

Some with good memories may remember that in an earlier post we mentioned Robert Watts in conjunction with the Mongin family, who became the owners of many of the plantations on Daufuskie. While at Bloody Point, Robert had apparently befriended William Edward Mongin, husband of Margaret (Martinangele Pendarvis) Mongin, his neighbors (remember the Indenture discussed above, with Bloody Point bounded by the property of Mrs. Martinangele, who would have been Margaret's mother). When Robert Watts died, he left his daughter Sarah as the ward of William Henry and Margaret Mongin. She would have been about five years old when her father died. She (Sarah) later met John David Mongin ("Money" Mongin) when he visited his half-uncle on Martinangele plantation, (later called Egleberger) and they were married in 1790.

The story goes that John David Mongin's marriage to Sarah (Sally) Watts led to his inheritance of Bloody Point upon her death. She had supposedly inherited the Bloody Point plantation from her father, Robert. The paper trail following Robert's death muddies the water a bit and raises questions about that ownership trail. Unfortunately, Beaufort County is listed as a "burned county", meaning that many pre-Civil War records were destroyed as a result of the War, but we will present a few documents here to raise the questions and see if we can't find some answers in a future post.

With Robert Watts' death in 1775, Sarah (Sally) Watts would presumably be his heir. Although there is a mention of a sister, Jane Watts, there does not appear to be any information on her. This is a bit curious since she is presented as having been married at Bloody Point in 1790, but the uncertainty may be a result of the actual status of the Bloody Point property as discussed below.

In November of 1771, Robert Watts appears to have pledged the Bloody Point property to Robert Inglis to secure debts. A copy of the first page of the document is attached below. The document allows Robert Watts and family to remain on the property, but they could be evicted for nonpayment of the sums listed in the document. There does not appear to be any record of Inglis repossessing the property, so Robert Watts probably paid off his debts. It does show he was leveraging Bloody Point to cover debt.

W^r. Robert Watts

To
W^r. Alexan^r Inglis
Lesse

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This Indenture made the Twenty
third Day of July in the Year of our Lord
one Thousand seven Hundred and seven
by One and in the Eleventh Year of the

Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the Grace of God
of Great Britain France and Ireland King defender of the faith
and so forth Between Robert Watts of Bloody Point in the
Province of South Carolina Ship Winder of the one part and
Alexander Inglis of Savannah in the Province of Georgia a
Merchant of the other part Witnesseth that the said Robert Watts
for and in Consideration of the sum of Five Shillings Lawfull
Money of the Province of Georgia aforesaid to him in hand paid
by the said Alexander Inglis at or before the sealing and Delivery
of these presents the Receipt whereof the said Robert Watts doth
hereby Acknowledge He the said Robert Watts hath Bargained
and Sold and by these presents doth Bargain and Sell unto the
said Alexander Inglis All that Plantation or Tract of Land contain
ing Four Hundred and Twenty two Acres situate on Daufuskee
Island in St. Lukes Parish Greenville County in the Province of
South Carolina aforesaid Bounded to the Northwest on W^r.
Martin angles Land to the North East on Land of W^r. Evans to
the South to the South Eastward on Daufuskee Sound and to the
North west on Daufuskee Creek Together with all and singular
the Houses out Houses Barns Stables Orchards Gardens Yards
Meadows Pastures Feedings Commons Woods Coppices Ways
Waters Water courses Liberties Priviledges Easements Duties
Profits Commodities Emoluments Hereditaments and Appur
tenances whatsoever therunto Belonging or in any wise Ap
pertaining or Accented Reputed Taken or known Used Enjoyed
Held Occupied Leased or Demised as part Parcel or Member of
the same and the Reversion and Reversions Remainder and a
Remainders Rents Issues and Profits of all and singular the
premises and every part and Parcel thereof with their and every
of their Rights Members and Appurtenances To have and to

The next document is a 1777 release from Beaufort County Sheriff John Rhodes to Edward Davies for the Bloody Point property, as well as some properties in Beaufort. The document details a public sale of seized properties of Robert Watts, who had died two years prior. Edward Davies submitted the highest bid for the Bloody Point and Beaufort properties.

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to me Daniel Giroud. Witnesses Will Brabant Beaufort District
South Carolina. George Walton of Savannah in the province of
Georgia Attorney at Law being duly sworn saith that he was pre-
sent and saw the within named Daniel Giroud sign seal
and as his act and deed deliver and for the purposes therein
mentioned the within written Indenture of release and also one other
Indenture of bargain & sale and further that he saw the said Da-
niel Giroud sign the receipts indorsed respectively unto the said
Indentures and lastly that one William Brabant since decea-
sed and the deponent subscribed their names as Witnesses there-
to. Geo Walton Sworn to the 25th May 1775 before Edward Da-
vies J. P. Recorded and Examined the 2^d day of September
1784 by *Mary C. Register*

John Rhodes Esquire Sheriff South Carolina This In-
of Beaufort District to wit: demore made the twenty fifth
Edward Davies Release in day of April in the year of our
fee simple of 222 acres of lord one thousand seven hundred
land on Daufuskey Island and seventy seven Between John
& three lots in Beaufort N^o 460. Rhodes Sheriff of Beaufort dis-
trict or precinct in the state of South Carolina of the one
part and Edward Davies of Beaufort in the said state mer-
chant of the other part Whereas Robert Watts of Bloody
point on the Island called the Daufuskey in the parish
of Saint Helena and state aforesaid was lately seized in
his demesne as of fee and possessed of and in a certain planta-
tion or tract of land containing four hundred and twenty
two acres situate on Daufuskey Island in Saint Lukes pa-
rish Granville County in the state aforesaid butting and
bounding to the North West on land of Mrs Martingale
to the North East on land of Mr. Evans to the South East
Ward on Daufuskey sound and to the North West on

Whereas Robert Watts of Bloody Point on the Island called the Daufuskey in parish of Saint Helena and state aforesaid was lately seized in his demesne of fee and possessed of and in a certain plantation or tract of land containing four hundred and twenty two acres situate on Daufuskey Island in Saint Lukes parish Granville County in the state aforesaid butting and bounding to the North West on land of Mrs Martingale to the North East on land of Mr. Evans to the South East Ward on Daufuskey sound and to the North West on Daufuskey Creek Also of land in a certain lot of land situate and lying and being in the town of Beaufort

So, we will leave the story there. How did the property get back to Sarah Watts, or John Mongin? We don't yet have the paper trail, and we may not be able to find one, but we do know that eventually by the early nineteenth century, the property was owned by the Mongins. But we'll leave that topic until after we present some stories in July about Daufuskie during the Revolutionary War, in recognition of the 250th birthday of the USA.