

**LEMS.** A clerk mistakenly entered the name "Robert Pott" as the new parliamentary commissioner in 1655. The appointee was actually John Pott.

**POTTER, NATHANIEL** (?–1780). BORN: in Dorchester (later Caroline) County, of age by 1761; elder son. NATIVE: second generation. RESIDED: at "Potter Hall" on the east bank of the Choptank River five miles south of Denton in Caroline County. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** FATHER: Capt. Zabdiel Potter (?–1761) of Dorchester County. A mariner from Rhode Island, Zabdiel came to Maryland by 1747, possibly as early as 1730. Potter's Landing, in front of his house on the Choptank, became a commercial center. Capt. Potter died at sea. MOTHER: Sarah (?–by 1780), widow of William Fountain (?–1734) of Dorchester County. BROTHER: *Zabdiel Potter* (?–1793). HALF BROTHERS: William Fountain (?–1780); Nicholas Fountain (?–1773), who married Mary Ann (last name unknown). HALF SISTER: (first name unknown) Fountain, who married (first name unknown) Collison. MARRIED on March 22, 1778, Jane Douglass (1759–1786). She subsequently married on June 11, 1781, John (1757–1810), son of *Thomas Hardcastle* (ca. 1737–1808). CHILDREN. Probably died without progeny. **PRIVATE CAREER.** EDUCATION: literate. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Gent., by 1775; Esq., by 1777. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: planter. **PUBLIC CAREER.** LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Conventions, Caroline County, 1st, 1774, 4th, 1775, 5th, 1775, 6th–8th, 1775–1776, 9th, 1776; Lower House, Caroline County, 1778–1779 (elected to the 1st session to fill vacancy). LOCAL OFFICES: justice, Dorchester County, commissioned 1773; justice, Caroline County, 1774–1780; justice, Orphans' Court, Caroline County, 1777–1780; commissioner of the tax, Caroline County, commissioned 1777 and 1778; sheriff, Caroline County, February 24, 1778–March 9, 1778; purchasing agent, Caroline County, 1778–1780; subscription officer, Continental Loan Office, Caroline County, appointed 1779. MILITARY SERVICE: captain, 14th Battalion, Caroline County Militia, commissioned 1776; major, 14th Battalion, Caroline County Militia, commissioned 1777; lt. colonel, 14th Battalion, Caroline County Militia, commissioned 1778. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME.** LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: 405 acres in Caroline County (inherited 300 acres; acquired 105 acres by resurvey and patent). A mill existed on this acreage. SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH: bought 310

acres in Caroline County in 1775. **WEALTH AT DEATH.** DIED: between November 25 and December 16, 1780, in Caroline County. **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** TEV, £760.16.5 current money (including 6 slaves and books); FB, £396.3.10. **LAND:** 715 acres in Caroline County. By 1780, Potter also had control of 250 acres that belonged to the heirs of William Fountain (?–1734).

**POTTER, ZABDIEL** (?–1793). BORN: in Dorchester (later Caroline) County; younger son. NATIVE: second generation. RESIDED: at "Potter Hall" on the east bank of the Choptank River five miles south of Denton in Caroline County. **FAMILY BACKGROUND.** FATHER: Capt. Zabdiel Potter (?–1761) of Dorchester County. A mariner from Rhode Island, Zabdiel came to Maryland by 1747, possibly as early as 1730. Potter's Landing, in front of his house on the Choptank, became a commercial center. Capt. Potter died at sea. MOTHER: Sarah (?–by 1780), widow of William Fountain (?–1734) of Dorchester County. BROTHER: *Nathaniel Potter* (?–1780). HALF BROTHERS: William Fountain (?–1780); Nicholas Fountain (?–1773), who married Mary Ann (last name unknown). HALF SISTER: (first name unknown) Fountain, who married (first name unknown) Collison. MARRIED by 1770 Lucy. **CHILDREN.** SONS: Nathaniel (1770–1843), a physician who was born in Easton, Talbot County. In 1798 he married Catherine, daughter of *Thomas Goldsborough* (ca. 1728–1793). Dr. Potter was one of the founders of the College of Medicine of the University of Maryland. He died in Baltimore. William (ca. 1771–1847), who married Ann Webb (ca. 1772–1836), daughter of *William Richardson* (1735–1825). He was elected to the legislature and served as a member of the Governor's Council. During the War of 1812 he became a brigadier general of the Maryland Militia. **PRIVATE CAREER.** EDUCATION: literate. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Esq., by 1782. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: physician; planter. **PUBLIC CAREER.** LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Caroline County, 1788 (elected, but did not attend; resigned on November 4, 1788). OTHER STATE OFFICE: associate justice, 4th District Court, Caroline County, commissioned 1793. LOCAL OFFICES: coroner, Caroline County, commissioned 1778 (did not qualify); justice, Caroline County, ca. 1781–1793; justice, Orphans' Court, Caroline County, 1783–1793. MILITARY SERVICE: ensign, Capt. Joseph Richardson's Company, 14th Battalion, Caroline County Militia, by May 1776; captain, 4th Mary-