

# THE SLAVE-OWNERS OF BLOOMSBURY



## Bloomsbury [1]

George Hay Dawkins Pennant,  
56 Portland Place

George Hay Dawkins Pennant (1760-1840) was the son of an absentee Jamaican slave-owner, and inherited from his cousin both further slave-property and Penrhyn Castle with its associated slate industry in North Wales. Pennant had his townhouse at 36 Portland Place from at least 1819 until his death in 1840. He received over £15,000 compensation for the freedom of 764 enslaved people in 1835.



Charles Flaxell's portrait of Pennant. Image: Christie's/Bridgeman Art.

CASE STUDY

Eliza Peters Washington Parker,  
36 Portland Place &  
6 Albany Terrace

Eliza Peters Washington Parker (1775-1858) came from one slave-owning Jamaican family (her brother was the MP Charles Nicholas Pallmer, a champion of planter interests) and married into another. She and her husband lived at 36 Portland Place from at least 1819 to 1824. She later moved to 6 Albany Terrace where she lived between 1835 and 1837 with her son. She owned the Chudleigh estate in Manchester, Jamaica.



In 1824 Henry John Walls was sentenced to death for stealing a silver teapot worth £4 from the house of Eliza Peters Washington Parker in Portland Place. Original text from the Old Bailey case of 1824, C101 118241028-56. Courtesy of London Metropolitan Archives.

CASE STUDY

Sir Wastel Brisco,  
11 Beaumont Street

Sir Wastel Brisco (1778-1862), whose main seat was Crofton Hall in Northumberland, had his London townhouse at 11 Beaumont Street from at least 1844 until his death in 1862. Brisco inherited 'slave-property' in St Kitts through his mother Caroline Alicia Fleming, the grand-daughter of Gilbert Fleming, the Lt-Governor of the Leeward Isles. In 1835 Brisco received compensation for the freedom of 651 enslaved people on his 4 estates on St Kitts.



Shadwell Great House in St Kitts, part of the marriage settlement of Sir Wastel Brisco's parents. Photograph from the website of the St. Christopher National Trust.

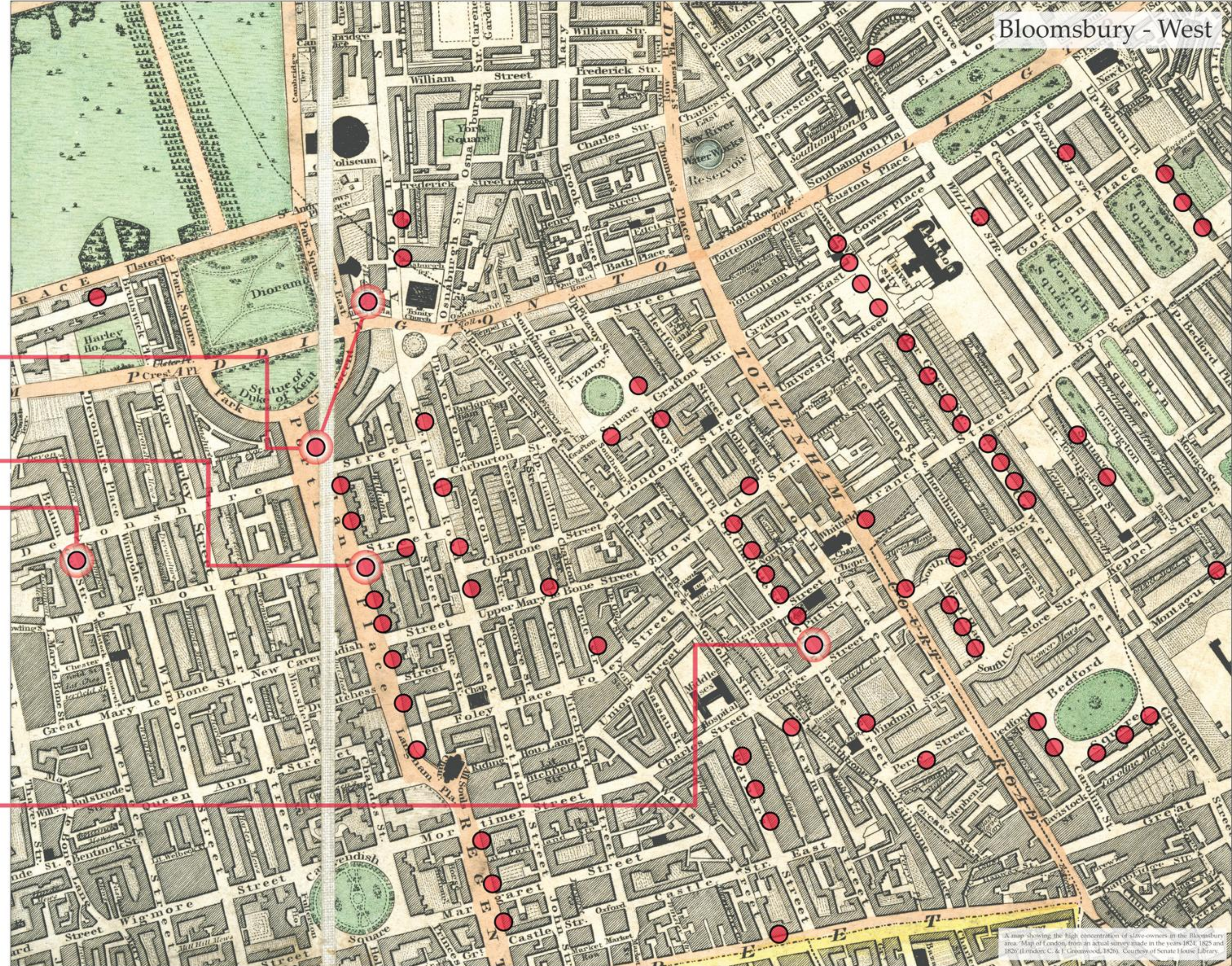
CASE STUDY

Louisa Maltby

Louisa Maltby (1769-1841) as the widow, executrix and devisee of her husband Rowland (who died in 1830) held a mortgage over the Bon Air and Duquesne estates and the 273 enslaved people on them in Grenada. She agreed to take half the compensation money for the enslaved to settle her claim. She lived at 23 Charlotte Street from at least 1829 until her death in 1841. From 1819-1829 Rowland Maltby (who had been among other things the agent for Mary Anne Clarke, the mistress of Frederick, Duke of York, when the throne was embroiled in a scandal over the sale of army commissions in 1809) was living at 44 Charlotte Street.

The records of Louisa Maltby's two claims are shown in the list of compensation awards published by Parliament in 1838, under Grenada Nos. 565 and 684. 'Slavery Abolition Act: an account of all sums of money awarded by the Commissioners of Slave Compensation', Parliamentary Papers 1837-8 (215) XLVIII, p. 312. Image courtesy of Senate House Library.

CASE STUDY



Bloomsbury - West

A map showing the high concentration of slave-owners in the Bloomsbury area. Map of London from an actual survey made in the years 1824, 1825 and 1826 (London: C. & J. Greenwood, 1826). Courtesy of Senate House Library.