

Soh. BROWN

2.1.

to the ... of ...

The name of Godd Amero & Solomon Brown of Caroline  
County in the State of Maryland being sick and weak of body  
[but of] sound and disposing mind memory and understanding con-  
sidering the certainty of death and the uncertainty of the time  
thereof and being desirous of settling my worldly affairs and  
thereby be the better prepared to leave this world, when it shall  
please God to call me hence do therefore make and publish this  
my last Will and Testament in manner and form following that  
is to say.

After all my just debts and funeral charges are paid and satisfied  
I give devise and bequeath as follows to wits.

I give devise and bequeath unto my son John Brown the yellow  
house and lots on front in the village of Denton, now occupied  
by Thomas Fulbreth Esq with all the improvements thereunto belonging  
in fee simple, I also give and bequeath unto my said son John  
Brown the house and lots where I now live with all the improvem-  
ents thereunto belonging, I also give and bequeath unto my said  
son John Brown the store House and Granary at the corner of  
Markett and front streets, and also the House and lots adjoining  
the same now occupied by Thomas Jones, I also give and bequeath  
unto my said son John Brown the meadow lots at the foot of the  
lots heretofore given him lying on the north side of the Causeway  
leading from Denton, to Denton Bridge, I also give and bequeath  
unto my said son John Brown the house and wharf at the East  
end of Denton Bridge at present rented to John Young Esq, I  
also give and bequeath unto my said son John Brown the house  
and lots at the West end of Denton Bridge together with the Gran-  
ary and wharf adjoining said Bridge at the West end thereof, which  
said house and lots, Granary and wharf and now occupied by Thomas  
Recill, to him the said John Brown his heirs and assigns forever, I  
also give unto my said son John Brown two silver cans which  
I now own two silver pepper Casters and six silver table spoons,  
also my clock which I now own

on Joseph Brown the House and lot near the Tan Yard  
occupied by Nehemiah Fountain, I also give and bequeath unto  
my said son Joseph Brown the house and Lot at the Corner  
of Gay and third streets now occupied by the Reverend James  
Ridgeway, and Ann Clarke, I also give and bequeath unto my said  
son Joseph Brown the house and Lot now occupied by Rachel  
Rhoades at the Corner of Gay and third streets, I also give  
and bequeath unto my said son Joseph Brown the house and  
Lot lying on the north side of Gay streets now occupied by  
Henry Anthony, I also give and bequeath unto my said son  
Joseph Brown the House and lot on Gay Street now occupied  
by William Coatscott, I also give and bequeath unto my said  
son Joseph Brown the house and Lot at the Upper end of Gay  
Street now occupied by Thomas Coote & I also give and bequeath  
unto my said son Joseph Brown the House and lot on  
Gay streets fronting fronting the publick square now occupied by  
George Willion to him the said Joseph Brown and his heirs  
forever, But I do enjoin it upon my said son Joseph Brown or  
his heirs to make over by a Good and sufficient deed of bargain  
and sale (when he shall arrive at lawfull age) all his right and  
title that he may have to the farm lying in Caroline County near  
Greensborough now occupied by Rachel Permar and known by  
the name of James Reserve, to my Daughter Maria Jones  
otherwise to be debarred from any grant devise Legacy or bequest  
heretofore given him in this my last Will and Testament, I  
Give and bequeath unto my daughter & Maria Jones the House  
and one half of the lot at the Corner of Gay and second streets  
at present occupied by Capt. Joseph Richardson and known by the  
name of "the White House" I also Give and bequeath unto my dau-  
-ghter Maria Jones all my right and title to the farm near Green-  
-borough in Caroline County, called James Reserve, to her the said  
Maria Jones and her heirs for ever I do give and bequeath unto

lotts now occupied by Capt. Joseph Richardson during her natural life, the said dwelling house to be finished by my Executor herein after mentioned, in a plain and simple manner, also a shed to be built at the north end of the stable now occupied by Capt. Joseph Richardson, which one half said stable is to go with the said new house and lot, and a division fence to be made up so as to divide the lott into two equal parts also the front part of the said lott to be enclosed with a fence running from the front corner of said new house to the said division fence, I also give and bequeath unto my said wife all the furniture that she possessed at the time of my marriage with her, also one pair of Mahogany end tables, six yellow Windsor chairs one settee, one bed and furniture two imported Carpets and my Jack horse and Rig, And it is my Will and desire that my Executor hereinafter named pay unto my said wife out of my Estate, the sum of four hundred dollars per annum during her Widowhood, But I do enjoin it upon my said wife to relinquish all her right of dower in my Estate both real and personal, otherwise to be debarred from any donation, Legacy or bequest heretofore given her on this my last Will and Testaments I give and bequeath unto my daughter Maria Jones the New House and lott heretofore after the death of my said wife Henrietta, to her the said Maria Jones and her heirs forever,

I do hereby order and direct and it is my Will and desire that my Executor hereinafter named shall have full power and lawfull authority to sell and convey such parts of my real Estate as may be necessary to pay my just debts should my personal estate (after paying the aforesaid Legacies be insufficient to pay the same), And I do further order and direct, and it is

benefits and interest of my said Children, and if any  
of my said real estate not heretofore devised, or disposed  
of by the provisions of this Will should be sold, I will and  
desire that the neat proceeds thereof be equally divided between  
my said three children, viz, John Brown, Joseph Brown  
and Maria Jones or their heirs in equal portions share and  
share alike, to them their heirs and assigns, And lastly I  
do nominate constitute and appoint my son John Brown sole  
executor of this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking  
and making void all and every other Will or Wills at any  
time heretofore by me made and do declare this to be my last  
Will and Testament in Witness whereof I the said Solomon  
Brown have hereunto set my hand and seal this thirteenth  
day of September one thousand eight hundred and nineteen  
Sol. Brown Seal

Signed Sealed delivered and published by the above named  
Solomon Brown as and for his last Will and Testament in the  
presence of us who at his request and in his presence, have sub-  
scribed our names as Witnesses thereto.

Thos. Fulbreth, Jennifer S. Taylor, William Boone  
Caroline County to wit }  
23<sup>rd</sup> of Sept 1819 } Then came John Brown the Executor  
named and appointed in the foregoing Will and made oath  
on the Holy Evangel of Almighty Gods, that the foregoing instu-  
ments of Writing is the true and whole Will and Testament of  
Solomon Brown late of Caroline County deceased, that hath come  
to his hands or possession, and that he doth not know of any  
other of a later date.

Certified by John Young Regr of Wills  
Caroline County to wit }  
23<sup>rd</sup> of Sept 1819 } Then came Thomas Fulbreth Jennifer S.  
Taylor and William Boone, the three subscribing witnesses to the

and the Streets, Lanes & Alleys of the same therein and for  
at the Corners thereof respectively to wit of Assembly.

The Commissioners adjourn until Thursday the 11<sup>th</sup> June next.

Thursday the 11<sup>th</sup> June 1807 The Commissioners of Denton met again  
at the Court room; of whom were present

John Charles, James Emerson  
Alexand<sup>r</sup> Maxwell, Anthony Poff & Comrs

Mr Samuel Emerson, one of the Commissioners present resigns; And  
thereupon the Commissioners appoint Mr Solomon Brown in his  
room.

James Poff Esq<sup>r</sup> one of the Justices of the peace in the County  
at the place here certified of his having qualified Mr Solo Brown

a Commissioner of the Village of Denton, a special to wit of Assembly  
The Commissioners adjourn until Monday the 8<sup>th</sup> June next.

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 1807 The Commissioners of Denton met again

... and adjournments; of whom were present.

Metrs } Levi Charles, Alexander Maxwell,  
          } Thomas Richardson, Anthony Ross,  
          } Solomon Brown } Conty

The Commissioners took into consideration, the Map of Denton, and the Certificate thereto annexed and laid off by their Surveyor in their direction, and the same was received, approved of and signed by a Majority of the said Commissioners, namely Levi Charles, Alexander Maxwell & Solomon Brown, and by their authority to Clerk of Caswell County to be by him recorded as the law directs.

The Commissioners adjourn until a Sunday the 29th June 1807. Monday June 23rd 1807. The Commissioners of Denton, the agreeable to adjournment of whom were present.

Metrs } Levi Charles, Alexander Maxwell,  
          } Anthony Ross, Solomon Brown } Conty

The Commissioners agreeable to act of the

undergen. Baird, (13,000)

Coturna, October 17, in

of Spain, his brother and Paris.

s to command the centre Spanish army.

h still hold Barcelona, have a state of siege, proclaimed and issued one of their motions.

several accounts of insurrection in Spain, between parties of and French.—They always pour of the former.

British officers in Spain, members of parliament.

th troops embarked at Lissibon.

revolution in Turkey, has the British envoy, who was from proceeding to that ca-

dition is preparing at Sicily, against Stuart, supposed against

nt is further prorogued to the

vessels bound to Heligoland, and the Baltic, have been taken by privateer.

ish squadron has quitted the the Russian fleet at Porting three Swedish ships to

ays that twenty of our transports been driven on the French coast. We presume they were without troops.

ndson Castle packet arrived Oct. 19, from New York

merican brig Adamant, Allen, Ann, Bradford, of Alexandria, sent into Malta.

r Finckney has communicated

## A CARD.

For all whom it may concern

**C**ERTAIN vague and malicious insinuations having been secretly circulated, impeaching our conduct in furnishing the poor of Caroline county; we have hitherto suffered them to pass in silence, as the offspring of malignity, the freaks of prejudice, and the vengeance of personal mortification.—But as those insinuations are introduced in a petition to the legislature of the state, we feel it our duty to notice them, but are at a loss for want of specification; we can only answer generally by calling, and we do hereby call upon and invite all or any person or persons, who have ever made use of any insinuations, or in any manner attempted to impeach our conduct in the aforementioned transaction, to come forward manly, openly & specifically with the charges, and produce to the world the grounds upon which they are made, as that would produce a full and thorough investigation, by an exhibition (publicly) of all our accounts from the time we commenced furnishing, to the present date; if our midnight enemies seriously believe the gross and palpable falsehoods (as we should then make them appear) which they have secretly and maliciously circulated, we might with confidence expect, promptly and specifically to be met with the charges; but if this public call for an investigation is not answered by a public exhibition of the charges specifically made, it will unequivocally demonstrate to the world, that the anonymous insinuations which have been secretly and maliciously thrown out against us, relative to the aforesaid transaction, was a wilful, wicked, base and malignant attempt to stab in the dark our private characters, to gratify as well the selfish views of insatiable avarice, as the malignancy of a prejudice as rancorous as it is unmerited. We salute an investigation, which the more prompt the more agreeable to our wishes, the more public the more congenial with our intentions.

**BROWN & CULBRETH.**

# APPOINTMENTS

BY THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL OF  
M. RYLAND.

*Justices of the Orphans' Court for Caro-  
line County.*

Solomon Brown      Fred'k. Hollbrook,  
Seth Hill Everts—&      Esquires

*Justices of the Levy Court for Caroline  
County.*

Alemby Jump      Henry Driver  
Henry Coursey      Thos. Hardcastle, &  
John Boon      James Keene,  
Jacob Wright,      Esquires.  
(of Lemuel)

*Justices of the Peace for Caroline County*

William Potter      Batchelder Chance  
Alemby Jump      Elijah Satterfield  
Henry Coursey      Sovren Dawson  
James Byrn      James Houston  
Peter Willis      Abel Gowtee  
Nathan Whitby      Levin Charles  
Robt. Hardcastle, jr.      Nathan Downes  
Samuel Culbreth      Wm. A. Cooper, &  
Thomas Style      Levi Buitt,  
Joseph Douglass      Esquires.

# Tan Yard to rent or sell.

**T**HE subscriber offers to rent or sell his Tan Yard in the village of Denton. This yard has about 20 laying vats, and one large letch vat, with limes, bates, pools, &c. A good cast bark mill, mill house, beam house, currying shop, bark house, and bate shed, & a comfortable dwelling convenient to the yard. There is also in the yard a stock of good bark, mostly Spanish oak, which can go with the yard on reasonable terms. For the purchase of bark and hides, and for the sale of leather, there is no situation on the Eastern Shore preferable; and to an enterprising young man it would be a valuable stand. The yard has been carried on by the subscriber for many years & is in the best repute of any yard in the county. Any person wishing to buy or rent the above described property, can see it by calling on the subscriber. Letters addressed to the subscriber will be attended to. Possession can be given immediately.

sep 22

SOLOMON BROWN.

# By authority of the State,

## A SCHEME OF A LOTTERY,

**T**O raise a sum of money for building  
a School-House in the village of  
Denton, in Caroline county.

1	prize of \$1000	1000
2	500	1000
5	100	500
10	50	500
50	20	1000
100	10	1000
500	5	2500
1267	3	3801

1935 Prizes—amounting to 11,301  
3065 Blanks

5000 Tickets at \$2 50 12,500

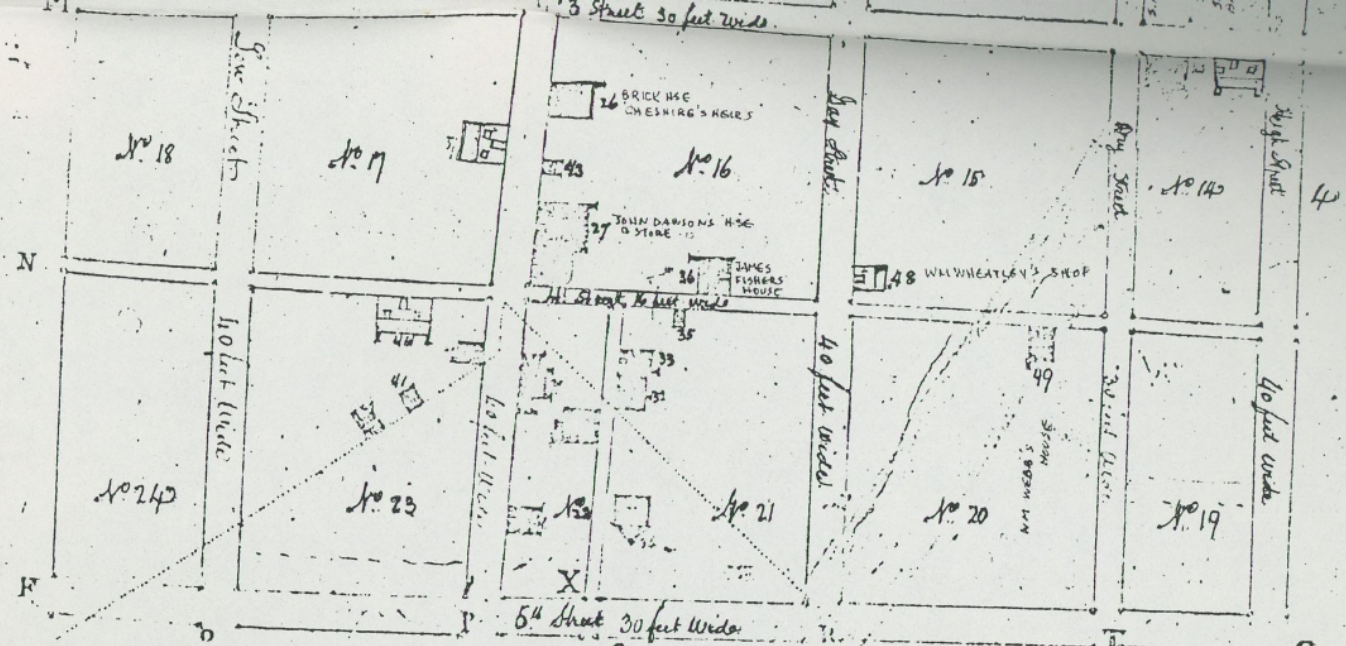
Sum to be raised \$1199

When the laudable intention of the above scheme is taken into view, to wit: the building a suitable house for the purposes of tuition, together with the flattering prospect it offers to any person disposed to contribute their aid to an object so interesting, a hope is entertained that it will receive a liberal support. The Prizes will be paid in sixty days after the drawing is completed without any deduction. Such prizes as are not demanded within twelve months thereafter will be considered as generous donations to the institution. Bond has been given to the state of Maryland by the managers for the faithful performance of their duty.

THOMAS RICHARDSON,  
SOLOMON BROWN,  
HENRY HELM,  
WILLIAM POTTER,  
WILLIAM HUGHLETT,  
GEORGE REID.

MANAGERS.





# MAP OF DENTON

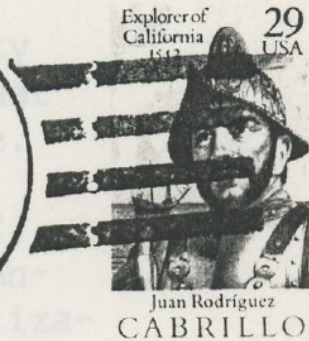
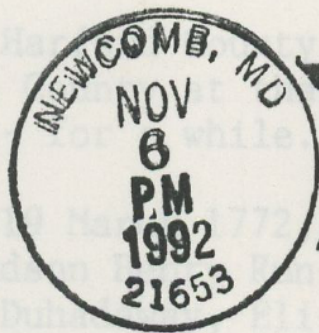
Robert Orrell, 26th May 1807  
 Mary Pauls

[THIS IS A XEROX COPY OF A [POOR] PHOTOSTAT COPY OF TR#1, ONE OF THE LAND RECORDS OF CAROLINE COUNTY]

Mrs. William T. Leonard  
112 St. Michaels Cottages  
St. Michaels, Maryland 21663  
14 Miles Lane #112

PAT GUIDA

Mrs. Jean L. Kelly  
Route 1 Box 401-A  
Greensboro, Md. 21639



Mrs. William T. Leonard  
200 East Chestnut Street  
PO Box 534  
St. Michaels, Maryland 21663



4 November 1992

Dear Jean:

I looked through some of my files and books for Solomon Brown and from what I have found, it is possible that he came from Delaware.

A "Solomon Brown" is listed in the 1790 census of Harford County but the man you are seeking was established in Caroline County at that time, so we can discount the Harford County connection - for a while.

John Brown of Kent County, Delaware, wrote a will 19 March 1772, which was probated 20 July 1774. His heirs were a grandson Henry Runnolds (Reynolds); daughters, Sarah Bowing (Bowen), Ann Duhadaway, Elizabeth and Christianny Brown. Sons, Caleb, John, SOLOMON and William, who was also named executor. Witnesses: Jacob Duhadaway, Thomas Benet, and John Ingram.

I note that in 1787 Solomon Brown leased a lot at Choptank Bridge and in that same year, married Ann Boon.

I found no other "Solomon Brown's" other than the two above. I think the one from Harford County might well be the same man who left a will in Baltimore County in 1813. I am going to Annapolis tomorrow and am going to read some Baltimore wills anyway, so will look this one up just to see what it says.

Knowing that Caroline County was formed from part of Dorchester, I checked Mowbray's books and the Dorchester land records from about 1760 onward; also Irma's marriage references; Maryland Inventories 1751 - 1777; the 1776 Maryland census; the 1778 census of Caroline and Queen Anne counties and Barnes' Marriage Records.

Do you know anyone who could do some research at Dover? I don't get over there very often - maybe once a year, so I can't offer any help except if it should happen that I got a chance to go there unexpectedly.

The name "Brown" appears in Kent County, Delaware, Probates all through the 18th century and I think it can be traced back from Solomon if he proves to be the man from Denton, in 1819.

Hope this helps.

*Bernice*

Has anyone read the Caroline County wills; maybe someone mentioned Solomon among the Brown wills.

Kent Co.

MURDERKILL HUNDRED  
Nov. 19, 1783

Elizabeth Anderson  
Sarah Anderson  
David Anderson  
John Anderson  
John Anderson, Jr.  
George Anderson  
Joseph Alford  
Charity Alford  
William Alliband  
John Armstrong  
Stephen Alston  
William Askins  
John Ayres  
William Auston  
Charles Allen  
Macabe Alford  
Aaron Alford  
Richard Bassett  
Nathan Bostick  
Benja. Braday  
Peter Brinkley  
Shadrick Bostick  
William Bostick  
William Broadway  
Ambrose Broadway

Edward Buckley  
Amel Buckley  
Jonathan Buckley  
William Bice  
John Brown (Voshall)  
William Brown  
John Brown (Neck)  
William Brown (mt)  
Isaac Brown  
Rachel Brown  
S/o/lomon Brown  
Aaron Brown  
Angelo Bennet  
Thomas Bennet  
James Bennett  
John Bennet  
Benedict Brice  
John Banning  
Richard Banning  
Phinchas Banning  
Rachel Bowers  
John Bowers  
Philip Barratt  
Andrew Barratt  
Samuel Barratt  
Widow Barratt

Sgt. Brown:

Father's will - <sup>area 1773</sup> direct

be be made an

apprentice + taught to  
" read, write, & cipher  
to the rule of three "

Will need to  
get copy from  
Delaware

CAROLINE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY: HIGHLIGHTS OF  
ACTIVITIES OF SOLOMON BROWN

January 3, 1989

1. Active in politics (1804 - 1818) including serving as Committee member of Democratic Republican Party
2. Commissioner of Town (1807)
3. Commissioner of Denton Bridge Company (1813)
4. Board of Trustees for the poor (1809)
5. Active in establishing first school in Denton (1807 - 1809)
6. Merchant in partnership with Thomas Culbreth (later a U.S. Congressman)
7. Justice of the Orphan's Court (1811 - 1812)

CAROLINE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CHRONOLOGY OF REFERENCES TO SOLOMON BROWN FROM VARIOUS SOURCES

January 3, 1989

- 1797 & 1798 Address "near Denton". (Wright, Volume 1, #202 and #225).
- 1804 Represents Great Choptank Hundred on committee of Democratic Republican Party. [Note: The Great Choptank Hundred was in the southwestern portion of Caroline County around Dover Bridge.] (Wright, Volume 1, #591)
- 1806 Owns land near Greensborough. (Wright, Volume 2, #36)
- 1807 Owns four houses as well as currying and tanner shops in Denton. (1807 map of Denton)
- 1807 One of three "village commissioners" to sign 1807 map of Denton.
- 1807 & 1808 Seeks person to take charge of school in Denton. (Wright, Volume 2, #120 and #126)
- 1809 "Treasurer of Board of Trustees" and "furnisher of the poor of Caroline County". Brown and Culbreth dispute charges of Anthony Ross regarding provisions for poor. [Note: The dispute included allegations regarding the sale of products to the poor by Brown, indicating that he was a merchant.] (Wright, Volume 2, #187, #188, #190 and #191)
- 1809 One of the managers of lottery to raise money for schoolhouse in Denton. (Wright, Volume 2, #220)
- 1810 Wife, Mrs. Hester Brown, dies in Denton. (Wright, Volume 2, #299)
- 1810 Described as "merchant" of Denton. (Wright, Volume 2, #299)

Appointed by Governor and Council as a Justice of the Orphan's Court in Caroline County. (Wright, Volume 2, #313)

Partnership of Brown and Thomas Culbreth is dissolved. [Note: Thomas Culbreth later served in U.S. Congress from 1816 to 1822.] (Wright, Volume 2, #337)

Reappointed Justice of Orphan's Court. (Wright, Volume 2, #434)

Serves as a Director of the Denton Bridge Company. (Horse, Volume 1, page 27)

Marries Mrs. Henrietta Smith, both of Denton. (Wright, Volume 3, #133)

His horse, Pompey, aged 34 years is dead. (Wright, Volume 3, #162)

Serves as guardian of Matthew Smith's heirs. Offers reward for runaway slave. (Wright, Volume 3, #169)

Purchases a lot in West Denton. (Horse, Volume 1, page 30)

His niece, Miss Frances Crown, dies in Denton after 12-day illness. (Wright, Volume 3, #242)

Member of Democratic Republican Committee. (Wright, Volume 3, #328)

Has tanyard to rent in Denton. (Wright, Volume 3, #331)

Dies Thursday prior to September 7, 1819 at his residence in Denton. (Wright, Volume 3, #399)

John Brown named executor of estate. (Wright, Volume 4, #119)

His son, John Brown weds Nanette Martin of Easton. (Wright, Volume 4, #175)

John Brown, Executor of Solomon Brown, offers reward for runaway negro woman with white child. (Wright, Volume 4, # )

## THE LIFE OF SOLOMON BROWN

### Early Life

- Probably born in Murderkill Hundred, Delaware, circa 1767.
- Father's will directs that he be "taught to read, wright (sic) and cipher to the Rule of Three and be put to a trade" (1772)
- Father dies leaving him an orphan (1774)
- Probably arrives in Greensboro with his brother John, a merchant and one of the first ten settlers of the town (1784)
- Takes 99-year lease of lot bordering Choptank in Greensboro (1787)
- Occupying leased store at Potter's Landing, a.k.a Williston (1794)

### Civic Activities in Denton

- Gave land to build ferry/boat wharf (1807)
- Sought first teacher for Town (1807-1808)
- Manager of lottery to raise funds to erect first school house (1809)
- Director of Bank of Caroline, first bank in county (1813)
- Director of Denton Bridge Company which erected first bridge across Choptank at Denton (1813)

### Public Service

- Denton Commissioner from circa 1807 to 1811, and 1814 to 1819.
- Treasurer for Trustees of the Poor (1808)
- Justice of the Orphan's Court (1802 - 1814)

### Activities of Denton Commissioners while Brown was a Member

- Laid out and cleared and graded many of original streets
- Obtained first survey and map of Denton (1807, Brown signed map)
- Built first public system of water wells along Market (1809)
- Drafted and passed first Town laws and ordinances (1809)
- Purchased first fire equipment (1809)
- Built public market house (1818, Brown on two-member committee)

### Business Activities

- Merchant, owned storehouse on North First Street, (partner with Thomas Culbreth, later first Congressman from Caroline).
- Owned two granaries
- Operated tannery and currying shop that made leather
- First "real estate developer"; e.g., built or owned 14 of 45 dwellings in Town at time of his death in 1819 ( 20% of tax base of Town).