

THE LEGACY

NEWSLETTER OF THE HOWARD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Fall 2022, Volume 59, Number 4

THE EVOLUTION OF TREAKLE FARM TO MARY'S LAND FARM

By Ellen Kwan Lewis (Administrative Manager)

ary's Land Farm has been a presence in Clarksville since 2014 offering yearly fall festivals, farm boxes from its organic farming haul, and a wellappointed bed & breakfast. It is also the place where we will be having our annual Family History Day and Holiday Mart this year on Sunday, December 11th from 1-4 p.m.

But the land itself has been tended since before the nation's constitutional independence. The land is still locally known for its origins as part of the Doughoregan property established by Charles Carroll the First and then to its 19th century owner, James Treakle, tenant farmer turned owner.

Charles Carroll I, also known as Charles the Settler, acquired a patent of three large land grants in 1702 that totaled to 7,000 acres. At the time of his death in 1720, Carroll's estate was estimated at approximately 47,700 acres. The large land massing was typical of early 18th century settlement in central Maryland





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HCHS MUSEUM

8328 Court Ave., Ellicott City, Maryland 21043 (formerly The Weir Building) (410) 480-3250

> Hours: Friday, Saturday and Sunday: 1:00 - 5:00 P.M.

www.hchsmd.org

ELLICOTT MILLS CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

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> Hours: Saturday and Sunday: 1:00 - 5:00 P.M.

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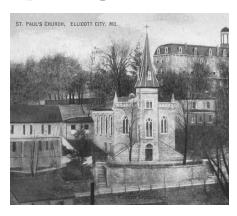
The Charles Miller Branch Library and Historical Center 9421 Frederick Rd., Ellicott City, Maryland 21042 (410) 480-3250 (voice)

Hours: Monday - Friday, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. Saturday, by appointment only; Sunday, closed info@hchsmd.org

EDITOR'S NOTE JANET KUSTERER

My message in this issue is a public service announcement. Recently I was riding down Main Street in Ellicott City when I saw a parked car whose door was partially open. I was dismayed to see that the snazzy red car's door was crumpled. This happens on a regular basis, with people opening their doors without being mindful of upcoming traffic. My best advice is to park in one of the convenient parking lots instead of on the street, but if you really want street parking be aware of the traffic around you. ❖

Upcoming Events



Friday, December 2nd
12:00-1:00 PM
Lunch Lecture Series
LUNCH DATE WITH HISTORY:
"HISTORY OF ST. PAUL'S
CATHOLIC CHURCH"

Check **www.hchsmd.org** for updates Museum of Howard County History



Saturday, December 3rd 10:00-12:00 PM 1st Saturday Children's Class: Deck the Halls at Ellicott Mills Children's Museum Meet at the Museum of Howard

County History.
Register at **www.hchsmd.org** (\$5 per child, ages 5-12)



Sunday, December 11th 1:00-4:00 PM Family History Day and Holiday Mart at Mary's Land Farm Mary's Land Farm 4979 Sheppard Lane, Clarksville, MD Register at www.hchsmd.org (\$10/household/family)

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Anyone interested in contributing articles or photographs or anything of interest to the Society, please call the Library at 410-480-3250 or email Janet Kusterer at janetkusterer21042@gmail.com

President's Message Ellen Flynn Giles



As we move into fall and the fourth quarter of this Sestercentennial celebration year, the Society is proud of the programs, exhibits, and activities in which we have partnered and excited about what is still to come. The Society's commemorative EC250 exhibits, *The Ellicott Legacy* at the Museum of

Howard County History, and *Mill Town to City* at the Ellicott City Welcome Center on Main Street, continue to draw visitors and hometown history fans, and we have managed to complement those with a variety of events.

New and returning visitors - children and adults alike - are flocking to the Ellicott Mills Children's Museum to experience the history and culture of a 19th-century mill town each and every weekend. And, we are delighted to announce that our First Saturday Children's Classes/Special Activities series officially launched September 1st with an introduction to Early Marylanders - the Susquehannock of the 1700s. Children experimented with picture writing, crafted corn husk dolls, and were introduced to Native American traditions and lore. Already on the calendar for 2022 are "A Stitch in Time" on November 5th and "Deck the Halls" on December 3rd. Sessions are designed for children 5-12, priced at \$5/student/session, and scheduled for 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. We encourage registration online as each class session is limited to sixteen students and will fill up quickly. The full schedule for 2023 - February through December next year will be posted shortly - and feel free to call 410-480-3250 with any questions.

Our *First Friday Lunch Date with History* series continues to be popular and August, September, October, and November brought exciting presentations from archaeologist Lee Preston on "Documenting the Ellicotts, Carrolls, and Dorseys: What I have found in Primary Sources." September brought a visit with "Benjamin Banneker – Friend to the Ellicotts" with the Banneker History Farm's Jonathan Wood, and popular local author Shelley Wygant returned to explore "Haunted Ellicott City" in October – just in time for Halloween. Our most recent presentation was "Last Full Measure: Gold Star Servicemen of WW II" with HCHS Research Manager Geeta Shanbhag and Researcher Dan Materazzi on November 4th and a special holiday offering, "An Introduction to Saint Paul's Catholic Church" on December 2nd will be offered.

Our fall calendar included even more special events at the Museum of Howard County History and our Archives, as the Society hosted Shawn Herne from the Babe Ruth Birthplace Museum in a special EC250 presentation of "Babe – Husband and Father" on October 15th. The Founding Ellicott Brothers and A Special Friend visited in October with a selection of 18th Century tunes, and they returned on October 23rd and

November 6th. A special exhibit of Edgar Allan Poe's "body" and coffin (on loan from the Poe Museum in Baltimore) is on display through November. EC250 also sponsored another commercial opportunity for the community to digitize their letters, photos, and ephemera at a special "Scanning Event" at the HCHS Archives on Saturday, November 12th from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. and a special Ellicott City-themed Trivia Night at the Miller Library on November 17th from 7-8 p.m. The culminating EC250 event will be six nights of the original musical, "On National Road," at HCC's Horowitz Visual and Performing Arts Center, premiering on December 8th and continuing the 9th-11th & 16th-17th. Performances include evening and matinees and further information and tickets (individual and group) are available at EC250.com.

The first installation of commemorative brick pavers in the Museum complex courtyard – between the Museum of Howard County History and the Ellicott Mills Children's Museum – is set for the end of the year. Pavers are still available and we invite you to join your neighbors and take this opportunity to leave your mark on Ellicott City history and sponsor a personalized commemorative brick paver in the new courtyard for \$150/each (each brick can be engraved with up to 3 lines of 14 characters). This link will provide access to the sponsorship form and allow you to download the sponsorship form and write a check or take care of the entire process online: www.hchsmd.org/museum-brick-paver-sponsorship/

Finally, please plan to join us December 11th from 1-4 p.m. at "Family History Day and Holiday Mart at Mary's Land Farm," Mary's Land Farm – on the site of the Treakle Farm (HO-1165), tenant farm #19 on the Doughoregan estate, which was home to James and Henrietta Treakle in 1860 - at 4979 Sheppard Lane, Clarksville, MD. Admission to the event is only \$10/household/ family and the tented-outdoor pavilion will feature our historical organization partners offering information and keepsakes, holiday greenery from local garden clubs, and artisan crafters, strolling carolers, and hot cocoa and cider. Children can enjoy storytime with Mrs. Claus, and even photo ops with Santa himself. On the grounds, visitors can check out the Inn at Mary's Land Farm (formerly the Treakle Farm House ca 1865), enjoy friendly encounters with farm animals and perhaps a few surprise visitors from the 18th Century, and book a wagon ride. Registration is available online at www.hchsmd.org.

We also invite you to visit us at the Archives and Research Center at the Miller Library on weekdays or our two Museums on weekends, and remember, history is alive and well in Howard County - and still being made, each and every day.

As always, thank you for your support and engagement with the Society's exhibits, programs, and activities. Please feel free to contact us with comments, suggestions, and requests at info@hchsmd.org. *

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THE EVOLUTION OF TREAKLE FARM TO MARY'S LAND FARM

which led to the rise of a wealthy planting class. As was the convention of his time, the property was bequeathed to his three sons Henry (who died at sea before 1720), Charles II, and Daniel. In 1734, Daniel passed away, leaving all of Doughoregan to Charles.

Over the next two centuries, the land passed down through the Carroll line from Charles III, a co-signer of the Declaration of Independence and a founder of the B&O Railroad, to the seven children of Charles V. This generational shift also ushered in significant change to the property, marking a period when land was partitioned on a large scale. Louisa Carroll Cavendish-Taylor, a daughter of Charles V, sold her 182 acres to James Treakle in 1877 for \$7,280.00.

According to the 1860 U.S. census, Treakle appeared to be the farmer of the tenant plot #19 on the Doughoregan land. In addition to farming, Treakle served his community as a deputy sheriff when this area was still part of Anne Arundel County, and then went on to be a Howard County commissioner and a clerk for the Maryland House of Delegates.

Tenant farming on the Doughoregan land had its beginnings when Charles II hired and employed indentured servants to manage the expansive land holding. A 2017 study of Doughoregan Manor by the Historic American Landscapes Survey of the U.S. Department of the Interior reported, "Each tenant family was provided with a mid-sized farm or 'plantation' of 200 to 300 acres, usually supplied with a house, and was tasked with clearing the land and planting and harvesting a specific crop such as tobacco or wheat, although some undertook more diversified farming."

As you traverse the grounds today and scan the horizon of lulling hills,





stands of forest, and crop of buildings, take note that it has kept the essential character of the farm in James Treakle's time. The buildings today still contain vestiges of the original. The Inn's original first floor, including living and dining rooms, are intact as well as the diagonal board sheathing and wood joist floors. The Maryland Historical Trust's property evaluation notes that the Ice House still sits on its original stone foundation walls surrounding

"an original 12' deep ice hole showing its original function of preserving ice before the invention of mechanical refrigeration. The outline of the hole is visible in the interior and accessible through a trapdoor." To the west of the Inn is the Treakle family graveyard containing seven granite tombstones of James, his wife Henrietta and their five children. The corn crib topped with a metal conical roof is completely original, standing like a sentinel from the past. *



A Tribute to Temora

By Geeta Shanbhag (Research Manager)

It's always a pleasure to see historic homes on your commute to and from work, and the one that I didn't realize I was seeing on my own until quite recently was Temora!

Located at the intersection of MD-Route 29 and St John's Lane right off of MD-Route 103, this old home was built in 1857 by the noted architect, Nathan Gibson Starkweather, in a new style of architecture known as the Victorian Italian Villa style– a picture of which can be seen above. With a symmetrical facade, a one-story veranda, heavily bracketed eaves, Palladian-type windows and a cupola on the roof, the name Temora itself comes from a poem by the legendary Gaelic poet named Ossian- and named by the builder himself. There were also other features on the property, including a bank barn which was later renovated

It was specifically built for Dr. Arthur Pue Jr., who was the son of Dr. Arthur Pue Sr. and Rebecca Buchanon Pue of Elkridge; and the grandson of Dr. Michael Pue and Mary Dorsey Pue (who herself, grew up in another early eighteenth century Maryland landmark, as Caleb of Belmont's daughter). Dr. Michael Pue had emigrated from Ireland in 1772, and was

heavily involved in his medical practice and also various civic responsibilities within the community.

After the death of Dr. Pue Jr. and his wife, Temora and that land passed through his children and grandchildren, and in 1913, Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Fulton Hanna bought the home from the granddaughters of Dr. Arthur Pue Jr. - the last of the Pues to live in the home. Currently, it serves as a private residence after having been a residence for only two families in Howard County, the Pues and the Hannas. It has been a mainstay presence in our local community- being the hosting site for Historic Ellicott City, Inc.'s First Annual Show House and "Candlelight Ball" in 1984 in honor of Maryland's 250th birthday and its Barn was also the location of one of our Holiday Home tours in the past.

Please come by to visit our secondary-source vertical files on Temora and other historic homes along with primary ephemera related to historic homes at the HCHS Archives located at the Miller Branch Library!

EDCOM HITS THE ROAD

By Patricia Greenwald and Anne Schoenhut (Education Committee Members)

When an entire third grade cannot come to the Ellicott Mills Children's Museum, the Museum can go to the children. That is exactly what happened on September 23. The third grade team at Clemens Crossing Elementary School wanted to enrich its study of Ellicott City through the resources of the new Museum. Para educator Claire Mize worked with Anne Schoenhut and Pat Greenwald of the Education Committee to arrange an in-school field trip for the four sections of the school's third grade.

Artifacts and activities from the Museum were installed in four corners of the school's cafeteria, representing four of the Museum's venues: The Quaker Schoolroom, Ellicott's General Store, the Family Great Room, and the 1804 Garden. After viewing a PowerPoint overview of early Ellicott Mills, the children rotated through the areas, just as they would have in the Museum itself. Storekeeper Zebulon Miller (aka Charlie Bernhardt) showed the children what was available in the General Store, while Linda Kisak welcomed them to a family's home. Pat Greenwald let them touch and smell the garden's herbs, and schoolmarm Anne Schoenhut rang the school bell when it was time to move to the next station.

In conclusion, each student received a postcard invitation to



STOREKEEPER ZEBULON MILLER, AKA CHARLIE BERNHARDT, GIVES HIS SALES PITCH AT ELLICOTT'S GENERAL STORE

the Children's Museum in Ellicott City and a brochure outlining the themed programs on First Saturday mornings. Teachers were given goodie bags to enrich their classes' studies of the old mill town. The experience was positive for both the school and the Museum, and, hopefully, more schools will invite the team in the future. •

THE A. B. FELGEMACHER PIPE ORGAN

By Aidan Connor (Museum Manager)



A FEATURE OF THE BUILDING: OUR RESTORED ORGAN!

f all the artifacts on display at the Museum of Howard County History, the most visually and audibly impressive piece must be the A. B. Felgemacher pipe organ in the former sanctuary of the church. Dubbed "Opus 809," it was built in 1903 for the Fourteenth Street Christian Reformed Church in Holland, Michigan. It was later installed in the alcove of the First Presbyterian Church in 1915, paid for by

a five-hundred dollar donation by one William Walker and an unspecified donation from the great industrialist Andrew Carnegie's foundation for Presbyterian churches. The organ was renovated in July, and several musically-inclined visitors have tested the organ in the months since, and have found it to be a wonderful musical and historical experience.

Although the façade of the organ is striking enough, the majority of the instrument is not visible from the church sanctuary. Indeed, the pipes that are visible are what are known as "dummy" pipes, which make no sound and serve a purely decorative purpose. Foot pedals and the keyboard make up the console of the organ, including the stops which regulate air flow to the pipes. Behind the façade is where the speaking pipes and main mechanism for the instrument reside, with a motor to power the organ located in the basement of the museum. The organ produces a warm, resonant sound that reverberates throughout the sanctuary of the museum, and the historical society invites visitors to see it for themselves at our museum, Fridays through Sundays, from 1pm to 5pm. *

THE EARLY LIFE OF DECATUR DORSEY

By Gerald W. Ueckermann, Jr.

During the Civil War Battle of the Crater in Petersburg, Virginia, Howard County native Decatur Dorsey demonstrated bravery for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor.

Dorsey's mother was enslaved by Upton D. Welsh, who owned a farm in Howard County near Sykesville. In 1835, after Upton Welsh had judgments entered against him, the Sheriff sold all of Welsh's property, including his slaves, to Adam B. Kyle, who was Welsh's largest creditor. Kyle and Welsh worked out a payment plan that allowed Welsh to retain possession of the property while Kyle was paid the judgments. It was into this legal limbo that Decatur Dorsey, whose slave name was Cato, was born between 1836 and 1839.

After the judgments were paid in 1842, Kyle transferred the property that he had acquired in 1835 to Napoleon B. Welsh (Upton's son) as trustee for Mary Welsh (Upton's wife). Included in one conveyance were the enslaved people that Kyle had acquired in 1835 and their children since born. Among those involved was a boy named "Cato", the earliest reference that has been found to Decatur Dorsey.

The Welsh farm encompassed about 300 acres and was located on what is now Forsythe Road where it meets Underwood Road. The most important crop grown there was tobacco, although corn, wheat and oats were also grown. Decatur Dorsey would have labored to produce all these crops, especially tobacco which was considered a "slave crop" because its cultivation required work through much of the year and was therefore suited to slave labor.

On July 29, 1858, Upton Welsh died. Ten days later, on the evening of Sunday, August 8, Dorsey and Samuel Johnson, an apprentice to Mary Welsh, attempted to burglarize a store in nearby Woodbine in Carroll County. A small boy who was sleeping in the store heard them, and when they began to enter, he shot them. Both men lay on the ground until the morning, and one was badly wounded.

Although what motivated Dorsey to attempt the burglary is not known, the death of a master was an intensely distressing time for slaves, since their fate was placed into the hands of new people – sometimes strangers - and the terrifying prospect of being "sold South", away from family and friends, increased dramatically.

"Negro Cato" (as Dorsey was referred to in official records) was convicted in the Circuit Court for Carroll County for breaking into the store on September 20, 1858 and was sentenced to the State Penitentiary for a term of 2 years 8 months.

On September 26, however, Dorsey escaped from the jail in Westminster. He managed to avoid capture for a month. On the evening of October 26, Dorsey was arrested in Baltimore after putting up fierce resistance. Newspaper accounts of his capture



refer to him as "Decatur Dorsey". Three days later, as "Cato slave of Napoleon Welsh", he entered the Maryland Penitentiary.

At the time, Maryland law provided that when a slave was sentenced to the penitentiary, their value was to be determined, and the County where they were convicted was required to pay the slave's owner the appraised amount. In this case, Dorsey's value was appraised at \$1,000.

Carroll Countians were very unhappy about having to pay \$1,000 to Howard County resident Napoleon Welsh because of a crime that a slave who lived in Howard County committed in Carroll County. In early November of 1858, Carroll County officials and citizens petitioned Governor Hicks to pardon "Cato" on the condition that he is sold out of state as a slave for life. On November 10, Governor Hicks denied the request.

At the time of his entry to the Penitentiary in 1858 "Cato" was described as a 20-year-old mulatto who was 5'11¾" tall. He was a native of Howard County.

Dorsey completed his sentence on May 20, 1861. Pursuant to Maryland law then in effect, when a slave completed their penitentiary sentence, they were to be sold at public sale for transportation out of the state. (The money received was paid to the County where the prisoner had been convicted to reimburse it for the payment it previously made to the slave's owner). Dorsey was purchased by Edward Rider, Jr. who had a farm near Towson in Baltimore County. (The requirement that Dorsey be transported out of the state was probably an impossible condition to fulfill since most slave states were in rebellion at the time.)

On March 22, 1864 Dorsey enlisted in Regiment 39, Company B, of the U.S. Colored Infantry. A little more than four months later, Dorsey fought at Petersburg and displayed the bravery for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor.



WD SIO4S ELLICOTT CITY, 9421 FREDERICK ROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOWARD COUNTY

REQUESTED ADDRESS CORRECTION

Ellicott City, MD 21043 8213 Academy Road James Adair

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