

COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO HISTORIC LOSSES OF LAND IN BERMUDA

STATEMENT OF WITNESS

Statement of: Jonathan N. Jervis

Date of Birth: 24 July 1991

Address: 29 Bostock Hill West, Paget, Bermuda

Phone: (H) (W)

Occupation/Employer: Counsellor, Mid-Atlantic Wellness Institute

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 8 day of March 2021.

Signed:

Signature witnessed by:

STATEMENT:

My name is Jonathan Nathaniel Jervis of 29 Bostock Hill West Paget, born 24th July 1991 to Isabell and John Jervis. I am the maternal grandson of Fay (Smith) Whalley and great grandson of the late May Smith whose father is Walter Smith. I write in reference to the expropriated land subsequent to Bermuda Development Company Act, (No. 2), 1920 that my great grandmother's father Walter Smith Inherited outlined in the will of his Grandmother Mrs. Joanna Talbot. Walter Alexander Smith's inheritance shared with Sister Naomi Smith according to his Maternal Grandmother's will recorded 8th February 1911, paragraph number 5, was lot number 4 shown in the provided plan diagram stamped by Bermuda Archives. These documents authenticate my family lineage and connection to my claim and request for inquiry.

On multiple occasions growing up I have been told the story passed down by my maternal late Great Grandmother May Smith of how her parents the late Walter and Geneva Isabell Smith were forcibly removed from their property in Tucker's Town by soldiers. This story of how my family's land was expropriated was also shared with me on multiple occasions by my maternal grandmother Fay (Smith) Whalley the last living child of May Smith. My great grandmother's father Walter Smith who was illiterate was allegedly presented with legal documents to sign for which he couldn't due to the fact that he was unable to read and write. This particular document is presumed to outline how he and his wife's property would be handled and how they would be compensated. My great

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grandmother's mother Geneva Smith who was fortunate enough to be literate was prevented from assisting her husband Walter in the matter in reviewing the Memorandum of Terms of Agreement to allow for a sound decision to be made. This decision to exclude Geneva Smith upheld by authority figures presumed to be representatives of the Bermuda Development Company was made due to the simple fact that Geneva was not a man. Following this unjust displacement my family was subsequently left to live and work in the neighboring areas. My great grandmother May Smith continued to work and live in Tucker's Town working as a domestic worker in a house named "Casa Dell Cerro". While working on the Tuckers Town Property May Smith lived on the Green Sleeve property amongst others in the area. My great grandmother continued to live and work in Tucker's Town as a domestic worker up until her retirement when she moved out. My great grandmother May Rosaline Smith affectionately known as Momma May passed away September 2011. This account summarizes to the best of my ability what Walter and Geneva Smith and their heirs experienced subsequently through the expropriation of their property on the Tuckers Town area.

Signed:

The forgone statement was emailed to the Commission by the above signed on 8 March 2021. Read over and signed by the maker as correct.

Signature witnessed by: