

OUT OF THE PAST

Prince Georgians and Their Land

by

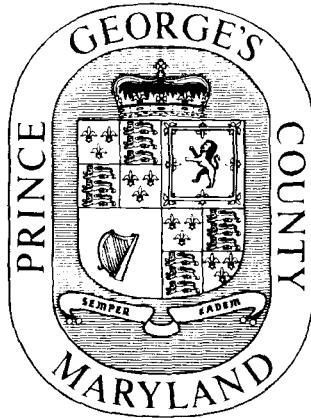
R. LEE VAN HORN

Member, Maryland House of Delegates, 1914-1918

Clerk, Board of Prince George's County Commissioners, 1954-1958

Master for Juvenile Causes, Prince George's County, 1958-1966

Historian, Prince George's County Historical Society



Prince George's County Historical Society
Riverdale, Maryland

1976

For the year 1797 the two terms of the Circuit Court were held on April 3 and September 4.

The following Officers of the Court served for both terms:

Chief Judge, Michael J. Stone; Associate Justices, David Craufurd and Thomas Duckett; Sheriff, Joseph Boone and Clerk of the Court, John Read Magruder.

At the April term Henry Trueman Compton petitioned the Court for appointment of a Land Commission to establish boundaries to a tract of land called "Wiltshire" at the head of Zacheriah Swamp.

Charles Eversfield also petitioned the Court to appoint a Land Commission to establish the boundaries to a tract of land called "Eversfield's New Pembury," formerly "Rencher's Adventure."

Richard Hall Hammond, William Sprigg and John Johnson were admitted to the practice of law.

The seal ordered by the April Court, 1796, was rejected as not suitable.

At the September term James Cooke moved that William Cranch be admitted to practice law, and Philip Barton Key moved that **Luther Martin** be admitted to practice law before the County Court.

Thomas Contee Bowie qualified as Deputy Attorney-General for the State.

The records for the Court for the years 1796 and 1797 show the following gentlemen practicing law: William Kilty, Allen B. Duckett, James Brooke, Archibald Van Horn, Arthur Shaaf, James Johnson, Philip Barton Key, Richard Hall Harwood, William Sprigg, John Johnson, Thomas Stone, Walter Dorsey, William Cranch, **Luther Martin** and Edward Nichols.

At the meeting of the Levy Court held April 18, 1796, those Justices attending were Samuel Hepburn, John Smith Brooke, Robert Bowie, Osborn Sprigg, Gabriel Van Horn, Thomas Contee, Turner Wootton, Henderson Magruder, Nathaniel Craufurd, Francis Clement Dyer, and Notley Young. Samuel Tyler, James Mullikin and Baruch Duckett reported their appraisal of a lot in Queen Anne Town, the property of Major Thomas Lansdale, at 250 pounds.

Osborn Sprigg and Turner Wootton were directed to contract and supervise the construction and maintenance for five years of a bridge over the branch near Queen Anne running through the Plantation of the Messrs. Murdocks.

Turner Wootton and Henderson Magruder were to supervise the construction and the maintenance for five years of a bridge over Thomas Boyd's Mill Branch.

Nathaniel Craufurd and Thomas Owen Williams were authorized for the construction and maintenance of a bridge for five years over Cabin Branch between Benjamin Berry's and Thomas Owen Williams' property.