



Maryland Department of the
Environment

FACTS ABOUT: NATIONAL PARK SEMINARY

SITE LOCATION

The National Park Seminary site (NPS) is located in Silver Spring, Montgomery County, Maryland, south of and adjacent to the Capital Beltway (I-495/I-95). The site is located on the north side of Linden Lane in the Forest Glen Park area of Silver Spring. A campus of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center is located south of the property. The property consists of approximately 32 acres and contains multiple structures, most having some architectural and historic significance.

SITE HISTORY

Land title records indicate private ownership of the property until 1942, when the U.S. Army purchased the property for use by the Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Prior to 1942, the property was referred to as the National Park Seminary and then the National Park College, an all girls' finishing school. All of the buildings located on the property were constructed between the late 1800s and the 1920s. The main building on the property was used as an inn, casino and resort during the late 1800s. In 1942, the property was referred to as the historic district of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center Annex. The buildings served as offices and housing for injured World War II soldiers and their families. The property contains over 38 buildings, which, with the exception of the stables, have been abandoned since the 1980s. A heating plant is located on the property which has two boilers and several aboveground storage tanks. Carroll House, a Catholic charity, currently occupies the stables building.

ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS

In April 2005, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) conducted a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) on the property. Based on the findings of the Phase I ESA, a Phase II ESA was recommended for the property. A Phase II ESA was conducted by MDE on the site in March 2006. Soils and groundwater at the site were sampled, analyzed and found to be contaminated by inorganics, VOCs, SVOCs and petroleum hydrocarbons. The report recommended that the site be cleaned up before it is developed for residential use.

CURRENT STATUS

The property has been developed and is now in use as a residential condominium community.



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