NEWSLETTER

of the

HARFORD COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

143 N. MAIN ST, BEL AIR, MD 21014-3539

July 2008

NOTICE OF MEETING

<u>Date:</u> **Sunday, July 20, 2008**   <u>Time:</u> **2:00 PM**

<u>Place:</u> **Eden Mill Grist Mill & Nature Center**
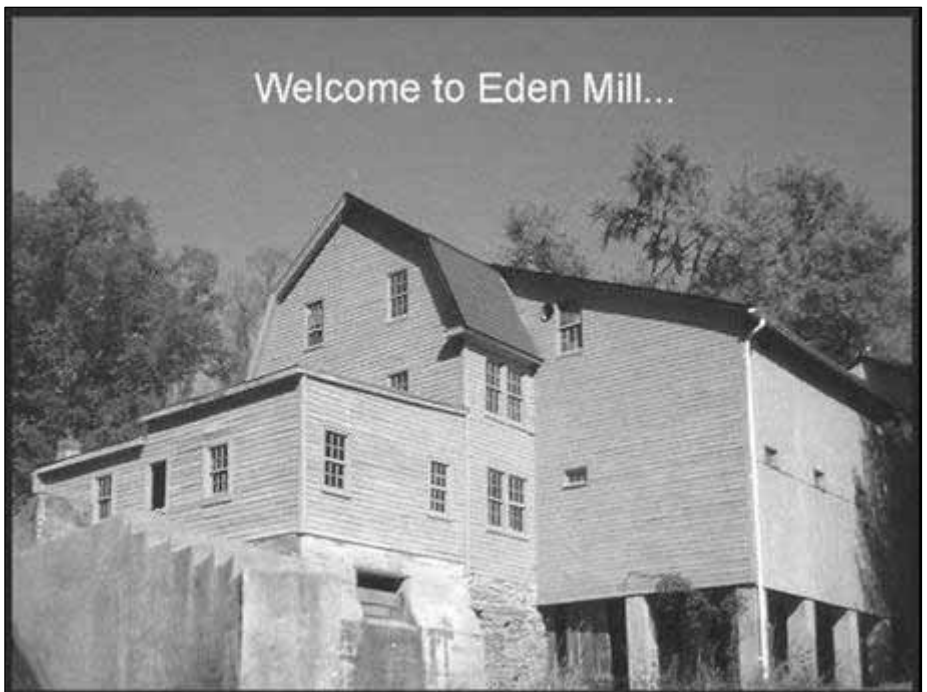1617 Eden Mill Rd; Pylesville, MD 21132

<u>Program:</u> **EDEN MILL – Historic Mill Museum.**

Our speaker, **Mr. Roland Beckman** will discuss the History and Families of the area starting in 1805 with the house and gristmill that Elijah Stansbury built on more than 200 acres. Some of the family surnames associated with the mill include Eden, Stansbury, Anderson, Smith, Mays, McFadden, Vaughn, and Webb.

Recently, I had an opportunity to hear Roland speak about the Museum at the Jarrettsville Branch, Harford County Public Library. He is extremely knowledgeable about Eden Mill, its families, history, and operations, as well as an entertaining and educational speaker.

On June 7th Eden Mill Nature Center & Historic Mill Museum celebrated recent improvements and the addition of 60 acres to the park with a rededication and open house. Completed renovations include the installation of heating and air conditioning, as well as new windows and doors. A whole new energy boost has been given to the Eden Mill site and its programs.

Please, mark your calendars for a delightful experience and picnic. Complete the attached reservation form and lunch order, then mail it before July 10th.

MEETING SCHEDULE: March, May, July, September, & November

We hold five meetings per year, usually on the 3rd Sunday of the month. The March, May, September and November meetings begin at 2:00 PM at The Historical Society of Harford County Inc., 143 North Main Street, Bel Air, MD 21014. The July meeting is a box lunch held at various historical locations in the county.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As this summer issue of our newsletter has been taking shape, mother nature has provided an unduly warm welcome to the season. Hot and sticky, or cool and wet, summer is for family reunions - those special occasions for meeting long-lost cousins, greeting new additions to the family, and remembering those no longer among us.

Some months ago an acquaintance commented that she was writing an article for Reunions Magazine, a publication unknown to me. With curiosity peaked, I visited the website www.reunionsmag.com . The publisher claims this is the only magazine for all reunion planners; family, class, military and whatever – elaborate or simple, large or small. I was struck by the extent of guidance to be found. If you are faced with reunion planning, or just plain curious, have a look at this website.

As with families, summer is the season for a HCGS reunion as we meet for our annual picnic at an historic site. We welcome all of you to invite family, friends and neighbors to join us on July 20 for a reunion at Eden Mill, stories of its miller families, a memorable guided tour of the restored mill, and a picnic lunch. Our enthusiastic tour guide is the major conservator of the mill, and is full of family stories. Details about reservations are in this Newsletter.

I look forward to seeing you next month – regardless of the weather – we are under cover!   *…Arch*

DIRECTORY

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GENEALOGY FEATURE

Digital Image Retrieval System for Land Records

As genealogists, we are provided with an online MD State Archives tool at http://www.MDLandRec.Net to trace Maryland deeds backwards. Here is a quick look at how the tool can be used to find deed documents. All of the screen images are extracts of the areas of interest, not the full online page.

The Maryland Judiciary, the 24 elected Court Clerks of Maryland, and the Maryland State Archives have joined in partnership to make available a **Digital Image Retrieval System for Land Records**. This system offers public access to verified land record instruments in Maryland.

Users need to register the first time, but it is a safe site. When completing the online access Application, you are asked to indicate the counties of interest, and you should consider selecting "*All Counties.*" A "User Guide" is linked from the main page. It is recommended that you review this User Guide before using the system.

In this article, I am going to search for deeds related to the Historical Society of Harford County, Inc.

After signing-in, several search selections are available, but I will use the following for our example: **"Search County Land Indices and View Records   Begin your search of county land records by selecting a county from list at left"** so I selected Harford County. The next screen provides some background and conditions of use information. Which, by the way, you need to accept in order to continue.

The next screen titled "Harford County Circuit Court," presents you with several links. I selected **"**Search County Land Record Indices, **January 1, 1970 - Jun 19, 2008 (verified through Jun 17, 2008)".** This link takes us to a screen with multiple search styles. I chose the style labeled **"Search for Corporation Name by Soundex"** since the Historical Society of Harford County, Inc. is a corporation.
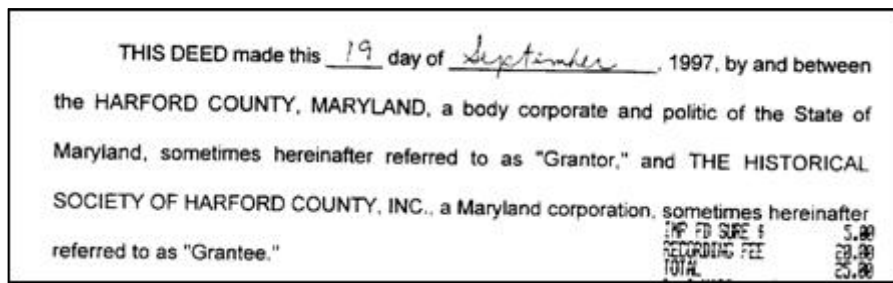
> ▸ **Search for Corporation Name by Soundex**
>
> **Corporation Name:** Historical Society   **As** Grantee ▾   **Sort** Date Ascending ▾   Search   Clear

Upon clicking on the search button, I was presented with a list of six matches to my search on Soundex Code H236 and "Grantees." First, I discarded all matches except those displaying "*Grantee:* HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HARFORD" and "DEED." This cut my list down to:

10/10/1997	*Grantee:* HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HARFORD COUNT, Y INC THE	DEED	Book 2579, pp. 820-824 / [Add. Info.] AD143 N MAIN ST E[LF1675/77[
01/05/2004	*Grantee:* HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HARFORD COUNT, Y INC THE	DEED	Book 5072, pp. 100-105 / [Add. Info.] ADS S KENMORE AVE

My interest in this example is the HQ building on 143 N Main St, and the deed LIBER 2579 FIOLO 0820. So next, I clicked on the "Volume" reference link to see an image of the deed.

> THIS DEED made this _19_ day of _September_, 1997, by and between the HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND, a body corporate and politic of the State of Maryland, sometimes hereinafter referred to as "Grantor," and THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HARFORD COUNTY, INC., a Maryland corporation, sometimes hereinafter referred to as "Grantee."
>
> IMP FD SURE $ 5.00
> RECORDING FEE   20.00
> TOTAL   25.00

A quick perusal of the document resulted in a reference to the previous deed.

> BEING the same and all the land and property described in and conveyed by a Deed from the United States Postal Service to Harford County, Maryland, dated the 2nd day of November, 1990, and recorded among the Land Records of Harford County in Liber C.G.H. No. 1675, folio 770;

Armed with the prior deed reference, I went back to the search page and chose the style labeled **"Search for Instruments by Book and Page."**

> ▸ **Search for Instruments by Book and Page**
>
> Book 1675   Page 770   **As** Both ▾   Sort By: Book / Page ▾   Search   Clear
>
> **NOTE:** Enter first page of instrument for a successful result. Search returns full instrument.

Upon clicking on the search button, I was presented with a list of two matches to my search.

11/20/1990	*Grantee:*HARFORD COUNTY MD	DEED	Book 1675, pp. 770-773 / [Add. Info.]
11/20/1990	*Grantor:*UNITED STATES POSTAL SER	DEED	Book 1675, pp. 770-773 / [Add. Info.]

Again, click on the "Volume" reference link to see an image of this deed and locate the prior deed reference.

Depending on your research objectives, you can continue this process backwards until you develop a trail of deeds and owners that satisfies your objective.

Digital Property Assessment Records

If you need an initial deed reference, try visiting the MD Real Property tax database at http://sdatcert3.resiusa.org/rp_rewrite/   The County name and Street Address inquiry gives you an assessment data sheet with current-day deed references.

Here is the first screen, with Harford County already selected. Click on the radio button for your particular Search method, which is most often the **Street Address**.

1. Select the county in which to search:	HARFORD COUNTY ▼
2. Select the search method to proceed:	○ Street Address ○ Map/Parcel Reference (Baltimore City will use a Block/Lot reference.) ○ Property Account Identifier ○ Property Sales

The next screen prompts for the address. Do not include suffix Rd, Road, St, Hwy, Lane, etc. If you leave the Street number blank, you will get a pick-list of every property on the street that could go on for several pages.

Enter Premises Address

Street Number 143
Street Name main
SEARCH

The example here is for the Historical Society of Harford County HQ, to match the Land Records search in the previous example.

When you enter a street number, or have picked an entry from the pick-list, you will be presented with a property data sheet. The assessment data sheet shows the current deed reference in the upper right corner. Recent transactions, shown near the bottom of the data sheet, usually indicate previous deed references that will help reduce your search time. Below is an extract of two sections of the data sheet with deed references (/LIBER/ FOLIO) highlighted.

Account Identifier:	District - 03 Account Number - 025500		
	Owner Information		
Owner Name:	HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HARFORD COUNTY THE	**Use:**	EXEMPT COMMERCIAL
		Principal Residence:	NO
Mailing Address:	143 N MAIN ST BEL AIR MD 21014-3539	**Deed Reference:**	1) / 2579/ 820 2)

	Transfer Information				
Seller: HARFORD COUNTY		**Date:**	10/13/1997	**Price:**	$0
Type: NOT ARMS-LENGTH		**Deed1:** / 2579/ 820		**Deed2:**	
Seller: UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT		**Date:**	11/20/1990	**Price:**	$430,000
Type: NOT ARMS-LENGTH		**Deed1:** / 1675/ 770		**Deed2:**	
Seller:		**Date:**		**Price:**	
Type:		**Deed1:**		**Deed2:**	

You may also be able to view a simplistic plat of the property by clicking on **View Map** in the upper right side of the banner, *if the words are red and underlined*.

I hope this online tool helps you in researching land records from the comforts of home or the local library. Happy hunting!   …*Rich Appel*

GENEALOGY HAPPENINGS

Harford County Public Library Genealogy Discussion Group
Date: **The first Thursday of each month, 6:30 pm** (6 pm informal discussion)
Place: **Jarrettsville Branch Harford County Public Library .**
Program Topics: **July 3rd - Maps;   August 7th - Probate & Court Records**
            Registration is not required
For Details: **Contact Ann Winkler**, Librarian   410-638-3608

Join them as the group contributes tips, techniques, and information on topics of interest to the
        serious genealogist.

Maryland Genealogical Society BASICS+ Summer Workshop *"Census Records"*
Date: **July 26, 2008 (Sat)**   Reg: 12:30 PM **Sessions: 1:00 – 5:00 PM**
Place: **McKeldin Library, University of Maryland, College Park, MD**
            Free parking is available within a short walk of the workshop site.
Registration: before July 20[th] = $15.00 (MdGenSoc members), $20.00 (non-members)
            after July 19th and walk-ins will be assessed an additional $5.00
For Details: see   http://www.mdgensoc.org/

The Maryland Genealogical Society & The National Archives Present *"Census Records."*

Staff from the National Archives and Records Administration will share their knowledge on United States census records, some of our most valuable genealogical sources. The workshop will both highlight the fundamentals and offer in-depth insights. Presentations will address both widely used and less well-known census schedules, including: **general population schedules, 1890 veterans schedule, 1850 & 1860 slave schedules, 1880 dependent/delinquent/deficient, mortality schedules, agriculture schedules, manufacturing schedules,** plus **social statistics schedules.**

Federation of Genealogical Societies 2008 Conference
Date: **September 3-6, 2008**
Place **Pennsylvania Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA**
Registration : Full Conference Registration (Wed. through Sat.)
            Postmarked by June 02, 2008 = $175   afterwards = $225.
For Details: see http://www.fgsconference.org/registration/index.php
The Federation sponsors a national conference each year at different sites around the country for genealogists of all levels of experience. The conferences spotlight:
- Management workshops for organizational leadership training.
- Genealogical lectures by nationally recognized speakers and regional experts.
- Exhibitors providing access to genealogical materials and supplies.

Maryland Historical Society -Family History Workshop Series:

Date: **October 4, 2008 (Sat)   9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**
Program: **Immigration & Naturalization Records**
Place: **Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland**
For Details and Registration Call 410-685-3750 ext. 321 or email ekimes@mdhs.org
Sessions (watch for additional dates) will include continental breakfast and box lunch. Each
session is $40/ MdHS Member, $50/ non-members, or you may purchase the series for $140/
MdHS members and $175/ non-members.

Join noted author and genealogist **Robert Barnes** for this new series of workshops designed to
introduce new family historians to techniques and allow seasoned researchers to find new
resources. Mr. Barnes will be joined by guest speakers throughout the series. Each session will
include a chance to ask questions of our experts and a chance to visit the MdHS Museum and
Library during breaks. All sessions will include information on both print and online sources.

Maryland Historical Society -Library Orientation Series:

The library staff holds Library orientation sessions titled **Introduction to Genealogical Research**
on the third Saturday of Jan, Feb. Mar, Apr. May, Aug, Sep, Oct, & Nov. Each 45-minute session
begins at 9:10 a.m. in the Library. Library hours are 10 AM – 4:30 PM Wed-Sat.
Topics, that rotate each session, include: **Using Special Collections, Introduction to Building
Research, Introduction to Genealogical Research, Finding Photographs, & Introduction to
Building Research.**
Place: **Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland**
Registration: Not Required, $6.00 MdHS Admission Fee each session for non-MdHS members.
Details: see http://www.mdhs.org/explore/library/research/Orientation.html

FROM THE EDITOR

I am not able to "see all" or "read all," so make it a habit to tell the Editor about what's happening,
what you found, new places to search, good experiences, and the like.   Send me an email, or drop a
note in our Society's mail-drawer. Feel free to call me at 410-692-6100 and chat, if you prefer.

I am begging you to submit articles! Writing and sharing is what we are supposed to do.

SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

Harford County Genealogical Society publications can be purchased from the receptionist at the front
desk of The Historical Society of Harford County. For a complete list of publications and prices, see
our web page at: http://www.rtis.com/reg/md/org/hcgs/pubs.htm

For mail orders, please add $2.00 postage for the first publication, plus 50 cents for each additional
publication ordered. Maryland residents, add 6% MD Sales Tax. Make checks payable, in U.S.
funds only, to "The Harford County Genealogical Society" Address orders to: ATTN: Genealogical
Pubs, The Harford County Genealogical Society, 143 N MAIN ST, BEL AIR MD 21014-3539.

GENEALOGY RESOURCES

Historical Register

If a house has been on the Historical Register you can review the submission on www.marylandhistoricaltrust.net . Click on the navigation bar link **MHT Inventory Search** for sites in Maryland. Information on the standing structures recorded in the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties is now available on-line.

In a joint venture with the Maryland State Archives, the Maryland Historical Trust had some 33,000 paper forms and photographs scanned to produce an electronic version of the inventory (Baltimore City is not included). Entries are searchable by property name, address, or keywords in the inventory text. Results are a simplistic Inventory form listing: Name of the site, Address, Classification, Property Owner, Location of Legal description (Deed), and Representation in Existing Surveys.

Click on the navigation bar link **National Register Search** for sites in Maryland under two groupings. Entries are searchable by Property Name, Address, Keyword, and County. Results are typically a photograph, Identification details, plus approximately 200-700 words of Description and Significance.

> Maryland's **National Register of Historic Places** recognizes districts, buildings, structures, objects, and sites for their significance in American history, archeology, architecture, engineering, or culture, and identifies them as *worthy of preservation*. This inventory currently comprises 1293 listings in Maryland, including 183 historic districts.
> Maryland's **National Historic Landmarks** recognizes buildings, districts, sites, structures, or objects that are officially *recognized by the United States government for their historical significance*. This inventory currently comprises 81 listings in Maryland.

HCGS eMAIL LIST

Our Society sponsors a mailing list for the discussion of genealogy related to Harford County families, including families of the part of Baltimore County that became Harford County in 1774. Let them know if you are willing to help with details, or tell them about good sources of information.

> To correspond, send eMail to: MDHARFOR-L@rootsweb.com
> **To subscribe** or request service, send eMail to: MDHARFOR-L-REQUEST@rootsweb.com
> **To subscribe:** Send service request email with "subscribe" in the message subject and body.
> To unsubscribe: Send service request email with "unsubscribe" in the message subject and body.

Here are extracts from some recent inquiries posted on the **Harford MailList**. Only 25% of our society members are subscribers, so these are presented to spark your interest in sharing answers and questions with other subscribing genealogy enthusiast.

Aberdeen Family
    does anyone happen to know the name of the family who originally built the house at 109 Holloway Lane in Aberdeen? It's listed as an "historically significant" site. [Jane Gilbert]
Archer Funeral Home
    Does anyone know what happened to the Archer Funeral Home Records? The funeral home was located in Benson, Maryland. [Chris Smithson]
Barrett, Ella
    looking for information on ELLA BARRETT who was born in 1903 in Pennsylvania. She was the daughter of John and Mollie Barrett. In the 1920 Census she was living in Dublin with her parents,

siblings and new husband Charles Oliver Gordon [b. 1882] s/o Alexander Gordon and Sarah Rebecca Williams. [Chris Smithson]

Gordon, Charles Oliver

Does anyone remember a guy in Bel Air named Charles Oliver "Charley" Gordon [1882-1956]. [Chris Smithson]

Marriage License

found a marriage record at the county clerk's office for 1817. Is it worth getting the record? I don't know how detailed it may be. I am looking for parents or places of birth. [Kim Formica]

Miller, John

Want information to confirm or deny that John Miller born c.1814 married Mary Ann Baldwin born c.1817 married 2 Dec. 1837 is actually my line. They had a son "John Wesley" that is the right age for my "John," but want to make sure it is the right John. This info was from the Historical Society compiled by Merriett Young Miller. [Darle]

Smith, Helen Mae

need obit for Helen Mae (nee Stinchecum) Smith, only know that predeceased husband was Roy Vernon Smith. [Frank Patnaude]

Smith, Roy Vernon

need the obit for Roy Vernon Smith b. 25Oct1915, d.20May1998, Place of death Edgewood, Harford County, MD. [Frank Patnaude] Please check the death date. Could it be 20May1997 SS# 545-34-5226? [Rich Appel]

Singleton Family

interested in the Singleton family from Harford county that lived on a farm just outside of APG. My Great grandfathers name was Thomas Singleton some of his known children were: Bertha Singleton- Grisson my grandmother, Henretta Singleton- Daniels, Bud Singleton, Millie Singleton, Cathern Singleton, Mary Singleton, & Diddy Singleton. [Bobby Grisson] See *The George Ledlow and Ann Mariah (Singleton) Anderson Family of Harford County, Maryland*, by Nancy Mae (Little) Randers-Pehrson and Glenn Randers-Pehrson, 1997.

Tabernacle Cemetery

Can anyone give me directions from Delta to Tabernacle Cemetery and Broad Creek Cemetery? [Michael L. Wayne]

NOVEMBER HCGS ELECTIONS

Our Society is approaching the time for our bi-annual changing of the guard. We are currently seeking **volunteers to serve as a Nominating Committee**, and also invite all of you to nominate yourself for office(s) in our Society. Please contact Arch Phillips during a meeting, by eMail, or by snail mail Attn: Arch Phillips, President; c/o HCGS; 143 N Main St. Bel Air, MD 21014-3539, with your preferred contact method, and willingness to volunteer on the Nominating Committee.

Elected offices are: President, Vice President, Secretary, & Treasurer. Appointed positions are Board of Advisors members, and Newsletter Editor. Volunteers for all positions are welcomed.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Our **Sunday, September 21, 2008** Society meeting will be held at the Historical Society of Harford County Headquarters, 143 N. Main St; Bel Air, MD 21014 at 2:00 PM. Our speaker will be the Archivist at the **Episcopal Diocese of Maryland.** The Maryland Diocesan Archives contains official records, manuscripts, and related materials from 1676 concerning the Church of England in colonial Maryland and its successor, the Episcopal Church in Maryland since the Revolution to the present.

Please, mark your calendars for an informative discussion of this collection. Look for details in the SEPTEMBER 2008 issue of the NEWSLETTER.   }}}