

**Submission (Part 2)**  
**to the**  
**Commission of Inquiry**  
**Land Loss**  
**Submitted by**  
**Joann Bernice Adams**  
**&**  
**Dwayne Disney Talbot**  
**Claim #034**  
**March 16, 2021**

This submission is hereby presented to the Commission of Inquiry, established on 31st October 2019 by the Premier, the Honourable E. David Burt JP MP and directed to inquire into historic losses of citizens' property in Bermuda, in keeping with the mandate of the House of Assembly as expressed in its Resolution of 4th July 2014.

This presentation Part 2 will give further evidence to substantiate our claim, and also provide further documentation as requested by the Commission at the end of our first hearing on November 26, 2020. This is what has been discovered since-which, by Joann Bernice Adams and Dwayne Disney Talbot, in regards to the land of our great-great grandfather James Talbot and it being passed on to our great grandfather John Samuel Talbot.

Today, we will submit the following:

1. The Will of James Talbot
2. References from the Deed of James Talbot
3. Current Google map of the land identified in the Will and Deeds of James Talbot
4. Map from the Deed of Joanna Talbot

**The Will of James Talbot**

**Book of Wills**

**Vol. 27 pp 268 – 270**

A Copy retrieved from Bermuda Archives November 30, 2020

E. C. Moore, Lt Colonel R. E.  
Officer Administering the  
Government and Ordinary.

I hereby certify that on the  
second day of July in the year of  
one thousand eight hundred and ninety six before  
me the Officer Administering the Government and Ordinary  
aforesaid personally appeared William Charles Trott one of the  
subscribing witnesses to the annexed Instrument of writing  
bearing date the twenty third day of February in the year of our  
Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety three purporting  
to be the last Will and Testament of James Talbot late of the  
Parish of St. Georges in these Islands, planter deceased; and he  
solemnly made oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God  
that he saw the said James Talbot sign and duly execute the same,  
by making his mark at the foot or end thereof as the same now appears  
thereon and that before such execution the said Will was read over  
to the said testator in the presence of the said William Charles Trott  
and of Charles Vidal Fitzgerald Smith the other subscribing witness  
and he appeared perfectly to understand the same, and that at the  
time of such execution, the said James Talbot was of sound disposing  
mind, memory and understanding, to the best of this deponent's  
judgment, that he also saw Charles Vidal Fitzgerald Smith  
subscribe his name as witness thereto, that the said Charles Vidal  
Fitzgerald Smith was present during such execution with him  
this deponent, and that the said deponent and the said Charles  
Vidal Fitzgerald Smith did attest and subscribe the annexed  
Instrument in the presence of the said Testator

W<sup>m</sup> C. Trott

In testimony whereof, the said William Charles Trott hath  
hereto subscribed his name and I the  
Officer Administering the Government and  
Ordinary aforesaid, have set my Hand  
and seal at Arms the Day and Year  
herein first written

By His Honour's Command,

Archibald Alison  
Colonial Secretary

In the name of God Amen  
James Talbot of Tucker Town in the parish of Saint George  
in the Islands of Bermuda, planter do hereby revoke all former  
wills and other testamentary dispositions heretofore made by me,  
and do declare this to be my last Will and Testament.  
First - I do will and direct that all my just debts, funeral  
and testamentary charges be paid out of my estate as speedily as  
possible after my decease.

Second - I give and bequeath all my personal estate and  
effects whatsoever and wheresoever to my wife Joanna Talbot,  
also, I give and devise nineteen acres of that part of my real  
estate on which my present residence stands, with the outbuilding,  
gardens, and appurtenances therunto belonging, situate in Tucker's  
Town in the parish of Saint George, together with the lot known  
as Castle lot and measuring <sup>fifteen acres</sup> situate in the aforesaid  
town and parish; bounded <sup>of Castle Harbor, eastward by the water</sup> northerly by the waters dividing  
Castle island from my said lot, southerly by the sea, and  
westerly by a wall, the same with the residue of my estate,  
to hold to my said wife Joanna Talbot her heirs and  
assigns for ever.

To my nine children I give and devise my real estate  
in the following manner, namely:

First direct that a road twelve feet wide be made,  
extending northerly from the public road to such part or  
parts of my land as will give to my children ingress and egress.  
Secondly, that each shall hold his or her portion as his or her  
land marks respectively shows numbering from three to eleven,  
i. e. to Benjamin Danell five acres, marked three, to John  
Samuel seven acres marked four, to Henry Thomas thirteen  
acres marked five, to Harrington Artemus Leely thirteen acres,  
marked six, to Princes Jennings six acres marked seven,  
to Lydia six acres marked eight, to Serenia Cordelia  
six acres marked nine, to Catherine Virginia six acres marked  
ten, to Julia Ann six acres marked eleven, to hold to them  
my said nine children their heirs and assigns for ever.

Should any of my said children die without issue or intestate,  
in any such case the inheritance so left shall go to my wife  
Joanna Talbot absolutely; should my said wife die intestate,  
her real estate so left shall be equally shared and divided  
between my surviving children, and the heirs of my deceased

children.

Third and lastly - I do here nominate and appoint Charles William Thomas Smith and Samuel Payson Richardson to be my Executors to this my last Will and Testament. In witness whereof, I hereunto set my hand this twenty third day of February in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and ninety three

James <sup>his</sup> ~~mark~~ Talbot

signed by the <sup>mark of (sic)</sup> ~~mark~~ of said James Talbot the Testator in the presence of us who in his presence and in the presence of each other at the same time subscribe our names as witnesses

William Charles Prott.  
Charles Vidal Fitzgerald Smith

Recorded 14<sup>th</sup> September, 1896

Archibald ~~Smith~~

Colonial Secretary

Bermuda

By His Excellency George De  
Baker, C. B., Lieutenant Govern  
and Commander-in-Chief

**James Talbot**  
**Extract from**  
**Book of Deeds**  
**Volume 23**  
**Pages**  
**170 & 171**  
**176 & 177**

Retrieved from Registrar General March 3, 2021

This Indenture of Twelve Parts made the  
 Seventeenth day of December in the year of our Lord  
 one thousand eight hundred and Sixty Two. Between  
 Thomas Jennings Tucker of the Town of Hamilton  
 in the Parish of Pembroke in the Islands of Bermuda  
 Merchant and Augusta Martha Tucker (formerly  
 Harvey) his Wife of the first Part Seth Harvey  
 of the Town of Saint George in the Parish of Saint  
 George in the Islands of Bermuda aforesaid  
 Barrister at Law and Lucy Ann Forbes Harvey  
 his Wife of the second Part Adella Davenport  
 (formerly Harvey) and formerly residing in the  
 Town and Parish of Saint George and now or lately  
 residing in the City of London in the County of  
 Middlesex England Widow Relict of Robert Henry  
 Forbes Davenport late of the City of London  
 aforesaid Merchant now deceased of the third Part  
 Almena Trott (formerly Harvey) of the Parish  
 of Hamilton in the Islands of Bermuda  
 aforesaid Widow Relict of Anthony Samuel  
 Trott late of the Parish of Hamilton aforesaid  
 one of Her Majesty's Justices of ~~the Peace~~  
 assigned to keep the Peace of and for the said  
 Islands of Bermuda now deceased of the fourth  
 Part The Honorable Augustus James Musson  
 of the Town and Parish of Saint George  
 aforesaid Merchant and one of the Members  
 of Her Majesty's Council of and for the said  
 Islands of Bermuda and Amruda Musson  
 (formerly Harvey) his Wife of the fifth Part  
 Harrington Harvey of the Town of Hamilton  
 aforesaid in the Parish of Pembroke aforesaid  
 in the Islands of Bermuda aforesaid Merchant  
 and Harriet Tucker Harvey his Wife of the  
 sixth Part Althea Harvey of the Town and  
 Parish of Saint George aforesaid in the  
 Islands of Bermuda aforesaid Spinster  
 of the seventh Part Ora Harvey of the Town  
 and Parish of Saint George aforesaid Spinster  
 of the eighth Part John Melville Gidding



Clerk Chaplain to Her Majesty's Convict Establishment  
 at the Islands of Bermuda aforesaid and Emma Louisa  
 Guidding (formerly Tucker) his Wife of the ninth Part  
 Aubrey Harvey Tucker now or lately a Lieutenant of  
 Her Majesty's Sixty Eighth Light Infantry Regiment  
 now or lately stationed at Rangoon Burmah in India  
 of the Tenth Part Heber Reeve Tucker now or lately  
 a Lieutenant of Her Majesty's second Regiment of  
 Foot now or lately stationed at the Cape of Good  
 Hope of the eleventh Part (which said Emma  
 Louisa Guidding Aubrey Harvey Tucker and Heber  
 Reeve Tucker are the Children of Theodosia  
 Tucker (formerly Harvey) now deceased one of the  
 daughters and devisees named in the last Will  
 and Testament of Benjamin Dickinson Harvey  
 Esquire deceased) and James Sallet of Tucker's  
 Town in the Parish of Saint George aforesaid  
 in the Islands of Bermuda aforesaid Planter  
 of the twelfth Part Whereas the said Thomas  
 Manning Tucker and Augusta Martha Tucker  
 his Wife in right of his said Wife are seized of  
 or entitled under or by virtue of the same Will  
 of the said Benjamin Dickinson Harvey  
 deceased to one full undivided eleventh part or share  
 in fee simple Conditional in possession of and  
 in the several and respective Lots pieces or  
 parcels of land Tenements and hereditaments  
 hereinafter particularly described and the said  
 Seth Harvey is seized of or entitled under or by  
 virtue of the same Will to one other full undivided  
 eleventh part or share in fee simple Conditional  
 in possession of and in the same Lots pieces  
 or parcels of land Tenements and premises  
 and the said Seth Harvey is also seized of or  
 entitled as heir at law of his Brother Hampden  
 Harvey to one other full undivided eleventh part  
 or share to which his said Brother who died in state  
 was entitled under or by virtue of the same Will  
 of and in the same Lots pieces or parcels of  
 land Tenements hereby intended to be

admit and acknowledge and of and from the same  
 and every part thereof do severally and respectively  
 acquit release and forever discharge the said  
 James Talbot his heirs executors ~~and~~ administrators  
 and assigns by these Presents and which several and  
 respective Sums of Money making together the  
 said sum of Eight hundred and Ten pounds are  
 in full for the absolute purchase of the intentance  
 in fee simple Conditional in possession of the  
 several and respective parts shares or proportions  
 of Minn the said persons parties to these Presents  
 of the eleven Parts of and in the said several  
 Lots pieces or parcels of land and premises hereby  
 intended to be granted and released and  
 conveyed in the manner hereinafter expressed  
 and which said Lots pieces or parcels of land,  
 are numbered respectively as hereinafter is mentioned  
 and also in Consideration of the sum of Ten shillings  
 of the like lawful money to the said Thomas Jennings  
 Tucker and Augusta Martha Tucker his Wife to  
 the said Seth Harvey and Lucy Ann Forbes  
 Harvey his Wife to the said Augustus James Musson  
 and Amanda Musson his Wife to the said Harrington  
 Harvey Harriet Tucker Harvey his Wife <sup>and</sup> to the  
 said John Melville Guilding and Emma Louisa  
 Guilding his Wife before the sealing and delivery of  
 these Presents to them respectively in hand paid (the  
 receipt whereof the said Thomas Jennings Tucker  
 Seth Harvey Augustus James Musson Harrington  
 Harvey and John Melville Guilding do hereby  
 respectively acknowledge) They the said Thomas  
 Jennings Tucker and Augusta Martha Tucker  
 his Wife Seth Harvey and Lucy Ann Forbes  
 Harvey his Wife Ardella Wainwright Almenna  
 Frott Augustus James Musson and Amanda  
 Musson his Wife Harrington Harvey and  
~~Harrington~~ <sup>Harriet Tucker</sup> Harvey his Wife Alfred Harvey  
 Ora Harvey John Melville Guilding and Emma  
 Louisa Guilding his Wife Aubrey Harvey Tucker  
 and Heber Peave Tucker according to the several

parts shares and proportions hereinbefore mentioned of them  
the said several and respective persons parties to these  
Presents of the eleven parts of and in the said several  
Lots pieces or parcels of land and premises hereby intended  
to be granted and released and respectively numbered  
as hereinafter is mentioned Have and every of them  
both granted bargained sold aliened released and  
confermed and by these Presents (and by virtue of the  
Act of the Legislature of the said Islands of  
Bermuda, entitled An Act For rendering a Release  
as effectual for the conveyance of freehold estates  
as a Lease and Release by the same Parties) Do  
and every of them both as far as relates to their  
several and respective shares parts estates rights  
titles and interests of and in the same premises  
grant bargain sell alien release and conferme  
unto the said James Salbot his heirs and assigns  
All the certain several and respective eleven  
Parts shares and proportions and the certain  
parts and shares of the eleventh part hereinbefore  
mentioned of them the said several and respective  
persons parties to these Presents of the eleven  
parts of and in all that certain Piece or parcel  
of Land situate lying and being in Suckers Town  
in the Parish of Saint George in the Islands  
of Bermuda aforesaid which said Piece or Parcel  
of Land is distinguished by the number "Two"  
and contains Twelve Acres of land or thereabouts  
be the same more or less and is abutting and  
bounding as follows Viz Northwardly by Land  
formerly held by John Paynter deceased between  
the North and the East by other lands heretofore  
granted to Messieurs Francis Jones Samuel  
Trott and Thomas Parsons Southwardly by other lands  
also granted to the said Francis Jones Samuel  
Trott and Thomas Parsons between the South  
and the West by the Globe Land and between  
the West and the North by the Little Sound and  
also of and in all that certain Lot or parcel of  
land situate lying and being in Suckers Town

**Current Google Map of  
Land Area once owned by  
James & Joanna Talbot and Heirs**

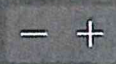
Castle Harbour



ST. GEORGE'S PARISH



3D



Google 100%

Camera: 3,076 m 32°19'47"N 64°42'19"W 16 m

**Map of Land Area owned by  
Joanna Talbot and Heirs  
From Book of Wills**

Scale 1 inch = 100 feet  
Copy from Original  
A 16 1/2 3-4  
P. 16

16 1/2 3-4



BERMUDA  
LAND  
AND  
SURVEY  
OFFICE  
ARCHIVES

BERMUDA  
LAND  
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OFFICE  
ARCHIVES

**In Closing**



At the end of our first hearing, we were asked what we would like to get out of this hearing. Upon further discussion and reflection, we seek reparation for the 2 acres of land for which our great grandfather was not compensated to be fulfilled through one of the two means listed below:

- be paid in monetary form using the selling costs of that era compounded to the current year
- or
- by conveyance of two (2) acres of land within Tucker's Town to us, Joann Bernice Adams and Dwayne Disney Talbot.

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