

We have spent the last few posts presenting the early settlers and landowners on Daufuskie who may not be so familiar to island residents. Following the Revolutionary War, Daufuskie began a transition to the more familiar plantation properties we associate with it today. This post will follow that post-revolutionary transition and not only map out the changes to property boundaries, but changes in property owners as well, ending with the situation existent just prior to the Civil War. This period marks the end of the Martinangele's presence on Daufuskie, and leads up to the arrival of John David Mongin, who will come to own many of the island properties. It is during these years that the plantation properties, as we are more familiar with them today, were defined.

We noted in the August post that despite the confiscations, exiles, sheriff's sales and other documented ownership changes during the Revolutionary War period, the pre-War owners and residents for the most part came back into possession of their properties and returned to the island. The surviving Martinangeles returned to the property owned by the widow Mary Martinangele. Sarah (Sally) Watts retains the Bloody Point property inherited from her ship-builder father. The Ash/Fraser families retain the central portion of the island and appear to have gained property after the war. And Dr. George Haig is in possession of the Haig Point Property, now measured at 852 acres vs. the original land grant of 500 acres given in 1735.

Mary Foster Martinangele, widow of Phillip Martinangele Sr., moved to Daufuskie in 1762 with her eight children after the death of her husband in 1760, purchasing 500 acres from Lancelot Bland. The land was derived from the original land grants to Nicholas Day and Samuel Hilden/John Wright, as we have noted in previous posts. Following the War and the return of her property in 1785, she has her property surveyed and divided into 5-100 acres plots, one for each of her surviving children, Simeon, Abraham, Isaac, Mary and Margaret. (We know about son Phillip's violent murder by the Bloody Legion. Sons Francis and Thomas were not surviving into this period, but little is known about their deaths.) A copy of that survey is provided below.



Daughter Mary, who had married John Hopkins, sold her 100 acres to sister Margaret, creating a 200-acre plantation tract. Margaret, as you may recall, was married to Admiral Richard "Tory Dick" Pendarvis, who was also murdered by the Bloody Legion on their honeymoon in 1781 (see July article). The widow Pendarvis then married William Edwards Mongin in 1783, and they spent at least part of the year on the Martinangele property on Daufuskie.

Abraham Martinangele sold his 100-acre Share to brother Simeon. Simeon married but had no children. Upon his wife's death the 200-acre tract he had owned was divided equally among brother Isaac's children.

Isaac Martinangele married and had 6 children with Elizabeth Godfrey: Phillip, Mary, Love, Isaac, Jr., Mary Ann and Harriet. (Fun fact-Elizabeth was the widow of Anthony Godfrey, who had died of a rattlesnake bite on Daufuskie). Phillip and Mary collaborated to buy their sister Love's share of property, with right of survivorship, and when Phillip was killed by lightning, she inherited his share of the properties. She went on to buy out her sisters' (Mary Ann and Harriett) shares of the properties inherited from Simeon and Isaac. Did you follow all that?

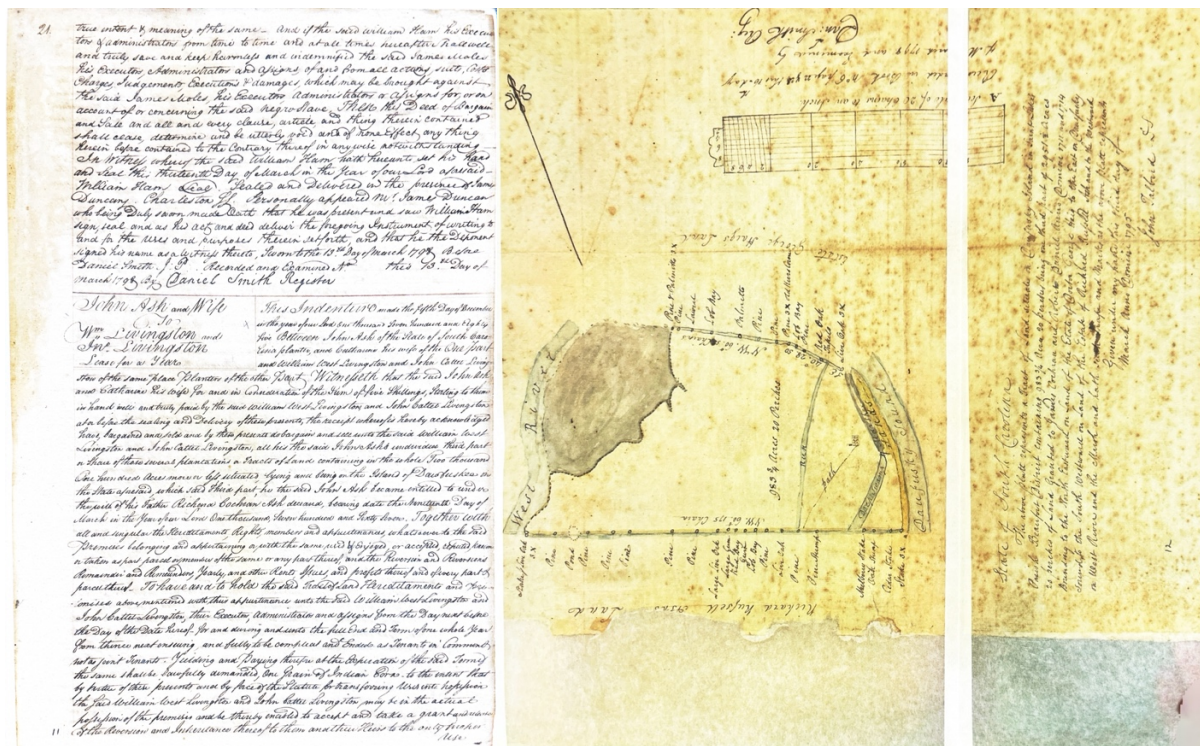
Mary Martinangele married Francis Dunn in 1807 and owned a full 300 acres of the former Martinangele property, now identified as the Mary Dunn plantation. The other 200 acres owned by Margaret (and William Edwards Mongin) was sold to Christian Egleberger following her death in 1801. (Thus we have the Egleberger Plantation.)

The neighboring property of Bloody Point has a more straightforward story. John David Mongin married Sarah Watts in 1790, and the property remained in the Mongin family until the Civil War.

On to the Ash properties, which comprised much of the island. In our August post we included a map of Daufuskie property owners at the time of the Revolutionary War that showed John Ash and Richard Russell Ash owning the properties derived from the

original land grants of 1711 to James Cochran and Robert Daniell. Their properties ran from Haig Point in the north (John Ash owned) to properties owned by James Black and Edward Davies to the south, totaling nearly 2000 acres.

In 1785, John Ash and wife sold a plat, identified as 1/3 of the 2100 acres originally included in his inheritance from Richard Cochran Ash to William West Livingston and John Cattell Livingston. A copy of the first page of the Indenture is included below. (William West and John Cattell Livingston were half-brothers to Richard Russell Ash through their mother Sarah, who had married Henry Livingston, Jr. after the death of Cato Ash, Richard Russell's father.) A copy of the plat (survey) is also shown below, showing that the property runs between the property of Richard Russell Ash to the south, and George Haig's land to the north, totaling 983 acres. (The discrepancy between acreage claims will be cleared up below, but the survey matches what we showed for John Ash's property in the Revolutionary War period.) This property will later become the Cooper River and Freeport plantations.



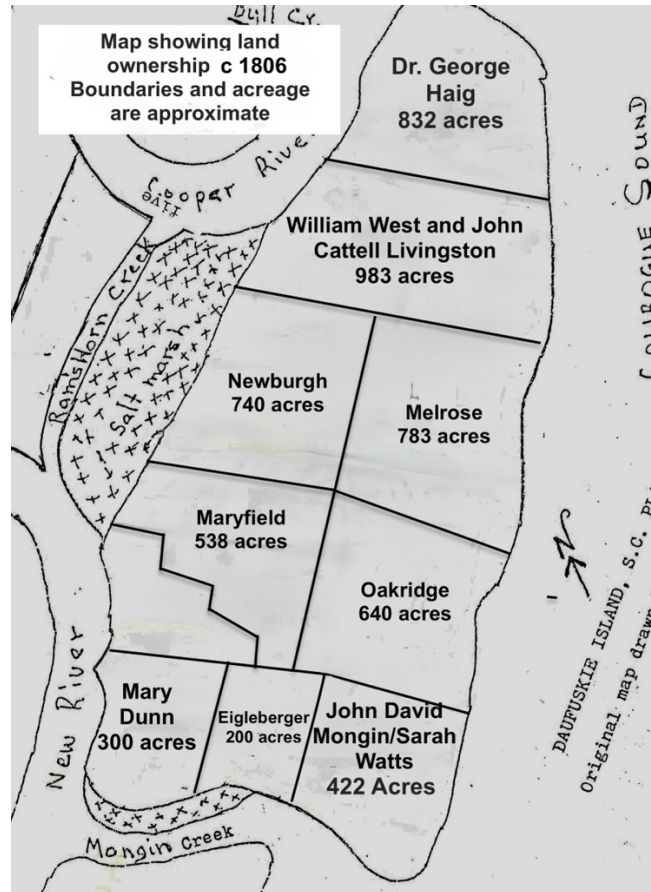
So, a digression is in order here to try and untangle the various documented land surveys and grants applied over time. In this case, we have the original grants to James Cochran (2 x 500 acres) and Robert Daniell (1220 acres) that were awarded in 1711 and passed down through the Cochran family to the Ash family. John Ash's sale to the Livingston brothers says 1/3 of the 2100 acres originally granted but the plat shows 983 acres. This is obviously not 1/3 of the original grants.

In 1787, another survey was done at the request of John Cattle(sic) Livingston. The resurvey is of " a tract of land originally granted for two thousand two and 20 acres (matching the original grants to Cochran and Daniell) but upon said resurvey found to contain three thousand three hundred and forty acres within the lines of the same one thousand one hundred twenty acres thereof being surplus land" The plat is attached below, and it shows the surveyed property being bounded by Dr. George Haig to the north, and grants to Nicholas Day and Samuel Hildon to the south. The grants to Hugh Evans, Elizabeth Varner and Andrew Allen from the 1730's totaling nearly 1900 acres have completely disappeared or been ignored, giving the Ash/Livingston/Fraser families ownership of all Daufuskie from Haig Point down to Bloody Point and the Martinangele property!

We don't have any records at this time to indicate how the land changed hands, but given the turmoil following the Revolutionary War, with confiscations and reinstatement of lands, with James Black dying during the conflict (see the August post) and Edward Davies apparently selling off his major holdings or having to return confiscated property, ownership trails have become blurred to the point where it appears that the Ash/Livingston/Fraser families own most of Daufuskie. Property sizes still don't reconcile but over the course of several posts, we have seen variances between surveys of nearly 50%.

Richard Russell Ash dies in 1806, and it appears he left his property, he having never married, to his sister, Mary Ash Fraser.

Mary Ash Fraser came to control approximately 2600 acres on Daufuskie between the lands left to her and the lands of Dr. James Fraser. She commissioned a survey in 1806 and divided the property into four plantations (maybe for her four sons?), the four being identified as Newburgh, Melrose, Maryfield and Oakridge. A copy of the survey plat is provided below.



There is one curiosity that arises from examining the 1787 Livingston survey and the 1806 Mary Fraser survey, and that is the plot of land that lies to the north of the Martinangele property. The outline of the property on the 1806 plat would appear to match the boundaries of the Benjie's Point plantation of the pre-Civil War map. That boundary does not appear on the 1787 survey, indicating that maybe the land was acquired somewhere in the period between. Later referred to as the "Estate of Webb" the land is not referenced in any land sale documents. More research to follow. (Note that 1806 is prior to the Mongin acquisition of surrounding properties.)

From this point, the ownership changed but the land parcels essentially remained as they were up to and beyond the Civil War. We will tie this post to our earlier March article in a later post.

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