

GARRETT

Named for John W. Garrett, industrialist and financier. It was created by Chapter 212 of the Acts of 1872. The County seat is Oakland.

HARFORD

Named for Henry Harford, last Proprietary. He was a son of Frederick, sixth Lord Baltimore, but because of his illegitimate birth did not inherit the title. It was erected by Chapter 10 of the Acts of 1773. The County seat is Bel Air.

HOWARD

Named for John Eager Howard, soldier and statesman. The county was created in 1851 by Article VIII, Section 1 of the Constitution of that year. However, the area which later became Howard County was set up as Howard District of Anne Arundel County by Chapter 22 of the Acts of 1838 and thereafter, until 1851, enjoyed the status of a county except that it was not represented in the General Assembly. The County seat is Ellicott City.

KENT

This county derives its name from the English county of the same name. It was erected by order of the Governor in 1642. The County seat is Chestertown.

MONTGOMERY

Named for the Revolutionary General, Richard Montgomery. The county was created by the Constitutional Convention of 1776. The County seat is Rockville.

PRINCE GEORGE'S

Named for Prince George of Denmark, husband of Queen Anne. This County was erected by Chapter 13, Acts of 1695. The County seat is Upper Marlboro.

QUEEN ANNE'S

This county is named for Queen Anne. It was erected in 1706 by Chapter 3 of the Acts of 1706. The County seat is Centreville.

ST. MARY'S

Named in honor of the Virgin Mary. The *Ark* and the *Dove* landed on Annunciation Day. This was the first county erected in Maryland—the date being 1637. The form of its erection was an order of the Governor. The County seat is Leonardtown.

SOMERSET

Named after Mary Somerset, sister of Cecilius, Second Lord Baltimore. It was created by an Order in Council of 1666. The County seat is Princess Anne.

TALBOT

Named after Grace Talbot, sister of Cecilius, Second Lord Baltimore. The form of the creation of this county is not known, but it was probably by virtue of an order of the Governor in Council. It was certainly in existence by February 18, 1661/62 when a writ was issued to the sheriff. The County seat is Easton.

WASHINGTON

Named for George Washington. The county owes its creation to the Constitutional Convention of 1776. The County seat is Hagerstown.