Historic St. Mary's City
2008 ANNUAL REPORT

The museum's governing body is the Historic St. Mary's City Commission. Members are appointed by the Governor of Maryland, with Senate advice. Each member serves a maximum of two four-year terms.

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The Historic St. Mary's City Foundation is dedicated to fundraising and Friend-raising. Members are appointed by the Foundation nominating and membership committee to serve up to five three-year terms.

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Historic St. Mary's City

2008 ANNUAL REPORT

Historic St. Mary's City Commission (HSMC) is an independent agency within the office of the governor. Its mission is to preserve and protect the archaeological and historical record of Maryland's first colonial capital and to appropriately develop and use this historic and scenic site for the education, enjoyment, and general benefit of the public.

The founding legislation directs the Commission to report annually to the governor and to the General Assembly as to the Commission's activities during the preceding year, including the number of students served as well as the type and numbers of all other visitors, the number of volunteers, and their total hours contributed, and the amount and types of private and non-state funds donated. We are pleased to submit the Annual Report for 2008.

A Letter from the Chairman

Dear Friends,

As I reflect on the year past and try to summarize Historic St. Mary's City happenings in a few paragraphs, I realize that this was a year of milestone events – comings, goings, grand openings, and relentless economic issues. Through it all, the museum has consistently offered memorable experiences to visitors, scholars, and guests.

I hope by now you have had an opportunity to visit the two sites that opened in 2008. Both offer a feast for thought. The renovated Van Sweringen Exhibit dispels the common notion that the founding of Maryland was solely an English accomplishment. The St. John's Site Museum is truly a jewel and unlike any other in the state. Both are the product of decades of scholarly research and those who contributed should be justifiably proud. The stories told by these new exhibits, and the near-complete and very visible Chapel, add an important new dimension to the understanding of the state's founding and its significance. As the nation witnesses the inauguration of the first African-American president, we recall that this was the place where the first person of African descent participated in a General Assembly in English America. As news coming out of the Middle East grows more and more distressing, we remember that this was where religious freedom was first mandated. The stories told at Historic St. Mary's City are more relevant than ever.

The departure of chief executive officer (CEO) Marty Sullivan and chief operating officer (COO) Roger Hill cannot pass without recalling their outstanding efforts to enhance the museum's recognition in the larger world and their championing the capital improvements we enjoy today, spelled out in the following pages. We welcome CEO Regina Faden and look forward to working with her to continue these efforts.

I am gratified to see the strong collaboration between the museum and St. Mary's College of Maryland continue. A Museum Studies minor was instituted, the Maryland Heritage Scholars program became active, and the first Maryland Heritage Fellowship at Historic St. Mary's City was awarded to HSMC's director of research Dr. Henry Miller. These programs will help insure a strong future for museums and museum programs. My congratulations to colleagues at the college and HSMC staff who coaxed these initiatives into being.

While we begin the new year with grim fiscal realities and the loss of a modern livestock barn to fire on January 2nd (the barn housed Plantation poultry as well as landscaping equipment), I am optimistic that the coming year will be fruitful. Plans for a lively and meaningful celebration of Maryland's 375th anniversary in 2009 are well underway and excitement is building.

We appreciate the continued support of Governor Martin O'Malley, the members of the General Assembly, our colleagues in Maryland Office of Tourism, and our partners at St. Mary's County Tourism Division. Most of all, I thank you for your continued confidence, support, encouragement, and patronage. I hope you will join me in celebrating Maryland's legacy of liberty and the progress we have made towards telling her stories at Historic St. Mary's City in 2009.

Richard Moe,
Chairman, Historic St. Mary's City Commission

A Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

The Historic St. Mary's City Foundation has had another banner year! My thanks to the members of the Board of Directors of the Foundation and the staff of HSMC for all their hard work this year, and to Dick Moe and the HSMC Commission for their guidance and leadership.

Highlights of our year include:

- Revenue from the 1634 Society, our most generous group of donors, increased by 20 percent.
- Memberships overall held steady at some 600 active members.
- Fundraising for the Chapel ended with a flourish! We raised $90,000 in cash in 2008 PLUS we received news of a major commitment from the Society of Pilgrims of St. Mary's, which brings our total (not including funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development) to nearly $150,000 to be able to open the new exhibit.

The Chapel fundraising was dedicated in honor of our former executive director, Marty Sullivan, who stepped down in May to assume leadership of the National Portrait Gallery at the Smithsonian. It was so typical of Marty that he would ask that our community's farewell gift to him for his many years of service be a gift to us! With leadership gifts from Marty and Kate, as well as Roger and Diana Hill, Dick and Julia Moe, and Tom and Pat Jackson, we raised over $60,000 at a fundraising brunch and farewell party.

The start of the 2009 fiscal year continued the inevitable change. We said good-bye to long-time chief operating officer, Roger Hill, and we greeted Regina Faden as our new executive director. An American historian with a strong English and writing background, Gina comes to HSMC from Hannibal, Missouri, where she served as executive director of the Mark Twain Boyhood Home and Museum.

We now look forward to Maryland's 375th Birthday, which we begin celebrating here on Maryland Day Weekend, March 28-29. The big event – Birthday Weekend – is June 19-20 and includes concerts on both Friday and Saturday nights plus an all-day Saturday party at HSMC, with historical re-enactments, tall ships, and birthday cake!

Thank you to all of our supporters. Please join us during this next most important year as we celebrate St. Mary's City's – and Maryland's – most important role as the first inclusionary representative government to separate church and state.

Pat King Jackson
President, Historic St. Mary's City Foundation

The Year in Review

Personnel

During 2008, Historic St. Mary's City weathered a turnover in top leadership. With stability in the ranks of middle management and the winding down of capital projects, the organization was able to carry on with no disruption in service to the public.

In April, HSMC's executive director Marty Sullivan left the museum to head the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C. Sullivan began his tenure at Historic St. Mary's City in 1999. During his watch, the museum received accreditation by the American Association of Museums, and museum facilities and exhibits have been added and updated, and the affiliation with the college has blossomed. Chief operating officer Roger Hill became acting director while the search for an executive director was underway.

Regina M. Faden, a historian, teacher, and experienced historic site director, was named the new executive director of Historic St. Mary's City and joined the staff in October. She was formerly the executive director of the Mark Twain Boyhood Home and Museum in Hannibal, Mo. since 2004. Faden received a Ph.D. in American Studies from St. Louis University and masters degrees in history and American Studies from the University of Missouri-St .Louis and Boston College.

Chief operating officer and acting chief executive officer Roger Hill retired to Yuma, Arizona. As COO of HSMC, Roger initiated and ably administered capital projects including construction of the Brick Chapel of 1667 and the St. John's Site Museum; improvements to the Van Sweringen Exhibit and the Visitor Center; revival of the 1787 Mackall Barn; and resurrection of the museum store as The Shop at Farthing's Ordinary. The Shop's unique ambiance was the vision of Hill's wife, Diana.

HSMC director of research, Dr. Henry Miller, was granted the first Maryland Heritage Fellowship at Historic St. Mary's City by St. Mary's College of Maryland. The two-year fellowship will provide opportunities for Miller to work with the other Maryland Heritage Fellowship recipient, senior dean for the Centre for Medieval and Renaissance Studies (CMRS) Dr. Nicholas Crowe, on projects that will strengthen the relationship between St. Mary's College of Maryland and CMRS at Oxford University.

Capital Projects

Capital improvements at HSMC may be state, grant, or privately funded. All further the museum's mission to preserve, protect, and interpret the first colonial capital. In 2008, two long-term projects were completed: the St. John's Site Museum and the improved Van Sweringen Exhibit opened to the public.

St. John's Site Museum

A crowd of well-wishers, dignitaries, and staff opened the St. John's Site Museum on September 14, 2008. The exhibit complex preserves

one of the most important historic sites in Maryland, the archaeological remains of the 17th-century home of the first provincial secretary of Maryland. Before there was an official meeting place for the fledgling government, the General Assembly often met at St. John's. It was where colonial legislators met to hammer out policies supporting the proprietor's mandate to separate church and state 150 years before the U.S. Constitution guaranteed religious freedom. In the English colonies, this was the place where a woman first asked for the right to vote and where the first individual of African descent participated in a general assembly. St. John's witnessed the rise and fall of Maryland's first capital and the awakening of new ideas about government, religious freedom, and individuality.

The museum is the culmination of three decades of archaeological and historical research. St. John's exhibits dramatize the events that shaped Maryland and the nation's first freedoms. Audio and video installations introduce individuals and colonial lifeways. The preserved foundation and original artwork illustrate the evolution of the house, the surrounding plantation, and Tidewater earthfast architecture. Some of the remarkable artifacts that have been found at the site are on exhibit lending a unique perspective on life in another time. State-of-the-art displays guide guests towards understanding the ways scholars use archaeology, historical documents, and oral traditions to decipher the past.

The architects, Bohlin, Cywinski, Jackson, faced some challenges in designing the building. The site is a few

hundred feet from the St. Mary's River and encompasses the fragile 17th-century foundation. Archaeology and environmental concerns led to an open loop geothermal HVAC system, a floating concrete slab floor in one wing, and narrow duct banks that minimize disturbance around the site. Cisterns that slowly percolate rainwater back into the ground provide stormwater management.

The Maryland Conservation Corp worked with HSMC's landscape manager to remove non-native species at the site and plant native species.

St. John's is a capital project of the State of Maryland. Management was shared by Historic St. Mary's City and the Maryland Department of General Services.

This climate-controlled space is open to the public through the winter.

Van Sweringen Exhibit

On April 26, 2008 the expanded Van Sweringen Exhibit was opened with much fanfare and help from Garrett Van Sweringen's descendants. The improved exhibit features a re-creation of the Council Chamber and a reconstructed kitchen, placed over preserved foundations from the original buildings. Original illustrations describe activities that took place on May 10, 1692 -- the date the Royal Governor took control of the colony from the Calvert family. New signage and audio installations tell stories of Van Sweringen's personal journey and his truly American aspirations and experience.

Brick Chapel of 1676

By the close of the 2008 season, construction of the Brick Chapel of 1667 was nearly done. With the completion of the walls and roof in 2007, attention turned to trim and finishes.

Virginia Limeworks masons hand-carved hundreds of mullion bricks and assembled the complex shapes into the intricate tracery that will hold window glass in place. Artisan Glass in Baltimore mounted the circular "ox-eye" leaded glass window on the east façade. A second window was partially fitted in the south wall tracery. These test panels were used to proof the pattern and

guide assembly of subsequent windows.

Workers filled most of the putlog holes, leaving a few to demonstrate traditional scaffolding techniques. The north, south, and east exterior walls were then painted with a rich red coating. Faux joints were penciled with assistance from St. Mary's College of Maryland student workers.

The façade and decorative elements—the corbels, pinnacles, trim, and tracery—were finished with a thick mortar, or rendering. This carefully applied plaster is smoothed with a template to achieve the final shape, and then fine-tuned by hand. Once faux joints have been scribed, brick appears to be stone—the most prestigious building material. This technique was widely used for important buildings in the 16th and 17th centuries.

Coatings serve both decorative and protective purposes. Protected places on existing colonial buildings show that masons covered walls of unevenly fired brick with a solution that made all the brick a uniform red. Penciling in white joints added to the appearance of precision. Coatings also protect the brick and the mortar joints from weathering.

Inside the chapel, limited electric infrastructure was installed. Carpenters completed the wooden barrel vault ceiling, affixing pine planks to the curved underside of the trusses. Rough and final coats of plaster were applied to the walls and masons installed the floor. The pavers are from Briar Hill Stone Company in Ohio. Researchers have not been able to identify the quarry in Great Britain where the original floor stones originated but the metawacke sandstone used is very similar to material recovered from the site by archaeologists. The pattern was based on the patterns of burials found beneath.

As construction wound down, scaffolding was removed and we were able to view this quietly elegant building in its entirety for the first time. The interior is surprisingly large: its height and the tracery of the windows draws the eye up and up, to the arched ceiling. Within the space, the particular combination of materials and shapes used has resulted in remarkable acoustics.

The reconstructed Chapel will be an interpretive exhibit for all visitors, not a consecrated place of worship.

It will commemorate the founding place of the Roman Catholic Church in English America and early Maryland's liberal policy concerning religious activities.

Mackall Barn

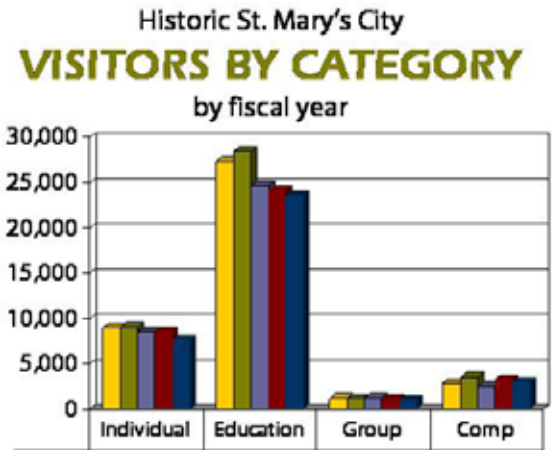
Stabilization of the 1785 Mackall Barn was completed, paths laid, and the structure opened to the public. A horizontal tobacco prize from the late 1800s has been installed. It is one of few available for the public to view. The barn is believed to be the oldest of its kind in the state. A more complete exhibit will be installed in fall, 2009.

HSMC Visitors

HSMC visitation followed trends seen at other sites and attractions throughout the nation in 2008. Rapidly escalating gas prices, the U.S. officially mired in a recession, and a stalling global economy squeezing consumer wallets were likely scapegoats for the museum's flat visitation.

Overall visitation was down 890 visitors, a 5% decrease. The education category fell 2%, group tours fell 7%, individual visitation fell 10%

Inflation of gas prices eased in recent months and current trends suggest consumers are not giving up traveling altogether but are staying closer to home.



	Individual	Education	Group	Comp
FY04	8,964	27,331	1,148	2,856
FY05	9,007	28,453	1,071	3,524
FY06	8,473	24,680	1,190	2,488
FY07	8,544	24,132	1,094	3,313
FY08	7,654	23,587	1,007	2,967

Education

The law creating the Historic St. Mary's City Commission directs the agency to "develop and use this historic and scenic site for the education, enjoyment, and general benefit of the public." For the school year 07-08, 23,587 visitors attended educational programs at the museum. That number includes two Homeschool Days.

The decline in school tour numbers can be attributed to rising transportation costs. Many of the schools that cancelled reservations to visit cite the expense of hiring a motor coach. As school budgets continue to shrink with the tightening economy, we can anticipate continued declines.

Homeschool Days

Since their inception, Homeschool Days have accommodated near-capacity crowds. The spring 2008 Homeschool Day had 325. This year's fall 2008 Homeschool Day had 373 participants. The museum plans on holding two Homeschool Day events each year.

Terra Mariae

The Terra Mariae Society Youth Interpreter Program is open to home-schooled youth between the ages of nine and seventeen who demonstrate commitment, enthusiasm, a love of history, and the willingness to share these with the public. Acceptance into the program is very selective. Terra Mariae student, Faith Hastings, portrayed Mary Spray at the Godiah Spray Tobacco Plantation through the 2008 season.

Collaboration with St. Mary's College of Maryland

HSMC staff has been working with St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM) faculty to develop a Museum Studies minor. The strengths of the two institutions and shared resources, chiefly the National Historic Landmark, offer a unique opportunity to create awareness of museums , archaeology, and history, and to train museum professionals of the future. The minor was instituted in 2008 with new and repeat classes offered through the college:

~HSMC director of public programs Dorsey Bodeman and education coordinator Carrie Jones taught "Interpreting History to the Public" through SMCM in the spring and fall semesters.

~Director of research Henry Miller and curator of collections and laboratory director Silas Hurry taught "Archaeological Curation, Conservation, and Collection

Management." Through lectures and hands-on experience in the lab students gain an understanding of what happens to artifacts once they are removed from the ground and what we learn from them.

~Captain Will Gates and waterfront site supervisor Joe Greeley offered a second round of "Maryland in the Age of Sail," a sellout class that combines nautical history and practical experience in the maintaining and sailing HSMC's tall ship, the Maryland Dove.

Archaeology Field School

Tim Riordan, HSMC chief archaeologist, lead the 37th session of Historical Archaeology Field School, offered in conjunction with St. Mary's College of Maryland. Field School is an intensive, 10-week summer program. Lectures on history, archaeological methods, and material culture are amplified by hands-on experience in the lab and in the field. Excavations are open to the public, so students have the opportunity to share their growing knowledge of archaeology and history with a wide variety of audiences. Over the past three decades, Field School has contributed significantly to the history of Maryland and the development of historical archaeology. This year, HSMC hosted thirteen students, most from St. Mary's College, a few from other schools in Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

The summer 2008 session of the HSMC-SMCM Historical Archaeology Field School centered on the back yard of the Calvert House located in the historic Town Center. It is one of the most significant archaeological sites in the state of Maryland. The building that stood in the center of this site was built by Leonard Calvert, the

first Governor of Maryland, sometime in the first decade of settlement. The Assembly met here frequently. In 1645, the house served as the headquarters for a rebellion against Lord Baltimore and a fort, named "Mr. Pope's Fort," was built around it. When Governor Calvert retook the colony in 1646, he regained the house and filled in the fort ditch. Calvert died in the house in 1647.

The archaeology of this site is extremely complex. Past research examined and recorded most of the foundation of the house but there has been little excavation of the features. Field school excavations produced an abundance of interesting artifacts, and numerous features, including 20 new segments of 17th-century fence lines, and evidence of possible earthfast outbuilding. In addition, a segment of the Fort's moat was excavated. One interesting artifact found here was a brown clay, elbow-style pipe that was smoked using a reed. This rare type of 17th-century pipe is believed to be inspired by pipes used in Africa.

Partners in Education

Six St. Mary's College of Maryland students with a special interest in museum work had a chance to explore the museum world in depth this summer as Maryland Heritage Student Interpreters at Historic St. Mary's City. Students rotated through the living history sites and occasionally staffed the State House and Chapel. Some appeared in costume. "Other duties as assigned" included modeling for photo shoots. Some of them will appear on the cover of the 2009 St. Mary's County Destination Guide.

Five SMCM students participated in the IMPART program in FY08 The Maryland Institute for Museum, Preservation, Archaeology Research and Training (IMPART) supported their work in the field at St. Johns and in conserving and processing artifacts from the Morecroft excavations. The program is designed to allow students considering careers in history, archaeology, conservation, preservation, and museums to gain experience by working for participating institutions like HSMC.

HSMC hosted several interns in 2008. Graduate students Sharon Norquest, a third year graduate student in the conservation program at Winterthur, and Cathy Gallagher, who works in Public Programs and is studying at Johns Hopkins, worked with HSMC collections. SMCM student Allison Conner was an intern in Events and Community Relations, assisting with weddings, corporate affairs, museum openings, donor events, and concerts. She conducted research, updated databases, and produced graphic materials, She also did an independent study with Public Programs designing an activity book on St. Mary's City history for children.

SMCM students Emily Walter, Kathleen Bender, and Emily Bzdyk chose HSMC-related topics for their capstone St. Mary's Projects. Emily Walter, who was a 2007 field school student at the Morecroft site and subsequently worked with artifacts from the excavation through the IMPART program, is now doing her St. Mary's Project on materials from the site. Kathleen designed and is conducting a survey of visitors to the St. John's Archaeological Museum. Emily Bzdyk worked with HSMC landscape manager Mary Alves to produce a guide to native plants along the Key Swamp Trail for her St. Mary's Project. Illustrated with Emily's precise and beautiful botanical drawings, the guide is available to visitors at each end of the trail.

Michigan State University student Terry Brock is analyzing the archaeology of the slave quarters for his dissertation in anthropology. These buildings were originally located near HSMC's Town Center and moved with the Brome-Howard Inn to Rosecroft Road to

expose colonial sites beneath. The 1840 quarters were occupied through the Civil War, into the reconstruction era, and through the mid-twentieth century as tenant farmers inhabited the same buildings as their enslaved ancestors. Terry has studied at HSMC and worked on site excavations in the Town Center for the past two summers.

Dr. James Lyttleton, an Irish archaeologist studying the archaeology of the Calvert home in Ireland, Clohamon, conducted research at HSMC in the fall. Dr. Lyttleton's pioneering research addresses how Ireland was used as a stepping stone in the opening of the New World as was clearly the case with the proprietary colonies of the Lords Baltimore in Newfoundland and Maryland. His efforts to illuminate this aspect of the Lord Baltimore story has much significance for Maryland. In what will likely be a long term research project, HSMC archaeologists will assist and collaborate with Dr. Lyttleton in his investigation of Clohamon, the Calvert family, and the comparative archaeology of their sites.

Events

HSMC offered several new programs to the public this year. All those requiring reservations sold out, all were a great success.

In October, visitors joined a candlelight walking tour of Town Center during "Grave Matters at St. Mary's City: Food, Drink, and a Death Watch." They discovered how 17th-century Marylanders viewed death and the practices that marked its occurrence. Jovial moments and refreshments punctuated this somber occasion as "relatives" recalled the life and times of the deceased.

Kids and parents (or grandparents) learned to cook like a colonist at the "Colonial Cooking Challenge" in September. Participants gathered herbs from the garden, churned butter, made a recipe book, and dined on the meal they helped prepare.

The St. Mary's River Watershed Association moved their fourth-annual celebration of the St. Mary's River to Historic St. Mary's City. Despite a rainy start, approximately 500 visitors enjoyed hands-on activities, skipjack rides, live music, exhibits, and speakers.

Public Programs designed and hosted an inaugural Heritage Hunt for Girl Scouts in Fall 2008. The program enables Junior Scouts to meet requirements for the Heritage Hunt badge.

A thirteenth annual Plant Sale took place in 2008. Proceeds from sale comprise a good portion of the museum's landscape budget.

Miscellaneous

The *Maryland Dove* celebrated thirty years afloat. The ship, which was designed by William Avery Baker of

Hingham, Massachusetts and built by Jim Richardson at his Cambridge, Maryland boatyard, was the first major exhibit at HSMC. Stringent maintenance, modern navigation, and weather forecasting have kept the ship sailing well past the typical lifespan of her 17th-century brethren. In the Fall, a Homecoming Tour took the *Maryland Dove* back to Cambridge and on to Solomon's Island, for the Calvert 350th Celebration, and to the Jefferson Patterson Park for the 1812 Grand Tactical reenactment. She was open for tours at each stop.

A representative of the Queen of England accepted two replica American Indian arrows on behalf of the people of Maryland on September 30 at Buckingham Palace. They were a gift from Historic St. Mary's City to mark the beginning of the 375th anniversary of the founding of the state. The 1632 Charter for Maryland directed the proprietor to present an annual tribute of "two Indian Arrows of these Parts, to be delivered at the said Castle of Windsor," and Marylanders fulfilled this obligation until the American Revolution. Presenting the arrows were descendants of the original settlers on the *Ark* and *Dove* and representatives of SMCM and HSMC, including Dr. Henry Miller and Patricia King Jackson, President of the HSMC Foundation..

HSMC, Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory in St. Leonard, and St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM) hosted the 2008 Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology Conference on October 24-26. Over two hundred archaeologists from the U.S., Canada, and Ireland registered. A plenary session on Archaeology of the Atlantic World featured papers from HSMC's Henry Miller and Silas Hurry and former HSMC commissioner Mary Beaudry.

HSMC debuted a new introductory video. The film features narration by HSMC chairman emeritus Ben Bradlee. The video was written by museum staff and filmed by Muheim Motion Pictures, Inc.

St. Mary's County Commission for Persons with Disabilities Annual Awards Program honored the new St. John's Archeological Museum as the recipient of its 2008 award for Facility Accessibility. This museum includes features above and beyond what is mandated by the Federal ADA regulations—exhibits that are within view and reach of guests that utilize wheelchairs, audio-video programs with subtitles, and written scripts for audio-only programs.

In November, HSMC executive director Regina Faden joined celebrants in West Cowes on the Isle of Wight, England to recognize the 375th anniversary of the departure of the Ark and Dove for Maryland in 1633. The 2008 celebration is third time that citizens of Maryland and West and East Cowes have joined to celebrate their

mutual heritage. In 1933 and 1983, events on both sides of the Atlantic marked the 300th and 350th anniversaries. Representatives from both sides of the Atlantic hope to reaffirm their cultural ties and to begin working more closely together in on-going educational programming and events.

Under the leadership of education coordinator Carrie Jones, a committee was formed to review and update policies for dealing with emergencies that could affect the safety of staff and visitors. The committee worked with St. Mary's College of Maryland and St. Mary's County emergency response agencies to issue new guidelines.

HSMC took possession of two trucks, donated by the Southern Maryland Electric Cooperative. The pickups are a welcome addition to HSMC's aging fleet.

The Maryland Conservation Corp made improvements to the 3.2 mile trail that traverses the woodlands south of the developed sites. The trail was diverted from eroding sections of the trail, new blazes and cribbing installed, and a boardwalk constructed over wet areas.

On the Air, In Print, On the Web

AAA awarded HSMC a GEM (a "must see" attraction) designation that will appear in the 2009 Guidebook. In 2008, there were just 20 in the state. AAA has also agreed to add "1634- Maryland founded at St. Mary's City" to the state timeline, which had started with "Baltimore Town established in 1729!" A vast majority of HSMC visitors tell us they learned about the museum from guidebooks such as this.

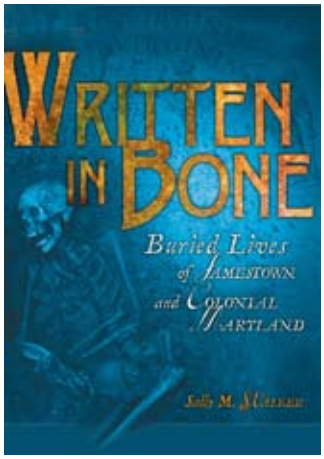
Public television aired the documentary "Prince Among Slaves" in February 2008. Local viewers may have noticed some familiar scenery. Portions of the show were filmed at Historic St. Mary's City and Sotterley Plantation in August 2006. "Prince Among Slaves" tells the true story of an African prince who survived 40 years of enslavement in America before finally regaining his freedom and becoming one of the most famous men of his day. Local venues stand in for Mississippi, Pennsylvania, and The Gambia during re-enactment scenes. The film won Best Documentary of 2007 at the American Black Film Festival. HSMC welcomes the opportunity to host film companies, as long as shooting doesn't disrupt visitors' experiences and HSMC fulfilling its mission. Income from productions benefits the museum, as well as locals hired to support the filming, and increases public awareness of the site.

The filming of "Prince Among Slaves" at HSMC and Sotterley was the subject of a feature in The Washington Post Southern Maryland Extra on February 14 and in The Enterprise on January 30.

HSMC staff have been heavily involved in the development of a new Smithsonian Museum of Natural History exhibit and collateral material. Dr. Henry Miller serves as a member of the development team for Written in Bone: Forensic Files of the 17th-Century Chesapeake. Research staff have provided technical assistance, images, and archival film. HSMC's costumer, Genie Posnett, worked on contract to create clothing for exhibit mannequins. Interpreters at HSMC's living history sites will appear in videos portraying Maryland colonists. The new exhibit will open on February 7, 2009.

Collateral pieces include a new History Channel production, "Written in Bone," which aired in March 2008. The work of Smithsonian physical anthropologist Doug Owlsey, who worked on the analysis of three lead coffin burials from the brick chapel in St. Mary's City, was featured. HSMC provided images of the museum and the lead coffin burials to the show's producers and the filmmakers visited to shoot recent excavations.

Two books have been produced. Children's author Sally Walker produced a book about the Written in Bone exhibit and concepts. The book, *Written in Bone: Buried Lives in Jamestown and Colonial Maryland,* includes chapters about early St. Mary's City and the work done on site today. Images of the museum's living history exhibits and interpreters illustrate stories about life, and death, in the colony. HSMC director of research Henry Miller has a quote (the only quote!) on the back cover.



The year began with a feature in *The Washington Post* about the recreation of the Brick Chapel of 1667. "Brick by Brick, History Re-created," ran on page 1 of Metro section on January 3, 2008. The story was picked up by the AP and the L.A. Times/Washington Post wires and subsequently ran in Sunday editions of papers in major markets, including Miami and Denver. The Chapel was also featured in articles in *Chesapeake Bay Magazine's* April issue and the Spring 2008 issue of the Jesuit magazine, *Company*.

The new St. John's Site Museum was and the expanded Van Sweringen site were featured in regional newspapers. The opening of the Van Sweringen exhibit inspired a feature in *AAA World*. Both exhibits were featured in *Insider's* March/April edition.

HSMC archaeology was the focus of "Skeletons upon Skeletons" in the February 22 issue of *The Enterprise.*

Smoke & Fire News, the living history re-enactor's newspaper, ran a cover story about the Maryland Dove's 30th birthday in the September issue. The event was also noted in Sea History magazine's Spring edition.

HSMC's Woodland Indian Hamlet site supervisor Coby Treadway was featured in a story about Southern Maryland's American Indians in the April 25 Southern Maryland *Gazette* papers.

HSMC was featured in *Touch*, AAA's magazine for Central Pennsylvania; AAA World, distributed in the mid-

Atlantic region, in May/June; *Recreation News* in June; in *The Washington Post's* "Last Gasp on Summer" feature in August.

The River Gazette, a periodical published by St. Mary's College of Maryland, ran articles penned by HSMC executive director Marty Sullivan, horticulture and landscape manager Mary Alves and director of marketing Susan Wilkinson.

Kevin and Sue McCarthy featured HSMC on their weekly "Travel Planners" radio show, which airs in the Chicago/St. Louis/Springfield regions and online.

The HSMC web site (www.stmaryscity.org) transitioned from the college server to a commercial server. The statistics package that comes with this web host allows us to monitor visits to all of our pages, not just the home page. These statistics indicate we were only counting about 1/7 of the visitors to our site. Six out of seven start their visit on pages other than the home page. One of the reasons www.stmaryscity.org was moved to the commercial server was to allow us to accept online payments. The Foundation contracted Firefly Design to build a "Donate, Join, Renew" page built for our web site. (It went live early in 2009.)

A blog, "Dispatch from the Field" ran on the web site through field school season. Each week Dr. Tim Riordan sent an update on progress at the Calvert House. Counts of web visits proved this was a popular addition to HSMC's website.

Dr. Henry M. Miller, HSMC director of research, and Arthur Pierce Middleton co-authored an article about Maryland's first provincial secretary. "John Lewger and the St. John's Site: The Story of Their Role in Creating the Colony of Maryland" that was published in Volume 103 (2) of the *Maryland Historical Magazine*.

Dr. Miller also authored "To Serve the Countrey: Garrett Van Sweringen and the Dutch Influence in Early Maryland" published in From *De Halve Maen to KLM: 400 Years of Dutch-American Exchange*.

HSMC licensed images to magazines (including *Early American Life)*; books (including Reader's Digest *Off the Beaten Path)*; textbooks (Gibbs Smith's *Maryland)*; exhibits (including Alexandria Archaeology and the Smithsonian); and, filmmakers (A&E Television *Written in Bone*.)

Presentations

HSMC staff offered papers at conferences and conventions. These included:

In April 2008, Peter Friesen, assistant site supervisor for the Godiah Spray Tobacco Plantation, presented at the National Council for Public History's (NCPH) annual conference. He presented "Hemp, History and Museums: Public Policy and the Interpretation of Hemp."

In March, Silas Hurry (with his wife Kate Dinnel) offered "Introduction to Historical Archaeology in Maryland" at a meeting of the Maryland Historical Trust. In December, Hurry lectured on "The St. John's Site Exhibit" to the Council for Maryland Archaeology.

Volunteers

Three hundred, twenty-two volunteers contributed 21,018 hours to the museum in FY08. Their gifts of time and skill augment and enhance the work done by staff. Volunteers have provided expertise in

technology, photography, woodworking, historical research, and more. Just about every facet of museum operations has benefited from HSMC's loyal cadre of volunteers. Institution of a dedicated part-time volunteer coordinator has had a positive impact on hours donated this year, which rose 20.5% over last year's tally.

The following table describes volunteer contributions in detail.

Volunteer Hours Detail 2008	
Administrative	336
Archaeology	5,200
Archives	255
Chapel Volunteers	610
Commission and Foundation	870
Docents	700
Development	328
Events	2,630
Garden Club/Horticulture	675
Interpretive and Wardrobe	125
Marketing	125
Maryland Dove	5,600
Militia	2,678
Museum Shop	172
Visitor Center	60
Facilities and Maintenance	224
Terrae Mariae	174
Trails	256
Total	21,018

HSMC Commission Budget

The operating budget for Historic St. Mary's City Commission is comprised of general, special, and occasional federal funds.

HSMCC Operating Budget			
Funds	FY06	FY07	FY08
General	$1,946,383	$2,162,720	$2,143,778
Special	574,397	553,298	736,803
Federal	32,822	273,291	83,095
Total	$2,553,602	$2,989,309	$2,963,675

General Funds

The general fund, or state allotment, is set by law at a minimum of $1,860,884, the amount of the general fund appropriation for 1998. In FY2008, the state appropriated $2,143,778 to the museum.

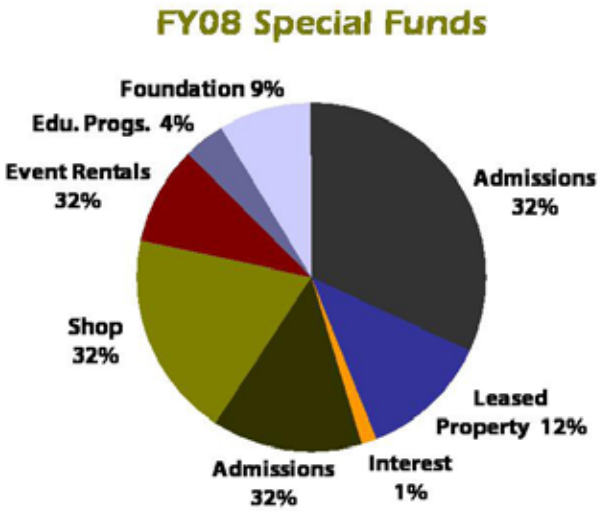
Federal Funds

The museum received the second and final installment, in the amount of $83,095, from an Institute of Museum and Library Services conservation grant.

Special Funds

Special funds, or earned income, are derived from admissions, rental property, special programs, grants, and the museum shop. Almost a third of the museum's special funds are derived from admissions. Sales through the museum's Shop at Farthing's Ordinary contributed almost another third, while leased property contributed 14%. This category is comprised of income from several houses and farmland located on HSMC property. Event Rentals are derived from private concerns leasing museum venues for special events that are held on site. The natural beauty and unique structures on museum grounds lend a sought-after ambiance to weddings, corporate affairs, and private parties. To avoid compromising the mission of the museum—to educate and entertain—requires maximizing the use of sites during the hours exhibits are closed. Approximately 11,200 guests attended private events at the museum in FY08, an increase of 2,800 from FY07. The special educational funds category includes proceeds from Field School and Colonial Kids programs.

The following chart illustrates the sources of HSMC's earned income:



HSMC Foundation

The HSMC Foundation is the Friend-raising and fundraising arm of the Commission. Founded in 1979, this 501 (c)(3) organization raises funds to support the museum's mission by promoting Friends and 1634 Society memberships and corporate sponsorships, by hosting special events, and by securing grants and donations. The Foundation publishes a newsletter, A Briefe Relation, and this annual report .

The Foundation worked with the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration to create a Historic St. Mary's City license plate. Sale of the plates raises funds for the Foundation and public awareness of the museum.

The HSMC Foundation went live with a new web page that allows Friends to join or renew their membership online as well as make donations electronically.

The Foundation hosted a fundraiser "An Evening on Aldermanbury Street" in June. Severe weather didn't dampen the spirits of revelers who enjoyed casual dining and lively music under the tent on the State House green.

Budget

The Foundation budget for FY2008 (July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008) is comprised of memberships, donations, proceeds from special events, including the annual Madrigal Dinners, and grants. The budget is detailed in the table that follows.

FY08 HSMC Foundation Operating	
Memberships	$35,685
1634 Society	99,756
Annual Fund	17,066
Special Events	44,252
Sponsorships	2,133
Grants	57,447
Chapel Campaign	143,561
Total	$399,900

Donors

The following donations and memberships were made to the Historic St. Mary' City Foundation during the Fiscal Year, 2008 (July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008). About 83% of the Foundation budget comes from memberships and contributions.

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St. Mary's County Arts Council
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Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland

Lists of supporters include those who have contributed to the HSMC Foundation during Fiscal Year 2008 (July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008). Gifts received after June 30, 2008 will be acknowledged in the FY2009 roster. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy but mistakes sometimes occur. If we have misspelled or omitted your name, please accept our most sincere apologies and let us know by contacting the Development Office at 240-895-4977 or at erbarkhimer@smcm.edu

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Richard Roesel
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In Honor of Julia King
Fort Garrison Chapter of
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