

The Massie/Massey and Related Families

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ELLIOTT

This family had close ties with a number of families, such as Greene, Quartermus and Phillips, which had close contact with THOMAS WINGATE II. In addition, Daniel Elliott was a witness to THOMAS and JANE WINGATE II's letter of attorney in 1701. In this chapter I will explore the possibility, one might say develop the theory, that ELLIOTT was JANE's maiden name.

But first, I must give credit to Kevin Wingate (364). He first called my attention to the Elliott family and has supplied much of the information in this chapter.

There were three Elliott men who were her potential father: Henry; Daniel, who has been mentioned above; and John. John is very doubtful, based on his will and that of his widow, since Jane was not named as a child. More will be said later.

One of the early settlers in Somerset County was Stephen Elliott (364). Quite a number of families went from Somerset County into Dorchester and Worcester Counties. There is one report that Stephen was in Somerset County as early as 1663 (236). He was a patentee of land called "Elliotts Choice", 200 acres, on 14 Mar 1663. A William Bosman received 50 acres of land in Feb 1663 for transporting Stephen Elliott.

Stephen registered his cattle mark on 4 Jun 1666 (461). He was involved in court cases in 1666 and 1675. It is interesting that a William Elliott registered his cattle mark on 20 Feb 1665. There was a William Elliott still in Somerset County in Jun 1718, when he was mentioned in the will of Daniel Larey (345). Nothing more is known about William.

It turns out that Stephen did not actually receive his land patent until 20 May 1668 (354). The land was located between the Wicomico and Manokin Rivers, about 3 miles in from Tangier Sound at a place called Dames Quarter. The land patent records at the State Hall of Records also have the date as 1668 (239).

On 28 Nov 1669, Stephen Elliott sold "Elliotts Choice" to Richard Poak (354, 237). The Grantee Index was searched to see if Stephen bought land in Somerset County to replace "Elliotts Choice" (237). The answer was negative. There is no will for Stephen in Somerset County (684). And, there was no Inventory between 1666 and 1720 (685).

So, where did Stephen Elliott go? There is no trace in Dorchester County. The name of William Elliott did not carry over either. However, Henry Elliott, who was another early settler in Somerset County, was the first Elliott settler to leave a record in Dorchester County, as far as I can tell.

HENRY ELLIOTT, 1625-1690

There is a report that Henry Elliott was a patentee of land called "Wassawomack",

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250 acres, in Somerset County in Mar 1663 (236). Unfortunately, the location is not given. This is interesting, because HENRY ELLIOTT was an early Elliott in Dorchester County in 1682 (201).

I am showing this name in capital letters because it is quite possible that he was the grandfather of JANE, wife of THOMAS WINGATE II. There is no proof, but there is some circumstantial evidence, which will be discussed.

Two dates have been given by the same author for when HENRY acquired his first land in Dorchester County. In source 201, Mobray states that he received his patent in 1682 for 50 acres called "Henrys Choice", located on Fishing Creek off the Little Choptank. He also states that the date of survey was 7 May 1662 (254). I believe that one of these was a typo, and I believe that the correct year was 1682. Dorchester County was not formed until 1669, and there were only some 100 families there at the time. I did not check these dates in the Hall of Records, because the name of HENRY had not surfaced yet. Mobray reports that HENRY's wife's name was ANN.

This land was located at the head of Fishing Creek off the Little Choptank River. This was very near where the Mace family settled. They are discussed in Appendix 3 of the MASSIE/MASSEY chapter. Mobray tells us that the tract was acquired by John Miller (no date given), and that HENRY ELLIOTT does not appear again in the records of Dorchester County (254). But, if born about 1625, he probably died about 1690. However, there were two Elliotts in Dorchester County around 1700 who very well could have been sons of HENRY.

First, there was Daniel Elliott who witnessed the Power of Attorney that THOMAS and JANE WINGATE gave to Walter Campbell in 1699. He acted as witness in 1701, along with THOMAS' brothers, Philip and Henry. There must have been a close link between the Wingate and Elliott families, close neighbors or relations, or both.

Second, there was John Elliott who died in 1703 and whose wife's name was Jean/Jane.

There is no will or probate for HENRY ELLIOTT in Dorchester County.

Children of HENRY ELLIOTT, 1625-1690

There is no proof that HENRY died in Dorchester County and that he had the following children. So, what follows can be called speculation, but it is reasonable. The pieces fit together.

1. DANIEL ELLIOTT, 1650-aft1701, will be the subject of the next section of this chapter.

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2. John Elliott, 1655-1703. I will try to put this down in logical fashion, but that will be difficult. Let us start with John Elliott, who died in early 1703. There is no good fix on when he arrived in Dorchester County. His name was not in the land records until 1696. I will come to that. However, Mowbray speculates that he married an heir of William Smith, who received a patent for 200 acres on 6 Apr 1665 on what is now Elliotts Island. This tract was called "Fishing Point" and was located about 15 miles southwest of present day Vienna, MD. He received grants to other lands in the same year, "Smiths Range" and "Paw Paw Island". Later on, John Elliott was in possession of these lands.

This speculation by Mowbray is supported by the fact that "John Elliott and his wife, Jean, are named in Dorchester Land Record 5 OLD 80 dated 1696 when they sold a 50 acre tract called 'Smiths Range' which was located on the western side of Fishing Bay" (254). Since the Smiths were in Dorchester County in 1665 and if John's wife was Jean Smith, then he must have been in the county about 1680, when his first child was born, or earlier. Remember that HENRY was there in 1682, or earlier.

John's name came up only one other time in the records while he was still alive. On 28 May 1697, The Governor of the State of Maryland requested a list of ships owned by Dorchester men. John Elliott owned "a sloop about 30 hhds" (686). The 30 hhds was a measure of the ship's capacity. It could carry 30 large casks of 68 to 140 gallons capacity. If they were filled with water, that would have been about 17 tons, maximum.

So, John seems to have been a mariner, living a contented life on land that his wife had inherited. The water is quite shallow around his plantation called "Fishing Point", so I wonder where he docked his sloop. It could have been on the west side of the bay at the mouth of Farm Creek which in 1972 had a 4 and 1/2 foot channel. This leads to Toddsville, which is about 2 miles from the present hamlet of Wingate. As will be seen, the Elliotts knew the Todds well.

From "Fishing Point" it was only about 2 miles across Fishing Bay to the western side. Thus, it is not too surprising when we see the names of some families of the western side, such as Todd, linked with the Elliotts and Hurleys.

John made his will on 25 Jan 1703, and it was entered in probate in Dorchester County on 8 Mar 1703 (364). He named his wife Jean and his son John as executors of his estate. Other children named were a son Edward and daughters Mary, Elizabeth and Rose. The son John appears to have been the only child of age, but he had no children at that time. The other children were under 18 years of age.

If we assume that son John was 22 years old before 25 Jan 1703 and that the father was 25 years old when he was born, we arrive at a birth year of about 1655 for John, Sr.

The witnesses to the will were John and Mary Crase and Mary Hunt. These names are not familiar to me.

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It is interesting that when the accounts were settled for the estate in 1707, the executors were named John Elliott and Jane Elliott (364). Note the change from Jean to Jane.

I believe that this John Elliott, died 1703, was a brother of the DANIEL ELLIOTT who witnessed the Power of Attorney for THOMAS and JANE WINGATE in 1701. Let us continue with John's family, which will develop this idea.

Jane/Jean Elliott (widow of John) made her will on 21 Jan 1724, and it was filed for probate on 8 Mar 1724 (364). Her son Edward was named executor, even though John was still alive. Why she chose the younger son is not clear. It could be that she was still living at or near "Fishing Point". John had purchased a lot in Vienna in 1706 (686) and sold all or part of the home plantation to his brother Edward in 1713 (255).

She made bequests to her two sons and her daughter Mary Kirwan. The other two daughters were not mentioned; they may have been dead at the age of about 40. However, she made bequests to a number of grandchildren. These were Mary Kirwan, John and Mathew Kirwan; John and Rebecca Elliott; John, Bennony and Thomas Phillips; and Edward Cook. More will be said about some of these grandchildren in later paragraphs.

The witnesses to her will were William Evans, Jr., Francis Sanders and Elizabeth Hedge. The only name that I recognize as from Dorchester County is Evans. The name was very closely tied to the Wingates. On 6 Jan 1729 Hanah Wingate, wife of Robert Wingate and daughter of William and Alice Evans, received part of "Ganders Labrinth" on Goose Creek (19). In 1739 Robert was in possession of "Kent" and "Ganders Labour", formerly belonging to William Evans, then dead, for the use of Wm. Evans, Jr., a minor (19). Robert Wingate, 1704-1780, was a son of Philip, 1678-1780, who was a son of THOMAS.

The inventory is dated 3 Jun 1724 (687). The two appraisers for the estate were James Insly and Michael Todd (364). Again, we pick up two names closely connected with the Wingates. Henry Wingate, son of THOMAS, was a witness to the will of Redmond Follen in 1720 (20). Land mentioned was "Colchester" near Wingate. Another witness was Michael Todd, who lived along Farm Creek. Benjamin Todd, son of Michael Todd II, married Betsey Elliott, and their daughter, Kessiah Elliott Todd, married John Elliott, Jr. The place of Betsey in the Elliott family is not known. She may have been a descendant of HENRY (5). On 22 Oct 1761, Thomas Wingate, a younger brother of the Robert mentioned in the previous paragraph, received some land on Goose Creek through his wife Rosanna Insley (19).

Both of these creeks, Goose and Farm are in Western Dorchester County in the area where our WINGATES lived until THOMAS II moved to the west bank of the Nanticoke (5). But, they empty into Fishing Bay, almost directly across from "Fishing Point", where John Elliott lived. So, it is my belief that the WINGATE and ELLIOTT families had much opportunity to know each other. But, as we shall see, the ties became even closer on the west bank of the Nanticoke.

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When the inventory of the estate of Jane/Jean Elliott was presented at probate on 10 Jun 1724, John Elliott and Jeane Hurly had signed as next of kin (364, 687). Of course John was the son of the deceased; but, who was Jeane Hurly? She was not a daughter; that is clear from the wills. She could have been a sister-in-law; but, her name did not appear during the probate of John Elliott's estate in 1703 to 1707. And, I consider the chances of John having a sister named Jeane/Jane and marrying a girl named Jane/Jean rather slim (5). But, most important, there was no known male Hurley of the right age to have married her, except possibly Roger Hurley, whose wife was named Mary when he made his will in Jan 1727/28.

Jeane Hurley could have been a cousin; but, the fact that she also signed as next-of-kin on the inventory of the estate of John Elliott in 1727 reduces the likelihood of that possibility, in my mind. Also, we still have the problem that there was no known Hurley of the right age.

Let us consider the possibility that this Jeane Hurly (Jane Hurly in 1727) was a name sake of Jane/Jean Elliott and was her niece. She could have been a daughter of a brother or sister of John Elliott, died 1703, or a brother or sister of Jane/Jean herself. But, the fact that John and Jane/Jean ended up with full ownership of the William Smith lands leads to the conclusion that she was an only child.

The only direct contact that we have between the ELLIOTTs and WINGATES is when DANIEL ELLIOTT was a witness to THOMAS and JANE WINGATE II's letter of attorney in 1701. Could Jeane/JANE Hurly have been the widow of THOMAS WINGATE II and a daughter of DANIEL, and he a brother of John? That is an interesting possibility. Let us see how the pieces fit together.

I will indent the next paragraphs for added clarity.

Children of John Elliott, 1655-1703

We have a good fix on his children based on his will and that of his wife, Jane/Jean. The only uncertainty is the exact place of Edward in the family. He was younger than his brother John, that is known.

1. John Elliott, 1680-1727, was the oldest child and was of age when his father made his will in January 1703. Therefore, he was born about 1680, assuming that he was at least 21 years of age

On, or shortly after, 11 Jul 1706, John Elliott took up lot # 31 (out of 50 lots) in the new town of Vienna (about 15 miles from the home plantation which he had inherited) (686). Of course, this was up river from where THOMAS WINGATE II and William Green lived, but by only 10 or 15 miles. The Elliotts would have passed quite close to them on their travels to and from "Fishing Point" and Vienna.

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Along about 1713, John sold, what appears to have been the home plantation, to his brother Edward (255). The deed was impossible to read, even the exact date. The land was on Marsh Creek, which is where "Fishing Point" was located. Whether John sold part or all is not known. His wife was named Elizabeth. Marsh Creek is now known as Elliott Creek.

In 1721, John was one of the appraisers of the estate of William Green, who was one of the appraisers of the estate of THOMAS WINGATE II in 1710 (364). The witnesses to the will of William Green, which was entered in probate on 13 Mar 1721, were William Piper (Pepper), James Quartermus and Patrick Quartermus, who was the other appraiser of the estate of THOMAS WINGATE II. This Patrick Quartermus, or his son Patrick, married Margaret Hurley (238), who according to my theory was a sister of the second husband of JANE ELLIOTT WINGATE, THOMAS II's widow.

There is not much doubt in my mind that this John Elliott lived in the same area as THOMAS WINGATE II, as has been noted above, and may have known him quite well. THOMAS died in 1710, but had lived on the west bank of the Nanticoke about 10 years (5). Although John was about 8 years younger than THOMAS, he lived in the Elliott Island/Vienna area since birth.

The appraisers of the estate of John Elliott in 1727 were James Quartermus, who I believe was a son and/or brother of Patrick, and Richard Hart (364). When the final accounting was made in 1728, two additional family names appeared that were closely associated with the CANNONS, who intermarried numerous times with the WINGATES (364). These were Richard Willis and Batt.(Bart.) Enalls.

When the first inventory of John's estate was filed for probate on 11 Mar 1727, Edward Cook and JANE Hurly signed as next of kin. Edward was his brother-in-law or nephew, as evidenced by the will of Jane/Jean Elliott made on 21 Jan 1724. JANE Hurly was his first cousin according to the theory I have outlined above. John and JANE must have been in close contact, because both of them signed as next of kin on the inventory of the estate of his mother. I assume that JANE lived in the same area where John lived, which was in the area where THOMAS WINGATE II lived when he died in 1710.

All of this does not prove that JANE Hurly was the widow of THOMAS WINGATE II, but it is consistent with the theory that she was.

There is an element of sadness to the story of John Elliott. The final accounts on his estate, which were filed 2 Jan 1728, mention a wife and two children, all unnamed, all deceased, all drowned at the same time (364). I assume that is how John met his death. From his mother's will we know that the children were named John and Rebecca. His brother Edward acted as executor of the estate.

2. Mary Elliott, 1685-aft1728, appears to have been the second child. She

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was under 18 years of age when her father made his will in Jan 1703. She married Mathew Kirwan (254). From her mother's will we learn that her children were John, Mathew and Mary. She was the greatest creditor to her brother John's estate in 1728.

3. Edward Elliott, 1687-1755, was the third or fourth child. As mentioned above, he purchased part or all of the home plantation from his brother John in about 1713. He acted as the executor of his mother's estate in 1724 and his brother's estate in 1727.

Edward Elliott, Gentleman, died in 1755 with a will (238). He named two sons, John and Thomas; but no wife or daughter was named. The witnesses were William Langrall, Charles Willin and James Culben. Two of these family names, Langrall and Willin, have appeared in connection with the Wingates and their relatives.

4. Elizabeth, 1689-bef1724, appears as the second daughter in her father's will, but from her mother's will it appears that she may have been the third. A grandson Edward Cook was mentioned in her mother's will, but she was not named. I assume she was dead. Since it is clear that sister Mary married a Kirwan, and it is reported that sister Rose married a Phillips, it follows that Elizabeth had married a Cook.

5. Rose, 1691-bef1724, appears as the third daughter in her father's will. Her mother made bequests in her will to her grandsons John, Bennony (Benoni), and Thomas Phillips. Another report shows Benoni (Benjamin) Phillips as her husband and these three sons (254). What is most interesting is that it is almost certain that two of the sons, John and Bennony (Benjamin) were witnesses to the will of PHILIP WINGATE IN 1757. PHILIP was a son of THOMAS II.

Under the theory developed in previous paragraphs, Jeane/JANE Hurly was a first cousin of Rose Elliott Phillips. If JANE Hurly was the widow of THOMAS WINGATE II, then John and Benjamin Phillips were second cousins of PHILLIP WINGATE. So, all of the pieces fit together very nicely. This is not proof. All we can say is that the evidence at hand is all consistent with the theory laid out.

PHILIP WINGATE had close contact with the Phillips family as a young man. He was living in the household of William Phillips in Nanticoke Hundred, Somerset County, in 1725 (364, 454). William was an older brother of the Benoni who was married to Rose Elliott (238, 364). A son of William Phillips, also named William, was granted 150 acres in 1741 very near where PHILIP WINGATE lived (32, 240). In 1752, he sold to John Phillips, his first cousin, who later witnessed the will of PHILIP WINGATE (5, 32).

A brief history of the Phillips family is given Appendix 3 of the WINGATE chapter.

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DANIEL ELLIOTT, 1650-aft1701

Very little is known about DANIEL other than what has already been discussed. He was probably born in Somerset County. The year of birth is an estimate based on when his children appear to have been born. His name appeared in the county records only once, when he witnessed the Power of Attorney for THOMAS and JANE WINGATE in 1701. He could have been a father-in-law, a brother-in-law, or just a friend of THOMAS'.

I am willing to speculate that he was JANE's father and that she was named after her aunt Jean/Jane Elliott, wife of his brother John. There is no proof, but it is a reasonable theory.

Children of DANIEL ELLIOTT, 1650-aft1701

Two potential children have been identified. There probably were more.

1. John Elliott, born abt 1675. In Aug 1706, a new town was laid out at the mouth of Fishing Creek where it falls into the Little Choptank, on land of Nicholas Mace (686). The new town was to be named Islington, later changed to Town Point. John Elliott worked for two days in laying out the town. I do not believe this was John, son of the John who died early in 1703. That John purchased a town lot in the new town of Vienna in Eastern Dorchester County on, or shortly after, 11 Jul 1706 (Same source). The location on Fishing Creek is a strong link to the HENRY who had land on that creek in 1782.

No additional information has come to light on John.

2. JANE ELLIOTT, 1680-aft1727 will be the subject of the next section.

JANE ELLIOTT, 1680-aft 1727

There is no proof here. The strongest link is DANIEL, who witnessed the Power of Attorney. There were other links involving other Elliots, the Hurleys, Phillips and Quartermus'. I will discuss these links as best I can. Some have been discussed above.

The year of birth is based on that of THOMAS WINGATE II in 1672, and the fact that THOMAS and JANE were married by 1699, when they gave the power-of-attorney. THOMAS was then 27 years old (5).

JANE and THOMAS had two or three sons and one or two daughters before he died in 1710. That is consistent with a marriage date in 1699. Much more is said about their children in the WINGATE chapter.

The ELLIOTTS settled on the Little Choptank River when HENRY came to Dorchester County in 1682, or earlier. His son DANIEL migrated southward to the Goose

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Creek/Farm Creek area on the west side of Fishing Bay (5). His son John settled on the east side of Fishing Bay, about two miles from the west side.

It is easy to see how THOMAS and JANE met having been fairly close neighbors. And it is easy to believe that she could have been named after her aunt Jean/Jane, wife of John Elliott. It is quite evident that even though John, died 1703, lived on the east side of the bay, his family maintained close contact with families on the west side. I believe that one of those families was that of DANIEL, his brother.

What little is known of JANE's life with THOMAS WINGATE II is told in the WINGATE chapter. They had three to five children by the time THOMAS died in 1710.

JANE was only 30 years old when THOMAS died, so it is very likely that she married again, most likely in the time frame of 1712 to 1715. And, she may have had more children. It has been proposed in the theory developed in the sections above that she married a man with the surname Hurly. This family was in the area where the ELLIOTTS and THOMAS WINGATE II lived at the right time. This story is given in Appendix 3 of the WINGATE chapter.

As mentioned above, JEANE Hurly signed as next of kin on the inventory of the estate of her aunt Jane Elliott in 1724. Then, JANE Hurly signed as next of kin on the estate of her first cousin John Elliott in 1727. That is the last report available. It appears that she and her first cousin lived in the same area where THOMAS WINGATE II lived when he died in 1710 (5). That has been verified.

A search has been made for the marriage record of JANE WINGATE and a Hurly about 1715, without success. JANE Hurly did not leave a will, and there is no record of the probate of her estate. So, we are at a dead end at this point. Maybe some thing will turn up by chance.

The story of the Hurly family is given in Appendix 3 of the WINGATE chapter.

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