

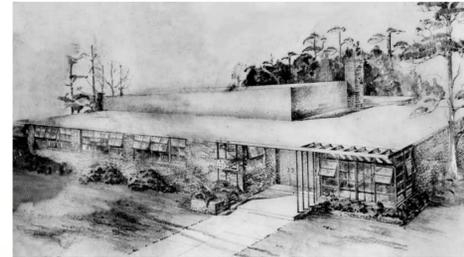
1950s



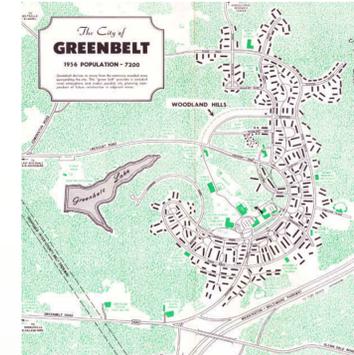
Young ladies vie for the Miss Greenbelt title in 1951. According to tradition, each young woman was sponsored by a local business or organization and the winner was determined by citizens dropping coins into jars around town. This year's winner was Rhonda Bibler, fourth from the right. Greenbelt Museum, photograph by Paul Kasko



Five Greenbelt residents and Navy Department employees, including Abraham Chasanow and Isadore Parker, were suspended from their positions for being so-called security risks. They were cleared in 1954. The film, Three Brave Men, based only on the Chasanow case, was released in 1956. Greenbelt Museum



The Jewish Community Center, renamed Mishkan Torah in 1968, is dedicated. This rendering, probably circa 1950, depicts the structure which would be built largely by the Jewish members themselves, with help from Greenbelt Catholics, Protestants and others. Mishkan Torah



Woodland Hills, a housing development consisting of 49 lots, is established as a non-profit corporation. This advertising brochure from 1956 indicated that lots averaged 10,000 square feet and cost between \$2,900 and \$3,390. Greenbelt Museum



The Greenbelt Lions Club is first organized in 1952. The organization raised funds to support its charity endeavors by selling refreshments, organizing New Year's Dances, and publishing the bi-yearly Greenbelt Directory. Greenbelt Museum



The Greenbelt Community Church opens. The federal government did not build churches in Greenbelt, but it did leave areas of land where residents could build churches and throughout the 1950s they did. Greenbelt News Review



The federal government sells 1,572 housing units and 708 acres of land for \$6,995,669 to the Greenbelt Veterans Housing Corporation, which would later become Greenbelt Homes, Incorporated, the cooperative that thrives today. Greenbelt Museum



The first of 65 free-standing homes are built in the Lakeside development. This aerial photograph from 1974 shows Maplewood Court. Additional single family homes would be built in several areas in Greenbelt in the 1950s. City of Greenbelt



American Legion Post 136 opening day. Baseball, popular in Greenbelt from the beginning, continues to be a favorite pastime. Greenbelt Museum



A Ben Franklin five and dime store opened in the center of town. It remained open for 30 years. Greenbelt Museum

June 1950

September 1951

December 1952

July 1953

December 1954

March 1955

Spring 1955

May 1957

June 7, 1957

Late 1950s