

LAND: at least 300 acres in Cecil County. In his will Kirk stated that he owned two tracts of land.

KIRKE (KIRK), JOHN (ca. 1670–1733). BORN: ca. 1670, probably in Dorchester County. NATIVE: second generation. RESIDED: in Dorchester County. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** FATHER: John Kirke (?–ca. 1687) of Dorchester County, who probably came to Maryland as an indentured servant. He became a substantial landowner, and owned the tract upon which Cambridge was built. He left an estate of £185.16.7. BROTHER: William Kirk (?–1734). MARRIED by 1696 Sarah, daughter of John Mackeele (?–1696) of Dorchester County, a landowner. Her brothers were William; Thomas; Edmond; and Charles. Her sisters were Elizabeth, who married (first name unknown) Davis; Mary, who married (first name unknown) Dorsey; and Anne (?–1700), who married (first name unknown) Hunt. **CHILDREN.** DAUGHTERS: Elinor, who married by 1726 John Anderson; Anne, who married James Phillips; and Margaret, who married by 1734 (first name unknown) Maning. **PRIVATE CAREER.** EDUCATION: literate. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Protestant. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Gent., by 1690. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: lawyer, admitted to Dorchester County court in 1703. **ADDITIONAL COMMENT:** In June 1717, the Council ordered the Dorchester justices to disbar Kirke for obtaining a verdict by “false suggestions” and “misfeasance.” Kirke’s suspension, however, was to last only until he made restitution to those harmed by his actions. **PUBLIC CAREER.** LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Dorchester County, 1725–1727, 1728–1731. LOCAL OFFICES: coroner, Dorchester County, commissioned 1709; land commissioner, Dorchester County, in office 1728. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: ca. 1,749 acres in Dorchester County, plus six lots in Cambridge; also controlled 280 acres in Dorchester County during the minority of his wife’s nephew, Thomas Hunt. **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** Kirke was actively involved in the buying and selling of land prior to his first election. His holdings in 1725 were the remainder of approximately 2.285 acres in Dorchester County, plus 12 lots in Cambridge (acquired through patent, purchase, and inheritance). **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH:** sold 571 acres in Dorchester County, plus 6 lots in Cambridge, 1725–1731; bought 80 acres in Dorchester County by 1733. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** DIED: between July 11 and September 11, 1733, in Dorchester County.

PERSONAL PROPERTY: TEV, £140.2.8 sterling (including 1 servant, 1 slave, and books); FB, £22.9.11. LAND: ca. 1,258 acres in Dorchester County.

KIRKMAN, LEVIN (by 1746–ca. 1790). BORN: between 1736 and 1746 in Dorchester County. NATIVE: at least third generation. RESIDED: in Nanticoke Hundred, Dorchester County. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** FATHER: George Kirkman (ca. 1713–ca. 1783) of Dorchester County, son of George Kirkman (?–1749). BROTHER: James, Jr. SISTERS: Esther; Elizabeth. MARRIED by 1787 Leah (?–ca. 1793), who subsequently married by November 1790 Thomas Walters. **CHILDREN.** SONS: Levin; Robert, died young. DAUGHTERS: Peggy (Margaret) Edwards; Nancy (Anne) Hicks. **PRIVATE CAREER.** EDUCATION: literate. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Gent., by 1783. **ADDITIONAL COMMENT:** subscribed £15 to Washington College. **OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE:** planter, by 1773; merchant in partnership with Alexander Smith in a retail store in Vienna, Dorchester County, from 1784 until approximately June 1785. Purchased a brig in partnership with *James Shaw* (ca. 1747–ca. 1795) in February 1785, and engaged in an illegal trading venture to the Caribbean. When the brig arrived at the customs house on Montserrat Island, the customs officials seized and condemned it on the grounds that it was an American vessel that had attempted to enter the port as a British bottom. Both brig and cargo, valued by Kirkman at nearly £1,600, were thus lost by the owners. Upon hearing of the seizure, Kirkman filed and won a judgment against his former store partner, Alexander Smith, claiming that Smith had held a one-fourth interest in the brig and was therefore liable for one-fourth of the loss. After Kirkman’s death, Smith protested that he had not been involved in the brig, but the case was dismissed and he was ordered to pay. **PUBLIC CAREER.** LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Dorchester County, 1781–1782, 1782–1783, 1783 (elected, but did not attend), 1785. LOCAL OFFICES: justice, Dorchester County, by 1785—at least 1789; coroner, Dorchester County, 1785–ca. 1790; deputy naval officer, probably 5th District, in office 1785; churchwarden, Great Choptank Parish, Dorchester County, elected 1788; justice, Orphans’ Court, Dorchester County, appointed 1785 (“refused to qualify”). **MILITARY SERVICE:** 1st lieutenant, Upper Battalion, Dorchester County Militia, commissioned 1778; captain, Upper Battalion, Dorchester County Militia, promoted 1781.