

The remaining lot numbers were then mixed together and the original

William Penn decided to act on what he knew and granted 18,000 acres of this unsettled land to fifteen of his Quaker followers. Penn first set aside and dedicated 40 acres of land to the Quaker “Society of Friends” forever. The land was to be used for public worship, right of burial and the privilege of education. Penn then divided the remaining acreage into lots of approximately five hundred acres each, resulting in a total of thirty-seven lots. Each lot was given a number from one to thirty-seven. He then set aside five of these lots for himself. He called them “Proprietary Lots”.

These lots were later purchased by families in whole or in part for his own investment. Many of the Scotch-Irish that established West Nottingham Church settled on these Proprietary Lots. The

remaining lot numbers were then mixed together and the original

William Penn, a Quaker and the proprietor of the Colony of Pennsylvania knew three things: 1) the land in question was fertile ground and could extend the southern boundary of his colony to include the headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay, 2) the ownership and boundaries of the land known as the Susquehanna Manor were in question, and 3) at this time period England was in turmoil and the House of Baltimore was not in favor with the English Crown. Thus Lord Baltimore was not in a position to defend the colony of Maryland from such encroachments.

In 1701, the third Lord Baltimore, Charles Calvert, was the proprietor of the Colony of Maryland. His kinsman George Talbot, Surveyor General of Maryland, was given a tract of land of about 32,000 acres in exchange for services rendered to the colony. The tract of land known as the “Susquehanna Manor” touched on the Susquehanna River and the headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay. While Lord Baltimore was involved in boundary disputes with the Colony of Virginia, George Talbot was involved in the murder of Christopher Rousby, a collector of the King’s taxes in Maryland. Talbot was eventually sent back to England for trial. He never returned to Maryland. Thus the ownership of his land and its exact boundaries fell into question.

The history of the Nottingham Lots has been the subject of many books and papers because it is a history that spans over three hundred ten years. It goes back to the colonies and the beginning of our country.

THE HISTORY OF THE NOTTINGHAM LOTS

NOTTINGHAM LOTS Self-guided Driving Tour

The Nottingham Lots Self-guided Driving Tour can be driven in an hour. It can also be done in segments when you have the time. It is a wonderful history to learn and share. Parents, grandparents, families, schools, groups, young and old will enjoy this tour. It provides the opportunity, not only for children to learn the history of the Nottingham Lots, but to use reading and map-reading skills.

This Driving Tour is an approximate circumference of the thirty-seven Nottingham Lots using today’s roads. It is approximately thirty miles around the route. Driving the circumference of the lots will give an idea of:

- How large an area the Nottingham Lots encompassed (18,000 acres).
- How large each Lot was (approx. 500 acres).
- Where the Lots are located (from Blue Ball to Colora)
- How the topography of the Lots changes between Blue Ball (flat and wooded) and Colora (hilly and rocky).
- How much of the land is still in Agriculture. (See the map inside this brochure.)
- How the Mason-Dixon Line (1763-1767) divided some of the Lots. (It restored 16,700 acres to Maryland; 1,300 acres remained in Pennsylvania.)

At the East Nottingham Friends Meeting House “The Brick”

- A granite map stone gives an overview of the project. It shows the 1702 Nottingham Lots (in red) on current county roads.
- To get a sense of the size of these lots (500 acres), a one acre lot has been marked by four posts near the woods. Imagine the needs and tools it took to settle a wilderness.
- Follow the map that is in your brochure. It shows where the marker is located on each lot and how the lot is positioned.
- Each marker is visible from the road and has a readable “NL” and the number of lot.
- These markers are cared for by the families on whose property they sit.

Please drive carefully and do not trespass on private property!
THANK YOU

Two other Meeting Houses were built on the Nottingham Lots. The West Nottingham Friends Meeting House on Harrisville Road west of the town of Rising Sun, was built on Lot #20. The first meeting house on this site was a log structure erected in 1727. In 1811 it was replaced by the present one-story brick building. The Colora Friends Meeting House in Colora was built on Nottingham Lot #18 in 1841. It was built on land set aside by William War- ing. Meeting is held here once a year.

In 1781, during the colonial fight for freedom, the French General Lafayette led his troops through the Nottingham Lots, to cross the Susquehanna River en route to Baltimore. The troops were encamped in the then thirty acres of woods surrounding the Brick Meeting House. The Meeting House served as a hospital during the Revolutionary War. A memorial stone for the soldiers that died here is in the adjacent cemetery.

The Meeting land continues to serve the purpose for which it was dedicated. Meeting is held at “The Brick”—as it is often called—on the first and third Sunday of the month.

Dates differ in historical records, however around 1706, the Quakers living in Nottingham built the first Meeting House made from logs. It was replaced around 1724 with the two-story brick side of the building you see today. Due to a fire the brick side was gutted. In 1752, the brick side was restored and the two-story stone side was added, thus it was doubled in size. The expanded brick-and-stone building was probably the largest building in the area at that time. In 1810, the Meeting House was again damaged by fire and restored. In 1962, major renovation of this historic Meeting House was completed under the supervision of Edward Plumstead, with the permission and assistance of its Quaker owners. The Meeting land continues to serve the purpose for which it was dedicated. Meeting is held at “The Brick”—as it is often called—on the first and third Sunday of the month.

Along with the hardships of living in unsettled territory, the lots settled by these families were to be in dispute until the Mason-Dixon Line was surveyed in the late 1760s. At that time only 1,300 acres would remain in Chester County, Pennsylvania. The remaining 16,700 acres would be in Cecil County, Maryland. In 1788, the State of Pennsylvania and State of Maryland re-issued title of these lots to the owners having proof of purchase from Penn.

nal fifteen prospective owners made their selection by the drawing of lots. The drawing of lots, in turn, showed no favor among these families and thus was fair. As most of these fifteen families would own more than one lot, the procedure allowed few families to have lots that were close together. Some of the original fifteen families did not actually come to live on their lots, but did support and invest with Penn.

THE NOTTINGHAM LOTS

• THE NOTTINGHAM LOTS 1701 ~ 2011

Self-Guided Driving Tour of the Nottingham Lots

We appreciate the many people who gave their time and expertise to move this project forward.

- The Society of Friends
- David Black, AICP
- Cecil Soil Magazine
- Ace Hardware in Rising Sun
- James Kyte

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THANK YOU

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For more information visit www.nottinghambrick.org

THANK YOU TO OUR SEVEN CARETAKERS

Lot #1	Robert Palmer Family	Evans Choice
Lot #2	Wayne Scully Family	Richardsmere Farm
Lot #3	Richard Fox Family	Balderston Orchards
Lot #4	Donald Balderston Family	The Boyd Farm
Lot #5	John Boyd Family	
Lot #6	C. Dale Lofthouse	
Lot #7	James Monger Family	Willowdale Farm
Lot #8	Margaret Sprout	
Lot #9	Jean Holbrook Family	Ag Industrial, Inc.
Lot #10	Terry Greenleaf	Fox Knoll Farm
Lot #11	Scott Brown Family	Lucas Farm
Lot #12	Lucas Family	Mt. Rocky Farm
Lot #13	Leonard Wilson Family	Thankless Lane Farm
Lot #14	George McCreary Family	Thankless Lane Farm
Lot #15	George McCreary Family	Fell Family Farm
Lot #16	William Fell Family	Klarwin Farm
Lot #17	C.W. Brown Family	Four Acres Farm
Lot #18	Richard Broome Family	
Lot #19	Pete Ladas Family	
Lot #20	Earl Rakes Family	
Lot #21	Joseph Bennett, Jr.	Kilbys, Inc. Farm
Lot #22	Bill Kilby Family	Ponderosa Farm
Lot #23	Lynnda Lieske Family	Orr’s Acres Farm
Lot #24	Sam Orr Family	Wick Wyn Farm
Lot #25	Joseph Mahoney Family	Triple O Farm
Lot #26	Fred Orr Family	Cedar Farm
Lot #27	David Wherry Family	Old Cedar Farm
Lot #28	John Scarbath Family	Bethel Farm
Lot #29	Clifford England Family	“The Brick”
Lot #30	East Nottingham Meeting	Richland Farm
Lot #31	David Reisler Family	The Moore’s Farm
Lot #32	Robert Moore Family	Pleasant View Farm
Lot #33	Grove Miller Family	
Lot #34	Helen Brown Family	
Lot #35	David Holsten Family	The Onion Bed
Lot #36	Phil Johnson Family	Walnut Springs
Lot #37	Ray Hilaman Family	

The Contributors

In 1701, William Penn granted 40 acres to his Quaker followers and their successors forever as a place for worship, burial and education. Penn set aside five “Proprietary Lots” for himself, and the remaining lot numbers were then mixed together. Most of the prospective buyers were to get two lots, which they drew from the mix in turn. This process, though fair, allowed few families to have lots close together.

The Contributors

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In 1701 William Penn and fifteen of his fellow Quakers made history by carving out 18,000 acres of wilderness and creating what became known as the Nottingham Lots. In colonial times boundaries of colonies were often called into question. Penn wanted this particular ground, as it would extend the southern boundary of his colony, Pennsylvania, to include the headwaters of the Chesapeake Bay. Not all of the fifteen Quaker families that supported Penn in this endeavor came here to settle. Those who did were faced with a great undertaking. However, all fifteen took a great “leap of faith” in thinking it could be done.

Three hundred and ten years later, fifteen local benefactors showed that same faith in this Nottingham Lot Historic Project. These fifteen benefactors believed in, supported, and funded this project. Through their effort we were able to place a granite map stone at the East Nottingham Friends Meeting House “The Brick”, as well as a granite lot marker on each of the thirty-seven lots.

The fifteen Quaker families in 1701 made the history that the fifteen benefactors in 2011 are trying to preserve. It will be for all time the responsibility of all those who live on this ground and all future generations to protect this land and preserve the history that is the Nottingham Lots.

Thank you

Fred and Doris Orr	Lot #26	Triple O Farm
Sam and Shirley Orr	Lot #24	Orr’s Acres Farm
Bill and Freda Fell	Lot #16	Fell Family Farm
Leonard Wilson Family	Lot #13	Mt. Rocky Farm
John and Karen Boyd	Lot #5	The Boyd Farm
John and Marilyn Scarbath	Lot #28	Old Cedar Farm
Jesse and Merita McMillan	Lots #16, 29	McMillan Farms
Joe and Anne Mahoney	Lot #25	Wick Wyn Farm
Donaldson and Judith Cole		Chaukley’s Garden
Ed and Carol Belote	Lot #14	Cecil Soil Magazine
Ruth Graybeal Family	Lot #30	
Dee Emsley	Lot #1	
Board of Directors	Lot #30	Rosebank Cemetery
Board of Directors		Cecil Historical Trust
Board of Directors		Rising Sun
		Historical Commission

Lot #33
ORIGINAL OWNER:
William Brown
75.11% Agriculture

Lot #34
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Randell Janney
54.92% Agriculture

Lot #35
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Andrew Job
50.84% Agriculture

Lot #36
ORIGINAL OWNER:
John Beale
44.59% Agriculture

Lot #37
ORIGINAL OWNER:
John Beale
45.71% Agriculture

**Protect
• this •
Land**

Lot #1
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Unknown
42.58% Agriculture

Lot #2
ORIGINAL OWNER:
John Guest
42.64% Agriculture

Lot #3
ORIGINAL OWNER:
John Guest
33.40% Agriculture

Lot #4
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Edward Beeson
43.93% Agriculture

Lot #5
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Henry Reynolds
71.16% Agriculture

Lot #32
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Andrew Job
68.86% Agriculture

Lot #31
ORIGINAL OWNERS:
Robt. Dutton & Saml. Littler
40.77% Agriculture

Lot #30
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Meeting House Common
57.62% Agriculture

Lot #29
ORIGINAL OWNERS:
Robt. Dutton & Saml. Littler
62.92% Agriculture

Lot #28
ORIGINAL OWNER:
William Brown
72.02% Agriculture

Lot #27
ORIGINAL OWNER:
James Brown
57.47% Agriculture

Lot #26
ORIGINAL OWNER:
James Cooper
65.26% Agriculture

Lot #25
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Penn "Proprietary" Lot
70.96% Agriculture

THE NOTTINGHAM LOTS 1701 ~ 2011

• Preserve this History •

• Perpetuate its Future •



The Nottingham Lots originally covered 18,000 acres from Blue Ball to Colora.

Agriculture percentages based on Oct 2009 report from Cecil County Planning & Zoning Commission. © 2011 A. Mahoney

Lot #6
ORIGINAL OWNER:
John Richardson
51.20% Agriculture

Lot #7
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Penn "Proprietary" Lot
19.55% Agriculture

Lot #8
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Cornelius Empson
56.02% Agriculture

Lot #9
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Penn "Proprietary" Lot
55.68% Agriculture

Lot #10
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Ebenezer Empson
29.72% Agriculture

Lot #11
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Joel Bayley
40.21% Agriculture

Lot #12
ORIGINAL OWNER:
James Cooper
44.32% Agriculture

Lot #13
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Penn "Proprietary" Lot
52.04% Agriculture

Lot #24
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Cornelius Empson
68.78% Agriculture

Lot #23
ORIGINAL OWNER:
William Brown
56.14% Agriculture

Lot #22
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Ebenezer Empson
54.40% Agriculture

Lot #21
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Penn "Proprietary" Lot
40.48% Agriculture

Lot #20
ORIGINAL OWNER:
John Richardson
53.59% Agriculture

Lot #19
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Henry Reynolds
31.46% Agriculture

Lot #18
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Edward Beeson
50.05% Agriculture

Lot #17
ORIGINAL OWNER:
John Churchman
59.13% Agriculture

Lot #16
ORIGINAL OWNER:
John Churchman
30.85% Agriculture

Lot #15
ORIGINAL OWNER:
Randell Janney
55.73% Agriculture

Lot #14
ORIGINAL OWNER:
James Brown
15.53% Agriculture