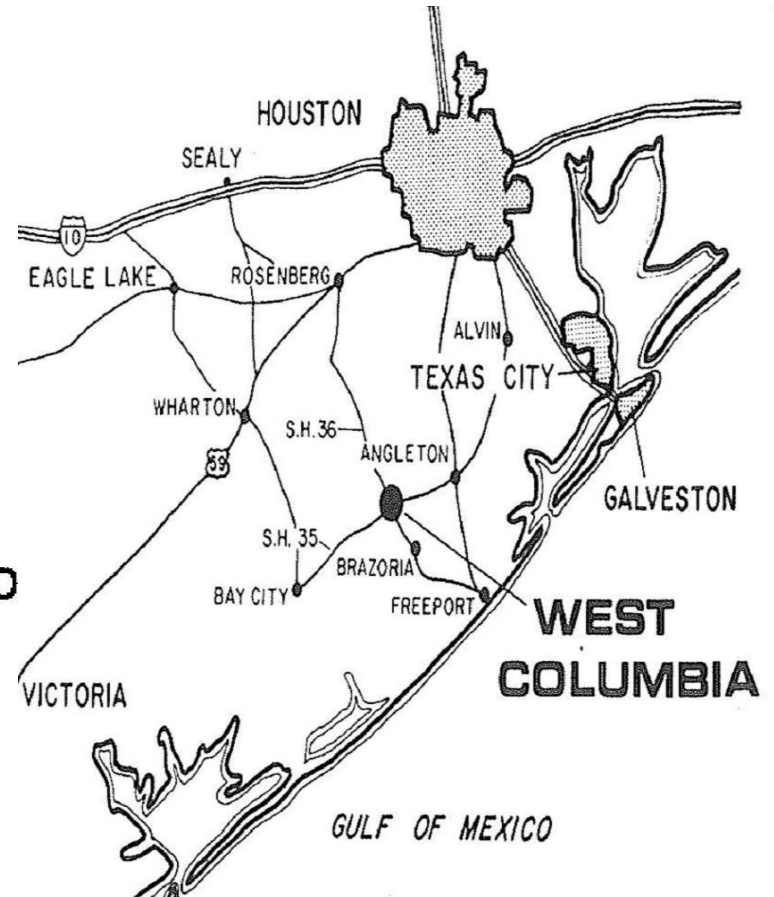


Silent Voices-

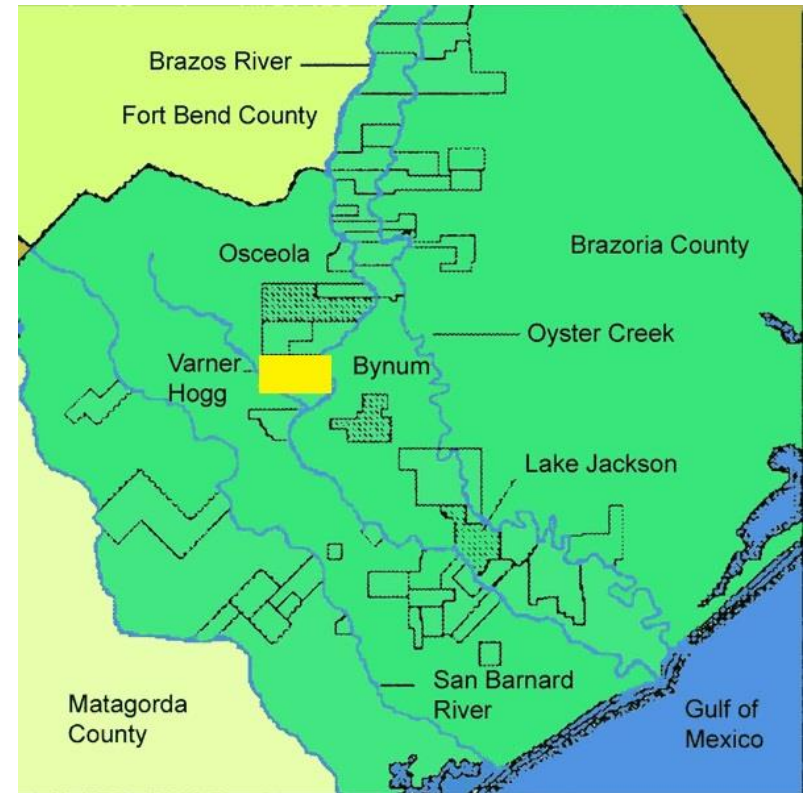
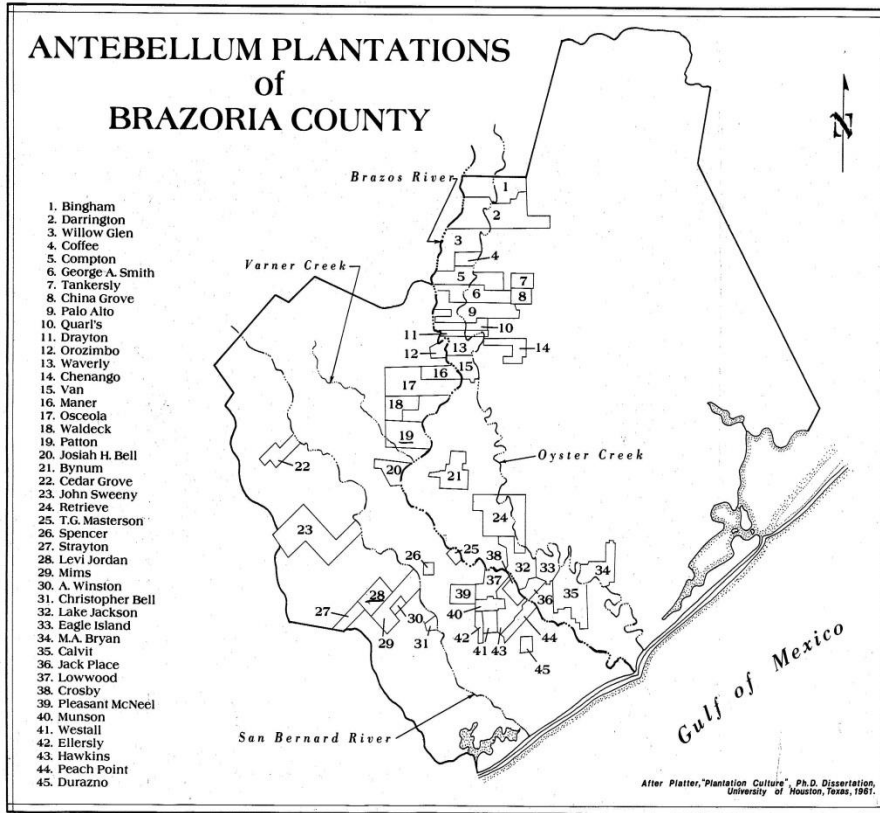
*Documenting the Enslaved People of
the Patton Plantation*



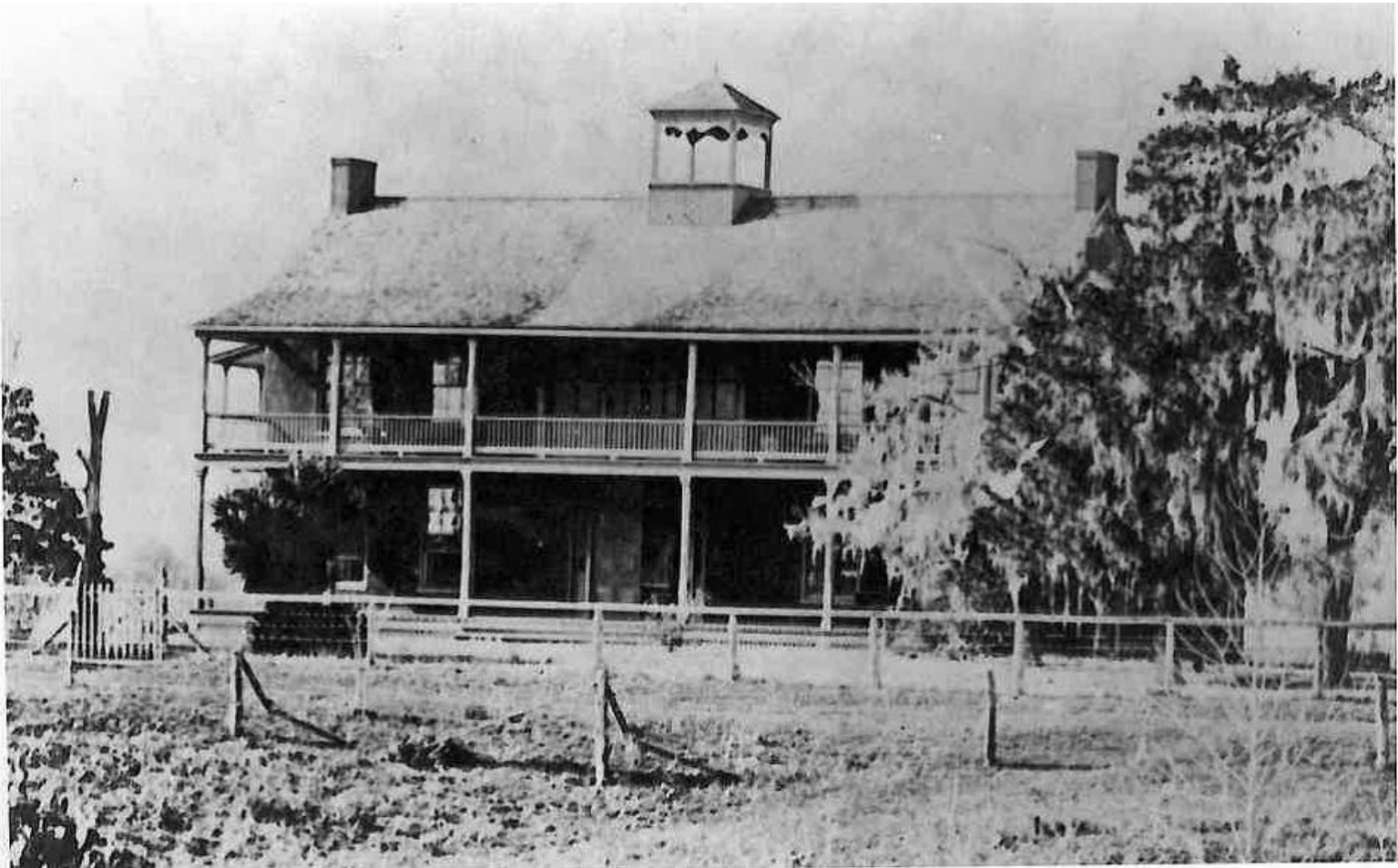
Brazoria County & West Columbia



Brazoria County Plantations



The Patton Plantation



Plantation Ownership Overview-

- Martin Varner (1824 – 1834)
- **Columbus Patton (1834 – 1856)**
- **Patton Estate (1854 – 1869)**
- (Patton heirs) (1869 – 1870)
- (Commercial owners) (1870-1901)
- The Hogg Family (1901 – 1958)
 - Governor James Hogg (1901- 1906)
 - Hogg heirs (1906- 1949)
 - Ima Hogg (1949 – 1958)

Agricultural Census Records

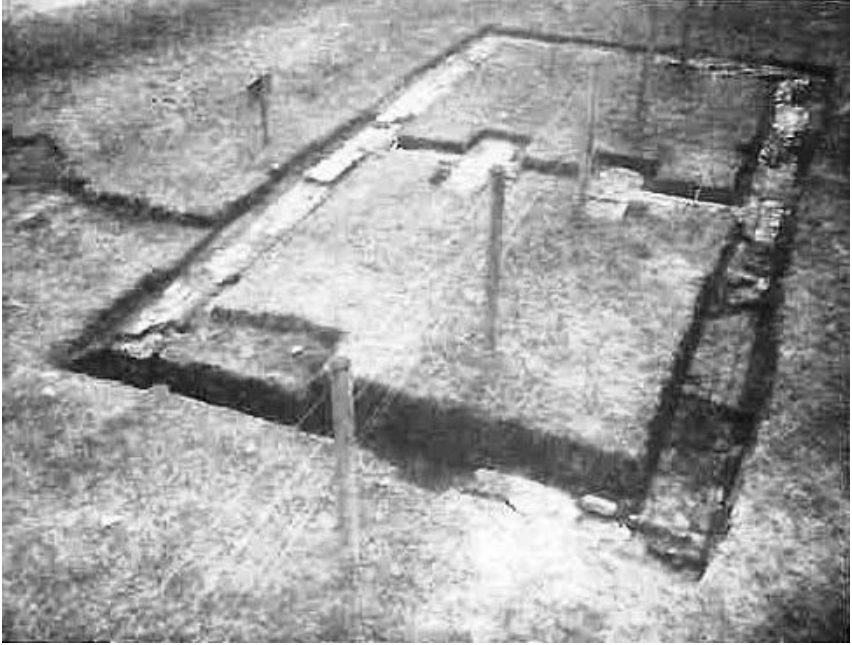
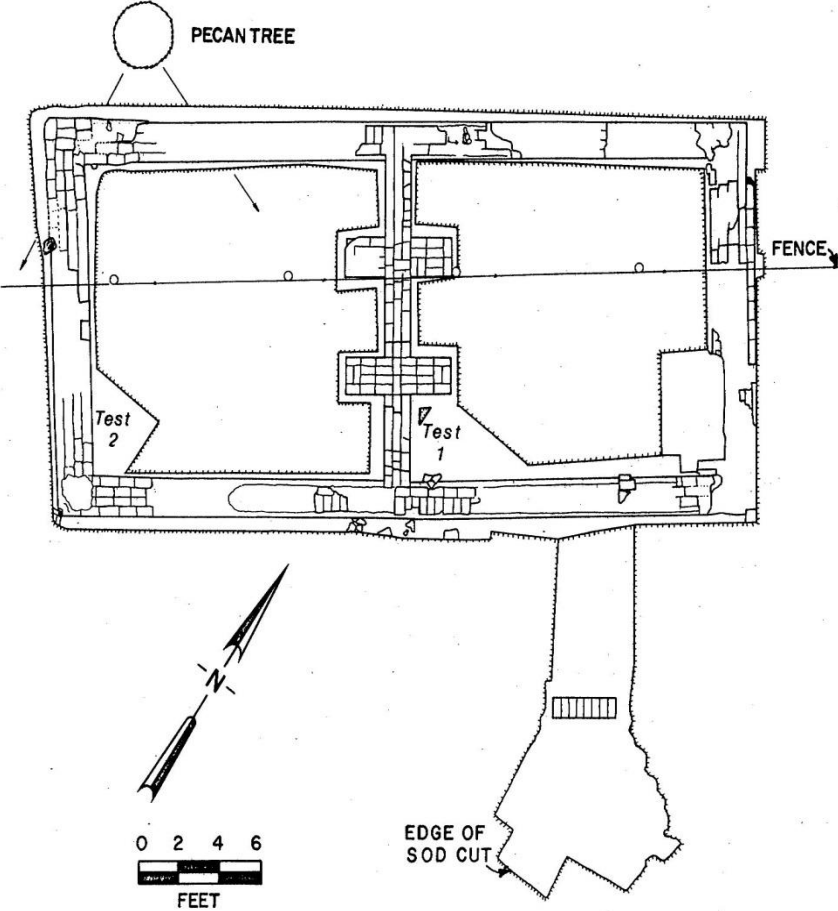
1850 – Columbus Patton

800 acres improved
20,000 acres unimproved
\$18,000 cash value of farm
\$14,300 cash value of implements
120 horses
30 asses/mules
75 milk cows
60 working oxen
2,500 head other cattle
100 swine
\$12,350 value of livestock
\$1,500 value of animals slaughtered
7,000 bushels corn
20 bushels irish potatoes
12,000 bushels sweet potatoes
780 lbs butter
9 tons hay
240 hogshead sugar
22,000 gallons molasses
0 bales cotton

1860 – Columbus Patton Estate

575 acres improved
9,689 acres unimproved
\$55,000 value of farm
\$16,000 value of implements
20 horses
50 asses/mule
35 milk cows
10 working oxen
2,400 head other cattle
no swine listed
\$19,300 value of livestock
\$1,335 value of animals slaughtered
3,000 bushels corn
200 bushels irish potatoes
(illegible) bushels sweet potatoes
no butter listed
5 tons hay
83 hogshead sugar
6,800 gallons molasses
44 bales cotton
75 bushels peas/beans

Slave Quarters Archeology



The Patton Plantation in WPA Narratives

- Two plantation-related narratives
 - Sarah Ford
 - Anthony Christopher
- 12 enslaved individuals named in narratives, some with personal or occupational descriptions



Patton Probate & Court Records

- Probate inventories dated 1840, 1854, and 1857
- Court reports from estate administrator
 - Names
 - Family ties
 - Medical visits/treatments
- Estate leasing/indenture records
- Payments for goods produced
- Post-emancipation wage rolls, 1866-69

Record Comparisons

- Individuals mentioned in WPA narrative who can be connected to other records
- 1867 voter registration list
- 1875 tax roll
- 1880 census listings
 - Number of individuals
 - Number of households
 - Individuals who list Africa as birthplace

Medical Visits & Treatments in the Plantation Probate Records

- Records for 14 years between 1851 and 1865
- Notations of doctor visits, treatments, and medications listed by patient name
- Over 353 treatment dates, over 175 individuals, over \$2,230 expenses
- Treatments included- tooth extractions, infant delivery, lancing/sewing/bandaging wounds, amputations, venereal disease treatments

The Enigma of Rachel-

“...iffen a bird fly up in de sky it mus' come down sometime...”

- Rachel mentioned in Sarah Ford WPA narrative
- Rachel's presence in Columbus Patton Will 1853
- Rachel in Patton probate files
- March 1857 the will is contested by Patton heirs
 - Testimonies
 - April 1857 agreement of heirs to settlement
 - Rachel store purchases 1857-59
- 1860 Move to Cincinnati and subsequent payments through 1867
- 1867 Relocation back to Brazoria County
- 1880 census record

The Loose Ends-

- Columbus Patton's will lists a bequest of \$5000 to be invested and paid with interest to "my dutch boy, Henry Patton" when he is 21. Who is Henry Patton?
- Rachel Patton purchases a "fine muslin dress for the dutch girl" on her store account in 1859. Who is the 'dutch girl'?
- Anthony Christopher's WPA narrative references to Charles Patton's household.

Conclusion-

