

**TAYLOR, JOHN** (1736–?). BORN: on September 24, 1736, in St. John's Parish, Baltimore County; second son. NATIVE: at least second generation. RESIDED: on "Clarkson's (Claxon's) Purchase," Gunpowder Upper Hundred, Harford (originally part of Baltimore) County. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** FATHER: John Taylor (?–1745) of Baltimore County. STEPFATHER: after 1747, Joshua Hardisty. MOTHER: Keziah, daughter of Charles Simmons (?–1738) of Baltimore County and wife Hannah. BROTHERS: Charles (1730–?); Thomas (1739–?). SISTERS: Hannah (1733/34–?); Elizabeth. MARRIED on October 18, 1757, Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Norris (?–1763) of Baltimore County and wife Hannah. Her brothers were Joseph; Daniel; Edward; James; John; Thomas; and Aquila. Her sisters were Sarah, who married (first name unknown) Treadway; Hannah, who married (first name unknown) Fulton; Susanna; and Mary. **CHILDREN.** SONS: at least one, John, Jr. (1759–1783). DAUGHTERS: at least one, Susanna (1758–?), who married in 1785 Daniel Smithson. **PRIVATE CAREER.** EDUCATION: literate. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Gent., by 1772; Esq., by 1780. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: partner in a mercantile firm with Archibald Buchanan and John Cowan prior to 1791; also in business with Edward Taylor (?–ca. 1787); farmer, 1791. **PUBLIC CAREER.** LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Harford County, 1779–1780 (discharged on November 10, 1779, because he had been serving as sheriff of Harford County at the time of his election; reelected to the 2nd session of the 1779–1780 Assembly, but again discharged for being the tax collector of Harford County; subsequently reelected and seated on April 25, 1780), 1780–1781, 1781–1782 (Elections 2), 1782–1783, 1783 (elected, but did not attend). LOCAL OFFICE: sheriff, Harford County, by 1777–1779. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** PERSONAL PROPERTY: assessed value £643.16.8, including 7 slaves and 2 oz. plate, 1783; real and personal property assessed at £1,350.0.0, 1785; owned 1 slave and 1 servant, 1791. **ADDITIONAL COMMENT:** As sheriff of Harford County, Taylor found it impossible to collect state taxes due and was granted relief by the General Assembly for the uncollected balance, 1779. By 1785 Taylor owed over £430.0.0 to his creditors and was forced to mortgage 300 acres of land in Harford County to the Annapolis firm of Wallace, Johnson & Muir. Wallace, Johnson & Muir foreclosed on the property in 1790. In 1791 Taylor was an insolvent debtor, and in order to pay off a debt owed to *Richard Dallam* (1743–1820) since

1786, he conveyed to a trustee his remaining land plus 1 slave, 1 servant, and debts due him from his business partnerships. **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** probably ca. 300 acres in Harford County (ca. 120 acres inherited from father, remainder by purchase). **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH:** In 1783 Taylor was assessed for three tracts in Harford County: a 20-acre tract, his ca. 300-acre home plantation, and 196 acres, which apparently had not actually been conveyed to him but which he had probably agreed to buy and on which he was paying taxes. Taylor mortgaged his 300-acre home plantation in 1785, but defaulted on the mortgage in 1790. The following year he conveyed the rest of his land, which he described as a 19-acre tract and a lot and house in Bel Air, Harford County, to a trustee to be sold under the Act for Insolvent Debtors to pay his creditors. Under a lease arrangement with Wallace, Johnson & Muir, Taylor remained as a tenant on his home plantation until at least 1795, when the owners cited him in court for illegally cutting timber and "committing waste." **WEALTH AT DEATH.** DIED: after 1795. **LAND:** none.

**TAYLOR, PETER** (1680–ca. 1747/48). BORN: in 1680, in Dorchester County; youngest son. NATIVE: third generation. RESIDED: Dorchester County. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** FATHER: Thomas Taylor (ca. 1643–1696), Gent., who served as sheriff of Dorchester County in 1669, quorum justice by 1679, captain, and major, by 1680; son of Capt. Philip Taylor (ca. 1610–ca. 1649) and wife Jane (?–ca. 1659), stepson of *William Eltonhead* (ca. 1616–1655). MOTHER: Frances. BROTHERS: *John Taylor* (1662–ca. 1705/6); Philip (?–1706); and Thomas. SISTERS: Frances; Mary; and Aloyance (Aloysia). MARRIED by 1717 Mary, widow of Owen Sullivan (Sulivane) (?–1708/9). **CHILDREN.** SON: Peter (?–1741), who married Sarah. STEPSONS: *Daniel Sulivane* (ca. 1708–by 1783); Owen Sulivane; and John Sulivane. DAUGHTERS: Mary; and Frances. STEPDAUGHTER: Elizabeth Sulivane. **PRIVATE CAREER.** EDUCATION: literate. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Protestant. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Gent., by 1703; almost continuous representation of Dorchester County for 19 years. In 1739, Taylor was admonished by the Committee of Aggrievances for "Illegal, Injurious, Cruel and oppressive" behavior while he was sheriff. Both Taylor and John Mackall, his under sheriff, were ordered to pay charges arising from the inquiry and were to be held in custody of the sergeant at arms until the fines were paid.