

ESTATE MORNING STAR

5
 King Street, Charleston, S.C.
 The new building is for the
 meeting place of the new meeting house.
 It is a fine building. - Many people

African, born ca. 1790. It cannot be determined when he arrived on St. Croix, or the name of his original owner. He was brought onto Estate Body Slob between 1803 and 1807 (at that time owned by Sarah Beekman) and put to work in the cane fields. His name in all the estate records was Carden. The vaccination list of 1824, put his age at 33 years. In 1818, he had an appraised value of Ps. 650, making him one of the most valuable field laborers on the plantation. By 1831,

his value had fallen to Ps. 350. In 1840, he ran maroon for three months. In the census of 1841 he was listed as 46 years old, a member of the Anglican Church, unmarried, belonging to the big gang and manifesting an “improved” character. He is not found in cannot in the 1846 census or any other census, presumably because he was officially transported off-island in accordance with Judge Friedrichsen’s recommendation.

Peter aka Peter Mark of Estate Morning Star

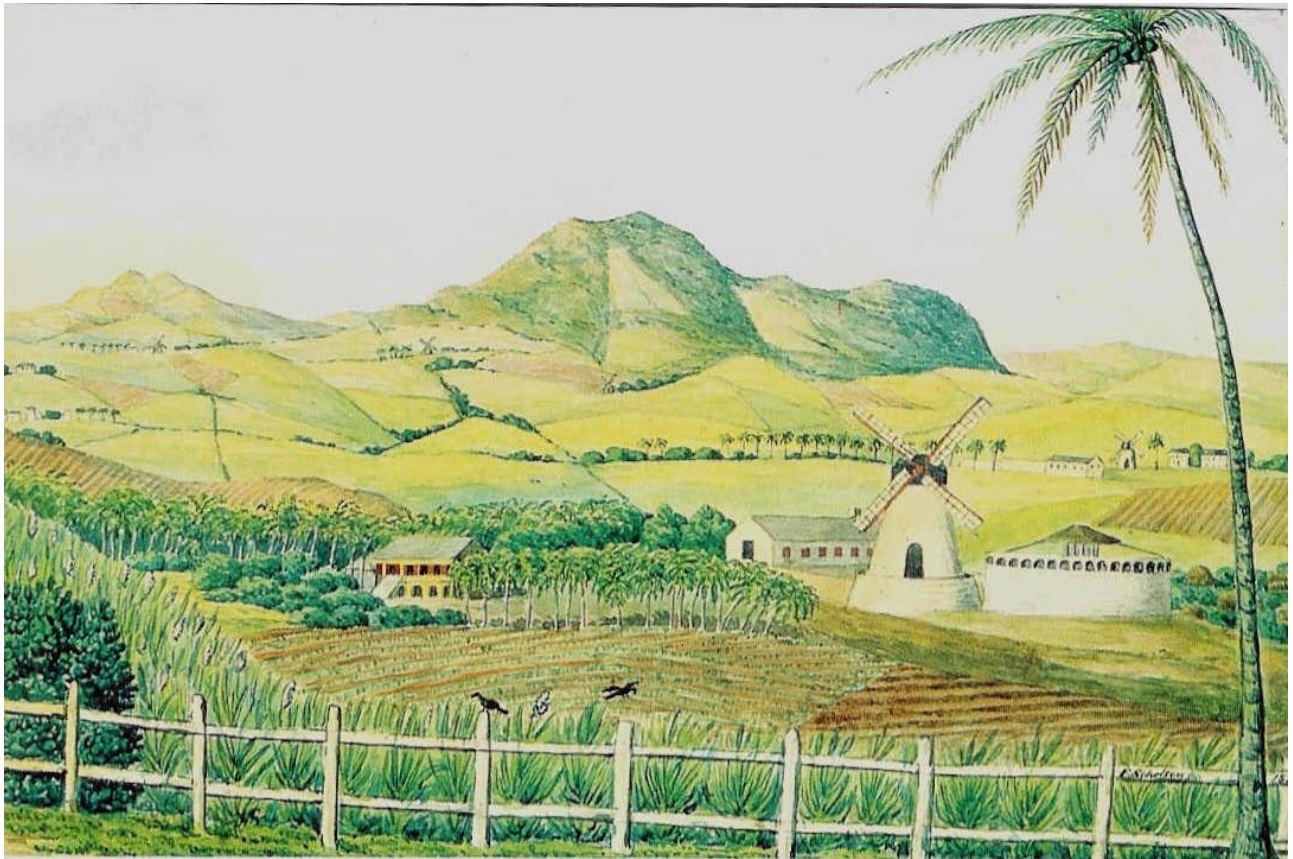
Creole, born enslaved on Estate Morning Star ca. 1809 and baptized in the Roman Catholic Church. His parents are unknown. Given that after emancipation he and his brother Augustus (see below) took the surname “Mark”, it is likely that his father was Mark Anthony, a Creole mason enslaved on Estate Morning Star at the time of his birth. By 1831, Peter was working as a carpenter with an appraised value of Ps. 450. In the census of 1841 he was listed as 32 years of age, unmarried, employed as a carpenter with a “bad” character. According to the census of 1846, he was an unmarried carpenter with a tolerable character. On 26 June 1848, he was sent to Richmond prison on suspicion of engaging in Obeah practices. He was freed on Morning Star by the general emancipation of 3 July 1848. In 1850, he was working as a carpenter on Estate Bonne Esperance in Queens Quarter. In 1855, he was living on Estate Windsor with his common law wife Phoebe (41 years of age, born St. Croix, Roman Catholic, 1st class laborer) and her (their) daughters Susannah age 17 and Christiana age 4. In 1860, he was employed as a carpenter on Estate Windsor, where he lived with Phoebe and her (their?) children Susan age 22, Albertine age 12, Christiana age 10 and Catharine age 1. None of them could be found in the 1870 census, nor any subsequent census or any death records. Presumably, the family emigrated during the 1860s.

Augustus aka Augustus Mark of Estate Morning Star

Creole, born enslaved ca. 1810 on Estate Morning Star and baptized in the Roman Catholic Church. His parents are unknown. Given that after emancipation he and his brother Peter (see above) took the surname “Mark”, it is likely that his father was Mark Anthony, a Creole mason enslaved on Estate Morning Star at the time of his birth. In 1831, he had an appraised value of Ps. 350. In the censuses of 1841 and 1846, he was listed as an unmarried member of the big gang with a “good” character. Freed on Estate Morning Star by the general emancipation of 3 July 1848, he was working there as field laborer in 1850. In the census of 1855, he was listed as the driver at Morning Star and the head of a household comprised of his common law wife Felicity Dembo 37 years of age (born enslaved on Estate Barren Spot) and his two sons Joe 8 years of age and Adolphus 5 years of age. In 1857, Augustus was still the driver at Morning Star; but was living alone, as Felicity had returned to Estate Barren Spot and his two sons apparently had died. He cannot be found in the 1860 census. But, on 12 April 1863, he died and was buried on Morning Star.

August of Estate La Reine

Creole born on St. Croix and baptized in the Moravian Church. His parents are unknown. According to the 1841 census he was born ca. 1806, which corresponds to information found in inventories and head tax lists. However, in the 1846 census he is said to have been born ca. 1817. Both censuses list him as an unmarried member of the big gang, with a “good” character. The 1846 census record states that he had never been officially punished. In an inventory of 1845 he is given an appraised value of Ps. 450. Freed on Estate Morning Star by the general emancipation of 3 July 1848, he had moved elsewhere by 1850. He cannot be traced with certainty after 1848.



Painting: Frederik von Scholten, “Estate Morning Star”. Søfartsmuseet i Helsingør.