

**Prince William County, October 7<sup>th</sup> 1779**  
**Virginia Governors Executive Papers - Thomas Jefferson**  
**Inq: of Escheat on Ro: Bristow's Estate - Prince William**

Inquisition indented & taken this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October 1779 before Henry Peyton Gent. Sheriff of the County of Prince William by Alexander Lithgow, Hugh Brent, John Shute, Daniel Tibbs, Charles Adams, John Langfit, John Linton, William Copen, James Triplett, Michael Maze, John Hedges and William Farrow, good & lawful men, Jurors summoned on behalf of the Commonwealth, who upon their oaths do say that Robert Bristow Esq. of Great Britain upon the 19<sup>th</sup> day of April 1775, at the parish of Dettinger in the county aforesaid, was seized in fee of seven thousand five hundred acres of land be the same more or less with the appurtenances situate lying & being in the parish of Dettinger & county aforesaid which he hath not since conveyed away and that about thirty years ago, one Richard Blackburn Gent. who received the rents advertised that the said Bristow would give leases to his tenants and that the said Robert Bristow is an alien enemy subject of his Britineck Majesty, and on the said 19<sup>th</sup> day of April 1775 was resident in the Kingdom of Great Britain and hath not since that time either entered into public employment of the United States of America or joined the same and by overt act adhered to them. In testimony whereof the said Jurors have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and years first above written.

John Linton  
 William Copen  
 Mickl. Maze  
 James Triplett

John Hedges  
 Wm. Farrow  
 Alex Lithgow  
 Hugh Brent

John Shute  
 Chas. Adams  
 John Langfill  
 Danl. Tebbs

Copy      Teste  
 Wilson Allen C.G. C.

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John Linton  
 Wils. Copin  
 Micl. Maze

James Triplett  
 John Hedges  
 William Farrow

Alex Lithgow  
 Hugh Brent  
 John Shute

Chs. Adams  
 John Langfit  
 Danl. Tebbs

A Copy      Teste      J. Brown C.G.B.  
 A Copy      Teste      Peter Timley C.H.C.C.

Gloucester County, to wit,  
 Inq. Of Escheat on Ro. Bristows Est.

Inquisition Indented taken on the plantation of Robert Bristow deceased in the Parish of Ware in the county aforesaid, the sixth day of August in the fourth year of the Commonwealth and in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy nine; between Francis Willis Jun. Escheator of the one part and Mordicai Throckmorton, Benjamin Marrable, John Ash, William Robins Jun., James Nuttall jun., Hen; Pointer Jr, Michael Pointer, Richard Ransome, Francis Hall, William Kemp, John Howlet, William Hall, good and lawful men of the county aforesaid of the other part, who being returned & impaneled by the Sheriff of the county aforesaid, and duly sworn according to the directions of the Acts of General Assembly lately made untitled an act concerning Escheats and forfeitures from

British Subjects & the other an act concerning Escheator and charged to enquire as well on behalf of the Commonwealth as on behalf of the heir of Robert Bristow deceased late of the Kingdom of Great Britain to say whether certain lands, tenements & hereditaments, together with certain slaves & personal estate lying & being in the county aforesaid, are the property of the said heir of the said Robert Bristow deceased and whether the heir of the said Robert Bristow was a subject of the King of Great Britain, and having examined into the matter upon their oaths do say that the said thirteen hundred acres of land with the appurtenances are the eighty nine negroes and personal estate as will appear by a schedule hereto annexed are the property of the heirs of the said Robert Bristow deceased who was an Inhabitant of Great Britain and a subject of the British King, and the said land, slaves & personal estate are become escheated or forfeited to the Commonwealth of Virginia, and that seven hundred acres of land, twenty two slaves and personal estate as will appear by a schedule here wise the property of the heir of the said Robert Bristow deceased and is become escheated or forfeited to the Commonwealth of Virginia agreeable to the acts of General Assembly in such cases made and provided. In witness whereof the Jurors aforesaid have hereunto set their names and seals the day and year aforesaid.

A Schedule of the estate of Robert Bristow Esq. deceased late of Great Britain lying & being the parishes of Ware & Kingston. Viz.

Land in Ware	1300 acres	Mordecai Thockmorton
Negro slaves in Ditto.	89	Benj. Manable
Horses &c. in Ditto.	7	John Ash
Black Cattle in Ditto.	62	William Robins
Sheep in Ditto.	104	James Nuttall
Land in Kingston	700 acres	Richard Ransome
Negro Slaves in Ditto	22	Richard Ransome
Black Cattle in Ditto.	17	William Kemp
Hogs in Ditto.	39	John Howlet
Horses &c in Ditto.	5	Wm. Hall Jun.

The subscriber Sub. Sheriff of this County, impannelled &c within Jury and attended the Inquisition. Given under my hand & seal this 6<sup>th</sup> day of August 1779.

Teste John New S.Shf. (Seal)  
Wilson Allen C.G.C.

**Prince William County, April 9<sup>th</sup> 1781**  
**Virginia Governors Executive Papers - Thomas Jefferson**

Sir.

On the first Instant a small schooner vessel Jender to the Trimer privateer belonging to Goodrich's Company with 21 men commanded by one Dickson went up to Alexandria and in the night attempted to cut out before the town a vessel belonging to Baltimore fortunately they were discovered and the wind changing prevented their succeeding they immediately made off down the river and were pursued by two armed vessels and owing to a favorable North West wind was taken before they got to the Trimer which with the Surprise and another Hooper of War laid at Cedar point belonging to the same Company as the Schooner found the (Must?) be taken the men took to their boats and landed on the Virginia Side of the river 16 of them were taken by the Inhabitants 8 of whom were sent to Fredericksburg from whence I hear they are sent to Winchester the others were sent up in the vessels that pursued them to Alexandria and are confined in that Joal among them is Dickson. The privateers as they came up took thirty Negroes and the overseer from a plantation of Consellor Carters at Coles point in Westmoreland and have Plundered the Houses of Messrs Gerard Hooe, John Washington and many other persons of all their furniture & other valuable effects and taken off some Negroes on Friday last in the night (we had an account yesterday from a man from Maryland) they went up Port Tobacco Creek and there did great damage plundered the houses of Mr. Walter Harrison, Mr. Neale carried Mr. Neale off and also a ton of Mr. Harrison plundered the house of the Priest and many others. Mr. George Scott houses they burnt and a fine stallion and two champion horses suffered in the flames. Mr. Lawson manager to both Tayloe's Neabsco Iron Works near one lost also a vessel boarded with 100 barrels of corn was taken from Nanjamy. One receiving official notice from the county distant of Stafford that the Enemy were making up the river and the Town of Dumfries with the Warehouses on Quantico Creek might be their object and that the Inhabitants might be secured against these plunderers. I immediately ordered all the Militia that could be armed to rendezvous at the mouth of Quantico Creek and they have been there two days about forty there on duty if the enemy do not appear on the shifting of the wind which being this two days at Northwest and against

them. I shall only keep a few look outs if the enemy had succeeded at Alexandria they intended ; one of the prisoners said to have burnt Genl. Washington's houses, plundered Cols Masson and myself and endeavored to have made me a prisoner. As the Act of Assembly empowers you to raise any number of horse it would be advisable to order a few horse to be raised in the different counties on Potomac and constantly keep in pay to give notice of the movements of the Enemy from time to time each would be of --maging --tivity and --rit the Inhabitants in their possessions and save many family's from being plundered. I hope to receive your answer by the return of the Port with such orders as you may please to give which shall be implicitly obeyed by your Excellency.

Most Obedient Servant

Henry Lee