

Palmer Rueben	Heda	M.M. 40.	Farmer	Mix. farm
" Aneta	Wife	M.M. 36.	13. 9. Homemaker	
" Sylvester	Son	M.S. 18.	None	
" Aaron	"	M.S. 17.		
" Gerald	"	M.S. 9.		
" Doris.	Dau.	F.S. 7.		
" Clarence	Son	M.S. 6.		
Neville A.	"	M.S. 4.		
" Leopold	"	M.S. 3.		
" Cecil	"	M.S. 1.		
Johnson Vecaus	Ad. Son	M.S. 17.		

First Visit

26. IV. 47.

J.O.+T.O.

~~see Alfred Rowe under Alfred Rowe Ind. Case Hist. 75 Family Biog.~~

We visited the house of Aneta and Rueben Palmer at the absence of the head of the house. Her farm is ~~the first~~ situated at the entry to "Rowe Town." Her son, Sylvester /?/ was present at the part of the interview and ~~the information~~ they both were our informants at the interview.

Their land and buildings along the road,

Aneta Rueben told us that the land where her house and kitchen stand was bought from Quentin Murray. The land higher up, with a grove of coco-nut palms, does not belong to her. It belongs to Murrays.

They bought this piece of land recently, a few years ago. The exact date of this event was ~~measured by her~~ calculated by her by the age of her last child. "It is the only boy me born. Only this picky since we buy the land. 4 years ~~since~~ since him born we buy the land."

The land below her house belongs to her father. "That one my father buy from Simian Murray. He buy before me born." The ~~house and the kitchen~~ on her father's land is his property. He

The house has no floor. And no windows as well. later on we learned that Aneta Palmer is known in the village as the woman who has the house with no window. /Mrs. Heighton/.

Land owned and rented.

Aneta Palmer gave us some particulars about the land ~~the~~ they own or utilise here and in Allsides. It is probable however taht she meant not the land which is in the possession of Palmer family, but all the land which is owned or rented by the whole "Rowe Town" of which she with all her family is a part.

They own 2 and 1/4 of an acre. Besides they rent 3 acres in Allsides and 3 acres from Mr. Hendricks "down Wilson Valley."

In Allsides they cultivate chiefly yams and cane. Previously the planted also bananas, ~~but~~ but "banana dead out". In Allsides the land is better than in Wilson Valley. It can be steadily cultivated, without rest being given to the land.

On Hendricks' ~~ix~~ property not all 3 acres they rent are under cultivation. Only 2 acres are cultivated, 1 acre is resting. All the land they rent "down Wilson Valley" is subdivided in smaller plots of 1/2 acre size. In fact, it is composed of several ~~ix~~ separate plots

of several plots "in several places in half" /an acre/. They cultivate chiefly ginger and yam on these fields. The ~~rotation~~ rotation of crops goes side by side with the "shifting" from one place to another. "When you plant this year, you rent a different place next year. Every year you have to change the stretches. Half acre you have to change."

The family.

~~The land they cultivate hardly supports them. Can't make anything~~ Palmers' family is a large one. There are in the family "8 children and 2 big somebody". Mrs. Palmer started to enumerate her children but she was not able ~~to~~ to tell all the names and ages. She said that she had 11 children altogether out of which "three gone". She had even 3 children born at a time. One child was given to somebody /as an adopted child?/. "I make him to give the child." There were only two children present in the house at our visit. One of them was her youngest son, and the girl, a little older, was the grand-daughter of ~~his~~ Mrs. Palmer father. The young man Sylvester? /was her son. Some of her children, as she explained, were in the school, others in the fields. ~~She~~ The children were in rags. And she complained that also ~~she~~ her dress was full of wholes and hardly keeping to gether. They have no money to have "decent" dresses. That is why they look "undecent". The farm they own can hardly support them. "Can make no living".

The family life on week-days and ~~sundays~~ Sundays.

She explained also that practically all the family ~~with~~ is out. Her son who is at home is ill. He cut his foot with a machette in January and is an invalid since. At a stage of his illness his hand was swollen and the doctor made some injections. He is now much better. The wound on his foot was smeared with some dark-blue stuff. Her old mother is also out. "She is not a person that love to sit home. My mother gone aground." She is working as all other members of the family in the fields. Her two brothers stay all the week in Allsides when they rent land. Only ~~six~~ children and old people ~~who~~ stay home during the week. Her father is half

which were installed by him in the farm. "Him sickly now, him cant manage 'em."

Only on Sundays all the people who belong to the family - and she meant her own family, as well as the family of her father and brothers, who live in the compound - gather in Rowe Town. "Every Sunday family come together. During the week - scattered. On Sunday, after the service in the church, they all be found here. "You come on Sunday, you will see all."

Additional data on ~~the~~ buy land.

The land under the house was bought ~~from~~ from Quotin /or Quentin/ Murray. "Cedric Murray his father - died long ago." Simian Murray, from whom her father bought his land, is also dead. "Simian Murray him die."

Children.

She said also she had ~~is~~ 14 children altogether. "5 dead. And none of them can help much." The only exception is Eyeran /Aaron - this was probably the young boy whom I described in the interview as Sylvester./

Family land. and family house.

Aaron /Sylvester?/ who showed us the way to his mother's farm/ said pointing at the farm: "This person is my mother." the house is "my mother's house. It is my house just the same."

28/10/44.

#73

Palmer	Ruben	Head	M.M.	40	Trelawny	Anglican	W2	OA	Fg mer
"	Anita	Wife	F.M.	36	13.9.	"	"	W3	Homemaker
"	Sylvester	Son	M.S.	18	"	"	"	W3	None
"	Aaron	"	M.S.	17	"	"	"	W3 NP	Fam Labourer
"	Gerald	"	M.S.	9	"	"	"	W1	
"	Doris	"	F.S.	7				X	
"	Clarence	"	M.S.	6				X	
"	Neville	"	M.S.	4					
"	Leopold	"	M.S.	3					
"	Cecil	"	M.S.	1.					

Changes: