tiveIfth of December Seventeen hundred and ninety eight by which he devised his whole estate to his wife your complainant Ariana French during her life and after her death equally to be divided amongst his children as by reference to a copy of said Will No. 1 now produced will appear. The said George French died a few days after making said Will leaving the following children to wit. Thomas Georg Catharine Charles and Robert French your complainants and Elizabeth now the wife of your complainant John Weems also leaving your complainant Ariana his widow who has administered on his estate

Your complainants state that by the Acts of Assembly above mentioned they are advised that the legal estate to said land is vested in the State of Maryland, but in as much as previous to the passage of said act the equitable right was in said James Clarke who has assigned as aforesaid, no remedy, exists to obtain a legal right except in this Court. In consideration of which may it please your honor to cause a subpana to issue against Luther Martin Esquire the Attorny General of the State of Maryland and the said James Clarke of Baltimore commanding them and each of them to appear in this Court to answer the premises and to set forth and discover whether the said Thomas French was not seised of said land. whether he did not sell them to said James Clarke. Whether he did not execute to him the said bond of conveyance. Whether the said James Clarke did not pay him for the same. and assign as aforesaid. Whether the said Thomas French did not remove as aforesaid. whether the said George French did not make the Will leave the children and widow aforesaid. And to abide by such decree as to your honor may seem meet. And that your honor will decree a transfer of the right of the State to be made to them according to their respective interests and grant such other relief as equity and justice dictates, and they will pray &c

Jno Johnson Jr Complainants

Exhibit No 1

Know all Men by these presents that I Thomas French of

Baltimore County in the province of Maryland am held and firmly bound unto James Clarke of Baltimore in said province in the full and just sum of Three thousand eight hundred pounds current money of said province. to be paid to the said James Clarke his heirs &c. which payment well and truly to be made and done I bind myself my heirs &c. Sealed with my seal and dated this twenty sixth day February Anno Domini One thousand seven hundred and seventy seven. The Condition of the above obligation is such that if the above bounden Thomas French &c. do on demand assign, transfer, make over and deliver unto the said James Clarke his heirs and Assigns sundry tracts of land. as particularized on the back of this obligation and deliver unto the said James Clarke a clear and undisputed title to the same and also bear harmless and forever defend him the said James Clarke his heirs &c. from any person or persons claiming or to claim the same. then the above obligation to be void else to be and remain in full force and virtue in law. In witness hereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year above written.

Signed Sealed and delivered
in the presence of
John Stevenson Junr

Thomas French (L.S.)

Received 27 Feby 1777 of James Clarke Esquire nine hundred and seventy eight dollars as part of the sum of nineteen hundred pounds

Thomas French

£366.15.0

Memm The parties are agreed that if any of the said tracts of land should run foul of any elder tracts, so as to enlarge or diminish the number of acres contained in any of the patents the acct to be settled accordingly

James Clarke
Thomas French

Sundry tracts of land lying in Charles County Maryland.
Beauty 110 acres Chance 140 & Choice 76 & property 168 acres Tit Ja Tat 73 acres Chs County. Blooming plains 977 acres in Anne Arundel County. Durham 384 acres Rising Sun 225 acres Vale 913 acres. Vale 714 acres Toms Venture 92 acres. Homoney Isle 101 acres in Fredrick County. Whats left 24 acres in Anne Arundel County for one thousand