Memorandum

To: Genealogical Committee, LRC H&AS
From: Archivist, LRC H&AS

5 Feb. 1974

In his will, Thomas Wythe (4), brother of George Wythe, referred to "land I bought of George Pickett and Francis." The only recorded reference which may apply to these purchases, that has been found to date, is a 1740 deed. In it, Margaret Wythe, mother of Thomas and George, exchanged 16 acres "on the south side of the King's road" (Back River Road?) for 16 1/2 acres on "the Old Poquoson river" with "Hanah Francis." (Thomas was then about 18 years old). This land acquired by the Wythes was "the third part of fifty acres --- upon the Old Poquoson river bounded by the land of Thos Wythe on three sides and the fourth by the land of John George which said land became hers the said Francis by being coheir with her two sisters to their mother Francis Savoy."

The 1801 deed, when George bought Chotawhile Creek, made exception to 16 1/2 acres sold by Thomas Wythe (4) to Thomas Francis.

Judging from the boundary descriptions in the 1740 and 1801 deeds, the entire 50 acres of the Francis-Savoy land may have been bought by the Wythes. It is remotely possible that the John George land could also have been procured at a later time.
We badly need more information on the above mentioned families in order to track down further information on the land that became Chesterville.

For instance, was Francis the maiden or married name of Hannah? (If her husband was living in 1740, he should have been named in the deed.) Was Hannah the mother of the Thomas Francis mentioned in the 1801 deed? (Both Thomases could have been under 21 in 1740.) Who did the other two Savoy sisters marry? George Pickett?
John George? Who was Francis Savoy's husband? Was she married more than once? Etc, etc.

The meager information in the Society files on these families is confusing:

John Francis married Mary Savoy in 1698 (Reel 2, page 168)
Thomas Francis witnessed a court record in 1695 (Reel 1, part 2, p. 59)

John George was hired as overseer, probably of the Wythe plantation, in April, 1699 by Thomas Haywood. A dispute resulted in a court suit the following August (Reel 2, page 180)

Index listing of missing page: "Rhett Edid deed sale for land to Crisp Francis" (Reel 2, 1689-1699)

Appraiser of estate of Abraham Pickett, Aug 1736 (Book 1731-37, p. 115)
Mary Pickett's will—only mentions son Samuel and grandson John Pickett, dated 1735, recorded 1741 (Reel 6, 1737-49, p. 103)

Estate of John George appraised in 1763 by Francis Mallory, etc.

J. L. Patterson