



Celebrating 80 Years of Protecting the Irreplaceable

2012 Endangered Maryland List Released

Preservation Maryland is pleased to announce its 2012 Endangered Maryland list of threatened historic properties. The list is also featured in the March/April edition of *Maryland Life* magazine.

This year is the sixth annual Endangered Maryland listing, which now includes 64 historic sites throughout Maryland. A panel of historic preservationists selected the list from nominated properties and assessed the level of threat, historic and architectural significance and community support for preserving the site. The program's purpose is to generate public awareness of Maryland's threatened historic properties, generate possible solutions and serve as a call for action.

Preservation Maryland is the state's oldest historic preservation organization. Founded in 1931 as the Society for the Preservation of Maryland Antiquities, Preservation Maryland is dedicated to preserving Maryland's historic buildings, neighborhoods, landscapes and archeological sites through outreach, funding and advocacy. Endangered Maryland is sponsored by Coakley & Williams Construction, Inc., which recently completed the renovation of the Maryland State House.

For more information and photographs of each site, [click here](#) or call Jessica Feldt at 410-685-2886 x302 or jfeldt@preservationmaryland.org.

The 2012 Endangered Maryland Sites are: (in alphabetical order).

1. **Bostwick (Prince George's County)**

This 1746 house is owned by the town of Bladensburg and is currently used by the University of Maryland's Historic Preservation Program as a study center. The earthquake on August 23 of last year caused a partial collapse of the north chimney which damaged or destroyed portions of the roof. The new damage has worsened the overall condition of this fragile house.

2. **Charles Sumner Post #25, Grand Army of the Republic (Kent County)**

This 1908 hall is just one of two African American built GAR halls still existing in the United States and served as the center of the African American community in Chestertown. Among the many activities over its 100 year history the building was host to a performance from Ella Fitzgerald. While work to restore the building is being undertaken, a final use and purchaser has not been determined.

3. **Cider Barrel (Montgomery County)**

An example of novelty roadside architecture built in 1922, the Cider Barrel sold apples and cider at its Germantown location for over 80 years. In recent years development has encroached on

the site and eliminated its parking and loading areas. Plans are underway to move the structure from the context of the roadway and the community.

4. Covington Store (Kent County)

In 2010 the Covington Store, continually used for retail for 140 years, was damaged by fire. The Store lies in the heart of Still Pond Village and is one of five surviving commercial buildings that make up the town's center. The site faces the prospect of demolition or vandalism and needs to be restored. A local group, Still Pond Preservation Inc., has been formed to purchase and stabilize the building, but needs additional funds to achieve that goal.

5. Dameron House (St. Mary's County)

Dameron House is a long one story frame house whose oldest portion dates to 1800. It was privately owned and used as a residence until it was vacated and abandoned. The surrounding property is subdivided and many of the lots surrounding the historic home have been sold for new home sites. A demolition permit has been issued for the house with the goal of creating an additional lot.

6. Dielman Inn (Carroll County)

The Dielman Inn is a 42 room amalgamation of a number of early 19th century buildings. Records show the tavern was on the site from 1815 and possibly earlier growing and expanding over the years. The Inn has been vacant since 2004. The Town of New Windsor bought it in early 2011 and is seeking RFPs for development but if no proposals are submitted is planning to sell the site.

7. Maryland Watermen (Statewide)

The watermen of Maryland have worked commercially in the Chesapeake Bay since approximately the 1760s. They have been a critical part of the state's economy and central to the history and culture of the Bay region. Recently, the watermen have faced issues arising from the dramatic decline in oyster populations due to disease and over harvesting.

8. "The Pest House" (Baltimore County)

The 1872 "Pest House" was originally built to house the poor with communicable diseases. The house has been vacant since the early 1900s and the interior has been ruined by vandals, but is located on the same property as the Historical Society of Baltimore County. The County and local groups are working to convert the site into a research center, but funds are needed to achieve this goal.

9. Potomac House (Washington County)

The Potomac House is a two-story white brick building that was used for several purposes over its nearly 200-year history. These uses included a tavern, a meeting hall for societies, and a factory, but for the last several years the building has sat vacant. Sheetz, a gas station and convenience store is considering building a 4,000 square foot facility on the site of the building, one of the gateway intersections for Williamsport's National Register Historic District.

10. Silver Spring Baptist Church (Montgomery County)

The Silver Spring Baptist Church sits at a prominent corner in downtown Silver Spring. The oldest parts of the church date from 1925 with additions dating from the 1930s and 1950s. The congregation is looking to build a new church on the site to accommodate their growing membership. This would mean the near entire destruction of the existing structures.

11. Superblock, Downtown Baltimore's Westside (Baltimore City)

Baltimore's Westside was listed on the National Trust for Historic Places' 11 Most Endangered List in 1998 because of threats to its outstanding collection of historically and culturally significant buildings. While there has been much success in the area, some parts, in particular the Superblock, are still under threat from deterioration and demolition.