

Jamestown Colonist Bibliography

Last Name: Willoughby
First Name: Thomas
Birthplace: Kent, England
Birthdate: 1601
Death Place: All Saints, Barking, London, England
Death Date: By 1657
Married to: Alice and Juliana
Children: Thomas and Elizabeth
Father: Thomas of Wateringbury, Kent, England
Siblings: Peter of Adlington, Kent, England
Virginia Settlement Place: Corporation of Elizabeth City
Occupation: Ensign and Captain and Commissioner for Elizabeth City and Member of House of Burgesses and Gentleman
Occupation Notes: Also a merchant and planter
Arrival Date: 1610
Arrival Ship: Prosperous

Notes: Immigrated to VA in 1610 at age of 9. He was a merchant and a planter and made several trips to England

Thomas Willouby was born in Kent, England in 1601 the son of Thomas Willoughby of Wateringbury, Kent. He arrived in Virginia in the ship Prosperous in 1610 at the age of nine and became an important merchant and planter in the colony. He settled in the corporation of Elizabeth City where he was granted a patent of 100 acres before 1626. Willoughby is listed as an Ensign in the Musters of 1624/5 and by 1627 was assigned the title of Captain when he was appointed the commander for an attack against the Chesapeake Indians. By 1628 he served as commissioner for Elizabeth City and a member of the House of Burgesses, a Burgess for the Upper part of Elizabeth City in 1630, Waters Creek and the Upper Part of Elizabeth city in 1632 and a member of the Virginia Council in 1642-52. In November of 1635, Willoughby patented another tract in Elizabeth City adjoining the tract of land where his dwelling stood.

He apparently made several trips to England for in 1644-47 he was described as a merchant of Red Lyon Alley, St. Botolph, London. He married twice, first to Alice and second to Juliana. Willouby had two children, Thomas and Elizabeth. His son Thomas, was admitted to the Merchant Taylor's School in London between 1644 and 1647.

Willoughby returned to Virginia and patented 2900 acres in Lynnhaven Parish in October of 1654. He named among his headrights Alice Willoughby, Thomas Willoughby and Elizabeth Willoughby. In a 1652 deposition Captain Willoughby's home was referred to as "Willoughby's Hope"

Thomas Willoughby died by April of 1657 when administration of his estate was granted to Thomas Middleton, Esquire, nephew of Thomas Willoughby "late of Virginia but deceased in All Hallows, Barking, London.in Otham.

He had one surviving brother, Peter Willoughby of Adlington, Kent.

Bibliographic References: Hotten, p. 275
Withington, Va Gleanings, [1980] 461
Jester, [1987]pp. 55, 688-9