

## Criterion A

Pimlico Race Course has a significant association with the large-scale introduction of Thoroughbred horse racing in Maryland. While Thoroughbred racing had been happening in Maryland prior to 1868, no race course had the same effect on the sport's popularity as Pimlico. Borne out of a competition, Pimlico has hosted nearly continuously the Preakness Stakes, Dixie Handicap, and other smaller stakes and match races for 154 years. The return of the Preakness to Baltimore ushered in a golden age of horse racing and breeding in the state. From 1909 through the 1930s, six new horse parks opened in Maryland to support the growing interest in the sport. The first televised Maryland horse race at Pimlico was in 1947, broadening the appeal of horse racing. As interest skyrocketed in the mid-twentieth century, Pimlico Race Course responded by constructing the Grandstands in 1954 and the Clubhouse in 1960. A new fleet of stables with dormitories was constructed in 1968. Pimlico Race Course retains a significant concentration of buildings from the late-nineteenth century through the mid-twentieth century and conveys its importance in horseracing, not only in Maryland, but nationwide through its hosting of the Preakness Stakes, through its significant collection of extant buildings. Therefore, Pimlico Race Course is eligible under Criterion A in the area of Entertainment/Recreation for its association with its introduction and revitalization of horse racing in Maryland.

## Criterion B

Pimlico Race Course is recommended not eligible for the NRHP. Research has revealed no significant association with persons who have made specific contributions to local, state, or national history. While Raoul Middleman's murals are installed in the Grandstand, they postdate the period of significance for the property, and his association with the property does not rise to a significant level. There are other properties that may better reflect his significance to art and culture in Baltimore, such as the Maryland Institute College of Art. Therefore, Pimlico Race Course is not eligible under Criterion B.

## Criterion C

Pimlico is a significant example of an early-twentieth-century racing track adapted to reflect the changes in horse racing trends and technology through the mid-twentieth century. The race track contains a representative, intact collection of late-nineteenth-century, early-twentieth-century, and mid-twentieth-century buildings. The 1894 Concourse, despite its northwest additions, demonstrates early grandstand recreational seating and engineering. The early-twentieth-century stables retain their integrity and represent equestrian architecture of the time period. The Grandstands and the Clubhouse are significant examples of mid-twentieth-century architecture. Their use of metal windows, glazed walls, and concrete block are emblematic of the period. When compared to other racetracks like Churchill Downs and Belmont Park, the tiered seating behind glazed walls is a typical feature found in recreational buildings like these. Therefore, Pimlico Race Course is eligible under Criterion C.