



Maryland's

HISTORIC DISTRICTS

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A NOTE OF THANKS

from the MAHDC Board of Directors

The past several months have been a trying time for all of us. This prompts me to share a few thoughts with you as well as to take a moment to say, "Thank You."

First, I would like to convey the gratitude of the MAHDC Board of Directors to all of the Historic District Commissions, CLG staff, and individual members and business associates for their support following the sudden passing of G. Bernard "Bernie" Callan on February 13th. We were saddened by the loss of our founder, mentor, and much-loved colleague. Now we are discovering just how much he contributed to the efficient working of the organization as Vice-President for Finance over the years.

The MAHDC Board contributed in Bernie's memory to his beloved Schifferstadt Architectural Museum in Frederick to honor his role in guiding its stewardship. We have also arranged for four decades of MAHDC archives that Bernie stored in his home to be housed in the Maryland & Historical Collections, Special Collections and University Archives at the Hornbake Library, University of Maryland, College Park, for the benefit of future preservationists and researchers.

Second, I would like to extend our thanks to all of the Historic District Commissions that paid their annual 2020 dues in a timely manner. With your support, MAHDC can continue to offer training and other resources to our member Commissions. I am pleased to

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MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES STATEMENT ON RACISM *Adopted unanimously on July 16, 2020*

The Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) Board of Trustees expresses its sincerest sympathy for George Floyd's family. His death along with that of countless others demand we commit to being part of the solution to ending racial inequality and work for social and economic justice for all.

There are very few events in our country's history that have moved such a diverse mass of individuals, institutions and organizations across sectors to collectively reconcile our Nation's noble principles of equality and justice for all, with the unfiltered contradictory actions of suppression and racial violence we now witness with our own eyes. The smoldering scourge of racism has existed in our country against African Americans from the first enslaved Africans in 1619 to this very day. The country must face the horrific consequences of systemic racism that plague the very fabric of our Nation. We also recognize that the history and legacy of national, state and local racially divisive policies have permeated the lives of minorities in housing, employment, education and criminal justice in ways that have marginalized vast swathes of our population and their communities.

MHT recognizes that as a historic preservation institution we cannot be neutral in how history is gathered, interpreted, protected and exhibited. We must include a place for all voices in telling the story of our communities and historic sites accurately and broadly. We will be proactive in supporting anti-racist practices and policies that promote inclusion of all residents and break down barriers caused by systemic racism.

MHT is committed to answering the question, "What is this moment asking of us?" Significant and lasting answers will not always be easy to unearth, nor will they always be obvious because of the manner racism permeates our society in ways we take for granted and have not questioned. The commitment is to stay the course and forthrightly challenge our biases and assumptions as individuals and institutions until we are the equal society our country says it values. ■

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Providing advocacy, training,
and program support for
Maryland's Historic Preservation
Commissions and local
governments.

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A Note of Thanks

announce the launch of the MAHDC Virtual Training Program in June. The training page of the current issue of *Maryland's Historic Districts* lists several virtual training opportunities this fall, including the National Trust for Historic Preservation Forum 2020.

Third, as MAHDC joins the work to address the challenges of systemic racism in our society, I would like to offer the recent statement from the National Trust for Historic Preservation for our common reflection: <https://savingplaces.org/press-center/media-resources/statement-on-death-of-george-floyd-and-the-aftermath#.XOZsR2RKiRs>. In light of the suggestion of the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions (NAPC), MAHDC encourages Maryland's Historic District Commissions to re-examine district boundaries in order to ensure that they include previously non-listed, but eligible, properties, particularly in historically African American neighborhoods. As we know, the designation of a property as a contributing feature to a national, state or local historic district confers not only distinction, but also potential economic benefits. The NAPC website is a valuable source of information about historic districts and preservation plans - www.napcommissions.org. It is important that preservationists work to preserve the underrepresented histories of our communities.

I encourage you to send us news of your activities and announcements for upcoming events that you would like to announce on the MAHDC Facebook page, on the website, or in the next issue of *Maryland's Historic Districts*.

Finally, I wish to address those of you that have been affected by COVID-19, personally or through your loved ones. I send you our warmest embrace and wish you a speedy recovery in the name of the entire MAHDC Board.

With warm regards,

Frederick C. Stachura, J.D.
MAHDC Board President

NEWS from MAHDC and Maryland's Historic District Commissions

Welcome!

New MAHDC Board Member: Kathy McKenney

- Meet Kathy McKenney, Historic Planner/Preservation Coordinator, City of Cumberland, joined the MAHDC Board of Directors in May 2020.

Congratulations!

- Herve Hamon recently became the Director of the Dorchester County Planning and Zoning Office.
- Kathleen Seay recently joined the Calvert County Department of Planning and Zoning.



MAHDC LAUNCHES

Virtual Training Courses

IN

JUNE 2020

In March 2020, the MAHDC Board of Directors decided to explore ways to offer its roster of courses online. Following the Governor's stay-at-home order that mandated government employees and appointed boards to carry out their work virtually, it was a logical step. Board members, who often serve as instructors, were ready to ensure that MAHDC courses were available for use on Zoom and Go-to-Meeting platforms. Gaithersburg became the first CLG to hold an online training using Zoom with Kirsti Uunila, Calvert County planner, MAHDC board member and seasoned instructor. Together with Chris Berger and Sheila Bashiri, Planners from Gaithersburg and Rockville respectively, she launched the MAHDC Virtual Training Program with a session on *Sustainability for Historic District Commissions*. More information on the successful training program are found in Chris Berger's article, "Pandemic Forces MAHDC to Host First Virtual Training".

After the program launch in Gaithersburg, Calvert County and Annapolis also held virtual training programs in June and July with Fred Stachura, MAHDC Board President, as the instructor for two of MAHDC Foundational Courses, *Design Review* and *Ethical Decision-making for Historic District Commissions*. All together an estimated 30-35 Commissioners, CLG staff and government, nonprofit and business partners attended the virtual programs.

MAHDC looks forward to working with you to plan a program this fall! ■

For more information on MAHDC courses, go to www.mahdc.org/training. To schedule a course, contact Leslie Gottert, MAHDC Executive Director at director@mahdc.org



NAPC FORUM 2020 HELD IN AUGUST
Held Bi-annual Forum 2020 as Virtual Conference
August 3-9, 2020 in Tacoma, Washington

The National Alliance of Preservation Commissions held its bi-annual Forum as a virtual event from August 3 to 9. MAHDC Board Member and Calvert County Preservation Planner, Kirsti Uunila, served as a presenter during the panel discussion on the impact of climate change on built heritage, chaired by Nell Ziehl, Chief, Office of Planning, Education and Outreach, Maryland Historical Trust.

At the Forum Home Closing Plenary, NAPC announced the host city for Forum 2022: **Cincinnati, Ohio.**



Kirsti Uunila



Nell Ziehl

ANNOUNCEMENT

2020 Annual Meeting

of the Maryland Association of Historic District Commissions

THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 12, 2020 • 7:00 P.M.

The virtual meeting will be held on GoToMeeting. The agenda and link for the virtual meeting will be shared with members before the event.

Please contact Leslie Gottert, MAHDC Executive Director, at director@mahdc.org, with questions about the event.

PANDEMIC FORCES MAHDC TO HOST *First Virtual Training*

By Chris Berger, City of Gaithersburg Historic Preservation Planner

Each spring, preservation commissioners and staff from the cities of Rockville and Gaithersburg jointly attend an MAHDC training in order to meet the certified local government education requirements. This year's training, the Sustainability for Historic Preservation Commissions skill session, was scheduled for April 2 at the Gaithersburg City Hall, but the COVID-19 pandemic forced its cancellation with no plans to reschedule.

The City of Gaithersburg, like countless other local governments throughout the state, quickly transitioned to virtual public meetings, and I was impressed at how deftly my colleagues in the IT department completed the switch. With an in-person training out of the question, I inquired if Gaithersburg could host the joint training via Zoom and was told it would be easy. The session's presenter, Calvert County Planning and Zoning Historic Preservation Planner Kirsti Uunila, and Rockville Preservation Planner Sheila Bashiri backed the format, and MAHDC's premier virtual training was scheduled for the evening of June 11.

A few days before the training, Gaithersburg IT Project Manager Renato Gomez did a test run with Kirsti to make certain her computer's audio and video equipment were

functioning correctly and her PowerPoint presentation could be shared. The approximately 20 attendees were asked to log on a half hour before the session began to give Renato enough time to troubleshoot any technical issues, but no one had a major problem. Kirsti initially appeared in active speaker view before she transitioned to the shared screen with gallery view so all the attendees could still see each other while watching the presentation. Attendees were able to ask and respond to questions during Kirsti's interactive presentation as if everyone was in the same room. No one reported streaming issues, and the training was deemed a resounding success.

The online arrangement may be preferable in the future. Sheila said of the training, "It was a great presentation, and the virtual aspect of not having to travel to a location, but still having interactive face to face learning, made it even better. I think this is the future." ■



NON-CAPITAL GRANT PROGRAM

in Prince George's County

Since 2009, the Prince George's County Planning Board has funded a capital grant program for historic preservation, called the Historic Property Grant Program (HPGP), which has granted 137 awards to County Historic Sites for brick and mortar improvements. While that program has been impactful, there was a funding gap for non-capital historic preservation work in the County. Last year, the Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission closed this gap when it began awarding grants under the banner of the newly launched Historic Preservation Non-Capital Grant Program. Administered by the Historic Preservation Section of the Prince George's County Planning Department, the Non-Capital Grant Program provides grants to support projects that identify, preserve, promote, and protect the historic, cultural, and archaeological resources of Prince George's County for the benefit of the public and to encourage the revitalization of communities. The program is open to applications from nonprofits, political subdivisions (towns and cities), and individuals—provided that they are owners or contract-purchasers of a designated County Historic Site, Historic Resource, or contributing resource in a National Register Historic District in the County.

This program funds many types of projects, including the preparation of plans, reports, architectural designs, specifications, cost estimates, cultural resource surveys, design guidelines, community forums, and publications. Grants are awarded at two levels: "mini-grants" of up to \$5,000, which have no required match and grants between \$5,000 and \$25,000, which require a 50% match for the portion of the award that exceeds \$5,000. Applications are reviewed on a rolling deadline by Historic Preservation Section staff, which presents them to the Historic Preservation Commission for award decisions at their monthly public meeting. Projects that have been awarded funding through this program to-date include a National Register nomination for the Moyaone Reserve in Accokeek, Maryland; a planning study to evaluate the potential modification of the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area's boundaries; the development of architectural plans, exhibits, walking tours, and brochures for the Prince George's County Film Center, a project of the Old Greenbelt Theatre; and the development of a mobile application-based walking tour for the Upper Marlboro Historical Committee and Town of Upper Marlboro. ■

More information about the Historic Preservation Non-Capital Grant Program (and the Historic Property Grant Program) can be found by visiting the Historic Preservation Section's Grants page on the Prince George's County Planning Department's website, here: <http://www.pgplanning.org/466/Grants>

Timeline for the Old Greenbelt Theater (1930s to 2000s).
To see the entire timeline go to....

1930s



Ground is broken in rural Prince George's County, Maryland for a green town to be built by the federal government as part of the New Deal. Library of Congress



Construction is well underway. Both skilled and unskilled, African American and white workers were hired to build Greenbelt, but because both the County and the state were segregated, only white families would move into Greenbelt when it opened. Greenbelt Museum



Eleanor Roosevelt visits Greenbelt, one of several visits. She was accompanied by Bill Alexander (right) and Town Manager Roy Braden (left). Mrs. Roosevelt was instrumental in making some Greenbelt's recreational spaces were completed when budget concerns threatened the project. Greenbelt Museum



Greenbelt's pool opens. Admission for adults is \$35, for children under 16, admission is \$20. Residents also enjoyed a handball court, tennis courts, horse shoe pits, playgrounds, and baseball diamonds. Library of Congress



Cooperator Editor, Donald Cooper, writes about the town's economic impact in Greenbelt. Although Greenbelt was racially segregated, it was integrated in terms of religion. Greenbelt residents were to be 50% Protestant, 30% Catholic, and 10% Jewish.



The project is officially given the name Greenbelt and is one of only three green towns to be built. The other two are Greenhills, Ohio and Greendale, Wisconsin. Library of Congress



President Roosevelt tours the construction site. He is accompanied by the head of the Reconstruction Administration, Harold Gay Taggart. Taggart convinced the president to build the green towns. Library of Congress



Julian and Hazel Ashley and their three children, Lynn, Doris, and Edward were the first family to move into Greenbelt. "The electricity was turned on the next day, so we used candles that night." Greenbelt Museum, Howard R. Jones, Greenbelt Museum



Greenbelt celebrates its first Fourth of July at Greenbelt Lake. "Without question, the fourth of July was the most glorious celebration in our town. People would come from all around to watch or march in the parade, or to participate in sporting contests, to picnic and to get a bang out of watching the fireworks." Greenbelt Museum, Henry Tardiff, Greenbelt Museum



The documentary film, "The City," was screened for Greenbelters at the theater. Greenbelt Museum

October 12, 1935

January 1936

Summer 1936

November 1936

September 30, 1937

November 1937

July 4, 1938

Memorial Day 1939

November 7-8, 1939

November 16, 1939

The exhibit, *Greenbelt: The First 75 Years, 1937-2012*, was a project of the Greenbelt Museum. It was curated by Megan Searing Young with graphic design by Nora Simon. Additional information is available at: <https://www.greenbeltmuseum.org/greenbelt-the-first-75-years>



FALL 2020 TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

■ PASTFORWARD 2020: NATIONAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

PASTFORWARD ONLINE: OCT. 27-30, 2020

CONFERENCE THEME: "RESILIENCE AND RELEVANCE"



■ TRAINING CALENDAR

October 27–30
PastForward 2020: National
Preservation Conference
Online

By offering a virtual event this year, we aim to make this year's conference as accessible for as many people as possible and representative of the breadth and depth of great work going on across the preservation field. We are also building content and inviting expert speakers to ensure we're providing you with practical, relevant information to meet your evolving needs in the pandemic and post-pandemic periods. Our priority is on making this the same high-quality event you are used to, while making sure the experience is as efficient and fun (yes fun!) as possible.

This year's conference themes are "Resilience and Relevance." These themes give us a way to discuss both the challenges we face and also how we have pivoted to meet these challenges head-on as a movement. Together, we will discuss the many issues in our field that have arisen from—or have been illuminated by—the current crisis. Together, we will think through the ways our work has changed, and how our organizations, and even ourselves, have changed as a result.

National Preservation Awards

A key event at PastForward online will be the presentation of the National Preservation Awards. Stay tuned for more information on the online presentation of the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation National Preservation Awards, the American Express Aspire Award, and the Louise du Pont Crowninshield Award. These awards are bestowed on distinguished individuals, nonprofit organizations, public agencies and corporations whose skill and determination have given new meaning to their communities through preservation of our architectural and cultural heritage. Learn more about the full slate of awards.

LINK TO THE NATIONAL TRUST FORUM 2020

https://registration.sitesolutionsworldwide.com/synergy/v_1_/home/login.php?ccc=9_98_1333&syntack=&scid=1333

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NEW ONLINE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Training and Support for Historic District Commissions:

■ MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSIONS

NEW: After launching its Virtual Training Program in June, MAHDC is offering its Professional Courses in dynamic, facilitated, online group sessions for Historic District Commissions, Certified Local Government Staff, and government, business and nonprofit partners. The roster of courses includes Design Review, Law and Procedures, Ethics and Defensive Decision making for Historic District Commissions, and Connecting with Your Community: Communication, Education, and Outreach, among others. The complete course listing with descriptions is available at <https://mahdc.org/training-program/>

To schedule a session, contact Leslie Gottert at director@mahdc.org.

Continuing Educations for Individuals:

■ NATIONAL PRESERVATION INSTITUTE

Continuing education and professional training in historic preservation and cultural resource management <https://training.npi.org>

The NPI Board of Directors and staff are excited to announce the launch of our first online training courses and our return to providing continuing education and professional training in historic preservation and cultural resource management! We will be adding new online training modules on a regular basis. We are also accepting proposals from potential instructors on new topics.

We invite you to explore our new offerings:

- Sample a FREE training module.
- Register for individual modules or take advantage of discounted “bundle” pricing for a series.
- As always, scholarships may be available—click here for more information.

■ NEW ONLINE TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS GIS!

Our first group of trainings are focused on GIS and include:

- The Importance of Mapping Cultural Resources
- ArcGIS for Cultural Resources: An Introduction series
- ArcGIS for Cultural Resources: Advanced Techniques series

All of these GIS offerings are taught by Deidre McCarthy, GISP, Chief, Cultural Resources Geographic Information Systems (CRGIS) Facility, National Park Service and Chair, Cultural Resources Subcommittee, Federal Geographic Data Committee.

Soon we’ll roll out the next round of modules on Corridor Development, Cultural Landscapes, Historic Windows, New Sources of Funding, Native America, Section 106, and Streetscapes.

Protecting participants, instructors, staff of Cooperating Organizations, and everyone who works with NPI to fulfill its mission is our highest priority during this challenging time. In response to COVID-19, the online training initiative complements our in-person seminar curriculum. As a precautionary measure, we have temporarily suspended in-person seminar training. We would be glad to discuss the option of online customized training with interested organizations.

As we continue to navigate the new reality, please check often for updates on training options on this site, on Facebook, and in email notices. Sign up here to be added to our mailing list. For further information contact Jere Gibber, Executive Director, National Preservation Institute, 703.765.0100, info@npi.org.

NPI, a nonprofit organization founded in 1980, educates those involved in the management, preservation, and stewardship of cultural heritage.



MAHDC ONLINE CONTRACTOR DIRECTORY UPDATES

The public continues to turn to the MAHDC Online Contractor Directory as a valuable resource to identify qualified experts and firms to work on the restoration and maintenance of historic properties.

Welcome to new contractors featured in the MAHDC Online Contractor Directory and thanks to those who renewed their membership.

<https://mahdc.org/contractor-directory/>

- Gray & Pape, Inc.
- AllStar Ecology LLC
- Commonwealth Heritage Group, Inc.
- LaGrange Hall Masonry
- Colonial Woodwrights
- AKRF, Inc.
- Wu & Associates, Inc.
- Haris Design & Construction
- Arrowwood Lawn Care
- Absolute Sign Solutions
- Richard Grubb & Associates

Thank you for your support.



**Become an
MAHDC
ASSOCIATE**

MAHDC depends on the support of our members, dedicated commissioners and individuals who understand that preservation, at its most vibrant and compelling, takes place locally.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS INCLUDE:

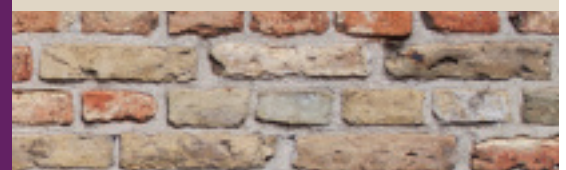
- Access to MAHDC training programs at the discounted membership rates
- Subscription to MAHDC's timely e-newsletter
- Participation in a professional network of historic preservation commissioners, preservation professionals, and grassroots activists
- Influence in advocating for responsible government decisions affecting historic resources

PLEASE JOIN US! The membership application and payment can now be completed [online](#).



JOIN US ON FACEBOOK & TWITTER

Please "like" us on our [Facebook page](#) and follow our [Twitter feed](#) (@mahdcorg) for timely policy updates, news, and training opportunities.



OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE!

MAHDC is looking for two new board members. The MAHDC Board of Directors meets virtually once every two months. Board members carry out various tasks such as editing and contributing to the quarterly e-newsletter, *Maryland's Historic Districts*, planning the Annual Symposium and social hours, and providing support for Historic District Commissions across the state as requested.

*If you are interested in learning more
about serving in this capacity,*

please contact Leslie Gottert, Executive Director,
at director@mahdc.org.

Thank you!