Welcome!

The State Museum of Archaeology

The discovery of ancient stone tools led archaeologists here, where they found 65 historic sites! In 1983 Mary "Marvin" Patterson donated this land to protect those sites and their history. The new park was named for her late husband: Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum (IPPM) was born.

Explore and grow closer to the past while preserving it for the future - here, history and nature surround you!

Park Grounds

Open Daily Year-Round 7:30am - Dusk

Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

Visitor Center

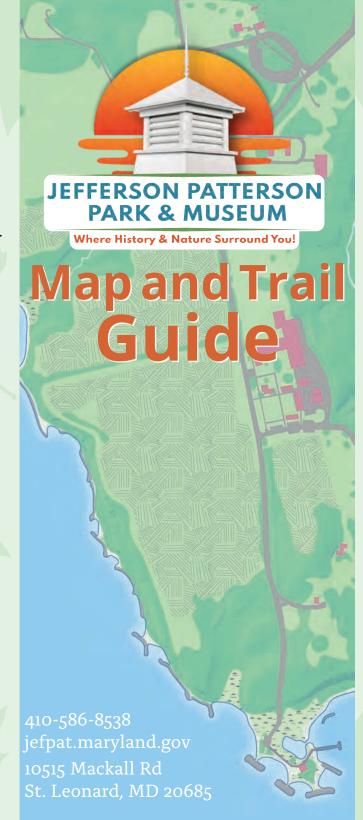
Open Daily Year-Round 10:00am - 5:00pm

Closed state holidays and the weeks of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's.

Iefferson Patterson Park & Museum is a program of the Maryland Historical Trust, part of the Maryland Department of Planning







Trails

Walkers Welcome!

Dashed lines on the map show our walking trails. Interpretive trails are highlighted.

Interpretive Trails

Layers of Time Trail

So much of the past is hidden under the layers of time. Dig into history and see a colonial plantation site and replica Woodland Indian village.

Length: 1 mile
Difficulty: Easy
ADA Accessible

Point Trail

Take in the landscape that has charmed people here for centuries. This trail winds down to Peterson Point, featuring scenic views and a pier on St. Leonard Creek.

Length: 1.7 miles or .9 mile short loop

Difficulty: Moderate

War of 1812 Trail

See how war came to the Patuxent over 200 years ago. Explore the site of a British blockade and then step back in time with an exhibit about battles fought nearby.

Length: 1.8 miles

Difficulty: Easy to moderate

Woodland Trail

Long ago most of Maryland was forested much like this. Get back to your roots on this path through a wooded stream valley.

Length: 1 mile

Difficulty: Moderate to hard



Iefferson Patterson with one of his prize cattle. The park was once Mr. Patterson's model farm.

Archaeology

Walk Where History Happened

Visit archaeological sites (shown on map) with signs that reveal what they once were:

Stearns Site 1300 - 1500 Native American village

King's Reach Site 1690 - 1711 Smith's St. Leonard Site 1711 - 1754 Colonial plantations

Sukeek's Cabin Site late 1800s - early 1900s Tenant House Site late 1800s - early 1900s African American tenant homes

