

Thomas Babb (1-2)

Marsh Plantation

THE GREAT MARSH PLANTATION

Location: On the north side of Route 673 between Route 522 and the Apple Pie Ridge Road.

This house, plaster-covered over weatherboards and undoubtedly in its oldest parts of log constructions, is now the attractive home of Mr. and Mrs. Dawson Begeant. It is our judgment that at least part of the structure was once the home of Thomas Babb (lineal ancestor), located on land granted to him by patent on April 23, 1735 when this area was a part of Orange County. This was Thomas Babb I, who leased the property to Philip Babb (his brother) Feb. 7, 1743. (O.B.D. 7 - page 106). While this appears to be a one year lease, it apparently became a sale. There is no record in Virginia State Records, Orange County Records or Frederick County Records transferring this land to Philip. However, in his will, proved April 7, 1762, Philip Babb devised to his wife the plantation "called the Great Marsh" for life and at her death to his son Thomas Babb II (F.W.B. 3 - Page 42); and Thomas Babb II in his will, proved December 7, 1779, devised to his son Thomas "the tract of land I now live on" (F.W.B. 4 - Page 497).

On March 30, 1810 Thomas Babb conveyed to David Lupton 81½ acres of this tract, apparently including the home we are considering (F.D.B. 32 - Page 262); and in his will, proved November 4, 1822, David Lupton devised the same acreage to his son Joseph Lupton, excepting 5 acres. (F.W.B. 11 - Page 316). This five acre tract undoubtedly the head spring of Babb's Marsh near "Long Green".

On June 30, 1834 the heirs of Joseph Lupton conveyed the 81½ acre tract to John Purcell. (F.D.B. 74 - Page 93). This was the first John Purcell. He was born near Hillsboro in Loudoun County and married Mary Jane Janney, daughter of Joseph Janney of that County. He lived and died on the Babb's Marsh farm. (Norris - Page 783). In his will, proved May 1, 1876, he names ten surviving children, two of them being Elias H. Purcell and John Purcell Jr., whom he appoints as his Executors (F.W.B. 32 - Page 381).

On July 7, 1876 John Purcell (Jr.), Executor of John Purcell (Sr.) conveyed to Elias Hicks Purcell his brother for \$8552 the tract of 171 acres on Babb's Marsh, part of the land of John Purcell (Sr.) deceased "on which his mansion house stands", which was conveyed to him by the heirs of Joseph Lupton. (F.D.B. 92 - Page 463). Because of the fact that John Purcell (Sr.) and his son John Purcell (Jr.) bore the same name there has been some confusion as to their residences; and it has been alleged that John Purcell (Sr.) may have lived at "Long Green". The language of the will which we have just quoted would seem to deny this claim.

In his will, proved July 3, 1882, Elias Hicks Purcell devised to "Mary Priscilla Janney, late Priscilla Purcell, whom I have always heretofore and do now recognize as my daughter", all of his estate real and personal for life and at her death to her children. (F.W.B. 34 - Page 331).

THE BABB - JONAH LUPTON HOUSE

(The Brick House - #2 on Map)

Location: West of the Apple Pie Ridge Road and South of Route 672 on Babb's Run.

This most attractive old brick mansion, now owned by John P. Good, stands on a part of a tract granted to Thomas Babb (lineal ancestor) by patent April 23, 1735 and later. (Friends History - Page 34; O.D.B. 7 - Page 106).

In his will, proved November 4, 1760, Thomas Babb devised to his son, Sampson Babb the place "where I now live." (F.W.B. 2 - Page 440). We believe that "the place where I live now" was the original part of the old home we are here considering.

Sampson Babb died intestate and without issue and his property descended to Philip Babb (lineal ancestor) his oldest brother and heir at law. On August 3, 1784 Philip Babb conveyed to Joseph Lupton the home with 180 acres of land. (F.D.B. 20 - Page 205).

Joseph Lupton died in 1791 and the house we are considering was devised to Nathan Updegraff and Ann his wife, daughter of Joseph Upton. On July 1, 1800 Nathan Updegraff and Ann his wife conveyed the 180 acre tract to David Lupton (F.D.B. 26 - Page 404).

In his will, proved November 4, 1822 David Lupton devised the property which he had purchased from Nathan Updegraff to his son Jonah Lupton, describing it as the tract "on which Johan now lives." (F.W.B. 11 - Page 315).

On February 13, 1889 the heirs of Jonah H. Lupton conveyed to David P. Lupton 100 acres of the Jonah Lupton property, (F.D.B. 106 - Page 60), and on March 30, 1920 Mary S. Lupton, wife of Hugh, son of Jonah Lupton, conveyed to Daniel W. Lupton the same 100 acres, which included the old home. (F.D.B. 147 - Page 218).

On May 21, 1923 Daniel W. Lupton gave a deed of trust on the property to the Federal Land Bank of Baltimore, the tract being described as containing 100 acres and adjoining the W.C. Graichen estate on the south, the G.F. Miller estate on the north and west, and the Apple Pie Ridge Road on the East. (F.D.B. 150 - Page 291). On February 6, 1942 the Federal Land Bank conveyed the tract to Mrs. Carrie D. Lupton McBond wife of Walker McBond. (F.D.B. 184 - Page 458).

On March 17, 1953 Mrs. Bond sold the old home and 100 acres of land to James L. Reinhart (F.D.B. 227 - Page 33), and on October 1, 1958 James L. Reinhart conveyed it to the present owner, James P. Good and Mary L. Good his wife. (F.D.B. 254 - Page 364).

1780

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THE BABB FAMILY HOME  
SKETCHED FROM A  
WRITTEN DESCRIPTION



PHILIP BABB SETTLED IN KITTERY,  
MAINE IN 1652. HE BECAME FISHING  
MASTER & MAGISTRATE FOR THE ISLE  
OF SHOALS. HIS SON, THOMAS, LOST  
HIS FIRST WIFE. HE CAME TO NEW  
CASTLE COUNTY LATE IN THE 18<sup>TH</sup> CEN-  
TURY AND MARRIED ELIZABETH BOOTH,  
WIDOW OF CHARLES BOOTH, AND GRAND-  
DAUGHTER OF VALENTINE HOLLINGSWORTH.  
THEY WERE QUAKERS AND THEY BUILT  
A STONE HOUSE HIGH ON A HILL.

(INSIGNIA  
IN WROUGHT  
IRON  
HUNG  
OVER  
FIRE-  
PLACE)



The Babb Homestead  
is described as having  
a fireplace high enough  
for a 6 foot man to  
stand up in. It stood  
high on a hill. there  
were outbuildings in-  
cluding slave quarters  
and a family cemetery.  
(NOTE WINDOW IN CHIMNEY)