



The Ox Hill Battlefield Park is located in the Fairfax Center Area. It is the site of the only Civil War battle to occur in Fairfax County, the Battle of Chantilly.

7. Heritage Resources

Heritage resources in the county are those sites or structures, including their landscape settings that exemplify the cultural, architectural, economic, social, political, or historic heritage of the county or its communities. Such sites or structures have been:

- » Listed on, or determined eligible for listing on, the National Register of Historic Places or the Virginia Landmarks Register;
- » Determined to be a contributing structure within a district so listed or eligible for listing;
- » Located within and considered as a contributing structure within a Fairfax County Historic Overlay District; or
- » Listed on, or meeting the criteria for listing on, the Fairfax County Inventories of Historic or Archeological Sites. These include historic buildings or other structures as well as historic period (post-1600s) and prehistoric (Native American, pre-1600s) archeological sites.

Heritage resources in the county include historic structures, landscapes, cemeteries, and historic and Native American archaeological sites. The Board's goal for preserving the county's heritage resources serves a public purpose by enhancing the quality of life through aesthetic diversity in the landscape and providing a sense of continuity to the county's historic and prehistoric past. This goal also recognizes that heritage resource preservation requires commitment from the public and private sectors and from the community.

There are thousands of recorded heritage resources located in Fairfax County. Most of these resources remain in private ownership and use, while only a handful are on public lands or open to the public as museums. Additionally, 13 Historic Overlay Districts have been designated by the Board and are protected by special provisions of the county's Zoning Ordinance. There are no Historic Overlay Districts located within the Fairfax Center Area.



Ox Hill Battlefield Park entrance off West Ox Road.



Commemorative marker marking location where Major General Philip Kearny was killed during Battle of Ox Hill (Chantilly).

The Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites

Established in 1969, the inventory is a catalog of historically significant sites within Fairfax County. The county's History Commission determines if a site is eligible to be listed on the inventory using a set of criteria. There are currently 360 sites on the inventory. These resources range from internationally-known Mount Vernon to more anonymous churches, bridges, houses, burial grounds, and objects. Inclusion on the inventory is an honorary designation and does not impose restrictions or limits as to what an owner can do with their property. The Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan recognizes these sites and lists them by area in the Heritage Resources sections. The lists within the Plan are updated on an annual basis. The Plan encourages preservation of these sites when possible. The History Commission is responsible for listing sites in the Inventory of Historic Sites. There is a nomination process, which includes submitting a request to the Department of Planning and Zoning staff review. Any person can nominate a site. The Inventory More information can be found on the website (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/historic/ihs/>).

The Fairfax Center Area contains three known heritage resources (Figure 7.1). Two historic sites are included in the Fairfax County Inventory of Historic Sites: Ox Hill Battlefield Memorial Park and Woodaman House. Ox Hill Battlefield Memorial Park is a cultural resource park owned and operated by the Fairfax County Park Authority. The park is on a site where the Civil War Battle of Ox Hill, also known as the Battle of Chantilly, was fought in September 1862. It includes two memorial markers commemorating the deaths of two union generals killed in that battle. Woodaman House is a privately owned residence with its earliest section dating to circa 1790. A third historic resource, Manassas Gap Railroad Independent Line, once crossed the county, including the Fairfax Center Area. The historic railroad right-of-way has not been extensively documented in this area; however, there are existing remnants of the railroad bed. Additionally, historic and family cemeteries are scattered across the county, and at least 11 existed in the Fairfax Center Area in 1994. It is unclear if these cemeteries still exist.

Many Native American sites within the Fairfax Center Area exist in undeveloped

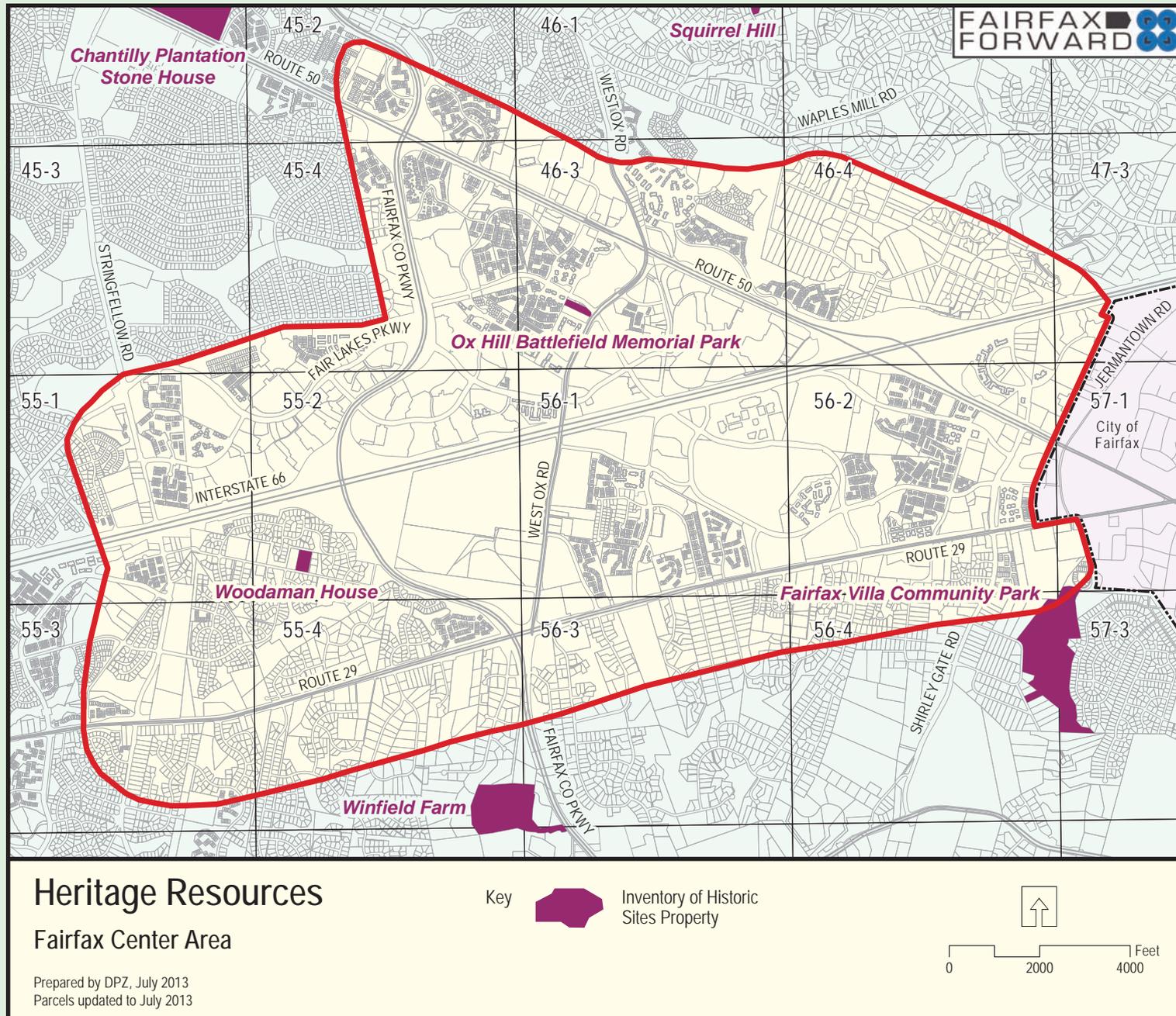
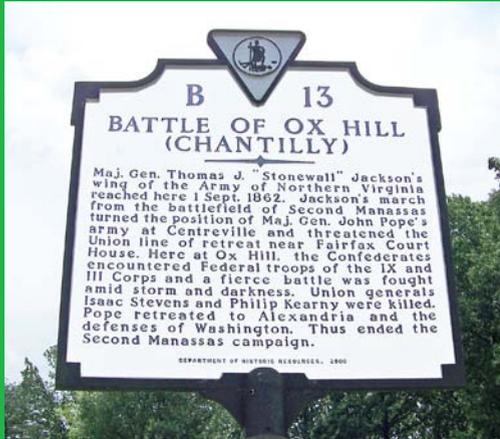


Figure 7.1 Heritage Resource locations in the Fairfax Center Area.



Battle of Ox Hill (Chantilly) historic marker along Monument Drive.

park areas. Native American site types include campsites, hunting stations, or stone quarries. The Native Americans used outcrops of quartz and cobbles available in streams for the manufacture of many types of tools, including spears, knives, arrow points, scrapers, axes, and awls. Also present are outcrops of high quality soapstone used to create bowls prior to the advent of ceramics, as well as ceremonial items. These Native American sites date from the earliest known occupations in the county 12,000 years ago up to European contact. It is very likely that the region contains additional sites in areas that have not yet been subjected to archaeological survey or historic research.

A formal survey of historic architectural resources has never been completed in the Fairfax Center Area. Therefore, there is a potential for unidentified existing heritage resources. The open spaces and residential areas of this sector are particularly likely to yield heritage resources, especially from the period of the Civil War.



Commemorative wreath at the Ox Hill Battlefield Park.