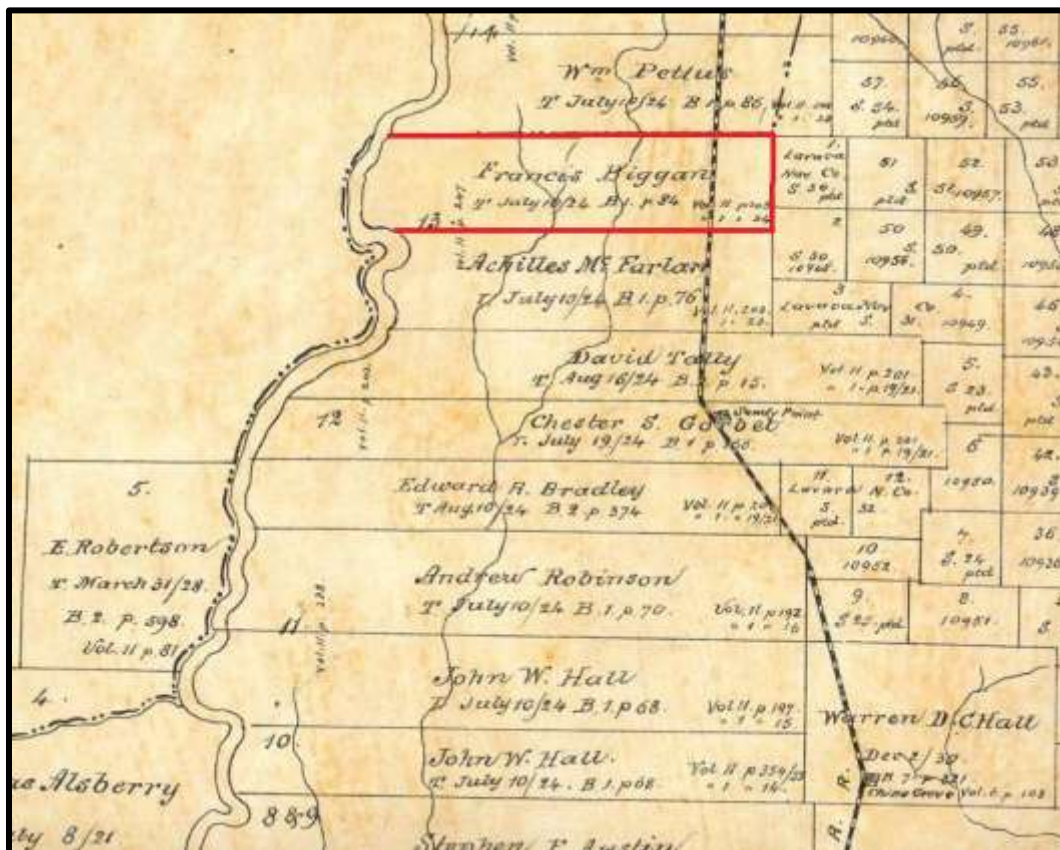


Francis Bingham-James P. Bingham New Bowling Green-Providence Plantations
Brazosport Archaeological Society



Francis Bingham League Map 1879 The General Land Office of the State of Texas

Francis Bingham was born in Ireland in 1772. After the rebellion in 1798, he fled Ireland for the United States possibly in 1803. He had at least two children with his first wife whose name is unknown. In Sparta, Georgia in 1809, Francis Bingham married Margaret Hall with whom he had three children.

Francis Bingham came to Texas from Monroe, Perry County, Mississippi ~ 1823 and became one of Stephen F. Austin's original three hundred. Returning to the United States to take care of his business affairs in 1824, he did not bring his family to Texas until the later part of 1827 to establish his New Bowling Green plantation east of the Brazos in what is now the northern part of Brazoria County. After his death in 1851, his son James P. Bingham became owner of a ¼ of his league where he built his cotton plantation, Providence. Margaret H. Bingham continued to run her cotton plantation in the southern part of the league until her death in 1861. James P. Bingham became the major land owner in the league and after the Civil War he became a sugar planter. Barely holding on through the years of reconstruction James P. Bingham died in 1882. His wife, Bettie Craig Bingham and their children continued to operate the plantation and own a major portion of the property until well after the turn of the century.

Francis Bingham was born in Ireland in 1772. After the rebellion in 1798, he fled Ireland for the United States possibly in 1803 with at least one brother, Thomas Bingham.¹ He had at least two children, Thomas W. and Ann [Nancy] S. Bingham, with his first wife whose name is unknown. It is also unknown as to the place of birth of his oldest son Thomas Bingham but his daughter Ann was born in Georgia.

September 22 1809, Francis Bingham married Margaret Hall in Sparta, Georgia. Their oldest child, Elizabeth T. Bingham was born in Georgia while their next two children, James Pickens and Mary Pickens Bingham were born in Mississippi.

Francis Bingham came to Texas from Monroe, Perry County, Mississippi bearing a letter written and signed by several public officials describing his personal character dated June 1823:

Mr. Francis Bingham a respectable Citizen of this County being about to visit the Province of Texas for the purpose of exploring that Country where he may think proper to locate himself and family and having at the same time commercial views: We the subscribers do with pleasure recommend Mr. Bingham to the Civility and protection of such of the Citizens of the Territory through which he may pass as an enterprising and industrious and worthy man.

Griffin H. Holliman
Judge of the county C. P.C.
 David Reese
A Representative for said County

JNo P. Hampton
Judge S[upreme]. Court
 J. R. Nicholson
 JNo Elliot
 Thomas A Willis
*Dist Atty*²

In November 1823 Francis Bingham subscribed twenty bushels of corn from himself and twenty bushels more and ten dollars in cash for his brother and son-in-law which he paid down towards paying the expenses of the Baron de Bastrop as deputy to the legislature of Coahuila and Texas.³

Also in November 1823, Stephen F. Austin received from Francis Bingham \$1291.80 for land at the rate of 12 ½ cents an acre.⁴ This fee was charged all colonists to cover the cost of surveying, recording deeds, and other services. Bingham's title to two leagues and a labor of land now in Wharton, Brazoria, and Waller counties was granted on July 10, 1824.

¹ Francis Bingham Family File #67, Brazoria County Historical Museum

² Barker, Eugene C., editor, "Character Certificate of Francis Bingham", *The Austin Papers*, Vol. II, Part 1, pp. 546-47. Notice the title "Mr." While in Texas he is often called "Major" Bingham before the Texas Revolution. His service record in Texas does not link him to being a member of the Texas Army his tombstone at the Sandy Point Cemetery reads "A Texas Veteran".

³ *Ibid.*, p. 710 His brother may have been Thomas Bingham who was anticipated to come to Texas with him and his son-in-law was Obediah Merritt who he was in business with. Obediah Merritt and Ann S. Bingham were wed in 1820. Thomas Bingham may have remained in Mississippi.

⁴ *Ibid.*, "Austin to `Bigham" p. 708

Francis Bingham would become one of Stephen F. Austin's original three hundred but not before returning to the United States to take care of his business affairs in 1824. By January 1825 he had returned to Monroe, Mississippi, to move his family to Texas. He wrote back to Stephen F. Austin how pleased he was with the location of his property on the Brazos River: "Mr. Williams the bearer of this has confirmed me in my sanguin opinion of the brasses being the most Desirable part of the Continent". He further wrote that he was being delayed by two law suits, "one for the killer of my negro and the oather against a villin for altring a Hog marke."⁵ In February 1827 Bingham again wrote Austin relating that his health had been bad and many unforeseen obstacles had prevented his departure for Texas.⁶ Bingham did not move his family from Mississippi to Texas until sometime after August 1, 1827, because of delays including his own personal illness and the illness and death of his son-in-law, Obediah Merritt May 3, 1827. Again in August 1827 he wrote to Stephen F. Austin relating some of the family problems which were impeding his return to Texas as well as the reluctance of his wife and apologizing for not improving his property: "...I was relapsed and if it was not for the best Care and medical skill I was gone to the world of spirits it was long ere I was so recovered as to bee able to proceed when a unsuspected event tooke place the Death of Merritt my son inlaw as hee had given him self up to Drinke some time before which Carried him of and has left his estate much involved...Mrs. Biggam I am afraid will not accompaney mee as shee Constantley hear such unpleasant teal of the Countrey and Indians..."⁷

Ann Merritt, who had three small children, would shortly thereafter marry John McGaha and raise a family in Mississippi before moving to Louisiana by 1850.

Once Francis Bingham returned to Texas with his wife and family he elected to live on his league of land east of the Brazos River and stretching across both sides of Oyster Creek in the northern part of Brazoria County. He chose to build his home in the southern part of the league on Oyster Creek, calling it "New Bowling Green". In 1828 he bought an additional 200-300 acres just south of his property from Achilles McFarland for \$250.⁸

By 1831 Francis Bingham had opened his home to travelers headed north or toward Harrisburg:

⁵ Ibid., "Francis Biggam to Austin", Monroe Mississippi January 8, 1825, *The Austin Papers*, Vol. II, Part 2, p. 1012.

⁶ Ibid., "Francis Biggam to Austin" Monroe, February 13th, 1827, pp. 1601-1602

⁷ Ibid., "Letter Francis Biggam to Stephen F. Austin", Monroe, August 1, 1827, pp. 1673-74. All of his letters were signed "Biggam" but his spelling was so poor that it may be possible though improbable that he didn't know how to spell "Bingham". Census data from Georgia in 1810 and Mississippi 1820 also spell the name "Biggam". After a few years in Texas it is possible "Biggam" became "Bingham".

⁸ Spanish Records Translated pp. 101/02.

FRANCIS BINGHAM informs his friends and the public, that he has opened a house of entertainment, at his residence, east of the Brazos. Those who may call on him may expect every attention to themselves and horses, as he will keep on hand a supply of provender with good stables.

Brazoria, March 21, 1831⁹

An early traveler to visit the Francis Bingham home in 1831 related the following:

We were on the road early, and went on to Mr. Bingham's to breakfast. This house was ornamented with young China trees, and the best I had seen in country, though built of logs, on the common plan, and only of one story, as the logs were fitted with great care, planed off, and partly lined with smooth boards; the owner having a saw mill near, then the only one in this part of the country...Mr. Bingham has about six hundred cattle. We passed through the herd as they were feeding on the prairie...The proprietor is the most influential man in the vicinity for some miles, and lives in the best manner of a Texas farmer...His wife, a lady of much intelligence and good breeding, acknowledged that a change of residence to Texas had cost her a great struggle, but declared that she has since become quite reconciled to her abode, and does not feel that want of society which she apprehended...can at any time, as she remarked, pay a visit to a friend by taking a short ride of ten or twenty miles...Mr. Bingham has been here only three or four years...his house was supplied with the best furniture I any where met with in Texas. This he had brought from the United States, to which he had generally made a journey annually...On the opposite bank of the Bayou was Mr. Bingham's field, or cultivated ground. It contains two hundred acres...The corn was about six inches high, very green and spread over a space of one hundred acres...he also had some acres planted in cotton...¹⁰

Another unusual individual making his appearance at the Bingham plantation was Greenbury Logan. Logan (his first name was also spelled "Greenberry") was born in Kentucky into slavery, but he was later freed by his white father, David Logan. After moving to Missouri, Logan married Judah Duncan, and the couple had five children. In Feb. 1831, Logan became one of the first freed African Americans to settle in Texas. Several months later, he received a grant of land on Chocolate Bayou in Austin's third colony, now Brazoria County, where he leased a blacksmith shop on the Francis Bingham plantation. Logan's wife, Judah, and possibly all of their children, apparently died shortly after their arrival. In December 1833, Logan purchased from Francis Bingham a slave, Caroline Williamson (ca. 1802-After July, 1881) for \$450, emancipated her May 1, 1835 after having married her on December 30, 1833 in Brazoria County. He also fought at the Battle of Velasco in 1832. Logan enlisted in the Texas army on Oct. 7, 1835, in order to fight for Texan independence. He fought in the Battle of Concepción, and in the siege of Bexar he received a wound that left his right arm crippled for life. In 1836, he bought a house in Brazoria, which he turned into a boarding house for members of the new

⁹ *The Mexican Citizen*, March 24, 1831, San Felipe de Austin, Texas

¹⁰ Fiske, M. (Attributed), *A Visit to Texas*, Goodrich & Wiley, New York, 1834, pp. 68-71

Texas congress meeting in Columbia. In 1843 Francis Bingham ended up the owner of this property due to several notes owed Bingham by Logan.¹¹

In 1832 the daughter of Francis and Margaret, Elizabeth T. Bingham married John Tilford Whiteside in Grimes County, Texas where they would raise their family.

During the Texas Revolution Francis Bingham with his wife and family were part of the “Runaway Scrape” headed to the Louisiana border according to family history when Francis Bingham may have been incapacitated by measles and the family had to camp near Harrisburg. After the Battle of San Jacinto in May 1836, a group of the “New York Volunteers” was at Camp Independence, which was located on Bingham’s prairie. Bingham supplied them with 3200 lbs. of beef, 100 bushels of corn, soap and candles which he billed the Republic for \$442.00.¹²

In Clarence Wharton’s *History of Fort Bend County* he relates:

In 1837 when Moses Lapham was riding the survey lines for Fort Bend County, the first survey called to cross the river at Alsbury’s League at the mouth of Cow Creek which was to be the south line of the County west of the Brazos. This would have taken Bingham (Bingham) and several other Oyster Creek leagurers east of the river from Brazoria and included them in Fort Bend. Old Francis objected. He said he had lived in Brazoria ever since he came to Texas, that he like the climate—it was hotter in the summer colder in the winter, wetter in the spring. He talked the locators into sticking to the old Harrisburg County line which made his upper line the southline of Fort Bend east of the Brazos and left him in old Brazoria.¹³

In 1837 a noted visitor to Texas, Mary Austin Holly, stayed at the Francis Bingham’s home while on a return trip from Houston. It appears his half-way house was doing a thriving business:

December 27th [1837]

Thermometer (9 o’clock) 67—weather clear
 ...Start for Brazoria in a return Barouche—with baggage wagon—gentlemen on horseback...No dwelling on the road till we reach Bingham—30 miles from Houston...Took us from 11 to 6 without stopping—an agreeable ride without fatigue. Saw deer & abundance of cranes. Bingham house better than most run of taverns in Kentucky...Had a good supper—good beds at Mr. Bingham’s & breakfast—price--\$2.50 each. Mr. B has had sickness in his family the past season—the first time & he has made 9 crops here...16 persons lodged here...¹⁴

Another traveler in 1838 related the following:

...we stopped at a settlement known as New Bowling Green. The owner of the settlement, Mr. Bingham, was one of the finer of the region. He bought an

¹¹ BCDR: C 276 & B 242/43 “Greenbury Logan” *Handbook of Texas Online*

¹² Texas State Archives, Public Debt Claim #4763 In one of the claim records Francis Bingham is referred to as Major Bingham. He is referred to as Major Bingham on several documents before the Texas Revolution. This had to be from his service in a militia in Georgia or Mississippi.

¹³ Wharton, Clarence R., *History of Fort Bend County*, Naylor Press, San Antonio Press, 1939, p. 35.

¹⁴ Bryan, J. P., ed., *Mary Austin Holley The Texas Diary 1835-1838*, The University of Texas, Austin, Texas, 1965 p. 41

enormous settlement property for a small price and today finds himself the possessor of a huge fortune.

The life of his family nonetheless remain down to earth. In the New Bowling Green, hospitality is offered; but hospitality free to friends is sold for a price to ordinary travelers. Thus the mistress of the house, although a rich land owner, is simply an inn-keeper of an unusual type. She performs all her duties with care and diligence. Lovely Miss Bingham who will in twenty years most probably be a millionaires, is perfectly willing to serve as a maid...¹⁵

October 10, 1841 Mary Pickens Bingham married Benjamin F. Terry whose family owned a neighboring plantation in the Achilles McFarland league. Several family accounts indicate that Benjamin F. and his brother David S. Terry were among those that traveled to California in the Gold Rush of 1849. The brothers supposedly struck gold and Benjamin returned to Texas with enough capital to enter a partnership with William J. Kyle to construct the first railroad in Texas, the Buffalo Bayou, Brazos and Colorado Railway, from Harrisburg to the Brazos River in 1851 and to buy Oakland Plantation in Fort Bend County, Texas in 1852.¹⁶ In 1848 Francis Bingham gave his daughter 1000 acres in the middle of his league, which included frontage along the Brazos River.¹⁷ The year before he had given his son, James P. Bingham, 1000 acres in the upper part of his league.¹⁸ According to the family, Frank Terry lived just south of the Bingham league on land that was given to them by the Bingham family until their move to Fort Bend County.¹⁹

¹⁵ Maissin, Eugene, *The French in Mexico and Texas 1838-1839*, The Anson Jones Press, Salado, Texas, 1961, p. 137.

¹⁶ No primary sources to link Benjamin F. Terry with his brother in California; however, Aurelius J. Terry was in California with his brother David S. August 25, 1851[Probate Case 546, Sarah D. Terry, Brazoria County Courthouse, Angleton, Texas.

¹⁷ BCDR:D 661/62

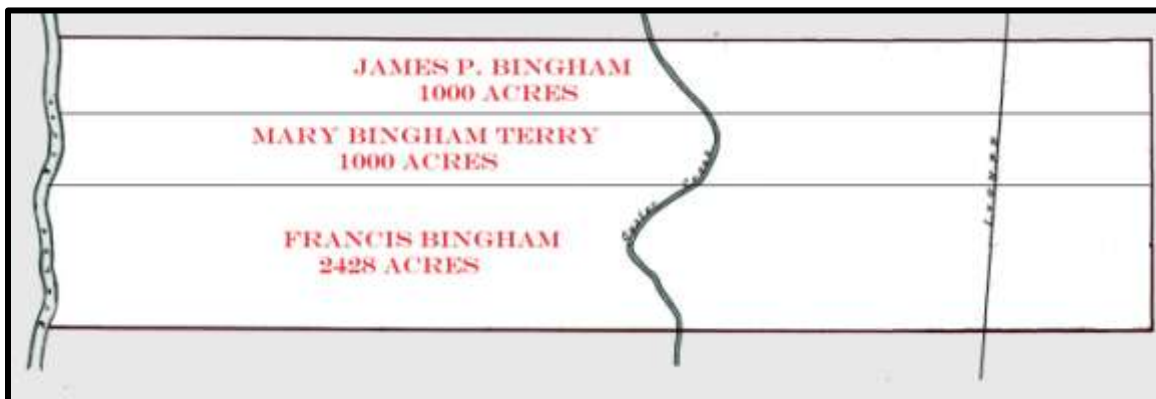
¹⁸ BCDR: D 623/24

¹⁹ Family File #67 & BCDR: F 277



Frank Terry Home Called “Terry”²⁰
 Courtesy of the Brazoria County Historical Museum

The tax record for 1842 lists 18 slaves and 300 head of cattle owned by Francis Bingham. The cotton plantation was steadily starting to increase in value.



Francis Bingham League ~ 1850

By 1850 Francis Bingham had 40 slaves living on his cotton plantation according to the 1850 Slave Census. There were only 27 slaves listed under his name in the 1850 tax roll. In the 1850 Census the family is listed as:

Francis Bingham	Farmer	80M	Ireland
Margaret Bingham		50F	Georgia
James P. Bingham	Farmer	17M [27]	Mississippi

²⁰ Brazoria County Historical Museum

According to the 1850 Agricultural Census Francis Bingham owned 200 improved acres, 10,000 unimproved acres, and \$985 worth of farm equipment on his property. The farm equipment would have been in line with owning a cotton gin. There were 20 horses, 8 mules, 40 milch cows, 12 oxen, 2500 head of cattle, and 125 hogs on the property. The plantation produced 2500 bushels of corn, 80 of Irish potatoes, 300 of sweet potatoes, 56 bales of cotton, 560 lbs. of butter, and 6 tons of hay in 1849.

In November of 1850 Francis Bingham signed a deed selling his plantation consisting of 3000 acres, farm utensils, livestock, and 23 slaves to his son James P. Bingham for \$25,000.²¹ This sale became a moot point as Francis Bingham died June 22, 1851. He was buried in the family cemetery on his plantation.

In his will Francis Bingham bequeathed to his son James P. Bingham $\frac{1}{4}$ and to his wife Margaret “ I give bequeath devise & donate my right & interest in & to the Homestead where we are now residing, & request my Children to respect the same...” the balance “to my beloved children James P. Bingham-Elizabeth P. now wife of John T. Whitesides- & Mary P. now wife the Citizen B. F. Terry...it has been my Determined purpose that if I should out live my slave Billy, Called Billy Taylor or incase I should Die before him I leave him his own master & my son James his Guardian & I Request that my son if he has any respect for my memory will protect him for he has been a faithful slave to__ & it would pain me if I thought even after Death if __ it was not complied with...”²²

Of course this begs the question of how were the children by his first marriage taken care of. Testimony by Margaret Bingham indicates that “Ann McGaha is the daughter of Francis Bingham by his first wife. She resides in the State of Louisiana. When she was first married she received from her father about five thousand dollars. This was I think in the year 1820. While she was the wife of Obadiah Merritt, she also received from her father during her ____ with said Merritt about ten thousand dollars in property. This was sometime about the year 1825 or 6. Since which Merritt died, and she intermarried with one John McGaha. Since her intermarriage with said John McGaha the said Francis Bingham her father has given her land to the amount of some fifteen hundred or two thousand dollars, besides these gifts she received from her father a judgment against her first husband for about fifteen hundred dollars...the 10,000 dollar gift was in land, town lots, and personal property...This was about the time said Bingham removed to Texas. The 5000 dollars...was given said Ann Merritt’s husband in two drafts. The gift mentioned after her marriage with McGaha was purchased from Mr. Hamilton then living in Louisiana...Said Bingham gave to said Hamilton for said land in Louisiana a labor of land

²¹ BCDR: E 540/41

²² Will of Francis Bingham Probate Case #24, Brazoria County Clerk’s Office, Angleton, Texas According to Bettie Bingham Munson, granddaughter of James Bingham, the Bingham Plantation had a colored overseer called “Uncle Billy”. Platter, Andrew Allen, *Educational, Social, and Economic Characteristics of the Plantation Culture of Brazoria County*, Doctorial Dissertation Education, University of Houston, Texas, 1961, p. 217.

near St. Felipe in Texas and 3 or 5 lots in said town of St. Felipe...Said Merritt was a merchant. Said Bingham and said Merritt were connected one year in the purchase of cotton in this way said Merritt became indebted to said Bingham upon which the judgment spoken of was obtained. Said Bingham have paid a good deal more for Merritt, but the amount was not included in said gifts. Witness says Merritt was an improvident man but does not know that he was insolvent at his death... ” She also spoke of Thomas Bingham, Francis’s oldest son, and his son Francis Bingham: “Francis Bingham deceased advanced to his son Thomas Bingham, the father of the Minor, in the fall of the year 1839 and the spring of the year 1840 about the sum of Seven or Eight hundred Dollars. This amount was advanced to his son the said Thomas Bingham, the Father of the Minor Francis Bingham, part in money, provisions and supplies and Medicine Bill to the said Thomas Bingham & his family after he deceased in the year 1840...”²³

After the testimony of Margaret H. Bingham the probate court ruled that Ann S. McGaha had already received her fair share of her father’s estate though she had sued for a 1/5 share. Her brother, Thomas Bingham, had two children. He may have died in ~1840-1841 and his wife by 1850. The widow of Thomas Bingham was possibly Martha ? Probate records indicate ___ Tase as their guardian. Francis Bingham aged 12 years and born in Mississippi and Margaret Bingham aged 9 born in Texas are listed in the household of Albert G. and Ann Tase [Teas] of Walker County, Texas. This poses the question of whether Ann was their mother. The children were given a share of their grandfather’s estate. They received 1/3 league of land in Wharton County valued at \$4428. December 1854, they received five slaves and \$517 cash.²⁴ (Have no further record of these children.)

In February 1852 Margaret H. Bingham gave to Benjamin F. Terry for the benefit of the heirs of Sarah D. Terry ~200-300 acres out of the McFarland league.²⁵ A few months before James P. Bingham and Mary P. Terry both sold the 1000 acre tracts their father had given them for a \$1.00 each back to the estate so the Bingham league property could be partitioned.²⁶ Each of the sisters, Mary P. Terry and Elizabeth Whiteside, received 1/3 of a league of land in Wharton County.²⁷ Margaret H. Bingham received the lower ¾ of the Francis Bingham league and the land in the McFarland league while James P. Bingham received the top ¼ in the

²³Francis Bingham Probate Case #24, Brazoria County Clerk’s Office, Angleton

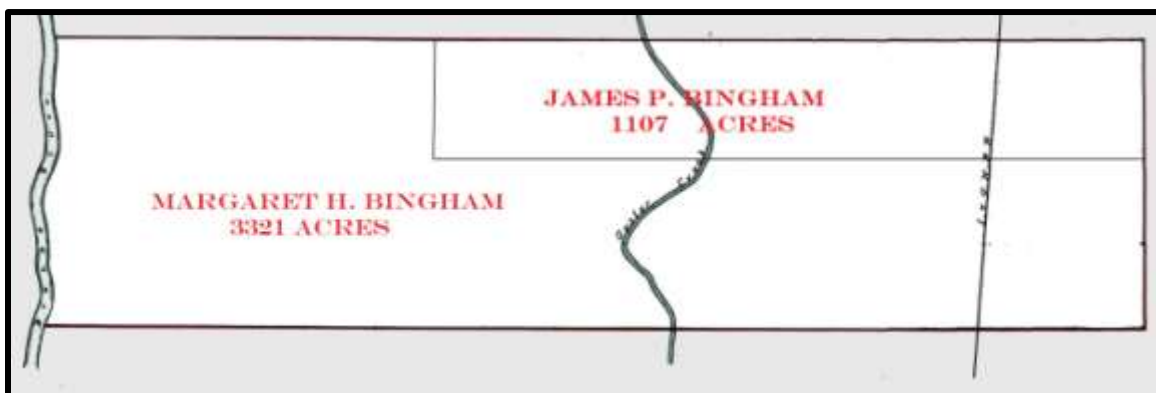
²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ BCDR: F 277/78

²⁶ BCDR: S 199

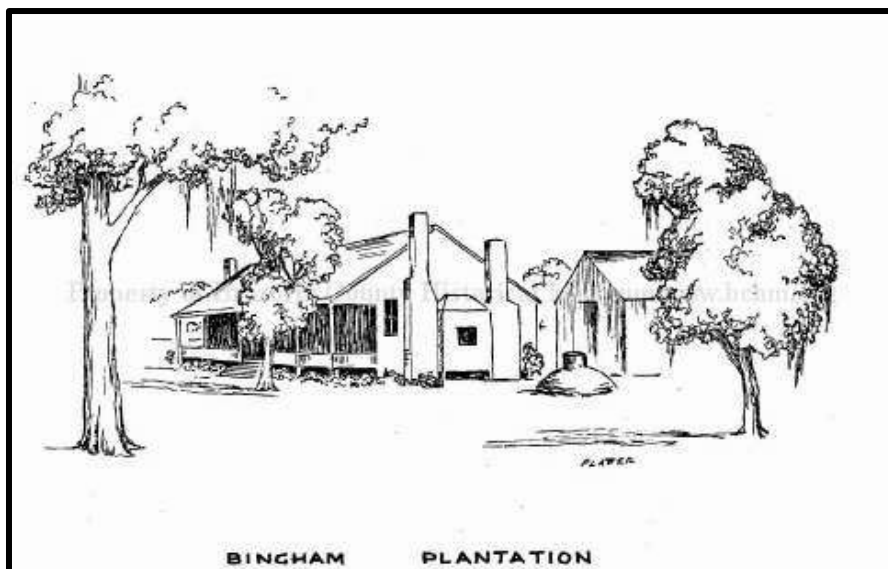
²⁷ Francis Bingham Probate Case #24

Bingham league. They decided to divide the property a little differently with Margaret Bingham retaining the acreage along the Brazos River. Still James P. Bingham would receive 1107 acres.²⁸



Francis Bingham League After Partition ~1852

He would build his plantation on this property which he called “Providence” being that it had been left to him by providence. James P. Bingham now thirty years old had studied under tutors at the plantation and attended Spring Hill College, a Jesuit school in Alabama which was the first Catholic college in the southeast founded in 1830.²⁹ From a later picture of the home this appears to be a wood frame home on a brick pier and beam foundation.



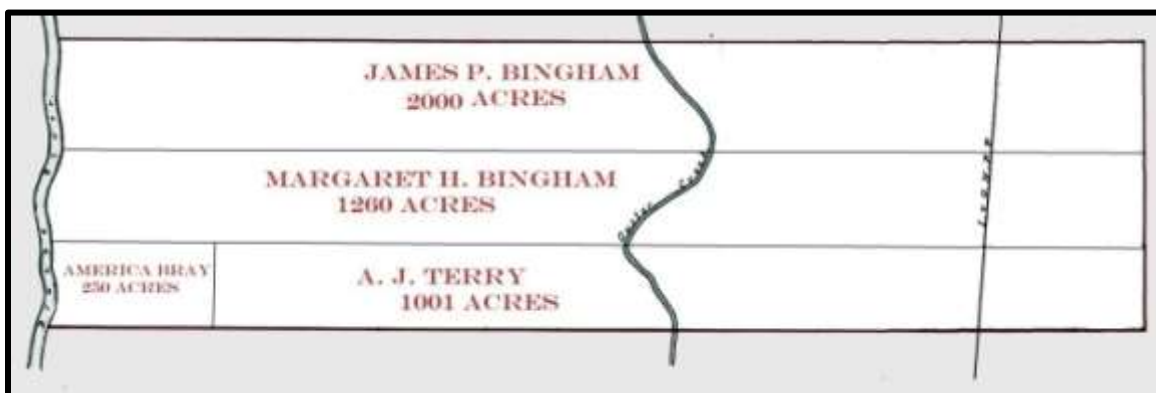
James P. Bingham married Elizabeth “Bettie” Craig August 11, 1856. Providence plantation would be the Bingham family home for many years. According to the family this home

²⁸ BCDR: H 354/55

²⁹ Platter, Andrew Allen, *Educational, Social, and Economic Characteristics of the Plantation Culture of Brazoria County*, Doctorial Dissertation Education, University of Houston, Texas, 1961, p. 217.

was built in 1846. They would have eight children. Also according to the family record the original Bingham home in the southern part of the league burned this same year.³⁰

In 1858 Margaret H. Bingham gave to her son James P. Bingham the 713 acres on the Brazos River next to his tract.³¹ She also sold 1001 acres out the southern part of league on which her old home would have stood less a half acre for the family cemetery to A. J. Terry and E. R. Bradley for a total of \$18,250 in 1858.³² A. J. Terry ultimately became the owner of the property. Evidently Margaret moved to a home in the middle part of the league. The exact location is unknown. She would also give 250 acres next to this tract on the Brazos River to her married niece America Bray in 1860.³³



Francis Bingham League ~1860

Elizabeth T. Whitesides passed away in 1859 leaving her husband and a number of young children in Grimes County, Texas.

According to the 1860 Federal Census Margaret H. Bingham listed herself as a planter and was living alone. The James P. Bingham family was also listed:

J. P. Bingham Planter	38M	Mississippi
Betty Bingham	22F	Louisiana
J. P. Bingham Jr.	3M	Texas
___ Boatner Overseer	25M	South Carolina

In the 1860 Agricultural Census Margaret H. Bingham is listed with only 60 improved acres, owning another 1200 unimproved acres, and \$200 worth of farm equipment on the

³⁰ Bingham Family File #67, Brazoria County Historical Museum, Angleton, Texas

³¹ BCDR: H 509

³² BCDR: H 404/405 & H 405/07

³³ BCDR: J 622/23

property. She had 6 horses, 5 mules, 12 milch cows, and 50 head of cattle. Her plantation produced 1000 bushels of corn, 100 of sweet potatoes, 100 lbs. of butter, and 4 tons of hay in 1859; hardly producing enough to be called “planter”. There were 16 slaves living in 5 dwellings on her property.

The main focus for the family may have been J. P. Bingham’s land as he was producing cotton as his cash crop and employing an overseer. It is probable that field hands would be shared at the two plantations as the need arose. He had 166 acres improved, owned 1834 unimproved acres, and had \$4262 worth of farm equipment on his property. He owned 15 horses, 15 mules, 10 milch cows, 4 oxen, and 100 head of cattle. The plantation produced 1500 bushels of corn, 100 of sweet potatoes, 100 lbs. of butter, and 128 bales of cotton, a very good cotton crop. According to the 1860 Slave Census he had 13 slaves living in 4 dwellings.

January 29, 1861 Margaret Hall Bingham passed away. She may not have been in good health as the month before she made out her will and appointed James P. Bingham as her executor:

...I desire to give to my daughter Mrs. Mary P. Terry the following slaves during her natural life then to descent to the heirs of her Bro. To Wit: Negro man Taylor, Betsy the wife of Taylor and Ada, Sue, Mary, Jeff, Frank the children of Taylor & Betsy. Negro man Harry and his wife Laura and their children Lucinda & Little Laura. Also I give to my daughter Mary P. Terry and my son James P. Bingham equally the Negro man Billy Taylor.

...I desire to give to my son James P. Bingham the Negro man Will and his two children, George and Ann. Also Negro man Sam and George Washington during his natural life then to his children and I also give to my son during his natural life then to his children all that tract of land lying in Brazoria County beginning on the Prairie and running to the Brazos River supposed to contain between 1000 and 1400 acres it being the tract of land on which I reside, with all the buildings and improvements...

...I desire that the sum of Eight Thousand (8000) dollars be equally divided between the children of my deceased daughter Elizabeth Whitesides...

...I desire that my Executor pay the sum of Five Hundred dollars towards the erection of a church to be built on part of the five acres of land near Sandy Point. Also I desire that my Executor shall eskew the sum of Two Thousand dollars in the removal of my family remains to be interred at the burial ground near Sandy Point and in the erection of suitable marble slab...³⁴

James P. Bingham was plagued as were others by the poor crops made shortly after the Civil War. By 1868 he had to take out mortgages to keep the plantation running using his land and livestock as security.³⁵

³⁴ Record of Wills C: 421/22 The desire to have the family reburied at Sandy Point Cemetery would not be fulfilled for several more years.

³⁵ BCDR: L 248/49 & L 249/50

The Bingham household is listed in the 1870 Federal Census. Their young sons Francis and Robert G. Bingham had died earlier. Robert's tombstone can be seen in the Sandy Point Cemetery:

James Bingham	Farmer	48M	Mississippi
Bettie Bingham		30F	Louisiana
James Bingham		13M	Texas
Nannie Bingham		6F	Texas
Joseph Bingham		3M	Texas
John Bingham		5/12M	Texas
Jordan Henry	Blacksmith	44M	North Carolina
Ann Vilas	Domestic Servant	35F	Louisiana



36

By 1875 James P. Bingham was in the business of producing sugar. It is not evident as to the exact time his sugar mill was built or how he was obtaining enough labor to keep his plantation operational. Two mortgages were issued in 1875; the first for \$1200 using his land and livestock as security while exempting his homestead and the second for \$2500 using his gin house, sugar house, and all his machinery as security.³⁷

In May 1878 \$1100 was borrowed from George O. Jarvis and J. H. Craig to operate and cultivate J. P. Bingham's sugar crop for that year.³⁸ In the later part of 1879 disaster struck as on November 8, the sugar house burned to the ground and a large part of the 1879 crop was lost. Bingham had to renegotiate his financial obligations. All his land except for his 200 acre homestead and 300 acres on the Brazos River were sold to George O. Jarvis and J. H. Craig. This also included all his livestock sugar mill, engine, boilers, and farm equipment. The sugar house

³⁶ Hauch, Melody Mozeley, "Sandy Point Cemetery", private printing, 2015 update. p. 86.

³⁷ BCDR: O 647/75 & O 735/37

³⁸ BCDR: R 92/94

was to be rebuilt but owned by Jarvis and Craig. For \$500 a year for five years, they would also lease the two hundred acre homestead reserving the home, garden, and out houses.³⁹ During this same time period two suits had been brought against James P. Bingham and his land foreclosed upon. Jarvis and Craig bought out these mortgages at auction.⁴⁰

In 1880 the James P. Bingham family was listed in the Federal Census. James P. Bingham Jr. would die this same year:

James P. Bingham	58M	Mississippi
Elizabeth Bingham	44F	Mississippi
James P. Bingham Jr.	22M	Texas
Joseph B. Bingham	13M	Texas
John C. Bingham	10M	Texas
George J. Bingham	7M	Texas
Cordelia Bingham	1/12F	Texas

February 5, 1882 James P. Bingham passed away. His will written in 1858 stipulated that at Bettie Bingham's death or "upon her forming a marriage with another man," all of the Bingham estate was to become the property of his surviving descendants. March 2, 1884 she did marry Joseph Davis who owned the "Old Place" on Clear Creek in Harris County. Davis died in July 1888 and Bettie took the legal steps required to have her last name changed back to Bingham by 1900.

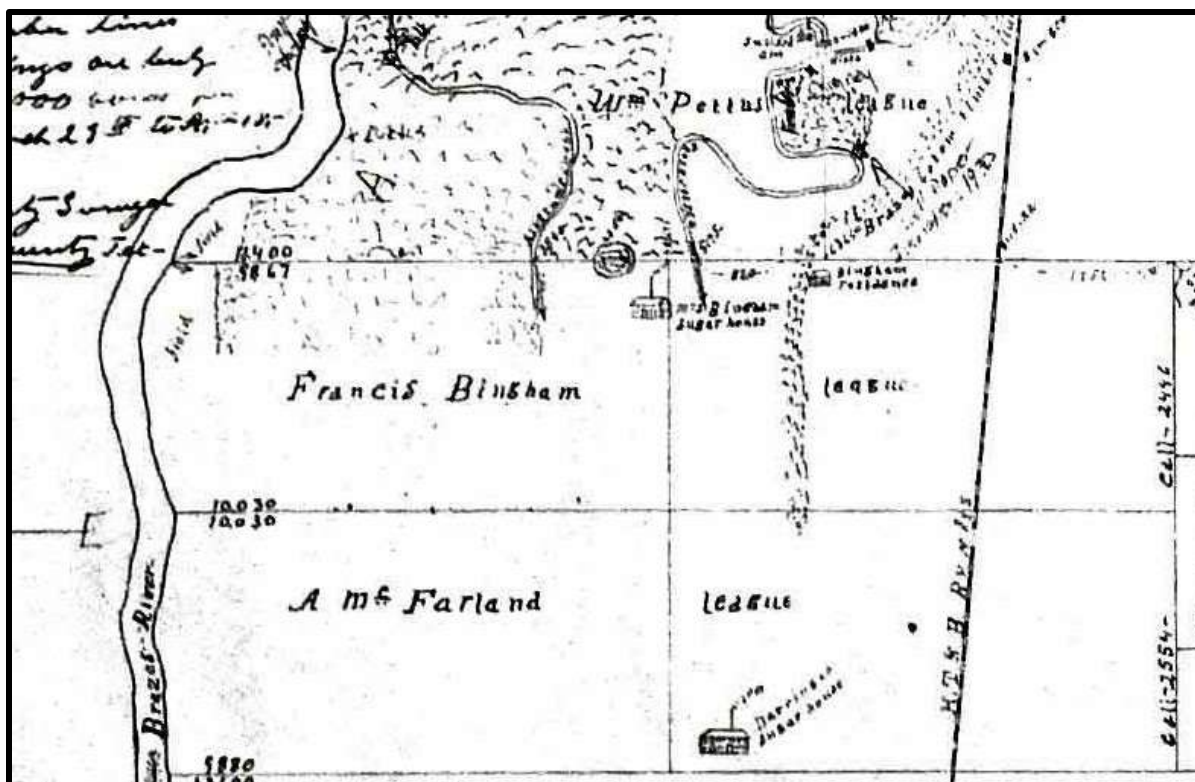
By 1884 Bettie Bingham had paid George O. Jarvis and J. H. Craig \$12,000 in cash.⁴¹ She signed two more notes for \$2200 each to buy back all the land that Jarvis and Craig held of the Bingham plantation. In 1892 Mrs. Bettie M. Davis reached an agreement with her children to allow her to remain on the plantation for her life time.⁴²

³⁹ BCDR: S 314/15, S 315, S 316/19

⁴⁰ BCDR: S 658/59

⁴¹ BCDR: W 129

⁴² BCDR: 17 284/89



March 1890 Survey Courtesy of Brazoria County Historical Museum 2011024c0006

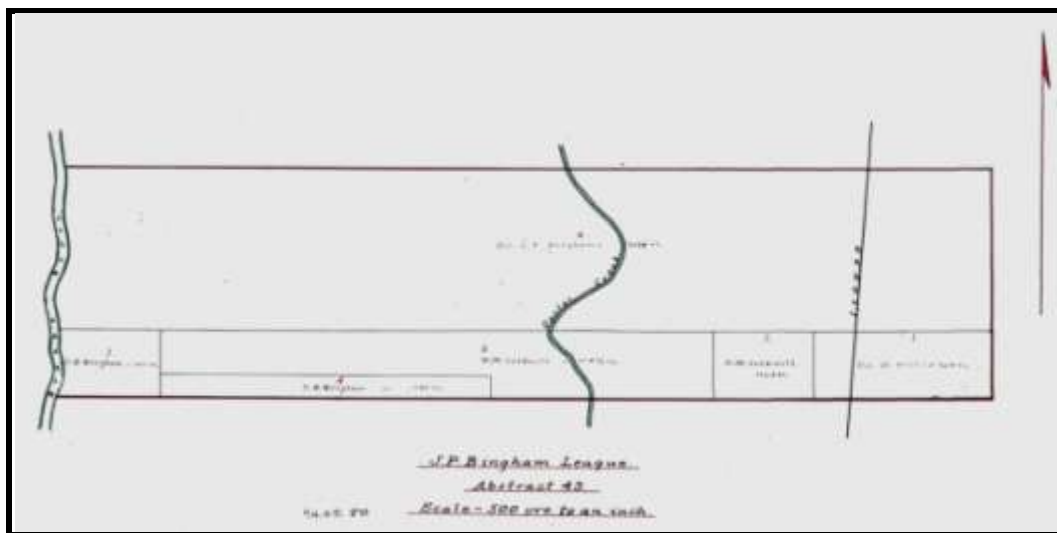
By 1900 Bettie Bingham was the head of household living with sons George H., John C., and Joe B. Bingham and five servants. In the 1920 Federal Census, Betty Bingham was listed as 83, living with her son John Bingham 50, grandson John Tigner 26 and a cook.⁴³ Sons Joe and George lived nearby in the old Terry home. A description of Bettie Bingham from this time period was given by Abner Strobel:

..the Bingham plantation, opened up in an early day by Francis Bingham. The league of land was granted to him, and is the only one in Brazoria County that remained in possession of one family, for nearly one hundred years...[Not true] It was then known as the half-way house between Brazoria and Houston, where travelers stopped for the night. ..James P. Bingham operated it as a sugar plantation, and his widow, Bettie, managed it following his death. She is still alive and residing on the old plantation at the ripe age of 89 years. Still alert and in possession of all her faculties, Mrs. Bingham is quite a remarkable woman. I have know her all my life, and to pass through what she and her neighbors have, and still retain possession of the original heritage, and pass it on to her children, where others failed is indeed a remarkable illustration of what a woman can do; where men failed she succeeded...The sons of Mrs. Bettie Bingham are Joe, John C. and George H. Bingham, all living, and near the old home. John C., who now manages the old plantation, and mother, live together...Mrs. Bettie Bingham was always a strict member of the Methodist church, a good Christian woman, beloved by all who knew her, and with her passing,

⁴³ Hauch, Melody Mozeley, "Sandy Point Cemetery", private printing, 2015 update. p. 84.

will end about the last of the old time slave owners, who knew the South and Brazoria County when in its pristine glory.⁴⁴

Thru her diligence and hard work Bettie Bingham was able to make the plantation profitable enough to have enough extra money to have the remains of her family that were originally buried in the family cemetery exhumed and reburied at the Sandy Point Cemetery, where new markers were placed for her mother and father. Dates of death appear to be wrong on both tombstones. The old homestead in the lower part of the league had been bought for the children of Elizabeth T. Bingham Whiteside by their father. One of her children, John F. Whiteside, made this his home for several years but sold out in ~1883 thus prompting the family to move the family remains.⁴⁵



Francis Bingham League ~1905 Courtesy of Brazoria County Historical Museum

In 1930, Betty 93 was still living with her son John C. Bingham 60. George H. 56 was living nearby. George lived for a time at his building in Rosharon which had a filling station and hardware store.

⁴⁴ Strobel, Abner J., *The Old Plantations and Their Owners of Brazoria County, Texas*, Lake Jackson Historical Association, 2006, p. 74.

⁴⁵ BCDR: O 139/40, T 377 & V 270/73



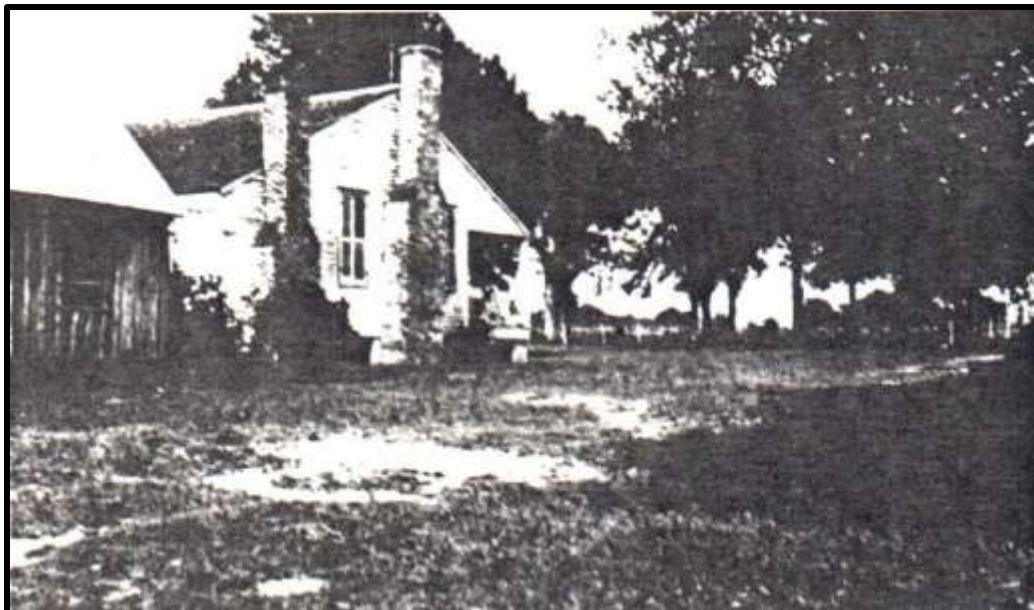
George Bingham Building Rosharon Still Standing
Courtesy of the Brazoria County Historical Museum 1985.102p.0001

Bettie Bingham died June 30, 1930 and was buried in the Sandy Point Cemetery.



46

⁴⁶ Hauch, Melody Mozeley, "Sandy Point Cemetery", private printing, 2015 update p.82.



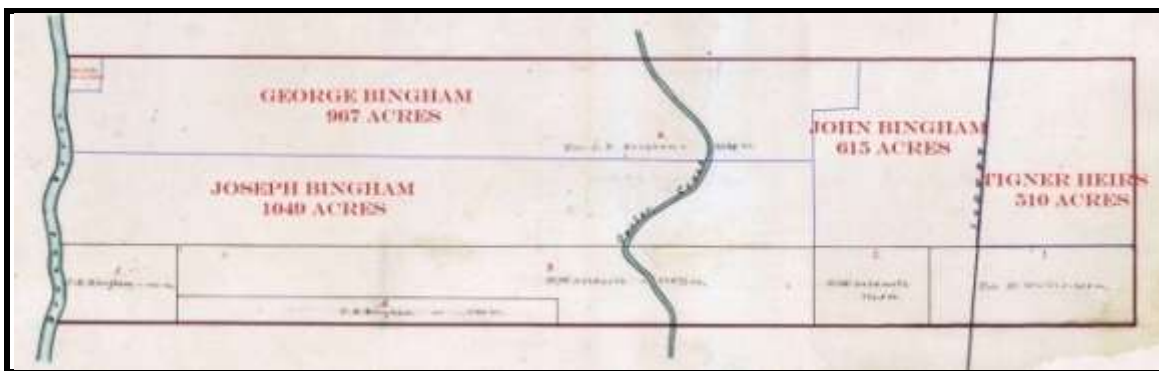
Picture James P. Bingham Home ~1932⁴⁷

The property was partitioned amongst the heirs in 1931 with George Bingham receiving the land on which the James P. Bingham home was located. R. M. Caldwell owned the property on which the original Francis Bingham home was located. Joe Bingham married and became a successful rancher. Both John and George Bingham never married though they remained in the area for many years.⁴⁸ The Tigner heirs inherited the James P. Bingham homestead after the death of George Bingham.⁴⁹ This was the tract that held the James P. Bingham home and sugar house. The Tigner family would hold the property for many years. The current owners, James and Barbara Dixon, bought several tracts which included the location of the James P. Bingham home in 1999.

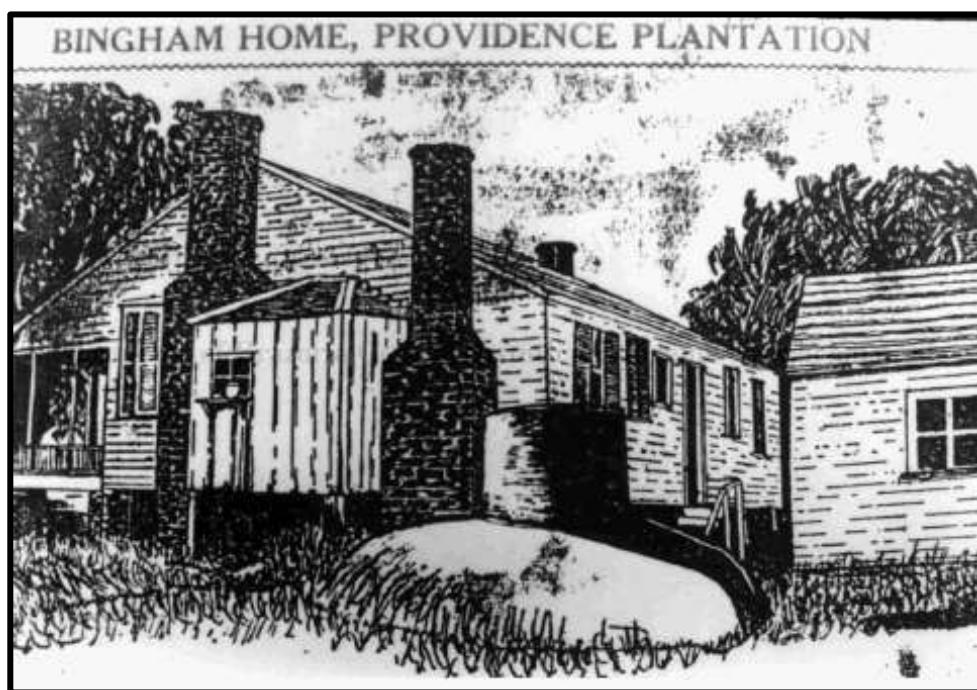
⁴⁷ Curlee, Abigail, "A Study of Texas Slave Plantations, 1822 to 1865", Thesis for Doctor of Philosophy University of Texas, Austin, Texas, June, 1932, p. 226.

⁴⁸ John C. Bingham actually had children with three different African-American women over the years. His first mistress was Estelle Thomas, who may have been a slave, with whom he had a least one daughter, Mudda. With Pearl Bradley he had a least four children, Arthur, Marshall, Fay, and Dan Bradley. After Pearl's death in Houston, Texas, Dorothy Rogers had several children by John C. Bingham, John B. Rogers Bingham, Berkhart Bingham, Joe Rogers, and Richard "Dick" Rogers. When John C. Bingham died he named the children of Pearl Bradley deceased, Dorothy Rogers, and his nephew John H. Tigner as his heirs. The Richard "Dick" Rogers family still owns a part of the old plantation lands. There is an African-American cemetery on this property.

⁴⁹ Nancy Margaret "Nannie" Bingham married William Nolan Tigner Sr. in 1887. She died in 1902. They had four children before her death, W. N. Tigner Jr., Clark H. Tigner, J. B. Tigner, and J. H. Tigner. Her children became heirs to much of the Bingham property.



In 1936 an article appeared in *The Houston Chronicle* though not completely accurate in its narration there was a sketch of the home at the time.



No archeological work has been done in the area. There would be several pre-Civil War home sites in the Francis Bingham league. The original home of Francis Bingham and the family cemetery has not been located at this time. Also the home of Joseph and America Bray in the southern part of the league has not been found. The home and sugar mill location of the James P. Bingham plantation have not been revisited for many years and the home is known to no longer be standing.

⁵⁰ Humphries, Flora, "Plantation Has Been Owned by Family 112 Years", *Houston Chronicle*, April 19, 1936

Appendix A Francis Bingham Family Genealogy

Francis Bingham b. 1772 Ireland

d. July 22, 1851 Brazoria County, Texas (Buried Sandy Point Cemetery)

m. 1st

????????????????

A. Thomas A. Bingham d. 1840 Texas

m.

Martha? B.

1. Francis Bingham b. 1838 Mississippi

2. Margaret Bingham b. 1841 Texas

B. Ann (Nancy) S. Bingham b. August 9, 1805 Georgia

d. May 27, 1873 Monroe, Mississippi

m. 1st August 23, 1820 Mississippi

Obediah Merritt b. October 20, 1794 Plymouth, Massachusetts

d. May 3, 1827 Monroe, Mississippi

1. Noah B. Merritt b. July 20, 1821 Mississippi d. 1891 Louisiana

2. Francis Bingham Merritt b. April 3, 1824 Mississippi d. 1994 Louisiana

3. Katherine B. Merritt b. May 24, 1826 Mississippi

m. 2nd

John McGaha b. 1793 North Carolina

d. 1870 Mississippi

1. George W. B. McGaha b. 1831 Mississippi

2. Lucinda McGaha b. 1834 Mississippi

3. Ann E. McGaha b. 1836 Mississippi

4. M. F. McGaha b. 1843 Mississippi

5. Mary McGaha?? b. 1851

m. 2nd September 22, 1809 Sparta, Georgia

Margaret Hall b. December 15, 1795 Sparta, Georgia (Samuel & Patience Hall)

d. January 29, 1861 Brazoria County, Texas (Buried Sandy Point)

A. Elizabeth T. Bingham b. 1812 Gainseville, Hall County, Georgia

d. 1859 Grimes County, Texas

m. July 10, 1832 Grimes County, Texas

John Tilford Whiteside b. April 17, 1813 Murfreesboro, Tennessee

d. May 13, 1892 Rockwood, Coleman County, Texas

1. Francis Whiteside 1835-1847 Grimes County, Texas

2. Mary Terry Whiteside 1840-1865

2. Acye Hoxe Whiteside 1843-1863

3. John Foster Crawford Whiteside 1847-1896

4. Mary Terry Whiteside 1849-1865

5. James Ashford Whiteside 1850-1850

6. James Bingham Whiteside 1851-1920

7. Franklin Terry Whiteside 1856

- B. James Pickens Bingham Sr. b. January 13, 1822 Monroe, Mississippi
 d. February 5, 1882 Brazoria County, Texas
 m. August 11, 1856 Houston, Texas
- Elizabeth "Bettie" Craig b. January 20, 1837 Noxubee County, Mississippi
 d. June 30, 1930 Brazoria County, Texas
1. James Pickens Bingham Jr. July 16, 1857-August 6, 1880
 2. Francis Bingham II 1859-before 1860
 3. Robert Gordon Bingham May 4, 1861-August 4, 1864
4. Nancy Margaret "Nannie" Bingham February 13, 1864- July 16, 1902
 m. 1887
 William Nolan Tigner Sr. August 17,1858- August 6, 1948
 - a. William Nolan Tigner Jr. 1889-1962
 - b. Clarke Hope Tigner 1890-1943
 - c. Joe Bingham Tigner 1892-
 - d. John Hughes Tigner 1894-1967
 5. Joseph Bray Bingham /February 25, 1867-May 17, 1937
 6. John Caldwell Bingham December 29, 1869-February 11, 1941
 7. George Hiden Bingham September 27, 1872-May 13, 1947
 8. Cordelia Craig Bingham May 6, 1880-November 18, 1888
- C. Mary Pickens Bingham b. June 25, 1821 ? could be 1825 Perry County, Mississippi
 d. February 19, 1876 Sugarland, Texas
 m. October 10, 1841 Brazoria County, Texas
- Benjamin F. Terry b. February 18, 1821 Russellville, Kentucky
 d. December 17, 1861 Woodensville, Kentucky KIA
1. David Smith Terry 1843-1903
 2. Sarah Terry 1845-1846
 3. Mary Terry 1847-1925
 4. Benjamin Franklin Terry 1850-1869
 5. Sally Terry 1853-1878
 6. Jefferson Kyle Terry 1855-1890
 7. Cornelia Terry 1857-1933

Appendix B
Deed Transactions Francis & James P. Bingham Plantations

GRANTORS	GRANTEES	Kind of Instrument	Book	Page	Month	Day	Year	Acres	Description
Mexican Government	Francis Bingham	Deed	ST	97/100	July	10	1824		2 Leagues + 1 Labor
Achilles McFarland	Francis Bingham	Deed	ST	190/91	June	21	1828	200-500	Northern part of his league next to Bingham
		DT	A	70					
Willis Alston	Francis Bingham	Mortgage	A	238/39	May	10	1839	Slaves	\$1000 note Spencer age 40 Margaret 22 as security
Francis Bingham	Ashbel Smith	DT	B	55	May	10	1841	Slaves	\$700 note to Durant H. Davis Billy 45 & Peggy 47 security
Francis Bingham	James P. Bingham	Deed	D	623/24	Dec	29	1847	1000	Gift to his son upper section of his league included Brazos River frontage
Francis Bingham	Mary Pickens Terry	Deed	D	661/62	Aug	19	1848	1000	Gift to his daughter middle section of league to included frontage on the Brazos River
Francis Bingham	James P. Bingham	Deed	E	540/41	Nov	8	1850	3000	\$25,000 plantation + livestock & slaves
James P. Bingham Mary P. Terry	Francis Bingham Estate	Deed	S	199	Dec	29	1851		For \$1.00 each they sold their 1000 acre tracts back to the estate
Margaret H. Bingham	Benjamin F. Terry	Quit Claim	F	277	Feb	28	1852	200-300	Out of McFarland League
			F	326					Town lots
Margaret H. Bingham	James P. Bingham	Deed	F	354/55	July	26	1852		James P. Bingham received top ¼ of league His mother the bottom ¾
Margaret H. Bingham	A. J. Terry E. R. Bradley	Mortgage	H	404	Feb	18	1858		
Margaret H. Bingham	A. J. Terry E. R. Bradley	Mortgage	H	405	Feb	18	1858	1001	
Margaret H. Bingham	James P. Bingham	Deed	H	509	April	15	1858	713	Next to his land on the Brazos as gift
A. J. Terry	E. R. Bradley	Lien	J	3/4	July	30	1858	1001	Took over note \$15,000 total
Margaret H. Bingham	Joseph America Bray	Deed	J	622/23	Dec	19	1860	250	On Brazos River next to Terry Tract
James P. Bingham	Warner Caldwell	Mortgage	L	248/49	July	1	1868		\$600 livestock as security
James P. Bingham	Joseph Bray	Mortgage	L	249/50	July	21	1868	2000	\$1500 land & livestock as security
Joseph Bray	James P. Bingham	Release	O	374	Aug	1	1874		Paid off mortgage
Joe Davis	James P. Bingham	Release	O	673					\$600 note from July 1, 1868 paid
James P. Bingham	Emeline Bundick	Mortgage	O	674/75	Jan	1	1875	2000	\$1200 Livestock & land as security reserving 200 acres homestead + 300 acres on Brazos
James P. Bingham	William D. Cleveland	DT	O	372/75	June	5	1875	300	\$2500 note due John Lang land on Brazos security

James P. Bingham	William D. Cleveland	Mortgage	O	735/37	June	5	1875		\$2500 Gin House & Sugar House & all machinery as security
			Q	643					Lots in Liverpool
James P. & Bettie Bingham	George O. Jarvis J. H. Craig	Mortgage	R	92/94	May	1	1878		\$1100 to operate & cultivate sugar crop for 1878 land livestock & crop security
			R	467/68					Gorbet League
James P. Bingham	George O. Jarvis John H. Craig	Deed	S	314/15	Nov	21	1879	1000	\$1000 Middle section of league
James P. & Bettie Bingham	George O. Jarvis John H. Craig	Deed	S	315	Nov	21	1879		\$2600 all plantation except 200 acre homestead & 300 acres on river includes sugar mill engine boilers livestock & farming equipment
James P. & Bettie Bingham	George O. Jarvis John H. Craig	Agreement	S	316/19	Dec	9	1879		\$500/yr. 5 year lease on 200 acre homestead -sugar house burned Nov 8, 1879 to be rebuilt and owned by Jarvis & Craig
W.H.Sharp Sheriff	George O. Jarvis John H. Craig	Deed	S	658/59	Sept	7	1880		Lost suit Emeline McGee \$300 Bingham interest
George O. Jarvis John H. Craig	Bettie Bingham	Deed	W	129	Feb	29	1884	~1500	\$12,000 cash \$2200 +\$2200 notes Land they had bought at auction. Secured by Joe Davis
John Lang	Bettie Bingham	Release	4	514	April	19	1892		\$1456.31 note paid
Bettie M. Davis	James P. Bingham heirs	Agreement	17	284/89	Sept	30	1892		Right to live on property for life to be split amongst children
Joseph America Bray	J. B. Bingham	Deed			Dec	4	1904	143	
C. W. Mowery	John C. Bingham	Lease	129	432	Dec	12	1914		Store @ Sandy Point \$400/yr for 1915
James P. Bingham Estate	Heirs of James P. Bingham	Partition	231	125/29	June	18	1931	3191	¼ distribution to each child
J. B. Tigner		Affidavit	376	365/67	April	18	1945		
George H. Bingham Estate	Tigner Heirs								Tracts on which the Bingham home was located
W. M. & J. H. Tigner	PNL Texas	Deed			March	8	1995		Tracts on which the Bingham home was located
PNL Texas	Paul Boothe Trustee	Deed		026426	Aug	15	1995		Tracts on which the Bingham home was located
Paul Boothe Trustee	Robert T. Rice	Deed		034672	Oct	19	1995		Tracts on which the Bingham home was located
Rice Management Co.	James & Barbara Dixon	Deed		058295	Dec	30	1999	373.9	Tracts on which the Bingham home was located Share 4

Appendix C
Slaves Owned by Francis Bingham 1850

Sam	
Old Billy	
William	
Harry	
Aron	
Jack	
Laura	
Children	Sophia
	Cinda
	Harriet
	Lavinia
Nancy	
Children	Alexander
	Henry
	Turner
Lizzy	
Children	Jerry
	Child not named yet
Dinna	
Children	Washington
	Indianna
	Child 18 months not named
Laura girl about 15 yrs old	

Appendix D
Inventory of Francis Bingham Estate

1st The Homestead in Brazoria County containing about 2500 acres, About 100 acres cleared with improvements		\$9700
2 nd 1 League of land in Wharton County on the Colorado, Granted to the said Francis Bingham		20000
3 rd On third league of land in Grimes County purchased from Mrs. S. A. Wharton		1476
4 th Certificate for about 2900 acres of uncultivated land in the hand of J. W. Lawrence		300
5 th House & Lots in Brazoria know as the Logan place		300
Billy a Negro man aged	45 yrs	500
Aaron	“ 45 yrs	400
Sam	“ 45 yrs	500
Old Bill	“ 54 yrs	300
Jack	“ 40 yrs	300
Harry	“ 30 yrs	700
Will	“ 30 yrs	700
Margaret a woman	45 yrs	400
Laura	“ 40 yrs	450
Her four children		
Sophy	9 yrs	350
Cinda	6 yrs	250
Harriet	4 yrs	200
Laura	3 or 4 mos. old	100
Nancy a woman	40 yrs	450
Her five children		
Alexander	12 yrs	400
Henry	9 yrs	350
George	7 yrs	300
Andrew	3 yrs	200
Eve infant	2 mos. old	100
Lizzy a woman	22 yrs	700
Her two children		
Jerry	4 yrs	250
Mily	1 yr	150
Louisa	17 yrs	600
Her Child		
Will	2 mos.	100
Elizabeth	20 yrs	700
Hester	9 yrs	400
Washington	9 yrs	400
Indiana	5 yrs	200
Ednay	2 yrs	150
4 Work & Riding Horses		100
5 Work Mules		250
3 Spanish Mares		45
Household & Kitchen Furniture		300
1 Wagon & part of another		75
Debt against B. F. Terry		800
Debt against J. P. Bingham two notes \$2000 each		4000
Debt against Dan Perry		100
About 1200 Bushels of corn \$.75/bushel		900
About 30 Bales Cotton @ \$20 pr Bale		<u>600</u>
		\$49,546

Appendix E
Inventory of the Estate of Margaret H. Bingham

1400 acres of land more or less being balance of the Bingham league remaining unsold at the date of her death, Situated on Oyster Creek in Brazoria County, part of League of land granted Francis Bingham

Valued at	\$20,000
1 Negro Man Harry about 37 years	1,200
" Will " 37 "	900
" Sam " 45 "	500
" Wash " 19 "	1,500
" Taylor " 30 "	1,200
1 Negro Woman Old Laura about 45 Years	300
" Betsy " 30 "	1,000
Girl Cindy " 16 "	1,000
Little Laura " 11 "	800
Boy George " 8 "	700
Girl Ann " 7 "	400
" Ada " 7 "	500
" Sue " 6 "	450
" Mary " 2 "	200
Boy Frank " 1 "	100
100 head cattle more or less	600
9 Head of Horses	500
3 " Mules	150
1 Work Horse	75
25 Head more or less Stock Hogs	75
1 Double Barrel Shotgun	15
500 Bushels Corn	500
1 Carriage	350
1 Wagon	75
6 Ploughs	6
Gearing	5
1 Sofa	1
1 Center Table	5
1 Dining Table	3

Appendix F
Affidavit of J. B. Tigner October 19, 1944

COUNTY OF HARRIS

J. B. Tigner of Houston, Texas, of legal age, being first duly sworn according to law, on oath says; The statements hereinafter set forth constitute a true, correct and complete statement of the family history of each of the persons herinafter named as "decendents" and of the estate of such decendent;

Francis Bingham, decendent, died July 22,1851, on the Francis Bingham League in Brazoria Co.,*[The 1890 map shows this league in Fort Bend Co]* Texas, and his wife Maragret H. Bingham was appointed administratrix. In a decree of partition, the Francis Bingham League was divided between the widow and her son, James P. Bingham. By deed and later by will of Margaret H. Bingham, her son, James P. Bingham aquired land in this league as a life tenant with remainder to his children and the decendants of his deceased children at his death. By the will of James P. Bingham, his estate was left to his surviving widow Bettie Bingham for her life or until she should remarry, with remainder to his children. There were only four children born to James P. and Betty Bingham, and they were as follows;

I. Joe B. Bingham, who was married but one time and that to Mary Patterson. Their one and onlt child was Bettie Bingham, now the wife of H. A. Munson of Angleton, Texas. The said Joe Bingham and Mary Bingham never adopted any child or children, and no child was ever born to either of them after April 1, 1935. Mary P Bingham, sometimes known as Mamie Bingham, has never remarried. Joe P. Bingham died at Chenango, Texas, In Brazoria County, on May 17, 1937, leaving a will in favor of his wife and daughter.

II. John C. Bingham, decendent, was never married, and he never adopted any child or children. He died in Februrary 1941, leaving a will in favor of John H. Tigner, Dorthy Rogers, Dan Bradley, and Ray Bradley. He named George H. Bingham executor, there were no outstanding debts against his estate, and the estate has been closed.

III. George H. Bingham, a single man, living at Rosharon, Brazoria Co., Texas.

IV. Nannie P Bingham, decendent, who married W. N. Tigner, Sr. She died July 16, 1902, leaving no will. No administration was ever had on her estate. There were only four children born to Nannie P. Bingham Tigner and W. N. Tigner, Sr., and they are;

1. W. N. Tigner, Jr., who is a single man, and lives at Juliff, Brazoria-Ft. Bend County, Texas.

2. Clark H. Tigner, decendent, who was never married, and who left a will. A contest of the will was made, but an agreement was reached by all of the relatives. The said Clark H. Tigner was entitled by Partition Deed dated Dec. 31, 1931, of record in volume 231, page 125, Deed records of Brazoria Co., Texas, to 1/4th interest in the James P. and Betty Bingham Estate title inherited by Nannie P. Bingham, his mother. There was not sufficient value to the estate of Clark H. Tigner to require payment of State Inheritance or Federal Taxes. There are no outstanding

debts against the said Clark H. Tigner acquired through his mother, the following settlement was agreed upon by his father, brothers, and half-brothers: his three full brothers who are W. W. Tigner, Jr., J. B. Tigner and J. N. Tigner each acquired 1/6th of Clark's 1/16 {making 1/2 of 1/6}; his father, W. W. Tigner Sr., acquired 1/4 of Clark's 1/16 {making 1/64}; and the three half-brothers who are Herbert G. Tigner, Sam W. Tigner, and Edwin B. Tigner each acquired 1/12th of Clark's 1/16 {making 1/4 of 1/16}. Clark H. Tigner never adopted any child or children. Died 2-11-43.

3. J. B. Tigner, whose wife is Allie Mae Tigner, and they live in Houston, Texas.

4. J. W. Tigner, whose wife is Marie W. Tigner, and they live in Angleton, Texas.

The said Nannie P. Bingham Tigner and W. N. Tigner Sr. never adopted any child or children. After the death of Nannie P. Bingham Tigner, the said W. N. Tigner Sr. married Mary Virginia Pannell. She was sometimes known as Birdie. W. H. Tigner and Mary Virginia Tigner never adopted any children. There were three and only three born to them, and they are as follows;

1. Herbert G. Tigner, who is in the United States Army.

2. Sam W. Tigner, who lives in Houston, Texas.

3. Edwin B. Tigner, who is now in the United States Army.

Mary Virginia Pannell Tigner died Nov. 4, 1933 and did not leave a will. W. N. Tigner Sr. has never remarried.

The said Betty Bingham, widow of James P. Bingham, was later married to J. Davis. He died about three years thereafter. No children were born to this second marriage of Betty Bingham, and no children were ever adopted by either of them. Betty Bingham Davis took the necessary legal steps and required her name of Betty Bingham. She died June 30, 1930 on the Bingham Estate homestead in Brazoria Co., Texas...

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