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Edwards

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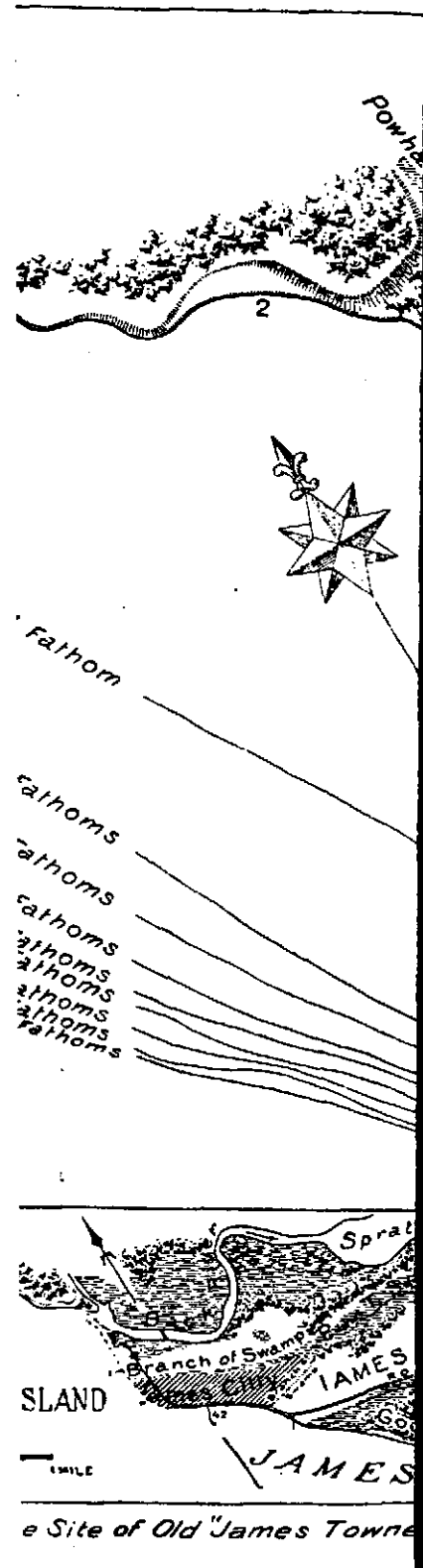
VOLUME XI.

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INDEX TO "MAP OF JAMES CITY, VA., 1607-1698."

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Site of Old "James Towne"

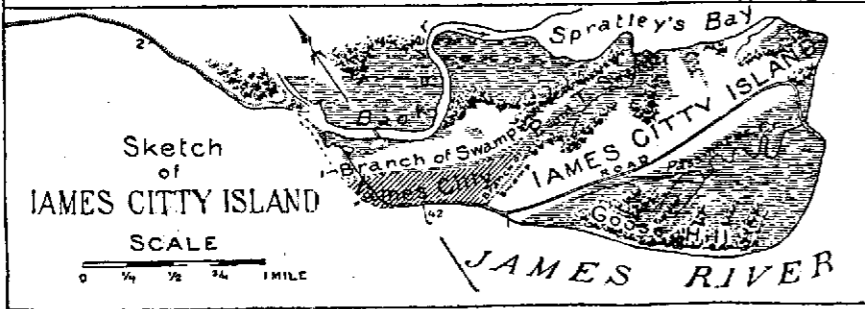
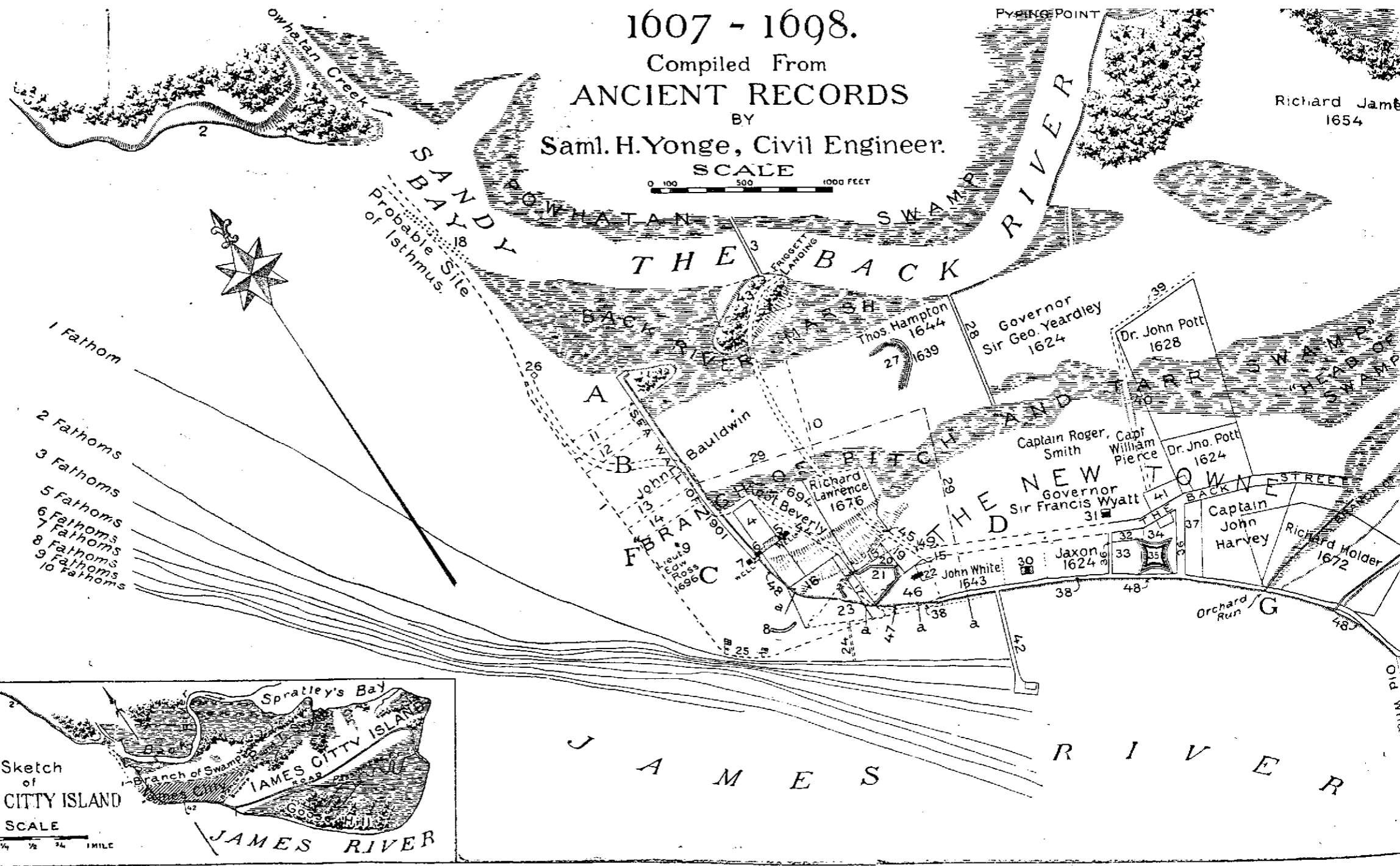
1607 - 1698.

Compiled From
ANCIENT RECORDS

BY
Saml. H. Yonge, Civil Engineer.

SCALE
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Richard Jame
1654



The Site of Old "James Towne," 1607-1698.

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along the river of about three-fourths of a mile. The patents also show that the quarter of the town referred to in them as the "New Towne" was of a permanent and not of an ephemeral character, and that for many years after its establishment, about 1623, was the most important part of the corporation. The most notable events and incidents of the first two and last three decades of the town's history, however, occurred at and west of the church still marked by the tower ruin.

It seems proper to call attention to the following most noticeable errors of statement made by recent writers:

In *The Cradle of the Republic*, pages 53 and 54, a one-acre lot patented by William Sherwood in 1681, whereon had stood "the Country House," is located north of the lands owned by William Edwards, Robert Beverley and Nathaniel Bacon, Sr., which were above the church, and a lot which, in 1688, was owned by Henry Hartwell, is placed above Sherwood's lot. The Back Street, Sherwood's acre with the "Country House," and the Hartwell tract, all above referred to, are now found to have been situated east, instead of west of the church tower, and near the eastern end of the town, while the properties of Edwards, Beverley and Bacon were near its western end. The Hartwell tract was on the southern shore of the island, about five hundred yards below the tower, and formed part of the southern boundary of the Sherwood acre.

In the description of the town about the time of Sir Francis Wyatt's first administration, given in Vol. II, page 529, *Economic History of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century*, by Philip Alexander Bruce, it is stated that a bridge was built to connect the island with the mainland. This clearly is a misapprehension, for there does not appear to be any record of such structure being built during the existence of "James Towne," nor until some time before the middle of the nineteenth century. According to Bishop Meade the island was connected with the mainland by a causeway on the site of the former isthmus about the middle of the eighteenth century.

In constructing the chart of the town and its environs, the localities where a number of historic scenes were enacted, were fixed, also the locations, with greater or less exactness, of the grounds or dwellings of a number of the former residents, the

sites of two of the town's three forts and of several of its public buildings.

There being no definite information available for determining the positions of the western bank of the head of the island during the Jamestown period, of the original paled town, also of the first fort and early graveyard, it was necessary to depend on reasonable conjecture. On account of not being based on data of a definite character, as are most of the other localities treated of, this part of the investigation is offered with a measure of diffidence, although the deductions made seem to be justified by circumstantial evidence. Unfortunately, there is nothing to show who owned the land around the church tower anterior to 1683, where, according to this investigation, before the "New Towne" was established, the earliest town was situated.

The positions of the third and fourth state houses, and the grounds of several persons conspicuous in the affairs of the colony towards the close of the town's career are, however, fixed in and near this older quarter of the town.

A description of the town would be incomplete without some reference to its most interesting feature, the first Anglican church in America. Brief descriptions of the several church structures of "James City" parish, erected at "James City," are therefore included.

As the page of the Virginia Land Patent Records containing transcripts of two of the earliest patents, viz: to Sir George Yeardley, Knight, and Captain Roger Smith, are missing, it was necessary, for locating the tracts they represented, to depend on the meager information contained in the Patent Record Index, and the renditions of the missing transcripts as contained in the writings of other investigators, which are not very satisfactory.

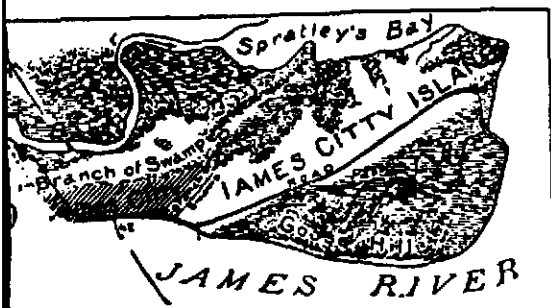
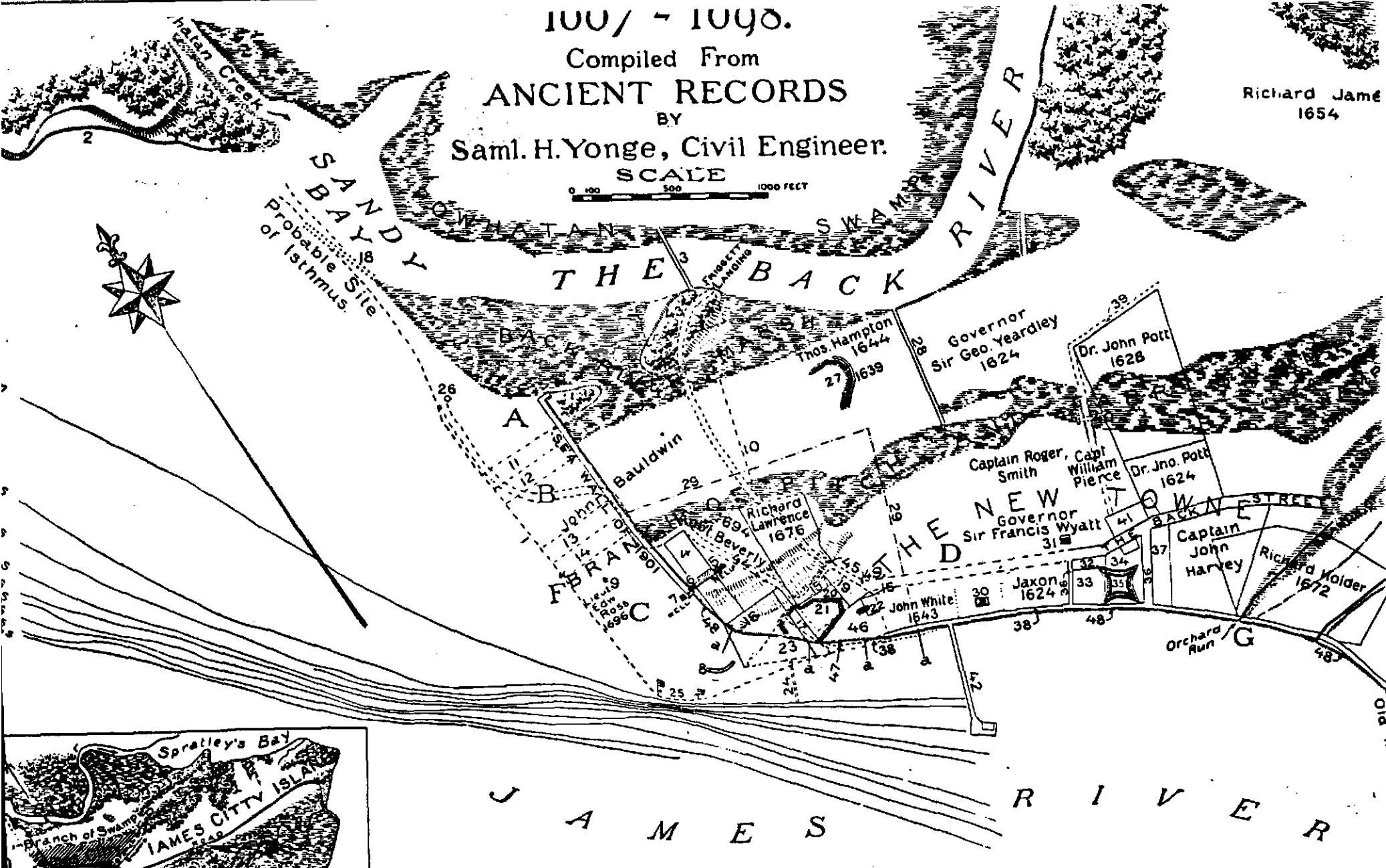
An appendix comprises the details, in as comprehensive form as possible, of the method of establishing the position of "the New Towne." The plats of several grants which have been located in "the New Towne" are omitted from the "Map of James City," as by introducing them those of greater antiquity and interest would be covered, and confusion created in the different lines. The parts of some of the plats which extend beyond the limits of the town are also omitted.

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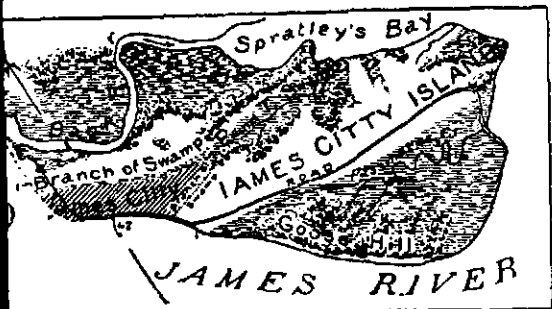
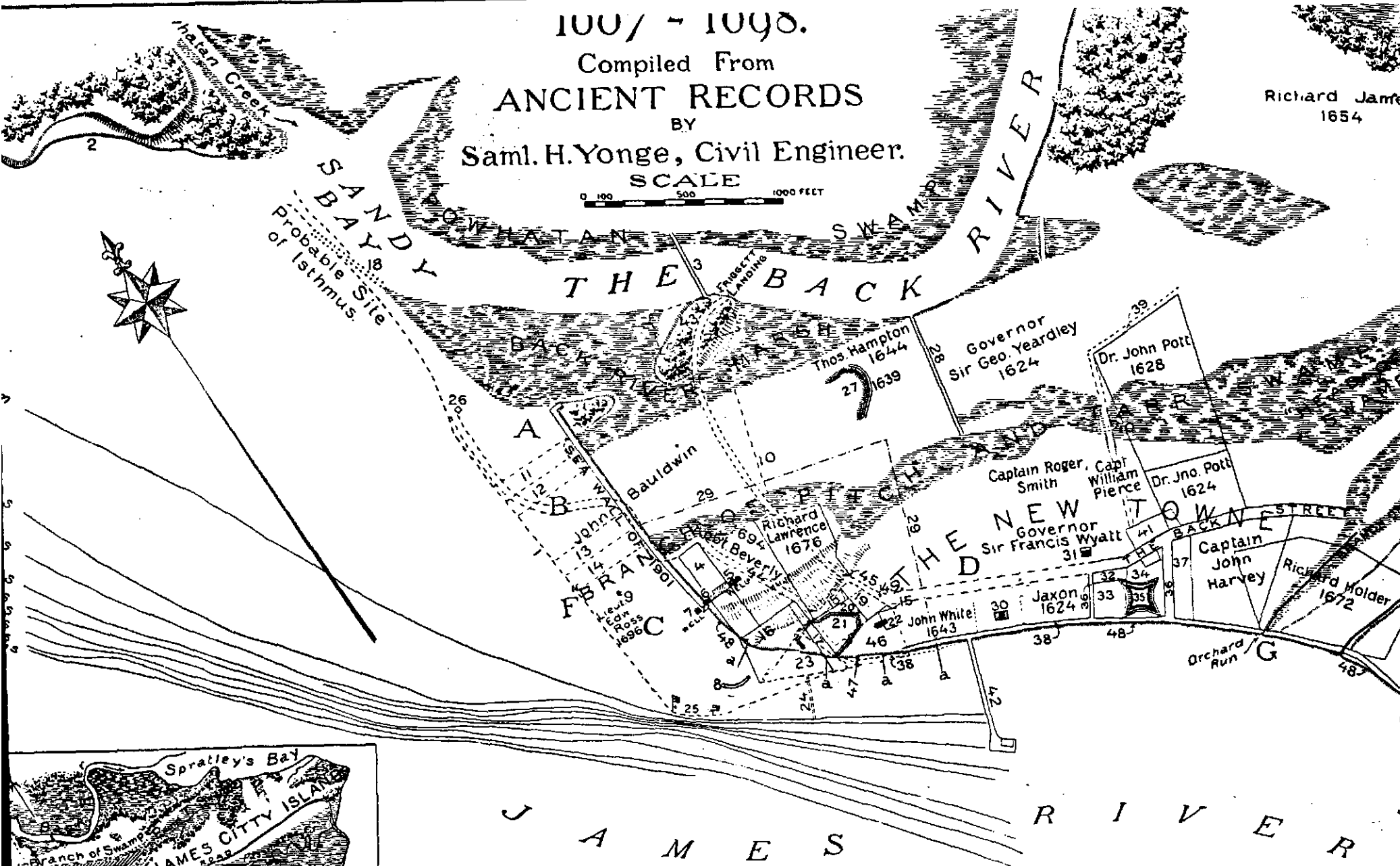
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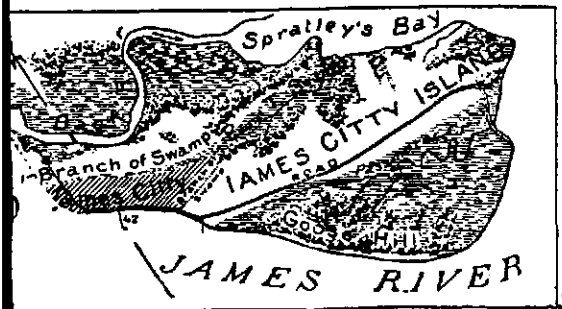
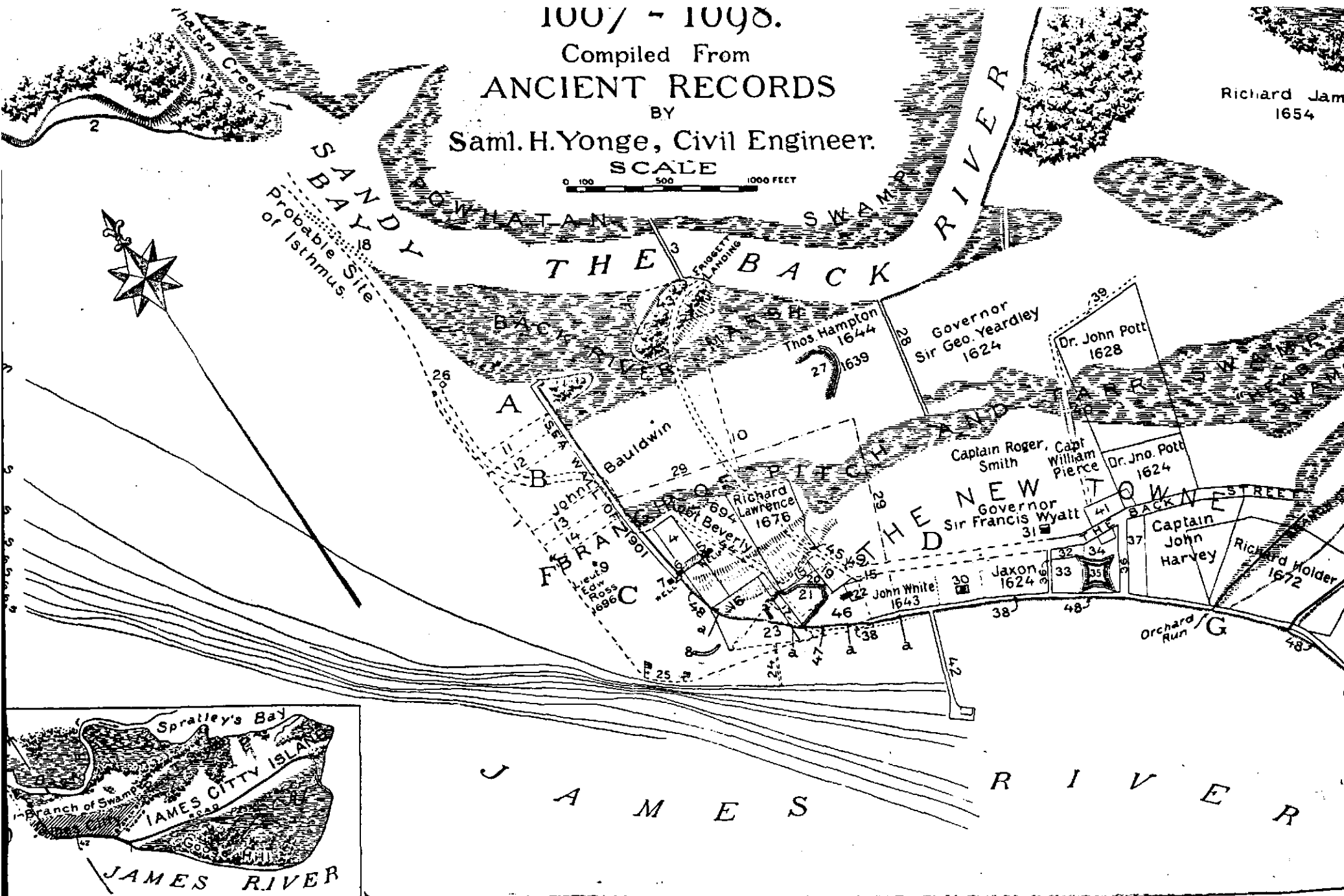
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1654



of Old "James Towne," 1607-1698.

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- 25—Probable landing place of first settlers, May 14, 1607.
 26—Approximate site of blockhouse, built by Captain Richard Stephens in 1624.
 27—Confederate redoubt commanding Back River, constructed 1861.
 28—Ditch draining "Pitch and Tarr Swamp."
 29—Boundary lines of tract belonging to the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities.
 30—"The old state house" (approximate), used from about 1630 to 1656, on one-acre tract, of which part was sold to Ludwell and Stegg in 1667.
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 32—Tract of John Chew, 1624.
 33—Tract of Captain Richard Stephens, 1623.
 34—Tract of Captain Ralph Hamor, 1624, Secretary of State and chronicler.
 35—Site of the turf fort.
 36—Cross streets connecting "the way along the Maine River" and the Back Street.
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 40—Causeway over swamp formerly connecting part of island containing "the new towne" with the rest of the island.
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 45—"The old Greate Road," in 1694.
 46—Ancient graveyard.
 47—Point where skeletons were exposed by bank caving in 1896.
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 49—Traces of house foundations. Probable site of Richard Lawrence's dwelling about 1676.
- N. B. Broken lines on map indicate approximate boundaries, etc.

DESCRIPTION OF JAMESTOWN ISLAND.

Jamestown Island, Virginia, is situated in James River, sixty-eight and three-fourths miles below the head of tidewater, at the foot of the Richmond rapids, and fifty-eight miles above the Virginia capes.

No ancient charts of the island and town of the Jamestown period (1607-1698), have been discovered. "The Draughte by Roberte Tindall, of Virginia, Anno 1608," and "Chart of Virginia," sent to Philip III of Spain in the same year by Zuniga to accompany the report of Francisco Maguel,* "the Irishman," a spy in the service of Spain, and published in *The Genesis of the United States*, although possessing some merit as reconnoissance sketches, prove to be inaccurate on comparison with modern maps, and furnish information of but little value as to the shape of the island and the site of the town.

The island, thus invariably designated in the old land patents, and so referred to in Ralph Hamor's *Discourse*, and other ancient writings, is two and three-fourths miles long, with a width varying from about three hundred yards at its head to about one and one-fourth miles near its lower extremity. It was formerly connected at its upper extremity with the mainland by a narrow neck, which being at a much lower elevation than the island, constituted an isthmus only at ordinary tides. What appear to be traces of the isthmus are found at one to two feet below low tide, just west of the piling of an old trestle bridge, which formerly connected the island with the mainland. The bridge was destroyed by a storm over fifty years ago. As compared with the neighboring mainland, the general elevation of the island is low.

Adjoining the head of the island is a marsh, which is referred to in the old land patents as "belonging to the Back river."

The head of the island is composed of three ridges and part of a fourth, marked on accompanying map A, B, C, D, having an easterly trend, and rising from about twelve to sixteen feet

* His name was probably either Francis McGill or Michael.

quantity of foure acres for the whole Collony, hunger & sickness not permitting any great matters to be donne that yeare." It does not seem probable that the clearing, on account of its small area, was made for agricultural purposes, for while Captain John Smith was president, probably in the spring of 1609, or about a year after the clearing of the four acres was begun, thirty or forty acres of ground were worked and planted.* Whatever may have been the purpose for which the four acre tract was intended, it is evident from what follows that it, or some other tract of the same area, was subsequently surrounded by a stockade and formed the town.

Further on in the same narrative by the ancient planters appears the following: "Fortification against a foreign enemy there was none, only two or three peeces of ordinance mounted, & against a domestic [enemy] noe other but a pale inclosing the Towne, to the quantity of foure acres within which those buildings that weare erected, could not in any man's judgement, neither did stand above five yeares & that not without continuall reparations."

The part of the "Declaration" from which the above is extracted is ambiguous and obscure, Henrico and James Towne being described, as it were, in the same breath. It would appear, however, from the context that the four acres were at the latter place, and this view is indirectly confirmed by Ralph Hamor, who, as appears from the following, gives the area of Henrico as seven acres; "and in the beginning of September, 1611, he [Dale] set from Jamestown, and in a day & a halfe, landed at a place where he purposed to seate & builde, where he had not bin ten daies before he had very strongly impaled seven English Acres of ground for a towne."†

There are no data available giving the slightest clue as to the situation of the four acres. It is believed that they included the area of one acre covered by the first fort, because the second paragraph above quoted from the "Declaration" states that the paled town covered four acres.

* *Ibid.*, pp. 154, 471.

† *A True Discourse of the present estate of Virginia*, p. 29.

Shortly after Captain John Smith became president of the colony (September, 1608) the plan of the fort was reduced to "a five square form."* This is construed to apply to the form of the town, after it was enlarged as noted above.

The safest, and, therefore, the most natural position for the three-acre addition, would have been adjoining the eastern bulwark of the triangular fort. From its southern end the miniature town, fronting the river, probably extended east about one hundred yards, thence in a northerly direction to and along the eastern wall of the present cemetery, thence northwesterly by "the old Greate Roade" given as the eastern boundary of a tract granted John Howard in 1694,† and thence westerly by a line which subsequently formed the southern boundary of Richard Lawrence's tract, and in the line of its prolongation about at the level of great tides—eight feet above low water—to the north bastion of the triangular fort, whose western and southern bulwarks completed the inclosure. These lines would make the fort "a five-square form" or pentagon. "The old Greate Road," judging from its name, was of great antiquity. It was probably one of the first roads opened by the settlers, and passed along one of the paled sides of the early town, as above described.

The original triangular fort must have been maintained for several years, as an inner stronghold of the paled town. During Strachey's sojourn in the colony, from May, 1610, to the fall of 1611, the principal buildings were situated within it. The stockade around the part of the town outside of the fort proper was probably kept up for some time after the massacre of 1622, until the settlement gained a sufficient foothold to make it unnecessary as a defence against the Indians.

* Works, Captain John Smith, p. 433.

† Va. Land Patent Records, Book VIII, p. 82.

unto: Now the court upon due consideration of the business on both sides do give their opinion that the said punishment was justly inflicted on the said Barlowe for his said offence.

Dec. 9th, 1640. Whereas Henry Elston hath complained to this board against Captain Thomas Harris, commander of the county of Henrico, pretending that the said Captain Harris had unjustly punished him, which the court upon examination do find that his misdemeanour towards the said Captain Harris justly deserved much more, he the said Elston having sung and published libellous writings to the great disparagement of divers in the said county, the court hath therefore ordered that the said Elston shall make public acknowledgment of his offence against the said Captain Harris in the parish church of Henrico at the time of divine service and stand committed until he put in security for his good behaviour.

April 5, 1641. Whereas it appeareth to the court by several depositions remaining upon record that Philip Dyer, master of the ship George, did at his coming into the colony pass his majesty's fort of point comfort and contrary to the obedience and respect to be given to the said fort and contrary to the usual custom and order did not cast anchor within command of the said fort, and the said captain [of the fort] going on board demanded the duty of the fort, which the said Dyer under sundry pretences and delays refused to satisfy him, thereupon being arrested and by the said captain in his majesty's name commanded to go ashore he the said Dyer refused and with scurrolous terms abused the said captain, contemning and slighting his authority, the court taking the premises into consideration and to deter others from the like misdemeanour do order and censure that the said Philip Dyer shall pay a fine to his majesty of £15 sterling and to the said captain for the great injury and dishonour unto him £15 sterling and all charges expended by the said captain in or about the same, otherwise execution.

June 13, 1640. Whereas it appeareth that Thomas Strowd was by act of court bearing date at James city, the 14th of Mareh, 1638, fined to Edward Whittakers in the quantity of 100 pounds of tobacco for defaming him, the said Whittakers, and the said Strowd petitioning the board for a rehearing of the same, pretending the said fine to be unjustly imposed upon him,

EVANS

the court taking notice thereof and finding that the reason that the said Strowd was then fined was not by any defamation of him the said Strowd against the said Whittakers but through an ignorant mistake of John How, Cowkeeper to Mr Secretary Kemp, the court doth therefore order that the said John How shall at the expiration of his time pay unto the said Whittakers 200 pounds of tobacco, and the said Strowd shall be discharged of the said fine and all other charges, satisfying unto the said Whittakers at the next crop 50 of tobacco.

Oct. 17, 1640. Whereas Robert Sweat hath begotten with child a negro woman servant belonging unto Lieutenant Sheppard, the court hath therefore ordered that the said negro woman shall be whipt at the whipping post and the said Sweat shall tomorrow in the forenoon do public penance for his offence at James city church in the time of divine service according to the laws of England in that case provided.

March 31, 1641. Whereas it appeareth to this court that John Geaween being a negro servant unto William Evans was permitted by his said master to keep hogs and make the best benefit thereof to himself provided that the said Evans might have half the increase, which was accordingly returned unto him by the said negro and the other half reserved for his own benefit; And whereas the said negro having a young child of a negro woman belonging to Lieut. Robert Sheppard which he desired should be made a christian and be brought up in the fear of God and in the knowledge of religion taught and exercised in the church of England, by reason whereof he the said negro did for his said child purchase its freedom of Lieut. Robert Sheppard with the good liking and consent of Tho: Gooman's overseer, as by the deposition of the said Sheppard and Evans appeareth, the court hath therefore ordered that the child shall be free from the said Evans or his assigns and to be and remain at the disposing and education of the said Geaween and the child's god father, who undertaketh to see it brought up in the christian religion as aforesaid.

[June 10, 1640.] Mr. George Menifye, Esqr., this day presented to the court an indian boy of the country of Tappahannock, christened and for the time of ten years brought up amongst the english by Captain William Perry, deceased, and

south side of Notoway river in Isle of Wight county commonly called Joseph's Mount. Brother William Jackman. Children of sister Mary Harris. Brother in law Richard Slade and Catharine his wife and daughter Mary Slade. Sister in law Catharine Allen and cosen John and Arthur Allen. Wife Mary.

Aston, 98.

[Joseph John Jackman appears to have settled in Surry county, Va., about the year 1700, and to have been a man of some property. On June 6, 1700, Joseph John Jackman, gent., of Surry county, and Elizabeth, his wife, sold to John Wilson, of London, merchant, for 30,000 lb of tobacco, 400 acres on Lawnes creek, Surry. This land probably was the property of Mrs. Jackman. In 1700, J. J. Jackman was assessed with 19 tithables. On December 22, 1706, Samuel Swann, of North Carolina (formerly of Surry), sold to J. J. Jackman for £450 sterling, the plantation of Swann's Point, 1,650 acres. In February, 1706, he sold this estate to George Marable, of James City county for £250.

Joseph John Jackman was appointed a justice of Surry in 1702, and sheriff in 1705. He married, first, Elizabeth, widow of Captain Robert Canfield, or Caufield, and daughter of Arthur Allen, who came to Virginia before 1649, and settled in what is now Surry county. Her brother Arthur Allen, was speaker of the House of Burgesses. He married, second, Mary.]

MICAJAH LOWE, late of Charles City County in the Collony and Dominion of Virginia, but now of Carshaulton, county Surrey, merchant. Will 20 January 1702-3; proved 17 March 1703-4. To my uncle Micajah Perry a gold ring and to my mother in law Mr. (sic) Elizabeth Hamlin a gold ring. To my sisters Susanna Lowe, Johanna Jarrett, and Mary Lowe, to each of them a ring. To my friends Capt. Christopher Morgan and Capt. James Morgan each a ring. Residuary legatee: Wife Sarah Lowe. Executors: my said uncle Mr. Micajah Perry and my said wife. Witnesses: Sarah Barnes, Joseph Cooper, Robert Dalley, Thomas Dewbery. Proved by Micajah Perry with power reserved.

Degg, 53.

[In 1700, and for many years before and after, the London house of Perry, Lane & Co., were the greatest English traders with Virginia. About this time the firm was composed of Micajah Perry, Thomas Lane and Richard Perry. Peter Perry, the brother of Micajah, was at one time their resident agent in Virginia, and it is probable that Micajah

Low may also have held this position. The firm long represented in England the business interests of William and Mary College. A Micajah Perry was Lord Mayor of London in 1729. It is probable that the mother-in-law, Elizabeth Hamlin, was the wife of a member of the family resident in Charles City and Prince George, whose immigrant ancestor was Stephen Hamlin.]

GEORGE MANFIELD of Virginia in the parts beyond the seas, merchant, now at London. Will 21 May 1670; proved 27 July 1670. To my three sisters, Anne Sumner the wife of Francis Sumner, Mary Swann the wife of Collonell Thomas Swann, and Margaret Oldis wife of ——— Oldis, £10 apiece. To my cousin Elizabeth Tanner, widow, £10. To my uncle Mr. John Beale, citizen and grocer of London, £20. To my nephew Francis Sumner, son of aforesaid Francis Sumner and Anne, all my lands &c. &c. and all the rest of my goods at age. Executor: My said uncle John Beale. Witnesses: Charles Barham, David Gryer, Phillip Peirson.

Penn, 92.

[In Surry county, on March 16, 1676, Colonel Thomas Swann was granted administration on the estate of Francis Sumner, deceased.

"Mr. John Sumner" was granted 67 acres in the upper parish of Nansemond county, April 14, 1670. John Sumner and John Stallenge were granted 1,000 acres in the upper parish of Nansemond at a place called Orapeake, April 19, 1683. In 1742, the town of Suffolk, Nansemond county, was laid out on the land belonging to Jethro Sumner, gent., of Nansemond, and Margaret, his wife, who was daughter of Daniel Sullivan, of Nansemond county.

General Jethro Sumner, of Warren county, N. C., was born in Nansemond county, Va., about 1730, died about 1790. He served with distinction throughout the Revolution, rising to the rank of brigadier general. The ordinary accounts which state that his father was an Englishman, William Sumner, who settled near Suffolk, Va., about 1690, are no doubt erroneous. General Sumner was probably a descendant of one of the earlier Sumners, named above.

Mrs. Mary Swann was the last wife of Colonel Thomas Swann, of "Swann's Point," Surry county, a member of the Virginia Council, and not long after his death married Captain Robert Randolph, or Randall, who was sheriff of Surry in 1688. In 1681, Mrs. Mary Swann made a power of attorney to her "brother," William Edwards, so it is probable that Edwards was a second husband of one of the other sisters named in the will. For Swann family, see this Magazine, III, 154.

It is probable that Mrs. Margaret Oldis was the wife of William Oldis,

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Barham

who was assessed with nine tithables in Surry in 1669, and with three in 1673. She must have been a second wife for there is in Isle of Wight an assignment, dated 1665, from William Oldis and Jane, his wife. There is on record in Isle of Wight a deed dated June 5, 1668, from Valentine Oldis, citizen and apothecary, of London, to his brother, William Oldis, of James river, in Virginia, merchant.

Charles Barham, the witness to the will, was a vestryman of Lownes Creek parish, Surry, in 1661, and was sheriff of the county in 1673. In the will of John Barnes, Surry, March 7, 1690-91, is a legacy to his kinsman, Robert Barham, son of Charles Barham, late of Merchants' Hundred, deceased. It is probable that the family of the name in the same section of Virginia descends from Charles Barham.]

ELIZABETH LLOYD of Elizabeth River in Lower Norfolk in Virginia, widow. Will 19 February 1656-7; proved 15 June 1657. To my friend Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Lambert two thousand pounds of tobacco. To Mr. William Davies one thousand of ditto. To Mr. William Shipp 40s. To Mr. Richard Pinner's sonne, my godchild, one haifer with a calf. To Mr. Sayer's sonne, my godchild, ditto. I will that Nedd a molatto shall be a free man at the expiration of his time with Mr. Sanderson. To Rachell Lambert, daughter of said Thomas, £5 for a gowne and £5 more to pay for her passage into Virginia, and my executor to pay this money to James Matts of Bristol, attorney. Whereas I have given to Mr. Nicholas Hart seaven thousand pounds of tobacco for looking after my business in Virginia, I give him five thousand pounds more of ditto. Residuary legatee and executor: brother in law Thomas Eavens of Kilkenny in Ireland, gent, for the use of my sister Mary Eavens his wife, he paying to Dr. Collins of Bristol all money due to him. Overseers: Lieut. Col. Thomas Lambert and James Matts. Witnesses: William Pyner, Jane Mansfield, Sara Matts, James Matts.

Ruthen, 249.

[Mrs. Lloyd was the widow of Cornelius Lloyd, of Lower Norfolk county, who settled there in 1641, or earlier, was lieutenant-colonel of the militia, and a member of the House of Burgesses for several sessions between 1642 and 1653. There is among the records of Lower Norfolk a suit in September, 1654, by Elizabeth, widow of Lieutenant-Colonel Cornelius Lloyd. In 1655, she, from love and affection to Philemon Lloyd, son of her brother-in-law, Edward Lloyd, of Maryland, convey-

ing to him certain claims and personal estate. See this Magazine, V, 212-213.

Thomas Lambert was a prominent early settler of Lower Norfolk, burgess, sheriff, &c. Richard Pinner gave his name to Pinner's Point, and this, together with Lambert's Point, which derived its name from Thomas Lambert, are two well known shipping places at Norfolk, Va.]

JAMES BOWKER of St. Peter's parish, New Kent, Virginia. Will 10 March 1702-3; proved 17 November 1704. Brother Edward Bowker of London. Sister Madam Barbara Lyddall. Friend John Lyddall. Brother Ralph Bowker's children. Brother Ralph, executor.

Ash, 224.

[Rev. Ralph Bowker was minister of St. Stephen's parish, King and Queen county, 1704-5, and probably other years. A marriage bond was issued in Spotsylvania county, November 29, 1744, to Parmenas Bowker and Anne Stevens. There is also on record in Spotsylvania a deed, dated December, 1751, from Bowker Smith, of Cumberland county, and Judith, his wife, conveying 150 acres, part of a tract patented by Ralph Bowker, clerk, of St. Stephen's parish, King and Queen county, and by him bequeathed to his daughter, Anne Smith; the said patent having been renewed in May, 1729, by Bird Bowker, and by him bequeathed to Bowker Smith.

"Madam Barbara Lyddall" was probably the wife, and John Lyddall the son of Captain George Lyddall, who patented land in New Kent in 1654, commanded a fort on the Mattaponi river in 1679, and died a very old man, in St. Peter's parish, New Kent, January 19, 1705. It seems probable that he was a son of Thomas Lyddall, of England. See Keith's *Ancestry of Benjamin Harrison*, 25, 26, and Water's *Gleanings*.]

EDWARD EWELL of St. Peter the Apostle, Isle of Thanet, Kent, Yeoman. Will circa 1722. I give to the heirs of James Ewell, late of Annok Creek in Accomac county on the eastern shore in Virginia £10 to be shared equally.

Arch. Canterbury, register 84, folio 24.

[Thomas and James Ewell patented 200 acres in Princess Anne county, April 6, 1699. James appears to have gone later to the Eastern Shore. The family of Ewell has up to the present time been represented on the Eastern Shore of Virginia and Maryland.]

WILLIAM AYLWARD late of Virginia, merchant, now in London. Will 6 November 1701; proved 20 February 1706-7. Sole legatee and executor: Mr. Robert Cary, living in Watling

1669
1794

Traces of the highway along the river-bank, bordered by its gnarled and riven mulberries, lineal descendants, no doubt, of some cited in several patents as reference trees, are still to be seen. The planting of mulberry trees for feeding silkworms was initiated in 1621, and made compulsory by statute. Silk culture received attention as early as 1614, but the enterprise was never a commercial success. Foreign workmen were imported to teach silk making, and a present of silk was sent Charles II by Sir William Berkeley in 1668.*

Among the earlier residents of "the New Towne" were some "people of qualite" and note, including four governors, Sir George Yeardley, Knight; Sir Francis Wyatt, Knight; Sir John Harvey, Knight, "Mister, Governor and Doctor Pott," "Doctor of Physick" and "Physician General to the Colony;" also Captain Ralph Hamor, secretary of state and chronicler; George Sandys, who, while there and residing at William Pierce's (see map), achieved a part of his work of turning into English Ovid's *Metamorphoses*; Captain Roger Smith, Captain Richard Stevens, who wounded George Harrison in a duel near "James City," and George Menify, merchant and member of the council, who married the relict of John Rolfe, whose second wife was Pocahontas. The grounds of the above persons are shown more or less accurately on the map.

Sir George Yeardley's grounds had an area of seven acres, one rood, and appear to have extended from the branch of the swamp to the Back River. The area of Governor Wyatt's tract is not known. It included the ground, where, at a later day, stood the Jacquelin-Ambler mansion. Dr. Pott first patented

* The present of silk, it is stated, was woven into a coronation robe for King Charles. As soon as the King graciously signified his acceptance of the above *donneur*, Sir William presented a petition asking, as a special allowance, the customs duties on a ship's cargo of tobacco. The King adroitly parried this request by sending a warrant for the allowance requested, but payable when Sir William should send to England from Virginia a 300-ton ship laden with silk, hemp, flax, and potatoes. (Sainsbury's Abstracts, June 12, 1669.) It does not appear that the governor ever sent the above shipload of commodities and received the reward.

three acres and a few years later added nine acres. Captain Roger Smith's lot was four acres.

In 1665, there was a bridge across the branch of swamp near the northwest corner of the former twelve acre tract of Governor Pott,* connecting the fourth and second ridges. There is a causeway at the above point which may have been the bridge. This probably was the same bridge referred to in the rendition of the Yeardley patent contained on page 68 of Neill's *Virginia Carolorum*.

Among the later residents of "the New Towne" were Captain George Marable, John Barber, Robert Castle, John Phips, Thos. Woodhouse, John Fitchett, John Knowles and Rev. William Mays. A list of the last residents after Bacon's Rebellion would include the names of Henry Hartwell, Clerk of the Court, John Howard, Richard Holder, Lieutenant-Colonel Chiles, John Page, and although last, not least, Wm. Sherwood, the epitaph on whose tombstone in the little churchyard tells that he was "Born In the Parish Of White Chappell Near London. A Great Sinner Waiting For A Ioyfull Resurrection." Sherwood, during Bacon's Rebellion, was an adherent of Sir William Berkeley. He was attorney-general, 1678-1680. In 1694 he was the proprietor of upwards of three hundred acres of land at the head of the island, including the outlying extreme western part of the town above the upper branch of "Pitch and Tarr Swamp," and a small part of the "New Towne" adjacent to Back Street.

The elevated position of the part of the fourth ridge north of the Back Street, between the site of the Jacquelin-Ambler mesuage and the grounds of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, should have made it much sought after for residential purposes. There are some indications of there being house foundations along the line of the Back Street. The names of their occupants can probably never be ascertained, as there are apparently no documents containing that information.

In the address of ex-president Tyler, delivered at Jamestown in 1857 at the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the first landing of the English, he remarked in referring to the destruction of the town by Bacon in 1676: "The town was partially

* Va. Land Pat. Records, Book V, p. 63.

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rebuilt, and many of its houses remained during my early novitiate at William and Mary College" (1802-1807). "They stood in a connected street running east and west from near the present dwelling-house (The Jacquelin-Ambler mansion) to the ruins of the church."

The foundations just mentioned probably belonged to the buildings alluded to by President Tyler. "The connected street running east and west" undoubtedly *was* the Back Street.

"The New Towne" was always inhabited until "James City" ceased to exist, the names of various owners of land in that quarter, belonging to different generations, being shown by the patents. Individuals bearing the surnames of many of the former townspeople are still to be found within one hundred miles of the site of "James City."

WEST END OF THE TOWN.

The positions of land grants east of the church tower ruin being determined and the "New Towne" accurately located, investigation was made for the area west of the above ancient landmark. This resulted in placing approximately several early grants, previously referred to, near the head of the island on its western shore and in establishing quite satisfactorily the situation of the Baldwin grant of 1656, which locates Block House Hill, also in showing the positions of the grants of John Howard, Robert Beverly, the historian, Richard Lawrence, the compatriot of Nathaniel Bacon, Jr., Edward Chilton, attorney-general, Colonel Nathaniel Bacon the elder, Lieutenant Edward Ross, Colonel Philip Ludwell the first,* and Philip Ludwell, Esq. (the second), of 1694. The last named grant fixes the position of the last state house.

The tract described is an undated patent to John Howard of about 1690,† which Governor Sir Francis Nicholson failed to

* Philip I was member of the Virginia Council for many years; was expelled therefrom in 1679, reinstated in 1683 and again expelled in 1687 and disqualified for holding office; governor of Carolina 1689-'92; subsequently resided in London and died in England after 1716. Philip II, born 1666, died 1720. Speaker of House and member of Council. Buried at Jamestown.

† Virginia Land Patent Records, Book VIII, p. 82.

sign, but which was signed by Governor Sir Edmund Andros in 1694, is approximately located by the present churchyard inclosure (see map).

From the above patent it is learned that the direction of the "old Greate Road" near and north of the churchyard was N. 27¼° W. What would seem to be marks of this road are visible at the above locality, as before mentioned. Its objective point was probably the isthmus. The parts of the road shown on the map not fixed by the patents are tentative.

From the Howard patent it is learned that Colonel Nathaniel Bacon, Senior, the second cousin of the patriot of the same name, owned a lot adjoining the Howard tract on the west. It would also appear from agreeing in bearing, that its northern boundary was part of one of the southern boundaries of part of a lot that once belonged to the scholarly Lawrence, sequestered on account of its owner's participation in Bacon's Rebellion, and bought by Colonel Bacon, Senior, in 1683—possibly because it adjoined his tract. Lawrence's house, according to T. M.'s account of Bacon's Rebellion,* was one of the finest in the town. The remainder of the Lawrence tract probably extended east of that bought by Bacon. On using the common boundary line of the Howard and Lawrence plats, and placing the former in what appears to be its proper position near the graveyard, the latter is found to have for its northern boundary the branch of "Pitch and Tarr Swamp," which accords with the description in the patent.

The patent of the Lawrence tract † fixes the position, as its western boundary, of a grant to Robert Beverly in 1694, which in turn furnishes the position of "The Maine Cart road," probably another name for "the old Greate Road," leading, most probably, past the well about one rod east of the state house building on the third ridge, towards the isthmus and Block House Hill.

A correspondence of the course of the western line of a tract granted to William Edwards ‡ in 1690 with that of the eastern

* Force's *Historical Tracts*, Vol. 1.

† Virginia Land Patent Records, Book VII, p. 300.

‡ *Ibid*, Book VIII, p. 42.

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line of the Chilton tract locates the Edwards tract, and through it the western line of a lot of Nathaniel Bacon, Senior. The eastern boundary of the Bacon tract, as has been pointed out, was the Howard tract. Bacon's lot, therefore, occupied the greater part of the eastern half of the space on which stands the Confederate fort of 1861.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

TRIAL OF REV. ARCHIBALD McROBERTS,

Minister of Dale Parish, Chesterfield.

The people of Chesterfield county, Va., just before the Revolution, were evidently nothing if not orthodox. As has been known they sent Baptist ministers to prison for preaching, and in the case treated of below they indicted the rector of Dale Parish for a violation of the canon in regard to psalm-singing. There is no record of the case having been argued in regard to the law, as directed in March, 1774, and nothing is known of its termination.

For a notice of Mr. McRoberts see *Meade*, I, 448-450.

Is there another instance in our records where a county court tried a minister for a breach of ecclesiastical law?

May Court, 1772.

Robert Haskins, foreman, with Benjamin Beasley, Martin Baker, Olive Branch, Jun., Richard Covington, Peter Baugh, Jun., John Baugh, John Bowman, Jesse Traylor, Lodowick Vaden, Archer Traylor, Mark Puckett, Eleazer Moor, Tho. Nunnally, Tho. Cheatham, Elam Farmer, James Elam & Henry Branch were sworn in a Grand Jury for the Body of this County & having received their Charge retired & after some time returned & presented the following, to-wit:

The reverend Archibald McRoberts, Minister of Dale parish, for making use of Hymns or poems in the Church Service instead of David's Psalms, contrary to Law within twelve months last past.

March Court, 1774.

The King, P. }
vs. Archibald McRobert, Clerk D. } Indictment.

This day came the Attorney for our lord the King as well as the said Archibald by his Attorney, and thereupon came also a jury, to-wit: Ralph Faulkner, William Giles, John Foster, David Coupland, John Leitch, John Fowler, Daniel McCallum, Joseph Jones, Tho. Goddin, Tho. Shores, Henry Branch, James Donald, who being elected, tried & sworn the truth to speak, upon the Issue joined returned a special verdict in these words, to-wit:

"We of the Jury do find that the deft. has used Hymns or Poems other than the Psalm of David after the Communion Service & after Sermon. If upon the whole the Law be against the Deft. we find him guilty, but if the Law be for the Deft. we find him not guilty. Ralph Falkner."

Whereupon, It is ordered that the same be recorded and continued to be argued.

PROSECUTION OF BAPTIST MINISTERS,

Chesterfield County, Va., 1771-'73.

All of the historians of the Baptist Church in Virginia refer to the county of Chesterfield as one of those in which the prosecution or persecution of Baptist ministers, in 1771-'73, was most violent.

The following extracts are believed to contain all that is in the county records in regard to the subject.

The records must have been imperfectly kept for they do not show that the prisoners were ever bailed or discharged.

We should be glad to have copies of the records in all counties where anything relating to the persecution is to be found.

For notices of the ministers named see Semple, and Taylor's *Baptist Ministers*.