

C.D. 22. Sbd. 12. Household 57.

Holness Wilfred	Head	M.M.71.	St.El.	Col.	Angl.	W.2.	Retired
" Edith	Wife	F.M.54.13.12.	"	"	"	Ill.	Farmer
" Claston	Son	M.S.32.	"	"	"	W.2.	Homemaker
" Harry	Son	M.S.19.	"	"	"	W.1.	Farmer.
" Lena	Dau	F.S.14.	"	"	"	W.2.4E	None/yes/
" Cicelyline	Dau	F.S.11	"	"	"	W.2.4E	
" Hazzan	Son	M.S. 9.	"	"	"	W.1.4E	
" Keith	GrSon	M.S. 1.	"	"	"		
Martin Frank	GrSon	M.S.10.	"	"	"	W.2.4E	
Thompson Orett	GrSon	M.S. 5.	"	"	"		
Linton Beswick	GrSon	M.S. 2.	"	"	"		

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Farm of Holness Claston in 1942.

16 3/4



Handwritten signature and notes:
16 acres
16/2

Operates this farmland as tenant for 17. years.

The farmland consists of 4 parcels, 3, 4, 5, and 7 acres resp.

Main income from tomatoes.

No labour employed. Wors 33 weeks 6 days per week, 9 hours p.d.

The land belongs to Wilfred Holness. The rent is paid in kind and is of 1 year duration.

4 1/2 ac. in cultivation, 2 ac. cultivable but not used, 2 1/4 in guiana grass, 1/2 ac in other grass, 1/4 woodlands, 7 ac. other.

Total value of farm £350, of buildings £ 50.

1 catchment.

Cultivations:

0.6 ac. tomatoes= 5000 lbs. 3 ackees= 20 heaps, 3 avocados = 70 doz. 5 coconuts (3 fruiting) 100 nuts, 13 mangoes= 430 doz. 1 naseberry = 24 doz.

1/4 ac. congo peas = 3 bushels, 1/4 ac. red peas= 2 bushels. 3 1/4 ac. cassava=8000 lbs. 1/4 ac sweet cassava= 1200 lbs. 1/4 ac. yams= 1000 lbs.

2 donkeys, 2 sheep, 8 pigs, 2 swine, 4 goats, 4 hens= 9 doz. eggs.

Inform. Dudley Simpson.
13.3.48.
J.O.

Holness Willfred
and his family
in Shaddock Hill.
Their land.

Their house is the ~~maxt~~ last house in Shaddock Hill on the way to Dunder Hill. Dominates all other houses.

The head of the family is Claston Holness now, Since both Willfred Holness and Edith Holness died.

Willfred Holness is a stranger in Bull Savannah "Willfred Holness - at that time that was Government land. He was from Comma Pen. Come and buy land adjoining to Arthur Linton. Arthur Linton - him also buy his land here from the Government."

Claston Holness is the woner of the last shop in Shaddock Hill on the way from Green Olive to Bottom.

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

Children of Willfred
and Edith Holness
and their career.

"Holnes Willfred died year before the last. Edith Holness died recently - last year. Got a stroke

Children: of Willfred and Edith:
1. Ivy, 2. Claston, 3. Theresa, 4. Sylvia, 5. Izaac /dead/ 6. Lilian /dead/ 7. Mansley, 8. Alfred, 9. Amy, 10. Azan, 11. Lina. 12. Ciceline, 13. Evelyn."

Most of the children ~~it~~ emigrated to Manchester following their eldest sister Ivy who went there to live with a chinaman who built a house for her and also following an "old lady" who adopted Mansley.

"Ivy living in Manchester with a man - unmarried, - Sydney Smith. She was first along with a chinaman and that chinaman built the house and leave /Ivy/ and leave it/the house to Ivy/."

"Claston living in Shaddock Hill, married to Elda Simpson daughter of Eson Simpson. No children yet - expecting."

"Theresa married in May Pen. Them part. She went to employment to somebody in May Pen."

"Sylvia now living in Richman ~~xxxxxxv~~ district in Manchester. She married, one Bertie Thompson. /They/ have home. She was along with Ivy and Richman was not long way and Thompson court her in the sister home. Have 2 children, probably 3 or 4."

"Izaac died when he was a small boy - around 13."

"Lilian - she died big woman She had two

children before she died. One for this fellow Ezra Linton and one for Eucal Rochester grand son of George Powell - was father of another child. That child living over there with grand-mother Annie Powell - this child for Eucal. The one for Ezra - Mr. Ezra Linton has that child. 8 years boy. Two boy - Lilian have."

"Mansley living in Manchester - about 20 or 23 /years old/. The first sister go to Manchester with an old lady, we call Miss Amy. She raised Mansley from the child, and help him to be a man. No relation, just a stranger. She didn't have any children and the husband died, she was lonely, love the child - took to accompany her. /Miss Amy/ assist him /Mansley/ to buy a next piece of land in Manchester."

"Alfred living in Shaddock Hill. Before he was living in Manchester all the time with the sister, but him leave and living now in Shaddock Hill. He is around 20. No children. Single. Last year came back. Couldnt make life there. Life was hard. Couldnt find no lines. He planting tomato - much better. And he is making ~~xxx~~ shoemaker trade."

"Harry living in Manchester joined the same Miss Amy. Accompany brother Mansley. Mansley is a carpenter and Harry works with him."

"Azzan a school age boy - still in school."

"Lena living in Shaddock Hill. Once was living in Manchester. Now around 18. Never worked in the factory. Not being to marry. No children. Has she got a boy? - You can say yes but the boys don't stay. She was in friendship with Louis Rochester and Lionell Rochester - now in America."

"Ceciline living in Manchester with sister Ivy in Judges Valley."

"Evelyne - in Manchester living with ~~xxx~~ her sister Sylvia."

"Holness Keith - son of Claston Holness."

"Thompson Orrett - he is not Thompson - he is Rochester, he is for Lilian and living now with her grandmother, Annie Powell - old George Powell daughter."

"Linton Beswick - living with Mr. Ezra Linton."

"Frank Martin - a little boy, Teresa son. ~~xxxxxxx~~ The only son. Nobody knows this man Martin."

New home.

"Claston Holness living in his own home. Just beside the old home and beside Mr. Claston Simpson shop. He /Claston/ built this house recently. Finish up last year and marry the girl." In this new home are living "Claston Holness with his wife and children.

the old home.
the tenant

In the old home are living: "Alfred, Lena, Az-
zan, Frank and Daisy Powell one girl tenant. Her fa-
ther James Powell from Botoom. She lived in Mandeville
she was a barmaid, she get in the family way, expec-
ting the baby. "False baby" / our informants suspect it
is a false baby 'false belly' - the girl is not expec-
ting really / Not working at all. The man that she has
the baby for supports her. She was along with next
man before she went to Mandeville. She had two chil-
dren for that man - but them part. Eli Simpson from
Bottom is the man. He is helping her with support,
but we couldnt sure. Eli Simpson have the children,
them live with him, them going to school - one seven
year - one around 5. " *Harry*
"Claston and Wilfred - them work together part-
ly, but separate household."

Visit at home. Interv. Claston Holness and Elda Holness
(separately) and Martin Frank.

26.6.48.

T.O.

I met Claston Holness on 24th in Gertrude Simpson's shop which is ~~xxx~~ opposite his home accross the road. (Shaddock Hill) I haven't met him before so I introduced myself. Claston was very talkative and insisted that I write down all he tells me and he read aloud my notes.

Claston Holness. He was born "right here in the old home" which is behind his new house a little higher up towards Dunder Hill. "this old home Bob Simpson built it. It is 100 years old". His father was Wilfred Holness who came from "over the hill" Claston's mother was Edith Holness nee Francis. Wilfred and Edith Holness had 13 children: Claston, Alfred, Manzel, Harry, Izaac, Hazan, Ivy, Teresa, Silvia, Evelyn, Lena, Ceciline and Lilian. Claston enumerated first the boys and then the girls. Izaac and Lilian died. Ivy "went to live" long ago to Manchester to a place called Balbec (?) Alfred "from he was a child stayed in Manchester with Ivy" Manzel was taken by a friend Emmy Forbes to Manchester since he was 3 years old. Silvia lives in Battersea and Teresa in Myxoux May-Pen., where also Ceciline is. Harry stays in Manchester with Manzel.

To-day only 3 children of Wilfred and Edith Holness are in Bull-Savannah Claston -- in his new house; and Lena with the young brother Hazan in the old home.

Wilfred Holness died "not so long ago" and soon after him his wife Edith died too.

His
Occupations

Claston told me he did not travel. He used to be a tailor But "cultivate is my fancy". He doesn't think tailoring brings such good profits as cultivating. "You may do for a fellow some work: for 6/- or 8/- and you expect to get the money you may have disappointment. When you cu cultivate and want to sell the food you have no disappointment." Claston said he had 2½ acres round the house and he cultivates some land in the woods. I asked him whether the land was only for him or for all his sisters and brothers. The matter doesn't seem to be claer. Claston says that he got this land from his father and is "in possession." He also cultivates some land which belongs to other children (of his parents). He evaded the question how much land he had in all.

2 1/2 acres

His children I asked him how many children he had and he said "Three and expecting one soon". So I put in my note-book 4 children". Claston read it and laughed: "You are smart Missis you put the child and we don't see it yet." Speaking of children we (Gertrude Simpson, Holness Vivian Witter and myself) come to the subject of dange-

rous childbirth when either the mother or the child has to be sacrificed. Gertrude said it was a silly custom that the doctor asked whom he has to save. "A woman may have more children, and think if she has children already and they are orphan." But Claston said "Them doctors are very wise it is a wise custom to ask the father". I asked him to explain his point of view. "Some father might want the baby more than the woman" said Claston.

Claston Holness invited me to come and see his house. On that day however my schedule took me ~~the~~ to the houses of the other side of the road, so I promised to see him some other day.

Two days afterwards (i.e. to-day) I went to Holness house. It was built in 1942 and finished only last year. The latrine was built this season and Claston is making a buttery under the same roof as the kitchen. The house is painted light yellow and the shutters green. There are two rooms nicely furnished. The ~~room~~ kitchen not very big. The fireplac of polished cement. Some boards on a big wooden case serve as a table.

Mrs. Holness was grating cassava in her kitchen. A big black pot with porridge for breakfast was boiling on the fire. In the yard between the house and the kitchen there was a big heap of unshelled french beans. Claston was working in his garden and came by the end of my interview with his wife.

Elda Holness is the daughter of Izan and Martha Simpson. (see F.R. 61) Elda in spite of her advanced pregnancy looks very young. Her son Keith followed me into the kitchen and two more boys about 14 years old came also to assist at the visit.

I asked Elda whether Keith was her eldest child. She said he was the only one she had. So I told her Claston told me he had three children "And it is not true" said Elda. Finally after some investigation - she said her husband had two outside children, who however do not stay in the home. One is in Manchester and she does not know where is the other. Elda said Keith was 6 years old and she herself 18. She said also she went to school in Bull-Savannah and left the school when she was 14. So I asked her whether she had this first child while still at school. "No after I leave school." She was also positive that Keith was 6 but would not agree that she must be at least 20. I showed her in my notebook the simple addition: 14 plus 6 - 20. She agreed with everything I said but at the end still maintained that she left school at 14, had a child afterwards who is now 6 and she is at present 18. So we left the subject at that.

Frank Martin. One of the boys in the kitchen told me he was Frank Martin. He is the nephew of Claston and stays now with Claston helping him ~~to~~ cultivate. I asked Frank what kind of work can he do to help his uncle. "Just a little" said Frank and in support performed

a rapid quinte like in fencing with his machette with which he was scratching his legs during our conversation. Frank told me his mother was Teresa who is now in May-Pen. Frank stayed since he can remember with his grandmother and after her death came to stay with Claston. Frank left the school last year. I asked him whether he has seen recently his mother to which he answered "I don't know" (?)

The present household consists of:

Holness	Claston	head	M.M.	35	cultivator & tailor
"	Elda	wife	F.M.	18	homemaker
"	Keith	son	M.S.	6	
Martin	Frank	nephew	M.S.	15	helping his uncle in cult.

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 Elda said that her husband was helping his sister, but I couldn't get a clear answer in what way or to what extend. A neighbour - Mrs. Hilda Simpson - came with her youngest son. She introduced herself to me as the mother of our friend Dudley Simpson's wife. Hilda is very talkative and I didn't have the opportunity to ask more question Elda. Soon Claston came. He showed me the new buttery he intends to build and explained how he was building his homestead little by little. He is rather proud of his new house and wants to be regarded as a big man. He told me he was going to his father in law Izan Simpson and offered to accompany me there as I intended to visit them to-day.

3.6.48. Interv. with Claston & Elda Holness.
T.O. inf. Olgs Lewis.

When speaking with Olga Lewis sister of Elda Holness I learned that Keith is not Elda's child, but outside child of Claston. Elda is now expecting her first child

Passing Izan Simpson's house I met Elda, who came to her father's house to hang out her washing. She said she didn't have a good wire at home to dry the clothes. I asked her why she told me ~~that~~ Keith was her child. She said she considered it as her child ~~and~~ as it was in the home - she did not consider the two other outside children of her husband as hers, since they were staying with their mothers and not in her home.

Edla married last year in April. The wedding took place in her parents' home and was "carried" by a Mrs. Chin in Mandeville. Mrs. Chin is a friend of Claston's sisters. Edla didn't know her before but she went especially to Mandeville "I made an application to her" to come and carry the wedding ceremony.

The marriage seems to be rather an arrangement made by parents. Elda says she didn't "know" her husband before the marriage (meaning she didn't have relations with him) "He is a good husband to me" - it's all I could get about their relations at present. She is shy and talks very little, but enjoys a talk which has to be carried au ralenti.

Family tradition.

Scotchman

I met Claston Holness at his neighbour's Lehi Simpson place. During the talk I had with Lehi Claston also told about his family and ancestors: "My fifth grandfather he was a Scotchman from England. He came here and settled Letitz way. He was a surveyor. Going round he had a big family and some settled here. There are many Holness in the district