

Hamutal's heir in exchange for the fee simple title to 296 acres in Anne Arundel County to which he added 123 acres adjoining and resurveyed the whole into a 332-acre tract for a net loss of 72 acres, 1800–1802; sold 1 lot in Easton to son John Leeds in 1803, and 2 lots in Easton to son David in 1804; acquired 168 acres in Talbot County by 1804 (title conveyed in 1812); sold 1 lot near Easton in 1806, and 2 more lots in Easton in 1808; received unspecified amount of land in Talbot County in settlement of a suit, 1812, and sold it shortly before his death in 1814 to son John Leeds. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** **DIED:** on Wednesday, November 2, 1814, at his home in Easton. **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** TEV, at least \$13,840.04 (including 64 slaves, 192 oz. plate, and books). **LAND:** 500 acres in his own name in Anne Arundel and Talbot counties, plus at least 2 lots in Easton.

**KEY, EDMUND (?–1766).** **BORN:** probably in St. Mary's County; younger son. **NATIVE:** second generation. **RESIDED:** in St. Mary's County; in Annapolis, Anne Arundel County, on lots 45 and 46 on Church St., by 1759. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** **FATHER:** *Philip Key* (1696/97–1764). **MOTHER:** Susannah Gardiner. **STEPMOTHER:** Theodosia Lawrence Humphreys (?–1772). **BROTHERS:** Richard Ward (?–1765); *Thomas Key* (?–1772); Francis (ca. 1731/32–1770); Philip Barton (?–1756); and Dr. John (?–1755). **SISTER:** Susannah Gardiner (1742–1811), who married in 1761 *Normand Bruce* (?–1811). **NEPHEWS:** *Philip Key* (1750–1820); *John Ross Key* (1754–1821). **MARRIED** probably never. **CHILDREN.** In his will Key provided for the support of a female child until she reached the age of eight. He stated that the Widow Cumming of Annapolis “swore him to be the father.” **PRIVATE CAREER.** **EDUCATION:** Admitted to the Middle Temple on November 30, 1759, and to the Inner Temple on June 24, 1762. He also attended the law courts at Westminster. **RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION:** Protestant. His father was an Anglican and his mother was a Roman Catholic. **SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES:** Gent., by 1759; Esq., by 1766. **OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE:** lawyer, admitted to the following courts: Charles County by March 1756; Mayor's Court, Annapolis, February 1757; Provincial Court, September 1757; Chancery Court by December 1757; Prince George's County, August 1763; Frederick County, August 1763; Anne Arundel County by June 1764; Baltimore County by June 1765. **PUBLIC CAREER.** **LEGISLATIVE SERVICE:** Lower House, St. Mary's County, 1757–1758 (declared unduly elected and dismissed on Oc-

tober 12, 1757; reelected and qualified on November 19, 1757), 1758–1759 (resigned before the 2nd session of the 1758–1761 Assembly when he was reported “removed out of this Province”; Elections Cv 1, 1, Cv 2), 1762–1763 (Accounts 2; Public Offices 2), 1765 (died before the 3rd session of the 1765–1766 Assembly). **OTHER PROVINCIAL OFFICE:** attorney general, 1764–1766. **LOCAL OFFICES:** clerk of indictments, Baltimore County, in office by June 1765; recorder, Annapolis, in office in 1766. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** no evidence of land ownership. **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH:** acquired 1,036 acres in St. Mary's and Frederick counties, plus 2 lots on Church Street in Annapolis (by writ of seisin and inheritance), 1759–1764; probably sold 300 acres in St. Mary's County by 1766. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** **DIED:** on May 4, 1766, at Upper Marlborough, Prince George's County. **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** TEV, £1,808.11.5 current money (including law books); FB, estate overpaid £35.15.7 current money. **LAND:** at least 736 acres in Frederick County, plus 2 lots in Annapolis. **ADDITIONAL COMMENT:** Key named as his heirs his nephew Charles, son of *Normand Bruce* (?–1811), and his niece Elizabeth (1759–1832), daughter of Francis Key (ca. 1731–1770).

**KEY, JOHN ROSS (1754–1821).** **BORN:** on September 19, 1754, in Annapolis, Anne Arundel County; elder son. **NATIVE:** third generation. **RESIDED:** in Taney Town and Piney Creek hundreds, Frederick County. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** **FATHER:** Francis Key (ca. 1731/32–1770), the clerk of Cecil County from 1756 to 1770 and a member of St. Mary Ann Parish Vestry, Cecil County, from 1759 to 1762 and 1767 to 1770, who was the son of *Philip Key* (1696/97–1764). **MOTHER:** Ann Arnold (1727–1811), daughter of John Ross (?–1766), Esq., of Annapolis, and his wife Alicia Arnold. **UNCLES:** *Edmund Key* (?–1766); *Thomas Key* (?–1772). **AUNT:** Susannah Gardiner Key (1742–1811), who married *Normand Bruce* (?–1811). **BROTHER:** Philip Barton (1757–1815), a Loyalist, who was educated in England and entered the British Army after the Declaration of Independence. He obtained the rank of captain and served in Jamaica and in Florida, where he was taken prisoner. After his release on parole, Philip Barton went to England, but he returned to Maryland in 1785 and commenced the practice of law. He served as a delegate from Annapolis to the Maryland House of Delegates in 1794, 1795, 1796, 1797, 1798, and