## Historical Lecture - Please Join Us

The Brick Chapel at St. Mary's City: The Interior of the Reconstructed 17th-century Chapel

Featured Speaker: Ruth M. Mitchell, Manager of Archaeological Services



## Where:

Commissioners Meeting Room
Chesapeake Building
41770 Baldridge St.,
Leonardtown



When: January, 29, 2026 6:00pm-7:30pm

Join us for a lecture that will present a behind-the-scenes look at the new exhibit installed in the Brick Chapel at St. Mary's City.

Originally constructed by the Jesuits in the 1660's, the Brick Chapel at St. Mary's City stood for about 30 years before it was dismantled and the bricks were reused for another Jesuit building. Archaeologists uncovered the foundation of the original building, and then it was reconstructed over a period of several years.

The final reconstruction of the building itself was completed several years ago, but a new milestone has been reached: the installation of the interior exhibits. The team at Historic St. Mary's City has been steadfastly researching how the interior would have looked in the 17<sup>th</sup>-century. This lecture will present the research and effort that went into the new exhibit which was just completed in September 2025. Archaeological clues combined with historical research went into the decisions on how to understand and interpret the interior of the Chapel. Many details of the interior finishes will be presented, including information on the altar, tabernacle, 17<sup>th</sup>-century lead coffins, and the original brick foundation.

**Hosted by the Historic Preservation Commission**