

**COURSEY, HENRY** (ca. 1629–1695). BORN: ca. 1629, probably in Ireland. IMMIGRATED: in 1649 as a free adult with his brothers from Virginia. RESIDED: briefly in St. Mary's County; Calvert County, by 1651; the Eastern Shore by the late 1650s. FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: Henry Coursey. BROTHERS: John (?–1661), the sheriff of Kent County in 1657; *William Coursey* (?–1685); and James, of Lincoln's Inn, Middlesex, England. SISTERS: Jane; Catherine; Ann, who married Tristram Thomas; and Juliana, who married John Russell (?–1660). MARRIED first, in 1658 Mary, widow of Richard Harris (?–1657). MARRIED second, Elizabeth (?–1702), widow of Simon Carpenter (?–1670). CHILDREN. SONS: Thomas (?–1700/1), who married in 1699 Ann Harris; *Henry Coursey* (1662–1707), who married Elizabeth (?–1728), daughter of Elizabeth Desmyniers, of Dublin, Ireland; James (?–1714); and John (?–1713), who married Mary, daughter of Michael Turbutt. DAUGHTER: Jane (?–1696). STEPDAUGHTERS: Ann (?–ca. 1709), who married Michael Earle (?–1709); Mary, who married John Lillingston (?–1709). PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: literate; probably well educated; had clerical skills. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Protestant. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Mr. on arrival; Gent., by 1658; Esq., by 1660; protégé of *Philip Calvert* (1626–1682), who first appointed Coursey to provincial office and defended him against attacks from the governor and the proprietor. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: placeman; attorney, 1651; planter. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Upper House, 1661, 1662 (excused from attendance), 1663–1664, 1666, 1669 (Aggrievances), 1678–1682 (appointed before the 2nd session, but first sat at the 3rd session; Accounts 3), 1682–1684, special writ 1686 (speaker); Lower House, Talbot County, 1694–1695 (died before the 4th session). OTHER PROVINCIAL OFFICES: clerk, Secretary's Office, by 1652–1656/57; clerk, Council, by 1654–1659/60; secretary and judge of Probate, 1660–1661; Council, 1660–1670, 1676–1684 (president, 1682–1684); justice, Provincial Court, 1660–1670, 1676–1689 (chief justice, 1683–1689); surveyor and comptroller general, 1673–prior to June 23, 1680; agent to New York on Indian affairs, 1678, 1681. LOCAL OFFICE: justice, Calvert County, 1658. MILITARY SERVICE: colonel, by 1677–1689; commander of foot, Cecil and Kent counties, 1681. STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES: a leading provincial figure in matters relating to Indian affairs, he negotiated many treaties with area Indians. Although he rendered valuable service to the Calverts, Coursey was never well-liked by *Charles Calvert, 3rd Lord*

*Baltimore* (1637–1714/15), who often removed Coursey from office to make room for other favorites and who omitted Coursey from the Council in 1684. Calvert later chastized his councilors for their favoritism to Coursey, especially for having him sit as speaker of the Upper House in 1686. Nevertheless, when Catholicism excluded most of the proprietary circle from eligibility for office after 1689, Calvert recommended Coursey to become governor in 1690. Coursey was called a Jacobite in 1692. WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: ca. 2,100 acres. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: by October 3, 1695. PERSONAL PROPERTY: TEV, £1,667.17.1 sterling (including 15 slaves and 1 servant). LAND: ca. 3,225 acres.

**COURSEY, HENRY** (1662–1707). BORN: on May 24, 1662, on the Eastern Shore; probably a second son. RESIDED: in Talbot County. FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: *Henry Coursey* (ca. 1629–1695). MOTHER: Mary Harris. UNCLE: *William Coursey* (?–1685). BROTHERS: Thomas (?–1700/1); James (?–1714); and John (?–1713). SISTER: Jane (?–1696). STEPSISTERS: Ann (?–ca. 1709); Mary. FIRST COUSIN: *William Coursey* (?–ca. 1717/18). MARRIED Elizabeth (?–1729), daughter of Elizabeth Desmyniers, of Dublin, Ireland. CHILDREN. SONS: Henry (1693–?); Otho; and William (1703–1769), who married Rachel, daughter of *Solomon Clayton* (1685–1739). DAUGHTERS: Araminta; Elizabeth, who married *William Cumming* (ca. 1696–1752); Juliana; and Mary. PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: literate; probably educated in England. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Protestant. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: second generation burgess; Gent. on coming of age in 1682. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: agent of Robert Morris, a mason and mariner of Middlesex, England, 1682; attorney; merchant. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Talbot County, 1704–1706 (Laws 2; died before the 5th session). LOCAL OFFICE: justice, Talbot County, 1685–1689. STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES: refused to serve under the Protestant Associators' government, 1689; testified in England on behalf of Lord Baltimore against the rebels, 1690; recommended for appointment to the Council, 1707. WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: probably at least 1,675 acres inherited from his father. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: by May 29, 1707. PERSONAL PROPERTY: TEV, £392.7.0 sterling (including 2 slaves and law and medical books).