

Terminology Basics for Kensington Historic District Property Owners

Kensington:

- **KHS** (Kensington Historical Society):
A 501(c)(3) not-for-profit membership organization founded in June 1977 to safeguard and promote the heritage of the unique historic community of Kensington.
- **LAP*** (Local Advisory Panel):
A group of volunteers who are familiar with the historic district in their Montgomery County locality and who are appointed by the **HPC** to provide expertise and advice toward the Commission's review of Historic Area Work Permit (**HAWP**) applications. The Kensington LAP does not have decision-making authority but can provide useful information and advice to local applicants upon request.
- **KLT** (Kensington Land Trust):
A 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization incorporated in 1992 by local citizens to help preserve the history and heritage of historic Kensington by promoting preservation of the town's historic garden setting.

Montgomery County:

- **HPC** (Historic Preservation Commission):
A group of qualified volunteers appointed by the Montgomery County Planning Board to advise on and review applications for **HAWPs** (Historic Area Work Permits), which are required for proposed changes to building exteriors and their environmental setting, per Chapter 24A of the Montgomery County Code. The HPC also reviews applications for historic preservation tax credits.
- **Historic Preservation Office (HPO) of the Montgomery County Planning Department:**
HPO professional staff supports the work of the **HPC** by reviewing and providing expert opinions regarding HAWP applications. Staff also provides guidance to HAWP applicants, including information upon request regarding the HAWP process, Chapter 24A, Historic Preservation guidelines, and other historic district concerns. Staff also supports the HPC and the Planning Board by providing information to identify, designate, and regulate historic sites and districts in the county. Its authority is provided by the *Montgomery County Master Plan for Historic Preservation*.

*Current Kensington LAP members:

John Anderson
Peter Bartram
Jim Cooper
Helen Crettier Wilkes, Chair