

**The LaRoche
Plantation
and
Cemetery**



Please, please, please may I keep this?

Please! It's amazing, stupendous, remarkable!

The LaRoche Plantation (ca. 1694-1935)

report by Kate Smith

Please.

The land on Wadmalaw Island began to be granted shortly after the colony of South Carolina was first settled in 1680. By the 1690's Wadmalaw Island was being divided into sea island plantations. The LaRoche family, James and John, were French Huguenots who came to South Carolina in 1694. They were among the first to colonize Carolina. I have included with this a report copy of a manuscript that was obtained from the files of the South Carolina Historical Society, Charleston, SC. It was prepared in 1948 by Lydia LaRoche Thomas Lapham. This manuscript is interesting to glance through because it details the very early family history of the LaRoche family. It demonstrates the way that records were kept before government files and computers were invented. It includes entries from family Bibles and references published in the South Carolina Historical Magazine, which is still published today. (It should be noted that there were as many as three or four spellings of LaRoche or Laroach. Tombstones in the family cemetery use the LaRoche version, and I will use this spelling in my discussion, but the different spellings are accepted as the same surname in the early history of Wadmalaw Island.)

This was very common until spelling was standardized.

The eastern one-third of what was the LaRoche Plantation is now called Long Creek Plantation, and it is where I live. It is located south of Maybank Highway (S.C. 700) and north of Bohicket Creek (see figure 1) and consists of 500 acres of the original 1600 acres that was the LaRoche Plantation. Our new house is on lot number 10 (21.8 acres) which is right next to Shark Creek, the tidal creek that empties into Bohicket Creek. Our property and lot number 11 make up the archaeological sites 38CH1422 and 38CH1194 (see figure 2 and 3). The early, main house of the plantation and the family cemetery were located, respectively on these two sites. All of the information that I will be reviewing comes from the Florida Archaeological Services (April 1992) and Brockington and Associates, Inc., Charleston, SC (June 1994).

The LaRoche Plantation was first consolidated under the ownership of John LaRoche (IV). (An early map of the island area showing the LaRoche location and Long Creek Plantation is shown in figure 4.) According to the SC Department of Archives and History, John LaRoche, was born on November 28, 1752 to James and Annis Upham LaRoche, and was the first of six children. He married Mary Waight, a Wedmalew Island girl, and had two children, James W. LaRoche (V), born in 1782, and Sarah, birthdate unknown. John served as a Lieutenant in the Colleton County Regiment of Foot and was apparently a member of the Council of Safety in 1775. At some point, however, he must have appeared to sympathize with the British, for his estate was amerced a fine of 12 percent

interesting word



Figure 1. Location of Site 38CH1195/1423 along Bohicket Creek (Charleston County General Highway Map).

Figure 2.



Location of 30110A and Other NERP Eligible and Formerly Eligible Sites Revealed in the Longcreek Flamingo Tract by Johnson 1962 (USGS Watershed and Legend: 7.5 minute quadrangle).



Figure 3.

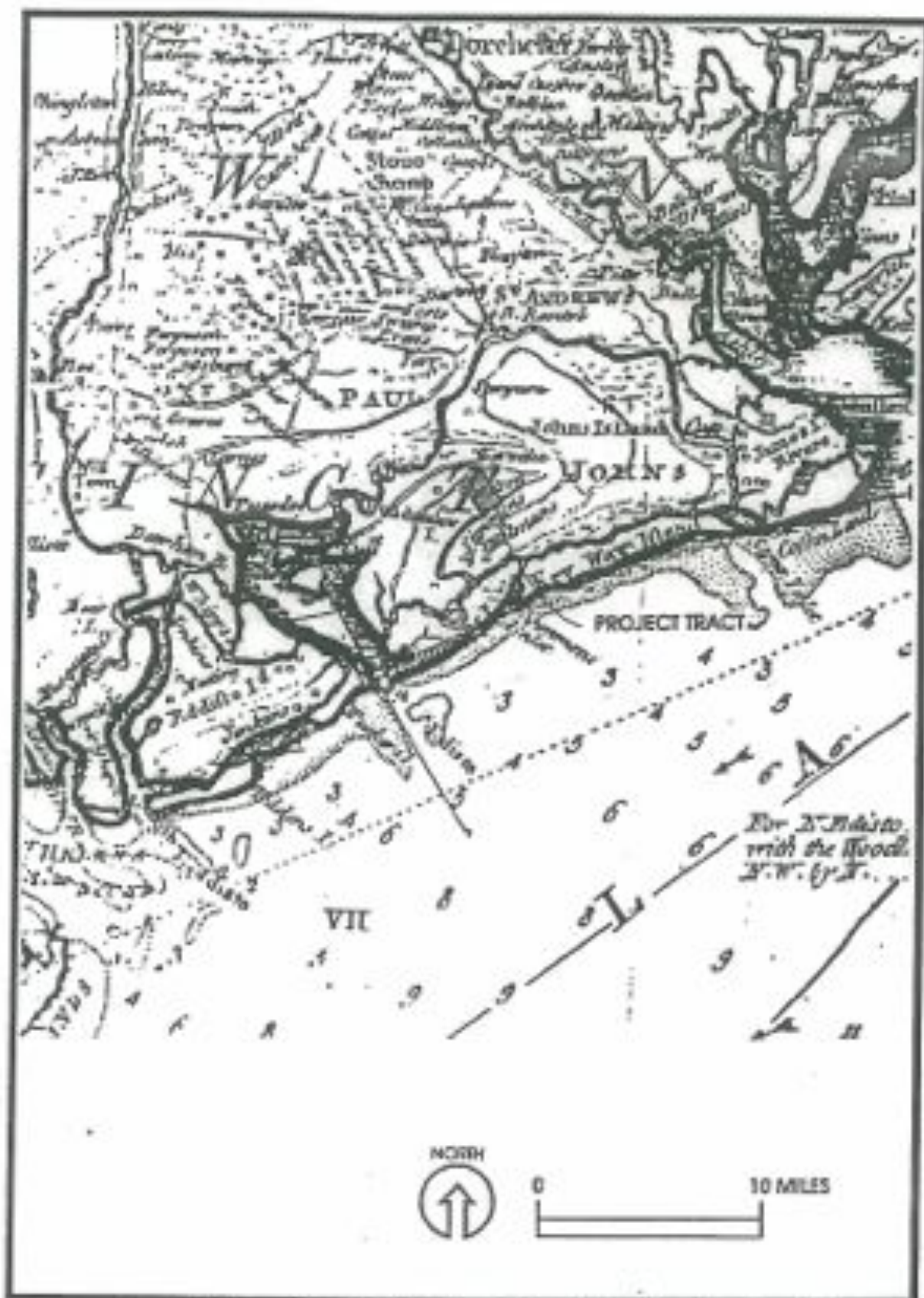


Figure 4.

A Portion of Cook's 1773 Map of South Carolina, Showing the Location of a LaRoche House and the Longcreek Plantation Tract on Wadmalaw Island.

after the Revolutionary War. John died in 1788 at the age of 36, leaving Mary to raise their children and run both their John's Island Plantation and the LaRoche Plantation on Madmalaw Island. John LaRoche's will gave his wife, Mary, the choice of his plantations. The child, Sarah, died soon after her father for she is not mentioned again in the family papers. John's will also specified that "my Executrix and Executors do enclose the Burying Ground at my old plantation (taking in one hundred feet of land square) with Brick or Tabby Works. Also I direct that the said one hundred square feet should never be disposed of but be kept as a Family Burying Ground forever." It is thought that John LaRoche is buried in an unmarked grave in the cemetery on the LaRoche Plantation.

His son, James W. LaRoche, died at age 31 on July 19, 1813 and was buried in this same cemetery. James's mother, Mary, placed an inscribed stone on his grave (see figure 5). When we did a gravestone rubbing on this stone, we discovered some words that the archaeological specialists had missed. It was a exciting, historical experience to study the LaRoche Cemetery and then to learn about the family that had lived on our property so many years ago.

Mary LaRoche had a very sad life, losing her husband, John, at a very young age, and then her "dear son James." James left all of his estate to "his dear Mother, Mary LaRoche" in his will, which was proven in 1814. Mary lived for many years after the loss of her husband and son. She

interesting term - today we would say "probated"

Figure 3.

In Memory of

JAMES W. LaROCHE
The only Son and Child of
MARY LaROCHE who died
On this island on the 19th July AE 31 yrs. 6 mon.
Distinguished by many virtues
This excellent young man
Was more peculiarly preeminent
His filial attention and affection
His widowed Mother
Devoting the ardor of his youth to the purpose
Of soothing & supporting her declining years
He cheerfully renounced for her sake
Those indulgences
Which most persons in their juvenile years
Consider necessary to the enjoyment of life
Of the Presbyterian Churches on Johns & Wadmaw Islands
He was a Trustee and uniformly steady
Warm and active friend
While ardently engaged to procure a supply
Of the vacancy occasioned in these Churches
By the death of the Revd. Doctr. Clarkson
He was summoned away from the doings of Time
To the interesting scenes of Eternity
The sobriety of his character the regularity of his deport
And his serious frame of mind the last year of his life
With the composure with which he met the King of Terror
And the humility with which he committed
His Soul into his Saviours hands justify the hope
That tho absent from the body
He is present with the Lord.

His bereaved & mourning Mother in Testimony of her sense
His worth and in tender affection for his Memory

Erects this frail Monument.

died in 1842, at the age of 93 and is also buried at the family cemetery at the plantation.

The LaRoche Plantation then passed to Richard J. LaRoche (V), the son of James and Ann Jenkins LaRoche. Richard was born in 1788 and married Martha Seabrook Jenkins. They had nine children, two of whom shared a half-interest in the LaRoche Plantation, when their father died 1846. Richard J. LaRoche (VI) received the land south of the road to Rockville (now Maybank Road) which they called "Quiet Corner" and I have referred to as the LaRoche Plantation. Richard was married twice, first to Elizabeth Jenkins and second to Mary Carolina Townsend, both local girls. Neither marriage produced an heir for the "Quiet Corner" Plantation. His brother, John LaRoche (VI), acquired the land north of the road, had a big family, and this plantation became known as "Rackety Hall," probably because of the large family. I have had the opportunity to talk with some elderly Wadmalaw neighbors who remember stories told to them about the LaRoches who lived at "Rackety Hall" and "Quiet Corner." They said the noise level was well represented by the names of the two plantations and was clearly caused by the number of children.

During the Civil War, the LaRoche Plantation was seized by the Freedman's Bureau because Richard J. LaRoche could not produce his "land certificates." The bureau grossly underestimated the acreage, listing it as containing 600 acres. They noted that 30 blacks remained on the place in

January of 1865. Restoration orders were issued for all of the LaRoche Plantations on John's and Wadmalaw Islands, so "Quiet Corner" was not cut up into smaller tracts and settled by freedmen, as were the other plantations on the islands of South Carolina. Richard J. LaRoche died in 1893 and the 1600 acre plantation remained intact until after 1930.

Agriculture on the LaRoche Plantation

Although agricultural censuses did not exist prior to 1850, the 1802 agricultural plat indicated that cotton was being cultivated at the LaRoche Plantation by 1802, very early in the history of the cotton industry in South Carolina. At the same time, rice was still an important crop at the plantation. Land use patterns indicated on the 1802 plat showed the location of various old rice fields and earthen embankments in the rice fields. These embankments were described in the initial archaeological reports as still visible in 1990 along Shark Creek, and the reports indicated that the fields were probably flooded for use as rice fields.

Our property (see figure 3) borders Shark Creek for about 886 feet. Because our property is so heavily wooded, it is unlikely that the rice fields were located near us. Some of the oak trees on our property have been estimated to be over two-hundred years old. Also, a plat which predated the 1802 plat indicated a structure near the cemetery (ie., near our property) that was probably the first, main plantation house. I can not imagine wanting to flood an area

so near the house and cemetery, so the rice fields were near but probably not on our property. *Excellent summary.*

The archaeological report summarized the agricultural production on the sea islands by saying that rice was not a particularly profitable crop. Long staple cotton became the dominant crop, although sweet potatoes, Irish potatoes, and corn were also produced. Sea Island cotton was exceptionally good cotton. Its fine silky texture was highly desirable and brought the best prices on the world market. Today, Wadmalaw Island is still predominantly agricultural with the main crops being soybeans, peas, okra, tomatoes, corn, peanuts, and watermelon.

Site 38Ch1422 - The Early Homestead Site

The early homestead site lies atop a small hill (15-20 feet AMSL) overlooking the south bank of Shark Creek. The archaeologists believe that based on the topographic depiction on the 1802 plat (see figure 6), the homestead is the structure shown on this plat. This site lies adjacent to the west side of Longcreek Road, the main road through the development. In addition to the artifacts found, the site yielded evidence of a structure that appears to be a brick chimney fall (see figure 3). The presence of such wares as delft, a tin-enamelled earthenware (mean date:1695); English slipware' (mean date:1688); and Rhenish stoneware (mean date: 1700) suggested a late 17th century occupation to the study team. The fact that the LaRoche family can be placed in the region as early as 1694 and the fact the plantation was

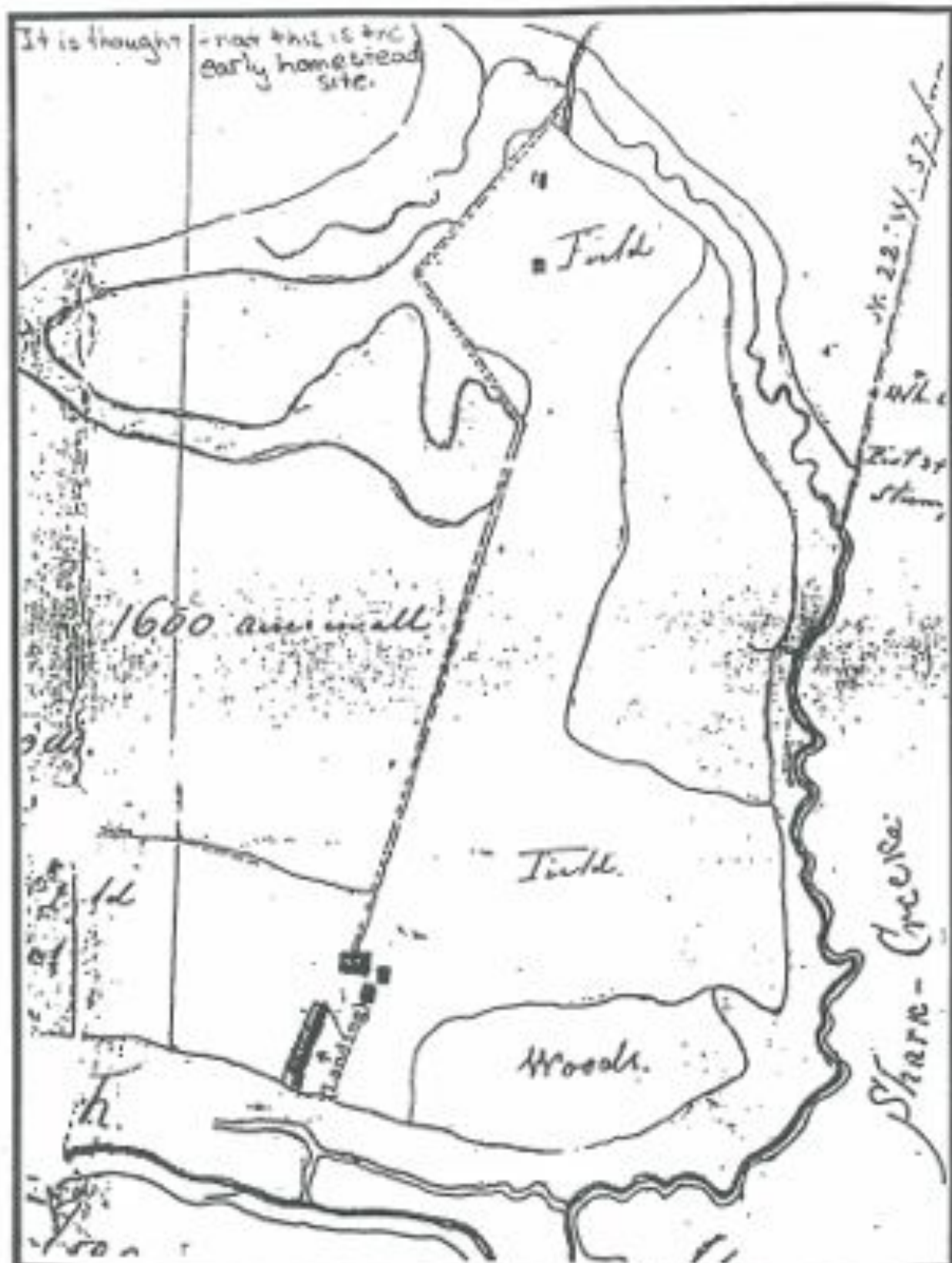


Figure 6. Portion of the Larosch Plantation, 1802 Survey Plat, (Charleston BMC, Map MB 22-16).



Florida
Archeological
Services, Inc.

bequeathed to James LaRoche in 1714 suggests that the site 38CH1422 may in fact be the early LaRoche homestead. This site is considered significant and eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The current status of the location is that it is "green spaced" ie. no development is allowed and only natural growth is permitted. These restrictions are clearly noted as deed restrictions on our property and on lot #11 next door.

Site 38CH1194 - The LaRoche Cemetery

Historical evidence indicates that this cemetery was constructed after the death of John LaRoche in 1788. It consists of an area of 100 square feet enclosed by a brick wall about four feet tall. Before hurricane Hugo the Long Creek Property Owner's Association restored the cemetery site, but since that time and as a result of damage caused by the hurricane, the cemetery is overgrown and unsightly (see pictures). Many of the grave stones are broken and are misplaced. Since this burial site is protected by South Carolina laws regarding cemeteries, I believe that we can encourage the current property owners association to, once again, restore the cemetery. It is a special place to visit, and I hope to be able to help make it presentable again.



Pictures taken at the LaRoche Cemetery, Long Creek Plantation, Wedmalaw Island, SC., January 1996. The gravestone of James W. LaRoche is shown here wedged between a monument foundation and a tree. The rubbings were done by Steve and Kate Smith.

All of the archaeological studies have found the LaRoche Plantation to be historically important to our knowledge of the early French ^{sp} ~~Hueguenots~~ in South Carolina. When we purchased the property on Wadmalaw Island, we were looking for a quiet little corner. We had no idea that anyone significant had ever lived there. We were lucky because we got to see and ask questions as the final archaeological studies were done by Brockington Associates (June 1994) on the site that includes our property. These studies were called "close interval shovel testing and excavation of formal test units." They were interesting to watch because the workers carefully sieved through soil samples looking for small pieces of debris. They explained to us that what they were looking for was not whole items, but small fragments. One piece of glassware or one special shaped nail could tell the study so much about the financial status of the French Hueguenots. Could they afford imported ceramics or did they make their own? Where did their building materials come from? We learned many things about archaeology as a result of watching these studies.

REFERENCES

An Identification and Assessment of the Historic Properties on Long Creek Plantation, Wadmalaw Island, Charleston County, South Carolina. Florida Archeological Services, Inc., April 1992.

Archaeological Testing at 38CH1195/1423, Longcreek Plantation Tract, Wadmalaw Island, South Carolina, Brockington and Associates, Inc., Atlanta and Charleston, 1994.

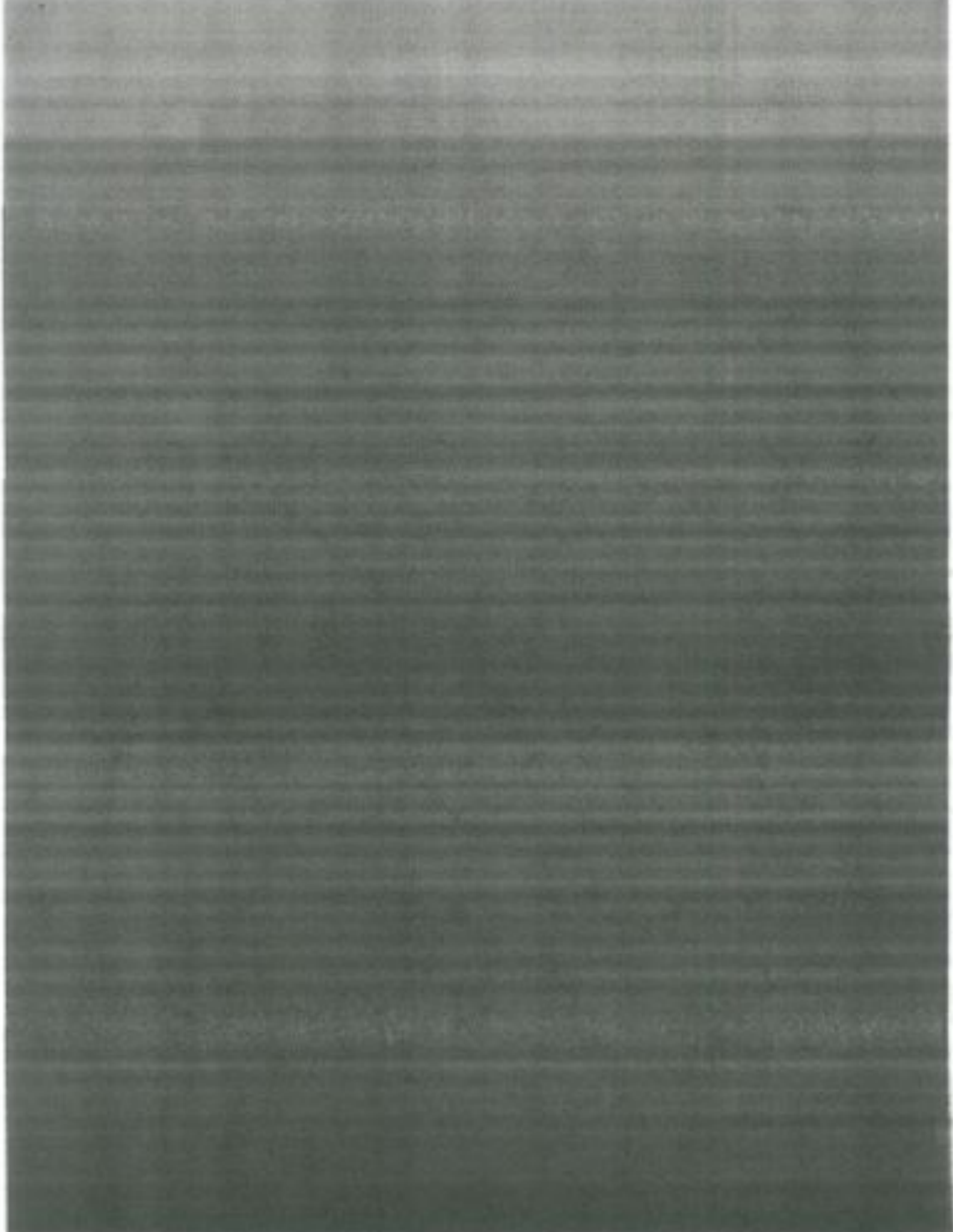
Archaeological Testing at 38CH1424, Longcreek Plantation Tract, Wadmalaw Island, South Carolina, Brockington and Associates, Inc., Atlanta and Charleston (1994).

Lydia LaRoche Thomas Lapham. "LaRoche: Some Descendents of James and John LaRoche, Brothers Who Came to Charleston, SC., 1694," LaRoche Family Collection, South Carolina Historical Society, Charleston, SC.

→ Why Florida Archeological? Why did they do the study?

This is absolutely wonderful! There just aren't enough superlatives to thank your effort. Perhaps the best one is incredible!

102+2=104



LaRoche

Some Descendants of
James and John LaRoche, Brothers
who came to Charleston, S. C.

1694.

Compiled from public and private
records by
Lydia LaRoche Thomas Lapham

1948.

LaRoche

Outline by generations:

GENERATION I. Brethren JAMES and John LaRoche.

James n. 1st (wife's name unknown) Married in England according to family tradition. James' will proved Feb. 8, 1720/21.
See deeds of land to son and his will page 5
n. 2nd Christian Hobdrow, April 2, 1712.

John n. a daughter of Etienne (Stephan) Tauron.
John's will proved July 1, 1724.
John's wife's will proved December 3, 1759.
Tauron's will recorded October 20, 1729.

GENERATION II.

Children of James (d. 1720/21) by his first wife:

1. James n. Sarah _____ James died 1723.
2. John n. Mary _____ John's will written Nov. 26, 1757. Will proved Nov. 20, 1761.
3. Mary

Children of John (d. 1724) of 1st Generation, mentioned in his will,

1. Daniel - He was a Trustee of Georgetown in 1735.
2. Thomas - Will proved 1743.
3. Mary n. 1st - Poissine (Poissen) see her brother's will. 1743
2nd - Man, according to her Mother's will. 1759
4. Judith n. John Lewis Sr.
5. Susanna n. April 4, 1743, John Man at Prince Frederick's Parish, Wirosh. *1757 The widow bought Maryfield plantation*
6. Elisabeth
7. Anne b. April 16, 1721, d. February 1, 1745, n. March 20, 1739 John Oulfield, Jr.

GENERATION III.

Children of John (d. 1761) and Mary LaRoche:

1. James d. 1783, n. Annis Uphan, January 23, 1792. 1752
2. Benjamin d. 1765.

GENERATION IV. (From LaRoche Bible)

Children of James (d. 1783) and Annis Uphan LaRoche:

1. John b. November 28, 1752, m. Mary Waight 1749-1842.
2. Mary b. November 3, 1755.
3. Sarah b. July 4, 1759.
4. James b. June 6, 1764, d. 1793, m. Oct. 25, 1783 Ann Jenkins.
5. Annis b. December 31, 1765.

Will of John leaves in favor of Annis & 1/2 to be kept by brother John until his death. Wife Mary's choice to either plant it in front and residue to children Gay and Sarah

Children of Abigail and John Wells, mentioned in codicil of will of John LaRoche, written December 18, 1787, proved 1788.

1. James LaRoche Wells
2. Robert Wells

"Dec. 18, 1787. I give and bequeath to my two cousins, James LaRoche Wells and Robert Wells, sons of John and Abigail Wells... negroes."

GENERATION V.

Children of John d. 1788 and Mary Waight LaRoche d. 1842, age 93. Her stone is at "Quiet Corner".

1. Sarah mentioned in her father's will.
2. James d. July 19, 1813. He never married. His tombstone at "Quiet Corner".

Children of James (d. 1793) and Ann Jenkins LaRoche:

1. Annis Uphan b. October 22, 1784.
2. John b. June 26, 1786, m. November 11, 1820 Sarah Frigg (Jenkins) Bailey, widow of Ralph Bailey. *daughter of G. E. G.*
He died Aug. 14, 1806. They had a daughter who m. Hanahan.
3. Richard Jenkins b. July 30, 1788 m. Martha Seabrook Jenkins.
Half 1st cousins. Descended from same Jenkins Grandfather who married twice.
4. Joseph Edings b. Feb. 14, 1791.
5. Martha Sarah b. Mar. 20, 1793 m. Richard Jenkins, the son of Benjamin Jenkins. They were 1st cousins.

The last four children of James and Ann LaRoche are mentioned in their father's will.

GENERATION VI.

Children of Richard Jenkins LaRoche (1788-1866)
and Martha Seabrook Jenkins LaRoche (1792-1859)

1. John J., d. 1856. No issue. m. Sophie W. Proser.
2. Elizabeth Francis m. 1st Micah Joseph Jenkins;
2nd William R. Jenkins *at Hope Plantation*
3. Richard J., ¹⁸¹⁸ 1818-1893. No issue. m. 1st Elizabeth Jenkins;
2nd ~~Martha~~ *Martha* 2nd Caroline Townsend.
4. James, m. 1st Mary O. Bailey; 2nd Henrietta Sans.
5. Anarithis, m. Richard H. Jenkins.
6. Daniel 1826-1897. m. 1st Sarah A. Gervais; 2nd Lydia Jenkins
7. Edward W., m. Martha Sarah Jenkins. *with Ben L. Jenkins*
8. Joseph Edings 1835-1898. m. Feb. 19, 1857 Ella Elizabeth
Murray 1836-1917.
9. Martha Evalina 1836-1908. m. April 19, 1855 Dr. James C.
Seabrook.

GENERATION VII.

Children of Joseph Edings and Ella Elizabeth
Murray LaRoche:

They were married on Edisto, February 19, 1857

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Joseph Murray | b. Feb. 10, 1858 | d. July 28, 1913 |
| 2. Martha Ella | b. Aug. 29, 1859 | d. Oct. 12, 1926 |
| 3. William Jenkins | b. Aug. 5, 1861 | d. June 26, 1863
in Cheraw, S. C. |
| 4. Lydia Eaton | b. Aug. 24, 1866 | |
| 5. Anaritha Evalina | b. April 11, 1869 | d. Feb. 22, 1934 |
| 6. Lena Washington | b. Sept. 17, 1871 | d. Nov. , 1922 |
| 7. Mary Francis | b. Jan. 9, 1874 | |
| 8. Richard Townsend | b. Dec. 22, 1876 | |
| 9. Esther Eudora | b. Sept. 27, 1879 | |

LaRoche

The first LaRoches in Charleston were brothers, James and John. Family tradition says because of the persecution of the Huguenots they fled France with their father and went first to Liverpool, England, then to Dublin, Ireland, and then came to America.

GENERATION I.

James, on April 18, 1694, owned Lot #264 Grand Modell of Charleston, S. E. Corner of Legare and Tradd. Ref. Trans. Huguenot Soc. of S. C., No. 47, p. 42. This was later known as 32 Legare Street or Sinton house. Gates known as the Sword Gates.

1694 James bought 150 acres of Lord's Prop. Ref. Wills, Deeds, Inventories and Misc. Records at Free Library, Vol. 53, p. 450. Nov. 10, 1696 "Received 10 Nov. 1696 of James LaRoche for the purchase of 150 acres of land three pounds for the Right Hon^l the Lords Proprietors. Thomas Gary Receiver." Ref. S. C. Hist. & G. Mag., Vol. IX, p. 32. Nov. 30, 1697 Bought 150 acres from Lord's Prop. Ref. S. C. Hist. & G. Mag., Vol X, p. 239.

James LaRoche was one of five directed to make inventory of estate of Isaac Ruzick. Ref. S. C. Hist. & G. Mag., Vol XII, p. 77.

*Jan. 1699 received 100 pounds sterling of Richard and Rebecca Wakefield for plantation and slaves. James LaRoche." Ref. Wills, Deeds, Invent. and Misc. Records, Vol 54, p. 273. Original p. 255. Jan. 4, 1701 James LaRoche bought from Richard Wakefield and Rebecca 240 acres of land on Stone River. Ref. Wills, Deeds, Invent. and Misc. Records, Vol. 54, p. 367, original p. 338. "Received 18 Oct. 1695 of Richard Wakefield for the purchase of 240 acres of land on Stone River 4 pounds 16 shill. for ye rt. Hon. Lord's Prop.

Dec. 10, 1700

I, the above named Richard Wakefield do assign my right to the above mentioned land to James LaRoche Jan. 4, 1701."

Records of his buying 1380 acres of 1707

James m. 2nd wife, April 2, 1712, Christian Woodrow. Ref. Hist. & G. Mag. Vol XLVIII Jan. 47 Publ. No. 1, p. 1 and 29.

*Copied from the Library of Congress Transcripts of the Papers of the Society for Propagation of Gospel in Foreign Parts. Series A. Vol. 7. Carolina Papers #2. Note. Microfilm copy in College of Charleston Library. Note: The information is not in the 2 volumes of St. Philip's register published so far. Rev. Henry D. Bull."

Children of James mentioned in his will are by the 1st wife: James, John, and Mary.

Nov. 1714, James deeded son James 250 acres on Wadmalaw Island.
Ref. Deeds, Invent. & Misc. Vol. 56, p. 58, original p. 49.

Dec. 9, 1714, James deeded son James 500 acres on Boldicket Creek on Wadmalaw Island. Described as plantation, dwelling house, outhouses etc. Mentions wife Christian to have abode on plantation "as long as she keeps herself a widow." Ref. Deeds, Invent. & Misc. Vol. 56, p. 59 original 50. This was "Quiet Corner Plantation" on Wadmalaw.

Dec. 9, 1714, James deeded son James one negro named Tom. Other negroes were left in his will to his wife, Christian.

Ref. Vol. 56, Deeds, Invent. & Misc., p. 69, original 62.

James' will - Ref. Will book at Free Library Chas. Vol. 1 (1720-21 date), p. 62. His will dated Dec. 14, 1719, Proved Feb. 1720/21:

To wife Christian he left negroes, to son James one shilling.
Note: He had already given him "Quiet Corner" in above two deeds in 1714 (750 acres).

To son John "all my cattle and hogs in the province."

To daughter Mary Lot #195 S. W. Corner King and Trade and #278 on Meeting Street south of Water Street on West Side. He speaks of this as "where I now live". #278 Meeting Street is mentioned years later in will of William Gibbes. It is not known who built the present house that is now, in 1948, residence of the Mianco Corners.

GENERATION I.

John d. 1724, brother of James d. 1720/21.

John was an importer on East Bay, Lot #9, Charleston. He married a daughter of Estienne (Stephen) Yauvon. After John's death the family sold that property and his widow with two sons, Daniel and Thomas, and daughters moved to Georgetown. Daniel was a trustee of Georgetown in 1735.

Thomas was a councilman of the new colony of Georgia. Ref. Haguenote of Col. S. C. by Hirsch, p. 45.

John, the importer, signed petition protesting against inflation of currency. Ref. Hag. of Col. S. C. by Hirsch, p. 141.

See long list of property in Index book at Charleston Court House, date 1719-1800 R. M. C.

Lessors name

LaRoche, Daniel
" "
" "
" John by exors

Lessees name

Elias Folsom
John Wan
John Oldfield
Peter De St. Julien
taken 11/24/14

Deeds
to
land is con
and
will

or
Robert
settles
into wife
of James

See his will

John d. 1724. John's will, Ref. Will book Free Library, Vol. 2 (1724-25), p. 4., mentions wife Mary, sons Daniel and Thomas and daughters. Mentions tract of about 1,070 acres of land "nigh Mr. St. Julien's." Also, 1,500 acres of land at Winysw and my half part of 2 town lots, etc.

Ref. Will of his father-in-law Estienne (Stephen) Tauron. Written July 19, 1729. Recorded Oct. 20, 1729. Free Library Wills, Vol. 2, 1729, p. 14.

GENERATION II.

John d. 1761 (son of James I)

John was "among the names of the first trustees of Georgia". Year 1732. Ref. Hirsch Hug. of Col. S. C., p. 45. John's will. Free Library Book 9 (1760-67 date) p. 188. "I, John LaRoche of Wadnalaw mentions wife Mary and children James, Benjamin, Ann and Abigail. Proved Nov. 20, 1761. Written Nov. 26, 1757. He was a pew holder of St. John's Colleton, Church of England.

James (son of James, Generation I)

His widow Sarah was administratrix, July 18, 1723. Ref. Wills, Inventories, Misc. Records, Vol. 58, p. 193 and 255.

GENERATION III.

Benjamin (son of John, Generation II) died in 1765. Ref. S. C. Hist. & G. Mag., Vol. 22, p. 128. "June 14, Charles Town 1765. Qualified James LaRoche administrator of estate of Benjamin LaRoche, his brother deceased."

Abigail, (daughter of John, Generation II) m. John Wells.

Her sons, James LaRoche Wells and Robert Wells were left negro slaves in codicil to John LaRoche's will. Codicil written Dec. 18, 1767. This was John LaRoche of Generation IV who married Mary Waight. Ref. Wills, Vol. 22, p. 34. Abigail Wells in Census of U. S. 1790. Colleton County.

James d. 1783 (son of John, Generation II) m. Jan. 23, 1752
Annis Uchan. Ref. LaRoche Family Bible. Children:
John b. Nov. 28, 1752, d. 1788, m. Mary Waight
Mary b. Nov. 3, 1755
Sarah b. July 4, 1759
James b. June 6, 1764, d. 1793, Oct. 25, 1783 Ann Jenkins,
Annis b. Dec. 31, 1765.

James was on vestry of St. John's Colleton 1759. The next year he signed as Captain James LaRoche. In 1761 not on vestry. (Years of Cherokee War 1759-1761). In 1762 through 1779 he was again on vestry. Ref. Hist. of St. John's, Johns Island Episcopal, formerly Colleton County. He was Justice of Peace, Colleton County. Aug. 5, 1775, Muster Roll in Colleton County Regiment - Major James LaRoche. Ref. Family Records, Hist. A. G. Mag., Vol. 2, p. 6. Sewex Institute of Hist. Collections.

Annis Upham LaRoche had a brother John Upham who willed property to "loving nephews, John LaRoche and James LaRoche Jun.." Other property to nephew Joseph Edings, Jr. John Upham's will. Free Library Will Book, Vol. 15, (1771-74), p. 425. Written 1772, proved Feb. 19, 1773.

GENERATION III.

James n. Jan. 23, 1752 Annis Upham. They were the first to build on Yemassee and live there. The land may have been LaRoche property before. He sold to David Adams for 7,500 pounds on Jan. 3, 1775, 400 acres on Wadswalav. Ref. R. M. C. Book D5, p. 393, Court House (Charleston, S. C.)

James' will mentions his sister Abigail Wells and his sons, John and James. Ref. Will Book, Vol. 20, Date 1783-86, p. 29. Proved March 7, 1783.

GENERATION IV.

James, born June 6, 1764, n. Ann Jenkins. They were married October 23, 1783. She was a sister of Joseph Jenkins of Brick House Edisto. Joseph Jenkins 1761-1828 n. Elizabeth Evans 1765-1826 and was the first Jenkins to own Brick House, Edisto. They moved there 1791. Married at St. Helena's. Ann's father was Richard Jenkins. Her Mother was his second wife, Martha Rippon. *See Jenkins Descendants*

James' will proved 1793, Free Library Will Book V 25.

GENERATION V. From LaRoche Bible.

Children of James and Ann Jenkins LaRoche:

Annis Upham	b. Oct. 22, 1784	
John	b. June 26, 1786	n. Nov. 11, 1810 Sarah Fripp (Jenkins) Bailey, widow of Ralph Bailey. Daughter of John B. Jenkins.
Richard Jenkins	b. July 30, 1788	n. Martha Seabrook Jenkins
Joseph Edings	b. Feb. 14, 1791	
Martha Sarah	b. Mar. 20, 1793	n. Richard Jenkins (son of Benjamin Jenkins and his wife Hannah Fripp

GENERATION V.

Richard Jenkins LaRoche, d. 1846, son of James and Ann Jenkins LaRoche.

Richard married Martha Seabrook Jenkins. She was the daughter of Martha Seabrook Jenkins and Daniel Jenkins of Bleak Hall, Edisto Island, who were married 1781. Martha Seabrook was the daughter of Benjamin Seabrook and his wife, Martha May (1st wife). Benjamin's grandfather is buried at old grave yard of St. Paul's, now on Dixie Plantation. He was Capt. Robert Seabrook who came from Bedford, England. He lived from 1652 to 1710.

Richard Jenkins LaRoche and his wife are buried at St. John's, Johns Island. Tombstones in good condition. Richard and his wife were half first cousins, having the same grandfather Richard Jenkins. He was married twice and they descended from different unions.

Richard Jenkins LaRoche 1788-1846 m. Martha Seabrook Jenkins 1792-1859. Ref. will of Richard J. LaRoche Will Book V, 44, p. 25, date 1845-51. Will made December 27, 1843. Proved March 6, 1846.

Property of Richard J. was divided partly by gifts to his children before his death and by his executors after his death. Also two sons inherited property from their aunt by marriage, Mary Waight LaRoche, widow of John.

GENERATION VI.

Children of Richard J. and Martha Seabrook Jenkins LaRoche:

1. John J., d. 1856, m. Sophie M. Fraser. No issue. Inherited half interest in the Waterside from Mary Waight LaRoche. Ref. her will. Also interest in "Quiet Corner".
2. Elizabeth Francis m. 1st Micah Joseph Jenkins, 2nd William R. Jenkins.
3. Richard J., ¹⁸²⁰ 1820-93, m. 1st Elizabeth Jenkins, 2nd Mary Caroline Townsend. No issue. *Lived at Quiet Corner*
4. James; lived at Salvadore, Johns Island. Later moved to Florida. m. 1st Mary Olivia; 2nd, Henrietta Sans. Inherited half interest in the Waterside and interest in "Quiet Corner".
5. Anarithia; lived at "Beckety Hall". m. Richard Henry Jenkins. He was known as Major Dick. They had 13 children.
6. Daniel J., 1826-1897. m. 1st, Sarah A. Cerveis; m. 2nd Lydia Jenkins, sister of Gen'l. Micah Jenkins. Daniel, before his father's death "had been allotted a plantation situate on Weddallaw Island known as "Katos Hill" valued at the sum of \$4,195.00 and certain property". Ref. Mr. Horlbeck's deed to Wapoo. Later the Executors of Richard J. gave Martha E. LaRoche Seabrook, wife of Dr. James C. Seabrook, 1/2 of Katy's Hill. Daniel lived and owned Chisolm Plantation on Johns Island, sometimes called Raven's Point.

James LaRoche and Ann, his wife, sold to John LaRoche, his brother, Nov. 30, 1783 tract of 500 acres for 900 pounds. Ref. R.M.C. Court House Book G 6, p. 214.

James LaRoche and Ann release 500 acres on Wadmalaw to John LaRoche, his brother, Aug. 1785 for 100 pounds. Described by James as "left me by my Uncle John Uphan deceased." Ref. Book Z 5, p. 405, R.M.C. Court House (Charleston, S. C.)

James LaRoche and Ann granted 900 acres on Wadmalaw Island for five shillings to John LaRoche, Aug. 8, 1785, described also as "left me by my Uncle John Uphan." Ref. Book Z 5, p. 405, Court House R.M.C. Ref. Free Library. Will of John Uphan, brother of Annis Uphan, who married James LaRoche. Will Book V, 15, p. 425.

The above two papers show that John Uphan left 1,000 acres to James and John LaRoche and that James sold his share to John and 500 additional acres.

We find that John's only son, James, died at the age of 31 without marrying. John's wife lived to be 93 years old. She was born Mary Waight. Both she and her son, James, are buried at "Quiet Corner" plantation. (Tomstones still there 1948).

James' will left all to "dear Mother, Mary LaRoche". Her will left one moiety in her Wadmalaw plantation (Quiet Corner) to Richard J. LaRoche and one moiety to his sons John and James LaRoche. She also left plantation called "Waterside" on John's Island to "James and John LaRoche, sons of Richard J. LaRoche."

Her will left property to other relatives, to churches, and numerous organizations in Charleston. She lived 1749-1842. Her son, James, died July 19, 1813. Both tomstones at "Quiet Corner". Ruins of the tabby foundation of the dwelling house are still there (1948).

IV GENERATION, John's will mentions wife, Mary (Waight) and children Sarah and James. Also, his brother James, Cousins James LaRoche Wells and Robert Wells, children of Abigail LaRoche Wells and John Wells. He leaves his wife her choice of either of his two plantations. Also wills that the old family burying ground at "Quiet Corner" be enclosed with "a brick or tabby wall 100 feet square". Wall still in good condition in 1948. Wall made of brick. The foundation of the house is made of tabby. He died in 1788.

Ref. John's will, Charleston Free Library Wills Vol. 22, p. 34.
Mary's will, Charleston Free Library Wills, Vol. 43, p. 532.
Proved 1842. She lived from 1749-1842.
Son James' will proved 1814. He died July 19, 1813, aged 31.
Ref. Will book V 32, p. 797. Free Library.

Mill's Atlas of 1820 shows three LaRoche Plantations on Wadmalaw. They are marked J. LaRoche, R. LaRoche and Laroche.

Census of U. S. 1790. Free Library. Heads of Families lists J. LaRoche (Estate). He died 1788. Ja. LaRoche, and Abigail Wells. She was Abigail LaRoche Wells, widow of John Wells.

7. Edward W. LaRoche. m. Martha Sarah Jenkins. Edward W. LaRoche had received as his portion of the estate of Richard J. LaRoche a plantation situated on Teegoodoo in the Parish of St. Paul belonging to the Estate of the Testator valued at \$2,000 and another tract situate on Wedmalaw Island known as the Club House Tract belonging to the estate of the Testator and valued at the sum of \$1,000 and personal property". Ref. Mr. Horlbeck's deed to Waspee Plantation. *Edward also owned Rusty, the boatmaker*
8. Joseph Edings LaRoche 1835-1898, was given Waspee and 1/2 of Cety's Hill. m. Ella Elizabeth Murray. She attended Madam Talvane's School, Legare Street, Charleston, S. C. *Her father Maj. W. M. Murray M.E.*
9. Martha Evelina 1836-1908, was given 1/2 of Cety's Hill, by executors of her father, and 21 slaves. Ref. Legal paper in possession of Seabrooks of Allandale Plantation, Wedmalaw. (1948). She m. Dr. James Clark Seabrook. They lived at Allandale Plantation, Wedmalaw.

GENERATION VI.

Joseph Edings LaRoche b. April 27, 1835, d. May 13, 1898, m. Feb. 19, 1859, on Edisto Island, Ella Elizabeth Murray, b. Aug. 8, 1836, d. Aug. 17, 1917. Both interred St. John's, Johns Island. Tombstones in good condition (1948).

They left furniture hidden in the cedar swamp at Waspee at the time of the War Between the States and went to Cheraw, S. C., expecting to be gone a few months. This they found ruined when they returned three years later. The dwelling house had been burned. Joseph E. LaRoche took materials from the cotton house and other buildings not destroyed and built a small house. His brother Richard J. LaRoche camped on the church grounds and supervised the construction of the present Episcopal Church on John's Island, the second one having been burned. He also carved and gave the altar. Ref. History of St. John's.

William Jenkins LaRoche was born August 5, 1861 and died June 26, 1863. He is buried in Cheraw, S. C. He was the third child of Joseph E. LaRoche and Ella W. LaRoche.

Joseph E. LaRoche had a summer house on the bluff at Rockville where Esther Sadora LaRoche was born.

In Grace Church Chapel, Rockville, S. C., there are the following memorials: Ref. History of St. John's Parish by Seabrook & MacCallum.

Vases to Mr. J. E. LaRoche
Window and Brass Alms Basin, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. LaRoche

Both are buried at St. John's, Johns Island. (Episcopal Church)

GENERATION VII.

Children of Joseph Edings LaRoche and Ella Elisabeth Murray.

1. Joseph Murray m. Martha Julia Hopkinson.
2. Martha Ella m. Archibald Clark Seabrook.
3. William Jenkins *did young. Buried in France - at time of war.*
4. Lydia Eston m. Richard LaRoche Bentz.
5. Ansrinthea Evalina m. William Whiteford Anderson.
6. Lena Washington m. John F. Sosnowski.
7. Mary Francis m. William Thomas Hart.
8. Richard Townsend m. Edith Wallace.
9. Esther Sadora m. Rev. Harold Thomas.

Note: Edings spelled with one d in some old records, in others with two d's. LaRoche spelled with small r in a few old records. St. John's Colleton was taken off from St. Paul's Stone by Act of Assembly, April 9, 1734. St. Paul's was originally composed of Johns Island, Wadmalaw Island, Edisto and other adjacent islands to the seaward. St. John's church on Johns Island was called in early records, St. John's Colleton, as this was then Colleton County. St. Paul's Moggett is a "descendant" of old St. Paul's Stone, but is not in the same location. Old St. Paul's extinct. The 2nd St. Paul's burying ground is now on Dixie Plantation. The 3rd St. Paul's is at Moggette.

Caty's Hill called Kate's Hill in some records and Rackett Hill called Racketty Hill in some records.

Abbreviations:

Hist. & G. Mag. for Historical and Geneological Magazine of South Carolina.

Magenote of Col. S. C., for Maguenote of Colonial South Carolina by Hirsch.

Wills, Deeds, Invent. and Misc. Records for Wills, Deeds, Inventories and Miscellaneous Records at the Charleston Free Library.

Other references used - history of St. Paul's Buried by General Sir. L. Colleton's *Linking to 11, 20, 21, 22*

Direct ancestors of Joseph Edings LaRoche are underrecorded.

No attempt is made in this brief paper to give the descendants of every LaRoche in every generation. Many branches of the family have records of their particular branch.

Family records from *Sophie Seabrook Jenkins*
Mrs. John LaRoche
Mrs. William LaRoche
" " " " " "

