

Land grant 20 November 1682.
Bolling, Robert, grantee

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1682 - 1120

Available on microfilm. Virgin

Location: Charles City County.

Grantee(s): Randolph, Wm. and Bolling, Robert.

Description: 623 acres 14po.

Source: Land Office Patents No. 7,1679-1689 (v.1 & 2 p.1-719), p. 199 (Reel 7).

*Wm Randolph &
Robert Bolling
23 ac
682*

ughnick
wamp
corner
xHugh Lee

SS Appomattox R
Parish of Bristol

***Wm Randolph &
Robert Bolling
623 ac
1682***

Main Swamp

great meadow

S Appomattox R arish of Bristol

begin x Waughnick Swamp
a corner of Hugh Lee
120
180
SE 82
ExE 92
SE 140
88
E 150
xE 180 to a great meadow
vS 12
W 46
WNW 160 to main swamp
WxW 516 to 1st

William Randolph (baptized November 7, 1650 – April 21, 1711) and Robert Bolling (December 26, 1646 – July 17, 1709) were two of the most prominent English-born planters, merchants, and politicians in late 17th-century Virginia. Both were key figures in the Southside Virginia tobacco economy (south of the James River, including Charles City and Henrico Counties), and they had direct professional and social connections in the 1680s, including joint land patents and overlapping networks. William Randolph (c. 1650–711) Origins and Arrival: Born in Warwickshire, England (son of Richard Randolph and Elizabeth Ryland). He emigrated to Virginia around 1673–1674 (possibly as a young merchant or factor), arriving penniless but quickly rising through trade, law, and land acquisition.

By 1682: Randolph was already established in Henrico County (formed 1634, adjacent to Charles City). He served as clerk of Henrico County (1673 onward) and, in April 1682, was appointed clerk to the House of Burgesses Committee on Propositions and Grievances—a significant step in his political career. He married Mary Isham (c. 1660–1735) around 1678; by the 1680s, they had begun their large family (nine children who survived to adulthood, earning the Randolphs the nickname "Adam and Eve of Virginia" for their descendants—including Thomas Jefferson, John Marshall, and Robert E. Lee).

Land and Wealth: In the 1680s, Randolph aggressively patented lands via headrights (transporting servants/enslaved people). He focused on Henrico and Charles City Counties, including joint ventures. Key 1682 activity: Joint patent with Robert Bolling on October 20, 1682, for 623 acres in Charles City County (south side of the James River or Appomattox influences), claiming headrights including John Witt (a repeated headright in multiple patents).

Later Career: Became a justice, burgess (Henrico, 1680s–1690s), and major planter at Turkey Island (his primary estate on the James River). He amassed thousands of acres, served on the Governor's Council (1691 onward), and was a founder of the Virginia elite.

Robert Bolling (1646–1709) Origins and Arrival: Born in London, England (son of John Bolling and Mary Carie). He emigrated to Virginia in 1660 at age 14 as an apprentice to merchant Thomas Tye. By the 1670s, he was a successful merchant and planter in Charles City County.

By 1682: Bolling was a leading figure in Southside Virginia. He owned Kippax Plantation (on the Appomattox River near modern Hopewell) and was involved in trade (fur, tobacco), politics, and surveying. In 1682, he was active in land acquisition and local governance. Key point patent: With William Randolph on October 20, 1682, for 623 acres in Charles City County (headright-based, including John Witt). This was part of the expansion into the Appomattox/James south side.

Other Roles: Bolling served as a justice, burgess (Charles City, 1680s), colonel in the militia, and surveyor for Prince George County (after 1703 formation). He was a fur trader with Native connections and accumulated large estates.

Family: First married Jane Rolfe (granddaughter of Pocahontas and John Rolfe) in 1674 (one son, John Bolling, b. 1676). After Jane's death in 1676, he married Anne Stith in 1681 (several children, including Robert Bolling Jr. b. 1682). This "Red Bollings" (from Rolfe) and "White Bollings" (from Stith) distinction persists in genealogy.

Their 1682 Connection In October 1682, Randolph and Bolling jointly patented 623 acres in Charles City County (south side, likely near the James/Appomattox confluence). This was a typical merchant-planter collaboration: Randolph provided legal/political clout and headrights, Bolling his local knowledge and trade network. The patent claimed multiple headrights (e.g., John Witt, who appears in other Randolph patents). This tract was part of the broader Southside expansion in the 1680s, adjoining areas like Jordan's Parish and families from your prior queries (e.g., Thweatt, Batte).

Their partnership reflected the interconnected elite network: both were merchants-turned-planters, involved in tobacco export, land speculation, and governance.

Legacy Randolph: "Adam and Eve of Virginia"—his descendants dominated Virginia politics, law, and society for generations.

Bolling: Founder of the Bolling dynasty; his son John Bolling continued the line, with ties to Pocahontas descendants ("Red Bollings") and later political figures.

Both exemplified the rise of the Virginia gentry in the 1680s: from immigrants to councilors and large landowners amid post-Bacon's Rebellion (1676) recovery.