

## James Tooke

James Tooke, was possibly one of the twenty children of James Tooke and Dorothy Gray of St Albans and Hertford, Hertfordshire, England. He arrived in Virginia in October 1621 at the same time as Sir Francis Wyatt aboard the *George*, his passage paid by William Spencer who in 1632 patented land using among others Tooke's headright of 50 acres. Settling first at James City, he received permission in January 1627 to move from "the Maine" without James City to Mulberry Island.

As usual most of the record pertaining to individuals is in land transactions. In December 1634 Tooke leased 500 acres in Warwicksquyoake on a neck of land east of Lawnes Creek, an interest which he transferred to Robert Harris in October 1646. In November 1640 he patented 900 acres in Isle of Wight County, land which was passed to Nicholas Cobb on 3 Jan 1662 by William Tooke, son and heir of James Tooke. On 14 September 1653 James Tooke patented 178 acres in Isle of Wight County, described as being "Upon the head of one the Blackwater branches, beginning near Thomas Prichard's Cartway". These same acres were repatented on 9 March 1663 by Thomas Tooke, second son and heir of James Tooke.

James Tooke was a member of the House of Burgesses in 1640, and the following year was appointed justice in Isle of Wight County in which position he is shown as still serving in 1646. His will was recorded in early 1663 and does not mention a living wife. He must have married some time after the muster of 1625 as the will does mention his three children: William (born about 1626), Thomas, who with his wife were Quakers and to whom he left his signet seal ring and Dorothy, married to John Harvey.

### References:

1. "Adventurers of Purse and Person Virginia 1607 - 1624/5", 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Vol 3; John Frederick Dorman; Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, MD, 2007
2. Virginia Magazine of History and Biography; Vol 2, p189; Vol 4, s p155; Vol 5, p 403; Vol 8, p 107.
3. William and Mary Quarterly, ( Series 1); Vol 7, pp 235, 293, 294, 299.