

F.D.27. Household 21.

Wiltshire	George	Head	M.M.	60.	Farmer	Mixed Farm
"	Emeline	Wife	F.M.	45.2.2.	Homemaker	
"	Hubert	Son	M.S.	14.	Student	
Chung	Roslyn	S/Dau	F.M.	31.1.1.	None	
"	Lamata	G/Dau	F.S.	2.		

First visit
13. V. 47.
J. O. + T. O.

Wiltshire George is of an English parentage. His parents came from England and settled down in Warsop. They came as small children - it was really his grandparents who arrived here as new settlers. ~~He inherited this farm from his parents~~ It was in 1841. He inherited this farm from his parents. The family tombs are down here. ~~There~~ His father, and his mother, and his sisters lie in these tombs. ~~His father's tomb is not here. He went to Panama and died there.~~ His grand-father's tomb is not here. He went to Panama and died there.

His parents were cultivators - just as he is. His house is on the same place ~~in~~ where was the house of his father and ~~all~~ the farm is on the same place too. His father planted coffee and ginger - these were the main crops at that time. Now the ~~main~~ best crop is banana. They turned to plant banana instead of coffee and ginger about 1900, when he was ab. 20 years old.

The size of his farm is now of 12 acres. He gave this figure in a vague way. 4 acres are under banana. It pays the best. He gets now 7/2 for a bunch of bananas. No other crops are planted on the banana ground. The ground remains clean. He prevents washing of soil by rains by means of ditches which divert water and lead it down into the valley. There is really no main crop on his farm. Everything is planted and produced on his farm. There is a coffee grove, and a coffee barbecue to clean the grains from the parch. The parch is not sold or prepared in any way for sale. It is thrown away. There are also some bread-fruit trees, pimento trees, and other plants like pepper, yams etc. There are also coco-nuts. The last hurricane made a lot of damage to plantations and he suffered lot. He is insured against the hurricane /showed me the insurance book for bananas/.

He has a pig which he ~~would~~ might sell now not for less than £ 10. It weighs 200 lb; is fed on bread fruit, bananas, yams. The price of a small pig is £ 1. He does not know of what breed is his pig but is very proud of it and of his breeding achievements.

He showed us his house. It is a wooden house with nice veranda facing the main road. There is a flower garden in front of the house and economic trees /coconuts, pimentos, bread fruits and bananas and coffee bushes/ surround it from all sides. The house is subdivided into a central part - the largest one - where the family photographs decorate the walls, covered with a tapistry of magazine and newspaper cutting. There is a bench of a noble wood, a part or an adaptation of some ~~old~~ piece of old Jamaican furniture. There is also a mahogany probably desk-table /beaureau?/ covered ~~with~~ on ~~which~~ which all the family "china" is exhibited. A more modest table on the opposite wall is adorned with another collection of crockery. On both sides of the hall there two tiny rooms which serve probably as the slipping rooms. We were not invited to enter them.

Mr. Wiltshire showed us the family photographs: it was a photograph of his son in law, his daughter and granddaughter. ~~There~~ The persons were nicely dressed in town-dresses. His son-in-law and his daughter live in Kingston.

He has a son who ~~says~~ stays with him on the farm. "He is a ~~big~~ big man now, you will see him soon. He went to the church but will be back soon." He works with him on the farm.

We visited the farm of Mr. Wiltshire invited by him to see the pig. We were followed by other people who participated in the introductory talk on a hill ~~facing~~ along the parochial road facing Mr. Wiltshire's farm. There were two brothers Green and their sister present at our visit and another man joined soon. In the house we met Mrs. Wiltshire and noticed ~~some~~ a girl of 8-10 in the yard. Mr. Wiltshire is slightly ~~coloured~~ coloured; his wife is intensely ~~coloured~~ coloured if not black; their son who came at the end of our visit is like his father only very slightly colored; he was dressed in a nice tropical suit of white or slightly beige ~~colour~~ colour and looked like a young middle-class man. He was in the local school for 8 years and finished it 2 years ago. He did not attend any agricultural school or training course. Does not belong to any organization, except the cricket club. He was very interested in cricket and wanted to show me the cricket ground. ~~They~~ He agreed that bats are expensive /3-4 pounds/; ~~but~~ they did not buy them but made themselves.

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shmann.

Wiltshire is German. He is of a German origin. His father was probably an Englishman, but his mother was German. He has a lot of land -- probably some 40 acres. His daughter is ~~now~~ married to a ~~Chinese~~ Chinese. They stay in Kingston. Last week she was on a visit at her father's house. It looked as if she did not like ~~him~~ and ~~she~~ was not very bright about our plan of going to Wiltshire next day to study Warsop agriculture.

EC. There is a colony near Albert Town called German Town. It is supposed to have been settled early in this century. When the country was "opened up" they scattered to other parts.

There is also a German colony, much older, at Seaford Town, in Westmoreland -- also near the Cockpit country. This group was the ~~subject~~ subject of Davenport's study. I do not know the date of this settlement but information could be got from the Catholics who have organized an Egg Co-operative in the district. This was started by Ascoli and continued under the auspices of the Co-operative Council.

ECT T.O. Attended Harvest Festival Service at the Anglican Church at 4 p.m. today. Wiltshire junior sings in the Choir and gave the male solo in the Anthem. ~~He~~ Has a natural tenor untrained. There were two soloists -- the other was Miss Wright the assistant Post Mistress who has a small but quite lovely soprano and in spite of nervousness was charming. Very smart hat turned off her face. Is a beauty.

12th May 1947.
Monday. 11.a.m.
E.C.

George Wiltshire's house is on a rising on the right hand side of the Parochial Road leading to Mount Tapp. y. I was sitting on a stone on the rising on the other side of the road trying to draw a diagram of the road and plotting the houses. I called a girl passing on the road to help me with the names of the houses. She said her name was Eda Robinson and that she lived with the Wiltshires. At that moment I saw a fattish coloured woman in a pink dress coming down from the Wiltshires house towards us. Eda said it was Mrs Wiltshire. She looked a bit fierce and I thought might be resenting our taljing to the girl -- obviously asking questions. So I shook hands introduced myself and Miss Dale and explained what we were doing. She asked us to come in and meet her husband.

We found George Wiltshire sitting on a bench on the verandah, leaning forward looking out on his cultivations and a very good view of, the Warsop road opposite. He is a white man, of English parentage he says, with a lined unhealthy face and a figure that was once possibly spare and lean but has now gone to seed. The whole appearance of the man is listless, disillusioned and hopeless. He is the "poor white" of the Island, such as it exists. He was in a torn shirt -- his wife when bringing us forward said: "See him on the verandah, naked!" with a laugh, half contemptuous and half fond. I introduced myself and said I should appreciate his telling me something about farming practices in the district as I could see he was a good cultivator. (This is not accurate altogether). He was at first slow and difficult in conversation. He seemed to speak with a physical effort either as if he were very very tired, or ill, or even as if he had been drinking. But he answered my question as to whether he would tell me something of the history of an old Warsop family like his, ~~fairly~~ fully enough and without too much prompting. It was rather laborious however and fearing that he might be bored with me, I said after about half an hour that I did not want him to be tired of me so I would go now but perhaps I might come again another time. He then woke up, and said very firmly that he was not and "could never be" tired of me. After that, somewhat encouraged we really got going.

Family History : His Grandparents, Frederick and Maria Wiltshire came to Jamaica two years after the abolition of slavery bringing with them his father, a small boy, and a number of other children, all of whom however ~~had~~ died and without descendants.

His father's name was Alfred Wiltshire and his mother's Rhoda Wiltshire.

The grandparents came out on contract to Mr Carter who was a slave holder. After Emancipation Mr Carter had no labour for his property so he sent to England for these people. They (his grandfather was only one of a group: trace the rest) were labourers, but when they came to Jamaica they would not submit to the work. His grandparents only worked for Carter for about 2 years. Then they scattered and bought their own land.

The grandparents first lived all about -- they were "back in Spring Garden" in a place called Durham. Then they were in Warsop District (pointing towards Bottom Warsop) -- "the same Warsop" -- and then they came "here" and bought 100 acres off Durham property.

I asked here if he knew anything of the history of the old "Patents" and referred to "Carter's Patent" on the Cadastal Map.

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Mr W. said It went like this. After Christopher Columbus discovered Jamaica, he was a Spaniard, and he sent out his crew and they inhabited the place. But the English fought and took it away, and after that all dese English come out and dey Patent whatever dem like, (Notice the change from correct English to dialect when emotion was introduced). Dem giv' de properties de names after dem own selves. One Patent is in de name of Allsides; one Patent is Durham; one Patent is Wilson Valley. One in de name of Troy. But dem leave it and went away after slavery abolish. Because there was no more labourers. It was de slaves doing all de work. Allsides was never sold. It left from generation to generation in the same race (i.e. family). But Durham owner and Troy sold out. And Wilson Valley.

The Wiltshire property. Of the original 100 acres purchased by his grandfather, he inherited from his father only 23 acres. Some of the property was sold by the grandfather before his death: some by his father. He still has the same amount he inherited; he has not sold any nor has he added any.

The Family. George Wiltshire and his wife (Emmeline) and the son Hubert live in the house.

The daughter, Rosalind, is married to "a Chinaman" named Hubert Chang and has gone to live in Kingston. I was shown a large size studio portrait of the granddaughter and a more old-fashioned "family portrait" of the daughter, son-in-law and daughter posed against a studio sky-set. Both Mr and Mrs W. said they liked their son-in-law and that the couple were happy and doing well. He was in business. He did not know whether his son-in-law was related to the Changs in Warsop -- probably so, "they all were."

te: It is only on my return to office that I note that the C.Sch. state that Rosalyn (Rosalind) is Wiltshire's "step-daughter". Her age at the time of the Census was 31. Hubert's, the son, 14. This would make the son now 19. But his father gave me his age as 17. And his mother said, when I inquired whether he was married, that he "was only a child."

Mrs Wiltshire's maiden name was Mendez and she is a sister of Victor Mendez, the Tailor. (see C.H.)

 Asked Mr W. what was his opinion of the standard of farming in the district and whether ~~ixxwax~~ a satisfactory living could be made out of the holdings. He said that a man could not live on less than 30/- a week and keep a family. To make 30/- a week out of agriculture would require a minimum holding of 15 acres. Of Mixed Cultivations.

Yams: It was possible to ~~grxxx~~ have 1000 "banks" of yams on one acre of land.

He had 500 Banks on his holding. He could not tell me what amount of yams, in weight, he got last year out of that number of banks. But he knew he was getting 20/- per cwt now -- "if you had any to sell."

His most lucrative crop? Not Bananas -- he would not be telling the truth if he said Bananas. It was Pimento. ~~xxx~~ He had no cane. (There are a few roots round the house visible from the verandah where we sat, presumably grown only for home use.) He has no Panama Disease on his land. He has Leaf Spot. Leaf Spot comes on "when winter starts-- when winter starts? 27th November? -- and it troubles the leaves right through the winter."

The people cultivate and will work hard when they have the work. But the Government does not help them. In other countries the Government helps farmers but the Jamaica Government does nothing for them. If they got Loans from the Government they had to pay the Interest but that did not touch the Loan itself which still had to be paid. So that the Loan was an embarrassment -- not

a help. Then rent at 32/- per acre was too high. The Government has a lot of land but they wont rent it. Their land is cheap -- only 14/- per acre to rent. Some of it is very rocky but some is good. They have old tenants but they wont take any new ones. I dont know the reason.

Stock. I have no stock except two goats. I had a pig. I dont have any now. I dont have luck with cows. (He has land enough to run three or four and to grow grass to feed them.) He had one. He did not know what breed it was -- just a Jamaica cow. They had a very good breed called "Dairy". But we the small man cant get good cows -- the big men hold them up and we cant get them. He was not a member of the Agricultural Society. He dont like to join anything now. He was old. He said he was 65. But he had bad eyes. He tried on my glasses (sun ones) but said they were "dark". At 65 a man was too old. He could not work now as he used to.

He had heard of the idea of the Revolving Herd. He thought it was a good idea. He said would I come again. He saw the camera and said would I come and take one when the sun was out. It was raining and I left after promising to take his picture.

Form Schedule Material re Wiltshire (date of Census 1942).

Occupied this land : 46 years. As owner.

Operates 2 pieces : 25 acres; $\frac{3}{4}$ acre. Total $25\frac{3}{4}$

Main source of income from Farm: Coffee, Banana; Pimento.

Farm Population: 6; 1 under 14 yrs; 3 male and 2 F. 14 yrs and over

Labour employed : Temporary 2 M. 2 F. Works himself all year.

Condition of Land on Farm.

8 acres in cultivation.

2 " cultivable land neither cultivated nor used in 1942.

$15\frac{3}{4}$ " not used.

Value of Farm (Land and Buildings) £370. (This is grossly undervalued)

Value of Farm Buildings £120.

There is a water supply for livestock on the Farm.

Crops. No Vegetables grown for Home use or sale.

Economic Trees: Ackees: 1. 50 heaps.

Breadfruit. 26. fruiting, 10 not fruiting. 60 doz

Bananas: 400 fruiting; 400 not fruiting. 1 acr. 150 Bunches.

Pimento: 150 " 50 " " 700 lbs.

Cane : 4/10 acre. 4 tons. 20 tins wet sugar.

Congo : 1/10 " 1 Bush. 64 lbs.

Ginger : 5/10 " 1,100 lbs.

Yams (yellow) 1 acre: 8000 lbs. Coffee; 5 acrs. 1000 lbs.

Livestock. 1 swine 6 months and over.

Hens and cocks: 2.

Eggs: 4 doz.

Tuesday

21.10.1947.

T.O.

The big man's day.

Mr. Wiltshire was sitting in front of his "buttery". The son was writing notes and accounts in a copy-book. It was a coffee-picking day. Mrs. Wiltshire, the servant Ashman and another man were picking coffee. Asman was bringing ~~the~~ the beans in a tin and pouring it into a barrell almost full. A wooden bowl was ~~also~~ also almost filled. Mr. Wiltshire was speaking to a young man in rags. He paid him (to the young man) 14/6 for some work and the young Wiltshire put it in the copy-book. Then came Mrs. Edith Green and gave Wiltshire 10/-. Afterwards came a young man well clad and they were speaking something concerning rent.

Mr. Wiltshire rents a lot of land. He also sold some of his land and is selling. "Wiltshire him kind" said one of his tenants Cecilia Green. His tenants and his poorer neighbours work for him. Judging by Green's budget he often gives people help in money or kind.

"What you have to give me?" asked me Mr. Wiltshire. "A cigarette" I said. "Only that?". "What else could I give you?" "Money" he said. I told him that probably he was much richer than I was. He has a nice house, lot of land, good cultivations. He repeated proudly: "Yes a house, land". He told me that the boards and poles which were leaning against the buttery were to built a veranda at the back of his house. He wants to have a veranda round the house. Now there is one in the front and at one side. The servant-girl Ida Robinson was in the kitchen grinding coffee. The servant David Ashman lives in the buttery. He works also for Miss Heighton on her rent field in All Sides. After a while, the young Wiltshire went into the house and put on new trousers and hat. Mr. Wiltshire was very interested in the pictures we took of his house and family some weeks ago. I promised to bring him some. He was clad in a shirt much patched and torn. He sat there in the middle of his yard and people were constantly coming to him with the money or for the money or with the coffee. Mrs. Wiltshire did not bring coffee. She probably only picked it and supervised the men doing it. When Ashman brought his load Wiltshire speeded him to return. He also investigated from the servand Eda about somebody who was in the kitchen - why he is not going to pick the coffee.