

HISTORIC SITE FILE: **BRISTOE TRACT**  
PRINCE WILLIAM PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM  
RELIC/Bull Run Reg Lib Manassas, VA

Petition for Sale of  
Bristoe Estate in  
Prince William County.

Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> 1822

ref. to Schools

1823

Jan. 13<sup>th</sup> Reexamined

To the Honorable the General Assembly of Virginia

The Petition of the undersigned, inhabitants of Prince William County respectfully represents that a tract of land containing nearly eight thousand acres, called the Bristoe estate, escheated many years since to the Commonwealth, from which <sup>a</sup> ~~very~~ ~~considerable~~ revenue is now derived, to the Literary funds; Your memorialists believe that the interests of that fund will be greatly improved by the sale of this Estate, while the county in which it is located will sustain neither inconvenience nor injury. The Bristoe estate is situated in the centre of the county, and is at present <sup>generally</sup> occupied by a miserable tenantry who ~~neither~~ have neither inclination or ability to ~~improve it~~ <sup>cultivate it to advantage</sup>, and ~~it~~ is confidently believed that, if its sale be authorized, it will of necessity fall into the hands of more enterprising persons who will feel a pride and interest in its improvement. The seat of Justice in this county is in the heart of this tract, and will naturally induce persons of respectability and worth to settle in its neighbourhood, whose comfort would be greatly enhanced by

the facility of establishing small farms around them.

Your memorialists are aware that an effort was made in the last session of your Legislature to effectuate this object, which was not sanctioned by those who then represented them, because they were uncertain how far ~~such an~~ <sup>their</sup> act might have been approved by your memorialists, and prudently declined ~~of~~ ~~ing~~ such a responsibility; the agitation of this subject so recently, has excited the attention of your petitioners, and they feel persuaded that the interest arising from the sale of this land will be much more valuable to the Literary fund than the precarious revenue derived from Tobacco rents, which are ~~uncertain~~ <sup>unsettled</sup> both as to amount and punctuality, because the crop itself is always uncertain, and losses are sometimes sustained by default of the tenants.

Under these convictions, your memorialists respectfully ask that you will pass a Law authorising the escheator of the Commons altho for this County to sell this Bristol estate, under such limitations and restrictions, as in your wisdom may seem best calculated to enhance the interests of the Literary fund, and to promote the prosperity of your Petitioners, who, as in duty bound, will ever pray &c &c

Wm. Clayton

H. B. Sinclair

Colbacrae

Wm. G. Dunton

Phil D. Dams

Abraham Millar

Thomas

Wm. A. Wells

W. C. Harrison

Hayes

Wm. P. Cudde

Wm. Brauner

James F. Wells

John White

Wm. Gibson Jr.

Aug. D. Garver

L. Roper

Philip Cross

John Wright

Denis M. Dermont

Wm. B. Tyler

Wm. W. Williams

Samuel Hunt

Thomas Cabot

Samuel Nicholson

Boston Goddard

Wm. Tomlin

H. Bunting

Geo. Milcarr

Saml J. Tebb

W. W. Tebb

John C. Gilroy

George F. Huber

Robt. Lannin

Wm. Dams

Hugh Davis

Archibald Lawton

Wm. G. Dade

John Purcell }  
John Purcell }  
John Goodwin }

Charles Goodwin (seal)

Prince William County to wit:

Clerks Office August 21<sup>st</sup> 1827

This Bill of sale from Charles Goodwin to William Goodwin was this day acknowledged by the said Charles Goodwin in the office aforesaid to be his act & deed & admitted to record.

Seal P.D. Davis C. Secy

To all to whom these Presents may be shown knowlege that I Charles Goodwin at present of the County of Prince Williams and Commonwealth of Virginia being in possession of a tenement or lott of land on the tract commonly known by the Name of Binstons tract lying in A bend of Cedar run near its junction with the Broad run which lott I purchased of James Kemp who Purchased it of Walter Coe who purchased it of the late Col. Thomas Atwell and who by A monstraig de droit proffered to the late general Courte in the year 1779 had his claim to Saies on said lott confirmed to him for a given time as will more fully ap-

Goodwin  
to  
Goodwin  
Deed  
arn.

lands  
umber 3  
John W  
cord

in Goodwin  
recd being  
by said  
is this day  
re cord  
on the  
of the  
day  
his friends  
prop  
from the

pear by A return to the records and proceedings had the above Bargained sold aliened and conveyed and by these Presents do bargain sell alien and convey all my right and title to leave on said lott to William Goodwin his heirs and assigns for and in consideration of the sum of two hundred dollars the act whereof I do hereby acknowledge what obliges my self to warrant and defend full right forever

John Will  
John Will

... by a return to the records and proceedings had the  
 have bargained sold aliened, and conveyed and by these presents do bargain sell alien and convey all my right and title to leave on said lot to William Goodwin his heirs and assigns for ever for and in consideration of the sum of two hundred dollars the act whereof I do hereby acknowledge and obligate my self to wa. ant. and defend all right therein granted against the claim or claims of my self my heirs and all and every person or persons whatsoever Witness my hand and seal this 26<sup>th</sup> day of Apr 1827

In the presence of  
 Jas. Purcell  
 John Purcell

Charles Goodwin (seal)

Prince William County to wit

Clerks Office August 21 1827

This deed from Charles Goodwin to William Goodwin was this day acknowledged in the office aforesaid by the said Charles Goodwin to be his act & deed & admitted to record.

Teste J. D. Dams & Cur.

This Indenture made and entered into this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August 1827 Between John Wright of the 1<sup>st</sup> part John Williams of the 2<sup>d</sup> part and Stephen Howison of the 3<sup>d</sup> part all of Prince William County and State of Virginia; Whereas the said John Wright is justly indebted to the said Stephen Howison in the sum of Seventy seven dollars and 75 cents by bond bearing date the 26<sup>th</sup> May 1827 as by reference to said Bond will more fully appear which debt with the legal interest thereon accruing the said John Wright is desirous to secure, Now this Indenture witnesseth that for and in consideration

Wright  
 to  
 Williams  
 D. Trust  
 Exam.<sup>d</sup> &  
 deliv.<sup>d</sup> to  
 Stephen  
 Howison  
 this 19<sup>th</sup> of  
 Nov<sup>r</sup> 1827  
 J. W. H.

The bond was  
 and given  
 adm<sup>d</sup> & c<sup>d</sup>  
 John William  
 John Wright  
 want & ag<sup>d</sup>  
 adm<sup>d</sup> & c<sup>d</sup>  
 the afo<sup>r</sup>  
 in with the  
 of corn afo<sup>r</sup>  
 and assign<sup>d</sup>  
 will warrant  
 nevertheless  
 and assign<sup>d</sup>  
 and preceat  
 land and  
 the first da  
 payment of  
 from the 2<sup>d</sup>  
 further trust  
 soon after to  
 Stephen Ho.  
 proceed to s.  
 bed in the  
 in & to the  
 John Willia  
 for ready in  
 place of sat  
 thereof by a  
 of Prince W  
 and out of  
 ing the ch