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Annapolis, MD – The Annapolis, London Town & South County Heritage Area (ALTSCHA) is proud to announce the launch of "*Roots & Tides: A Journey Through Southern Anne Arundel County*," a new CD audio travelogue tour and interpretive map of South County.

The CD and accompanying map are among the first products of this kind for heritage areas in Maryland. It is an 85-minute travelogue that takes listeners, either at home or in their cars, from the colonial tobacco port of London Town past old tobacco farms and 18th century mansions through the picturesque watermen's villages of Galesville, Shady Side and Deale. Historians, archaeologists, musicians and local residents tell the story of this unique slice of Chesapeake Bay shoreline.

The CD is available for purchase at the Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Conference & Visitors Bureau on West Street, Historic Annapolis Foundation's Museum Store on Main Street, the William Paca House on Prince George Street, the Southern Anne Arundel County Chamber of Commerce in Churchton, Historic London Town & Gardens in Edgewater, the Galesville Heritage Museum in Galesville, and Shady Side's Captain Salem Avery House. The South County interpretive map which accompanies the CD will also be available free of charge on its own at these and other locations throughout the heritage area. The map suggests three different driving itineraries based on the stories told on the CD and the listed heritage sites.

The Annapolis, London Town & South County Heritage Area, one of Maryland's 12 designated heritage areas, is an economic partnership among the state of Maryland, Anne Arundel County, the City of Annapolis, the town of Highland Beach, and historic sites, heritage organizations, and businesses. For more information on the Maryland Heritage Areas program, visit www.marylandhistoricaltrust.net or www.heritagearea.org

This product furthers ALTSCHA's mission of increasing economic development opportunities for small businesses in the heritage area by encouraging heritage tourism, the fastest growing segment of the tourism industry, and making our local history more accessible to visitors and residents.

For more information, please contact Donna Dudley at 410-222-1805.

