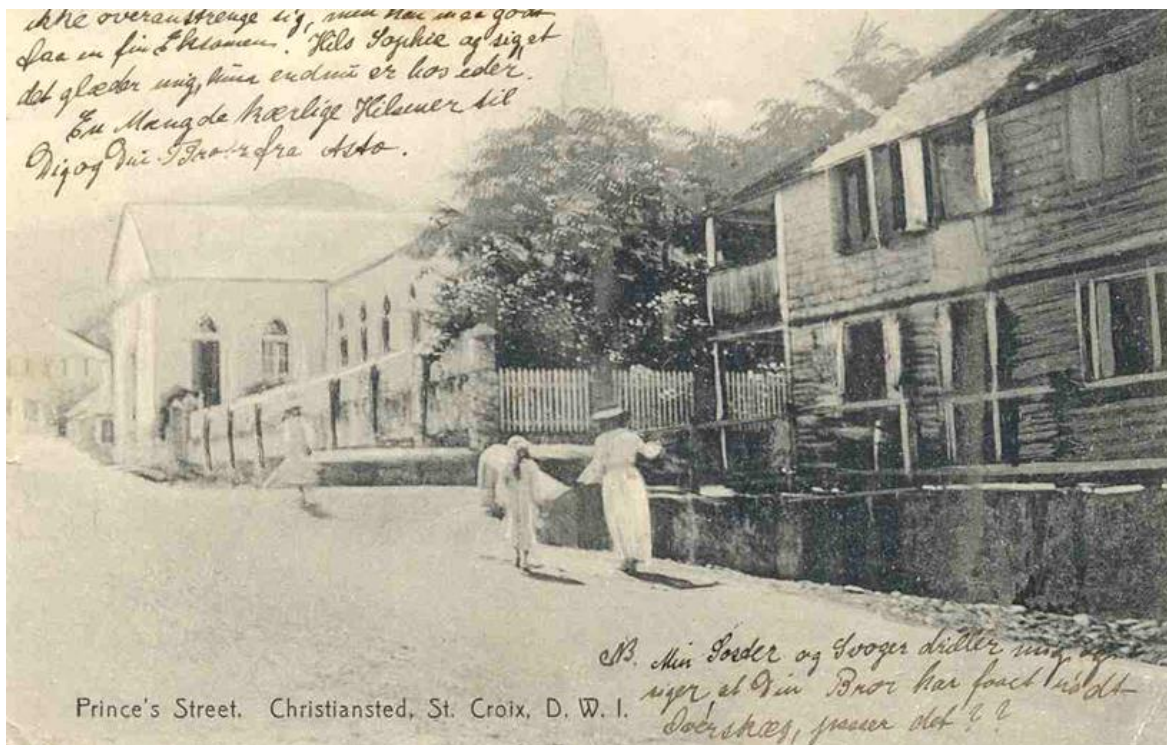


Estates Strawberry Hill, Betzy's Jewel etc. – Obeah 1824

Betzy's Jewel Estate, comprising 150 acres, was located at Northside B Quarter No. 12. In 1824, it was owned by Captain Peter Markoe, who also owned Estate Clifton Hill in Kings Quarter. In 1824, it had 90 acres of sugar cane under cultivation and 47 enslaved laborers.

Strawberry Hill Estate, comprising 450 acres, was located at Queens Quarter Nos. 20, 24 and 29 immediately east of Estate Barren Spot. In 1824, it was jointly owned by several members of the Tower family, all of whom lived in Great Britain. In 1824, the manager was David Mudie, and it had 136 acres of sugar cane under cultivation and 94 enslaved laborers

Estate Little Princess, encompassing 200 acres, was located at Company Quarter Nos. 5 and 13, just outside of Christiansted. In 1824, it was owned by Sarah Battelle (widow of Cornelius Battelle), together with the adjoining Estate Golden Rock, which encompassed 125 acres at Company Quarter Nos. 10 and 14. In 1824, the two properties, with a total of 235 acres under sugar cultivation and a total of 142 enslaved laborers, were being managed by Owen Sheridan.



June enslaved to Captain Peter Markoe

No one named June can be found among records relating to Estate Betzy's Jewel in the Database. However, an African named June is found in the records relating to Estate Clifton Hill, a sugar plantation in Kings Quarter that in 1824 was also owned by Captain Peter Markoe. Since Peter Markoe was identified as the owner of Estate Clifton Hill at the outset of his testimony in the police case, it is very likely that the man June under investigation originally came from Clifton Hill and had been transferred by Markoe to Estate Betsy's Jewel.

June of Clifton Hill was purchased off a slave ship by Peter and Francis Markoe and placed on Estate Clifton Hill in 1798. By 1802, he was employed as a mill boatswain on Clifton Hill. In 1804, he had an appraised value of Ps. 800. In 1818, he was classified as a field laborer with an appraised value of Ps. 700. In the Clifton Hill vaccination list of 1824, he was estimated to be 45 years of age. In 1825, his value had fallen sharply to Ps. 100. He does not appear in the 1832 or 1836 inventories of Estate Clifton Hill. Nor can he be found in the 1841 census or any death record.

Bacchus aka Peter of Estate Strawberry Hill

Born in African, Bacchus was purchased from a slave ship and brought to Estate Strawberry Hill on 18 August 1795. Employed as a field laborer, he had an appraised value of Ps. 500 in 1810 and 1813. At some point in time he was baptized into the Roman Catholic Church, but he cannot be found in any church record. In 1824, he was listed 45 years of age with value of Ps. 300. He was not listed on the Strawberry Hill inventory of 1834. Nor does he appear in the inventory of 1834 or the census of 1841. He must have died between 1824 and 1834; but no death record has been found.

David aka Big David of Estate Golden Rock

Creole, born enslaved on Estate Golden Rock ca. 1789. Employed as a field laborer throughout his working life, he had an appraised value of Ps. 450 in 1802. He is listed as 35 years of age on a vaccination list of 1824. But he does not appear on either an inventory or a vaccination list of 1834. Nor is he found in the census of 1841.

Christian of Estate Walbergaard – Obeah practitioner

Born in African ca. 1744, he was enslaved on Estate Walbergaard in 1760 with an appraised value of Ps. 200. From 1787 to 1818 he was listed on that estate as a tradesman. In 1823, he was identified as a carpenter. In 1824, the year he must have died according to the police record, he was said to be 80 years of age.

Castillo of Estate Barren Spot – Obeah practitioner

Creole, born enslaved on St. Croix ca. 1773 and baptized in the Anglican Church. He was brought onto Estate Whim in West End Quarter at age 4 from unknown location in 1777. Valued at Ps. 170 in 1784. By 1793-1794, he was a tradesman with an appraised value of Ps. 550. In 1810, still a tradesman, he was moved along with the entire enslaved population from Estate Whim to Estate Lime Tree in Queens Quarter by Christopher MacEvoy Jr. By 1824, MacEvoy had combined Estate Lime Tree with two other estates to form Estate Barren Spot. In that year, Castillo was said to be 50 years of age. In the census of 1841, he is listed as a 65 year old carpenter, unmarried, belonging to the Anglican Church with a "good" character. He does not appear in the 1846 census or any subsequent census.

