

In the early 1800s, one of old William Galt's plantations was a large property at the fork of the Rivanna and James rivers. He managed it in three portions that he simply called "lower", "middle", and "upper". The entire property was known by its location - at the point of the fork. Old Galt died in March of 1825, leaving the property to James and William Galt, who divided it equally in the "middle", with James taking the eastern half at the fork and retaining the name "Point of Fork", and William naming his western half "Glenarvon".

The original instrument of conveyance of the property to old Galt has not been located, but some observant historians doing other work have found a 1780 instrument conveying the escheated land of loyalist Walter King to David Ross. It is not known if there were intermediate owners between Ross and Galt, but Ross, (who died in 1817), and old Galt were certainly acquainted, and the current best guess is that Ross sold the property at the fork of the rivers directly to old Galt around 1812.

The Commonwealth-to-Ross instrument is transcribed below. It appears at pages 283 to 285 of Virginia Land Office Grants A, 1779-1780, vols. 1 and 2, and is posted on the Library of Virginia website, www.lva.virginia.gov. Searching the "LVA catalog" in a number of ways can lead to these pages, but searching for "Walter King Fluvanna David Ross" worked on February 6, 2011.

Note: The James River was known as the "Fluvanna River" in 1780. Also, the unit of measure, "pole", is 16½ feet.

Thomas Jefferson Esq. Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia. To all to whom these Presents shall come Greeting.

Know ye, that in Consideration of the Sum of one hundred and ninety eight Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety five Pounds, Paid by David Ross Merchant in Petersburg to Thomas Napier Gent. Escheator for the County of Fluvanna there is Granted by the said Commonwealth unto the said David Ross a certain Tract or Parcel of Land containing by an Inclusive Survey made the third day of March one Thousand Seven hundred and Eighty, five Thousand Seven Hundred and Nine acres being the Escheated Land of Walter King a Subject of Great Britain lying and being in the County of Fluvanna which was laid off in lotts and then Sold by the said Thomas Napier unto the said David Ross by nature of and

agreeable to two acts of Assembly Passed in the year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Nine the one Intituled an act Concerning Escheats and Forfeitures from British Subjects and the other Intituled an act Concerning Escheators and bounded as followeth,

To Wit, Beginning at the Point of fork that makes the Fluvanna and Rivanna thence up the Fluvanna River as it meanders Two Thousand Three Hundred and Six Poles to a stake then North Seventeen and an half Degrees East one Hundred and Sixty Six Poles to a white oak thence South Eighty Three degrees East two hundred and Eighty Seven Poles to a stake in an old field then North Thirty Five Degrees East five hundred and Eighty five Poles to a lying Down Pine then North thirty two and a half Degrees East three Hundred and fifty Six Poles to two Pines thence North fifty two and an half Degrees East one thousand one hundred & Eighty two Poles Crossing the North fork of Crooks Creek to a white oak on the East Side of Branch then down said Branch as it Meanders one Hundred and Twenty nine Poles to the Rivanna River then Down said River as it Meanders four hundred & Seventy three Poles to the first **Station** with its appurtenances, to have and to hold the said Tract of Parcel of Land with its appurtenances to the said David Ross and his Heirs for Ever. **In Witness** whereof the said Thomas Jefferson Esq. Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia hath hereunto set his Hand and Caused the Seal of the said Commonwealth to be affixed at Richmond on the Eleventh Day of May in the Year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty and of the Commonwealth the fourth ~

Thomas Jefferson ~