

ARTHUR W. LEVERTON,
UNDERGROUND RAILROAD AGENT,
AND HIS FAMILY:
THE LEVERTONS, WHITELEYS AND WRIGHTS

RESEARCH AND REPORT

Patricia C. Guida
Caroline County Historical Society, Inc.
Denton, Maryland

Funded in part by a grant made by
Maryland Heritage Areas Authority
through its support for

STORIES OF THE CHESAPEAKE HERITAGE AREA
Eastern Shore Heritage, Inc

Report and Appendices
submitted 5 December 2007

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Separately Bound

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5 December 2007

Letter of Transmittal

REPORT: *Arthur W. Leverton, Underground Railroad Agent, and His Family: The Levertons, Whiteleys and Wrights*

Dear Recipient:

The research undertaken by Caroline County Historical Society, Inc. of the life of Arthur W. Leverton (1806 - 1880) and his role in the Underground Railroad in Caroline County has resulted in the enclosed Report and Appendices. The work was funded in part by Maryland Heritage Areas Authority through a grant administered by Eastern Shore Heritage Area, Inc. which represents Caroline, Kent, Queen Anne's and Talbot Counties. The remaining financial support was provided by the Historical Society and myself.

Ten copies, each original, were produced and are being distributed to the following institutions and persons:

Eastern Shore Heritage Area, Inc., <i>Stories of the Chesapeake</i>	2 copies
Caroline County Historical Society, Inc.	2 copies
Maryland Room, Caroline County Public Library	1 copy
Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College	1 copy
Lilly Library Archives, Earlham College	1 copy
John Creighton, Cambridge, Maryland	1 copy
John Ferris, East Lansing, Michigan	1 copy
Kate Clifford Larson, Ph. D.	1 copy

Each recipient has offered valued resources and knowledge to draw Arthur W. Leverton out of obscurity, giving him renewed public recognition which I feel certain he would shun if he had a voice.

Sincerely,



Patricia C. Guida
Denton, Maryland

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Those Who Helped Define the Life of Arthur W. Leverton

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Indianapolis Marion County Public Library, Reference Desk, Indianapolis, Indiana

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Sue **King**, Archivist, Morrisson-Reeves Library, Indianapolis, Indiana

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David **Shackelford**, Chief Curator, Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum

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Mary Ann Knotts **Walsh**, Denton, Maryland, Reader

A. Elizabeth **Watson**, Executive Director, Eastern Shore Heritage, Inc., *Stories of the Chesapeake Heritage Area*.

VICKI RIVERS, REFERENCE LIBRARIAN, AND THE LADIES OF THE HISTORY ROOM,
CAMBRIDGE CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY, ii CAMBRIDGE CITY, INDIANA.

INTRODUCTION

Arthur W. Leverton was born and raised in Preston, a small community in rural Caroline County on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The institution of slavery was a basic feature of the culture of the County; slave labor was essential to productivity as the economy was solely agricultural. Disapproving on religious and moral grounds, some Preston residents who disavowed the concept of owning humans for forced labor, hid and helped many individuals who sought to free themselves by escaping to the North.

Living near Preston were Arthur Leverton's father and step-mother, Jacob and Hannah Leverton. They were part of a local clandestine network that fed and sheltered fugitives from the lower Eastern Shore, passing them over hidden pathways that led far enough North to resume life free from oppression. The Levertons, fellow Quaker, Jonah Kelley, and Daniel Hubbard, their free-black neighbor, were recognized in the Abolitionist literature as operators of what came to be called the Underground Railroad.

The Caroline County Historical Society has researched the lives of these anti-slavery activists, including their real estate, and has studied contiguous smaller tracts owned by free-blacks. A map was produced to show the relationship of the farms of known abolitionists and others who may have been sympathetic to the plight of those brave enough to attempt self-emancipation by such a dangerous method. Another graphic depicts other Underground Railroad related sites in the Preston area. This material has been attached as Appendix H.

With this report, Arthur W. Leverton can take his place beside all who have been documented as members of an underground movement that contributed to the collapse of an un-American master/slave society.

Arthur W. Leverton is Born in Caroline County, Maryland

On 8 February 1806, Arthur W. Leverton was born to Jacob Leverton (1774 - 1847) and his wife, Elizabeth.¹ At the age of 30, Jacob had married 19-year-old Elizabeth Whiteley in a Quaker ceremony on 23 May 1804 at Marshy Creek Meeting House in southern Caroline County, near Preston.²

Elizabeth, the daughter of Anthony and Sophia Whiteley, was born on 19 December 1784.³ Her parents were members of the Nicholite faith, and so Elizabeth spent her first fourteen years within a simple, sober and unadorned environment - an approach to life espoused by founder, Joseph Nichols. His teachings embraced denial of material comforts in order to foster spiritual life.⁴

At the end of the eighteenth century, this religious community, referred to as New Quakers, began to merge with Quaker groups in the area.⁵ Among the first Nicholites to do so were Elizabeth's parents, who, on 1 January 1798, were admitted to Third Haven Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends in Easton, Maryland, as was Arthur's grandfather, Moses Leverton.⁶

The birth of his first child took place before Jacob Leverton owned land, so the new family may have been living within another Leverton household, perhaps with older brother Daniel (1770 - ?) or Isaac (1774 - ?), their father, Moses, having died in December of 1800.⁷

1. www.leverton-genealogy.com/USA.htm; Kenneth L. Carroll, *Quakerism on the Eastern Shore*, p. 253

2. *Ibid.*, p. 256, No. 8

3. Kenneth Carroll, *Joseph Nichols and the Nicholites*, p. 78

4. *Ibid.*, Chapters I - VI, pps. 13 - 68

5. *Ibid.*, APPENDIX, Part IV, pp. 92 - 94

6. *Ibid.*, APPENDIX, Part IV, p. 92

7. Keddie, Neil, *Caroline County, Maryland, Register of Wills, 1800-1806*; Abstract of Liber JR No. B, folio 474. Moses Leverton, 12/09/1800

Arthur's Great-Grandfather, Isaac Leverton

According to a website devoted to the Leverton family, almost all American Levertons trace their origins back to one of three immigrants: Isaac, born ca. 1720, who came to America, maybe not with the proverbial two brothers, but, nevertheless, with two other Levertons, John, born ca. 1730, and Thomas, born ca. 1730 - Eastern Shore Marylanders all.¹

Soon after he arrived on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, Isaac Leverton married Susannah Notts in Talbot County, Maryland. Their first child was Arthur's grandfather, Moses who was born in 1746. After the birth of her second child, Jacob, in 1748, Susannah died. Isaac then married Elizabeth (last name unknown). Their children were born in Queen Anne's County, Maryland, where Isaac had gone to live: Andrew Foster in 1750, Elizabeth in 1752 and a decade later, Isaac in 1760 and James in 1762.¹

Arthur W. Leverton was descended from Isaac Leverton, through Isaac's son, Moses, and grandson, Jacob.

¹ www.leverton-genealogy.com/USA.htm A fourth branch spelled the name Leventon, originating from John, b. ca. 1730.

Arthur's Grandfather, Moses Leverton of Northwest Fork Bridge

Moses Leverton lived his adult life in what was then northern Dorchester County, raising his large family of twelve children on a farm in what is now the southeast corner of Caroline County. His first marriage was to Ann (Nancy) Adams which took place on 29 May 1768.¹ Born to them beginning in 1770 were Daniel, Isaac, Jacob (Arthur's grandfather), and, in the jurisdiction of newly created Caroline County, Rhoda and Jesse.²

After the death of Ann, Moses married Rachel Wright on 15 January 1785.³ She was born on 2 October 1767 to Nicholite Lemuel Wright and his wife, Elizabeth.⁴ That Moses' wife was their daughter is proven by the will of Lemuel Wright, in which he leaves a legacy to his daughter, Rachel Leverton.⁵ Moses and Rachel's children were Sarah, John, Lemuel, Charles, Elizabeth and Rachel, and, named in Moses' will, Rebecca.^{1,6} Moses fathered twelve children over a span of twenty-eight years. He was but fifty-four years old when he died in 1800, leaving Rachel with six minor children.

The births of his children by Ann Adams, his first wife, and then by Rachel, are found in the records of the Nicholites, for Moses was one of the earliest members of that faith which practiced simplicity of life. Their beliefs were much like the Quakers, but with stricter applications, especially in the use of plain furniture and undyed clothes. So, Jacob and his siblings grew up in an environment deliberately unadorned, observing the practice of simple dress and quiet manners to foster devotion to a dutiful and purposeful life. Frills were folly.

1 www.leverton-genealogy.com; Carroll: *Joseph Nichols and the Nicholites*, p. 80, No. 2

2 *Joseph Nichols and the Nicholites*, p. 75, Births: Daniel, 3/29/1770; Isaac, 2/07/1772; Jacob, 3/10/1774.

3 *Ibid.*, p. 80, No. 28

4 *Ibid.*, p. 78

5 *Ibid.*, p. 99; Caroline County (Wills) Liber JR No. B, p. 351. Levin Wright. Probated in 1796..

6 Keddie, Neil, *Caroline County, Maryland, Register of Wills, 1800-1806*; Abstract of Liber JR No. B, folio 474. Moses Leverton, 12/09/1800

Location of Grandfather Moses' Farm

Jacob Leverton, along with his brothers and sisters, grew up on their father's farm near Northwest Fork Bridge, a small community that formed around the bridge over the northwest fork of Nanticoke River. The land on which the home was built was part of the tract *St. Georges Regulation* which Moses had purchased in 1771 when he was 25 years old.¹

The farm lay on the east side of Northwest Fork Creek and at the time of purchase, was within Dorchester County. When Caroline County was created in 1773 from portions of Dorchester and Queen Anne's counties, the part of Federalsburg on the east side of Marshy Hope Creek was taken into the new county. By 1791, the growing village of Northwest Fork Bridge was given the name Federalsburg and the stream, Marshy Hope Creek.²

On the following page, an illustration of the patents surrounding Northwest Fork Bridge shows the location of *St. Georges Regulation*, as well as smaller tracts called *Douglass' Beginning* and *Bartlett's Manor* which were later acquired by Moses Leverton.³

The suggested location of Moses Leverton's farm is circled in red on the Caroline County section of Dennis Griffith's *Map of the State of Maryland* (1794).

1 Dorchester County Court (Land Records) Liber 25 Old, folio 64.

2 Eleanor F. Horsey, *Origins of Caroline County, Maryland from Land Plats, Vol. II*, Privately printed, 1981, pp. 54-73, Chapter Two. III, Founding of Federalsburgh

3 *Ibid.*, p. 50. Figure 2.2. Original tracts surrounding Northwest Fork Bridge

4 Griffith, Dennis, *Map of the State of Maryland, 1794 [1795]* MSA SC 1213-1-356;

MAP OF MARYLAND 1794/95

DENNIS GRIFFITH. CARTOGRAPHER

SHOWING CAROLINE COUNTY

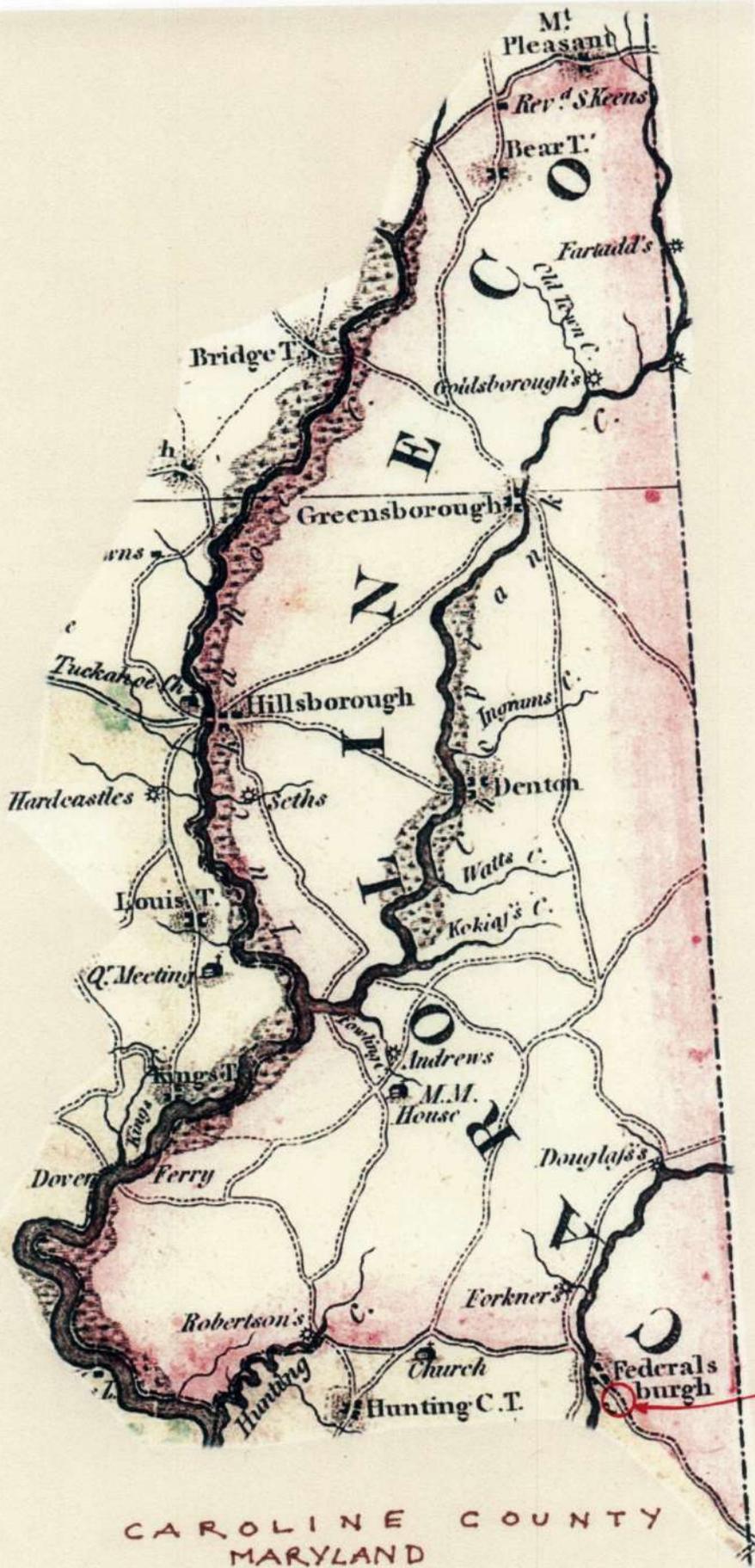
Area of the patent *St Georges Regulation* encircled in red.

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com>

Eastern Shore Information: Caroline County and Dorchester County, 1795.

Craig O'Donnell

[The online image is cropped at the southern boundary of Caroline County, unfortunately eliminating the true division line between Caroline and Dorchester County.]



"ST. GEORGES
REGULATION"
SUGGESTED
LOCATION

CAROLINE COUNTY
MARYLAND

MAP OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, DENNIS GRIFFITH, 1794/95
THIS IMAGE FROM rootsweb.com

FIGURE 2.2 Original Tracts Surrounding Northwest Fork Bridge

ORIGINS OF CAROLINE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Volume II, page 50

Eleanor F. Horsey

Printed by the Author
4 South First Street, Denton, MD
1974

St. Georges Regulation colored in yellow,
as are two other tracts owned by Moses Leverton

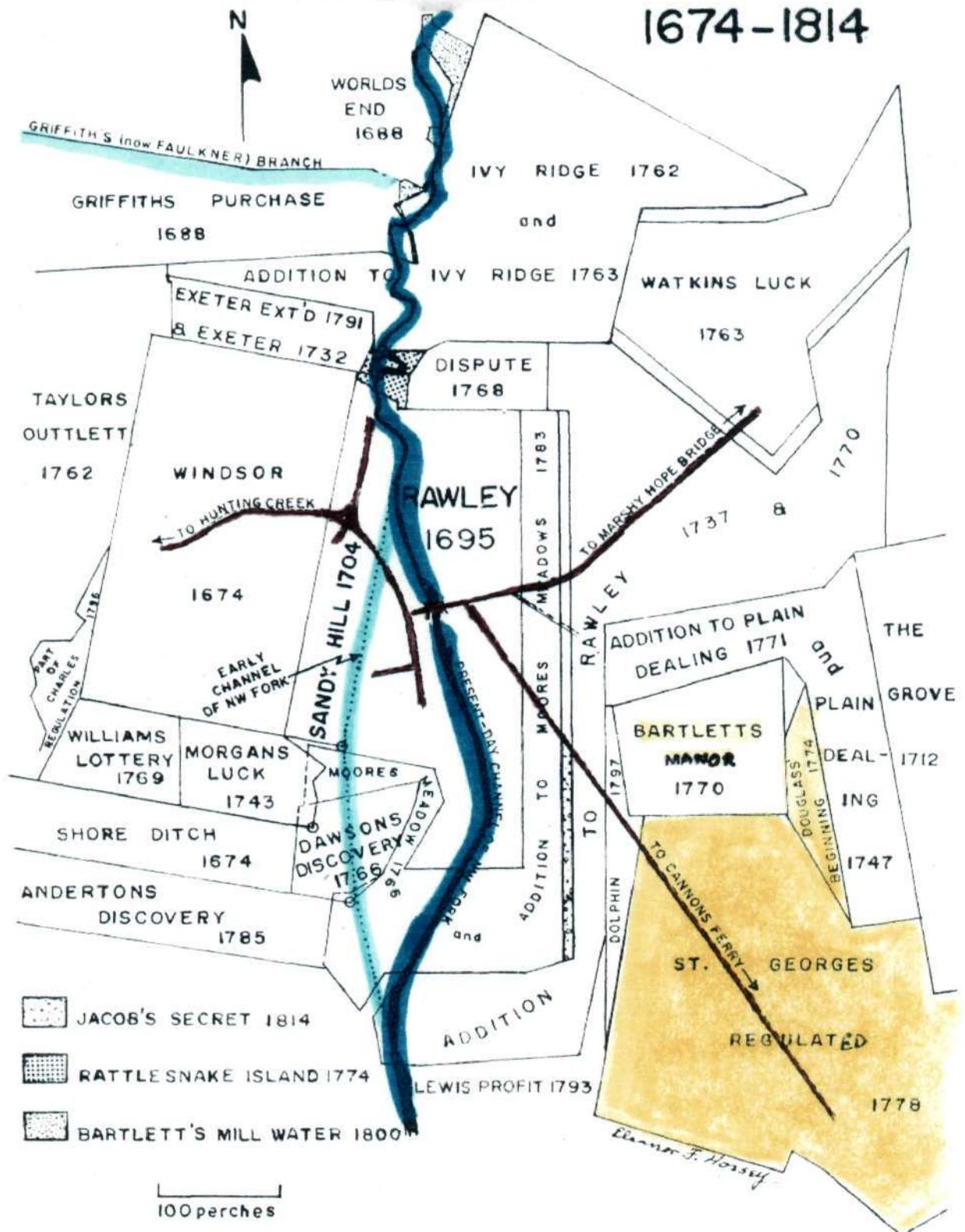


Figure 2.2. Original tracts surrounding Northwest Fork Bridge.

— 50 —

ORIGINS OF CAROLINE COUNTY, MD.,
VOL 1 , ELEANOR F. HORSEY, 1981

Nicholite Moses Leverton Joins the Society of Friends

In 1798, the Nicholites began to merge with the Society of Friends.¹ Arthur's grandparents, Moses and Rachel Leverton, were admitted to Third Haven Monthly Meeting in nearby Talbot County on 1 January 1798, among the first to do so.²

Twelve months later, Arthur's father Jacob, and maternal uncles, Arthur and Anthony Wheatley (a.k.a. Whiteley) - whose names Arthur, and his son, Anthony, would bear - were accepted into the same Quaker community, as were uncles Anthony, Arthur, Daniel and Isaac Whiteley.³ The two latter uncles were among the Quakers of Caroline County who emigrated to Wayne County, Indiana.⁴ As early as 1806, the Society of Friends from North Carolina and other states to the south had established a presence in Richmond, now the county seat.⁵

1 Carroll, *Joseph Nichols and the Nicholites*, APPENDIX, Part IV, 92-94

2 Ibid., p. 92.

3 Ibid., p. 93. The name is spelled Wheatley in the list of Nicholites admitted to Third Haven Monthly Meeting

4 Carroll, *Quakerism on the Eastern Shore*, p. 262,

5 www.earlham.edu/Q/brochure1; The library at Earlham College, founded by Quakers, houses the *Friends Collection*.

Moses Leverton's Household in 1800

When the Federal Census for Caroline County was taken in 1800, in the household of Arthur's grandfather were two white males in the age category 16 to under 26, and one male over 45. These individuals were most likely:

Moses, 54, born ca. 1746;
his son, Jacob, 26, born 1774
his son, Jesse, 19, born in 1781.

At the time of the census, Moses' two older sons, Daniel, 30, and Isaac, 28, were married and had their own households. The census does not account for Rhoda, born to Jacob and Anna Adams Leverton on 9 February 1779. The rest of Moses' six children by Rachel, his second wife, fit in categories suited to their ages:

one male under 10	Charles, born 1792;
two males 10 and under 16	John, born 1787 Lemuel, born 1790)
three females under 10	Elizabeth, born 1794 Rachel, born 1796 (possibly) Rebecca whose birth may have not been recorded in the Quaker records, but who was named in Moses will
one female 10 and under 16	Sarah, born 1786
one female 26 and under 45	Rachel, his wife,

Not more than six months after the census was taken, Moses Leverton, head of a large household with ten children - grown, teen-aged, young and younger - was dead.

N.B. See APPENDIX D for references.

Grandfather Moses Leverton's Death in 1800

Describing himself in a will written on 21 May 1798 as *weak in body*, Moses gave his wife, Rachel, the use of his dwelling plantation until her remarriage or death. It was then to be sold, along with his saw mill, by his oldest son, Daniel and the proceeds distributed among ten named children: Jacob, Rhoda, Jesse, Sarah, John, Lemuel, Charles, Elizabeth, Rebecca¹ and, oldest son, Daniel. Each was to receive fifteen pounds current money.¹

Moses may have been ill at the time he composed his will, the condition persisting during the two and one-half years before his death which occurred at age fifty-four. The will was admitted to probate in Caroline County on 9 December 1800.

1 *Keddie, Neil, Caroline County, Maryland, Register of Wills, 1800-1806; Liber JR B, p. 7; CAROLINE COUNTY REGISTER OF WILLS, (Wills) Liber JR No. B, folio 474. Moses Leverton, 12/09/1800. The microfilm of the recorded will is too faint to read in order to check the Keddie abstract regarding the heirs, and the physical state of Moses Leverton when he wrote his will. Daughter Rachel was not mentioned in the abstract, but Rebecca was. There is no birth date for Rebecca in Joseph Nichols and the Nicholites. Access to the original Nicholite records and to the original will is needed to confirm the material in the abstract.*

Home of Jacob and Elizabeth Leverton at the Time of Their Marriage

If, after their marriage in May of 1804, Jacob and Elizabeth were living with family on *St. Georges Regulation*, it would have been for a short time, as the property was sold on 12 June 1804 by Daniel Leverton, eldest son of Moses, in accordance with his father's will. The selling price was \$472.50. The new owner, William Meloney, was a Quaker and a blacksmith.¹

The deed does not reveal why the farm was being sold, or if the widow, Rachel, had remarried or had died. With six fatherless children under the age of fifteen, it can only be hoped that the Rachel Leverton who, in 1803, was issued a license to marry William Kelley, a fellow Quaker, was Moses' young widow.

1 CAROLINE COUNTY LAND RECORDS (Land Records) Liber I, folio 31.

2 Clark and Clark, *CAROLINE COUNTY MARYLAND MARRIAGE LICENSES, 1774 - 1825*, p. 23

Possible Early Home in Preston of Jacob Leverton's Family

When Arthur was four years old, his parents owned no property and may have been living with Jacob's eldest brother, Daniel (1770 - ?).

In the census of 1810, the numbers in the age categories between 26 and 44 allow for one male, who could have been Jacob, then 36, assuming that Daniel was already enumerated as head of household. There were two women between 26 and 44 years of age, who would have been the wives of the two brothers, one male child under 10 and three female children under 10. The household included one free person, as well as one slave. In the household of his brother Isaac (1772 - ?), there was one male and one female between 26 and 44 years of age and no children of any age.

The land records do not reveal where Daniel Leverton was living at the time of Arthur's birth in 1806, but if Jacob Leverton and his family were with this brother in 1810, they would have been residing in the village that became Preston. On 31 October 1810, Daniel Leverton purchased two and three quarter acres of land on the north side of the main road from Hunting Creek Mills to Dover Ferry, near the Methodist Meeting House which now stands at the northeast corner of Main Street and the Preston-Harmony Road.¹ Two years later, Daniel, and his brother, Jacob, assumed leadership roles in the community when they were appointed trustees of Hunting Creek School, accepting a one-acre lot on which to build a school house.²

N.B. See *APPENDIX D* for references.

1 CAROLINE COUNTY COURT (Land Records), Liber K, folio 218

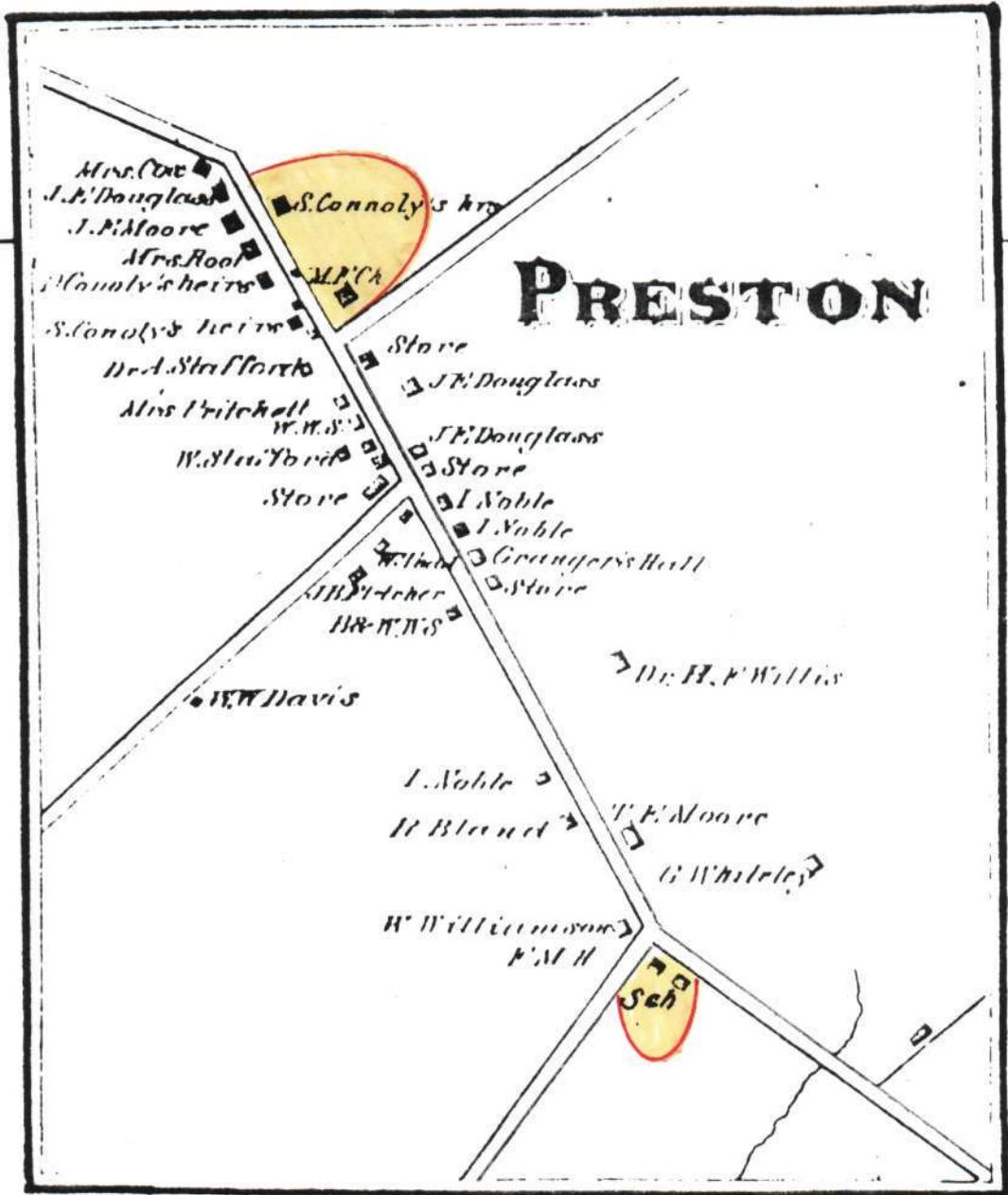
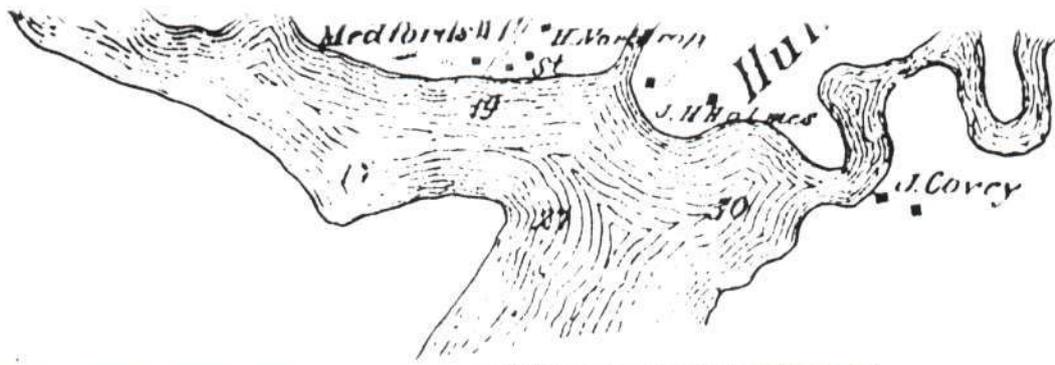
2 CAROLINE COUNTY COURT (Land Records), Liber K, folio 536

MAP OF CAROLINE COUNTY

JOHN B. ISLER

1875

A PORTION OF THE *MAP OF CAROLINE COUNTY* SHOWING THE AREA IN WHICH DANIEL LEVERTON BUILT HIS DWELLING IN PRESTON IN CAROLINE COUNTY. ARTHUR MAY HAVE BEEN LIVING THERE AT THE AGE OF FOUR. THE LOCATION OF HUNTING CREEK THE SCHOOL IS ALSO SUGGESTED.



Map of Caroline County, 1875
 John B. Asler
 PRESTON INSET

The Death of Arthur Leverton's Mother. His Father Remarries

An only child, Arthur reached his seventh birthday one month before the death of his mother, Elizabeth Whiteley Leverton, on 27 March 1813. She was twenty-nine years old.¹

On 18 May of the following year, his father married Esther Swiggett, daughter of Quakers Johnson and Mary Swiggett.² Esther was born on 11 April 1788 when her parents were members of the Nicholite community.³ At the time of her marriage, Esther was 26 and Jacob, 40.

1 Carroll, *Quakerism on the Eastern Shore*, N W Fork M. M., Deaths, p. 259.

2 *Ibid.*, *N W Fork M. M., Marriages*, p. 256, No. 20, Jacob Leverton (son of Moses and Ann), Caroline County, and Esther Swiggett (daughter of Johnson and Mary), Caroline County, at Centre Meeting House, 5/18/1814.

3 Carroll, *Joseph Nichols and the Nicholites*, p. 77.

Jacob Leverton's First Land Purchase

Seven months after his marriage to Esther Swiggett, Jacob Leverton bought a farm, part of the 1,724- acre patent *Church Grove*.¹ The sellers were heirs to 6,700 acres of land in the estate of James Murray.² Located east of the village of Preston, Jacob's portion of *Church Hill* ran from the eastern boundary of the patent *Painter's Range* on the west side of the mill pond, crossing it (the pond was excluded from the deed) and nearly reaching (now) Gallagher Road. The price paid for 219 acres was \$2,192.50.³ It was on this tract that Jacob settled his family, either in a dwelling on the property, or in a residence he built for himself, his new wife, Esther, and his son, Arthur, then seven. This 1½ story frame dwelling was expanded later by a brick 2-story addition. The latter has been restored. In shambles, the older section was razed and replaced.

Jacob and Hannah Leverton conducted their anti-slavery activities from this home.⁴ Documented by Caroline County Historical Society, the Jacob and Hannah Leverton Dwelling was certified in 2005 as a station on the Underground Railroad.⁵

- 1 MARYLAND STATE ARCHIVES, LAND OFFICE (Patents) Patent Record Liber B, p. 17, *Church Grove*. This is a resurvey of smaller contiguous tracts into one whole. 1801
- 2 *A BIOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY OF THE MARYLAND LEGISLATURE, 1635 - 1789*, Vol. 2, p. 607. A member of the Maryland Legislature, James Murray (? - 1784) was born in Dorchester County, probably at *Glasgow* on the Choptank River, near Cambridge. His mill at Upper Hunting Creek, (now called *Linchester Mill*), produced flour for the Preston community, and, as local legend has it, supplied the military during the Revolutionary War. The mill house, with all of its equipment, the mill land, the homes of the miller and his assistant, were purchased by Caroline County Historical Society in 2005; the bed of the mill pond, emptied in 1974 when the earthen dam gave way, is now in title to County Commissioners of Caroline County. The plan is restoration of the mill machinery and mill pond.
- 3 CAROLINE COUNTY COURT (Land Records) Liber L, folio 134. (1814)
- 4 Wilbur H. Siebert, *The Underground Railroad from Slavery to Freedom*, p. 407: APPENDIX E: Directory of the Names of Underground Railroad Operators and Members of the Vigilance Committees
- 5 NPS National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom, www.nps.gov/history/ugrr/list.htm

PLAT OF THE FIRST TRACT OF LAND

PURCHASED BY

JACOB LEVERTON (1777 - 1847)

IN 1814

AND SUGGESTED LOCATION ON

CAROLINE COUNTY PROPERTY MAP 59

THE DWELLING IN WHICH ARTHUR AND HIS
FAMILY LIVED IS WITHIN PARCEL 160 ON THE MAP

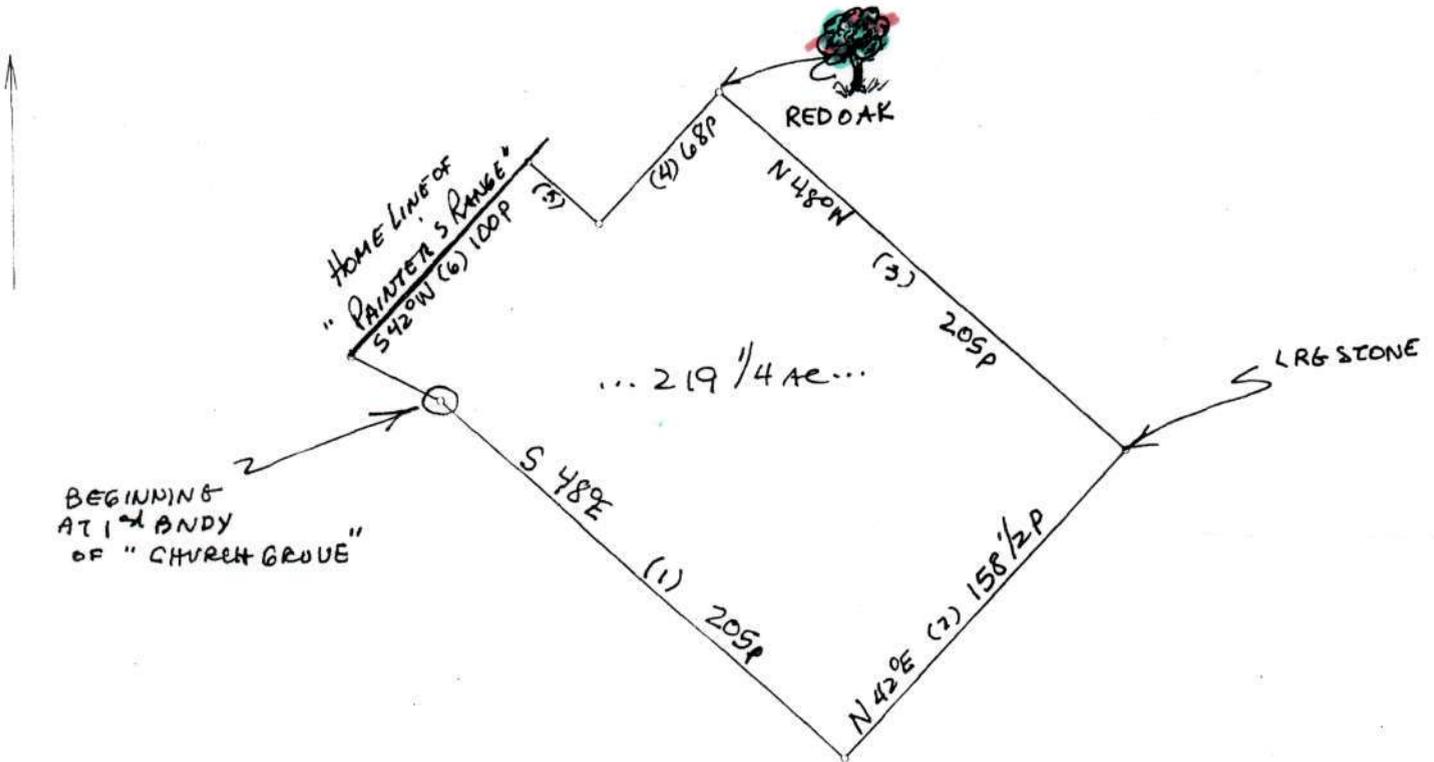
Plat drawn with software program

DEED PLOTTER +

from legal description in the deed.

Placed on Caroline County Property Map 59 to suggest location..

Property Maps from © Maryland Department of Planning



Title: L/234 1814 Tr. to sell R E of Wm Littleton Murray to Jacob Leverton 219.ac		Date: 06-26-2004
Scale: 1 inch = 1200 feet	File:	
Tract 1: 224.509 Acres: 9779624 Sq Feet: Closure = s55.2006e 0.00 Feet: Precision >1/9999999: Perimeter = 13361 Feet		
001=S48E 205P	004=S42W 68P	007=s62.4658e 614.33 ?
002=N42E 158.5P	005=N48W 36P	
003=N48W 205P	006=S42W 100P	

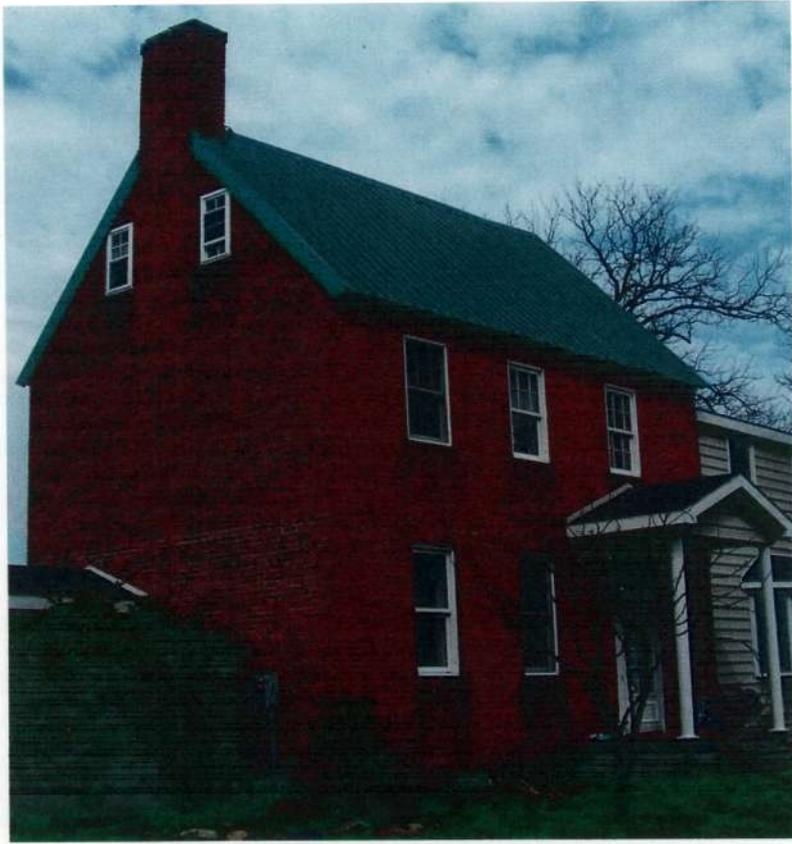
P/4 "CHURCH GROVE"
 CONTAINING (CLEAR OF THE MILL POND)
 219 1/4 AC

BRICK SECTION
OF THE
JACOB AND HANNAH LEVERTON DWELLING

Photo taken in September, 2007
by Margaret Iovino

The original, unsalvageable frame section to the
right of the brick addition was replaced in 1988.

Privately owned



Jacob and Harrod Leveston Dwelling
2007

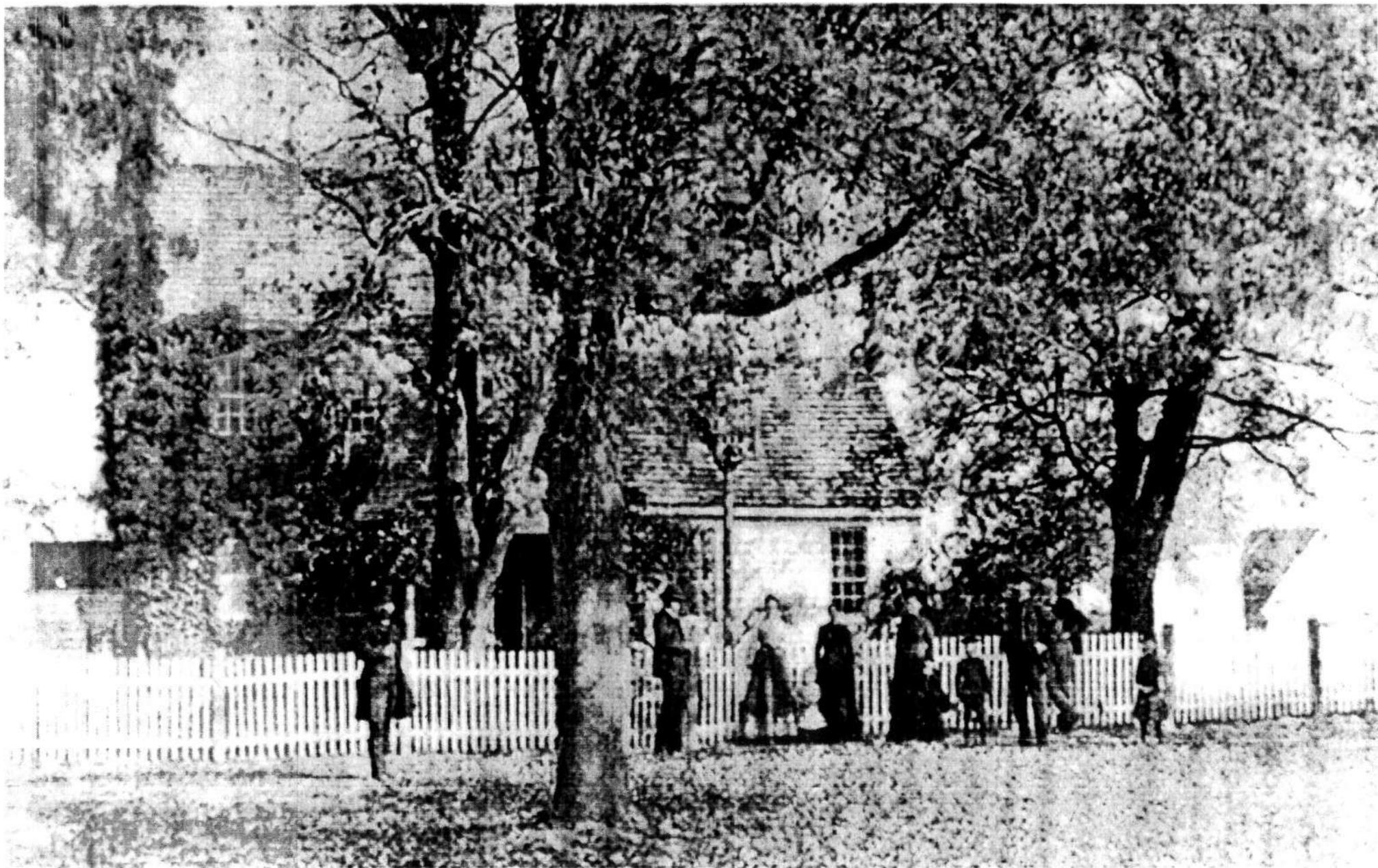
THE JACOB AND HANNAH LEVERTON DWELLING

GATHERING OF THE NOBLE FAMILY

ca. 1885

RUTH HANNAH LEVERTON (1831 - 1852),
DAUGHTER OF JACOB LEVERTON (1777-1847)
MARRIED, IN 1848, TWIFORD S. NOBLE

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF
ROBERT E. JARRELL, DENTON, MD



Jacob and Hannah Leverton Dwelling. "Gathering of Noble Family, 1885"
Photo courtesy of Robert E. Jarrell, Denton, MD

Arthur's First Siblings

Arthur had just turned nine when his half-brother, Henry Swiggett Leverton, was born on 26 February 1815.¹ The family increased with the birth of his half-sister, Ann Jane, who arrived in April of 1817.¹

But Arthur suffered further loss of his immediate family with the deaths of Ann Jane, perhaps in 1818³ at the age of fifteen months,³ and, when Arthur was fifteen, his step-mother, Esther Swiggett Leverton, one month before her thirty-third birthday.³

- 1 Carroll, *Quakerism on the Eastern Shore*, North West Fork M. M., Births: p. 253, Henry S. Leverton, son of Jacob and Esther, 2/26/1815
- 2 Ibid., North West Fork M. M., Births: p. 253, Ann Jane, daughter of Jacob and Esther, 4/11/1817
- 3 Ibid., North West Fork M. M., Deaths. p. 259 Ann Jane, daughter of Jacob and Esther, 7/27/1813 (sic) The original records need to viewed to correct this date.
- 4 Ibid., North West Fork M. M., Deaths, p. 259, Esther, wife of Jacob Leverton, 5/27/1821.

Arthur's Second Step-mother

Two years after the death of Esther Leverton, Arthur's father took a third wife. On 19 November 1823, Jacob and Hannah Wilson Wright were married at Neck Meeting House.¹ Jacob was Arthur was then nearly eighteen-years- old; his new step-mother, two months shy of twenty-three.

Hannah, the daughter of Quakers James and Sarah Wilson¹ was born on 2 September 1800.² Her parents had been Nicholites before they embraced the Quaker faith.³ At the age of sixteen, Hannah and Willis Wright, son of John and Hester (Esther) Wright,⁴ were married at Tuckahoe Meeting House near Denton.⁵

In less than a year, her husband was dead.⁶ Three weeks later, on 4 October 1817, Hannah gave birth to a boy whom she named Willis Wilson Wright.⁷ Where she was living after her husband's death and before her marriage to Jacob Leverton, is not known, nor is it understood what became of her first child; the pertinent records are silent. Arthur Leverton named one of his sons Willis Wright Leverton, no doubt, in honor of his step-brother, Willis Wilson Wright.

Of the four children of Jacob and Hannah, the only ones who reached adulthood were Mary Elizabeth and Ruth Hannah.⁸

1 Carroll, *Quakerism on the Eastern Shore*, Third Haven M.M., p. 232, Marriages: No. 308. Jacob Leverton, son of Moses and Ann of Caroline County, and Hannah W. Wright, daughter of James and Sarah Wilson of Caroline County, at Neck Meeting House, 11/19/1823.

2 Ibid., Third Haven M. M., Births: p. 219. Hannah Wilson, born 9/02/1800

3 Carroll, *Joseph Nichols and the Nicholites*, Appendix: Nicholites Admitted into the Society of Friends: Third Haven Monthly Meeting: p.92: James Wilson, Jr., and Sarah Wilson, 1/11/1798

4 Ibid., Births: p. 78, Willis Wright, son of John & Esther, born 5/13/1793

5 Carroll, *Quakerism*, N W Fork M. M., Marriages: p. 232, No. 297. 11/20/1816. Willis Wright, son of John and Hester of Caroline County, and Hannah Wilson, daughter of James and Sarah Wilson, of Caroline County, at Neck Meeting House, 11/20/1816.

6 Ibid., Third Haven M. M., Deaths: p.245, Willis Wright, 9/11/1817

7 Ibid., Third Haven M. M., Births: p. 220. Willis Wilson Wright, 10/4/1817

8 Ibid., N W Fork M. M., Births: p. 255 & Deaths, p. 259. Four children were born to Jacob and Hannah: Sarah Ann, 1/02/1825, who may be the child who died on 8/13/1825; Mary Elizabeth, 2/20/1830; Ruth Hannah, 6/29/1831 and Jacob, 1.01/ 1833. This child is probably the Jacob Leverton who died 10/20/1836.

Some Eastern Shore Quakers Resettle in Indiana

Kenneth Carroll writes that *the continued existence of slavery around them was one of the reason why many southern Friends [i.e., southern Eastern Shore] moved to Ohio and Indiana.*¹ It was in 1806 when Quakers belonging to Caroline and Talbot County Monthly Meetings began to migrate to the western frontier, for in that year the first certificates of removal were issued to four families whose destinations were Quaker communities in Ohio. Between 1824 and 1829, eighteen more individuals or families passed through Ohio, settling in Wayne County on the Ohio-Indiana state border. Their memberships were transferred to two assemblies of Friends: Whitewater Monthly Meeting in Richmond and Milford Monthly Meeting in Milton. Among these early pioneers were Arthur's maternal uncles, Daniel Whiteley of Caroline County and Isaac Whiteley of Dorchester County.^{1,2}

Between 1830 and 1837, thirteen more Maryland Quaker families traveled west to Indiana, including that of Charles Leverton, paternal uncle of Arthur Leverton. There was but one transfer in the next decade, one in the 1850s and one in the 1860s.^{1,2} The migration of Caroline County Quakers to Indiana was over.

1 Carroll, *Quakerism on the Eastern Shore*, pp. 246-249, 261-264.

2 See APPENDIX F: Removals

Northwest Territory of the United States

The state of Indiana was originally part of the land of the Ohio River Valley ceded by the British after the Revolutionary War.¹ The area encompassed the northwest portion of the Ohio Valley and was bounded by the northern boundary line of the United States, by the Great Lakes and Pennsylvania on the east, by the Ohio River on the south, and by the Mississippi River on the west. The territory covered the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and the northeastern part of Minnesota. Known as North West Territory, the Ohio River Valley was the first American *west*.²

The *Ordinance for the Government of the United States North West of the River Ohio*, adopted by the Confederation Congress on 13 July 1787, provided for governance of the vast forested region and outlined the process for admittance of new states to the Union when certain population criteria were met.^{3,4}

- 1 *Treaty of Paris, 1783, Article 2: And that all disputes which might arise in future on the subject of the boundaries of the United States . . . [Boundaries include the Ohio Valley.]* www.ourdocuments.gov.
- 2 Library of Congress, *American Memory: The First American West: The Ohio River Valley 1750 - 1820*, University of Chicago Library and Filson Historical Society of Louisville, Kentucky. <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/award99/icuhtml/fawhome.html>
- 3 Library of Congress, *American Memory: Documents from the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention, 1774-1789*. Item title: *An ordinance for the government of the territory of the United States, North-west of the river Ohio*. Passed 13 July 1787. Cf. *Journals of the Continental Congress*, v. 32, p. 334-343. <http://memory.loc.gov>
- 4 Library of Congress, *American Memory: Collection Guide & Bibliographies, Primary Documents in American History, Northwest Ordinance*. <http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/northwest.html>

MAP

THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY

1787

www.earlyamerica.com/earlyamerica/maps/northwestterritory

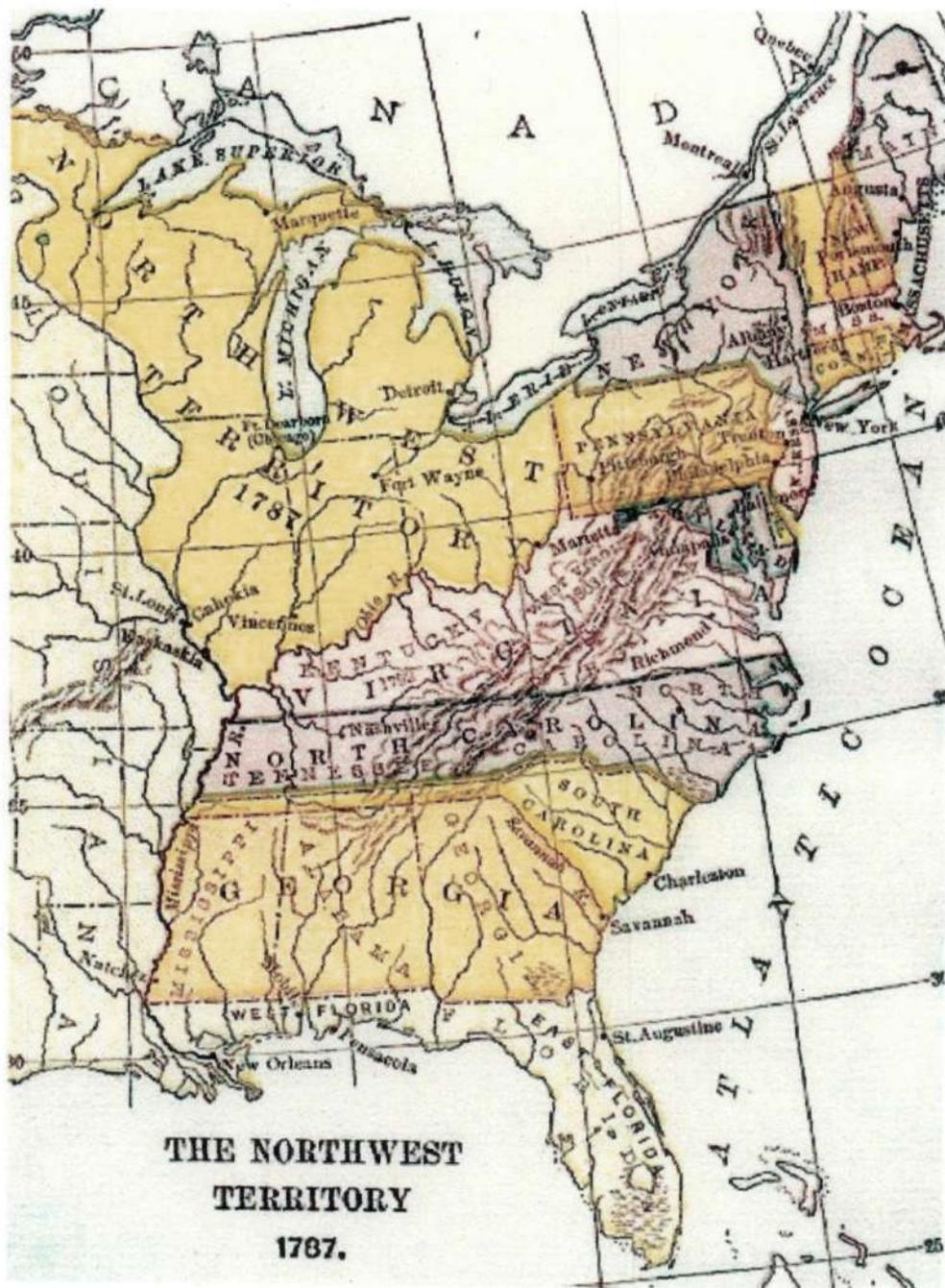


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Enlargement Map of the Northwest Territory



Indiana: First a Territory, then a State

In 1800, with Ohio nearing statehood, Congress created Indiana Territory from the remainder of Northwest Territory.¹ In 1816, Indiana became a state, there being the required 60,000 free inhabitants to qualify for admittance to the Union.² The new state of Indiana was still the frontier in all its connotations: a rugged, unsettled, densely forested wilderness, fraught with hardship, even danger, for new settlers. Sensing opportunity, the willing and the adventurous embraced the promise. By contrast, in 1816, Maryland had been steadily working toward building a civil society since 1635. Even though separated from the rest of the state by the Chesapeake Bay, the isolated Eastern Shore had also undergone over a century and a half of domestic, governmental, and economic development.³ Though not wealthy compared to more affluent and influential counties such as Talbot and Anne Arundel, by 1816, Caroline County's agricultural productivity had generated the financial resources to permit the building of a brick Court House, towns, roads, churches, school houses and, after that good start, scattered here and there, several fine brick residences.

Arthur Leverton made the trek from Caroline County to Indiana twice. The first was undertaken in 1828 when he was twenty-three (voluntarily and eagerly, when the state was in its twelfth year.) The second trip was made in 1858 when he was fifty two (involuntarily and in a panic, as he fled Caroline County for the safety of Indiana), with but twenty-three years left in his life.

1 Library of Congress, Statutes at Large, 6th Congress, 1st Session, Chapter XLI, p. 58. *An Act to divide the territory of the United States northwest of the Ohio, into two separate governments.* Effective 7 May 1800.

2 Library of Congress, Statutes at Large, 14th Congress, 1st Session, Chapter 57, p.289. *An Act to enable the people of Indiana Territory to form a constitution and state government, and for the admission of such state into the Union on an equal footing with the original states.* Effective 19 April 1816

3 *Biographical Dictionary of the Maryland Legislature, 1635 - 1789*, Edward C. Papenfuse, et al. The John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Vol. 1: A-H. Figures 1-4 are maps showing the erection of counties by subdividing earlier counties in 1680, 1730, 1773 and 1789. An act of the Maryland Legislature in 1773 created Caroline County from portions of Dorchester and Queen Anne's counties.

MAP

THE UNITED STATES IN 1812

http://www.earlyamerica.com/earlyamerica/maps/US_1812

Green: Indiana Territory. Indiana became a state in 1816.
Red: The State of Maryland

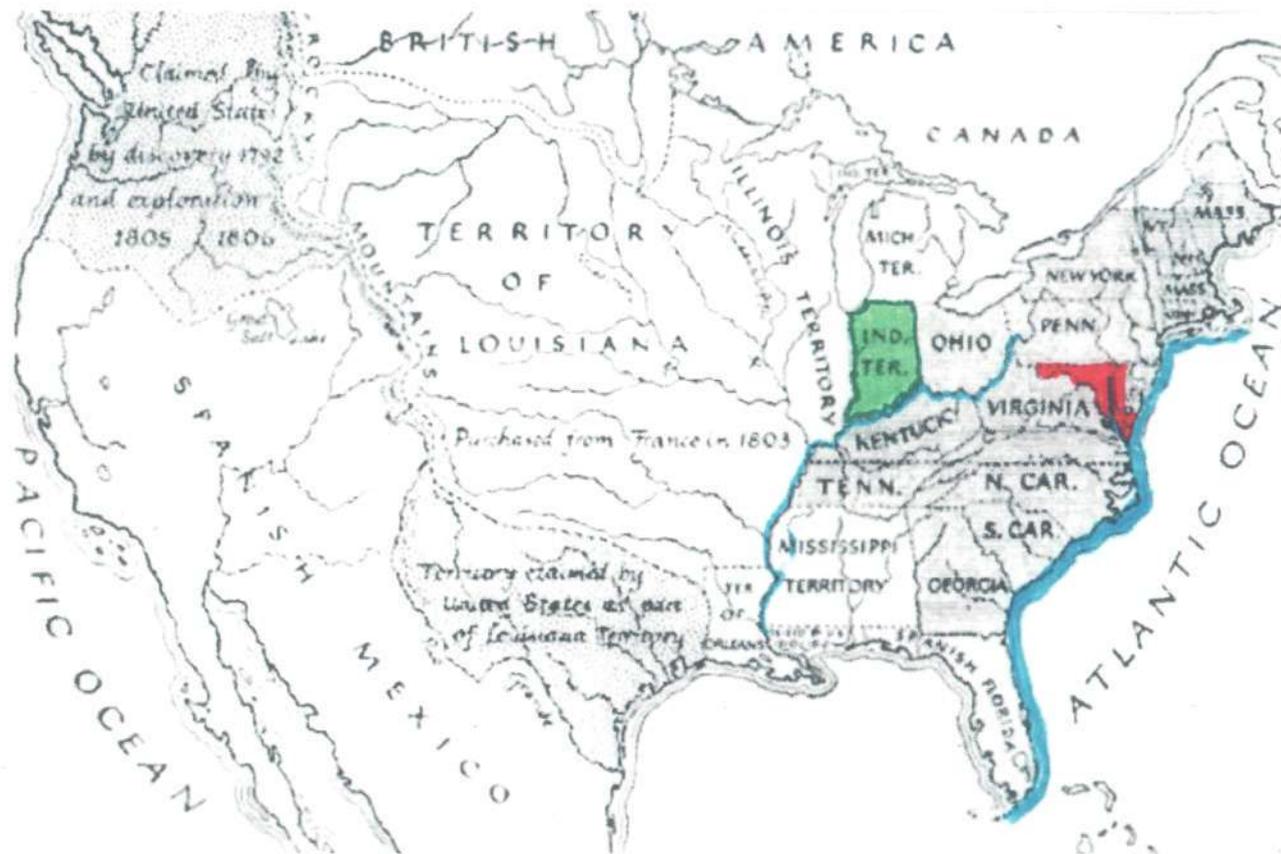


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- Movies

The United States in 1812



GREEN: INDIANA BECAME A STATE IN 1816

RED: MARYLAND

Quakers Settle the Frontier of America: *A Fortune in Their Bones*

Quakers were attracted to the Ohio Valley because of a greater freedom to practice their faith, there being none yet institutionalized, and by their desire to live in a community free of slavery. Two clauses in the Northwest Ordinance agreeably expressed these religious and humanitarian convictions. One guaranteed that *no person . . . shall ever be molested on account of his mode of worship or religious sentiments within the said territory*. The other: *there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory. . . .*¹

Quakers first arrived in Wayne County in 1804.^{2,3} An early local historian observed that *Quakers who had settled in the Southern States when a new country, had prior to that absolved themselves from holding in physical slavery the African race, but in the course of human events a union of all the states was effected and a constitution formed for all, permitting those Southern States the right to hold human beings as goods and chattles; hence the desire of the Friends to migrate to a land freed from the recognition of slavery.*

What also lured settlers to the region, was the allure of *the black and fertile lands of Indiana, though then overshadowed by the mighty unbroken forest.*² At a meeting of *The Old Settlers* in 1855, one Milton resident who had immigrated from *Carolina* told his audience that in 1817, *he regarded not the Herculean labors and hardships which then rose before him, for, to use his own words, he "felt that he had a fortune in his own bones."*⁴

1 Library of Congress, American memory: Documents from the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention, 1774-1789. Item title: *An ordinance for the government of the territory of the United States, North-west of the river Ohio*. Passed 13 July 1787. Cf. *Journals of the Continental Congress*, v. 32, p. 334-343. <http://memory.loc.gov>

2 *Annals of Pioneer Settlers on the Whitewater and Its Tributaries in the Vicinity of Richmond, Ind., from 1804 - 1830*. By a Native. (John Macamy Wasson), Richmond, Ind., Press of the Telegram Printing Company, 1875; Chapter: "Quakers."

3 For the issue of slavery in the United States Constitution, see www.usconstitution.net/consttop_slav.html. Not expressly prohibited, and obliquely alluded to by inference, slavery was abolished by the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, ratified on 6 December 1865.

4 *Memoir of David Hoover, a Pioneer of Indiana . . . Written by Himself*. [Edited by] Isaac H. Julian ; Richmond, Ind., James Elder, Publisher, 1857 www.mrlinfo.org/history/dhoover/images/hoover_lg.jpg

MAP

WESTWARD MIGRATION ROUTES

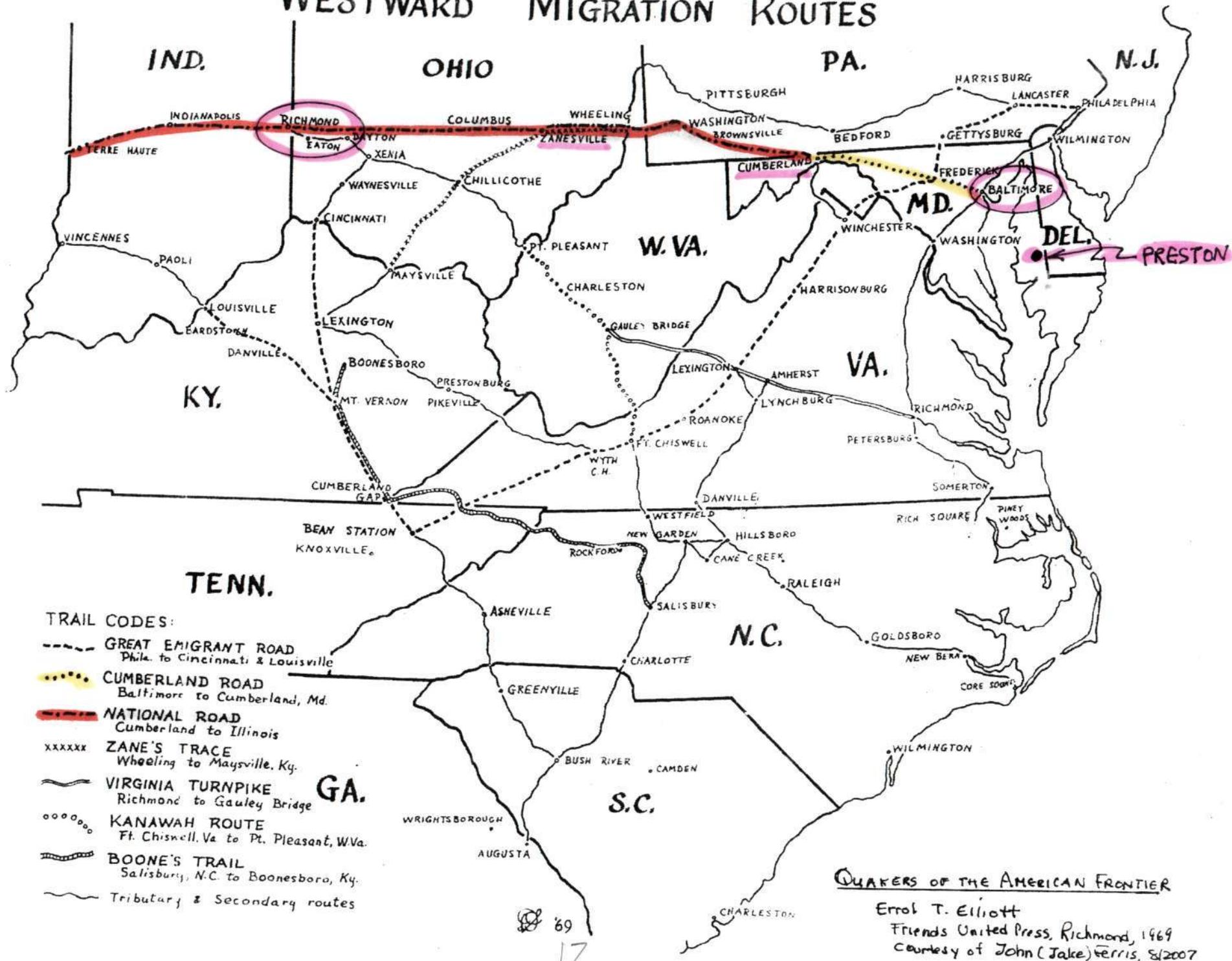
Quakers of the American Frontier

Errol T. Elliott

Friends United Press, Richmond, IN, 1969

- Yellow: The Cumberland Road from Baltimore City to
Cumberland, Maryland
- Orange: The National Road from Cumberland, Maryland, through
Pennsylvania, West Virginia and Ohio to Richmond,
Indiana

WESTWARD MIGRATION ROUTES



69

17

Arthur Visits Family in Indiana

According to a family history, Arthur visited Milton, Indiana, in 1829.¹ However, there is a strong likelihood that the year before, he may have accompanied his uncles, Daniel and Isaac Whiteley, on their 600-mile journey from Caroline County to Indiana. In early autumn of 1828, Daniel Whiteley had returned to Caroline County from Milton to collect his remaining children who were left behind during his initial move to Indiana in 1827. The minutes of North West Fork Monthly Meeting refer to two certificates of removal to Milford Monthly Meeting in Milton, Wayne County, Indiana, for Daniel and Celia Whiteley and children. The first is dated 16 May 1827 and the second, 10 September 1828; the names of the children differ on each date.

Arthur's other Whiteley uncle, Isaac, and his wife, Lydia, were also granted certificates of removal to the same monthly meeting on the same September day in 1828. Another who may have accompanied the Whiteley brothers was their paternal aunt, Elizabeth Whiteley Grayless, widow of Peter. Her certificate of removal bore the same date.

No doubt his uncles encouraged Arthur to travel with them on their return trip to assess the opportunities in Indiana. The settlement of the village of Milton was just beginning when Arthur, nearly twenty-three, made the journey to see for himself.

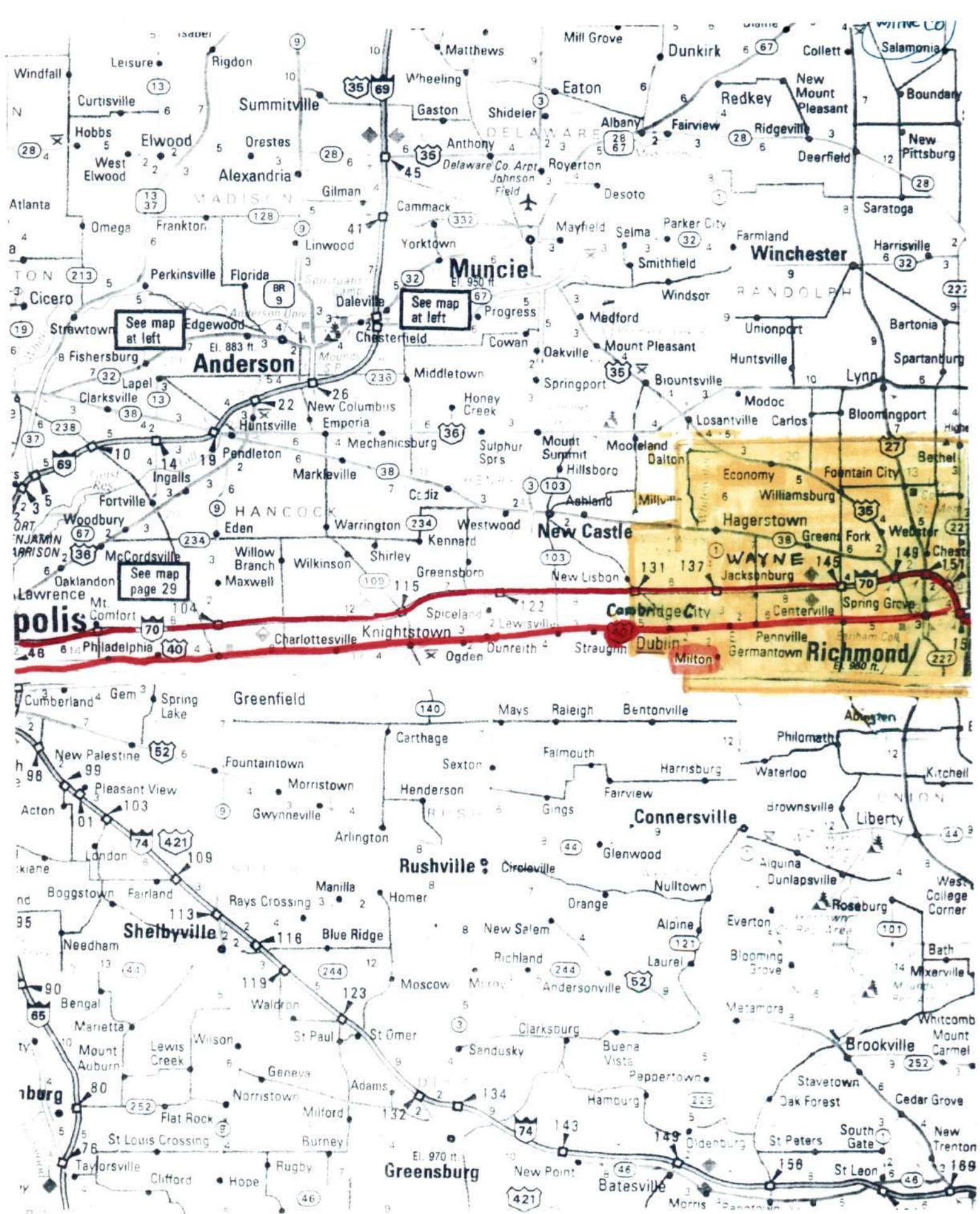
1 Mary Catherine Sample, *The Whiteley Family*, 2 volumes., self-published, 1985. Several pages courtesy of e-mail correspondent, John (Jake) Ferris, descendant of Isaac Whiteley

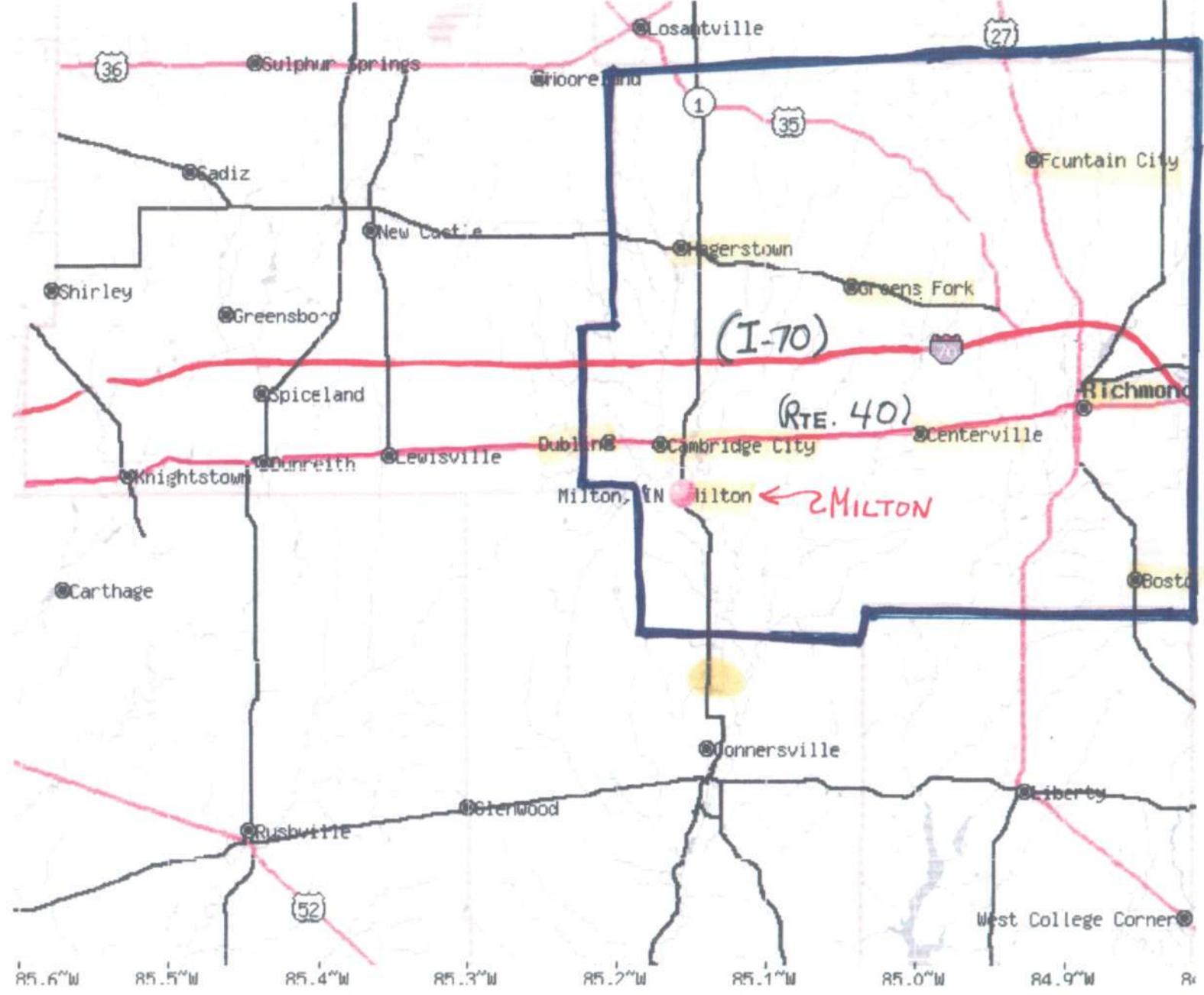
2 Carroll, *Quakerism on the Eastern Shore*, pp. 261- 264, N W Fork M. M., Certificates of Removal.

MAPS

FOUR ASPECTS OF MILTON, WAYNE COUNTY, INDIANA

- a. Recent Road Map showing Route I-70 and US 40 from Richmond to Indianapolis, Indiana. Route 40 more or less followed the bed of the National Road, passing through Richmond, Cambridge City and Dublin, but not through Milton.
- b. Recent Map of Wayne County, Indiana, showing some towns, including Milton. www.city-data.com [Color-enhanced]
- c. Map of Wayne County, Indiana, 1895. From *Indiana Atlas, 1895*. <http://www.livegenmi.com/wayneIN.htm> [Enhanced by darkening the National Road]
- d. *Map of Wayne County, Indiana*. Drawn by R. C. Shute, C. Syr for Power, Zeller & Co. DIRECTORY. Published by W. H. Lanthum & Co., Richmond, Ind. 1865. [Color-enhanced]





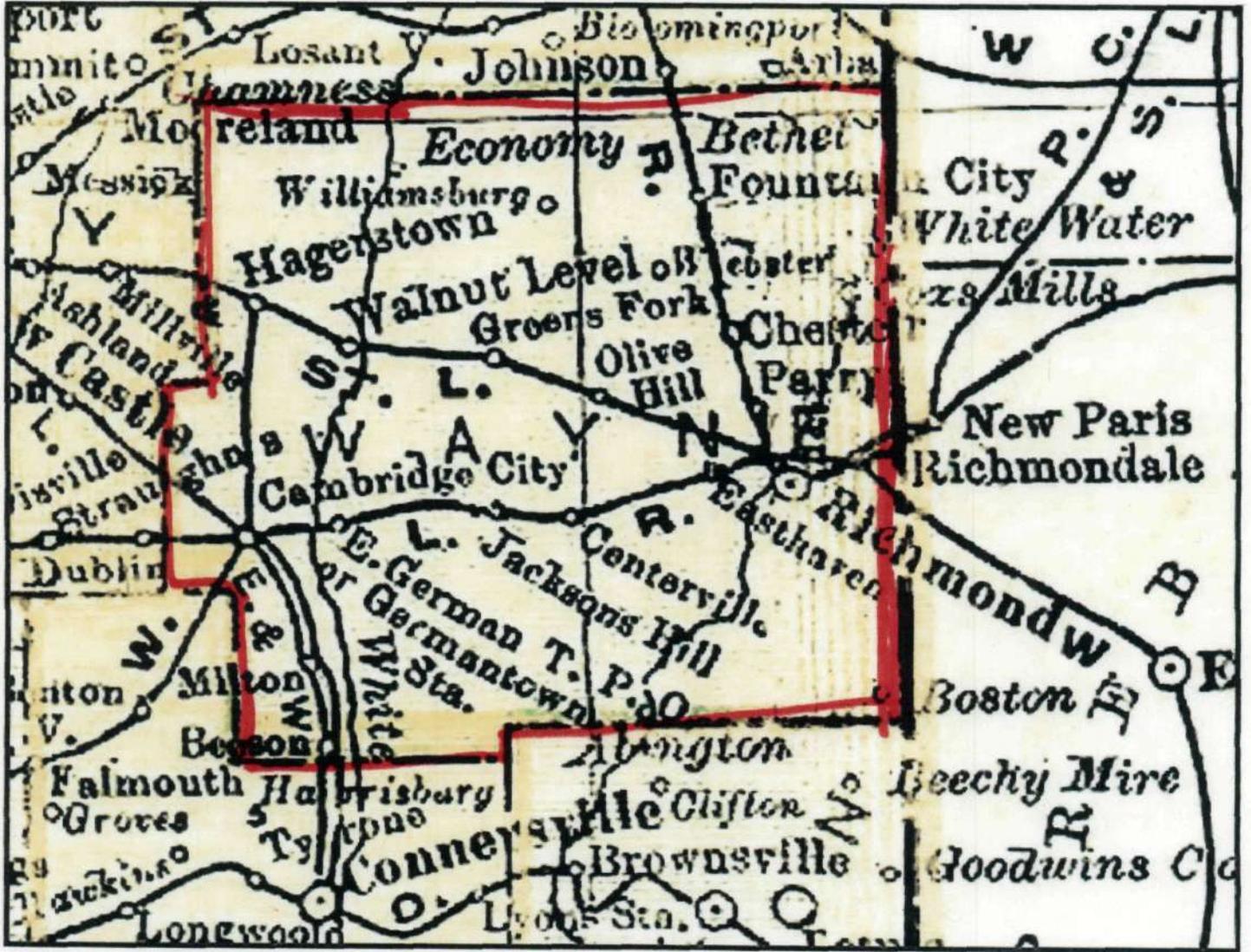
181

WAYNE COUNTY, IN

18b



WAYNE COUNTY INDIANA 1895



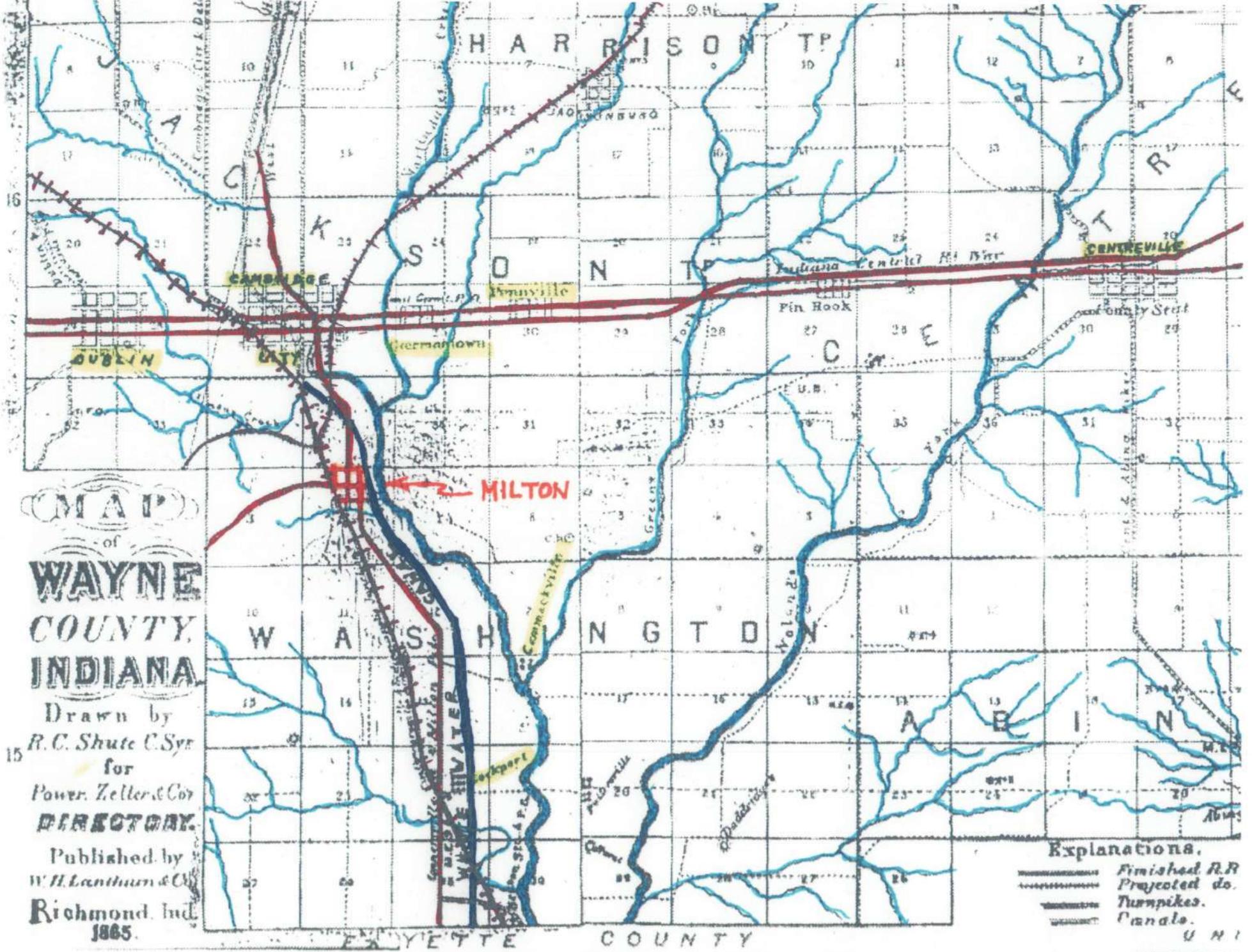
1895 INDIANA ATLAS MAIN PAGE

1895 INDIANA COUNTY LIST

1895 U.S. Atlas Main Title Page

<http://www.livgenmi.com/wayneIN.htm>

1/7/2003



MAP
of
WAYNE COUNTY, INDIANA

Drawn by
R. C. Shute C. Syr
for
Power, Zeller & Co
DIRECTORY.

Published by
W. H. Lanthorn & Co
Richmond, Ind.
1865.

Explanations.
 Finished R.R.
 Projected do.
 Turnpikes.
 Canals.

Early Nineteenth Century Travel

How young Arthur traveled from Maryland to Indiana in 1828 requires a bit of knowledge of early travel routes to America's west. A traversable route westward over the Allegheny mountains was needed to access the Ohio Valley to encourage commerce and settlement in America's new frontier, the Northwest Territory. In 1806, Congress legislated the nation's road into existence. It was laid down, where possible, on pre-existing trails that had been blazed and traveled since colonial times. Initially funded by the federal government, it came to be called the National Road, although it was recognized as the Cumberland Road for its origin in that town. An existing road from Baltimore to Cumberland connected eastern Maryland with America's new highway.

Construction began in Cumberland in 1811, but by 1828, the road was only completed to Zanesville, Ohio. The remainder of the journey to Richmond was over the well-trodden earthen pathway that had served the earliest travelers. The National Road did not pass through Wayne County until two years after Arthur had returned to the Eastern Shore of Maryland.¹

If Arthur accompanied his uncles, Isaac and Daniel Whiteley, to Milton, he would have traveled in the mode most suited to that rugged journey over impassable roads up impossible inclines through heavily forested terrain for an interminable stretch of time – a covered wagon, for this is how Anna Stanton said her cousin Isaac traveled from Caroline County to Milton in 1828.²

1 *The National Road*, Edited by Karl Raitz, (The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996)

2 Anna M. Stanton, *My Autobiography*, (Des Moines, Iowa, Bishard Brothers Printers, 1908)

MY AUTOBIOGRAPHY

ANNA M. STANTON

1908

Anna Stanton begins her story with the names of her parents, Peter Stanton and Cecilia Wright Stanton, both of Caroline County, Maryland. Anna's maternal grandfather was a Caroline County Wright - Hatfield - who had emigrated from his native county to settle in Milton in 1826.

Then in the spring of 1826, they [Anna's parents] started on their journey to Indiana . . . coming, no doubt, as the other early settlers, in a big covered wagon. Several families came with them . . . and they were weeks in making the trip After arriving at Milton, they found the Whiteleys, Justices, Framptons, and a little later, the Greys, Morrisses, Levertons, Ferrises and others I have heard Cousin Isaac Whiteley speak of their journey over the same route.

Seven families came together when he came, all in their covered wagons. He was very jovial and pleasant, and to prepare shelter for the women and children at night he went ahead and would try to engage rooms at some farm house for them to spread their beds upon the floor. But one evening when on the lookout for a stopping place he saw a man sitting on a log . . . not far from a house. Cousin Isaac spoke to him and asked if they could secure lodging for the night for their women and children. The man asked how many. Cousin answered, "Seven wives and forty children." Well," said the man, "on condition that here will be no swearing, nor stealing." This, no doubt, offended Cousin Isaac's dignity to find there could be a doubt of their honesty, and he call back to the nearest team. "We will drive on." They afterwards learned that the man was a preacher.

This company of settlers, they say, was seven weeks on their way, arriving at last, dusty, weary and foot sore, but glad of a resting place. I think our mothers must have been able to endure more than their daughters can in this day.

Those who found not a ready made home must make one, by cutting down trees and building a log cabin. Happy, indeed, when they had windows and doors tight enough to keep out the wolves and night intruders. Matches were then almost unknown. Neighbor loaned fire to neighbor, if near enough; if not, strike fire with flint. Cooking was all done by an open fire in skillets, long handled pans, etc.

This paragraph ends the account of the trip Anna's cousins Daniel and Isaac Whiteley made in 1828, no doubt with Arthur along.

*THE FAIRVIEW INN NEAR BALTIMORE,
A STOPPING PLACE ON THE NATIONAL ROAD, 1827*

The covered wagons are heading west, while cattle are being driven to markets in the east.

Courtesy of Maryland Historical Society (Baltimore, MD)

Google Images

<http://americanhistory.si.edu/onthemove>



The Fairview Inn near Baltimore, a stopping place on the National Road, 1827
Maryland Historical Society, BALTIMORE, MD

Life in Milton, Indiana, in the 1820s

A piece from a Wayne County newspaper briefly touches on early Milton.

Milton, a little community in southwestern Wayne County, was originally called Milltown because of the several mills located in and near the community's site. Early settlers were Friends from North Carolina.

The village was laid out by John Bell and the plat recorded 5 July 1824. Although the village only boasted eight families in 1825, it had grown to a population of nearly 200 only a year later. The community was an important stop on the Whitewater canal.

It is not know when Milltown became Milton. The early Quakers also established a religious society called Milford Meeting. The two names, Milltown and Milford meeting logically became Milton.

1 *Palladium-Item & Sun Telegram*, City Edition. Wednesday, 5 January 1949, page 7, column 8

Young Arthur in Milton, Indiana

If Arthur accompanied his uncles, Daniel and Isaac Whiteley, on their return to Indiana, he most probably stayed with them in Milton. A resident of that little village, reminiscing about the very early days, wrote a short memoir in 1877 which included a vignette about the Whiteleys.

Daniel and Isaac Whiteley, brothers, from Maryland settled in Milton in the autumn of 1828. Isaac and family spent the first winter in a shackling building on the lot at the northwest corner of Main and Cherry Streets. The house stood on blocks three feet high, under which the hogs had made a sleeping bed. It was underpinned, and the floor was loose, not being nailed.

It was a very cold winter, and Whiteley frequently had to get out of his bed at midnight hours, and punch the hogs from under the house as no one could sleep for their incessant squealing.

Frequently in their scrambles with each other, they would raise the boards off the floor with their heads, and poke their snouts up into the sleeping room and grunt, as though they defied any interference from outsiders.¹

Arthur must have been a guest in this home - the rather short side of a comparison to his father's brick dwelling near Preston or the homes Isaac and Daniel sold to begin anew in untried territory.

¹ Titled *Early Milton History*, this handwritten account by an unknown Milton resident, is dated 1877. A typed copy is in a notebook in the History Room, Cambridge City Public Library, Wayne County, IN.

Young Arthur in Milton, Indiana

Another description of early Milton, this one from a Whiteley family history, carries with it an anecdote about Arthur Leverton during his visit there when he was twenty-three. The author places Arthur's journey to Milton in 1829, the year after his uncles had returned from Maryland to Indiana.

In 1829, when he was 23 years old, he came to Milton and stayed a while. His uncles, Daniel and Isaac Whiteley, and many other relatives and friends had come out from Maryland the year before so it is natural that he should go to Milton too.

Milton at that time was just being settled and there were very few houses and stores there. In addition to the mill and store, a mile north of town there was a small still house on the land now known as the Cockefare farm (1876) east and across the river from the mill store, that supplied the settlers with what they considered one of the essential drinks of pioneer life, viz, pure corn whiskey. In 1829, Arthur Leverton, then a youth, from Maryland, purchased a half gallon of whiskey at this still house for John Wright, Senior, for 12 ½ cents.

On his return to town, Wright remarked that some people spent their money very foolishly, but he spent some of his for good whiskey. Both were Friend Quakers. Leverton returned to Maryland, married, emigrated to the West, settled and still lives in Milton.¹

1 *The Whiteley Family*, Vol. 1, pages 39, by Mary Catherine Templin Sample, privately published in 1986. Mrs. Sample cited an article by E. B. Newman, "Milton, Past, Present and Prospective" which appeared in the 13 September 1876 issue of the *Milton News*.

John Wright, Senior, of Caroline County

The John Wright, Senior, who sent Arthur on a corn whiskey errand was none other than John Wright, of Caroline County, Maryland, which should come as no surprise, what with the presence of so many Caroline County Quakers in Wayne County.

Born to William and Sarah Noble Wright¹ on 9 March 1763, John Wright grew up in the southern part of Caroline County. He married Esther, or Hester, Harris, daughter of James (? - 1799) and Mary Harris in 1784.²

After the death of founder Joseph Nichols in 1770, the leadership role for the Nicholites was cast upon James Harris, Esther's father; his was the critical role in establishing the Nicholite faith in Caroline County. Meetings of the group were held at his home before the existence of a meeting house. In his journal, the noted Methodist preacher, Francis Asbury, observed that "a certain James Harris is at present their leader; they clothe in white, take everything from nature, and condemn all other societies that do not conform to the outward: If a man were to speak like an archangel; if he sung, prayed and wore a black, or colored coat, he would not be received by these people."³

As the membership aged, James Harris began to favor merger with the Society of Friends and by the end of 1797, when unanimity was stronger for the idea, James and Mary Harris were among the first Nicholites received by the Quakers of Third Haven Meeting. They were joined that day, 1 January 1798, by their daughter, Hester, and her husband, John Wright.⁴

1 Carroll, *Joseph Nichols and the Nicholites*, p. 78.

2 Ibid., p. 80, No. 26. John Wright and Esther Harriss, both of Caroline County, 11/6/1784. Esther Harriss was born on 1/01/1763, p. 74..

3 Ibid., pp 34, 35, 43.

4 Ibid., p. 92.

John Wright, Senior, of Milton, Indiana

John, his wife, Esther, and children Mary, Sarah, Lydia and son, John, first transferred their memberships from North West Monthly Meeting to Third Haven Monthly Meeting in March of 1818. The next move was to Philadelphia one year later when the family received a certificate of removal to join the Philadelphia Monthly Meeting (Western District). Son John was identified as John H. Wright.²

The Wrights spent two years in Philadelphia, where John's son, Peter, had gone to live in 1817, making his fortune in marine shipping. The final leg of their journey which ended with residency in Indiana took place in 1821, when John Wright, his wife, Esther, and children, Lydia and John H., were recommended to Whitewater Monthly Meeting in the town of Richmond on the Ohio-Indiana state border. Mary and Sarah were not with them. The village of Milton, which lies west of Richmond, was the final destination of the dwindled family.

His obituary, written by a friend who was with him when he died, lauded John Wright, Sen., *a native of Caroline County, Maryland*, for his *industry, frugality and affability*, attributing to him a major role in the development of the community, stating that *by his aid and perseverance, villages arose and their environs were made to exhibit a new enlivening aspect*. The author considered him a man above men, with *but few contemporaries that were his superior*.

The last day of the life of John Wright, Senior, of Caroline County, Philadelphia, Richmond and Milton, Indiana, was the last day of the last month of 1838. He was preceded in death by his wife, Hester. Notice of her death was given space in a Richmond newspaper on 11 March 1837: Mrs. Hester Wright, age about 76 years, and wife of John Wright, Senior. The two obituaries follow.

1 Christopher Densmore, Curator, Friends Collection, Swarthmore College supplied this information from Philadelphia Monthly Meeting (W. D.) Records.

2 Carroll, *Quakerism on the Eastern Shore*

OBITUARIES

HESTER WRIGHT (1763 - 1837)

Richmond Palladium (Richmond, Indiana)

Saturday, 11 March 1837, p. 3, col. 3

and

JOHN WRIGHT, SR. (1763 - 1839)

Richmond Palladium, (Richmond, Indiana)

5 January 1839, p. 3, col. 2

HESTER WRIGHT (MRS. JOHN, SR.)

DIED—In Milton, on Monday evening last, Mrs. **HES-
TER WRIGHT**, aged about 76 years, and wife of John
Wright, senior, formerly of this place.

Richmond Palladium. Saturday,
March 11, 1837, page 3, column 3.

[COMMUNICATED.]

DIED.—In this Borough on the evening of the 31st. ultimo, JOHN WRIGHT, Sen., in his 76 year.

The deceased was a native of Caroline County, Maryland, afterwards a citizen of the city of Philadelphia, from whence he removed to this place about 18 years since, and lastly to Milton in this County, to where his remains were conveyed on the second inst. for interment. Of the general character and exemplary deportment of the deceased, the writer of the article deem it not only proper to acquaint the public, but he conceives it a duty to exhibit for the benefit of the living, an out line of a character, which, for industry, frugality and affability is but seldom excelled; by his aid and perseverance villages arose and their environs were made to exhibit a new enlivening aspect, and by his assiduity and liber-

small share of aid in their erection; and for steadiness of purpose and honesty of intention, there were but few of his contemporaries that were his superiors. In a word, he was a kind husband, an indulgent father, a friend of mankind in general, and an honest man. In addition to his good qualities as a man, the author of this in conclusion, feels a freedom to state that he witnessed the final close of his friend, which, together with opportunities had, during his sickness, furnished conclusive evidence to his mind that he died in full assurance of being permitted to inherit the reward due the righteous.

Arthur W. Leverton Weds Margaret Ann Turpin in 1832

Arthur eventually returned to Caroline County and on 21 March 1832, at age 26, he married Margaret Ann Turpin, daughter of Solomon and Catharine Turpin, of Dorchester County.¹ Her family were not members of Monthly meetings in Caroline or Talbot counties and probably were not Quakers.

The month before the ceremony, Arthur and Margaret appeared at the meeting to announced their intention to marry. Two members were appointed to make inquiries of other members into Arthur's *clearness*.² No reason was given for this assignment. One week before the wedding, a committee member declared he found no cause to obstruct Arthur from proceeding, *the consent of parent being had*. Arthur and Margaret, who must have embraced the Quaker faith, were married one week later.³

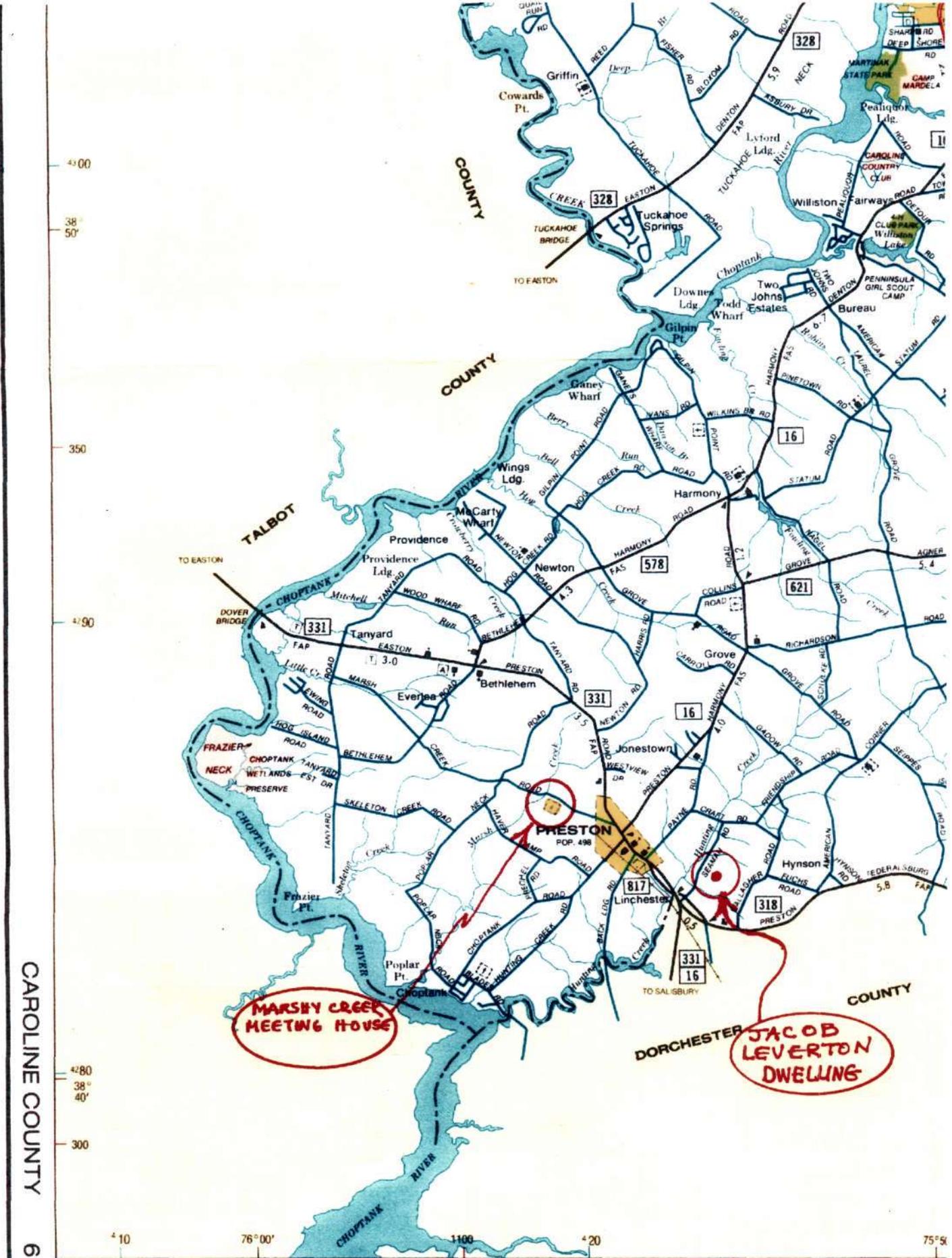
The ceremony took place at Marshy Creek Meeting House, which stood on a half-acre lot purchased in 1764 by the Society of Friends.⁴ In 1849, the Quakers would sell this property to the Methodist Episcopal Church, the frame building serving as a church for the African American community⁴ in the Marshy Creek area until it burned in 1970. The cemetery containing the graves of African American Methodists is being maintained.

Part of a map of Caroline County follows, marked with the site of the meeting house where Arthur and Margaret were married in 1832. The village of Preston is to the east.

- 1 Carroll, *Quakerism*, p.257, N. W. Fork M. M. Marriages, p.257, No 40.
- 2 See APPENDIX G: The Minutes of North West Fork Monthly Meeting
- 3 DORCHESTER COUNTY COURT (Land Records) Liber 20 Old, folio 16.
- 4 CAROLINE COUNTY COURT (Land Records) Liber Y, folio 203

MAP OF CAROLINE COUNTY
SOUTH WESTERNMOST SECTION
ON CHOPTANK RIVER
SHOWING FORMER LOCATION OF
MARSHY CREEK MEETING HOUSE
NEAR PRESTON

Map of Caroline County
© Maryland State Highway Administration, ca. 1990



CAROLINE COUNTY 6

The Family of Margaret Ann Turpin

Although the economic and social status of Margaret's parents is lauded in a manner typical of many family biographies, a paragraph in a history of the Whiteley family is worth quoting, mostly because only two sources with biographical details of the Turpins were uncovered during the course of this research.

*The Turpins were a wealthy and aristocratic family. They owned a cotton plantation and enjoyed the luxuries of [illegible] living. They have been characterized as being refined and reserved. Their major investments were in slaves and with the abolishment of slavery, lost their wealth.*¹

The second source, an obituary of Margaret Turpin Leverton, was written by someone who knew her well. According to the writer, Margaret's early life in Maryland *was spent in affluence and wealth*; that her father's home was a center of *hospitality and sociability*.²

The wealth of Solomon Turpin was not assessed for this research, however, the public records do attest to his having owned farmland in Caroline County. Dorchester County land records were not examined.

- 1 *From These Roots*, Lucille E. Hamilton and Margaret H. Riggin, 1962 - 1965. Self-published. Chapter titled *John Wesley Bullock*. No pagination. Arthur and Margaret Leverton's daughter, Elizabeth Amanda, married John Wesley Bullock on 2 February 1852.
- 2 *Cambridge City Daily Tribune* (Cambridge City, IN), 14 March 1891, p. 2, 4. Obituary of Margaret A. Turpin Leverton. www.mrlinfo.org/reference/newspaper.html Morrison-Reeves Library, Richmond, IN.

The Heirs of Solomon Turpin Sell His Real Estate

On 20 September 1832, Margaret Leverton, her brother Baynard Turpin, and Kitturah Dawson, their mother,¹ conveyed their interests in a tract of land owned by Solomon Turpin whose death occurred before 8 March 1814.² The husbands of both women joined in the deed as grantors.

The consideration was \$220 which would have been divided three ways, providing the newly married couple with a \$72 gain.³ Within two years, Margaret and Arthur Leverton conveyed their interest in other land of her father's and realized \$80 on the transaction.⁴

The proceeds from the sales of her father's land would provide the basis for the purchase of their own farm in the Fall of 1838.

1 *Caroline County, MD Marriage Licenses 1774-1825*, p. 11. Sovran Dawson & Kitturah Turpin. 11/11/1817

2 F. Edward Wright, *Maryland Eastern Shore Newspaper Abstracts*, Vol. 3, 1813-1818, page 13, item 69

3 CAROLINE COUNTY COURT (Land Records) Liber R, folio 308

4 CAROLINE COUNTY COURT (Land Records) Liber S, folio 295

Jacob and Hannah Leverton Acquire More Property in Caroline County

Over the course of twenty years, Jacob and Hannah Leverton increased the size of their farm through a succession of acquisitions, all contiguous with the home farm they had purchased in 1814.¹ The first addition in 1823 was a small tract of twenty-six acres which lay on the southern boundary of his farm, thus moving that line southward to a small branch that ran into Upper Hunting Creek mill pond (i.e., Linchester Mill Pond.)² Six years later, he added a large 272-acre tract east of his home farm, and on the north side of the county road that divided Caroline from Dorchester County.³

In 1833, he filled in a gap between certain parcels by buying a small wedge of land,⁴ and finally, in 1838, Jacob purchased 50 acres of land from Charles Grayless, a fellow Quaker. This land was also on the road between the two counties.⁵

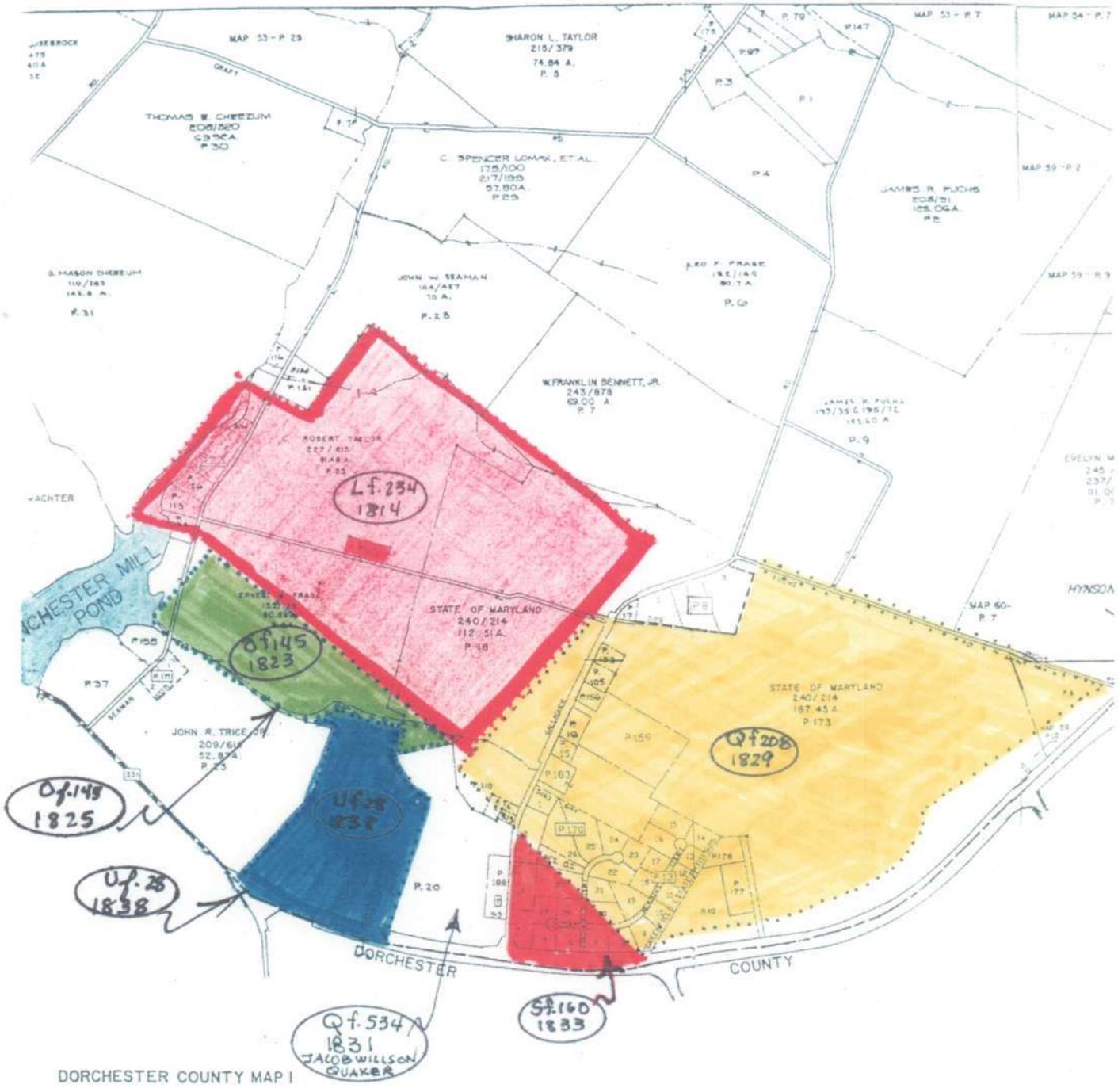
The metes and bounds of these tracts have been platted and their boundaries marked on a property map. They are presented next to clarify the location of Jacob Leverton's real estate in the Preston vicinity.

- 1 CAROLINE COUNTY COURT (Land Records) Liber I, folio 234.
- 2 *Ibid.* (Land Records) Liber O, folio 143
- 3 *Ibid.* (Land Records) Liber Q, folio 208
- 4 *Ibid.* (Land Records) Liber S, folio 160
- 5 *Ibid.* (Land Records) Liber U folio, 28

**THE PROPERTIES OF
JACOB LEVERTON (1777 - 1847)**

1814 - 1847

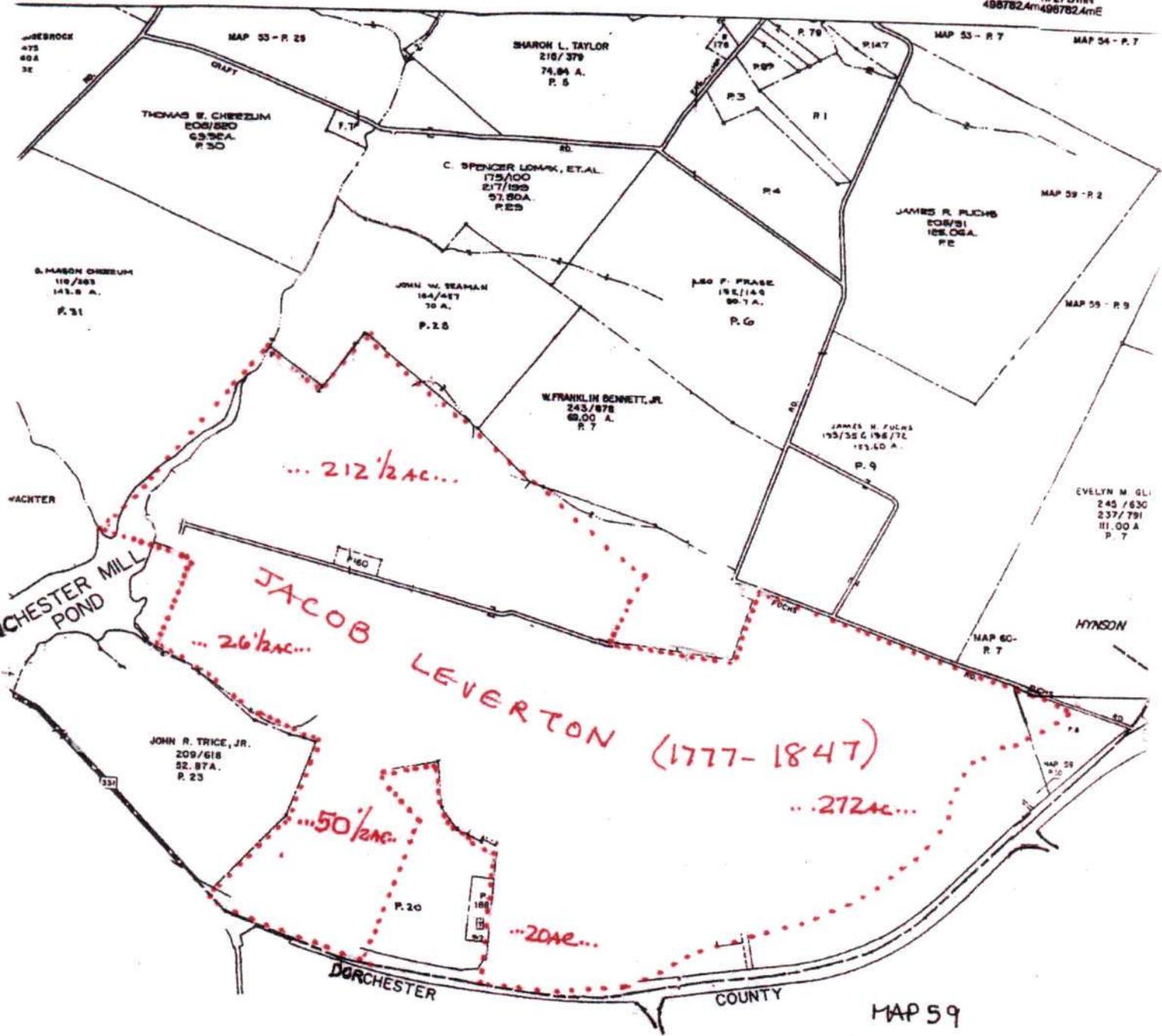
**SUGGESTED LOCATIONS ON
CAROLINE COUNTY PROPERTY MAP 59
© Maryland Department of Planning**



SUGGESTED LOCATIONS OF THE SEVERAL TRACTS

OWNED BY JACOB LEVERTON (1777-1847) BETWEEN 1814 & 1847.

28a



TOTAL
... 581 1/2 ac...

The land of Jacob Leverton (1777-1847) with Post-Civil War public roads removed from property map 59. In the area, there were undoubtedly existing paths and cart roads through private properties.

C2

TYPE	...
DATE	...
BY	...
FOR	...
...	...



CAROLINE COUNTY,
MARYLAND

Jacob Leverton Becomes Partner in Lower Hunting Creek Mill

When an opportunity arose in January of 1834 to buy a grist mill, Jacob Leverton and his Dorchester County neighbor, John Rowins, together purchased several tracts of land in Dorchester County called *Hampton* (20 1/4 acres), *Mill Security* (9 acres), *Puzzle* (5 acres), and another parcel of *Hampton* (3 1/2 acres) *with all and every of the mills, houses and other of the premises*. The property was in the estate of Joseph Richardson, of Joseph, of Dorchester County.¹

Title was conveyed on 10 December 1835 after the purchase price of \$1,950 was paid. Referred to as *Lower Hunting Creek Mill* - distinguishing it from *Upper Hunting Creek Mill* east of Preston - this flour-making enterprise may have dated from 1737, for in that year, John Nicholls, of Dorchester County, was granted a patent for the same nine acres of land, which he named *Mill Security*.²

By 1785, Col. Joseph Richardson and Col. John Eccleston, both of Dorchester County, owned this mill, and a store, on Hunting Creek. Before the sale to Jacob Leverton and John Rowins in 1835, the property had been in the hands of Col. Richardson's son, Joseph, and went into his estate at his death. His family brought a suit for disposition of his real estate into Maryland Court of Chancery which issued a decree in 1833 that the property be sold.¹

In 1838, the mill in Dorchester County was valued at \$900 for tax purposes.³ John Rowins and Jacob Leverton held the property until 1845, when the mill was sold to Algernon Thomas and Isham Eaton for \$2,500.⁴

1 DORCHESTER COUNTY COURT (Land Records) ER 15, folio 163

2 STATE OF MARYLAND LAND OFFICE (Patent Records) EI 2, p. 581.

3 www.collinsfactor.com/EastNewMarket/Tax1838.htm

4 DORCHESTER COUNTY COURT (Land Records) WJ 2, folio 221

Location of Lower Hunting Creek Mill

The mill appears on the Dorchester County section of the map of Maryland produced in 1794 by Dennis Griffith. There is a cluster of properties on Dorchester County Property Map 5 in the area where the mill was located. The legal description in a 1913 deed to the mill locates the property as part of Parcel 97 and a piece across the road labeled Parcel 7.¹

A section of property map is marked to suggest the mill property.¹ This is, by no means, meant to substitute for a full search of the properties to determine exactly which ones held Lower Hunting Creek Mill.

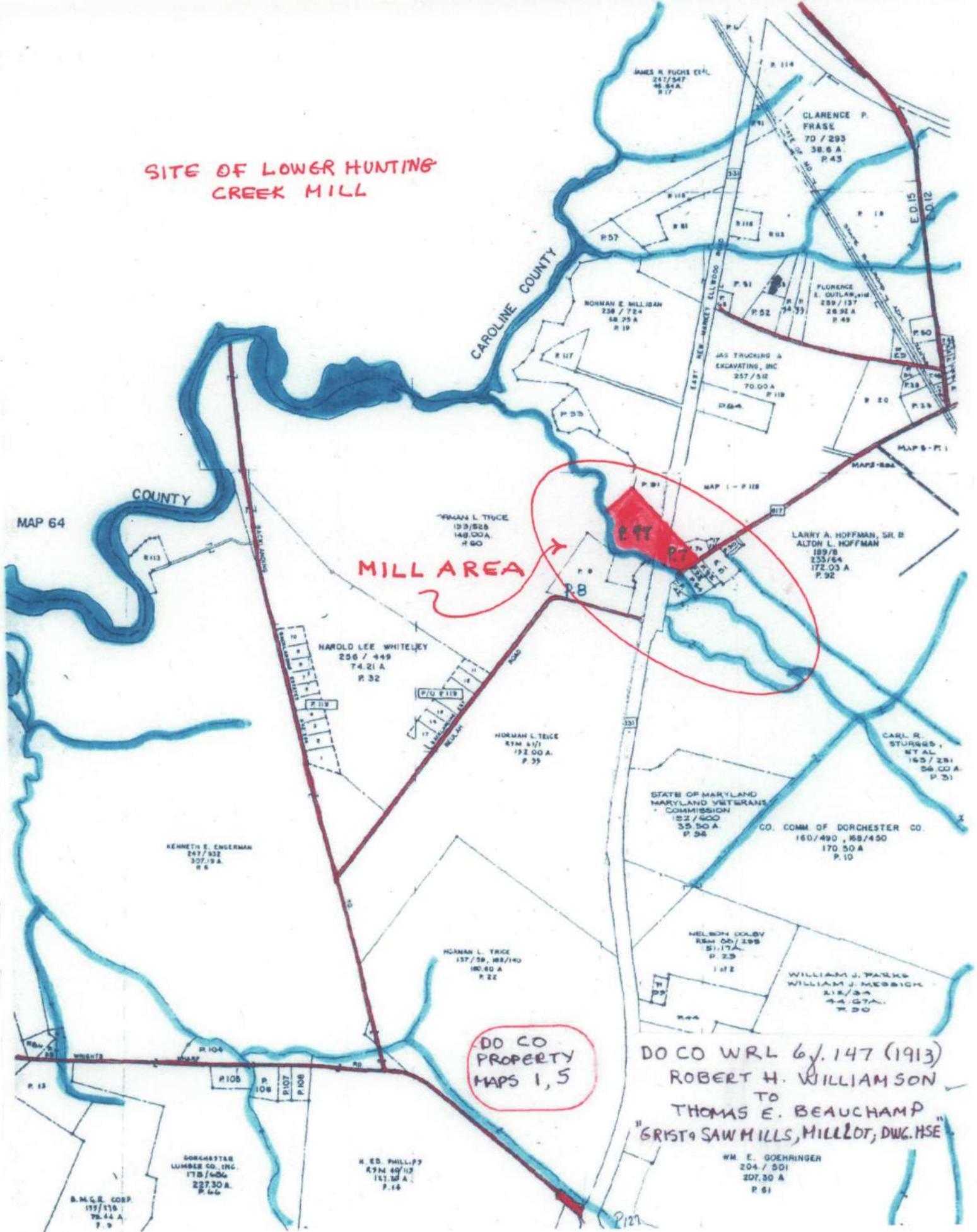
The mill property was about one mile southwest of a farm Arthur Leverton would buy in 1838 in Dorchester County.

Location of Lower Hunting Creek Mill is shown on three maps:

- a. Dorchester County (combined) Property Maps 1 and 5
- b. Williamsburg District, Dorchester County. 1876 Atlas
- c. Dorchester County, Map of the State of Maryland, Dennis Griffith, 1794/95

¹ DORCHESTER COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT (Land Records) WRL 6, folio 147 1913 Williamson to Beauchamp

**SITE OF LOWER HUNTING
CREEK MILL**

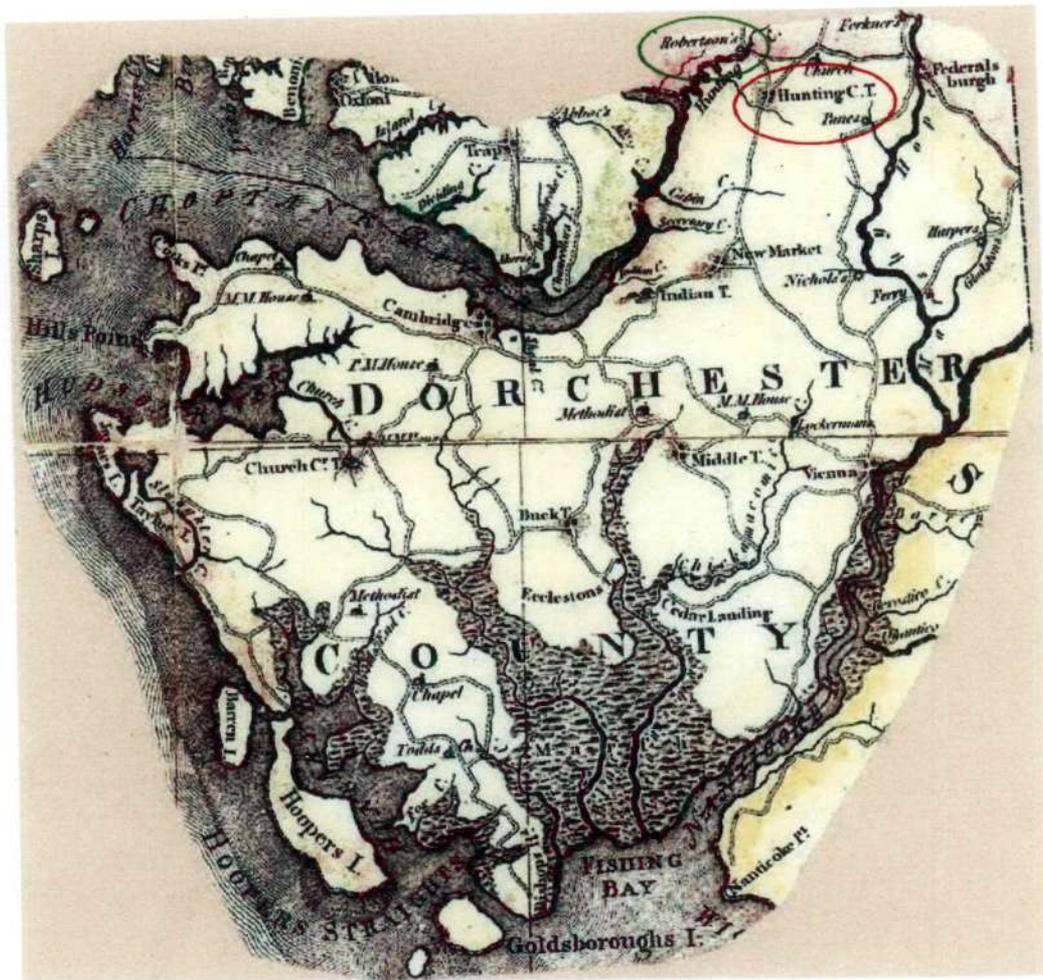


MILL AREA

DO CO
PROPERTY
MAPS 1, 5

DO CO WRL 67.147 (1913)
ROBERT H. WILLIAMSON
TO
THOMAS E. BEAUCHAMP
"GRIST SAW MILLS, MILL LOT, DWG. HSE"

WM. E. GOEHRINGER
204 / 501
207.30 A
P. 61



RED: LOWER HUNTING CREEK MILL AT HUNTING CREEK TOWN, 1794. (NO LONGER EXISTS)
 GREEN: ROBERTSON'S MILL, 1794. (UPPER HUNTING CREEK HILL, NOW LINCHESTER HILL)
 FROM MAP OF MARYLAND, DENNIS GRIFFITH, 1794/95.

Arthur & Margaret Leverton's First Purchase of Land

In whose home the couple were living after their marriage in 1832 is not known, but Caroline County was the residency claimed in four deeds to which Arthur was a party between 20 September 1832 to April 1836.¹

Two years later, Dorchester County assessed the personal property of Arthur W. Leverton for taxes, the value being placed at \$85. There was no assessed real property. This would indicate that Arthur and Margaret had moved from Caroline County, but that he owned no land in Dorchester.² Perhaps the couple was staying with Margaret's parents who lived in Dorchester County until they could provide a homestead for themselves.

Their first purchase of land took place on 4 September 1838. For \$200, Arthur W. Leverton, of Dorchester County, acquired 163 acres of land from the heirs of James Corkran, probably a Quaker. The tracts were named *Murrays Adventure* and *Hap Hazzard*.³ An adjacent 7½ acres, a small portion of *Russums Good Luck*, was purchased from James Rowins, of Dorchester County, in May of 1840.⁴

Arthur and Margaret were now "of Dorchester County." Their acreage was on the south side of the road which formed the boundary line between Caroline and Dorchester counties. This ancient road ran from a bridge over the Choptank River at Dover, through Upper Hunting Creek, now called Linchester, and through Federalsburg into Delaware. Arthur hadn't settled far from the farm on which he grew up, as his new home was directly opposite the easternmost part of his father's land.

1 APPENDIX D: *LAND RECORD ENTRIES*: Caroline & Dorchester counties

2 <http://collinsfactor.com/EastNeMarket/TaxRecs1852.htm>

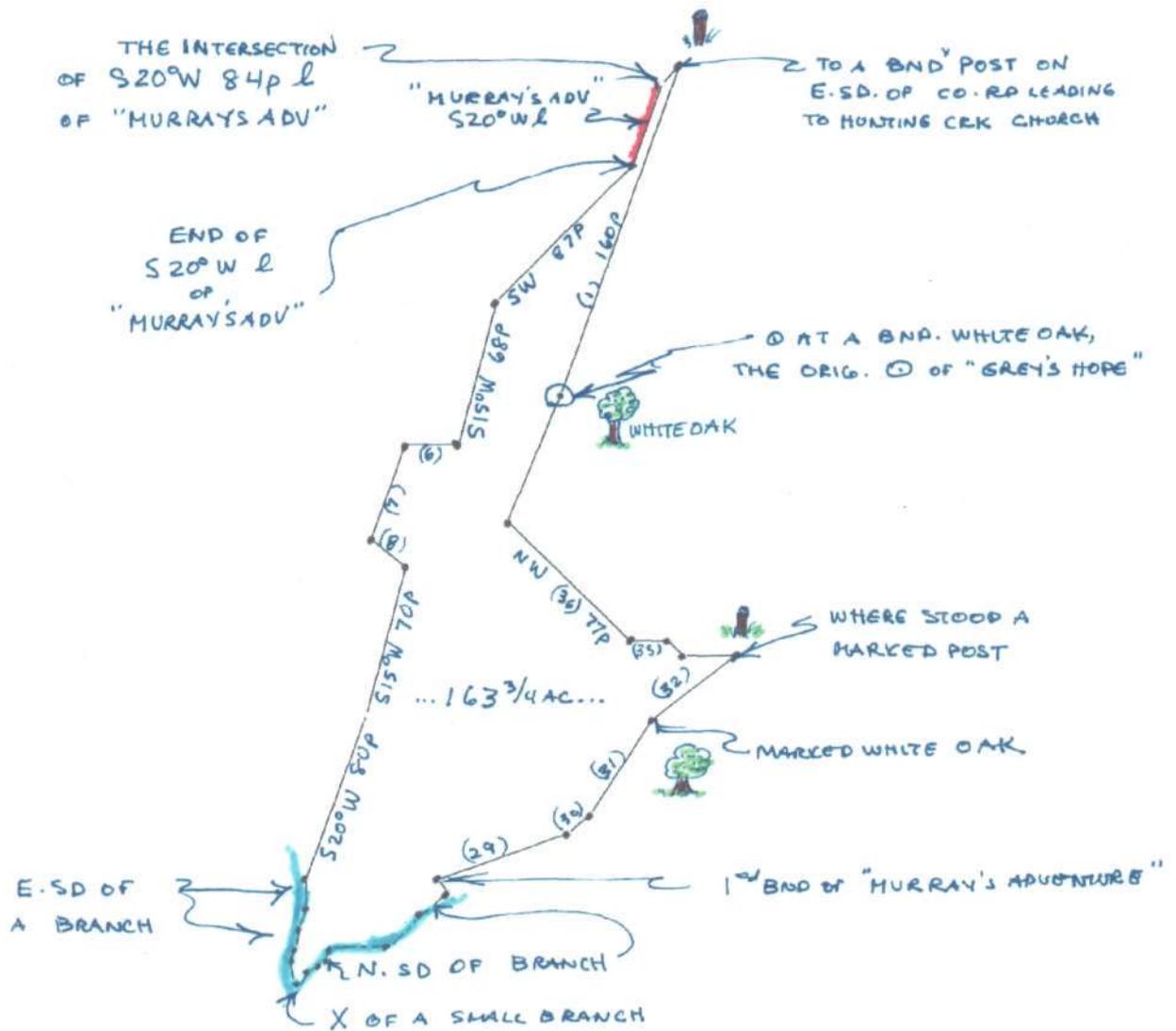
3 DORCHESTER COUNTY COURT (Land Records) ER 16, folio 591.. 1838

4 *Ibid.* (Land Records) ER 18, folio 35. 1840

Location of Arthur Leverton's Dorchester County Farm

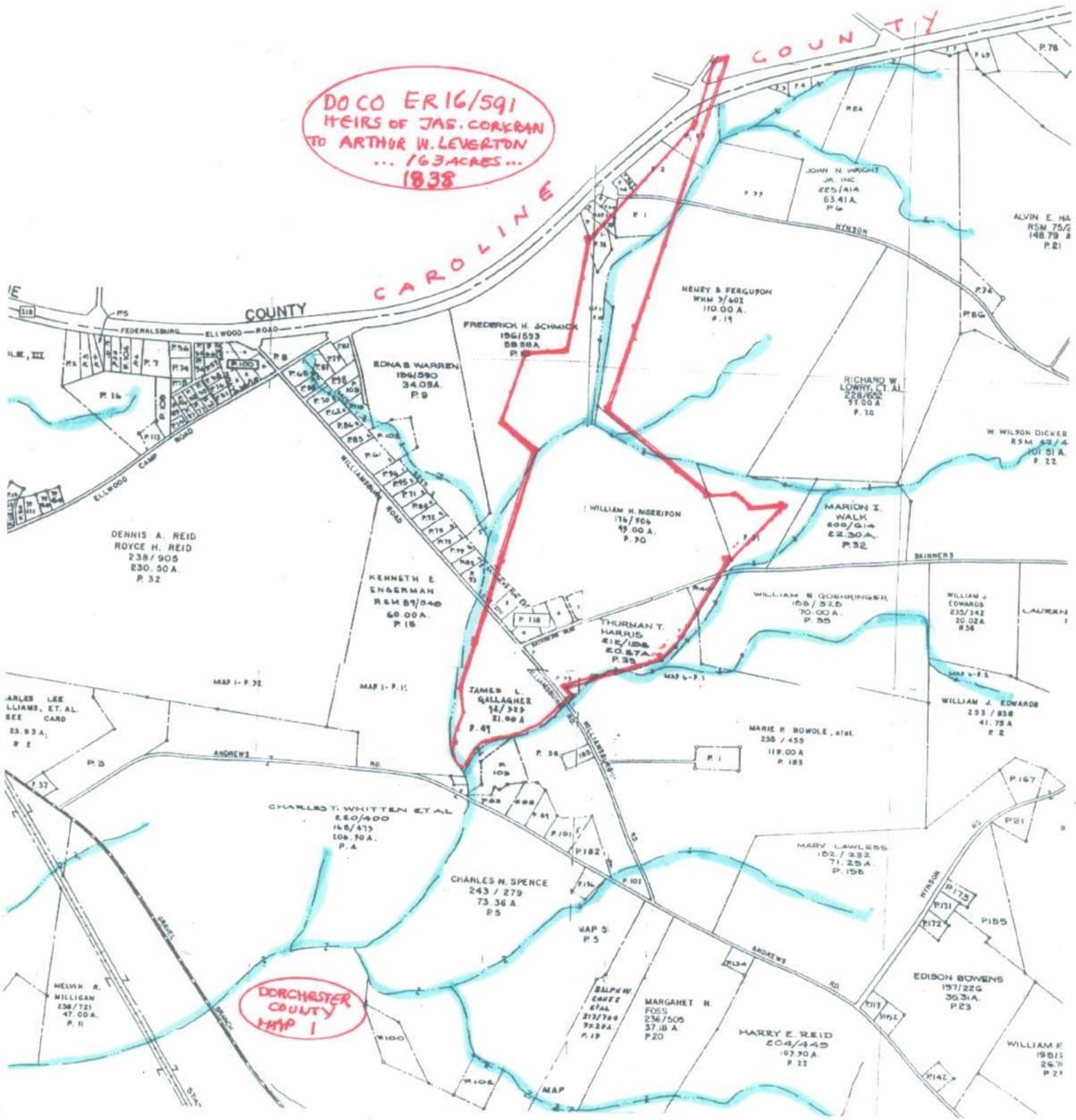
The deed to the larger part of his property conveyed the land without courses and distances. However, in 1807 the same tract was transferred to a new owner with the necessary description which can be used to identify the location of Arthur's farm.

Using computer platting program, *Deed Plotter+*, the tract has been reproduced for this report. The plat is also marked on a section of Dorchester County Property Map 1, with a suggested placement on current property lines.



Title: DO CO HD 24/465 1807 Wm Robertson Murray to James Corkran of John 163 a		Date: 05-02-2007
Scale: 1 inch = 1200 feet	File: Lvrtn HD 24 f.465.des	
Tract 1: 161.201 Acres: 7021910 Sq Feet: Closure = n48.0908e 0.00 Feet: Precision >1/999999: Perimeter = 18394 Feet		
001=N20E 160P	014=S26W 6P	027=N46E 10P
002=S44W 11P	015=S8E 10P	028=N32W 7P
003=S20W 40P	016=S43E 4P	029=N70E 62P
004=S45W 87P	017=N25E 8P	030=N49E 13P
005=S15W 68P	018=N61E 8P	031=N33E 52P
006=N90W 24P	019=N28E 8P	032=N52E 47P
007=S20W 46P	020=N87E 12P	033=N90W 23P
008=S50E 20P	021=S84E 5P	034=N45W 10P
009=S15W 70P	022=N82E 10P	035=N90W 17P
010=S20W 80P	023=N49E 8P	036=N45W 77P
011=S0E 14P	024=N49E 5P	037=n22.5614e 1035.81 ?
012=S21W 9P	025=N19E 4P	
013=S9W 9P	026=N58E 8P	

Arthur Loveston's Farm in Dorchester County, MD



Arthur Leaverton's Farm in Dorchester County, MD

Arthur W. Leverton is Head of Household in 1840

The Census of 1840 was the first time Arthur appears as head of household. The Dorchester County side of the county line was assigned to the New Market District in Dorchester County. Arthur, now 34, was raising his family consisting of:

<u>Census Category</u>	<u>Suggested Individual</u>
2 males under 5	<i>[Jacob Whiteley Leverton, born 22 December 1837]</i> <i>[Baynard Turpin Leverton, born 24 May 1840]</i>
1 female 5-9	<i>[Elizabeth Amanda Leverton, born 25 July 1833]</i>
1 male from 10 - 14	<i>[not known to be a child of Arthur and Margaret]</i>
1 female 15-19	<i>[not known to be a child of Arthur and Margaret]</i>
1 female 20 -29	<i>[Margaret A. Turpin Leverton, b. ca, 1814]</i>
1 male from 20-29	<i>[identity unknown]</i>
1 male from 30-39	<i>[Arthur W. Leverton, born 8 February 1806]</i>

There were no free black persons in the household nor were there slaves.

The head of household was engaged in Manufactures and Trade, in which two people were employed. These would have been Arthur and probably the second adult male in the household. There is no clue as to the type of manufacturing enterprise; it could well have been that he was employed in his father's mill on Hunting Creek, which was close to his farm.

N.B. See *APPENDIX D* for references

The Household of Jacob Leverton in 1840

In the 1840, Jacob would have been 66 years old. In the Caroline County census schedule for that year, Jacob Leverton was head of a household in which there lived:

1	male between 60 and 70	<i>[Jacob]</i>
1	female between 5 and 9	<i>[unknown]</i>
2	females 10 - 14	<i>[Mary Elizabeth and Ruth Hannah Leverton]</i>
1	female 30 - 39	<i>Hannah W. Leverton, who was born in 1800.</i>
2	free colored males 10 to 23	
0	slaves	

The land Jacob owned was still under cultivation, for the census recorded two persons engaged in agriculture. Given Jacob's advanced age, the working of the farmland was most likely accomplished by the two young men who were listed in his household in the column labeled *10 and under 24* within the *Free Colored Males* heading.

N.B. See *APPENDIX D* for references

Arthur's Half-brother, Henry S. Leverton, in 1840

Arthur's half-brother, Henry, married Arrena Wright in December of 1836 when he was 21.¹

By the time the 1840 census was taken, Henry had established his own household in Caroline County which included his wife and a free colored male between 10 and 24 years old. The census taker counted two persons engaged in farming - Henry and the younger free black.

N.B. See *APPENDIX D* for references

¹ *Caroline County, Maryland, Marriage Licenses, 1826 - 1865*, Baird & Scott, p. 49

The Death of Jacob Leverton in the Spring of 1847

When Jacob Leverton composed his will on the sixth day of third month, 1847, he described himself as *weak in body, but of perfect sound disposing mind memory and understanding.*

He bequeathed to his *beloved wife, wife Hannah W. Leverton*, a house and lot containing twenty-three acres of land which he had purchased from the heirs of Alexander Stewart¹ for the course of her natural life, declaring that she must not commit any waste on the property. Further, the sum of \$500 was to be given her out of his personal estate, as well as the annual rents from the farm where he was living and from another he called *the old Church farm.*

The privilege of the parlor and kitchen where I now live was given to Hannah *for her own use, which priviledge she is not to rent or hire to no person.* The use of a lot of ground at the east end of his dwelling house - probably for a garden - access to the smoke house and to firewood were explicitly granted to her. Hannah was directed to choose a cow, horse, carriage and harness, was given the rights to house them in the west end of the barn and in a shed as well as pasture for the animals. She also received one set of silver table spoons, one bureau, a work stand and one bed, bedstead and furniture of her choice. It was understood that the land and legacies were to be her full right of dower in his estate, both real and personal.²

1 CAROLINE COUNTY COURT (Land Records) Liber O, folio 145

2 CAROLINE COUNTY REGISTER OF WILLS (Wills), Liber WAF No. A, folio 385. Jacob Leverton, Made 6th day of third month 1847. Probated 11th May 1847.

Jacob Leverton's Will

Having taken care of his wife, Jacob then turned to provide for his children. To his son, Henry, he devised *the farm commonly called the old Church farm, that I purchased of James Barton,¹ save and except five acres more or less laid off and marked adjoining my home farm, by his paying the annually the sum of 25 dollars to his mother-in-law, Hannah W. Leverton.*

Daughters Mary E. and Ruth H. Leverton received title to *my home farm together with the old field adjoining the county road and five acres more or less that is taken off the farm that I left to my son, Henry, it being marked and bounded, by their paying to their mother annually the sum of thirty five dollars during her natural life and giving her the privilege as herein before reserved for her use.* There were also gifts of silver plate and furniture to his daughters.

1 CAROLINE COUNTY COURT (Land Records) Liber Q, folio 208. 18 December 1838

Jacob Leverton's Will - continued

When it came to Arthur's legacy, the will recited that *As I have bequeathed all my lands, I give and bequeath to my son Arthur W. Leverton the sum of one thousand dollars.* The money was to be paid out of his personal estate. This was not a punitive denial of his real estate to his oldest son, but an equal value substitution of money for land. A practical Jacob must have taken into account the fact that Arthur already owned a farm, whereas Henry, who had no real estate, should be the beneficiary of Jacob's other large tract of land.

One thousand dollars was a considerable sum of money in 1847, and Arthur was far from slighted by his father. A clause followed that should there be a deficiency of assets depriving Arthur of his inheritance, the lands devised to the other children were to be subjected to liens *by losing a proportionable part thereof* so that Arthur would realize his legacy.

After appointing Hannah and Arthur sole executors of his estate, Jacob signed the will on the sixth day of third month, 1847. His witnesses were three friends and neighbors: Willis, Nathan and Elisha Corkrin. Jacob Leverton died five days later.¹

The executors of Jacob's estate, Hannah W. Leverton and Arthur W. Leverton, waited two months after his death to begin the probate process. It was not until 11 May 1847 that the Last Will and Testament of Jacob Leverton was admitted for probate by the Register of Wills for Caroline County. A bond of \$5,000 was posted by the Executors.²

1 Carroll, Kenneth, *Quakerism of the Eastern Shore*, page 259, Northwest Fork Monthly Meeting
2 CAROLINE COUNTY REGISTER OF WILLS (Bonds) *Liber WAF No .B, folio 226.*

The Inventory of Jacob's Personal Estate is Taken

An inventory of the goods and chattels of Jacob Leverton was taken by Henry Davis and William H. Gootee who were appointed by the Orphan's Court to *apprise the goods, chattles and personal estate*. The assignment required signing an oath that they would list and value the property *to the best of their skill and judgement*. Quakers signed an affirmation; swearing an oath was prohibited by their beliefs. The form provided for both approaches for assurance that the duty would be accomplished on the highest principles and according to the law.

Before he placed his signature on the document testifying that he would do his duty as appraiser, Quaker Gootee forswore the use of *swear* by crossing it out, which left *solemnly, sincerely, and truly affirm*, and Davis, after striking the Quaker affirmation, swore he'd do the same.

They both qualified on 18 May 1847 to appraise the estate, and the next day, went to the Leverton property to begin their work, completing it in one day.¹

A photocopy of the qualification document signed by the two appraisers follows.

1 CAROLINE COUNTY REGISTER OF WILLS (Inventories, Original) 1842-1851; Jacob Leverton. Accession No. 16,529-3, MSA C517-25, Location 1/3/4/29, 6 pp.

The State of Maryland, To *William H. Cootes*

and *Henry Davis*

GREETING:—This is to authorize you jointly to apprise the goods, chattles, and personal estate of *Jacob Swanton* late of *Caroline* county, deceased, so far as they shall come to your sight and knowledge, each of you having first taken the oath or affirmation hereto annexed, a certificate whereof you are to return, annexed to an inventory of the said goods, chattles, and personal estate by you appraised in dollars and cents and in the said inventory you are to set down, in a column or

columns opposite to each article, the value thereof. Witness *Abraham Lumps* Esq, Chief Justice of the Orphans' Court of *Caroline* county, this *18th* day of *May* 1847.

Test

W. A. Ford, Reg'r. of Wills

for *Caroline* county.

I *Wm. H. Cootes* do ~~swear~~ solemnly, sincerely, and truly affirm, that I will well and truly, without partiality or prejudice, value and appraise the goods, chattles, and personal estate of *Jacob Swanton* deceased, so far as the same shall come to my sight and knowledge, and will in all respects, perform my duty as appraiser, to the best of my skill and judgment—So help me God.

The above *affirmation* was taken and subscribed before me one of the Justices of the Peace for *Caroline* county, this *18th* day of *May* 1847.

I *Henry Davis* do swear, or ~~solemnly~~, ~~sincerely~~, and truly affirm, that I will well and truly, without partiality or prejudice, value and appraise the goods, chattles, and personal estate of *Jacob Swanton* deceased, so far as the same shall come to my sight and knowledge, and will in all respects perform my duty as appraiser, to the best of my skill and judgement---So help me God.

The above *oath* was taken and subscribed before me, one of the Justices of the Peace for *Caroline* county, this *18th* day of *May* 1847

Wm. H. Cootes

Jacob Leverton's Inventory is Extensive

Listed on nine oversized pages, three hundred and six items were viewed and valued that day by Henry Davis and William Gootee.

The inventory began with \$6.00 cash in the house, Jacob's silver watch, and then went on to list household furniture: many kitchen pots and china, kitchen cupboard, kitchen [pie] safe, furnishings for the parlor (mantle clock, walnut table, Jacob's gun, a blue cupboard, cupboard ware worth more than the cupboard, a walnut secretary, and more). There would have had to have been a separate dining room in Jacob's brick dwelling to accommodate: a large dining table and one dozen stool chairs, a mahogany sideboard and several large pieces. The listed carpets would have covered all of the flooring in the house. A book case with drawers valued at \$10.00 was the piece of furniture valued the highest.

On page 5, entered among the items inventoried on the ground floor was

1 Negroe's Bed & furniture, \$2.00,

and on page 8, *1 negro boy called Jim, term of service 3 yrs 8 mos., (value) \$65.*

Within one week, the executors returned the inventory of goods and chattels to the Orphans Court. The value of his personal estate was \$1,344.59. On that same day, an order to sell Jacob's personal property was issued by the Court.

Public Sale of the Personal Estate of Jacob Leverton

A few weeks later, a public sale was held. All of the inventoried items, with the exception of legacies to his widow and children, were auctioned that day. Henry Leverton bought his father's gun and paid \$26.25 for a sorrel mare and colt, the highest amount for the five items struck off to him. For \$100, Mary Elizabeth Leverton bought apprentice Jim's time. Arthur Leverton acquired nothing at the sale. There were many neighbors at the sale with successful bids, but eighty per cent of Jacob's worldly goods, including his silver watch, were purchased by one Willis W. Wright.

Willis W. Wright? Surely, not Willis Wilson Wright, first-born son of Arthur's second step-mother, Hannah Wilson Wright Leverton, by her first husband, Willis Wright, son of John and Esther Wright - and therefore, Arthur's step-brother?

One and the same.

And John Wright, father of Willis Wright and grandfather of Willis Wilson Wright - he was the same John Wright, Sr., of Milton, Indiana, for whom Arthur bought the corn whiskey?

None other.

1 CAROLINE COUNTY REGISTER OF WILLS (Accounts of Sale, Original) 1845-1850. Jacob Leverton. Accession No. 16,534-2, MSA No. C458-7, 12 pp.

PART OF A PAGE FROM

ACCOUNT OF SALES

LISTING THE PERSONAL PROPERTY

OF JACOB LEVERTON (1777 - 1847)

SOLD ON 3 JUNE 1847

MARYLAND STATE ARCHIVES
CAROLINE COUNTY REGISTER OF WILLS
(Account of Sales, Original), 1845-1850,
Accession No. 16,534-2 MSA C 458-7

CAROLINE COUNTY REC. OF WILLS (Accts. of Sales Original) 1845-1850. Jacob Leverton Acc. 16, 534-2 MSA C 458-7

An account of sales of the goods, chattels and personal estate of Jacob Leverton late of Caroline County deceased per a on this 13th day of June 1847 by Hannah W Leverton and Arthur W Leverton Executors of said deceased with two columns one for the Appraisement and the other for the sales of each article together with the name of the purchaser as follows

Property	Appraisement	Purchaser	Sales
Cash	\$6.00		\$6.00
1 Silver Watch	5.00	Willis W Weight	5.00
Shovel, Tongs, fan handle	1.00	Little Little	.75
1 pr Andirons	.75	Little Little	1.00
1 Sol pot Trammels	.75	Little Little	.75
5 pairs pot hooks	.50	do do	.55
1 Griddle	10	do do	10
1 Andiron	15	do do	15
1 pr Waupleirons	35	do do	35
3 Andirons	40	do do	40
Flesh fork & Hammer	10	do do	13
3 Spades & 1 Sia	0.25	do do	35
2 Ovens & 1 do	1.00	do do	1.00
1 small pot & Oven	.35	do do	.35
1 large iron pot No 1	.50	do do	.75
1 do do No 2	.50	do do	.50
2 do do No 3	.40	do do	.65
1 small do	.25	do do	.30
1 Tea Kettle	.40	do do	.50
1 do do	.05		
1 Tin Kitchen	.75	do do	.75
1 Fryng pan	.25	do do	.25
1 Coffee Mill	10	do do	10
2 Sifters	.25	do do	.25
1 Wooden Bow & Tray	.25	do do	.25

Identifying Willis Wilson Wright

To recapitulate, the third wife of Jacob Leverton was Hannah Wilson Wright, a young widow. At sixteen, Hannah married Willis Wright, only to be widowed within a year. Their son, Willis Wilson Wright, was born on 4 October 1817, three weeks after his father's death. On page 13 of this report the following comment appears:

Where [Hannah] was living after her husband's death and before her marriage to Jacob Leverton is not known, nor is it understood what became of her first child. Arthur Leverton named one of his sons Willis Wright Leverton . . . in honor of his step-brother, Willis Wilson Wright

But a Willis W. Wright was the most successful bidder during the sale of Jacob Leverton's personal estate. Who was this man? Was he a resident of Caroline County? In the absence of contemporary documents, the federal census schedules from 1820 through 1840 can provide clues, but no answers, as only the name of the head of household is recorded.

Willis would have been thirteen years old during the summer of 1830 when the census was taken. Checking the household of Jacob Leverton, we find two males between the ages of 10 and under 15. One could have been Willis and the other, perhaps Jacob's son, Henry, since there were no males in the age group 15 and under 20, the category in which Henry rightfully belonged.

In the 1840 census, the only male in the household was between 60 and 70 years of age. Jacob had reached his sixty-sixth birthday on March 11 of that year. Willis would have been twenty-three. In Caroline County, there was no head of household named Willis Wright. So, Arthur's step-brother had been 1) missed by the census taker, 2) was deceased, or 3) was living somewhere else.

Identifying Willis Wilson Wright

The census of 1850 was the first to list the names of all members in each household. Since this census occurred only three years after the sale of Jacob Leverton's effects, the likelihood of capturing a locally grown Willis W. Wright is promising.

Indeed, an online index¹ yielded two persons with the name *Willis Wright* in Caroline County. One, a twenty-three year-old carpenter, was part of the household of William M. A. Liden and his family, along with two other carpenters who were living on Liden's farm. The second Willis Wright was a laborer, age seventeen, who was living in the home of his father, Elisha Wright. Neither seems to be a candidate for the Willis W. Wright who came to the auction and swept up most of the goods and chattels of Jacob Leverton.

Nor is the online index to the census for *Willis Wilson Wright* or *Willis W. Wright* promising for the rest of the United States. The only *Willis W. Wright* lived in Illinois and was born in 1828 in Pennsylvania. There were thirty-one persons with the name *Willis Wright*, none of whom were the right age, twenty-nine *Wilson* Wrights, three *Wilson W. Wrights*, and eleven other *Willis Wrights* with a middle initial not *W*.

1 www.ancestry.com, Federal Census Records Collection.

Willis Wilson Wright is a Resident of Indiana

Trying surname *Wright* with the initials *W. W.*, the electronic index to the 1850 census yielded twelve *W. W. Wrights*, two with birth year ca. 1818. One lived in Louisiana and was born in Kentucky, the other, of Indianapolis, Indiana, was born in Indiana.

Because of the migration of Caroline County residents to Indiana, the latter entry was chosen first. There was no need afterward to view the Louisiana *W. W. Wright*, for upon examination of the image of the actual population schedule for the Indiana *Wright*, it was clear that, in the column for birth place, the census taker had written *Md* not *Ind*. This *W. W. Wright* was born in Maryland.

So, in the 1850 census, the indexed *W. W. Wright*, *residence in Indianapolis, Indiana, birth date ca. 1818, born in Indiana*, but in reality, a native of Maryland, becomes the logical choice to be Willis Wilson Wright, born in Caroline County, Maryland, to Willis and Hannah Wilson Wright on October 4, 1817.

This is the Willis W. Wright who, in 1847, journeyed from Indiana to Preston, Maryland, to attend the sale of his deceased step-father's belongings to buy up what was needed for his mother and half-sisters to continue to live with as little change in their physical comfort as he could provide.

A copy of the census image follows.¹

1 1850 Federal Census, Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana. Roll: M432_159; Page 231; Image 162.
www.ancestry.com: *W. W. Wright*, Indianapolis, Indiana.



1850 United States Federal Census

Name:	W W Wright
Age:	32
Estimated birth year:	abt 1818
Birth Place:	Indiana
Gender:	Male
Home in 1850 (City,County,State):	Indianapolis, Marion, Indiana

Source Citation: Year: 1850; Census Place: Indianapolis, Marion, Indiana; Roll: M432_159; Page: 231; Image: 162.

Source Information:

Ancestry.com. 1850 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc., 2005. Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census. *Seventh Census of the United States, 1850*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1850. M432, 1,009 rolls.

Description:

This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1850 United States Federal Census, the Seventh Census of the United States. Census takers recorded many details including each person's name, age as of the census day, sex, color; birthplace, occupation of males over age fifteen, and more. No relationships were shown between members of a household. Additionally, the names of those listed on the population schedule are linked to actual images of the 1850 Federal Census.

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44a

1850 Federal Census INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Dwelling Houses
in visitation order

Families in
visitation order

		Name of every person... on 1st June 1850	Age	Sex	Color	Profession, Trade, Occupation male/female over 15	Value Real Estate	Place of Birth	Married for years
		Wm. Wright	25	M				Germany	
503	515	Wm. Wright	32	M		Genl. Agent \$2000		Germany	
		Jessie H. Wright	10	F				Ind	
		Chas. E. Wright	8	M				Ind	
		Margaret Brown	60	F			6000	Ind	
		Mary Ann Lupton	20	F				Ind	
		A. H. Collier	33	M		Genl. (2)	4000	Germany	
		Charles Collier	26	F				Germany	
		Henry Collier	5	M				Ind	
		Stephen Collier	6	F				Ind	
		Chas. Collier	8	M				Ind	
		Samuel Collier	57	F				Germany	
504	516	Wm. D. Hill							

1. Genl. Agent
2. Grocer

Arthur's Step-brother, Willis Wilson Wright, in Indianapolis

Describing his occupation to the census taker in 1850 as *General Agent*, thirty-three year-old Willis was apparently in business for himself. Widowed earlier that year, Willis was head of household consisting of his two small children, Julie and Charles, his mother-in-law, the family of grocer A. H. Collier, and Collier's mother. Willis' real estate was valued at \$2,000; his mother-in-law's at \$6,000, and Collier's at 4,000. ¹

By 1860, Willis, *retired merchant*, had remarried, had three more children, and owned real estate worth \$30,000.² Sometime in the next decade, he came out of retirement to become a real estate agent. By 1870, the value of his real property had escalated to \$49,000.³ Ten years later, he was appointed Deputy Assessor,⁴ but continued to deal in real estate through his own firm, Willis W. Wright & Co.⁵ He remained active in this business until a stroke curbed his activities seven months before his death in 1896.^{6,7}

1 1850 Federal Census, Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana. Roll: M432_159; Page 231; Image 162.

www.ancestry.com: W. W. Wright, Indianapolis, Indiana.

2 1860 Federal Census, Indianapolis, Centre South Part, Marion County, Indiana. Roll: M653_279 Page 468; Image 470. www.ancestry.com: Willis W. Wright, Centre, South Part, Marion County, Indiana.

3 1870 Federal Census, Indianapolis, Centre, South Part, Marion County, Indiana. Roll: M593_337 Page 317; Image 43. www.ancestry.com: Willis Wright, Center, Marion County, Indiana.

4 1880 Federal Census, Indianapolis, Center, Marion County, Indiana; Roll: T9_294; Family History Film: 1254294; Page 625.3999; Enumeration District: 106; Image 0431Image 470. ancestry.com: Willis W. Wright, Center Twp, Marion County, Indiana.. The federal census of 1890 was destroyed by fire.

5 Indianapolis, Indiana, Directories, 1887-1890: Willis W. Wright; John L. Avery. 14 Ingalls Block, Real Estate and Loans, 1889. Business Name: Willis W. Wright & Co.; Willis W. Wright, 21 Ingalls Block, Notary Public, 1889, Business Name: Willis W. Wright & Co., Location 2: 401 Clifford Avenue; Willis W. Wright, 14 Ingalls Block, 1889, Real Estate and Notary.

6 John H. B. Nowland, *Sketches of Prominent Citizens of 1876*, Tiford & Carlon, Printers, Indianapolis, 1877, p. 241, Willis W. Wright.

7 *INDIANAPOLIS NEWS*, Tuesday, 24 March 1880. Obituary of Willis W. Wright.

Arthur's Step-brother, Willis Wilson Wright: His Early Years

Willis was born to Hannah Wilson Wright three weeks after the death of his father, Willis, who had reached his twenty-fourth birthday in 1817. Willis had been captain of a sailing vessel engaged in trade on the Chesapeake Bay. Captain Willis' older brother, Peter Wright, founded *Peter Wright & Sons*, a major nineteenth century trans-Atlantic marine shipping company.

Six years after the death of Willis Wright, Hannah Wilson Wright married Jacob Leverton. From the age of six, Willis and his mother, Hannah, lived with his step-father, Jacob Leverton, his step-brothers and half-sisters on a farm in southern Caroline County, a mile east of the town of Preston. The brick section of the house in which Willis and Arthur were raised is still standing. Known as the *Jacob and Hannah Leverton Dwelling*, it is a certified site on the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom, a program of the National Park Service.

A photograph of the dwelling as it appeared in 1885 extends a graphic sense of the comfortable, picturesque environment in which Arthur Leverton, his half-brother, Henry, step-brother Willis, and half-sisters, Mary Elizabeth and Ruth Hannah grew to maturity.



The Jacob Leveston Dwelling ca 1855. This is the home in which Arthur W. Leveston lived until his marriage and establishment of his own household.
Courtesy of Robert E. Farrell

Arthur's Step-brother, Willis Wilson Wright: His Middle and Later Years

When he was about fourteen, Willis may have been sent to Philadelphia to further his education. His uncle, Peter Wright had moved there from Caroline County in 1817. Willis' education, begun in Caroline County, was continued in Chester County in 1831, according to a biographical profile.¹ Two years later, he was living in Baltimore, Maryland, clerking in a drug store. In 1835, then a young man, Willis moved to Milton, Indiana, supporting himself there by working in *a general store owned by a his uncle*.¹ This must have been his father's brother, John H. Wright, for three years later, when the business was moved to Indianapolis, Willis accompanied it - and his relatives - to the young capitol of Indiana, where he started out as a clerk *in the store of the late John H. Wright, a relative of his*.²

Willis Wilson Wright soon took his own place in the commercial life of the city, making significant contributions to its rapid growth.² That he accomplished much is attested to by his inclusion in a late nineteenth-century Indianapolis version of *Who's Who?*

The profile of Willis as Indianapolis community leader and business man follows.²

1 *Indianapolis News*, Tuesday, 14 March 1880. Obituary of Willis W. Wright.

2 *Sketches of Prominent Citizens of 1876*, John H. B. Nowland, Tiford & Curlon, Printers, Indianapolis. 1877

WILLIS W. WRIGHT

Was born in the town of Denton, Caroline county, Maryland, on the 4th of October, 1817. He came to Wayne county, Indiana, in 1835, thence to Indianapolis in August, 1838, as a clerk in the store of the late John H. Wright, a relative of his.

On the 12th of September, 1839, he was married to Miss Lavina, daughter of James and Margaret Gavin. Mrs. Wright died in January, 1850; he then was married, on the 12th of June, 1852, to Miss Francis F., youngest daughter of John Strange, who was one of the pioneer Methodist ministers of Indiana, and one of the most eloquent that ever lived in the State before or since.

In 1850 he was declared to be elected county treasurer by one majority; the election being contested the re-count showed the majority to be four. He was re-elected in 1852, the majority being one hundred and eleven, the only Whig on the ticket elected. At this election Joseph A. Wright, who was the Democratic candidate for Governor against Nicholas McCarty, carried the county by three hundred and twenty-five majority. By this it will be seen that Mr. Willis W. Wright was stronger than the party that nominated him. He was the first secretary of the Indianapolis Gas Light and Coke Company.

He was a director of the Indianapolis and Peru railroad from its organization until near the time the road was completed; served as treasurer of the same road for several years, and for one year was general superintendent. For several years was grand secretary of the Grand Lodge, and as grand scribe of the Grand Encampment of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of the State of Indiana, and is at present the W. G. Master of the American Protestant Association of Indiana.

By the above it will readily be seen that Mr. Wright has been no idle spectator of what has been going on in Indianapolis for the last thirty-eight years, but has taken an active part in building up and forwarding the interests of the city. He has been for many years a worthy and acceptable member of the Methodist church, and as such enjoys the confidence of the members of that respectable denomination, as well as all with whom he has in any way been associated, either in the order to which he belongs or in business. Of Mr. Wright I speak from personal knowledge and observation.

I must also add that with all the other luck which has been his fortune to share he has been pre-eminently so in the selection of two of Indianapolis' handsomest women for wives.

Sketches of prominent Citizens of 1876

by John H. E. Nowland, T. Ford & Carlson, Printers, Indianapolis, 1877

The Death of Arthur's Step-brother, Willis W. Wright

His death occurred on 24 March 1896 in Indianapolis, Indiana, in his seventy-ninth year.¹ His obituary appeared in an Indianapolis newspaper on the very day of his death, as if the presses were held to catch the immediate news of his passing. If this suggestion is too fanciful, the headline surely reflects the esteem in which Arthur's step-brother was held as a mover and a shaker in Indianapolis.

INDIANAPOLIS NEWS, Tuesday, March 24, 1896

WILLIS W. WRIGHT DEAD

ONE OF THE OLD CITIZENS OF INDIANA

Prominently Connected For Many
Years With Many Important Business
Enterprises - Cause of His
Death - His Family - Funeral

- 1 www.ancestry.com. Indiana Deaths, 1882-1920 [database online]. Provo, UT, USA: The Generations Network, Inc 2004. Original data Various IN county death records indexed by Indiana WPA, ca. 1938 - 1941
- 2 *Indianapolis News*, Tuesday, 24 March 1896. Obtained from Indianapolis-Marion Public Library, Indianapolis, IN.

WILLIS W. WRIGHT DEAD.

ONE OF THE OLD CITIZENS OF INDIANA.

Prominently Connected For Many Years With Many Important Business Enterprises—Cause of His Death—His Family—Funeral.

Willis W. Wright died this morning at half-past 8 at his home, No. 382 Clifford avenue.

Mr. Wright was born October 4, 1817, at Denton, Caroline county, Maryland. His parents were Quakers, his mother being a preacher of that sect. His father was captain of a trading vessel on the Chesapeake. In 1831, Willis Wright attended school in Chester county, Pennsylvania, and in 1833 went to Baltimore, and for a year clerked in a drug store at that place.

In 1835 he removed to Milton, Ind., where he clerked in a "general store," owned by his uncle, until 1838, when the latter removed to Indianapolis, to be followed by the nephews, who continued in his em-



WILLIS W. WRIGHT.

Millinery Opening

ever made in Indianapolis, and unsurpassed in larger cities and seldom equaled even here. We have extended the time of the opening you to-morrow to this fine exhibition.

Kid Gloves

Our great Kid Glove Department opens the spring season with a special Kid Glove sale.

4-button Kid Gloves, crochet embroidery, single and 3-row and 8-button Suede, with one row embroidery, in tan, black, brown and red; imported to sell at \$1; sale price.....

59cts

Dressed Kid Gloves with four large pearl buttons, and Foster Hook Gloves in fancy and plain backs, in new shades of pearl, red, white, brown, tan, gray, black and mode. The price you know has always been \$1.25; sale price.....

75cts

A special line of Dressed Kid Gloves, with wide and narrow embroidery, in modes, white, pearls, tans and browns.....

89cts

4-button French Glace Kid Gloves, beautifully bound and finished with the narrow, wide and zigzag stitching on back, in white, pearl, butter, red, navy, green, brown, tan, mode and black.....

\$1.00

8-button Mosquetaire French Glace and Suede Kid Gloves in all new special colorings. Price everywhere is \$2; sale price.....

\$1.89

4-button Chamols Gloves,

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WILLIS W. WRIGHT

ploy. In 1843, Mr. Wright formed a partnership with John F. Hill in the dry-goods business. The storeroom was in Washington street, immediately east of where the Fletcher Bank now stands. He afterward associated with him William A. Wright and Frederick Baggs, the store then being on the site of the I. O. O. F. Hall.

In 1848 Mr. Wright entered the services of the Peru & Indianapolis Railroad Company as stock collector. Subsequently, he became treasurer and director of the company, and later, president. For six years he was superintendent of the road.

Treasurer of Marion County.

In 1850 he was elected treasurer of Marion county and was re-elected in 1852 by a majority of four votes, being the only Whig elected upon the county ticket at that election. He was the first secretary of the Indianapolis Gas Company, and was a director of that company for several years. He also served as justice of the peace for four years.

Mr. Wright also assisted in organizing the Grand Encampment I. O. O. F. of Indiana and served both as grand scribe of that body and as secretary of the Grand Lodge until 1855.

His Illness.

He was among the oldest members of Roberts chapel, and was a member of Roberts Park M. E. church from its formation. For seven months he had been confined to his home by illness, which had its origin in a sunstroke. This was followed by nervous prostration and paralysis, the immediate cause of death, being heart failure. During the latter years of his life he was engaged in the real estate business.

He was twice married, his first wife being Lavina Givan, whom he married in 1839, and who died in January, 1854, and his second wife being Frances F. Strange, youngest daughter of John Strange, who was one of the pioneer Methodist preachers of Indiana. He leaves surviving him a widow and the following children: Mrs. Benjamin F. Goodheart, John S., Alice A., Anna L., Hervey W., of this city; Mrs. E. E. Losby, of Topeka, Kas., and C. C. Wright, of Chattanooga, Tenn. He was the father of the late Dr. Charles H. Wright, superintendent of the Central Indiana Hospital for the Insane. Mrs. Wright is an invalid, and has been confined to her bed for six years.

The funeral will be held at the family home, Thursday afternoon. The burial will be at Crown Hill.

Promptness is a Virtue.

If you act quickly, you will obtain the incomparable American Encyclopaedia Dictionary for \$1 cash, and \$1.35 monthly

8-button Mosquetaire French
Glace and Suede Kid Gloves
in all new special colorings.
Price everywhere is \$2; sale
price.....

\$1.39

4-button Chamols Gloves,
fine, smooth and reliable
quality, pearl buttons,
white and natural, Price
to-morrow.....

75cts

2-clasp French Chamols in
extra fine, smooth quality,
self-binding.....

\$1.00

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H. P.

Typewriter Ribbons and Supplies.

The celebrated typewriter ribbons and supplies manufactured by the New York Carbon and Transfer Paper Co. are sold by H. T. CONDE IMPLEMENT CO., Agents, 27 to 33 Capitol ave., N.

The Lung Renovator will cure your lungs.

Sheet Music.

Mandolins, guitars, violins, cheapest in city RICH & MEVEY, sole agents Chickering pianos.

O. H. Thomas, Dentist,

With Dr. E. E. Reese, 24 1/2 E. Ohio st. (between Penn. and Meridian). All operations painless, as consistent with safety and success.

The Lung Renovator, the great lung remedy.

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The Lung Renovator for the lungs.

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Cure guaranteed. HEIMS'S drug store, northeast corner Illinois and Market sts.

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Open every day. Haughville electric car line. Lady attendant for ladies.

Feed your horse JANE'S dustless oats.

Robert Keller,

Department Stores, 570 to 578 S. East st.

Steel and Corrugated Iron Ceilings

Are the best in use. Get our prices. P. M. PURSELL, 81 Massachusetts ave.

Be sure and use Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup for children while teething. 25c bottle.

Now Ready For Spring Business.

We have all the latest shades and patterns for spring wear, and can turn out artistic and well-fitting garments at moderate cost. Give us a call on your spring suit. LALLEY BROS., 6 N. Meridian st.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria.

Gold Tins
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Arthur Receives His Legacy from His Step-father's Estate: 1848

The value of the personal property owned by Jacob Leverton at his death was \$1,344.59. The prices paid at the auction brought in \$187.21½ over the appraised values in the inventory. It took two more years, but money owed to Jacob was collected and the sum of \$1,688.17½ was added to the value of his estate. So, Jacob's personal estate was worth \$3,219.98, which after disbursements, left 2,352.73½ to be distributed - first to satisfy the legacies, the remainder to be divided among the heirs.¹

Hannah received the five-hundred dollars left to her by her husband, a horse, cow, carriage and harness, bureau, six silver tablespoons, work stand and one bed, bedstead and furniture; her legacy totaled \$746. Ruth Hannah and Mary Elizabeth each acquired a bed, bedstead and bed clothes, silverware, and small pieces of furniture withheld from the auction; the values were \$46.00 and \$34.50, respectively. To Arthur went his bequest of \$1,000.²

After the value of the legacies was subtracted, the balance of the estate, \$525.73 3/4, was divided between the widow Hannah, and children Arthur, Henry, Ruth Hannah and Mary Elizabeth, each receiving \$105.13 3/4.³

APPENDIX E is a transcript of the distribution of the proceeds of the personal estate.

1 CAROLINE COUNTY REGISTER OF WILLS (*Estate Docket*) 1805 - 1853, folio 208 MSA C463-2

2 CAROLINE COUNTY REGISTER OF WILLS (*Administration Accounts, Original*) 1842-1851. Accession No.: 16,530-2 MSA C460-37. Jacob Leverton 7 May 1850

3 CAROLINE COUNTY REGISTER OF WILLS (*Distributions*), MSA 500-3, Accession No. 15,568. WAF No. B, folio 227. See *APPENDIX E: Distribution of the Estate of Jacob Leverton (1774 - 1847)*, 7 May 1850.

Jacob's Family Increases and Disperses

Within two years of Jacob's death, his son, Henry, with his second wife, Elizabeth, would move to Talbot County.^{1,2} Ruth Hannah would marry Twiford S. Noble, a Quaker,³ and take her place as mistress of the family home, Mary Elizabeth would wed Anthony C. Thompson, Jr.,⁴ and Arthur would move back across the road, having bought the Old Church Farm devised to his brother, Henry, by their father, Jacob.

The widowed Hannah, who had been given life possession of a dwelling on twenty-three acres of Jacob's land, was either living there, or in her former home with her daughters who were obliged, by the terms of the will, to respect their mother's privilege of the use of the kitchen and parlor. A specific statement of shared possession of dwellings and grounds was an uncommon provision in early Caroline County probate, but a smattering of wills do contain this protection for named heirs, sometimes dividing a dwelling in half, allotting one side to one and the other to someone else.

- 1 CAROLINE COUNTY COURT (Land Records) Liber X, folio 565. Henry S. Leverton and Elizabeth, his wife, of Talbot County, to Arthur W. Leverton of Dorchester Co.. 8 January 1848
- 2 1850 United States Federal Census, Talbot County, Easton: Henry S. Leverton, 34; farmer, real estate \$2,000; wife Elizabeth L., 21; daughter Mary Ann, 2; George Fleharty, 40, farmer, Mary Fleharty, 35; Leonard, 12; Margaret L., 10; George T., 8; Elizabeth Hoxten, 11 and William Johnson, 12, black. On 4 June 1836, a marriage license was issued to Mary Leverton and George Fleeharty. (See Baird and Scott below.) The identity of this Mary Leverton was not pursued. By 1860, Henry had moved south of Easton to Trappe, and although his occupation was *farmer*, he apparently owned no real estate; his personal estate was valued at \$100
- 3 On 16 February 1848, a marriage license was issued to Ruth Hannah Leverton and Twiford S. Noble. *Caroline County Marriage Licenses, 1826 - 1865*, page 49. Compiled and published by Dorothy Baird and Louise Scott. No date;
- 4 On 20 November 1849, a marriage license was issued to Mary Elizabeth Leverton and Anthony C. Thompson. *Caroline County Marriage Licenses, 1826 - 1865*, page 49. Baird and Scott.

Arthur Leverton Buys His Brother's Farm in Caroline County

Arthur's brother, Henry, and his second wife, Eliza Jane, were already residents of Talbot County at the time Henry conveyed his farm to Arthur. Within a year of their father's death, Arthur had become the owner of the land devised to Henry.

The purchase price was \$1,500. On 8 January 1848, a deed was drawn wherein Henry, of Talbot County, granted to Arthur, of Dorchester County, *all that tract or parcel of land called Church Grove that was left to the said Henry Leverton by the Last Will and Testament of his father, Jacob Leverton, and was devised by the name of the Old Church farm his father purchased in his lifetime of a certain James Barton containing two hundred and fifty three acres more or less.*¹

This was the extent of the description of the property. Although a bare bones identification, it does give the name of the prior owner, information by which to identify and locate the parcel. Unfortunately, the prior deed to Jacob Leverton from James Barton in 1829² carries no adequate description either, nor does the deed to James Barton from William Wright in 1825³, nor that to William Wright, farmer, from Thomas Saulsbury, Gent., Trustee, in 1823.⁴

In 1818, this portion of *Church Grove*, then in the estate of Jacob Wright, deceased, was offered at public sale by court order; it took five years for the buyer, William Wright, of James, to receive his deed for 272 acres of land for which there was no physical description.

1	CAROLINE COUNTY COURT (Land Records)	Liber X, folio 565 1848
2	(ditto)	Liber Q, folio 208 1829
3	(ditto)	Liber P, folio 70 1825
4	(ditto)	Liber O, folio 50 1823

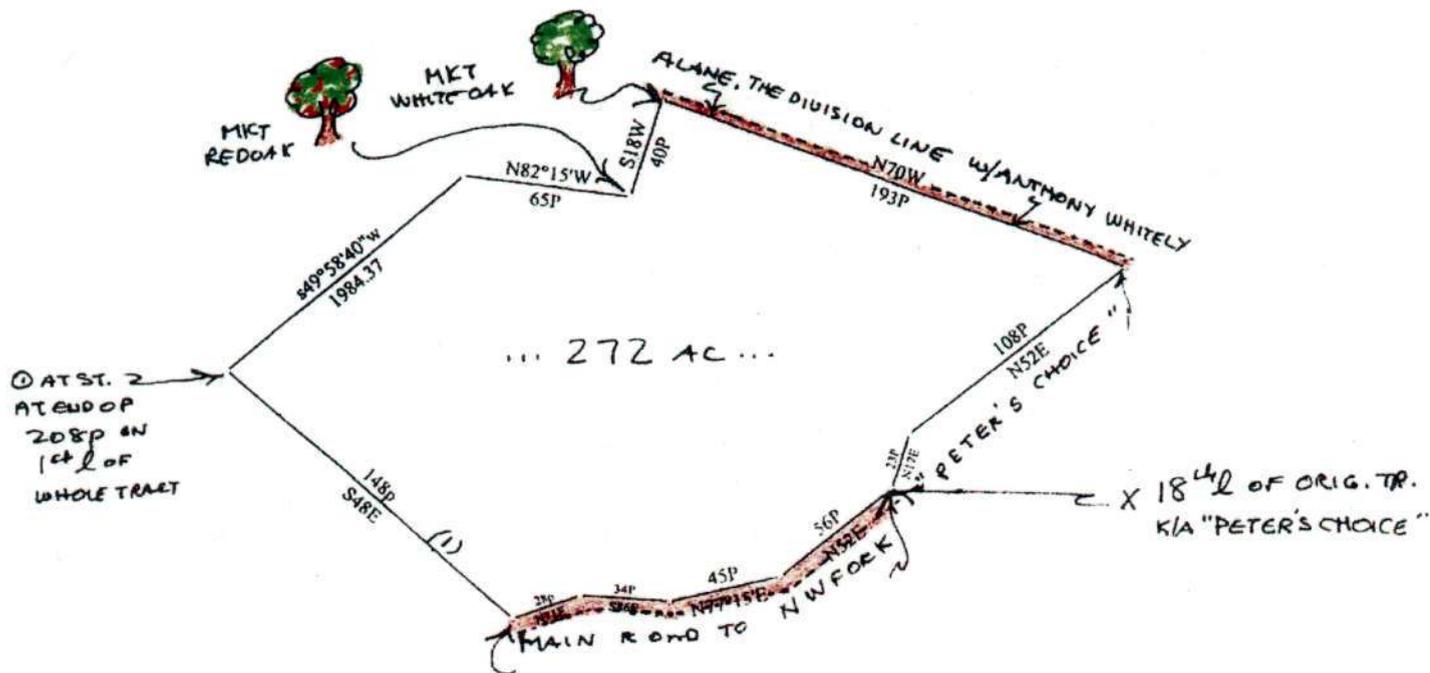
Arthur Leverton Buys His Brother's Farm in Caroline County - continued

However, the boundaries of the farm were found in an 1810 deed from William R. Stuart, Trustee, to Jacob Wright, of Caroline County.¹ Part of a very large tract called *Church Grove*,² the parcel is described by metes and bounds and is calculated to contain 272 acres.¹ When Henry Leverton conveyed the farm to Arthur, the size was 253 acres. Determining the loss of acreage could be explained by further research.

A plat of the property as surveyed and recorded in the deed in 1810 to Jacob Wright follows, as well as a property map marked to suggest current location of the farm.

1 CAROLINE COUNTY COURT (Land Records) Liber K, folio 163 1810

2 MARYLAND COURT OF CHANCERY (Chancery Papers) No. 2623 William R. Stuart and Alexander Stuart, Jr., vs, Sarah L. Stuart, et al, Estate of William Littleton Murray. Recorded (Chancery Record) 56, p.50. 1802/12/24

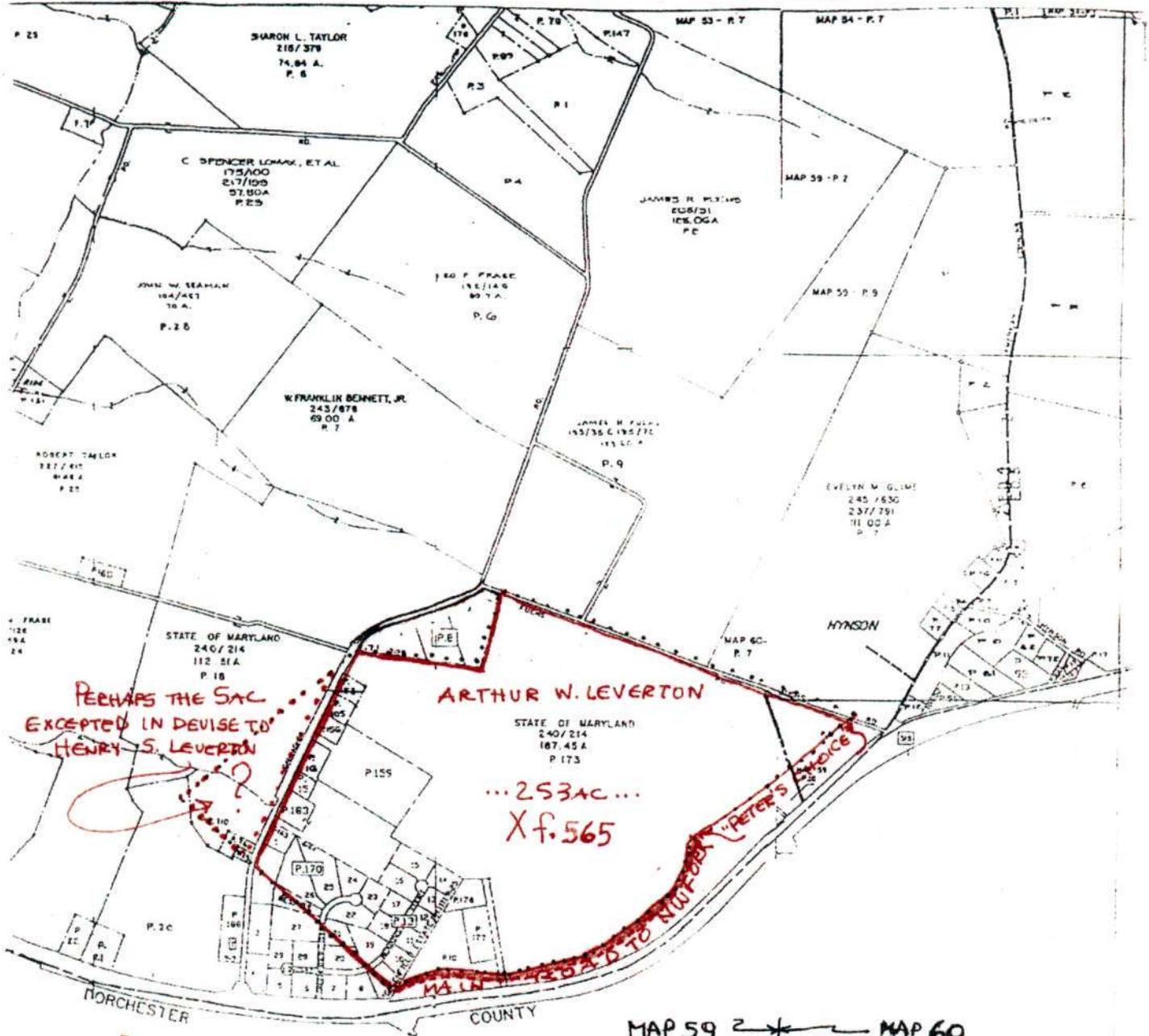


Title: K/163 1810 Wm R. Stuart, Tr'ee to Jacob Wright Church Grove Lot 2 272 ac		Date: 06-27-2005
Scale: 1 inch = 1200 feet	File:	
Tract 1: 250.364 Acres: 10905853 Sq Feet: Closure = n00.0000e 0.00 Feet: Precision >1/9999999: Perimeter = 14194 Feet		
001=S48E 148p	005=N52E 56P	009=S18W 40P
002=N71E 28p	006=N17E 23P	010=N82.15W 65P
003=S86E 34P	007=N52E 108P	011=s49.5840w 1984.37 ?
004=N77.15E 45P	008=N70W 193P	

... LOT 2 OF "CHURCH GROVE"
 ... 272 AC ...

THIS TRACT WAS SOLD TO JACOB LEVERTON IN 1829 (Qf. 208)
 AND DEVISED TO HIS SON, HENRY S., AS "THE OLD CHURCH FARM...
 ... S(EXC SACRES ... AND ADJACENT THE COUNTY ROAD" [(WILLS) WAF Af. 385. CG.]
 HENRY S. LEVERTON CONVEYED TO ARTHUR W. LEVERTON 253 AC. IN 1848.
 THERE WAS NO DESCRIPTION BY METES & BOUNDS. [Xf. 565]

(G1)



PERHAPS THE SAC
EXCEPTED IN DEVISE TO
HENRY S. LEVERTON

ARTHUR W. LEVERTON

STATE OF MARYLAND
240/214
187.45 A
P. 173

...253AC...
Xf.565

MAIN RD TO NUNFORD "PETER'S CHOICE"

PLAT WAS MADE FROM
DESCRIPTION IN DEED RECORDED
LIBER K.F. 163 (1810)

SUGGESTED LOCATION OF TRACT CONVEYED TO ARTHUR W. LEVERTON
BY HENRY S. LEVERTON IN 1848 [Xf.565]... 253ACRES... [P/O 272ACRES
FORMERLY LAND OF JACOB LEVERTON. THERE IS (NOT YET) AN
EXPLANATION FOR THE ACREAGE DIFFERENCE]



Survey Line
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MDOT, Baltimore, MD
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CAROLINE COUNTY,
MARYLAND

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ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

THESE MA-
OR REPR-
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SYSTEM

Arthur Leverton is Again a Resident of Caroline County

Documents in the land records capture the range of time within which Arthur and his family moved from his Dorchester County farm to the Old Church Farm in Caroline County.

There is a bill of sale in which Henry Dean, of Caroline County, either sold or mortgaged to Arthur Leverton, of Dorchester County, household furniture and livestock for \$40. Listed were 6 stool chairs, 2 slip-bottomed chairs, 1 arm chair, a walnut bureau, a yellow spotted chest, a blue spotted chest, cupboard ware and pots, a table, a spinning wheel, and sows with their piglets.

When the bill of sale was signed on 27 July 1848, Arthur was a resident of Dorchester County. Fifteen days later - on 11 August 1848 - when he recorded the receipt in the land records at the Court House, he stated that his residence was Caroline County.¹

1 CAROLINE COUNTY (Land Records) Liber Y, folio 107

Arthur Comes to Terms with his Quaker Faith

One year and a half after Arthur moved onto *Old Church* farm, he assumed a visible and respected place in the community by becoming an official of county government. The Chancellor of Maryland appointed him Justice of the Peace for Caroline County, an office he held from April of 1850 through November of 1852.¹

However, the office required administering oaths, as objectionable to Quakers as swearing them.² Arthur's deviation from Quaker orthodoxy is recorded in the entry for the 11th day, ninth month, 1850, when it was reported to North West Fork Monthly Meeting that *Arthur Leverton has so far given way from the good order of our society as to act in the capacity of a magistrate*. They further charged him with neglecting meetings. A committee of three were appointed to visit him to discern his intentions and to offer guidance. For two years, the committee's appeals for continuance of their assignment were granted, their ministrations evidently not producing the desired result. In the end, their persuasion was fruitful, for on 18th day, tenth month, 1852, Arthur appeared at the meeting, acknowledged his failures to everyone's satisfaction, expressing a desire to be continued as a member, and so he was.³

The first time that Arthur ran afoul of Quaker precepts was in 1844, when he was reported to North West Fork for not attending meetings, engaging in distilling liquor, drinking too much of it, and fighting with his neighbor. Two staunch Quakers, Joshua Noble and Jonah Kelley, were dispatched *to pay him a visit*. Even though Arthur expressed sorrow for his lapses and said he hoped to do better in the future, his *case* was continued through December, at which time Arthur presented a written statement condemning his waywardness and asked to be forgiven. He admitted to intoxication *and perhaps some other misconduct*, and expressed his wish to be continued as a member among them, and so he was.³

1 CAROLINE COUNTY (Land Records) Liber Y/492 [4/03/1850] through Liber AA/ 374 [11/23/1852]

2 Interpretation by Thomas Hamm, Curator of the Friends Collection, Earlham College

3 See *APPENDIX G*: a verbatim transcription of selected entries in the Minutes of NW Fork Meeting, p. 6.

RETURNED FUGITIVE.—A slave belonging to Mr. John H. Hofferker, near this town, made his exit from the State in August last, and, what is singular, on last evening he returned, and requested to again come under the care and protection of his master. His narrative of the affair is briefly as follows: The day on which he took his departure he was on his way to the camp-meeting near this town, when he was halted by three negroes, who asked him where he was going, and when informed, they prevailed upon him to accompany them to a camp-meeting in New Jersey; but upon arriving at Philadelphia, he was placed under the care of an individual and the two, after passing over railroads and up rivers, landed finally in Canada, where he was made to work two months with a farmer to pay his passage. He was then told he was free, and went to work for himself, but found it hard to get along. He informed them he was dissatisfied and intended going back. He was told that if he attempted such a thing they would shoot him. Upon wanting to go to an adjoining town he had to leave his clothes, as a guarantee for his return, which however he did not do, but took immediate passage for home, where he arrived as before stated, ragged and penniless. He thinks "Jordan" is a hard road to travel," and speaks anything but complimentary of the treatment of the Canadian *Delaware Times.*

AMERICAN EAGLE
(Cambridge, MD)

19 NOV 1856

Arthur Aspires to Higher Office

Accepting a call to partake in the administration of county government, Arthur Leverton became one of the three Democratic candidates for County Commissioner of Caroline County.¹ The election was held on 4 November 1857. Arthur and his co-candidates were defeated.²

Two months later, Arthur was running for his life.

1 *Cambridge Democrat*, (Cambridge, MD) 29 September 1857.

2 Governor (Election Returns) MSA S108-33, Accession No. 40,132-1591/1612, Folder 1596, Caroline County

Arthur W. Leverton, Underground Railroad Agent

In his book on the underground railroad, Wilbur Siebert named four Underground Railroad operators in Maryland: Daniel Hubbard, Jacob and Hannah Leverton, Jonah Kelly and Elisha Tyson.¹ The first three were from Caroline County. Although Arthur's name is not included, there is historical evidence that he was embroiled in the abolitionist movement, aiding and abetting escapes of people who sought him out knowing that he would provide passage for the next leg on their journey to freedom.

Contemporary newspaper accounts of the discovery of his complicity in an escape and a scant memory in a family history give a glimpse into his role in the Underground Railroad. He took repeated risks to receive, shelter, and pass on escapees, but it took just one failed attempt to short-circuit his life in Caroline County life, redirecting it to Indiana where, among Caroline County relatives and friends, he lived out his life with his wife and children.

1 Wilbur H. Siebert, *The Underground Railroad from Slavery to Freedom*, pp. 403 - 439, *Appendix E: Directory of the names of Underground Operators and Members of the Vigilance Committees* (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1898)

Slavery on the Eastern Shore: *That Kind of Property*

Things were heating up. The institution of slavery was especially being challenged on the Eastern Shore, not only by philosophy and rhetoric, but by the continual, mostly successful, flight of slaves from their masters. A concise, insightful account of this exodus and the plights of fugitives and slave owners is treated so well in *Bound for the Promised Land: Harriet Tubman, Portrait of an American Hero*, that I reprint sections of the book here (in italics), with a nod from the author.¹

Throughout 1849, scores of slaves ran away from Talbot, Dorchester and Caroline County slaveholders, and while some were unsuccessful in getting away permanently, that so many remained free demonstrates the strength of the underground network [p. 86]

Reporting on the flight of three slaves in August of 1849, an Easton newspaper, noted:

Almost every week we hear of one or more slaves making their escape, and if something is not speedily done to put stop to it, that kind of property will hardly be worth owning. [p. 86]

A conspiracy by organized abolitionists began to be suspected and the newspaper suggested a telegraph line be established down the peninsula to herald the news of the escapes, with a police force stationed along the line to act quickly, since

At present, all efforts to recover them after they once made their escape appears fruitless. [p. 86]

The flight to freedom was steady that year; twenty-four more slaves severed themselves from their owners in October alone. [p. 87]

¹ Kate Clifford Larson, *Bound for the Promised Land: Harriet Tubman, Portrait of an American Hero*, Ballantine Books, New York, 2004; pp. 86-87, 91, 121, 131, 144-145, 149.

The Determined Adversaries

The runaways were competing against the practiced, professional slave catchers and bounty hunters who roamed abroad, motivated to catch the fleeing “property” for the rewards. [p. 88] Uncommon strategies and flight paths had to be devised and revised by the freedom seekers; pursuers had to match wits against a cunning honed by the preservation instinct, which, of course, has limitations. And so, uncertain in outcome under the most favorable conditions, the prospects for permanent freedom and safety for runaway slaves in the North diminished as surveillance became tighter. [p. 91]

With the passage of the Fugitive Slave Act in 1850, retrieving slaves from northern states was made subject to a legal process exacting cooperation from authorities, with heavy fines and incarceration for escape enablers along the route and saboteurs and *obstructeurs* at the point of capture. [p. 91]

The Fetters of Freedom

Cambridge newspapers were quick to give notice of escapes, successful and unsuccessful. Lamenting the disintegration of an institution which had served the community well, the articles took mainly defensive postures, flailing against relentless criticism of slavery. A journalistic coup of sorts was attempted with the printing of an article entitled *Returned Fugitive* about an escaped slave (unnamed) who had voluntarily returned to his Cambridge and to servitude.

The man had reached Canada, where he was not able to support himself. When he expressed the intention to go back to his Cambridge home, he claimed he was threatened with being shot if he tried to leave. He managed to get away safely and wanted no more than to *again come under the care and protection of his master*. The newspaper said he *speaks anything but complimentary of his treatment by the Canadians* and quoted him as telling his master that *Jordan am a hard road to travel*.¹

A copy of the article follows.

1 *American Eagle* (Cambridge, MD), 19 November 1856. Copied from *Delaware Times*

The Watched Pot Boils

Things were simmering. Insurrection by free and enslaved blacks in Talbot and Dorchester counties became a cause of fear and panic in the spring of 1855.

[p. 121] Tension tightened as the decade neared the end.

. . . slaveholders on the Eastern Shore of Maryland faced a complicated political, economic, and moral battle that was threatening the very foundations of the institution of slavery. Rising racial tensions and northern abolitionist threats to the institution of slavery contributed to a reactionary response in Dorchester County that resulted in an ever-more repressive environment for black people, both free and enslaved. This compelled more slaves to strike out for freedom, wreaking havoc on the stability and security of the white community. [p. 131]

Things were boiling over. In the Fall of 1857, within a span of three weeks, more than forty slaves ran away from Dorchester County. [p. 144]

Though a few runaways had taken flight during September, it was not until the early part of October that a wave of escapes threatened the stability white owners imagined they had created after the high-profile imprisonment of [Samuel] Green and other Underground Railroad operatives in the area. . . . On the evening of Saturday, October 24, twenty-eight men, women and children sneaked away from the homes and slave quarters of their enslavers. [p. 145]

Soon national newspapers were running articles mocking the Eastern Shore slave owners, reporting that "the stampedes of slaves" did not support [a named legislator's] view of their happiness. The growing national attention served to mobilize increased vigilance on the part of the slaveholders on the Eastern Shore the increased activity of slave patrols and the diligence of slaveholders created a climate of oppression and fear. [p. 149]

In spite of these unfavorable aspects, throughout December, there were continual episodes of people taking illegal flight to avoid persecution.

And then, on 2 January 1858, things exploded for Arthur.

Arthur's Tipping Point

Another escape! It merited a few lines in the *Cambridge Democrat* of 6 January 1858.

RUNAWAY NEGROES TAKEN

The seven negroes that run off on the night of the 31st of December – the property of Dr. Phelps and James E. Hall – were brought back, and lodged in the jail of this county on last Saturday morning. They were captured in Caroline County, about 4 miles above Denton by Mr. Satterfield, who will pocket, and certainly deserves, the \$1,000 reward for their arrest.¹

When the story was picked up by the *Easton Gazette* of 9 January 1858, it merited fewer lines.

MORE RUNAWAYS FROM DORCHESTER

On Thursday night week, seven negroes absconded from near Cambridge, Dorchester county. The necessary steps were taken on the next morning to find their whereabouts, and on last Saturday a Mr. Williams of Caroline county safely lodged them in Cambridge jail.

“Thursday night” would have been December 31st, the day that the escape was attempted; “Saturday” was January 2nd, the day the escapees were lodged in Cambridge jail. They were fugitives for only a day and a half before they were caught, jailed, and quizzed about the details of the attempted escape.

1 One of the captives was Margaret Haskins, who was manumitted by Richard Willoughby in his will dated 1827, but her status as a free person was effective *after 31 years from 1 January*, i.e., 1858. Her husband and children were slaves for life. Margaret chose to “free” her family by gathering them up and escaping to the North. This information is courtesy of John Creighton, of Cambridge, Maryland, who, for thirty years, has made an intensive study of the Underground Railroad in Dorchester, Caroline and adjacent counties. A transcription of some of his notes which give the background of this incident are offered in APPENDIX I.

“MORE RUNAWAYS FROM DORCHESTER”

EASTON GAZETTE (Easton, Maryland)

9 January 1858



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ANN. 9, 1858.

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SAD AFFAIR.—On Tuesday night last, between 9 and 10 o'clock, a window was heard to be hoisted in the third story of the Union Hotel of this town, by persons in the street, and soon followed by a noise as though a person or something very heavy was falling therefrom, striking a shed over the porch in its descent. On repairing to the spot it was found to be Edward Martin who had either jumped or fallen from his bed-room window. He struck on his head, badly mashing one side of it, which caused his death almost immediately. An inquest was held over the body by Justice Wheeler and a verdict rendered that "he came to his death by falling from the third story window of the Union Hotel."

CONGRESS re-assembled on Monday last. In the Senate Mr. Pugh, of Ohio, introduced a bill to provide for the admission of Kansas into the Union as a State under the Constitution adopted at Lecompton, Nov. 7, 1857, with the boundaries defined in the pacification bill of the last Congress, and upon two fundamental conditions. The first condition is, that the seventh article of the constitution, relative to slavery, shall be submitted to a separate and direct vote, "yes" or "no," of the qualified electors, on the 7th of April, 1858, at which time the State officers, the Legislature, and Congressmen shall be chosen. The returns of this election are to be made to the Governor of the Territory, instead of the President of the Convention, and the election conducted in obedience to the laws in force on the 7th of November last.

The second fundamental condition is, that the constitution shall not be so construed as to limit or impair the right of the people, through their Legislature, at any time, to call a convention for the purpose of altering, amending, or abolishing their form of government, subject only to the Constitu-

in a national ship, and restitution be made for all damages.

Mr. Bocock said, as at present, advised he considered the act of Com. Paulding illegal; but he desired that the neutrality law should be inquired into. The great sea is neutral ground, on which our vessels may capture fugitives and bring them back for trial.

Mr. Grow said he was glad to see such jealousy manifested on the other side with regard to the employment of military force, and he took occasion to remark that for two years the Executive had employed it to perpetuate an outrage on the rights of the people of Kansas.

Mr. Lovejoy protested against Walker being magnified into a hero and martyr, when he was simply a rascal. [Laughter.]

Other gentlemen followed in the debate, but without coming to a conclusion upon the question the House adjourned.

MORE RUNAWAYS FROM DORCHESTER.

On Thursday night, week, seven negroes absconded from near Cambridge, Dorchester county. The necessary steps were taken on the next morning to find their whereabouts, and on last Saturday a Mr. Williams of Caroline county, safely lodged them in Cambridge jail.

SMALL POX.—This much feared disease has made its appearance in several sections of our county. We have heard of several cases being in Trappe and the lower part of the county, and we have also one case in Easton. We apprehend no danger of its spreading, however, if the necessary precautions are taken.

NEW STORE.—It will be seen by reference to an advertisement in another column, that Messrs. Dodd & Son, have opened a store on the corner of Dover and Harrison streets, where they keep such as

Arthur Leverton's Role Revealed

Two weeks and two issues later, on January 23rd the newspaper tripled the space to unmask Arthur as the agent involved in the escape, claiming that he had long been under suspicion for covert activity. His name was misspelled slightly and his residence cited incorrectly, but it was not enough to blur the identity of the white subversive in their midst.

DEPARTURE OF A CONDUCTOR OF THE UNDER GROUND

Author Liverton, living in the upper part of this county has, says the Cambridge Eagle, since the publication of the fact of the discovery of the Under Ground Railroad, appointed a trustee, and left for parts unknown. The fact of his precipitated flight appears to be conclusive evidence of his guilt. We have no acquaintance with the worthy, but it is said he has long been suspicioned of tampering with slaves; and it is supposed that the apparent prompt and determined action of the slave-holders, and the conviction of his own guilt, brought to his mind a certain suit, the component parts of which are tar and feathers, and constructed more with a view of dispatch than comfort of neatness, which led him to "make tracks for parts unknown." ¹

Immediately below this article was a report of a severe storm, *amounting almost to a hurricane*, which passed over New Orleans the previous week. Fifteen ships broke their moorings, roofs blew off houses, steamboats were damaged, and several lives were lost. *The buildings at Lake Pontchartrain Depot were half-destroyed.*

And so, too, the life of Arthur W. Leverton, and that of his family.

1 *Easton Gazette* (Easton, MD) 23 January 1858. The Easton newspaper referenced the *Cambridge Eagle*.

“DEPARTURE OF A CONDUCTOR OF THE UNDER GROUND”

EASTON GAZETTE (Easton, MD)

23 January 1858

county to index judgments and referred to the Committee on Pedings.

submitted by Mr. Gaither, amounting of 2,000 copies of the message for the use of the Senate.

appointed William A. Willis, county, Sergeant-at-Arms, vice resigned.

Committee on Printing was authorized with Bull & Tuttle to do the printing for the session, the Senate confirmation of James R. Partridge, Secretary of State, and the nomination of E. Bartol, for Judge of the District Court, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Judge Mason, and the nomination of H. B. Casbell as Judge of the District Court for Washington county.

The House was opened this morning by prayer by Rev. Mr. Veitch. Offered by Mr. Alexander, Maryland Senators and Representatives to use their efforts to bring about uniform standard of weights and measures, and recommending the adoption of a uniform standard.

Moved a reconsideration of the resolution on the table the petition of a free colored man, praying to be allowed to run a vessel without a white crew, and moved a reference of the same to the Committee on Colored People.

Resolved to appoint Messrs. Kidd, Lynch and Duvall, a committee to visit the Penitentiary, and Messrs. Lynch, Dail and Duvall, upon the same.

Resolved to offer requesting the Governor to authorize the Adjutant General to use of seventy-five cadet rifles for arms for officers to the State Militia at John's College.

Resolved to lay before the House, a report of Nesbit, Clerk of Washington Circuit Court, and the report of the Commissioners of Baltimore to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Resolved that the rules were suspended and that the Committee on Corrections be authorized to do the printing for the session.

against the Lecompton constitution will probably exceed \$15,000.

The Lawrence correspondent of the St. Louis Democrat, says that as far as heard from the free State party has secured thirty-one out of the forty-four representatives, and fourteen out of nineteen of the Senators, and the vote against the constitution is about equal to that polled at the October election. A gentleman who left the Territory on the 11th states that it was then believed that the democratic State ticket was elected.

DEPARTURE OF A CONDUCTOR OF THE UNDER GROUND.—Author Liverton, living in the upper part of this county has, says the Cambridge Eagle, since the publication of the fact of the discovery of the Under Ground Railroad, appointed a trustee, and left for parts unknown. The fact of his precipitated flight appears to be conclusive evidence of his guilt. We have no acquaintance with the worthy, but it is said he has long been suspected of tampering with slaves; and it is supposed that the apparent prompt and determined action of the slaveholders, and the conviction of his own guilt, brought to his mind a certain suit, the component parts of which are generally of *tar and feathers*, and constructed more with a view of dispatch than comfort or neatness, which led him to "make tracks for parts unknown."

SEVERE STORM AT NEW ORLEANS.—A severe storm, amounting almost to a hurricane, passed over that city on the 15th inst. Fifteen ships broke from their moorings and were considerably injured. Houses were unroofed and the steamboats sustained considerable damage. Several lives have also been lost. The buildings on the Lake, at the end of the Pontchartrain Depot were half destroyed. No news from the Gulf has yet been received.

THE SMALL POX.—This disease still prevails in Salisbury, Worcester county, says the Shield, and seems to be spreading over this county and Somerset. Our citizens cannot use too much precaution to prevent its advent in our midst.

The Scarlet Fever also prevails in the neighborhood of Indian Town, in that county. It is very fatal among the children.

EARTHQUAKE AT LOCKPORT, N. Y.—

relatives to whom by ties she was the object of affection. She had been laboring for months with a disease which baffled the skill of the physicians notwithstanding the treatment which she experienced. Her escape from her lips, but with a Christian's awaited her coming preceding her speedy dissolution, she addressed him who had gathered around her couch, and in a voice of pain, became a martyr of death had passed Jesus.

ETHERIAL OIL—Received and for sale
Jan 23

NAILS—40 kegs of sizes, just received advance by the keg or 1
Jan 23

FOR
A N able-bodied servant to work on the plantation. One about 18 and the other about 16. For terms apply to
Jan 23 St. JOHN

NOT
I HAVE placed in the hands of Todd my Books and of Corn Planter, for sale to receive and receipt for
Jan 23-11

NOT
A FEW more of Brakes on hand. Those who have used the above article in a family.
Jan 23-31S

BARGAINS!
To reduce my Spring Goods, I am now offering Woollen Goods at cost of Cloths, Cassinets, Hats, can now procure of Hardware, Groceries I will sell at a small advance
Jan 23

NOT
PERSONS subscribing to the Post are hereby notified that their subscription will expire in February next. Those who wish to renew their subscription, or to subscribe, are requested to do so, on or before the 1st of February.

23 JANUARY 1858
EASTON GAZETTE

*The BOSTONIANS Paying the Excise Man
And 'Tarring & Feathers,' 1774*

“British Propaganda print referring to tarring and feathering of Boston Commissioner of Customs John Malcolm four weeks after the Boston Tea Party. The men also poured hot tea down Malcolm’s throat as can be seen. Note the noose hanging on the Liberty Tree, and the Stamp Act posted upside-down.”

Source: Google Images



The Bostonian's Paying the Excise Man & Tarring & Feathering
Plate I.

The Bostonian's Paying the Excise Man & Tarring & Feathering

A Quaker Newspaper's Account of the Failed Escape

AMERICAN SLAVERY

Daily is the painful intelligence echoed, by our public journals, that the African slave trade is reopened on our southern frontier. . . .

The wail of sorrow is not, however, confined to the southern section of our Union; a recent occurrence of suffering and injustice in a neighboring State is well authenticated. Last New Years Day, a slave woman, of Cambridge, Md., was to have been free from her term of servitude; she had four children in the family, slaves for life, and her husband was also a slave, belonging to another person of the same place. The night before New Year's she escaped with her husband and children; but about a week after, they were betrayed by some pretended friend, and taken back to Cambridge, where a reward of a thousand dollars had been offered for their apprehension. The poor fugitive wife is we understand, to go to the penitentiary, the husband is sold south, and the children are returned to their mistress.

The disclosures made by them led to the belief, that Arthur Leverton, a member of our Society, and a son of the late Jacob Leverton, had assisted in their escape, and a warning was given him to leave the state, or lynching would be his portion. He took the hint, and when the mob assembled he was out of their reach. Since then his property has been sold, and his wife and a family of some eight or ten children were to follow him.¹

The article reported the threat to the safety of two *free colored men*,¹ one of whom was Daniel Hubbard, Arthur's immediate neighbor. Claiming they had the backing of the Governor, the mob threatened to hang the two alleged agents in Cambridge. Hubbard avoided capture by fleeing to Philadelphia.¹

¹ *Friends' Intelligencer*, Vol XV, No 2, Third Month 27, 1838. Technically, the property was not sold with this instrument. It was not until two years later that the farm was conveyed to a James Stack, Jr

“AMERICAN SLAVERY”

FRIENDS' INTELLIGENCER

(Philadelphia, PA)

Third Month 27, 1858

Vol. XV, No 2., pages 24 and 25

Courtesy of Christopher Densmore, Curator
Friends Historical Library
Swarthmore College

whole natures. They wear themselves out as soon as those whose duties and pleasures are more varied; but their sympathies and affections are cramped by the routine of daily duties, and neither mind nor soul expand to the full measure of perfect womanhood. Our Father has made us social beings, and there is a kind of refined selfishness in allowing one's family to occupy the whole heart. A woman does not fail in her home duties because she sees others needing her attention. If she moves in society in such a manner as to enlarge her own sympathies, her family will be gainers by her growth of character. Besides, there is a rest, which helps to preserve a healthy tone in both mind and body, in change of occupation. She who has worked industriously all the forenoon for her family, may carry cheering words to an invalid's chamber, or her sympathy to a bereaved friend, and return before the children arrive from school, with new vigor for the evening, while she has left a blessing behind her. Nor are woman's only social duties to the sick and the suffering. She owes kindly feeling and expression of that feeling to the friends she has been winning from childhood. Let her not say she has no time for correspondence, or for calls. She may be tied closely at home, she should be tied, if she has young children; but let her break away occasionally, if it can only be in the thought which distates a mere note. No God-given capacity should be allowed to rust for want of exercise, and they who plead want of time to cultivate their social powers, may only want energy.

Don't rush blindly into society, hither and thither, wherever a whim may carry you. That would neither help you in imparting philanthropic principles to your children, nor in improving your own characters. Devout thought to the subject. Endeavor to increase the happiness of every one with whom you may come in contact; but seek the companionship of such as can sympathize with you in your efforts to obey the divine injunction, "be ye perfect, even as your Father in Heaven is perfect." I do not mean that your minds must never unbend from lofty aspirations. Far from it; you would thus make the holy principles which should ever be your guide very unattractive to most of those about you. Be ready to enter into every innocent amusement, with the same heartiness that you would undertake a work of charity. Mirthfulness is as truly a God-given capacity as benevolence, and I would distrust that religion which would crush or conceal it. Be cheerful, gay, but be in earnest. Avoid every approach to levity concerning sacred things. Learn to enjoy with your whole being the beautiful things of earth. Look always to the bright side, and teach your children thus to find happiness.

In a word, be true to your highest, purest natures, for, even as "an honest man is the noblest

work of God," is not the true woman, the loving friend, the faithful wife, the devoted mother, the earnest disciple of Him, "who spake as never man spake," the holiest work of our Father.—*Arthur's Home Magazine.*

FRIENDS' INTELLIGENCER.

PHILADELPHIA, THIRD MONTH 27, 1858.

AMERICAN SLAVERY.—Daily is the painful intelligence echoed, by our public journals, that the African slave-trade is reopened on our southern frontier. The slave oligarchy, despite the Act of Congress, and the statute of 1807, will, if possible, legalize this nefarious traffic independently of the general government. We publish an article from the New Orleans Delta, which appears to be reliable; but admitting it is not, the dissemination of such sentiments shows a vitiated public opinion, which leads us to query whether we are practically maintaining our noble testimony against wrong and oppression, and are honestly concerned to elevate these righteous principles in their purity before the world.

After an experience of more than two hundred years of the blasting effects of this unholy system, when we hoped a more healthy feeling was awakened on the subject, it seems almost incredible that every principle of justice, every feeling of our better nature, is thus set at defiance. The exorbitant profits, accruing from this iniquitous traffic, will doubtless tempt unprincipled men to engage in it; and if it be established, as a lawful commerce, who can estimate the increase of misery and degradation entailed upon the unoffending victims, and the equally to be commiserated increase of domination and crime on the side of the oppressor.

The wail of sorrow is not, however, confined to the southern section of our Union: a recent occurrence of suffering and injustice in a neighboring State is well authenticated. Last New Year's day, a slave woman, of Cambridge, Md., was to have been free from her term of servitude; she had four children in the family, slaves for life, and her husband was also a slave, belonging to another person of the same place. The night before New Year's she escaped with her husband and children; but about a week after, they were betrayed by some pretended friend, and taken back to Cambridge, where a

reward of a thousand dollars had been offered for their apprehension. The poor fugitive wife is, we understand, to go to the penitentiary, the husband is sold South, and the children are returned to their mistress.

The disclosures made by them led to the belief, that Arthur Leverton, a member of our Society, and a son of the late Jacob Leverton, had assisted in their escape, and a warning was given him to leave the State, or lynching would be his portion. He took the hint, and when the mob assembled he was out of their reach. Since then his property has been sold, and his wife and a family of some eight or ten children were to follow him.

The mob not being glutted in their thirst for revenge, pitched upon two free colored men, one of whom was Daniel Hubbard, a most industrious and peaceable resident in the county, who, for thirty-two years, has paid annually for his wife, and also for his children as they grew old enough to work, they being slaves for life. Some two weeks ago he received a message that they had authority, from the Governor, to do what they pleased with any concerned in the escape or harboring of runaways, and there was a party of fifty, which could be increased to five hundred, who were ready to carry him to Cambridge, and hang him merely on suspicion.

The poor fellow escaped to this city, and is now here; he says he knew nothing of the fugitives, and never desired to, as it has been his aim, through life, to avoid interfering in such cases, which may be inferred from his never having tried to effect the escape of any of his own family.

He was nicely fixed on a farm, in Dorchester County, and had a fishery, besides being a carpenter and millwright. He values his property at about \$1300, but it would all be insufficient to pay for his poor wife, three grown children, and one grandson, seven years of age, admitting their owner will be willing to sell them.

When we reflect on the situation of this man, driven, in his declining years, from his comfortable little home and all its associations, by the strong arm of persecution, we may well desire that the day may be hastened when this blighting scourge may no more be known in our land.

ERRATA.—In the second line of our Editorial last week; for *faithful* read *fruitful*. In the same article, 23d line from the top of page 9, for *usual* read *moral*.

MARRIED, according to the order of Friends, on Fifth-day, the 18th inst., at Cedar Lawn Farm, Upper Greenwich, N. J., JOSEPH B. LIVEZEY, merchant tanner of Berkley, formerly of Plymouth, Pa., to ELMA, daughter of William and Rachel Haines, of the former place.

DIED, at his residence, in Granville, N. Y., 2d mo. 28, JEREMIAH POTTER, in the 58th year of his age.

The deceased was a consistent member of Danby Monthly, and Granville particular Meeting.

—, in Attleboro', Bucks County, Pa., on the 12th of 1st mo., 1838, ABRAHAM LONGSHORE, aged 72 years 2 months and 6 days, a member of Middletown Monthly Meeting.

—, on Second-day, the 15th inst., at the residence of her brother Jesse Brown, in Upper Greenwich, N. J. MARGARET W. BROWN, of consumption, aged 50 years.

From the New Orleans Delta.

Some startling and significant facts have come to our knowledge. We have hesitated to disclose them, but after inquiry, examination and consultation, we are convinced that both duty and policy demand disclosure.

Although the President may be shocked and embarrassed; and although the great parties of the country may be bitterly disappointed and imbrangled, let it go forth that Southerners have taken into their own hand the law, and opened the African slave trade with the South; that Africans are now imported into Mississippi and other seashore States; that in Mississippi there is a market for African slaves, and that on plantations in that great and intrepid State, negroes recently imported from Africa are at their daily work. The authority on which we make this announcement is indisputable. We even have advices that in Mississippi, Henry Hughes and some of his party now privately urge the labor immigration movement, not to open the supply of Africans, but to legitimate, moralize, regulate, and equalize the supply already opened and impossible to be closed. We have some further details. Some negroes are disembarked on the Atlantic coast, and brought over land to the Mississippi cotton fields, but the Mississippi seacoast's peculiar facilities for landing and secreting cargoes, and the conveniences of Pearl river as a channel for distribution, are not overlooked.

The profits of the Mississippi slave trade are enormous. We have been so fortunate as to procure from undoubted authority some interesting details. They relate to the operations of the Mississippi slave trade, and are authenticated by operators. It need not be said in the first place that the barque engaged in the traffic to the South must be a fast sailer; for this is indispensable to the security of the officers and crew, the health of the cargo, and the rapidity of the pecuniary returns. For a trip from the Mississippi coast to Africa and back, there must be a captain, supercargo, three mates, three cooks, steward, and between twenty and thirty first-class seamen. The vessel must be well supplied with extra run-

Paying the Piper

Agents of the Underground Railroad knew the legal penalties for depriving owners of their lawful property. They were equally aware of the threat of illegal retribution from those who lost valuable human chattel. Fueled by a mis-perceived sense of justice, rage swept the community, too volatile for local authorities to constrain, even if they were willing.

A time-line of events captures the thin slice of time within which Arthur had to operate to elude the tar and feather folk.

During the night on Thursday, 31 December 1857, the family of slaves ran away from their home in Cambridge. Two days later, on Saturday, 2nd January 1858, they were captured, presumably in Caroline County since a resident, a Mr. Williams, was given credit for taking them back to Cambridge. The newspaper printed these details on the following Saturday, 9 January.

Arthur's name in connection with the attempted escape was given up to the authorities. His identity was broadcast to the community two issues later, on 23 January.

By then, Arthur had gotten away.

Arthur Prepares to Flee

Arthur had to act quickly. Surely, he had received word that his exactors were coming for their pound of flesh. To set his legal affairs in order, he turned to his young friend and neighbor, John R. Stack. Stack, born in 1820, was married to Mary Ann, the daughter of Jonah Kelley, a devout Quaker and Underground Railroad operator who owned large tracts of farm land near the Leverton property. Stack was a community figure: he had purchased Upper Hunting Creek Mills from the estate of Quaker Jacob C. Wilson in 1855.¹

Although the fugitives were caught and jailed on Saturday, January 2nd, the incident was not reported in the weekly newspaper until the following Saturday, the 9th of January. Arthur knew that once the escape was made public, he should expect irreversible trouble. The next day, Sunday, January 10th, he drew up and signed a legal instrument giving power of attorney to John R. Stack to sell or lease his real and personal property. Two days later, on Tuesday, January 12th, Arthur went before a Justice of the Peace to acknowledge that the document was his, in effect, having it notarized.²

Arthur then readied himself for a long journey, suffered through hasty good-byes, and within two days was gone, leaving behind his wife, his married daughter Amanda Bullock and eight other children ranging in age from eighteen to two, his friends, his gracious country home and productive farm - spirited away from Caroline County during the night of Thursday, January 14, 1858.³

1 CAROLINE COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT (Land records) Liber BB, folio 576. In 1831, the property was called *Upper Hunting Creek Mill* until 1879, when it was conveyed as *Hunting Creek Mills*. In a 1913 deed, the name was given as *Hunting Creek Mills*, and more recently called *Linchester Flour Mills*. The property is owned by Caroline County Historical Society, Inc.

2 Ibid., Liber CC, folio 529-530. Recorded 1/19/1858. A transcript follows next.

3 Lucile E. Hamilton and Margaret H. Higgin, *From These Roots*, 1962 - 1965. Chapter: John Wesley Bullock. No pagination. Courtesy of John (Jake) Ferris; Also information gathered from a diary kept by Silas Nichols, compiled by Lois Rachel Hamilton Fitzpatrick, 27 June 1986, courtesy of John (Jake) Ferris.

THE DWELLING OF ARTHUR W. LEVERTON

CAROLINE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Photograph of the dwelling ca 1895

The family of E. T. Moore is pictured.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF

MRS. ROBERT NEWCOMB, PRESTON, MD

Granddaughter of E. T. Moore



Photo courtesy of Mrs. Robert Newcomb

The Arthur Leverton dwelling served as an Underground Railroad station near Preston, Maryland. Photo taken in August 1900.

Arthur Grants Power of Attorney to John R. Stack

The article naming *Author Liverton* of northern *Dorchester County* as an accomplice in the escape claimed, accurately enough, that he had appointed a trustee to take care of his legal affairs and had left for parts unknown.

The legal steps taken to dispose of property which he would never again occupy were embodied in a Power of Attorney granted to John R. Stack. The document is not extraordinary in content, but the three dates related to its preparation serve to document the speed with which Arthur dispatched fifty-two years of life on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The transcribed Power of Attorney follows.

Caroline County Land Records *Liber CC, folios 529, 530*

Caroline County: to wit: Be it remembered that on this ninten (sic) day of January in the year of Our Lord One thousand Eight hundred and fifty eight came John R. Stack and brought a Power of an (sic) Attorney with one endorsement thereon and prayed to have the same enrolled among the Records of Caroline County and on the Same day and Year aforesaid, the same Power of Attorney and endorsement was enrolled as follows to Wit:

Know all ye men by these presents that I Arthur W. Leverton of Caroline County and State of Maryland for divers good causes and considerations me thereunto moving have made Constituted and appointed and by these presents do make constitute and appoint John R. Stack of Caroline County and State of Maryland my true and lawful attorney for me and in my name and for my own proper use and benefit to lease, let, sell or demise all my real an (sic) personal property to Such person or persons and for Such time or numbers of years and under Such yearly or other rents as he Shall think fit or otherwise to Sell grant and transfer the Same real or personal property aforesaid absolutely for Such price or prices or Sum or Sums of money to Such person or persons as he Shall think fit and convenient and also in my name to Seal execute and deliver deeds, Conveyances bargains and Sales for the absolute Sale and dispersal thereof with such claims Covenants and agreements to be therein contained as my said Attorney

Arthur Grants Power of Attorney - continued

shall think fit and convenient and confirming all Such lease and leases deeds conveyances bargains or sales which shall at any time hereafter be sealed and executed by my said Attorney touching or concerning the premises and also in my name for me and my use to ask demand Sue for recover and received (sic) all such Sum or Sums of money debts or demands whatsoever which are now due and owing unto me Arthur W. Leverton by any person or persons whomsoever and to have use and take all lawful ways and means in my name or otherwise for the recovery thereof by Attachment arrest distress or otherwise and to Compound and agree for the Same and acquittance or other Sufficient discharge for the same for me and in my name to make seal and deliver and to do all other lawful acts and things whatsoever concerning the premises as fully in every respect as I myself might or could were I personally present at the doing thereof and attorneys one or more under him for the purpose aforesaid to make and again at his pleasure to revoke ratifying and confirming and by these presents allowing whatsoever my said attorney Shall in my name lawfully do or cause to be done in and about the premises by virtue of these presents ~ In testimony whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and seal this tenth day of January Eighteen hundred and fifty eight. Arthur W. Leverton (seal) Signed Sealed and delivered in the presence of E. P. Hopkins Lewis W. Robinson

State of Maryland Caroline County to Wit: I hereby certify that on this twelfth day of January Eighteen hundred fifty eight before me the Subscriber a Justice of the Peace and for Caroline County Md personally appeared Arthur W. Leverton and acknowledge the aforegoing Power of Attorney and who executed the same in my presence and who acknowledged that he Signed sealed and executed the Same as his free act and deed for the use and purpose therein expressed and I further certify that the said Arthur W. Leverton to me personally known ro be the identical personal (sic) who executed the Same in my presence. Acknowledged before Levin W. Robinson, J.P. Robert J. Jump, Clk

In the margin was written: *Orig^d Deliv^d to Jno. R. Stack 23 Nov 1858.* Once it was copied into the land records, the original document conveying Power of Attorney was returned - ten months later - to John R. Stack for his keeping.

Arthur W. Leverton: Bound for the Promised Land

How did he get away? It is best to let the family tell it. Fortunately, there is a rendition of the details of Arthur's escape from the vengeful group coming to inflict cruel and unusual punishment, which now would be rejected by civilized people as torture.

The Leverton's were members of the Religious Society of Friends. . . . Arthur Leverton was active in the Underground Railroad prior to the Civil War. As a result of these pursuits, and for the preservation of his own life, he was forced to leave his home, family, and possessions in Maryland.

The story goes, that during the night [of] January 14, 1858, he was hidden under a bunch of hay in a spring wagon and taken to a friend's home. Here he was given a railroad ticket and a horse which he rode to another town. He hid out near the depot until the train left town, then he jumped from his horse to the train and was bound for the West.¹

1 *From These Roots: Dedicated to the Memory of Laura Margaret (Bullock) Hamilton.* Chapter on "John Wesley Bullock." No pagination. Compiled by Lucile E. Hamilton and Margaret H. Riffin, 1962-1965. Self-published. The authors descend from Arthur Leverton through his daughter, Elizabeth Amanda Bullock..

Arthur's Perilous Gambol

There is enough nineteenth-century railroad information to guess which station Arthur chose as he rode away on his borrowed horse, and where he

hid near the depot,
shivering in the darkness,
listening for the whistle,
heard it blast a warning;

quickly remounted as the
train pulled out slowly;

waited 'til it rolled fast
enough to stop pursuers
from jumping on to catch him;

spurred the horse to action,
galloping aside the train,
spotted a good handhold;

and grabbing the moving target,
leaped from the saddle,
pulling himself free of
his neighbor's good mare,

and clambered to the safety of the big, iron horse.

The Over-Ground Railroad to Freedom

There was no moon¹ on the night Arthur was whisked away to the home of a friend² who was most likely a *Friend*, there being a strong Quaker presence in the Preston area.³ Perhaps he rested there a few hours during the night and set out before sunrise, riding in the unrelieved darkness to catch a train that would carry him away from the comforts of family, home, neighborhood and livelihood.

The Delaware Railroad was closest to Preston; moreover, it was the only railroad to which Arthur reasonably could have ridden in 1858. Leased and operated by the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad Company, this was a new rail service between Seaford and New Castle on the Delaware River, with a connection to Philadelphia. The track ran down the Delmarva peninsula⁴ within a few miles of the state line shared with Maryland, going no further south than Seaford. Opened with a thirteen-gun salute, a lively celebration was staged there after the completion of the line on 11 December 1856⁵ - one year and one month before Arthur handed over his pre-purchased ticket to the conductor.

1 <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~danddhall/astronomical/lunarphase.shtml>.

2 Hamilton and Riffin, *From These Roots*; Chapter on "John Wesley Bullock."

3 *Lands of Underground Railroad Agents and Sympathizers near Preston, ca. 1840-1860*. Map is based on research by Patricia C. Guida, 2005.

4 *Delmarva Peninsula* refers to those portions of Delaware, Maryland and Virginia comprised of the Eastern Shore of Maryland, lower Delaware and the eastern shore of Virginia.

5 John C. Hayman, *Rails Along the Chesapeake: A History of Railroad on the Delmarva Peninsula, 1827 - 1978*; Chapter IV, "The Delaware Railroad: Backbone of Delmarva's Rail System," pp. 19 - 27, Marvadel Publishers, 1979.

The Road To Federalsburg, and Beyond

But which road did Arthur take to the railroad? In 1858, the county road which ran through Preston was the main thoroughfare to Federalsburg, a town seven miles east of Arthur's home and the closest portal to Delaware. Laid down in colonial times, by 1858 this well-worn byway was still the sole route to Federalsburg.¹ There a bridge crossed over Marshy Hope Creek and on the other side, the road branched into three roads. Each one crossed into Delaware, with two leading directly to a train station: Seaford, twenty miles southeast of Federalsburg, and Bridgeville, twenty miles northeast. Either route would have taken him the better part of two hours or more by horse.²

But which station? To Seaford - the less practical option (the train was headed north), and therefore assumed by his would-be captors to be the road not taken? To Bridgeville - the obvious choice as the most northern depot? But would that also have been obvious to the vigilantes who were after him, and thus, not Arthur's choice? To Cannon's Crossing - a small community between Seaford and Bridgeville - where he have been less conspicuous (or more so)?

Maps follow to illustrate the roads and towns where depots were located in 1858.

- 1 Now Maryland Route 318, give or take a few shifts of the original road bed.
- 2 If Arthur rode during night hours, there would have been no moon to light his path. The horse would have been prodded to canter, then to trot or walk, alternating the gait to accommodate the ability of the horse. The pace probably could have averaged eight miles an hour; the journey about two hours. Conversation with Anne C. Ogletree, attorney -at-law in Caroline County, and horsewoman.

MAPS

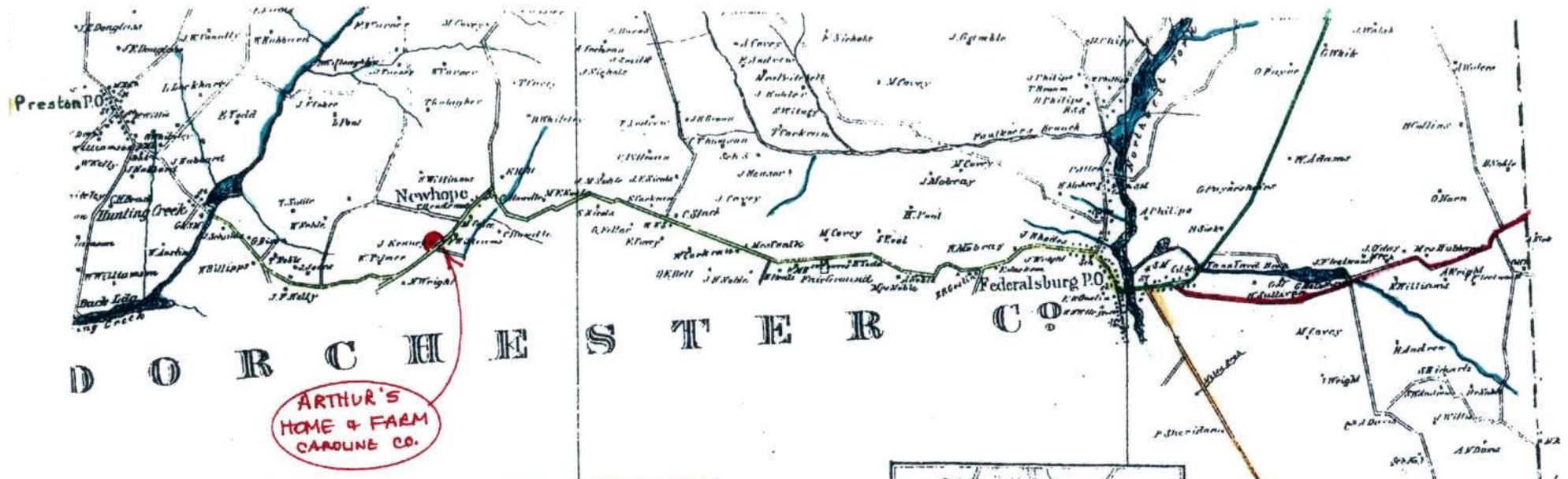
SHOWING POSSIBLE ESCAPE ROUTES

FROM PRESTON

TO RAILROAD STATIONS IN DELAWARE

14 JANUARY 1858

- a) Arthur Leverton's Ride through Caroline County
Map of Caroline County, John B. Isler, 1875
- b) Three likely Train Stations in Lower Delaware
Northwest Fork, Map of the Delaware Hundreds,
from the *Pomeroy and Beers Atlas*, 1868
- c) Three Routes from Federalsburg through
Delaware. Recent road map of Maryland, State
Highway Dept.



Statistics:

Districts.	Population (Census of 1870)				Total	Amount of Assessments (year 1874)	Miles of Road
	Nativity		Race				
	native	foreign	white	colored			
1 Henderson	407	1	944	550	1494	443.111	64
2 Givensborough	2459	14	1439	974	3477	943.306	82
3 Carrisborough Town	557	4	431	130	561	1,177.245	171
4 Denton	4069	28	3450	1747	4097	734.340	103
5 Hurmony	2515	5	721	110	3247	477.466	75
6 Federalsburg	1480	20	1206	300	1506	477.466	75
Total.	13,009	64	10,805	3,994	17,093	4,040.407	445

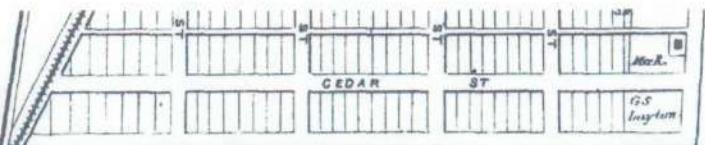
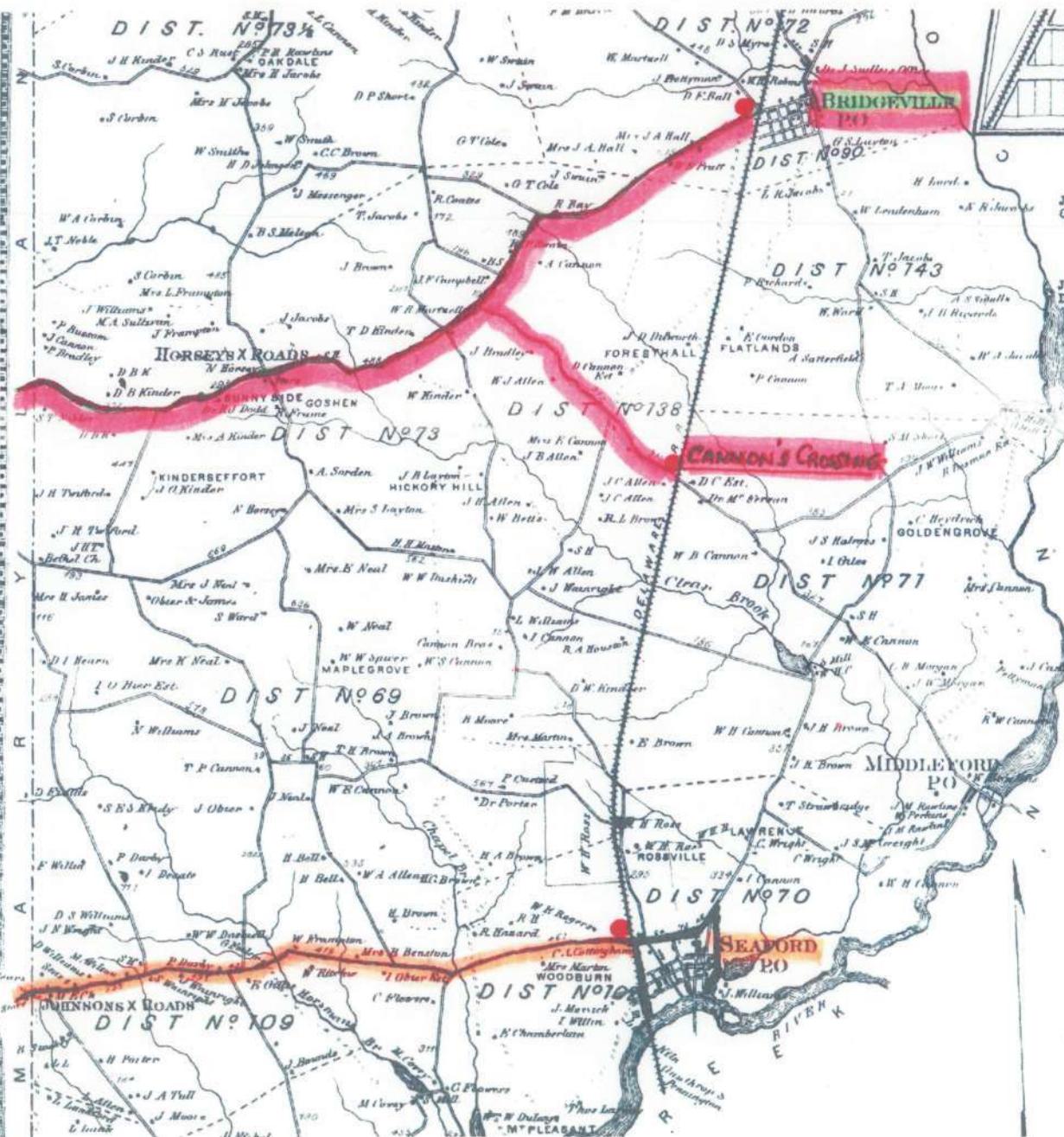


ARTHUR'S RIDE THROUGH CAROLINE COUNTY 1858

6A

72a

MAP OF CAROLINE COUNTY, MD John B. Isler, 1



Bridgeville Business Directory.

Manufacturers
Geo West, Manufacturer and Dealer in Ploughs & Spinning Wheels, & Joe Ward.

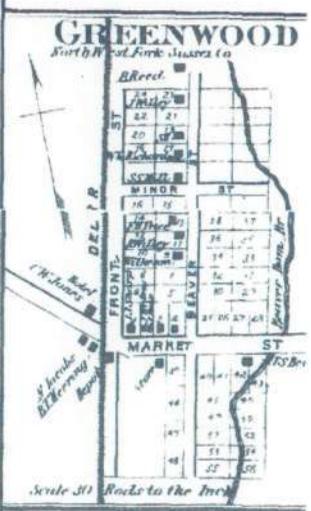
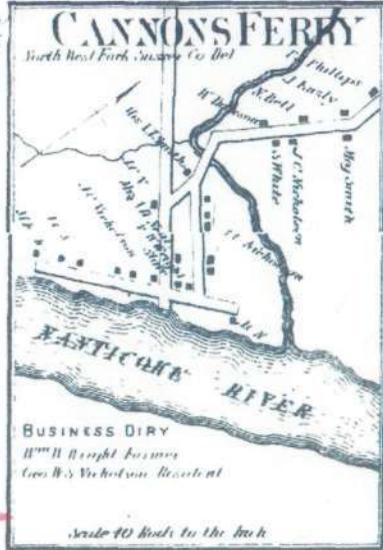
Miscellaneous.
Prettyman & Robins Fruit Cannery
C A Rawlins Agent Kent Co. Mutual Insura
L. Damon, Dealer in Farming Implements & Phosphates and Real Estate Agent.
Peter Hanson Rail Road Agent
Wm Gray, Farmer
G S. Layton, Farmer.
Mrs. L. A Cahall Resident.

Merchants
Jas Prettyman Dealer in General Merchandise, and P M Cannon & Layton Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Drugs, Medicines, Paints, Oils, Dried Fruits, Garden Seeds, &c

Physicians and Surgeons.
John B Sudler M D
Dr. Stuart M D

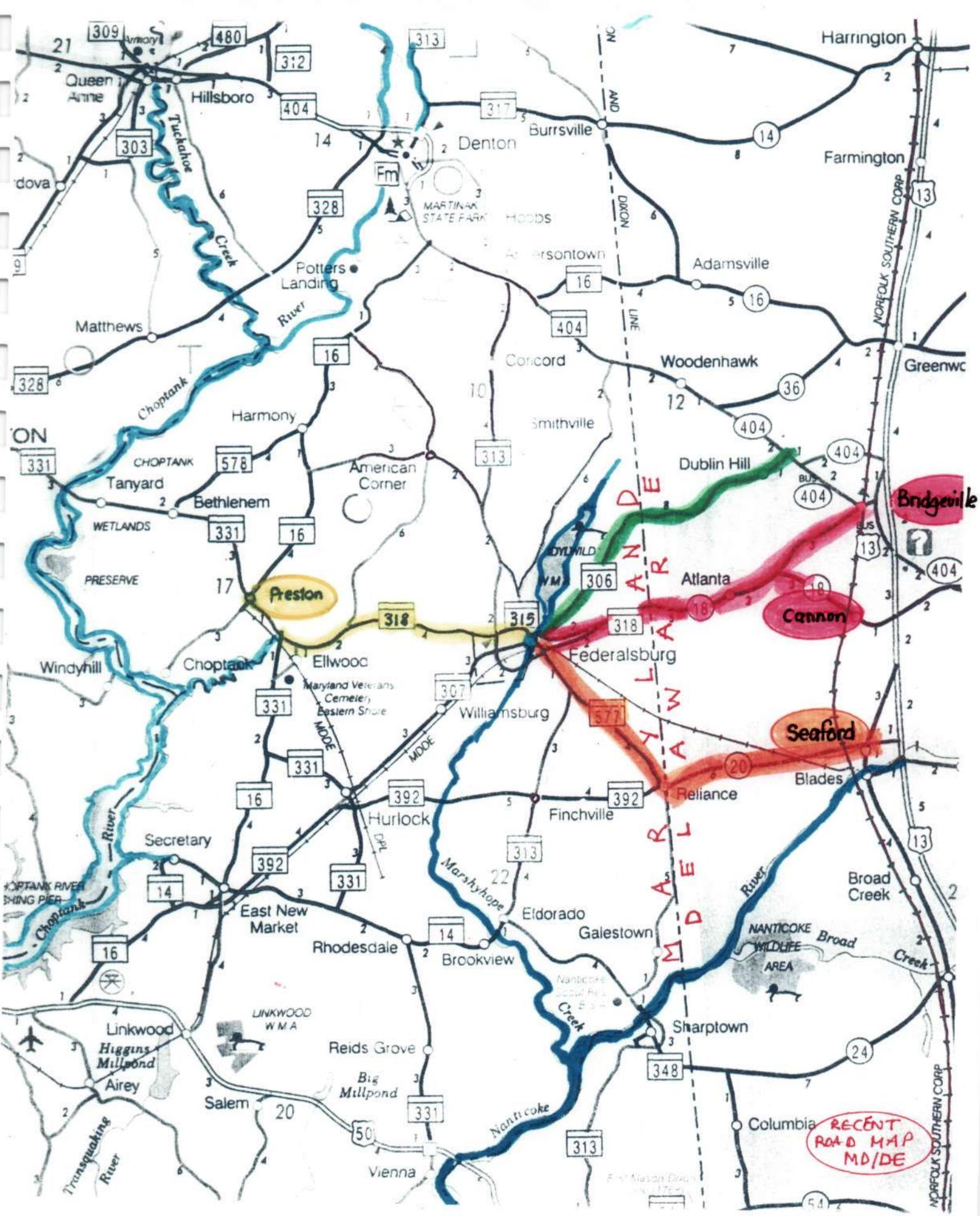
NORTHWEST FORK

Sussex Co.
Scale 1 Inch to the Mile
1868



<http://www.udel.edu/dgs/dgsdata/hundredssat.htm>

DELAWARE HUNDREDS MAP
IMAGES FROM THE POMEROY
AND BEERS ATLAS, 1868



RECENT ROAD MAP MD/DE

Arthur Catches an Early Morning Train

And what of the timing? He must have been made aware of the departure time by those who had bought him a ticket. Fortunately, lovers of train history who have published their research have reproduced nineteenth century timetables.¹ Although none cover the day and year Arthur caught the train, a schedule dated 8 January 1857 precedes his departure date by twelve months.² On that earlier January day, there was but one train leaving the depot at Seaford - at 7:00 a.m. Twelve minutes later it stopped at Cannon's Crossing, reaching Bridgeville at 7:24.²

Assuming a similar schedule, Arthur had to reach his chosen depot before 7:00 a.m. on Friday, 15 January 1858, to catch the only daily train to take him away from the Eastern Shore and, assuming the second itinerary, to Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, offering the comfort of his extended family, was seven hours away.²

- 1 [Timetable Heading] "Delaware, Frenchtown and New Castle & Wilmington Railroads. On and after Thursday, January 8th, 1857, PASSENGER TRAINS will run between Philadelphia & Seaford. D. A. Sanborn, Supt. Del R. R." Reprinted on page 89, *Slavery, Steamboats & Railroads*, Hancock and Hite.
[Timetable Heading] "For the Government and Information of Employees Only. DELAWARE, NEW CASTLE & FRENCHTOWN, AND NEW CASTLE & WILMINGTON RAILROADS. TIME TABLE No. 5, Takes Effect Monday, Nov. 18th, 1861." Pages 20 and 21 in *Rails Along the Chesapeake*.
[Timetable heading] "Pennsylvania Rail Road Line, CHANGE OF HOURS. On and After Monday, January 5th, 1863, Trains for the accommodation of Passengers will run as follows, UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE." Reprinted on page 84, Hancock and Hite. 15 January 1858
- 2 **The following caution** by author John Hayman about interpreting early train schedules which are not timely is reprinted here. Changes in train-service frequency (number of trains per day) were dropped or added in the beginning as (1) *passenger-traffic volume may not have developed as rapidly as expected on a new line, so the railroad would scale back service until volume built up enough to justify increased frequency, or*, (2) *a railroad would get into financial trouble and be forced to reduce service (although probably not the case here . . . P W & B was very solid by that time.) Sometimes there were seasonal variations in frequency and schedule, too.* [E-mails dated 16 and 17 October 2007. John C. Hayman to Patricia C. Guida.] Indeed, scrutiny of three timetables - 1857, 1861 and 1863 - support his observations. The ones for 1857 and the 1863 show one train a day leaving from Seaford. Only Dover northward was serviced by two daily trains. In November, 1861, the passenger train went no farther south than Harrington, but the freight train went on to Seaford. The 1861 timetable is in Mr. Hayman's book. The 1857 and 1863 schedules are in *Slavery, Steamboats & Railroads: the History of 19th Century Seaford*, Harold B. Hancock and Madeline Dunn Hite, 1981.

TRAIN SCHEDULE
DELAWARE RAILROAD
PASSENGER TRAINS
BETWEEN
PHILADELPHIA & SEAFORD
BEGINNING 8 JANUARY 1857

*SLAVERY, STEAMBOATS, & RAILROADS:
THE HISTORY OF 19TH CENTURY SEAFORD*

Harold B. Hancock, Madeline Dunn Hite
Junior Achievement Program of Seaford High School,
Seaford, Delaware, 1981

Delaware, Frenchtown AND NEW CASTLE & WILMINGTON RAILROADS.



On and after Thursday, January 8th, 1857,
PASSENGER TRAINS
WILL RUN BETWEEN
PHILADELPHIA & SEAFORD

AS FOLLOWS:

LEAVE		A. M.	P. M.	LEAVE		A. M.	P. M.
Seaford for Philadelphia	at	7.00		Philadelphia for Seaford	at	8	2.30
Cannon's Crossing	"	7.12		Wilmington	"	9.30	5
Bridgeville	"	7.24		New Castle	"	9.45	5.25
St. Johnstown	"	7.34		St. George's	"	10.29	5.50
Farmington	"	7.47		Mt. Pleasant	"	10.35	6.02
Prettyman's Corner	"	7.51		Middletown	"	10.50	6.13
Milford Junction	"	8		Townsend	"	11.05	6.32
Frederica	"	8.18		Smyrna	"	11.25	6.52
Canterbury	"	8.25		Leipsic	"	11.40	7.07
Camden	"	8.40		Dover	"	12	7.22
Dover	"	8.50	7.30	Camden	"	12.10	
Leipsic	"	9.05	7.43	Canterbury	"	12.25	
Smyrna	"	9.25	7.50	Frederica	"	12.30	
Townsend	"	9.48	8.20	Milford Junction	"	12.50	
Middletown	"	10.03	8.25	Prettyman's Corner	"	12.58	
Mt. Pleasant	"	10.15	8.45	Farmington	"	1	
St. George's	"	10.29	8.57	St. Johnstown	"	1.14	
New Castle	"	11.03	9.30	Bridgeville	"	1.28	
				Cannon's Crossing	"	1.35	

Leave New Castle for Phila. at 7.30 A. M.

Leave Wilmington for N. Castle 2.08 P. M.

A Freight Train, with Passenger Car attached, will leave Seaford at 3.30 P. M., to connect with train from Dover for Philadelphia, at 7.30 P. M.

Also, a Freight Train, with Passenger Car attached, will leave Dover for Seaford at 7.30, connecting with the 3.30 P. M. train from Philadelphia.

D. A. SANBORN, Supt. Del. R. R.

Arthur, after Caroline County

The newspaper accounts allude to Arthur's escape from Caroline County, the Easton paper saying he *left for parts unknown*,¹ the Quaker newspaper reporting that Arthur heeded the warning and had left the State.²

We again turn to family histories to learn what happened to Arthur after he fled from Caroline County in frigid weather on a moonless night in January, one hundred and fifty years ago. The reminiscences of two descendants of Arthur Leverton reveal part of the story.

Charles Snyder, grandson of Anthony Leverton and great-grandson of Arthur Leverton, said, "My great-grandfather, Arthur Leverton, was forced to leave Maryland under threat of lynching because he helped an escaped slave woman or several escaped slaves, taking them food when they were hiding in the woods. He fled to Milton, Ind., his wife and children joining him later."

His grandson, Clyde Leverton, of Milton, Ind., said it was two years before the wife and children joined him in Milton. Clyde said Arthur first went to Irvington on the east side of Indianapolis and then came to Milton, buying land west of town where there were natural springs. His uncles, Isaac and Daniel Whiteley, and his many cousins, were also in that area west of Milton, which is hilly and covered with trees.³

Once again, Arthur Leverton would find himself in Indiana, this time to stay for the remainder of his life.

1 *Easton Gazette*, 23 January 1858

2 *Friends' Intelligencer*, Vol XV, No. 2, Third Month 27, 1858

3 Sample, Mary Catherine, *The Whiteley Family*, p. 39. Self-published, 1984. The author, now in her nineties, is the great-great-granddaughter of Daniel Whiteley (1788 - 1876)

Where Would He Go? How Would He Get There?

There is the possibility that when Arthur jumped aboard that horse-drawn cart, he hadn't known his final destination: saving his hide was the compelling goal. But, would not he and Margaret have talked about what they would do if their secret activities were discovered?

Whichever, there had been too few days after his exposure for anyone at a distance to receive postal notice of his imminent need for shelter. If telegraph service were operational at the train depot where the ticket was bought, perhaps a message was sent to family in Indiana that Arthur would be heading their way.¹

Now that his Indiana destination has been made clear, two theories of Arthur's itinerary are possible. One could have been the Pennsylvania Railroad which carried him out of Delaware to Philadelphia, then to Pittsburgh by the same railroad, and from there, west to Indiana by other carriers. A second possibility - a circuitous route - would have been the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad from Baltimore city and points west

1 "The first commercial telegraph line was completed between Washington, D. C. and New York City in the spring of 1846 by the Magnetic Telegraph Company. . . . By 1851, there were over fifty separate telegraph companies operating in the United States." Robert S. Harding and Alison Oswald, *Western Union Telegraph Company Records 1820-1995*, (The Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention & Innovation, Smithsonian Institution. <http://invention.smithsonian.org/resources>;
"Dispatching trains by telegraph started in 1851 Western Union built its first transcontinental telegraph lines in 1861, mainly along railroad rights-of-way."
<http://inventors.about.com/library/inventors/bltelegraph/hym>.
Railroad Disasters-Use of the Telegraph, Letter to the Editor of the New York Daily Times. Writer suggested to promote safety and to provide information of the state of the moving trains, a telegraph line the full length of railroad lines with a telegraph station at every station was a necessity. The New York Daily Times, 18 August 1853.

The Baltimore & Ohio to the West?

Since the Baltimore & Ohio had not reached Maryland's Eastern Shore in 1858, Arthur

would have had to have taken another way to reach the B&O Railroad, using a number of modes of travel that could have included wagons, railroads, steamboats or some mixture of the three to reach Baltimore or Washington to pick up the B&O's line.¹

If he took the railroad from Wilmington or Philadelphia, he may have reached the B&O's line in Baltimore on the Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore RR, which connected Baltimore by rail to the North and then west. He also may have gone via the Pennsylvania Railroad west and not used the B&O.

The B&O did not reach Indiana in 1858. The line stretched from Washington to Baltimore and from Baltimore to Wheeling, Virginia, via the B&O's main line or through Parkersburg, Virginia, via the Parkersburg Branch of the B&O (today both in West Virginia). The B&O reached the Ohio River and from there it is likely a ferry boat took him across the river from either branch, and he would have gone to Marietta, Ohio, to continue his journey on another railroad farther west. The route via the railroad continued to Indiana via the Marietta and Cincinnati RR from Marietta to Cincinnati, and from there farther west over the Ohio and Mississippi RR, which ran from Cincinnati to St. Louis.²

But I believe he would have made his way north until he was able to catch a train since the B&O went west through Virginia and Maryland, and he may have thought this was a dangerous route to take.

- 1 This B&O possibility was to ride the Delaware Railroad to New Castle, Delaware. He would switch to the New Castle-Frenchtown Railroad traveling west to its terminal on the Elk River, then go by steamboat down the Elk, into the Chesapeake Bay, down the Bay and up the Patapsco River to Baltimore. There he would board the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad traveling west, reaching Indiana by connections with other carriers and possibly, other modes of transportation. W. Williams, *APPLETONS' RAILROAD AND STEAMBOAT COMPANION BEING a Travellers' Guide THROUGH THE UNITED STATE OF AMERICA, CANADA, NEW BRUNSWICK, AND NOVA SCOTIA* (New York, D. Appleton & Company, MDCCCXLIX), 262
- 2 Email dated 17 August 200; email dated 12 November 2007. From David Shackelford, Chief Curator, Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum, Baltimore, MD. www.borail.org

The Pennsylvania Railroad?

The other premise is that Arthur went directly to Philadelphia on the Delaware Railroad operated by the Pennsylvania Railroad, making the connection in New Castle for Wilmington and Philadelphia.

The next leg would have been the Pennsylvania Central Railroad from Philadelphia going west. This new line was operational by 1858 to its terminus at Pittsburgh, where the Ohio River begins. There, an 1849 travel guide assured, *first-class steamboats* ran regularly to convey passengers *with as little delay as possible to Cincinnati, St. Louis, New Orleans, and other places in the South and West.*¹

So, having arrived in Pittsburgh on the Pennsylvania Central, Arthur could have taken a steamboat down the Ohio, disembarked at a riverside Indiana town - perhaps Madison - and from there, finished his journey by rail to Indianapolis. In 1836, construction had begun on a railroad from Madison through Indianapolis to Lafayette.

However, by 1858, railway lines and networks had grown rapidly and it might well have been that travel guides were now touting the merits of a speedier first-class railroad to carry passengers out of Pittsburgh and through Ohio, Indiana and points west, thus avoiding the lengthy and inconvenient river voyage.

How ever he reached Indiana, Arthur first had to get out of Maryland on the railroad which issued the ticket handed to him by his rescuers.

1 W. Williams, *APPLETONS' RAILROAD AND STEAMBOAT COMPANION*, p. 295

Arthur Arrives in Philadelphia

When he reached Philadelphia, Arthur may have stepped off the train into the embrace of Caroline County kin, by then prosperous pillars of the city's business community. Forty-one years before, his step-uncle, Peter Wright, of Caroline County, had gone to that city to make his fortune, and make his fortune he did.

Born in 1791, Peter was the fourth of ten children born to John and Hester Wright. Two years later, brother Willis was born - the Willis Wright who, with Hannah, became the father of Willis W. Wright. When the widowed Hannah married Jacob Leverton, seventeen-year-old Arthur acquired a six-year-old step-brother.

Quaker Peter Wright married fellow *Friend* Mary Anderson on 17 February 1813 at Centre Meeting House in Caroline County. The couple and their two-year-old son, James, moved to Philadelphia in 1817, the same year Peter's brother, Willis, died. Within a year, Peter had become a merchant, importing chinaware known as queensware. He founded *Peter Wright & Sons*, a shipping firm which became a leading mercantile house in trans-Atlantic trade importing crockery and exporting commodities. When Peter Wright died in 1856, the presidency of his company was assumed by his eldest son, James A. Wright, who developed the business to even greater international heights. In 1861, two years after oil was discovered in Titusville, Pennsylvania, *Peter Wright & Sons* chartered the 254-ton, *Elizabeth Watts*, a "veteran" cargo brig, and shipped 1,329 barrels of oil to London - the first large export of petroleum from America - where it took twelve days to unload the hazardous cargo.

The prosperity of this major maritime shipping company created by a Caroline County native continued after the death of James in 1894. A headline in 1895 read: "PARTNERSHIP DISSOLVED: The Old Firm of *Peter Wright & Sons* With New Members. . . To Inspect Excursion Steamers." Not quite the same business, but the name prevailed.

N.B. The documentation for the above is included in APPENDIX I

Resuming the Journey to Indiana

If Arthur had been sheltered in Philadelphia, there came a time when he offered his thanks and bid his family farewell. His destination not yet reached, he would continue westward on his journey to Indiana. If grandson Clyde Leverton's memory was correct, Arthur first went to Indianapolis, specifically to *Irvington, on the east side of Indianapolis*.¹ His step-brother, Willis Wilson Wright had been living in that city as early as early as 1838. Could it be that Arthur was invited to stay with Willis after he left Caroline County?

Where in Indianapolis was Willis working and living? From city directories, census records and his obituary, we learn that his businesses and his home were located in east Indianapolis, in the southern part of Centre Township, not in, but near to Irvington, a neighborhood developed in 1870 in adjacent Warren Township. His real estate business in 1880 was located at 100 East Washington Street, and his residence on the *National Road, east of the city*, both now US Route 40.

Renumbered and renamed, Willis' last residence at 382 Clifford Avenue became 2314 - 2316 East 10th Street, twenty-four city blocks west of N. Emerson Street, where Irvington begins.²

A map of the area east of Indianapolis where Arthur would soon be living follows. It is marked to locate Willis' last home, and the neighborhood of Irvington.

1 Sample, Mary Catherine, *The Whiteley Family*, p. 39.

2 *Sanborn Map, interpreted by Monique Howell, Reference Librarian, Indiana State Library; McEvoy's Indianapolis City Directory and Business Mirror for 1858-9*, H.N. McEvoy, Publisher and Compiler, 1858; *Indianapolis City Directory for 1880* (title page is missing), <http://indiamond6.ulib.iupui.edu>. Indianapolis, Indiana City Directories, 1887 - 1890, <http://search.ancestry.com>.

Arthur's Caroline County Farm is Sold

Just before he fled from his home, Arthur appointed John R. Stack to act as trustee to lease or sell his farm and personal property in Caroline County. He drew up a deed of trust, signing it on 10 January 1858. Two days later, he acknowledged the document before Levin W. Robinson, Justice of the Peace, the office Arthur had held for two and one-half years, nine years before. The deed of trust empowered Stack to lease or sell land, household goods, farm equipment, livestock – everything which constituted Arthur's Caroline County material existence. No minimum price for the sale of the property was established: Arthur instructed his trustee that the price should be what Stack deemed *fit and convenient*.¹

In the absence of Arthur, the operation of the farm had to be addressed. The three oldest Leverton sons were in their mid and late teens and were physically capable of tilling the land and harvesting the crops, but probably would have needed mature experience to manage it. Perhaps their mother, Margaret, was able to step into her husband's shoes and run the farm: there were women in the 1860 census who, as heads of households in the absence of a husband, were *farmers*. It is likely that Stack was able to rent the fields. The income would have sustained the family until they could join Arthur in Indiana.

In 1860, two years after Arthur's escape, the farm was sold to James Stack, Jr., who purchased all 253 acres for \$1,982.² Although his relationship to the Trustee is not clear, thirty-year old James, Jr, the son of Levin Stack, was close kin. Within six years, the farm would be sold again, as James Stack and his wife, Albertine, had both died. The farm brought \$4,000 in November, 1866.

1 CAROLINE COUNTY COURT (Land Records) Liber CC, folio 529. Deed dated 5 April 1860.
2 Ibid; Liber 29, folio 434
3 Ibid; Liber 32, folio 143

Arthur's Family is Reunited in Indianapolis

Arthur remained in Indianapolis long enough for the eighth federal census to record his whereabouts and that of his wife and children, for they had joined him there by 1860. On 21 June, the census agent found Arther W. Leverton, 52, farmer, living in the south part of Centre Township in the county of Marion, Indiana - post office Indianapolis.¹ This part of Indianapolis was mainly rural in 1860; farming was the main occupation listed on the several census pages before and after Arthur's entry.² Although he owned no real estate, his personal property was valued at \$2,500, reflecting the proceeds from the sale of his Caroline County farm the previous April.. Arthur was providing for his family doing what he knew best – farming, and in the company of his two grown sons.

Living with him were Margaret, his wife, 46; Baynard A. 20, farm laborer; Francis, M., 18, farm laborer; Andrew W., 14; Mary W., 11; Hannah V. , 9; Aurther L., 7; and Willis W., 5. A mistake was made when the census taker listed *Andrew W., age 14*. The Leverton who was fourteen in 1860 was Arthur's son, Anthony W. Leverton; Andrew's middle initial was *J*, and he would have been four years old in 1860. These two siblings were conjoined in the entry.

Not far away, on property valued at \$30,000, lived Willis W. Wright, 42, retired merchant. In his household were his wife, Frances F., 32, and children Charles, 16, Frances, 7, John, 5, Alice, 1, and servant, Irish-born Mary Foley.³ Although help from his family in Philadelphia was a projection, shelter by his step-brother is a likely proposition, given the evidence.

- 1 Dwelling house number in order of visitation, 493; Family number in order of visitation, 527; page 68. Source Federal Census 1860: Centre South Part, Marion, Indiana, Roll: M653_279; p. 460. Image 462. Ass't Marshal Dan C. Greenfield. Entry for Arther W. Leverton.
- 2 U.S. Federal Census, 1860, Centre Township, Lower Part, Post Office, Indianapolis, Roll: M653_279; electronic images on e-pages 1-34, Census pages originally numbered 49 - 77.
- 3 Dwelling house number in order of visitation, 554; Family number in order of visitation, 589; page 76. Source Federal Census, 1860: Centre South Part, Marion, Indianan, Roll M653_279; p. 468; Image 470. Ass't Marshal Dan C. Greenfield. Entry for Willis W. Wright.

The Family Moves to Wayne County, Indiana

By 29 May 1862, Arthur and his family had moved east of Indianapolis and were living in Wayne County on the easternmost border of Indiana. On that day, both husband and wife signed a deed conveying to James Stack, Jr., Margaret's dower right in the property in Caroline County, something that had not been addressed in the document granting Power of Attorney. This additional deed was acknowledged before a Notary Public in Wayne County.¹

Grandson Clyde Leverton, was correct in saying that it was two years before the uprooted family settled in Milton. Arthur bought land west of town, joining uncles, Isaac and Daniel Whiteley, and cousins, whose farms were in the part west of Milton which was *hilly and covered with trees, where there were natural springs*²

1 CAROLINE COUNTY COURT (Land Records) Liber 30 folio 11, dated 29 May 1862.

2 Mary Catherine Sample, *The Whiteley Family*, p. 39

Arthur in Washington Township, Wayne County, Indiana: 1870

Arthur never seemed to recover the level of prosperity he had enjoyed in Caroline County. Although he owned his own property in 1870, there might not have been enough acreage to support a family by farming since Arthur was working as a laborer, *hired* being the presumption. At sixty-four years of age, his material wealth as measured by the census was far below his Caroline County fortunes: Value of Real Estate \$800; Value of Personal Estate \$100.

His wife, Margaret, fifty-four, was still managing his household where their sons, Baynard, 30, Arthur, 16 and Willis, 14, lived. Mary, 22, had married Levi Mason, and she, her twenty-eight year-old husband, and infant, Otto, were boarders in her parents' home. Young Arthur and Willis were students that year. Baynard found work as a dairyman, and Levi Mason, who could read, but not write, was employed by one of the several saw mills around Milton.

Son Francis Marion, who went by his second given name, had moved to Rush County where he established himself as a blacksmith with a shop on his own property. Daughter Hannah Virginia (Jennie) became the wife of John W. Doran in 1868, and was no longer living with her parents. Son Andrew, a blacksmith, had married Martha Summerville in 1873 and may have been a resident of Randolph County, Indiana.¹ Son Anthony was not to be found in the 1870 census index, nor was Andrew.

¹ *Indiana Marriage Collection, 1800 - 1841*, A. J. Leverton and Martha Summerville. Marriage: Date 27 December 1873. County: Randolph. www.ancestry.com.

N. B. *APPENDIX D* contains all of the census data for the above Levertons from 1850 - 1930.

Arthur in Milton, Wayne County, Indiana: 1880

Arthur had moved into the town of Milton by the time the census was taken on 11 June 1880. Now seventy-four and a *retired laborer*, he and Margaret had the comfort of grown sons Arthur and Willis who lived with them. Arthur was a laborer and Willis, a blacksmith. In their home was a young girl, Anna Quigley, who was employed as a domestic. Baynard had established his own household which included his nephew, Otto, who at the tender age of ten was working alongside him in a dairy.

Four weeks after the census-taker recorded his existence, Arthur died. There was no newspaper notice or obituary to mark his passing – he who had risked everything to help others attain liberty which he himself prized, even if had to apologize for its enjoyment as he did in a letter to his religious community.

Margaret lived without her spouse of forty-eight years until 1891. She died on 7 March 1891 at age seventy-seven in the home of her daughter Hannah Virginia Doran. Preceding her in death were three of her grown children: Arthur, Mary, and Baynard. In an obituary, her biographer described Margaret's childhood as one of affluence and wealth. Her life after the death of her husband, it was said, was marked by declining health. She was survived by her children Anthony, of Boone County, Marion of Lewisville, Willis, and Amanda Bullock, of Muncie, Indiana, twenty-three grandchildren and five great grandchildren. A brother was living in Louisiana.

Arthur and Margaret were buried in old Friends' Cemetery in Milton, Indiana, but when a family member explored the graveyard twenty years ago, she reported that she was unable to find the headstones, as *so many of the stones are gone or have sunk into the ground.*¹

1 Mary Catherine Sample, *The Whiteley Family*, p. 41

OBITUARY

MARGARET ANN TURPIN LEVERTON
(1813 - 1891)

Daily Tribune (Cambridge City, Indiana)

14 March 1891

page 2, column 4

Margaret A. daughter of Solomon and Katurah Turpin, was born in Dorchester county, Maryland, October 17, 1818, and departed this life at the home of her son-in-law, John Doran, at Milton, March 7, 1891, aged 77 years, 4 months, and 18 days.

She was married to Arthur Leverton, March 6, 1832, and to this union were born eleven children, eight of whom lived to the years of adult age. She deceased with her husband and family emigrated to Indiana in 1859, and settled at Indianapolis, and two years later they moved to Milton, where they continued to reside until death claimed them both. July 4th 1880, the husband and father was taken from earth since which time his bereaved widow has been called to undergo many sad trials and afflictions, among which were the partings at intervals with her three children, Arthur, Mary and Balaard, who followed their father to that bourne from which no traveler returns. The deceased and her husband were members of the Hicksite Friends church and died in that faith.

For many years the deceased has been in feeble health but she was careful to maintain the best degree of health she could. But since December, 1890, she has been unusually feeble and unable to attend to the little household duties she was accustomed to do. About ten days ago she was stricken down to her bed with what appeared lung fever but which finally resulted in general prostration and giving down of the whole system. During these later days she was a great sufferer but through it all she was ever thoughtful of the comfort of those who waited upon her, careful to make no unnecessary trouble, patient and uncomplaining.

Thus conscious to the last she passed through death to life, leaving for the comfort of her children the assurance that she was prepared and willing to go, having a hope of life immortal beyond the narrow confines of the tomb.

She leaves five children to mourn the loss of a good mother, viz.: Antony, of Boone county; Marlon, of Lewisville; Willis and Mrs. Jennie Doran, of Milton; and Mrs. Amanda Bullock, of Muncie. Besides these she leaves one brother, of Louisiana; also twenty-three grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

The subject of this memoir was personally known to the writer who has often called upon her. While we always found her retiring in her disposition, we also found her pleasant and agreeable, kind and of an affectionate turn of manner. While her life in Milton for the most part was retired, the writer learns that her early life was spent in affluence and wealth, and that her father's doors were open to all and hospitality and sociability reigned supreme. She is gone and those who knew her best and loved her most will see her no more as they were wont to do. For her life's fitful fever is past "and like one who wraps the mantle of his couch around him and lies down to pleasant dreams," so she rests.

Funeral services were conducted at the Hicksite Friends church by Ann Gauze, minister of the Orthodox Friends society, assisted by Joel Birdsal, of Jay county, of the Hicksite Friends society, and interment in Hicksite Friends burial ground.

Cambridge City Daily Tribune

14 MARCH 1891

p. 2 c 4

(28147)

EPITAPH

ARTHUR W. LEVERTON
(1806 - 1880)

On the day America
celebrates the pursuit
of our Nation's freedom
from control by another,
Arthur W. Leverton –
who pursued the right
of all Americans to be free
from control by another –
died.

It was Sunday,
the Fourth of July, 1880.