



The Historical Society of Charles County
Please join us for a Field Trip
Exploring Historic Port Royal Virginia
Thursday, May 17, 2018



- 9:30 am – Depart La Plata Courthouse Farmers Market Parking Lot
10:30 am – Local tour guide Cleo Coleman will join us for a guided bus tour of Port Royal
11:30 am – Lunch at Hornes Restaurant, (lunch costs on your own)
1:00 pm – Tour Historic Belle Grove Plantation, birthplace of President James Madison
3:00 pm – Arrive back in La Plata

\$24.00 per person
(Belle Grove Plantation and school bus)

Please r.s.v.p. to Carol Donohue by May 1, 2018
16401 Old Marshall Hall Road ~ Accokeek, MD 20607
Please make checks payable to: The Historical Society of Charles County

Nicholas Guyther, Revisited

by Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr.

Recently, I had the pleasure of giving a tour of Friendship House to Reverend Joseph M. Doyle, a direct descendant of Nicholas Guyther, the first owner of the Friendship tract in Nanjemoy. Through our conversation, he put me in contact with another descendant, Colin Gwyther who lives in Australia. Both gentlemen have done extensive documentary research on Nicholas Guyther and his descendants. Although we featured an article about Nicholas Guyther in the October 2013 edition of "The Record," it did not include any genealogical information. What follows is a combined effort of Reverend Joseph M. Doyle, Colin Gwyther and Ancestry.com.

A Genealogy of Nicholas Guyther and his descendants

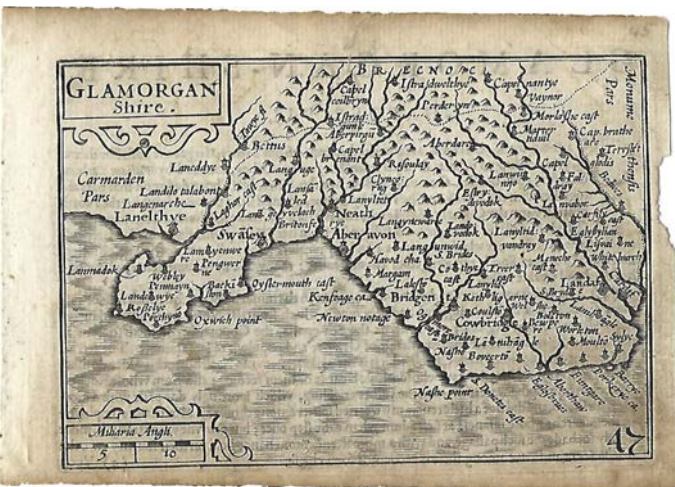
NICHOLAS GUYTHER, was born about 1627 at Oxwich, Glamorgan, Wales. He immigrated to Maryland as an indentured servant in 1639, transported by Captain Thomas Cornwallis. He married Mary (---), also an indentured servant. She was born about 1626 at Oxwich, Glamorgan, Wales and died 1716 in St. Jerome's Parish, St. Mary's County, Maryland.

Captain Gwyther sold the land to Judge Thomas Dent and his brother-in-law William Hatton in 1662.

Nicholas Gwyther went on to serve as Sheriff of St. Mary's County, a Lieutenant in the militia, and was elected to the lower House of the Maryland Assembly. He died 24 March 1666 in St. Jerome's Parish, St. Mary's County, Maryland.

Children of Nicholas & Mary Guyther:

1. **Nicholas Guyther**, born about 1651; died 26 April 1680. He married Gwithliam (---). Child:
 - a. William Guyther, born 1671; died 16 March 1706. He married Mary Crane. (Children Audrey Guyther, William Guyther, Nicholas Guyther).
2. **Thomas Guyther**, born about 1652; died 1698. He married Mary Cole. She was born about 1662, and died 1688.
3. ***WILLIAM GUYTHER**, born 1657; died 15 February 1711. (see below)
4. **Owen Guyther**, born 1658; died 15 February 1711. He married (first) Elizabeth Davies, the daughter of John & Mary (Jones) Davies. He married (second) Mary (---). Children of Owen & Elizabeth (Davies) Guyther:
 - a. Sarah Guyther, born about 1685. She married Samuel Ogle. He was born 1693, died 1752. (Child Anna Maria Ogle).
 - b. Mary Guyther, born 1690.
 - c. Dorothy Guyther, born 1690. She married William Merriot.
 - d. Owen Guyther, Jr.
5. **John Guyther**. *This day came John and Nicholas Guyther, sons to Capt. Nicholas Guyther, late of St. Mary's County, deceased into Open Court and desired the Honorable Philip Calvert, Esq. would undergo the trouble of being their Guardians as they were distressed Orphans, which upon himself, he was willing to take being appointed before, (Provincial Court Proceedings, 1666, Liber FF, p. 224).*



The 1616 Map of Glamorgan Shire in Wales with Oxwich, birthplace of Nicholas & Mary Guyther.

Nicholas Guyther served his seven-year indenture, thereby paying for his passage to the "new world." Together, Nicholas and Mary toiled and saved their income so that they could transport six indentured servants to this country. This entitled them to a land patent in 1658 of 650 acres, which was eventually increased to 900 acres and would become "Friendship," in Durham Parish, Charles County. The original 900-acre tract of land was surveyed March 7, 1657 for Captain Nicholas Gwyther, who received a patent for it on August 20, 1658.

"lying on the West side of Nangemy Creek" patented to Nicholas Guither...of which 650 acres were "for and in consideration that Nicholas Guither and Mary, his wife, have faithfully performed their time and service [and] have transported six persons into our Province here to inhabit" and the remaining 250 acres due from assignments Guyther obtained from Anslow Simpson, Charles Rawlings and John Metcalfe.

WILLIAM GUYTHER, the son of Nicholas & Mary Guyther, was born 1657; died 15 February 1711 in St. Mary's County, Maryland. He married Barbara Christian. She was born about 1661 and died 1717.

Children of William & Barbara (Christian) Guyther:

1. ***ANN GUYTHER**, born 1683; died 1746. (see below)
2. **THOMAS GUYTHER**, born about 1687. He married Mary Waughope.
3. **NICHOLAS GUYTHER**, born 1689; died 9 February 1724. He married Catherine (---).
4. **DOROTHY GUYTHER**, born 1691; died 1736. She married John Leigh. He was born 1688 in London, England, and died 8 July 1736 in St. Mary's County, Maryland.



ANN GUYTHER, the daughter of William & Barbara (Christian) Guyther, was born 1683 and died 17 September 1746. She married (first) Richard Keen; married (second) Charles Beckwith; married (third) John Miller.

Children of Charles & Ann (Guyther) Beckwith:

1. **Sarah Beckwith**, born about 1702; died 1752.
2. **Basil Beckwith**, born 9 April 1703; died 1780.
3. **William Beckwith**, born 1706; died 1738.
4. ***ANN BECKWITH**, born 1710. (see below)
5. **George Beckwith**, born about 1710; died about 1760.



ANN BECKWITH, the daughter of Charles & Ann (Guyther) Beckwith, was born 1710. She married Matthew Boswell, the son of William & Mary (McAtee) Boswell. He was born 1710 in Charles County and died 1755 in Charles County.

Children of Matthew & Ann (Beckwith) Boswell:

1. ***WILLIAM BOSWELL**, born 1728; died 8 November 1817. (see below)
2. **Thomas Boswell**.
3. **George Boswell**.



WILLIAM BOSWELL, the son of Matthew & Ann (Beckwith) Boswell, born 1728 and died 8 November 1817 in Port Tobacco, Charles County. He married Eleanor (---).

Children of William & Eleanor Boswell:

1. **Elizabeth Boswell**, born 1765.
2. ***WILLIAM BOSWELL, JR.**, born 1766; died 1808. (see below)
3. **John Boswell**, born 1768.
4. **Eleanor Boswell**, born 1769.
5. **Matthew Boswell**, born 1772.



WILLIAM BOSWELL, JR., the son of William & Eleanor Boswell, was born 1766 and died 1808. He married Ann (---).

Children of William & Ann Boswell, Jr.:

1. **Rachel Boswell**, born about 1787; died 29 June 1851.
2. **John Boswell**, born about 1794; died 1848.
3. **Benjamin Boswell**, born 3 September 1795; died 3 March 1872.
4. ***ELLEN ELEANOR BOSWELL**, born 1800; died 13 December 1854. (see below)
5. **Luisa Boswell**, born 13 February 1806.



ELLEN ELEANOR BOSWELL, the daughter of William & Ann Boswell, Jr., was born 1800 and died 13 December 1854. She was married 2 April 1829 to John Courtney. He was born 24 February 1793 in Cornwall, England and died 21 August 1835 in Washington, D.C.

Children of John & Ellen Eleanor (Boswell) Courtney:

1. **Ellen Courtney**, born 1830.
2. **Anne Mary Courtney**, born about 1832; died 8 September 1897.
3. ***WILLIAM T. COURTNEY**, born 1833; died 20 February 1897. (see below)



WILLIAM T. COURTNEY, the son of John & Ellen Eleanor (Boswell) Courtney, was born 1833 and died 20 February 1897. He enlisted as a Private in Company A, Maryland Purnell Legion Infantry Regiment for the United States Troops in the American Civil War on 28 September 1861. He was wounded in action, 3 June 1864 at Cold Harbor, Virginia and discharged 24 October 1864. He was married 27 January 1861 to Sophronia E. Naylor. She was born June 1832 and died 31 January 1903.

Child of William T. & Sophronia E. (Naylor) Courtney:

1. ***SARAH ELIZABETH COURTNEY**, born 22 February 1866; died 14 January 1951. (see below)



SARAH ELIZABETH COURTNEY, the daughter of William T. & Sophronia E. (Naylor) Courtney, was born 22 February 1866 and died 14 January 1951. She was married 2 February 1886 to Anthony S. Doyle. He was born 28 November 1854 in Media, Pennsylvania and died 18 August 1930 in Baltimore, Maryland.

Children of Anthony S. & Sarah Elizabeth (Courtney) Doyle:

1. **Louis Warren Doyle**, born 25 August 1888; died 7 July 1968. He married Agnes Chaisson.
2. **Robert Courtney Doyle**, born 14 September 1891; died 28 February 1904.
3. **Thomas Carl Doyle**, born 12 December 1893; died 25 June 1983. He married Blanche Marie Rest. She was born 22 June 1894 and died 30 June 1994. Both are buried in St. John's Cemetery of Howard County, Ellicott City, Maryland
4. **William Adrian Doyle**, born 21 July 1896; died 21 November 1967 and buried in Baltimore National Cemetery, Baltimore, Maryland. He married Catherine Elizabeth Shourd.
5. **Sophronia E. Doyle**, born 22 June 1901; died November 1983. She married Charles E. Evans, Sr.
6. ***JOSEPH MATTFELDT DOYLE**, born 30 May 1905; died 13 January 1964. He was married 18 October 1937 to Katherine Margaret Kricker. She was born 6 March 1910 and died 15 December 2000.
7. **Edward Nelson Doyle**, born 20 October 1910; died 23 April 1959.

**Joseph Mattfeldt & Katherine Margaret (Kricker) Doyle are the parents of the REVEREND JOSEPH M. DOYLE, JR., SSSJ, Spiritual Director for the Josephite seminarians at St. Joseph Seminary in Washington, D.C.*

In Memory *Madelyn Griffith Irish*



Madelyn Griffith Irish, lifetime member of the Historical Society of Charles County, passed away January 23, 2018.

Madelyn was a devoted and enthusiastic member of the first successful docent program at Friendship House. Under the leadership of Anita Wood, Madelyn, along with Eleanor Higdon, Sue La Hood, Carolyn Shamblyn, and many others, gave tours to over 400 students each year from 1988 to 1996. She was also an active member of the Friendship House Foundation and Furnishing Committees.

Madelyn was proud of her heritage and was a member of the Port Tobacco Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Lady Jane Sewall Chapter of the Colonial Dames XVII Century. She was also a member of the Quilters Guild of Southern Maryland.

Madelyn and her first husband, Philip L. Griffith, lived at historic *Spye Park* in White Plains where she graciously welcomed all visitors to their home. After Philip's death, she traveled extensively with her second husband, Ernest Irish, while he served as an officer in the Sons of the American Revolution. Madelyn was a true Southern Lady and will be missed by all.

Charles County Holiday Trail

Once again, the annual Charles County Holiday Trail was a great success. This year, Friendship House featured the Port Tobacco Players Carolers and was beautifully decorated by Mary Pat Berry. Coordinated by Deb Scoggins, our volunteer docents were Ron Brown, Mary Pat Berry, Carol Donohue, Mike Mazzeo, Howard Post and Norm Saunders. Thanks all who contributed their time for this special event.



Historic Stagg Hall on the Holiday Trail



Historic Stagg Hall in Port Tobacco decked the halls for this year's Holiday Trail. With over 200 visitors, Stagg Hall featured the Port Tobacco Carolers on Saturday and the Southern Maryland Harp Circle on Sunday. There was great holiday cheer and a fun time for all who attended.

The Historical Society sponsors the "Merchant Office" at Stagg Hall. Stagg Hall was built by merchant Thomas Howe Ridgate in 1766. He and his business partner John Barnes, were successful tobacco merchants, until colonists boycotted all British goods, including their

promised tobacco crops. As a result, they went bankrupt in 1772 and sold Stagg Hall.

By 1780, Ridgate had built Chimney House next to Stagg Hall. He made the first floor his merchant store and the second floor his living quarters. Ridgate died in 1790. Thanks to the generosity of the members of the Historical Society, we have been able to furnish the merchant office with reproductions of many of the original items from the inventory of his estate. As a result, this is now one of the most impressive rooms for visitors to tour Stagg Hall.

See more photos next page





Charles County Preservation Matters: Celebrating Our Historic Places



Are you a preservationist? Here is a way to share your efforts, great and small, to preserve and celebrate our cherished local historic places. Post your own photos and experiences and inspire others to become a preservationist too.

This new project is an interactive story mapping project developed by an intern, using Geographic Information Systems (GIS). It can be used to showcase historic sites and preservation efforts in Charles County. The goal of the project was to develop an interactive mapping program that would allow citizens to post their own favorite historical places worthy of preservation. It is both a celebration of our most recognized historic places and a call to appreciate and preserve the lesser known treasures in our own backyard.

Follow the link below, go to Participate, then Register or use Guest. All entries will be looked over and approved before published.

To get started, simply visit:

Go to:

[http://www.charlescountymd.gov/
pgm/planning/historic-preservation](http://www.charlescountymd.gov/pgm/planning/historic-preservation)

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Mark Your Calendar

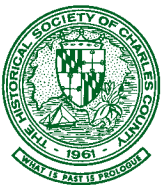
Saturday, April 28th – A Knock on the Door. A re-enactment of the events of April 16, 1865 at Rich Hill. Historic Rich Hill. **Due to the ongoing construction/rehabilitation at Rich Hill, this event has to be rescheduled to a later date.**

Saturday, May 5th – Market Day at Port Tobacco. 9 am to 3 pm. (rain date May 19th).

Thursday, May 17th – Field trip to Port Royal and Belle Grove Plantation. 9:30 am to 3 pm.

Saturday, June 2nd – Nature and the Park at Port Tobacco. Native Bird demonstrations and the Port Tobacco Village Trail. Historic Stagg Hall in Port Tobacco. 10 am to 3 pm.

Saturday, October 20th – Fall Dinner meeting at Durham Church. Franklin A. Robinson, Jr. will present “Remembered by the Wind, the Burial Ground at Serenity Farm,” 5 pm.



**THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF CHARLES COUNTY, INC.**

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