

trolled for his son also came through this marriage; 50 acres, plus 2 lots, by purchase). **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH:** acquired approximately 3,850 additional acres in Dorchester County. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** **DIED:** on February 5, 1782, in Dorchester County; buried at "Weston," near Vienna, Dorchester County, but remains were later removed to Christ Church Graveyard, Cambridge, Dorchester County. **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** under his widow's name, assessed value £4,788.15.0, including 86 slaves and 345 oz. plate, 1783. **LAND:** under his widow's name, 8,697 acres in Dorchester County, plus one-half of 2 lots in Vienna, Dorchester County, 1783; this total included the lands controlled for their son *James Steele* (ca. 1760–1816).

**STEELE (STEEL, STEELL), JAMES** (1760–1816). **BORN:** March 16, 1760, in Dorchester County; eldest son. **NATIVE:** second generation. **RESIDED:** at "Weston," near Vienna, Dorchester County; Cambridge, Dorchester County, by 1813; Annapolis, Anne Arundel County, at death. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** **FATHER:** *Henry Steele* (ca. 1715–1782). **MOTHER:** Ann Billings. **BROTHERS:** Peter (1762–?); John (1765–?); Charles (1767–?); Isaac (1769–1806); and Henry (1772–?). **SISTER:** (first name unknown) (ca. 1758–1768). **MARRIED** in 1789 Mary, daughter of John Rider Nevett (ca. 1747–1772), who drowned at age 25, and wife Sarah Maynadier (1751–1837). Mary was the stepdaughter of Dr. James Murray (ca. 1741–1819). She was the granddaughter of both Thomas Nevett and wife Sarah Rider and Rev. Daniel Maynadier (?–1772), rector of Great Choptank Parish, Dorchester County, and wife Mary Murray (1729–?). She was the niece of *William Maynadier* (1747–1795). **CHILDREN.** **SONS:** James Billings (?–1861), who married first, Milcah (ca. 1791–1836), and second, in 1839, Sarah Y. Goldsborough (1815–1888); John Rider Nevett (1796–1853), a member of the Maryland General Assembly, 1822–1824, 1829, 1830, and a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, 1834–1837, who married in 1819 Ann Ogle (?–1839), daughter of Hon. Thomas Buchanan; Dr. Charles Hutchins, of West River, Anne Arundel County; Henry Maynadier (1798–?), who married Maria Lloyd, daughter of Francis Scott Key; and Isaac Nevett, of Baltimore, a lawyer. **DAUGHTERS:** Mary Nevett (1789–1873), who married John Campbell Henry (1787–1857), son of *John Henry, Jr.* (ca. 1750–1798); Ann Billings, who married Arthur Upshur; Cath-

erine Sarah Maria; Sarah; and Isabella Elizabeth (?–1825). **PRIVATE CAREER.** **EDUCATION:** literate. **RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION:** Anglican, Great Choptank Parish, Dorchester County. **SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES:** Gent., by 1784; Esq., by 1792; subscribed £15.0.0 to Washington College, date unknown. **OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE:** probably planter. **PUBLIC CAREER.** **LEGISLATIVE SERVICE:** Lower House, Dorchester County, 1784, 1786–1787, 1787–1788, 1788, 1789, 1790, 1795. **LOCAL OFFICES:** justice, Dorchester County, in office ca. 1784–1788, 1798—at least 1800; justice, Orphans' Court, Dorchester County, appointed 1785 (declined); trustee of the poor, Dorchester County, in office ca. 1785; Great Choptank Parish Vestry, elected 1793, 1799, 1801, and 1804; commissioner for building a new jail in Cambridge, Dorchester County, in office 1801; trustee to manage school in Cambridge, Dorchester County, in office 1810. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** at least 2,227 acres in Dorchester County, plus probably controlled 6,470 additional acres in Dorchester County as heir-at-law of his father (2,227 acres by deed of trust from parents in 1761, but the land remained under the control of his father and after his father's death was listed under his mother's name in 1783; James probably acquired control of the land at about the time of his first election when he would have been approximately 23 years old). **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH:** purchased at least 1,637 acres in Dorchester and Somerset counties, and several lots in the towns of Cambridge and Vienna, Dorchester County, plus 2 lots on College Avenue (between Prince George's and King George Street), Annapolis; sold 1,768 acres in Dorchester County, 1784–1816; 2,504 acres in Dorchester County acquired through his marriage in 1789 placed in trust for four of his children, 1813, but probably continued to control it until his death. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** **DIED:** on September 21, 1816, at Boonsboro, Washington County, on his return from the springs; he had long been afflicted with a painful illness; buried in St. Anne's Cemetery, Annapolis. **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** size of estate unknown. **LAND:** approximately 8,213 acres in Dorchester and Somerset counties, including lots in Cambridge, Dorchester County, plus one-half of 2 lots in Vienna, Dorchester County, plus 2 lots in Annapolis (this total includes most of the land owned by James's father, which James would have inherited as the eldest son; unknown what portion, if any, went to his brothers); also probably con-