

27/21/21/

Milford Ivan

re Family record 139

In 1942:

Operated the land he occupies for 2 years, as tenant 2 years, as owner or part owner 2 years, as farm worker 10 years.

Operates 2 parcels: a/ 1 acre, b/ $\frac{1}{2}$ acre.

Main income from agriculture: Canes, ananas, roots.

Worked in 1942 for pay work not connected with his farm 180 days 8 hours per day. Principal occupation CARPENTER.

No. persons living on farm 4, ~~under 14 years~~

Males under 14	1	Females under 14 years	1
" over "	1	" over " "	1

One adult member of the family works on the farm without wages.

Employed labour in 1942 for 10 weeks.

Av. No of labourer per week 1

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Milford Ivan	Head	M.S.	27	Carpenter
"	Mildred	Sister	F.S.	29
Blake Ina	Servant	F.S.	14	
Gunter Philip	Servant	M.S.	10	

Family

traditions. Met Mr. Ivan Milfrod working in the plantation near the old house where his sister Mildred lives now. This house is the oldest in Warsop. Mr. Milford says it was built by his grandfather 120 years ago. His grandfather came from England. Mr. Ivan doesn't know whether he bought the land. Thinks his grandfather got it to make a settlement. It was 50 acres. He died in Kingston on his way back to England. "He had a long beard as people used to have in those times. They wouldn't allow him to travel with a beard. He shaved it, got a cold and died." The grandfather had 8 children, the youngest son was Ivan's father and inherited the family house, where Ivan was born. All Ivan's aunts and uncles died childless. Each of these 8 children got a part of land. They sold it and Ivan didn't inherit after his paternal relatives.

Ivan's father died 27 years ago and was 58 years old. His mother died about 7 years ago. She was from Balaclava. There were 4 children: Ivan, Roy, Mildred and Mrs. Webb. Mildred lives in the old house with a dumb servant. She is learning at the post office to be an assistant. Roy bought a lot of land. He lives at the "Lodge" near the road down to Troy. He bought the house and the land from the Napier family, from the old ladies / or after their death / who lived to be over 100. He is known as one of the most successful farmers. One sister married Mr. Webb and lives in another parish. She built a house just nearby between the Baptist church and the Mission. It was mortgaged and Mrs. Brissett bought it from the Building Society. At that time Ivan didn't have money to buy it. He went to America and with the American money he bought the house from Mrs. Brissett and lives there now with his wife.

There are many trees in this family land. One very old bread fruit tree was planted by his aunt. He planted it when she was 16, and she died some years ago being about 90. So the tree must be well over 80 years old. It has but a few branches but still bears. There used to be a lot of pimento. At one time the pimento was bringing a lot of money. Later on the price dropped and pimentos were cut down to give place to banana plantations. Also there was a pimento illness which destroyed them. Near the kitchen there are bananas which were here for 30 years. Mr. Ivan Milfrod cut cane on a small patch adjoining the parochial road and intends to plant there bananas. They bring a better profit than cane. Behind the kitchen there is a paw-paw tree. It was planted by his sister Mildred.

The old house.

The house is wooden with a shingle roof. The roof differs from other houses as it has four slopes instead of two as all the other houses in the village. The shingles of the front part were not yet replaced and they are the same the

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grand-father put. Ivan explained that the foundations are also different. The whole house reposes on big poles. Some of these poles were changes. A remnants of the old pole is still under the house.

Ivan never knew his grand-father and remembers but little of his father as the later died when Ivan was a small boy. But the family tradition was passed from grand-father to his children. Ivan heard about family matters from his aunts and mother.

His father sold also some of the family land. He was ill at the time and his children were small. Ivan remembers that once his father had some tax arrears. The tax collector came and took four bags of pimento. He sold it in the shop. It was to cover 16/8d. of taxes. This was the time when the price of pimento was low.

Pimento
↑
Now it
is about
£5 per
hundredweight

Owing to this drop and disease most of the pimento were cut to give way to bananas. Pimento is also easy to harvest - it doesn't require much labour. When the fruit drop you can live it on the ground, then the sun dries them. To plant pimento one has to wash the seeds and / some other proces/ If the seed just drops from the tree it doesn't produce a plant. Only when the bird eat it and drop it again after having digested the fruit, then the plant would grow.

There are also some remnants of coffee from the old times - not much.

Bread fruit.

Bread fruit trees were planted by father. It bears after 5 years and can produce a good crop for 40 years. It is a valuable crop. ~~One can get about £5 for a hundredweight/2/~~ Many of the bread fruit trees had to be cut down as they were too old. It is an excellent timber but soft. Used for furniture. You have to poison the wood to get rid of the insects.

Mr. Milford spoke very good english, ~~and~~ had dignified ~~and~~ simple behaviour. He seemed very fond and proud of his family traditions, and satisfied with his economic achievements. I heard he is the best carpenter and cabinet maker in the village. He says his grand-father was a baptist but he goes to the anglican church.