

CAROLINE

The sister of the last Lord Baltimore, Lady Caroline Eden, gave her name to this County. It owes its existence to Chapter 10 of the Acts of Assembly of 1773. The County seat is Denton.

CARROLL

This County was named for the distinguished Revolutionary statesman Charles Carroll of Carrollton. It was erected by Chapter 256, Acts of 1835 and confirmed by Chapter 19 of the Acts of 1836. The County seat is Westminster.

CECIL

Named for Cecilius, Second Lord Baltimore and founder of the Colony. This County was erected in 1674 by Proclamation of the Governor. The County seat is Elkton.

CHARLES

Named for Charles Calvert, son and heir of Cecilius, Second Lord Baltimore. It owes its origin to an Order in Council of 1658. It is not to be confused with an earlier Charles County, known as Old Charles County. The County seat is La Plata.

DORCHESTER

Named for the Earl of Dorset, a family friend of the Calverts. The exact date and the legal origin of the County are unknown, but it was certainly in existence by February 16, 1668/69 when a writ was issued to the sheriff of the County. The County seat is Cambridge.

FREDERICK

Named probably for Frederick Calvert who became sixth and last Lord Baltimore. It was created by Chapter 15, Acts of 1748. The County seat is Frederick.

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. The County was erected by Chapter 6 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; confirmed by Chapter 50, Acts of 1839 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.