



# Hall of Records Commission Meeting November 15, 2011

**Electronic Classroom  
Maryland State Archives  
12:00 noon**

## *Minutes*

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### **Call to Order by the Chairman**

Chief Judge Bell welcomed everyone and recognized those who were attending for the first time. Dr. Papenfuse, explained that today, November 15, was the day on which, in 1763, Mason and Dixon began surveying the most famous boundary in America, the line that most people think defined the boundary between North and South, especially with regard to the institution of slavery.

**Attendees** ([http://www.msa.md.gov/megafile/msa/stagsere/se1/se14/000000/000034/html/attendees\\_15nov11.html](http://www.msa.md.gov/megafile/msa/stagsere/se1/se14/000000/000034/html/attendees_15nov11.html))

### **Introduction of New Members and Special Guests**

Dr. Papenfuse introduced Rachel Frazier, who has taken on the position of his administrative assistant. Miss Frazier is working closely with Stephanie Smith, both of whom are working together on the minutes for this meeting. Dr. Papenfuse thanked Dottie Zimmerman, Miss Frazier, and Miss Smith for coordinating the catered luncheon.

### **Opening Remarks/Special Announcements**

#### **Maryland Soldiers' Votes in the 1864 Election**

Dr. Papenfuse pointed out that the Archives attempts to schedule Commission meetings around dates of importance to the constitutional history of the state. Today we not only recognize the

birthday of the Mason Dixon line, but we also pay tribute to October 12 and November 1, 1864, as dates significant to the history of the state and the nation.

On October 12, 1864, the day voting began on the new Maryland Constitution abolishing slavery, a new era in our history was launched, while the old era ended with the death of Chief Justice Roger Brooke Taney. The new era became official on November 1, 1864, the day on which the Governor proclaimed that the new Constitution had been ratified by the voters.

October 12 and October 13 1864 were set aside for elections throughout the state, and in the field among the troops on active duty (whites only, although by then blacks were fighting valiantly on the side of the Union) to determine whether or not the new constitution of Maryland could be ratified and slavery abolished. The initial election returns were that the constitution had been defeated, and that it, in fact, had not been approved by Maryland voters. When the returns came in from the field from the soldiers who voted, they proved overwhelmingly in favor of ratification of the constitution, tipping the balance and making a day of jubilation on November 1 possible.

November 1st should be a day of reflection for all Marylanders. Most Marylanders attribute the label "Free State" to a joke published in the Sun relating to Prohibition, but a Boston newspaper knew better in November of 1864 when it first called Maryland a "Free State," noting that the battle against discrimination and enslavement was not yet over.

Dr. Papenfuse explained that certain elements of the population challenged the election results, and insisted that the constitution was not properly ratified. He noted that the Archives has a remarkable collection of every single ballot cast by each soldier in the field, revealing the names and units of the soldiers who voted. The Archives has the actual ballots that they put into an envelope saying that they were for or against the Constitution. Of all the soldiers that were on active duty in Maryland, roughly 2700 voted for the Constitution, and about 263 voted against the Constitution. Dr. Papenfuse also showed the digitized color reproductions of the constitutional ballot along side the two ballots which the soldiers used when they voted on the November 8th presidential election. The records identify the people who fought in the field, making it possible to link them to their vote on the Constitution. A court suit immediately followed the ratification announcement on November 1, ultimately decided by the Court of Appeals, challenging the legitimacy of the soldier ballot and the right of the Governor to proclaim the Constitution as duly ratified. As a result of the court case the soldiers' ballots have been carefully preserved in their entirety after having been examined by the contending parties almost as carefully as all of the chads in the disputed presidential election returns in Florida.

While November 1, 1864 is rightfully a day of jubilation, the debate over how many Marylanders were in favor of the abolition of slavery continues to the present. The *Flight to Freedom* project of the Maryland State Archives is designed to help people better understand those who were enslaved, who favored slavery and who opposed it within the state. Until all the evidence is understood and evaluated, historians will continue to argue about whether Maryland was really and truly a pro-secession state with the "despot's heel" on its shore, or whether, in fact, a majority of people within the state was in favor of the abolition of slavery. In Dr. Papenfuse's opinion, the election of 1864 demonstrated that those who bore arms in defense of the Union, were decidedly in favor of a new constitution abolishing slavery. Those at home may have been more evenly divided.

In addition to the soldiers' ballots, the Archives has correspondence arguing that the ratification should be overturned and Governor Bradford's incoming letters on both sides of the issue, neither of which any scholar has ever consulted. That such an important body of records relating to Maryland and the Civil War has been overlooked is the reason why so much effort is currently

underway to make the Archives holdings not only better known through on-line finding aids, but also to place as many of those records on line as budgets will allow. One of the best ways to stimulate public interest in the past is through exhibits like that currently at the Maryland Historical Society.

## **The Maryland Historical Society**

Mr. Kummerow described the current Civil War exhibit at the Maryland Historical Society. The exhibit has been on display for approximately six or seven months, meeting the difficult task of producing an even-handed exhibit on the state of Maryland in the Civil War. In Mr. Kummerow's opinion, the Society has done a fairly good job and will keep working on the exhibit through the Sesquicentennial, bringing in new materials from various circles each year. The Maryland State Archives has graciously lent the Society some of its flag collection, which is extraordinary. For Civil War buffs, it is an amazing collection of flags from the war itself. Many are in very fragile condition. The Civil War exhibit will continue along with one on the War of 1812. The Society is not planning to focus on the War of 1812 in the sense of the attacks on Baltimore and Washington, but rather the whole era.

Dr. Papenfuse explained that the Archives is working closely with the Maryland Historical Society, especially with regard to outreach. Their partnership includes joint presentations to schools on the history of slavery in Maryland. Also, the wonderful exhibit that the Archives's staff produced on the whole *Flight to Freedom* project, a five-panel exhibit, beautifully done, is now on display at the Maryland Historical Society, the Reginald F. Lewis Museum, and the Banneker Douglass Museum. It is also being used once a week at a course that Dr. Papenfuse is teaching on the history of slavery for adult education at Johns Hopkins University.

Mr. Kummerow also brought to the Commission's attention the Society's recent acquisition of a set of two photographs in an auction. The photographs depict a slave named Mary Atavis, who was owned by both the Maccubin family and the Whitridge family in her lifetime. The two photographs were taken by the Whitridge family, and the first referred to her as nurse, while the second depicted her with a Whitridge daughter. She was freed in 1864, but remained with the family until her death in 1870. She was buried in the family plot in Greenmount Cemetery.

Dr. Papenfuse pointed out that the Archives' staff conducted the research that revealed her history, discovering that she was buried in the Whitridge plot in Greenmount Cemetery. Following the war, an increasing number of African American women described themselves as nurses. It is a very interesting neglected aspect of the history of Baltimore City, to which more attention should be paid. Their careers may well be the true beginning of the health services industry in Baltimore City, a major employer today.

## **Reports and Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**June 14, 2011** ([http://www.msa.md.gov/megafile/msa/stagsere/se1/se14/000000/000034/html/minutes\\_14jun11.html](http://www.msa.md.gov/megafile/msa/stagsere/se1/se14/000000/000034/html/minutes_14jun11.html))

### **Special Meetings and Celebratory Events involving the Hall of Records Commission and staff:**

**September 15 2011:** Dr. Papenfuse attended the official announcement of the Discovery of the Zekiah Fort, A 17<sup>th</sup> Century Piscataway Indian Settlement

**September 23, 2011:** Dr. Papenfuse, Sasha Lourie, and Mimi Calver conducted a tour of the State House and presented a lecture to members of the National Society of the

Washington Family Descendants on *Washington in Annapolis*

**October 19, 2011:** Dr. Papenfuse, with Johns Hopkins University Press and the Baltimore Chapter of the Johns Hopkins Alumni Association, hosted a lecture and book signing by Jane McWilliams for her new book on Annapolis to which the Hall of Records Commission was invited

**October 24, 2011:** The Archives hosted the Anne Arundel County War of 1812 workshop which included presentations by the staff on the forthcoming exhibit in the State House and a proposed research project on Sailors and Slaves during the War of 1812

**October 25, 2011:** Dr. Papenfuse, Elaine Rice Bachmann, and Mimi Calver provided a presentation to members of the Chief Executives Organization on *George Washington's Resignation Speech*

**October 29, 2011:** Dr. Papenfuse was honored by the Baltimore City Historical Society as a Living Historian and for his work in reviving the Baltimore City Archives

**November 1, 2011:** Chris Haley and Rachel Frazier presented at the Maryland Abolition Reception at the Banneker-Douglas Museum, featuring a reception for the opening of the Maryland State Archives' traveling exhibit, *Flee! Stories of Flight from Maryland in Black and White* to which the Hall of Records commission was invited

**November 9, 2011:** Chris Haley attended Chief Judge Robert M. Bell's keynote speech at the Speaking Event for the Civil Rights Exhibit at Morgan State University to which the Hall of Records Commission was invited; the Maryland Historical Society hosted a regular meeting of the Artistic Properties Commission

**November 10, 2011:** Chris Haley, Owen Lourie, Tanner Sparks, and Krystal Appiah attended the unveiling of the Civil Rights Exhibit at Morgan State University to which the Hall of Records Commission was invited.

***Dr. Phillips offered a motion of approval of the minutes (as amended, if amended) and recognition of the special meetings of the Commission as defined by standing resolution, seconded by Mr. Kummerow and unanimously approved, the chairman concurring.***

## Records Retention and Disposal

**Retention Schedules** ([http://www.msa.md.gov/megafile/msa/stagsere/se1/se14/000000/000034/pdf/hrc\\_schedules\\_15nov11.pdf](http://www.msa.md.gov/megafile/msa/stagsere/se1/se14/000000/000034/pdf/hrc_schedules_15nov11.pdf))

**Disposal Certificates** ([http://www.msa.md.gov/megafile/msa/stagsere/se1/se14/000000/000034/pdf/hrc\\_disposals\\_15nov11.pdf](http://www.msa.md.gov/megafile/msa/stagsere/se1/se14/000000/000034/pdf/hrc_disposals_15nov11.pdf))

***Dr. Phillips offered a motion of approval of the Records Retention and Disposal Schedules as presented, seconded by Mr. Kummerow and Mr. Klasmeier, and unanimously approved, the chairman concurring.***

## Deputy Archivist's Report

**FY 2013 Budget Preparations and fiscal outlook:  
Meeting Archival Storage Space needs:**

Mr. Baker stated that the Maryland State Archives fiscal outlook has not changed much since the last meeting. The two most critical needs relate to staffing, particularly for full-time employees, and space requirements. Last year, they came very close to converting a good portion of the fifty percent of the staff that remains contractual. They were not successful, but are still hopeful for the future. The Archive space requirements continues to be a real issue. The Department of General

Services has been working with the Archives to identify some short term space to utilize. In the meantime, the Archives has again submitted their capital budget program. Mr. Baker pointed out that the Archives is in desperate need of that being approved for funding.

### **Joint Chairmen's Report**

Mr. Baker explained that in the past year the Archives was asked to generate a series of analyses and informational reports as part of the Joint Chairman's Report on the operating budget. The report included three elements: a third-party review of our space requirements for long term storage; the feasibility of funding the records management and archival program in a new and unique way; and finally, a cost-benefit analysis of private sector versus public sector.

An independent architect confirmed the Archives's space requirements by looking at the numbers, design criteria, and gross square-footage requirement. The Archives will follow through with the recommendation that the General Assembly consider applying a surcharge to some of the few record series known at the outset to be permanent record series, to which a fee is already attached. That money would be set aside not only for the archival program, but also for a records management program in cooperation with the Records Management division in the Department of General Services. Regarding the cost benefit, Mr. Baker pointed out that there are more resources in the private sector than he previously thought. Mr. Baker believes there is a real place for private sector participation in records management programs in the state in terms of providing agencies with help and consulting services and in developing their retention schedules, inventories, and policy documents. Regarding long term storage in the private sector, the high rate of retrieval of archival material as seen in the long term of a ten to thirty year period shows that it will be far more effective for the State to build an archival facility and manage that facility with state employees.

Judge Bell opened the floor to questions. Mr. Ridgway stated that the Archives is being constantly bombarded with references to the "cloud," as virtual storage. He asked Dr. Papenfuse and Mr. Baker how this affects their job, and how the cloud is controlled and managed.

Dr. Papenfuse explained that the Maryland State Archives has the largest single electronic archives in the United States as far as public records in the states are concerned. The Archives' role is critical, and should continue to grow. Building facilities not only includes the capital expenditure in bricks and mortar, but also deals with improved management of the electronic archives in conjunction with universities. Dr. Papenfuse pointed out that the Archives has pioneered the concept of the "cloud" in furthering the preservation of records. Controlling and managing the cloud requires sharing responsibility and accountability among agencies. Mr. Baker added that the electronic realm often does not have the necessary records management expertise. Furthermore, the Archives has begun a major initiative in the state that will convert all agencies' emails from agency-based platforms to a cloud environment. This has opened the way to discuss policies relating to email retention and disposal. Mr. Baker also hopes that federal and state agencies will cooperate in a large, shared storage array that transfers electronic records and metadata from the originating agency to the Archives. In Dr. Papenfuse's opinion, such a cloud would allow agencies to secure their data at the Archives from almost the point of creation, rather than ignoring any transfer until much later and inflicting unnecessary costs on the state budget for a localized agency storage system

***Dr. Phillips offered a motion of approval of the reports, seconded by Mr. Kummerow and Mr. Klasmeier and unanimously approved, the chairman concurring.***

# State Archivist's Report

## Looking to the past:

1. Laying the groundwork for a grant request to research sailors, slaves, and free blacks during the War of 1812- fact finding at Kew on a privately funded research trip, Summer of 2011  
During the past several months, the Archives has been engaged in finding adequate funding to research slaves, sailors, and free blacks during the War of 1812. Although the efforts have not yet been successful, Dr. Papenfuse hopes to raise support from the War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. The project is significant, and will require the continued pursuit of research. Dr. Papenfuse conducted a privately-funded research trip to the British National Archives at Kew in the Summers of 2009, 2010 and 2011. The potential is remarkable for documenting the lives of those who defended their property and their rights during the War of 1812, if funding can be found.
2. Re-thinking 17<sup>th</sup> century Maryland: Zekiah Fort and Yellow Brick along the Wicomico (<http://marylandarchivist.blogspot.com/2010/11/follow-yellow-brick.html>)  
Dr. Papenfuse has been involved in significant finds in Southern Maryland, which support the rethinking of the nature and structure of 17<sup>th</sup>-century Maryland society. Dr. Lois Green Carr has conducted most of her pioneering research on St. Mary's City. Dr. Papenfuse suggested that not enough work has been done on the settlements further up the Potomac, particularly along the Wicomico River. More recent discoveries include Zekiah Fort, in which St. Mary's College students have participated. The research has increased pressure on recognizing the legitimacy of the Native American claims to identity within the state, and whether elements of that population have the right to call themselves a tribe. The task requires a great deal of research. The studies of Dr. Julie King, the principle archaeologist for the Wicomico river project, have broadened our understanding of the nature, extent, and productivity of 17<sup>th</sup> century Maryland society.
3. Making the Maryland State Archives' and Baltimore City Archives' websites reliable and accountable, as portals for the study of Maryland history

Dr. Papenfuse explained that this can only be done in conjunction with organizations such as the Maryland Historical Society, and other institutions concerned with a well-formulated and integrated approach to providing access to all of the resources for the study of all Maryland history and society. Dr. Papenfuse is especially concerned with developing interactive tools, for editing and research that are on line so that anyone working with records can contribute directly to a better understanding of the records. For example, once Governor Bradford's letter book is on line, there should be a way in which both archival staff and outside users can transcribe, edit, and annotate the record. The Maryland State Archives is working with the staff of the Providence, Rhode Island Public Library to scan their whole whaling log collection, the largest single collection of whaling logs in the country. The collection is one of the best records for weather, and useful to those currently studying global warming. Dr. Papenfuse explained that the Archives put the logs into a program that Dr. Papenfuse designed, called editonline.us. The program provides a way to engage people and help grow understanding of records collections by interacting with the people who use the records.

Furthermore, the Archives is pursuing a grant for the Baltimore City Archives from the Knight Foundation, which is devoted to access to the news, particularly community involvement. The grant would deal with the neighborhood in which the Baltimore City Archives is located, and with the local Montessori School. The goal will be showing children in elementary school how to use local records such as mapping, learn who their public officials are and what they do, and research the history relating to their neighborhoods, all of which it is hoped, would help them one day to become informed and enthusiastic members of the electorate.

Dr. Papenfuse pointed out that only 13% of Baltimore City residents voted in the last election. Part of the objective of the future of the Archives is to provide a reliable and accountable source of information with which we can strengthen the understanding that the best democracy is one in which people are engaged in the electoral process and are concerned with what their government is doing. Dr. Papenfuse hopes the Archives, through the Knight Foundation, will be able to do this at an elementary school level, as well as at a high school level. If funded, the grant will amount to about \$50,000 for a cooperative project between Macon, Georgia, and Baltimore. Dr. Papenfuse noted that the ties between the two cities are significant, including the the Sisters of Charity, which was founded in Baltimore, and baseball. Dr. Schoeberlein's research indicates that Baltimore used to play the Macon baseball team in the early days of the National sport.

## **Looking to the future:**

### **Staffing Needs**

The future of archival services is largely electronic, on line, with most professional staff resources directed towards enhancing on line access and understanding of archival records, often working with other institutions, even to the extent of sharing staff expertise and resources. Dr. Papenfuse stressed that the Archives needs score staff to maintain better records management through our electronic archives. State and local agencies need to be brought into the electronic cloud for the day-to-day management of their records and for the smooth transfer of permanent electronic records to the electronic "vaults" of the archives. There should be as many professional archivists assigned to assessing, explaining, and managing permanent records as there are state and local agencies. They need not be employed by the State Archives directly, but should be a part of the preservation and access network administered by the State Archives. Every Chief Information Officer in government should either be trained as an archivist and records manager, or have on his or her staff a professional archivist and records administrator. Otherwise, the future of information in our democracy is in jeopardy.

### **Storage Space**

There is a pressing need for the the renovation of the present archives building. Dr. Papenfuse hopes that in the future, he will be able to get some funds to deal with the problem of carpeting that has been here since 1986, ceiling tiles that still show leaks over the last ten years, bathrooms in desperate need of renovation, and new light bulbs for office and search room areas where lighting has suffered for years. Dr. Papenfuse explained that these are maintenance issues facing every state agency. The resources need to be found to ensure that the maintenance issues are addressed.

Even more important is the Archives need of space for the proper care and preservation of the records, both paper and electronic. The agency is grateful to the Department of General Services which has worked with the Archives to seek additional storage space. The short-term answer is being able to accommodate and move out of a very expensive rental space. The first phase is expanding our current warehouse model for paper storage and furthering our plans for a remote archival storage facility designed to meet the demand for the care and preservation of permanent public records, paper and electronic, at all levels of government. A viable democracy depends upon the transparency of government and access to accountable, verifiable performance information about governmental services and public policy. According to the best estimates, several hundred

thousand cubic feet of storage space are needed for permanent paper records over the next several years. We are currently exploring places suitable for renovation to archival storage standards and will have specific recommendations for the next Hall of Records Commission meeting.

### **Electronic Records**

The Prince George's County Circuit Court just had a records disaster when the river rose, destroying thousands of cubic feet of permanent records. The records were awaiting transfer to the Maryland State Archives. The Archives worked very closely with Judge Adams and with the court system to ensure that anything absolutely vital to the ongoing workings of the court was available. Dr. Papenfuse explained that the Archives also helped the Court develop a plan for freeze drying the records that could be salvaged, and disposing of those that could not. The Archives also assisted by purchasing and installing a little more shelving to provide more space to store records. The Court needs all the support in the world to move through its electronic case management system so that the issue of better management and maintenance of permanent record material can be addressed sensibly in the electronic world.

Vital Records and the problems of the permanent records of the Register of Wills demonstrate the need for greater recognition and involvement in the development and administration of electronic records in all state agencies, including storage, access, and permanent retention. A state-owned and operated electronic archives facility should function within a 'cloud' of shared archival resources within and without the state to which the flow of permanent public records should be seamless and require little human intervention.

### **Museum and Interpretation Space**

While much of the outreach and public service efforts of the Archives will be in the realm of on line services and interpretation, the Maryland State Archives has a role to play in enhancing the visitor experience in Annapolis. Dr. Papenfuse has pursued private gifts for adding space for a museum attached to our current building, without success. But we are working closely with the President of the Senate and the Speaker to make the State House space a place where people can visit and learn about the state's history as it is centered on the State House.

The Archives' principal point of contact with the public in museum interpretation is the State House, and the implementation of the Visitor Experience Master Plan is our highest priority, but the current Archives building with improved exhibit facilities and other public buildings in Annapolis such as the treasury building on State Circle and the legislative buildings could all be popular venues for providing the visitor with permanent and changing exhibits relating to Maryland History and Government, if funding could be found.

### **Publications**

Dr. Papenfuse highlighted the on line Guide to Government Records as the Archives's single most important publication. A whole range of e-publications comprised of documentary material relating to Maryland history will be distributed and made accessible through the core environment of the Guide. Approximately one million pages are ready to be placed on line for research, transcription, and exposition. Over the next few years, the Archives will continue to push as much of its holdings as possible into the public sphere, likely focusing on areas of current interest such as the Civil War and the War of 1812.

The Archives will continue to produce printed works of history, largely funded by subsidies from the Friends of the Maryland State Archives. Dr. Papenfuse highlighted two publications,

beginning with the new book devoted to the Willard Hackerman selection of prints from the Baejter Collection. While Mr. Hackerman devoted many years of collecting to maps of Maryland, he has also acquired by fine collection of approximately 70 prints which he wishes to share with the rest of the world. He approached the Archives to publish an illustrated catalog of the prints, which should be available by the next Hall of Records Commission meeting. This book provides a different approach to prints by drawing the viewer into the print, and fostering thought about the image through anecdotes about what can be seen and associated with the print.

In the process of collaborating on the book with Dr. Schoeberlein, Dr. Papenfuse discovered that Mr. Hackerman contributed the Walters Art Museum's Hackerman Wing, which houses the Asian Collection. This collection is well worth a visit and lead Dr. Papenfuse to draw a parallel between Mr. Hackerman's collecting activities and those of early collectors interested in Asian art. One of these collectors, John C. Ferguson, Dr. Papenfuse's cousin a number of times removed, was one of the largest importers of Chinese art, bringing collections to the Metropolitan, the Walters, and the Cleveland Art museums. The Smithsonian Museum recently published Mr. Ferguson's papers, which include early 20th-century letters from Dr. Papenfuse's aunt Sarah, who, with his grandmother Pearl, inspired him to a career in archives and history.

The Archives also has a wonderful gift from a former archivist and editor of the *Maryland Manual*, the late Frank White. He was also the archivist for the Masons, who discovered among their archives an account book of the building of the James Brice house in Annapolis. Every brick and plank; every workman who ever laid a brick or fashioned a mantle piece for the largest of Annapolis's colonial mansions is to be found among its pages. Orlando Ridout IV, former director of the Maryland Historical Trust, wrote his unpublished thesis on the account book. The Archives and Mr. Ridout's family would like to see the thesis and the account book published in facsimile, so the Archives has raised enough funds to publish both. The *James Brice Account Book* contains Mr. Ridout's excellent introduction, and will be available by January 14, 2013. The book is unique in architectural history. Dr. Papenfuse pointed out that the James Brice House is the largest brick mansion ever built, so large that the bricklayers' union ultimately bought it and still own it today.

***Dr. Ridgway and Ms. Melson offered a motion of approval of the resolution of full support for archival initiatives as they relate to policy and publications, including the possible revision to the proposed capital projects for storage and conservation of the State's archival and fine arts collections.***

Mr. Patoka asked to include a statement of thanks to the Archives for their quick response in assisting Judge Adams and the Prince George's County Courthouse, in rescuing their permanent records from the flood disaster. Mr. Patoka observed that Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee occurred back to back, so the Court house appreciated the quick mobilization of different state agencies.

***The motion was seconded by Dr. Phillips and unanimously approved, the chairman concurring.***

## Research and Educational Outreach

### IMLS HistoryMakers Fellow

Dr. Papenfuse introduced Krystal Appiah, whom the Archives is hosting as a research fellow in

partnership with The HistoryMakers. Funded by an IMLS grant, Miss Appiah joined the Archives on September 6, 2011, and will remain through May 2012. She is working in the Legacy of Slavery Department, reviewing the Colonization Society of Maryland papers and placing materials on line that are relevant to the department's study of Caroline, Queen Anne's, Dorchester, Talbot, and Kent counties.

Miss Appiah explained that the Maryland Colonization Society was funded by the Maryland General Assembly for approximately twenty-five years, from around 1830 to 1857. Her research focuses mainly on the slaveholders as well as the manumitted slaves, and their decision of whether or not to emigrate to Liberia. Miss Appiah's work also includes integrating social media into the Legacy of Slavery project.

Dr. Papenfuse pointed out that the Maryland Historical Society is hosting an "Unconference" which Miss Appiah will attend. The Unconference provides an opportunity for people to get together without an agenda and for ideas to flow regarding social media.

### **State House Exhibits including a War of 1812 Commemoration Exhibit**

Elaine Rice Bachmann announced that the renovation and interpretation of the Old Senate Chamber and the Old House of Delegates Chamber is well underway. Mrs. Bachmann also pointed out that Secretary Collins is chairing a working group composed of DGS, MHT, and Archives's employees embarking on the project in earnest again. The working group is reevaluating the timeline, based on the original proposed end date of 2014, and will meet soon to determine when the space will be completed. Mrs. Bachmann conveyed the appreciation of funding for these endeavors. There is also funding available for interpretive exhibits throughout the State House, enabling the Artistic Properties Commission (APC) to improve the visitor experience in terms of signage and way-finding. APC will install interpretive exhibits inside the Old House of Delegates Chamber as well, which will reach completion in 2012.

While the restoration work is being done in the Chamber, research archivists and the Artistic Properties staff are designing an exhibit in commemoration of the bicentennial of the War of 1812 for the State House's stairwell room. The exhibit will focus on Annapolis in the War of 1812, a subject often overlooked due to the events in Baltimore and Washington. The center piece will be a new mural depicting the view from the State House dome from which William Barney, Joshua Barney's son, kept watch for the movements of the British fleet coming up the Bay. There will also be an emphasis on the role the Governor played in managing the war effort from the State House and his office in Government House (the first Government House on what is now the Naval Academy grounds). The exhibit will also include the perspective from the British warships as they approached Annapolis through logbooks and letters. Another perspective will be that of the slaves in Annapolis who went to the British ships in search of freedom, particularly the slaves from the farm of Governor Ogle and from what is today Historic Annapolis's museum on the dock. Twenty slaves from the Annapolis area sought freedom on the British man of war, *Menelaus*, which anchored off Annapolis. The exhibit will be open during session.

Dr. Papenfuse pointed out that during the War of 1812, the government remained open. One of the branches of government that continued in session was the Court of Appeals, which was located upstairs in what is now the Lieutenant Governor's Office in the State House. There is a whole series of interesting cases that were dealt with during the war period, some of which included an attorney by the name of Francis Scott Key. These will be the subject of two seminars at the University of Maryland Law school this fall and next spring.

Mimi Calver added that the APC has received a grant from the Four Rivers group, which funds a brochure and printed materials to support the War of 1812 exhibit. Along with private funding, Dr. Papenfuse explained that the project is also receiving public matching funds, as a result of President Miller's successful efforts to secure support to restore the Old Senate Chamber.

### **Legacy of Slavery Advisory Board and Slavery Commission**

#### ***August 30, 2011 - Hosted a meeting of the Legacy of Slavery Advisory Board and the Commission to Coordinate the Study, Commemoration and Impact of Slavery's History and Legacy in Maryland***

In the interim since the August meeting, Chairman Larry Gibson has unveiled his new exhibit at Morgan, which relates to the sit-in demonstrations of the 50s, and the sit-ins at Reed's Drug Store. The Chairman of the Hall of Records Commission, Judge Bell, gave an excellent talk on November 9th, the day before the opening of the exhibit. Members of the Archives staff attended, including research archivist Owen Lourie, who conducted a large portion of the research needed to identify all of the people who were invited to the ceremony. He found that the Archives holds the court dockets and the police dockets that listed everyone who was arrested. They were listed with their addresses, as it was in the 50s. Working with the Alumni association at Morgan, Mr. Gibson and Mr. Lourie were able to identify and bring back as many of those people as they could find. It was an extraordinary exhibit, and could not have been done without the full list of the people who had been arrested.

Mr. Kummerow added that he was present at the ceremonies, and found them incredibly touching. Congressman Lewis gave a great convocation. Mr. Kummerow explained that he was most impressed by the history that previously had been overlooked. Larry Gibson's presentation covered five areas in which Morgan State was a first. All of the civil rights issues coming up started in 1947 with the picketing of the State House.

Progress continues under the U. S. Department of Education grant and the traveling exhibit panels can be viewed at site locations and at <http://mdslavery.net>

### **Summer 2011 Internship Program**

Emily Oland Squires reported that the summer of 2011 was very successful. The program received 100 applications this year, comprising a very strong pool of candidates. Fourteen paid interns were selected to work in nine different departments at the Archives. Since the program had so many strong applications, others were contacted to see if they would be willing to work on a volunteer basis. Twelve students in fact came to work as unpaid volunteers, almost equaling the number of interns. Mrs. Squires also thanked four outside funding sources: St. John's College, St. Mary's College, Maryland Commission for Women, and the U.S. Department of Education.

One of the interns this summer, funded by the Carson's in recognition of Dr. Carr's distinguished career, came from St. Mary's College to work on Special Collection 5906. The collection is a cataloging of the papers, the research, and the library of Dr. Lois Green Carr. The study focused on gaining a good understanding Dr. Carr's work and the papers she has left at the Archives for the benefit of future researchers.

The Study of the Legacy of Slavery had four interns working on record mining of the census for Queen Anne's County. Also, they researched biographies of United States Colored Troops who were related to the five Eastern Shore Counties that the project is studying under the

Department of Education Grant. The interns fully processed Special Collections 4126, which is a collection of Civil War Pension Files. In addition to fully processing them and listing all of the copies of Maryland USCT pension files that the Archives was able to get from NARA, the interns also selected pension files from the Eastern Shore counties to conduct fuller biographical studies.

In addition, an IT intern worked with the Study of the Legacy of Slavery Department, in moving towards some of the goals that Dr. Papenfuse pointed out, including more interactive biographical research tools. Posting documents or profiles in biographies can serve as an interactive tool for individuals who may also be studying the biographies from their neighborhood, college, or research facility. Mrs. Squires felt that the program had a very successful summer, and was fortunate to benefit from such a strong pool of students.

Summer 2011 Internship Reports: [2011internsfinalreport.pdf](#)

Mr. Ridgway asked if the program encourages students to do internships for which they get credit, but which they might be willing to do without pay if they get credit. He encouraged the program to consider this aggressively, since one of the pushes of public education is to give students experience in the real world.

Dr. Papenfuse explained that the Baltimore City Archives is employing the same concept, pursuing matching funds, and enlisting volunteers. The response this summer was extraordinary. One of the interns for the Baltimore City Project is working on an audio project. Jodie Morrison, who later married Russ Morrison, owned a radio station in Chestertown on the Eastern Shore. Anyone who came to Chestertown showed up on her radio station for her interview program. Sitting in Russ' study were all of these tapes and interviews going back twenty years. This summer, interns used inexpensive equipment to move all of that analog information into a digital environment. Mrs. Morrison's interviews included prominent people who came through the town, as well as townsfolk studying the Chestertown Tea Party. One of the big problems is how to move oral recordings or video, analog records, into something you can access and use. Dr. Papenfuse would like to continue this project, and it is something that a volunteer can do very easily.

***Dr. Papenfuse offered a motion to incorporate the recording of Judge Bell's speech and remarks in the minutes, seconded by Mr. Kummerow and Dr. Ridgway and unanimously approved.***

## **Land Office Activity**

Dr. Papenfuse requested a postponement of the Land Office discussion until the next meeting, since the Archives is in the midst of a rare occurrence, a land patent application. The patent is for a sizable piece of land in Harford County, right in the midst of land that the Boy Scouts already own. Dr. Papenfuse explained that the process is still something that the Land Office does, and is absolutely critical to the understanding of the land system in Maryland.

Richard Richardson pointed out that the Archives saves the state money in this process. In addition to getting a land grant for a private citizen, the process allows state agencies, most notably the Department of Natural Resources, to apply for a certificate of reservation to clarify ownership of the land. This saves DNR and other state agencies thousands of dollars in lawyer's fees, protecting and defending DNR's land against attempts to take the land, while still

providing a means of private citizens acquiring vacant land.

***Dr. Papenfuse offered a motion to postpone until the next meeting which was agreed to by voice vote.***

## **Appraisal and Description**

### **Prince George's County Circuit Court Flood Salvage Efforts**

The Maryland State Archives is assisting the Prince George's County Circuit Court in the salvage of court records damaged by flooding in September 2011.

### **Storage Space**

A lack of available storage space is significantly increasing the wait time for transferring permanent records into the Archives' custody.

### **Disposal Certificate Website**

The Maryland State Archives Disposal Certificates website successful launched on July 1, 2011 (<http://disposal.msa.md.gov>)

## **Collection Management: Recent Gifts, Deposits and Acquisitions**

**Special Collections** ([http://www.msa.md.gov/megafile/msa/stagsere/se1/se14/000000/000034/html/hrc\\_sc\\_nov2011.html](http://www.msa.md.gov/megafile/msa/stagsere/se1/se14/000000/000034/html/hrc_sc_nov2011.html))

Dr. Papenfuse reported that some fascinating special collections that have been coming in. People realize that they have historic records in their attic and bring them to the Archives. For instance, a woman in St. Mary's County provided the Archives with county tax records for the War of 1812 era. Another person called saying that they had a court record detailing the comings and goings of ships in the Potomac River. Dr. Papenfuse expressed his gratitude to everyone who has given to the Archives, which credits them for their collections in the on line descriptions.

### **Government Records**

([http://www.msa.md.gov/megafile/msa/stagsere/se1/se14/000000/000034/pdf/gov\\_records\\_nov2011.pdf](http://www.msa.md.gov/megafile/msa/stagsere/se1/se14/000000/000034/pdf/gov_records_nov2011.pdf))

Dr. Papenfuse stated that it is legally appropriate for him to be invested by the Commission with the privilege of accepting care and responsibility for any gifts that might come to the state, governor, or public officials, that they cannot accept for their personal use. Generally, the Secretary of State's office handles this, and the Archives has a working understanding with them that as long as the Hall of Records approves this, the Archives will be more than happy to take these on as gifts, manage them, and provide inventory information to ensure when appropriate that they are displayed and utilized in the way in which they were intended.

***Secretary Collins offered a resolution of appreciation for all recent gifts and delegated to the State Archivist the authority to determine if gifts to the State of Maryland, have permanent value and are worthy of preservation and display***

*in accordance with State Government Article Section 9-1008. Seconded by Dr. Ridgway and unanimously approved.*

## Maryland State Archives On Line

### Finding Aids, Reference Services, and Publications:

Dr. Papenfuse encouraged the Commission members to visit the websites listed below and offer suggestions, questions, and comments. Mr. Baker has been strongly involved in [mdelect.net](http://mdelect.net) by working on, rethinking, and making the website more useful to the public at large. The website is an effort to allow users to take any address from any place in the state and find who represents that address. The Archives hopes to expand that to include good demographical information on the District Attorney. This will be done initially with a program that the City of Baltimore developed, which is called [CityView](http://CityView), and which modeled that very effectively. The idea is to make [mdelect.net](http://mdelect.net) the one-stop shop for citizens wanting to know who are their council members and district representatives. We know that the site is very heavily used by the legislature for resolving scholarship and residency issues, and in determining who represents someone who has written a constituent letter.

[aomol.net](http://aomol.net), [archivesofmaryland.net](http://archivesofmaryland.net), [marylandlegalhistory.net](http://marylandlegalhistory.net) - Access to over 471,000 historical documents that form the constitutional, legal, legislative, judicial, and administrative basis of Maryland's government

[baltimorecityarchives.net](http://baltimorecityarchives.net) - Guide to Research and Writing about the History of Baltimore City

[editonline.us](http://editonline.us) - Transcription and editing of historical documents online

[lrac.us](http://lrac.us) - Land Records Access Committee and Image Retrieval System for Maryland

[mappingmaryland.net](http://mappingmaryland.net) - The Interactive Maps component of the *Flight to Freedom* and *County Boundaries* projects allows historians, genealogists, and researchers to search for Maryland property owners

[martenet.org](http://martenet.org) - Maryland Historical Maps

[mdelect.net](http://mdelect.net) - Find your Elected Officials

[mdgovpics.net](http://mdgovpics.net) - The Governor's Office Photo Gallery

[mdgovpubs.net](http://mdgovpubs.net) - Government Publication Library

[mdhistory.net](http://mdhistory.net) - Research and Lectures on Maryland History topics

[mdhistpics.net](http://mdhistpics.net) - Historical Photographs of Maryland

[mdhs.mdsa.net](http://mdhs.mdsa.net) - Maryland Historical Trust

[mdihp.net](http://mdihp.net) - Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties

[mdlandrec.net](http://mdlandrec.net) - Digital image Retrieval System for Land Records in Maryland

[mdmanual.net](http://mdmanual.net) - Guide to Maryland Government

[mdnewspapers.net](http://mdnewspapers.net) - Guide to Maryland Newspapers

[mdplats.net](http://mdplats.net), [plats.net](http://plats.net) - Digital Image Reference System for land Survey, Subdivision, and Condominium Plats

[mdprobate.net](http://mdprobate.net) - Digital Image Reference System for Maryland Probate Records

[mdsa.net](http://mdsa.net) - Maryland State Archives Homepage

[mdslavery.net](http://mdslavery.net), [slaverymd.net](http://slaverymd.net) - African American Research at the Maryland State Archives

[mdstatehouse.net](http://mdstatehouse.net) - This website represents the initial phase of the Maryland State House Historic Structure Report Project

[mdvitalrec.net](http://mdvitalrec.net) - Vital Records Indexing Project

[msa.md.gov/msa/intromsa/html/record\\_mgmt/homepage.html](http://msa.md.gov/msa/intromsa/html/record_mgmt/homepage.html) - Records Transfer and Storage Management

[msa.md.gov/msa/refserv/govpub/html/search.html](http://msa.md.gov/msa/refserv/govpub/html/search.html) - Government Publications On Line

[msa.md.gov/msa/refserv/library/html/lib\\_public\\_homepage.html](http://msa.md.gov/msa/refserv/library/html/lib_public_homepage.html) - Archives Library Catalog

[potomachistory.net](http://potomachistory.net) - Maryland's Ownership of the Potomac River

[teachingamericanhistorymd.net](http://teachingamericanhistorymd.net) - A partnership program bringing historical resource materials and professional-development experience to K-12 U.S. history teachers  
[v3.mdlandrec.net](http://v3.mdlandrec.net) - Version 3 of the Land Records Website

## Education and Outreach

(see attached [Chronology](#))

Dr. Papenfuse also recommended that the Commission review the educational outreach activities, which are explained in the linked chronology.

## New Business

No new business was brought before the Commission.

## Next meeting

Dr. Papenfuse suggests meeting next around Constitution Day, which falls on Sunday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, or early in June on an appropriate celebratory day.

## Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 1:27 pm.

Approved by the Hall of Records Commission, June 4, 2012.

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The Honorable Robert M. Bell, Chairman

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Edward C. Papenfuse, Secretary

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