Historic Roads of Virginia

New Kent County
Road Orders

1684 - 1758

Transcribed from the Vestry Book of St. Peter's Parish

by

Ann Brush Miller
Senior Research Scientist

Virginia Center for Transportation Innovation & Research
Abstract:

The road history projects undertaken by the Virginia Center for Transportation Innovation and Research (formerly the Virginia Transportation Research Council) establish the feasibility of studies of early road networks and their use in the environmental review process. These projects, by gathering and publishing the early road orders of the vast parent counties, also lay the foundation for additional research by local groups over a broad area of Virginia.

This volume marks the 27th entry in the *Historic Roads of Virginia* series, first initiated by the Virginia Highway & Transportation Research Council (subsequently the Virginia Transportation Research Council, and now the Virginia Center for Innovation and Research) in 1973. *New Kent County Road Orders 1684-1758* expands the coverage of early central Tidewater transportation records begun in the previously published *New Kent County and Hanover County Road Orders 1706-1743*.

This project covers the surviving transportation records from the end of the 17th century and the first half of the 18th century for a significant parent county of Virginia’s central Tidewater region. During the late 17th century and early 18th century, the area covered in this volume included much of modern New Kent County, portions of King William County and Hanover County, and a small portion of James City County. This information will eliminate the need for further research into the early New Kent County road order records. If questions arise about early roads once a VDOT road improvement project is already under way (or nearly under way), primary historical research of this nature can take 6 to 12 months to complete. Therefore, this study can be a source of potentially significant cost savings for VDOT, including the avoided costs of project delays and avoided consultant costs for cultural resource studies should questions arise.
FINAL REPORT

NEW KENT COUNTY ROAD ORDERS 1684-1758

Transcribed from the Vestry Book of St. Peter's Parish

Ann Brush Miller
Senior Research Scientist

Virginia Center for Transportation Innovation and Research
(A partnership of the Virginia Department of Transportation
and the University of Virginia since 1948)

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New Kent County and Hanover County Road Orders 1706-1743, Transcribed from the Vestry Book of St. Paul’s Parish, by Ann Brush Miller

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Fincastle County Road Orders 1773-1776, by Betty E. Spillman, Shirley P. Thomas, and Ann Brush Miller

Montgomery County Road Orders 1777-1806, by Betty E. Spillman, Shirley P. Thomas, and Ann Brush Miller
FOREWORD

by

Ann Brush Miller
Virginia Center for Transportation Innovation & Research

New Kent County Road Orders 1684-1758, Transcribed from the Vestry Book of St. Peter’s Parish, covers early transportation records for a portion of the central Tidewater region of Virginia. This volume covers surviving New Kent County transportation records for the end of the 17th century and the first half of the 18th century and includes the earliest surviving transportation-related records for a significant parent county of Virginia’s central Tidewater during a period of early westward expansion. The early county records for this area do not survive, but various transportation-related orders are included in the extant records of St. Peter’s Parish, which during the late 17th and early 18th centuries included much of modern New Kent County, portions of King William County and Hanover County, and a small portion of James City County.

The present volume contains the transcribed transportation-related entries from the parish records. This marks a departure from most other volumes of published Virginia road orders as it contains road orders and related transportation records that are not among the records of the county court.

This publication marks the twenty-seventh entry in the Historic Roads of Virginia series, first initiated by the Virginia Highway & Transportation Research Council (subsequently the Virginia Transportation Research Council, and now the Virginia Center for Transportation Innovation & Research) in 1973. New Kent County Road Orders 1684-1758, Transcribed from the Vestry Book of St. Peter’s Parish, joins a previous volume, New Kent County and Hanover County Road Orders 1706-1743, Transcribed from the Vestry Book of St. Paul’s Parish, in its coverage of early transportation-related records for this portion of Virginia’s central Tidewater region.
A NOTE ON THE METHODS, EDITING, AND DATING SYSTEM

by

Nathaniel Mason Pawlett
(Faculty Research Historian, Virginia Transportation Research Council, 1973-1995)

The road and bridge orders of an early Virginia county are the primary source of information for the study of its roads. When extracted, indexed, and published by the Virginia Transportation Research Council, they greatly facilitate this. All of the early county court order books are in manuscripts, sometimes so damaged and faded as to be almost indecipherable. Usually rendered in the rather ornate script of the time, the phonetic spellings of this period often serve to complicate matters further for the researcher and recorder.

With these road orders available in an indexed and cross-indexed published form, it will be possible to produce chronological chains of road orders illustrating the development of many of the early roads of a vast area from the threshold of settlement through much of the eighteenth century. Immediate corroboration for these chains of road orders will usually be provided by other evidence such as deeds, plats, and the Confederate Engineers maps. Often, in fact, the principal roads will be found to survive in place under their early names.

With regard to the general editorial principles of the project, it has been our perception over the years as the road orders of Louisa, Hanover, Goochland, Albemarle, and other counties have been examined and recorded that road orders themselves are really a variety of “notes,” often cryptic, incomplete, or based on assumptions concerning the level of knowledge of the reader. As such, any further abstracting or compression of them would tend to produce “notes” taken from “notes,” making them even less comprehensible. The tendency, therefore, has been in the direction of restraint in editing, leaving any conclusions with regard to meaning up to the reader or researcher using these publications. In pursuing this course, we have attempted to present the reader with a typescript text that is as near a type facsimile of the manuscript itself as we can come.

Our objective is to produce a text that conveys as near the precise form of the original as we can, reproducing all the peculiarities of the eighteenth-century orthography. Although some compromises have had to be made because of the modern keyboard, this was really not that difficult a task. Most of their symbols can be accommodated by modern typography, and most abbreviations are fairly clear as to meaning.

Punctuations may appear misleading at times, with unnecessary commas or commas placed where periods should be located; appropriate terminal punctuation is often missing or else takes the form of a symbol such as a long dash, etc. The original capitalization has been retained insofar as it was possible to determine from the original manuscript whether capitals were intended. No capitals have been inserted in place of those originally omitted. The original spelling and syntax have been retained throughout, even including the obvious errors in various places, such as repetitions of words and simple clerical errors. Ampersands have been retained.
throughout to include such forms as “&c” for “etc.” Superscript letters have also been retained where used in ÿ, ÿ', s'd. The thorn symbol (ȝ), pronounced as “th,” has been retained in the aforesaid “ȝ”, pronounced “the,” and “ȝ” (that). The tailed “p” (resembling a capital “p” with the tail extended into a loop) has also been retained. This symbol has no counterpart in modern typography; given the limitations of the modern keyboard, we have rendered it as a capital “p” (P). This should be taken to mean either “per” (by), “pre,” or “pro” (and sometimes “par” as in “Pish” for parish) as the context of the order may demand. For damaged and missing portions of the manuscripts, we have used square brackets to denote the [blank], [torn], or [illegible] portions. Because of the large number of ancient forms of spelling, grammar, and syntax, it was deemed impracticable to insert the form [sic] after each one to indicate a literal rendering. Therefore, the reader must assume that apparent errors are merely the result of our literal transcription of the road orders, barring the introduction of typographical errors, of course. If, in any case, this appears to present insuperable problems, resort should be made to the original records.

As to dating, most historians and genealogists who have worked with early Virginian records will be aware of the English dating system in use down to 1752. Although there was an eleven-day difference from our calendar in the day of the month, the principal difference lay in the fact that the beginning of the year was dated from March 25 rather than January 1, as was the case from 1752 onward to the present. Thus January, February, and March (to the 25th) were the last three months in a given year, and the new year came in only on March 25.

Early Virginian records usually follow this practice, though in some cases, dates during these three months will be shown in the form 1732/3, showing both the English date and that in use on the Continent, where the year began January 1. For researchers using material with dates in the English style, it is important to remember that under this system (for instance) a man might die in January 1734 yet convey property or serve in public office in June 1734 since, under this system, June came before January in a given year.
The roads are under the government of the county courts, subject to be controled by the general court. They order whenever they think them necessary. The inhabitants of the county are by them laid off into precincts, to each of which they allot a convenient portion of the public roads to be kept in repair. Such bridges as may be built without the assistance of artificers, they are to be built. If the stream be such as to require a bridge of regular workmanship, the court employs workmen to build it, at the expense of the whole county. If it be too great for the county, application is made to the general assembly, who authorize individuals to build it, and to take a fixed toll from all passengers, or give sanction to such other proposition as to them appears reasonable.

—Thomas Jefferson, *Notes on the State of Virginia*, 1781

The establishment and maintenance of public roads were among the most important functions of the county court during the colonial period in Virginia. Each road was opened and maintained by an Overseer of the Highways appointed by the Gentlemen Justices yearly. He was usually assigned all the “Labouring Male Titheables” living on or near the road for this purpose. These individuals then furnished all their own tools, wagons, and teams and were required to labour for six days each year on the roads.

Major projects, such as bridges over rivers, demanding considerable expenditure were executed by commissioners appointed by the court to select the site and to contract with workmen for the construction. Where bridges connected two counties, a commission was appointed by each and they cooperated in executing the work.

Virginia’s first road laws (in 1632 and 1657 [*Hening*, v. 1, pp. 199, 436]) put the basic control of county roads under the control of the county courts. Under the expanded 1661 road legislation (*Hening*, v. 2, p. 103), the vestries of the Established (Anglican) church were noted as potential adjuncts to the function of the county court in transportation-related matters. At the request of the surveyor (overseer) of the road, the vestry could order the tithables along the route to work on the road:

... the vestryes of every parish are upon the desires of the surveyors hereby enjoyned and empowered to order the parishioners every one according to the number of tithables he hath in his family, to send men upon the dayes by the surveighors appointed to helpe them in clearing the wayes, and making or repairing the bridges according to the intent and purpose of this act...

Thus, although the majority of Virginia’s colonial road and transportation-related records can be found in the order books of the county courts, some road records may be found within vestry records. Such involvement by the vestry was the case in St. Peter’s Parish, New Kent County, from the establishment of the parish in 1678 until well into the 18th century. In the case
of New Kent County, for which the early court records have been destroyed, vestry records are the only remaining records regarding the early roads in the region.

The vestry records arguably do not contain every transportation-related order issued by the county court during the period, but they do contain records concerned with the allotment of districts and laboring tithables for the various overseers of the roads. Apparently the vestry’s involvement was largely ceded to the county court at some point in the second quarter of the 18th century: the road-related orders noted in the vestry book virtually cease after 1742, with only a few orders (one order for 1749 and three orders for 1758) recorded after that date. Several tobacco viewing orders that make reference to roads are also in the vestry book, and these have been included in this volume as well, in an appendix.

The original vestry records for St. Peter’s Parish and photostat copy of the original records are at the Library of Virginia in Richmond. The photostat copy consists of two volumes, the first volume being the minutes of the parish vestry meetings and the second being the entries of births, deaths, and related information. The earliest vestry records for the parish are not known to exist; the surviving vestry records are extant from 1684/1685 (although some pages are damaged) through the 18th century. Because of damage to portions of the early records, the original pagination does not remain on the first two pages of the surviving volume, which are loose fragments identified as pages “A” and “B” on the Library of Virginia photostat. The letters “A” and “B” appear to be modern additions for the purpose of identifying the loose pages. However, the style of the numbering on the subsequent vestry book pages, which begins with page 1 and runs sequentially, is consistent with early writing practices, and this suggests that these page numbers are early, if not original. The fact that the vestry records and photostat contain two pages (those now denoted “A” and “B”) predating the entries beginning on page 1 suggests that these two pages are surviving fragments from an earlier volume of vestry minutes covering the period from the creation of the parish (in ca. 1678-79) to ca. 1684. (It should be noted that following page 173, the next page in the original volume is numbered 164 and all following pages in the volume are numbered consecutively from page 164, but this appears to be an error of the original clerk.)

A transcription of the original vestry book, by Dr. Churchill Gibson Chamberlayne, was published as The Vestry Book and Register of St. Peter’s Parish, New Kent and James City Counties, Virginia, 1684-1786 by the Virginia State Library (now the Library of Virginia) in 1937. In his transcription, Dr. Chamberlayne identified and renumbered each page by its order in the surviving pages of the original book, not by its original page number. For example, the pages denoted “A” and “B” in the photostat (and for which the original page numbers did not survive) are numbered “1” and “2” in the published Chamberlayne transcription. The first numbered page in the original book and photostat, (page 1), is identified by Chamberlayne as page 3, the second numbered page in the original, (page 2), is identified by Chamberlayne as page 4, and so forth.

In the present volume of road orders, the page numbers in the original vestry book (and, of course, the photostat), the page numbers under Chamberlayne’s renumbering system, and the page numbers in the published Chamberlayne transcription are given for reference.
St. Peter’s Parish was created from Blisland Parish sometime in 1678; no copy of the original enabling act survives, but a decree of the General Court of Virginia, issued on 29 April 1679 (Old Style), confirmed the division. No boundaries were specified, but as reconstructed by Dr. Chamberlayne, the original boundaries of St. Peter’s Parish were as follows: on the northeast the boundary line ran along the ridge between the Pamunkey and Mattaponi rivers; on the southeast the line ran along John’s (or Jack’s) Creek (north of the Pamunkey River) and a line from Capt. Bassett’s Landing Creek (south of the Pamunkey); on the southwest the line ran along the ridge between the Pamunkey and Chickahominy rivers. The northwest boundary was left undefined to accommodate settlement as it moved westward. Thus, the parish as originally defined included the northwestern portion of modern New Kent County, the northern portion of what is now Hanover County, and the southwestern portion of present King William County. The practice of running parish (and, often, county) boundaries along the dividing ridges between rivers, rather than along the rivers themselves, was relatively common in Virginia during the mid-17th century. However, this practice declined (often with corresponding changes of parish and county lines from the inter-riverine ridges to the rivers themselves) in the later 17th and early 18th centuries, and such changes were reflected in the evolution of St. Peter’s Parish.

In 1689, questions as to the lower boundary line of St. Peter’s Parish (i.e., the boundary line between Blisland Parish and St. Peter’s Parish) resulted in a survey and, apparently, a very slight adjustment of the line in order to avoid splitting several landowners’ properties between parishes. A more major adjustment in the parish lines occurred in 1691, when King and Queen County (then including modern King William County and part of Caroline County) was created from the portion of New Kent County that lay north of the Pamunkey River. As part of the creation of the new county, the portion of St. Peter’s Parish north of the Pamunkey River was cut from St. Peter’s and added to St. John’s Parish. In 1704, St. Peter’s Parish lost additional territory when a new parish, St. Paul’s, was created from what had been the upper (northern) portion of St. Peter’s Parish. The boundary line between St. Peter’s Parish and the new St. Paul’s Parish, which ran from the Pamunkey River, up Matadequin Creek, and then to the Chickahominy, became the dividing line between New Kent County and Hanover County when the latter was created in 1720. Another parish boundary adjustment was effected by a 1723 act of the General Assembly (effective in 1725), which added that portion of Wilmington Parish on the northeast side of the Chickahominy River to St. Peter’s Parish. This legislation established the parish lines as the Chickahominy River on the southwest, the Mattaponi River on the northeast, Blisland Parish to the southeast, and St. Paul’s Parish to the northwest.

In its early years, therefore, St. Peter’s Parish included, at least nominally, much of modern New Kent County; portions of King William County and Hanover County; and, for a period, a small portion of James City County. Most of the early court records for these counties do not survive, making the road-related information contained in the vestry records, although not complete, nevertheless of particular significance. The road orders contained in this volume cover the late 17th century and first part of the 18th century and comprise the principal extant evidence for the period during which settlement was rapidly moving west from Tidewater into the Piedmont and onward toward the mountains.
NEW KENT COUNTY ROAD ORDERS 1684-1758
Transcribed from the Vestry Book of St. Peter's Parish

[Note: As noted in the “Introduction,” three page numbers are provided for each entry: (1) the page number in the original vestry book; (2) the page number under Dr. Churchill Gibson Chamberlayne’s renumbering system devised for publication of his transcription; and (3) the page number in Chamberlayne’s transcription entitled The Vestry Book and Register of St. Peter’s Parish, New Kent and James City Counties, Virginia, 1684-1786 published in 1937 by the Virginia State Library (now the Library of Virginia). Specifically, the page number after the notation “Old Style” or “O. S.” (or “New Style” or “N. S.”) is the page number in the original vestry book; the page number following the notation “renumbered” is the page number under Chamberlayne’s renumbering system; and the page number following the notation “Chamberlayne” is the page number in the 1937 published transcription.]

[page torn] 1684, Old Style, no page number visible (denoted p. “A” in Library of Virginia photostat) [renumbered p. 1; Chamberlayne, p. 1]
[torn] y'[torn] Wm: Atkinson keep ye parish ferry this next [torn]ing to a former order in ye usual place & to hav[torn] eight hundred pounds Tob & cask at ye laying of [torn]ey

16 November 1685, Old Style, no page number visible (denoted p. “B” in Library of Virginia photostat) [renumbered p. 2; Chamberlayne, p. 3]
[Parish accounts]
To: Wm: Atkinson for Parish ferry [page torn]

8 [page torn] 1686, Old Style, p. 2 [renumbered p. 4; Chamberlayne, p. 8]
It is ordered that M'r Geo: Joanes doe agree & bargaine with some one person to keep the ferry and to pay for the same as formerly

25 November 1686, Old Style, p. 3 [renumbered p. 5; Chamberlayne, p. 9]
It is ordered that M'r John Lightfoots famillie be added to y Surveyer of y' highway of y' Lower Road between the Lower Church and Black Creek Mill

25 November 1686, Old Style, p. 3 [renumbered p. 5; Chamberlayne, p. 9]
It is ordered that Will Attkinson doe keep y' ferry and not to Deny M'r Jn: Ball Minister a passeg when occasion shall Require and to be allowed as formerly

25 November 1686, Old Style, p. 3 [renumbered p. 5; Chamberlayne, p. 9]
Whereas will Turner hath made complaint to this vestry that his helpe being soo weake in Clearing of y' highway they are not able to perform It is ordered therefore that the Sd will Turn[e] shall have the help of Tithables as formerly has been, & ffoloweth. Viz': Samll: Wady Thom: Glass Will Winston. Robert Andrewson Charles ffleming,

5 October 1687, Old Style, p. 5 [renumbered p. 7; Chamberlayne, p. 12]
It is ordered that Will Attkinson doe keep y' ferry from y' 11th: of Desemb': next for the ensuing yeare and to be allowed eight hundred pounds of tobb & Ck:
31 March 1688, O. S., p. 5 [renumbered p. 7; Chamberlayne, p. 14]
It is ordered yt: ye Tithables appointed to Mf. Geo: Smith for y^e^ Clearing of y^e^ Highway Be joined to y^e^ said[?] Tithables belonging to Mf: Gedeon Macon, and so to keep both Roades in Repaire

3 November 1688, O. S., p. 7 [renumbered p. 9; Chamberlayne, p. 17]
[Parish accounts]
To: Rich: Joanes as assignee of Will Attkinson for keeping y^e^ ferree 0800

3 November 1688, O. S., p. 7 [renumbered p. 9; Chamberlayne, p. 18]
It is ordered that ye. Churchwardens doe agree wth: some person to keep ye: fferry and to give him y^e^ usiall allowance for the same —

3 December 1689, O. S., p. 10 [renumbered p. 12; Chamberlayne, p. 23]
[Parish accounts]
To: Benj: bulckly for keeping y^e^ fferry 800

3 December 1689, O. S., p. 11 [renumbered p. 13; Chamberlayne, p. 25]
It is ordered yt: ye: Churchwardens doe agree wth: some person to keep y^e^: ferry & to be allowed a formerly ==

17 February 1689/90, O. S., p. 12 [renumbered p. 14; Chamberlayne, p. 26]
[torn] is ordered by this vestry yt: Mf: Pargister doe ferry over ye: neck belonging to this parish on Sundays Court days & Mustering days and to be allowed proportionable to w^h^: he hath been allowed for Sunday ==

12 May 1690, O. S., p. 13 [renumbered p. 15; Chamberlayne, p. 29]
New Kent
The line dividing y^e^: Parish of S^d^: Peters & Blisland as follow [torn] Viz: Beginning at Pamunky River side at a Small gutts mouth known by y^e^ name of Bassetts landing where there is a small w^h^: oake markt thence by a Line of markt trees south seven degrees & ½ west over severall points and bottoms until you come to y^e^: maine Rhode to a market Corner Red oake of y^e^: Lands of Richard Turrell thence by y^d^ lines of y^e^: S^d^ Turrells land leaving all y^e^ S^d^: Turrells land in Blisland Parrish thence by y^d^ lines of y^e^ S^d^: Turrells land & Cap^f^: Joseph ffosters land excluding all [torn] of y^e^: S^d^: Joseph ffoster in S^d^: peters parish thus done by order of the Governour and Councell dated att James City y^d^ 18 day of Oc^d^ 1689 P^f^: James Minge
[Note: The text of the 18 October 1689 order of the Virginia Council for the determination of the dividing line between Blisland Parish and St. Peter’s Parish is copied into the vestry book immediately following the meets and bounds given here. The same order had been previously copied into the vestry book at p. 11; an order of vestry to employ a surveyor to run the dividing line is recorded on p. 7, dated 31 March 1688, O. S. No roads were noted in the order of Council or the previous vestry order.]

20 November 1690, O. S., p. 14 [renumbered p. 16; Chamberlayne, p. 31]
[Parish accounts]
To: Mf: Pargister for keeping y^e^ ferry on Sundays Court days & must: days 0960

2
20 November 1690, O. S., p. 14 [renumbered p. 16; Chamberlayne, p. 32]
It is ordered by this vestry upon y:\petition of several inhabitants of y:\neck belonging to this parish y:\soe soon as y:\time of M:\Pargiter\'s keeping of y:\ferry be expired y:\then Robt:\King\doe provide a sufficient ferry boat & to be allowed at y:\same rate as y:\Sd:\M:\Pargiter\was for y:\year being so\offered by s:\King

2 November 1691, O. S., p. 15 [renumbered p. 17; Chamberlayne, p. 33]
[Parish accounts]
To Cap:\ Jno:\Lyddall for one Delnq:\& 8 feridges after y:\levy laid & y:\p:\ferry ceased 000074

2 November 1691, O. S., p. 15 [renumbered p. 17; Chamberlayne, p. 34]
[Parish accounts]
To Rob:\ King for Keeping parish ferry until y:\Diviso: of y:\Co\y: 00480

20 December 1692, O. S., p. 17 [renumbered p. 19; Chamberlayne, p. 38]
Benjamin Bulkly being appointed Surveyor of the high ways in y:\place and Stead of M:\Geo. Pargiter & making his redress to this vestry for help It is therefore ordered y:\he have all the tithables on y:\South side of the Roade from Mattedequin Creek up to Cap:\ Page:\ mill to Cleare & make good y:\S:\Roade according [torn] Act

10 April 1696, O. S., p. 23 [renumbered p. 25; Chamberlayne, p. 49]
This Parish being vacant of a minister & y:\vestry Considering y:\necessaty and want thereof did request M:\Monrowe y:\he would officiate Some certaine Sundays to y:\which y:\s:\M:\Monrowe hath agreed & doth promise to officiate at y:\upper Church y:\first Sunday after Easter next & y:\day three weeks at this Lower Church in y:\after noon & soe to continue until this parish be provided with a minister it is therefore ordered y:\Churchwardens take Care to provide y:\S:\M:\Monrowe may have a passage over y:\River on those particular dayes aforementioned

16 November 1696, O. S., p. 24 [renumbered p. 26; Chamberlayne, p. 51]
[Parish accounts]
to Jo:\ Hilton for mending some pews & pales abo:\y:\lower Church & fetching M:\Monrowe once over y:\River w:\M:\Littlepag:\overseer 0110 Tob\* * *
to James Neens for himselfe & two horses goinge wth: Mr: Moreau[?] minister into york 0150 Tob\* 

14 June 1698, O. S., p. 27 [renumbered p. 29; Chamberlayne, p. 56]
The Churchwardens of this parish are ordred forth with to Caus the Lower Church yard to bee ffenced in with a Good Ditch and that there bee a Good gate with seader posts on that Side next to the Roade

3
It is ordered that the Church wardens forth with Caus the upper church to be put in Good repaire

Stephen Crump aploying him Selfe to this vestry for help to Cleer the Roades in his presints is ordered these tithables following viz Cap:\ Thomas Bray Step michell Step michell Ju' will fforgison will Bourne will Crump Pelham moore and his own family and that with the a forementioned help he Cleer to the new mill Damm upon the Black Creeke

Allexander mackeney produceing an order of Court to this vestry for help to Cleer the Roades in his prescints is ordered these familys following viz Christopher Clarke Thomas Stanley Edw Clarke Thomas Wharton nicholas Purde will martin John martin will Beetes Thomas Harris Edmond Hariress Burnell Chapell martin martin Thomas Delahay John Aldrige micaell Johnson John Jones Thomas moss Sam'll moss John willmore Jarrat Robert Ellison ffrancis Amos

14 June 1698, O. S., p. 27 [renumbered p. 29; Chamberlayne, p. 56]

3 October 1698, O. S., p. 31 [renumbered p. 33; Chamberlayne, p. 62]

25 November 1700, O. S., p. 40 [renumbered p. 42; Chamberlayne, p. 73]

22 October 1701, O. S., p. 46 [renumbered p. 48; Chamberlayne, p. 81]

20 April 1702, O. S., p. 49 [renumbered p. 51; Chamberlayne, p. 83]
6 April 1702, O. S., p. 49 [renumbered p. 51; Chamberlayne, p. 84]

[Regarding quantities of nails ordered for the new church building]

. . . maj’ meriwether doeth promise to Send (by the first opportunity) the Said nailes to Robert Pasleys Landing and Thomas Jackson is ordered to bring them up to his House and deliver them to the work men from time to time as they Shall have need of them for and towards Carrying on the Said building.

23 September 1702, O. S., p. 51 [renumbered p. 53; Chamberlayne, p. 86]

Upon the petition of the upper inhabitants of this parish presented by John Kimburrow James nuchols and Richard Corley Laying down that the [torn] Live very remote from the Church, it is ordered that a new Church or Chapell be built (upon the upper Side of mechumps Creeke adjoining to the Kings Roade) forty foot long and twenty foot wyde and planked in Every respect like to the upper Church: m’ John Kimburrow assuming to this vestry that he will Give two acres of Land Convenient to the Said roade and a Spring and Like wise all maner of Timbers for building the Said Church and maj’ nicholas Meriwether and m’ Henrey Childs are requested and impowered to agree with any work man or work men that Shall offer them Selves to under take all or part of the Said worke.

27 February 1702/3, O. S., p. 54 [renumbered p. 56; Chamberlayne, p. 89]

George Alvis aploying him Selfe to this vestrey for help to Cleere the roades in his prescinct is ordered John Tyler Richard maidlin nicholas Gentrey Thomas Tinsley John Burnley and all the Tithables from thence up the north side of Totopotomoys Creeke.

27 February 1702/3, O. S., p. 54 [renumbered p. 56; Chamberlayne, p. 89]

m’ Robert Anderson Ju’ aploying him Selfe to this vestrey for helpe to Cleere the roades in his prescinct is ordered these tithables following all the tithables on the South Side the Queens high roade that goeth by assascuen and So up the South Side Totopotomoys Creeke to Chickahaminy Swamp and down the Said Swamp to the north Side of Beverdam Swamp and up the said Swamp to the head of mattadecon Creeke and thence down the Said Creeke to m’ Lewis’ mill.

27 February 1702/3, O. S., p. 55 [renumbered p. 57; Chamberlayne, p. 89]

Peter masse upon his motion to this vestrey is ordered to his tithables the tithables on m’ Edloes plantation John Jones and michaell Johnson.

3 April 1704, O. S., p. 62 [renumbered p. 64; Chamberlayne, p. 97]

This vestrey Takeing into their Serious Consедерation the Largeness of this parish there being two Churches and one Chapell in the Same and the major part of the parish being desireus of a devision becase they Cannot have the word of God duly preached to them doe accordingly agree upon a devision and that it begineth at the mouth of maddadecun Creeke So up the Said Creeke to m’ Lewis mill thence down the Queens high roade to the rowling Roade that goeth from Edward mores to Geo’ Turners So along the Said Roade including the Said more in the upper parish thence a long the Said Roade to the Plantation of John Baughan Sen’ who is to be in the upper parish thence upon a Line betwen the plantations of nicholas Lawson and John Sandige the Said Lawson to be in the Lower parish and Sandige in the upper and Soe upon a Straite Line to Chickahamany Swamp including Edw Clark in the upper parish and Cap’ James moss and maj’ nicholas merriwether Church wardens are requested by this vestry to Suplicate his Excellence by
way of Petition for his Concurrance with this order which if he be pleased to grant that the Lower parish may Continue the name of S:\ Peter and that his Excellence would be pleased to give a name to the upper parish as to his wisdom may Seem meete . . .

[Note: The bill to divide St. Peter’s Parish, which would establish the western portion of the parish into the new St. Paul’s Parish, was passed by the General Assembly of Virginia in May 1704. The act is recorded in Hening, v. 3, p. 225, by title only. A complete copy is in the British Record Office (C. O. 5/1384), from which the following section is taken:

An Act for dividing S:\ Peters parish in New Kent County

Whereas Sundry and divers Inconveniencys attend the Inhabitants of S:\ Peters Parish in New Kent County by reason of the largeness of the Extent of the said parish Be it therefore Enacted by the Govern:\ Council and Burgesses of this present generall assembly and the authority thereof And it is hereby Enacted that on and after the first day of June next the said parish of S:\ Peters be divided into two distinct parishes and that the Division of the said two parishes be from the mouth of Maccadecum creek, So up the said Creek to M:\ John Lewis his mill, thence down the Queens high road to the Rowling road that goeth from Edward Moors to George Turners so along the said road including the said Moor in y\ e upper parish, thence along the said road to the plantation of John Baughan Senior who is to be in the upper parish thence upon a line between the plantations of Nicholas Lawson and John Sandidge the said Lawson to be in the Lower parish and Sandidg in the upper and so upon a straight line to Chickahominy Swamp including Edward Clarks in the upper parish, and that the lower part of the said parish shall remaine and hereafter be called and knowne by the name of S:\ Peters parish, and that the upper part of the said parish shall hereafter be called and known by the name of S:\ pauls parish.]

14 May 1705, O. S., p. 76 [renumbered p. 78; Chamberlayne, p. 111]
W:\ Clopton one of y\ e Surveyors of this County applying himselfe to this Vestry for help to clear y\ e Roads in his presinct is ordered all y\ e tythables belonging to these Psons following Viz:\ Madd Sarah Bray Dan:\ Park Esq:\ Jn:\ Askew Steph Mitchell Steph Mitchell Ju:\ W:\ fforgason Rob:\ Crump James Crump W:\ Boarne W:\ Crump Jn:\ Waddill Jun:\ Rich:\ Crump Steph Crump Cha:\ Barker Tho Shroasby Eliza Crump Widdow & Tho Brigman

8 May 1707, O. S., p. 85 [renumbered p. 87; Chamberlayne, p. 121]
Whereas M:\ Charles ffleming by an order of Court was appointed Surveyor for making rodes to his mill, & to apply himself to y\ e Vestry of S:\ Peters Pish, for Assistance to make y\ e S:\ rodes. Rodes, the Vestry therefore in Psuance to y\ e S:\ order has appointed help for clearing y\ e S:\ rodes, viz:\. Cap:\ James Moss, Sam:\ Jordan, William Norris. Tho: Ashcroft, Cap:\ Wyatts q:\. Tho: Henderson, Jn:\ Ashburton. They and all their male titheables to assist in making y\ e S:\ rodes
25 October 1707, O. S., p. 87 [renumbered p. 89; Chamberlayne, p. 124]
Charles ffleming complaining to this vestry that ye c help formerly allotted him for making rodes to his mill is insufficient its therefore ordered that James Austin Peter Elmore Tho Elmore David Bell & John Bacon they & all their tythables be added to his formerly help

25 October 1707, O. S., p. 87 [renumbered p. 89; Chamberlayne, p. 124]
David Claxton appointed by an order of Court Surveyor for Clearing y e ridge roade & applying himself to this vestry for help it was accordingly granted viz Coll ffoster Wm Smith Nat West[?] m Jno Butts Jno Dennet & the Surveyors own hands, they & all their male titheables to assist in Clearing y e S d ridge rode—

13 August 1708, O. S., p. 92 [renumbered p. 94; Chamberlayne, p. 131]
Whereas M Peter Massie being appointed servyeer of the highways, he Complaining to this vestry that the Assistance which he hath allowed, is not sufficient to Clear the s d Roads: its Therefore ordered That M Tho: Massies Male Tythables, Jno: Spheres, Edm: Harriss, & Charles Massies Give their Attendance, In Clearing the s d surveyers Roads, belonging to his Precincts.

30 July 1711, O. S., p. 102 [renumbered p. 104; Chamberlayne, p. 145]
Charles Winfrey being Appointed Servyee of y e: High=Ways from y e: upper side of Cap. Rich d: Littlepages Mill to y e: Lower side of stony swamp Bridge. He apploying himself to this Vestry for help. It is ordered That M: John Majors Male Tythables Rich Austins sam: smiths & M: Jno: Meuxs Tithables Give there Attendance on y e: s d: serveyor when Required

30 July 1711, O. S., p. 102 [renumbered p. 104; Chamberlayne, p. 145]
Thomas Jackson being Appointed servyeer of y e: highways in Cap: Jn o: Scotts Precincts: He applying himself to this Vestry for Assistance: It is Ordered That Mad n: Lightfoots, M: Sherwood Lightfoots Wm: Jacksons & James Taylors Tythables Give their Attendance on y e: s d: serveyer when Required

16 November 1713, O. S., p. 109 [renumbered p. 111; Chamberlayne, p. 157]
By The Motion of Cap. Jn o. ffoster, In behalf of John Bacon servyeer of y e. highways: It is Ordered That M: Jn o. Parkes, and Anthony Waddys Tythables be added to his Precincts.

7 December 1714, O. S., p. 110 [renumbered p. 112; Chamberlayne, p. 160]
At y e. Motion of M: Cha: ffleming servyeer of y e. highways to this Vestry It is ordered That y e. Tithables of Esq Lewis at Wills Quarter. Jn o. Turner, Thomas Bassett and Wn Greens Tithables shall be added to his Precincts To Assist y e. s d. Charles ffleming in Clearing y e. s d. Road and making Bridges when thereunto Required.

29 September 1718, O. S., p. 117 [renumbered p. 119; Chamberlayne, p. 168]
Ordered That M: Thomas Butts and M: Wn Waddill are Desired to Divide y e. Tythables in Each of y e. Lower Precincts Between Thomas Jackson and James Alford Surveyers of y e: Highways
Whereas Mr: Eben: Adams has Applyed himself to this Vestry &c that his Gang which is allow’d him in his pricincts is to small that they are not able to clear the Roads and repair the Bridges in his sd. precincts. It is ordered that Thomas Masses and William Masses Tithables shall be added to his former Gange.

Ordered that Madam Littlepages Tithables at Tonge hill be added to Stephen Mitchells Precincts, to Clear the Roads and repair the Bridges when thereunto Call’d by the s’d Stephen Michell surveyer

Ordered that the Tithables belonging to Madm. Littlepage at Tong Hill be removed from Stepn. Mitchells Gang & added to Evan Raglands


Ordered that Henry Scruggs Sen’l. & his Tithables and Rich’d. Scruggs be added be added to M’. Adams precincts for clearing the Highway

Ordered that Rich’d Crump & Edwd Baily & their Tithables do work upon ye high roads wth Wm. Crump Survey’

Ordered that the Church path from the Ridge road through Thomas Davis’s Land, be added to M’. Adams,s & M’. Walter Cloptons precincts. They to be Equally Concern’d in Keeping the Said Path in repair and making a bridge & Cosway over the branch and keeping the Same in repair

Upon the petition of John Jackson Surveyor of a high road for more help to Clear y’e Road, It is ordered that there be added to his precinct the tithables of John Thompson, Martin Hulett, Edward Bettis and his son

Ordered that the tithables of Thomas Davis & Jo’ Crump be aded to the precinct of M’. Eben’d. Adams to Clear y’e roads
29 September 1731, O. S., p. 172 [renumbered p. 174; Chamberlayne, p. 230]  
Ordered that ye tithables of Mr. Danl Farell, Madam Littlepage, Chares Winfree, Richd Austin, Richd Ross Matthew Pond, & Richd Littlepage do clear ye Road whereof Richard Littlepage is Surveyor.

[Note: After p. 173, the next page in the original volume is numbered 164 and all following pages in the volume are numbered consecutively from p. 164.]

5 October 1735, O. S., p. 174 [renumbered p. 186; Chamberlayne, pp. 245-246]  
Order’d at the Petition of Martin Hewlet an Overseer of the High Road from the Church to Mr. Chamberlayn’s ferry, That he have Mr. Chamberlayn’s Titheables, John Tomson & his Prentice, John Jackson’s Son, Peter Moon, John Crump at the Widow Jackson’s & his own Titheables.

5 October 1735, O. S., p. 174 [renumbered p. 186; Chamberlayne, p. 246]  
At the Petition of Wm. Paisley an Overseer of the High Road from the Old Church to Mr. Chamberlayn’s ferry Ordinary, That he have Wm. Atkinsons Titheables, Stephen Brooker, Lodowick Alford, and Julius Alford, Mich. Harfields Tith’ Richd. Ross Majr. Dandridge’s, John Lightfoots, & Col. Custis’s Tith at the old Quar. and upon the River.

5 October 1735, O. S., p. 174 [renumbered p. 186; Chamberlayne, p. 246]  
Richard Crump, an Overseer of an high Road, to have Tho’s. Davis and Joseph Crump added to his Company.

12 April 1740, O. S., p. 183 [renumbered p. 195; Chamberlayne, p. 263]  
That all the Male Tithables belonging to Wm. Gray Gent & the like belonging to Capt John Derricourt at his own house John Ross Theodorick Martin & Joseph Pargison be added to the Gang belonging to Wm’s Paslay.

29 September 1741, O. S., p. 187 [renumbered p. 199; Chamberlayne, p. 268]  
That M’s: Coopers Male Tithables be added to M’s: Hartwells Gang.

29 September 1741, O. S., p. 187 [renumbered p. 199; Chamberlayne, p. 269]  
That M’s: Derricourts Male Tithables be added to Martin Hewletts Gang.

29 September 1741, O. S., p. 187 [renumbered p. 199; Chamberlayne, p. 269]  
That Maj’s: ffosters & the Rev’d: M’s: Mossom’s Male Tithables be added to Coll: Macon.

29 September 1742, O. S., p. 189 [renumbered p. 201; Chamberlayne, p. 274]  
That the Persons menconed in the Prayer of George Poindexters Petition be under the Overseer w’ch: Shall be Appointed by the next Court.

11 October 1749, O. S., p. 206 [renumbered p. 218; Chamberlayne, p. 301]  
That all the Tithables belonging to M’s. Richd. Farrells Quarter Augustine Pasley, David Ross, John Ross, the son of Richd. Ross, & John Downs, be added to the gang Under Michael Harfield Surveyor.
20 February 1758, New Style, p. 228 [renumbered p. 240; Chamberlayne, p. 335]
Order’d. That Rich’d. Crump, have five of Madam Custis’s Male Tiths, from the Brick House, &
the Old Quarter to work upon his Road, And that those Tiths be Excused from working upon any
Other Road.

20 February 1758, N. S., p. 228 [renumbered p. 240; Chamberlayne, p. 335]
Order’d. That William Bailey’s, & Joseph Pargeson’s, Male Tiths, be Added to Martin
Hewlett’s gange, and that they also be Excused from working upon any Other Road

20 February 1758, N. S., p. 228 [renumbered p. 240; Chamberlayne, p. 335]
Order’d. That Mrs. Eliza. Vaughan’s, Philip Austins, and George Walton’s, Male Tiths, be
Added to Noel Waddill’s Gange; And that they also be Excused from working Upon Any Other
Road.
APPENDIX

TOBACCO VIEWING ORDERS WITH REFERENCES TO ROADS

[Note: Among its other responsibilities, during the 1720s the vestry was involved in identifying districts for tobacco viewing (inspection of tobacco fields to ensure that suckers [the secondary, inferior shoots] were not being cultivated). The following entries are not road orders; they are tobacco viewing orders that make reference to roads.]

13 June 1724, O. S., p. 141 [renumbered p. 143; Chamberlayne, pp. 192-193]
M' Charles Massie & M' Walter Clopton are appointed to View & Number Tob'o. plants according to law: from y'e long Bridge upon Chickahominy Bridge Swamp along y'e main Road by m'. Adams, to y'e Burnt mill & So Down black creek to the mouth thereof, & to y'e. Extent of y'e. parish Upward

13 June 1724, O. S., p. 141 [renumbered p. 143; Chamberlayne, p. 193]
M'. Robt Clopton & m'. David Pattison are appointed to View & Number Tob'o. plants as aforesd from M'. Wm. Thomas° Stor[torn?] along y'e. main road by Coll. Scotts & so to Alex'. Pattisons the full Brethd of the parish to Black Creek

13 June 1724, O. S., p. 141 [renumbered p. 143; Chamberlayne, p. 193]
M' Wm Waddill & Mr John Otey are appointed to View & Number as aforesd from Mr. Thomas’s Store along y'e. Main road by Coll. Scotts & so to Alex'. Pattisons, & So to y'e. Extent of the parish Downwards

17 June 1725, O. S., p. 143 [renumbered p. 145; Chamberlayne, p. 196]
M' Charles Massie & m'. Walter Clopton are or[torn] Appointed to View & Number Tob'o. plants according to [torn] the Long Bridge upon Chickahominy Swamp, Along y'e [torn] road by m': Adams,s to y'e. Burnt mill & so down bla[torn: black Creek?] to y'e. mouth thereof, & so to y'e. Extent of y'e. parish Up[torn]

17 June 1725, O. S., p. 143 [renumbered p. 145; Chamberlayne, p. 196]
M'. Rob'. Clopton & m'. David Pattison are Order[torn]ed to View & Number Tob'o. plants According to law [torn] Thomas,s former Store along the main road w'ch. lead[torn] Coll. Scotts & So to Alex'. Pattisons, the full brethd of y'e parish to Black creek y'e. former bounds

17 June 1725, O. S., p. 143 [renumbered p. 145; Chamberlayne, p. 196]
M'. Wm Waddill & m'. Jn°. Otey are Ordered & appointed to View & number Tob'o. plants according to law from m'. Tho°. former Store Along y'e main road w'ch. leadeth by Coll: Scotts & so to Alex° Pattisons, so to y'e Extent [torn]f y'e parish Downwards

11
19 June 1726, O. S., p. 152 [renumbered p. 154; Chamberlayne, p. 202]
Mr. Charles Massie & Mr. Walter Clopton are Ordered & Appointed to View & Number Tob\textsuperscript{co}. plants according to Law from ye Long bridge upon Chickahominy Swamp along ye main road by m' Adams,\textsuperscript{s} to the burnt mill & so Down black creek to ye mouth thereof, & so to ye. Extent of the parish Upwards [Note: This text is repeated in a badly torn order on the bottom of the page.]

19 June 1726, O. S., p. 152 [renumbered p. 154; Chamberlayne, p. 203]
Mr. Rob.\textsuperscript{l} Clopton & m' David Pattison are Ordered & Appointed to View & number Tob\textsuperscript{co}. plants According to law from m' Thomas,\textsuperscript{s} former Store, along ye Main Road by Coll Scotts, & so to Alex'. Pattisons the full breadth of ye. parish to black [Creek] the former bounds

19 June 1726, O. S., p. 152 [renumbered p. 154; Chamberlayne, p. 203]
M'. Wm Waddill & m' John Otey are Ordered & appointed to View & Number Tob\textsuperscript{o}. plants according to the Directions of ye. act of Assembly from the Long-Bridge upon Chickahominy Swamp along the main Road which leadeth by M'. Adams his plantacon to Tho'. Pinchbacks Mill thence to the mouth of Black Creek & so to ye. Extent of ye Parish Downwards

15 June 1728, O. S., p. 160 [renumbered p. 162; Chamberlayne, p. 212]
M'. Charles Massie & M'. Walter Clopton are Nominated & appointed to View & Number Tob\textsuperscript{o}. plants according to the Directions of ye act of Assembly from the Long-Bridge upon Chickahominy Swamp along the main Road which leadeth by M'. Adams his plantacon to Tho'. Pinchbacks Mill thence to the mouth of Black Creek & so to ye. Extent of ye Parish Upwards

15 June 1728, O. S., p. 160 [renumbered p. 162; Chamberlayne, p. 213]
M'. David Patteson & M'. Rob.\textsuperscript{l} Clopton are Nominated & appointed to View & Number Tob\textsuperscript{o}. plants According to the Directions of the act of Assembly from M'. Thomas his former Store along the Main Road which Leadeth by Coll Scotts Plantacon to Martha Pattisons ye. full breadth of the parish to Black Creek ye. former bounds

15 June 1728, O. S., p. 160 [renumbered p. 162; Chamberlayne, p. 213]
M'. Wm.\textsuperscript{m} Waddill & M'. Jn.\textsuperscript{o} Otey are Nominated & appointed to View & Number Tob\textsuperscript{o}. plants according to the Directions of ye act of Assembly from M'. Thomas his former Store along the main Road which Leadeth by Coll Scotts to Martha Pattisons so to the Extent of the Sd parish (in new Kent County) Downwards

23 June 1729, O. S., p. 162 [renumbered p. 164; Chamberlayne, p. 216]
M'. Charles Massie & m'. Walter Clopton are Nominated & Appointed to View & Number Tob\textsuperscript{o}. plants According to ye. Directions of ye. Act of Assembly from the Long bridge upon Chickahominy Swamp Along the Main Road which leadeth by M'. Adams,\textsuperscript{s} plantation to Thomas Pinchbacks Mill, thence to the Mouth of black Creek. And so to the Extent of the parish Upwards

23 June 1729, O. S., p. 163 [renumbered p. 165; Chamberlayne, p. 216]
M'. David Patteson & m' Rob.\textsuperscript{l} Clopton are Nominated & appointed to View and Number Tob\textsuperscript{o}. plants According to the Directions of ye Act of Assembly from m' Thomas,\textsuperscript{s} former Store, Along the Main Road Which Leadeth by Coll\textsuperscript{l}. Scotts to Martha Pattesons. the full breth of ye parish to black Creek the former bounds
23 June 1729, O. S., p. 163 [renumbered p. 165; Chamberlayne, p. 216]
Mr Wm. Waddill & Mr. John Otey are nominated & appointed to View & Number Tobco:
According to the Directions of the Act of Assembly from Mr. Thomas's former Store along the
main road which leadeth by Col. Scotts to Martha Pattesons, So to the Extent of ye Sd. Parish (in
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[Note: Various spellings were often used for the same name; all potential spellings should be checked. A number in parentheses signifies the number of times the word appears on that page.]

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[Note: Roads are cross-indexed to all locations and persons mentioned. Descriptions were standardized to simplify the preparation of this index. The key word for each entry is underlined.]

Road from the Long bridge on Chickahominy Swamp along the Main road by Mr. Adams’s to the Burnt mill / Thomas Pinchbeck’s mill, 11(2), 12(3)

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