

# The RECORD

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**Charles Calvert's House In The Manor Of Zekiah, Charles Co., Md.**

BY ANNE S. BROWN

This monograph written by a member of the Historical Society of Charles County covers a very interesting period in the early history of the County. It is the accomplishment of a number of years of research and study.

When it came to our attention we immediately asked Anne Brown for permission to publish it in an issue of the Record.

We will welcome material like this from both members and non-members for future publication.



CECIL CALVERT, second Baron Baltimore (1606-75), first Lord Proprietor of Maryland, with his grandson Cecil, by Gerard Soest  
Enoch Pratt Free Library in Baltimore.

#### Library.

The Charles County Public Library has recently acquired the following Volumes of Md. History.

Forman, Henry C. - MARYLAND ARCHITECTURE; a short history from 1634 through the Civil War.  
 Tilghman - HISTORY OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND 2 vols.  
 Stein - HISTORY OF CALVERT COUNTY  
 Johnston - HISTORY OF CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND  
 Wright - OUR HARFORD HERITAGE; a history of Harford County Maryland  
 Torrence - OLD SOMERSET ON THE EASTERN SHORE OF MARYLAND  
 Hartsook, Elizabeth - LAND OFFICE AND PREROGATIVE COURT RECORDS OF COLONIAL MARYLAND  
 Maryland Historical Society - THE MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS OF THE MD. HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
 Jackson, Elmer - MARYLAND SYMBOLS  
 Forman, Henry C. - OLD BUILDINGS, GARDENS AND FURNITURE IN TIDEWATER MARYLAND  
 Newman, Harry Wright - THE FLOWERING OF THE MARYLAND PALATINATE  
 Richardson, Hester - SIDE LIGHTS ON MARYLAND HISTORY, WITH SKETCHES OF EARLY MARYLAND FAMILIES 2 vols.  
 Skordas, Gust, ed. - THE EARLY SETTLERS OF MARYLAND; an index to names of immigrants compiled from records of land patents, 1633-1680, in the Hall of Records.  
 Passano, Leonard M. - MARYLAND; stories of her people and of her history  
 Tawes, William L. - GOD, MAN, SALT WATER AND THE EASTERN SHORE  
 Wilson, Everett B. - MARYLAND'S COLONIAL MANSIONS AND OTHER EARLY HOUSES  
 Burgess, Robert H. - STEAMBOATS OUT OF BALTIMORE  
 Pogue, Robert E. - YESTERDAY IN OLD ST. MARY'S COUNTY  
 Beitzell, Edwin W. - LIFE ON THE POTOMAC RIVER  
 Emory - QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND  
 Chronicles of St. Mary's - vols. 5-7

The following periodicals are available on microfilm:

Maryland Historical Magazine - 1906-1967  
 Maryland Independent - 1874-1889  
                                   1892-1901 odd issues  
                                   1908-1934 odd issues

St. Mary's Beacon - 1936-1953

On loan from the Daughters of the American Revolution: Directory of Maryland D A R and ancestors

#### Grave yards.

Miss Elinore Warren and her committee are deserving of a great deal of appreciation by the Society for researching and compiling a card index of graves in certain sections of Charles County.

Mr. Watson Perrygo, the present chairman of this committee, is continuing this work and has uncovered several additional graveyards, in some of which the gravestones had sunk beneath the surface of the ground.

#### Old Records.

We are grateful to Mrs. Ollie Wheeler, Mr. Bennett Crain, and Mr. C. M. Wheeler, Jr., for permitting our society to make copies of old papers.

All members are urged to follow their example. Please call Mr. John H. Mitchell at 934-5841 for information about copying.

#### Tape Recorder.

The Society has acquired a Sony tape recorder to be used to record recollections regarding past events in Charles County. Members who are willing to record their recollections or who have knowledge of other persons willing to do so are requested to communicate with Mr. Raven E. Corn, Chairman of the records and Materials Committee at 743-5187.

#### Coverlets.

The two eighteenth century coverlets presented to the Society by Mr. Samuel Webster Adams have been accepted by the Smallwood Foundation on a loan basis for display at Smallwoods Retreat.



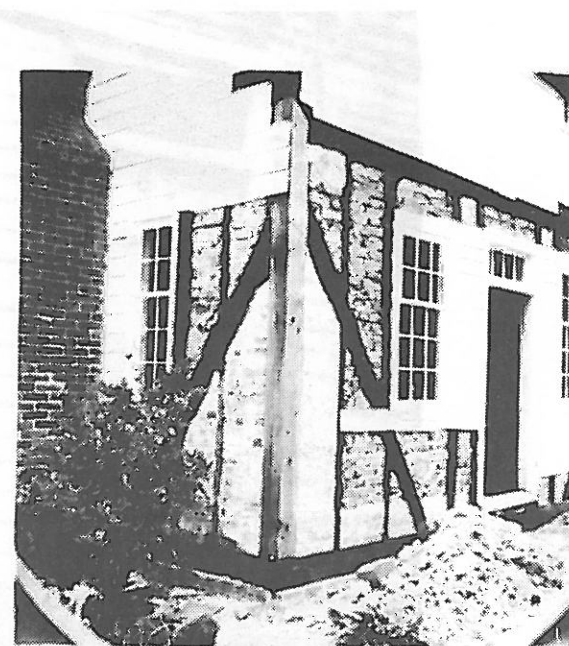
## Appendix



South east corner of new part 1940



Northwest corner old part during repair 1963



Northwest corner old part during repair 1963

## Charles Calvert's House In The Manor Of Zekiah, Charles Co., Md.

There is reason to believe that the older half of the house called Western View, near La Plata, now the property of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Brown is the summer home built by Charles Calvert for his son Cis. This conclusion appears from the following two letters (Calvert Papers) written by Charles Calvert to his father Cecelius.

On April 26, 1672, "Am now building on your lordships Manor of Zachay, where I resolve to live in the summer time. It is a very good part of the country for health, and much cleared for husbandry, the which I am now upon. It is thought there is at least 500 acres of clear ground. My resolution is to build a brick house for little Cis the next year. This that I am now about is to receive my family for the present."

Various spellings for Zekiah follow -- Zakayo, Sachaia, Zakeia, Sacheia, Sakaya, Zachia, and Zakayie.

Another letter written June 2, 1673 from Charles to Cecelius relates;

"I have already built a country house for summer time at Zachya, according to the fashion of the building of this country, but by what I have done already, I find building here to be very chargeable, and am loath to bestow much more of it, least the place be so healthful, when I have done, Cis should not like it."

Cis was Charles Calvert's son who died as a boy, at age fourteen.

No name is mentioned for Lord Baltimore's house, but references are made to it, showing that he lived in it and held court there.

In proceedings of the Court of Chancery, April 29, 1673- (Archives) "... Personally appear before us in our high court of chancery the 6th and 20th of this June, at our manor house of Zekiah in Charles County, to answer such charges as may be levelled against you, by Henry Scarborough of London in a case of equity."

In Assembly Proceedings 1666-1676 (Archives)

"... One way be made over Saccia Swamp, that to be by Mr. Allen's mill or within a mile above it, at discretion of the justices of the peace in both countys. This house do think the way by his excellence's house at Saccia unnecessary for the present..."

In 1940 the house was identified by Henry Holland Hawkins and Pinkney Hawkins as the home of their grandfather, Henry Holland Hawkins.

A survey of Henry Holland Hawkins' estate in Court Proceedings August term, 1823. (La Plata land records) shows the name "Lucketts Hardship." Lots 1, 2, and 3, in Manor of Zekiah were surveyed and named "Lucketts Hardship." The manor being the property of Henry Harford, illegitimate son and heir of Frederick, last Lord Baltimore, was confiscated at the time of the revolution. This put the leasers in the position of having to buy their land.

Lucketts Hardship was assessed at L 820.00. Thomas Lockett bought it and sold it to Samuel Hawkins. He exchanged it with his brother Henry Holland Hawkins for a piece of land that he held (La Plata land records).

Records of the earliest leases have been lost, but there is a good probability that the Lockett family were the first leasers. Samuel Lockett emigrated from England in 1683 and married Elizabeth Hussey Gardiner, a widow, and daughter of Thomas Hussey, a county commissioner, who was active in real estate. When Charles Calvert went back to England in 1684 never to return to Maryland, the opportunity to lease his estate was a real plum for someone influential.

During restoration of the house it was possible to see the construction of the oldest side. It was heavily beamed with brick nogging. Sills were 8" x 12". Double chimneys with a pent house between, a typical St. Mary's style of architecture, mark it as a mode described in Charles Calvert's letter to his father. The bricks are irregular in size and made of a dark red clay, completely different from the bricks on the newer chimney. There are moulded bricks at the water line and set backs. Long wooden pegs hold the two sections of the house together. A moulding covers the jointure on the outside of the house. Inside there is evidence of a staircase in the back room of the old section. The stairwell was replaced by a floor in the upper room. There is a carving in the upstairs chair rail that indicates that a baustrade fitted into it at one time.

This type of architecture is classified by Henry Chandlee Forman in his book, "Tidewater Maryland Architecture," as a transitional cell type. That is the transition from early colonial to Georgian.



The surveys of the Manor of Zekiah, a proprietary manor, are in the land records at Annapolis. The earliest is one of 1667, without a plat, and naming Fair Fountain, formerly Josias Fendall's, and in 1684 Henry Hawkins', as a boundary. In 1782 a survey exists with all the estates defined but without any names. A detailed survey was made in 1789 with the names of owners and leasers. The Lockett lots are in the South-east border, adjacent to Fair Fountain.

In the Scharf papers in the library of the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore is the following information on the Sims-Lockett partnership.

The tax list Upper East Hundred Port Tobacco 1782. Fourth District

William Sims	Acres
Quick Dispatch	57
Sim's Supply	40
Kerrick's Flat	16
Thomas Lockett	
Quick Dispatch	150
Sim's Support	40
No Dispute	48
Lockett's Outlet	74

In 1783 the tax list gives a description of the property with original survey name Monday Morning for lot 1

William Sims  
57 acres middling lively soil, high and broken, 57 arable-small old wooden house, kitchen, middling good apple orchard.

Thomas Lockett  
Middling good dwelling house, three tobacco barns, two kitchens, two Indian houses, 140 arable, 10 woods.

Further information is found in the report of the Hon. Dulany and Sharpe at the library of the historical society in Baltimore.

His Lordship's Manor of Zekiah in 1763

Lot 1 leased land

- A Date of lease 1741
- B To whom leased Will Sims
- C Number of acres 92-
- D Tenant in possession Will Sims
- E Annual rent 1--0-8
- F Alien Fine, Fines Due 4--2--8
- G Quality of the land --
- H Improvements --
- K Price per acre --
- L On what lives or terms of years now held  
Will Sims-Sarah Sims-David Osborn
- M Ages of persons mentioned in the lease  
William 60, Sarah 30, David 36

Lot 2

- A Date of lease Dec. 25, 1753
- B To whom leased Will Sims, Sarah Sims, Walter Kerrick
- C Number of acres 42
- D Tenant in possession Will Sims
- E Annual rent 0-6-8
- F Alien fine, fines due 0-6-8
- G Improvements --
- Price per acre --
- L On what lives or terms of years now held  
Will Sims, Sarah Sims, Walter Kerrick
- M Ages of persons mentioned in lease  
Will 60, Sarah 30, Walter 16

Lot 3

- A Date of lease July 17, 1763
- B To whom leased Will Sims
- C Number of acres 16

Continued to Page 6

## Appendix



North side old part 1940



South face new part 1940



Door of old part 1940



Door of new part 1940

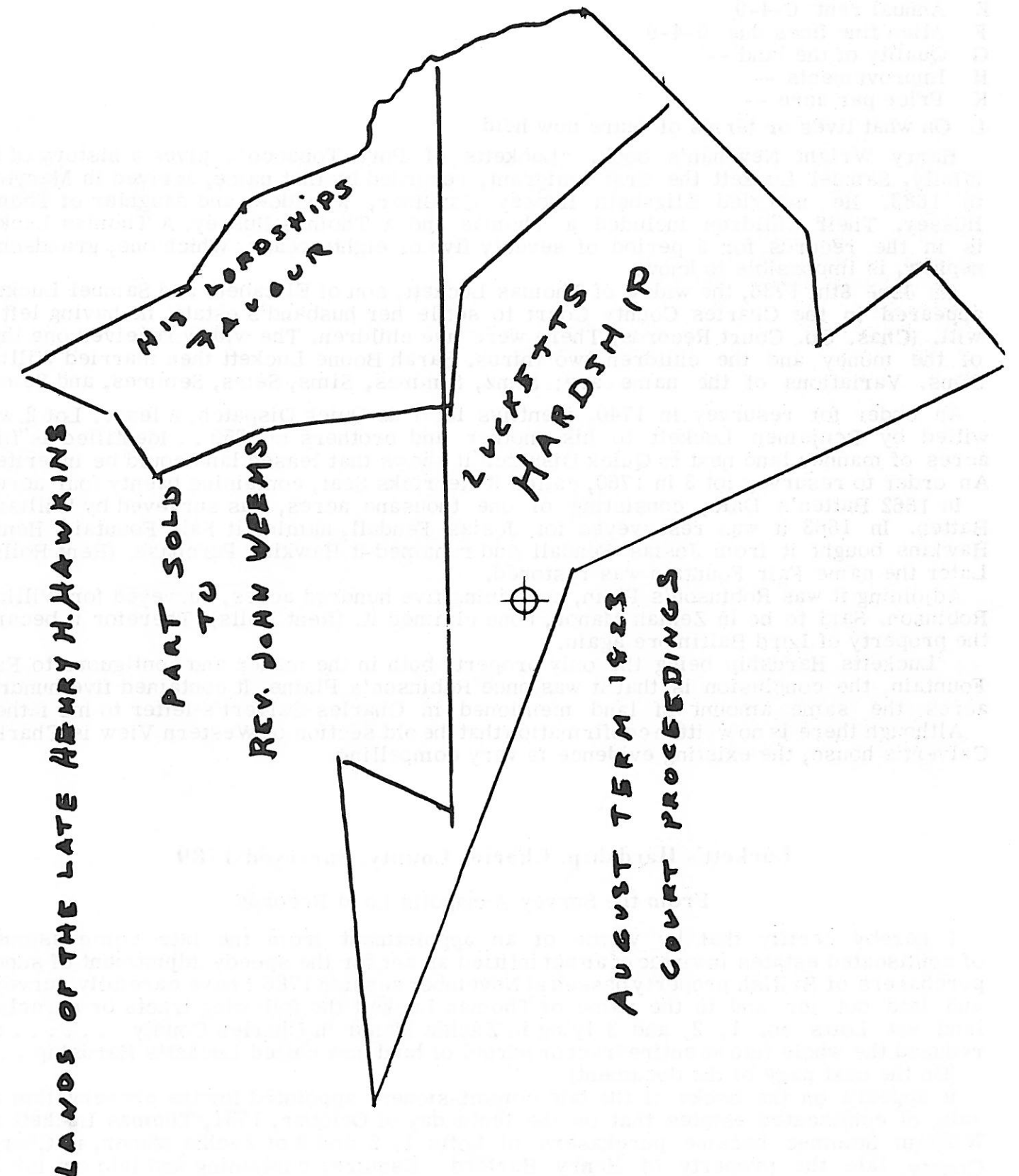
## Bibliography

- Archives of Maryland Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore 1637-1770  
(Copy in the La Plata Library)
- Lucketts of Port Tobacco, Harry Wright Newman, Wash., D. C. 1938
- The Flowering of the Maryland Palatinate " , Washington 1961
- Tidewater Architecture and Gardens, Henry Chandlee Forman, New York, 1956  
Bananza Books, New York
- The Calvert Papers

The author wishes to express gratitude to the following

- The Times Crescent, La Plata
- The staff of the Hall of Records, Annapolis
- The staff of the Land Records, Annapolis
- The staff of the clerk, Charles County Court House, in La Plata
- The staff of the La Plata library
- The staff of the library of the Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore

La Plata, 1969



Henry Holland Hawkins and Pinckney Hawkins did not know who had built the old section of the house. Their father, Dr. Peter Hawkins, had built "Laurel Hill" on the neighboring land. His Lordship's Favor. ⊕ Location of house.



- D. Tenant in possession Will Sims  
E Annual rent 0-4-9  
F Alien fine fines due 0-4-9  
G Quality of the land --  
H Improvements --  
K Price per acre --  
L On what lives or terms of years now held

On June 8th, 1736, the widow of Thomas Luckett, son of Elizabeth and Samuel Luckett, appeared in the Charles County Court to settle her husband's estate, he having left no will. (Chas. Co. Court Records) There were five children. The widow received one third of the money and the children two thirds. Sarah Boone Luckett then married William Sims. Variations of the name are; Simz, Simmes, Sims, Sems, Semmes, and Semes.

In 1662 Batten's Dale, consisting of one thousand acres, was surveyed by William Batten. In 1663 it was resurveyed for Josias Fendall, naming it Fair Fountain. Henry Hawkins bought it from Josias Fendall and renamed it Hawkins Purchase. (Rent Rolls). Later the name Fair Fountain was restored.

Lucketts Hardship being the only property both in the manor and contiguous to Fair Fountain, the conclusion is that it was once Robinson's Plaine. It contained five hundred acres the same amount of land mentioned in Charles Calvert's letter to his father.

### Lockett's Hardship, Charles County, Surveyed 1789

I hereby certify that by virtue of an appointment from the late commissioners of confiscated estates in virtue of an act intitled an act for the speedy adjustment of sundry purchasers of British property passed at November session 1786 I have carefully surveyed and laid out for and in the name of Thomas Luckett the following tracts or parcels of land viz Lotts no. 1, 2, and 3 lying in Zachia Manor in Charles County . . . . . and reduced the whole into an entire tract or parcel of land now called Lucketts Hardship . . .

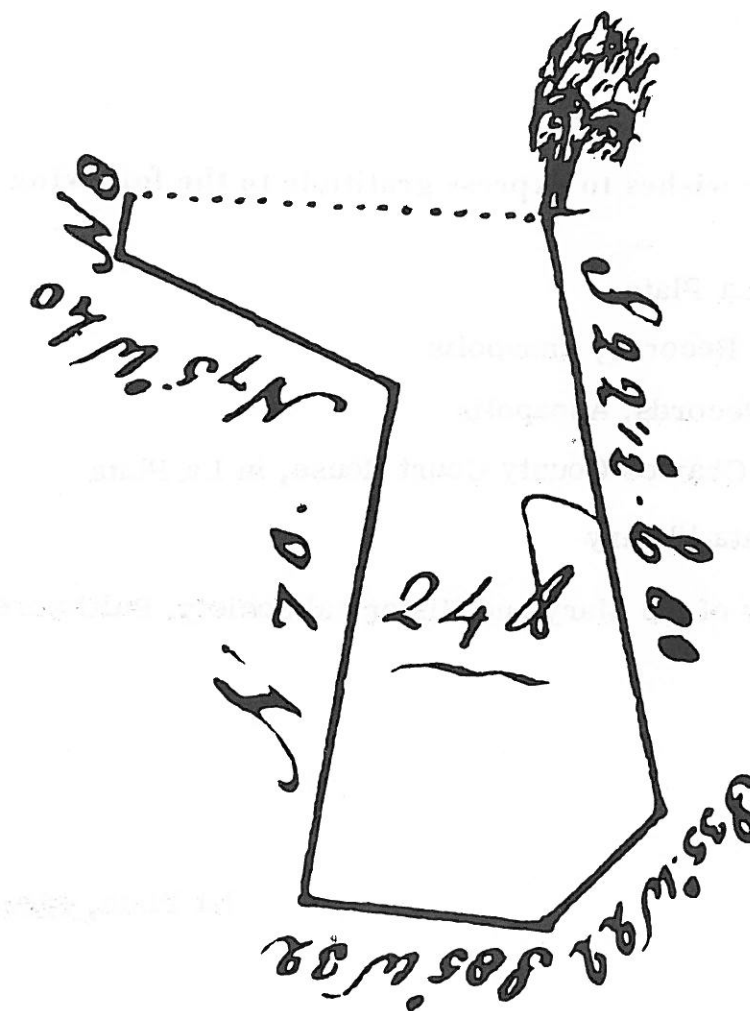
It appears on the books of the late commissioners appointed for the preservation and sale of confiscated estates that on the tenth day of October, 1781, Thomas Luckett and William Semmes became purchasers of Lotts 1, 2 and 3 of Zachia Manor, in Charles County, late the property of Henry Harford Esquire, containing and laid out for 352 acres.

I, Thomas Lockett of Charles County, and state of Maryland do hereby assign transfer and make over to Samuel Hawkins his heirs and assigns forever all my rights titles and claims to the lots of land mentioned in the within certificate . . .

### Kerricks Seat, 24 Acres, Surveyed For William Sims

Charles County

Laid out for William Sims of Charles County a tenement or parcel of land within His Lordships Manor of Zachia and next adjoining to a tract of land called His Lordships favour which is called Kerricks Seat . . . . .



Quick Dispatch Lot 1  
Charles County  
Annapolis Land Records

By an order from Mr. Young Parran granted this sixth day of July last unto William Semmes of Charles County to resurvey a tenement of land he holds in his Lordship's Manor of Zachia and all what vacant land he could find contiguous thereto. These are to certify that I have resurveyed and laid out for and in the name of him the said William Semmes the afo. tract of land . . . . . and have added thereto one hundred acres of vacancy, the whole called Quick Dispatch . . . . .

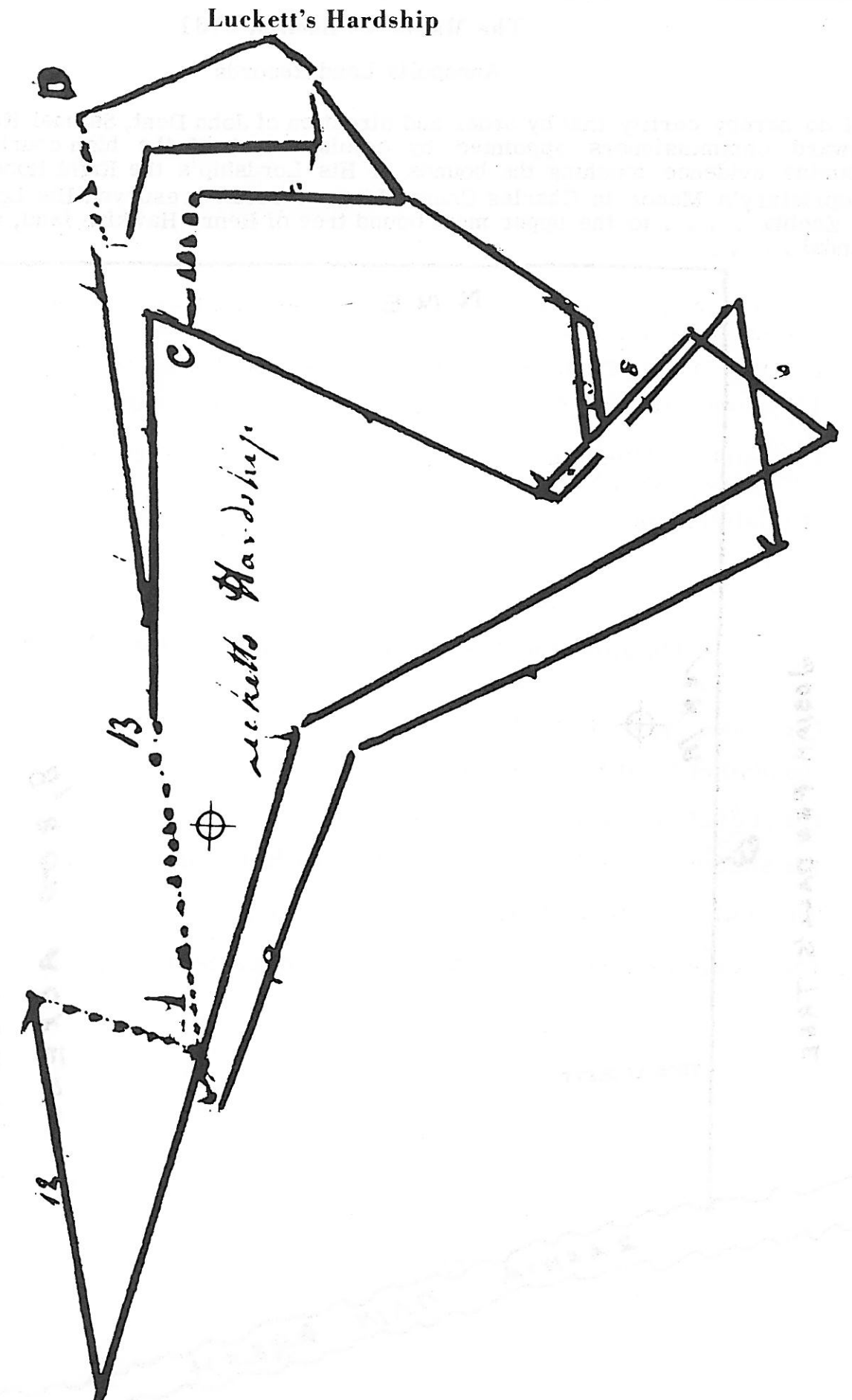
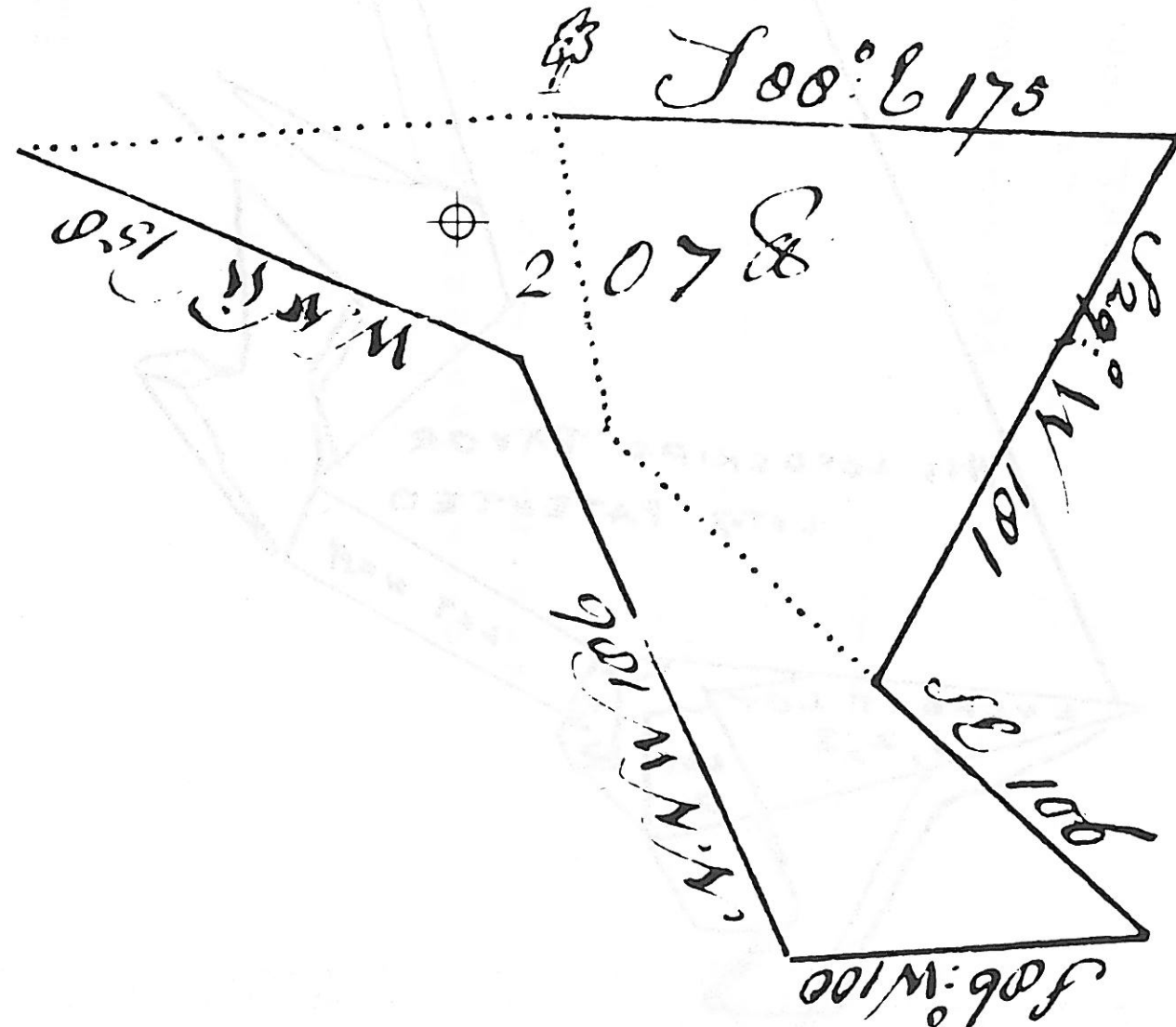
Lives to be put in the lease are William Semmes, Sarah Semmes, daughter of the William Semmes and David Osborne

1740

Lot 2

Willed by Samuel Luckett to his mother and brothers 1750.

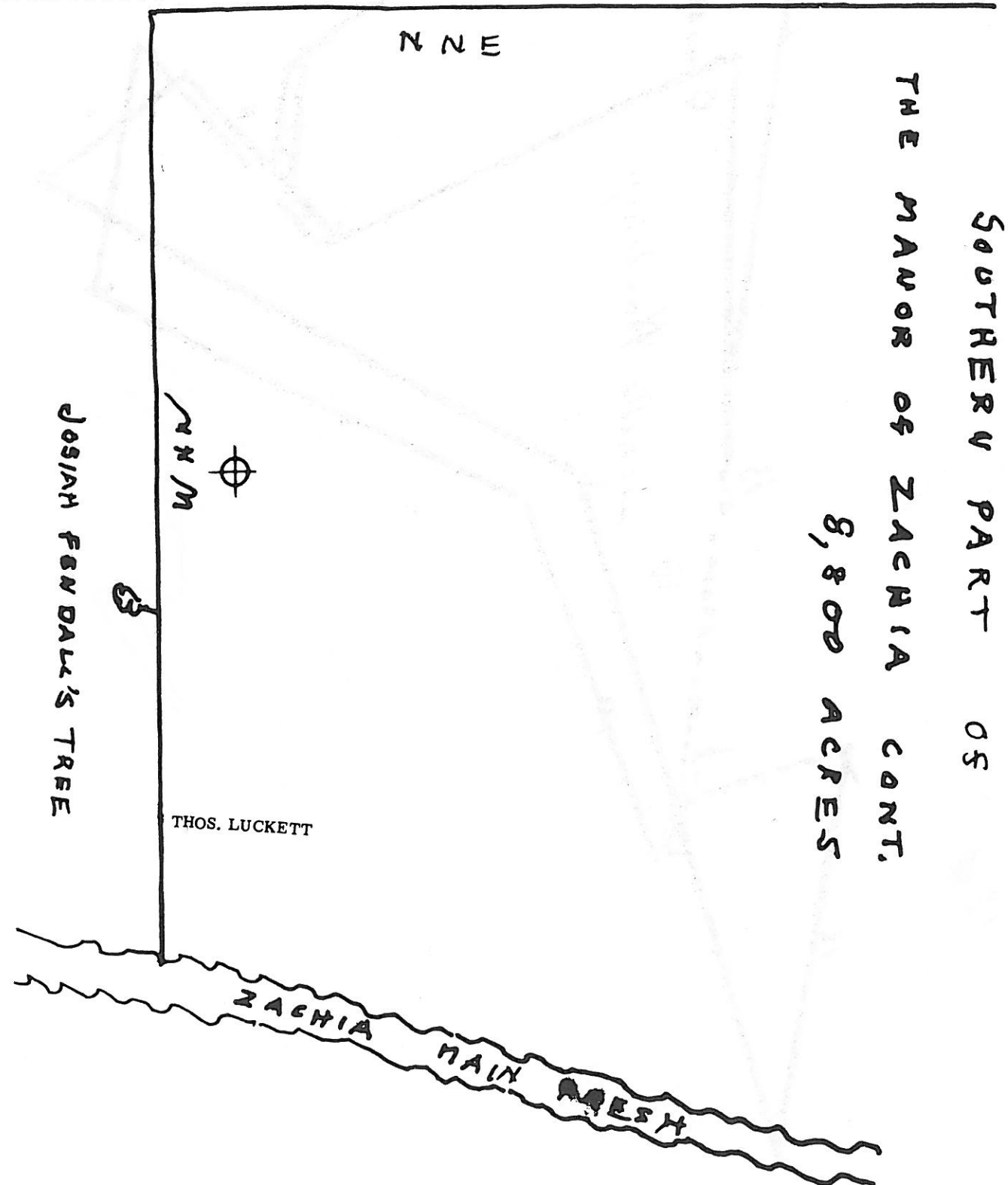
No survey



# The Manor Of Zechia, 1731

Annapolis Land Records

I do hereby certify that by order and direction of John Dent, Samuel Hanson, and John Howard commissioners appointed by comision out of the high court of Chancery to examine evidence touching the bounds of His Lordship's the Right Honorable the Lord Proprietary's Manor in Charles County I have carefully resurved His Lordship's Manor of Zechia . . . . to the upper most bound tree of Henry Hawkins land, formerly Josiah Fendal . . . . . George Noble



# Zechia Manor

Annapolis Land Records

First survey in 1667, without a plat  
Next survey in 1731 with a plat, roughly drawn  
Next survey in 1782 with a plat, showing boundary lines of plantations but without names  
Next survey 1789, showing boundaries and names of planters  
There were three proprietary manors, Zechia, Pangiah and Calverton in Charles County.

