

1865-176
STUART L. WHITING

REAL ESTATE

INSURANCE

216 N. KING ST.

HAMPTON, VA.

July 15, 1955
Will be a fine photograph

Dr. Leonidas H. Berry
412 E. 47th St.
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Leonidas:

Your letter of July 11 was received and I am listing below the data that you asked for:

1. It is eighteen miles from Butler's Farm to Yorktown
Twenty-eight miles from Butler's Farm to Williamsburg
Thirty-four miles from Butler's Farm to Jamestown
2. The deed recorded in our Clerk's Office (Deed Book 21, Page 121) shows that Fleet Burrell and Josephine Burrell, his wife, sold four (4) acres of land in Butler's Farm to John Berry on July 10, 1891. Said deed was recorded on July 22, 1891 in Deed Book 21, Page 121. The consideration was \$134.00.

The Plat of Butler Farm was made much earlier, probably around 1867, and is recorded in Deed Book 14, Page 139. The deeds to Lewis Lively and others are dated 1869.

3. The distance across Hampton Roads from Ocean View to Old Point Comfort is approximately five and a half miles. From Old Point Comfort to Langley Field via Chesapeake Bay and Back River the distance is approximately fifteen miles. Butler's Farm is about four miles from Langley Field. Back River bisects this area but is very narrow at the point that was known as Shellbanks Farm. Hampton Institute once owned Shellbanks Farm but this is now a part of Langley Field.

Childhood crops

The enclosed clipping is from the editorial page of the Daily Press, June 30, 1955. This oak tree now stands on Hampton Institute campus and was named after the same General Butler who established Butler Farm. The tree is very close to the new highway being built to the Hampton-Norfolk Tunnel entrance that will be located in what used to be Phoebus.

Good luck to you in your efforts to piece together this interesting bit of history and let me know if I can help you further. Best wishes to your family.

Very sincerely yours,

Stuart
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