

principally the Catoclin Furnace near Frederick Town. By 1798 owned himself, or in partnership with his brothers, forges, mills, and glassworks in Frederick County. **PUBLIC CAREER.** LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Anne Arundel County, 1762–1763 (Public Offices 2), 1765–1766 (Grievances 3; Public Offices 2, 3; Laws to Expire 2, 3), 1768–1770 (Public Offices 1; Grievances 1–4; Laws to Expire 1), 1771 (Grievances), 1773–1774 (Elections 1, Cv; Grievances 1, Cv; Laws to Expire 3); Conventions, Anne Arundel County, 1st, 1774, 2nd–3rd, 1774, 4th, 1775, 5th, 1775, 6th–8th, 1775–1776, Caroline County, 9th, 1776 (elected to fill vacancy); Senate, Western Shore, Term of 1776–1781: 1777 (declined to serve after election as governor); Lower House, Frederick County, 1780–1781 (elected to the 1st session to fill vacancy; Public Taxes 2), 1781 (elected to the 1st session of the 1781–1782 Assembly to fill vacancy, but did not attend; resigned on December 11, 1781); 1786–1787 (Elections 1, 2), 1787–1788 (Elections 1; Grievances 1); Senate, Western Shore, Term of 1786–1791: 1786 (declined to serve), 1788 (elected to the 2nd session of the 1787–1788 Assembly; did not attend), 1788 (declined). **OTHER PROVINCIAL/STATE OFFICES:** Committee of Correspondence, Province of Maryland, appointed 1774; Council of Safety, Western Shore, 1st, 1775; Governor, 1777–1779, elected 1788 (declined); Maryland Senate elector, Frederick County, 1786; Constitution Ratification Convention, Frederick County, 1788; chief judge, General Court, 1790–1791. **LOCAL OFFICES:** clerk of indictments, Frederick County, appointed August 1760, Anne Arundel County, sworn June 1761; Committee of Correspondence, Anne Arundel County, elected 1774; judge, Court of Appeals for Tax Assessments, Frederick County, 1786; justice, Orphans' Court, Frederick County, appointed 1799. **MILITARY SERVICE:** senior brigadier general, Maryland Militia, elected January 1776–February 1777 (relieved of his duties as commander of the Flying Camp so that he could continue serving in the Conventions, July 1776; commander of the Maryland troops sent to aid General Washington in his retreat through New Jersey, December 1776–February 1777). **OUT OF STATE SERVICE:** delegate, Continental Congress, 1774–1776 (elected in June 1774, December 1774, April 1775, August 1775, May 1776, July 1776, and November 1776; no evidence of attendance after October 1776), 1779 (elected in December 1779, but did not attend; resigned on March 28, 1780), 1780 (elected in November 1780, but did

not attend; resigned on January 16, 1781), 1783 (elected on May 12, 1783, to fill vacancy, but declined to serve), 1784 (elected in December 1784, but declined to serve); member, Board of Commissioners, District of Columbia, 1791–1794; associate justice, U.S. Supreme Court, 1791–1793 (resigned). Johnson was selected for the following offices: U.S. District judge for Maryland, 1789; secretary of state, 1795; and chief judge of the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia, 1801. He declined to serve in any of them. **STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES:** an early proponent of opening the Potomac River to navigation; one of the first directors of the Potomac Company, and elected its president in 1789. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** taxed in St. Anne's Parish, Annapolis, as a bachelor with assets worth £100.0.0–£300.0.0, 1757, and with assets worth over £300.0.0, 1760; assessed value of Annapolis property £243.0.0, including 19 oz. plate, 1783. **ANNUAL INCOME:** granted an allowance of £3,750.0.0 by General Assembly in 1780, but spent much of it equipping Revolutionary War soldiers. **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** 206 acres in Frederick County and 5 lots in Annapolis, Anne Arundel County (all by personal acquisition). **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH:** In the year after his first election, Johnson sold his Annapolis lots and began investing heavily in Frederick County land. Between 1763 and 1765, he patented at least 21,649 acres in Frederick County, including 10,290 with Lancelot Jacques, 4,285 acres with *Samuel Chase* (1741–1811), and 7,054 acres in his name alone. He sold 233 acres in Anne Arundel County inherited by his wife shortly after their marriage. Throughout his life, Johnson continued to acquire Frederick County land, although much of it was held with his brothers and, later, his sons. After the Revolution he began patenting land further out in western Maryland, principally 4,700 acres in what is now Garrett County. He also bought up more than 6,000 acres of the 50–acre lots West of Fort Cumberland laid out by the General Assembly for Revolutionary War soldiers. Johnson took out certificates of survey on 8,600 acres now in Garrett County, all of which were ultimately patented by others, and 6,800 acres in Allegany County, also patented by others. He did, however, patent 15,100 acres in Allegany County (in 50–acre lots), only a few of which were sold before his death. Shortly before he died, Johnson gave his daughter 1,509 acres in Allegany and Frederick counties. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** **DIED:** on October 26, 1819, at