin John Regional Park Trails

6 miles

This park offers over four miles of natural surface trails and approximately two miles of hard surface trails. The key trail in the park is the Cabin John Stream Valley Trail, which extends from the park all the way to MacArthur Blvd near the C&O Canal and Potomac River. From Tuckerman Lane, the trail extends north to Goya Drive. Unless noted otherwise on the map, trails marked “Natural Surface” and “Hard Surface” are “Shared by All” trails which includes hikers, bikers, and equestrians.

Cabin John Stream Valley Trail

8.8 miles

This trail is located near major highways but still offers an unexpected sense of solitude and natural beauty. The hiker-only portion of the trail from River Road to MacArthur Boulevard is one of our best natural areas. The natural surface trail is open to hikers and bikers but not equestrians. South of River Road, the trail is open to hikers only. The most challenging part of the trail is safely crossing River Road at the southern portion of the stream valley park. In order to cross at a signalized intersection trail users must leave the park system and walk along the north side of River Road and a short distance down Seven Locks Road.

Capital Crescent Trail

11 miles

The Capital Crescent Trail follows an abandoned railroad right of way and extends 11 miles from Georgetown, in the District of Columbia, to Silver Spring in Montgomery County. Approximately 5.5 miles of the trail are in Montgomery County. The trail, one of 500 rail-to-trail projects in the nation, traverses neighborhoods and parkland and includes stretches along the Potomac River. The trail is the most popular trail in Montgomery County.

Fairland Recreational Park Trails

1.5 miles hard surface trails, 5 miles natural surface trails

Fairland Recreational Park hard surface trail loops around the many amenities offered as well as a trail that leads into its Prince George’s County side. The park also offers miles of winding natural surface trail that can be somewhat challenging for mountain bikers. The vegetation and wildlife will vary from our other parks due to its unique location. Of the 322 acres on the Montgomery County side, only 39 acres are developed because the area is environmentally sensitive.

The Montgomery County side features both natural and hard surface trails, a playground, two softball fields, lighted baseball fields and tennis courts. Picnic shelters are available for reservation. Located in the Prince George's County portion of the park is the Fairland Sports & Aquatic Complex which includes an indoor swim center, a gymnastic facility, indoor and outdoor tennis courts, and a batting cage.

HeartSmart Trails

The HeartSmart Trail program is intended to encourage people to take the first step toward a healthier lifestyle. Heart Smart Trails are generally 1-mile in length or less and follow a hard surface, level path. Bronze medallions are embedded in the path every 1/10 of a mile so walkers can keep track of the distance they have traveled.

Brookside Gardens at Wheaton Regional Park

The trail follows a popular pathway around this 50-acre public display garden that is open year-round, sunrise to sunset.

South Germantown Recreational Park

0.8 miles

The trail starts near the King Dairy MOOseum and continues past a championship miniature golf course, a tot lot, Splash Playground and Central Park Pond where there is shoreline access to fishing and a model boat launch. There are two other trails in the park that are over a mile.

Martin Luther King Jr. Recreational Park

0.8 miles

The MLK Jr. HeartSmart trail begins at the kiosk on the path by the parking lot past the Swim Center. There are two other longer trails in the park visitors can follow.

Hoyles Mill Trail

6.3 miles

Located in northwestern Montgomery County, the Hoyles Mill Trail travels south from Black Hill Regional Park through Boyds Local Park and Hoyles Mill Conservation Park – one of our Best Natural Areas, to South Germantown Recreation Park and then Seneca Creek State Park where it terminates at Schaeffer Farms in Seneca Creek State Park.

Rock Creek Regional Park Trails

Lake Frank and Meadowside Trails

7 miles

This trail system has seven miles of natural surface hiking trails. Meadowside Nature Center is a popular destination featuring exhibits oriented toward interpreting the natural and cultural histories of the area. Outdoor attractions include a pioneer homestead, a covered bridge, mill ruins, and a raptor aviary.

Lake Needwood Trails

7+ miles

Natural surface trails follow the shoreline of Lake Needwood in Rock Creek Regional Park and also meander through adjoining forest. Rock Creek Regional Park offers many activities

including boating on Lake Needwood, archery, picnic shelters and golf. Trails offer beautiful views of Lake Needwood but at the present time there is no way to walk around the lake due to the presence of Needwood Road at the northern end of the lake. At this time, the Gude Trail stops short of Gude Drive but there are plans to make the connection in the future.

Rock Creek Hiker-Biker Trail

18.6 miles

This asphalt trail is one of the most popular trails in the Washington metro area. A recent extension of the trail south to Beach Drive allows users to continue into the District of Columbia where the National Park Service closes Beach Drive to automobiles on weekends and holidays. The trail includes some hilly parts and offers scenic views. The portion of the trail in Rock Creek Regional Park terminates at Lake Needwood where row boats, pedal boats and canoes can be rented in season.

Meadowside Nature Center Trails

8 miles

The nature center's trail explores habitats that include meadows, woods, ponds, streams, a lake and areas of historical interest. The 1/2 mile Meadowside Tree Trail winds its way along portions of the Rocky Ridge, Connector, Muncaster Mill, and Backbone Trails through second-growth eastern deciduous forest. The eastern deciduous forest once covered much of the eastern part of the country. Today only fragments of the forest remain. On this trail, visitors will learn about 11 of the park's common trees.

Little Bennett Regional Park Trails

25+ miles

This 3,700-acre park offers more than 25 miles of natural surface trails in one of our best natural areas. The park is mostly forested and lies among the tributaries of Little Bennett Creek. Little Bennett Regional Park includes Little Bennett Campground's 91 campsites that are handicapped accessible and an 18-hole golf course. The park is home to about a dozen historic sites, including Kingsley Schoolhouse, the Zeigler Log House and Hyattstown Mill to name a few. Little Bennett Regional Park is also very fortunate to have a volunteer force in the "Friends of Little Bennett."

Little Falls Trail

3.5 miles

The Little Falls hiker-biker paved trail is largely shaded and offers unobstructed views of Little Falls. The trail parallels the Capital Crescent Trail (CCT) starting at Mile 6 of the CCT and for about a mile shares the same right of way. The trail passes the former site of the Milton/Loughborough Mill, built in the early 1800s and used to grind flour for the Georgetown wheat trade.

Lois Y. Green Conservation Park Trails

3.8 miles

The Lois Y. Green Conservation Park consists of a 200-acre parcel that Lois Y. Green gave to M-NCPPC in 1975 and an additional dedicated stream buffer area of 50 acres. The 250-acre conservation park is located adjacent to the Montgomery County Airpark and is surrounded by residential development. The park is a popular destination for bird watchers, butterfly

enthusiasts, and nature photographers. Such a large expanse of meadow habitat is rare in the county and wildlife sightings include a variety of hawks and sparrows, bluebirds, Baltimore orioles, indigo buntings, and other birds as well as foxes, deer, groundhogs, beaver, muskrats, and mink. During the growing season meadow wildflowers and grasses attract a diverse array of butterflies and dragonflies, and provide essential habitat to many other pollinating insects.

Long Branch Trail

1.2 miles

This hard surface trail traverses the surrounding neighborhoods.

Magruder Branch Stream Valley Trails

4.2 miles

The hard surface trail is made of both asphalt and boardwalk. As it follows the Magruder Branch stream valley, the trail offers views of the surrounding upland forests and provides wonderful birding opportunities. The boardwalk sections of the trail span the stream and associated wetland areas. The natural surface trail heads south just outside Magruder Recreation Park continuing down the Magruder Branch Stream Valley. The trail becomes the Seneca Creek Greenway Trail south of Watkins Road.

Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Park Trails

2.8 miles

Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Park spans across 95-acres and features several trails. M-NCPPC acquired the area in 1976. The HeartSmart trail spreads 0.8 miles and starts at the kiosk by the path next to the parking lot just past the Swim Center. There are 2.8 miles of hard surface trails in the Park that also connect to the Paint Branch Stream Valley Park Trail.

Matthew Henson Trail

4.2 miles

The trail begins at the intersection with the Rock Creek Hiker-Biker Trail at Winding Creek Local Park on Dewey Road, runs northeast through Matthew Henson State Park near Hewitt Avenue and Bel Pre Elementary School and continues east across Layhill Road to Alderton Road. The trail features 0.6 miles of wooden boardwalk.

Muddy Branch Greenway Trail

9 miles

The natural surface trail traverses varied terrain and ecosystems including rocky upland forest, streambanks and meadows, passes by rich vernal pools, and earthen mill remnants. The trail passes The Potomac Horse Center on its way from Darnestown Road in Gaithersburg down to historic Blockhouse Point Conservation Park. A bridge now allows users to cross over to Pennyfield Lock and the C&O Canal.

Northwest Branch Stream Valley Park Trails

9 miles of natural surface trail and 2.7 miles of asphalt trail

Located in one of our best natural areas, the Northwest Branch Stream Valley Park hosts both a hard surface trail and natural surface trails. The hard surface trail is located south of the Capital Beltway and links into the Prince George's County Anacostia Tributary Trail System. The

natural surface trails extend north of the Capital Beltway to Wheaton Regional Park. The natural surface trail on the east side of the Northwest Branch stream provides a wilderness-like experience exclusively for hikers; on the west side of the stream, hiking, biking, and horseback riding can be appreciated by all.

Oakley Cabin Trail

0.7 miles

Oakley Cabin African American Museum & Park is a 19th-century African American historic site. Built as one of three slave dwellings in the between 1820-1850, the cabin was the center of an African American roadside community from emancipation well into the 20th century. The dwelling, inhabited until 1976, is now operates as a living history museum. Oakley Cabin sits on a two-acre tract that is part of a larger park running along Reddy Branch. The mill pond for Newlin's Mill was located in the low area behind the cabin. A trail, partially laid inside the old millrace, leads from the cabin to the site of the mill at the intersection of Brookeville Road and Georgia Avenue. Numerous wild plants can be seen, many of which are edible or medicinal and were used by local people. Hawks, foxes, deer, raccoons, and other wildlife can often be seen from the cabin or trail. The trail also passes local quarries.

Paint Branch Trail

3 miles

This trail is naturally shaded and extends between Martin Luther King Jr. Recreational Park (off Jackson Road) and Fairland Road. Located just south the of Upper Paint Branch Best Natural Areas, the trail features views of Paint Branch stream and passes the historic Valley Mill and the former site of Snowden Mill. These mills are among the oldest in the County, dating back to the 1700's.

Rachel Carson Conservation Park Trails

6+ miles

Montgomery Parks honors Ms. Rachel Carson, an outstanding American writer, environmental activist, and County resident, by conserving 650 acres in the Brookeville area of Montgomery County in her name. This park is one of the county's premier conservation areas and best natural areas with more than six miles of natural surface trails for hiking and equestrian use. Like other M-NCPPC conservation parks, the Rachel Carson Conservation Park contains some of the best examples of park natural resources in Montgomery County. The Park is densely populated by numerous species of wildlife, high-quality forest, and features spectacular rock out-cropping throughout the park. The Hawlings River passes through the park, providing fish opportunities to park visitors.

Seneca Creek Greenway Trail

7.8 miles

This natural surface trail offers views of the Great Seneca Creek, traverses beautiful upland woodlands, provides a spectacular overlook of the stream valley and includes a natural rock bridge near Watkins Mill Road. Historic points of interest include the former sites of Middlebrook Mills and the Watkins Mill. The mill race associated with Watkins Mill can still be seen. This trail is part of the larger Seneca Creek Greenway Trail (SCGT), planned as a 25-mile

greenway connection between the Potomac and Patuxent Rivers. The lower section of the trail, located in Seneca Creek State Park south of MD 355, is 16.2 miles in length.

Sligo Creek Trail

10.2 miles

This hard surface trail is one of the oldest in the County. The trail is the heaviest-used facility in the stream valley park and provides recreation for persons of all ages and abilities. Several paved, and a few unpaved, trails are scattered throughout the park and connect other park facilities, schools, and neighborhoods to the main trail.

South Germantown Recreational Park Trails

6+ miles

The hard surface trails wind in and around the whole park and its sport facilities. At the western side of the park near the driving range, the Hoyles Mill Trail was recently completed. This natural surface trail connects the South Germantown Rec. Park to Hoyles Mill Conservation and Black Hill Recreation Parks to the north as well as Seneca State Park to the south.

South Germantown Recreation Park hosts some of our most popular facilities in the upcounty area. Besides trails, the many facilities offered by this Park include; playground equipment, ball fields, picnic shelters, miniature golf, splash & adventure playgrounds, King Farm Dairy MOOseum and tot lot, Soccerplex, and the Germantown Golf Park Driving Range. South Germantown also has a HeartSmart trail that follows a hard surface, level path around the park.

Underground Railroad Experience Trail Hikes

2 miles

The Underground Railroad Experience Trail at Woodlawn Manor Cultural Park evokes the experience of enslaved freedom seekers traveling through Montgomery County, Maryland, on their way to safety in the north. Those escaping utilized a network of secret routes and safe houses rather than railroad tracks or tunnels as the name might suggest. The trail is located in the northeastern portion of the county on the grounds of Woodlawn Museum in the community of Sandy Spring. The Underground Railroad Experience Trail is part of the National Park Service National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program. It is also one segment of the Rachel Carson Greenway Trail Corridor, a 25-mile trail corridor that will one day connect Patuxent River State Park to Prince George's County.

Wheaton Regional Park Trails

4 miles

Wheaton Regional Park, the first regional park in the Park system, offers both natural surface and hard surface trails. A network of hard-surface trails traverses the southern portion of the park. The natural-surface trail network includes bridle trails and nature trails oriented to Brookside Nature Center and the horse Stables on Glenallen Avenue. The HeartSmart trail is a hard surface, level path that winds throughout the 50-acre garden.

Woodstock Equestrian Park Trails

16 miles

The park is located in the heart of the scenic Agricultural Reserve, just north of the historic town of Beallsville. Woodstock Equestrian Park consists of over 872 acres of rolling farmland and

forest, and includes 16 miles of equestrian and hiking trails. The west side of the park is named the Moritz Greenberg Equestrian Center and consists of approximately 470 acres with more than eight miles of trails including the mile long, hiking only, "Meadow Trail", designed to meet ADA guidelines for trail accessibility. The east side of the park is called the Dr. William Rickman Equestrian Center and consists of 354 acres, including almost six miles of trails. George Washington originally owned a portion of land on the eastern side of the park. Several stone outbuildings dating to the 1860's remain in good condition as a remnant of the later period, historic Brewer Farm.

THEME RELATIONSHIP

Rivers, Roads, and Rails: Transportation Trails

- Rustic roads and farm roads
- Historic Politicians Roads
- River Road Scenic Byway
- B&O Railroad
- Route 355, Clopper Road and River Road early Native American towpaths

Crossroads and Cultures: African American and Quaker Heritage

- Josiah Henson Park, Riley/Bolten House and grounds
- Local African American communities
- Woodlawn Museum and the Underground Railroad Experience Trail
- African American community cemeteries
- Agricultural History Farm Park (Newmantown, the ruins of a kinship based community)
- Needwood Spring house/slave quarters, Rock Creek Regional Park
- Late Archaic, Paleo-Indian, and Woodland period archaeological sites

Agricultural Reserve

- Agricultural History Farm Park (Bussard farm and outbuildings)
- Needwood farm and outbuildings, Rock Creek Regional Park
- Remains of dozens of mills in the county park system's many stream valley parks
- Hyattstown Mill and Miller's House
- Tributaries of the Potomac and Anacostia rivers
- Late Archaic, Paleo-Indian, and Woodland period archaeological sites
- Waters house and outbuildings
- Ned and Oliver Watkins Farm

Heritage Gems: Montgomery County's Past

- Late Archaic, Paleo-Indian, and Woodland period archaeological sites

AUDUBON NATURALIST SOCIETY WOODEND SANCTUARY

Mission:

The Audubon Naturalist Society inspires residents of the greater Washington, DC region to appreciate, understand, and protect their natural environment through outdoor experiences, education, and advocacy.

SIGNIFICANCE

The Audubon Naturalist Society (ANS), the oldest independent environmental organization in the Washington, DC region, is a pioneer in linking conservation activities with environmental education. The Audubon Naturalist Society's Woodend Nature Sanctuary is located on 40 acres just outside Chevy Chase, MD. Its prominent location along Rock Creek Park makes it highly visible and accessible to many audiences.

Woodend Mansion, headquarters of ANS is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the Montgomery County Master Plan for Preservation. The mansion was built between 1927-1928 for Marion and Chester Wells, on land that was part of the historic Clean Drinking Manor. It was designed in the Georgian Revival style by noted architect John Russell Pope, architect of the Jefferson Memorial and the National Gallery of Art. Mrs. Wells, a member of ANS, bequeathed the property to ANS in 1968 with the provision that the estate and the grounds be preserved as a nature sanctuary.

The property buildings include a 24 room mansion, a 5 car garage which has been converted to a 2-story nature preschool and kindergarten and maintenance sheds. There is a demonstration Native Plant Garden, lawn, hemlock grove, woodland garden, mature woodlands, an ephemeral stream (Clean Drinking Stream) and three meadows. There are existing walking trails and parking for up to 90 cars.

Collections include an extensive early 1900s taxidermy bird collection, portraits and furnishings belonging to the Wells family, and office furnishings used by historically significant members.

ANS was officially incorporated in 1947 and board members during this period included a number of the founders of the 20th-century environmental movement:

- Rachel Carson – a marine biologist and conservationist who began her career focusing on aquatic biology, and shifted her focus to conservation. Her book, *Silent Spring*, which focused on the use of synthetic pesticides, led to a nationwide reversal of the pesticide policy and inspired the environmental movement that eventually led to the creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- Roger Tory Peterson – a nationally prominent naturalist, ornithologist, artist, and educator and inventor of the modern field guide.
- William O. Douglas – Supreme Court Justice from 1935-1975 (Honorary Vice President of ANS) whose love for the environment strongly impacted his judicial reasoning. Douglas was the ANS member who challenged the organization to lead the fight to protect the C&O Canal.

- William Warner – a retired Foreign Service officer who won a Pulitzer Prize in nonfiction for his book, *Beautiful Swimmers: Watermen, Crabs and the Chesapeake Bay*, an accurate exploration of the Chesapeake Bay blue crab and the lives of the Eastern Shore watermen.
- Paul Bartsch – a malacologist (the study of invertebrate zoology that deals with the study of Mollusks) and a carcinologist (the study of crustaceans).
- William Vogt – an ecologist and ornithologist, with a strong focus on population control.
- Howard Clinton Zahniser – an environmental activist who helped lead the Wilderness Society and one of the primary authors of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Currently, ANS serves 28,000 area residents a year. The organization is supported by a membership of 7,000. ANS provides educational programs to 6,000 school children at their Woodend Nature Sanctuary and provides off site programming to an additional 19,000 children

HISTORIC SITES OVERVIEW

Audubon Naturalist Society Woodend Sanctuary

Wells Mansion
Carriage House
Historic Landscape

THEME RELATIONSHIP

Rivers, Roads, and Rails: Transportation Trails

- Adaptive reuse of the C&O Canal for use as a park
- Native American portage trail

Crossroads and Cultures: African American and Quaker Heritage

- Mill settlements along Jones Rd.

Agricultural Reserve

- Cradle of modern conservation movement
- Board member Rachel Carson, *Silent Spring*
- Board member William Warner, *Beautiful Swimmers*
- Board member Roger Tory Peterson, fieldguides
- Water quality monitoring program
- Changes in farming practices resulting from member's work

Heritage Gems: Montgomery County's Past

- Wells Mansion and carriage House
- Clean Drinking Spring
- Taxidermy bird collection

POTENTIAL GRANTS

The Audubon Naturalist Society will seek MHAA grant funding for both capital and project investments. Among these will be building repairs, and development of the site a best practices conservation learning center, interpretation, brochures, trail maps, and programs.

GERMANTOWN STATION HISTORIC DISTRICT

Mission:

The mission of the Germantown Historical Society is to educate the community about local history and its relevance to State and national history, to provide an archive for local historical information, and to preserve local historic sites.

SIGNIFICANCE

When the Metropolitan Branch of the B&O Railroad (now CSX) was completed in 1873, the commercial center of the town moved from the intersection of Clopper Road and Rt. 118, one mile to the east, to be next to the railroad tracks. A carriage-making business, saddle shop, general store, and a seed and fertilizer store were the first businesses, followed soon by a steam-powered grain mill. Houses for the railroad workers, mill workers, and a large livery stable were built up the hill from the train station.

The Germantown Historic District was created by the county in 1989, accompanying the new master plan for the city. It includes the railroad station – rebuilt after a fire using the original plans of Francis Baldwin – the Community Bank building, the barber shop, and the houses across from the railroad. Three other houses in the neighborhood were included as individual sites. The carriage house for the livery stable still exists in the backyard of one of the houses. The people who lived in these houses included the postmaster and the mailman, mill workers, the tinsmith, the doctor, the telegraph operator, a local reverend, the livery stable manager, the storekeeper, and the bank manager, along with their wives and children, presenting a spectrum of inhabitants of a typical railroad town.

The fact that Historic Germantown retains its original bank building and vault makes it unique and more representative of an agricultural railroad village because the community bank was so essential to the farmers.

Today, the historic district surrounds the active MARC train station which carries 40,000 commuters a day, with 913 boarding from the Germantown station. Activities hosted at the bank include monthly flea markets (in season), walking tours, Heritage Montgomery's Heritage Days programs, and speakers' series. These programs draw approximately 3,000 visitors annually.

(Management Plan, page 17 paragraph 1)

HISTORIC SITES OVERVIEW

Train Station

The Metropolitan Branch of the B&O Railroad, running from Washington, DC to the Main Line at Point of Rocks, was completed in 1873. It changed the face and the agriculture of the county. The original 1998 Francis Baldwin-designed station was burned down by arson in 1978. It was rebuilt by Montgomery County using the original construction plans. The waiting stations are based on the original platforms for transferring milk cans to the train cars.

Bank (1922)

Incorporated as an independent bank in 1922, this fine example of period bank architecture was donated to the county in 1983 and purchased by the Germantown Historical Society in 2016. The two columns flanking the door are hollow tin and the bars are wrought iron. This community bank was the business center of Germantown, serving both the farmers and the mill and railroad workers. HPC#19/13.

Small Shop (1879)

This small building was originally part of the Frank Hesson Carriage Shops. It had many different uses over the years as a store, a butcher shop, a barber shop, and a mail storage room. HPC#19/13.

Rayfield/Browning House (1890)

Built by the Baptist minister Rev. J.D. Rayfield, this handsome Victorian house with a porch across the front later served as the home of the local postman, Carlton Browning, and his wife, Ethel, who played the organ for the local Methodist church.

Johnson House (1893)

Soon after this house was built by Hugh and Elizabeth Anderson, it was purchased by Jennie and Charles Johnson. Charles was the postmaster when the post office was located in the train station. It was sold in 1948 to Roy Selby who operated a general store across the railroad tracks. This unique Victorian house has a protruding portico and an extended porch with pillars sitting on brick pillars.

Harris/Allnutt House (1878)

Richard Harris was a storekeeper and sold goods from the first floor of the house. When he died in 1902 the property was sold to Charles and Sarah Collins, who may have run a boarding house, and then to Frank and Agnes Allnutt in 1923. Frank worked for the railroad. The southeast wing of the house was added in 1996. The outbuildings on this property represent what usually surrounded most houses in the late 1800s and early 1900s: a chicken house, well house, carriage house and stable. Most families also kept a large vegetable garden. HPC#19/13.

THEME RELATIONSHIP

Rivers, Roads, and Rails: Transportation Trails

- B&O Railroad
- B&O Railroad station

- Bank and vault
- Carriage House
- Key link in suburban development and commuting

Crossroads and Cultures: African American and Quaker Heritage

- Late 1800s B&O Railroad town

Agricultural Reserve

- B&O Railroad milk stop
- Key link in suburban development and commuting
- Changes in farm production to perishable goods
- Changes in markets for goods

Heritage Gems: Montgomery County's Past

- Germantown Historic District
- Various historic buildings – houses, bank, train station, and stores
- Late 1800s B&O Railroad town
- B&O Railroad
- B&O Railroad station
- Carriage House
- Bank and vault

POTENTIAL GRANTS

The Germantown Historic District will seek MHAA grant funding for both capital and project investments. Among these will be new and expanded exhibits, building stabilization and development of the bank building as a museum, interpretation, brochures, trail maps, and programs. As noted in the theme relationship section, many of the District's resources are strongly aligned with HM's themes.

PLEASANT VIEW HISTORIC SITE

Mission:

To preserve, maintain and protect this three-acre site to African-American history and culture to educate present and future generations

SIGNIFICANCE

This three-acre parcel, near Gaithersburg, includes a church, cemetery, and schoolhouse/community building that represent Montgomery County's African American experience of over 150 years. The school is likely a reworked Rosewald building. This site is an excellent and highly visible example of the approximately 40 church community centers in Montgomery County.

In 1868, three years after the end of the Civil War, three African American residents of the Quince Orchard community purchased three acres of land for \$54, and a church building was erected 1888. In 1914, the community's families replaced it with a new church in the Gothic Revival tradition, with windows and an entrance tower.

A public school served the Quince Orchard black community from 1874 to 1951. After the original one-room school burned in 1901, the School Board replaced it with an abandoned white school building which was moved from its lot across the street to its present site. Nina Honemond Clarke, who wrote the histories of Montgomery County black public schools and churches, began her career here in 1937, sharing the classroom with another teacher. After 1940, when 122 students in grades one to seven attended, more rooms were added.

The cemetery contains more than 70 graves dating from 1890 to the present. Inscribed on stones are family names such as Green, Ridgley, Prather, Magruder, and Hallman.

In 1968, one hundred years after the original land purchase, the members of the Pleasant View Methodist Episcopal Church were faced with a critical decision. Dwindling membership and low population growth forced Pleasant View to consider merging with two white congregations within three miles that were facing the same critical issues. The congregation of PV came together on April 4, 1968 to discuss its future. The meeting was overtaken with grief at the news that Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., had been shot. One of the church members in attendance recalls that in that moment he realized that the merger discussion the three congregations were having was, in reality, an effort to live Dr. King's message. If Dr. King had given his life for reconciliation, how could they not live out his words. In the months that followed, all three congregations voted to merge and form a new church. Though the congregations merged, the buildings and the land remained and the trustees are responsible for its preservation. Because of the merger this site is both a monument to African American life in this community and a testament to the possibility of diverse people coming together to preserve, share and celebrate their heritage. The Pleasant View Historic Site and its historic buildings are critically important to sharing that story and being a demonstrable example of African American communities in America between the end of the Civil War through the first two decades of the 21st century, and how in an increasingly diverse world, communities can come together.

Today, the Pleasant View Historical Association, hosts open houses, programs, traditional homecoming events, celebrations, and participates in heritage area activities. The nearby Quince Orchard High School actively works with the site doing research, volunteering, and maintenance. Public history students from Montgomery College regularly do projects based on the site and its history. Both partnerships were formed five years ago and continue to thrive.

THEME RELATIONSHIP

Rivers, Roads, and Rails: Transportation Trails

- N/A

Crossroads and Cultures: African American and Quaker Heritage

- Remains of the 1800s African American community of Quince Orchard – church, school/community building, privy, and cemetery intact
- School building was a Rosenwald school
- Links to Emancipation, Reconstruction, Segregation, Jim Crow, and Civil Rights history

Agricultural Reserve

- Many community members worked on local farms
- Most community members were involved in sustenance farming within the community

Heritage Gems: Montgomery County's Past

- Historic buildings, cemetery, and culture
- Links to Emancipation, Reconstruction, Segregation, Jim Crow, and Civil Rights history

POTENTIAL GRANTS

Pleasant View will be seeking MHAA capital and project grants to be used for stabilizing the church and schoolhouse structures, and developing programs and exhibits.

A number of MNCPPC's museums and parks are a part of the heritage area's African American tour/trail and will seek funding as part of that larger group.

HM has worked closely with the site for several years and has awarded min-grant funding for restoration of an historic bible, production of a video about the site's history, and interpretive panels.

SANDY SPRING SLAVE MUSEUM & AFRICAN ART GALLERY

Mission:

- *Focus on the heritage of Blacks from their origin through the Middle passage, the salvation the Underground Railroad provided, the struggle for civil rights, and their accomplishments in the United States and African Diaspora;*
- *Bridge the information gap and inform all ethnic groups about the advantages of cross-cultural communication and diversity, as expressed through history, the arts and the humanities;*
- *Highlight the heritage of the African American families for whom Montgomery County is home; and*
- *Display the rich and significant contributions that Africans and African Americans have made in the building of America.*

SIGNIFICANCE

The Sandy Spring Slave Museum and African Art Gallery, created in 1988, promotes cross-cultural communication, and presents the history of African Americans – from their ancestral

ways of life in Africa and the Middle Passage through the push to freedom using the Underground Railroad and Civil Rights Movement. Of particular note, the accomplishments of people of African descent in the United States are highlighted. Collections include a cross-section of a slaving clipper ship, historic documents, textiles, instruments, and carvings. In addition, the one-acre campus depicts the living conditions of African Americans circa 1850 to 1870.

Exhibits and art collections include slave shackles, manumission papers, slave inventories, KKK uniforms, and Jim Crow-era memorabilia.

The museum – featured in local television and print media for decades – is one of the most popular destinations in the County and a centerpiece in the Sandy Spring/Woodlawn historic cluster.

The Museum offers exhibits and programs throughout the year. Specifically, groups tours for students and adults can be tailored to run 60 to 90-minutes, as the group desires. Moreover, the Museum is pleased to be a charter partner of Heritage Days, hosting approximately 200 visitors on a single day in June. During the summer, the museum hosts approximately 500 Baltimore City day campers for a day in the countryside to learn about Black history. To cap the year off, the museum participates in the Maryland Emancipation Day Celebration, held the first Saturday in November. Annual paid visitorship ranges from 2,500-3,000 patrons.

THEME RELATIONSHIP

Rivers, Roads, and Rails: Transportation Trails

- Transatlantic slave trade
- Underground Railroad

Crossroads and Cultures: African American and Quaker Heritage

- Transatlantic slave trade
- Underground Railroad
- Local communities from slavery, emancipation, reconstruction, Jim Crow, and segregation
- Local freedmen communities and Quakers
- African culture
- African American culture
- Quaker culture
- Art from a number of historically African tribes who brought their cultures to America
- Slave cabin

Agricultural Reserve

- Many formerly enslaved people formed as many as 40 small communities supported by farming
- Many community members worked on local farms

Heritage Gems: Montgomery County's Past

- Art from a number of historically African tribes who brought their cultures to America
- Slave cabin
- Links to Emancipation, Reconstruction, Segregation, Jim Crow, and Civil Rights history

POTENTIAL GRANTS

The Sandy Spring Slave Museum will be seeking MHAA capital and project grants to be used for enriching it's contribution to the heritage area's African American tour/trail through programs, exhibits, and brochures.

SMITHFIELD SCHOOL MUSEUM AND EDUCATION CENTER

Mission:

Smithville School Museum and Education Center is to collect, preserve exhibits, interpret and promote the past, present, and future of African American education and culture in Montgomery County, MD, in neighboring communities and a nation as a whole.

SIGNIFICANCE

Built in 1927, the Smithfield Colored School was one of sixteen schools for African Americans constructed in the county with financial assistance from the Julian Rosenwald Fund. The Smithville school was built near Colesville, Maryland to provide "colored" students a better opportunity for education. The land for the school was donated and the community raised money to supplement the Rosenwald Fund and donated materials and labor. The school name came from the surrounding community which had been named for a local family. Montgomery County also provided funds for the completion of the school.

The county Board of Education operated the school, but the teachers were paid less than white teachers, the books were previously used, and the supplies limited. The cooperative effort between Julius Rosenwald Fund and African American citizens gave a tremendous boost to public education for African Americans in the South during a time of segregation in a separated but extremely unequal environment. In spite of the disparity of treatment, these students became doctors, lawyers, teachers, and skilled tradesmen. The Smithville School was closed in the spring of 1952 when all Montgomery County schools for "colored" children were consolidated. "That which was designed to separate us will unite us."

Today, the local Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity has renovated the buildings. In 1999, Alpha Phi Alpha purchase the building from the county for \$10. They turned the old school buildings into a meeting place, computer center, and participates in heritage area activities. They made it a place for people to learn the history of blacks and whites being educated separately.

THEME RELATIONSHIP

Rivers, Roads, and Rails: Transportation Trails

- N/A

Crossroads and Cultures: African American and Quaker Heritage

- Remains of the 1800s African American community of Quince Orchard – church, school/community building, privy, and cemetery intact
- School building was a Rosenwald school
- Links to Emancipation, Reconstruction, Segregation, Jim Crow, and Civil Rights history

Agricultural Reserve

- Most community members were involved in sustenance farming within the community

Heritage Gems: Montgomery County's Past

- Historic building and culture
- Links to Emancipation, Reconstruction, Segregation, Jim Crow, and Civil Rights history

POTENTIAL GRANTS

The Smithville School will be seeking MHAA capital and project grants to be used for enriching it's contribution to the heritage area's African American tour/trail through programs, exhibits, and brochures, as well as the organization's educational programming.