



68-014 Dueling Grounds

37th Avenue off Bladensburg Road

Colmar Manor

(M-NCPPC)

This grassy park area is located on part of the tract known as Chillum Castle Manor, which was patented to William Digges in 1763. It was the scene of at least 26 recorded duels (tradition recounts 50) during the first half of the nineteenth century. The most famous was the 1820 duel between Commodores James Barron and Stephen Decatur, in which Decatur was mortally wounded. The public opinion against dueling reached a peak in the late 1830s, and the practice of dueling came to an end after the Civil War.