

CHAPTER III.

LAND PATENTS ALONG CALVERT CLIFFS

In order to clarify the position of **The Goare** in relation to Cove Point as well as collect data for boundary trees¹⁴, we filled in all the tracts between **The Goare** and Cove Point (Fig. 5.). In addition, we wanted to have a solid reference point so we attempted to go as far north as Parkers Creek, which is the border of the Lower and Upper Cliffs Hundreds. Our goal was to produce a 17th century map of waterfront patents in the Lower Cliffs Hundred, which could be compared with later mapping carried out by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey in the 1840s (Singewald and Slaughter 1949).

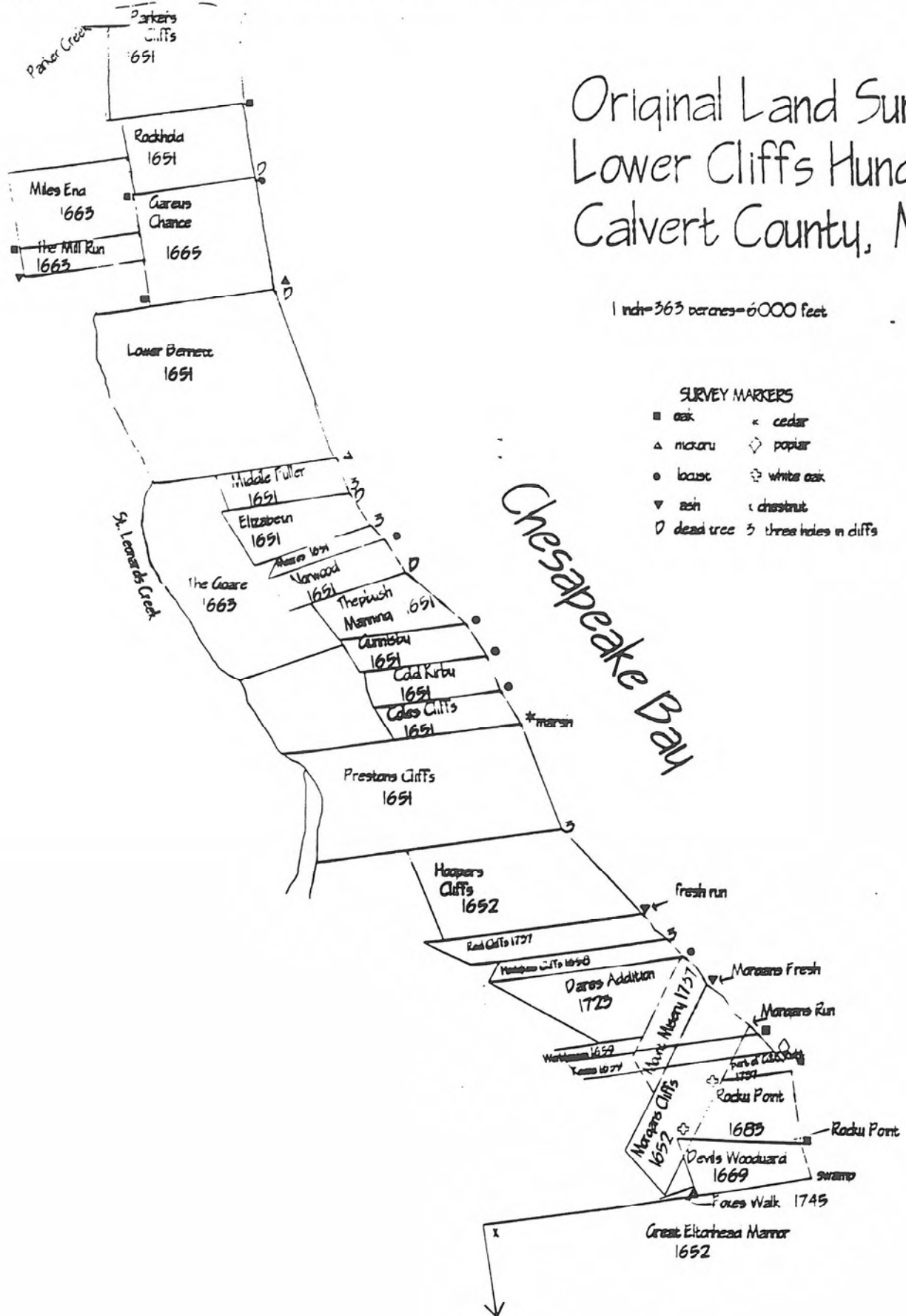
We utilized a number of sources to create a map of the shoreline of the Lower Hundred during colonial times. Our starting point was Stein's (1976) History of Calvert County. From Chapters 5 and 6, and the Tax Assessment of 1782 (in Stein 1976) we were able to find names of people and properties to search for in the Hall of Records. The certificates of survey or patents frequently listed names or owners of adjacent tracts of land that could subsequently be searched. Often times the surveys for several tracts of land belonging to one individual needed to be searched and plotted out before we could determine which tract was the one we were interested in.

Each tract was plotted out to the scale of USGS Topographic Quadrangle (1"=2000'), with boundary lengths and corner markers indicated. In cases where specific distances or directions were missing, estimates were made based on the total acreage of the tract, or the lengths or directions of adjacent properties' boundaries. The tracts were fitted together, matching up trees, creeks or other markers like pieces of a puzzle in order to reconstruct the shoreline.

We had intended to use geographic features, such as forks or mouths of creeks, heads of coves, and points of land to accurately overlay our reconstructed shoreline on a current topographic map (as we have done on Maryland's Eastern Shore). However,

¹⁴ Due to the lack of rocks in the coastal plain, the first boundaries were almost exclusively trees, although poles and holes in cliffs were sometimes utilized. Only in the 18th century were boundary stones used and these instances were rare in Southern Maryland (as at Greenweigh in Charles County; see Lee, 1994 p. 26).

Figure 5. Original Land Surveys, Lower Cliffs Hundred, Calvert County, MD.



very few surveys in Calvert County gave detailed information on the geographical features that the tract included. For example, we were unable to find a patent that definitively mentioned the mouth of Parker Creek, which is the northern boundary of the Lower Cliffs Hundred or other obvious features such as the present-day Flag Pond. In addition, the earliest surveys (circa 1650) did not give detailed surveys of the coastline; only one direction and distance were given (e.g. "running south and by east down the bay for the length of three hundred perches"). In contrast, a 1737 survey of **Gideon and Cleverlys Right** points out shifts as small as six degrees in shoreline direction (e.g. "...south thirty one degrees east twenty four perches, south fifty four degrees east forty four perches, south forty three degrees east twenty eight perches..."). Details such as these may have allowed us to accurately correlate 17th century shoreline features with features noted on 20th century USGS Topographic Quadrangles for the area.

The Lower Cliffs Hundred extended from **Eltonhead Manor** north to Parker Creek (Fig. 5). Chesapeake Bay served as the eastern boundary of the Hundred, and portions of St. Leonard's Creek served as the western boundary. The southernmost parcel of land, **Devils Woodyard**, was surveyed in 1669 for Ambrose Briggs and William Stanley by Charles Boteler. The southern boundary of this 150-acre tract was **Eltonhead Manor**.

...laid out for the said Ambrose Briggs and William Stanley a parcel of land called the Devils Woodyard lying in Calvert County and beginning on the West side of Chesapeake Bay at a bounded oak standing on a point called Rocky Point bounded by the land of William Ewen and running with the said land West and by North three hundred and twenty perches to a bounded white oak of the land of Ambrose Biggs called Middlesex bounded by the said land and running South and by East for one hundred and sixty perches to a bounded pokeicory ... of Great Eltonhead Mannor and with the said line to the side of the aforesaid Chesapeake Bay and with the said Bay to the first bounded tree Containing and now laid out for one hundred and fifty acres more or less... (MD Patents; Liber 12, folio 318)

There were at least four William Stanley's who had immigrated to Maryland before 1669 (Skordas 1974), so it is difficult to tell which one teamed up with Ambrose Biggs. However, the latter is a very distinctive name. He had come to Maryland as an indentured servant before 1650 (MD Patents; Liber 1, folio 166). By the first decade of the 18th century the Calvert County Rent Roll (Liber 2, folio 16) indicates that the Isaac Baker possessed all 150 acres of **Devils Woodyard** with no indication that it was transferred to anyone else over the next two decades.

In the 19th century, we have found a property transfer that verifies the tracts on the northern border of **Eltonhead Manor** (see Hutchins 1982 p. 107 &108). About

1816, John Ireland, Sheriff of Calvert County (who also bought **The Goare**), sold 45 acres (part of **Devils Woodyard**) for \$24. The description is as follows “beginning at a cedar post near the water mill of the heirs of John Rawlings, deceased, in the headline of **Eltonhead Manor** and run to the swamp and with the swamp to land called **Middlesex** and with said land to the headlines of **Eltonhead Manor** and to the beginning”. This nicely ties together these parcels and also introduces the fact that there was a watermill alongside of **Eltonhead Manor** in the early 1800s. This suggests the possibility that this area might be the subject of a condemnation for the creation of watermills, but we have thus far not checked on this at the Hall of Records.

North of **Devils Woodyard** was **Rocky Point**. At the time of the **Devils Woodyard** survey, **Rocky Point** was in the possession of William Ewen. He had immigrated to the Patuxent River area by 1651 (MD Patents; Liber AB&H, folio 140). The earliest survey of **Rocky Point** was a 360-acre tract for John Edmondson, in 1683. The survey mentions the point of land, Rocky Point, at the northern extent of the tract. We were able to work southerly from Rocky Point to determine the northern limit of **Eltonhead Manor**.

These are humbly to certifie that by vertue of a warrant granted unto John Edmondson for one hundred acres of land bearing date the twenty third day of Jan 1682/3 from Robert Jones of two hundred and sixty acres of land being part of a Warrant of one thousand acres of land granted the said Jones....I have laid out and surveyed for the said John Edmondson a certain tract of land called Rocky Point lying in Calvert County beginning at a bounded oak standing on a Hollow by the side of Chesapeake Bay thence running West two hundred and eighty perches white oak standing in the line of the land formerly belonging to Philip Morgan thence with the said land South West and by South to a marked oak for distance one hundred and seventy perches thence with a line drawn East and by South to a marked oak standing on a Point called Rocky Point and by the side of the Bay to the first bound tree Containing and now laid out for three hundred and sixty acres more or less to be holden of the Mannor of Calverton. (MD Patents; Liber 21, folio 451)

John Edmondson was a prominent quaker who had originally been transported to Maryland from Barbados as an indentured servant in 1658 (MD Patents; Liber 4, folio 4). However, he quickly began to accumulate many tracts of land. Eventually he settled at Cedar Point on the eastern side of the Tred Avon River in Talbot County. His estate was probated in 1696 and he left over 60,000 acres of land.

The western border of **Rocky Point**, **Morgans Cliffs**, was surveyed in 1652 for Philip Morgan, who had immigrated to the Patuxent River by 1651 (MD Patents; Liber

AB&H, folio 142). **Morgans Cliffs** was a 400-acre tract of land that ran between two creeks, Morgans Fresh and Morgans Run.

Laid out for Phillip Morgan of this province Planter a parcel of land lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay beginning at a marked ash tree standing near a fresh run and bounding on the East with the said Bay for the length of one hundred and twenty eight perches North West and by North unto a fresh run called Morgans Fresh on the North with a line drawn South West and by South from the said fresh for the length of five hundred perches on the West with a line drawn South East and by South from the end of the former line for the length of one hundred twenty and eight perches on the South with a line drawn North East and by North unto the first marked ash Containing and now laid out for four hundred acres more or less. (MD Patents; Liber AB&H, folio 262)

The waterfront property between **Rocky Point** and **Morgans Cliffs** included two parcels belonging to Richard Keene. Both were surveyed in 1659. The northernmost tract, **Worbleston**, was 100 acres adjacent to **Morgans Cliffs**. The second tract was larger, 200 acres, and was unnamed. When plotted, the Keene properties and **Morgans Cliffs** overlap. This inconsistency follows through to a 1737 resurvey for Nathaniel Dare, and may be a transcription error.

...grant to Richard Keene and Mary his wife the relict of John Hodgkins aforesaid those two parcells of land now called Worbleston formerly surveyed for William Bonniday and William Stockdell lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay beginning at a marked oak and running South East and by South down the Bay for the length of sixty four perches unto a marked poplar bounding on the South with a line drawn West from the said poplar for the length of five hundred perches on the West with a line drawn North East and by North from the end of the former line untill it intersect a parallel drawn from the land of William Stockdell on the North with the said land on the East with the said Baytwo hundred acres more or less. And also that parcell of land lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay beginning at a run called Morgans Run the said run being the southernmost bound of the said Morgans Land and running South East and by South from the said land unto a marked oak bounding on the South with a line drawn West from the said oak for the length of five hundred perches on the West with a line drawn North East and by North from the end of the former line untill it intersect a parallel drawn from the land of Phillip Morgan on the North with the said land on the East with the said Bay Containing and now laid out for one hundred acres more or less... (MD Patents; Liber 4, folio 538)

Between the Keene properties and **Rocky Point** was a small tract of land (49 acres with 69 perches waterfront) that escaped patenting until 1737 when Nathaniel Dare claimed it. (See below).

North of **Morgans Cliffs** was **Mount Misery**, a 212-acre tract granted to Richard James in 1662. This may be the same Richard James who was transported to Maryland prior to 1663 (MD Patents; Liber 5, folio 411), but we can't be certain. We were unable to locate the original certificate of survey or patent for this tract, but were able to trace it through a resurvey for Nathaniel Dare. In 1737, Dare was granted a warrant of resurvey for all or part of twelve contiguous properties extending from **Hoopers Cliffs** to **Rocky Point**. The entire tract, **Gideon and Cleverlys Right**, encompassed 2294 acres. Discovery of this patent also allowed us to fill in gaps in the shoreline north of **Rocky Point** (see above), and north of **Hodgkins Cliffs** (see below). The original patent of **Mount Misery** was for 212 acres, while the resurvey only included 132 acres. The original patent most likely extended further southwest.

Fifthly beginning for Mount Misery at the above mentioned locust tree being the original beginning tree of said land and running from thence down the Bay South forty two degrees East forty perches South twenty six degrees East thirty two perches South nineteen degrees East twenty seven perches unto a fresh run called Morgans Run bounding on the South by the said run and the land of Philip Morgan and running South West and by South three hundred and twenty perches then North North West one hundred and thirteen perches untill it intersect a parallel drawn from the first beginning containing and now laid out for one hundred and thirty acres of land. (MD Patents; Liber E1#5, folio 277)

Hodgkins Cliffs is the next tract of waterfront property continuing north. It was patented in 1658 by William and John Stephens.

John Hodgkins did by his last will and testament bequeath unto John and William Stevens sons to William Stephens of Patuxent River two hundred acres of land lying upon the cliffs, do hereby grant to the said John and William Stevens all that parcel of land called Hodgkins Cliffs lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay beginning at three holes marked in the cliff the said holes being the southernmost bound of William Stephens land and running South East and by South from the holes down the Bay for the length of sixty four perches to a marked locust tree bounding on the South with a line drawn West from the said locust for the length of five hundred perches on the West with a line drawn North East and by North until it intersect a parallel drawn from the land of the said Stephens on the North with the said land on the East with the said Bay containing and now laid out for two hundred acres be it more or less..... (MD Patents; Liber Q, folio 229)

North of **Hodgkins Cliffs** was **Red Cliffs**, patented by William Stephens. The 1737 resurvey indicates that this property was originally surveyed as a 300-acre tract in 1650. We were unable to find the original patent. Most likely, **Red Cliffs** was patented by William Stephens Sr. (because of the early date) who had immigrated to the

Patuxent River in 1651 with his two sons, William Jr. and John (MD Patents; Liber AB&H, folio 141). The resurvey encompassed 230 acres of the original tract, which probably extended further to the west.

...for Red Cliffs at the above mentioned ash tree by a fresh run and running down the Bay South thirty nine degrees East thirty two perches South twenty one degrees East twenty four perches South forty seven degrees East forty perches to three holes marked in the cliffs then West five hundred perches then North West by North ninety two perches to Hoopers Cliffs then with a straight line to the first beginning containing and now laid out for two hundred and thirty two acres of land. (MD Patents; Liber EI#5, folio 277)

Hoopers Cliffs, at one thousand acres, was one of the largest tracts of land in the Lower Cliffs Hundred. It was surveyed in 1652 for Henry Hooper, who owned several parcels of land in Calvert County.

Laid out for Henry Hooper a tract of land lying on the West side Chesapeake Bay beginning at three holes marked in the cliff the aforesaid holes being the southernmost bound of M. Richard Preston's land and running South East and by South down the Bay for the length of three hundred perches unto a marked ash tree by a fresh run bounding on the South with a line drawn West from the said ash for the length of five hundred perches on the West with a line drawn North East and by North untill it intersect a parallel drawn from the land of M. Richard Preston on the north with the said land on the East with the said Bay containing and now laid out for one thousand acres more or less. (MD Patents; Liber Q, folio 239)

Henry Hooper had immigrated to the Patuxent River in 1651 with his wife Sarah, his sons Henry Jr. and Richard, and his two daughters Sarah and Elizabeth (MD Patents; Liber AB&H, folio 140).

North of **Hoopers Cliffs** was another 1000-acre tract called **Prestons Cliffs** which was laid out in 1651 for Richard Preston, who had immigrated with his seven children in 1650 and was appointed Commander of the Patuxent River (MD Patents; Liber AB&H, folio 139-140).

Laid out for Mr. Richard Preston of Patuxent River a tract of land lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay beginning at a marked cedar tree standing in a marsh near unto the Bay side the said tree being the southernmost bound of the land of Thomas Cole of the County of Anne Arundel and running from the said cedar South and by East down the Bay for the length of three hundred perches unto three holes marked in the cliff bounding on the South with a line drawn West from the said holes for the length of six hundred and forty perches

on the West with a line drawn North from the end of the former line until it intersect a parallel drawn from the said Cole's land on the North with the said land Containing and now laid out for one thousand acres more or less. (MD Patents; Liber AB&H, folio 148)

The property of Thomas Cole referred to as the Northern border of **Prestons Cliffs** was a 200-acre tract laid out in 1651 called **Cole Cliffs**.

Laid out for Thomas Cole of the County of Anne Arundel planter a parcel of land lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay next adjoining to the land of Thomas Todd beginning at a marked locust tree the said tree being the southernmost bound of the said Todd's land and running South South East down the Bay for the length of one hundred perches to a marked cedar tree bounding on the South with a line drawn West from the said cedar for the length of three hundred and twenty perches on the West with a line drawn North North West from the end of the western line unto the land of the said Todd on the North with the said land on the East with the said Bay containing and now laid out for two hundred acres more or less. (MD Patents; Liber AB&H, folio 148)

Thomas Cole had immigrated in 1649 with his wife, Priscilla (MD Patents; Liber 2, folio 614; Liber AB&H, folio 40, and Liber Q, folio 47). **Cold Kirby**, a 200-acre tract of land surveyed in 1651 for Thomas Todd, was just north of **Cole Cliffs**.

Laid out for Thomas Todd of the County of Anne Arundel planter, a parcel of land lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay next adjoining to the land of Leonard Guins, beginning at a marked locust tree the said tree being the southernmost bound of the said Guin's land and running South and by East down the Bay for the length of one hundred perches to a marked locust tree bounding on the South with a line drawn West from the said locust for the length of three hundred and twenty perches on the West with a line drawn North and by West from the end of the western line unto the land of the said Guins on the North with the said land on the East with the said Bay Containing and now laid out for two hundred acres more less. (MD Patents; Liber AB&H, folio 289)

We were not able to find any information on Leonard Guins either in the patent indices at the Maryland Hall of Records or Skordas (1974). We did, however, find a 1651 certificate of survey to Leonard Gunnis for a 200-acre tract of land, **Gunnisby**, located on the cliffs. It appears as though Leonard Guins and Leonard Gunnis were one and the same, and that the Guins' property referred to in the **Cold Kirby** certificate of survey is actually **Gunnisby**.

Laid out for Leonard Gunnis of the county of Anne Arundel planter a parcel of land lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay next adjoining to the land of Thomas Marsh merchant beginning at a marked locust tree the said tree being the southernmost bound of the said Marsh'es land and running South South East down the Bay for the length of one hundred perches to a marked locust tree bounding on the South with a line drawn West from the said locust for the length of three hundred and twenty perches on the West with a line drawn North North West from the end of the western line to the land of the said Marsh on the North with the said land on the East with the said Bay containing and now laid out for two hundred acres more or less. (MD Patents; Liber AB&H, folio 318)

Thomas Marsh owned several pieces of property in Calvert County, but the bayside property adjacent to **Gunnisby** was **Thepbush Manning**. As mentioned above this 600-acre property was surveyed for Thomas Marsh in 1651, but patented to Thomas Manning in 1661. Thomas Marsh was transported to Maryland in 1648/9 (MD Patents; Liber 2, folio 575; Liber AB&H, folio 35) and later moved to Kent Island.

Laid out for Thomas Marsh of the county of Anne Arundel merchant a tract of land lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay next to the land of John Norwood beginning at a marked dead tree the said tree being the southernmost bound of the said Norwood's land and running South East and by South down the Bay for the length of three hundred perches to a marked locust tree bounding on the South with a line drawn West from the said locust for the length of three hundred and twenty perches on the West with a line drawn North West and by North from the end of the western line unto the land of the said Norwood on the North with the said land on the East with the said Bay Containing and now laid out for six hundred acres more or less. (MD Patents; Liber AB&H, folio 261)

Thepbush Manning was bounded on the north by the land of John Norwood. The only tract of land listed for John Norwood in Calvert County was a 200-acre parcel, **Norwood**, surveyed in 1651 by Robert Clarke. John Norwood came to Maryland with his son John Jr. and his wife in 1650 (MD Patents; Liber Q, folio 29). **Thepbush Manning** and **Norwood** are adjacent to each other on the Sedwick vs. Somervell Plat.

Laid out for John Norwood of the County of Anne Arundel planter a parcell of land lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay next adjoining unto the Land of Thomas Meares beginning at a marked Locust tree the said tree being the southernmost bound of the said Meares land and running South South East down the Bay for the length of one hundred perches to a marked dead tree bounding on the South with a line drawn West and by South from the said dead tree for the length of three hundred and twenty perches on the West with a line drawn North North West from the end of the West and by South line unto the land of the said Meares on the North with said land on the East with the said Bay

containing and now laid out for two hundred acres more or less. (MD Patents; Liber AB&H, folio 264)

Norwood shared a border with **Meares**, a 100-acre tract of land surveyed for Thomas Meares in 1651.

Laid out more for Thomas Meares a parcelle of land lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay next adjoining to the land of Leonard Strong beginning at three holes cut in the Cliffs, the said holes being the southernmost bound of the said Strong's land running South East and by South from the said holes for the length of fifty perches to a marked locust tree bounding on the South with a line drawn West and by South from the said locust for the length of three hundred and twenty perches on the west with a line drawn North East and by North from the end of the West and by South line unto the land of the said Leonard Strong on the North with the said land on the East with the said Bay Containing and now laid out for one hundred acres more or less. (MD Patents; Liber AB&H, folio 262)

North of **Meares** was **Elizabeth**, a 200-acre parcel on the cliffs laid out in 1651 for Leonard Strong and named after his daughter. Neither Thomas Meares or Leonard Strong are listed in The Early Settlers of Maryland (Skordas, 1974).

Laid out for Leonard Strong a parcell of land lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay next adjoining to the land of William Fuller beginning at a marked dead tree the said tree being the southernmost bound of the said Fuller's land running South South East down the Bay for the length of one hundred perches to three holes marked in the cliff bounding on the South with a line drawn West and by South from the said three holes for the length of three hundred and twenty perches on the West with a line drawn North North West from the end of the West and by South line unto the land of the said Fuller on the North with the said land on the East with the said Bay Containing and now laid out for two hundred acres more or less. (MD Patents; Liber AB&H, folio 260)

Elizabeth was "next adjoining to the land of William Fuller". The Sedwick vs. Somervell Plat refers to this property as **Fuller**, and shows it south of **Lower Bennett**. The only Fuller property listed in Calvert County was **Middle Fuller**, which shared a border with the property of Richard Bennett. We assumed that the Fuller property on the Sedwick vs. Somervell Plat and mentioned in the **Elizabeth** survey was in fact **Middle Fuller**. **Middle Fuller** was initially laid out for Thomas Emerson in 1651, and contained 200 acres.

Laid out more for Thomas Emerson a parcell of land lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay beginning at a marked pockicory¹⁵ tree the said tree being the southernmost bound of the land of Richard Bennett Esq. and running South and by East down the Bay for the length of one hundred perches to three holes made in the cliff bounding on the South with a line drawn West from the said holes for the length of three hundred and twenty perches on the West with a line drawn North and by West from the end of the western line unto the land of the said Mr. Bennett on the North with the said land on the East with the said Bay Containing and now laid out for two hundred acres more or less. (MD Patents; Liber AB&H, folio 291)

North of **Middle Fuller** was **Lower Bennett**, a 1250-acre tract of land that extended from Chesapeake Bay west to St. Leonards Creek and formed the northern border of Manning's **Goare**. It was surveyed and patented in 1651 to Richard Bennett, the leader of the Puritans in Maryland who had immigrated from Virginia at the invitation of the Second Lord Baltimore.

Laid out for Richard Bennett of the County of Anne Arundel Esq. a tract of Land on the West side of Chesapeake Bay next adjoining to the land of Judith Garey widow beginning at a marked dead tree being the southernmost bound of the said Judiths Land and running South and by East down the Bay for the length of four hundred seventy and five perches unto a marked Pockicory tree bounding on the South with a line drawn West from the said tree for the length of four hundred and eighty perches on the West with a line drawn North and by West from the end of the Western line for the length of four hundred seventy and five perches on the North with a line drawn East from the North and by West Line for the length of Ninety perches untill it meet with the land of the said Judith and with the said land on the East with the said Bay Containing and now laid out for one thousand two hundred and fifty acres more or less. (MD Patents; Liber Q, folio 143)

Judith Garey's property was **Gareys Chance**, 600 acres surveyed for John Garey in 1665. John Garey was the son-in-law of Dr. Peter Sharpe, for whom Sharpe's Island was named.¹⁶

¹⁵ Several of the original land patents referred to "pockicory" trees as markers. We assume that this is the same tree as the present day hickory, a species commonly found in the area of the Lower Cliffs Hundred.

¹⁶ Sharpes Island was originally located across the Bay at the mouth of the Choptank River, but is now completely eroded. Presently only a lighthouse marks the shoal where the island once stood (Kearney and Stevenson 1991).

Laid out for John Garey of this province planter a parcel of land called Gareys Chance lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay on the Cliffs in Calvert County beginning at the southernmost corner tree of a parcel of land formerly laid out for Robert Rockwell of this province and running from the said tree down the Bay South three hundred perches to a marked Pokeicory tree by the bayside bounded on the West from the said Pokeicory tree into the woods West for the length of three hundred and twenty perches to a marked oke in the woods bounded on the North with a line drawn from the said oke North three hundred perches to a marked oke in the woods bounded on the East with a line drawn from the said oke East for the length of three hundred and twenty perches to the first marked locust tree by the said Bay side on the South with the said Bay Containing and now laid out for six hundred acres more or less to be holden of the Mannor of Calvert... (MD Patents; Liber 9, folio 61)

Two tracts of land surveyed in 1663, **Miles End** and **The Mill Run**, have **Gareys Chance** as their western border. **Miles End** also is bound on the west by the property of Robert Rockwell, presumably the same property mentioned as the northern boundary of **Gareys Chance**. In addition, the northwest corner of **Miles End** is near the head of Parker Creek. We knew we were finally approaching the northern limits of the Lower Cliffs Hundred. Unfortunately, we can not be certain of the placement of **Miles End** and **The Mill Run** in relation to **Gareys Chance** because no corner markers are mentioned in either of the surveys.

Laid out for Tobias Miles of this province planter a parcell of land called Miles End being in Calvert County lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay above the Cliffs near the head of a creek called Parkers Creek beginning at the head of a parcel of land formerly surveyed for Robert Rockwell by the creek side and running for breadth Southerly along the head lines of the aforesaid Rockwell and John Garey or Peter Sharp's bounding on the South with a line drawn West for the length of three hundred and twenty perches to a marked red oak bounding on the West with a line drawn North into the main branch of Parkers Creek on the North with the aforesaid branch and Creek on the East with the land of the aforesaid Rockwell and Garey Containing and now laid out for four hundred acres more or less. (MD Patents; Liber 5, folio 509)

Laid out for Nicholas Carr of this province planter a parcel of land being in Calvert County called the Mill Run lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay above the Cliffs beginning at a marked red oak the said oak being the South West corner tree of the land of Tobias Miles called Miles End and bounding on the West with a line drawn South for breadth seventy and five perches to a marked ash tree standing in a branch bounding on the South with a line drawn East unto the land of John Garey bounding on the East with the said land on the

North with the land of Tobias Miles Containing and now laid out for one hundred and fifty acres more or less. (MD Patents; Liber 5, folio 511)

Both the **Miles End** and **Gareys Chance** surveys mention the property of Robert Rockwell. We were unable to find any certificates of survey or patents to Robert Rockwell, but did find a survey for Robert Rockhold and John Scothier for a 400-acre tract of land called **Rockhold**. Rockhold was patented twice, once to Robert Rockhold and John Scothier in 1659 (MD Patents; Liber 4, folio 94), and again in 1661 to Nicholas Carr, as **Carrs Forest** (MD Patents; Liber 5, folio 53). Nicholas Carr subsequently resurveyed and patented the northernmost 100 acres of **Carrs Forest** as **Expectation** in 1663. In the certificate of survey for **Expectation** the property is described as “formerly laid out for Robert Rockwell”, whereas in the patent the property is described as “formerly laid out for Robert Rockhold” (MD Patents; Liber 5, folio 505). Revelation of this ambiguity confirmed our suspicion that Robert Rockwell was Robert Rockhold, or vice-versa.

Laid out for Robert Rockhold of the county of Anne Arundel gunsmith and John Scothier of the same County cooper a parcel of land lying on the West side of Chesapeake Bay next adjoining to the land of Will. Parker beginning at a marked oak the said oak being the southernmost bound of the said Parker's land and running South down the Bay for the length of two hundred perches to a marked dead tree bounding on the South with a line drawn West from the said tree for the length of three hundred and twenty perches on the West with a line drawn North from the end of the western line unto the land of the said Parker on the North with the said land on the East with the said Bay Containing and now laid out for four hundred acres more or less. (MD Patents; Liber AB&H, folio 293)

Because the patent for **Miles End** (which is adjacent to **Rockhold**) begins at Parkers Creek, we assumed that the Parker property referred to in the **Rockhold** survey is also associated with Parkers Creek. William Parker patented several pieces of property in Calvert County, e.g. **Parkers Fortune**, **St. Edmonds**, **The Stroud**, and **Parkers Cliffs**. According to Stein (1976), **Parkers Cliffs** (surveyed in 1651 by Robert Clarke) was on the Middle Cliffs at Parkers Creek. Given the size of **Parkers Cliffs** (300 perches of bayfront property), if it were in fact the property to the north of **Rockhold**, it would encompass the main branch of Parkers Creek, which is also the northern boundary of the Lower Cliffs Hundred. Because the creek itself wasn't a boundary of the property, it is not surprising that it isn't mentioned in the original survey.

Laid out for William Parker of the county of Anne Arundel planter a tract of land lying on the west side of Chesapeake Bay next adjoining to the land of Sampson Warren and Thomas Davis beginning at a marked pockicory tree the said tree being the southernmost bound of the said Warring's and Davis's land

and running South and by West down the bay for the length of three hundred perches to a marked oak bounding on the South with a line drawn West from the said oak for the length of three hundred and sixty perches on the West with a line drawn North and by East from the end of the western line unto the land of the said Waring and Davis on the North with the said land on the East with the said bay Containing and now laid out for six hundred acres more or less. (MD Patents; Liber AB&H, folio 287)

With the bayfront patents of the Lower Cliffs Hundred mapped, it became obvious that a large portion of Cove Point LNG property was located in the Eltonhead Hundred. Unfortunately, we were still uncertain of the placement of the northern boundary of **Eltonhead Manor**. Because none of the patents had mentioned Parker Creek, we were unable to anchor our map at the northern boundary of the Lower Cliffs Hundred. Mention of Rocky Point assisted somewhat, but with our knowledge of the migration of points of land, we needed more information. **Eltonhead Manor** quickly became a focal point of our inquiry.