

not qualify); committee of observation to watch for British warships, Calvert County, 1780; Christ Church Parish Vestry, 1781–1782. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** assessed value £1,445.3.4, including 35 slaves and 100 oz. plate, 1783. **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** 394 acres in Calvert County. **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH:** acquired more than 653 acres in Calvert and Talbot counties by 1785. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** **DIED:** after 1785, possibly in Talbot County; size of estate unknown.

HANDS, THOMAS BEDINGFIELD (?–1811). **BORN:** in Kent County, of age by 1767; only son. **NATIVE:** at least second generation. **RESIDED:** in Chestertown, Kent County. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** **FATHER:** Thomas Bedingfield Hands (?–1769), of Kent County, who was treasurer of the Eastern Shore and justice of the Provincial Court. **MOTHER:** Sarah (1721–1754), daughter of Alexander McGahon. **SISTERS:** Margaret (1745–1794), who married *Thomas Smyth* (1730–1819); Elizabeth, who married on February 16, 1796, (name unknown). **MARRIED** first, by July 1780 Mary. **MARRIED** second, in 1801 Mary Jackson, of Chestertown, Kent County. **CHILDREN.** **SONS:** Bedingfield (?–1821), who married Catherine (1782–1849). Catherine subsequently married Richard Ringgold; Alexander. **DAUGHTER:** Sarah, who married William Barroll. **PRIVATE CAREER.** **EDUCATION:** studied law. **RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION:** Anglican, Chestertown Church, Kent County. **SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES:** Gent., 1767. **OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE:** lawyer, admitted to the following courts: Annapolis Mayor's Court in April 1765; Queen Anne's County in June 1765; Baltimore County in August 1765; Kent County by March 1766; Provincial Court in May 1767; Cecil County by March 1771. **PUBLIC CAREER.** **LEGISLATIVE SERVICE:** Conventions, Kent County, 4th, 1775, 5th, 1775; Senate, Eastern Shore, Term of 1776–1781: 1777 (elected on February 15, 1777, to fill vacancy; probably declined to serve, but date unknown). **OTHER STATE OFFICE:** Councils of Safety, Eastern Shore, 2nd, 1776, 3rd, 1776, 4th, 1776 (declined). **LOCAL OFFICES:** Chester Parish Vestry, Kent County, in office 1800–1811; visitor, Kent County Free School, in office 1801. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** assessed value £1,337.10.0, including 27 slaves and 378 oz. plate, 1783; assessed value \$9,099.00 (combined real and personal property), 1804–1811. **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** 400 acres in Kent County (inherited from his father), plus 2 water lots and 1 land

lot in Chestertown, Kent County. **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH:** purchased 520 acres in Kent County, plus 4 lots in Chestertown, Kent County, 1777–1798. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** **DIED:** ca. June 1811. **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** requested no appraisal of his estate. **LAND:** probably 1,000 acres in Kent County, plus 2 lots in Chestertown, Kent County.

HANDY, BENJAMIN (?–ca. 1763). **BORN:** probably in Somerset County, a minor in 1735; possibly eldest son. **NATIVE:** third generation. **RESIDED:** in Somerset County; Worcester County, by 1748/49. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** **FATHER:** Ebenezer Handy (?–ca. 1735/36), son of Samuel Handy (?–1721) and wife Mary Sewell. **MOTHER OR STEPMOTHER:** Betty. **UNCLE AND GUARDIAN:** *Isaac Handy* (?–1762). **BROTHERS:** John; Robert. **SISTERS:** Mary Elizabeth; Mary. **OTHER KINSHIP:** his first cousin was *John Handy* (ca. 1724–1756). **MARRIED** first, his first cousin Priscilla (?–by 1748/49), daughter of John Handy, Gent. (1695–1745) and wife Jane Dashiell (1698–?); stepdaughter of Thomas Gillis; granddaughter of *Thomas Dashiell* (1666–ca. 1756). Her brothers were *John Handy* (ca. 1724–1756); Charles, of Newport, Rhode Island, 1755; Samuel (?–by 1760), who married Sarah; and Levin. Her sisters were Easter (ca. 1720–1748), who married first, Robert Dashiell (?–1744/45), son of George Dashiell (?–1733/34), and second, Day Scott (1746–by 1773); Ann (?–by 1761); and Mary (1740–1766), who married William Geddes, Esq. Her first cousins were *Thomas Dashiell* (1733–1771); *Joseph Dashiell* (1736–ca. 1787); and *George Dashiell* (1743–?); and *John Dashiell* (ca. 1740–1817), a possible legislator. Her other relatives included her grandfather *James Dashiell* (ca. 1634–1697). **MARRIED** second, by 1756 Elizabeth. **CHILDREN.** **SON:** John. **PRIVATE CAREER.** **EDUCATION:** literate. **RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION:** Protestant. **SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES:** Gent., 1748/49. **OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE:** planter, 1751; owned a sawmill in partnership with Thomas and George Martin, 1763. **PUBLIC CAREER.** **LEGISLATIVE SERVICE:** Lower House, Worcester County, 1756–1757 (elected to the 4th session to fill vacancy), 1757–1758 (Arms and Ammunition 2), 1758 (appointed sheriff before the 1st session). **LOCAL OFFICES:** justice, Worcester County, ca. 1747–1763 (quorum, 1754–1763); sheriff, Worcester County, 1758–1761; collector of the excise tax, Worcester County, in office 1758; collector of the land tax, Worcester County, in office 1759. **MILITARY SERVICE:** captain, by 1756; major, by 1758. **WEALTH DURING**