

Drive down picturesque roads past the carefully preserved homes of early settlers and the fields where they grew tobacco. Discover historic churches and villages built on the bounty of the land and the Chesapeake Bay. And understand how the land and water still impact lives today.



DRIVING TOURS

The London Town Tour: Visit Historic London Town and Gardens and the William Brown House, walk the Java History Trail at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, see the South River Clubhouse, which dates to 1742, and All Hallows Church, one of Maryland's earliest churches. Allow a full day.

The Muddy Creek Tour: Drive by farms where thoroughbreds are trained for Triple Crown races and enjoy the charm of Galesville, a 350-year-old waterman's village. Drive down roads so narrow you'll wonder if your car will fit between the tree trunks (they will) and see the Historic District of Owensville as well as Christ Church, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. Allow a full day.

The Herrington Tour: Visit the Shady Side Peninsula with its Captain Avery Museum, see the charter boat fleets (go fishing if you like) on Rockhold Creek and the collection of historic buildings at the Herrington Harbour North "Historic Village" in Deale, pass the "lost town" of Herrington, Tacaro Farm and other historic sites on the longest tour in the Heritage Area. Allow a full day.



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ROOTS & TIDES

A JOURNEY THROUGH SOUTHERN
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

FOUR RIVERS: THE HERITAGE AREA
OF ANNAPOLIS, LONDON TOWN
AND SOUTH COUNTY

Just across the broad South River from Annapolis...

lies a stretch of rolling farmland that is steeped in history and inextricably linked to the Chesapeake Bay. The long fingers of land between broad, navigable waterways shaped the lives of the first inhabitants, the Europeans and Africans who came later and those who live there now. Drive down winding, hand-dug roads that have been worn below the level of the tree roots and you'll see landscapes that look much as they did in Colonial days. Eighteenth century plantation houses that would be museums anywhere else are private homes here. Horses bred to race at Churchill Downs, Pimlico and Belmont gallop across fields surrounded by wooden fences. And weathered tobacco barns seem to appear around every third curve, testimony to the crop that was the basis of this region's economy for four centuries. Using the routes and special interest codes on this map, you can trace a significant part of Southern Anne Arundel County's history and experience its connection with the lives of people today.



My parents both worked for Woodfield, shuckin' oysters and that kinda stuff. I never shucked oysters, but I worked by the hour for Woodfield, like packin' fish and packin' oysters.

Rever Sellman, Galesville



Visit Historic London Town where archaeologists are uncovering the lost colonial tobacco port and take a tour of an upscale Georgian tavern, reconstructed colonial buildings and woodland gardens. Watermen continue to work the bay from the villages of Galesville, Shady Side and Deale, where steamboats once brought vacationers from the cities and returned with the products of farms and packing houses. On a hill above the crescent of Herring Bay are the remains of Herrington, a town that was created by the Colonial legislature as a checkpoint for tobacco exports but faded away.

The tobacco is nearly gone now and the workboats and packing houses have taken a back seat to pleasure boats and waterfront restaurants, but local residents are committed to preserving their legacy.



Experience the life of a 19th century waterman at the Captain Avery Museum in Shady Side; enjoy the quiet of Galesville's Quaker Burying Ground; learn about the educational innovations in its 1920s era Rosenwald school for African Americans; then wander past the Victorian houses on Main Street to the Heritage Museum.



When the Emma Giles blew her whistle, I can remember, we ran down (to the river) because she made the biggest waves of anything that came into the West River. You wanted to make sure you got down there for the big waves.

Jack Smith, Galesville

In Southern Anne Arundel County, South County to those who live there, reminders of a rich history are never far away, and the present is tied to the past by the land and water that shaped lives then and still shapes them today.





THE TOUR SITES

Historic London Town and Gardens

839 Londontown Road, Edgewater
410-222-1919 • www.historiclondontown.org
This 23-acre county park was a bustling tobacco port until the late 18th century. It features the William Brown House, a Visitor Center and museum, reconstructed colonial buildings, an active archaeology site and an 8-acre woodland garden.
OPEN: April through December: Wednesday–Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Sunday, 12:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. January through March: Wednesday – Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed on major holidays all year.
ADMISSION: Members-Free; Adults-\$10; Seniors (62+)-\$9; Youth (7-18)-\$5.
Discounts available (call for details)

Historic Churches of South County

(Please call each church for access and services):

The Brick Chapel at All Hallows Church

3604 Solomons Island Road, Edgewater • 410-798-0808

Christ Church

220 Owensville Road, West River • 410-876-0346

St. James Parish

5757 Solomons Island Road, Lothian • 410-867-2838

Hope Memorial Chapel, St. Mark

3672 Muddy Creek Road, Edgewater • 410-798-6776

Chews Chapel

492 Owensville Road, West River • 410-867-0564

St. Matthew's United Methodist Church

6234 Shady Side Road, Shady Side • 410-867-7661

Franklin United Methodist Church

5345 Deale-Churchton Road, Churchton • 410-867-3521

The Smithsonian Environmental Research Center

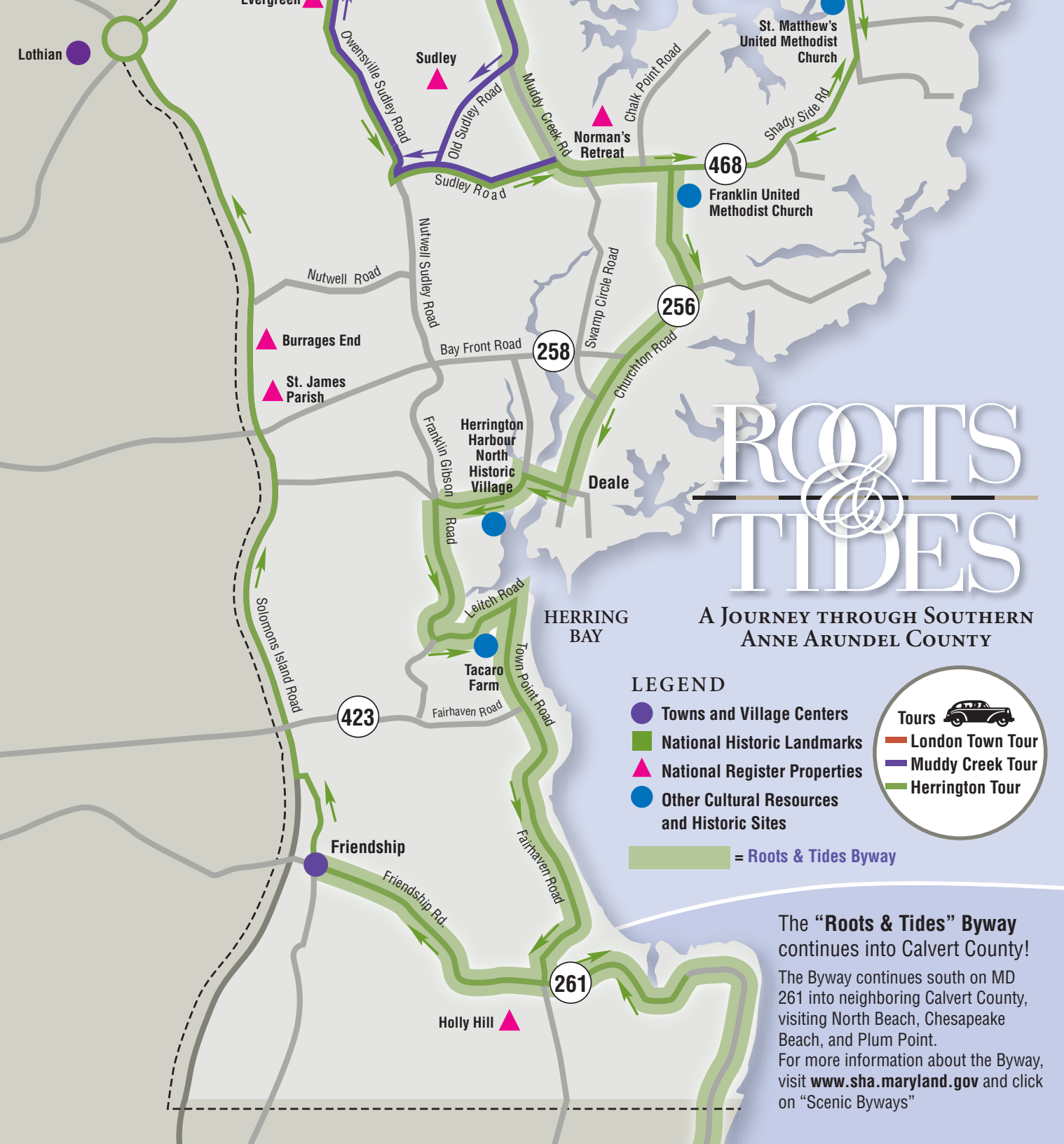
647 Contees Wharf Road, Edgewater
443-482-2200 • www.serc.si.edu
SERC's walking trails trace the history of the land from the time of the Piscataways through the early tobacco planters and a dairy farm that once thrived there. Pick up your trail map at the Reed Education Center when you sign in and explore the two self-guided nature trails: Discovery Trail and Java History Trail.
OPEN: Monday–Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Closed national holidays.
ADMISSION: Free.

South County "Rosenwald Schools"

These buildings are among the few surviving "Rosenwald Schools" in Anne Arundel County. Under a program inspired by Booker T. Washington, African Americans raised money to build and staff their own schools with the help of grants from Julius Rosenwald, president of Sears, Roebuck & Co.

Ralph J. Bunche Community Center

374 Mill Swamp Road, Edgewater • 410-798-6311



ROOTS & TIDES

A JOURNEY THROUGH SOUTHERN ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

LEGEND

- Towns and Village Centers
- National Historic Landmarks
- ▲ National Register Properties
- Other Cultural Resources and Historic Sites

— = Roots & Tides Byway

Tours



- London Town Tour
- Muddy Creek Tour
- Herrington Tour

The "Roots & Tides" Byway continues into Calvert County!

The Byway continues south on MD 261 into neighboring Calvert County, visiting North Beach, Chesapeake Beach, and Plum Point. For more information about the Byway, visit www.sha.maryland.gov and click on "Scenic Byways"

Galesville Community Center
916 West Benning Road, Galesville • 410-867-4612
Lula G. Scott Community Center
6243 Shady Side Road, Shady Side • 410-222-1241

Quaker Burying Ground

Muddy Creek and Galesville Roads, Galesville
The Quakers who settled in Galesville in the 1600s buried their dead here. Nearby, George Fox, the founder of the Society of Friends, opened the first General Meeting of Friends in Maryland in 1672.
OPEN: Daylight hours.

Galesville Heritage Museum

988 Main Street, Galesville
410-867-9499 • www.galesvilleheritagesociety.org
This 2 1/2 story frame house on Main Street, owned by the Galesville Heritage Society, houses exhibits of local artifacts as well as pictures and clothing from the earliest days of Galesville's centuries of history.
OPEN: April to November, Sundays, 1 to 4 p.m.
ADMISSION: Donations gratefully accepted.

Hartge Nautical Museum

End of Church Lane, Galesville • 410-268-1837
This private museum, on the grounds of the Hartge Yacht Harbor, traces the history of the Hartge family from piano makers to boat builders with an international reputation. There's an exhibit on the Oyster Wars of the late 19th century and a recorded tour on a CD player by the door.
OPEN: Yacht Harbor office hours.
ADMISSION: Donations gratefully accepted.

Captain Avery Museum

1418 East West Shady Side Road, Shady Side
410-867-4486 • www.captainaverymuseum.org
One of the earliest commercial watermen on the Chesapeake Bay lived in this house at the mouth of West River in the late 1800s. Later, a Masonic group from Washington used it as a waterside retreat called Our Place. Now, the Shady Side Rural Heritage Society operates it as a museum with exhibits that include period furniture, historic boats and models and collections of oral histories of the lives of local families.
OPEN: April to November, Sundays, 1 to 4 p.m.
ADMISSION: Donations gratefully accepted.

Deale Area Historical Society at Herrington Harbour North Historic Village

389 Deale Road, Tracys Landing
410-867-4343 • www.dahs.us
www.herringtonharbour.com
Marina owners Steuart and Hamilton Chaney have preserved a collection of 19th century Southern Maryland buildings, including an African American meeting house, a one-room schoolhouse and a residence. The Deale Area Historical Society offers interpretive exhibits and programs in the Nutwell Schoolhouse.
OPEN: March to October, Sundays, 1 to 4 p.m.
ADMISSION: Donations gratefully accepted.