

# Pathways to History

Charles County Maryland, 1658 - 2008

Charles County is the birthplace of Revolutionary War heroes, Confederate agents and two of the most inspirational figures in African-American history.

*Pathways to History* offers fresh perspectives on the county that was founded 24 years after the first landing of English settlers on Maryland soil in 1634. The book ranges from the Paleo-Indian period to the plantation society that controlled the county well into the 20th century, and concludes with the unexpectedly swift demise of tobacco, a crop that has defined Charles County into the 21st century.

*Pathways to History* provides a stimulating journey for all readers, whether they are well versed in local history or new to southern Maryland. The book owes much to the citizens of Charles County who have shared their stories and artifacts in this, the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the county.

Three scholars describe life in Charles County in the centuries before and after the arrival of English settlers. Their chapters address the pre-colonial, colonial and Revolutionary War period; the antebellum and postbellum eras of the 19th century, and the county's 20th-century modernization. More than 370 illustrations accompany the text and highlight her rich past.

**Julia A. King**, an expert on the archaeology of the colonial and 19th-century Chesapeake period, is currently working on a book, *Landscapes of Ruin*, which examines contested historical places in the area. She is associate professor of archaeology and anthropology at St. Mary's College of Maryland and serves on the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, an independent federal agency. King holds a doctorate in American Civilization from the University of Pennsylvania.

**Christine Arnold-Lourie**, who wrote her doctoral dissertation on the Hamilton family of Port Tobacco, has a unique knowledge of Charles County in the second half of the 19th century. She is a professor of history at the College of Southern Maryland, where she received the Faculty Excellence Award in 1997. Arnold-Lourie holds B.A. and M. Phil. degrees from George Washington University and a Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of Maryland, College Park.

**Susan Shaffer**, a Charles County native from Indian Head, directed a study of the slot machine era in Charles County while working at the College of Southern Maryland and has moderated forums for the Smithsonian Institute on 20th-century topics. She earned both her B.A. and M.A. from the University of Maryland.

*Pathways to History* is published under the auspices of the Smallwood Foundation, Inc., the non-profit organization formed in 1938 to restore the Charles County home of William Smallwood, Maryland's highest-ranking Revolutionary War officer. All proceeds from the sale of this book are pledged to fund research, restoration, preservation, and appreciation of Charles County's history.

**The book will be available for sale at select locations in early December 2008. If you wish to preorder copies, please complete the attached form and mail to *Pathways to History*, Smallwood Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 7, Mount Victoria, Maryland, 20661**

visit our website [www.charlescountypathways.org](http://www.charlescountypathways.org) for more information.

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