

Hoyer Celebrates Maryland Day in Historic St. Mary's City

March 28, 2004

ST. MARY'S CITY, MD - Congressman Steny Hoyer released the following statement today after joining citizens of Historic St. Mary's City yesterday to mark the 370th anniversary of Maryland's founding. Rep. Hoyer spoke to those participating in the ceremony and discussed the rich history of the city and the state.

Congressman Hoyer represents Historic St. Mary's City and has helped to secure \$500,000 in federal funds to rebuild the 1667 Brick Chapel.

"I was pleased to join the Lieutenant Governor and distinguished elected officials and community leaders to take great pride in the rich history of our distinguished state of Maryland and great pride in St. Mary's City which served as our state's first capitol, site of the fourth permanent settlement in North America and the birthplace of religious tolerance," said Congressman Hoyer.

"We are so fortunate that the Historic St. Mary's City Commission preserves and researches the founding days of this historic area. From preserving archaeological evidence, to developing interpretive programs for the public, the Commission, with the strong support of so many private citizens, has created a living history for all of us to experience.

"I am also proud to have secured \$500,000 in federal funds toward the reconstruction efforts of the historic Brick Chapel. This federal commitment shows the importance placed on this campaign to rebuild the 1667 Brick Chapel and to preserve religious freedom and American values.

"I am honored to be part of this effort and am proud to celebrate the 370th anniversary of our great state," concluded Rep. Hoyer.

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