About the Statewide MIHP Numbering System

Maryland Historical Trust

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Please note that inventory numbers are assigned only in coordination with the Architectural Registrar. Local jurisdictions cannot assign numbers. Inventory numbers should only be requested in conjunction with the preparation of an MIHP, DOE or NR form. Inventory numbers will not be assigned for any other purpose.

The architectural survey files are organized primarily by county, and in some instances by city, beginning with Allegany and ending with Worcester. The inventory number format and procedures for assigning new inventory numbers varies historically by county and depends largely on whether the county has been subdivided into planning areas.

Sequential Numbering Systems

MIHP numbers (inventory numbers) begin with a one, two, three, or four-digit county abbreviation code representing the county (or city) where the resource is located. The formatting of the county abbreviation code and number varies considerably by county.

In counties where all the resources inventoried in that county receive a sequential number, the county abbreviation is followed by a hyphen and a sequential number. This system is followed in 18 out of the 24 counties. Anne Arundel, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Calvert, Caroline, Carroll, Cecil, Charles, Dorchester, Harford, Howard, Kent, Queen Anne's, St. Mary's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties have sequential numbering systems, as outlined in the table below.

Counties with Sequential Numbering Systems

County	County Abbreviation Code	MIHP Number Format
Anne Arundel	AA	AA-#
Baltimore City	B	B-#
Baltimore County	BA	BA-#
Calvert	CT	CT-#
Carroll	CARR	CARR-#
Caroline	CAR	CAR-#
Charles	CH	CH-#
Dorchester	D	D-#
Harford	HA	HA-#
Howard	HO	HO-#
Kent	K	K-#
Queen Anne's	QA	QA-#
St. Mary's	SM	SM-#
Somerset	S	S-#
Talbot	T	T-#
Wicomico	WI	WI-#
Worcester	WO	WO-#

Planning Area Numbering Systems

Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, Montgomery, Prince George's, and Washington Counties incorporate planning area divisions into their inventory numbers, changing the inventory number format from the pattern outlined above with the other 18 counties. Inventory numbers in these 6 counties begin with a one or two-digit county abbreviation.

Inventory numbers in Allegany and Garrett Counties begin with the county abbreviation followed by a hyphen and a Roman numeral (representing the planning area and ranging from I to VII), followed by a second hyphen and a single alphabetic character (representing the USGS 7.5 minute topographic quadrangle map, and ranging from A to E), followed by a third hyphen and a sequential number. Washington County is similar to Allegany and Garrett with the exception of the alphabetic character representing the quad. Washington County also differs slightly in that inventory numbers assigned to resources located with the city of Hagerstown or the towns of Hancock or Williamsport are formatted a slightly different way. These numbers still begin with the county code but rather than followed by a hyphen and Roman numeral, the county code is followed by a hyphen and the city/town code (i.e. HAG, HAN, or WIL).

In Frederick County, the county abbreviation is followed by a hyphen and an Arabic numeral (representing the planning area and ranging from 1 to 8) followed by a second hyphen and a sequential number. Resources located within the boundaries of the Frederick Historic District are formatted slightly differently; inventory numbers begin with FHD, followed by a hyphen and a sequential number.

In Montgomery and Prince George's Counties, the county abbreviation is followed not by a hyphen, but rather by a colon, with a space following the colon in Montgomery and without a space following the colon in Prince George's County inventory numbers, followed by the planning area number then a hyphen then a sequential number. Similar to Washington County, inventory numbers assigned to resources located within the City of Laurel are formatted using the alphabetic code LAU, rather than a planning area number.

A table presenting the format of inventory numbers in Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, Montgomery, Prince George's, and Washington Counties is included below.

Inventory Number Formatting in Counties with Planning Areas

County	County Abbreviation Code	MIHP Number Format Examples
Allegany	AL	AL-I-A-#, AL-I-B-#, AL-I-C-#, etc.; AL-VIII-A-#, etc.
Frederick	F	F-1-#, F-8-#
	FHD	FHD-#
Garrett	G	G-I-A-#, G-I-B-#, etc.; G-IV-A-#, etc.
Montgomery	M	M: 10-#, M: 26-#, etc.
Prince George's	PG	PG:60-#, PG:71A-#, PG:LAU-#, etc.
Washington	WA	WA-I-#; WA-HAG-#; WA-HAN-#; WA-WIL-#

Before completing or submitting a Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties form, please contact the MHT's Architectural Survey Administrator, Allison Luthern at (410) 697-9585 or allison.luthern@maryland.gov for assistance and information.