

THE LOWER PARISH OF NANSEMOND COUNTY, VA.  
WITH ADJOINING PORTIONS OF NORFOLK COUNTY.

Scale 1:31680

ELIZABETH CITY SHIRE 1624, NEW NORFOLK COUNTY 1625, UPPER NORFOLK COUNTY 1637, NANSEMOND COUNTY 1642.

"The East side of Nansemond River from the present place determined to the mouth of the said river shall be called the East Parish" says of Virginia March 1622-3 16th Charles I. In spite of this it continued to be officially designated the Lower Parish until "Bathurst" July 28, 1740.

"The upper county of New Norfolk" begins the above-mentioned plantation of Rich Hayes and from thence into the maine southward so farre as the maine river from thence to the head of the maine river into the creeke near unto the plantation of Francis Bullock being the first head of the maine River, including the plantation of Hugh Morris's Outlot, and no manes branching upon the western branch of Elizabeth River, or the creeks thereof which do belong to the county of the Lower North" Laws of Virginia March 1622-3 16th Charles I.

The plats shown are restricted to those known to have been in existence and bearing the names by which they were known, many of which have since entirely disappeared. Some have been entirely obliterated through their former location, but sometimes have been determined by old surveys of property which originally bounded upon them.

The roads, shown by fine double lines, bear the names by which they were referred to in several bounded upon them and the dates of which may or may not prove to have been in existence. They extended further than shown but have not been indicated beyond their present location.

The shore line shown is, with one exception, substantially the same as today, there having been scarcely little change except along the eastern bank of the Nansemond River, for the most part south of Chipping Island. Considerable erosion took place here from the time of the mouth of the western branch but restorative works were built soon after 1820 with the result that the east bank has but very slight. The shore line has been drawn to show where this bank appears to have been during the period covered. It cannot be considered as more than approximately correct, though it does agree with such measurements as could be obtained from the dimensions of the neighboring grants and the probable stream flow. The channel is virtually unchanged.

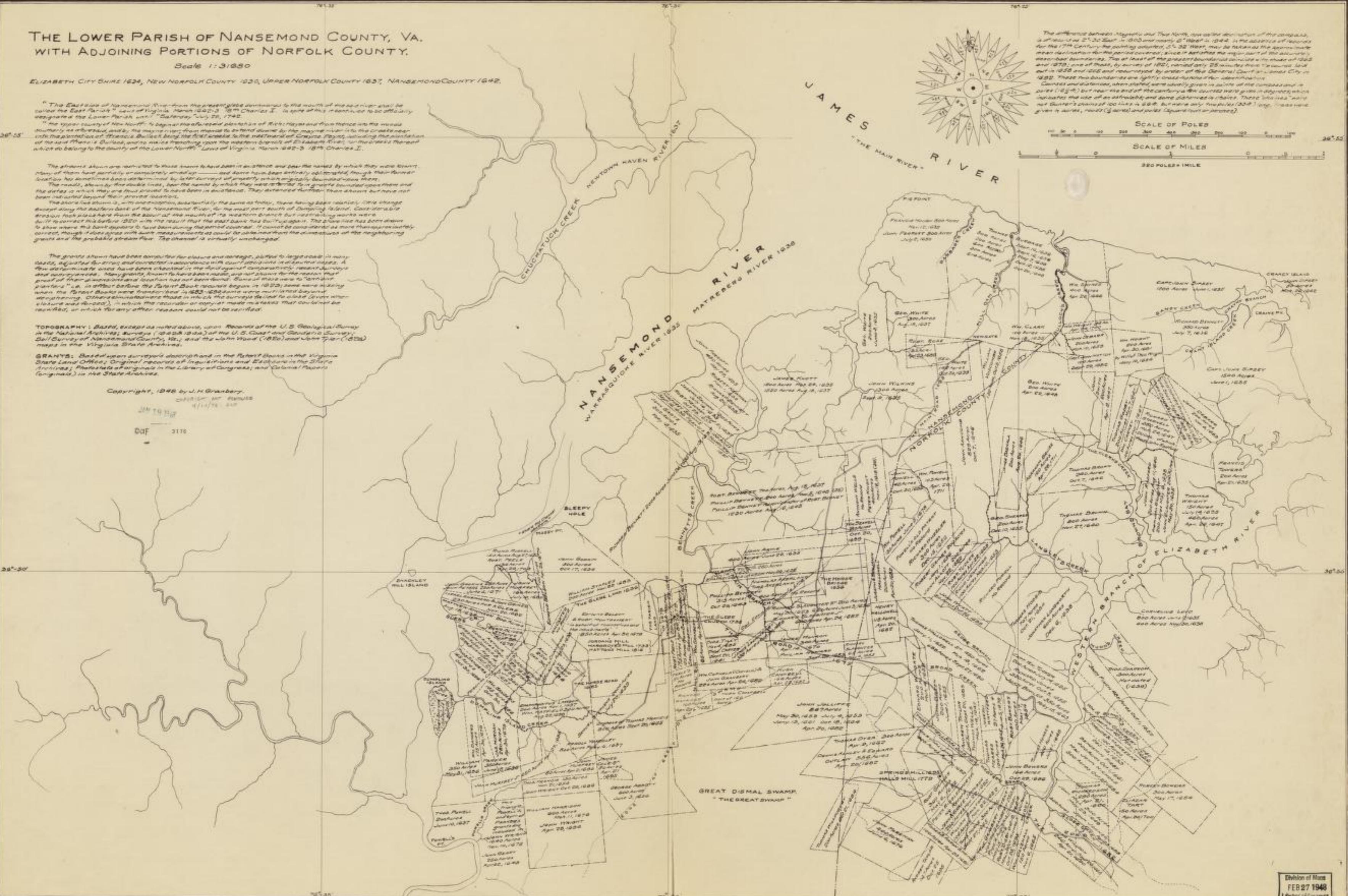
The grants shown have been surveyed for closure and carriage, plotted to large scale in many cases, adjusted for errors and corrected in accordance with court decisions in several cases. A feweterminate ones have been checked in the field against comparatively recent surveys and surveys. Many grants, known to have been made, are not shown for the reason that proof of their dimension and location has not been found. Some made prior to "Land Planted" i.e., in effect before the Patent Books records began in 1622; some were made when the Patent Books were transferred in 1633-4; some were made in between, surveying, however, was done in those in which the surveys failed to close (certain enclosure was closed), in which case no survey made in areas that contained the recorded, or in which the area other record could not be verified.

TOPOGRAPHY: Based, except as noted above, upon Records of the U.S. Geological Survey in the National Archives; Surveys (1640s-1660s) of the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey; Soil Survey of Nansemond County, Va., and the John Wood (1810) and John Tyler (1820) maps in the Virginia State Archives.

GRANTS: Based upon surveys described in the Patent Books in the Virginia State Land Office; Original records of Inquisitions and Executions in the State Archives; Photographs of original in the Library of Congress; and Colonial Papers (original) in the State Archives.

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CHIPPING ISLAND,  
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The difference between Magnetic and True North, average declination of the compass, is about 2° 30' East in 1620 and nearly 2° West in 1644. The absence of records for the 17th Century for plotting acquired, 2° 30' West, may be taken as the approximate mean declination for the period covered, since it satisfies the major part of the accurately described boundaries. That at least all the present boundaries coincide with those of 1620 and 1642, one of these, by survey of 1821, varied only 25 minutes from the former laid out in 1620 and 1642 and resurveyed by order of the General Court at Annapolis City in 1822. These two boundaries are lightly cross-hatched for identification.

Courses and distances, when stated, were usually given in terms of the compass and in poles (1620) but near the end of the century a few courses were given in degrees which indicates the use of an astrolabe and some distances in chains. Those who used "links" did not count 100 links in 1620, but have only 100 poles (1620) long, 1000 links given in acres, rods (1620) and poles (1620) per acre.

SCALE OF POLES  
1 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120 130 140 150 160 170 180 190 200 210 220 230 240 250 260 270 280 290 300 310 320 330 340 350 360 370 380 390 400 410 420 430 440 450 460 470 480 490 500 510 520 530 540 550 560 570 580 590 600 610 620 630 640 650 660 670 680 690 700 710 720 730 740 750 760 770 780 790 800 810 820 830 840 850 860 870 880 890 900 910 920 930 940 950 960 970 980 990 1000

SCALE OF MILES  
1 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120 130 140 150 160 170 180 190 200 210 220 230 240 250 260 270 280 290 300 310 320 330 340 350 360 370 380 390 400 410 420 430 440 450 460 470 480 490 500 510 520 530 540 550 560 570 580 590 600 610 620 630 640 650 660 670 680 690 700 710 720 730 740 750 760 770 780 790 800 810 820 830 840 850 860 870 880 890 900 910 920 930 940 950 960 970 980 990 1000