

William Leckie, Trader in Paramaribo

A Diorama of 1820

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In 1800 a new life began for twenty-year-old Englishman William Leckie and his mistress Jane Ann Gill in Paramaribo, the capital of the Dutch colony of Surinam. We do not know how old Jane Ann Gill was, but we do know that she was probably still married when she went to Paramaribo with Leckie. Surinam was not that unusual a choice for an Englishman, particularly since the colony was temporarily in English hands between 1799 and 1802 and from 1804 to 1815. Even before this, though, many English people were to be found in Surinam and the surrounding countries: plantation owners, traders and marines who had remained there. The lovers' move to the warm west must initially have been dictated by personal motives, but in hindsight it also proved to be a sensible and professional decision. Twenty years later, by then a successful merchant, Leckie made his will, and in that same year he commissioned the local artist Gerrit Schouten (1779-1839) to record the neighbourhood of Paramaribo where he lived in detail in a diorama (fig. 1).

Schouten had made dioramas his speciality. They were peep-show boxes – wooden structures filled with figures, houses and means of transport, all made of painted paper. He must have been particularly pleased with Leckie's commission. It is after

Detail of fig. 1.

all one of the few surviving examples of his work in which he captured urban life in such detail, with so much attention to the various ships, carts and porters, people in the street and minutiae of the buildings. For many years the diorama belonged to Leckie's descendants in Great Britain; since the summer of 2007 it has been part of the Rijksmuseum's collection, which already contained four of Schouten's dioramas.¹ Knowing the client's name enables us to build up an image of the environment in which this diorama was ordered. Who was William Leckie? And what can we find out about him in the archives in the Netherlands, Great Britain and Surinam?

William Leckie

Leckie and Gill arrived in Surinam some time during 1800. This can be gathered from a description of Paramaribo in 1832 which reports that Leckie had been living in Surinam for twenty-four years when he died in 1824.² We do not know which town or region in England the couple came from or what Leckie's life had been like before the journey.³ The earliest reference in archives or publications that there was a William Leckie residing in Paramaribo dates from 15 June 1802.⁴ That day's *Surinaamsche Courant* reports Wm Leckie & Comp's



request for the manumission (release) of the young slave François. This tells us that Leckie already had a business at that time, and it also reveals that shortly after his arrival in Surinam Leckie had become the owner of at least one slave. Four slaves are recorded by Leckie's name in the 1811 census. And in 1818 and 1823 a number of applications for manumission also point to his being a slave owner.⁵ Leckie considered slaves to be a commodity as well as property. He placed a notice in the *Surinaamsche Courant* in 1805 under his own name, along with J.G. Williams and J. Martyn (an English notary), in which they announced that the remainder of the slaves that had arrived aboard the *Apollo* were to be sold on the lot behind the house of Mr P. Beranger on 21 August of that year, on three months credit.⁶

Leckie's firm purchased all kinds of goods. These were imported by boat from America and Europe. There were luxury products like fine linen, cotton

hammocks, silk parasols and silver cutlery, but also such everyday items as tobacco, candles and tea. When a ship containing goods arrived a notice was placed in the *Surinaamsche Courant*, as Leckie did in 1809: 'WIM LECKIE and COMP. have received by the ship HOPWELL from London; a General Assortment of Mixed Goods, including very fine Linens and some Elegant Muslins ...' And on 8 January 1825 the firm announced: 'Landed from the Brig Thomas Capt. LAPHAM from Boston: New Cod in casks and boxes, Herring, Mackerel, superfine Flour, Tobacco, Spermaceti, Candles and Planks. And still in stock Meat and Bacon, composition Candles, Soap, Pitch, Tea, Sugar Lime, Salt &c &c &c Wm Leckie & Comp.' Paramaribo was so small that it was not necessary to include the address. Leckie's shop was probably on the Waterkant – the waterfront – or in Saramaccastraat behind it. This was where the ware-

Fig. 1

Diorama of the Waterkant in Paramaribo, 1820. Paper, wood, 70.7 x 102 x 40 cm. Amsterdam Rijksmuseum (inv. no. NG-2007-50). Purchased with the aid of the Mondrian Foundation, Dr Hendrik Muller's Vaderlandsch Fonds and the Rijksmuseum Fund.

houses, craftsmen's workshops and shops had been established at the beginning of the 19th century. Leckie had not, though, entirely cut his ties with his home country. From the outset one of his partners was the merchant David Knox from London, who may have known Leckie before he went to Surinam. The Englishmen Alexander Ferrier and later Thomas B. Parry are also named as partners in Leckie & Co.

It seems that the Englishman had several different irons in the fire in Surinam. In the *Surinaamse Almanak* in 1820 the firm is mentioned as the first of two 'geprivilegeerde kruidenverkoopers' (authorized herb sellers) – the pharmacists of their day. The same almanac also twice includes Leckie under his own name; as the administrator of the cotton plantation 'Johanna en de Zwarigheid' and having the same function at the 'Harmony' cotton plantation.⁷ The administrator's job was to look after the financial control of the plantation, a task that was often carried out from Paramaribo. Both plantations were situated on the Vredenburg Kreek so that the post of administrator at these neighbouring plantations could easily be combined.

These were good years for the cotton planters. From the end of the 18th century the industrial revolution in England made it possible to process cotton mechanically, leading to spiralling demand for the product. For most of the 18th century the Vredenburg Kreek was of little use, but in 1790 the creek was linked to the ocean by a canal, and six cotton plantations were laid out on either side. The newly empoldered marshy ground with its soft clay was ideal for growing cotton, so the yields in those years were high. 1825 was a bumper year; no fewer than 1,165 tons of cotton were produced throughout Surinam, whereas in 1860 the figure was a mere 309 tons.⁸ The 1821 almanac lists Leckie as the administrator of the Harmony plantation only, since the Irishman Edward Conolly had taken his place at the other plantation.⁹ Things may have been going so well for Leckie that he had to give up some of his sidelines in order to focus on his trading firm.

During this period Leckie lived in a substantial property on the Waterkant at number 136. He is referred to as the owner of this property on a survey map dated 1813, but he may have owned it before that (fig. 2).¹⁰ The house can be

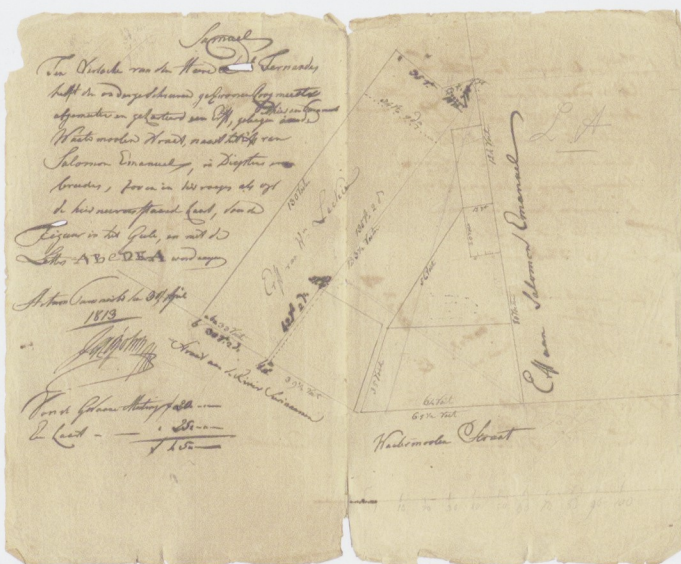


Fig. 2

Survey map by the surveyor J.G.R. Bohm, commissioned by Samuel Fernandes. Dated 1813. Surinam National Archive Department, archive no. 319.

seen in the well-known aquatint which F. Dieterich made in 1817 after a drawing from the collection of P. Beranger (fig. 3 and p. 257).¹¹ It is the house with the high gable to the left of the Koepelkerk. Gerrit Schouten also showed this part of the Waterkant in a diorama dated 1819 which is in the collection of the Central Bank in Paramaribo.¹² It shows the same house, but now with an extension to the front, on the street side. The extension provided the first and second floors with balconies and created a veranda on the ground floor. We get an even better view of this extension in the diorama that Schouten made a year later. The house at number 136 immediately stands out because of its bright green painted shutters. Leckie was flourishing and he got Schouten to capture his newly

renovated house and the prosperity that he was enjoying at that time in this ambitious diorama (fig. 1).

Activity on the Waterkant

The diorama shows the Waterkant, from the Knuffelsgracht on the left to the corner of Watermolenstraat on the right. On the far left we can see The Swan Inn, identified by its signboard. There are two men standing in the doorway, each with a glass in his hand. An officer on horseback passes by. The inn had an extension (which had not been built when Dieterich made his print) in which the boot and shoemaker Thomas Miller had his workshop. Miller is working on a pair of boots while his client stands waiting in the doorway. Schouten pictured the extension and the drainage system in great detail (fig. 4).

Fig. 3
F. DIETERICH,
*Paramaribo on the
River Surinam*, 1817.
Aquatint. National
Archives Collection,
The Hague.





Fig. 4

Detail of fig. 1 with the Miller's shoemaker extension (detail NG-2007-50).

Fig. 5

Parasol used by C.R.T. Krayenhoff, used during his stay in Surinam in 1825. Amsterdam Rijksmuseum (inv. no. BK-NM-9669).

The Engelsche Brug crosses the Knuffelsgracht, which was named after Johan Friedrich Knöffel, who for years had owned the building housing the inn. The large property on the other side of the bridge numbered 140 is a fabrics and china shop owned by A.H. de Vries. De Vries displayed a splendid assortment of Frisian cotton prints and other fabrics on the windowsills and inside the shop, items that he may have bought through Leckie. The silk umbrellas or parasols that an advertisement said Leckie had in stock would have been characteristic of the street scene – they seem to have been available exclusively in green (fig. 5).¹³ There are a number of umbrellas in the diorama, like the one under the arm of the clergyman who is passing De Vries's shop. A group of Indians stands in front of the shop with three parrots and a red and blue macaw on a stick.

We do not know who lived in the next three houses around 1820, but number 136 was William Leckie's house and Schouten cut out a little heart and placed it above the house number, possibly as a subtle reference to the fact that his client lived there. According to family tradition, the figure in a white shirt and trousers and





Fig. 6
Detail of fig. 1 of
people in front
of Leckie's house
(detail NG-2007-50).

a green checked jacket in front of the door of number 136 is meant to be William Leckie (fig. 6). However this is hard to reconcile with the figure's dark complexion. Schouten was meticulous in his indication of the diversity of skin colours in his dioramas. We can also see this in this diorama of the Waterkant, in which he actually seems to have tried to include all the varied street scenes that could be encountered in Paramaribo. This kind of accuracy is at odds with the suggestion that Schouten gave the figure that represented his client a dark skin. The two Creole ladies that 'Leckie' is talking to likewise cannot be a reference to the Englishwoman, Jane Ann Gill. Might Schouten perhaps have depicted his client somewhere else in the diorama?

Another source is useful in answering this question. It is a coloured drawing which, like the diorama, was owned by William Leckie's direct descendants until recently and is dated 1813 (fig. 7).¹⁴ We can see four men playing cards by candlelight. The title is 'Whist Party Surinam 1813'. The

provenance and the date of the drawing make it more likely than not that William Leckie is portrayed in it. Two men are candidates: the one whom we see on the left in profile and the man on his left portrayed full face. The other two men are English soldiers and can therefore be discounted. The customs house can be seen on the quay near number 136. It was the place where the incoming ships had to pay their import duties. Beside it was one of the landing stages where ships were loaded and unloaded at low water, known locally as the Plattebrug. There are two white men standing on the landing stage, one of whom has a piece of paper in his hand (fig. 8). He has a pronounced nose similar to that of the figure on the left in the drawing of the card players. Is it William Leckie in both cases, and did Schouten show his client 'in action', busy with papers on the quay of the Waterkant?

There can be no doubt that the Waterkant was an important place for Leckie. Merchantmen like the ship that Schouten shows on the left of the



Fig. 7
ANONYMOUS
(English school),
Whist Party Surinam,
1813. Drawing,
15.4 x 20.6 cm.
Amsterdam
Rijksmuseum
(inv. no. NG-2009-1).

Fig. 8
Detail of fig. 1 of
two men beside
the customs house
(detail NG-2007-50).



diorama arrived here from across the seas. Once import duties had been paid, the cargoes could be transferred on to the carts which at that time transported goods throughout Paramaribo for four *schellingen* a load. Outside Paramaribo, a trip cost six to eight *schellingen*.¹⁵ These were simple carts that consisted of a wide ladder on two wheels, drawn by a horse or a mule. Pongos, flat boats with banana leaf canopies that protected the goods from the scorching sun, were generally used for deliveries to the plantations in the hinterland. The plantation owner was conveyed in a tent boat, or plantation barge (fig. 9). Schouten also showed this kind of vessel in the diorama as if he wanted to give a representative idea of the different ships that a passerby could have seen on the Waterkant. Tent boats had a covered section, where the plantation owner and his family and guests could sit comfortably in the shade, and a section where the oarsmen sat. It was a pleasant way of travelling, although it was important to take maximum advantage of the tide.

The Town Fire of 1821

The dimensions of the box, the number of figures, the detail and the faithful

reproduction of the topographical reality make the diorama of the Waterkant one of the finest pieces by Gerrit Schouten we know of. It is also important in another respect: a year after it was made, that part of Paramaribo burned to the ground. This event makes the diorama an extremely important historical source. The fire broke out on Sunday 21 January 1821 in the backyard of a house on the Waterkant. The fire rapidly crossed to a warehouse behind the house and then spread quickly, fanned by the wind. Four hundred houses and eight hundred warehouses and outbuildings were destroyed. Public buildings, among them churches, the theatre, the weigh-house and the offices of the Board of Orphans, also went up in flames. H. Uden Masman Sr, minister of the Koepelkerk, described the fire and its dramatic consequences, 'At the end of the Watermolenstraat, at the Waterkant, the fire crossed over the house or office of the customs officer to the other side of the street, and about ten in the evening both this side of it and the Waterkant and the Knuffelsgracht were burned down as far as the so called 'English Bridge'. In extraordinary confusion, the house of the innkeeper Schwaan, which was

Fig. 9
Detail of fig. 1
of a tent boat
(detail NG-2007-50).



across the bridge, and was already in flames upstairs, was pulled down into the Heiligenweg, instead of being pulled down to the Knuffelsgracht side; this naturally caused the large warehouse of Mr J.C. Stuger, which was on the corner of the Heiligenweg and the Waterkant, so right across from the aforesaid Inn, and was full of several hundred bottles of liquor, oil and all kinds of flammable materials, (which people were still busy carrying away from there, as well as the greater part of the other goods,) to be suddenly struck by the burning sections of the above-mentioned demolished building, and quickly consumed by the ferocious flames.¹⁶

Leckie's house, recently redecorated and renovated, was reduced to ashes too. The diorama, however, was spared, as was the drawing of 1813. Evidently some of the household effects were rescued. The heart of the town was destroyed, but it was quickly rebuilt, often on the stone foundations of the houses that had been there before, which were replaced with new houses that were almost indistinguishable from them. The surveyor A.H. Hiemcke recorded the corner of the Waterkant and the Watermolenstraat in a survey map dated 23 May 1824.¹⁷ The corner property had been divided into two wedge-shaped lots. The section on the Waterkant was designated as LBN 136 and was the property of William Leckie.

1820, the Will

William Leckie made a will in 1820, the year in which the diorama was made, but unfortunately without mention of it.¹⁸ Leckie bequeathed various sums to his sister Sophia and his brothers Remington and James Henry. His daughter Ann was to receive the largest amount, £10,000, but with strict conditions attached. Until she came of age the money was to be placed in a fund, the interest from which would provide for her mainte-

nance. She was not allowed to marry before her twenty-first birthday without the permission of her Aunt Sophia, who would act as her guardian. And if she did marry, her husband would never have any control of her fortune. Jane Ann was left an annual allowance. She was also to inherit all of the furniture, linen, plate and books, with the exception of the desk that was reserved for Sophia and the Encyclopedia Britannica, which was to go to a certain George van Leckie. This George worked at Leckie & Company, and, to judge by his surname, was probably the slave called George whom William freed on 6 May 1818.¹⁹ The slaves Henry and Bruno had to work for Jane Ann for seven years, after which – according to the prevailing law – they would be allowed to claim their freedom provided that they had behaved well during this period. On 14 October 1822 William added a further codicil in which, among other things, he recommended his partners and good friends David King and Alexander Ferrier to take on Thomas B. Parry as a partner in the firm. William Leckie died on 8 April 1824 *en route* from Surinam to England on board the *Anna Maria*. His loyal slave, William van Leckie, was with him and saw to it that all his master's papers and possessions reached Sophia safely. On or about 28 April the ship arrived 'in the Downs', from where Captain John J. Haynes immediately sent a letter to David Knox 'Crescent Minorities London merchant' to inform him of the death of William Leckie whilst on board his ship.²⁰ William van Leckie stayed with Leckie's sister Sophia at Mornington Place (Southampton Row, Middlesex) while all his master's affairs were settled.

A marble memorial to Leckie was placed in the Lutheran church in Paramaribo, but it was lost in the next great fire that ravaged Paramaribo in 1832. Marten Douwes Teenstra described the memorial in his 'Particu-

lars concerning the fire in Paramaribo, in the night of the 3rd and 4th September 1832: 'Immediately opposite the organ on the East wall above the pulpit there are the words on a stone 'Gloria in excelsis Deo 1768'. At the back or North wall, a marble memorial had been placed, now completely burned to powder, in memory of the English merchant William Leckie Esq., who after twenty-four years in the colony, died on the 8th April 1824 at the age of forty-five. There was also on this monument, "In the midst of life we are in death" and in the same language the words found in the Gospel according to St John XI 25 and 26'.²¹

We do not know what became of Jane Ann and their daughter Ann. They are not mentioned in the 1828 Paramaribo district register.²² It does, though, reveal that in that year numbers 136 / 137 Waterkant were occupied by Leckie's former partner, Thomas B. Parrij (or Parry), thirty-four years old. Johannis Cornelis van Ferrier, forty-nine years old, also lived there; he may have been a freed slave

of the other partner Alexander Ferrier. There were thirteen other people registered at that address. Parry probably bought Leckie's house after his death. At first the firm of W. Leckie & Comp. continued to do business under the same name, run by his partners Ferrier and Parry. From 1826 announcements were published in the *Courant* under the name of A. Ferrier & Comp.²³

Little concrete evidence of the twenty years that William Leckie spent in the colony has survived: only one or two entries in the archives and Gerrit Schouten's diorama. The diorama was handed down through the family by way of Sophia Leckie and must have been shipped to England together with the desk in the second quarter of the 19th century, eventually finding its way to the Rijksmuseum's collection as an extremely detailed reproduction of a bustling and colourful Surinam in the first half of the nineteenth century.

NOTES

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Mr P. Dikland (Surinam), Mr and Mrs D. Robinson (Great Britain) and Mr T. Wareham (Museum of London, Great Britain).

- 1 See for a recent description of all the dioramas in the Rijksmuseum collection: C. Medendorp, with contributions by E. Sint Nicolaas, *Kijkkasten uit Suriname. De diorama's van Gerrit Schouten*, Amsterdam 2008.
- 2 The fact that Leckie arrived in Surinam in 1800 comes from Marten Douwes Teenstra, *Bijzonderheden betrekkelijk den brand te Paramaribo, in den nacht van den 3den op den 4den september 1832*, which mentions that William Leckie had been in the colony for twenty-four years when he died in 1824.

- 3 William Leckie may have come from London. His sister lived there (Mornington Place Southampton Row, Middlesex). In 1824 she is registered as a 'spinster' and may have been living in her parents' house. There is also a Geo. Leckie mentioned in *Kent's Directory for the Year 1794. Cities of London and Westminster, & Borough of Southwark. An alphabetical List of the Names and Places of Abode of the Directors of Companies, Persons in Public Business, Merchts., and other eminent Traders in the Cities of London and Westminster, and Borough of Southwark*. He is referred to as an 'insurance-broker' at 1, Artillery-place, Moorfields. In the William L. Clements Library in the University of Michigan there are forty-eight letters from members of the Leckie family, who traded between Jamaica, Great Britain and America. These letters do not reveal any connection with William Leckie in Surinam.

- 4 *Surinaamsche Courant* 15 June 1802, consultable on www.surinaamsepers.net
- 5 The 1811 Surinam Census can be consulted on microfiche at the National Archives in The Hague. The original is in London, Public Record Office CO 278/15-32. William Leckie is registered under number 15, as a single man with four slaves. Jane Ann Gill does not appear in the census. For manumissions see: Okke ten Hove, Wim Hoogbergen and Heinrich E. Helstone, *Surinaamse emancipatie 1863: Paramaribo: slaven en eigenaren*, Amsterdam 2004.
- 6 *Surinaamsche Courant* August 1805, consultable on www.surinaamsepers.net
- 7 The Johanna en de Zwarigheid Plantation was jointly run by English and Dutch staff, whereas the Harmony Plantation was staffed entirely by English people. Johanna en de Zwarigheid Plantation: property owners heirs of P. de Smeth 50% and Geo Case 50%, management J.M. Karg and administration E.G. Veldwijk, H. Paerle and Wm Leckie. Harmony Plantation: owners J. Oeton and P. Caddell, management: J. Caddell and administration Wm Leckie. *Surinaamsche Almanak* for the year 1820, in KIT library, RN-24.
- 8 Information on the Surinam National Archives website www.nationaalarchief.sr
- 9 Johanna en de Zwarigheid Plantation: property owners heirs of P. de Smeth 50% and Geo Case 50%, management J.M. Karg and administration E.G. Veldwijk, E. Conolly. Harmony Plantation: owners J. Oeton and P. Caddell, management: J. Caddell and administration Wm Leckie. *Surinaamsche Almanak* for the year 1821
- 10 Survey map drawn by the surveyor J.G.R. Bohm and commissioned by Samuel Fernandes. This reveals that Leckie owned no.136 in 1813 (current plot LAN 222b). It is the wedge between Salomon Emanuels' property in Watermoolenstraat and Leckie's property on the Waterkant. Leckie's ownership was not the reason for commissioning the survey map. Surinam National Archive Department, archive no. 319. Information supplied by Philip Dikland.
- 11 Aquatint by F. Dieterich after the drawing 'Paramaribo on the River Surinam'. National Archives Collection, The Hague.
- 12 View of Paramaribo's Waterkant, signed lower left G. Schoüten fecit 1819, 56.5 x 44.5 x 22 cm, collection of the Central Bank of Surinam.
- 13 Announcement in the *Surinaamsche Courant* Wednesday 4 January 1826, in the KIT library under RN-24.
- Gaspard Philippe Charles van Breugel, *Dagverhaal van eene reis naar Paramaribo en verdere omstreken in de kolonie Suriname*, C.G. Sulpke, Amsterdam 1842 'Niet weinig verwonderd was ik, te zien, dat men in de stad met zijden parapluies liep, even als in Europa; doch zij dienen hier tevens als parasols, en worden verkocht voor vijftig en zestig gulden Surinaamsch', (I was not a little surprised to see that, as in Europe, people walked around with silk umbrellas, but here they also serve as parasols and are sold for fifty and sixty Surinam guilders).
- 14 NG-2009-1, anonymous (English school), dated 1813, 15.4 x 20.6 cm.
- 15 Lammens, A.F. *Bijdragen tot de kennis van de kolonie Suriname, tijdvak 1816-1822* (Contributions to the Social Geography and Town and Country Planning no. 3) Free University, Amsterdam 1982.
- 16 *Kort verslag van den zwaren brand te Paramaribo, hoofdplaats der kolonie Suriname, op den 21 januarij 1821 voorgevallen (1821)*. 'Aan het einde van de Watermolen - Straat, aan den Waterkant, over het huis of bureau van den kommissies ter Recherche, sloeg de brand over aan de overzijde van deze straat, en ongeveer tien ure 's avonds, was zoowel deze zijde daarvan, als de Waterkant en Knuffels - Gracht tot bij de zoogenoemde Engelsche brug afgebrand. In eene buitengewone verwarring werd het huis van den herbergier SCHWAAN, hetwelk over deze brug stond, en reeds van boven in de vlammen was, in de Straat van den Heiligen Weg omver gehaald, in plaats van hetzelfde naar de zijde van de Knuffels - Gracht ter neder te werpen; dit gaf natuurlijk aanleiding, dat het groote pakhuis van den heer J.C. STUGER, hetwelk op den hoek van den Heiligen - Weg en Waterkant, dus juist over voorsz. Herberg gelegen - en vol was met verscheidene honderden flesschen likeur, olie, en velerhande brandbare stoffen, (welke men nog bezig was, van daar, benevens het grootste gedeelte der overige goederen, weg te voeren.) eensklaps door de brandende deelen van voormeld neêrgehaald gebouw aangetast, en spoedig door de hevige vlammen verteerd werd.'
- 17 The surveyor A.H. Hiemcke made a map of the corner of Waterkant and Watermoolenstraat on 23 May 1824. The corner property was then divided into two wedges. The section on the Waterkant was indicated as LBN 136 and was owned by William Leckie. The section in the Watermoolenstraat belonged to C.F. Thevin fils. We do not know whether the plots had already been

- built on. Surinam National Archive Department, archive no. 319. Information supplied by Philip Dikland.
- 18 The manuscript of the will dated 25 March 1820 is in the Rijksmuseum collection: inv. no. NG-2008-15. It also contains the codicil of 14 October 1822. The 'approved' version is in the British National Archives in Kew Gardens, London: PROB 11/1678, refs 126 and 127.
- 19 Okke ten Hove, Wim Hoogbergen and Heinrich E. Helstone, *Surinaamse emancipatie 1863: Paramaribo: slaven en eigenaren*, Amsterdam 2004. George (m) mulatto, child (number 132 in the register of freed slaves) Freed on 6 May 1818. See also announcement in the *Surinaamsche Courant* of 16 March 1818, in the KIT library under RN-24.
- 20 See the 'approved' version of the will in the British National Archives, Kew Gardens, London: PROB 11/1678, refs 126 and 127.
- 21 'Bijzonderheden betrekkelijk den brand te Paramaribo, in den nacht van den 3den op den 4den september 1832.' 'Regt tegen over het orgel vond men aan het Ooster-geveleinde boven den predikstoel, op eene steen in den muur de woorden: Gloria in excelsis Deo 1768. Aan de achter- of noordermuur, was een marmeren gedenkteeken geplaatst, nu geheel tot poeder verbrand, ter gedachtenis van den engelschen koopman william leckie Esq., dewelke den 8sten April 1824, na 24 jaren in deze Kolonie geweest te zijn, in den ouderdom van 45 jaren overleed. Verder las men op dit monument: 'In the midst of life we are in death' alsmede in diezelfde taal, de woorden te vinden in het Evang. joh. xi. 25, 26.'
- 22 1828 district register, district B, 21 July 1828, NA The Hague, 1.05.11.09
- 23 Possibly applied for bankruptcy in 1828. There is a request from that year in the British National Archives, Kew Gardens, London that may refer to the trading firm of William Leckie & Co. See B3/3086 and 3087, Records of Bankrupts.

