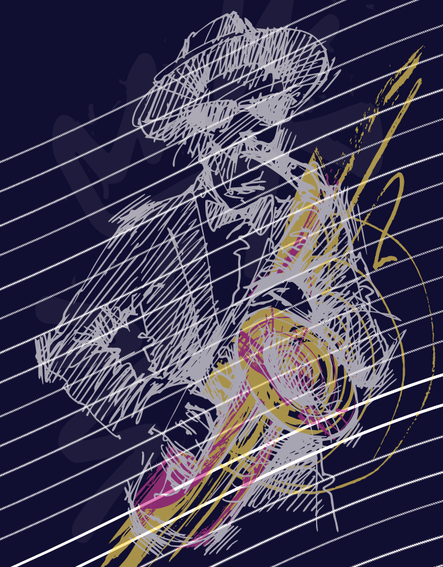
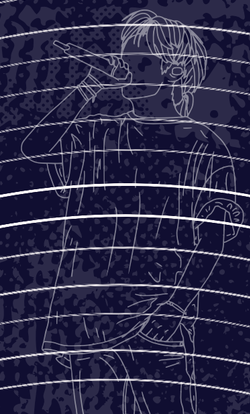
Live! from Prince George's County

EXPLORING THE HISTORY OF MUSIC AND PLACE

12/12/2024

HISP650







CONTENT

01 INTRODUCTION

02 MEET THE TEAM & PARTNERS

03 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

04 RESEARCH FINDINGS

05 FUTURE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

06 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

PROJECT INTRODUCTION

About Us

Crescendo Preservation is a team of University of Maryland graduate students working under the guidance of Historic Preservation faculty. The team is dedicated to historic preservation and developed materials that will spark interest in the county's diverse music history.

Mission

This project is in response to a Request For Proposals by the Maryland-National Capital Park & Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) hosted by Partnership for Action Learning in Sustainability (PALS).

Purpose

Provide a historical context of structures and sites related to live music in Prince George's County, Maryland.

RESEARCH APPROACH

Research Phase I

- Venue Identification
- Verification
- Archival Research

Research Phase II

- Genre Research
- 12 Significant Genres

Research Phase III

- Themes Exploration

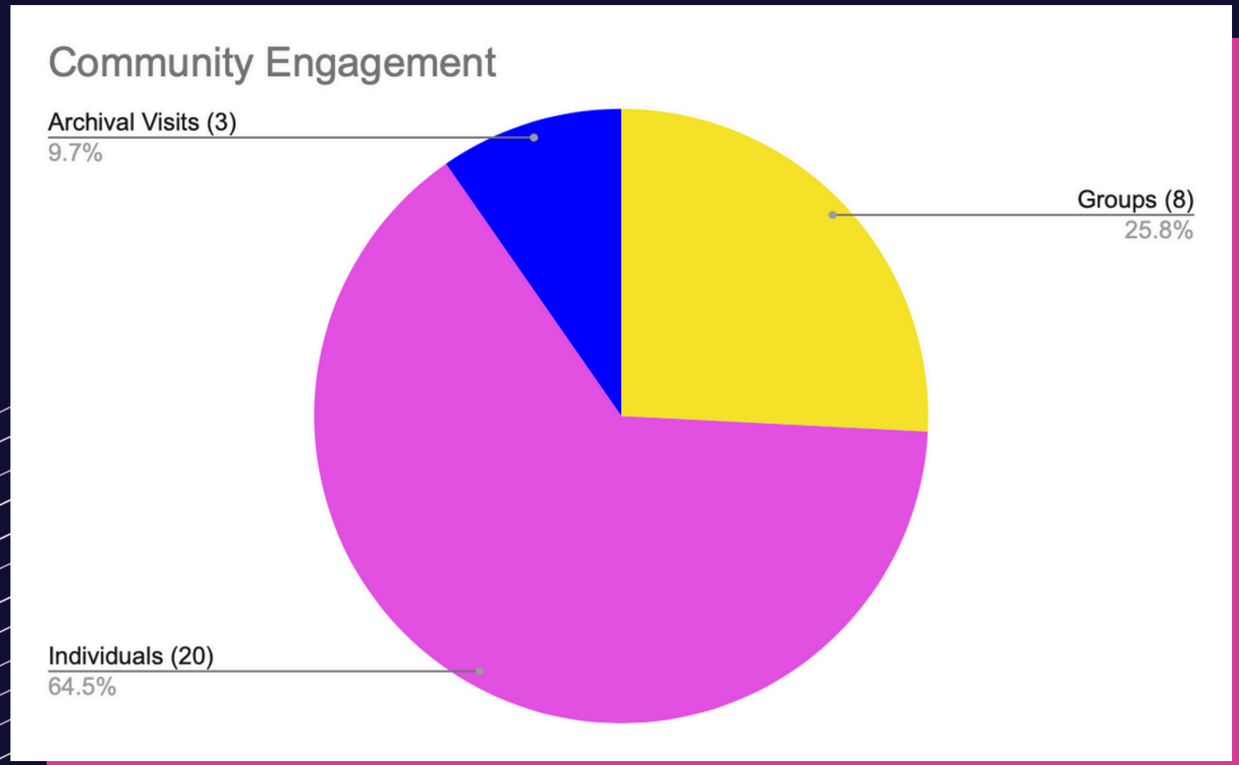
Inventory List

- Key Sites
- Condition, style, significance, integrity





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



- Learning from the community
- Sharing our research with the community

DELIVERABLES

Part A. Historic Context Statement and Presentation

Context Statement

- Expand on Parts I and II of “The Sounds of Prince George’s County”
- Research compilation and analysis
- Historic Resource Inventory List
- Recommendations

Presentation

- Discussing themes

Part B. Public Facing Materials

1. Zine

Concise architectural, historical, and cultural contexts of select sites and themes

2. Digital Zine

ArcGIS StoryMap incorporating music, video, and maps

3. Social Media

Connect with, learn from, and educate a broad audience on Instagram *@crescendo_preservation*

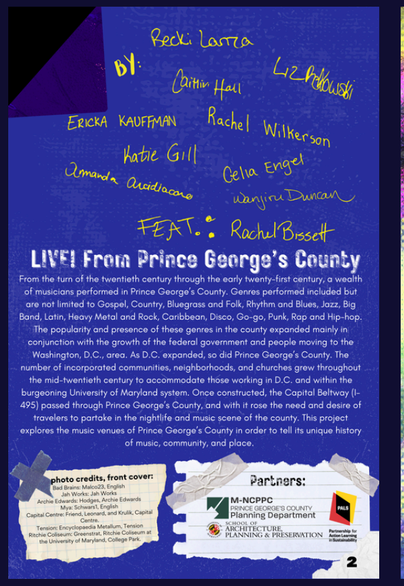
4. Posters

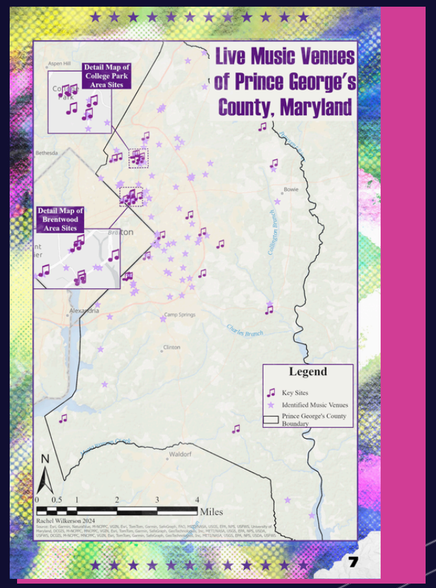
- Course requirement
- Provides an overview of the project including significant sites, music, artists, and themes

ZINE

- **Printed deliverable to give information about key sites and the research process**
- **Created in the DIY and colorful style of music zines**









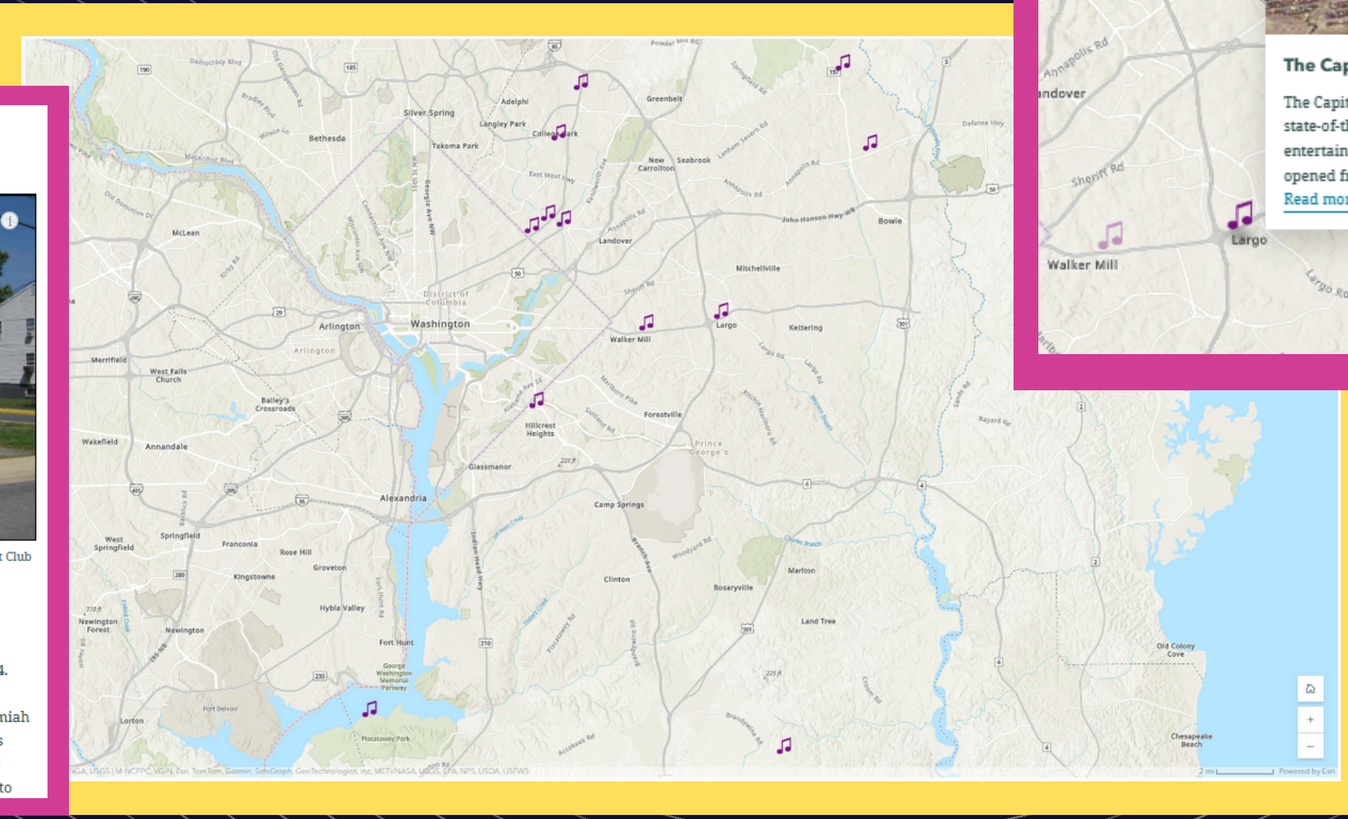


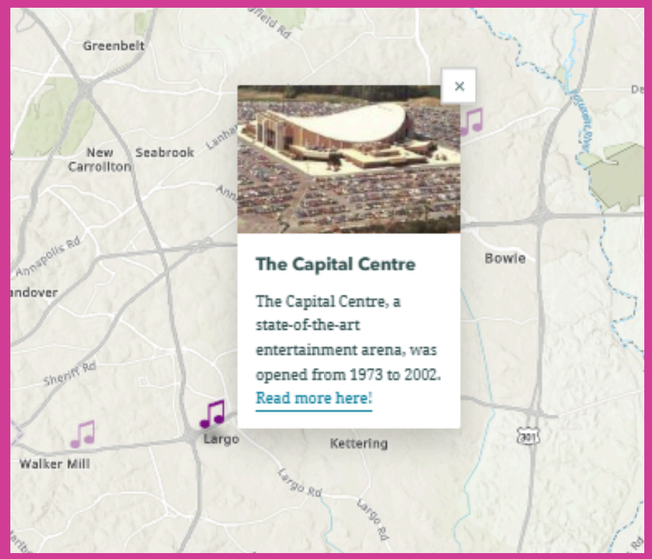
DIGITAL ZINE

ArcGIS Story Map

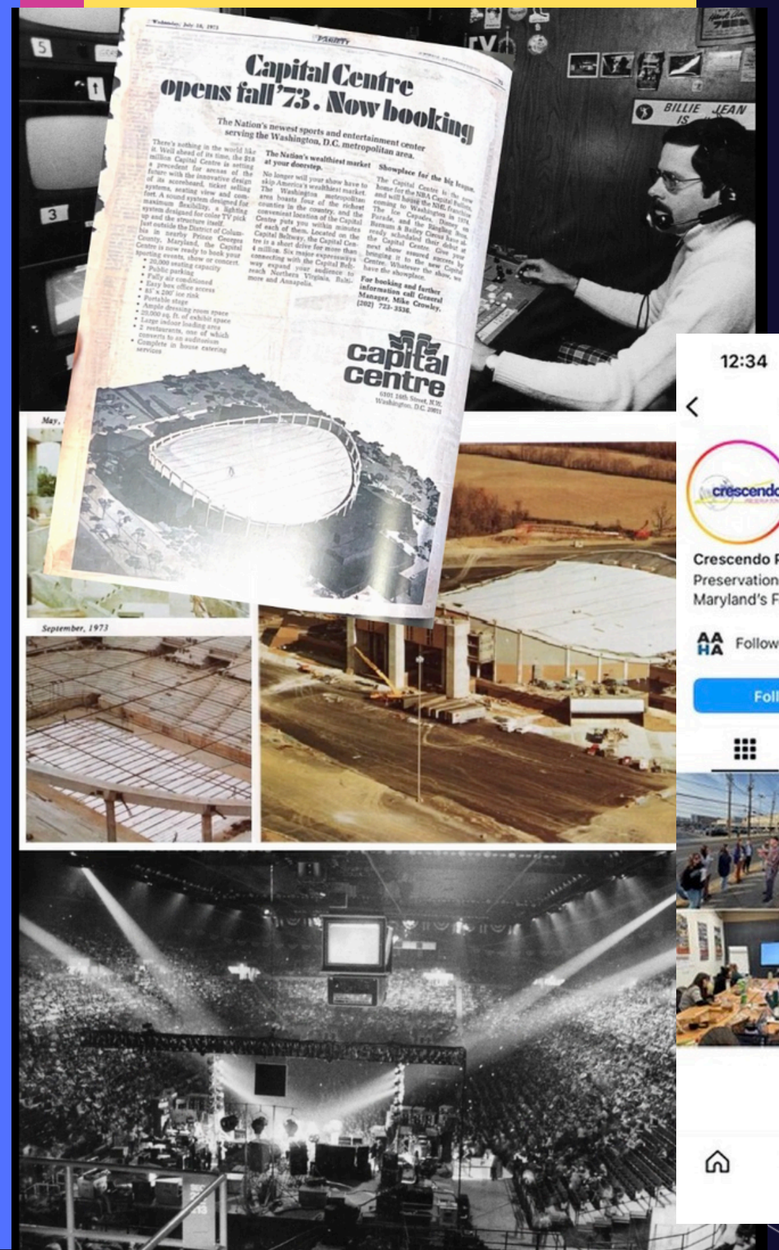
- Key sites
- Interactive map for use by the team
- Multimedia

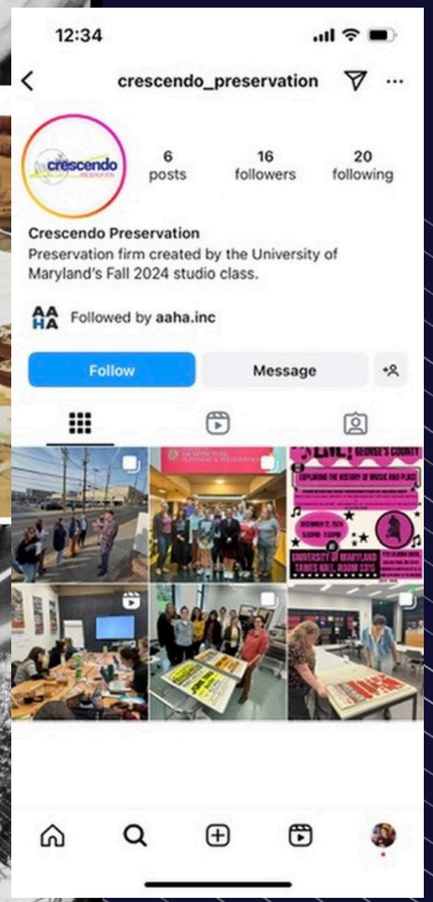






SOCIAL MEDIA

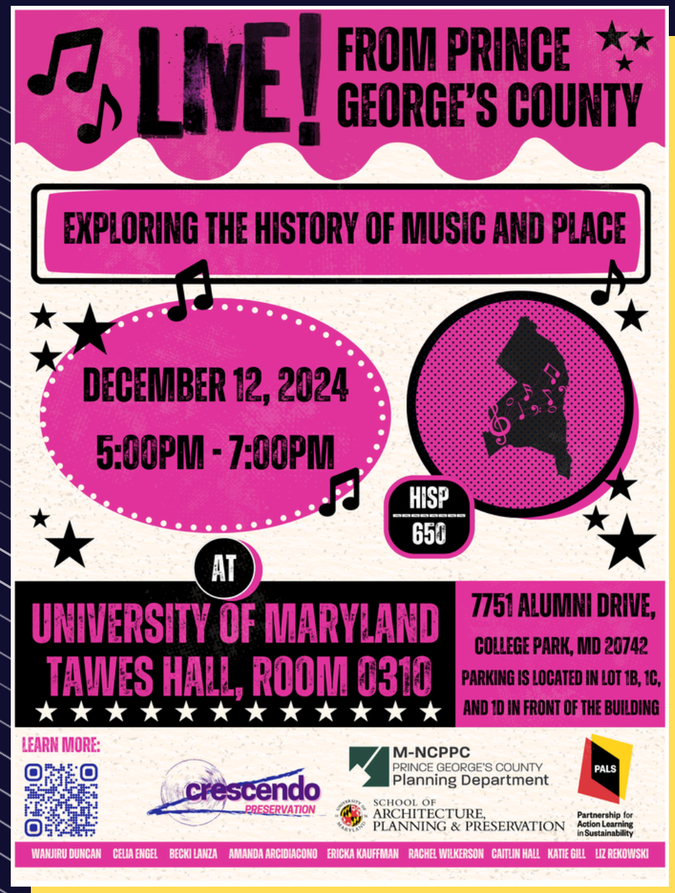




- Each team member chose a genre or site to feature in their Instagram Reel
- Social media to reach a broader audience
- Incorporated posts and content from our research process

POSTERS





- Gives more in-depth information of key sites and research process
- First poster inspired by Globe posters

MEET THE TEAM & PARTNERS

MEET THE TEAM

1. LIZ



2. CAITLIN



3. ERICKA



4. KATIE



5. WANJIRU



6. CELIA



7. AMANDA



8. BECKI



9. RACHEL



FAVORITE SONGS

1. Satisfied - Reneé Elise Goldsberry
2. Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes - Jimmy Buffet
3. Work Song - Hozier
4. John Wallace - The East Pointers
5. LET HER COOK - Glorilla
6. Let's Dance - David Bowie
7. Angelina - Pinegrove
8. All I Wanted Was You- Paramore
9. Blue Ridge Mountains - Fleet Foxs

PARTNERS

crescendo PRESERVATION

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND 18 56

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING & PRESERVATION

M-NCPPC
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
Planning Department

PALS

Partnership for Action Learning in Sustainability

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

MUSIC SITES ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES



WSVS RADIO STATION, CREWE, VA, LISTED 2022



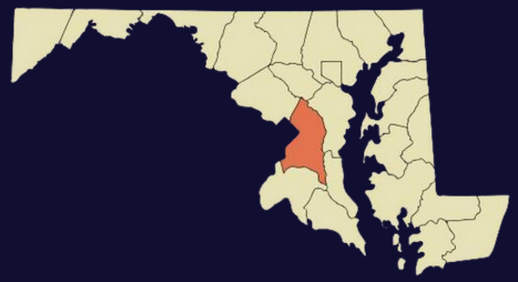
JIM PEPPER HOUSE, PARKROSE, PORTLAND, OR, LISTED 2023



CASA AMADEO, NYC, NY, LISTED 2001

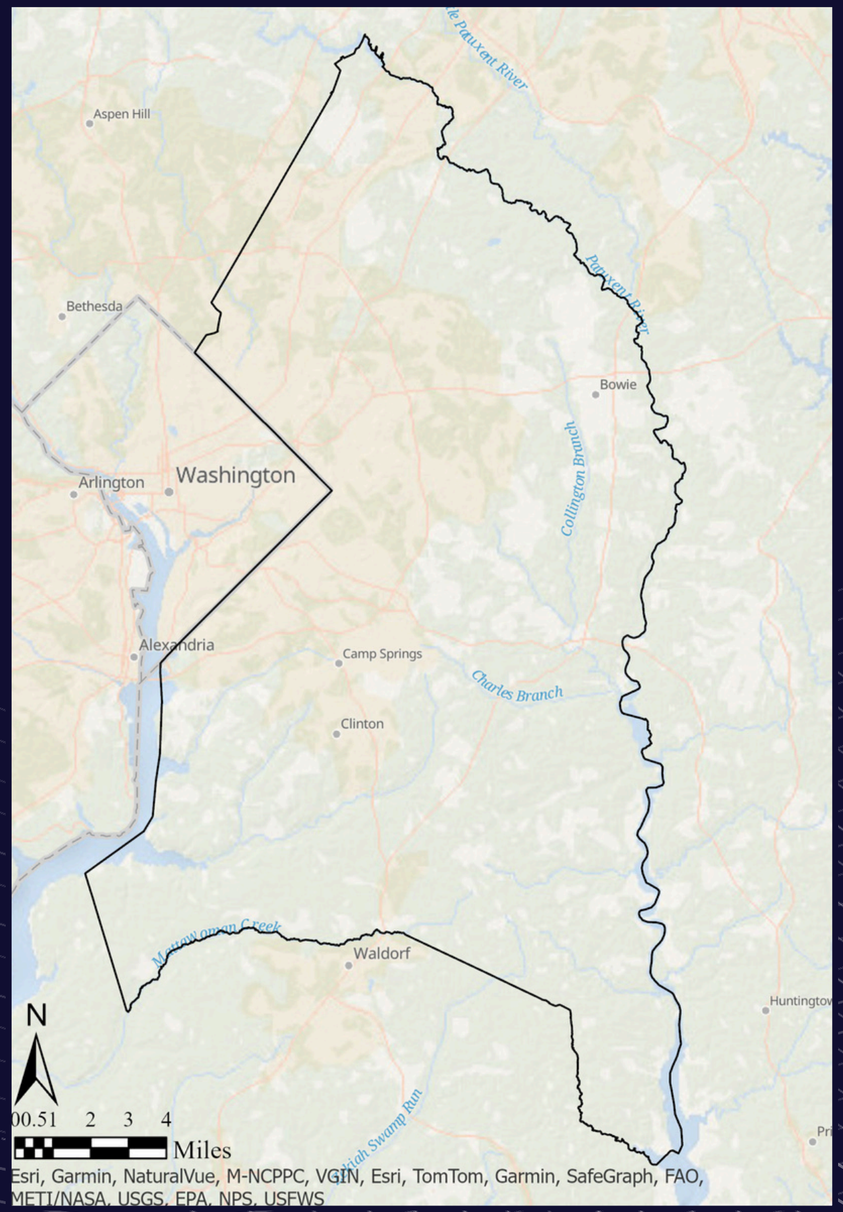


WOODSTOCK MUSIC FESTIVAL SITE, BETHEL, NY, LISTED 2017

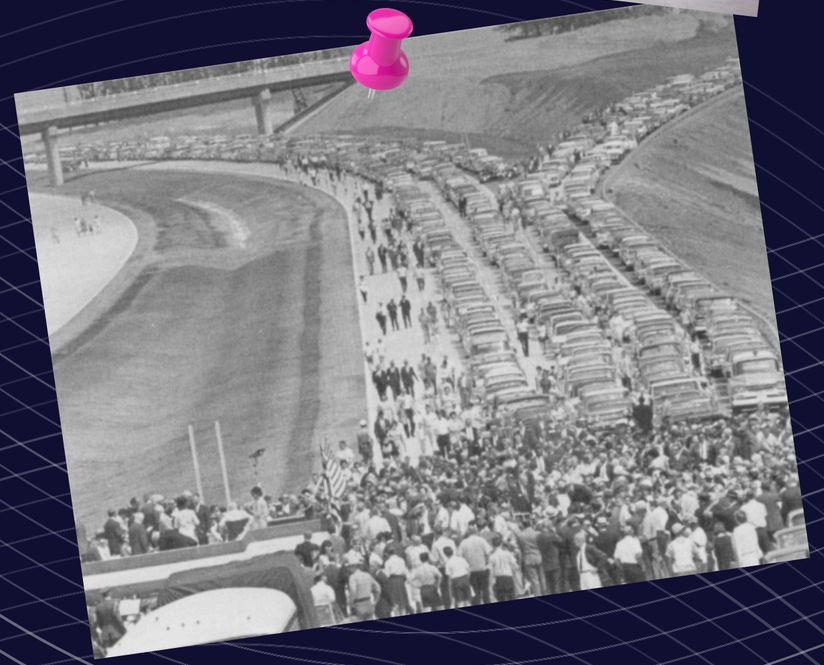


PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
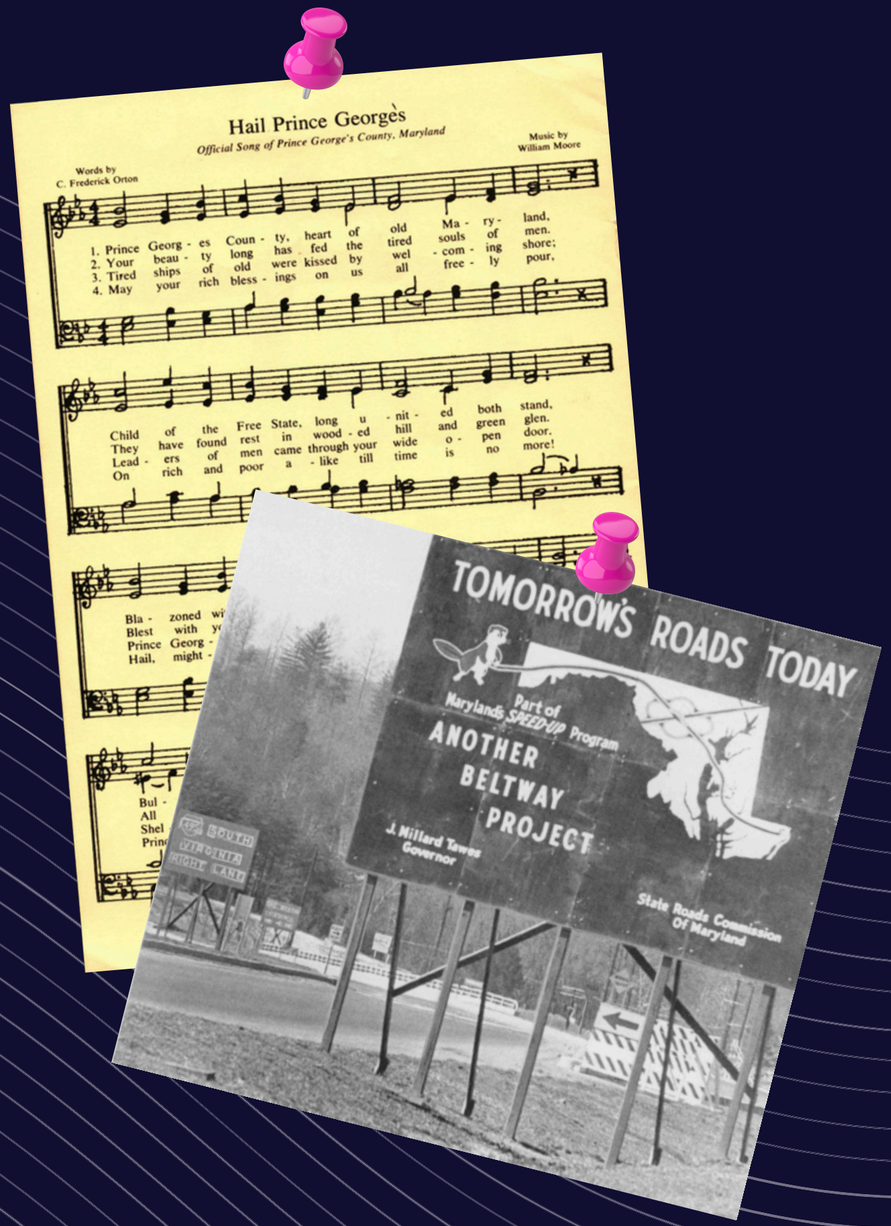
- Deep history - Piscataway music
- Est. 1696
- County expanded with the federal government, UMD system, Capital Beltway







PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY



First Half (1910-1959)

- Great Depression
- WWI & WWII
- First venues established in study

Second Half (1960-2010)

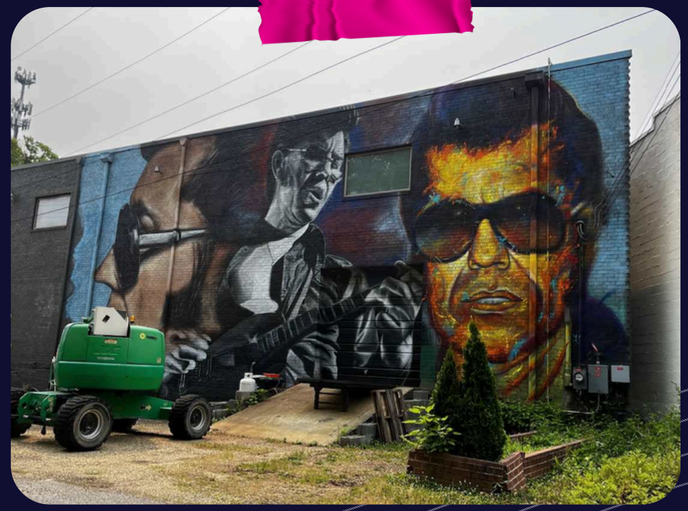
- Capital Beltway
- UMD Expansion
- Civil Rights Movement

Music Today

- Continuation of Traditions
- Reflections on Music Development

MUSIC MEMORIALIZATION
in Prince George's County







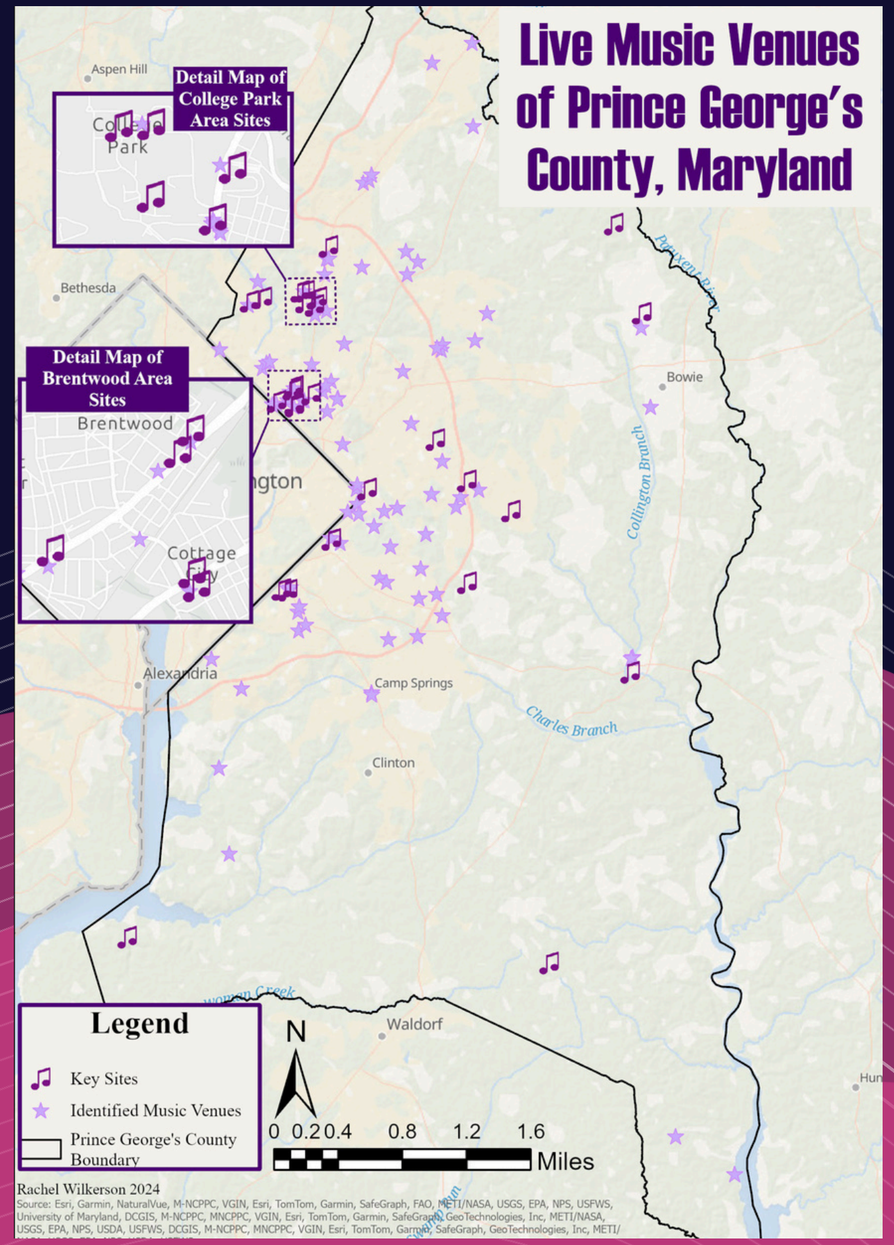


MUSIC VENUE SITE MAP

1910-2010

139 music venue sites identified

27 key sites



RESEARCH FINDINGS

CULTURAL

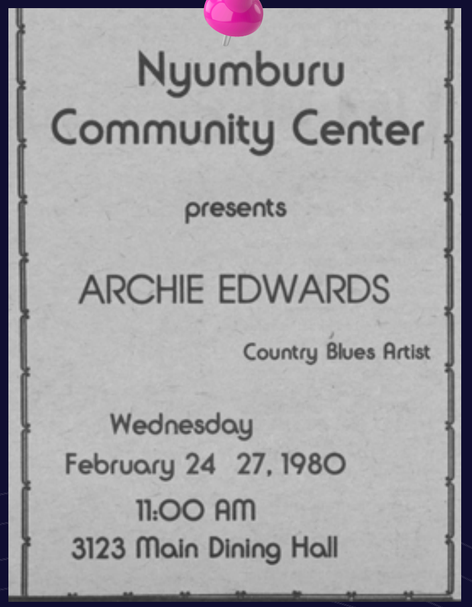
AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY



JOHN CEPHAS AND PHIL WIGGINS *FRANCE E. JACKSON*



DUKE ELLINGTON *KEYSTONE/GETTY IMAGES*



NYUMBURU COMMUNITY CENTER ADVERTISEMENT *BLACK EXPLOSION*



CROSSROADS *MARK OPSASNICK*



BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY *DUANE LEMPKE, AERIAL VIEW*

CULTURAL

LATINX AND CARIBBEAN HISTORY



THE DIAMONDBACK 1956



FIGHTING STUBBORN BLAZE — Firemen from seven companies surround the La Conga night club at 9400 Baltimore boulevard to battle a blaze that cost the life of one woman and injured seven other persons. The fire in upstairs apartments had a big start on firemen before the first alarm was sounded at 5:04 a.m.—Star Staff Photo.

EVENING STAR 1959

JAZZ, CARIBBEAN TEMPOS

. . . from page 4.

ward to playing on cold days," says Stafford. "That's why I don't play in the marching band."

OEL VILMENAY: USING MUSIC O RELAY POLITICAL MESSAGES

He is of Haitian descent and carrying on the culture of the Caribbean. Joel Vilmenay, a senior RTVF major with a minor in music, plays for Washington Express.

Washington Express consists of eleven members, including Vilmenay. Most of the members are from Haiti. The group has a three piece horn section, unlike most Latin-Carribean groups, which have five pieces, according to Vilmenay.

The group worked on the album, which started taking shape after President Jean Claude Duvalier was overthrown, for nine months. Released in mid-March, the album urges all Haitians to provide for Haiti by helping to rebuild the state.

The group has played in Philadelphia and New Jersey as well as D.C., where the group was originally formed. Last summer, they played at a festival, which was broadcasted live on WHUR.

Currently on contract to record a second album, the group has focused on fast, upbeat, dance tempos.

An original member, Vilmenay joined three years ago and is the only trumpet player in the group. Interested in music since junior high school, Vilmenay says he wanted to expand and experience different musical art forms.

This album, entitled "Message", reflects the Latin-Carribean culture with calypso, salsa, and merengue influences. The group tried to be versatile in the styles represented on the album. Most of the tracks are in Spanish. It will be distributed throughout Africa, Haiti, the Carribean, Europe, as well as the United States.

Vilmenay's musical background is diverse as well. Growing up he played with many groups including a go-go band. He has played for Liberty Day Weekend Celebra in New York, Adams Morgan's for the past two years, and promotional performances.

His talents, like Stafford's beyond the horn. He also p keyboard and some pe instruments.

Former member of the Un Marching Band, he plans to one of the jazz bands on c However, playing and perfor are secondary for him.

Right now he is trying graduate. Despite the back bu position of his trumpet, Vilme says he will always continue to p "I don't intend to ever stop."

ECLIPSE ARTICLE 1988

CULTURAL

WOMEN'S HISTORY



STRICKS RESTAURANT AND BAR



PATSY CLINE 1956
BRITANNICA



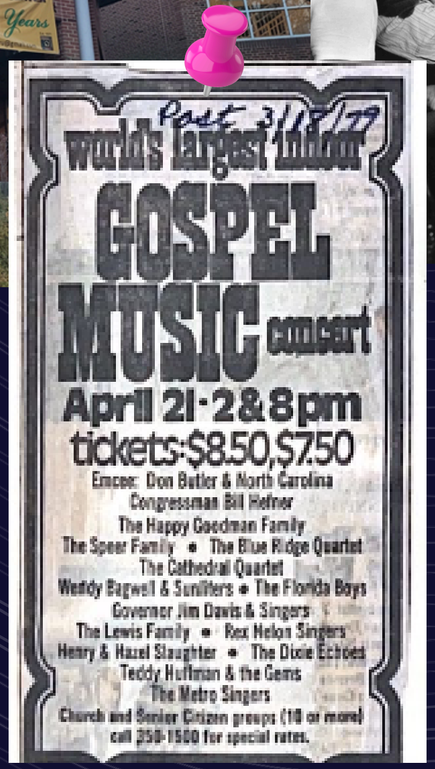
BLAZE STARR
MARYLAND CENTER FOR HISTORY AND CULTURE

CULTURAL

RELIGION AND SPIRITUALITY



NYMBURU CULTURAL CENTER

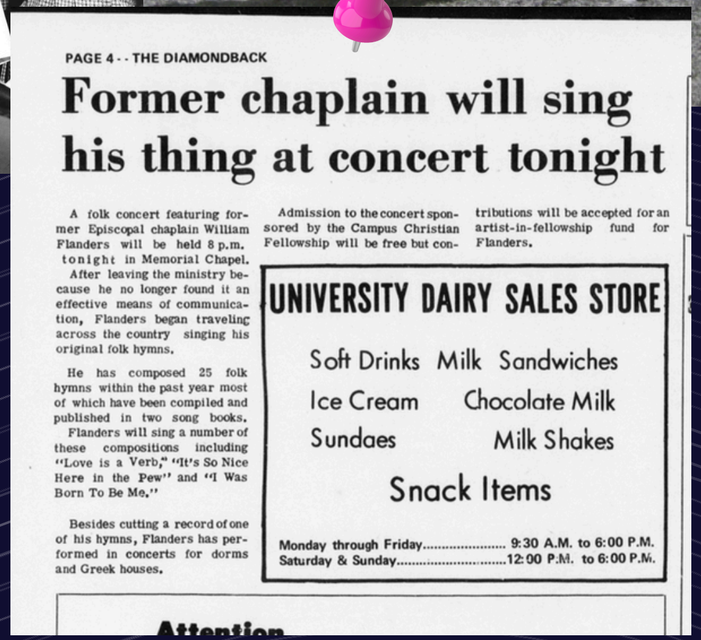




DUKE ELLINGTON AND SISTER ROSETTA THARPE



PISCATAWAY SIGN *NATIONAL PARK SERVICE*



PAGE 4 · · THE DIAMONDBACK

Former chaplain will sing his thing at concert tonight

A folk concert featuring former Episcopal chaplain William Flanders will be held 8 p.m. tonight in Memorial Chapel.

After leaving the ministry because he no longer found it an effective means of communication, Flanders began traveling across the country singing his original folk hymns.

He has composed 25 folk hymns within the past year most of which have been compiled and published in two song books.

Flanders will sing a number of these compositions including "Love is a Verb," "It's So Nice Here in the Pew" and "I Was Born To Be Me."

Besides cutting a record of one of his hymns, Flanders has performed in concerts for dorms and Greek houses.

Admission to the concert sponsored by the Campus Christian Fellowship will be free but contributions will be accepted for an artist-in-fellowship fund for Flanders.

UNIVERSITY DAIRY SALES STORE
Soft Drinks Milk Sandwiches
Ice Cream Chocolate Milk
Sundaes Milk Shakes
Snack Items
Monday through Friday..... 9:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.
Saturday & Sunday..... 12:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Attention

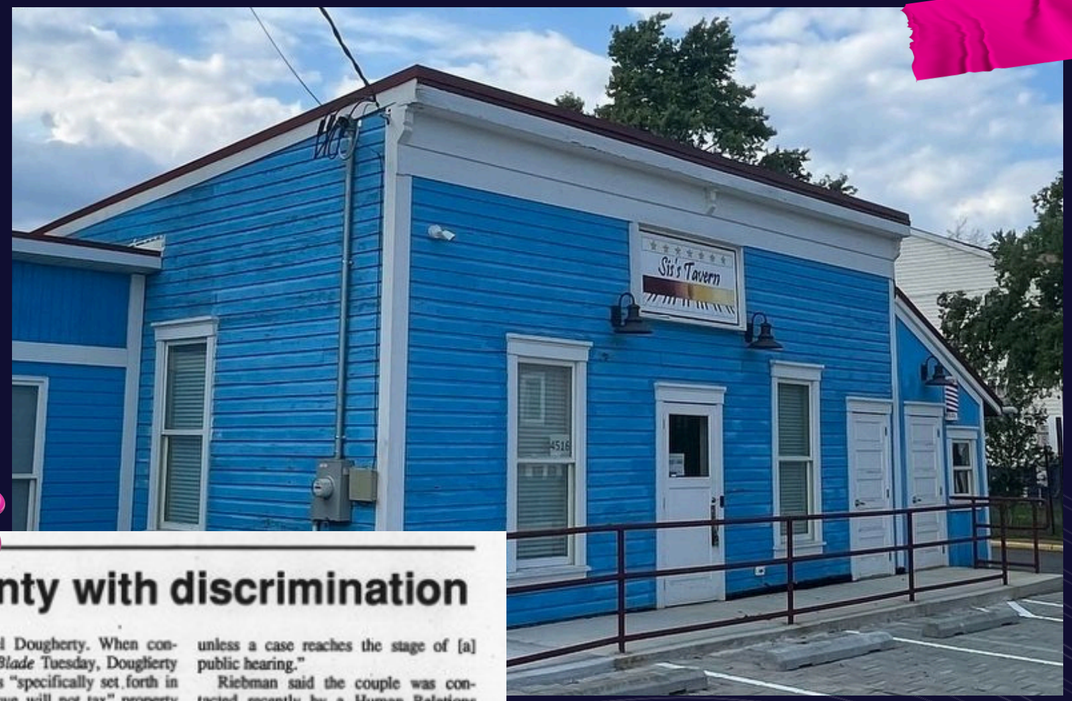
THE DIAMONDBACK 1968

CULTURAL

LGBTQ+



4400 CLUB *GOOGLE MAPS*



SIS'S TAVERN *DEVRY BECKER JONES*

P.G. Lesbian couple charges county with discrimination

by Nick Bartolomeo

A Lesbian couple filed a complaint with the Prince George's County Human Relations Commission recently, alleging that the county is violating its own human rights law by requiring the couple to pay certain real estate transfer taxes which couples who are legally married and heterosexual do not have to pay.

According to documents provided to the *Blade* by the couple, Davida Riebman and Christine Bistany, the complaint was filed at the Commission's Landover office March 23.

The couple's complaint alleges that discrimination based on sexual orientation and marital status took place when the couple requested real estate information from the county on March 23. Specifically, the couple, who stated in their complaint that they have been "married" for 10 years and "living and represented as a family," was trying to determine how to transfer a house the couple purchased under Riebman's name to joint ownership.

The Commission complaint states that in December 1990, the couple secured a mortgage for the Cheverly, Md., house in Riebman's name alone, because Bistany was unemployed at the time. But when they approached the P.G. County Office of Finance/Treasury Division about putting Bistany's name on the house deed, they were told by a clerk that "since we were two women, there would be a transfer tax and a recodation tax to pay."

"She asked if we had a marriage certificate, and [we] told her we had a certificate of commitment from the March on Washington wedding on October 10, 1987," the complaint stated. "She stated if we were not legally married, we would have to pay the taxes."

The couple said the clerk's assessment was reiterated by Associate County Attorney Michael Dougherty. When contacted by the *Blade* Tuesday, Dougherty stated that it is "specifically set forth in our code that we will not tax" property transfers between husband and wife. The same privileges cannot be extended to same-sex couples or common-law partners, he said, because such couples are not regarded as legally married by the state.

The couple argues, however, that since the county amended its Human Rights Code in June 1991 to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in housing, the clerk and Dougherty's assessments were acts of discrimination based both on couple's sexual orientation and marital status.

William Welch Sr., executive director of the Commission, said he could neither confirm nor deny that the complaint had been filed because regulations prohibit him from discussing a complaint "until or unless a case reaches the stage of [a] public hearing."

Riebman said the couple was contacted recently by a Human Relations Commission investigator and told only that the county had responded to the complaint in writing with the Commission. Riebman said the investigator said she has been conducting a fact-finding investigation and would notify the couple in writing when that investigation is complete.

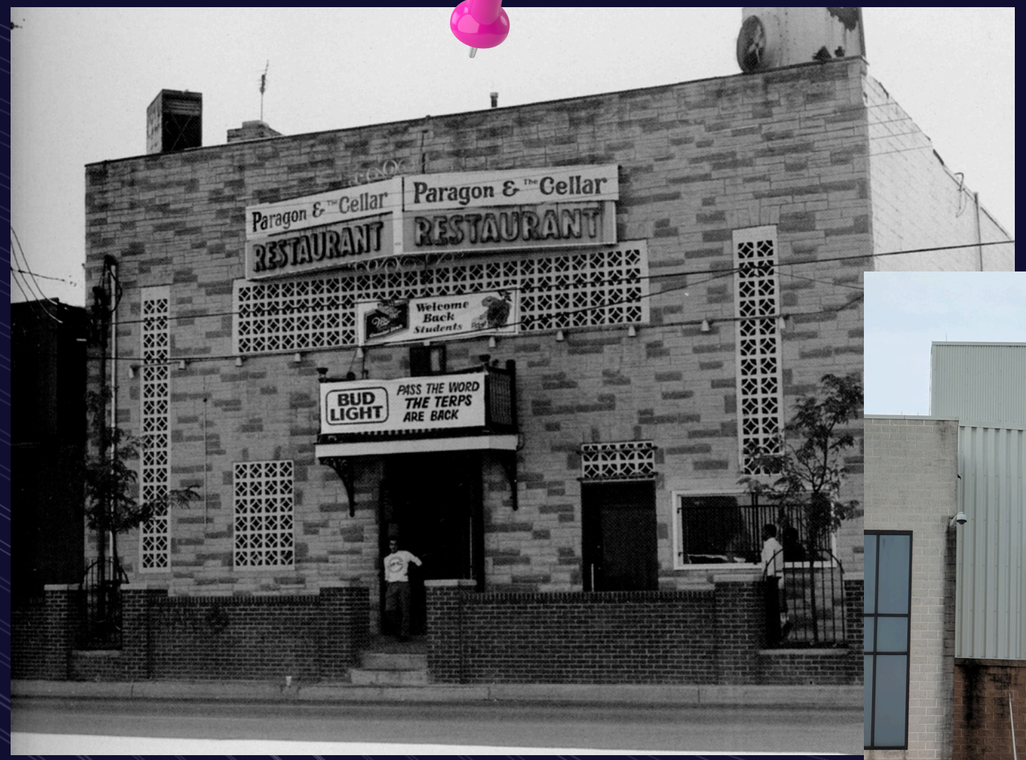
"On principle, I'm not going to pay them money I don't feel I owe them," said Riebman, who estimated the taxes amount to perhaps several hundred dollars. "If the Finance Commission says, 'We're going to make an exception for you' but does not [change the taxing requirement] across the board, we've decided that's not good enough."

"The law," said Riebman, "has got to change."▼

WASHINGTON BLADE 1992

CULTURAL

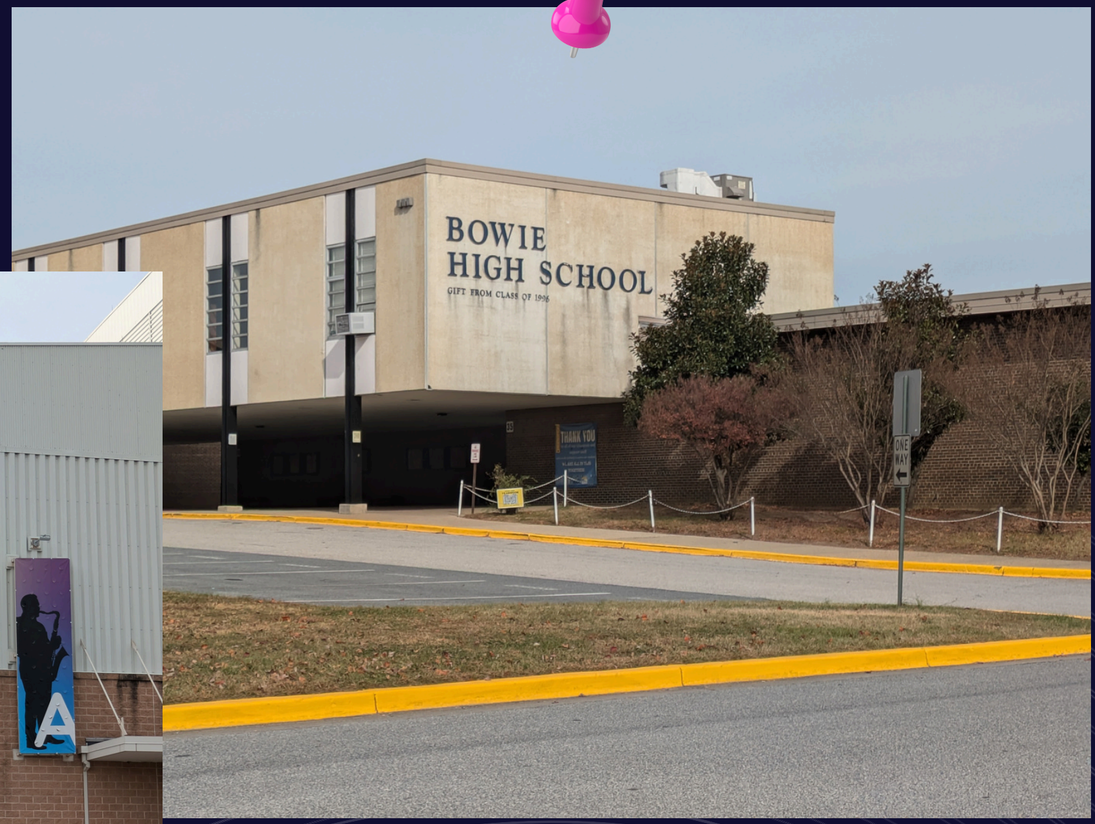
YOUTH CULTURE



THE PARAGON



BOWIE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS *BECKI LANZA*



BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL *BECKI LANZA*

CRAFT



ARTHUR WILMER *ADDISON SCURLOCK*



MARIE ALICE WALLS, *COURTESY OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY CIVIL RIGHTS TRAIL*



THE FREDERICK NEWS-POST, 1976



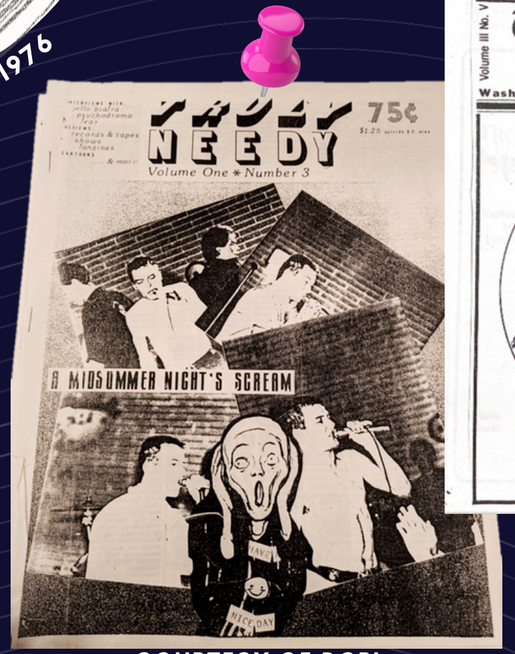
NANCY WILSON AND ROGER FISHER
DON HAMERMAN



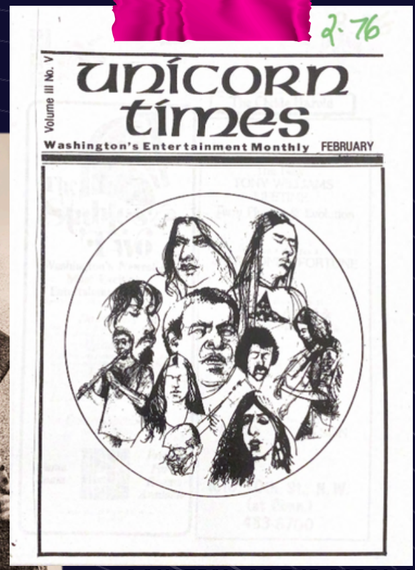
KONTUSION AT ATLAS BREWERY *LOUIE PALU*



COURTESY OF DIGDC



COURTESY OF DCPL



COURTESY OF THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS IN PERFORMING ARTS, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

CRAFT
ENTREPRENEURSHIP



INTERIOR OF SIS'S TAVERN, COURTESY OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY CIVIL RIGHTS TRAIL



BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY GOSPEL CHOIR, *COURTESY OF JONATHON SAXON*



EVANS GRILL C. 2012, *COURTESY OF M-NCPPC*



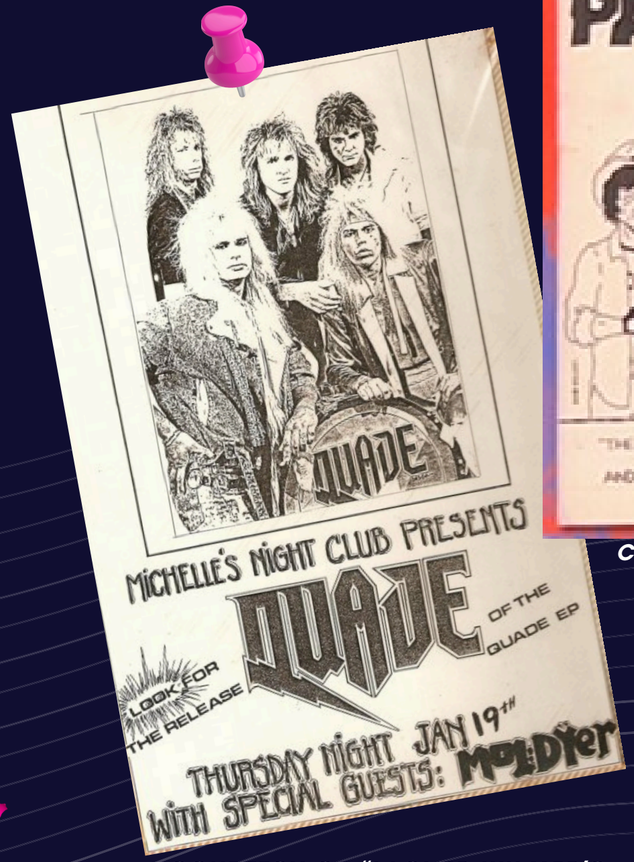
WILMER'S PARK C. 2009, *COURTESY OF M-NCPPC*

CRAFT
TECHNOLOGY

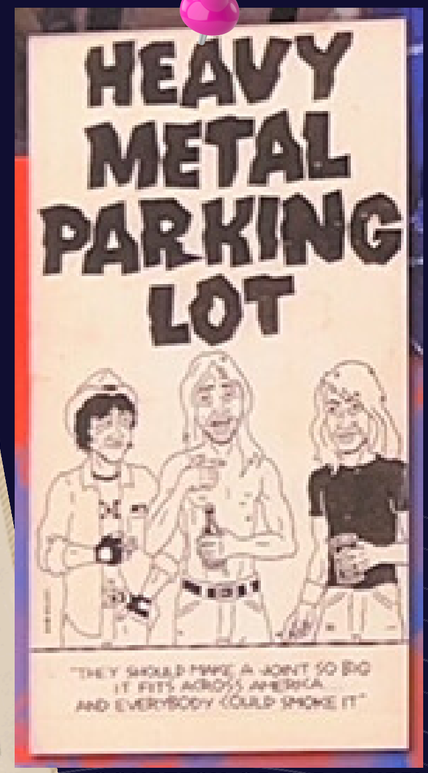




TELESCREEN AND TELESCREEN CONTROLS AT THE CAPITAL CENTRE, COURTESY OF DCPL



COURTESY OF "I LOVED WILMER'S PARK" FACEBOOK GROUP



COURTESY OF THE LAUREL HISTORY BOYS

CRAFT
DANCE



GLOBE POSTER FOR EVANS GRILL, *COURTESY OF M-NCPPC*



PISCATAWAY NATION DANCERS PERFORMING, *COURTESY OF CAITLIN HALL*



TIMES HERALD, 1946

CRAFT

DIY / GRASSROOTS



ELLIOT KLAYMAN AND DJ TERRY WILSON C. 1984 *COURTESY OF DIAMONDBACK PHOTO COLLECTION, UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES*

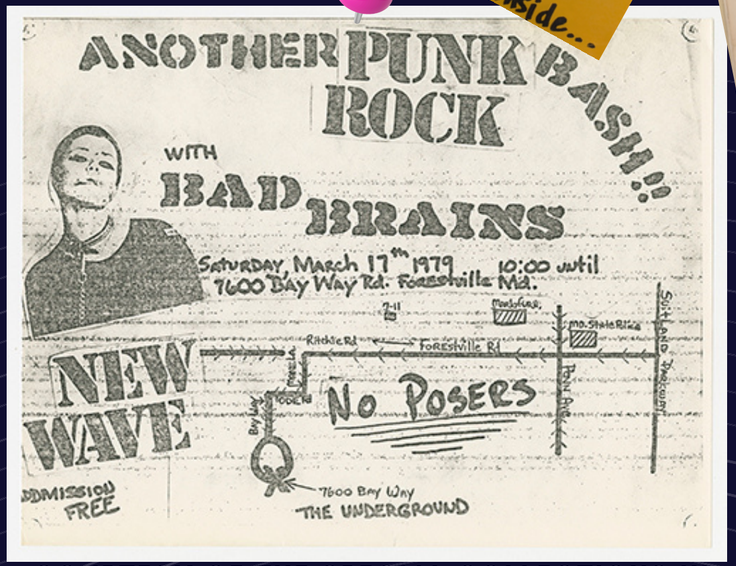


WMUC'S FIRST RADIO TOWER *COURTESY OF DIAMONDBACK PHOTO COLLECTION, UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES*





COURTESY OF DCPL



COURTESY OF THE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS IN PERFORMING ARTS, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

GOVERNANCE



PHOTO COURTESY OF LIZ REKOWSKI

THE NEWS

"PRINCE GEORGE'S LAW CURRENTLY PROHIBITS DANCING AFTER 2 A.M." - WASHINGTON POST

Breaking News

"POLICE WANT TO SEE SOME GO-GOS GONE" - WASHINGTON POST



'Punk' Hits a Sour Note

P.G. Officials Ban Groups That Play 'In a Frenzied Hard-Rock Manner'

By Carlin Romano
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Prince George's County liquor board is trying to ban anything it considers "punk rock" from College Park and the University of Maryland campus because it thinks the music attracts undesirables.

The commissioners, rushing in where rock critics fear to tread, have defined punk rock bands as those "acid rock or rock and roll bands that play at a high decibel level; that play in a frenzied hard-rock manner; that use characterizations by painting their bodies."

The commissioners also applied the label to groups that "use offensive names such as 'Sex Change Band,'" and those that "convey into their music and their actions that they approve of the drug culture."

Jordan Fox, student government president at the College Park campus, called the restrictions "obnoxious and unconstitutional" and said they unfairly punish the campus community.

When asked about the board's definition, Fox said, "I don't think they took the time to consult Rolling Stone," referring to the weekly rock music magazine.

The restrictions have moved some student organizations and local clubs to avoid certain groups such as "Original Fetish," which the University Commuter Association decided not to book in order to avoid a possible confrontation with the commissioners.

The campaign against punk rock began in May, when the commissioners banned punk or acid rock bands from the Varsity Grill near the campus. The decision came after community complaints about rowdy youths congregating in a parking lot behind the Varsity Grill.

Owner Leon Zeiger closed the back room in which he had been presenting hard rock bands, and appealed the commissioners' restrictions on his liquor license to the Prince George's Circuit Court.

Zeiger agrees that too many rowdy young people loiter around his place

See ROCK, C3, Col. 1

ARTICLE FROM THE WASHINGTON POST



County authorities have been investigating this University Boulevard nightclub near campus.

Explicit drawing prompts inquiry

FLIERS, from page 1

ti, chief liquor board inspector, and Marcia Krasnick, deputy chief liquor board inspector, and at least two other inspectors and two county police officers.

"They were most concerned about the fliers and those responsible for them," Gomez said. After telling the officials he was not responsible for the fliers' printing or posting, he called Mike Belle, the Submensas' bass player and manager, and asked him to get band members to take the fliers down.

Zanelotti would not comment on the case.

Krasnick said Wednesday that the liquor board was still investigating King Kong. Board members will not discuss the case until after the board reviews it sometime after the board's next meeting, on Thursday, Hincken said yesterday.

"Zanelotti said (Tuesday) to get someone from the bands to his office by 1:30 (p.m.)" to determine what could be done about the fliers, Gomez said. Belle said he went to see Zanelotti and told him that the Kongs and the King Kong DJs "didn't publish the fliers . . . King Kong's doesn't advertise the shows but leaves it up to the bands."

The board "really wants to throw the book at the Kongs," Hillebert said, adding that his former employers, who speak little English, "are confused and I feel sorry for them."

Hillebert, King Kong DJ Mike Haran and several other people took down posters in College Park Tuesday afternoon.

ARTICLE FROM THE DIAMONDBACK

FUTURE RESEARCH

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

- Addition of more sites connected to Prince George's County music and musicians
- Additional research on cataloged sites
- State and National Register Nominations
- Continued availability of deliverables and research (StoryMap, social media content, zine)

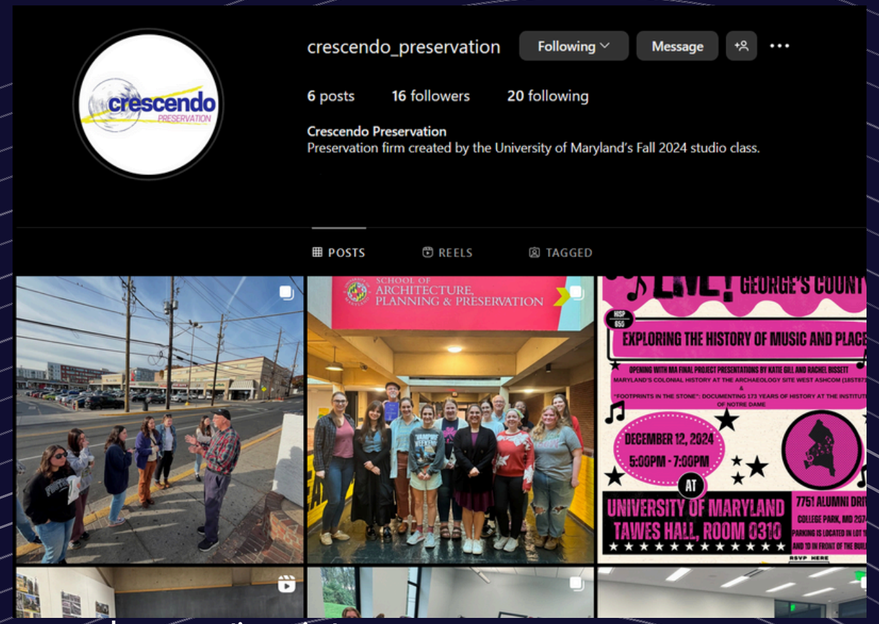


The Paragon (1992) Courtesy of Mark Opsasnick





The Quonset Inn (T), Bowie State University (B)



@crescendo_preservation on instagram

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