Inside

2 New Six-to-Fix Sites Revealed
Plus Details about Each Project
3 Fundraising for Ellicott City
Update on State Funding
Heritage Fund Highlights
The Bel-Lox Diner
4 Drone Scans of Whites Hall
Upcoming Events

FROM THE DESK OF NICHOLAS A. REDDING

Lifting Others

“We rise by lifting others.” So noted famed orator Robert Ingersoll many years ago. It’s a message that has resonated here at Preservation Maryland in the many weeks we’ve spent assisting and lifting our fellow Marylanders in Ellicott City—a historic town caught in the crosshairs of a devastating flash flood on a sultry July evening this summer.

O ur ongoing technical assistance work in Ellicott City has allowed us to utilize our strengths—our understanding of historic buildings—to help those impacted to rise and recover. We, as an organization, have risen as a result and are stronger because of this experience.

It has also been one of the greatest financial and logistical challenges this organization has ever accepted. Fortunately, we’ve had tremendous support.

We are indebted to the entire Maryland preservation community which came together under one banner and one mission: to help Ellicott City.

Finally, I want you to know that our initial, split-second decision to tackle this challenge was made possible because funds from our Membership and Annual Fund campaign gave us the flexibility to do so. If you are proud of Preservation Maryland’s response to the need for this effort, I’d ask that you continue making a donation today to help us recover the tremendous expenses we have incurred as a result of this sustained operation and to give us the flexibility to respond to the next big challenge.

Together, we are lifting others and saving the very Best of Maryland.

The Phoenix

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY FOR MEMBERS OF PRESERVATION MARYLAND
DEDICATED TO PRESERVING MARYLAND’S HISTORIC BUILDINGS, NEIGHBORHOODS, LANDSCAPES, AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES THROUGHOUT OUTSTANDING FUNDING AND ADVOCACY

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ELICOTT CITY FLOOD RECOVERY AMONG NEW PROJECTS

New Six-to-Fix Projects Revealed at Annual Event

Intent on providing real solutions to big challenges, Preservation Maryland is poised for action.

Moving beyond Ellicott City, attendees learned about the challenge of protecting Kent County’s pristine Eastern Shore cultural landscapes from the depleting impact of large-scale commercial wind and solar projects. It was made clear that preservationists recognize the need for clean power—but not at the expense of our heritage when countless other locations abound. In Baltimore City, Preservation Maryland will team up with CivicWorks in an effort to plan for reuse of the decommissioned Clifton Park Valve House. The circa 1887 structure—once thought lost and beyond repair—is now the focus of a broader effort to invest in the park. Preservation Maryland has been asked to help envision that effort.

In Frederick County, the organization will support the small Town of Burkittsville—population 151—in their desire to repurpose a long-vacant historic brick home that served as the headquarters for Union General William Franklin during the Battle of South Mountain in 1862. The goal is to tackle the project to help bring more tourists to the tiny but immaculately preserved town. In St. Mary’s County, Newtowne Manor, an 18th-century Jesuit rectory important to the early history of Catholicism in Maryland, will be the focus of a planning effort to repurpose and reuse the architecturally and cultural significant building and landscape. Finally, Preservation Maryland will work statewide to address the shared resource-specific needs of historic cemeteries and burial sites, and assist in creating and disseminating new resources to prevent the continuation of the cycle of neglect.

Turn the page for more about the new Six-to-Fix projects. Learn how you can be part of the fix. »

By the Numbers

Preservation Funding Needs in Maryland

At the end of last Session, Maryland Historical Trust was charged by the General Assembly to assess the state of preservation and museum funding in each of their three grant programs: capital, non-capital, and museum.

$6 Total amount appropriated for the Trust’s grant programs in FY17
$1 mil Total amount available for bricks-and-mortar preservation at peak of capital program
$1.6 mil Total amount available for survey and research at peak of non-capital grant program
$2.3 mil Total funding for museum assistance program at its peak
$1.5 mil Total amount Preservation Maryland will request of Governor Hogan for these programs in FY18

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In the coming year, Preservation Maryland will focus direct technical and financial assistance to the following projects and will orchestrate a growing network of expert volunteers, community input, and capacity building to affect real change, bringing these places back from the edge. Find out more at sixtofix.org.
Valuing our Recent Past

Marylanders have an undeniable connection to time spent—and memories made—at the 1960s Bel-Loc Diner.

By Mark Tuminella

B Y EARLY JUNE, after Starbucks expressed interest in purchasing the diner at its busy intersection in Baltimore County, over 1200 people had already signed Preservation Maryland’s online petition in support of reuse, not demolition, of the property.

With the future of the Bel-Loc Diner still uncertain at the time of publishing, we want to take this opportunity to tell the story of not only the building but of the sense of place that the Diner has created for over 50 years. If the Bel-Loc is lost, these stories are all that will remain.

In March of 1963, Thomas Doxanas, one of the “Ts” of the popular Double-T Diner regional chain, and John Fangikis leased the property at the northeast corner of East Joppa Road and Loch Raven Boulevard. The original plan was to establish a fourth Double-T Diner, but by October of that year, they had instead formed a new company, Bel-Loc Diner, Inc. On April 4, 1964, the Bel-Loc Diner opened for business.

DeRaffele. At one time there were as many as 80 lunch wagons and railroad cars, most diners are featured overhanging rooflines with recessed lighting called folded plates, which zigzag around the building. The Bel-Loc Diner is the only example of this type of diner remaining in the Baltimore area, which makes saving this building from demolition all the more important.

The Bel-Loc Diner Manufac-
Drone scans of Whites Hall
New Technology for the Preservation Toolbox

In an effort to help document and market Whites Hall, Johns Hopkins’ boyhood home, Preservation Maryland has teamed up with Elevated Element, a full-service commercial drone operator to use photogrammetry to stitch together thousands of 2D images into a digital 3D fly-through. The 18th-century home and surrounding thirteen acres are for sale for $700,000 by current owners, the Polm Company. The drone and laser scans were completed in mid-July and featured in The Baltimore Sun. You can now buy a 3D model of the house!

Learn more at: presmd.org/hopkinsdrone

Upcoming Events
There’s so much to do on the Eastern Shore! Our list of events should give you a reason to cross the Bay all the year through. Many more events across Maryland at: presmd.org/events.

OCT 29-30 REVOLUTIONARY WAR & COLONIAL FESTIVAL Living history, colonial marketplace, manor house tours and more at Mount Harmon Plantation in Cecil County. More at: mountharmon.org

NOV 11-13 WATERFOWL FESTIVAL Nearly 20,000 people attend this annual festival in Easton that promotes natural conservation, promotes wildlife art, and showcases the Eastern Shore. More at: waterfowlfestival.org

NOV 17-JAN WINTERFEST OF LIGHTS Ocean City sparkles with more than 1 million holidays lights up and down the boardwalk with warming spots and activities for all ages. More at: ocxcom

DEC 4 CHRISTMAS TIME OF THE BARREN CREEK VILLAGE Includes a shuttle tour of several historic sites in Wicomico County with music, vendors, crafts and food along the way. More at: adkinsmuseum.org

INSIDE:
JUST REVEALED!
The year’s important and threatened sites on Preservation Maryland’s upcoming Six to Fix roster.

REAL PRESERVATION IN ACTION
OPEN IMMEDIATELY

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