

## Dawkins

*The family name is English.*

*Armes: Gules, a lion passant guardant, or between two roses in pale, argent,*

*Flame arches two of the second each charged with lion rampant.*

*Crest: A dexter arm capued at the shoulder ppr holding a battle axe headways or a rose g.u.*

The family of Dawkins established itself at Over Norton, Oxfordshire, England in the time of King Henry VIII.

The first of the family to come to Maryland was Joseph born 1636/37(per Robert Barnes), a servant who was transported into the colony in 1656 where he settled in Calvert County. He had two sons by his first wife who died in England. Within a year of his arrival in Maryland he married Mary Hall, daughter of James Hall and Mary Edwin of Habden Hall on St. Georges' Creek. The only known daughter of Joseph and Mary (Hall) Dawkins, Mary, was probably born circa 1657/59. She married James Duke before 1685.

In 1660 Joseph witnessed the will of William Bromwell in Kent County. In 1665 he obtained a grant to "Bachelor's Hall" 300 acres; "Hill Hall" 200 acres which were surveyed April 11, 1668 for himself and Robert Andrews. It was probably his home plantation. He later acquired "Joseph's Place" 200 acres which was surveyed for Joseph Edloe on November 24, 1682. "Joseph's Place" was located on the north side of the Patuxent River and west of Leonard's Creek and was in possession of Joseph Dawkins according to the rent rolls of Calvert County. "Joseph's Reserve" 196 acres was surveyed November 27, 1682 for Joseph Dawkins.

He died in Calvert County in the spring of 1685. In his will dated March 31 and probated May 9, 1685 "According to the compassion of the Church of England" he left:

Mary (Margaritt) Dawkins (all of my estate?) should go for tuition of my children. Should she die before the children are capable to manage the estate and care of the children to John Turner

To son: Joseph Jr. my land "Joseph's Reserve" 196 acres.

To son: William "Joseph's Place" 200 acres.

To ux: Mary (Margaritt) the plantation where I now dwell, at her decease to son James' heirs.

To daughter Mary Duk ux of James Duke one cow and calf. Stock is to be divided when children become of age. Should wife and child Dye my stock to go to her brother Thomas Hale (Hall) living in Pocomoke

Joseph (x) Dawkins

Witness: John (x) Stuart (?) and Thomas Owens.

The will of the second Joseph Dawkins gives evidence of the property that accrued to the family through the first two generations in Maryland.

Joseph Dawkins, Calvert County 30 December 1714 probated 2 April 1715

To: brother, William and heirs 200 acres "Joseph's Place"

To: son William and heirs "Joseph's Reserve" 196 acres

To: son Joseph dwelling plantation "Batchelor's Hall"

To: son James residue of lands including “Haphazard”  
To: son William to make over to him “Mary’s Duckdome” also is which is now in possession of James Duke  
To: daughters Mary, Sarah and Maragerette at 16 years and young Dorcas –Personality.  
Executor: son William and residuary legatee  
Overseers: Colonel John Mack and brothers William Dawkins and John Howe (?)  
Testators: James Duke Jr.; Joseph Pinder; Andrew Duk (Duke).

#### Controversy:

Recorded in Patents Liber 10 Folio 242 item 255: “November 4 came Joseph Dawkins and Robert Andrews of Calvert County demanding their freedom in 1656. Warranted in both names for 100 acres February 7 next”. In 1681 Mary Duke nee Dawkins a femme sole patented land in her own right. A tract of 100 acres was surveyed for her on December 19, 1681 which she named “Mary Duke’s Doom” “By virtue of a Warrant for 200 acres 17 November granted Joseph Dawkins who assigned to Mary Duke 100 acres and had laid out for said Mary Duke all that tract of 100 acres in Calvert County called “Mary Dukes Doom” (or Mary’s Dukedom) now in possession of Francis Fulke”.

On the back of this statement by Joseph Dawkins were the signature of James Duke as a witness with Ninean Beal and the date of 17 November 1681. Wording on the survey misspells Dawkins as Dalkins; Duke as Deuke, Deake and Douлке and a marginal note attributes the appointment of the land to Joseph Duke when obviously it should be Joseph Dawkins. Joseph then made his mark to the surname Dawkenery. In 1714 a son Joseph Dawkins Jr. was in possession of “Mary Duike’s Doom” for the first time.

Joseph Dawkins was aged 49 when he died if born in 1636. He was aged 20 when he claimed land upon demanding his freedom. He was wed circa 1672 before the birth of his son Joseph when Joseph Sr. was aged 36? It is not known when Joseph arrived in Maryland - not 1656. Dawkins son Joseph and William could not have been born in England if Joseph Jr. was born in 1656 (per Barnes)

Question Why would Joseph Dawkins turn over the entire 100 acres obtained with Robert Andrews (per patents Page 1) to his daughter Mary? Joseph’s wife was the granddaughter of William Edwin. Edwin was an assignee of Ferdinand Poulton as was Richard Duke. Duke and Edwin were members of the Assembly in March 21-23, 1642 representing different hundreds of St. Mary’s County. They both sailed for England before 1648 and both returned at the same time. Was Dawkins compensating Edwin’s fellow Duke through Richard’s son? Considering the gross misspellings on the statement above could Francis Fulke actually be Francis Douлке (Duke?) transported to Maryland in 1660.

Children of Joseph:

Joseph born 1673 died 1715, wed 1696 (Sarah, unknown)

William born 1675 died 1726 wed 1706 Mary Mackall (12 children)

James born (???) died 1701 wed 1700 (unknown)

Mary born (???) wed James Duke before 1685.

References: Early Settlers of Maryland, page 127 – Skordas  
Register of Maryland Historic Families Vol. 1 page 135,177.  
Maryland Calendar of Wills - Baldwin Vol.2 page 142, Vol.4 page 30.  
The “Flowering of the Maryland Palatinate” - Newman page 47,197.  
Maryland Historical Magazine Vol. 31 page 271.  
Genealogical and Memorial Encyclopedia of Maryland Vol. 2 page 417.