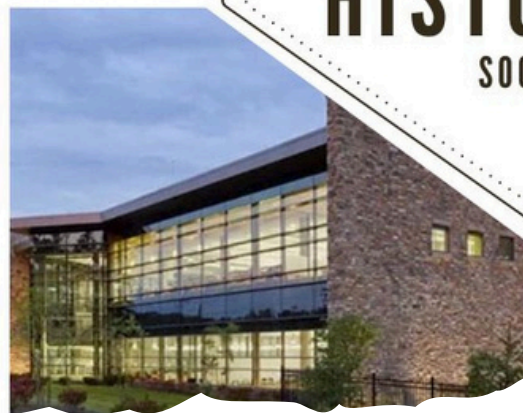




Howard County
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

About Us

Your Howard County Historical Society has much to offer! Join our Antique Appraisal Event, and attend our Lunch Date with History Lecture Series, Mill Town Teas, tour our museums, plus much more.

Single Membership - \$50.00

Family Membership - \$75.00

Lunch Lecture series sponsorship: \$500



Contact Us

Website

www.hchsm.org

Email

info@hchsm.org

Phone

410-480-3250

Address

9421 Frederick Road
Ellicott City, MD 21042

*Preserve the past. Uncover the history.
Discover its value. Share the story.*

*Howard County Historical Society
presents*

UNLOCK THE SECRETS OF YOUR ANTIQUES

November 8, 2025 | 1-5pm

Top Tips for a Successful Appraisal



Museum of Howard County History
8328 Court Ave, Ellicott City MD 21043



1. Know What You Have

Do basic research. Look for markings, materials, or stylistic features that hint at age or origin.

2. Don't Clean or Repair It

Original condition is key. Polishing, refinishing, or restoring may reduce value.

3. Bring Documentation

Receipts, family records, letters, and previous appraisals support provenance and value.

4. Take Clear Photos (for virtual appraisals)

Use good lighting. Include front, back, details, and dimensions.

5. Group Similar Items

Keep like items together to speed up appraisal and possibly increase value as a set.

6. Ask the Right Questions

Go beyond "What's it worth?" Ask about maker, age, context, and current market value.

Top Tips for Getting the Most Out of Your Antique Appraisal

7. Know the Appraisal Type

Values vary by purpose: insurance, resale, donation, or curiosity. Be clear about your goal.

8. Manage Expectations

Not every item is a windfall. Sometimes the story is more valuable than the price.

9. Follow Up

Should you insure it? Sell it? Store it differently? Ask what comes next.



PEENSTRA
ANTIQUES APPRAISALS

Join professional appraiser Todd Peenstra for our special appraisal roadshow at the Museum of Howard County History.

- \$25 to attend as a fundraiser (\$22.50 for HCHS members) plus cost per item for appraisal
- \$15 for each item
- Maximum of three items per person

Pre-Register to guarantee your item will be appraised to
info@hchsmd.org or 410-480-3250.

