Named in honor of Charles Calvert (1637-1715), 3rd Lord Baltimore, Charles County was created in 1658 by an Order in Council. One of Maryland’s oldest counties, Charles County celebrated its 350th anniversary in 2008. The reading suggestions listed here (in alphabetical order by author) provide more information on many aspects of our region’s rich history. Many of these works are available through the public library system; others are older and may require a more extensive internet search to obtain.

**New books on Charles County History**

*Pathways to History: Charles County, Maryland, 1658-2008*
Authors: Julia King, Christine Arnold-Lourie, Susan Shaffer
Publisher: Smallwood Foundation, Inc., Mount Victoria, MD, 2008
[www.charlescountypathways.org](http://www.charlescountypathways.org)

*Maryland Historical Markers: Charles County*
P. O. Box 1651, Easton, MD 21601
[stephenblackpool@aol.com](mailto:stephenblackpool@aol.com)

Regional History Reading Suggestions


Hammer, Andrea: Praising the Bridge That Brought Me Over: One Hundred Years at Indian Head, Charles County Community College, La Plata, MD, 1989.

Henson, Josiah (Narrated by Himself): The Life of Josiah Henson, Formerly a Slave Now An Inhabitant of Canada, Arthur D. Phelps Publisher, Boston, 1849.


Klapthor, Margaret B., and Paul D. Brown: The History of Charles County, Maryland, LaPlata, MD, Charles County Tercentenary, Inc., 1958.


Maryland Historical Trust: Inventory of Historic Sites in Calvert County, Charles County, and St. Mary’s County, Annapolis, MD, 1980.


Mills, Eric: Chesapeake Bay in the Civil War, Tidewater Publishers, Centreville, MD, 1996.


Shomette, Donald G: *The Ghost Ships of Mallows Bay and Other Tales of the Lost Chesapeake*; Tidewater Publishing, 1996.


Stowe, Harriet Beecher: *A Key to Uncle Tom's Cabin* (Facts and Documents Upon Which the Story is Founded), John P. Jewett & Company, Boston, 1853, and Appelwood Books, Bedford, Massachusetts (includes reference to author reading Rev. Josiah Henson’s “published memoirs” while reflecting on her fictional character, Uncle Tom).


Tilp, Frederick: *This was Potomac River*, Bladensburg, MD, 1978.


Julia Ann King is the recipient of the 2018 Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA) J.C. Harrington Medal in Historical Archaeology. The award was presented to Dr. King at the SHA’s annual conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, in recognition of her scholarship, commitment to mentoring students, and lifetime contributions to the field of historical archaeology. Julie is an expert in the historical archaeology of the Chesapeake Tidewater region, where she has studied and written about domestic life, social memory, narrative, landscape, and the impacts of colonialism. "Pathways to History, Charles County, Maryland, 1658-2008." King, J.A.; Arnold-Lourie, C; Shaffer, S. Awarded Maryland Historical Trust's 2009 Heritage Book Award and published under the auspices of the Smallwood Foundation, Inc. Pathways to History provides a stimulating journey for all readers, whether they are well-versed in local history or new to Southern Maryland. A copy of the book is available.