



**Report Number:** JR0005  
**GMP Ancestor:** Mary Yorkshire (GMP-223)  
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**Date:** 21 August 2021, revised 1 June 2025  
**Related Codes:** GMP-222, GMP-242, GMP-243, GMP-275, GMP-284, GMP-285, GMP-286

**Purpose:** To present evidence supporting the identification of Mary, wife of Robert Mahoney, as Mary Yorkshire, daughter of Sally Yorkshire.

**Discussion:**

Mary (GMP-223) is identified on the 1838 Jesuit census in a family group with Robert (GMP-222) and ten children. The family was enslaved at the Jesuits' St. Inigoes Plantation in St. Mary's County, Maryland. Mary's age is given as 38, putting her year of birth at around 1800.<sup>1</sup> Although the Mahoney surname is not stated on the census or sale documents, records of several of their descendants clearly indicate it was Mahoney. None of the records identify the maiden name of Mary. This family was purchased by Jesse Batey and sent to his plantation on Bayou Terrebonne in Louisiana in July of 1838.<sup>2</sup>

Tax assessment rolls for St. Mary's County for 1804, 1813, 1821, and 1831 provide the names and ages of the enslaved persons held by the Jesuit priests at St. Inigoes prior to the 1838 sale. The following is a summary of the entries excerpted from these four tax rolls for the individual whom the GMP has determined to be Mary:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Year</u>
Mary	1	1804 <sup>3</sup>
Mary	11	1813 <sup>4</sup>
Mary	26	1821 <sup>5</sup>
Mary	27	1831 <sup>6</sup>

The ages in these records indicate that Mary was born between the years 1795 and 1804, a good fit for Mary (GMP-223) who was born around 1800.

Assuming Mary's mother did not die shortly after her birth, she should be one of the women of child-bearing age on the 1804 St. Inigoes tax roll. Five women can be identified as potential candidates—Ann, Suck, Jane, Eleonor, and Sarah. The following is an analysis of those five women.

Ann, age 29, can be eliminated, as the GMP has identified her as Anna (GMP-243), wife of Harry Mahoney (GMP-242), and mother of Robert Mahoney (GMP-222), Mary's future husband.

In 1804, Suck is age 46 (born ca. 1758). She is listed in 1813 as Suckey, age 55; in 1821 as Sookey, age 60; and in 1831 as Sooky, age 77. Her year of birth ranges from 1754 to 1761. She appears somewhat too old to be Mary's mother.

In 1804, Jane is age 27, but is noted as having been sent out of state in 1810. It does not seem likely that she would have been sent away without her young daughter.

In 1804, Eleonor is age 17. She is likely the same as Nelly who appears on the 1821 and 1831 St. Inigoes tax rolls, but who cannot be identified on the 1813 tax roll. The GMP has identified her as Nelly Barns (GMP-275), who was purchased by Jesse Batey and sent to his plantation on Bayou Maringouin. Although Eleonor is of an age to have been Mary's mother, her absence from St. Inigoes in 1813 suggests it is unlikely that she was the mother of Mary, who was 11 years old at that time.

The final candidate is Sarah, age 26 in 1804 (born ca. 1778). Sally is a common nickname for Sarah. The following is a summary of Sally/Sarah on the four St. Inigoes tax rolls.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Year</u>
Sarah	26	1804
Sarah	35	1813
Sally	45	1821
Sally	54	1831

Sally Yorkshire (GMP-284), age 60, appears on the manifest of the *Katharine Jackson*, the ship that sent many of the Jesuit slaves to Louisiana in November and December of 1838.<sup>7</sup> She was purchased by Jesse Batey and sent to his plantation on Bayou Maringouin, Iberville Parish, Louisiana.<sup>8</sup>

Listed directly below Sally on the 1838 Jesuit Slave Census at St. Inigoes are the following two individuals:

Alexius (GMP-285), age 36  
Henry (GMP-286), age 22

Alexius was among the slaves purchased by Henry Johnson, but noted as not having been sent to Louisiana.<sup>9</sup> The GMP has determined that Alexius is the same as Elexius or Lexius Yorkshire (sometimes Oxious, Octvus, Yoxyas), who appears as the father in several Maryland death certificates.<sup>10</sup> To further substantiate the surname, Henry, who is listed directly below Alexius, is identified as Henry Yorkshire, age 29, on an 1847 mortgage by Henry Claiborne Thibodaux for his half of the Batey & Thibodaux Plantation.<sup>11</sup>

Several descendants of Alexius Yorkshire have done DNA testing through Ancestry and matched numerous descendants of Robert and Mary Mahoney. Most were at the most distant fifth to eighth cousin level, but one was at the fourth to sixth cousin level.

Henry Yorkshire (GMP-286) was located on the 1870 Lafourche Parish census, listed as Henry Auction, age 45, a farm laborer and native of Maryland. Included in his household were Serena, age 45 (presumably his wife), and four children.<sup>12</sup> Henry Yorkshire was living as late as 1871 when H. Yorkshire is found on a Lafourche Parish Jury list.<sup>13</sup> Henry Yorkshire likely died around 1872. By 1880, Serena was married to Ben Dorsey, by whom she had at least four children.<sup>14</sup> No living descendants of Henry Yorkshire have been found for DNA testing.

### **Conclusion:**

The supporting evidence includes: (1) the name and age of Mary on four St. Inigoes tax rolls being consistent with the name and age of Mary on the 1838 Jesuit census; (2) the identification of Sarah/Sally on the St. Inigoes tax rolls as the best candidate for Mary's mother; (3) the listing of Sally Yorkshire on the manifest of the *Katharine Jackson*; (4) the order and placement of Alexius and Henry on the 1838 Jesuit census directly below Sally; (5) records providing the surname Yorkshire for both Alexius and Henry; and (6) DNA matches of descendants of Alexius Yorkshire to descendants of Robert and Mary Mahoney. Therefore, the GMP has concluded that Mary, wife of Robert Mahoney, was Mary Yorkshire, daughter of Sally Yorkshire.

### **Endnotes:**

1. "Census of slaves to be sold in 1838," Maryland Province Archive (MPA), Oversize Box 4 (WO 112), Booth Family Center for Special Collections, Lauinger Library, Georgetown University, online at the [Georgetown Slavery Archive](#).
2. Sale by Thomas F. Mulledy to Jesse Beaty (sic), 6 July 1839, Conveyance Book H, p. 293, #2643, Terrebonne Parish Clerk of Court, Houma, La.
3. "St. Inigoes Tax Assessment, 1804," St. Mary's County, Commissioners of the Tax (Assessment Record, Slaves), 1804-1821, C1544-4, online at the [Georgetown Slavery Archive](#).
4. "St. Inigoes Tax Assessment, 1813," St. Mary's County, Commissioners of the Tax (Assessment Record, Slaves), 1804-1821, C1544-4, online at the [Georgetown Slavery Archive](#).
5. "St. Inigoes Tax Assessment, 1821," St. Mary's County, Commissioners of the Tax (Assessment Record, Slaves), 1804-1821, Maryland State Archives, online at the [Georgetown Slavery Archive](#).
6. "St. Inigoes Tax Assessment, 1831," St. Mary's Parish Levy Court, Tax Assessment (Slaves), 1831, CE453-3, Maryland State Archives, online at the [Georgetown Slavery Archive](#).

7. Manifest of the *Katharine Jackson*, 13 Nov. 1838, New Orleans, Louisiana, Slave Manifests, 1807-1860 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010.
8. Sale by Thomas Mulledy to Jesse Batey, 10 November 1838, Conveyance Book T, pp. 34-35, #24, Iberville Parish Clerk of Court, Plaquemine, La.
9. Agreement between Henry Johnson and Thomas F. Mulledy, 17 February 1844, Conveyance Book V, #479, Iberville Parish Clerk of Court, Plaquemine, La.
10. Maryland Board of Health, death records for Charles H. Yorkshire, 29 June 1899, St. Mary's County, naming Elexious Yorkshire as his father, Maryland State Archives (MSA) SE42, and John Samuel Yorkshire, #9723, 17 August 1931, St. Mary's County, MSA SE43, naming Lexious Yorkshire as his father, and Maryland Department of Health Division of Vital Records and Statistics, death record for Mary Vuiner Harris, #8737, 25 September 1954, St. Mary's Co., MSA SE44, naming Lexius Yorkshire as her father.
11. Mortgage by Henry Claiborne Thibodaux of half of Batey & Thibodaux Plantation to Bank of Louisiana, 5 April 1847, William Christy, vol. 57, pp. 401-406, New Orleans Notarial Archives, New Orleans, La.
12. 1870 U.S. census, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana, pop. sched., Ward 3, Raceland Post Office, p. 424A (stamped), family #45, citing National Archives microfilm publication M593.
13. Lafourche Parish Database, Nicholls State University Archives, Thibodaux, La.
14. 1880 U.S. census, Lafourche Parish, Louisiana, pop. sched., Ward 7, E.D. 133, p. 692D (stamped), family #525, citing National Archives microfilm publication T9.