

HISTORIC OBEDIAH HUGH SHIRLEY HOME ACQUIRED BY SHIRLEY ASSOCIATION !



BY SHIRLEY FAYE HILL

Photo courtesy of Sue Henderson

It is now within the realm of possibility for that headline to become a reality. Our Association has a rare opportunity to save from destruction, and restore a Shirley ancestral dwelling. The home of Obediah and Jennie Armstrong Shirley is scheduled for demolition soon, unless, we act swiftly. An 18 acre tract, including the home, has been sold to Langston Real Estate Company of

Honea Path, South Carolina for development as a retirement community.

First, a bit of history. Obediah Hugh was the son of John and Elizabeth Burton Fields Shirley and was born in Abbeville, S.C. August 29, 1804, married Jennie Armstrong (b. Jan. 19, 1807), March 18, 1824. He died February 18, 1889.

Obediah and Jennie built their two story home

one half mile west of Honea Path on land acquired from Jennie's parents, John and Isabella Bryson Armstrong, who received a royal grant on March 2, 1764.

One end is hewn logs. Door hinges, as well as some nails, are hand wrought by an expert blacksmith. The two chimneys were built by David Moore of rock - some four feet long, sixteen inches thick - from a nearby quarry owned by the Armstrongs.

Their ten children- John Jasper, James Marion, Nathaniel, Amaziah, Isabella, Benjamin Franklin, Archibald Pinckney, Martha Jane, Elizabeth Frances, William Marshall and an unnamed baby who died at birth, were born in this home.

No one can question its extreme importance to Shirleys, as well its general historical value.

My first visit to the home was Monday April 13, 1987 in connection with a long planned pilgrimage to search my S.C. roots. What a thrill to finally see the home my great- great- grand- parents built. I felt I was standing on Holy Ground. Nevertheless I was depressed by the home's delapidated condition. No repairs have been made in years and the house has been rented out.

My depression deepened the following day when I learned of the imminent destruction of the home. After a sleepless night, I advised Bill and Sue Henderson of Beaufort, S.C., (I met Sue an Obediah descendent, on our England tour last year) of my decision to give the saving of Obediah's home my "Best Shot".

I subsequently met with Tom Langston who, I learned, shares my love of history and family. I expressed my distress at the prospect of the destruction of such an important land mark- not only to the Shirleys, but the entire area (preliminary research reveals it may well be Anderson County's oldest home). As a result, he generously offered a gift of Obediah's home, plus one acre, to the Shirley Association, provided we commit to the restoration and upkeep of the property. Restoration will be expensive, but can be done in stages. Immediate needs are:

1. general clean-up
2. roof
3. replace broken window panes

4. door locks
5. possible termite treatment
6. fence property for security
7. insurance and taxes

Also costs in connection with the establishment of a Tax Exempt Shirley Foundation, making Tom Langston's gift to us as well as our gifts for restoration, tax free!

Plans for restoration to be done under the direction of Mr. Hurley E. Badders, Executive Director, Pendleton District Historical Commission, to meet guidelines in out attempt to qualify for listing in the National Register (what an honor that would be).

Mr. Langston has made a firm offer. NOW! the Shirley Association has a most important decision to make- accept or reject his generosity.

Financial support is needed immediately. If sufficient funds are received, the Assoc. will proceed with the signing of documents setting up the Shirley Foundation, contracting for restoration, etc. IF sufficient funds are not received, the project must be abandoned. The decision is yours!

Checks...remember- contributions are tax free should be made payable to The Shirley Foundation and mailed to me... Shirley Faye Hill, Obediah Project Chairman, 3627 Mt. Vernon Ft. Worth, Texas 76103 (817) 536-4715

A PEEK INTO THE FUTURE:

Plans for Obediah Home Restoration will be presented to Honea Path Civic Clubs at their regularly scheduled September meetings in an attempt to secure local community support.

One possible use for the restored Obediah Home- A Shirley Museum.

A "WORK WEEK" is tentatively scheduled next spring. Association members as well as others interested can then do as much clean up, landscaping and repairs as possible. What fun!

THANK YOU SHIRLEY! I would like to add, if this can be carried out and we can be made tax exempt, other projects could be considered in the future. We have been contacted by a couple of villages about repairs to their churches in England where Shirleys were members. In both cases, they only needed a couple thousand of dollars to repair stones etc. falling from around window s etc. To much of an expense for the village or the church. Who knows what the future holds!

A Shirley Museum would be nice too! and in the heart of Shirley land...Abbeville area S.C.

King George Co. Va.

1767, The Vestry of St. Pauls mentions processioning the land of Ambrose Shurley,..... William Pollard, John Sims Benjamin Morris, Peter Lyons, Mathew Wellman, Joseph Foster, Sherwood Tinsley James Genrtys heirs, John Shelton, Alexander Kersey, widow Tyler, John Archer, Thomas Green, Leighton Wood, John Jones, Jo Gentry and David Gentry.

Hanover Co. Va.

1768, Ambrose Shurley 150 acres.

King and Queen Co. Va.

1785, Ambrose Shirley (16-21 yrs.)
1788 is last time he appears in this county.

from editor...

In the Jan '82 NEWS page 10, an article about John Ambrose Shirley b. Sept 10, 1770 appears and his mother according to family tradition was Tabitha Adams.

In King and Queen Co. Va. appears a Tabitha Sherley. She first appears on the 1782 p.p. tax list and shows she has 8 slaves...George, Judy, Eve, Tither, Hannah, Zachary, Humphrey and Emanuel.

Tabitha Sherley last appears on the 1788 list.

The John Ambrose Shirley b. 1770 is first found by this family's researchers in Mason Co. Ky on the 1799 tax list.

Is this their Shirley ancestry listed above? Could Ambrose father, be Ambrose?

King William Co. Va.

1790 Ambrose Shirley Person Prop. Tax

1801 Ambrose Shirley

1803 Phelemon Shurley

1804 Phelemon Shirley

1805 Ambrose Shirley

[1784, 1794, 1795 and 1802, a Philip Shirley was listed and also a Mary starting in 1782 thru 1793].

John Ambrose Shirley b. 1770 of Ky. had a son Philemon. Is this Phelemon an uncle or could he be the father of Ambrose???? Questions...Questions! Somebody from this line...dig in now!

Orange Co. Oder Book #4 1743-1746

p. 18, Sept. 24, 1743 In ye suit by brought by Patrick Sherly, plaintiff, against Robt. Young, defendant, this day not appearing and the _____ having returned by reason of the _____'s death - at ye plaintiffs motion it is ordered that a new _____returnable at ye next court.

Also - In ye suit by petition brought by Patrick Sherly, plaintiff against Jacob Caskell of Ca____, defendant - the Deft. not appearing and the _____haveing returned not executed and reason of the under_____'s death at the plaintiffs motion it is ordered that a new _____against the said defendant returnable to ye next court.

Ibid. p.111 May 25, 1744 Patrick Shurley, plaintiff, and Robert Young, defendant. The defendant appearing, pleaded that he owed nothing for _____of which the parties put themselves upon the court, who being heard all circumstances and heard all accounts before this Court in ye absence of ye defendant is not good, the proof being exparte; wherefore it is ordered that the suit be dismissed.

Also - Patrick Sharley, plaintiff against Jacob Cossall, defendant. The def. not appearing, the plaintiff produced the def. note of hand for 5 pounds, 15 shilling and 3 pence current money of Pennsylvania and of ye value of four pounds six shillings and three pence current money of Virginia. Judgement is therefore granted the plaintiff against ye defendant for ye said sum of 4 pounds, 6 shillings and 3 pence current money and costs.

IBid. p. 193 July 28, 1744 Patrick Sherley and Robert Young. This suit, on the motion of Mr. Porteus is continued at the plaintiff costs.

page 254 January 26, 1744 Patrick Sharkeys petition against Robert Young for money supposed to be due by account is dismissed.

[from researcher...In all other records this name was SHURLEY, SHERLEY OR SHARLEY].

Augusta Co. Va. Aug 21, 1767 Patrick Shirley was appointed a surveyor of highways.

By 1772, Patrick owned 1,389 acres in Botetourt Co. Va. (Botetourt Co. was formed from Augusta Co. in 1769).

Patrick furnished horses in 1776 for an expedition against the Cherokees of Long Island in the Hotston River.

Family info in Oct. 1982 NEWS page 2.

from Northumberland Co. order books...

1666-1678 page 20

Sept. 8, 1668, Charles Shirley, servitude to Captain Edward Lyster, is adjudged by ye court to be 16 years of age and ordered to serve his said Master according to law.

1678-1698 page 322

January 20, 1685 Jane Shirley, servant to Mr. Peter Presley, Jr., having a bastard child in ye time of her service- it is ordered that she serve her said master for her said offence according to act and her punishment remitted, her said master paying ye fine, and the said Mr. Presley bring Joseph Walker (who ye said wence hath sworne is ye father of ye sd. child) to ye next court.

from Virginia Colonial Abstracts- Series 2 Vol. 1 Northumberland Co. Va.

1678-1713 Lindsay O. Duvall
pg. 98. Sept. 27, 1704

Certificate to George Eskridge for 1000 acres land for transporting Archebald Shirsly (among many others).

pg. 104 March 21, 1705 Cerificate to George Eskridge for 1,050 acres land for transporting Jane Shirley (among others).

DANIEL SHIRLEY b. March 24, 1717 in St. Stephens Parish, Northumberland County Virginia. He died there 1768.

He was the son of John Shirley who died about 1738 Northumberland Co. and John appears to be the son of Thomas Shirley who died in 1696 in Northumberland Co. Va.

Children of Daniel...

1. John b. Aug. 16, 1741
2. James b. Aug. 22, 1745
3. Richard b. July 12, 1746
4. Judith b. Sept. 6, 1751
5. Daniel b. May 1, 1754 to Dan. & Martha
6. Jane b. Jan 4, 1758 to Dan. & Martha

from Northumberland Co. Order bk 1767-70

pg. 315 Nov. 14, 1768 Ellis Harcum, William Harcum and John Wornom by the Court appointed to settle Thomas Reid's account of his Administration of the estate of DANIEL SHURLEY, dec'd, and possess Lishey Shurley, the widow, with her part there of, and also with George Shurley's part.

She first giving Bond with security to pay a proportionable part of the debts that may come against the said estate, and make report thereof to the County.

Ibid.

pg. 317 Nov. 14, 1768 Judith Shurley, orphan of Daniel Shurley, dec'd, made choice of Richard Rice for her Guardian who is approved by the court; He, the said Richard, together with John Rout and Neddy Barnes, his security, having entered into and acknowledged Bond for the estate of the said orphan in penalty of 100 pounds.

from Northumberland Co. record bk. #12 1783-1785 page 7

Will of Elizabeth Rice of Northumberland Co.

To son Charles Rice, my tract of land whereon I now live, to him and and the lawfully begotten heirs of his body, And he giving his sister ELISHEY SHURLEY, a home on the said land during her widowhood.

wit. Wm. Penly Rice Exors. Friend, Wm.
Elishey Shurley Thomas, Sr. and son,
James Shurley Charles Rice
Wm. Bearcroft

Northumberland Co. order book 1743-1749

page 518 Sept 1749 The land given to Elizabeth, wife of John Reaves' by her father, Edward Sanders, dec'd., divided according to the will of the said John Reaves between his two daughters. DANIEL SHIRLEY and Elizabeth Pew receiving their parts.

Northumberland Co. Record Book #8 1770-72

pg. 255 March 11, 1771 I, John Sheirley of Northumberland Co. do owe and stand justly indebted unto Elisha Harcum in the just sum of 200 pounds current money of Virginia; and that whereas the said John Shearley has bargained and sold unto Elisha Harcum one tract of land containing 100 acres, the said land lying in the said county of Northumberland and in St. Stephen's Parish on the north side of Great Wiccomico River near the ferry for which the said Elisha Harcum is to pay 80 pounds current money in two different payments. Now the said Elisha Harcum shall appoint and make a true and just title to the same and pay all costs that shall arise from the same.

wit; Thomas Gill
Simon White

John Shirley
Recorded June 10, 1771

Northumberland Co. Va. Record bk. #13

1785-1787 page 243 May 15, 1786

John Shearly of Norfolk Co. to John Coles of Northumberland Co. for the sum of 150 pounds current money of the state - 100 acres land lying in the Parish of St. Stephens Parishon Great Wiccomoco River near Taylor's Ferry, bounded at a corner cedar post of Elizabeth Keeve and a line of Moses Taylor, thence along Royston Betts' line. thence along the said Coles, thence beginning, including the quantity of 100 acres and if not that quantity, to be made up to the said Cole's out of Captain Sanders' patent which was first granted, with all houses, gardens, orchards, out buildings, etc...

John Sharley X

Wit: Thomas Betts
John Cottrell
Cuthbert Harcym
John Webb

NOTE:

This appears to be John Shirley, son of Daniel.

In the special Tax list of Virginia 1782-1787, John and Daniel Shirley are listed in Norfolk Co. Va.

Daniel is listed with 5 people in the district from Edmond's Hill to Princess Anne and Carolina lines as far as the Northwest River.

Could they be.....the sons of Daniel Shurley who died in Northumberland Co. in 1768?

Daniel Shurley of Norfolk Co. Va. was living in the adjoining county of Princess Anne as of 1814. His will reveals he still owned a large tract of land in Norfolk Co. Va.

THIS DANIEL SHURLEY WAS THE GREAT GRANDFATHER OF O. HENRY.

JOHN SHURLEY b. ca. 1671 and d. 1738 in Northumberland Co. Va. His children on the St. Stephens Parish records are:

1. Ann b. July 31, 1706
 2. John b. Sept 24, 1708
 3. Grace b. Feb 17, 1710
 4. Joseph b. _____
 5. Elizabeth b. _____
 6. Daniel b. Mar 24, 1717
- (cont.)

7. Newman b. FEB 11, 1719
8. Argaland b. Apr 17, 1721
9. Mary b. Aug 1, 1722

JOHN SHURLEY's Will...Northumberland bk p. 7

To my son John Shurley and lawfully begotten heirs of his body - my home plantation.

To my son Daniel Shurley and the lawfully begotten heirs of his body - all my lands at the Coach Road adjoining to the lands of my brother, Richard Shurley, dec'd.

To my son John Shurley-one feather bed and furniture.

To my son Daniel Shurley-one feather bed and furniture.

To my son Argaland Shurley- one feather bed and furniture. To my son Joseph- same...
To my daughter Grace- one feather bed and furniture.

To my daughter Elizabeth-one feather bed and furniture.

The rest of my estate to be divided equally between the above children.

Executor: Son, John Shurley

Wit. John Foushee

Will written Jan 17, 1737

Probated April 10, 1738

Note: No wife mentioned. Also the only sons mentioned are John (who died in 1742), Daniel, Argaland and Joseph. The other sons must have died before their father.

Ibid. page 29 May 4, 1738 appraisment of the estate of John Shirley, dec'd granted by the court by request of John Shirley, Jr., Exor.

Recorded May 8, 1738

Included live stock, furniture, violin, tools etc..

Appraisers: James Farned, Edward Barnes and Robert Clark, Jr.

John Shurley, Jr. will recorded in book 1738-43 of Northumberland Co. Va. page 169

To my wife Betty Shirly and the child she is now with- all my movable estate of any kind whatsoever to be equally divided and if the child should die - its part to go to my brother Archland Shirly.

Wit: Peter Beacroft W.W. Mar 30, 1742
Susan Greenstead W.P. Apr 12, 1742
Robert Clark, Jr.

Note from researcher:

At the probate, Susan Greenstead is listed as Susanna Shirley.

Ibid. Cont....

Ibid page 184 to John Shirley, Jr. will.

May 1, 1742 In pursuance to an order of court granted to Betty Shirley and Arjalon Shirley, Exors of the last will and testament of John Shirley, dec'd, we whose names are underwritten, being first sworn before Mr. Matthew Quell, have appraised the above deceased's estate in court money as came to our view, viz: livestock tools and household articles, etc...
No total given. Robert Clark, Jr
Recorded May 10, 1742 Edward Barnes
Elias Edmonds, Jr

[Note...when Daniel Shurley is listed in Norfolk Co. Va. in 1782-1787, it mentions he lives in district from Edmond's Hill to Princess Anne....Could this Edmond's Hill have something to do with the above Elias Edmond ??? Just a thought!].
(Another thought...Could this be where the names of Elias Shirley and Edmond Shirley come from? Was Elias Edmonds related or close enough friend to name some Shirley children for ???)

Northumberland Co. Record Bk. 1743-1749
page 80 Apr 11, 1748 John Sharley, dec'd in 1742.

To the probate of John Sharley will.....	150.
To recording the will.....	40.
To Ormbee Haynie.....	109.
To Wm. Hughlett.....	162.
To David McCulloch.....	154.
To. Wm. Greenstreet.....	209.
To Wm. Gill.....	40.
To John Oldham.....	44.
To Gras. Shirley.....	150.
To Daniel Shirley.....	30.
To Argeland	100.
To his levie.....	26.
To Quit rents of his land.....	12.
To Two gallons and one half of brandy..	90.
To two pounds of sugar at 8 per.....	16.
	<u>1,383</u>
These debts that are against John Sharley's estate:	186
Then received of:	1,197
By Zachariah Hefford.....	66
By John Mealley.....	25
By Samuel Orgain.....	95
	<u>186</u>

Argeland Sherley, Executor.

At a court held for Northumberland Co. the 11th of April 1748. This account of Adm. of the estate of John Sharley dec'd was returned and by the court ordered to be recorded.

Note the many ways the name Shirley is spelled in these records for the same family or even for the same person.

EDITORS COMMENTS: I would like to know who is George Shirley? He is mentioned in the administration papers of Daniel Shurley and I have seen his name on other papers...not all given here. He is not listed as a son of Daniel. He is also not listed as a brother of Daniel.

In 1699, George Shirley was a surveyor and in 1702 he was a sherriff and J.P. Could George be a brother to John who was born about 1671 and died in 1738, father of Daniel? George Sr. & George Jr.?

Another of the name George appears in Prince William Co. Va. as early as 1783 and is there until at least 1790 era.

A Thomas Shirley was Sheriff in 1707 in Northumberland Co. Va. This is no doubt the son of Thomas Shirley. He was born Oct. 22, 1666 St. Stephens Parish.

So...we have in Northumberland Co. Va. in those earliest of dates:

THOMAS OF ST. STEPHENS PARISH
His children as listed in the records...

1. Thomas b. Oct. 22, 1666
2. Richard b. Aug. 6, 1669 d. 1728
wife Ann
- (1) Thomas b. Feb 1, 1701
- (2) Ann b. Mar 31, 1703
- (3) Richard b. Jan 20, 1705
- (4) Richard b. Feb 8, 1712

3. Phebus b. Apr 14, 1673
4. Mary b. June 8, 1676
5. John who died in 1738 refers to his land as next to his brother, Richard. He is not listed in the records as a son of Thomas. Is this the case with George Shurley too? Is he a son also and not mentioned in the records? They could have been born before coming to St. Stephens Parish, Northumberland or?

[John's children listed on previous pg.]

Our researcher says she is sure that the Shirleys of Prince William Co. Va. are the ones from Northumberland Co. Va.

We do have a good researcher in Pr. Wm. Co. now and she is very busy helping with good research. I should also add she will be working in Fauquier and other counties. We had the pleasure of meeting her, listening to her, and she was very kind to accompany us on our bus as we visited the former sites of the Shirley land. She gave me the map with the properties identified and I shall add this in this issue of the NEWS. She will now begin trying connect families.

Northumberland Co. Order Bk. 1763-66
page 6.

Nov. 8, 1766, Wenefred Shirley, orphan of John Shirley, dec.'d, made choice of Samuel Steel for her guardian who is aproved by the court. He the said Steel together with Mathew Neale and George Harvey, his security, having entered into and acknowledged bond for the estate of the said orphan in penalty of 200 pounds.

Ibid. page 269 Feb 13, 1764 Report of the settlement of John Shirley's estate was this day returned and ordered to be recorded.

[Note...Samuel Steel has property adjoining Thomas and Mary Shirley and John and Elizabeth Shirley in Fauquier Co. Va. in 1771-74 era!].

From editor...It sure took along time to settle and record John Shirley, Jr. estate. He died in 1742. The child his wife was expecting at the time of his death was Winifred. In 1766, this daughter Winifred would be about 24 years old!

ARGELAND SHIRLEY

Northumberland Co. Va. Record bk. #9
1772-1776 page 38.

Aug. 22, 1772, David Boyd and Margaret his wife, of St Stephens and of Northumberland, to Argeland Shirley of the same parish and county, for the sum of 9,270 pounds of tobacco - all that messuage and tenement plantation and tract of land whereon the said Arge-land Shirley now liveth as tenant to the said David Boyd, lying in the afore said parish an county, containing 100 acres and bounded by the lands now in possession of Richard Greenstead, Robt. Stott, the R.L. path, Pemberton Claughton, formerly Duckers, the land formerly Wm. Harding's then George Betts, then Wm. Downman's, now James Littrells and Parker Beaucham, with all houses, orchards, woods, etc..
David Boyd
Wit: John Maurrison Margaret Boyd
Will. Lewis
William Rout

Sept. 14, 1772, A mortgage from Arjalon Shairley to David Boyd was acknowledged by the said Sairley and admitted into court.

1773-1783 Page 529 Sept 10, 1782 Argeland plaintiff against Hugh McGee, def.

Richmond Co. Va. p.p. Tax list records
ARJALON SHURLEY there in 1787.

[researchers note says this is strange as he owned nothing and did not live there].

There is a Joseph Shurley on the list from 1782 thru 1787. Is this Argalands brother from Northumberland Co. Va.?

Richmond Co. Will bk. 1725-1753 p. 595

Jan. 24, 1749/50 ARGELAND SHURLEY, Hugh Lambert and William Hatley witnesses to the will of George Kirk of Richmond Co. Va

On the Northumberland Co. p.p. tax list of 1782, 1792, 1794, 1796, 1797, 1798, 1799 1800 Arjalon or Argeland Shirley.

Prince William Co. Va.

1783 Archibald Shurley p.p.tax list

South Carolina Jan 22, 1785...

Argeland and Susannah, his wife were among the charter members of the Turkey Creek Baptist church near the line between Laurens and Abbeville Co. S.C.

On June 29, 1788...

Daby Walker sold 200 acres on Walnut Creek to Archibald Shirley of Laurens Co. S.C.

On Nov. 2, 1792 Argey Shirley of Laurens Co. S.C. sold to William South 200 acres on a branch which empties into Walnut Creek, signed Argey Shirley and Suannah Shirley.

1790 Census... lists 1 son over 16 and 1 son under 16, and 5 daughters.

Kentucky

Argeland and Susannah Shirley are on the church records of Great Crossing Church in Scott Co. Ky.

Argeland and Susannah, and Esther, after the death of Susannah, at the Longlick Baptist Church in Scott Co. Kentucky.

Argeland's will of 1818 in will book #4 on page 339 Scott Co. Ky.

Now available from the Shirley Assoc. !

Permission has been given by John A. Schutz for us to reprint GOVERNOR WILLIAM SHIRLEY's BIOGRAPHY written by him and published in 1961.

We will reproduce in the same style as the Elizabethans Errant book about the three Shirley brothers in England. The price \$15. There are 292 pages. Order from: BETTY SHIRLEY 10256 Glencoe Dr. Cupertino, California 95014

REPORT ON CONVENTION AND HISTORICAL TOURCONVENTION

Estimated 100 people attended the 1987 Shirley Convention in Williamsburg, Virginia on the week-end of June 20-21.

My sister-in-law, Evelyn, and myself left the San Jose, Ca. airport early (7:16 am) on Tuesday, June 16th and arrived at the Norfolk Va. airport about 4:49 pm. with a change of planes in Chicago mid-day. I picked up my luggage and we waited and waited and no luggage for Evelyn. Well... you guessed it...it never made the plane at Chicago. They traced it immediately and said it would be there on the next flight. So, I went to rent the Van and after some problems there, finally got it arranged and back to the luggage area for its arrival. The plane was late and about 7:00 pm it arrived and at last we were on our way to find Williamsburg and the hotel.

Out I went to the parking lot to locate the van. (They did not bring it curbside for me nor did anyone take me to it). I have never driven a van and this is a 15 passenger van! I climbed in and wished I was driving my little Honda Prelude. I was scarred to death. It was parked in a small area and I thought I would hit the car parked along side. I reluctantly pulled around to pick up Evelyn and the luggage. NERVOUS??? isn't the word for it. I didn't think I could handle it but knew I had to! We took a slow route to Williamsburg and didn't get there until after 11:00 PM and it is only one hour drive. We did stop to grab a hamburger though. This van was all over the road. It had been wrecked and was out of alignment. I tried the next day to get another but no luck. I was stuck with this van for the entire week.

On Wed. I picked up passengers at the Norfolk airport and on Thurs. we visited Jamestown and the area. These people were the ones coming early so they could see the area before the convention. Because there appears to be no tour services to these areas and to save them from renting cars etc. I offered to do this so those who didn't have transportation wouldn't miss the sites. We had a great time!

On Friday, I made two trips to Norfolk airport and one trip to Richmond airport (one hour the opposite direction from Williamsburg). I returned from my last run about 10 minutes late for the pre-

convention get to gether. Thank goodness I had asked a couple of people to be there to welcome those arriving on Friday eve. I was only 10 minutes late as I said and everyone was visiting away and didn't miss me. I was tired by this time. It had been an all day drive getting back and forth to the airport.

After the get together, I and a few of us put up the displays and prepared the room for the convention the next day. It was after mid-night when I finally got to bed.

Next morning, I was recovered and down to breakfast early and then over to the room to finalize everything for the meeting.

Gerald Finn, this years convention host, welcomed everyone to Williamsburg, Va.-- Gerald Finn is a Shirley descendant and has been active in the Colonial Williamsburg development for many years.

The morning was spent in talking about the Shirleys of colonial times and other prominent citizens of the era who lived nearby or inter-related to the Shirleys.

After the coffee break, those attending had a chance to stand and tell about their Shirley ancestors. After lunch, the meeting turned to the Shirley ancestry in England. After the afternoon break and dinner, we returned for the viewing of the Shirley Celebration video taken at Ettington last year in England.

Sunday, we met at 9:00 and went by caraven, those in there own cars, us in the van, to Shirley Plantation about an hours drive. We divided into two groups. The first group went to the yacht club to board the boat for a river cruise. After their return, the second group went. What a view, seeing Shirley Plantation from the river. I tried to imagine that this was the way of transportation in those days. Not the roads. Imagine Lord Delaware West arriving at Shirley by river! This is the scene he viewed...but without this house that stands on it now.

Lunch was served buffet style and catered for the Shirleys at Shirley Plantation. The Shirley Coat of Arms was frozen in an ice carving, a cake was decorated with the Shirley Coat of arms. After lunch we toured the Shirley house and the grounds. Later, we had a watermelon feed under the big tree. It was just about this time that it grew dark with rain clouds and the wind started blowing. We just finished and left when the

rain began to come in sprinkles. We didn't get wet. The sun had been shining and it was a great day.

We had music entertainment, sang songs to our fathers who were attending...This was Father's Day! & wished Capt. John and Evelyn Shirley a Happy Anniversary. We had a great time of fellowship with the family!

Monday morning and it was time to say our..."goodbyes" to those who were not going on with us on our Historical Tour.

The gang loaded in the bus for the Norfolk airport and took a plane to Boston, Mass. Here we were met by another bus and we toured Boston for a little while and then to Kings Chapel where Governor William Shirley is buried. The Curator who has Mondays off and the Chapel is closed, came down to let us visit at my request..some months ago. This was the only day we could visit Kings Chapel. From there, we were taken to our hotel where we checked in, changed and in a little while we were back on the bus headed for Governor William Shirley's mansion for dinner.

What a lovely experience visiting this fine old home. An escorted tour of the house, a catered dinner, musical entertainment and a chance to meet more Shirleys who met us here.

We learned that \$250,000 has spent so far on the refurbishing of Shirley mansion. If anyone would like to be a member of their Association, I will give this information below. They would be pleased to have some Shirleys as members of their Association and to help with their expenses as they strive to preserve the Shirley mansion.

On Tuesday, we visited Plimouth Colony and the Mayflower, both being replicas of the originals. The afternoon was spent in New Hampshire visiting the farm at SHIRLEY HILL, home of 6 generations of Shirley who came here from Ireland in 1730 and settled in the Chester area of New Hampshire. (See Jan 1983 page 2 NEWS.)

We were greeted by Mary Shirley who lives there now. Her husband, Larry, passed away last year. I couldn't help but think about what he would think about all of us here visiting his home.

We enjoyed our visit with Mary and the lovely tea time. Her nephew, Robert and his wife Althea Shirley, came up from Mass. to be with us here in addition to being with us at Gov. Shirley's the evening before. We also met a few other Shirleys, some members of the Assoc living within driving time from Shirley Hill.

We returned to Boston that evening and dined at Pier 4 on Boston Harbor, then to the hotel. Next morning we checked out and journeyed to New York. That evening attended a Broadway play "The Nerd" with Mark Hamill, and following that, we went to the Empire State Building and went to the top! It was so peaceful up there...after 10:30 at night. What a view!!!

Next day it was a Ferry ride to the State of Liberty and after lunch, we departed New York for Washington's Crossing on the Delaware. We dined in a very relaxed environment right across the road from this historical place. The food was good! Such a change of pace from the hurry and people of New York! This was out in the country.

We arrived that night at Philadelphia, Pa. and checked into our hotel. The next day we left on a tour of Philadelphia and Valley Forge. For dinner, a river cruise dinner on the Delaware River from 7:00 pm to 10:00pm. What a great time everyone had relaxing and seeing the sights along the river.

The next morning we departed for Gettysburg and a tour of the cemetery, visited Mr. Lincoln where he gave a performance and later had a picture taking segment with our group. (He is very good!) That evening we dined in Thurmont, Maryland at a very unusual restaurant called COZY. What a dining experience. We left moaning and groaning for sometime after as we rode to Manassas, Va. where we checked in at the Holiday Inn for the next 3 days.

The next morning was Sunday and we visited the Broad Run Baptist Church for services. We met some other Shirleys from Tenn and from Maryland as well as Virginia. After our lunch and talk by our researcher in Va., we loaded up on the bus along with some of our visitors and our researcher, and we visited the sights of the land where the Shirleys had lived in the 1770's, etc. Late afternoon we returned to the hotel to rest. Some of us went for a walk around the hotel, and around the hotel, and around the hotel. You see it was not situated to go very far away from the hotel.

Monday, we went to Harpers Ferry, Front Royal, Shenandoah Valley. We ate steak (14 oz. no less) at Front Royal that eve. Julie Creamer joined us there and brought a portrait of Gov. Wm. Shirley commissioning George Washington as commander of the American Army, and some documents that's been

Thursday, July 9, 1987 - THE NORTHUMBERLAND ECHO, Heathsville, Va 13



Shirleys come home to Heathsville

NORTHUMBERLAND CO. Virginia

Thirty-seven members of the Shirley family from all over U.S., members of the Shirley Family Association, visited Heathsville June 30. Shown here in front of the Rice Hotel, which for a time was operated by George Daniel Shirley as the Shirley Hotel, the members listened to Bayne Palmer O'Brien share her historical research of the local Shirleys and Carolyn Jett, who gave a short history of Northumberland and its Shirley ancestors. The

Shirley tourists also visited St. Stephen's Church where they were greeted by Florence Shirley Lackey, Mrs. W. H. (Kitty) Shirley, her son William D. Shirley and his son Douglas Shirley. The group also attended the Shirley Family Association National Convention in Williamsburg, and visited Shirley Plantation, Mt. Vernon, and many other major cities and historical sites on their trip.

in her family for generations. They were signed by George Washington and were the original.

On Tuesday, we checked out of the hotel and went to Mt. Vernon, home of George Washington. In the afternoon we traveled to St. Stephens Parish in Northumberland Co. Va. When we arrived, we were greeted by some local Shirleys and two lovely ladies who told us of their research on the Shirley family and of the county of Northumberland from the beginning. They asked if we would come with them to have a group picture taken in front of the now abandoned Shirley Hotel for their local newspaper. (The above is that picture they sent to us).

We were limited to time here and had to be back in Williamsburg for one of our members to catch a plane out that evening.

The next morning in Williamsburg, we said our

tearful good-byes as we all went our separate ways. To say we had a good trip is an understatement. The cards and letters of appreciation are still arriving. We hope next time...IF THERE IS ONE! you who are reading this who have not traveled with us will have the opportunity to do so. TWO different ladies on the tour have already said...Betty, next trip, sign me up. I said, but you don't know where that might be! They said it didn't matter...they are going... HA! Welllll, we'll see. Maybe England next year??? How about an International Shirley Convention??? Wouldn't that be something to have Shirleys from all over the world, now members of Shirley International to attend?

I'M COMING TO SOUTHERN - CALIFORNIA FOR
A SHIRLEY MEETING...OCTOBER 3rd 1987

SEE BACK PAGE FOR DETAILS



T/L-Shirley Convention in Williamsburg, Va.

Above-In front of old church in Colonial section of Jamestown, Va.

Left-Shirleys near Shirley Plantation on James River Cruise.

B/L-Shirley Faye Hill, Obediah Shirley Project Chairman, on River cruise in Philadelphia.

Below- Betty Shirley, your editor, center of picture.





Top Left and Right-

Lunch at the Shirley Plantation in Virginia on the James River.

Center- Shirley tour at Shirley Hill Farm in New Hampshire.

Above- Hill Carter, owner of Shirley Plantation.

Left - Shirley tour at Holiday Inn in Mannassas, Va. just as we prepare to board our bus to attend the Broad Run Baptist Church, the mother church of so many of our Shirley descendants.



Left- Shirleys on tour in front of the Liberty Bell, Philadelphia, Pa.

Independence Hall in the background.

Center- Boston, Mass. inside King's Chapel where Governor William Shirley is buried. This was the church he attended.

Below- Guy Shirley..... husband of your editor, Betty Shirley. Taken on Ferry as we approach the Statue of Liberty.

Below- The Shirleys on tour in Philadelphia, Pa. leaving the Miracle at Philadelphia exhibit.





T/L- Shirleys with Lincoln, in Gettysburg, Pa. LEFT Chandelier & stairs at Gov. Wm. Shirleys Boston, Mass. T/R & center at Gov Shirleys. R- Pewter store Jamestown, Va. He's not a Shirley.

THE SHIRLEY ASSOCIATION IS COMING TO SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FOR A ONE DAY MEETING ONLY!

Saturday, October 3rd, 1987

10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

at

IBIS HOTEL

100 West Freedman Way

ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA

1½ blocks east of Disneyland

I-5 and Katella

Plan now to join us at this meeting...all of you who live in Southern California. It has been 2 years since we were down here and many of you could not make those meetings. Now...you have a chance to come and be with us. We will look forward to seeing you who we met before and hopefully some of you who went to England with us!

We will be showing our Ettington Celebration video at this meeting too! (30 min.) Call your families and invite them to attend with you. For you who do not live near enough to join us for this day, please call your relatives who do live in this area or write them and ask them to come and join is with us this day.

We will break for a short lunch on your own nearby.

We will be bringing photographs of our trips, Shirley material for display, and some for sale. Come and share your Shirley heritage. Bring your old family photographs to share with us. We will look forward to meeting you in Anaheim. Reservations are not necessary.

If you would like overnight accomodations...please call the Ibis Hotel, 714-520-9696 and tell them you are with the Shirley Association and you will be given a special room rate of \$40 per night.

SHIRLEY ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

To be a member of the Shirley Association and receive 4 issues of the Shirley News per year, membership fees are \$15 per year! We ask that you send the name of the earliest Shirley Ancestor you are aware of and aprox. years he or she lived. The county and state they lived, helpful. If you know the name of the spouse, this can also be helpful to us in trying to help you go back further on your lineage.

As a member of the Shirley Association, we will send you the names of others from your branch of the family who are, or have been, members of the Shirley Association. You may correspond with one another and learn about other families you have in common as Shirleys will not be the only family. Arrange to get together for your own family reunions. This is what it is all about...family, heredity and having fun finding our ancestors and learning about them.

Encourage your other family members to become members of the Shirley Association! We need your support!

Send membership fee of \$15 to:

SHIRLEY ASSOCIATION
10256 Glencoe Dr.
Cupertino, Ca. 95014
408-255-8511 anytime

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SHIRLEY MANSION ASSOCIATION...WRITE TO THEM:
c/o Marlowe A. Sigal, Treasurer 94 Shirley St. Roxbury, Mass. 02119.
The 1987 membership dues are...individual \$15, a family, \$40, sustainer \$100, life membership \$250, charter membership \$500.

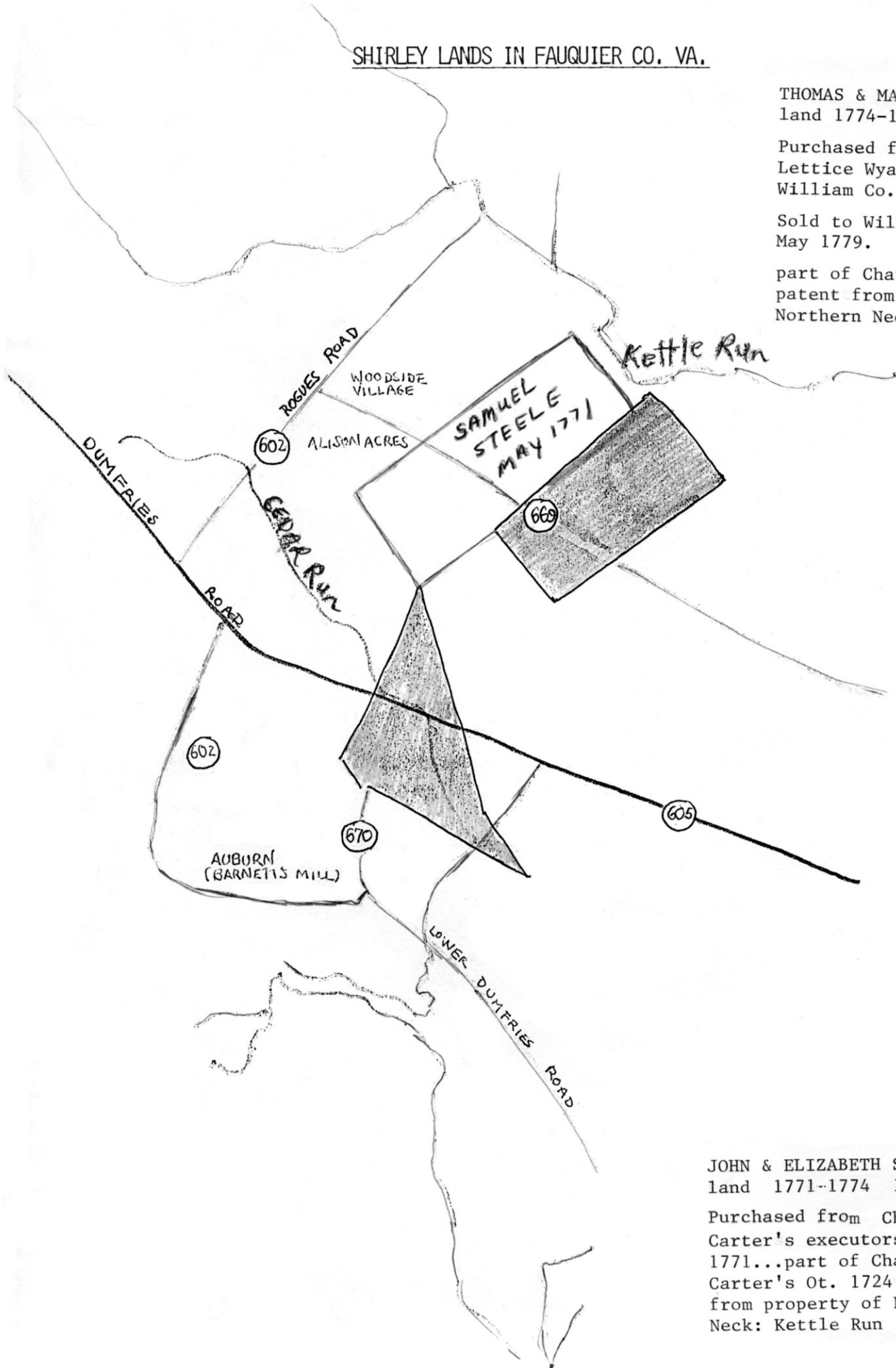
SHIRLEY LANDS IN FAUQUIER CO. VA.

THOMAS & MARY SHIRLEY'S
land 1774-1779 102 acres

Purchased from William &
Lettice Wyatt of Prince
William Co. Va. May 1774

Sold to William Cooke
May 1779.

part of Charles Carter's
patent from Property of
Northern Neck: Kettle Run



JOHN & ELIZABETH SHIRLEY'S
land 1771-1774 150 acres

Purchased from Charles
Carter's executors, Mar. of
1771...part of Charles
Carter's Ot. 1724 Patent
from property of Northern
Neck: Kettle Run