

Subject: Council Resolution -2021 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 B
Date: September 21, 2021

The Department of Planning and Zoning (DPZ) supports Council Resolution -2021 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 13 current inventoried sites with new or corrective information on their location and/or status. DPZ has reviewed both newly inventoried parcels with their 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 credit.

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

The Historic Sites Inventory was last updated in 2020. Council has also adopted inventories in 1982, 1990, 2000, 2004, 2007, 2008, 2011 and 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 included in this inventory 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. While it expands the number of potential tax credits, the fiscal impacts depend on whether the property owner seeks the credit and the amount of investment in the historic resource.

Cc: Jennifer Sager, Legislative Coordinator