

C.D. 22. Sbd. 13. Household 6. P.2. 1.

Brooks Samuel head. M.S. 40 St. Eliz. Black Angl. W.3. Farmer

His farm in 1942.

*1 acre p. 5.*

Operates this farmland as owner or part owner for 18 years.

Owns 6 acres rents 1 acre (7 ac. in 2 parcels)

The one acre rented from "atherin Miller who lives in Kingston. Pays rent in kind. Duration of ~~rent 12 months~~ rental 12 months.

Main source of income - mixed farming.

Employs ~~three~~ 3 labourers for 26 weeks per annum. Works himself 52 weeks p.a. 6 days p.w. 8 hours p.d.

4½ acres in cultivation, ½ ac. in guinea grass, 1 ac. woodlands, 1 ac other.

Total value of farm £ 70, of buildings £20. 1 catchment.

Cultivations:

0.1 ac. cabbages=500 heads. 5 rows okras= 4doz

3 rows peppers = 50 lbs. 2 rows pumpkins=50.

0.1 ac. escallion = 40 bund. 0.4 ac. tomatoes= 4000 lbs. 1 row water melons = 5 doz.

1 ackee=100 heaps, 2 avocados=50 doz.

40 bananas = 10 bunc. 2 coconuts = 120 nuts.

1 guava = 6 doz. 1 grape = 300 lbs. 6 mangoes=600 doz.

0.1 ac. beans=2 bush. 0.1 corn= ½ bush.

½ ac. congo peas= 5 bush. 0.2 ac. redpeas=½ bush.

3 ac. cassava=4000 lbs. ~~56 lbs cooes.~~ 56 lbs cooes.

0.2 ac. sweet cass.= 560 lbs. 0.2 ac yams=671 lbs.

0.1 ac. tobacco = 56 lbs.

2 donkeys, 20 goats, 1 swine.

4 hens=5 doz. eggs.

Firewood production = £1.

charcoal " =£ 2.

Interviewed. Samuel Brooks.

Wednesday  
31. 3. 48.  
I.D.

Present household

Samuel Brooks    Head  
Freddie         "     Sen.

Family History

Mother Alice Brooks from Pepper. Father Charles Brooks from Bull Savannah. Charles married Alice and both of them lived at Top Bull Savannah. They had 14 children. 2 died in America, 1 died in Kingston, 1 is living in Cuba. William, Percival, Luther, David, Percy, Veneta and Edith all live at Top Bull Savannah. Jane Weathers (nee Brooks) lives in Manchester. Viona who is also married / live in Manchester. Samuel does not know the names of his grand parents. "When I born, them dead out. I can't remember them name.

/ (he does not remember her married name.)

Land

/ Samuel owns 7 adres. He inherited it from his father. His father bought the land from Perkins. Charles (his father) also owned 50 acres of land "in the wood part." That land don't share up yet. All of we work it. Any where you feel to make a groun', you a make it and no disturbance in the work." A road was cut through Samuel land about 6 years ago and he has not been able to get pay for it. "Still have to pay the same amount of taxes." Eglon Rochester wrote a letter concerning the payment of land which was used up for the road. "everybody sign it and him give it to Mr. Sangster."

House

Samuel's first house was blown down by the storm. "And I build another one." Samuel has been living on this land long before his father died. He does not know the cost of the house. "Never under no siphering, but it cost whole heap of money."

Early days

When Samuel was a child lots of horses, cows and pigs were reared. "That's all they use to do. Them was making out well, for them time things was cheap. When them carry 10/- go a shop, it want jackass to carry home the things. Now 10/- can't buy a kerchief. Them time

when you have a pound (£1) is a whole month's spending, and it can't done. Saltfish was 3d a lb, not even 3d for them just cut it give you; now is 1/-."

Fishing.

Sam. was a fisherman. "Fishing pay plenty, but malaria fever worry me and I have to give it up. When fish don't sell we just give it away, not like now them can't catch enough to sell. You noh hear them say that in the later days, fish will be as wise as man." Asked him to tell me of his life on the sea. "Nothing more than me catch ~~plenty~~ the fish and make plenty money. I meet good life in it." Owing to sickness "and other things" Samuel had to use up his money.

Cuba days.

Sam. spent 10 years in Cuba. "Work at mill, cut cane, weed grass, work in kitchen, all them kind of ways." He met his son's mother Winnifred Connel in Cuba. She is originally from Montego Bay. Winnifred and himself worked at the same place. "She was cleaning and I was cooking, and as man all over, you know, I must say something." Very few cubans live in concubinage, it is mostly found among the Jamaicans. Sam loved Winnifred but he did not want to be married in Cuba, so they lived together. "Since we was expecting to come out me never want to marry in another man land." Winnie and Sam still lived together when they came home to Jamaica. His son Freddie who is now 13, was born here.

Winnifred died in child's birth. "As him deliver the baby him dead. Cost me plenty money. Them time not like now when you have a doctor in the district. You have to send to Black River and Mandeville before you could get a doctor." The baby lived for 3 months. "Don't think a little money it cost to bring up a baby for that time that don't know him mother. Hve to buy all kind of things for it." Sam's sister looked after the child.

Marriage.

If Winnifred were alive perhaps Sam would be married. "But I don't want take/woman child and make them suffer. Have to have money first. Not thousands of pounds, but a little money." Haxi showed me some lumber in the yard. "See I just getting out lumber to a put up a better house. The house he has now is not good enough for any woman he may marry.

Sam. was in a hurry and a wanted to go off to the factory for water. He said. "Well you have to cut your argument short, as I want to run off here for a little water." He suggested that I call on Eli Perkins.

Courtship

/ a

Saturday.  
10. 7. 48.  
D. B.

Present house hold

Samuel Brooks	Head	48
Ferdie Brooks	Son	13
Hilma Brooks	Gr, dau.	4

The house

It is a one roomed cottage made of spanish wall with a thatched roof. There are two beds inside, a very large one and a small one. Both beds were without a spread, having only the matre mattress on each of them. There is a table with a few glass wares and a lamp, and there is also a trunk that probably was brought from Cuba. The house was built after Samuel's return from Cuba. He has one very old chair.

The kitchen is also of spanish wall and a very small one.

His children

Samuel has two children, one before he went to Cuba and the other since he has returned. His first child is Crofton Brooks by "Judida" from Top Bull Savannah. He does not remember "Judida's" surname. Judida still lives at Top Bull Savannah. Samuel used to support Crofton "but him a big man & now so me stop".

Ferdie his other child is by Winniefred Connel from Lucea. Ferdie's mother is dead. Ferdie's was staying in Kingston with one of his aunts, his mother's sister (Samuel does not remember the aunt's name) but he came home after he was there for two years. "Him no did like the town". He sends Ferdie to school, but "him won't go, him hide a bush when me sen' him. But him though sorry when him grow big, for me sorry now".

Hilma

Is the daughter of Crofton and Majorie Banton. Majorie gave the child to Crofton, and Crofton who is unable to care the child, asked the father to take it to stay along with him. The child has been staying with Samuel for about two years. Samuel has to support and care the child in every way. He has to comb the child's hair, and he has to give ~~the~~ her clothes ~~out~~ to some one to wash. "A woman work fe comb him hair, but if them carr' him come give me and me no have any woman me no mus' do it me self".

"Me and them cook the food, and sometime him cook too. You see him dey him caan cook any thing you give him fe cook". Samuel was going away to look for his stock in the bushes, so he said "you ~~xxx~~ caan come back one 'nother day, but me caan stop any longer with you to day". "ithx/that he went out and started off for the direction in which his animals were.

Information from Lilian Powell.  
 Interv. Samuel Brooks. 15.6.48.  
 J.O. 25.8.48.

Present household.

Brooks Samuel, 48.  
 Brooks Freddie, son, 11.  
 Brooks Halma, ad. daughter, 5.

Brooks Samuel is son of Charles Brooks and Alice Brooks in Top Bull Savannah. ~~all~~ His brothers and sisters ~~living~~ are living in Top Bull Savannah with the exception of Verena Logan /married/ and Jane Witters /married/ who live in Mandeville.

Freddie's mother is Winnifred Cannel, she died in Cuba after 26 years' stay.

Helma Brooks - father Crafton Brooks in T.B.S., mother Maugrie Crawford in B.B.S.. "Taken care for by Samuel Brooks." /She is probably Samuel's niece/.

Samuel Brooks went to Cuba 1916-1922. Built his home from the savings.

House: 1 room. Kitchen. Latrine. Rabbit pen. Furniture: 2 beds, 2 chairs, 2 tables.

Land owned by Samuel: 7 acres in 1 lot. Bought from Edward Perkins in 1916.

Trees: 5 mangoes, 3 cashews, 2 coconuts, 2 pears, ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ 2 pomegran. 1 custard apple.

Tomatoes 6000, L12 - crop failed. Tobacco 500 holes - own use. 70 yam hills. 1/4 acre cassava. 1/2 acre congo.

Animals: 1 donkey. 1 goat. 4 hens, 8 chickens. 2 dogs.

Weekly spendings: 30/-. L12 on clothes last year. L2 on med. treatm. last year. 10/- on education.

Savings: L10 kept at home.

No religion. Freddie in school 2nd stand.