

EARLY HARNS IN EUROPE

William the Conqueror led an army of Normans (from France) in an invasion of Britain in 1066. As was normal for that time, titled landowners in Normandy joined in the invasion, bringing local troops with them. At the time, there was a hereditary barony in Normandy based at the **Chateau du Heron** (it went extinct in 1854). Surnames in those days were often taken from a location the family considered ancestral. It is possible the

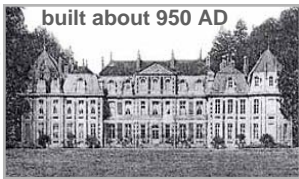


name Harn originated with the family in possession of this chateau. After the major battle of the invasion in Hastings, England, which the Normans won, a church was built on the site to honor the dead. It was called **BATTLE ABBEY**. Inside was a list of all fighters who crossed the sea with William. This list, called the



ROLL OF BATTLE ABBEY is well documented. It contains the name **Tihel de HEIRON** ("Tihel of Heiron"). Other copies of the same list show his surname spelled **Herne** and **Heroun**. Spelling variations of surnames were common in that period. Although not confirmed, this may be the origin of the Harn family in Great Britain. There is a record of the same Tihel de Heiron in Essex, England in 1086, 20 years after the invasion. To secure the northern border with Scotland, William the Conqueror appointed Norman barons to the northern territories. It is unclear if this is the

CHATEAU du
HERON
Normandy



origin of the **HERON** surname in Northumberland. Other Harns appear in northern British history.

William HERON, and later **Roger HERON**, were given possession by the English King of Bamburgh Castle in Northumberland from about 1248 to



1312. The Herons of the north were one of the "Border Reiver" families who raided back and forth across the lawless Scottish border and were mostly beyond the direct reach of the crown. Arranged marriages cemented family alliances. These **HERONS** appear often in historical records. The first record of the **Harn coat-of-arms** was when a different **William HERON** of Ford Castle was called to Parliament in 1393. The **HERONS**, **CLIFFORDs** and **DARCYS**, all existing in the **HARN** line, had important roles in Scottish border conflicts and the Wars Of The Roses (English civil wars of 1455-1485). An identical coat-of-arms was reported for **Nicholas HEARON** who was knighted 200 years later in 1566 and also for **Richard HEARNE**, who was High Sheriff of London in 1618. The coat-of-arms confirms family continuity despite surname spelling variations. Following

Bamburgh Castle
Northumberland



English custom, only direct descendants are allowed to use a coat of arms, not mere relations with the same family name. The Latin motto on the coat-of-arms, "*leges juraque servat*" translates as "*He maintains the laws and his rights.*"

source: William T. Hearne's book, (1907) and documents found on-line

"**HERON** was a Border Reiver name. Early forms of the name Heron include de Hairun, de Harum and Hairun. It is thought that the name has more than one origin. Some forms are believed to derive from a nickname 'Heron' referring to a tall, thin man with long legs, like a Heron. In the English north the name is closely associated with Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire and Scotland and it is likely that these Herons were originally de Harum, or de Harome and originated from Harome near Helmsley in North Yorkshire."

Source: History of North England gov't. website. Note that this explanation of the origin of the surname **HERON** somewhat differs with the account in William T. Hearne's book concerning the Norman invasion.

BORDER REIVERS

England and Scotland were frequently at war during the late Middle Ages. For centuries, they competed for control of the border, sometimes in open warfare. There was chronic instability. Even in times of relative peace, tensions ran high. Government authority often did not reach the border areas. Local clans, deprived of political and economic certainty, found security through family alliances and local codes of behavior. The landscape was unsuitable for farming and the local economy was poorly developed. Left to their own devices, many clans became raiders, also known as *REIVERS*, and adopted a predatory lifestyle. The border region is good for grazing. Livestock was easily herded off by mounted Reivers who were excellent horsemen and knew the country well. Household goods and foodstuffs were frequently plundered. Clans increased their wealth at other clans expense. The **HERONS** were a Border Reiver clan.



Political loyalty was local. Marriages were used to create alliances between competing families. Loyalty to a distant monarch, on the other hand, usually made a border clan weaker rather than stronger. Relationships between and among Border families varied from uneasy alliance to open, deadly feud. It took little to start a feud; a chance quarrel or a raid was enough. Feuds continued for years until the outbreak of other feuds caused alliances to shift. To the annoyance of distant monarchs, the border was easily destabilized when clans from opposite sides of the border feuded, which happened frequently.

The attitudes of the English and Scottish governments towards the border clans was unpredictable. Their independence and lawlessness was often tolerated by the English and Scottish crowns since these fierce border families were the first line of defense against full-scale invasion from the other side. It was not in the crown's best interest to alienate these families. However, clan loyalty was complicated and secretive and many paid little attention to national allegiances or royal decrees. Also, local disturbances could escalate into major cross-border raids. Periodically, when the crown felt its security was seriously threatened by the Borderers' blatant opportunism, harsh punishment was dealt out, including imprisonment, forced conscription and capital punishment.

The Reivers lived on (and raided) both sides of the border, which meant little to them. They would raid anyone not allied with them and who were without powerful protectors. Their territory was usually within a day's ride of the border but sometimes extended as far north as the outskirts of Edinburgh, and as far south as Yorkshire. The main raiding season was during winter months, when long nights provided cover and livestock were fat from summer grazing. Non-raiding people in the border regions lived in a state of constant alert and built fortified houses and towers for protection. The Reivers rode ponies known for their ability to pick their way over the boggy moss lands. Their original dress of a shepherd's plaid was later replaced by light armor. For weaponry, they carried a lance a small shield, and sometimes a longbow, or light crossbow. Late in their history they carried pistols. They also carried a sword and dagger.



Fortified Tower in Northumberland, about 30' tall

As soldiers, the Border Reivers were among the best light cavalry in Europe. Queen Elizabeth I reportedly said, "With ten thousand such men, I could shake any throne in Europe." Many Reivers served as mercenaries, and some were forced to serve in English or Scottish armies in Europe or Ireland. Such service was often required in lieu of a death sentence for crimes committed.

Reivers fighting as conscripted soldiers played important parts in the many pitched battles between English and Scottish armies. However, they were difficult to control. They frequently plundered for their own benefit instead of obeying orders, and there were always questions about their loyalty. Sometimes borderers changed sides in mid-battle, to be with the winning side. Many had relatives on each side of the line and could claim to be either nationality.

Eventually, special "Border Laws" were drawn up by the clans themselves to help regulate raiding. A person who had been raided had the right to mount a counter-raid within six days, even across the border, to recover his goods. They were required to ride with "*hew and cry, hound and horn*," openly announcing their intentions in order to distinguish themselves from "unlawful" raiders. Anyone not aiding them was considered complicit in the original raid.

Both borders were divided by the crowns into "Marches." The March Wardens would meet at appointed times to settle claims between clans on opposite sides of the border. These meetings, known as "Days of Truce," were like fairs, with much entertainment and socializing. Relatives or friends normally separated by the border could meet in relative safety.

The Border Reivers existed from about 1275 to about 1575 and their heyday was during the last 100 years of this period. The **HERON** surname, which established itself in the border area of Northumberland within a hundred years of the Norman Invasion, is well-documented through multiple generations as a Border Reiver family.

By the end of Elizabeth I's reign (1603), lawlessness along the border had become so bad that the English government seriously considered re-fortifying Hadrian's Wall. Finally, King James VI of Scotland (who became James I of England) moved hard against the Reivers, abolishing Border Law and dealing out stern justice. Many Borderers, but not all, were banished from the area, migrated to Northern Ireland and became the people known as Ulster-Scots (Scots-Irish in America). Today Reiver descendants with names such as Elliot, Armstrong, Beattie, Bell, Hume, **HERON** (Hearne, Herne, Harn) and Turnbull, among others, can be found throughout Northern Ireland, as well as in the U.S.

HISTORY OF FORD CASTLE

Ford Castle stands on a hillside overlooking an ancient crossing point of the River Till in Northumberland. It originated during the Anglo-Saxon period (about 600-1000 AD) when it



Ford Castle in Northumberland

was a river crossing between the coast and the inland farming settlements for monks on their way from Melrose to Lindisfarne. This peaceful farming area suffered from Viking invasions in the 9th and 10th centuries and Northumberland became fragmented. The land north of the River Tweed was lost to the Scots. In about 1050, the old Anglo-Saxon kingdoms, which included Northumberland, were unified as the new Kingdom of England. Soon after, the Norman invasion of England brought dramatic changes.

Under Norman rule, in about 1100, Ford Castle was part of the barony of Robert de Muschamp. Odelin de Ford, related by marriage to the Muschamps, was given ownership of Ford Castle by the English crown in the 13th century. A marriage between Mary, daughter of Odelin, and **William Heron** brought the estate into the **Heron family**. In 1293 by Royal grant, William Heron obtained "free warren" of Ford (this means he "owned" the surrounding resources). This was a dangerous time to be living in the borders because of feuds between border families and warfare between England and Scotland. In 1314 Ford manor was devastated by Scots after the Battle of Bannockburn. The grandson of William Heron, **another William Heron**, succeeded to the manor in 1333. He was a person of influence and was named Warden of the East March by the King. The King exempted him from taxes, gave him permission to hold a market and fair, and gave him an armed force of forty men,



paid for by the crown. He was summoned to Parliament and knighted. In 1338 he was granted permission to fortify his manor house and this was followed in 1341 by a license from Edward III to construct Ford as a full-scale castle.

As part of the English border defenses the castle found itself involved in border skirmishes on many occasions. Due to one long running border feud, William was imprisoned in 1387 and later murdered by John Manners of Etal, Northumberland, in 1428.

John Heron, the “Bastard” of Chipchase Castle brought more trouble to the Herons. In the early 16th century feuding in the border areas was common and peaceful settlements were attempted between the feuding parties on “truce days” held by the Wardens of the Marches. On one of these truce days, John Heron and two accomplices murdered Sir Robert Ker, (Carr in England) the Scottish Warden of the Middle March. Heron fled, but one accomplice was arrested and hung on the spot and the other was tracked down, murdered and his head brought back to the Borders for public display. In addition, “The “Bastard’s” brother, **Sir William Heron** of Ford Castle was handed over to the Scottish King who held him hostage. This incident was the start of a feud between the Heron family and the Kers which lasted until 1660.

In 1513, **Lord Dacre**, English Warden of the East March, caught wind of the warlike intentions of the Scottish King James IV before James crossed the border, and wrote from Ford Castle to his superiors, warning them. When the invasion came, James destroyed the English fortresses of Northam and Warkset and set up his headquarters at Ford Castle, since **William Heron** was imprisoned in Scotland and the castle was not defended. James remained at Ford for a few days. He left the castle for his main camp on Flodden Hill on 5th September ready to battle the English.



Current Battle of Flodden Field memorial

James’ delay at Ford was an important factor in the famous Battle of Flodden Field on Friday 9th September 1513. It gave the English forces time to position themselves to the north of James’ army, cutting off any retreat into Scotland. The Scots were defeated and James and many of the Scottish lords were killed.

But why did James delay at Ford, giving the English time to organize their forces? Apparently, James had an affair with **Lady Elizabeth Heron**, wife of Sir William Heron (who was a prisoner of James in Fast Castle in Scotland). Lady Heron was in the castle when James arrived. He was famous for his exploits with women and Elizabeth Heron is remembered as being extremely beautiful. Lady Heron’s bedroom was immediately below James’ and a secret stairway connected the two rooms. These two rooms and the stairway can still be seen in the castle today.

If true, Lady Heron could have had several reasons for the affair. She wanted her husband’s release, the protection of her castle, and she hoped to extract military information from James. It is reported that she supplied the English forces with information on Scottish forces. However, James burnt her castle on his departure.

After the Scottish defeat at Flodden, **Sir William Heron** was released in exchange for Scottish prisoners taken at the battle and by 1520 **John the “Bastard” Heron** was granted a full pardon for his bravery in the Flodden campaign.

William’s son had pre-deceased him and his granddaughter Elizabeth, became his heir. By 1541, the castle was in a state of disrepair but was still considered an important stronghold. Thomas Carr helped save the castle from attack by a combined army of Scots and French in 1549 and **Elizabeth Heron** married him in 1551. This passed ownership rights to the Carr family. When border warfare finally came to an end with the union of Scotland and England in 1603, Ford ceased to be a castle and became a mansion.



Ford Castle in Northumberland

THE WARS OF THE ROSES, 1455-1485

were a series of civil wars fought over control of the English throne between supporters of the House of Lancaster and supporters of the House of York. Both houses traced descent from King Edward III (reigned 1327-1357) and both had legitimate claims to the throne.

The Lancaster king, Henry VI (reigned 1421-1471), was surrounded by unpopular advisors who were blamed for mismanaging the government and bungling the Hundred Years' War with France. Under Henry VI, nearly all the vast English holdings in France were lost. Henry VI was seen as ineffectual and he suffered from bouts of obvious mental illness. By the 1450s, many considered him incapable of ruling the country. The Lancasters had some problems with their claims of legitimacy, and many believed the House of York had a stronger claim to the throne.

Tension at court was mirrored in the country as a whole. Noble families engaged in private feuds and showed increasing disrespect for royal authority and the courts. The **Percy-Neville** feud was the best-known of these private wars. In many cases they were fought between old, established families on one side, and minor nobility established by Henry IV in an attempt to diffuse rebellions against him on the other. The famous quarrel between the **Percys**, the long-established Dukes of Northumberland, and Henry's lackeys, the **Nevilles**, was one example.

Intensifying these feuds was the presence of large numbers of unemployed soldiers returned from fighting in France. Local nobles hired these soldiers to mount raids against competing families and intimidate witnesses and judges. Civil discontent, feuding nobles with private armies, and corruption in Henry VI's court set the stage for civil war.

Thomas Clifford, 8th Lord of Skipton played an important part in these wars. He was summoned to Parliament as Lord Clifford in 1436. In 1444 he traveled to France to escort Margaret of Anjou back to England for her marriage to Henry VI. He was Henry's ambassador to James II of Scotland, and also served as sheriff of Westmorland in the 1450s.

When the **Nevilles** allied themselves with York and took up arms against King Henry VI, **Clifford** naturally supported Henry. At the Battle of St. Albans (recognized as the first battle of the Wars of the Roses) he led the defense against the Yorkist attack and was killed on May 22, 1455. His death had an important effect on the Wars of the Roses, since it turned his son, John Clifford (the ninth Lord Clifford and sister of **Joan Clifford**, the mother of **Margaret Musgrave**) into a supporter of the house of Lancaster and a bitter personal enemy of the Duke of York.

In the 1460 Battle Of Wakefield (part of the Wars of the Roses), John Clifford fought the Yorkists as his father had. The Duke of York's son, Edmund, was captured by John Clifford while attempting to escape and was killed as he knelt before him. Reportedly, Clifford shouted, "By God's blood, thy father slew mine, and so I will do thee and all thy kin." After this, John Clifford was known as the "Butcher." Edmund's father, Richard Plantagenet, the Duke of York, also died in this battle.

The Lancaster's victory at Wakefield, however, was short-lived, and their slaughter of the Yorkist nobles (instead of the more usual ransoming) came back to haunt them when they, in turn, were killed without mercy by the Yorkists when the tables turned and the Duke of York assumed the English throne as Edward IV. Edward was generally admired by the people and brought a period of relative calm to civil and political life in England.



Battle of Wakefield Memorial, erected 1897



Border Reiver Reinactment



*Hermitage Castle
on the Scottish side of the Border*



John HERON's Chipchase Castle



Northumberland Countryside



*William HERON's **Ford Castle**, Northumberland*

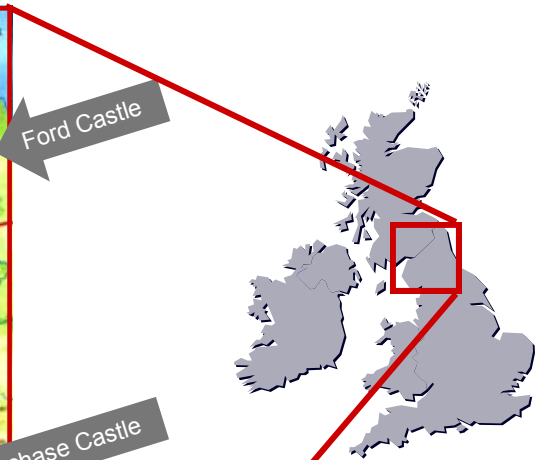


Northumberland Countryside, above and right





Location of Border Reiver Families



Location of Heron Family, Ford Castle, Flodden Field and Bamburgh Castle

William & Roger
HERON's
Bamburgh
Castle
Northumberland



Border Reiver Reinactment



Border Reivers

THE FIRST HEARNES IN AMERICA

It is difficult to positively identify the first HARN in America. There are records of a Thomas HEARNE in Somerset Co. Maryland in 1666 and an Andrew HEARNE in 1683. There is also a William HERNE (sometimes spelled HEARNE) in 1671. But **William HEARNE** ("The Merchant") is generally credited as founding the HARN line that the 4 HARN boys - the subject of this book - were descended from. He was born in London in 1627. As a young man, he joined the forces of Oliver Cromwell, who successfully fought to weaken the power of the aristocracy in England. William rose to the position of captain in Cromwell's army. The fighting, turmoil and bloodshed grew into a full-scale civil war. The king was executed and Cromwell rose to power. After Cromwell's death there was a backlash against his supporters and the monarchy was restored. Possibly due to this (but not confirmed), William HEARNE left England in 1660-80 for St. Kitts in the Caribbean with his first wife. Apparently, she died in the Caribbean and he remarried in London although this is not confirmed. It is unknown if he had any children by his first wife, but he certainly did by his second. He operated a large trading company from St. Kitts, shipping sugar and other commodities between the island, England and Virginia/Maryland. In 1688, he left St. Kitts for good and settled permanently near the source of the Wicomico River on the east shore of Chesapeake Bay, near present-day Delmar, Maryland. He was 61 years old, and probably went there to retire. He joined his two brothers, Derby and Ebenezer HEARNE whom he deposited there on a trading visit to Maryland 7 years earlier. William's wife, **Mary (likely CUTHBERT)** whom he married in England, arrived with him. The first large wave of English settlers arrived in Maryland about 60 years earlier. He called his Maryland estate St. Kitts, in memory of his Caribbean home. His son, **William HEARNE Jr.**, was born there in 1688. Son Thomas was born in 1691. There was some tension with Catholic settlements nearby and some instability caused when Maryland changed from being a land-grant colony under the control of Lord Baltimore to being a royal colony under direct rule of the English monarch. The HEARNES were Episcopalians and in 1689 William and 239 other colonists signed an oath of loyalty to William and Mary, the new English king and queen at the time Maryland came under direct rule of the king. The oath obligated him to "*defend the Protestant religion and your Majesty's title and interests against the French and other Papists.*" William died in 1691, about 5 months after son Thomas' birth, having lived in Maryland only about 3 years. He was buried on his farm, starting the family burial ground. The cemetery was still clearly identifiable in 2008 when John P. HARN visited. The house "The Merchant" built in 1688 was occupied by his descendants for over 200 years. The land was owned in 1907 by the children of Elijah FREENY, lineal descendants of **William HEARNE Sr.** William appears to have been an influential, adventurous and financially successful man. He brought a book of his family's ancestry and a book containing his business accounts with him to Maryland. The ancestry book is lost but the ledger survives to this day. It was in the possession of a William HEARN living in Kentucky in 1974 and was photocopied by Jay HEARN of Avoca, New York, together with his father, that same year (see next page). sources: William T. Hearne's History (1907), *West Virginia and Its People* by Miller (1913)

William HEARNE Sr. ♂

B. 12/2/1627 London ENGLAND
L. England, St. Christopher, Somerset MD
D. Oct. 1691 Somerset MD

Mary CUTHBERT ♀

B. 1649? London ENGLAND
D. after 1692 Somerset MD



Seal of MD showing a farmer and a fisherman, symbols of Lord Baltimore's holdings in Nova Scotia and Maryland.

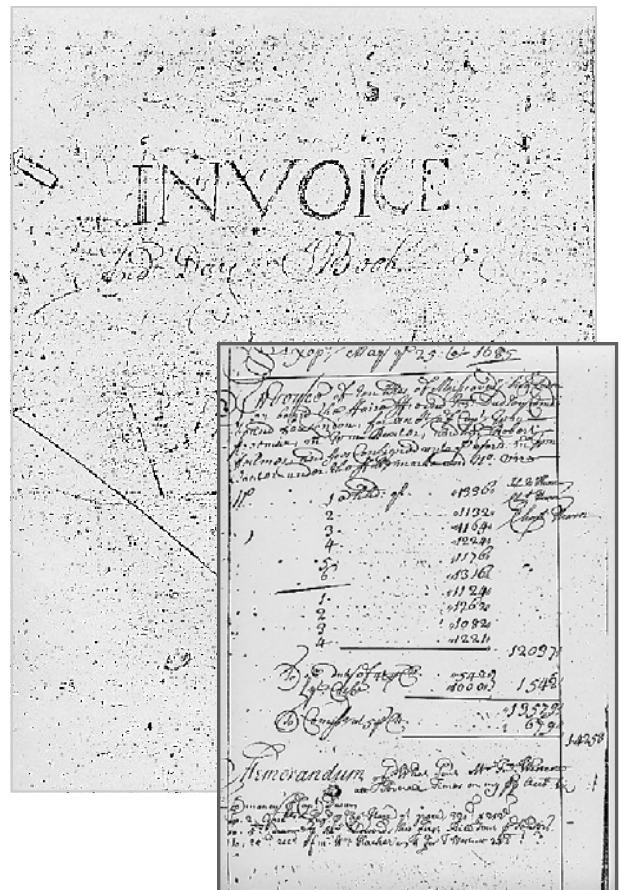
THE LOYALTY OATH SIGNED BY WILLIAM HEARNE AND 238 OTHER COLONISTS in 1689, ONE YEAR AFTER HIS ARRIVAL IN MARYLAND.

"Address of the Inhabitants of the County of Somerset. Nover the 28th 1689.

To the King and Queen most Ext Majty.

Wee your Majesty's Subjects in the Somerset and Province of Maryland, being refreshed and Encouraged by your Majestys great and prosperous undertakings, and by your late gracious letter to these of this Province, do cast ourselves at your Majesty's feet humbly desiring and hopefully expecting the continuance of your Maj care of us, as our Case and Circumstances doe or may require, in the confidence whereof wee resolve to continue (by the grace of God) in the Profession and defence of the Protestant Religion and your Majesty's Title and interest against the French and other Papists that oppose and trouble us in soe just and good a cause not doubting but your Majestys wisdom and clemency will afford unto us all needful suitable Aid and Protection for securing our Religion, lives and liberty under Protestant Governors and Government, and for enabling us to defend ourselves against all Invaders. Thus praying for your Majestys long and happy Reigne over us, Wee know ourselves to bee (with due Reverence and sincerity.) Your Majestys Loyall Obedient and humble Subjects"

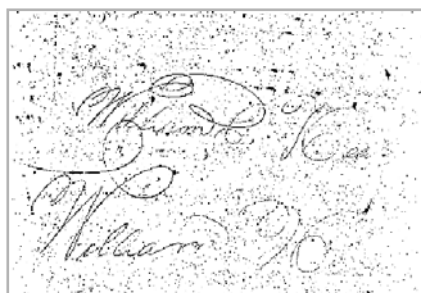
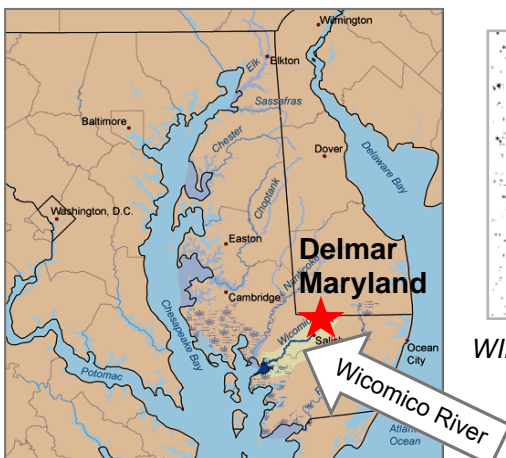
Ownership of Maryland changed hands from the Calvert family (Lord Baltimore) to the English crown in 1688 and the colonists wanted to assure the king of their loyalty during the transition.



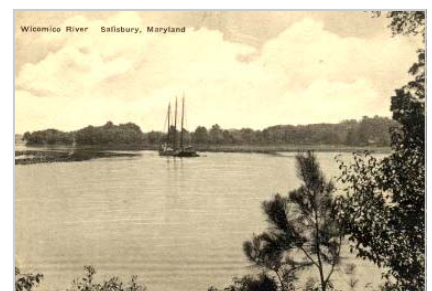
Cover page of Wm HEARNE, the Merchant's business ledger, titled "INVOICE and Day Book" and page 14 from the same. Images courtesy Jay HEARNE.

ST. KITTS

In 1623 English colonists arrived on the island, creating the first English colony in the Caribbean. St. Kitts became a base for further colonization in the region. The English and French shared the island from 1628 to 1713 but warfare between them damaged trade and the island's economy. St. Kitts became entirely British in 1713 and fully independent in 1983.



WILLIAM HEARNE Sr's SIGNATURE
About 1680

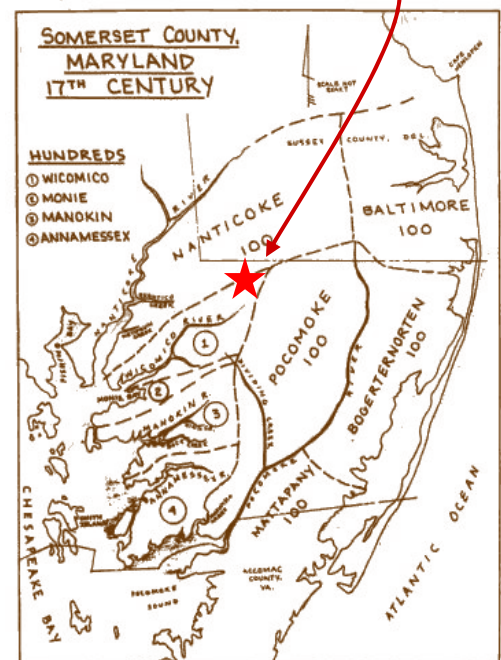


Wicomico River, near Salisbury
Maryland

EARLY COLONIAL MARYLAND



This National Geographic map (1) shows the American east coast about 40 years before the arrival of William Hearne Sr. England competed with Sweden, France, and Holland for control of the area. When Jamestown was built in 1609, the fort faced the ocean since the threat was perceived greatest from other European powers rather than from the Indians, who had already been seriously weakened by European diseases. There were, however, battles between the European settlers and Native Americans. Dark tan colored areas were populated by Indians and blue-grey areas by Europeans. Yellow circles indicate epidemics caused by European diseases. Red stars locate battles with Indians. Blue circles are European forts. William HEARNE Sr. settled here, at the end of the red line, near the Wicomico river, naming his estate St. Kitts.

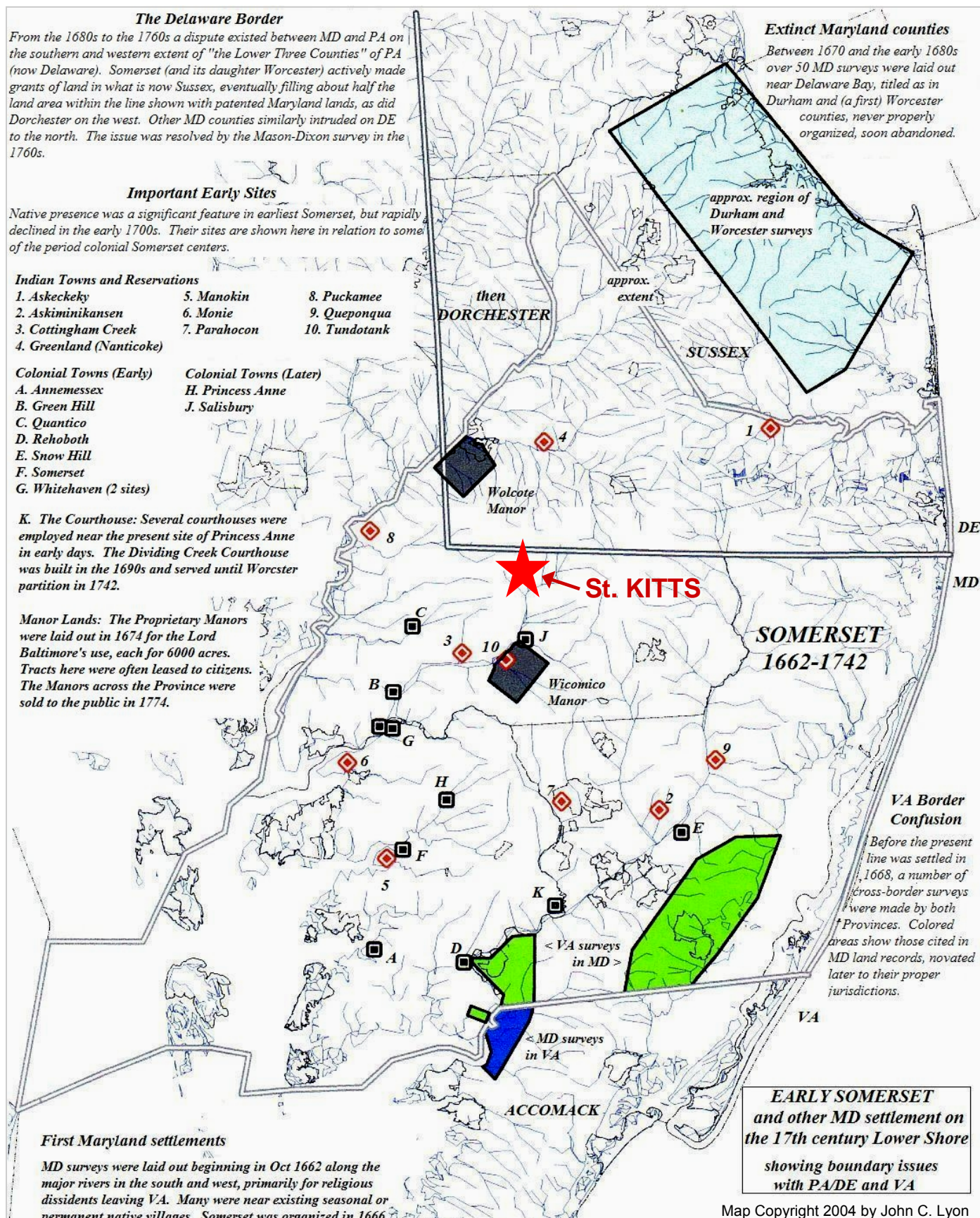


Somerset County Beach, near the mouth of the Wicomico River



Wicomico River, Maryland

“THE EASTERN SHORE” refers to the large peninsula east of Chesapeake Bay. “Western Shore” and “Southern Shore” describe other parts of Maryland, showing the importance of the bay to the region.



EARLY HISTORY OF THE EASTERN SHORE

The Eastern Shore of Chesapeake Bay is a large flat peninsula, 50-100 feet above sea level. Today, it is shared by Maryland, Delaware and Virginia with the majority belonging to Maryland. There are many good-sized rivers, good rainfall and a warm climate. Originally forested with old-growth hardwoods, it is said there was a time when a squirrel could travel from the Atlantic Ocean to the Mississippi River and never touch the ground. The principal Indian groups on the peninsula were the Nanticoke and Pocomoke-Assateague. Their population was fairly low, despite the fertility of the land. One estimate puts about 1500 Indians on the Eastern Shore in 1600. Early European settlers were very impressed with the Native Americans' culture and physical appearance.

Spanish explorers sailed into Chesapeake Bay about 1525 and called it Santa Maria. In 1608, Englishman John Smith became the first European visitor to explore the area in depth. The fort and town of Jamestown was built on Chesapeake Bay in Virginia in 1610. By 1624 there was, "A Muster of the Inhabitation of the Easterne Shore Over the Baye," the first reference to a permanent English Settlement on the Virginia part of the peninsula. The first permanent settlement in Maryland itself was probably a fur trading post on Kent Island (Eastern Shore of Chesapeake Bay).

In 1632, King Charles I of England gave George Calvert, the 1st Lord Baltimore, rights to Maryland. The next year, 200 colonists set sail from England and landed at the mouth of the Potomac River. They bought the Indian village of Yaocomico, and renamed it St. Mary's. It was the colony's capital for many years. In 1635 Virginians and Marylanders fought over an island in the Bay. Settlers on both sides were killed in a naval battle of some kind.

Lord Baltimore, a Roman Catholic, wanted religious freedom for the colony, and in 1649 the Colonial Assembly passed the "Act Concerning Religion," the first statute in the colonies providing freedom of religion, a right that did not even exist in England at the time.

The climate is very suitable for agriculture. Native Americans gathered shellfish, hunted birds, deer, rabbit, squirrels, raccoons, bear and elk and grew corn and squash. At first the colonists had a diversified agriculture, due to survival needs, but by 1680 tobacco was the staple crop and was used as a substitute for cash in a barter economy. Many colonists became rich growing and selling tobacco.



In the Name of God Amen. I **William: Hearne** of Somerset County in the Province of Maryland being Sick and weak of Body, but of Sound and perfect memory (Blessed be God) and calling to mind the uncertaine Estate of this life on Earth and being desirous to Settle things in Order, doe make this my last will and testament in manner & forme following, first and principally: I comend my Soul to God that gave it assured by believeing that I shall receive full & Redeem^r pardon and free remission. of all my Sins, and be Saved by the pretious death and merits of my Blesed Savio^r ^ Jesus Christ and my body to be buried in Such decent Order as to my Extrix hereafter named shall be thought meet & Convenient, And as touching Such wordly Estate as it hath pleased God in hir mercy hath been pleased to bestow upon me my will and meaning is (that after my real and just debts be paid) that the same be disposed of as by this my will is expressed, and and first I doe hereby revoake, renounce and make void all former wills by me made and declare and appoint this to be my last will and testament -- Item: I give and bequeath my whole Estate both real & personall to be equally devided. - between my loving wife **Mary Hearne** and my Sonn **William: Hearne** to be delivered to my Said Sonn when he shall arrive to the age of twenty One years. And whereas my Said wife being now with Child, if it should please God that the sd Child or Children with which my Said wife now goeth with should live then my will and pleasure is that my Said Estate both real & personall be equally devided between my said wife and Children when my said Children shall arrive at the age of One and twenty years, then to have and receive their said parts. and Portions paid them, And in Case my said Child or Children should depart this life before they arrive to the age aforesd, Then my said Estate to be equally devided between by Said wife and the Surviving Child or Children. And I doe hereby nominate Constitute and appoint my Said loving wife **Mary: Hearne** to be my Execcutrix of this my last will & Testament. And m^r. ffrancis: Jenckins, and m^r John: Cornish Overseers of this my last Will, whom I request to help and assist my Said Execcutrix in the performance of my Said will. In Testimony whereof I have hereunto Sett my hand and Seal. this twenty eight day of March An^o.Domini 1691. Signed Sealed and delivered **William: Hearne**. Sealed in presence of William: Mead. This will was proved in Open Court by the Oaths of Wm: Mead Katherine Trubshaw. W her marke. } and Peter: Dent the tenth day of November. An^o.Do 1691.

Peter: Dent. -- Teste: Jn^o. West Clr. Cur Comit Somerset Maryland Somerset County Ss. William & Mary by the grace of God of England Scotland ffrance and Ireland King & Queen defenders of the faith &c. To **Mary Hearne** of Somerset County Greeting. Whereas **William Hearne** of Somerset County gent. deceased. We doe therefore give and grant unto you the said Mary Hearne full power and authority to Administer all and Singular the goods Chattels and Credits of the said deceased, And to demand colect and leavy, and in legall manner require and receive all and all manner of debt and debts, due and Oweing to the Said deceased, & well & faithfully to dispose the same, And out of the goods Chattels and Credits of the deceased which have may or shall come to your hands or posession well and truly to pay the debts due by the said deceased, So far forth as the same will thereunto extend and the law will charge you according to the true value of the Sum thereof, you having first taken your Oath well and truly to Adm^r the same. And to make or cause to be made a true & perfect Inventory of all and singular the goods chattels & Credits of the said deceased, which have may or shall come to your hands posession or knowledge (Appraised in money) And a true & just accompt of and upon your Administration thereof and to exhibit both into our County Court where wills are proved. Touching which Inventory y^{ou} are presently assigned to performe, or at furthest at or before the Second tuesday in June next after the date hereof, and an accompt with in twelve months from the date of these presents. And lastly we doe hereby Constitute Ordaine & appoint you the said **Mary Hearne** Administratrix of all and Singular the goods Chattels and Credits of the sd deceased Signed p^r Order of Court this tenth day of November in the fourth year of their Maties Reign. Wm & Mary King & Queen over England &c And in the year of our Lord God. **One thousand Six hundred ninety One.**

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WILLIAM HEARNE Sr.'s ITEMIZED WILL, 1691

<u>Item</u>	<u>Value</u> (pounds, shillings, pence)	<u>Item</u>	<u>Value</u>
Nigro Simon	20:00:00	Brought from other side	168:01:10
nigro Jesse	20:00:00	a Gun	00:16:00
nigrio Susan	17:00:00	29:ounces troy silver plate	07:14:08
nigrio Bette	20:00:00	1:old bedd and bolster	01:02:00
nigro Yanaha	20:00:00	1:chest of drawers and table	03:00:00
nigrio little Yanaha	18:00:00	1:Rugg	00:06:00
nigrio Maroah	18:00:00	1:looking glass	00:10:00
nigro boy Jack	12:00:00	3:pictures	00:01:06
nigrio girl Sanny	08:00:00	2 sifters	00:01:04
Gelding and sadle	02:15:00	A set curtains	01:08:00
74:peuter at 8d p pound	02:09:04	& ballance 2 remnants callicos	04:15:00
18:plates at 8d p piece	00:12:00	Curtains, tall head cloth & quilt	01:02:00
4:Wine measure	00:06:00	2 boxes and two stands	01:02:06
1:Copper pott	00:02:06	9:pair damnified silk stockins	00:05:00
5:brass candle sticks plate flat	00:18:06	a parcell damnified Ribbin	04:14:00
candle sticks & snuffers	00:03:00	aol Copper qt 94 at 1d pr	08:17:00
An old warming pan	00:01:06	29:yds flowerd silk at 6d p yard	14:13:06
Copper Sauce pan	00:02:00	146:½ yds silk	00:11:06
Lignum vite mortar and pestell	00:05:00	11:yds Silk Crap_ at	00:03:06
1:dripping pan	00:02:06	3 yds stript fustian	00:08:00
1 frying pan	00:03:00	a parcol of damnified buttons	02:00:00
1 Spitt and racks	00:04:00	a doz'n napkins	01:10:00
Tongs and bellows	00:04:06	6:table clothes	00:10:00
2:Box Trens and heaters	00:10:00	14:towels	00:09:00
2 Saws	00:10:00	6:pair pillow cases	03:06:00
A parcel of carpenter tools	00:09:00	11:pairs sheets at	03:08:00
Coopers tools	00:15:00	3:large and 1:course hammocks	00:02:08
9:old bill hoes	00:02:00	Some Earthen ware	00:08:00
15:new grubbing hoes and old	00:01:06	2 poor Calves	03:15:00
1 brass for horse mill	00:08:00	10:sheep at	00:12:00
2 old axes	00:15:00	a cart & wheels	01:00:00
2 old bed steads	00:02:06	a bay horse	00:18:00
2 potts and pott hooks	02:10:00	a gray horse	04:05:00
old lumber	1:2:6:	3:Cows	02:00:00
a parcel of books		2:heifers	02:10:00
The 11th:wor_ _ _ _ _		a pair millstones	
168:01:10 *****		244:17:00	

Replica of a 17th Century English sailing ship, similar to ones that brought settlers to North America

WILLIAM HEARNE Sr.'s GRAVE

It was common practice in the 1600s and 1700s to bury landowners and their family on their own property rather than in a community cemetery. Grave markers were impermanent but the location of specific graves was handed down from generation to generation. This was the case with William HEARNE, the merchant. The property once known as ST. KITTS, the original estate of the first HEARNE's, holds the remains of William Sr, his wife Mary and some of his descendants. Later owners of the property, the FREENYs, added their own dead to the HEARNE burial ground. (The Merchant's granddaughter, Mary HEARNE, married John Freeny abt. 1740.) About 1910, William T. HEARN of St. Louis, MO, a HEARNE researcher and the author of *St. Louis, MO* placed a large marker on the grave of William HEARNE the Merchant. When John P. HARN visited in 2008,, the burial ground was in the middle of a wheat field about 1.5 - 2 miles southeast of Delmar, MD. It contains about 10 FREENY headstones, in addition to the one erected by William T. HEARN. According to local resident Bill HEARN (another William!) the FREENYs founded the town of Delmar, which straddles the Delaware/Maryland state line. Another HEARN researcher, Brian CRAGUN, visited the site about 1990 and created the map, below. Brian CRAGUN and William T. HEARN are descended from The Merchant's son Thomas while Bill HEARN & (possibly) John P. HARN are descended from The Merchant's other son, William Jr.



This stone (above), lying on its back, reads:
"Maltida Freeny, wife of John Freeny
born 1/2/1785, died 5/4/1856"



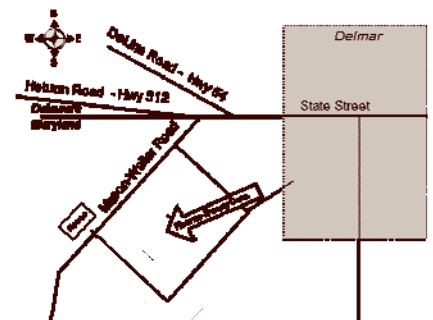
Headstone (below) erected by William T. HEARNE (the author) in 1910. Inscription reads, "William Hearne, merchant, born 1627, and wife, Mary, born in London, England. Settled here in 1688. He died October, 1691. and she died after him. Thomas Hearne, son of William and Mary, born May 31, 1691, died March, 1762. His wife, Sally Wingate, died before him. Nehemiah Hearne, son of Thomas and Sally, died March, 1760. His wife, Bettie, died after him." But it is not proven all are buried here.



Hearne Marker



The Hearne-Freeny Cemetery is in a field East of Manson-Waller Road. From the RR tracks in Delmar, take State Street (State Hwy 54, main East/West road) west to where road forks. Right is DeLine Road, left is Hebron Road. Take Hebron Road and drive a few blocks to another fork. Take the left fork, Manson-Waller Road, southwest. Drive a few more blocks. There is an almost invisible field road (gravel under grass) on the left, directly opposite a 2-storey house on the right and behind a telephone pole (in 2008). Take this field road (it is on private property) about 1/4 mile and look to your left. The cemetery is in a raised mound of shrubs. There used to be trees, but they have been cut. It is hard to spot. Local resident, Bill HEARN can locate it. His phone number in 2008 was 410-896-3200.



Written Records of WILLIAM HEARNE Sr. from the Maryland State Archives in Baltimore



Flag of Maryland

Somerset County Judicial Records, 1691-1692

Volume 405, Page 78

Memorandum That this day to witt the 7th: day of Aprill in the Third year of the Reigne of our Sovereign Lord James the Second of England Scotland ffrance & Ireland defend^{rs}: of the faith &c And in the xiith year of the Dominion of the R^t: hon^r:ble Charles absolute Lord & Propietary of the Province of Maryland & Avalon Lord Baron of Baltimore &c Annoq: Do^m: 1688 before us James Round & Samuell Hopkins Two of his Lopp^s Justices of y peace Came Thomas Oxford & Susanna his wife parties to this within written Indenture in their proper persons & the Said Susanna being by us alone & Secretly examined according to the forme of a Certaine Act of Assembly in that Case made & provided Did acknowledge the S^d: Land Called old Berre in the Said within written Indenture mentioned to be the Right of the within named **William Hearne** as those which the Said William hath of the guift of them y Said Thomas Oxford & Susanna his wife they haveing granted for their heires & every the heires of the Said Susanna that the Said land within mentioned unto him the said **William Herne** & his heires & assignes - ag^t: them the Said Thomas Oxford & Susanna & their heires and all & every the heires of the Said Susanna they will warrant for Ever & for this acknowledgement quit Claime & agreement the Said **William Hearne** having given unto them the Said Thomas Oxford & Susanna the Sum of Three Thousand pound of Tobacco ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ Taken before us the Day & year above Samuell Hopkins Rec^d: ffine of allienacon by James Round me Stephen Luffe Sherife }

This record shows Wm. HEARNE bought land called "Old Berre" from Thomas and Susanna OXFORD in 1688 for the sum of 3,000 pounds of tobacco. This is the year Wm. immigrated to Maryland. NOTE: This record might pertain to William HERNE the tailor and not to William HEARNE the merchant.

Somerset County Judicial Records, 1692-1693

Volume 406, Page 19

This bill bindeth me **William: Hearne** Gent of the County of Somerset in the Province of Maryland me my Heirs Execcutors or Adm^{rs}. to pay or Cause to be paid unto William Brittingham of Accomack County in the Collony of Virginia Planter, or his Heirs Execcutors Adm^{rs} or Assigns the full Sum of five thousand Six hundred pounds of well Cured Merchantable tobacco in Caske to be paid upon demand in Some Convenient place on Pocomoke River, as wittness my hand & Seal this 26th: day of January Anno Dom. 1690/1. **William: Hearne**. „ Sealed Signed Sealed & delivered in p^rsence of. ffrancis: Thorowgood. Samuel: Collins - - -

This record shows Wm. HEARNE's "I.O.U" to Wm. Brittingham of Virginia. We don't know what the debt was in payment for.

Somerset Judicial Records 1692-96, Abstracts with Selected Transcriptions

Volume 535, Page 9

Petition of William Brittingham of Accomac County VA requests Court order, Joseph Gray, administrator of estate of **William Hearne**, pay him 5600 lbs/tobacco; presents bond signed 26 January 1690/1 by **William Hearne** promising payment at Pocomoke on demand; witnesses Francis Thorowgood, Samuel Collins; also an account charging **Hearne** 1000 lbs/tobacco for accommodations provided his family for two months in 1690/1; Court judges payments are due.

To Somerset County Court C The humble Petion of Wm. Brittingham humbly showeth that the Estate of the abovesd **Wm. Hearne** is indebted to y^r Petione^r the Sum of 5600 = Pounds of tobacco as by the above Bill, & one thousand by acco^t. your Petione^r therefore humbly prayes judgment for the Same agt the Estate aforesd now in Posession of Joseph:Gray and your petitioner shall pray &ca. The abovesd Bill proved in Open Court by the Oath of Wm: Brittingham to be justly due m^r. **Wm. Hearne** D^r. 1690/1 To accomodation of him Selfe wife Child B 1000 lb. tobacco. & two Nigroes two months. at 200 p^r month. Account Proved in Open Court by y^e Oath of Wm. Brittingham to be justly due .

This record shows Wm. Brittingham presented the above note to collect his debt from William HEARNE's estate. He was also paid for housing and feeding Wm. HEARNE, his wife Mary and son Wm. Jr. Brittingham lived in the Virginia part of the peninsula.

Written Records of **WILLIAM HEARNE Sr.** from the Maryland State Archives in Baltimore



Flag of Somerset County

Somerset Judicial Records 1692-96, Abstracts with Selected Transcriptions

Volume 535, Page 12

Report of John Emmet and William Planner, appointed to appraise goods of estate of **William Hearne**, that a negro man named Hercules was valued at £21 sterling; dated 23 --- **1692**. Somerset Sc // Whereas a Comission hath been issued forth to us to Appraise y^e Goods belonging to the Estate of m^r **Wm: Hearne**. Deceased. And now a Nigro Man. named Hercules was brought to our view belonging to Said Estate, which we do judge & appraise to be worth in ready money Sterling, Twenty One pounds, which is according to the best of our knowledge & to which we have hereunto Sett our hands & affix our Seals. this 23^d : **1692** C John: Emmet Sealed Signum William WP Planner

This record shows the appraisal of **HERCULES**, a slave owned by Wm. **HEARNE**. Although his will mentions 9 other slaves, it does not mention Hercules.

Somerset County Judicial Records, 1690-1691

Volume 191, Page 87

June 9th. 1691.

The Jurors for their Maties being Sworn Their Maties. upon the holy Evangelists at a grand Jury held for the body agt of this County, the second tuesday in 9ber last past do present Robert: Downe and find that Robert Down of this County Planter is of evill fame- - - - - and by the Inhabitants of this County espetially y viconage where the sd Robert liveth. Suspected togeather with one Jno: Kemp of the Same County Planter to have ranged the woods. without licence from authority of this Province and hath taken up one horse Colt belonging to Capt: Jno: Winder of this County Gent, and upon ye Two and twentieth of July last past, did brand the sd horse Colt without the knowledge Consent or privity of the sd Capt. Jno: Winder Contrary to the law, as also to the great losse damage & detriment not only of the sd Jno: Winder, but also of all the good people of this Province, and agt ye publick peace. The Indictmt being read, to which the sd Robert Down pleaded not guilty, and for tryall puts himself upon the Country whereupon Command was given to the Sheriffe to Sumon twelve good and lawfull men of his neighbourhood that the matter might be the better understood, and thereupon Command was given to the Sheriffe the Jurors. whose name are as followeth viz. Peter Elzey Jni: Smock. Wm. Henderson. Wm: Denson Thomas: Horseman. Wm: Noble. Miles: Gray. Edward Evins. **Wm: Hearne** (etc), The Jury finds for the plaintiffe, and adjudge the Colt at five hundred pound of tobacco --- And therefore it is this Courts judgment that they pay Kemp & Down each of them to Capt. Jno: Winder one thousand pounds of tobacco

This record shows Wm **HEARNE** was a juror in a case against Robert Down who stole a horse from Capt. John Winder and branded it as his own. Down was found guilty and forced to pay one thousand pounds of tobacco to John Winder and pay a fine to the court of 10 "pounds sterling money of England."

Note on William **HERNE** of Matapony Hundred (southern Somerset Co.)

There are several records mentioning a William "HERNE" in Somerset. His name is sometimes spelled **HEARNE** but he is not the same person as The Merchant William **HEARNE**, and his relationship to The Merchant, if any, is unknown. John P. HARN speculates that The Merchant got his nickname to distinguish him from this other William **HERNE** who had been in Somerset at least 16 years prior to The Merchant's arrival. Wm. "HERNE" was a tailor at one point and is recorded having legal troubles on at least 2 occasions. In one, he was ordered held in custody for having submitted a marriage bond for a married woman, Katherine **MALTIS**. He did eventually marry her as her husband was dead. In other instance he was ordered to pay a fine and build oak stocks for the court as payment for the conviction of his daughter, Mary **HEARNE** (not to be confused with The Merchant's wife of the same name), for her crime of "fornication" and "bearing a bastard child." Wm. "HERNE" also appears in several land records with his name spelled "**HEARNE**" and even "**HERON**." He left the Eastern Shore for the Western Shore about 1692, apparently abandoning his land due to his inability to make payments on it.

WILLIAM HEARNE JR. b. 09/24/1688

was the first son of William "the Merchant" and **Mary CUTHBERT**. The land on which William Jr. lived and died was one-half the tract his father owned (the other half going to his only sibling Thomas) and was about two miles southeast of Delmar, MD. The burying ground, where he, his wife **Elizabeth WILLIAMS** and many of their children and later descendants are buried, is near the residence. Elizabeth's grandfather **Michael Williams**, immigrated from England to Virginia sometime before 1648. At the time of his death, William Hearne Jr. owned 6 slaves which he willed to several of his 9 children. His will also distributes 420 acres of land. In the year 1907, his old residence was owned and occupied by Charles Wood, a descendant.

source: William T. Hearne's History (1907)

William HEARNE Jr. ♂

B. 09/24/1688 Delmar, Somerset MD
L. Somerset MD
D. 01/20/1756
in Princess Anne Somerset MD

Elizabeth WILLIAMS ♀

B. 1690 or 1692 Somerset MD
M. 1709 Somerset MD
D. 01/01/1736
Burried near Delmar MD

Will of William Hearne (Jr.) copied from the records of Princess Anne, Somerset County, Maryland

In the name of God Amen. I make this my last will and testament, and calling to mind the mortality of my body etc., I give and dispose of my small worldly estate in the manner and form following: 1st: My will is that all my just and lawful debts be paid and that in due time. 2nd: I give and bequeath unto my son Elijah Hearne one negr. boy called Frank, one negr. girl called Dinah and two hundred and seventy-five acres of land, part of that tract of land called Stains. and to be laid off and taken out of the original tract aforesaid so as to include the dwelling plantation where I now live on, with as little prejudice to the remaining part of that tract as may be, to him, his heirs or assigns. 3rd: I give and bequeath unto my son Isaac Hearne his heirs or assigns one hundred and fifty acres of land out of that tract of land called Stains, where he has formerly made some improvements and if any difference should arise in the division of the aforesaid land between my two sons Elijah Hearne and Isaac Hearne, then my will is that my two friends Benjamin Handy and George Hearne divide it according to the intent of this my last will and testament, with as little prejudice to my two sons as may be. 4th: I give and bequeath to my son Samuel Hearne his heirs or assigns one negro boy called Caesar. 5th: I give and bequeath unto my son Jonathan Hearne his heirs or assigns one negr. boy called Mumford. 6th: I give and bequeath unto my daughter Hannah Hearne her heirs or assigns one negr. girl called Jenney. 7th: I give and bequeath unto my son Benjamin Hearne his heirs or assigns one negro woman called Moll. 8th: I give and bequeath unto my daughter Mary Freeney her heirs or assigns fifteen pounds current money out of my movable estate according to appraisement. 9th: I give and bequeath unto my daughter Sarah Tindal her heirs or assigns fifteen pounds current money to be paid out of my movable estate according to appraisement. 10th: I give and bequeath the remaining part of my estate not already given, to my children **John Hearne**, Isaac Hearne, Benjamin Hearne, Elijah Hearne, Samuel Hearne, Jonathan Hearne, Sarah Tindal, Mary Freeney and Hannah Hearne, to them, their heirs or assigns. 11th: My will is that my son Elijah Hearne be whole and sole executor of this my last will and testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 11th day of June Anno Domini 1754. Signed and sealed in the presence of ISAAC HANDY and NEHEMIAH HEARNE (son of William's brother Thomas), WM. HEARNE (SEAL.) January 20th, 1756.

Mother: Mary CUTHBERT b.1649? Father: William HEARNE Sr. b.1627 Spouse: Elizabeth WILLIAMS b.1690-92
Children: Elijah, Isaac, Jonathan, Samuel, Benjamin, Hannah, Mary (married FREENEY), Sarah (married FENDALL) & JOHN

JOHN HEARNE (1) b. 1718-20

John HEARNE (1) ♂

B. 1718-20 Somerset MD
D. early 1769 Somerset MD

Betty ♀

Possibly Elizabeth GORDY, son of Peter GORDY. B 1720? D. aft 1769

Very little is known of John, or his wife Betty. He is not mentioned at all in the Ellen Harn manuscript. It is likely that he is buried in the family cemetery on the original estate of his grandfather, The Merchant. Of 3 sons, one was named Peter Gordy, likely making Betty's maiden name GORDY, a well recorded surname in eastern Maryland at that time ... and still today.

JOHN HEARNE, fifth child of William Jr, and mentioned as a legatee in William's will of 1754, died in Worcester Co., Maryland, 1769, and left a large estate in land, negroes and personalty, which he devised to his wife, Betty Hearne, and sons, Isaac, John, and Peter Gordy Hearne, and left his wife Betty and brother Benjamin Hearne executors of his will. Affidavit to will made June 7, 1769. Inventory filed Aug. 1769. Accounts passed August, 1770. From the records at Snow Hill, Md.

source: William T. Hearne's History (1907)

Mother: Elizabeth WILLIAMS b.1690-92 Father: William HEARNE Jr. b. 09/24/1688 Spouse: Betty b.? Children: Isaac, Peter Gordy, Sarah, Leah, Hannah, Betty, Prissy & JOHN

EVIDENCE FOR JOHN HEARNE 1's WIFE "BETTY HEARNE" BEING "BETTY GORDY HEARNE"

Nothing is known about Betty, wife of John HEARNE (1), including her maiden name.
John P. HARN speculates her maiden name was **GORDY** because:

- 1) One of her children was named **Peter GORDY** HEARNE.
- 2) There are records establishing the existence of both a **Peter GORDY** Sr. and **Peter GORDY** Jr. in the right area and at the right time to be related to Betty.
- 3) Land records prove the HEARNE family and the GORDY family interacted.

John P. HARN speculates Betty was the daughter of Peter GORDY Sr, the brother of Peter GORDY Jr. and named a son after them. There is no proof. But here is the evidence:

- ▶ By using birth order, we can guess John HEARNE was born 1718-20 and his wife Betty 1715-30.
- ▶ In 1772, a Peter GORDY Sr. willed 25 acres of "Gordy's Adventure" to his son, Peter Gordy Jr. If Peter Sr. was 65 at the time of his will, he was born about 1707. Son Peter Gordy Jr. may have been born 1730. **This means Peter GORDY Jr. was the right age to be the brother of Betty.** Peter GORDY Sr. had 11 children, the name of 8, including Peter Jr, are known. Betty could be one of the unknown 4.
- ▶ In 1783, Peter GORDY Jr. was taxed on land he owned in Wicomico hundred, on a branch of the Wicomico River. **This put Peter GORDY Jr. in the same physical location as John HEARNE (1)** when John was about 63 years old.
- ▶ In 1805, William GORDY (who may be a brother of Peter Gordy Jr.) sold 25 acres of "Gordy's Adventure" to Joshua FREENY. Another member of the Freeny family, John FREENY, married Mary HEARNE, sister of John HEARNE (1) about 1750. **This puts the GORDY family one step from the HEARNE family since the Gordys knew the Freenys and the Freenys knew the Hearnese.**
- ▶ In 1797 William GORDY (possibly Peter Jr.'s brother?) bought 125 acres from several people who shared ownership of "Gordy's Chance," among them Benjamin and Polly HEARNE (Benjamin was the son of Samuel HEARNE of Sussex Co. Delaware, which begins about one mile from the original HEARNE property in Wicomico Co.) **This shows a direct connection between the GORDY and HEARNE families during Betty HEARNE's lifetime.**
- ▶ In 1760, Peter GORDY Sr. sold 50 acres of "Peter's Lot" to his son, Peter GORDY Jr. This land was located in the Wicomico Forrest, **putting Peter GORDY Sr. in the same physical location as John HEARNE (1)** when John was about 40 years old.
- ▶ In 1760, George PARKER sold 25 acres of "High Ridge" to Peter GORDY Sr. and another 25 acres of the same property to John FREENY, husband of Mary HEARNE & John HEARNE (1)'s brother-in-law. **This means both John HEARNE's sister (Mary Freeny) and Peter GORDY Sr. bought pieces of the same tract** when John HEARN (1) was about 40 years old.
source for all above references: "Land Records of Wicomico County 1666-1810" by Dryden, 1987
- ▶ In 1763 a petition was submitted to the "Lower House of Assembly" to create a plan establishing the town of Salisbury at the head of the Wicomico River. This petition was signed by Peter GORDY, John HEARN and his brother Elijah HEARN (among many others). **This means John HEARNE and Peter GORDY cooperated on a land development plan in their area.**
source for above reference: "Proceedings and Acts of the General Assembly, 1762-1763" vol 58, page 581
- ▶ Peter GORDY Jr.'s first wife's name is unknown but was possibly a HEARN (see source, below). If true and if Betty was in fact a GORDY, this would make 2 HEARN/GORDY marriages in the same generation, a common practice in areas with low populations and limited mobility. Peter Jr.'s sister Levinia married Isaac Wootten and one of their sons was named Peter GORDY Wooten. **This establishes a precedent for the children of Peter GORDY Sr. naming their children after him.**
source for above reference: "A Somerset Sampler: Families of Old Somerset County MD," pg 122 by Pauline Batchelder , 1994

JOHN HARN (of Frederick County, Maryland) b. about 1744

The HEARNE lineage described *prior* to this point is fairly well documented, mostly authentic, and substantially accurate. The same can be said for the lineage described *from this point forward*, starting on this page with John HEARN 2 (John HARN of Frederick Co, MD). But . . . there is a problem connecting John HARN of Frederick Co. MD to the Eastern Shore.

John HARN (2) ♂

B. abt 1744, MD
D. after 1810, Frederick MD

Many researchers of this John HARN, claim he is the son of John and Betty HEARN of the Eastern Shore. They did have a son named John, (John 2 below) but this John cannot be our John HARN-of-Frederick.

Dorcas (Darcas) DAVIS ♀

B. abt 1749
D. after 1810, Frederick MD

Proof for this disconnect are found in "*Land Records of Wicomico Co. 1666-1810*" by Dryden, 1987. This book explains the history of a tract of

land called CANNAAN. The records below follow the history of that one tract of land. The book says, verbatim (The red parts have been inserted by John P. HARN):

CANNAAN

"Patented on 26 Aug, 1762 by John HEARN a resurvey from MARTINS CHOICE for 207 acres.

1769 John HEARN (This is John 1, married to Betty) willed to sons John HEARN (this is John 2), Isaac HEARN, Peter (Gordy) HEARN to share 207 acres.

1790 ADDITION TO CANNAAN patented by John HEARN (this must be John 2 since John 1 died in 1769) for 233 acres.

29 May 1798 Peter Gordy HEARN son of John HEARN (this is John 1, married to Betty), with wife Lovey HEARN sold to Isaac HEARN rights (Isaac is probably John 2 & Peter's brother).

4 Nov 1799, John HEARN (this is NOT John 1 since he died in 1769) and Elijah Smith of Sussex Co. Delaware sold to Hizekiah Maddux 50 acres CANNAAN and LIBERTY.

1806 John HEARN (this is not John 1 since he died in 1769) willed to son James HEARN (John-of-Frederick had no son named James) ADDITION 1/6th part.

10 Sept 1808 Isaac HEARN (probably John 2 & Peter's brother) with wife Nancy HEARN sold to James HEARN (this is John 2's son and this happened after John 2's death) 11 ¾ acres of ADDITION TO CANNAAN."

This record tells us John 2 , son of John and Betty HEARN, never left the Eastern Shore. In addition, his death is recorded in Snow Hill (Worcester Co., Eastern Shore).

His will is dated Feb 18, 1806, probated April 29, 1806 in Worcester Co. We can assume he was born about 1740. His wife was named Betty. (His parents were also John and Betty!)

He has 5 sons:

1. James received land in ADDITION TO CANNAN
2. John received land in LIGHTWOOD RIDGE
3. Benjamin looks like a minor
4. Noah looks like a minor
5. Solomon received land in HARDSHIP, formerly called HEARN'S LOTT

and 4 daughters

1. Sarah
2. Nelly
3. Betty (the 3rd generation of Betty)
4. Molly.

Executor was William PARSONS and wife Betty. Witnesses were Isaac HEARN (probably his brother) and Samuel HEARN (maybe son of his dad's brother Benjamin. William T. mentions 3 Samuels and this one is the best age but he was in Delaware). The third witness was Isaiah Smith.