

in 1658. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** DIED: in 1666; size of estate unknown.

**BERRY, WILLIAM** (ca. 1636–1691). BORN: ca. 1636, possibly in Virginia; first son. IMMIGRATED: in 1652/53 as a minor with his family from Virginia. RESIDED: in Calvert County; Talbot County at the time of his death. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** FATHER: *James Berry* (?–1666). MOTHER: Elizabeth. BROTHER: Roger. SISTER: Martha. MARRIED first, Naomi (?–1663), daughter of *Richard Preston* (?–ca. 1669/70). Her brothers were Richard (?–by 1669); James, and Samuel. Her sisters were Margaret; Rebecca; and Sarah, who married *William Ford* (?–1678/79). MARRIED second, in 1669 Margaret (?–1688), widow of Richard Preston (?–by 1669); daughter of *Thomas Marsh* (ca. 1615–1656/57). Her brother was *Thomas Marsh* (ca. 1643–1679). Her sisters were Elizabeth (?–1684); Sarah (?–1688). **CHILDREN.** SONS: William (?–1693), of Pennsylvania, who married first, Nancy, and second, by 1691 Mary; James, who married first, in 1686 Sarah Wilchurch, and second, in 1691 Elizabeth Pitt; and Thomas (1678–?), who married in 1699 Sarah Godard. STEPSON: Samuel Preston. DAUGHTER: Rebecca, who married in 1686 James Ridley. **PRIVATE CAREER.** EDUCATION: literate. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Quaker. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: second generation burgess; Mr., by 1657. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: planter. **PUBLIC CAREER.** LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Calvert County, 1674–1674/75 (elected to the 3rd session; Laws 3, 4). LOCAL OFFICE: justice, Calvert County, 1669/70. STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES: very active in 1674, 1676, and 1681, in petitioning the Assembly to exempt Quakers from having to take oaths. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: over 500 acres. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** DIED: will probated on May 16, 1691. **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** at least 2 black servants. LAND: ca. 2,000 acres.

**BESSON, THOMAS** (ca. 1617–1679). BORN: ca. 1617 in England. IMMIGRATED: in 1649 as a free adult with his family from Virginia. **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** transported to Virginia in 1638 by Robert Freeman, a merchant. RESIDED: in Anne Arundel County. MARRIED Hester, widow of Henry Caplin. She subsequently married by 1680 Thomas Sutton. **CHILDREN.** SONS: Thomas; William; and John. DAUGHTERS: Anne, who married *Nicholas Gassaway* (1634–1691/92); Martha. **PRIVATE CAREER.** EDUCATION: literate. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Protestant, probably a Puritan. SO-

CIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: no title on arrival in Maryland. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: planter. **PUBLIC CAREER.** LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Assembly, Providence (Anne Arundel County), 1657; Lower House, Anne Arundel County, 1666. LOCAL OFFICE: justice, Anne Arundel County, 1658–1668. MILITARY SERVICE: captain, 1661. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: 800 acres in 1658. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** DIED: will probated on April 29, 1679. **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** TEV, £80.18.0 sterling; FB, £43.8.0. LAND: 3 tracts of unspecified acreage.

**BIGGER, JOHN** (ca. 1654–1714). BORN: ca. 1654, certainly by 1657, in Calvert County. NATIVE: second generation. RESIDED: in Calvert County. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** FATHER: John Bigger (ca. 1634–ca. 1673), who immigrated in 1652 as an indentured servant and became a planter with over 3,000 acres. MOTHER: Ann, who subsequently married James Rumsey. BROTHER: James Bigger. SISTER: Mary, who married James Stockley (?–1676), son of *Woodman Stockley* (?–ca. 1663). MARRIED Ann, daughter of Dr. James Trueman and wife Ann Storer; niece of *Thomas Trueman* (ca. 1625–1685). Her stepbrother was *Robert Skinner* (?–1713). Her half brothers were Clark Skinner; William Skinner; and *Adderton Skinner* (ca. 1677–1756). Her sisters were Mary, who married *Thomas Hollyday* (ca. 1661–1702/3); Martha, who married *Thomas Greenfield* (ca. 1649–1715); and Elizabeth. Her stepsister or half sister was Mary Skinner. **CHILDREN.** DAUGHTER: Ann, who married first, William Head, and second, James Gibson. **PRIVATE CAREER.** EDUCATION: literate. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Protestant. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: closely related by marriage to the powerful Skinner, Greenfield, and Hollyday families. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: planter. **PUBLIC CAREER.** LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Calvert County, 1692–1693. OTHER PROVINCIAL OFFICE: justice, Provincial Court, 1699–1702. LOCAL OFFICES: justice, Calvert County, 1692–1699, 1705–1706 (quorum); trustee, King William's School, 1696. MILITARY SERVICE: captain, 1690–1694; major, 1694–1695; lieutenant colonel, 1695–1700; colonel, 1700–still serving in 1707. STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES: an active supporter of the revolution of 1689, which brought him his first political offices. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: at least 1,450 acres. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** DIED: will probated in November 1714. **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** TEV, £1,584.8.3 sterling (including 32