

**RIED** on October 6, 1765, Deborah (?–1810), daughter of William Lynch (?–1751) of Baltimore County and wife Elinor (1715/16–1760), who was the widow of Thomas Todd (?–1739) and the daughter of Caleb Dorsey (1683–1742). Deborah was the niece of *Edward Dorsey* (1718–1760); Mary Dorsey (1725–ca. 1786), who married *John Ridgely* (by 1724–1771). Her brothers were William; Joshua. Her half brother was Thomas Todd. Her sisters were Sarah; Nelly; and Ann. Her half sisters were Elizabeth Todd, who married John Cromwell; Elinor Todd, who married John Ensor, Jr.; Frances Todd, who married *George Risteau* (?–1792); and Mary Todd, who married John Worthington. Her first cousins were *Henry Woodward* (1733–1761); Eleanor Dorsey, who married *Upton Sheredine* (1740–1800); *Thomas Dorsey* (?–1790); *Harry Dorsey Gough* (ca. 1745–1808); Achsah Dorsey (1746–1799), who married *Ephraim Howard* (1745–1788); Rebecca Dorsey (1739–1812), who married *Charles Ridgely* (1733–1790); Eleanor Dorsey (ca. 1739–1805), who married *John Hall* (1729–1797); Mary Dorsey (?–1816), who married *John Weems* (1727–1794); Elizabeth Dorsey (?–ca. 1811), who married *Richard Ridgely* (1755–1824); *Charles Ridgely, of John* (ca. 1749–1786); Deborah Ridgely (1749–1807), who married *John Sterett* (1750/51–1787); and Mary Ridgely (?–1804), who married *Benjamin Nicholson* (?–1792). **CHILDREN.** SONS: William (1767–1825), who married Ann Halderman; Samuel (1770–1828), who married in 1791 Ruth Cockey (?–1834); Beale (1791–1820), who married first, Eleanor Magruder, and second, in 1814, Eleanor Brooke. **DAUGHTERS:** Urath (1769–1838), who married in 1787 Dr. John Cromwell (?–1832); Eleanor (1772–1853), who married in 1793 Thomas Moale, son of *John Moale* (ca. 1731–1798); Sarah (1773–?), who married in 1793 James Winchester; Rebecca (1776–1828), who needed care and maintenance for life; Deborah (1777–?), who married in 1799 Peter Hoffman, Jr.; Frances (1779–?), who married in 1801 Robert North Moale, son of *John Moale* (ca. 1731–1798); Rachel (1781–1782); Mary (1784–?), who married in 1800 Richard Cromwell, Jr.; and Ann (1785–?), who married in 1809 George Winchester. **PRIVATE CAREER.** EDUCATION: literate. **RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION:** Anglican. **SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES:** Gent., by 1770; Esq., by 1787. **OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE:** miller, planter, merchant, land speculator. Owings inherited his father's sawmill in 1775 and developed it into a major milling operation on the Gwynn's Falls in Baltimore County. Described as the "hy-

draulic expert of his time," Owings built at least three mills along the falls: the lower mill; the middle mill, probably built after 1787; and the upper mill, built during the 1790s. One of these was a grist mill, while the others were flour mills, which produced flour for commercial trade under the ULM (for Upper, Lower, and Middle mills) trademark. By 1785 Owings was calling himself a merchant and was building warehouses in Baltimore Town, apparently to facilitate shipment of his flour. **PUBLIC CAREER.** LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Baltimore County, 1771, 1786–1787 (Claims 2). **LOCAL OFFICES:** justice, Baltimore County, 1766–1769, by 1771–1773 (quorum 1772–1773), 1775; commissioner of the tax, Baltimore County, appointed 1783, 1785, 1786, 1790, 1792; St. Thomas' Parish Vestry, Baltimore County, 1792–1803. **MILITARY SERVICE:** captain, Second Company, Baltimore County Militia, by May 13, 1776; lieutenant colonel, Soldier's Delight Battalion, Baltimore County Militia, commissioned May 25, 1776; colonel, Soldier's Delight Battalion, Baltimore County Militia, commissioned June 3, 1777. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** PERSONAL PROPERTY: 13 slaves, 1790. **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** 11,938 acres in Baltimore and Frederick counties, plus lots in Taneytown, Frederick County, and 1 lot in Baltimore Town (11,774 acres in Baltimore and Frederick counties by patent, 164 acres and all of the lots in Baltimore and Frederick counties by purchase). **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH:** received 250 acres in Baltimore County as a gift from his father, 1772; patented 150 acres in 1773 and five small tracts totaling 145 acres in 1774, all in Baltimore County; sold 1,400 acres in Frederick County and 246 acres in Baltimore County, 1773–1775; inherited 100 acres in Baltimore County at his father's death, 1775; leased two lots in Baltimore Town, 1775; resurveyed and patented a small tract in Baltimore County for a net gain of 628 acres, 1770; bought 250 acres in Baltimore County, 1776; sold 1,255 acres in fourteen transactions of less than 100 acres each, Frederick County, 1776; acquired 1 lot in Baltimore Town in the division of his wife's deceased brother's estate, 1780; purchased 947 acres in 1779 and 18 acres in 1781, all in Baltimore County; leased 2 lots in Baltimore Town, 1781, and bought the fee simple title to one of them, 1783; sold 50 acres in Baltimore County, 1783; resurveyed and patented a large tract in Frederick County for a total of 8,081 acres and a net gain of 1,601 acres, 1783; leased out part of his wife's Baltimore Town