

History of the Seawright Beaver Creek Plantation

By J W. Richards

1841 and 1843 Plat Maps Provide History of Beaver Creek Plantation Upon the Death of Robert Seawright in 1840

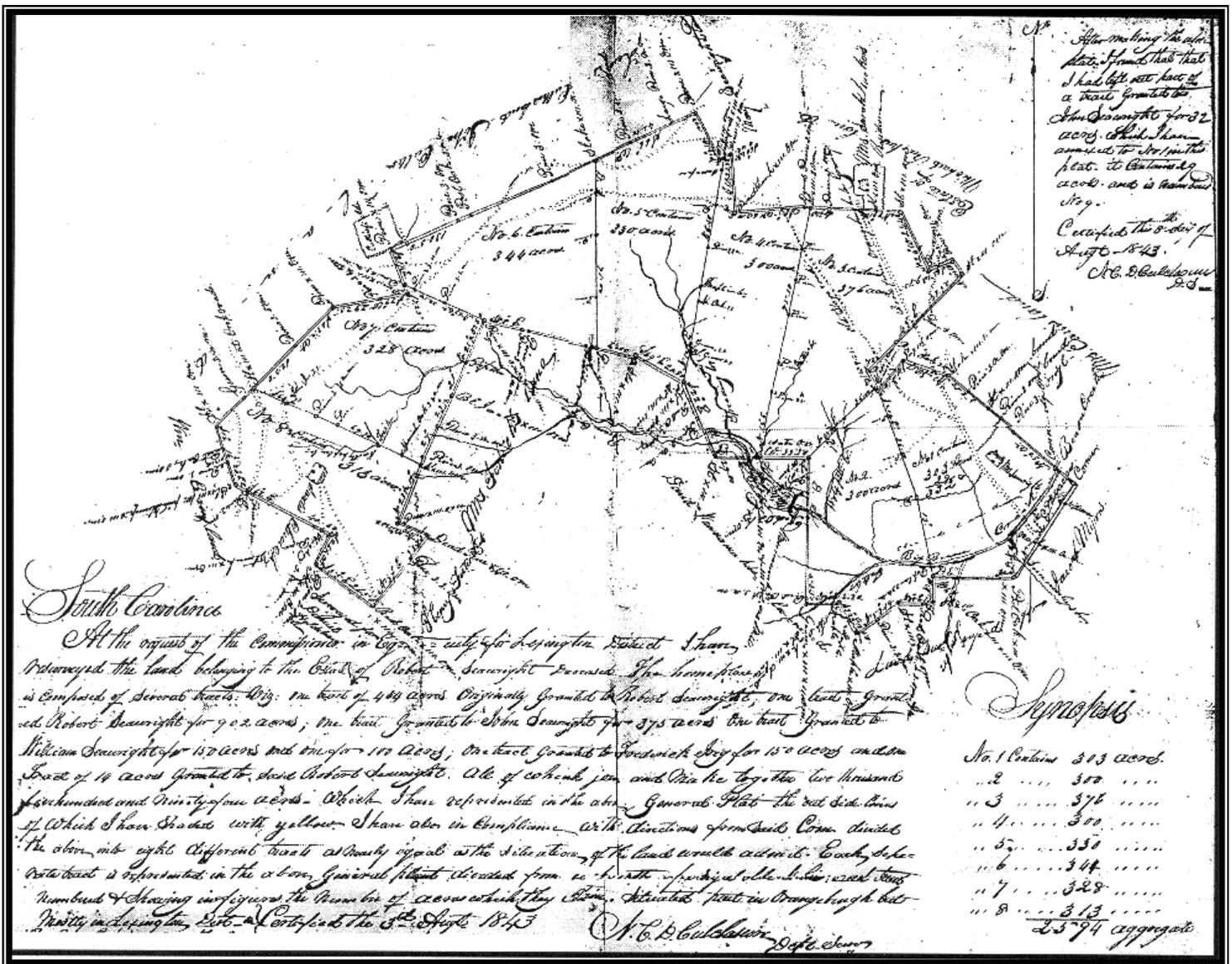
Source: Lexington District, South Carolina Chancery and Equity Court Records, Package #89 (LDS Microfilm #0206846), entitled "Charles R. Seawright vs. Mary Seawright", filed 30 July 1842, 16 May 1843 and 8 June 1843 involves Charles' (Robert's oldest son by his first marriage) request to partition the lands belonging to the estate of his father, the late Robert Seawright (1775-1840). **Names other than Seawrights are emboldened.**

These records and two detailed maps of the estate lands indicate that Robert Seawright's Beaver Creek Plantation estate consisted of 2626 acres of land straddling both Lexington and Orangeburgh Districts (now Lexington and Calhoun Counties) along Beaver Creek. One map contains the following statement that traces portions of the land back to Robert's great uncle, Robert (1714-1767); Robert's father, John (1747-1807); and Robert's great uncle, (Capt.) William Seawright (Jr.) (1705-1760). William Seawright originally established this plantation in the 1740s. The statement reads: "At the request of the commissioner in equity for Lexington District I have resurveyed the land belonging to the estate of Robert Seawright deceased. The homeplace is composed of several tracts. Viz, one tract of 404 acres originally granted to Robert Seawright, one tract granted Robert Seawright for 902 acres, one tract granted to John Seawright for 375 acres, one tract granted to William Seawright for 150 acres and one for 100 acres, one tract granted to **Frederick Jorg** for 150 acres and one tract of 14 acres granted to said Robert Seawright. All of which join and make together two-thousand five-hundred and ninety-four acres which I have represented in the above general plat, the outside lines of which I have shaded in yellow. I have also, in compliance with directions from said commissioner, divided the above into eight different tracts as nearly equal as the situation of the land would admit. Each separate tract is represented in the above general plat divided from each other by single black lines, each tract numbered and showing in figures the number of acres which they contain. Situated part in Orangeburgh but mostly in Lexington Districts. Big Beaver Creek waters of the Conagree River form the boundaries as shown. Certified the 3rd of August 1843. N.C.D. Culclasure, Department of Survey P.S. After making the above plate I found that I had left out part of a tract granted to John Seawright for 32 acres which I have annexed to No. 1 in this plat, it contains 29 acres and is numbered No. 9. Certified this 8th day of August 1843." *The estate was bordered by lands belonging to the following individuals: **Jacob Meyers, Henry Miller, David Wannamaker** (had a mill on Big Beaver Creek), **Henry Fertick, Mrs. Fertick, Dank Heldebrand, William Crum (or Crim), John Culler, John Lewis, Mary Seawright** (land located adjacent to her husband's estate, but specifically willed to Mary by her father, John Gibson, in 1824 Edgefield District records), and **Michael Rucker.** Mrs. Sarah Rucker's residence was located north of Mary Seawright's residence, both of which were adjacent to the east side of the Granby-Orangeburg Road just south of its junction with Old Stage Road and north of Big Beaver Creek. Sardis Church was located on the far west end of the estate.*

Correlating this plat information to Robert Seawright's house on the 1825 Mills Atlas of Lexington District and present-day maps, the house was probably located on Lewie Rucker Road adjacent to the east side of Hwy 21, about 2 miles south of its junction with I-26, just north of

Big Beaver Creek. The majority of their land was west of their house and north of Big Beaver Creek and is traversed by a good deal of what is Beaver Creek Road today. Other sources indicate that original Seawright home site (circa 1760) was nearby on the south side of Beaver Creek.

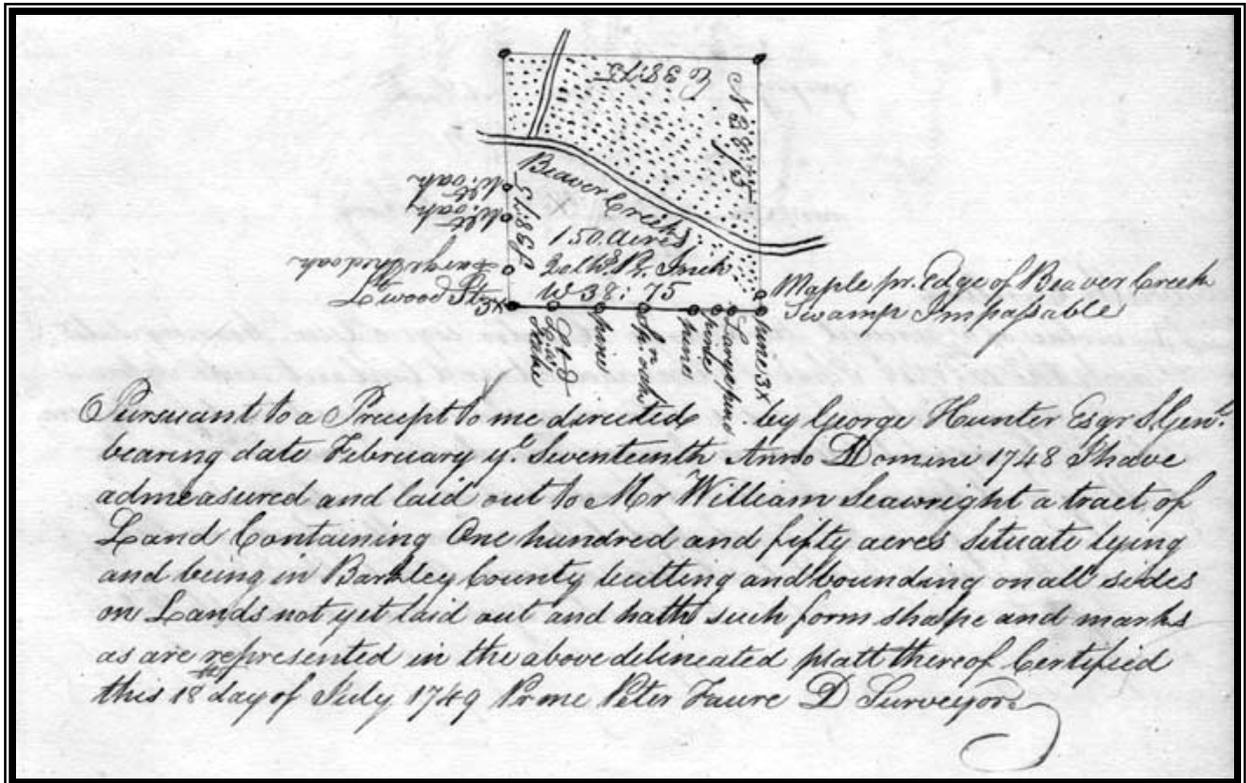
As the result of the Court of Equity assessment that dividing Robert Seawright's real estate could not be done equitably, sale of the estate was ordered on 8 August 1843 at the residence of the late Robert Seawright. The estate consisted of 2641 acres and was sold in nine parcels to the following individuals for the sum indicated: Mary Seawright (\$200), **David Wannamaker** (\$325), **Henry L. Rucker** (\$105), **Vastine V. Saylor** (\$170), **David Crim** (\$51), **Jacob Crider** (\$26), and **Jacob Goodwin** (\$41) -- totalling \$918. Mary Seawright bought back 332 acres of her husband's estate that contained the house and 150 acres of cultivated fields located adjacent to the house and extending south across Big Beaver Creek and lining both sides of that waterway.



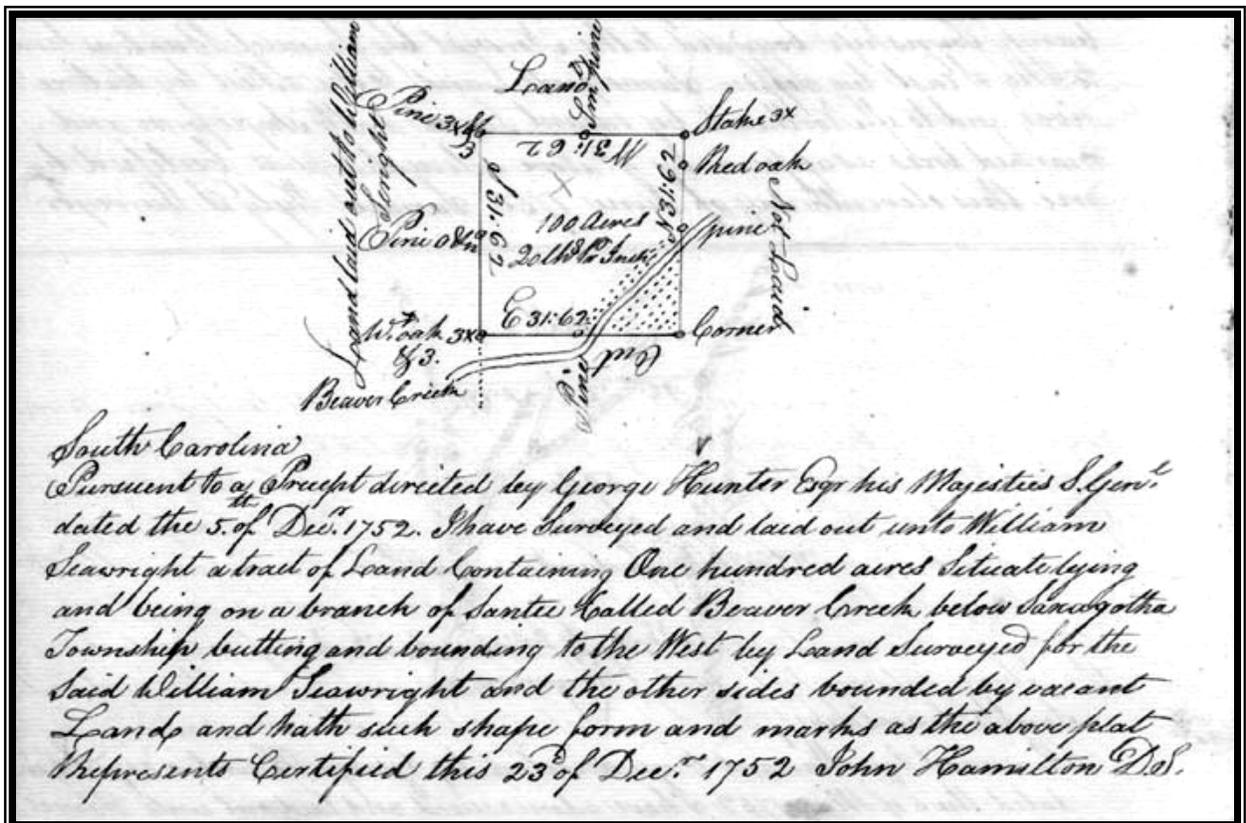
1843 Plat Map of Robert Seawright's Beaver Creek Plantation

Earliest Land Records of Beaver Creek Plantation

Provided by www.achivesindex.sc.gov



1749 land record delineating 150 acres of the Beaver Creek plantation awarded by the South Carolina Council to William Seawright as headrights for the acquisition of three slaves



1752 land record delineating an addition of 100 acres to the Beaver Creek plantation awarded by the South Carolina Council to William Seawright as headrights for the acquisition of two slaves