

BIOGRAPHIES

The format of the biographies is designed so that the major public and private aspects of a legislator's career are quickly discernible. In formulating research procedures, we adopted eleven elements as an organizational framework for the collation of evidence as it accumulated (see figure 5). After an individual's name and dates of birth and death come concise statements of his personal and family background, marriages, children, private and public career, values and opinions, and wealth. Elements are set in boldface type in small capital letters, with categories of data within each element set in regular type in small caps. The section dealing with a legislator's familial connections, for example, begins with the element **FAMILY BACKGROUND** (boldface type), followed by categories such as **FATHER**, **MOTHER**, **UNCLE**, and **AUNTS** (regular small caps). Elements and categories do not appear where research elicited no information. If we could not ascertain the name of a legislator's wife but did know the name of his offspring, only **CHILDREN** will appear and not the element **MARRIED**. The names of all legislators in a man's biography are in boldface italic type in order to highlight legislative connections. If a legislator's father, two uncles, and four sons sat in the legislature, their names will be in boldface italics and reference should be made to their biographies. The voluminous number of sources consulted precluded using footnotes, but the documented files on each legislator are at the Hall of Records. Upon completion of the three monographs, these files will be open to the public and the contents placed on microform.

The first element of a biography consists of the legislator's name, with variant spellings indicated parenthetically, followed by birth and death dates. For an explanation of date qualifiers "by," "ca.," and slash dates (e.g., 1744/45), see Abbreviations and Notes.

If we know the precise date of a legislator's birth, it appears after the category **BORN** in the element [**PERSONAL BACKGROUND**]. Where the term "of age by" precedes a year after **BORN**, it means that the man was of legal age—twenty-one—by that date. Also included in this category, where available, is the legislator's birthplace and rank within his family (that is, first son, younger son, etc.). The category **IMMIGRATED** explains when a legislator came to Maryland. For the purpose of numbering generations, an immigrant was considered first generation if he was of age upon arrival in the colony. When a legislator immigrated to the colony as a minor with his parents, he was counted as second generation. The final category under personal background is the legislator's residence. If a man lived in several locations, they are listed in chronological order. Only one location and the absence of a date denotes a legislator who maintained a single residence throughout his adult life.

One of the main concerns of the project was to document legislative connections within and between family groupings. Thus, primary stress in the element **FAMILY BACKGROUND** was the delineation of a legislator's relationships, through blood or marriage, to other legislators. Marriages of brothers are not shown if the father sat in the Assembly, but those of sisters are given if they married legislators. This rule applies to all male and female relatives. If a man's father did not sit in the Assembly, however, available information on the legislator's immediate family is included.

The research files contain much additional information on familial ties. For the sake of brevity in publication, however, the relationships are limited to the immediately preceding and the two succeeding generations. Specific relatives sought were: father, stepfather/guardians, mother, stepmothers, uncles, aunts, brothers and sisters, first cousins, nephews, and nieces. We did not