

## **Brunswick County Records**

### **Introduction**

In 1720 Brunswick County, Virginia was created by act of the Virginia Assembly to establish a new county from the southern part of Prince George County. Brunswick was named for the Duchy of Brunswick, an ancestral German possession of the Electorate of Hanover. The new Brunswick being deemed insufficient in population to constitute a county, areas of the counties of Surry and Isle of Wight were added to Brunswick in an effort to more equally distribute the titheable individuals.

As Poythress documents go, Brunswick County is one of the lesser “activity” counties. However, the reader should carefully note that **only** documents **ensuing** from Brunswick are listed here. The specific individual can be (and most often is) frequently noted in documents of surrounding counties or counties of his or her origin.

Following are the specific mentions of the **Poythress** and related families. The sources are many and varied and the listing is confined to **only** those listings in Brunswick County records:

### **7 Jun 1733 (O. S.) Road Order locating Cappt. Poythress**

Henry Cook is appointed Surveyor of a Road from **Cappt Poytris’s** Plantation on fountain’s Creek to Henry Wych’s fford over Meherrin and [missing] all the Male Labouring Tyths between the Cane branch and the G [missing] Swamp and that James Parham, John Clyburn, John Walker, Thomas Busbey, Thomas Burnett & ffrancis Steed assist in Clearing the Same – “Historic Roads of Virginia

Brunswick County Road Orders

1732-1746”, p. 26

by Nathaniel Mason Pawlett

Faculty Research Historian

Virginia Transportation Research Council

### **6 Mar 1738/39 Will of Robert Hicks, wit. Ann Poythress**

I, Robert Hicks, Gentleman of Brunswick, knowing the uncertainty of human life, and being now in perfect health, etc.

To my son Charles Hicks.....

To my wife Frances Hicks.....

To my son John Hicks.....

To my son James Hicks.....

To my son-in-law Richard Ransom..

To my grandson Benjamin Hicks....

To my son George Hicks.....

To my daughter Martha Beddingfield..

To my daughter Frances Ransom.....

To my daughter Elizabeth Hicks.....

To my daughter Rachel Hicks.....

To my son Charles Hicks.....

To my daughter Elizabeth.....

To my grandson John Beddingfield....

To my wife Frances Hicks.....

To my two daughters Mary and Tabitha

Executrix: my wife Frances Hicks

Signed: Mar 6, 1738/9 – Robt (RH his mark) Hicks. Wit. **Ann Poythress**, Charles Ross, John Chapman. On Feb 7, 1739

*Brunswick County, Va. Deed Book 1739-1750, p. 3*

*[note: wasn't Ann Poythress m. to Col. John Wall?]*

### **9 Dec 1739**

John Robertson and Martha Poythress were married by the Rever Alexand Finnie Ye 9<sup>th</sup> Dec 1739. (Bible Records – Robertson & Legrand, from the Virginia State Library & Archives). Abstracted by Daphne Gentry.

### **5 June 1740**

Order'd that the petition of William and Francis Poythress executors &c of John Fitzgerald deced against Seth Petty Poole be continued 'til the next court.

Gentleman judges: John Wall, Richard Burch, Nicholas Lanier, William Hagood. Sheriff: William Martingood (Bruns County Court Orders, p. 315)

### **6 Jun 1740 Brunswick Court Order**

William and Francis Poythress executors &c of John Fitzgerald, plts., against William Gent, deft., continued 'til the next court. In case. (Bruns County Court Orders, p. 317)

### 1740 Reconstructed Virginia Census (Brunswick County)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Source</u>
<b>Poythress, Ann</b>	Brun. Co. Order Books 1737-1749
<b>Poythress, Francis</b>	Brun. Co. Wills # 2, Brun. Orders 1737-1749
<b>Poythress, Hannah</b>	Brun. Co. Orders 1737-49
<b>Poythress, William</b>	Brun. Co. Orders 1737-49

### 4 Sep 1740 Brunswick Court Order

**William and Francis Poythress** executors &c of John Fitzgerald deced, petitioners, against Seth Petty Poole, deft. Upon a petition for debt. This day came the parties by their attorneys and the said defendant defends the force and injury and prays judgement of the petitioners wait because he saith that the aforesaid **Francis Poythress** one of the petitioners in the said writ named after the original writ aforesaid was sued out and before this day to wit on the ----- day of ----- in the year MDCCXXXIX died at the parish of Saint Andrew in the county of Brunswick aforesaid and this he is ready to verefie wherefore he prays the judgement of this worshipful court of the said writ and that the said writ may be quashed and so forth and on the motion of the petitioners time is given them til the next court to consider the said plea. (Brunswick Court Order Book, p. 346-347)

### 4 Sep 1740 Brunswick Court Order

p. 347. Upon the petition of **William and Francis Poythress** executors &c of John Fitzgerald, deced., against Samuel S? for fo- pounds six shillings and four pence ----- be due by bill: discontinued; being agreed by the parties.

### 4 Sep 1740 Brunswick Court Order

p. 348. **William and Francis Poythress** executors &c of John Fitzgerald, plts., against William Gent, deft., continued 'til the next court. In case.

### 5 Sep 1740 Brunswick Court Order

p. 363. **William and Francis Poythress** executors &c of John Fitzgerald, plts., against Phillip Gorgette, deft., continued 'til the next court. In debt.

### **5 Sep 1740 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 363. **William and Francis Poythress** executors &c of John Fitzgerald, plts., against Moses Dunkley, deft., continued 'til the next court. In debt.

### **5 Sep 1740 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 372. Upon the petition of Clement Read setting forth that William Acock stands justly indebted to him the sum of one pound ten shillings current money by the ballance of an account and refuseth paiment thereof altho' often demanded and that John Bradford deced in his lifetime stood also indebted to the said Read in the sum of one pound five shillings and six pence current money which altho often demanded of the said John Bradford in his lifetime yet the same to the said Read to pay he did refuse and altho' often demanded of the said William Acock since his espousal with Rebecca Bradford executrix of the said Bradford deced yet the same sums of money to pay he hath refused and detained and therefore the petitioners prayed judgement &c discontinued; being agreed by the parties.

### **2 Oct 1740 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 375. Order'd that the petition of **William and Francis Poythress** executors &c of John Fitzgerald deced, petitioners, against Seth Petty Poole, deft., upon a petition for debt. On the motion of the petitioners by their attorney further time is given them 'til the next court to consider the said deft.'s plea.

### **2 Oct 1740 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 376. **William and Francis Poythress** executors &c of John Fitzgerald, plts., against William Gent, deft., continued 'til the next court. In debt.

### **2 Oct 1740 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 378. George Gordon, plt., against Lawrence House, deft. In case. This day came the parties by their attorneys and the said deft. saith nothing in Barr or preclusion of the plt.'s action whereby the plt. remains thereof against him undefended. Therefore it is consider'd by the Court that the plt. recover against the deft. what of the damages in the declaration mentioned it shall appear he hath sustained by occasion of the premises upon an enquiry thereof by a Jury.

### **2 Oct 1740 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 386. **William and Francis Poythress** executors &c of John Fitzgerald, plts., against Moses Dunkley, deft., continued 'til the next court. In debt.

## 2 Oct 1740 Franc's Poythress (exor of John Fitzgerald)

Account current of the estate of Joseph Turner deceased. Debits mentioned include payments to: the executors of **William Kinchin, Francis Ealidge, Peter Fairfax, Charles Travers, Franc's Poythress (exor of John Fitzgerald)**, etc. etc.

Signed **John Wall, Michael Wall**, Recorded Oct 2, 1740  
*Brunswick County, Va. Deed Book 1739-1740, p. 2 (1740)*

## 6 Nov 1740 Brunswick Court Order

p. 399. Order'd that the petition of **William and Francis Poythress** executors &c of John Fitzgerald deced, petitioners, against Seth Petty Poole, deft., upon a petition for debt. This day came the parties by their attornies and the petitioners demurr generally to the deft.'s plea in abatement and on the motion of the deft. time is given him 'til the next Court to consider the said demurrer.

## 6 Nov 1740 Brunswick Court Order

p. 400. **William and Francis Poythress** executors &c of John Fitzgerald, plts., against William Gent, deft., continued 'til the next court. In case.

## 2 Apr 1741 Brunswick Court Order

p. 415. **William and Francis Poythress** executors &c of John Fitzgerald deced, plaintiffs, against Philip Gorgette, deft. In debt. This day came the parties by their attorneys and the said defendant defends the force and injury and prays judgement of the petitioners wait because he saith that the aforesaid **Francis Poythress** one of the petitioners in the said writ named after the original writ aforesaid was sued out and before this day to wit on the ----- day of ----- in the year 1739 died at the parish of Saint Andrew in the county of Brunswick aforesaid and this he is ready to verifie wherefore he prays the judgement of this worshipful court of the said writ and that the said writ may be quashed and so forth and on the motion of the plaintiffs by their attorney time is given them 'til the next court to reply to the said plea.

## 2 Apr 1741 Brunswick Court Order

p. 415. **William and Francis Poythress** executors &c of John Fitzgerald, plts., against Moses Dunkley, deft. In debt. The same plea and order verbatim as next before.

### **7 May 1741 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 431. Rebecca Bradford having been summoned to render an account of her administration of the estate of John Bradford deced appeared and the Court being satisfied with her administration order'd that she be discharged from rendering an account thereof at present.

### **7 May 1741 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 437. Upon the petition of **William and Francis Poythress** executors &c of John Fitzgerald deced against Seth Petty Poole for debt continued 'til the next Court.

### **7 May 1741 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 452. **William and Francis Poythress** executors of &c John Fitzgerald, plts., against Phillip Gorgette, deft., continued 'til the next court. In debt.

### **7 May 1741 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 453. **William and Francis Poythress** executors &c of John Fitzgerald, plts., against Moses Dunkley, deft., continued 'til the next court. In debt.

### **7 May 1741 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 459. Upon the petition of **Hannah Poythress** and John Ravenscroft, executors &c of **Francis Poythress** deced against John Smith for 13.9.11 the summon not being returned on the motion of the petitioners by Clement Read their attorney a new summon is awarded them against the said deft. returnable the next Court.

### **6 Aug 1741 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 24. Discontinued: being agreed by the parties upon the petition of **Hannah Poythress** and John Ravenscroft executors &c of **Francis Poythress** deced against John Smith for 13.9.11 said to be due upon an account: Dismissed for want of prosecution.

### **03 Dec 1741 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 58 **William and Francis Poythress**, Executors, &c, plts., against Seth Petty Poole, deft., upon petition in debt. This day came the parties by their attornies

and thereupon the petitioners demurrer to the defts. plea in abatement being argued because it seems to the Court here that the said plea and the matter therein contained are not sufficient in lan to quash the writ of the petitioner therefore it is considered that the deft. to the said writ do further answer whereupon the said deft. by his attorney for plea saith that he doth not owe to the petitioners as Executors of the said John the money in the petition mentioned or any penny thereof and this he prays may be enquired of by the Court and on the motion of the petitioners by their attorney time is given them til the next Court to consider the said plea.

### **03 Dec 1741 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 58. **William and Francis Poythress**, Executors, &c, plts., against Moses Dunkley, deft., in debt. This day came the parties by their attornies and the petitioners demurrer to the defts. plea in abatement being argued because it seems to the Court here that the said plea and the matter therein contained are not sufficient in lan to quash the petitioner's writ therefore it is considered that the deft. to the same writ as further answer and thereupon the said deft. prays and has leave to imparte here til the next Court.

### **03 Dec 1741 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 58. **William and Francis Poythress**, Executors, &c, plts., against Philip Gorgette, deft., in debt. This day came the parties by their attornies and the petitioners demurrer to the defts. plea in abatement being argued because it seems to the Court here that the said plea and the matter therein contained are not sufficient in lan to quash the petitioner's writ therefore it is considered that the deft. to the same writ do further answer and thereupon the said deft. prays and has leave to imparte here til the next Court.

### **03 Dec 1741 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 64. John Allen gent. assignee of John Ravenscroft & **Hannah Poythress**, Executors, &c, of **Francis Poythress deced.**, plt., against William Battersby, deft., in debt. Discontinued for want of prosecution.

### **2 Feb 1741/2 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 78. The petition of **William and Francis Poythress**, Executors, &c, John Fitzgerald deced. against Seth Petty Poole is continued 'til the next Court at the plaintiff's costs.

### **2 Feb 1741/2 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 78. **William and Francis Poythress**, Executors, &c, of John Fitzgerald deced., plts., against Moses Dunkley, deft., in debt. Continued 'til the next Court.

### **2 Feb 1741/2 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 78. **William and Francis Poythress**, Executors, &c, of John Fitzgerald deced., plts., against Moses Dunkley, deft., in debt. Continued 'til the next Court.

### **2 Feb 1741/2 Brunswick Court Order**

Brunswick County Court Orders, 2/4/1741, p. 78. **William and Francis Poythress**, Executors, &c, of John Fitzgerald deced., plts., against Phillip Gorgette, deft., in debt.

### **3 Mar 1741/2 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 104. Upon the petition of Richard Bland against John Duke gent. this day came as well the plaintiffs by Clement Read his attorney as the deft. in his proper person and were heard and it being the opinion of the Court that the deft. doth owe to the plaintiff the money in the petition mentioned therefore it is considered that the plaintiff recover against the said deft. four pounds twelve shillings and three pence current money and his costs by him in this behalf expended including seven shillings and six pence for an attorney's fee. p. 104. Ordered that Richard Bland pay Richard Bland gent two hundred and five pounds of tobacco for one day's attendance at this Court and for coming and returning sixty miles as a witness for the said Richard Bland against John Duke gent. p. 104-105. Ordered that Richard Bland pay **Thomas Poythress** two hundred and five pounds of tobacco for one days attendance at this Court and for coming and returning ! sixty miles as a witness for the said Richard against John Duke gent.

### **4 Jun 1742 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 128. Upon the petition of **William and Francis Poythress**, Executors, &c, of John Fitzgerald, deced. against Seth Petty Poole for two pounds thirteen shillings and seven pence current money said to be due by Bill this day came the parties by their attornies and it appearing from the testimony of divers witnesses that the defendant doth not owe the plaintiffs the money in the petition mentioned & in pleading he hath alledged therefore it is ----- by the Court that the petitioners take nothing by their petition ----- false ----- be in ----- and that the defendant go hence without day and recover against the plaintiffs his costs by him about his defence in his behalf expended. p. 129. On



the motion of Francis Bresin witness for of Seth Petty Poole at the suit of **William and Francis Poythress**, Executors, &c, of John Fitzgerald deced. ordered that the said Seth pay him two hundred and eighty pounds of tobacco for four days atten! dance for coming and returning thirty miles according to law. p. 129. On the motion of Thomas Mayo witness for Seth Petty Poole at the suit of William and Francis Poythress, Executors, &c, of John Fitzgerald deced. ordered that the said Seth pay him one hundred pounds of tobacco for four days attendance according to law.

### **01 Dec 1743 Deed Thomas Willams and wife Rachael to LeRoy Griffin**

From **Thomas Williams** and and **Rachel his wife**, of Prince George County, for 50L, all that tract of 521 acres of land in Brunswick, the same having been patented to **Joseph Boswell** on Sep 28, 1728, and bounded by John Robertson, the north side of Sturgeon Cr, Stroud, Henry Moriss. Signed- Thomas Williams, Rachel Williams. Wit.- **Jona. Lydell, John Edwards, John Blackman**, Recorded Feb 2, 1743  
*Brunswick County, Va. Deed Book No. 2, p. 396*  
(see entry below)

### **02 Feb 1743/4 Release of Right of Dower by Rachel Griffin (from above)**

To **William Poythress** [Sheriff], **Hugh Miller**, and **Samuel Gordon** of the County of Prince George, Gentlemen, Greeting. **Rachel** cannot conveniently travel to our County Court or to our General Court to acknowledge the conveyance, you are therefore given the power to receive her acknowledgement by personally going to **Rachel**. Signed Jan 7, 1743, Sterling Clack, Clerk B Court.

Rachel voluntarily relinquished her right of dower to the lands conveyed. Signed Feb 1, 1743/4 – **William Poythress, Samuel Gordon**.  
Brunswick County, Va. Deed Book No. 2, p. (no recording date).

### **6 May 1747 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 183. William Pace, plt., against William Acock and Rebecca his wife, Executor, &c, of John Bradford deced. and Adam Tapley and William Poole, defts., in Chancery. The deft. Poole put in a demurrer plea and answer to the plaintiff's Bill which is set for hearing at the next Court and on the motion of

the plaintiff an attachment is awarded him against the other defendants for want of appearance.

### **2 July 1747 Brunswick Court Order**

p. 235. William Pace, plt., against William Acock and Rebecca his wife, Executor, &c, of John Bradford deced. and Adam Tapley and William Poole, defts., in Chancery. Continued 'til the next Court.

### **27 Sep 1750 Joshua Poythress purchases slaves from Matthias Davis**

**Matthias Davis** of Brunswick County for £35-13 Shillings & 2pence, paid by **Joshua Poythress of Prince George County**, on negrowoman Slave named Judy and her Child also one Negro boy named Dick, dated 27 September 1750. Signed **Matts. Davis**. Wit: **J. Wall, Jr., John Taylor Duke**. Court 26 December 1750, Deed proved by the oaths of **John Wall Junr**. Deed Book 4, Page 203.  
*Brunswick County Deed Book 4, p. 203*

### **29 May 1754 Account of John Wall to Brunswick County**

1754 Account of **John Wall** to Brunswick County. **Edmund Ruffin**, Excr. Receipt signed by **William Poythress**, sher, proved 29 May 1754, Litt Tazewell, CC. (*Citation missing*)

### **27 Jan 1756 Charles Poythress listed in Walker estate**

**Charles Poythress'** name on an audited list for the estate of of Alexander Walker [purchasers of estate items]. Audit was returned to the court on 27 Jan 1756.

*Brunswick Will Book 3, p. 174*

### **00 Jun 1760 Estate Inventory Jno. Potess, Jr.(John Poythress, Jr.)**

The following is a 1760 inventory of **John Poythress** of Brunswick County, VA., transcribed in full by Beatrice Poythress Baird from the original in the office of the clerk in Lawrenceville:

*(Brunswick WB 3, p.341)*

An Inventory and Appraisalment of **John Potess, Jr.**

To three shirts, and 3 caps	1" 17" 0
To Sunday Cloaths	0" 0" 0
To 1 pr of show buckels and ring	1" 0" 0
To Taylor, Tools and Handkerchiefs	0" 10" 0
To 1 Shoes & Hatt	0" 10" 0
To 1 great Coat and Jack Coat	0" 10" 0
To 1 Saddle and Bridle	0" 13" 0
To 1 Horse	3" 10" 0
To 1 Case Razors	0" 1" 0
To 1 pr. gloves and bags	0" 3" 9
	11" 11" 9

Excepted - **Thos. Morris - Richard Blanks & Jirgens Blanks.**

Returned into Brunswick County Court this \_\_\_\_ Day of June 1760 and ordered to be recorded.

Teste: **John Robinson**

Notes:

Beatrice Poythress Baird comments that the original document is very, very difficult to read and that she is unable to make a photocopy. I assume this means either the office does not permit it or the page is simply too poor to transfer. Also, she is uncertain of the "Jr." It could be "Dr." instead, or something else. My best understanding is that "To" is an accounting term of uncertain origin, approximately translated "item", and that the quotation mark is just a variously chosen separation between pounds, shillings and pence.

*Brunswick County Will Book 3, p. 341*

### **1760-1784 Brunswick County Order Book**

(undated) OB 8, p. 16: Order that Ingram Blanks, Thomas Morris and Richard Blank being first sworn before a Justice of this county do appraise in current money the slaves (if any) and personal estate of John Portis [sic?] dced and \_\_\_\_\_ the appraisement of the court.

### **25 Aug 1760 Brunswick County Order Book**

OB 8, p. 92: Ordered that John Peterson, George Wyche, Thomas Morris and John Liefsay or any threee of them being first sworn do view the conveniency and inconveniency that may attempt turning the River Road beginning at Smith's old Fields or thereabouts and running from thence into **Poythress's**

road near the Great Swamp bridge and make a report thereof to the Court. At a court held for Brunswick County on Monday the twenty-fifth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred sixty.

**23 Nov 1771 Peter Poythress (Prince George) buys 6 acres in Brunswick from John Morton, Jr. (Brunswick)**

This indenture, made the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November, one thousand seventeen hundred and seventy one between **John Morton, Jr.** of the **County of Brunswick** of the one part and **Peter Poythress of the County of Prince George** of the other part. Witnesseth, that the said **John Morton, Jr.** for and in consideration of the sum of 7 pounds current money of Virginia to him in hand paid the receipt whereof he and said **John Morton, Jr.** doth hereby acknowledge the said **John Morton, Jr.** hath granted, bargained and hold aliened, confirmed and by these presents doth grant, bargain, sell, alien and confirm unto the said **Peter Poythress**, his heirs and assigns forever **six acres** of land to be the land more or less lying and being on Nottaway River and in the aforesaid county of Brunswick and is bounded as follows.....(here follows detailed description of the location of the land).....to have and to hold the said six acres of land.

Signed: **John Morton** (ls)

At a court held for Brunswick County 25<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1771. This indenture was proved by the etc. etc.

*Brunswick Deed Book # 10*

**13 May 1773 Deed, Thomas Poythress to William Rives**

This Indenture made this thirteenth Day of May One Thousand Seven Hundred and seventy three Between **Thomas Poythress of Martin's Brandon Parish in Prince George County** of the one part and **William Rives** Son of **George Rives** deceased in Meherrin Parish and the County of Brunswick of the other Part Witnesseth that the said **Thomas Poythress** for and in Consideration of the Sum of One Hundred and fifty Pounds Current Money of Virginia to him in hand paid by the said **William Rives** the receipt whereof he doth hereby acknowledge hath granted Bargained and Sold Alien'd and Confirmed and by these Presents doth Grant Bargain and Sell Alien and Confirm unto the said **William Rives** his Heirs and Assigns forever one Tract or parcel of Land

situate lying and being in the said Parish of Maherrin and aforesaid County of Brunswick adjoining the Lands of Benjamin Rives and Richard Woodroof lying upon the Beaver pond Creek containing two hundred and seventy five Acres be the same more or less with all and singular its appurtenances thereunto belonging and also the Reversion and Reversions Remainder and Remainders thereof and all the Estate right Title Claim Interest and Demand whatsoever of him the said **Thomas Poythress** of in and to the said **Two hundred and seventy five Acres** of Land and every part and parcel thereof To have and to hold the said Two Hundred and seventy five Acres of Land be the same more or less with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging unto the said **William Rives** his Heirs and Assigns forever And the said **Thomas Poythress** for himself and his Heirs the said Two hundred and Seventy five Acres of Land with its Appurtenances against him and his Heirs and against all and every other person and persons whatsoever to the said **William Rives** his Heirs and Assigns shall and will Warrant and forever defend by these Presents In Witness whereof the said **Thomas Poythress** hath hereunto set his hand and affixed his Seal the Day and Year above Written.

Signed Sealed and Delivered **Tho<sup>s</sup>. Poythress** (L.S.)

in presence of

**James Young**

**William Rives**

**Benjamin Rives**

At a Court held for Brunswick County the 22d Day of November 1773. This Indenture was partly proved by the Oaths of **James Young** and **William Rives** two of the Witnesses thereto.

Test

**Peter Pelham Jr.** Ct. Cur.

*Deed Book 13, page 1, Brunswick County, Virginia.*

*Patent transcription courtesy of Carol Morrison*

### **O6 Jul 1773 Deed, Thomas Poythress (of PG County) to John Dawson**

This Indenture made the Sixth Day of July in the year of our Lord one Thousand seven Hundred and seventy three Between **Thomas Poythress of Prince George County Virginia** and **John Dawson of Brunswick County Virginia** Witnesseth that the said **Thomas Poythress** for and in Consideration of the sum of Four Hundred Pounds Current Money as aforesaid to him in Hand paid as aforesaid by the said **John Dawson** at and before the sealing and Delivery of these Presents the Receipt hereof the said **Thomas Poythress** Doth Hereby Acknowledge and thereof Doth acquit the said **John Dawson** his Heirs

Extors and Administrators Hath granted Bargained sold aliened Enfeoffed Confirmed and made over and by these Presents Do Grant Bargain sell alien Enfeoff & Confirm and make over unto the said **John Dawson** his Heirs and assigns forever **Two Certain Tracts, Parcels or Dividends of Land Containing by Estamation five hundred and Twenty five Acres** be the same more or Less, to wit, Begining at a Gum on the East side of the Cane Branch thence East by south forty four Poles to a black oak thence north seventy five Degrees East Twenty eight Poles to a White Oak thence North Eighty five Degrees East fifty four Pole to a Red oak thence North seventy five Degrees East fifty seven Pole to a Red Oak thence North by West Eight Nine Pole to a White Oak Thence North west by West One Hundred and seventy seven Pole to a Black Oak thence south west by west Eighty Six Pole to a Maple by the side of the Cane Branch aforesaid and Down the Various Courses of the Run of the said Branch to the Begining Containing Two Hundred acres more or Less part of the above Mentioned five Hundred and Twenty five Acres also one other Tract or Parcle of Land Containing by Estamation three Hundred and Twenty five Acres Bounded by the above Mention'd Tract of Two Hundred acres of Land to wit Begining at a Sassafrass and Holly by the sides of fountains Creek a Corner of **James Chapples** Land Thence by Chappell's ~~Land~~ line North Two Hundred and thirty six powls to a Black Oak and North East Sixty Six Poles, to a Mapel by the side of Great swamp thence up the Various Courses of the said swamp to a Marked Live Oake a Corner of **William Doughlass's** Land thence by Doughlass's Line North Eighty Degrees West fifty four Pole to a Black a Corner of Samuel Clark's Land thence by Clark's Line south west by west one Hundred and sixty Poles to a Hickory, thence south Twenty Eight Degrees West Sixty two Poles to a Maple by the side of the Cane Branch a Corner of the above tract of Two Hundred acres of Land thence along the said Land North East by East Eighty Six Poles to a Black oak, south East by East one Hundred and seventy seven Poles to a White Oak south By East, Eighty Nine Poles to a Red Oak south seventy five Degrees West fifty seven Poles to a Red Oak, south Eighty five Degrees West fifty four Poles to a White Oak south seventy five Degrees west Twenty Eight ~~Degrees~~ poles to a Black Oak and west by North forty four Poles to a Gum by the side of Fountain's Creek Just against the Mouth of the Cane Branch and Down the varias Courses of the Run of the said Creek to the Begining and the Reversion and Reversions Remainder & Remainders of and singular the Premises with the appertenances and all the Estate Right Title, Possession Claim and Demand whatsoever of him the said **Thomas Poythress** to the said Land and Premisses on of in or unto any Part thereof To have and to hold, the said Land and Premisses with the appertenances unto the said John Dawson his Heirs and assigns forever and to

no other use intent or Meaning Whatsoever and the said **Thomas Poythress** Doth hereby Promise for himself his Heirs and assigns that he and every of them shall and will warrent and forever Defend by these Presents the above Mentioned Premises with their and every of their appertenances unto the said **John Dawson** his Heirs and assigns forever In Witness whereof the I said Have Hereunto set my Hand and affixed my seal the Day and year first above Written.

Sealed and Delivered

In the presence of

**Thomas Poythress (LS)**

**David Edmunds**

**Howell Edmunds**

**David Edmunds Jr.**

Memorandum that on the sixth Day of July 1773 the within Named **Thomas Poythress** Did Deliver to the within Named **John Dawson** Quiet and Peaceble Possession and seizure of the within Mentioned Tract or parcle of Land and Premisses with the appertenances thereunto Belonging to Hold to him the said **John Dawson** His Heirs and assigns forever According to the true intent & Meaning of the within Written Deed

In the presence of

**Thomas Poythress (LS)**

**David Edmunds**

**Howell Edmunds**

**David Edmunds Junr.**

July 6th 1773 then Received of **John Dawson** the sum of Four Hundred Pounds Current Money of Virginia it being in full for the Consideration Money within Mentioned

Received P me

**Thomas Poythress**

At a Court held for Brunswick County the 24th Day of January 1774

This Indenture of Bargain and sale and Memorandum from **Thomas Poythress** to **John Dawson** was proved by the Oaths of **David Edmunds** and **David Edmunds Junr.** two of the Witnesses Hereto and Ordered to be Certified and At a Court held for the said County the 28th Day of February following the same was proved by the Oath of **Howell Edmunds** and ordered to be Recorded.

Test

**Peter Pelham Junr.** Clk.

*Deed Book 11, pages 239-241, Brunswick County, Virginia*

*Patent transcription courtesy of Carol Morrison*

[note: this land is likely comprised of two patents to **John Poythress**, 325 acres to **John Poythress, Gentl.** 1736 and 200 acres to **John Poythress** in 1723]

**24 Mar 1774 Peter Poythress sells 6 acres to Christopher Haskins**

This indenture made this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy four between **Peter Poythress** of the **county of Prince George** of the one part and **Christopher Haskins** of the **county of Brunswick** of the other part. Witnesseth, that the said **Peter Poythress** for and in consideration of the sum of **9£** current money of Virginia to him in hand paid by the said **Christopher Haskins** the receipt whereof he the said **Peter Poythress** doth hereby acknowledge hath granted and bargained and sold aliened and confirmed that by these presents doth grant bargain sell alien and confirm unto the said **Christopher Haskins** his heirs and assigns forever six acres of land as the same more or less lying situate on Nottoway River in the aforesaid county of Brunswick, as bounded as follows.....(routine text describing boundaries in detail)...Witness whereof the said **Peter Poythress** hath herewith set his hand and affixed his seal on the day and year above written.

Signed sealed and delivered

In the presence of:

**Peter Poythress** (ls)

**William Jones**

**Benjamin Jones**

**Robert Burlington**

**Deely Mathis**

*Brunswick County Deed Book 14, p. 612*

**13 May 1777 Indenture Thomas Poythress (Prince George) sells 275 acres to William Rives (Brunswick)**

This indenture made this the 13<sup>th</sup> day of May one thousand seven hundred and seventy seven between **Thomas Poythress** of **Martin Brandon Parish, Prince George County** of the one part and **William Rives**, son of **George Rives**, dced, in **Meherrin Parish of the county of Brunswick** of the other part. Witnesseth, that the said **Thomas Poythress** for and in consideration of the sum of **150£** current money of Virginia to him in hand paid by the said **William Rives** the receipt whereof he doth hereby acknowledge hath granted, bargained, and sold alien and confirmed and by these presents doth grant bargain and sell alien and confirm to the said **William Rives** his heirs and assigns forever one



tract or parcel of land situate lying and being in the said parish of Meherrin and aforesaid county of Brunswick adjoining the lands of **Benjamin Rives** and **Richard Woodruff** lying upon the Beaver Pond creek containing 275 acres.....(follows the usual text for Thomas Poythress **to guarantee the title to the land**).....**in witness whereof the said Thomas Poythress** has hereunto set his hand and affixed his seal the day and year above written.

Signed, sealed, and delivered

in the presence of:

**Thomas Poythress** (ls)

**James Young**

**William Rives**

**Benjamin Rives**

At a court held for Brunswick County the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of November 1773 this indenture was partly proved by the oaths of **James Young** and **William Rives**, two of the witnesses thereto with **Peter Pelham**.

*Brunswick County Deed Book 13, p. 1*

**1779- Short (proxy) Census of Virginia**

In 1779 the U. S. Treasury offered to exchange new bills for presumably counterfeit old paper money. Many Virginians made this exchange (in whole or in part) to the Virginia Continental Loan office in 1779 and 80. The exchange could be for new money, applied to loans, or applied to taxes. The records of exchangers and the amount exchanged provides a short proxy census of Virginia in 1779:

<u>Name</u>	<u>County</u>	<u>Entry #</u>	<u>Amt.</u>
<u>Deposited</u>			
Poythress, Joshua	P.Ge.	1500	\$ 484
Poythress, Peter	P.Ge.	1262	\$ 311
<b>Poythress, Thomas</b>	<b>Bruns.</b>	<b>3765</b>	<b>\$ 38</b>
Poythress, Wm.	P.Ge.	1019	\$ 120

**7 Jun 1779**

This Indenture made this seventh Day of June 1779 BETWEEN John Parker of the County of Brunswick of the one part and Henry Maclin of the County aforesaid of the other part . . . for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred and fifty pounds . . . doth give grant bargain and sell unto the said Henry Maclin . . . one certain tract or parcel of Land lying and being in the County of Brunswick and containing one hundred acres . . . it being part of a tract of two hundred acres to be divided between John Parker and Thomas

Parker lying on both sides of Sturgeon Creek and bounded as followeth and joining the lands of Henry Briggs John Mitchel and Jane Parker . . . [Signature of John Parker not shown]. Indenture was witnessed by John Haskins, Catharine Trotter (her mark), Joseph Maclin, Elizabeth Maclin (her mark) and **Ann Poythress** (her mark).

Brunswick County Court July 28th 1788. This Indenture was proved by the oaths of John Haskins a witness thereto and having been proved on the 22d November 1779 by the oaths of Joseph Maclin and Elizabeth Maclin also witnesses thereto is ordered to be recorded. Deed Book 14, page 371. (Transcription courtesy of Carol A. Morrison)

**28 Sep 1779 Thomas Poythress V. George Lewis**

(p. 306 Bruns. Order Book 1774-1782)

Thomas Poythress } pltf  
Vs In Trespass  
George Lewis } def  
Dismissed for want of Prosecution

**28 Sep 1779 Thomas Poythress V. Lewelling Williamson**

(p. 306 Bruns. Order Book 1774-1782)

Thomas Poythress } pltf  
Vs In Case  
Lewelling Williamson } def  
Dismissed for Want of Prosecution

**2 Oct 1780 Balance of a Bond due to Thos. Poythress**

“in payment of the Estate of Barnett Randall to the balance of a bond to Thos. Poythress for 13£/18/19 dated 2 Oct 1780 (?)...depreciation at 7.3 forever.”

*Brunswick County Deed Book 2, p. 263*

**22 Jan 1781 Thomas Poythress, witness**

Indenture for Mason and Gilliam to Spencer in Brunswick County, witnessed by **Thomas Poythress**.

*Brunswick County Deed Book No. 14, p. 86*

**20 Feb 1781**

John Williams of Brunswick County to **Thomas Poythress Senr.** for £100 current money, 214 acres on Quarrell Swamp at the upper side of the Western Road...road being a line between Absalom Bennitt and said Williams...Randle's ordinary land...the mill stone branch...Richard Hartwell's line...along Rattle Snake Church Road...John Peerson's line..to the fork branch...Quarrell Swamp to the bounds of an acre of land laid off for Wolsey's Mill. Signed: John Williams, Mary (x) Williams.

Wit: Absalom Bennitt, Benja (x) Britt, Natt. Ray. 27 Aug 1781. Partly proved. Widow examined. Cash paid £30.

(Brunswick County Unrecorded Deeds, The Virginia Genealogist, Vol. 40, # 3, p. 228, year 1996)

**15 July 1781 Joseph Prince vs. Thomas Poythress, Jr. & Thomas Poythress, Sr.**

“.....& **Thomas Poythress, Sr.** debtors. LPB: implies that in 1781 in Brunswick there were TWO **Thomas Poythresses**, both of legal age, and obviously associated economically. Relationship not stated although father/son is implied.

Actual transcription: Before July 15, 1781 Joseph Prince against **Thomas Poythress, Jr. and Thomas Poythress, Sr.**, Debtors Francis Mallory, special bail and judgment confessed for 3000 lbs. inspected tobacco at pitch landing with interest from the 25<sup>th</sup> December, 1782 and the books and by consent the execution of this judgment is stayed 3 months.

*Brunswick County Order Book No. 8, p. 104*

**10 Oct 1781 John Morris acknowledges to Meredith Poythress**

John Morris acknowledges his indenture of bargain and sale to Meredith Poythress.

*Brunswick County OB 8 (1760-1784) pages 1-103 Transcription BPB*

**00 000 1782 (approximate)**

(Virginia Revolutionary War Public Claims)

A return of the proceedings of the county Court of Brunswick under the Act entitled "An act for adjusting claims for property taken for the public service.".....Claims for Property impressed by order of General Lawson by Paschall Greenhill allowed as followeth:

James Quarles 1 pr. stirrup irons & leathers, 1 girth and 1 crupper taken by **Thomas Poythress** who was assigned in impressing horses under Paschall Greenhill in June, 1781, Quarles made oath he had not received a certificate 10s.

### **00 000 1782 Brunswick County Property List**

Brunswick County personal property list of 1782 lists **Thomas Poythress** and **Meredith Poythress**: 6 slaves, 6 horses, 18 cattle.

*Brunswick County Property List, 1782*

Also listed elsewhere as Thomas 2 tithes, 6 slaves

Meredith 0 0

### **00 000 1782 Brunswick County land tax records**

The 1782 land tax record of Brunswick County, Va., showed that **Thomas Poythress, Sr.** paid tax on 584 acres in that county. This land was apparently not all acquired by deed or will. However, the sources have not been located. The Virginia Land Office does not show that a **Thomas Poythress** acquired any land by patent. The Brunswick County, Va. tax record alterations show that 50 acres of this land was transferred to a James Phipps and 484 acres transferred to a **William Warwick**. These deeds have not been located. However, in 1787 the land tax of Brunswick shows that these persons now owned the land. **Thomas Poythress** is no longer listed as owning any land in Brunswick County (report of Anne Taylor Brown to Bud Poythress 7 Dec 1991. (no specific citation of source, page, etc.)

### **00 00 1782 Brunswick County, VA Land (tax) Books 1782-1799**

1782- none

1783- none

1784- An account of the alteration of land property in Brunswick County

1784. An account of the alterations of land property from May 1, 1783 to May 1, 1784 with the addition of the tax book of land not before taxed:

<u>Proprietor</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Valuation</u>	<u>Amt</u>	<u>Tax</u>
<b>Thomas Poythress Senr</b>	53A	51 (?)	133£/40/0	6.8

**Thomas Poythress Senr** 532 acres –altered- his land being conveyed to **James Phips** (?) 50 acres and Wm. Warwick 482 acres which is charged to them.

**Meredith Poythress** 50A – from John Morris- 100 (?)

1785 – An account of the alterations and additions of the book, or list, for the collection of the land tax:

**Meredith Poythress** 50A 26/10 off –cked twice.

1786 - none

1787- none

1788- none

1789- none

1790- none

1791- none

1792 - <u>Proprietor Name</u>	<u>#acres</u>	<u>rates</u>	<u>total value</u>	<u>amt tax</u>
<b>Thomas Poythress</b>	35	3/7	36-9-9	-10-10

1793 – none

1794 - none

1795- none

1796- none

1797- none

1798- none

none

**00 000 1782 Brunswick County, VA Personal Prop. Tax 1782-1807**

No appearances, suggesting that **Thomas & Meredith Poythress** had immigrated to Georgia. However, it is not likely that they would have appeared on personal property tax records anyway since their property consisted primarily of slave holdings.

**00 000 0000 (est 1781-83) Douglas Wilkins V Thomas Poythress, et al.**

Douglas Wilkins against **Thomas Poythress**, Charles Williams and Thomas Cleaton (margin note “debtors”). The debt **Poythress** acknowledged the persons actions to be just. Therefore it is considered by the court that the person recovered.

*Brunswick County Order Book 8, transcribed BPB*

**1782**

**1782 Personal taxes**

Column 1 male tithables, column 2 # of slaves (?)

Poythress, Meredith

Poythress, Thomas 2 6

(Reconstructed from tax lists burned in War of 1812. Intent is to proxy the 1790 census by Mrs. Augusta B. Fothergill)

**00 Apr 1782 Thomas Poythress in proceedings of Virginia Revolutionary Publick Claims**

(Court date not given, date above extrapolated from preceding and following court dates)

Brunswick County

A return of the proceedings of the county Court of Brunswick under an act entitled "An act for adjusting claims for property impressed or taken for the public service."

**James Quarles:** 1 pr. stirrup irons & leathers, 1 girth & 1 crupper taken by **Thomas Poythress** who was assigned in impressing horses under **Paschall Green** in June, 1781. **Quarles** made oath that he had not received a certificate 10s.

**22 Aug 1782 Meredith Poythress Affidavit**

**John Morris** and **Elizabeth Edwards**, dau. **Thomas Edwards**, deceased.

Surety **Meredith Poythress**, who makes affidavit that **Elizabeth Edwards** lives at the home of his father **Thomas Poythress** and is 27 years of age.

Wit. **Griffin Stith**

*(Knorr's Brunswick Marriages p. 66)*

**26 Sep 1782**

John Wormeley, plt. against Benjamin Hicks, Deft. In Detinue. Discontinued for want of Prosecution. Benjamin Hicks at the Suit of John Wormeley, In Detinue.

The Deposition of Benjamin Williams. Greensville County State of Virginia 24th of August 1782, Benjamin Williams of Amelia County being first duly sworn by John Lucas a Justice for said County on the holy Evangelists deposeth

and saith That as well as he can remember in May 1772 he was at Northumberland Courthouse attending on a Horse of Peter Stoner's which he rode against a Horse of John Wormeley's and in the course of the Week, **Robert Poythress**, and John Wormley entered into Card playing and the said **Robert Poythress** won of John Wormley a large quantity of Tobacco to the amount of Twenty or Twenty two thousand weight but believes it was twenty two thousand and in a few days after in my presence, John Wormley offered his negroe man Dick for sale to **Robert Poythress** in discharge of the said tobacco, which said Wormley had lost with said **Poythress** on condition that **Robert Poythress** would let the fellow stay with his Horse untill the race was Run as he said he could not do well without him. Soon after that at Muse's Store about four hundred yards from the Courthouse the said **Poythress** asked the said negroe Dick whether he would be willing to serve him, as his master had offered him for Sale, Dick agreed to go if he was to be sold; After that **Robert Poythress** applied to John Wormley to buy the fellow that he had offered and in my presence John Wormley made answer, you shall have the fellow as I proposed Pointing towards the Negroe Dick, and said there he is, he is yours, which **Poythress** agreed to; but I must have the fellow said Wormley until after my race is run as I first observed. **Robert Poythress's** answer was if he would be of a any service to you until then you are welcome to him until then; but what the price was that **Robert Poythress** was to give I do not remember but from what I could understand from them, the Negroe was to pay the Debt won of Wormley, and whatsoever was done after I never heard whether Wormley delivered the Negroe or not; untill he was called on by Benjamin Hicks as a Witness, And further this deponent saith not. "John Lucas" This Deposition ordered to be recorded on the motion of the said Benjamin Hicks. Court for September 26, 1782. (*Order Book 1, page 43, Greensville County, Virginia; transcription courtesy of Carol A. Morrison*)

**07 Oct 1782 Judgment Nathaniel Hobbs V Thomas Poythress**

Judgement granted Nathaniel Hobbs against Thomas Poythress. Against 4500 lbs. tobacco with Interest from May 15, 1781

*Bunswick County OB 8 Transcription BPB*

**28 Oct 1782 Court Order against the defs and Thomas Poythress as security for their appearance**

**Joseph Prince**

Pl

against

In Debt

**Thomas Poythress & Clement Mallory**

Conditional order against the defs & **Thomas Poythress** as security for their appearance.

*Brunswick County Order Book 12, p. 460*

**00 Nov 1782 Court Order, Attachment on all estate of the defendant in hands of Thomas Poythress, et al.**

**Gideon Harris**

Against

**Thomas Wagnon**

pl

{ On an attachment

def

The said attachment returned being executed on all estate of the defendant that might be in the hands of **Thomas Poythress, Daniel Wagnon** and **Briggs Goodrich** that they were summoned as garnishees and the defendant not appearing judgment is awarded against the said defendant for seven pounds with interest from the nineteenth day of June last due by bond, also for 3 pounds which the plaintiff made appear to be due on account and the books of the said Thomas Poythress and Daniel Wagnon declared as follows: the said Daniel Wagnon made oath he had nothing of the deft's in his hand and the said Thomas Poythress declared that he was indebted to the defendant the sum of 20 pounds with interest from the 24<sup>th</sup> August. It is therefore ordered that the said Thomas Poythress do pay and satisfy this judgement and costs to the plaintiff.

(no year date on this document but it may be assumed that it follows the previous document by a short period, perhaps a month; i. e. from Oct, 1782)  
*Brunswick County Order Book No. 12, (1782?) no page number cited.*

[note: the Poythress-Wagnon relationship has never been defined but has considerable history; as late as the mid-1800's Wagnons in Burke and Green County, Georgia were naming sons with Poythress as a first or middle name. It is speculated that the connection began when Thomas Wagnon m. Frances Vaughn in 1748. Vaughn's mother was a Poythress and a son was named Thomas Poythress Wagnon. It should probably also be speculated that there was something more than this to carry forward a "maiden" name



over a hundred years. Wagnon researchers are at present working on this history, with as much lack of success as we have had. MP]

**00 Dec 1782 Court Order, Attachment on property of Thomas Poythress, Junr. in hands of Thomas Poythress, Daniel Wagnon, Benj. Jackson**

<b>Phillip Mallory</b>	pl	
	against	As an attachment
<b>Thomas Poythress Junr</b>	def	

The said attachment being returned executed on a field of corn, a potato patch, and a parcel of fodder, and also on all the estate of the defendant that might be in the hands of **Thomas Poythress, Daniel Wagnon, and Benjamin Jackson**, that they were summoned as garnishees and the defendant not appearing on the motion of the plaintiff by his attorney, judgment is awarded him against the defendant for L 7.12.0 with interest from the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_ and it is ordered that the Sheriff do sell the attached affects and apply the money arising from the sale towards satisfying this judgment and the said **Wagnon** being sworn declared that he had in his possession a note of hand due from **Amos Naring** to the defendant for L 2.10.0 due on the 8<sup>th</sup> instant. It is therefore ordered that the said **Amos Naring** do pay the same to the plaintiff towards satisfying the residue of this judgment and this attachment is continued for the other garnishees.

Notes:

- 1) in the abbreviation following the name of **Thomas Poythress** it is unclear if this is Junr or Senr. “Junr” appears the likelier text. In any case, the use of a suffix at all indicates there were likely a **Thomas Poythress** father and son living in Brunswick County at this time.
- 2) no year date is furnished in this document but it likely follows the previous court order by a short time, likely a matter of a month or more.  
Brunswick County Court Orders, book ? 1782? (book of 1772-1774?)

**2 Dec 1782 through 10 July 1800**

Virginia Chancery Court Record # 1796-017 Brunswick County

William Warwick v Thomas Poythress.

**00 000 1783 Thomas Poythress, Revolutionary War Service**

**Thomas Poythress** is listed under “Co. Commissaries, Impressment Officers” for Revolutionary War Service; “Brunswick County, Virginia 1720-1975,” Gay Neale. (secondary source)

**6 Feb 1783**

David High of Brunswick County to Zachariah Sims of same. For £125 current money. 223 acres....Drury More’s line...Bevley Randle’s line...on Upchurch’s line....down the roade...crosse the roade to Wolsey’s corner.

Signed: David (x) High, Susanna (x) High

Witnesses: Jno. Bailey, George Walton, **Meredith Poythress**

Sept. 1783. Proved by two witnesses.

(Brunswick unrecorded deeds, The Virginia Genealogist, Vol. 40, # 3, p. 222, year 1996).

**22 Sep 1783 Deed, John Morris to Meredith Poythress**

This Indenture made this 22<sup>d</sup> Day of September one thousand seven hundred and eighty three between John Morris of the County of Brunswick in the state of Virginia of the one part and **Meridith Poythress** of the same County of the other part Witnesseth that the said **John Morris** for and in consideration of the sum of forty pounds current money of Virginia to him in hand paid by the said **Meridith Poythress** the receipt whereof he doth hereby acknowledge and himself therewith fully and entirely satisfied hath granted bargained sold released and Confirmed and for himself and his heirs doth grant bargain sell alien release and confirm unto said **Meridith Poythress** his heirs and assigns forever one certain tract or parcel of land lying in the said County and Containing by estimation **fifty acres** of Land be the same more or less and bounded as followeth (to wit) Beginning at a red oak on Eatons road on **James Upchurches** line, thence along the said line to a corner white oak thence along **John Morris's** line to a corner hickory thence along **Zachariah Simns** line to a corner red oak on Eatons road, and from thence along the said road to the beginning with all houses orchards gardens fences wood and underwoods water and water courses thereon standing growing and being with all profits commodities advantages and appurtenances also the reversion and reversion remainder and remainders and every part and parcel thereof To have and to hold the said granted land and premises unto the said **Meridith Poythress** his heirs

and assigns forever and the said **John Morris** for himself and his heirs shall and will warrant and forever defend the same unto the said **Meridith Poythress** his heirs or assigns Clear from all former sale gifts mortgages rights of dower and every other incumbrance whatsoever In Witness whereof the assigned John Morris hath hereunto set his hand and affixed his seal the day and year first above written.

his  
signed sealed and delivered **John + Morris** (LS)  
mark

in presence of us . . . . .

Brunswick County Court 22<sup>d</sup> September 1783

This Indenture was Acknowledged in Court by **John Morris** a partie thereto and ordered to be recorded.

Teste

**Drury Stith** Ct. C

*Order Book 2, page 506-507, Brunswick County, Virginia*

*Transcription courtesy of Carol Morrison*

**28 Oct 1783 Stephen Neal V Thomas Poythress**

Thomas Poythress ordered to recover £10 gold or silver

*Brunswick County Order Book 8, Transcription BPB*

**24 Jul 1784 Will of James Upchurch....witness “....Meredith Poythress”**

**19 Apr 1785 Will of John Morrison, husband of Ann Poythress Morrison**

Will of *John Morison*, dated the 19th day of April, 1785, and proved on August 10, 1790. Wife, *Ann Poythress Morison*, whole estate. Makes reference that wife now with child. To brother, *Alexander Morison*, **Plantation in Brunswick County** and Warren County, North Carolina. To five sisters (not named). Brother, *Theodorick Morison*. Mentions land bought by his father of *Ravenscroft*. Wife, *Anne*, and her father, *Richard Bland*, Esq., with brother, *David Morison*, named as Executors. Will proved by the oaths of *Edmand Ruffin*, *George Ruffin* and *John Batte*, the witnesses thereto. *Deeds, etc. (1787-1792), p. 403, Prince George County, Virginia.*

### **1787 Census of VA using tax records**

<u>Name</u>	<u>HH# (?)</u>
Poythress, Mary	1103
Poythress, Eliza.	915
Poythress, Francis	915
Poythress, Joshua (estate)	915
Poythress, Kirby	1143
Poythress, Mary	915 (2)
Poythress, William	915 (2)
<b>Poytress, Meredith</b>	<b>553</b>

### **06 Nov 1787 Thomas Poythress witnesses indenture Randle-Dumbold**

Indenture between **Isham Randle** and Edward **Drumgold** (both of Brunswick) for sale of land (“generally known as Randle’s Ordinary”). **Thomas Poythress** a witness.

*Brunswick County Deed Book 14, p. 350*

### **28 Jan 1788 Randle-Drumgold transaction proved by oath of Thomas Poytrass**

Transaction above additionally proved by oath of **Thomas Poytrass**.

*Brunswick County Deed Book 14, p. 350*

### **22 Apr 1788 Additional witness to above transaction**

**Thomas Poythress** and **George Walton**, witnesses to above transaction.

*Brunswick County Deed Book 14, p. 350*

### **28 Apr 1788 Thomas Cleaton m. Elizabeth Ann Barner**

Thomas Cleaton, born 1750-60 in Virginia; married Elizabeth Ann Barner April 28, 1788 in Brunswick County, Virginia. Thomas Cleaton’s daughter Edith m. Meredith Poythress 24 Jul 1781. Implication is that Edith Cleaton would be child of a former marriage.

### **00 000 1788 Brunswick County personal property tax**

Shows **Thomas Poythress** with 1 tith.

*Brunswick County Personal Property Tax, book and page not cited.*

**30 Mar 1789 Thomas Poythress/St. Andrews Parish** (identical entry also shown for 30 Mar 1795, same publication, so one was transcribed in error. This entry also placed at 1795)

“**Thomas Poythress** for removing **Henry Woodward**”....meeting of the overseers of the Poor at the Court House....from St. Andrews Parish Vestry Book 1732-1797 of Brunswick County, Virginia.  
By William Lindsay Hopkins (abstracted from photocopies in the Library of Virginia)

**12 Aug 1791 Indenture Thomas & Sally Clary sell 85 acres to Thomas Poythress**

This indenture made this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August one thousand seven hundred and ninety one between **Thomas Clary** of Brunswick County of the one part and **Thomas Poythress of the same county** of the other part. Witnesseth, that for and in consideration of the sum of **£37** to me in hand paid by the said **Thomas Poythress** the receipt whereof I doth hereby acknowledge have bargained and sold and confirmed and by these presents doth bargain, sell, and confirm to the said **Thomas Poythress** and his heirs forever one certain tract or parcel of land containing 85 acres more or less lying and being in the county aforesaid and is bounded as follows.....(detail description of land boundaries).... In witness whereof I have here unto set my hand and seal this day and date first above written.

Signed:                    his  
**Thomas x Clary**  
Mark

Her  
**Sally x Clary**  
Mark

Brunswick County, Sept. 26, 1791

This indenture or bargain and sale was acknowledged by **Thomas Clary** thereto to be his act and deed and ordered to be recorded.

Teste: **John Jones, CBC**

*Brunswick County Deed Book No. 15, p. 35*

[note: the transaction above shows in the 1791 land tax records. That deed was located and shows this **Thomas** with a wife named **Martha (Patsey?)**. It is not known whether the **Thomas Sr.** who owned 534 acres in 1782 in Brunswick is the same **Thomas** who owned 85 acres in that county in 1791. However, it seems that the **Thomas** who had a wife named **Martha** may be the **Thomas** who migrated to Burke County, Georgia. See entry below for 14 Dec 1796.

**6 July 1793**

Prestons

to

Bond

The Court

Joshua<sup>a</sup> Prestons Bond for Maintaining a bastard Child

Know all men by these presents that we Joshua preston & Wetherington Preston of the County of Brunswick and state of Virginia are held & firmly Bound Unto the Worshipfull of Court of said County in the full & Just sum of One Hundred pounds Current money [of] Virginia we lend Ourselves Our heirs Executors, &c. in witness whereof we have set our hands and seals this Sixth Day of July 1793 –

The Condition of this Obligation is such that the above Joshua Preston hath Begotten a bastard Child On the body of a Certain Betsey Band [or Bond] of Said County, which will appear by the Certificate herein Inclos<sup>d</sup> -

Now if the above Said Joshua preston & Weatherington Preston dou provide for, and keep Said Bastard Child from being Chargable to Said County untill She the Said Child shall be of age to be bound agreeable to Law, that then the above

Obligation to be Void Else to Remain in force & Virtue.

Joshua preston Seal

Signed and Sealed in presence of

Ja<sup>s</sup> Fletcher

Tho. Poythress

Weatherington Preston Seal

(Brunswick County Ordinary Keeper Bonds, Bridge Bonds & Bastardy Bond 1765, 1786-1802) Permission and appreciation to Ms. Frankie Liles (transcriber) and attribution to Magazine of Virginia Genealogy ,Vol. 46 (2008), No. 2, p. 118.

Comments:

Those charged with the oversight of the county welfare system were reluctant to take on the cost of the upkeep of children born out of wedlock. Consequently, efforts were made to identify the father and make him responsible for the costs of maintaining the child.

With regard to those whose names appear in the document:

Weatherington Preston and Joshua Preston (who was born about Fall 1759; birth year computed from his 1833 testimony in Brunswick Co for a pension based on his Revolutionary War service) were brothers: they were two of 8 siblings named in the Brunswick Co, VA will of their father, Thomas Preston whose will was signed in Sep 1797 and proved in Sep 1798. Joshua was about 33 at the time of the bond.

Witness James Fletcher was Sheriff of Brunswick County at the time.

Witness Thomas Poythress is a neighboring friend of the family, and at least later was a kinsman of Joshua's to some degree: Catherine Preston (b. 20 Jan 1800 Brunswick Co, VA), a later & lawful daughter of Joshua Preston, married James E. Poythress (Feb 1828 Brunswick Co, VA).

Betsey Band/Bond is otherwise unidentified; no name is known for her female child by Joshua Preston.

Timing: Not long before this bond, Joshua Preston, on 20 Dec 1792 in Mecklenburg Co, VA (adjacent to Brunswick Co), had married Leshia Feagins, per Mecklenburg County's listing of marriage returns from minister John Loyd. If one assumes a bastardy bond is filed soon after the birth of a child, then this marriage of Joshua's likely occurred soon after he had gotten Betsey Band/Bond pregnant: Joshua & Leshia's marriage date was less than 7 months before the bastardy bond's 6 July 1793 date, and likely 6 months, or less, before Betsey Band/Bond's daughter's birth. (I have no further info about the woman Joshua married, Leshia Feagins.)

On the same page of Mecklenburg County ministers returns, exactly one week after the 20 Dec 1792 marriage of Joshua Preston, appears the 27 Dec 1792 marriage of Lewis Poythress and Elizabeth Giles. Lewis Poythress was son of a

Thomas Poythress—who could well be the same Thomas Poythress witnessing the above bond.

**16 Aug 1793**

Petition to the Governor and Council in Favor of Davy, a Negro slave, condemned to death for burglary: the petition of the subscribers respectfully Sheweth that Davy, a negro boy belonging to Martha Field of **Brunswick County**, etc. etc. Petitioners assuring that “he will be transported to the West Indies, or otherwise disposed of, that he cannot possibly return to Petersburg or its vicinity. And your petitioners as in duty bound, shall ever pray:

Signers: **William Poythress, Jr.** (among 32)

(Virginia Calendar of State Papers, Vol. 6, p. 480)

**09 Sep 1793 Wm. Poythress, et al. Report to court acknowledgement of deed by Mary Harrison**

THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA To William Robertson John Baird & **William Poythress** Gentlemen Greeting whereas **Edmund Harrison** and **Mary his wife** of the County of Prince George by their certain Indenture of Bargain and Sale bearing date the 28th day of January 1793 have sold unto **Joseph Baugh of the County of Brunswick** the fee simple estate of **six hundred and sixty four acres of land** with the appurtenances lying & being in the County of Brunswick and whereas the said **Mary Harrison** cannot conveniently travel to our Court . . . to make acknowledgment of the said conveyance therefore we do give unto you or any two or more of you power to receive the acknowledgment which the said Mary shall be willing to make before of the conveyance . . . and we therefore command you that you personally go to the said **Mary & receive her acknowledgment** of the same and examine her privately and apart from the said Edmund her husband . . . the 3rd day of July 1793. By virtue of this Commission to us directed we the subscribers have privily examined **Mary Harrison** the wife of the within named **Edmund Harrison** in manner and form as the said Commission requires and have received her acknowledgment of the Indenture hereunto annexed . . . Certified [sic] under our hands & seals this 12th day of August 1793. Signed by **William Robertson** and **William Poythress**. Brunswick County Court September 23rd 1793. This Commission for taking the acknowledgment & privy examination of **Mary Harrison** to an Indenture of Bargain and Sale from **Edmund Harrison & Mary his wife to Joseph Baugh** was returned together with a certificate of the execution thereof which is ordered to be recorded.



**28 Apr 1794 Thomas Poythress witness to Moseley-Bass indenture**

This Indenture made this 20th day of March 1794 between Isaac Moseley & Selah his wife of the County of Brunswick of the one part and John Hicks Bass of the said County of the other part . . . for and in consideration of the sum of £32. . . doth . . . grant bargain sell alien release and confirm unto the said John Hicks Bass . . . one certain tract or parcel of land containing fifty two & 1/2 acres by estimation, etc. . . . witnessed by Jno. Gholson, Harrison Barner, and **Thos. Poythress**. Brunswick County Court April 28th 1794. *Brunswick County Deed Book 15, p. 529*

**1795 30 03**

**30 Mar 1795 Thomas Poythress/St. Andrews Parish** (identical entry also shown for 30 Mar 1789, same publication, so one was transcribed in error. This entry also placed at 1789)

“**Thomas Poythress** for removing **Henry Woodward**” . . . meeting of the overseers of the Poor at the Court House . . . from St. Andrews Parish Vestry Book 1732-1797 of Brunswick County, Virginia.

By William Lindsay Hopkins (abstracted from photocopies in the Library of Virginia)

**20 Aug 1795 Indenture Thomas Poythress to George Hicks, 85 acres**

This Indenture Made this Twentieth day of August One thousand Seven hundred & ninety five Between **Thomas Poythress** of Brunswick County of the one part & **George Hicks** of the same County of the other part Witnesseth that for and in Consideration of the sum of 50£ Current Money of Virginia to me in Hand paid by the said **George Hicks** the Receipt whereof I do hereby Acknowledge have Bargained & sold & Confirmed & by these presents doth Bargain, sell & Confirm unto the said **George Hicks** & his Heirs forever One certain Tract or parcel of Land containing **eighty five Acres** more or less lying & being in the County aforesaid & is bounded as follows (to wit) Beginning at **Wesson's** Corner white Oak on Rattle snake Creek the white oak being down

have made a Corner of a Hickory thence by his line to a Corner Hiccorry thence by **George Hearn's** Line West to a Corner Red Oak on **John Swards** line thence by the said **John Swards** Line to a Corner sweet Gum on the said Creek as aforesaid thence by the Meanders of the said Creek to the Beginning To have & to hold the said Land & other premises to the said **George Hicks** & his heirs forever against the Claim & Demand of him the said **Thomas Poythress** & his Heirs forever against the Claim of every other person or persons forever unto the said **George Hicks** & to his Heirs forever In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my Hand & Seal the Day & date first above written.

Sealed Signed & Delivered

In the presents of **Thos. Poythress** (LS)

**Christr. Thrower**

**Henry Mangum** Brunswick County Court Sepr. 28 1795

**James Harrison Jr.** This Indenture of Bargain & sale

**Jno. Green** was acknowledged by **Thomas**

**Poythress** party thereto to be his act & Deed and ordered to be recorded.

Teste

**CB Jones** CBC

*Deed Book 16, pages 165, 166, Brunswick County, Virginia*

**14 Dec 1796/7 Court Order requiring waver of dower rights by Martha Poythress for sale of 85 acres to George Hicks (described above)**

Writ & Certification – **Thomas Poythress (Martha)** to **George Hicks** (1796/7) The Commonwealth of Virginia to **James Fletcher** and **Thomas Washington** gentlemen Justices of Brunswick County Greeting whereas **Thomas Poythress** and **Martha** his wife by their certain Indenture of Bargain and Sale bearing date the 28th Day of August 1795 have sold and conveyed unto **George Hicks** **eighty five acres of Land** with the appertences lying & being in the County of Brunswick and whereas the said **Martha** cannot conveniently travel to our County Court of Brunswick to make acknowledgment of the said Conveyance. Wherefore we do give unto you or any two or more of you, power to Recieve the acknowledgment which the said **Martha** shall be willing to make before you of the Conveyance aforesaid Contained in the said Indenture which is hereunto annexed And we do therefore command you, that you do personally go to the said **Martha** & recieve her acknowledgment of the same, and examine her privily and apart from the said **Thomas** her husband, whether she doth the same freely and Voluntarily without his persuasions or Threats and whether she be willing that the same should be Recorded in our County Court of Brunswick

aforesaid And when you have recieved her acknowledgments & Examined her as aforesaid that you distinctly, plainly and openly Certify us thereof in our said County Court under your hands & Seals sending then there the said Indenture and this Writ Witness **Charles B Jones** clerk of our said Court at the Court House this 14th day of Decr. 1796 In the 21st year of the Commonwealth.

**CB Jones**

By Virtue of this Commission to us directed we the Subscribers have privily examined **Martha Poythress** wife of the within named **Thomas Poythress** in manner & form as the said Commission requires & have Recieved the acknowledgment of the Indenture hereunto annexed, which said Indenture she acknowledged freely & Voluntarily without his persuasions or threats and that she was willing the same should be recorded in the County Court of Brunswick Certified under our hands & Seales this 17th day of January 1797.

**Jas. Fletcher** (LS)

**Thos. Washington** (LS)

Brunswick County Court January 23rd 1797

This Commission for taking the acknowledgment & Privy examination of **Martha Poythress** wife of **Thos Poythress** to an Indenture of bargain and sale between **Thos Poythress & Martha** his wife of the one part & **George Hicks** of the other part was returned together with a certificate of the Execution thereof is ordered to be recorded

Teste

**CB Jones** CBC

*Deed Book 16, page 396, 397, Brunswick County, Virginia*

(<http://www.rootsweb.com/vabrunsw/hicks/deeds/poythre2.htm>)

### **00 000 1807 Brunswick County, VA Personal Prop. Tax Rolls 1782-1807**

No appearances, suggesting that **Thomas & Meredith Poythress** had immigrated to Georgia. However, it is not likely that they would have appeared on personal property tax records anyway since they consisted primarily of slave holdings.

### **15 Dec 1821 Willis Poythress m. Polly Brown**

Surety: **John Brown**

*Brunswick Marriages, 1750-1853 Vogt & Kethley*

### **29 Jan 1828 James Poythress m. Catharine Preston**

Surety: **James Preston**

**14 May 1835 Will of Joshua Preston**

In the name of God, Amen. I **Joshua Preston** do hereby will and bequeath unto **James E. Poythress** his heirs or assigns all my whole estate real and personal including my pension as a soldier of the revolutionary war and I hereby appoint the Said **James E. Poythress** the Sole and Whole executor of this my last will and testament given under my hand and seal this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1835.

**Joshua X Preston (Seal)**

Test

Witness Goodwyn L. Overby

James Malone

Anderson B. Overby

his

Sherwood x Smith

mark

Brunswick County Court May 25<sup>th</sup> 1835.

The Last will and Testament of **Joshua Preston** was

Proved by the oaths of Goowyn (sic) Overby, James Malone

& Sherwood Smith the witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded.

Teste

R. Turnbull, cl

(Brunswick County Will Book 12, pp. 316/317, Microfilm # 0030637,

Family Hist. Dept., Salt Lake City, UT by Barbara Poythress Neal,

March, 2001)

**19 Jun 1861 Death of Rebecca L. Stanley**

Virginia Bureau of Vital Statistics Reel 5; Deaths Brunswick; 1861-1896, 1861 p. 60, l. 96: **Rebecca L. Stanley**; W; F; 19 June 1861; of measles; age 52; b. Brunswick; d. Brunswick; parents **L(ewis) and R(ebecca) Portus** (sic); spouse of **Benj. Stanley**; no source stated.

**20 Jun 1861 Death of Benjamin L. Stanley**

Virginia Bureau of Vital Statistics Reel 5; Deaths Brunswick; 1861-1896, 1861 p. 60, l. 97 **Benjamin L. Stanley**; W; M; 20 June 1861; of measles; age 23; b. Brunswick d. Brunswick; parents **Benj. and R(ebecca) L. Stanley**, unmarried; source **Benj. Stanley** father.

**6 Aug 1867 Death of James W. Stanley**

Virginia Bureau of Vital Statistics Reel 5; Deaths Brunswick; 1861-1896, 1867 p. 88, l. 53 **James W. Stanley**; W; M; 6 August 1867; typhoid fever; age 20; b. not stated; d. Brunswick; parents **B(enjamin) and R(ebecca)**; did not get marital status; source **B. Stanley** father.

**11 Jun 1868 Death of Gertrude Stanley**

Virginia Bureau of Vital Statistics Reel 5; Deaths Brunswick; 1861-1896, 1868 p. 90, l. 15 Gertrude Stanley; W; F; 11 June 1868; of s\_\_\_\_; age 8 months; b. Mecklenburg d. Brunswick; parents **John and Lucy Stanley**, source **Benj. Stanley** grandfather.

*(notes: above Stanley information transcribed from film at Library of Virginia by Beatrice Poythress Baird and Lyn P. Baird. Continuation of this family line will be found in Mecklenburg County records)*

**21 Nov 1877 James D. Poythress m. Lucy Mosely, Brunswick County**

Source: Virginia Bureau of Vital Statistics, Marriage Index, Husbands, 1870-1879).

**14 Dec 1890 J. A. Poythress m. Martha Lynch, Brunswick County**

Source: ibid.

**08 Jan 1899 Leon L. Poythress m. Mary E. Lambert, Brunswick County**

Source: ibid.

**00 000 1936-1944 Brunswick County, VA, General Index to Wills, etc. Vol. A (1732-1948)**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Yr</u>	<u>Vol.</u>	<u>Folio</u>
<b>Poythress, A. J.</b>	Will	1936	24	428
<b>Poythress, Martha L.</b>	Will	1943	25	19
<b>Poythress, W. T.</b>	Will	1944	25	34
<b>Poythress, W. T.</b>	List of Heirs	1944	25	56

(note: this document would tend to confirm the conclusion that **no**

**Poythresses** remained in Brunswick County in the period late 1700' ...or made a will if they did...supporting the belief that **Thomas Poythress** and **Meredith Poythress**, appearing in Brunswick County, Virginia land tax records of 1784, 1785, and 1792 were likely father and son who immigrated to Burke/Screven Counties, GA at or about this time.)