

of his business operations, however, was directed to the Susquehanna River area, where he entered into the iron-smelting and cannon-casting business on the old Principio Ironworks property. He named his business the Cecil Furnace, one of several iron-making ventures he had in Cecil County. Another was a partnership with John Churchman in a forge on Octorara Creek (later known as Frey's Forge). Cecil Furnace was his chief interest, however; in 1796 Samuel secured a contract with the government to produce cannon for new frigates. His iron operations in Cecil County were generally successful until the War of 1812, when the Cecil Furnace was attacked by Admiral Cockburn. The buildings and facilities were burned and the cannon on hand were destroyed. Samuel rebuilt, but it was a financial strain and the business suffered. He mortgaged and then sold the Cecil Furnace to two Baltimore merchants, Robert Gilmore and Robert Smith in 1820 to discharge debts totaling \$39,081.50. Hughes was also involved in land speculation, specifically as a partner in the Havre de Grace Company, which was formed in 1797 to acquire land adjacent to Havre de Grace. **PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE:** Convention, Frederick County, 9th, 1776; Lower House, Washington County, 1777 (Manufactories 2), 1777-1778 (Manufactories 3), 1778-1779 (Tax Commissioners 1; Claims 3); Senate, Western Shore, Term of 1776-1781: 1781 (elected on January 2, 1781 to fill vacancy in the 1780-1781 Assembly; qualified on January 12, 1781), Term of 1781-1786: 1783 (elected on May 9, 1783 to fill vacancy in the 1782-1783 Assembly; qualified on May 23, 1783), 1783, 1784, 1785, Term of 1786-1791: 1786-1787 (elected on December 2, 1786 to fill vacancy; qualified on December 12, 1786), 1787-1788, 1788, 1789, 1790. **LOCAL OFFICES:** Committee of Observation, Frederick County, elected 1774 and 1775; justice, Washington County, 1777-at least 1778 (moved to Baltimore County), Harford County, 1782-at least 1797; justice, Orphans' Court, Washington County, 1777-at least 1778 (moved to Baltimore County), Harford County, commissioned 1784; town commissioner, Havre de Grace, Harford County, 1785; judge, Court of Appeals for Tax Assessment, Harford County, appointed 1786; associate justice, Circuit Court, Harford County, appointed 1789. **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** The Washington County clerk's reference to Hughes having moved to Baltimore County was not substantiated by land-ownership. **JURY SERVICE:** petit jury, Harford County, term began in 1801. **MILITARY SERVICE:** colonel. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. PERSONAL**

**PROPERTY:** assessed value £864.0.0, including 15 slaves and 30 oz. plate, Harford County, 1783; 13 slaves, 1790. **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** 1,138 acres in Frederick, Baltimore (later became Harford County), and Washington counties. **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH:** purchased 6,038 acres in Washington and Harford counties and sold 4,351 acres in Washington and Harford counties, 1779-1813; acquired 200 lots near Havre de Grace, Harford County, upon the dissolution of the Havre de Grace Company, of which he was entitled to seven thirty-seconds share of the capital stock, 1806. Patented and acquired by purchase or mortgage at least 4,717 acres in Cecil County, by 1799-1816. Sold this land and the ironworks located on it in 1820. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** Size of estate unknown.

**HUGHLETT, THOMAS** (ca. 1739-ca. 1803). **BORN:** ca. 1739, probably in Virginia; only son. **NATIVE:** second generation. **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** immigrated ca. 1749 as a minor with his father from St. Stephen's Parish, Northumberland County, Virginia. **RESIDED:** in Queen Anne's County (later became part of Caroline County); Choptank Hundred, Caroline County, 1778. **FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER:** William Hughlett (?-1771), immigrated ca. 1749 from Virginia; resided in Queen Anne's County; merchant; planter. **MOTHER:** Mary. **SISTERS:** Anne, who married in 1758 William Harrington (1737-?); Mary, who married (first name unknown) Harrington; and Winefred, who married Cooper Kendarine. **MARRIED** by 1767 Sarah (ca. 1748-1772), daughter of Obediah Dixon (ca. 1709-1780), of Dorchester and Caroline counties, planter, and wife Sarah. Her brothers were Robert; Benjamin; and Joseph. Her sisters were Martha; Rebecca; and China, who married (first name unknown) Dill. **MARRIED** second, in January 1778 Rebeckah, daughter of *Richard Mason* (?-ca. 1782). Her brother was Thomas. Her sisters were Sarah; Margaret. **CHILDREN. SONS:** William (1769-?), who was elected to the Maryland Senate in 1816 and married Elizabeth S. (ca. 1774-1810); Richard (ca. 1782-1827), who married Anna. **DAUGHTERS:** Mary (ca. 1767-?), who married Charles Adams; Ann (?-1806), who married Dr. Timothy Caldwell. **PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION:** literate. **RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION:** Anglican, St. John's Parish, Caroline County. **SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES:** Gent., 1793; Esq., 1797. **OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE:** farmer, 1778; in partnership with his son Richard in a tannery, Caroline County; probably also a merchant in partnership with his son Richard;