

make pews for the addition, 1761. **PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE:** Convention, Talbot County, 5th, 1775; Lower House, Talbot County, 1777, 1777–1778 (resigned on March 4, 1778, to attend to his business affairs). **LOCAL OFFICES:** churchwarden, St. Michael's Parish, Talbot County, elected 1750; tobacco inspector, St. Michael's River, Talbot County, appointed 1751, 1753, 1756, 1766, and 1774; St. Michael's Parish Vestry, Talbot County, elected 1756, 1769, and 1775; justice, Talbot County, appointed 1778 (did not qualify); commissioner of tax, Talbot County, 1779–1782. **MILITARY SERVICE:** captain, Thirty-eighth Battalion, Talbot County Militia, 1776. **STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES:** manumitted three slaves, 1781. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. PERSONAL PROPERTY:** assessed value £808.5.0, including 12 slaves and 3 oz. plate, 1783. **LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** 372 acres in Talbot County (134 acres from his father; 200 acres by purchase). **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** obtained 192 acres in Queen Anne's County through his marriage by 1754, but sold it all in 1760. **WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED:** will probated on March 6, 1792, in Talbot County. **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** size of estate unknown; no inventories or accounts were recorded; his will mentioned slaves and livestock. **LAND:** 373 acres in Talbot County.

BENSON, PERRY (1694–1751). **BORN:** on April 1, 1694, in St. Michael's Parish, Talbot County; third son. **NATIVE:** second generation. **RESIDED:** on the north side of the St. Michael's River, Talbot County. **FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER:** Capt. James Benson (?–1709), who immigrated in 1674 from England, resided on St. Michael's River, Talbot County, a surgeon. **MOTHER:** Margaret, immigrated as a servant, free by 1679. **BROTHERS:** James (1684/85–?); *Edmond Benson* (1687–1734); and Nicholas (ca. 1699–?), who married in 1722 Rachel (1701–1775). **SISTERS:** Margaret (1682/83–?); Ann (1689–?), who married James Spencer, Jr.; Elizabeth (1691–?), who married (first name unknown) Harrison; and Mary (1702/3–?), who married James Parrott. **MARRIED** by 1719 Rebecca, widow of Michael Russell. **CHILDREN. SON:** *James Benson* (?–1792). **STEPSONS:** William Russell; Thomas Russell. **DAUGHTERS:** Rebecca; Margaret; and Ann. **STEPDAUGHTERS:** Sarah Russell, who married by 1728 William Dawson; Elizabeth Russell, who married by 1728 William Edwards; and Mary Russell. **PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION:** literate. **RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION:** Anglican, St. Michael's Parish, Talbot County. **SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES:** Gent., 1731. **OCCUPATIONAL**

PROFILE: carpenter, 1715; planter, 1743. **PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE:** Lower House, Talbot County, 1732–1734. **LOCAL OFFICES:** justice, Talbot County, 1732–1751 (quorum, 1739–1751); St. Michael's Parish Vestry, Talbot County, elected 1742, 1744, and 1750; coroner, Talbot County, commissioned 1743; tobacco inspector, Thomas Bruff's Landing, St. Michael's River, Talbot County, appointed 1748 and 1749 (refused to serve). **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** 96 acres in Talbot County (all by patent); also held 740 acres in Talbot County for the heirs of his wife's first husband. **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** Benson had received 220 acres in Talbot County by deed of gift from his brother in 1731, but he sold it all before his first election. **SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH:** patented 740 acres in Talbot County with John Valiant in 1733, but sold or gave away all of it before his death; purchased and patented 232 acres in Talbot County, 1741, 1749–1750. **WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED:** on September 24, 1751, in Talbot County. **PERSONAL PROPERTY:** at least 2 slaves mentioned in will. **LAND:** 328 acres in Talbot County.

BERRY, JAMES (?–1666). **IMMIGRATED:** in 1652/53 as a free adult with his wife and children from Virginia. **RESIDED:** in Calvert County. **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:** in Accomack County, Virginia, by 1636 when he received a patent for 350 acres for transporting himself, his wife, and five other individuals. **MARRIED** by 1636 Elizabeth. **CHILDREN. SONS:** *William Berry* (ca. 1636–1691), who married first, Naomi (?–1663), daughter of *Richard Preston* (?–ca. 1669/70), and second, in 1669 Margaret (?–1688), widow of *Richard Preston* (?–by 1669) and daughter of *Thomas Marsh* (ca. 1615–1656/57); Roger. **DAUGHTER:** *Martha*. **PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION:** literate. **RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION:** Protestant, probably a Quaker. **SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES:** no title on arrival in Maryland; Mr., by 1655. **OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE:** planter. **PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE:** Assembly, Patuxent (Calvert County), 1654. **LOCAL OFFICE:** justice, Patuxent (Calvert County), 1655. **STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES:** fined in 1655 and probably lost his court commission for supporting the proprietary governor William Stone against the Parliamentary Commissioners. **WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION:** probably 400 acres in Maryland and 600 acres in Virginia; sold his land in Virginia in 1655 and patented another 900 acres in Maryland