

20.XII.1947.  
T.O.

Fam. Rec. 20.

22/13/27 (p.6 1.5)

Perkins	Clarence	Head	M.Cl.	39	St. Elizab.	colour.	angl.	X	farmer
Sinclair	Roxie A	wife	F.Cl.	31	10.9.	black	"	W.3.	homemak.
Perkins	Cynthia	dau	F.S.	15	"	"	"	W.3.	2 E.
"	Ursie	dau	F.S.	13	"	"	"	W.3.	4.E.
"	Sarah	dau	F.S.	11	"	coloured	"	W.1.	4.E.
"	Adassa	dau	F.S.	9	"	black	"	W.1.	4.E.
"	Mervis	dau	F.S.	8	"	"	"	W.1.	4.E.
"	Seasue	son	M.S.	7	"	"	"	R.1.	4.E.
"	Esmilda	dau	F.S.	6	"	"	"	X	
"	McIvor	son	M.S.	1	"	"	"	X	
"	Emalia	dau	F.S.	3/12	"	"	"	X	

*13 acres*

Owms 9<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> and rents 1 from Georgiana Serrant Constant Spring P.O. employs 3 labourers for 10 weeks during the year. cultivated 4 ac 1 ac. cultivable but nort used, 3 grazing. Land & build value:£80

sweet corn 0.1, pumpkins 0.1 tomatoes 0,5 =4000 lbs  
1 ackee, 3 avocadoes, 6 coconuts, 1 grape, 4 mangoes, 3 cashew nuts  
1/2 ac beans, 0.1 corn, 2 acres congo peas, 3 ac. cassava, 0.1 cooes,  
0.5 sweet pot. 0.2 yams, 0,2 tobacco =300 lbs  
7 sheep, 5 goats, 2 swine,

Clarence Perkins seems to be the most active representative of the "Perkins clan" from Thatch Walk. He is member of the committee of management of the growers association.

Family history and ramification.

"I understand my great grandfather ~~Perkins~~ was from Scotland. He come to Kingston and had a son Benjamin Perkins. ~~Next to Kingston~~ by a black woman." This great grandfather left Kingston and his son Benjamin. Clarence knows about his grrandfather Benjamin Perkins who came to Bull Savannah and settled here. He married Martha Rochester. "Rochesters Powells and Perkins - first families in Bull Savannah". (However Rochesters never mention the Perkins as family) This Benjamin Perkins "had a certain amount of land" but sold a part of it before he died, and left the remainder to his wife Martha. She also sold 11 acres before she died, so there wasnt much - or even perhaps anything- which passed to their children.

Benjamin Perkins and Martha Rochester had 4 sons and 3 daughters: ~~xxx~~

one daughter went to live in Costa Rica  
one lives right here (Bull Savannah)  
one lives in Kingston.

one son died in the Island  
one son - Alexander settled and died in Cuba  
one son - Nicholas went to Panama  
one son Edward lived in Bull Savannah and had 3 sons:

Sons of Edward Perkins:

one son died in USA  
one son died in Bull Savannah  
one son is Clarence Perkins

Although the family spread outside the island, there ~~xxxx~~ is a family tradition which brings the family together.: Alexander Perkins who died in Cuba had children who came back to Jamaica. His son lives now in St. James. ~~Max~~ When he came to Jamaica he came to Bull Savannah as he heard there was some family there and he wanted to meet them. He promised to come again - perhaps this Christmas. Nicholas - who settled in Panama had a son by the name of Ernest who was a famous jockey in Kingston. His nick-name was "doctor" ("the white people called him doctor")

Work abroad and  
Acquisition of land.

All the land Clarence Perkins owns now - he bought it himself. "I buy four different time". He went to Cuba in 1919 and stayed there till 1924. He came back to Jamaica but went again to Cuba in 1924 and stayed till 1927. "First time was better - last time was not so profitable". "I work in cane Chaparade Division (?) for the sugar company. We could earn in 1925 3 and 4 dollars a day - by day work. In 1920 you could earn 5 and 6 dollars a day. But task work sometimes we can make \$ 10 or more. Task work: one acre (for example) of mountain to fall - I take it for a body of money".

"In 1919-1920 was a very successful time in Cuba, but 1921 was a very bad time."

He says he has about 13 acres ( 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  in census, but perhaps bought since).

Tomato-growing.

He did not join the growers association in the first year. He waited 2 years and then decided to go for tomato-growing. He joined the 3rd crop and planted 3000 trees. Last year he planted 7000 and this year expects to have 9000.

supervision

He also "supervises" as he terms it his sister's property. His sister Jane Perkins has a very nice and large house. She built it for the money her daughter sent her from the USA. She rents rooms to teachers. Clarence was busy to-day ~~is~~ helping and supervising ~~the~~ the building of a big tank near the house.

31.X11.1947.

Fam Rec. 20.

Met Clarence Perkins at his house which is not right behind his sister's (as he said on first interview) but in the place called "Overroad") This name was given ~~him~~ however by Brooks but Perkins says it is called "Bull Savannah the same".

The land on which this house stands he says is family land - he got it from his father (his story first time was that he all bought himself). On the whole Mr. Perkins seemed a bit uneasy so I did not stay much longer. Very near his yard (house and kitchen) is another "yard" he says his son lives there. It must be an outside one, as in the census there is not grown up son.

Check date of death

There is some mystery also about his father Edward: I found his grave near Albert Simpsons house, the date on the ~~tomb~~ tomb was 1902 and again in the census figures an Edward Perkins aged 82 and his wife Mary 79 - who seem fit as parents of Clarence. Clarence Perkins himself seems much older than 44 - as by census. Perhaps he gives his "travelling age" and not the real one, like those who go to USA "Them like young ones going for thirty so you tell them just what you like".

I asked him who were the first family here as he remembers, but he said he did not remember well. He said the house next to his is his son, the one lower down Albert Simpson, higher up Rachel Powell and another Bent's but "him dead - his son and daughter live there".

Informant Adelaide Sinclair.

Present Household

Wednesday  
11. 5.48.  
I.D.

Clarence Perkins	Head
Adelaide Sinclair	Wife cl.
Cynthia Perkins	Dau.
Lurline do	do
Sarah do	do
Mervis do	do
Emalia do	do
Selasie do	Son.
Franklin do	do
Esmelda do	Dau.
Pyong Brooks	Grand son. (Son of Cynthia Perkins and Hamelin Brooks)

Ersie Perkins is in Kingston with Maud Perkins, Adelaide's sister.

Adelaide and Clarence have been living together for over 20 years.

Family History.

Mother Clementina Witter. Father Maurice Sinclair. Mother's mother "I never know the family them." Father's mother Dorothy Brooks "I don't know what she did married name"; Dorothy is a sister of Mrs. Mary Perkins, mother of Clarence Perkins.

Witter

Children of Clementina/and Maurice Sinclair

1. Adelaide (Informant)
2. Eucal (living at Silent Hill, Clarendon)

Children of Clementina Witter and Benjamin Perkins.

1. Eli - living at Thatch Walk.
2. Martel (d)
3. Mable - living in Kingston.
4. Ernest (d) "He was a jockey in Kingston)

Clementina is from Manchester "Don't know how she get to be living up here."

Molga Sinclair, Eucal's daughter is spending a week with Adelaide. She said she would be going home today. Adelaide did not know ~~Eucal's~~ Molga's age. Molga hid behind / ~~face~~ pushed her little head out and said she was 10 years old. She smiled sweetly. When asked her name she hid her face in her hands, and spoke in such a low tone I could not hear what she said.

/ the chair

Adelaide was expecting Eucal from Manchester today. He was supposed to be bringing "food and yam head".

Occupation of members of the family.

Sarah works with Miss Ziporah Elliott one of the teachers

at the school. She receives 12/- a month. Adelaid keeps her money for her. Asked if the money helped too run the house. She said no. "Take it and buy them little clothes and so."

During the crop season, Cynthia and Sarah work at the factory. "When them work at the factory them only tell me how much them get. Them don' give anything for food. hem only buy them clothes. So them draw, them buy little sweet or so carry come."

Adelaid helps in the fields. "I don' plant the tomato, but when it to sucker and tie, me help."

Land .

She was not able to say how many acres Clarence owned. "My father never dead lef' anything gave me, and me mother dead and I did not get anything. Mother had  $1\frac{1}{2}$  acres. Eli get  $\frac{1}{2}$ . (See Family Record 11. Eli said he bought the land -  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre from his grand mother). The one to share between me and Mable."

Stock

3 pigs, 4 sheep "2 mother one, and 2 lamb." 5 goats.

Savings. & Expenditure

"Clarence save but me don' save." Asked where she did her purchases. "I deal at Harry Ford shop. I pay him any time I get it. I pay him 16/- last week and take 27/- worth of goods. I never take anything to eat, I take 3 yds of cloth." Adelaid will be going to her brother's place in Manchester, and she would like to wear her new dress. "Marion at Green Olive" will make the dress. She does not remember Marion's sur name. "I don' know how much she will charge to make it, She make a simple blouse and skirt for me for 4/6."

Groceries purchased on Saturday.

2 lbs cod fish @ 1/- a lb.	2/-
4 lbs salt @ $2\frac{1}{2}$ d a lb	10d.
1 box matches	1.
1 qt kerosene oil	<u>5.</u>

3/4.

She does not purchase groceries to serve her for the whole week. "Sometime 2 time a week have to buy fish and all 3/- fish for one meal. I buy 3 lbs a beef, every other week, I caan manage it every week."

She has to send money to her daughter who lives in Kingston.

Having meals outside the home .

"When the children go to them Granny, she offer them, but you have to make them full meal. You would say them go and

punging (

Tomato is the only cash crop. "Use up all the gungo in the home, and we use the cassava for bammy. Before tomato, we use to plant tobacco and sell. Since tomato come in, it kind of cut out tobacco."

Jane Ellington and Victoria Stephenson arrived. Victoria had a 3 month old baby in her arms. Victoria said she had 9 children and would like to have 6 more. Her mother had 15 and she is still young. She wanted to know if I had any children. On hearing that I said not have any, she said "Stay de make it hard up, me breed when me 15 and look 'pon the help me have now, I wish I did breed from me 12."

Victoria lives with Calbert Brooks. Her first child is for another man. During the crop he worked at the factory. He is now working on a truck.

"My mother have 15 a we, and she ~~never see a doctor~~ younger than me. She never see a doctor. The other day she have something come out on her me tell me brother to take her to doctors. She wouldn't go, say no white man must not see her. All a we a help her now; so me have to have them, later on them will help me."

The conversation then shifted to Vie - a woman who lives at Alligator Pond. She was once a lovely girl and now she is down and out. Victoria said "If you want to know how God visitation de 'pon we sinner, look 'pon Vie." They were all concerned about Vie's present state.

Vie had a child for Mannie Powell. Mannie is dead, he used to live at Bull Savannah. Lilla, Vie's child, is living with Vie's mother. Lilla will not obey her grand mother. "She going to come jus' like her mother. You know wha' me hear she tell her granny? "The granny tell her she goin' to go out on the woul(world). She say if me even go 'pon the ~~woul~~ wul and whore, you noh wi' go to' "

I left Adelaid's plane at 12 ~~noon~~ mid day. When I was about to leave Victoria said she was only joking about the 15 children. "Time too hard now." She laughed heartily.

~~~~~

Informant Lurline Perkins.

Present Household.

Head.

Clarence Perkins/about 44.

/cl. wife.

Adelaid Sinclair / do 42 (On Census schedule Roxie) She is  
~~Adelaid Roxie.~~ Adelaid Roxie.

Saturday  
10.7.48.  
I.D.

- + Lurline Adassa Dau. 15½.
- + Cynthia Perkins do 21.
- + Sarah do do 17. Perkins
- + Mervis do do 13.
- + Selassie do Son 11½.
- + Esmilda. do Dau. 10.
- + Emelia do do 8.
- + Franklin McIvor do 3. Son. Perkins

Cleveland Robert Brooks G.S. 3. /7

Ursie mentioned on Census schedule as a member of this household is now living in Kingston.

Hamelin Brooks

/7 Cleveland is called Pyong. Mother Cynthia Perkins Father