

Miller, Thomas ^[1]

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by Mattie Erma E. Parker, 1991

d. 1694

Thomas Miller, Council member ^[2] and justice of county court ^[3], settled in North Carolina (then called Albemarle) before 6 Feb. 1683/84. By that date he was a member of the Albemarle Council, a position that he held, at least intermittently, through 1689. From February 1683/84 through October 1685 he also sat as a justice of the county court of Albemarle, then the highest court of law in the colony.

Miller, who lived in Pasquotank Precinct, had four sons: Thomas, Jr., William, Richard, and Nathaniel. His wife's name is unknown. He died before 16 July 1694, when his will, made the previous February, was probated. He bequeathed all of his land and most of his movable property to his son Thomas, leaving legacies of money to his other sons, who appear to have been mariners shipping out of Virginia ports.

Thomas, Jr., who also was a mariner, had lived in Albemarle only intermittently before his father's death, but he returned and settled on the plantation on Pasquotank River that he had inherited. He served as associate justice of the General Court ^[4] from 1712 to 1721 with the possible exception of the years 1717 and 1720, for which records are incomplete. He died before 27 July 1727, when his will was probated. If he had a wife and children they apparently died before 1722, when he made his will, for he left his entire estate to one William Wilson, whose wife's mother appears to have been related to him.

References:

Act of Assembly against "Probious" Language, 1689, and Council Order for Election of Burgesses in Chowan, 10 July 1689, in Colonial Court Records, box 192 (North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh).

Albemarle Book of Warrants and Surveys, 1681–1706, Albemarle County Papers, 1678–1714, Land Grants to Francis Tomes in Perquimans County Deeds, book A, Wills of Thomas Miller, Sr., probated 16 July 1694, and Thomas Miller, Jr., probated 27 July 1727 (North Carolina State Archives, Raleigh).

J. Bryan Grimes, ed., *Abstract of North Carolina Wills* (1910). <https://archive.org/details/abstractofnorthc01nort> ^[5] (accessed July 9, 2014).

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