

PEMBERTON HISTORICAL PARK

5561 Plantation Lane
Salisbury, MD 21801

Open Daily from Sunrise to Sunset

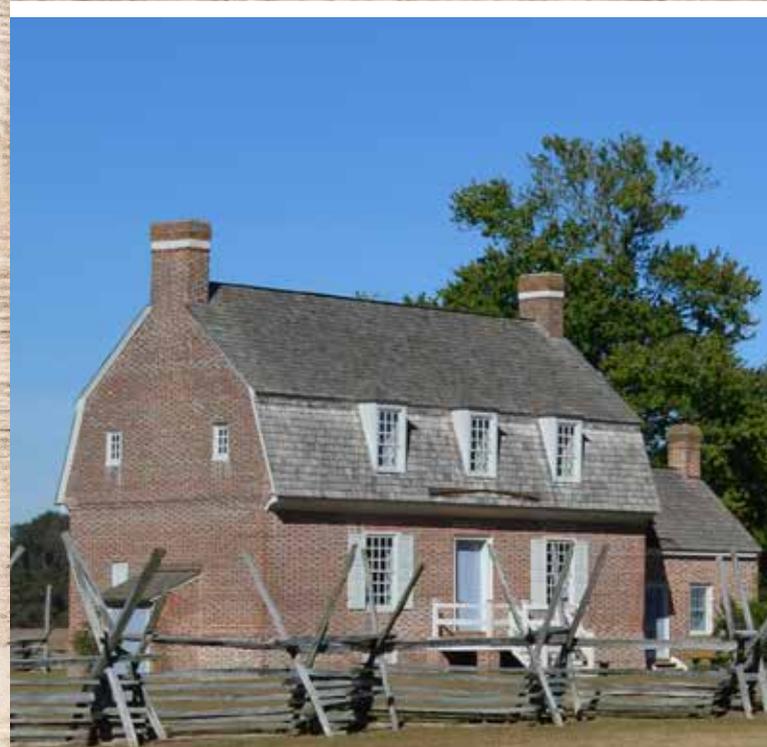
www.PembertonPark.org

410-548-4900

For information on the Pemberton Hall Foundation, please call 410-742-1741.



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Pemberton Hall & History

Once a thriving plantation, Pemberton Hall was built on the Wicomico River near Salisbury in 1741 by Isaac Handy, one of the city's founders. It is an outstanding example of 18th century Eastern Shore regional architecture. The gambrel-roofed brick structure is the only original 18th century house open to the public on the lower Eastern Shore.



The Pemberton Hall Foundation saved the home, and now maintains it along with the two acres of land upon which it sits. The Foundation has also restored or discovered other structures on the property. Attached to the Hall, the 1786 kitchen has been reconstructed on its original foundation, as has a standalone Milk House, wooden-lined well and well sweep. The Foundation is striving to reproduce and interpret all of the Plantation's structures, including the 16 ft. log slaves' quarter.

To schedule a visit and tour of Pemberton Hall, please contact 410-742-1741 or 410-546-0314.



Annual Events



EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Sunday Before Easter

Each spring, the Easter Bunny lays eggs all over Pemberton Historical Park for Wicomico Recreation's Eggstravaganza. The event features activities including egg hunts, crafts, egg toss, bunny hop, egg dyeing and more.



WEST WICOMICO HERITAGE RIDE

Second Saturday in September

This bike tour of western Wicomico County takes riders across 300 years of Maryland history. The ride begins at Pemberton Historical Park and travels through the scenic riverfront communities of Whitehaven, Hebron, Quantico and Bivalve.



GOOD BEER FESTIVAL

Second Weekend in October

As the shore's largest craft beer event, the Good Beer Festival offers unlimited tastings of over 100 different American craft brews, including a Local Beer Garden, which highlights local breweries from the region. The event also features live music on two stages, unique games and food, craft and commercial vendors.



AUTUMN WINE FESTIVAL

Third Weekend in October

Presented in partnership with the Maryland Wineries Association, the Autumn Wine Festival offers the opportunity to explore Maryland wine from one location. Wine connoisseurs and first time samplers alike enjoy the festival, which features unlimited sampling from 20+ Maryland wineries, live music, regional cuisine and local artisans.

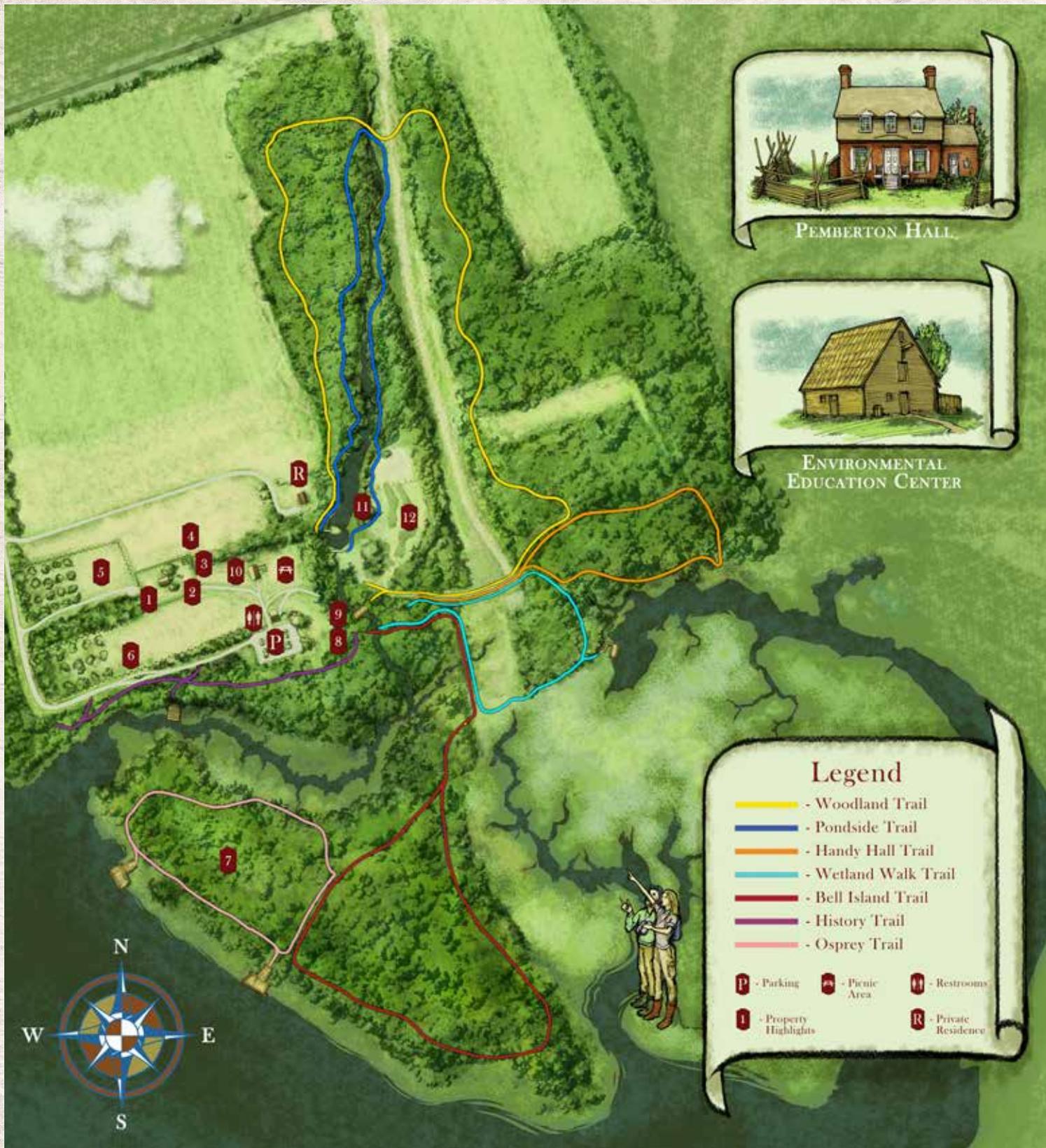


TURKEY TREK

Thanksgiving Day

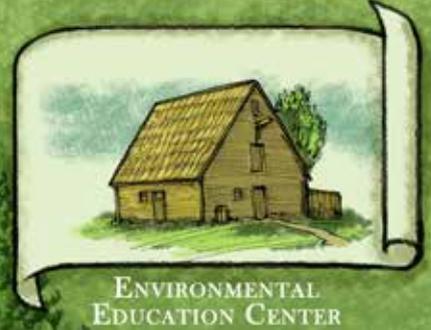
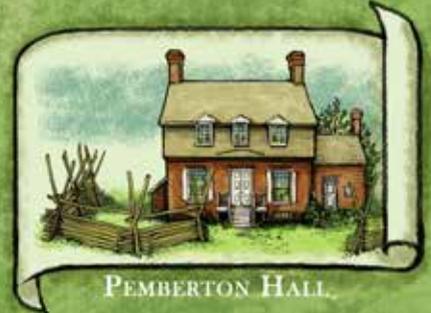
Gear up for Thanksgiving at Pemberton Historical Park's Turkey Trek 5K. The course winds through Pemberton Park's forests, meadows and wetlands. The trails are mostly flat, with one or two small hills. Refreshments and holiday pie are available after the race (it is Thanksgiving after all)!

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Trail System

Pemberton Park offers 4.5 miles of nature trails, offering visitors the opportunity to explore unique ecosystems that bring together tidal and fresh water wetlands, fresh water ponds, upland pines, hardwood forests and meadows.



WOODLAND TRAIL: 1.1 MILES
Estimated Walking Time: 35 Minutes

The towering trees of the upland pine forest create a cathedral-like feeling along this tranquil trail. Across the pond stands a young forest of loblolly and Virginia pines. Once a cultivated field, the young forest is now the home of many songbirds.

PONDSIDE TRAIL: 1 MILE
Estimated Walking Time: 30 Minutes

Circling the Bell Creek Pond, this trail offers visitors views of local wildlife. Hundreds of bullfrogs can be heard during the spring and summer months. On the pond's east side, the Sarbanes Memorial Grove offers beautiful views of wild flowers when in season. A quaint picnic area along the trail offers the view of a solitary bald cypress tree growing on the small pond island.

HANDY HALL TRAIL: 0.7 MILES
Estimated Walking Time: 20 Minutes

Following in the footsteps of history, portions of this trail are laid upon an 18th century travel road that led to Salisbury. The road passed by Handy Hall, the 1750s home of Isaac Handy's son George. Travelers can enjoy a shaded walk under a canopy of pine woodland, amidst the remains of once-grand American Chestnut Trees, which were wiped out by blight in the early 20th century.

WETLAND WALK: 0.5 MILE
Estimated Walking Time: 15 Minutes

View land which once served as a pasture for the Handy's cattle in the 18th century while traveling this trail, which rising sea levels have transformed into a marsh. A raised observation platform allows for the viewing of mosquito fish or the fingerlings of much larger river fish that spawn in the shallows of the swamp. These tidal wetlands serve a vital purpose, as they filter pollution and sediments from upstream before they reach the Wicomico River or Chesapeake Bay.

BELL ISLAND TRAIL: 1.2 MILES
Estimated Walking Time: 45 Minutes

In the 18th century, Bell Island, then referred to as "The Commons," was used as a pasture for the Handy family's cattle. In the 19th century it became home to the plantation's icehouse. Overlook spots at the marsh and on the riverfront are great places to rest and enjoy the sights and sounds of the wetlands and Wicomico River.

HISTORY TRAIL: 0.5 MILES
Estimated Walking Time: 20 Minutes

Fronting the water, this linear trail takes visitors to the narrows of a tidal gut once bridged by a dam and causeway. The resulting impounded waters may have provided ice for the Handy's ice house. Further west, the trail passes by the invisible remains of Mulberry's Landing Wharf. Discovered by underwater archeology and dated through dendrochronology, the wharf dates to 1746 and is the oldest documented of its type in the country. On land, the trail is shaded by White Cedar Trees (Cedar Cypress). Early colonists made boats from this highly rot-resistant wood.

OSPREY TRAIL: 0.3 MILES
Estimated Walking Time: 10 Minutes

Accessed via the Bell Island Trail, the aptly named Osprey Trail offers views of wildlife living within the river's marshlands. Visitors can break at the trail's Wicomico River Overlook, which offers a scenic glimpse of the major estuary before it flows into the Chesapeake Bay. Washed by the tides, the edges of the river provide habitat for a great variety of life.

Property Highlights

- 1: Pemberton Hall
- 2: Milk House / Dairy (reconstructed)
- 3: Well Head and Sweep
- 4: Poultry House
- 5: Orchards (replanted)
- 6: Snake Fence / Virginia Fence
- 7: "The Commons" / Bell Island
- 8: Old Salisbury Road
- 9: Kiosk
- 10: Environmental Education Center
- 11: Sarbanes Memorial Grove
- 12: "Little New Field"