

## **Early-Poindexters-in-America Research Committee**

*In 1985, Poindexter Descendants Association established a committee to conduct and coordinate research on the genealogy of the first several generations of Poindexters in America. The establishment and mode of operation of this committee are presented here, to be followed in the future by the reports issued periodically by the committee. The reports have been published in the PDA Newsletter; bibliographic information is provided for citation in subsequent reports or publications, both by PDA and by others.*

### **CREATION OF RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

[*PDA Newsletter*, Vol. IV, No. 4, pp 9-10 (Oct. 1985).]

We are now organizing a committee to investigate and clarify the genealogy of the first few generations of Poindexters who lived in America. It will be called the “Early Poindexters-in-America Research Committee,” or *EPARC* for short. Its goal will be to establish a definitive genealogy, not only for historical interest, but as the basis for certification of the lineage of PDA members. Its activities will be generally limited to Virginia Poindexters, for the period approximately 1650-1750.

The first problem to be addressed is the origin of the earliest Thomas Poindexter in America. He is the ancestor of many—or even most—American Poindexters. Yet as of now, there is no decisive evidence on his birth. Is he the son of the first George in America? the grandson? some other Poindexter, maybe in Jersey?

We will need the assistance and cooperation of many PDA members to achieve our goals. We hope that everyone who can contribute information will come forth, and that persons with extra experience, time, and interest will be willing to serve in more substantial roles. The former persons, a “committee of the whole,” will seek pertinent genealogical data. The latter persons will comprise the Committee (*EPARC*), and will—in addition to searching for data—develop research approaches, evaluate and interpret information, and construct the genealogy.

We especially need the aid of persons in the following categories.

1. Research-minded genealogists, of course: amateur and professional.
  
2. Persons whose jobs or hobbies involve analysis of complex data and deriving conclusions therefrom. Examples include: attorneys; judges; financial auditors; computer programmers; economists; engineers and scientists; teachers and professors; serious gamblers, gamblers, speculators; intelligence operatives; espionage agents, etc.
  
3. Persons having plans for business or personal travel in the near future, and who could spend some time en route doing research. Specially pertinent areas: Salt Lake City, Fort Wayne, the Channel Islands, Normandy, England (especially London, Oxford, Cambridge, and southern seaport towns), Scotland (esp. Ayrshire), and the Caribbean (esp. Barbados).
  
4. Persons gifted in making tactful, diplomatic, effective contact with strangers and

foreigners--by mail, by phone, or face-to-face.

Bruce Anderson has asked me to be coordinator of EPARC activities. I emphasize that I will be coordinator, not czar. This project is impossible for any one person, and will succeed only via the combined talents of many PDAers. I urge everyone with any ideas or information on Thomas, George-1, or George-2 to get in touch; and I hope that persons able to serve in a heavier role will volunteer soon. Using our total strength, we should be able to make significant improvement over previous efforts.

### **A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS**

[PDA Newsletter , *Vol. VI*, No. 2, pp 7–8 (Apr. 1987).]

The PDA *Early Poindexters-in-America Research Committee* (EPARC) needs the assistance of travelers to search for information pertinent to the construction of a Poindexter genealogy for the period 1650–1750.

#### *1. Information needed.*

Anything relevant to: the marriage of George Poindexter and Susanna or Suzanne Nicolle–Nichols–Nicholson–Macnicol–or another name entirely, about 1650.

The birth of Thomas Poindexter who married Sarah Crawford about 1695.

The marriage of George Poindexter to Mary (?) about 1670. The name *Overton* has sometimes been given as her maiden name.

#### *2. Where to look.*

Port cities in Barbados and other Caribbean sites; Plymouth, Southampton, and other southern ports in England; Liverpool; Glasgow; towns in the Ayrshire region; Isle of Lewis, Hebrides and nearby towns on Scottish coast; ports in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia; Normandy; Brittany.

#### *3. How to search.*

Start at the local public library. Nearly all cities and many small towns in the English-speaking countries now have useful genealogy/local history collections. Enquire about local genealogy or history clubs. Sometimes the club's collections may be one and the same as the library's; in other places, they will be in a separate room or building. In small towns, you may be able to make some effective use of original archives in the city hall or wherever; in a brief visit or a big city, you might not have time for this unless you had advance clues on just what you were looking for and how the archives were set up.

#### *4. What to report.*

*Everything.* Yes, everything—both positive and negative findings. Please give all the essential details of your search and complete description of sources examined. This will enable someone else to return to the same place for more searching, or to avoid going there if it seems hopeless. With so much territory to cover, we must be efficient in our use of manpower. Finally, please contact me if you need further suggestions or have found something good.

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