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EARLY WASHINGTON, DC LAW & FAMILY PROJECT

The Thomas Family

The Thomas family from St. Mary's, Prince George's, and Charles Counties, Maryland, and Washington, DC, sued for their freedom between 1791-1810, claiming they were descended from a free woman named Elizabeth Thomas. These cases and the families who brought them were important in American history.

- ◆ *Robert Thomas v. Rev. Henry Pile* (Charles County, MD, 1791)
- ◆ *Daniel Thomas v. Henry Hamersley* (Charles County, 1791)
- ◆ *Eleanor Thomas, Priscilla Thomas, Matthew Thomas, John Thomas, Henry Thomas v. Benjamin Reeder* (Charles County, 1791 ?)
- ◆ *Gustavus Thomas v. Michael Jenifer Stone & Gustavus Richard Brown, executors of Thomas Stone* (Charles County, 1791)
- ◆ *John Thomas v. Raphael Boarman* (Charles County, MD, 1792 ?)
- ◆ *Elizabeth Thomas v. Raphael Boarman* (Charles County, 1792)
- ◆ *Ann Thomas v. Raphael Boarman* (Charles County, 1792)
- ◆ *Henry Thomas v. Raphael Boarman* (Charles County, 1792)
- ◆ *Archy Thomas v. Raphael Boarman* (Charles County, 1792)
- ◆ *Harry Thomas v. Raphael Boarman* (Charles County, 1792)
- ◆ *Priscilla Thomas v. Raphael Boarman* (Charles County, 1792)
- ◆ *Betsey Thomas v. Raphael Boarman* (Charles County, 1792)
- ◆ *Rhenny Thomas v. Raphael Boarman* (Charles County, 1792)
- ◆ *Nelly Thomas v. Raphael Boarman* (Charles County, 1792)
- ◆ *Louisa Thomas v. Raphael Boarman* (Charles County, 1792)
- ◆ *Lawson Thomas v. William Campbell* (Charles County, 1792 ?)
- ◆ *Charles Thomas v. Alexander Scott* (Charles County, 1792)
- ◆ *George Thomas v. Sarah Stone* (Charles County, 1792)
- ◆ *Lucy Thomas v. David Stone* (Charles County, 1792)
- ◆ *Sarah Thomas v. David Stone* (Charles County, 1792)
- ◆ *Thomas Thomas v. Anne Stone* (Charles County, 1792)
- ◆ *Ann Thomas, Jarrett Thomas, John Thomas v. Clement Briscoe* (St. Mary's County, 1792)
- ◆ *Richard Thomas v. Thomas Attaway Reeder* (St. Mary's County, 1793)
- ◆ *David Thomas v. Nicholas Blacklock* (St. Mary's County, 1793 ?)
- ◆ *Gustavus Thomas v. Lancelot Mason* (Charles County, 1793)
- ◆ *Judy Thomas v. Rev. Henry Pile* (Charles County, MD, 1794/5)



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- ◆ *William Thomas v. Edmund Plowdon, executor of Ignatius Wheeler* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Jesse Thomas v. Edmund Plowdon, executor of Ignatius Wheeler* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Teressa Thomas v. Richard Barnes* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Susanna Thomas v. Joseph Hall* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Juda Thomas v. Joseph Hall* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *John Thomas v. Joseph Hall* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Luke Thomas v. Joseph Hall* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Charity Thomas v. Joseph Hall* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *David Thomas v. Joseph Hall* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Stephen Thomas v. Joseph Hall* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *William Thomas v. Betty Ann Eden* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Jeremiah Thomas v. Betty Ann Eden* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Margaret Thomas v. Betty Ann Eden* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Teresia Thomas v. Betty Ann Eden* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Henry Thomas v. Betty Ann Eden* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Eliza Thomas v. Betty Ann Eden* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Matilda Thomas v. Betty Ann Eden* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Peter Thomas v. Betty Ann Eden* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Ann Thomas v. Betty Ann Eden* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Mary Thomas v. Betty Ann Eden* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Charles Thomas v. Betty Ann Eden* (St. Mary's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Peter Thomas v. Samuel Hamilton* (Prince George's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Stephen Thomas v. John Ashton* (Prince George's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Charles Thomas v. Clement Smith* (Prince George's County, MD, 1797)
- ◆ *Peter Thomas v. Creedy Hamilton* (Washington, DC, 1809)
- ◆ *Walter & Dennis Thomas v. Alexander Scott* (Washington, DC, 1809)
- ◆ *Peter Thomas v. Christiana Hamilton* (Washington, DC, 1810)

If you have any information to contribute to the project about this family, please let us know.

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The Thomas Family

The Thomas family tree is based on court records from the National Archives in Washington, DC, the Maryland State Archives in Annapolis, and Thomas F. Brown and Leah C. Sims, "To Swear Him Free: Ethnic Memory as Social Capital in Eighteenth-Century Freedom Petitions," in *Colonial Chesapeake: New Perspectives*, ed. Debra Meyers and Melanie Perreault (Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2006).

- Elizabeth Thomas – a Welsh woman
 - + Joseph Mingo – arrived in Charles County, MD, prior to 1680
 - Lewis Mingo – b. abt 1681
 - Elizabeth "Betty" Mingo – d. abt 1772
 - + Harry Cooper ?
 - Margaret "Peg" Thomas
 - Henry Thomas – b. abt 1745
 - Margaret "Peg" Thomas
 - Richard Thomas – filed freedom suit in 1793 against Thomas Attaway Reeder
 - Peter Thomas – filed freedom suit in 1797 against Samuel Hamilton
 - Lawson Thomas – filed freedom suit in 1792 against William Campbell
 - Monica Thomas
 - Gustavus Thomas – filed freedom suit in 1791 against Thomas Stone
 - Charles Thomas – filed freedom suit in 1792 against Alexander Scott
 - Betty Thomas
 - George Thomas – filed freedom suit in 1792 against Sarah Stone
 - Lucy Thomas – filed freedom suit in 1792 against David Stone
 - Sarah Thomas – filed freedom suit in 1792 against David Stone
 - Thomas Thomas – filed freedom suit in 1792 against Anne Stone
 - Clare Thomas
 - Jenny Thomas
 - Gustavus Thomas – filed freedom suit in 1793 against Lancelot Mason
- Robin Mingo



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- Sophia Thomas
 - Judah "Judy" Thomas – b. abt 1752
 - Robert Thomas – filed freedom suit in 1791 against Rev. Henry Pile
 - Eleanor Thomas – filed freedom suit in 1791 against Benjamin Reeder
- Nanny Cooper
 - John Thomas – filed freedom suit abt 1792 against Raphael Boarman
- Jenny Thomas
 - Henry Thomas – b. abt 1745
 - Jenny Thomas
 - Daniel Thomas – filed freedom suit in 1791 against Henry Hamersley
- Sarah Thomas
 - Letty Thomas
 - Richard Thomas
 - Jerry Thomas
 - Eleanor Thomas
 - David Thomas – filed freedom suit in 1793 against Nicholas Blacklock
 - Ann Thomas – filed freedom suit in 1792
 - Richard Thomas
- Charles Mingo
 - + Mary Curtis
 - Jonathan Curtis

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