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Geo. Washington
Birthplace

WAKEFIELD REPORT

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ATTENTION:

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Study as conceived originally was to present, in an authoritative and concise form, all of the information that could possibly be collected concerning Wakefield and the Washingtons who lived there. Quite naturally this objective would be limited by the quantity and quality of sources consulted. Bearing this premise in mind, our efforts were confined almost entirely to primary sources. [the citing of the Will of Augustine Washington], which is not available in the original nor in an official copy, but the essential feature of which is borne out in subsequent Records is the most striking departure] but as to the quantity, it is to be regretted that time did not permit an all inclusive research program. However, the sources listed in the Bibliographical Guide have been covered thoroughly, and the data presented conforms to that in the documents cited.

The subject has been treated from an objective viewpoint. In fact, there has been perhaps a too conscious effort to parallel the record. The value of such a course can be understood readily when one considers the confusion that might arise from the intrusion, at this point, of personal opinions hastily arrived at. We say "at this point" because so few of the existing sources have been consulted. It follows naturally that there is danger in committing to the written record, opinions which are not substantiated by research, and which may or may not be revised in the light of future study.

Therefore this report, as presented, comprises one complete unit in the proposed reach on Wakefield. All data is exact except where

indicated otherwise. The format was decided upon as being that which is best suited to the concise presentation of matter which will be used by another in completing all phases of the Study.

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Significant facts, with some comment, relating to John Washington I, founder of the Washington family in America and great-grand-father of George Washington, prior to and during his occupancy of the Bridges Creek Plantation.

28 February 1656 - Sometime, most probably a few weeks, prior to this date John Washington I, arrived in the Potomac River off Westmoreland County, Virginia. The passage was made in the ketch "Seahorse of London" owned by Edward Prescott. There is evidence to prove that John Washington was employed by the said Prescott in Dansicke, Iubeck, Kopenhagen, and Elsinore, and that when the ship cleared from the latter place John Washington took half watch to Virginia; also, that he assisted Prescott in Virginia; and helped save the ship after it had run aground on 28 February 1656. During these weeks, difficulties arose between Prescott and Washington resulting in the court proceedings which give us the herein contained information. Nathaniel Pope, a land baron of the Northern Neck living near Mattox Creek, championed the cause of young Washington, and it is recorded that "the said John Washington settled in Virginia with the consent of the said Edward Prescott."

(Westmoreland Deeds, Wills, Patents, etc., 1653-1659
pp. 74, 77, 78, and 79) - Wakefield Notes - 5 and 6

28 February 1656 - 11 May 1659 - John Washington married Ann Pope, daughter of Nathaniel Pope. - As indicated by the following:

11 May 1659 - Nathaniel Pope conveyed a parcel of land in trust to "my daughter Ann pope alias Washington".

(Westmoreland Deeds, Wills, Patents, etc., 1653-1659, p. 127)
Wakefield Notes - 10

and substantiated by:

16 May 1659 - Nathaniel Pope's Will - " --- I doe give unto my son in law John Washington one mare ---."

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. I - p 115) Wakefield Notes - 11.

3 July 1661 - John Washington sworn a vestryman for Appomattox Parish.

(Westmoreland Deeds, Wills, etc., 1661-1662, p.45)
Wakefield Notes - 13

25 August 1661 - John Washington, Coroner
(Ibid, p. 50) Wakefield Notes - 14

7 August 1662 - Mr. John Washington appointed a Justice of Westmoreland County Court.
(Ibid, p. 71) Wakefield Notes - 21

- 11 March 1662
to
31 August 1664
- Major John Washington served as a Justice of Westmoreland County.
(Westmoreland Orders, 1662-1664, pp. 7, 11, 14, 16, 18, 25, and 32) Wakefield Notes - 23
It is not shown when or why he was commissioned Major

 - 25 May 1664
 - Appomattox Parish in Westmoreland County renamed Washington Parish.
(Ibid, p. 32) Wakefield Notes - 24
This must have been done in honor of John Washington since he was the head of the only Washington family in the County.
 - 3 December 1664
 - Major John Washington purchased the Bridges Creek tract from David Anderson.
(Westmoreland Deeds and Bills, Bk I, p 252)
Wakefield Notes - 25.
 - 29 March 1672
 - Lt. Col. John Washington appointed a Justice of Westmoreland County Court.
(Westmoreland Deeds, Patents, etc., 1665-1677, p. 122)
Wakefield Notes - 28
It is not shown when or why he was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel.

- 22 July 1674 - Lt. Col. John Washington Westmoreland County in
 potomack River", and others, guarantee a cargo
 for the ship "Unicorne" in the Rappahannock River.
 (Ibid, p. 192) - Wakefield Notes - 29
- 31 August 1675 - Col. [John] Washington and Major Allerton commissioned
 to raise troops to conduct a campaign against the
 Indians because of outrages committed by the Doeg
 tribes of Maryland.
 (Ibid, p. 232) Wakefield Notes - 30
- The Indian outrages referred to here conspired
 with other similar occurrences to provoke Bacon's
 Rebellion. John Washington's position in regard to
 that event is explained below.
- 10 May 1676 - Lt. Col. John Washington, merchant, commissioned
 agent for a Rotterdam firm.
 (Ibid, p. 265) Wakefield Notes - 31
- 21 October 1676 - Nathaniel Bacon ordered one of his Westmoreland
 supporters, Stephen Mannering, to confiscate property
 of Coll. John Washington on "ye plantation of ye sd
 Washington by ye riverside --- or on the other
 plantation called ye Round Hills ---".
 (Ibid, p. 301) Wakefield Notes - 32
- This was done because of Col. Washington's lack of

sympathy with the Rebellion, and because he was suspected of aiding Governor Berkeley.

- 13 June 1677 - Stephen Wamering and others in Westmoreland confessed their parts in Bacon's Rebellion and prayed forgiveness from the Court. (Ibid, p. 302) Wakefield Notes - 33
- 21 July 1677 - William Arniger and John Deery testified concerning the occupation of Col. John Washington's plantation by Rebel forces. (Ibid, p. 325) Wakefield Notes - 34
- 14 August 1677 - Col. [John] Washington was awarded two items: 3950 and 6000 pounds of tobacco, respectively, for his part in raising forces for the suppression of Bacon's Rebellion. (Ibid, p. 350)- Wakefield Notes - 35
- 23 July 1677 - 26 September 1677 - Between these dates Col. Washington died as proved by the following two records:
- 23 July 1677 - Col. John Washington served as a Justice on the Westmoreland County Court.
(Westmoreland Orders, 1675/6-1688/9, p. 79)
Wakefield Notes - 36
- 26 September 1677- John Garrard instituted suit against the estate of Col. John Washington.
Westmoreland Order Book, 1675/6-1688/9, p. 90) Wakefield Notes - 38

The next two items indicate an approximate death date:

- 25 November 1677 - "---Fra: Washington Relict of Coll Jno Washington ---"
(Westmoreland Orders 1675/6 - 1688/9. p. 100)
Wakefield Notes - 39
- 25 November 1677 - John Carrard against "--- ye est of Coll Jno Washington
decdsd---" (Ibid p 102) Wakefield Notes - 40
- 21 September 1675 - Will of John Washington I
proved and
recorded
10 January 1677 (Westmoreland Deeds, Patents, Accounts, Depositions,
etc., 1665-1677) Wakefield Notes - 37

also

- 21 September 1675 - Will of John Washington I. - (from a photostat of the
original given to Albert Stuart, Clerk of Westmoreland
County Court, by Lawrence Washington, late Librarian of
the House of Representatives). Wakefield Notes - 37A

Both of these document are illegible in part, but
fortunately by comparison it can be made out that:

John Washington I asked to be buried on the
plantation where he lived, by the side of his wife and
children already dead - his oldest son Lawrence inherited
the tract of land given to Ann Pope Washington by her
father Nathaniel Pope - his son John Washington II.

inherited "yt plantation wheiron I now live wch I
bought of David Anderson" - will disposed of 8150
acres of land - son Lawrence named as executor.

There is no personal property inventory of
John Washington I on record and none known to exist.

That John Washington I was buried at Bridges Creek,
is supported by:

"it appears that he was Interred in a Vault
which had been erected at Bridges Creek."

(The Papers of George Washington, vol. I -

Letter: George Washington to Sir Isaac Heard, dated
Philadolphia, 2 May 1792) Wakefield Notes - 118A

Significant facts, with some comment, relating to Lawrence Washington, eldest son of John Washington I., and grandfather of George Washington, who never, in so far as we know, lived on either the Bridges Creek or the Popes Creek Plantation.

The exact date of Lawrence Washington's birth is unknown, but it hardly occurred before November 1657. and most probably not as early as that date.

The place of his birth is unknown, but presumably the event took place either at Nathaniel Pope's residence, or at John Washington and Ann Pope Washington's home on the Mattox Creek tract given to Ann by Nathaniel Pope on 11. May 1659 (see above, p. 2)

26 May 1680 - Mr. Lawrence Washington, executor of Col. John Washington, deceased.

(Westmoreland Orders, 1675/6-1683/9. p. 181)

Wakefield Notes - 41

Lawrence was named executor by his father's Will.

27 July 1681 - John Lord awarded 1800 pounds of tobacco for serving as the executor of Col. John Washington's estate while

Lawrence Washington was in England. (Ibid, p. 221)
Wakefield Notes - 42. It is not stated why Lawrence was in England, but the trip was possibly made in the interest of his father's estate.

28 July 1680 - Mr. Lawrence Washington served as a
to
11 December 1683 Justice of Westmoreland County Court.
(Ibid, pp. 183-302. inclusive) Wakefield Notes - 43

13 February 1683 - Captain Lawrence Washington served as a
to
26 May 1686 Justice of Westmoreland County Court.
(Ibid, pp. 314-502 inclusive) Wakefield Notes -43

It is not known when or why he was commissioned
Captain.

25 November 1685 - Lawrence Washington a Burgess from Westmoreland
(Ibid, p. 454) Wakefield Notes - 44

He served as a Justice during this time also.

26 May 1686 - Captain Lawrence Washington appointed again to the
Court but prayed that the oath be deferred until he
returned from a trip to England.
(Ibid, p. 502) Wakefield Notes - 45

It is not shown why he was going to England, but
it is possible that he went in the interest of his
father's estate.

21 April 1687 - Lawrence Washington sworn as a Westmoreland Justice
at a Court held at James City.
(Ibid, p. 578) Wakefield Notes - 46

27 April 1687 - Lawrence Washington attending to urgent affairs at Jamestown.

(Ibid., p. 563) Wakefield Notes - 47

Apparently Lawrence Washington's terms as Westmoreland Justice and as a member of the House of Burgesses were now running concurrently.

About 1690 - Lawrence Washington married Mildred Warner. [John, their oldest child had just arrived of age in 1712, and Augustine, their second child, was 49 when he died in 1743]

(Westmoreland Orders, 1705-1721, p. 198 and G. Washington's letter to Sir Isaac Hoard, op. cit.) - Wakefield Notes - 61 & 113A & B.

27 July 1687 - Captain Lawrence Washington served intermittently to
31 October 1688 as a Justice of Westmoreland County Court.

(Ibid., pp. 589-679, inclusive) Wakefield Notes - 46

29 January 1690 - Captain Lawrence Washington served intermittently as to
28 January 1691 a Justice of Westmoreland County Court.

(Westmoreland Orders, 1690-1698, pp. 5-47, inclusive) Wakefield Notes - 48

26 November 1691 - Captain Lawrence Washington, Coroner

(Ibid., p. 42) Wakefield Notes - 49

25 May 1692 - Captain Lawrence Washington sworn Sheriff of Westmoreland County. (Ibid, p. 62) Wakefield Notes - 50

31 May 1693 - Captain Lawrence Washington sworn again Sheriff of Westmoreland County. (Ibid, p. 99) Wakefield Notes - 51

28 March 1694 - "--- Lawrence Washington, gentl high sheriff of this County---"
(Ibid, p. 129) Wakefield Notes - 52

24 April 1695 - Captain Lawrence Washington served intermittently as a
to
24 February 1697 Justice of Westmoreland County Court. (Ibid, pp. 173-238 inclusive) Wakefield Notes - 48

26 September 1695 - Lawrence Washington, Merchant, bought a 400 acre tract of land from Robert Liston and others of Bristol England. (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 2, p. 53) Wakefield Notes - 53

This tract lay North and West of Bridges Creek; was inherited by Augustine Washington, George Washington's father, and it is possible that he lived on some part of it immediately before he bought land on Popes Creek from Joseph Abbington in 1717. (See below under Augustine Washington)

11 March 169-7/8
Recorded
30 March 1698

- Lawrence Washington's Will;

specified that his body was to be buried by the side of his father [John Washington I.] and mother [Ann Pope Washington] and near his brothers, sisters and children - son John inherited the home place [not located] - son Augustine inherited the Listun (see above) and Hills tracts [both of which were near and on Bridges Creeks] - daughter Mildred inherited 2500 acres on Hunting Creek in Stafford County [part of what later became Mt Vernon] - a cousin, John Washington of Stafford County was named an executor. (Wakefield Notes - 53&54) (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 2, p. 53)

It will be recalled that John Washington I had asked that he be buried on the plantation where he was living and that he located the tract later by leaving to his son John Washington, the plantation on which he lived that he bought of David Anderson. The evidence that best supports the belief that this same burying ground was, and is, on the one hundred acres that John Washington I bought of David Anderson is the presence of a seemingly unquestionably old stone which marked the graves of Lawrence Washington I's children near whose bodies he asked to be buried. (Wakefield Notes - 55)

Also, George Washington wrote Sir Isaac Heard (See above, p. 7) that his grandfather had been buried in the family vault at Bridges Creek. (Wakefield Notes - 118A)

Lawrence Washington I's Will disposed of 3600 acres of land in addition to two tracts for which no acreage was given.

A final accounting of the estate by John Washington of Stafford, the executor, recorded

3 April 1713

showed 32,509 lbs. of tobacco and 406 pounds sterling to be divided between the heirs: John, Augustine, and Mildred. (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Ek. 5, p. 140)

Wakefield Notes - 59

Significant facts, with some comment, relating to Augustine Washington I., grandson of John Washington I, son of Lawrence Washington, and father of George Washington.

1694

- Augustine Washington I was born. According to his son, George Washington, in a letter to Sir Isaac Heard, op. cit., he was 49 when he died in 1743. It is not known where, but presumably the event took place on the 700 acres given by Nathaniel Pope to John Washington I, and inherited from him by Lawrence Washington.

6 April 1704

- John Washington of Stafford, executor of Lawrence Washington's estate, gave Captain George Cale a receipt for the children of Captain Lawrence Washington and for all of the estates and portions belonging to the said children.

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 3, p 309)

Wakefield Notes - 60

It would appear from this that George Cale had custody of Lawrence Washington's three children: John, Augustine, and Mildred. In so far as we know there is no primary source record in America which substantiates the following explanation.

G. A. Hoppin claims that Mildred, the widow of Lawrence Washington married, very shortly after Lawrence's death, George Cale - that the Cales went to

England taking the children with them - that Mildred died and was buried in England - and that George Gale brought the children back to Virginia. He cites authoritative sources which are supposedly in England. The above record certainly proves that George Gale had some interest in the children of Lawrence Washington.

The claim is made by some that Mildred Washington was buried at Warner Hall in Gloucester County, Virginia. She was Mildred Warner of Warner Hall, and her son John Washington later moved to Gloucester.

24 September 1712 - John Washington, of Stafford County, executor of Lawrence Washington ordered to pay to John, son of Lawrence, his share of his father's estate - - John having arrived at full age.

(Westmoreland Orders, 1705-1721, p. 198)

Wakefield Notes - 61

27 May 1713 - The guardianship of Augustine and Mildred, son and daughter of Lawrence Washington, on their petition was granted to their brother John. (Ibid, p. 212)

Wakefield Notes - 62

20 April 1715 - Augustine Washington married Jane Butler, daughter of Caleb Butler who was a prominent attorney of Westmoreland. (G. Washington to Heard, op.cit.) Wakefield Notes-118 A

25 July 1716 - Augustine Washington sworn a Justice of Westmoreland County Court.

(Westmoreland Orders, 1705-1721, p 268)

Wakefield Notes - 68

26 July 1716 - Augustine Washington served intermittently as a Justice
to
22 February 1720 of Westmoreland County Court. He was re-commissioned on

the last date. (Ibid, pp. 289-399, inclusive) Wakefield Notes - 68

30 August 1721 - Augustine Washington served intermittently as a Justice of
to
27 July 1725 Westmoreland County Court.

(Westmoreland Orders, 1721-1731, pp. 7-125, inclusive)

Wakefield Notes - 69

23 February 1726 - Augustine Washington sworn as a Justice of Westmoreland County Court.

(Ibid, p. 135) Wakefield Notes - 69

29 March 1727 Captain Augustine Washington served as Justice of Westmoreland County Court.

(Ibid, p. 140) Wakefield Notes - 69

It is not known when or why he was commissioned Captain.

31 May 1727 - Augustine Washington sworn Sheriff of Westmoreland County.

26 June 1728 - Augustine Washington sworn Sheriff of Westmoreland County.

(Ibid, pp. 151 and 201) Wakefield Notes - 71

26 November 1730 - Augustine Washington sworn Justice of Westmoreland Court;

(Ibid, p. 349) Wakefield Notes - 69

and he served as such until

29 November 1732 - (Westmoreland Orders, 1731-1739, p. 51)

Wakefield Notes - 70

The latter date appears to be the last on which Augustine Washington served as a Justice of Westmoreland Court.

20 November 1716 - Augustine Washington sold Mark Cullum 30 acres of land bounded on the North and North west by Bridges Creek and on the south west with a run and swamp "dividing this land and the land of Augustine Washington now in the tenour and occupacon of the said Washington."

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 6, p. 34) Wakefield Notes - 63

It has been held by some that Augustine Washington lived with his father-in-law from the time of his marriage with Jane Butler until he built his home on Popes Creek.

The quotation from the Washington-Cullum deed above indicates that on the 20 November 1716 he was living near or on Bridges Creek. This would most probably place his dwelling at that time on either the Hills tract or the Lisson [Listun] tract, both of which bounded on Bridges Creek and both of which were inherited by Augustine Washington from his father. (See above p.)

- 18 February 1717 - Augustine Washington bought of Joseph Abbington
- 19 February 1717 150 acres of land bounded by Dancing Marsh,
- 4 September 1718 Popes Creek, and Nathaniel Washington's line.
- 5 September 1718 (Westmoreland Deeds and Hills, bk. 6, pp. 238, 240, 376, and 378) Wakefield Notes - 64, 65, 66, and 67

This has been accepted as the tract on which the present Mansion stands, and from the language of the above deeds the point seems to be established. It is not known where Augustine Washington was living at the time unless his dwelling was on either the Hills tract or the Listun tract. (See above) It has been stated by some, that after purchasing the Abbington land Augustine Washington moved into the Abbington house and lived there until his new house was completed. We found nothing to support that claim unless the following quoted from the Abbington-Washington deed dated

19 February 1717 (above) can be construed as proof:

"Now this Indenture Witnesseth that the said Joseph
Abbington --- doth --- release and confirm unto the
said Augustine Washington (in his actual possession
now being of the aforesaid One hundred and fifty
acres of land and premises --"

It will be noted that here the word
"possession" only is used without the accompanying
"occupation" which, if present, would leave little
doubt that Augustine Washington was actually seated
on the tract as early as

19 February 1717.

There is no question that he was living on
the Abbington tract nine years later, however.

23 February 1726

Augustine Washington and Jane [Butler], his wife,
to Lawrence Butler and George Eskridge - Deed of
uses in favor of their sons Lawrence and Augustine, Jr.
"--- Whereas --- Augustine Washington is seized in
fee simple of one parcell and tract of land being the
land where he now lives which land he --- purchased
of one Joseph Abbington---".

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 8-pt.I, p 226)

Wakefield Notes - 75

Now as to the house that Augustine Washington
built on the Abbington tract. In so far as we have
been able to determine there is no positive proof
that he did build one. If he did, the below evidence

may have applied to that house, or, it is entirely possible that it applied to a house on any other part of Augustine Washington's holdings.

30 March 1726

- Augustine Washington entered a claim against the estate of David Jones. In the bill of particulars he debited the estate in the sum of 500 pounds of tobacco. "To the not finishing my house" and credited the estate with 500 pounds of tobacco "By my house when finished." Other items listed on the credit side are " 2 bedsteads," " 1 cradle", " 2 mantell peices" and " a small Poplar Table."

(Westmoreland Inventories, 1723-1746, bk. 1, p.24)

Wakefield Notes - 74

The entries in this instrument date from 1722-1725. Therefore if the building referred to was the house on the Abbington tract, it was not completed by the latter date.

23 February 1725

- David Jones's personal property inventory dated lists a varied assortment of carpenter and joiner's tools, but not in sufficient numbers or quality to indicate that he was a ranking undertaker of the period. (Ibid p. 20) Wakefield Notes - 73

Shortly before or after Augustine Washington's occupation of the Abbington tract he began to increase

his land holdings in the locality.

- 12 December 1725 - Daniel Higdon, John Pope, and Jane Pope to Augustine Washington: 215 Acres between Popes and Bridges Creeks.
- 2 September 1728 - John Pope to Augustine Washington: 2 acres and a mill at head of Popes Creek [Present Potomac Mill]
- 20 September 1728 - James Horer to Augustine Washington: 200 acres between Mattox and Bridges Creeks
- 28 January 1728 - Mark Sullum to Augustine Washington: 130 acres between Popes and Bridges Creeks.
- 21 February 1731 - Daniel McCarty to Augustine Washington: 43 acres at head of Popes Creek bounding Mill land.

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 8, pt. I., pp. 175, 252, 324 and 327, 339 and 407, respectively).
Wakefield Notes - 72, 77, 78, 79, and 81 respectively.

- 10 June 1734 - John Washington of Gloucester County to Augustine Washington: 25 acres being the islands and marsh at the mouth of Popes Creek.
- 30 July 1734 - William Bridges to Augustine Washington: 305 acres [Not located].

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 8, pt. II., pp. 242 and 246)
Wakefield Notes - 85 and 86.

- 24 November 1728 - Jane [Cutler] Washington died and was buried in the family Vault at Bridges Creek.
(G. Washington to Heard, op. cit.) Wakefield Notes - 118 A & B
- 6 March 1730 - Augustine Washington married [Mary] Ball
(Ibid) Wakefield Notes - 118B

Augustine Washington moved from Westmoreland County to Prince William County between the dates

- 25 March 1735 - Augustine Washington of the County of Westmoreland
and
- 4 October 1736 - Augustine Washington, ^{and} his wife, of the County of Prince William.

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 8, pt. II., pp. 288 and 446)
Wakefield Notes - 85 and 86

and from Prince William County
to King George County [Ferry Farm opposite Fredericks-
burg, it is alleged] about 1739.

The last chapter in the consolidation of Augustine
Washington's Westmoreland acres occurred only a few
months before his death.

3 December 1742 - An arbitration board awarded Augustine Washington, of
King George County, the one hundred acre Bridges Creek
tract on which John Washington I had settled in 1664
[and on which the family grave yard was located]. This
land had descended from John Washington I. to John II.
to John III. [The deed reads as if this was John IV.,
but we fail to determine it as such in the direct line.]
Now the Bridges Creek tract title for the first time
became vested in Augustine Washington, and also for the
first time it became a part of the larger body of land
which subsequently came to be known as Wakefield.

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 3, p. 221)

Wakefield Notes - 88, 89, & 90

12 April 1743 - Augustine Washington died and was "interred at Bridges
Creek in the Vault of his Ancestors."

(O. Washington to Beard, op. cit.) Wakefield Notes - 1183

11 April 1743 - Augustine Washington's Will -

Recorded
6 May 1743

Augustine Washington, jr. heired the Westmoreland
estate. The widow received the crops from Bridge Creek

quarter and the privilege of working the quarter for the next five years.

(C.A. Hoppin in Tylers Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine Vol. IX. No. 1 - pp 34-38) Wakefield Notes - 91

The Will as presented by Hoppin was copied by him from a copy owned by the late Lawrence Washington of a copy made by Harry Turner, Clerk of King George County, from the Will as recorded in King George County Will Book I before it disappeared during the Civil War.

The Bridge Creek quarter mentioned in the Will was most probably on the Listun tract - Northwest of Bridges Creek, and not on the John Washington farm which was awarded to Augustine Washington.

- 28 June 1743 - Augustine Washington's estate was ordered to be appraised. (Westmoreland Fee Book [Orders], 1733-1743, p. 209)
Wakefield Notes - 92
- 1 July 1743 - An inventory of Augustine Washington's personal property in Stafford, King George, and Westmoreland Counties. (King George Inventories, 1721-1744, p. 285)
Wakefield Notes - 92 A

Significant facts, with some comment, relating to Augustine Washington, II., great-grandson of John Washington I, grandson of Lawrence Washington I, son of Augustine Washington I, brother of Lawrence Washington II and half-brother of George Washington, who inherited the Westmoreland lands of his father, and who lived, presumably, in the birth house until he died there in 1762.

Practically nothing is known of Augustine Washington II's early life. He was most probably born at Popes Creek about

1720

It has been assumed generally that he remained at Popes Creek when the family moved to Prince William County. We have seen no proof of this, and we conclude that the thesis is most probably based upon faulty reasoning which goes something like this. The Washington family moved from Pope's Creek in 1735; some member of the family was left to look after the farm; Augustine Washington II married Ann Aylett of Westmoreland; Augustine Washington II inherited the farm in 1743; therefore he had lived on it from 1735 to 1743. In 1735 Augustine Washington II could hardly have been more than seventeen years old, [His parents were married in 1715 and he was the third child.] an extremely early age to have assumed the management of a large plantation. However, his son, William Augustine, apparently came into possession of the plantation when approximately the same age. He married Ann Aylett of Westmore^(and) lived at (Worfield) ^{land} was buried in the family vault. (Worfield, op. cit.) Worfield Notes-118 B & C

30 May 1749 - Augustine Washington II. commissioned Major of the Troop.
(Westmoreland Orders, 1747-1750, p. 120) Wakefield Notes - 93.

27 June 1750 - Augustine Washington II. served as Justice of
to
30 April 1751 Westmoreland County Court.
(Ibid, p. 204 to p. 48) Wakefield Notes - 94

n Some of the pages in the above source are not numbered
consecutively.

26 August 1752 - Augustine Washington II. served as Justice of Westmoreland
to
22 April 1755 County Court
(Westmoreland Orders, 1752-1755, pp. 13-234, inclusive)
Wakefield Notes - 95

He served only a few times each year - possibly to
keep his commission alive or possibly as a substitute Justice.

29 August 1758 - Augustine Washington II served as Justice of Westmoreland
to
29 January 1760 County Court.
(Westmoreland Orders, 1758-1761, pp 1-101, inclusive)
Wakefield Notes - 96

29 July 1760 - Augustine Washington II. suggested for appointment as
Sheriff of Westmoreland County.
(Ibid, p. 153) Wakefield Notes - 97

We found no record of his appointment.

18 September 1758 -
Recorded
25 May 1762

Augustine Washington II's Will:

A son, William Augustine Washington, inherited about all of the Westmoreland real estate including the Popes and Bridges Creeks farms and land between the two.

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Ek. 14, pp.126-132)

Wakefield Notes - 100

The Will disposed of a large estate.

30 November 1762 -

Anne, Augustine II's widow, renounced all benefit that she may claim under her husband's will.

(Westmoreland Orders, 1761-1764, p. 67)

Wakefield Notes - 102

30 November 1762 -

Augustine Washington II's personal property inventory recorded.

(Westmoreland Inventories, 1756-1767 - Ek.4, p. 178)

Wakefield Notes - 103

The property was numerous and of excellent quality - total evaluation - £ 4617 - 7 - 11 $\frac{1}{2}$

This is the inventory on which the furnishing of the Memorial Mansion has been based. The fallacies involved are obvious. In the first place, 1762 is thirty years removed from 1732; in the second place, Augustine Washington II and Anne Aylett Washington's, she is understood to have

been an heiress, furnishings could be entirely different from those of Augustine Washington I; and in the third place, the house which contained these furnishings was not necessarily the same as that in which Augustine Washington I lived and in which George Washington was born.

29 June 1763

- Anne, the widow of Augustine Washington II, claimed her dower rights in her husband's estate.

(Westmoreland Orders, 1761-1764, p. 93)

Wakefield Notes - 102.

22 October 1765
Recorded
26 April 1774

- Mrs. Anne Washington's part and dower in the Estate of Augustine Washington II.

(Westmoreland Inventories, 1767-1776, bk.5, p 259)

Wakefield Notes - 104

Anne Washington received the home plantation and £ 1434-17-11 $\frac{1}{2}$ in personal property. Her's was only a life interest in the home plantation. [Popes and Bridges Creeks, William Augustine, her son, inherited it from his father, and he evidently took possession when Anne died in 1774, although he was only seventeen years old.

No date

- "Washington Ann her will so injured that Cannot be recorded"

(Westmoreland Deeds and Bills, Bk. 17 - Index)

Wakefield Notes - 106

30 May 1774

- Mrs. Anne Washington's Personal Property Inventory
(Westmoreland Inventories, 1767-1776, Ek. 5, p. 270)

Wakefield Notes - 105

Excellent quality - valuation: £ 744-9-11 $\frac{1}{2}$

21 November 1775
Recorded
21 March 1778

- The valuation and division of Negroes and stock
belonging to the estate of Colonel Augustine
Washington.

(Westmoreland Inventories, 1776-1790, Ek. 6, p 91)

Wakefield Notes - 107 & 108

The total evaluation of this division was

£ 2523 " 11"

Pertinent facts, with some comment, relating to William Augustine Washington, great-grand-son of John Washington I, great-grandson of Lawrence Washington, grandson of Augustine Washington I, son of Augustine Washington II, and half-nephew of George Washington, who inherited the Westmoreland lands of his father and who was living presumably in the birthhouse when it burned on Christmas Day 1779. [This date and the burning are matters of tradition only.] He was the last of the Washingtons to live on the Pope Creek-Bridges Creek plantation.

If he was burnt out on Popes Creek, it was most probably before

23 September 1780

When a Report concerning a public Road was returned to the Court. The following quoted portion of the Report would indicate that he was living out of, or nearly out of, the Popes Creek-Bridges Creek neck:

“--- but as the Road now runs it is essentially injurious to the said William A. Washington Gent going immediately thro his yard, and within Thirty Feet of his dwelling house---”

(Westmoreland Inventories, 1776-1790, Bk.6, p. 149)

Wakefield Notes - 104.

The swelling house mentioned here was most probably Elenheim which is about a mile west of the Memorial Mansion and not very far from the present highway. [Family tradition holds that William Augustine moved to Elenheim after the Popes Creek house burned in 1779.] That he did live at Elenheim [a brick house with a frame wings stands today - an architectural survey

should be made. in the 1780's is indicated by the below extract from page 46 of the Journal of a Young Lady of Virginia, 1782, by Mrs. Lucinda (Lee) Orr, as edited by Emily V. Mason.

"Today, November 2 Corbin and Hannah go to Blenheim, the seat of Mr. W. Washington."

A penciled footnote at the end of the Preface points out that the date 1782 is in error. The Journalist writes of Hannah Lee and Corbin Washington as man and wife. They were not married until 10 May 1878. Therefore the footnoter concludes that the proper date of the Journal is 1787 or later. Wakefield Notes - 110

From Blenheim he moved to Haywood, a home which he built on the Potomac about two miles above Popes Creek, on land that had belonged to the Washington family for a number of years. The outlines of this house are easily traceable today and part of a brick stable stands.

William Augustine married his cousin, Jane Washington, who died in 1791. (G. Washington to Heard op. cit.) Wakefield Notes - 118 B & C.

He married Sally Taylor, of Mount Airy in 1799. (The Virginia Herald, Fredericksburg, Va., issue for 14 May 1799) Wakefield Notes - 119

27 August 1782 - William Augustine Washington sworn a Justice of Westmoreland County Court.

(Westmoreland Orders, 1776-1786, p 130) Wakefield Notes - 111

26 March 1788 - William Augustine Washington, the late High Sheriff.

(Westmoreland Orders, 1787-1790, p. 82)

Wakefield Notes - 113

30 June 1789 - William Augustine Washington was recommended by the Court for appointment as Colonel of Militia,

(Ibid, p. 293) Wakefield Notes - 113

We found no record of his appoint, but he was later referred to as Colonel.

Since William Augustine Washington was not living at Popes Creek during these years, the foregoing three items have little bearing on the subject at hand. They were selected at random simply to show that the last occupant of a dwelling on the Popes Creek tract carried on a worthy family tradition.

In like manner, he paid taxes on each personal property from 1782 until he died in 1810.

(Westmoreland Personal Property Tax Lists-1782-1851)

Wakefield Notes - 125, 126, and 127

and

he increased his real estate holdings from 2295 acres to

4760 acres within the same period.

(Westmoreland Land Book, 1782-1817)

Wakefield Notes - 127

16 September 1796

- Deed Nicholas Case to W. A. Washington mentioning Washington's Burnt House Tract.

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, bk. 20 p. 264)

Wakefield Notes - 114

2 October 1810

- Colonel William Augustine Washington died in Georgetown, D.C., aged 53 years.

(National Intelligencer, Washington, D.C. 8 October 1810) Wakefield Notes - 121

He is said to have moved to Georgetown in 1804.

This is borne out by his personal property tax lists cited above.

12 July 1810

- William Augustine Washington's Will.

His son George Corbin Washington inherited the lands between Popes and Bridges Creeks. The bounds are given, and the "Burnt House plantation" (see above) is designated as being on Popes Creek virtually in the location of the built up acre of the present Monument.

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, bk. 22, p. 165)

Wakefield Notes - 123

1810 (no day or Month)
Recorded
October 1811

- William Augustine Washington's Personal Property
Inventory - on his Westmoreland Estate.

Excellent quality - ninety three slaves listed -
total valuation = \$26,792.83.

(Westmoreland Inventories, 1806-1815, Ex. 9, p. 282)

Wakefield Notes - 124

1811-1812

- William Augustine Washington's estate was
assessed on 4760 acres of land

(Westmoreland Land Book, 1782-1817) Wakefield Notes-

127

1813-1814

- George [Corbin] Washington was assessed on 1300
acres.

(Ibid) Wakefield Notes - 127

13 October 1813

- George C. Washington of Georgetown D.C. to
John Gray of Stafford County, Va.

"--- all that tract of land situate and lying
in the Parish of Washington and County of West-
moreland known by the name of Wakefield, devised
to the said George C. Washington by his father
William Augustine Washington ---"

The land transferred by this deed is itemized
as follows:

Wakefield, 981½ acres; Johnathan's, 105 acres; another tract of 200 acres; and Great Island in Popes Creek.

[almost directly in front of Memorial Mansion] This is 1286½ acres of land plus 25 acres of Marsh and Island in Popes Creek would be the approximate 1300 acres on which taxes were paid by George C. Washington (Above)

An appended paragraph to this deed reads as follows:

"The sd Washington further more makes over to the sd Gray all his right and title as derived from his father Wm. Augt. Washington to the marshes in Popes Creek but reserves the family Burying Ground at the Great Quarter also sixty feet square of ground on which the house stood in which General Washington was born."

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 23, p.85) Wakefield

Notes - 128

Reference is made to an annexed plat. The plat was not recorded but the original is in Westmoreland Loose Papers, Deeds and Wills, - Box for 1805-1814. [There are no designations of the House Site and Burying Ground on the Plat.]

Chain of Title to, and pertinent discussion of, the land between Bridges and Popes Creek, 100 acres of which became the John Washington I. Bridges Creek plantation, and 150 acres of which became the Augustine Washington I. Popes Creek plantation.

The first title located by us to the land lying between Bridges Creek on the North and West and Popes Creek on the South and East was vested in Henry Brooke by a patent dated 18 March 1662. According to this patent Brooke, later referred to in the records as Brookes and Brooks, received a grant of,

--- one thousand and twenty acres of land be it more or less lying and being in the County of Westmoreland and on the southside of potomack river bounded as followeth on the northwest side to a marked corner hiccory with a creeke that divideth this land and the land now in possession of Daniel Liston on the northeast side with potomack river on the southeast side with the creek dividing this land from the land of Colo. Nathaniel Pope --- the said land being formerly granted to the said Brookes by pattennt dated the 14th day of October 1657. and now renewed --- "

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 1, p. 225) Wakefield Notes - 16

We shall not attempt to trace the titles of the several parcels of land as disposed of by Henry Brookes. That he was seated on the tract and conveying parts of it to others before he received the formal title to the property in 1662, and that he disposed rapidly of the remainder will appear from the following preliminary break down:

30 October 1655 - 100 acres to Richard Cole and David Anderson

10 March 1655 - 100 acres to David and Robert Whitley

20 February 1657 - 100 acres to Lawrence Abington and his wife, Lydia

[Brookes] Abington.

17 June 1660 - 40 [48] acres to Nicholas Saxton

9 June 1662 - 48 acres to Lawrence Abington

9 June 1662 - 100 acres to Jane Higdon

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk.1, pp.19, 23, 67, 164, 163, 162 respectively)
Wakefield Notes - 2, 4, 7, 12, 18, 19, respectively.

and by his will proved the

3 February 1662 - 300 acres [estimated] to Joane Brookes

50 acres to Jane Higdon

50 acres to David Whitliff's heir

50 acres to Lydia Abington

100 acres [estimated] in the Arrow head to Richard Coles.

(Ibid., p. 186) - Wakefield Notes - 20

Of this total of 1038 acres conveyed in Deed and Will by Henry Brookes we are interested primarily in the one hundred acres sold to Richard Cole and David Anderson on 30 October 1655, and in the one hundred acres given to Lawrence and Lydia Abington on 20 February 1657 together with the fifty acres inherited by Lydia Abington, daughter to Lawrence and Lydia. The first of these two tracts became the Washington Bridges Creek plantation and the second became the Washington Popes Creek plantation. Taking them in the order of their Washington occupancy, we shall begin with the former.

I. Chain of Title to the Bridges Creek Tract of 100 Acres

On 30 October 1655 Henry Brookes made an assignment to Richard Cole and David Anderson of

"--- one hundred Acres of land joining
to the creeke which is pattented in my pattent---

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk.1, p. 19) Wakefield Notes - 2

Only a few months later, 10 March 1655, Richard Cole assigned all of his "right and title of two hundred Acres of land bounding upon the land of Henry Brookes Creek with all the building that is upon the said land unto David Anderson."

(Ibid, p. 22) Wakefield Notes -3

For the next seven years David Anderson was apparently in unquestioned possession of this land, but a few weeks after Henry Brookes's Will was proved, he drew up on 10 March 1662, a patent of his ownership to:

"--- one hundred and fifty acres of land
in the County of Westmoreland bounding Vixt.
one hundred Acres northwesterly upon a creeke
dividing this land from the land of Hercules
Bridges --- and 50 Acres the other part bounding
northerly upon the said land and the land of
Henry Brookes --- the said land being formerly
granted unto Richard Cole and the said David
Anderson by pattent dated 24th October 1655---

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk.1, p. 251) Wakefield Notes - 22

and on 3 December 1664 he conveyed to Major John
Washington:

"--- all my right title and interest of this land
pattent and the land therein contained with all
edifices thereunto belonging with all the land
conveyed by Henry Brookes to me --- also all
land that we are now possessed withal by virtue of
an order of Westmoreland County Court aforesaid,
and have been for five years possessed without
commencement of suit by Henry Brookes ---"

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 1, p 252) Wakefield Notes - 25)

Both of these documents were recorded on 1 March 1664, and following one after the other in the above order they vested in John Washington I. the title to whatever lands that were formerly David Anderson's. The discrepancies in the number of acres conveyed: Brooke to Cole and Anderson - 100; Cole to Anderson - 200; and Anderson to Washington - 150 may be explained by inaccurate surveys, poor approximations or by the conveyance of land to which the title was invalid. Were it not for the Washington against Washington award of 1742 (see below) this factor would present difficulties. In light of the wording of the deed of exchange, with an annexed plat, which resulted from the award, we can conclude that Anderson owned only 100 acres and that it was this tract that he sold to John Washington I.

Returning again to the David Anderson patent of ownership, it is noted that his holdings included one hundred acres bounding, "northwesterly upon a creeke dividing this land from the land of Hercules Bridges".

The land of Hercules Bridges is described in his patent as being 200 acres on the south side of the Potomac beginning at a corner and extending with the Potomac southeast [the direction should be southeast and is given as such in "Robert Liston and others to Lawrence Washington". 26 September 1695, - Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 2, p. 53 - Wakefield Notes - 53] 100 poles to a creek separating this land from that of Henry Brookes. (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 1, p. 1- Wakefield Notes, 1) This creek soon became known as Bridges and is so known today.

Therefore the one hundred acre tract sold by David Anderson to John Washington I. was on the south and east side of Bridges Creek between that Creek and the land of Henry Brookes.

It has been assumed that John Washington I, moved to this location and lived there until he died in 1677. This is supported by Stephen Kinnering's warrant to Daniel White, dated 21 October 1676, ordering him to confiscate the property of Colonel John Washington on "ye plantation of ye sd Washington by ye riverside --- or on the other plantation called ye Round Hills". (Westmoreland Deeds, Patents, etc., 1665-1677, p. 301- Wakefield Notes, 32). Here the emphasis is placed upon the riverside plantation, and John Washington I is not of record as having owned any Westmoreland river front property other than the Bridges Creek tract. If we accept the Will of John Washington I as recorded in Westmoreland Deeds, Patents, Accounts, Expositions, 1665-1677 and as substantiated by a photostat of the original, the case for Bridges Creek is unimpeachable. According to that instrument John Washington I. asked "to be buried on ye plantation where I now live, by the side of my wife yt is already buried", and gave "unto my son John Washington yt plantation whereon I now live wh I bought of David Anderson". (Wakefield Notes 37 & 37A). There are people in the community today who recall a vault which was within the compass of the present cemetery wall on the Bridges Creek tract. It has always been understood by the local Washington family that this vault held the remains of John Washington I., and that many of their other ancestors were also buried there.

Following the precedent set by his father, John Washington II in his Will proved 23 February 1637, commended his body to the earth "to be buried in a Christian like manner in the Burying Place on the Plantation where I now live, by my Father, Mother and Brothers," and gave unto "my well beloved wife Ann Washington the plantation I now live on at Appamattox during her natural life". The Will specified further that, "I give to my son John Washington that tract of land which I now live on after the decease of my wife". (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 2, p. 123) (Wakefield Notes 57)

[At first glance, the reference to Appomattox in the above may be confusing to the casual reader. It is explainable by the fact that Bridges Creek was often called Little Appomattox, and in fact, the whole area was sometimes called Mattox or Appomattox Neck.]

Although Lawrence Washington I, son of John Washington I and brother of John Washington II, never owned the Bridges Creek plantation, it is he to whom we are indebted for our most positive evidence concerning the exact location of the Burying Ground. In his Will proved 30 March 1698, (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk.2, p. 133 - Wakefield Notes, 54) [we can assume safely that he was buried only a few weeks after John Washington II was interred] he asked to be buried "by the side of my Father, [John Washington I] and Mother [Ann Pope Washington] and neare my Brother [John Washington II one of them] and Sisters and my Children".

There is no way of knowing how many of Lawrence Washington II's children preceded him to the grave, but there is excellent evidence to support the fact that two of them were buried in the graveyard on the Bridges Creek plantation. This evidence is in the form of an apparently original table-stone which was laid in memory of John and Mildred, eldest son and daughter, of Capt. Lawrence Washington, who died in 1690 and 1696 respectively. This is evidently the same stone which was seen in the Washington cemetery by the person who contributed an article to The Richmond Whig and Public Advertiser, Richmond Va., 14 October 1851. (Wakefield Notes 55 and 166)

The next transfer of this property was effected by a deed of exchange from John Washington IV III to his cousin Augustine Washington, Esq., dated 3 December 1742. The wording of this deed as illustrated by the quoted extracts,

and as supported by the plat (See Plat No. I) establishes further the location of the 100 acres that John Washington I. purchased of David Anderson.

The arbitrators found that:

"John Washington was entitled to One Hundred Acres of Land out of Brooks's Patent --- by Virtue of a Deed from the said Brooks to Coate [Cole] and Anderson who assigned the same to John Washington Gent. deceased the Great Grand Father [most probably Grandfather] of the said John Washington --- Part of which hundred acres the said John Washington held in the Fork of --- Bridge Creek and the other part thereof on the East side of the Mouth of the said Creek adjoining to the Land of the said Augustine Washington and not separated therefrom by any known or certain lines or bounds --- The said Arbitrators --- adjudged that the said One Hundred Acres of Land Claimed by and belonging to the said John Washington Out of Brooks's Patent. (Instead of being laid off on both Sides of Bridge Creek should for the future be laid off and --- held--- by the said John Washington --- wholly in the Fork of the said Bridge Creek --- And that the bounds of the said Augustine Washington's Land shall be as followeth that is to say Beginning at the mouth of Bridge Creek aforesaid and running thence down Potomack River the Several Courses and Meanders thereof to the mouth of Popes Creek thence running up the said Popes's Creek --- to (C) --- the --- Corner of Brooks's Patent on the said Creek's Side. thence running West North West --- thence West by North to the South East Branch or Fork --- to the Mouth of the said Bridge Creek where it first begins (the said South East Branch or Fork being the Boundary between --- John Washington's Land and the Land of --- Augustine Washington held under Brooks's Patent. ---"

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 9, p. 381) Wakefield Notes 89 and 90.

Thus a few months before his death, the original tract of one hundred acres at Bridges Creek was awarded to Augustine Washington I. He now owned the greater part of the land between Popes and Bridges Creeks, having

bought the Popes Creek farm in 1717 and having added to it by subsequent purchases.

The plat of the survey made at this time is erroneous in one particular, however. Augustine Washington did not own all of the former Brooks Patent as indicated. Instead there were contiguous tracts on the Potomac River and Popes Creek, [Luse's and the tract later known as Luck Hall, respectively] which were not owned by him and in so far as we know, they have never been owned by a Washington. With the exception of these tracts Augustine Washington now owned, 3 December 1742, approximately all of the Henry Brooks's Patent of 1662. (See Plat. I. + VI.)

II. Chain of Title to the Popes Creek Tract of 150 Acres.

The first record of title to this tract rests also in the Henry Brooks's Patent of 1662 [a renewal of a patent of 1657] since that instrument vested in the patentee ownership of 1020 acres bounded by Bridges Creek, the Potomac River, and Popes Creek. (See above, p. 35)

As already noted in the case of Bridges Creek plantation, Henry Brookes disposed of certain parcels of land, later included in this patent, before 1662. So it was with Popes Creek plantation.

On the 20 February 1657 Henry Brookes by deed of gift conveyed, "one hundred Acres of land being part --- of that --- tract of land whereon I am now seated" to Lawrence Abington and his wife Lydia, daughter of the said Brookes. (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 1, p 67) Wakefield Notes -7

The bounds of this gift were not fixed by the deed, but on the 17 June 1660 Henry Brookes transferred to Nicholas Sexton forty [43] acres of land

bounded on the southeast by Popes Creek and separated from the land of Lawrence Abington by a swamp running from northwest to southeast.

(Ibid, p. 164) Wakefield Notes - 12

By the Will of Henry Brookes, proved 3 February 1662, his granddaughter Lydia Abbington inherited fifty acres of land adjoining that of her father, Lawrence Abbington. (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk.1, p.186)
Wakefield Notes - 20

The one hundred acres given to Lawrence Abbington and his wife Lydia, and the fifty acres bequeathed to their daughter Lydia remained in the possession of the Abbington heirs until 1717-1718. By a series of indentures, dated 18 February 1717; 19 February 1717; 4 September 1718; and 5 September 1718, Joseph Abbington, the heir in possession, conveyed the above one hundred and fifty acres as a single unit to Augustine Washington I., father of George Washington. (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 6, pp 238, 240, 376, and 378)
Wakefield Notes - 64, 65, 66, 67

An extract from the first gives us the bounds of the purchase:

"--- All that one hundred and fifty acres of lands situate in the said County of Westmoreland aforesd and bounded Vix. Beginning at a marked hiccory on the head of the dancing marsh and so running down the said line to Popes Creek thence up the said Creek to the line of Nathaniel Washingtons and then up that line to include the aforesd One hundred and fifty acres of land which was given to Lawrence Abbington & his daughter Lydia Abbington together ---".

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 6, p.238) Wakefield Notes-64

The within mentioned "dancing marsh" coincides with the northwest-southeast swamp of "Henry Brookes to Nicholas Saxton" (above p. 42-3), and it remained as a boundary between the various Washington's and other land holders until the last owner-member of the family sold out in 1813. In that year the plat of the property sold designates the marsh as a boundary and the legend reads "thence up the Cove [from Popes Creek] and a branch thereof 140 pole to a Hickory at the head thereof." (See *Plats III & VI*) The "Hickory" here and the "marked hickory on the head of dancing marsh" of the Abbington-Washington deed could be the same.

The following extract from the second of the Joseph Abbington to Augustine Washington deeds furnishes a complete chain of title to the one hundred and fifty acres on Popes Creek:

--- Whereas Henry Brookes gave unto Lydia Abbington fifty acres of land adjoining to the land of Lawrence Abbington and in case of no heirs shall fall unto Lawrence Abbington the father of said Lydia who was seated by a deed of gift upon one hundred acres of land situate lying and being upon Popes Creek as by a will may more fully appear dated January the 21st 1662. this land being in the possession of Lawrence Abbington and Lydia his wife who was one of the daughters and coheirs of Henry Brookes dead and from them descended and came to Lawrence Abbington their son and from him the sd land descended unto and came to Broken Abbington who left only one son lately dead by means whereof the aforesaid Joseph Abbington has now become heir at law to the aforesaid lands. Now this indenture witnesseth that the said Joseph Abbington ---

doth --- release and confirm unto
said Augustine Washington (in his
actual possession now being of the
aforesaid One hundred & fifty acres
of land & premises ---"
(Ibid, p. 240) Wakefield Notes - 65

By 23 February 1726 Augustine Washington I and his wife Jane
were living on the land which he purchased from Joseph Abbington.

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 8 - pt. I., p226) Wakefield Notes - 75

Subsequent purchases of land extended his holdings between Popes
and Bridges Creeks, and on 3 December 1742 he was awarded the hundred acre
Bridges Creek tract which his grandfather had bought from David Anderson in
1664. (See above p. 40-1) This consolidated the various tracts so that his land
in the Neck was bounded on the East by Popes Creek and on the North and North-
west by Bridges Creek. With the exception of two tracts, Muse's and the later
Duck Hall, bounding on the Potomac River and Popes Creek, respectively,
Augustine Washington I now, 3 December 1742, owned nearly all of the Henry
Brookes Patent of 1664. (See Plats IV & V) Since the Popes Creek and Bridges
Creek tracts now became parts of a larger plantation, and since that plantation
was afterwards known as Wakefield, the chain of title will now be carried
forward under the name of the whole.

III. Chain of Title to Wakefield. [Not known as such until 1770's.]

By the Will of Augustine Washington I, dated 11 April 1743 and
recorded on the 6 May 1743, Augustine Washington II inherited almost all of
the Westmoreland property. (C. A. Hoppin, "The Will of Augustine Washington Sr.
(Father of George Washington)" in Tyler's Quarterly Historical and Genealogical

Magazine, Vol. IX, No. 1, p. 34 - Wakefield Notes, 91) Since his father was living on Popes Creek [Abbingdon tract] in 1726, (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk 8, pt I, p 226 - Wakefield Notes, 75) and since there is no record to the contrary, we can assume that Augustine Washington II continued to live on or near the same site while he cultivated the entire estate. At his death [1762] the property was left to his son William Augustine who was approximately five years old. [He was fifty three when he died in 1810.] However, Anne, his mother, renounced all benefit under her husband's will (Westmoreland Orders, 1761-1764, p 67 - Wakefield Notes, 102) and claimed her dower rights instead. (Ibid., p 93-Wakefield Notes 102) She was awarded Wakefield for life and a 1/4 interest in the personal estate. (Westmoreland Inventories, 1767-1776, Bk.5 p.239- Wakefield Notes, 104) When Anne Washington died [1774] William Augustine apparently came into absolute possession.

By will dated 12 July 1810 and proved in November of the same year, William Augustine Washington left Wakefield to his son, George Corbin Washington. (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 22, p. 165 - Wakefield Notes, 123) In 1811 and 1812 William Augustine Washington's estate was assessed on 4760 acres of land (Westmoreland Land Book, 1782-1814-Wakefield Notes, 127) and in 1813-1814 George Corbin Washington was assessed on 1300 acres (Ibid - Wakefield Notes, 127) By deed dated 13 October 1813 George Corbin Washington sold Wakefield to John Gray of Stafford County. This deed lists the tracts sold as follows: Wakefield 981 1/2 acres, Jonathans 105 acres and another of 200 acres (See plats IX & VI), and it reserved "the family Burying Ground at the Great Quarter also sixty feet square of ground on which the house stood in which General Washington was born" (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, bk. 23, p. 85 - Wakefield Notes, 128) [The plat designates neither the Burying Ground

nor the sixty feet square.]

In 1815, 1816, and 1817 John Gray was assessed on the 1300 acres as a unit. (Westmoreland Land Book, 1782 - 1817 - Wakefield Notes, 131). The same conditions held, in regard to the 1300 acre tract, from 1818 through 1832, (Westmoreland Land Book, 1818-1833 - Wakefield Notes, 132) but in 1829, John Gray's list carried an additional sixty acres, listed separately on which there were buildings valued at \$200. [Houses were listed separately from 1820.] This sixty acre tract with the \$200. house was Duck Hall which John Gray bought of Henry Letuz's trustee. [From 1820 a building valued at \$200. was on Henry Letuz's Duck Hall.] (Ibid - Wakefield Notes, 132) Although Duck Hall was bought in 1818 (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 23, p. 377 - Wakefield Notes, 137) John Gray was not assessed on the property until 1829. Wakefield had been under the supervision of Atchison, John Gray's son, until he died there in 1822. (Gray Family Bible in the possession of Mr. Robert Gray of Stafford County) In 1820 Atchison was assessed on one free male over 16 years old [Atchison himself] and one slave; in 1821 his list showed no slaves and 9 horses; and in 1822 there were 28 slaves, 11 horses, and a riding carriage and harness valued at \$350.00. (Westmoreland Personal Property Tax Lists, 1782-1851 - Wakefield Notes, 129) It would appear from this that he must have lived in one of the buildings on Duck Hall, but it seems odd that all of the buildings there should have been valued at only \$200. when Atchison owned a carriage and harness valued at \$350.

It may be that he died on a 547 acre tract, with a buildings evaluation of \$500., on Mattox Creek which his father bought in 1821, (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 24, p. 348 - Wakefield Notes, 128B) and on which he was

taxed from 1822 until 1829. (Westmoreland Land Book, 1818-1823 - Wakefield Notes, 132) This would not have been on Wakefield, however.

In the Daily National Intelligencer, Washington, D.C. for 28 February 1832, John Gray advertised the plantation for sale. In part the advertisement reads, "Wakefield, an estate in Westmoreland County, Virginia, containing upwards of 1700 acres; 860 of which is rich river land, in a high state of cultivation --- This property is the spot on which Gen. Washington was born, lying on Pope's Creek, by which and the Potomac River it is bounded for upwards of two miles ---". (Wakefield Notes, 133) A few days later an unsigned article appearing in the Phoenix Alexandria Gazette, Alexandria, Va., 6 March 1832 contributed the following pertinent information concerning the estate:

"--- Gen. Washington was born on a plantation called Wakefield, now the property of John Gray Esq., of Travellers Rest, [On the Rappahannock in Stafford County near Fredericksburg] lying on Pope's Creek in Westmoreland County (Va.). The house in which he first saw the light was about 300 yards from the Creek. $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile from its entrance into the Potomac. The mansion has long since fallen to ruins. Some of the trees of "olden days", are yet standing around it. There is nothing there at present of interest, except the recollections which must crowd upon the mind, while contemplating the birth place of Washington.

"In 1815, immediately after the ratification of the treaty of peace, Mr. Custis [George Washington Parke, grandson of Mrs. George Washington] repaired in his own vessel to the birth place, having prepared a stone with a suitable inscription to be deposited on the ruins of the mansion. --- The party landed at Wakefield, --- and having gathered together as much materials from the remains of the ancient mansion, as would serve for a rude pedestal they deposited the stone thereon, with this inscription: 'Here the 22.d

1732
February, Washington was born'---"
(Wakefield Notes, 134 and 135)

Our unknown correspondent in the 14 October 1851 issue of The Richmond Whig and Public Advertiser (See above, page) had this to say of the site and stone:

--- The birth place of George Washington is on a plantation known as 'Wakefield Estate', owned and enjoyed by John E. Wilson, [John E. Wilson, John E.'s father, bought Wakefield in 1846.] and in the midst of a two hundred acre corn field, marked only by an old brick chimney, a mammoth fig tree, and a freestone slab on which latter is inscribed in cut letters barely discernable:

'Here
the 22d February, 1732
Washington
was born'

* The slab is three feet long by one foot and a half wide and is broken in two. About one hundred yards from the spot is Lope's Creek, and about a mile distant the Potomac River.--- The neglected condition of the spot bears record of shame against his country for neglecting to lift up a monument there, to his memory.

" One quarter of a mile [three quarters] from the birth site, on the same estate, is an old fashioned vault, in a dilapidated condition, a tomb stone at the side of the door to which bears the following inscription:

'Here
Lioth the body
of
John Washington
Eldest son of
Capt. Lawrence Washington
who departed this life
the 10th of January
1690
Aged 10 years and 11 months

'Also
Mildred Washington

Eldesl daughter
of said Washington
who departed this life
the 1st day of August, 1696
Aged 5 months' "

(Wakefield Notes, 166)

The 1300 acre Wakefield Estate, which included the birth site and the cemetery described above, together with the Duck Hall area, was sold by John Gray to David Payne and Henry T. Carnett on 10 May 1832. (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 27, p. 215 - Wakefield Notes, 137) This deed specified that the land conveyed was Wakefield as bought from George C. Washington, and Duck Hall as bought by Gray from Henry Gerrard Letuz's trustee, Robert S. Hopkins. It refers to a plat of Wakefield which was made by Samuel Laskin on 15 October 1813. [This plat was not recorded with either the Washington to Gray deed of 1813 or with the Gray to Payne and Carnett deed of 1832. However, one plat, which we take to be the original, was located in, Westmoreland Loose Papers, Deeds and Wills, Box for 1805-1814, and another belongs to Mr. James Latane of Washington's Birthplace. A copy of the latter is used with this report. It differs in no essential from the one found in the Court House.]

The joint ownership of Wakefield lasted until 1835. On 19 October of that year Henry T. Carnett assigned the estate to Daniel Payne, (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 29, p. 69 - Wakefield Notes, 142) who passed it on to his daughter Elizabeth by Will proved 28 December 1835. (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 29, p. 18 - Wakefield Notes, 144) On 8 October 1838 Lawrence W. Barry, guardian of Elizabeth Payne, conveyed the title to Charles G. Jett, (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 30, p. 18

- Wakefield Notes, 145) Four days later Jett vested the title in Patrick C. Robb by deed of trust, (Ibid, p. 13 - Wakefield Notes, 148) but the former remained in possession until 1843. In that year the 25 February issue of the Washington D.C., Daily National Intelligencer Patrick C. Robb advertised that:

"By virtue of a deed of trust from Charles C. Jett --- bearing date the 12th of October, 1838 --- I will, on the premises, in the County of Westmoreland, --- offer at public auction --- the farm on which General Washington was born, called Wakefield, containing 133¹/₂ acres, between 7 and 800 of which are arable and river bottom of superior quality. The farm is situated between Pope's and Luttoc creek,---.

"There is on the premises a small Dwelling-house, with the necessary out-houses, attached to it; overseer's house, barns, and every convenience which could be required on a farm of its size.---" (Wakefield Notes, 152)

In order to protect Daniel Payne's estate his executors bought Wakefield at the auction which was held on 25 March 1843, and the title was transferred to them on 6 May of the same year. (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills Ek. 31, p. 362 - Wakefield Notes, 153) An account of the sale as rendered to the Court by P. C. Robb, Trustee, and recorded 9 May showed that the purchase price was \$14,000. (Ibid, p. 513 - Wakefield Notes, 154) Three years later, 11 April 1846, Daniel Payne's Executors and William and Bettie [Elizabeth Payne] Wirt sold Wakefield to John F. Wilson, (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Ek. 32, p. 228 - Wakefield Notes, 158) and on 30 July 1867 the last transfer of the Estate as a whole occurred when John F. Wilson of Maryland gave the property to his son John E. Wilson. [John E. had been in actual possession

and occupation since 1847 as will appear below.] (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk.37, p. 561 - Wakefield Notes, 167)

It is hardly probably that either Daniel Payne or Henry Garnett lived on Wakefield during their joint ownership from 1832 to 1835, inclusive. In the years 1833, 1834, and 1835 they paid taxes on 1360 acres [1300 Wakefield; 60 Duck Hill] but no buildings were listed. (Westmoreland Land Book, 1818-1833 - Wakefield Notes, 141) More than likely they directed operations on the estate from their homes in the County and that the actual work was performed by slaves established in a quarter on Wakefield under the supervision of an overseer. The same would apply to Charles C. Jett, who, although he did not buy Wakefield until 1838 (See above, p.50) was taxed on the property from 1836 through 1843. For the first four years no buildings are indicated, but for 1840 through 1843 Jett's list shows a 400. valuation in buildings on the 1300 acre tract and no buildings on Duck Hill. (Westmoreland Land Book, 1834-1850 - Wakefield Notes, 146) For 1844 and 1845 Daniel Payne's Executors were assessed on buildings valued at \$400. and in 1846 the valuation had increased to \$549.60 and the notation "New building Appraised" was appended. (Ibid-Wakefield Notes, 157) In 1847 John F. Wilson paid taxes on 1360 acres on which there were buildings valued at \$549.60, but in the next year's list the buildings valuation had increased to \$1200. (Ibid - Wakefield Notes, 163) John F. Wilson paid a personal property tax on 38 slaves and 11 horses in 1846, but no white titheable was listed until the next year, when John F. Wilson was assessed on 38 slaves, and 13 horses. (Westmoreland Personal Property Tax Lists, 1782-1841 - Wakefield Notes, 162)

The intimation here that John E. Wilson lived on Wakefield from 1847 is borne out by family history. [Mr. James Latane, a direct descendant, lives in the house that Mr. Wilson built on Pope's Creek about a half mile from the present Monument.] It would appear that John F. Wilson remained in Maryland, and that his son John E., occupied the plantation (See quotation from The Richmond Whig and Public Advertiser above, p. 49) until and after his father gave Wakefield to him in 1867. (See above, p. 51)

It will be recalled (See above, p. 46) that, when George Corbin Washington sold the 1300 acre Wakefield Plantation to John Gray in 1813, he reserved the family Cemetery and sixty feet square of Ground on which the House stood in which George Washington was born. This reservation, of course, applied to every subsequent deed to Wakefield so that the title to the reserved areas remained with the Washington heirs. Unfortunately, neither the Cemetery nor the Birthsite was designated on the 1813 survey. (See Plats III-VI)

It will also be recalled that George Washington Parke Custis placed [1815] a stone slab somewhere on Wakefield to mark the exact site of the Birth House, and that a marker was seen there by a visitor in 1851. (See above, pp 48 & 49) In view of the fact that Mr. John E. Wilson lived at Wakefield from 1846 or 1847 (See above, p. 523) until 1912, [His will was proved that year.] it is reasonable to suppose that he was familiar with the Custis Stone. That it was on Pope's Creek is attested to by the 1851 visitor, and that Mr. Wilson understood the Birthsite to be on Pope's Creek is borne out by the following:

On 18 September 1858 Lewis W. Washington, son of George C. [Corbin] Washington, deeded the family cemetery and the Sixty Foot Square to the State of Virginia upon the condition that the State would enclose these places by an iron fence based on stone foundations and, "mark the same by suitable and modest though substantial tablets". (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Ek. 35, p. 656 - Wakefield Notes, 168) That the State of Virginia accepted the gift, but failed to comply with the conditions, and that this resulted in subsequent ill feelings is not of particular significance to the task at hand.

A year later, 1 August 1859 John E. Wilson gave to the State of Virginia a road right of way through his farm to the Washington family Cemetery and the Birthsite of George Washington, also, "one acre of land or so much less as may be required so annexed to the reservation of Sixty feet square at th Birthsite --- as to contain equal quantities on either side of said reservation and also one half acre of land or less if requisite at the Burial place ---" (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Ek. 36, p. 125 - 129 Wakefield Notes, 169, 170, and 171) (See Plats Nos. II, IV, & VII) It is important to note that the Sixty Feet Square was to be in the center of the easment granted by Mr. Wilson.

In March 1937, T.L. Mullins, of the National Park Service, resurveyed the Wilson grant in accordance with the legend accompanying the Jas. W. English plat of the same property. It is significant that the 12 poles by 14 poles figure at the Birthplace includes the Kitchen, Building "X", and all of the Mansion except a small part of the north end. [designated as B., C., and A., respectively]. Assuming that the Mansion does not conform to the foundations discovered there in 1930, [It actually extends a number

of feet too far north.] the figure would include all of the larger foundations discovered at Wakefield. If the Sixty Feet Square were described within the center of the figure, it would fall between the Mansion and Building "X" and near the Kitchen. (See Plat No. VII) May it not be possible that Mr. Wilson did not know, and was therefore unwilling to commit himself as to what foundation was the correct one, and that he generously donated sufficient land to include all of the then known foundations? Of course, it is difficult to re-run today lines that were surveyed in 1859, and there may be, as Mr. Mullins points out, slight errors; however, when the Cemetery bounds are considered the whole resurvey becomes remarkably significant.

Since the locations of Bridges Creek and Popes Creek Plantations have been established and discussed at length, the remaining links in the chain of title, to the Birthsite and to the Cemetery tracts which are now included in the George Washington Birthplace National Monument, will be given in one-two-three order mainly for the sake of the record.

11 April 1882 - J. Carroll Washington and others to the United States of America:

The Sixty Feet Square of Ground on which the house, in which George Washington was born, stood. (Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 44, p. 163) Wakefield Notes - 172

Washington
22 May 1882 - J. B. [Carroll] and his wife to the United States of America:

The Sixty Feet Square of Ground.
(Ibid, p. 167) - Wakefield Notes - 173

10 July 1893 - John E. Wilson to the United States of

America:

$\frac{0.890}{1110,000}$ acres of land surrounding the Birthsite and a road
way 50 feet wide 9.8513 acres to the Burying Ground and Potomac River
beyond. (See Plat No. III) (Ibid., p. 168) Wakefield Notes - 173

6 May 1897 - Will of John E. Wilson - Proved 26 August 1912
Wakefield [this included all of the John Washington 1.100 acres at
Bridges Creek except the Burying Ground the remainder of Popes Creek tract
and Duck Hall] to his wife Bettie W. [Washington] Wilson.
(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Ek. 74, p. 433) Wakefield Notes - 176

4 January 1921 - Bettie W. [Washington] Wilson, Susan W. Latane
and others to William C. and James Latane, sons of Susan W. Latane:
Wakefield on the Potomac River and Popes Creek,
by estimation 965 acres. [Bridges Creek, the remainder of Popes Creek,
and Duck Hall.]
(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Ek. 83, p. 205) Wakefield Notes - 177

26 January 1924 - James and William Latane to the Wakefield National
Memorial Association:

Duck Hall and all interest, if any, that they might
have in the Burying Ground at Bridges Creek.

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Ek. 84, p. 538) Wakefield Notes - 173

20 October 1928 - William and James Latane and their wives to
Ira Luce:

12.58 acres on Popes Creek [a part of the original

150 acres Popes Creek farm.

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 87, p. 60) Wakefield Notes - 180

21 February 1923 - Ira Luse to The River Holding Corporation:

The above 12.88 acres of land

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 87, p. 79) Wakefield Notes - 181

21 February 1929 - William and James Latane and their wives to
The River Holding Corporation:

47.87 acres on Popes Creek; 37.54 acres on Bridges
Creek surrounding the Cemetery; and 181.27 acres on Bridges Creek and
the Potomac River.

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 87, p. 75) Wakefield Notes - 182

21 February 1929 - William and James Latane and their wives
to The River Holding Corporation:

A small strip of land on the shores of Popes Creek.

Apparently to straighten boundary lines

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 87, p. 73) Wakefield Notes - 183

12 December 1930 - The River Holding Corporation to the United
States of America:

All of the land which the Corporation bought from the
Latanes and Ira Luse.

(Westmoreland Deeds and Wills, Bk. 83, p. 65) Wakefield Notes - 184

22 June 1931 - The Wakefield National Memorial Association to the
United States of America:

All of the land which they bought from the Latanes.

Westmoreland Deeds and Willn, Ek. 89, p. 391 Wakefield Notes - 185

ADDENDA

PHYSICAL APPEARANCES OF EARLY WAKEFIELD

Virtually no information relating to the appearance and exact location of houses, fences, gardens, orchards, etc. at Wakefield could be determined from the sources covered.

One bit of information, which has already been submitted in the form of a memorandum, is given below.

"THE BIRTHPLACE OF WASHINGTON

"Washington was born about three hundred yards from Pope's Creek, (which runs easterly,) half a mile from its entrance to the Potomac River, Westmoreland County, Virginia ---

"The old house of his birth has long since mouldered. The cellar over which it stood, now mostly filled up, is about fifty feet in length from east to west, having what seems to have been a wine vault in the corner.

"Pope's Creek, passing by the site of the house, suddenly expanding into an Estuary, spreads before it on the East, while another small creek, coming down on the North side, forms this tastefully selected spot into a gently elevated promontory --- An orchard of apple trees of modern growth interspersed with other fruit trees, surrounds the old cellar; westerly of which are scattered some apple trees of a very ancient growth, with fruit of a delicious flavour. These trees are monuments of olden times; contemporaries probably with the childhood of the Great Statesman."

(The North American Magazine, No. 9, vol. II, July 1833 - Philadelphia, Penn.)

Wakefield Notes - 136

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4. Westmoreland Fiduciary [Inventories] Records, Books 1-20
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5. Westmoreland Land Books, Nos. 911, 912, and 913
covering years 1732-1850 [No land books before 1732]
6. Westmoreland Personal Property Tax Lists, unbound
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8. Westmoreland Loose Papers, Deeds and Wills,
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1. Complete the Virginia Gazette - Purdie and Dixon; Dixon and Hunter, etc.
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10. Mr. James Latane of Washington Birthplace and Mrs. Willie Wilson of Oak Grove should be approached in an effort to gain access to papers that they may have. This is a possible source which should not be overlooked, but one that may be very difficult of access.
11. The Journals of the House of Burgesses.
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