



Children's Lives at Colonial London Town: The Stories of Three Families

Connecting to Families through Genealogy and an Introduction to Primary Sources

Genealogy is the study of a family's history. It explains how people are related to their ancestors and other members of their family. Mentally picture a tree. Think about how the tree starts with a trunk but then branches out. A family tree works the same way. It starts with an individual then branches out to reach back to that person's descendants (parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, etc.) By understanding the human connections between family members, by birth or other means, we can understand ourselves on a personal and historical level.

1. Reread Chapter One, "Mehitable, James, Thomas, and Larkin in 1709." As you read, think about how the Holland Pierpoint children relied on one another. How are their relationships similar or different to sibling relationships today?

2. After reading, discuss:

What you know about sibling and/or family relationships, and how based on the text, you would you describe the relationships between the siblings and the siblings to their parents?

Do you and your family members identify with any of the Holland Pierpoint children and if so, in what ways?

3. Connect to the text personally by discussing the following questions:

What do you know about your family history?

How many generations could you complete on your family tree?

Who shares the most in common with you?

Who would like you like to know more about?

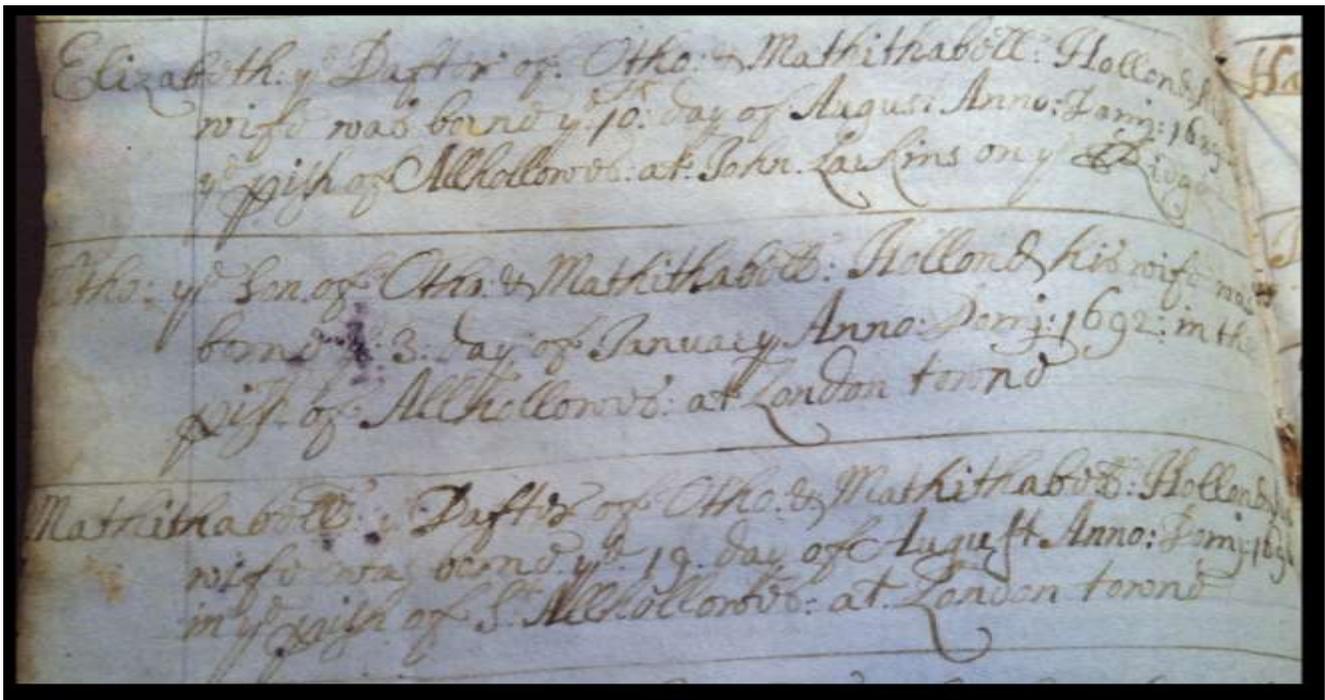
After you complete this activity, you should be prepared to continue with the following questions and perhaps you and your family will consider starting your own family genealogical project.



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Examine the birth, baptism, and burial records provided. Discuss why churches kept such records? What do these records reveal about the Holland family? Do you know if your immediate family has records like this and where they are stored? Which generations of your family might have had similar records kept in their church or other institution? Have you viewed their records? The Maryland State Archives holds collections that include these types of records, and some churches may also do the same. How do these records help families identify ancestors?

Birth and Baptism Records from All Hallows Parish Church, Edgewater, Maryland



Though the primary source indicates London Town, the Brick Church of All Hallows Parish, the home parish for many residents of London Town, was actually located in Edgewater, Maryland

Transcription

It is important to note that spelling was not standardized so you may see various spellings for names and places

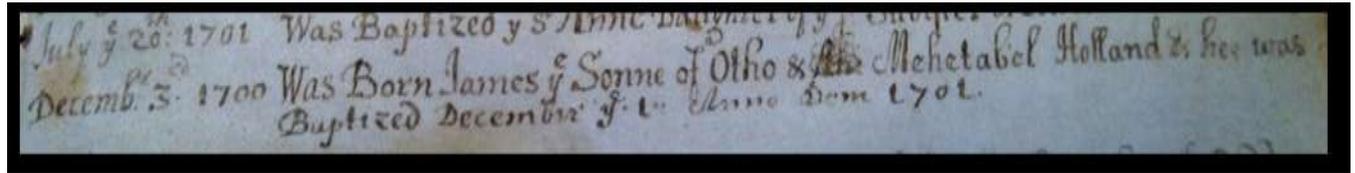
Elizabeth the Daughter of Otho and Mahitable Holland
wife was born the 10. Day of August Anno Dom. 1689
parish of All Hallows at John Larkins on the River

Otho the Son of Otho and Mahitable Holland his wife was
born on 3 day of January Anno Dom. 1692 in the
parish of All Hollows at London Town



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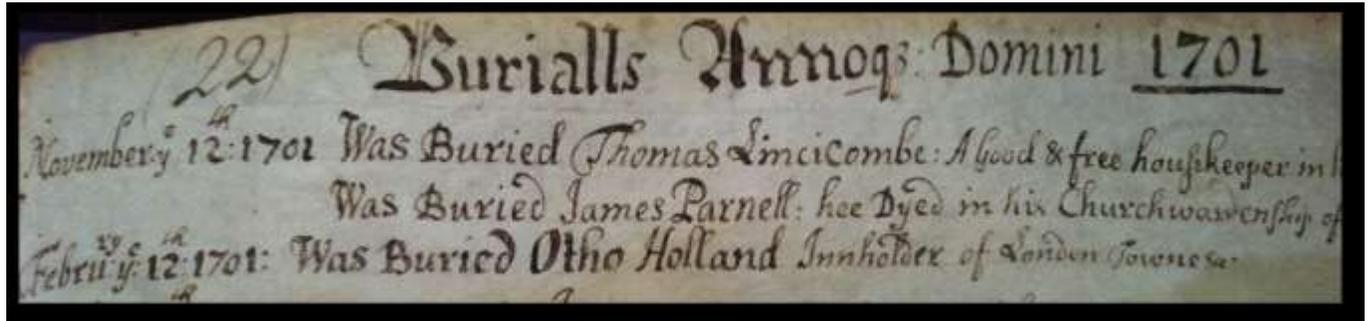
Mahitable () Daughter of Otho and Mahitable Holland his wife was born the 19 day of August. Anno Dom. 1696 in the parish of St. All Hallows at London Town



Transcription

December 3. 1700 Was Born James the Sonne of Otho & Mahitable Holland & he was Baptized December of Anno. Dom. 1701.

Burial Records from All Hallows Parish Church, Edgewater, Maryland



Transcription

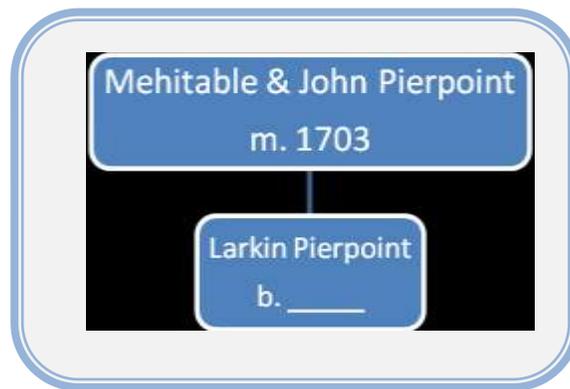
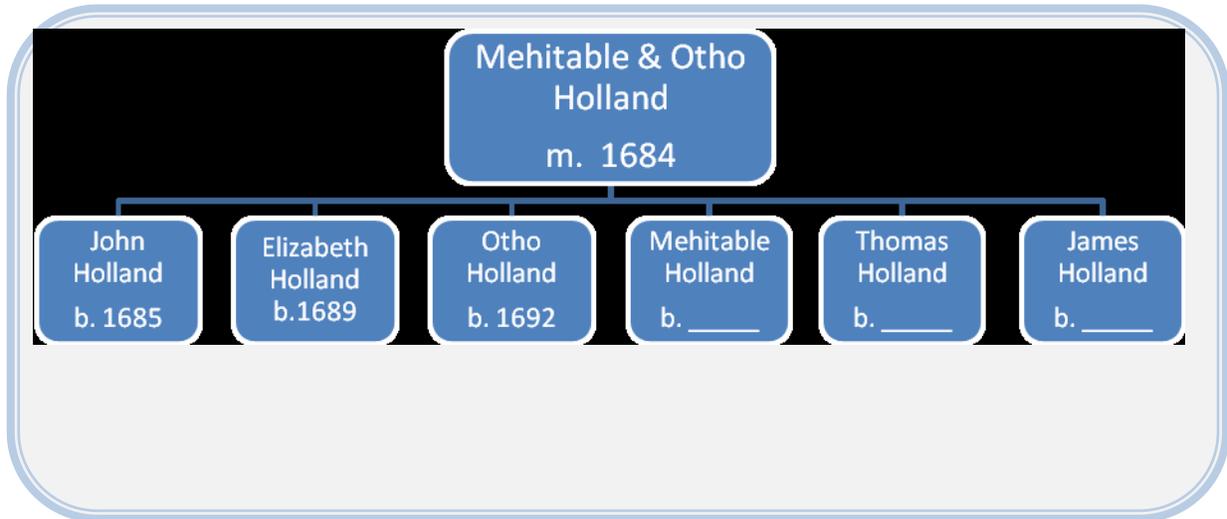
Burialls Anno Domini 1701

February 12 1701: Was Buried Otho Holland Innholder of London Towne



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Use information from the London Town Timeline and Chapter 1 of the storybook to complete the Holland and Pierpoint family tree.



My Family Tree:

Create your own family tree by using the template at <http://c.ancestry.com/pdf/trees/charts/anchart.pdf> or create your own.

Begin completing your family tree by asking your parents for their parents' full names (be sure to get maiden names too). Dates and places where people were born, married, or died are also useful.

Arrange to talk to older family members as well to get as much information to start with as possible.

Take a trip to the local library and access ancestry.com with a librarian's help (free at the library). The site includes access to a variety of primary sources that might contain information about your ancestors. Free online access is also available for www.familysearch.org, from any computer. It is a very large genealogy collection. Once started, compare your family tree to that of the Holland and Pierpoint family trees and discuss.

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