

Claiborne Clippings

National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants Reunion – Annapolis, Maryland 2022

18TH Reunion November 3 through November 6, 2022 Annapolis, Maryland

Message from the Reunion Chair: Elizabeth Richardson

The Claiborne Society held their first reunion in three years on November 3 through November 6, 2022, in Annapolis, a scenic and historic town on the Chesapeake Bay. The theme was William Claiborne's 1631 settlement of Kent Island, just across the bay from Annapolis.

Thursday November 3

Claibornes arrived Thursday afternoon at the Governor Calvert House, one of three buildings of the Historic Inns of Annapolis. They were welcomed in a small antique-filled parlor across from the hotel's check-in desk. Here they received nametags and a reunion folder, containing the weekend program (courtesy of Patricia Clayborn), a map of the hotel area, information about the next day's bus tour, a copy of the traditional Claiborne prayer, a list of attendees, and a number of tourist attraction brochures. They also were given wonderful gift bags full of unique items, created by Deborah Lugone and Susan Rura. Included were an illustrated booklet of past newspaper articles about our hotel's history and mysteries (put together by Susan), William Claiborne's portrait on a small paper medallion, recipes for local delicacies and drinks, a word-search puzzle of words relating to Claiborne, tourist maps of Annapolis, the state

of Maryland, and the Chesapeake Bay, and a small container of Old Bay Seasoning.

Guests were invited to visit a hospitality suite where they could socialize, purchase drinks, view Claiborne-related displays, and pick up current Society directories and by-laws prepared by registrar Frank Rura.

That evening, Claiborne members gathered at Café Normandie, a nearby gourmet French restaurant.

Saturday November 4

Claiborne members embarked on a day-long bus tour of Kent Island, settled by William Claiborne as a fur-trading post in 1631 – the first European settlement in what would become Maryland. He named the island after the county of his birth in England. Attendees were given folders containing a map of Kent Island, the schedule for the day, pictures of two island historical markers honoring William Claiborne and his minister who established the first church in Maryland, and a history of the restaurant where we would be having lunch.

Juice and muffins were served on the way to the island. (Our hotel and area restaurants didn't offer breakfast.) Our well-informed tour guide, John Conley of the Kent Island Heritage Society, accompanied us on the bus, pointing out sites of interest both in Annapolis and on Kent Island, where he narrated most of the day's tour.

Unfortunately, a heavy fog enshrouded Kent Island and the Chesapeake Bay for most of the day. (We were told that Kent Island schools often had "fog days" where they opened several hours late!)

A brief tour of the historic town of Stevensville was followed by a stop beside the highway for a photo op at a historic marker about William Claiborne. We then drove to the waterfront home of Linda and Leslie Moore, who live next door to the possible site of Claiborne's settlement of Kent Fort, which has never been definitely located. Because of the fog, we could see very little of what is normally a lovely view of the bay, but Linda told us about Claiborne, past archeology work nearby, and pointed out the conjectured site of Kent Fort. Leslie told us about a nature preserve being established on a nearby island, which had been settled initially by one of Claiborne's men, whose family was massacred by Indians while he was away on a trading trip with Claiborne.

(Continued on next page)

OFFICERS 2023 - 2024

President	Deborah Peabody
Vice President	Linda M. King
Secretary	Nicholas J. Cline
Treasurer	Charles E. Claiborne
Registrar	Frank Rura

Standing Committees

Reunion	Linda M. King
Research	Johnathan J. Clayborn, MS
Archives	Susan W.H. Rura
Publications	Patricia Clayborn
Webmaster	Dan Boylin

www.claibornesociety.org

18TH Reunion November 3 through November 6, 2022
Message from the Reunion Chair: Elizabeth Richardson

(Continued from previous page)

We then drove by the former site of the Romancoke ferry that crossed to the town of Claiborne on the Eastern shore in the early 1900s. The names "Claiborne" and "Romancoke" (what Claiborne called his home in then New Kent, Virginia) were reportedly chosen by the developer of the ferry because he thought that William Claiborne had not been given enough credit for settling the island.

Luncheon was at the lovely Kent Island Resort, housed in a home dating to 1820. Many compliments were received on the delicious lunch, after which we were given a tour of the home (now a hotel) along with a narration of its history.

We then drove to view the possible underwater site of Claiborne's home, Crayford, named for his birth town in England. We next crossed the island to the Kent Island Heritage and Visitors Center, where a mini museum featured a couple of exhibits on William Claiborne. Member Nicholas Cline held up a picture of his great-grandfather(?) next to the museum's copy of a portrait of William Claiborne - the two men looked remarkably alike! The museum also displayed photographs of the Claiborne ferry and other Kent Island artifacts.

Our last stop was at the 1880 Gothic-Revival Christ Church back in Stevensville. It is said that this Episcopal congregation stems from the Church-of-England congregation at Claiborne's Kent Fort - making it the oldest church in Maryland. Nancy Cook, of the Kent Island Heritage Society, treated us to a very lively and amusing account of the history of the church and the island - a great way to end a long day.

Saturday November 5

The Claiborne business meeting and banquet took place Saturday in the elegant Duke of Gloucester Room at our hotel's Maryland Inn building.

A continental breakfast preceded the Society's business meeting. (For details of this meeting, see Secretary Linda King's minutes, later in this issue.) An informal buffet lunch followed. During the afternoon, members split up to enjoy visiting Annapolis attractions of their choice - such as an electric car tour of old Annapolis, tours of the U.S. Naval Academy, the historic Maryland State House, the 1774 Hammond-Harwood House, or just exploring the town's many quaint shops.

That evening we gathered for the reunion's highlight - our banquet. Cocktails were available for purchase in a room adjoining the banquet room. We then gathered in a hotel parlor for a group photograph of Claiborne attendees. The banquet started with the Claiborne prayer and announcements, followed by a delicious salmon dinner. Our speaker was Matthew McKnight, chief archeologist with The Maryland Trust. He gave a very interesting and detailed powerpoint presentation on Kent Island, past archeology work looking for the location of Kent Fort (which may have eroded into the bay), and his theory on the site of Claiborne's home Crayford, which from documentary evidence he thinks may still exist inland on uninvestigated land. Dr. McKnight also brought some artifacts found on or around Kent Island, including a 1593 bellarmine jug, said to be the earliest pottery displaying a date yet found in America (discovered underwater near the theorized site of Crayford, so may have been owned by William Claiborne!)

Sunday November 6

Sunday morning saw members of the Claiborne Society checking out. Those who had signed up and paid for nine of the Society's last 18 copies of the book Claiborne of Virginia picked them up from the hotel's front desk. Departing Claibornes were given information on several area restaurants serving brunch.

Many thanks are due to speaker Matthew McKnight, to John Conley and Nancy Cook of the Kent Island Heritage Society, and to Claiborne members Deborah Peabody, Frank and Susan Rura, Deborah Lugone, Patricia Clayborn, Pam Meiring, Fritz and Clai Bachmann Eley.

Elizabeth Richardson
Reunion Chair, Claiborne Society





Many ways to spell the family name



Gift bags for all attendees.
Deborah H. R. Lugone



Past and Present Reunion Chairmen:
Clai Bachmann Eley (Williamsburg 2019);
Elizabeth Richardson (Annapolis 2022)



First arrivals: Lisa Hall, Laura Claiborne,
Charles Claiborne, Berkeley Claiborne, Linda King





Claiborne Display: maps, books,
memorabilia of post reunions



First night, a French dinner at Café Normandie:
(foreground L-R) Cary Schwartz, Nancy Schwartz,
Nicholas Cline, Rick Rose, and Charles Claiborne

**Reunion
Program:**

<p style="text-align: center;">NATIONAL SOCIETY OF CLAIBORNE FAMILY DESCENDANTS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">REUNION November 3 to November 6, 2022</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>"William Claiborne's 1631 Settling of Kent Island"</i></p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;">Historic Inns of Annapolis Governor Calvert House 58 State Circle Annapolis, Maryland</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WEB SITE: WWW.CLAIBORNESOCIETY.ORG/</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Keynote Speaker: Matthew McKnight, PhD</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="flex: 1;"> <p>Dr. McKnight is chief archaeologist at the Maryland Historical Trust. A career in archaeology is what he knew he wanted to do since he was a child, growing up in Flora, Illinois, and Kansas City, Missouri. McKnight's family trips always included visiting local and national historical sites and monuments. "When I was younger, most of our family vacations involved a visit to some historic site, and I think that must have inspired me."</p> <p>McKnight earned a Bachelor of Arts in anthropology and a minor in historic preservation at Southeast Missouri State University, then a Master of Arts and doctorate in anthropology at Pennsylvania State University. As chief archaeologist, he brings his passion for history to life every day.</p> <p>"I enjoy conducting original research and working with the public. Maryland has amazing cultural resources, and I play a valuable role in understanding those sites and interpreting them for the public. I work with a team of six other archaeologists. As the chief archaeologist, I set the goals and objectives as they pertain to archaeology for our office, engage in and direct research into the archaeology of the state, synthesize and disseminate existing research, and encourage and coordinate archaeological research in Maryland by other qualified professionals and volunteer organizations.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">And I get to dig and not just sit behind a desk!"</p> </div> <div style="flex: 0.2; text-align: center;">  <p style="font-size: 8px;">Matthew McKnight, PhD</p> </div> </div>
--	---	--

PROGRAM

<p>Thursday, November 3rd 3:00 pm to 6:30 pm Registration, hospitality and cash bar at the Governor Calvert House. Dinner and evening on your own with Claiborne and Cliborn relatives and friends.</p> <p>Friday, November 4th 8:45 am Board bus, Duke of Gloucester Street, across from Maryland Inn, 16 Church Circle.</p> <p>9:00 am Bus departs for tour of Kent Island. (juice and muffins will be served on bus). Tour of historic Stevensville, part 1. Visit to private beach and pier to view and hear about mostly offshore sites of archeology to locate Colonel William Claiborne's 1631 settlement. Lunch at historic Kent Manor Inn. View where evidence of Claiborne's Crayford home and fort were found offshore. Visit to Kent Island Visitors Center's mini museum to see exhibits on history of Kent Island, including brief information on Colonel William Claiborne. Visit 1880 Gothic Revival Christ Church, said to descend from Claiborne's 1832 church. Tour of historic Stevensville, part 2.</p> <p>5:30 pm Bus returns to Governor Calvert House. Dinner and evening on your own.</p>	<p>Saturday, November 5th 9:00 am Continental breakfast, Duke of Gloucester Room, Maryland Inn.</p> <p>9:30 am to Noon Claiborne Society Business Meeting, Duke of Gloucester Room, Maryland Inn: Call To Order Invocation Welcome Minutes of the last Reunion Treasurer's Report Registrar's Report Nominating Committee Recommendations Election New Business Discussion of Location for Next Reunion Presentations Benediction Adjournment</p> <p>Noon to 1:00 pm Casual luncheon, Duke of Gloucester Room, Maryland Inn.</p> <p>1:00 pm to 5:00 pm Afternoon free to explore Annapolis on your own. Prior reservation required for some choices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tours of historic Annapolis (standard or custom) by electric car. • Tours of U.S. Naval Academy. • Ormate 1770s Annapolis State House, served as U.S. Capitol 1783 and 1784. • Museum of Historic Annapolis. • Annapolis Maritime Museum. • 1774 Hammond-Harwood House (outstanding architecture, furnishings, Peale paintings). • 1760s William Paca House, with two-acre reconstructed 18th century garden. • Historic and lively city docks (beautiful water views, luxury sailing and motor yachts, historic buildings, and restaurants). </p>	<p>6:00 pm Cash Bar, Duke of Gloucester Room, Maryland Inn.</p> <p>6:45 pm Group photograph, Lobby, Maryland Inn.</p> <p>7:00 pm to 10:00 pm Banquet, Duke of Gloucester Room, Maryland Inn. 1907 Claiborne Society prayer. Installation of New Officers. Remarks by new President.</p> <p>Keynote Speaker: Matthew McKnight, PhD Dr. Matthew McKnight, Chief Archeologist with the Maryland Historical Trust in Baltimore, Maryland, will lecture and provide a PowerPoint presentation on Colonel William Claiborne's adventures and struggles to settle and keep Kent Island, and the archeological attempts to discover the sites of his two forts.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Closing Remarks.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Board Meeting with New Officers.</p> <p>Sunday, November 6th 11:00 am Departure: Hotel check out. There are several good restaurants nearby serving Sunday brunch. Information on these will be provided.</p>
--	---	---



Standing beside the historic marker: Deb Lugone, Berkeley Claiborne, Charles Claiborne, Rick Rose, Elizabeth Richardson, Susan Rura, Claiborne Irby Jr., Linda King, Claiborne Irby III, Nicholas Cline, Nancy Cary Schwartz, Cary Miller Schwartz, Frank Rura, Lisa Hall



Claiborne Historic Marker erected by State Roads Commission. Positional location is 38 degrees 58.57' N, 76 degrees 19.38' W. Located on Maryland Route 8 South at the intersection with Marina Club Road in Stevensville, Queen Anne's County, Maryland



Property owner Leslie Moore, Nancy Cary Schwartz, Ann Claiborne Case, Fritz Eley, Clai Bachmann Eley, Charles Claiborne, Claiborne Irby III, Elizabeth Richardson, Claiborne Irby Jr., Jim Gregory, Laura Claiborne (with dog), Berkeley Claiborne, Susan Rura, Rick Rose. (Standing above) John Conley (tour guide)



Most probable Claiborne landing site, at southern end of Kent Island.
(Foreground) Property owners Leslie Moore, Linda Moore



Is Kent Fort here? On this land, or covered by water,
or somewhere in the fog?



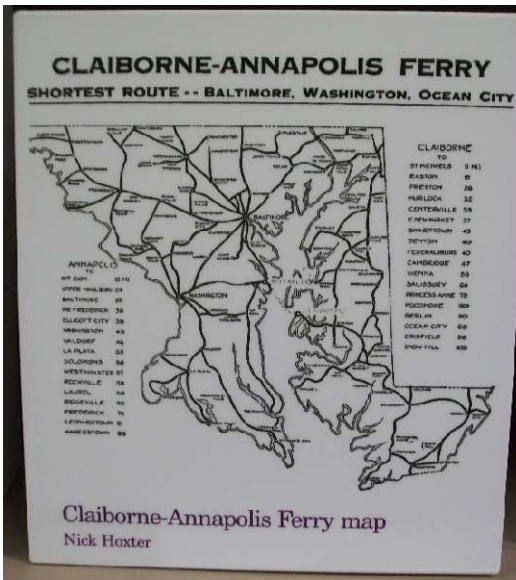
After lunch at Kent Manor Resort, a pose: (L to R, by head) Elizabeth Richardson, Susan Rura, Pam Meiring, Clai Bachmann Eley, Fritz Eley, Christina Cowlshaw, Nancy Cary Schwartz, Berkeley Claiborne, Cary Miller Schwartz, Claiborne Irby III, Nicholas Cline, Vincent Cline, Robert Banks, Rick Rose, Telia Cunningham, Linda King, Frank Rura, Deb Lugone, Claiborne Irby Jr., Dan Hall, Lisa Hall



Queen Anne's County Visitors Center, at the Kent Island Narrows



Ferries ran between town of Claiborne, the Eastern Shore, and Annapolis, the Western Shore



Remnants of past times, before the Chesapeake Bay Bridge was built



Historic Christ Church, Stevensville, Maryland



Elizabeth Richardson, Speaker Nancy Cook, leading us through a Maryland history lesson



Galway Bay, an Irish pub, around the corner from the Gov. Calvert Hotel



After our day tour, a pub dinner: Frank Rura, Deb Lugone, Susan Rura, Linda King, Lisa Hall, Dan Hall




**Business Meeting
National Society of
Claiborne Family Descendants
Saturday, November 5, 2022**

Deb Peabody, President of
the Claiborne Society,
speaks to begin the
Business Meeting

At the Maryland Inn,
Claiborne Society
Business Meeting attendees



Newly elected officers:
Deb Peabody, President;
Charles Claiborne, Treasurer;
Linda King, Vice-President;
Nicholas J. Lilly Cline, Secretary;
Frank J. Rura, Registrar


Minutes of the Business Meeting
National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants
Saturday, November 5, 2022
Maryland Inn, Annapolis, Maryland
Respectfully Submitted: Linda M. King, Secretary

Officers Present – Deborah Peabody, President, Elizabeth Richardson, Vice President, Frank Rura, Registrar, Charles Claiborne, Treasurer, Linda M. King, Secretary

Invocation & Opening Remarks:

Elizabeth Richardson welcomed everyone, and Deborah called the meeting to order. Deborah recognized Elizabeth for her hard work on putting together an excellent reunion. A short invocation followed with opening remarks about the history of Maryland.

Minutes from 2019 Reunion:

Linda King read the minutes of the last meeting from 2019. The minutes were accepted unanimously with one change in the name of Talia Cunningham's first name.

Many suffered illnesses since the last reunion and Deborah did ask that others let the officers know if anyone is ill so that the news can be shared.

Treasurer's Report:

Charles Claiborne shared the treasurer's financial report with those in attendance. He did indicate that the costs had gone up considerably for the conference reservations and food. The Society's balance in its regular account as of Nov. 5th was \$18,863.30. Two CDs are deposit are \$12,322.22 and \$5,334.67. The report was adopted unanimously.

Registrar's Report:

Frank Rura gave the registrar's report. The membership remains healthy. We have five (5) new members for a total of 277 members, 51 life members and 137 active members. A three-year grace period is provided before members are moved to an inactive status. Frank will be including reminders in the newsletters of the need to pay dues to remain active. He said individual reminders (mailings) don't make financial sense.

Other Committees: Archives Committee (Susan Rura)

The portrait of William Claiborne at the Muscarelle Museum in Williamsburg was discussed. This portrait was given to the William & Mary Library and viewed by our group in 2019. There was discussion about whether that portrait or others (Library of Virginia large portrait), would be worth restoring, or if a place existed that was large enough, or a buyer could be sought, as the Society doesn't purchase artifacts. Talia Cunningham suggested that perhaps canvas prints of a portrait of William Claiborne could be produced by the Society as a means of raising funds for other projects.

There was extensive discussion surrounding the Dorman book, "Claiborne of Virginia, Descendants of Colonel William Claiborne, The First Eight Generations". The last remaining copies of the volume given to our society were brought to the reunion for the purpose of deciding how they should be distributed or sold. Deborah Lugone made a motion that we keep 10 and sell 10, Charles agreed and moved to second the motion. Discussion by Lisa Hall stating that younger people don't have a copy of the book. Susan Rura suggested we check with the Executor of Dorman's estate as to the rights to the book for continuing publication. Discussion also included what price to charge if we were going to sell the books to members.

Claiborne Irby made a motion that we should charge \$20 to members for the book. Frank Rura agreed to second the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

There seemed to be consensus around exploring the rights to the book, but a formal vote was not taken.

(Continued on next page)

**Minutes of the Business Meeting
National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants
Saturday, November 5, 2022**

(Continued from previous page)

DNA Update (Linda King)

Linda shared updated information as to the FTDNA Project Administrator for the Claiborne Surname Project. Johnathan J. Clayborn, MS was appointed by Family Tree DNA to take over for Alex Waldrop as he had not been actively managing the project. Jonathan reached out to all who had submitted DNA to the surname project but found a lot of out-of-date emails. He requested information from the donors to begin to build a genetic tree. Building this tree will help determine where specific DNA markers changed to build a more accurate genealogical record.

He shared with Linda an updated report he compiled in January of 2022 on the current project. Linda will work with him to obtain permission to post this report on our website or an active link to the report on another site.

Linda added that she supplied her direct male descendant line and Johnathan was able to tell her where her direct line connected (Leonard, 1705), to not pursue other lines when researching.

Johnathan also offered to assist the group with developing our "official genealogy." Linda suggested that she would be happy to work with Johnathan on this endeavor. Many of our families have multiple lines with similar names and locations that are repeated in every generation. As many of our newer members know, trying to find out which family and how they fit back to Claiborne or Clyburn can be challenging, and many join with the hope that they can get help identifying their ancestor.

Nominating Committee: (Linda King)

Deborah Peabody stated that since no one came forward for the President opening, she would remain for another term.

Frank Rura had rescinded his resignation as Registrar and agreed to continue for one more term.

Linda King announced that she had been asked and accepted the nomination for Vice President. She asked if there were other nominations from the floor and there were none.

For Secretary, Deborah Lugone was nominated, but Deborah stated that while she was honored to be nominated, she had to decline at this time. Nicholas J. Cline was then nominated and accepted the nomination.

Next Reunion:

A short summary of some of the past reunion locations were discussed, as well as returning to Richmond (normally every other reunion), as well as what most of those that attended seemed to be drawn to.

Hampton Roads, Virginia was suggested, and Susan acknowledged that it had been some time since the reunion was held in that location. Sweet Hall is about a half hour from Hampton Roads.

Nicolas suggested Beaufort, North Carolina, and that it is a nice place to visit. There is no known Claiborne history there, but maritime history, including Blackbeard.

Greenville was also suggested. This was one that Linda and Deborah Peabody stated they prefer. Linda is researching a Leonard Claiborne in this area, so a link to the Claiborne family is a possibility. Deborah lives there and has organized large events in the area.

A survey was discussed with Pam Meiring making a motion that a survey be sent to the membership with the choices of Greenville, SC, Hampton Roads, VA, and Beaufort, NC as choices. The motion received a second, and the motion was unanimously supported.

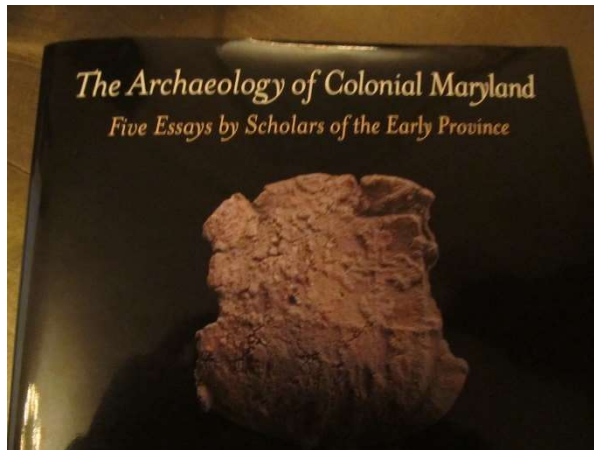
Respectfully Submitted:
Linda M. King, Secretary



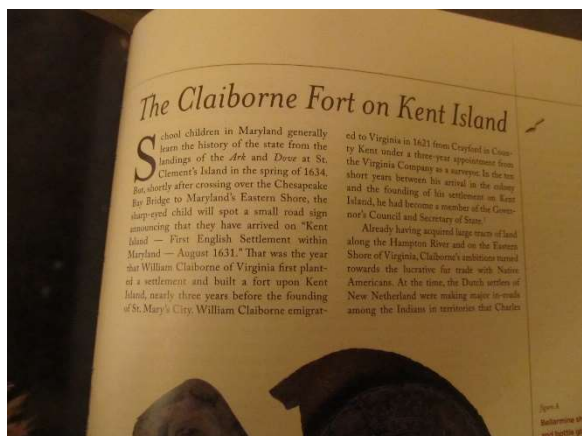
18TH Reunion Banquet Lecture Saturday, November 5, 2022 Annapolis, Maryland



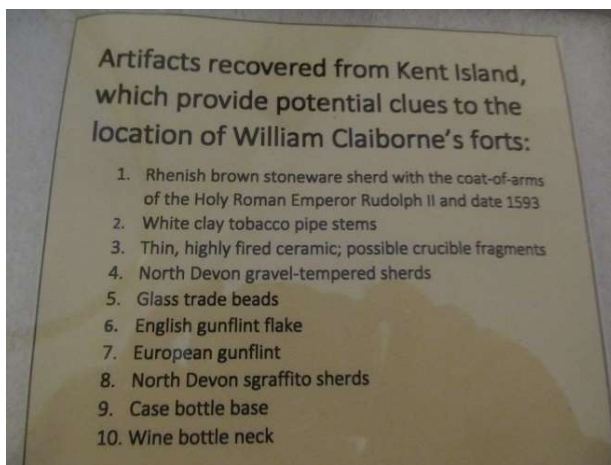
Lecture title: "The Search for William Claiborne's Forts: Reconstructing the 17th -century Landscape of Kent Island" by Matthew D. McKnight, Ph.D.



A published book about very early Maryland history



A book excerpt about Kent Fort



List of artifacts found on Kent Island



Protective case and artifacts



Speaker Dr. Matthew McKnight, Maryland's Chief Archeologist, and Elizabeth Richardson

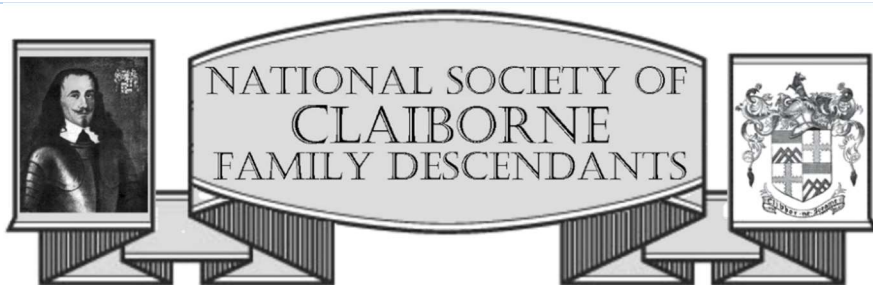
18TH Reunion Banquet Saturday, November 5, 2022 Annapolis, Maryland



A table at the banquet:
(Facing) Tilia Cunningham, Robert Banks, Evelyn Clyburne Gregory,
Jim Gregory, Claiborne Irby III, Claiborne Irby Jr.



Another table at the banquet: (Facing) Lisa Hall, Vincent Cline, Nicholas Cline,
Christina Cowlshaw, Linda King



**18TH Reunion Banquet
Saturday, November 5, 2022
Annapolis, Maryland**



At the Maryland Inn, 16 Church Circle, Annapolis, a Claiborne group photo (L to R, heads):
Linda King, Berkeley Claiborne, Lisa Hall, Evelyn Claiborne Gregory, Laura Claiborne,
Deborah Lugone, Claiborne Irby Jr., Pam Meiring, Jim Gregory, Elizabeth Richardson,
Claiborne Irby III, Frank Rura, Christina Cowlshaw, Susan Rura, Tilia Cunningham,
Nancy Cary Schwartz, Cary Miller Schwartz, Robert Banks, Nicholas Cline,
Clai Bachmann Eley, Vincent Cline, Fritz Eley, Charles Claiborne, Deb Peabody



ATTENDEES OF 2022 CLAIBORNE REUNION:

Clai Bachmann Eley Frederick "Fritz" Eley Williamsburg VA	Evelyn Clyburne Gregory James Gregory Bradenton Fl	Deborah L.S. Peabody Greenville, S.C.
Ann Claiborne Case Rehobeth Beach, DE	Lisa J. Hall Daniel Hall Seattle, WA	Elizabeth G. Richardson Richmond, VA
Berkeley B.Claiborne Laura Claiborne Minnetonka, MN	Claiborne Irby Jr. Richmond, VA	Richard L. Rose Houston, TX
Charles E.Claiborne III Woodstock, GA	Claiborne Irby III Atlanta, GA	Susan W.H. Rura Frank J. Rura Ellicott City, MD
Nicholas J. Lilly Cline Abington PA	Linda M. King Bartow, FL	Deborah H.R. Lugone Elkton, MD
Vincent M. Cline Abington, PA	Pamela R. Meiring Williamsburg, VA	Cary Miller Schwartz Memphis, TN
Martelia Cunningham Robert Banks Quitman, GA	Christina Cowlshaw Washington D.C.	Nancy Cary Schwartz Washington, DC



New Members

We are delighted to welcome the following new members to our Clan:

Edward Claiborne Irby III and Bevin Lawson Irby, Atlanta Georgia



ANNUAL DUES

Our membership year runs from October 1st to September 30th. The Annual Dues for the Claiborne Society are \$10. In addition, a lifetime membership is available for \$200 for current members. To continue to receive e-mail notifications, please send your check in the amount of \$10 payable to "The Claiborne Society" to our Treasurer:

Charles Claiborne
508 Penny Lane
Woodstock, GA, 30188



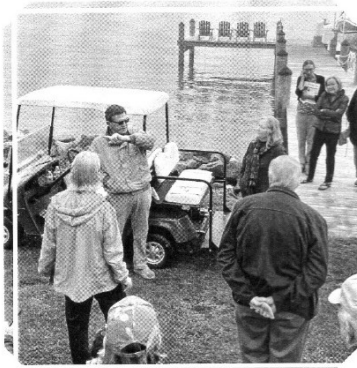
Article on our reunion as published in the "Isle of Kent - 1631" by the Kent Island Heritage Society

Isle of Kent - 1631

To Discover, Identify, Restore and Preserve the Heritage of Kent Island

NEWSLETTER OF THE KENT ISLAND HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.

WINTER 2022-2023



Claiborne Society Visits Kent Island

KIHS enjoyed being part of the Claiborne Society's visit to Kent Island as part of its semi-annual meeting held this year in Annapolis. Members of KIHS helped plan the visit and spent an enjoyable tour of "where it all began." Visitors included 28 people, some actually named Claiborne, from many states, including Virginia, Washington, Minnesota, Georgia, and Pennsylvania.

Highlights included crossing a very foggy Bay Bridge (tour guide John Conley assured them they would see the bridge on the return trip,) a visit to the a waterfront property near where Claiborne may have landed where they heard KIHS members Leslie and Linda Moore discuss the geology and history of the area, a stop for lunch at the historic Kent Manor Resort, a visit to the Queen Anne's County Visitors Center, a lively history

presentation by Nancy Cook at the Historic Christ Church in Stevensville, and a trip back across a sunlit Bay Bridge for a better view of the island.

Society members and guests heard a comprehensive presentation on William Claiborne and Kent Island by Dr. Matthew McKnight, Maryland's Chief Archeologist, at the historic Annapolis Maryland Inn. KIHS has invited Dr. McKnight to make a similar presentation to our community meeting on March 21, 2023.

The Claiborne Society made a monetary donation to KIHS and gave us a book on the descendants of William Claiborne which we have placed in our space at the Kent Island library for future research. The society maintains an informative website www.claibornesociety.org.

Registrar
3052 Rogers Ave.
Ellicott City, MD, 21043

