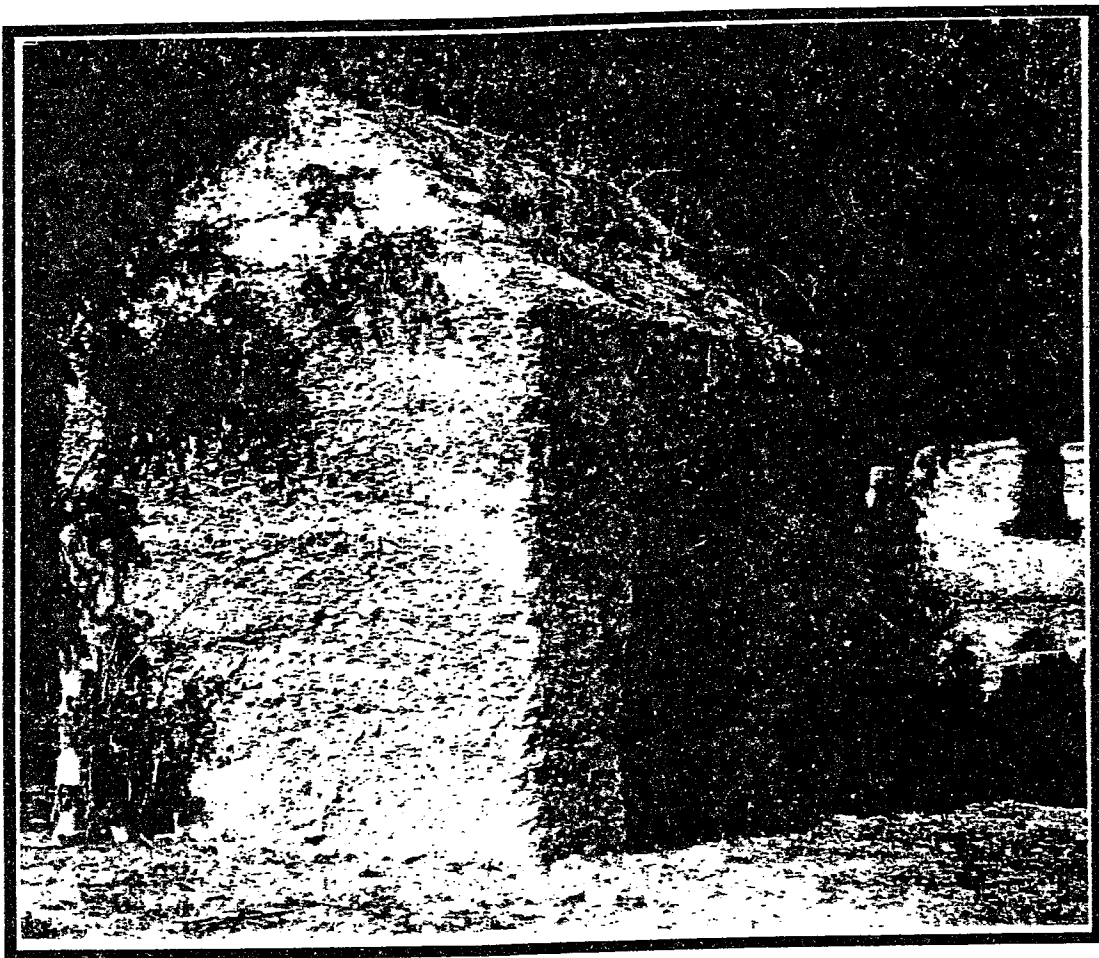


THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF DATAW ISLAND

Section 1 of 4

PREPARED FOR ALCOA SOUTH CAROLINA, INC.



BROCKINGTON AND ASSOCIATES, INC.

ATLANTA CHARLESTON

1993

The Historical Development of Dataw Island

Note: The complete original document comprises nearly 600 pages of print. It is divided into the following four sections for manageability.

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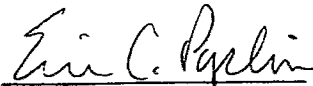
**THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF
DATAW ISLAND**

**ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS
AT THE SAMS PLANTATION COMPLEX**

Prepared for

ALCOA SOUTH CAROLINA, INC.
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FOREWORD

This report documents architectural and archaeological data recovery that has been conducted at five historic archaeological sites on Dataw Island, Beaufort County, South Carolina. The investigations reported herein were undertaken over a 10 year period; initial investigations commenced in 1983. The bulk of the archaeological field work was completed by Dr. Larry Lepionka in a mammoth episode of excavation at four of the five sites in question. The field episodes involved crews of varying individuals, including numerous volunteers, and were spread over seven years of actual time. Thus, there exists some variation in the approaches undertaken at different times and the levels of information available for different sites or different portions of single sites depending upon when the excavations occurred and who participated in them. This is not intended as a critical statement; rather, it serves to highlight some of the variation in data that is available with regard to each site or each artifact collection recovered from these sites. These variations will be apparent in the discussions below. Thus, the analysis of recovered information and the presentation of these data represent the focus of this report rather than extensive discussions of methodologies or approaches to data recovery. The sites in question represent valuable components of the historical archaeological record and deserve the attention directed to them during the lengthy field sessions and during the subsequent analyses and documentation presented herein.

Dr. Lepionka's assistance and cooperation permitted the completion of this report and the presentation of the voluminous data recovered from the sites in question. He graciously provided access to his field notes, artifact catalogs, etc., permitting the summaries of these investigations presented below. He also permitted the use of his occupational history of Dataw Island to provide the historic framework for the architectural and archaeological investigations described below.

As noted above, numerous individuals assisted in the preparation of this report. The senior authors are responsible for the completion of Chapters I, IV, XI-XIII (Poplin) and Chapters VII-X (Brooker). The contribution of the other authors include:

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Ralph Bailey | Compilation of the Chapter III and editing of the report. |
| Elsie Eubanks | Descriptions of and Summaries of Results from 38BU496 (Chapter V) and 38BU515 (Chapter VI); Field Director for data recovery at 38BU515. |
| David Jones | Preparation of Chapter II and Descriptions of and Summaries of Results from 38BU507 and 38BU565 (Chapter V). |
| Linda Kennedy | Analysis of faunal remains and preparation of relevant summaries of faunal assemblages recovered from 38BU581, 38BU565, and 38BU515. |

Larry Lepionka **Preparation of History of Dataw Island (Chapter II);
Principal Investigator for field investigations at 38BU496,
38BU507, 38BU565, and 38BU581.**

Carol Poplin **Directed recataloging of recovered artifacts and Analysis
of Ceramic Artifacts recovered from all sites.**

Additional staff at Brockington and Associates, Inc. assisted in the completion of the fieldwork, the laboratory processing and analyses of recovered information, and the assimilation and production of the report; their efforts are greatly appreciated. The efforts of all those who assisted in the field investigations under the direction of Dr. Lepionka also deserve acknowledgement. All of these many individuals provided the basic information from which this report has been prepared.

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2 August 1993**

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This report documents the results of archaeological and architectural data recovery conducted at five historic sites on Dataw Island, Beaufort County, South Carolina. These investigations included archaeological excavations at 38BU496, 38BU507, 38BU515, 38BU565, and 38BU581 and architectural investigations at 38BU581. These investigations were sponsored by ALCOA South Carolina, Inc., to comply with the existing policies and regulations of the South Carolina Coastal Council, the US Army Corps of Engineers, and other state and federal agencies that monitor development in the Coastal Zone of South Carolina.

The five archaeological sites investigated during this project include elements of two nineteenth century plantations on Dataw Island. Sites 38BU496, 38BU507, 38BU565, and 38BU581 were associated with the Berners Barnwell (B.B.) Sams Plantation on the southern half of the island; 38BU515 was a part of the Lewis Reeves (L.R.) Sams Plantation located on the northern half of the island. The B.B. Sams Plantation sites include the main house complex (38BU581) and the remains of three slave settlements (38BU496, 38BU507, and 38BU565). The L.R. Sams Plantation site is the remains of a slave settlement. The principal occupations of these sites appear to date from the early-middle nineteenth century (ca. 1825) until the early twentieth century (ca. 1890s-1910s).

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Dataw Island, including Oak and Bobb Islands, is located in Beaufort County, approximately two miles east of the Town of Beaufort. The island is bordered to the west and north by the Morgan River; Jenkins Creek separates Dataw from St. Helena Island to the south and east. Figure 1 displays the general setting of Dataw Island. Dataw Island was purchased by ALCOA South Carolina, Inc. in 1983. Activities related to the development of the island as a residential and recreational resort community have proceeded since that date. An archaeological reconnaissance survey of the island was conducted in 1982 by Carolina Archaeological Services, Inc. This survey (Drucker 1982) resulted in the identification of 100 cultural resources on Dataw Island. These resources included 98 archaeological sites and two cemeteries; eight of the archaeological sites contained tabby architectural remains of former structures (Drucker 1982:1-2). Three of the identified sites (38BU514, 38BU581, and 38BU640) were recommended eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP); 85 sites were recommended potentially eligible for the NRHP. Two cemeteries (38BU508 and 38BU534) were recommended for preservation in place. Additionally, stabilization of the tabby ruins in 38BU514 and 38BU581 was recommended.

An intensive survey to refine the site boundaries and assess these sites was initiated in 1983. Lepionka (1988:ii) redefined 16 of the reported sites, incorporating artifact scatters or features in other resources. No evidence of six additional sites reported in 1982 could

be relocated. Thus, Dataw Island was determined to possess 78 cultural resources, including 76 archaeological sites and two historic cemeteries. Lepionka (1988) identified 19 of the archaeological sites as eligible for the NRHP. These sites are listed in Table 1.

Development activities were begun on Dataw Island in 1983. Archaeological data recovery investigations were initiated at a number of the NRHP eligible sites by Lepionka as particular sites were threatened. These investigations continued through 1987. However, most of the excavations were completed in 1983 and 1984.

Summarized in this report document are data recovery investigations at five of the NRHP eligible sites on Dataw Island. All represent historic occupations of the island, although prehistoric components were present at all sites as well. The sites described in this report include:

- 38BU496 slave residence associated with the B.B. Sams Plantation (38BU581).
- 38BU507 slave village associated with the B.B. Sams Plantation (38BU581).
- 38BU515 slave village associated with the nineteenth century L.R. Sams Plantation (main house located at 38BU514).
- 38BU565 slave village associated with the B.B. Sams Plantation (38BU581).
- 38BU581 the B.B. Sams Plantation main house complex.

Figure 2 displays the locations of these sites and 38BU514 (L.R. Sams Plantation main house) on Dataw Island.

Archaeological investigations were conducted at all five sites. Architectural investigations focused on the B.B. Sams Plantation main house at 38BU581. Stabilization of the tabby ruins at this site has been carried out to date, with additional activities planned as necessary to preserve the remains of the former plantation house and its associated outbuildings. Excavations at 38BU496, 38BU507, 38BU565, and 38BU581 were directed by Dr. Larry Lepionka; excavations at 38BU515 were conducted by Ms. Elsie Eubanks under the direction of Dr. Eric Poplin. Dates of the investigations at each site are:

- 38BU496 June, October 1984.
- 38BU507 March-April 1983; May 1984.
- 38BU515 December 1992-January 1993.
- 38BU565 July 1983.
- 38BU581 October-December 1983; June-August, October 1984; March 1985; February 1987.

Specific information concerning the scope of the investigations at each site is presented in Chapters IV-VI.

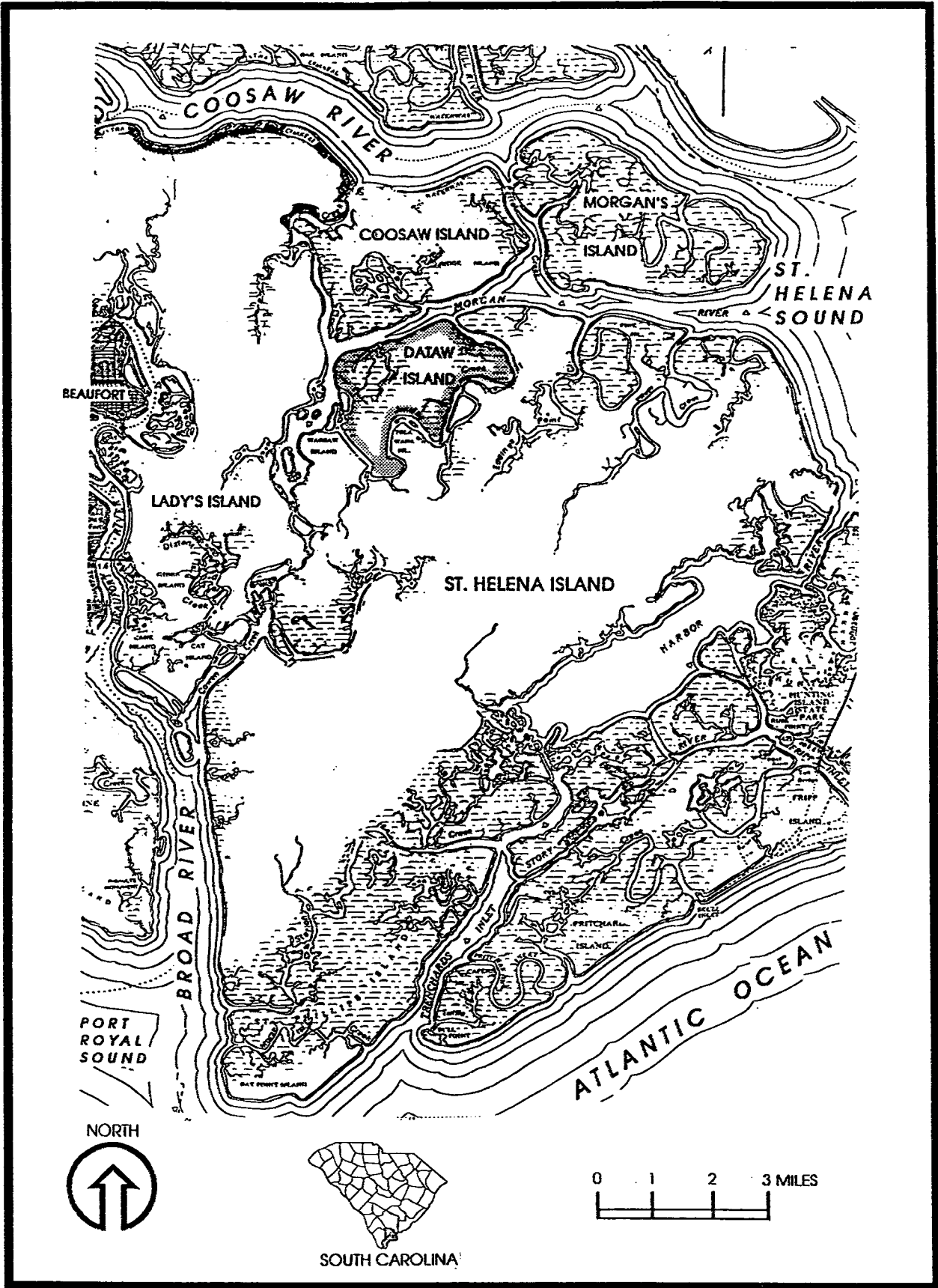


Figure 1. The Location of Dataw Island.

Table 1. NRHP Eligible Sites Identified on Dataw Island.

| <u>SITE</u> | <u>DESCRIPTION</u> |
|-------------|---|
| 38BU491 | Late Woodland shell midden |
| 38BU492 | Late Archaic ceramic/shell scatter |
| 38BU493 | 19th/20th century dump/shell midden |
| 38BU494 | Late Woodland shell midden |
| 38BU496 | Slave residence (associated with 38BU581) |
| 38BU497 | Middle Woodland ceramic/shell scatter |
| 38BU505/575 | Late Archaic-Late Woodland shell midden/scatters |
| 38BU507 | Slave settlement (associated 38BU581), Late Archaic-Mississippian scatter |
| 38BU513 | Late Archaic- Mississippian scatter |
| 38BU514 | L.R. Sams Plantation main house complex |
| 38BU515 | Slave settlement (associated with 38BU514) |
| 38BU519 | Middle Woodland shell midden |
| 38BU524 | Late 19th century shell midden |
| 38BU536 | Late Woodland shell scatters |
| 38BU540 | Late Archaic-Middle Woodland shell midden |
| 38BU565 | Slave settlement (associated with 38BU581) |
| 38BU581 | B.B. Sams Plantation main house complex |
| 38BU638 | 1930s seawall |
| 38BU640 | 19th century marsh cotton dike system |
| 38BU508* | African-American cemetery (*not eligible but preserved in place) |
| 38BU534* | African-American cemetery (*not eligible but preserved in place) |

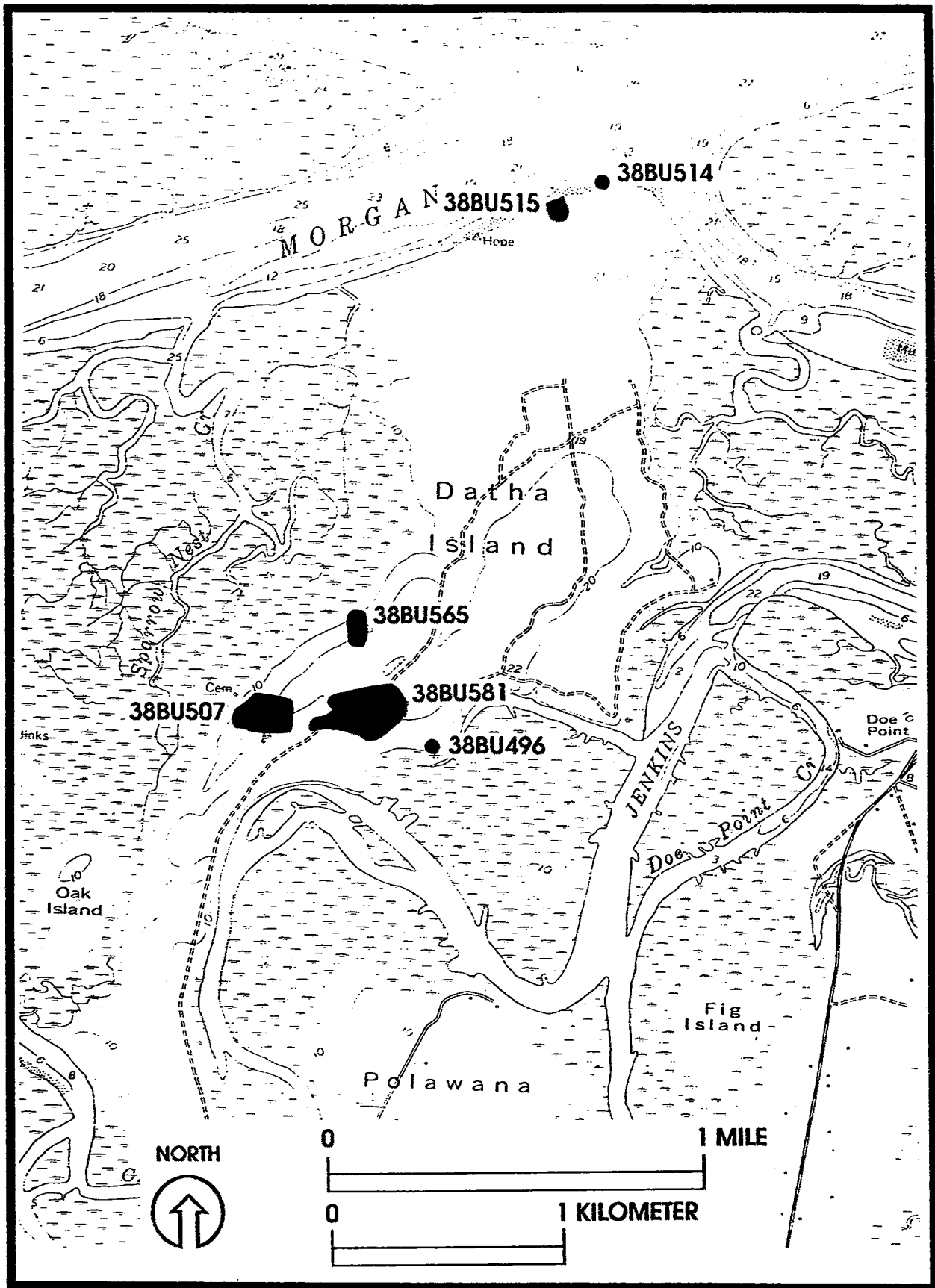


Figure 2. The Locations of the Investigated Sites on Datha Island and Site 38BU514 Discussed in Chapter III.

PROJECT GOALS

These investigations provide an opportunity to describe the historic period occupations associated with plantations on the Sea Islands in Beaufort County. Similar investigations have been conducted, and/or are ongoing, on Hilton Head, Spring Island, Daufuskie Island, and neighboring portions of the mainland. All of these investigations serve to characterize how the Sea Islands were utilized during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and how their owners and residents lived. In addition, the scope and nature of the interactions of the Island residents with the towns and settlements that developed on the mainland also have been explored. The Dataw Island sites offer a unique opportunity to examine antebellum Sea Island occupations since it was inhabited primarily by the Sams family throughout most of the historic past. Initial discussions focus on the descriptions of each site and its interpretation within the settlement system that operated on Dataw Island. Particular attention is directed to comparisons between activities and artifacts associated with the main house complex at 38BU581 and its outlying associated slave settlements (38BU496, 38BU507, and 38BU565). Comparisons also are undertaken between the B.B. Sams Plantation complex (38BU581 and the other three sites) and the later northern plantation of Lewis Reeve Sams as represented by 38BU515. Note that only a small portion remains of this former slave settlement associated with the northern Sams Plantation. Apparently, most of this plantation complex was destroyed during the large hurricane of 1893 (Lepionka 1988:176). The remains of the main house (38BU514) today are present in the tidal marshes on the north shore of the island, north and east of 38BU515. Site 38BU515 represents the southernmost structure(s) of a slave/tenant settlement that was associated with the former main house.

A major discussion of the use of Dataw Island will focus on the use of tabby as a construction medium. A thorough review of the use of this construction material is presented with the detailed descriptions of the structural remains at the Dataw Island sites. Comparison to nearby sites with similar construction provides a detailed characterization of this approach to house construction in the lower Sea Islands of South Carolina.

Once a characterization of the historic use of Dataw Island is complete, comparisons to sites on neighboring islands and on the mainland are made to examine the similarities and differences in the dates, function, and interpreted socioeconomic status of these assemblages. This provides additional information for the regional historic database, providing subsequent researchers greater opportunities for refining interpretations of the role of specific sites in the historical development of the region.

Specific research issues were developed which the information recovered from the sites at Dataw Island could address. These issues were employed to guide the specific artifact analyses that are discussed in Chapters IV-VI, XI, and XII. Most of these issues employ the ceramic assemblages recovered from each site. This is due primarily to the preponderance of these kinds of artifacts in the recovered collections and to the loss of provenience for some of the other classes of artifacts, namely metal and glass. In addition, much of the glass recovered from 38BU581 had been burned and distorted; limiting the identification of vessel types, vessel styles, colors, or manufacturing techniques from

individual sherds. The specific research issues are outlined below; specific analyses that were employed to address these issues also are summarized.

Research issues concerning the investigated sites include:

The main house at 38BU581 possesses six principal components or rooms. These include the Middle House (and porch), East Wing, West Wing, South-East Porch, South-West Porch, and Link. What is the age of the artifacts recovered from each of the components of the main house at 38BU581? Do the dates of occupation suggested by these artifacts support or contradict the interpretations of construction history indicated in the architectural data?

Mean Ceramic Dates, Occupation Ranges, and Terminus post/ante quem are calculated for all components of the main house. Comparisons between these dates are undertaken in an effort to identify the history of occupation (and assumed construction) of the house and its components.

Are specific episodes of occupation in the main house at 38BU581 suggested by the kinds of artifacts recovered from each component?

At least three episodes of occupation may exist in the main house. The frequencies, as well as the diversity, of the artifacts associated with each episode may indicate which portions of the main house were occupied at particular times.

What is the function of each component of the main house at 38BU581 as reflected in the artifacts recovered? Do these functions compare with those indicated by the oral history of the 38BU581 structure complex? Does the occupation history suggest changing roles through time for the various main house components?

The kinds and frequencies of artifacts associated with each component of the main house are compared using relative frequency distributions and artifact densities. Possible changes in component function are documented through changing patterns of refuse disposal as reflected in the variation of the kinds of artifacts associated with particular periods of occupation.

What are the similarities/differences in the artifact assemblages associated with the attached slave residences and the main house at 38BU581? With the nearby outbuildings? With the attached kitchens?

Comparisons in interpreted socioeconomic status should reflect the role of the main house and the attached slave residences in social system of the former plantation. Further, one would expect a greater variety of activities to have occurred in the slave residences than the main house (e.g., food preparation, food storage, tool maintenance, etc.). Comparisons between the variety of artifacts of particular types should provide an indication of these increased activities. The kitchens also

should display a more specific set of activities than the slave residences. However, if the kitchens also served the attached slave residences, the numbers of activities may be more similar to those reflected in the main house.

Do the artifact assemblages recovered from the slave residences attached to the main house suggest a higher status for their former occupants than artifact assemblages recovered from the nearby slave settlements (38BU496, 38BU507, and 38BU565)? Do the slave residences in the outlying settlements possess a greater diversity in artifact types than those attached to the main house at 38BU581?

Presumably, there was some difference between the slaves that resided in the residences attached to the main house and those that lived in the outlying settlements. These differences may be reflected in the socioeconomic status interpreted from the kinds of ceramics associated with each residence. This difference also may be reflected in the kinds and diversity of activities that occur within each residence. As noted above, food preparation and storage may not have occurred with the same frequency in the main house residences as in the outlying settlements. Thus, different kinds of vessels or different suites of artifacts may be present that reflect these differing uses.

Are there similarities between the artifact assemblages associated with L.R. Sams plantation slave residence at 38BU515 and the slave residences associated with the B.B. Sams Plantation?

The northern plantation apparently was developed and constructed after the island was subdivided among the sons of Lewis Reeve Sams. One could expect some differences in the artifact assemblages associated with each site. Presumably, both plantations continued to provide their owners with incomes comparable to their father's. If so, the socioeconomic status reflected in the artifacts from each site should be similar. Differences in these indicators may reflect differences in the success of the plantations, differentiated access to materials associated with the older family home, or differences in the taste of the owners.

Is evidence of the "creolization" of African American lifeways present in the artifact assemblages associated with the Dataw Island slave settlements? Does this "creolization" continue into the late nineteenth century tenant occupation of the slave residences?

Ferguson (1992:xli-xv) discusses how the African American culture of the slaves of the Southern plantations developed and changed as these forced immigrants to the New World interacted with their owners and managers and European American material culture. Most of the Dataw slave settlements appear to date to the nineteenth century, to a

period following the importation of Africans to the New World. Thus, slave occupations on Dataw are likely to reflect a more "creolized" manifestation of the African American subculture than would be expected in earlier eighteenth century slave settlements. Following Otto (1984:61-69), the kinds of vessels associated with the main house and the slave residences are compared to determine whether differences in the frequencies of hollowwares and flatwares are evident. The use of hollowwares by African Americans is interpreted to reflect West African foodways rather than the acquisition and distribution of ceramic vessels by the plantation owner. Comparisons of eighteenth and early nineteenth century vessel types with late nineteenth century vessels also are undertaken within the slave sites to determine whether the later tenant occupations retain a West African use of hollowwares or whether they have adapted the European/American use of flatwares for food consumption.

How are the Sams Plantation sites similar to those investigated on nearby Sea Islands? How does the socioeconomic standing of the Sams family compare to other plantation sites in the region? Are there differences in the artifact assemblages associated with the slave occupations between the Sea Island plantations and mainland plantations?

Comparisons between the kinds and frequencies of artifacts recovered from sites on Dataw Island and from nearby sites provide these assessments. Slave assemblages on the Sea Islands often lack particular classes/types of artifacts (e.g., Colonoware) usually associated with slave sites in the Low Country of South Carolina. Comparisons between the kinds and frequencies of artifacts associated with these occupations may help to characterize how these occupations were different or similar.

ORGANIZATION OF THE REPORT

Chapter II of the report presents a brief summary of the natural setting of Dataw Island. Chapter III summarizes the historic background of the region and Dataw Island, as reconstructed from deed records and personal archives of the former owners; the history of landownership summarized in a chain-of-title concludes Chapter III.

Chapter IV presents a description of the B.B. Sams Plantation main house complex (38BU581), the scope of archaeological investigations conducted there, and the results of these investigations. Comparisons to other sites in the region are provided in order to characterize B.B. Sams socioeconomic standing. Artifact data are employed as well in an effort to document the history of the development of 38BU581. Similarly, archaeological

activities at 38BU496, 38BU507, and 38BU565 (the slave residences associated with 38BU581) are summarized in Chapter V. Comparison to the slave residences at 38BU581 and other slave sites in the region are employed to discuss the lifeways of these African American residents of Dataw Island. Chapter VI summarizes the archaeological activities that occurred at 38BU515, the L.R. Sams Plantation slave residence. Comparisons to the B.B. Sams Plantation are presented. Discussion of the socioeconomic relationships between the B.B. and L.R. Sams Plantations on Dataw Island concludes Chapter VI.

Chapters VII-X present the results of the architectural analyses at 38BU581. Following a brief introduction (Chapter VII), Chapter VIII provides a description of the tabby ruins at 38BU581 that constitute the main house. Comparisons to similar structures in the region also are included. Chapter IX describes the architectural components of the 12 ancillary structures associated with the main house at 38BU581. Chapter X presents a description of the history of tabby construction in the region.

Chapter XI provides a summary of the research conducted at the four historic sites on Dataw Island. Artifact inventories for each site, detailed faunal inventories for 38BU515, 38BU565, and 38BU581, Mean Ceramic Date calculations, and Minimum Vessel inventories are include as Appendices I, II, III, and IV, respectively.

BACKGROUND



CHAPTER II

NATURAL SETTING

Dataw Island comprises 866 acres of land located approximately six miles east of Beaufort, South Carolina. The island is bounded by the Morgan River and Jenkins Creek (see Figures 1 and 2). The Morgan River and Jenkins Creek converge at the Warsaw Flats to the west of Dataw Island. Jenkins Creek flows to the south of Dataw Island, turns north along the eastern boundary of the island and converges again with the Morgan River. Sites 38BU496, 38BU507, 38BU565, and 38BU581 are located in the central portion of Dataw Island. Site 38BU515 is located along the northern edge of the island.

Dataw Island is one of the Sea Islands of the South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida coast. This portion of the east coast, referred to as the Sea Island Section (Garrett 1983), experiences tides which range from four to eight feet. Unlike the Embayed Section to the north, the Sea Island Section contains a series of small islands or necks composed of either Pleistocene or Holocene sediments. The larger of these islands exhibit a maximum elevation of 15 to 20 feet above the high tide line and frequently support maritime forests, fresh water ponds, and lakes. While these chains of small islands are not considered barrier islands *per se* (Adey and Burke 1976), they have served to reduce wave stress to the mainland. This has resulted in the establishment of broad salt marshes, tidal flats, and meandering creeks on the landward side of the islands.

CLIMATE

The climate of Dataw Island benefits from its proximity to the Atlantic Ocean. The following summary is drawn from Stuck (1980). Beaufort County lies in the southernmost portion of South Carolina, and has the mildest climate in the state. The climate is subtropical, with long hot summers followed by short mild winters. Precipitation is abundant and is well distributed throughout the year. The abundant supply of moist, warm, relatively unstable air produces frequent scattered showers and thunderstorms.

Average annual rainfall in Beaufort County is approximately 49 inches (1.2 meters). The low monthly average occurs in November (1.6 inches/4 cm), and the high monthly average occurs in July (7.4 inches/19 cm). The average annual temperature is 65.6° F. January is the coldest month with an average of 49.9° F, and July is the hottest with an average of 80.5° F. Beaufort County averages 249 frost free days per year. The first freezing temperatures tend to occur in November.

The tropical storm season runs from July through October. Hurricanes are somewhat rare for the area, but tropical storms with winds up to 50 miles per hour occur on an average of every two to three years. Tornado season runs from March through October, but April and May are the months of greatest tornado hazard. Many tornados reported are actually waterspouts which do not come ashore.

VEGETATION

Vegetation on Dataw Island can be divided into three major zones. These zones are marshlands, shrub thicket, and upland forests. The entire island is surrounded by marshlands, which include tidal flats, and creeks. The shrub thickets serve as a transitional zone between the marshes and the uplands.

The marshes of Dataw Island are salt water and brackish water marshes. No fresh water marshes are present on the island. The salt water marshes surround the upland portions of the island and occupy the adjacent tidal flats. These are the better developed marshes associated with the island. The salt marsh can be further divided into high and low marsh. The low marsh lies between the high and low tide line. The low marsh consists almost entirely of smooth cordgrass. The low marshlands make up the majority of marsh around Dataw Island (Clonts 1983).

The high marsh occupies the areas typically covered by water for less than one hour per day and exhibits a lower salt concentration than the low marsh. Marsh elder, groundsel, and saltmeadow cordgrass dominate the high marsh. Other species include glasswort, smooth cordgrass, sea oxeye, sea lavender, and salt grass (Clonts 1983). Portions of the high marsh were impounded during the nineteenth century to permit cotton agriculture.

The shrub thicket communities lie in a narrow band around the island and occupy all the ground above the normal high tide line but within the region flooded by spring and storm tides. The shrub thicket serves as a transitional zone between the upland forests and the marsh communities and contains species of both of these zones. This zone is dominated by the species found in the high marsh but also contains groundsel, yaupon, and related species. The shrub thicket zone is important in controlling erosion and protecting the interior of the island from the harsh microclimatic conditions of the marshes (Clonts 1983).

The upland forests generally consist of pine, palmetto, and live oaks. However, specific community composition, species dominance, and age of stands vary according to location on the island. These variables are a result of previous land use on the island (Clonts 1983). Previous land use has also resulted in these forest communities being restricted to pockets of varying size throughout the island.

Oak-pine-palmetto forests are found along the eastern and northern margins of the island. These forests are dominated by live oak, loblolly pine, slash pine, and palmetto. These forest communities are relatively undisturbed and may have been left as margins around agricultural fields. The understory, consisting of young oaks, yaupon, dwarf palmetto, wax myrtle, greenbrier, and yellow jasmine, is sparse, giving the community an open appearance (Clonts 1983).

Slash pine-palmetto forests are found along the southwestern edge of the island. The dominant species in this community consist of slash pine and palmetto. Southern red cedar and loblolly pine are also present. The understory is poorly developed and consists of dwarf palmetto, saw palmetto, inkberry, yucca, buckeye, bracken, and poison ivy (Clonts 1983).

Pine-mixed hardwood forests are found along the northwestern edge of the island. Laurel oak, water oak, loblolly pine, slash pine, hickory, and black cherry dominates this community. Tallow, Southern red cedar, yaupon, and sparkleberry dominate the understory. Ground covers in this community consist of elephant's foot, various grasses, and young individuals of the shrub species (Clonts 1983).

Mixed hardwood forest are found in the north central portion of the island from the main house ruins at 38BU581 to the southern edge of the north fields. The north fields mark the boundary between the B.B. Sams Plantation and the L.R. Sams Plantation. The mixed hardwood communities display a varied canopy of hickory, red maple, myrtle oak, blackgum, sweetgum, magnolia, and spruce pine. The shrub layer is relatively open consisting of horsesugar, sparkleberry, and dogwood (Clonts 1983).

FAUNA

The diversity of the vegetation on Dataw Island supports equally diverse animal populations. The marshlands and tidal flats provide wetland habitats, while the shrub thickets and forests provide an almost unlimited variety of upland environments. Mammals include white-tailed deer, the largest mammal found on the island. Other mammals include raccoon, long-tailed weasel, mink, river otter, marsh rabbit, gray squirrel, opossum, cotton rat, and field mouse.

Bird populations on the island are dominated by cardinal, common grackle, and the Carolina wren, with orchard oriole and indigo bunting also occurring in large numbers. Significant numbers of song birds are present during the breeding season, as are numerous species of warblers. Raptors, such as the osprey, barred owl, red-shouldered hawk, red-tailed hawk, and northern harrier are also present. The marshes provide habitat for marsh wrens, clapper rails, as well as numerous migratory waterfowl in the winter. The marshes also support large populations of great egrets, snowy egrets, great blue herons, and little blue herons.

Amphibians and reptiles occur in small numbers due primarily to the lack of any freshwater ponds. A few species of frogs and one salamander species, the slimy salamander are present. The American alligator and numerous species of snakes also occur on the island. The marshes support an abundance of invertebrates, including crabs, oysters, clams, and fiddler crabs. The creeks support abundant populations of fishes.

SOILS

Dataw Island is comprised primarily of soils of the Bohicket Association, Coosaw Loamy Fine Sands, Tomotley Loamy Fine Sands, and Wando Fine Sands. Soils of the Bohicket Association are confined to the marshes and tidal flats, and completely surround the island. These soils possess very low permeability and a high available water capacity. When continuously saturated by water, these soils range from slightly acid through

moderately alkaline. When dry, they are extremely acidic. Bohicket soils are not suitable for agricultural purposes. However, the high organic content of the soil, a result of decaying detritus, provided a natural fertilizer for cotton, and was utilized as such in the region during the nineteenth century. The Bohicket soils also support resources for a variety of marine and terrestrial fauna. Soils of the Capers Association are similar to Bohicket soils, and are also present in the marshes and tidal flats around the island. The Capers soils also served as good grazing habitat for cattle.

Coosaw Loamy Fine Sands are characterized as being deep, somewhat poorly drained level soils on low ridges of the Lower Coastal Plain. Except where limed, this soil is very strongly acid to medium acid. Permeability of this soil is moderate; available water capacity is medium. Coosaw Loamy Fine Sands are considered to possess medium to high potential for row crops and grains, as well as for pasture land (Stuck 1980). These soils are confined to the extreme southern and southeastern portions of the island, as well as small areas on the northeast and northwest corners. Coosaw Loamy Fine Sands would have provided an adequate substrate for agricultural purposes and habitation during the occupation of the island by the Sams families.

Tomotley Loamy Fine Sand is poorly drained, nearly level soil on low flats and slight depressions of the Lower Coastal Plain. These soils occupy a narrow band along the western edge of the island, although a small pocket traverses to the eastern edge in the central portion of the island. This soil type is extremely acid through strongly acid. Permeability is moderately slow and available water capacity is medium. Tomotley Loamy Fine Sand has a high potential for row crops, grasses, loblolly pine, slash pine, sweetgum, and American sycamore. This potential is somewhat limited in the absence of drainage systems (Stuck 1980).

Wando Fine Sands are excessively drained, nearly level soils on the higher ridges of lower marine terraces. These soils are dominant in the central and northeastern portions of the island. They are medium acid to neutral. Wando Fine Sand is very permeable and available water capacity is low. Wando Fine Sands have a low potential for row crops, grasses and grains. Potential for loblolly pine, slash pine, and longleaf pine is medium (Stuck 1980). The high permeability of Wando Fine Sands make this soil type adequate for settlement purposes. The B.B. Sams Plantation Complex (38BU581) is located on Wando Fine Sands.

Other soils found in small pockets throughout the island include Baratari Fine Sands, Chisolm Loamy Fine Sands, Murad Fine Sand, Seabrook Fine Sand, Sewee Fine Sandy Loams, and Williman Fine Sands. All of these soils are generally well drained, have a moderate to high permeability, and low available water capacity. These soils typically offer low to medium potential for row crops, grasses, and pines. The permeability of these soils make them adequate for settlement purposes. Site 38BU515, located on the north shore of the island and associated with the L.R. Sams Plantation, is on Chisolm Loamy Fine Sands.

In general, Dataw Island offered a high potential for resources during the occupation of the Sams families. The Morgan River, Jenkins Creek, and the associated marshes

provided a rich diversity of estuarine resources. The dense nature of the shrub thickets that occupied a band between the marshes and the uplands provided the interior portions of the island with adequate protection from the harsh salt water environment. This, combined with adequate soils allowed for the practice of agriculture on the island. The marshes and the interior forests supported populations of game animals to supplement the agricultural produce of the family plantations.

CHAPTER III

CULTURAL SETTING

REGIONAL OVERVIEW

This brief discussion of the historic background of Beaufort County provides a background for the development of the historic archaeological sites under investigation. The county boundaries changed several times throughout the years. In the seventeenth century Carolina consisted of four coastal counties: Craven, Berkeley, Colleton, and Granville. Figure 3 displays the boundaries of the seventeenth century counties. There were no county seats and all official records were kept in Charleston. The four counties were divided into circuit court districts in 1769. Figure 4 displays the boundaries of these districts. Dataw Island was in Granville County, and later in the Beaufort District. The following overview of the history of Beaufort County is taken primarily from Kennedy et al. (1991).

PROTOHISTORIC AND COLONIAL PERIODS

Spanish exploration of the South Carolina coast began as early as 1514 (Rowland 1978:1); by 1520 a landing party went ashore in the Port Royal vicinity, now Beaufort County, at a spot they named Santa Elena (Rowland 1978:1; Hoffman 1983:64). From that time on, the Port Royal area was of great interest to both the Spanish and the French the explorers. The Spanish attempted to establish the settlement of San Miguel de Gualdape in 1526, but were unsuccessful. The location of this settlement is not known, although it is thought to have been north of Port Royal Sound in the vicinity of Winyah Bay (Quattlebaum 1956). The French, under Jean Ribaut, attempted to establish a settlement on the South Carolina coast in 1562. This settlement, in the Port Royal Sound area, was called Charlesfort, and was also unsuccessful.

A successful Spanish settlement was finally established on Parris Island at Port Royal Sound in 1566. Local Indians were less than friendly, but in spite of numerous attacks and several burnings, the town was not abandoned until 1587 (Rowland 1978:25-57; Lyon 1984). During its twenty year existence, this settlement served as the base for the first serious explorations into the interior of the state. The Spanish maintained their interest in Santa Elena through a series of missions on the sea islands from St. Augustine into Georgia (Covington 1978:8-9), and Spanish friars were at "St. Ellens" when William Hilton visited in 1663 (Hilton 1664:2).

Spain's claim to the region was disregarded by Charles II of England; in 1662 he granted Carolina to the Lords Proprietors. The next year William Hilton was hired by a group of planters on Barbados to explore the acquisition. Hilton spent over a month in the waters of both Port Royal and St. Ellens, leaving with a high opinion of the area's

potential as a colony (Hilton 1664). Prompted by the account of tall pines and good soils, a small colony set out for Port Royal. Tales of hostile Indians convinced them to move farther north, where they founded Charles Towne in 1670 (Holmgren 1959:39). One of the first orders of business for the settlers was initiating trade with the Indians as a way of ensuring both economic and physical survival (Covington 1978:9).

In 1684, Lord Cardross of Scotland led a group of dissenters to Port Royal Island and established Stuart's Town. Traders in Charles Towne were convinced the Scots were stealing their customers and withheld material support. Afraid of the Spanish and forced to survive on their own, the Scots' solution was to forge ties with the Yemassee Indians. The Yemassee, who were unhappy with the Spanish missionaries in coastal Georgia, began fleeing to Stuart's Town, where they were settled in a defensive perimeter of villages on neighboring islands. Lord Cardross then recruited and armed a raiding party to attack a mission on St. Catherines Island. The raid was a success, but the Spanish retaliation a year later destroyed Stuart's Town (Covington 1978:8-11).

A series of large land grants beginning in 1698 signalled a renewed interest in settling Port Royal (Holmgren 1959:42). When Beaufort was chartered in 1711, the Yemassee had ten villages in what are now Beaufort and Jasper Counties. Angered by mistreatment from traders, the Indians attacked in 1715 but did not succeed in dislodging the English (Covington 1978:12). The Yemassee War (1715-1716) was a coordinated attack by the Yemassee and Creek Indians against the English in South Carolina. At the time, the war was blamed on Spanish influence from Florida, but a more likely cause was the Indian traders' practice of seizing Indian women and children as slaves to meet Indian debts. No Spanish forces were actually involved in the conflict, but Spanish Florida became a refuge for the defeated Yemassees. After the war, the General Assembly opened Indian lands to settlement. But the end of the war was not the end of Indian attacks and the settlers had to be vigilant for many years.

Gallay (1986:12) believes that the traders' desire for the fertile mainland, described as the best part of the province, led them to provoke the Indians into attacking, thus forcing the government to take action against the Indians. After the war, the English could not get any other Indian group to settle in the so-called buffer zone between Carolina and Florida. This left Carolina open to invasion from the Spanish in Florida. Port Royal's available money was used for defense rather than development, and the area's economy stagnated.

Beaufort County is a part of the Low Country, which lies along the Atlantic Coast between the Edisto and Savannah Rivers. In the eighteenth century the Low Country had its economic and political center in Charleston. After Port Royal was permanently settled by English colonists, the residents worked to make their town as important as Charleston, but unfortunately for them, the Charleston area planters and merchants dominated the General Assembly and were unwilling to allot tax money to develop and defend Port Royal (Gallay 1986:6-7).

In the late 1730s, the Spanish in Florida offered freedom to all slaves who escaped from the English and came to St. Augustine. Georgia, which had no slaves at that time, was not affected, but the South Carolinians were worried. Fifty slaves escaped from St. Helena's

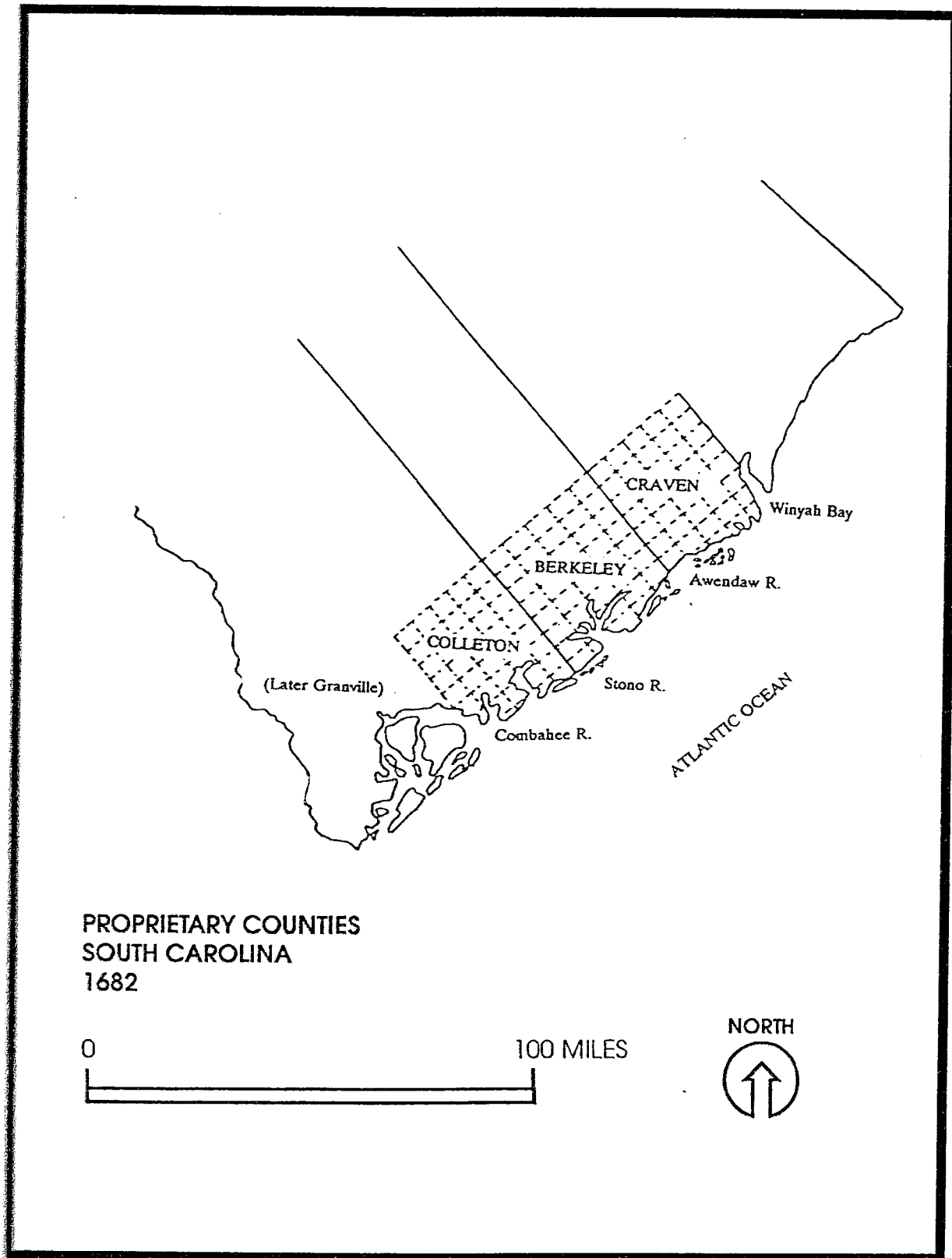


Figure 3. Map showing the Proprietary Counties of South Carolina in 1682 (taken from Records of the Secretary of the Province of South Carolina 1692-1721).

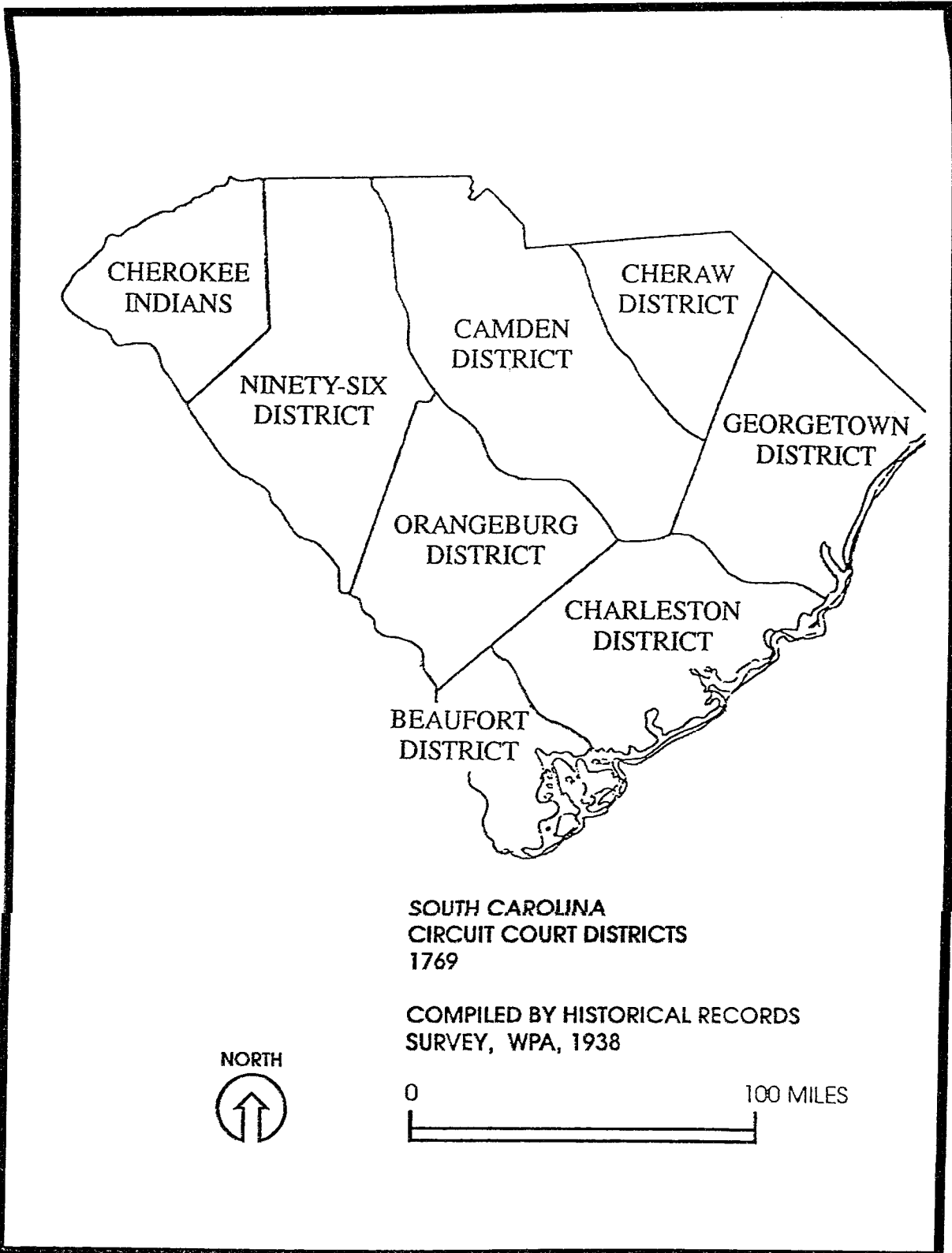


Figure 4. Map showing the boundaries of the South Carolina Circuit Court Districts in 1769 (taken from Records of the Secretary of the Province of South Carolina 1692-1721).

Parish, and the Stono Rebellion was supposedly connected with the Spanish. England and Spain were soon at war, and the study area was too close to St. Augustine for comfort (Gallay 1986). A bill was passed in 1756 giving freedom to any slave (negro or Indian) who escaped from the Spanish and returned to South Carolina (Easterby 1958:82-83). The Spanish were defeated in 1742, but England began a war with France in 1744, again threatening South Carolina. St. Helena's Parish petitioned the colonial government in Charleston for assistance, but they were told to apply to the Crown. A drought and a smallpox epidemic added to their troubles and prices for rice fell 70 per cent in five years. The result was an economic depression which only ended with the development of indigo agriculture several years later (Gallay 1986).

The economy of Beaufort County during the period from 1680 to the mid-1700s continued to be supported by the fur and deerskin trade, and by lumber and wood products. The importance of rice agriculture grew steadily from the early 1700s to the time of the Civil War. Rice was complemented by the introduction of indigo as a cash crop in the mid-1700s; indigo agriculture disappeared after the Revolution began, with the removal of the English bounty and English markets. Cotton became important after the Revolution, particularly the long staple variety on the sea islands and other coastal areas. Rice and cotton agriculture, in a slave-based plantation system, dominated the region until the Civil War.

EARLY STATEHOOD AND THE ANTEBELLUM PERIOD

The colonies declared their independence from Britain in 1776, following several years of increasing tension due in large part to what the colonists considered to be unfair taxation and trade restrictions imposed on them by the British Parliament. The Royal Navy attacked Fort Sullivan near Charleston in 1776. They failed to take the fort, but they captured Savannah in late December 1778 and were successful in taking Charleston in May 1780. The British held Charleston until December 1782, at which time the last of the troops left to join others in New York before they all returned to Britain.

South Carolinians were divided during the war. The people of the Low Country were predominately, but not completely, rebels, while most of the loyalists resided in the interior of the state and in Charleston. After the United States won independence, many of the loyalists left South Carolina, going to Britain, the Bahamas, or Jamaica, or moving further west in America. Some of these loyalists later returned to the state. In many cases their confiscated property was returned and their punishment for assisting the British was reduced to paying a fine (Lambert 1987).

The first census of the United States was taken in 1790. The population of the Beaufort District was 18,753, of which 14,236 (75.9 per cent) were slaves. There were 4,364 whites (23.3 per cent), and 153 other free persons (0.8 per cent) in the district (U.S. Census 1790). The preponderance of the slaves in the population attests to the importance of plantation agriculture in the local economy throughout the 1790s and the first half of the nineteenth century.

THE CIVIL WAR

The harbor of Port Royal was attacked by a Federal fleet on 7 November 1861. Five hours later the two Confederate forts guarding the entrance, Fort Walker on Hilton Head and Fort Beauregard on St. Phillips, lowered their flags. Sea island plantation owners fled to the mainland, leaving behind a black populace convinced they would soon be free (Rose 1964:11-12). Federal troops landed on Hilton Head uncertain of the rebel retreat. Scouting parties soon discovered evidence of a hasty and ill-planned evacuation (Eldridge 1893:67). One account of the Confederate retreat from Fort Walker reports:

In this extremity, it was determined to abandon the fort. Back of this work there was an open space of a mile, over which the defeated troops ran in panic, subject every moment to the fire of the fleet. They found shelter in the woods, through which they made their way across the peninsula to the mainland. The ground over which they fled was covered with their muskets and knapsacks (Guernsey and Alden 1866:181).

The war was a time of great hardship for residents of the South. Food and supplies were scarce and prices were extremely high for whatever was available. The Federal soldiers stationed on Hilton Head received reports that flour was selling for \$32 a barrel in Savannah and was "wormy at that." The New South (15 August 1863) reported the following "Rebel" prices in Atlanta:

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Printing paper \$3 per pound | Chickens \$3 per pair |
| Flour \$5 per 100 pounds | Bacon \$1.50 per pound |
| Beef \$1 per pound | Butter \$1.75 per pound |
| Eggs \$1 per dozen | Cabbage \$1 each |
| Potatoes \$12 per bushel | Calico \$3 per yard |
| Shoes \$40 per pair | Boots \$70 per pair |

While the war was being fought, the United States was confiscating property in occupied territory for unpaid taxes. It was hoped by many that this would allow the freed slaves to purchase small tracts at auction and encourage them toward economic independence through farming (Rose 1964). Dataw Island was seized in this manner near the end of the war.

POSTBELLUM ADAPTATION

The Civil War brought an end to the slave/plantation system in South Carolina. The relatively abrupt disintegration of the antebellum economic system resulted in a period of freed black migration, reshuffling of land ownership, a variety of freed black labor systems, and an era of redefinition of the socio-economic relationships between the freed blacks and the white land owners.

In depth consideration and discussion of the agricultural and economic evolution in South Carolina from the end of the Civil War until the beginning of the twentieth century

and its archaeological implications can be found in Brockington et al. (1985), Orser and Holland (1984), and Trinkley (1983). A brief overview of the socio-economic conditions believed to be in existence in Beaufort County at the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century shall be outlined. At that time, Beaufort County included present-day Jasper County.

Census data (1850, 1860, 1870, 1880, 1900, and 1910) details the population for Beaufort County (Table 2). By 1870, the population of Beaufort County consisted of 29,050 black freedmen (84.55 per cent) and 5,309 whites (15.4 per cent). The dominant black population of Beaufort County continued through to the beginning of the early twentieth century; by 1910 over 75 per cent of the Beaufort County population consisted of blacks.

Table 2. Population Statistics for Beaufort County (includes present-day Jasper).

| | Aggregate (count) | White | | Free Black | | Slave | |
|------|----------------------|-------|------|------------|------|-------|------|
| | | n | % | n | % | n | % |
| 1850 | 38805 | 5947 | 15.3 | 579 | 1.4 | 32279 | 83.1 |
| 1860 | 40053 | 6714 | 16.7 | 809 | 2.0 | 32530 | 81.2 |
| 1870 | 34395 | 5309 | 15.4 | 29050 | 84.4 | - | - |
| 1880 | 30176 | 2442 | 8.0 | 27732 | 91.9 | - | - |
| 1890 | 34119 | 2695 | 7.8 | 31421 | 92.0 | - | - |
| 1900 | 35495 | 3394 | 9.4 | 32137 | 90.5 | - | - |
| 1910 | 30355 | 3063 | 13.0 | 26376 | 86.8 | - | - |

U.S. Census 1854, 1864, 1872, 1883, 1895, 1901, 1913.

LAND OWNERSHIP PATTERNS AND ETHNICITY

By the end of the nineteenth century, a small farmer in Beaufort County could either own and crop his own land, enter into a rent contract with a large land owner, or squat on unused and unattended property. Farm tenancy emerged as a dominant form of agricultural land management toward the end of the nineteenth century in South Carolina, and presented itself in two basic forms (Brockington et al. 1985; Orser and Holland 1984; and Trinkley 1983):

Sharecropping was a system whereby the landowner provided all that the renter might need to tend and cultivate the land (i.e., draft animals, farming implements and tools, seed, and fertilizer). A variety of methods of payment by the renter could be arranged. However, usually an agreed portion of the crop (i.e., a share), would be surrendered to the landowner. Sharecropping

was appropriate when tenants could not afford the capital outlay necessary to purchase seed, animals, and tools.

Cash renting on the other hand, generally represented arrangements where an agreed sum of money was paid to the landowner by the tenant farmer. In these instances, the farmer was more independent and further removed from the landowner, and would provide his own animals, feed, seed, and equipment. This system generally allowed small farmers to accrue larger sums of money, and according to Brockington et al. (1985), was the preferred arrangement for tenant farmers, as it was regarded as a profitable operation which would help the tenants to acquire their own property. Cash renting was desirable to the land-lord because it removed him from the uncertainties of market prices; removed the capital burden of supplying seed, fertilizer, and equipment; and assured a steady cash income.

The tenancy tenure system had become such a dominant land management force by the end of the nineteenth century that the 1890 census, for the first time, detailed the many forms of tenancy. Table 3 summarizes the census data of 1890 and 1900. The average farm size in Beaufort County in 1890, was 42 acres; it increased slightly to 48.2 acres by 1900. Hence, at the end of the nineteenth century, the average farm size was relatively small, and relatively close to the Freedmen's Bureau ideal of "40 acres and a mule." Census data also provide insight to the numbers and varieties of crops and products cultivated and sold by the largely rural population of Beaufort County in 1880 and 1890. Cattle and swine were the preferred livestock, and an annual crop of corn and cotton provided needed income.

Table 3 also details the census data for 1890 and 1900 regarding the ethnicity of landowners. By 1900, the vast majority of the freedman population of Beaufort County (approximately 60 per cent) owned and operated their own farms. The same proportion of whites in Beaufort County (approximately 60 per cent) operated and owned their own farms. These data illustrate the desire of the blacks throughout the years following the Civil War to own land, thereby confirming and consolidating their freedom.

The census data also illustrate that the preferred tenancy system in Beaufort County was cash renting. By 1900, only eleven farms in all of Beaufort County operated under sharecropping contracts. Further, the figures do not imply that either black or white families were more or less prone to enter cash renting contracts. Cash renting is opted for by 28.9 per cent of black families and 27.6 per cent of white families. Such data imply that the goals of black and white families residing in Beaufort County at the end of the nineteenth century were similar (i.e., to own their own farms or to work toward that end). The relative proportions of black and white families owning land suggests that the social climate at the time did not prevent or hinder either race from achieving this goal.

The above data encapsulate the agricultural and economic conditions in Beaufort County, and of its residents at the end of the nineteenth century. What it does not provide, however, is a picture of the dynamic processes which were in operation prior to 1880 and the changes in land ownership patterns between 1865 and 1880. Sharecropping was almost

Table 3. Land Tenure in Beaufort County in 1890 and 1900 (includes present-day Jasper).

| | <u>1890</u> | | <u>1900</u> | |
|------------------------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| FARMS | | | | |
| Total | 3762 | | 5476 | |
| Average Size | 42 acres | | 48.2 acres | |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| AGGREGATE | <u>n</u> | <u>%</u> | <u>n</u> | <u>%</u> |
| Owned | 2710 | 71.60 | 3332 | 67.65 |
| Fixed Cash Rent | 1028 | 27.80 | 1582 | 32.12 |
| Sharecropping | 44 | 1.16 | 11 | 0.22 |
| Total | 3782 | 100.00 | 4925 | 99.99 |
| Farms worked by blacks | * | | 5241 | 95.71 |
| Farms worked by whites | * | | 235 | 4.29 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| BLACK | | | <u>n</u> | <u>%</u> |
| Owners | * | | 3189 | 60.85 |
| Part Owners | * | | 517 | 9.86 |
| Owners/Tenants | * | | 1 | 0.02 |
| Managers | * | | 8 | 0.15 |
| Cash Rent | * | | 1517 | 28.94 |
| Sharecropping | * | | 9 | 0.17 |
| Total | | | 5241 | 99.99 |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| WHITE | | | | |
| Owners | * | | 143 | 60.85 |
| Part Owners | * | | 15 | 6.38 |
| Owners/Tenants | * | | 2 | 0.85 |
| Managers | * | | 8 | 3.40 |
| Cash Rent | * | | 65 | 27.66 |
| Sharecropping | * | | 2 | 0.85 |
| Total | | | 235 | 99.99 |

*Data not available in census.
U.S. Census 1895, 1902.

extinct in Beaufort County by 1880; however, it may have played a more important role in the dynamics of the land ownership patterns prior to this date.

The twentieth century saw a weakening of the traditional ways of land ownership and agriculture production. A number of factors were responsible for this breakdown. These factors included a rapid demise of cotton profitability, increased temptation of cash labor opportunities in other areas of the state, soil depletion, and increased profitability of land sales to outside investors.

HISTORY OF DATAW ISLAND

The following discussion of the history of Dataw Island was taken from Larry Lepionka's Dataw Island, Beaufort County, South Carolina Cultural Resources Survey (1988). The majority of the research for this was done by Rebecca Stark. This is the only comprehensive history of the island; therefore, it serves as an invaluable source for this report.

The history of Dataw Island falls into three broad periods: (1) 1698-1783, from the first documentary reference for the island to its purchase by William Sams; (2) 1783-1863, the period of ownership by the Sams family, when the island attained its full development as a plantation, terminated by Federal confiscation of the property for nonpayment of taxes; and (3) 1863 to the present, including the immediate postbellum period with numerous property transfers, and the longer term tenures of the twentieth century. These periods are discussed consecutively below. The full chain of title for the property concludes Chapter III.

DATAW IN THE SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH CENTURIES

The earliest document referring to the property that subsequently came to be known as Dataw is a warrant for land issued to Charles Odingsells (Salley and Olsberg 1973:586):

Charles Odingsells had a Warrt. out of ye Secretry's, Office for that Island Called Westbrook's Island Dated March ye. 21st, 1698/99

The equivalence of "Westbrook's Island" with Dataw is established in a 1702 document referencing this warrant (see below). The name is obviously derived from a personal name, and the only person of that name known in the area was Caleb Westbrook, who received a warrant for land in 1682 (Salley and Olsberg 1973:285):

Carolina Ss:/

You are forthwth: to cause to admeasured & laid out to Caleb Westbrooke two hundred & sixty acres of land being soe much due to him by the Lords proprietors: concessions for himselfe one woman Servant & two man Servts: arriveing in December 1680----in some convenient place not yet

laid out or marked to be laid out for any other (?)son or Use and if some happen upon any Navigable river or river capable to be made Navigable you are to certificate fully specifying the Scittuacon & bounds thereof you are to returne to us wth all convenient speed; and for your soe doing this shall be your warrt: dated this 24th day of October 1682

Westbrook was a trader deeply involved with the Yemassee Indians, and is reputed to have incited them to raid the Spanish, possibly a cause of the Spanish attack that destroyed the Scots settlement of Stuart Town on Port Royal Island in 1684. He was killed by a Savannah Indian in 1693, and no record of an heir has been found (Salley 1928-29). To what extent, if any, he had been specifically active on Dataw Island is unknown. Neither the certificate requested in the above document nor any other warrant, plat, will, grant, or inventory concerning the property has been located in the records, so it is unknown if his holding was established on the island that subsequently bore his name. The retention of his name is strong evidence in favor of his laying claim to part of the island (which is certainly on navigable waters). However, the issuance of the warrant to Odingsells in 1698/99 indicates that any claim Westbrook may have had to Dataw Island had lapsed, probably with his death, and the land had reverted to the Lords Proprietors. Wherever Westbrook may have located himself, he was certainly involved in the Indian trade, the principal economy of the Sea Islands at that time, and his establishment would have been small with a minimal development of the land.

The equivalence of Westbrook and Dataw Island is established in a 1702 memorandum (Salley 1928-29) that references the 1698/99 warrant to Odingsells:

Memorand. On this Thirteenth day of Novemr. Anno. 1702/Came Mr. Charles Odingsells and Acknowledged That he had assigned over his right & Title mentioned in a Certain Warrt. bearing date March ye 21st. 1698/99 to Admeasure unto him ye said Odingsels a Certain. Island called Westbrook or Datha Island, to Mr. Joseph Boone

This November memorandum was apparently obtained in relationship to a September 1702 land grant to Joseph Boone (Royal Grants, Vol. 38, Office of the Secretary of State Land Grants, Colonial Series, South Carolina Department of Archives and History [SCDAH]):

...Eleven hundred and seventy acres of land in Port Royal County, bordering to North and North East on St Helena River, to the East South East and South on a Creek Seperating it from St. Helena Island called Datha Creek, to the West and South West on a Creek seperating it from Jn. Nortons Island. Paying to the Lords Proprietors on every first Day of December after the year 1702 after the rate of one shilling of (?) every hundred acres of Land. The said grant is dated the twenty eighth day of September 1702 and signed Jm Morrer Edm Bellinger Robt Daniell.

To what extent, if any, Odingsells made use of Dataw or developed it is unknown. His abandonment of the claim and the granting of the property to Boone suggests that

Odingsell's "right and Title" was not exercised during the four years that he held it prior to the granting of the land to Boone.

This 1702 memorandum is the first document to specifically apply the name "Datha" to the property. It occurs in the records under several spellings (e.g., Datha, Dathaw, Dawta, Daughtaw, Docktaw, Downa, Data, Darthaw, Dawtaw) of which the most common is "Datha". The word is said to bear the meaning of "green wood" in Muskoghean languages (Neuffer 1971:XVIII, 26) but its antiquity, if any, among local Indians, and its mode of transmission to the English colonists is not known. It is necessary to mention also the legend of the giant King Datha, told to the Spanish by the Indian Francesco Chicora (so baptized by his captors) in the early sixteenth century. Chicora was not without originality in his stories, but even accepting the existence of a possibly more diminutive King Datha, there is no evidence that either the Indians or the Spanish ever applied the name to a specific location. A more generic Indian origin of the name is much more likely.

From 1702 to 1783 the property passed through several hands, once by purchase but otherwise through inheritance. According to a memorial dated 21 April 1733 (Memorials, Copies 1732-1778), the first owner, Joseph Boone, was a Charleston merchant. He held title to the land until his death, and left it (and other property) to his wife Anne "for her use and profit during her natural life," after which the land was to pass to his nephews, Charles and Thomas Boone (sons of his brother Charles). His will was dated 14 March 1733 and was proved 9 June 1735 (Charleston County Will Books, SCDAH). Anne Boone died in 1751; her own will (Charleston County Will Books, SCDAH) complied with her husband's, and the land was inherited by Charles and Thomas Boone, who were London merchants.

The Boones sold Dataw to Anne Wigg, wife of Thomas Wigg of Granville County, on 28 May 1755 (Charleston County Deeds; also, Memorials, SCDAH). The property is described as a plantation of 1,170 acres, repeating the figure in the original grant to Joseph Boone (present acreage is 866; given the rate of erosion, especially on the Morgan River shore, the eighteenth century acreage figure is probably fairly accurate). The will contains the usual formula concerning all houses, outhouses, edifices, buildings, barns, stables, yards, orchards, gardens, etc., but there is no description of any of these, and there is no plat in association with the deed. Selling price of the property was £3.510, currency of the province.

Anne Wigg (1707-1770), *see* Barnwell, married four times and was successively Anne Stanyarne (1726-1731), Anne Reeve (1733-1749), Anne Wigg (1752-1759), and Anne Gibbes (1760-1764) (Barnwell 1969:23-25). Although the 1755 purchase is in her name, her husband of that time, Thomas Wigg, did see fit to leave the property to her in his will, an "Island called Docktaw" purchased from "Messrs. Charles and Thomas Boone" (Charleston County Will Books, SCDAH). In her will dated 14 June 1770 and proved 31 December 1770 (Charleston County Will Books), the island, described as 1100 acres, was left to her son Lewis Reeve (1739-1774).

Reeve's will (Charleston County Will Books) was dated 7 April 1771 and proved 17 December 1774 (Journal of the Court of Ordinary 1771-1775). He left most of his property, including Dataw, to his sisters, Sarah Gibbes and Ann Carson. Sarah and her husband (and

stepbrother) Robert Gibbes obtained control of Dataw, as they are listed as sole owners in the deed transmitting the property to William Sams in 1783.

The use to which the property was put and the degree to which it was developed prior to 1783 is not known. No plats or other descriptions of the property are available. For the first half of the century it was in the hands of absentee owners. Joseph Boone was a Charleston merchant, and the degree to which he was involved in the Indian trade, for which Dataw might have served some purpose, is not known. His tenure was interrupted by the Yemassee rebellion in 1715, which destroyed English settlement in the Port Royal area and, along with the subsequent closing of the land office, greatly retarded development of the region up until the time of his death in 1734. Boone also had extensive holdings elsewhere (Smith 1912:74-77).

There is no information concerning use or development of the island by his wife following his death. The inventories of her property (Charleston County Inventories) include rice crops at Pon Pon and Dona Island (in Colleton County), but there is no references to a Dataw crop. The estate included a "Parcel of Indico" of 629 lbs., but there is no indication as to its origin. Though rice sieves and millstones are included, there is no equipment specific to indigo processing.

Charles and Thomas Boone were merchants in London and sold the property to Anne Wigg within four years of obtaining it, suggesting that little or nothing was done with the land during their brief tenure. Thomas Boone came to South Carolina in 1752. He remained there until 1759, when he was appointed Governor of New Jersey; subsequently, he was governor of South Carolina from 1762 to 1764, after the sale of the Dataw property.

The 1755 deed of sale to Anne Wigg does describe the property as a plantation, which may or may not be an indication of some degree of development. Open range cattle herding and indigo cultivation were the primary uses to which Sea Island land was put in this period. The former required minimal investment and manpower, and may have focused on the high marsh; thus, only limited areas need have been cleared. Indigo production would have required clearing of land and building of facilities for indigo processing and housing of slaves. Either is a possible use for all or part of the island. Again, there is at present no evidence for these or other uses.

As local purchasers, Anne Wigg and her husband presumably had some intention for use of the land, though its purchase for speculation also is possible. A secondary source, "The Wiggs of Beaufort District South Carolina" (Lewis and Kirby 1970) notes that they frequently bought and sold land. Thomas Wigg's Inventory (Charleston County Inventories) lists 82 head of cattle, 35 sheep, 35 hogs, and 2 horses; some of this livestock was possibly pastured on Dataw, but he also had other large land holdings. There is no reference to indigo in the inventory. Wigg died 28 January, 1759, less than four years after the purchase of Dataw. Anne remarried on the 28 August 1760 to John Gibbes of John's Island, and resided there until her death on 17 August 1770, after outliving her fourth husband (Barnwell 1969:23-25). She thus became an absentee landowner, and the degree of her continuing involvement in Dataw is unknown.

It is possible that the land was effectively turned over to her son Lewis Reeve prior to her death. Barnwell (1969:23) says of him, simply:

Lewis Reeve was born August 5, 1739 and planted on Datha Island until his death November 14, 1774. He never married and left Datha to his sister Sarah.

Unfortunately, no reference is provided to support this statement. Taken at face value, it implies a lengthy tenure on Dataw as proxy for its owner, and then as owner of the island in his own right. Circumstantial evidence is not inconsistent with this interpretation. He was a resident of Granville County at the time of his death; as he was born in Beaufort, he may well have resided there all of his life. A further connection to the area is indicated in his will, which refers to a Beaufort town lot.

His will also included monetary donations and the granting of freedom and four acres to "My wench Nanny." The remainder of his estate (not described) was to be divided equally between his sisters Sarah and Anne. Sarah Gibbes and her husband held title to all of Dataw at the time of its purchase by William Sams in 1783, suggesting that Dataw constituted half or less of Reeve's total estate, though no information has been obtained on the location of other property. The transfer of all of Dataw to the Gibbes was effected by a family partition of the property, attested to by James Stuart, son of Anne Carson, in an indenture that is an amendment to the 30 May 1783 deed of William Sams (Charleston County Deed Books, SCDAH).

No further information can be proffered about land use during the tenure of Sarah and Robert Gibbes. However, they were resident on Wadmalaw Island, and were therefore absentee owners. Presumably, any land use established prior to their acquisition continued for the first two years of their ownership. The ensuing years from 1776 to 1783 were not propitious for extensive plantation development due to the war with Great Britain.

The best evidence for the development of Dataw prior to 1783 is in fact derived from a much later document, the undated Memoir of James Julius Sams (n.d.). In describing his father's (Berners Barnwell Sams) house, Sams states:

To return to the house; it had three names, or rather the three houses of which it was composed had three distinct names. West, East and Middle. The middle house was the old and original home. It was much older than my grandmother's time. It consisted of two rooms, a narrow passage between, two attic rooms above and two cellars below. My father added the two wings, each consisting of two rooms, and each wing as large as the original house.

This is borne out by the architectural evidence. The central unit of the Sams house (38BU581) is definitely of different and earlier construction than the wings added by Berners Barnwell Sams. The walls of the wings abut against the earlier construction, the tabby displays a different texture (fragmented shell in the central house and whole shell in the wings), and there is evidence for major reconstruction of the central unit. This may have involved raising the floor level to form the basement to which Sams refers. His

grandmother would have been the wife of William Sams, who purchased the island in 1783; the implicit reference to her knowledge strongly suggests that the house preceded the Sams tenure on Dataw. The mode of construction of the central house is not inconsistent with known eighteenth century architecture in the area (see Chapters VII-X below).

There is no information as to which of the prior owners might have been responsible for the house. However, the preceding discussion suggests that the most likely person was Lewis Reeve, though no documentation has been found to substantiate this conjecture. An inventory of Reeve's property would be most useful in this regard, but there is apparently no such document. All Charleston Inventory indices for 1771-1800 have been examined, with negative results for Lewis Reeve (or for William Sams).

In summary, though it is possible to trace the title of Dataw, only speculation can be offered concerning actual use of the island. The major period of development followed its purchase by William Sams in 1783. Most of the architecture, artifacts, and other archaeological features of the historic period post date his acquisition of the island.

THE SAMS FAMILY

The resume of "The Guide to the Sams Family Papers 1784-1934" in The University of South Carolina's (USC) South Caroliniana Library states that Bonum Sams of England was granted a large tract of land by Charles II in 1668, this tract being in the present Beaufort County and including Dataw, and that Sams claimed his grant in 1701. No confirmation of this has been found in local records, and there is no justification to assume that the Sams family had any claim to Dataw prior to the purchase of the island by William Sams in 1783. Inclusion of this unsubstantiated early grant in the family records perhaps originated with a brief address by Robert Oswald Sams (1929) on the occasion of a family reunion. No documentation of the alleged grant was proffered in that document.

Bonum (or Bonham) Sams II, baptized 2 February 1663, in the County of Somerset, England, is the first recorded member of the family in America. He received his first warrant for land in the amount of 100 acres on the Wando River, on 13 September 1694. Subsequent grants of 230 acres, 170 acres, and 200 acres were made, the last two on 23 July 1711 (Bond and Sanders 1964:Part 1, 39-41). A descendant was Robert Sams, a planter of Wadmalaw Island, and it is in his will (Charleston County Will Books, SCDAH) that the earliest official documentary reference to William Sams, son of Robert, is found. A family Bible, in the possession of a descendant of the Sams family, lists William Sams as born 18 April 1741 and died 16 January 1798. On 5 February 1761, he married Elizabeth Hext, daughter of Francis Hext and Elizabeth Stanyarne Hext (Sams Family Papers, Beaufort County Library).

In 1765, he was apparently in residence on Wadmalaw Island, where he claimed ownership of three tracts of land totalling 490 acres (Memorials, SCDAH). He apparently acted as a magistrate for the British during the Revolution, and his property was amerced a 12 per cent *ad valorem* in 1782. On 2 January 1783, he petitioned the South Carolina Senate for relief, claiming that he had acted as magistrate only to avoid bearing arms

against fellow citizens, and that he had suffered great losses incurred by the British (General Assembly Petitions, SCDAH). He was listed in the register of St. John's Parish until 1779, and in the 1783 petition states that he was late of that Parish and now resident in St. Helena's Parish.

On 30 May 1783, he purchased Dataw Island from Sarah and Robert Gibbes for £55,000 currency (Charleston County Deed Books, SCDAH). The island is listed as containing 1,170 acres; the deed transfers all buildings, improvements, commodities, rights, and advantages to Sams, but does not specify what any of these may be. No plat accompanying this deed has been found. No information is available on Sams' use of the property, but it is clear that this was his primary holding and that he did proceed to develop it. It is very likely that he was an early participant in the introduction of long staple cotton to the region, which was to become the primary crop of Dataw in the nineteenth century. At his death in 1798 the island passed to his wife and three of his sons.

In his will, dated 10 November 1795 (the original of this document has been destroyed; a typed copy is included among the Sams Family Papers at the South Caroliniana Library), Sams states:

I give and Devise unto my loving Wife, Elizabeth Sams for and during the term of her natural life without impeachment or waste, and no longer, the use of my Dwelling house and other buildings about it and the use of one moiety of my Plantation on Datha Island Sufficient to work her negroes on, either with her Children's negroes or separately in due of her Dower...the use of all my plate, household furniture, beds, library of Books and riding Chair, together with the use of one third of all my stock of horses, Cattle, Sheep, Hogs...

William Sams had six sons, of which the three elder were of age and established on their property. The three younger sons, Lewis Reeve (1784-1856), Berners Barnwell (1787-1855), and Edward Hext (1790-1837), were minors and were to be educated and brought up "in the best manner," and, upon attaining their majority, receive real or personal property equivalent in value to that which had already been devised upon the eldest son, William.

James Julius Sams (n.d.) confirms that the three younger brothers inherited Dataw Island, and states that Lewis and Berners bought out Edward's interest. They then divided the island between them into approximately equal parcels, with Lewis assuming ownership of the north half and Berners of the south half, which contained the old house. Berners Barnwell added the east and west wings to the original house and, judging by architectural elements (primarily the linkage of outbuildings to the wings of the main house by a ground level tabby wall) was responsible for many if not all of the presently extant outbuildings. These structures were not likely to have been built long after 1826, the year of James Julius Sams' birth, because he describes the various buildings as if they had been present throughout his life. He also states (Sams n.d.) that his father had a preference for tabby architecture and considerable expertise in its construction. The additions to the house were obviously built under the supervision of a capable and knowledgeable individual, and it is unlikely that Sams had gained this expertise prior to his mother's death in 1813, when he

assumed legal control of the property at the age of 26. He had married Elizabeth Fripp in the preceding year, so at that time was beginning to establish a family. In consequence, the likely outside dates for the additions to the plantation complex are 1813 and 1830, with a date in the 1820s most probable.

The plantation complex at the north end of the island, of which the only remnants are two small tabby fireplaces on high ground (38BU515) and large elements of a major tabby structure in the marsh (38BU514), was presumably built by Lewis Reeve Sams during this period. However, no more precise date is available, and there is no specific information on this half of Dataw, such as has been provided by James Julius Sams for the south half of the island. Lewis Reeve Sams, three years older than Berners Barnwell Sams, may have been independently established at an earlier date. However, there is no further information concerning the moiety of the plantation left to his wife by William Sams, or on familial arrangements and divisions that were made between the deaths of William and Elizabeth Sams.

Land use on the south half of Dataw has been described to some extent by James Julius Sams, and further information is available in a sketch map of the south island, hereinafter referred to as the Sams Sketch Map (Figure 5), that is attributed to his wife. The Sams Sketch Map contains acreage figures for the various field and fringe zones, but is somewhat foreshortened and has oversized cultural features (principally the main house). Nevertheless, the inclusion of certain prominent points of land and of the field dikes (a system still partially recognizable on the ground) makes it possible to develop a reasonable interpretation of the map.

To summarize from the Memoir and the Map, the primary living area was concentrated at what is now 38BU581, the Berners Barnwell Sams Plantation complex. It consisted of the main house and its several outbuildings, with landings on the shore south of this site. One slave settlement was placed on the shore east of the main complex, of which 38BU496 (a tabby fireplace and shell midden) is a remnant. The entire shore of the island was lined with a forest fringe that acted as a windrow and which included dense underbrush. Open land was broken up into smaller fields by earth dikes planted with trees to form internal windrows. South of the main house was a kitchen garden and surrounding it were fruit orchards; otherwise land was devoted to the major crops of the island, primarily cotton. The high marsh dike system (38BU640), located north of Oak Island, was initially constructed in an attempt to reclaim land for cotton cultivation. It failed to produce adequate crops and the dike enclosures were converted to duck ponds, to attract migratory fowl during the winter. The main island road began at the deep water landing on Mink Point, extended along the west shore, and turned east to pass by the main house (Sams Sketch Map and Sams n.d.).

An 1872 U.S. Coast Survey Map of St. Helena and Lady's Island, South Carolina (Figure 6) provides information for all of the island. It confirms the presence of a continuous shoreline windrow and of the still existing marsh dike system (38BU640). Bobb, Oak, and the Pine Islands are shown as forested. Internal windrows are not depicted, but a line of trees is shown at the center of the island along the presumed boundary between

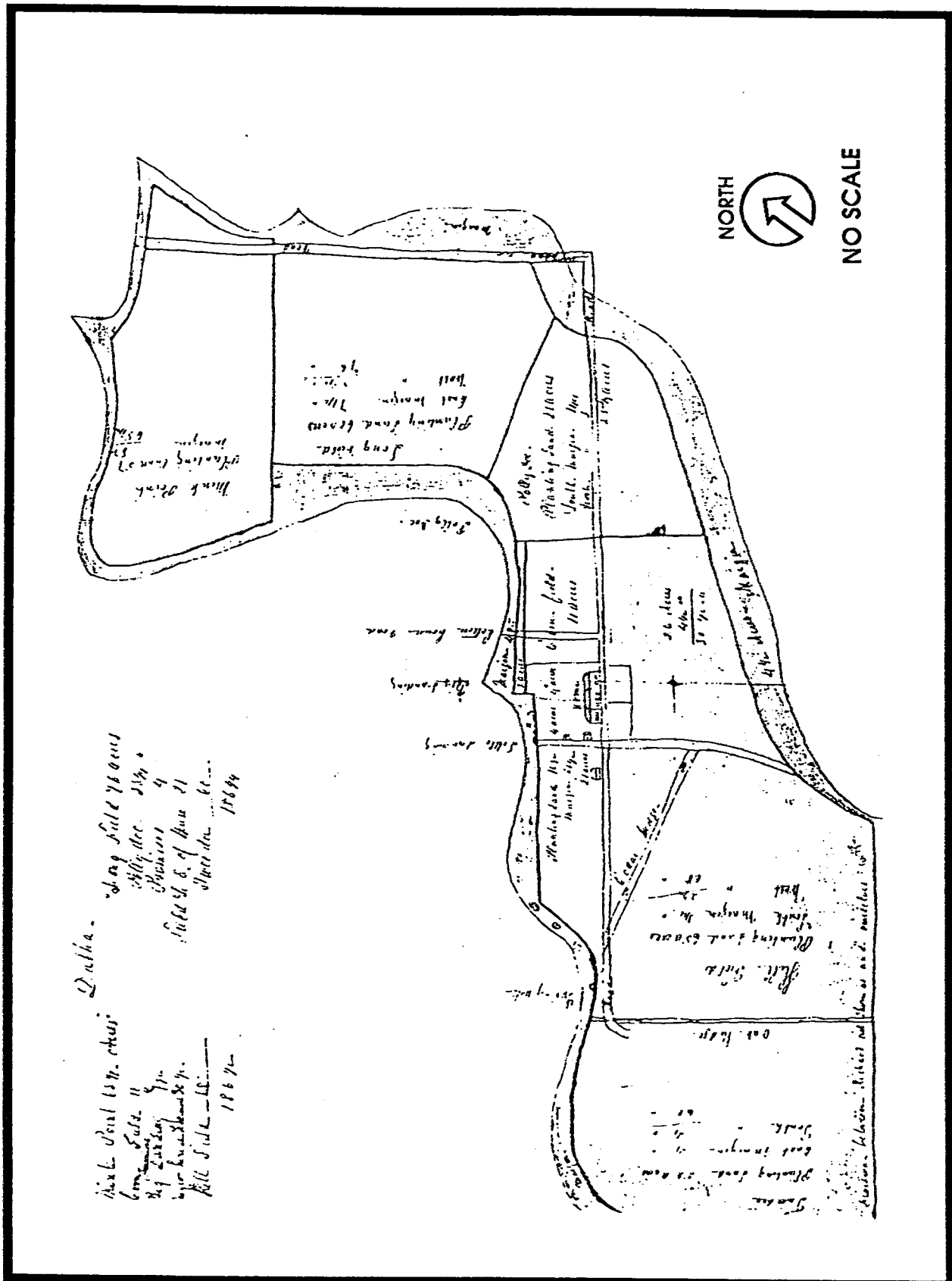
the two plantations. The Berners Barnwell and Lewis Reeve Sams plantation complexes are shown in their respective locations, each consisting of several structures.

James Julius Sams states that one section of old forest, known as "Big Woods," remained on the northern plantation; "Little Woods," a second forested area, had disappeared by his time. His description (Sams n.d.) cannot be entirely reconciled with the 1872 Map (Figure 6). This map shows the boundary forest extending from shore to shore at the center of the island, and a sizeable wooded area east of center in the north half of the island. This forest is linked with the east shore forest fringe by narrow woods (windrows?) extending east from the north and south ends of the interior forest. This interior forest is more worthy of the appellation "Big Woods" due to its greater breadth.

According to Sams, "Big Woods" began on the north side of the boundary fence and extended to within a half mile of the north end of the island. His northern limit conforms very well to the map, but there is a broad cleared zone between the south edge of the forest and the plantation boundary. Either the south end of this forest was cut in later years (Sams discusses, with an unknown degree of consistency, the island as it existed in his youth) or the term "Big Woods" was used to include the linking shoreline fringe forest. A second reference (Sams n.d.) suggests that the latter interpretation is correct (or that Sams had erred in his first reference). Describing a hunting trip, Sams (n.d.) relates that the hunt would begin at Little Landing (on the shore south of the main house) and proceed along the forest fringe, presumably eastward and northwards in the direction of "Big Woods." The statement "When we reached Big Woods the real hunt commenced" indicates that there was a gap, with continuity only along the shoreline fringe.

More problematic is a reference to slave settlements, "At the time to which I allude, there were two settlements on the island" (Sams n.d.). This perhaps can be taken to imply that at other times there were more or less than two, and there is the suggestion that it was necessary to pass through Big Woods to get from one to another (Sams n.d.). The only settlements that are indicated with any certainty on the two maps are those around the main houses in the 1872 Map (Figure 6), and a series of structures along the east shore (near 38BU496) depicted in the Sams Sketch Map (Figure 5). There are equivocal marks on both maps that may refer to the site known as 38BU507. This site would have been near the plantation boundary as shown in the 1872 Map (Figure 6), and 38BU565, a second slave settlement, would have been on the opposite side of the boundary. They would therefore have been separated by the boundary line forest, but not by "Big Woods" as otherwise defined. However, it is quite probable that this anecdote simply refers to the shortest route between the central and north shores of the island.

U.S. Census data are the other available sources of information on use of the Plantation, but their utility is limited because they refer to the entire estate of individuals and not to single blocks of land. The 1790 census lists William Sams as in possession of 84 slaves, but no information is available on the total acreage of land that he owned. There are no census data relevant to Dataw in 1800. In 1810, Elizabeth Sams is credited with 141 slaves and Lewis Reeve Sams with 27. Berners Barnwell Sams is not listed. No information is available for Lewis Reeve Sams in 1820; Berners Barnwell Sams is listed with 88 slaves.



Dalia.
 Long field 700000
 Sally Lee 1870
 Bluen. farm 1870
 Milk Creek 1870
 1867

Figure 5. The Sams Sketch Map.

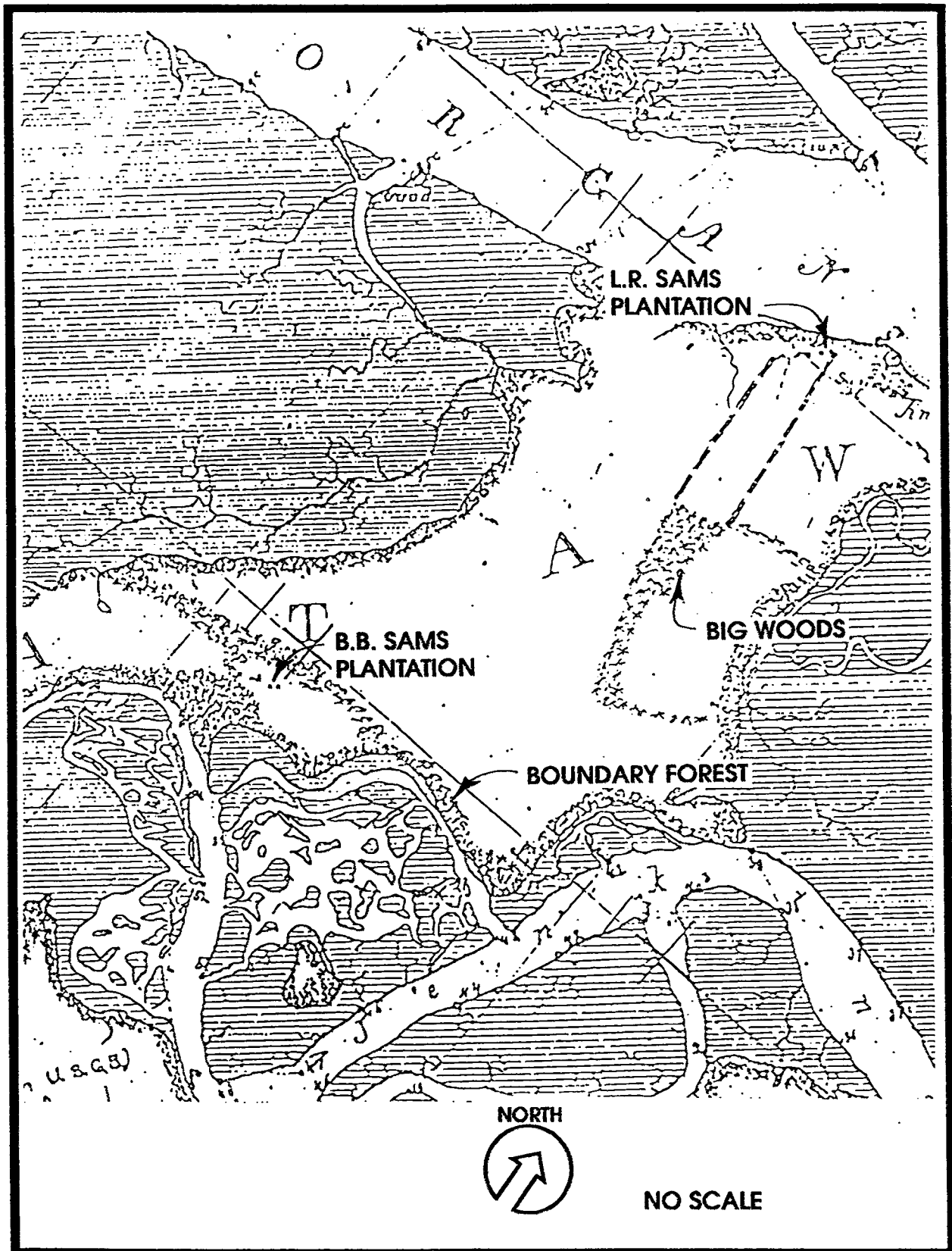


Figure 6. A Portion of the 1872 US Coast Survey of St. Helena and Ladys Islands Showing Dataw Island and Its Historic Developments.

The brothers had respectively 131 and 12 slaves in 1830, 154 and 140 in 1840, and 158 and 175 in 1850. From 1830 onwards the increase in number of slaves is moderate, as might be expected through natural population growth. This suggests that the level of available manpower was adequate for the working of the various properties, and there was no necessity for the purchase of more slaves.

The U.S. Census for 1850 lists Lewis Reeve Sams with 4,000 acres and Berners Barnwell Sams with 5,000 acres. This evidently included sizeable portions of forest or marshlands considered nonagricultural, as the Agricultural Census of that year credits them respectively with 1,467 and 2,097 (improved and unimproved) acres. Individual agricultural holdings were therefore in excess of all of Dataw. Property on the island made up only 41 per cent of Lewis Reeve's farmland and 24 per cent of Berners Barnwell's farmland. In consequence, the productivity of the Dataw plantations cannot be derived directly from the Agricultural Census in 1850.

It is possible, however, to obtain this information from the 1860 agricultural census, because the acreage listings for the heirs of Lewis Reeve Sams and Berners Barnwell Sams show that they did not hold any significant agricultural land outside the Dataw property. Summing of the heirs property and productivity provides a model for the productivity for the original two plantations and, by extension, of the island as whole. Comparison of this information with the 1850 figures allows at least a qualitative appreciation of the importance of Dataw within the total property holdings of Lewis Reeve Sams and Berners Barnwell Sams at midcentury.

Lewis Reeve Sams died in 1856, having willed his Dataw property to his sons Richard Fuller Sams and Thomas Fuller Sams. (A "copy of a copy" of the inheritance is also documented in United States Court of Claims, Direct Tax Case No. 17379.) Each heir is credited with having 300 acres of land in the 1860 Agriculture Census, for a total of 600 acres that made up Lewis Reeve Sams' Dataw plantation. The inheritance of Berners Barnwell Sams plantation was more complex, but by 1860 it was evenly divided between Horace Hann Sams and James Julius Sams (United States Court of Claims, Direct Tax Case No. 17013), at which time they paid taxes on 333 acres and 334 acres respectively, for a total of 667 acres. The 1860 Agricultural Census credits them each with 250 acres, the 167 extra acres presumably being marshlands. Charles Clements Sams, who enters into this inheritance, was bought out by his two brothers. He also appears in the Agricultural Census, and there is a possibility that the 250 acres credited to him represents his original third of the southern plantation. If so, island acreage as totalled from the Agricultural Census was 1,350 acres, possible only if marshlands is included. His holdings have been excluded from the discussions below, with the assumption that the land held by Horace Hann and James Julius represents all of the original Berners Barnwell Sams plantation.

Prior to making these comparisons, it is pertinent to note those agricultural goods that were not produced by the Sams in 1850 or 1860. They did not grow wheat, rye, oats, rice, tobacco, Irish potatoes, barley, hops, hemp, flax (or flax seed), or clover or other grass seed; they did not make wine, cheese, maple sugar, cane sugar, or molasses; and they had no commercial market gardens, home made manufactures, or silk cocoons. A few products are unique to one of the plantations or one of the census years. Orchard produce (valued

at \$500), honey and beeswax (50 pounds), and buckwheat (500 bushels) were plantation products in 1850 but not in 1860 (the orchard produce and honey and beeswax came from Lewis Reeve Sams' plantation, the buckwheat from Berners Barnwell Sams' plantation). All four of the 1860 plantations produced hay (10 tons from the northern, 6 tons from the southern), but hay is not an 1850 product of either plantation. These items are excluded from the tabular comparisons discussed below.

In Table 4, the yields (and other information) of the total estates of Lewis Reeve and Berners Barnwell Sams as derived from the Agricultural Census of 1850 are listed with that of the "north" and "south" plantations in 1860. The north plantation consists of the combined holdings of Richard Fuller Sams and Thomas Fuller Sams, the south plantation consists of the combined holdings of Horace Hann Sams and James Julius Sams.

Table 5 establishes hypothetical models of the productivity of the Dataw plantations in 1850, exclusive of other properties belonging to Lewis Reeve and Berners Barnwell Sams. The 600 acres of the 1860 north plantation constitute 41 per cent of Lewis Reeve's estate and the 500 acres of the south plantation are 24 per cent of Berners Barnwell's estate. Using these proportions as factors, the proportion of crops, livestock, and other goods that would have been provided on Dataw Island has been calculated. These estimates assume all agricultural land was equally productive. These figures may be compared directly with those for the north and south plantations in Table 4 above. The third column in Table 5 is the theoretical totals for Dataw Island in 1850, derived from the sum of the first two columns. This may be compared directly with the fourth column, the actual totals for all of Dataw in 1860.

It is hardly necessary to emphasize that the hypothetical 1850 model is based on a number of assumptions that are probably fallacious. That is, in fact, the primary purpose of constructing the model, i.e., as a null hypothesis to disprove the fundamental assumption that all agricultural lands held by the Sams in 1850 were equally productive. In all categories of production, the 1860 plantation figures exceed those of the theoretical 1850 plantation figures. The differential can be partially attributed to subdivision into four separate units in 1860, which would probably have required duplication in farm implements and machinery and in working animals, but the excess in other livestock and in crops indicates that either the island had become much more productive in 1860 or that the hypothetical model is based on the flawed assumption that all agricultural lands held in 1850 were equally productive.

The first alternative is unlikely on general principle and is contradicted by the fact that there is relatively little change in the cash value of the property between the theoretical 1850 figure and the actual 1860 figure. It is important to note that possible currency fluctuations have not been taken into account. The conclusion to be drawn is rather that the Dataw plantations were more productive than other property held by Lewis Reeve and Berners Barnwell Sams, and that the island in fact produced the bulk of their wealth and a disproportionate amount of agricultural goods compared to other holdings. Actual 1850 figures for Dataw were probably quite similar to the 1860 figures, and may well have exceeded them in many categories.

Table 4. A Summary of Sams Family Agricultural Census Data for 1850 and 1860.

| | <u>TOTAL LRS</u> | <u>TOTAL BBS</u> | <u>NORTH</u> | <u>SOUTH</u> |
|------------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Year | 1850 | 1850 | 1860 | 1860 |
| Acreage | 1467 | 2097 | 600 | 500 |
| Improved | 1227 | 1927 | 460 | 400 |
| Unimproved | 240 | 170 | 140 | 100 |
| Cash Value (\$) | 25,000 | 40,000 | 12,000 | 10,000 |
| Tools/Machinery(\$) | 1500 | 1800 | 1000 | 500 |
| Horses | 8 | 12 | 3 | 9 |
| Asses and Mules | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| Milch Cows | 25 | 30 | 14 | 17 |
| Working Oxen | 4 | 6 | 6 | 5 |
| Other Cattle | 100 | 102 | 55 | 25 |
| Sheep | 40 | 70 | 16 | 21 |
| Swine | 12 | 60 | 27 | 60 |
| Livestock Value (\$) | 1790 | 2010 | 1300 | 2280 |
| Indian Corn (bu) | 1400 | 1600 | 1000 | 720 |
| Cotton Bales (44 lbs) | 70 | 65 | 50 | 16 |
| Wool (lbs) | -- | 200 | 65 | 60 |
| Pea/Beans (bu) | 40 | 250 | 100 | 90 |
| Sweet Potatoes (bu) | 1000 | 1600 | 1000 | 1300 |
| Butter (bu) | 300 | 480 | 100 | 230 |
| Butchered Animals (\$) | 350 | 200 | 200 | 250 |

Table 5. Hypothetical and Actual Dataaw Productivity.

| | LBS | | MODEL 1860 | ACTUAL 1860 |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | 41% of 1850 | 24% of 1850 | | |
| Acreage | 600 | 500 | 1,100 | 1,100 |
| Improved | 502 | 459 | 961 | 860 |
| Unimproved | 98 | 41 | 139 | 240 |
| Cash Value (\$) | 10,225 | 9,537 | 19,762 | 22,000 |
| Tools/Machinery (\$) | 613 | 429 | 1,042 | 1,500 |
| Horses | 3 | 3 | 6 | 12 |
| Asses and Mules | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 |
| Milch Cows | 10 | 7 | 17 | 31 |
| Working Oxen | 2 | 1 | 3 | 11 |
| Other Cattle | 41 | 24 | 65 | 80 |
| Sheep | 16 | 17 | 33 | 37 |
| Swine | 5 | 14 | 19 | 87 |
| Livestock Value (\$) | 732 | 479 | 1,211 | 3,580 |
| Indian Corn (bu) | 573 | 381 | 954 | 1,720 |
| Cotton Bales (44 lbs) | 9 | 15 | 44 | 66 |
| Wool (lbs) | -- | 48 | 48 | 125 |
| Pea/Beans (bu) | 16 | 60 | 76 | 190 |
| Sweet Potatoes (bu) | 409 | 381 | 790 | 2,300 |
| Butter (lbs) | 123 | 114 | 237 | 330 |
| Butchered Animals (\$) | 143 | 48 | 191 | 450 |

The Agricultural Census data is also of interest in that it demonstrates a modest mixed farming economy. Cotton was no doubt the major cash crop and the primary source of plantation wealth, but cattle, sheep, and hogs were kept in quantity (with concomitant production of butter and wool) and significant quantities of maize, sweet potatoes, and peas/beans were raised, much of it certainly for local consumption. There was certainly also produce that is not reflected in the census; James Julius Sams (n.d.) refers to the old garden and the fruit trees around the main house and says that "The Island was well supplied with Fruit."

The deaths of Lewis Reeve Sams (1865) and Berners Barnwell Sams (1855) marked the closing of an era of stable prosperity. The wealth of Dataw Island had provided them with the wherewithal to build or expand their plantation houses, to obtain other property, and to build impressive town houses in Beaufort. The wealth of the island was in no small part the result of the excellent management of these two men. James Julius Sams (n.d.) provides a notable tribute to the ability of his father:

His success as a planter was largely owing to his knowing everything about everything that was to be done. He owned tailors, blacksmiths and carpenters, but he seemed always to know more about these trades than the servants themselves. He knew exactly what was to be done, how much in a given time. He could always correct mistakes. His [sic] acquired practical knowledge of all the work necessary to successful planting operations, kept his negroes in orderly condition, in which they always were. He had several plantations and a great many negroes. He allowed them to visit on these different plantations, and nowhere else. Nor did he permit strange negroes to visit on his plantations. He employed missionaries for the religious instruction of his negroes. I do not think there was another body of negroes in the whole district more orderly or well cared for, physically and religiously. He had administrative talents, was systematic in everything and always in trim. Many of the planters in the Beaufort district were just as energetic as my father, but they seemed never to get on. They were always busy doing, doing, but never successful. The seasons were always too fast for their work, and their expenditures too fast for the crops.

Allowing for proper and due filial devotion, this commentary has to it a certain earthy quality that testifies to its accuracy and to those skills necessary for the proper management of a plantation. Berners Barnwell Sams has left his own monuments to his industry, initiative, and ability, in the form of the ruins of the house to which he added so much, and the extensive program of land management expressed in the high ground and marsh field systems.

DATAW IN THE LATE NINETEENTH AND THE TWENTIETH CENTURIES

On November 7, 1861, the plantation era came to an abrupt end with the entry of the Federal Navy into Port Royal Sound. The islands were occupied by a Federal garrison and the white population precipitously departed. Very little is known of specific events on

Dataw during the period of occupation, though apparently much or all of the slave population remained. The Sams ultimately lost the island because of nonpayment of the imposed Federal tax, and title was assumed by the United States. The north half of the island was referenced as Datha Point, the south half as Datha Inlet. (United States Court of Claims, Direct Tax Cases 17013 and 17379; Direct Tax Claims Ledger, Beaufort County, 1891, SCDAH).

From 1861 to 1983, Dataw was held by nonresident owners and changed hands, by purchase or inheritance, on numerous occasions. The details of these transactions and the documentation for them is presented below. This section discusses land use patterns on Dataw, insofar as they can be reconstructed, during this period. Occupants of the island through the later nineteenth and into the early twentieth century were black tenant farmers, and it is their activities and settlement pattern that is of primary interest. Sources of evidence for the tenant occupation consist of recorded land transactions, census information, cartographic data, and oral tradition.

Black residents apparently remained on the island following the war, and this occupation may have been continuous with the known Tenant period. It is evident from artifact content that some or all of the outbuildings in the B.B. Sams plantation complex (38BU581) remained in use into the later nineteenth century, as did the house at 38BU496. It was sometime during this period (late 1860s, early 1870s) that the Berners Barnwell Sams house was destroyed in an accidental fire. Occupation was concentrated, however, in the northern part of the island, in the section owned by William Irwin of New York or his estate from 1864 to 1905.

The first (and practically only) legal documentary evidence for the tenant occupation dates to 1875, and consists of a series of agreements between William Irwin and eight individuals. Each person assumed one or more ten acre lots with the condition of satisfying a crop lien under the requirements of "an Act to secure advances for agricultural purposes" (passed by the General Assembly 20 September 1866). Specific lot numbers are referenced, but there is no plat showing their exact location. Some 237 acres valued at \$4,822.84 were thus transmitted. Evidently, conditions of the liens were not satisfied by any of the potential purchasers, as their names do not again occur in the chain of title. Nevertheless, some were long term residents. The original purchasers in 1875 were W.L. Brown, Nelly Scott, Hampton Mitchell, Stepney Mitchell, Tony Moultrie, Phoebe Bryan, Sam Middleton, and Bosen Johnson (Brown's land was transferred to Johnson later in the same year). Of these, Nellie Scott, Hampton Mitchell, Tony Moultrie, and Bosen Johnson were recorded in the Population Census and Agricultural Census of 1880; Nellie Scott and Tony Moultrie were still present in 1900.

The 1880 Census sheets were enumerated, interestingly enough, by R.R. Sams, presumably Robert Randolph Sams (1827-1910), a son of Berners Barnwell Sams (Bond and Sanders 1964). The sheets do not specify residence on Dataw, but page 1 and part of page 2 were recorded on the same day (1 June 1880), so probably included all of the Dataw population. The first family and dwelling is that of Hampton Mitchell, and the seventeenth, on page 2, is Nellie Scott. All individuals listed between Mitchell and Scott were probably Dataw residents, which yields a minimum population count for the island of 65 persons.

These consist of 16 "Farmer", 11 "Keeping house", 36 "At home" (or ditto or blank, categories for children), 1 "Laborer", and 1 "Washer" (or possibly "Worker").

The Agricultural Census was conducted by R.R. Sams on the same day and in the same order of households, with page 1 starting with Hampton Mitchell. Nellie Scott is the fifteenth, and the next person following after her (and the remainder of the list) is identified as a landowner, whereas all known Dataw residents are listed as tenants (fixed money rental, not share of profits). As this landowner also follow Scott's name in the general census, Scott's family would appear to have been the last one counted on Dataw. Hence the minimum population of 65 noted above was the actual population. One person whose name is partially illegible (but best read as Olivia Chaplin) claims status as a farmer in the general census but is not listed in the agricultural census. Her exclusion on the grounds of sex is unlikely, as Nellie Scott is entered into the Agricultural Census.

This farm community cultivated a total of 153 acres, of which 81 acres were in cotton, 56 acres in corn, and 17.5 acres in sweet potatoes (which adds up to one and an half more acres than the total figure as derived from the census). This land yielded 17.75 bales of cotton, 339 bushels of corn, and 1,340 bushels of sweet potatoes. Four milch cows, 2 working oxen, 3 other cattle, 33 swine, and 59 poultry were kept, and 175 dozen eggs were produced. Total estimated value of production was \$2,422.00.

In the census of 1900 (recorded by Anderson Bailey on 19 June 1900) the population of Dataw was 68 (or possibly 69, as one child is separated from her family by the line demarcating Dataw residents on the census sheet). This is practically the same population recorded in 1880. Again, 16 residents are listed as farmers; seven persons are indicated as farm laborers, but there are no other classifications. Nellie Scott, Tony Moultrie, Jerry Robinson, Edward Chisholm, and Edward Johnson remain on Dataw. It is fairly certain that the same person is being recorded in both 1880 and 1900, rather than a child replacing a parent of the same name. The listed ages in the two censuses never correspond exactly but do approximate to a 20 year difference. The family names of Washington and Mitchell also remain on the island.

Though considerable population turnover undoubtedly took place, the census data suggest the presence of a fairly stable tenant community, centered around specific landholdings that were maintained over a long period. Population growth stabilized around the number of individuals that these small holdings could sustain, and excess children presumably established themselves elsewhere. Cotton provided a cash crop that sustained rent payments. Corn and sweet potatoes were probably primarily subsistence crops, to which were added the traditional foods of the river.

The primary location of this tenant occupation was along the north shore of Dataw, where there are now a series of remnant tenant sites that have been largely destroyed by shoreline erosion and by twentieth century cultivation. Clapboard and log construction on piers is documented by period photographs (such as those published in Dabbs 1970). Only limited information on the tenant settlement is available from maps. Several plats are available but none shows any houses aside from the known plantation structures. The most useful cartographic reference is the 1918 Map U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Controlled

Reconnaissance Sheet 807-S-I-E/2, South Carolina Fort Fremont Quadrangle. Field work for the map was completed in 1912 and final compilation was completed in 1918 (Figure 7).

The 1918 Map depicts the old Mink Point road on the southwest side of the island, but there is nothing else in the south half of the island except for the Berners Barnwell Sams house. Oral tradition claims that the better preserved east wing was used for church services during the tenant period. Four houses are shown along the main road at the west center of Dataw. There is cultivated land on the southeast point of the north half of the island that was part of the Irwin holdings. Four houses are located across the center of the north half of the island, with cultivated land around them.

There are three structures in the northeast corner of the island, corresponding approximately with the locations of archaeological sites 38BU512, 38BU516, and 38BU515. One of these structures may represent the Lewis Reeve Sams tabby house (38BU514) prior to its erosion into the marsh. Oral tradition states that it was used for impounding cattle during the tenant period. At the center of the north shore are two more structures, one designated as a schoolhouse. These correspond approximately with archaeological sites 38BU528, 38BU500, 38BU499, and 38BU582. Finally, there are two houses in the northwest corner, in the vicinity of 38BU540 and 38BU541. The large black square shown on the east point is not a feature of the original map.

These 15 structures, of which at least 13 are houses, correspond closely in number with that of the independent farms known to have been present on the island from census data. A cemetery is also indicated on the northwest shore; no evidence of it has been found in the general area. It is evident from the map that the tenant settlement was concentrated in the northern third of the island, with one outlying cluster in the west central portion of the Island.

The period of tenant occupation came to an end in 1928 upon purchase of the island by Kate Gleason. Gleason built a house on the northeast shore; this is the concrete slab on terra cotta piers that is part of archaeological site 38BU537. It was in this period that the southwest sea wall (38BU638) and possibly other sea walls were built or planned. Nathan Robinson, a former island resident born in 1915, was asked to return to the island to serve as caretaker. He remained until the transfer of the property to Elizabeth Sanders in 1933 (personal communication with Willie Robinson, son of Nathan, n.d.).

In the mid-twentieth century, farming and stock raising was continued by nonresidents. The north shore area remained under cultivation and the south end was reopened. The 1956 USGS Frogmore Quadrangle shows these areas as open (Figure 2). Selective logging took place from time to time, as is documented archaeologically at 38BU563 and at another sawdust mound in the southeast corner of the 38BU536 area. Two cemeteries, the Sams family enclosed burial ground that is part of 38BU581, and the black cemetery at 38BU508 are indicated; the absence of the latter on the 1918 Map suggests that 38BU508 is strictly twentieth century.

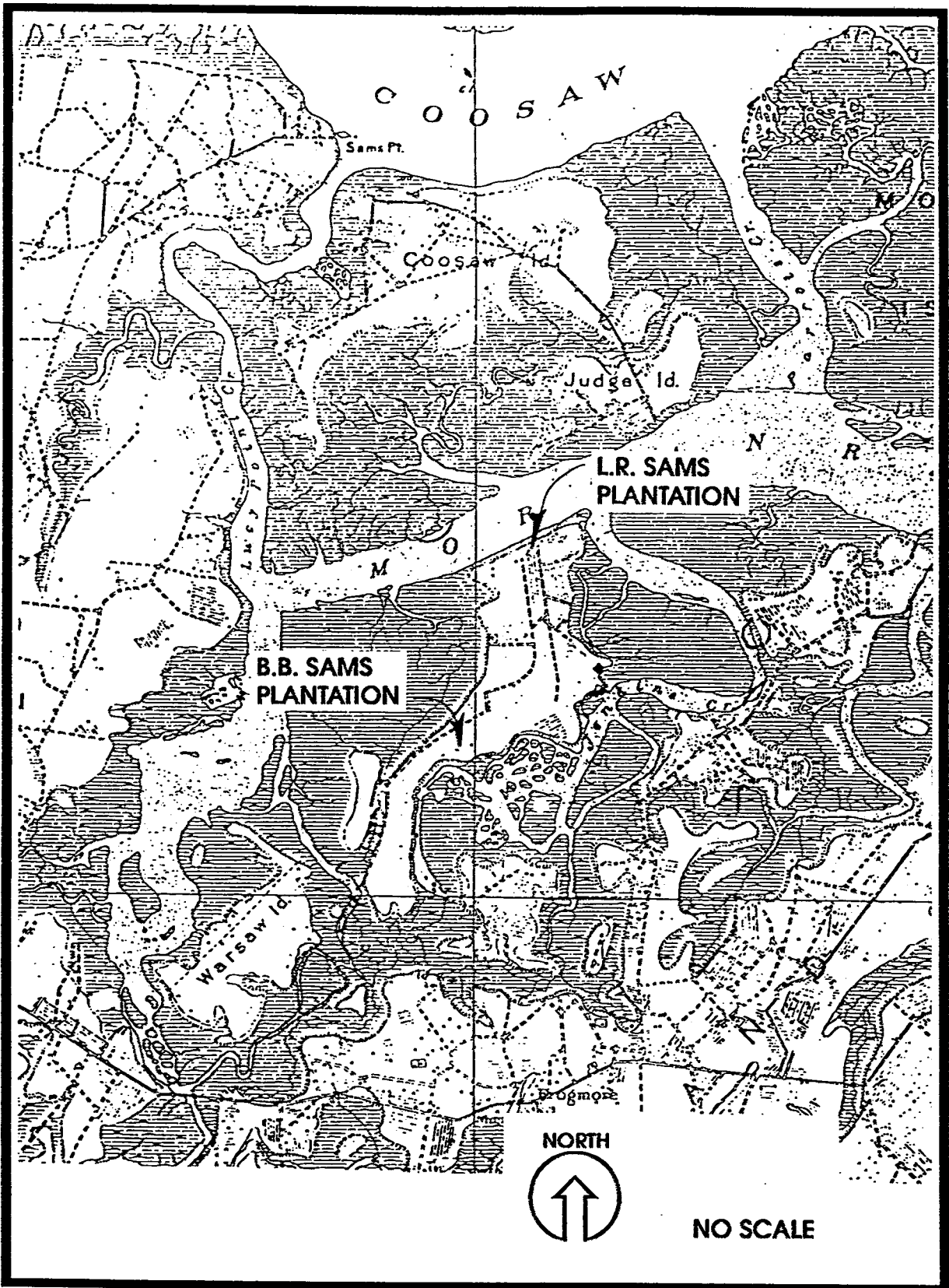


Figure 7. A Portion of the 1918 U.S. Corps of Engineers Controlled Reconnaissance Sheet, South Carolina Fort Fremont Quadrangle Showing Dataw Island.

The only structures depicted on the island on the 1956 map (the most recent) are the Gleason foundation and the cottage built on the east point by the Rowland family. This was a concrete block structure, with the blocks made on site (personal communication, Larry Rowland, n.d.). Cattle were kept on the island during and after midcentury, and the fenced area and ruins of agricultural structures in the area date back to at least this period (personal communication, John Goldsborough, n.d.). Otherwise, the fields and pecan orchard along the north shore were maintained into the 1980s. Fields at the south end were abandoned over the last two decades.

CHAIN OF TITLE

Caleb Westbrook: 24 October 1682, by Warrant for Land (Salley and Olsberg 1973). This document does not specify the location of the property, which is to be subsequently determined. The only evidence that it was located on Dataw is the association of Westbrook's name with the island in two subsequent documents pertaining to Charles Odingsell.

Charles Odingsell: 21 March 1698-99, by Warrant for Land (Salley and Olsberg 1973). This document refers to Westbrook's Island. Also, a Memorandum dated 13 November 1702 referencing the prior document and referring to Westbrook or Datha Island (first use of the name), to which claim is forfeited (Salley and Olsberg 1973), clearing the title for Joseph Boone.

Joseph Boone: 28 September 1702, by Grant (Royal Grants, Office of the Secretary of State Land Grants, Colonial Series; South Carolina Archives). The grant includes all of Dataw, described as 1,170 acres.

Anne Boone: 9 June 1735, by terms of Will of Joseph Boone "for her use and profit during her natural life", after which the property is to pass to Charles and Thomas Boone, sons of Charles Boone, brother of Joseph (Charleston County Will Books).

Charles and Thomas Boone: 1751, by terms of Will of Joseph Boone and that of Anne Boone (Charleston County Will Books); also a Memorial by Charles and Thomas Boone (Memorials, South Carolina Archives).

Anne Wigg: 28 May 1755, by purchase, for £3,510 current money of the province and 10 shillings, from Charles and Thomas Boone (Charleston County Deeds, Register of Mesne Conveyance).

Anne Wigg: 1759, by terms of Will of Thomas Wigg, husband of Anne Wigg; no proven date available (Charleston County Will Books, South Carolina Archives).

Lewis Reeve: 31 December 1770, by terms of Will of Anne Gibbes (formerly Wigg, formerly Reeve, formerly Stanyarne, nee Barnwell), mother of Lewis Reeve (Charleston County Will Books, South Carolina Archives).

Sarah Gibbes: 17 December 1774, by terms of Will of Lewis Reeve, brother of Sarah Gibbes (Charleston County Will Books), and by subsequent family partition between Sarah Gibbes and Ann Carson, sisters, as attested to in an indenture by James Stuart, son of Ann Carson, appended to the 1783 deed of the property to William Sams (see below).

William Sams: 30 May 1783, by purchase for £55,000 currency from Sarah and Robert Gibbes (Charleston County Deeds, Register of Mesne Conveyance).

Elizabeth Sams: 1798, by terms of Will of William Sams, husband of Elizabeth Sams, dated 10 November 1795 (proven date not available), "during the term of her natural life...use of one moiety of my Plantation on Datha Island" (copy of Will of William Sams and Sams Family Papers, South Caroliniana Library).

Lewis Reeve Sams: 1805-1813, by terms of Will of William Sams, father of Lewis Reeve Sams, "my remaining three sons, Lewis Reeve Sams, Berners Barnwell Sams and Edward Hext Sams...whenever all have arrived at the age of twenty one that each so arriving of age shall receive part of my remaining fortune equal to the value of what I have give <sic> to my son William Sams". Lewis Reeve Sams attained his majority in 1805, the youngest brother in 1811; their mother Elizabeth died in 1813, terminating al other claim to the property. The Memoir of James Julius Sams (n.d.), son of Barnwell Sams purchased Edward Hext Sams' interest in the property, and that the island was divided into north and south halves. Lewis Reeve Sams was the owner of the north half of Dataw. No other documentation for this division of the island has been found.

Berners Barnwell Sams: 1808-1813, by terms of Will of William Sams, father of Berners Barnwell Sams, quoted in the preceding entry. Berners Barnwell Sams attained his majority in 1808.

Richard Fuller Sams: 1856, by terms of Will of Lewis Reeve Sams, father of Richard Fuller Sams, dated 22 February 1856, "I will that my plantation on Datha Island be assigned to my two sons Richard Fuller and Thomas Fuller" (Copy of Will of Lewis Reeve Sams, Sr., Sams Family Papers, Beaufort County Library). Also, United States Court of Claims Direct Tax Case No. 17379, in which the Lewis Reeve Sams portion of the island is referred to as Datha point.

Thomas Fuller Sams: 1856, by terms of Will of Lewis Reeve Sams, father of Thomas Fuller Sams, as quoted in the preceding section.

Charles Clement Sams, Bonham Barnwell Sams, Horace Hann Sams: 1855, by division of estate of Berners Barnwell Sams, father of the above; no will has been found. According to United States Court of Claims Direst Tax Case No. 17013, James Julius Sams obtained one third interest in the Dataw property through exchange of other land with Bonham Barnwell Sams, and James Julius Sams and Horace Hann Sams purchased the one third interest of Charles Clement Sams. Charles Clement Sams held a mortgage on Horace Hann Sams property, dated 1 February 1860, which was subsequently transferred (2 March 1860) to Bonham Barnwell Sams. In this document the property is described as all of the south part of Dataw ("six hundred acres more or less, and bounded in the whole To the

North on lands of the Estate of Lewis R. Sams being part of the said Island of Datha and on all other sides by the Marshes and creeks which separate the said Island from the Island of Wassau and Saint Helena"). an earlier mortgage on Horace Hann Sams property, held by Elizabeth Exima Sams, is dated 30 January 1860, and refers to 100 acres known as Hill Fields, bounded on the north by the James Julius Sams, and to the west by land owned by James Julius Sams and Marsh. A number of intrafamilial land transactions which are only partially recorded in public records had obviously taken place.

James Julius Sams and Horace Hann Sams: 1855-1860, by final division of the estate of Berners Barnwell Sams, father of James Julius Sams and Horace Hann Sams, through intrafamilial property divisions that are inadequately recorded (Return of General Tax for St. Helena Parish: Records of Comptroller General, South Carolina Department of Archives and History; also United States Court of Claims Direct Tax Case 17013; and by implication in the 1860 Agricultural Census).

United States: 10 March 1863, by confiscation for nonpayment of taxes; this included both the northern plantation, termed Datha Point, and the southern plantation, termed Datha Inlet.

James Case: 24 February 1864, by purchase at auction from the United States Direct Tax Commissioners of 288 acres designated as Sections 31 and 32, Township One (1) North, Range One (1) East; this was the north end of Dataw (Army, Navy, or Marine Land Certificate No. 157, cited in 1 August 1864 quit claim deed, Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance Deed Book 1, p.184, also map entitled "Township One North and one East of St. Helena's Meridian, S.C.", South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Map Book 22-1).

Cyrus Andrews: 24 February 1864, by purchase at auction from the United States Direct Tax Commissioners of 160 acres designated as Section five in Township One (1) South Range and One East Range; this is the southeast shore of the north part of the island, east of the Berners Barnwell Sams house, 38BU581 (Cash Sale Certificate No. 40, cited in 1 August 1864 quit claim deed, Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance, Deed Book 1, p.186; also Plat dated 29 April 1869).

Henry Kellam and William Calkin: 24 February 1864, by purchase at auction from the United States Direct Tax Commissioners of 548.67 acres total, designated as East half of Section six (207 acres; Army, Navy or Marine Land Certificate No. 154, cited in a 27 February 1867 document transferring title to other parties); also West half of Section 6 (147 acres; Army, Navy or Marine Land Certificate No. 155, cited in above 1867 document); and West half of Section seven (193.67 acres: Army, Navy or Marine Land Certificate No. 156, cited in above 1867 document). this land is located in the south half of Dataw (Plat Maps, 29 April 1869, United States Direct Tax Commissioners). there are separate documents certifying the issuance of the Land Certificates for each certificate; these are all dated 27 February 1867 and are in Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance Deed Book 3, pp.64-69. Payment on the Land Certificates was not completed by Kellam and Calkin and the documents cited above are instruments for the transfer of the property named to Rufus Woods and Joseph Winslow; this transaction is finalized in a Certificate of Final Payment,

dated 18 February 1867, issued by the United States Direct Tax Commissioners (Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance Deed Book 3, p.69). The property description in this final document is somewhat different from that given in the three preceding ones; it excludes the West half of Section six and includes instead the East half of Section 12. No map has been found for the Section 12 property, but in later transactions the land is treated as a unit.

Rufus Woods and Joseph Winslow: 18 February 1867, by payment of monies due on Land Certificates and cash supplement to Kellam and Calkins, as indicated in documents cited in the preceding section; the land in question constitutes roughly the south half of Dataw.

Joseph Winslow: 22 March 1871, by purchase of interest of Rufus Woods and wife (Quit claim Deed, Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance Deed Book 5, pp.322-323).

Amanda Ewing, Edward Winslow, Susan Sawyer, and Emily Winslow: (Cited in 1905 transfer of property to Gustave Sanders, Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance Deed Book 25, p.554). Amanda Ewing was the sole heir of Rufus Woods; the other three parties were presumably heirs to Joseph Winslow at one time or another, as they are mentioned in Quit Claim Deeds in the above cited transfer of the property to Gustave Sanders. Date of assumption of property, or actual possession of title is not established.

Ellen Crofut: 25 August 1882, 5 acres at Mink Point for \$100, by purchase from Joseph Winslow and Rufus Woods, subject to a lien held by William Roach (Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance Deed Books). No further information has been found concerning Roach's lien or any continuing claim to the property that may have been held by Woods.

James Crofut and George Crofut: By inheritance from Ellen Crofut, cited in transfer of land to Ravenel and Brown (see below).

William Irwin and Edward Durant: 1 August 1864, by purchase from James Case and the United States for \$1,087.50 and \$2,662.50 respectively; the north end of Dataw (Beaufort County Deed books, Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance).

William Irwin: 1 January 1866, by purchase (\$2,000) and assumption of responsibility for payment of money owed on the property to the United States, from Edward Durant and wife (Beaufort County Deed Books, Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance).

W.L. Brown, Nelly (or Nellie) Scott, Hampton Mitchell, Stepney Mitchell, Tony Moultrie, Phoebe Bryan, Sam Middleton, Boson Johnson: 4, 6 February and 16 April 1875, assumption of property guaranteed by crop liens, consisting of one or more ten acre lots, from William Irwin (Beaufort County Deed Books, Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance). Terms of these liens were apparently never satisfied, as these names do not appear again in the property record; however, some of these individuals remained on Dataw as late as 1900 (United States Census).

Anna Irwin and Eliza Tabor: January 1884 (date of Quit Claim Deeds from Edward Durant and wife clearing title of property; Beaufort County Deed Books, Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance), by inheritance from William Irwin.

Gustave Sanders: 28 February 1905, by purchase of 448 acres for \$1,100 from Anna Irwin and Eliza Tabor (Beaufort County Deed Books, Beaufort Mesne Conveyance).

Gustave Sanders: 9 February 1905, by purchase of 547 acres for \$500 from Amanda Ewing and Emily Winslow (Beaufort County Deed Books, Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance). By virtue of these purchases on 9 and 28 February 1905 Gustave Sanders reunited Dataw Island under sole proprietorship for the first time since the death of William Sams in 1798, with the exception of 5 acres on Mink Point owned by the Crofut family.

Robert Randolph Sams: No date available; Gustave Sanders transferred title to the Sams Family Cemetery (Part of 38BU581) to Robert Randolph Sams (cited in property transfer to Ravenel and Brown; see below). This transfer is cited in subsequent property transactions, but without definition of actual size of the plot; the cemetery is now "heir's property" of the Sams family.

Theodore Ravenel and Marian Brown: 24 June 1907, by purchase from Gustave Sanders for \$10,000 of Dataw Island, less 5 acres belonging to the Crofut family and the Sams Family Cemetery (Beaufort County Deed Books, Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance).

Theodore Ravenel and Marian Brown: 24 June 1907, by purchase for \$200 of 5 acres (on Mink Point) from James and George Crofut, sole heirs of Ellen Crofut (Beaufort County Deed Books, Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance; reference is made to a plat that could not be located in the Courthouse).

Samuel Stoney: 9 February 1915, by purchase at public auction on 2 February 1915 for \$4,600 of 997 acres, less 5 acres on Mink Point and the Sams Family Cemetery, following on a judgement rendered against Ravenel and Brown et al. on 14 November 1914 (Beaufort County Deed Books, Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance).

Samuel Stoney: 9 April 1918, by purchase at public auction on 4 December 1917 for \$25 of 5 acres known as Mink Point (Beaufort County Deed Books, Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance).

Kate Gleason: 10 January 1928, by purchase from heirs of Samuel Stoney (see above) of 997 acres, less Sams Family Cemetery, for \$15,000 (Beaufort County Deed Books, Beaufort County Mesne Conveyance).

Elizabeth Sanders: 13 January 1933, of "All the Lands...known as Dawtaw Island", by inheritance from Kate Gleason (Beaufort County Will Books).

Richard Rowland and Lawrence Rowland: 9 June 1965, by inheritance from Elizabeth Sanders Rowland, mother of Richard and Lawrence Rowland (Beaufort County Will Books).

ALCOA South Carolina, Inc.: 14 January 1983, by purchase from Richard Rowland and Lawrence Rowland (Beaufort County Deed Books).

This completes the chain of title for Dataw Island up to the year of its purchase by ALCOA South Carolina, Inc., and the establishment of the Memorandum of Agreement concerning historic and archaeological sites on the island.