



Report and summary of the evidence:  
Submission made by Messrs. James  
Parris, Roger Parris and Noel Parris

**COMMISSION OF INQUIRY FILE NUMBER 1**

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## Introduction and summary of claim

By an application dated May 20, 2020 (Application Number COIHLL201900) Messrs. James Parris, Roger Parris and Noel Parris submitted an application to the Commission of Inquiry.

The synopsis of the application, which was signed by Mr. James Parris solely, reads as follows:

*“Mr. Parris, a fisherman has paid for moorings at the Devonshire Dock that is adjacent to a property named Salt Haven. Mr. Parris pays \$181 a year, per mooring, totaling \$362 to the Ministry of Public Works for 2 moorings.*

*The owner of Salt Haven has claimed that the dock in question belongs to her and has prevented the use of the government owned dock to the general public, whilst also posting private dock signage. This actions has prevented Mr. Parris and others from gaining access to their moorings. She has prevented access to his moorings by securing a boat to the dock, which remains attached to the dock continuously (24 hours per day). Mr. Parris indicated that the moorings in question have not been accessed for many years. Moreover, the owner of the Salt Haven property has left no room for emergency access to the dock, as required by the police service many years ago.*

*Mr. Parris indicated that there are several others who have not had access to their moorings as well. Mr. Parris had reached out to the former owners of the property who confirmed the dock in question was not a part of the sale of the Salt Haven Property. Mr. Parris states that the government placed a life saving ring on the dock many years ago, which would not have been the case if the dock were privately owned.*

*Mr. Parris has asked that the commission look into the matter as it affects his moorings at the western end of the dock. Furthermore, he asserts that the actions of the owner of the Salt Haven property affects the dock by other fishermen and members of the community”.*

The documents submitted consist of:

- (1) A copy of “The Schedule” (i.e, legal description) of the property Salt Haven\* and an adjoining parcel of land, marked COIHLL2019001 JP 002;
- (2) A plot plan of Salt Haven and surrounding properties based on a survey of T. Godet dated 31<sup>st</sup> December 1976, marked COIHLL2019001 JP 003; and
- (3) A Ministry of Public Works receipt in the amount of \$18.00 for photocopies, marked COIHLL2019001 JP 004.

Although the application was submitted in the names of the three Messrs. Parris, all contact has been with Mr. James Parris (“Mr. Parris”) by telephone only.

Mr. Parris, a fisherman of many years, declined invitations to meet on site at Devonshire Dock or in office in order to give a formal statement. He has indicated that, whilst several people (including other fishermen and those who frequent Devonshire Dock) are aware of his enquiries into ownership of the dock due to safety concerns he would prefer to stay in the background as far as possible.

The objective expressed by Mr. Parris is to once again feel free to use the dock.

For ease of reference, henceforth the dock in question will be referred to as "the western dock" in order to distinguish it from the greater area of Devonshire Dock which includes a larger eastern dock area.

\* Historically written as "Salthaven"



## Further information received from Mr. Parris

During various conversations held with Mr. Parris the following was stated by him:

- In years past he, along with other fishermen, had free use of the entire Devonshire Dock. He further stated that evidence of his usage was contained in the book 'Shark Bait' (authored by a Mr. Sean O'Connell, who he described as a math teacher at the Bermuda College) which contained several photographs of him bringing in sharks.
- It is only during the ownership of the current owner, whose name he did not know, that a sign has been erected claiming the western dock as private property (although he could not recall the precise wording of the sign).
- The boat formerly permanently tied up at the western dock, which prevented access by other boats, "burned" at about 3am on the morning of 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2020. He advised that police had attended the scene, but he had no additional details to provide (and one expressed reason for his reluctance to visit the western dock is concern that he might be falsely accused of involvement in the burning of this boat).
- In an attempt to resolve the issue he has visited the Land Title Registry Office and also spoken with Mr. Conway of the Department of Public Lands and Buildings - who advised him that the western dock is a public one. He has also been told that the owner has indicated that she has paperwork to prove that she owns the western dock, although he is not aware that any such paperwork has ever been provided. During his most recent telephone call in October Mr. Parris suggested that this be followed up with Mr. Conway.
- During a conversation with Minister Roban at a fisheries meeting (date unknown) Mr. Parris says he was told that the western dock was "ceded to Government years ago".
- During an October 2020 telephone conversation Mr. Parris stated that there had been some activity at the western dock in recent weeks, and he therefore wondered if the position taken by the owners of Salt Haven may have altered.

## Research conducted and evidence gathered

1. The first step was to establish the identity of the current owners of Salt Haven. Initial research identified a Ms. Debbie DeSilva as being associated with the property, and the current Parliamentary Register confirms Ms. DeSilva's address as being Salt Haven, 21 North Shore Road, Devonshire DV 05.
2. A copy of a Transfer Notice, dated 15<sup>th</sup> October 2009, was obtained from the Land Title Registry Office. The Transfer Notice records the sale, by Conveyance, of Salt Haven (together with an adjoining property) on September 30 2009. The transferor (vendor) listed is Ruth-Anne Winifred Dill Outerbridge and the transferees (purchasers) listed are Jairzinho Jair Romero Robinson and Deborah Naomi Desilva.

Enquiries were made at the Land Title Registry Office as to whether Devonshire Dock was registered as Government property (or at all) and the reply was that it was not registered. The Land Title Registry has advised that any further queries (if needed) as to deeds possibly held by Government ought to be directed to the Department of Lands and Buildings. **A copy of the Transfer Notice, together with its attachments (Schedule and deed plan), is attached as Appendix 1.**

3. The Schedule describes Salt Haven as being Lot B on the plan, and of particular relevance is that it describes the property as being bounded "EASTERLY by a right-of-way or roadway reading (sic) in a Northerly direction from the North Shore Public Road to the Public Wharf at Devonshire Dock...". **The Schedule therefore clearly demonstrates that the right-of-way or roadway leading to the Public Wharf is outside of the bounds of the Salt Haven property and was not included in the property conveyed.**

The deed plan shows Salt Haven delineated and outlined in red – and it is evident that the property does not include either the roadway leading to the western dock or the western dock itself (which is identified on the plan as "Public Wharf"). **The plan therefore also clearly demonstrates that the right-of-way or roadway leading to the Public Wharf is outside of the bounds of the Salt Haven property and was not included in the property conveyed.**

4. The Bermuda National Trust's book 'Bermuda's Architectural Heritage Series, Devonshire' was searched, and references to Salt Haven and Devonshire Dock found on the same pages. **Although the text does not provide evidence as to whether or not the western dock is public, it could be said that the photos are suggestive of the dock being a public one. Copies of relevant pages are found at Appendix 2.**



5. As research found that Salt Haven was a listed building, enquiries were made with the Department of Planning in order to ascertain how the property was described when listed. **Copies of relevant pages obtained from the said Department are found at Appendix 3 - and it is evident that there is no mention of the western dock as forming part of the property.**
6. On 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020 this investigator, accompanied by fellow investigator LeYoni Junos, paid a site visit to Devonshire Dock primarily to view and photograph the sign affixed to Salt Haven.

Conversation was had with men congregated at Devonshire Dock (in the area leading to the eastern dock). Of particular note is that one, who said that he was 60 years old, recalled using the western dock when he was a boy - and indicated that it was widely and publicly used at that time. Another man was emphatic that even if the western dock had been public at one time it was now private and formed part of Salt Haven, although he had no knowledge as to how or when such privatization would have occurred.

7. Although all evidence pointed to the western dock being public, it was decided prudent to make contact with Mrs. Ruth-Anne Outerbridge, the previous owner of Salt Haven.
8. On 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020 this investigator met with Mrs. Outerbridge, and a witness statement taken. **A copy of the final statement, signed and dated 28th October 2020 is attached as Appendix 4. As can be seen, Mrs. Outerbridge's statement confirms that the western dock is public and was not included in the 2009 sale of Salt Haven.**
9. Based on Mrs. Outerbridge's statement that she had acquired Salt Haven by gift, a search was carried out for details of this transfer and records at the Land Title Registry Office show that this transfer of property took place on 27<sup>th</sup> March 1978. The First Schedule to the deed of voluntary conveyance describes the eastern boundary of Salt Haven in the same manner as in the 2009 conveyance to the current owners **and therefore clearly shows that the right-of-way or roadway leading to the Public Wharf is outside of the bounds of the Salt Haven property and not included in the property conveyed to Mrs. Outerbridge.**

## Conclusion

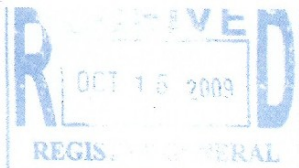
1. Facts, including oral and documentary evidence, has established that the western dock was not included in the 2009 sale of Salt Haven and the adjoining property – and indeed could not have been as Mrs. Outerbridge would have had no power to convey.
2. Without a deed in their name the current owners would have no ability to properly say that they own the western dock (as they have not occupied the property long enough to have acquired it through adverse possession).

Following the suggestion of Mr. Parris to contact the Department of Public Lands and Buildings, and that of the Land Title Registry Office to contact that Department for any additional queries on deeds held, a visit was made. A brief discussion was held with Estates Surveyor Ms. Caroline Blackburn, who confirmed the status of the dock as public – and indicated that her Department was aware of the sign affixed to Salt Haven. Although (understandably) Ms. Blackburn was reluctant to say more (perhaps concerned about confidentiality), the distinct impression given was that they were handling things. **The Commission may therefore wish to consider liaising with that Department before serving adverse notice on the owners of Salt Haven.**

3. Ms. DeSilva has not been contacted by this investigator, thus the basis for her belief is unknown. The view taken is that if the Commission still considers it appropriate to serve an adverse notice Ms. DeSilva would have the opportunity to provide her evidence (if any) at that time.
4. It is reputed that public rights and access to various land in Bermuda has been lost over the years, for example access to tribe roads and waterfrontage. Although the veracity of such claims is outside the scope of this Report, the assertion that the western dock is private and the ready acceptance of this assertion - without complaint - by some users of Devonshire Dock in the opinion of this investigator demonstrates how public rights could have quite easily been lost in the past (and perhaps ought to be examined in future). One suggestion that the Commission may wish to make to help prevent such claims in future is for appropriate signage to be installed at all properties under Government ownership.

**This Report and summary of the evidence submitted by investigator Judith Chamber the 5th day of November 2020.**





TRANSFER NOTICE

09/27  
Appendix 1

TO: THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

In accordance with the requirements of the Registrar General (Recording of Documents) Act, 1955, and as the Attorneys for the parties concerned, we hereby give you notice that the person/s hereinafter mentioned became entitled to an interest in the parcel of land hereinafter described:

DATE: September 30, 2009

DATE SANCTIONED: N/A

NAME OF TRANSFEREES: Jairzinho Jair Romero Robinson and Deborah Naomi Desilva

ADDRESS OF TRANSFEREES: 21 North Shore Road, Devonshire DV 05

NATIONALITY: Bermudian

DATE OF BIRTH: Over 21

OCCUPATION: unknown

NATURE OF INTEREST ACQUIRED: Joint tenants in fee simple

MODE OF ACQUISITION: Conveyance

FULL NAME OF PERSON FROM WHOM ACQUIRED: Ruth-Anne Winifred Dill Outerbridge

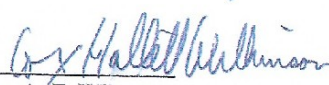
DESCRIPTION OF LAND: Per Schedule hereto annexed

ASSESSMENT NUMBER(S): 040826015

PURCHASE PRICE: \$750,000.00

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of Oct., 2009

COX HALLETT WILKINSON  
Hamilton, Bermuda

Per:   
Lorren A. F. Wilson

THE SCHEDULE

Lot B

ALL THAT certain lot or parcel of land situate in Devonshire Parish in the Islands of Bermuda delineated on the plan annexed to an Indenture made the 14th day of February 1977 between The Bank of N.T. Butterfield & Son Limited of the one part and Ruth Rapalje Neilson Crockett of the other part and outlined in Red and marked "Lot B" and estimated to contain Nought decimal point Nought Eight Eight (0.088ac) acres (found to contain Nought decimal point eight nought (0.80ac) acres ) or thereabouts and bounded NORTHERLY by the waters of the Atlantic Ocean and there measuring a total of Seventy-two decimal point two nought feet (72.20') EASTERLY by a right-of-way or roadway reading in a Northerly direction from the North Shore Public Road to the Public Wharf at Devonshire Dock and measuring along the said roadway a distance of Sixty-two decimal point two nought feet (62.20') SOUTHERLY by the said North Shore Public Road and there measuring along the line of the said roadway a total of Sixty-six decimal point two nought feet (66.20') and WESTERLY by land marked "Lot A" and there measuring Fifty-nine decimal point six five feet (59.65') OR HOWEVER OTHERWISE the said lot or parcel of land may be bounded may measure or ought to be described TOGETHER WITH the cottage or dwelling house thereon erected known as "Salt Haven" 21 North Shore Road, Devonshire DV 05 (Assessment No. 040826015 Grid ref. E 547914 N 134121) and all other houses buildings fixtures walls fences ways rights-of-way rights lights liberties privileges easements advantages and appurtenances whatsoever to the said parcel of land belonging or in anywise appertaining or usually held or enjoyed therewith or reputed as part thereof or appurtenant thereto.

Lot A

ALL THAT certain lot or parcel of land situate in Devonshire Parish in the Islands of Bermuda delineated on the plan annexed to the hereinbefore recited Indenture dated the 3rd day of March 1977 and made between The Bank of N.T. Butterfield & Son Limited of the one part and Frances Robinson Melville Moore of the other part and thereon outlined in Red and marked Lot A and estimated to contain Nought decimal point two three eight acres (0.238 acres) (found to contain Nought decimal point two two three (0.223ac) acres) and bounded NORTHERLY by the Waters of the Atlantic Ocean and there measuring a total of One hundred and seventy-four decimal point ninety feet (174.90') EASTERLY by land marked Lot B on the said plan and there measuring Fifty-nine decimal point six five feet (59.65') SOUTHERLY by the North Shore Public Road and measuring along the line of the said roadway One hundred and thirty-two decimal point one five feet (132.15') and WESTERLY by land now or formerly of the Devonshire Parish Vestry (used for bathing) and there measuring Seventy-four decimal point five nought feet (74.50') and NORTHWESTERLY by the Waters of the Atlantic Ocean and there measuring Thirty decimal point two nought feet (30.20') OR HOWEVER OTHERWISE the said lot or parcel of land may be bounded may measure or ought to be described TOGETHER WITH the wooden garage thereon erected and all other houses buildings fixtures walls fences ways rights-of-way rights lights liberties privileges easements advantages and appurtenances whatsoever to the said lot or parcel of land belonging or in anywise appertaining or usually held or enjoyed therewith or reputed as part thereof or appurtenant thereto









Appendix 2

# Devonshire



BERMUDIANA  
COLLECTION

*Orange Hill*

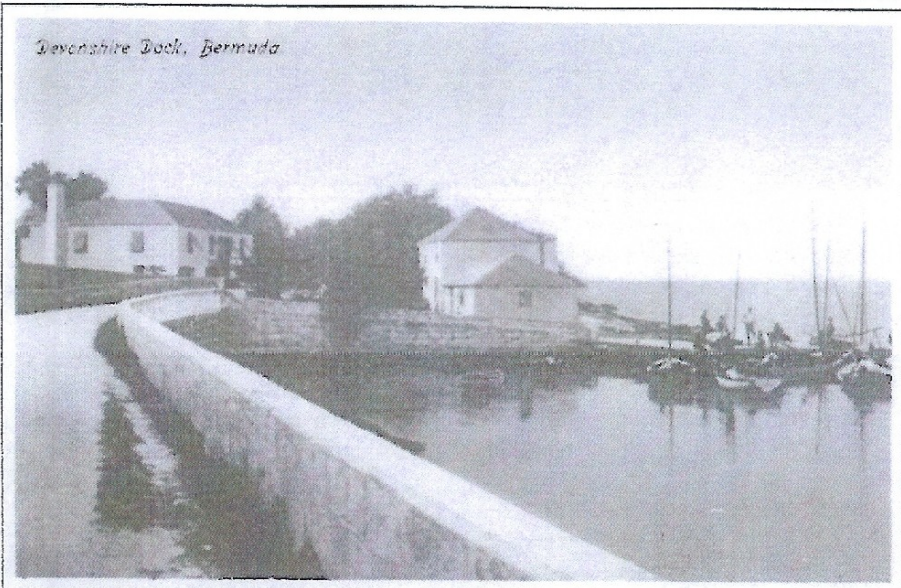
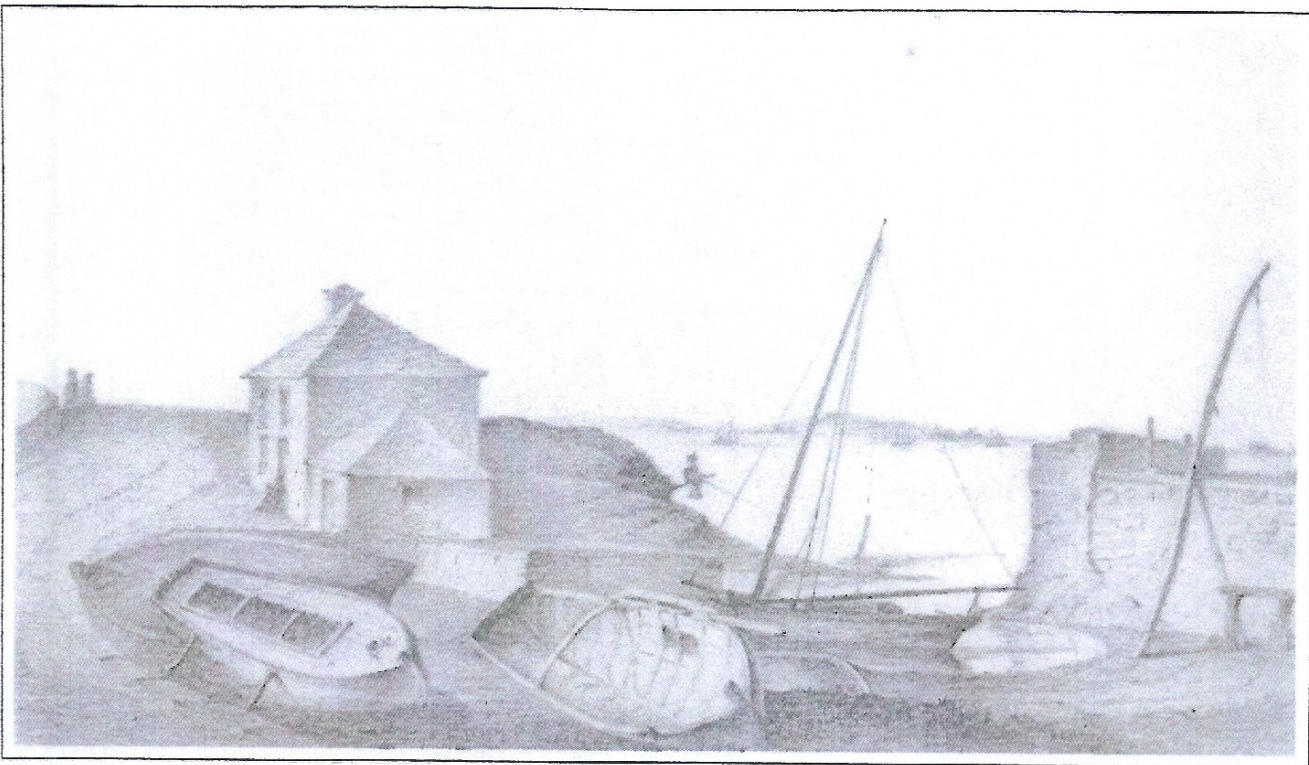
*Academy - Bermudas*

Second Edition

BERMUDA NATIONAL TRUST

9  
7  
14  
6





*Devonshire Dock, Bermuda*

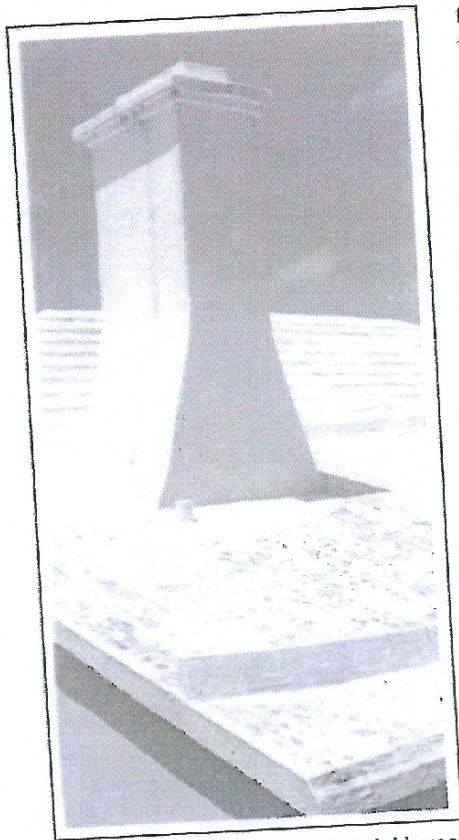


△ These views of Devonshire Dock are taken from the same point over a period of 160 years. The 1833 drawing by Lieut. Richard Nelson (*courtesy Bermuda Archives*) shows Salthaven and its adjacent building without a tree or bush and the road at the level of the entrance. With one door and only one small wooden-barred window it was probably not used for living space and was more likely storage or a small chandlery. Its chimney was not yet built. The steeper pitch of the roof may be artist's licence or, with the window placement directly under the wall plate, it may indicate an earlier building date with a later roof replacement.

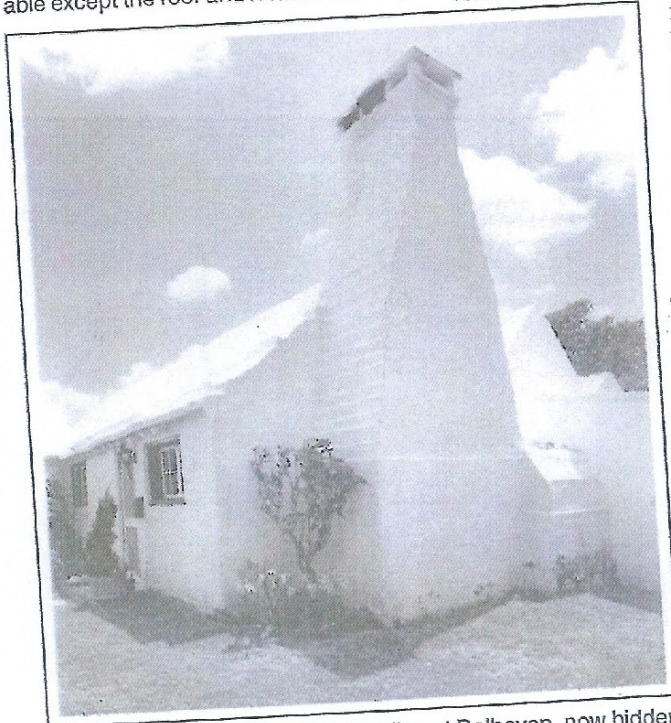
◀ The North Shore Road had been expensively raised behind a retaining wall by 1920 (*Yankee Store Postcard, courtesy Bermuda Archives*). The small bay has been dredged and docks have been added. A chimney and another window have been added to the small cottage suggesting that it had now become the kitchen of the larger Salthaven. New protective vegetation has grown up. An earlier, less altered Sunwich Port is on the left.

◀ By 1995 erosion of the dock arm is evident. The dock itself is unchanged, but has had car parking space recently added. Salthaven has had its verandahs and bathroom extension added and its fenestration rearranged with symmetrical balance.





▲ Sunwich Port (formerly Dock House) has been so altered in this century that none of the original building is recognisable except the roof and kitchen chimney.



▲ This is clearly the original building at Belhaven, now hidden at the back of its elegant successor added later in the century. This eighteenth century cottage, with its massive chimney and unplastered stone, defies precise dating. Even the windows suggest the leaded casements of the early part of the century.

to the road as it has done for two centuries.

The actual descent of Seabright and Newbold Place is complex. In the case of Newbold Place it is further complicated because there was a delay in the vesting of the estate for a five year waiting period to see if a Cox heir, lost at sea, might turn up. He did not, and thus all the Newbold properties were inherited by Thomas Newbold Dill and have been passed on to his descendants, who occupy them today.

**D**ock House, now known as Sunwich Port, adjoins Seabright and was bought by Colonel Thomas Melville Dill in 1921. So it too became one of the Dill houses ringing Devonshire Dock. Owned for a century by the Robinson family, Dock House had been bought by them in confusing circumstances. It was acquired piecemeal in three stages and was finally willed to a profusion of heirs who had little choice but to resolve their confusion by sale.

The house itself seems originally to have been commercial, perhaps once a bakery. Tradition also has it that

it was a public house with the proprietors living upstairs. The late Sir Bayard Dill lived in the house early in his marriage, as did his son Nicholas and his wife.

Salthaven, the little house at the mouth of the bay, was left to "my nephew Thomas Newbold Dill" by his granduncle at his childless death in 1868. There is a dearth of history about this attractive old cottage, but Thomas Newbold Jr. refers in his will to "two small houses at the Dock". These are

now attached, the smaller one closer to the dock being perhaps the older.

Ignoring the addition of modern verandahs, these cottages are an excellent example of small buildings unspoilt by unsightly additions in the intervening centuries. They probably date from the eighteenth century. The single storey eastern building may have been a commercial building, possibly used as a small chandlery, while the other may always have been the home of whoever worked out of the chandlery.

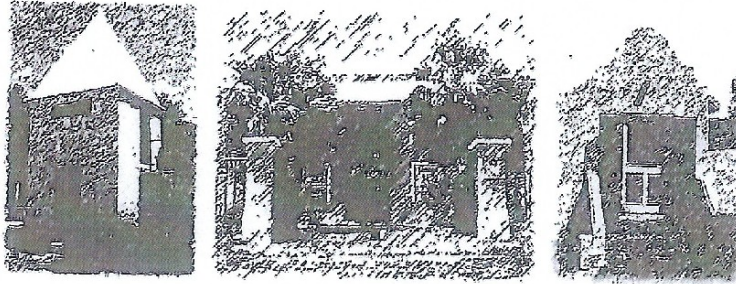
Salthaven completes the ring of Dill properties around Devonshire Dock, only a few hundred yards down from the site of their Irish ancestor Laurence Dill's first house, built over three centuries earlier.

**P**erhaps the thinnest gold thread of good fortune amongst the Dill marriages was that of the first Thomas Melville Dill's brother, Richard John Dill (called John), to Susanna Robinson in 1831. All three of their children died childless: Susannah died unmarried, Richard John Jr. (called Richard) died at sea at the age of 25 without an heir and Frances married George Somersall Foggo in 1871 when both were rather older than was customary for marriages at the time. George Foggo survived his marriage a bare six months and died in 1872, the day after his mother-in-law, leaving his widow childless.

George's father, John William Foggo, had purchased the Belhaven property high above the South Shore Road opposite the entrance to Devonshire Bay in about 1830. This property was assembled in the early nineteenth century by George Bascome, who was not himself a Devonshire man, and his son Cornelius. The elder Bascome bought the northern 12 acres of the property in 1791 from William Wilkinson, immediately after Wilkins had himself bought it from William Williams.

George Bascome died in 1796 and left a life interest in this property to his wife Frances and then absolutely to his daughters, Frances and Mary. Frances, wife of William Henry F., became the sole owner in 1825 by her mother and her sister Mary.





*Certificate*  
*of*  
**LISTING**

This certifies that the building known as

*Salthaven*  
*21 North Shore Road, Devonshire*

has, on this day, been included in a list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest compiled by the Minister of the Environment under section 30 of the Development and Planning Act 1974.

This list identifies and protects the best examples of Bermuda's building heritage and the Minister considers that the above named building makes a significant contribution to this important part of Bermuda's culture.

The Hon. Arthur D O'Hodgson JP MP  
Minister of the Environment

6th March 2000



# Listed Building Record Sheet

Reference Number: DV 045

Proposed Grade: 3

OS Sheet: 3/11

Asst Number: 040826015

Address: Salthaven, 21 North Shore Road, Devonshire, DV05

Owner: Ruth-Anne Outerbridge

Probable Period: L18C - E19C & 20C.

**Description and Historic Associations:**

The western section of 'Salthaven' is a simple two storey, nearly symmetrical building, with a massive chimney decorated with string course moulding. The one storey hipped roof cottage with chimney on the east side also appears in a Nelson sketch circa 1833. The heavy stone two storey additions north and south, and the square two storey addition with stone railing on the top west side, were all put on in during the 20th century. It seems that 'Salthaven' was originally two fishermen's cottages which were subsequently joined together. The verandahs to north and south have been added since the First World War. It is understood that under the floor of the smaller of the two cottages there is a fish tank, now covered by tiles. The roof over the eastern part of the house was replaced with an SKB roof following extensive damage caused by Hurricane Emily in 1987.

Further References: See 'Bermuda's Architectural Heritage; Devonshire', The Bermuda National Trust 1995, pages 41 and 44, and 83.

Date Surveyed: 1992

Date Listed: 6 March 2000





DV 045  
'Salthaven'  
21 North Shore Road  
Devonshire  
Grade 3



corded in the assessments as the sole owner of the property and it can be traced in the assessments to his son, Charles Henry Robinson.

Charles Henry Robinson died in 1895 and by his will (W27:196) bequeathed the property to the five children of Musson Wainwright and Jane McEwen Wainwright, subject to life interests to his wife, his sister and to Margaret Caroline Barron. She was the sister of Jane McEwen Wainwright and seems to have cared for the infirm sister of Charles Henry Robinson (see Seven Wells research).

In 1921 Col. Thomas Melville Dill purchased the property. In June and July, he purchased the fee simple from the five Wainwright children and the two remaining life interests from Charles Henry Robinson's widow and from Caroline Barron. (Copies of the relevant deeds are in the possession of the present owner of the property.) At some time between 1921 and 1928, the house was given the name Sunwich Port and a quarter acre of Seabright land was added - a gift to Col. Thomas Melville Dill from his mother (VC2:343).

In 1927, Col. Thomas Melville Dill gave Sunwich Port to his son, Nicholas Bayard Dill (VC2:342).

*Suzanne Judah*

Salthaven (21 North Shore Road) There is a short piece about this house by John Cox on p.95 of *Bermuda's Favorite Haunts* and a mention on p.54 of *Colonel Tom Dill, OBE* by Lloyd Mayer.

The documented history goes no further back than the will of Thomas Newbold Jr., dated 18 March 1867 (W22:270) and can be traced through the wills of his greatnephew, Thomas Newbold Dill (W29:474), Thomas Newbold Dill's wife, Mary Lea Dill (W37:325), his son, Thomas Melville Dill (W44:315) and his daughter-in-law, Ruth Rapalje Dill (W101:172) to his grand-daughter, Ruth Rapalje Neilson Crockett.

*Suzanne Judah*

Belhaven/Woodlands (49 South Road) was known in the Dill family as "Aunt Fanny Foggo's cottage" and it was possible to trace the house backward and forward in the assessment books from

Frances Robinson Foggo's holdings. Frances Robinson Foggo was Col. Thomas Melville Dill's godmother and first cousin (once removed), but he always called her Aunt Fanny - see his own writings in the *Dill Genealogical Notes*, Bermuda Archives.

An indenture (D2:124) and the will of George Bascome (W11:152) trace the northern portion of the Belhaven estate from William Williams to George Bascome and on to Frances Tudor Hall. The wills of Robert Hill and his son, Joseph Hill (W12a:486 and W10:125) show the line of inheritance of the southern portion to Frances, Joseph's daughter and Richard Durham's wife.

Joseph Hill's concern for his two daughters is confirmed by a trust deed executed just a few weeks after his death which protects the inheritance of his daughter Frances, by then married for a second time to Richard Durham. The Joseph Hill estate is described in detail in this trust deed (D1:76).

A room by room inventory of the personal effects of Joseph Hill (I1:59) made it possible to identify the mansion house bought by Cornelius Bascome, described in the newspaper advertisement of 15 August 1818, as the Joseph Hill mansion house.

The complicated history of Belhaven, from Richard and Frances Durham and George Bascome to Frances Tudor Hall, is further set out in two Indentures (D9:101 and D9:113) and the advertisement in the *Bermuda Gazette* 15 August 1818.

It was not possible to reconcile the acreages ascribed to the land attached to the dwelling house. In D9:101 and D9:113 the acreage is given as seven acres and in the newspaper advertisement of 1818, it is given as 12 acres. The boundaries given, however, are identical.

The assessment books are the only evidence of the transfer of the property from Frances Tudor Hall to John William Foggo, but after his death the line of inheritance is easily followed in his will (W21:139), that of his daughter, Agnes (W29:51), and that of his daughter-in-law, Frances Robinson Foggo (W30:230), to Col. Thomas Melville Dill.

In 1940, Col. Thomas Melville Dill gave the house and five acres of land to his son Lawrence (VC3:551) and in 1945 in his will (W44:315) bequeathed the rest of the Belhaven land to him.

The evidence for the change of name from Woodlands to Belhaven came from the death notices of John William Foggo and Agnes Foggo (BI:415, 416).

See also Belhaven and The Chimneys (Safe Harbour on South Shore, chapter 8).

*Suzanne Judah*

Jolie Brise (6 Tee Street). The history prior to 1800 is documented in an indenture dated 1799, the original of which is in the possession of the present owner of the house.

The indenture records the sale of the property by Elizabeth Wells, widow of the late George Wells and formerly widow of John Newbould, her three surviving daughters and her son-in-law to Thomas Albouy Darrell.

The sale of the property to Thomas Dill is recorded in an indenture dated 1802 (D5:228) and confirmed in Hereward Watlington's book *Family Narrative*, p.189 - "About the time he (Thomas Dill) married, he purchased the property which includes Jolie Brise..."

From 1802, the property is easily traced in the assessment books from Thomas Dill, who died aged 38, to his elder son, Richard John Sr. (called John), who died aged 37, to Richard John's only surviving child, Frances Robinson Foggo, and in 1914 (see also W30:230) to Col. Thomas Melville Dill.

In 1926, Col. Thomas Melville Dill gave Jolie Brise to his eldest son, Thomas Newbold Dill.

The property originally contained 12 acres of land. The assessment book shows that three acres or thereabouts were sold by Richard John Dill's widow, Susanna, in 1871/2 and another three acres were sold by Thomas Newbold Dill. She was the widow of Thomas Dill and mother of Richard John Sr. (See page 45.)

PWD/DV/7 shows the land as that of Martha Dill in 1830.

*Suzanne Judah*

Seven Wells (35 North Shore Road) has been traced back to a 1790 inden-



## STATEMENT OF WITNESS

Statement of: Ruth-Anne Winifred Dill Outerbridge  
 Date of Birth: 6<sup>th</sup> February 1957  
 Address: 65 Middle Road, Devonshire DV 06  
 Phone: 505 5073 (Cell)  
 Occupation/Employer: Housewife

This statement consists of 2 pages each signed by me, is true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have willfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.

Dated the 28<sup>th</sup> day of October 2020.

Signed: Ruth Anne Outerbridge

Signature witnessed by: [Signature]  
 (Investigator)

## STATEMENT:

My name is Ruth-Anne Winifred Dill Outerbridge, and I am the former owner of the property known as 'Salt Haven' in Devonshire.

I believe it was in 1977 that I acquired the property; it was gifted to me by my great-aunt Ruth Dill Crockett, and I owned it from then until it was sold to Deborah Desilva and her son Jairzinho Robinson. I lived at the property from 1979 to 1985, and from then it was rented out until we sold it.

During his lifetime my great grandfather Colonel Thomas Dill owned Salt Haven, Newbold Place, Sunwich Port and Seabright, all located on North Shore Road surrounding the Devonshire Dock bay and docks, which he also owned. At some point during his lifetime (it is believed in 1918 or so) a wall was built to separate the dock and Newbold Place and I believe it was around that time he gave the dock (now known as Devonshire Dock) to the government for public use. He had noticed that there was nowhere along the north shore for fisherman to keep their boats, sell their fish etc.

During the years I lived at Salt Haven both the little dock next to Salt Haven and the larger dock were very well used, and both fishermen and people waiting for the boats to come in would use it, amongst others (sightseers, swimmers etc.). Our kitchen window opened onto



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the dock, and we would chat through the window with the fishermen. My husband also remembers that on more than one occasion we would have an extension cord passed to us through the window to plug in so that the fishermen could have light when they came in after dark with their catch.

There was also a public dock to the west of Salt Haven, and I remember that we would have children run across the rocks in front of our house to reach the small dock. This eventually got a bit much, and we put something up to discourage it, but never blocked access to the little dock itself which could be accessed from the road.

It was a wonderful community, although from time to time there were incidents. But I never had a problem with anybody in the area, never had any break-ins. I remember even coming home to find shark hash on my doorstep!

At one point years ago I received a letter saying that my land tax had been increased in order to include the small dock. Once I was able to prove that the dock was not part of our property but was in fact owned by the government, the matter was dropped.

When 'Salt Haven' was sold there was an agent involved, Coldwell Banker. I have never met the purchasers myself, although my husband has. It is very clear from the deeds that the property sold did not include the little dock.

Last October (2019) I was driving past the dock and saw the sign saying that the small dock was private and owned by Salt Haven. I was puzzled, surprised and dismayed. I later discussed it with my friend, Roger Parris and his uncle, Mr. Jimmy Parris, who is one of the fishermen I knew when I was living at Salt Haven. Mr. Jimmy Parris used the dock, and kept his boat in the bay for decades. None of us could understand how the current owners could come to the conclusion that the dock was part of the house. The drawing attached to the deeds clearly shows it as public property.

Witness signature



Investigator signature

