MARYLAND WOMEN’S HERITAGE TRAIL

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

CLARA BARTON NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE  F-12
5801 Oxford Road • Glen Echo, Maryland 20812 • 301-492-6246 • www.nps.gov/clba

The founder of the American Red Cross, Clara Barton lived here from 1897 until she died in 1912. The house was the first permanent headquarters of the organization, and was also a home for Red Cross volunteers. Clara Barton was also a lifelong supporter of the enfranchisement of African Americans and of women’s rights, in addition to being honored as the “Angel of the Battlefield” for her courageous nursing of soldiers during the Civil War. A nearby parkway also bears her name. (Also see listing for “Antietam” in Washington County.)

BEALL-DAWSON HOUSE  E-12
103 West Montgomery Avenue • Rockville, Maryland 20850 • 301-762-1492 • www.montgomeryhistory.org

The federal-style townhouse (circa 1815) provides a glimpse into the heritage of Montgomery County in the period rooms and changing exhibitions of the time. Highlighted is the daily life of the Bealls and their household, including slaves, during the early 19th century. The Beall-Dawson House was a house of women; the builder of the house, Upton Beall, died in 1827, leaving a widow and three daughters. His widow, Jane, did not remarry and his daughters never married. The Beall women successfully managed the house and additional property. The house contains unusual interior slave quarters above the kitchen. The house is listed on the National Register of Historical Places.

BETHESDA FARM WOMEN’S MARKET  D-13
7155 Wisconsin Avenue • Bethesda, Maryland 20814 • 301-652-2291

A group of Montgomery County women formed the Farm Women’s Cooperative as a self-help response to the severe economic conditions of the Great Depression. In 1932, they held the first market in an empty storefront, selling fresh produce and home-made products directly to suburban families. The women built a permanent structure in 1934 and it has been in continuous use as a farm market ever since.

BOYDS NEGRO SCHOOL HOUSE  D-13
Boystown/Clarksburg Historical Society • 19510 White Ground Road • Boyds, Maryland 20844 • 301-972-0484

The historical society maintains a restored one-room schoolhouse (1896-1936). The schoolhouse includes 19th century period furnishings, artifacts, video and audio tapes of school alumnas, photographs, maps, and historical reading materials on the school and community. During the 41 years of classes, the Boyd’s School operated on the barest of
essentials. Oil lamps were used instead of electricity, students had to bring water from a nearby spring and chop wood to feed the potbellied stove, and books were handed down from schools which only white children were allowed to attend. Women played a major role in this school.

RACHEL CARSON HOME  E-12
11701 Berwick Road • White Oak, Maryland 20904 (private home)

“Quaint Acres” is the home of the scientist, Rachel Carson, often called the founder of the environmentalist movement. Carson became famous for her controversial best-selling book, Silent Spring, published in 1962. Her condemnation of the pesticide industry led to wide-scale growth in environmental consciousness. She showed that DDT and other chemicals used to enhance agricultural productivity were poisoning our lakes, rivers, oceans, and, as a result, ourselves. Through her work, Carson enhanced scientific respectability for the environmental movement and prompted the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency. She died at “Quaint Acres” in 1964.

F. SCOTT AND ZELDA FITZGERALD BURIAL PLACE  E-11
St. Mary’s Church Cemetery • Corner of Veirs Mill Rd. and Rt. 335 • Rockville, Maryland 20850

Acclaimed author F. Scott Fitzgerald and his wife, Zelda, whose lives are described in the famous book, The Great Gatsby, are buried here.

MADONNA OF THE TRAIL MONUMENT  F-12
Wisconsin Avenue at Montgomery Lane • Bethesda, Maryland 20814

Dedicated in April 1929, this monument is the farthest east and last in the series of twelve identical statues erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) to mark the old trails used by pioneer settlers. This sculpture commemorates this county’s pioneer women and their role in the nation’s Westward expansion.

GEORGE MEANY MEMORIAL ARCHIVES  E-12
10000 New Hampshire Avenue • Silver Spring, Maryland 20904 • 301-431-5451 • www.georgeameany.org/home.html

This Archives preserves historical records of labor organizations and has exhibits documenting the history of labor movements, including roles of women.

SANDY SPRING MUSEUM  D-12
1701 Bentley Road • Sandy Spring, Maryland 20860 • 301-774-0022 • www.sandyspringmuseum.org

The Sandy Spring Museum, established in 1980, is dedicated to preserving the history and heritage of the greater Sandy Spring community. Historically this community included the farms and homes in a six mile radius around the Spring. This history also includes the strength,
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intelligence and longevity of Sandy Spring women. These women vigorously espoused such causes as women's suffrage and curbs on the use of alcohol. Additionally, many of the original landowners passed their properties through the daughters of Sandy Spring. Examples of leaders include Margaret Briggs Farquhar and Caroline Miller who in 1889 organized the Women's Suffrage Association of Sandy Spring, and Mary Bentley Thomas who also played a major role in the struggle for women's rights, often hand-in-hand with Susan B. Anthony.

SANDY SPRING SLAVERY MUSEUM AND AFRICAN ART GALLERY  D-12
18524 Brook Road • Sandy Spring, Maryland 20860 • 301-384-0727

The Sandy Spring Slavery Museum and African Art Gallery is currently home to three major displays depicting elements of the African slave legacy. One display is a cross-section of a slave clipper ship that shows some of the conditions which enslaved persons were subject to during the Middle Passage. Another display is of a slavery era log cabin relocated from Olney, Maryland. There is also an arts pavilion with displays, such as sculpture, musical instruments, and masks reflecting the African Diaspora. A new exhibit, The Great Hall, will house artifacts and documents representing the Civil Rights Movement, including women's contributions.

SENeca SCHOOLHOUSE AND MUSEUM    D-10
16800 River Road • Poolesville, Maryland 20837 • 1-800-925-0880

This schoolhouse, used as a museum and a teaching facility, is a reminder of the early days of public education and of the roles played by women.

PRINCE GEORGE’S COUNTY

COLLEGE PARK AVIATION MUSEUM    F-13
1985 Corporal Frank Scott Drive • College Park, Maryland 20740 • 301-864-6029

The College Park Aviation Museum is at the site of the world’s oldest operating airport. It houses interactive exhibits, programs, movies, aviation crafts, and the Civilian Aviation Room, with displays highlighting inventors, aviators, memorabilia, trophies, panels about air shows and races, “Breaking the Gender Code” about WASPs (Women Air Service Pilots), and oral history monitors. The airport boasts an impressive list of women who earned the title “aviatrix” including: Dr. Vera Rollo, who won her wings at 19, was a World War II flight instructor and multi-engine/seaplane pilot for many years, and flew in air shows and air races; Bernetta Adams Miller, fifth American woman to earn her international Aviator’s license (1912) who joined the Women’s Oversees Service League and served in France in the 82nd Infantry Division; Elaine Harmon, who qualified to join WASPs; Polly Hill, former College Park airport manager, who is a commercial pilot and flight instructor; Elizabeth Materese who works for the Federal Aviation Administration; Edna Dragoo, local flight instructor and instrument instructor; Betsy Weick, a pilot who demonstrated the Ercoupe aircraft; and Mrs. Ralph H. Van Deman, first passenger to fly in the United States when Orville Wright took her for a 4 minute flight over the airport in 1909.
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GREENBELT COMMUNITY CENTER  F-13

15 Crescent Road • Greenbelt, Maryland 20770 • 301-397-2208

The sculpted friezes that are featured on the outside of the Greenbelt Community Center (formerly the Greenbelt Center Elementary School) were created by renowned sculptor Lenore Thomas. She produced art for several federal government projects during the Great Depression of the 1930’s. The Community Center friezes represent each section of the Preamble to the U.S. Constitution. A statue of “mother and child” by Lenore Thomas is also found in the Greenbelt Center courtyard.

GRIGSBY STATION  F-13

12450 Sir Walter Drive • Glenn Dale, Maryland 20769

Belva Lockwood (1830-1917) was the first woman to run for the presidency of the United States. In 1884 she announced her candidacy on a farm in Landover, Maryland, in a cabin, called Grigsby Station, which has since been moved to nearby Glenn Dale. She received 4,149 votes—all cast of course by men, since women did not have the right to vote. She was the first woman to attend and graduate from Genesee College in New York state, and one of the first in America to earn a law degree. Denied the right to practice law in Maryland, she had a successful legal career in Washington, D.C. When the U.S. Supreme Court refused to let her argue a case before it, she persuaded Congress to pass a law that permitted women to do so.

MARY HARRIS “MOTHER” JONES HISTORICAL MARKER  F-13

Powder Mill and Riggs Road • Adelphi, Maryland 20783

The Maryland Historical Trust — State Highway Marker of Mother Jones “Grand Old Champion of Labor,” is located at the site where the legendary labor organizer died at the Walter and Lillie May Burgess farmhouse on November 30, 1930. The farmhouse no longer exists, but several foundation stones from it have been unearthed on the property of the Hillandale Baptist Church. Mother Jones’ “100th” birthday celebration at the farmhouse was a nationwide event, reported throughout the county. A nearby elementary school has just been named in honor of Mother Jones.

CHRISTA CORRIGAN MCAULIFFE MEMORIAL DISPLAYS  F-13

Thomas Johnson Middle School • 5401 Barker Place • Lanham, Maryland 20706 • 301-918-8680

Christa Corrigan McAuliffe (1948-1986) was chosen by NASA as the first participant in the Teacher in Space program. She came to Maryland after her marriage and earned a Master’s degree from Bowie State University. She taught at Benjamin Foulois Junior High School and from 1971 to 1978 at Thomas Johnson Junior High School. She was killed when the Challenger space shuttle exploded on take-off. A lecture program at Bowie State University, a sculpture of her at Bowie New Town, and displays at Thomas Johnson Middle School honor her memory.

Historic Site Descriptions
MARYLAND WOMEN'S HERITAGE TRAIL

JUDITH RESNICK AUDITORIUM  
F-13
School of Engineering • University of Maryland  
College Park • College Park, Maryland 20742 • 301-405-3931

Judith A. Resnik became the second American woman astronaut in space in 1984 aboard the space shuttle Discovery. Her job was to work a robot arm to raise and lower a solar wing outside the craft. Earlier she developed experimental software. On her second flight, in 1986, she was killed when the space shuttle Challenger exploded on take-off. Dr. Resnik received her Ph.D. in electrical engineering at the University of Maryland, where an auditorium at the A. James Clark School of Engineering is named for her, as well as a memorial scholarship. She was inducted into the University's Alumni Hall of Fame in 1995.

RIVERSDALE  
F-13
4811 Riverdale Road • Riverdale, Maryland 20737 • 301-864-0420

Riversdale Mansion was the home of two women important in American history. The first was Rosalie Stier Calvert (1776-1821), the daughter of a Belgian aristocrat who was a refugee from the French Revolution. She married George Calvert, a descendant of Lord Baltimore. After her family returned to Europe in 1803, Rosalie completed the house and handled business affairs for her father. She held the first art exhibit in the United States with paintings by Van Dyck, Titian, Bruegel, and Rubens that were left with her for their safety. Her own portrait was painted by Gilbert Stuart and her letters are collected in Mistress of Riversdale, edited by Margaret Law Calcott. Hattie Caraway, who lived in Riversdale Mansion from 1829 to 1831, was appointed to fill out her husband’s term as a U.S. Senator in 1831 when he died. She later became the first woman ever elected to the Senate in her own right. She sold Riversdale in 1832.

ANNA ELEANOR ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL TREE  
F-13
Crescent Road (across from firehouse) • Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

Though never a resident of Maryland, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt frequently visited the New Town of Greenbelt during and after its construction in 1937. She was an ardent supporter of the Greenbelt Concept of “New Town” planned communities which provided low-cost housing during the Depression. When she first came to the site, she stood on a platform in the limbs of a tree to avoid the enveloping mud. Later she often dropped in during classes at the elementary school. The tree was dedicated to her in 1968. The high school in Greenbelt is also named for her.
GLADYS NOON SPELLMAN PARKWAY   E-13; D-14
Route 295 • Connecting Baltimore and Washington, D.C.
A part of the Baltimore-Washington Parkway is named in honor of Gladys Noon Spellman, former Chair of the Prince George's County Commissioners, leader of the County Council, and a former congresswoman from Prince George's County. She was the first woman elected President of the National Association of Counties. An educator and leader in the areas of women’s rights, civil rights, and social justice, Gladys Spellman also worked on having the Parkway built to improve transportation in the Washington/Baltimore region. She served in Congress for six years and died in 1988. An overpass linking Old Greenbelt and Eleanor Roosevelt High School is also named in her honor.

ADELE H. STAMP STUDENT UNION   F-13
University of Maryland • College Park, Maryland 20742 • 301-314-3375
The first Dean of Women (1922-1960) at the University of Maryland was Adele H. Stamp (1893-1974). She had a profound influence on the educational and career goals of women. She founded several organizations for women on campus and in the larger community, such as the Women’s Student Government Association and the College Park Branch of AAUW. She served on the state board of the League of Women Voters and was a delegate to three national Democratic conventions. In 1983 the University’s student union building was named in her honor.

MARY SURRETT HOUSE   H-14
918 Brandywine Road • Brandywine, Maryland 20613
Mary Surratt (1823-1865) was the first woman executed by the U.S. government. In the national outpouring of emotion following the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, she was convicted by a military court of conspiring with John Wilkes Booth and others to kill the President. To this day, no one is sure if she was really guilty. Mary’s husband, John, built Surratt House as a tavern and family home. It was also a polling place and post office. After her husband died in 1862, the widowed Mary moved to Washington, D.C., where she opened a rooming house and where Booth sometimes visited her sons. Surratt House now is preserved as a historic property.

THE WOODYARD ARCHEOLOGICAL SITE   G-13
Woodyard Road • Clinton, Maryland 20735
Ann Joice was born about 1660 in the West Indies. She was a mulatto, who was taken as a child to England and trained as a cook. She came to Maryland as an indentured servant and worked for the family of Henry Darnall, the richest man in the county, at his home, The Woodyard. When her indenture was up, he burned her papers. When she objected, he imprisoned her in a cellar for most of a year. He kept her as a slave to the end of her life in 1735. In 1799 her grandson was able to show that the records of the ship that brought her to Maryland listed her as indentured, and therefore free.