

Time Line1

Robert Clarke, Surveyor General

And His Immediate Family

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Another time line for the Surveyor General, including his step-children and their lines will appear later. His son, Robert, is confused with one, perhaps two, other Roberts in the region. I therefore list only the brief data on him thought most likely correct. Use these entries with caution. The website www.gennotes.150.com shows differing information, but more often with citations not seen in other's statements. At his death, the Surveyor General owned property that eventually fell into three counties, but he only lived in two. Without supporting documentation either way I've changed a few counties when I felt the other was more logical unless there was documentation saying otherwise. Also a few birth years were tweaked. My criteria is men were about 25 when they married or purchased property and girls about 18 when they married unless family circumstances indicates otherwise.

c1610 birth **Robert Clark** in Rotherhithe, County Surry or London, Co. Middlesex
[Ball p. 136 citing Archives of Md vol. 10:553; gennotes.150.com]

1612 birth probably in England **Jane (Hicks)**, third wife of Robert Clarke. They had no children of their own. [gennotes.150.com]

1615 birth in England **Winifred Seybourne** died by Oct 1655 St. Mary's Co. MD. She was Robert's second wife. [gennotes.150.com]

creation **St. Mary's Co.** 1637

1637 November arrival at St. Mary's City of **Robert Clarke**, single man, age 27, on the *Unity* of the Isle of Wight. [gennotes.150 citing Md Archves v76:67; Clark cites ABH 403 Ship List Liber 2 folio 425 1638]

no date given **Eleanor Clarke's** headright for her transportation to Maryland was credited to **John Cockshoot/Cockshutt and his wife, Jane (Hicks.)** Some think Eleanor is sister of Robert; but others think she was his first wife and **mother of John and Mary Clarke.** Eleanor Clarke died 1646-1649. [gennotes.150]

1638 arrival in Maryland **Winifred Seybourne**; she paid her own transportation COSTS. [Newman *Semmes Family and allied lines*-Green; patent]

1638 **Robert Clarke** Commissioned Surveyor General; he served from 1639 to 1648. Same session: **Robert Clarke** chosen spokesman for the Jesuits. [Newman: *Flowering of Maryland Palitinate* citing Archives vol. 3:63; 158-9]

c1640 marriage in Maryland **Robert Clarke** and first wife "**Eleanor**." Name of his first wife and mother of **John and Mary** isn't found in records. [gennotes.150] *LSS: More descendants were named Mary than Eleanor if that means anything.*

1640 June to **Robert Clarke, Gent, St. Lawrence** 50 acres in St. Mary's City east side St. Andrews Creek adjacent William Lewis' 30 acres. It appears Clarke assigned all rights to Philip West. [gennotes.150] July 1641 survey for **Clark's Freehold** of 50 acres near Lewis Neck in possession Daniel Clocker. Survey **St. Lawrence**, 50 acres, for **Robert Clarke** and assigned to Philip West; *due Clarke for transporting himself...* perhaps a.k.a. **Nuttell**, 200 acre survey 1654 for Thomas Cornwallis called *Townland, Crossland* or *Cross Neck* near **Small Hopes** purchased 1658 by Robert Clarke and mostly in *St. Mary's Hill*. [gennotes.150]

c1642 birth **John Clarke**, eldest son **Robert Clarke**, died November 1686. John married **Ann**, possibly Dent, after Feb 1653-before Oct 1656. [gennotes.150; date-Ball Appendix: Clark p.128 citing CCLR B:1 (Chas Co. Land Records)]

c1644 - before November 1647 birth of **Mary Clark**, only known daughter of **Robert Clarke** and his first wife. She married c1670 the emigrant **John Compton**. She died before 29 May 1713 Charles Co. [gennotes.com] *LSS: Some researchers give the emigrant a middle initial of "F" - John F. Compton - but without documentation.*

1646-1649 death in St. Mary's Co. "**Eleanor** or the first wife" of **Robert Clarke** and mother of **John and Mary Clarke**. [gennotes.com]

1647 November **Robert Clarke**, gent gave a cow to son **John** and one cow to daughter **Mary**. [gennotes.com citing Md Archives vol. 4 p. 341 M2716 Clark]

1648 August **Robert Clarke** de-commissioned **Surveyor General** [gennotes.150 citing Md Archives vol. 3:219 Liber C.B.] *LSS: Perhaps was commissioned by the Catholic government for another 10 year term; if so, he was fired by the newly installed Puritans before he began his second term.*

1651 January-July marriage in St. Mary's Co. **Robert Clarke** and the widow of **Gov. Greene, Winifred (Seybourne)** [gennotes.com]

1652 March birth **Robert Clarke** in St. Mary's Co. Maryland, second son of **Robert Clark** and his second wife, **Winifred (Seybourne)**. [gennotes.com citing father's will]

1652 March **St. Lawrence** freehold of 1000 acres to **Robert Clarke**, located NMG east side **Bretton's Bay** bounded by the bay, St. Lawrence Creek, Grimesditch Marsh. Patent to Walter Pakes 1659. [Hall vol. 5 p. 534] *LSS: I think this tract was given him by Catholic Governor Greene which he had to forfeit to pay the huge fine or be executed.*

1654 **Nuttall** of 200 acres surveyed for Thomas Cornwallis and bounded within **St. Mary's Hill Freehold**, adjacent to **Clark's Freehold** and **St. Lawrence**. *Author's note: Proof this son of SG: several years later Robert Clarke [Jr] appears in several court records with John Nuthall V, son of John Nuthall IV and Elizabeth (Bacon). Originally the land was called Nuthall and Cross Manor.* [gennotes150.com]

1654 November suit filed by **Robert Clerke** on behalf of his wife and her children by Thomas Greene" 400 acre **Greene's Rest** in St. Mary's Co. for transportation of four servants before June 1652 ... in **West St. Mary's Manor** [Newman; gennotes150.com; Hall v.5 St. Mary's p. 103-4] November 1654: **Survey for Mr. Robert Clark and wife, 500 acres.** [gennotes150.com]

1654 December birth **Thomas Clark** in St. Mary's Co. Maryland, third son of **Robert Clarke** and sixth of **Winifred (Seybourne)**. Thomas died c1711 in St. Mary's Co.; married 1st **Ann Barber** and 2nd **Julian Mudd**. [gennotes150.com citing the father's will for birth]

1655 **Robert Clarke**, one time Surveyor General was a professing Catholic at time the Puritans took over Maryland's government. His name is on the list of those who might be executed. Of those not executed, several moved to Virginia and others paid huge fines. Robert turned over **Brittaines Bay** as payment of the 10,000 pounds tobacco fine in order to remain. [gennotes150.com citing Maryland Archives vol. 10 p. 25] *LSS: See entry March 1652.*

before circa October 1655 death in St. Mary's Co. **Winifred (Seybourne) Green-Clark**. [gennotes150.com]

1655 "I, **Robert Clarke** stand indebted to **Henry Adams** ... if after my marriage to **Mrs. Jane Causine, widow**, ... I interrupt in her use of the estate left her by her late husband, Nicholas Causine. [gennotes150.com; Butterworth citing *Maryland Historical Magazine* vol. 23:347] *Iss: Henry Adams married Mary, daughter of Jane (Hicks).*

1656 Rent **Rich Hills** of 600 acres on main fresh head of Wicokomaco River to **John Clarke** for transporting several ... [gennotes150.com citing CCLR vol. 2:169 (Chas Co. Land Record entry page 205)]

1656 October deed of sale by **Robert Clark** of cow "Foole"; witnessed by **John Clarke**. [gennotes150.com] *LSS: This was to pay debts.*

1656 will **Nicholas Causine** dec'd was entered for probate by **Robert Clarke**.
[gennotes150.com]

1656/7 January **Henry Adams** and **Thomas Mathews** to **Robert Clarke** for use of **Jane Clarke**, late relict of **Nicholas Causine** dec'd to hold for sole benefit and use of sd **Jane Clark** and her heires. [Jerry Clark] *LSS: Adams and Mathews are Jane's sons-in-law by her first husband, John Cockshoot/Cockshutt.*

1657 September deposition **Mr. Robert Clarke**, age **47** or thereabouts [Ball Appendix p. 136 citing Archives of Maryland vol. 10:553]

1658 August deposition **Jane Clarke**, aged 46 or thereabouts ... [gennotes150.com citing Clark; *Maryland Depositions*]

1658 William Hewes as overseer of **Thomas Greene** dec'd sued **Robert Clarke** for repairs to *Green's Rest*. **Madame Greene-Clarke** was dec'd by then; the repairs were contracted before Clarke's marriage to the widow **Greene** [Newman *Semmes Family* ...]

1658-1664 **Robert Clarke** was Justice of the Provincial Court of Maryland.
[gennotes150.com citing Clark]

creation **Charles Co.** from part of **St. Mary's** 1658

1662 March **John Clarke**, son of **Robert**, sells his right to land surveyed by his father at head of the **Wicomico River**. [Strawser & Wright citing C&L A#1:189] *LSS: see entry 1656*

1662 September **Charles Co.** deed from **William Marshall** to **Robert and John Clarke**, sons of **Robert**; same parcel sold by **Walter Beane** to **Marshall**. [Strawser & Wright citing C&L H#2:284 in 1719] *LSS: I'm not a lawyer, but suspect this was to secure land for the two eldest sons which wouldn't be forfeited in event their father lost his rights to all he owned. The land was returned to the boys March 1679.*

1663 January **Robert Clark Esqr** and **John Clark of Charles Co.** assign to **Thomas Baker** one Iron Roan mare and to **George Thompson** one gelding horse [Butterworth Appendix p. 126 citing **Charles Co. Court Liber B:1**] March 1663 **Charles Co. Robert Clark Esqr** entereth his brand mark for himself and family; **Mr. John Clark** entereth his mark of hogs and cattle [ibid p. 128] *LSS: researchers use this to date move from St. Marys to Charles Co.*

1663 March to **Robert Clark** 500 acre *Crouches Gift* north side **Mattawoman Creek** at head of main fresh adjacent *Clarks' Inheritance*. Certification only [Hall v.2 p. 51 Pr Geo. Co] June 1663: *Crouches Gift* of 500 acres to **Robert Clarke**; in **Charles Co.**

north side fresh of Mattawoman Creek begin at **John Clarkes' St. Lawrence Spring**. Authors note: certification only; tract patented by **John Clarke** in 1665. [Hall vol. 4 Charles Co p. 45-6] **Crouches Gift** alias **Clarkes Inheritance** 500 acres surveyed January 1663 for **Robert Clark (son)** ... near **Nuteing**. Paid by **George Dent**. [gennotes150.com citing Md Archives vol. 29 p. 60]

1663 June to **John Clarke** 500 acre **Clarke's Inheritance** north side Mattawoman Creek ... adjacent **Charles' Gift** and **Crouches Gift**. Certification and survey only. [Hall v2 p50 Pr Geo Co.] Before 1756 **Windsor Castle** was added to **Clarke's Inheritance** on the Mattawoman. [Newman *Charles Co. Gentry* under Dent p. 37]

1663 September **Robert Clarke pltf vs Robert Robins def** in Provincial Court; suit over ownership of horses. [gennotes150.com -- perhaps]

1664 July 14 (will date) **Robert Clark of Charles Co.** To eldest son **John**, sole executor and heir to enjoy whole estate; **John** to give to son **Robert** when 18, being now 12 last March one servant, one filly foale, three cows and one steer, bed and rugg; ...**John** to give to son **Thomas** when 18, now 10 last Christmas one servant, one filly foale, three cows and one steer, bed and rugg; ... **John** to give to daughter **Mary** when 18, two heifers and half the value of the stone house when it's sold after **Robert's** death. Provides for education of sons **Thomas** and **Robert**. Witnesses **Thomas Mathews**; **George Goodricke** Proved 21 July 1664.

[gennotes150.com citing Skinner Prerogative Court vol. I:207-208; Ball Appendix citing Liber 1:207 Charles and St. Mary's counties] LSS: *Robert owned land in two counties; his will was probated in both St. Mary's and Charles Co. Jerry Clark has two full transcriptions (one from each county) on the net.*

c1665 marriage St. Mary's Co. **John Clarke** (son of **Robert** and first wife) and **Ann** (said to be **Dent**). [gennotes150.com]

1665 March **John Clarke, gent, executor & heir Robert Clarke** **Clarkes Purchase** of 500 acres in Charles Co., north side main fresh of Mattawoman (aka) St. Thomas Creek beginning at **Robert Clarkes St. Lawrence Spring** and **John Meek's Horsham**. No certification/patent found. [Hall vol. 4 p. 45-6; vol. 2 p. 50 Pr Geo] March 1665 **John Clarke, gent, executor & heir Robert Clarke** 100 acre **St. Lawrence Spring**, west side Wicomico River north side main fresh of Mattawoman beginning **Beane's Branch** adjacent **Clarke's Purchase** and **Robert Clarkes' Crouches Gift**. Land rights assigned by **Daniel Jennifer, Gent.** Paid by **George Dent**. [Hall vol. 4 p. 45-6; gennotes150.com]

1665 September 500 acre **Clarkes Inheritance** to **John Clarke, gent, heir & executor Robert Clarke**. In Charles Co. north side Mattawoman (aka St. Thomas Creek) near head by fresh side adjacent **Robert Clarkes Clarke's Gift** and **Thomas Plunkett's The Chance**. Author's note: tract located in Prince George Co. today. [Hall

vol. 4 Charles Co. p. 45-6] September 1665 500 acre *Crouches Gift*, in Charles Co. north side main fresh of Mattawoman Creek adjacent St. Lawrence Spring to **John Clarke gent & heir** ... Land rights assigned by **Robert Clarke**, due him for transporting two. Author's note: located Prince George Co. today [ibid]

1667-1670 marriage probably in Charles Co. **Mary Clarke** and emigrant **John Compton**. [gennotes150.com] *LSS: Some record birth of eldest son in 1667 but most show marriage 1670 with his birth in 1672. A few show middle initial for John F. Compton, but not found in contemporary records to my knowledge.*

1675 marriage in St. Mary's Co. **Robert Clarke (Jr.)** to 1st wife, **Sarah Combs**; he married 2nd **Elizabeth** () [gennotes150.com] *LSS: This Robert needs more research for is confused with one or two others. These women are likely condidates for his wives, but perhaps aren't. Use with caution.*

1676 March - August William Marshall to **Robert Clarke and John Clarke** sons of **Robert Clarke**, parcel of land in Charles Co. sold to me by Walter Beane. Wit: Daniell Johnson, John Small [Jourdan vol. 2 *Charles Co. Land Records* p. 47 Liber F:184]

by 1680 marriage St. Mary's Co. **Thomas Clarke of St. Mary's Co** to 1st wife, **Ann Barber** (died 1693); he married 2nd **Julian Mudd**. [gennotes150.com]

1681 January 9 **John Clarke Gent** to **Thomas Clarke of St. Mary's Co.**, gent, for brotherly love and other causes *Clarke's Inheritance* 500 acres in Charles Co. north side main fresh run at head of Mattawoman (St. Thomas Creek) wit: Richard Edelen, Thos Allanson [Jourdan vol. 2 *Charles Co. Land* p. 66 Liber I:225; Strawser & Wright citing CCLR I#1:225] January 10 **Thomas Clarke of St. Mary's Co.** gent to John Godson *Clarke's Inheritance*. /s/ Thos Clarke. wit: (same) [ibid Liber I:227]

Sources

I'm beginning each narrative Surveyor-General Clarke and Compton section from a master file of all entries. Writing before completion of entering means there may be more Robert Clarke Sr. files. It also means, not all sources listed herein are used in every narrative that eventually finds its way to my website.

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