

Court, 1766–1776 (quorum, 1766 and 1773); judge, Admiralty Court, 1767–1776; judge, Assize Court, Western Shore, 1767–1768; judge, Assize Court, Eastern Shore, appointed 1768; commissioner to run a boundary line between Maryland and Delaware, appointed 1768; Council, 1768—at least 1774 (appointed and qualified on May 24, 1768); 1st Council of Safety, Eastern Shore, 1775 (declined); judge, General Court, appointed 1777. LOCAL OFFICES: clerk, Baltimore County, 1753–1775 (resigned); commissioner, Baltimore Town, in office 1768. OUT OF STATE SERVICE: appointed by President Washington as a commissioner to receive subscriptions to the Bank of the United States, 1791. STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES: opposed jailing debtors; against intemperance; condemned slavery on three points: first, because it was contrary to Lockean principles of equality; second, because it was often accompanied by a “scandalous lack of decency”; and third, because it was not good for agriculture because a farmer became a “slave to his slaves.” Bordley manumitted many of his own slaves or bound them out as apprentices. After he declined to serve on the Council of Safety on August 29, 1775, he said that “The few who really [*sic*] know my Sentiments, my Principles, Feelings will not doubt of my Fidelity to the interests of my country; and that, as an individual, in such sorts as is within the reach of my talents every power will be exerted to that end.” Although he retired from politics, he continued to support the Revolution. WEALTH DURING LIFE-TIME. PERSONAL PROPERTY: assessed value £6,044.6.8, including 162 slaves and 314 oz. plate, Queen Anne’s, Talbot, and Kent counties, 1783; 128 slaves, Queen Anne’s County, 1790. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: 8,498 acres in Baltimore, Frederick, Kent, and Anne Arundel counties (inherited at least 1,874 acres from his father, and at least 4,463 acres from his brothers). SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH: acquired at least 1,400 acres of land that his wife had inherited from her brother in Queen Anne’s County through his first marriage, 1770; owned a total of at least 8,497 acres in Anne Arundel, Cecil, Harford, Kent, Montgomery, and Queen Anne’s counties, plus 5 lots in Annapolis, 1783; there is evidence that Bordley gave large portions of his estate to his sons John and Matthias between 1783 and his death. Between 1783 and his death he also signed several “deeds of intent to sell” for large tracts in Harford and Montgomery counties and instructed that these deeds be confirmed by his executors. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: on January 26, 1804, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

nia. LAND: acreage could not be determined, but Bordley owned at least 1,500 acres in Maryland, plus lands on Bear Creek and in Chester County, Pennsylvania, lots in Baltimore City and Annapolis, and a stable and house on Union Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

BORDLEY, STEPHEN (ca. 1710–1764). BORN: ca. 1710 in Annapolis, Anne Arundel County; eldest son. NATIVE: second generation. RESIDED: in Annapolis, where he lived with his sister Elizabeth in the family home, now called the Bordley-Randall House. FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: *Thomas Bordley* (ca. 1683–1726). MOTHER: Rachel (?–1722), daughter of Richard Beard (ca. 1648–1703), a surveyor; granddaughter of *Richard Beard* (?–1681). STEPMOTHER: Ariana (1690–1741), widow of *James Frisby* (1684–1719); daughter of *Matthias Vanderheyden* (?–1729). She subsequently married *Edmund Jennings* (?–1756). STEP-AUNTS: Francina Vanderheyden, who married second, *Charles Hynson* (1692–1748); Augustina Vanderheyden (?–1775), who married *James Harris* (1682–1743). BROTHERS: William (1714–1762); John (?–1718); and John (1721–1761). HALF BROTHERS: Thomas (ca. 1724–1748); Matthias (1725–1756); and *John Beale Bordley* (1726/27–1804). STEPBROTHERS: Peter Jennings (1729–by 1737); Edmund Jennings (1731–1819); and (first name unknown) Jennings (?–by 1737). SISTERS: Elizabeth (1716/17–1789); Margaret (1719–by 1726/27); and Mary (1722–1722). STEP-SISTERS: Sarah Frisby (1714–1782); Ariana Margaret Frisby (1717–?), who married *William Harris* (1704–1748); Francesca Augustina Frisby (1719–1766); and Ariana Jennings (1730–?). MARRIED never. PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: attended school in Blackheath, London, England; served law apprenticeship in London, England; admitted to the Inner Temple in November 1729 and returned to Maryland in 1733. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Anglican, St. Anne’s Parish, Anne Arundel County. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Hon., at death; member of the Tuesday Club, Annapolis. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: lawyer, admitted to the following courts: Anne Arundel County in June 1733; Prince George’s County in June 1733; Baltimore County in August 1733; Provincial Court in October 1739; Court of Chancery by October 1741; Frederick County in March 1748/49; Kent County by March 1753; trained apprentices in his Annapolis law office. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Annapolis, 1745 (Laws), Anne Arundel County, 1749–1751 (Laws Cv–3), Annapolis, 1754–1756 (Laws 1–4; dis-