



Early evidence for the Blades family of Maryland's Eastern Shore

The available evidence points to George Blades, born in Grinton Parish, Yorkshire, England as the sole progenitor of the Blades family of Maryland's Eastern Shore. A small handful of records give us the name of his wife, four children, and a rough idea of when he died. A large number of his descendants remained in Talbot County for the next three hundred years. The remainder spread out into the other Eastern Shore counties. I am principally concerned with the Talbot Co. branch and in this, I am indebted to Betty Seymour, my 3rd cousin and a tireless researcher, who has spent many years connecting dots to form the Talbot Co. Blades family tree. Her work forms the foundation of mine.

While it has been possible for me to directly trace some members of the Blades family from 1650 to present day, others are still a tangled mess. And so I am offering this document for other Blades researchers to use, correct, comment upon, add to, argue with, and if we are lucky, determine the connections between what are now just names on a page. Be forewarned that this document contains speculation on my part about some of these connections. The words " might be the son of . . ." are a warning that a statement is speculation and not fact! In every case, the information presented here is connected to a source document, and the reference numbers on the date line are links to the source list at the bottom of this page.

1650 - 1750

1650 [#186](#)

George Blades, son of James Blades of Spring End, is baptized in Grinton Parish, Yorkshire, England.

16xx [#128](#)

Michael Taylor sells "Harley" to Robert Humphrey, both of Talbot Co., MD

1669 [#59](#)

Robert Blades and daughter Mary immigrate from England to Maryland. Liber 15 folio 531.

21 Mar 1689 [#128](#)

Talbot Co. land records indicate that "Harley" is now the property of Robert Humphrey's widow, Frances.

19 Oct 1691 [#39](#), [#178](#)

George Blades and his wife Frances sell "Harley" to Edward Elliott. These three land transactions form the basis of the theory that between 1689 and 1691, Robert Harley died, leaving his property to his wife Frances, who in turn married George Blades, immigrant from England.

16 Feb 1696 [#308](#)

John Blades and his wife Rebecca lease to John Flowers 50 acres of "Alexander's Place" for the term of 99 years, Dorchester Co.

21 Mar 1698 [#128](#)

Talbot Co. Judgements establish guardians for three of George Blades' four known children, strongly suggesting that George had died by this date. Daughter Mary is put in the care of Michael Russell. Sons James and Edmund are put in the care of William Dixon.

28 Jun 1702 [#27](#)

The St. Michaels parish register records the baptism of Susannah Blades, daughter of George Blades.

30 Nov 1722 [#91](#)

Edmund Blades, [son of George Sr.], Talbot Co. planter acquires half of "Warrilow's Exchange" and half of the personal property of the estate, from widow Sarah Cape, in exchange for his agreement to maintain her for the remainder of her life. Charles Hicks purchases the other half of the moiety.

12 Jun 1727 [#69](#)

Edmund Blades [son of George Sr.] is listed as next-of-kin in the probate records of Richard Collins.

1733 [#79](#)

The 1733 Talbot Co. tax rolls include Edmund Blades [son of George Sr.], paying poll tax but owning no land in Bay Hundred.

31 Aug 1741 [#309](#)

James Blades [son of George Sr.], Queen Anne's Co. planter, purchases 50 acres of "Long Range" from Joseph and Sarah Fisher of Dorchester Co. Witnessed their purchase of "Codhead Manor" on the same day.

9 Nov 1743 [#48](#)

Joseph Blades marries Mary Haddaway in Talbot Co. [Parents not certain, but appears to be the son of James Sr., grandson of George Sr.]

27 Jul 1745 [#48](#)

Joseph Blades marries Esther Eaton in Talbot Co. [Parents not certain, but appears to be the son of James Sr., grandson of George Sr.]

6 Aug 1747 [#62](#)

Edmund Blades [son of George Sr.], Talbot Co. planter, and his wife Mary, sell to Robert Spencer 14.5 acres of "Matthew Circumvented", a tract of land on the south side of the St. Michaels River. "Matthew Circumvented" is the resurveyed and renamed half-tract previously called "Warrilow's Exchange" acquired from Sarah Cape in 1722.

1748 [#79](#)

The rolls of the Talbot Co. militia, Captain Haddaway's Company include John Blades and James Blades.

17 Feb 1748 [#48](#)

James Blades marries Mary Eaton in Talbot Co. [son of James Sr., grandson of George Sr.]

21 Dec 1748 [#48](#)

Samuel Blades marries Amelia Barnes in Somerset Co. [Parents not known]

1750 - 1840