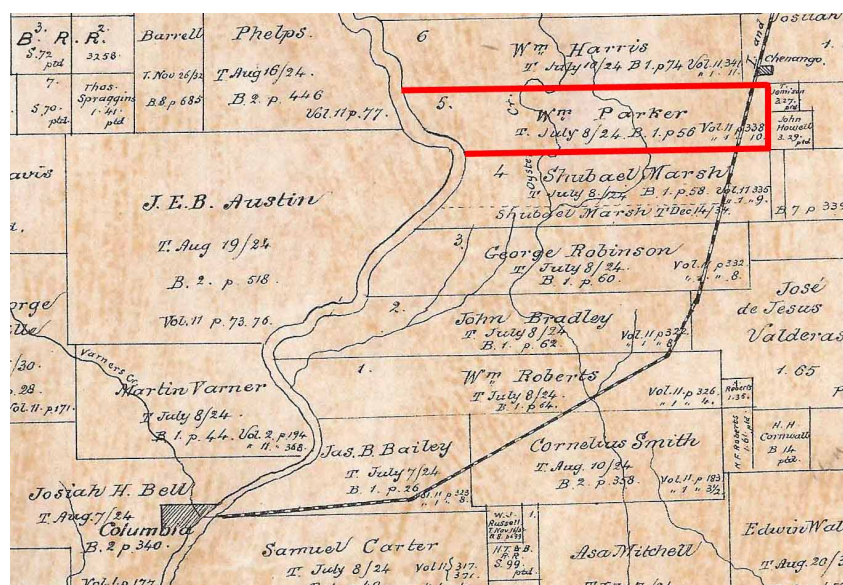


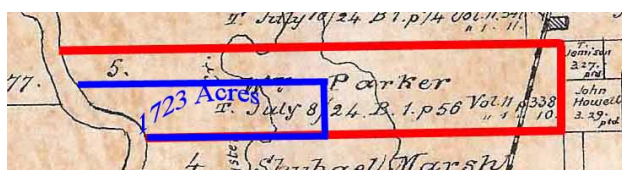
Ann D. W. Splane/Judge Robert J. Townes/Peach Lake/Dr. Henry W. Vann Plantation
Brazosport Archaeological Society



William Parker received title to one league of land east of the Brazos River on both sides of Oyster Creek above the town of Columbia July 8, 1824. He had only a minor presence in Brazoria County and after his death his league was sold by his estate. Ann D. W. Splane (widow Capt. Peyton R. Splane) bought the property in 1839 and started a plantation on the property. Robert J. Townes bought the SW corner of the league in 1845. Townes was a lawyer living in Brazoria, who built the property into a cotton and sugar plantation in the 1850's using slave labor. After the building of a sugar mill which used steam power Peach Lake Plantation was a consistent producer of sugar. Before the Civil War in 1860, Judge Robert J. Townes sold the plantation and a large number of slaves to Dr. Henry W. Vann and his wife. Vann died in 1862 and his widow was foreclosed upon in 1866. Convict labor was possibly used in the late 1870's to keep the plantation running by later owners. George C. and William Munson, brothers, bought the plantation in 1879. They lived on the property for many years with George C. and his wife Hannah raising a large family. After the turn of the century they sold out much of the original plantation to Lorenzo Vieman of Missouri. In the late 1940's the property west of Oyster Creek was acquired by the Dow Chemical Company which built Harris Reservoir whose waters now cover many of the original plantation structures.

When William Parker applied for his league of land he mentioned in his application that he was living on the east side of the Brazos River with his family.¹ He received title to one league of land east of the Brazos River on both sides of Oyster Creek July 8, 1824. In the 1826 Census, however, he is listed as a single farmer and stockraiser 25-40 years of age. By ~1832 William Parker was deceased. Thomas M. Duke, the administrator of his estate, sold the lower SW corner of his league in February of 1832.²

Robert Jones Townes, a lawyer from the town of Brazoria, bought a tract of land out of the SW corner of the William Parker league east of the Brazos River bounded on the west by Oyster Creek from Ann D. W. Pages (widow of Peyton R. Splane), her daughter Ann Eliza C. Wilson, and their husbands in January 1845.³ Abner Harris had been acting as overseer for the Pages and sold his 150 acre tract on the river to Townes October 1845. In 1848 Robert J. Townes bought another 400 acres adjacent to his property east of Oyster Creek.⁴ His plantation was now bounded on the west by the Brazos River and stretched to the east across both sides of Oyster Creek.⁵ Townes and his wife Pattie Charlotte Eggleston were born in Virginia and married January 8, 1846.



Robert J. Townes was the attorney of record for the Don Carlos Barrett estate in early 1838 and apparently had set up office in Brazoria. Initially he was in partnership with Patrick C. Jack and his brother William H. Jack. In March 1840 they dissolved their partnership and William H. Jack and Robert J. Townes continued their practice under the style of Jack & Townes.⁶

In the late 1840's according to tax records Robert J. Townes and ? Jackson⁷ were actually partners in the plantation located in the William Parker league with 26 slaves on the property. Townes started to build a sugar mill on the plantation but was delayed in 1850:

The schooner *Maria*, Capt. Miller, from New Orleans, was driven on the south point, some distance inside of the bar at the mouth of the Brazos river, on the 30th ult., and became a total wreck. She was loaded with sugar machinery for Mr. Townes, of Brazoria, a part of which has been saved.⁸

During 1849-1850 cholera made its appearance around the whole Gulf Coast:

¹ Brazoria County Deed Record: 425 269/72

² BCDR: Spanish Translation 43/44

³ BCDR: B 470/71

⁴ BCDR: E 83/84

⁵ BCDR: E 198/99

⁶ *San Luis Advocate*, June 22, 1841, San Luis, Texas

⁷ It is not clear if this was Abner Jackson or F.M. Jackson.

⁸ *The Nueces Valley*, May 25, 1850, Corpus Christi, Texas

A letter received in this city from Oyster area gives the sad intelligence that the cholera is prevailing in some extent along Oyster creek. This letter dated the 25th of July, states that Mr. Benjamin Gass had lost nine negroes from this disease, Messrs. Jackson and Townes four and Mr. Williams two. It seems to be the suspicion that this epidemic propagated from Gen. Coffee's plantation where it proved quite fatal some few weeks ago...*Galveston News* 31st⁹

By 1852 tax records indicate there were 33 slaves on the property with this number increasing to 44 slaves by 1859. This number was probably slightly higher as in 1857 Townes purchased an additional 18 slaves from George Williams for \$14,500.¹⁰ For the decade Peach Lake Plantation was a consistent producer of sugar using steam power:

1852	120 Hghds
1853	115 Hghds
1854	120 Hghds
1855	199 Hghds
1858	125 Hghds ¹¹

In 1852 Robert J. Townes was elected district judge for Galveston, Brazoria, and Matagorda Counties. Townes and his family moved to Austin, Texas ~1855-1856 where he built Edgemont Plantation and later served as secretary of state under Governor Francis R. Lubbock. It is not apparent who was actually managing the Peach Lake Plantation although ? Jackson was Townes' partner in the plantation in the early stages.



1944 Aerial Showing Location of Sugar Mill

The sugar mill, gin, and saw mill were built at the edge of the horseshoe lake which gave the plantation its name. According to Lydia Munson Johnson the frame residence was on the west bank of Oyster Creek and near the lake. From the east end of the main portion of the house,

⁹ *The State Gazette*, August 10, 1850, Austin, Texas

¹⁰ BCDR: H 80 & H 81/82

¹¹ Champomier, P. A., Statement of the Sugar Crop Made in Louisiana in 1852-53, With An Appendix, New Orleans, 1853 & Statement of the Sugar Crop Made in Louisiana in 1853-54, With An Appendix, New Orleans, 1854, Champomier, P. A., Statement of the Sugar Crop Made in Louisiana in 1854-55, With An Appendix, New Orleans, 1855 & Statement of the Sugar Crop Made in Louisiana in 1855-56, With An Appendix, New Orleans, 1856, and Champomier, P. A., Statement of the Sugar Crop Made in Louisiana in 1858-59, With An Appendix, New Orleans, 1859

a bedroom wing went southward. The front porch of the home faced south and west. A three-plank whitewashed fence enclosed the yard, which contained a large cedar tree on the west side. Also on the west was the garden, and beyond that, across the road was Peach Lake. Another road, following the creek, went south to Oyster Creek Station. Another led northward to Chenango Plantation, and a third crossed a high bridge over Oyster Creek toward the prairie to the east.¹²



13

April 1859 Robert J. Townes gave Benjamin Gass, who had moved from Brazoria County to South Carolina, promissory notes amounting to \$31,000 to cover his previous debt of \$14,500 to George Williams of Kentucky and keep the plantation running.¹⁴ September 1860 Robert J. Townes sold the Peach Lake Plantation with 47 slaves, all the livestock, and farming utensils to Dr. Henry W. Vann and Smith Darnell both of Fort Bend County. They paid the astounding price of \$130,500 with \$5000 down.¹⁵ Dr. Vann, his wife Elizabeth, and son Robert H. Vann moved to the plantation. Dr. Vann and his family most probably came to Texas from Florida. The 1860 census for Fort Bend County lists the family living at a boarding house:

Henry Vann	40M	Florida (1850 Census Birth Place South Carolina)
Elizabeth Vann	35F	Florida (1850 Census Birth Place Georgia)
Henry Vann	10M	Florida

During the Civil War Dr. Henry W. Vann died May 1862. Elizabeth became administratrix of his estate but after a short while H. J. B. Cash became administrator and probably the manager of the plantation. An inventory of his estate listed 1,500 acres of land with 250 acres in sugar

¹²Platter, Allen Andrew, "Educational, Social, and Economic Characteristics of the Plantation Culture of Brazoria County, Texas", Doctorial Dissertation Education, University of Houston, 1961, pp.196-199.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ BCDR: H 81/82, J 120/23, & J 183

¹⁵ BCDR: J 549/51

cane, 225 acres of cotton, and 125 acres of corn. On hand were 22 bales of cotton, 3 hogsheads sugar, and 26 barrels of molasses. There was also 53 slaves listed (See Appendix D) All this along with the sugar house, engine, gin, saw mill, livestock, assorted tools and equipment for the plantation were half owned by Darnell Smith. Another slave and her three children were the sole property of Henry Vann. His total estate was valued at ~\$111,807.¹⁶

In September 1862 Elizabeth Vann petitioned the probate court for support of herself and minor son for one year and all the exempt property belonging to the H. W. Vann estate. The court allowed \$500 to her son and the exempt property.¹⁷ September 1866 Elizabeth again petitioned the court as H. J. B. Cash had been made administrator:

...appearing to the satisfaction of the court that no part of said exempt property , real or personal, nor the said sum of \$500 has ever been paid over to or received by the said Petitioner or said minor child and that neither of them have ever received any or either or any part of said allowance and it further appearing to the satisfaction of the court that the said estate of H. W. Vann is insolvent, that the said minor child Robert H. Vann departed this life in the year 1864 in the twelfth year of his age, and that said Petitioner is his only heir at Law. And it further appearing that said Petitioner has not separate property adequate to her maintenance. And that there is no Homestead belonging to said estate...that in the absence of a Homestead the sum of \$2000 is allowed to said widow in lieu thereof. That the sum of \$200 be allowed said widow for household and kitchen furniture. The sum of \$50 for implements of husbandry. The sum of \$50 for five milch cows. The sum of \$100 for one horse or yoke of oxen. And the sum of \$50 for twenty head of hogs...that the sum of \$500 be allowed to said minor child...be paid over to said widow. It is further ordered that said widow be allowed to take any of the property of said deceased that she may choose to take...¹⁸

This essentially ended Elizabeth Vann's ties to the plantation. The plantation produced fairly well during the Civil War and shortly thereafter (See Appendix F). With the death of Robert J. Townes in 1865 C. S. West, the administrator of his estate, sought to foreclose on the property. Though the Probate Court decreed that the plantation should be sold in 1868 the process continued to be postponed until it was finally ruled that the estate of Benjamin Gass actually held the primary mortgage from 1859.¹⁹

Charles E. and John Gass bought Peach Lake Plantation from their father's estate for \$4000 January 1878.²⁰ They sold the property quickly to William F. Stuart.²¹ It appears that Stuart may have had access to convict labor as when he sold the property the next year to brothers, Henry W. and George C. Munson, he sold "knives & all bedding cooking utensils used by guards" along with 1307 acres.²²

George Caldwell Munson, the second child of Mordello and Sarah Munson, was born on January 12, 1853. He was raised at Bailey's Prairie on the Ridgely Plantation and obtained a law degree in Austin, but he was a farmer and rancher in Brazoria County all his life. George was the

¹⁶ Henry W. Vann Probate Case #778, Brazoria County Clerk, Angleton, Texas

¹⁷ Probate Court Minutes Volume J: 196/97

¹⁸ Ibid. J: 730/32

¹⁹ BCDR: 52 414/26

²⁰ BCDR: 53 318/19

²¹ BCDR: Q 519/20

²² BCDR: S 355/56

first of the children of Mordello and Sarah to marry when he married Hannah Dyer Adriance on February 6, 1878, at Christ Episcopal Church in Houston.



George Caldwell Munson Hannah Dyer Adriance

George and Hannah lived and worked with his parents at the Bailey's Prairie home for a short while. During these years they lost their first child, a daughter named Lydia, and they had a second daughter, whom they also named Lydia.

Hannah became pregnant again, and George and Hannah wanted a home of their own. John Adriance sold some land and divided the money among his children. That part which he gave to daughter Hannah enabled her and George to buy the "Van Place", December 1879.

Entries in Sarah Munson's diary tell some of the early story of the "Van Place." Several entries in January and February of 1882 tell of various of the men leaving for the "Van Place" and then returning. They were apparently getting it ready for occupancy. On February 23, 1882, an entry in the diary says, "Well Bud [i. e. son George] has at last moved 'Bag and bage', wife and children from the old Parental roof. He says he doesn't so consider it and that this is Home still. He, Hannah, Lydia, Emma left this morning for Peach Lake, since quiet rains supreme. Oh how much I miss Lydia's sweet little prattle and footsteps."

When the George Munson family moved from Bailey's Prairie to the "Van Place," George's brother, Henry William III, moved with them, and they operated the plantation together. Family tradition tells that as they were leaving the Bailey's Prairie home — the first children to move away — their mother, Sarah, told them, "You may go to live there, but remember, this is always your home." Since then that Bailey's Prairie location has always been known as the "Old Home Place."

Mary Kennedy Giesecke wrote about the "Van Place:"

With fondest [memories] I remember the "Vann Place," situated near the banks of Oyster Creek. In this home lived my mother's brothers, Henry & George. The latter's family consisted of our

dear Aunt Hannah Adriance & children, Lydia, Sarah, Adriance, Henry, Mordello & Ruth. Henry later brought his wife Kate Cahill here & their son Waddy was born in "Uncle's room," later George moved to Angleton so the children could be in school. Henry remained till 1898 [actually 1899] when his wife died at a son's birth, then he & little Waddy lived with different relatives. Lydia spent some years at school in E. Columbia, staying with her grandfather. Later [at the "Van Place"] it became necessary to have a governess. The first was Miss Margaret Horn from N. Carolina, a wonderful woman. The other was Miss Lilly Fremer from Quintana. School was held in the "girl's room." Our plantation, Waverly, was 3 miles n. west and every day, weather permitting, my oldest sister, Sarah, Emma & I came to school in a "jolter" pulled by old "Dapple." "Aunt Melinda" was the faithful cook & Wm. Thomas helped out. Up the road from the house was the "store" & west the old brick sugar mill & barns on the bank of the Lake.

In many personal conversations, Mary Giesecke and Ruth Smith have told of the happy times that the children had playing on the banks of the horseshoe-shaped lake — beautiful in springtime and wonderful fun in summertime — about swimming and boating in the lake and riding a swing out over the lake from a huge weeping willow tree and plunging into the cool, fresh water. They also told about the ducks and geese, chickens, turkeys, dogs, cattle, hogs, and horses; about Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter; and about family and visits from friends.

George Munson's daughter, Lydia Munson Johnson, remembered the lake during her childhood at the Vann Plantation:

It had a beautiful lake, in the shape of a horse-shoe, and was known as Peach Lake.

The inside of the horse-shoe was covered with lovely trees. One especially large Live Oak extended out over the water; its roots made a grand place to sit and throw your line out in the clear blue water. One could always count on a long string of large Perch in a very short time.

In the early Spring, the Island, as it was called, was covered with the most delicious Dewberries...²³

The George C. Munson family, the Henry William III family, and the Kennedy family all lived at the "Van Place" and nearby Waverly Plantation until about 1898, when they all moved to Angleton. During these years there was constant travel among the three plantations by many family members.

George and Hannah's next child was born at Ridgely on August 29, 1882, and was named Sarah Kimbrough Munson (IV). An entry in Sarah's diary on that date tells of the event, "Has certainly been a day of surprises for Daught's [Emma] coming and the 'little Stranger's advent'. Hannah and Babe both doing well. It was born about ten o'clock." And an entry the next day says, "Bascom went to the Peach Lake to carry Bud the tidings. . .and on August 31, "Hannah & Babe still doing well. I wrote Mrs. Adriance today. Bud has been cutting grass in the garden."

George and Hannah's fourth child was also born at Ridgely, on November 24, 1885, and thereafter they had three additional children, all born at the "Van Place." At Bailey's Prairie they had had Lydia (who died at birth), Lydia (again) who married Ralph Johnson, Sarah (who

²³ Platter, Allen Andrew, "Educational, Social, and Economic Characteristics of the Plantation Culture of Brazoria County, Texas", Doctorial Dissertation Education, University of Houston, 1961, p. 199.

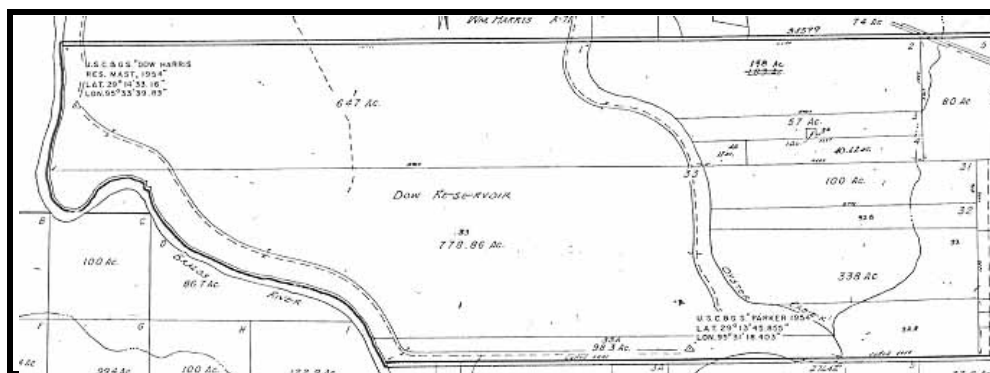
married Frank K. Stevens), and Adriance. At the "Van Place" they had Henry William IV, Mordello Stephen II, and Ruth (who married Frank T. Smith).

In December of 1896, Henry William III, at the age of 45, married 20-year-old Sarah Kate Cahill of nearby Chenango Plantation, and he brought his bride to live with George and Hannah and their six children. Economic times were very bad, the price of cotton "had dropped to nothing," and the plantation was probably not supporting these families satisfactorily.

George and Hannah, in about 1897, moved their family to the new town of Angleton, reportedly in order to place their children in the newly opened school there. They moved first to a house just to the west of Angleton (either the Jamison or the Cannan house), with the intention of building on the Munson land nearby. At about this time the first child of brother Bascom and Addie Cotton died of scarlet fever in the big two-story house that Bascom had just completed on the Munson land. Bascom did not want to live there any longer, so he said to George, "I want you to have this house and I'll build another for my family," and Bascom gave George the house, for which he later received a small consideration.

Henry William III remained at the "Van Place" briefly, possibly managing its last days, but he also left in 1899 when his wife, Kate Cahill, died at childbirth at George and Hannah's home in Angleton. He and baby Waddy lived with George's family briefly while he had a home built for himself nearby.²⁴

Over the years the Munson's had sold the tract of land east of Oyster Creek and added a large section of land just north of the original plantation to their holdings. May 1906, both tracts of land, 877 acres of the original plantation and 647 acres just north to Lorenzo Vieman, Robert and John Walker of Missouri for \$17,999.



Plat West End of William Parker League

Evidently the plantation was rented by the owners as during the 1909 hurricane the J. M. Carr family was living in the seven-room, antebellum Vann home at the time.

Mrs. Carr, who was expecting another child within a few weeks, was ill, and lying in a bed beside one of the five fireplaces that heated the home.

²⁴ The Munsons of Texas-An American Saga online <http://munsons-of-texas.net/c22.html>

Although this was their first experience with a hurricane, the Carrs felt relatively secure during the first of the winds, feeling that any shelter was better than no shelter, and that they dared not expose Mrs. Carr to the elements when she was already sick.

But as the walls of the house began to “breathe” with the heaviest gusts of wind, and unknown objects were flung into the building with terrific force, they realized that they might be safer outside than within. Clasp hands, the family—Mr. and Mrs. Carr, and their three sons, Hoyt, Joe, and Earle—stepped out into the maelstrom, flung by the wind and pummeled by rain, to seek what little shelter was available between the two banks of Oyster Creek.

They huddled there for hours, unsure whether the worst of the storm had passed or still was to come. When the winds began to subside, the sun emerged to shine as brilliantly as though the entire ordeal had been a nightmare without substance.

Then the wet, weary, battered family trudged toward their home, to find it “scattered all over the fields” with only the walls of two rooms remaining.

In the bedroom, bricks from the fireplace and chimney had fallen into the bed where Mrs. Carr had been lying.

During the weeks after the storm, the Carrs began constructing another residence—a two-story frame structure near the site of the original one.

In the interim they lived in the remaining two rooms of the old house with a tarpaulin stretched over the remaining walls to protect them from the elements.

Almost 40 years later, the house they built, and which they occupied for the next eight or nine years before moving to Angleton, was incorporated into a huge reservoir built by the Dow Chemical Company.

As recently as about 2005, its roof still was visible when water in the reservoir was extremely low.²⁵

The Dow Chemical Company acquired the acreage from the heirs of Lorenzo Vieman in 1949. The building of the reservoir took several years and from aerial photos it appears they did not start filling the reservoir until the mid 1960’s. 1965 Aerial

²⁵ Jones, Marie Beth, *The Facts*, September 29, 2008, Clute, Texas



During times that the level in the reservoir is lowered the ruins of the plantation can still be seen. The location of the home on Oyster Creek has not been located by the author.





Appendix A

GRANTORS	GRANTEES	Kind of Instrument	Book	Page	Month	Day	Year	Acres	Description
Mexican Government	William Parker	Deed	425	269/72	July	8	1824		1 League east side of Brazos River on both sides Oyster Creek
Thomas M. Duke Administrator	Edmund Andrews Charles D. Sayre	Deed	ST	43/44	Feb	15	1832	1000	Lower corner only to Oyster Creek Parker Estate
Abner Harris	Ann D. W. Splane	Deed	A	300/01	July	1	1839	387	\$1000 (acreage short)
Ann D. W. Splane	Abner Harris	Deed	B	366/67	Feb	8	1844	150	\$750 tract on Brazos R.
Ann D. W. Page Ann Eliza Wilson	Robert J. Townes	Deed	B	470/71	Jan	15	1845	715	Pay off debts of Ann Page & Ann Wilson & swap land in other league
Abner Harris	Robert J. Townes	Deed	B	544/45	Oct	31	1845	150	\$300 tract on Brazos R.
Guy M. Bryan	Robert J. Townes	Deed	E	83/84	Nov	22	1848	400	\$2000 east of Oyster Creek
Robert J. Townes	William Hendley & Co.	DT	E	354/55	Feb	21	1850	1273	\$9000 Land & 20 slaves security
George Williams Kentucky	Robert J. Townes Travis County	Deed	H	80	Feb	28	1857		\$14,500 18 Slaves
Robert J. Townes Travis County	George Williams Kentucky	Mortgage	H	81/82	Feb	28	1857	1273	\$14,500 in 2 notes Land & slaves security
Robert J. Townes Travis County	Clinton Terry John A. Wharton	DT	J	120/23	April	1	1859	1273	\$31,000 total notes Benjamin Gass S. C.
George Williams Kentucky	Robert J. Townes Travis County	Release	J	183	April	7	1859		Release mortgage on land but not slaves
Robert J. Townes	Henry W. Vann	Mortgage	J	549/51	Sept	10	1860		Peach Lake Plantation & 47

Travis County	Smith Darnell								Slaves \$5000 down & \$130,500 in notes till 1869
Robert J. Patty E. Townes	Henry W. Vann Smith Darnell	Deed	J	579	Sept	29	1860		Release her own personal slaves
Robert J. Townes Estate	Benjamin Gass Estate	Decree	52	414/26	Sept	11	1869		District Court Travis Co. foreclosure
Benjamin Gass Estate	Charles E. John Gass	Deed	53	318/19	Jan	2	1878		\$5000 bought the Peach Lake Plantation father's estate
Charles E. John Gass	William F. Stuart	Deed	Q	519/20	Jan	21	1878	1307	\$4000 Peach Lake Plantation
William F. Stuart	George C. Munson	Deed	S	355/56	Dec	27	1879	1307	\$4500 Peach Lake Plantation
George C. Munson		Deed	T	342	March	17	1880		Paid Taxes
Henry W. George C. Munson	J. Jones Trustee	DT	B	261/64	Jan	30	1889		\$3000 Mrs. A. Bentley Peach Lake security
Henry W. George C. Munson	Union Central Life Ins. Co.	DT	11	1/6	June	14	1901		\$10000 note
Mrs. A. Bentley Estate	G. C. Munson	Release	11	9	June	15	1901		Release DT
Union Central Life Ins. Co.	G.C. Munson	Release	14	26	May	29	1906		Release DT
Henry W. George C. Hannah D. Munson	Lorenzo Viemann Robert Walker John Walker	Deed	71	2/3	May	29	1906	877 647	\$17799 2 Tracts west of Oyster Creek 1 st tract Vann Place
Henry W. George C. Hannah D. Munson	W. B. Munson	Deed	72	332	May	3	1907	338	East of Oyster Creek
Henry W. George C. Hannah D. Munson	W. B. Munson	Deed	108	457	Dec	20	1909	100	East of Oyster Creek
	Dow Chemical						1949		

Appendix B

Robert Jones Townes Family

Robert Jones Townes b. 1810 Amelia, Virginia

d. October 3, 1865 Austin, Texas

m. January 8, 1846

Patty Charlotte Eggleston b. August 4, 1823

d. August 18, 1863 Austin, Texas

1. Maria J. Townes 1847-
2. Alfred E. Townes 1852-
3. Patty L. Townes 1854-
4. A. A. Townes 1856-
5. Allen R. Townes 1859-
6. Dobbs Townes 1861-
7. Everett Townes 1863-

Appendix C

List of Slaves Bought from George Williams Mortgaged by Robert J. Townes 1857

Ben 60	Angelina 25
His wife Rachael 55	Her 4 children Magnolia 9
Jim 23	Lucy 6
George 47	Hastings 2yr. 6 mo.
His wife Silvey 60	Infant girl 5 wks
Thorton 33	Richard 23
Jesse 28	Araminta 16
Eliza 20	Her infant Ralph 3 mo.
Washington 16	Dallas 11
	Milley 5
	BCDR: H 80 & H 81/82

List of Slaves Mortgaged by Robert J. Townes 1859

George 4	Libey 60
Morgan 40	Thornton 33
Janette 32	Eliza 22
Bob 26	Wash 20
His wife Mary 18 & their child	Angelina 26
Clarrisa 4	Her 4 children Magnolia 12
Maria 20	Lucy 8
Akatiah 40	Hastings 4
Billy 35	Child ~ 1yr
Bencola 35	Richard 25
Dick 35	Araminta 18
Abram 45	Her child 2
Margarette 19	Dallas 13
Lucinda 18 & her child	Milly 7
Joe 15	
Peter 10	
Gougha 50	
Ben 60	
His wife Rachael 55	
Jim 23	BCDR: J 120/23

List of Slaves Sold by Robert J. Townes to Henry W. Vann 1860

Ben Coley 45	Akatiah 50
Eliza 24	Maria (deformed foot) 16
Jannette 30	Lucinda 20
Billy 35	Joe 12
George (crippled) 45	Peter 10
Morgan 40	Abram 50
Dick Banton 26	Emma 25
Jesse 30	Louisa 4
Clarisa 45	Nancy 9Mos.
Bob 26	Moses (diseased) 45
Mary 20	Nancy 45
Dick 50	Moses 15
Sigar 25	Frechling 30
Jim 25	Allen 11
Aramanta 20	Julia 7
Ralph 3	Ellen 3
Dallas 10	Willie 3 (Nelly)
Milly 7	Angelina 27
Wash 20	Magnolia 12
Margaret 18	Lucy 9
Betsy 60	Hastings 5
Thorton 37	Jane 23
Ben 58	Silvia 60
Rachael 57	BCDR: J 549/50

Slaves Owned by Patty Townes Part of Above List

Nancy	Emma
Her children Little Moses	Her two children Louisa
Freehling	Nancy
Allen	Woman Segar
Julia	
Ellen	
Nelly	BCDR: J 579/80

Appendix D
Slaves Owned by Henry W. Vann & Smith Darnell 1862

Dick 26 yrs	\$1500
Freeland 15	1400
Bully 40	1500
Jessie 32	1400
George 50	600
Morgan 49	600
Barnett 30	2000
Abraham 45	1000
Ackalgu	800
Bencola 35	1200
Thornton 41	1500
Moses 51	800
Jim 35	1400
Wash 21	1500
Segar Dick 45	1200
Moses 19	1400
Joseph 17	1400
Dallas 15	1300
Ben 73	50
Peter 12	1300
Jobe 24	1500
Segar 36	1400
Clarissa 50	600
Mariah 18	1400
Bessy 70	50
Mary 21 & Infant	1400
Rachel 60	50
Araminta 22 & Rafe	1600
Magnolia 15	1400
Eliza 22 & Infant	1500
Emma 25 & Louisa 6	1800
Margaret 20	1400
Nancy 46 Ella & Nelly 5	1800
Allen 13	1000
Lucy 9	800
Julian 8	700
Milly 10	800
Hastings 6	600
Angelina 35 & Infant	1500
Jane 35	400
Lucinda 25 & Infant	1500

Slaves Owned by Henry W. Vann Alone

Gadsy 25 & her children Isaac 3 & Tony 5	\$2200
Sam 8	600

Probate Case Henry W. Vann # 778

Appendix E

Personal Property Henry W. Vann Estate

30 Mules valued at \$30 Each	\$3700
5 Yoke Oxen work @ \$60 Each	300
Plows & Plow Gears	100
3 Iron Axles Mule Carts @ \$60 Each	180
4 Wood “ “ “ @ \$30	120
One Old Wagon	20
One Cane Log	100
2 Ox Carts @ \$25 Each	50
1 “ “ Old	5
4 Ox Chains	8
18 Stacks of Fodder @ \$15 per Stack	270
Set Blacksmith Tools	50
1 Hand Saw 2 Augers 2 Broad sides 2 Grass Scythes	3
30 Single Trees & 15 Double Trees	26.25
Lead Pipe 3.00 3 Old Planes 1.00	4
Lot of Cooper Tools	15
About 2000 Hogshead Staves	75
2 Sets Tress Hoops	6
22 Bales of Cotton at \$50.00 per Bale	1100
2 Cross Cut Saws	8
3 Hogsheads Sugar @ \$100.00 per Hgshd	300
26 Barerls of Molasses @ \$20.00 per Bbl	520
1500 Fire Brick	75
300 “ “	15
29 Hogsheads @ \$2.00 Each	58
40 Molasses Barrels @ \$2.00 Each	80
Lot of Cotton seed Ginned about	500
5 Spaces & 15 Axes	19
	\$7757.25
1500 Acres of Land	\$38,000
Sugar House Engine Ginn & Saw Mill	16,000
	Henry W. Vann Probate Case #778

Appendix F

1863		CREDITS	
March 7	By Amt Recd from Mrs. E. Vann		\$616.98
"	for 120 bushels corn sold A. Compton @ \$2.50		300.00
June 1	100 lbs Sugar sold A. Compton @ \$0.40		40.00
"	30 lbs Sugar sold Negroes		12.00
"	250 lbs Sugar sold Self		100.00
Nov. 24	490 lbs Sugar sold Mrs. Quarles		196.00
1864			
Jany 23	432 lbs Sugar sold Mrs. Quarles		324.00
"	Wine & Tobacco by Worthy		250.00
" 30	Wine & Tobacco by Worthy		990.00
" 10	1000 lbs Sugar sold to Self		750.00
" "	3 Barrels Molasses sold to Self @ \$100		300.00
" "	2 Hgshds 2363 lbs Sugar sold to Harrison		1772.25
Jany 1	5 Bbls Molasses sold to James Runnels @ \$100		500.00
" "	4 Hgshds 4024 lbs Sugar sold to J. Runnels		3018.00
" 20	1 Hgshd 1048 lbs Sugar sold to J. H. Shepard		1048.00
" 20	1 Hgshd 1044 lbs sugar sold to W. F. Swain		1044.00
" 10	6 Hgshds 6450 lbs Sugar sold to Brazoria Co. @ \$.77		4966.50
March 15	for filling 5 Bbls Molasses to Mrs. Champion		100.00
" "	6 Hgshds Sugar 5951lbs @ \$1.25		7439.00
Jany 1	1 Bbl Molasses to Mrs. Champion		100.00
" "	265 lbs Sugar to Mrs. Champion @ \$.75		199.00
1863			
Nov 24	2 Hgshds Lime to Col. Sharp		80.00
" "	2 Bbls Lime to Self		20.00
" "	2 Bbls Lime to W. Bradley		20.00
" "	2 Bbls Lime to Dr. Tompkins		20.00
" "	1 Hgshd Lime to L. M. Strobel		40.00
" "	1 Hgshd Lime to T. J. M. Richardson		40.00
1864			
Jany 10	For filling 1 Bbl Molasses for Mrs. Weems		100.00
March 1	For filling 1 Bbl Molasses for Mrs. Weems		150.00
Jany 10	632 lbs Sugar for Mrs. Weems		474.00
" "	For fixing cart wheel Mrs. Weems		10.00
March 5	2 Bbls Molasses to Hartgrave		300.00
" "	21 lbs Sugar to Hartgrave		21.00
Jany 10	C. B. Wood for 1520 lbs Sugar		1140.00
" "	C. B. Wood filling 13 Bbls Molasses		1300.00
March 1	H. Harris filling 1Bbl Molasses		300.00
" 30	H. Tulleging filling 1Bbl Molasses		400.00
Feb 20	M. Conolan for filling 6 Bbls Molasses		1020.00
1863			
March 17	For Lumber of J. Jamison		90.00
May 7	Cash proceeds Sales Sugar & Molasses by J. Collins		5532.59
	Per his a/c sales		
" 27	Cash amt to credit of Estate with Messrs. R. & D. G. Mills		17551.18
	Per their a/c this date		
April	Nett Proceeds Sales Sugar & Molasses by Mr. J. Collins		17572.32
"	Proceeds Sugar sold by F. M. Girard		121.90
	Total Amount Confederate States Notes		\$71318.72
1863			
June 28	By Proceeds Sales 26 Hgshds Sugar weighing 37,559 lbs		5633.88
	To R. J. Townes at \$.15 – Specie		

" "	22 Bales Cotton weighing 10,618 lbs,	2654.50	
" "	To R. J. Townes @ \$.25 – Specie		
" "	103 Bbls Mollases sold Townes @ \$33.33	3433.30	
" "	70 Bbls Mollases sold J. Collins @ \$25.00	1750.00	
" "	Cash of W. Lee for 200lbs Sugar	30.00	
	Specie	13500.68	
1864	CREDIT	SPECIE	C.S. Note
June 16	By Cash of C. Davis for 250 lbs Sugar @ \$.14	35.10	
" "	A. C. Burris 200 lbs Sugar	28.00	
Dec. 20	Self 48 lbs Sugar	6.50	
1865			
Feb 1	Self 36 lbs Sugar	5.04	
March 1	Self 50 lbs Sugar	7.00	
1864			
Nov 1	1 Bbls Molasses Self	25.00	
July 1	15 lbs Butter Self @ \$5.00		75.00
" "	16 lbs Butter Self	4.00	
" "	By Cash T. Holt 14 Bushels Meal	7.00	
Dec 2	J. Holland 25 lbs Sugar	3.12	
" 8	Mrs. Quarles 608 lbs Sugar	91.20	
" "	T. Holt 5 lbs Tobacco	1.25	
" "	T. Holt 150 Bushels Corn	75.00	
" "	T. Holt ½ Bbl Molasses	12.50	
" "	T. Holt 20 Gallons Molasses	10.00	
" "	T. Holt 50 lbs Sugar	6.25	
" "	John Talbot 100 bushels Corn	50.00	
" "	D. M. Burney 1 Bbl Molasses	25.00	
" "	½ Bbl Molasses to J. Hemsley	12.00	
Dec 27	By Cash for hauling 3 Bbls Mollases from Columbia to Matagorda	13.50	
" "	By Cash 12.5 lbs Tobacco to Barbour	33.25	
Sept 29	By Cash from R. & D. G. Mills per sales	249.96	
" "	By Amt collected from D. C. Richardson by R. & D. G. Mills		3200
June 23	By Cash proceeds sales 77 Bales Cotton, 8 Hgshds Sugar, & 48 Bbls Mollases sold R. J. Townes	5251.08	
Oct 31	By proceeds 5 Bales Cotton as per a/c sales R. & D. G. Mills	230.85	
1865			
March 22	By proceeds 20 Bbls Mollases sold by A. Sessums	453.00	
Feb 21	By proceeds 32 Bbls Mollases sold by John Collins	720.00	
	Total	7781.13	3275.00

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