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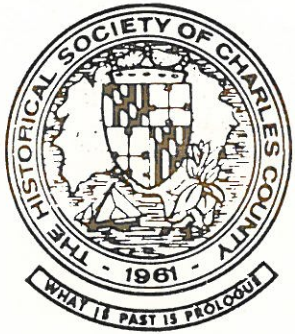
EDITOR'S NOTE

Articles of historic interest on Southern Maryland are requested for possible publication in future issues of **The Record**. Please send your typewritten manuscripts and other communications to: Editor, **The Record**, Box 583, La Plata, Maryland 20646.

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# The RECORD

Publication of the Historical Society of Charles County, Inc.

NO. 40 May, 1987

Mr. Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr., *President*

Elwood M. Leviner, *Editor*

## EDITOR'S NOTE

In this issue of **The Record** appears for the first time an account under the heading of "Out of the Past." This feature, which will be repeated from time to time, will remind some readers and reveal to more recent members the workings of the historical society in the past.

## AN UPCOMING EVENT

The Spring meeting of the Historical Society will be on Saturday, May 16, at six thirty P.M., at the Old Durham Church. The dinner menu will feature crab imperial and baked ham. The price is \$12.50 each person.

David Fogle, School of Architecture, University of Maryland, will deliver a slide presentation on the homes of the Calverts — Kiplin Hall, Yorkshire, England and St. Marie's Hall, St. Mary's City, Maryland.

## SOCIETY'S CEMETERY PROJECT NEARS COMPLETION

The preservation of Charles County's heritage has always been an important objective of The Historical Society of Charles County. In light of this, the Historical Society has transcribed over nine-thousand tombstone inscriptions including forty-one public cemeteries and seventy-seven private cemeteries on wooded property, being lost to development and natural overgrowth.

The first cemetery committee of the Society was formed in the 1960's under the direction of Elinore K. Warren. This committee began the task of locating and transcribing both private and public cemeteries in Charles County. Later, extensive work began with the leadership of Watson Perrygo, John Hanson Mitchell and W. Preston Williams.

The present committee, under the direction of Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr., was formed in 1978 under the guidance of Velva Perrygo and, with the support of

George C. Dyson, involved not only numerous members of the Historical Society and the general public, but also students from La Plata High School with their Community Based Learning and Service Program. The completion of this project was realized in 1984 and a subsequent computerized name-index, containing over 15,000 names, was made possible through matching grants from The Charles County Heritage Commission and The Historical Society of Charles County.

The members of the Cemetery Committee have spent countless hours transcribing and typing tombstone inscriptions in order to make them available to the public. They are indebted to many people, especially the Officers and Board of Directors of The Historical Society from 1978 through 1986, The Charles County Heritage Commission and the Learning Resource Center Staff of the Charles County Community College.

It is with great pride that the Historical Society completes this research, for this project will not only benefit genealogists and researchers of today, but will help preserve the Heritage of Charles County for the future.

The following have contributed their expertise, time and effort on this project:

Cemetery Committee	Historical Society Members
Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr. <i>Chairperson</i>	Mrs. Richard Clark
Walter Huber, Jr.	Eloise Crain
Margaret Langley	Elizabeth Dailey
Gilbert Milstead	George Dyson
Spencer Milstead	Ruby Dyson
W. Preston Williams	Anne Gibson
Dorothy Wilson	Joseph Glover
Anita Wood	Mary C. Hasemier
	Eleanor Higdon
	Eugene Jenkins, Jr.
	Charles G. LaHood, Jr.
	Marcia Monaco
	Velva Perrygo
	Betty Rowe
	Susan Shaffer
	Rosemay Stewart
	Barbara Wright Griffin



SOCIETY'S CEMETERY PROJECT  
(CONTINUED)

Charles County Heritage Commission	Learning Resource Center Staff
Eloise Crain	Elaine Ryan
Elaine Ryan	Catherine Parker
Kathryn Newcomb	Shirley Gross
Joseph Y. Rowe	Frances Kinder
Cecelia Spinks	April Middleton

FENWICK CEMETERY

Fenwick Road, Bryans Road  
300 yards right of Hollis Point Road  
6 tombstones  
*Transcribed June 13, 1979*  
*by Michael Mazzeo and Stephanie Mazzeo*

BRENT

To the memory of Louisiana, who was born upon the 1st of March 1829 and died at Pomonkey Charles County, Maryland upon the 15th of September 1830 aged one year, six months and thirteen days. This stone is erected by her affectionate parents William L. Brent and Maria Fenwick, his wife, *"The Lord bless thee and keep thee"* Numbers Chapt. V6 V183

To the memory of William Leigh Brent who was born at Martinsville in the state of Louisiana upon the 28th of September 1820 and died at Washington City D.C. upon the 17th of March 1833 aged twelve years, five months and seventeen days. This stone is erected by his mourning and affectionate Father and Mother, William L. Brent and his wife, Maria Fenwick.

*No early care had worn the tender ties that bound him here no grief his heart had bowed, only to pure for earth, he seemed to rise, to his own heaven doth some silver cloud before the winds grow loud. He's gone! He's gone! in silence make his grave but not in tears we would not from its home, recall his happy soul perchance to brave away lot too gentle far to roam through years of grief to come. Oh God! 'Thy will be done in this and in all things for thou art mercy itself and tenderly tempers the wind to the shorn lamb'*

FENWICK

To the memory of Edward Fenwick, who departed this life upon 4th June 1824 the thirty six year of his age. This stone is erected by his sister. *In the morning man shall grow up like grass in the morning he shall flourish and pass away*

In memory of Henrietta Maria, wife of James Fenwick and daughter of John Lancaster, who died Feb. 11, 1974

*Sacred to the memory of James Fenwick who departed this life September the 3rd 1823 in the 60th year of his age. He was the eldest son of Ignatius Fenwick and Sarah Taney, his wife. May he rest in peace*

In memory of Sarah Ann, daughter of James Fenwick and Teresa his wife, daughter of Robert Brent, who died Sept. 22, 1815

EILBECK GRAVES

Chapmans Landing Road, Bryans Road  
Montrose Farm, 125 yards west of the tenant house located east of the farm  
2 tombstones  
*Transcribed March 30, 1979*  
*by Michael Mazzeo*

EILBECK

Sarah Eilbeck, born Edgar and wife of William Eilbeck died the 11th of December 1780, aged 76 years

William Eilbeck of Charles County, Maryland, died the 26th of July 1765, aged 69 years

RIDGATE GRAVE AT  
"BETTY'S DELIGHT"

Rose Hill Road, Port Tobacco  
1 tombstone  
*Transcribed June 15, 1979*  
*by Michael Mazzeo*

RIDGATE

Here lieth deposited in this grave the body of Thomas Howe Ridgate, Junr, son of Thomas Howe Ridgate and Elizabeth his wife, who departed this life the 24th June 1789, aged 3 years, 9 months, 17 days. *Could death be softened by the briny tear, this lovely infant had not rested here, still would he live to bless a mothers sights and cheer a fathers sould with prospects bright. In fain thy saw the tender biding ruse, would each perfection where it bloomed dislose, but death has snatch'd him from the vital air, and left his mourning parents to dispair, relentless death! thy dire unerring dart, has pierc'd a fathers and a mothers heart*

SOCIETY'S CEMETERY PROJECT  
(CONTINUED)

BUDD AND MASON GRAVES

Gilroy Road, Doncaster  
Going toward Mt. Hope Church just before crossing stream, sets back on hill in a small grove of trees,  
1/2 mile across field near woods along stream  
4 tombstones  
*Transcribed 1982*  
*by Gilbert Milstead*

BUDD

In Memory of Artimacia T. Budd who departed this life the 19th day of August 1862 in the 84th year of her age. *A faithful good wife and a sincere friend, the like of herself you seldom find. The poor and the afflicted never came to her door to go away hungary*

In memory of William Budd who departed this life Monday June 8th 1840 in the 57th year of his age

MASON

Lot Mason died February 18th 1831 in the 81 year of his age. *Why need the — cheers, a life well spent, and a mans good deeds are his best moments*

Sally Mason died January 18th 1816 in her 61 year. *Released from all her cares and woes the rest in calm and sweet repose*

"OUT OF THE PAST"

NEWLY FORMED COUNTY HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY PLANS PROJECTS

*The Times Crescent — May 31, 1962*

Following cocktails and a beef dinner, the Historical Society of Charles County, Inc., held its first general membership meeting at Benedict Pier, Wednesday, May 23. More than eighty members attended.

F. DeSales Mudd, master of ceremonies, introduced Charles E. Fenwick, president of St. Mary's County Historical Society, and his wife; Mrs. Edward H. Forney, Washington genealogist and D.A.R. regent; and Norbert G. Mudd of Richmond.

Dr. Reginald V. Truitt, past president of Queen Anne's County Historical Society, spoke of the rich historical background of Charles County and the challenge to a County Historical Society.

Dr. Truitt listed many subjects for research and lecture work:

1. Missionary work among Indians;
2. Great men such as John Hanson, Thomas Stone, Daniel of St. Thomas and General Smallwood;
3. Homes, manor houses, churches and original grants;
4. Cullinary accomplishments;
5. Collection of graveyard records;
6. Indians and their relics;
7. War records;
8. Local legends;
9. Photographic record of antiques and county homes;
10. Significance of place names;
11. Acquisition of permanent home;
12. Establishing a museum

Guy W. Weatherly, Senior Archivist of the Hall of Records in Annapolis, told "What the Hall of Records means to the Citizens of Maryland," He invited the society to make use of the largest collection of colonial governmental records in the United States.

The gavel was then turned over to Bennett Crain, president, for a regular membership meeting. He announced the officers for the coming year: Vice-President, Eugene Jenkins, Jr., Secretary, Mrs. Edward J. Edelen; Treasurer, Mrs. Samuel C. Linton, Sr.

Directors will be: Robert T. Barbour, Judge John Dudley Digges, Francis I. Ferrall, Admiral Frank J. Fletcher, Mrs. Worthington S. Kemp, Mrs. George H. Matthews, Miss Louise Matthews, James C. Mitchell, John H. Mitchell, F. DeSales Mudd, Lemuel Wilmer. The treasurer reported 252 members.

Mr. Crain announced that the next regular meeting of the membership would be in October. Plans are underway to establish a permanent headquarters for the society.