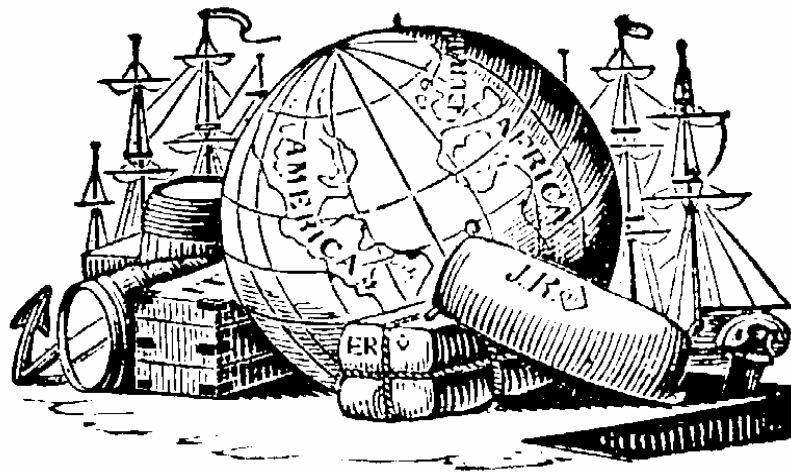


Henry Fleet

A Memorial on a Map



Eric Cameron Fleet

Henry Fleet

A Memorial on a Map

By Eric Cameron Fleet

Printed in December 2006
In United State Of America
Coldwater, Mississippi by Eric C. Fleet

To All My Loving Family

For Grayce, Caitlyn, Eryn, Cameron & Ian Henry

For My Parents, George Barry & Betty



Thou shalt not remove thy neighbour's landmark, which they of old time have set in thine inheritance, which thou shalt inherit in the land that the Lord thy God giveth thee to possess it.

Deuteronomy 19:14 KJV

Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set.

Proverbs 22:28 KJV

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CHAPTER I

Who Was Henry Fleete?

INTRODUCTION

*H*enry Fleete's introduction to Virginia in October 1621 was quite dramatic, one that changed the entire course of his life. How many young men in England could ever hope to find an adventure equal to his? Sailing from home destined for the Virginia Colony at a time when travel of that sort was indeed limited to the few, he had barely arrived in Jamestown before he was living an Indian tribal life in the wilderness of the new world. And this he did for a period of five years – a long time by any measure.

"Henry Fleete", The Northern Neck of Virginia Historical Society Magazine

ORIGIN OF THE FLEET FAMILY

*H*enry Fleete, born circa 1602 in Kent, England shortly after the turn of the seventeenth century, grew up in an atmosphere charged with interest and excitement over the exploration and settlement of the New World. He was a scion of a Norman ancestor of the "noble family de la Flotte," whose antecedents can be traced to the ninth century in Normandy. This ancestor landed on the Isle of Thanet in County Kent in 1066 with William the Conqueror. The Domesday Book indicates that vast areas were held by the Family de Floeta, later softened to de Fleta, then to Flete.

"Henry Fleete: Pioneer, Explorer, Trader, Planter, Legislator, Justice & Peacemaker", Betsy Fleet

The distinguished maternal ancestry of Henry Fleet should be first noticed in a sketch of him and his family. Sir Henry Wyatt, of Allington Castle, Kent, England, "was a prominent figure at the Court of Henry VIII (1495-1509), and accompanied him to the Field of the Cloth of Gold" (Encyclopedia Britt.).

His son, Sir Thomas Wyatt, the Poet, was born 1503, and died October 11, 1542. "Undoubtedly the leader and the acknowledged master of 'the company of courtly makers,' who, in the reign of Henry VIII, under Italian influence, transformed the character of English poetry. He took a bachelor's degree at Cambridge at 15; was knighted in 1536, and was twice sent as ambassador to the Emperor (Charles V), a strong proof of his repute as a statesman and diplomatist" (Encyclopedia Britt.).

He married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Brooke, Lord Cobham, and had a son, Sir Thomas Wyatt, the Rebel, born 1520, beheaded on Tower Hill, April 11, 1554.

He married Jane, daughter of Sir William Howt, and had a daughter, Joan Wyatt, who married Charles Scott, son of Sir Reginald Scott, of Scott's Hall, Kent. His second marriage was to Mary, daughter of Sir Bryan Tuke, secretary to Cardinal Wolsey, and had by her Mary, who married Richard Argall, and Charles Scott, who married Jane Wyatt." (Brown's Genesis and Berry's Kentish Pedigrees).

Deborah, daughter of Charles and Jane Scott, married William Fleet, gentleman., of Chatham, Kent, England, who was a member of the Virginia Company, under the 3rd charter, and subscribed and paid £37 iosh. They had issue seven sons and four daughters. Four of the sons were among the early emigrants to Virginia and Maryland, viz: Henry Fleet, Edward Fleet (born circa 1598 in England), member of the Maryland Legislature in 1638; Reginold Fleet (born circa 1601 in England), member of the Maryland Legislature 1638; John Fleet (born circa 1605 in England), of the Maryland Legislature 1638; believed to have been the person of the name who patented land at Tindall's Point, Gloucester County, Virginia, in 1662, and was living there in 1667.

"Abstracts Of Virginia Land Paterns", W. G. Stanard

A BRIEF LIFE OF HENRY FLEETE

*T*he ships Warwick and Tiger sailed for Thames in 1621 with supplies, young women and wives for planters in Virginia. They fell among Turk ships. The Tiger, was rescued and landed in Jamestown, James County, Virginia. The ship was sent to upper Potomac River to trade for corn. On another voyage, the Tiger, with Henry Fleet and 21 men, was attacked and Henry Fleet was taken captured by the Yawacomoo-o Indians on the Potomac River in 1623. He remained a captive until 1627, during which time he acquired a familiar knowledge of their language; was ransomed, and in 1627 went to England.

Becoming a partner and agent for several London merchants, he was engaged for years in the Indian trade. He was an interpreter, trader and legislator in Maryland, and finally settled at **Fleet's Bay**, Lancaster County, Virginia. As early as 1629 he owned land in Virginia as recorded in the land office records. In 1631 the ship Warwick with Henry Fleet and John Dunton sailed for America and visited New England, James River and Chesapeake Bay.

In 1632 he traded in NH and the Isles of Shoals. While there, he was arrested by John Utey because his papers were not in order. Governor Harvey and John Utey become interested in Indians with furs to sell. Henry Fleet knew them, so in order to get help from him they let him go free. He helped establish Colvert Colony in Maryland and acted as interpreter and guide. He settled in Maryland and was a prominent associate of Colvert. He was a Maryland Legislature Member in 1638.

In 1642 the Virginia assembly gave him the right to explore for fourteen years. In 1644 Lord Baltimore gave him the power to visit the Susquehanna Indians and make a peace treaty with them. In 1646 he was appointed to organize an expedition against the Indians and build a fort in the valley of Rappahannock River. In 1652-1653 the Virginia assembly renewed the "Privilege of Discovery" by authorizing Henry Fleet and William Claybourne to discover and trade where no other Englishman had ever been before. In 1656 he served as Lt. Colonel of the Militia and one of the Majesty Justices. He was Burgess for Lancaster in 1652, and engaged in an expedition against the Indians in 1660.

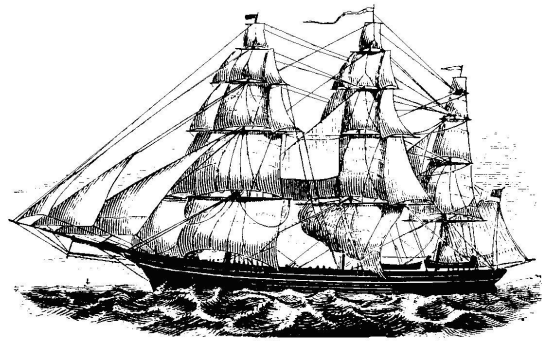
Henry Fleete's opinions in regard to Indian affairs seem to have had much weight in the colony. He wrote "*A Brief Journal of a Voyage made in the Bark Virginia, to Virginia and the other parts of the Continent of American,*" the MS of which is in the Lambeth Palace Library, London, and which Neill published in his "*Founders of Maryland.*" Streeter, in his "*Papers Relating to the Early History of*

Maryland," says of him: "He was an active man, a useful citizen, a shrewd leader, an excellent interpreter, and contributed his full share towards laying the foundations of the Colony of Maryland, and building up the Colony of Virginia." He was the first to fix the name "Fleet" in the records of the two states. **Fleet's Bay**, Virginia was given this name because of Henry Fleet.

Captain Henry Fleet, was a justice of Lancaster County 1653, and on the division of the county (when Rappahannock County, Virginia was formed) he was appointed by the Assembly, December 13, 1656, a Justice of Lancaster, and lieutenant- colonel of militia. (Lancaster Records). There is recorded in Northumberland County, Virginia (the date is gone, but is about 1659), a deed from Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Fleet conveying 300 acres of land to Christopher Garlington. Sarah, wife of Col. Henry Fleet, joins in the deed. In 1650 he had a grant of 1,750 acres at **Fleet's Bay**, and received, in all, grants for 13,197 acres.

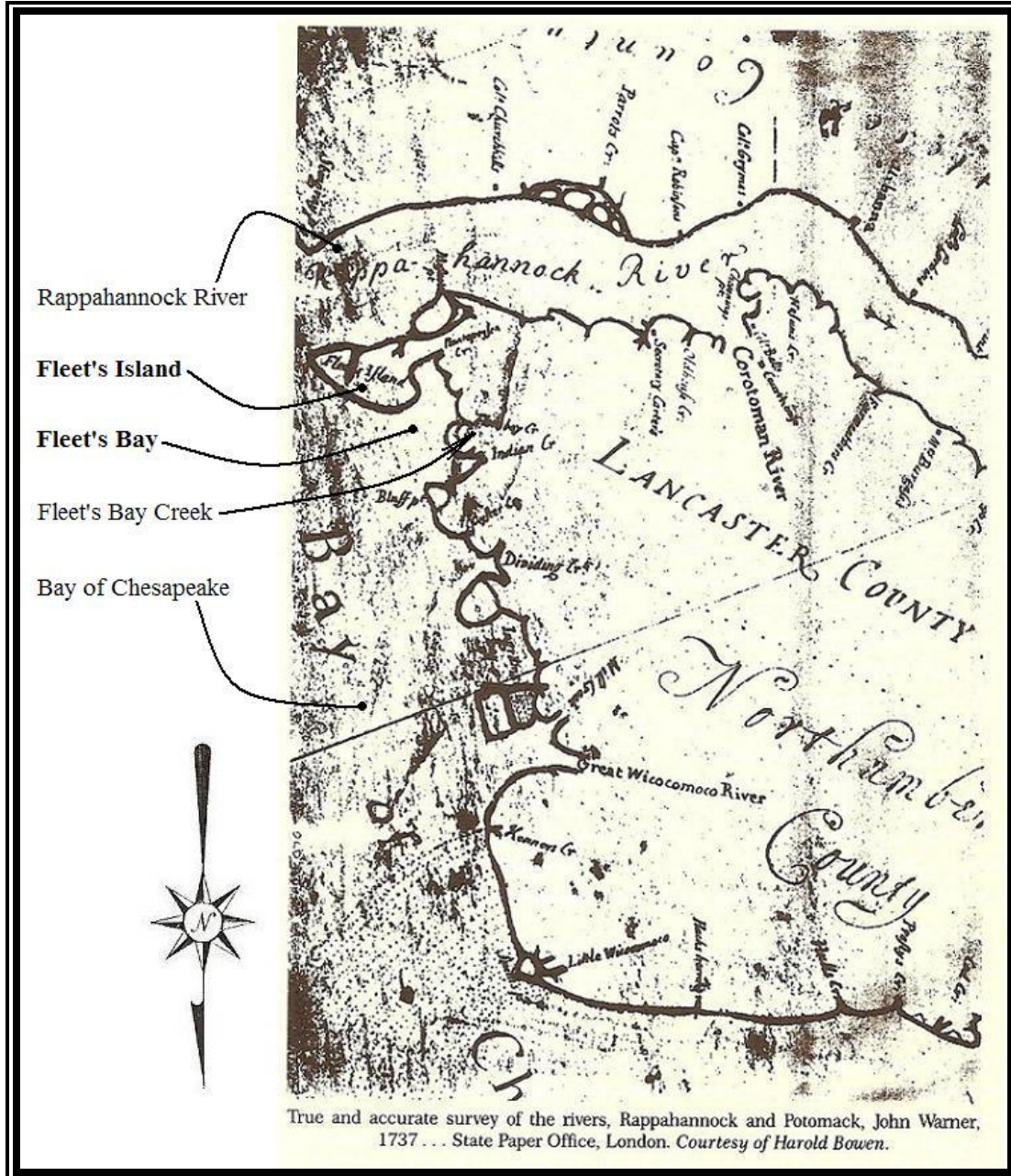
"Abstracts Of Virginia Land Paterns", W. G. Stanard

This land was later sold or divided among Henry Fleet's wife, Sarah and her daughters from a marriage to Col. John Walker after Henry's death.



Fleete On Maps Of Old

SETTLED ON THE RIVER



On May 27, 1650 Henry Fleete was granted 1,750 acres from Windmill Point to Island Point, a neck of land laying on the north side near the mouth of the Rappahannock River, for thirty five persons

brought into the Colony. This island or peninsula was named **Fleet's Island**, and **Fleet's Bay** was just north of it between Bluff Point and Windmill Point. Originally, this entire area was called Northumberland County. The Indians remained in the area, for the delineation of Captain Fleete's patent states that it "abuts on Indian Ned's land." He was still serving as a buffer between the colonists and the Indians. In 1652 he added an additional two hundred acres for four headrights.

By 1650 having acquired enough land to enable him to relinquish the role of fur trader and merchant, Captain Fleete had settled down as a landowner on the banks of the Rappahannock and he took an active part in the country and colony governments. He was a member of the board, 1653, which decided on the division of Northumberland into Rappahannock and Lancaster counties. He and Colonel William Underwood served as the first burgesses from Lancaster county. He was also appointed a Justice of the Lancaster Court.

That same year, for headrights on fifteen persons, he was granted seven hundred fifty acres in Lancaster County on the southwest side of Great Rappahannock Town, "Two miles up Fleete's Creek where the Indians are at present." And he was taxed for twenty one headrights and twelve "tytheadbles". The following year the records show twenty-six tithables, eleven of whom were in his own family, including men servants. On July 3, 1655 he patented two hundred additional acres located near his land on **Fleet's Bay**. He received one thousand acres for twenty persons, five hundred and fifty for eleven, and three hundred and forty-seven acres on Pepetank Creek for seven headrights. Another two thousand acres in Cittenbourne Parish were added in 1657, when he brought in forty settlers, and sixty-six hundred acres were granted him for one hundred and thirty-two headrights. There is no record of his bringing in any more settlers after 1658.

Not only was he receiving land for bring in settlers, but he was also buying land. On November 5, 1656, record was made of the purchase of two thousand acres from Nicholas Meriwether. In 1659, he sold a parcel of land to Christopher Garlington, on which his wife's signature appeared for the first time. Altogether Henry Fleete owned thirteen thousand one hundred and ninety-seven acres of land in Lancaster and Northumberland counties.

He was involved in several lawsuits. All members of the Parish were ordered to pay David Linsey specified amounts of tobacco in satisfaction for this ministry among them. Linsey was evidently not acceptable to his parishioners since he had to sue to be recompensed. Henry Fleete had to pay one hundred pounds as his share. As new settlers came in they tried to claim some of the land which the earlier settlers had patented, and Fleete was sued for this property on **Fleete's Bay** by a man named Tabb; the General Court in the suit "Fleete vs. Tabb", ruled that Tabb's patent for land on **Fleete's Bay** was void. In 1659 he sold the indenture of Margaret Stanley to Evard Peterson, and gave affidavits in a case concerning James and Bridget Bonner on July twentieth of that year.

Fleete employed the settlers on his land in at least two areas. The record of tithables in 1655 listed sixteen persons at one place and three others on his "upper plantacon." There were only forty-three tithables in the whole county on the list dated December 7, 1655, nineteen of whom were ascribed to Capt. Fleete. During this period he added the largest acreage to his estate.

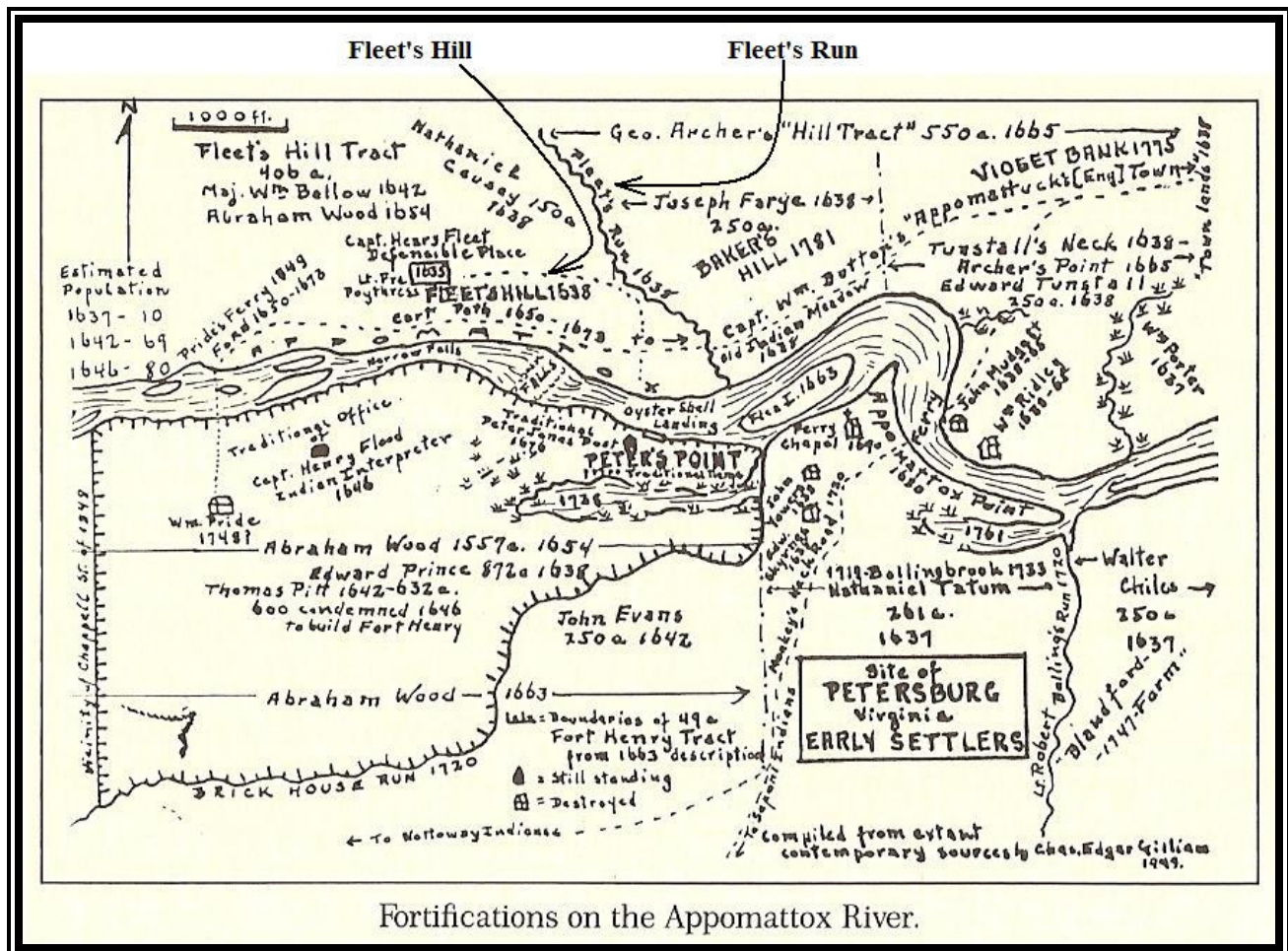
"Henry Fleete: Pioneer, Explorer, Trader, Planter, Legislator, Justice & Peacemaker", Betsy Fleet

A Court was held 17 September 1660 at which “Lt. Col. Fleete” was present. The settlement of Indians in Lancaster County was discussed and it was agreed that the Indians must be protected, but they were admonished to conduct themselves in accord with the law.

Henry Fleete died sometime between the date of that court session and May 1661, the date of the following court order: “John Manning, a fatherless child having been kept some years by Lt. Coll Hen. Fleete deed is ordered by this court to remain with Mrs. Sara Fleete the wid & relict of ye sd Hen Fleete as his apprentice until he attain ye age of one & twenty she teaching him to reed and wright.” Presumably, Henry Fleete died at his home in Lancaster County on the small tidewater island, his original grant in the year 1650, known for several hundred years as **Fleet’s Island**. He was buried either on his own land or in the church grounds. His son, Henry Fleet, wrote in his will,—“My desire is to be buried by my father and that the burying place be handsomely bricked in at the expense of my estate.” There is a local legend that many years ago as the shoreline was receding, some ancient gravestones could be seen at low tide in the vicinity of the old ship’s landing, a fitting resting place for the old mariner—home from the sea—explorer, pioneer, justice, legislator and peace maker.

“Henry Fleete”, *The Northern Neck of Virginia Historical Society Magazine*

NEGOTIATING & LEGISLATING

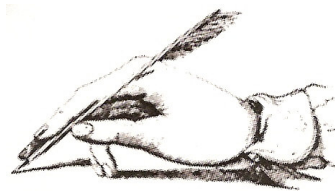


Fortifications on the Appomattox River.

Meanwhile in Virginia, during the last part of 1634, permission was granted for the general settlement of the Appomattox, which had been abandoned after the 1622 massacre. Captain Henry Fleete was sent for and he and Lieutenant Francis Pothress were authorized to build a fortification at a defensible place at the head of navigation for seagoing ships as a protection against the Indians. The site selected overlooked the Appomattocks' Indian town and was across and up the river from it. (Known as **Fleet's Hill**, it was opposite the present site of Petersburg.) Later this fort was referred to in the "Assembly held at James Cittie, 20th Sept. 1674 and 7th day of Mar.: whereas this Grand Assembly hath taken into sad & serious consideration the sundry murthers, rapines & many depredations lately committed & done by Indians on the inhabitants of this country . . . Be it enacted . . . that a warr be declared and garrisons at certain fforts and places hereafter named: At the falls of the Appomattox River, at one ffort or defensable place at ffleets . . ."

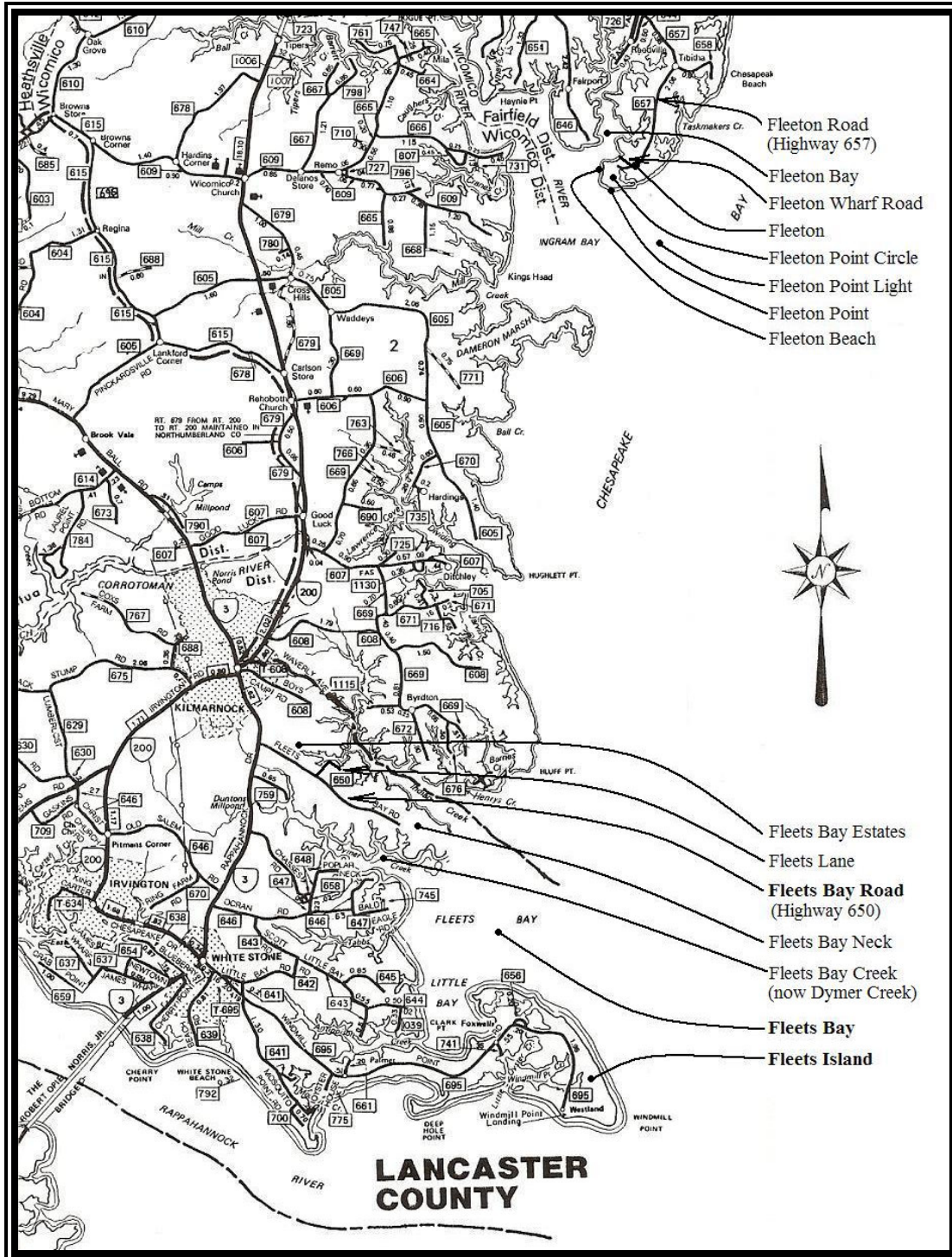
It might be said of these early pioneers as Captain John Smith did regarding the death of a friend at the hands of the "savages" – "Let not men attribute their great adventure and untimely deaths to unfortunateness but rather wonder how God did so long preserve them, with so small means to do so much."

"Henry Fleete: Pioneer, Explorer, Trader, Planter, Legislator, Justice & Peacemaker", Betsy Fleet

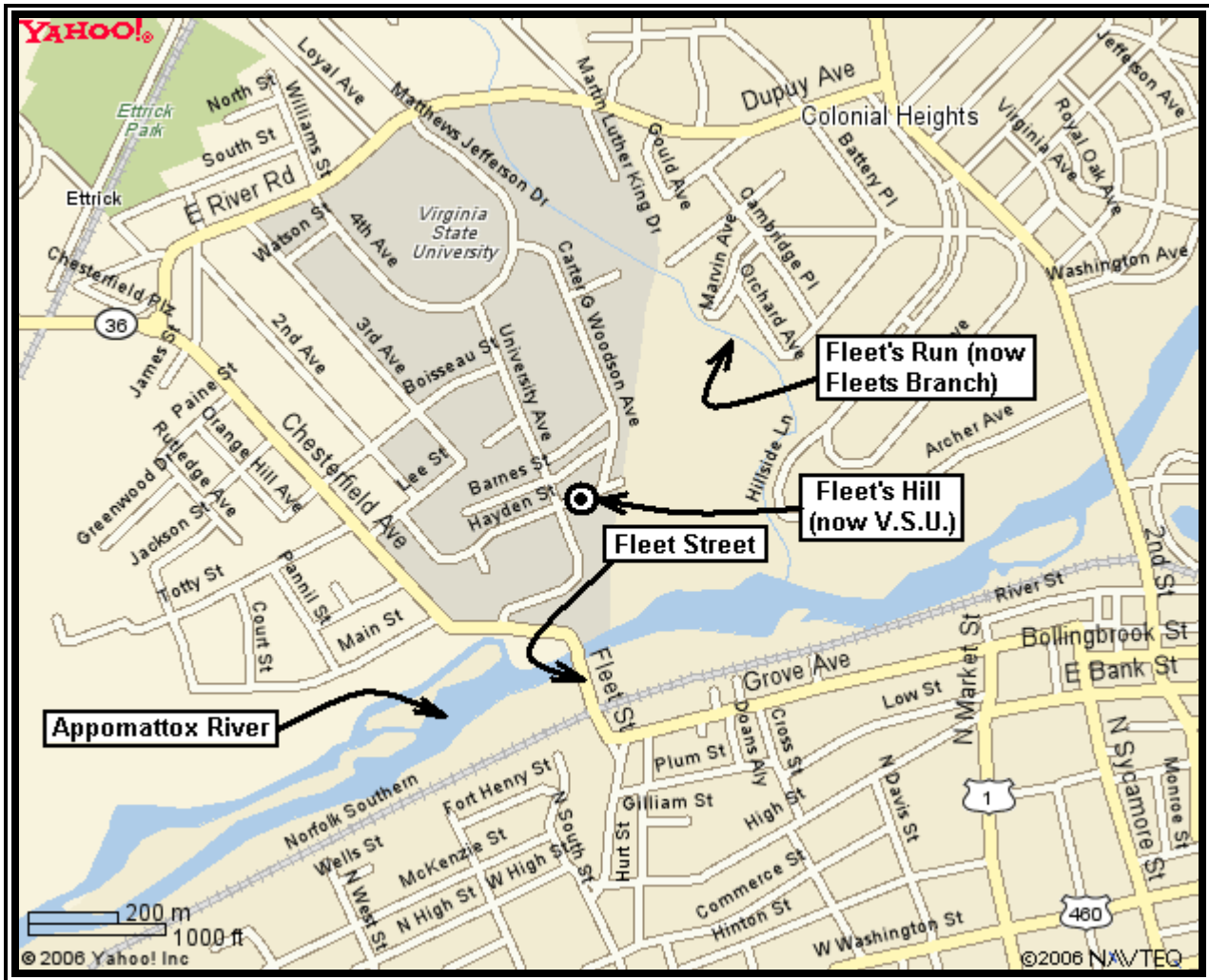


Fleete On Current Virginia Maps

RECAPITULATION



Lancaster & Northumberland Counties Map, Universal Advertising Associates Inc.



2006 Vicinity Map of Petersburg, Virginia

Only a modest monument of Henry Fleete’s contribution to the establishment of the Maryland and Virginia colonies remains. A recent historian, recounting the history of Dinwiddie County, Virginia, wrote: “The first important personality to have direct effect on Dinwiddie County was Captain Henry Fleete. New patents on the upper James and Appomattox rivers necessitated an expedition to clear the area of hostile Indians. Fleete was ordered to head an expedition against the Appomattox Indians which he commanded, assisted by Lieutenant Francis Poythress. The expedition drove the Indians from the Swift Creek Valley. Fleete and Poythress then erected a defensible, or fort, at the falls at Ettrick. The fort provided not only a measure of safety for the settlers moving up the Appomattox, but also generated a trading post for the commencement of the fur trade with the Appomattox Indians.

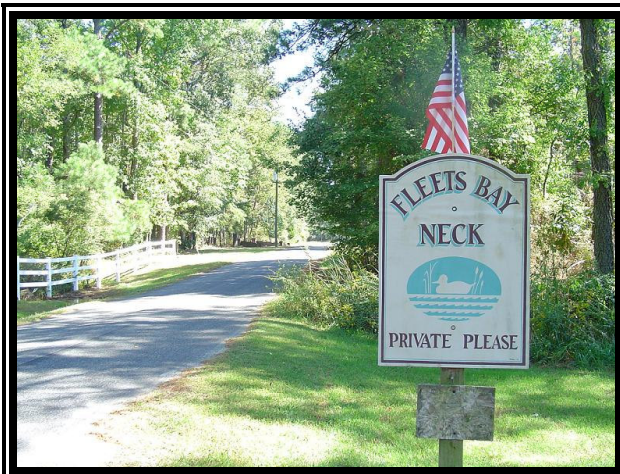
Fleet’s Hill, Fleet’s Run and Fleet Street in Petersburg are the only present day remainders of his presence.“

“Henry Fleete: Pioneer, Explorer, Trader, Planter, Legislator, Justice & Peacemaker”, Betsy Fleet



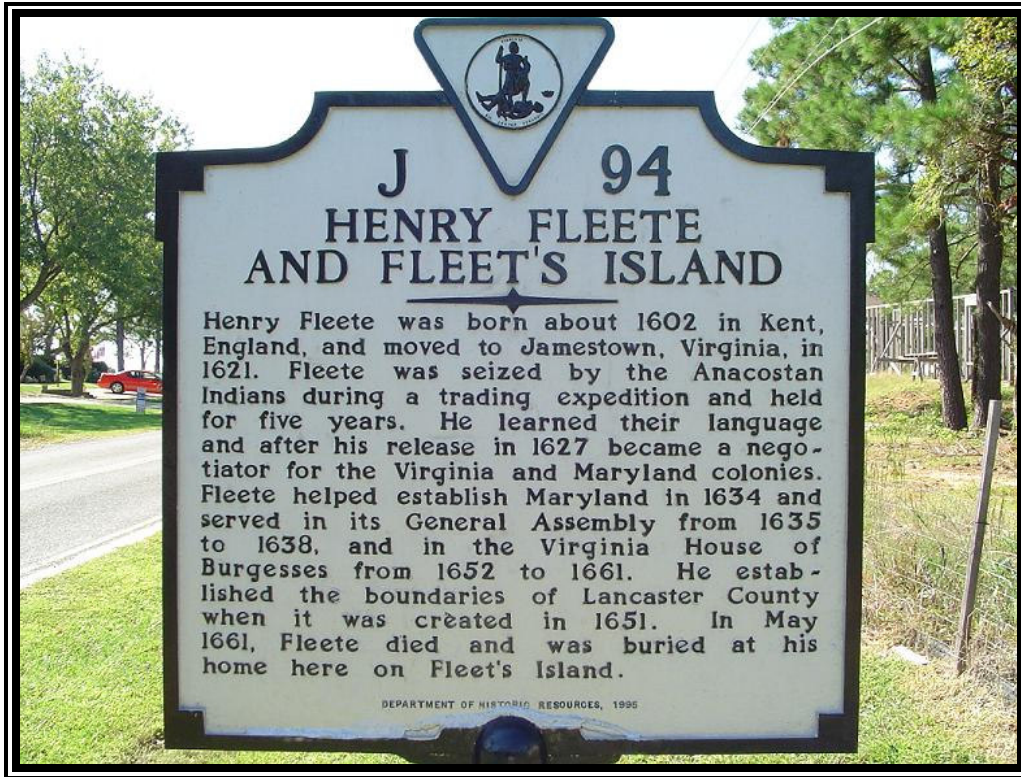
Both Photographed by Faye Chaney

Both pictures were taken in Petersburg, VA. The wooden foot bridge crosses a creek, Fleets Branch (1), which was once called **Fleet's Run**. It is a pedestrian crossing to Virginia State University campus on **Fleet's Hill**. This area was once owned by Henry Fleete.



All Photographed by Eric C. Fleet

In the Northern Neck of Virginia, there are four notable locations **Fleet's Bay**, **Fleet's Island**, **Fleet's Bay Neck** and **Fleeton**.



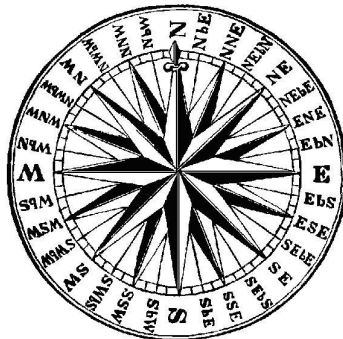
Photographed by Eric C. Fleet

Roadway sign established by Virginia Department of Historic Resources in 1995

Fleet's Point received its name from Captain Henry Fleet, who left Jamestown to explore the area in the 1650's. Fleet's Point was part of an early 5,000 acre plantation granted by the King of England. During the steamboat era Fleet's Point wharf became a landing for vessels between Maryland and Virginia, and the small village of Fleeton developed. The hotel, steamboat wharf, stores, and fish canneries are long gone. Remaining is the charm of a quiet village, with its new focal point being St. Mary's Episcopal Church.

Built in 1945, Fleeton Fields (2) is a gracious colonial home, situated at the edge of the historic village of Fleeton, overlooking Big Fleet's Pond and the Chesapeake Bay.

Fleeton Fields Bed and Breakfast



Fleete On Current Maryland Maps

A main commercial Street leading to the docks in the old section of Baltimore is Fleet Street.

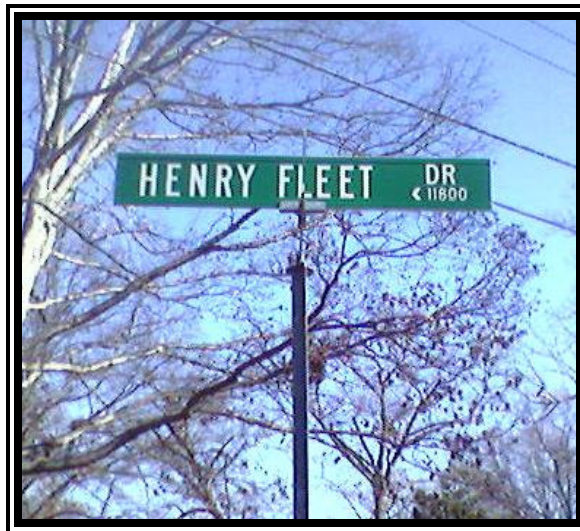
Captain Henry Fleete School ⁽³⁾ is located on 511 South Bond Street, Baltimore (Independent City), Maryland. It is on the list of National Register of Historical Places.



Photographed by Jose Cantu

Radiating from the State House in Annapolis, Maryland is a short street named Fleet and within the State House a mural depicts Henry Fleete with the settlers who have disembarked from the *Ark* and *Dove*.

“Henry Fleete: Pioneer, Explorer, Trader, Planter, Legislator, Justice & Peacemaker”, Betsy Fleet



Photographed by Tricia Umhau

Henry Fleet Drive ⁽⁴⁾ is located in Potomac, the northwest part of Washington, D.C.

Fleet On Current Tennessee Maps

Eric Cameron Fleet, of Memphis, Tennessee and later Coldwater, Mississippi, is a descendent of Henry Fleete - among those in the 11th generation. As a civil engineer technician in Memphis, he looked for opportunities to show honor to his famous ancestor. The following are memorials he has been able to put on the map.



Photographed by Eric C. Fleet

Fleets Bay Drive ⁽⁵⁾, 722.5 feet long, intersects Island Place East and was built in September, 2000. Although there are no houses on this road, it is a major public route in Harbor Island Planned Development. In this development, there are 100 residential lots on 19.26 acres of land. This name was used first, as it was named after the bay where Henry Fleete settled.



Photographed by Eric C. Fleet

Fleets Harbor Drive ⁽⁶⁾ intersects Island Pointe Drive, west of Island Place East and has 23 houses along the 375.5 foot long road. It is on 19 acres of land which includes a total of 131 residential lots in Island View I Planned Development. It was built in early 2003.



Both photographed by Eric C. Fleet

Fleets Hill Drive (7) has 25 houses along the 766.5 foot long road. **Fleets Hill Cove** (7) has 8 houses along the 220 foot long cove. **Fleets Run Drive** (7) has 13 houses along 508.5 feet of road. They are at the same intersection. They are on 20.91 acres of land which includes a total of 79 residential lots in The Gardens Of Walnut Grove Planned Development. They were built around 2002. **Fleets Hill** and **Fleets Run** were where Henry Fleete owned a fortification at a defensible place circa 1635 on the **Fleet's Hill** Tract north of Appomattox River in Petersburg, Virginia.



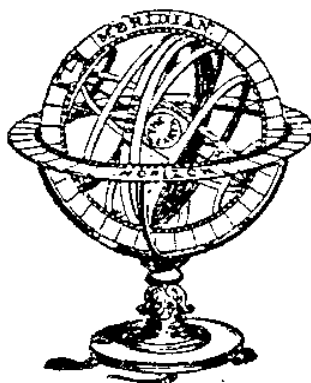
Photographed by Eric C. Fleet

Fleets Island Drive (8) intersects Island Place East and has 35 houses along 1,272.4 feet of road. It crosses through two developments, Island View II Planned Development and Island Point Planned Development. It was completed by December, 2003. **Fleets Island Drive** is the longest street of all five streets named after Henry Fleete in Shelby County, TN. The name, **Fleets Island Drive** was chosen as the last memorial in Memphis because **Fleets Island** is where Henry Fleete was laid to rest.



One other memorial was Eric created was for his wife, Grayce. It is found in Bartlett, Tennessee.

The storm water runoff from **Fleets Hill Drive/Cove & Fleets Run Drive** flows along Wolf River approximate 20 miles to Mud Island where **Fleets Bay Drive, Fleets Harbor Drive & Fleets Island Drive** are located. The Grayce Drive (9) runoff flows along Harrington Creek Canal and then also flows into the Wolf River traveling approximate 14 miles to Mud Island.



NOTES

1. Fleets Branch is in the U.S. Geological Survey topographic map (Colonial Heights, Virginia) issued on July 1, 1996.
2. Fleeton Fields Bed and Breakfast, 2783 Fleeton Road, P.O. Box 305, Reedville, Virginia 22539. See www.fleetonfields.com
3. Captain Henry Fleete School is also known as Public School No. 25 (added 1979 - Building - #79001111). The architectural style is late Victorian, Romanesque prepared by Charles Kratz, Engineer. Period of Significance: 1875-1899.
4. The plat was recorded on October 9, 1958 with the street name Capri Drive. Capri Drive was changed to Redpine Road. Date of change not known. Redpine Road was changed to *Henry Fleet Drive* on February 20, 1963 per Montgomery County Park & Planning Commission in Maryland.
5. *Fleets Bay Drive* – Developed by Harbor Isle, LLC and is in Plat Book 186, Page 20 in the Shelby County Register's Office, Tennessee dated June 30, 2000. Notarized by Eric Fleet.
6. *Fleets Harbor Drive* – Developed by High Tide II, LLC and is in Plat Book 201, Page 64 in the Shelby County Register's Office, Tennessee dated December 17, 2002. Notarized by Eric Fleet.
7. *Fleets Hill Drive/Cove & Fleets Run Drive* – Developed by Pacific Rim, LLC and is in Plat Book 198, Page 53 in the Shelby County Register's Office, Tennessee dated July 2, 2002.
8. *Fleets Island Drive* (west of Island Place East) – Developed by Wayne A. Christian and is in Plat Book 212, Page 37 in the Shelby County Register's Office, Tennessee dated July 22, 2004. *Fleets Island Drive* (east of Island Place East) – Developed by Bronze Construction, LLC and is in Plat Book 208, Page 32 in the Shelby County Register's Office, Tennessee dated January 6, 2004. Notarized by Eric Fleet.
9. *Grayce Drive* – Developed by T.G.T., LLC in Ole Bartlett Village, Phases 1 & 2. Phase 1 is in Plat Book 191, Page 35 and Phase 2 is in Plat Book 191, Page 34 in the Shelby County Register's Office, Tennessee. Both phases dated April 11, 2001. Notarized by Eric Fleet.

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SPECIAL THANKS

Land Developed by:



Harbor Isle, L.L.C.
Pacific Rim, L.L.C.
High Tide II, L.L.C.
Bronze Construction, L.L.C.
6465 Quail Hollow Road, Suite 100
Memphis, Tennessee 38120

Engineered & Surveyed by:

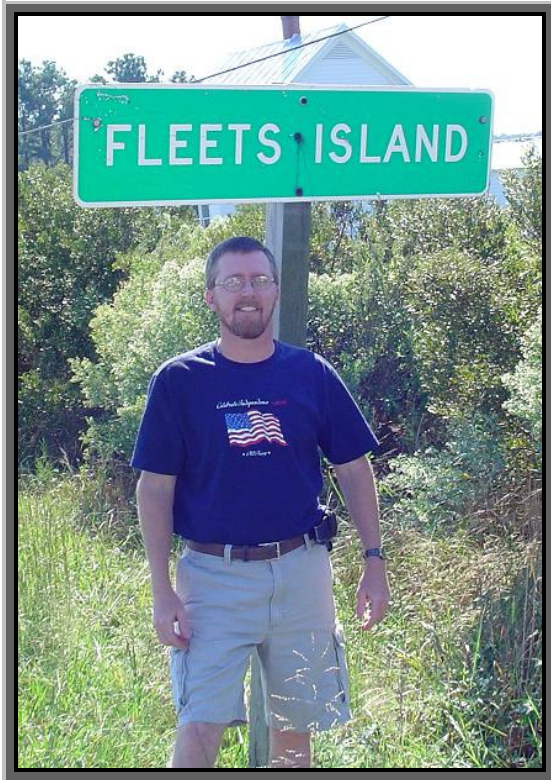
W. H. PORTER CONSULTANTS, PLLC

Engineers, Planners, Surveyors, Consultants
4821 American Way, Suite 100
Memphis, Tennessee 38118

Address Assigned by:



Memphis Light, Gas & Water Division
Address Assignment
220 South Main Street
Memphis, Tennessee 38103



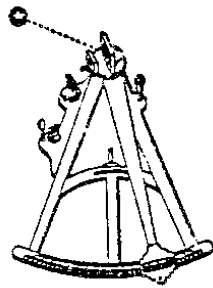
Photographed by Grayce Fleet

Eric Cameron Fleet

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

As a young man, Eric's father introduced him to the history of Henry Fleete by giving him a family pedigree chart which traced the family back to 1537 and by telling him about some of the places named for Henry Fleete. This peaked Eric's interest and he spent hours researching his genealogy on the internet, maps and other books. He finally made his own web site, "*Fleet Family Tree*." He has also published a genealogy chart that includes 27 generations "*The Great Fleet Family Tree: The Descendant Of Henri de la Flotte Circa Late 9th Century*", First Edition.

A much anticipated trip to Virginia in October, 2006 allowed Eric to see the land where Henry Fleete resided, explored, planted crops, and traded furs.



You are cordially inviting to our

FLEET FAMILY TREE

By The International Fleet Family Registry

at <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~fleet/fleet.htm>