

LIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Catholic, attended Sacred Heart Chapel at "Bushwood." SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Gent., by 1784; Esq., by 1791. Plowden was the great-grandson of Sir Edmund Plowden, Earl of Albion, who in 1634 received a charter from Charles I to establish a proprietary colony in the area presently occupied by New Jersey and Delaware. Sir Edmund's colonization attempt failed, and the palatinate, which was to have been called New Albion, never materialized. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: planter. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, St. Mary's County, 1777-1778, 1780-1781, 1781-1782, 1783, 1784, 1792, 1797. LOCAL OFFICES: Maryland Senate elector, St. Mary's County, elected 1786, 1791, 1796, and 1801; justice, St. Mary's County, 1787-at least 1796; justice, Orphans' Court, St. Mary's County, 1791-1804. MILITARY SERVICE: captain, Upper Battalion, St. Mary's County Militia, by 1776. OUT OF STATE SERVICE: presidential elector, 1800. WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. PERSONAL PROPERTY: 64 slaves, 1790; assessed value £1,619.9.10, including 47 slaves and 130 oz. plate, 1793, 1794, and 1796; assessed value £2,345.11.3, including 64 slaves and 295 oz. plate, 1801. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: 1,387 acres in St. Mary's County (inherited from uncle). SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH: acquired by purchase and inheritance 1,161 acres in St. Mary's County and 11 lots in Washington, D.C., 1796-1804; sold 233 acres in St. Mary's County, 1785-1803. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: on April 20, 1804, in St. Mary's County. PERSONAL PROPERTY: TEV, £10,766.17.6 current money (including 58 slaves, books, Columbia Bank Stock, and Eastern Branch Bridge Stock); FB, £6,746.16.3. LAND: 2,315 acres in St. Mary's County and 11 lots in Washington, D.C.

POLK, GILLIS (?-1793). BORN: in Somerset County. NATIVE: fourth generation. RESIDED: in Wicomico Hundred, Somerset County, 1783. FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: David Polk (ca. 1705-1778), Gent., a planter of Somerset County. MOTHER: Elizabeth Gillis. BROTHERS: *Josiah Polk* (?-1784); *William Polk* (1752-1812); and James (?-1795), who married Nancy (last name unknown), who subsequently married *William Morris* (?-ca. 1799). SISTER: Sinah (?-by 1807), who married Esme Bayly (?-1801). FIRST COUSINS: *John Williams* (1739-1797); *William Strawbridge* (?-by 1796). NIECE: Patience Bayly, who married *John Done* (ca. 1747-1831). MARRIED Hannah (last name unknown). CHILDREN. SONS: Gillis Wash-

ington Morris Rounds (?-by 1806), who in 1801 married Hetty Sitler of Baltimore; Josiah. DAUGHTERS: Nancy; Elizabeth; Sarah; and Cata (Caty). PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: literate; his elder brother *Josiah Polk* (?-1784) helped pay for his education; provided money in his will for the education of his sons, 1784. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Presbyterian, Manokin Presbyterian Church, Somerset County. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: owned a gristmill, sawmill, and bolting mill in partnership with his brother *Josiah Polk* (?-1784) and *Littleton Dennis* (ca. 1728-1774). The mills were located just north of Salisbury on the main branch of the Wicomico River. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Somerset County, 1782-1783 (elected, but did not attend), 1783, 1786-1787, 1787-1788, 1788. LOCAL OFFICES: justice, Somerset County, 1777-1791; commissioner of the tax, Somerset County, appointed 1781, 1782; trustee, Washington Academy, Somerset County, 1785-1793; justice, Orphans' Court, Somerset County, 1786-1791 (associate justice, 1791); elder, Manokin Presbyterian Church, 1789-1793. MILITARY SERVICE: 1st lieutenant, Black Water Company of the Salisbury Battalion of Militia, Somerset County, 1777; captain, Black Water Company of the Salisbury Battalion of Militia, Somerset County, 1781. STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES: subscriber to Washington College, 1783. WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. PERSONAL PROPERTY: assessed value £356.0.0, including 5 slaves, 1783. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: at least 430 acres in Somerset County (150 acres by purchase, at least 210 acres by deed of gift from his father in 1776, and ca. 70 acres held in partnership with his brother Josiah and *Littleton Dennis* (ca. 1728-1774). SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH: added at least 570 acres to his holdings in Somerset County through patent and inheritance, 1783-1784. Upon the death of his brother *Josiah Polk* (?-1784) he received Josiah's share of the mills and surrounding lands. In 1790 he took out a warrant to resurvey a large portion of his property, and a patent for 821 acres in Somerset County was issued to his wife Hannah in 1806. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: between August 9 and September 25, 1793, in Somerset County. PERSONAL PROPERTY: size of estate unknown. LAND: ca. 1,000 acres in Somerset County.

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