

A Working Paper
Towards an Identification,
but a Speculative Investigation at Present

The JAMES RIVER DAVENPORT SEARCH, including LANCELOT, PRINCE GEORGE, and WILLIAMSBURG DAVENPORT Appearances in Various Records

An Inquiry into Colonial Virginia Beginnings

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Davenport Settlement on Waters of The James

THE WORKING HYPOTHESIS

The *CHRONICLES* that follow are compiled on the hypothesis that the **James River Davenports** were all related, and were, in succession: (1) **Lancelot Davenport**, who arrived at Jamestown from England on the Ship *Duty* in 1620; (2) **John Davenport**, who arrived from England just in time to be killed in the Good Friday Massacre of 1622; (3) **Oliver Davenport**, a transportee cited in 1673; (4) **George Davenport**, who came into evidence in 1702 and again in 1713; (5) **Joseph Davenport**, writing master at William & Mary College for many years, by 1722; (6) **Bedford Davenport**, who joined brother **Joseph** in 1737 in transcribing Colonel William Byrd's notes for the survey of the boundary line between Virginia and North Carolina; (7) **Henry Davenport**, who was a settler in early Lunenburg County, then went on to North Carolina, then allegedly on to frontier Georgia; (8) **Ambrose Davenport**, who began in Norfolk, then moved to Sussex, and then to Williamsburg where he was both a dry goods merchant and a tavern operator; (9) a younger **Ambrose Davenport**, who enlisted in the United States Army in 1792 and

finished his days as an Indian trader at Mackinac Island, Michigan; and (10) **Thomas, George, Edward, David, Matthew, Daniel,** and **James Davenport** of Prince George County, who began appearing in 1739, and who, in part, moved westward in Virginia and south to North Carolina after the Revolution. The hypothesis includes an assumption of a relatively close family relationship among all the **Davenports** cited. The inclusion is intentionally comprehensive and is totally speculative at the outset.

The research method will be systematic, resulting in a sorting out based on primary and secondary sources within historical reality in investigative analysis, and circumstantial deduction where appropriate. The degree to which the hypothesis has validity will be determined as our investigation proceeds and these Chronicles are compiled. The possibility of more than one family line is real.

A Concentrated Geographical Presence

With the exception of **Lancelot**, whose 50-acre patent of 1639 was located eight-to-ten miles to the East in later Surry County, and **John Davenport** who was killed by Indians almost as soon as he stepped off the ship from England in 1622, both **Davenport** appearances on the James River prior to 1700 (and all thereafter until **Joseph's** appearance in Williamsburg in 1722), were centered within a roughly inverted, triangular area, 12 miles at the base (top), 13 miles on each side, roughly 69 square miles. Since 1702, all of this small territory has been a part of Prince George County, being the easternmost portion of the County above Main Blackwater Swamp. **Davenport** beginnings appear to have been predominantly in or near the eastern half of that easternmost portion of Prince George, namely in *Martin's Brandon Parish* adjoining the Surry County line.

Our focus of land interest has received scholarly attention in past years:

“Sea captains were especially active in the acquisition of land through the transportation of settlers, and they not infrequently acted conjointly with London merchants. An instance in point is the case of William Barker, who, in association with Richard Quiney, citizen and grocer of London (brother of Shakespeare's son-in-law, Thomas Quiney), and John Sadler (brother-in-law of John Harvard, founder of Harvard College), patented

great tracts at *[Martin's] Brandon and Merchants Hope*, held by them or their heirs for nearly a century.” Robert Armistead Stewart, Ph.D., in “Introduction” to Nell Marion Nugent's *Cavaliers and Pioneers: Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants, Volume One, 1623-1626* (Baltimore: Generalogical Publishing Company, 1974. Reprint. Originally published Richmond, 1934), xxv,

Stewart apparently missed the fact that Quiney was also John Sadler's son-in-law, married to John's daughter Ellen. Both Stewart and W.G. Stanard, early scholars of Virginia land matters, missed the fact that John Westrope, another London merchant, with substantial acreage near Sadler and Quiney venture on the south side of the James, apparently was Sadler's illegitimate son. We say “apparently” only because Westrope said

it was so and backed up the assertion with four cows, while Sadler's viewpoint went unrecorded.

The land grants that Dr. Stewart singled out in his commentary are precisely those that are at the center of the **James River Davenport** hypothesis. There likely exists earlier research focused on *Merchants Hope* and *Martin's Brandon* plantations to facilitate our investigation. Keep the names of William Barker, John Sadler and Richard Quiney in mind, for Barker was high profile for the first fifteen years (1634-1649) and his associates Sadler and Quiney, their heirs and assigns, appeared often in records from 1634 until 1720, possibly longer. Be forewarned that ultimately both *Merchants Hope* and *Martin's Brandon* were bought by Nathaniel Harrison, Gentleman, who operated *Merchant's Hope* plantation as it was, but divided *Martin's Brandon* into two plantations: *Upper Brandon* and *Lower Brandon*. A later Harrison combined them into *Brandon*.

“Brandon Plantation is located on the south side of the James River in Prince George County, Virginia. It is one of the most magnificent and perhaps the oldest estate on the James River. The garden that extends from the house down to the river was established over three hundred years ago, as can be proved by the size of ancient dwarf boxwoods, trees, huge wisteria vine and other plantings. The two end wings of the great mansion were built in the 1600s and were two four-room, one and one-half story brick

buildings, placed as though they were intended to be wings of a great house...The present mansion at Martin's Brandon was built after 1765 by a Nathaniel Harrison. Thomas Jefferson designed the main house as it stands today, using the two and one-half story houses built in the 1600s as the north and south wings and joining them to the center structure.” [Edna Harris Busnell, *Terry Records of Virginia* (Birmingham, Alabama: Author, 1980)]

Mrs. Bushnell cited the publication *Brandon Plantation in Virginia, A National Historical Landmark*, but gave no publisher and no date. This investigation has determined that Captain John Martin did not remain at *Martin's Brandon* long after the Good Friday Massacre on 1622, but sold his rights to the land. By 1642 it was patented by a syndicate of London merchants, which originally included William Barker, Simon Turges, John Sadler, William Quiney, and Joseph Johnson. Barker, a sea captain, apparently acted as agent for the others, dropped out of the syndicate by 1642, but patented land of his own near *The Merchants Land*, and became a planter. Barkers heirs subsequently appeared in Charles City/Prince George and Surry records. Later, Captain Joseph Johnson, the only member of the original syndicate who resided in Virginia for any length of time (he arrived in 1618, but was of London, and a Merchant, in 1642), went to Court and obtained an Order giving him his pro-rata share of the venture, namely one-fourth of the syndicate's Virginia land. That left Simon Turges, John Sadler, and William Quiney as owners. Sometime between 1642, when Johnson took his share and left, and 1713 when John Sadler, Jr., by then a very old man, and Quiney heirs resurveyed and re-patented the *Martin's Brandon* tract, which had grown substantially, Simon Turges had dropped out, by conveyance to the remaining principals, and the land became solely Sadler's and Quiney's heirs. The *Merchants Hope* tract was resurveyed and re-patented at the same time.

Prior to 1720 when the Quiney share or moiety was sold to Nathaniel Harrison, one Henry Tooke was apparently the Factor and Agent for *Ye Merchants Land*. Tooke was charged with the tract in the Prince George County Quit Rents of 1704 as well as for a few acres in his own name. However, Tooke's own manor plantation was on the east side of Upper Chippokes Creek, the divide between Prince George and Surry, and was listed as owing Quit Rents there. In Surry, Tooke was the ranking Magistrate, being No. 1 on the Commission of the Peace, and was Major, second in command, of the Surry Militia. Tooke is buried in the churchyard of old Martin's Brannon Chapel, now long extinct, in Prince George County on *Brandon*. The Nathaniel Harrison who acquired the plantations from the surviving *Ye Merchants of London* died within a decade or so after acquiring the plantations, was not the Nathaniel Harrison who built the landmark plantation house.

All of the Brandon plantations of the Harrisons were showplaces. On the opposite side of James were two other Harrison showplaces, namely *Berkeley* and *Weyanoake* plantations. Considering the wealth of the Harrisons and the later Presidential connection, a number of secondary resources are surely available for determining the nature of a **Davenport**-Harrison association, if any. **Ambrose Davenport**, the colorful Indian trader of Mackinac Island, Michigan Territory, claimed to have been brought up on Harrison plantations on both sides of the James River, and to have been a boyhood chum of William Henry Harrison, subsequently President of the United States.

Although his small land grant of 1639 was located eight-to-ten miles to the East of where the family, if such it was, appears to have centered, **Lancelot** is hypothesized to have been the founder of the family, for in their records presence, the **James River Davenports** appear to have been skilled in personal, commercial, and public services--as scribes and scribes, bookkeepers, store and shipping clerks, curing house and warehouse workers, and later public clerks, writing masters, an attorney, and a minister. **James River Davenports** were not Tobacco planters of modest freeholds as were the **Pamunkey Davenports**, who were illiterate small planters in their beginnings. Nor were they like the **Tidewater Davenports**, of the Northern Neck, who were slaveholding planters of gentility, if not aristocracy, in their Virginia beginnings. **Lancelot** came to Virginia in 1620 as the First **Davenport** in America, landing in Jamestown before the Pilgrims landed on Plymouth Rock, and was a servant in the household of Mr. Edward Blaney, on-site Factor (agent, manager) for the Virginia Company of London. **Lancelot** survived the horrendous Indian Massacre of Good Friday 1622, and was still serving in Blaney's retinue in early 1625 when a Muster of every household in Virginia was taken. At the Muster, **Lancelot** was enumerated as 29-years-old, as having arrived in Virginia on the Ship Duty, and as being located at Mr. Blaney's Plantation on the South side of the James River (later James City County; Surry since 1652).

The land where later **Davenports** appeared was upriver from Jamestown. The relatively small area had included six water's edge plantations that had been attacked, pillaged, and burned during the Massacre of 1622 which had inflicted high casualties there also. The plantation (subsequently *Merchants Hope*) of Captain Nathaniel Powell was one of those overrun, with Powell, his wife, and all of his servants massacred. In the aftermath, one Captain William Powell claimed to have been heir-at-law to Captain Nathaniel Powell

and took Letters of Administration on the Estate. Shortly thereafter, William Powell died, and his Widow summarily married Edward Blaney, **Lancelot Davenport's** master. Hence, Blaney had control of the deceased Nathaniel Powell's estate from his marriage until the King's Privy Council in London ruled that William Powell had been an imposter and ordered the Governor of Virginia to seize the estate and convert its assessed value into Tobacco and send the Tobacco to England. There it was sold and the proceeds distributed among Nathaniel's siblings by his older brother Thomas Powell, heir-at-law and resident of England. Hence, for several years before William Powell's duplicity was identified, Edward Blaney had control of the land that in years to come would be known as *Merchants Hope*, and would be joined with *Martin's Brandon*, Captain John Martin's plantation nearby, with adjoining tracts added to both, all to be known as *Ye Merchants Land* and ultimately resurveyed and re-patented in two tracts comprising 8,208 acres (13.0 square miles) in 1718. During Blaney's brief tenure of managing the Powell plantation, **Lancelot Davenport** may well have worked at the future *Merchants Hope* plantation, and thereby gained knowledge that would enable him and his descendants to become employees of the *Ye Merchants of London* who owned and operated the Tobacco growing complex for more than eighty years.

Edward Blaney, a member of the Governor's Council during the last year of the Virginia Company and the first year of the Royal Colony, namely 1625, completely disappeared from Virginia records after 1627. With the Company having lost its Charter, Blaney, its on-site agent, was out of a job, likely returned to England. (He was the only Blaney to appear in Virginia land records for more than one hundred years, and he appeared only once, and that in 1628 as a footprint.) Whether **Lancelot** returned to London with his Master is unknown, but when **Lancelot** reappeared in Virginia in 1639, his record image was upscale from what his social stature had been in Blaney's household. He had become a freeholder, a freeman with land, albeit only fifty acres, and forthwith disappeared from Virginia records. He may well have gone into the records of the *Ye Merchants of London*. More than 7,200 acres, burgeoning to 8,200 acres, in those days of manual labor surely required a huge work force to clear, plow, plant, cultivate, harvest, cure, encask, and ship a Tobacco crop. Being successful businessmen of successive generations, *Ye Merchants of London* surely would not have obligated themselves to pay the King's Quit Rents, on a *per acre* basis and due annually, unless the large acreage was turning a profit. Various tracts around the *Merchants Land* were forfeited for failure to Seat and Seed, were escheated for a variety of reasons, but for almost one hundred years the *Martin's Brandon* and *Merchants Hope* plantations only increased in size. The labor force to have worked the property had to have included several hundred workers, beginning with the Factor, the on-site manager for the absentee landlords, assisted by scribes and scriveners, bookkeepers and other clerks, skilled craftsmen of sorts, field overseers, indentured servants and slaves—all in multiple families.

No principal in *The Merchants Land* appears to have made his permanent home in Virginia. They were all absentee landlords, conducted their business in America through factors and agents. On the Quit Rent List for Prince George County in 1704, Henry Tooke, apparently the Factor, was assessed for 4,700 acres belonging to *Ye Merchants of London*. In 1711, the two plantations were resurveyed and repatented, and included 7,208 acres,

including Old Land (previously patented) and Surplus Land (acreage within the earlier surveys that had not been bought from the King).. This, possibly, was the largest absentee-owned and -operated agricultural enterprise in Colonial Virginia. It surely had employment needs for the kind of skills that the **James River Davenports** appear to have possessed. The lack of visibility of **James River Davenports** in early Virginia records may have been due to their having been among the staff and work force of *Ye Merchants of London*, hence shielded from participation and identification in public records. Whether this speculation has merit will be tested as our inquiry proceeds.

We begin by sketching the historical context in which the **James River Davenports** had their beginnings in America:

The Virginia Company of London

10Apr1606 – CHARTERED: Letters Patent issued to Sir Thomas Gates, Sir George Somers, Richard Hakluyt, Edward Maria Wingfield, Thomas Hamon, Raleigh Gilbert, William Parker, George Popham and others to plant [colonize] Virginia and other parts of America. [Virginia Company of London.] [Peter Wilson Coldham, of Surrey, England, *The Complete Book of Emigrants, 1607-1620, A Comprehensive Listing Compiled from English Public Records of Those Who Took Ship to the Americas for Political, Religious, and Economic Reasons; of Those Who Were Deported for Vagrancy, Roguery, or Non-Conformity; and of Those Who Were Sold to Labour in the New Colonies* (Baltimore: The Genealogical Publishing Company, 1987), I:1. Hereafter *Coldham*.]

13MAY1607 – THE BEGINNING: On this day the fleet of ships sent by the London Company, consisting of the *Sarah Constant*, *Goodspeed*, and *Discovery*, anchored off what later was called *Jamestown Island* and began to disembark their passengers. This was the beginning of the first permanent English settlement in America. [Bell, Landon C., *The Old Free State* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1974, Two Volumes in One, a reprint of books originally published in Richmond, 1927), 1]

22Jun1607 – COLONY ESTABLISHED: A letter received by the Company Council for Virginia in London from the Council in Virginia at Jamestown:

“We are well fortified against the Indians with a good store of wheat and have built some houses. The land will flow with milk and honey if we are supported. We are set 80

miles within a river. /s/ Edward Maria Wingfield, John Smith, John Martine, Bartholomew Gosnold, John Ratcliffe, George Kendal.” (*Colham*, I:1)

The “set 80 miles within a river” meant that Jamestown had been located 80 miles from the Atlantic Coast on what was shortly to be named the James River. Among the Gentlemen members of the first settlement party was Nathaniel Powell, whose subsequent plantation, located upriver and on the South side will be the center of interest for these CHRONICLES for the first one hundred and twelve years, at least. Powell’s personal possession of the tract lasted only until Mar1622/23 when he, his wife, and all of his servants were massacred by Native Americans of the Powhatan Confederation. Powle-Brook [sic], as he called his plantation, was nineteen miles due West from Jamestown as the crow flew, and was at least thirty miles by water--the principal method of transportation for the first century of Virginia’s existence because of the dangers within savage-infested woods.

John Smith was the historic Captain John Smith of Pocahontas fame. John Martin was Captain John Martin whose plantation on the South side of the James was called Martin's Brandon and was sold to London Merchants by the early 1630s. Martin's plantation on the north side of James, called Martin's Hundred, does not figure in this study.

Enter Thomas Gray

-----**1608** – ARRIVAL IN VIRGINIA: “Thomas Gray, an ANCIENT PLANTER at or before the time of Sir Thomas Dale,” per patent of Aug. 27, 1635.” [Robert Armistead Stewart, Ph.D., “Introduction,” *Cavaliers and Pioneers: Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants, 1623-1666* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1974, a reprint. Originally published Richmond: 1934), xxviii.]

Gray apparently arrived in Virginia as a youth in one of the earliest ships following the first settlers. He is of interest because Lancelot Davenport's 50-acre patent of 1639 adjoined a tract of Gray's, both tracts being patented on the same day and likely surveyed in tandem. Hence, the circumstantial relationship needs examination to extract any identification it might provide concerning the life of Lancelot.

Sir Thomas Dale was variously Deputy Governor or Governor of Virginia from 1611 to 1616 and is credited with putting the Colony on an established basis. When Dale was recalled to England, there were no more than 300 persons living in Virginia, and few of those were survivors from the days before Dale's arrival. On 18Nov1618, the Virginia Company bestowed the status of ANCIENT PLANTER on all those still living in the Colony who had arrived before the coming of Sir Thomas Dale, namely arrivals during the years from 1607 through early 1611, and awarded a bounty of 100 acres of land to each. Dr. Stewart, who determined Thomas Gray's year of arrival was 1608, was able to identify fifty-one, including Gray, who lived to claim the ANCIENT PLANTER bounty or had the right to claim it. Not all collected. Then Dr. Stewart gratuitously conferred ANCIENT PLANTER on all who had arrived before 1621 and survived. These, and all of those who brought themselves to Virginia before the demise of the Virginia Company, were entitled to 50-acres for their PERSONAL ADVENTURE, but they were not entitled to the ANCIENT PLANTER accolade and land bounty. Lancelot Davenport, who arrived in 1620, was granted 50 acres for his PERSONAL ADVENTURE in 1639, under unusual circumstances to be discussed.

Thomas Gray was apparently a younger son of good family shipped to Virginia to make his fortune, but was not one of the GENTLEMEN ADVENTURERS or his presence would have attracted more historical attention. Based on the age of his daughter Joan in the Muster of 1625, he married by 1619, if not earlier. Gray was living in Jamestown at the time of the Massacre of 1622, but had moved onto James Island for the Muster of 1625. By 1635, when he already owned a plantation, apparently by purchase, he obtained a grant for 550 acres adjoining, paid for with his ANCIENT PLANTER bounty and headrights for two wives (one dead, one alive), two sons, and five servants. He was, by then, an established planter on the South side of the James River, over against (opposite) Jamestown at the mouth of Gray's Creek. In 1639, he and Lancelot Davenport obtained adjoining patents at the head of Gray's Creek, some seven or so miles to the southwest.

We shall follow Thomas Gray and his family, include them in these Chronicles, as we search for evidences of the presence or association of Lancelot Davenport.

--**Apr1614** – MARRIAGE: John Rolfe married Pocahontas, daughter of Powhatan, chief of the Pamunkeys and emperor of the Powhatan Confederation. (*Numerous sources.*)

Enter Lancelot Davenport

--**Jan1620** – SAILING DATE: The Ship *Duty* was dispatched from London to Virginia under charter to the Virginia Company with 51 persons [including **Lancelot Davenport**] aboard. [*Coldham, I:22*]

Davenport's presence on the Ship was reported in the Muster of Inhabitants taken in early 1625 (see below). The Duty also made the trip to Virginia in both 1618 and 1619 also, but apparently was not under contract to the Company for those voyages.

3Feb1622/23 – NO MORE LAND THAN AGREED: At a meeting of the Virginia Company of London held in London this date: [Translated from Old Style] Sir John Brooke made motion in behalf of Captain John Martin that the Company should, according to Lord Southampton's promise, grant said Captain Martin a Patent in Virginia with the same privileges as granted His Lordship or any other ANCIENT ADVENTURER, and that the shares of land mentioned in his former patent, or shall become due for transportation [to Virginia] of persons in his charge, may be laid out in *Martin's Brandon*, which request the Directors agreed had always been available to said Captain Martin. But the request of Captain Martin that he might have with his patented lands such swamps and bogs as lay near thereabout for the keeping of his swine, was denied, the Directors advising Captain Martin to be content with his due portion of land, as it should survey out, good and bad, in that place called *Martin's Brandon* of which he claims to be possessed. (*Virginia Carolorum, 403-404*)

ANCIENT ADVENTURER was the status given original shareholders of the Virginia Company of London who actually went to the Colony. Martin was a maverick in Virginia, uncooperative with the various Governors, frequently fractious and divisive. He ultimately sold out, either directly or indirectly to the syndicate of London Merchants, who built Martin's Brandon into a huge commercial venture which lasted for almost one hundred years, and which involved the Davenports on James River waters—the manner and degree of which remains to be obtained.

22Mar1622/23 – MASSACRE: Indians of the Powhatan Confederation attacked all English Settlements in Virginia simultaneously:

“...They spared no age, sex, or condition, and were so sudden in their indiscriminate slaughter that few could discern the blow or weapon that brought them destruction. The Indians familiarity with the Whites led them with fatal precision to the points at which they

[the Whites] were certain to be found, and that “fatal morning” fell under the bloody and barbarous hands of that perfidious and inhuman people, *three hundred and forty-seven men, women, and children*, principally by their own weapons.” Not content with this

destruction, the Indians brutally defaced and mangled the dead, as if they would perpetrate a new murder, and bore off several portions [scalps, hearts] in their fiendish triumph.”

[Henry Howe, *Historical Collections of Virginia* (Baltimore: Regional Publishing Company, 1960--Originally published Charleston, South Carolina, 1845), 44.]

Enter Edward Blaney

16Feb1623/24 – SURVIVORS: Among those named on lists compiled following the Good Friday Massacre by Indians of the Powhatan Confederation on 22Mar1621/22 were:

“A LIST OF THE LIVING”

At Jamestown and within the Corporation thereof

Edward Blaney

[Factor for Virginia Company of London and master of **Lancelot Davenport**]

Lancelot Davenport (as **Lanslott Dansport**)

[The first appearance of the surname DAVENPORT in North America records.]

Mrs. Southey, and her daughter Ann

[Widow and daughter of Henry Southey, Virginia Company shareholder, who, with his family and servants (among whom was **John Davenport**), had arrived from England only a week or so before the Massacre].

Thomas Gray, his wife [unnamed], daughter Joan, and son William

[In 1639 an adjoining freeholder to **Lancelot Davenport** at head of Gray’s Creek, South side of the James River.]

At the Plantation over against Jamestown

Lancelot Davenport (as **Lanslott Dampont**)

[A duplicate listing in another location.]

“A LIST OF THE NAMES OF THE DEAD”

At Jamestown

Mr. [Henry] Southey

John Davenport (as **John Dumpont**)

Thomas Browne

Henry Southey [Jr.]

Thomas Southey

Mary Southey

Elizabeth Southey

[and all others in Mr. Southey’s entourage, excepting Mrs. Southey and daughter Ann],

Source: *Colonial Records of Virginia* (Richmond: Senate Document-Extra, 1874), 42, 43, 46, 56.

Most of the servants of Edward Blaney were enumerated twice on the Survivor’s List—once in Jamestown, once on the South side of the James River, approximately a mile to a half mile apart, across water. The Virginia Company surely had warehouses or facilities of some sorts on both sides of the River, and Blaney’s servants would have worked at both places, where and when needed.

John Davenport’s identity did not become apparent until a number of years later in Northampton County on the Eastern Shore when Ann Southey Harmar Littleton, then the sole survivor of the Henry

Southey, Sr., immigrant party of 1622, went into Court and claimed 50-acre headrights each for herself, her parents, her siblings, and her father's servants, among whom John Davenport was specifically identified in correct spelling. He was apparently a single man fresh off the ship from England when he was killed—hence figures no further in these CHRONICLES.

28Feb1623/24 – REBUTTAL: Among those thirty James River Plantation leaders, namely the Company Governor and his Council, who signed a report to the King rebutting the accusations against the Virginia plantation made by Captain Nathaniel Butler, and stating that six thousand, not ten thousand, persons had been transported to Virginia who, for the most part, were wasted by the cruelty of Sir Thomas Smyth's government, was *Edward Blaney*, who signed 27th. (*Coldham*, I:46)

Captain Butler, a disgraced Governor of Bermuda, who had been relieved and ordered home for alleged corruption, made a visit to Virginia, his recall ship to England having to touch port in Jamestown. When he arrived in London, he successfully diverted attention from his wrongdoings by presenting a scathing attack on the conduct and state of the Virginia Colony, which became the focal point for those among the King's counselors pressing to nullify the Virginia Company's charter and convert the venture into a Royal Colony. The population of Virginia at this time was no more than 1,200, slaves included. This defensive document stipulated that only 6,000 transportees to the Colony had died shortly after arrival, not 10,000 as alleged by Captain Butler. This was likely the source of Governor William Berkeley's 1671 assertion to the Lords of Trade in London that four out of five person coming to Virginia had died within a year of arrival in the early days of the Colony. (John Davenport lasted less than a week or so.)

Blaney attracts our attention because he was the Master in whose household Lancelot Davenport was serving at the time.

Neill (Virginia Carolorum) identified Blaney as the Factor (agent, storekeeper, manager) for the Virginia Company in Jamestown. Blaney obviously was a commoner, for Gentlemen did not dirty their hands with nor deign to do such work. His lower social status is evidenced by his being among the last of the signers of this report. Blaney managed the Company's business affairs in Virginia, but he was ranked 27th among 30 in addressing the King.

--**Jun1624** – COMPANY TERMINATED: “Among the earliest acts of Charles the First, after his coronation, was a proclamation concerning Virginia. Sir Thomas Smith, the enterprising East India merchant, and Alderman Robertson Johnson, the London grocer, with their associates, were entirely satisfied with the victory over the Earl of Southampton, Sir Edwin Sandys, and the large majority of the members of the [Virginia] Company [of London], resulting from the declaration of

Chief Justice Leigh in June, 1624, that the Company's charter was null and void. Towards the colonists in Virginia they had no harsh feeling, but their influence was used with the King so to order the tobacco trade, that their friends in London might derive some profit. [Neill, Edward D., *Virginia Carolorum: The Colony Under the Rule of Charles the First and Second A.D. 1625-A.D. 1685* (Albany, New York: Joel Munsell's Sons, 1886), 1-2. Hereafter *Virginia Carolorum*.)

1Jan1624/25 – STATE OF AFFAIRS: “The first of January A.D. 1625, found a population [of Virginia] of only about 1,200 persons, one horse, one mare, five hundred hogs, and five hundred neat cattle in the valley of the James

River, and on the shore of the Chesapeake Bay. There was not a public inn, nor was there a church edifice, nor a residence of brick or stone in Jamestown.” (*Virginia Carolorum*, 26)

20Jan-7Feb1624/25 – MUSTER OF INHABITANTS: As ordered by the Commissioners for Virginia in London appointed by the King, each Virginia Master held a Household Muster and provided a detailed list of members of his/her respective household, together with ages of individuals and identification of what ship had brought each to Virginia. The only Muster including a **Davenport** was that of Mr. Edward Blaney, a Factor, who arrived in Virginia in 1621, and who married the widow of Captain William Powell.

THE MUSTER OF MR. EDWARD BLANEY

AT JAMESTOWN

Mr. Edward Blaney came in the *Francis Bonaventure*
[1621]*

SERVANTS

Robert Bew, age 20, came in the *Duty*.**

John Russell, age 19, came in the *Bona Nova*.*

[The rest of his servants were at his plantation over the water.]

AT MR. BLANEY'S PLANTATION, OVER THE WATERS

[South side of James River, across from Jamestown]

SERVANTS

Rice Watkins, age 30, came in the *Francis Bonaventure*.

Nathaniel Floid, age 24, came in the *Bona Nova***.

George Rogers, age 23, came in the *Bona Nova*.*

John Shelley, age 23, came in the *Bona Nova*.**

Thomas Ottowell, age 40, came in the *Bona Nova*.**

Thomas Crouch, age 40, came in the *Bona Nova*.**

Robert Shepherd, age 20, came in the *Hopewell*.*

William Sawyer, age 18, came in the *Hopewell*.**

Robert Chauntrie, age 19, came in the *George*.**

William Hartley, age 23, came in the *Charles*.**

Lancelot Davenport (as **Lawly Dampont**), age 29,
came in the *Duty* [1620].**

William Ward, age 20, came in the *Jonathan*.**

Jeremy White, age 20, came in the *Tyger*.*

John Hacker, age 17, came in Hopewell

Robert Whitmore, age 22, came in the *Duty*.*

THE MUSTER OF THOMAS GRAY

AT JAMES ISLAND

[James Island was that part of Jamestown surrounded by water.]

Thomas Gray, age [blank], by [ship blank]

Margaret, his wife, age [blank], by [ship blank]

William, their son, age 3, born in Virginia

Joan, their daughter, age 6, born in Virginia

* Listed once on the Survivors List of 1623.

** Listed twice on Survivor's List: once in Jamestown,
once on the South side of the River.

Source: *Virginia Carolorum*, 40-41. *Coldham*, I:55, 59.

Whether the order in which Blaney's servants were listed reflected any degree of favor or importance is undeterminable. Age obviously was unrelated to the order. Rice Watkins, the first listed of the "Over the Water" servants, having arrived in Virginia on the same ship as the Master, was likely the overseer of the plantation servants. Blaney had not yet married the Widow Powell or she would have been listed with him at the Muster. Neill lumped all servants together, did not

acknowledge the existence of Blaney's plantation over the River. He also omitted John Hacker, who if the same person, later had land within the interest of these Chronicles, but returned to England and died there (see below).

Joan Gray's listing after her younger brother was in keeping with social custom. Eldest sons, regardless of age, preceded brothers, then sisters, in all listings of a family.

The Royal Colony of Virginia

13May1625 - CHARTER CANCELLED: The King proclaimed the Crown's assumption of settlement of the Plantation of Virginia on the repeal of the Letters Patent to the London Company of Virginia. (*Coldham*, I:70)

Henceforth, and until the Revolution, Virginia was a Royal Colony.

4Mar1625/26 – ROYAL GOVERNOR, COUNCIL NAMED: Sir Francis Wyatt, Governor, having to return to England on the death of his father, King Charles I appointed Sir George Yardley, resident in the Colony since 1619, to succeed Wyatt. Yardley's Commission included appointments of Francis West, John Harvey, George Sandys, John Pott, Roger Smith, Ralph Harmar, Samuel Matthews, Abraham Piersey, William Claiborne, William Tucker, Jabez Whitacres, **Edward Blaney**, and William Ferrar as the Council of State for the Colony and Plantation of Virginia. (*Virginia Carolorum*, 38-39, *Coldham*, 71)

Blaney's appointment was a continuation of his role with the London Company. Initially the King appointed the same Governor and Council that the Company had in place. Who better to acquaint the King's men with the status and mechanics of the Virginia Plantation than those previously in control? Sir Francis Wyatt was the last Company Governor and the first Royal Governor. He was replaced within a year by his own request, but he returned fifteen years later for a second term. Blaney, being no Gentleman in social status and essentially a hireling of a Company that no longer existed, did not long remain on the Council. He was gone from Virginia within two years (see below).

What happened to Lancelot Davenport between Blaney's fall from grace and 1639-- when he was granted 50 acres for his PERSONAL ADVENTURE--is one of the concerns of this investigation.

21Jul1626 – KING'S PRIVY COUNCIL ACTION: An Order was directed to the Governor of Virginia to assess the value of the Estate of Captain Nathaniel Powell, Decd., and to send the value of it in Tobacco to England, a petition having been made by Thomas Powell, brother and administrator of said Powell, Decd., stating that in consideration of the poverty of said Powell's brothers and sisters, that proceeds of the said Captain's Estate should be paid unto them. The Virginia Company had certified that one William Powell, no way kin to the Decedent, had taken out Letters of Administration of the said Captain's Estate, and had seized the goods of Captain John Huddleston in Virginia. The said William Powell then died, and Nathaniel Powell's Estate came into the hands of **Mr. [Edward] Blaney** who married William Powell's widow. Thomas Powell, eldest brother of the said Nathaniel Powell, Decd., had taken out Letters of Administration for the Decedent in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. [(*Acts of the Privy Council of England (1613-1631)*), as cited by *Coldham*, I:72]

The importance of this event to this investigation was that at this time Lancelot Davenport was a servant in the household of Mr. Edward Blaney, and the land of Captain Nathaniel Powell, Decd., was the land that ultimately came into ownership of a syndicate of London Merchants and was called “Merchants Hope.” Merchants Hope adjoined freeholders who had Davenport associations: namely Oliver Davenport (1673), George Davenport, (1702-1739). Sometime after 20Feb-1625 and before 21Jul1626, Edward Blaney married the Widow Powell (of Captain William), and assumed administration of the Estate of Nathaniel Powell, Decd., fraudulently obtained by his wife’s deceased husband. Whether the enforced settlement of Captain Powell’s Estate by the Privy Council contributed to Blaney’s departure from Virginia remains unknown. Thomas Powell, eldest brother and heir-at-law, subsequently sold Powle-brooke, Nathaniel’s plantation and land rights on the waters of Powell Creek, the south side of James, to a London merchant who, in turn, sold it to a syndicate of London Merchants. Subsequently the tract became the nucleus of Merchants Hope plantation, which joined with Martin’s Brandon plantation, were collective known as Ye Merchants of London Lands (see below).

Was it coincidence that later **Davenports** identified in South side of the James records were associated with “Powle-Brook” as *Merchants Hope* became known or with *Martin’s Brandon*, the tract adjoining *Merchants Hope* to the east? The two plantations were operated under the same aegis. Are we, perhaps, confronted by generations of the same **Davenport** family serving the same Corporate Master, thereby shielded from freeholder responsibilities and hidden from public record view?

Exit Edward Blaney

20Sep1628 – LAND PATENT: John Pott, Doctor of Psychic and one of the Council of State, 12 acres lying about his house within the precincts of James City, south upon the Back Street, northwesterly through the Swamp, and west upon ground **late in the tenure of Edward Blaney**. Due as a part of his PERSONAL ADVENTURE, to be added to 3 acres granted said Potts on 11Aug1624. (*Virginia Patents, 1-I:10*)

John Pott was Interim Governor of Virginia from 5Mar1628 until Sir John Harvey arrived from England in the Late Fall-Early Winter 1628-29. This was the only patent that cited Edward Blaney. During his known time in Virginia (1621-1627?), Blaney sought no grants, obtained no patents, abandoned the only land he had in Virginia, and within a year and a half of having been appointed to the Royal Governor’s Council of State was gone from Virginia records, leaving only this patent as evidence of his departure from Jamestown. Blaney was not deceased in 1628 or the Pott’s patent would have so indicated.

Following the Virginia Company’s loss of Charter in 1625, Blaney’s role surely changed. What had been Company business, had become the King’s business, and, considering that the Company’s factor was next to last named in the order of Governor’s counselors, his political and social positions, weakly held as a commoner under the Company, diminished radically with the imposition of the Royal standard which added more higher levels of social class. A commoner of his talents burdened with the Company’s baggage of loss and disfavor, further diminished by the Privy Council Order seizing the Powell Estate, had no future in Virginia other than as a hard scramble planter. His skills in commerce would have had better acceptance elsewhere. Blaney likely returned to England where the successful East India Company needed experienced factors, or possibly he went north to the Massachusetts Bay or Plymouth plantations, for there were Blaneys in New England in the latter half of the Seventeenth Century, while there were none in Virginia records. Whether Lancelot Davenport returned to England or went elsewhere with Blaney is a minor concern of this investigation. Whatever, Davenport was in Virginia within twelve years to be rewarded for his own PERSONAL ADVENTURE and to become a freeholder in his own right.

Beginnings on the South Side of the James River

-- A GEOGRAPHICAL NOTE --

With the exception of **Lancelot Davenport's** patent on the south side of the James River in James City (Surry by 1652) County in 1639 and those patents of Thomas Gray for land which **Lancelot** adjoined, the preponderance of the patents cited in these *Chronicles* were for land on the South side of the James in Charles City (Prince George by 1702) County and adjoining James City (Surry by 1652) County. Even tighter, these *Chronicles* principally concern those land activities on the East side of Charles City-Prince George, and on Upper Chippokes Creek in James City-Surry. The boundary between the two counties, both of which extended across the river, was and is Upper Chippokes Creek. The next draught West into Charles City-Prince George, 4 miles overland, 10 miles by water, was Ward's Creek, alias *Martin's Brandon*. The next draught West, 1 mile by land, 1½ miles by water, was Flowerdew Creek, alias *Flowerdieu Hundred* Creek. Next West, 4 miles by land, 9 miles by water, was Powells Creek, alias *Merchants Hope* Creek. The next West, 2 miles by land, 1½ by water, was Chappel Creek. Bailey Creek was the last draught on the Southside before the Appomattox River joined the James, but was too far West for the purposes of these *Chronicles*.

During this investigation, the examination of land patented before 1702, when the South side of the James was broken off from Charles City and erected into Prince George County, was focused on the area between both sides of Upper Chippokes on the East and the east side of Chappel Creek on the West, and between the James River on the North and Main Blackwater Swamp on the South. Because of the diagonal southeast flow from the head of Main Blackwater Swamp, which rises a few miles east of the Appomattox and a few miles south of James (now in Petersburg), and makes a long trip south to flow into Albemarle Sound in North Carolina, the area enclosed thereby was an inverted, irregular triangle in shape, was approximately 12 miles East to West, 13 miles Northeast to Southwest, and 13 miles Northwest to Southeast, encompassing approximately 69 square miles. Within this relatively small area, at least six of the original English settlements in Virginia, all at mouths of creeks on the James, were located. All were ravaged during the Massacre of 1622.

As to proximity to the seat of Colonial government, the distance from Jamestown to the mouth of Upper Chippokes was no more than 10 miles in a direct line and by water; from Jamestown to the mouth of Chappel Creek was no more than 25 miles in a direct line but at least 45 by water, due to the meanders of the River. From the beginning and for the first fifty years of its existence, all Virginia travel between settlements was preponderantly by water. Overland travel through the woods was too dangerous because of the Indians. Tidewater Virginia was subjected to Indian marauders and sorties until the Second Decade of the Eighteenth century.

Depending on where at the head of Gray's Creek in James City/Surry **Lancelot Davenport's** 50-acre grant was located, he was between 8 and 10 miles east of where **Davenports** later appeared in Charles City/Prince George records. **Lancelot** was located

5-to-6 miles from Jamestown, most of which was paddling down Gray's Creek, which enters the James from the South almost directly across from Jamestown, first called James City, the earliest seat of Virginia government.

We shall consider the distances from Prince George locations to Williamsburg at the appropriate time. The story resumes:

The London Company of Merchants

16Oct1629 – ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE: Among the Burgesses elected for the Assembly convened at Jamestown this date was:

Cheney Boyse, from Neck of Land, Charles City Corporation

Source: *Virginia Carolorum*, 71.

Boyse was on the north side of the James at this time. He subsequently moved to the south bank and became part of the settlement area adjoining Ye Merchants of London lands. Neill notes that Boyse arrived in Virginia in 1617 on the Ship George and was born in 1594.

30Mar1634 – LEASE: Mathew Smallwood, Merchant, for 21 years, 500 acres in Charles City County, on **Bikers Bay**, easterly upon land of Captain Nathaniel Powell, Decd., now in the occupation of William Barker, Mariner, westerly on a creek parting it from land called *Chaplin's Choice*, northerly on the Main [James] River, and southerly into the Main Woods. [Consideration not given.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-I:151)

"Captain Nathaniel Powell was, said a contemporary, "born a gentleman and bred a soldier." He married a daughter of William Tracy (who brought a party of colonists to Virginia in 1620), came to the Colony in 1607, was appointed to the Council in 1621, and was, for a short time, Governor. With all of his family he was killed by the Indians in the massacre of 1622. In 1626, Thomas Powell, his elder brothers, and other brothers and sisters, all in England, petitioned the

government in regard to his estate. They stated that William Powell, who had gotten possession of all of it [the estate] in Virginia, was no relation." W.G. Stanard, *Virginia Land Records* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1982), 533. All of Stanard's "Notes" are from a series of articles appearing in the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, 1893-1901. Hereafter *W. G. Stanard*, and the page number in *Virginia Land Records* will be used in citations and quotes.)

William Barker, Mariner [Ship Captain], was an agent for a syndicate of London Merchants, which was in the process of assembling a large plantation centering on Powell Creek, which Barker or his London clients had renamed "Merchants Hope," the same name as the Company's plantation. Subsequently the Merchants also acquired Martin's Brandon, the larger original plantation of Captain John Martin to the east.

Smallwood was another sea captain turned merchant. In 1630, sponsored by the Earl of Carlisle, he commanded the Ship Tryall of London carrying fifty men to establish a colony at St. Christopher (St. Kitts) in the West Indies. (Coldham, I:91)

20May1634 – ADDRESS OF CONCERN: To the Governor of Virginia from the King's Privy Council: William and Thomas Willoughby, *Symon Turges*, Humphrey and Thomas Farley, *William* and Stephen *Barker*, Thomas Browne, William Ewins and Richard Ware, planters, have represented to us that, having maintained families in Virginia for

several years, they fear to lose from the appointment of Morris Thompson as sole shipper... (*Coldham*, I:115-116)

These were London merchants wearing their Virginia planter hats, and they wanted no man who was not one of them having a monopoly on shipping from Virginia. The families allegedly maintained in Virginia were not necessarily those of the petitioners. Simon Turges and William Barker had multiple hats. They were both London merchants who shared in the ownership and operation of Merchants Hope, the large plantation on Powell's Creek on the South side of the James in Virginia. Then too, Turges owned the Ship America in the London-Virginia trade, of which Barker was the Master (Captain) at this time. The fact that the King's Privy Council (his closest advisers) would bring to the attention of the Governor these concerns about the Governor's appointment of a sole shipper, i.e., bestowing a monopoly, was proof positive of the influence that Turges, Barker, and the others named had with the King or his closest advisers. In essence, the Privy Council was telling the Governor that the appointment of the sole shipper was ill favored, that nothing was to be done relative to shipping [principally of Tobacco] from Virginia that damaged the interests of the King's favorites or friends.

- Aug1634** – SENT TO VIRGINIA: “Thomas, a son of Sir Edward Verney, in 1634 fell in love with one, whom his parents did not wish that he should marry, as he was only about nineteen years of age, and the girl lower in social rank. After anxious deliberation, it was decided to send him to Virginia... In August, young Verney with his men, barrels, and baggage was received on board the good ship called *Merchants Hope* of London, whereof was Master under God Robert Page, then riding at anchor in the river Thames and bound for Virginia.” (*Virginia Carolorum*, 111)

Neill footnotes that Page was a well known ship captain in the Virginia trade. Young Versey ultimately settled in the West Indies.

- Feb1634/35** – HEAD COUNT: “A List of the number of men, women, and children Inhabiting in the several counties within the Colony of Virginia” included:

CHARLES CITY COUNTY

from Shirley Hundred to Weyanoke, on both sides of the River,
being within the County of Charles City,
419 persons

The total population for the Colony, 4,914 persons

Source: *Virginia Carolorum*, 114-115.

Shirley Hundred to Weyanoke were the north bank benchmarks, west to east. The south bank benchmarks, west to east, were south bank of the Appamattox, open to the west, east to confluence with the James and down the James to Upper Chippokes Creek. James City County was identified with benchmarks on both the north and south banks, began on the south side at Upper Chippokes Creek, going west to east.

- 10Feb1634/35** – LAND PATENT: Richard Tisdall, 200 acres at the **head of Merchants Hope Creek**, 2½ miles from the dwelling house of Rice Hoe. Due by a conveyance to Peter Hull of Blunt Point for transportation at his own cost of 4 persons: [Individually named.]. This patent was renewed by Sir William Berkeley [Royal Governor] on

23Aug1643 in the name of Thomas Wheeler having been purchased by said Wheeler, and a patent for 400 acres purchased of Richard Milton was added, by Captain John West, then Governor. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:697)

Merchants Hope Creek and Powell's Creek were one and the same, and is the same Powells Creek in Prince George County, Virginia, today.

23Jun1635 – SAILING: The Ship *America*, William Barker, Master, sailed from London with 91 passengers, including Rice Hoe, age 39, for Virginia. (*Virginia Carolorum*, 127, *Coldham*, I:152-153)

Barker was already involved in the Virginia land affairs for a syndicate of London Merchants, who would establish a commercial presence with a large landholding on the South side of the James River in Charles City (later Prince George) County that would last into the next century. Rice Hoe already had a plantation near the Merchants Hope tract (see above), had apparently traveled to England and was returning home. It was surely no coincidence he was traveling on William Barker's ship. By 1638, Hoe would hold patents for 3,900 acres in the Merchants Hope and Martin Brandon vicinity, both centers of interest for Barker and his syndicate of London Merchants, but Hoe would not remain on the James. In the mid-to-late 1640s, he sold his James River holdings and moved his interests to the waters of the Rappahannock, where he was the founder of the prominent Hooe family.

--**Jul1635** – SAILING: The Ship *Merchants Hope*, Hugh Weston, Master, sailed from London with 76 passengers for Virginia. (*Virginia Carolorum*, 127. *Coldham*, I:159)

*This sailing is of interest only because the name of the Ship was the same as the plantation or large land holding that the London Merchants established on the South side of the James (see below). None of the passengers, named individually with age given, appear familiar to persons and actions associated with these Chronicles. There was surely a connection with the London Company of Merchants, for Weston subsequently served as Master of the Ship *America* owned by Symon Turges, a member of the Merchants Hope syndicate.*

13Jul1635 – LAND PATENT: John Clay, 1,200 acres in **Charles City County**, adjoining land granted by Court Order to Captain Francis Hooke, to the head of Ward's Creek, easterly upon same, southwest into the Main Land, and north upon the James River: 100 acres for being an ANCIENT PLANTER at or before the government of Sir Francis Dale, and 1,100 acres for transportation of 22 persons: [No list.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-I:230)

27Aug1635 – LAND PATENT: Thomas Gray, 550 acres in **James City County** on the south side of James River, over against James City, adjoining on the East the plantation now in said Gray's possession, to land of Captain Perry, running along by Rolfe's Creek, and south into the woods upon Cross Creek: 100 acres due as an ANCIENT PLANTER at or before the time of Sir Francis Dale, according to a charter from the late Treasurer and [Virginia] Company dated 18Nov1618; 50 acres for the PERSONAL ADVENTURE of Annis Gray, his *first* wife; 50 acres for the PERSONAL ADVENTURE of Rebecca Gray, his *now* wife; and 350 acres for the transportation of his two sons: William Gray and Thomas Gray, and 5 servants: Jonathan Bishop, Robert Browne, Robert Welsh, Luke Mizell, Jonathan Bankes. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-I:283)

This land after 1652 was in Surry County, which adjoined southside Charles City County, and was twelve miles east of Martin's Brandon. Rolfe's Creek was named for John Rolfe who married Pocahontas.

The nature of the headrights used to pay for this land suggests that Gray had taken his family back to England, where he married a second wife and son Thomas was born, during which time he secured the services of five servants, and then brought the whole group back to Virginia. That's the only way that, being an ANCIENT PLANTER, he could have acquired the mix of headrights used to pay for the new land. Son William was born in Virginia, was not eligible for a headright unless he had left Virginia and then returned. Daughter Joan was missing. If living she was likely married by this time, would have been age 19 based on her Muster of 1625 age. Virginia born, she would have been ineligible for a headright unless she had accompanied her father back to England and returned.

In 1639, Lancelot Davenport would be granted 50 acres adjoining a tract of Thomas Gray at the head of Gray's Creek, seven or so miles southwest of the tract patented here (see below).

Consider the fact that the plantation Thomas Gray owned, adjacent to the land patented here, was "Over against James City," which was to say, "opposite to Jamestown," which was precisely the place where Edward Blaney's plantation had been in 1625. Had **Lancelot Davenport entered the service of Thomas Gray when Edward Blaney left Virginia before mid-1627, remaining on the same plantation but with a new owner, or series of owners?**

16Nov1635 – LAND PATENT: William Pilkington, 200 acres in **James City County** bearing South on [Upper] Chippokes Creek, West into the Main Woods, a small creek lying one each side. For transportation of 4 persons: [No list]. Renewed in the name of Sir John Harvey [Governor]. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-I:308)

Pilkington was across the creek from Martin's Brandon plantation, a close neighbor but in a different county.

20Nov1635 – LAND PATENT: Edward Sparshott, 100 acres in **Charles City County** at *Merchants Hope* Creek at the parting of said Creek, south up the Creek, west upon the Main Woods, east upon the Creek and on the north side of the Indian field: 50 acres for the PERSONAL ADVENTURE of his wife Maudelin, and 50 acres for transportation of 1 servant called Robert Honeybone. [Endorsed: Renewed and 250 acres added.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-I:314)

26Nov1635 – LAND PATENT: William Barker, Mariner; John Sadler & Richard Quiney, Merchants; and to their Associates & Company, 1,250 acres in **Charles City County**, extending into the Woods from a seat or tract of land called *Merchants Hope*, formerly granted to said Barker, his Associates and Company. For transportation of 25 persons: [Individually named, but none of **Davenport** interest.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-I:320)

*There is no earlier patent to Barker, his Associates and Company among extant Virginia land records. But Matthew Smallwood's patent of 1634 (see above) acknowledged Barker's occupation of adjoining land, which subsequently was identified as *Merchants Hope*. Hence, we know only that Barker and others were in control of the land before 1634.*

26Nov1635 – LAND PATENT: William Barker, Mariner, 400 acres in **Charles City County**, bounded upon Chappels Creek, south into the Woods, east along the [James]

River, adjoining upon *Merchants Hope*: 50 acres for said Barker's PERSONAL ADVENTURE, and 350 acres for transportation of 7 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-I:321)

Barker was a ship captain and agent for the London Merchants, but was not one of them. He took up land adjoining their venture, but his Virginia home at this time was in Jamestown.

16Mar1636 – LAND PATENT: Symon Turges, John Sadler, and Richard Quiney of London, Merchants, a site or tract of land [in **Charles City County**] commonly called by the name of *Martin's Brandon*. Beginning at the mouth of Upper Chippokes Creek by the side of which Creek the land lyeth nearest. Easterly from the mouth of said Creek to the point of the Tappahanna Marsh. Northerly and from point of the said Marsh by the Main River side up to the mouth of Wards Creek. Westerly on said Creek setting nearest hand southerly into the Woods. Due by purchase from Captain Robert Bargrave. (*Virginia Patent*, 1:I:415)

Barker was not a principal in the Martin's Brandon deal, which was apparently done in England. Captain Bargrave, who had bought the rights to the tract from Captain John Martin, obviously did not know the amount of acreage involved. That had to be determined by survey in Virginia. This patent was no more than a certification of a land right. The land had to be surveyed and bought from the King before there would be a title. A subsequent patent established the acreage (see below).

2May1636 – LAND PATENT: Rice Hoe, 1,200 acres in **Charles City County** near *Martin's Brandon*. Beginning westerly on the Main [James] River to a Creek, parting the land of *Martin's Brandon* and Captain Ward's land, southerly along Captain Ward's Creek, and east into the Main Wood along the Main River, all of which land is called *Captain Wards' Plantation*: 100 acres for the PERSONAL ADVENTURE of said Hoe and his wife, and 1,100 acres for the transportation of 22 persons. [No list recorded.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1:I:538)

9May1636 – LAND PATENT: William Rookins, 150 acres in **James City County**, lying westerly upon Upper Chippokes Creek, northerly upon James River, easterly upon the land of Samuel Edmonds, and southerly into the Main Woods, said land being called *The Flying Point*. 50 acres from the PERSONAL ADVENTURE of his wife Jane Baxter, and 100 acres for the transportation of 2 persons: Robert Risby, John Allen. Renewed by Sir John Harvey. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-I:349)

Being on the east side of Upper Chippokes Creek, this land became part of Surry County in 1652. The Creek was not wide, and Martin's Brandon lay on the other side. Socially it was all one neighborhood.

William Rookins came to Virginia in 1619 in the *Bona Nova*. The records of Surry and of the General Court show that he was alive in 1641, married to Jane [surname unknown], had a son, William of Surry County, who served as a Major under Nathaniel Bacon in the Rebellion, was captured, sentenced to death by a Court Martial held 23Jan1676-77.

He, however, died in prison before execution. William Rookin's will, dated 13Jul1676 and probated in Surry on 1Jul1679, identified himself as of "Flying Point in the County of Surry, and named his children: William, Elizabeth, and Jane, and the children of his cousin Mary Short [wife of William]. His wife was named Frances, and he was a brother-in-

law of Captain Nicholas Wyatt, of Charles City County. (W.G. Stanard, 633)

18May1636 – LAND PATENT: Benjamin Harrison, 600 acres in **James City County**, south of the [James] River about 1½ miles up the Upper Chippokes Creek upon the easterly side near the land granted Jeremiah Clements, bounding upon the easterly side of a swamp over against Sandy Point: 500 acres due by Order of the Court on 3Jun1635, and 100 acres additional. For transportation of 12 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1:I:422)

This was the first Harrison presence in the neighborhood and was on the east side of Upper Chippokes. In the next hundred years, the Harrisons would own more than 40,000 acres in James City, Charles City, Surry, and Prince George counties, and would occupy many of the public offices in Charles City, Surry, and Prince George. The Harrisons proliferated. If the Davenports were associated with them, it most likely was with the lesser members of the family in wealth and authority.

11Jul1636 – LAND PATENT: Edward Sparshott, 300 acres in **Charles City County** at *Merchants Hope* Creek, upon the south side of his former patent land, 100 acres for the PERSONAL ADVENTURES of himself and his son Edward Sparshott, and 100 acres for the transportation of 2 persons: Jerimah Hayles, Jeremiah Watts, [Endorsed: Renewed and another patent for 100 acres, with addition of 50 acres in one patent by Sir John Harvey. /s/ Richard Kemp, Secretary.] (*Virginia Patents*,1-I:372)

15Oct1636 – LAND PATENT: Mrs. Elizabeth Stephens, 1,000 acres in **Charles City County** known and called by the name of *Flowerdew Hundred*, being bounded by the Creek of the same name, down the Main [James] River unto the Spring Swamp, being West into the Woods, and lying alongst the south side of the Main River over against Weyanoke. Due in right of descent from her father Abraham Peirse, Gentleman, late of Virginia, and is a part of her share and portion of inheritance as co-heir from her said father, to whom said land was due by purchase from Sir George Yardley, as by deed dated 5Oct1624. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-I:395)

Mrs. Stephens, wife of Richard Stephens and daughter of Abraham Peirse, founder and original owner of Flowerdew Hundred, married Governor John Harvey following Stephen's death a few months hereafter, which was a rather strange development. Harvey, an intemperate man who had been arrested by members of his Council and sent to England for trial—a futile effort which did nothing more than infuriate Charles I as a usurpation of his prerogatives, was in constant contention with his advisers. In a fit of rage engendering a fight with Stephens, a member of his Council by King's appointment and detested by Harvey, the Royal Governor knocked out Stephen's teeth with a cudgel. Neill noted that Stephens had arrived in Virginia in 1623, and soon mortally wounded George Harrison in a duel. Stanard wrote that Flowerdew, a name that remains on the Creek, was the name of Abraham Peirse's wife and Lady Elizabeth Peirse Stephens Harvey's mother. If so, she was a first or earlier wife, for the wife named when Peirse made his will on 1Mar1625/26 was Frances.

“Richard Stephens came to Virginia in 1623, was a member of the House of Burgesses that year; and a member of the Governor's Council in 1629. Not long after his arrival in Virginia he took part in the *first duel in the English Colonies*, wounding his antagonist, so severely that he died

within a few days. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Abraham Peirse (of the Governor's Council), and died [before. May1639] when William Barker's patent noted that Mrs. Stephens was “now Lady Harvey.” (W.G. Stanard, 445-446)

22Aug1637 – LAND PATENT: George Burcher, 300 acres in **James City County** on Upper Chippokes Creek, adjoining easterly on land of John Hacker, north upon *Martin's Brandon*, southerly on a little creek between land of William Pilkington and John Hacker, and westerly into the Main Woods. For transportation of 6 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:465)

24Aug1637 – LAND PATENT: Cheney Boyse, 1,550 acres in **Charles City County**, joining north above Lime Hill Swamp, west upon *Merchants Hope* Creek, east into the Woods, and south up towards the head of said Creek, being 100 acres due for his PERSONAL ADVENTURE as being an ANCIENT PLANTER before the time of Sir Francis Dale's government, according to a charter of orders from the Late Treasurer and [Virginia] Company, dated 18Nov1618; and 1,450 acres for the transportation of 29 persons: [List included Cheney Boyse, Richard Williams, Thomas Wheeler, and 26 others, individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:468)

29Aug1637 – LAND PATENT: William Barker, Mariner, 600 acres in **Charles City County**, being a point of land called *Bikers*, which was formerly bounded by Captain Nathaniel Powell's dividend, lying southeasterly in the Woods, and westerly upon Chapman's dividend. For transportation of 12 persons: [No list.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:475)

This appears to be Captain Barker patenting the land that included the land that Captain Matthew Smallwood had leased in 1634.

26Oct1637 – LAND PATENT: Captain Francis Hooke, 2,000 acres [in **Charles City County**] on *Flowerdew Hundred* side by a Creek and on *Martin's Brandon* side by Ashley's Bay or Captain Ward's Creek, being the land called *Spielman's* and lying over against *Weyanoke*. To be paid for following the survey by a proper number of transported polls (persons) at 50 acres each. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:485)

Hooke commanded Fort Comfort at the confluence of the James River with Chesapeake Bay, where all ships were expected to clear, coming to or going from Virginia, to obtain approval and pay fees for landing and shipping. He lived in Elizabeth City County, speculated in Virginia lands in diverse locales. This patent description includes five benchmarks where the Indians had massacred the English in 1622, namely Flowerdew Hundred, Martin Brandon, Captain Ward's, Spielman's, and Weyanoke. On 23Mar1638, Captain Richard Morison was appointed com-mander of Fort Comfort, following the death of Captain Francis Hooke. (Coldham, 194) Hence, Hooke died within five months of obtaining this patent.

12Feb1638 – LAND PATENT: William Barker, his Associates & Company, 1,850 acres in **Charles City County**, being 600 acres heretofore called by the name of *Powle-brooke* and now known as *Merchants Hope*. Said land begins at a Creek that divides its from Salters Hill, extending to the waterside [James River] near below the house of Richard Williams on the east side, bounded easterly by *Merchants Hope* Creek, westerly towards *Chaplin's [Choice]*, northerly upon the [James] River, and southerly into the Woods. The other 1,250 acres extending backwards into the Woods and adjoining *Merchants Hope* Creek, including 600 acres conveyed to said Barker & Associates by John Taylor, citizen and girdler of London, being purchased by said Taylor from Thomas Powell of Howlton, County of Suffolk [England], yeoman, brother, and lawful heir of Captain

Nathaniel Powell, late of Virginia, Decd. Consideration: Same 25 transportees named in Barker *et al* patent of 26Nov1735. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-I:609)

This re-patenting had the purpose of getting the specifics of the purchase of the Captain Nathaniel Powell rights within the chain of land title.

“Chaplin’s Choice, in the present county of Prince George, was a plantation settled by Isaac Chaplin; was afterwards, it appears, by a later patent, bought by

Anthony Wyatt, member of the House of Burgesses for Charles City County, and was, about 1690, owned by his son John Wyatt.” (*W.G. Stanard*, 533-534)

4May1638 – LAND PATENT: William Pilkington, 200 acres in **James City County**, [apparently the same tract as patented on 16Nov1635]. Patented renewed by Richard Kemp, Governor, in the name of Nicholas Perry and 950 acres added, [making the patent for 1,150 acres. No consideration given for the additional acreage.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:554)

This re-patenting was actually a patent to Nicholas Perry for 1,150 acres, and likely reflected connivance between an interim Governor and one of his cronies.

6May1638 – LAND PATENT: Edward Sparshott, 350 acres in **Charles City County**, beginning at the north side of a small Indian field some two miles or more up *Merchants Hope* Creek at a small bottom on the north side of said field. Due for his PERSONAL ADVENTURE and transportation of his wife Madelin Canes, his son Edward Sparshott, and 4 persons: Robert Honeywood, Jerimiah Hayles, Jeremiah Watts, and Jonathan Grayne. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:546)

9May1638 – LAND PATENT: Rice Hoe, 700 acres in **Charles City County** at a place called *Captain Martin’s Ships*, bounding southerly upon land of Alice Edloe. Beginning over against the mouth of Upper Chippokes Creek. For transportation of 14 persons: [No list.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:549)

9May1638 – LAND PATENT: Rice Hoe, 1,200 acres in **James City County** near *Martin’s Brandon* and Captain Ward’s land, south upon Captain Ward’s Creek and all land called *Captain Ward’s Plantation*: 100 acres for the PERSONAL ADVENTURE of himself and his wife, and 1,100 acres for transportation of 22 persons: [No list.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:549)

26May1638 – LAND PATENT: Thomas Gray, 550 acres in **James City County**, on the south side of the Main River over against James City, adjoining Thomas Swan on the north side, easterly upon Rolfes Creek, and southwest into the woods towards the Cross Creek: 100 acres due for being an ANCIENT PLANTER, 50 acres due for the PERSONAL ADVENTURE of his *first* wife Annis Gray, 50 acres due for the PERSONAL ADVENTURE of his *now* wife Rebecca Gray, and 350 acres for transportation of 7 persons: William Gray, Thomas Gray, Jonathan Bishop, Robert Browne, Robert Welch, Luke Mizell, and John Banks. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:631)

This appears to be an identical patent to the one that Gray obtained on 27Aug1635, hence was a re-issuance, possibly because of the fragile politics in Virginia in the 1630s. Several Governors were

charged with malfeasance, arrested and taken in chains to England, where they were quickly cleared and sent home. A prudent man got the right signatures on his land patent to avoid future problems.

25Jul1638 – LAND PATENT: Edward Sparshott, 400 acres in **Charles City County**, West by South into the Woods towards the head of *Merchants Hope* Creek, East by North upon same, North by West upon the tract of land called *Merchants Hope*, South by East upon land of Sergeant Richard Tisdell. Due for his own PERSONAL ADVENTURE and transportation of 7 persons: Maudlin Canes, Edward Sparshott, Jr., Robert Honeywood, Jerimiah Hayles, Jerimiah Watts, Jonathan Grayne, Thomas Carter. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:579)

Sparshott apparently fiddled with his patent until he got the right signatures. All of his patents had the same headrights.

30Oct1638 – LAND PATENT: Richard Milton, 400 acres in **Charles City County**. Adjoining north by west of land of Sergeant Richard Tisdall, and south by east upon *Great Weyanoke Town*. For transportation of 8 persons: [Individually named.] This patent was renewed on 23Aug1643 with the 200-acre patent of Richard Tisdall, dated 10Feb1635 added, and 400 acres more added, all of which were in the name of Thomas Wheeler. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:602)

10Nov1638 – LAND PATENT: Thomas Wheeler, 200 acres in **Charles City County** at the head of *Merchants Hope* Creek, bounding North and West upon land of Edward Sparshott. Due by assignment from Sergeant Richard Tisdall to whom it was due for transportation of 4 persons: [No list.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:621)

26Apr1639 – LAND PATENT: John Osborne, 300 acres in **James City County** at the Upper Chippokes Creek, adjoining northeast on the land of Jeremiah Dickinson. 100 acres due for the PERSONAL ADVENTURES of his wife Margaret Osborne and his son John Osborne, and 200 acres for transportation of 4 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:641)

11May1639 – LAND PATENT: William Barker, Mariner, 1,300 acres in **Charles City County**, being 500 acres bounding the land he purchased from Mrs. Elizabeth Stephens, now the Lady Harvey, lying up the head of the Creek, and 800 acres on the same Creek, being a neck of land adjoining land lately belonging to Captain Francis Hooke. Due for transportation of 26 persons; [Individually listed.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:645)

This was Barker adding to his personal land holdings. Mrs. Elizabeth Stephens, daughter of Abraham Piercey, Gentleman, the founder of Flowerdew Hundred, being widowed had married Sir John Harvey, governor of Virginia, was now Lady Harvey.

20Jul1639 – LAND PATENT: Thomas Gray, 400 acres in **James City County** [on the south side of James River] upon the head of Gray's Creek. For transportation of 8 persons: [5 English named, 3 Negroes unnamed.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:669)

This patent and that of Lancelot Davenport (see next below), apparently adjoining, were dated the same day, which, given Colonial surveyor practices, suggests that they were surveyed at the same time—which further suggests an association or relationship between Davenport and Thomas Gray, a

Gentleman planter who, with his wife and infant son, survived the Massacre of 1622. This land did not adjoin Gray's Manor plantation of 25Aug1635 (see above), but was an outlying tract, well to the west.

The divide between James River drainage and Albemarle Sound (North Carolina) drainage of southside James City County (Surry County since 1652), particularly as to Gray's Creek basin, which in most part drains from no more than three-to-five miles south of the James. The preponderance of drainage in both present-day Prince George and Surry, both of which have the James River as their northern boundary, is to the southeast, away from the James. Creeks flowing into the James in these counties, in most part, are of shallow depth in so far as their south to north flow. Indeed many do not draw more than five miles from that direction. Gray's Creek mouth, a large inlet, is directly opposite Jamestown. Going up the Creek, a canoe would go southwesterly through swamp. Then, leaving swamp behind, the main channel comes from the West. Waters at the head of Gray's Creek drain eleven miles or more by the twisted channel of the stream before entering the River, but by a straight line, the head is no more than seven miles West South West of the mouth, and no more than three miles south of the James.

The head of Gray's Creek is no more than eight miles from Upper Chippokes Creek, the divide between Surry and Prince George. Martin's Brandon was on the opposite bank of Upper Chippokes. Hence, these lands of Thomas Gray and Lancelot Davenport were within eight miles of where other Davenports appeared in later years. Then too, in later years (see below) Thomas Gray's third son Francis took up land in what later became Prince George on the south side of Merchants Hope and Martin's Brandon.

The point of this analysis is to establish the geographical proximity of the **early Southside Davenports**, and to determine whether the land association of Gray and **Lancelot** provides evidence, albeit circumstantial, of a role played by **Lancelot** in the founding of a **Davenport** family Line in Colonial Virginia.

20Jul1639 – LAND PATENT: **Lancelot Davenport** (as **Dampert**), 50 acres in **James City County**, [on the south side of James River on Gray's Creek]. West upon land now planted upon by Thomas Gray. For his PERSONAL ADVENTURE. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:669)

The Lancelot Situation

FIFTEEN YEARS HAD PASSED since Lancelot was enumerated in the Muster of 1625 as being 29-years-old, having arrived in Virginia in 1620 on the Ship *Duty*, and being a servant in the household of Edward Blaney, factor (business manager, storekeeper, shipper, agent) for the Virginia Company, and located at Blaney's plantation on the south side of the James. Assuming the Lancelot of 1625 was the same Lancelot who was granted the land here, he was now 44-years-old, well into middle age by the average life span of those times, and he had moved up substantially in social class. If he had a family, it was either started by now or soon afterwards.

PERSONAL ADVENTURE was the term used for persons who, before Virginia had become a Crown Colony in 1625, had come to America of their own volitions and had paid their own way from England. They were not obligated for their passage to another. Servants did not have PERSONAL ADVENTURES because they were in Virginia for the convenience of their masters who had paid for their passages. ["Apprentices were given fifty

acres upon emerging from their apprenticeships, but no servant was entitled to land upon completing their service.” (Andrews, Charles M., *The Colonial Period in American History*, I (1934):209fn.)). Many English were shipped to Virginia as unemployed, vagrants, welfare dependents, and criminals of all degrees. On arrival, the ships captains sold their human cargo to masters and planters either by auction or contract, and qualified for a 50-acre headright from the Colonial Government for each persons transported. Transportees generally were required to serve four years of indentured servitude to discharge the passage debt. In the early years of the Colony, few completed the process, for, according to Governor Berkeley in 1671, four out of five died in the early years of Virginia. Few of those transportees survived to earn their freedom.

Headrights (free land bounty) of 50 acres each, awarded for coming to Virginia, belonged to whoever paid for or bore the expense of the passage from England. In Lancelot’s case, given his enumeration of 1625, it was either Edward Blaney or a third party who had sold Lancelot’s indenture to Blaney. Presuming that Lancelot did not pay his own way to become a servant in Virginia, the only way he could have obtained the headright earned by his arrival in 1620 was to have bought it from whoever owned the right. But that involved an awkward situation, for the owner most likely was the Virginia Company of London, and that corporation went defunct in 1628. This grant was made eleven years later.

Social class stratification, equally rigid to that of England, existed in Virginia from its founding in 1607 until the American Revolution. While a servant could become a master, it rarely happened, for it took years and required strong motivation and hard work to move from an indentured servant to freeman servant, then to a yeoman (a freeman on his own), and then, a high degree of respected craft, business, or service skill having been acquired over a period of years, to a freeholder or householder who had others, apprentices, craftsmen, servants and/or slaves, working for him and living under his roof and care. English Custom and Society then dictated that sons should follow in their father’s footsteps. If the father was a merchant, sons were expected to be merchants. If the father was a blacksmith, so was the son, generation after generation. When there were too many sons to put to the craft or trade, or land, younger sons often fell by the wayside, regressed back into the servant or poor, dependent class, had hard scramble existences. Eldest sons were all powerful heirs-at-law in Colonial Virginia, could even negate land legacies made by their fathers in wills.

The point is that the **Lancelot Davenport** of 1639 was not the Lancelot of 1625 and before. He had either bought his headright from whoever owned it, possibly Edward Blaney, his master, or whoever had paid for his transportation to Virginia in 1620, or it had been conferred upon him as a reward. **Davenport** was in Virginia a year (1620) before Blaney (1621), could have preceded his master—but those who were still servants in 1625, were unlikely to have preceded a master in 1620 unless in the interim household of another master. (Every resident of Virginia at this time was either a master or in the household of a master.) Possibly, **Davenport** had been recruited by the London Company for service in Virginia, had been transported on a Company ship—which the Duty was in 1620, and was a servant (employee) in the household and entourage of whoever was the

Company's factor in Virginia. If so, his 1620 passage generated no headright, for the 50-acre bounty was not put in place until after the Company's charter had been cancelled in 1625 and Virginia had become a Crown Colony.

Blaney disappeared from Virginia records after 1627, as had **Davenport** in 1625. Either **Davenport** left Virginia with Blaney or he went into another household in servant status, for despite the meager population in Virginia 1625-1639, no evidence of Lancelot's presence has been found for the interim years. If he had arrived in America in indentured servant status, he was surely a freeman by 1625, for four years was the usual period to pay for a passage. He could have been a freeman from the beginning, could have contracted to go to Virginia in a servant's or subordinate capacity, working for agreed wages. If he was a scrivener, a scribe, a bookkeeper, a clerk, or such, as were later **Davenports** who appeared on James River waters, he could have easily been in Virginia for the years between 1625 and 1639 without appearing in the records, particularly if he was one of those making and keeping those records. Scriveners, scribes, bookkeepers and clerks were faceless, but crucial to the order and upkeep of business and government, hence were closely associated with and in direct support to all sorts of authority as well as to the planter aristocracy. If **Lancelot** occupied such a role, the service could have earned him the grant for a PERSONAL ADVENTURE headright, and apparently did. The Virginia Company was defunct after 1628 and all residual rights held by the Company were quashed. Headrights were granted by the King through the Royal Governor of Virginia and his Council, subsequently delegated to County Courts, and if those serving the Sovereign decided to award **Lancelot Davenport** 50 acres of land after almost twenty years in the Colony, and to identify it as his PERSONAL ADVENTURE, they were free to do so. Someone did, for this patent is evidence thereof.

The nature of **Davenport's** land grant and its subsequent history tell us certain things. Few 50-acre grants were made, because it was generally recognized, as attested by the set number of acres assigned to each headright, that a minimum of 50 acres were required to support one person, living off the land, in the Virginia wilderness. A married man needed at least 100 acres, etc. There were few patents, excluding those for parcels of real estate in Jamestown and Elizabeth City, which were for less than 100 acres. The median grant in Virginia before 1650 was in the 300-400 acres range. **Lancelot's** patent appears to have been the only one of that size in what subsequently became Surry County. No 50-acre patents have been encountered in searching early Charles City County grants in the area of our interest. Thus, there was not only a unique or special treatment involved in **Lancelot's** being granted a PERSONAL ADVENTURE, the size of his grant was unusual itself. What the patent did, however, was possibly its greatest worth to **Lancelot**. It made him a freeholder, and a freeholder had social stature, was a man with a vote, a man who could be appointed to public office (the importance of which was directly related to how many acres he owned), who could sit on juries (grand juries if he owned 300 or more acres), and who had the freedom of the realm. He was not required to have a Master, for he was a Master with his own domain, mean and small though it might be. His public power and stature as a freeholder was directly related to how many acres he owned, a circumstance that left Lancelot at the bottom of that ladder, meaning that when among other freeholders he was silent until invited to speak, deferential to his betters, and respectful to the aristocracy.

Land Grants were not made without stipulations. The grantee was expected to seat and seed (build a house and plant) or make improvements—clear and plant a certain number of acres, put up sheds and fences, etc, within a given time. Failure to do so resulted in the grant being declared deserted, forfeited back to the Crown, and being re-granted to another patentee. When a tract was re-granted, the new patent customarily included a description of the provenance of the title, cited the original patentee, his or her loss of the right and cause, its reversion to the King, and the reissue circumstances. The second patentee had to pay the same in headrights as had the original patentee. In other words, the King repetitiously collected the full price of deserted land every time that it was re-conveyed by patent.

Strangely, once **Lancelot's** patent was granted and recorded, it received no further mention in Land Office Records. It was not deserted by failure to seat and seed and then re-granted. It was not escheated, i.e., land returned to the King from the estate of an intestate who had no heirs. Further, although the survey description to **Lancelot's** patent indicates that it was open (vacant land adjoined) on at least three sides, viz., it bounded Thomas Gray on the West, no subsequent patents were noted as adjoining **Lancelot Davenport** although three sides of his grant was vacant land. **Davenport's** patent was swallowed up somehow by an adjoining patent, or went unmentioned in the survey. Both passing strange, for English land law and practices in the Seventeenth Century had been firmly codified for more than five hundred years when Virginia was colonized, and by those laws and practices there should have been some record as to what happened to **Lancelot's** 50-acre freehold. The acreage was small, insignificant by Virginia standards, but it was a freehold, and English Land Law protected land titles equally, regardless of size.

Was **Lancelot's** 50-acres, granted him in his 44th year, a reward for the long, faithful service of a bachelor servant who wanted a place of his own? Had **Lancelot** entered the service of Thomas Gray when Edward Blaney had left Virginia? Were the peculiarities of his situation reflective of an end or a beginning? The next **Davenport** to appear on the South side of the James was **Oliver Davenport** in 1673, associated with land eight-to-ten miles west of the land cited in this patent, but near the lands of *Ye Merchants of London* in the next county.

Exit Lancelot Davenport? Where? When?

20Sep1639 – LAND PATENT: John Wall, 300 acres in **Charles City County** [on the south side of James River], adjoining north on John Hacker, east on William Rookins and William Pilkington, late deceased, southerly toward certain high land called *The Hills*. For transportation of 6 persons. Patent renewed by Governor Berkeley on 13Aug1643 and 1,200 acres purchased from [Rice] Hoe on 2May1636 plus 291 acres added. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:678)

By description of adjoining owners, this land was at the head of Upper Chippokes Creek in Martin's Brandon near the County Line. By 13Aug1643, Wall had 1,791 acres in this patent, making him a major landowner in the area.

On 4Jan1749, John Wall sold 300 acres of this land to Francis Gray, third son of Thomas Gray, adjoining landowner to **Lancelot Davenport** eight-to-ten miles

northeasterly on Grays Creek in James City (later Surry) County. The assumption that Francis Gray knew **Lancelot** has a rational validity.

18Sep1641 – PERMISSION SOUGHT: Richard Quiney, William Allen and others, Merchants, advise that they are setting forth two ships to transport passengers and provisions to Virginia. They pray permission to ships goods in the *Rebecca* and the *Honor* without payment of duty and for the passengers, ‘mostly miserable poor people,’ to be allowed to take the oaths on board. (*Coldham*, I:220)

On 23Sep1641 passes were granted to Richard Quiney, William Allen and other Virginia merchants and planters to transport 140 passengers in the “Rebecca” and 160 passengers in the “Honor of London.” (Coldham, 220.) Quiney, as now evident, was one of the principals in Ye Merchants of London plantations. William Allen of London, Merchant, received a grant for 600 acres in Charles River (later York) County on 25May1640, but no headrights were listed (1-II:719)

How many of the “mostly miserable poor people” became indentured servants working on either *Merchants Hope* or *Martin’s Brandon* plantations?

--**Oct1641** – PROBATE: Letters of Administration on the Estate of William Pilkington, late of Virginia, Decd., were granted in England. [Coldham, Peter Wilson, *English Estates of American Colonists* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1980), Vol. I]

Pilkington, per Virginia records, had been dead for at least two years before he was probated in England. His land in Virginia was between Upper Chippokes and Ward’s creeks, south of Martin’s Brandon, southeast of Merchants Hope (See above). Governor John Harvey had already helped himself to some of Pilkington’s land.

28Feb1642 – LAND PATENT: Pierce Lennon, 200 acres in **Charles City County** [on the south side of James River] between two creeks of *Martin’s Brandon*, near the mouth of Ward’s Creek, opposite against *Weyanoke Marsh*, adjoining James Merryman. For transportation of 4 persons: Piece Lennon, Rebecca, his wife, Edmund Lennon, William Russell. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:951)

14Sep1642 – LAND PATENT: Captain Joseph Johnson, 567½ acres in **Charles City County**, bounding West upon *Bikers*, East upon *The Merchants* land, South upon the Ponds, North on the [James] River. Its breadth being from the house of Richard Williams unto the house of Thomas East. Due said Johnson for his fourth part of the *Merchants* land as by Court Order dated 23Mar1742. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:837)

Bikers was Captain William Barker’s land. The Merchants Land belonged to Simon Turges, John Sadler, and William Quiney. There may have been others in the syndicate, but they did not show in land records. Joseph Johnson came to Virginia in 1618 and remained there until 1634 when he returned to England, identifying himself as “Joseph Johnson of London, Merchant” in an assignment of acreage due him for his PERSONAL ADVENTURE and transportation of four persons to Virginia in 1634 in Captain Thomas Felgate’s ship “Defense.” He was obviously one of the original partners or shareholders in the Merchants Hope tract, which, by the quantity of his share by pro-ratio, originally included 2,270 acres—as then surveyed. With Johnson’s share subtracted, Merchants Hope consisted of 1,703 acres—the approximate amount named by John Sadler in his will. By other evidence over a period of eighty years, the tract was likely twice that large.

28Oct1642 – LAND PATENT: Richard Morgan, 200 acres in **Charles City County** on waters of Powell's Creek, adjoining North upon land of Thomas Wheeler at head of said Creek, southwest unto *The Olde Towne*, eastward to the upper part of Mr. Boyse's land, and West to the head of Samuel Walker's land. For transportation of 4 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:844)

10Jan1642/43 – LAND PATENT: Jeremiah Clement, 200 acres in **James City County** on the southwest side of James River at the Upper Chippoke, adjoining East upon his former dividant and westerly upon land of Thomas Wixe. For importation of 4 persons including Amey Clements and Ezekiel Clements. (*Virginia Patent*, 2:4)

1Mar1642/43 – REPRESENTATIVE: Mr. Rowland Sadler was one of five persons elected to represent Charles City County in the House of Burgesses. (*Virginia Carolorum*, 167)

The only Sadler in Virginia land records at this time was John Sadler. Land ownership was mandatory for standing for election as a Burgess. Hence Mr. Rowland Sadler was most likely a son of John Sadler and was his father's Virginia representative in the affairs of Merchants Hope and Martin's Brandon plantations. Rowland was either a younger son or, if eldest son and heir-at-law, died before his father, for John Sadler [Jr.] inherited his father's interests in the land in 1759.

5Aug1643 – LAND PATENT: Symon Sturges, John Sadler, and Richard Quiney of London, Merchants, 4,550 acres in **Charles City County** commonly called by the name of *Martin's Brandon*, lying between Chippokes Creek and Ward's Creek, bounding southeast upon Chippokes Creek, southwest and northwest upon Glebe land, west by southwest on land of George Burcher, John Hacker, and William Pilkington. Due by purchase from the heirs of Captain John Martin, late of Virginia, and 4,050 acres confirmed to the said purchasers by orders of the Grand Assembly in Mar1643, and 500 acres by Order of the Court on 9Jun1643. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:910)

23Aug1643 – LAND PATENT: Thomas Wheeler, 990 acres in **Charles City County**. Beginning at the head of Powell's Creek, south towards the *Old [Great Weyanoke] Town*, north upon land of *Merchants Hope*, east upon upper part of land of Cheney Boyse. Due by assignment of two patents: (1) Richard Milton, and (2) Richard Tisdall. For transportation of 8 persons: Thomas Smith, Jane Wright, *Jon. Marks*, *Peter Marks*, Jon. Hooper, Richard Carter [name altered in Patent Book], Ann Colchester, Margaret Cane. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:893)

The eight headrights were worth 50 acres each and were to pay for the 400 acres included in the patent, which now consolidated the Tisdall patent, the Milton patent, and 400 acres of New Land. Matthew Marks, father-in-law of George Davenport, who appeared almost fifty years later obtaining a patent in the same neighborhood may well have been a descendant of either Jonathan Markes or Peter Markes, transportees cited in this Wheeler patent. In 1673, Oliver Davenport appeared as a transportee whose headright was used, among others, to pay for patent in this same area (see below). Whether the Richard Taylor patent of 1673 (see below), which included Oliver Davenport as one of the headrights used in payment, is indicative of ancestry for George Davenport, who married Mary, daughter of Matthew Marks, is a matter yet to be resolved.

1Sep1643 – LAND PATENT: John Freeme, 1,198 acres in **Charles City County**; near *Flowerdew Hundred Creek*, adjoining Cheney Boyse. For transportation of 24 persons, including John Freeme, Ann, his wife; and 22 others individually named. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:896)

20Dec1643 – LAND PATENT: James Merryman, 100 acres in **Charles City County** called by the name of *Martin's Brandon*, opposite against *Weyanoke*, northeast upon the Glebe land. For transportation of James Merryman and Ann Merryman. (*Virginia Patent*, 1-II:933).

10Apr1644 – LAND PATENT: Samuel Abbott, Gentleman, 400 acres in **James City County** [on the south side of James River] near the head of Gray's Creek, adjoining the land of Mr. John Corker, southeast upon Smith's Fort Creek. Said land formerly granted unto Thomas Gray and made void by not planting or seating. For transportation of 8 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:950)

This was the tract that Thomas Gray patented the same day as Lancelot Davenport's adjoining 50-acre tract. Five years later, Gray had not made the required improvements, namely seating and seeding, and his patent had become void. The land had gone back to the Crown, and was re-patented by Abbott. The new patent, using a new survey, cited only one adjoining landowner, namely Mr. John Corker, who, by deduction, there having been no interim patents citing either Gray's or Davenport's patents in this area, was occupying Lancelot Davenport's 50-acre tract.

Corker, a James City merchant, lived on James Island, where he was a next door neighbor to William Barker, Mariner, the same who was the agent for the London Merchants who owned Merchants Hope and Martin's Brandon plantations. Corker's presence muddies the water concerning the fate of Lancelot Davenport's 50-acres, for Corker waited until 20Mar1657 to patent 1,150 acres in Surry County (see below) which claimed a patent dated 2Dec1640 for 650 acres on the head of Gray's Creek. There is no record among Virginia Patents of such a patent, and Corker obtained his large grant during the Commonwealth Period when there was little in the way of control in Virginia land affairs. Whatever, there is no further mention of Lancelot Davenport or his 50-acres in extant Virginia land records. We do know that Thomas Gray did not follow through on developing the tract he patented that adjoined Lancelot. Did Lancelot do likewise? Did he sell his land to John Corker? The year 1640 was too soon after 1639 for Lancelot to have defaulted on seating and seeding, thereby enabling Corker to include the small tract in his alleged 650-acre patent, which apparently went unchallenged.

10Oct1644 – REPRESENTATIVE: Mr. John Westrope was one of five persons elected to represent **Charles City County** in the House of Burgesses. (*Virginia Carolorum*, 185)

It would be six years (see below) before John Westrope appeared as a landowner in Virginia records. Hence, he, too, was representing Ye Merchants of London land. By his claim, John was the son, apparently illegitimate, of John Sadler, and apparently had replaced Rowland Sadler as the representative of Ye Merchants of London in Virginia. Sometime between this date and 1650, there was either a schism between Westrope and his father, or

Westrope established himself apart from Ye Merchants of London, for Westrope obtained substantial acreage of his own, near to or adjacent to his father's lands, became a person of stature in Charles City County, was second in command of the County Militia, and gained historical attention by being one of those progressive Virginians who tried to escape total dependence on Tobacco by importing silk worms and mulberry trees from China, and making a valiant, but unsuccessful try to establish a silk industry. Westrope died in England, apparently on a trading trip, left a legacy of four cows in Virginia to his wealthy father—symbolic of something that had passed between them. John Sadler took no note of his illegitimate son, who apparently had died childless, in his will four years later (see below).

1Mar1642/43 – REPRESENTATIVE: Rice Hoe was one of five persons elected to represent **Charles City County** in the House of Burgesses. (*Virginia Carolorum*, 167)

There was no Burgess elected from the London Merchants' interests at this assembly. Rice Hoe was an adjoining landowner to Merchants Hope plantation, but was not associated with the Company.

27Sep1645 – LAND PATENT: John Hacker, 150 acres in **Charles City County**, on west side of [Upper] Chippoke near *Martin's Brandon*, near land of William Pilkington, and George Burcher. Due by patent dated 25Jul1638 for his PERSONAL ADVENTURE and transportation of 2 persons: [No list.] (*Virginia Patents*, 2:35)

We would note that in 1626 a John Hacker, age 17, was one of the servants identified (as was Lancelot Davenport) with Mr. Edward Blaney's Plantation on the South side of the James. Whatever, this John Hacker appears to have returned to England. In Jun1754, the Last Will & Testament of John Hacker, of Limehouse, Stepney, Middlesex, who had lands in Virginia, was admitted to Probate. (Coldham, 272)

30Sep1645 – LAND PATENT: Mr. Charles Sparrow, 750 acres in **Charles City County** on the west side of [Upper] Chippokes Creek, Northeast by East on *Martin's Brandon* and Hackers Creek, Southwest on Cross Creek which separateth the land now set out for Samuel Williams and this 750 acres. Due by assignment from Richard Perry. (*Virginia Patents*, 2:168)

20Nov1645 – REPRESENTATIVES: Rice Hoe, William Barker, and Charles Sparrow were among seven persons elected to represent **Charles City County** as Burgesses for a Special Assembly. (*Virginia Carolorum*, 190)

Hoe and Barker adjoined the Merchants Land on the west and northwest, Charles Sparrow adjoined the Merchants on the south. Barker had been a promoter and agent for the London Merchants in establishing their plantations, but was a planter in his own right at this time. Either he, Hoe, or Sparrow, or all of them, could have been in the pay of the Merchants.

--Oct1646 – REPRESENTATIVE: Mr. Rice Hoe was one of two persons elected to represent **Charles City County** in the House of Burgesses. (*Virginia Carolorum*, 193)

Hoe lost interest in the South side of the James shortly hereafter, sold out and moved to the Northern Neck and waters of the Rappahannock. There was no further assemblies of the

House of Burgesses until 26Apr1652, at which six representatives were elected from Charles City County, none of whom appear to have been from the south side of the James.

10Mar1647 – LAND PATENT: Edward Bland, Merchant, 1,300 acres [in **James City County**] on the South side of James River, about a mile from the head of Upper Chippokes Creek, from the path leading to Swann Bay to the Indian fields. Due for transportation of 26 persons, including Edward Bland, James Bland, Elizabeth Bland, and 23 others individually named. (*Virginia Patents*, 2:115)

20Aug1647 – LAND PATENT: William Egbrough, 500 acres in **James City County** on Upper Chippokes Creek, next to land of William Rookin, Decd., adjoining his own land. 400 acres being a former grant to Barradine Mercer, who assigned same to said Egbrough, and 100 acres for transportation of 2 persons, namely William Egbrough and Matthew Battle. (*Virginia Patents*, 2:111)

15Aug1648 – PETITION: William Allen and John Heath, merchants, who have equipped the *Honor* and the *Prosperous Susan* to transport many planters, with their wives, children, and servants to Virginia, petition the House of Lords that their ships may be released from Embargo at Gravesend. (*Coldham*, I:237)

11Jan1649 – LAND PATENT: John Sadler & Richard Quiney, Merchants, 1,140 acres in **Charles City County**, lying on the head of Ward's Creek and up the easternmost branch for 4 miles or thereabouts, called by the name of *The Ponds*. [Rest of description all in survey measure-ments, *i.e.*, degrees and chains.] For the transportation of 23 persons: [No list.] (*Virginia Patents*, 2:200)

This tract, ultimately added to the Martin's Brandon plantation was a partnership between Sadler and Quiney, which the Ye Merchants of London had become or would soon become--a partnership carried on by their heirs that lasted for at least seventy more years.

9Feb1649 – LAND PATENT: Mr. Richard Quiney, 300 acres in **Charles City County** on Upper Chippokes Creek, bounded southeast upon the land of Mr. William Egbrough and westerly upon the land of Jeremy Dickinson. For transportation of 6 persons: [No list.] (*Virginia Patents*, 2:205)

This tract likely straddled the County Line. Both Egbrough's and Dickinson's lands were in James City (Surry after 1752) County. This land appears to have been merged into Martin's Brandon plantation. There is no evidence that Quiney himself ever lived in Virginia.

6Jun1649 – LAND PATENT: Captain Joseph Johnson, 639 acres in **Charles City County** on the south side of James River, opposite to *Weyanoke*, bounded northwest upon the River, northeast and northwest upon the Glebe, northeast upon *Martin's Brandon*, and south southeast upon George Burcher's land, and west southwest upon land of John Wall. Formerly granted by patent on 29Jun1643. (*Virginia Patents*, 2:175)

Captain Joseph Johnson, the London merchant who had been a member of the syndicate that first patented Merchants Hope, was apparently back in Virginia.

6Jun1649 – LAND PATENT: George Burcher, 300 acres in **Charles City County** with part in James City County, lying at the head of Upper Chippoke Creek: 200 acres by patent dated 22Aug1637 and 100 acres for transportation of 2 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patent*, 2:168)

26Oct1649 – LAND PATENT: Mr. Richard Tye, 1,450 acres [in **Charles City County**] known by the name of *Old [Weynoake] Town* above *Merchants Hope*, beginning at a place called *The Great Market*, extending in breadth at the head of Samuel Walker's land, due south into the Woods making a long square, westerly towards the head of Jordan's and Bayley's Creek, towards Ward's Creek, and north on said Walker's and Richard Craven's lands; the height thereof into the Main Woods being a mile. Due by right of a patent granted to Cheney Boyse on 23Aug1637 for 1,500 acres and surrendered into the Land Office by said Tye, who married the relict [widow] of said Boyse on 26Oct1749. (*Virginia Patents*, 1-II:199)

10Jan1650 – LAND PATENT: Captain Richard Bond, 960 acres in **Charles City County** lying near the head of Wards Creek, adjoining the land of Edward Cawly. For transportation of 19 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 2:289)

5Aug1650 – LAND PATENT: David Peebles, 833 acres in **Charles City County** at the head of Powell's Creek, bounded West upon Burchers Swamp, South and West upon land of Richard Tye, Northeast upon land of James Ward, and North upon Reedy Swamp. For transportation of 17 persons, including David Peoples and 16 others individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 2:261)

6Aug1650 – LAND PATENT: William Egbrough, 500 acres in **James City County** on the southwest side of Upper Chippoke Creek, 100 acres being new land adjoining land of William Rookins, Decd., and 400 acres formerly granted to Barradine Mercer who sold to said Egbrough to whom it was later patented. For transportation of 2 persons: [No list.] (*Virginia Patents*, 2:246)

This land was in Surry County after 1651, adjoined Martin's Brandon across the Creek in Charles City (later Prince George) County.

12Aug1650 – LAND PATENT: Richard Tye & Charles Sparrow, 2,500 acres in **Charles City County** near the head of Powells Creek, adjoining to the land called *Weyanoke Old Town*, beginning at a certain tree called *The Great Market*, running South along Tye's old dividant, West along land of Thomas Wheeler to the beginning. For transportation of 50 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 2:248)

30Aug1650 – LAND PATENT: Mr. John Westrope, 1,500 acres in **Charles City County**, lying about the Mill at Ward's Creek. For transportation of 30 persons: [No list recorded with patent.] (*Virginia Patents*, 2:257)

This cryptic patent was not amplified in description until 1674 when Edward Richards repatented 750 acres of the tract (see below).

30Aug1650 – LAND PATENT: Richard Jones, Clerk, 950 acres in **Charles City County**, lying two miles from the [James] River on the back of *Merchants Hope*, bounded North by the said *Merchants Land*, West upon the land of Richard Craven, South upon the *Old [Weyanoke] Town* belonging to Richard Tye, and East upon the land of Thomas Wheeler. For transportation of 19 persons: [No list.] (*Virginia Patents*, 2:263)

Colonial Clergy (28) notes that Richard Jones was an ordained Anglican minister who was the vicar of Martin's Brandon Parish, 1750-1755, owned this 950-acre tract in the Parish and another 1,500 acres nearby.

7Jun1651 – LAND PATENT: James Ward, 150 acres in **Charles City County**, lying up Powells Creek and upon Reedy Swamp, issuing out of said Creek, bounded South and West upon land of Mr. David Peoples. For transportation of Ann Ward, James Wallis, and John Cheetwood. (*Virginia Patent*, 2:323)

14Mar1652 - LAND PATENT: Thomas Gray, 800 acres in **Surry County** on the south side of James River at the head of Smith Fort Creek, joining up land John Kemp, being 400 acres granted said Gray on 20Jul1639, and 400 acres formerly granted Samuel Abbott on 10Apr1644 and purchased by said Gray. (*Virginia Patents*, 3:158)

This patent included the land at the head of Gray's Creek that was granted Gray on the same day in 1639 that Lancelot Davenport was granted 50-acres adjoining. "Smith Fort" appears to have been one of the head branches of Grays. Samuel Abbott's patent was land that had been patented earlier to Thomas Gray, but had been forfeited back to the Crown by Gray's failure to seat and seed within the specified time period. Abbott, either on his own or as a dummy for Gray, obtained the forfeited land, then conveyed it back to Gray, a ruse that happened often in Virginia land affairs, particularly among the wealthy. Davenport's tract either still adjoined this tract, or had been absorbed into the larger tract.

25Nov1652 – REPRESENTATIVE: Captain Charles Sparrow was one of five persons elected to represent **Charles City County** in the House of Burgesses. (*Virginia Carolorum*, 230)

Sparrow was a friend of John Westrope's as well as a friend of the Merchants, apparently looked out for all of their interests. He was not re-elected for the next Assembly. Westrope included Sparrow in his will (see below).

20Apr1653 – LAND PATENT: James Mason, 250 acres in **James City County** [on the south side of James River] lying above the head of Grays Creek, joining southerly on the Main branch of said Creek, joining northerly on Thomas Gray, being the land formerly granted said Mason on 8Jul1648 and now taken up by new rights. For transportation of 5 persons: [Individually identified.] (*Virginia Patents*, 3:14)

This patent indicates that Gray's land was at the head of Gray's Creek was on the northernmost branch, which positions the land as being West South West from Gray's manor plantation at the mouth of the Creek opposite Jamestown. That being so, Smith Fort Creek was the draught now identified as Spring Run on the 1995 VDOT map of Surry County.

24Nov1653 – LAND PATENT: Francis Gray, 750 acres in **Charles City County**, being the middle ground between the heads of Mr. Sparrow, John Wall and John Hatcher's lands, bounding southeast on Mr. Sparrow, east on the head of Hacker's land, northeast on Mark Avery, and northwest of John Wall: 300 acres by deed from John Wall dated 4Jan1649, and 400 acres by Order of the Governor and his Council dated 24Nov1653, and for transportation of 9 persons: [Only 7 named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 3:9)

W.G. Stanard identified this Francis Gray as the third son of Thomas Gray of Gray's Creek, Surry County. Gray's upstream land adjoined Lancelot Davenport's 50-acre patent of 1639 (see above). This patent was just below Martin's Brandon, was in the same neighborhood, if not next door to where other Davenports subsequently appeared in 1673 and 1702.

“There is on record in Surry a deed, dated November 9, 1658, from Francis Gray to his brother Thomas Gray. Captain Francis Gray made a Quit Claim deed to Nathaniel Stanton, dated November 16, 1661. He was probably the Francis Gray who had a grant in Charles City County (within present Prince George) in 1653;

was appointed (as Captain Francis Gray) a Justice of Charles City [County] in 1660, and was a Burgess for that county in 1666. Mary Gray was granted administration on the estate of her husband, Francis Gray, Decd., on May 27, 1679, in Surry County.” (*W.G. Stanard*, 595)

24Nov1653 – LAND PATENT: Major John Westrope, 600 acres in **Charles City County** on the south side of James River upon branches of Burcher Swamp, being part of *The Old Towne*, bounded by William Short, westerly, thence North to the head of Mr. Sparrow's 400-acre tract, thence along said Sparrow's and William Short's marked trees. For transportation of 23 persons: [Individually listed.] (*Virginia Patents*, 3:54)

John Westrope of London, Merchant, who in his will identified John Sadler, Sr., as his father and left John four cattle in Virginia, had grants of 2100 acres (3.3 square miles) in the neighborhood of “The Merchants Land” in Virginia, but even though a merchant himself, Westrope was not a member of the syndicate of London Merchants that included Sadler and his son-in-law Richard Quiney. Westrope's rank of Major indicates that he was second in command of the Charles City County Militia, meaning, most likely, that he was also a magistrate. Westrope's home was in Virginia in Martin's Brandon Parish, where he died. His will, however, was probated in England (see below).

24Nov1653 – LAND PATENT: John Dipdall, Clerk, 756 acres in **Charles City County** on the south side of James River between the head of *Flowerdew Hundred* and Powell's Creek, adjoining Captain Frame (Freeme), Captain Rothwell, Mr. Sparrow, and Harris Run. For transportation of 16 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 3:55)

25Nov1653 – LAND PATENT: Richard Brayne, 300 acres in **Charles City County** on the south side of James River upon the northwest side of Upper Chippokes Creek, running by George Burcher's marked trees and towards the head of Mr. Nicholas Perry's land. For transportation of 6 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 3:227)

12Mar1655 – LAND PATENT: Richard Jones, Clerk, 1,500 acres in **Charles City County** being about 2 miles back from the [James] River at the back of *Merchants Hope*, westerly upon the land of Richard Craven, southerly upon *The Old Towne* being the land of Richard Tye, and easterly upon the land of Thomas Wheeler, and 550 acres adjoining this tract: 950 acres by patent dated 30Aug1650, and 550 acres by patent dated 1Mar1651. (*Virginia Patents*, 3:377)

10Jun1654 - DEED: Thomas Rolfe to William Corker, both of **Surry County**, for [?], 120 acres in Surry County, lying between *Smith's Fort Old Field* and *The Devil's Woodyard*, which was the property of said Rolfe "by gift of the Indian King." (As reported by *W.G. Stanard*, 494)

Stanard also said that Thomas Rolfe owned Smith's Fort plantation, 1,200 acres at the mouth of Gray's Creek, which he sold to Thomas Warren (494). This introduces a discordant note, for Smith Fort Creek was near the head of Gray's Creek, which was at least seven miles WSW from the mouth of Gray's Creek, where Thomas Gray had his manor plantation. Rolfe's manor plantation appears to have been 1,200 acres called The Fort on Chickahominy River in James City County.

1May1655 – LAND PATENT: William Bayley, 400 acres in **Charles City County** on Ward's Creek, beginning northerly on the Lower Cross Creek—being part of a patent for 2,000 acre granted to Captain Francis Hooke on 26Oct1737, who assigned to John Clay and John Freeme, and by inheritance descended unto William Clay, son of the said John, and sold by William Clay the Younger to William Bayley. (*Virginia Patents*, 3:334)

15Sep1655 – LAND PATENT: Symons Symons, 320 acres in **Charles City County** on the south side of James River and on the east side of Powell's Creek, about a mile from the Creek. Bounded south from the Reedy Swamp, up by James Ward, down by Mr. Freeme. For transportation of 7 persons, including Bashaw, a Negro, and 5 others individually named [1 name omitted]. (*Virginia Patents*, 3:377)

26Apr1656 – LAND PATENT: William Justice, 1,198 acres in **Charles City County** near *Flowerdew Hundred* Creek, adjoining land of Cheney Boyse. A grant to Captain John Freeme on 1Sep1743 and due said Justice for his marriage to the daughter and heir of said Freeme, and for the transportation of 24 persons: Rebecca Freeme and 23 other headrights individually named. (*Virginia Patents*, 4:26)

12June1656 – PROBATE: John Westrope, Merchant, of London, Decd., who died in Virginia. The Last Will & Testament of the Decedent was admitted to Probate. (*Coldham*, I:319)

Westrope's will, made 24Sep1655, was probated in London on 12Jun1656. He devised 2,000 pounds of Tobacco to the Church at Martin's Brandon [as *Martimber?*] in Virginia--providing that the new church was built "upon the same ground as the old," and another 1,000

pounds of Tobacco for a Communion Cup, and the Church was to have his large Bible and a book called "Bishop Andrews Sermons," both at his house in Virginia. "To my father, Master John Sadler, the four cows I have in Virginia." Westrope left one cow to Thomas Cooper, son of

Walter Cooper, in the Main Woods near Jamestown. He gave his bond servant the last six years of his indenture, and gave various legatees his property in England, on board the Ship *Seven Sisters* bound for

Virginia, and in Virginia. [Noel Currier-Briggs, *Virginia Settlers and English Adventurers* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1978), Item 918]

----**1657** – NEW PARISH: Jordan Parish established, being that part of Westover Parish on the south side of James. The parish church was built at or near *Merchants Hope* plantation, and named for the London Merchants' tract. [In 1688, Jordan Parish was allegedly reunited with Westover Parish and remained so until 1720 when it became a part of *Martin's Brandon* Parish, the adjoining parish to the East.] (Robbins, Augustus, *Merchants Hope Church: Erected in 1657, Oldest Protestant Church Still Standing in America and Used as a House of Worship: Prince George County, Virginia* (No publisher data, 197?).)

This item is taken from the information in the Card Index File to the Salt Lake Family History Library. A copy of Robbins' monograph, apparently consisting of four leaves, including illustration, is being sought. The Family History Library copy cannot be microfilmed or circulated (Salt Lake reference use only).

*Jordan Parish is cited in both Land Patents and Official Reports made to London, but William Meade, D.D., author of the definitive *Old Churches, Ministers, and Families of Virginia* (1857), then Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Virginia, had no knowledge of any early parishes in Prince George (then Charles City) County other than Martin's Brandon and Bristol, and he appears to have erred as to the antecedents of Bristol. He noted the existence of Merchants Hope Chapel, but associated it with Martin's Brandon cryptically, then passed on to other subjects.*

By other evidences, before 1700 there had been five parishes in what now is Prince George County, beginning East to West: Martin's Brandon, Jordan, Westover, Weyanoke, and Bristol. Westover and Weyanoke included parishioners in Charles City County on both sides of the James. Bristol included plantations on both sides of the Appamattox-- Henrico (now Chesterfield) County above the Appamattox, Charles City (Prince George after 1702) County below. Martin's Brandon parish, the easternmost, surely was no more than four miles in width and ran from the James River south to Main Blackwater Swamp. If Jordan Parish included Merchants Hope Plantation, which the name of the surviving church indicates was so, then Jordan was no more than three miles in width, from the James River south to Main Blackwater Swamp. With Weyanoke and Westover including plantations on both sides of the river, neither could have been more than a few miles in width on the South side, and continued in a strip south to Main Blackwater Swamp. There was little topographical sense to the manner in which Colonial Virginia parishes were constituted.

3Jan1657 – PROBATE: Richard Quiney, of St. Stephen Walbrook, London, who had lands in Virginia, Decd. The Last Will & Testament of the Decedent was admitted to Probate. (Coldham, I:337)

“Richard Quiney, citizen and grocer, of London, died in 1655 [sic]. His will, published in the *New England Historical and Genealogical Society Magazine*, was dated August 16, 1655 and proved January 3, 1656 [sic]. [In his will] He desires to be buried at Stratford upon Avon, where his father and others of his ancestors have been buried, and bequeaths his estate to his children: Richard, Adrian, Thomas, William, and Sarah Quiney. He gives all of his land in Virginia, with his servants and cattle there, to his son Thomas. Richard Quiney, the testator, was the son of

Richard Quiney, of Stratford upon Avon, and [was] the brother of Thomas Quiney, who married, February 10, 1615/16, Shakespeare’s daughter Judith. Richard Quiney married Ellen, daughter of John Sadler, of Stratford, and aunt to the wife John Harvard, founder of Harvard College. Richard Quiney appears to have been the joint owner with John Sadler...of the plantations of Martin’s Brandon and Merchants Hope, then in Charles City [County] and now in Prince George County.” (*W.G. Stanard*, 615)

20Mar1657 – LAND PATENT: John Corker, 1,150 acres in **Surry County** on the south side of James River and on the south side of the head of Gray’s Creek, called *Ware Neck*. Beginning on the north side of the Creek opposite the mill, over the swamp to Mr. Rolfe’s line, to the cart path and the path leading from Mr. Corker’s to Spiltimber’s, being 500 acres purchased from John Kempe, and 650 acres granted said Corker by patent on 2Dec1640. [*Virginia Patents*, 4:206 (301).]

3Jan1659 – PROBATE: John Sadler, of St. Stephens, Walbrook, London, who had lands in Virginia, Decd. The Last Will & Testament of the Decedent was admitted to Probate. (*Coldham*, I:337)

The will of John Sadler, of St. Stephens, Walbrooke, London, grocer, was dated Dec. 11, 1658 [sic], and proved Jan. 3d, 1658 [sic]. Among other devisements, he gave his son John Sadler ‘all my lands, tenements and several plantations in Virginia in parts beyond the seas, called *Martin’s Brandon* and *Merchants Hope*,

and my stock of male cattle there. My stock of female cattle I give to the minister and parish there, and £20 worth of goods to be delivered to Master Charles Sparrow and the chiefest of the parishioners of *Martin’s Brandon* to repairing the church and the parsonage.” (*W.G. Stanard*, 615-616)

If John Westrope was a son of John Sadler, he was a natural one. There was no acknowledgement of such parentage in Sadler’s will. John Sadler [Jr.] retained his interest in the Martin’s Brandon and Merchants Hope plantations until his death in 1716 (see below).

1Sep1659 – POWER OF ATTORNEY: John Sadler, citizen and grocer of London, gave Letters of Attorney to Richard Bishop, of Barbadoes, to collect a debt owing said Sadler from Thomas Flood, of Barbadoes, merchant. (*Coldham*, I:433}

This was obviously John Sadler, Jr., continuing in his father’s footsteps as a grocer in the export-import business, but the son was widening his trading interests to include British plantations in Barbadoes, West Indies.

13Mar1659/60 – REPRESENTATIVE: Charles Sparrow was one of three persons elected to represent **Charles City County** the House of Burgesses. (*Virginia Carolorum*, 268)

18Mar1662 – LAND PATENT: Patrick Jackson & Richard Barker, 1,500 acres in **Charles City County**; 950 acres about 2 miles from the [James] River on the back side of *Merchants Hope*, bounding North of *Merchants Hope*, West on the land of Richard Craven, South upon the *Old Towne*--being the land of Richard Tye, and East upon Thomas Wheeler; and 550 acres upon the Upper Ponds, adjoining [Richard Jones'] former patent, South upon Craven, North upon the *Merchants Land*. A grant to Richard Jones on 12Mar1655, who sold to Jackson and Barker, who received the patent. (*Virginia Patents*, 5:192).

--**Sep1663** – REPRESENTATIVE: Captain Francis Gray was one of three persons elected to represent **Charles City County** in the House of Burgesses. (*Virginia Carolorum*, 297)

Gray was the third son of Thomas Gray, the ANCIENT PLANTER of Surry County, who surely knew or knew about Lancelot Davenport, who had the small tract adjoining his father's Quarter tract in Surry County. Gray's land included part of John Westrope's old tract, adjoined the Ye Merchants of London land, and surely was looking out for their interests.

19Dec1663 – LAND PATENT: Thomas Mudgett, 520 acres in **Charles City County** and part in Surry County on a west branch of Upper Chippokes Creek. Beginning at a great poplar in said branch, southeast by south to the head of George Burcher's land, to a red oak nigh the Spring bottom, then southwest by west. For transportation of 11 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 5:305)

1Mar1663/64 – LAND PATENT: James Jones, 250 acres in **Charles City County** on the south side of James River, and on the east side of the head of Powell's Creek, adjoining West on the land of Charles Sparrow and Richard Tye, North on the head of said Creek, and East on the Pine Swamp. A grant to Thomas Tanner on 27Nov1657 for the importation of 5 persons, who transferred to Jones, who received the patent. (*Virginia Patents*, 5:340)

5Mar1663/64 – LAND PATENT: William Heath, 250 acres in **Charles City County**, beginning at a White Oak in the Swamp which parts Surry and Charles City counties, thence northwest, etc. Granted to William Lee on 6Feb1654, who assigned to Rutherford & Malcolm Curry, who obtained a patent on 17Feb1659, and by said Rutherford assigned to said Heath. (*Virginia Patents*, 5:301)

The Heath family was closely associated with the Davenports in later Prince George and Amelia counties, possibly earlier in Charles City south of the James.

7Mar1665 – LAND PATENT: Robert Abernathy, 100 acres in **Charles City County** on the south side of James River on the head of Poplar Run where it boundeth on the land of James Wallis, South on the land of Thomas Douglas and the Quarter land. Part of larger patent to Patrick Jackson and Richard Barker, and sold by said Jackson to the said Abernathy out of his part. (*Virginia Patents*, 5:466)

13Mar1665 – LAND PATENT: William Wilkins, 472+ acres in **Charles City County** on the south side of James River on the head of *Flowerdew Hundred Creek*. Beginning on the

East side of South Run, joining to William Harris, etc. For transportation of 10 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 85)

14Jun1665 – LAND PATENT: Mr. John Drayton, 150 acres in **Charles City County** upon Reedy Swamp issuing out of Powell's Creek, bounded South and West upon land of Mr. David Peeples. Granted to James Ward on 7Jun1651, who assigned to Mrs. Elizabeth Peeples on 12Jan1657 and now due said Drayton who married the said Elizabeth. (*Virginia Patents*, 5:196)

5Apr1667 – LAND PATENT: William Harrison, Jr., 368 acres in **Charles City County** on the south side of James River, adjoining Captain David Peebles, Robert Jones, the Piney Swamp, the *Old Towne* Bridge, James Jones, Richard Tye. For transportation of 7 persons: [No list.] (*Virginia Patents*, 6:86)

10May1667 – LAND PATENT: Captain Thomas Busby, 1,170 acres in **Surry** and **Charles City County** on the south side of James River: 650 acres on both sides of the South branch of Upper Chippokes Creek, along Mudgett's line to the Cart Path, to John Baker; 520 acres on the West branch of said Creek to the head of George Burcher's land, nigh the spring bottom—which tract was granted to Thomas Mudgett on 19Dec1663 and assigned to said Busby. Consideration for the 650 acres being transportation of 13 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 6:59)

5Dec1667 – LAND PATENT: To the Parish of *Martin's Brandon*, 200 acres in **Charles City County** for a Glebe for their Parish, lying between Captain Johnson's land and the *Merchants*. Beginning at a marked oak on the bank by the Watering Place, thence southeast easterly along Captain Johnson's line, thence parallel to the first line to the James River, then along the River to the first station. (*Virginia Patents*, 6:90).

“MARTINS BRANDON was a very early parish in Charles City County when that county extended across the river...Bristol Parish was cut off from Martins Brandon in 1642...the parish of Martins Brandon was enlarged, in 1720, by those parts of Westover and Weyanoake parish which lay on the south side of James River. We have neither an old vestry-book nor register, nor even a report to the Bishop of London, in 1724, from which to gather any materials for a notice of it in early times...I have no

means of ascertaining what—if any—were the churches in Martin's Brandon besides the Old Brandon Church, near the estates of the Harrisons at the two Brandons, and Old Merchants Hope...” William Meade, Bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Virginia, *Old Churches, Ministers and Families of Virginia* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1966, a reprint. Originally published Philadelphia, 1857), 437-438.

When the Harrisons acquired all interests of the London Merchants after 1720, they divided the Martin's Brandon plantation into two plantations: Upper Brandon and Lower Brandon. Merchants Hope plantation remained as it was. All three were in excess of 2,000 acres. Today, the Virginia Department of Transportation map of Prince George County identifies both Upper Brandon and Lower Brandon (as well as a Brandon between) in the extreme northeast corner of the county. Merchants Hope, which was close by, west and south, is gone. The few roads now in the area suggest that the land has gone back to Wilderness.

Exit Thomas Gray

26Sep1668 – LAND PATENT: William Gray and John Gray, 800 acres in **Surry County** on the south side of James River at the head of Smith Fort Creek, adjoining John Kemp. Granted to Thomas Gray, their father, on 14Mar1652, and due said William and John by will. Now confirmed and renewed. (*Virginia Patents*, 6:653)

Thomas Gray, the ANCIENT PLANTER had died. His eldest son William, born 1622, hence now age 46, and youngest son John were devised the Gray Quarter tract, the one that Lancelot Davenport had adjoined in 1639. Their re-patenting of the land suggests that there was some question as to the clarity of the title. Whatever, there will be no further pursuit of Gray land in Surry County. Oliver Davenport would soon appear in association with land near Francis Gray, third son of Old Thomas, below Martin's Brandon plantation eight or so miles west.

This concludes our analysis of the **Davenport-Gray** association in James City/Surry County.

16Apr1669 – LAND PATENT: Mr. Thomas Busby, 194 acres in **Charles City County** on the Western branch of Upper Chippokes Creek, being 95 acres granted to John Rawlins & Michael Mittaine on 10May1667, who assigned to said Busby; 90 acres for transportation of 2 persons: Robert Busby, William Emms. (*Virginia Patents*, 6:273)

15Jul1669 – LAND PATENT: Mr. Thomas Newhouse, 1,050 acres in **Charles City County** on the south side of James River, adjoining Mr. Sparrow, Burcher Swamp, etc. For transportation of 21 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 6:227)

24Jul1669 – LAND PATENT: Mr. William Harrison, 300 acres in **Charles City County**. Part hereof granted to John Freeme and found to escheat by inquisition dated 18Jun1668 under Mr. Henry Randolph, escheator. Formerly granted to Thomas Calloway. (*Virginia Patents*, 6:246)

24Jul1669 – LAND PATENT: Mr. James Wallace, 990 acres in **Charles City County**. Granted to Thomas Wheeler, Decd., and found to escheat by inquisition dated 18Jun1668 under Mr. Henry Randolph, Deputy Escheator. (*Virginia Patents*, 6:248)

Land reverted to the Lord of the Manor, in this instance the English Crown, when a patent holder died intestate, leaving no legal heirs. Wheeler having died without a will and having no heir-at-law, his land escheated back to the King and was re-granted. What Wallace paid for the obviously improved land was not recorded.

23Oct1669 – LAND PATENT: William Heath, 378 acres in **Surry County** and **Charles City County** on the south side of the head of Upper Chippokes Creek, adjoining Thomas Stephens, on the north side of a Great Swamp, being 250 acres purchased of William Lee, 50 acres purchased of William Short, and 70 acres for transportation of 2 persons: Himself, Sarah Killens. (*Virginia Patents*, 6:292)

- 30Jul1670** – LAND PATENT: William Peebles, 473+ acres in **Charles City County** on the south side of James River, adjoining Mr. Thomas Newhouse, the Burcher Swamp, etc. For transportation of 10 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 6:289)
- 14Oct1670** – LAND PATENT: Thomas Reynolds, 50 acres in **Charles City County** in *Martin's Brandon Parish*, by Deed of Gift from Mark Avery on 8Apr1660, and acknowledged in Court on 3Oct1660. (*Virginia Patents*, 6:326)
- Feb1671/72** – LAND PATENT: William Short, Planter, son and heir to William Short, 1,100 acres in **Surry County** above the head of Upper Chippokes Creek, about 1½ miles up the westernmost branch. Granted to Robert Mosely, Gentleman, on 7Jan1649, who assigned to William Short, father of said patentee, on 28Oct1657. (*Virginia Patents*, 6:3390)
- 25Apr1672** – LAND PATENT: Edward Greenwood, 282 acres in **Charles City County** on the north side of Upper Chippokes Creek, against Swan Bay. For transportation of 5 persons mentioned under his patent dated 19Nov1651. (*Virginia Patents*, 6:404)
- 12Oct1672** – LAND PATENT: Benjamin Harrison, (1) 1,240 acres in **Surry County** on the south side of James River, about 1½ miles up Upper Chippokes Creek, on the east side, near land formerly Jerry Clements, upon east of a swamp against Sandy Point. The same land granted of 18May1637 to Benjamin Harrison, his father, and due him as heir-at-law; (2)140 acres in said County from the Sunken Marsh near Upper Chippokes, adjoining land formerly Henry Neal's and Henry White's, originally granted to William Gapin on 22Aug1645, who sold to Benjamin Harrison, his father and descended to him; and (3) 500 acres in said County on the south side of James River upon a branch of Sunken Marsh, on the south side of Round Island Swamp, granted his father on 9Oct1649 and due him as heir. (*Virginia Patents*, 6:440)
- 3Nov1673** – LAND PATENT: William Peebles, 862+ acres in **Charles City County** on the south side of James River: 473+ acres beginning on Thomas Newhouse, to Burcher Swamp; 388+ acres nigh *The Old Towne Land*. The first tract patented 30Jul1670. Residue for transportation of 7 persons: [Individually named.]. (*Virginia Patents*, 6:182)
- 3Nov1673** – LAND PATENT: Richard Taylor, 1,000 acres in **Charles City County**, on the south side of James River on the Blackwater, behind *Merchants Hope*, at a place called *Saw Tree*. Begining at a swamp nigh the house given said Richard by will of Richard Taylor [Sr.], his father. [No consideration was noted as given for the land, but 20 headrights worth 50 acres each would have been the customary consideration. The following 18 names were listed at the end of the patent without identification.] Tho. Mayson, Pollidor Richard, Richd. Putnam, Jo. Davis, Jno. Adams, Eliz. Seabrook, Hen. Roberts, Tho. Hudson, **Oliver Davenport**, Eliz. Wise, Ellen Faircloth, Aylse [Alice?] Asley, Anne Towsing, Richd. Stafford, Tho. Jones, Eliz. Herd, Wm. Hewgille, Susan Fairbrother. (*Virginia Patents*, 6:488)

No claim is made that Oliver Davenport was the father of or any way closely related to George Davenport, patriarch of the Prince George Davenports, but by research done to the present, Oliver was the first Davenport associated with Charles City/Prince George land, land within the inverted triangular area designated as the land of interest to the Chronicles. The land that he was associated with in 1673 was no more than three miles from where George Davenport, by his marriage to Mary Marks, had land by 1719. George's land was on the waters of Wards Creek, the next east southerly draught of James River from Powells (Merchants Hope) Creek. Whether George Davenport was an immigrant or Virginia born will be dealt with later. No further mentions of Oliver Davenport have been found in Virginia patents.

12Nov-2Dec1672 – SHIPPER: John Sadler was one the merchants shipping goods from London to Virginia on the Ship *Hopewell*, John Rudd, Master. [Coldham, Peter Wilson, *The Complete Book of Emigrants, 1660-1700* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1990, hereafter *Coldham II*), 205]

6Sep1674 – LAND PATENT: Edward Richards, 1,528 acres in **Charles City County** on the south side of James River. Beginning below *The Ponds*, nigh Ward's Creek, adjoining Thomas Morgan and said Richards, down the Foggy branch, nigh a small Indian field, being 750 acres granted John Westrope on 30Aug1650 and sold to John Graves and Thomas Morgan on 19Jul1653, and by said Morgan sold to said Richards on 10Jan1654. New land, 778 acres, was paid for by 16 headrights: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 6:529)

Richards either failed to make the improvements (seat and seed) on the 778 acres or failed to pay the King's Quit Rents, for the land was forfeited back to the King and re-patented by George Blighton (see below), who subsequently became a neighbor of Matthew Marks, who became the father-in-law of George Davenport, whose wife Mary inherited the land in 1721 adjoining Captain George Blighton, by then deceased.

15Jun1676 – LAND PATENT: Robert Netherland, 490 acres in **Charles City County** on the north side of *Flowerdew Hundred* Creek, adjoining land of Mr. Pace upon said Creek, Northeast upon Snow Creek—a grant to Thomas Drew, Gentleman, Decd., on 4Jun1657, and being not seated, escheated and granted to said Netherland by Order. For transportation of 10 persons: [4 English, 1 Negro named, 5 headrights unnamed.] (*Virginia Patents*, 6:613) .

31Aug-21Sep1677 -- SHIPPER: John Sadler was one the merchants shipping goods from London to Virginia on the Ship *Elizabeth & Mary*, Roger Newman, Master. (*Coldham II*, 295)

27Aug-27Sep1679 -- SHIPPER: John Sadler was one the merchants shipping goods from London to Virginia on the Ship *Humphrey & Elizabeth*, Robert Medford, Master. (*Coldham II*, 343)

30Jun 1680 – OFFICIAL LIST OF PARISHES: Among parishes identified as operative in Virginia at this time:

CHARLES CITY COUNTY

½ Bristol Parish, Reader Only

[The other half of Bristol was north of Appamattox River. John Ball was the minister for that half located on the neck between the James and Appamattox Rivers, and for Varina Parish located north of the James River in Henrico County. Readers were lay persons who read from the Book of Common Prayer.]

Jordan Parish, Reader Only

[Located on south side of James River opposite Westover.]

Westover Parish, Reader Only

[Located on north side of James opposite Jordan.]

Weyonoak, Mr. Paul Williams

[Located on north side of James opposite Martin's Brandon.]

Martin's Brandon, Mr. Paul Williams

[Located on south of James opposite Weyonoak.]

Source: *Colonial Records of Virginia*, State Papers, Vol. 60, No. 410.

Martin's Brandon Plantation was located in the parish of the same name. Merchants Hope Plantation, to the west of Martin's Brandon, was apparently on the east edge of Jordan Parish. Allegedly Jordan Parish was cut off from Westover in 1657 and recombined with that parish in 1688. In 1720 that portion of Westover south of the James was added to Martin's Brandon, which left Prince George County served by two parishes: Martin's Brandon in the East, Bristol in the West, with Bristol continuing to include those living on the north side of Appomattox in Henrico (later Chesterfield) County. This was the only configuration known to Bishop Meade in 1857 when he wrote his history of Anglican Church in Colonial Virginia.

No records survive concerning Martin's Brandon before 1724, and those thereafter are few. Bishop Meade apparently was ignorant of the existence of Jordan parish or of the fact that at one time both Westover and Weyanoke had parishioners on both sides of the James.

31Aug-21Sep1677 -- SHIPPER: John Sadler was one the merchants shipping goods from London to Virginia on the Ship *Elizabeth & Mary*, John Rudd, Master. (*Coldham II*, 295)

20Apr1682 – LAND PATENT: Mr. John Brashear, 235 acres in **Surry County** near the head of Upper Chippokes Creek, being part of 900 acres granted Travis & Johnson, and this part sold by Johnson to Mr. George Stevens, from whom it descended to Brashear who married Mary, daughter of Colonel Robert Pitt and heir-at-law to said Stevens. Said land adjoins the Orphans of Richard Rogers, by Burcher Swamp Creek, Mr. Benjamin Harrison, and Richard Hide. (*Virginia Patents*, 7:134)

20Apr1682 – LAND PATENT: John Wanpoole, 216 acres in **Charles City County** on the north side of the West branch of Upper Chippokes Creek, adjoining William Heath. Surveyed for Thomas Stephens, now due said Wanpoole in right of his wife Sarah, daughter of said Stephens. For transportation of 5 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 7:138)

- 29Apr1682** – LAND PATENT: Henry Armstrong, 198+ acres in **Charles City County** on the south side of James River in *Martin's Brandon Parish*, on the northwest side of Upper Chippokes Creek Beginning upon the Creek, along the line of William Short, crossing the Cold Spring, to Mr. Nicolas Perry. For importation of 4 persons, including Henry White. (*Virginia Patents*, 7:164)
- 22Sep1682** – LAND PATENT: James Watkins, 100 acres in **Surry County** near the head of Upper Chippokes Creek, adjoining Mr. Robert Moseley unto the Common Cart Path, to Mr. Stephen's Mill and upon John Barrow. Conveyed by Thomas Stephens to said Watkins on 21Feb1669. (*Virginia Patents*, 7:186)
- 22Sep1682** – LAND PATENT: Mr. Benjamin Harrison, 450 acres in **Surry County** on the head of the South run of Upper Chippokes Creek. Beginning on the east side of the Upper Bridge branch, adjoining the land he bought of *Mr. Barker*. For transportation of 9 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patent*, 7:190)
- 22Dec1782** – LAND PATENT: Thomas Busby, 475 acres in **Surry County** on the northwest side of the South run of Upper Chippokes Creek. Beginning on Mr. Benjamin Harrison's line, and by Heath branch. For transportation of 10 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 7:216)
- 3Nov1683** – LAND PATENT: William Peebles, 862+ acres in **Charles City County** on the South side of James River in two tracts: (1) 473 acres adjoining Thomas Newhouse and Burcher Swamp; (2) 388 acres nigh the *Old Towne Land*. The first tract by patent dated 30Jul1670, and residue for transportation of 7 persons; [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 6:182)
- 8Apr1685** – LAND PATENT: Mr. William Symonds, son and heir-at-law of Mr. William Symonds, Decd., 800 acres in the Upper Parish of **Surry County** on Burcher Swamp, one of the main branches of Upper Chippokes Creek, being 600 acres granted said Symonds, Decd., on 8Apr1650, 200 acres [surplus land found] within said bounds [on resurvey], beginning near Bland's Path. For transportation of 4 persons: [No list.] (*Virginia Patents*, 7:475)
- 27Apr1686** – LAND PATENT: Nicholas Wyatt, 115 acres [in **Charles City County** on the south side of James River] near his dwelling house in *Merchants Hope, Martin's Brandon Parish*. Between Captain Wyatt and Elizabeth Wheeler, orphan; adjoining Ralph Ratchell, Mr. Wallace. For transportation of 3 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 7:510)

Wyatt's survey description suggests that a change of parish boundaries occurred before 1688, for if Merchants Hope Plantation was in Jordan Parish, as the history of the present-day Merchant Hope Chapel claims, and Jordan Parish was collapsed into Westover Parish in 1688, then Merchants Hope could not have been in Martin's Brandon in 1686. Likely, Martin's Brandon had been enlarged before 1686 by adding a slice of Jordan parish which included Merchants Hope. The land could not move, but parish boundaries could.

27Apr1686 – LAND PATENT: Mr. John Terry, 750 acres in **Charles City County** between Chippokes and Wards Creek. Adjoining Francis Ree, John Reekes, Mr. Good, Henry Armstrong, Braynes, the land now in possession of Edward Green and belonging to the orphan of William Short; by the Road to Mr. Richard Clark, by John Wilkinson, to Captain Wyatt. For transportation of 15 person: [11 English named, 3 Negroes unnamed, 1 headright missing.] (*Virginia Patents*, 7:512)

30Oct1686 – LAND PATENT: Nicholas Wyatt, son and heir of Anthony Wyatt, Gentleman, late of Jordan Parish, **Charles City County**, 361 acres on the south side of James River, being all that plantation known by the name of *Chaplin's*. Beginning on line now or late Colonel Edward Hill's that runs into Mason's Creek, to Burcher's Creek mouth, etc. Due to said Nicholas as eldest son and heir-at-law to said Anthony, who died lately seized of same and had been many years in his possession, and by reason of burning of the house of said Anthony, that patent which was granted to one Chaplin was lost, and the original not being found in the Secretary's Office. (*Virginia Patents*, 7:531).

30Oct1686 – LAND PATENT: Francis Ree, 300 acres [in **Charles City County** on the south side of James River] on northwest side of Upper Chippokes Creek, between his and land of Mr. John Terry. For transportation of 7 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 7:542)

16Nov1686 – LAND PATENT: Mr. George Blighton, 1,010 acres in **Charles City County** [on the south side of James River], beginning in Westrope's line, near an old Indian field, to the Southern Run, being 778 acres granted Edward Richards on 26Sep1674, who deserted same, now granted said Blighton by Order in Council, and 232 acres newly taken. For transportation of 21 persons. [No list of headrights recorded with patent.]

The title "Mr." was social acknowledgement that Blighton was an accomplished commoner in some regard, viz., planter, merchant, factor, ship owner, etc. By other evidence the land concerned was south of James River and on or near the ridge dividing the watersheds of Ward's Creek of the James, a north flow, from Blackwater Swamp waters, a southerly flow ultimately into Albemarle Sound in North Carolina. Matthew Marks, subsequently father-in-law of George Davenport, soon became an adjoining landowner, and Mary Davenport, daughter of Marks, inherited the land adjoining Blighton's, which appears to have been the first land that George Davenport, patriarch of the Prince George Davenport's owned.

1Feb1686/87 – LAND PATENT: Mrs. Sarah Williams, 750 acres in **Charles City County**, granted to Edward Richards, Decd., and escheated by inquisition under Captain Francis Page, Deputy Escheator. (*Virginia Patents*, 7:546)

Mrs. Williams obtained the manor plantation tract originally patented by Major John Westrope, London merchant who also had a home in Virginia.

20Apr1687 – LAND PATENT: John Reeks, 320 acres in **Charles City County** on the northwest side of Upper Chippokes Creek, adjoining Dr. Terry and Mr. Good. For transportation of 7 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 7:575)

26Apr1688 – LAND PATENT: Thomas Busby & Mary, his wife, daughter and heir of Simon Simon, 539 acres in Weyanoke and Westover parishes on the south side of James River in **Charles City County**. Beginning at head of Reedy Bottom branch of Powell's Creek, crossing a branch of *Flowerdew Hundred* Creek, to land now, or late, of William Harrison; adjoining John Hobbs and John Poythres. Said land due, viz., 359 acres within land possessed by Simon Simon, grandfather of said Mary, 150 acres being the deserted land of James Ward, Decd., and 50 acres of waste land. For importation of 11 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 7:657)

This patent is a illustration of the parish boundary problem in Charles City County south of the James. If claims are correct, Jordan Parish had been recombined with Westover Parish by this time, and Weyanoke was supposedly on the north side of James. This land was north of Merchants Hope, which Captain Wyatt's patent in 1686 identified as being in Martin's Brandon. Little wonder that ministers had little or no desire to serve in parishes on the south side, for parishioners apparently avoided their responsibilities because of the fluid parish lines. One vicar serving Southwark Parish in adjoining Surry County reported in 1724 that he had begun his ministry in Virginia by serving Martin's Brandon and south side Weyanoke, but had abandoned them after a year or so because the parishioners would not provide him with a sufficient living.

The Prince George Davenports

FROM THIS POINT FORWARD, PATENTEES AND FREEHOLDERS ASSOCIATED
WITH DAVENPORTS IN PRINCE GEORGE RECORDS ARE ANTICIPATED AND INCLUDED
IN THE CHRONOLOGY

20Apr1689 – LAND PATENT: Roger Tilman, 1,060 acres in **Charles City County** in Bristol Parish on the south side of Appomattox River at place called *Moncus-a-Neck*, Beginning at the mouth of a great branch nigh Thomas Lowe, crossing main Moncus-a-Neck Creek, adjoining a beaver pond and a gravelly run.. For transportation of 11 persons: [No list.] (*Virginia Patents*, 7:707)

20Apr1689 – LAND PATENT: James Thweatt, Sr., 125 acres in **Charles City County** in Bristol Parish on the south side of Appomattox River. Adjoining Henry Batts and Edward Burchett. For transportation of 3 persons: [No list.] (*Virginia Patents*, 7:708)

21Apr1690 – LAND PATENT: **Matthew Marks**, 556 acres in **Charles City County** in *Martin's Brandon*. Beginning near Ward's Run, by land late belonging to Edward Richards; by Mr. Blighton. For transportation of 12 persons: Tho. Wells, Robt. Wood, Jane Whitby, John Sampson, Adam Good, Wm. Wright, Rich. Lewis, Edwd. Moore, Walter Long, Wm. Webster, Diana & Robin, Negroes [Slaves]. (*Virginia Patents*, 8:77)

This was Matthew Marks first appearance in Virginia land records. The land was in the James River watershed, Ward's Run being a headwater of Ward's Creek, near the Charles City (Prince George since 1702) and Surry Line. The current (1997) Virginia Department of Transportation general highway map of Prince George County indicates that the area has been returned to wilderness, has few local roads.

21Apr1690 – LAND PATENT: Mr. James Cock, John Butler & William Lowe, 1,684 acres in **Charles City County** at a place known as *Moncuseneck*. Beginning at John Evans and Roger Tillman, crossing Cattail branch and Upper Nottaway Path, to Moncuseneck Main Swamp. For importation of 34 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 8:71)

Moncuseneck, also referred to as Monkey Neck, is a draught of the Appomattox River, now flowing in Dinwiddie County.

21Apr1690 – LAND PATENT: Henry King & Thomas Parham, 824 acres in **Charles City County** at or near Moncuseneck, to be equally divided. Beginning on land now or late of Roger Tillman, down Cow branch to Lowe's land, to Moncuseneck Main Run. For importation of 17 persons: [16 English individually named, and Guy, a Negro.] (*Virginia Patents*, 8:76)

22Jan1691 – PRESENTMENT: At a Charles City County Court held at Westover, John Moore, **Matthew Marks**, Thomas Potts, Samuel Easley, and Richard Warthen were presented [indicted] by the Grand Jury on information of Captain Nicholas Wyatt for not attending their parish church. Sheriff ordered to summon said delinquents to next Court to answer the charges. (*Charles City Court, VA, Court Orders 1687-1695*, 348)

Matthew Markes, by land location, was settled within Martin's Brandon Parish, where all records have long been lost.

20Oct1691 – LAND PATENT: William Knott, 216 acres in **Charles City County** on the north side of the West branch of Upper Chippokes Creek, adjoining William Heath. Granted John Wan-poole on 20Apr1682, deserted, and now granted for importation of 5 persons; [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 8:174)

29Apr1693 – LAND PATENT: John Wilkinson, 100 acres in **Surry County** on the head of the branches of Upper Chippokes Creek; beginning near land of George Loveday, adjoining Mr. Busby. A grant to George Loveday on 29May1683, deserted, and now granted by Order in Council. For transportation of William Barker and Benjamin Lucas. (*Virginia Patents*, 8:312)

William Barker, the old ship captain, merchant, and planter, surely dead by this time, based on the liberal interpretation of headright qualifications in effect at this time, had earned a headright every time he left Virginia and returned. During the 1630s and 40s, he likely made a dozen trips between England and Virginia, had earned 50 acres on each return. Using a headright fifty years later was unusual, but not unique. Some headrights were used multiple times, and some transportees were invented. The Land Office in Colonial Virginia was run primarily for the benefit of the Royal Governor and his aristocrat friends. Besides, there was no way in those primitive days to check out headrights, and as long as the King received regular remittances from Virginia, and as long as local greed did not fail the King's expectations, few came from London to monitor what the Colonial authorities were doing..

20Apr1694 – LAND PATENT: Thomas Parham, 70 acres in **Charles City County** on the north side of Blackwater Swamp, adjoining James Thweatt, John Clay, and Henry King. For importation of John Kelsey and William Anderson. (*Virginia Patents*, 8:368)

21Apr1695 – LAND PATENT: Adam Heath, 386 acres in **Surry County** on the south side of James River, on the southwest side of Upper Chippokes Creek. Granted John Barrow on 3May1653, deserted, and now granted said Heath on order. For importation of 8 persons: [8 Slaves]. (*Virginia Patents*, 8;412)

29Nov-14Dec1695 -- SHIPPER: Thomas Quiney was one the merchants shipping goods from London to Virginia on the Ship *London Merchant*, Nicholas Smith, Master. (*Coldham II*, 656)

28Oct1697 – LAND PATENT: William Rookins, 400 acres in **Surry County** on Upper Chippokes Creek, adjoining William Egborough and his own land, being a tract granted Barrendine Mercer on 17May1638, who assigned to William Egborough, who included it in a patent for 500 acres dated 6Aug1650, but was never seated; now granted, by said Rookin's petition and Order in Council. For transportation of 8 Slaves. (*Virginia Patents*, 9:109)

Rookins' father was one of those hung by Governor Berkeley in 1677 for Treason following Bacon's Rebellion. Apparently the Rookin estate was not confiscated, as was that of Anthony Arnold in Northside New Kent, an ancestor of the Pamunkey Davenports. There are no indications in Virginia Patents of Bacon's Rebellion having had an effect on land matters on the South side of James River.

12Dec1698 – MAGISTRATES NAMED on the Commission of Peace for **SURRY COUNTY**:

Henry Tooke
William Brown
Thomas Holt, Sheriff
James Mason
Nathaniel Harrison
Being the Quorum

William Newsom
William Cock
Thomas Drew
John Edwards

Source: Louis de Cognets, Jr., *English Duplicates of Lost Virginia Records* (Princeton, NJ: Author, 1958), 10.

No Court could be held unless at least one of the Justices of the Quorum was present. Commonly, the first six appointments constituted the Quorum, but the Governor could designate as many members of the Quorum as he chose.

Henry Tooke was the Factor and Agent for Ye London Merchants' Land in adjoining Charles City (later Prince George) County. In addition to being the No. 1 Magistrate of Surry County, he was also the Major, second in command, of the Surry Militia. He subsequently married the widow of Dr. John Terry, and with Terry, and their mutual wife, is buried in the church yard of what was Martin's Brandon Chapel in Prince George County.

17Jun1699 – MAGISTRATES NAMED on the Commission of Peace for **CHARLES CITY COUNTY**:

Richard Bland
Daniel Lewellen
Charles Goodrich
Robert Bolling, Sheriff
Littlebury Epes

George Blighton,
Being the Quorum

John Hardiman
William Hunt

Micajah Low
Richard Bradford
Joshua Wynn
John Terry

Source: Louis de Cognets, Jr., *English Duplicates of Lost Virginia Records* (Princeton, NJ: Author, 1958), 9.

26Oct1699 – LAND PATENT: Ralph Hill, 176 acres in **Charles City County**, beginning by the South branch, at the lower end of the Meadows, on the point of a ridge between two branches, adjoining Captain George Blighton. For transporation of 4 persons: Stephen Simpson, Sr., wife Mary, and children Jane and Stephen. (*Virginia Patents*, 9:225)

20Aug1700 – DEATH: Dr. John Terry of *Martin's Brandon* Parish, Charles City County.

“Down the road from the mansion house at Brandon Plantation is a small grove, enclosed, covering the site of an old church and churchyard. It was probably the church at *Martin's Brandon* mentioned in the wills of John Westrope and John Sadler. The field has long been known as *Church Pastures*. There are only

a few tombs there, the most current of which are the tombs of Mr. John Tirrey, Gentleman, and that of Mrs. Dorothy Tooke, late relict of John Tirrey, Gentleman, and that of Henry Tooke.” (Edna Harris Bushnell, *Terry Records of Virginia*, 22.)

“Here lies Interred the Body of John Tirrey, Gent., who was borne at London the 4th of February 1649, and departed this life 20 August,1700.” This tomb bears a Coat of Arms. (Crozier's *Virginia Heraldica*, 64)

“John Terry, of Canwall Lodge, Sutton Coldfield, fought at the Battle of Edgehill for the King. He died in 1671/72 having by his wife Dorothy, a son John Terry, who was living in 1671.” (*Burke's Landed Gentry*, 2220)

Mrs. Busnell did not follow standard documentation procedure, gave only cryptic citations.

How TIRREY got on the two tombstones was likely due to stonecutter who could not spell, or was given an erroneous spelling. Every other record found is clear that the name was TERRY. John Terry apparently died as a childless intestate, for his land was escheated back to the King. There was a hearing before the Council of State on 14Jun1743 wherein Nathaniel Harrison, who built Brandon Manor, had a hearing on his caveat entered against William Haley in regards to 240 acres in Prince George County, located on Upper Chippokes Creek, supposed to be escheated from John Terry. Further research is required to learn the outcome of the petition. Terry's widow married Henry Tooke, the factor for Ye London Merchants, namely the Martin's Brandon and Merchants Hope plantations. Tooke was also the No. 1 Magistrate for Surry County, where he had his own manor plantation. He, too, was apparently childless or returned to England after Ye Merchants Lands were sold to Nathaniel Harrison. No other TOOKE appeared in Eighteenth Century Virginia annals, but the name may subsequently have been TUCKER

25Apr1701 – LAND PATENT: Captain Nathaniel Harrison & Hinsha Gillam, 658 acres [in **Surry County**] on the south side of Main Blackwater Swamp, adjoining Thomas Blunt

on the Cattail branch. For transportation of 14 persons: [Listed, none of **Davenport** interest.] (*Virginia Patents*, 9:331)

Most of Old Surry County lying south of Main Blackwater Swamp was erected into Sussex County in 1753-54.

25Apr1701 – LAND PATENT: Captain Nathaniel Harrison, 437 acres [in **Surry County**] on the east side of Achemusuck Swamp. For 9 headrights paid to William Byrd, Esq., auditor. (*Virginia Patents*, 9:336)

These two patents mark the beginning of Nathaniel Harrison land acquisitions in then Isle of Wight and Surry. Before his death in 1735, Nathaniel Harrison, variously Captain, Colonel, and Esqr., would obtain at least 17 patents totaling 19,246 acres and would purchase at least 8,200 acres from Ye Merchants of London in what is now Prince George, Surry, Southampton, Sussex, and Brunswick counties, south of the James, and in Charles City County, on the north bank of the James. The Harrison presence in these CHRONICLES is minimal and is traced only because Ambrose Davenport, colorful Frontier soldier and later Indian trader at Mackinaw, Michigan Territory, claimed a boyhood association beginning in the 1770s with William Henry Harrison, later a President of the United States, which included being on the Harrison plantations in Surry and Sussex (south side of the James) and Charles City (north side of the James). Ambrose's ancestry, enigmatic to his descendants, would seem to fit into the Prince George Davenports based on the proximity to the Harrisons in settlement south of the James.

8Jul1702 - STATISTICS: "A List of the Quantity of LAND, Number of Tithables, and Civil Officers in the Dominion of Virginia," by Edmund Jennings, Secretary, Governor's Council:

CHARLES CITY COUNTY.

169,901 Acres of Land	1,327 Tithables
Burgesses: Richard Bland, John Wynn	
Sheriff: Charles Goodrich	
Justices: Richard Bland, Daniel Lewellen (as Luellin), Charles Goodrich, Robert Bolling, Littlebury Epes, George Blighton, John Hardiman, Micajah Low, John Wynn, Richard Bradford, John Terry.	
Escheator: William Randolph	
County Clerk: Benjamin Harrison	
Surveyor: Robert Bolling	

This was the last Charles City County Commission of Peace (Annual Appointment of County Officers by the Royal Governor) that included the South Side of James River. Later in this year, all of the County South of the James was erected into Prince George County. An appointee by the Governor was not required to live in the County where he held office, nor was he barred from holding more than one office in one or more counties.

SURRY COUNTY

102,425 Acres of Land	739 Tithables
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Burgesses: Nathaniel Harrison, Samuel Thompson
Sheriff: (Office vacant)
Justices: Henry Tooke, William Brown, Jr., Thomas Holt,
 James Mason, Nathaniel Harrison, Samuel Thompson,
 William Newsom, William Cock, Thomas Drew, John
 Edwards, Edward Jackman.
Escheator: William Randolph
Coroners: Thomas Holt, Nathaniel Harrison
County Clerk: Francis Clements
Surveyor: Thomas Swan

From: Louis de Cognets, Jr., *English Duplicates of Lost Virginia Records* (Princeton, NJ:
 Author, 1958), 11, 18.

Henry Tooke was manager of the London Merchants plantations just over the Surry line in Charles City County, soon to be Prince George, but had his own manor plantation in Surry, where he was No. 1 on the List of Justices, proof positive that he was the most politically powerful freeholder in Surry County. The order in which Justices were listed on a Commission of Peace identified the degree of Royal and/or Governor's favor. The Commission issued annually was a genuine social ladder in terms of the order in which the Magistrates were listed. The fact that Tooke occupied the highest rung was hard evidence that he enjoyed the highest prestige or Royal favor in Surry County. Yet he held no appointment to the Governor's Council of State or any other office of the Colony, a fact that indicates that his principal role in Virginia was to attend to the lands and business interests of the London Company of Merchants. His power was based in London. There were no Virginia patents to a Henry Tooke.

8Jul1702 - STATISTICS: "A List of Parishes, Ministers and Tithables in the Dominion of Virginia," by Edmund Jennings, Secretary, Governor's Council:

CHARLES CITY COUNTY

Part of Bristol Parish [the other part was in Henrico County],
 George Robinson, Minister, 518 Tithables in both parts.

Westover Parish, Charles Anderson, Minister, 606 Tithables.

Martin Brandon Parish, 135 Tithables, and Weyanoke Parish,
 363 Tithables, both served by James Bushell, Minister.

Source: Louis de Cognets, Jr., *English Duplicates of Lost Virginia Records* (Princeton, NJ:
 Author, 1958), 11, 250.

Bristol Parish served the westernmost portion of Charles City south of the James. Weyanoke, half of which charge was on the north side of the James, served the central portion, and Martin Brandon served the easternmost portion. This continued until 1724, when Weyanoke was withdrawn from Prince George County and was absorbed by Westover in Charles City County. The void in Prince George was filled by Bristol Parish and Martin Brandon, although Martin Brandon was never able to support a minister and disappeared, leaving no records or history behind.

Surry County was served by two parishes that originally were each ten (10) miles in width and one hundred and twenty (120) miles in length. Lawnes Creek was the Lower (or East) parish. Southwark was the Upper (or West) parish. Both ran from south bank of James River to the North Carolina line (which was not surveyed until the 1730s) until the mid-Eighteenth Century, when Sussex County was erected from Surry County below the Main Blackwater, and Albemarle Parish was created for that jurisdiction. Lawnes Creek was then merged into Southwark, which became the sole Surry County parish until the Revolution and the disestablishment of the Church of England.

28Oct1702 – LAND PATENT: William Williams, 600 acres in **Isle of Wight County**, on the south side of Main Blackwater Swamp. For transportation of 12 persons: John Woodriff, **George Davenport**, Alphonse Marsh, Thomas Poolly, Martha Jarman, William Avarage, Eliza. Bramley, Mary Williams, Joseph John Jackman, Eliza. Jackman. Two (2) rights paid for to William Byrd, Esqr., Auditor. (*Virginia Patents*, 9:474)

William Williams had his manor plantation in Prince George. This appears to have been a sold headright, for George Davenport's settlement locale was in Prince George to the northwest, with Surry County being between Prince George and Isle of Wight. The land here has been in Southampton County since 1749.

30Mar1704 - QUIT RENT ROLLS: **PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY:**

Among those listed:

John Avery, 100 acres
 Colonel [Benjamin] Harrison, Esqr., 150 acres
 Ralph Hill, 175 acres
 William Harrison, 1,930 acres
 James Harrison, 200 acres
 Gabriel Harrison, 150 acres
 Thomas Harrison, 1,077 acres
 Adam Heath, 300 acres
 William Heath, 320 acres
Matthew Marks, 1,500 acres
 Nathaniel [Nicholas?] Robinson, 100 acres
 Major Henry Tooke for *Ye Merchants in London*, 4,600 acres
 Major [Henry] Tooke, 181 acres
 Robert Tooker, 400 acres
 Joseph Tooker, 200 acres
 George Tillman, 446 acres
 John Tillman, 530 acres
 James Thweatt, Sr., 715 acres
 James Thweatt, Jr., 100 acres

Source: Louis de Cognets, Jr., *English Duplicates of Lost Virginia Records* (Princeton, NJ: Author, 1958), 222-227..

30Mar1704 - QUIT RENT ROLLS: **SURRY COUNTY**

Among those listed:

Colonel Benjamin Harrison, 1,750 acres
 Nathaniel Harrison, 2,177 acres
 Adam Heath, 200 acres
 Daniel Harrison, 70 acres
 Major Henry Tooke, 700 acres
 Captain Thomas Harrison (living out of county), 530 acres

Source: Louis de Cognets, Jr., *English Duplicates of Lost Virginia Records* (Princeton, NJ: Author, 1958), 210-215.

30Mar1704 - QUIT RENT ROLLS: **CHARLES CITY COUNTY**

Among those listed:

Benjamin Harrison, 6,350 acres

Source: Louis de Cognets, Jr., *English Duplicates of Lost Virginia Records* (Princeton, NJ: Author, 1958), 161-162.

2May1705 – LAND PATENT: Adam Heath, 681 acres in **Prince George** and **Surry Counties**. Beginning on the West run of Upper Chippokes Creek, to a corner of Burcher's land, to William Savage by the Quagmire branch, along the lines of Crockson, Watling, and **Marks**; to land of Abraham Heath, Decd., by the Piney Slash, along the land of John Wapple, along Barrow, to Old Road to William Short's: 118 acres formerly granted to the said Adam; 563 acres being Waste Land. For transportation of 12 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 9:676)

28Apr1711 – LAND PATENT: John Sadler, Citizen and Grocer of London, and the Rev. Joseph Richardson, husband of Ellinor Richardson, executrix of Thomas Quiney, Brewer, late of London, Decd., 2,208 acres of Old Land in **Prince George County**, called *Merchants Hope*, on James River and Powell's Creek—1,850 acres due them by several purchases, and 358 acres being *surplus* land. For transportation of 8 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patent*, 10:40)

By other evidence, the John Sadler here was the son of the John Sadler who had obtained the original patent seventy-four years earlier. John [Jr.], an established merchant himself, had been devised his father's interests in both Merchants Hope and Martin's Brandon fifty-six years earlier, hence was man well advanced in years (his will had been made since 1698) when he joined the Quiney interest in having their Virginia land re-patented. Because there was more acreage in the two plantations than had been originally patented, a resurvey and re-patenting was necessary. Surplus land was the extra acreage found within a patent on resurvey. Colonial surveyors were notoriously inaccurate in their calculations of acreages, and rarely were so on the side of overstatement. Because Quit Rents were on a per acre basis, and cheating the King was common play, original surveys generally included more land than was stated on the patent. In this instance, the resurvey found 19.4 percent more land within the original survey lines than had been paid for. The surplus land had to be bought from the King and included within a new patent, if there was to be a valid title to pass on.

28Apr1711 – LAND PATENT: John Sadler, Citizen and Grocer of London, and the Rev. Joseph Richardson, husband of Ellinor Richardson, executrix of Thomas Quiney,

Brewer, late of London, Decd., 5,037 acres of Old Land in **Prince George County**, called *Martin's Brandon*. Beginning at the mouth of Hacker's Creek, to James River, at a place called *Church Landing*, including Tappahannah Marsh to the mouth of [Upper] Chippokes Creek, and including a small island. Being land granted to Simon Turges, John Sadler, and Richard Quiney, Merchants of London on 5Aug1643, which patent was for 4,550 acres, and due them by purchase from the Heirs of Captain John Martin, late of Virginia, Decd., and 500 acres, the residue, by virtue of purchase in right of said Captain Martin, by Order of the Court on 9Jun1643; 200 acres of said land formerly given as a Glebe to the Parish of Martin Brandon; and 487 acres of surplus land. For 20 Shillings and transportation of 6 persons: [Individually named.] (*Virginia Patents*, 10:40)

As to the family relationships, John Sadler [Jr.] was the uncle of the deceased Thomas Quiney, his sister Ellen having been Richard Quiney's wife and mother of Thomas. Hence John was uncle by marriage to Eleanor Richardson, widow of Thomas, who controlled the Quiney half of The Merchants Land at this time. Both were closely related to William Shakespeare, the Bard, and John Harvard, founder of Harvard College.

13Nov1713 – LAND PATENT: Benjamin Evans of Prince George County, 375 acres of New Land in **Isle of Wight County** on the south side of Main Blackwater Swamp, beginning on the north side of Nottoway River, at lower end of Black Walnut Tree field, and down Nottoway Swamp. For importation of 8 persons: John Goulson, Henry Goulson, **George Davenport**, John Kelly, Daniel Kerson, William Sabree, Archibald Campbell, William Hunter. (*Virginia Patents*, 10:120)

Another Prince George resident patented Isle of Wight land, which was even farther from George Davenport's location in Prince George than it had been in 1702. The Nottoway flows into the Blackwater at the North Carolina line. No evidence had yet been found of there having been more than one early George Davenport living south of the James, and if George had two headrights to sell, it meant that he emigrated to Virginia before 1702 and subsequently had occasion to leave and return, which earned him two headrights, or that he was born in Virginia and had occasion to leave and return twice which also earned two headrights. If he was working for Ye Merchants of London, there were ships going back and forth from their Virginia plantations and London regularly.

16Jun1714 – LAND PATENT: **Matthew Marks** of **Surry County**, 200 acres of New Land in Isle of Wight County on the south side of Main Blackwater Swamp, adjoining Captain William Brown. For 20 Shillings. (*Virginia Patents*, 10:192)

By other evidence (see below), Matthew Marks' daughter Mary was the wife of George Davenport [Sr.], who would become the Matriarch of the Prince George Davenports. The fact that George's father-in-law was speculating in Isle of Wight land might explain why George's headrights were being used there. Marks preferred to pay cash for his patent, an option made available by the King's Land Office in the early 1700s when populating Virginia from England was no longer a top priority.

16Jun1714 – LAND PATENT: James Binford, 261 acres of Escheated Land in **Prince George County**, in the fork of Cross Branch and Poplar Swamp, on Warradine's line. Inquisition taken at the Court House of Charles City County by virtue of a warrant directed to William Randolph, Esqr., Escheator, for that part of Charles City County on

the south side of James River. It appears said land near *Merchants Hope* upon the Poplar Level, which was called *Robert Jones Level*, doth escheat from John Bannister. Survey returned by Robert Bolling, Surveyor, on 3Oct1703. For 2 Pounds of Tobacco. (*Virginia Patents*, 10:125)

23Dec1714 – LAND PATENT: John Eaton of York County, 429 acres of New Land in **Prince George County**, beginning on the Southern Run in the line of Captain George Blighton, Decd., adjoining land of Ralph Hill. For 10 Shillings and importation of 7 persons: **Matthew Marks, Mary Marks, Edward Marks, John Marks, Israel Marks, Sarah Marks, William Townsin [Townsend?]**. (*Virginia Patents*, 10:222)

Considering the constituency of the transportees, which appear to be the family of Matthew Marks, and the fact that Matthew Marks obtained his first patent in 1690 and paid for the land with 12 headrights, none of which were himself or family members, it would appear that Matthew Marks and family had taken a trip, left Virginia, and then had returned, for Marks children were likely born in Virginia and were therefore ineligible for headrights for importation, unless they had left Virginia and returned. The land patented here was in the same neighborhood where Marks had his manor plantation. His land also adjoined Captain Blighton.

14Jun1715 – MINISTER QUALIFIED, MEETING HOUSE APPROVED: At a Prince George County Court, Robert Norden, an Anabaptist minister, took the Oath of Allegiance to the King as required by Law, and was authorized to preach at the house of **Matthew Marks**, designated by the Court as the meeting house. (*Prince George County, VA, Court Orders 1714-1720*, 20)

12Jul1715 – MEETING HOUSE APPROVED: On motion of Nicholas Robertson, ordered that his house be recorded as a Public Meeting House for the Sect of Anabaptists. (*Prince George County, VA, Court Orders 1714-1720*, 25)

The first wife of Nicholas Robertson is claimed to have been Sarah Marks, daughter of Matthew Marks and sister of Mary Marks Davenport, wife of George. Robertson searchers identify John, Israel, and Edward Robertson as sons of Sarah, say that Nicholas' second wife was Jane Tillman, daughter of Roger and Susannah Tillman of Prince George.

16Aug1715 – LAND PATENT: Benjamin Evans, 81 acres of New Land in **Prince George County** on the west side of the Ponds Run, adjoining the land of Captain George Blighton. For 10 Shillings. (*Virginia Patents*, 10:241)

This was the same Benjamin Evans who had used a George Davenport headright to pay for Isle of Wight land in 1713 (see above). Here Evans took up a small tract in the Matthew Marks neighborhood, where George Davenport, by then or shortly hereafter, was a landowner.

16Nov1716 – PROBATE: The Last Will & Testament of John Sadler [Jr.], late of London, grocer, now of Hunsdon, Herts, made 2Jan1698 was admitted to Probate. One of the devisements of the Testator was to Sir Charles Ingelby, "all my moiety of a certain plantation in Virginia, containing by estimation, 6,400 acres, and called *Martin's Brandon*, and all my moiety of another plantation in Virginia called *Merchant's Hope*,

containing about 1,900 acres,” in trust to pay Testator’s daughter Elizabeth Sadler, one-third of the yearly rents and profits, and authorizing Ingelby, if he saw fit, to sell said lands, and pay Elizabeth Sadler one-third of the proceeds, the remainder devised to said Ingelby. (*W.G. Stanard*, 616)

When surveyed in 1711, Martin’s Brandon had totaled 5,037 acres. If the plantation included 6,400 acres in 1716, more land had been purchased. On the other hand, Merchants Hope on resurvey included 2,208 acres, suggesting that 308 acres had been conveyed away. Nevertheless, assuming that Sadler knew what he owned, Ye Merchants Land included 8,300 acres, or approximately 13 square miles of Prince George County, which, subject to the King’s Quit Rent of one shilling every 50 acres, cost Sadler & Quiney £8/6sh a year.

How many managers, supervisors, and workers of all kinds and degrees of skill were required to operate the two-plantation, 8,300-acre venture, predominantly in Tobacco, a labor intensive crop?

If the venture had not been profitable to its owners, it would not have flourished for almost a hundred years. The point being that such a large planting venture would have required a staff of scribes and clerks as well as field hands and that the **Davenports**, from **Lancelot** at the beginning to **Joseph** and family to the Revolution were scribes and clerks.

22Jan1717 – LAND PATENT: Theophilus Joyner, 385 acres of New Land in **Isle of Wight County** on the south side of Main Blackwater Swamp, on the north side of the Village Swamp, adjoining a corner of **Matthew Marks’** land. For 30 Shillings and importation of 2 persons: William West, Francis Holmes. (*Virginia Patents*, 10:355)

There was still vacant land adjoining Marks in Isle of Wight.

24Jan1717 – LAND PATENT: William Heath, 325 acres of New Land in **Surry County** on the southwest side of the Warwick Swamp at the dividing line between **Surry** and **Prince George** counties, down the run of Sawpitt branch, to Thomas Eldridge’s land, down the run of Hales branch. For 20 Shillings and importation of 3 persons: Benjamin Foster, Julian Foster, and Ann Arrington. (*Virginia Patents*, 10:362)

Today Warwick Swamp rises in Dinwiddie County, flows easterly through Prince George and joins Blackwater Swamp in Sussex County at the Surry Line. In 1749 the land here went into Sussex County. A William Heath was one of four freeholders appointed by the Prince George County Court to inventory and appraise the Estate of George Davenport, Decd., in 1739 (see below). Some of Heath’s land was in Prince George County or that Court would have had no jurisdiction over him, or some of Markes land was in Surry County and, by Virginia County Court reciprocity, Heath could be ordered by the Prince George Court by authority of the Surry Court. Considering the records associations of Heaths with George Davenport [Jr.] in Amelia County in the 1740s, there was possibly an in-law relationship between the two families.

15Jul1717 – LAND PATENT: Thomas Parham, 54 acres of New Land in **Prince George County** on the south side of Moccuseneck Swamp, on Glany’s Quarter branch. For 5 Shillings. (*Virginia Patents*, 10:337)

12May1718 – DEED: Nicholas Robertson to George Tillman, both of Bristol Parish, Prince George County, for [?], [?] acres in Bristol Parish, **Prince George County**, being the land devised to said Nicholas by Thomas Parham, Decd., but was an original patent to Roger Tillman, father of said George... /s/ Nicholas Robertson. Wit: John Robyson, **George Davenport**. (*Prince George County, VA, Deeds & Wills, 1713-1728*, 228. Jane Robertson, wife of Nicholas, relinquished Dower rights on 14Nov1721. (*Ibid*, 501)

15Aug1719 – PROBATE: Last Will & Testament of **Matthew Marks**, late of **Prince George County**, Decd. Made this date; probated at Merchants Hope 13Oct1719. Named **Edward Marks**, son of **Edward Marks**, to have 200 acres adjoining Ward's Creek at age 21; John Robyson to have the land at *The Ponds*; Israel and Edward Robyson to have the land on the other end of the Spring branch at Blighton's line; daughter **Mary Davenport** to have the parcel of land at *The Ponds* next to Blighton's line; **John Marks**, son of **Israel Marks**, to have 50 acres next to the Southern Run and Harrison's line; daughter [Elizabeth?] to have two beds, one for her and the other for Robert Norden during his time of tarrying in Virginia; to **John Marks**, son of **Israel Marks**, a feather bed; Robert Norden to have my plantation to live on until **Edward Marks** comes of age. Executors: Robert Norden, John Avery. /s/ **Matthews Marks**. Wit: **Elizabeth Marks**, Joseph "X" Thomas, Mary Jones, Penelope Warthen, (*Prince George County, VA, Deeds & Wills, 1713-1728*, 358)

The Prince George County Court House was at Merchants Hope Plantation from 1714-1728. Marks had apparently sold the land he patented in Isle of Wight County before he made the will—unless there were two Matthew Marks. Another Matthew Marks appeared in Goochland (later Cumberland) County in 1738 (see below).

19Aug1720 – DEED: Richard Richardson, Gentleman, wife Mary, to Nathaniel Harrison, Esq., for £400, all that moiety or half of two tracts of land called **Merchants Hope** and **Martin's Brandon**, left by will of Thomas Quiney, late of London, Decd., to the said Robert Richardson. [No specifics as to remainder of document.] (*W.G. Stanard*, 615)

The other half of the two tracts, collectively known as The Merchants Land, belonged to the Estate of John Sadler [Jr.] and had been devised to Sir Charles Ingelby, with a one-third interest in profits and sale proceeds to Elizabeth Sadler. Sometime hereafter, Sir Charles sold the Sadler half to Nathaniel Harrison, Esq., who combined them into his Manor plantation he called "Brandon." Possibly coincidental, with the end of The Merchants Lands, the Davenports appeared elsewhere besides Prince George County on waters of the James, namely to Williamsburg.

12Jun1721 – PROBATE: Estate of **Mathew Marks**, late of **Prince George County**, Decd. Estate accounting mentions **George Davenport**, Captain Goodrich, Robert Norden, John Avery, William Hamlin, and **Eliza Marks**. (*Prince George, VA, Deeds & Wills, 1713-1728*, 470)

+-----**1722** – APPOINTED: **Joseph Davenport [Sr.]** appointed Town Clerk upon the chartering of of the **City of Williamsburg**. (*William & Mary Quarterly*, 5:4, Apr1897, 271)

14Mar1722 - DEED: Israel Robinson, wife Sarah, of Bristol Parish, to Thomas Barrow, of Martin's Brandon Parish, all Prince George County, for [?], 50 acres belonging to said Israel and Edward Robinson, his brother, a legacy to them from **Matthew Marks**, Decd... /s Israel "X" Robinson, Sarah "X" Robinson. Wit: William Harrison, Henry Peebles. (*Prince George County, VA, Deeds & Wills, 1713-1728, 358*)

Israel Robinson appears to have been a grandson of Matthew Marks. Hence George Davenport, married to Mary Marks, daughter of Matthew, was an uncle by marriage to Israel. Both the Marks and Robinson (which also appeared as Robertson) families are in need of a valid sorting.

c1723 – PROBATE: Estate of Timothy Bridger, late of **Prince George County**, Decd. Accounts of Estate include mention of **George Davenport** and many others. (*Prince George County, VA, Deeds & Wills 1713-1728, 199*)

(This document needs to be reviewed and re-abstracted.)

14Dec1723 – LAND PATENT: Honorable Nathaniel Harrison, Esqr., 625 acres of New Land in Lawnes Creek Parish, **Surry County**, on the south side of Little Creek of the Three Creeks, adjoining land of **Matthew Marks, Decd.**, and land of Ambrose Jackson. For £3/5. (*Virginia Patents, 11:300*)

16Jun1727 – LAND PATENT: David Walker, Gentleman, 1,217 acres of New Land in **Prince George County**. Beginning on land said Walker purchased of Henry King, to the Trading Path, by the Westward Path, crossing Buckskin Creek to Roger Abernathy's line, adjoining William Davis, Edward Roberson, John Roberson, and Stith Bolling. For £6/5. (*Virginia Patents, 13:123*)

28Sep1728 – LAND PATENT: William Heath of Prince George County, 100 acres on New Land in **Isle of Wight County** on the north side of the Three Creeks, on the south side of the Great Swamp, adjoining Thomas Griffis. For 10 Shillings. (*Virginia Patents, 13:394*)

William Heath was one of the four freeholder neighbors appointed to inventory and appraise the Estate of George Davenport, Decd., in 1739 (see below). He was obviously an adjoining planter, for Mary Davenport, wife of George, was a daughter of Matthew Marks, Decd., whose land was the opposite side of the Three Creeks from William Heath.

+5Mar1729/30 – BIRTH: **Eliza and Maria Davenport**, twin daughters and eldest children of **Joseph Davenport, [Sr.]**, and his wife **Margaret**, born in **Williamsburg**. (*William & Mary Quarterly, 5:4, Apr1897, 271*)

+21Feb1731/32 – BIRTH: **Joseph Davenport, Jr.**, eldest son, third child, of **Joseph Davenport, [Sr.]**, and his wife **Margaret**, born in **Williamsburg**. (*William & Mary Quarterly, 5:4, Apr1897, 271*)

+29Mar1733 – BIRTH: **George Davenport**, second son, fourth child, of **Joseph Davenport, [Sr.]**, and his wife **Margaret**, born in **Williamsburg**. (*William & Mary Quarterly, 5:4, Apr1897, 271*)

20Jun1733 – LAND PATENT: John Jones of Surry County, 244 acres of New Land in **Prince George County** on the head of Reedy branch of Sapponey Creek, known by the name of *The Gooseponds*, by the Chapel Road. For £1/5. (*Virginia Patents*, 15:12)

A John Jones was one of those appointed by the Prince George Court to inventory and appraise the Estate of George Davenport, Decd., in 1739 (see below).

6Apr1734 – LAND PATENT: Nathaniel Harrison, Gentleman, 228 acres of New Land in Westover Parish, **Charles City County**, being high land and marsh at the mouth of Ware Point Swamp on James River, adjoining Matchcoat Creek and Kittawan Creek, adjoining Sylvanus Stokes. For £1/5. (*Virginia Patents*, 15:201)

This was Harrison's last patent, made shortly before his death.

+13Apr1734 - WITNESS: **Bedford Davenport** was a witness on Promissory Note given by Jacob Stover. (*Orange County, VA, Deeds*, 3:91)

Bedford Davenport, son of James Davenport of Halifax, was clearly of Pamunkey Davenport descent, but he was the second Bedford to appear in Colonial Virginia. Bedford of Halifax is well identified by birth, marriage, and death records. The Bedford recorded in this instance, still a mystery man of sorts, was apparently a lawyer, clearly was a man of writing skills, for he joined Joseph Davenport, Writing Master at William and Mary College, in transcribing Colonel William Byrd's notes of the survey of the boundary between Virginia and North Carolina (see below). Yet, this Bedford enlisted in a Company of Virginia Militia raised specifically to be included in a New York regiment raised to fight the French in Canada. Bedford was a common soldier, then a sergeant and then a common soldier again. Service in enlisted ranks was incongruous to an attorney in the rigorously class stratified Virginia society—unless Davenport, despite his law license, was a commoner. Bedford disappeared from Virginia records following his military service. His namesake, intentionally so or by coincidence, was born in Goochland (later Cumberland) County within a year or so after Bedford (I) had dropped out of sight.

+24Oct1734 – BIRTH: **Matthew Davenport**, third son, fifth child, of **Joseph Davenport, [Sr.]**, and his wife **Margaret**, born in **Williamsburg**. (*William & Mary Quarterly*, 5:4, Apr1897, 271)

*Other children of **Joseph Davenport, Sr.**, and his wife **Margaret**, same source, in order of birth, dates not given, were **Judith Davenport**, sixth child; **James Davenport**, seventh; **Peachy Davenport** and **Johan Shank Davenport**, twins, eighth and ninth; and **Sarah Davenport**, tenth.*

27Jan1734/35 – LAND PATENT: Benjamin Heath of Prince George County, 241 acres in **Prince George County** on the south side of Deep Creek, on the side of the Beaver Pond below the Indian branch. For £1/5. (*Virginia Patents*, 15:418)

+--Jun1737 – TRANSCRIBING SURVEY NOTES: **Mr. Joseph Davenport** and **Mr. Bedford Davenport** were paid “for the trouble in transcribing the Report of the Committee for settling the Boundary.” (*Virginia Researcher*, date, page. [Find primary source.](#))

The boundary concerned was that surveyed by Colonel William Byrd between Virginia and North Carolina in 1728-29. Joseph Davenport is well identified as the Clerk of the Town of Williamsburg when it was incorporated in 1722, and for his long service of Writing Master at the College of William & Mary from whence he retired in 1758. James Davenport of Halifax County, eldest son of Thomas Davenport, Sr., of Cumberland County, named his eldest son Bedford. Bedford of James was born 21Nov1748 in Goochland (now Cumberland) County. What, if any, connection there was between Bedford of Williamsburg and Bedford of James remains to be determined. We trace Bedford Davenport of Williamsburg as belonging to the James River Davenports because he was obviously a scrivener who apparently progressed to becoming an attorney, but who served, and possibly died, as an enlisted soldier in a campaign against the French (see below). There exists evidence also that Bedford of Williamsburg speculated in land in the Forks of Banister River (now Halifax County), waters of the Staunton and Dan Rivers, in the mid-1740s (see below).

18Apr1738 – – DEED: William Tabor to **Matthew Marks**, both of Goochland County, for £10, 70 acres in **Goochland County** on Deep Creek, adjoining Hopkins, William Bradshaw's corner, Hopson—part of a patent to said Tabor dated 9Jul1737... /s/ William "T" Tabor. Wit: John Twitty, Ralph Flippen, Joseph Chandler. Rachel Tabor, wife of William, relinquished Dower right same day. [*Italics added.*] (*Goochland County, VA, Deeds, 3:112*)

This Matthew Marks is enigmatic, for he fits nothing previously known about the Matthew Marks who was father-in-law of George Davenport of Prince George. That Matthew Marks died in 1719, was not known to have had a son named Matthew, and no Matthew has heretofore been identified as a grandson. Matthew Marks of Goochland/Cumberland would remain in place for at least a quarter century, and during that time had no association, record or otherwise, with the Pamunkey Davenports, namely Thomas Davenport, Sr., and his eight sons who were settled and landowners all, no more than five miles southwest of Marks.

14Aug1739 – PROBATE: **George Davenport**, late of Martin's Brandon Parish, **Prince George County, Decd.** **Thomas Davenport**, eldest son and heir-at-law of the Decedent, appeared in Court and made Oath that his father had died without a will. On motion of said **Thomas**, he was given Letters of Administration on the Estate of said **George Davenport, Decd.** Holmes Boisseau, Richard Wortham, William Heath, and John Jones, or any three, appointed to appraise in current money the Slaves, if any, and other personal property of the Decedent, and return a report thereof to Court. (*Prince George County, VA, Court Orders, 1733-1739, 311*)

+-----**1741** – PROBATE: **Joseph Davenport [Sr.]** appointed as one of the appraisers of the Estate of Francis Robinson, usher of the Grammar School, William & Mary College. (*Virginia Researcher, date ?, page ? . Find primary source.*)

20Oct1741 - DEED: Theophilus Pugh, of Nansemond County, Virginia, to William Taylor, of Edgecombe County, North Carolina, for £170, the tract of land in **Bertie County, North Carolina** that said Pugh purchased of William Cathcart on 15Jan1740/41... /s/ Theophilus Pugh. Wit: Robert Eubank, Nicholas Massenberg, John Ivy, **Bedford Davenport**. (*Bertie County, NC, Deeds, G: 12*)

Pugh was a merchant in Upper Nansemond County on the Chowan River. His sea outlet was down the Chowan into Albemarle Sound, meaning that most of his business was North Carolina rather than Virginia. He speculated in North Carolina land, took mortgages there. His conveyance from William Cathcart, cited above, was not recorded in Bertie County. Bedford Davenport's participation suggests that the deal may have been consummated in Williamsburg, Virginia, where Bedford was associated with Joseph Davenport, clerk of the Town of Williamsburg as well as Writing Master at William & Mary College.

30Jul1742 – LAND PATENT: William Heath, 285 acres in **Surry County** on the south side of the Main Blackwater Swamp, and on the east side of Pigeon Swamp, adjoining his own lines, For £1/10. (*Virginia Patents*, 20:419)

15Nov1742 – ADMITTED TO PRACTICE: John Palmer, Benjamin Waller, and **Bedford Davenport**, Gentlemen, took required Oaths and to practice as Attorneys in **York County** Court, according to Act of Assembly. (*Tyler's Quarterly*, 4:138)

Benjamin Waller, son of Colonel John Waller of Spotsylvania, Davis Davenport's adjoining neighbor in 1696, practiced law in Williamsburg, became a public official, and subsequently had a moiety of his father's plantation in King William County, the same plantation bought from Elias Downes in 1696 and then adjoining Davis Davenport. This Bedford Davenport was a brother of Joseph Davenport, first writing master at William & Mary College, their ancestry yet to be determined. The two appear to have been sons of George Davenport, who died in Prince George County in 1739, hence were not Pamunkey Davenports. Bedford Davenport, son of James Davenport, Sr., of later Halifax, was a Pamunkey, but was not born until 1748, shortly after Attorney Bedford disappeared from Virginia records. Whether there was a relationship between the two Davenport lines or the second Bedford was a naming coincidence, viz., Bedford of James possibly being named for the Bedford family prominent in Goochland-Cumberland County when he was born, or a family tie is yet to be resolved.

26May1743 – – DEED: William Rose, of Surry County, to Rork Baird, of Prince George County, for £16, 230 acres in Raleigh Parish, **Amelia County**, adjoining Benjamin Heath's upper corner, Winningham's Creek, and the Main Creek—being a patent to Rose dated 13Dec1738... /s/ William Rose. Wit: Reuben Baird, Richard Fletcher, James Fletcher. (*Amelia County, VA, Deeds*, 1:503)

30Aug1743 – LAND PATENT: Richard Adkins, 275 acres in **Prince George County** by *The Ponds Path*, adjoining Valentine Williamson, William Heath, Captain Clement, and **Israel Marks**. For £1/10. (*Virginia Patents*, 23:580)

This was the first appearance of Israel Marks in Patent records since 1714. He was either a brother or son of Matthew, and related thereby to the family of George Davenport, Sr. William Heath was one of those appointed to inventory and appraise George, Sr.'s estate. This land was in the neighborhood of Matthew Marks' manor plantation located on or near the Prince George-Surry Line.

30Aug1743 – LAND PATENT: Richard Fletcher, 271 acres in **Amelia County** on the lower side of Woody Creek of Deep Creek, on both sides of the road. Beginning on Woody

Creek below the bridge, adjoining Heath, Gray, John West and John May. For £1/10. (*Virginia Patents*, 21:527)

19Oct1743 - -- DEED: Richard Fletcher, of Prince George County, to Reuben Baird, of Amelia County, for £5, 271 acres in Raleigh Parish, **Amelia County**, on Woody Creek of Deep Creek, adjoining Heath's and Gray's corner, John West, and John May... /s/ Richard Fletcher. Wit: **George Davenport**, Rork Baird, James Fletcher. (*Amelia County, VA, Deeds* 1:506)

Witness George Davenport was the son of George, Decd. Witness Rork Baird would subsequently sell George [Jr.] the plantation in Amelia County where he (George) would die in 1772.

25Nov1743 – LAND PATENT: Edward Thweatt, 835 acres in **Amelia County** on the north side of Great Nottoway River and on both sides of Horsepen Creek, adjoining Richard Nance, Ellis, Munford, Laughlan Flynn and Abraham Cock. For £4/5. (*Virginia Patents*, 21:619)

+**3May1744** - LAND SURVEY: Warrant for 6,000 acres in **Brunswick County** authorized by Order in Council to William Gray, Edmund Gray, Ashford Hughes, and **Bedford Davenport**, beginning at the three Great Forks of Banister River, extending up the said three forks. [Chiarto, Marian D. (trans.), *Entry Record Book, 1739-1737* (Nathalie, VA: The Clarkton Press, 1984), 55. Hereafter *Entry Record Book*.]

At this time, both of the Grays and Hughes, Davenport's partners in this venture, were freeholders in Goochland County—on waters of Willis River or on the south side of the James. A survey was made on this large entry, but no patent was obtained. Bedford Davenport apparently began a settlement in this area (see below). By location, this land was then in Brunswick County, by 1752 was in Halifax County, and by 1767 was mostly in Pittsylvania. Pamunkey-origin James Davenport, eldest son of Thomas, Sr., of Cumberland County, who had a son named Bedford, located (1762) a short distance to the southeast of this tract in Halifax County. The Banister River is in the Fork of Dan River and the Staunton-Roanoke River and has its mouth on Dan River on Halifax's eastern border. Bedford as a given name for a Davenport was sufficiently rare as to raise the question of a relationship, particularly given the geographical proximity.

20Nov1744 – -- DEED: **Matthew Marks** to William Trigg, both of Goochland County [**Get abstract of this deed.**] (*Goochland County, VA, Deeds*, 4:474)

2May1745 - DEED: Cornelius Cargill to **Henry Davenport**, both of Brunswick County, for £10, 100 acres in **Brunswick County** on the north side of the Staunton River, bounded by trees [vacant land]... /s/ Cornelius Cargill. Wit: None. Acknowledged in Court same date. (*Brunswick County, VA, 3:24*)

This tract of land was part of a 400-acre patent to Cargill dated 9 Jun 1745. On 28Mar1759 (see below), the land, then in Lunenburg County, was patented to another, Henry Davenport having failed to seat and seed or to pay the Quit Rents. Other evidence disqualifies Henry Davenport, son of Thomas Davenport, Sr., of Goochland-Cumberland of being this Henry. Thomas Davenport, Sr., and sons Thomas, Jr., Henry and Julius appear to have

dabbled in frontier land speculation (see below), but none of them apparently stayed with their syndicates, all of which had difficulty in distinguishing Virginia land from North Carolina land in the backcountry.

Cornelius Cargill was the son of the Rev. John Cargill, vicar of Southwark Parish, Surry County, which adjoined the Prince George County line. The Southwark Glebe (parish owned plantation on which a vicar was expected to sustain himself and family) was within a few miles of Upper Chippokes Creek. Cornelius Cargill, who was Virginia born, and Henry Davenport, also Virginia born, likely knew each other from southside of James River youthful association.

The Rev. John Cargill received the King's Bounty for the Leeward Islands on 21Apr1708, but was ordained instead for Virginia on 28Apr1708. He was settled at Southwark Parish, Surry County, 1708-1732. His will was probated in Surry County in 1732. (Colonial Clergy, 10).

*In 1724 Rev. John Cargill reported to the Bishop of London: "I have been here for sixteen years. My parish is twenty miles in width and one hundred [miles] inhabited in length, being a frontier parish. The school of Mr. Griffin, called *Christina*, for Indians is on the borders of my parish. There is one church and two chapels, and seventy or eighty*

communicants. My tobacco now sells at five shillings per hundred [weight]; my salary from thirty to forty pounds [per year]. My glebe house is in bad condition, and the parish will not repair it, so I must look for a house elsewhere. No school, no library, in the parish." (Meade, *Old Churches*, I:309)

19Jul1745 - – DEED: Edward Thweatt, wife Katy, to **George Davenport**, all of Amelia County, for £20, 400 acres on both sides of Horsepen Creek in the Fork of Nottaway River [in **Amelia County**], adjoining Richard Nance, Munford, Laughlan Flynn, and Cock... /s/ Edward Thweatt, Katy Thweatt. Wit: None. Acknowledged by Thweatt and wife in Court same date. (*Amelia County, VA, Deeds 2:171*)

Thweatt sold Davenport a parcel off of his patent of 25Nov1743 (See above).

20Sep1745 – LAND PATENT: Holmes Boiseau, 414 acres in **Prince George County** on the north side of White Oak Swamp, along his old lines of land purchased from Ellis, adjoining Thweatt, Taylor, and Epes—200 acres being part of a former patent to John Ellis, Jr., on 9Jul1724, and 154 acres never before granted. For 15 Shillings. (*Virginia Patents, 22:511*)

Holmes Boiseau was one of the four freeholders appointed by the Prince George Court to inventory and appraise the Estate of George Davenport, Decd., in 1739 (see above). White Oak Swamp is not identified on the current VDOT map, but it was surely relatively near Davenport's plantation, for unless the Decedent was a prominent man of considerable wealth whose estate required inventory and appraisal by his peers, Virginia Courts customarily appointed freeholder or householder neighbors to do the task.

+14Jun1746-24Nov1747 - WAR WITH CANADA: Excepting the period from 24Dec1746 to 25Jun1747, **Bedford Davenport** was shown on the pay roll of Captain Beverly Robinson's Company, Virginia Militia, engaged in the War with Canada. Virginia raised only Robinson's Company, consisting of 136 men, which, along with three companies

from Maryland, was combined with a number of New York companies into an expeditionary force commanded by Colonel George Clinton, of New York, against the French in Canada. **Davenport** appeared on five of seven three-month pay rolls of the British Army, first as a Private, then as a Sergeant, then, after a six-month hiatus again as a Private. [Clarke, Murtie Jean (comp.), *Colonial Soldiers of the South* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1986), 259-274.]

This was Bedford Davenport of Williamsburg, first found in 1734 witnessing a note (see above) and then in 1737 with Joseph Davenport transcribing Colonel William Byrd's notes of the survey of the boundary between Virginia and North Carolina. He then was admitted to the practice of Law in Williamsburg, along with Benjamin Waller, son of Colonel John Waller of Spotsylvania, in 1743. Davenport's signature as a witness has been found on deeds recorded in Augusta County, Virginia, and Bertie County, North Carolina, an uncommonly wide spread in those days of difficult travel. This suggests that both deeds had been drawn up and witnessed in Williamsburg, and then taken by the grantees to Augusta and Bertie for recording. What circumstances impelled Davenport to enlist as common soldier, presumably being an Esquire (attorney) in a society where status was crucial, remains enigmatic. He may have been a casualty of this Canadian Border fray, for he has been found no further in Virginia records.

12Dec1746 – – DEED: Benjamin Heath, wife Sarah, to James Wortham, all of Prince George County, for £65, 241 acres in **Amelia County** on the south side of the Beaver Pond below the mouth of the Indian branch, including the low ground on the upper side of the Indian branch and the swamp... /s/ Benjamin Heath, Sarah Heath. Wit: William Heath, James Rowsey, Adam Heath. (*Amelia County, VA, Deeds, 2:433*)

A Richard Wortham was one of the four appointed to inventory and appraise the Estate of George Davenport, Decd., in 1739. In 1749 George Davenport became a neighbor of James Wortham (see below).

+10Jun1748 - TAX LISTED: The Lunenburg County List of Tithables identified **Henry Davenport** as liable for 1 Tithable, namely himself. (*Lunenburg County, VA, Tax Lists*)

Henry Davenport apparently was still occupying the 100-acre tract he had bought from Cornelius Cargill in 1745, but the land was in that portion of Brunswick set off as Lunenburg County in 1746.

20Aug1748 – LAND PATENT: Josiah Burton, 400 acres in **Goochland County** on the heads of the branches of Soakarse and Little Guinea Creeks, and both side of Buckingham Road, crossing the heads of several branches of Little Guinea, adjoining Julius Allen, William Patman, Adolphus Hendrick, **Matthew Marks**, James Daniel, and said Burton. For £2. (*Virginia Patents, 26:573*)

25Jun1749 - – DEED: **George Davenport**, carpenter, to John White, joiner, both of Amelia County, for £45/10, 400 acres on both sides of Horsepen Creek in the Fork of Nottoway River [in **Amelia County**], adjoining Richard Nance, Ellis, Mumford, Laughlan Flynn... /s/ **George Davenport**. Wit: Thomas Heath, James Williams, and Thomas "X" Flynn. (*Amelia County, VA, Deeds 3:266*)

18Aug1749 – – DEED: Rork Baird, wife Elizabeth, of Prince George County, to **George Davenport**, of Amelia County, for £45, 230 acres and plantation and orchard on Deep Creek in Nottaway Parish, **Amelia County**, adjoining James Wortham, the Indian branch, Joseph Gray, and George Tucker... /s/ Rork Baird, Elizabeth Baird. Wit: Adam Heath, James Fletcher, **Thomas Davenport**, Richard Hobbs. (*Amelia County, VA, Deeds 3:327*)

Witness Thomas Davenport was most likely George's eldest brother, heir-at-law and administrator of the Estate of George Davenport, late of Prince George County, Decd. The only other Davenports in nearby counties were Pamunkeys, and they did not use the given name George until the 1790s. Witnesses Adam Heath and Thomas Heath (previous item) were possibly related to William Heath, who had been one of the appraisers of the Estate of George Davenport, late of Prince George County, Decd., in 1739. Certainly the frequency of the Davenport-Heath interface over decades reflected some degree of in-law relationship.

27Aug1750 – – DEED: Josiah Burton, of Northampton County, North Carolina, to Leonard Keeling and Joseph Wyatt, of James City County, Virginia, for £50, 400 acres in **Cumberland County**, Virginia, on the head branches of Soakarse and Little Guinea [Creeks] and on both side of the Buckingham Road, bounded by Julius Allen & William Patman's corner, Adolphus Hendrick, **Matthew Marks**, James Daniel... /s/ Josiah Burton. Wit: Jno Hopson, Vincent Branson, John Burton, Sarah Hobson. (*Cumberland County, VA, Deeds, 1:199*)

10Apr1751 – LAND PATENT: Thomas Cocke, 272 acres in **Prince George County** on [Upper] Chippokes Creek, including all of the Marsh and small islands contiguous to the High Land, adjoining Terry, his own (alias Dorothy Tucker's) line and said Cocke's old, old line. Whereas by Inquisition held in said County on 21Mar1748/49, by virtue of a warrant directed to Robert Bolling, Gentleman, Escheator for Prince George County, it appeared that Dorothy Tucker died seized of a parcel of land containing 281 acres, but by new survey was found to contain but 272 acres, which was found to escheat to the Crown from the said Dorothy Tucker, and whereas Nathaniel Harrison made humble suit and obtained a grant for said escheated land, which he hath assigned unto Thomas Cocke. For 2 pounds of Tobacco for every acre of said land. (*Virginia Patents, 29:399*)

+12Jun1752 - NULL & VOID: At a meeting of the Executive Council on motion of Mr. Jones, it is ordered that 24 entries surveyed by James Terry, late assistant to Peter Fontaine, for Edmund Gray, James Gray, James Power, Benjamin Hubbard, Phillip Aylett, John Ruffin, and Benjamin Cock; 2 entries in the name of James Gray; and 1 entry in the name of James and Edward Gray, all in **Halifax County**, be null and void, and that the Surveyor of said County of Halifax do receive entries for any of the said lands of any person who shall make legal entries of same. (*Executive Journals, 5:402*)

This action by the Executive Council in Williamsburg suggests that James the Surveyor had been playing fast and loose with the land entry process. The Grays of Goochland had been principals in the earlier petition (see above) for large acreage in the Forks of Banister that included Bedford Davenport. Benjamin Hubbard of Caroline and Phillip Aylett of King William were men of prominence who were in Royal favor at this time but they had ruffled feathers in Williamsburg in this matter. Both were magistrates in their counties, and both

speculated in land. (Hubbard was later dropped from the Caroline Commission of Peace because he refused to take an Oath of Loyalty to King George III, but that occurred in the late 1750s.) Throwing out James Terry's surveys and opening the lands involved to all comers was a serious rebuff to Terry, who ceased to be a King's surveyor when he was appointed a Justice of Halifax. Terry's relations with Williamsburg appeared to degenerate hereafter, ultimately resulting in his removal by 1758 from Virginia to settlement just across the Country Line in Orange, later Caswell, County, North Carolina. There Terry, working through nephew Nathaniel Terry and several of his sons, continued a large presence in Southern Virginia real estate purely as a speculator.

+13Jun1752 - LAND ENTRY: **Henry Davenport** entered 640 acres in **Orange County, North Carolina**, on both sides of Reedy Fork of Hico River. He subsequently obtained a survey warrant on 3Nov1753, but did not pursue it. Earl Granville's land agents endorsed **Davenport's** papers with the notation: "Run away to Savannah River." [Bennett, William D., *Orange County Records, Vol. VII, Granville Proprietary Land Office, Miscellaneous Records* (Raleigh: Author, 1991), 3]

This land was just below the North Carolina-Virginia Line. The Hico River flows into the Dan River above its confluence with the Staunton (Roanoke) River in Halifax County, Virginia. Whether this was the same Henry Davenport who had bought the 100 acres on the north side of Staunton in Lunenburg County, Virginia, from Cornelius Cargill in 1745 (see above) as the Henry here is undeterminable. Whether one or other was also the Henry Davenport, who was deeded 200 acres by Daniel Terry in 1740 is unclear also. As evident from the Cumberland County records preceding and following this date, Henry Davenport of Thomas, Sr., was actively involved in Cumberland affairs at this time. No evidence of any Davenport, Henry or otherwise, has yet been found in Colonial times on waters of Savannah in either South Carolina or Georgia records. Nor has any mention of a Henry Davenport been found in contemporary North Carolina records.

+29Jun1752 - LAND ENTRY: John Cook entered 400 acres in **Halifax County** on Sandy Creek of Banister River, on both sides of the Creek and including **Deavenport's Clearing**. (*Entry Record Book*, 127)

Sandy Creek is the south fork of Banister River. By location, this land appears to have been within the 6,000-acre warrant that Bedford Davenport and his partners recorded in 1744. No other Davenport has been found in Halifax records before 1762. Hence, the presence of a Davenport's Clearing in 1752, evidence of settlement, suggests that Bedford Davenport had been there in some manner or presence. The fact that Cook included Davenport's Clearing in his land description for entry indicates that he had either bought the improvement or that it had been abandoned sufficiently long for him to claim it without being obligated to recompense Davenport for whatever labor had been expended. Labor, in short supply, was more valuable than abundant land in Virginia at this time. To clear the slate of any residual claim from Davenport or his heirs-at-law for labor expended in making "Deavenport's Clearing," Cook put the matter in the King's hands and took his title from the Crown, which precluded any future Davenport claim.

25Mar1754 -- DEED: Field Bradshaw, of Cumberland County, to Gideon Patterson, of Goochland County, for £120, 330 acres in **Cumberland County** on both sides of Deep

Creek. Beginning on the south side of Deep Creek on John Hopson;s line, then crossing Deep Creek to the south side of a branch, then to **Matthew Marks** and the head of **Marks Spring branch**—being part of patent to William Tabor on 9Jul1737, who conveyed to William Bradshaw, since deceased... /s/ Field “—“ Bradshaw. Wit: G: Marr, Wm Hopson, Jno Hopson. (*Cumberland County, VA, Deeds, 1:105*)

18Oct1754 – – DEED: Joseph Wyatt & Leonard Keeling, of James City County, to John Burton, of Cumberland County, for £51, 400 acres in **Cumberland County** conveyed to said Wyatt & Keeling by Josiah Burton, lying on the head of the branches of Soakarse and Little Guinea, and on both sides of the Buckingham Road, and bounded by Julius Allen and William Patman’s corner on the south side of the road in Adolphus Hendrick’s line, thence on Hendrick’s line to **Matthew Marks** pointers in Hendrick’s line, James Daniel’s line, Burton’s corner on Daniel’s line, crossing the head of several branches pf Little Guinea to a white oak in Patman’s & Allen line... /s/ Joseph Wyatt, Leonard Keeling. Wit: Gideon Marr, William Trigg, John Woodson, Henry Hatcher. (*Cumberland County, VA, Deeds, 2:180.*)

+12Oct1755 – ORDAINED FOR VIRGINIA: **Joseph Davenport, Jr.**, a graduate of William & Mary College earlier this year, ordained by the Bishop of London as a Church of England minister for Virginia. [Rev. Frederick L. Weis, *The Colonial Clergy of Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1976. Reprint, original published Boston, 1955), 13. Hereafter *Colonial Clergy.*]

No authority for ordination of Church of England ministers existed in America before the Revolution. For the entire one hundred and sixty-eight years of pre-Revolution Virginia, American candidates for the Anglican ministry were required to go to London for ordination. The voyage was four-to-eight weeks each way, and always dangerous. The agent of the Bishop of London (whose jurisdiction included the Colony) settled in Virginia was a minister who had the title of Commissary and was essentially an administrator with ministerial authority, but no hierarchial authority. After 1695 the Commissary was also president of William & Mary College.

Virginia was largely a dumping ground for vicars who had failed with British parishes or who had been found morally wanting and had been given the option of being defrocked or going to the Colonies. Bishop William Meade in his history of the Anglican Church in Virginia (1857) constantly apologized for the character and behavior of its colonial ministry. American candidates, by and large, were men of substance and character, educated at William & Mary, Harvard, Yale, or Princeton and sufficiently motivated towards the ministry as to undertake the arduous voyage to London.

+23Oct1755 – KING’S BOUNTY: The **Rev. Joseph Davenport, Jr.**, ordained minister of the Church of England, awarded the King’s Bounty for payment of passage money to America. (*Colonial Clergy, 13*)

American candidates for ordination were required to pay their own ways to London, but once ordained and committed to return to the Colonies and accept a parish appointment, their passages to America were paid from the King’s Treasury.

+-----**1757** – SETTLED: **Rev. Joseph Davenport, Jr.**, settled as vicar of *Charles Parish*, York County, where he remained until his death in 1785. (*Colonial Clergy*, 13)

Bishop Meade was aware of Joseph Davenport's tenure at Charles Parish, had words to say about the Parish and preceding ministers, but had nothing to say about Davenport other than note his presence. Charles Parish was near Williamsburg.

19Jul1757 – LAND PATENT: Benjamin Clement, 908 acres in **Prince George County** on James River at the mouth of Ward's Creek, on the east side thereof, along the Otterdam Bottom and crossing a mirey fork of Pooles branch. Whereas by Inquisition held in said County on 19Jul1756, by virtue of a warrant to Augustine Claiborne, Gentleman, Escheator of Prince George County, it appears that Sarah Bleighton died seized of 800 acres or thereabouts, [See Patents--Sarah Williams, 7:546; George Bleighton, 7:545; part of Edward Richards, 6:529; and John Westrope, 2:257], but on resurvey was found to contain 908 acres, all of which is found to escheat to the Crown from the said Sarah Bleighton, and Benjamin Clement hath made humble suit and has obtained a grant for same. For 2 pounds of Tobacco for every acre. (*Virginia Patents*, 33:384)

+-----**1758** – RETIRES: **Joseph Davenport [Sr.]** retired as Writing Master at William & Mary College. (*Virginia Researcher*, **date ?**, **page ?**. **Find primary source.**)

+**28Mar1759** - LAND PATENT: William Marrable, 100 acres in **Lunenburg County** on the north side of Roanoke River. Being part of 400-acre patent to Cornelius Cargill on 9Jun1735, then in Brunswick (now in Lunenburg), and whereas **Henry Davenport** did since become vested and failed to pay Quit Rents and to cultivate and improve. Said Marrable did make suit and obtain a grant. For 10 Shillings. (*Virginia Patents* 33:555)

Henry Davenport had abandoned his 100 acres and it had been deserted for at least two years before Marrable could re-patent it. No further mention of Henry has been found. If he had gone to Georgia as the Granville Land Office in North Carolina noted on his uncompleted purchase there, he had been confronted by Indians on the warpath, possibly may have perished thereby.

2May1759 – Appointed: **George Davenport** appointed Clerk of a Committee in **York County**. (*Virginia Researcher*, **date?**, **page?**. **Find primary source.**)

12Jun1759 – – DEED: John Butler, of Dinwiddie County, to William Cain, of Prince George County, for [?], [?] acres in Martin's Brandon Parish, **Prince George County**, adjoining William Lifsey, Lantrope, William Ledbetter, and John David's pond... /s/ John Butler. Wit: **Edward Davenport**, Thomas Sadler, William Ledbetter. [William Armistead Stewart, "Abstracts of Prince George Book, 1759-51," *William & Mary College Quarterly*, 2nd Series, XI (1931), 42-49, as appearing in *Land Records*, 405. Original record: *Prince George County, VA, Deeds & Wills*, 1759-1760, 75.)

27Jul1759 – BIRTH: Joseph Hay, son of Anthony Hay and his second wife **Elizabeth Davenport**, daughter of **Joseph Davenport, [Sr.]**, born in Williamsburg. (*William & Mary Quarterly*, 5:4, Apr1897, 272)

Anthony Hay was proprietor of Raleigh Tavern, a gathering place for the aristocrats and power elite, in Williamsburg.

12Feb1760 – – DEED: Rubin Rives to **Edward Davenport**, both of Prince George County, for £43, 104 acres in **Prince George County** on the south side of the Second Swamp of Blackwater River, adjoining Richard Haycock. /s/ Rubin Rives. Wit: None. Acknowledged by said Rives in Court the same day. (*Prince George County, VA, Deeds & Wills, 1759-1760, 149*)

Second Swamp of the Blackwater was on the south side and southwest of where the George Davenport, Sr.'s manor plantation was located near the Surry line and north of the Blackwater. Rives District is one of the Prince George governance jurisdictions today (2001), and includes the headwaters of Second Swamp.

16Mar1761 – LAST WILL & TESTAMENT: **Joseph Davenport, Sr.**, late of **Williamsburg**, Decd., proved this date. Mentions children **Matthew, Frances Anne** Wright (now in England), **Joseph, James, George**, and **Judith** (wife of John Greenhow). (*William & Mary Quarterly, 5:4, Apr1897, 271*)

(Too much is missing from this cryptic abstract. This document needs to be reviewed and re-abstracted. This extract is insufficient.)

17Aug1761 – MARRIAGE PROVED: The marriage of **Rev. Joseph Davenport, Jr.**, to **Mary** Hunter, sister of William Hunter, editor of the *Virginia Gazette*, who named and identified her in his Last Will & Testament probated this date in Williamsburg. (*York County, VA, Wills, 1:12, 14, 17, per Wulfock, Marriages of Some Virginia Residents 16-7-1800, I:227*)

10Jul1762 – DEED OF GIFT: George Tucker to his son Robert Tucker, both of Amelia County, natural love and affection, 137½ acres in **Amelia County** on the upper side of Deep Creek, including the plantation whereon said Robert lives, adjoining the Indian branch opposite Edward Thweatt's dwelling house, Dandy (alias **Davenport**), Joseph Gray, Edward Thweatt... /s/ George Tucker. Wit: William Crawley, William Walthall, Abraham Burton. (*Amelia County, VA, Deeds, 7:662*)

George Davenport [Jr.]'s Amelia land adjoined Indian branch of Deep Creek and Joseph Gray. Whether this document was making a statement that Dandy was working Davenport's plantation or that Dandy was a Davenport, using another name, is enigmatic. William Dandy was settled on Deep Creek when Amelia was erected out of western Prince George and northern Brunswick in 1734, i.e., he was already in place when the County began to function. He was one of the first constables appointed by the newly established Amelia Court in 1735. George bought his first Amelia land in 1745 from Edward Thweatt. Southern Amelia, that portion embracing Nottoway Parish that included the land here, was erected into Nottoway County in 1788-89. By that time most, if not all, of the Davenports had moved to Lincoln County, North Carolina.

10Dec1763 – BIRTH: **William Davenport**, son of the **Rev. Joseph Davenport** and wife **Mary** [Hunter], born in Charles Parish, York County. (*William & Mary Quarterly, 5:4, Apr1897, 272*)

22Mar1764 – – DEED: Peter Corbin to Benjamin Clardy, both of Amelia County, for £80, 133 acres in **Amelia County**, on west fork of Wintocomake Creek—part of a patent to

Tisdale... /s/ Peter Corbin. Wit: Thomas Terry, **James Davenport**, Dibdale Holt. (*Amelia County, VA, Deeds, 8:319*)

Some question exists as to whether this was Pamunkey James Davenport, son of Thomas, Sr., of Cumberland, or Prince George James Davenport, son of George, Decd., particularly with the Thomas Terry association in the witnessing. But James Davenport of the Pamunkeys was in Cumberland or Halifax at this time, per other records. Wintocomake Creek was in easternmost Amelia County, closer to the Prince George James' location than too that of Cumberland-Halifax James.

27Jun1764 – LAND PATENT: Glaister Hunnicutt, 429 acres in **Prince George County** on the head of Southern Run or Meadow, adjoining Captain George Bleighton, Decd., into the Woods, and Ralph Hill. Whereas said land was granted to John Eaton by patent on 23Dec1714, and whereas Abraham Green, Adam Sheffield, and Wyke Hunnicutt in whom the Right & Title to said land is since become vested and hath failed to pay Quit Rents, Glaister Hunnicutt made humble suit and hath obtained a grant for same. For £2/5. (*Virginia Patents, 35:480*)

28Mar1765 - PROBATE: Estate of Robert Tucker, late of **Amelia County**, Decd. Inventory and appraisal returned by Nathan Fletcher, **George Davenport**, and David Cordle. Estate valued at £104/0/1, including one slave. (*Amelia County, VA, Wills 2X:90*)

-----**1766** – COLLEGE FACULTY: **Matthew Davenport** identified as Writing Master at William & Mary College in **Williamsburg**. (*William & Mary Quarterly, 5:4, Apr1897, 271-272*)

2Aug1766 - – DEED: Peter Leath to Peter Randolph Bland, both of Prince George County, for £250, 400 acres in **Amelia County** on Leath's Creek, adjoining lands of Christopher Haskins, Lewis Tucker, and John Clark... /s/ Peter Leath. Wit: **James Davenport**, ----al Epes, Drury Burchett, George Tarry, William Cureton, Richard Booker. (*Amelia County, VA, Deeds 9:35*)

Another Terry/Tarry associated with James Davenport, this time clearly not James Davenport of Halifax. A Samuel Tarry was one of the magistrates and served one appointment as Sheriff of Amelia.

23Nov1766 - PROBATE: Estate of Henry Hudson, late of **Amelia County**, Decd. Inventory and appraisal returned by John Gray, **George Davenport**, and Nathan Fletcher. Estate valued at £150/1/3, including one slave. (*Amelia County, VA, Wills 2X:164*)

2Dec1768 - POLL LIST: At an election for two Burgesses to represent **Halifax County** in the General Assembly at Williamsburg, **Davenport** and Terry voters (and associated) were:

FOR COLONEL NATHANIEL TERRY
 Champ Terry
 Daniel Terry
 Francis Arnold

Moses Terry
 Henry Terry
 Champness Terry
 Moses Terry [sic]

James Davenport
 Benjamin Terry
 FOR COLONEL JOHN LEWIS
Samuel Davenport
Samuel Davenport [sic]
 Champ Terry

Daniel Terry
 Moses Terry
 Francis Arnold
 Henry Terry

Source: *Halifax Lists*, 17-28

Samuel appears to have been the oldest son of George Davenport of Amelia. He was age 21 or older and a freeman if he was voting in the Halifax Burgess election. He was apparently independent of or alienated from his father, for while he was his father's heir-at-law, he did not stay at home and his father subsequently devised his land to his two youngest sons, and gave Samuel only a token legacy. Under Colonial Virginia Law, Samuel could have overturned the land devise portion of George's will, but did not. He and his sister Sarah, the eldest daughter, were later given three slaves each apparently to ameliorate the situation (see below).

As to the two votes: Two Burgesses were being elected. Apparently both of the Deputy Sheriffs who took the vote and the electorate were confused as to what was expected. Voters were allowed to cast both of their votes for the one candidate. There were five candidates for the two offices. Samuel was gone from Halifax shortly hereafter.

15Jun1773 – LAND PATENT: John Sturdivant, 16½ acres in **Prince George County**, adjoining John Lovesay, **Edward Davenport**, William Lovesay, and the said Sturdivant. For 5 Shillings. (*Virginia Patents*, 41:441)

2Sep1773 - PROBATE: Last Will & Testament: **George Davenport** of **Amelia County**, made this date; probated ? Named son **John**, a minor, reversion to son **George Davenport** if **John** dies before attaining majority; son **Abraham**, a minor, reversion to son **William Davenport** if **Abraham** dies before attaining majority; son **William**; son **George**, a minor; daughter **Susannah** Featherstone; daughter **Mary**; daughter **Anne**; daughter **Sarah**; son **Samuel**; wife **Sarah**... Executors: Samuel Sherwin, wife **Sarah Davenport**... /s/ **George "X" Davenport**. Wit: John Ellett, John Keattes, Charles Winfree. (*Amelia County, VA, Wills* 2:104)

Samuel, although given short shrift in his father's will, was surely the eldest son and heir-at-law. There is no evidence in Amelia records that he contested the will, which as an heir-at-law he was legally empowered to do as to the disposition of land. Samuel first appeared in Halifax County, then Amelia, then Chesterfield, and then back in Amelia, then appeared in Granville County, North Carolina, and finally, possibly, was in Orange County, North Carolina, where a Samuel died in the early 1800s.

30Nov1773 – MARRIAGE PROVED: Edward Ransdell identified his daughter **Elizabeth** as the wife of **James Davenport** of **Williamsburg** in Last Will & Testament probated this date. (*Westmoreland County, VA, Wills, as cited by Wulfock, Marriage of Some Virginia Residents, 1607-1800, Series I, Vol. 2, 227*)

This likely was James Davenport, son of Joseph Davenport, Sr., and wife Margaret. [Need to research Williamsburg-James City County and Westmoreland County records to get a complete abstract of this document.]

10Oct1776 - NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT: This is to give notice that was rented the fulling mill in **CHESTERFIELD COUNTY**. John Story & **Samuel Davenport**.” (*Virginia Gazette*, Williamsburg, page 2, column 3)

4Jul1777 – DEATH NOTICE: **Mr. Matthew Davenport** died at Mr. Haldenby Dixon’s home. (*Virginia Gazette*, Williamsburg, p? c?)

This would have been Matthew, son of Joseph, Sr., who was the Writing Master at William & Mary College. His marital status remains to be determined.

30Nov1777 – PROBATE: Estate of **James Davenport**, late of **Westmoreland County**, Decd. Last Will & Testament proved this date. Entire estate left to wife. (*Westmoreland County, VA, Wills, ??:?*)

This was likely James, son of Joseph Davenport, Sr., of Williamsburg, who apparently had moved to settle among his wife’s people in Westmoreland at the beginning of the Revolution. He was Clerk of Courts for Westmoreland County when he died. [This record needs to be re-abstracted, and checked against extant Williamsburg records.]

-----**1778** – MARRIAGE: **Martha Davenport** married Augustine Davis, printer of the *Virginia Gazette*, in **York County**. (*William & Mary Quarterly*, 5:4, Apr1897, 272)

1Dec1778 - MARRIAGE AGREEMENT: **Sarah Davenport** and Thomas Gunn, both of **Amelia County**, planning to marry, in love and affection that said Gunn has for **Sarah's** children **Sarah Davenport** and **Samuel Davenport** and 5 shilling, gift of three Negroes from the Estate of **George Davenport, Decd.**, father of children **Sarah** and **Samuel**, and all of personal estate of said **Sarah... /s/ Sarah “X” Davenport**, Thomas Gunn. Wit: T.G. Peachy, W. Sam Peachy. (*Amelia County, VA, Deeds, 16:50*)

This was possibly a placating of the eldest son and eldest daughter of George Davenport, late of Amelia County, Decd., whose mother, George’s widow, was getting remarried. Samuel, as an eldest son and heir-at-law was still empowered under Colonial Virginia Law to contest the disposition of land made by his deceased father.

31Mar1782 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Nathaniel Raines’ List, 6th District

David Davenport, 2 White Tithes, 1 Slave, 2 Horses, 7 Cattle

William Robertson’s List, 7th District

Nancy Davenport, No White Tithes, 2 Slaves

James Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Slave, 2 Horses, 4 Cattle

David Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 3 Slaves, 2 Horses, 3 Cattle

Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 7 Slaves, 1 Horse, 4 Cattle

Source: *Personal Property Tax Lists, Prince George County, 1782-1823*, Commonwealth Archives, Library of Virginia. Hereafter *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

27Apr1782 - WAR CLAIMS: “Claims against the Public on Account of Horses and Other Property Impressed or Taken for Public Service” presented to **Amelia Court** under oath included:

Executors of George Davenport, Decd.,
 assignees of Thomas Gunn,
 2 Beeves, 470 pounds of Meat, Sep1781, for Continental Use, £5/17/6

Source: Abercrombie and Slatten, *Virginia Public Claims, Amelia County* (Athens, Georgia: Iberian Publishing Co., no date), 15.

This document is sufficient evidence to qualify all of George Davenport's descendants for membership in either the Daughter of the American Revolution or the Sons of the American Revolution, should they so desire. Thomas Gunn, assignee was the second husband of Sarah, widow of George Davenport, Sr., and filed the claim for the Estate, which was still open because one or two of the youngest children, both sons and heirs to the land, were not yet of age. The provisions impressed for the Continental Army came from the George Davenport Estate.

30Jun1782 - CENSUS BY TAX LISTING: **Davenport** Households in Amelia and Prince George:

TITHABLES

White Black

AMELIA COUNTY

Samuel Davenport	3	0
William Davenport	3	4
George Davenport	1	1

PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY

David Davenport	1	3
Elizabeth Davenport	0	7
James Davenport	1	1
Nancy Davenport	0	2
David Davenport	0	2

Source: A consolidation of Tax Lists in lieu of destroyed First Federal Census of the United States, VIRGINIA, 1790, as appearing in *HEADS OF FAMILIES at the First Census of the United States taken in the Year 1790: Records of the State Enumerations: 1782 to 1785, VIRGINIA* and Fothergill & Naugle, *VIRGINIA TAXPAYERS 1782-1787, Other Than Those Published by the United States Census Bureau*, passim.

-----**1783** - CENSUS BY TAX LISTING: **Davenport** Households in **Williamsburg**, James City County:

TITHABLES

White Black

Amy Davenport	0	3
Fanny Davenport	6	5
Ambrose Davenport	?	?

(*Virginia Researcher*, date ?, page ?. Find primary source.)

-----**1783** – CITY LOTS: Among those identified as proprietors of lots in **Williamsburg** were **Fanny Davenport** [widow of **Matthew?**]; Augustine Davis [wife **Martha Davenport**]; John Greenhow [wife **Judith Davenport**]; **Elizabeth [Davenport]**

Hay, widow of Anthony Hay; and William Hunter Estate [deceased brother of **Mary**, wife of the **Rev. Joseph Davenport**]. (*Virginia Land Records*, 441-442)

2Jan1783 - MARRIAGE BOND: **William Davenport** to **Mary** Nunnally. George Grizzle, security. (*Amelia County, VA, Marriage Bonds*)

William appears to have been the son of the deceased George Davenport and his wife Sarah, who at this time was the wife of Thomas Gunn.

31Mar1783 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Nathaniel Raines' List, 5th District

David Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 4 Slaves, 2 Horses, 6 Cattle

Hartwell Raines' List, 7th District

James Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 3 Slaves, 3 Horses

David Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 5 Slaves, 2 Horses, 5 Cattle

Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 7 Slaves, 1 Horse, 5 Cattle

Nancy Davenport, No White Tithes, 4 Slaves

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

-----**1784** – PETITION: **Joseph Davenport** and **William Davenport** signed a petition in **York County**. (*Virginia Researcher*, date ?, page ?. Find primary source.)

These were surely the Rev. Joseph and his son William, who was age 23.

31Mar1784 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Nathaniel Raines' List

David Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 4 Slaves, 4 Horses, 9 Cattle

Elizabeth Davenport, 4 White Tithes, 5 Slaves, 2 Horses, 3 Cattle

Nancy Davenport, No White Tithes, 2 Slaves

William Roberson's List

James Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 4 Slaves

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

19Aug1784 – DEED: Alexander Lanthrop to **David Davenport**, both of Prince George County, for £7, [?] acres in **Prince George County**, adjoining Wood Ledbetter, Jesse Hobbs, the road to Blandford... /s/ Alex Lanthrop. Wit: John Rives, Wm. Cain, **Nancy Davenport**. (*Prince George County, VA, Deeds*, ?:431)

By other evidence, David Davenport was most likely a son-in-law of Lanthrop, for he joined Rebecca Lanthrop as an executor of the Alexander Lanthrop, late of Prince George County, Decd., in deeding land on 10Jul1792.

31Mar1785 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

William Call's List

David Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 3 Slaves, 4 Horses, 13 Cattle

Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 3 Slaves, 2 Horses, 4 Cattle

Nancy Davenport, No White Tithes, 3 Slaves, 3 Horses

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

13May1785 - TAXABLES: **Prince George Davenports** listed in Virginia Tax Lists this year (Select Counties):

AMELIA COUNTY

Abraham Davenport, 1 White Soul, 0 Dwellings, 0 Other Buildings

John Davenport, 1 White Soul, 0 Dwellings, 0 Other Buildings

William Davenport, 0 White Souls, 3 Dwellings, 1 Other Building

Source: A consolidation of Tax Lists in lieu of destroyed First Federal Census of the United States, VIRGINIA, 1790, as appearing in HEADS OF FAMILIES at the First Census of the United States taken in the Year 1790: Records of the State Enumerations: 1782 to 1785, VIRGINIA and Fothergill & Naugle, VIRGINIA TAXPAYERS 1782-1787, Other Than Those Published by the United States Census Bureau, passim. (See Bibliography for full citations).

31Jan1786 - MARRIAGE: William Lanthrop to **Susanna Davenport** in **Prince George County**. (*Rev. John Cameron Marriage Register*)

31Mar1786 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

William Call's List

David Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 4 Slaves, 4 Horses, 13 Cattle

Nancy Davenport, No White Tithes, 3 Slaves, 3 Horses

Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 3 Slaves

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

14Oct1786 - MARRIAGE BOND: Charles Abernathy to **Elizabeth Davenport**. Harberd Abernathy, surety. Witnessed by Joshua Abernathy. (*Brunswick County, VA, Marriage Bonds*)

There were four female Davenports married in Brunswick County from 1786 to 1795. No Pamunkey Davenports are known to have been that far East in Southside Virginia before 1820. There was a strong Abernathy-Davenport connection, from Virginia to Lincoln County, NC, after the Revolution. By proximity, these Davenports would appear to have been of Prince George Davenport roots, for Brunswick County was erected out of Isle of Wight, Surry, and Prince George in 1720.

3Feb1787 – DEED OF GIFT: Joseph Ledbetter to **Daniel Davenport**, both of Bristol Parish, **Prince George County**, gift of one Negro girl Betty, to go to said **Daniel** and heirs lawfully gotten by his wife **Elizabeth Davenport**, daughter of said Ledbetter... /s/ Joseph Ledbetter. Wit: **David Davenport**, Wm. Ledbetter, Joseph Kirkland. (*Prince George County, VA, Deeds, ?:164*)

By other deeds (c1787), David Davenport's land in Prince George adjoined Joseph Ledbetter and Wood Ledbetter.

19Feb1787 - DEED: **John Davenport** and **Abraham Davenport** to Stephen Beasley, all of Amelia County, for £230, that tract of land devised to them by their father **George Davenport, Decd.**, being 230 acres in **Amelia County**, adjoining Benjamin Beasley,

Nathan Fletcher, Sr., William Osborne, Hamlin Harris and Thomas Jones--being a tract granted to William Rose 13Dec1738... /s/ **John Davenport, Abraham "X" Davenport**. Wit: Edward Jones, Thomas Jones, William Jones, **George Davenport**. (*Amelia County, VA, Deeds, 18:67*)

John and Abraham, the two youngest sons, had both reached legal age. They were selling out in Virginia to move to Lincoln County, North Carolina, where they were closely associated with the Abernathy family.

31Mar1787 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

William Call's List

David Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 6 Slaves, 3 Horses, 12 Cattle

Nancy Davenport, No White Tithes, 3 Slaves

Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 3 Slaves, 2 Horses, 3 Cattle

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

Mar-Apr1787 - RETURNS OF TAXABLE PROPERTY made by Commissioners for Commonwealth:

All White Males of age 21 and Older Individually Named
 First Column = Number of White Males above 16 and under 21
 Second Column = Number of Blacks above 16
 Third Column = Number of Blacks under 16
 Fourth Column = Number of Horses, Mares, Colts & Mules
 Fifth Column = Number of Cattle

PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY

Davenport, David	0	3	3	3	12
Davenport, Elizabeth	0	2	1	3	3 (Not Tithable)
Davenport, Nancy	0	1	0	0	0 (Not Tithable)
Davenport, Matthew	(16-21 years, with William Edwards)				

Source: Schreiner-Yantis & Love, *The 1787 Census of Virginia* (Springfield, VA: Genealogical Books in Print, 1987). The authors employed the Personal Property Tax Lists for the Year 1787 mandated by the Commonwealth and retained in the State Archives..

25May1787 – PROBATE: Estate of John Lee, late of **Prince George County**, Decd. **David Davenport** was one the appraisers of the Decedent's estate. (*Prince George County, VA, Wills, ?:101*)

cJun1787 – SISTER IDENTIFIED: A document concerning 122 Tobacco Notes mentions **David Davenport**, identified **Rebecca Davenport** as a sister to Thomas Rosser Rives. (*Prince George County, VA, Deeds, ?:224*)

5Oct1787 – WITNESS: **James Davenport** witnessed the deed of Mary Poythress, of Martin's Brandon Parish, to Daniel Sturdevant, both of **Prince George County**. (*Prince George County, VA, Deeds, ?:118*)

24Dec1787 - MARRIAGE: **Joseph Davenport** to Judith Richardson in **Petersburg**. (*Prince George County Marriages.*)

1Mar1788 – LAST WILL & TESTAMENT: **Rev. Joseph Davenport** of Charles Parish, **York County**, admitted to probate this date: Named wife **Mary**, son **William**, daughter **Eliza** Hunter, wife of William Hunter. [Other elements of will?] (*William & Mary Quarterly*, 5:4, Apr1897, 272)

(This document needs to be reviewed and re-abstracted. This extract is insufficient.)

--**Mar1788** - MARRIAGE BOND: Lewis Vaughan to **Sally Davenport**. Burwell Featherstone, security. (*Amelia County, VA, Marriage Bonds*)

Sally appears to have been Sarah, daughter of George Davenport, Decd., and his wife Sarah, being the same person to whom Thomas Gunn and Sarah Davenport Gunn gave the three slaves to in 1778. Sarah apparently did not move to Lincoln County, North Carolina, with brothers and the Featherstones, or she had come back to marry where she had grown up. Given the ten-year interval between Sarah receiving the slaves and her marriage, she may have been a spinster of possibly age 30 or more when she wed.

31Mar1788 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 6 Slaves
Nancy Davenport, No White Tithes, 1 Slave
Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 2 Slaves
Daniel Davenport, 1 White Tithe
James Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Horse

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

David, Nancy, Elizabeth, and Daniel were all assessed on 18 April while James Davenport was assessed on 13 May, suggesting that the former four lived in close proximity, hence were closely related, while James Davenport resided some distance away, likely was not closely related. Given the property assessments, this James Davenport, likely a young man, was not the same James Davenport who had last been tax listed in 1785. No James Davenport appeared again on a Prince George Tax List until 1809.

31Mar1789 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, John Daniel (over 16), 1 White Tithe, 4 Slaves, 3 Horses, 1 Carriage
Nancy Davenport, No White Tithes, 1 Slave
Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 1 Slave, 1 Horse
Daniel Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 3 Horses

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

This was Nancy's last appearance on a Tax List. Possibly the John Daniel who was assessed in David Davenport's household was the same John Daniel who married a Nancy Davenport in Prince George before this year's end (see next item).

17Dec1789 - MARRIAGE: John H. Daniel to **Nancy Davenport**. (*Prince George County, VA, Marriages.*)

31Mar1790 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Thomas Spencer's District

Matthew Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Horse

Jacob Morton's District

William Davenport, 2 White Tithes, 3 Slaves, 3 Horses

Richard Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 7 Slaves, 5 Horses

Henry Burnley, 1 White Tithle, 5 Slaves, 4 Horses

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1790 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, John Daniel (over 16), 1 White Tithe, 4 Slaves, 3 Horses

Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

Daniel Davenport, 1 White Tithe

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

7Dec1790 – OWED BY COUNTY: The Charlotte County Levy for 1790 included £2/8/0 owed to **Matthew Davenport** for making 12 benches, and £1/10/0 owed to **Matthew Davenport** for repairing the County jail. (**Charlotte County**, VA, *Court Orders*, 8:120)

Matthew was a Prince George Davenport who had moved to Charlotte. No connection between or association with the Pamunkey and Prince George Davenports has been found.

Jan-Jun1791 - FIRST FEDERAL CENSUS of United States: **NORTH CAROLINA**, to have been taken in the middle six months of 1790, but not taken in North Carolina until the the first six months of 1791:

GRANVILLE COUNTY

Gloucester District

Samuel Davenport (Listed but No enumerations made)

LINCOLN COUNTY

Eleventh Company

George Davenport	1	0	0	0	1
Abraham Davenport	1	0	0	0	5

Source: *Heads of Families at the First Census of the United States taken in the Year 1790; NORTH CAROLINA* (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1908), 80, 115.

Virginia Census Schedules for 1790 and 1800 were destroyed when the British burned Washington City in 1814 during the War of 1812. However, Virginia Personal Property Tax Schedules for the various counties are largely extant, 1782-forward.

16Feb1791 – MORTGAGE RELEASE: **David Davenport** to Ledbetter Lanthrop, both of Prince George County, for repayment of £11, release of mortgage on 58 acres in **Prince George County**, part of a larger tract called *Ledbetters*, given to said **Davenport** by said Lanthrop on 18Mar1789... /s/ **David Davenport**. Wit: G.K. Taylor, Richard Gary, Isham Williams. (*Prince George County, VA, Deeds, ?*:534)

31Mar1791 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Thomas Spencer's District

Matthew Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 2 Slaves

Jacob Morton's District

William Davenport, 2 White Tithes, 3 Slaves, 4 Horses

Henry Burnley, 1 White Tithe, 3 Slaves, 3 Horses

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1791 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 4 Slaves, 2 Horses

Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 4 Slaves, 2 Horses

Daniel Davenport, 1 White Tithe

Mary Davenport, No White Tithes, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

William Davenport, 1 White Tithe

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

This was Mary's only appearance on a Prince George Tax List. This William or another appeared on the 1794 List and no further (see below)

10Oct1791 – DEED: **Daniel Davenport**, wife **Betsy**, of Prince George County, and **Matthew Davenport**, of Charlotte County, to James Sturdivant, of Prince George County, for £50, 100 acres in **Prince George County** on the south side of Second Swamp, adjoining said Swamp... /s/ **Daniel Davenport, Betsy Davenport, Matthew Davenport**. Wit: James Sturdivant, Daniel Sturdivant. (*Prince George County, VA, Deeds, ?*:618)

The land being conveyed here appears to be the tract that Rubin Rives conveyed to Edward Davenport in 1760 (see above), which would suggest that Daniel and Matthew were sons of Edward. Both Matthew and Daniel subsequently appeared in Charlotte County records.

5Dec1791 - MARRIAGE BOND: Abner Owen to **Frances Davenport**, daughter of **Mary Davenport**. John Owen, surety. Witnessed by Thomas Owen. Married 8Dec1791 by Aaron Brown. (*Brunswick County, VA, Marriage Bonds*)

28Dec1791 – MARRIAGE BOND: **George Davenport** to Susanna Brazeal, who consents. George Richardson, security. Wit: John Jenkins, J. Robinson, William Gemmell, Charles Holt. (*Henrico County, VA, Marriage Bonds*)

2Jan1792 – NEW INDENTURE: Ordered that the Overseers of the Poor of the Second District do bind out Kent Jackson, son of Abby Jackson, to **Matthew Davenport**, by consent of Oliver Sullen, said Kent's former master, and the indenture to said Sullen is made void. (*Charlotte County, VA, Court Orders, 8:199*)

24Feb1792 - MARRIAGE BOND: Robinson Steinback and **Jincey Davenport**, daughter of **Mary Davenport**. John Owen, security. Witnessed by **Polly Davenport**. Married 28Feb1792 by Aaron Brown. (*Brunswick County, VA, Marriage Bonds*)

7Mar1792 – JUROR: **Matthew Davenport** was a juror for the trial of *Thomas Mosley vs. John Fuqua* in Detinue. (*Charlotte County, VA, Court Orders, 8:209*)

13Mar1792 (Recorded) – DEED: Richard Taylor to **David Davenport**, both of Prince George County, for £60, 2 acres in **Prince George County** on the Main Road leading from Blandford by Blandford Church, adjoining Parham... /s/ Richard Taylor. Wit: None. (*Prince George County, VA, Deeds, ?:689*)

31Mar1792 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Thomas Spencer's District

Matthew Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

Jacob Morton's District

Richard Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 3 Slaves, 1 Horse

Jack Smith Davenport Estate, 1White Tithe, 3 Slaves, 6 Horses

William Davenport, 2 White Tithes, 3 Slaves, 2 Horses

Presley Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Horse

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1792 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 5 Slaves, 3 Horses

Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

Daniel Davenport, 1 White Tithe

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

7May1792 – JUROR: **Matthew Davenport** was a juror for the trial of *Administrators of Francis Tomkins, Decd., vs. Robert Rakestraw & William Brown* in Debt. (*Charlotte County, VA, Court Orders, 8:226*)

31Mar1793 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Jacob Morton's District

Matthew Davenport, 3 White Tithes, 2 Slaves, 1 Horse

Richard Davenport, 4White Tithes, 8 Slaves, 6 Horses

Jack Smith Davenport Estate, 3 Slaves, 2 Horses

Presley Davenport, 1 Slave

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1793 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 6 Slaves, 4 Horses

Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 1 Slave, 2 Horses

Daniel Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Horse

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1794 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Jacob Morton's District

Presley Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

Richard Davenport, 5 White Tithes, 6 Slaves, 7 Horses

Jack Smith Davenport Estate, 3 Slaves, 2 Horses

Matthew Davenport, 4 White Tithes, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

William Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 4 Slaves, 3 Horses

Jack Smith Davenport, 1 White Tithe

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1794 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 4 Slaves, 3 Horses

Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 1 Slave, 2 Horses

David (meant **Daniel?**) **Davenport**, 1 White Tithe, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

William Davenport, 1 White Tithe

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

5Aug1794 – JUDGMENT: In the matter of **Matthew Davenport** vs. *Thomas Scott* in Debt, the Defendant not appearing, judgment for **Davenport** against the said Scott and Hugh Frazier, his security, for £25, to be discharged by payment by £12/10 with legal interest from 7Mar1791 until paid. (*Charlotte County, VA, Court Orders*, 9:225)

25Dec1794 - MARRIAGE BOND: **Matthew Davenport** to **Polly** Johnston. James Johnston, surety. (*Charlotte County, VA, Marriage Bonds*)

This was a Prince George Davenport in the same county with Pamunkey Davenports.

11Feb1795 - MARRIAGE BOND: Frederick Abernathy and **Milly Davenport**. **Milly**, age 21, and being a resident of the county for six months. Alexander Andrews, surety. Wit: Alexander Abernathy. (*Brunswick County, VA, Marriage Bonds*)

The Abernathys and Davenports were closely associated and intermarried in Lincoln County, North Carolina, in the same neighborhood as the Davenports who had come from Amelia County, Virginia.

31Mar1795 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Jacob Morton's District

Matthew Davenport, 3 White Tithes, 2 Slaves, 1 Horse
Presley Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Slave, 1 Horse
Richard Davenport, 5 White Tithes, 6 Slaves, 7 Horses
Richard Davenport, Jr., 1 White Tithe
Jack Smith Davenport Estate, No White Tithes, 3 Slaves, 2 Horses
Jack Smith Davenport, 1 White Tithe
William Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 4 Slaves, 2 Horses

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1795 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 5 Slaves, 4 Horses
Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 2 Slaves, 2 Horses
Daniel Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Slave, 1 Horse
Daniel Davenport for William Davis, No White Tithes, 4 Slaves, 3 Horses

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

30Nov1795 - DEED: Joseph Butridge and David Mattox to **Matthew Davenport**, all of Charlotte County, for £65, 65 acres in **Charlotte County** on Wards Fork Creek, adjoining David Mattox... /s/ Joseph "X" Butridge, David Mattox. Wit: John Morton, Jr., James Johnston, Henry Sallie. (*Charlotte County, VA, Deeds, 7:211*)

This Matthew Davenport appears to have been one of the Prince George County Davenports, whose relation, if any, to the Pamunkey Davenports remains unclear. Note that James Johnston, an in-law of Matthew, was a witness.

31Mar1796 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Jacob Morton's District

Matthew Davenport, 3 White Tithes, 2 Slaves, 3 Horses
John Davenport, 1 White Tithe
Richard Davenport, 5 White Tithes, 9 Slaves, 8 Horses
Presley Davenport, 1 White Tithe
William Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 4 Slaves, 4 Horses
Jack Smith Davenport, 1 White Tithe

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1796 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

Daniel Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 2 Slaves, 2 Horses

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1797 - Tax LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Campbell County**

Personal Property, South District

Daniel Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Slave

Land, South District

Edward Davenport, by H. Vest, 100 acres

Personal Property, North District

Wilson Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Horse

William T. Davenport, 1 White Tithe*Land, North District*No **Davenport** listed.Source: *Campbell State Tax Lists*

Extant Campbell County Personal Property Tax Lists begin with 1785, but no Davenport appeared on any of the lists before 1797. No Land Tax Lists are extant before 1797. No Edward Davenport is known among all Davenports heretofore identified in Virginia at this time. Daniel Davenport was likely the Prince George Davenport of that name and a brother to Matthew Davenport of Charlotte County. Both Daniel and Matthew are tied together by Prince George County records. Wilson Davenport was the only son in Henry Davenport, Sr.'s second family, who, having become an attorney, had established a law office in Lynchburg, Campbell County, in 1796 after Personal Property Taxes had been assessed. William T. Davenport was William Terry Davenport, merchant son of William of Cumberland (d. 1782), and a first cousin of to Wilson. William briefly maintained a residence in Lynchburg, up the James River from the Davenport Store in Cartersville, Cumberland County.

No Campbell Land Tax records for 1798 and 1799 have survived. Next Campbell land extracts are dated 31Mar1800 (see below)

31Mar1797 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County***Stephen Bedford's District***Matthew Davenport, 2 White Tithes, 2 Slaves, 3 Horses***Jacob Morton's District***Richard Davenport, 5 White Tithes, 9 Slaves, 9 Horses****Presley Davenport, 1 White Tithe****William Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 4 Slaves, 4 Horses****Jack Smith Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Horse**Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists***31Mar1797 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County*****Commissioner's List***David Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 5 Slaves, 3 Horses****Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 2 Slaves, 2 Horses**Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists***31Mar1798 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County*****Stephen Bedford's District***Matthew Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 2 Slaves, 2 Horses***Chisley Daniel's District***Captain Richard Davenport, 2 White Tithes, 9 Slaves, 9 Horses****Presley Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 2 Slaves, 1 Horse****Richard Davenport, Jr., 1 White Tithe, 1 Horse****Jack Smith Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Horse**Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1798 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Records for this Year have been lost.

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1799 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Stephen Bedford's District

Matthew Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 2 Slaves, 3 Horses

Chisley Daniel's District

William Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 5 Slaves, 2 Horses, 2 Chair Carts

Richard Davenport, Jr., 2 White Tithes, 2 Horses

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1799 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, 2 White Tithes, 5 Slaves, 2 Horses

Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 2 Slaves, 1 Horse

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1800 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Stephen Bedford's District

Matthew Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Slave, 3 Horses

Chisely Daniel's District

Richard Davenport, Jr., 1 White Tithe, 1 Horse

William Davenport, Jr., 1 White Tithe, 1 Horse

Capt. Richard Davenport, 3 White Tithes, 9 Slaves, 9 Horses

Presley Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 2 Slaves, 1 Horse

Glover Davenport, 2 White Tithes, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

Daniel Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

William Davenport, 2 White Tithes, 5 Slaves, 3 Horses, 1 Chair Cart

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists.*

Matthew and Daniel were Prince George Davenports unrelated to the others. Charlotte County was becoming a Davenport mecca.

31Mar1800 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, 2 White Tithes, 5 Slaves, 1 Horse

Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 2 Slaves, 2 Horses

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1801 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Campbell County**

Personal Property, North District

Wilson Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 2 Slaves, 1 Horse

Land, North District

Wilson Davenport, 1 Lot [in Lynchburg]

William Davenport, 196 Acres

Personal Property, South District

Daniel Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

Land, South District

No **Davenport** listed.

Source: *Campbell State Property Tax Lists*

Daniel, of the Prince George Line, had moved from Charlotte where he was tax listed previously, a move of a few miles. He was either a tenant farmer or a craftsman following work. Wilson was practicing law in Lynchburg. William was a resident of Charlotte County

Campbell County Land Tax Lists, both North District and South District, either are missing or if extant include no Davenport until 1805.

31Mar1801 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Stephen Bedford's District

Matthew Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 2 Slaves, 3 Horses

Chisley Daniel's District

William Davenport's Estate, 1 White Tithable, 4 Blacks above 16, 4 Horses

William Davenport, Jr., 1 White Tithe, 1 Horse

Richard Davenport, 3 White Tithes, 9 Slaves, 10 Horses

Presley Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 2 Slaves, 2 Horses

Glover Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 2 Slaves, 1 Horse

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1801 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, 2 White Tithes, 3 Slaves, 1 Horse

Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 2 Slaves, 2 Horses

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1802 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Campbell County**

South District

Daniel Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

North District

Wilson Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 2 Slaves, 1 Horse

Source: *Campbell State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1802 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Stephen Bedford's District

Matthew Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 2 Slaves, 3 Horses

Chisely Daniel's District

William Davenport, Jr., 1 White Tithe

Richard Davenport, 2 White Tithes, 8 Slaves, 9 Horses

Glover Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 3 Slaves, 3 Horses

Presley Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 2 Slaves, 2 Horses

William Davenport Estate, No White Tithes, 4 Slaves, 3 Horses
Ballard Davenport, 1 White Tithe
Martin Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 2 Slaves, 1 Horse
William Davenport (shop joiner), 1 White Tithe, 1 Horse

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

Matthew was of the Prince George Davenports. The rest were Pamunkeys. Richard was the Squire, was joined on the list by sons Glover and Ballard. The William Davenport, Sr., (Decd.), taxables included his estate, eldest son Presley and son William, Jr. Martin Davenport was the son of Richard Davenport, Sr., of Albemarle. William Davenport (shop joiner) was a son of Absalom Davenport of Powhatan County and had set up a cabinetmaker's shop in Charlotte.

31Mar1802 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, 2 White Tithes, 4 Slaves, 3 Horses
Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 2 Slaves

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1803 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Campbell County**

South District

Daniel Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

North District

Buck Davenport, 1 White Tithe

Source: *Campbell State Property Tax Lists*

Buck Davenport was likely Wilson Davenport, Attorney. Wilson still had his office and residence in Lynchburg in the North District. Whether this was a joke by the Tax Assessor, referring to Wilson's home roots in Buckingham County, adjoining Campbell to the east, or reflects a nickname, we know not. If it was Wilson, he had dispensed of a slave and a horse. But Wilson was assessed for one slave and one horse the next year (see below), so Buck Davenport was possibly another man passing through. Tax commissioners, one for each district, varied from county to county and from year to year, sometimes capriciously, in who they listed as liable for taxation.

31Mar1803 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Stephen Bedford's District

Matthew Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 3 Slaves, 4 Horses

Chisley Daniel's District

Richard Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 8 Slaves, 10 Horses

Martin Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 4 Slaves, 2 Horses

Presley Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 3 Slaves, 2 Horses

Glover Davenport, 3 White Tithes, 6 Slaves, 4 Horses

Elizabeth Davenport, 1 White Tithe, 4 Slaves, 3 Horses

William Davenport, Jr., 1 White Tithe, 1 Horse

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1803 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, 2 White Tithes, 4 Slaves, 2 Horses
Elizabeth Davenport, No White Tithes, 1 Slave

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

6Jun1803 - DEED: John G. Maddox, David T. Maddox, Francis Ryan and wife Patsy, Michael Maddox and wife Elizabeth, and Jenny Maddox, sons and daughters of David Maddox, late of Charlotte County, Decd., to **Matthew Davenport**, of Charlotte County, for £191/5/0, 191½ acres in **Charlotte County** on Wards Fork, where said David Maddox, Decd., lived before he died, bounding said **Davenport**, Read, Price, and Couzens—64 acres being subject to the life estate of Jane Maddox, widow of said David... /s/ [Many signatures, not copied]. Wit: [Not abstracted]. (*Charlotte County, VA, Deeds, 9:240*)

31Mar1804 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Stephen Bedford's District

Matthew Davenport, 1 Poll, 3 Slaves, 4 Horses

Chisley Daniel's District

Richard Davenport, 1 Poll, 9 Slaves, 10 Horses

Ballard Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

William Davenport, 1 Poll

Glover Davenport, 3 Polls, 6 Slaves, 3 Horses

Daniel Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

Elizabeth Davenport, No Polls 4 Slaves, 4 Horses

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

Daniel Davenport had moved back to Charlotte from Campbell. Presley Davenport, eldest son of William, Sr., Decd., and Elizabeth, had moved to Kentucky. Glover, eldest son of Richard, was prospering.

31Mar1804 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, 2 Polls, 5 Slaves, 2 Horses

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1805 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Stephen Bedford's District

Matthew Davenport, 1 Poll, 2 Slaves, 3 Horses

Chisley Daniel's District

Richard Davenport, 2 Polls, 8 Slaves, 11 Horses

Ballard Davenport, 1 Poll, 3 Slaves, 2 Horses

Elizabeth Davenport, No Polls, 3 Slaves, 2 Horses

Benjamin Davenport, 1 Poll

Jack Smith Davenport, 1 Poll

William Davenport (cabinetmaker), 1 Poll
Daniel Davenport, 2 Polls, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

Matthew and Daniel were brothers, were Prince George Davenports. All the others were Pamunkeys.

31Mar1805 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, 2 Polls, 3 Slaves, 2 Slaves

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1806 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Stephen Bedford's District

Matthew Davenport, 1 Poll, 4 Slaves, 3 Horses

Chisley Daniel's District

Richard Davenport, 1 Poll, 7 Slaves, 11 Horses

Ballard Davenport, 1 Poll, 3 Slaves, 2 Horses

Elizabeth Davenport, 3 Slaves, 2 Horses

Jack Smith Davenport, 1 Poll

William Davenport (cabinetmaker), 1 Poll

Daniel Davenport, 2 Polls, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1806 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, 1 Poll, 3 Slaves, 1 Horse

Edward Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1807 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Stephen Bedford's District

Matthew Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Slave, 2 Horses

Chisley Daniel's District

Richard Davenport, 1 Poll, 7 Slaves, 11 Horses

Jack Smith Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Slave

Ballard Davenport, 1 Poll, 3 Slaves, 4 Horses

Elizabeth Davenport, No Polls, 4 Slaves, 16, 3 Horses

William Davenport (cabinetmaker), 1 Poll, 1 Horse

Daniel Davenport, 2 Polls, 2 Slaves, 1 Horse

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1807 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, 1 Poll, 3 Slaves

Edward Davenport, 1 Poll Tithe, 2 Horses

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1808 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

There was no State Property Tax this year.

3Dec1808 – CHATTEL MORTGAGE: **Daniel Davenport** to Stephen Cook, both of Charlotte County, for security of said **Davenport's** debt to said Cook for £32/10/8, with legal interest from 1Sep1808, and for \$1 paid by said Cook, 3 feather beds and furniture, one bay mare and mare colt, all household and kitchen furniture, plantation utensils, etc. Debt to be paid by 25Dec1809 or Cook to sell at Public Vendue, etc... /s/ **Daniel Davenport**. Wit: Robert Johnston, Michael Maddox, Mary "X" Johnston. (*Charlotte County, VA, Deeds, 11:160*)

Daniel Davenport was a brother to Matthew Davenport, both being of the Prince George Davenports. Daniel was apparently a tenant farmer who moved back and forth between Charlotte and Campbell counties. Note the Johnston witness. Matthew was married to a Johnston.

31Mar1809 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Stephen Bedford's District

Matthew Davenport, 1 Poll, 5 Slaves, 2 Horses

Chisley Daniel's District

Daniel Davenport, 2 Polls, 1 Slave, 2 Horses

Richard Davenport, 1 Poll, 8 Slaves, 9 Horses

William Davenport (cabinetmaker), 1 Poll, 1 Horse

Ballard Davenport, 1 Poll, 3 Slaves, 3 Horses

Elizabeth Davenport, 4 Slaves, 3 Horses

Jack Smith Davenport, 1 Poll

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1809 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

David Davenport, 1 Poll, 3 Slaves

Edward Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Horse

James Davenport, 1 Poll

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

28Dec1809 - MARRIAGE BOND: James Johnston, Jr., son of James, Sr., to **Patsey R. Davenport**, daughter of **Samuel Davenport**. John Johnston, surety. (*Charlotte County, VA, Marriage Bonds*)

James Johnston, Sr., was Matthew Davenport's bondsman for his marriage to Polly Johnston in 1794 (see above). Samuel's daughter marrying James, Sr.'s son suggests kinship between Matthew and Samuel. They were surely cousins of some degree.

31Mar1810 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County***Stephen Bedford's District***Matthew Davenport**, 1 Poll, 5 Slaves, 4 Horses*Chisley Daniel's District***William Davenport, Jr.**, 1 Poll, 1 Horse**Elizabeth Davenport**, No Polls, 3 Slaves, 2 Horses**Richard Davenport**, 1 Poll, 7 Slaves, 8 HorsesSource: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

Richard was the gentleman and magistrate. Elizabeth was the widow of William. William, Jr., was either Elizabeth's son or the cabinemaker son of Absalom of Powhatan. The Federal Census of 1810 enumerated only Richard, Elizabeth, and Daniel. Elizabeth's enumeration included two males in her household of ages 25-44, who could have been Jack Smith and Benjamin. Richard's household enumeration included one male of age 10-15 and Richard, age 45 and Older.

31Mar1810 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County***Commissioner's List***Edward Davenport**, 1 Poll, 2 Slaves, 1 Horse**Rebecca Davenport**, No Polls, 1 Stud HorseSource: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists***Jul-Sep1810** - THIRD FEDERAL CENSUS of the United States: **VIRGINIA****CHARLOTTE COUNTY****Daniel Davenport** 00110 01010 04**Elizabeth Davenport** 00020 00101 0

8

Richard Davenport 01001 01101 015**PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY****Edward Davenport** 22100 22010 00Source: *County Schedules cited, Census of 1810.***31Mar1811** - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County***Chisley Daniel's District***Daniel Davenport**, 2 Polls, 1 Slave, 3 Horses**Matthew Davenport**, 1 Poll, 7 Slaves, 5 Horses**Richard Davenport**, 1 Poll, 7 Slaves, 6 Horses**Elizabeth Davenport**, No Polls, 3 Slaves, 3 Horses**William Davenport**, 1 PollSource: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

Daniel and Matthew were the Prince George Davenports. Richard was the Magistrate. Elizabeth was the widow of William Davenport of John the Bankrupt. William the

cabinetmaker son of Absalom, died in 1810. Hence the William Davenport assessed here was likely William, Jr., son of Elizabeth.

31Mar1811 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

Edward Davenport, 1 Poll, 3 Slaves, 2 Horses
Rebecca Davenport, No Polls (On list, no assessments)
James Davenport, 1 Poll

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1812 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Stephen Bedford's District

Captain Richard Davenport, 1 Poll, 15 Slaves, 15 Horses

Chisley Daniel's District

Daniel Davenport, 2 Polls, 1 Slave, 3 Horses
Matthew Davenport, 4 Slaves, 3 Horses
Elizabeth Davenport, 3 Slaves, 1 Horse

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

Richard, Gentleman, had been elected the Militia Captain of the district including his new wife's plantation in Southern Charlotte. Only Elizabeth, widow of William of John, Sr., of the Pamunkey family remained in the north. Matthew and Daniel were Prince George Davenports, both now located in the Northern District.

31Mar1812 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

Edward Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Slave, 1 Horse
James C. Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Slaves

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

20Apr1812 - MARRIAGE BOND: **Tarleton Davenport** to Susan A. Parrish, daughter of David Parrish. Sherwood Parrish, surety. (*Goochland County, VA, Marriage Bonds*)

31Mar1813 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Stephen Bedford's District

Captain Richard Davenport, 1 Poll, 14 Slaves, 13 Horses

Benjamin Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Horse

Chisley Daniel's District

Daniel Davenport, 2 Polls, 1 Slave, 3 Horses
Matthew Davenport, 1 Poll, 4 Slaves, 5 Horses

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1813 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

Edward Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Slave, 1 Horse
Rebecca Davenport, 1 Horse, 1 Carriage

James C. Davenport, 1 Poll

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1814 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Stephen Bedford's District

Captain Richard Davenport, 1 Poll, 14 Slaves, 13 Horses

Chisley Daniel's District

Daniel Davenport, 1 Poll, 2 Slaves, 2 Horses

Matthew Davenport, 1 Poll, 6 Slaves, 5 Horses

Jack Smith Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Horse

William Davenport, Jr., 1 Poll, 1 Horse

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

Matthew and Daniel were Prince George Davenports. Captain Richard had combined his assets with those of his second wife. Wherever Jack Smith had been for the past six years, he was now back on the Tax List. He was age 30 this year. If William, Jr., was the son of William, Sr., he was holding on to the "Junior" identification 12 years after his father had died. The Widow Elizabeth was still in Charlotte, but was not listed this year.

31Mar1814 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

Edward Davenport, 1 Poll, 2 Slaves, 3 Horses

Rebecca Davenport, 1 Horse

James C. Davenport, 1 Poll

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1815 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Stephen Bedford's District

Captain Richard Davenport, 2 Polls, 13 Slaves, 13 Horses

Chisley Daniel's District

Daniel Davenport, 1 Poll, 3 Slaves, 1 Horse

William Davenport, Jr., 1 Poll, 1 Horse

Matthew Davenport, 2 Polls, 7 Slaves, 3 Horses

Jack Smith Davenport, 1 Poll

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1815 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

Edward Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Slave, 1 Horse

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

13Feb1816 -- MARRIAGE: **Nancy Davenport**, daughter of **Matthew Davenport**, and James T. Wheeler, by Rev. John Chappel. (*Charlotte County, VA, Marriages*)

31Mar1816 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Stephen Bedford's District

Captain Richard Davenport, 1 Poll, 13 Slaves, 11 Horses

Chisley Daniel's District

Daniel Davenport, 1 Poll, 2 Slaves, 1 Horse

William Davenport, Jr., 1 Poll, 1 Horse

Matthew Davenport, 1 Poll, 8 Slaves, 3 Horses

Jack Smith Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Horse

Elizabeth Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Slave

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

Included this year were the same taxables as the previous year plus the Widow Elizabeth, who had been left off or exempted from tax listing for five years. Jack Smith was the son of Captain Richard, living in the Captain's old neighborhood.

31Mar1816 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

Edward Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Slave

James T. Davenport, 1 Poll

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1817 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Stephen Bedford's District

Captain Richard Davenport, 1 Poll, 14 Slaves, 12 Horses

Chisley Daniel's District

Matthew Davenport, 1 Poll, 6 Slaves, 2 Horses

Jack Smith Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Horse

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

Daniel Davenport was off the list this year, would be back in 1818. The Widow Elizabeth was off the list again.

31Mar1817 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

No **Davenport** assessed in County this year.

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Dec1817 - MARRIAGE BOND: **James Davenport** to Nancy Cox, who signs own consent. Bryan Lester, security. Wit: Charlotte Cox. (*Charlotte County, VA, Marriages*)

31Mar1818 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Matthew J. Williams' District

Daniel Davenport, 1 Poll

Captain Richard Davenport, 1 Poll, 15 Slaves, 12 Horses

Chisley Daniel's District

Jack Smith Davenport, 1 Poll

Elizabeth Davenport, No Polls, 1 Slave

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

Daniel Davenport was back on the list, but now was located in the Southern District. This was his last year on the Charlotte Tax List. Whether he died or had moved has not been pursued. Jack Smith, again without a horse, and the Widow Elizabeth were assessed in the Northern District. Matthew Davenport had moved to Giles County, Tennessee, near the Alabama line.

31Mar1818 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

James Davenport, 1 Poll

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1819 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Charlotte County**

Matthew J. Williams' District

Captain Richard Davenport, 1 Poll, 14 Slaves, 14 Horses

Chisley Daniel's District

Elizabeth Davenport, No Polls, 1 Slave

Benjamin Davenport, No Polls, 1 Horse

Jack Smith Davenport, 1 Poll, 1 Horse

Source: *Charlotte State Property Tax Lists*

Both Matthew and Daniel were gone. Still there was Richard, Gentleman, the Widow Elizabeth, her youngest son Benjamin, and Jack Smith, son of Richard, who again had a horse. All were Pamunkeys.

31Mar1819 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

James Davenport, 1 Poll

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

31Mar1820 - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX LISTS filed with Commonwealth: **Prince George County**

Commissioner's List

James Davenport, 1 Poll

Source: *Prince George State Property Tax Lists*

Jul-Sep1820 - FOURTH FEDERAL CENSUS of the United States:

PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

James T. Davenport 2 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 0

By other evidence, James T. Davenport was a Pamunkey, was the grandson of Henry Davenport who died in Buckingham County in 1792.

GILES COUNTY, TENNESSEE

James Johnston	o o o o 11	13011	40
Matthew Davenport	200010	10010	60
James T. Wheeler	200001	00100	40

Source: *County Schedules cited, Census of 1820.*

Those enumerated both before and after Davenport appear to be men with whom Davenport was associated with in Charlotte County, Virginia (see above). Matthew was married to Polly Johnston. James T. Wheeler was Matthew's son-in-law. Mathew was still there in the Census of 1840, enumerated as being between ages 80-90, but the others had either died or moved on.

27Feb1822 - - MARRIAGE BOND: **Thomas Davenport** to Charlotte Cox, daughter of Rebecca Cox, who consents. **James Davenport**, security. Wit: Richard L. Smithson. (*Charlotte County, VA, Marriages*)

Thomas and James, not having been identified, could have been sons of Matthew and Daniel left behind when the sires moved or died, hence remain as possible Prince Ge

Last date of Data Entry by JSD = Monday, February 05, 2007