

UPCOMING 2026 EVENTS

[Registration Links](#) and details are on the
Museum Website Calendar

Carried on the Tide-

The Rise and Fall of Colonial Oxford

On Exhibit through November 2026

The American Revolution and the Fate of the World - Dr. Richard Bell

June 23, 6:30 PM, Talbot Free Library

Limited Seating, REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Museum Members' Summer Party

July 18, 5:30 PM, Museum and Gardens

Douglas Hanks Jr. Award Presentation

Music of the American Revolution - The Hildebrands

July 5, 4 PM, Church of the Holy Trinity

Patriot vs. Loyalist Debate

August 1, 5 PM, St Pauls Church, Oxford

Commerce and the Decorative Arts - Lucinda Edinberg, curator, Hammond-Harwood House

Saturday, August 22, 5 PM, Oxford Town Hall.

Limited seating, REGISTRATION REQUIRED

The History of Colonial Food - Joyce White, Food

**Historian September 10, 5 PM, Oxford Community
Center. REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

Private Tours of Paca House and Hammond- Harwood House, Annapolis, Lunch in the Paca

House gardens. **Limited to 30**

September 16, REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Movie '1776'

September 30, 3 PM, Oxford Community Center

The Chivalrous Crickets

October 4, 3 PM, Church of the Holy Trinity



FROM THE PRESIDENT: Oxford Celebrates America at 250!

It's hard to believe we're already halfway through 2026. I hope you're all enjoying the summer weather and finding time for a few adventures along the way.

Even though the Museum didn't open until Oxford Day, we've been busy since the start of the year. One of our biggest steps was hiring a part-time Museum Manager to help fill the role Julie Wells held so well for so many years. Many of you may already know Pam Harrison, a longtime Oxford resident and immediate past president of the Oxford Library. Pam brings a background in retail and has been working with Susan Eubanks to bring new merchandise to the Museum Shop, including some wonderful vintage items. She has taken on the administrative duties with great energy, organization, and a real willingness to jump in wherever needed. I'm personally very grateful for all she has already done.

The exhibit committee, now calling itself the Oxford Militia, has been hard at work putting together our season-long exhibit celebrating the country's 250th anniversary, *Carried on the Tide: The Rise and Fall of Colonial Oxford*. If you haven't seen it yet, I hope you'll stop in and enjoy what they've created under Stuart Parnes' guidance. It's also a rare chance to see the oldest item in our collection—a 1707 goatskin map of Oxford—which truly is a gem and isn't displayed very often.

Visitors from near and far have been impressed by the exhibit and fascinated by Oxford's Revolutionary-era history. To go along with it, we've planned a full summer of programs, including lectures, debates, music, and a day trip with a private tour of Paca House and Hammond-Harwood House in Annapolis. We're also deeply grateful to the many organizations and museums that have partnered with us by lending artifacts and helping make these summer programs possible.

Please mark your calendars for July 18 and join us for our summer garden party for members, along with the presentation of the Douglas Hanks Jr. Preservation Award. It's always a lovely evening, with good food, drinks, and the chance to enjoy time with friends.

As the summer continues, the Board will also begin its strategic planning work, looking ahead to next season and beyond. We'll be thinking carefully about the challenges ahead and how we can continue to serve our community and preserve our history with care and purpose.

Phyllis Rambo, President

CARRIED ON THE TIDE:

The Rise and Fall of Colonial Oxford

Try to imagine...

It's 300 years ago, and little Oxford is Britain's most important trading port on the Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay. Despite native tribes, swarms of insects, stifling heat, disease, and no passable land transportation of any kind, Oxford still teems with activity.

Sailing vessels from England cross the Atlantic Ocean to anchor in Oxford's deep harbor. They carry settlers who hope to build new wealth for England and new lives for themselves. They also deliver the European manufactured goods, both necessities and luxuries, that the new colony needs to survive.

How are these imports paid for? Tobacco. Grown on local plantations and small farms on both sides of the Chesapeake Bay, the "sot-weed" is highly prized in England and throughout Europe. It is Maryland's most valuable product, and it is shipped out through bustling Oxford.

For decades, Oxford's fortunes are carried on the high demand for this precious crop. But by 1790, Oxford is a virtual ghost town. What happened?

With artifacts and images from our own collections and others on loan from numerous museums and the Library of Congress, our new exhibit explains the port's decline. A new audio program featuring the writings of Oxford mariner, trader, and civil servant Jeremiah Banning brings a human voice to the times and the challenges of transatlantic trade.

This is probably the most significant artifact in the Museum's collection. The plator survey map of Oxford was drawn on parchment (goatskin) by William Turbutt in 1707. It is the earliest surviving map of the village and still accurately represents the layout of its main streets and property lines. Because of its sensitivity to light, we rarely put the plat on exhibit. Come see it soon!



Scan the QR code

Join Jeremiah Banning as he describes his most memorable trading voyages out of Oxford in the 1750s and 1760s.



DOUGLAS HANKS, Jr. 2026 Preservation Award

In memory of the great Oxfordian Doug Hanks, this annual award honors an Oxford community member whose restoration and renovation project, service in preservation, stewardship or lifetime contribution to our Oxford Community is outstanding. The winner will be announced on July 18 at the Museum Members' Summer Party. [Click this link](#) for the nomination application that can be found on the Museum website. **Nominations are due July 1.**

SUMMER INTERNS

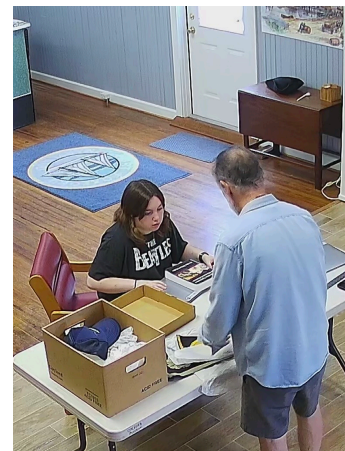
The Museum is thrilled to have three wonderful interns with us this summer, and we're excited for you to get to know them.

Angel Burris Angel Burris is from Mardela Springs and is a senior at Salisbury University, where she majors in History and minors in Africana Studies. She spends three days a week with us. If you stop by the Museum on a Sunday, there's a good chance Angel will be the docent on duty. On the other two days, she works with Stuart on curatorial projects, helping log and update our collection records. Rumor has it she hopes to be Stuart when she grows up! The rest of her week is spent at Salisbury University's Naab Research Center, a repository of local history and culture. She was eager to join us so she could learn more about Oxford's rich history and build on her curatorial experience.

Hawken Cowee Hawken Cowee is technically from Colorado, but he actually lives on a catamaran with his family, spending summers in Oxford and winters in the Bahamas. Hawken is a high school senior who homeschools through World Academy High School. He is also taking remote college pre-engineering courses through Colorado Mountain College. He has a strong interest in history and in researching historical events, and he was excited by the chance to get hands-on experience with museum work.

Carter Fronk Carter Fronk is an Oxfordian and the grandson of board member Gordon Fronk. He'll be a senior at Easton High this fall, and his interests include computer engineering and English. Carter takes part in Easton High's ACE Program, which introduces students to careers in architecture, construction management, and engineering through hands-on projects and mentor support.

All three of these industrious interns will be serving as docents while also helping with curatorial and research work behind the scenes. We hope you'll stop by the Museum, say hello, and meet these thoughtful young people who share such a strong interest in history and in Oxford.



THE MUSEUM SHOP

As we celebrate the 250th anniversary of our nation, the Oxford Museum Shop is pleased to offer items reminiscent of the era when Oxford was a thriving colonial port engaged in trade with England. This season, we have expanded our offerings to include a curated selection of antique and vintage treasures acquired at local auctions. Visitors will find English chinaware, ironstone, transferware, and other decorative pieces that reflect the types of goods that once crossed the Atlantic and found their way into homes along the Eastern Shore. We have also added classic American items that celebrate the craftsmanship and heritage of our region.

The shop will continue to feature locally made Salisbury Pewter, a favorite among residents and visitors alike. Whether you are searching for a gift, a distinctive addition to your home, or even a good book about the Eastern Shore, we invite you to browse our ever-changing collection. For sailors and travelers passing through our historic waterfront town, the Museum Shop offers a unique opportunity to take home a memento that connects Oxford's past with its present.



We look forward to welcoming you to the Oxford Museum Shop this season.

When the Museum is closed, [Shop Online!](#)



And the Last Words ... GET INVOLVED!

We love having you as members of the Museum, your interest and financial support make it possible for us to meet our mission, but we would love to have you get more involved too! Are you interested in joining our board? We are always looking for folks with diverse backgrounds to help us guide the museum. What to help set up exhibits or do minor maintenance on the property, serve on a committee, help with programs, or be a docent? There are many ways to participate, without demanding a lot of hours.

Docents can sign-up for as few or as many shifts as they like, get to meet interesting visitors from down the street and around the world, and share information about our town's past and present. You do not need to have an in-depth knowledge of history, and exhibit materials and orientation are all provided.

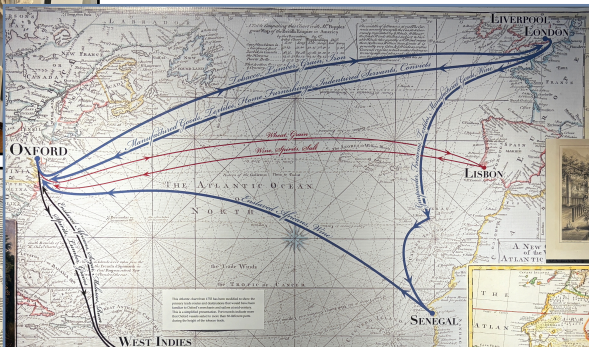
Here's what one of our volunteer docents recently had to say about being a docent.....

"Being a docent at the Oxford Museum transports me to another era — surrounded by history, I find a rare peace and stillness that few places can offer. I treasure the connections made with visitors from across the country and beyond, exchanging their stories while sharing Oxford's own. For a few hours, the museum becomes a sanctuary where history, human connection, and quiet reflection all come together.

-Dodi Sutton

A few EXHIBIT HIGHLIGHTS:

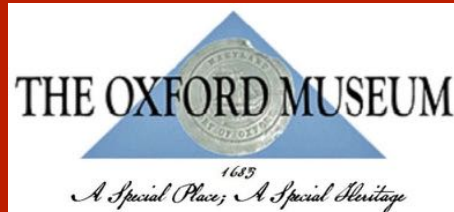
- The Children's Table with many hands on activities
- The Map of Trade Routes to and from Oxford
- The Story of Tobacco



The Gardens, the Backyard and the Fountain remembering Garden Club member Bonnie Stevens, are always open for a stroll or a quiet visit. Stop by and enjoy the benches, the blossoms and the views of Town Park.



THE OXFORD AUDIO TOUR
Scan the QR Code for
FREE Smart Phone ACCESS
ANYTIME



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The Oxford Museum is sustained by memberships and annual fund gifts and is stewarded by a volunteer team of board members, docents, and many other volunteers.

To update your membership or make your annual gift please go to the [Museum website](#). THANK YOU

If you are interested in becoming more engaged in the Museum, please ask any Board member about volunteer opportunities and committee work.

And we always need docents to welcome guests at the Museum!
For more information, contact
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