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**Boler...**  
**Bowler...**  
**Boulware**

There can be no doubt that the early Virginia Boulware (pronounced Bow-ler) family can be traced to the Old Rappahannock / Essex County area. The question is in regards to the earliest Colonial ancestor of this family. Many Boulware family members claim descendancy from the prominent Thomas Bowler, owner's of Bowler's Wharf, through his proven son James. But that lineage appears to be in error. Bowler's Wharf was inherited by Thomas Bowler's daughter Anne, who married Richard Cocks, indicating his son probably died without heirs.

<b>Thomas Bowler of Bowler's Wharf</b>	<b>James Boulware who married Agatha Rutherford</b>
<b>William Bowler of Old Rappahannock Co, VA</b>	<b>William Bowler of Edgefield SC &amp; Clarke Co AL</b>
<b>John Bowler of Old Rappahannock Co, VA</b>	<b>Wesley Boler of Neshoba / Newton Co, MS</b>
<b>James Boulware who married Margory Gray</b>	

**Descendants of Thomas Bowler**

THOMAS BOWLER was born 1608 in England<sup>1,2</sup>, and died July 02, 1679 in Old Rappahannock Co, VA<sup>3,4</sup>. He married (1) Unkown. He married (2) Tabitha Underwood<sup>5,6</sup> after 1670<sup>7</sup>, daughter of Unknown Underwood and Tabitha.

Rappahannock and Essex County were settled and organized in the decades when the new gentry was assuming power in the colony. Typical of the most successful of these men was Thomas Bowler, who arrived on the Rappahannock in 1658 and soon settled along the river in an area that would adopt his name, Bowler's Wharf. By 1670 he was a member of the Governor's Council, a powerful body that included the most influential planters in Virginia. (Settlers, Southerners, Americans: The History Of Essex County, Virginia 1608-1984)

Among the earliest examples of the architecture of Essex featuring a central-passage plan is Bowlers at Bowlers Wharf. (Settlers, Southerners, Americans: The



## History Of Essex County, Virginia 1608-1984)

First appears as a headright (four adventures) in a patent to Col. George Reade, of York, 24 February 1658, and is his own name had a grant of five hundred and four acres in Rappahannock county, 28 September, 1674 (Land Office Records, VI, p. 531.)

Per the will of Michael Sparke, of London, written 19 December 1651, he was owed money by Thomas Boler and Mr. Anderson of Yorketowne in Virginia. "Virginia Gleanings in England" states "Thomas Boler was, no doubt, Thomas Bowler, afterwards of Rappahannock county, who was appointed to the Council in 1675 and died in 1679. The reference to Yorktown is a very early appearance of the name. Probably the old York Plantation was now called Yorktown."

Child of THOMAS BOWLER and UNKNOWN is:

1. ELIZABETH BOWLAR<sup>8,9</sup>, m. JOHN HACKLEY.

Children of THOMAS BOWLER and TABITHA UNDERWOOD are:

2. JAMES BOWLER, b. Bet. 1672 - 1673, Old Rappahannock Co, VA<sup>10,11,12</sup>.
3. ANNE BOWLER<sup>13,14</sup>, b. January 23, 1674/75, Old Rappahannock Co, VA<sup>15,16</sup>; d. April 24, 1705<sup>17,18</sup>; m. RICHARD COCKE<sup>19</sup>; d. Bef. October 1720<sup>20</sup>.

### Footnotes

1. Early Wills of Record of the Bowler-Boulware Family at Tappahannock, Essex County, VA, 4.2. James Richmond Boulware, II, The Boulware Family Genealogy 1608, (Lakeland, Florida), 5.
3. Ruth & Sam Sparacio, Virginia County Court Records-Deed & Will Abstracts of (Old) Rappahannock County, VA (1677-1682) (Part I), (The Antient Press, 1990), 40-41.
4. William Montgomery Sweeny, Wills of Rappahannock County, Virginia 1656-1692, 80.
5. Ruth & Sam Sparacio, Virginia County Court Records-Deed & Will Abstracts of (Old) Rappahannock County, VA (1677-1682) (Part I), (The Antient Press, 1990), 40-41.
6. William Montgomery Sweeny, Wills of Rappahannock County, Virginia 1656-1692, 80.
7. Genealogies of Virginia Families II, Edlow, Bowler, Cocke, & Adams, 240.
8. Ruth & Sam Sparacio, Virginia County Court Records-Deed & Will Abstracts of (Old) Rappahannock County, VA (1677-1682) (Part I), (The Antient Press, 1990), 40-41.
9. William Montgomery Sweeny, Wills of Rappahannock County, Virginia 1656-1692, 80.
10. Ruth & Sam Sparacio, Virginia County Court Records-Deed & Will Abstracts of Essex County, Virginia 1695-1697, (The Antient Press, 1991), 10.
11. William Montgomery Sweeny, Wills of Rappahannock County, Virginia 1656-1692, 80.
12. James B. Slaughter, Settlers, Southerners, Americans: The History Of Essex County, Virginia 1608-1984, 16.
13. Ruth & Sam Sparacio, Virginia County Court Records-Deed & Will Abstracts of (Old) Rappahannock County, VA (1677-1682) (Part I), (The Antient Press, 1990), 40-41.
14. William Montgomery Sweeny, Wills of Rappahannock County, Virginia 1656-1692, 80.
15. Virginia Vital Records, Inscriptions on Gravestones in the Cemetery at "Bremo" in Henrico., 148.
16. Genealogies of Virginia Families II, Edlow, Bowler, Cocke, & Adams, 240.
17. Virginia Vital Records, Inscriptions on Gravestones in the Cemetery at "Bremo" in Henrico., 148.
18. Genealogies of Virginia Families II, Edlow, Bowler, Cocke, & Adams, 240.
19. Virginia Vital Records, Inscriptions on Gravestones in the Cemetery at "Bremo" in Henrico., 148.
20. Genealogies of Virginia Families I, Genealogy of the Adams Family of New Kent & Henrico County, 2.

Many researchers attribute the lineage of the James Boulware who married Margory Gray to the above child of Thomas Bowler. The James Boulware who married Margory Gray was a generation older than Thomas Bowler's son James. We have not been able to determine if there was any relationship between Thomas Bowler & James Boulware. What we do know for sure is that there were 3 early Bowler / Boulware men in the Old Rappahannock / Essex Co, VA area in addition to Thomas Bowler. Two of the men, James & William, were known to be brothers. A study of the man descendants of each seems to indicate that James Boulware (who married Margory Gray) was the ancestor of those descendants who carried on the Bowler / Boulware name.

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**Did this William Bowler marry both the below women? Or were there two separate William Bowler's during this period of time?**

## **Descendants of William Bowler**

1. WILLIAM<sup>1</sup> BOWLER<sup>1</sup> was born Abt. 1640 in England, and died Bet. March 1696/97 - June 1701 in Essex Co, VA<sup>2</sup>. He married (1) ELIZABETH GRAY. He married (2) ELIZABETH HARPER<sup>3,4</sup> Abt. 1671 in Old Rappahannock Co, VA, daughter of UNKNOWN HARPER and MARY BLISSED. She was born Abt. 1645 in Old Rappahannock Co, VA.

1668 Thomas and Elizabeth Page granted their loving friend Thomas Hawkins power of attorney to acknowledge the assignment to James and William Bowler of a patent in Rappahannock Co

The will of William Copeland was proven June 1701 in Essex Co with Richd Leighton testifying he had witnessed William Bouller witnessing this will but he has since deceased.

### **Footnotes**

1. Joh Otto Yurechko, Virginia Genealogies Along and Near the Lower Rappahannock River 1607-1799, 142.
  2. Essex County Deeds & Wills 1701-1703, 23.
  3. Genealogies of Virginia Families III, Gray-Boulware....., 559.
  4. Early Wills of Record of the Bowler-Boulware Family at Tappahannock, Essex County, VA, 4.
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## **Descendants of John Boulware**

JOHN BOULWARE died Bef. May 13, 1714 in Essex Co, VA<sup>1</sup>. He married SUSANNA WILLIAMS<sup>2,3</sup>, daughter of JOHN WILLIAMS. She died Bef. April 05, 1714<sup>4</sup>.

There is a record in Accomack County, Mar. 1642 "A certificate was granted to William Waters Son & heire of Lt. Edward Waters, Dec'd for the following persons: John Bowler, etc." (Virginia Land Records, Land Certificates for Northampton County.)

Children of JOHN BOULWARE and SUSANNA WILLIAMS are:

1. JOHN BOULWARE<sup>4</sup>, b. Bet. 1702 - 1706, St. Anns Parish, Essex Co, VA<sup>5</sup>; d. Bef. 1730, Essex Co, VA<sup>6</sup>; m. ELIZABETH JONES<sup>6,7</sup>; b. Abt. 1715, Essex Co, VA; d. Culpeper Co, VA.

2. ELIZABETH BOULWARE<sup>8</sup>, b. Bet. 1702 - 1706; m. JAMES GARRETT; b. Abt. 1715, Essex Co, VA.

Bond. 18 Sept. 1716. L 30. Sterl. Robt. Parker as guardian of Eliz'a Boulware, an orphan. Signed Robt Parker, Nath'll ffogg, Joseph X Leeman. Wit: Ralph Gough. rec. 18 Sept. 1716. (Essex County Wills & Deeds, 1714-1717 p. 77)

3. SUSANNA BOULWARE<sup>8</sup>, b. Bet. 1702 - 1706, St. Anns Parish, Essex Co, VA; m. (2) WILLIAM THOMAS, JR.<sup>9</sup>, 1739, Old Rappahannock Co, VA<sup>10</sup>; b. Abt. 1715, Essex Co, VA.

4. MARY BOULWARE<sup>11</sup>, b. Bet. 1704 - 1708, St. Anns Parish, Essex Co, VA; m. EDMUND CARROLL, 1732, Old Rappahannock Co, VA<sup>12</sup>; b. <sup>12</sup>.

### Footnotes

1. Virginia Colonial Abstracts, Volume II, Essex County Wills & Deeds, 1711-1714, 33.
2. Eva Eubank Wilkerson, Index to Marriages of Old Rappahannock and Essex Counties, Virginia 1655-1900, (Genealogical Publishing Co, Balto, MD., 1976), 27.
3. John Bailey Calvert Nicklin, Essex County: An Annotated Copy of the Rent Roll of 1704, (545-556), 545-556.
4. Virginia Colonial Abstracts, Volume II, Essex County Wills & Deeds, 1711-1714, 33.
5. Essex County Wills and Deeds 1711-1714, 33.
6. Genealogies of Virginia Families II, Notes of the Kay and Allied Families, 533.
7. Ruth & Sam Sparacio, Virginia County Court Records - A Digest of Family Relationships 1720-1750, (The Antient Press, 1990), 37.
8. Virginia Colonial Abstracts, Volume II, Essex County Wills & Deeds, 1711-1714, 33.
9. Ruth & Sam Sparacio, Virginia County Court Records - A Digest of Family Relationships 1720-1750, (The Antient Press, 1990), 42.
10. Eva Eubank Wilkerson, Index to Marriages of Old Rappahannock and Essex Counties, Virginia 1655-1900, (Genealogical Publishing Co, Balto, MD., 1976), 28.
11. Virginia Colonial Abstracts, Volume II, Essex County Wills & Deeds, 1711-1714, 33.
12. Eva Eubank Wilkerson, Index to Marriages of Old Rappahannock and Essex Counties, Virginia 1655-1900, (Genealogical Publishing Co, Balto, MD., 1976), 28.

# Descendants of James Boulware

## Generation No. 1

1. JAMES<sup>1</sup> BOULWARE<sup>1,2,3</sup> was born Bef. 1641 in London, England<sup>4</sup>, and died Bef. February 18, 1718/19 in Essex Co, VA<sup>5,6,7</sup>. He married MARGORY GRAY<sup>8,9</sup> Bef. July 20, 1673 in Old Rappahannock Co, VA<sup>10,11,12</sup>, daughter of WILLIAM GRAY and ELIZABETH.

1668 Thomas and Elizabeth Page granted their loving friend Thomas Hawkins power of attorney to acknowledge the assignment to James and William Bowler of a patent in Rappahannock Co.

1689 Richard Dison of Sittingburne Parish, Rappahannock Co, husband of Christian and son-in-law of Vail Allen and Mary, his wife, for six thousand pounds of tobacco sold to James Bowlware of said parish and county 450 acres on the south side of the Rappahannock River. Recorded on 22 May 1690.

Children of JAMES BOULWARE and MARGORY GRAY are:

2. i. GRACE<sup>2</sup> BOULWARE.

ii. MARY BOULWARE<sup>13</sup>.

iii. ELIZABETH BOULWARE<sup>14</sup>, b. Bef. July 20, 1673<sup>15</sup>.

3. iv. JAMES BOULWARE, b. Abt. 1675; d. Bef. April 21, 1752, Essex County, VA.

4. v. MARK BOULWARE, b. Abt. 1677, St. Anns Parish, Essex Co, VA; d. Bef. July 16, 1754, Essex Co, VA.

5. vi. BENJAMIN BOULWARE, b. Abt. 1680, Essex Co, VA; d. January 16, 1727/28, Essex Co, VA.

6. vii. JOHN BOULWARE, b. Abt. 1682; d. Bef. June 15, 1761.

7. viii. WILLIAM BOULWARE, b. Abt. 1685, Essex Co, VA.

8. ix. SARAH BOULER, b. Bef. June 14, 1699.

## Generation No. 2

2. GRACE<sup>2</sup> BOULWARE (JAMES<sup>1</sup>)<sup>16</sup> was born <sup>17</sup>. She married (1) SAMUEL STALLARD Bef. 1719 in Essex Co, VA<sup>17</sup>, son of WALTER STALLARD and WINIFRED HODGES. He died Bef. December

02, 1720 in Essex Co, VA<sup>17</sup>. She married (2) JOHN HAWKINS, CAPT. 1721 in Essex Co, VA<sup>17</sup>. He died Bef. August 21, 1728<sup>18</sup>. She married (3) JOHN MORGAN Bef. September 20, 1732<sup>18</sup>.

Children of GRACE BOULWARE and SAMUEL STALLARD are:

- i. SARAH<sup>3</sup> STALLARD, m. CORNELIUS NOEL; b. Abt. 1675, Old Rappahannock Co, VA<sup>19</sup>.
- ii. WALTER STALLARD, b. Abt. 1720<sup>19</sup>; d. Abt. 1806, Culpeper Co, VA<sup>19</sup>; m. (1) ELIZABETH WILLIAMS; m. (2) HANNAH PITTS.

3. JAMES<sup>2</sup> BOULWARE (JAMES<sup>1</sup>)<sup>20</sup> was born Abt. 1675, and died Bef. April 21, 1752 in Essex County, VA<sup>21</sup>.

Children of JAMES BOULWARE are:

- i. MARK<sup>3</sup> BOULWARE<sup>22</sup>.
- ii. WILLIAM BOULWARE<sup>22</sup>.
- iii. HANNAH BOULWARE<sup>22</sup>.
- iv. MARGARET BOULWARE<sup>22</sup>, m. (1) UNKNOWN CARROLL<sup>2323</sup>; m. (2) ELIAS BLACKBURN; b. Bet. 1688 - 1690<sup>23</sup>; d. 1770, Caroline Co, VA<sup>23</sup>.
- v. ESTHER BOULWARE<sup>24</sup>.
- vi. JUDITH BOULWARE<sup>25</sup>.
- vii. MARY BOULWARE<sup>26</sup>.
- viii. JAMES BOULWARE.
- ix. JOSEPH BOULWARE.

4. MARK<sup>2</sup> BOULWARE (JAMES<sup>1</sup>)<sup>27</sup> was born Abt. 1677 in St. Anns Parish, Essex Co, VA, and died Bef. July 16, 1754 in Essex Co, VA<sup>28</sup>. He married MARY.

Children of MARK BOULWARE and MARY are:

9. i. MARGARET<sup>3</sup> BOULWARE.
- ii. MARTHA BOULWARE<sup>29</sup>, m. WILLIAM HARRISON<sup>30</sup>,  
1754, Old Rappahannock Co, VA<sup>30</sup>.
- iii. MARK BOULWARE, JR..
- iv. WINIFRED BOULWARE, m. UNKNOWN PITTS.
- v. MARY BOULWARE, m. UNKNOWN PITTS.
10. vi. ANN BOULWARE.
11. vii. UNKNOWN BOULWARE.
12. viii. JAMES BOULWARE, b. Abt. 1710.
- ix. JOHN BOULWARE, b. Bef. 1712; d. Bef. March 14, 1754,  
Caroline Co, VA<sup>31,32,33</sup>; m. MARY<sup>34</sup>.
13. x. WILLIAM BOULWARE, b. Abt. 1712.
14. xi. BENJAMIN BOULWARE, b. Abt. 1714; d. Bef. February  
19, 1776.

5. BENJAMIN<sup>2</sup> BOULWARE (JAMES<sup>1</sup>)<sup>35</sup> was born Abt. 1680 in Essex Co, VA, and died January 16, 1727/28 in Essex Co, VA<sup>36</sup>. He married ANN SHORT<sup>36</sup> Bef. 1722<sup>37</sup>, daughter of THOMAS SHORT.

Children of BENJAMIN BOULWARE and ANN SHORT are:

- i. JOHN<sup>3</sup> BOULWARE, JR.<sup>38</sup>, b. Bef. 1726<sup>39</sup>; d. Bef. January 17,  
1743/44, Essex Co, VA<sup>40</sup>.
- ii. ELIZABETH BOULWARE<sup>41,42</sup>, b. Bef. 1726<sup>43</sup>; m. EDWARD  
VAWTER; b. Abt. 1710.
- iii. ANN BOULWARE<sup>44,45</sup>, b. Bef. 1726<sup>46</sup>; m. ANGUS  
VAWTER.
- iv. MARGARET BOULWARE<sup>47</sup>, b. Bef. 1726<sup>48</sup>.

6. JOHN<sup>2</sup> BOULWARE (JAMES<sup>1</sup>)<sup>49</sup> was born Abt. 1682<sup>50,51</sup>, and died Bef. June 15, 1761<sup>52</sup>. He married ELIZABETH Bef. 1733.

Children of JOHN BOULWARE and ELIZABETH are:

i. ELIZABETH<sup>3</sup> BOULWARE.

ii. JAMES BOULWARE, b. Bef. 1735, Essex Co, VA.

15. iii. STARKE BOULWARE, b. Abt. 1735, Essex Co, VA; d. Aft. 1809, Jefferson Co, KY.

Moved to Rowan Co, NC before 1776.

Rowan Co, NC Will Book E, p. 244, Jacob Danner, 18 June 1795, probated 1795, Wife Catherine & Children. Nephew George Danner, oldest son of my brother George Danner. Exrs: wife and John Eccles, Wit: Butler Stonestreet, Stark Boulware, Henry Fishel.

Rowan Co, NC Deed Book 13, p. 874, 30 Apr 1794, Henry Miller to Stark Boulware for 114 lbs., 114 acres adj Jonathan Markland, this Grantee, Jacob Torner, and Lewis Mullican; part of a grant to this Grantor. Wit: John Eccles, Jacob Danner. Maryann Miller also signed. Proved by Eccles at Feb Ct 1795.

1800 Rowan Co List of the Persons who Failed to give in their Taxab les Property & the Sums Collected from Each for the year 1800

William Bowler: 2lbs  
Starke Bowler: 5lbs.

1799 Rowan Co, NC Tax List of Capt. Francis Williams, Reedy & Muddy Creek area  
Thomas Boulwer, 1 WP

iv. WILLIAM BOULWARE, b. Aft. 1735.

1800 Rowan Co List of the Persons who Failed to give in their Taxab les Property & the Sums Collected from Each for the year 1800

William Bowler: 2lbs  
Starke Bowler: 5lbs.