

Display for “Freedom Roads” exhibition

The Gentleman’s Magazine

1737

Extract of a letter 24th October. The letter reports that all business has been stopped due to the discovery of an ‘accursed negro plot’ to blow up all the gentlemen and ladies of the island, on the anniversary of the King’s Coronation, at a Ball in the new house of Christopher Dunbar. The slave leaders of this plot were Court, Tomboy and Hercules. They were to lead a party of 400 men each armed with cutlasses and kill all the whites in the town.

‘69 negroes were executed’

‘5 were broke on the wheel’

‘6 hung in chains upon gibbets and starved to death’. Their heads then cut off and fixed on poles and their bodies burned.

58 ‘were at several times chained to stakes and burnt; and above 130 remain in prison.’

The question is pondered as to whether it would have been better to sell the ring leaders to the Spanish to work in the mines instead of putting so many to death, for what, ‘will be deem’d a Pitch of Virtue by not a few in our Mother Nation.’

Reference: 66.6 URB

Collection: The Gentleman’s Magazine, 1731 – 1914

Copy of the will of Robert Dukinfield, Jamaica

1755

On Jane Engusson, a free Negro woman, he settled 101 acres and 14 slaves, 2 lots of land and town house in East Kingston until his brother Samuel should arrive from England, and all his furniture and plate, with £300 to have a house built one of the two fore mentioned lots. Also one of his chaises.

To each of his two sons, William and Estcourt Dukinfield, by Jane Engusson, 400 acres, 4 slaves and a building lot in Kingston (opposite to Thomas Wheeler, Duke Street). To their sister Elizabeth 417 acres, 7 slaves and a building lot in Kingston adjacent to her brother. Also £500 to William, £500 to Estcourt and £1,000 as a dowry for Elizabeth provided she marry a white man.

Reference: ACC/0775/803

Collection: Cooper Family (sugar plantation owners of Dukinfield Hall, Jamaica)

Copy of a letter from KKK West London Klavern 1979

This letter was sent to Eric & Jessica Huntley before their bookshop on Chignell Place in Ealing, was attacked. The letter threatens that ‘more permanent damage’ will be done to them if they do not leave Ealing.

Reference: LMA/4462/

Collection: Eric & Jessica Huntley Collections

Valuation of Plantain Garden Garden River Estate plantation 1706

“The Valuation made by Simon, Taylor and Thomas Wynter the 20 May 1706 of Plantain Garden River Plantation in the Parish of St. Thomas.”

250 ‘negroes’ were valued at £8,788. This amount is equal to £1,263,268.74 in today’s money.

Reference: ACC/1360/682/3

Collection: Keynes family (sugar plantation owners of Plantain Garden River Estate, Antigua)

List of negroes at Plantain Garden River Estate plantation 1799

1. “A general list of negroes upon Plantain Garden River Estate taken 11th November 1799 with their employments, condition and valuations.”

2. “Negroes formerly the property of Mr. Keney's purchased at Marshalls sale by Mr. Rigby.”

Reference: Acc/1360/701/1 & 1360/701/2

Collection: Keynes Family (sugar plantation owners of Plantain Garden River Estate, Antigua)