

MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, AS )) IN THE CIRCUIT COURT TRUSTEE UNDER ITEM FIVE OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF OF GEORGE MARINOS, DECEASED, ))

Complainant, Complainant, ALABAMA

VS.

MRS. MILICH, LANDS DESCRIBED IN))

THE BILL, ET AL, NUMBER 4605

Respondents.

#### NON-MILITARY AFFIDAVIT

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned

Notary Public in and for Mobile County, Alabama, EDWIN

J. CURRAN, JR., who being known to me and who being by

me first duly sworn, deposes and says on oath as follows:

My name is EDWIN J. CURRAN, JR. I am the Solicitor of record for the Complainant in the above styled cause. Before filing the Bill of Complaint in this cause, I made a diligent search and inquiry to locate the whereabouts of MRS. MILICH, who the records show at one time had an interest in the property involved in the captioned cause. On the basis of said inquiry, I have been informed and believe and upon such information and belief, state that the said MRS. MILICH is dead, but if alive she is an elderly person, beyond the age of military service, and is not presently in the Armed Forces of the United States of America or its Allies, within the meaning of the Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act, nor has she been in such military service at any time during the pendancy of this action.

re ublic, tate,

Sworn to and subscribed before me, the undersigned Notary Public, in and for said County and State, on this the Zot day of October, 1959.

Notary Public, Mobile County, Alabama

OCT 21 1959
ALLE I. DUCK CLERK
REGISTER

MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, AS
TRUSTEE UNDER ITEM FIVE OF THE LAST
WILL AND TESTAMENT OF GEORGE MARINOS,
DECEASED,

Complainant,
BALDWIN COUNTY,

ALABAMA

MRS. MILICH, LANDS DESCRIBED IN THE
BILL, ET AL,

Respondents.

Respondents.

#### ORDER OF SUBMISSION

THIS CAUSE, coming on to be heard, is submitted for decree on the pleadings, the decree pro confesso, and on the proof as noted.

DATED, October <u>20</u>4, 1959.

#### NOTE OF EVIDENCE

At the hearing of this cause the following note of evidence was taken, to-wit:

#### FOR COMPLAINANT:

Original Bill Testimony of P. E. Frankos
Lis Pendens Testimony of O. W. Lyles
Proof of Publication Testimony of P. E. Teter
Non-Military Affidavit Testimony of Edwin J.Curran, Jr.

Decree Pro Confesso Complainant's Exhibits 1-4

Acceptance and Answer of Guardian Ad

Litem and Attorney Ad Litem

VICKERS, RIIS, MURRAY AND CURRAN

Solicitors for Complainant

FOR RESPONDENTS:

None

FILED, October 20, 1959.

Register

MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, As Trustee Under Item Five Of The Last Will and Testament Of GRORGE MARINOS, Deceased, COMPLAINANT,

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

No. 4605

٧S

IN EQUITY

MRS. MILICH, LANDS DESCRIBED IN THE BILL, ET AL,
Respondents.

#### NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF

#### GUARDIAN AD LITEM AND ATTORNEY AD LITEM

TO:

John V. Duck

Esquire

You are hereby notified that by a decree of this Court heretofore rendered in this cause, you have been appointed Guardian Ad Litem for all unknown Respondents in this cause; and also appointed Attorney Ad Litem for any of the Armed Forces of the United States of America, or its Allies within the meaning of Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act.

Dated this 23 day of June, 1959

As Register of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabams

#### ACCEPTANCE TO APPOINTMENT OF

GUARDIAN AD LITEM AND ATTORNEY AD LITEM

STATE OF ALABAMA BALDWIN COUNTY

I, the undersigned \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ John V. Duck \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ do hereby accept appointment as guardian ad litem to represent any unknown Parties interested in this proceeding and also as attorney Ad Litem to represent any Respondents who may be in the Armed Forces.

Dated this 23 day of June, 1959.

As Guardian Ad Litem and Attorney Ad Litem MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, AS TRUSTEE UNDER ITEM FIVE OF LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF GEORGE MARINOS, DECEASED,

Complainant,

-VS-

MRS. MILICH, if living, or, if deceased, the heirs or devisees of MRS. MILICH, BALDWIN COUNTY COLONIZATION COMPANY, LANDS DE-SCRIBED IN THE BILL, and any other persons, firms or corpora-tions claiming any title to or interest in the lands described in the bill,

Respondents.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT 0F

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN EQUITY

NUMBER 4605

IN REM

#### ANSWER

Comes now John V. Duck, Guardian Ad Litem and Attorney Ad Litem, in the above styled cause and for answer to the Bill of Complaint says:

That he denies each and every allegation contained therein, and demands strict proof of the same.

> ardian Ad Litem orney Ad Litem

MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, AS TRUSTEE UNDER ITEM FIVE OF THE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF OF GEORGE MARINOS, DECEASED, BALDWIN COUNTY. Complainant. vs. ALABAMA MRS. MILICH, if living, or, if IN EQUITY deceased, the heirs or devisees of MRS. MILICH, BALDWIN COUNTY NUMBER 4605 COLONIZATION COMPANY, LANDS DE-SCRIBED IN THE BILL, and any other persons, firms or corpora-IN REM tions claiming any title to or interest in the lands described in the Bill,

#### DECREE PRO CONFESSO

)

Respondents.

In this cause, it appearing from the certificate of the Register that notice of the pendancy of this cause has been given by publication once a week for four consecutive weeks in the Baldwin Times, a newspaper published in Baldwin County, Alabama, and that a copy of said notice certified by the Register as being correct was filed for record as a Lis Pendens in the Office of the Probate Judge, Baldwin County, Alabama, and that sixty (60) days have expired since the first publication of said notice and the filing of the certified copy of said notice in the Probate Court of Baldwin County, Alabama; and it appearing to the Court that no appearance, answer or demurrer has been filed to said Bill of Complaint;

NOW, THEREFORE, upon motion of Complainant, MALBIS
MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, as Trustee under Item Five of the
Last Will and Testament of George Marinos, deceased, it
is ORDERED that the allegations of said Bill of Complaint
be, and hereby are, taken as confessed against MRS. MILICH,
if living, or if deceased, against the heirs and devisees
of Mrs. Milich, who may not be minors, incompetents or in
the Armed Forces of the United States of America, against
BALDWIN COUNTY COLONIZATION COMPANY, if in existence, or

the successors or assigns of Baldwin County Colonization Company, and against any and all unknown parties who claim or are reputed to claim any title to, interest in, hen or encumbrance upon said lands described in the Bill of Complaint, or any part thereof, who may not be minors, incompetents or in the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

	DATED,	August		
Hubert M. Her			I tubert Ill Her	

MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, As Trustee Under Item Five	) IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
Of The Last Will And Testa- ment Of GEORGE MARINOS, De-	BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA
ceased, Complainant,	) ENTERED ON
No. 4605	BOOK NO.
•	) ENTRY
vs.	
MRS. MILICH, LANDS DESCRIBED IN THE BILL, ET AL,	) ALICE J. DUCK, Register
Respondents.	)
ORDER APPOINTING GUARDIAN	AD LITEM AND ATTORNEY AD LITEM
	d upon motion for the appoint-
ment of a Guardian Ad Litem	and an Attorney Ad Litem, and,
upon consideration, it is or	dered, adjudged and decreed by
the Court thatJohn V. Duck	
who is a practicing attorney	in Baldwin County, Alabama,
be and hereby is appointed G	uardian Ad Litem for all the
unknown Respondents in this	cause; and also appointed
Attorney Ad Litem for any of	the Respondents who may be
in the Armed Forces of the U	nited States of America, or
its Allies within the meanin	g of the Soldiers and Sailors
Relief Act.	
Dated	<u>}                                    </u>
	The fuller

JUN 22 1959 ALICE I. DUCK, CLERK REGISTER

MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, AS ) IN THE CIRCUIT COURT TRUSTEE UNDER ITEM FIVE OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF OF GEORGE MARINOS, DECEASED, BALDWIN COUNTY, Complainant, vs ALABAMA MRS. MILICH, LANDS DESCRIBED IN THE BILL, ET AL, IN EQUITY

NUMBER 4605 Respondents.

## MOTION FOR A DECREE PRO CONFESSO

Motion is hereby made for a Decree Pro Confesso against MRS. MILICH, BALDWIN COUNTY COLONIZATION COM-PANY, and against any and all unknown parties who claim or are reputed to claim any title to, interest in, lien or encumbrance upon the lands described in the Bill of Complaint in the captioned cause, or any part thereof, who may not be minors, incompetents or in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, Respondents, in the annexed stated cause on the ground that more than thirty days have elapsed since the perfection of publication was made under the order of this Court; and it having been shown by due proof to the Court that said Respondents are non-residents of the State of Alabama, and have failed to answer, plead or demur to the Bill in this cause, to the date hereof.

for Complainant.

MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, AS ) TRUSTEE UNDER ITEM FIVE OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF GEORGE MARINOS, DECEASED,

Complainant.

MRS. MILICH, if living, or, if deceased, the heirs or devisees of MRS. MILICH, BALDWIN COUNTY COLONIZATION COMPANY, LANDS DE-) SCRIBED IN THE BILL, and any other persons, firms or corporations claiming any title to or interest in the lands described)

versus

in the bill,

Respondents.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN EQUITY

NUMBER

IN REM

### TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA, SITTING IN EQUITY:

Comes your Complainant, MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, as Trustee under Item Five of the Last Will and Testament of GEORGE MARINOS, Deceased, by P. E. FRANKOS, its President, and respectfully shows unto the Court as follows:

#### ONE

Complainant is a charitable corporation organized under the laws of the State of Alabama, with its office and principal place of business in Daphne, Baldwin County, Alabama.

#### TWO

Complainant, in order to establish its right or title to the lands described in the Bill of Complaint and to clear up all doubts and disputes concerning the same, files this, its verified Bill of Complaint against the following described lands, located in Baldwin County, Alabama, viz.:

> Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 25, Township 7 South, Range 5 East,

and against MRS. MILICH (full name unknown), if living, or,

if deceased, against the heirs or devisees of MRS. MILICH, all of whose names and addresses are unknown, BALDWIN COUNTY COLONIZATION COMPANY, if in existence, or the successors or assigns of BALDWIN COUNTY COLONIZATION COMPANY, all of which names and addresses are unknown, and any and all unknown parties who claim or are reputed to claim any title to, interest in, lien or encumbrance upon said land or any part thereof. The said MRS. MILICH, if living, is over the age of twenty-one (21) years.

#### THREE

Complainant avers that through its attorney it has made a diligent search in an effort to locate all of the above named Respondents, and also to ascertain whether, in the case of MRS. MILICH, she is living or dead, and if dead, who are her heirs or devisees, and in the case of BALDWIN COUNTY COLONIZATION COMPANY, if it is in existence, and if not, who are its successors or assigns, and further to ascertain who, if anyone, claims or is reputed to claim any right, title, interest, lien or encumbrance in or upon said land or any part thereof; that in conducting such search, it has caused to be purchased an abstract of title from Baldwin County Abstract Company of Bay Minette, Alabama, and has employed an attorney to examine the same; that, through its attorney, it has made an independent examination of the records in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County, Alabama, and in the Tax Assessor's and Tax Collector's office of said County, and that in addition, it has, through its attorney, examined telephone directories and contacted persons who have been living in the neighborhood of the lands for a number of years, and that Complainant believes that if any of such Respondents are living, their residences are without the State of Alabama. Complainant has set out in full herein the information so obtained from such

search as to names, ages and addresses of anyone claiming or reputed to claim any right, title, interest, lien or encumbrance in or upon said land or any part thereof and has exercised due diligence to locate their whereabouts and Complainant alleges that if any other persons, firms or corporations claim any right, title, interest, lien or encumbrance in or upon said land above described or any part thereof, it is unknown to your Complainant.

#### FOUR

Complainant claims in its own right the title in and to the above described real estate, with the exception of one-half the oil, gas and minerals in, on and under said land which were reserved by BALDWIN TIMBER AND NAVAL STORES CO., INC., in a deed dated November 25, 1950, and recorded in Deed Book 161, page 267, and in support of such claim of title avers that it acquired said title by virtue of the following:

- 1. Tax Deed From MRS. MILICH by JAMES M. VOLTZ,
  Judge of Probate, to A. M. DeCOUDRES, dated September 25,
  1918, and recorded in Deed Book 27, page 427.
- 2. Quitclaim Deed from A.M. DeCOUDRES and wife to JOHN BRASY dated April 5, 1929, and recorded in Deed Book 47, page 418.
- 3. Warranty Deed from JOHN BRASY and wife to JOHN GAUNT dated October 2, 1929, and recorded in Deed Book 48, page 185.
- 4. Quitclaim Deed from JOHN GAUNT and wife to BALDWIN TIMBER AND NAVAL STORES CO., INC., dated March, 1935, and recorded in Deed Book 57, pages 2-3.
- 5. Quitclaim Deed from BALDWIN TIMBER AND NAVAL STORES CO., INC., to S. M. ADAMS, INC., dated November 25,

- 1950, and recorded in Deed Book 161, page 267.
- 6. Quitclaim Deed from S. M. ADAMS, INC., to GEORGE MARINOS, dated December 20, 1950, and recorded in Deed Book 161, pages 242-3.
- 7. Last Will and Testament of GEORGE MARINOS, Deceased, recorded in Will Book 2, page 130.

All Deed Book and Will Book references in this Bill of Complaint are to records in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County, Alabama.

#### FIVE

Complainant avers in the alternative, either

(i) that it is now and has been, and its predecessors in title have been, in actual, open, notorious, continuous, peaceable, adverse possession of said land under color of title for a period of ten (10) years prior to the filing of this Bill of Complaint;

or

(ii) that it is now and has been, and its predecessors in title have been, in actual, open, notorious, continuous, peaceable, adverse possession of said land for a period of more than three (3) years prior to the filing of this Bill of Complaint, holding said property under the title commencing with the tax deed more particularly described in FOUR above;

or

(iii) that it, and those under whom it claims, have held color of title to said property for the ten (10) years next preceding the filing of this Bill of Complaint and have paid taxes on said property during the whole of such period;

(iv) that it, and those under whom it claims, have paid taxes on said land during the ten (10) year period next preceding the filing of this Bill of Complaint and no other person, natural or artificial, has paid taxes on said land or any portion thereof during any part of said period,

or

(v) that it is in actual peaceable possession of said property under color of title and that no one other than your Complainant and those under whom it claims has to its knowledge been in actual possession of said land or any part thereof within ten (10) years of the filing of this Bill of Complaint, and no one other than your Complainant and those under whom it claims is known to your Complainant to claim said land or any part thereof or interest therein.

#### SIX

Complainant avers that there is no suit pending to test the title to said real estate or its interest in or right to possession of said land or any part thereof.

#### SEVEN

Complainant, in filing this Bill of Complaint seeking the aid of the Court of Equity, offers to do such equity on its part as this Court may decree and direct.

#### PRAYER FOR PROCESS

WHEREFORE, the premises considered, your Complainant prays that it might be allowed to file this, its verified Bill of Complaint, against the land hereinabove described and the Respondents hereinabove named; and that service of process be issued by the Register of this Court to MRS.
MILICH, if living, or, if deceased, the heirs or devisees

of MRS. MILICH, all of whose names and addresses are unknown; to BALDWIN COUNTY COLONIZATION COMPANY, if in existence, or the successors or assigns of BALDWIN COUNTY COLONIZATION COMPANY, all of which addresses are unknown; and to any and all unknown parties claiming any interest in, title to, lien or encumbrance upon said land or any part thereof, if any there be, by publication or other appropriate service, all in accordance with the rules and practices of this Honorable Court and the laws of the State of Alabama, requiring them to plead, answer or demur to the same within the time required by law; and Complainant further prays that a copy of said notice be certified by the Register of this Court, as correct, and be recorded as a Lis Pendens proceeding in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County, Alabama.

Complainant further prays that this Honorable Court will appoint forthwith a guardian ad litem to defend for any unknown parties who are under the age of twenty-one (21) years or who may be incompetent, and an attorney ad litem to defend for any unknown parties who might be in the Armed Services of the United States of America, or its Allies, within the meaning of the Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the premises considered, your Complainant prays that Your Honor will establish its right and title to said land and its interest therein, and will clear up all doubts and disputes concerning same, and that the title to said land be in your Complainant, absolutely and in fee simple, and that Your Honor will decree that no person, firm or corporation has any right, title or interest in, or encumbrance upon, said land or any part thereof, except your Complainant.

Your Complainant further prays that the Register of this Court shall be required to file in the Office of the Judge of Probate, Baldwin County, Alabama, a certified copy of said decree.

Your Complainant prays for all such other, further and different relief as it may be entitled to receive, the premises considered.

MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

By Othankor

STATE OF ALABAMA

Personally appeared before me the undersigned Notary Public in and for the State of Alabama at Large,

who being by me first duly sworn, deposes and says on oath that he is familiar with the contents of the above Bill of Complaint and that he has signed his name thereto as the President of MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION and that to the best of his knowledge, information and belief all of the facts in said Bill of Complaint are true and correct.

Harrankos Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me, the undersigned Notary Public in and for the State of Alabama at Large on this the \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of

1959.

Edwin I (urran h.

Notary Public, State of Alabama at Large

FILED

JUN 2 600

AIKE L WUIL CLERK REGISTER

-7-

# THE BALDWIN TIMES

JIMMY FAULKNER
PUBLISHER

Alabama's Best County's Best Newspaper

BAY MINETTE, ALABAMA

Date of 4th publication\_



#### AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF ALABAMA. BALDWIN COUNTY.  Being duly sworn, deposes and say: that he is the EDITOR of THE BALDWIN TIMES.
that he is the EDITOR of THE BALDWIN TIMES, a Weekly Newspaper published at Bay Minette, Baldwin County, Alabama; that the notice hereto attached of Pendemo Motice # 4605
COST STATEMENT  646 WORDS @ 62cents \$4/ =  I hereby certify this is correct, due and unpaid (paid).  Editor.
was published in said newspaper for £consecutive weeks in the following issues:
Date of 1st publication June 11 195 9 Vol 71 No 22
Date of 2nd publication June 18 , 195 9 Vol 7/ No. 23
Date of 3rd publication June 25, 195 9 Vol. 7/ No. 24

July 2, 195 9 Vol. 7/ No. 25 Subscribed and sworn before the undersigned this 2 day of July, 1957. Notary Public, Baldwin County.

MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, AS TRUSTEE UNDER ITEM FIVE OF THE IN THE CIRCUIT COURT } LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF OF GEORGE MARINOS, DECEASED, BALDWIN COUNTY. Complainant, ALABAMA vs. IN EQUITY MRS. MILICH, if living, or, if deceased, the heirs or devisees NUMBER 4605 of MRS. MILICH, BALDWIN COUNTY COLONIZATION COMPANY, LANDS DE- ) IN REM SCRIBED IN THE BILL, and any other persons, firms or corporations claiming any title to or interest in the Lands Described) in the Bill, Respondents.

### FINAL DECREE

THIS CAUSE being regularly set for trial and the same coming on to be heard in open court is submitted for final decree upon Complainant's verified bill of complaint and the answer of the Guardian Ad Litem, upon the decree pro confesso rendered therein, upon the testimony of P. E. FRANKOS, P. E. TETER, O. W. LYLES and EDWIN J. CURRAN, JR., taken orally before the Court, and upon the exhibits introduced into evidence all as noted by the Register; and the Court having full jurisdiction of the subject matter and having fully considered all of said matters and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court and the Court finds:

1. That the Complainant, MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, As Trustee Under Item Five of the Last Will and Testament of GEORGE MARINOS, Deceased, at the time of the filing of its bill of complaint in this cause, claimed in its capacity as such Trustee to own the fee simple title to and was in fact in the peaceable and adverse possession of the following described real property situated in Baldwin County, Alabama, to-wit:

Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 25, Township 7 South, Range 5 East.

with the exception of one-half (1/2) the oil, gas and minerals in , on and under said land which were reserved by Baldwin Timber and Naval Stores Co, Inc., in a deed dated November 25, 1950, and recorded in Deed Book 161, page 267;

- 2. That the Complainant, and those under whom it claims, have been in the actual, peaceable, exclusive and adverse possession of the above described lands under color of title for more than ten (10) years next preceding the filing of the bill of complaint in this cause and that it and those under whom it claims have assessed and paid taxes on said lands for more than ten (10) years next preceding the filing of the bill of complaint in this cause and no other persons, firms or corporations have assessed said lands or any part thereof for taxes or paid any taxes thereon during the whole of said period;
- 3. That at the time of the filing of the said bill of complaint, no suit was pending to test the title of Complainant to the lands hereinabove described or its interest in or right to the possession of said lands;
- 4. That Complainant, Malbis Memorial Foundation, As Trustee aforesaid, acquired its title to the above described property by virtue of the following instruments which were introduced into evidence in this cause, to-wit:
  - (a) Tax Deed from MRS. MILICH by JAMES M. VOLTZ, Judge of Probate, to A. M. DeCOUDRES, dated September 25, 1918, and recorded in Deed Book 27, page 427.
  - (b) Quitclaim Deed from A. M. DeCOUDRES and wife to JOHN BRASY dated April 5, 1929, and recorded in Deed Book 47, page 418.
  - (c) Warranty Deed from JOHN BRASY and wife to JOHN GAUNT dated October 2, 1929, and recorded in Deed Book 48, page 185.

- (d) Quitclaim Deed from JOHN GAUNT and wife to BALDWIN TIMBER AND NAVAL STORES CO., INC., dated March, 1935, and recorded in Deed Book 57, pages 2-3.
- (e) Quitclaim Deed from BALDWIN TIMBER AND NAVAL STORES CO., INC., to S. M. ADAMS, INC., dated November 25, 1950, and recorded in Deed Book 161, page 267.
- (f) Quitclaim Deed from S. M. ADAMS, INC., to GEORGE MARINOS, dated December 20, 1950, and recorded in Deed Book 161, pages 242-3.
- (g) Last Will and Testament of GEORGE MARINOS, Deceased, recorded in Will Book 2, page 130.
- All Deed Book and Will Book references in this Decree are to the records in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County, Alabama;
- 5. That the Complainant, Malbis Memorial Foundation,
  As Trustee aforesaid, is entitled to the relief prayed for
  in the bill of complaint;

# IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED BY THE COURT:

1. That the Complainant, MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION,
As Trustee Under Item Five of the Last Will and Testament
of GEORGE MARINOS, Deceased, is entitled to the relief prayed
for in the bill of complaint, and that the fee simple title
to the following described lands, to-wit:

Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 25, Township 7 South, Range 5 East,

claimed by the Complainant, has been duly proved;

2. That the Complainant, Malbis Memorial Foundation,

As Trustee under Item Five of the Last Will and Testament of GEORGE MARINOS, Deceased, is the owner of said lands and has a fee simple title thereto, free from all liens and encumbrances, with the exception noted above and that its title thereto be, and the same hereby is, confirmed and established, and all doubts, clouds and disputes concerning the same are hereby cleared up and removed;

- 3. That a certified copy of this decree be recorded by the Register in the proper record book in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County, Alabama; and
- 4. That the costs of this proceeding be, and the same hereby are, taxed against the Complainant, Malbis Memorial Foundation, As Trustee Under Item Five of the Last Will and Testament of GEORGE MARINOS, Deceased, for which let execution issue.

DONE THIS THE - 2/ day of September, 1959.

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STATE OF ALABAMA, BALOWIN COUNTY
Filed 10 30 37
Recorded 111 Euro 285 page 277780

MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, AS )
TRUSTEE UNDER ITEM FIVE OF THE
LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF
GEORGE MARINOS, DECEASED,

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT

OF

BALDWIN COUNTY,

ALABAMA

VS.

IN EQUITY

MRS. MILICH, if living, or, if deceased, the heirs or devisees of MRS. MILICH, BALDWIN COUNTY COLONIZATION COMPANY, LANDS DE-) SCRIBED IN THE BILL, and any other persons, firms or corporations claiming any title to or interest in the Lands Described ) in the Bill,

NUMBER 4605 IN REM

Respondents.

Complainant,

#### FINAL DECREE

THIS CAUSE being regularly set for trial and the same coming on to be heard in open court is submitted for final decree upon Complainant's verified bill of complaint and the answer of the Guardian Ad Litem, upon the decree proconfesso rendered therein, upon the testimony of P. E. FRANKOS, P. E. TETER, O. W. LYLES and EDWIN J. CURRAN, JR., taken orally before the Court, and upon the exhibits introduced into evidence all as noted by the Register; and the Court having full jurisdiction of the subject matter and having fully considered all of said matters and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court and the Court finds:

1. That the Complainant, MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, As Trustee Under Item Five of the Last Will and Testament of GEORGE MARINOS, Deceased, at the time of the filing of its bill of complaint in this cause, claimed in its capacity as such Trustee to own the fee simple title to and was in fact in the peaceable and adverse possession of the following described real property situated in Baldwin County, Alabama, to-wit:

Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 25, Township 7 South, Range 5 East,

with the exception of one-half (1/2) the oil, gas and minerals in , on and under said land which were reserved by Baldwin Timber and Naval Stores Co., Inc., in a deed dated November 25, 1950, and recorded in Deed Book 161, page 267;

- 2. That the Complainant, and those under whom it claims, have been in the actual, peaceable, exclusive and adverse possession of the above described lands under color of title for more than ten (10) years next preceding the filing of the bill of complaint in this cause and that it and those under whom it claims have assessed and paid taxes on said lands for more than ten (10) years next preceding the filing of the bill of complaint in this cause and no other persons, firms or corporations have assessed said lands or any part thereof for taxes or paid any taxes thereon during the whole of said period;
- 3. That at the time of the filing of the said bill of complaint, no suit was pending to test the title of Complainant to the lands hereinabove described or its interest in or right to the possession of said lands;
- 4. That Complainant, Malbis Memorial Foundation, As Trustee aforesaid, acquired its title to the above described property by virtue of the following instruments which were introduced into evidence in this cause, to-wit:
  - (a) Tax Deed from MRS. MILICH by JAMES M. VOLTZ, Judge of Probate, to A. M. DeCOUDRES, dated September 25, 1918, and recorded in Deed Book 27, page 427.
  - (b) Quitclaim Deed from A. M. DeCOUDRES and wife to JOHN BRASY dated April 5, 1929, and recorded in Deed Book 47, page 418.
  - (c) Warranty Deed from JOHN BRASY and wife to JOHN GAUNT dated October 2, 1929, and recorded in Deed Book 48, page 185.

- (d) Quitclaim Deed from JOHN GAUNT and wife to BALDWIN TIMBER AND NAVAL STORES CO., INC., dated March, 1935, and recorded in Deed Book 57, pages 2-3.
- (e) Quitclaim Deed from BALDWIN TIMBER AND NAVAL STORES CO., INC., to S. M. ADAMS, INC., dated November 25, 1950, and recorded in Deed Book 161, page 267.
- (f) Quitclaim Deed from S. M. ADAMS, INC., to GEORGE MARINOS, dated December 20, 1950, and recorded in Deed Book 161, pages 242-3.
- (g) Last Will and Testament of GEORGE MARINOS, Deceased, recorded in Will Book 2, page 130.
- All Deed Book and Will Book references in this Decree are to the records in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County, Alabama;
- 5. That the Complainant, Malbis Memorial Foundation, As Trustee aforesaid, is entitled to the relief prayed for in the bill of complaint;

# IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED BY THE COURT:

1. That the Complainant, MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, As Trustee Under Item Five of the Last Will and Testament of GEORGE MARINOS, Deceased, is entitled to the relief prayed for in the bill of complaint, and that the fee simple title to the following described lands, to-wit:

Northwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 25, Township 7 South, Range 5 East,

claimed by the Complainant, has been duly proved;

2. That the Complainant, Malbis Memorial Foundation,

As Trustee under Item Five of the Last Will and Testament of GEORGE MARINOS, Deceased, is the owner of said lands and has a fee simple title thereto, free from all liens and encumbrances, with the exception noted above and that its title thereto be, and the same hereby is, confirmed and established, and all doubts, clouds and disputes concerning the same are hereby cleared up and removed;

- 3. That a certified copy of this decree be recorded by the Register in the proper record book in the
  Office of the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County, Alabama;
  and
- 4. That the costs of this proceeding be, and the same hereby are, taxed against the Complainant, Malbis Memorial Foundation, As Trustee Under Item Five of the Last Will and Testament of GEORGE MARINOS, Deceased, for which let execution issue.

DONE THIS THE - 21 day of Swystemses, 1959.

Alabama, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of the cause, which said decree is on file and enrolled in my office.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL THIS THE AL day of Oct., 1952

Hubert M. Hall CIRCUIT JUDGE

Register of Circuit Court, in Equity

A10,5

FILED

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ALICE I DICK, CLERK REGISTER

MALBIS MEMORIAL FOUNDATION, AS TRUSTEE UNDER ITEM FIVE OF THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF GEORGE MARINOS, DECEASED,

Complainant,

VS.

MRS. MILICH, if living, or if deceased, the heirs or devisees of Mrs. Milich, BALDWIN COUNTY COLONIZATION COMPANY, LANDS DESCRIBED IN THE BILL and any other persons, firms or corporations claiming any title to or interest in the lands described in the bill,

Respondents.

IN THE

CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

IN EQUITY.

NO. 4605

HON. JOHN V. DUCK, GUARDIAN AD LITEM.

EDWIN J. CURREN, JR., SOLIDITOR FOR THE COMPLAINANT, BEING FIRST DULY SWORN, TESTIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

My name is Edwin J. Curren, Jr.; I have been retained by Malbis Memorial Foundation, as Trustee, under Item FIVE of the last will and testament of George Marinos, deceased, to research the title to those certain limber lands in Baldwin County, Alabama, which were bequeathed to the Foundation under Mr. Marinos! will will, to determine the status of the title to said property and to take such steps as necessary to clear the title. In each case there were a number of things which I did to determine the status of the title. In the first place I was furnished an abstract of title from Baldwin County Abstract Company, Bay Minette, Alabama, and upon receipt of

that abstract I examined same to determine where the record title is presently lying. In addition, I checked the directories in Bay Minette, Alabama, and Mobile, Alabama, and in other places where I had reason to believe that former owners might reside. checked the tax assessor's records in Baldwin County, Alabama, and talked personally with Mr. Tunstall, Tax Assessor, to determine if he knew of the whereabouts of any of the former record owners of the property. In a few instances he gave me possible addresses of such persons and in those cases I made efforts to locate the people. have checked the will books in the records of the Probate Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, and I have visited the property and in certain cases talked with persons who live in the neighborhood of the property to determine if they knew the identity or whereabouts of the former record owners. Through such research I was unable to locate any of such owners, or to determine if they were dead or alive or to determine if they had any heirs at law or next of kin who claimed any interest in the various parcels of property. I also conducted a search to determine if there were any suits pending to test the title or the right of possession to the various parcels of property and found that no suits had been filed prior to the filing of these law suits.

As to case No. 4605x which covers Northwest Quarter of Southeast Quarter, Section 25, Township 7 South, Range 5 East, I would like at this time to get the record title into the record.

As Complainant's  $E_X$ hibit 1, we introduce Swamp land Patent from the United States of America to State of Alabama, dated September 10, 1879, recorded in Deed Book 5, pages 219-222. (This is Identical to Complainant's Exhibit 1 in Case No.4604 and is attached to the testimony in Case 4604

Complainant's Exhibit 2: Patent from the State of Alabama to Perdido Bay Lumber Company, dated May 9, 1905, and recorded in Deed Book 8, page 672.

Complainant's Exhibit 3 - Quitclaim Deed from John Gaunt and Harhiet Gaunt to Baldwin Timber and Naval Stores Co., Inc. dated March, 1935, and recorded in deed Book 57 at pages 2-3.

COmplainant's Exhibit 4, Quitclaim Deed from Baldwin Timber & Naval Stores Company to S. M. Adams Company, Inc.

dated November 25, 1950, and recorded in Deed Book 161 at page 267.

Complainant's Exhibit 5- Q uitclaim Deed from S. M. Adams, Inc. to George Marinos, dated December 20, 1950, and recorded in Deed Book 161, pages 242-43. (This instrument will appear with the exhibits in case No. 4607.

Gomplainant's Exhibit 5. Last will and testament of George Marinos, which is Exhibit 1, in case 4600.

NO CROSS EXAMINATION OF THIS WITNESS BY MR. DUCK.

#### PAUL E. TETERI BENG FIRST DULY SWORN, TESTIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

Direct examination by Mr. Curren.

- Q. Will you state your name?
- A. Paul E. Teter.
- Q. Your occupation?
- A. I am in the abstract business.
- Q. Are you the owner of the Baldwin County Abstract Company?
- A. I am.
- Q. At my request, on behalf of the Malbis Memorial Foundation, did
  you prepare an abstract of title, in some cases a continuation of
  the abstract, to lands belonging to the Malbis Memorial
  Foundation?
- A. I did.
- Q. Also at my request, did you examine the records in the Tax

  Assessor's office to determine how the taxes were assessed and
  whether or not the taxes were paid on these particular parcels
  of land for a period of 10 years?
- A. I did.
- Q. Did you prepare a certificate setting forth your findings from this search?
- A. I did.
- Q. In making this search did you look for any double assessments that might be on record?
- A. Any shown on the plat book.
- Q. If there were anye did you indicate that on your certificate? (page 5)

- A. I did
- Q. Mr. Teter, what does the tax record show as to this land?
- A. Northwest Quarter of Southeast Quarter, Section 25, Township 7 South, Range 5 East, for the years 1948 through 1950 the property was assessed to Baldwin Timber & Naval Stores Company & Denniston Company/ The taxes were paid. For the years 1951 through 1956 the property was assessed to George Marinos and the taxes were paid.

For the years 1957 and 1958 the property was assessed to Malbis Memorial Foundation, Trustee and the Taxes were paid. I found No other assessment of the property during this period and no tax sales were indicated by the records.

P. E. FRANKOS, A WITNESS FOR THE COMPLAINANT, BEING FIRST DULY SWORN, TEST IF IED:

Examination by Mr. Curren.

- Q. What is your name, please?
- A. P. E. Frankos.
- Q. Are you President of Malbis Memorial Foundation?
- A. Yes sir.
- Q' That is a Charitable Corporation, founded under the Laws of the State of Alabama?
- A. Yes sir.
- O' Is that the same Malbis Memorial Foundation as set out in Item 5 of the Will of George Marinos, deceased?
- A. Yes sir.
- Q. Under the terms of that will is it not true that the foundation was left all of the timber lands which Mr. Marinos owned in Baldwin County, Alabama, with the obligation to sell the timbered lands within five years from the date of his death?
- A. That is what the will said.
- Q. What, if anything, did the Foundation do after the death of George Marinos, with the property that was bequeathed to them?
- A. As soon as we found out that he had made the will for us to sell that property like he specified in his will, we had our woodsman to locate the property and then look after it and we told Mr.

Lyles if he found anything wrong to notify us, because he was

out in the woods most of the time.

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- Q. Your woodsman, is he an employee of the Malbis Foundation, who looks after this land and other property which you have title to?
- A. That is right.
- Q. Is his function to go around from time to time and check on the property and see the condition?
- A. Yes sir.
- Q. Has Malbis Memorial Foundation, since it got title to this property cut or sold any of this property?
- A. Not one bit.
- Q. Is there any reason why they have not sold the timber?
- A. Because we wanted to sell it all together and give three-fourts
- of the proceeds to the Merchants National Bank like the will said.
- Q. The will does not give you the right to sell the timber?
- A. No.
- Q. Has Malbis Memorial Foundation paid taxes on this property since it received this property?
- A. Yes, for 1957 and 1958.
- Q. Any other evidence of ownership thas Malbis Memorial Foundation has exercised in connection with this property?
- A. Well we had several calls from people that wanted to buy pieces of the land and they come in and ask us to sell it.
- Q. What about fire protection?
- A. We have the County or State Fire Control; we pay them six cents

an acre for watching it.

- Q. You have paid them with respect to the property you received from George Marinos?
- A. Yes sir.
- Q. Does your land manivisit this property from time to time?
- A. Yes sir.
- Q. To determine if it is in good condition?
- A. Yes sir.

#### NO CROSS EXAMINATION BY MR. DUCK. GUARDIAN AD LITEM.

O. W. LYLES, BEING FIRST DULY SWORN, TESTIFIED FOR THE COMPLAINANT

#### AS FOLLOWS:

Examination by Mr. Curren.

- Q. What is your name, please?
- A. C. W. Lyles.
- Q. Who do you work for?
- A. S. M. Adems, Inc.
- Q. What is the business of S. M. Adams, Inc?
- A. Timber--
- q. How long have you been working for S. M. Adems, Inc?
- A. A little over 13 years.
- Q. Do you know George Marinos?
- A. I did know him.
- Q. What was your association with Mr. Marinos?
- A. I cut a lot of timber for him at various times; in fact, I cut all over all of his land between the and the time of his death,

excusing one tract in Lillian Swamp that I couldn't get to.

- Q. Did you work for Mr. Marinos?
- A. At one time I did for two years.
- Q. At the same time you worked for S. M. Adams?
- A. Yes sir.
- Q. Do you know Mr. P. E. Frankos of Malbis Memorial Foundation?
- A. Yes sir.
- Q. Do you know Mr. Mathews who looks after the property?
- A. I do.
- Q. Have either of these gentlemen requested that you look after their property in Baldwin County, Alabama, on your trips through the county?
- A. Yes sir.
- C. Do you, from time to time check the property of Malbis Memorial Foundation?
- A. I do.
- Q. Are you familiar with the various parcels of property involved in the law suits under discussion?
- . Yes sir.
- Q. You have gone over the description of the property with me?
- A. Yes sir.
- Q. You have looked at the property on a map of Baldwin County?
- A. I have.
- Q. Have you personally visited every percel of property involved in these law suits?

- A. I have I think a little more than that; I have make ed the timber on every parcel.
- Q. You testify that you have marked the timber on every parcel of timber involved in these law suits?
- A. That is right.
- Q. Has that been since the time Mr. Marinos owned the property?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Have you ever cut any timber from these parcels?
- A. From all parts.
- O. What was the nature of the cutting?
- A. Improvement cutting thinning and cutting the trees that have been worked for turpentine.
- Q. Do you know of anyk other than Malbis Memorial Foundation claiming to own the property since the death of George Marinos?
- A. No.
- Q. During the time you were familiar with these parcels of property while they were owned by George Marinos, did you know of any one else claiming any right or title to the lands?
- A. No I didnot.
- Q. Did the title of certain of these pieces of property come through S. M. Adams, Inc?
- A. Yes sir.
- Q. Was the timber cut prior to the time it was sold to George Marinos by S. M. Adams, Inc.?
- A. Yes it was.

No cross examination of this witness by Mr. Duck, as Guardian ad Liten

### CERTIFICATE:

I hereby certify that theforegoing, consisting of pages 1 to 12, both inclusive, correctly sets forth a true and correct transcript of the testimony in the above styled cause, as taken by me in open Court on August 19, 1959.

This 25th day of October, 1959.

Louis Ansulary

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in Baldwin County, State of Alabama.

There is therefore by these presents granted by the State of Alabama in conformity with the requirements of said acr and to the extent there in authorized all the right and interest in said lands which the State had prior to said sales by John R. Tompkins, Receiver, etc., and Henry St. Paul, Agent, etc., to said Opeals and Scott, with all the appurtenances thereunto helonging, unto the said perdide Ray Durber Company, and its successors, and maximum.

Que als and Scott, with eli the appurtenences thereunto helonging, unto the war Perdido Bay Dumber Company, and its successors and assignational Testimony Whereof, I have caused these letters to be made Patent and the Arest of the State of Alabama to be affixed at the Capitol in the City of Montgomery, this Oth day of May, A. D., one thousand nine numbered and five, and the Independence of the United States the one mandred and twenty minth

Wm. D. Jelks, Covernor of Alabama. (Seal) By the Governor: E. R. McDavid, Secretary of State. (Recorded in Book Patents 1, Page 159) year• (Seal)

Filed for record May 24, 1905, at 10 A- M. Recorded May 30, 1905.

J. H. Smith, Judge of Probate.

# The State of Alabama, Baldwin County.

### PROBATE COURT

I, W. R. STUART, Judge of Pro	bate Cour	t in and for	said State a	and County, he	reby certify
hat the within and foregoing	one (1	.) photost	atic	***************************************	pages
contain a full, true and complete copy of the	State	Patent -	Alabama	to Perdido	Bay
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s the same appears of record in my office in-	D	eed		Book No	88
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Given under my hand and seal of office, this-	I/th	day of	Augus	it .	, 19 <u>59</u>
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STATE OF ALABAMA BALLWIN COUNTY

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THIS INDENTURE, made and entered into on this the - -day of March, 1935, by and between JOHN GAUNT and HARRIET GAUNT, his wife, of the first part, and BALDWIN TIMBER AND NAVAL STORES CO., INC., of the second part, WITNESSETH:-

That for and in consideration of the sum of One Pollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration to parties of the first part this day cash in hand paid by party of the second part, teceipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, parties of the first part have and by these presents do hereby REMISE, HELEASE, QUIT CLAIM AND CONVEY unto party of the second part, the following described real property in Baldwin County, Alabama, viz:-

West half of Southwest quarter of Section Six, Township Birth South of Range Six Past; Northeast quarter of Southwest quarter Section Six, Township Eight South of Range Six Bast; Bast half of Northwest quarter, Southwest Quarter of Northwest Quarter of Section Thirty-one, Southwest Quarter of South of Range Six East; Northwest Quarter of Section Twelve, Township Seven South of Range Five Bast; Northwest Quarter of Southeast Quarter of Section Twentyfive, Township Seven South of Range Five East; Northwest Quarter of Northwest Quarter of Section Twentyfive, Township Seven, Township Seven South of Range Five Bast; (Southeast Quarter of Southwest Quarter of Section Thirty-Five, Township Bight South of Range Four Bast; Northwest Quarter of Section Thirty-Five, Township Bight South of Range Four Bast.

Together with, all and singular, the rights, benefits, privileges, improvements, tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances into the same belonging or in any wise appertaining.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD unto the said party of the second part, its successors and assigns, POREVER.

IN WITHESS Whencop, the parties of the first part hereunto set their hands and affix their seals on this the day and year first above written.

STATE OF ALABAMA BALDWIN COUNTY

I, W. E. COONEY, a Notary Public in and for said State and county, hereby certify that John Gaunt and Harriet Gaunt, mis wife, whose names are signed to the foregoing instrument and who are known to me, acknowledged before me on this day that, being informed of the contents of the instrument, they executed the same voluntarily on the day the same bears date.

Given under my hand and Notarial Seal hereto affixed by me, this 18 day of March, 1935.

W. E. COONEY, Notary Public, Baldwin County, State of Alabama.

SHARES

STATE OF ALABAMA BALLWIN COUNTY

I, W. E. COUNEY, a Notary Public in and for said State and County, hereby certify that on the - - way of march, 1935, came before me the within named Harriet Gaunt, known to me to be the wife of the within named John Gaunt, who, being examined separate and apart from the husband touching her signature to the within instrument, acknowledged that she signed the same of her own free will and accord and without fear, constraints or threats on the part of the husband.

Given under my hand and Notarial Peal this 18 day of March, 1935.

W. E. COONEY, Notary Public, Balawin County, State of Alabama.

SEAD.

STATE OF ALABAMA BALDWIN COUNTY PROBLIE COURT

Filed in office this 12 day of April, A. D. 1935 at 2:50 P. M. and duly recorded in Deed Book 57 N. S. Pages 2-3; and I certify that \$5 cts 50 Deed tax has been paid as required by law.
G. W. Mobertson, Judge of Probate by J. L. Kessler, Clerk.

G. W. Robertson, Judge of Probate

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# The State of Alabama, Baldwin County.

### PROBATE COURT

I, W. R. STUART, Judge of Proba	te Court in and for s	said State and County, here	eby certify
that the within and foregoingtwo	(2) photostatic	3	pages
contain a full, true and complete copy of the	Quitclaim Dec	ed from John Gaunt to	Baldwin
Timber and Naval Stores Company	- TTTTS VILLA LA TTT		
Andrew Control of the		-	
as the same appears of record in my office in	Deed	Book No.—	57
page <u>\$ 2-3</u>			
	17+h	A	50
Given under my hand and seal of office, this	day of_	August	_, 19 <u>59</u>
		Withour	t
	Bv:	Jany M. D'Dle	of Probate <del>스스 Chief</del> Clerk
Moor	a Printing Co.		

STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY CAMP. CHA GUIT CLAIM DEED
Sold by BIDGOOD STATIONERY CO., Mobile

and other good and valuable consideration it in hand paid by S. M. Adams. Inc., he receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, he said S. M. Adams, Inc., he sai	do do ded real es arter (SE ) of Sou bama.	remise, r	all. lands), to-w tion 25, T Quarter (S	its rig	on 29,
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