

THE RECORD



Volume 116, No. 1

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

October 2021

Ronald G. Brown, President

Mary Ann Scott, Editor

Fall Dinner Meeting

Saturday, October 23, 2021 ❖ 5:00 pm

Garth Bowling will present his new book:

On the Confederate Border: Charles County, Maryland

Maryland Veterans Museum
11000 Crain Hwy, Newburg



Menu

Chicken Marsala
Potato and Chive Crusted Cod
Tossed Garden Salad
Rice Pilaf
Whole Green Beans Italiano
Dinner Rolls & Butter
Beverages and Assorted Cupcakes

\$25.00 per person

ON THE CONFEDERATE BORDER CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND



Garth E. Bowling, Jr.

Please RSVP no later than October 15, 2021 to Carol Donohue

16401 Old Marshall Hall Road~Accokeek, MD 20607

Please make checks payable to: The Historical Society of Charles County

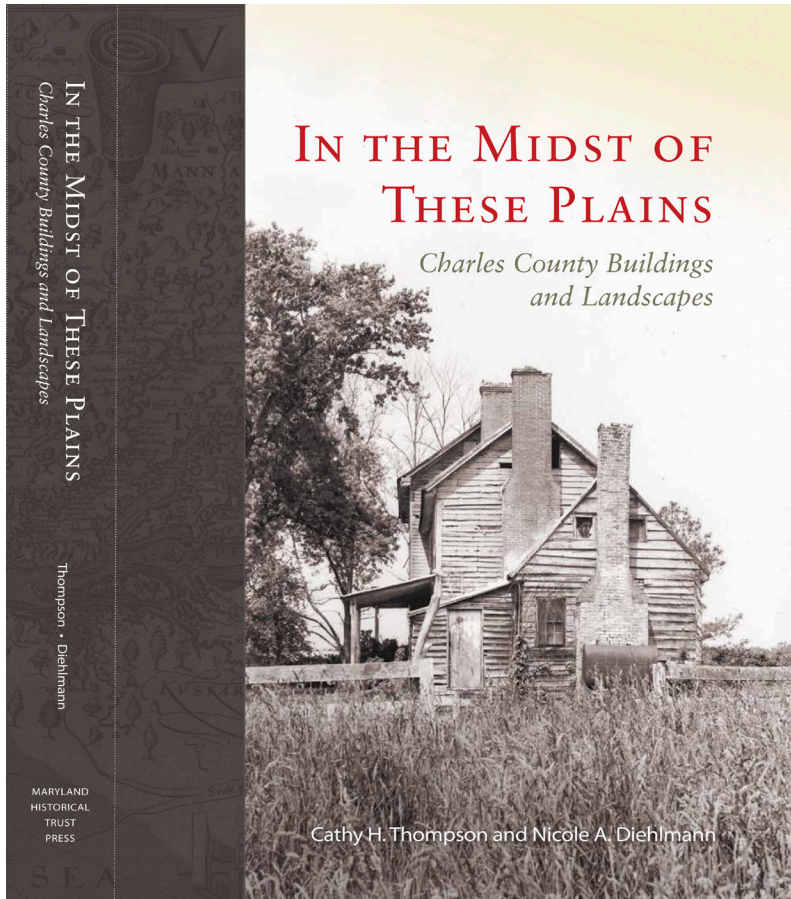
In the Midst of These Plains: Charles County Buildings and Landscapes

by Cathy H. Thompson and Nichole A. Diehlmann

A new publication on the Architectural History of Charles County is currently at the press and will be released this fall.

A stunning collection of historic and modern photographs, maps, and floor plans, *In the Midst of These Plains* documents nearly four centuries of settlement in Charles County, describing in detail its shift from a rural agricultural community to an exurb of Washington, DC. The result of many years of historic research and survey funded by the Maryland Historical Trust, the book highlights the history of the county through its historic buildings and landscapes. From the county's iconic tobacco barns and substantial dwellings to the buildings of everyday life, such as school, churches, and stores, the authors paint a wide-ranging picture of Charles County's built environment.

This 476-page book will be ready just in time for your holiday shopping. This publication will sell for \$49.00 with local pick-up and 100% percent of all proceeds will go to the Historical Society of Charles County for the rehabilitation of Historic Rich Hill. Once the book arrives a price will be determined including postage and handling.



If you would like to reserve a copy now, please email us at charlescountyhistorical@gmail.com.

Local Author Louise Webb

In 2013, Historical Society member Louise Webb published “Life on the Farm with Grandma and Grandpa, Growing up on a Farm in Southern Maryland”. The delightful stories Louise retells are her memories of her grandparents and her siblings on their farm in Bryantown. Louise, now 96 years young, is very active in many historical organizations. You can usually find her at the Bargain Barn in Hughesville on Saturday's and Sunday's, where you can purchase her book.

Life On The Farm

with Grandma and Grandpa

Growing up on a Farm in Southern Maryland



LOUISE BOOTH WEBB

Historic Rich Hill

We Need Your Help!

Dear Friends,

Exciting things are currently happening at Rich Hill! County funded work is moving forward on stabilizing the eighteenth-century house which should be completed sometime this summer. Next comes the rehabilitation phase which will make the house safe and, finally, accessible for the public to visit.

The Friends of Rich Hill Steering Committee has been very busy as well...

We have received donations and collected furnishings for the Samuel Cox Parlor and Samuel Cox, Jr. Bedroom. Five portraits created from the Smithsonian and Baltimore Museum of Art collections have been acquired for the Dr. Brown Gallery. Research of the Brown and Cox families has led to the creation of 20 panels, 4 pull-ups and 4 outdoor signs for displays, and to the publication of Dr. Gustavus Brown of Rich Hill and his Illustrious Descendants.



The enthusiasm grows as our committee has been asked to finalize how we want to interpret each room at Rich Hill. This involves determining which rooms will be drywalled and which will show the interesting bare bones of eighteenth-century architecture, and, additionally, where exhibits and furnishings will be placed. This is exciting!



The Steering Committee met a month ago and put together a proposed final list of recommendations, plans and further needs for furnishings and displays. We are reaching out to you to help us move the Rich Hill project to completion. Would you please consider making a tax-deductible contribution to sponsor an item(s) on our “Future Needs” list? To show our appreciation, a list of donors will be displayed in each room.

Please be a part of the legacy in the preservation of this historic site! We need your help!

Thank you!

The Friends of Rich Hill
PO Box 2806
La Plata, MD 20646

Friends of Rich Hill

FUTURE NEEDS

Please note: Highlighted items have already been sponsored.

Room	Item	\$
1. Entrance Hallway	Hanging Hardware for 6 panels.	See below
	Portrait Rails (4) + labor	\$125
	Locked display case for J. Wilkes booth, By Thomas Jones.	\$400
2. Sam Cox Parlor	Hanging Hardware for 3 panels.	See below
	Portrait Rails (2) + labor	\$70
	Draperies:	
	• hardware (4 windows).	\$100
	• Fabric	\$325
	• Labor	\$350
	• Lace Sheers	\$300
	• Curtain Tassels (7)	\$100
	• Curtain Medallions (7)	\$75
	Wallpaper + labor	\$500
	Sam Cox Portrait & Framing.	\$400
	Vintage Pocket Folding Photo Frame	\$40
	Ornate Victorian Oval Picture Frame	\$42
	Antique Victorian Gold Gilt Photo Frame.	\$30
	Vintage Ornate Victorian Picture Frame	\$30
	Victorian Brass Pedestal Frame & Glass.	\$60
	Apple iPad.	\$350
	iPad Stand	\$126
4. S. Cox, Jr. Bedroom	S. Cox, Jr. Letter, Speakers & Voice recording	\$280
	Horse Saddle Bag	\$100
	Horse Statue	\$30
	Coverlet for bed.	\$300
	Panel – Henry G. Robertson	\$350
	Antique Desk.	\$300
	Portrait Rail (1) + labor.	\$35
	Hanging Hardware for 1 panel	See below
	Muslin Draperies & hardware (3 windows)	\$150
	Apple iPad	\$350
	iPad Stand	\$126
5. Dr. Brown Gallery	Curtain Rods	\$52
	Banner Rails	\$35
	Hanging Hardware for 2 panels:	See below
	Tilt-Top Table	\$100
	Engraved Portrait Labels.	\$57
	Painting of Room (labor + paint)	\$500
	Portrait Rail (3) + labor.	\$90
	Chair rail around entire room - Room is 14' x 17' + labor	\$300
	Apple iPad.	\$350
	iPad Stand	\$126
6. Behind these Walls	Behind the Walls - Photography & Interactive Exhibit.	\$200
7. From Slavery...	Portrait Rails (4) + labor	\$125
	Hanging Hardware for 8 panels.	See below
	Muslin Draperies & hardware (2 windows)	\$100
Each room	Vertical Stands to list Donors per room.	\$60
	Room Placards for Room Identification	\$26
	UV protection all windows (19 windows).	\$2,850
Misc.	Hanging Hardware for 18 Panels: (Picture Rail Molding Hooks, cords & loops) (Banner Rails)	\$450
	Secure Panels.	\$500
	Moving Company (\$180 pr. Hr.)	\$600
	Room to Room Touring Guide Pamphlet	
	Media (Video) – About this Place	

Archaeologists Discover Slave Cabins Site at Rich Hill



Charles County Archaeologists Esther Read with the Charles County Archaeological Society recently discovered artifacts indicating the possible presence of several slave cabins in the back left corner field of Rich Hill. They were found while looking for a place to put a corn house, which is being donated.

The testing including shovel tests pits spacing twenty feet and several test units. The shovel test pits provide a window into the past and help determine where artifact concentrations are located. In this case, they found large amounts of domestic artifacts in the back field.

Generous Donation to Rich Hill



Frank “Reggie” Brown, IV made a very generous donation to the Friends of Rich Hill in the amount of twenty-thousand dollars, in honor of his father, Dr. Frank R. Brown, III, for this year’s Father’s Day.

The Browns are direct descendants of Dr. Gustavus Brown of Rich Hill, through his son, the Reverend Richard Brown.

The Browns toured the grounds and interior of Rich Hill, as well as other historic sites in Charles County as part of their Father’s Day tribute.

Pictured above at Rich Hill, from the left, “Reggie” Brown, his parents, Martha & Dr. Frank R. Brown, III, and his brother, Riggs W. Brown, all of South Carolina.

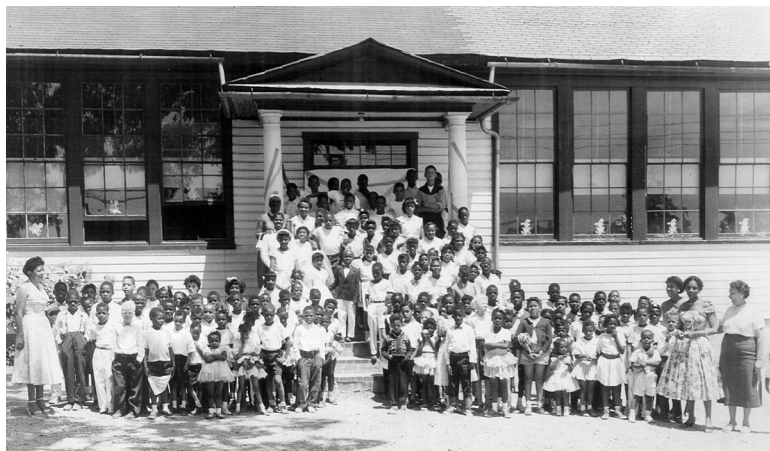
School Memories

We would like to hear from you.

Send us the Charles County school(s) you attended and a memory about your time there.

We will feature these memories in upcoming issues of The Record.

Email us at charlescountyhistorical@gmail.com.



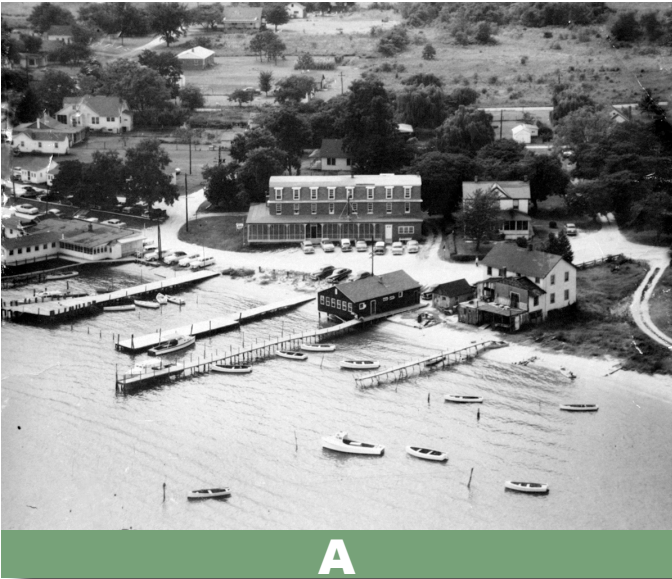
SCHOOL HOUSE, La Plata, Md.



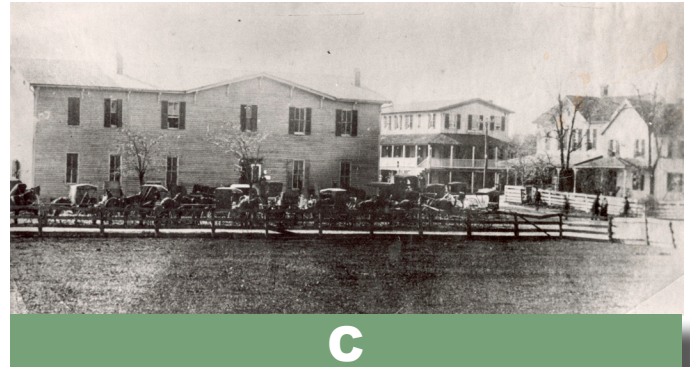
Indianhead School about 1917

Guess the Charles County Town

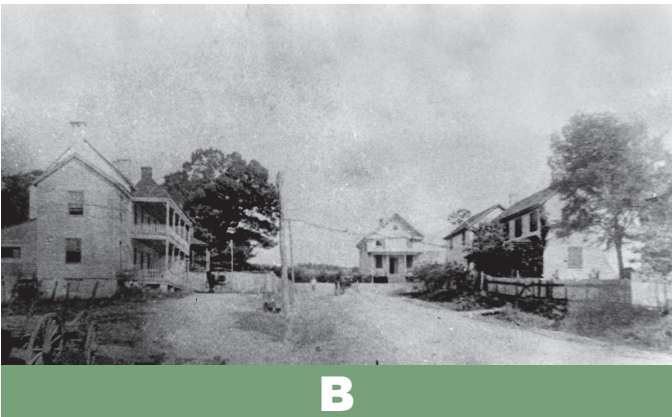
Can you identify these Charles County towns from images taken long ago?
Answers on the last page of this newsletter.



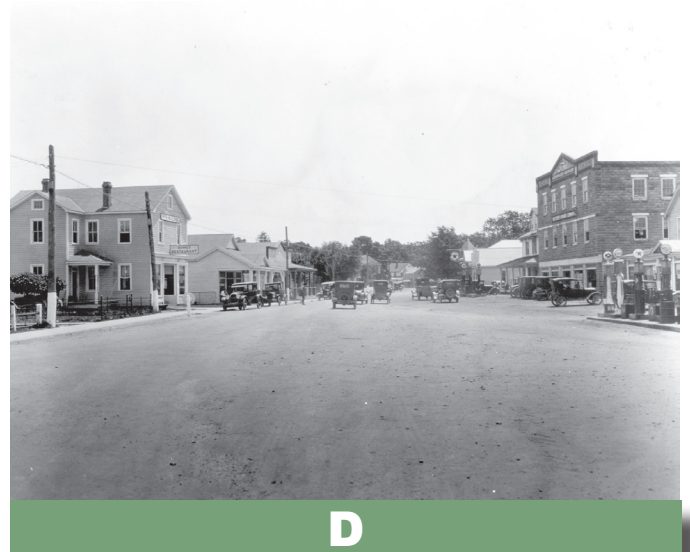
A



C



B



D

Friendship House Update

The Historical Society of Charles County is very fortunate to have a close, working partnership with the College of Southern Maryland. The college has been a great support of Friendship House and with its forward-thinking, will complete the following to maintain the integrity of the house:

- Paint the exterior of Friendship House with stain and mold resistant paint.
- Replace an exterior rotten windowsill beside the chimney fireplace.
- Replace bricks that have become a hazard because of tree roots.
- Put in a new sidewalk from the Business and Industry building leading to Friendship House.
- Trim back shrubs and remove dead trees from the patio area.

Thank you, College of Southern Maryland!

Friends of Rich Hill

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Society of Colonial Wars in the State of Maryland
General Society of Colonial Wars

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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
Mary Pat Berry	2012-2016

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Louise Boone Turner Historic Sites Files:

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Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr.

Elsie Picyk

Carin Diggle, *Historic Port Tobacco Village Representative*

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.

Friendship House Committees

Foundation

Michael J. Mazzeo, Jr., Chair

Joyce Candland

Alex Cobey

Evelyn Karlsson Merritt

John S. Morris, III

Cellar Museum & Shop

James H. Berry, Jr.

Mary Pat Berry

Ways & Means

Ruby Dyson

Sandra Mitchell

Furnishings

Louise B. Turner



Mark Your Calendar

FIELD TRIP

May 2022

Patrick Henry's Scotchtown and Historic Hanover Tavern



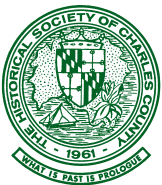
Answers to **Guess the Charles County Town**

A. Benedict

B. Bryantown

C. Hughesville

D. La Plata



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

P.O. Box 2806 • La Plata, Maryland 20646

www.charlescountyhistorical.org