

Elizabeth A. Hughes was elected President of the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers (NCSHPO) at its annual meeting in Washington, D.C. on February 27th. Ms. Hughes is the Deputy Director of the Maryland Historical Trust, a division of the Maryland Department of Planning and Maryland's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Unanimously elected by the representatives of the 50 States and 6 federal insular territories, Hughes had served as a member of the NCSHPO Board of Directors since 2004 and, most recently, as its Vice President.

Before joining the Maryland Historical Trust's professional staff in 1995, Hughes had conducted research and field investigations of historic sites for local government in Southern Maryland and the Eastern Shore. At the Trust, she has overseen programs dealing with preservation in local government and statewide planning. She was influential in the development and guidance of Maryland's Heritage Areas Program which received a "Preserve America" award from President Bush in 2006 for its innovative heritage tourism strategies. She currently serves on the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail Advisory Council and the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail Advisory Council.

A native of the Salisbury area, Hughes earned her B.A. in American studies from Georgetown University and received a M.A. in architectural history from the University of Virginia.