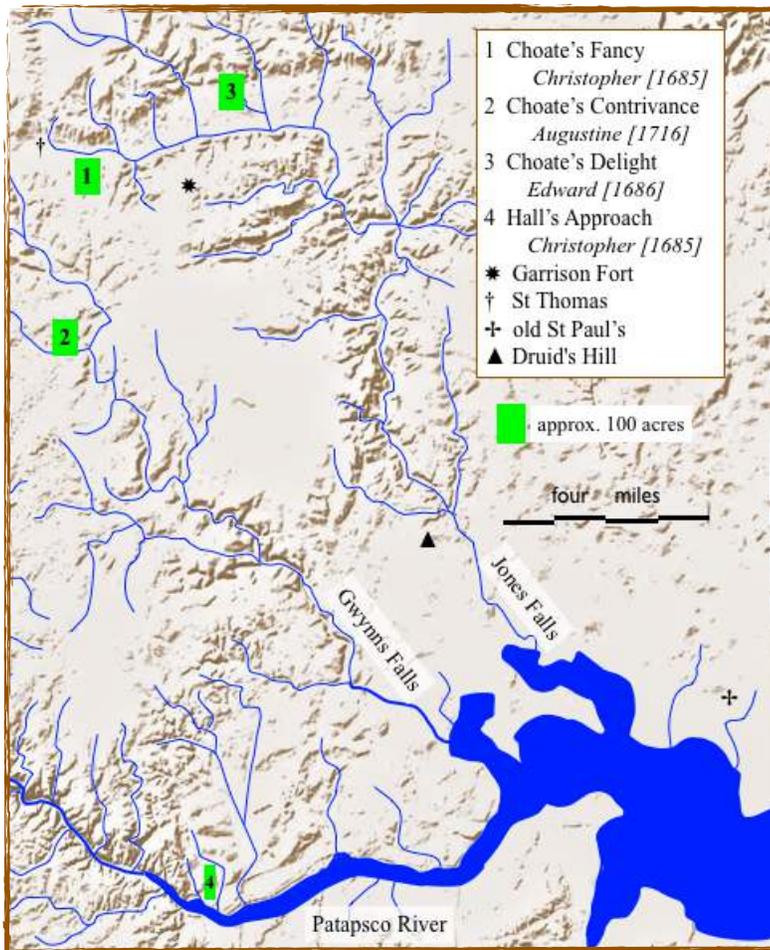


Note: Narrative histories are "evergreen" documents - constantly growing with additions, updates, corrections... Please email cousin@choatesofthesouth.org if you have any data/information to add or correct.

*Original primary source documents are digitized and can be viewed on the web site.

Christopher [b.1685]

Christopher [b.1685¹] Choate is the eldest² of the two known sons of the Christopher [b.1642]. His father immigrated from England to the Province of Maryland in 1676 as an indentured servant. He was born about 1685³ probably on his parent's 11 acre farm "Choate's His Chance" on the Magothy River. His father died in 1692 when Christopher [b.1685] was about 7 years old. He inherited one-third of his father's "appraisal of goods" and the rights to all land (to the exclusion of his mother and brother). Where and with whom Christopher [b.1685] lived after his father's death is unknown. It appears that the family moved about 25 miles north northwest since he and his brother appear together in the 1706 tax list for the Upper Part of North Side of Patapsco Hundred⁴.



Christopher [b.1685] spent most of his adult life in and along the upper Jones Falls and Gwynns Falls valleys. He married Flora (surname possibly Hawkins⁵) and the baptisms of their five children (Augustine [b.1716], Christopher [b.1720], Richard [b.1722], Mary [b.1724] and Sabret [b.1730]) are recorded in St. Paul's Parish. He acquires 100 acres near "the head fountain of Jones Falls" in 1722 called "Choate's Fancy". Christopher [b.1685] sells "Choate's Fancy" in 1742 and acquires 50 acres called "Hall's Approach" near the Patapsco Great Falls. He and Flora sell "Hall's Approach" in 1745 after which date they are not found in any Maryland records. Their oldest son died in 1740 and the three living sons appear on the 1749 Lunenburg County VA tax list. One is referred to as Christopher junior implying that a senior was living in the area. Christopher [b.1685] and Flora appear to have followed their sons to the Virginia frontier where land was fertile and inexpensive. There is no record of his passing.

Christopher [b.1685] became by law an "orphan" when his father died and he was appointed a guardian.⁶ The guardian's main function was related to maintaining and preserving the inherited land. The guardian did not have physical custody and the courts usually would not appointed a stepfather or the mother as guardian. Bonds were required of the guardian. The courts frequently appointed a relative. Christopher [b.1685] and his brother Edward [1686] probably remained with their mother and most likely moved up into Baltimore County. Whether the mother remarried or had family in this area is unknown.

Who was Christopher's [b.1685] guardian and what happened to his inherited land is unknown. Richard Gist (Gott ?) provided a "Bond of Administration" for the father's estate shortly after his death.^{*7} Edward Parish in 1705 was listed as the guardian of "one of Chr. Choats".^{*8} West River Hundred was in Anne Arundel County near Herring Bay. He owned "Parrish's Fear" a 350 acre plantation and a 3,000 acre tract "Parrish's Range" near Druid Hill in Baltimore County. He also was guardian to a Hawkins child and listed Matthew Hawkins as a kinsman in his will.

*A true count of all y^e orphans wth y^e names of their guardians in
West river hundred (Viz)...
Edward Parish one of Mathew Hawkins's, one of Ch' Choats one of Mathew Hughs...*

When Christopher [b.1685] and his brother appear in the 1706 tax list they are in Richard Cromwell's "quarters". Richard Cromwell was the uncle of Richard Gist ⁹ and the person who raised Richard Gist after his parents died. However, this Richard is far too young to have been the guardian and his father "Christopher Richard Gist" had died before the "Bond of Administration" for Christopher's [b.1685] father was put in place. Richard Cromwell was also one of the six original appointed vestrymen who decided to locate the old St Paul's church on "Pettete's Old Field" in 1693 which was finally built in 1702.

The Province of Maryland was in civil turmoil during 1689 to 1715 when the two Choate boys were growing up. Younger/newer planters complained vigorously to the King against the Calvert proprietors and their appointed governors. When the Catholic King James II (r. 1685-1688) was deposed and the Protestant William III (r. 1689-1702) ascended to the throne the new King proclaimed the Province of Maryland a Royal Colony and appointed Lionel Copley the first governor in August 1691. The Calverts were allowed to retain their private holdings and continue collecting quitrents (land tax/rent). The Maryland Assembly in 1692 rescinded the Act of Religious Toleration and established the Church of England as the province's official church. The Act set up 30 Parish boundaries and vestries to support the church, in the 10 province counties. The Calvert family regained most of their authority over the governor and Province in 1715 under King George I (r. 1714-1727) when the Province of Maryland reverted to a Proprietary Colony, but only after Benedict Calvert, 4th Baron Baltimore converted to Protestantism.

Where and with whom Christopher [b.1685], his brother Edward [b.1687], and their mother lived after their father's death is unknown. Men outnumbered women 4 to 3 in the province. A female with two working age boys probably had little trouble finding a new husband or a relative to take them in. Households of this period could be very crowded. A house consisting of maybe two or more rooms was home to an extended family that many times, in addition to the parents and children, included stepchildren, grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, wards, etc... A family household was a basic production unit that provided the roof, care, food, education, training... welfare of its members. House and field chores were challenging and required many hands. Food preparation required grinding, churning, wood gathering, etc... Field work required constant clear cutting, daily crop tending to kill insects and control pests, harvesting, curing, etc... Children, particularly orphan children, were commonly viewed as chattel - a source of labor.

Christopher [b.1685] Choate as the head-of-household with his brother Edward [1686] are listed as taxable on the 1706 Tax List 115, Upper Part, North Side Patapsco ¹⁰ indicating that Christopher has reached his majority (i.e., age 21) and that Edward was at least 16 years old. The household was likely a tenant farm. The Patapsco Parish was laid out in 1692 under the Establishment Act, which created 30 Church of England parishes in the Province's ten counties. In 1694 the Patapsco Parish covered a large area and contained 231 taxable inhabitants ¹¹. A small parish church, St. Paul's, was built about 1702 on Patapsco Neck near the head of Colgate Creek. When Baltimore City was founded in 1729, the parish moved about 4 miles to "Lot 19," the highest point within the original city boundaries. It still stands at this place.

..... Richard Cromwell's quarters, Henry David ... Francis Street, ...John Landger, Joseph Ward, George Yeats, Robert Norris, Capt. Richard Owens, Richard Owens Jun, Rowland Johnson, Christopher Choat, Edward Choat, Nicholas Rogers, Gregory Davis ...

The next record for Christopher [b.1685] follows the indictment of Elizabeth Budd in June 1711 in Baltimore County, Maryland for having a bastard child ^{*12}. A child being born out of wedlock (base born) automatically resulted in a court proceeding to determine the father and who and how the child would be cared for. In August 1711 Elizabeth named Christopher [b.1685] as the father of her child. ^{*13}

June 1711 - We of the Grand Jury present Ann Irvine, Elizabeth Richardson, Susannah Dommel, Isabella Chine, Elizabeth Budd, Mary Mattocks Elizabeth Wood, Garret C Cofie & a Mulata Woman called Bess at the Widow Days. All nine for fornication & having base born children.

August 1711 - Elizabeth Bud made Oath on the Holy Evangelist that a certain Christopher Shote had carnal Knowledge of her Body & was the True Father & Begetter of the Sd Child of which she was lately delivered.

Sometime around 1716 Christopher [b.1685] gained a wife, Flora (Hawkins?)⁵ No marriage record has been found. Christopher [b.1685] must have shown promise since in the 1710s there were about 3 women to 4 men in the Province. Christopher [b.1685] and Flora had five known children: Augustine [b.1716], Christopher [b.1720], Richard [b.1722], Mary [b.1724] and Sabret [b.1730]. The records of the parent names and baptism dates of their children can be found in St. Paul's Parish Register.¹⁴ Where and how Christopher and Flora lived in not known.

Growing tobacco for cash and crops for food was the focus of most families in the province. How Christopher [b.1685] supported his family is not known. However, we begin to see Christopher [b.1685] and Flora having interest in land when their first child is about 2 years old.

Richard Gist plays an import role of in both Christopher's [b.1685] and his brother Edward [b.1687] lives. Land transactions followed three steps: a warrant for survey of unclaimed land (assignment); a surveyor's certificate of survey; and a patent (deed) to the land surveyed. Edward [b.1687] in 1718 obtained a warrant for 50 acres of land and at the same time was assigned 50 acres out of a 250 acre tract owned by Richard Gist. The combined 100 acre tract Edward [b.1687] named "Choate's Delight" and its patent (i.e., ownership) was not granted¹⁵ until 5 November 1731, thirteen years later. Richard Gist was assigned in 1718 from John Street¹⁶ the 100 acre Street's deceased father had surveyed in 1707 named "Streets Adventure". Christopher's [b.1685] was a witness to this assignment. John Street used the estate to settle a debt to Richard Gist.¹⁷

These are to certifie whom it may concern that John Street of Baltimore County doe assigne over all my right, title, interest, clayme & demand of in and to administration of my deceased father Herring Street's Estate unto Richard Gist, of the county, Merchant, given under my hand and seal this 31st day of August 1719

Three years later, in August 1722, with two children and a pregnant wife, Christopher [b.1685] purchases 108 acres^{*18} from Richard Gist. This property was part of the "Streets Adventure" and part of Green Spring Traverse. Green Spring Traverse contained the "the head fountain of Jones Falls" which feeds into Baltimore Harbor. Christopher [b.1685] property line began at the Green Spring.

Richard Gist, Merchant, of Baltimore County, sold to Christopher Choate, planter, for twenty pounds sterling, a tract of 108 acres called Choate's Fancy, being parts of two tracts, that is one part Green Springs Traverse and one part Street's Adventure. ... Zipporah Gist, daughter of Josephus Murray and wife of Richard, assigned her dower rights.

Witnesses were Luke Bevan and Jn. Isreal.

Christopher [b.1685] and his brother Edward [b.1687] both had dealings with Richard Gist and it is purely speculative but it would appear that they may have gained assignment or working rights (i.e., tenant farmers) to their land as early as 1718. Tenant farming was a very common practice for colonial land owners. It provided the farmer, depending on the contract, use of the land and a share of its bounty while making the land productive for the owner. Christopher [b.1685] witnessed the assignment of his future land in 1718 and had inherited his father's land and may have converted this inheritance into ownership of "Choate's Fancy" in 1722. Edward [b.1687] may have had to work the land for 13 years before being able to purchase "Choate's Delight" in 1731.

Christopher [b.1685] home at "Choate's Fancy" was about 14 miles from old St. Paul's church, 14 miles from the Patapsco Falls area, and about 3 miles from Fort Garrison. Fort Garrison (39.397962° N, 76.712144° W) was built about 1695 to serve as a stronghold against attacks by Native Americans. The Green Spring Valley was bottom land with good soil compared to the hard clay and rock that was along most of the Province's waterways. People who lived in this remote area were known as the "forest inhabitants". To travel you either walked or rode a house on trails or very rough roads. Horses were mostly used for farm work and few people owned carts. An old Indian trail followed the valley between Gwynns and Jones Falls and was one of the routes along which the province developed. This trail went from Elk Ridge Landing to York PA. A wagon road was cut along this trail in 1736. John Reister settled in 1758 along the trail where it branches west to Frederick and Pittsburg and opened an inn/tavern for travelers. The trail and eventual town were called Reisterstown.

It is likely that Christopher [b.1685] very early on built a log home ¹⁹ on Choate's Fancy. Field work required immense amounts of effort and it is unlikely that he would have commuted back and forth to his former location. The family would have traveled to St. Paul's church periodically for services and definitely for the baptism of their children. The first local church, St. Thomas ²⁰ a "chapel of ease for the accommodation of the forest inhabitants," was built on property purchased from Richard Gist's son in 1743 near Choate's Fancy.

Tragedy befell Christopher [b.1685] and Flora in 1740. Their first son, Augustine [b.1716] age 24, dies without a will or direct heirs. Augustine [b.1716] was a few months shy of 21 when he obtained a grant from Lord Baltimore, dated 25 July 1737 for one hundred acres called Choate's Contrivance, located "by a great glade and near a run commonly known and called by the name of the Horse Head Branch or Glade". ^{*21} This small stream flowed into a much larger one nearby called Gwynns Falls. The area was not suitable for large plantings but was a likely spot for lumber, hunting, and trapping. Augustine never married and his estate was inherited by his oldest brother, Christopher [b.1720] according to the traditional English law of primogeniture which was common in the Province at that time.

When Christopher [b.1685] was about 57 he and Flora sold ²² "Choate's Fancy" to a son of Richard Gist. His wife Flora relinquished her dower rights. His eldest living son, Christopher [b.1720], also marked this deed. Why Christopher [b.1720] is on this indenture is not clear. His father may have been in poor health and the courts may have wanted to be sure he would relinquish his rights to inherited this land.

20 May 1742 Christopher [b.1685] and son Christopher [1720], planters, sold to Nathaniel Gist (son of Richard) 108 acres of land called "Choate's Fancy" for fifty pounds sterling.

Christopher [b.1685] three days after selling "Choate's Fancy" acquired 50 acres called "Hall's Approach". The Hall's Patent survey²³ states the land as being "on the North Side of Patapsco Falls". Its exact location is not known. It is speculated that Hall was the son-in-law of Christopher [b.1685] Choate, husband to daughter Mary. The Great Falls of the Patapsco was just up river from Elk Ridge Landing (present day Elkridge). The Great Falls was the termination point of a deep slow moving navigable route and made Elk Ridge Landing a natural transfer point for exchange of shipping goods. The wagon Trail cut in 1737, a former Indian trail, extended from Elk Ridge Landing passing very near "Choate's Fancy" on the way to York PA. Large quantities of tobacco, agricultural products and natural resources passed down this road to be loaded on trading ships. Elk Ridge Landing was first settled in 1690 and became the largest seaport north of Annapolis. Upstream and downstream of the Great Falls were eventually silted in due to erosion from local iron strip mining and heavy deforestation along the valleys to produce coal for iron making. Trade eventually moved to the deeper Baltimore harbor. The Maryland General Assembly enacted a law to erect a 30-acre, forty-lot town at Elk Ridge Landing called "Jansen Town" in 1733. The mills further up from the Great Falls in Ellicott City did not start until 1770s.

July 27, 1745, William Hall and Christopher [b.1685] Choate sold "Hall's Approach" to Ammon Butler. Wives Mary Hall & Flora Choate relinquished their dower rights. The 54 pounds paid for this land included 20

.....

head hoggs & one moiety of corn now growing on the said land, for which the said Butler had a bill of sale ²⁴, dated 17 June last, of Christopher Choate.

The sale of Hall's Approach in 1745 is the final land record of Christopher [b.1685] and Flora Choate in Maryland. Due to ever the shrinking supply of unclaimed land, worsening economic conditions, nutrient depleted soils, quitrents (taxes), and continued political squabbling, many planters sold out or simply abandoned their farms and headed for the newly opened land of the South and Southwest. The opportunity for fortune and adventure had great appeal to the pioneering spirit. It may have been this urge for a better future that led Christopher's [b.1685] three sons to move to the Southside of Virginia. All three living sons of Christopher [b. 1685] appear on the Lunenburg County VA tax list on 1749. One son is referred to as Christopher [1720] Junior implying that a Senior was living in the area. Christopher [b.1685] would have been over sixty and may not have been liable for taxes. Christopher's [b.1685] only known brother, Edward [b.1687] had two sons. Edward [1720] Jr. by his first wife Constant and Solomon [1736] by his second wife Elenore Savage. Edward [1720] Jr., the youngest son, sold his Maryland property and followed his uncle and cousins to Virginia. Solomon [1736] remained in Baltimore.

Christopher is not found in any Maryland records after the sale of "Hall's Approach" in 1745. However, there is a reference ²⁵ that refers to Christopher's [b.1685] property in 1750 -- *1750 Baltimore County, MD Rent Rolls -- Debt Book -- Christopher Choate indebted 4 shillings each for "Choate's Contrivance"* (his son Christopher [1720] inherited this property from his brother Augustine who died 8/2/1740), *"Choate's Delight"* (his brother Edward's property), and *"Street's Adventure"* (which formed part of his father's Choate's Fancy for which he signed the sales agreement). Since he appears to be living in Virginia he and the boys may have just skipped out on the taxes due in Maryland (a common practice).

Children of Christopher Choate and Flora

Augustine b. 6 Nov 1716 d. 2 Apr 1740

Note: March 1738/9 Augustine [b.1716] was charged for fathering the child of Sarah Savage.²⁶ Her son Hill Savage was born on 22 Dec 1738. Interestingly, his uncle Edward's [b.1686] married on 22 May 1735 his second wife - Ellinor Savage (relationship to Sarah unknown).

Christopher b. 12 Aug 1720 Read Narrative History on www.choatesofthesouth.org

Richard b. 8 Nov 1722 Read Narrative History on www.choatesofthesouth.org

Mary b. 3 Oct 1724

Note: It is speculated that Mary was the wife of William Hall who her father had land dealings with before he went to Virginia.

Sabret b. 19 Mar 1730 d. 31 Mar 1821 Ashe Co NC Read Narrative History on www.choatesofthesouth.org

Land, Deed and Court Abstracts:

Item	Reference	Type	Date	ID	Patent	Certificate	Date Surveyed	To	Area (survey)	Area (actual)
3649	DD#5:532	Patent	May 10, 1709	"Street's Adventure"		DD#5:532	Jun 23, 1707	Francis Street	100a	103.7a
			Aug 18, 1722	Choate's Fancy						
1599	BA-P:2077	Patented Certificate	Jun 15, 1730	"Green Spring Traverse"	PL#7:629	IL#B:280	Jan 15, 1719	Richard Gist	300a	298.4a
1599	BA-P:2077	Patented Certificate	Jun 15, 1730	"Green Spring Traverse"	PL#7:629	IL#B:280	Jan 15, 1719	Richard Gist	300a	298.4a
819	BA-P:1057	Patented Certificate	Nov 5, 1731	"Choate's Delight"	PL#8:255	IL#B:333	Mar 16, 1718	Edward Choate	100a	100a
84	BA-P:126	Patented Certificate	Nov 10, 1735	"Green Spring Traverse, Addition to"	EI#4:338	IL#A:340	Mar 15, 1721	Richard Gist	190a	193.8a
817	BA-P:1056	Patented Certificate	Jul 25, 1737	"Choate's Contrivance"	EI#2:635	EI#5:219	Jul 6, 1735	Augustine Choate	100a	100.1a
1681	BA-P:2144	Patented Certificate	Oct 3, 1740	"Hall's Approach"	EI#6:276	EI#5:481	Apr 10, 1739	William Hall	50a	50.1a
818	BA-P:1058	Patented Certificate	Mar 2, 1807	"Choate's String"	IC#S:481	IC#R:516	May 27, 1797	Edward Choate	2.75a	2.51a
1191	BA-P:1539	Patented Certificate	Mar 2, 1807	"Edwards' Lot"	IC#S:481	IC#R:517	Jun 15, 1797	Edward Choate	3a/2r/20p	3.63a

Baltimore County Patents, Leases, and Certificates <http://map-maker.org/DM/Baltimore/TableView.html>

STREETS ADVENTURE

23 June 1707: 100 a. surv for Francis Street (MHM 16: 121n; pat.1 1709; MPL DD#5; 532).

1718: Francis Street conv. (*) to Richard Gist. This is the land on which St. Thomas Church, Garrison Forest stands (MHM 15; 213)

18 Aug 1722 Richard Gist of BCM (Baltimore Co, MD) and w. Zapporah conv. to Christopher Choate, Choate's Fancy, being pt. of Green Spring Traverse, and part of (*) (IS#G: 111)

3 March 1727 - A resurvey of called "Adventer", Richard Gist, 100 Acres from Street plus 650 Acres from.. Patent Certificate 288, MSA S 1190-376

HALL'S APPROACH (The Patent survey states the land as being "on the North Side of Patapsco Falls")

3 Oct 1740: Patent Certificate 2144 Halls Approach, William Hall, 50 Acres MSA S1190-2252 pg.1-3 Storage (01/25/02/15)

23 May 1742: William Hall and w. Mary, planter, BCM, £3.5 conv. 50 a. (*) to Christopher Choate (TB#A: 152) of same BCM patented by John Lane. Signed William Hall Witnessed by John Risteau and Nathaniel Gist.

14 June 1743: Christopher Choate conv 50 a. (*) (which he bought from William Hall), to Henry Morgan (TB#C257).

27 July 1745: William Hall and Christopher Choate conv 50 a. (*) to Amon Butler (Note: Amon m. 12 May 1745 Elizabeth Hawkins) . WH's w. Mary and CC's w.Flora cons. (TB#D: 281).

28(2) Aug 1745: Christopher Choate, planter, of BCM., conv. 50 a. (*) to Amon (Aaron) Butler, s. of Henry Butler, innkeeper of same, £54 (TB#D: 281)

need to find: Land Rec., Vol. TB#D, ff. 282-4, MHR

CHOATE'S ADVENTURE

28 May 1742: Christopher Choate, Sr. and CC, Jr., conv pt. (*) and pt. Green Spring Traverse, in all 108 a. to Nathaniel Gist. CC's w. Flora cons. (TB#A: 155).

CHOATE'S CONTRIVANCE Augustine [1716]

3 July 1734: Lloyd Harris was given a warrant for 100 a. On 12 Feb 1734/5 it was renewed for 6 mos. On 13 July 1735 the warrant was assigned to William Rogers who assigned the 100 a. to Augustin Choate

25 July 1737: 100 a. pat. By Augustine Choate (MPL EI#2: 635, EI#5: 219)

See Horvath Plat: Green Spring Valley

- 29 May 1742: Christopher Choate, Jr., heir at law of Augustine Choate, late of BA Co, dec., conv. 100 a. (*) to William Lewis, of same, in exch. for land conv. by Nath. Gist to James Kelley Hilley (TB#A: 202) west side of Guns Falls: signed Christopher (x) Choate witnessed: John Risteau and Benjimin (x) David (page 146).
- 30 (13) Oct 1742: William and Ruth Lewis planter of BCM and w. conv. (*) to Thomas Norris, planter, of same, £20 100a: patented 3 July 1734 by Floyd Harris who sold to William Rogers who sold to Augustus Choate. Signed William & Ruth Lewis Witness Geroge Buchaman and John Stenchant
- 7 May 1753: Thomas Norris and w. Avarilla conv. pt. (*), and pt. of Norris' Chance, to John Stevenson (TR#D: 550)

CHOATE'S FANCY

- 18 Aug 1722: Richard Gist of BA Co. and w. Zepporah conv. to Christopher Choate (*), £54 108 acres being pt. of Green Spring Traverse and pt. of Street's Adventure (Baltimore Co., MD Land Records, 1722, Vol. IS#G, f. 111-112, MHR)
Also: www.choatesofthesouth.org under Documents "1685 Choates Fancy"

GREEN SPRINGS TRAVERSE (survey begins on "the head fountain of Jones Falls")

- 23 June 1721: Richard Gist of BA Co., and w. Zepporah conv. to Herbert Prichard "Prichard's Purchase", being pt of (*), and pt. of Street's Adventure (RM#H5: 166)
- 18 Aug 1722: Richard Gist of BA Co., and w. Zepporah conv. to Christopher Choate Choate's Fancy, being pt of (*), and pt. of Street's Adventure (IS#G: 111)
- 5 Sep 1728: Richard Gist conv 350 a. pt. (*) Addition to Green Spring Traverse: and one other tract to Christopher Gist (IS#I: 196)
- 28 May 1742: Christopher Choate Sr., and Christopher Choate, Jr., conv £50 108 a., pt. (*) and pt. Choate's Adventure, to Nathaniel Gist. Flora, w. of [one of the] Christopher Choate[s], cons. (TB#A: 155).

Baltimore County, Maryland DEED ABSTRACTS 1659-1750, Robert Barnes

Additional Deed information from -Baltimore County, Maryland Deed Records 1727-1757 vol. 2 John Davis Heritage Books, 1996

¹ There is no record of Christopher's birth date. He and his brother first appear by name on a 1706 tax list. Christopher is listed as the head-of-household and his brother Edward is listed as taxable. This indicates that Christopher is the oldest and Edward is at least 16. Christopher as head-of-household is likely 21 years old, the age of majority (giving him a birth date of 1685). Their father became a freeman and eligible to marry by 1681 and died before November 19, 1692. The two boys were likely born between 1682 and 1692.

² Southern colonial naming patterns vary over time. The majority of first born sons were named after their father in the mid to late 17th century. This was thought to help insure inheritance rights particularly if the father died without a will. The trend later changed to naming after grandfathers. Hence, Christopher [b.1685] with both the father and a grandfather's name would appear to be the eldest son.

³ The dates on documents of the early English colonial period are from the Julian calendar . The Julian new year began on the 25th of March hence,Oct, Nov, and Dec of 1700 come before Jan, Feb, and most of March 1700. The Julian calendar was used in England and it's colonies until 1752 when it was replaced with our current Gregorian calendar. The change makes dating events around the 1750s a challenge. Officially the Julian calendar was adjusted as follows: 24 Mar 1750 was followed by 25 Mar 1751, which was normal; then 31 Dec 1751 was followed by 1 Jan 1752 (1751 only had ~ 9 months); and then 2 Sept 1752 was followed by 14 Sep 1752 (removing 11 days to match the Gregorian calendar).

⁴ In 1706 the Patapsco Hundred covered a vast area, running from the ridge between the Patapsco and Magothy Rivers to the south side of the Middle River valley and on up to PA. The "Upper Part of the North Side" probably included everything north of the Patapsco River with upper part being well north of the trail between Elk Ridge Landing and Joppa. This area would include the property that Christopher acquires in 1722.

⁵ Choates of the South, 1983, Irene Choate Williams, page 9 -- There is no marriage document. However, Flora Hawkins is the right age (b. 2 Aug 1695), lived in the area (birth and Baptism, 25 Sep 1698, recorded at St James Parish in the *Maryland, Births and Christenings Index 1692-1911*), and her father's name was Augustine. St. James Parish included the Herring Creek Hundred and part of the West River Hundred (i.e., the southern part of Anne Arundel Co). Naming Pattern studies have shown that in 1720-1740 first born sons were named after a grandfather more than 50% and the father 35% of the time. Christopher and Flora named their first son Augustine.

⁶ The guardian's responsibility was to carry out provincial law "...orphans must be 'maintained and educated by the interest of their estate and encrease their stocks'." Their primary role was management and preservation of the inherited property until the orphan reached majority (age 21). When land was involved the guardian would typically lease the land until majority. If no lease could be obtained the guardian, with court approval, might sell the land. What happened to Christopher's [b.1685] inheritance, the 11 acres of "Choate's His Chance", is unknown.

Guardians were also responsible for arranging for and financing the support and education of the orphan. The guardian could use lease money and livestock products (milk, wool...) to fund the education. If the estate (i.e., land and "appraisal of goods") was not sufficient to support the orphan than the orphan could be bound as an apprentice until the age of 21 (Note: learning to be a planter was an apprenticeship). If a kinsman, friend, or other charitable person was caring for the orphan then the guardian need only to maintain the estate. At majority, the guardian was obligated to deliver the estate and obtain a release from the orphan. The "appraisal of goods" value was provided as currency/tobacco and livestock was delivered in kind.

⁷ "Bond of Administration" for Christopher's [b.1685] father's estate. — Maryland Hall of Records (MHR) Prerogative Court, Test Proceedings, S529-26, Liber 15A, folio 22, location 1/12/2/40
[Also: www.choatesofthesouth.org/under/Documents "1642 Intestate"](http://www.choatesofthesouth.org/under/Documents/1642Intestate)

⁸ Guardian of "one of Chr. Choats" named. — MHR, Anne Arundel County, Maryland Judgments, TB#1 (1704-1708) folio 352 Court
[Also: www.choatesofthesouth.org/under/Documents "1685 Orphan"](http://www.choatesofthesouth.org/under/Documents/1685Orphan)

⁹ Richard Gist (b. 1684 d. 28Aug1741), son of the immigrant Christopher "Richard" Gist, was orphaned about the same time as Christopher [b.1685]. He was raised by his uncle Richard Cromwell who had a goods store on his property. Richard was apprenticed as a merchant and inherited from his parents large tracts of land including Adventure 725 acres, Green Spring Traverse 300 acres, Gist Search 400 acres, Gist Lime Pits 249 acres, Gist Inspection 24 acres etc.. South Canton, Walton, and Arden's Marsh. The last two tracts were resurveyed, March 12, 1726, and described as "lyeing on the north side of the Patapsco River below the church". (Ld. Com. for Bal. Cty., 1727-37, p.7, MHR) He was a surveyor. Christopher [b.1685] and Richard Gist seem to have grown up in the same area and together were involved in number of transactions.

¹⁰ First listing of Christopher [b.1685] and brother Edward [b.1687] on a tax roll — Wilkins File, MHS; listed in "Baltimore Co. Md. Tax Lists 1699-1707, by R.B. Clark"

The original document needs to be located, digitized and posted to choatesofthesouth.org.

- Maryland Rent Rolls: Baltimore and Anne Arundel Counties, 1700-1707, 1705-1724. Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1976.

¹¹ St. Paul's Parish extended over a vast area. It covered from the Patapsco River on the south to the Pennsylvania line on the north, and from the Patapsco Falls and the county line on the west to the Chesapeake Bay on the east, and to the Middle River, the big Gunpowder Falls, the Western Run, and Piney Run on the north-east, by which streams it was divided from St. John's Parish.

¹² Indictment of Elizabeth Budd on June 1711 for having a bastard child. She names Christopher [b.1685] as the father. — MHR, Baltimore County, Court, Proceedings, C400-5 Liber I S B, folio 210, location 02/14/12/003
[Also: www.choatesofthesouth.org](http://www.choatesofthesouth.org) under Documents "1685 Illegitimate Child"

¹³ Maryland Hall of Records, Baltimore County, Court, Proceedings, C400-5 Liber I S A, folio 250, location 02/14/12/003
[Also: www.choatesofthesouth.org](http://www.choatesofthesouth.org) under Documents "1685 Illegitimate Child"

¹⁴ St. Paul's Parish Register of Births, Marriages & Deaths vol. 1, p. 24

¹⁵ Edward [b.1687] patents "Choate's Delight". Land lying in Baltimore County "on the south end of a ridge and on the northeast side of a run descending into Jones Falls known by the name of North Run". — Ld. Pat. Rec. Vol. PL#8, pp 255-56, MBR

¹⁶ Christopher's [b.1685] was a witness to the assignment in 1718 of "Street's Adventure" to Richard Gist. Three years later he purchases part of "Street's Adventure". — MHM 15; 213
The original document needs to be located, digitized and posted to choatesofthesouth.org.

¹⁷ Testamentary Proceedings, Liber 24, folio 92 Baltimore County 21 November 1719 Exhibits

¹⁸ Christopher's [b.1685] in August 1722 purchases 108 acres "Choate's Fancy" from Richard Gist. — MHR, Baltimore County Land Record 1722, vol.IS G, f.111-13
[Also: www.choatesofthesouth.org](http://www.choatesofthesouth.org) under Documents "1685 Choates Fancy Indenture"

¹⁹ Read *Innovation in Early Settlers' Houses in Virginia and Maryland, The Pioneers' Progression: Hovel, House, Home*, by William F. Milam to learn about conditions and typical structures used for living in the colonies.
[Also: www.choatesofthesouth.org](http://www.choatesofthesouth.org) under Publications "Innovations in Early settlers' Houses ..."

²⁰ The St. Thomas' Garrison Church was built in 1743 "In May, 1741 ... proposed to the vestry of St. Paul's the building, by subscription, of a chapel of ease for the accommodation of the " forest inhabitants." ... an act was passed by the General Assembly, in accordance with the wishes of the memorialists, by which William Hamilton, Christopher Gist, Samuel Owings, Christopher Randall and Nicholas Haile were empowered to receive voluntary subscriptions for the purchase of two acres of land where most convenient, and to build a chapel thereon ... In 1743 the site of the chapel was selected, and two acres were purchased of Christopher Gist for £4... It is on land thus purchased that St. Thomas' Church was then erected and still stands." From "*The Garrison Church Sketches of the History of St. Thomas' Parish Garrison Forest*" by the Rev. Hobart Smith M.A. Rector of St Thomas' Parish, 1808, New York, James Pott & Co. 1808.

²¹ Christopher's [b.1685] son, Augustine [b.1716], obtains a grant 25 July 1737 for 100 acres called "Choate's Contrivance" close to "Choate's Fancy". — MHR, Patent Liber E.I. #2 folio635-6 and Certificate Liber E.I. #5 Folio 219
[Also: www.choatesofthesouth.org](http://www.choatesofthesouth.org) under Documents "1716 Augustine Choats Contrivance"

²² Christopher's [b.1685] sells Choate's Fancy" 29 May 1742 to Nathaniel Gist (son of Richard). — MHR Baltimore County Land Records 1742, Vol.TB A, f.155-57
[Also: www.choatesofthesouth.org](http://www.choatesofthesouth.org) under Documents "1685 Choates Fancy - sale"

²³ MHR MSA S1190-2252. pages1-3, location 01/25/02/15
[Also: www.choatesofthesouth.org](http://www.choatesofthesouth.org) under Documents "1685 Halls Approach"

²⁴ MHR Baltimore County Land Rec., Vol. TB#D, ff. 281-4, MHR *The original document needs to be located, digitized and posted to choatesofthesouth.org.*

²⁵ 1750 -- 1750 Baltimore County, MD Rent Rolls -- Debt Book *The original document needs to be located, digitized and posted to choatesofthesouth.org.*

²⁶ Court Proceedings Liber HWS No. IA, p.351; Baltimore County Families, 1659-1759, p. 110-111, 566