Lost Buildings and Archeological Sites
The historic buildings that stood on the properties of the following designated historic sites have been lost. They were either demolished after salvage proved impractical or accidentally destroyed by fire. The properties on which they stood are still designated historic sites, and are protected by the Historic Preservation Ordinance.

60-004  Ammendale Normal Institute Site (NR)
6011 Ammendale Road, Beltsville

Built between 1884 and 1888, the Ammendale Normal Institute was a massive three-part, brick institutional building with towers, projecting gables, and Queen Anne-style decorative detail. The central block was built in 1884 and the flanking wings in 1888, to serve as a Catholic novitiate, chapel and school operated by the Christian Brothers. The presence of a structure of this quality, style, or scale was unusual in Maryland outside the urban centers of Baltimore and Washington. The institute building was seriously damaged by fire in 1998 and was demolished in 2006. An unusual brick barn still stands on the property and will be repaired for future use.
Built in 1916, the Edward Gross House was a front-gabled frame dwelling with a wraparound porch. Built by farm-laborer Edward T. Gross, using timber from his land, locally milled, it represented the early twentieth-century vernacular housing of an emerging middle class of black landowners. Still owned by the Gross family, the house was destroyed by fire early in 1996.

Built in 1834, Brown’s Tavern, also known as the White House Tavern, was a two-and-one-half-story, side-gabled frame building with an attached earlier kitchen building. The main block was built in 1834 by John W. Brown as a dwelling and tavern fronting on the Washington and Baltimore Turnpike. It was converted circa 1940 into the office and headquarters of a motel complex with 50 brick cottage units on its grounds. The tavern and motel units were demolished in 2001. The image above is from a vintage postcard.
The Warington Barn was built in the mid-nineteenth century and was a gable-on-hip roof frame tobacco barn; the long side sheds were original while the shorter end sheds were added later. The land on which it stood is Warington, owned for over a century by the Waring family; the Waring house was replaced by Captain Newton H. White’s Regency Revival mansion at Enterprise Farm in 1939 (see Historic Site 73-006). The Warington Barn was destroyed by high winds in 2007, and until then it was the best surviving example of its type in the county.

The site of Rose Mount was the home of Governor Joseph Kent, and the site of a frame plantation house built later by his nephew, Joseph Kent Roberts. Only the foundation remains of Roberts’ house, which was built by him in 1856 possibly on the stone foundations of the earlier house of his uncle. Kent practiced medicine and served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1810–1815 and 1819–1826, and served as Governor of Maryland from 1826–1829. He also served in the U.S. Senate from 1833 until his death in 1837. He was buried at an unknown location at Rose Mount. Roberts’ house was destroyed by fire in 1974.
73-012 Northampton Slave Quarters and Archeological Park
(Site of Northampton 18PR320)
10900 Waterport Court, Largo
(M-NCPPC)

Built in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, this site includes foundations of the Northampton plantation house, and ruins of one frame and one brick two-family slave quarter, shown above in a 1936 photograph. The plantation house burned down in 1909. The quarters existed until 1950. Northampton is an important archeological site; it represents the home of Osborn Sprigg, prominent Revolutionary patriot, and Samuel Sprigg, Governor of Maryland from 1819–1822. It was also home to several generations of slaves and freedmen from the Northampton plantation. The stone and brick foundations of both the frame and brick quarters have been preserved and are interpreted in a park setting.

76A-001 Ridgeway House Site
3915 Summer Road
Suitland
(M-NCPPC)

Built circa 1830s and now a ruin, the Ridgeway House was a one-and-one-half-story wood frame structure. Its hall-and-parlor plan, steep gabled roof, and hand-hewn sill and joists give evidence of an early construction date; possibly it was a log cabin that was remodeled. (Note the decorative acroterion at the apex of the right gable in the c. 1985 photo.) Named for Jesse Ridgeway, who acquired it in 1828, the dwelling ruins are located in the middle of a heavily wooded, 27-acre tract. One of the few undeveloped parcels in the areas around Joint Base Andrews, it is maintained by M-NCPPC as open space.
The cemetery contains 47 marked graves that date from 1903–2003; the markers vary by type and materials, and include concrete and slate tablets, granite headstones, marble tablets on concrete bases, concrete obelisks, concrete footstones, and headstones. St. Luke’s Church, also known as Niles Chapel, was first constructed in 1868 as a Freedmen’s School on land donated by William Niles, a white landowner in the area. Services were held in the schoolhouse until a chapel was built c.1877; this log building was replaced in 1893 by the frame building shown above which was demolished after 1974, when this photo was taken.

Built in 1896 and later, the Bowling-Buck House was a multi-part, two-story frame dwelling with a three-story corner tower. The house was situated on a knoll with two historic outbuildings. The main section of the house was built for members of the Bowling family of nearby Bowling Heights; it was significantly enlarged a decade later when it became the home of the Bruce Buck family. This handsome house was destroyed by fire in January 2006; the outbuildings survive.
The house at Salubria was built circa 1830 and was a two-and-one-half-story frame dwelling with kitchen wing and doctor’s office; on the grounds stood several early nineteenth-century outbuildings. Salubria was built for Dr. John H. Bayne, prominent physician, agriculturist, and first superintendent of the county’s public schools; it was the home of five generations of the Bayne family. The house was severely damaged by a series of fires in the 1980s and 1990s. After archeological investigations were undertaken on the grounds, the house and all but one outbuilding were demolished in 2003. The photo above is from the Historic American Buildings Survey, 1936.

Built in the 1790s, enlarged and renovated circa 1830, the house at Belleview was a frame house with an unusual extension of one gable slope. The original small house was built in the 1790s for the Lowe family and was enlarged and renovated circa 1830. For more than a century after that it was the home of the Steed family. The Belleview plantation was significant for its surviving complex of early farm outbuildings as well as for the uniquely expanded house and family cemetery. Although the house could not be preserved, archeological investigation of the domestic area of the plantation has been carried out, and some of the early outbuildings have been relocated. The site now comprises the preserved cemetery of the Steed and Edelen families.
Built circa 1820, possibly earlier wing—Sasscer’s Green was a small, one-and-one-half-story, side-gabled frame house of side-hall-and-double-parlor plan; it had freestanding chimneys, an attached kitchen wing, and fine early nineteenth-century decorative detail. The main block was built circa 1820 by Thomas Sasscer. It was a fine example of a small southern Maryland plantation house, transitional between the Federal and Greek Revival styles, but was severely damaged by fire and demolished in 2006.

Built in 1895, Ellerslie was a gable-roof frame dwelling of Colonial Revival style with Queen Anne style decorative elements; it was distinguished by projecting bays, pediments, and a Palladian style window. The house was built for Upper Marlboro Judge Richard B. B. Chew on the site of his father’s early 19th century plantation house, also called Ellerslie, which was also destroyed by fire. The second Ellerslie was built by John C. Yost, who was considered by the Chews to be “one of the best builders then living in Washington City.” Sadly, the second Ellerslie was destroyed by fire in April 2008 on the eve of the completion of its restoration. (The house is shown above in the early stages of the project; the structure at right is a windmill.) A third house at Ellerslie is planned to rise on the site.
St. Simon’s Chapel was a frame building with two vestibules and tripartite lancet sash windows in the gable ends. It was constructed c. 1894 on the grounds of St. Thomas’ Episcopal Church Rectory, and was moved to the south side across St. Thomas Church Road to the present site in 1902. St. Simons Chapel was closed in 1964 and stood vacant until it was demolished in 1974. The cemetery is located approximately one-quarter mile south of Saint Thomas Church Road. There are approximately 70 marked graves and an unknown number of unmarked graves in the cemetery. The earliest grave marker identified is dated 1929. (Photograph taken before 1903, courtesy The Reverend Francis P. Willes, St. Thomas’ Parish Archives.)

Dating from circa 1918, Myers Cemetery has 43 marked graves and an unknown number of unmarked graves. The African-American congregation of St. Mary’s began meeting in 1905 in an old log building on this site; they constructed a frame church here c. 1911 and under the leadership of the Rev. Frederick D. Myers, St. Mary’s church was renovated in 1947. The church was destroyed by fire in 1965.
The Skinner Family Cemetery at Mansfield is the only remaining feature of the large nineteenth-century Skinner family plantation. The original site of Mansfield comprised Dr. John H. Skinner’s late nineteenth-century house, the family cemetery, and at least four agricultural outbuildings. After the house and outbuildings were deemed ruinous and beyond salvage, the family cemetery was designated as a historic site. The cemetery, with its Victorian iron fencing and large trees, contains at least seven flat horizontal tombstones, with full-size slabs inscribed with the names of members of the Skinner family.