



County Council Request: Potential Renaming of Public Streets and Parks

Briefing & Draft Recommendations on the Montgomery County Street and Parks Facilities Naming Review

12/07/2020



Council Request: June 15, 2020

Per the County Council to County Executive Marc Elrich and Planning Board Chairman Casey Anderson:

*As stewards of Montgomery County's public assets, we are calling on you to initiate a comprehensive review of all County owned and maintained street names and public facilities to determine all those named for **Confederate soldiers or those who otherwise do not reflect Montgomery County values.** Following that review, we hereby request a public process to rename these county streets and facilities in a manner that more appropriately reflects the community to which they belong. . . . The names of our buildings and streets should reflect the people in and on them, not threaten and intimidate them.*



MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

The Honorable Marc Elrich
County Executive, Montgomery County, MD
Office of the County Executive
101 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

The Honorable Casey Anderson
Chair, Montgomery County Planning Board
Montgomery County Planning Department
8787 Georgia Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20910

June 15, 2020

Dear County Executive Elrich and Chair Anderson,

We are at an inflection point in our country and in our county. The brutal murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis represents not just a singular tragedy of one man, but another grotesque manifestation of generations of structural racism that permeate our society. Addressing institutional problems require institutional solutions, and we appreciate your shared efforts as we begin that critical work together in Montgomery County. But as we work to dismantle the structures that perpetuate racism, we must also target the symbols that normalize and legitimize it. The names of public streets and buildings are not merely a reminder of the past; they are a very clear indication of who and what we value today.

As stewards of Montgomery County's public assets, we are calling on you to initiate a comprehensive review of all County owned and maintained street names and public facilities to determine all those named for Confederate soldiers or those who otherwise do not reflect Montgomery County values. Following that review, we hereby request a public process to rename these county streets and facilities in a manner that more appropriately reflects the community to which they belong.

When we name a street or a building, we are not merely reflecting history. We are using our public funding and assets to bestow a high honor. These public tributes should appropriately reflect the entirety of our community and our values. This comprehensive review would build upon the efforts that the Board of Education has recently undertaken in reviewing the names of Montgomery County Public Schools facilities.

Commission Resolution on Solidarity with National Movement to End Injustice and Violence against African Americans

“... the Commission also hereby declares and affirms that it squarely subscribes to the indisputable principle that Black lives do matter, and they must matter, in all civic endeavors in order for our agency and our nation to achieve the cardinal promises of our government – that ALL people will be treated fairly and equally.”

Planning Board Vote: October 1, 2020

Unanimous vote to:

- Transmit Packet to Council via Memo summarizing work to date, including extensive research and database summary
- Support staff's interpretation of Council Request
- Support staff's concept of a phased approach
- Transmit Montgomery Planning's existing Street Renaming Policy
- Indicate to Council that additional research and outreach to implement Phase 1 and any subsequent phases requires resources (i.e., a supplemental budget request)

PHED Briefing Topics

- Background & Context
- Outreach
- Phased Research Approach/Consideration of any Future Phases
- Current Street Naming/Renaming Policy
- Step by Step Renaming Process
- Impact on Affected Property Owners
- Impact on Current Work Program
- Timeline/Potential for Supplemental FY 21 Budget Request

Project Team

M-NCPPC

- ITI, GIS mapping

Planning Department

- Leadership
- Historic Preservation Section, Countywide Planning & Policy Division
- Intake & Regulatory Coordination Division
- Communications Division

Parks Department

- Leadership
- Cultural Resources Stewardship Section, Park Planning and Stewardship Division
- Public Affairs and Community Partnerships



Background & Context

- Maryland was a border state where it was legal to own slaves.
- In 1860, over 27 percent of the population in Montgomery County was enslaved by 762 known slaveholders.



Bacon's Military Map of the United States (1862). The states shaded yellow (blue arrow) represented the border states.

Background & Context

- 1861, hundreds of Montgomery County citizens joined the Confederacy.
- Many Montgomery County plantation owners and farmers sympathized with Confederacy and continued using forced labor. Subsequent generations remained enamored with Confederacy.



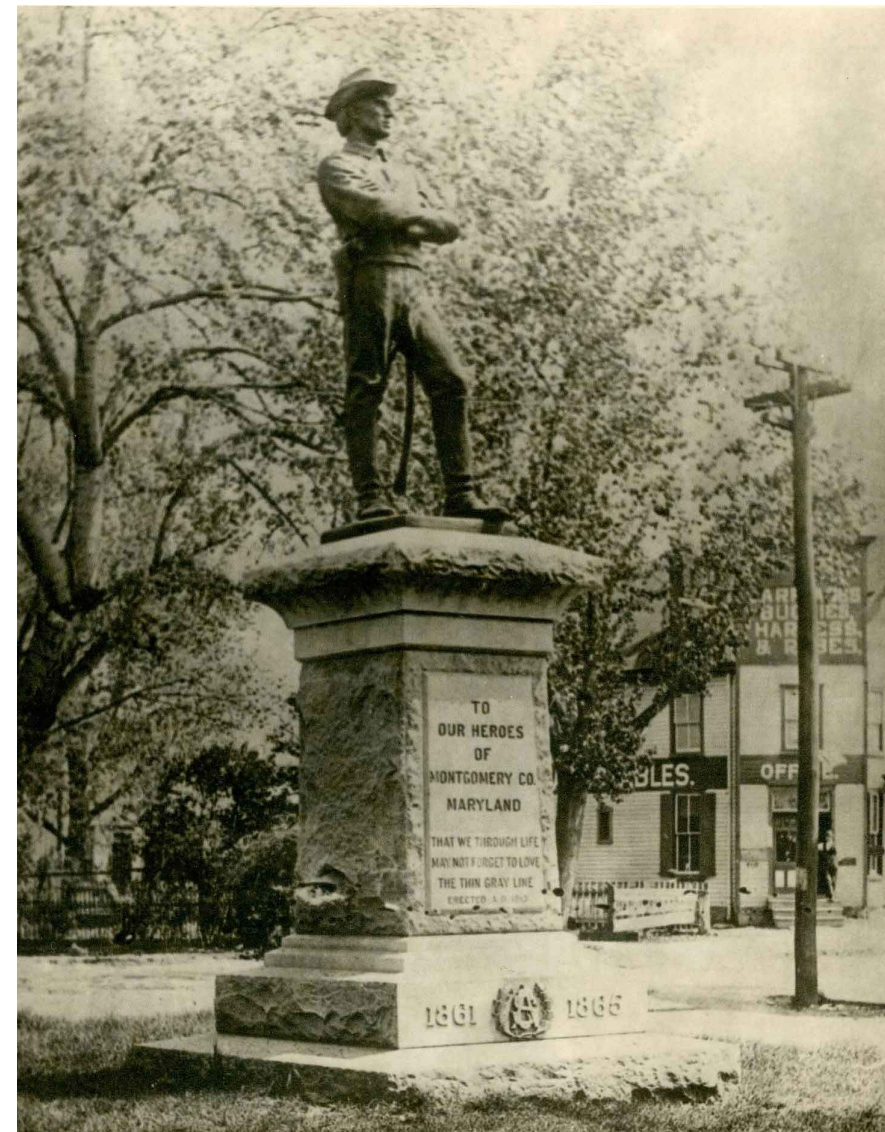
List of men from Montgomery County who served in CSA, at Monocacy Cemetery

Background & Context

- During Reconstruction, Separate But Equal and Jim Crow laws were prevalent in the County.
- The “Lost Cause” was an effort to vindicate the Confederacy.
- Monuments were erected across a broad swath of America, including Maryland.



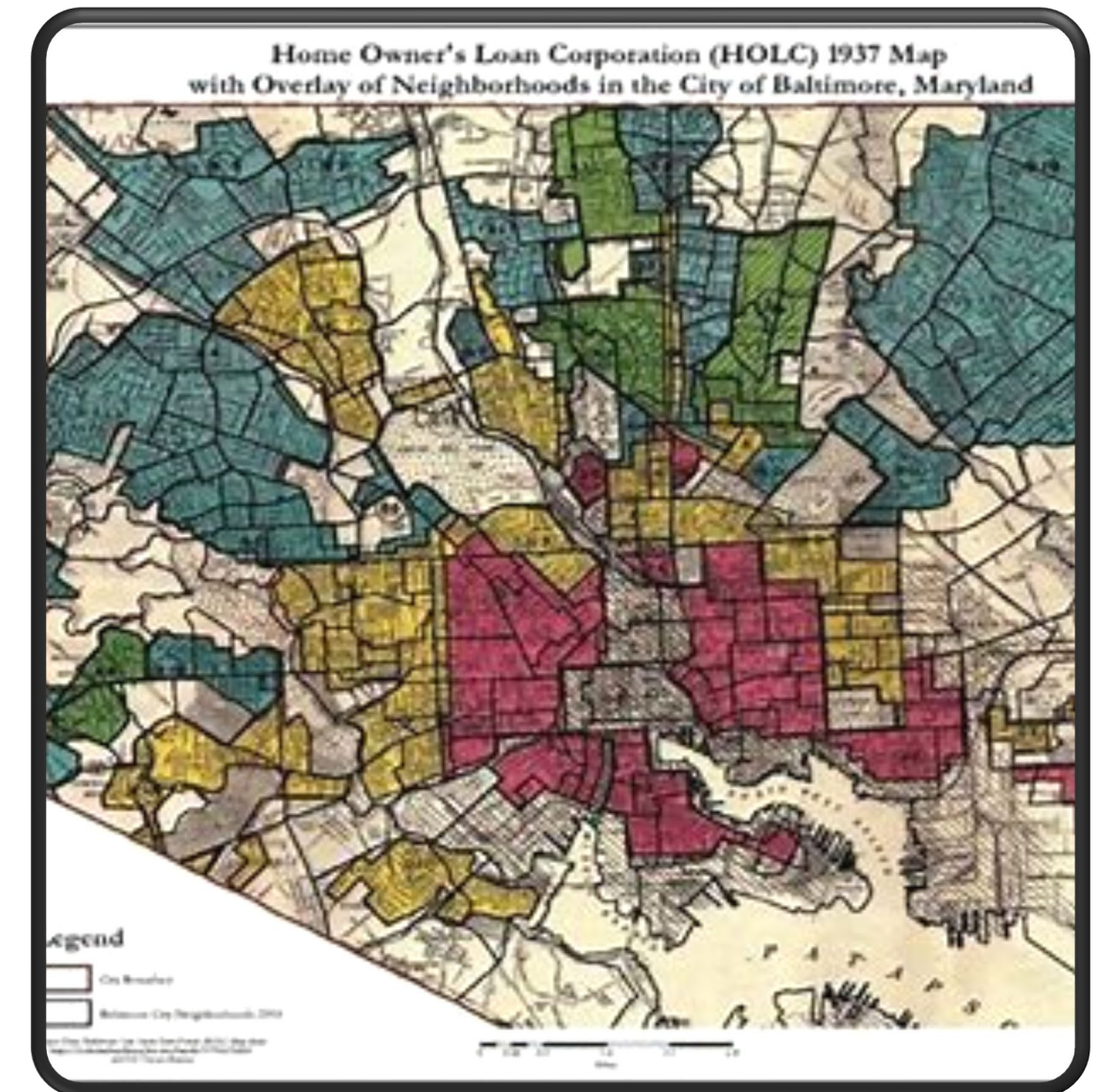
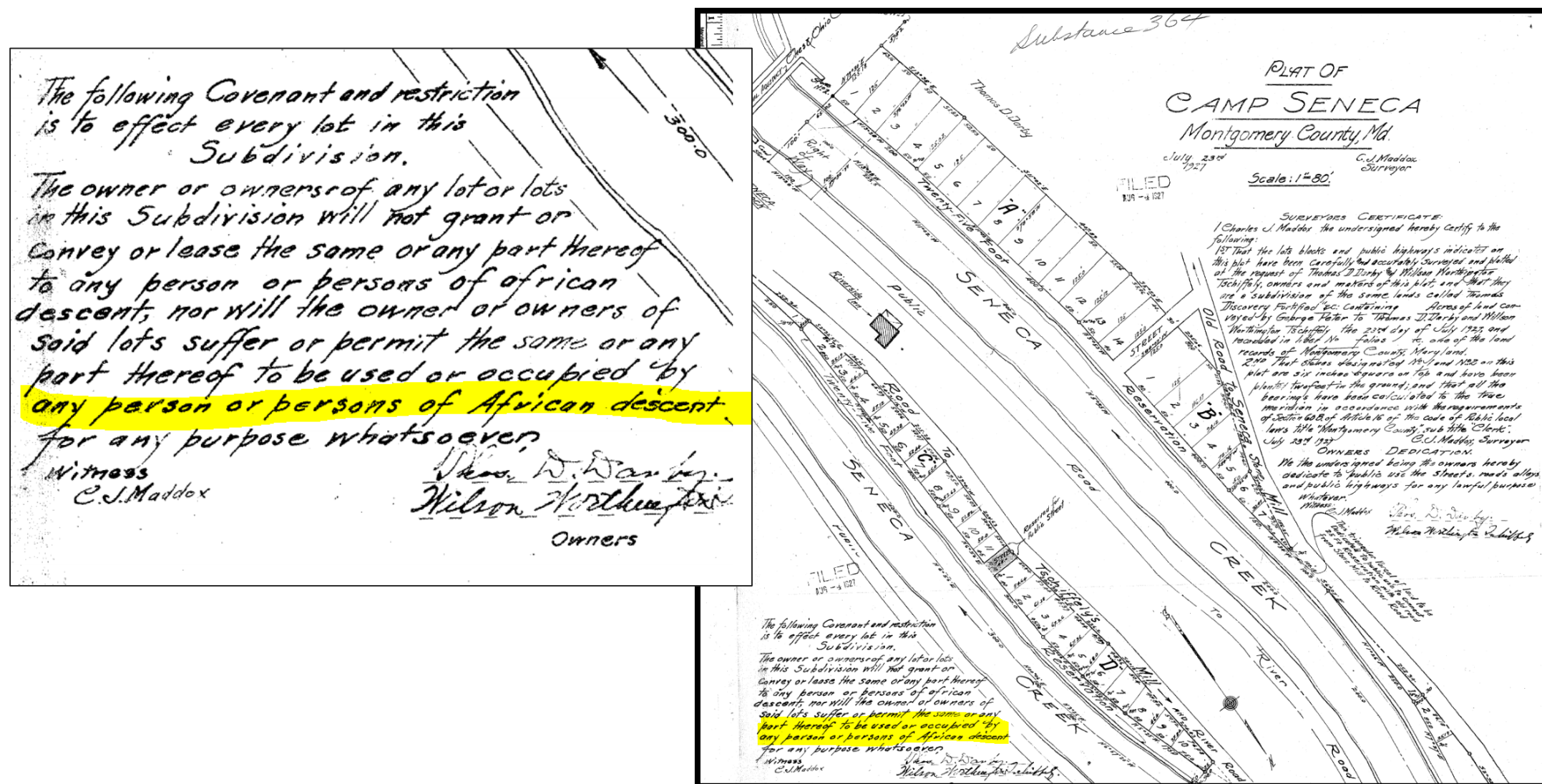
Maryland, 1930s



Rockville, 1927

Background & Context

- Throughout the first half of the 20th century, racial and religious restrictions were added to many deeds and plats as subdivisions proliferated.
- Only legally struck down in 1948. Much of this language is still on recorded deeds.
- “Redlining” further encouraged discriminatory lending practices and housing segregation.



Initial Outreach

- Created a website for the project with FAQs
- Created a public email address to accept input on concerns and potential renamings. Renaming@montgomeryplanning.org
- Director Gwen Wright sent letters to Municipalities
 - Have had further discussions with City of Takoma Park, Chevy Chase Village, Glen Echo, Somerset, City of Gaithersburg
- Coordinated with MCPS and Dr. Arronza LaBatt, Executive Director, Office of Teaching, Learning and Schools, MCPS
- Separate coordination efforts with MCDOT, 911/Emergency Services, DGS



Montgomery County, MD

Montgomery Planning Board



Español

中文

Other

| Text Size



Media Center

Meet The Board

Meetings

Agendas

M-NCPPC Montgomery County Street and Parks Facilities Naming Review

Montgomery Parks and Montgomery Planning working together to meet the County Council's June 15 request

Background:

On June 15, 2020, the Montgomery County Council sent a letter to County Executive Marc Elrich and Montgomery Planning Board Chair Casey Anderson asking for "a comprehensive review of all County owned and maintained street names and public facilities to determine all those named for Confederate soldiers or those who otherwise do not reflect Montgomery County values."

<https://montgomeryplanningboard.org/meet-the-board/> has oversight over the Montgomery County Planning Department and

Contact

For questions and comments, please contact us by **email** or by filling out the form on this page.

Categorization of Names

- Four groupings identified as part of initial research focus to correspond to Council request:
 1. **Nationally Known Confederates**
 2. Local Confederates
 3. Confederate Sympathizers
 4. Slaveholders
- MNCPPC historical research team focused on 1790s-1860s. Post-Civil War history and 20th century figures not yet considered except for Confederate sympathizers.
- Research parameters also had to consider COVID research restrictions.
- There are certainly others who do not reflect Montgomery County's values. These can be further identified by Council if desired.

Research Methodology and Sources

- Digitized local newspapers
- Burials of Confederate veterans
- Men from Montgomery County identified in Daniel Hartzler's *Marylanders in the Confederacy* (1986) based largely on C.S.A. records at the National Archives
- Fact checking names against the National Park Service Civil War Soldiers and Sailors Database
- Data transfer from Maryland State Archives' Legacy of Slavery database, including census records, manumission documents, and runaway ads
- Tax assessment records from 1793 to 1864 (preliminary review only)

Confederate Documentation

[7-742.]

Page No.		Eleventh Census of the United States.									
Supervisor's District No. 3		SPECIAL SCHEDULE.									
Enumeration District No. 135		SURVIVING SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AND MARINES, AND WIDOWS, ETC.									
Persons who served in the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps of the United States during the war of the rebellion (who are survivors), and widows of such persons, in <u>Montgomery</u> , County of <u>Montgomery</u> , State of <u>Alabama</u> , enumerated in June, 1890.											
JACOB B. BENT Enumerator.											

From Schedule No. 1.		NAMES OF SURVIVING SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AND MARINES, AND WIDOWS.	Rank.	Company.	Name of Regiment or Vessel.	Date of Enlistment.	Date of Discharge.	Length of Service.			
No.	Family No.							Ten.	Mon.	Days.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
19	21	William M. H. William R. Brown	Private	F	30	ad. inf	20 Jan 1863	29 Dec 1864	1	6	9
38	43	James H. Langdon	Private	A	12	ad. inf	10 Oct 1861	9 Apr 1865	4	1	
40	44	Louis G. Solgson	Private	G	31	ad. inf	Sept 1861	Jan 1865	1	9	
66	70	James Spaulding Joseph A. Phillips	Private	C	4	U.S. Cavalry	Apr 1862	1863	5		
110	115	Charles M. Robinson Ph Phillips & McGowan	Private	B	11	ad. inf	Apr 1861	Aug 1861	3		
146	149	Charles W. Miller	Private	A	2	Kearney	Oct 1861	Oct 1861	6		
168	176	Abraham Davis	Capt	B	6	Pennsylvania	17 Aug 1863	31 Mar 1865	2	3	
174	183	William B. White	Private	A	1	Infantry	186	186			
177	187	Charles H. Brown	Private	E	37	U.S. Inf	Jun 1864	Dec 1864	2	1	
177	186	Robert Brown	Private	E	37	U.S. Inf	Jun 1864	Dec 1864	2	1	

POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	DISABILITY INCURRED.	REMARKS.
10	11	12
Jimmallytown D.C.		Promoted to Corporal;
Jimmallytown D.C.		Sergeant, orderly sergeant,
V. Gray of Congress, Wash.Dc.		and First Lieutenant -
Bethesda Montgomery Co Md.		don't recollect dates.
Bethesda Montgomery Co Md.		
Beas Montgomery Co Md.		
Beas Montgomery Co Md.		
Bethesda Montgomery Co Md.		
George Town D.C.		
Jimmallytown D.C.		

(Confederate.)

M. | 11 Cav. | Va.

Phil A. Meyer
1st Lt. Co. D, 11 Reg. Virginia Cavalry.

Appears on _____
Company Muster Roll
of the organization named above, _____
for *July & Aug.*, 1863.

Enlisted: _____
When *Apr. 8*, 1863.
Where *Newmarket*
By whom *Capt M. C. Donald*
Period *2 years*
Last paid _____
By whom *Capt Taylor*
To what time *Apr 30*, 1863.

Present or absent *Absent*
Remarks *Absent without leave*

The 11th was known as the 1stst Maryland Virginia Cavalry
was organized in June 1862, with seven companies, A to G, which
had previously served in the 11th Maryland Virginia Cavalry.
Company B was formerly Company C, 11th Maryland Virginia
Cavalry, and it was assigned to the 11th Maryland Virginia Cavalry
about January 5, 1863. By S. O. No. 20, Adj. Gen. Records
Virginia, dated February 5, 1863, two companies (F and G) of the
11th Maryland Virginia Cavalry were added to the
11th Maryland Virginia Cavalry and the 11th Maryland Virginia
Cavalry.

Book mark: _____

W. A. Rodey
Capt.

(1862)



Ex-Confederates at Rockville.

The Washington Post (1877-1922); Feb 3, 1896; ProQuest Historical Newspaper
pg. 7

Ex-Confederates at Rockville.

The third annual meeting of the Ridge-ly Brown Camp of Confederate Veterans of Montgomery County was held Saturday at the Rockville court house. Officers for the ensuing year were elected, as follows: Capt. E. J. Chiswell, Commander; Capt. Thomas Griffith, Lieutenant Commander; E. L. Amliss, Adjutant; E. L. Tschiffely, Treasurer; Frank B. Horner, Spencer C. Jones, John P. Sellman, and D. H. Horner, executive committee. The following were elected delegates to the general encampment: Spencer C. Jones and John P. Sellman; alternates, Cooke D. Luckett and E. L. Tschiffely.

Delegates to the Baltimore convention, which will convene for the purpose of organizing a State division of Confederate Veterans, were elected as follows: James Anderson, Robert M. Mackall, and David Griffith.

An appropriation of \$10 was made to the Jefferson Davis monument fund.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction

Slaveholding Documentation



The Maryland State Archives Presents:

LEGACY OF SLAVERY IN MARYLAND

An Archives of Maryland Electronic Publication



[Archives' Home](#) [print page](#)



[Home](#) [Overview](#) [Case Studies](#) [Interactive Maps](#) [Database](#) [Traveling Exhibit](#) [Resources](#) [Recent Projects](#) [Contact](#)

RAN AWAY

From the subscriber, living about two miles from Rockville, Montgomery County, Maryland, on the night of the 2d May, a negro man named CHARLES, about five feet six inches high, very spare made; and will probably attempt to pass by the name of Charles Butler. He took with him only what cloathes he had on, which were made of country cloth. Whoever takes up the said negro shall receive a reward of ten dollars if taken in Montgomery, or twenty dollars if out of the county.

SAMUEL MIDDLETON.
May 6 1831

245	4 th Q. Dist. Male Slaves under 12 years of age From 19 to 21 From 21 to 45 From 45 to 60									
1833	Name		Age	Value	Name		Age	Value	Name	
Ineale Ann					Charles		23	400		
Ineale Eleanor					Lutie		33	400		
Prather William H.					Hanson		42			
Ches					Andrew		28	800		
Perry Peter D	Thomas	6	75	William	18	250	Hanson	25	Frank	30
							Alexander	21		
							Abraham	35	1300	
Piles Rachel	Thomas	1		Henry	14	250	Medwick	40	400	
	Lane	3	130							
Piles William H				John	17	250	Lutie	21	400	
Perry A. B. D. 1863	James	9	75							
Perry Samuel	Joseph	8		George	20		Oliver	28	400	
	Charles	1	150	William	14					
				Wesley	14					
				Washington	15					
				Harrison	12	1250				
Pote Ann R										

RECORD OF SLAVES IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, A						At the Time of the Adoption of the Constitution in 1864.									
DATE	NAME OF OWNER	NAME OF SLAVE	SEX	AGE	PHYSICAL CONDITION	TERM OF SERVITUDE	Left with or Taken by the Military.			Enlisted in U. S. Service.			REGIMENT	Compensation Received.	NAMES BY WHOM FORMER OWNERSHIP PROVEN.
							Dep.	Month.	Year.	Dep.	Month.	Year.			
1867 May 30 th	B. F. Smith, Agent as legal representative of M. B. Smith	Lena M. Smith	male	17	Healthy	For life									B. F. Smith
		Lena "	"	53	"	"									Edmund M. Smith
		Amelia Smith	female	35	"	"									Thomas L. Smith
		Calista "	male	10	"	"									
		John "	"	9	"	"									
		Lena "	"	6	"	"									
		Lena "	"	4	"	"									
		Lena "	female	18 mo	"	"									
	Mordcai Morgan	Stand Boone	male	26	Healthy	until 30 years old									Mordcai Morgan
		Lena "	"	24	"	"									Samuel M. Morgan
		Veget "	"	15	"	For life									Thomas L. Morgan
		Lena "	female	10	"	"									
	Jane Adams, per Robert L. Adams, her legal representative	Jessie Adams	female	30	Healthy	For life									Robert L. Adams
		John "	male	25	"	"									A. H. Adams
		Mary "	female	21	"	"									Isaac L. Adams
		Kenneth "	"	19	"	"									
		Rose "	"	17	"	"									
		Ada "	"	15	"	"									
		Callista "	"	14	"	"									
		Frances "	"	13	"	"									
		Abel "	"	11	"	"									
		Edna "	"	18	"	"									
	Charles Smith, per A. J. Smith	Frank	male	20	Healthy	For life									A. J. Smith (deceased)
															Co. Gary Smith
															M. Smith
	Horace Benton	Horace Benton	male	30	Healthy	For life									Horace Benton, 1st S. Benton
		Ann Benton	female	25	"	"									John S. Benton
	Jane B. Smith, per J. B. Smith	Robert Smith	male	14	Healthy	For life									Horace Benton, 1st S. Benton
	Benton her owner	William Benton	"	12	"	"									James A. Benton

Preliminary Database

- **709 known Confederates** (including **269 residents** of Montgomery County and **440 senior officers** of the Confederate Army);
- **5,826 slaveholders** from 1790 to 1864;
- **137 Streets** matching local Confederate surnames;
- **325 Streets** matching all Confederate surnames;
- **30 parks and 6 trails** matching Confederate surnames; **verification/further research reveals only 2 parks and 1 trail are actual matches;**
- The database also contains critically important compiled information, including to date the names of over **3,300** enslaved individuals who were held in bondage in Montgomery County;
- Database and maps are works in progress but will be made available to public for research and future use when historians have completed required additional work and Q/C.

Further Research in Database Required

There must be a documented association between the named person and the named asset.

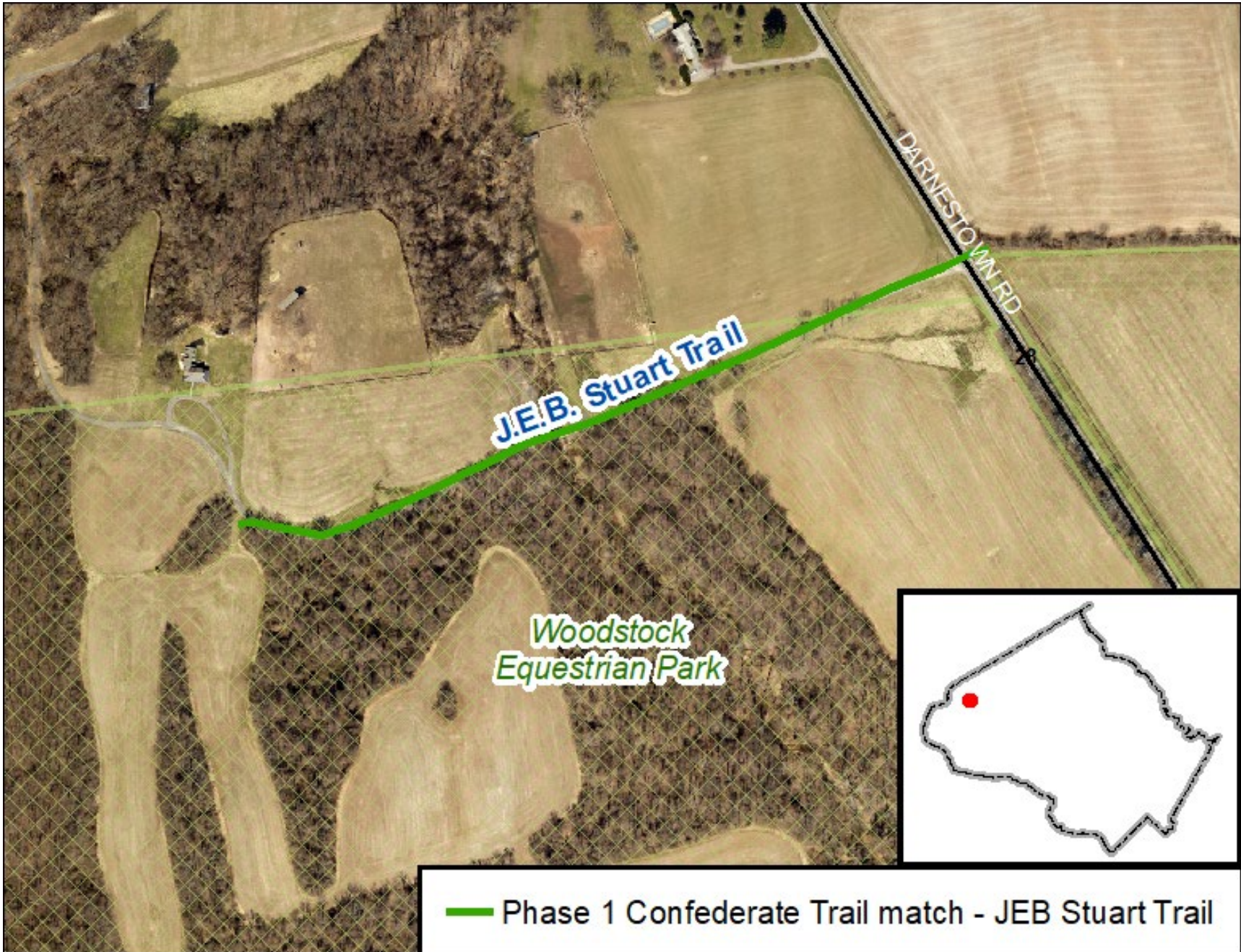
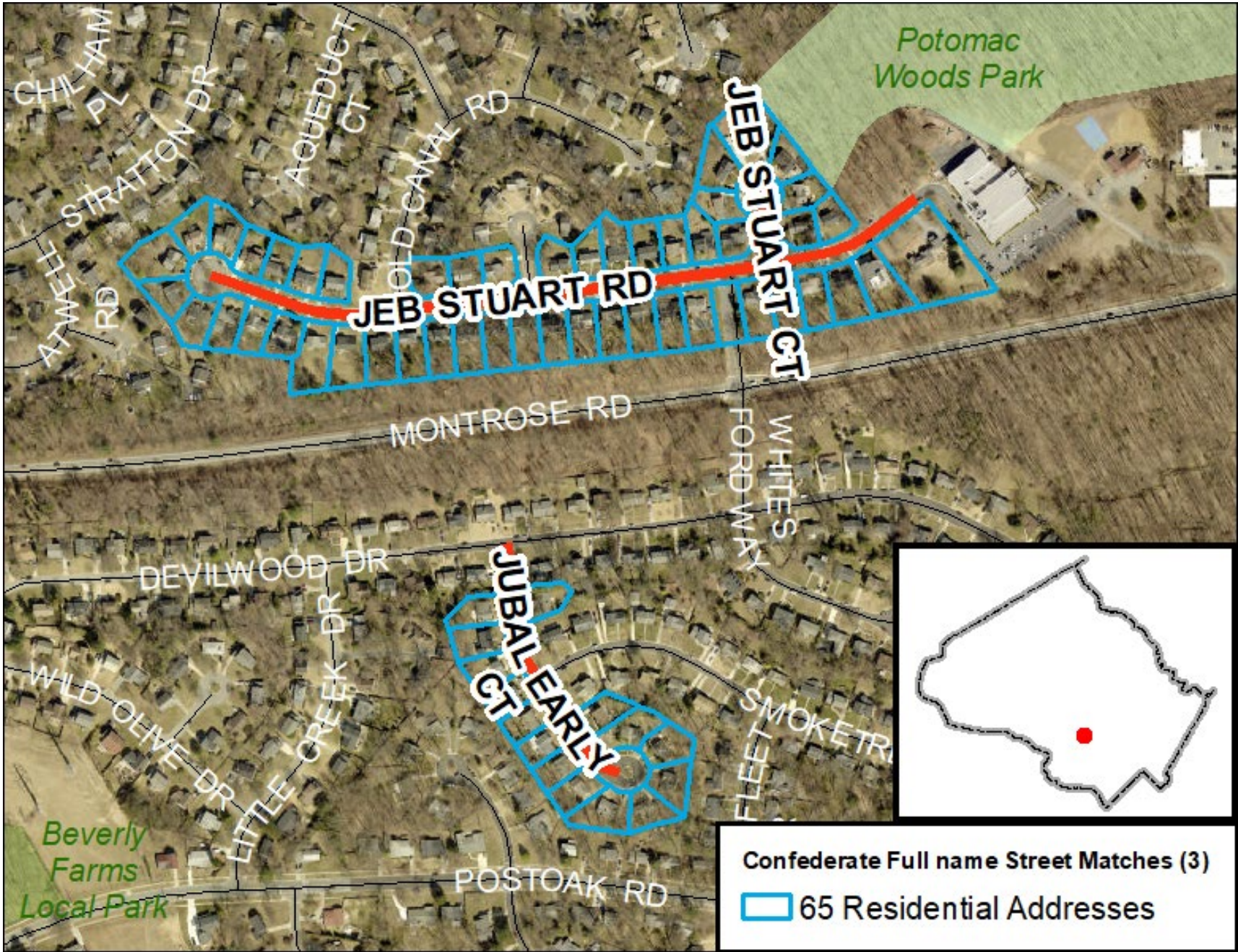
Some names in the database may or may not align with people who do not reflect Montgomery County's values. Further research is required to address this issue.

- Streets matched with the last name Lee are in the database, but it is not yet known whether they are named after Robert E. Lee, E. Brooke Lee, another member of the Lee Family, or an unrelated Lee. For example: Rear Admiral Samuel Phillips Lee was Col. Robert E. Lee's cousin, but served the Union and married Francis P. Blair Sr.'s daughter.
- Howard Chapel Drive leads to an historically African American community, church, and cemetery. The Howards were free blacks dating back to at least the 1830s. There was also a separate Howard family who held people in slavery.
- Johnson's Local Park in Emory Grove/Gaithersburg. There are 4 Johnsons in the database who are Confederates and 18 who are slaveholders. This park, however, is named after Edward Johnson, an African American entrepreneur and business owner. This park, which contained an illuminated baseball field, served a thriving Black community and hosted a Methodist Camp Meeting.

Phase 1: Nationally Known Confederates, Full Name Matches

- JEB Stuart Court
- JEB Stuart Road
- Jubal Early Court
- J.E.B. Stuart Trail at Woodstock Equestrian Park

Nationally Known Confederates w/Full Name Matches Streets & Park Assets



Beyond Phase 1

- As noted previously, there are other groupings in database of people who "do not reflect Montgomery County values," including:
 1. Other Nationally Known Confederates (surname only—full name listed previously)
 2. Local Confederates
 3. Confederate Sympathizers
 4. Slaveholders
- Phase 2 and Future phases, if Planning Board and Council directs, could include names in these groupings, but would require additional research to confirm intent of linking a given name to an asset.

M-NCPPC Street Naming & Renaming Policy

- Since 1950s, M-NCPPC is sole entity tasked with the naming or renaming of any street or highway in Montgomery County, except within certain independent municipalities. State delegated exclusive jurisdiction over process to the Montgomery County Planning Board, with management by Montgomery County Planning Department.
- Many streets that have an historical basis were named prior to 1950s.
- A property owner or developer can suggest a street name, but the final decision is made by M-NCPPC.
- Typically, a property owner or developer requests the street name.
- The *Addressing and Street Naming Manual* (2014) and Street Renaming Policy (2017) available online.

Legal & Agency Considerations for Renaming Streets

- Potential impacts to property owners include utilities, mortgage deeds, and additional paperwork. These mean costs to homeowners.
- Government coordination with Emergency Services, DOT, DGS.
- M-NCPPC required administrative costs typically associated with renaming streets.
- DOT costs to remove and replace street signs, including labor and materials.

Step by Step Street Renaming

Phase 1 (Approximately 30-45 days)

Complete a petition according to the “Process to Review Street Names” memo;

Send the petition package to M-NCPPC/IRC including the following;

- Statement on how the public interest is served by the name change;
- Statement defining the problem of the current name;
- Petition with signatures from property owners;
- Information on any historical significance of existing name;
- Proof of notification of any Civic Associations/HOAs within 1-mile radius.

Step by Step Street Renaming

Phase 1 cont'd. (Approximately 30-45 days)

- If the petition is unanimous; all effected residents have signed the petition affirmatively. A street name change is approved to move forward and continues to Phase 2. (30-day review)
- If the petition is not complete or unanimous; the residents disagree about changing the street name, so the request is forwarded to the Planning Board. (45-day review)
 - The Address Section (IRC) will prepare a staff report and schedule a hearing date.
 - The petitioner/community will be notified of the hearing date
 - The Planning Board will decide whether the petition will move forward.

Step by Step Street Renaming

Phase 2 (Approximately 90-days): An Address Change/Renaming has been approved.

- MNCPPC / IRC will coordinate with Montgomery County DOT, DTS, and DPS, as well as USPS and SDAT, to complete the street name and address changes.
- Address numbers are also subject to change as part of this process.
- MNCPPC / IRC will implement the new street name and corresponding addresses.
- In order to continue receiving mail at both the old and new addresses during this transition, residents should complete a Change-of-Address form with the US Postal Service.
- Residents will be responsible for updating all personal records regarding the new address, including with banks, schools, the MVA, any pertinent federal agency, and in some cases, property deeds (residents should check with their title company to determine if this is necessary.)
- MNCPPC will closely monitor the transition to the new street name, ensuring that all public databases (SDAT, USPS, MC emergency services) reflect the correct information.

Step by Step Street Renaming

How is a New Name Chosen?

- The community can suggest alternative street names, which will be reviewed for compliance with the *Address & Street Naming Manual*.
- M-NCPPC maintains a list of potential names.
- Final decision by M-NCPPC.
- Community suggestions strongly considered.
- Must meet M-NCPPC best practices detailed in the *Manual*.

Step by Step Street Renaming

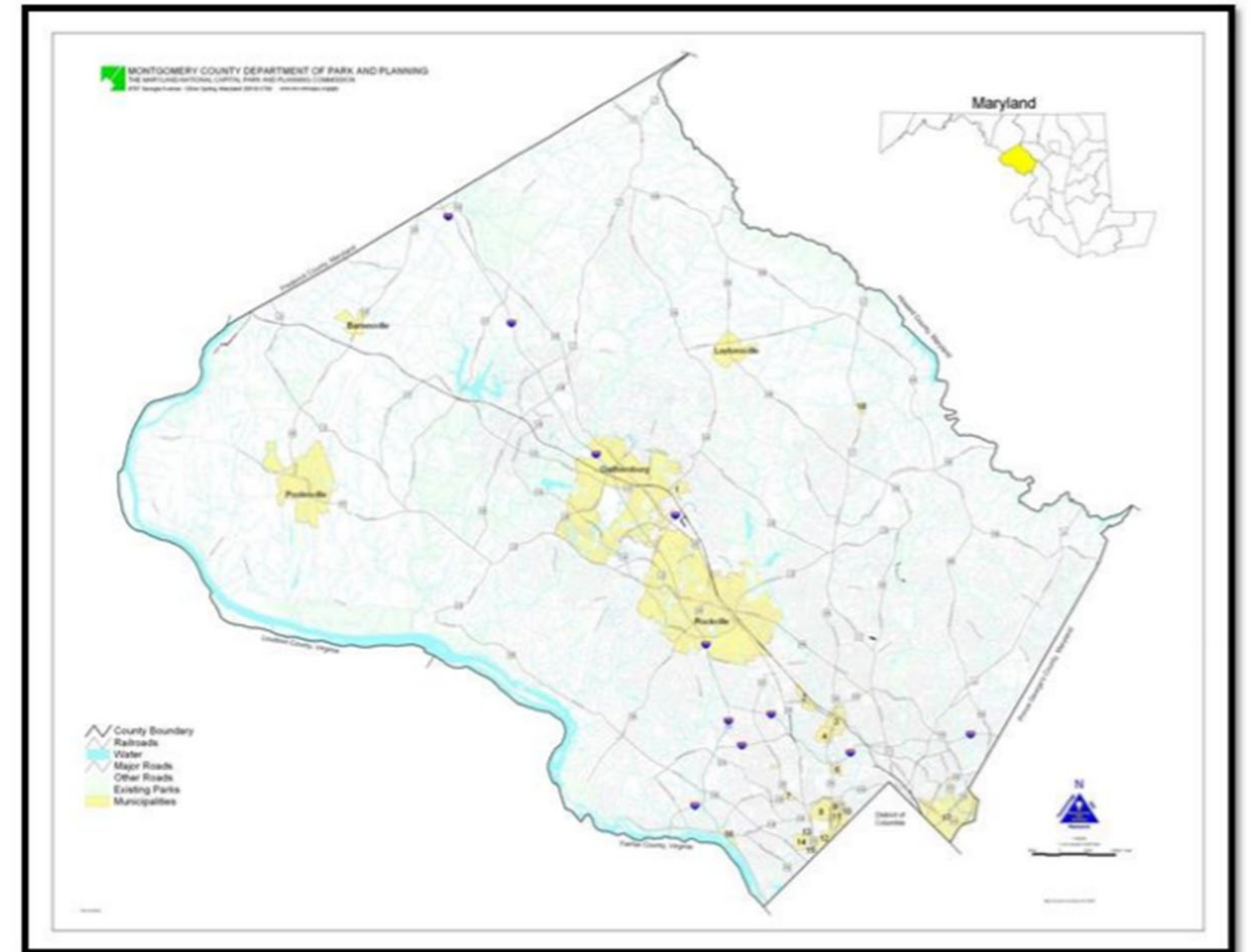
Examples from *Address and Street Naming Manual*:

- Street Names Deemed Offensive Will Not Be Approved
- Cannot duplicate an Existing Street
- Cannot be phonetically similar (Parakeet Court/Park Heat Court)

All Examples and Applicable Rules Available in the *Manual* on the web:

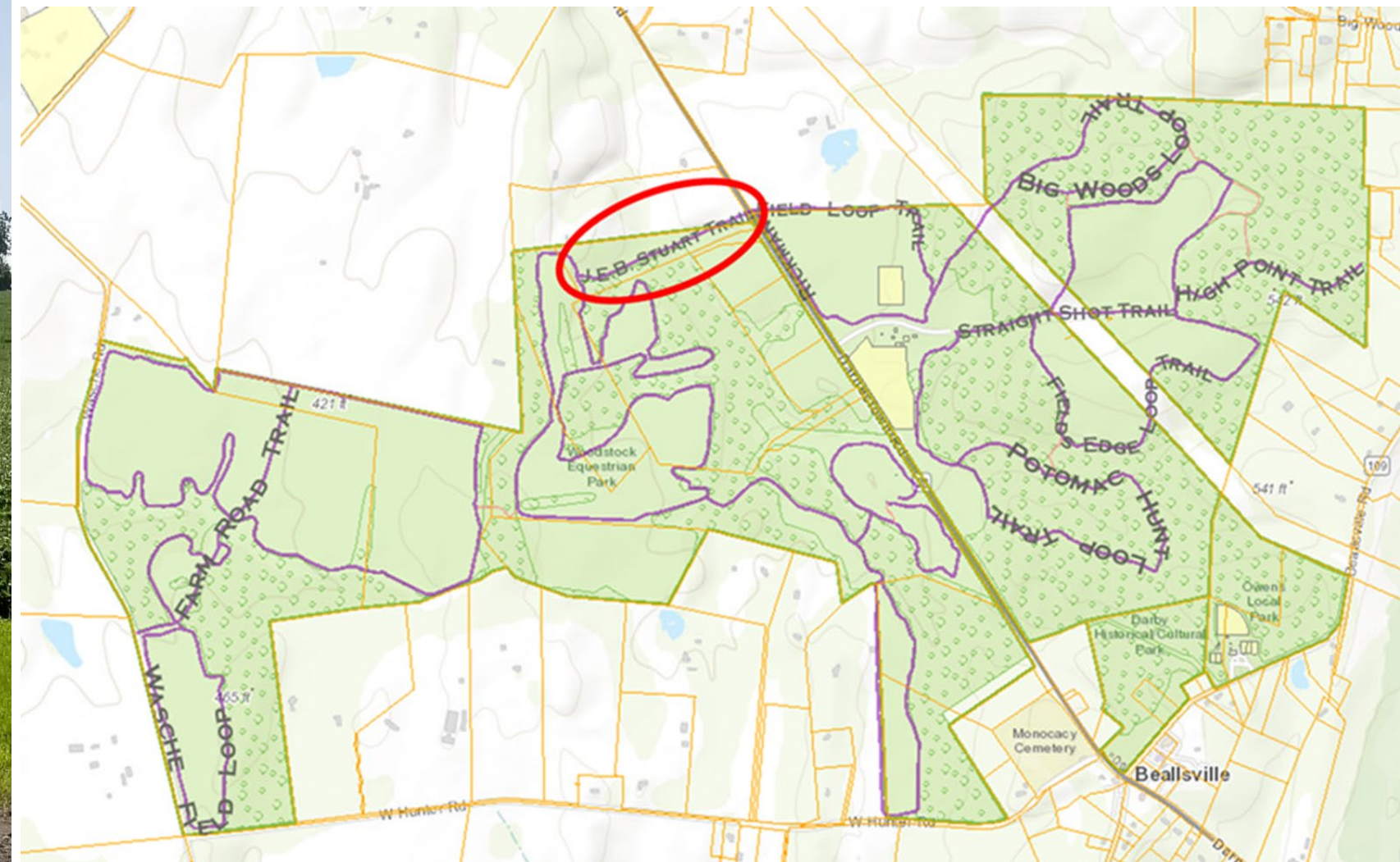
- https://www.montgomeryplanning.org/development/about/documents/AddressManual_Final.pdf

Addressing and Street Naming



Guidelines and Procedures Manual for
Montgomery County, Maryland

Park Asset Match to Nationally Known Confederate



J.E.B. Stuart Trail, Moritz Greenberg Center at Woodstock Equestrian Park

(J.E.B. Stuart and 1,800 Confederate cavalry moved through this area in October 1862)

Renamed Park Trail, Phase 1

- New trail name: Northern Edge Trail
- Removed current J.E.B. Stuart signpost
- Constructing new signposts
- Changed out maps at park kiosks
- Changed website to show new name on trail map
- If there is funding, will create 2 new interpretive signs, National Park Service-style



Timeline

Fall 2020:

- October 1, 2020: Sought guidance from Planning Board
- December 7, 2020: PHED Committee
- January 2021: Full Council

Winter 2020/21:

- Return to Planning Board with refinements. Possible additional phasing if PB and Council direct.
- Return to Council with refinements, including any further phases, public process and outreach.

Potential Items for 2021 and Beyond:

- Full public outreach.
- Implementation of Council and Planning Board Directive on renaming effort.

Conclusion: PHED Comments & Guidance

- Recommended Phased Research Approach
- Consideration of Any Future Phases
- Current Renaming Policy & Process
- Step by Step Renaming Process
- Impact on affected property owners
- Impact on Current Work Program
- Timeline/Potential for Supplemental FY 21 Budget Request