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SUBJECT Mills & Watts: Goochland and Cumberland Counties, Virginia: Initial Survey

BACKGROUND: Goochland County was created in 1728 from western and northwestern Henrico. In 1744, Albemarle County was cut from western Goochland. In 1748, Cumberland County was cut from southern Goochland.

One or more William Mills received patents in 1732, 1736, 1746, and 1749 for land said to be in Goochland. The first tract, on Lickinghole Creek at Wild Boar branch, remains in Goochland. The 1736 and 1746 grants were on branches of Willis River, now in Cumberland County. The 1746 patentee identified himself as “son of William Mills of Aberdeen.” In 1748 a yet-unlocated tract of 56 acres was surveyed in the name of William Mills in the part of Goochland that became Albemarle and then Amherst. In 1749 a patent for 300 acres on “Pedlar River, *Goochland*” was issued to that same William Mills. Pedlar River was by that time in Albemarle and would be cut away into Amherst where William of Pedlar River died in 1766.

Prior research has focused on the Southside Virginia counties cut from Goochland and Brunswick—primarily Albemarle, Bedford, and Lunenburg.¹ The present project will focus on Goochland itself.

ASSOCIATES: **Ambrose Mills:** Son of William Mills of Albemarle, he is known to history as the Loyalist Col. Ambrose Mills who was hung at King’s Mountain during the American Revolution. In 1750 and 1752, Lunenburg County tithe lists identify him as overseer for lands owned by the absentee John Payne of Goochland. He subsequently appeared in Bedford records before leaving the province in 1756 for the Carolinas.

Thomas Watts and father Edward: Thomas married c1748–49, Sarah Mills, daughter of William of Albemarle. He also appears on the Lunenburg tithe lists of 1748–52, as does Edward and his younger sons in 1752. In 1749, Thomas and Sarah sold his newly patented land on Pedlar River adjoining her father William Mills and his father Edward—land lying near the Lunenburg–Albemarle line. Most of the Watts land would fall into Bedford after Bedford’s creation in 1754.

¹ See the following reports archived at *Historic Pathways* (<https://www.historicpathways.com>) under the “Research” tab:

- E. S. Mills, “Mills: Southside Virginia: Initial Survey of Published Resources for Brunswick, Goochland, and Counties Cut from Them—Principally Albemarle, Amherst, Cumberland, Bedford, and Prince Edward,” report to file, 28 May 2016; updated 28 August 2018.
- E. S. Mills, “Elizabeth Shown Mills, “Ambrose Mills, Col. (c1721–1780); Spouses 1. Mourning Stone, 2. Ann Brown: Research Notes,” a working file last updated 28 August 2018.
- Elizabeth Shown Mills, “Thomas Watts (c1725–aft. 1796); Spouse Sarah Mills: Research Notes,” a working file last updated 15 June 2016.

Witts of Albemarle and Bedford: One Lewis Witt, alleged brother of John, married a woman named Anne who is believed to be Anne Mills, daughter of William of Albemarle. While this is a collateral line to me, I am also conducting research on another William Mills (born c1783–88; married Franklin Co., VA, 1815, Drucilla Kemp) That William’s parents are unknown but his tested Y-line descendants carry a Witt Y.

OBJECTIVE: Gather sufficient evidence to sort the various William Millses who appear in Goochland records of the 1730s and 1740s or, if the case may be, to prove that they were one and the same man.

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Executive Summary

(MILLS)

This segment of research has yielded extensive new materials attesting the presence of at least two and likely three separate William Millses in Goochland. As with most research efforts in the British American colonies, the most useful records by which to disambiguate same-name men are those generated by (a) the acquisition of land and (b) daily actions chronicled in court minutes.²

LAND

Four patents and a variety of deeds document the ownership of five tracts of land “in Goochland” by men named William Mills. (See Maps 1 and 2, for their locations.)

- **Tract 1** was patented in **April 1732**, 400 acres on Lickinghole Creek, adjoining Henry Chiles, “Scott,” and Francis Kirby. Parts of it were sold in March 1733/4 and January 1736, each time by William Mills with the acknowledgement of wife Mary. This land remained in Goochland.
- **Tract 2** was bought in **October 1732** from Henry Childs, 300 acres on Lickinghole Creek and its Wild Boar branch. Neighbors were Chiles and “Utley.” Parts of it were sold in February 1735/6 and May 1744, each time by William Mills with the acknowledgement of wife Mary. This land remained in Goochland.

² For full details and documentation of each activity in this summary, see its date under “Research Notes.”

- **Tract 3** was patented **September 1736**, 400 acres on the ridge between Willis River and Guinea Creek of the Appomattox, adjoining James Allen, John Marten, and William Warnack. It was sold in November 1743 by William Mills with the acknowledgement of wife Mary. This land was cut away into Cumberland County in 1749.
- **Tract 4** was patented **August 1746**, 380 acres on Willis River's branch Pidy Rock, near its head and the heads of Bear Creek and Tar Wallet Creek. Neighbors were Wm. Daniel, William Easley, Ralph Flippins, and Anthony LeVellain. A 1739 road order cites "William Mills" in the midst of several of these neighbors, suggesting that he was on the land nearly a decade before the patent was finalized. That patent was issued to "William Mills, son of William Mills of Aberdeen." This land was cut away into Cumberland County in 1749.

Land processioning records of St. James Southam Parish place William and his land very close to the Southam church at Tar Wallet (aka Tear Wallet) Creek. (See Map 3.) William sold parts of this land in 1755 and 1759, without the participation of a wife. In 1763 he mortgaged the remainder to a creditor who sued for the land in 1765. At that point Williams disappears from Cumberland records.

- **Tract 5** was patented **April 1749**, 400 acres "in Goochland," said to be on both sides of Pedlar River and Dancing Creek." However, a 1744 division of Goochland County carved off Pedlar River into the far west of a new county, Albemarle. The fact that the patent specifies Goochland, although the land fell into Albemarle, suggests that the applicant William Mills was a resident of Goochland at the time he petitioned for the land. This William penned his will in 1755, on the Pedlar, naming *his wife Mary*. When he died in 1765, Mary survived him.

ACTIVITIES

The presence of the Albemarle William Mills family in *Goochland* before the 1744 split is also attested by a legal suit prosecuted against the son Ambrose in Goochland, in 1743 and 1744.

The Research Notes that make up the bulk of this report chronicle the activities of these men and their associates in considerable detail. The following overview helps to define the pattern of activities to assist in disambiguating the **three** William Millses.

1730	Sued by Robert Wade. No further information appears to have survived.
Apr. 1732	Received patent for 400 acres on Lickinghole Creek, adjoining Henry Chiles (formerly of Hanover), Samuel Coleman, Scott, Kerby. [Petition for land likely made by 1729]
Oct. 1732	Purchased from Chiles another 300 acres on Lickinghole and Wild Boar Creek.
Mar. 1733/4	Sold (with wife Mary) 100 acres of his 400-acre patent. Purchaser: neighbor Francis Kerby. Witnesses: Edmond Hodges (Hogges) & William Grimes.
Feb 1735/6	Sold (with wife Mary) 20 acres of the land bought from Henry Chiles. Purchaser: William Chambers. Witnesses: Samuel Coleman, John Clark. Chambers sold this land in September 1742 along with other land on nearby Treasures Run.
June 1736	Sold (with wife Mary) remaining 300 acres of his 1732 patent on Lickinghole. Purchaser: James Walker. Neighbors: Samuel Coleman, Chiles, Scott, Kerby. Witnesses: John Pryor, Peter Patrick, Henry Chiles. Walker in 1739 sold this land to Edmund Hodges.
Sept. 1736	Received patent for 400 acres in a more-western region of Goochland (present Cumberland County), on the ridge between Willis River and Guinea Creek, adjacent to James Allen, John Martin, and William Warnock.
Mar. 1737	Sued William Webb for an "action of trespass" (likely debt).
May 1738	Witnessed deed of John Winn and wife Mary of Henrico to <i>Humphry Parrish</i> of Goochland, land on James River adj. Robert Addams, Welcom William Hodges, Parrish,

and Hanover line. Landholdings of the associates strongly suggest he is William of Lickinghole.

- William Welcome Hodges had grants 1727–1734/5 on Deep Creek of Licking Hole and Treasures Run. Edmund Hodges (see Feb 1735/6 above) got a 1739 grant on Treasures Run.³
- Parrish had grants 1746–47 on Little Byrd and Fork creeks in present Goochland, just northwest of Lickinghole Creek.⁴
- Robert Adams is identified as an adjacent landowner in the 1730–34 patents issued to Henry Atkinson on “main br of Licking hole Ck,” Humphrey Parish on “N side of James River & branches of Treasures Run,” and Welcome William Hodges on “N branches of Treasures run.”⁵

Aug. 1739 Assigned to road crew together with James Allen, William “Wamack” and William Easley and others with land on Great Guinea Creek of Willis River and its TearWallet branch.⁶

- **The assignment of Mills personally (not “Mills’ hands” or “Mills’ Quarter”) suggests that (a) he actually lived there rather than being an absentee landowner; and (b) he was a yeoman farmer rather than being of the “gentleman” class.**
- William Easley owned land adjacent to the Pidy Rock tract patented August 1746 by William Mills “son of William Mills of Aberdeen.”
- William Wamack and Ralph Flippen (another landowner adjacent to the Pidy Rock William) are grouped with William on a small list of returns dated 16 May 1752 in Southam Parish, Cumberland County.

Sept. 1740 Owned land adjacent to John Parrish on South branch of Owens Creek. Other neighbors of Parrish: Henry Adkins and Stephen Lacy. Also

- **The Parrish association links him to the William of May 1738.**
- Stephen Lacy received two 1731 grants—one on “Owens Ck adj Gooch-Hanover Co line” and the other in Hanover on branches of Owens Creek.⁷

Ju-Jly 1741 Sued by William Webb. Dismissed in July.

Sept. 1741 Named as adjacent neighbor to Lickinghole land sold by George Hilton. Other neighbors: Thomas Biby, Christian, Hilton. Witnesses: William Bayley, George Brock, Nicholas Owen.

Sp ’42-Nv ’44 Sued by Benjamin Harris. Jury trial and forced settlement by judge in November 1744.

- May 1752, Benjamin Harris and William Mills appeared on a short list of returns to Southam vestry made by William Womack, William Daniel, Alexander Trent & others.

My-Sept 1742 Named in sale of Lickinghole Creek land sold by neighbor Henry Chiles (then residing in Amelia). Adjoining Chiles land were Mills, Edmund Hodges, John Coleman, and Michael Holland, gent. In September, Chiles sold his Appomattox River land adj. William Chambers, John Payne, Josias Payne.

³ “Index of Pool,” *Direct Line Software* (www.directlinesoftware.com/Pool/goochlan.txt : accessed 7 June 2018), Goochland lands, “items” 113, 215, and 380; citing Virginia Patent Books [VPB] 13:80; 15:417–18; 18:462. Also “Louisa County, Va. Plat Records,” abstracts, *VA GenWeb: Louisa County, VA—Genealogy* (<http://trevilians.com/deedmapper/dm8.html> : accessed 11 June 2018), citing Virginia Patent Book (VPB) 15:417.

⁴ “Index of Pool,” *Direct Line Software* (www.directlinesoftware.com/Pool/goochlan.txt : accessed 7 June 2018), Goochland lands, “items” 46 and 56; citing VPB 25:456–60.

Note that Nowel Burton, who sued Ambrose Mills (son of William of Albemarle) in 1743 also had land on Little Byrd Creek. “Index of Pool,” *Direct Line Software* (www.directlinesoftware.com/Pool/goochlan.txt : accessed 7 June 2018), Goochland lands, “item” 211, 400a Beech Creek, a branch of Little Byrd Creek, 27 Sep 1729; citing VPB 13:407.

⁵ “Louisa County, Va., Plat Records,” plat abstracts, *VA GenWeb: Louisa County, VA—Genealogy* (<http://trevilians.com/deedmapper/dm8.html> : accessed 11 June 2018), citing Virginia Patent Book 14:144 (Atkinson), 15:354 (Parish), and 15:417 (Hodges).

⁶ “Index of Pool,” *Direct Line Software* (www.directlinesoftware.com/Pool/cumberland.txt : accessed 7 June 2018), Cumberland link, cites the locations of these men named in the road order.

⁷ “Index of Pool,” *Direct Line Software* (www.directlinesoftware.com/Pool/goochlan.txt : accessed 7 June 2018), Goochland lands, “items” 165, 166; citing VPB 14:159, 260.

- Oct-Nov 1742 Sued by John Yuille (who also sued Peter Booker, John Bryan, James Masters, and William Tabor).
- William Tabor, 1737–44, received 4 grants on Deep Creek, present Cumberland.⁸
- 14 Nov 1743 Sold (with wife Mary) 400a between Willis River and Great Guinea Creek of Appomattox. Purchaser: Josias Payne. Neighbors: James Allen, John Martin, William Wamack. Witnesses: John Payne, Robert Woodson, John Roberts.
- Ambiguity exists with this action. Wm. Wamack (Warnack) was a neighbor of William Mills of Pidy Rock. However, the Woodson and Payne association suggests this is the William of the Ridge who sold his Lickinghole plantation in May 1744. This John Payne is the man who engaged Ambrose Mills, son of William of Lickinghole and Pedlar, to oversee his Lunenburg lands in 1750–52.
- Nov 1743 Ambrose Mills was in Goochland by this time, being sued by Nowel (Noel) Burton for an unpaid debt.
- May 1744 Sold (with wife Mary) remaining 280 acres on Lickinghole, “a plantation called William Millses.” Buyer: John “Robards.” (See John Roberts in entry above.) Adj. Grainger, John Payne, Benjamin Woodson. Witnesses: John & Josias Payne, Rob. Woodson.
- Nov 1744 Ordered to pay Joseph Bingley, Peter David, and Peter Louis Soblet for their days as witness to Mills’s suit against Harris. (*Cf.* Apr 1742 suit of Bingley against “estate of William Mills.”)
- 1745 Appears on Alexander Trent’s tax list adj to *William Easley* and 14 tithables from George Brock who in 1741 witnessed Chambers’ sale of Lickinghole/Wild Boar land purchased from William Mills. On that list, Mills is two names from Nowel Burton, a Willis River planter who launched a suit in 1744 against Ambrose Mills, son of William Mills of later Albemarle.
- William Easley in 1746–59 was adjacent landowner to Pidy River land sold by William Mills who patented the land as “son of William Mills of Aberdeen.”
- 1746 Not found on surviving tithable lists of St. James Northam or St. James Southam.
- Aug. 1746 Received patent for 380 acres on Pidy Rock Run of Willis River adjacent to Anthony LeVillaine, a document that identifies him as “William Mills, son of William Mills of Aberdeen.”
- 1747/8 Survey made of 54 acres for William Mills of Pedlar River, formerly Goochland, then Albemarle.
- Apr 1749 Patent issued to William Mills for 400 acres in “Goochland” (Albemarle) on both sides of Pedlar River and Dancing Creek.
- 1750–52 (Ambrose-of-William Mills is taxed in Lunenburg as overseer of lands held in absentia by John Payne of Goochland.)
- May 1752 Named on a short list of vestry returns in Southam Parish, Cumberland—together with Wm. Womack, Alex’ Trent, and Benjamin Harris.
- Feb 1759 Sold part of his Pidy Rock land, adjacent to *William Easley*.
- Feb 1759 Taxed for three tithes in John Watt’s district, Cumberland County. The published abstracts do not indicate whether the tithes were slaves or white males.
- Ag ‘55–Ap’65 Appears regularly in parish records of Southam, Cumberland County, frequently performing land processioning. He is repeatedly coupled with neighbors of both Willis River grants: William Daniels, William Easley, William Womack, Ralph Flippen, and Anthony LeVillaine. The period in which he is dropped from vestry duties (and Southam

⁸ “Index of Pool,” *Direct Line Software* (www.directlinesoftware.com/Pool/cumberland.txt : accessed 7 June 2018), Cumberland lands, “items” 174, 175, 229, 230; citing VPB 17:368–70, 22:129.

records) coincides with the death of William Mills of Pedlar River, whose estate was opened April 1766 in Amherst, but all known evidence suggests that is coincidence.

30 Jan 1783 Samuel Woodson and wife *Sarah Mills* of Henry County had twins baptized by Rev. William Douglas of Southam Parish, Goochland: one named Joseph *LeVillaine* and the other named William *Fontaine* Woodson. The LeVillaine connection suggests that this Sarah may stem from the William Mills of Pidy Rock who patented land adjacent to Anthony LeVillaine in 1746; however, no children are yet known for that William.

The evidence laid out in this set of research notes speak to one conclusion: Two different Williams were in Goochland and two different men owned land along the waters of the 60-mile-long Willis River:

- One William, with wife Mary, had been in the county since 1730. He owned land on Lickinghole Creek and Wild Boar, before branching out to the ridge between Willis River and Guinea Creek—on the western end of the Willis. After selling both locations in November 1743 and May 1744, with wife Mary in each instance, he moved over to Pedlar River, along with the Burkses who had been his Lickinghole neighbor.
- A second William settled by August 1739 at the head of Pidy Rock, near the heads of Bear Branch and Tar Wallet—also waters of the Willis, but near its eastern end. From Aberdeen, Scotland, he was likely a bachelor at his arrival. Hence, his statement of parentage and origin in his petition for the Pidy Rock land: in the event that something happened to him, his heirs would be known. He remained on Pidy Rock and was an active processioneer for the established church at Tar Wallet through the 1765. In that year, a creditor petitioned the court, alleging that William in 1763 had mortgaged to him his land and slaves. The debt had not been paid and the creditor requested William be “discovered” and required to testify whether he still owed the debt. Summonses were issued to William in Cumberland County; the case record does not show that he responded. The fact that he dropped from the records at this point, with no hint of a death and probate, suggests that the Aberdeen William had left.

(WATTS)

Prior research in Southside Virginia suggested the presence of one Thomas Watts in the 1740s and 1750s, son of Edward of Lunenburg and Albemarle.⁹ That Thomas married, c1748, Sarah Mills, daughter of William and Mary of Pedlar River. Research reported in this paper introduces another Thomas Watts:

1735 Thomas Watts of Goochland first appears on record when he was appointed to appraise an estate. This Thomas would have been born at least by 1714. To be appointed to that task, he was likely some years past the minimum age of twenty-one. In either event he was at least ten years older than the age that has been approximated for Thomas who began a family in 1749 with Sarah Mills.¹⁰ Nearly a decade passes before the name has been found again in the Goochland records.

⁹ See E. S. Mills, “Mills: Southside Virginia: Initial Survey of Published Resources for Brunswick, Goochland, and Counties Cut from Them—Principally Albemarle, Amherst, Bedford, Cumberland, and Prince Edward—with Peripheral Research in South Carolina and Tennessee to Pursue Leads,” report to file, 28 May 2016, updated 28 August 2018. Also, E. S. Mills, “Mills: Bedford County, Virginia: Extended Survey of Resources,” report to file, 28 August 2018. Both are archived online at *Historic Pathways* under the “Research” tab.

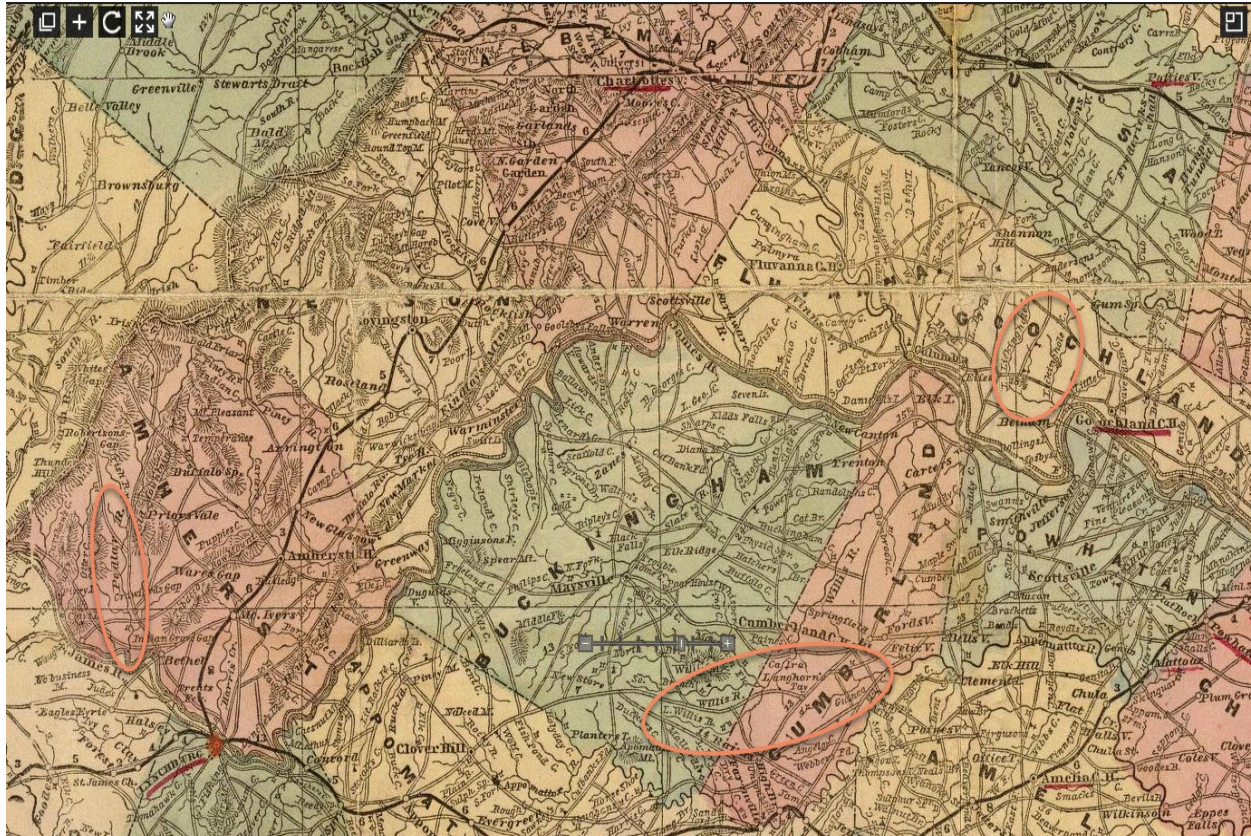
¹⁰ Also see E. S. Mills, “Thomas Watts (ca. 1725–aft. 1796); Spouse Sarah Mills: Research Notes,” for all known records created by or about this couple; and Mills, “Frontier Research Strategies—Weaving a Web to Snare a Birth Family: John Watts

- 1744 The name Thomas Watts again appears in Goochland—as does one Edward Watts. The pair of names, taken together, suggests they might be from the family of Edward Watts and son Thomas Watts who subsequently resided along the county line between Albemarle and Lunenburg and appear in records of both counties. However, no geographic or associational links have yet been found to link the two Goochland men. Nor does Goochland seem to offer direct evidence of an association between the Thomas and Edward Watts who were briefly there in the middle of the 1740s.
- 1745 Thomas Watts of Goochland purchased 400 acres on the Little Muddy, a creek that now crosses the county line between Cumberland and Powhatan (cut from the eastern half of Cumberland, formerly Goochland). The location was some 100 miles east of Thomas Watts’s 1748 grant on Pedlar River in Albemarle, reducing the likelihood that the two Thomases are the same.
- Jly 1747 Thomas Watts of Southam Parish, Goochland, was assigned to a road crew on Muddy Creek—past Mr. Scott, Barnet’s Road, and Pruet’s Path, and Ham Chapel—together with John Merriman and William Bond. These individuals are not known associates of Thomas Watts of Albemarle and Lunenburg.
- 1747–8 (January and March) Thomas sold his 400 acres in two separate deeds. *A wife “Mary” participated in the March sale.* Thomas also signed his name in full to the sale, while the Thomas Watts of Pedlar River, son of Edward and son-in-law of William Mills, made his “WT” mark on his 1748 land sale of Pedlar River land (recorded in both Goochland and Albemarle).
- 1747— Thomas and wife Mary drop from Goochland deeds at this point.
- 1748–52 Two different Thomas Wattses appear on the Lunenburg tax rolls in these years. One, Thomas of Hailes precinct in 1750, could be a candidate for the Thomas of Goochland. The Thomas Watts who married Sarah Mills is concurrently in a different precinct and consistently there from 1748 through 1752.¹¹)
- Conclusion:** The Thomas Watts (or multiple Thomas Wattses) of Goochland and Muddy River were not the same man as Thomas Watts of Albemarle’s Pedlar River and Lewis Deloney’s tax district of Lunenburg.

(ca.1749–ca.1822),” *National Genealogical Society Quarterly* 104 (September 2016,” 165–90. Both are archived at *Historic Pathways*, under the “Research” and “Articles tabs, respectively.

¹¹ E. S. Mills, “William Mills of Haile’s Title List, 1750, Lunenburg County, Virginia: Identification Needed,” 20 June 2018; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the “Research” tab.

Map 1
Old Goochland & Offshoot Counties
Albemarle (1744): Which Split into Amherst, Buckingham & Nelson
Cumberland (1749): Which Split into Powhatan
Showing Key Waterways: Lickinghole Creek, Guinea Creek & Willis River, and Pedlar River



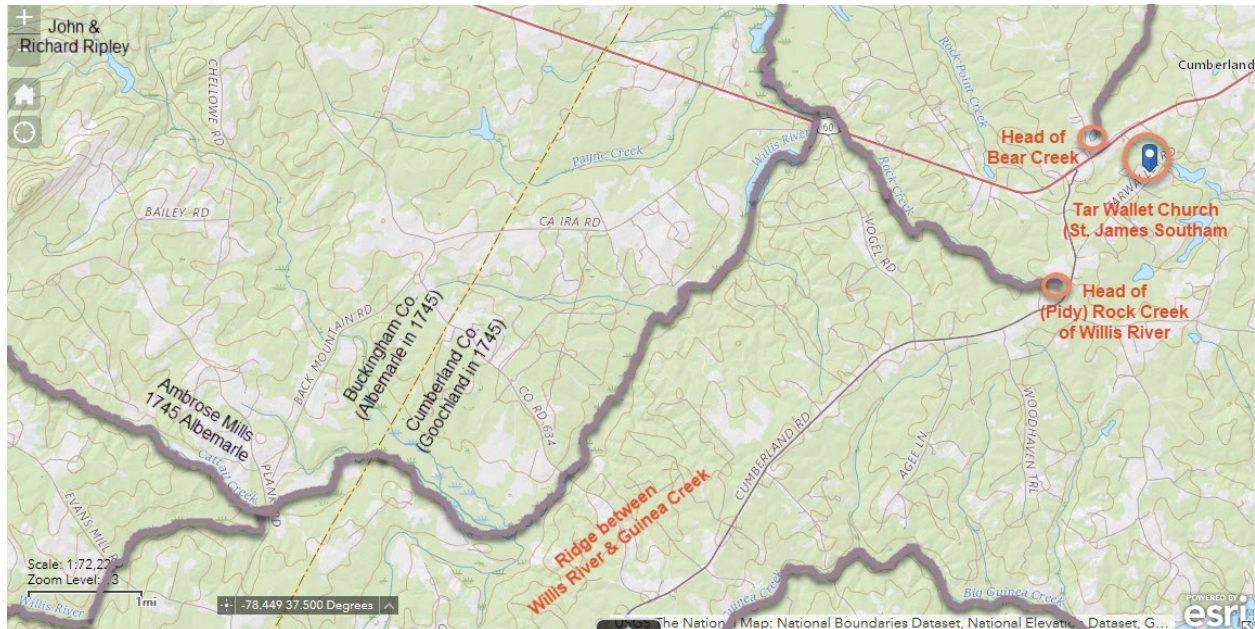
Map 2

Key Settlements along Willis River

Ambrose Mills: Willis River & Cattail Creek, 1745, Albemarle (later Buckingham)

William Mills: Ridge between Willis River & Guinea Creek, 1736–44, Goochland (later Cumberland)

William Mills: Land at Head of (Pidy) Rock Creek & Bear Creek, 1746–65, Goochland (later Cumberland)



Research Notes

1728—

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Historical context

“Goochland County was formed in 1728 from Henrico County, from that portion west of Tuckahoe Creek on the north of the James River, and that portion west of Lower Manakin Creek, south of the James River. ...

“In 1744 the County of Albemarle was formed from the western portion of Goochland. [Goochland] in turn was further divided in 1749 when that part south of the James River became Cumberland County. Cumberland was itself further divided in 1777, when its eastern portion became Powhatan Co. Albemarle County in turn, was mother county to Amherst in 1761, Nelson in 1808 (from Amherst), Buckingham in 1761, Appomattox in 1845 (from Buckingham), and Fluvanna in 1777.

“In colonial times, Goochland County was divided into parishes of the Church of England. **St. James Parish** was created in 1720 from Henrico Parish, and remained St. James until 1744, when it was further divided into St. James Northam, north of the James River, and St. James Southam, south of the river. It was originally formed from that part of Henrico Parish west of Westham Creek on the north side of the river, and the upper line of the lands of the French refugees south of the river. **King William Parish** was

formed in 1700 from Henrico Parish, with no set boundaries, but was to encompass the lands near Manakin Town granted to the French Huguenot refugees.”¹²

1730

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“The action of Debt between **William Mills**, Plaintiff and Robert Wade Defendant is dismissed neither party appearing.”¹³

COMMENT:

The fact that this William Mills was suing in the county this year does not necessarily mean that he was living in Goochland. Debt suits, in this time and place, were commonly lodged in the place where the *debtor* lived. This suit might also have begun while Goochland was part of Henrico. That possibility needs to be pursued.

One Robert Wade farmed on Goochland’s Lickinghole Creek, suggesting that his creditor may well be the William of Lickinghole whose first grant was dated 11 April 1732. (Wade’s own grant was dated 20 June 1733.)¹⁴ In this era, it was not uncommon for a settler to occupy a tract for several years before the patent was granted. First-time landowners in a region (speculators excluded) would frequently test the land by clearing a small portion and planting crops for one or two seasons before deciding to go through the patent application. Then there were fees for surveying and often a payment to the colony before the patent would eventually be issued.

11 APRIL 1732

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land grant

“**Wm. Mills** 400 acs. (N.L.) [New Land], Goochland Co., on brs. of **Licking Hole Cr.**, adjoining Saml. Coleman and *Henry Chiles* & line of Scot, & Kerby; 11 Apr. 1732. 40 Shill.”¹⁵

31 OCTOBER 1732

GOOCHLAND & HANOVER COUNTIES, VA

Land purchase

“*Henry Chiles* and *Anne* his wife, of Hanover Co., to **William Mills** of Goochland Co., for £25, 300 acres on east side of **Licking Hole Creek**, including **plantation called ‘Bobs’**, bounded by **Utley’s line**. Witnesses: *Richard Kearby, Patrick (L) Cash, Edman (E) Hogges*.” [Hodges] Recorded 16 Jan. 1732[/3].¹⁶

COMMENT:

Two Mills-Chiles relationships have been documented in this generation:

- This William Mills of Goochland who bought Chiles land, adjacent to Chiles, and interacted with him for another decade or so.

¹² Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Goochland County, Virginia, Wills and Deeds, 1728–1736* (N.P.: P.p. 1983), introduction.

¹³ Goochland Co., VA, Order Book No. 2, 1730–1731, p. 78.

¹⁴ “Index of Pool,” *Direct Line Software* (www.directlinesoftware.com/Pool/goochlan.txt : accessed 7 June 2018), Goochland lands, “items” 46 and 56; citing VPB 25:456–60.

¹⁵ Louise Pledge Heath Foley, *Early Virginia Families along the James River ... Henrico County–Goochland County, Virginia* (1974; reprint Baltimore: Clearfield, 2003), 87; citing Patent Book 14, p. 407. ALSO: Land Patent Book 23 shows Matthew getting 400a and 327a in Goochland (later Albemarle) both on Branches of Mechems R., adj. his own land and Michael Woods, 15 March 1744 (p. 814, 818); also Charles Mills patented 1300a in Goochland on Licking Hole and Beverdam bounded by Charles Moremans and Woods Road, same day (pp. 820–21).

¹⁶ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Goochland County, Virginia, Wills and Deeds, 1728–1736* (N.P.: P.p. 1983), 38; citing DB 1:366.

- Matthew³ Mills, son of Henry² Mills of Caroline and grandson of the immigrant Nicholas¹ Mills made a will 1753/4 in Albemarle leaving 1650 acres to sons William, Mathew, Charles, and Menan. He also named daughters Mary and Betty. Probate records identify his wife as Mary, the **widow of Micajah Chiles** whose will was dated 1735–36. Charles and Menan were then underage. William and Charles, both said to be of Hanover, were named as executors. Matthew also claimed land in Louisa Co.¹⁷ Hiden’s genealogy of the Nicholas Mills family tells us that Mary was probably née Terrell, daughter of Wm. and Susannah Terrell, because Matthew and Mary named a son William Terrell Mills.¹⁸

The Chiles connection to both Matthew and William suggests that this William of 1732 Goochland might be part of the family of Nicholas > Henry > Matthew. Hiden does not present a William who was brother to Matthew. However, she does discuss a William who was first cousin to Matthew and son of Henry²’s brother Charles—telling us that Nicholas² (husband of Ann Clopton) left a will dated 6 April 1741 (in Goochland?) in which “he gave 200 acres of land in Goochland Co., VA [to his namesake Nicholas³ Mills, son of Charles² Mills]; then the remainder of his Goochland land was to be sold and the money equally divided among **Wm. Mills, son to Robert**, and Nicholas Rice, son to Jane Rice, Frances Jackson, dau. to Ann, and Wm. Anderson son to Elizabeth.”¹⁹ However, the evidence gathered for both William Millses of Goochland do not support a connection to the Nicholas Mills family.

16 JANUARY 1732/3

GOOCHLAND

Court order

“Chiles’s deed to Mills. Richard Kearby Patrick Cash, and Edmund Hodges prove a deed with the Livery of Seizin endorsed from **Henry Chiles & Anne his wife to William Mills** to be the act and deed of the said Henry & Anne and it si [*sic*] thereupon admitted to record.”²⁰

COMMENT:

Henry Chiles, born about 1698, is said to have married Anne Harrelson, daughter of Paul Harrelson. Prior to Goochland he is found in records of Hanover County, also owned land in Amelia and Brunswick, and died in Amelia in 1746.

The most extensive reconstruction of the Chiles family (well documented) concludes that Henry is the son of Henry Chiles I and wife Mary. However, Henry I also had a brother John Chiles who married (1) Mary [Boucher?] and (2) Eleanor [commonly but erroneously identified as Webber]. John died prior to 16 May 1723, when his widow petitioned the provincial county regarding his estate. He also left sons named John and Henry. Henry of John is said to have settled in Spotsylvania County, as did the widowed Eleanor and new husband Edward Hickman.²¹

¹⁷ Caroline County, Va., Court Order Book 1746–54: 408.

¹⁸ Mrs. P. W. Hiden, “Nicholas Mills of Hanover County,” *Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine* 14 (1933): 237–42; 15 (1934): 38–64; reprinted as *Genealogies of Virginia Families; From Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Gary Parks, ed. 4 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1981), 2: 671–2; Hiden provides the rationale and sources for her conclusion.

¹⁹ Mrs. P. W. Hiden, “Nicholas Mills of Hanover County,” *Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine* 14 (1933): 237–42; 15 (1934): 38–64; reprinted as *Genealogies of Virginia Families; From Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Gary Parks, ed. 4 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1981), 2: 671–2; Hiden provides the rationale and sources for her conclusion.

²⁰ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book, 1731–1735* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 149; citing Order Book 3:125.

²¹ For Henry and John, see Virginia Lee Hutcheson Davis, *Tidewater Virginia Families* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2004), 227–22; and Davis, *Tidewater Virginia Families: Generations Beyond* (Baltimore: GPC 2004), Chapter 9, “The Chiles

Mary [Boucher?], wife of John Chiles, was likely from the family of William Boucher/Boucher who drafted a will in Hanover County in 1733 bequeathing his real estate and part of his personal property to “Mary Chiles, daughter of John Chiles dec’d.” (See below) This Mary, daughter of John, seems not to have been tracked into adulthood by prior researchers.

JUNE COURT 1733

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Association

“Learwood’s deed to Saunders, **John Learwood & Hannah his wife** (she being first privately examined) acknowledge a deed with the Livery of Seizin endorsed from themselves to John Saunders to be their act & deed and it is thereupon admitted to record.”²²

AUGUST COURT 1733

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Association

“Learwood levy free. On the petition of **John Learwood** he is exempt from payment of leveys this year.”²³

COMMENT:

This John appears to be the parent of Thomas Learwood who married Elizabeth Mills, daughter of William Mills of Albemarle.²⁴

20 NOVEMBER 1733

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

“Ballew’s deed to Guerrant. Peter Chastain, Anthony Trabue, & **John Witt** prove a deed with the Livery of Seizin endorsed .. from Judith Ballew to Peter Guerrant. ...”²⁵

7 JAN. 1733/4

HANOVER COUNTY, VA

Association

“I **William Boucher of Hanover Co.**, St. Paules Par., being in perfect sence and memory do make this to be my Last Will and Testament: I give and Bequeaath my sole to Almyty god. After my Lawfull debts are paid I give to **Peter Garland** my watch; to **Zebulon Shelton**, all my wolen waring Aparill and all the rest of my Estate both Reall or personal I give to **Mary Chiles** daughter of John Chiles dec’d; to **William Mason** son of **Peter Mason** my saddle and Bridle and lastly I doe appoint Peter Garland and Mary Chiles Exetor and Exectrix of my last will and testament. 7 Jan. 1733/4 [Signed] William Boucher. Wit: Anne (+) Gibson, Zebulon Shelton.

1 Feb 1733 proved by oath of *Anne Gibson* one of the witnesses who Swore that she saw *Zebulon Shelton* the other witness thereto witness the same. *Peter Garland* one of the Executors named

Family.” Davis notes the William Boucher will transcribed in this paper under 7 January 1733/4 but stops short of identifying the relationship between Mary Chiles and Boucher.

²² Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book, 1731–1735* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 236; citing Order Book 3:197.

²³ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book, 1731–1735* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 249; citing Order Book 3:207.

²⁴ See the lengthy Learwood discussion presented in E. S. Mills, “William Mills (c1695–1766) of Goochland, Albemarle & Amherst Counties, Virginia; Spouse: Mary (Walton?): Research Notes,” a work-in-progress last updated 28 August 2018; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the “Research” tab.

²⁵ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book, 1731–1735* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 263–64; citing Order Book 3:218? or 280?.

appeared and voluntarily relinquished his Executorship and expressly refused to take upon him the burden of the Execution of the sd. Will whereupon at the motion of *Thomas Prosser* greatest Creditor of the sd. Dec'd. taking the oath appointed by law was granted him for obtaining letters of administration during the minority of **Mary Chiles** the other executor.

"Admin. Bond We *Thomas Prosser* and *Peter Garland*, Gent. Are firmly bound unto *Nicholas Meriwether*, Gent. Commr. of the Peace for Hanover Co. in the sum of £500 sterling. 1 Feb. 1733. Condition if above bound *Thomas Prosser* Admin, with the will annexed shall make or cause to be made a true and perfect inventory of all goods, chattels and credits of the sd. Dec'd. and pay all legacies specified in sd. Will this obligation to be void. [Signed] *Thomas Prosser*, *Peter Garland*. 1 Feb. 1733 ack. By *Thomas Prosser* and *Peter Garland*, Gent."²⁶

COMMENT:

The wording of this will is that of an unmarried man without "forced heirs." It is more likely that *Mary Chiles* would have been a niece, rather than a granddaughter. The naming of a minor female as coexecutor suggests a likelihood that the testator did not have adult male relatives.

Mary, though a minor, should have been past her fourteenth birthday—the age at which she could choose a guardian or make other legal decisions. In short, she was of marriageable age.

19 FEBRUARY 1733/4

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Road order

"Ordered that the road between **little Licking hole & great Licking hole Creeks** be turned nearer the foot of the hills."²⁷

12 MARCH 1733/4

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land sale

"**William Mills** of Goochland Co. to *Francis Kearby*, for £2/10, 100 acres, being part of 400 acres by patent dated 11 April 1732. Wit: *Richard Kearby*, *Edmond (E) Hogges*, *William (M) Grimes*. Signed: *William Mills*. Recorded 19 March 1733. **Mary**, wife of *William*, relinquished her dower right."²⁸

19 MARCH 1733[/4]

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

²⁶ Rosalie Edith Davis, *Hanover County, Virginia, Court Records 1733–1735: Deeds, Wills, and Inventories* (Manchester, MO: Heritage Trails, 1979), 6; citing Court Record Book 1733–1735, pp. 18–19. Davis's index has a number of *Chiles* references that I did not have time to explore on this research trip: **Chiles**: Anne 16, 78; **Henry** 9, 17, 66, 78; John 6; Mary 6; Micajah 65; Walter 10. Also **Mills**: David 75, Henry 22, 58, Nicholas 48—a set of *Mills* that came out of Hanover and (in part) ended up on Albemarle's Meechum River.

Davis's preface notes that

- Hanover was cut from upper New Kent in 1720
- Included Louisa County and northern third of Albemarle Co.
- Became St. Paul's Parish (which was cut from St. Peter's parish)
- St. Martin's Parish was created from St. Paul in 1727
- Many of Hanover's records were destroyed during the Civil War
- Louisa County, 1742–1761, has records on these families

²⁷ Nathaniel Mason Pawlett, *Goochland County Road Orders 1728–1744* (Charlottesville: Department of Highways & Transportation & the University of Virginia, 1975), 19; citing p. 223. This volume has no Boucher or Boucher. *Henry Chiles* appears on p. 34, in an abstract I did not copy.

²⁸ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Goochland County, Virginia, Wills and Deeds, 1728–1736* (N.P.: P.p. 1983), 49; citing DB 1:487.

Court order

"Mills's deed to Kirby. **William Mills** acknowledges a deed with the Livery of Seizin endorsed from himself to *Francis Kirby* to be his act & deed and it is thereupon admitted to record then **Mary wife** of the said William (she being first privately examined) relinquishes her right of dower in the land by the said deed conveyed which is also admitted to record."²⁹

15 JULY 1734

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land sale

"**John Witt & Elizabeth his wife** (she bring [*sic*] first privately examined) acknowledge a deed with the Livery of Seizin endorsed from themselves to **John Peter Bilboe** to be their act & deed and it is thereupon admitted to record."³⁰

COMMENT:

This Order Book 3 has a long-running case, William Boucher vs. Richard Ward that was launched by Boucher in 1731 and continued by his administrator (and largest creditor) Thomas Prosser through September 1735, at which time it was still unsettled. (Blomquist covers this case at her pp. 127, 155, 190, 203, 227, 245, 278, 311, 334, 355, 392, 432, 448, 479.)

Although Prosser was to serve in that role only until the appointed executrix Mary Chiles came of age, there is no mention of Mary acting with him during these four years.

16 JULY 1734

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

"**John Witt & Elizabeth his wife** (she being first privately examined) acknowledge a deed with the Livery of Seizin endorsed from themselves to *Peter Dept* [Bilbo] to be their act & deed and it is thereupon admitted to record."³¹

21 AUGUST 1734

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Neighbor

"John Parish, 200a, NL, Goochland Co., on Wild Boar, a br. of Treasurers Run; [adjoining] Stephen Lac's L[in]e; c[orner] of Richard Kerby & Henry Atkinson: **William Mills** line."³²

1735

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Tax roll

"A List of Tithables for looking after the tobacco pickers by George Taylor, constable 1735"³³

COMMENT:

Digges, Birks, Ca[r]gell, Yewens

²⁹ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book, 1731–1735* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 273; citing Order Book 3:226.

³⁰ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book, 1731–1735* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 330; citing Order Book 3:273.

³¹ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book, 1731–1735* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 330; citing Order Book 3:273.

³² William Lindsay Hopkins, "Virginia Land Patent Book 15, Pages 162–319 (1733–1734)," *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 24 (February 1986): p. 16; citing Land Patent Book 15:272.

³³ A. Jean Lurvey, *Goochland Co., Virginia, Tithe Lists, 1735–47* (Springfield, MO: P.p., n.d.), 1–2.

“List of Tithes by John Cox 1735” : nothing of relevance.

MAY COURT 1735

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Stephens’s adminn, *Anne Stephens* comes into Court & makes oath that *John Stephens* deced. died without any will so far as she knows or believes & on her motion & giving security for her just & faithfull administration of the said decedents estate certificate is granted for her obtaining letters of Administration in due form James Nevills security. Ordered that *Michaell Thomas*, **Thomas Watts**, *Richard Churchhill*, & *Stephen Johnson* or any three of them they being first sworn before some Justice of the Peace do appraise the estate of John Stephens deced. & that Anne Stephens the Admx. Do return an inventory thereof to the next court.”³⁴

COMMENT:

This Thomas Watts should be at least 21—and likely some years past that age, for him to be appointed an appraiser of property. This suggests that he is not the Thomas Watts, son of Edward, who married the daughter of William Mills of Albemarle.

Edward’s father, Thomas of Orange County, made a will in 1746 and died c1749 in Culpeper (cut from Orange). In that will, he names four sons: John, William, Edward, and Jacob. He does not name a son Thomas.³⁵ Whether the Goochland Thomas might have been the Culpeper man is yet unknown.

7 JUNE 1735

HANOVER COUNTY, VA

Association

Indent. “*William Chambers* of St. Martins Par., Hanover Co., Carpenter, to *John Smith* of St. Pauls Par., Hanover Co., Merchant: £70 currt. money of Va.; 50 a. Part of a greater Tract that one **John Jones** bought of **Micajah Chiles** and conveyed by sd. Jones unto sd. Chambers by deed 5 Feb. 1730 and ack. Hanover Court ... beginning at Michael Hollands corner upon sd. Southward branch up water course of sd. Branch to sd. **John Jones’s** line to include 50 a. of land adjoining upon sd. Holland’s line and also another Tract containing two acres with a water Mill thereunto contiguous in Par. Of St. Pauls one acre of sd. Last mentioned tract was conveyed by **Henry Chiles** unto the sd. William Chambers by deed 3 Feb. 1719 and ack. In Hanover Co; last mentioned tract of two acres the sd. Chambers was put in possession of by virtue of an Act of Assembly made Intitl’d ‘An Act for Encouragement of building Water Mills’ which was done by order off the sd. Court of Hanover. [Signed] William Chambers. Wit: *Barttelot Anderson*, *Thomas Tinsley*, *Edward England*, *Keziah Chambers*. 3 July 1735 proved by oaths of Barttelot Anderson, Thomas Tinsley and Edward England.”³⁶

COMMENT:

This Micajah left a widow Mary, subsequent wife of Matthew Mills of Albemarle.

Davis’s *Virginia Tidewater Families* identifies Micajah Chiles as the son of Henry Chiles I by

³⁴ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book, 1731–1735* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 431; citing Order Book 3:356.

³⁵ Culpeper Co., Va., Will Book A:10; Circuit Court, Culpeper, Va.; LOV Culpeper Co. microfilm 31.

³⁶ Rosalie Edith Davis, *Hanover County, Virginia, Court Records 1733–1735: Deeds, Wills, and Inventories* (Manchester, MO: Heritage Trails, 1979), 65–66; citing Court Record Book 1733–1735, pp. 254–55.

Henry's second wife Mary³⁷—that is, a brother of the Hanover Henry Chiles who owned land adjacent to William Mills on Lickinghole Creek. This fact suggests that William Mills of Lickinghole may have belonged to the same family as Matthew Mills of Albemarle.

AUGUST 1735

HANOVER COUNTY, VA

Association

"Ordinary License Bond We *Thomas Prosser* and *John Markland* are firmly bound unto George II in the sum of 10,000 pounds of Tobacco. 7 Aug. 1735 Condition: above bound Thomas Prosser hath obtained an Ordinary License to the place Commonly called **Bouncers** near Hanover Court House; if sd. Prosser constantly find [furnish] and provide in his ordinary good, wholesome and clearly lodging and diet for Travellers and stableage, doffer and provender [animal fodder] or pasturage and provender as the season required for their horses during the Term of one year and shall not permit unlawful gaming nor on the Sabbath sufer any person to tipple or drink more than is necessary, this obligation to be void [Signed] Thos. Prosser, J. Markland. 7 Aug. 1735 ack. By Thomas Prosser and John Markland."³⁸

COMMENT:

From this, we might infer that the late William Boucher also operated an ordinary.

bef. 17 FEBRUARY 1735/6

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land sale

"**William Mills** of **St. James Parish**, Goochland Co., for £4 to *William Chambers* of same, 20 acres on **Wild Boar Creek**; part of a greater tract said Mills bought of *Henry Chiles*. Wit: *Samuel Coleman*, *John (I) Clark*. Signed: William Mills. Recorded 17 Feb. 1735 [no date of drafting]. **Mary, wife** of William, relinquished her dower right."³⁹

bef. 15 JUNE 1736

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land sale

"**William Mills** of St. James Parish, Goochland Co., for £ 15/5, to *James Walker* of same, 300 acres on branches of **Licking Hole Creek** part of a greater tract said **Mills** took up by patent 11 April 1732, bounded by *Samuel Coleman*, *Chiles's corner*, *Scott's line*, *Kerby's line* and *Henry Chiles*. Wit: *John Pryer*, *Henry Chiles*, *Peter Patrick*. Signed: William Mills. Recorded 15 June 1736. **Mary, wife** of William, relinquished her dower."⁴⁰

15 JUNE 1736

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

"**William Mills** acknowledges a Deed from himself to *James Walker* to be his Act and deed and it is thereupon Admitted to record, then **Mary wife** of the said William (she being first Privately Examined

³⁷ For Henry and John Chiles, see Virginia Lee Hutcheson Davis, *Tidewater Virginia Families* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2004), 219–27; and Davis, *Tidewater Virginia Families: Generations Beyond* (Baltimore: GPC 2004), Chapter 9 "The Chiles Family." Davis notes the William Boucher will transcribed in this paper under 7 January 1733/4 but stops short of identifying Mary Chiles as Boucher's relative.

³⁸ Rosalie Edith Davis, *Hanover County, Virginia, Court Records 1733–1735: Deeds, Wills, and Inventories* (Manchester, MO: Heritage Trails, 1979), 72; citing Court Record Book 1733–1735, pp. 296–97.

³⁹ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Goochland County, Virginia, Wills and Deeds, 1728–1736* (N.P.: P.p. 1983), 79; citing DB 2:168.

⁴⁰ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Goochland County, Virginia, Wills and Deeds, 1728–1736* (N.P.: P.p. 1983), 79; citing DB 2:231.

Relinquishes her right of Dower in the land by the said Deed Convey'd which is also Admitted to Record."⁴¹

1736

GOOCHLAND

Tax roll

"List of Titheables by John Twitty 30 July 1736 between Deep Creek & Fine Creek from River to River."⁴²

COMMENT:

Still no taxation of William Mills or Henry Chiles. It appears that some lists are missing each year.

8 SEPTEMBER 1736

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land grant

For 40 shillings, grant to **William Mills**, 400 acres on the Ridge between Willis River and great Guinea Creek of Appomattox River, Goochland county, bounded as follows:

Beginning at a red Oak in *Almes [James?] Allen's* Line, running Thence New Lines North fifty Degrees West one hundred and twenty six Poles to a white Oak, North twenty five Degrees East one hundred and seventy Poles to a Pine, Thence on *John Marten* North sixty Degrees East seventy Poles to a white Oak and Hicory, Thence New Lines North twenty five Degrees East one hundred and forty two Poles to Pointers, South sixty five Degrees East one hundred and forty seven Poles to a white Oak, South twenty five Degrees West thirty five Poles to a white Oak, Thence on *William Warnack* the same Course continued two hundred and ninety three Poles to a Spanish Oak, Thence on *James Allen* North seventy five Degrees West fifty two Poles to a white Oak South thirty seven Degrees West sixty seven Poles to the first station.⁴³

COMMENT:

- "Willis River is a 61.8-mile-long branch of the James River. It "rises in southern **Buckingham County** and initially flows eastwardly into **Cumberland County**, where it turns north-northeastwardly for the remainder of its course. It flows into the James River in northern Cumberland County, about 6 miles ... southeast of **Columbia**."⁴⁴

MARCH COURT 1737

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

"**Mills vs. Webb**. In the Action of Trespass between **William Mills** plt. and **Willm. Webb** deft. The Plt. having failed to file a declaration on the defts. Motion he is Nonsuited whereupon it is Considered by the Court that the deft. do recover agt. the Plt. five shillings Curr. Money together with his costs by him in this behalf Expended and a Lawyer's Fee."⁴⁵

⁴¹ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book, 1735–1741* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2010), 68; citing Order Book 4:67.

⁴² A. Jean Lurvey, *Goochland Co., Virginia, Tithes Lists, 1735-47* (Springfield, MO: P.p., n.d.), 2–3.

⁴³ Library of Virginia, "Land Office Grants," database with images, *Virginia Memory* (http://image.lva.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/GetLONN.pl?first=407&last=&g_p=P17&collection=LO_Patent : downloaded 20 May 2018), "Mills, William, grantee ... Goochland County ... 400 acres on the ridge between Willis River and Great Guinea Creek of Appamattox River"; citing "Land Office Patents No. 17, 1735-1738, p. 164 (Reel 15)."

⁴⁴ "Willis River," *Wikipedia* (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Willis_River : accessed 24 May 2016).

⁴⁵ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book, 1735–1741* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2010), 282; citing Order Book 4:278.

10 FEBRUARY 1738

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Road order

“Road to be Clear’d. On the motion of **Henry Chiles** leave is Granted him to Clear a Road from **Brook’s mill** to his Land on Apomattox River.”⁴⁶

20 FEBRUARY 1738

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Road order

“Surveyor of Road. **John Payne** is appointed Surveyor of the road in room of John Webb.”⁴⁷

COMMENT:

Webb was previously appointed to the road from **Beverdam Creek to Treasurer’s Runn** (see Pawlett, p. 5) and was said to be “Surveyor of the **main road opposite to the courthouse** (Pawlett, 20).

20 MARCH 1738

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Road order

“Road to be Cleard. On the motion of **Nowel Burton** leave is granted him to Clear a road from his Plantation on Willis’s Creek to a Plantation belonging to Mr. Dudley Digges called Buckingham. Mr. Benjamin Harrison Approveing its going thro: Mr. Henry Cary’s Land.”⁴⁸

COMMENT:

Burton, on 27 September 1729, was granted 400 acres on Beech Creek, “a branch of Little Byrd Creek” in the part of Goochland that remains in Goochland.⁴⁹

See 1743–44 suit of Nowel Burton against **Ambrose Mills**, eldest son of William and Mary of Albemarle.

20 MARCH 1738

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Road order

“**Joseph Bingley** is Appointed Surveyor of the road from **Jones’s Creek Bridge to the County line** in the room of Mr. Randolph ... and that all the Titheables without the road do Assist him in clearing the same.”⁵⁰

COMMENT:

See April 1742 notes for suit of Bingley against “**Estate of William Mills.**”

⁴⁶ Nathaniel Mason Pawlett, *Goochland County Road Orders 1728–1744* (Charlottesville: Department of Highways & Transportation & the University of Virginia, 1975), 34; citing p. 373.

⁴⁷ Nathaniel Mason Pawlett, *Goochland County Road Orders 1728–1744* (Charlottesville: Department of Highways & Transportation & the University of Virginia, 1975), 34; citing p. 373.

⁴⁸ Nathaniel Mason Pawlett, *Goochland County Road Orders 1728–1744* (Charlottesville: Department of Highways & Transportation & the University of Virginia, 1975), 34; citing p. 377.

⁴⁹ “Index of Pool,” *Direct Line Software* (www.directlinesoftware.com/Pool/goochlan.txt : accessed 7 June 2018), Goochland lands, “item” 211, 400a Beech Creek, a branch of Little Byrd Creek, 27 Sep 1729; citing VPB 13:407.

⁵⁰ Nathaniel Mason Pawlett, *Goochland County Road Orders 1728–1744* (Charlottesville: Department of Highways & Transportation & the University of Virginia, 1975), 35; citing p. 378.

16 MAY 1738

GOOCHLAND & HENRICO COUNTIES, VA

Association

“Deed. *John Winn* of Henrico Co., to *Humphry Parrish* of Goochland Co., for £ 30, land on north side of James River, 400 acres, bounded by *Robert Addams*, *Welcom William Hodges*, Hanover Co. line and said *Humphry Parrish*; with all houses, etc. Wit: Willim (W) Parrish, Humphry (+) Parris, **Wm Mills**. Signed: John Winn. Recorded 16 May 1738. Mary, wife of Winn, relinquished her dower right.”⁵¹

bef. **17 JULY 1739**

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Association

“Deed. *James Walker* of St. James Parish, Goochland Co., to *Edmund Hodges* of same, all my 300 acres on **Lickinghole Creek** which said James Walker bought of **William Mills**, bounded by *Samuel Coleman*, *Scott’s line*, *Henry Chiles*. Signed: James Walker.” Recorded 17 July 1739.⁵² [No date of execution.]

AUGUST COURT 1739

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Road order

“Surveyor of Road. Alexander Stinson is Appointed Surveyor of the Road from Brook’s mill to Archers, his gang to be Willm. Grays tiths, Peter Brooks, John Hodnet, John Harmer, **John Payne**, James Glen, Henry Cary’s tiths, William Cook, and Richard Henderson, And **William Wamack junrs** gang to be Chas. Anderson, Thos. Hodges, Henry, Joseph & James Terry, William Kent, Robert Peak, **William Easley**, Alexr. Trents Qr., John Archers Qr., Edward Mcgehee, **James Allens Qr.**, **William Mills**, and John Ownby.”⁵³

COMMENT:

James Allen, John Payne, and William Easley were landowning neighbors and associates of William Mills of Guinea Creek and Pidy Rock Run of Willis River.

John Payne was an associate of William Mills of Lickinghole Creek and Ambrose Mills.

Pawlett provides a somewhat different transcription for this road order:

21 AUGUST 1739

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Road order

“Surveyor of Road. Alexander Stinson is Appointed Surveyor of the Road from Brooks’s mill to Arthers, his gang to be Willm. Grays tiths, Peter Brooks, John Hodnet, John Harmer, **John Payne**, James Glen, Henry Carys tiths, William Cook, and Richard Henderson. And William Wamack junr. gangs to be Chas. Anderson, Thos. Hodges, Henry, Joseph & James **Cary**, William Kent, Robert Peak, William Easley, Alexr. Trents Qr. John Arthers Qr. Edward **M’gehe**, James Allens Qr., **William Mills** and John Ownby.”⁵⁴

15 APRIL 1740

⁵¹ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Goochland County, Virginia, Wills and Deeds, 1736–1742* (N.P.: P.p. 1984), 17; citing Deed Book 3:121.

⁵² Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Goochland County, Virginia, Wills and Deeds, 1736–1742* (N.P.: P.p. 1984), 30; citing Deed Book 3:219.

⁵³ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book, 1735–1741* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2010), 456; citing Order Book 4:433.

⁵⁴ Nathaniel Mason Pawlett, *Goochland County Road Orders 1728–1744* (Charlottesville: Department of Highways & Transportation & the University of Virginia, 1975), 36; citing p. 433.

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Road order

“**John Payne** is appointed Surveyor of the **road near the Courthouse to the ffery**, Ord^d that his Own, William Grays, John Cannons, Edward Carter Joseph Woodsons Deced & John Richardsons Tiths do clear the same and make Causways for foot People.”⁵⁵

16 SEPTEMBER 1740

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Association

John Parrish sold land on **South branch of Owens Creek** bounded by *William Mills*, Henry Adkins, and Stephen Lacy.”⁵⁶

COMMENT:

See 16 May 1738 sale by John Winn of Henrico to Humphrey Parish, adj. John Parish, with William Mills as witness.

Stephen Lacy owned several tracts on Owens Creek crossing the Hanover-Goochland line. The 28 September 1730 grant to Henry “Atkinson” (VPB 14:144) lay on Lickinghole adjacent to Robert Adams.⁵⁷

JUNE COURT 1741

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Watts vs Daniel. On the Petition of **Elizabeth Watts** agt. **Anne Daniel** her mistress it is ordered that a Sumons do issue agt. The [sd.] Anne Daniel returnable to the next Court.”⁵⁸

COMMENT:

I have not identified this Elizabeth Watts.

JUNE COURT 1741

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Webb vs Mills. On the scire Facias brought by **William Webb** agt. **William Mills** the Sherif having return’d copy left and the deft. now failing to appear on the motion of the Plt. it is ordered that an Alias Scire Facias do issue agt. The deft. Returnable to the next Court.”⁵⁹

COMMENT:

A scire facias was an order for someone to appear or be brought into court. If the targeted person did not apply, then a repeat of that order was termed *alias scire facias*.

⁵⁵ Nathaniel Mason Pawlett, *Goochland County Road Orders 1728–1744* (Charlottesville: Department of Highways & Transportation & the University of Virginia, 1975), 38; citing p. 456.

⁵⁶ Carl R Waggle, “Genealogy Report: Ancestors of Mary Elizabeth Lewis,” user trees, *Genealogy.com* (<http://www.genealogy.com/ftm/w/a/g/Carl-R-Waggle-CA/GENE3-0010.html> : accessed 23 May 2016).

⁵⁷ “Louisa County, Va. Plat Records,” plat abstracts, VA GenWeb: Louisa County, VA—Genealogy (<http://trevilians.com/deedmapper/dm8.html> : accessed 11 June 2018); credit is given to “Jerry Sullivan [who] has plotted over 1,000 Patents, Grants and Deeds, which produced over 5,000 references.”

⁵⁸ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book, 1735–1741* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2010), 588; citing Order Book 4:551.

⁵⁹ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book, 1735–1741* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2010), 596; citing Order Book 4:574.

JULY COURT 1741

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Watts vs Daniel. The Pet. of **Elizabeth Watts** agt Anne Daniel is continued.”⁶⁰

JULY COURT 1741

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

“Webb vs Mills

“The Scire Facias brought by **William Webb** agt. **William Mills** is dismissed no Prosecution.”⁶¹

10 AUGUST 1741

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land sale

“Deed. *William Witt* of Goochland Co. to *John Witt*, one of the sons of said William Witt, for love and affection, 200 acres on north side of James River, being land where I now live, bounded by the river, Ballengers Creek, with all houses, etc. Wit: Jos. Thompson, John Barret, William Barret. Signed: William Witt. Recorded 15 Sept. 1741.”⁶²

14 SEPTEMBER 1741

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Association

“Deed. *George Hilton* of Goochland Co. to *Arthur Slayden* of New Kent Co., for £ 30 232 acres on branches of **Lickinghole Creek**, being part of a patent of 332 acres granted said Hilton in 1734; bounded by *Thomas Biby*, said Hilton, *Christian’s* line and **William Mills**. Wit: *William Bayley*, *George Brock*, *Nicholas (O) Owen*. Signed: George Hilton, *Esther Hilton*. Recorded 15 Sept. 1741.”⁶³

COMMENT:

The 1745 tax list (at which time William of Lickinghole had disposed of all his land there) places George Brock as 14 tithables from William Mills. This point also muddles our attempts to clearly distinguish between the two William Millses of Goochland.

1741

GOOCHLAND COUNTY

Vestry order

“Processioners: ... John Curd and Joseph Lewis From Benjamin Bradshaws across to Louisa Co line at Constant Perkins, to **John Mills**, to Goochland Court House, to Bollings Mill Road.”⁶⁴

COMMENT:

This is the first reference I’ve encountered to this man. As seen below, he was dead by September 1742.

⁶⁰ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book, 1735–1741* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2010), 614; citing Order Book 4:574.

⁶¹ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book, 1735–1741* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2010), 620; citing Order Book 4:580.

⁶² Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Goochland County, Virginia, Wills and Deeds, 1736–1742* (N.P.: P.p. 1984), 64; citing Deed Book 3:464.

⁶³ Benjamin B. Weisiger III, *Goochland County, Virginia, Wills and Deeds, 1736–1742* (N.P.: P.p. 1984), 53–65. COMMENT: Watts are not included in the index. **Maddoxes** and **Forgesons/Furgesons** appear.

⁶⁴ William Lindsay Hopkins, *St. James Northam Parish Vestry Book, 1744–1850, Goochland County, Virginia* (Richmond: P.p., 1987), 4; citing Vestry Book 13. This volume offers nothing on Boucher/Boucher, Childs/Chiles, or Massey/Massie.

APRIL COURT 1742
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA
Court order

“Watts vs Daniel. The Pet. of **Elizabeth Watts** agt. *Anne Daniel* is dismiss no Prosecution.”⁶⁵

APRIL COURT 1742
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA
Court order

“Bingley vs Mills The Attachmt. obtain’d by **Joseph Bingley** agt. the **Estate of William Mills** is dismiss no Prosecution.”⁶⁶

COMMENT:

No William Mills probate record has been found in Goochland. The above reference does not say “estate of William Mills, *deceased*,” as would be common if this William Mills had died. The term “estate” is apparently used here in the sense of “property belonging to,” as when a judgment is issued against a defendant and an attachment is issued to seize sufficient property to cover the debt. William Mills with wife Mary did own land that could be seized. William Mills “of Aberdeen” did not own land at this point; he had almost certainly settled on his Pidy Rock tract, but he did not complete the titling process until 1746. That said, “estate” also included personal property when the defendant did not have land.

MAY COURT 1742
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA
Court order

“Mascie &c. vs Toney. The Action of Debt brought by **Peter Mascie** who as well for Our Lord the King as for himself prosecutes Plt. and **Charles Toney** Deft. is dismiss no Prosecution. The Deft. consents to pay costs.”⁶⁷

COMMENT:

Because William Mills of Pedlar River sold part of his 1749 grant to the single woman Martha Massie of New Kent County in 1754, I have noted this presence of “Mascie” in Goochland also.

17 MAY 1742
GOOCHLAND, AMELIA & KING WILLIAM COUNTIES, VA
Land sale

Deed “from **Henry Chiles** of **Amelia County**, planter, to **John Crenshaw** of **King William County**, planter for 60 £ 5 shillings, all of Henry Chiles’ tract of land in G on **Lickinghole Cr** containing about 500 acres whereon the said Henry Chiles has a plantation. The same land is the greatest part of 800 acres granted to the said Henry Chiles by 2 patents for 400 acres each, out of which 800 acres Chiles sold a part to **William Mills**, laid off at the lower end, supposing it to be 300 acres. The said 500 acres is adjacent to the lands of *Michael Holland, gent, Edmund Hodges, John Coleman, and the said William Mills*. The land is further described in a G deed to Mills from Chiles. Signed – Henry Chiles. Wit – *Barttelot Anderson*,

⁶⁵ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 30; citing Order Book 5:31.

⁶⁶ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 31; citing Order Book 5:32?

⁶⁷ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 39; citing Order Book 5:41.

Eliz^a Anderson, W Ford. Recorded Sep 21, 1742. *Anne*, the wife of Henry Chiles, relinquished her right of dower to the conveyed lands.”⁶⁸

JUNE COURT 1742
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Turnbull vs Watts. The Pet. of *Charles Turnbull* agt. **Edward Watts** is Continued.”⁶⁹

COMMENT:

This marks the first known appearance of the name Edward Watts in the Piedmont. This man *could* be Edward of Orange > Culpeper whose next known appearance is on the 1752 tax roll of Lunenburg where he was a Pedlar River neighbor of William Mills.

JULY COURT 1742
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Turnbull vs Watts. The Pet. of *Charles Turnbull* agt. **Edward Watts** is Continued.”⁷⁰

JULY COURT 1742
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Millers Adminisn. **Edward Miller** Comes into Court and makes oath that **Thomas Miller** died without any Will so far as he knows or believes [*sic*] and on his motion Certificate is granted him for obtaining Letters of Administration in due form **Charles Allen** entering [*sic*] himself Security for the same.

Ordered that **James Howard, Thomas Massie, John Moss & John Sandland** or any three of them being first sworn by some Justice of the Peace do Appraise the estate of Thomas Miller deced and that his Administrator do return an Inventory thereof to the next court.”⁷¹

SEPTEMBER COURT 1742
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Mills’s Inventory Edward Merrit Admr. Presents an Inventory of the **estate of John Mills deceased** which is ordered to be recorded.”⁷²

bef. 21 SEPTEMBER 1742
AMELIA COUNTY, VA

Land sale

“I, *Henry Chiles* of **Amelia County**, for 5 shillings sterling money of England, have granted *James Walker* of the Parish of St. James and G, 256 acres of land in the Parish of St. James and G on **Appomattox River**, which 256 acres is part of a greater tract which the said Henry Chiles took up, and bounded by [trees].

⁶⁸ TLC Genealogy, *Goochland County, Virginia, Deeds, 1741–1745* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy, 1990), 11; citing Deed Book 4:63.

⁶⁹ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), ___; citing Order Book 5:80.

⁷⁰ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 78; citing Order Book 5:101.

⁷¹ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 88–89; citing Order Book 5:91.

⁷² Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 108; citing Order Book 5:110.

Signed Sep 21, 1742 – Henry Chiles. Wit – *Willm. Chambers, John Payne, Josias Payne*. Recorded Sep 21, 1742. *Anne, the wife of Henry Chiles, relinquished her right of dower to the said land.*⁷³

21 SEPTEMBER 1742

GOOCHLAND & AMELIA COUNTIES, VA

Land sale

“Deed from *William Chambers* of the Parish of St James and G to *Josias Payne* of same, for 80 £, all that messuage whereon the said William Chambers latterly lived 36 acres on the north side of the James River in G among the branches of Treasures Run, and bounded by patent granted to the said Chambers on Mar 12 1739. Also that tract of land containing 20 acres in the Parish of St James and G upon a creek known by the name of **Wild Boar**, which land Chambers purchased of **William Mills** on Feb 17, 1735. Also one tract of land on **Wild Boar Cr**, which land Chambers purchased of *John Christian*, and bounded as per the deed made to Chambers by Christian, on Jul 19, 1737. Signed – William Chambers. Wit – John Payne, **Henry Chiles**, *Simon* (SW his mark) *Ward*. Recorded Sep 21, 1742. *Judith, the wife of William Chambers, relinquished her right of dower to the conveyed lands.*”⁷⁴

SEPTEMBER COURT 1742

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Mills vs. Harris. **William Mills plt.** and **Benj. Harris** Deft. The Deft. failing to appear on the motion of the Plt. it is Ordered that an Alias Capias do issue agt. the Deft. returnable to the next Court.”⁷⁵

OCTOBER COURT 1742

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Mills vs Harris The Action of Trespass on the Case between **William Mills plt.** and **Benjamin Harris** Deft. Is Continued.”⁷⁶

OCTOBER COURT 1742

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Irwin vs Denum. The Pet. Of **Chris’r. Irvin** agt. Hugh Denum & **Thos. Watts** is Continued.”⁷⁷

COMMENT:

Hugh Denum was granted 150 acres in Goochland, “both sides of Owens Creek,” on 20 March 1745/6. The tract ended up in Albemarle after the county divisions.⁷⁸

OCTOBER COURT 1742

⁷³ TLC Genealogy, *Goochland County, Virginia, Deeds, 1741–1745* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy 1990), 10; citing Deed Book 4:57.

⁷⁴ TLC Genealogy, *Goochland County, Virginia, Deeds, 1741–1745* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy 1990), 10; citing Deed Book 4:61.

⁷⁵ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 124; citing Order Book 5:127.

⁷⁶ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 142; citing Order Book 5:145.

⁷⁷ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 147; citing Order Book 5:150.

⁷⁸ “Index of Pool,” *Direct Line Software* (www.directlinesoftware.com/Pool/albemarle.txt : accessed 7 June 2018), Albemarle, “item” 1337; citing VPB 24:33–4.

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

"Yuille vs. Mills. The Pet. Of **John Yuille** agt. **William Mills** is Continued."⁷⁹

COMMENT:

This book of transcribed court orders has no prior reference to this case, at least not indexed under the name William Mills. This is the first of 5 cases filed this term by John Yuille against Mills, Jams. Masters, John Bryan, Willm. Tabor, and Peter Booker. All are continued to the next term of court.

Checking the index for John Yuille, I find no entry for him in this book prior to this one. He also appears as "Yuille & Co." filing suits in Bedford County.

NOVEMBER COURT 1742

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

"Mills vs Harris. In the Action of Trespass on the Cases between **William Mills** Plt. and **Benja. Harris** Deft. A special Impar lance is granted the Deft."⁸⁰

COMMENT:

- A general impar lance "meant time given to either of the parties ... to answer the pleading of the other." Any special considerations agreed to during that term of court would expire with that term.
- A *special impar lance* granted an extension with all exceptions kept intact.⁸¹

NOVEMBER COURT 1742

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

"Yuille vs. Mills. The Pet. Of **John Yuille** agt. **William Mills** is dismiss no Prosecu'n."⁸²

COMMENT:

Yuille's prosecution against the other 4 individuals proceeds with various actions.

DECEMBER COURT 1742

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Road order

"Surveyor of Road & c. Ordered that the Path down the River from **Buck Island** to **John Witts** be kept open round the Plantations on the River by the Titheables of each Plantation."⁸³

DECEMBER COURT 1742

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

⁷⁹ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 147; citing Order Book 5:150.

⁸⁰ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 165; citing Order Book 5:169.

⁸¹ Henry Campbell Black, *Black's Law Dictionary*, 4th ed. (St. Paul, MN: West Publishing Co., 1951), 886.

⁸² Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 168; citing Order Book 5:172.

⁸³ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 177; citing Order Book 5:181.

“Massie proves Acct. vs Amos. **William Massie** Exhibits an Account agt. *Frans. Amos* for fifty eight shillings and three pence Curr. money and makes Oath thereto according to Law which is Ordered to be Certified.”⁸⁴

MARCH COURT 1742/3
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Massie vs Amos. On the Petition of **William Massie** agt. *Francis Amos* the Sheriff having executed the Sumons and the Deft. failing to appear and the Petitioner having at December Court proved his Account it is consider’d that he do recover agt the Deft. fifty eight shillings & three pence Curr. money with Costs and half a Lawyers Fee.”⁸⁵

MARCH COURT 1742/3
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Mills vs Harris. The Action of Trespass on the Case between **William Mills** Plt. & **Benja. Harris** Deft. Is continued at the Plts. Costs.”⁸⁶

MAY COURT 1743
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Mills vs Harris. In the Action of Trespass on the Case between **William Mills** Plt. and **Benjamin Harris** Deft. the Deft. appears but failing to plead on the motion of the Plt. Judgmt. by nihil dicit is granted him for what damages shall be recovered in this Suit to be discharged nevertheless if the Deft. shall plead at the next Court.”⁸⁷

COMMENT:

“Nihil dicit” is Latin for “he says nothing.” In other words, a judgment was rendered for want of a plea.

JUNE COURT 1743
GOOCHLAND

Court order

“Massie vs Webb. The Action of Trespass on the Case between **William Massie** Plt. and **William Webb** Deft. is dismiss. No prosecution.”⁸⁸

JUNE COURT 1743
GOOCHLAND

“Mills vs Harris

⁸⁴ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 177; citing Order Book 5:182.

⁸⁵ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 200; citing Order Book 5:206.

⁸⁶ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 202; citing Order Book 5:208.

⁸⁷ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 221; citing Order Book 5:229.

⁸⁸ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 242; citing Order Book 5:251.

In the Action of Trespass on the Case between **William Mills** Plt. and **Benjamin Harris** Deft. The Deft. Pleads non assumpsit.”⁸⁹

OCTOBER COURT 1743
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Mills vs Harris. The Action of Trespass on the Case between **William Mills** Plt. and **Benjamin Harris** Deft. is Continued at the Plts. Cost.”⁹⁰

NOVEMBER COURT 1743
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Burton vs Mills. In the Action of Trespass on the Case between **Nowel Burton** Plt. and **Ambross [sic] Mills** Deft. Gideon Marr enters himself Special Bail and an Imparance is granted the Deft.”⁹¹

COMMENT:

Most accounts of Col. Ambrose Mills assert his birth in the year 1723. However, he had to be at least 21 to be sued in November 1743. Also, whatever the debt, it had to be substantially overdue for a suit to be filed, which should place his birth at least a year before November 1722.

14 NOVEMBER 1743
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Deed “from **William Mills** of the Parish of St. James and G, to *Josias Payne* of same, for divers good causes and for 16£, one tract of land of about 400 acres in G on the *ridge between Willis River and Great Guinea Cr of Appomattox River*, and bounded by *James Allen, John Martin, William Wamack*. Signed - William Mills. Wit – *John Payne, Robert Woodson, John Roberts*. Recorded Nov 16, 1743, **Mary, the wife** of William Mills, relinquished her right of dower to the conveyed land.”⁹²

16 NOVEMBER 1743
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Mills’s deed to Payne. **William Mills** Acknowledges a Deed &c. from himself to **Josias Payne** to be his Act and Deed, Then **Mary Wife of the said William** (she being first privately examined) Relinquishes her right of Dower in the Land by the said Deed Conveyed all of which is Ordered to be Recorded.”⁹³

COMMENT:

- In September 1742 Josias Payne bought, from William Chambers, land on Wild Boar Creek that Chambers had bought from William and Mary Mills of Lickinghole Creek.

⁸⁹ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 248; citing Order Book 5:257.

⁹⁰ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 286; citing Order Book 5:297.

⁹¹ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 302; citing Order Book 5:314.

⁹² TLC Genealogy, *Goochland County, Virginia, Deeds, 1741–1745* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy 1990), 37; citing Deed Book 4:270.

⁹³ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 300; citing Order Book 5:311.

- The Woodson and Payne association suggests that this 1743 seller is the same William of Willis River who sold his plantation on Lickinghole in May 1744 in presence of Benjamin Woodson and John & Josias Payne.
- Benjamin, William, and Robert Woodson Jr. received extensive grants on Jinnetoe/Genito Creek of current Goochland, 1714–25. John Woodson was on both Genito and Lickinghole Creeks, and numerous others.⁹⁴

15 NOVEMBER 1743

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Road order

“Surveyor of Road. William Burk is Appointed Surveyor of the Road in the room of **John Payne**.”⁹⁵

20 DECEMBER 1743

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Road order

“Ordered that a Road by Cleard from **Lickinhole Chapple** into the Mountain Road and that Thomas Sanders be Surveyor thereof.”

“Ordered that the Secretarys road be continued from **Tye River** to **ffendlys Gap** on the **Little Mountains** and from thence the nearest way to the South River.”⁹⁶

COMMENT:

This region would fall into Albemarle.

22 MARCH 1743/4

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Mills vs Harris. The Action of Trespass on the Case between **William Mills** Plt. & **Benjamin Harris** Deft. Is Continued at the Defts. costs.”⁹⁷

MARCH COURT 1743/4

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Burton vs Millls. In the Action of Trespass on the Case between **Nowel Burton** Plt. & **Ambrose Mills** Deft. the Deft. appear but failing to plead on the motion of the Plt. Judgmt. by nihil dicit is granted him for what damages shall be recovered in this Suit to be discharged nevertheless if the Deft. shall plead at the next Court.”⁹⁸

1744

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

⁹⁴ Index of Pool,” *Direct Line Software* (www.directlinesoftware.com/Pool/goochlan.txt : accessed 7 June 2018), Goochland lands.

⁹⁵ Nathaniel Mason Pawlett, *Goochland County Road Orders 1728–1744* (Charlottesville: Department of Highways & Transportation & the University of Virginia, 1975), 51; citing p. 322.

⁹⁶ Nathaniel Mason Pawlett, *Goochland County Road Orders 1728–1744* (Charlottesville: Department of Highways & Transportation & the University of Virginia, 1975), 51; citing pp. 328–29.

⁹⁷ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 343; citing Order Book 5:359.

⁹⁸ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 357; citing Order Book 5:374.

Historical context

Albemarle is created this year from the western portion of Goochland.

MAY COURT 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Turnbull vs Watt. On the Pet. of **Chas. Turnbull** agt. **Edward Watts John Hunter** makes oath that he heard the Petr. say he was Satisfied the Debt. for wch. this Pet. is brought & thereupon the Pet. is dismissed.”⁹⁹

MAY COURT 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Mills vs Harris. In the Action of Trespass on the Cases between **William Mills** Plt. & **Benjamin Harris** Deft. the Deft. pleads non assumpsit & for trial thereof puts himself upon the Country [i.e., a jury trial] & the Plt. likewise.”¹⁰⁰

COMMENT:

Non assumpsit “is a form of pleading in which the defendant claims that s/he did not undertake or promise any obligation in the manner or form set forth in the plaintiff’s complaint.”¹⁰¹

MAY COURT 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Burton vs Mills. The Action of Trespass on the Case between **Nowel Burton & Ambrose Mills** Deft. is Continued.”¹⁰²

15 MAY 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Deed “from **William Mills, and Mary, his wife**, of G to **John Robards** of G, for 72 £, one piece of land in G on the east side of **Lickinghole Cr**, about 280 acres so as to include a plantation called **William Millses**, and bounded by a corner above the plantation on the creek on Grainger’s line on **Great Lickinghole Cr, John Payne, Benjamin Woodson**. Signed – William Mills, Mary (X her mark) Mills. Wit – **John Payne, Josias Payne, Rob. Woodson**. Recorded May 15, 1744. Mary relinquished her right of dower to the conveyed lands.”¹⁰³

COMMENT:

William and Mary have now disposed of the last of their land on Lickinghole in the old Chiles/Scott/Kerby neighborhood that Henry Chiles has also abandoned in favor of Amelia County.

⁹⁹ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 390; citing Order Book 5:409.

¹⁰⁰ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 390; citing Order Book 5:409.

¹⁰¹ “Legal Definitions,” *USLegal* (<https://definitions.uslegal.com/n/non-assumpsit/> : accessed 2 June 2018).

¹⁰² Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 396; citing Order Book 5:415.

¹⁰³ TLC Genealogy, *Goochland County, Virginia, Deeds, 1741–1745* (Miami Beach, FL: TLC Genealogy 1990), 47.

MAY COURT 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Mills’s deed to Roberts. **William Mills** Acknowledges a Deed with the Livery of Seizin & Receipt endorsed from himself to **John Roberts** to be his Acts & Deeds Then **Mary Wife** of the said William (She being first privately examined) Relinquishes her right of Dower in the Land by the said Deed Conveyed all of which is ordered to be Recorded.”¹⁰⁴

COMMENT:

Six months earlier, William and Mary had disposed of the last of his 1736 grant on Willis River and Guinea Creek of the Appomattox. The timing coincides with the summer 1745 emergence of William and Mary Mills on Albemarle’s Pedlar River.¹⁰⁵

JUNE COURT 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Mills vs Harris. The Action of Trespass on the Case between **William Mills** Plt. & **Benjamin Harris** deft. Is Continued.”¹⁰⁶

JUNE COURT 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Freeland vs Watts. In the Action of Trespass on the Case between **James Freeland** Plt. & **Edwd. Watts** Deft. Now failing to appear on the motion of the Plt. the Conditional Judgment formerly granted him agt. the Deft. & **John Jones** his Common bail is Confirmed for so much damages as shall be found upon executing a Writ of inquiry at the next Court of which the Sheriff is ordered to give the Deft. & the said John Jones notice by serving them with a Copy of this order.”¹⁰⁷

JUNE COURT 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Burton vs Mills. In the Action of Trespass on the Case between *Nowl. Burton* Plt. & **Ambrose Mills** Deft. time is granted the Deft. to plead Specially.”¹⁰⁸

10 JUNE 1744

GOOCHLAND

Tax roll

“Tithe List King William Parish by Thos. Turpin¹⁰⁹

¹⁰⁴ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 370; citing Order Book 5:388.

¹⁰⁵ See E. S. Mills, “William Mills (c1695–1756) of Goochland, Albemarle & Amherst; Spouse Mary (Walton?): Research Notes,” a work-in-progress updated 28 August 2018, particularly p. 15; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the “Research” tab.

¹⁰⁶ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 425; citing Order Book 5:447.

¹⁰⁷ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 425; citing Order Book 5:447.

¹⁰⁸ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 428; citing Order Book 5:450.

¹⁰⁹ A. Jean Lurvey, *Goochland Co., Virginia, Tithe Lists, 1735–47* (Springfield, MO: P.p., n.d.), 3–4.

COMMENT:

Nothing relevant.

JULY COURT 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

"Mills vs Harris

The Action of Trespass on the Case between **William Mills** Plt. & **Benjamin Harris** Deft. is Continued."¹¹⁰

NOVEMBER COURT 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Road order

"Benjamin Cocke is Appointed Surveyor of the road from *Pleasants Beverdam Bridge* to *Little Lickinghole*.

Ordered that all the Titheables on the North side of the River above **Lickinghole** except John Smiths and **Mr. Massies lower Quarter** be added to Mr. Hopkins's Gang.

John Massie is Appointed Surveyor of the road in the room of **William Walton**.¹¹¹

COMMENT:

Lickinghole is the site of the first 400 acres granted in Goochland in 1732 to the county's first William Mills (husband of Mary). Neighbors then were Samuel Coleman, Henry Chiles, Francis Kirby, and Scott.

NOVEMBER COURT 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

"Mills vs Harris. In the Action of Trespass on the Case between **William Mills** Plt. and **Benjamin Harris** Deft. the following Jury are Sworn Robert Hughes, John Pendleton, Richard Ward, George Payne Junr, Isaac Hughes, Alexander Moss, William Hudgens, William Matlock, John Hodges, John Taylor, Miles Gathwrite & Joel Chandler who having heard the Evidence and receiv'd their Charge with draw.

Ordered that the Sherif do keep the Jury together 'till they agree in their verdict."¹¹²

NOVEMBER COURT 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

"Burton vs Mills. In the Action of Trespass on the Case between **Nowl. Burton** Plt. and **Ambrose Mills** Deft. Edmund Gray and James Terry are Appointed to examine state and settle the severall matters in dispute between them and make report to next Court."¹¹³

22 NOVEMBER 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

¹¹⁰ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 448; citing Order Book 5:473.

¹¹¹ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 481.

¹¹² Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 489; citing Order Book 5:517.

¹¹³ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 489; citing Order Book 5:517.

“Bingley vs Mills. On the motion of *Joseph Bingley* a Witness for **Willm. Mills** agt. *Benjamin Harris* it is ordered that the said William do pay him for three days Attendance seventy five pounds of Tobo.”¹¹⁴

COMMENT:

See the earlier case in which Joseph Bingley had obtained an attachment on the property of William Mills.

In 1741?-42, Joseph Bingley sued William Mills, then the suit against *estate of William Mills* was dropped.

22 NOVEMBER 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“David vs Mills. On the motion of *Peter David* a Witness for **Willm. Mills** agt. *Benja. Harris* it is ordered that the said Willm. do pay him for five days Attendance one hundred and twenty five pounds of Tobacco.”¹¹⁵

22 NOVEMBER 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Soblet vs Mills. On the motion of *Peter Louis Soblet* a Witness for **Willm. Mills** agt. *Benja. Harris* it is ordered that the said Willm. day [*sic*] pay him for Six days Attendance one hundred & fifty pounds of Tobacco.”¹¹⁶

COMMENT:

This William Mills has called, as witness, two associates from the Huguenot community—suggesting that he might have connections there. (James Daniel, below, might be a third.)

22 NOVEMBER 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

“Daniel vs Mills. On the motion of *James Daniel* a Witness for **Willm. Mills** agt. *Benja. Harris* it is ordered that the said Willm. do pay him for five days Attendance one hundred & twenty five pounds of Tobacco.”¹¹⁷

COMMENT:

The William Mills of this lawsuit is surely the one William Mills taxed in Goochland in 1745. As seen below, James Daniel and William Mills are just two tithables apart on that list.

17 DECEMBER 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Court order

¹¹⁴ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 493; citing Order Book 5:522.

¹¹⁵ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 494; citing Order Book 5:522.

¹¹⁶ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 494; citing Order Book 5:522.

¹¹⁷ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 494; citing Order Book 5:522.

“Ordered that the Sheriff do allow unto **John Massie** 55 lb. Tobo. it being for 11 Levys twice Listed last Year.”¹¹⁸ (citing OB 5:531)

15 MAY 1744

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Road order

“James Ffendly is Appointed Surveyor of the road from his fferry to Thomas Jones’s. Ordered that Samuel Stephens, **John ffendly Tho^s Watts** Major Lewis **Hugh Denum** John Isham Archibald Blake David Griffin **James ffreland** Henry Johnson & Charles Burk do work on the said road.”¹¹⁹

COMMENT:

James Freeland, this same year, sued **Edward Watts**, father of Thomas who married Sarah Mills. If this Thomas Watts in his neighborhood was the Thomas who was son of Edward, then—to be assigned to the road crew, he was at least 16—i.e., born by 1728. However, see

- the 1745 deed records suggesting that Thomas of Goochland was several years older; and
- the October 1742 court suit of Irwin vs. Hugh Denum and Thos. Watts, which suggests Thomas was born by 1720.

2 MARCH 1745

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land purchase

Edward Booker Jun^r to **Thomas Wats** of Goochland County, for 30£ current money of Virginia, sells 400 acres on both sides of **Little Muddy Creek** described as follows:

Beginning at Several Pointers, a Corner of **Ashford Hughes** and Runing thence on his line South 82 degrees W 124 poles to pointers, thence with lines South 89 Degrees West 333 poles Crossing the Creek to pointers, N 43 Degrees East 328 poles to Pointers in Ashford Hughes’s line, thence on his line South 19 Degrees East 73 poles Crossing the Creek Several times to a Spanish Oak, North 69 Degrees East one hundred and fifty eight poles to a White oak and South 16 Degrees East 206 poles to the first station.

[Signed] Edward Booker Junr.

3 Mary 1745, Booker acknowledged that he “Delivered Livery and Seizen by twig and turf to the within named Thomas Watts and gave him Quiet Possession of the Land.”

18 March 1745

Edward Booker Junr. acknowledged the deed at court, whereupon it was ordered to be recorded.¹²⁰

1745

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Tax roll

“Tithe List Southam Parish by Alexander Trent 1745¹²¹

16 Alexr. Trent, Alexr. Trent Jr., Thos. Johns overseer

4 Benj Harrison

2 James Daniel

¹¹⁸ Ann M. Blomquist, *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 502; citing Order Book 5:531.

¹¹⁹ Nathaniel Mason Pawlett, *Goochland County Road Orders, 1728–1744* (Charlottesville: Department of Highways & Transportation & the University of Virginia, 1975), 53; citing p. 388.

¹²⁰ Goochland Co., VA, Deed Book 5 with Wills, Inventories, Etc., 1745–1749, 94–95.

¹²¹ A. Jean Lurvey, *Goochland Co., Virginia, Tithe Lists, 1735–47* (Springfield, MO: P.p., n.d.), 7–8.

- 1 William Easley
- 1 William Mills**
- 6 Widow Bernard: John Smith overseer
- 4 Nowel Burton**, Allin Burton
- 3 Richd. Burton
- 2 Josiah Burton
- 2 Wm. Spear
- 1 **Ambrose** Hugens
- 1 John Jones**
- 1 John Dickerson
- 2 Jam. Cuningame Sr., Jam. Cuningame
- 1 John Cuningame
- 1 Saml. Allin Sr.
- 5 John Merriman
- 1 Thos. Roberson
- 3 George Brock
- 3 Gideon Glen
- 3 Nehemiah Glen
- 4 Joseph Terry
- 1 Henry Terry
- [skip 60]*
- 1 David Bradley
- 3 Saml. Allin Jr.
- 2 Jacob Winfrey
- 6 Wm. Bond Sr., Wm. Bond Jr., Wright Bond
- 2 Thos. Watts**
- 1 Samson Fleming
- 2 Zachariah Terry
- 1 James Wilkins
- 1 Thomas Christain
- 1 John Bartee
- 1 John Minter
- [end of list]*

COMMENT:

- This William Mills of 1745 is clearly living on Willis River, in the same neighborhood where he would remain through at least February 1765. The processioning lists of Southam Parish (abstracted later in these research notes), places him in the immediate neighborhood of William Easley, the Daniels, and the Trents.
- Note also that the August 1739 road order, abstracted above, places him on the same stretch of road as William Easley, Alexander Trent, and the Terrys.

However,

- Two names after William appears the name “Nowel Burton.” The court minutes of 1743 and 1744 chronicle the debt suit of Nowel Burton vs. *Ambrose* Mills, the young adult son of the William Mills (wife Mary) who received Pedlar River grants after Albemarle was cut from Goochland.

“1746 totals:

Southam Parish 1256

Northam Parish 1186
King William Parish 208
Total tithes 2650

“The tithe list was made in June and included all male persons of sixteen years and upward, also all negro, mulatto and Indian including women sixteen years and above. (Names of servants are not included in this transcription but is available in most cases on the original.)”

COMMENT:

The compiler does not tell us where the original is located.

1746

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Tax roll

“Tithes List Southam Parish by George Carrington 1746 [sic]¹²²”

COMMENT:

Nothing found of obvious relevance.

“St. James Northam Parish”

COMMENT:

Nothing found of obvious relevance.

10 JUNE 1746

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Tax roll

“Tithe List Southam Parish by Thos. Turpin 10 June 1746”¹²³

COMMENT:

This lengthy list contains no Watts or Mills entries. It does cover

- Silvanus Witt, 1 [tithe] [later of Henry Co.]
- Several Maxey/Maxcy males who later appear in Henry and Franklin.¹²⁴

25 JULY 1746

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VIRGINIA

Neighbor

“John Chafin, 300a, Goochland Co., between Great Guinea Cr and Willis R, James Allen’s line, **William Mills**, John Martin, Beverley Randolph Esq., the sd. Chafin, on James Allen.”¹²⁵

28 AUGUST 1746

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land grant

For 40 shillings, grant to “**William Mills, son of William Mills of Aberdeen,**” 380 acres on “**both sides of Pidy Rock Rua** [Run] of **Willis River**, Goochland County, bounded as follows:

¹²² A. Jean Lurvey, *Goochland Co., Virginia, Tithe Lists, 1735–47* (Springfield, MO: P.p., n.d.), 5–7.

¹²³ A. Jean Lurvey, *Goochland Co., Virginia, Tithe Lists, 1735–47* (Springfield, MO: P.p., n.d.), 9.

¹²⁴ See E. S. Mills, “Mills: Henry and Pittsylvania Counties, Virginia: Preliminary Survey,” report to file, 28 August 2018; and “Mills & Associates: Franklin & Floyd Counties, Virginia: Initial Survey,” report to file, 28 August 2018; both archived at *Historic Pathways* under the “Research” tab.

¹²⁵ J. Philip Bowry III, “Virginia Land Patent Book 25, Pages 1–288,” *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 28 (May 1990): p. 123; citing Land Patent Book 25:137.

Beginning at Pointers **Ralph Kippings** Corner running thence a New Line North Seventy five Degrees East two hundred and four Poles crossing **Pidy Rock Run** to Pointers_(,) thence on **Anthony Levellain's** North thirty Degrees East nineteen Poles crossing a Branch to Pointers_(,) North Seventy Degrees East two hundred and four Poles to Pointers_(,) thence on **William Daniel** South nineteen and an half Degree East one hundred and fifty nine poles to Pointers_(,) thence a new Line South nineteen Degrees East one hundred Poles to Pointers, North Seventy Degrees West two hundred and give Poles to Pointers_(,) thence on **William Easley** North thirty five Degrees West forty five Poles to a White Oak_(,) South fifty five Degrees West two hundred and one Poles crossing two Branches of Pidy Rocky Run to Pointers_(,) Thence on **Ralph Kipping** north thirty five Degrees West one hundred and Seventy eight Poles to the first Station."¹²⁶

COMMENT:

- This land would fall into Cumberland County and part of it would later be sold in 1759 by its owner "William Mills of Cumberland County" (no wife involved), during the time that William and Mary Mills lived in Amherst.

26 FEBRUARY 1759

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA

Land Sale.

"**William Mills** of Cumb to John Seay, no wr date. {acreage?} land on the branches **Pidy Rock Ck in Cumb**, bd William Mills, Williams Daniel, William Easly. Wit James Taylor Jr., John Fransisco, George Francisco. Recd 26 Feb 1759. {William Easley grt 20 August 1747 Goochland 400a on both sides of **Pidey Rock Run of Willis's River**.}"¹²⁷

- Mills's location here was cited in 24 August 1761, when his neighbor Daniels sold part of his land:

"William Daniel of Cumberland to John Seay 4 Aug 1761, recd 24 Aug 1761, £8, 25a in Cumberland on the Heads of **Pidy Rock** and **Bear Cr**, bd John Seays, **William Mills**, John Taylor, Warham Easleys Church Road. No wit."¹²⁸

- Pidy Rock is said by one area researcher to be "north of Cairo" [Ca ira].¹²⁹
- William Daniel is said to have acquired a tract of 400 acres in Cumberland on a "br of TearWallet Ck" adjoining William Mills, 26 Sep **1760**.¹³⁰ USGS topographical maps show Tear Wallet, in Cumberland County, as a branch of Guinea Creek, headed north then northwest; its juncture with Guinea is slightly northwest of Stony Point Mills.¹³¹ "Tar Wallet Church" is

¹²⁶ Library of Virginia, "Land Office Grants," database with images, *Virginia Memory* (http://image.lva.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/GetLONN.pl?first=230&last=&g_p=P25&collection=LO_Patent : downloaded 20 May 2018), "Mills, William, grantee ... Goochland County ... 380 acres on both sides of Pidy Rock Rua [sic] of Willis River; citing "Land Office Patents No. 25, 1745-1747, p. 230 (Reel 23).

¹²⁷ Diane Jones <dijon at ckt.net>, "(Bolling5) Children of Ann ____ Bolling Amoss," posted 14 October 2013, *Bolling Research Mailing List* (http://bolling5.com/pipermail/bollingresearch_bolling5.com/2013-October/007690.html : accessed 28 May 2016), citing "Cumb 2-450."

¹²⁸ Diane Jones <dijon at ckt.net>, "(Bolling5) Children of Ann ____ Bolling Amoss," posted 14 October 2013, *Bolling Research Mailing List* (http://bolling5.com/pipermail/bollingresearch_bolling5.com/2013-October/007690.html : accessed 28 May 2016), citing "Cumb 3-193).

¹²⁹ Diane Jones <dijon at ckt.net>, "(Bolling5) Children of Ann ____ Bolling Amoss," posted 14 October 2013, *Bolling Research Mailing List* (http://bolling5.com/pipermail/bollingresearch_bolling5.com/2013-October/007690.html : accessed 28 May 2016).

¹³⁰ "Index of Pool," *Direct Line Software* (www.directlinesoftware.com/Pool/cumberland.txt : accessed 7 June 2018), Cumberland link, "item 45," citing "VPB 33:937-1."

¹³¹ *Topozone* (<https://www.topozone.com/virginia/cumberland-va/stream/tear-wallet-creek/> : accessed 7 June 2018).

said to have been “built about 1750 as a church of **Southam Parish**, later of Littleton Parish.¹³²

19 JANUARY 1747

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Thomas Watts of the County of Goochland [*sic*] to John Hughens of the County of Carolin[e] Planter, sells for 5 shillings, 200 acres in the County of Goochland, part of a tract granted to **James Bliven** ... on the South side the **Little Muddy Creek**, described as

Beginning at two Spanish Oaks by the side of a branch and running thence North 68 Degrees East Eight six Poles to a White Oak, South 18 Degrees East 552 Poles to Pointers on **Ashford Hughes**, thence on his line the same Course Continued 158 Poles to Pointers by the side of a Path, thence on **Thomas Flippen** South 82 Degrees West 80 Poles to Pointers, thence on Robert Douglas South 89 Degrees West 158 Poles crossing Little Muddy Creek to a Small White Oak, thence to **John Hudson** North 29 Degrees West crossing the Creek 52 Poles to a White Oak in the Lowgrounds, North 60 Degrees East 57 Poles to Pointers, and North 18 Degrees East 98 Poles to the first station.

[Signed] Thomas Watts. Witnesses: Fran. (F his mark) Steager, Geo. Carrington, **R. Walton**, Thomas Tabb 20 January 1747, proved at court by George Carrington, Thomas Tabb, and **Robert Walton**.¹³³

COMMENT:

Ashford Hughes, 1729–44, received 4 grants in Goochland along Muddy Creek and William River, one of them (1744) adjoining Thomas and William **Walton**.¹³⁴

George Carrington, 1743–49, received 3 grants totaling some 10,000 acres on “both sides of Bear Garden Creek,” Randolph Creek & Bear” and Willis River.¹³⁵

Thomas Tabb received one grant 10 June 1837 in Goochland “btw Angola & Green Cks of Appomatt.”¹³⁶

14 MARCH 1747

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Thomas Watts of the Parish of **Southam** in the County of Goochland to **John Hudson** of St. Margret Parish, County of Caroline, sale for 29 £, 200 acres on both sides of **Little Muddy Creek**, being land that Thomas Watts purchased from “John Bliven ... being part of a Greater Tract of Land taken up [by] James Bliven the Father to said John Bliven” described as

Beginning at two Spanish Oaks by the side of a branch and running thence South 68 Degrees West 74 pool [*sic*] to a dead Spanish Oak, North 22 degrees West Crossing the Creek 69 pools to a red Oak, South 42 Degrees 280 Pools to pointer, North 89 Degrees East 128 pools to **Robert**

¹³² *The WPA Guide to Virginia: The Old Dominion State* (c.1941; reprint, San Antonio, TX: Trinity University Press, 2013), unpaginated; locatable under Tour 8, section b “Richmond to Lexington.”

¹³³ Goochland Co., VA, Deed Book 5 with Willis, Inventories, Etc., 1745–1749: 366–67.

¹³⁴ “Index of Pool,” *Direct Line Software* (www.directlinesoftware.com/Pool/cumberland.txt : accessed 7 June 2018), Cumberland link, “items” 54, 58, 76, 100; citing “VPB 13:408–9, 14:403 23:726.”

¹³⁵ “Index of Pool,” *Direct Line Software* (www.directlinesoftware.com/Pool/cumberland.txt : accessed 7 June 2018), Cumberland link, “items” 403, 412, 413; citing “VPB 22:4, 23 p1048-1050; and 27:336–37.”

¹³⁶ “Index of Pool,” *Direct Line Software* (www.directlinesoftware.com/Pool/cumberland.txt : accessed 7 June 2018), Cumberland link, “item 306,” citing “VPB 17:323-1.”

Dugleses Corner Pine, thence on his line the same Course continuing 64 Pools to a small white oak, thence on New Lines North 20 degrees East 52 pools Crossing the Creek to a White Oak in the Lowgrounds of the Creek North 60 East fifty Seven pools to pointer, North 18 Degrees East 98 pools in Several Courses thereof to the Beginning.

Signed: **Thomas Watts, Mary Watts.**

Witnesses: **Ambrose Hudgens, Williams Daniel, Thos. Coleman.**

15 March 1747

Thomas Watts acknowledged this Deed with the Livery of Seizin¹³⁷

COMMENT:

In using the original (filmed) records of Goochland, I skimmed all pre-1755 deed & will books, page-by-page. That period represents eight years past the date that Thomas Watts & wife Sarah Mills sold their land. I found no further references to Watts (or to a Mills) who bought or sold property or witnessed the documents of others.

Post-1755, I had time only to read the original indexes.

Regarding the other individuals in this deed who help us identify this William Watts:

William Daniel was a resident of Tear Wallet Creek and adjacent landowner to **William Mills of Pidy Run** ("son of William Mills of **Aberdeen**") in **Cumberland County**. See 28 August 1746 above.

Ambrose Hudgens received a grant on "branches of Willis River," 12 January 1757. The other individuals cited in this document are not included in the Direct Line database.¹³⁸

Immediately following the Watts deed is the 25 May 1747 will of **William Walton Sr.** of Goochland who leaves land in Albemarle County to the following:

eldest son **William** (N side of James River just below mouth of Hareway River), youngest son **Jesse** (400 acres in Albemarle on S side of James, including fork of Slate River), eldest daughter **Susannah** (N fork of Slate River joining Patterson), daughter **Mary**, 125 acres in Albemarle on S side of James joining land given above to Jesse), daughter **Anne** (400 acres in Albemarle on S side of James on N fork of Slate, joining land given to Jesse), daughter **Louisa** (400 a in Albemarle on S side of James on N fork of Slate, adjoining Ann), daughter **Frances**, after her Mother's decease (400 acres in Goochland on N side of James River, it being the place where I now live." Executors: Wife (not named), John Cobb and George Walton. Witnesses: Geo. Walton, James (E his mark) Prophet. Proved in Goochland 16 March 1747, the day after Thomas Watts's deed. (pp. 379-81)

The son William, later known as William Walton Sr. of Albemarle, in late-life married Mildred "Millie" (Mills), daughter of William and Mary Mills of Albemarle and widow of William Lavender. His brother Jesse was the Revolutionary War captain (Patriot side) who hanging of William Mills Jr. of Albemarle, Millie's brother.¹³⁹

¹³⁷ Goochland Co., VA, Deed Book 5 with Willis, Inventories, Etc., 1745–1749, pp. 377–79.

¹³⁸ "Index of Pool," *Direct Line Software* (www.directlinesoftware.com/Pool/cumberland.txt : accessed 7 June 2018), Cumberland link, "item 20," citing "VPB 25:488-1."

¹³⁹ See affidavit of Revolutionary War pensioner William Walton Jr., abstracted in E. S. Mills, "William Mills (c1695–1766), Spouse Mary Walton?: Research Notes," a working file last updated 28 August 2018; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the "Research" tab.

JUNE 1747–JUNE 1748

ALBEMARLE-AMHERST COUNTIES, VA [CUT FROM GOOCHLAND]

Land grant

Report by Johua Fry, Gentleman, Surveyor, listing surveys he had made in Albemarle (now Amherst) between June 1747 and June 1748. The list includes:

William Mills	54 acres
Marvel Stone	390 acres
Thomas Stone	130 acres, 200 acres
Thomas Watts	335 acres ¹⁴⁰

COMMENT:

- Whether the occupant of the 54 acres was William Sr. or Jr. is undetermined.
- No other Millses or Wattses are included.

1 OCTOBER 1747

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Neighbor

*“Robert Kent, 260a, Goochland Co, on both sides of Pidey Fork of Willis’s R, at Anthony Christian’s pointer in Orlando Hughes’s line, in Ralph Flippin’s line, on William Mills to Miles’s [Mills’s] pointer in Levillian’s line.”*¹⁴¹

21 MAY 1748

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA

Vestry minute

*“To the Honorable Vesterry of Southam Parish We the Subscribers Have p[r]ocessed the Lands in our precincts hereafter mentioned ... Arch Carys present Arch Cary, William Easleys present Worum Easley, & James Daniels Lands no Attendance to Shoe [show] the line, Colquits no Attendance given to Shoe the lines, William Millses no Attendance, John Archers no Attendance, William Chumles patent not out, Robert Kents patent not out, John Reterfords patent not out, Errors Excepted p Thomas Harvey. [Signed] William Trigg.”*¹⁴²

COMMENT:

At the time assigned for the processioning, no one was on William Mills’s land to point out the boundaries.

This land was patented in August 1746. He was taxed in this neighborhood, adjacent to Easley, in 1745. Clearly, he had already settled on the land by 1745.

JUNE 1748 – JUNE 1749

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA [CUT FROM GOOCHLAND 1748]

Land survey

William Mills. Survey, 54 acres, by Joshua Fry, Gent.¹⁴³

¹⁴⁰ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807; and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 1, 3.

¹⁴¹ J. Philip Bowry III, “Virginia Land Patent Book 28,” *Magazine of Virginia Genealogy* 30 (February 1992): 36; citing p. 260.

¹⁴² Ann K. Blomquist, *The Vestry Book of Southam Parish, Cumberland County, Virginia, 1745–1792* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 29.

¹⁴³ Bailey Fulton Davis, *The Deeds of Amherst County, Virginia, 1761–1807; and Albemarle County, Virginia, 1748–1763* (Greenville, SC: Southern Historical Press, 1979), 2; citing Albemarle Order Book 1744–1748, p. 364.

COMMENT:

Using the online land grants I have not been able to find this grant under any conceivable variant spelling or misreading.

10 JUNE 1748

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

“List of Tithes Southam Parish by Creed Haskins¹⁴⁴

1 [Tithe] **Sylvanes Witt**

“Northam Parish 10 June 1748”

3 Thos. Massie, Richard Showers

[skip 11]

14 “**ye estate of Jno. Massie: Wm. Mullins, Peter Massie**”

[skip 11]

36 Peter Jefferson

[skip 17]

1 **John Wotts** [sic]

1 Jno Hatton

4 David **Massie**

[skip 18]

1 **John Peace**

[skip 19]

9 Capt. **Wm. Massie** tithes, Robt. Richardson

4 Jno Moss

2 **Peter Massie Jr.**

2 Jno. Kerby, **Fras. Kerby**

COMMENT:

- Men named John Kerby and Francis Kerby appear in Brunswick records jointly with William & Mary Mills of Lickinghole Creek.
- Men of the same name appear a generation later in Henry jointly with William & Elizabeth (Fontaine) Mills. See my Henry County report, cited herein.

1 APRIL 1749

GOOCHLAND COUNTY [ALBEMARLE]

Land grant

On payment of 40 shillings, grant made and confirmed unto **William Mills**. 400 acres in Goochland County “on both sides of **Pedlar River and Dancing Creek**” bounded as follows:

“Beginning at two Spanish Oaks on the North Side the said River[,] running Thence down the same and across making in a Right line two hundred and twenty Poles to a Willow Tree on the South Side [of] the River[,] Thence into the Woods North twenty five Degrees West at one hundred and seventy a Branch[,] in all two hundred and thirty Poles to a red Oak near a Branch[,] North two hundred and sixty Poles crossing two Branches and **Dancing Creek** to two Dogwoods and a Gum[,] South seventy

¹⁴⁴ A. Jean Lurvey, *Goochland Co., Virginia, Tithe Lists, 1748–49* (Springfield, MO: P.p., n.d.), 4. The index has no references to Childs, Chiles, Larwood/Learwood, or Lavender.

six Degrees east at seventy six [to] Pedlar River[,] in all two hundred and sixteen Poles to Pointers on the side of Valley[,] and South twenty Degrees West two hundred and twenty Poles to Beginning.”¹⁴⁵

9 AUGUST 1749

LUNENBURG COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Thomas Watts and **Sarah**, his wife of Albemarle County, sell to Peter Bays, “of aforesaid county,” for 35 pounds, land in Albemarle County, on the North side of Pedlar River, containing 400 acres, described as

Beginning at a Hicory saplin, Running from thence by marked Trees to a White Oak in a valey, from thence to a Hicory saplin from thence to a pine, from thence to four Dogwood saplins and Thence along a line to pointers and Thence along a line to pointers and Thence along a line to the place Began.”

Signed: Thomas (WT his mark) Watts. Witnesses: Edmond Harrison, Richard Powell, Thomas Smith. August Court, 1749: Thomas Watts acknowledged the deed.¹⁴⁶

COMMENT:

- Pedlar River was a short branch of the Fluvanna/James, lying in the western “butt” of Albemarle. To the south of the Fluvanna was Lunenburg. In 1754, Prince Edward County (where the Learwoods lived) would be created from Amelia, as well as the part of Lunenburg that lay south of the Fluvanna.
- Sarah did not sign or make her mark. The evidence does not show she was actually present. In most other deeds in this record set, the wife *did* sign or acknowledge the sale.
- Skimming this “Will & Deed” book, reveals that most men who appear in these records (i.e., yeoman class and above) could sign their names. Most women could not.

COMMENT:

This is the Thomas Watts who married Sarah Mills, daughter of William Mills of Pedlar River. **Note that he signed the document with his mark “WT,” while the Thomas Watts of Goochland, with wife Mary, signed his full name to the sale.**

29 JANUARY 1750

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA

Vestry order

“Ordr. that Williams Daniel **William Mills** & William Trigg on the 11th Day of November next begin & procession all the lands between the County Line Bowlings Buckingham & the main County Roads & make their Return according to Law.”¹⁴⁷

12–14 APRIL 1750

ALBEMARLE COUNTY [FORMERLY GOOCHLAND]

¹⁴⁵ Library of Virginia, “Land Office Grants,” database with images, *Virginia Memory* (http://image.lva.virginia.gov/cgi-bin/GetLONN.pl?first=539&last=&g_p=P288&collection=LO_Patent : downloaded 20 May 2018), “Mills, William, grantee ... Albemarle County ... 400 acres on both sides of Pedlar River and on Dancing Creek”; citing “Land Office Patents No. 28, 1746–1749 (v. 1 & w p.1–730), p. 539 (Reel 26).”

¹⁴⁶ Albemarle Co., Va., Wills & Deeds, Book 1: 96–97. Peter Bays did not keep the land. On 13 December 1760 William Gilliam sold it to Nicholas Davis of Cumberland County, saying that Thomas had received patent for the 400 acres “on branches of Pedlar River” on 5 April 1748. No neighbors were named. See Sparacio, *Albemarle County, Virginia, Deed Abstract, 1761–1764* (N.P.: Antient Press, 1988), 4.

¹⁴⁷ Ann K. Blomquist, *The Vestry Book of Southam Parish, Cumberland County, Virginia, 1745–1792* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 54.

Land survey

“**Wm Mills**’ 350 ac; Ap 12, 1750; on branches Buck Creek; by William Cabell, joining **Edward Watts Jr.**”

“**William Mills**; 330 ac; Ap 13, 1750; on branches Buck branch; by William Cabell; joining **Thos. Mills**, John Davis, Isham Davis.”

“Thos. Smith, 350 ac; Ap 14 1750; on Pedlar River; by William Cabell; joining **Wm Mills**, **Edward Watts**, **John Stones.**”¹⁴⁸

21 AUGUST 1750

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Land sale

Franc. Kerby to **John Payne**, both of Goochland, “for and in Consideration of the sd **John Payne** Entering into Bond for the Conveying a Certain Tract of Land containing three hundred & twenty Acres lying in the County of Albemarle on **Breamo Creek** ... Kerby conveys to Payne land in Goochland “on the Branches of **Lickinghole & Wild Bore Creeks**,” 150 acres being a Dividend of Land the sd. Frs. Kirby bought of **William Mills** by Deed baring date” 12 March 1733. Described as:

Beginning at a corner Hickory thence South 36 degrees East 148 Poles to a corner white Oak, thence S 54 Degrees West 110 Poles to a large corner Pine, thence N 36 Degrees West 148 Poles to a corner Pine, thence North 54 Degrees East 110 Poles to the beginning.

Signed: Francis Kearby.

Witnesses: Wm. Michell, Wm. Payne, **Josias Payne**

21 Aug 1750 proved by oaths of Willm. Michell, Wm. Payne, Josias Payne, “Recd. Pr. Me, Francis Kearby.”

21 August 1750

“At a Court held for Goochland County ... Francis Kerby Acknowledged this Deed with the Livery of Seizin & receipt Endorsed to be his Acts & Deeds which were ord^d to be recorded. Then **Mary, wife of the sd Kerby** (being first Privately examined) relinquished her right of Dower in the Land.”¹⁴⁹

COMMENT:

The 1750–52 tax rolls of Lunenburg show Ambrose Mills acting as overseer for the absentee landowner John Payne. Payne was a large-scale landholder for whom purchases and sales can be found across numerous Piedmont and Southside Virginia counties.

16 MAY 1752

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA

Vestry order

“Richard Cardwell, John Cardwell, Saml. Phelps, **Wm. Daniel**, Wm. Trigg, **Wm. Mills**, **Wm. Womack**, John Woodson, Wm. Arnald, Wm. Clay & Henry Clay, Samburn Woodson, George Owen ... & Alexr. Trent Order that the above Returns Entered be Recorded.”¹⁵⁰

10? OCTOBER 1752?

GOOCHLAND & ALBERMARLE COUNTIES, VA

Land sale

¹⁴⁸ Eric G. Grundset, “Land Lying in the County of Albemarle:” *Albemarle County, Virginia Surveyors’ Plat Books, Volume 1, Parts 1 and 2, and Volume 2, 1744–1853 [and 1891]* (Fairfax, VA: Privately printed, 1998), 31–32; citing vol. 1, pp. 127, 133.

¹⁴⁹ Goochland Co., VA, Deed Book 6, 1748–1855, pp. 85–88.

¹⁵⁰ Ann K. Blomquist, *The Vestry Book of Southam Parish, Cumberland County, Virginia, 1745–1792* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 69.

“**William Witt** of the County of Albemarle, planter, and **John Witt Junr.** of the County of Goochland planter & **Elizabeth his Wife**,” sell to Richard Johnson of Louisa, Gent., for 60£ 150 acres in Goochland [m & b] adjoining Thomas Farrar, Augustine Webber, Richard Johnson, John Barnett, being “the one moiety or half part of three hundred Acres of Land purchase by the said Wm. Witt & his Brother John Witt, father of the said **John Witt** party to these presents, of one Charles Hudson, late of the Coty [*sic*] of Hanover ... 1715. Signed **William Witt, John Witt Junr., Elizabeth** (her \ mark) **Witt**. Witnesses: John Farrar, **John Witt**, David Barnett, **Silvanus Witt, Jesse Witt**.¹⁵¹

COMMENT:

This John Jr. of the 1752 deed appears to be the older John in Henry County records of the 1780s. (See my Henry County report, cited herein.)

Sylvanus Witt, Jesse Witt, and David Witt—together with a John Witt who identified Jesse as his son—are subsequently found in the records of Henry County, Virginia.¹⁵²

4 FEBRUARY 1755
GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA
Marriage

William Johnson to **Elizabeth Mills**¹⁵³

COMMENT:

Hiden’s extensive genealogy of the Nicholas Mills family does not place this Elizabeth into that family. She does note the four Mills marriages that are documentable from the St. James Parish register of Rev. Douglas, as follows:

- William Johnson and **Elizabeth Mills**, m. Feb. 4, 1755 had two children born or baptized in St. James: Jeremiah June 15, 1757 and Judith June 2, 1758.
- Philip Ryan and **Elizabeth Mills** had a daughter Elizabeth born or baptized 26 May 1773 and a son Thomas on 10 December 1775.
- Samuel Woodson and **Sarah Mills** had twins Wm. Fontaine and Jos. LeVillaine born or baptized 30 January 1783.
- **William Mills** & Eliz. Fontaine had a son George born or baptized 11 April 1782.

The last three couples by 1770 or so had all settled the region that would become Henry Co. See my Henry Co. report, cited herein.

11 AUGUST 1755
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA
Vestry order

“Ordered that Williams Daniel **William Mills** and William Trigg on the 10th Day of November next Begin and ProceSSION all the Lands and Renew and mark the several lines Between Bollings Road Buckingame

¹⁵¹ Goochland Co., VA, Deed Book 6, 1748–1855, pp. 226–27. One Whitt genealogy alleges (without evidence) that David Barnett and John Farrar were married to daughters of “John Witt (II)” and wife Ann Rogers, whose other children were Sylvanus, Sarah, John II, Catherine m. to William Matlock, Susannah m. to Charles Husley Sr., and Judith m. to James Tuley. See David F. Whitt, *Ancestors and Descendants of William Whitt, 1775–1850* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2004), 51–52.

¹⁵² See E. S. Mills, “Mills: Henry and Pittsylvania Counties, Virginia: Preliminary Survey,” report to file, 28 August 2018; archived at *Historic Pathways* under the “Research” tab.

¹⁵³ W. Mac. Jones, trans. and ed., *The Douglas Register: Being a detailed record of Births, Marriages and Deaths together with other interesting notes, as kept by the Rev. William Douglas, from 1750 to 1797* (1928; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1977), 29; citing p. 1. Also see Fred Sorrell, ed., *A Research Index to The Douglas Register* (St. James Northam Parish, Goochland County, Virginia (Goochland: Goochland County Historical Society, 2005).

Road the Main Road and the County line and make their Return according to law.”¹⁵⁴

10 NOVEMBER 1755

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA

Vestry order

“In obedience to an order of Vestry for Southam Parrish we the subscribers have procession’d all the lands Underneath mentioned and mark’d the several lines (Biz) William Triggs Land, Daniel Colemans Himself Present, Adolphus Hendricks himself Present, **Williams Daniels himself Present, Tarewallet Church** land Thomas Guttrys himself Present, James Browns himself Present, John Kendalls Present, John Harrelson Robert Kents himself Present, **William Mills’s** Robert Hudgens’s himself Present, Warham **Easleys** himself Present, Thomas Johns’s Henry Gerratts himself Present, Alexander Speir’s Present, Mr. Thos. Tabb & John Harrelson, Alexander Trents James Wilkins’s himself Present.

Anthony Levillions Decd. John Martins }

Ralph Flippins, John Bullocks, Zachr. Terrys } Nobody to shew the lines and Not Processioned.

[Signed] Williams Daniel, William Trigg, **William Mills.**”¹⁵⁵

COMMENT:

Ralph Flippins/Kipping, William Daniels, and Anthony LaVillaine were adjacent landowners to the Pidy River tract that was patented in 1746 to William Mills “son of William Mills of Aberdeen.”

Given that the lands seem to be listed in the order in which they were visited, it would appear that William Mills’s lands were just six tracts removed from the parish church.

18 NOVEMBER 1755

CUMBERLAND COUNTY (FORMERLY GOOCHLAND)

“Deed, Zachariah Terry, of Cumberland, to **William Daniel**, of Caroline, 200 acres in Cumberland, lying on both sides of Randolph road, part of a tract **formerly belonging to William Mills**. Daniel Coleman a witness.”¹⁵⁶

19 APRIL 1756

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA

Vestry minute

“The Returns of the several processioners are as followeth (to witt)
Charles Anderson Thomas Williams John Woodson & George Wright
Edward Mackgeh Charles Lee and Nehemiah Glen
Humphrey Keeble Wm. Hambleton & Wm. Watson
Williams Daniel Wm. Trigg **Wm. Mills**

John Cook John Nelson and William Walker ...” [and 18 more groups of three]¹⁵⁷

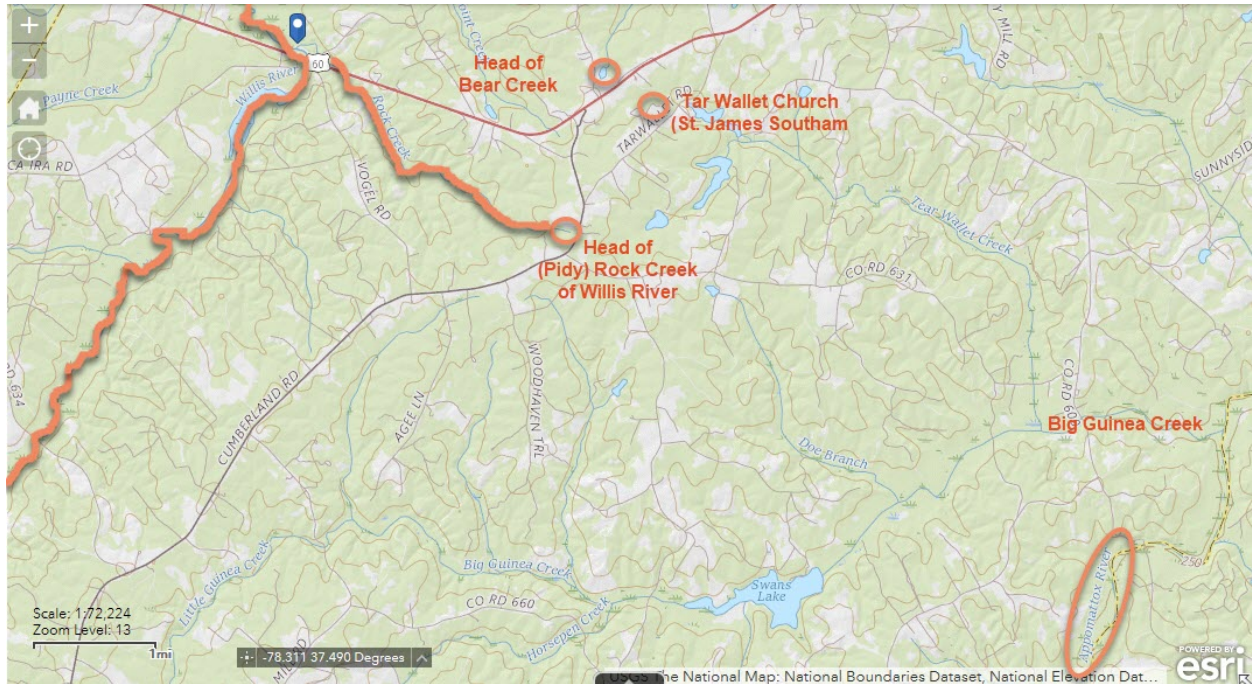
¹⁵⁴ Ann K. Blomquist, *The Vestry Book of Southam Parish, Cumberland County, Virginia, 1745–1792* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 79.

¹⁵⁵ Ann K. Blomquist, *The Vestry Book of Southam Parish, Cumberland County, Virginia, 1745–1792* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 89.

¹⁵⁶ W. B. Newman, “Captain William Daniel, of Middlesex: Some of His Descendants, and Other Daniels of Virginia,” *Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine* 14 (1933): 237–42; 15 (1933): 38–64; reprinted as *Genealogies of Virginia Families; From Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Gary Parks, ed. 4 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1981), 1: 507.

¹⁵⁷ Ann K. Blomquist, *The Vestry Book of Southam Parish, Cumberland County, Virginia, 1745–1792* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 86.

Map 3
Site of William Mills “of Aberdeen” at Heads of Pidy, Bear, and Tar Wallet Creeks



26 FEBRUARY 1759
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA
Land sale

“William Mills of Cumb to John Seay, no wr date. {acreage?} land on the branches **Pidy Rock Ck in Cumb**, bd *William Mills, Williams Daniel, William Easley*. Wit James Taylor Jr., John Fransisco, George Francisco. Recd 26 Feb 1759. {William Easley grt 20 August 1747 Goochland 400a on both sides of **Pidey Rock Run of Willis’s River.**}”¹⁵⁸

COMMENT:

The document represented by this abstract, with the cited neighbors, link this William to the 1745 tax list on which William Mills and William Easley were adjacent.

11 AUGUST 1759
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA
Vestry order

“Order that Williams Daniel Robert Kent **William Mills** and John Seay on the 10th Day of November Next Begin and P[r]osession All the Lands and Renew and mark the several Lines Between Bollings Road the

¹⁵⁸ Diane Jones <dijon at ckt.net>, “(Bolling5) Children of Ann ____ Bolling Amoss,” posted 14 October 2013, *Bolling Research Mailing List* (http://bolling5.com/pipermail/bollingresearch_bolling5.com/2013-October/007690.html : accessed 28 May 2016), citing “Cumb 2-450.”

Main Road Bickingham Road and the County Line and make their Return according to law.”¹⁵⁹

CA. NOVEMBER 1759

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA

Tax roll

District of John Watts, Constable [Copied in sequence as numbered on the roll]¹⁶⁰

Jeffer, Thos.

Evans, John

Goff, Sam

Hutcheson, Mathew

Devenport, Julis

Johns, Thos.

Henerot

Wilson, Thos.

Kent, Robert

Dowdy, Jeames

Easley, Worrone [Warham, son and heir of William]

Mills, William **3 tithes**

Lee, John

Feilds, Bartle

Honey, John

Honey, Rudolph

Perrey, Saml.

McGuiar, Zack.

Huges, William

Turnor, Meggah

Hallawa, Saml.

Brukey, Jarot

COMMENT:

This list is dated only to the year. However, the corresponding list for Constable Joel Walker's district is date 25 November 1759.

26 MARCH 1760

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA

P[r]ossessioners returns

“Pursuant to an order of vestry baring Date the 11th Day of August 1759 we the subscribers Have Possessioned the lands & Renewed the lines between Bollings Road the Main Road Buckingham Road & the County line as followeth Beginning the 10th Day of November 1759 & Possessioned. **Warham Easleys** Land, himself Present & shewed the lines, **William Daniels** Land Possessioned, himself Present & shewed the lines, **John Seays** land Possessioned, himself Present & shewed the lines. the **Church acre** Possessioned, John Seay & Gideon Seay Present. one line of Henry Garrots between Him & **Ralph Fliping** Possessioned, Garrott Present & not knowing any more of his Lines. Thomas Gutterys land Possessioned, himself Present & shewed the lines. William Samsons land Possessioned, himself Present and Shewed the lines. Robert Kents land Possessioned, himself Present & shewed the lines. Benjamin Hendricks land

¹⁵⁹ Ann K. Blomquist, *The Vestry Book of Southam Parish, Cumberland County, Virginia, 1745–1792* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 117.

¹⁶⁰ Patti Sue McCrary, *Cumberland County, Virginia, Tithable Lists for 1759* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007), 8, 12.

Possessioned, himself Present and shewed the lines. **William Daniels** land Possessioned, Himself Present & shewed the lines. Daniel Coleman Senr. land Possessioned, himself Present & shewed the lines. Maurice Langhorns land Possessioned, himself Present & shewed the lines, James Daniels land Possessioned, **Williams Daniel** shewed the lines. **William Mills** land Possessioned, himself Present & shewed the lines, James Browns land Possessioned, John Hill showed the lines. The following lands have not bin Possessioned: Alexander Trents land not Possessioned his overseers not knowing his lines ... and Anthony Levillions land is not Possessioned there living no body on Either of there Lands to shew their lines, Given under our hands this Twenty sixth Day of March 1760. [Signed] Williams Daniel, Robert Kent, **William Mills**, John Seay.”¹⁶¹

22 NOVEMBER 1760
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA

Vestry order

“P[r]ossessioners Returns. Williams Daniel, Robert Kent, **William Mills** & John Seay Return to be Recorded.”¹⁶²

23 JULY 1763
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA

Vestry order

“Ordered that Williams Daniel John Seay **William Mills** and Henry Scruggs on the 10th Day of November Next begin and Possession all the lands and Renew and mark the several lines Between Bollings Road the Main Ridg Road Buckingham Road and the County line & Make their Return according to law.”¹⁶³

10 NOVEMBER 1763
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA

Vestry minute

“Pursuant to an order of vestry for Southam Parrish bearing Date 23rd July 1763. We Williams Daniel John Seay **William Mills** and Henry Scruggs did on the **Tenth of November** begin and Renew the lines of the Church Land, Prsent Daniel Coleman and Henery Harman. The lines between **Warham Easey** and **William Mills** Renewd, both Parties Present. The lines between Benja Hendrick & Richd Barker Renewd, Benja Hendrick And Jno Telptra[?] Present, the line between **Anthony Levillion** & Benja Hendrick ... the line between Robert Kent and **William Mills** Renewd, both Parties Present. the line between **William Mills** and **Anthony {Le} Villion, Present Wm. Mills** ... [several Scruggs lines], the line between The said [Henry] Scruggs and **Wm. Mills** Renewd, both Parties Present”¹⁶⁴

30 APRIL 1764
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA

Vestry minute

“The line Between William Daniel and Wharham Easley Renewed, Warham Easley Present. the line between James Wilkins and Peter Campbell from the County line Renewed, James Wilkins Present The line between the said Wilkins and Alexr Trent Renewed, James Wilkins Present. the line between the

¹⁶¹ Ann K. Blomquist, *The Vestry Book of Southam Parish, Cumberland County, Virginia, 1745–1792* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 141–42.

¹⁶² Ann K. Blomquist, *The Vestry Book of Southam Parish, Cumberland County, Virginia, 1745–1792* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 141.

¹⁶³ Ann K. Blomquist, *The Vestry Book of Southam Parish, Cumberland County, Virginia, 1745–1792* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 153.

¹⁶⁴ Ann K. Blomquist, *The Vestry Book of Southam Parish, Cumberland County, Virginia, 1745–1792* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 180.

said Wilkins and Peterfield Trent to Bollings Road Renewd, James Wilkins Present. Given under our hands this 30th of April 1764. [Signed] Williams Daniel, John Seay, **William Mills**, Henry Scruggs.” Recorded 27 February 1765.¹⁶⁵

27 FEBRUARY 1765

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA

Vestry minute

“The Returns of the several P[r]ossessioners are as followeth viz:

[skip 20 teams of 3 or 4 men]

Williams Daniel John Seay **Wm. Mills** and Henry Scruggs to be Registered.”¹⁶⁶

26 MARCH–SEPTEMBER 1765

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, VA

Chancery suit

James Lyle vs. **William Mills**.¹⁶⁷

(Doc. 1)

Wrapper label: “Lyle vs. Mills. Bill. April 1765 ... June Att^{ce} Sept decree”

“To the worshipful court of Cumberland county sitting in chancery.

“Humbly complaining sheweth unto your worships your orator James Lyle of the county of Chesterfield that on or about the thirteenth day of September in the year of our lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty three **William Mills** of the said County of Cumberland being or pretending to be seised & possessed of in fee, or of some other good & sufficient estate of inheritance of and in the lands tenements hereditaments and slaves herein after named, and being indebted to your orator in the Sum of one hundred & thirteen pounds, ten shillings & five pence currt. money did propose to mortgage to your orator the said lands tenements and slaves which he did affirm to your orator were free from all prior incumbrances. And your orator further sheweth unto your worships that the said **William Mills** for and in consideration of securing to your orator the payment of the said one hundred and thirteen pounds, ten shillings & five pence, with interest from the **fifteenth day of September 1763** til paid, & for the sum of five shillings to the sd. Wm. Mills in hand paid by yr. orator, [marginal insert:] which yr oror [orator], expressly charges was freely paid by yr. oror. to the sd. Wm. Millls, [end of marginal note] by indenture bearing date the thirteenth day of September one thousand Seven hundred & sixty three & made between the Said **William Mills** of the one part & your orator of the other part, did grant bargain sell alien release & confirm unto your oror. his heirs and assigns for ever a certain tract or parcel of land containing three hundred & eighty acres lying & being in the county of Cumberland on both sides of **Pidy Rock Run of Willis River** & bounded as followeth, to wit:”

Beginning at pointers **Ralph Flippings** corner, running thence a new line N 75 degrees E 204 poles crossing pidy rock run to pointers, thence on **Anthony Lavillains** N 30 degrees E 19 poles crossing a branch to pointers, N 70 degrees E 204 poles to pointers, thence on **William Daniel** S 19 ½ degrees E 159 poles to pointers, thence a new line S 19 degrees E 159 poles to pointers, thence a new line S 19 degrees E 100 poles to pointers, N 70 degrees W 205 poles to pointers, thence on **William Easley** N 35 degrees W 45 poles to a white oak, S 55 degrees W 201 poles

¹⁶⁵ Ann K. Blomquist, *The Vestry Book of Southam Parish, Cumberland County, Virginia, 1745–1792* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 180.

¹⁶⁶ Ann K. Blomquist, *The Vestry Book of Southam Parish, Cumberland County, Virginia, 1745–1792* (Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2006), 160–61.

¹⁶⁷ James Lyle vs. William Mills, Cumberland County Chancery Causes 1765-001; imaged, “Chancery Records,” database, Library of Virginia, *VirginiaMemory* (www.lva.virginia.gov/chancery : accessed 11 May 2016).

crossing two branches of pidy rock run to pointers, thence on **Ralph Flippings** N 35 degrees W 178 poles to the first station.

“And also four negro slaves named **Dick, Bett, Luck** [Suck?] and **Phillis** with their future increase. To have and to hold the said tract or parcel of land with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging together with the said negro slaves and their future increase unto your orator his heirs & assigns to the only proper use and behoof of your orator /his heirs and assigns for ever, **subject nevertheless to a proviso or condition** in the said indenture, contained that if the said **William Mills** should well & truly pay to your orator the aforesaid Sum of one hundred & thirteen pounds ten shillings and five pence with lawful interest as aforesaid within the space of six months after the date of the said indenture (now long since past) and also any other Sum or Sums of money that the said William Mills might become indebted to your orator & likewise all costs accruing to your orator on account of the said indenture, and the said **William Mills** did in and by the said indenture covenant and agree with your orator that the said **William Mills** at the time of sealing & delivery of the said indenture was seised of a good and indefeazible estate in Fee simple or and in the aforesaid tract or parcel of land & premises, & was also possessed of the four negro Slaves aforementioned as of his own proper slaves, & further if default should be made in the proviso or condition before mentioned that your orator his heirs or assigns should & might enter in and upon the premises & every part thereof & possess themselves of the said slaves & their future increase, & to sell & dispose thereof in Such manner as he or they should think fit, as in & by the said indenture duly executed by the said **William Mills** and remaining of record in this worshipful court & to which your orator for greater certainty refers himself, may more fully appear, and your orator charges that the said Sum of one hundred & thirteen pounds ten shillings & five pence or any part thereof was not paid to your orator or to any other person on his account, according to the proviso in the said indenture contained at the time therein mentioned or at any other time, but the said Sum of one hundred and thirteen pounds ten shillings & five pence is now due to your orator. And your orator well hoped that the said **William Mills** would either have paid him the said sum of one hundred and thirteen pounds ten shillings and five pence or would have suffered your orator peaceably and quietly to have held the said premises, & for that purpose your orator hath frequently and in a friendly manner applied himself to the said **William Mills** & requested him to pay your orator the Said sum of one hundred & thirteen pounds ten Shillings and five pence or else deliver up possession quietly to your orator of the said mortgaged premises, and all deeds evidences & writings relating to or concerning the Same and to release all his right & equity of redemption in the said premises to your orator his heirs &c. And your orator well hoped the said **Wm Mills** would have complied with Such reasonable request of our orator as / in justice and equity he ought to have done. BUT NOW SO IT IS. May it please your worships that the said **William Mills** [is] combining and confederating himself to and with divers other persons to your orator as present unknown whose names when discovered your orator prays may be here inserted with apt words to charge them as defendants[,] entirely refuses to pay your orator the said sum Sum [sic] of one hundred and thirteen pounds ten shillings & five shillings [sic], or to deliver up to your orator the said mortgaged premises. All which actings and doings are contrary to equity and good conscience & tend to your orators manifest wrong & injury. IN TENDER CONSIDERATION whereof, and for as much as our orator hath no means to foreclose the equity of redemption of the Said mortgaged premises, but in a court of equity where matters of this nature are properly cognizable. TO THE END THEREFORE that the said **William Mills** and his confederates when discovered may upon their several and respective corporal oaths accord’g to the best of their knowledge informⁿ & belief, to all and singular the premises herein before set forth as fully as if the Same were here again repeated and particularly interrogated to be answered unto, and more especially that the said **Wm. Mills** may set forth and discover whether he was not on or about the fifteenth day of September 1763 or in some other time & when seised in Fee or of Some other & what estate of and in the lands tenements slaves and premises herein before mentioned, or Some and which of them, & whether he was indebted to your orator in the Sum of one hundred &

thirteen pounds ten shillings & five pence or Some other and what Sum of money, & whether he did not propose to Secure the payment of the Same in the manner herein before mentioned or in any other & what manner? Whether the said **Wm Mills** did not execute such indenture bearing date the fifteenth day of September 1763 or some other & what indenture of mortgage of the Said premises to your orator? And whether the said Sum of one hundred & thirteen pounds ten shillings and five pence or any part thereof that at any time, and when, been paid to your orator, & may set forth how much is now due to your orator? And that the Said **William Mills** may be decreed to pay to your orator the said sum of money with interest after the rate of five per centum per annum by a short day [i.e., soon] to be appointed by this worshipful court together with your orators costs; and in default thereof that the said **William Mills** and all persons claiming under him may be foreclosed of and from all equity of redemption or claim under him may be foreclosed of and from all equity of redemption in & to the Said mortgaged premises and every part there/thereof & may deliver to your orator all deeds, Charters evidences & writings whatsoever relating to or concerning the said mortgaged lands tenements slaves and premises. And that your orator may have such further & other relief as to your worships shall seem proper, & shall be agreeable to equity & good conscience. May it please your worships to grant unto your orators his majestys most gracious writ or writs of subpoena to be directed &c.”

(doc. 2)

26 February 1765

Summons

“George the Third by the Grace of God, of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. To the Sheriff of Cumberland County, Greeting, we command you to summon **William Mills** to appear before our Justices of our said County, at the Court-House, on the fourth Monday in next month to testify, and the Truth to say, in Behalf of answer a bill in chancery exhibited against him by James Lyle in a certain Matter of Controversy in our said Court, before our said Justices, depending and undetermined, between and this he shall in no Wise omit, under the Penalty of £100. Witness Thompson Swann, Clerk of our said Court, at the said Court-House, the twenty-sixth Day of February in the fifth Year of our Reign.

Thompson Swann

(backside)

Lyle vs. Mills, Sum[mon]s Chan^y

26 Feb^y 1765

A Copy left the 13 day of March 1765 [by] Jos. Carrington D^r? for G. Carrington.

March 1765

Att^{ns}

75	10	15	
70	10	10	
<u>32</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>30</u>	
175?	[illegible; crossed out]		55
<u>3</u>			<u>3</u>
528?			165
123			39
<u>39 sh</u>			
162			

(doc. 3)

26 March 1765

Summons

“George the Third by the grace of God of great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c. To the Sheriff of Cumberland county greeting, we command you that you attach **William Mills** so that you have his body before our Justices of our county court of Cumberland, at the court house on the fourth of Monday in July next to answer us of and concerning those things which to him then and there shall be objected, and to do so and receive what our said court of him then and there shall in this Part consider And have then there this Writ. Witness Thompson Swann Clerk of our said Court at the courthouse the 26 Day of June in the fifth year of our Reign.

Thompson Swann Clk

For not appearing to answer a bill in chancery exhibited against him by James Lyle.

Swann

(doc. 4)

26 June 1765

Summons

“George the Third by the grace of God of great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith &c. To the Sheriff of Cumberland county greeting, we command you that you attach **William Mills** so that you have his body before our Justices of our county court of Cumberland, at the court house on the fourth of Monday in July next to answer [illegible abbreviation] and concerning those things which to him then and there shall be objected, and to do so and receive what our said court of him then and there shall in this Part consider And have then there this Writ. Witness Thompson Swann Clerk of our said Court at the courthouse the 26 Day of June in the fifth year of our Reign.

Thompson Swann Clk

For not appearing to answering a bill in chancery exhibited against him by James Lyle.

Swann

COMMENT:

No further record has been found in this case. No further record has been found for William in the county.

7 MARCH 1766

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Marriage.

Philip Ryan to **Elizabeth Mills**, “both in this parish.”¹⁶⁸

COMMENT:

This coupled settled in Pittsylvania County, in the part that became Henry. See my Henry County report.

1774

ALBEMARLE COUNTY, VA

Land sale B-S 6:331

Watts, Thomas to Samuel Woods , Lot Charll. [Charlottesville]¹⁶⁹

¹⁶⁸ W. Mac. Jones, trans. and ed., *The Douglas Register: Being a detailed record of Births, Marriages and Deaths together with other interesting notes, as kept by the Rev. William Douglas, from 1750 to 1797* (1928; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1977), 43; citing p. 8. The Douglas register was kept in Northam Parish (Goochland), across the James from Southam Parish (Cumberland).

18 DECEMBER 1780

GOOCHLAND COUNTY

Marriage

David Jarratt and Anna WADE, Dau. of William Wade, deceased. Sur. Deveraux Jarratt.¹⁷⁰ (citing “p 25”).

5 NOVEMBER 1781

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Marriage.

Henry Tandie to **Ann Mills**¹⁷¹

7 FEBRUARY 1782

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Marriage.

William Mills to Peggie Swift¹⁷²

COMMENT:

Hiden’s well-documented and reasoned genealogy of the Nicholas Mills family presents Ann Mills (wife of Henry Tandy) and William Mills (husband of Peggie Swift) as children of Charles⁴ (Charles³, Nicholas², Nicholas¹) and his wife Ann (probably Jackson). Ann Tandy is said to have d. 1809 in Orange Co., VA, leaving descendants who are said to be traced in “Tyler’s Mag. Oct. 1932.” William and Peggie are said to have moved to Spotsylvania by 1771, where William served in the Revolution as captain of the Spotsylvania militia and wrote his will in 1820 (probated 1821) naming wife Peggy.

Siblings of William and Ann are said to be **Mary**, who married c1758 *William Quarles* of Caroline County, with whom she moved to Spotsylvania; **Charles**⁵ of Reedy Creek in Hanover who married Sarah [–?–]; **Frances** who married William Thompson 29 January 1771 and baptized 9 children in St. Mark’s Parish, Hanover; and **Elizabeth** (1747–1853) who married Joseph Terrell in 1767.

Hiden also proposes a brother for Charles³: **Thompson Mills** of St. Margaret’s Parish, Caroline County, who bought land from Chiles Terrell in 1772. Charles’s will dated and recorded 1808 in the “Caroline Miscellaneous Papers” name wife Elizabeth, daughters Susannah Mills, Ann Patterson, Elizabeth Mills and Frances Mills, along with sons Robert M., Thomas, and Thompson. Executors were his son-in-law Samuel Patterson and friend Samuel Terrell.¹⁷³

¹⁶⁹ General Index to Deeds 1, 1748–1819. The available time on this research trip did not permit examining the original deed.

¹⁷⁰ Kathleen Booth Williams, *Marriages of Goochland County, Virginia 1733–1815* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1979), 45; citing p. 25.

¹⁷¹ W. Mac. Jones, trans. and ed., *The Douglas Register: Being a detailed record of Births, Marriages and Deaths together with other interesting notes, as kept by the Rev. William Douglas, from 1750 to 1797* (1928; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1977), 119.

¹⁷² W. Mac. Jones, trans. and ed., *The Douglas Register: Being a detailed record of Births, Marriages and Deaths together with other interesting notes, as kept by the Rev. William Douglas, from 1750 to 1797* (1928; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1977), 112.

¹⁷³ Mrs. P. W. Hiden, “Nicholas Mills of Hanover County,” *Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine* 14 (1933): 237–42; 15 (1934): 38–64; reprinted as *Genealogies of Virginia Families; From Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Gary Parks, ed. 4 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1981), 2: 676–81; Hiden provides the rationale and sources for her conclusions, but credits this list of children only to “extant family registers.”

11 APRIL 1782

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Baptism.

“Douglas Register: [Baptism for] **Wm. Mills** & Eliz. Fontaine, a son George b. April 11, 1782.”¹⁷⁴

11 APRIL 1782

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Marriage.

William Mills to Elizabeth Fountain.¹⁷⁵

COMMENT:

The edited version of the Douglas Register clearly extrapolated marriage dates (as a “married by ...” date) from the baptismal dates of children.

William and Elizabeth Mills of Matrimony Creek, Henry Co., named a son William F. Mills. He is said to be named William *Fountain* because he was the son of the Mills-Fountain marriage above. According to the 1850 census, that William was born about 1775—seven years before the year given for the Mills-Fountain “marriage” by Jones’s edition of the Douglas Register.

Hidden proposes that William of Henry Co. was the son of Robert³ Mills of Hanover County, VA, and grandson of the well-known Nicholas² Mills who married Ann Clopton.¹⁷⁶ Deeds executed by William of Henry to Millses of Hanover in 1787 do suggest the viability of that kinship.¹⁷⁷

30 JANUARY 1783

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Marriage.

Samuel Woodson & Sar. Mills¹⁷⁸

COMMENT:

Samuel Woodson’s mother, Elizabeth LeVillaine, was sister of Anthony LeVillaine—William Mills’s adjacent landowner on Pidy Rock Run of Willis River. Samuel was said to have been born 24 July 1761.¹⁷⁹

¹⁷⁴ Mrs. P. W. Hidden, “Nicholas Mills of Hanover County,” *Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine* 14 (1933): 237–42; 15 (1934): 38–64; reprinted as *Genealogies of Virginia Families; From Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Gary Parks, ed. 4 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1981), 2: 700. Hidden presents this as a “stray” William whom she had not been able to fit into any other family. She did not connect this to William and Elizabeth Fontaine of Matrimony Creek, Henry Co.

¹⁷⁵ W. Mac. Jones, trans. and ed., *The Douglas Register: Being a detailed record of Births, Marriages and Deaths together with other interesting notes, as kept by the Rev. William Douglas, from 1750 to 1797* (1928; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1977), 112.

¹⁷⁶ Mrs. P. W. Hidden, “Nicholas Mills of Hanover County,” *Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine* 14 (1933): 237–42; 15 (1934): 38–64; reprinted as *Genealogies of Virginia Families; From Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Gary Parks, ed. 4 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., 1981), 2: 669–701, specifically 674 and 683.

¹⁷⁷ *Virginia Land Records from the Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, the William and Mary College Quarterly, and Tyler’s Quarterly*, Gary Parks, indexer (Baltimore, MD: Clearfield, 1982), 133, abstracting two deeds selling land on Licking Creek in Hanover on 25 October 1787—one from “Wm. Mills Sr. of Henry Co. to Abraham Fontaine of Hanover and the other from “Wm Mills to Francis Mills, both of Hanover”—along with a 1 April 1789 sale from Francis Mills & Agnes his wife to Claiborne Hall of Caroline.

¹⁷⁸ W. Mac. Jones, trans. and ed., *The Douglas Register: Being a detailed record of Births, Marriages and Deaths together with other interesting notes, as kept by the Rev. William Douglas, from 1750 to 1797* (1928; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1977), 123.

¹⁷⁹ Priscilla Harriss Cabell, *Turff & Twigg*, vol. 1, *The French Lands* (Richmond: Privately printed, 1988), 219–27 (Lavillain), particularly 220.

30 JANUARY–9 FEBRUARY 1783

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Baptism

“Samuel Woodson & Sar : Mills, twins Will Fontain & Jo : Le Villaine Jan. 30, 1783. Baptized Feb 9, 1783”¹⁸⁰

COMMENT:

The fact that the twins were said to be born on the date that Samuel and Sarah are said to be married supports the conclusion that the marriage “list” provided in this volume may include “extrapolated” marriages—i.e., indications of marriage drawn from other sources—rather than an actual recording of marriages, as they occurred and on the dates they occurred.

Jones’s edited volume also offers the following:

(p. 408)

“An Index of the Older Wills, Inventories ...”

Woodson, Samuel	1810	Book 20:530
Woodson, Samuel	1829	Book 28:113
Woodson, Sarah	1818	Book 23:132

Searching baptisms in the edited Douglas Register, I noted the following:

Mills: all entries fall in 1780s and 1790s

Massies: all entries fall in 1770s and later

This Samuel Woodson in 1786 sought out land in Henry County adjacent to William Mills and wife Elizabeth Fontaine. The patent was granted 31 July 1788, for 440 acres on the N fork of Matrimony Creek. The survey, dated 11 November 1786 described the land as “Beginning at **Mills’** corner hickory ... crossing a branch of **Marrowbone Creek** [back to] **Mills** corner Black Oak, thence with that line N 66 degrees W 132 poles to a red Oak W 70 poles crossing the Creek to the beginning.”¹⁸¹

Samuel Woodson sold this land in 1797 to that neighbor: **William Mills** who, with his wife Elizabeth Fontaine, also had a child baptized (ten months earlier) by the pastor of St. James Northam parish, apparently while riding circuit.

13 DECEMBER 1797

HENRY COUNTY, VA

Land purchase

Samuel Woodson to **William Mills**, both of Henry County. Sale for 100£, 440 acres on north fork of **Matrimony Creek**, described as:

beginning at **Mills’ corner** Hickory, thence new line N 53 degrees W 131 poles to a red oak, N 47 degrees E 136 poles crossing a branch to pointers, N 5 degrees E 86 poles crossing a branch to a hickory & corner pointers, N 68 degrees E 82 poles to a red oak, S 35 degrees E 72 poles to a red oak, S 4 degrees West 100 poles crossing a branch to a red oak, S 148 poles crossing two branches [to] a white oak, S 16 degrees E 80 poles to a black oak, S 61 degrees W 21 poles to Mills’ corner black oak, thence with that line N 66

¹⁸⁰ W. Mac. Jones, trans. and ed., *The Douglas Register: Being a detailed record of Births, Marriages and Deaths together with other interesting notes, as kept by the Rev. William Douglas, from 1750 to 1797* (1928; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1977), 327; citing p. 108.

¹⁸¹ Virginia State Land Office, Grants No. 17 (1788): 513.

degrees W 32 poles to a red oak, thence W 70 poles crossing the creek to the beginning.¹⁸²

[Signed] Samuel Woodson. Wit: Jos. Martin, John Redd, Jesse Corn.” Proved 28 June 1798.¹⁸³

13 OCTOBER 1785

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Marriage.

James Burnley to **Elizabeth Mills**.¹⁸⁴

31 OCTOBER 1785

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Marriage.

Nathaniel Mills to Frances Thompson.¹⁸⁵

9 DECEMBER 1806

GOOCHLAND COUNTY, VA

Association

“Elisha Jackson and Sarah Swift, dau. of Cleavers Swift, deceased. **William Mills** was executor of her father’s estate. Sur. Thomas Bowles. Wit. Charles Swift and W. K. Bowles.¹⁸⁶ (citing “p. 95”)

Miscellaneous Notes

Blomquist, Ann M. *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745*. Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007.

Larwood, Learwood:	None
Lavender:	None
McCarrell	None
Musgrove:	None
Sandifer, Standifer:	None

Chamberlayne, G. C. *The Vestry Book and Register of St. Peter’s Parish, New Kent and James City Counties, Virginia, 1684–1786*. Richmond: Purchase and Printing, 1937.

¹⁸² Henry Co., Deed Book 6:135.

¹⁸³ Lela C. Adams, *Henry County, Virginia Deed Books V & VI* (Bassett, VA: Sherwood Forest; 1979), 86–87; citing 6:135–37.

¹⁸⁴ W. Mac. Jones, trans. and ed., *The Douglas Register: Being a detailed record of Births, Marriages and Deaths together with other interesting notes, as kept by the Rev. William Douglas, from 1750 to 1797* (1928; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1977), 100.

¹⁸⁵ W. Mac. Jones, trans. and ed., *The Douglas Register: Being a detailed record of Births, Marriages and Deaths together with other interesting notes, as kept by the Rev. William Douglas, from 1750 to 1797* (1928; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1977), 103.

¹⁸⁶ Kathleen Booth Williams, *Marriages of Goochland County, Virginia 1733–1815* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1979), 45; citing p. 95.

BOUCHER, BOUNCHER: Nothing
CHILES:
Henry processioner, trustee, vestryman, supervisor of work on church
(22, 82, 83 84, 86, 87, 92, 93, 94, 97, 105, 107, 345, 346
James processioner, 22, 346
James Henry processioner, 22
Micajah No
Walter 346
MILLS:
Henery 371
Jane 413
Nicholas 21, 105, 371

Goochland County Historical Society Magazine, vols. 1 (1968) through 46 (2015).

COMMENT:

Nothing relevant was found except duplicates of material from Pawley's published road order which Pawley is serializing herein.

Grundset, Eric G., and Paula Hollis Grundset. *Central Virginia Land Patents from "The County Abstracts" for Goochland Albemarle, Cumberland, Buckingham, and Amherst Counties in the Virginia Land Office, 1735-1774*. Fairfax, VA: Privately Published, 1999.

COMMENT:

I lost all my notes from this source in a computer freeze while at the library. Rather than spend the time redoing the work onsite, I decided to order this volume from Eric when I returned home. Eric reported that it is out of print and there are no plans to reprint it. He supplied 15 pages (the introduction and a few maps) that were in a PDF form, but they did not include the bulk of the book or the valuable entries already captured

TO DO:

Work this volume again when I am next the Library of Virginia.

Hopkins, William Lindsay Hopkins. *St. James Northam Parish Vestry Book, 1744-1850, Goochland County, Virginia*. Richmond: P.p., 1987.

COMMENT:

BOUCHER, BOUNCHER None
CHILES, CHILDS None
MASSIE: No Martha
MILLS: One abstract of 1744; see that date above.

National Society, Colonial Dames of America in the State of Virginia, *The Parish Register of Saint Peter's, New Kent County, Va., from 1680 to 1787*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1966.

BOUCHER, BOUNCHER: Nothing
CHILES: Nothing
MASSEY, MASSIE No Martha
MILLS: Henry 22, Nicholas 22

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 - Cumberland. www.directlinesoftware.com/Pool/cumberland.txt
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- Caroline County, VA. Court Order Book 1746–54. Library of Virginia, Caroline County microfilm collection.
- Culpeper County, VA. Circuit Court. Will Book A. Library of Virginia Culpeper Co. microfilm 31.
- Goochland County, Virginia. Deed Books 1–6 (with wills and inventories). Library of Virginia, Goochland County microfilm collection.

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- . *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book, 1735–1741*. Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2010.
- . *Goochland County, Virginia, Court Order Book 5, 1741–1745*. Westminster, MD: Heritage Books, 2007.
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TABLE 1: William Mills Land Acquisitions & Disposals in Goochland & Cumberland, 1732–1760							
ACQUISITIONS				DISPOSALS			
Date	Acres	Description	How Aq'rd	Date	Acres	Description	HowDisp'd
Apr '32	400	Lickinghole adj. H. Chiles, Scott, Kerby	grant	Mar '33/4	100	part of 400a grant on Lickinghole adj. Chiles. Wf Mary ack	Deed to Fr Kearby
				Jn '36	300	remainder of grant	Deed to Jas Walker
Oct '32	300	Lickinghole adj. H. Chiles, Utley	deed from H. Chiles	F '35/6	20a	on Wild Boar Cr, pt of land bought from Chiles. Wf Mary ack	Deed to Wm Chambers
				My '44	280a	"Wm Mills Plant'n" on Gr Lickinghole Cr adj John Payne, Benj. Woodson & Grainger. Wit: Josias Payne & Rob. Woodson	Deed
Sep '36	400	Willis R. & great Guinea Cr of Appamattox R. adj. James Allen, John Marten, Wm Warnack	Grant	Nv '43	400a	Ridge betw. Guinea Cr & Willis River. Wf Mary acknowledged John Roberts, wit. John Payne & Robert Woodson	Deed
Aug '46	380	Pidy Rock Run of Willis River adj. Ralph Flippins, Anth'y Levellain, Wm Daniel, Wm Easley—later Cumberland Co.	Grant to "Wm Mills, son of Wm. Mills of Aberdeen"	Fb '59	Pt of tract	Branches of Pidy Rock Cr in Cumberland, adj. Wm. Mills, Wm. Daniel, Wm. Easley.*	

* Disposition of remainder, post 1759 or 1761, is unknown. Cumberland County records need more thorough work.