

Dissecting a Plantation King:
The Agricultural and Slave History of Daniel Tucker

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In present day Baldwin County on the south side of Georgia's old state capitol of Milledgeville sits a plantation home known as Lockerly Hall. This grand home sits in the midst of an arboretum and is currently used for education programs, house tour and public events, but it was not always used this way. Lockerly Hall's name for most of its existence was actually Rose Hill, and this grand piece of Greek revival architecture was home to Daniel Tucker, a man who among locals was said to be one of the richest and largest plantation owners in the area, a man who owned more slaves than any other plantation owner in the county, and a man who was not simply a plantation owner, but an accomplished lawyer. Daniel Tucker is painted by local lore as a true example of a successful 19th century southern plantation owner, but is this truly what he was? Is all the local lore surrounding him true, or has the truth of Tucker's past simply become distorted with time? Daniel Tucker very well may be the Plantation king he is made out to be by the people of Baldwin County Georgia, and this paper sets out to discover just that.

In order to discover the truth behind Tucker and his agricultural plantation empire it is important to know who Daniel Tucker was, and to discover just how much of a presence his empire left on Baldwin County. Tucker's first appears in the Baldwin County 1842 Georgia, Property Tax Digests where it is shown that he owns three acres of pine in the 321st district of Scottsboro.¹ For a man with such a large reputation this appears to be an abnormally small amount of land, but if you branch out from looking at simply Baldwin County you will see that this minuscule three acres is just a small plot of ever growing land within Daniel Tucker's expansive land collection scattered around the state of Georgia. In 1842 not only does Tucker

¹1842 Georgia, Property Tax Digests, 321st District of Scotsborough

own land in Baldwin County, but he also owns 500 acres of swamp and 303 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres of pine in Wilkinson county as well as 43 acres in Cherokee county. Looking at all of the land he owned in Georgia at the time Tucker owned a total of 846 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres at an aggregated value of \$1,820.50, a sum that is much larger than simply looking at his land ownership in Baldwin county alone.² In the 1840s Tucker was on his way to building up sizeable pieces of land to elevate him to the famed planter status he has today. The land Tucker owned in Baldwin County in 1840 was not the land of his fabled vast Baldwin county plantation, and he would not become the owner of his crown jewel of Milledgeville, that of his grand plantation home Rose Hill until 1851. In January of 1851 he purchased a home known as Rose Hill in an area called Midway which was named for its location halfway between the prosperous community of Scottsboro and the state capitol of Milledgeville.³ Tucker purchased the home from a prominent merchant and landowner named Richard J. Nichols. Nichols had resided in Rose Hill until his death in 1849. After Nichol's death the home went up for auction where it was purchased by Daniel Tucker for \$5,500.⁴ In February of the same year of Tucker's purchase the home was consumed by fire.⁵ As a result of the burning of the original house Tucker would be forced to start from scratch and build an entirely new home in the original's place. On March 8, 1853 a new deed of property was registered for Tucker's new home at the Baldwin County Courthouse.⁶ This new property would be the Rose Hill that exists today, the very Rose Hill that would become his great grand jewel of the Scottsboro District of Baldwin County, and the very place Tucker, his wife Martha, and their nine children would come to know as home.⁷

² 1842 Georgia, Property Tax Digests, 321st District of Scotsborough

³ Lockerly National Historic Registry Proposal, 18

⁴ Sale of Real Estate, January 6th, 1851

⁵ Fire Article

⁶ Tucker Re-recorded Deed

⁷ Lockerly National Historic Registry Proposal, 16.

Scottsboro, the district in which Tucker built his beautiful Greek revival style home Rose Hill next to was an area well known for housing affluent families of Milledgeville history. The area was located on a high plateau overlooking the Oconee River and was four miles from the state capitol of Milledgeville.⁸ Due to its location just outside of the city and its vicinity to the river, the area was noted by citizens of Georgia to be an environment of promising health, especially since Yellow Fever outbreaks occurred within the cities of the state between 1832-1878⁹. Scottsboro was described as the “gayest, happiest, brightest community in Georgia” and was home to one of the best known girl’s schools in the area, The Scottsboro Female Institute, alongside having a wide variety of fruits and gathering places for the refined people of Georgia.¹⁰ The area was even a summer refuge for people living in coastal regions of Georgia who felt the need to get away from the heat of the coast.¹¹ It is no surprise with Scottsboro having such a great reputation that Daniel Tucker would want to own property in this area¹², and especially to build his home Rose Hill. Tucker’s new home would be one of the few masonry constructed homes in Baldwin County, built not far from another famous masonry home the Georgia Governor’s Mansion. Tucker would build Rose Hill amongst a grove of trees and it would grow to be considered by many a perfect example of a plantation home due to aspects of its construction such as its masonry construction, three floors, six massive fluted Doric columns¹³, grand stairway with a mahogany balustrade, and large walnut doors, all lavish and envied parts

⁸ James C. Bonner, *Milledgeville Georgia’s Antebellum Capital* (Milledgeville: University of Georgia Press, 1978), 44.

⁹ Albert E. Cowdrey, *This Land, This South: An Environmental History, Revised Edition* (Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky, 1996), 86.

¹⁰ James C. Bonner, *Milledgeville Georgia’s Antebellum Capital* (Milledgeville: University of Georgia Press, 1978), 45.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Georgia, Property Tax Digests, 1842

¹³ Lockerly National Historic Registry Proposal

of the plantation home.¹⁴ Daniel Tucker and his wife Martha utilized their fine home to show off to others in the Baldwin County elite, and it would play host to many fine parties that would be talked about by locals for years to come.¹⁵ The most prestigious party to grace the halls of Rose Hill was that of the 1853 Inaugural Ball for Governor Hershel V. Johnson, a social event that would surely influence the public's opinion of Daniel Tucker, and only add to Tucker's prestigious reputation.¹⁶ Living in an affluent area, in a grand home is proof that Daniel Tucker was in fact a well-respected and wealthy man, but in order to truly discover if Tucker truly was a prestigious planter we must look at more than just the home in which he led his affluent life in order to see if he truly was a plantation king.

To be labeled as a southern planter was not as simple as owning land and growing some crops, it was actually a label that was not very widely held, and for someone to be considered a member of the elite planter class it required that they have a certain amount of slaves and land to be given the title. In the state of Georgia in 1860 there were a total of 1,000,000 residents, and nine out of the ten people lived in a small village or farm.¹⁷ 19,000 of the Georgia residents at the time were what would be considered middle class farmers. In order to be considered a middle class farmer the person must have 100 to 500 acres of land, 3,594 acres of paltry land (Land that was considered to be unqualified for farming) , and own a total of one to thirty slaves.¹⁸ The middle class farmers would make up a much larger part of the Georgia population than that of the top of the economic pyramid, the famed planter class. The planter class actuality made up an incredibly small number of the Georgia population, and the residents of the state with this title

¹⁴ James C. Bonner, *Milledgeville Georgia's Antebellum Capital* (Milledgeville: University of Georgia Press, 1978), 123.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, 148.

¹⁶ Lockerly National Historic Registry Proposal, 16.

¹⁷ Willard Range, *A Century of Georgia Agriculture 1850-1950* (Atlanta: University of Georgia Press, 1954), 3.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

would only make up a total of 6% of all the farms in the state of Georgia.¹⁹ In order to be categorized as members of the planter class an amount of 500 acres of land and ownership of a total of 30 to 100 plus slaves was expected, and the class could be subdivided into small, medium, and large planters.²⁰

The majority of Georgia's planter class lived in one of the three black belt areas of the state, and the largest majority lived in an area known as the Piedmont region.²¹ The Piedmont Region of Georgia is specifically referred to as the Southern Piedmont and it lies between the Blue Ridge Mountains of Northern Georgia and the Upper Coastal Plain area of the state as seen in Figure 1. According to geographer Frank B. Golley the southern Piedmont is located in the southeastern and mid-Atlantic regions of the United States and is about 1,400 kilometers long and 100 to 300 kilometers wide.²² The region runs northeast-to-southwest in direction and follows the main axis of the mountains, faults, and coastline of the southeastern United States and extends from Alabama to Georgia northeastward through South Carolina and North Carolina.²³ This southern Piedmont area of the state of Georgia is where Daniel Tucker made his home Rose Hill, which if he proves to be the plantation king he is said to be would make sense geographically, but we must also look at the land and slave numbers of Tucker to decide if he falls under the prestigious planter class qualifications.

¹⁹ Willard Range, *A Century of Georgia Agriculture 1850-1950* (Atlanta: University of Georgia Press, 1954), 3.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Frank B. Golley, *Piedmont, Geography & Environment: Geographic Region, New Georgia Encyclopedia*. (University of Georgia, June 28th, 2005).
<http://www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/geography-environment/piedmont>

²³ Ibid.



(Figure 1.) *Georgia's Geology*

Over the course of Tucker's farming career he seems to have owned land scattered around the state of Georgia as well as some property in South Carolina. In 1842 he shows up in the Georgia, Property Tax Digest as owning a total of 846 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres at an aggregated value of \$1,820.50 between Washington, Cherokee, and Baldwin County.²⁴ Eight years later in 1850 the Federal Census taken in Baldwin county shows that Tucker is listed in the category of profession as being a farmer, not a planter, and is forty seven years old.²⁵ In the Washington County taking of the 1850s Census he also is listed as farmer, and his real estate is listed at a value of

²⁴ 1842 Georgia, Property Tax Digests, 321st District of Scotsborough

²⁵ 1850 United States Federal Census, Baldwin County, Georgia

\$12,000.²⁶ From 1842 to 1850 we can see that Tucker's farming empire has clearly started growing into a mass network of farms with a \$10,179.50 increase in the value of his estate in 1850 versus the 1842 value. Even with this large increase though, Tucker is still not listed as a planter, and it would not be until the 1860 Federal Census taken in the Scottsboro District that he begins to show up with the prestigious title. In the 1860 Census, Tucker is listed at being 56 years old and his profession is finally listed as that of planter, the title for which he is well renowned for in Baldwin County to this day. Alongside being elevated to the status of Planter, Tucker's overall value of estate makes another steep climb with a value of real estate listed at \$521,000 and a value of personal estate at \$95,000, a combined value of \$616,000 in estate.²⁷ With this large increase in the value of his estate we can also see that he has obtained property in South Carolina that is now bringing up his total value. In total between 1850 and 1860 Tucker was able to raise the overall value of his estate by \$604,000, expand his land ownership to the state of South Carolina, and finally obtained his professional title of planter.

In 1860 Tucker finally received planter status after an incredible rise in the value of his real estate from 1842 to 1860, but according to the 1850s definition of a planter one factor that influenced who was able to obtain the professional title of planter was the number of slaves owned and working on these men's large estates. If Tucker did indeed have the title of planter then he must have been a slave owner, and over the years between his status change from farmer to planter then he must have also had a sizeable increase in his slave ownership over those years. By looking at Federal Census Data and Georgia, Property Tax Digests this increase in Tucker's slave numbers can be seen between the years of 1840 and 1860, the last year slave numbers would be listed due to the information being taken before the start of the Civil War and the

²⁶ 1850 United States Federal Census, Washington County, Georgia

²⁷ 1860 United States Federal Census, Baldwin County, Georgia

eventual emancipation of the entire slave population of the United States. In the 1840 United States Federal Census taken in Baldwin County, Georgia, Daniel Tucker is listed as having a total of 22 slaves.²⁸ Two years later in the 1842 Georgia Property Tax Digests for the District of Scottsboro Tucker is listed as having a total of 51 slaves between his properties in Wilkinson, Cherokee, and Baldwin County, showing that in a span of two years he obtained 35 new slaves. In 1850 the Georgia Property Tax Digest for Washington County listed Tucker as owning 31 slaves in Washington County²⁹ and the 1850 U.S. Federal Census Slave Schedules lists him as owning 13 slaves in Baldwin County, so in 1850 Tucker had a combined total of 44 slaves.³⁰ By 1860, a time where 462,000 slaves existed in the state of Georgia³¹, the US Federal Census had Tucker listed as having 6 slaves in the district of Scottsboro where his home Rose Hill was located³², and it also listed him as having 16 slaves in another Baldwin County district known as the Salem District³³ giving him a total number of 22 slaves within just Baldwin County.

Daniel Tucker's number of slaves owned in Baldwin County in 1860 increased by nine since the number taken in 1850, but what is especially interesting about the number of slaves he owned in 1860 is not simply the total number of slaves he owned, but where they were located within the county. The present day local lore of the Milledgeville area has always been that Daniel Tucker's Baldwin County plantation was located in the same area as his beautiful Greek Revival home Rose Hill. When looking at the number of slaves listed as being in the Scottsboro District, the district that for census reasons the home is listed under, we see that there are only six slaves, a number that is not large enough in order to work a full scale working plantation.

²⁸ 1840 United States Federal Census Detail: Year: 1840; Census Place: Baldwin, Georgia

²⁹ 1842 Georgia, Property Tax Digests, 321st District of Scotsborough

³⁰ 1850 U.S. Federal Census Slave Schedules

³¹ Willard, Range. *A Century of Georgia Agriculture 1850-1950* (Atlanta: University of Georgia Press, 1954), 11.

³² 1860 United States Federal Census for the Scottsboro District of Baldwin County Georgia

³³ 1860 United States Federal Census for the Salem District of Baldwin County Georgia

Tucker's other 16 slaves are located in the Salem District of Baldwin county, an area located across the Oconee river and nowhere near Tucker's prized home. (Figure 2.) What these numbers appear to show is that Tucker's plantation was most likely located on the other side of the river, and not in the area of Midway where people have believed it to be in present day. The six slaves located in the Scottsboro District were most likely servants and hands utilized for the running of Rose Hill while the sixteen slaves across the river in the Salem District were the slaves working Tucker's Baldwin County plantation. Tucker's purchase of his home Rose Hill was not until 1851, yet in federal census records he shows up in Baldwin county prior to the purchase, so it is likely that some of his land that is recorded prior to his purchase of Rose Hill would have been his plantation in the Salem District. Tucker's Midway property that Rose Hill sits on appears to have never been a working plantation, but merely Tucker's family home. With the Scottsboro District's renowned reputation for being the home of the elite, and a place of happiness and health it makes sense that Daniel Tucker, being a successful farmer and eventual planter, would want to build his home in that area.



(Figure. 2) Baldwin County Georgia Militia Map

The number of slaves Daniel Tucker owned and the value and acreage of his land make it clear that Tucker was indeed a southern planter, but compared to his fellow planters in the area how does he stack up? By looking at the Georgia Non-Population Schedules for Baldwin County during the years of 1850 and 1870 we can see what Tucker and some other planters in the area were growing. Since Tucker does not show up in the 1860 Georgia Non-Population Schedule, it is possible that Tucker was on one of his other properties or elsewhere when the Census taker came through and that is why he was not recorded for that year. When comparing Tucker and his neighbor's agricultural production only the 1850 and 1870 non-population schedules will be used since it is impossible to compare the 1860 numbers to Tucker. Looking at the 1850 Georgia Non-Population Schedule taken on June 1 in Baldwin County we see that Daniel Tucker's column is not completely filled in, but that a few areas like his number of livestock and produce production are listed. Tucker is listed under the livestock category as having seven horses, three milch/dairy cows, three other types of cattle, and fifty swine adding up to a \$1,000 value in livestock.³⁴ In the produce category of the schedule it indicates that Tucker produced 300 bushels of sweet potatoes and 500 pounds of butter.³⁵ Tucker's 1850's non-population schedule is sparsely filled out, but it does give us a small window into Tucker's agricultural life in 1850 Baldwin County, a time in which he was still categorized on the Georgia Federal Census as a farmer and not yet as a planter. It is also important to note that at the time this schedule was taken Tucker was not yet living on his Rose Hill property and that these numbers most likely represent his property in the Salem District.

Knowing that in 1850 Tucker is still simply a farmer working towards becoming a planter we can compare his agricultural numbers to some other well-known members of Baldwin

³⁴ U.S. Federal Census, Non-Population Schedule for Baldwin County, Georgia. 1850

³⁵ Ibid.

County plantation owners at the time. By looking at some of his fellow Baldwin County land owner's agricultural numbers we can see the agricultural and monetary difference between the different landowners. One of Tucker's fellow Baldwin County farmers in 1850 was actually his own brother Harper Tucker. According to the 1850s Georgia Non-Population Schedule Harper Tucker had a total of 650 improved acres³⁶, this is land that was either tilled, including fallow and grass in rotation (whether pasture or meadow), or permanent meadows, pastures, orchards, and vineyards.³⁷ Tucker also had a total of 6,677 unimproved acres,³⁸ this is land that was usually wood land or forest as well as "old fields" meaning they no longer grew wood.³⁹ The combination of Harper's improved and unimproved acres give his farm a cash value of \$16,000, and at the time an overall value of estate of \$19,000, between his land in Baldwin county and South Carolina as recorded by the 1850 US Federal Census taken in Baldwin County.⁴⁰ In the category of livestock Harper had a total of seven horses, fourteen asses and mules, twenty milch/dairy cows, six working oxen, two hundred other types of cattle, twenty-five sheep, and two hundred swine making his overall value of livestock \$3,200 a value that is \$2,100 more than the value of his brother Daniel's livestock. In the produce category of the non-population schedule Harper had a total of twenty bushels of wheat, twenty-five hundred bushels of Indian-corn, one hundred thirty and a half bales of 400 pound ginned cotton, thirty pounds of wool, five hundred bushels of sweet potatoes and fifteen pounds of butter, as well as an added value of \$721 in animals slaughtered.⁴¹ Harper Tucker's non-population schedule is drastically different from that of Daniel's in 1850, and he has more variety of livestock and produce listed on his

³⁶ U.S. Federal Census, Non-Population Schedule for Baldwin County, Georgia. 1850

³⁷ 1880 Report of the Production of Agriculture Census, General Statistics

³⁸ U.S. Federal Census, Non-Population Schedule for Baldwin County, Georgia. 1850

³⁹ 1880 Report of the Production of Agriculture Census, General Statistics

⁴⁰ 1850 United States Federal Census, Baldwin County, Georgia

⁴¹ U.S. Federal Census, Non-Population Schedule for Baldwin County, Georgia. 1850

schedule than his brother Daniel. Harper's non-population schedule shows an example of a successful Baldwin County plantation owner and is an interesting person to compare to Daniel Tucker because the two are brothers farming in the same areas.

Another example of a successful farmer in Baldwin County in 1850 is William Sanford. Sanford's 1850s Georgia Non-Population Schedule shows that he had 800 acres of improved land and 1,200 acres of unimproved land giving his farm a total cash value of \$8,000. In the livestock section of the schedule Sanford has a total of three horses, twenty-one asses and mules, twenty-six milch/dairy cows, 50 other types of cattle, one hundred sheep, and one-hundred and seventy swine giving his livestock a value of \$2,700, a value that is \$1,600 more than Daniel Tuckers.⁴² In Sanford's produce section of the schedule it shows that he produced twenty bushels of wheat, twenty-five hundred bushels of Indian corn, ninety-eight four-hundred pound bales of ginned cotton, two-hundred and fifty pounds of wool, one thousand bushels of sweet potatoes, one hundred and fifty pounds of butter, and ten tons of hay with a \$720 value of total animals slaughtered.⁴³ William Sanford's and Harper Tucker's 1850 Georgia Non-Population Schedules combined give us a glimpse at what the kind of agricultural practices were taking place within other plantations in 1850s Baldwin County allowing us to see how Tucker compared to some of his fellow plantation owners at the time.

The 1850s schedules of Daniel Tucker, Harper Tucker, and William Sanford are interesting because they show examples of successful plantations within Baldwin County eleven years before the Civil War would take place. (Figures. 3A and 3B) Since Daniel Tucker is not listed in the 1860s Non-Population Schedule the 1850s schedule is especially important because

⁴² U.S. Federal Census, Non-Population Schedule for Baldwin County, Georgia. 1850

⁴³ Ibid.

it gives us a window into what kind of livestock and produce Tucker was producing before the war. What is especially interesting is the absence of the cotton crop in Daniel Tucker’s schedule. Cotton is the crop that is famously considered to be king of the south, and it is also the crop that in local lore was considered to have made Tucker so wealthy, yet he has none listed for his Baldwin county plantation. One thing that could explain his absence of the cotton crop, but his reputation of being a cotton king could be that his cotton crops were located on one of his other many pieces of property at the time. We also must remember that the schedule numbers for 1860 do not exist in Baldwin County for Tucker so it is very possible that from the time the 1850s schedule was taken and 1860 that he was able to add cotton to his Salem District property therefore influencing his reputation as being a cotton king within Baldwin County.

1850 Agricultural Census Schedule																		
Schedule 4 - Productions of Agriculture in _____ in the county of <u>Baldwin</u> State of <u>Georgia</u> in the year ending in June 1, 1850																		
Enumerated by me on the <u>31st</u> day of <u>August</u> 1850 _____ Ass't Marshal																		
Name of Owner, Agent, or Manager of the Farm	Acres of Land				Live Stock June 1, 1850								Produce during the year ending June 1, 1850					
	Improved	Unimproved	Cash Value of Farm	Value of Farming Implements and Machinery	Horses	Asses and Mules	Milch Cows	Working Oxen	Other Cattle	Sheep	Swine	Value of Live Stock	Wheat	Rye	Indian Corn	Oats	Rice	Tobacco
	No.	No.	Dolls.	Dolls.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	Dolls.	Bush.	Bush.	Bush.	Bush.	Lbs.	Lbs.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
1 D. R. Tucker					7		3		3		50	1,100						
2 William Sanford	800	1,200	8,000	1000	3	21	26		50	100	170	2,700			3000	600		
3 Harper Tucker	850	6,677	16,000	600	7	14	20	6	200	25	200	3,200	20		2,500			
4																		
5																		
6																		
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8																		
9																		
10																		



(Figure. 3A) U.S. Federal Census, Baldwin County 1850 Non-Population Schedules for Daniel Tucker, William Sanford, and Harper Tucker.

Produce during the year ending June 1, 1850																										
Ginned Cotton	Wool	Peas and Beans	Irish Potatoes	Sweet Potatoes	Barley	Buckwheat	Value of Orchard Products	Wine	Value of Market Gardens	Butter	Cheese	Hay	Clover Seed	Other Grass Seeds	Hops	Hemp		Flax	Flaxseed	Silk Cocoons	Maple Sugar	Cane Sugar	Molasses	Beeswax	Value of Homemade Manufactures	Value of Animals Slaughtered
																Dew Retted	Water Retted									
Bales (400 lbs)	Lbs	Bush	Bush	Bush	Bush	Bush	Dolls	Gallons	Dolls	Lbs	Lbs	Tons	Bush	Bush	Lbs	Tons	Tons	Lbs	Bush	Lbs	Lbs	Hds (1,000 lbs)	Gallons	Lbs	Dolls	Dolls
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46
1				300						500																
2	98	250		1000						150		10														720
3	130 1/2	30	30	500						15																721
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(Figure. 3B) U.S. Federal Census, Baldwin County 1850 Non-Population Schedules for Daniel Tucker, William Sanford, and Harper Tucker.

Though the 1860 schedule for Tucker is missing he is listed in the Georgia 1870 Non-Population Schedule, and this allows us to see since the 1850 schedule how his plantation was affected by the Civil War, and if there were any new animals listed under livestock or new crops under produce. Tucker's 1870 schedule is much more detailed than his 1850 schedule, and we are able to see a lot more about his agricultural practices. In 1870 Tucker is listed as having 800 acres of improved land and 200 acres of unimproved land, giving his farm a cash value of \$3,000 and a \$2,000 cash value of farming implements and machinery.⁴⁴ Since the schedule was taken after the Civil War and the emancipation of the slaves a new category is added to the 1870 schedule, that of the total amount of wages paid during the year including the value of board. In

⁴⁴ U.S. Federal Census, Non-Population Schedule for Baldwin County, Georgia. 1850

this new category Tucker has paid a total of \$2,300 in wages and boarding.⁴⁵ In the livestock category taken June 1st, 1870 Tucker is listed as having two horses, eight mules and asses, thirteen milch/dairy cows, four other types of cattle, and thirty-one swine at a value of \$1,800 in livestock. Tucker's pre-Civil War value of livestock was \$1,100 so his value went up by \$700 since the 1850 Non-Population Schedule.⁴⁶ It is likely that since Tucker was elevated to planter status in 1860 that his livestock value was probably higher in 1860 than it was in 1850, and that even though post-Civil War Tucker's livestock seems to have gone up in value, it probably dropped in value since 1860. The Civil War severely disrupted southern planters so it is very likely that all of Tucker's plantation endeavors were affected by the war, not simply his livestock. Listed in his produce during the year ending June 1st, 1870 category Tucker is listed as producing one thousand two hundred bushels of Indian corn, seventy-five bushels of one hundred fifty pound bales of cotton, seventy-five bushels of peas and beans, and one-hundred pounds of butter. Tucker's schedule also has a listing of \$300 in animals slaughtered or sold to slaughter, and \$18,200 in estimated value of all farm production including betterments and additional livestock.⁴⁷ Tucker's Baldwin County plantation post-Civil War produced more and contained more livestock than his 1850 pre-Civil War schedule, but compared to his would-be numbers of 1860 it is more than likely that Tucker's overall plantation lost more than it appears to have gained.

In order to get an idea of how other planters in Baldwin County fared after the Civil War compared to Daniel Tucker we can look at some of his prominent neighbors' Non-Population Schedules for 1870. One particularly interesting planter to look at was Tucker's neighbor Stith

⁴⁵ U.S. Federal Census, Non-Population Schedule for Baldwin County, Georgia. 1850

⁴⁶ U.S. Federal Census, Non-Population Schedule for Baldwin County, Georgia. 1850

⁴⁷ Ibid.

Param Myrick. Myrick like Tucker also had a well renowned plantation home in the Midway area of Baldwin County as well as a plantation as large as 3,200 acres in 1860 located elsewhere in the county instead of next to his prized home. According to James Bonner, “Situated on high ridge overlooking Milledgeville, where it still stood in 1976, the house boasted a spacious banquet hall, kitchen, larders, store rooms, and laundry on its ground floor”.⁴⁸ According to Myrick’s Non-Population Schedule for 1870 he had a total of 1000 acres of improved land, 300 acres of unimproved woodland, and 500 acres of other unimproved land giving him a total of 1,800 acres of land in 1870. Daniel Tucker was not the only planter to be affected by the Civil War and in total Myrick lost 1,400 acres of land between the 1860 and 1870 Non-Population Schedules showing that his total number of acres was negatively impacted by the Civil War.⁴⁹ The percent cash value of Myrick’s farm in 1870 was listed at \$4,000 and the total present cash value of his farming implements and machinery was listed at \$320. For his property Myrick also had a total of \$1,000 in in the total amount of wages and board paid within the year.⁵⁰ Under the livestock June 1, 1870 category Myrick was listed as having four horses, nineteen mules and asses, twenty-five milch/dairy cows, six working oxen, ten other types of cattle, twelve sheep, and twenty-five swine making his total value for all live stock \$3,000.⁵¹ In the Produce during the year ending June 1st, 1870 category Myrick is listed as having one thousand eight hundred bushels of Indian corn, one hundred bushels of oats, seventy-five one hundred fifty pound bales of cotton, three hundred bushels of peas and beans, ten bushels of Irish potatoes, ten gallons of wine, and four hundred pounds of butter.⁵² Myrick’s value of animals slaughtered or sold to

⁴⁸ James C. Bonner. *Milledgeville Georgia’s Antebellum Capital* (Milledgeville: University of Georgia Press, 1978), 123.

⁴⁹ U.S. Federal Census, Non-Population Schedule for Baldwin County, Georgia. 1870

⁵⁰ Ibid.

⁵¹ Ibid.

⁵² Ibid.

slaughter was \$150 and the estimated value of all farm production including betterments and addition to stock at \$14,250.⁵³ Myrick and Tucker's agricultural numbers are actually quite similar in 1870, and both men would have had larger plantations before the war.

Alongside his neighbor Stith Param Myrick another Baldwin County planter that can be studied in 1870 is James A. Jarret. Jarret had a total of 1,100 improved acres, and 100 acres of unimproved woodland and 1,000 other unimproved acres. Jarret's overall cash value of his farm was \$6,000, a value substantially higher than Tucker and Myrick. Jarret's cash value of implements and machinery was \$380 and his total amount of wages and board paid during the year was \$3,300, a total that is greater than the total cash value of Tucker's plantation.⁵⁴ Jarret's advantage would only be in total value of farm and wages paid though because when looking at his livestock and production numbers Jarret comes in lower than both Tucker and Myrick. Under livestock Jarret is listed as owning nine mules and asses, seven milch/dairy cows, one working oxen, and eleven other types of cattle at an overall value of livestock at \$1,000.⁵⁵ In the produce section Jarret has thirty bushels of winter wheat, six hundred bushels of Indian corn, fifty bushels of oats, eighty bales of one hundred fifty pound cotton, five more bales than Tucker and Myrick, as well as fifty bushels of sweet potatoes and thirty pounds of butter.⁵⁶ Jarret's estimated value of all farm production including betterments and addition to stock was \$10,300.⁵⁷ Jarret's and Myrick's 1870 non-population schedules can be seen in (Figures. 4A and 4B) and allow us to see how other plantations alongside Daniel Tucker's were fairing after the Civil War, allowing us to see how Tucker stacked up against his fellow planters.

⁵³ U.S. Federal Census, Non-Population Schedule for Baldwin County, Georgia. 1870

⁵⁴ U.S. Federal Census, Non-Population Schedule for Baldwin County, Georgia. 1870

⁵⁵ Ibid.

⁵⁶ Ibid.

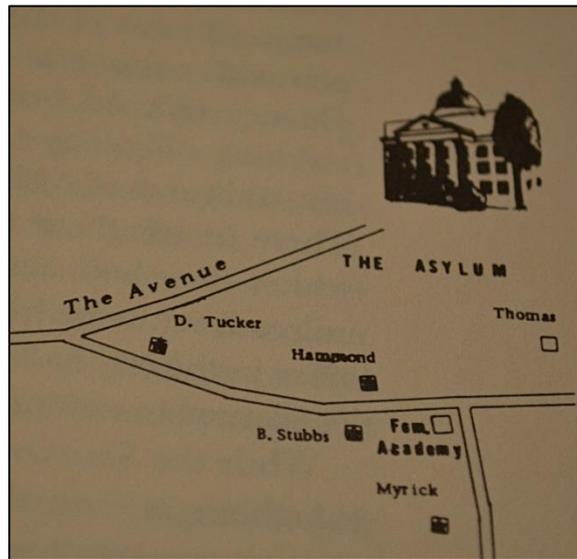
⁵⁷ Ibid.

In order to get an idea of how Tucker's land would have been affected post-Civil War in Baldwin County we can look at Tucker's Georgia Property Tax Digests for 1871 through 1874 as well as the Petition for Administration that was made in 1879 after Tucker's death that tells how much property Tucker had at his death. In 1871, a year after the taking of the Non-Population Schedule we can see that Tucker has 100 acres of land in Midway at an aggregated value of \$4,000, and a value of \$4,794 for his whole property.⁵⁸ In 1874 Tucker is listed at two different times in the Georgia Property Tax Digest. In the digest labeled as number five Tucker is listed as having a total of 90 acres in Midway at an aggregated value of \$4,000, and a value of the whole property including the value of household, kitchen furniture, horses, mules, hogs, sheep, cattle, and etcetera at \$7,000. On the other property tax digest listed as number six, there is a total number of seventy five acres in Midway at an aggregated land value of \$3,500. In this particular tax digest a new piece of property is listed under Tucker's name, a property known as Stubbs Place that would have lyed up the road from his home Rose Hill. (Figure 5.) This new Stubbs Place property was 80 acres at an aggregated value of \$2,000 while the aggregate value of Tucker's entire property of Midway and Stub's Place was \$6,500 including the value of household and kitchen furniture, pianos, organs, and etcetera. Looking at these numbers it is evident that Tucker was clearly affected by the Civil War because his overall value of estate in 1860 when he was elevated to the planter class was listed at \$521,000 and his value of personal estate at the time was listed as \$95,000, for a combined value of \$616,000 in estate showing a drastic difference between then and 1874. Finally at Tucker's death in 1879 he is only listed as having ninety acres in Milledgeville, these acres containing his prized home Rose Hill, as well as a half interest of 13,080 acres in Washington County.⁵⁹ According to the numbers of acres

⁵⁸ 1871 Georgia Property Tax Digests

⁵⁹ 1879 Petition to Sell Realty

Tucker had after the Civil War alongside the aggregated and total value of his properties it is clear that Tucker was negatively affect by the war in Baldwin County, but even though he was hurt by it he never let it stop him completely.



(Figure 5.) Midway 1861-1865, *Milledgeville Georgia's Antebellum Capital*, Pg. 194-195

At Tucker's death in 1879 a series of events began to occur at the Baldwin County Court House as his son-in-law George R. Sibley, the husband of his daughter Emma, began to petition for the right to sell some of Tucker's property. This petition is important because it allows us to see another side of Tucker, a side other than his plantation; it shows us Daniel Tucker's business side. The petition showed that while Tucker was running plantations he was also investing and in numerous stocks, shares, and bonds all over the south. This information shows that Tucker was more than just a successful plantation owner, but he was also a savvy business man. According to Sibley's Petition to Sell Property made on March 3rd, 1879 Tucker had eighty shares of capitol stock in the Georgia Railroad, twenty banking company shares in the capital stock of the Princeton Manufacturing Company of Athens, Georgia, thirty-seven shares in Commercial Bank

stock, seven shares in the National Exchange Bank stock, eight Macon and Augusta First Mortgage bonds endorsed by the Georgia Railroad S.le.R.R at \$1,000 each, five Montgomery and West Point Rail Road 1st mortgage bonds at \$1,000 each, six city of Macon Bonds at \$500 each, two city of Augusta bonds at \$250 each, one city of Atlanta bond at 7% per bond at \$1,000, and East Tennessee and Georgia Railroad bonds at \$1,000 each.⁶⁰Tucker was clearly competent at investments, and his educational background as a lawyer is most likely the reason he was so successful in that particular avenue of his life.

Even as a successful plantation owner and business man Tucker still accumulated some debts in his life and the main reason George R. Sibley was petitioning to sell Tucker's many stocks, shares, and bonds after his death was in order to pay off some of these debts he had accumulated over his life while also petitioning to be able to distribute money among Tucker's rightful heirs if the court found it necessary.⁶¹ In another petition for Sibley to be granted the administrator of Tucker's property it is listed that on Tucker's death on January 12th, 1879 in Baldwin County, at the time of his death he possessed in real and personal property the probable value of \$35,000.⁶² On January 14th, 1879 a request for Sibley to be made temporary administrator was entered because Tucker's large amount of property required someone to oversee it so that it would not go to waste, and in Sibley's request this can be seen noted, "Daniel R. Tucker at the time of his death was possessed of considerable property and where as it is further represented to me that there is a great danger of waste of the said estate".⁶³ Eventually Sibley was granted permission to sell the stocks, shares, and bonds and on January 15th 1879 a desire for Sibley to be made administrator of Tucker's property by his heirs was made and he

⁶⁰ Petition to Sell Personality, March 3rd 1879

⁶¹ Ibid.

⁶² Order: Letters Temporary Administration, January 15th, 1879.

⁶³ Bond: Temporary Administrator, January 14th, 1879.

was granted temporary administration and given Tucker's total bonds listed at a sum of \$60,000.⁶⁴ On March 4th 1879 Sibley was appointed as the legal administrator of Tucker's property under the condition that he give a bond in the sum of \$70,000 to Joseph Sibley and William J. Wheless, and that he take the usual oath of office.

After being listed as the legal administrator for Tucker's property Sibley petitioned to sell the property. In his petition the exact location of Tucker's property is listed; this is important because it shows the general location of Tucker's final Baldwin county property at his 1879 death. In Sibley's Petition to Sell Realty it lists the property as being in the 321st District of Scottsboro and the deed dictates the property as being bounded on the North and East by the Scottsboro and Asylum roads, and as on the South and West by the Asylum and John Hammonds Lands, it then goes on to say that the property is indeed 90 acres.⁶⁵ The petition also goes on to talk about Tucker's remaining land in Washington County which amounts to a more or less half interest of 13,080 acres of land bounded by the North and East by lands of D.H. Tucker and Mr. George R. Sibley on the South by D.H. Hodges and Redden Jones, and on the West by Mr. Northens and Jones' land.⁶⁶ After this petition Sibley is given leave to sell as long as he does the lawful distribution among Tucker's heirs first, and if necessary after that, he then could sell it.⁶⁷ On April 9th, 1881 Sibley transferred the property to one of Daniel Tucker's heirs, his daughter Emma Tucker Sibley who also happened to be George's wife. It would not be until January 2nd, 1882 that Sibley finally paid off all of Tuckers debts, had distributed property as necessary to the lawful heirs, and had completed all of his requirements as property administrator. After this he

⁶⁴ Order: Letter Temporary Administrator, January 15th, 1879.

⁶⁵ Petition to Sell Realty, October 1st, 1879

⁶⁶ Petition to Sell Realty, October 1st, 1879

⁶⁷ Leave To Sell: Realty, November 3rd, 1879

was discharged of his duties as Property Administrator.⁶⁸ Tucker's daughter Emma would eventually on April 21st, 1883 sell the property to Dr. T.O. Powell the superintendent of the Milledgeville State Hospital, the former Georgia State Lunatic Asylum. Emma Tucker's sale of the property to Powell is important because it marks the end of the prestigious Tucker era at the Midway property and their grand and envied residence of Rose Hill.⁶⁹

Looking at Tucker's overall wealth in land, agriculture, stocks, bonds, shares, and property, as well as his amount of slaves and land owned in Georgia and South Carolina Daniel Tucker was indeed a prestigious planter. Tucker's famed reputation within Baldwin County is based in fact and not simply gossip and lore, and it is safe to say that not only was Tucker an extremely wealthy plantation owner within the state of Georgia and even in parts of South Carolina, he was also exceedingly successful in the private business ventures of his life. Daniel R. Tucker is both a rightful member of the elite planter class and a business tycoon, and his grandiose reputation will continue to live on within the walls of his still standing, prized and envied Rose Hill.

⁶⁸ Petition: Letter Dismission, January 2nd, 1882

⁶⁹ Powell Deed, Recorded April 21st, 1883

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