

THE PINELAND PLANTATION

POST OFFICE BOX 68
GARNETT, SOUTH CAROLINA 29922

April 3, 1998

THOMAS O. LAWTON, JR.

(803) 625-2329

Dear Family:

The colonial Lawton-Seabrook Cemetery needs our financial help! We will visit the cemetery which is surrounded by an old brick wall that is on a creek off Steamboat Landing on Edisto Island, during the June 19th-20th Reunion.

The cemetery is located on the plantation where planter and militia officer Captain William Lawton lived. In his Oct. 9, 1757, will, he left it to his widow MARY STONE GRIMBALL LAWTON (later FICKLING) for her life and remainder to his then three year old son Joseph Lawton (1753-1815) who married SARAH ROBERT (1755-1839). When this property was sold to John Hanahan in 1774, Mary, Joseph, and Sarah executied necessary documents. Joseph's deed to Hanahan (Deed Book 6V, page 450 Charleston) was subject to "...Saving and reserving Nevertheless to the said Joseph Lawton and his heirs forever a certain BURYINGGROUND or graveyard where the family of Lawton and their other near kindred is accustomed to bury..." and the deed recited in at least six places the right of ingress and egress.

John Hughes Boineau (who did extensive work on the project), Robert E. H. Peebles, and I studied documents, reviewed the site and drafted a number of times the wording on the then unmarked graves. The marked graves include SARAH LAWTON SEABROOK, her husband JOHN SEABROOK, their son WILLIAM SEABROOK, and other family members.

Dyal Memorials, Inc., a most reputable firm, has presented drawings. He recommends: for the mounted aluminum post (28"x24") at the entrance to the quarter-of-an-acre cemetery with a history of the site; for Captain Lawton's grave, another mounted cast aluminum post (36" x 30"). For the seven other graves, he recommends gray granite bases with steel finish tops (24"x12"x6"). These graves are for JOSIAH LAWTON, JEREMIAH LAWTON, WILLIAM LAWTON, JR, MARY CLARKE LAWTON, MARY WINBORN LAWTON, and THE REV. WILLIAM TILLY, whose marker may be somewhat larger. The total cost,

including \$314.65 for SC Sales Tax is \$6607.65. We need funds to finish this and to maintain the unendowed Robert Cemetery and the portions of Robertville Cemetery, as well as other monuments of mutual interest that have no descendants to care for the stones in our family cemeteries in upper St. Peter's Parish. We also need to continue buying publications of historical and genealogical interest to give to various institutions. Such is needed to keep our tax status in good order.

Please give whatever you can as quickly as you can for this worthwhile project! Your gifts will be an income tax deduction: Fed No. is 57-0868637. Checks should be mailed to:

David G. Hodges, Treasurer

Lawton Family Foundation

PO Box 8475

Columbia, SC 29202

A wonderful reunion at beautiful Edisto Island is planned. We look forward to seeing you.

Cordially



Thomas O. Lawton, Jr