

**THE MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION  
NEWS RELEASE**

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**PUBLIC COMMENT SOUGHT ON FUTURE PLANS FOR HISTORIC AND  
ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY PARKS**

**SILVER SPRING, MD** - The Montgomery County Planning Board seeks public comment on its historic preservation staff's "Draft Strategic Plan for Cultural Resources in Parks," during its weekly meeting on **Thursday, December 15** at its Georgia Avenue headquarters. This draft plan is a result of the first systematic, holistic review and evaluation of these **publicly-owned** historic and archeological resources.

More than 100 historic structures and nearly 50 important archeological sites are located within The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's 32,639-acre national award-winning park system in Montgomery County.

This new initiative will:

- prioritize cultural resources based on their potential for reuse and heritage tourism
- define a systematic approach to stewarding cultural resources
- provide good methods for assessing maintenance costs for cultural resources
- create an integrated approach to protecting cultural resources that involves all M-NCPPC divisions.

In this plan, the overarching theme of the campaign is moving the park's cultural resources from artifact to attraction. To that end, the plan will include strategies that go beyond simple stabilization of historic sites into an era of rehabilitation and reuse for the public benefit.

Copies of the draft plan are available at the M-NCPPC information section, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring or online at <http://www.mc-mncppc.org/historic/index.shtm>. The approximate time for the staff presentation, public comment and Planning Board discussion will be listed on the Thursday, December 15 agenda at [http://www.mc-mncppc.org/board/agenda/agenda\\_home.shtm](http://www.mc-mncppc.org/board/agenda/agenda_home.shtm).

To sign up in advance to testify, those interested may call Community Outreach and Media Relations, 301-495-4600. To submit written comments, letters may be sent to Derick P. Berlage, Chairman, M-NCPPC, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910, faxed to 301-495-1320 or emailed to [mcp-chairman@mncppc-mc.org](mailto:mcp-chairman@mncppc-mc.org).

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