

Valentine Huddleston Land Records and References in Maryland ca 1663-1670

The Huddleston Family Tables¹, page 9 contains the following concise summary of our subject's tenure in Maryland: "*Valentine immigrated to Maryland about 1663. He had numerous transactions in land on Patuxent River in Calvert County, between that date and 1671, when it is believed he migrated to Newport, R. I.-----*". The author provides no references and having my own agenda for wanting to know everything I can about Valentine's activity in Maryland I have investigated internet and other readily available sources to see what can be learned.

From prior experience I knew of this source:

[New "Early Settlers of Maryland" by Dr. Carson Gibb](#)

A search for Huddleston quickly yielded:

Hudleston, Huddlestone, Valentine

AA:75 Film No.:

Transported 1663; service by 1666

Transcript. 5:416; 10:209,322,583; 16:277

Original. FF:207-08,394; GG:28; WT:293

MSA SC 4341-

Page 243 of Skordas "Early Settlers of Maryland"² shows exactly corresponding information with the surname spelled HUDDLESTONE however only Liber 5, folio 416 and Liber 10, folio 209 are listed. Suffice it to say for now that the first number or letters are the Patent Book or Liber and the number after the colon is the Folio or page number.

Page 243				
HUGG, ELIZABETH	8	486	"	1664.
Huddeson, Rebecca	18	335	"	1675.
Huddlestone, Valentine	5	416	"	1663. Service 1666. (10, fol. 209).
Hudle, Charles	9	435	Transported	1664.
Hudle, John	15	416	"	1677.
Hudleston, Mary	15	540	"	1676.

To even have a prayer of understanding this information, what to do with it and perhaps how to find additional information, one should go to the various links under **References & Explanations for the Early Settlers of Maryland & Other finding aids** found at the end of this discussion. With the explanations provided we can surmise that Valentine was transported by 1663 with "by" being understood and that the word "transported" is code for the listed immigrant's having not paid his (or her) own passage and thus "service" indicates some sort of indenture or other obligation which was completed by 1666.

¹ Huddleston, George. *Huddleston Family Tables*. Concord, NH: Rumford, 1933. Print.& Heritage Quest Online

² Skordas, Gust, John M. Brewer, and Arthur Trader. *The Early Settlers of Maryland; an Index to Names of Immigrants Compiled from Records of Land Patents, 1633-1680, in the Hall of Records, Annapolis, Maryland*. Baltimore: Genealogical Pub., 1968. Print.

Again from prior experience, I knew that Maryland online land records had yielded valuable information on Land Patents³ with a fairly simple search. My first search using “Huddleston” yielded the two 1667 patent records and a second search with the property name “Lambeth” provided additional valuable information:

Valentine Huddleston Land Patents Calvert Co MD

**Calvert County Circuit Court
Land Surveys and Condominium Plats**

**Results Returned from Advanced Search on Descriptions: Huddleston and Lambeth
5 records found**

Description	Date	Reference	Direct Scans	Accession Number
Lambeth, Benjamin Mackall, 94 Acres	1754/07/21	Patented Certificates 90	3**	MSA S 1191-94
Lambeth, 94 Acres; Certificate <i>Developer/Owner:</i> Mackall, Benjamin Jr.	1754	Patent Record BC and GS 1, p. 27	0	MSA S 1583-911
Lambeth, 94 Acres; Patent <i>Developer/Owner:</i> Mackall, Benjamin Jr.	1754	Patent Record GS 2, p. 91	0	MSA S 1583-912
Lambeth, 143 Acres; Certificate <i>Developer/Owner:</i> Huddlestone, Valentine	1667	Patent Record 10, p. 585	0	MSA S 1583-909
Lambeth, 143 Acres; Patent <i>Developer/Owner:</i> Huddlestone, Valentine	1667	Patent Record 10, p. 619	0	MSA S 1583-910

The patent records for the 94 acres 1754/07/21 contain 3 images** and the image from this link [Page 2 1754 Patent Image](#) provides the date that Valentine Huddlestone received his patent for the 143 acres called Lambeth in Calvert Co., Maryland, **31 August 1667**. The mention of the Valentine and the 143 acres leaves little doubt it is the same land being re-patented nearly 100 years after Valentine’s patent. Now we know is that by 1667, Valentine has the use of this land in Calvert Co. and the obligation to pay Lord Calvert rent on the land. Valentine (or hardly anyone else) owned this land; they just had rights to use the land and the obligation for paying the rent to the Lord Proprietor. In the lower left hand corner of this document is the note: "*The above is mean stony hilly land. There's no improvements on it except 20 old apple trees having little value.*"

In another search I found a reference to our Valentine Huddleston (I am assuming it is very unlikely that there is more than one man of this name living or doing business in Calvert Co. during this

³ See finding aids at the end of this discussion

time period) having connections with a parcel of land known as Hard Travel apparently owning rights to the land with a partner.

Results Returned from Search on : Description: hard travel

2 records found

Huddleston Patent Hard Travel [note spelled HUDLESTONE]

Description	Date	Reference	Accession Number
Hard Travel, 300 Acres; Certificate <i>Developer/Owner:</i> Hudlestone, Valentine and William Herbert	1668	Patent Record 11, p. 328	MSA S 1583-720
Hard Travel, 300 Acres; Patent <i>Developer/Owner:</i> Hudlestone, Valentine and William Herbert	1668	Patent Record 12, p. 115	MSA S 1583-721

Unfortunately, there are no document images online for these patents. This land parcel also has another reference which led me to this record which will be shown later.

In the meantime however, there are, courtesy of [The Archives of Maryland Online](#) (AMOL), a few more tidbits from Valentine's tenure in Calvert Co., Province of Maryland

Other Calvert Co. References for Valentine Huddleston

I will attempt to present these references chronologically although the exact date isn't always immediately clear. As these records are transcribed (very literally in the un-retouched language of the day), I am going to minimize my commentary and just provide a link to the page at AMOL. Just one more note for anyone who may have not used these volumes from AMOL before: The page I will link to is the "main page" for each reference. These pages are Optical Character Recognition (OCR) scans of the original books from the Maryland Archives which at some point in time were transcribed from the original hand-written records⁴. The OCR scans are adequate and a good starting point (good enough for the "search" to find the reference in the first place) but if you look just to the upper left of the OCR scan you are reading you will see a link that says "View pdf image xxk" which will take you to a much more coherent view of the subject matter.

[VOL 57 P 394, 95](#) Provincial Court Proceedings 1668, 57:394-395. This appears to be about 1668 and I think that Valentine Huddleston is asking that his land which was originally laid out for Peter Johnson be re-surveyed. Likely not because he felt there was more useable land than that for which he was being charged rent. Note the statement above on the 1754 patent and the fact that the new patent was for only 94 acres; not 143.

[VOL 57 P 531](#) Provincial Court Proceedings 1669-70, 57:531 There is no reference to any land here but Valentine has clearly obligated himself to one Thomas Studd for 1200 lbs. of tobacco and is past due on the obligation. For this to make sense one has to do the old calendar/new calendar exercise and add one year to the February entries. Thus I think the past due date for the obligation was Oct 1668 and this record was recording the court hearing of Feb 1669.

⁴ This statement is true for all but one the records we are looking at. Other records have been manually transcribed and when opening the .pdf link, you will see the hand-written record.

[VOL 73 P 181](#) LAND-HOLDER'S ASSISTANT 73:181. This record is well identified as being in February 1679 by which time, by all accounts, Valentine has likely left Maryland. Someone has figured out that Valentines land (former land for which he had rights and perhaps he never paid any or all of its rent) is idle and is trying to weasel their way into the picture. This is somewhat confusing as we have seen above that a Benjamin Mackall, Jr. does not seem to have patented this land until 1754. This reference does reiterate the patent date by Valentine for the 143 ac. of Lambeth as **31 August 1667.**

[VOL 748 P746](#) Chancery Court, Chancery Record, 1671-1712, 748: 731; 746 -747. These records would appear to be well after Valentine has left Maryland and everyone is still trying to figure out the boundaries for Hard Travel. This is the reference that led to the Patent Records for Hard Travel.

I have found various statements regarding the loss of records in Calvert Co.⁵ which I am going to accept at face value. I did find evidence in the MSA webpages and in the LDS Family History Library (FHL) online catalog that led me to these records: **Original Records** ca 1663 to1666?: **FF:207,208,394****; **GG:28**; **WT:293** and **Transcripts: 5:416; 10:209,322,583; 16:277**; and from the patent information above I would add **10:585,619; 11:328; 12-115**. I have obtained and examined only the transcribed records from the two films containing most of these records from the FHL and this [Patent Records from FHL Films](#) shows the information that I found to be most informative. With few exceptions the patent records just add verified sourcing to previously unsourced statements.

This brings us to the point of looking back at the statement about Valentine in the opening paragraph from the "The Huddleston Tables" and thinking that some 80 years ago, likely with much more difficulty and time invested, George Huddleston looked at these same records in some musty room in the Maryland Hall of Records. I cannot find any fault with a single word he writes on this topic and can, after this fairly comprehensive investigation, add only a couple of hard pieces of evidence from the patent records on the films:

1. We do now know that Valentine did serve a term of indenture as well as the person to whom he was indentured.
2. We do know the names of some of Valentine's neighbors, an associate, the person who transported him (or paid for the transport) and some individuals who seemed to have been "transported" at the same time and by the same person as Valentine.
3. It appears that Valentine was considered by some to be a "smith" by trade.

These few items do little to help us add any real context to Valentine's coming to, living in or departure from Maryland.

I will continue to seek answers to these questions:

1. Did Valentine have a religious affiliation?
2. Was Valentine married before his later well documented marriage to Catherine Chatham?
3. Exactly when and why did he leave Maryland?

From my investigation to date, I have formed some strictly speculative but slightly informed opinions based on the totality of the information I've seen:

⁵ Calvert - 1882 - (fire) - Most Court Records were lost, but some deeds dating back to 1840 were re-recorded. Abstracts of Deeds sent to Annapolis, beginning in 1784, and Provincial Court Deeds/Land Office Records, also make up for some up for some of the destroyed records.

<http://homepages.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~george/countyformations/marylandformationmaps.html#Destroyed>

Valentine Huddleston came to Maryland by 1663⁶ and received a land patent in August 1667. For reasons not obvious (perhaps one being poor land received in his patent), Valentine appears not to have prospered and incurred what would appear to be a rather large debt he could not readily satisfy. It appears he acquired a business partner but nothing is known of this enterprise. Finally it appears that Valentine may have been in arrears on his land rent as well as owing the debt and with no other solution available, at some point in time after 1669, elected to improve his lot in another Province rather than deal with the issues plaguing him in Maryland

I would welcome any input or sharing by fellow researchers on any aspect of Valentine Huddleston's life especially his tenure in Maryland.

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See Next: References & Explanations for the Early Settlers of Maryland & Other finding aids

⁶ I feel this could have been as early as 1658 but am not sure that the exact definition of this date would add any new insight.

Introduction to New Early Settlers of Maryland

<http://msa.maryland.gov/msa/speccol/sc4300/sc4341/html/intro.html#note>

Using *The New Early Settlers of Maryland*

http://msa.maryland.gov/msa/speccol/sc4300/sc4341/html/patentlist_rev.html

Foreword to *Supplement to Early Settlers*

<http://msa.maryland.gov/msa/speccol/sc4300/sc4341/html/foreword.html>

To Search for a Name:

<http://msa.maryland.gov/msa/speccol/sc4300/sc4341/html/search.html>

Where you can find many old deeds and Land Patent Information:

Maryland Land Records Project

The six-hundred and fifty-sixth volume of the Archives of Maryland is the [MDLandRec.Net - A Digital Image Retrieval System for Land Records in Maryland](#) (external link).

The Maryland Judiciary, the 24 elected Court Clerks of Maryland and the Maryland State Archives have joined in partnership to provide up to date access to all verified land record instruments in Maryland. This service is currently being provided free to all those interested in testing the system. Users are encouraged to provide feedback and inform the Maryland State Archives of any problems encountered.

To access the site, please go to <http://mdlandrec.net>. On the home page, in the second paragraph, there is a link to a registration form (click on the words "fill out the application for a password"). Once your request is processed, a user name and password will be forwarded to you via email. You will need a valid email address in order to register for access to Mdlandrec.net.