

THE NEWBOLD-WHITE HOUSE: A DOCUMENTARY  
HISTORY OF THE PROPERTY AND ITS  
INHABITANTS

by

Tom Parramore

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## INTRODUCTION

The Newbold-White house stands about midway between the west bank of the Perquimans river and Harvey's Neck road (State Road 1336) two and three-tenths miles south of the Perquimans county court house. It is a one and one-half story brick structure with chimneys on each side and a steep gabled roof. The east side of the house, facing the river, was originally the front and has a center door with two arched windows on each side and three dormer windows above. On the west or original rear side are a center door with a window on each side and two dormer windows above. The north and south sides of the house have small windows flanking the chimneys and above each window is an arch formed by alternating stretchers and double headers. Above the windows on the north and south sides are single decorative courses of projecting brick. The house is forty feet long by twenty feet wide, its brick laid in Flemish bond with the ends of the bricks glazed and laid in courses in which ends alternate with sides. There are two rooms on each floor.

Through the efforts of the Perquimans County Restoration Association, plans are being made to restore the house. As a preliminary step toward restoration, the compiler of these documents was commissioned to survey the historical records of North Carolina in general and Perquimans county in particular with a view toward establishing the date of construction of the house and data concerning its early owners. The compiler hopes that the results of his survey will prove to be useful to those who will restore the house and to the many who will visit it in future years.

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## SCOTT LAND GRANTS

Land Grant Record Book #1 (1663-1728), Secretary of State Office,  
Raleigh:

File #74. To Joseph Scott, "a plantation containing Six hundred and forty Acres of land English measure, lying & being in the precinct of Piquemons, bounded beginning at a marked red oak standing by the side of a swamp upon ye brow of a hill, & running along the River side for breadth North West two hundred eighty eight perches\* to a bounded Gum standing by ye side of a Branch, & running from ye sd. Gum with a line drawn into ye woods for length, South West three hundred twenty perches to a marked red oak, & from ye said red oak with a line drawn south west two hundred eighty eight perches to a marked Gum, & from the said Gum with a line drawn North east three hundred twenty perches to the first bounded tree...." \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 1684.

File # 73. To Joshua Scott, "a plantation containing three hundred & fifty acres of land lying upon the West side of Piquemons River... bounded, beginning at a marked gum by ye side of a swamp it being ye Westernmost bounded tree of a tract of land of Joseph Scott, & running from ye sd. tree North West one hundred seventy five perches to a marked red oak standing by ye River side it being ye Easternmost bounded tree of a tract of land of Lawrence Noggell's & running from ye sd. red oak into ye woods for length three hundred twenty perches South West to a marked white

oak, & from thence wth a line drawn South East one hundred  
seventy five perches to a marked red oak, & from ye sd. Red  
Oak with a line drawn North East Three hundred twenty perches  
to the first bounded tree...."    \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 1684.

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\* A perch is a linear measure of  $16\frac{1}{2}$  feet; also called a rod  
or pole.

## JOSEPH SCOTT, CAROLINIAN

The earliest-known historical reference to Joseph Scott occurs in George Fox's journal. The Quaker minister visited the north-eastern part of North Carolina in the latter part of 1672. Coming down Bennett's creek from Somerton, Virginia, Fox evidently proceeded by canoe down Chowan river to what he called "the bay of Connie-oak".<sup>1</sup> This was probably a corruption of the name of the local Indians, the Chowanokes and the bay was probably Albemarle sound. After visiting Nathaniel Batts, who lived between the mouths of Cashie river and Salmon creek on the western shore of the sound, Fox went by boat for thirty miles "to Joseph Scot's, one of the representatives of the country. There we had a sound, precious meeting; the people were tender, and much desired after meetings."<sup>2</sup>

Although it cannot be proved that Joseph Scott was residing in 1672 at the Perquimans river farm subsequently patented by him, Fox's geographical references are consistent with such an assumption and the circumstances strongly suggest that Scott was already seated at the farm.

It is also likely that Joseph Scott had been residing at this same location for eight or nine years before he was visited by Fox. In late 1679, Scott, along with his sons-in-law William Bundy and John Pearce (or Peirce), signed their names to a Quaker petition protesting their innocence of any part in the unpleasantness known as Culpepper's Rebellion. The petition noted that "most of us

whose name are hereunto subscribed have been in Carolina since the yeares 1663 and 1664."<sup>3</sup>

Joseph Scott apparently came to North Carolina with the first trickle of immigrants from southeastern Virginia following the creation of the North Carolina colony in 1663. The surname Scott was already common in the former colony by the middle of the seventeenth century and virtually all of Scott's Carolina neighbors were also from Virginia.<sup>4</sup> Moreover, his son-in-law, John Peirce, was a resident of Virginia as late as the fall of 1680.<sup>5</sup> (Peirce died, evidently in North Carolina, in 1682.)<sup>6</sup>

Joseph Scott evidently brought with him to North Carolina a wife named Mary and children by her named Mary and Joshua. He was already a grandfather when his wife died on February 24, 1682.<sup>7</sup> The want of reference to him in extant Virginia records may be attributed to the destruction of the records of Nanesmond county, Va. and additionally, perhaps, to his having immigrated from England not long before coming to North Carolina.

Scott appears to have been converted to the Society of Friends by George Fox or else in consequence of Fox's visit. The journal of William Edmundson, another Quaker missionary who visited northeastern North Carolina in 1672, shows that he found here only a single Quaker, one Phillips, who wept upon encountering Edmundson, "not having seen a Quaker for many years", though a resident of North Carolina since 1665.<sup>8</sup> Scott witnessed marriages at Quaker Monthly Meetings at the house of Francis Toms in February, 1680 and at the house of his daughter Mary Peirce in October, 1683.<sup>9</sup>

By late 1683 Joseph Scott had married a second time, to Mary Hudson, widow of Henry Hudson of Currituck and mother of two daughters by Hudson.<sup>10</sup> Also attached to Scott's household were his indentured servant John Browning (later a substantial Albemarle county planter)<sup>11</sup> and an indentured Indian named Alexander (or Sanders).<sup>12</sup>

Scott's real property included his six-hundred-forty-acre grant of 1684 on the west bank of Perquimans river and a two-hundred acre tract on the east side of the river.<sup>13</sup> His property placed him among the gentry of this rude era and his personal ability opened to him the door to high public service. Among the references to him in the sparse colonial records of North Carolina are his service as a justice at a court held in Perquimans in May, 1673,<sup>14</sup> a power of attorney made to his son Joshua in November of the same year,<sup>15</sup> and lawsuits in which he was involved in 1684 and 1685. These latter included two suits against him in 1684 for debt and defamation, the first of which he won but lost the second. Four hundred pounds of tobacco gained in the first case was surrendered as damages in the second.<sup>15</sup>

At his death in the latter part of October, 1685,<sup>16</sup> Joseph Scott left a will bequeathing his plantation on the west side of Perquimans river to the use of his wife Mary for the rest of her life with reversion to his son Joshua at Mary's death. The will includes reference to "all the Housing thereon".<sup>16</sup> The smaller tract on the other side of the river had previously been deeded by Scott to his grandson Joseph Peirce.<sup>17</sup> Finally, the testator was able to provide a legacy of a cow and calf for his servant Browning.

Joseph Scott appears, therefore, to have been a man of comfortable circumstances for this wilderness region, a "representative of the country", a magistrate, farmer, businessman, faithful Quaker, and considerate family man and servant-master. He was, in short, just such a man as might well have erected for himself a small but sturdy brick dwelling near the banks of a navigable stream.

## NOTES: JOSEPH SCOTT

1. Excerpt from Fox's journal in William L. Saunders (ed.), The Colonial Records of North Carolina (Raleigh: State of North Carolina, 10 volumes, 1886-1890), I, 217, hereinafter cited as Saunders, Colonial Records.
2. Saunders, Colonial Records, I, 217.
3. Saunders, Colonial Records, I, 252.
4. George Cabell Greer, Early Virginia Immigrants 1623-1666 (Richmond: W.C. Hill printing company, 1912), passim. Greer lists Scotts named James, Daniel, Jon., William, Henry, and Robert as residents of Virginia in the period 1637-1652.
5. Isle of Wight County, Record of Wills, Deeds, Etc. Vol. I (1662-1715), page 449, ms. Virginia State Archives, Richmond. This is a reference to a cattle-mark recorded for John Peirce on October 9, 1680.
6. Mrs. Watson Winslow, History of Perquimans County, As Compiled from Records Found There and Elsewhere (Raleigh: Edwards & Broughton Company, 1931), 405, hereinafter cited as Winslow, History of Perquimans County. John Peirce's widow Mary was married second to William Bundy in Perquimans on December 5, 1683.
7. Perquimans Precinct, Births, Marriages, Deaths and Flesh Marks 1659-1739. Vol. I (1659-1701), page 7, ms. in State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, hereinafter cited as "Births, Marriages, Deaths".
8. Quoted by Julia Scott White, "The Quakers of Perquimans", North Carolina Booklet, VII (July, 1907), 278-279.
9. Perquimans Monthly Meeting, minutes for February 11, 1680 and October 15, 1685, ms. in Quaker Collection, Guilford College, Greensboro, N.C.
10. Ray Winslow, "The Newbold-White House", typescript copy in possession of this writer, page 1, hereinafter cited as Winslow, "Newbold-White House".
11. Browning's will, devising 250 acres of land, was probated in Albemarle County on September 4, 1733. See J. Bryan Grimes, Abstract of North Carolina Wills Compiled from Original and Recorded Wills in the Office of the Secretary of State (Raleigh: E.M. Uzzell & Company, 1910), 52.

12. Will of Joseph Scott, North Carolina Wills, Vol. XXVIII, 6, ms. in Secretary of State Papers, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, hereinafter cited as North Carolina Wills. The name of Alexander does not appear in the partially-mutilated will. For evidence of his indenture to Scott, see Perquimans Precinct Court Minutes, 1688-1693, page 21 (April Term, 1690).

13. "Births, Marriages, Deaths", page 9.

14. Mattie Erma Edwards Parker, The Colonial Records of North Carolina; North Carolina Higher Court Records, 1670-1696 (Raleigh: State Department of Archives and History, 1968), 6, hereinafter cited as Parker, Higher Court Records. This was a meeting of the colonial council at the home of Francis Godfrey on May 25, 1673.

15. Powers of Attorney, 150, ms. in Secretary of State Papers, State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh.

16. See also Perquimans County Deed Book H, #1136, mf. at State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh:

"The 17th of second month called April 1738, This may certify that I the subscriber have seen a certain old deed of gift from old Joseph Scott to his grandson Joseph Pearce which was both writ, and signed by his own hand as I do believe as the whole dōed and his name was one hand writing as witness my hand the date above mentioned and further that I have read it in my possession as being executor of the said Joseph Pearce and I do solemnly declare that it was burnt, in my house when my deeds and patents were all burnt with it this I do leave as witness for the orphan and pray that it may be recorded  
Zachariah Nixon Junr."

## WILL OF JOSEPH SCOTT

"Now? ... the age of one and twenty years the men and eithteene yeares the women then the survivor (that is to say) the survivor of Jno Pearce's children to have the same and the survivor of my son Joshua Scotts children to enjoy the same.

Item I give and bequeath unto my servant John Browning one cow and calfe the same to be delivered him at the expiration of the time he has to serve me

Item I give and Bequeath unto my Beloved Son Joshua Scott whome I doe nominate & appoint to be one of my Executors my Reall istate of Land wch belongs to me and is patt yned with all the Housing thereon being and belong ing, the said Housing to be enjoyed by him after the decease of my sd. Beloved Wife Mary Scott whense ever the same shall or may happen & not before but it is my Will and pleasure that the Lands on the other side of the River formerly conveyed by me to my loving grandson Joseph Pearce, be excepted according to the true Intent & Meaning of this my said

Will & Testament & I appoint Wm. Bundy the other

Item my Will & pleasure is and I order that whatsoever?

Estate I shall dye siezed & possessed wth and ...

funeral Expenses Just debts wch I shall owe?

any Man be duely paid sattisfied & co...

may equally be divided betwixt my said  
 Wife Mary Scott my son Joshua Scott and my  
 Daughter Mary Bundy share & share alike  
 so [ ? ] no difference may arise betwixt them  
 ...wards about the dividing of this my istate  
 wch I have given & bequeathed as aforesaid  
 Item my Will ... my loving  
 ffriends Robert [Nixon?] and Edward Mayobe [over?]  
[seers?] of this my last Will & testament to see  
 that it be duely performed according as I have  
 hereby Ment & Intended and if it should so happen  
 that either of these my two Overseers should  
 be removed either by death or other way  
 that then the Body of the People called Quakers  
 may order and appoint two other ffriends to see this  
 my last Will & testament performed and so I conclude  
 this my Will which I publish to the World to be my last  
 Will & testament and in witness to the  
 same I dow hereunto sett my hand and affix  
 my own seale the 26 day of the 8 Month called octo  
 ber in the yeare 1685

Joseph  
Scott

signed sealed and published  
 in the presence of us whose  
 names are hereunto written

Ffrancis Tomes

the marke of

Richard R Evins

Edward Mayo, Ser.

We whose names are under written doe [swear]  
that we saw the Disceased Joseph Scott signe seale  
and publish this as his last Will and testament  
and that to the best of our knowledge he was in  
sound & perfect Mind & Memory

Edward Mayo

Ffrancis Tomes.

1686

WILL OF JOSHUA SCOTT

In the name of God Amen I Joshua Scott of ye County of Albemarle in ye Province of Carolina planter being sick & weak of body butt of sound & perfect memory blessed be ye Lord doe make this my last will & testament in manner & form following (Viz) I bequeath my soul to God ye Creator of all things thro his infinite mercies & eternal merrits of Jesus Christ my saviour hoping & expecting ever lasting life & salvation, committing also my body to ye earth in expectation of ye resurrection thereof at ye great & last day of judgment. Itt. as to my temporall estate I give & bequeath all my personal Estate of goods & chattels to my beloved wife Mary Scott & my two daughters Grace Scott & Sarah Scott to be devided equally amongst them unto 3 shares or equall proportions and my sd. wife to enjoy ye whole till my sd. Daughters comes to yt age of one & twenty years or ye day of either of their Marridge which shal first hapen and no longer, and if either of my sd. Daughters that dye before ye aforesd. time shall come, yn ye survivor or longer liver to have and enjoy ye share or dividend of ye other so departed and if both should dye before ye time limited as aforesd. then ye whole I give entirely to my sd. loveing Wife and to her dispose forever. Itt. I give & bequeath all my reall estate of pattent Land both what I have now in possession (and also in reversion by ye death of my late father Joseph Scott) with all houseing thereon orchards gardens & other appurtinences thereunto belonging unto my said Daughters Grace & Sarah Scott and to their heirs by equall devison, to be enjoyed after ye death of

my said loveing wife Mary Scott or to ye longer liver of them but if both of them dye without Issue then I give ye sd. Land with the with ye [sic] appurtinances to my said Wife & to her dispose forever Itt. and my Will & pleasure further is that my said beloved Wife Mary Scott at present enjoy ye whole Estate of Land till my said daughters comes to ye age of one and twenty years or ye day of Marridge But as they come or attaine to ye sd. time appointed then to have three hundred acres apiece and my sd. Wife to enjoy ye rest dureing her natural life as aforesd. according to ye force intent & meaning of this my last Will & testament.

Itt. Lastly I doe appoint my sd. Wife Mary Scott my sole and absolute Executrix of this my last Will & testmt. revokeing and renouncing all others & former Wills that ever have been by me made acknowledgeing this to be my last will & testamt. and in Witness hereof I sett hereunto my hand & seal this 8 day of  
 January

1685/6

sealed published &amp; declared

Joshua Scott

in ye presents of

John F kinsay

Richd R Evens

John Wolfenden

MARY HUDSON SCOTT

Mary Hudson Scott presumably occupied the house of Joseph Scott from the time of their marriage (about 1683) until her death on May 22, 1692.<sup>1</sup> Her children by her previous marriage to Henry Hudson, deputy collector of customs for Currituck, were daughters Nephenian (Walling?) and Julianna Taylor (wife, later widow, of John Taylor).<sup>2</sup> Prior to Mary Scott's death in 1692, Julianna was widowed and evidently came to live with her mother at the Scott house.<sup>3</sup>

Mary Hudson Scott and her daughter Julianna Taylor were remarkable women of their time and place. The frequency with which both women found their way into the court records of the period testifies to the notoriously litigious character they bore and the assertive demeanor with which they conducted themselves in an otherwise male-dominated society.

Mrs. Scott was hostess to meetings of the Perquimans county court at her home during the years 1689, 1690, and 1691. With the court meeting up to four times a year under her own roof, Mary had a good opportunity to seek satisfaction in all of her dealings with the world at large and made bold to take advantage of this fact. Having won a suit for debt against the estate of David Blake in 1688<sup>4</sup>, Mary utilized the court of July, 1689 to affirm her purchase of an iron-grey gelding from George Castleton<sup>5</sup>, to avoid prosecution in a suit against her by Anthony Dawson in 1690<sup>6</sup>, and to collect a debt from William Spragg in early 1692.<sup>7</sup> She suffered non-suits in

actions against Diana Foster, John Harris, and Daniel Snooke in 1691<sup>8</sup> when, the court meeting elsewhere, she failed to make an appearance. In another case in 1691, Mary and Julianna were jointly sued by William Steward "for unreasonable correctinge, & absence of William Williams" but it does not appear whether they were convicted or not.<sup>9</sup>

The most notable of the litigations involving Mary Hudson Scott was that of the April Term, 1690 when she established her right to the services of her late husband's erstwhile Indian servant Alexander. It seems that Alexander had originally been acquired by Joseph Scott from Joshua Lamb of New England who brought him into North Carolina. Subsequently, Alexander contrived to steal from Joseph Scott the instrument of indenture and burn it. A new indenture, dated April 8, 1690, was therefore required to affirm Alexander's obligations. William Bundy, Joseph Scott's executor, having made over to Mary Scott his own interest in the Indian,<sup>10</sup> Alexander signed an agreement binding himself "unto the sd Mary Scot Widdow & to her assigns & during the time ... of eighty years, if the sd Alexander happen so long [to] live, & to serve the sd Mary Scot & her assignes faithfully & truely in all manner of employment & labour...."<sup>11</sup> Mary, for her part, was obliged to provide Alexander during that term with lodgings, food and clothes.

Following Mary's death in 1692, Alexander was able to conclude a less onerous agreement with Mary's heir, Julianna Taylor. Acting perhaps from a desire not to be responsible to Alexander in his old age, Julianna now bound him for but twelve years. This resolved the matter until the year 1705 when Julianna (now married to Benjamin Laker) was hailed into court on suspicion of having "killed or by

some means made away with" the Indian.<sup>12</sup> By the following term of court, Alexander had turned up and had filed suit against Julianna for his freedom, citing the twelve year agreement made by them in 1692.<sup>13</sup> The jury found for the plaintiff and Alexander's name survived in the annual tax lists of Perquimans for another twelve years.<sup>14</sup> Julianna Lakers, meanwhile, established herself as the foremost businesswoman in the colony, a terror to debtors, her mother's daughter.<sup>15</sup>

Still another high-spirited woman who at one time evidently inhabited the Scott house was Johanna Taylor Palmer, daughter of Julianna. Johanna married Paul Palmer, reputed founder of the first Baptist congregation in North Carolina, and enshrined her name upon the minutes of the courts as thoroughly as had her celebrated mother and grandmother.<sup>16</sup> Early North Carolina had no women to compare with this remarkable trio and the record of their interaction with the men of Albemarle is a repudiation of many stereotypes of the womanhood at that rude era.

NOTES:  
Joseph Scott

1. "Births, Marriages, Deaths", 7. "Mrs. Mary Scott Departed this life ye 22nd of May 1692."
2. North Carolina Wills, Vol. XXVIII, 8, Will of Mary Scott.
3. Perquimans Precinct Court Minutes, 1688-1693, ms. at State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, page 35 [July Court, 1691?], suit by William Steward against Mary Scott and Juliana Taylor for "unreasonable correctinge" of William Williams, evidently a servant of hired hand. Hereinafter cited as Precinct Court Minutes.
4. Precinct Court Minutes, 16 (April Term, 1688).
5. Precinct Court Minutes, 7 (May 3, 1689).
6. Precinct Court Minutes, 15 (April Term, 1690).
7. Precinct Court Minutes, 37 (January Term, 1692?).
8. Precinct Court Minutes, 31 (February Term, 1691).
9. Precinct Court Minutes, 35 (July Term, 1691?).
10. Precinct Court Minutes, 21 (April 8, 1690).
11. Precinct Court Minutes, 21 (April 8, 1690).
12. Precinct Court Minutes, 1698-1706, ms. at State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh, page 150 (1705), hereinafter cited as Precinct Court Minutes, 1698-1706.
13. Precinct Court Minutes, 1698-1706, page 169.
14. "Tax Lists", Colonial Court Records, Miscellaneous. In this file are Perquimans tax lists for 1713 to 1721. The lists for 1713 to 1717 contain entries for taxes collected from "Sanders ye Indian."
15. See, especially, Saunders, Colonial Records, I, 489, 551, 565, 581-582, 626-627, 622, and 550.
16. See, eg., Saunders, Colonial Records, II, 416, 437, and 471.

## WILL OF MARY SCOTT

In the Name of God amen the Last will and testament  
of Mary Scott Widow of Pequimons River in the  
county of Albermarle in Manor and forme fouloing  
Item I Bequeth my Body to the Earth to  
Ly Buried and my Sole to God that gave it me and  
all my worly goods as foloweth My just debtes  
being payd Item I give and bequeth unto my  
Daughter Nephinian Walling? one shilling  
sterling Mony of England Item I give and bequeth  
unto Debory Willoby the wife of John Wiloby  
one and her to be delivered  
within six month after my decease Item I give  
and bequeth unto my Granddaughter Johanah Taylor  
two thirds of all my personall Estate but if it  
shuld Hapon that Johanah Taylor shuld  
dey before she coms to the Age of seventen yers  
Then my daughter Nephenian Walhans? shuld  
shall survive her and have her Eastat if thay  
com to looke after it and if the sd Johanah  
Taylor lives shee shall have her Eastat deliverd  
to her at the Age of seventen yers Item I give  
and bequeath unto my daughter Julyanah  
Taylor one third of all my parshall Estate  
and Make her my holl and soll Executor  
and that my Daughtor Julyanah Taylor shall have

ye maniging of the holl Estate tell Johanah  
 Taylor coms of Age as witnes my hand and seale  
 this 17th day of March 1691/2

Mary Scott

signed sealled & delivered

in the presents of us

Anthony Dawson

Butler

Voss

presen In Cort

october ye 3 1692

Testee John Stepney

## "Vineyard" People

Joshua Scott, in whom Joseph Scott vested title to his Perquimans plantation in 1685, survived his father for only a few months. At his death on January 14, 1686<sup>1</sup>, he bequeathed the property, including three hundred fifty acres adjacent patented by Joshua in 1684, to his daughters Grace and Sarah and his widow Mary. Mary Hudson Scott and her daughter Julianna Taylor evidently occupied the farm until the death of the former in 1692 but, after that, it is probable that the manor house was occupied by Joshua's widow and her second husband, Thomas Blount, whom she married in 1686.<sup>3</sup>

Thomas Blount, co-founder of one of North Carolina's most eminent families, obtained the first land-grant issued in Beaufort county in 1697.<sup>4</sup> He is said to have come to America in 1664 and to North Carolina in 1673, where he had been preceded by his older brother James.<sup>5</sup> Both James, who settled in Chowan, and Thomas, who lived first on Pamlico river, were sons of Sir Walter Blount of Sodington, Worcester, England, and were thrust to the forefront of North Carolina affairs from their earliest appearance in the colony.<sup>6</sup> Thomas was, by turns, a tax collector<sup>7</sup>, vestryman at St. Paul's in Chowan<sup>8</sup>, and agent for Governor Henderson Walker on various missions.<sup>9</sup> After the death of his first wife, Ann Wilson, he married the widow Scott and presumably came to live with her in Perquimans. Here he hosted sessions of the Perquimans precinct court in 1697 and 1698 before moving with his family to what is now Washington county in

*should be joint  
Mary Scott*1699.<sup>10</sup>

The removal from Perquimans of Thomas and Mary Hudson Scott Blount left the disposition of the vacated farm to Joshua Scott's daughters Grace and Sarah, joint owners. On June 6, 1701 Grace Scott and her husband William Fryley, along with Thomas and Mary Blount, sold their interest in the farm to Sarah and her husband Edmond Peirce of Chowan county.<sup>11</sup> The next tenants of the property, however, appear to have been Captain James Coles and his wife Mary, who acquired title from Fryley on December 17, 1703.<sup>12</sup>

James Coles came to North Carolina from Nansemond county, Virginia<sup>13</sup> and was already a man of consequence when he occupied the Scott farm. He had served Perquimans as overseer of roads<sup>14</sup>, constable<sup>15</sup>, and justice of the peace<sup>16</sup>, and was to serve, while resident on the farm, as Provost Marshal<sup>17</sup>, messenger to the colonial assembly<sup>18</sup>, and member of the House of Commons<sup>19</sup>. He also entertained the Perquimans court at his house for all of its sessions from April, 1702 to January, 1704.<sup>20</sup> On July 31, 1707, Captain Coles bought from William Fryley the Joshua Scott grant adjacent and again brought the properties under single ownership.<sup>21</sup> In his will of February 20, 1712, Coles bequeathed all of his real estate to his wife Mary and daughter Elizabeth.<sup>22</sup>

In the year 1714 Coles' widow married Henry Clayton, still another figure of prominence in the colony.<sup>23</sup> Heretofore clerk of court in Perquimans<sup>24</sup>, Clayton was subsequently a precinct vestryman<sup>25</sup>, justice of the General Court<sup>26</sup>, Provost Marshall<sup>27</sup>,

Recorder-General of the colony in 1724,<sup>28</sup> a witness to the will of Governor Charles Eden in 1721<sup>29</sup>, and a member of the Governor's Council until his death in 1726.<sup>30</sup>

During Clayton's tenure at the Scott farm, then known as "the Vineyard", he became entangled in a dispute over title with Thomas and Elizabeth Coles Harvey. After some legal jockeying, a mutual settlement was reached in 1724, Clayton retaining ownership of the upper (western) two-thirds of the farm and Harvey acquiring the lower third.<sup>31</sup> This left Clayton in occupancy of the manor house and lands which, in his will of January 20, 1725, he directed his executors to sell for the benefit of his daughter Sarah.<sup>32</sup> The farm was purchased on July 12, 1726 by Abraham Sanders and was destined to remain in the possession of Sanders and his descendants for the next one hundred forty two years.

NOTES:  
Vinyard People

1. "Births, Marriages, Deaths", 9.
2. Will of Joshua Scott, North Carolina Wills, Vol. XXVIII, 7.
3. "Births, Marriages, Deaths", 2.
4. Charles Wingate Reed, Beaufort County: two centuries of its history (Raleigh: n.p., 1962), 27.
5. Mrs. Watson Winslow, History of Perquimans County, as Compiled from Records There and Elsewhere (Raleigh: Edwards and Broughton, 1931), 327, hereinafter cited as Winslow, History of Perquimans County.
6. Winslow, History of Perquimans County, 327.
7. Saunders, Colonial Records, I, 560.
8. Saunders, Colonial Records, I, 543.
9. Saunders, Colonial Records, I, 517.
10. Ray Winslow, "The Newbold-White House", 1, typescript in possession of author, hereinafter cited as Winslow, "Newbold-White House".
11. Perquimans County Deed Book A, # 169.
12. Perquimans County Deed Book A, # 216.
13. Ray Winslow, "The Newbold-White House", 2.
14. Saunders, Colonial Records, I, 523.
15. Saunders, Colonial Records, I, 548.
16. Saunders, Colonial Records, I, 574-575.
17. Winslow, "Newbold-White House", 2.
18. Winslow, "Newbold-White House", 2.
19. Winslow, "Newbold-White House", 2.
20. Precinct Court Minutes, 1698-1706, April Court, 1702 through January Court 1704, pages 45 to 100, passim.
21. Perquimans County Deed Book A, # 391.
22. North Carolina Wills, Will of James Coles, Vol. VI, 67.

23. Winslow, "Newbold-White House", 2.
24. Winslow, "Newbold-White House", 2.
25. Saunders, Colonial Records, II, 208.
26. Saunders, Colonial Records, II, 463-473.
27. Saunders, Colonial Records, II, 535.
28. Saunders, Colonial Records, II, 361-362.
29. J. Bryan Grimes, Abstract of North Carolina Wills Compiled From Original and Recorded Wills in the Office of the Secretary of State (Raleigh: E.M. Uzzell, & Co., 1910), 109.
30. Saunders, Colonial Records, II, 566-568-570.
31. Perquimans County Deed Book B, # 223.
32. Will of Henry Clayton, North Carolina Wills, Vol. VI, 53.

## DEED: FRYLEY-BLOUNT TO PEIRCE

Know all men by these presents that William Fryly of the precinct of Perquimans Joiner and Grace his wife and Thomas Blount Esqr. of the precinct of Chowan and Mary his wife for divers good and Valuable Considerations them thereunto Especially moving and also for a Valuable Consideration of money to them in hand already paid by Edmund Peirce of the precinct of Chowan Gent. the Receipt whereof they do severally acknowledge have bargained sold granted and confirmed ... unto the said Edmond Peirce and to his heirs and assigns for Ever all that their several Plantations commonly called or known by the Name of Old Scott Joshua Scott and a tract of land on the North side of Perquimans River containing by Estimation one thousand and fifty acres of land be they more or less with all the Houses fencing premises and all appurtenances to the same tracts of Land severally belonging ... lying and being in Perquimans Precinct .... In Witness whereof the parties abovesaid to this present writing have set their hands and seals the sixth day of June anno 1701....

Sealed and delivered  
in the presence of  
Daniel Bret  
Richard Smith  
Henderson Walker

William Fryle  
Grace GF Fryly  
Thomas Blount  
Mary Blount

Acknowledged in court the 8th day of July 1701.

Test pr John Stepney Cler.

1701

DEED: PEIRCE TO FRYLEY

Know all men by these presents that I Edmond Peirce of the precinct of Chowan Gentleman and Sarah his Wife for divers good and Valuable Considerations them thereunto moving and also for a Valuable Consideration of money to them in hand all paid by William Fryly of the precinct of Perquimans Joiner the Receipt whereof they do severally acknowledge have bargained sold granted and confirmed ... unto William Fryly and to his heirs and assigns forever all that our several plantations commonly called or known by the Name of old Scott Joshua Scott and a tract of Land on the North side of Perquimans River containing by estimation one thousand and fifty acres of Land be the same more or less with all Houses fencing premises and all appurtenances to the same tracts of Land severally belonging or in any wise appertaining situate lying and being in Perquimans precinct.... To have and to hold all and every the before mentioned premises unto the said William Fryly and to his heirs and assigns for ever.... In witness whereof the Parties above said to this present Writing have set our hands and seals this Eighth day of June anno 1701. ...

Sealed and delivered

in the presence of

James Blount

Kattan Tylor

Edmond Peirce

Her

Sarah S Peirce

mark

At Gen'll Court July 30th present the Justices Acknowledged

Test N. Chevin Clk.

## DEED: FRYLEY TO COLES

This Indenture made the seventeenth day of December in the year of our Lord God Seventeen hundred and three between William Fryly of the Precinct of Chowan in the County of Albemarle in the proprietorship of North Carolina Carpenter and Grace his Wife of the one part and Capt. James Coles of the Precinct of Perquimans in the county aforesaid carpenter and Mary his Wife of the other part Witnesseth that the said William Fryly and Grace his wife for and in consideration of the sum of Seventy Pounds Sterling Money of England to them at and before the Ensealing and delivery of these presents well and truly in hand paid by the said James Coles and Mary his Wife ... hath granted aliened Bargained Sold and Confirmed ... unto the said James Coles and Mary his Wife all that tract or parcel of Land and plantation containing Six hundred and forty Acres lying on the West side of Perquimans River being in the Precinct of Perquimans aforesaid Beginning at a Red Oak standing by the side of a Swamp upon the brow of a hill and running along the River for Breadth Northwest two hundred and Eighty Eight Perches to a bounded Gum standing by the side of a Branch, and running from the said Gum with a line drawn into the Woods for Length three hundred and twenty Perches Southwest to a marked Red oak and from the said Red Oak with a line drawn down South East two hundred and Eighty Eight Perches to a marked Gum and from the said Gum with a line drawn North East to our first bounded tree, as in and by a Patent for the same bearing date on

on or about the sixth day of February in the twentieth year of the Possession of North Carolina and all Houses Edifices Buildings Barns Stables Orchards Gardens Buildings and other hereditaments to the same belonging ... and now in the tenure and occupation of the said James Coles and Mary his Wife or one of them with all Common and Commons of Pasture....

To have and to hold the said Six hundred & forty Acres of Land ~~with the~~ appurtenances before ... mentioned ....

In Witness whereof the Parties first above Named have hereunto Interchangably set their hands and seals the day and year first above written.

Sealed and delivered in  
presence of Richard French  
Henry Sprig Jno. Brown

William Fryley  
her  
Grace S Fryley  
mark

Acknowledged in Court the 11th day of January

Thomas Snoden Cler Court.

Source: Deed Book A, #216

## WILL OF JAMES COLES

In the name of God Amen the twenteyeth day of febr. 1711/12  
 I James Coles of the precinct of pequimons in the province of  
 North Carolina of good and perfect memorey thanks be to almightey  
 god and calling to Remembrance the unsertaine Estate of this  
 transittorey life and that all flesh must yield unto death when  
 it shall please god to call doe make constitute ordained and  
 declare this my Last will and testament in maner and form  
 following Renouncing and annulling by these prests all and Everrey  
 testament and testaments will and wills here to fore by me made  
 and declard Either by word or writing and this is to be taken  
 onley for my Last will and testament and none other and first being  
 pennitent and sorrey from the bottom of my heart for my Sins past  
 most humbly desiring forgivenes for the same I give and commit  
 my Soule unto Almighty god my Savior and Redeemer in whom and by  
 the merrits of Jesus Christ I trust and believe assuredley to Be  
 saved and to have full Remishon and foregiveness of all my Sins and  
 that my Soule with my bodey at the Genrall Day of Resurrection  
 shall Rise agane with Joy and through the merrits of Christs death  
 and pashon posses and in herrit the Kingdom of heaven prepared for  
 his Elect and Chosen and my bodey to be buried in such plase where  
 it shall please my Execetrix here after named to appointe and now  
 for the setling of my temporall Esstate and such and goods Chattels  
 and debts as it hath pleased god far above my deserts to bestow  
 upon me I doe order give and dispose the same in maner and forme

following that is to say first I will that all those debts and  
 dewteys as I have in Right or Consionse to aney maner of person or  
 persons what soever shall be well and trewley Contented and payd  
 or ordained to be payd within Convenient time after my Decease by  
 my Execetrix here after named Item I give and Bequeath unto my  
 Dafter Elizabeth Coles all that plantation and tract of Land in  
 Nanseymond Cownteys in verginnea where on my father James Coles  
 Lived as all so two other tracks of fifty acers Each Laying in the  
 Swamp there by and one other tract of Land Laying on the Kneeholl  
 Swamp at Somertowne contaying one hundred acers and one other tract  
 of Land at Buckland contayning one hundred acers and one other tract  
 of Land at Buckland contayning two hundred and fifty acers Joyning  
 to a certain tract of Land of ----- ? ----- and further my -----?  
 ----- what land I -----?----- therewith all my personall Estate be  
 Equally devided Betwixt my Loving and Lawfull wife Mary Coles and  
 my Dafter Elizabeth and to be inioyd by them and their heirs for  
 Ever and my will farther is that my Land and other Estate in North  
 Carolina and allso what personall Estate I have in verginnea be it  
 in what Kinde or nature soe Ever shall be Equalley devided Betwixt  
 my wife and Dafter and Lastley doe here by appoint my Lawfull and  
 Loving wife Mary Coles my Executrix of this my will to see it  
 fulfilled and performd in witness where of I have here unto set my  
 hand and fixt my seale the day and yeare above writen

Jas. Coles

Signed seald and  
 deliverd in presence of us  
 Rich Ffrench

her  
Eliz — ffrench  
mark

her  
Sarah SE Evens  
mark

Source: North Carolina Wills, Vol. VI, page 67.

## DEED: HALL TO CLAYTON

North Carolina Know all Men by these Presents that I William Hall of Perquimans Precinct & Province aforesd. cooper for & in consideration of the sum of Forty Pounds Sterling & one Negroe Woman to me in hand paid at or Before the Ensealing & Delivery of these Presents by Henry Clayton of the said Precinct ... & for Divers other Causes & Considerations me Hereunto moving, Have Given Granted Bargained Sold Aliened enfeoffed conveyed confirmed assinged & set over ... unto the said Henry Clayton his heirs and Assigns all that tract of land & Plantation containing Six Hundred & Forty Acres Lying on the So. West side of Perquimans River..., Which Land was Granted by the true & absolute Lords Proprietors by their Pattent dated the sixth day of February In the twentieth year of their Possession of Carolina unto Joseph Scott & afterwards Viz, Seveteenth Day of September 1703 by Wm. Fryley & Grace his Wife, the only Daughter of Joshua Scott was conveyed unto James Coles & Mary his Wife & their Heirs & is now conveyed unto Henry Clayton by the said Wm. Hall the only proper Heir of Mary late wife of said Clayton, & one Moity or Half Part of a certain Tract of land adjoining to the Aforesaid Six Hundred & Forty Acres [Formerly?] conveyed Viz, 31st Day July 1701, from the said Wm. Fryly & Grace his Wife unto James Coles which tract of Land contains three hundred and fifty acres which said Moity or Half part was due unto Mary Coles Wife of said James Coles, By force & Virtue of the last Will & Testament of the said James Coles, To have & to Hold ...

together with all & singular the Houses Barns Gardens, Stables,  
Easements Commons ... to the same Belonging forever.... In  
witness whereof I have Hereunto set my hand & seal this Nineteenth  
of February 1718/9

Signed Sealed & Delivered

William H Hall  
mark

In the presence of

Zachariah Ellson Charles Denman, Ja Williams Ser ... Acknowledged

In open court by William Hall unto Mr. Henry Clayton & Ann the  
Wife of the said Willm. Hall Relinquishes her Right of Dower ...  
to the same.... Richard Leary.

Source: Deed Book B, #54

## DIVISION OF LAND: CLAYTON AND HARVEY

This Indenture made this 26th day of October anno dom. one thousand seven hundred and twenty four between Henry Clayton Esqr. of the precinct of Perquimans in the County of Albemarle in North [sic] of the one part and Collonel Thomas Harvey of the County and precinct aforesaid and Elizabeth his wife on the other part whereas one William Fryly late of Perquimans aforesaid and Grace his wife by their indented deed under their hands and seals dated December 17th 1703 in consideration of the sum of seventy pounds sterling to them in hand paid by James Coles and Mary his wife did grant enfeoff convey and confirm to the said James Coles and Mary his wife a certain tract of land lying in Perquimans containing six hundred and forty acres more or less ... and further whereas the said James Coles after being of the premises seized in maner as aforesaid died ... and by his last Will and Testament did devise one half of the said tract land to Mary his Wife and the other half to the aforesaid Elizabeth his daughter and only child now wife of the aforesaid Thomas Harvey and afterwards the said Mary dying intestate one William Hall her Heir ... claiming the whole tract of land aforesaid in right of the said Mary by her survivorship did by deed well executed in the law grant enfeoff release and confirm the land unto the said Henry Clayton in fee and thereon was disputed controversy and suits in law and equity have been and arizen concerning said tract of Land between the said Thomas Harvey and Elizabeth his wife by virtue of the said device and said Henry Clayton holding and claiming under the said William Hall heir of

the said Mary by survivorship as aforesaid wherefore for the ending all such suits contests and controversys ... it is hereby agreed settled and accorded concluded by and between the parties abovesaid in manner following (that is to say) that the said Thomas Harvey & Elizabeth his Wife shall have and hold in fee and quietly enjoy the one third of the said tract of land (Viz) the lower third thereof running one third of the breadth thereof up the River and so back the breadth into the woods according to the courses of the said Land only so that the same do not include any of the now cleared ground and shall release and quit claim unto the said Henry Clayton his Heirs and assigns the other two thirds thereof and the said Henry on the other part shall have and hold in fee for ever quietly enjoy tow thirds of the said tract being the remaining two thirds thereof so as to include all the now cleared ground and shall for ever quit Claim and release the other third thereof to the said Thomas Harvey and Elizabeth his Wife their Heirs and assigns forever ... in testimony whereof the parties firs above mentioned have hereunto set their hands and affixt their seals the day and year abovesaid interchangeably.

Signed sealed and delivered

Thomas Harvey

in the presence of us

Elizabeth Harvey

William Little

Henry Clayton

Ro Forster

North Carolina October the 20th 1725 ...

C. Gale Ch. Just.

## WILL OF HENRY CLAYTON

No Carolina

In the Name of God Amen I Henery Clayton of the prect  
of Chowan in the County of Albemarle & province of North Carolina  
in America Esqr, being sick & weak of Body, but of sound perfect  
& Disposeing mind & memory doe make & ordain this my Last will &  
Testamt in manner & form Following. Fisrt & principally I resigne  
my Soul into the hands of God who gave it & my Body to the Earth  
to be decently Interr'd at the Discretion of my Exrs.  
hereafter named, And as to such Worldly Estate as it hath pleased  
God to bless me withall I give & disponse thereof as followeth Vizt.

Imps. I will that All my true & just Debts & funeral Expences  
be faithfully pd & sattisfyed out of my Estate by my Exrs hereafter  
named.

Item I give & betweath to my loveing Wife Elizabeth Clayton  
My Negro slaves called Harry, Tony, Sam & Hannah, The Bed &  
furniture whereon she lyes; One good Bed & one old one with the  
furniture upon them wch are at my plantacon in Pequimons prect.  
together with all the plate wch I shall dye possessd of.

Itm. I give & betweath to my Daughter Sarah Clayton My Negro  
Slaves called Moll, Cloe, Quomino, and Craven & all the money wch is  
may become due to me in Old England & in Bermudas.

Itm my Will & Mind is, That after my Debts are dischargd &  
me speckifck Legacys before given are sett apart That all the rest  
Residue & Remainder of my personall Estate, be it of what nature  
or kind soever, be equally devided betwixt my sd Wife Elizabeth

Clayton & my Daughter Sarah.

Itm I give & bequeath to Christopher Gale, John Lovick, & William Little & to the survivr of them their Heires & Assigns All that my plantacon lyeing on pequimons River called the Vinyard, To hold to them & the Survivr of them & to his Heires & Assgns for ever Nevertheless as feofees in Trust to the use & behoof of my Daughter Sarah Clayton, & to noe othr use Intent or purpose whatsoever, And I doe hereby further direct desire & Impower the sd Christopher Gale John Lovick & William Little & the Survivor or Survivors of them to sell & dispose of the sd plantacon called the Vineyard to the highest Bidder that shall offer money for the same & for the same consideracon to convey & confirm the same to him & his Heires forever.

Itm I will that the money wch shall arise by sale of the sd plantacon or of my Daughter Sarah's part of the personal Estate (wch I doe hereby order & direct to be forthwith sold at publick vandue, The Negro Slaves only excepted) be as soon as possible laid out in Female breeding Slaves to be hyred & Imploy'd for the raising of money Applicable at the Discretion of my Exrs for the bringing up & Education of my sd Daughter Sarah, And ye overplus for the purchaseing of more slaves for the use of my Daughter Sarah.

But in Case my sd Daughter Sarah shall Dye before she arrive at the Age of Twenty one yeares or marry, Then my Will & mind further is, That All the Estate hereby give to my sd Daughter shall be equally devided betwixt my sd wife Elizabeth Clayton & my Dear Brother Richard Clayton of London salesman; The sum of Tenn pounds

sterl. wch I hereby give to my beloved Bro in Law Samuel Pearson of the City of London Laceman being first paid & deducted out of the whole.

Itm I give to my Wife Elizabeth Clayton & to her Heires & Assgns for ever All my right Title & Interest to the plantacon whereon I live adjoining to Edenton with all the Improvements thereon & advantages wch by any means cou'd accrue to me thereby.

Itm I give to my sd wife Elizabeth one Good Negro Slave to be first purchased for her out of the money ariseing by the sale of my Land or plantacon called the Vineyard, anything before to the Contrary notwithstanding

And I doe hereby nominate Constitute and Appoint my Father in Law Christopher Gale & my Good Friends John Lovick & William Little Esqur to be my Executors of this my last Will & Testamt And Guardians & Trustees for my sd Daughter Sarah till she comes of Age of Eighteen or marrys. And lastly I doe hereby revoke annull & make void all former & othr Wills by me made

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto sett my hand & seal this 20th Day of Jany ao. Dom. 1725

Signd seald publishd & declared )  
 to be the last will & Testamt of )  
 Henery Clayton in presence of us )

The words [till she come to Age of )  
 Eighteen or marry] interlined before )  
 sealing )

Mdm That the old Negro Daniel at same )  
 time was order'd to be sold & the money to be )

) H Clayton

devided betwixt his Wife & child in presence )  
 of us. And the words [and the survivor or survivors) )  
 of them] also Interlined on the othr. side )

Willm Williams

Barthow. Scott

John W. [Tench?]

North Carolina

Sr Richard Everard Bart Governor

These may Certify that Bartholemew Scot personally  
 appeared before me and made oath that he saw Henry  
 Clayton Esqr. Decd seal sign & Execute the within Writing  
 as his last Will Testament that the sd. Clayton was then  
 off sound Memory & that he saw the other Evidences  
 Witness the same in Mr. Claytons presence

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my  
 hand this 24th day of Jany 1725

Richd Everard

DEED: GALE ET AL. TO SANDERS

To all to whom these Presents shall come Christopher Gale, John Lovick, & William Little Esquires, Executors and Trustees Appointed in & by the last Will and Testament of Henry Clayton late of the Precinct of Chowan and county of Albemarle Esqr. Dec. send Greeting ---

Whereas the said Henry Clayton Decd. by his last Will and bearing Date the 20th Day of Jany. Anno Dom. one thousand seven Hundred and Twenty five/six Did amongst other things give and bequeath unto the said Christopher Gale John Lovick and William Little or to the survivor of them their Heirs and Assigns all that his Plantation Lying in Perquimans River called the Vineyard to Hold to them and the survivor of them and to his Heirs and Assigns forever Nevertheless as Trustees in Trusters to the use and behalf of his Daughter Sarah Clayton and to no other use intent or purpose whatsoever and did thereby also further Direct Desire and empower the said Christopher Gale John Lovick and William Little and the survivor or survivors of them to sell and Dispose of the said Plantation called the Vineyard to the Highest Bidder that shall offer Money for the same and for the same Consideration to convey and confirm to him and his Heirs forever ---

And whereas one Abraham Sanders of the Precinct of Perquimans Planter appears to be Highest Bidder after the said Plantation has several months been Exposed to sale by Public Advertisements and otherwise now Know ye that they the said Christopher Gale John Lovick & William Little ... for and in consideration of the sum of four

Hundred Pounds current Money of North Carolina aforesaid ... also for Divers other good Causes and Valuable considerations them thereunto more especially moving Have Given Granted Bargained Sold aliened enfeoffed conveyed and confirmed ... unto the said Abraham Sanders and to his Heirs and Assigns all that the aforementioned Plantation called the Vineyard situate lying and being on Perquimans River in the Precinct of Perquimans and whereon the said Henry Clayton formerly lived [consisting?] of two thirds of six Hundred & forty Acres of Land part of a Patent Bearing the Date the sixth Day of February in the twentieth year of the proprietors possession of this Province of North Carolina, and likewise of one Hundred & seventy five Acres adjacent to the same being the one Moity or half of three hundred fifty acres Purchased by Major James Coles Decd of William Fryly and Grace his Wife and by him the said James in his last Will and Testament bearing Date the 20th Day of February Anno. Dom. one thousand seven Hundred and eleven/twelve Divided between his Daughter Elizabeth and Mary his wife and was by the said Henry Clayton Decd Purchased of William Hall ... Planter who was Heir at law to the said Mary likewise Decd - To Have and to Hold ... unto him the said Abraham Sanders and to his Heirs & Assigns forever....

In witness whereof they have hereunto set their Hands this twelfth day of July in the twelfth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King George ... one thousand seven Hundred and Twenty six----

Signed Sealed & Delivered

C. Gale

in the Presence of us,

J. Lovick

Jno. Jenoure

Wm. Little

Robt. Forster Willm. Badham.

## WILL OF ABRAHAM SANDERS

I Abraham Sanders of the province of North Carolina and County of pequimans being Throug Mercy in Reasonable health of body and in perfect Serene Mind and Memory but calling to Mind the uncertainty of this Life doe think proper to make this My Last Will and testament in manner and form -- following first my Will and Desire is that my Just Debts and funeral Expences be Discharged and paid

first I give and bequieeth unto my son John Sanders the Plantation whereon Richard Waters now Lives bounded by a branch Runing runing [sic] from the river into the woods and soe from the head of the said branch by a line of markt trees to the head line of my Land I say I give him the sd. plantation to him and his heirs forever.

2dly I give and bequieeth unto my Daughter Jude Bois a tract of Land Containing forty three acres Joyning on the Land of Anne Williams and fifty Seven acres adjoining it out of the Tract of Land whereon I now live to her and her heirs forever.

3dly I give and bequieeth unto my son Benjamin Sanders the plantation whereon I now Live with all the remainder of my Land to him and his heirs forever.

4thly My Will and Desire is that if Either My son John or my son Benjamin should depart this Life before they arrive

to the age of twenty one years that then the other may have and Enjoy his part of the Land to his proper use and his heirs forever.

5thly I give and bequeith unto my son Abraham Sanders five shillings sterling to him and his heirs.

6thly I give and bequeith unto my Daughter Elizabeth Sanders My Negro Man Named Sambo and one young Mare and one black walnut Chest one Case with fifteen bottles and one Linen Spining wheal to her and her heirs forever.

I also give my Daughter Elizabeth Sanders one black Walnut Oval table to her & her heirs.

7thly I give all the Remainder of my Estate to bee Equally Divided betwen My Loving Wife Jude Sanders and My three Children John, Benjamin and Elizabeth Sanders to them and their heirs forever.

My Will and Desire is that my sd. wife Jude Sanders have the care of my son John Sanders and his part of my Personal Estate untill he arives to the age of twenty years and then I appoint him to bee of age to Receive it and have the full use and benefit of the same.

My Will and Desire is that My Daughter Elizabeth Sanders have the Care of my son Benjamin Sanders and his part of my personal Estate untill he arives to the age of twenty years and then I appoint him

to bee of age to receive it and have the full use and benefit of the same.

Also it is my will and Desire that My Daughter Elizth. Sanders have the Liberty to Live on that part of my Land which I gave to my son John Sanders if she should have ocation or Like soe to doe untill he arives to the age of twenty years.

Lastly I Constitute ordain and appoint my Brother Richd Sanders & my friend Jo. White to bee my whole and sole Exécutors to see this my Last will and testament to see this my Last will and testament [sic] performed and Don and doe hereby revoke Disanul and Make void all other wills by mee hertofore made and declare this to bee my Last Will & testam- ment in witnes wherof I hereunto sett my hand and seal this twenty sixth Day of Aprill 1750

Signed sealed and ) John White affd  
Delivd. in presents of) Elizabeth White Abraham SA Sanders  
John Murdaugh affd mark

No Carolina )  
Peqms County) October Court anno Dom 1751  
Present His Majestys Justices

when was the within will proved in open court by the affirmations of John Murdaugh & John White in Due form of law and at the same time Richard Sanders and Joseph White Executors to the within will was duly qualified by taking the affirmations by law appointed

to be taken by Executors Ordered that the Secretary or  
his Deputy of said province have Notice that Letters  
Testamentary issue thereon as the law Directs

Test. Edmd. Hatch Cler Cur

1794-1823

THE ESTATE OF BENJAMIN SANDERS

The Vineyard farm remained in the possession of Benjamin Sanders from the death of his father Abraham in 1751 until his own death in the last days of 1794 or first days of 1795. In his will, dated December 12, 1794, Benjamin devised the manor plantation to his son Benjamin, directing that his wife Mary should "have the use of all the Parts" of his estate until his children reached age fourteen.<sup>1</sup> Should Mary remarry, she was to receive one-sixth part of the residue of the estate on equal terms with five of the eight children of Benjamin and Mary Sanders.<sup>2</sup>

The younger Benjamin Sanders was a minor in 1795 when his father's will was probated.<sup>3</sup> At the May Court, 1797, he was made a ward of his brother John Sanders<sup>4</sup> and in 1798 was apprenticed by John to Henry Pointer.<sup>5</sup> Still a minor, Benjamin died in early 1799 and a division of his personal estate was ordered by the February, 1799 among Benjamin's mother, his four sisters, and three brothers, in equal shares.<sup>6</sup> By law, Benjamin's interest in his father's estate now reverted to John Sanders, his guardian.

Later court records reveal the name of a ninth child of the elder Benjamin Sanders, one not mentioned in his will of 1794 and apparently not yet born. This was a daughter Lidia who married first John Barrow and, after his death, Richard Felton.<sup>7</sup> The birth of a child sometime after her husband's death thus extended the time by several years during which Mary Sanders could remain a resident of the Vineyard, i.e. until Lidia turned fourteen, or until 1809 or thereabout.

Mary Sanders seems to have remained at the Vineyard until 1817 when she married Benjamin Smith.<sup>8</sup> When Mary vacated the farm, it was promptly occupied by Nancy Sanders White, a daughter of Mary's first husband and herself now a widow.<sup>9</sup> Through her second husband, Mary Sanders Smith in July, 1817 challenged Nancy White's occupancy and the Perquimans court appointed a jury to ascertain whether Mary still retained her right of dowry.<sup>10</sup> On July 31st the jury reported its unanimous verdict that "the right of Dower still remains in Benjamin Smith agreeable to the report of a Jury who was ordered on the same by an order of Court at May Term 1797 and we further give the said Smith possession of the said Dower...."<sup>11</sup> This decision seems to have reflected the jury's view of the status of the property in the light of the death of the younger Benjamin Sanders and that of his guardian as well. The court, however, took a different view of the matter and ordered the verdict set aside.<sup>12</sup> Nancy White remained in possession of the manor plantation.

Title to the Vineyard evidently remained in a somewhat amorphous state until the death of Mary Sanders Smith in 1823. In that year Richard Felton, in behalf of his wife Lidia Sanders Felton, petitioned for a division of the estate among the surviving heirs of Benjamin Sanders.<sup>13</sup> Several heirs having died or moved beyond the borders of North Carolina, only Nancy White and the Feltons remained to share in the division of the real estate. Nancy White was evidently confirmed in her title to the farm and remained in possession and occupancy until her death in 1833.<sup>14</sup>

## NOTES: THE ESTATE OF BENJAMIN SANDERS

1. Will of Benjamin Sanders, Perquimans County Wills, Book E, page 37.
2. Will of Benjamin Sanders, Perquimans County Wills, Book E, page 37. The children mentioned in the will were Charlotte White (wife of Robert White), Anne Hinton (wife of Dempsey Hinton), Abraham Sanders, Nancy White (wife of Joshua White), Penelope Sanders (who married Benjamin Skinner), Thomas Sanders, John Sanders, and Benjamin. The daughters already married in 1794 were not to share in the seven-part division of the remainder of the estate.
3. Perquimans County Court Minutes, 1794-1801, May Term, 1797, hereinafter cited as County Court Minutes, followed by appropriate inclusive dates.
4. County Court Minutes, 1794-1801, May Term 1797.
5. County Court Minutes, 1794-1801, February Term, 1798.
6. County Court Minutes, 1794-1801, February Term, 1799.
7. Estate of Benjamin Sanders, in account with John Gatlin, administrator de bonis novi, January 10, 1823.
8. Perquimans County Marriage Bonds, typescript in State Department of Archives and History, Raleigh. A marriage bond was issued to Benjamin Smith and Mary Saunders on January 30, 1817.
9. Motion of Benjamin Smith, County Court Minutes, May Term, 1817:  
 "On motion of Benjamin Smith who Entermarried with Mary Saunders the widow of Benjamin Saunders deced. it is ordered that the Sheriff summon a Jury according to Act of Assembly to go on the premises and dispossess Nancy White widow of Joshua White Deced. of the buildings and land laid of to the said Mary Saunders now the wife of the said Benjamin Smith as her Dower in the lands of said B. Saunders Deced. and to put the said Benjamin Smith in peaceable & quiet possession of the same and make Report of their proceedings to next term."
10. Motion of Benjamin Smith, County Court Minutes, May Term, 1817.
11. Report dated July 31, 1817, ms. in Estate of Benjamin Sanders.
12. Report dated July 31, 1817, ms. in Estate of Benjamin Sanders. See note on reverse side rescinding the verdict.

13. Petition of Richard Felton and wife, May Term 1823, in Estate of Benjamin Sanders. Unaccountably, this petition avers that Benjamin Sanders "died intestate & with out issue" and "left a widow who at the time of the aforementioned division was possessed of her right of dower in said land ..., that the widow is since dead and the land of which she was seised has descended to the heirs at law of the aforesaid Benjamin...." The heirs are listed as Richard Felton and wife, Robert White and wife, Dempsey Hinton and wife, and Nancy White. Robert White and wife are said to have been "for a number of years out of the state and are probably dead"; Dempsey Hinton and wife were also removed from the state. Benjamin Sanders' will, of course, was a matter of public record and the claim that he died intestate was apparently the consequence of misinformation on the part of the petitioner.

14. Perquimans County Records, Plat Book 1 number 121; division of the lands of Nancy White, May 9, 1833.

1794

WILL OF BENJAMIN SANDERS

Know all men by these presents that I Benjamin Sanders of the County of Perquimans in North Carolina, being sick & weak of Body, but of sound & disposing memory, calling to mind the mortality of my Body am moved to commit to writing my last will & testament in manner & form following.

Item I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Charlotte White all the property that I have hereto fore lent her, & which is now in her possession to her & her Heirs forever.

Item I give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Anna Hinton seventy acres of land where on she now lives, with the Improvements thereon and all the property which I have heretofore lent her, to her & her Heirs for ever.

Item I give & Bequeath unto my two Daughters Charlotte White & Anna Hinton, My Negroe man named Mingo, to be Equally Divided between them, to them & their Heirs for ever which is to be considered as their full shares of my Estate

Item I give and Bequeath unto my son Abraham Sanders one Hundred and twenty five acres of Land, joining the Lands of Benjamin Smith William Clemmons, and John Sanders, one Negroe Boy by the name of Jacob, & all my Joiners tools, one Bed & Furniture, one cow & calf, one yoke of young oxen, four Ewes two sows & Pigs to him & his Heirs forever as his full share of my Estate.

Item I give and Bequeath unto my Grand Daughter Asahel (?) White, Daughter of Nancy White, the land and Plantation whereon my

Daughter Nancy White now lives, Reserving to my Daughter Nancy White, the use of the said land During her natural life, & at her Death, I give the said land as hereto fore, to my said Grand Daughter, to her & her Heirs for ever.

Item I give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Nancy White one Negroe woman by the name of Sue and her child Dick, & all the property which I have heretofore lent her to her & her Heirs for ever.

Item I give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Penelope Sanders two Negroe girls, one by the name of Venus, & the other by the name of Little Teresa, one feather Bed & furniture, one cow & calf Two ewes & lambs to her & her Heirs for ever.

Item I give & Bequeath unto my Daughter Mary Sanders one Negroe Boy by the name of Cezar, & one Negroe girl by the name of Lucy, one feather Bed & furniture, one cow & calf two ewes & lambs to her & her Heirs for ever.

Item I give & Bequeath unto my son Thomas Sanders a Tract or Parcel of Land, Beginning at the River & at Wm Gilberts corner, then along his line and so to the lands that I have given to my son Abraham Sanders & then along the said Abraham Sanders' line to my new Road, thus down the new Road toward the House, to a marked Red Oak, from thence a North East course to the River then along the River to the first station to him & his heirs for ever.

Item I give and Bequeath unto my son John Sanders the land that I bought of Timothy Hunter, formerly called the Morriss Land, supposed to contain Two hundred and Twenty acres, & one Negroe called by the name of Joan, formerly the property of Josiah

Murdaugh to him & his Heirs for ever.

Item I give & Bequeath unto my son Benjamin Sanders the Manor Plantation, whereon I now live, & all the land thereunto belonging, which I have not given away to him & his Heirs for ever.

Item All the Remaining part of my Estate after the Payment of my Debts, I give the use thereof unto my Wife Mary Sanders during her natural life, or widowhood & after her death to be equally divided between my five children, that is to say, Penelopy Sanders, Benjamin Sanders, Mary Sanders, Thomas Sanders, and John Sanders, & to them & their Heirs for ever. But if my said Wife should inter marry with any Person whatever, in that case it is my desire that my wife should then have one sixth part of the Residue above.

It is my will and desire that my wife have the use of all the Parts of my Estate given to my children untill they arrive to the age of fourteen years.

Lastly I nominate, constitute & appoint my friend Isaac Barber my Executor, & my wife Mary Sanders my Executrix, Ratifying & confirming this & no other to be my Will In witness whereof I have here unto set my hand & seal the 12th Day of December, 1794.

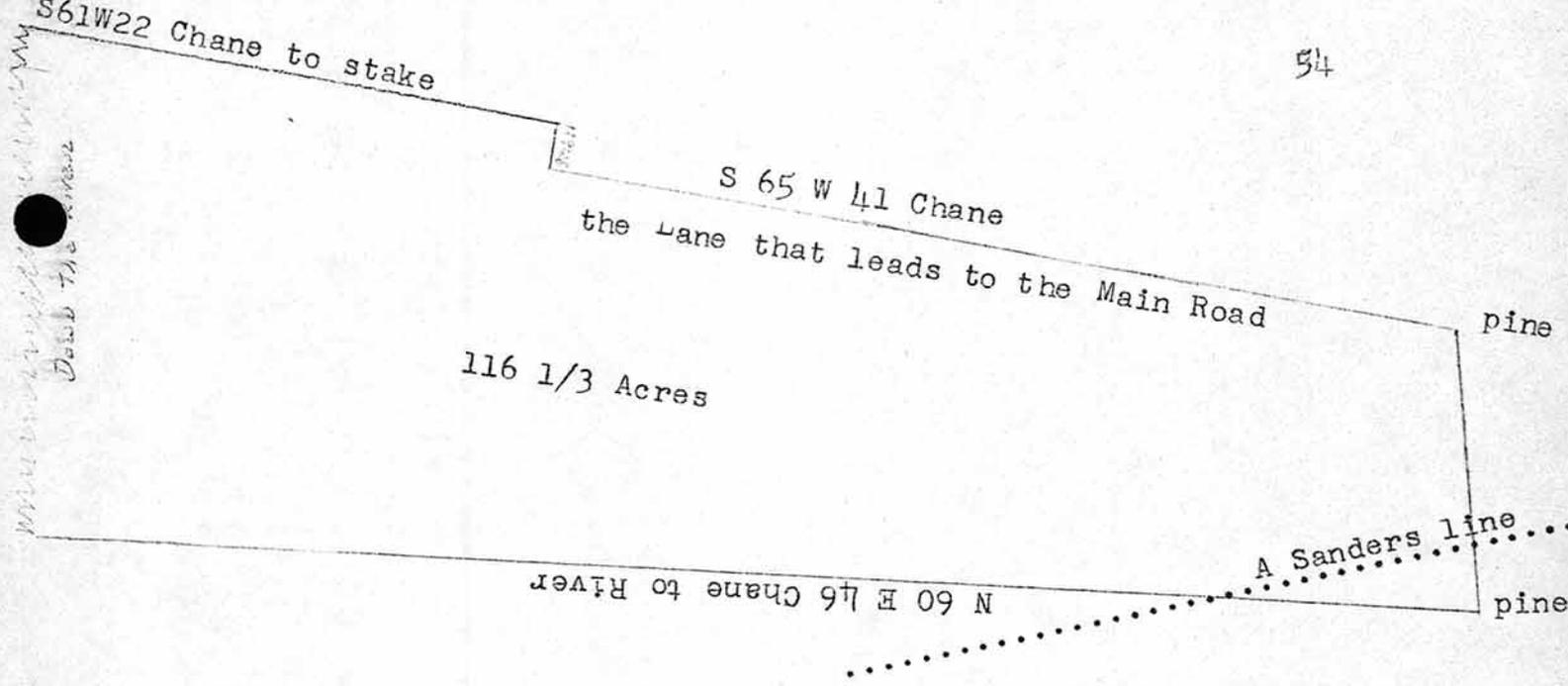
Benjamin Sanders.

Witnesses--

William Skinner	)		
W Roberts	)	Perquimans	) February Terme,
Wm Gilbert	)	County	) Hertford, 1795.

[Recorded August 7, 1795.]





This Plot Represents a part of the Land Benjamin Sanders  
 Died seized and possessed with it being the dowry of Mary  
 Sanders Laid off by a jury agreeable to an order of Court  
 granted at May Term AD 1797

Surveyed agreeable to the contents  
 of the above jury

By Smith, Processor

Wm Townsend ) Chane  
 Joshua White ) barers

Laid down by scale to Inch

1839

DEED: ELLIOTT TO FREDERICK SANDERS

State of North Carolina. This indenture entered into between Stephen Elliott Clerk & Master in Equity for the County of Perquimans of the one part & Frederick Sanders of the County of Perquimans & state aforesaid of the other part whereas by virtue of a desire of the Court of Equity for said [sic] at Spring Term 1838 in the petition of Abraham White et als heirs at law of Joshua White decd (to sell land) the said Stephen Elliott ... after duly advertising the lands described in said peition according to the requisitions of the desire in that case made did offer the same for sale at public auction ... on the 11th day of June 1838 when & where appeared the said Frederick Sanders and bid therefor the sum of five hundred & fifty dollars which being the best bid that could be obtained said land was struck off to him the said Frederick Sanders ... Now know ye that the said Stephen Elliott clerk & master aforesaid for & in consideration of the sum of five hundred & fifty dollars to him secured to be paid by the said Frederick Sanders [has?] bargained sold assigned transferred & set over unto the said Frederick Sanders his heirs & assigns forever all the right & interest of the heirs at law of Joshua White decd in & to a certain piece or parcel of land lying in Perqs. County adjoining the lands of John Marden Richd Felton & Abraham White containing Nineteen & a half acres more or less To have & to hold ... unto the said Frederick Sanders.... In witness whereof the said Stephen Elliott ... hereunto set my ... seal the 11th day of Feby 1839

Willis H. Bagley

S. Elliott C.M.E.

Perqs. Co. Court

Feb Term 1839

1839

DEED: FREDERICK SANDERS TO WHITE

Know all men by these presents that I Frederick Sanders of the county & state aforesaid for & in consideration of the sum of Eleven Hundred thirty six Dollars 25 cents to him in hand paid by Abraham White of said County & state the receipt of which is hereby acknd. have bargained sold assigned aliened transferred & set over ... unto the said Abram White two certain lots or parcels of land lying & being in Perqs. County adjoining the lands of John Marden Richd Felton & the said Abram White being the lands that formerly belonged to Nancy White decd. as was divided after her death between her heirs at law the one lot being the lot of land that was lain off in said division to Joshua White containing Nineteen Acres more or less the other lot being the lot of land lain off in said division to Penelope Caroline White (wife of said Frederick Sanders) containing thirty two & a half acres more or less all of which will more fully appear reference being had to the division of said land in the registers office of said County ... To Have and to Hold the said two lots or parcels of land ... unto him the said Abram White hir heirs & assigns ... In witness whereof I now hereunto set my hand and seal the 15th day of May A D 1839, signed sealed & deld. in presence of

S. Elliott

Frederick Sanders.

Perqs. Co Court

Aug. Term 1839

Source: Deed Book Z, #329

## CONCLUSION

The date of construction of the Newbold-White house has been tentatively and conservatively set at approximately the year 1725. An examination of extant records from the late 16th and early 17th centuries suggests reasons for moving the date of construction back by fifty or more years. The argument for an earlier date may be posed as follows:

The property was acquired in 1726 by Abraham Sanders at auction. Sanders, an illiterate, was the least consequential of the owners up to that time and the least likely to have built a home of the tasteful and sturdy type represented by the Newbold-White house. The auction price of four hundred pounds in North Carolina currency was a substantial amount for the time and more than is likely to have been paid for a farm without a good house already on it. For these reasons, Abraham Sanders ought to be ruled out as a candidate for the builder of the house.

The next earlier owner of the property was Henry Clayton whose will, probated in 1725, resulted in the sale of the farm at auction. Clayton was a significant man-of-affairs in the colony and such a person as might have built the house. At the time of his death, however, he was residing on a plantation adjacent to the town of Edenton in Chowan county and probably had been since the death of his first wife, Mary Coles Clayton, in 1719.

Since Henry Clayton came into possession of the farm by virtue of his marriage to Mary Coles in 1714, there was a period of about

four and a half years during which he might have built the house. But this brief period is within only a little more than a decade of the time when county court was still being hosted at the Scott farm. While it is altogether possible that the house used by the court might have been within ten or twelve years of replacement, such an assumption would be hazardous.

If Henry Clayton is passed over as possible builder on the ground that the house he acquired by marriage in 1714 was probably in good condition and not ready for replacement, the researcher turns to James Coles. Like Clayton, Coles was a man of active interests and affairs. He had owned the property from 1703 until his death in 1714. But that Coles might have built the house is subject to the same challenge as that in the case of Clayton. As observed in the deed of 1703 wherein Coles acquired title, he and his family were already living there when they bought it.

William Fryley, from whom Coles acquired the farm, owned it for only two or three years. The researcher turns back to Thomas Blount, owner of the property for most of the decade of the 1690's but finds once more that Blount's sojourn there was preceded by a period during which the county court frequently met there. This brings us to the Scott family.

Business woman that she was, it would be reckless to assume that Mary Scott, widow of Joseph Scott, built the house. The house in which George Fox was entertained, and in which he held divine services, in 1672, was in all likelihood the same one in which the county court met in 1689.

The compiler of these documents has found no historical proof that Joseph Scott was the builder of the Newbold-White house. What

does appear from existing records is that he is the most likely of the owners of the property from its first seating until well into the 19th century to have built such a house as this. In the absence of evidence to the contrary, it is reasonable to conclude that the Newbold-White house was erected by Joseph Scott in the decade of the 1660's and is, therefore, the oldest house in North Carolina.

CHAIN OF TITLE: Since 1868

Perquimans County Deeds, Book HH number 144:  
William H. White to Joseph S. Underhill. September 8, 1868.  
(Mary White, mother of William, releases right of dower. W.H.  
and K.R. White's parts of their father's homeplace conveyed herein.)

Perquimans County Deeds, Book HH number 370:  
Joseph S. Underhill and wife Maria L. to Jona. W. Albertson.  
January 5, 1870. Deed of Trust.

Perquimans County Deeds, Book II number 307:  
Maria L. Underhill and Mary E. Goodwin (wife and daughter of Joseph  
S. Underhill) to Jona. W. Albertson. June 3, 1872. Deed of Trust.

Perquimans County Deeds, Book LL number 118:  
Jona. W. Albertson and wife Catherine F. to Mrs. Mary J. Tucker.  
November 6, 1874.

Perquimans County Deeds, Book 1 number 382:  
M.J.R. Tucker to T.G. Skinner. April 24, 1895.

Perquimans County Deeds, Book 6 number 139:  
T.G. Skinner and wife Jessie P. to T.E. White. April 17, 1903.

Perquimans County Deeds, Book 27 page 144:  
T.E. White, Jr., and wife Kate J. to J.H. Newbold. August 14, 1942.

Perquimans County Deeds, Book 27 page 148:  
J.W. White to J.H. Newbold. August 14, 1942.

Perquimans County Deeds, Book 27 page 474:  
Nell White Perry and husband O.B. Perry to J.H. Newbold. December  
23, 1943.



Looking toward the Newbold-White  
House from the river



View from original rear (present  
front) of the House



East (original front) side  
of the house



West (original rear) side  
of the house



Original Front of House



North end



Wall and chimney detail  
North end



Window and wall detail  
north end

Right: Window and chimney detail,  
North end.



Left: Window and chimney  
detail, South end.

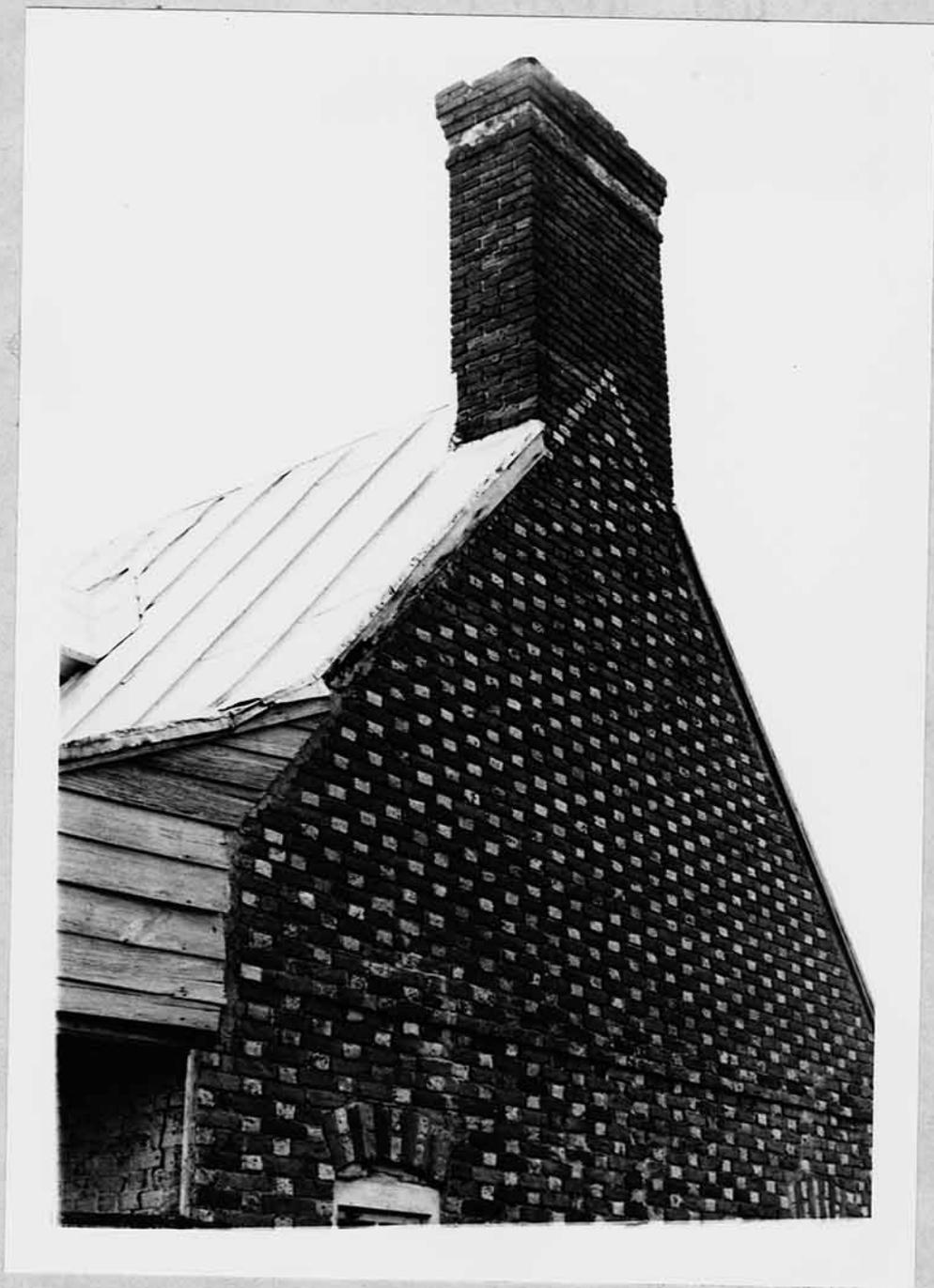




Left: Window detail, south end.

Right: Window detail, north end.





Wall and chimney detail  
South end



Original Rear of House

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
LIBRARY



Original Rear of House



North View



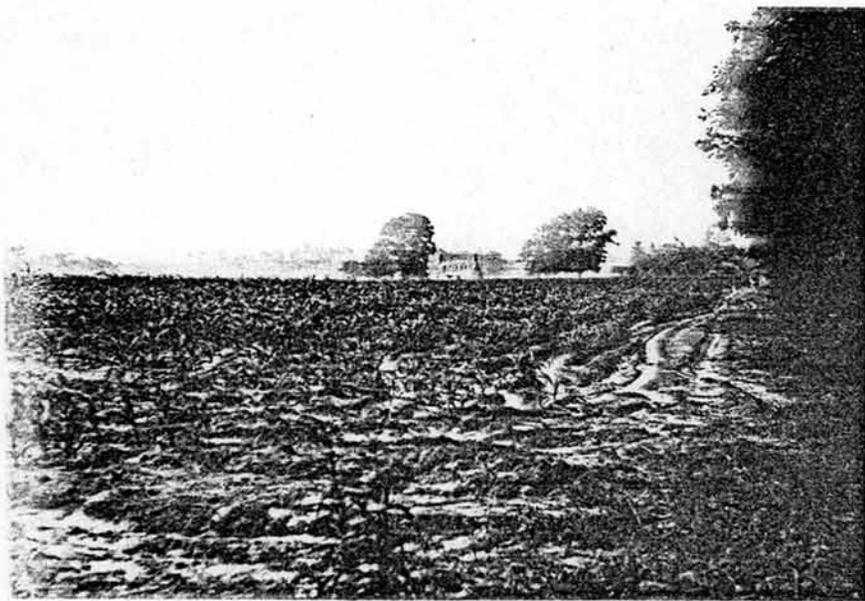
Original rear door and windows



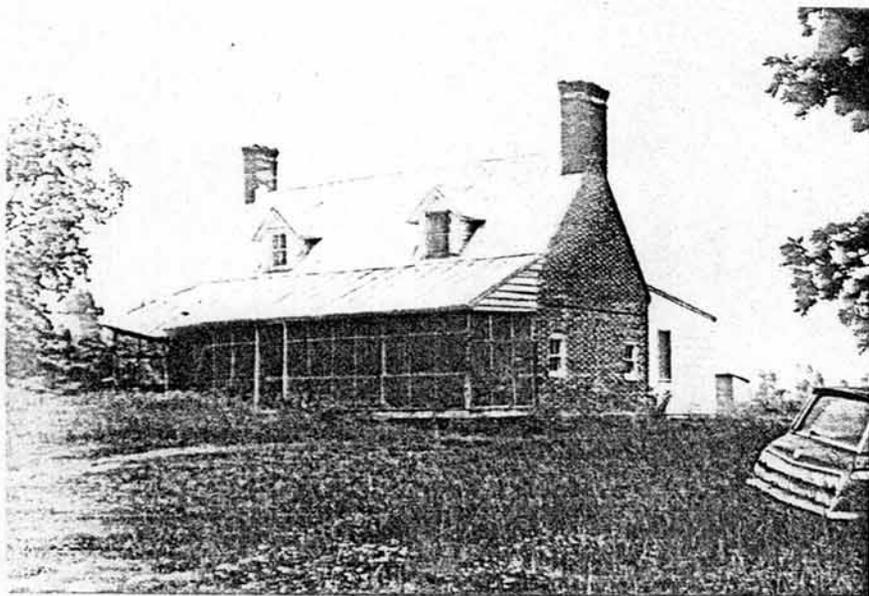
Left: North end of house

Right: South end of house

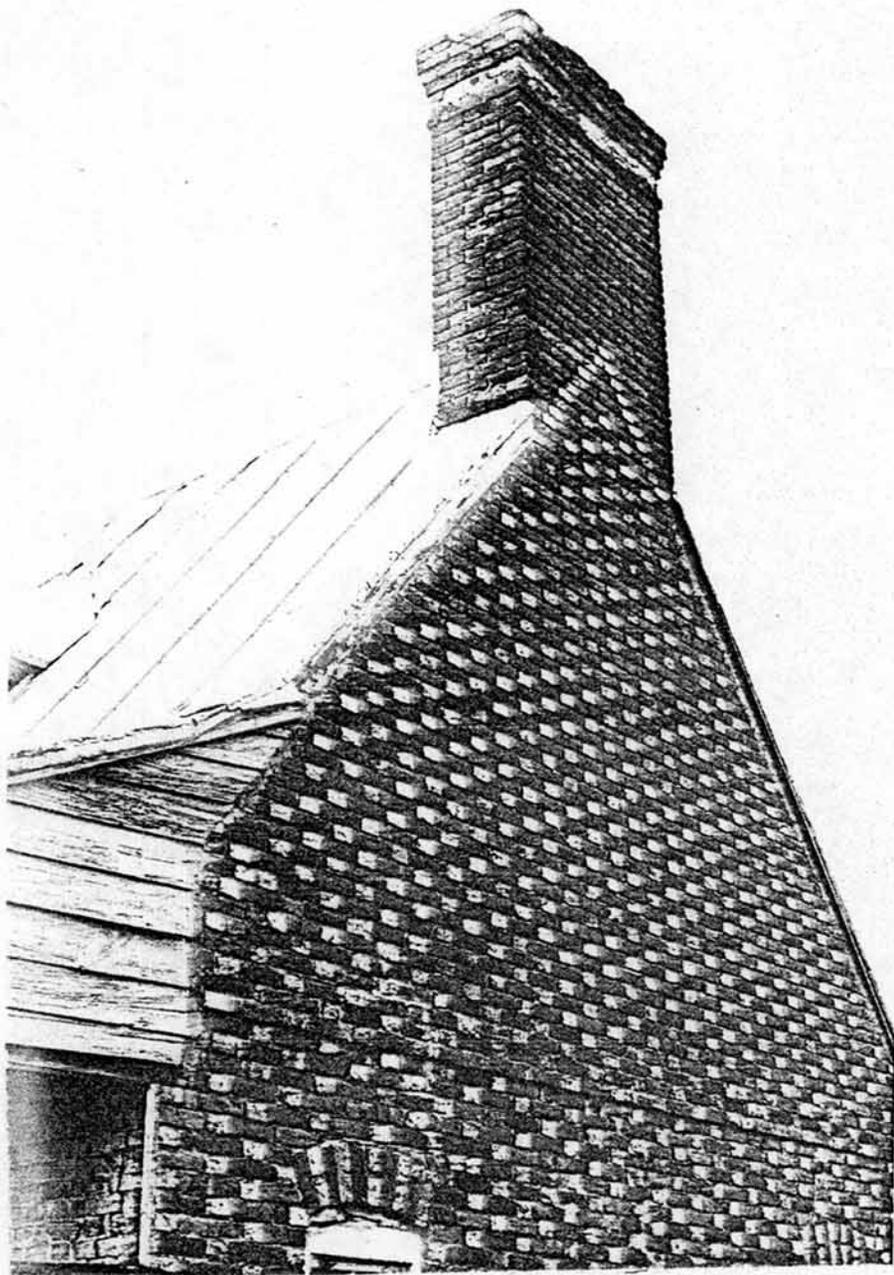




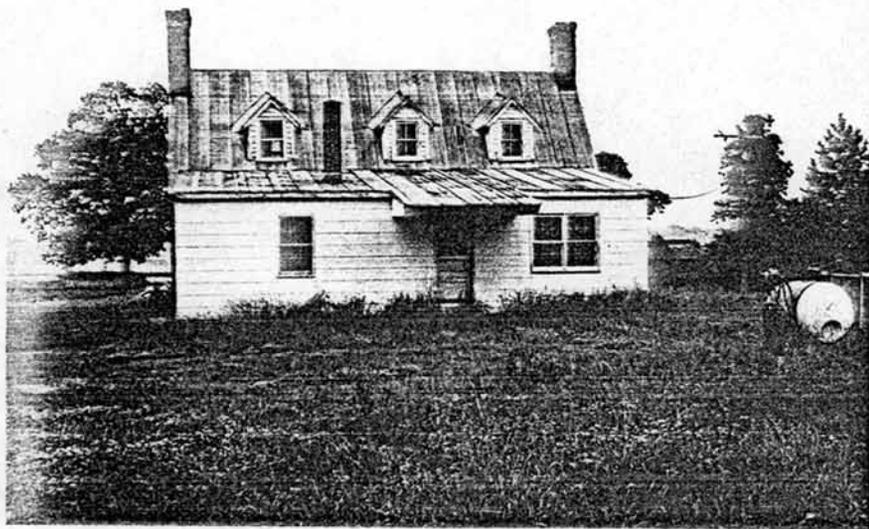
Looking toward the Newbold-White  
House from the river



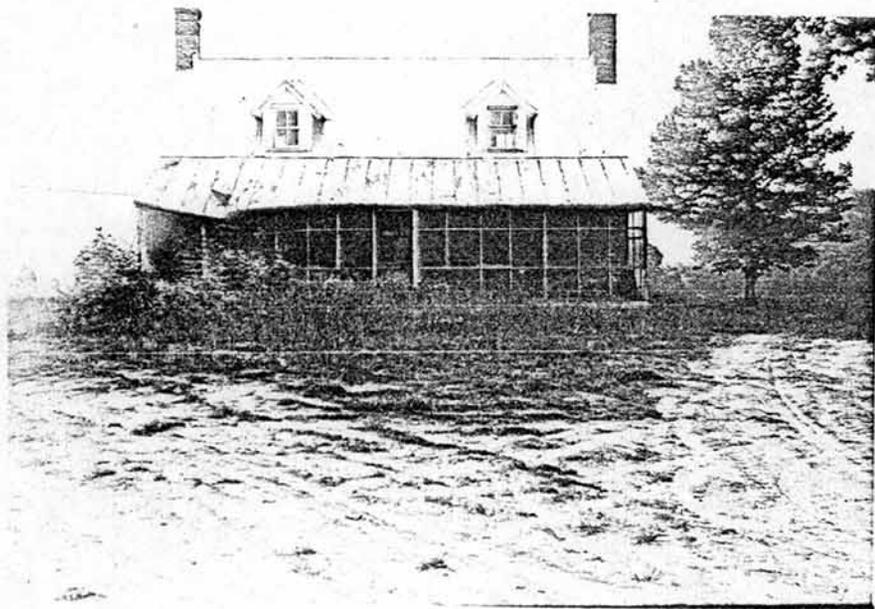
View from original rear (present  
front) of the House



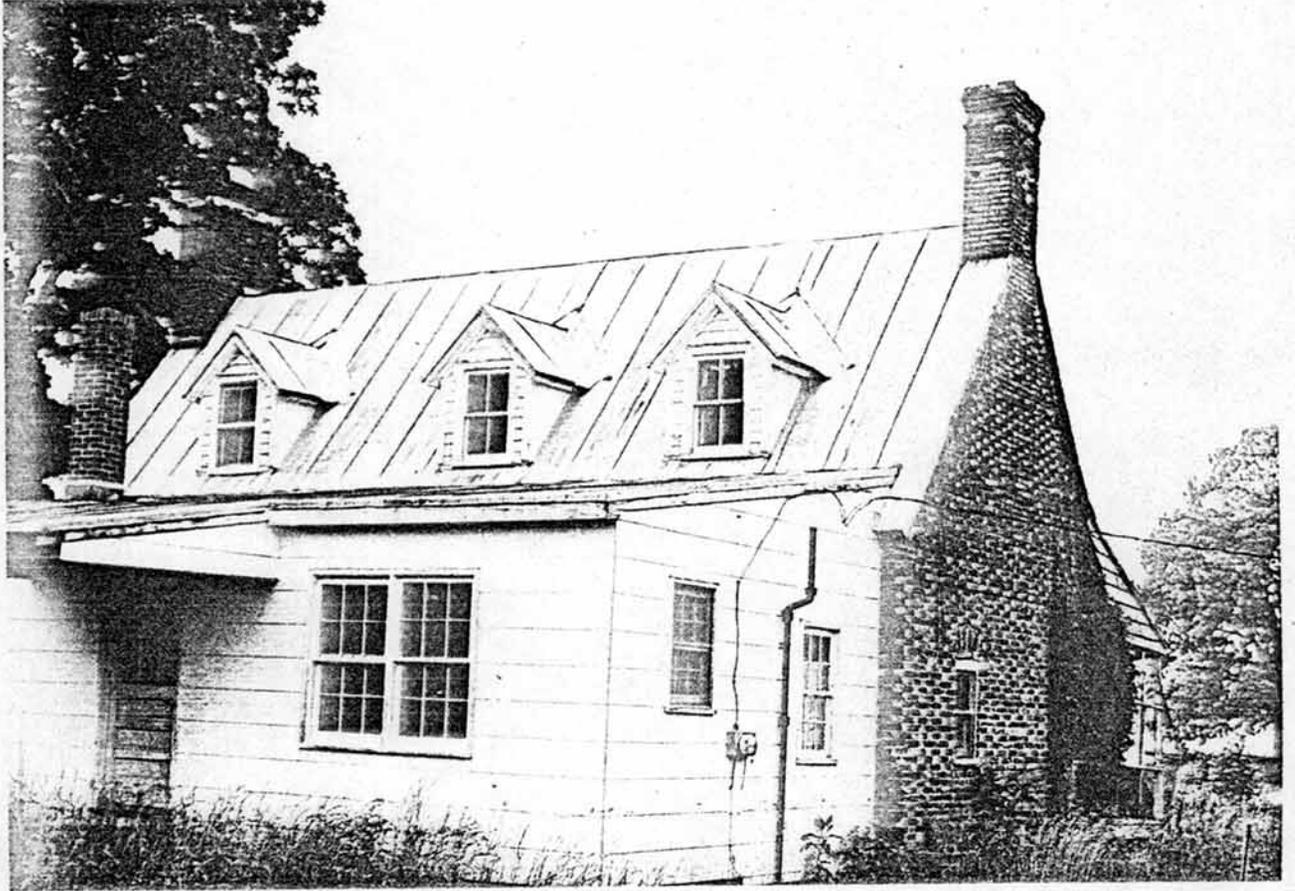
Wall and chimney detail  
South end



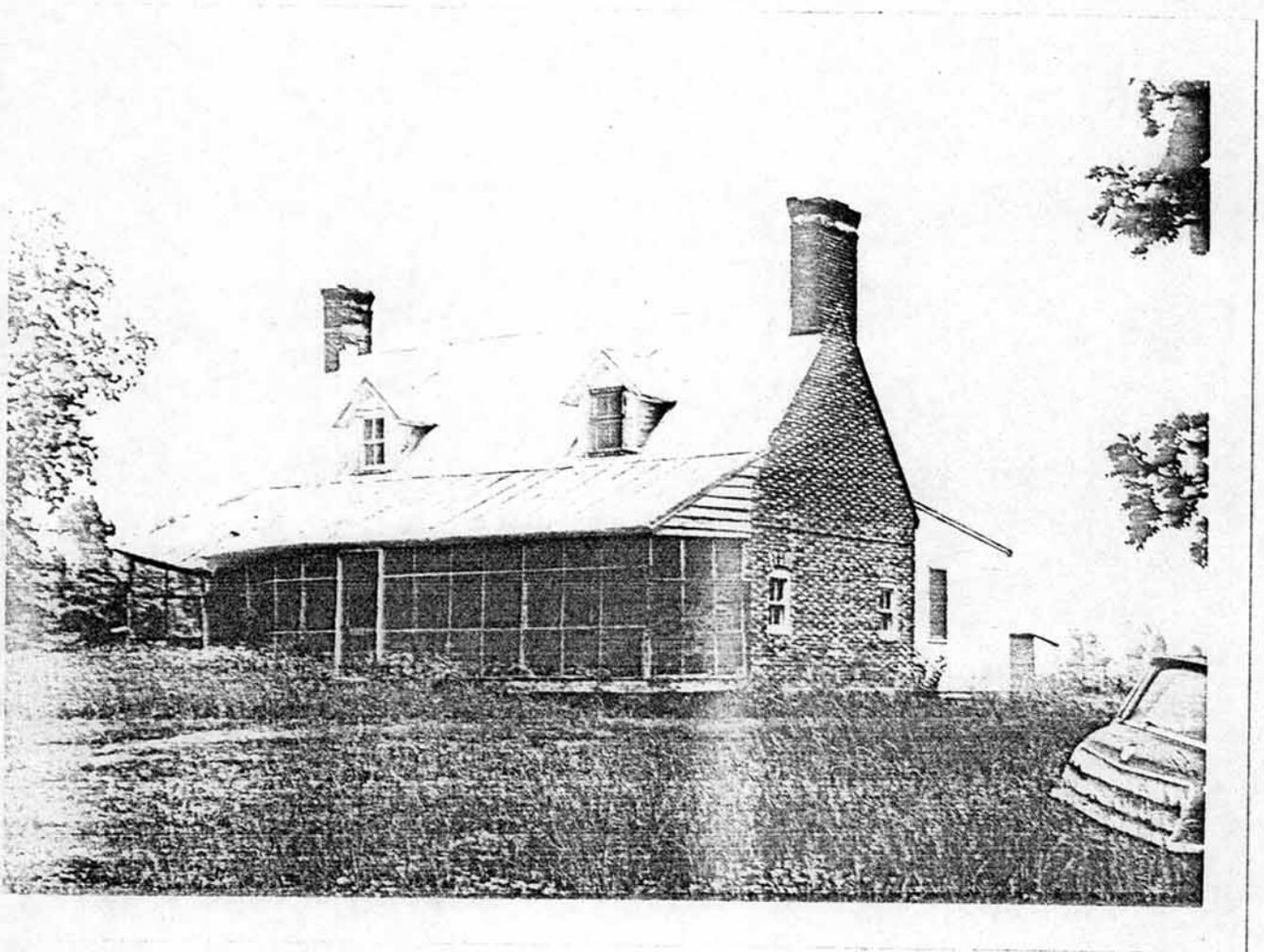
East (original front) side  
of the house



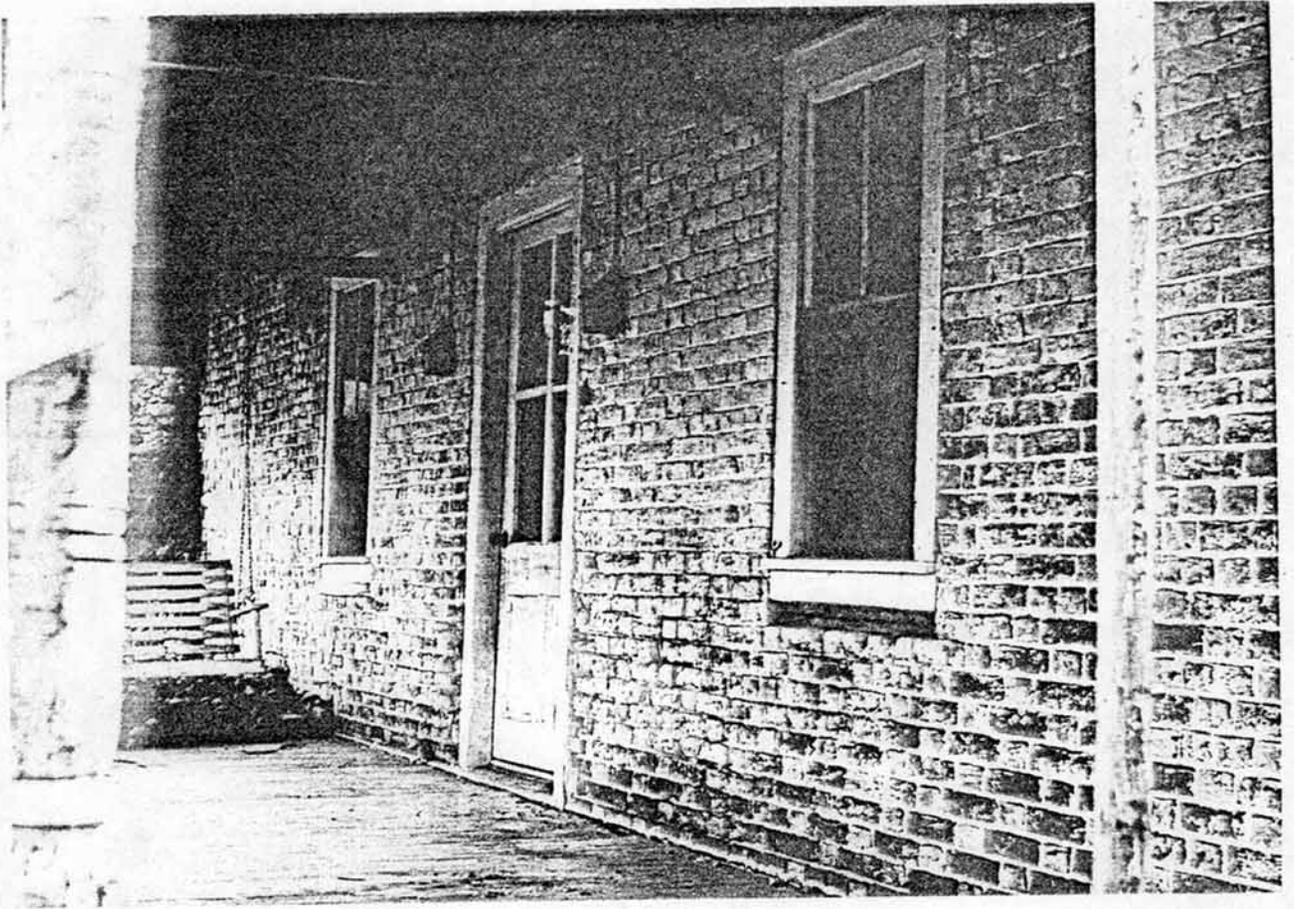
West (original rear) side  
of the house



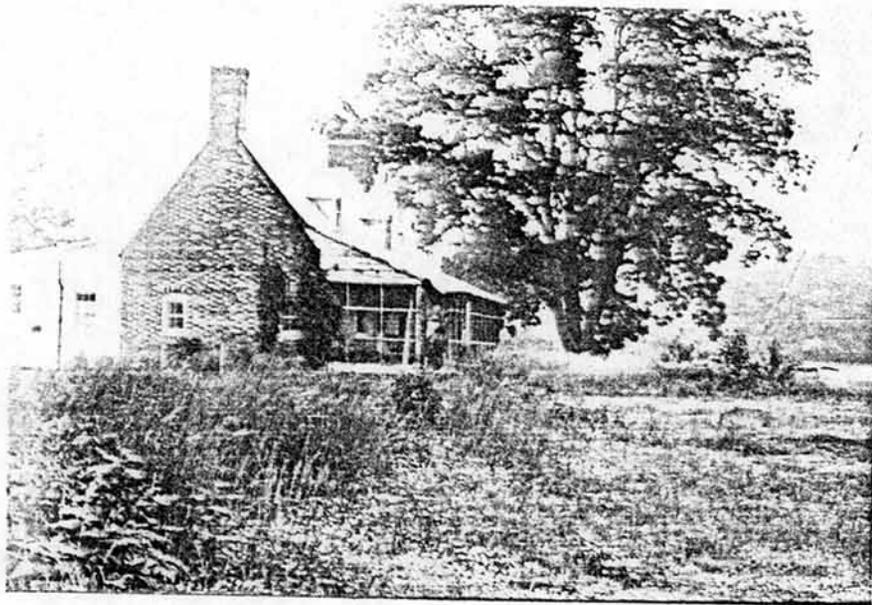
Original Front of House



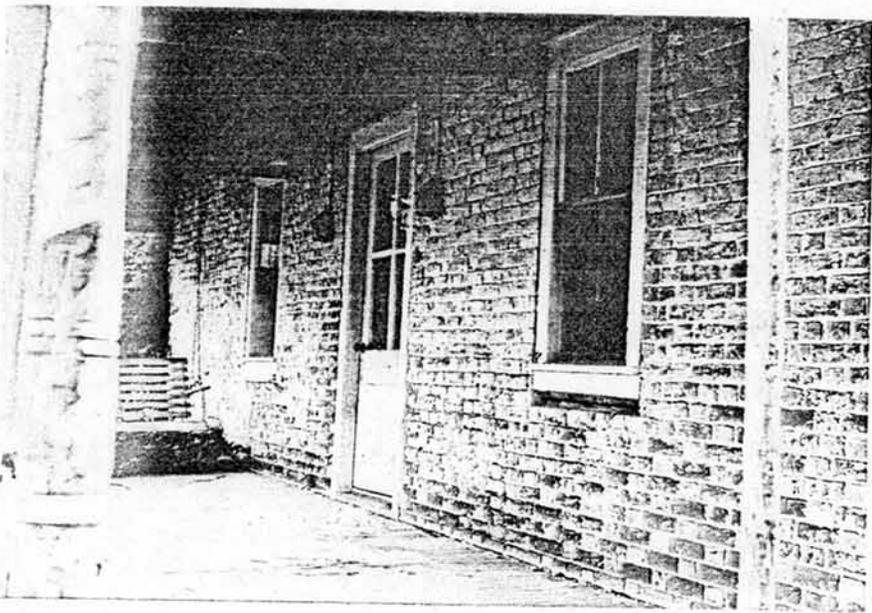
Original Rear of House



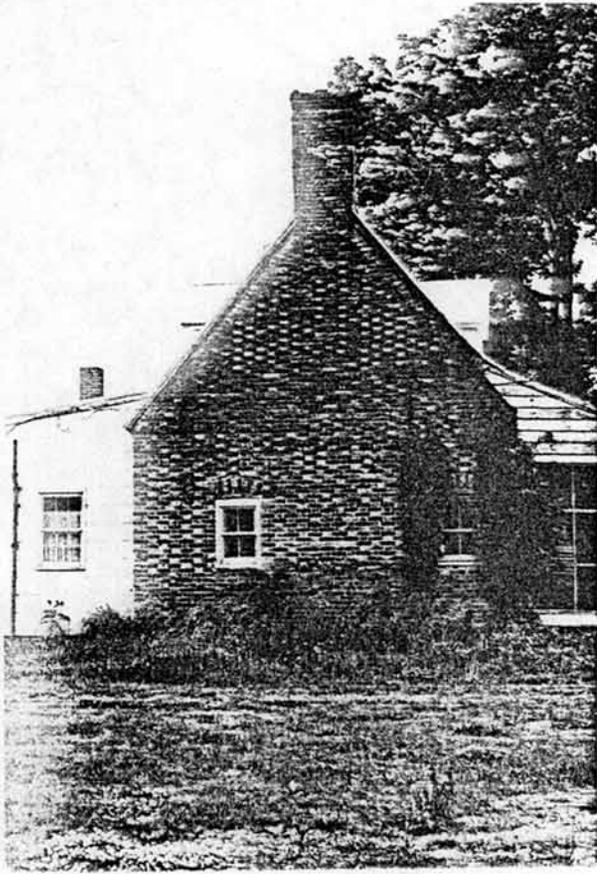
Original Rear of House



North View

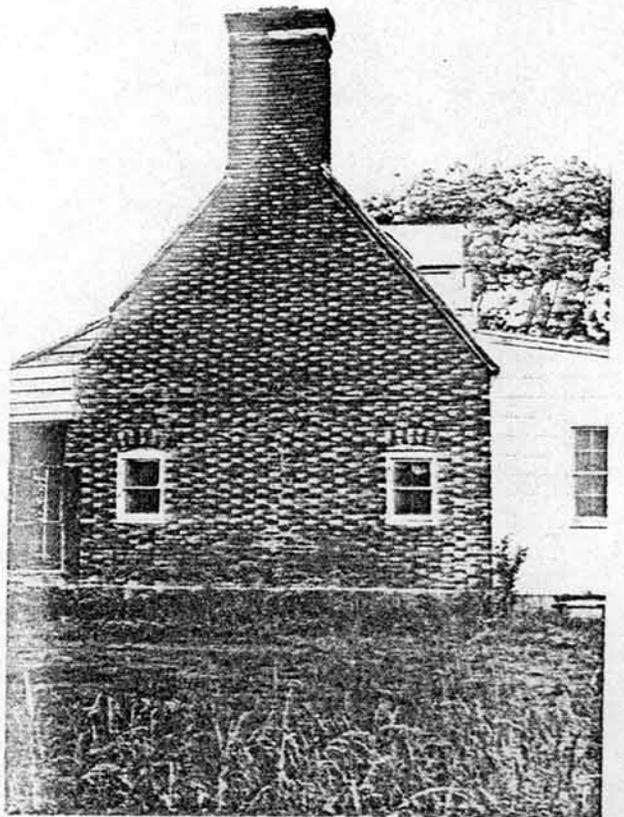


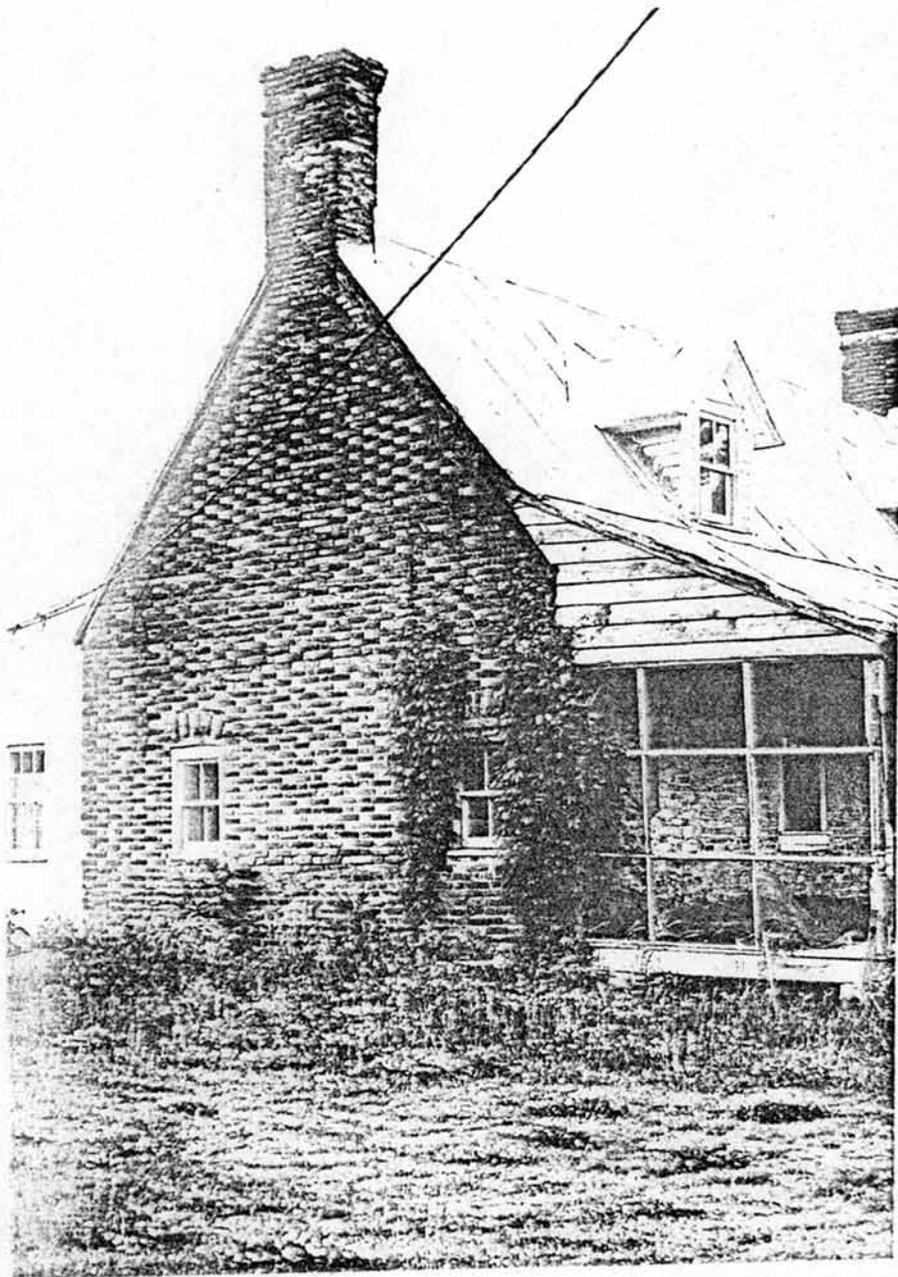
Original rear door and windows



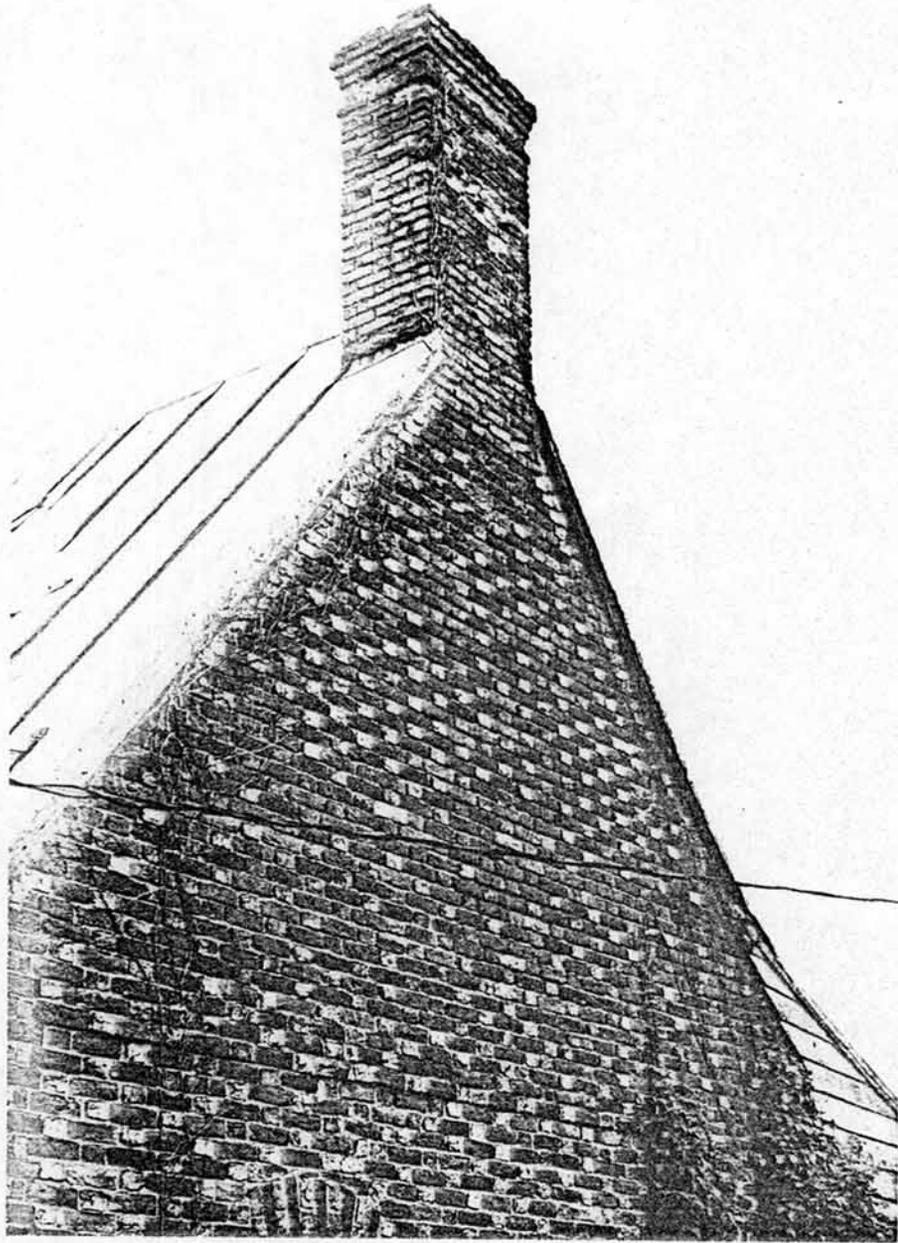
Left: North end of house

Right: South end of house

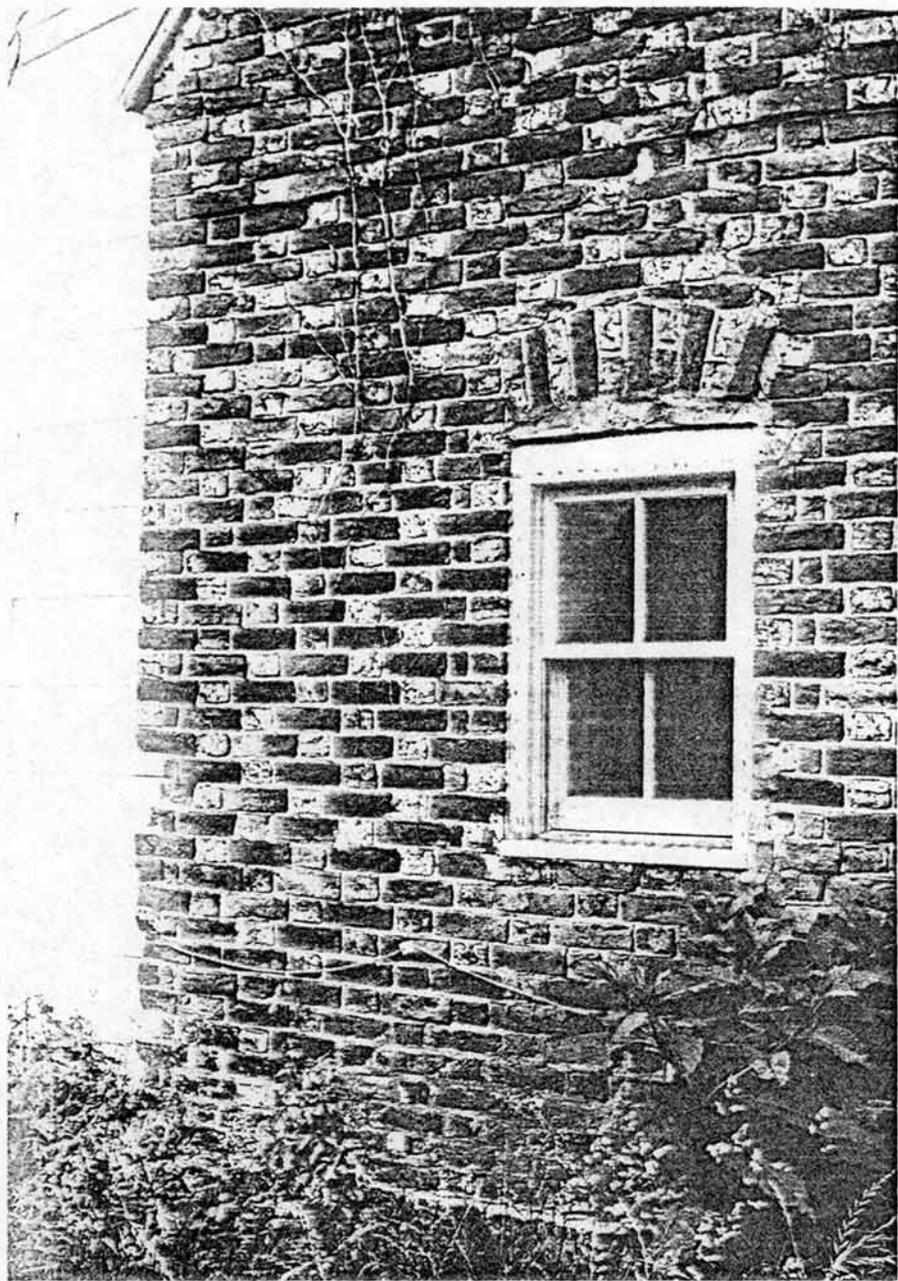




North end

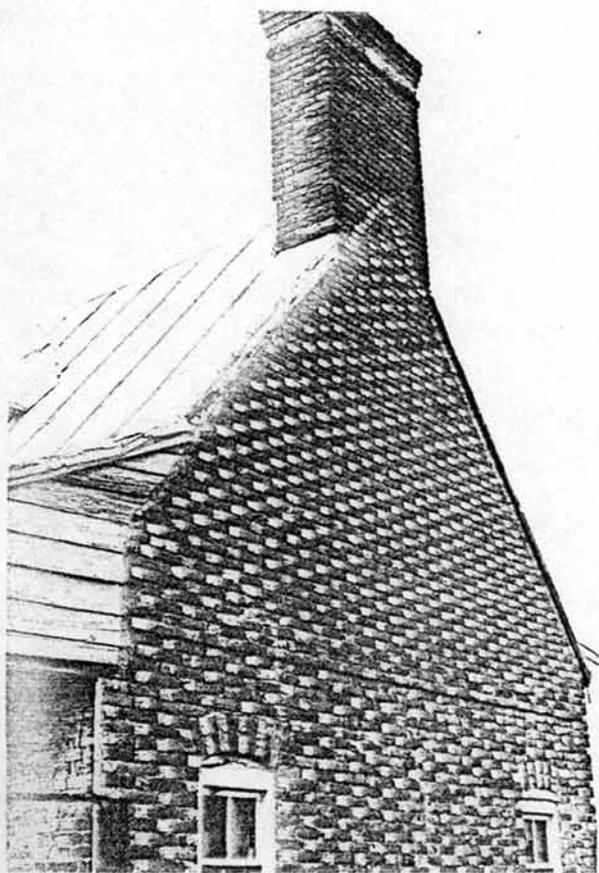
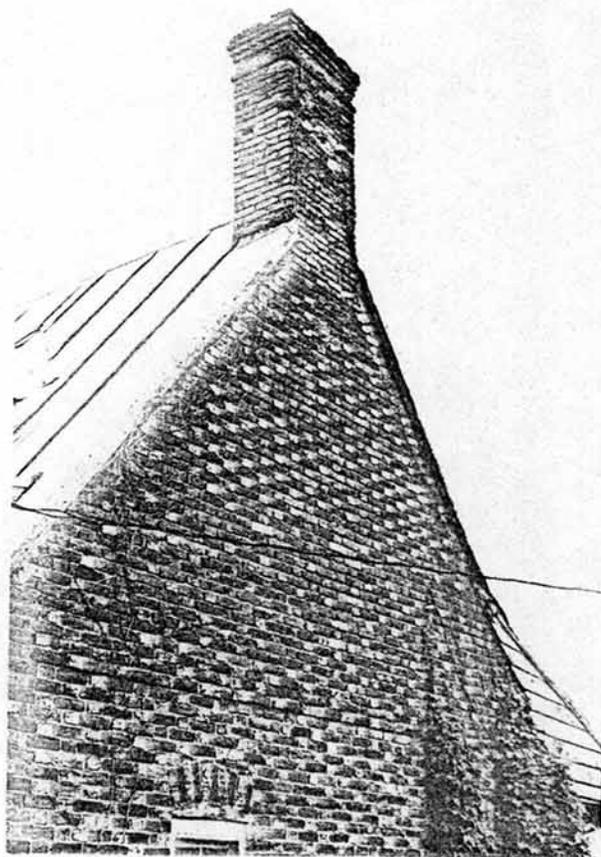


Wall and chimney detail  
North end

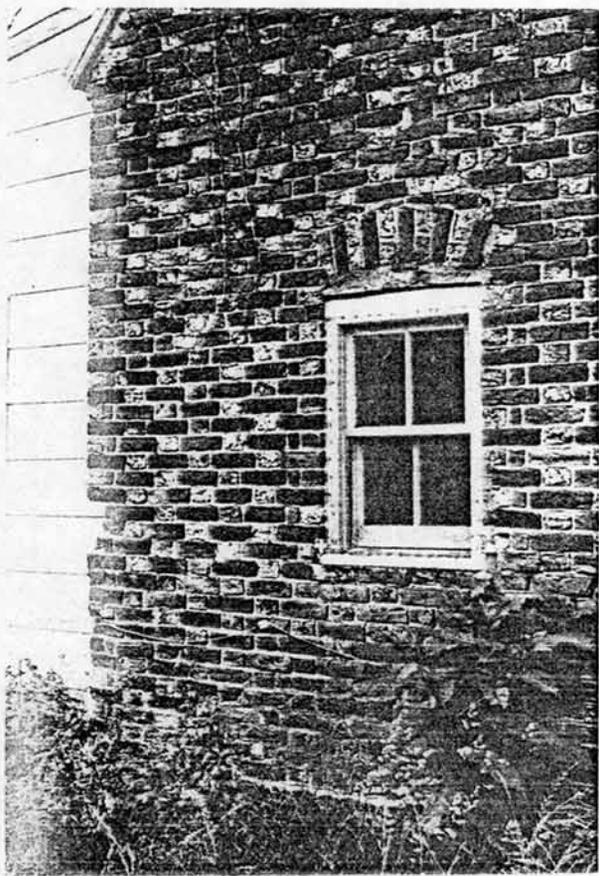


Window and wall detail  
north end

Right: Window and chimney detail,  
North end.

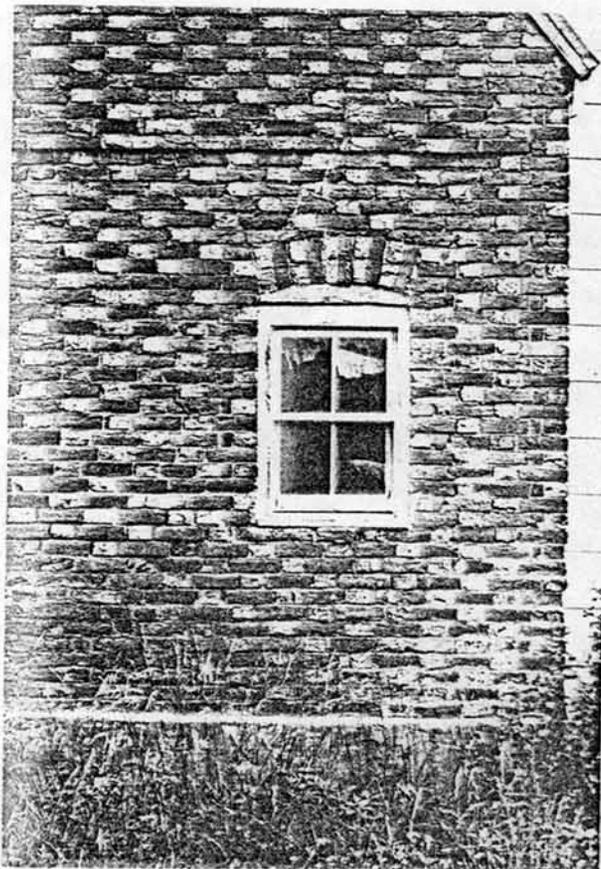


Left: Window and chimney  
detail, South end.



Left: Window detail, south end.

Right: Window detail, north end.



THE NEWBOLD-WHITE HOUSE

A Documentary History

of

The Property and its Inhabitants

*by*

*Thomas C. Parramore, Ph.D.*

*May 31, 1973*

