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Thomas, Lord Fairfax Collection
Collection Number: 57 WFCHS/THL

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EXISTENCE AND LOCATION OF COPIES: Digitized copies of some materials in this collection may be available. Please ask Archives staff for assistance.

SCOPE AND CONTENT: The bulk of this collection is grants and indentures to land from Thomas, Lord Fairfax as proprietor of the Northern Neck of Virginia. The collection includes original documents as well as photocopies. Also included are transcripts of the suit Joist Hite et al. v. Fairfax, et al. began in 1749, appealed in 1782, and finally settled in Hite's favor in 1802 after the principals were dead. Several early articles about Lord Fairfax are in the collection as well.

Note: Land grants give land to grantees, their heirs, and assigns in perpetuity so long as an annual fee is paid. Indentures are shorter-term contracts, good for a stated length of time, such as the lifetime of specified parties.

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL: Thomas, the Sixth Lord Fairfax, Baron of Cameron, was born on October 22, 1693 at Leeds Castle in Kent County, England. By 1719 he had inherited all the land of what became known as the Northern Neck Grant in Virginia. Lord Fairfax journeyed to Virginia to look after his lands in March 1735. Subsequently, he hired George Washington to survey his holdings (1749-1752), established residence at Greenway Court in Frederick County (now Clarke County). Fairfax died on December 9, 1781.

RELATED MATERIAL: Catherine Tisinger Collection, 1798 THL; Timothy Gano Collection, 1386 THL; Centenary United Church of Christ Collection, 719 WFCHS; Miscellaneous Manuscript Files may include information about Fairfax. See also the map *The Northern Neck in Colonial Context* researched, compiled and drawn by Wilbur S. Johnston, 2008 (Winchester Frederick County Historical Society).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Quarles, Garland R. *Some Worthy Lives*. Winchester, VA: Winchester-Frederick County Historical Society, 1988; Joyner, Peggy Shomo, compiler. *Abstracts of Virginia's Northern Neck Warrants and Surveys, 1697-1784*, Volume IV, 1987; Gray, Gertrude Entz Gray. *Virginia Northern Neck Land Grants*, 4 volumes. Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Company, 1988.

IMMEDIATE SOURCE OF ACQUISITION: Materials acquired as gift and through purchase.

CONTAINER LIST:

BOX 1

Lord Fairfax Land Grants—By Grantees

Baker, Henry of Frederick County, assignee of Robert Murphy, for 195 acres on tract of land known as Horse Lick on the Drains of Back Creek, July 8, 1777.

Bruin, Bryan of Frederick County, 400 acres on Sleepy Creek near the Yellow Spring in Frederick County, August 14, 1767; with transcription.

Campbell, Andrew of Fredrick County, 362 acres in Fredrick County, January 24, 1763.

Cartmill, Nathanael of Frederick County, 133 acres next to Cartmill's other land in Frederick County, October 4, 1766.

Chenowith, John of Frederick County, $\frac{3}{4}$ acres drain of Mill Creek at branch of Opequon in Frederick County Oct. 5, 1765.

Cocke, Catesby of Prince William County, 180 acres on Socalin's Branch in Prince William County, August 31, 1731.

Conrad, Frederick of Frederick County assignee of Lews and James Lewis, 109 acres on Great Cacapehn in Hampshire County, Dec. 1, 1779.

Fletcher, Peter of Berkeley County, (assignee of Thomazin Ellzey), 407 acres and 2 roods on Sleepy Creek in Frederick County, May 7, 1778.

Fowler, Jacob of Frederick County, half-acre (Lot 37) in Winchester, and 5 acres of Common contiguous to town (Tract 11) in Frederick County; May 15, 1753.

Hog, William, Junior of Pensilvania [sic], 528 acres on Hog Creek in Frederick County, March 17, 1752.

Lambert, Christopher of Frederick County, half-acre (Lot 210) in Winchester Addition, May 15, 1753.

Longacre, Andrew of Frederick County, 140 acres on Lick Run and Blair's Spring Run, branches of Cedar Creek, in Frederick County, August 10, 1774 (photocopy)

MacCann, Daniel of Frederick County, 395 acres drained by Shenandoah River in Frederick County, January 8, 1767 (photocopy).

McDonald, Major Angus of Frederick County, 31 acres near land of James Wood in Frederick County, March 12, 1774.

Marney, Robert of Frederick County, 160 acres on Duck Run in Frederick County, June 20, 1754 (photocopy).

Mauzy, John of Fauquier County, 457 acres on Hogs Creek and Babs Mountain in Frederick County, October 18, 1763 (photocopy)

Morgan, William, 305 acres in Frederick County, January 8, 1752, 1 leaf, manuscript, 2 leaves, written transcript

Neavill, George of Fauquier County, 275 acres on Buck Marsh in Frederick County, July 21, 1760; 1 leaf, manuscript (photocopy)

Neile, Lewis (son of John, deceased) of Frederick County, 400 acres on Opequon Creek in Frederick County, November 15, 1757 (photocopy).

Noble, Anthony of Berkeley County, 415 acres on draught of Cacapehon [sic] and south side Beargarden Ridge in Hampshire County, May 23, 1777.

Piles, Zachariah of Frederick County, half-acre (Lot 99) in Winchester Addition, May 15, 1753 (photocopy).

Rogers, Evan of Frederick County, 50 acres on Back Creek in Frederick County, December 19, 1777.

Rutherford, Robert of Frederick County, 945 acres in Frederick County and 320 acres in the Northern Neck, November 7, 1767.

Sarron, Lewis Bernard of Frederick County, 270 acres on Babb's Creek in Frederick County, December 8, 1774 (photocopy).

Smith, William of Frederick County, 400 acres at head of Sleepy Creek in Frederick County, June 18, 1760.

Vanmeter, Jacob of Frederick County, November 7, 1769, 23 “surplus” acres running east from Black Oak Corner, Includes transcription and Google Earth overlay of land grant.

Wells, Tunis of Frederick County, 318 acres on the Patowmack [sic] in Frederick County, June 15, 1770; Plat of Wells' land by John Mauzy, December 19, 1751 (photocopies).

Wright, George, Junior of Frederick County, half-acre (Lot 113) in Winchester Addition, May 15, 1753.

BOX 2

Lord Fairfax Land Indentures—By Grantees

Note: Unless otherwise noted, these documents are leases granted by Thomas, Lord Fairfax. Thomas died on December 9, 1781. Later indentures are signed by his nephew, Reverend Denny Fairfax (formerly Denny Martin).

Allan, John—60 acres of Leeds Manor in Fauquier County, 1770.

Bell, Lawson—100 acres (Lot 164) in Shenandoah County, October 8, 1793, signed by Denny Fairfax; assigned to Philip Spengler, 1806.

Berry, Benjamin of Frederick County—130 acres (Lot 460) of Leeds Manor in Frederick County, November 17, 1792, signed by Denny Fairfax.

Boneham, Elijah of Frederick County—100 acres in Frederick County, August 29, 1776.

Botts, Moses of Loudoun County—100 acres in Loudoun County, January 1, 1769.

Bucklew, Richard of Loudoun County—200 acres on Jeffres [sic] Branch in Loudoun County, March 8, 1763.

Buck, Charles and **McCoy**, James (heirs of Thomas Chester)— 300 acres along south fork of Shenandoah River, in Frederick County, June 6, 1763, leased to Fairfax from their 5000-acre inheritance.

Compton, Samuel of Loudoun County—116 acres of Leeds Manor in Loudoun County, March 8, 1763.

Conner, Daniel of Frederick County—100 acres in Frederick County, July 7, 1777.

Davis, Samuel, Junior of Loudoun County—100 acres of Leeds Manor in Loudoun County, October 23, 1764.

Davis, Samuel, Senior of Loudoun County—100 acres of Leeds Manor in Loudoun County, October 23, 1764.

Ellzey, Lewis, and Mary his wife, of Fairfax County—244 acres on Difficult Run near Great Falls in Loudoun County, April 2, 1763, leased to Fairfax; remainder of land sold to Thomas Simmonds.

Forbes, Robert, and Mary his wife of Rohan County, NC—418 acres along the Potomac in Frederick County, June 19, 1762, leased to Fairfax (fragment).

Freeman, Richard of Loudoun County—100 acres of Leeds Manor in Loudoun County, 1760.

Graves, John of Frederick County—147 acres (Lot 116) of Leeds Manor in Frederick County, September 19, 17-- , signed by Denny Fairfax.

Hitt, Charles—100 acres of Leeds Manor in Loudoun County, no date.

Hood, William of Frederick County—200 acres (Lot 7) of Leeds Manor in Frederick County, February 15, 1786, signed by Denny Fairfax; assigned to Moses McKay, 1791.

King, Joseph of Frederick County—217 acres (Lot 458) of Leeds Manor in Frederick County, November 17, 1792; signed by Denny Fairfax; assigned to W. P Massie and then to James Green, 1823.

Lee, Hancock of King George County—2800 acres on Horsepen Run in King George County, June 2, 1768. This is a one-year mortgage on Lee's land.

Martin, Joseph—110 acres of Leeds Manor in Fauquier County, 177-.

Oldacre, Abraham of Loudoun County—100 acres in Loudoun County, February 15, 1779.

Oldham, James of Loudoun County—100 acres in Loudoun County, August 29, 1776.

Payne, Reuben—50 acres of Leeds Manor in Fauquier County, 177-.

Robinson, William of Loudoun County—100 acres of Leeds Manor in Loudoun County, October 23, 1765.

Shavour, Jacob—102 acres of Leeds Manor in Fauquier County, 177-.

Smoot, John—200 acres of Leeds Manor in Fauquier County, 177-.

Sybold, Casper of Loudoun County—109 acres of Leeds Manor in Fauquier County, March 8, 1763.

Turner, George of Loudoun County—100 acres in Loudoun County, November 12, 1768.

Land Surveys—unidentified

Survey of two parcels, 7290½ acres and 1601½ acres, no date, mentions Col. **Martin**, W. Murray, Mr. **Brownlee**, 1 page, manuscript (in 2 pieces)

Survey by John **Moffett**, 3 acres 32 perches on Mill Creek from John **Buffington's** land in Hampshire County, 1762, 1 page, manuscript

BOX 3

Article—"Greenway Court," by John Esten Cooke, in *Putnam's Monthly*, Volume 9, No. 54, June 1857, pages 561-574.

Article—"Greenway Court," by Walker Y. Page, in *Magazine of American History*, Volume 30, No. 3, September 1893, pages 137-141.

Article—"Historic Houses on the Shenandoah," by John Esten Cooke, in *Appleton's Journal*, Volume 10, No. 226, July 19, 1873, pages 65-70.

Article—"My Lord Fairfax, of Virginia," author unknown, in *Scribner's Magazine*, 1879, pages 715-728.

Article—"An Old Landlord in New Virginia," by Grace R. Wright, in *The American Collector*, Volume 3, No. 2, November 1926, pages 73-78.

Article—"of our especiall grace, certeyne knowledge, and mere motion by Ronald Bailey, published in *Features, the Journal of the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation*, Spring 2002, pages 40-45.

Article—"Thomas, Lord Fairfax," by [William C. Kennerly], in *The Clarke Courier*, Volume 34, No. 2, March 5, 1902.

Bonds for collecting quit rent receipts, 2 items:

-James **Newby**, Richard **Mitchell**, and Thomas B. **Griffin**, for Northumberland and Lancaster Counties, 1774 (photocopy).

-John and Lawrence **Snap**, for Dunmore County, 1775 (photocopy).

Correspondence—Charles **Carter** to [Lord Fairfax], January 20, 1736/7 (photocopy); transcript.

Correspondence – W. Fairfax + [Lord Fairfax], September 25, [1742].

Fairfax Crypt dedication—remarks made by Robert M. **Ward**, December 9, 1926.

Fairfax, Denny – miscellaneous papers.

Fairfax, Lord Thomas Estate.

Greenway Court – Land surveys with manor, no date.

Martin, Robert B Estate.

Miscellaneous Items.

Miscellaneous, 2 items

-Extract from *Virginia Land Grants*, Old Dominion Press, 1925, re Hite v. Fairfax.

-List of names, no date, 1 leaf, manuscript

Receipts and bills:

-**Churchman**, William, to the Honorable Lord Fairfax, bill for mowing, 1770

-**Cobbler** (unknown), to Thomas Lord Fairfax, bill for shoe mending, no date

-**Corley**, Curtis, to Thomas Lord Fairfax, receipt for wages, 1779

-**Edwards**, P. E. T., to Robert MacKay, bill for making extracts in land suit (Hite v. Fairfax), October 20, 1932.

-**Foster**, Archibald, to Thomas Lord Fairfax, bill for summons, 1767-1768

-**Kerr**, John, to the Right Honorable Lord Fairfax, receipt for mason's wages, September 8, 1770.

-**Neavill**, John, to Captain Thomas Martin and Thomas Lord Fairfax, receipts for land taxes, June 15, 1763.

-**Smith**, John and Edward, receipt for land taxes on account of Lord Fairfax's estate, 1789-1793.

“Securing the Northern Neck” by Daniel Geyer, 2020, 22 pages, typescript

Transcript of the record—Hite v. Fairfax, commenced in 1749, appealed in 1782 [Restricted].

Transcript of the record, Hite v. Fairfax, commenced in 1749, appealed in 1782.

BOX 4

Transcript of the Record in the suit of the representatives of Joist Hite and Robert Green, appellants, against the Right Honorable Thomas, Lord Fairfax, and Others, appellees, Commenced in the General Court of the Colony of Virginia in 1749 and filed in the Court of Appeals in 1782. 2 copies, bound. These are photostats found in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Frederick County, Virginia, in 1926.

Appeal to Virginia Court, 1782, manuscript [Restricted]

Brief of the Record before the Court of Appeals, no date.

Appeal—Commissioners' Assessment of Property, 1786.

MICROFILM

The Lord Fairfax Land Grants are also on microfilm, under Northern Neck Land Grants.