

Kent County, a Quaker, son of William Richardson (1668–1744) and wife Margaret Smith (ca. 1673–1756), grandson of *William Richardson* (?–1698). **GUARDIAN:** his uncle Daniel Richardson (?–1756) of Anne Arundel County, a planter. **MOTHER:** Ann (?–ca. 1747), widow of David Thomas (?–ca. 1736). **BROTHER:** Thomas (1740–?) of Kent County, later Anne Arundel County, a planter. **SISTER:** Sarah (1738–?). **HALF SISTERS:** Mary Thomas, who married Daniel Mifflin; Johannah (Joanna) Thomas (1735–?), who married in 1753 South Mifflin of Swan Gutt, Accomack County, Virginia. **MARRIED** by 1779 Rebecca. **CHILDREN.** SON: Joseph. **DAUGHTERS:** Elizabeth, who married by 1808 Thomas Ennalls; Mary, who married by 1808 Daniel Sullivane; and Sophia, who married by 1808 William Washington Eccleston. **PRIVATE CAREER.** **EDUCATION:** literate. **RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION:** birth recorded in Cecil County Meeting (Quaker) register; Protestant. **SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES:** Gent., by 1766. **OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE:** probably planter; owned mill lands and a store on Hunting Creek, Dorchester County, in partnership with Col. John Eccleston, by 1785. **PUBLIC CAREER.** **LEGISLATIVE SERVICE:** Lower House, Dorchester County, 1771; Conventions, Dorchester County, 3rd, 1774, 4th, 1775. **LOCAL OFFICES:** justice, Dorchester County, 1773–1785; chairman, Committee of Observation, Dorchester County, in office 1776; collector of blankets, Great Choptank Hundred, Dorchester County, appointed on April 2, 1777, resigned on April 20, 1777, because of an injury received when he fell from a horse. **MILITARY SERVICE:** 2nd major, Upper Battalion, Dorchester County Militia, commissioned 1776; major, Upper Battalion, Dorchester County Militia, promoted 1778; called colonel at death. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** 12 slaves, St. James' Parish, Anne Arundel County, 1776; assessed value £1,598.0.0, including 39 slaves, Dorchester County, 1783. **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** 926 acres in Dorchester and Anne Arundel counties (141 acres inherited from uncle; 785 acres by purchase or patent). **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH:** purchased 138 acres in Dorchester County, 1772; sold 150 acres in Dorchester County, 1779; purchased with Edward Noel, Jr., and John Eccleston 114 acres in Dorchester County, 1785, and shortly thereafter Eccleston and Richardson bought out Noel's share; held 2,281 acres in Dorchester County for John Eccleston, 1783; may have inherited more land in Anne Arundel County from the estate of

his uncle, Daniel Richardson, after his aunt's death. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** **DIED:** in September 1786 in Dorchester County. **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** size of estate unknown. **LAND:** at least 928 acres in Dorchester and Anne Arundel counties, plus 114 acres in Dorchester County held in partnership with Col. John Eccleston. **IDENTIFICATION PROBLEMS.** A Josiah Richardson is recorded as having been present at the 3rd Convention in 1774 representing Dorchester County. However, research does not support the existence of a Josiah Richardson in Dorchester County and it is most likely that the service should be attributed to *Joseph Richardson* (1743–1786).

RICHARDSON, JOSIAH (?–?). **PUBLIC CAREER.** **LEGISLATIVE SERVICE:** 3rd Convention, Dorchester County, 1774. **IDENTIFICATION PROBLEMS.** Although a Josiah Richardson is recorded as having been present during the 3rd Convention as a representative from Dorchester County, research supports the likelihood that the service should be ascribed to *Joseph Richardson* (1743–1786). None of the records reveal the existence of a Josiah Richardson of Dorchester County during this time.

RICHARDSON, WILLIAM (?–1698). **BORN:** probably in England. **IMMIGRATED:** probably in 1655 as an indentured servant. **RESIDED:** on "Watkin's His Hope," West River Hundred, Anne Arundel County. **MARRIED** by 1668 Elizabeth (?–1703/4), widow of Richard Talbott (?–1663), daughter of *Richard Ewen* (?–1660). Elizabeth was the stepdaughter of *William Burgess* (ca. 1622–1686/87). Her brothers were Richard; John (?–1669). Her sisters were Ann; Sophia (?–1671); and Susanna (?–1664/65). **CHILDREN.** **SONS:** William (1668–1744), who married in 1689 Margaret Smith (ca. 1673–1756); Daniel (1670–1722), who married first, ca. 1691, Elizabeth Welsh (?–1712), and second, Ruth Ball Leeds (1677–1728); Joseph (1671–by 1678); and Joseph (1678–1748), who married in 1705 Sarah Thomas (1689–1724). **STEPSONS:** Edward Talbott (?–ca. 1691), who married Elizabeth Thomas, widow of William Coale; Richard Talbott; and John Talbott. **DAUGHTERS:** Sophia Elizabeth (1675–1678); Sophia (Sophiah, Sapphira) (1680–?), who married Thomas Sparrow; and Elizabeth (1680–?). **STEP-DAUGHTER:** Elizabeth Talbott. **PRIVATE CAREER.** **EDUCATION:** literate. **RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION:** Quaker; minister of West River Meeting, Anne Arundel County. **SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES:** probably transported as servant to *Richard Pres-*