

Early-Poindexters-in-America Research Committee

5. AUTUMN REPORT

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Committee Activities

We have received a number of contributions and responses from PDAers since our Phoenix Report in July. We hope this active interest will continue!

1. Doris Gilbert sent a comprehensive genealogy from the Library of Congress which comprises the families of Parke, Poindexter, Flournoy, and Temple—Nelson—Teackle; and it extends from medieval times through the 19th century. It was constructed by an unknown author in the mid-1930s. The document is on about a square yard of paper, in finely inscribed handwriting about the size of elite type. The elegance of preparation and numerous reference citations indicate a serious family history enthusiast. It is now being analyzed and will be reported later.

2. Ron Poindexter examined *EPARC Model 1* and judged the considerable variation in age-at-death of the several Georges to be more realistic than the repeated death-at-age-65 of Old Model B. In addition, Ron's own monumental family history book contains several data previously unknown to the undersigned which are quite important. These are now being analyzed.

3. Bob Poindexter will thoroughly scrutinize the St. Peter's Parish records (*et al.*) and develop confirmations, refinements, corrections, or alternatives for *EPARC Model 1*.

4. Dorothy Knox Brown contributed several names of serious Poindexter buffs who are expected to have well-substantiated genealogical models. She also is making an effort for fruitful contact with Mrs. Nila Walker Kohen of Dallas, who has been a very serious Poindexter genealogist and is expected to have much data and well-constructed lineages. Regrettably, she is now quite inactive; it may be difficult to obtain critical information efficiently. Dorothy will also be on the lookout for new info on the George-Poindexter sequence and related topics.

5. J. Tracy Walker will focus on substantiating the origins of the William Poindexter of Louisa County who married Elizabeth around 1750. He will also think about a numbering system to identify persons in the genealogical structure. He is heavily into computer analysis. He plans to use the computer for manipulation of indirect data to help see meaningful patterns and probable relationships when lineage is not immediately evident.

6. Flossie Martin sent us some research gleanings by Dr. Adelaide Fries, a student of Moravian history and serious family history fan. The information included specifics on a land transaction from George-1 to his son John.

7. Helen DeVoe called from Indiana and engaged in extensive discussion of various problem areas in the Poindexter genealogy. She offered to prepare a copy of selected records of Christ Church, Middlesex County, VA; the parish records are out of print and EPARC needs them for ancillary support to the Poindexter line.

8. Doris Lucas contributed a Bible record from the family of Lewis Poindexter (1790-XXXX) which will help back-fill the late end of the George sequence.

9. J. Carl Poindexter sent us an overview of his own genealogical work, with attention to a notable Poindexter family cemetery in South Mountain Lake, VA. The cemetery contains 18 Poindexter graves, representing several generations of descendants of Philip Poindexter (b. 1708) and Sarah Crymes. Carl has worked to restore and insure the perpetual maintenance of this plot, and has done much research on his own line of Poindexters.

10. Katherine Bowles has volunteered to visit the Virginia State Library.

11. Bruce Anderson obtained for EPARC a copy of the genealogical section of Mack Swearingen's *The Early Life of George Poindexter*, one of the classic works on our family history. This will be analyzed and reported later.

12. The undersigned commenced a probe of the children of George-1 and George-2, in hopes that some deed, will, etc., might contain direct or indirect clues to the parentage of Thomas-1. The first item acquired was the will of George Hunt, husband of Elizabeth Poindexter (m. 1709). The will, recorded 1745 in Northumberland County, VA, does not mention any kin beyond Elizabeth and their children, unnamed except for a son William. We now have underway a probe of Richard Clough in Hanover and Louisa Counties. Richard is the husband of Anne Poindexter (m. 1718).

Technical Topics

The William Poindexters of Louisa County. In the July *Newsletter*, J. Tracy Walker raised the question of the origin of the two William Poindexters who were contemporaries in early Louisa County. Our current master PDA lineage charts (on Doris Lucas's computer printout or Doris Gilbert's window-shade scrolls) show William (m. Margaret) as son of John Poindexter and Christian Gizage, and William (m. Elizabeth) as son of Thomas Poindexter and Sarah Bond Veale (Bon de Ville?). Since EPARC has already examined and verified the origin of William (m. Margaret), we will present the result here to substantiate the record and to illustrate the quite different logic as compared to the George sequence in Model 1. The William situation requires the method of correlated and sequential information—sometimes called the mosaic method—to establish genealogical relationships.

In clarifying the origin for these Williams and their kin, all available information will not be used; rather, only the minimum essentials which support the logic. The following items are pertinent and sufficient.

In his will,¹ John Poindexter leaves many things to his wife Christian and also leaves 200 acres of land on Golden Mine Creek and a slave named Lender to his son William Poindexter. In 1764, William Poindexter (wife, Margaret) deeded 100 acres of land on Goldmine Creek to John Poindexter and an adjacent 100 acres to John White.² These items together are very good evidence that William (m. Margaret) was son of John and Christian.

In 1771, William of Trinity Parish is listed as owner of a slave named Lender,³ and Christian of Trinity Parish owned Harry, York, Ned, Bess, Amy, Sarah, and Lucy.⁴

In 1772, Christian is listed as owner of slaves Harry, Ned, York, Bess, Amy, Sarah, Lucy, and Lender;⁵ and William is living with her.⁵

In 1777, William is again listed as owner of Lender;⁶ Christian has Harry, York, Ned, Bess, Amy, Sarah, Hannah, and Rose.⁷

In 1778, William has Lender, Rose, and Hannah;⁸ Christian has York, Harry, and Bess.⁹

The appraisal of William's estate mentions his wife Margaret and their children Peter, John, William, Charles, Joseph, and Sally.¹⁰

The internally correlated sequence of slave ownership and joint or separate habitation is very strong evidence that this William of Trinity Parish was one and the same as the William who was heir of John, son of Christian, and husband of Margaret. The names of his wife and children are clearly established.

Meanwhile, in St. Martin's Parish, we have the other William.

In 1771, this other William owned slaves Dick and Milley.¹¹

In 1775, William owned Dick, Milley, and Michael.¹²

In 1777, William owned Reuben, Michael, Solomon, and Milley.¹³

In 1783, William owned Richard, Solomon, Milley, and Dilley; ¹⁴ David Poindexter is over 16 and living at home.¹⁴

In 1786, William and his wife Elizabeth deeded 150 acres of land to son David Poindexter.¹⁵

This internally correlated sequence for William of St. Martin's Parish overlaps in time the similar sequence for William of Trinity Parish. The names of his wife and a son, and his slaves, are well established, and totally different from William and Christian of Trinity. Thus this second William (m. Elizabeth) is well differentiated from the

first William (m. Margaret), and clearly was not the son of John Poindexter and Christian Gizage.

In regard to the first William's wife Margaret, the determination of her maiden name (Daniel) is another exercise in mosaic logic and will be presented in a later issue of the *Newsletter*.

J. Tracy Walker has volunteered to research and substantiate the origins of the second William (m. Elizabeth) and to establish his genealogical position. As always, comments and contributions relevant to his investigation will be eagerly welcomed.

1. *Abstracts of Louisa County, Virginia, Will Books, 1743–1801*, compiled by Nancy Chappellear and Kate Binford Hatch (published by editors, 1964) p. 27.

2. *Louisa County, Virginia, Deed Books C, C^{1/2}, D, D^{1/2}, 1759–1774*, abstracted and compiled by Rosalie Edith Davis (Rosalie E. Davis Books, Manchester, MO, 1977) p. 41.

3. *Louisa County, Virginia, Tithables and Census, 1743–1785*, edited and compiled by Rosalie Edith Davis (Heritage Trails, Manchester, MO, 1981) p. 30. This publication is hereinafter designated *Louisa Tithables*.

4. *Louisa Tithables*, p. 32.

5. *Louisa Tithables*, p. 36.

6. *Louisa Tithables*, p. 68.

7. *Louisa Tithables*, p. 69.

8. *Louisa Tithables*, p. 74.

9. *Louisa Tithables*, p. 76.

10. Estate of William Poindexter, in *Louisa County Will Book 5*, p. 289 (original document).

11. *Louisa Tithables*, p. 105.

12. *Louisa Tithables*, p. 113.

13. *Louisa Tithables*, p. 118.

14. *Louisa Tithables*, p. 125.

15. *Louisa County, Virginia, Deed Books E and F, 1774–1790*, abstracted and compiled by Rosalie Edith Davis (Heritage Trails, Manchester, MO, 1977) p. 56.

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