

to pay the fees due to Taylor, and in fact had payed him some tobacco, but Taylor incarcerated him anyway to the great detriment of Brannock's person and fortune. The Lower House reprimanded both Taylor and his undersheriff for their tactics in collecting debts before any demands had been made by the obligators on the bonds, terming their treatment of many debtors in Dorchester County, including Brannock, "illegal, cruel and inhuman." LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: 118 acres in Dorchester County (by patent). ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: Prior to his first election to office, Brannock had purchased and/or patented 1,048 acres in Dorchester County in his own right, and 1,200 acres in partnership with *John Lecompte* (ca. 1662-1705) between 1691 and 1706. He sold 400 acres of this land in 1706, and he sold all but 118 acres of the remainder of his land, including the tract patented with Lecompte to his brother, Thomas, to pay his large number of debts in 1709. SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH: patented 100 acres in Dorchester County, 1732. Henry Hill obtained the 118-acre tract in Dorchester County as a result of a court judgment in his favor for a debt Brannock owed him, 1734. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: between April 8 and May 27, 1741, in Dorchester County. PERSONAL PROPERTY: TEV, £409.3.2 current money (including books). His inventory also listed 7 slaves, 1 manservant, and other personal property, but these had been sold to Brannock's brother in 1709. They were repurchased by Brannock's widow in 1742. FB, estate overpaid £103.11.6. LAND: 100 acres in Dorchester County, however, Brannock made bequests of 400 additional acres, even though they were among the tracts he had sold to his brother in 1709 to pay his debts. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: In 1742 Brannock's widow bought back at least 530 acres of the Dorchester County land her husband had sold his brother, Thomas, in 1709. Brannock and his brother may have had an unwritten agreement concerning the land, which provided for John's heirs to regain possession of it after his debts were paid.

BRENT, FULKE (?-1656). BORN: in the late 1590s in Gloucestershire, England; probably oldest son. IMMIGRATED: in 1638 as a free adult. RESIDED: in St. Mary's County; returned to England, ca. 1642. FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: Richard Brent, of Stoke and Addington, England, the sheriff of Gloucestershire, England, in 1614. MOTHER: Elizabeth, daughter of Giles Reed, Lord of Tusburie and Witten. BROTHERS: *Giles Brent* (1600-ca.

1671/72); George (1602-1671), who married Marianna, daughter of Sir John Peyton, of Dodding-ton, England; Richard; William; and Edward (?-1625). SISTERS: Margaret (1601-1671); Mary (?-1658); Catherine; Elizabeth; Eleanor; Jane; and Anne. PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: literate; entered Oxford University, 1613; Middle Temple, London, England, 1615. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Catholic. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: high status on arrival; Mr. on first appearance in Maryland records; returned to England temporarily in 1638/39 and returned with his sisters. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: probably a planter. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Assembly, special writ 1638/39, 1640-1641 (attended only the 2nd session), 1641/42. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: in 1656; size of estate unknown.

BRENT, GEORGE (?-1782). BORN: of age by 1776. RESIDED: west of Licking Creek, Fort Frederick Hundred, Frederick County (later became part of Washington County). FAMILY BACKGROUND. May have been related to the Brent family of Virginia. MARRIED Charity, who subsequently married in 1783 John Read (Ried). CHILDREN. SON: Thomas. DAUGHTER: Elizabeth, who married by 1803 (first name unknown) Grayham. PRIVATE CAREER. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: probably a planter. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Conventions, Frederick County, 7th-8th, 1776 (did not attend the 8th Convention). LOCAL OFFICES: justice, Frederick County, 1773-at least 1775; Committee of Observation, Frederick County, 1775. MILITARY SERVICE: referred to as an American officer who was out of the army in 1781. WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH: purchased more than 100 acres in Washington County, 1779. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: administration bond dated June 27, 1782, in Washington County. PERSONAL PROPERTY: TEV, £1,050.9.10 current money (including 12 slaves, considerable livestock, and 20 oz. plate); FB, £808.3.11. LAND: ca. 386 acres.

BRENT, GILES (1600-ca. 1671/72). BORN: in 1600 in Gloucestershire, England; probably second son. IMMIGRATED: in 1638 as a free adult. RESIDED: in St. Mary's and Kent counties; moved to Stafford County, Virginia, ca. 1649. FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: Richard Brent, of Stoke and Addington, England, the sheriff of Gloucestershire, England, in 1614. MOTHER: Elizabeth, daughter of Giles Reed, Lord of Tusburie and Witten. BROTHERS: *Fulke Brent* (?-1656); George