THE SURVEYS AND DESCRIPTIONS OF
THE WINDWARD ISLANDS CEDED BY
FRANCE TO GREAT BRITAIN IN 1763

Condensed From A Study By Christopher M. Klein

By the Treaty of Paris at the conclusion of the Seven Years War, France ceded to Great Britain several of the Windward Islands. In order to realize a profit from the new acquisitions the Crown appointed in 1764 a Commission for the Sale of Lands in the Ceded Islands, which included Grenada and the Grenadines, Dominica, St. Vincent, and Tobago. Beginning work at once, the Commission arranged for surveys and then set about disposing of the land, a task which was officially completed by 1779. The surveys themselves were put together from a number of different sources, including earlier maps, original surveys of some areas, and separate platting done for individual grants. The bulk of the surveying and sales had been completed by 1773. In 1776 and 1777 Samuel Hooper published the results of this work for the islands of Dominica, St. Vincent, Tobago, and Bequia (the largest of the Grenadines). Because Grenada had already been settled by the French, the information on that island appeared later in a somewhat different form.

The group of publications considered here consists of maps of the islands with accompanying lists of the landowners and other descriptive material. In the case of the small island of Bequia this material was brief enough to be engraved on the face of the map itself, but in all other cases it was published in
separate pamphlets. The following is chiefly a record of the eighteenth-century publications, but certain of the maps were republished in the nineteenth century. Notes of those which have come to our attention have been included. The location of copies represents the holdings of thirteen libraries from which information was obtained.

1. DOMINICA
   Published Novr 1st 1776 by S. Hooper No 25 Ludgate Hill London.
   Engraved map in 3 sheets 60¾ x 35¾ inches.
   Copies: CSmH, DLC(2), MAt, MH, MiUC, RPJCB(2); British Museum(3), West India Committee, Public Record Office.

b. Byres, John.
   References To The Plan Of The Island Of Dominica, As surveyed from the Year 1765 to 1773; By John Byres, Chief Surveyor.
   London: Printed for S. Hooper, No. 25, Ludgate-Hill, MDCCCLXXVII.
   8, [2], 30 p. 8vo.
   Copies: RPJCB; British Museum, Public Record Office.

2. ST. VINCENT
   a. Plan Of The Island Of St. Vincent Laid Down

By Actual Survey under the Direction of The Honorable The Commissioners for the Sale of Lands In The Ceded Islands By John Byres, Chief Surveyor 1776. J. Bayly Sculp London.

   Published Novr 1st 1776 by S. Hooper No 25 Ludgate Hill London.
   Engraved map one sheet 36¾ x 24 inches.
   Copies: DLC, MB, MH, RPJCB; British Museum(3), Public Record Office.

b. [Reprint from the same plate]
   London Republished 14 July 1794, by Robert Wilkinson No 58 Cornhill.
   Copies: CSmH, DLC(3), MAt, RPJCB; British Museum, Public Record Office, West India Committee.
   There were additional reprints in 1828 and 1832.

c. Byres, John
   References to the Plan of the Island of St. Vincent, As surveyed from the Year 1765 to 1773; by John Byres [sic] Chief Surveyor.
   London: Printed for S. Hooper, No. 25, Ludgate-Hill, MDCCCLXXVII.
   vii, 8 p. 8vo.
   Copies: RPJCB; British Museum, Public Record Office, West India Committee.

3. BEQUIA
   a. Plan Of The Island Of Bequia Laid Down By Actual Survey under the Direction of The Honorable The Commissioners for the Sale of Lands In The Ceded Islands by John Byres,
Engraved map, one sheet 23\% x 36 inches. Includes list of the lands and owners on the face of the map.
Copies: MiU-C, RPJCB; British Museum(2), Public Record Office, West India Committee.

b. [A Reprint from the same plate]
London Republished 14 July 1794 by Robert Wilkinson No 58 Cornhill.
Copies: DLC; Public Record Office, West India Committee.

4. GRENADA
a. A New Plan Of The Island of Grenada, From The Original French Survey Of Monsieur Pinei; Taken in 1763 by Order of Government, and now Published with the Addition of English Names, Alterations of Property and other Improvements to the Present Year 1780; By Lieut Daniel Paterson, Assistant to the Quarter Master General of His Majesty's Forces.
London, Engraved and Published as the Act directs, Feb 1st 1780; by William Faden, Charing Cross.
Engraved map 31\% x 23\% inches.
Copies: DLC, MB, MBA, MH, NNA, RPJCB; British Museum, Public Record Office.

b. [A Reprint from the same plate]
To this impression has been added an inset: Plan of the Town of St. George and Fort Royal.
Copies: CSmH, DLC(2), MBA, RPJCB; British Museum, West India Committee, Reference Library of the Institute of Jamaica.

c. Paterson, Daniel
A Topographical Description Of The Island of Grenada; Surveyed By Monsieur Pinei in 1763 . . . By Daniel Paterson . . .
Copies: NN, MH; British Museum, West India Committee.

5. TOBAGO
Published Novr 1st 1776; by S. Hooper, No 25. Ludgate Hill, London.
Engraved map, one sheet 23\% x 36 inches.
Copies: MiU-C; RPJCB; British Museum(2), Public Record Office, West India Committee.

b. [Reprint from the same plate]
London Republished 14 July 1794 by Robert Wilkinson, No. 58 Cornhill.
c. [Fowler, John]
   A Summary Account Of The Present Flourishing State Of The Respectable Colony Of Tobago . . . Illustrated with A Map of the Island, and a Plan of its Settlement . . .
   London: Printed for A. Grant, Catherine-Street, Strand. MDCCLXXIV.
   80 p. 8vo. Folding map.
   Issued two years before the Hooper map, the map herein is from the same survey and is entitled “A Map of the Island And A Plan Of The Settlement of Tobago . . . MDCC-LXXIV.” and measures 16¼ x 22¾ inches.
   Copies: CtY, DLC, ICN, MH, NN, RPJCB; Public Record Office, West India Committee.

d. [Fowler, John]
   A Summary Account Of the Present Flourishing State Of The Island Of Tobago, With A Plan Of The Island.
   London: Printed for S. Hooper, No. 25, Ludgate-Hill. MDCCLXXVII.
   vi, 80 p. 8vo.
   This edition, issued to accompany the Hooper map, is made up of copies of No. 5c above, with the folding map omitted, and an additional title page and “Alphabetical List of Proprietors . . .” (p. ii-vi) added at the front.
   Copies: RPJCB; British Museum, West India Committee.