

mittee of Observation, Talbot County, elected March 1775; justice, Orphans' Court, Talbot County, 1777; judge, Court of Appeals under the Act to Procure Troops, Talbot County, appointed May 1778; St. Peter's Parish Vestry, Talbot County, elected 1781, 1794; commissioner to establish the town of Easton, Talbot County, 1786; associate justice, Talbot County, appointed November 1792. STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES: one of four men who took livestock from Oxford, Talbot County, to governor *Robert Eden* (1741–1784) aboard the *H.M.S. Fowey* as Eden was leaving the province in June 1776. The men were called before the Convention in Annapolis to answer why they had defied its orders against communication with Eden on the *Fowey*, but they were absolved of guilt when it was found that they had not known of the restriction. WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. PERSONAL PROPERTY: assessed value £787.6.8, including 10 slaves and 56 oz. plate, 1783. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: probably ca. 450 acres in Talbot County (possibly 180 acres acquired through marriage, remainder by purchase). SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH: purchased 50 acres in Talbot County in 1779, but probably sold it by 1783; inherited ca. 300 acres in Talbot County from his father, 1782; acquired lots in Easton by his death. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: between December 6 and December 16, 1794, probably at "Kingston," his dwelling plantation in Talbot County. PERSONAL PROPERTY: TEV, £3,506.19.3 current money (including 19 slaves, at least 75 oz. plate, and books); FB, £2,828.5.7 current money. LAND: ca. 750 acres, plus a house and lots in Easton, all in Talbot County.

STEVENS (STEPHENS), ROBERTSON (ROBINSON) (by 1745–?). BORN: between December 1739 and 1745, in Queen Anne's County; elder and possibly only son. NATIVE: at least second generation. RESIDED: in Dorchester County by 1769; Cambridge, Dorchester County, by 1778. FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: Francis Stevens (Stephens, Stephe) of Queen Anne's County, a planter. STEPFATHER: (first name unknown) Hill. MOTHER: Isabella (Esobel, Isobell, Isoble) (?–by 1771), daughter of Patrick Robertson (?–1745) of Queen Anne's County, a planter, and wife Jane. SISTER: Christian (by 1745–?), who married by 1766 Robert Brody (Brodie). Possibly other siblings. MARRIED by 1779 Janet (Jennet). PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: literate. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Anglican. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES:

Gent., by 1775. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: planter; had a privateer during the Revolution. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Dorchester County, 1782–1783. LOCAL OFFICES: sheriff, Dorchester County, 1773–1776, 1777–1779; militia recruiter, Dorchester County, commissioned 1781; commissary of purchases, Dorchester County, in office 1782 and 1783; justice, Dorchester County, 1783—at least 1787; Great Choptank Parish Vestry, Dorchester County, 1788–1789. WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. PERSONAL PROPERTY: assessed value £555.16.8, including 12 slaves and 14 oz. plate, 1783. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: 706 acres in Dorchester and Caroline counties (100 acres inherited from grandfather, 86 acres inherited from father, 520 acres by purchase). SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH: resurveyed a Dorchester County tract he had owned at first election for a net gain of 20 acres, 1789; sold 186 acres in Caroline County, 1790. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: after 1790; size of estate unknown.

STEVENS (STEPHENS), WILLIAM (1630–1687). BORN: in 1630 in Buckinghamshire, England; eldest son. IMMIGRATED: by 1665 as a free adult from Northampton County, Virginia, where he had settled by 1664/65. RESIDED: at "Rehoboth," Pocomoke Hundred, Somerset County. FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: John Stevens of Llebourne, Buckinghamshire, England. BROTHER: Richard (?–1667). MARRIED Elizabeth (?–ca. 1695), probably the daughter of George Keyser. Her brother was probably Benjamin (?–1691). Her sister was probably Sarah, who married *John White* (?–1685). Elizabeth subsequently married ca. 1689 George Layfield (?–1703). CHILDREN. Died without progeny. PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: literate. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Anglican, but was largely responsible for introduction of Presbyterian ministers into Somerset County and was also a close friend of Quakers. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Mr., by 1666; Gent., by 1676; Esq., by 1679; brought two others on arrival in Maryland; one of the few Protestants appointed to high provincial office by *Charles Calvert, 3rd Lord Baltimore* (1637–1714/15). OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: called "formerly of London, ironmonger," 1687; planter; merchant; land speculator. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Somerset County, 1669, 1676–1678 (Accounts 1; appointed to the Council by the 3rd session of the 1676–1682 Assembly); Upper House, 1681–1682 (appointed by the 3rd session of the