

land. He was sold as a servant first to Thomas Macnemara and then to *Thomas Bordley* (ca. 1683–1726). RESIDED: in Annapolis, Anne Arundel County. MARRIED first, on January 21, 1719/20, Elizabeth, daughter of *Henry Coursey* (1662–1707); granddaughter of *Henry Coursey* (ca. 1629–1695). Her brothers were Henry (1693–?); Otho; and William (1703–1769). Her sisters were Araminta; Juliana; and Mary. Her nephew was *Edward DeCoursey* (ca. 1759–1827). Her niece was Sarah Coursey, who married *Robert Wright* (1752–1826). MARRIED second, by 1742/43 Margaret Thomas (?–1804). CHILDREN. SONS: William (baptised on February 28, 1719/20–died young); Alexander (1721–1774), of Frederick and Baltimore counties; William (1724–1793), of Annapolis, in Frederick County by July 1751, a planter and attorney who was fined £25 during the Revolution by the Frederick County justices for allegedly drinking to His Majesty's health; Henry (1726–1768), of St. Botolph Aldgate Parish, London, England, a mariner; James; and David (?–1796), of Anne Arundel County. DAUGHTERS: Elizabeth, who married (first name unknown) Hamilton; Mary (1742/43–?), who married John Dorsey (?–1815), son of John Dorsey and wife Elizabeth; Margaret; and Araminta (?–1824), of Frederick County, who married in 1800 Capt. Ely Dorsey (?–1821), son of Ely Dorsey and wife Deborah. PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: literate; while a servant to Macnemara and *Thomas Bordley* (ca. 1683–1726) Cummings said he had obtained some knowledge of the law. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Anglican, St. Anne's Parish, Anne Arundel County. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: servant, ca. 1716. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: lawyer, admitted to the following courts: Anne Arundel County in March 1718/19 (he was fined 100 pounds of tobacco during March 1721/22 for nonattendance in court); Prince George's County in March 1718/19; Baltimore County in August 1719 (his petition to be admitted was rejected, but no reason was given); Court of Chancery by July 1720; Provincial Court ca. 1722 or 1723 (he was fined 100 pounds of tobacco in October 1726 for nonattendance in court); Prince George's County in November 1725 (took new oath required by law); Prerogative Court in March 1725/26; St. Mary's County by June 1729; Calvert County by August 1741; Frederick County by March 1748/49. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Annapolis, 1732–1734 (Laws 1–Cv; Accounts Cv). OTHER STATE OFFICES: clerk, Lower House, July 1731 (served for Michael Macnemara); clerk, High Court of Appeals and Errors, commissioned 1733.

LOCAL OFFICES: clerk of Indictments, Prince George's County, sworn 1720 and 1727; common councilman, Annapolis, elected 1721; churchwarden, St. Anne's Parish, Anne Arundel County, 1721–1722; St. Anne's Parish Vestry, Anne Arundel County, 1732–1735; alderman, Annapolis, by 1740–1752. WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. PERSONAL PROPERTY: executed a deed of trust to his son William transferring all his real and personal property for the benefit of his creditors in 1751, including 117 law books, 40 slaves, 1 black and 3 white servants, and silver plate. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: 778 acres in Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties, plus 3 lots in Annapolis (all by purchase or patent, including a one-half interest in 660 acres in Prince George's County patented with James Edmondston). SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH: gave 4,609 acres in Anne Arundel and Frederick counties, plus 3 lots in Annapolis, by deed of trust to his son William to be sold for the benefit of his creditors in 1751, this being the total of his real property; Cumming even offered to "surrender his body which is Old Exausted [*sic*] and Impaired to Satisfy his Creditors if required"; he requested only that his son redeem the mortgage he had taken out on his dwelling house and outhouses in Annapolis from *Philip Hammond* (1697–1760). WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: on March 11, 1752, of an apoplectic fit near Lower Marlboro, Calvert County, on his return from St. Mary's County. PERSONAL PROPERTY: TEV, £411.25 current money (including 7 slaves, 2 servants, law books and other books, 70 oz. plate, and a Tuesday Club medal). All of his personal property, however, had previously been given by deed of trust to his son in 1751 to be sold for the benefit of his creditors; FB, £89.5.1. LAND: all of his real estate had been given by deed of trust in 1751 to his son to be sold for the benefit of his creditors; by 1770 some of Cumming's creditors still had not been paid. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: in 1770 Alexander Cumming, eldest son and heir-at-law of William, petitioned the legislature for damages he felt were due him as a result of the quartering of some of the king's forces in his father's house in Annapolis in 1754. The premises were left in a ruinous and shattered condition, and had since been appraised and sold at a lower price for the benefit of his father's creditors. Alexander's petition was rejected by the Lower House, which stated that there appeared to be creditors of William Cumming who had not yet received payment.