

July 1732

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same, and after Purchase thereof, shall cause the same to be surveyed, laid out, and divided, as near as may be, into Sixty equal Lots, allowing such sufficient Space or Quantity thereof, for Streets, Lanes, and Alleys, as to them shall seem meet, with Posts or Stakes towards every Street, Lane, or Alley; the said Lots to be numbered One, Two, Three, and so on, to Sixty, for the better and more sure distinguishing each Lot from the other. Of which Sixty Lots, the Owner or Owners of the said Land, shall have his or their first Choice for One Lot, and after such Choice, the remaining Lots may be taken up by others. And that no Person shall presume to purchase more than One Lot within the said Sixty Acres, during the first Four Months after laying out the same. And that the said Lots shall be purchased by the Inhabitants of the County aforesaid. And in Case the said Inhabitants shall not take up the said Lots within Six Months after such laying out as aforesaid, it shall then be lawful for any Person or Persons whatsoever, to take up the said Lot or Lots, paying the Owner or Owners proportionably for the same. And in Case the Owner or Owners of the aforesaid Sixty Acres of Land, shall wilfully refuse to make Sale of the same, or that through Nonage, Coverture, or any other Disability or Impediment whatsoever, are disabled to make such Sale as aforesaid; that then the Commissioners aforesaid, or the major Part of them, shall, and are, by Virtue of this Act, authorized, impowered, and required, to issue Warrants under their Hands and Seals to the Sheriff of the said County; which said Sheriff is also hereby required and impowered, upon Receipt of such Warrants, to empanel and return a Jury of the most substantial Freeholders, Inhabitants within the said County, to be and appear before the said Commissioners, at a certain Day and Time by them to be limited: Which Jury, upon their Oaths, shall enquire to whom the said Land belongs, and assess and return what Damages and Recompence they shall think fit to be awarded to the Owners of the said Sixty Acres of Land, and to all Persons interested therein, according to their several and respective Interests. And what Sum of Tobacco the said Jury shall adjudge the said Sixty Acres of Land to be worth, shall be paid to the Owners so found by their Verdict, and to all Persons they find interested therein, by such Person or Persons as shall take up the said Lots, proportionably to their Lot or Lots, which shall give the said Purchaser or Purchasers, their Heirs and Assigns, an absolute Estate of Fee Simple in the said Lot or Lots, he or they complying with the Requisites in this Act mentioned.

*AND be it further Enacted,* That the Surveyor of *Queen-Anne's* County, for the Time being, shall have and receive, for surveying and laying out the Town aforesaid, the Sum of Fifteen Hundred Pounds of Tobacco, and no more, to be paid and allowed him in the County Levy; and that he return a Plat thereof to the County Clerk, to be by him kept, amongst the County Records. And in Case the Taker-up of such Lot or Lots, refuse and neglect to build upon such Lot or Lots, within Eighteen Months, an House that shall cover Four Hundred square Feet; that then it shall and may be lawful for any other Person or Persons whatsoever, to enter upon the said Lot or Lots, so as aforesaid not built upon, paying such Sum of Tobacco as shall be first set and assessed upon such Lot, to the Commissioners aforesaid, or such other Person as the said Commissioners, or the major Part of them, shall nominate and appoint to receive the same, for the publick Use and Benefit of the said Town, and to be taken up a Second Time.

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