

**SEEDBED OF AMERICA:
THE HISTORY AND RECORDS OF THE EASTERN SHORE**
Presentation by G. Ray Thompson, PhD for GRIVA, 28 March 2023

- I. Introduction**
- II. Maps and Boundary Issues**
- III. Coming to the Eastern Shore**
 - A. National origins of early settlers**
 - B. Motives for coming to Virginia**
 - 1. Motives of 1st group of settlers**
 - 2. Motives of later settlers**
 - C. Passenger Lists and what they tell us**
 - 1. 1619 list**
 - 2. 1621 list**
 - 3. 1622 list**
 - D. Early Censuses of Eastern Shore of Va.**
 - 1. 1623**
 - 2. 1624/5**
 - 3. Surnames of earliest settlers**
 - E. Literacy**
- IV. Establishment of a society on the Eastern Shore**
 - A. Isolated nature of Eastern Shore**
 - B. 1610 arrival of first settlers on Eastern Shore**
 - C. 1614 settlement**
 - D. 1618 changes in land holding policy**
 - E. 1620 settlers**
 - F. Relations with Native Americans**
 - 1. Thomas Savage**
 - 2. Debedeavon and his land gift**
- V. Beginnings of Representative Government on Eastern Shore of Va**
 - A. Ye Kingdom of Accawmacke**
 - B. Establishment of courts in 1632**
 - C. Establishment of Northampton County**
 - D. Religious issues**
 - E. Northward movement of settlers**
- VI. Socio-economic development of Eastern Shore Society**
 - A. Old Planters**
 - B. Emerging small planter class**
 - C. Watermen and tradesmen**
 - D. Indentured Servants**
 - E. Arrival of Africans in 1619**
- VII. Problems with establishing a permanent colony in Virginia**
 - A, Mortality**
 - B. Lack of towns**
 - C. isolated nature of the Shore**
- VIII. Economic growth of the Eastern Shore Inhabitants**

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- A. Headright system**
- B. Land grant process**
 - 1. Warrant**
 - 2. Certificate**
 - 3. Patent**
 - 4. Deed**
 - 5. Rent roll**
 - 6. Debt books**
 - 7. Land Commissions**
 - 8. Quit Rent**
- C. Tithables and family development**
- IX. Religion on the Eastern Shore**
 - A. Anglican Church**
 - B. Dissenting Churches and arrival of Presbyterians**
 - C. Quakers**
 - D. Church Records**
- X. Northward Expansion of Settlers**
 - A. Northampton**
 - B. Economic reasons for move**
 - C. Expansion of population**
 - D. Division of Eastern Shore of Va. into 2 counties**
 - E. Settlement of Quakers in Somerset**
 - F. Laws regarding perpetual slavery 1661 and 1664**
- XI. The Diaspora from the Eastern Shore: Seedbed of America**