

**JOHNS, RICHARD** (1649–1717). BORN: in 1649, probably in either Wales or Bristol, England. IMMIGRATED: in 1669, as a free adult. RESIDED: at “Angelica,” Calvert County. MARRIED in 1676 Elizabeth (?–1715/16), widow of Thomas Sparrow (?–1674), daughter of Hugh Kensey and wife Margaret. CHILDREN. SONS: Abraham (1677–1707), who married Margaret (?–1733), daughter of *Francis Hutchins* (?–1698); Aquila (1679–1682); Aquila (1684/85–1709/10), who married in 1704, Mary Hosier (?–1762); Richard (1687–1719), who married Priscilla (1690–?), daughter of *Francis Hutchins* (?–1698); Kensey (1689–1729), who married Elizabeth Chew (?–1726/27); and Isaac (1692–1733/34), who married first, Ann Galloway (?–1728), and second, Elizabeth. DAUGHTERS: Priscilla (1681/82–1725), who married Robert Roberts (?–1750); Margaret (1683–1749/50), who married Gerard Hopkins; and Elizabeth (1694–?), who married Henry Troth. PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: literate. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Quaker; convinced by George Fox in 1671; leading figure in the Quaker community on the Western Shore; corresponded frequently with Friends in England; visited England in 1697 to lobby against the establishment of the Anglican church in Maryland. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: planter; merchant. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Calvert County, 1694 (dismissed from the 1st session of the 1694–1697 Assembly because, as a Quaker, he was unable to subscribe to the required oaths). STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES: refused to take sides during the Revolution of 1689 when the Associators appealed to him to quell the opposition in Calvert and Anne Arundel counties; strongly opposed establishment of the Anglican church in Maryland. WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: at least 1,387 acres in Calvert and Baltimore counties (patented in 1678 and 1685); acquired additional land by purchase; gave 1,412 acres to sons and son-in-law before his death. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: on December 16, 1717, in Calvert County. PERSONAL PROPERTY: TEV, at least £2,147.12.11 (including 44 slaves, plate valued at £45.1.6, books). LAND: 2,361 acres in Calvert and Talbot counties.

**JOHNS, RICHARD** (1748–1796). BORN: on November 14, 1748, in Calvert County; youngest son. NATIVE: fourth generation. RESIDED: in Calvert County; Talbot County by 1771 (lived in District 2 by 1783). FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: Benjamin Johns (1713/14–1750) of Calvert County,

son of Kensey Johns (1689–1729) and wife Elizabeth Chew (?–1726/27). MOTHER: Rachel (1723–1748), daughter of George Harris (?–1738) of Calvert County and wife Anna (?–1737/38). BROTHERS: Kensey (1744–?); Benjamin (1746–1791), a Talbot County cabinetmaker. FIRST COUSIN: Elizabeth Johns, who married *James Tilghman* (1743–1809). OTHER KINSHIP: Richard’s great-grandfather was *Richard Johns* (1649–1717). MARRIED first, by 1773, Mary, daughter of Peter Comerford (?–1773) of Talbot County. Her brothers were Henry; Thomas. Her sisters were Rebecca, who married John Sherwood; Sarah, who married (first name unknown) Loveday; and Lucretia. MARRIED second, Margaret (?–by 1806). CHILDREN. SON: Benjamin Franklin (1778–1797), who left Maryland for Kentucky a few months before his death. PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: literate. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Birthright Quaker; both his mother’s and father’s families were members of the Clifts Monthly Meeting, Calvert County. Richard, however, swore the oath of fidelity in 1778 and apparently allied himself with the Anglicans of Talbot County. There is no indication of his affiliation with the Quakers as an adult. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Esq., by 1771. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: planter, merchant; co-owner with Edward Parkinson of a 30-ton sloop, 1786. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Talbot County, 1779–1780 (resigned during the 3rd session). LOCAL OFFICES: justice, Talbot County, 1777—at least 1780, 1782–1789, 1795; justice, Orphans’ Court, Talbot County, 1779—at least 1780, 1782–1789; agent to purchase provisions, Talbot County, appointed March 1779; St. Peter’s Parish Vestry, Talbot County, elected 1782, 1783; sheriff, Talbot County, 1791–1794. MILITARY SERVICE: 1st lieutenant, Hand in Hand Company, 4th Battalion, Talbot County Militia, commissioned April 9, 1778; captain, 4th Battalion, Talbot County Militia, commissioned November 4, 1782. WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. PERSONAL PROPERTY: assessed value £733.5.0, including 17 slaves and 21 oz. plate, 1783; 19 slaves, 1790. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: probably 250 acres in Talbot County (one-half of a 500-acre tract purchased with Howell Powell in 1771; by first election probably had sold all of the 848 acres in Calvert County that he had inherited from his father). SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH: purchased 69 acres in 1783, 149 acres in 1787, and 180 acres by 1796, all in Talbot County; mortgaged ca. 200 acres in Talbot County, 1789.