

After examining the material in General H.T. Allen's article covering certain of the early Virginia Allens, I have compiled below my own abstracts of all the ALLENS with given names Christopher, Hugh, Thomas, and William, who appear in the Virginia headright patents, abstracted in *Cavaliers & Pioneers*. Needless to say there are many other patent records mentioning ALLENS of other given names which should also be compiled.

The items listed below are actually more than abstracts of abstracts, because in the majority of cases I have examined the originals of the corresponding patents themselves both to validate the Nugent abstracts and in search of additional relevant material. Although nothing startling has emerged from this effort, I have found a few interesting and suggestive ALLEN associations by juxtaposing several of these records in batches, which I do first, below (the complete abstracts for each of the ALLEN given names, follow).

I have rendered the surnames in all-caps in my abstracts to make them stand out.
SOURCES are given at the end of this compendium.

Notes on County Creation:

Charles River Shire (or County) was renamed York County abt Feb1642/3.

James City Shire (or County) and YorkCo spawned NewKentCo in 1654.

Northumberland Co was the name given about 1645 to all the unsettled VA territories which fell outside the original 8 shires, thus it was technically the ancestor of most modern VA counties. Northumberland and York Cos gave birth to LancasterCo in Jan1651/2, and Northumberland hived off WestmorelandCo in 1653.

Abstracts, Batch 1

22May1638 Joseph CROSHAW 600a in CharlesRiverCo (a long sandy pt 2m N of Queens Crk) by assignment from William PRIOR, Gent
“[undated] This patent surrendered & renewed in the name of William ALLEN.
Teste Richard Lee” {VAP 1:573}

25May1640 William ALLEN of London, merchant, 600a in CharlesRiverCo (a long sandy pt 2m N of Queens Crk, adj Thomas SAVIN) by assignment from Joseph CROSHAW “to be augmented and doubled when he or his assignee shall have sufficiently peopled and planted the same” {VAP 1:719-720}

11Mar1652 Edward CANNON & Thomas ALLEN, 520a LowerNorfolkCo, Linhaven Par (adj Mr WOODHOUSE's dam) for 11 persons incl “Isaac MORGAN, Mary SHEWELL, Ann LITTLETON, Tho[mas] ALLEN, Griffin GWIN, Geo[rge] BEASLY, Henry SHADO, Sarah a maid servant, John MALDEN, Richard LEE, Thomas ANTHONY” {VAP 3:190}

COMMENTS:

Thomas Allen transported a Tho[mas] ALLEN (most likely himself), and a Richard LEE, according to a patent granted in 1652. Fourteen years earlier, in 1638 a patent to 600a in CharlesRiverCo was granted to Joseph CROSHAW which he transferred two years later to William ALLEN of London, Merchant. Richard Lee was the witness to the note of transfer appended to the original Croshaw patent.

Abstracts, Batch2:

16Jun1649 Capt. Ralph WORMELEY, 3200a
 (S sid Rappahanock abt 10m up the riv incl Indian town of old & new Nimcock)
 for 64 persons incl "... William ENGLISH ... Tho[mas] ALLEN"
 [two sets of negros, 8 and 9 in number are mentioned,
 one lot in Capt. John William's ship] {VAP 2:170-171}

2Oct1649 Capt. Ralph WORMELEY, Esq, 1645a YorkeCo (formerly CharlesRiver Co)
 several tracts, incl 100a of land "butting upon the mouth of Allens Creek on the east"
 which was assigned by William ALLEN to Ralph READ & Francis CARTER
 neighbors incl Abraham ENGLISH {VAP 2:276-277}

11Mar1652 Edward CANNON & Thomas ALLEN, 520a LowerNorfolkCo, Linhaven Par
 (adj Mr WOODHOUSE's dam)
 for 11 persons incl "Isaac MORGAN, Mary SHEWELL, Ann LITTLETON, Tho[mas] ALLEN,
 Griffin GWIN, Geo[rge] BEASLY, Henry SHADO, Sarah a maid servant, John MALDEN,
 Richard LEE, Thomas ANTHONY" {VAP 3:190}

4Sep1655 Mrs. Margaret BRENT, 1000a, LancasterCo [created 1651 from Northumberland & York Cos]
 (S sid Rappahanock, 1/4m abv falls of riv) for 20 persons incl Thomas ALLEN {C&P 1:313}

9Feb1663 John LORD & William HORTON, 2500a WestmorelandCo [from NorthumberlandCo 1653]
 (lin of Katharin BRENT, orphan) for 50 persons incl "Tho[mas] ALLEN ... Francis CARTER" {C&P 1:483-4}

25Apr1666 "It is ordered that Mr. William Allen give Mr. Thomas Allen sufficient security
 to save him harmless from a Bond past on behalf of the sd Wm Allin to Mr. Philip Chesley."
 {H.T.ALLEN, citing YorkCoVA Orders 4:89}

COMMENTS:

These abstracts show repeated transportations of Thomas ALLENs, and the first two, show Capt. WORMELEY to be a neighbor of William ALLEN,^[1] and like the items considered in BATCH 1, associate a Thomas ALLEN at least loosely with this William ALLEN.

This may be William ALLEN, the merchant of London, patentee of those 600a in CharlesRiverCo (now YorkCo) and if more than one of the Thomas transportations concern the same man, it suggests that Thomas too, was a merchant, or was associated in some way with William ALLEN's transatlantic business interests. The final item, found by Gen. H.T. Allen, likely concerns the same men. Note that the title "Mr." was an honorific equivalent to "Esquire", and was reserved for men of significant property, and usually education.

¹ H.T.ALLEN apparently believes that William's adjacent land was (part of?) the tract called "York Old Field", and identifies its owner as the William Allen whose wife was named Judith, and who had a son William, and a grandson William who was project patriarch William of Albemarle. However, the evidence presented in his article is insufficient by itself to sustain these conclusions.

Abstracts, Batch 3:

18Oct1638 Hugh ALLEN, 225a CharlesRiverCo
 (neighbors: Mr. ROULSTON (to the North); Martin BAKER (West), Robert BEAW (East),
 “extending itself into the woods south west a mile with marked trees” (i.e. having no SW bounding neighbor)
 150a for transporting “three persons the first year to the same Charles River”
 (John POTTER, Thomas JEFFERYES, Thomas MANN), and 75a “in right of adventure of himself *** **
 persons the several years to the said Charles River (Abraham CAINE, Hugh ALLEN, Charles ALLEN)”
 {[VAP 1:633](#)}

18Oct1638 Hugh ALLEN, 100a CharlesRiverCo
 (adj to prev patent and bounding John POTEET on the W)
 “for his own personal adventure and the transportation of his son Charles Allen”
 {VAP 1:633-634}

10Jan1675/6 William ALLEN and Bassill WAGSTAFFE entered into an agreement
 for the division of 75 acres they had purchased jointly from Jeffrey Bow
 and adjoining Charles ALLEN. Thomas READE and Samuel ALLEN, witnesses.
 {H.T.ALLEN, 3, citing YorkCoVA [Court Orders 5:137]}

“Christopher, Thomas, Hugh (and his sons Charles and Edward) settled on contiguous
 plantations and are definitely associated in the county records.” {H.T.ALLEN, 2}

COMMENTS:

General H.T. Allen cites no specific records in support of his sweeping relationship statement above, and at the time he patented his land in 1638, Hugh had no ALLEN neighbors, though it’s certainly likely that he gave some of it to his sons Charles and Edward. The third item above does show that William Allen owned land adjacent to Charles Allen, and I note that the witnesses were a Samuel Allen, and a Thomas READE. And in Capt. WORMELEYs 1649 patents, above, there was a reference to 100a assigned by William ALLEN to Ralph READ—perhaps a relation of Thomas. Thus, the specifics of the actual patents here do begin to support General Allen’s compound statement.

Following are all the abstracts for ALLENS of four given names:
Christopher, Hugh, Thomas, and William

CHRISTOPHER ALLEN

6May1651 Edward DIGGS, Esq, 1200a YorkeCo, Hampton Par
(S sid Yorke Riv, West Cr, Millers Cr, Morgans Cr)
for 24 persons incl Chr[istopher?] ALLEN {C&P 1:214}

10Aug1642 W[illia]m WARREN, 650a [YorkCo?] (N sid of CharlesRiv,
“leading into Mojack Bay”) {VAP 1:796}

23Jan1653 W[illia]m WARREN, 650a [YorkCo?]
(N sid of CharlesRiv, rough bonds—same as above “into the mouth of the river) “the said land being formerly
granted unto W[illia]m Warren” by patent dated 10Aug1642 “and by said Warren assigned to Xph:
[“Christopher”] and Rice Maddox, which said Rice Maddox assigned his part and share thereof to Nath[aniel]
Warren and becomes due to the said W[illia]m Warren as being the sonn and heire to Nath[aniel] Warren, the
other half accruing due unto the said W[illia]m Warren by inter marrying with Fra[nces] Allen the only her*
now living of Xph: [“Christopher”] Allen {VAP 3:281—copied}

HUGH ALLEN

22Feb1638 John POTEETE, chirurgion, 100a CharlesRiverCo
(bounded on the N by ROULSTON, E by Hugh Allen)
for two persons imported by Edward Reynolds {VAP 1:619}

18Oct1638 Hugh ALLEN, 225a CharlesRiverCo
(neighbors: Mr. ROULSTON (to the North); Martin BAKER (West), Robert BEAW (East),
“extending itsel[e] into the woods south west a mile with marked trees” (i.e. having no SW bounding neighbor)
150a for transporting “three persons the first year to the same Charles River”
(John POTTER, Thomas JEFFERYES, Thomas MANN), and 75a “in right of adventure of himself *** **
persons the several years to the said Charles River (Abraham CAINE,Hugh ALLEN, Charles ALLEN)”
{[VAP 1:633](#)}

18Oct1638 Hugh ALLEN, 100a CharlesRiverCo
(adj prev patent and bounding John POTEET on the W)
“for his own personal adventure and the transportation of his son Charles Allen” {VAP 1:633-634}

13Aug1639 John POTEET, 50a CharlesRiverCo (bounded N on Allen’s Crk, E by John CHEW)
by purchase from Nicholas DALE {VAP 1:665}

21Jul1646 George LUDLOWE, Esq, 1452a CharlesRiverCo
(bounds like the following patent, and this one includes 600a patented by Martin BAKER (a bound of Hugh
ALLEN abv in 1638). This patent is highly legible and includes bounds so might be plotted) {VAP 2:74}

26Jul1646 George LUDLOWE, Esq, 11927a YorkCo
(bounds incl Wormeley’s Crk on S sid of Charles River, mill land belonging
to Warwick River, and the land of Hugh Allen, but these points are widely separated) {VAP 2:51-52}

HUGH ALLEN (cont.)

7Mar1647 Hugh ALLEN, 420a YorkCo
 (bounded N by ROULSTON's div, W by Martin BECKER, E by Robert [Beaw?])
 for a former grant dated 18Oct1638 and the transportation of 9 persons [not named] {VAP 2:135-136}

26Jan1648 James MILLER, 150a [co county]
 (adj Mr. ROULSTON, water mill, Hugh ALLEN) for 3 persons {C&P 1:182}

12Mar1652 George LUDLOW, Esq, 1500a YorkCo
 (BEG mouth of Wormeleys Cr S sid Charles River, Hugh ALLEN) {C&P 1:239}

THOMAS ALLEN

14Sep1636 Thomas ALLEN, 550a, ElizabethCityCo
 (Long Cr, E sid ChisopeiackeRiv [ie ChesapeakeBay]) for 11 persons, not named {VAP 1:381}

6May1637 Thomas ALLEN, 550a, in the lower county of NewNorfolk
 (beg the 1st Sthly br out of the 1st bay) for 11 persons, not named {VAP 1:425}
 NewNorfolkCo was created from Elizabeth City Shire in 1636/37
 and the above 2 patents refer to the same land]

16Jun1649 Capt. Ralph WORMELEAY, 3200a
 (S sid Rappahanock abt 10m up the riv incl Indian town of old & new Nimcock)
 for 64 persons incl "... William ENGLISH ... Tho[mas] ALLEN"
 [two sets of negros, 8 and 9 in number are mentioned, one lot in Capt. John William's ship] {VAP 2:170-171}

3Apr1651 Joseph HAYES, Gent, 300a YorkCo (N sid YorkRiv, Bennets Cr)
 for 6 persons incl Tho[mas] ALLEN {C&P 1:211}

29Apr1652 John DIER, 100a LowerNorfolkCo, Linhaven Par
 (bounded S on land of Thomas ALLEN, N by John STRATTON) {C&P 1:262}
 This patent was renewed 4Sep1655, mentioning the same bounds {C&P 1:328}

11Mar1652 Edward CANNON & Thomas ALLEN, 520a LowerNorfolkCo, Linhaven Par
 (adj Mr WOODHOUSE's dam)
 for 11 persons incl "Isaac MORGAN, Mary SHEWELL, Ann LITTLETON, Tho[mas] ALLEN,
 Griffin GWIN, Geo[rge] BEASLY, Henry SHADO, Sarah a maid servant, John MALDEN,
 Richard LEE, Thomas ANTHONY" {VAP 3:190}

4Sep1655 Mrs. Margaret BRENT, 1000a, LancasterCo [created 1651 from Northumberland & York Cos]
 (S sid Rappahanock, 1/4m abv falls of riv) for 20 persons incl Thomas ALLEN {C&P 1:313}

23Oct1656 Nicholas MEREWETHER & John LEACH, 200a JamesCityShire (NE sid Powhitan Swamp)
 for 4 person incl Thomas ALLEN {C&P 1:338}

15Mar1658 Charles HILL, 150a "no county" (Garden Cr), for 3 persons incl Tho[mas] ALLEN
 {C&P 1:389}

THOMAS ALLEN (cont.)

9Feb1663 John LORD & William HORTON, 2500a WestmorelandCo
[WestmorelandCo was created from NorthumberlandCo 1653]
(lin of Katharin BRENT, orphan) for 50 persons incl “Tho[mas] ALLEN ... Francis CARTER”
{C&P 1:483-484}

9Oct[1665?] John MARTIN, 578a LowerNorfolkCo, Lynhaven Par
(Indian Cabin br of LynhavenRiv ... John WOODHOUSE)
150a prt of a grant to Thomas ALLEN, by him assigned to Isaack MORGAN {C&P 1:528}

WILLIAM ALLEN

7May1638 John CLARKSON 400a CharlesRiverCo
(Back Cr Chews Cr, Cheesman’s Cr, hd of his 1st dividend), for 8:
William ALLEN, Wm. HACKNEY, Richard HOLE, Elizabeth HUSON, Ann CLARKSON,
Jane CLARKSON, Ann CLARKSON, wid. {VAP 1:563}
Note: CLARKSON had two other patents in 1637, with 3 additional persons named.

22May1638 Joseph CROSHAW 600a CharlesRiverCo (a long sandy pt 2m N of Queens Crk)
by assignment from William PRIOR, Gent
“This patent surrendered & renewed in the name of William ALLEN.
Teste Richard Lee” {VAP 1:573}

25May1640 William ALLEN of London, merchant, 600a CharlesRiverCo
(a long sandy pt 2m N of Queens Crk, adj Thomas SAVIN)
by assignment from Joseph CROSHAW “to be augmented and doubled when he or his assignee
shall have sufficiently peopled and planted the same” {VAP 1:719-720}

23Jul1640 Robert HOLT, merchant, 700a JamesCityShire (E sid ChickahominyRiv, Checroes Cr)
incl 500a assigned by Richard BELL. 13 names are listed, incl William ALLEN {C&P 1:123}

2Oct1649 Capt. Ralph WORMELEY, Esq, 1645a YorkeCo (several patents)
incl 100a of land “butting upon the mouth of Allens Creek on the east”
which was assigned by William ALLEN to Ralph READ & Francis CARTER
neighbors incl Abraham ENGLISH {VAP 2:276-277}

20Jan1651 Mr. Robert HOLT, 470a JamesCityShire
(western brs of Jones Crk, E sid ChickahominyRiv)
for 10 persons incl Wm Allen {C&P 1:215}

26Oct1652 Mr. William BAULDWIN, 600a YorkCo
(S sid of Skiminoe Crk, off CharlesRiv, & StAndrews Cr)
for 12 persons: William ALLEN, James BROWNE, William GREY, Thomas BRADNAGE,
John LOGANELL, Edward a boy, Nicho[las] WRENN, Charles a man, Charles a boy, Samuel WOLSTONE,
Kate & Peter (2 negros) {C&P 1:263}

27Apr1653 Mr. Richard BARNHOUSE, Jr, 200a GloucesterCo (S sid MattaponyRiv)
for 4 persons: William ALLEN, Mary COLLIER, Robert YATES, John GREENSHAN {C&P 1:276}

WILLIAM ALLEN (cont.)

4Jun1655 Mr. William NUTT, 683a NorthumberlandCo
(N sid Great WicocomocoRiv, Lambdens Cr to Iland Cr)
350a of which was granted to Robert LAMBDEN & William ALLEN
and by the latter assigned to sd LAMBDEN {C&P 1:309}

20Sep1656 Humphrey TABB, Gent, 900a ElizabethCityCo, 5 pats btw 1637-1647
(btw Harrises Cr and PtComfort Cr)
and for 4 persons: Rich[ard] LOWE, W[illia]m ALLEN, Thomas TOMPSON, Andrew BLARKE
{C&P 1:333}

18Jun1657 William ALLEN, 250a NewKentCo (N sid JamesRiv, adj Major HOLD)
for 5 persons "Georg Mosse, Tho Smith, Wm Cox, Davey (or Darcy) Murbey (or Markey), Horatio Vere"
"patent renewed and granted to the said William Allen" 20Oct1662
[the names of the transportees are not found in the original] {VAP 4:165}

27Apr1658 Christopher GARLINGTON, 1050a NorthumberlandCo
(S sid Dennisses Cr on S sid Great WicocomocoRiv)
for 8 persons incl W[illia]m ALLEN {C&P 1:371-372}

15Mar1658 Mr. Henry CORBYN & Mr. Gerrard FOWKE, 3000a (in Patomeck freshes)
for 60 persons incl 2 W[illia]m ALLENS {C&P 1:388}

SOURCES

Cavaliers and Pioneers: Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants, 1623-1666 (v.1)
Nell Marion Nugent (Baltimore: GPC, 1963)
cited as **C&P**

[Virginia Land Office Grants](#), online at Library of Virginia
[Access by book and page#](#).
cited as **VAP**

Henry T. Allen, "Allen",
in *Genealogy of Kentucky Families, From the Register of the Kentucky Historical Society, v.1*
(GPC 1981),
cited as **H.T.ALLEN**.

James W. Petty, "Seventeenth Century County Court Headright Certificates",
in *The Virginia Genealogist* 45(Jan-Mar2001): 2-22, and 45(Apr-Jun2001):112-122)

who abstracts here many YorkCo headright applications which I searched for ALLEN items, finding none. Mr. Petty suggests that about 50% of all the headright certificates issued never showed up in any patents, and only a small fraction of the missing ones were presented to the county courts. Of those that were, though, there are many discrepancies between the county certificates and the eventual patents. Also, many patents as well as certificates omit the names of the transportees and note only the number of headrights recognized.