

FREDERICK
HISTORIC
SITES
CONSORTIUM



Master Docent Series Workshops 2022

February 26, 2022 * 9:00am-5:00pm

All sessions will be held on Zoom

Link will be sent to all registrants

Speakers List

Cheyney McKnight

James Castle; Elizabeth Comer; Julie Butler

AARCH Society; Frederick County Landmarks; Seton Shrine

Topics

African-American Research & Interpretation

Local History Highlights * Preservation Practice

Registration \$10 for the day

(Registration fee waived for Hood, Mount & FCC Students)

(Scholarships available for those impacted by pandemic)

email mmannix@frederickcountymd.gov for more information



9:00am-10:30am

Not Your Mama's History (Cheyney McKnight)

Cheyney McKnight founded and developed Not Your Mama's History to provide consultation and aid to museums, historic sites, private businesses, etc. in developing specialized programming about slavery and the African experience within 18th and 19th century America. Through NYMH Cheyney provides training for staff from all backgrounds on how to talk about slavery with a variety of audiences.

Cheyney McKnight is the founder and owner of Not Your Mama's History. Through her lectures, #slaverymadeplain public performances, and Let's Talk about Slavery programs she provides new ways to engage the public in understanding how slavery continues to shape our nation's politics. Cheyney is an expert in the clothing and headwraps of African women in America. She has served as a consultant on a variety of living history programs and museum exhibits throughout the Southern and Mid-Atlantic Regions. Cheyney also acts as an advocate for interpreters of color at historical sites up and down the east Coast.



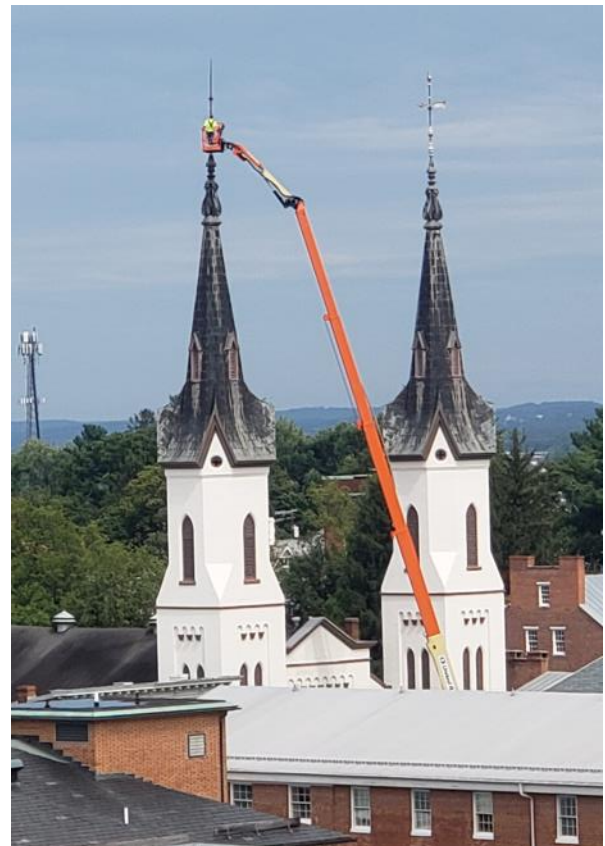


10:45am-11:45am

The Preservation of Frederick Steeples (Julie Butler)

A study of the preservation work undertaken on the steeple of All Saints Episcopal Church and the Twin Spires of Evangelical Lutheran Church, showing that appropriate restoration of our historic structures, including the reversal of improper past repairs, will lead to far longer lifespans for these buildings, and emphasizing that appropriate preservation is our duty as the stewards of these iconic buildings.

Julie Butler has dedicated her career to understanding and preserving historic buildings. She graduated from the University of Mary Washington with a bachelor's degree in History and Historic Preservation, and from the Savannah College of Art and Design with a master's degree in Historic Preservation. Her work on historic buildings has included St. Trophime Cathedral, The EEOB, Annaburg Manor, and many others. Her expertise spans many disciplines, such as mortar analysis, plaster casting, detail preservation and material analyses and relationships, especially for structures experiencing extreme weather conditions. Julie has been with Durable Restoration for the last six years, leading their preservation initiatives in the Mid-Atlantic.





11:45am –12pm

“50 Years of Preservation” (Jennie Russell)

Fifty years ago, in 1972, four Frederick County women had an idea. Knowing there was a growing national awareness of the importance of historic preservation following the 1960s passage of the National Historic Preservation Act, they thought Frederick County needed to do something more to preserve its historic buildings, structures, and communities. Fondly known as the "Founding Mothers," the four, Birch Hotz, Fritsie Kelly, Ann Lebherz, and Maggie Kline, got busy and formed the Frederick County Landmarks Foundation. Incorporated in March of 1972, the Foundation's first project was the purchase of the Schifferstadt property in 1973. The Beatty-Cramer House and Zion Church and Cemetery followed.



Jennie Russell, current President of the Frederick County Landmarks Foundation, will provide a pictorial tour of these Landmarks properties.

And be sure to join us tomorrow, Sunday February 27th for a Landmarks 50th Anniversary Open House and a rare opportunity to visit all three properties!



12pm–12:30pm LUNCH BREAK



12:30pm—1pm

AARCH Society Update & Collections Highlight

The AARCH Society will present an update on the current plans for the AARCH Society's African American Heritage Center, scheduled to open in 2023. Members of the AARCH Society collections team will provide a peek at a few of the items of their artifacts that will be featured in exhibits at the Heritage Center.



1pm –2pm
Seton Shrine: Seeds of Hope
(Sister AnneMarie Lamoureux and Becca Corbell)



In 2017, the Seton Shrine answered Pope Francis’ call to be a place where “the doors are wide open to the sick, the disabled, and above all, to the poor, the marginalized, refugees and migrants” by creating a retreat program called “Seeds of Hope”. These retreats are a day where those who are struggling to get through life can rest, be cared for, and be inspired by Elizabeth Ann Seton, the woman whose history the Shrine shares with visitors. Throughout our 5 years of growing the program, staff at the Shrine have come to see just how important history is to those on the margins, particularly those who are economically disadvantaged. Finding inspiration from what others have gone through before you and learning to reflect on the past, which can be truly be life changing. Staff of the Shrine will present stories and lessons of what they have learned along the way so as to hopefully inspire more historic sites and museums to reach out.

Sister Anne Marie Lamoureux, a Daughter of Charity, has spent her whole life serving and loving those on the margins. Spending 19 years in New York City’s Bed-Stuy neighborhood, she was struck by how as a sister she was able to go away for a retreat once a year to be refreshed and renewed. Her friends living in poverty could never have made that opportunity happen for themselves. A dream of one day starting a retreat program for them was planted in her heart. After moving to Emmitsburg, this dream began to grow into a reality at the Seton Shrine. She continues to be a facilitator of the program, leading retreats and building relationships with those who allow her into their lives.

Becca Corbell has spent the last 9 years working at the Seton Shrine, first as a tour-guide and docent, then as coordinator for the Basilica on campus, and now spearheading the Outreach and Evangelization Departments, which she took over rights as the pandemic began. Throughout her life, Becca has had the privilege to have friends and mentors from all walks of life, including those with mental-health or economic challenges, and because of this she has always had a heart for those who are “suffering well.” Becca helps to lead the staff in bringing those on the margins to the Shrine because she believes all people can find peace, healing, and inspiration there.



2:15pm-3:30pm

Berlin Along the Potomac: A Maryland Ghost Town (James R. Castle)

This talk will explore the Village of Berlin (Pre-1890 Brunswick).

James R. Castle is a local historian who is passionate about the town and heritage of Brunswick, Maryland. A native of Brunswick, James is a dedicated volunteer, skilled historian, and stalwart preservationist, sometimes known as Brakeman Jim, while giving free tours to heritage tourists or local senior citizens. In 2015, James Castle became President of the Brunswick Potomac Foundation almost 20 years from the day he first started to volunteer for the organization. He held the position until January this year and now serves as Executive Director of the Museum. Castle has led fundraising efforts, supported the creation of a protective conservation district and the relocation of the historic WB Railroad Tower and reinvigorated the organization's online presence during COVID-19. In 2019 he was awarded Preservation Maryland's - Best of Maryland Harrison Volunteer Award. When not busy, with the foundation and other volunteer projects Castle spends time metal detecting, researching, writing and investigates the paranormal. Known as a source on Brunswick area history, James conducts much research on families and properties in the area. He often assists the local government with historical research. His first book, History In Our Attics: Photos and Documents of Brunswick, Maryland Volume I, was published in October 2014. The second volume in the series was published in October of 2015. Volume III was published in 2018. A Christmas Trip to Brunswick, a short historical fiction, was released in October of 2016 and his most recent book Brunswick, Maryland: Ghosts, Myths and Legends of a Historic Railroad Town was published in 2020.

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3:45pm-4:45pm

North County African American Survey Project—Recovering Identity (Elizabeth Comer)

To date, little research has been undertaken for the purpose of locating African American resources in northern Frederick County. This project is filling that gap in knowledge by completing a comprehensive historic context statement for northern Frederick County, with an emphasis on African American history, as well as documenting extant structures and landscapes. Frederick County Planning, the AARCH Society, and the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc. (CFHS), lead a team funded by the Maryland Historical Trust and Frederick County CLG. Within the first year of this two-year project, areas being studied are Emmitsburg, Lewistown, and Pattersonville. Within these locales, extant structures owned by African Americans are being researched, such as those found along Annandale Road, Crystal Fountain Road, and Lincoln Avenue in Emmitsburg; structures on Hessong Bridge Road and Powell Road in Lewistown; and buildings on Catoctin Hollow Road, within the greater furnacelands of Catoctin Furnace.

The comprehensive historic context statement and architectural survey are utilizing all available historical records, as well as oral histories, historic maps, genealogical data, and gravesite information. These include histories of land ownership and use of private holdings, including records compiled by CFHS and AARCH, Cunningham Falls State Park, and Catoctin Mountain Park; Mt. St. Mary's University archives; state and national archival records; MHT library files; historic newspapers; church records, including Moravian and Episcopal Archives; and the records of the Works Progress Administration and the Civilian Conservation Corps at the FDR Presidential Library. The identification of architectural resources to be surveyed and documented has been based on local input, maps and aerial photography, known locations, and reconnaissance survey. The identification and recordation will employ methodology based on procedures outlined in "Standards and Guidelines for Architectural and Historical Investigations in Maryland" and guidance from the NPS's "Guidelines for Local Surveys." Structures identified during the survey will be fully recorded with MIHP forms.



Elizabeth Anderson Comer is an archaeologist who serves as the president of the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc. and president of EAC/ Archaeology, Inc. Ms. Comer has successfully managed more than 350 archival and archaeological survey, testing and excavation projects and historic architectural survey, evaluation and recordation. Ms. Comer graduated from Hood College with a B.A. in history and political science, and received her master's degree from the University of Kansas in anthropology with a specialization in archaeology. She is ABD at the University of Maryland, currently completing her Ph.D. in American Studies with a concentration in archaeology. She has also studied at the University of London. As City Archaeologist for the City of Baltimore, Maryland (1983-1987) she directed and managed the archaeological department for the city and specialized in complex urban, industrial and waterfront projects. As secretary and now president of the Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc., Ms. Comer has successfully pursued a bond bill, grant monies and other funding to restore the 1810 log collier's house, the 1821 stone Forgemans house, the Museum of the Ironworker, the construction of an interpretative trail for the African-American cemetery, the purchase and establishment of the ca. 1820 Miller House as the innovative "Furnace Fellows" headquarters, and bio archaeological research about the Catoctin Furnace population. She edited "Catoctin Furnace: Portrait of an Iron-Making Village," published by History Press in 2013, a meticulously researched and extensively referenced social, economic and technical history of Catoctin Furnace. In 2015 The Catoctin Furnace Historical Society was awarded a Maryland Historical Trust/Maryland Heritage Areas Authority Non-Capital Grant to fund a two-part research and tourism project aimed at increasing public awareness of the role of enslaved African Americans in the iron industry. Ms. Comer serves as the co-principal investigator for the joint Smithsonian Institution/Catoctin Furnace Historical Society, Inc. research project focusing on the remains of thirty-five individuals from the Catoctin Furnace slave cemetery. There is no descendent community that traces its roots to these early workers and this project includes renewed efforts to learn more about these poorly documented early laborers, and to connect the past with the present through increased heritage tourism to the site. The project's first phase involved updated forensic analyses of the human remains from the cemetery including reassessments of demography and pathology, carbon and nitrogen stable isotope studies, heavy metals analysis, and comparison to Mid-Atlantic historic and anatomical reference collections. DNA analysis, a final and critical component of the study, is providing data on ancestral origins of individuals in the cemetery and determining their relatedness to one another. Partnering with the Reich Laboratory of Medical and Population Genetics at Harvard University to conduct ancient DNA analysis (aDNA) on bone or tooth samples collected from a selected subset of 28 individuals, collaboration between the Smithsonian, Reich Laboratory and 23andMe, Inc., is resulting in the ancient DNA from the Catoctin remains being cross-referenced with contemporary DNA sequences housed in worldwide databases. This research can assist in determining the relationship between these historic remains and living populations. Ms. Comer has made more than 75 presentations to local, regional and national groups about the ongoing research at Catoctin Furnace including XRF, LIDAR, archaeology, oral history, historic clothing research, and historic foodways.

To discover more about our 2022 presentation topics check out some of these books, many of which you can borrow from Frederick County Public Libraries, as well as, the links to additional digital content

- ◆ *The American Duchess Guide to 18th Century Beauty: 40 Projects for Period- Accurate Hairstyles, Makeup and Accessories* by Lauren Stowell Abby Cox with Cheyney McKnight
- ◆ *Brunswick Maryland: Ghosts, Myths & Legends of a Historic Railroad Town* by James R. Castle
- ◆ *History In Our Attics: Photos and Documents of Brunswick, Maryland Vols. 1-3* by James R. Castle
- ◆ *A Christmas Trip to Brunswick* by James R. Castle
- ◆ *Toxic Charity: How Churches and Charities Hurt Those They Help (and how to Reverse it)* by Robert D. Lupton
- ◆ *Bridges out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities* by Ruby Payne and Terie Dreussi Smith
- ◆ *The Living Treasures Cookbook* by African American Resource Cultural and Heritage Society
- ◆ *Pre-1800 houses of Frederick County Vols. 1-3* by Anne Lebherz
- ◆ *German Immigrants, American Pioneers: the Brunners of Schifferstadt* by Patricia Ogden & Boyce Rensberger
- ◆ *A History of Evangelical Lutheran Church 1738-1988* by Abdel Ross Wentz
- ◆ *Catoctin Furnace: Portrait of an Iron Making Village* by Elizabeth Yourtee Anderson
- ◆ *Interpreting African American History & Culture at Museums and Historic Sites ed. By Max A. van Balgooy*

Additional digital content:

- *Not Your Momma's History* [youtube channel](#)
- [Seton Shrine's Podcast: "Friends and Followers"](#) for those who would like to learn more about Elizabeth Ann Seton and those relationships that inspired her and made her who she was