

Gabriel Jones, the King's Attorney



Bogoto

Gabriel Jones of Wales came to Virginia in 1720 but returned to England to study the law. Following his admission to the bar and the death of his mother in 1745, Jones was persuaded by either Thomas Fairfax, 6th Lord Fairfax of Cameron, the landowner of the Northern Neck Proprietary, or his relative Hugh Mercer to return to Virginia.

On March 1, 1747, he acquired a tract of land along Opequon Creek near present-day Kernstown in 1747 and became the private secretary to Lord Fairfax. During April of 1746 he was appointed to serve as the King's attorney as a young man 22 years of age, duty which also included Augusta County. He was a member of the House of Burgesses of Virginia in 1748, and he was subsequently re-elected to his seat during the 1749 Legislative session.

Jones was again elected to represent Frederick County in the House of

Burgesses in 1752, but resigned the following to serve as the coroner of Fairfax County. In 1753, Jones relocated from Kernstown in Frederick County to his estate "Bogota" in Augusta County (present-day Rockingham County near Port Republic.