

Subject: Council Resolution -2020

Historic Sites Inventory Update

To: Lonnie R. Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer

Through: Amy Gowan, Director, Department of Planning and Zoning

From: Beth Burgess, Chief, Resource Conservation Division

Date: February 20, 2020

The Department of Planning and Zoning (DPZ) supports Council Resolution -2020 that adopts and amends the Howard County Historic Sites Inventory by adding two resources to the County's list, allowing the property to be eligible for historic tax credit per Sec.20.112 of the Howard County Code and updating 45 current inventoried sites with new or corrective information on their location and/or status. DPZ has reviewed both structures and has determined the properties meet the criteria exhibiting historic significance by their age, architecture, unique features and/or history and should be eligible for the historic property tax.

Since the 1970s, the County has made extensive efforts to document historic properties, buildings and resources. The County maintains a Historic Sites Inventory that has expanded greatly to more than a thousand sites comprised of historic homes, outbuildings, bridges, cemeteries and land.

The Historic Sites Inventory was last updated in 2019. The owners of the properties that will be added by this Resolution have been notified that their properties are proposed for inclusion per their request. Properties are being presented in this Resolution in order to make them eligible for the County's historic tax credit to repair and restore historic structures and, where applicable, ensure that historic sites are considered during the subdivision and land development process.

This Resolution will have minimal fiscal impact on the County. It does expand the number of potential tax credit applicants but yields opportunity for restoration of the County's Historic Resource.

Cc: Jennifer Sager, Legislative Coordinator