

SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: apprenticed to *Joseph Wickes* (ca. 1620–1692) in 1655 after his father's death; acquired the first land in his own name in 1667; he was naturalized in 1671. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: apprentice, 1655; planter; owned a gristmill. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Associators' Convention, Kent County, 1689–1692; Lower House, Kent County, 1692–1693, 1694–1697 (Aggrievances 3, 4, 8), Cecil County, 1697/98–1700. LOCAL OFFICES: justice, Kent County, 1685–1697 (quorum, 1689–1697), Cecil County by 1702; St. Paul's Parish Vestry, Kent County, 1693–1703. MILITARY SERVICE: captain, by 1693; lieutenant colonel, 1694; colonel at the time of his death. STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES: supported the revolution of 1689. WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: probably over 1,000 acres. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: will probated on April 27, 1704. PERSONAL PROPERTY: TEV, £1,066.4.1 sterling. LAND: 1,175 acres.

HANSON, JOHN, JR. (1721–1783). BORN: on April 3, 1721, in Port Tobacco Parish, Charles County; third surviving son. NATIVE: at least third generation. RESIDED: in Charles County; Frederick County, 1769. FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: *Samuel Hanson* (ca. 1685–1740). MOTHER: *Elizabeth* (ca. 1688–1764), daughter of *Walter Storey* (ca. 1666–1726). UNCLE: *Robert Hanson* (ca. 1680–1748). BROTHERS: *Walter Hanson* (1711/12–1794); *Samuel Hanson* (1716–1794); *William* (1718/19–1721); and *William* (1726–?). SISTERS: *Elizabeth* (1707–?); *Mary* (1709/10–?); *Sarah* (1714–?); *Jane* (1721/22–?); *Charity* (1724–?), who married second, *Arthur Lee* (?–1760); and *Chloe*. FIRST COUSINS: *Dorothy Hanson* (1721–1752), who married *Richard Harrison* (?–1780); *Mary Hanson*, who married *Daniel Jenifer* (?–1795). NEPHEW: *Samuel Hanson, of Samuel* (ca. 1752–1830). MARRIED in 1747 *Jane* (1728–1812), daughter of *Alexander Contee* (ca. 1691–1740); granddaughter of *Thomas Brooke* (ca. 1659–1730/31); half niece of *Thomas Brooke* (1683–1744), *Sarah Brooke* (?–1724), who married first, *William Dent* (ca. 1660–1704) and second, *Philip Lee* (ca. 1681–1744), and *Priscilla Brooke*, who married *Thomas Gantt* (?–1765). Her brothers were *John Contee* (1722–ca. 1796); *Alexander, Jr.* (1724–1734); *Peter* (1726–ca. 1779); *Thomas Contee* (ca. 1729–1811); *Alexander* (1734–1744); and *Theodore* (1736–ca. 1764). Her sisters were *Catherine* (1732–1831); *Grace* (1738–?); and *Barbara* (1741–1796). Her first cousin was *Thomas Beall, of George* (1735–1819). CHILDREN. SONS: *Alexander Contee Hanson*

(1749–1806); *John* (1753–1760); *Samuel* (1756–1781), a physician; and *Peter Contee* (1758–1776), who died at Fort Washington during the Revolutionary War. DAUGHTERS: *Catherine Contee* (1744–?), who married *Philip Alexander*; *Jane Contee* (1747–1781), who married in 1773 Dr. *Philip Thomas* (1747–1815); *Elizabeth* (1751–1753); and *Grace* (1762–1763). PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: literate. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Protestant. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Gent., 1744; Esq., by 1778. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: merchant, 1769; by 1772 he and his brother-in-law *Thomas Contee* (ca. 1729–1811) owned a store and warehouse in Frederick Town. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Charles County, 1757–1758 (Bills of Credit 1, Cv, 2), 1758–1761 (Bills of Credit Cv 1, 1, Cv 2, 2, 3, Cv 3), 1762–1763 (Bills of Credit 1, 2), 1765–1766 (Bills of Credit 2, 4; Accounts 3, 4; Laws to Expire 4), 1768–1769 (Claims 1; discharged from the Assembly at the beginning of the 2nd session after he had accepted the office of deputy surveyor of Frederick County); Conventions, Frederick County, 1st, 1774 (appointed, but did not attend), 4th, 1775 (elected, but did not attend), 5th, 1775; Lower House, Frederick County, 1777 (elected, but did not attend; resigned early in the 1st session), 1778–1779 (Claims 1, 2), 1779–1780 (Elections and Privileges 1; Claims 1; Manufactories 1), 1780–1781 (elected, but did not attend), 1781–1782 (elected, but did not attend; resigned early in the 1st session). LOCAL OFFICES: sheriff, Charles County, 1750–1753, Frederick County, commissioned 1771; deputy surveyor, Frederick County, commissioned 1769, 1771, 1773, and 1777 (resigned 1777); chairman, Committee of Observation, Frederick County, 1775; treasurer, Frederick County, elected 1775; commissioner to establish gunlock manufactory in Frederick Town, 1776; loan officer (to receive subscriptions for loan of money to the Continental Congress and to the State of Maryland), appointed 1777; judge, court of appeals, appointed under the Act to Procure Troops for the American Army, Frederick County, appointed 1778. OUT OF STATE SERVICE: delegate, Continental Congress, 1779–1782 (elected in December 1779, but did not attend until June 1780; reelected in November 1780 and November 1781). ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: Hanson was elected president of Congress on November 5, 1781. One week later he considered resigning from this position because of poor health, family responsibilities, and the "irksome" qualities of the "form and ceremonies" required as president. He was urged to continue by fellow mem-