

4 May 1669 (Old Rappa. DB4:106-7) John PROSSER to Jno. MOTT & George MOTT one Bill of Six thousand pounds of Tobacco & caske bearing date of 31 Mar last from Simon MILLER... S/John PROSSER; Wits. Francis [signum F] HALL, Thomas KENDALL (Sparacio)

Thomas KENDALL married Martha GOFF, step-daughter of John PROSSER (see below).

19 Aug 1670 - 21 Sep 1673 (Old Rappa. DB5:140) Be it known unto all men that I John PROSSER of the County of Rappa. do in consideration of the sum of four hundred pounds of Tobacco and Cask in hand already received and likewise for the love and affection that I do and shall constantly bear unto the **Memory of my Deceased Martha** and for severall services done me by **Martha the only daughter of my said Wife** and severally other good causes and consideration me thereunto moving do by these presents give and estrange from me my heirs unto the said **Martha and her now Husband Thomas KENDALL** and their heirs forever one parcell of land containing three hundred acres of land being part of a devident of a greater quantitie lying and being in the Freshes of Rappahannock River and on the South side beginning upon Swan Creek at a marked Locust the first three hundred acres being sold unto George SHEPHARD the said three hundred acres being the next adjoining to the said George SHEPHARD land and runing according to the several courses of the sd land unto the head line and along the head line so far as by Survey with its course to the River will make up the Complement of three hundred acres Now Know ye that I the said John PROSSER doe for myself & my heirs give and estrange the said land and every part and parcell of the same from me my heirs unto my abovesd Daughter in Law and her husband as aforesaid and their heirs forever without the trouble of me my heirs or assigns or any other pesons now claiming or hereafter to claime from or under me In confirmation of the premises I have hereunto set my hand and seale this 19th of August 1670. s/John PROSSER. in presence of us James HARRISON George SHEPHARD. Old Rappa. Deed Book, 1672-1676, Part II, Sparacio

03 Jan 1692/3 - 6 Dec 1693 (Richmond Co DB 1692-1694:195-197 (97-100)) 3 Jan 1692. This Indenture made the 3rd day of January 1692 and in the Fourth year of the Reigne of our Sovereigne Lord & Lady, William & Mary, Between **John COOMBES of Richmond County, Plantr.**, of the one part and Tho: KENDALL of the same County, Plantr., of the other part, Witnesseth that the sd John COOMBES for and in consideration of a Horse & a Sow & pigs to him in hand paid by the sd Tho: KENDALL before the sealing & delivery of these presents hath granted unto the sd Tho: KENDALL a parcell of land situate & being in the said County of Richmond on the north side of Rappa. River, beg. at a River and runnung to a Swamp and lying between the sd. Swamp & John WILLIS his land or the line of the sd John COOMBES with all houses buildings gardens orchards fences timber & water and all other the pr:mises belonging and all the Estate right & demand whatsoever of him the said John COOMBES unto the same; To have & to hold all & singular the said Land & pr:mises wth: all appurtinances to the same belonging unto the sd Tho: KENDALL his heirs & assigns forever more free & cleare from al former sales quit rents arrearages of rents & all other demands & incombrances made or done, the Quitrents henceforth to be due to his Majties: only excepted, by the sd Jno: COOMBES and that the sd Tho: KENDALL and his heirs shall from hence forth & forever hereafter quietly & peaceably possess & enjoy all & singulr the pr:mises as well against him the sd John COOMBES his heirs as against all other persons claiming under him or either of them and that the said John COOMBES and Ann his Wife will at any time acknowledge in open Court either to be held at the County Court or the Genrll. Court this Conveyance of the said Land & premises when thereunto requested by the sd Tho: KENDALL his heirs and at the cost & charges of sd Tho: KENDALL.

In Witness whereof I the aforesd. John COMBES hath to this pr:sent Indenture sett my hand and seale. /s/ John (crossed-I) COOMBES. Signed sealed & delivered in the pr:sence of Tho: PARKE, Tho: [T] GOFFE. Recognitr: in Cur Com Richmond 6 die 10br: 1693 (Deed Abstracts of Richmond County, Virginia, 1692-1695, Ruth and Sam Sparacio, Antient Press, McLean, VA, 1991)

01 Jan 1671/2 (Old Rappa Deeds, Wills Book 5: 9-10) 1 Jan 1671. Mary HOLLOWAY widow of Old Rappahannock, Parish of Sittingbourne out of love and pure affection wch I beare unto my two children Richard and Abigail HOLLOWAY have given and set over unto my Sonne Richard two Cows.... and one Heifer... marked with the proper marke of his deceased Father Richard HOLLOWAY... till my said Sonne attaine to ye age of Twelve yeares.... also to my said Daughter Abigaill HOLLOWAY two Cows the ones name is Black Betty the other Browne Betty the one bought of **Hugh PALMER** the other of **Mr. Archdale COMBE** the marks I doe not well remember wth one two yeare old heifer called Brinded marked with the same marke hir Brother Cattle are of with ... till she attaine to the age of ten yeares... I hereby impower Robert PAYNE my true and lawfully attorney for me and in my name to acknowledge in the County Court of Rappa. this act and deed. s/Mary [X] HOLLOWAY (Deed Abstracts of Old Rappahannock County, Virginia, Part I of 1672-1676, Ruth and Sam Sparacio, Antient Press, McLean, VA, 1989)

Was Hugh PALMER kin to Barbara ARCHDALE Palmer, sister of Margaret ARCHDALE COMBS of England? (See above) Also note that Hugh [his C mark] PALMER witnessed the 1671 will of John PROSSER, step-father of Martha GOFF Kendall, whose son/grandson, William KENDALL, m Elizabeth, d/o John & Ann/Hannah COMBS. He has not been researched.

21 VPB 5 p533(653) 3 Aprill 1666 Sr
Wm Berkeley Knot Gov Jno Prosser 418a & 56 pearchs, S
side of Rappa.

22 Jno. Prosser & Tho. PanVPB 6 p489 4 Nov 1673 5200a
New Kent Co. between the maine run of Matt

37 VPB 6 p489 4 Nov 1673 Sr
Wm Berkely Knt Gover Jno. Prosser & Tho. 5200a New Kent Co.
between the main

In 1686, Andrew1 Harrison purchased from the junior John Prosser 130 acres of land on Golden Vale Creek, adjacent to John Haslewood. Consideration for the deed was 3,000 pounds of "good sound Arenoco Tobb. in Caske," and cancellation of a debt for an additional 20,000 pounds of tobacco. [James Edward Harrison, A comment of the family of ANDREW HARRISON who died in ESSEX COUNTY, VIRGINIA in 1718

Mar. Skinner 1667 residence Rappahanuock Co. --1 of 106 headrights of Tho. Chetwood and Jno. Prosser, Rappahanuock Co., 28 September 1667, page 182 [Cavaliers and Pioneers, vol. 2, 1666-1695, page 47

1650:

Payne, Thomas- Nansimond Co. N. side of Indian Cr. Mar. 1650 (Thompson)

Payne, Thomas- Rappa. Riv. Apr. 1650

Payne, Edward- S. side of Rappa. Riv. May 1650 (Mason, Thompson, Lewis, John

Paine?)

Payne, Thomas- N. side of Rappa. Riv. July 1650 (Lane, James, Williams)

Paynes, Thomas- Chas. City Co., Aug. 1650 (Smith, Heyden, Thompson)

1665:

Paine, John- Rappa. "Freshes" Oct. 1665 (Prosser, Holt, Farrar, Cole, West,

Williams, Lee)

Paine, John- N. side of Rappa. Riv. Oct. 1665

Paine, John- S. side of Rappa. Riv. Apr. 1665 (Prosser, Cole or Coale)

20 Oct 1704 (Essex - Patent Book 9:616) 20 Oct 1704. John

CATLETT, 817 A, in the freshes & on S. side the river, on the head of Pewamansee Cr; adj. Cadw. JONES; land of Talliaferro BUCKNER, PROSSER, & ROYSTON;

Granted

Symon MILLER 5 Nov 1673, deserted & now granted by order, &c.

Trans. Of 17 pers: John PEAGE, Abraham BUCKLEY, Edwd. DAVIS, James BRADDICK, John WILLIAMS, Mary SHIPTON, Wm. ARCHER, John OAKNEAL, Jean WAKEHAM, John SMITH, John ROSS, Edwd. BREMLOE, Elinor COME (or CORNE), Peter LANDER (or LAUDER), Wm. ROUSBY, Geo. MASON, Isack JONES.

(Cavaliers & Pioneers, Vol. 3, Nugent, p. 87)

The will of Francis Thornton dated 10 May 1726 identifies a daughter named Margaret Strother (King George County, Virginia Will Book A-1, 1721-1752, pages 48-51). On 1 August 1727 Margaret Thornton Strother, then a widow, made a gift of land to her son William. In the deed she describes the 300 acres as gifted by her grandfather Anthony Savage to her father Francis Thornton and her mother Alice, said land being on the north side of the Rappahannock River in Hanover Parish (King George County, Virginia Deed Book 1, page 94 - Family History Library microfilm 0,032,061)

Notes on Capt. Anthony Savage

Justice Gloucester Co. sheriff and justice of Richmond Co. 1660: Anthony emigrated to Virginia; "added to the Commission"; Sheriff ; lived in Gloucester County, Virginia (or near present Port Conway - Sittingbourne Parish, Rapp Co); deeded land to Francis Thornton & wife Alice (Anthony's dau) 1666-73: Capt of militia in Gloucester Co, Va.

1670: "bought 1000 acres of land on the north side of the Rappahannock River in the upper precincts of Sittenbourne Parish" (tract was called "Mongoeheocala");

167?: "...I John Prosser of the Parrish of Sittingbourne in the County of Rappa in and for the valluable consideration of the vallue of 50 lbs Sterl in goods as by specialty doth appeare and sevrll good causes & consideracons me the reunto moveing have bargained and sold and doe by these pntes bargaine sell & exchange from me my heirs forever unto Mr Antho Savadge his heirs forever 1000 acres of land lying and being in the Freshes of Rappa River and upon the North side being pte of a Devidt of land of 5000 acres of land called by the Name of Nanzem and formerly granted to me the sd Jno Proseer Y Mr Tho Chetwood but this part where this 1000 acres now lyeth is comonly knowne by the Indian name of Mangecomupow and Begining at a mrkded wt Oake standing by or nigh the River side wch divideth the sd land & 1000 acres formerly sold to Symon Miller and runing along the sd Symon Millers to the extent thereof or head lyne and alonge the head line for Breadth from then to ye River and soe alonge the Riverside according to the sevril courses of the sd River to the first menconed tree the wch land being Legally surveyed to conteyne the full and Just quantity of 1000 acres. Now know yee that I Jno Prosser for the consideracon aforesd doe grant bargaine and sell from me my heires forever wth all the rights and priviledges thereunto belonging he or they pay such rents or services as by Soccage tenure injoynd to such as by Lawfull authority are appoynted thereunto wtn further warranty that the sd Snth Savidge shall or may from time to tije and at all times peaceably enjoy the sd 1000 acres of land. Likewise I doe further engage to ... (Old Rapp Do Deed Bk 1668-72 p118)

1678: deeded 300 ac of this tract to son-in-law Francis Thornton & dau Alice with reversion to grdau Margaret Thornton; Margaret married Wm Strother Jr and, as a widow in 1727, deeded the land to her son Wm Strother III (Jamestown to Charles Town, desc of Robt Beheathland ..; p121)

1695: Anthony died in Gloucester Co, Va; will pr 6/5 at Richmond Co Court (Wm Underwood & Francis Thornton were Justices) by son-in-law Francis Thornton whose wife was Alice Savage; last Will & Testament of Mr Anthony Savage being presented to

this Court by his Executor Mr Francis Thornton for Proof the said Will was Proved by the Oaths of Thomas Parker & Probate thereof granted to the said Executor (Richmond Order Bk 2 p55)

Cultural Resources Inventory
of
Pohick Bay Regional Park
Fairfax County Virginia

DRAFT

Prepared by
E.H.T. Traceries, Inc.
for

Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority
February 29, 2000

European Settlement to Society, 1608-1742

The year 1608 is the year of the first documented encounter between Europeans and the Native American inhabitants of Fairfax County. That year, Captain John Smith mapped the tidal Potomac River up to the Fall Line (modern Chain Bridge), recording the presence of numerous Native American villages and hamlets. Smith and his men called the Native Americans they encountered the Doeg — spelling later changed to Dogue — in Fairfax County. The explorers were able to locate the Dogue Tauxenent near the mouth of the Occoquan River, and the core of the tribe on Mason Neck, as they traveled into Pohick Bay. Smith's accounts of the Native Americans on Mason Neck document that the Doeg were "members of the Conoy group, so called by their Iroquoian name to differentiate between the larger political unit and its leading tribe, the Piscataway. Some Conoy bands lived on both sides of the Potomac, and groups like the Doeg moved back and forth throughout the 17th century." Noted as a Conoy subtype, the Doeg population was estimated by Smith in 1608 to include 135 persons.

The ravages of European-introduced diseases caused the population of the Dogue to decline about 1675. The accompanying change from native technologies (stone tools, hide clothing, pointed-base pottery, the bow and arrow) to those of the English, and a growing dependency on the technology of the new European arrivals, further destroyed the traditional Indian culture. After 1681, some Dogue may have moved from their primary locale further south along the Fall Line, returning occasionally to Fairfax County to raid local frontier plantations, or to visit the graves of their dead. Such activity may have continued into the early 18th century. Once the Indians were gone, the English took over the abandoned village sites and fields and practiced the new agricultural, hunting, and fishing skills learned from their predecessors.

In spite of the numerous land patents, few grants were settled quickly; thus, the area was established in theory but not in fact, remaining a wilderness broken only by occasional clearings for many years. Very few of the landowners who patented the land occupied their new holdings initially. Most sent indentured servants, slaves, overseers, and/or tenants to set up and maintain

tobacco plantations. Neighboring plantations such as William Fairfax's Belvoir (circa 1740), George Mason's Gunston Hall (1755-1760), Edward Washington's Belmont, and George Washington's Mount Vernon (circa 1735/1757-1787) were geared toward tobacco production. These tobacco plantations were largely self-sufficient, maintained by a vast labor force that included slaves and indentured servants. The plantations supported themselves by cultivating crops, raising livestock, and producing goods for their own consumption and sale. Tobacco and wheat were grown for profit. As lands further inland were seated, existing routes were widened into "rolling" roads needed to transport hogsheads of tobacco to the wharves on the Potomac River and its tributaries.

With tobacco as the major cash crop of colonial Virginia, warehouses were constructed throughout the area for the deposit and inspection of this essential plant. Established in 1730, the law required all tobacco be taken to an official inspection warehouse where it was unpacked, examined, and either repacked as good tobacco or burned as unfit for sale. The Virginia Assembly determined the location of these inspection warehouses, while local landowners often oversaw the erection of the buildings and rented them to inspectors. By the 1760s, Fairfax County planters could take their tobacco to any of four inspection warehouses — Hunting Creek, Occoquan River at Colchester, Little Falls of Potomac River, and Pohick Creek. The first authorization for an inspection warehouse at Pohick Creek occurred in 1732, simultaneous to that of the Hunting Creek Warehouse at the future area of Alexandria. The Pohick Warehouse authorization was repealed in 1734, due to the small quantity of tobacco presented for inspection. Ten years later, in 1744, the Virginia Assembly reestablished this inspection warehouse. The land was claimed by both French Mason and Daniel McCarty, with the former apparently gaining title in 1762. Noted on an interpretive map of the region in 1760, the Pohick tobacco warehouse was located on the northern shore of the bay, property now within the Accotink Bay Wildlife Refuge in the U.S. Army Reservation Fort Belvoir.

Colony To Nation: The Establishment Of Fairfax County, 1742-1800

Population in the area grew to the extent that Fairfax County was created from the northern part of Prince William County in 1742. As it was created, Fairfax County extended west to the Blue Ridge Mountains and encompassed what are now Loudoun and Arlington counties and the cities of Alexandria, Falls Church, and Fairfax. The county boundary was redrawn in 1757 with the creation of Loudoun County, and again in 1798 to run along Sugarland Run in a southwesterly direction. Ultimately, Fairfax County included 399 square miles of land and 11.4 square miles of water within its boundaries.

The first county courthouse, constructed circa 1740, was located near the present Tysons Corner, which was the geographical center of the county, roughly equidistant for travelers coming from Alexandria, Newgate (Centreville), and the settlements at Goose Creek. As Alexandria began to prosper, merchants complained about the inconvenience of the inland location of the courthouse and actively campaigned for its relocation to Alexandria with offers to contribute a site and build a new structure. Thus, from 1752 until 1800, the Fairfax County courthouse, together with the jail, clerk's office, and other necessary buildings, was located on Alexandria's market square at Cameron and Fairfax Streets. Consequently, during this period, Fairfax County's commerce and public affairs were focused in Alexandria, which was made the county seat in 1752.

Like Alexandria, the town of Colchester played a significant part in the development and growth of Fairfax County, particularly the Mason Neck and Pohick Bay area. Established in 1753 by an Act of Assembly, the colonial town had a short, albeit important, role as the center of tobacco and commerce on the Occoquan River by the 1760s. Colchester was built on part of a larger tract of land owned by Peter Wagener; the larger tract of 1,000 acres was known as "Stysted." Initially, the town flourished because of its location directly on the river, at the southern end of a royal mail route from Alexandria. The town was subdivided into building lots, encompassing approximately

thirty-one lots of varying dimensions. Including a market, ferry landing, and at least three ordinaries, sixteen of the lots were owned by 1760. Three streets — Essex Street, Wine Street, and Fairfax Street, bisected the small town.

Despite its potential as a major focal point of commerce, Colchester had begun to decline by the turn of the 19th century. The heavy reliance on the tobacco industry was instrumental in its decline, as a result of the end of the tobacco boom in the late 18th century. Additionally, unwise agricultural practices led to heavy erosion of the riverbeds, making the town no longer accessible by ocean-going vessels. The final affront to the town of Colchester was the construction of the bridge across the Occoquan River, to the north of Occoquan Mills. Consequently, Colchester existed with only a ferry crossing. Without a bridge, trade significantly declined. The 1805 rerouting of the "mail stage from Alexandria to Dumfries along a new road by Occoquan instead of the old route by Colchester" also greatly affected the colonial town. In 1797, there were approximately 40 houses in Colchester; this number had dwindled to seven in 1817, five in 1829, and a mere two by 1835. Today, Colchester is merely a residential community with little remaining of its commercial beginnings.

Settlement slowly increased as overland routes across the Potomac River were established and roads were created along former Indian trails. One of the more significant roads was the Potomac Path. The former Indian trail was a major north-south route between Alexandria and Colchester in the 18th century. "At the Occoquan River, the nearest ford was some distance upstream, and therefore the path was diverted to the ferry crossing near the mouth of the river at the colonial town of Colchester. From the Colchester ferry, the road passed northward over Giles Run, through the 616 acres owned by John Ford, and passed the first Pohick Church (circa 1760). Less than a mile after the road crossed Pohick Creek, near Robert Boggess' ordinary and racetrack, the road forked into a 'back road' and a 'river road.' The inland fork, or back road, followed a north-south ridge, crossed Accotink Creek, and passed by the glebe lands of Truro Church. It rejoined the river road just south of Great Hunting Creek ford. The road closer to the Potomac River, the river road, was also known as the county road. It crossed Accotink and Dogue Creeks near where they emptied into the Potomac River, passed George Washington's grist mill, continued on to the Gum Spring on Little Hunting Creek, proceeded almost due north, and rejoined the back road just south of Great Hunting Creek ford. After crossing the creek, the road continued north, eventually turning northeast to enter the town of Alexandria."

Other significant roads in the vicinity of Colchester and Alexandria were Walter Griffin's Rolling Road, the road to Hereford's Ferry, the road to the old Courthouse, and the rolling road over Fitzhugh's property. Griffin's rolling "road began at the tobacco inspection warehouse near where Pohick Creek entered the Potomac River [at Pohick Bay], and ran north and west to Ox Road. The road was probably built by Walter Griffin in the 1720s or 1730s, so that Griffin could transport the hogsheads of tobacco to the river." The road to Hereford's Ferry, "from its intersection with the Alexandria-Colchester Road near the latter town, ran southeast to the Potomac River at the ferry landing of John Hereford." Hereford's property was to the southeast of adjacent property owner George Mason, extending into the Potomac Bay at Gunston Cove. "A second ferry road ran from the Alexandria Road, near the Pohick Church, and joined the other ferry road near Robert Lindsay's land." This second ferry road, running the approximately route of Gunston Road today, intersected on Lindsay's land with Walter Griffin's road at the present-day location of Harley Road. Griffin's road then continued towards Hereford's Ferry, while the road that became known as Harley Road traveled directly southeast.

Just as agriculture led to a transportation infrastructure, religion created an important structural and organizational feature in 18th century Virginia. Church buildings and vestries were established and located as necessary for the growing and expanding populations. The original Occoquan Church (circa 1732) was one of two buildings constructed after the establishment of the Truro Parish in 1732 and prior to the formation of Fairfax County in 1742. At its formation, Truro Parish was located in Prince William County and included all of what later became Fairfax and Loudoun

counties. Ten years later, when Fairfax County was formed, the new county had essentially the same boundaries as the already existing parish. In 1760, there were three churches in Truro Parish — Pohick Church (circa 1760), Falls Church (circa 1733/rebuilt 1765), and the first church at Alexandria (circa 1753). The wood frame Pohick Church as noted in the vestry minutes appears to be the second such church building to serve the Mason Neck area, replacing the Occoquan Church. An interpretive map of Fairfax County in 1760 denotes the first Pohick Church was located on Alexandria-Colchester Road at its intersection with the road to Hereford's Ferry. The approximate location of this site is south of the present intersection of Old Colchester Road (formerly Alexandria-Colchester Road) and Gunston Road.

"By 1760, the original Pohick Church was in need of repairs. In 1765, after the new Fairfax parish was formed from the northern portion of Truro, a new church was ordered to be erected near the crossroads of the Alexandria-Colchester Road with the rolling road that led from Hollis' land to the Pohick warehouse. In September 1769, the vestry met at the crossroads and decided to build the new church on the nearby land of **Daniel French**, who agreed to undertake construction of the building." Prominent members of the vestry included George Washington and George Mason, both of whom served on the building committee that planned and supervised the church's construction. Inspired by James Wren's Falls Church, the second Pohick Church was completed by 1774. Extant, the Georgian structure is located on the south side of present-day Route 1 at the southern end of Telegraph Road.

Although this area saw very little action during the Revolutionary War, portions of Telegraph and Old Colchester roads served as part of the main overland route from Alexandria to Richmond and it is documented that they were utilized for troop movements during the latter part of the war. One contemporary map depicts the July 16-17, 1782, encampment of four divisions of the French under the command of Rochambeau on either side of Old Colchester Road; however, the location cannot be precisely determined but is probably along Giles Run, approximately two miles to the southwest of the present Fort Belvoir.

The American Revolution did bring about changes in the county, including political pressures that compelled many loyalists to leave the colonies. Other members of the county's elite, in particular, neighbors George Washington and George Mason remained, playing prominent roles in events that led to the Revolution and supporting the war effort with political, military, and financial contributions. With George Washington going on to serve as the first president of the United States of America, George Mason's place in history rests on his role as author of Virginia's Declaration of Rights and the Virginia Constitution of 1776, and his fight to include a Bill of Rights in the Constitution of the United States.

"17 Oct 1670 - John and George Mott receive a royal patent for 15,564 acres of land on the North side and in freshes of Rappahannock River. Land adjoins William Wilton, Mr. William Ball, Richard Heabcard and others over branches of Potomeck River, etc. Transport of 313 persons ??? Tho. Heywarton ??? William Covington??? 24 rights transferd from a patt. in foll. 209 in this book, that patt. being part of this land; 24 rites more transferd from another patt. in this book in fol. 73 being alsoe a part of this land. /s/ Phil. Ludwell, Clerk"

A royal patent to John and George Mott of Old Rappahannock County, Virginia for 15,564 acres of land in payment for the transport of a large number of people, including Thomas Howerton, to Virginia Colony. The issue of such royal patents followed the act or service in which the patent was earned. This particular patent was dated in 1670, a few years after Thomas had arrived in Virginia. The report that both John and Thomas arrived in America in 1663 or earlier continues to be recognized as the best estimate. It is

a matter of record that “headrights” were often accumulated over a period of years by an individual seeking a particularly large piece of land. Numerous instances have been found where headrights were traded and exchanged between owners, before finally being exchanged for a royal patent granting title to land. Because of this practice it is not always possible to determine the exact date a “headright” arrived in America or to be absolutely sure of his sponsor. Indications are that Thomas arrived well before the patent was issued.

Clearly, Samuel Poe’s lands fell within the John Meaders (Meders / Meadows/ Meadows) and Henry Peters (Peeters / Petars) patent of 17 April 1667 in [St. Mary's Parish](#) of Essex County and was on the south side of a branch of the south fork of the Peumansend (Mill Creek).

The name Peumansend Swamp refers to a section of Mill Creek, or to Mill Creek as a whole in some references. The term “swamp” is not used literally. Swamp simply means “branch” of the waterway. See: “Colonial Caroline: A History of Caroline County, Virginia” by T. E. Campbell and published in 1954.

The original patents (land grants) for old Rappahannock County area are known. There were twelve original grants. Samuel Poe is not among those patentees. Samuel Poe’s lands were along [Peumansend](#) Swamp (a branch of what later was known as Mill Creek). T.E. Campbell in his book Colonial Caroline, on page 16, states:

In the fourth grant of Caroline land (the third along the Rappahannock) a stream called Powmandsend (Peumansend) appears in the description. This was a grant on April 17, 1667 to John Meders and Henry Peters which reads, “4200 acres on the south side of the river about three miles from the river on the main run of a creek called Powmandsend.”

Samuel Poe must have acquired his 800 acres from John Meders or Henry Peters, but no record of the transaction is known to be extant.

The Meders/Peters grant is referred to in several land transfers recorded in Essex County, where Samuel Poe’s lands are used to indicate boundaries as evidenced above.

Other lands along Peumansend Creek were granted to the following, again from Campbell, page 17:

1667 – Alexander Fleming, 2,750 acres two miles from the Rappahannock up Peumansend Creek.

March 17, 1673, Robert Taliaferro, the son of Robert Taliaferro, 739 acres on the south side of the Rappahannock River on both sides of the mouth of a creek known as Peumansend. (Evidently at this time all of Mill Creek was called Peumandsend).

Nov. 5, 1673, Simon Miller, 817 acres “in the county of Rappahannock in the freshes thereof, on the south side of the river, at the head of Peumansend.

Nov. 5, 1673, to Rollins, 650 acres in the back country adjacent to the land granted Simon Miller that day.

Campbell goes on to explain (pages 17-18):

Robert Taliaferro braved shaky title and pillaging pirates to build his establishments on open water navigable for ocean going vessels and took advantage of the opportunity for lucrative trade, which the rapidly growing section offered. Not only were the twelve original patentees in the area, but some, at least, of the first twelve had already divided their holdings with more recently arrived settlers. . . Besides the patents of Smith and Taliaferro at Snow Creek and Henry Corbin eastward from Ware Creek and the Lewis, Warner and Hoomes grants in the upper Mattapony Valley there were only two other grants prior to 1676. In 1672 Col. Thomas Goodrich patented 2,200 acres on Tuckahoe Creek and Francis and Anthony Thornton took up 2,740 acres on the north side of Mattapony above the stream's major fork.

In the Spring of the Year, Herrings come up in such abundance into their Brooks and Foads, to spawn, that it is almost impossible to ride through, without treading on them...Thence it is, at this Time of the Year, the Freshes of the Rivers, like that of the Broadruck, stink of Fish. (Beverley 1705:146; based on late seventeenth century observations.)

St. Mary's Parish was formed from Sittenburne Parish in Old Rappahannock County around 1677. By 1713 it covered a portion of Essex County. St. Mary's Parish at first extended on both sides of the Rappahannock River until its northern half, in Richmond County, was organized as Hanover Parish in 1713. The remaining portion of the parish was entirely in Caroline County when that county was formed in 1728.

20 Oct 1704 (Essex - Patent Book 9:616) 20 Oct 1704. John CATLETT, 817 A, in the freshes & on S. side the river, on **the head of Pewamanssee Cr**; adj. Cadw. JONES; land of Talliaferro BUCKNER, PROSSER, & ROYSTON; Granted Symon MILLER 5 Nov 1673, deserted & now granted by order, &c. Trans. Of 17 pers: John PEAGE, Abraham BUCKLEY, Edwd. DAVIS, James BRADDICK, John WILLIAMS, Mary SHIPTON, Wm. ARCHER, John OAKNEAL, Jean WAKEHAM, John SMITH, John ROSS, Edwd. BREMLOE, **Elinor COME (or CORNE)**, Peter LANDER (or LAUDER), Wm. ROUSBY, Geo. MASON, Isack JONES. (Cavaliers & Pioneers, Vol. 3, Nugent, p. 87)

URL (Click on link) http://vimage.lib.va.us/cgi-bin/GetLONN.pl?first=112&last=&g_p=P7&collection=LO Patent Title [Conway, Edwin](#). Publication 28 September 1681. Other Format Available on microfilm. Virginia State Land Office. Patents 1-42, reels 1-41. Related See also the following surname(s): Conaway. Note Location: Rappahannock County (extinct). Description: 1200 acres beginning on the northwest side of the mouth of a small creek that issues out of Rappahannock River, on the south west side thereof right against the plantation now in the occupation of Anthony Savage the said creek commonly called by the name of Prossers Creek. Source: Land Office Patents No. 7, 1679-1689 (v.1 & 2 p.1-719), p. 112 (Reel 7). Part of the index to the recorded copies of patents for land issued by the Secretary of the Colony serving as the colonial Land Office. The collection is housed in the Archives at the Library of Virginia.

In April, 1684, the Rappahannock Court recognized a headright claim by Jones (Cadwallader Jones) for the transportation of 24 men from England. Included in the list were Andrew¹ Harrison and John Battaile. While this 1684 claim is the first record of either man in Virginia, it should be noted that both were freemen, with no headright restrictions or limitations. A lawsuit some years later revealed that Andrew¹ Harrison had leased land in Virginia in 1683, and other records show that he served as a juryman shortly after this claim on him as a headright. [Abner Harrison, *Andrew Harrison and other early Harrisons*, Harrison Genealogy Repository, online

After coming to the Rappahannock Valley, he (Andrew¹) had settled on Golden Vale Creek in an area that, by the time of his death, became St. Mary's Parrish of Essex County. It subsequently became part of Caroline County, and today lies with Fort A.P. Hill.

Golden Vale Creek was named by the earliest settlers, and still carries the name today. It flows into the southern side of the Rappahannock River about two miles below Port Royal.

As to how Andrew got to Virginia, the Virginia Assembly had granted Lawrence Smith and Robert Taliaferro a patent for about 220 square miles along the Rappahannock River, with the grant centered about a fort that Smith had build there in 1672 or 1673. The fort had fallen into ruins, and the Assembly was concerned about the continuing hostilities with the Indians - a situation that triggered off Bacon's Revolution in 1676. Smith and Taliaferro's grant was contingent upon the fort being repaired, and being staffed with 50 soldiers and 200 other men in the immediate neighborhood. The men were raised, and in 1676, the Assembly ordered that quarters been built for the soldiers, a 20x60 foot storeroom and an ammunition storage hut be build. Cadwallader Jones succeeded Smith as commander about this time.

In April, 1684, the Rappahannock Court recognized a [headright](#) claim by Jones for the transportation of 24 men from England. Included in the list were Andrew Harrison and

John Battaile. While this 1684 claim is the first record of either man in Virginia, it should be noted that both were freemen, with no headright restrictions or limitations. A lawsuit some years later revealed that Andrew Harrison had leased land in Virginia in 1683, and other records show that he served as a jurymen shortly after this claim on him as a headright. Similarly, Lawrence Battaile was commissioned Under-Sheriff of the south side of the river in May, 1684. It should be noted that the order books for Rappahannock County before 1684 are lost, and all 17th century records for Gloucester County were destroyed by fire. It is safe to assume that both men had been in Virginia for some time before 1684.

Lawrence Battaile married Catherine, daughter of Robert Taliaferro and (following her father's death) ward of Cadwallader Jones. Following Catherine's death, Battaile married Elizabeth, daughter of Lawrence Smith.

EH's theory, while he did an outstanding job of original research in England, depends largely upon the supposition that an Andrew Harrison (Andrew of London), born December 30, 1648, and recorded there until October 1671, reappears in the records of Essex, later Rappahannock, County, Virginia, sans wife and son, as a headright in 1684. There is a strong possibility that he had been in Virginia for some years before that date. JEH mentions the possibility that Andrew's wife had died, after having borne four more children, and that Andrew's son, John, had likewise died. The Andrew of Essex acquired a new wife, and died at the ripe of age of 69 or 70.

To bolster his argument, JEH draws upon the significance of Andrew of Essex settling in Golden Vale, and buying (leasing) land from the widow of John Prosser, who came from London near Andrew of London's home. Andrew of Essex's estate inventory included items that could be related to the tanning process; Andrew of London's father had manufactured neats-foot oil, and Andrew of London had been apprenticed to a shoemaker. JEH also places significance upon the general similarity of Andrew of Essex's seal to that of Edmund Harrison, who is buried at St. Giles Cripplegate, London.

Maynard mentions the possibility that Andrew was a brother of Judge James Harrison of Old Rappahannock County, but gives no supporting evidence.

CHAPTER II

ANDREW¹ HARRISON OF ESSEX CO., VA, AND HIS CHILDREN

By [Abner Harrison](#) of West Point MS

As noted previously, neither Torrence nor JEH identified the family name of the wife of Andrew¹ but identify her as Eleanor; Ray maintains she was Eleanor Elliot/Ellit; Hutton gives her name as [Eleanor Ellitt](#), and Meynard identifies her as Elinor Long, without any comment as to the source of her information. All concur that Andrew¹ and Eleanor Harrison had two sons, Lawrence² and Andrew², and two daughters, Elizabeth and Margaret. See Chart 3. Whatever his origins, Andrew¹ Harrison died in Essex County in 1718.

Andrew¹'s will, recorded in Will Book 3 of Essex County, names his widow Eleanor, his children (Andrew², William², Margaret, and Elizabeth), and his son-in-law, [Gabriel Long](#) (husband of Margaret). Seemingly, Elizabeth had not yet married Thomas Munday. Andrew¹ also named three of his grandsons - "... my daughter Margaret Longs three youngest sons Viz: Richd & Gabril & William ... " [In Richard Long's will, proved in Spotsylvania County in August, 1762, Long mentions his six sons; Gabriel, James, William, Andrew, Richard, and John. Wilkerson (1953) also records two daughters, Ann Long who married James Sherwood in 1721, and Elizabeth Long, who married James Lewis the same year.] The inventory of his estate made on June 2, 1719, was valued at £113, 10s, and 10p, and covered bedding, household furniture and equipment, farm equipment, cattle, one white servant (indentured?) and two negroes (slaves?).

After coming to the Rappahannock Valley, he had settled on [Golden Vale Creek](#) in an area that, by the time of his death, became St. Mary's Parish of Essex County. It subsequently became part of Caroline County, and today lies with Fort A.P. Hill.

The connection between Andrew¹ and John Battaile as headrights to Cadwallader Jones has been established. Joseph Battaile, Under-Sheriff for the south side of the Rappahannock, had married first Catherine Taliaferro, who had been a ward of Cadwallader Jones following her father's death. Following her death, Battaile married Elizabeth Smith, daughter of [Lawrence Smith](#). After John Battaile died, his daughter Elizabeth became the ward of Andrew¹ Harrison in 1708; two years later, she married Andrew² Harrison. At that time, Andrew¹ conveyed to Andrew² a deed for 130 acres that constituted Andrew¹'s "home place," retaining a life right for himself and his wife.

Andrew¹ served as [constable](#) for Essex County for a number of years, beginning in 1699. For the next four generations, at least one of his line served as constable.

Life on the Evolving Virginia Frontier

Before continuing a discussion of the Andrew¹ Harrison line, the following comments are offered to comment on what Virginia was like in 1700, the continuing change in politicogeographical boundaries, some of the main events that affected the Harrisons, and the politics and economics of the times.

Regarding the land at the time, three Virginia residents (Henry Hartwell, James Blair, and Edward Chilton) prepared a report in 1697 on "the present state of Virginia, and the college. " Virginia "looks all like a wild desert; the high-lands overgrown with trees, and the low-lands sunk in water, marsh, and swamp ... perhaps not the hundredth part of the country is yet clear'd from the woods, and not one foot of the marsh and swamp drained. " Where the heavy forest cover had been cleared, small patches of cultivation were surrounded by tree stumps and tangles of bushes.

The houses of the ordinary planters (all tobacco farmers of the time were termed 'planters') were almost uniformly small, dark, drafty, dirt-floored one- or two-bedroom boxes, ill-made and poorly maintained. Even the Westover plantation house of William

Byrd I, who made a fortune early on, was a four-square wooden farmhouse built for utility. Governor Berkeley's home at Greenspring was a 60x60 foot small English brick country house before it was remodeled at the beginning of the century. Bailyn's description of the life of the colonists of the time portrays a rugged existence, hard work, a struggle against the elements (drought, storm, and freezing winters), a fluctuating market for the tobacco that was the currency of the time, and endemic disease. The mortality rate was high, especially among women and infants, and [life expectancy](#) was short.

When Andrew¹ came to Virginia, the Golden Vales area where he settled was in Old Rappahannock County until 1686. The earliest counties had been laid out in long wedges so that each had access to the Chesapeake Bay or to a navigable river. A man could walk or ride a horse (the supply of horses was limited in early days) to get from one point to another, but all shipping was by water. Locations on the upper portions of the rivers and creeks weren't popular, since they usually were bounded by cliffs, where Indians could shoot down on the settler in his boat. See Map 1. As the population grew and spread into the western part of the counties, it was difficult for outlying citizens to get to the county seat to transact their business. So, new counties were erected by subdividing the old. Portions of Old Rappahannock ended up in King & Queen and King William Counties, and the portion where Andrew¹ lived became Essex County in 1692. Essex County was nearly 80 miles long in the early 1700s. See Map 2. Note that the western ends of the inland counties were open-ended; they just ran on indefinitely to the Blue Ridge Mountains.

In 1720, with the Essex county seat and court at Rappahanock, the people of upper Essex were demanding their own county. The residents of lower Essex opposed this division, since their taxes would be increased. A slight adjustment was made in Essex at this time, and after a bitter campaign, the election of 1727 was held. This election ended in a general brawl and punch-out. When the furor didn't die down, Williamsburg (then the capitol of the colony) created Caroline County out of the western end of Essex, King & Queen, and King William Counties. Spotsylvania County, erected in 1721, and Louisa lay to the northwest, and Orange County ran on to beyond the Blue Ridge.

Similarly, Orange County was too large to be governed as one political entity, and western settlers objected to crossing back over the mountains to transact business at the county seat, Orange. So, Augusta County was created for the trans-mountain lands, but it too was enormous, encompassing country that some day would make up all or part of half dozen [states](#) .

Again, a division was made in 1770, with the southern portion becoming Botetourt County, covering today's western Virginia, Kentucky, most of Illinois and Indiana, and a third of Ohio; it ended at the Mississippi River. The northern section became West Augusta County, encompassing today's West Virginia, part of western Pennsylvania, most of Ohio, part of Indiana, and all of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. See Map 3.

Regarding politics, a number of the first settlers to Virginia came in with grants for thousands of acres. When the crown took over the colonization, court favorites got the plums. The third wave, which included Andrew¹ Harrison and Lawrence Battaile, went beyond the Tidewater into the Piedmont. The first Rappahannock Valley claim was made in 1666, by Robert Taliaferro and Lawrence Smith, at the head of navigation on the Rappahannock River, in hopes that a town would be built there. (Fredricksburg was build on that spot, but many years later.)

Pirates sailed the Rappahannock, and settlers built several miles from the river to escape their attention. Settlers were also nervous about the Indians, and rightly so. Colonization did not really begin until after Bacon's Revolution in 1676. Sir William Berkeley was the royal governor and refused to call out the colonial militia against the Indian raids. A number of outlying settlers were killed and more were burned out. Berkeley had a highly profitable trade monopoly going with the Indians and he didn't want to interrupt it. His traders were selling guns, powder, and bullets to the Indians for furs; the Indians were using the guns against the settlers. A young London-educated settler, [Nathaniel Bacon](#), called up settlers to form a war party against the Indians, despite clear, definite orders from Berkeley to disperse and go home. When Berkeley set the militia on Bacon's troops rather than the Indians, the Baconites rebelled, and Berkeley headed for safety across the Chesapeake in Maryland. Bacon's force went on to clear out the Indians, killing enough to convince the remainder not to carry out any major organized attacks on settlers. (Small-scale settos were to continue for some years.) When Bacon and his troops headed back towards Williamsburg, they were met by the militia under the command of Lawrence Smith, the most experienced soldier in Virginia at the time. At a battle in Glouster County, the settlers roundly defeated the trained militia, and marched into Williamsburg.

Another soldier, Robert Beverley, a staunch admirer of Berkeley who despised Bacon for allowing the lower classes to interfere in the business of government, had come back across the Chesapeake and was in Williamsburg. The day after Beverley arrived, Bacon died of a malignant fever in Glouster County. He had left no effective second-in-command, and Beverley was able to talk the rebels in dispersing. When the governor returned, Beverley took fall credit for putting the rebellion down, and wanted land grants as his reward. A number of the rebels had their lands confiscated, four were executed, and there was a shuffle as to who owned what tract.

Succeeding governors continued this pattern of giving large grants to favorites, supporters, syncophants, and persons the governor owed a favor. These awards usually had the tacit approval of the House of Burgesses. It is difficult for people today to appreciate the power of a colonial governor. Appointed by the throne, he was basically all-powerful, with jurisdiction over all county officers. He could convene, dismiss, or prorogue the General Assembly and veto its acts. He also presided over the General Court (the highest court in colonial Virginia). In some cases, the Governor never came to Virginia but sent a Lt. Governor to act for him. The Council of State was the next most powerful instrument of government. It was composed, usually, of twelve members, selected by the King from names submitted to him by the governor, or occasionally, by

the King's selection directly from England. Councilors were chosen from the wealthiest and most powerful men in Virginia, and several men desiring the position were turned down because their wealth wouldn't support it.

The House of Burgesses was the colonial equivalent of the present-day House of Representatives, and was the law-making body of the colony. Two were elected from each county. The magistrates were the county judges, appointed by the House, with one appointed as the justice of the county court. The county surveyor laid out the boundaries of patentable lands so that patents or deeds could be obtained. There are two other positions that bear mention - the Clerk of the county court, appointed by the Secretary of the Colony, and the County Lieutenant. He carried the rank of colonel or lieutenant colonel and was the commander of the county militia. The difference in rank was based on the full colonel being a member of the council and a judge in the general court.

The backcountry of the Mattapony was building up a population of settlers who were basically anti-royalists. They received none of the perks of the establishment, and saw clearly that the governor and the large landholders were operating the colony for their advantage, often to the detriment of the smaller planters and settlers. This situation changed somewhat in 1710, when Alexander Spotswood took over as governor. He instituted habeus corpus in Virginia, so that the wealthy and politically powerful could not drag out a law suit with their opponent being held in jail for months or years.

Andrew¹ Harrison's entire life, like that of most of his fellow planters, revolved around the weather and the price of tobacco. In 1679, the glut of tobacco was so great that over 10,000 hogheads of Virginia tobacco was left in Virginia warehouses because the merchant fleets didn't have enough bottoms to haul it all to England, nor did the English warehouses have buyers for the tobacco already on hand. More accumulated the next year. In 1680, when Governor Culpeper arrived from England, he played strictly the party line; he took his orders from England, and wasn't about to let the settlers get away with anything. In addition to saturating the economy with "clipped" (shortweighted) pieces-of-eight with a true value of 5 shillings, Culpeper then ordered they be accepted at a face value of 6 shillings - a clear, immediate profit of 20% for him. When the coins were in general circulation, he ordered that they would be accepted at a 5-shilling value in payment of any debt to the government. After 3 months in Virginia, Culpeper returned to England for a short visit, leaving Sir Henry Chicheley in charge. Before Culpeper departed, he prorogued the Assembly, so that they could not meet until he called them back.

Prorogument was an accepted practice in England, but the colonist were accustomed to, and believed in, the rights of popular assemblies. While Culpeper was absent, the tobacco market worsened. The London warehouses were **filled**, and the surplus was driving prices down. Despite attempts by English merchants to dump the surplus on the European markets, the retail purchase of tobacco fell far short of the supply. This meant that the colonists were cut off even from smuggling tobacco out.

The customs commissioners didn't help the situation, since they would not permit the planters to lay off planting for even one year - that might give rival nations a chance to plant tobacco and capture part of the world market. Moreover, tobacco duties were continued at the set rate, despite the greatly reduced price the tobacco would actually bring. The London Board of Trade refused to hear the plight of the planters, and instead, sent flax and linen seed to Virginia, with orders that each planter would produce a crop of flax and linen in addition to their tobacco crop.

When Culpeper did not return when expected in January, 1662, the planned meeting of the Burgesses had to be further postponed. To quiet the Virginians, Chicheley announced that they would meet in mid-April (he expected Culpeper to be back by then). When the time arrived, Culpeper still had not returned, and instead had sent a message that, under the circumstances, the Burgesses were absolutely forbidden to meet until he did return. Also, the crown revealed that henceforth the Virginians would be responsible for paying for the elements of the British army stationed there. The redcoats were not popular with the colonists, who considered them worthless in defense of the colony, and troublemakers to boot. Similarly, the redcoats disliked the colonists and despised duty there.

Without an assembly, planting would have to be carried out as usual. Despite the injunction, the Burgesses met for four days before Chicheley was successful in proroguing the assembly. He announced the next meeting for November. A few days later, the planters of Gloucester County decided to take care of the matter of tobacco planting without a cessation order - they went to the fields and cut down the plants. While the center of the "plant slashers" was Gloucester, the practice spread to other counties.

Chicheley was afraid to order the British troops out against the colonists - he was justly fearful of the redcoats running amok, of the reactions of the colonists, and the real possibility of open rebellion. Instead, he ordered out the local militia, hoping that they would enforce the law against their fellow colonists. They did, guarding the fields and arresting the ringleaders. The plant cutters simply waited until night to enter the fields, and the wives of arrested men took up the knife.

The arrest of ringleaders continued as the slashing spread, even though greatly reduced by the roving militia. Col. Beverley, who had been a staunch supporter of Berkeley, was considered to be a prime danger; he was held incommunicado aboard an English frigate that happened to be in port. Lord Calvert was so afraid of the slashers entering Maryland that he had the infantry and cavalry patrolling the banks of the Potomac.

Chicheley tried to do what he could to keep the colony from going up in rebellion, despite the destruction of thousands of hogsheads of tobacco. By defining the incidence as riot, not rebellion, he was able, as provisional governor, to offer amnesty to those who surrendered. He issued fines and minor punishments, with the most stringent punishment going to John Stuckler, one of the most notorious cutters. Chicheley pardoned him on condition that he build a bridge across Dragon Swamp and maintain it for 21 years; Chicheley's plantation was nearby.

When Culpeper finally returned on December 16th, after an absence of nearly 15 months instead of the 3 originally planned, he reopened the affair, even though it had died down almost completely. He overrode Chicheley's grant of amnesty, and declared that the cutters were guilty of rebellion and high treason, crimes punishable by death. He based his decision on the English law whereby depriving the King of revenues due him was treason. Since an estimated 10,000 hogsheads of tobacco had been lost, this was a sizable amount. Culpeper went to Elizabethan law to determine that the intent to deprive was equivalent to the actual deprivation.

A number of the ringleaders were arrested and tried. The evidence against Beverley was not sufficient for conviction, so that all Culpeper could do was banish him from ever holding another office. Two men were hung, but when Chicheley died in March, Culpeper had an excuse to end his vendetta. He did some clever arguing on how he legally could offer amnesty to persons convicted of high treason - a right reserved for the King. His stated reasons included the preservation of peace in Virginia, the determination that the two men hung served as a deterrent to other wrongdoers, the point that fines were useless since the slashers were penniless, and finally, that jailing was not the answer since Virginia jails were incapable of detaining anyone because of their dilapidated condition.

The whole rebellion had been pointless, since the Lords of Trade had agreed to a cessations in June of 1682, primarily because the price of tobacco was increasing. Culpeper kept this a secret from the Virginians, writing to the Lords he had been able to keep the peace without the cessation, and indeed, had so encouraged the planting of tobacco that the next years crop should be at least 50,000 pounds greater than any previous crop.

The basic causes of this riot - or rebellion - had not been corrected, and Virginians would again face periods of recession and depression caused by the practices of English authorities.

Andrew¹ Harrison surely was caught up in the Tobacco Rebellion of 1715. Williamsburg had placed a tobacco tax of 85 pounds of tobacco per head of all male residents, black and white. Since the planters had to haul their crop to a bonded warehouse so that it could be weighed and graded, the tax was figured and deducted there. The St. Mary's Parish (which included Golden Vale) planters took their tobacco to private warehouses on the Rappahannock and sold their crop to black marketeers. When the Sheriff of Essex County heard of these goings-on in the upper parish he traveled there. He intimidated a few planters to move their tobacco from the private warehouses to chartered warehouses, but most did not. In April, 1715, a gang broke into the chartered warehouse, destroyed the scales, and burned the building where the more timid planters had their tobacco held. The Sheriff gave up, notifying the Council that he could do nothing to enforce such an unpopular law in such a remote parish. The tax was later rescinded.

Andrew¹ Harrison died before Caroline County was erected, but the lives of his sons, daughters, grandchildren, etc. were bound up in the events that transpired in Caroline County during the next several decades.

From its beginning, Virginia's economics was driven by tobacco. For many years, there were **five** kinds of currency in Virginia - British money, Virginia specie (issued after the French and Indian War), Spanish pistoles (the only gold in circulation and in great demand), bills of exchange, and tobacco certificates. Bills of exchange were as good as the credit of the man who issued them and his creditors. They were used locally, but were worthless for trans-Atlantic commerce. Tobacco certificates were the day-to-day currency of the colony, and prices often were stated in pounds of tobacco rather than pounds, shillings, and pence. London controlled the price of tobacco, which remained at a penny a pound until 1755, when it was raised to 2 pence a pound. In actuality, the value varied according to supply and demand, English recessions, etc.

Planters concentrated on tobacco as their money crop. The seedlings were planted in April, carefully tended for four or five weeks, when the plants were well started. At that time, corn and wheat were planted. Then, it was back to the tobacco. Tobacco was (and is) a labor-intensive stoop crop, so that a man could handle about one to two acres. Most of the remainder of the season was devoted to caring for the tobacco, cutting it, drying it in barns, and finally packing it into hogsheads to be rolled to the nearest tobacco warehouse. The planters raised enough cotton and wool to supply the demand for clothing in the colony, but there was little demand for these for export. The same was true for foodstuffs - corn and wheat were raised in sufficient quantity for human and animal needs, but little was exported.

In 1736, the London Board of Trade and the Virginia General Assembly enacted laws to boost the price of tobacco to 2 pence a pound (the price was not actually increased for 19 years), and limit production so there would be no over-production. Unfortunately for the planter, the tax charged on each pound of tobacco was based on this price, not what the tobacco actually bought. The means of limiting production was by specifying how many plants could be planted per acre, and by forbidding the tending of seconds. Seconds was the second growth after the main crop had been harvested. These restrictions had little effect on the major planters, but the smaller planters and the settlers were hurt, as were indentured servants and others who had no other opportunity to earn money (many planters allowed the servants to tend the seconds and keep the money they made). Caroline County was predominantly middle-class, and fought against these laws. Constables turned a blind eye unless forced to make an arrest, and many juries refused to convict despite all efforts of the courts to enforce the laws.

Regarding the second generation of Harrison, they were the offspring of a father who was a member of the minor gentry, and a mother, Elizabeth (Battaile) Harrison, who was connected to the powerful [Smith and Taliaferro](#) families, and indirectly to William Woodford, who had married her mother following her father's death. In light of some of Woodford's actions, it is doubtful if any benefit accrued to the Harrisons because of this relationship. See Endnote 1, this chapter. Andrew¹ accumulated a sizable land holding, over 1,800 acres, that he left to his children. These lands included land on the Mattapony River in King and Queen County, a grant he received in 1704.

Footnotes

- In 1704, Andrew¹ Harrison, Richard Long, and Samuel Elliot (possibly the father or brother of Eleanor?) received a land grant of 813 acres in the Golden Vale for the purpose of bringing headrights from England. Nothing is known specifically as to their success in this venture, but subsequently they received patents for nearly 2,000 acres.
 - There is a bit of confusion here. Wilkenson (1953) records that Gabriel Long married Margaret, daughter of Andrew Harrison in 1718, as recorded in Book W3, page 85, Essex County Marriage Records.
 - Golden Vale Creek was named by the earliest settlers, and still carries the name today. It flows into the southern side of the Rappahannock River about two miles below Port Royal.
 - Following Joseph Battaile's death, Elizabeth (Smith) Battaile married William Woodford. For details on Woodford, who was Andrew¹ Harrison's mother-in-law's husband, see [ENDNOTE 1](#), this chapter.
 - There was one constable per district. The constable's duties included serving as bailiff, enforcing the law, and maintaining order. It was an unpopular job, since it involved enforcing some highly unpopular laws. The constable served no set term, but rather served until he resigned, moved, died, or was fired. There was a fairly high mortality rate among VA constables. Most Caroline constables either resigned or were fired for not enforcing a law.
 - About half of the children born during this period died before the age of twenty, and of those who survived to this age - the most hardened and acclimatized - had a further life expectancy of only twenty more years.
 - That is why Chawckley's three-volumed Chronicles of Orange County is not necessarily a great help to the researcher - it just covers too much territory.
 - Whether Bacon was a reckless, anti-authority, bloodthirsty hothead (his forces killed as many friendly Indians as hostiles, and many Baconites devoted their energies to looting the properties of pro-Berkeleyites), or an enlightened patriot seeking the safety of his fellow Virginians has been the topic of a dozen or more Ph.D. dissertations. Both points of view have been proven conclusively.
 - One mark of the ruling families was that they felt it was beneath their dignity to serve on juries and only served under extenuating circumstances. No Battaile, Beverley, Catlett, Conway, Corbin, or Woodford served on a colonial Caroline jury. The Taliaferros were the only exception; members of this family served on twelve panels. It has been suggested that they were pragmatic, preferring to sacrifice their dignity for the opportunity to influence cases in which they had an interest. On the other hand, they were not universally well-regarded. A contemporary writer, the Reverend Jonathan Boucher, an Anglican minister in Surry County, in writing about the practice of intermarriage in many families. It was not uncommon for first cousins to marry, and he noted that "family character both of body and mind may be traced thro' many generations; as for instance every Fitzhugh has bad eyes; every Thornton hears badly; Winslows and Lees talk well; Carters are proud and imperious; Taliferros mean and avaricious."
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In 1686, Andrew¹ Harrison purchased from the junior John Prosser 130 acres of land on Golden Vale Creek, adjacent to John Haslewood. Consideration for the deed was 3,000 pounds of "good sound Arenoco Tobb. in Caske," and cancellation of a debt for an additional 20,000 pounds of tobacco. [James Edward Harrison, *A comment of the family of ANDREW HARRISON who died in ESSEX COUNTY, VIRGINIA in 1718* (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma: privately printed, no date), 26.]

Feb 8 & 9, 1713/14 Essex County, Virginia, Wills and Deeds, 1711-1714, p. 180. Lease and Release. 8 and 9 Feb. 1713/14. Andrew² Harrison, Junr., of St. Marys Par., sells Nathaniel Vickers of same Par., 100 acres being part of a patent granted John Prosser, dec'd., on Golden Vale Creek, adj. the land of Richard Long, etc. Signed Andrew² Harrison. Wit: Robert Jones, Robert Parker. Rec. 11 Feb. 1713/14. Elizabeth harrison, wife of Andrew² harrison, by John Battaile her attorney, relinq. he dower rights. Signed Elizabeth x Harrison. Wit: jno Row, Michael Lawless. Rec. 11 Feb. 1713/14. [Beverley Fleet, *Virginia Colonial Abstracts*, The Original 34 Volumes Reprinted in 3, (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1988) 2: 25.

By Patent dated May 2, 1671, Patent Book 6, page 343 in the Land Office of the Commonwealth of Virginia, at Richmond, a tract of land was granted unto Mr. John Buckner and Mr. Thomas Royston for two thousand acres "in the County of Rappa. on the Southside of the River in the Freshes," the said two thousand acres bounded as follows:

"Beginning at marked foure branch pine the uppermost corner tree of devident of land surveyed for Mr. Laurence Smith and bounded on the same S W by S 2 degrees and ½ W 1000 pole, thence N W 320 poles & thence N E by norley 2 degrees and ½ E 1000 pole to the River, and finally by the River side according to its several courses to the first mentioned station."

Richard Buckner of Essex Co., 4500 acres of land in King and Queen Co. in Drysdale Parish, beginning on a ridge below Mr. (Nicholas) Ware's mill in sight of the main road, corner to Prosser and Pannel, to land of John Hay, deceased on the east side of Deep Run (later Ware Creek); (Cavaliers and Pioneers, Vol. III, Page 256)

We the subscribers being summoned and this day to lay of and possession the land of Richard Johnson, pursuant to an order of the Essex Co. court, dated 16 May 1716 and we demanded of the said Richard Johnson to show us the bounds of his lands and to also produce what writing he held his land by and made, the said Richard, did answer us and said that his land was already bounded and that there was no occasion to show us his writings, or bounds of his lands for that Henry Hill and he had agreed to their bounds for which reason we did not

