Gum Springs



Heritage Resources Study

About the Gum Springs Heritage Resources Study

Fairfax County is conducting a Heritage Resources Study for the Gum Springs Community, to recognize the history of Gum Springs and identify resources with historical, cultural, architectural, or archaeological significance within the area.

Gum Springs traces its roots back nearly 200 years, making it the oldest free sustained African American community in Fairfax County. The study will explore and document the community's heritage from its inception through the late twentieth century.

The Study will include research into historic documents and existing oral histories, an architectural survey, and new interviews with the community. The study will identify preservation tools that the community can choose from as they set goals and develop their vision for the future of Gum Springs.

What are Heritage Resources?

Heritage resources are those sites or structures, including landscape settings, that exemplify the cultural, architectural, economic, social, political, prehistoric or historic heritage of the county or its communities.

Questions? Call Laura Kviklys at 703-324-6231 or email Laura.Kviklys@fairfaxcounty.gov

Learn More on the Project Webpage: https://bit.ly/44EiX1i

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See reverse page for a larger Study Area Map, Project Deliverables and Study Timeline.

Language translation services are available. To request translated documents or an interpreter for a community meeting, email <u>Sarah.Godfrey@fairfaxcounty.gov</u> or call 703-324-4256. Interpreter requests require notice at least one week before meetings.

Fairfax County is committed to nondiscrimination on the basis of disability in all county programs, services and activities. Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request. For information, call (703) 324-1334, or TTY 711 (Virginia Relay Center).





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Fairfax County Department of Planning & Development Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck's Office in partnership with The New Gum Springs Civic Association & The Gum Springs Historical Society and Museum

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Study Area

Staff worked with the community to draft the scope of work. The Study will focus on the Gum Springs area as outlined below. The Study area also includes three cemeteries which are outside the outlined area -- Bethlehem Baptist, Coleman/Snowden, and Woodlawn Methodist Church Cemeteries.



Project Deliverables

> Reconnaissance Survey Documentation

Recorded with the State Historic Preservation
Office

> Oral Histories

- Approximately 12 oral histories will be conducted with participants recommended by the community.
- Previously recorded oral histories will be compiled and analyzed

Survey Report

- A written report to include historic context(s); photographs and descriptions of architectural resources identified during the survey; and a summary of the findings.
- Review of the survey findings with an analysis of Gum Springs eligibility for local, state, and national historic registers and potential boundaries.
- Identification and analysis of any individual resources which may potentially qualify individually for National Register of Historic Places listing.

> Management Document

 The information collected from the study will be used to identify and assess the feasibility of potential preservation planning tools that the community can choose to pursue in the future such as National, Virginia, and County Register listing, Traditional Cultural Property designation, Heritage Conservation Overlay District designation, and Historic Overlay District designation.



Study Timeline*

*This timeline is an estimation. Dates are subject to change.