

Pemberton Hall - 1741

One of the earliest dated brick gambrel roofed houses in Maryland, Pemberton Hall was built for Col. Isaac and Ann (Dashiell) Handy and is typical of a mid-eighteenth century Eastern Shore plantation house of its class. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the house is under restoration by Pemberton Hall Foundation, Inc., a community based non-profit organization. The house is open the 1st and 3rd Sundays, 1 - 3 p.m., May through October, 2024, and by appointment. Pemberton Hall may be rented for receptions and special occasions.

Pemberton Hall Foundation, Inc.

Board of Directors:

Sylvia Bradley
Mark Cotter
Shirley Kerns
Joan Matyiko
Ed Otter
Mike Scott
Pat Taylor
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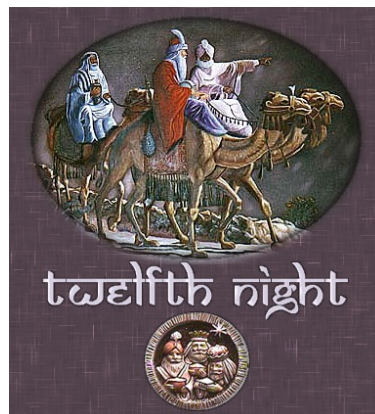
Website: www.pembertonhall.org

Volunteers welcome!

Donations are appreciated!

Pemberton Hall 2024

Pemberton Hall welcomed 2024 with our traditional Twelfth Night celebration of the arrival to the birthplace of Christ by the Three Kings. An invitation was extended to members and friends to join the Pemberton Hall Board and volunteers on January 5, 2024, to mark the end of the Twelve Days of Christmas with refreshments and period music provided by The Blarney Pilgrims.



Following Twelfth Night, the Board of Directors and volunteers began planning and preparing for the seasonal opening of the house in May and for a major community event partnering with the national and regional Daughters of the American Revolution and Sons of the American Revolution organizations. Though Pemberton is not open to the public until May, volunteers are continually doing maintenance on the house and grounds. President Pat Taylor receives and honors requests for tours all year round via the Pemberton website and by phone. This year a Beach to Bay Museum Passport book stamp will be available to visitors. This Passport features 18 historic sites and museums in Worcester, Wicomico and Somerset Counties guiding road trips with a stamp provided at each destination.

PASSPORT



Museums of the
Lower Eastern Shore
of Maryland

Two major maintenance issues were tackled this summer. Pemberton's shingled roof has been in serious need of repair. The cost of a total roof replacement was estimated to be over \$100,000 dollars and would require a capital grant application. Fortunately we were able to secure the skills of a experienced roofer who with a lift was able to repair and replace the most seriously damaged shingles with shingles saved from the initial restoration as well as remove all moss buildup. With this repair, the roof should be viable for a good number of years.

The split rail fence bordering the Pemberton property also needed repair. Pemberton is grateful to Boy Scout Troop #817 who volunteered to identify solid rails and used these to replace broken rails while reconstructing the perimeter. Foundation Founder Bill Wilson, Volunteer Dave Chiddenton and Park Superintendent Chuck Poole assisted and supervised the troop.



**Fence
Mending**



"Now therefore, I, Randy Taylor, Mayor of the City of Salisbury, proclaim June 8, 2024 as 'Henry Handy Day'"

On June 8, 2024, Pemberton Hall hosted a commemorative ceremony conducted at Pemberton Hall by Cindy Jones, Regent of the Samuel Chase Chapter of the DAR, Salisbury, MD; Elizabeth Deering, State Regent-elect of the Maryland State Society of the DAR and Elaine Powell, Regent of the William P. Duval Chapter of the DAR, Winter Park, Florida. The Daughters of the American Revolution Proclamation recognized Henry Handy of Pemberton Hall (1747-1787) as a Revolutionary War Patriot. Research done by a descendent of Henry Handy,



Andrea Stine, member of the William P. Duval Chapter DAR, Winter Park, Florida, confirmed that Henry Handy served in the Salisbury Battalion, Somerset Revolutionary Militia. The Parsons Family purchased Pemberton in 1835. Research indicated that Parsons and Handy grave sites at Pemberton were re-interred to Parsons Cemetery when the Parsons family sold Pemberton. As part of this Proclamation celebration, a new marker in memory of Henry Handy was dedicated by the DAR and SAR at Parsons Cemetery before the attendees joined Pemberton Hall invitees for an unveiling of a Henry Handy DAR commemorative plaque and a new Pemberton Hall site storyboard. Remarks were made by Elaine Powell, Handy descendants were recognized, and Pat Taylor, President of the Pemberton Hall Foundation, Inc., spoke about the Handy Family before leading the



Andrea Stine, Handy Descendant

dedication and unveiling. Colors were presented by the Snow Hill JROTC in colonial militia uniforms, and a memorial wreath was presented to the sounds of a colonial fife and bugle salute. A reception was held for all attendees to the period strains of The Blarney Pilgrims.

Remarks by Pat Taylor, President of the Pemberton Hall Foundation, Inc.:

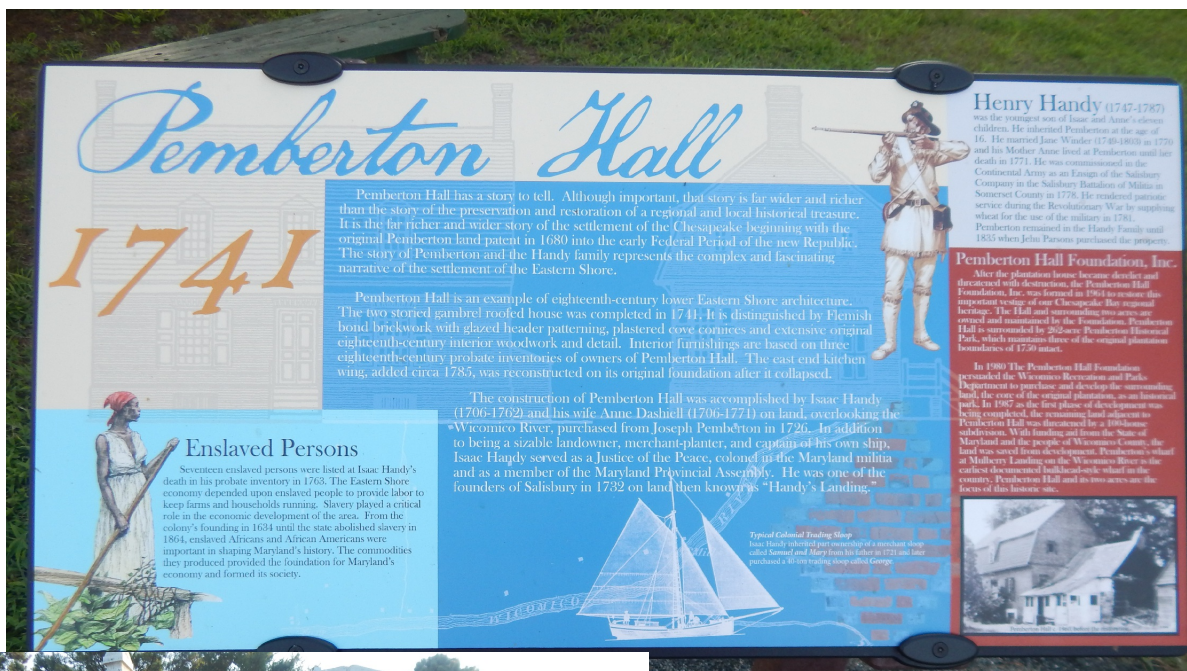
Pemberton has stories to tell. The story about Henry Handy is one of them. Samuel Handy, his grandfather, indentured himself to Col. William Waters in Northampton County, Virginia, but later became a large landowner as did his other grandfather, Thomas Dashiell. Isaac Handy, his father, was one of the founders of Salisbury, a member of the Maryland assembly, Justice of the Peace, sea captain, colonel in the military and a large landowner. When Isaac died in 1762, his inventory indicates that he was in the top 5% income in the county. Henry was the last of eleven children born to Isaac and Anne Dashiell Handy. When Henry was born in 1747, Pemberton Hall was only six years old. He inherited the house from his father and lived here with his mother. In 1770 he married Jane, and they had eight children in this house.

The Pemberton Hall Foundation has tried through research and funds that are available to let you see what Henry saw in the house. He walked these grounds and walked on the floors and saw the river. Robert Handy, his cousin, was re-interred several years ago with Robert's gravestone in the side yard. I hope you ate some of the period food and heard the period music.

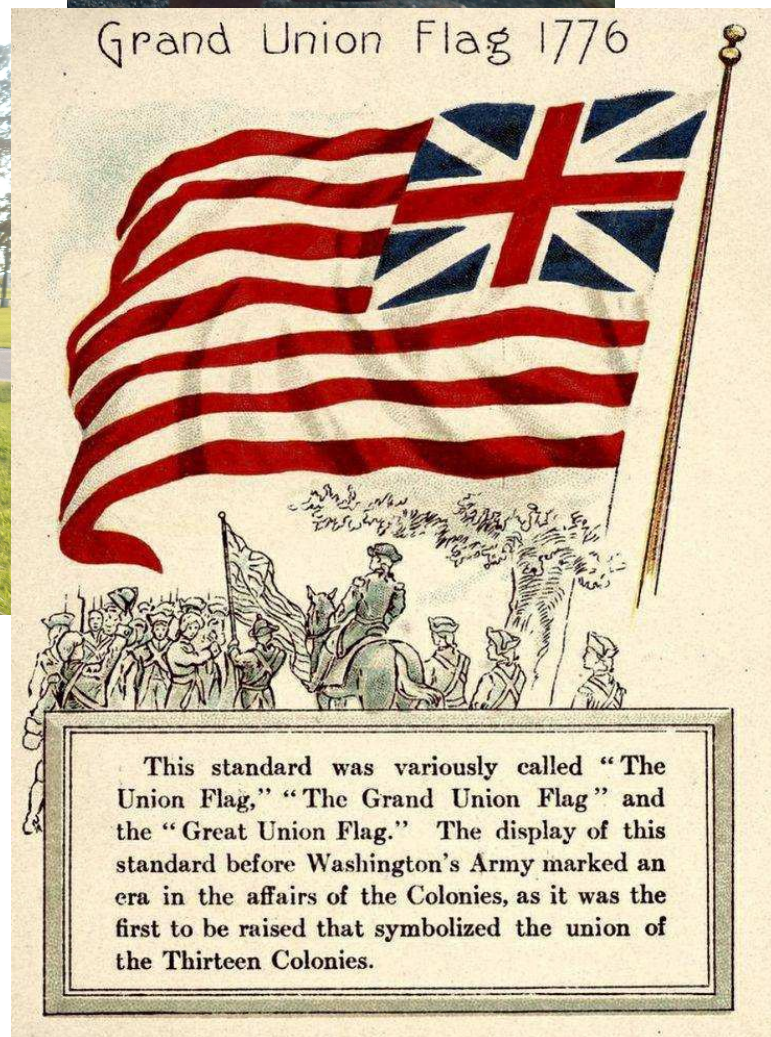
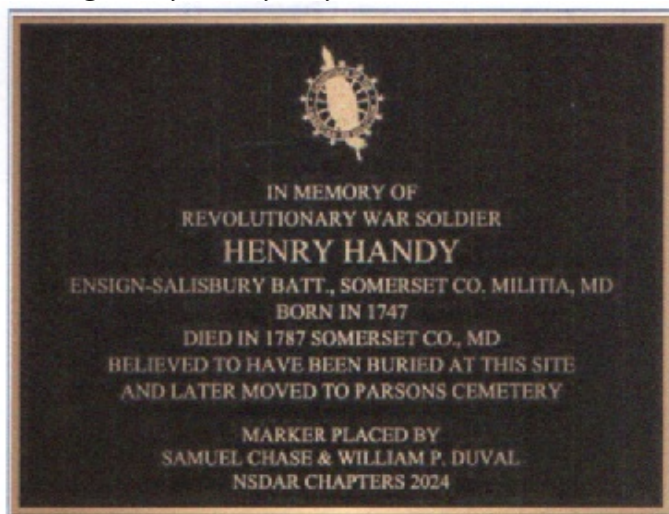
When young men come to tour Pemberton, I tell them about the Handy men who married well. Isaac and his brothers, Ebenezer and John, all married into the Dashiell family, one of the wealthiest families in the area. Isaac's brother, Thomas, went to Bermuda where he married well. Henry was no exception. He married well when he married Jane, the daughter of William Winder who owned the land where Salisbury was founded. In the Annals and Memorials of the Handys and Their Kindred by Isaac W. K. Handy, D.D., Henry Handy is described as "a person of medium stature, stout built, and with gray eyes. His manners were social, and his temperament sanguine and hopeful."

We are here today to honor a patriot of the American Revolution, Ensign Henry, a member of the Somerset County militia. He and others in his family and community stepped up to answer the call so that the people of this land could be free and become the United States of America. I ask you to step up and maintain that freedom. ***





Bill Wilson, Co-Founder of the Pemberton Hall Foundation, Inc., secured a Bay to Beach grant that paid for the restoration of the Pemberton Historic Park entry sign and the storyboard created to accompany the DAR Henry Handy plaque installed on June 8, 2024, celebrating Henry Handy Day.



This is the flag that is posted outside the Hall when Pemberton is open to the public.

