

Howard County Historical Society, Inc.

8328 COURT AVENUE
P.O. BOX 109
ELLCOTT CITY, MARYLAND 21043

Newsletter

April, 1986

Spring Meeting

The spring meeting of the Society will be held April 27 at 3:00 P.M. Dan Bennett, of the Howard County Government will discuss changes to the Howard County Court Houses. His talk is titled "Preservation Through Expansion" and while Dan will primarily discuss the expansion and modernization of the Courthouse next to the Society Headquarters, he will also tell us about the renovations to the original courthouse at Main Street and Ellicott Mills Drive.

Creation of the Howard District, 1838-1840

This article first appeared as part one in your January newsletter. This month we continue the story.

On the surface, it seems to have been prompted merely by a desire to avoid adding more members to the legislature, but representation for the Howard District would likely have prompted pressure from other areas. If these succeeded, an enlarged legislature would have meant more State support for railroad building and less support for slavery.

These results were predictable because the population of Maryland had been growing rapidly in the northern and western areas and the people in these regions had already begun pressing for fairer representation. Creation of Carroll County in 1836 was one attempt to satisfy this demand but even more drastic measures had to be enacted in the following year. The Howard District Bill, coming on the heels of these earlier reforms, was viewed by Delegates from the southern and eastern counties as a threat to their vital interests.

Direct assault having failed, the opposition tried another tack which appears to have been intended to embarrass the Bill's supporters. One of the opposition Delegates from Baltimore County now moved to grant representation to the Howard District. This may seem strange but it could not have been intended to succeed but rather to force the House of Delegates to record its intentions in regard to further changes in legislative representation. Only five voted for the resolution--all of them had originally voted against creating the District--and fifty eight registered their opposition to immediate representation. The southern and eastern counties got what they considered a guarantee against adding members.

After passage by the House, the Bill was sent to the Senate where action was completed in only two days. Because it contained changes in the State's constitution, the Howard District Bill did not become operative immediately; it had to be passed a second time by the legislature. This was dangerous because an election to the House of Delegates would have to be held before the 1839 session. Several times such intervening election campaigns had been dominated by struggles over amending the State's constitution.

Fortunately, nothing like that happened in 1839. The vote defeating the proposal for immediate representation prevented opponents of the Howard District Bill from making it an election issue. After the legislature met again, it took only four-

teen days, during which no votes were recorded, for the Bill to get through the legislative mill. The Senate's approval on January 16, 1840 made the Howard District a legal entity because our governors then were not required to sign bills passed by the legislature.

During the remainder of that session, a number of additional bills were passed. These regulated elections and the relations between the new District and Anne Arundel County. That relationship remained essentially unchanged until 1851 when the Constitutional Convention created Howard County.

Elkridge Heritage Acquires Property

During this period of our enjoying the display in our own building from Grace Episcopal Church, Elkridge, the good news comes that the Elkridge Heritage Society has purchased a property for their meetings and the housing of their collections.

The former home of veteran general practitioner, the late Dr. B. B. Brumbaugh, has been acquired. The Heritage Society is grateful to Dr. Brumbaugh's heirs for their generous cooperation and to the Elkridge Rotary Club for their very substantial financial aid which made this purchase possible. This development will now give the Elkridge Heritage Society a fresh impetus for growth in lieu of the rented quarters from which they have worked.

The home of the late Dr. Brumbaugh who practiced medicine in Elkridge for about sixty years, is an appropriate setting for the Society's continuing growth. Many of Dr. Brumbaugh's "babies" will be helping with painting, sanding and generally rejuvenating the old house. Basically, the building is in excellent condition.

Interesting plans for the future include the use of the Doctor's waiting room and office as an example of a typical country doctor's facility in times past. These rooms will be made available to community groups for small meetings.

The other rooms on the first floor will house collections of the Heritage Society and provide meeting facilities.

The second floor of this large home will be converted into an apartment, providing some revenue and the added advantage of an occupant in the building.

Members of the Elkridge Heritage Society are understandably very excited about this latest development, and the Howard County Historical Society congratulates them for this giant step in their progress.

We are all a part of Howard County and look forward to continued cooperation between our organizations.

Twinkle Toes

Shake the moth balls out of the old tuxedo and dust off your dancing shoes. On June 21, the annual Howard County Historical Society dinner dance will once again be held at the Glenelg Country School, so mark the big day on your calendars.

Postscript, Lest I Forget

Light refreshments will be served following the April 27 spring meeting. Don't miss this interesting information-filled talk concerning present courthouse additions and also plans for the old original on Main Street!

Schedule of Events

April 27, 1986
June 21, 1986
September 14, 1986
November 2, 1986
December 14, 1986
January 25, 1987

- Spring Meeting
- Annual Dinner Dance
- Fall Meeting
- Fall Organ Concert
- Candlelight House Tour
- Annual Meeting

President's Corner

New electrical wiring, in the planning for over a year, is finally being accomplished through the generosity of one of our members. Several years ago we replaced the cable coming into the building and installed a modern circuit breaker panel. Now we are replacing old style wiring where required and adding many new electric outlets. It is hard to believe, but there was only one outlet in the entire meeting room!

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis W. Boone of Grantsville, Maryland gave the Society several lovely antiques and a set of Lenox china in the gold band "Hutzler" pattern. We are pleased to acknowledge their lovely gifts of:

1. Mahogany Hepplewhite side chair with shield shaped back.
2. Mahogany carved work table.
3. Mahogany shaving stand.
4. Inlaid mahogany card table.
5. Two inlaid mahogany knife boxes.
6. Set of Lenox china; 150 pieces in Hutzler pattern.
7. Pair of cast iron carriage post lamps, six feet tall.

Dinner Dance News

Proceeds from the Annual Dinner Dance this year will be given to help restore the George Ellicott House. Funds to move the house across the road and out of the flood plain have been received. It is hoped that Society members will be especially generous this year to support restoration of the Ellicott home.

Library Acquisitions since November 1, 1985 include:

- The Agricultural Industry of Maryland, by W. S. Hammill
- The History of the Hoffman Paper Mills in Maryland, by May A. Seitz
- The First Hundred Years, Maryland State Grange, by Mary and Eben Jenkins
- Atlas of Baltimore County, by G. M. Hopkins. Donors: Charles and Doris Chickering,
in memory of Katherine Hynes
- Elkridge Heritage Society House Tour 1985, by Shirlene Bauman
- Owings and Allied Families, by Addison and Elizabeth Owings. Donors, Charles and Doris
Chickering, in memory of Mary Lewin Handwerk.
- Catalog of Centenary Exhibition, B & O Railroad 1927. Donor, Edward Walter.
- From Pig Iron to Cotton Duck, by John McGrain. Donor, Bell McCauley, in memory of
Katherine Hynes.
- Howard County Maryland Records, with Manumissions, Vol. IV; with Family Bible Data,
Vol. V, by Howard County Genealogical Society.

Inventory of County and Town Archives No. 13 (Howard County) 1939 from Larry Madaras
Governors of Maryland from the Revolution to 1908 by Heinrich Buckholz (Excerpts
from Larry Madaras)

The Rolling Year on Maryland's Eastern Shore, by H. Chandlee Forman. Donor, Charles
E. Wehland

Elkridge and Elkridge Landing Hundreds, Anne Arundel County 1783--, from Tax Rolls
Yorkshire Antecedents and American Descendants of the William H. A. Richardson Family,
by Louise Ryder Young, Donor, the author.

Narrative of a Yankee Family: Rider/Ryder, Descendants of Eleazer Ryder by Louise
Ryder Young. Donor, the author.

Note: The last two books are the work of an experienced genealogist who is a
member of the Howard County Genealogical Society.

House of Records to Move

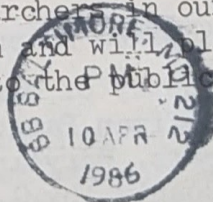
The Maryland State Archives is moving to a new Hall of Records building in July,
1986. The new address will be, 350 Rowe Boulevard, Annapolis, Maryland 21401.
Anyone planning to visit the state archives this summer is urged to make contact
ahead of time.

Exhibits to Change

The Grace Church of Elkridge Exhibit closes on May 13. A new exhibit of objects
of folk art will open on May 27th. If you have any old pieces of folk art to share
with us, I would love to have them for this exhibit. Folk art is usually a useful
object that has been decorated in some manner, for instance, a butter press, cookie
cutter, quilt, weather vane, pie safe or some such object. You are all invited to
a special reception on May 31st from 4 to 6 P.M.

Bettina Jenkins, curator

The Board of Directors of the Howard County Genealogical Society has voted to
relocate some of its files and other library materials in the Historical Society
building, and to assist our staff in serving researchers in our library. They have
purchased a file cabinet to house their collection and will place it in our building.
Tentative plans are for Saturday workshops, open to the public, which the Genealogical
Society will conduct.



Mr. & Mrs. Howard Bauman
6994 Montgomery Rd
Elkridge MD 21227