

C.D. 22 Sbd. 12. Household 72.

Simpson	Ethel	Head	F.S.	60	?	St. Eliz.	Col.	Angl.	X.	Homemaker
"	Sydney	son	M.S.	15		"	"	"	X	None
"	Easton	son	M.S.	13		"	"	"	W.1.	O.E.
"	Fearis	son	M.S.	11		"	"	"	X	No
"	Enid	dau	F.S.	8		"	"	"	W.2.	4.E.

Her farm in 1942.

5

3 acres p 3.

Under one acre.

1 swine, 2 sheep, 2 goats.

Garden crop value £ 12.

5 coconuts = 50 nuts.

5 mangoes = 120 doz.

Inform. Dudley Simpson.  
13.3.48.  
J.O.

Ethel Simpson - her  
land. Her father.

"Ethel Simpson got her land from her father. Her father was Archibald Simpson, my uncle, my father brother."

"Ethel Simpson, Edith Sinclair and my land was one land. My grandfather's land.

It was subsequently subdivided and passed to descendants. "Share up and pass on."

Sydney Simpson,  
grandson of Archibald  
and William Simpson,  
son of Ethel Simpson  
and Egbert Simpson.

Sydney Simpson, the eldest son of Ethel Simpson, lives in her mother's home. He is grandson of Archibald Simpson through his mother, and of old William Simpson through his father. His father is Egbert Simpson.

Egbert Simpson lived with Ethel Simpson for years, but they did not marry. He left her for another woman, with whom he lives now.

"Egbert Simpson give Ethel Simpson 5 children. Afteward him leave him /-her/ out and take another woman. Him living now in the place we call Lodwood. Adjoining to Ridge."

is

Sydney Simpson's  
own house.

Sydney Simpson "building a little house. In fact, he has it even. But nobody lives there. Him living together with the mother."

Inform.: Ezra Linton, Dudley Simpson, Laban Rochester.  
~~18.4.48~~  
18.4.48.  
T.O. & J.O.

Ethel Simpson is known under her "little  
petname 'Giddy'"

"First wife of Egbert Simpson."

~~XSYDNEYVSIMPSONVSIVIVVIXINGXWITVNERVXV  
XAX~~

Her children

All the children listed in the census 1942/43 still live with their mother ~~in~~ in the same home. "Sydney Simpson still living with her, he built his own house, but did not move as yet. Easton and Fearis also with her. Enid leave school - she living now in Mr. Panton Rochester home to care one baby: Lucille Rochester baby, the girl that went to America."

In the meantime the family has been enlarged by one new member: Sydney's outside child with Clarice Roy. "Sydney has one little child living with grandmother, a girl Joyce. The mother is Clarice Roy."

Their land and means of subsistence.

"Them have more than one acre, them have three acre. Ethel the owner. Three sons working land. They work also other people land. Fearis work on Mr. Linton land - on share. Sydney work Miss Martha Rochester land and him work him father land - Egbert Simpson. Easton - him work mother land and Linette Lewis (Linette Simpson) land."

Visit at home. Interv. Ethel Simpson and her daughter  
22.6.48. Ina Simes.  
T.O.

Present household:

Simpson Ethel	head.	over 60	7.7	Bull-Sav,	} 5	x at home
" Easton	son	M.S.		"		cultivat.
" Sydney	son	M.S.		"		"
<del>" Clifton</del>	<del>son</del>	<del>M.S.</del>		<del>"</del>		<del>"</del>
" Fiery	son	M.S.	17	"		"
" Enid	dau	F.S.	15	"	at home.	
" Joyce	gr. dau		2			
paying a 2 weeks visit:						
Simes Ina	dau	F.M.	23	"		lives in Kingst.
" Leni	gr. son		4			"

*see p. 4!  
which is correct.*

*with Father*  
*→*

When I came Ina was washing outside the house and Fiery was feeding the pig. Ina called mother who was in Panton Rochester's house. Ethel Simpson came and invited me to go into the house.

The house is a very small one consisting of two rooms. The kitchen is in a separate hut all thatch.

We went into one of the rooms. I sat on the bed which filled more than half of the room. Ethel stood against the wall facing me. Her daughter Ina stood outside and peeped into the room through the small window. The son Fiery sat in the doorway.

The old lady was friendly enough and we started to talk about Dudley Simpson who is a great friend of ours and a first-cousin of Ethel. Her daughter Ina was smiling all the time in the window and gladly answering questions. But the boy Fiery sat like a stone in the doorway, his resentment and suspicion written all over his beautiful expressive face. I offered to everybody cigarettes. Fiery took one without thanking or smiling. I said I knew his brother Easton well and asked him his name. "Ask mother" he grumbled. Throughout the interview he kept his piercing eyes on his mother, whose answers grew shorter and hesitating, till finally she run out of the house under some pretext and reappeared only when I was leaving. The sister Ina didn't mind her brother at all, she was easy and smiling all the time.

Ethel Simpson is the daughter of Archie Simpson and Rachel daughter of Alleck Rochester. Ethel was born in the same place where she lives now. The old house tumbled down however and in its place Ethel built this one a few years ago. Ethel was the only daughter of her parents. Of her three full brothers only one is alive: Wilbert Simpson who lives in Clarendon. Those two died when they were "big somebody, died of fever, in those days doctors didn't know, they die of want" Ethel had a half brother by the same mother: Joshua Powell. He lives in Ridge. She sees him very often. "Every day, sometime 3 times a day, I go to him - he come here, a dear brother and helpful".

After her father's death the mother went to Clarendon, where she married somebody. She took with her the son Wilbert Powell. This was 8 years ago. The mother died in Clarendon. (Obviously it couldn't have been only 8 years ago. Ethel says she remembers Emma Linton - Judith Rochester mother - "as a size child I was a big woman at the time". Emma Linton is well over 60 now. So Ethel's mother 8 years ago must have been at least over 70. It is highly improbable she found a suitor at that age. On the other hand Ethel's youngest daughter is 15 now, so Ethel can't be much more than 60. All this age arithmetic is very perplexing and ~~it~~ seems never to fit.)

Ethel didn't have much to tell me about her childhood at home. She ~~xxxx~~ is far from being intelligent and besides got more and more confused under her son's piercing eyes. His sulky silence made my questions sound somehow hollow and the old lady was answering questions like a paid witness in a lost case.

Her first child was Michael Rochester. His father was Isiah Rochester - brother of LaDan Rochester. Soon after the child's birth Isiah emigrated to Panama and never came back. Ethel doesn't remember ~~xxxx~~ Michael's age, but knows he is a few months older than his half-brother (by the same father) Reginald Rochester. (See F.R.6) Isiah - according to his brothers - left Bull Savannah 39 years ago, so the eldest son of Ethel must be at present nearly 40. Michael emigrated to Portland 14 years ago. He married there and has 3 children. A few years ago he went to America and for the savings bought land in Portland on which he lives now with his family. Michael never came to Bull-Savannah after he left 14 years ago. Ethel never went to visit him in Portland. But once when she was in Kingston she sent him a telegram to come and he came to see his mother. Ina - Michael's half-sister - went once to visit him. She says she prefers much more in Bull Savannah than in Portland but wasn't able to tell me why. All the remaining 6 children were for Gilbert Simpson.

Ina - her eldest daughter went to Kingston 5 years ago. There she married - as she says showing her ring - a Mr. Simes. He is a Pnamanian, who came to Jamaica a few years ago. He "works on the wharf for the government". They live 153 Spanish Town Road "near the gas station above the shop". She has one child with him a 4 years old boy Leni who came with her to pay a ~~xxxxxxx~~ visit to Ethel. They will be staying a fortnight.

Sydney, Easton, Clifton ~~xxxxx~~ Fiery and Enid stay with the mother. Joyce is a daughter of Sydney and Clarisse Roy.

Ethel says she prefers small children to big. "Small children you can manage them, when they grow they want to head." She said all her sons were helping her. "They work I have to reap." However she best workers and those who help her best are Fiery and Easton. "I don't speak of girls - this one does her best for me" she said pointing to Ida and as if apologising for saying Fiery and Easton were the best.

When I asked her about her husband, she told me he was dead. I was a little astonished as I knew her husband left her and was living near Ridge with another woman. I asked when he died, she said not long ago. He got fever and died right in this house - not in the hospital. She even told me how she took care of him. Why she told me this intentional lie I don't know. I didn't correct her nor asked inquisitive questions in this matter. I wanted to ask her where he is buried, but refrained. It occurred to me that the sulkiness of the boy might have been connected with this subject - but perhaps it wasn't.

After this Ethel left the room. I stayed for a little while with Ida, Fiery and Enid, who came from Panton rochester's house. She is a good looking girl. I tried to establish a friendly contact with Fiery but he wouldn't respond. He is the first person in Bull Savannah who behaved like that towards me. I asked where Panton Simpson lived (just to finish the interview - I knew where he lived) and they said they didn't know Panton at all. After a while they realised it's the man whom they call Maury. Fiery took me a few steps on the path leading towards Maury's house and Ethel stood a long time at the end of her garden waving the direction I should take.

While I was talking for the few minutes with Ida she said she will send her son next year (he will be 5) to a private school. She said she had relatives in Kingston "but we don't visit each other much". She wouldn't say why she preferred to stay in Kingston than in Bull-Savannah - always giggled when asked this question. She never brought her husband to Bull-Savannah - wouldn't say why, I got the impression she didn't realize herself why. Perhaps she didn't want to show him her mother's humble home. Ida looks quite well off, she had a good clean dress although she was washing. The mother hinted she helps her a lot. Ida also wanted to impress me her husband was earning well - he is working every day and for the government - not like those other wharf workers.

The land. During our conversation Ethel said she had only the land she got from her parents. This is "over 2 acres round the house". Her sons work some of it - a part of it is stony. Her sons work for other people, or on rented land.

Information from Leo Johnson.  
 Interv. Ethel Simpson.  
 16.6.48.  
 J.O. 30.8.48.

Simpson Ethel, 60. widow.  
 ,, Easton, son, 17.  
 ,, Sydney, son, 19.  
 ,, Pharis, son, 16.  
 ,, Joice, grdaughter, Sidney's daughter, 2.

Ethel Simpson: Archie Simpson and Rachel Simpson, nee Rochester. her parents. Her parents were married, lived in Shaddock Hill. She has no brothers and sisters, with the exception of one half brother through the mother, Joshua Powell in Ridge. Her husband was Egbert Simpson /living now in Ridge with another woman/. They "did not marry by any licenced parson, but lived with Egbert Simpson a number of years, then parted. Could not get along."

Ethel Simpson had 9 children, 7 are alive. Besides those living with her they are: Ina Simpson - her father was Allan Simpson. Michael Rochester - his father was Isaiah Rochester. Clifton Simpson - his father is Egbert Rochester. Enid Simpson - daughter of Egbert Simpson, adopted by Panton Rochester. All her children were reared by her.

Easton has one outside child.

Sydney's outside child Joice lives with him. Her mother is Clarice Roy in Ribbit Town. The child is adopted by Ethel Simpson and supported by father.

Housing: 2 rooms house. Furn. 1 table, 2 beds. No tank - "height bours supply water."

Land: 2 ac. at home in 1 lot, inherited from parents. 1 acre cultiv. 3000 tomatoes. 20 yam hills. Cassava. Other crops small amount. Stock: 1 donkey owned by Easton, 1 donkey owned by Sydney. 1 pig owned by Easton, one pig - by Ethel. Expend. weekly 15/-. L7 last year for adults, L1.10 for child. on clothes.

Religion: Ethel is Anglican.

J.O. 17.6.48.  
Shaddock Hill.  
Ethel Simpson. 5. Ethel Simpson interv.  
16.6.48.  
L.V.J.

Present Household.

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x.Simpson	Ethel, S. heda.,	60.	<del>xx</del> 9.7.	Sh.H.	Angl.	1.	Cultiv.
,,	Euston, son,	17.	/1 child/outs./		<del>xxx</del>	3.	,,
,,	Sydney, ,,	19.	/1 outs.child/.			3.	,,
,,	Fearis, ,,	16.				Ill.	,,
,,	Joyce, grda.,	2.					

Family history.

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Ethel Simpson: father Archie Simpson, mother Rachel Simpson /first Rochester/. Half brother: Joshua Powell, ~~was brought~~ through mother; was brought up by mother in mother's home. Alive. Relation maintained. for

Ethel Simpson did not marry her c.l. husband with whom she lived many years. They parted when Egbert Simpson got attached to another woman with whom he lives now /see his fam.rec./

Her children with Egbert Simpson: 3 staying at home. Blifton Simpson staying with the father in his home in Logwood. Enid Simpson lives at Panto, Rochester's home - she was adopted by him.

Two other children are by two different fathers: Ina Simpson - by Allan Simpson. Michael Rochester - by ~~Mr~~ Isaiah Rochester. All children were raised by her.

Grandchild: Joyce, is ~~daughter~~ outside daughter of her son Sydney by Charis Roy in Ribbit Town. The child is adopted by Ethel Simpson and maintained by Sydney.

Housing. Live in 2 apts. house. Furniture: 1 table, 2 beds. No tank - "neighbours supply water".

Land and farming. 2 acres at home all in one lot, inherited from parents. 1 acre cultivated. 3000 tomatoes. 20 hills am. Cassava. Other crops in small amounts. Stock: 1 donkey for Easton, 1 donkey for Sydney, 1 pig for Easton and 1 for Ethel.

Expenditure, savings: Weekly exp. 15/-, L.7 last year for ~~each~~ adults ~~per week~~, L.1.10 for child.

Religion: Ethel is Anglican.

*Lane*