

THE RECORD



Volume 111, No. 1

A Publication of the Historical Society of Charles County, Inc.

January 2016

Mary Pat Berry, President

Mary Ann Scott, Editor



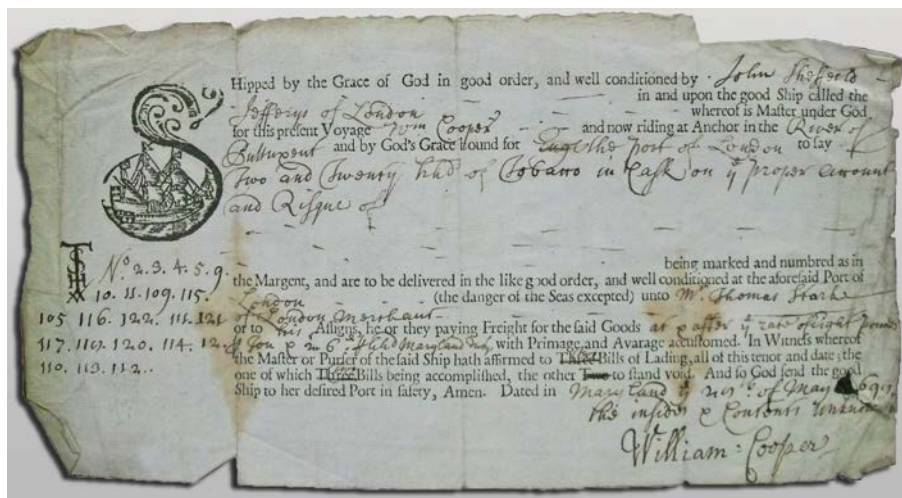
Winter Meeting

Saturday, January 23, 2016

2:00 p.m.

La Plata Methodist Church Hall

La Plata Road, La Plata, Maryland 20646



Sara Rivers-Cofield will present

*Small Finds, Big Picture:
Artifacts of the Colonial Chesapeake
as Bait for the Tobacco Trap*

The History of Rich Hill

1666 to 1807

by Dave Taylor

(reproduced with permission by the author)

*D*uring the wee morning hours of April 16, 1865, two men and their guide approached the door of a darkened, Charles County, Maryland home named Rich Hill. “Not having a bell,” one of its sleeping occupants later recalled, the door was, “surmounted with a brass ‘knocker’.” One of the three horseback men, under the cover of darkness, reached out a hand and grasped the brass tool. He raised it upwards and, as the hinge reached the apex of its journey, the knocker was silently suspended for the briefest moment in time. In a fraction of a second, the handle would fall, striking the metal plate beneath it and “in the stillness of night the sound from this” would resound, “with great distinctiveness”^[1]. The silence of the night would be shattered and the lives of the family sleeping within the house’s walls would be changed forever. History was knocking at the door of Rich Hill and its harbingers were John Wilkes Booth, the assassin of President Lincoln, and David Herold, his accomplice.

While Rich Hill would become known in American History due to the visitors that April night, the house and property had a notable history starting about 200 years before. In April of 1666, a recent immigrant from Wales named Hugh Thomas was assigned and patented “600 acres of land, called Rich Hills, on the west side of the Wicomico river, in Charles county, Md.”^[2] Two years later, Hugh Thomas would sell half of his acreage at “Rich Hills” to an English immigrant turned St. Mary’s County merchant named Thomas Lomax. Lomax paid Thomas using the standard currency of the day: tobacco. For 3,500 lbs. of tobacco, Lomax acquired the northernmost 300 acres of the Rich Hill parcel, upon which the notable house would later be built.^[3] In 1676, Thomas Lomax gave his brother Cleborne (also spelled Claiborne/Cleiborne) Lomax 100 acres of the Rich Hill property. When Thomas died in the early 1680’s, he was apparently unmarried and without any heirs and so the remainder of his Rich Hill property went to his brother as well. In 1710, the Rich Hill land was sold out of the Lomax family to an intriguing widow by the name of Mary Contee.^[4]

A trifecta of circumstances had made Mary Contee nee Townley a very wealthy woman:

1. Mary Contee’s late husband, John Contee, had previously married a wealthy widow by the name of Charity Courts in 1703. When Charity died the same year of their marriage, John Contee inherited her sizable estate. He and Mary were then married by June of 1704.

2. In the same year of her marriage, Mary Contee’s cousin, Col. John Seymour was appointed the 10th Royal Governor

of Maryland. Mary is recounted as a “favored cousin” of the Governor and due to this her husband John was appointed to several lucrative governmental positions becoming a representative of Charles County in Maryland’s Lower House and a justice in Charles County to name a couple.^[5]

3. Thus far, it has only been shown that John Contee had become a wealthy man. While Mary assumedly enjoyed the fruit of his abovementioned “labors,” how did she herself become wealthy? That is where the real drama comes in. John Contee died on August 3rd, 1708. At the time of his death he possessed 3,697 acres of land and his personal property was assessed at 2,252 pounds sterling and 13 slaves. According to his will which was passed by an Act of Assembly in 1708, Mary became the sole executrix of her husband’s vast estate. However, it was later discovered that this will was not as it seemed. In 1725, seventeen years after Mary Contee had inherited her husband’s holdings, John Contee’s blood nephew, a man by the name of Alexander Contee, had depositions taken with regards to the will that had made Mary such a wealthy woman. Through these depositions Alexander Contee learned that John Contee’s will was a perjured fraud that was never agreed to by the deceased. Alexander discovered that his uncle’s supposed will had actually been written by a man named Philip Lynes. According the Alexander, Mr. Lynes was a man “very officious to oblige the said Mary” while John Contee was dying in the next room. Philip Lynes was married to Anne Seymour, the Governor’s sister and therefore was also a cousin to Mary Contee. The will was apparently brought before John Contee who was still of sound mind, and he refused to sign it as it was written. Though Contee lived for about a week more, the will was never rewritten in terms he agreed to. Due to these depositions, the Maryland Assembly passed another act in 1725 repealing the 1708 act that had granted Mary Contee as sole executrix. The new act mentioned not only the maleficence of those who gained by this false will, but also the fraudulent way a knowingly unsigned will passed the Houses in the first place. According to the new act, the fake will passed due to, “particular persons in power by whose Interest and Influence the said Act past both Houses of Assembly... contrary to the Standing rules of The Lower House.” Perhaps Gov. Seymour, who was still in office in 1708, used his influence, once again, to intervene on behalf of his “favored cousin”.^[6]

Therefore, it appears that Mary Contee purchased the Rich Hill property with fraudulently acquired capital. She did not own it for very long, however. By 1714, she had remarried a man by the name of Philemon Hemsley who facilitated the

selling of the Rich Hill land for 21,000 lbs. of tobacco. The new buyer was Gustavus Brown.^[7] Brown was a native of Dalkeith, Scotland and a surgeon by profession. His immigration to Maryland was an accidental one:

When a youth of 19 he became a Surgeon's mate, or Surgeon, on one of the royal or King's ships that came to the Colony in the Chesapeake Bay, 1708. While his ship lay at anchor he went on shore, but before he could return a severe storm arose, which made it necessary for the ship to weigh anchor and put out to sea. The young man was left with nothing but the clothes on his back. He quickly made himself known, and informed the planters of his willingness to serve them if he could be provided with instruments and medicines, leaving them to judge if he

was worthy of their confidence.^[8]



Brown started his medical practice in the Nanjemoy area of Charles County and quickly made a favorable reputation for himself. In 1710, he married a woman by the name of Francis Fowke and the newlyweds lived temporarily with her father in Nanjemoy.

Dr. Gustavus Brown, Sr. Source: Smithsonian Institutions

Dr. and Mrs. Brown's 1714 purchase of the Rich Hill property ushered in a new age for the estate. Instead of solely using the land for the planting and harvesting of tobacco, Dr. Brown sought to create a home on the land. It is this home that we see today and know as Rich Hill.

The exact date of construction on Rich Hill has not been determined. According to its listing in the National Register of Historic Places, the house was "built probably in the in the early to mid 18th century"^[9]. Looking at the genealogical records for Dr. Brown's children, this author has determined that the house was built by 1720, as his daughter born that year was cited to have been born at "Rich Hills".^[10]

As it is today, Rich Hill was built as a 1 ? story structure that appears as a full 2 story building from the exterior. The original house had a hip roof and was built on top of cut stone piers. While the front door was on the southwest side of the house as it is now, it was formerly on the center of this wall. As you walked into Dr. Brown's Rich Hill, the first floor consisted of four similarly sized rooms with a small stair hall in back flanked by a rear door. The original building had two exterior chimneys which stood on the southeast and northwest sides of the house.^[11]

The majority, if not all, of the Brown children were born at Rich Hill. Dr. Brown and Frances had a total of twelve children

as his practice prospered. He had made a name for himself on both sides of the Potomac, treating residents of Maryland and Virginia. One humorous story regarding Dr. Brown's experiences as a physician is recounted below:

On one occasion Dr. Brown was sent for in haste to pay a professional visit in the family of a Mr. H., a wealthy citizen of King George Co., Va., who was usually very slow in paying his physician for his valuable services, and who was also very ostentatious in displaying his wealth. In leaving the chamber of his patient it was necessary for Dr. B. to pass through the dining room, where Mr. H. was entertaining some guests at dinner. As Dr. B. entered the room a servant bearing a silver salver, on which stood two silver goblets filled with gold pieces, stepped up to him and said, 'Dr. B., master wishes you to take out your fee.' It was winter, and Dr. B. wore his overcoat. Taking one of the goblets he quietly emptied it into one pocket, and the second goblet into another, and saying to the servant, 'Tell your master I highly appreciate his liberality,' he mounted his horse and returned home.^[12]

While his business grew, Gustavus Brown did suffer some of his own tragedies at home. Out of his twelve children with Frances, three died in infancy. In an odd twist, all of the children who died were boys who were named after their father. Dr. Brown himself was actually the second Gustavus Brown as his father in Scotland bore the same name. Dr. Brown named his first two boys, "Gustavus", only to watch them both die before they were a year old. When his third son was born, Dr. Brown gave him the name Richard, and this son would survive. Perhaps thinking their curse of losing their male children was at an end, the couple named their fourth son "Gustavus Richard Brown" only to witness him perish 10 days after his birth. While not documented, it is extremely likely that the three infant Gustavus Browns were buried somewhere on the Rich Hill property.



Frances Fowke Brown Source: Smithsonian Institutions

Frances Fowke Brown died 1744 and was buried at the estate of her daughter and son-in-law in Stafford County, Virginia. Dr. Brown remarried a widow named Margaret Boyd in 1746. With Margaret, Dr. Brown had two more children at Rich Hill, a boy and a girl. Though tempting fate, Dr. Brown named his youngest son after himself. This "Gustavus Richard Brown" born on October 17th, 1747, would survive infancy, follow in his father's footsteps into the medical profession, and enter the history books as one of George Washington's friends and caregiver at the Father of Our Country's final hour. Dr. Brown's other child with Margaret was named after her mother

and would later marry Thomas Stone, a signer of the Declaration of Independence from Maryland. Their shared home, Habre de Venture, in Port Tobacco, Maryland is a National Historic Site run by the National Park Service.^[13]

In April of 1762, the senior Dr. Brown died at Rich Hill. His death was from “apoplexy” which was a general term that meant death happened suddenly after a loss of consciousness (i.e. severe heart attack or stroke).^[14]



Rev. Richard Brown Source: Smithsonian Institutions

Dr. Brown was buried at Rich Hill, though the exact spot of his grave is lost today.^[15] Rich Hill and its 300 acres passed to his wife Margaret and then to his eldest son Rev. Richard Brown (who was also a medical doctor) and his wife Helen.

During his tenure in the house, Rev. Brown, through marriage and purchase, managed to acquire a large portion of the 600 acre Rich Hill parcel that was split back in 1668. A tax assessment for Rich Hill in 1783 shows Rev. Richard Brown

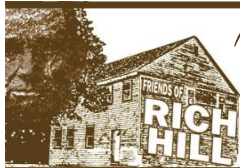
owning 566 acres of Rich Hill. He also made some unknown “improvements” to the property, which probably entailed some work on the house.^[16] When Rev. Brown died in 1789, Rich Hill and its acreage swapped hands a few times between his descendants, with a loss of some of the land the Reverend had managed regain.

The Brown family owned Rich Hill continually for 93 years. At least four generations of Browns had made that house their home. It raised the men and women who befriended and married America’s founding fathers. When it was sold out of Brown family in 1807 to a man named Samuel Cox, a new chapter for Rich Hill began. The new owner and his descendants would own Rich Hill for the next 164 years and would witness the night history came knocking on their door.

Dave Taylor is a Lincoln assassination and Booth family researcher. He runs and maintains the website BoothieBarn.com, which provides information on the Lincoln assassination story through articles, pictures galleries, videos, and maps. He has been interviewed by the New York times and on live television about his interest in the tragedy of April 14, 1865. Mr. Taylor is also one of the narrators for the very popular John Wilkes Booth Escape Route Bus Tour sponsored by the Surratt Society. Mr. Taylor is a member of the Rich Hill Steering Committee and keeps everyone updated on the Rich Hill project through his blog: richhillfriends.org.

Sources:

- [1] Samuel Cox, Jr., Letter to Mrs. B. T. Johnson, July 20, 1891, James O. Hall Research Center.
- [2] William F. Boogher, Gleanings of Virginia History: An Historical and Genealogical Collection (Washington, D.C.: W. F. Boogher, 1903), 283.
- [3] 26 Apr. 1668. Charles County Circuit Court Liber D, Page 14.
- [4] 3 Mar. 1710. Charles County Land Records, Liber C#2, Page 245.
- [5] Edward C. Papenfuse, *A Biographical Dictionary of the Maryland Legislature 1635-1789* (Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1979), 230.
- [6] *Acts of the General Assembly hitherto unpublished 1694-1698, 1711-1729*, Volume 38, ed. Bernard Steiner (Baltimore, MD: Lord Baltimore Press, 1918), 384-386.
- [7] 12 Jan 1714. Charles Co. Land Records, Liber F#2, page 51
- [8] Horace Edwin Hayden, *Virginia Genealogies: A Genealogy of the Glassell Family of Scotland and Virginia : Also of the Families of Ball, Brown, Bryan, Conway, Daniel, Ewell, Holladay, Lewis, Littlepage, Moncure, Peyton, Robinson, Scott, Taylor, Wallace, and Others, of Virginia and Maryland* (Wilkes-Barre, PA: E. B. Yorby, 1891), 152.
- [9] National Registry of Historic Places Nomination Form, *Rich Hill Farms* (1976).
- [10] Hayden, *Virginia Genealogies*, 162.
- [11] Registry, *Rich Hill Farms*.
- [12] Hayden, *Virginia Genealogies*, 153.
- [13] Ibid, 147.
- [14] Ibid, 151.
- [15] Norma L. Hurley, “Samuel Cox of Charles County,” *The Record – Publication of the Historical Society of Charles County, Inc.*, October 1991, 1-5.
- [16] J. Richard Rivoire, *Rich Hill Tract History* (Charles County Historical Society).



The Friends of Rich Hill

Supporting the Rehabilitation of a Historic Property

Historic Southern Maryland

Friends

The ***Friends of Rich Hill*** was established to preserve, refurbish, and promote a unique part of Southern Maryland’s History. Rich Hill was built in the late 18th century by the Reverend Richard Brown. More notably, however, it was the home of Colonel Samuel Cox, who helped to hide John Wilkes Booth and David Herold in his “pine thicket” in the days following the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln in April of 1865.

The Purpose of the Friends of Rich Hill is to:

- Develop Partnerships with other organizations.
- Host events for “Friends.”
- Fundraise for interior furnishings & accessories.
- Sponsor special awareness events.
- Provide updates on the rehabilitation progress.
- Record pertinent information, documents, and photographs as part of the Historic Sites file at the Southern Maryland Studies Center, College of Southern Maryland, La Plata Campus.

Tax-deductable donations will help to maintain the historical integrity of the house through its furnishings, tours and educational programs.

Levels of Giving

Friend	\$ 5 - \$ 99
Captain	\$ 100 - \$ 199
Major	\$ 200 - \$ 499
Colonel	\$ 500 - \$ 999
General	\$ 1,000 +

To donate, please make checks payable to the *Friends of Rich Hill*
c/o the Historical Society of Charles County,
PO Box 2806, La Plata, Maryland 20646.

Friends of Rich Hill



Elsie Picyk (MD)
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Pike (MD)
Jessica Poetker (MD)
Esther Read (MD)
Gregory Regelski (VA)
Dr. & Mrs. Howard Reich (CA)
William Richmond (MD)
Jan Marie Ritter (MD)
Lanny Rohrbaugh (MO)
James Scarborough (VA)
Debra Scoggins (MD)
Christopher Shelton (IN)
Stephanie M. Smith (OH)
Andrew Surratt (IL)
Cathy Hardy Thompson (MD)
Leila Wassom (MD)
Mary Ann Wessel (CA)

FRIEND

Mr. & Mrs. Gene Ackerman (VA)
Marietta Arenberg (MD)
Elizabeth Bearsley (NC)
Barbara Benfield (MD)
William P. Binzel (VA)
Bill Blandford (MD)
Amy Blessinger (MD)
Margaret M. Brown (VA)
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Buonviri (MD)
Rebecca Cain (MD)
Joseph & Denise Cheseldine (MD)
Robert W. Cook (MD)
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Damp (NY)
Barry Doohan (DE)
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ehrenstrom (MD)
Dale & Carol Flowers (MD)

Richard Frank (MO)
Mary Forsht-Tucker (MD)
Sheila Geisert (MD)
Kathryn B. Giannetti (MD)
Mr. & Mrs. Clifford Jenkins (MD)
Bill Kavran (OH)
Michael Kanazawich (PA)
Candice Q. Kelly (MD)
Steven R. Koppelman (NJ)
David Lassman (MD)
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Lepesqueur (MD)
Dr. & Mrs. Charles Little (ME)
Ed Maher (NJ)
Mrs. Chris H. Maskaleris (MD)
Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr. (MD)
John Muranelli (NY)
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Norton (FL)

CAPTAIN

Dr. Lloyd S. Bowling (MD)
Ronald G. Brown (MD)
John A. Gall (NJ)
Jane K. Linton (MD)
Mr. & Mrs. Alan E. Norris (OH)
George Howard Post (MD)
James C. Simpson (MD)
Gan Rae Tarpey (NJ)
Laurie Verge (MD)

MAJOR

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Bennett (NJ)
John & Joyce Candland (MD)
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Donohue (MD)
Dr. & Mrs. Blaine Houmes (IA)

President's Message

Dear Society Members,

Do you feel the pull of the seasons this fall? Along with the seasons, I feel the pull of the past. The HSCC is so about the past and how it relates to the present. Rich Hill and its history stretches across the centuries. It is so exciting to see the layers peeled back and what that reveals. "Behind the Walls" of Rich Hill was a look for the Friends of Rich Hill (FRH) on November 1 to experience and touch the past. Who felt a ghost? Again, we must thank the county for this partnership and continuing to allow the HSCC access and input.

Speaking of input, the HSCC is the recipient of a Heritage Grant from Preservation Maryland! At a press conference on Dec.3, the HSCC was presented with a "big check" both literally and figuratively, for \$6500. This is to fund Dean Kimmel and the beginnings of an interpretive plan for Rich Hill. The FRH have their homework assignments and are ready to dig into this project. More news on the Rich Hill front. The Charles County Office of Tourism received the 2015 Maryland Office of Tourism Development Award in the "Cultural Heritage Tourism" category for the Lincoln 150 Commemoration: On the Trail of the Assassin event. The Cultural Heritage Tourism award recognizes outstanding investments and contributions in stewardship and/or development of Maryland's cultural heritage product and engagement in regional and statewide tourism initiatives. Groups involved, including HSCC, were recognized by the Charles County Commissioners in December. The accolades for Rich Hill keep coming. And don't let me forget our October meeting at Surratt House. Mike Mazzeo and Carol Donohue outdid themselves with the arrangements. Even a high school homecoming parade near the Surratt House didn't throw a wrench in their plans. Dave Taylor gave a fascinating talk on the John Wilkes Booth's trail at Rich Hill and into Virginia and included our own Carol Donohue as a descendant of the Garrett's. Talk about Living History!

Do you want to walk down history's trail? Then join the Holiday Trail December 11-13 in Charles County. The HSCC sponsors this ever-growing weekend of historic sites and venues who open their doors for the season. Please check out charlescountyholidaytrail.com for a complete list of activities and sites. There is something for everyone. And to add to HSCC's list of awards, the Holiday trail was awarded a Southern Maryland Heritage Area Consortium mini-grant for \$1000 to help cover the costs of promoting the Trail. Friendship House will be dressed for the holidays and open both Dec 12 & 13, ready to receive guests. Please contact us if you would like to help at Friendship House those days. So all aboard, I hope to cross paths with HSCC members on the Holiday Trail!

In history's steps,

Mary Pat Berry, *President,*
Historical Society of Charles County

Friendship House Cellar Museum Recognition

On October 26, 2015 the Charles County Historic Preservation Commission along with the Charles County Department of Planning and Growth management presented members of the Friendship House Foundation a Letter of Commendation for their work on the Friendship House Cellar Museum.



Accepting the Letter of Commendation is Historical Society President Mary Pat Berry flanked by Foundation members Joyce Candland and Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr.

Friendship House Cellar Museum

Our Cellar Museum is complete! We commissioned Leah Emerald, a recent graduate of the Philadelphia Art Institute to paint a doll house view of Friendship House. Today, this beautiful framed watercolor is hung proudly in our Cellar Museum.



Friendship House Foundation

Friendship House sits proudly on the campus of the College of Southern Maryland. Please join the Historical Society of Charles County in contributing to the preservation of Friendship House for many generations to come.



Friendship House Foundation Contributors

FRIEND

<i>Mr. Wilson Barmeyer</i>	<i>Ms. Mary Ann Carpenter</i>	<i>Mr. William F. Krone, Jr.</i>	<i>Ms. Bonnie Rafer</i>
<i>Ms. Sandra Bauer</i>	<i>Ms. Charlotte K. Cathell</i>	<i>Mrs. Betty Levering</i>	<i>Mrs. Beverly Stone</i>
<i>Ms. Carolyn Billups</i>	<i>Mr. Gordon B. Chandler</i>	<i>Mr. Samuel C. Linton, Jr.</i>	<i>Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Volman</i>
<i>Mr. & Mrs. Charles Boone</i>	<i>Mr. & Mrs. David Creason</i>	<i>Mr. & Mrs. J. Carter McKaig</i>	<i>Ms. Danielle Webber</i>
<i>Dr. Lloyd S. Bowling</i>	<i>Mr. Patrick Cox</i>	<i>Mitchell Supply, Inc.</i>	<i>Mr. & Mrs. Gary Whitsell</i>
<i>Mr. Ronald Brown</i>	<i>Delta Kappa Gamma, Chi Chapter</i>	<i>Mr. & Mrs. H. Maxwell Mitchell</i>	<i>Ms. Linda Monroe Williams</i>
<i>Mrs. Doris Karlsson Burgess</i>	<i>Mrs. Mardalee B. Dickinson</i>	<i>Mr. Rob Passow</i>	<i>Mrs. & Mrs. James Wilson</i>
<i>Mr. Christopher M. Carnes</i>	<i>The Lew Gladhill Family</i>	<i>Judith & Jerome Peuler</i>	
<i>Mr. Clarence D. Carpenter, Jr.</i>	<i>Dr. Brad Gottfried</i>	<i>Mr. & Mrs. George Picyk</i>	
<i>Ms. Deborah J. Carpenter</i>	<i>Chuck & Paige Jackson</i>	<i>Mr. Howard Post</i>	

COLONIST

<i>Mr. James Cobey</i>	<i>and Julia Cobey Gluck</i>	<i>Mr. John S. Morris III</i>
<i>Mr. William W. Cobey, Jr.</i>	<i>Mrs. Elizabeth Linton deKeyser</i>	<i>The Jan Monroe Trust</i>
<i>Ms. Dena M. Cruz</i>	<i>Mr. Edward B. Edelen, Jr.</i>	<i>Ms. Betty Cobey Senescu</i>
<i>Mrs. Marie deLozier</i>	<i>Ms. Charlotte E. Erwin</i>	<i>Mr. & Mrs. John Sine</i>
<i>Ms. Patricia Danielsen in honor of</i>	<i>Ms. Julia Cobey Gluck</i>	<i>Mr. & Mrs. Budd Sturm</i>
<i>Mary Cobey Martin, Elizabeth Cobey Joseph</i>	<i>Ms. Mildred M. Hamman</i>	<i>Ms. Mary Sturm</i>

PATRIOT

<i>Ann & Allen G. Burgess</i>	<i>Mr. Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr.</i>	<i>Brian & Eve-Lyn Cobey Turmail</i>
<i>John & Joyce Candland</i>	<i>Ms. Mary Cobey Martin in honor of</i>	<i>Robert & Halle Walker</i>
<i>Alex & Whitney Cobey</i>	<i>Julia Cobey Gluck and Betty Cobey Joseph</i>	<i>Susan & Otey Walker</i>
<i>Mr. & Mrs. Dan Donohue</i>	<i>Ms. Shiela Smith</i>	
<i>Ms. Jane Keithley Linton</i>	<i>Ms. Catherine Sturm-Hughes</i>	

STATESMAN

<i>Mrs. Barbara Wright Griffin</i>	<i>Mary Constance Hoffmaster Hutchins</i>
<i>in memory of Gertrude Wright McWilliams</i>	<i>Chris & Evelyn Karlsson Merritt</i>
<i>Mr. Tim Hutchins in memory of</i>	<i>Mrs. Hilda Karlsson Roderick</i>

RENAISSANCE

<i>Dr. Elwood & Mary Cobey</i>	<i>The Gluck Family Fund</i>	<i>Mr. & Mrs. Ernest L. Irish</i>	<i>Elizabeth Cobey Joseph</i>
------------------------------------	------------------------------	---------------------------------------	-------------------------------

Friendship House Foundation In Memory of

<i>Warren E. Barley</i>	<i>Kathryn C. Newcomb</i>
<i>Philip L. Griffith</i>	<i>Velva Perrygo</i>
<i>Eleanor Higdon</i>	<i>Watson Perrygo</i>
<i>Sue LaHood</i>	<i>Anita Wood</i>
<i>Katherine S. W. Mitchell</i>	

Friendship House Foundation Levels of Giving:

Friend	\$ 25.00-\$ 99.00
Colonist	\$ 100.00-\$199.00
Patriot	\$ 200.00-\$499.00
Statesman	\$ 500.00-\$999.00
Renaissance	\$1,000.00 +

To donate, please make checks payable to the Friendship House Foundation, and mail to the Historical Society.

Officers, Board of Directors, and Committee Members

OFFICERS

President Mary Pat Berry
 Vice-President Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr.
 Secretary Danielle Webber
 Treasurer G. Howard Post

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

James H. Berry, Jr. 2016
 Sharon G. Bolton 2016
 Denise Delozier Grote 2016
 Jane K. Linton 2016
 Elsie Picyk 2017
 Ronald Brown 2017
 Sandra Mitchell 2017
 Carol Donohue 2018
 Mildred M. Hamman 2018
 Thomas Pike 2018
 Debra R. Scoggins 2018

PAST PRESIDENTS

* Bennett Crain 1962-1963
 * Eugene A. Jenkins, Jr. 1963-1964, 1966-1967
 H. Maxwell Mitchell, Jr. 1964-1966
 * W. Preston Williams 1967-1968
 * John H. Mitchell 1968-1970
 * Watson M. Perrygo 1970-1978
 George C. Dyson 1978-1982
 * William E. Garvey, Jr. 1982-1985
 ** Richard E. Heise, II 1985-1986
 Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr. 1986-1992
 Dr. Lloyd Bowling 1992-1998
 Wayne Winkler 1998-2004
 Kaye O'Kelley 2004-2008
 Joyce B. Candland 2008-2012

* Deceased ** Acting President

COMMITTEES

Charles County Heritage Committee:

Carol Donohue, Representative

Genealogy and Research:

Debra R. Scoggins, *Chairperson*

Historian:

Tom Pike

Historic Sites:

Joyce Candland, *Chairperson*

Historical Trust Representative:

Ruby W. Dyson

Membership:

Joyce B. Candland, *Chairperson*

Programs:

Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr., *Chairperson*

Carol Donohue

Publications:

Mary Ann Scott, *Editor, The Record*

Publicity:

Tom Pike

Rich Hill Steering Committee:

Mary Pat Berry

Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr.

Ronald Brown

Tom Pike

Joyce Candland

Debra Scoggins

Carol Donohue

Dave Taylor

Cathy Thompson, *Charles County Government Representative*

Laurie Verge, *Consultant, Surratt House & Museum*

EDITOR'S NOTE

If you would like future newsletters sent to you by e-mail, please send us your e-mail address. Articles of historic interest on Southern Maryland are requested for publication in future issues of *The Record*. Please send your articles and photographs to: The Historical Society of Charles County, Publications, *The Record*, P.O. Box 2806, La Plata, Maryland 20646. Or you can email your articles and photographs to Mary Pat Berry at bugs4berry@gmail.com.

Friendship House Committees

Foundation

Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr., Chair
 Joyce Candland
 Madelyn Irish
 Evelyn Karlsson Merritt
 John S. Morris, III

Furnishings

Joyce Candland, Chair
 Madelyn Irish
 Louise B. Turner

Cellar Museum & Shop

James H. Berry, Jr.
 Mary Pat Berry

Ways & Means

Ruby Dyson
 Sandra Mitchell



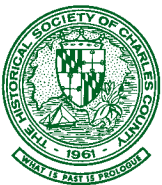


The Surratt House Museum and the Surratt Society will be holding the 17th Annual Lincoln Assassination Conference on the weekend of April 8-10, 2016, in Clinton, Maryland. Museum members have already received their information packets; but if any member of our Historical Society is interested in details, please call 301-868-1121 or email the museum's director, Laurie Verge, at laurie.verge@pgparks.com. This conference draws attendees from across the U.S. as well as several foreign countries.



Mark Your Calendar

- **Saturday, January 23, 2016:** January Meeting. Sara Rivers-Cofield will present *Small Finds, Big Picture: Artifacts of the Colonial Chesapeake as Bait for the Tobacco Trap*
- **May 14 & 15, 2016:** Charles County Heritage Days.
- **Sunday, May 22, 2016:** Spring Luncheon Meeting & Tour at Historic Ellerslie, home of Kevin & Denise Grote (rain date June 5th).
- **Saturday, May 28, 2016:** Maryland House & Garden Pilgrimage in Charles County.



THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CHARLES COUNTY, INC.

P.O. Box 2806 • La Plata, Maryland 20646
www.charlescountyhistorical.org