Ed Smith

Attached are pics that Kathy Twining Bozman took a couple of years ago of the ancient Thornton graves.
She has asked her uncle & aunt if we can visit but it's likely they will not agree to do so. Apparently they rarely, if ever, allow anyone to see the old gravestones.
Here is some of the info that Kathy sent to me.

----- Forwarded Message -----
To: fredericklhoward@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, March 24, 2016 5:32 PM
Subject: Fwd: Gravestones at Thornton Farm

The big slab is Alexander Browne, died 1712. That is the Browne Coat of Arms carved in the top. His father Col. David Browne was born in Glasgow, Scotland, he shows up in Somerset County about 1670. He married William Thorne's widow Winifred in 1672. William Thorne got the original land grant for Thornton 600 acres about 1660, not sure if that date is correct. Thorne died young maybe from a clash with the local Native Americans. He had no children.
Col. David Browne is a very interesting fellow and left his mark on the county. He dies shortly after his wife in 1697. He leaves his estate to John Browne and Alexander Browne. Maybe a brother and/or son. He also created the first scholarship for a universary. His former school, Glasgow Universary, so his kin could be educated. Another interesting thing about his will. He left money and instruction for his house servant and her child to be taught to read. Pretty amazing considering it was 1697. Makes you wonder if there was a connection??
Capt. John Blaney is the Massachusetts carved headstone, there is also a matching footstone, no writing just the same cool drawings. It reads. Here lies buried The body of Capt. John Blaney Who was born in Charlestown in New England. Aged 31 years and 2 days. Who deccafed January 5th 1715-16. It is really hard to read and some of the stone has flaked away. But I found a picture of the headstone in a book printed in 1924 called "The Chesapeake Bay Country" by Swepson Earle. There is no real connection with him and Thornton other than he was a fellow Scotsman to Col. Browne. He was a ship captain, maybe he just took ill and died here during his route. Anyway the stone is from Mass and there were about 3 different stone carvers working in Charleston that were doing this kind of work. His family must of had money to have a stone carved and moved here. Interesting??
The other stone with writing is Caroline Woolford daughter of John and Ellen Woolford died Sept 12, ? Aged 2 months and 12 days. I am guessing at some of that. Alexander Browne's daughter inherits Thornton and marries into the Woolford family, they owned it for about a century. There are other Woolford graves in the little cemetery, some with just initials and one for Ellen Gilliss Woolford. I don't have pictures for them. Some are broken and buried. It is a shame that it hasn't been preserved.
Well this is probably way more information that you bargined for. Some day I would love to do more digging on these people who have owned this farm. There is so much

information out there just need the time to search.
Let me know if you have any questions.
Floyd still wants to come and visit the graves of his Bozman relatives. Maybe one evening we could do it, since the days are getting longer?
Take care,
Kathy

Thanks Freddy and Kathy