

Hugh French of Richmond County Virginia

There has been much speculation about the surname of Hugh French's wife Margaret. Hugh died in Richmond County in 1701 and left his estate to his five children. There was no mention of his wife's surname. Many people believe that Margaret's maiden name was Mason. After researching land and immigration records, I believe that there is good evidence that she may be the daughter of Anthony Savage. There is also speculation that Hugh was "inter-related" to the Mason family. Hugh immigrated in 1663, as shown in the land records of Maryland. Also, shown as arriving in 1663 were members of the Mason family, among them George, Robert, John, Philip, Anne, Susan and Margaret Mason. This in and of itself does not establish much of a connection, but with other items found in England and Virginia, it builds a fairly strong circumstantial case.

Just one example, land records in Richmond County show that Captain George Mason owns land adjoining Hugh French and his wife Margaret in 1693. The historian at Gunston Hall states that a Ann French was the wife of the first Col George Mason (the first of five). This along with the citation in the 1771 will of Daniel French of Fairfax that mentions his friendship with Col George Mason (the third) and signer of the Declaration of Independence is pretty good evidence of a family relationship.

Virginia Colonial Abstracts by Beverly Fleet, Volume 1
Richmond County Records,

Page 90

Deed September 1693. John Fosaker and Elizabeth his wife to Hugh French, for 3000 lb tobo, 200 acres adj land of Capt **Geo Mason**, land of Mr. Wm Colston, land of Capt John Clendenen and land of John Forsaker. Signed John Forsaker, Eliz Fosaker. Wit Alexander Doniphan, Fran Thornton, Tho Parke, **Anthony Prosser**. Rec 10 Oct 1693

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Deed September 1693 John Forsaker and Elizabeth his wife of the par of St Marys in Richmond Co., to **Hugh French** of same parish and Co. for 2000 lb tobo, 1146 acres :being the remaindering part of the said Fosaker back land which came by his said wife Elizabeth the Daughter of Mr. Mott." Adjs land sold to David Darnell. Signed John Fosaker, Eliz. Fosaker. Wit. Tho Parke, **Anthony Prosser** Rec 25, Oct 1693

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Deed 21 Sept 1693. David Darnell and Margaret his wife of St Mary's Par Richmond Co to **Hugh French** of sd Par and Co. for 7000 lbs. tobo, 600 acres, adj land of Mr Wm Thornton, land of Col Wm Fitzhugh, land of Mr Sampson Darnell, land of Richmond Shipways and land of James Orchard, "being part of a patent for land lying in Rappahannock and Stafford Countys granted to Mr. Motts." Signed David Darnell, Margaret Darnell. Wit John Forsaker, John Carter Mauser Hubbert Rec 10 Oct 1693

Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, 1538-1940, Gale Research

SKORDAS, GUST, editor. The Early Settlers of Maryland: an Index to Names of Immigrants, Compiled from Records of Land Patents, 1633-1680, in the Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1968. 525p. Repr. 1986.

Source Annotation : Index from manuscript by Arthur Trader, Chief Clerk in the Maryland Land Commission, 1917. And see nos. 4507-4511, Land Notes.

Year : 1663

Maryland

Primary Individuals :

French, Hugh Page # : 170

Mason, Robert Page # : 308

Mason, Margaret Page # : 308

Mason, John Page # : 308

Source Code : 8510

NUGENT, NELL MARION. Cavaliers and Pioneers: Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants, 1623-1666. Vol. 1. Richmond [VA]: Dietz Printing Co., 1934. 767p. Reprinted by Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, 1983.

Source Annotation : Record of 20,000 very early immigrants, with much relevant information. Taken from Patent Books 1 through 5. Title page states, "In 5 volumes," but up to 1979 only three had appeared. See nos. 6221 and 6223 for second and third volumes, published in 1977 and 1979. Issued originally by Nugent in parts between 1929 and 1931; the parts were then largely incorporated in this work, no. 6220. Stewart, item no. 9025, compiled the article, "Ancient Planters [1607]," pages xxviii-xxxiv.

Year : 1663

Virginia

Primary Individuals : Ann Mason, Robert Mason, Susan Mason

Mason, Ann Page # : 444

Mason, Robert Page # : 424

Mason, Susan Page # : 484

Source Code : 6220

BRISTOL AND AMERICA; A RECORD OF THE FIRST SETTLERS IN THE COLONIES OF NORTH AMERICA, 1654-1685, Including the Names with Places of Origin of More Than 10,000 Servants to Foreign Plantations Who Sailed from the Port of Bristol to Virginia, Maryland, and Other Parts of the Atlantic Coast, and Also to the West Indies from 1654 to 1685. London: R.S. Glover, [1929]. 182p. Reprinted, with index of 16 pages bound in, by Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, 1967. Repr. 1978.

Source Annotation : From the archives of Bristol, England, with the title, "Servants to Foreign Plantations." Emigrants to New England, Maryland, Virginia, New York, Pennsylvania, Canada, and the Caribbean Islands. The information was transcribed by R. Hargreaves-Mawdsley, and occasionally the work will be found under his name rather than "Bristol...." An index of 16 pages was issued in 1931 separately, but it is now incorporated in the G.P.C. reprint. Pages 1-26 of Book 1 of "Servants to Foreign Plantations" were also in no. 2899, Hargreaves-Mawdsley, and in nos. 3438 and 3440, Gordon Ireland.

Mason, George Place : Virginia

Year : 1654-1663

Primary Individual : Mason, George

Source Code : 943

Source Page # : 71

COLDHAM, PETER WILSON. The Bristol Registers of Servants Sent to Foreign Plantations, 1654-1686. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1988. 491p.

Source Annotation : Date of covenant or indenture of service and apprenticeship with intended destination. Extracted from Servants to Foreign Plantations, a two volume set discovered in the Council House of Bristol. A summarized transcription by R. Hargreaves-Mawdsley was published under the title Bristol and America.

Mason, Phillip Place : Virginia

Year : 1663

Primary Individual : Mason, Phillip

Source Code : 1218.5

Source Page # : 195