

8 Moon Shell Road  
Hilton Head Island, SC 29928  
18 Sep 1986

Dear Mrs. Woodard,

Thank you for your letter of the 15th inst.; I return herewith your postal card since it is impossible for me to answer your letter thereon. I am happy that you contacted Larry Rowland and sorry that he never completed his Parmenter genealogy. Certainly the Parmenters are important in understanding and replying to your question:

1766: James Cook said 25 families on HHI island.

1768: Estate of Benjamin Green (he had married Elizabeth Fripp) was appraised by Dr. Edmund Ellis (who had bought Fish Hall Plantation from John Barnwell, Jr. in 1760), Thomas Bull, BENJAMIN PARMENTER, ELIZABETH PARMENTER and Samuel Green (brother of Benjamin; Samuel bought Fish Hall from Dr. Edmund Ellis).

1770: Elizabeth Green, daughter of deceased Benjamin Green, married Jeremiah Sayre; they leased and planted lands on HHI not far from (but not actually on Scull - now Skull - Creek).

1770 (24 Feb.) Samuel Green of Fish Hall, planter, made his will, naming his wife Cathren and his deceased wife Sarah (Norton, daughter of planter Jonathan and Mary Ann (Chaplin) Norton of St. Helena Island.) "Further my desire is that MRS. MARTHA PARMENTER shall have the care of Educating and Bringing up of my Two Daughters SARAH and SUSANNAH till they come of age or till the day of their marriage. But if MARTHA PARMENTER should die or be Render'd Incapable of taking the charge of bringing up my Daughters Sarah and Susannah, then my desire is that Mrs. Elizabeth Bell of St. Helena Island shall have the care of Educating and Bringing up of my said Daughters, and my will is that there be a sufficient Sum paid yearly out of my Estate by my Executors for the Maintenance of the said Children. And my desire is that MR. BENJAMIN PARMENTER JUNR. shall have the Educating and Bringing up of my Son Samuel till he is of age. I do constitute my beloved and Trusty friends Timothy Campbell, Jonathan Thomas, BENJAMIN PARMENTER and William Norton (brother of his deceased wife) Executors of this my last will and Testament."

Witnesses: JOSEPH PARMENTER, John Gray, Elizabeth Fendin.

1772 (23 Dec) BENJAMIN PARMENTER died on HHI. Was he husband of Elizabeth of 1768 or of Martha of 1770? I don't know. [Lavinia's husband]

1774 (16 June) Widow SARAH Parmenter married Lewis Bona; daughter Ann Agnes was born Jan. 1776.

1783 Dr. George Mosse had holdings of Landgrave Bayley's heirs surveyed and divided into 40 Lots of land; he was my gr<sub>3</sub>-grandfather; his survey shows:

Lot.3 leased by MRS. MARTHA PARMENTER, 286 acres

Lot.4 leased partly by MRS. MARTHA PARMENTER and partly by LEWIS BONA, total 286 acres

(These two Lots front the Atlantic and constitute what was later called Folly Field Plantation, owned by James Davant whose 1803 will left it to his daughter Rebecca who c.1813 married Rev. Philip Mathews, Rector of St. Luke's Parish; two of their children married Lawtons, one of whom eventually became my step-greatgrandmother, Mrs. Edward Harden Peeples).

Lot.16 leased by DOROTHY PARMENTER and partly by Jeremiah Sayre 257 acres total; this apparently was later bought by Captain Jack Stoney and was part of Otterburn Plantation on west side of Broad Creek.

No other Parmenter and no Baldwin was mentioned by Dr. Mosse; many of his Lot lines are still in place today!

1790 Census: Isaac Baldwin (1752-1826) was married, planting on HHI with 21 slaves; his wife: MARTHA PARMENTER (1771-1826) already had a daughter: SARAH Baldwin (1789-1806 at age 17 yrs); daughter MARY would arrive 1793, be buried in Zion 1851 as was her husband James Kirk (1780-1851).

1790 Census: George Barksdale was planting in Christ Church Parish, Charleston Dist. with 82 slaves; ESTHER BALDWIN was planting in the same Parish with 49 slaves. George Barksdale (1761-Dec. 1798) married after 1790

Anñ Agnes Bona (Jan.1776-June 1798; she was ONLY 14 in 1790); their son: Thomas Henry Barksdale (1795-1832) or his father George Barksdale bought the 290 acres Isaac Baldwin had acquired. But these 290 acres apparently did not adjoin THB's 2600-acre Scull Creek Plantation (formerly lands held by Ladson-Conyers-Deherty-Talbird-Fyler-Leecraft) all which lay along Scull Creek. But these 290 acres were certainly not in the Folly Field-Sand Hill-Marshlands area at the head of Broad Creek since James Davant owned all that area in 1803. So it appears that 290-acre Baldwin was inland from both Scull Creek Plantation (specifically the 1600 acres known from 1832 as Seabrook Plantation) and inland from Fish Hall Plantation. This would place Baldwin in the area of the present hospital and airport. BUT, the 1832 Estate Sale of Thomas Henry Barksdale handled by his widow's uncle, Col. Alexander J. Lawton, would certainly show to whom it was sold. This information IS in The Lawton Papers in the South Caroliniana Library, University of S.C., Columbia.

In trying to chart the Parmenter data it would appear that Benjamin & Elizabeth (1768 estate appraisers) were parents of Benj., Jr. But then WHO was the Martha (Mrs. Martha Parmenter) who was leasing so much land in 1783, adjoining Lewis Bona? One would think, as you did, that the WIDOW SARAH Parmenter who married 1774 Lewis Bona was widow of Benjamin, Jr. who died 1772. Yet Samuel Green's 1767 will seems to indicate that Benjamin Jr.'s wife was Martha. And certainly Lots 3 & 4 were in 1783 leased by MRS. MARTHA Parmenter. I am unable to reconcile the situation.

I have always felt sad about Thomas Henry Barksdale, born 1795, with his mother dying in June 1798 and his father dying in Dec 1798. The fact that a letter addressed to Isaac Baldwin at Spring Island in 1798 remained unclaimed in Savannah is interesting. Did Isaac take young Thomas Henry to his relatives at Spring Is. or did Isaac & Martha raise him? Then Martha Sarah Stoney turned out to be such an uncongenial wife to him, openly calling him "worldly" because he was a successful, sophisticated, well-dressed Episcopalian who refused to conform to her Baptist ways (as did her only brother, Dr. George Mosse Stoney (1795-1854) who likewise refused her Baptist ideas; at least Dr. Stoney was THB's good friend, one small comfort. Yet it was THB who died young in 1832 while Martha Sarah luxuriated until 1880 at Rose Lawn Plantation in St. Peter's Parish.

One thing is clear: no Baldwin or Parmenter owned any HHI land in 1783, that is, until after the Revolution. How frustrating it is that we lost our land records in 1865 and again in 1883! Thank heaven we have been able to reconstruct as much as we have, though.

Wish I could help you more. Betsy Caldwell called me and wanted many questions answered. Just keep looking and studying. And good luck!

With every good wish I have the honor to remain

Faithfully,

Robert +

Rev. Dr. Robert E. H. Peeples

PS. We are struggling to build The Environmental and Historical Museum of Hilton Head Island and will eventually be able to accept local family history and artifacts for safe keeping.

St. Andrews

James Parmenter Schoolmaster at Majors  
Fullers, burined Sept. 15. 1740.

Supts Colles Book

April 8, 1769

Citations to

Benjamin Parmenter  
+ Sarah Parmenter } to adm<sup>r</sup>  
as next kin } on esr

Jonathan Thomas  
late of St. Helena's  
Parish deceased