

O'NEALE (O'NEAL, O'NEILL, O'NIEL), LAURENCE (1738–1815). BORN: in 1738, probably in Pennsylvania; eldest son. NATIVE: second generation. RESIDED: in Frederick Town, Frederick County, in 1765; Upper Potomac and Sugarland hundreds (2nd tax district), Montgomery County, from at least 1797 until 1815. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** FATHER: William O'Neale (?–1759), who probably immigrated from Pennsylvania to Prince George's County in 1744, later resided Frederick County, and was a planter. MOTHER: Elinor, daughter of Thomas Ball of Prince George's County, a tailor. BROTHERS: William, Jr.; John; Henry; and David. SISTERS: Joanna; Anna, who probably married by 1759 Samuel Middleton; Mary; Eleanor, who probably married by 1793 (first name unknown) West; and Elizabeth. **MARRIED** Henrietta, widow of Clement Brooke, Jr., daughter of Charles Neale (Neill) of Montgomery County and wife Mary. **CHILDREN.** SONS: Henry (?–1817), a minor in 1790, who never married; John (?–1818), a minor in 1790, who married Elizabeth Henrietta. DAUGHTERS: Mary Anne (?–1839), who never married; Eleanor, who married Francis Jamison (?–ca. 1823). **PRIVATE CAREER.** EDUCATION: literate. **RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION:** at least two of his children bequeathed money to the Roman Catholic church in their wills. **SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES:** Gent., by 1770; Esq., by 1773. **OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE:** planter. **PUBLIC CAREER.** LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Montgomery County, 1780–1781, 1781–1782, 1782–1783, 1783, 1784, 1785, 1786–1787, 1787–1788 (Grievances 2), 1788, 1789 (Grievances), 1790, 1791–1792, 1792, 1793, 1794, 1795, 1796. **ADDITIONAL COMMENT:** On December 20, 1794, the following resolution was introduced in the House: "Resolved, that Laurence O'Neale be expelled . . . and his seat as a delegate from Montgomery County declared to be and it is hereby vacated." On December 21, 1794, after a second reading, the resolution was voted down. A resolution of censure was then proposed and adopted, which stated "That the house do highly disapprove of the conduct of Laurence O'Neale, Esquire, as a member of this house, in entering an application at the land-office for a proclamation warrant to affect the land of John Hamilton, after a disclosure of the facts . . . by the petition of the said John Hamilton." Immediately prior to the first resolution the General Assembly reflected its opinion in a statement "that such conduct is a violation of the rights of the people, of this state, and the duty of a representative." **OTHER STATE**

OFFICE: Maryland Senate elector, Montgomery County, elected 1786, 1791. **LOCAL OFFICES:** collector, Frederick Town, 1765; surveyor, Frederick County, ca. 1765; sheriff, Frederick County, 1773, 1774; commissioner of the tax, Montgomery County, appointed December 29, 1779; militia recruiter, probably from Montgomery County, appointed June 25, 1781; justice, Montgomery County, 1787–1797; justice, Orphans' Court, Montgomery County, 1788. **STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES:** subscribed £300.0.0 to defray wartime campaign expenses, May 1781. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** assessed value £145.0.0, 1783; 20 slaves, 1790; assessed value £682.0.0, including 22 slaves, 1797; assessed value £652.0.0, including 24 slaves and 24 oz. plate, 1798; assessed value £680.18.4, including 28 slaves and 19 oz. plate, 1806; assessed value \$2,410.00, including 40 slaves and 25 oz. plate, 1813. **ANNUAL INCOME:** O'Neale served as security on the bond of James Hackman, who was appointed sheriff of Frederick County in 1772. In an agreement drawn up between the two, O'Neale agreed to manage and direct the office of sheriff during Hackman's term of office, including receiving and collecting all public and county levies and officers' fees, plus all money or tobacco payable to him as sheriff. Hackman also agreed to permit O'Neale to nominate deputies and sub-sheriffs and to receive all profits accrued from the office. O'Neale agreed to pay Hackman £100.0.0 for each year that Hackman held the office of sheriff. **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** 2,482 acres in Frederick and Washington counties. Extremely active in obtaining warrants for land from 1764 until nearly 1800. Held 499 acres in unpatented survey certificates in Frederick County not included in the above total. **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH:** purchased 2,584 acres in Montgomery County, plus 5 lots in Williamsburgh (later known as Rockville), Montgomery County, 1785–1809, 429 acres of which was confiscated British property. Also held unpatented survey certificates on 2,940 acres in Allegany, Montgomery, and Washington counties, 1789–1800. Sold 1,244 acres, mostly in Washington County, and a small amount in Allegany and Montgomery counties, between 1790 and 1811, plus 239 acres in adjoining tracts in Montgomery County in 1801 and 1807. Deeded 346 acres in Montgomery County as a gift to his daughter and son-in-law, 1810. The total acreage sold and deeded to others amounted to 1,829 acres, Washington, Allegany, and Montgomery coun-