

At the December session of the Legislature of 1704 petitions were presented in the General Assembly from the inhabitants of Kent and Talbot counties. No action was taken beyond referring the question to the next General Assembly. This petition, however, resulted in the enactment of Chapter 3 of the Laws of 1706, which was approved April 18, 1706. The Act ran as follows:

"An Act for the dividing and regulating several counties on the eastern shore of this province, and constituting a county, by the name of Queen Anne's County, within the same province."

From and after the 1st of May, 1707 the bounds of Talbot County shall contain Sharp's Island, Choptank Island, and all the land of the north side of Great Choptank River, and extend itself up the said river to Tuckahoe bridge, and from thence with a straight line to the mill commonly called and known by the name of Swetman's mill, and from thence down the south side of Wye river to the mouth thereof, and from thence down the bay (including Poplar Island) to the first beginning, also Bruff's Island, in Wye river."

By this Act the obscurity regarding the boundary line between Talbot and Kent was finally removed since the territory lying on either side of it was used to constitute Queen Anne's County. One may recognize a portion of the early boundary in that lying along the east bank of the Front Wye River but beyond that nothing appears to indicate the location of the limits intended by the proclamation of 1671. The act really takes the entire territory between the Sassafras on the north and the Choptank on the south and divides the same into three counties well defined by natural boundaries with the exception of the short line which runs from Wye Mills to Hillsboro, separating Queen Anne's and Talbot counties. At least it is assumed that this arbitrary line is the one represented by the clause in the above line wherein Swetman's mill is placed at Wye Mills and Tuckahoe Bridge at Hillsboro. This is contrary to some of the early maps while early records show that a settlement was made by Mr. Sweetman about this time on the banks of Corsica Creek, where the old mill may possibly have been. According to the modern maps and modern usage Tuckahoe Bridge is situated not at Hillsboro, but near the mouth of Tuckahoe Creek. It is therefore possible that the original line was run from near the mouth of Tuckahoe