

St. Mary's County, Maryland
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The November 19th thru 21st meeting consisted of a 3-day
Conference entitled:
THE EARLY CHESAPEAKE

Present: Rob Gibbs, Chair
Ruth Mitchell, Member
Carol Moody, Member
Grace Mary Brady, Staff

Note for the Record: The November 19, 2009 meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission was the attendance and participation of members in the Conference entitled THE EARLY CHESAPEAKE, Reflections and Projections.

As part of the Commission's efforts to meet continuing education requirements, various members attended three days of sessions.

Session 1: Rethinking a Region: The problem of "The Chesapeake".
The Death of the Chesapeake? Rethinking Interpretive Scale in the Archaeological Study of Early Maryland and Virginia.
Reconsidering the "Chesapeake Region" in the Seventeenth Century.
The Backcountry Counterpoint to the Developing Chesapeake, 1700 – 1730.
The Southward Expansion of the Chesapeake: The Albemarle Settlements, 1660 – 1730.

Plenary Session I: Retrospective and Roundtable on the Chesapeake School
Lois Green Carr, Historic St. Mary's City
Cary Carson, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
Paul G. E. Clemens, Rutgers University
Allan Kulikoff, University of Georgia
Gloria L. Main, University of Colorado
Russell R. Menard, University of Minnesota
Henry M. Miller, Historic St. Mary's City
Edward C. Papenfuss, Maryland State Archives
Lorena S. Walsh, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation

Session 2: Mastering Style: Elite Self-Fashioning in the Early Chesapeake
William Berkeley's Green Spring and the Problem of Cultural Readiness.
An Embarrassment of Riches: What Rosewell Meant in Early Virginia.
Keeping the Faith: The Catholic Context and Content of Justus Engelhardt Kuhn's Portraits of Eleanor and Henry Darnall III, ca 1710.
Fashioning a Role among Maryland's Emerging Native Elite: Edward Lloyd II at the Turn of the Eighteenth Century.

Session 3: Gendered Subjects: Women on the Margins of Chesapeake Society
Marriage and Gender at the Margins of Freedom in Early Virginia.
"At the Instigation of the Divell": Witchcraft and Early Maryland Women.
Female Servants at Law in the English Atlantic, 1630 – 1700.

Plenary Session II: Early Maryland and Virginia in a Wider World
Turn! Turn! Turn! The Early Chesapeake, the Wide Atlantic, and the Challenge of Transcending Regional History. David Hancock.

Session 4: After the Conquest: Indian Lives in an English World
Nannsonian Recalled: Chaptico's Documentary Disappearance, 1651 – 1712.

“At Liberty From Obedience”: Tidewater Algonquians in Post-Powhatan Virginia.
“Forced to Fall to Making of Bows and Arrows”: The Material Conditions of Indian Life in the Chesapeake, 1660 – 1710.

Session 5: The Rule of Markets: Trade, Economy, and Empire in the Early Chesapeake.
The Early Chesapeake and the Dutch Connection, 1680 – 1730.
The Visible Fist: The Chesapeake Tobacco Trade in War and the Purpose of Empire, 1690 – 1715.
Arbitrage and Uncertainty in colonial Chesapeake Financial Accounts.
A Faire Cargo for Virginia: A Material Culture Inquiry into the London Port Books.

Session 6: Ordinary Spaces? Town and Tavern in Virginia and Maryland.
Contesting Cohabitation: Reevaluating the Debate over Towns in the Chesapeake, 1652 – 1710.
Where Did All of the Taverns Go? Exploring English Adaptation to the Chesapeake through Drinking Establishments.
“No Towns of Consequence”: Contextualizing and Reconsidering Urban Places in the Colonial Chesapeake.

Session 7: Civil Strife and Commonwealth: Political Worlds in the Seventeenth-Century Chesapeake.
Corrupting the Commonwealth, Jeopardizing Empire: The Founding of Maryland as a Problem (and Opportunity) in Virginia Politics.
Colonial Propaganda and Rebellion: The Ideology of Dissent in Late-Seventeenth-Century Maryland.
Bloodsucking Sectaries, Malicious Papists, and Obedient Protestants: Two Versions of a Revolution in Maryland, 1652 – 1655.

Session 8: Reading Remains: Archaeological Metrics of Animal, Human, and Household Life.
The Transformation of the Chesapeake Landscape.
New Perspectives on the Early Chesapeake from the Analysis of Human Skeletons.
Piedmont Slaves and Material Life: An Exploration in Aggregate Statistics and Archaeology.

Session 9: Law, Letters, and Lives: Slavery and Freedom in Early Virginia.
“Baptized, Catechized, and Raised Christians”: Tracing Subjects, Slaves, Rights, and Power through the Religious Debates of the Early British Atlantic.
Religion by Letters: Slave Education in Seventeenth-Century Virginia.
Creating a Community? Free Black and Enslaved Residents of Charles Parish, York County, Virginia.

Session 10: The Spread of Slavery: The Origins and Character of a Labor Regime.
Building a Slave Society along Chesapeake Bay: Some of St. Mary’s County Evidence.
The Chesapeake’s Invisible People? Labor Resources of Small Planters in Early Eighteenth-Century Maryland and Virginia.
The Phrases of Conversion: A New Chronology for the Rise of Slavery in Early Virginia.
Conspicuous Production: Slaves, Consumables, and Material Culture in the Chesapeake.

Session 11: Looking East, Moving West: Native Neighbors on the Chesapeake Frontier.
Native Trade in a Colonial Sphere: The Westo Indians in the Early Chesapeake.
Mergers and Migrations on the Virginia Frontier: Form Christanna and the Creation of the Saponi Nation, 1670 – 1740.
Pathways and Boundaries: Tuscaroras, Virginia, and Native Networks, 1676 – 1722.

Plenary Session III: Where Do We Go From Here?
Projections: The Future of Chesapeake Studies. Philip D. Morgan.

Special Tours

In addition to the Sessions indicated above, two very special tours were available to conference participants: On Thursday, December 19, there was a pre-conference tour of Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum: State Museum of Archaeology in Calvert County. Participants had a chance to see the Maryland

Archaeological Conservation (MAC) Laboratory, the Eastern Indian Woodland Village, an active excavation of an eighteenth-century plantation, and the FAQs of Archaeology exhibit.

On Friday, November 20th, the conference moved to Historic St. Mary's City and St. Mary's College. There was an in-depth tour of Historic St. Mary's City and a gala reception at the reconstructed 1676 State House.

1) **Items from the floor** – N/A

Announcements – N/A

Adjournment - Saturday, November 21, 2009 at 5 p.m.

Submitted By: Grace Mary Brady

Signed by: _____
Robert Gibbs, Chair

Date: _____