

Edmond Prior's Depositions wth Jonathan Smith & Anthony Joy

Maryland, sth

December 15th 1709

By virtue of a Commission to us directed from her Majesty's high Court of Chancery dated the fourth day of November last for examining Evidence on behalf of Edmond Prior Comp^t and Jonathan Smith and Anthony Joy Excut^s of the last will and Testament of Robert Smith late of Queen Anne's County Esq^r deceased Defend^t we do therefore humbly certify y^e By directions of the said Prior we called before us Mary Molson who having first taken her Corporall Oath upon the wholly Evangelick made the following Answer to the Interrogatories viz^t

First Were you in anywise privy to any Contract made between Robert Smith Esq^r Deceased and Edmond Prior and Catherine of wife concerning in the said Smith's purchasing the said Edmond and Catherine's right of any Lands descended to her by the death of her Father Michael Paul Vanderford

Answer - I was present when Robert Smith Esq^r and Edmond Prior had some Communication about fifty Acres of Land and remember that the said Edmond Prior asked the said Smith about the payment of some Tobacco w^{ch} the said Smith said was paid and do further remember that the said Edmond did then scruple the signing a Bond because it was written by the said Smith but at last by persuasion he did and I was witness thereto w^{ch} is the Bond now in dispute but I allow y^e thought it to be for no more than fifty Acres of Land

Dec^r 9th 1709/10

By virtue of the Commiss^{ns} afores^d and by the direction afores^d we called before us John Robert Finley and Jane his wife who first having taken their Corporall Oaths on the wholly Evangelick made the following Answer to the Interrogatories viz^t

To John Robert Finley and his wife - Did you ever receive from the hands of Robert Smith Esq^r any sum of Tobacco on an^d of a Judgment obtained by Esq^r Richard Swatnam late of Talbot County Deceased against Paul Moore Jun^r for three thousand seven hundred and thirty seven pounds of Tobacco sold and sold and do you find by any of the Books or other papers relating to the

Swatnam