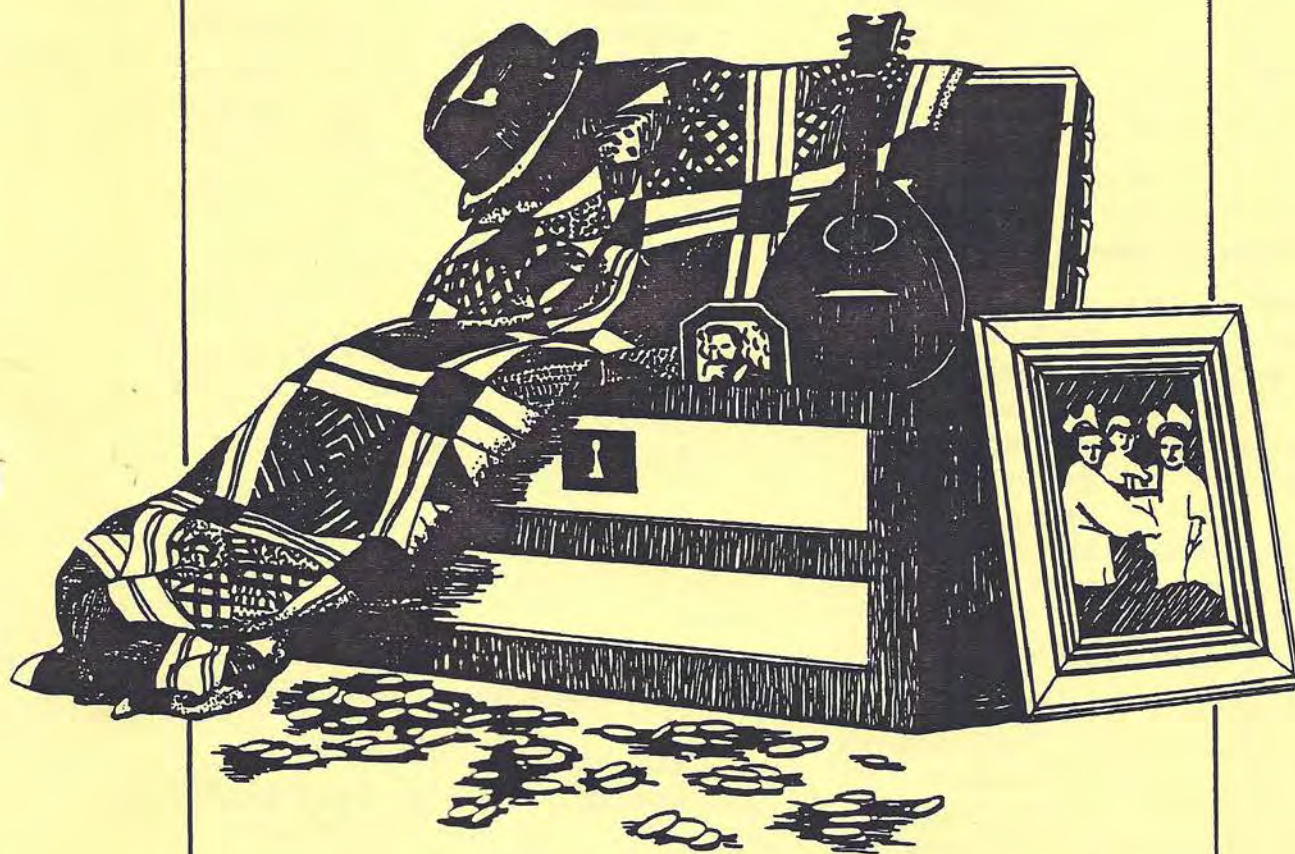


Buried Treasures



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CENTRAL FLORIDA GENEALOGICAL
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Central Florida Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 536309
Orlando, Florida 32853-6309



Dear Members And Friends:

Welcome to my opening message in the Buried Treasures. As your newly elected President, I find that it is a challenge to follow our previous president Lynne Knorr who was dedicated and committed to working unselfishly for the betterment of our Society. The exciting news is that I believe together we are up to the challenge. With your continued involvement, we will enable our organization to continue to grow and meet the needs of our members as we learn about new and exciting aspects of genealogy.

This edition also brings forward our new editor, Ted Williams. Ted generously took over transitional responsibility of the Buried Treasures in January 1999 and now serves as official editor. This publication certainly will improve and grow with our society as we enter the millennium. Be sure to thank Ted when you see him at our monthly meeting. It is our hope that the quarterly will have more Florida material, so if you have articles for submission, please send them to Ted.

June, July and August are our vacation and study months. I hope that each of you take some time to review your research, take a research vacation or introduce a family member or friend to the whole idea of genealogy.

We have a very active, involved board of directors who intend to make this year a great success. We will have a summer dinner get-together, a great thirtieth year celebration and major out-of-state speakers at our fall seminar. Make your plans to participate. It's only through your involvement that this organization will succeed.

Genealogy is an inclusive pursuit, we find family in our research and friends at our events.

See you soon!!

Larry

Family History

The Smiths were proud of their family tradition. Their ancestors had come to America on the Mayflower and their ancestors had included Senators and Wall Street wizards.

They decided to compile a family history, a legacy for their children and grandchildren. They hired a fine author. Only one problem arose — how to handle that great-uncle who was executed in the electric chair.

The author said he could handle that chapter of their history tactfully. When the book appeared, it said that "Great-Uncle George occupied a chair of applied electronics at an important government institution, was attached to his position by the strongest of ties and his death came as a real shock."

A GUIDE TO FLORIDA

FOR TOURISTS, SPORTSMAN

AND SETTLERS

Copyright, 1912

Welcome back to the second installment of our 1912 trip by rail from Jacksonville to Tampa. Last time we made it all the way to Sanford. Today, we pull into Orlando and Kissimmee. [Note: Kissimmee is almost as big as Orlando!] Mileages from Jacksonville are given after each town along the way.

From **Sanford** the railroad passes through the well-known lake country. Though the elevation in Florida is nowhere very great, it is sufficient in this region, and there is enough undulation to the ground to insure good drainage. The high pine land responds quickly to culture. There are some flat lands unfitted for cultivation, but the pine trees thrive well. There is much rich hammock land, covered with beautiful and valuable timber, and near the lakes are very fertile muck lands. Every variety of vegetable and fruit, whose habitat is just at the frost line, can be grown, and the citrus groves in this part of the country are famous. Many attractive winter settlements may be found in this section.

Lake Mary (131 m.) and **Longwood** (135 m.) are followed by **Altamonte Springs** (138 m.), situated in pine forests and with a climate particularly beneficial to invalids. It is a popular resort, and out-of-door life, with fishing and shooting, driving and riding, claims the time of the visitors. **Maitland** (147 m.) is a similar resort, and has many winter visitors.

Winter Park (143 m.) is one of the best known of the resorts in the lake region. Rollins College is located here. The country around is rolling, and the air is redolent with the balmy fragrance of the pine woods. Magnolias flower, and the woods are carpeted in spring with blossoms. In the hammocks the ferns grow lushly, and the brakes sometimes top a man's height. All sorts of out-of-door sports claim the visitor. Fishing and shooting are both to be had. Songbirds, especially the mockingbird, are found in great numbers, and long-legged water birds make accents in the picture on the edge of the lakes. The lakes are charming for boating excursions, and a day spent with a luncheon and tea basket and a camera brings its own reward. Guides, boats, and horses and vehicles can be obtained.

Orlando (148 m., pop. 3,894) is the county seat of Orange county. Its situation is particularly beautiful in the midst of a fertile country. The little cluster of houses of the early days (1880) has grown to be one of the most important of the smaller cities of Florida. All about the shores of the lakes – Lake Lucerne, Lake Sue, Lake Winnie and Lake Eola – are winter residences surrounded by beautiful gardens, shaded by live and water-oaks. To these, with their festoons of Spanish moss, in great contrast are the palmettoes, the date and sago palms, the chinaberry, pines and camphor trees. The gardens are filled with semi-tropical plants, flowers and fruits.

Located on the ridge - the backbone of the State, there is a total absence of fog. The many lakes temper the climate both in winter and summer. The water supply is, as in almost all Florida towns, of great excellence. There is an electric light plant and gas works. The town has a most substantial business district. The streets are paved with vitrified brick, and a hard-surfaced driveway and a shell walk skirts Lake Lucerne, from which the views are very attractive. Many of the residences are built in the plantation style, with wide shaded verandas on every side.

The Northern element predominates in the town, as is manifest from the architecture and the many civic federations here. There are churches of various denominations, fraternal orders and social clubs, baseball and polo clubs, a driving park where races are run every winter and where golf links are laid out. Tennis and boating both have their followers. In the neighborhood is good quail shooting, and some water game birds. There is an annual Motor Parade, and a Water Carnival. In the former the parade of flower-decked and allegorical cars makes an attractive pageant; in the latter, the illuminated walks and lake boulevards, the mock naval battle, the drifting boats with their many-colored lights, make a very interesting picture.

Hard-surfaced roads lead in every direction into the country, and driving or motoring brings the visitor in touch with the rich tributary to Orlando. Orange is the leading county in Florida in the number of citrus trees

growing, and of boxes of fruit shipped. Her share of the State's 5,000,000 boxes in 1911 was about 750,000 boxes. In addition to citrus culture, there are large areas in vegetables, and other fruits. Visits to the farms near Orlando are of special interest because of the scientific methods employed by the farmers, usually men who have retired from active work, whose energies are all expended in beautifying and developing their new homes. Plantations of bananas are found near Orlando, on the moist lands of some of the lake shores. The variety grown here is a large one, and the plants are sometimes eighteen feet tall. The Florida Sanitarium is located near Orlando between two lakes. It is under the charge of the Seventh Day Adventists, and is conducted on the same hygienic lines that make the one at Battle Creek, Michigan, so successful.

Leaving Orlando, the elevation gradually lessens. **Jessamine** (154 m.) is near two lakes, the one to the east, Lake Conway, extending almost to **Pine Castle** (155 m.). **Big Cypress** (156 m.), **Taft** (158 m.), **MacKinnon** (161 m.), **Marydea** (163 m.) and the flat country has been reached, with prairie land alternating with pine wood.

Kissimmee (165 m., pop. 2,157) is the county seat of Osceola county. It is situated on the north shore of Lake Tohopekaliga, a large and beautiful body of water. Kissimmee is still on the ridge, or the end of the Florida real mainland. The town's elevation is 65 feet, and from here south the water drains through the Everglades to the Gulf of Mexico, the Bay of Florida, and to the series of lagoons and sounds on the east from Gilbert's Bar to the end of the Florida peninsula. Kissimmee was for many years the only accessible settlement from which sportsmen could make excursions to the rich hunting grounds in these almost unknown regions. Then the cultivation of sugar cane was begun, at Saint Cloud near Kissimmee, and much sugar is now raised. With the coming of more visitors the great fertility of the land became known, and the town began to grow.

The climate is most equable, and the water protection of Lake Tohopekaliga tempers both summer heat and winter cold. It is said that the children in Kissimmee never wear shoes until in their teens. The nights are always cool, the days full of sunshine. Settlers have begun to cultivate the rich lands all about, so that the local markets are exceptionally good. Game of all kinds abounds. Many cattle graze through the rich woodland, and over the valley prairie lands, with rich pasturage, well-bred hogs roam with native razor-backs.

The death rate is exceptionally low - 3 in 1,000. Kissimmee has good water, an ice factory, electric light plant and telephone system. The streets are marled, a mode of surfacing that makes a good road. These marled roads are being extended out into the country, and lead to many interesting places.

The citrus fruits, guavas, sugar-apples, breadfruit, almonds, pineapples and bananas, all grow luxuriously. Small fruits and vegetables, shrubs and flowers, semi-tropical jungles, luxuriant palms and wholesome pines make up an environment that is full of charm, and the usual flatness of Florida landscapes is modified by the alternation of prairies, with little streams and lakes, hammocks and wide stretching pine upland, which makes an excursion pleasant and interesting.

The schools, as in almost all parts of Florida, are good. There are clubs and fraternal orders, and churches of various denominations.

The experiments in sugar cultivation that were started here by the Disstons of Philadelphia failed. Ignorance of the conditions to be met and the insect pests of summer were the cause.

Steamers ply from Kissimmee south across Lake Tohopekaliga to Fort Bassenger on the Kissimmee (100 m.), making weekly trips. Boats can be chartered to make special trips from Fort Bassenger to Lake Okeechobee, the Caloosahatchie River, and Fort Myers.

Lake Tohopekaliga is easily crossed. The Kissimmee river has been dredged and the boats go from there to Cypress Lake. Near the south end of the lake is an island on which most interesting aboriginal remains have been found. The river issues from the south end of the lake and flows on to Lake Okeechobee. Fort Bassenger is passed, the end of the journey 20 miles from the lake. The site of old Fort Kissimmee is passed. This, with Fort Bassenger, was occupied in the Seminole War - unimportant places now, but their names recalling the days of the Indians' power and their present condition symbolizing their present decadence.

A Guide To Florida - a rail trip - will be continued next issue when we make the final leg of our journey to Tampa, and what interesting points we will see!

[Note: This is the cover to a land brochure published in 1910. "On March first, the price of all our lands will be \$25.00 an acre" was emblazoned across the inside pages.]

THE KISSIMMEE PRAIRIE

FLORIDA'S BEST

20-Acre Farms, Easy Payments



HUNTER LAND COMPANY
General Agents Southern Colonization Company
202 Andrus Building
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

**A Trip by Wagon and One Horse From Richmond, Indiana
To St. Augustine, Florida November 15, 1873 - Spring, 1874**
From the diary of Elizabeth Dugdale, Great, Great Grandmother of Ted N. Williams
[spelling and grammar is as in the original]

Monday, December 1, 1873: We started from there and went seven miles on a creek bottom or bed of the creek, the hardest kind of a road and part of the scenery was very beautiful. By this time we were started fully on our road and thought we were pretty well used to it. I think it was a good thing we did not know what was before us then or we might have turned back. From Burkesville we made for Livingstone, in Tenn. And every one we meet told us we had to cross Obeyes River and as much was said about Obeya that we were afraid of it, it is a stream that is very swift and it is very manageable at times. Traveled on until we reached Obeya and had a man to tell us how to get over. He kindly went with us to the bank of the river and told us were to strike for on the other side. I think that at some time a large deposit of both coal and slate will be taken from this section of Combry, as it is cropping out on all sides and the hills appeared solid slate to my inexperienced eyes. We landed safely over the river much to our joy and gratification and the water did not come in the wagon but only an inch or two from it. The bank to it was very steep and we were almost thrown over, but came out alright at last. No one can tell how freely we breathed after a dangerous past is past and silently we return thanks to Our Great Father for his care over us, and as it seems one peril is scarcely past ere another appears in view. It keeps one ever on the alert but we have been preserved through it all. We camped out this night and got along very well. The roads were so rough and hilly that we did not get along very fast and it took some time to get along.

Friday, December 5: We got to a man's house in Tennessee at the foot of a small mountain and Mr. EMBHREE being too busy to take us up with his oxen, he told us to camp right there and wait until morning. He was stripping tobacco in his tobacco house, so we stopped right there, made the fire, got supper. He brought out a chair or two for us which was very acceptable our seats being a wagon seat and a bucket turned up. All we could muster up for selves. After supper Mrs. EMBHREE sent for Ida, Rachel and self to come to the house as it looked like it was going to be a rough night. We went and we had not had our clothes off for sometime. We undressed and was going to have a good sleep but the first doze was scarcely over when the wind and the rain came so suddenly as to startle everyone in the house, was out of the bed in a minute and put on my clothes in a hurry and the likes of wind, rain and thunder and lightening I do not think I ever saw. The wind roared through the timber terrificately, the fences were blown down, roof taken off of the hen house and considerable damage done. Fifty trees were down on this man's farm. We were very much alarmed about Thomas and Eddie having only the wagon to be in, but they were not blown over and suffered no damage, only everything got wet through, but the wind blew in the morning and the sun shone so we had a chance to dry our things out and in the afternoon we were taken up the mountain one half mile with a yoke of oxen. Kitty pulling the empty wagon, and there was every evidence of a terrible storm, trees lying in every direction, we only went six miles this day and the place where we stayed that night there were thirteen trees all in the field close to the house and we saw the effects of the same storm all through the mountains of Tennessee and the upper part of Georgia. From Livingstone we went to Sparta.

Sunday, December 7th. We had to stay over because it rained so much all day. It was raining when we stopped Sunday night, and in the morning it kept on and was a very wet day. The people we stayed with their name was CLARK and here we saw the bloody finger prints and the bullet hole in the wall where a rebel had been killed. He had been pardoned and was trying to get to his home, but some soldiers saw him, and chased him and he took refuge in this house and was killed there for we could see all the marks of the struggle. He was thrown into the well and the water smelled so bad that it was impossible to use it. We saw an officer's saber that Mr. Clark had found and was supposed to belong to the man, but no one know who he was. We heard most terrible tales of cruelty on our way. How many seemed to just let their passions run to outlawing, and the KuKlux use the same in principal as our vigilante committee. After working as long as it was possible

they took into their own hands what justice ought to have attended to long before. We were treated well all along our route in Tennessee. People seeming more like relations to us than strangers. We found the way very much of it uphill and right along here we had to stop the afternoon for a creek to go down as it was too high to ford. But in the morning we crossed over safely. It was called Falling Water. We still kept on going up hill. They seemed very high hills at that, some climbing and slippery too. After while we reached Sparta, and when we came to the little towns' County seats, we would lay in our provisions for the next two days. From Sparta to Spencers and Spencer is the County seat right on top of the Cumberland Mountains. It is quite a sight to look up and see the stupendous works of Nature. We were taken up the mountains by oxen thus saving Kitty the hard pulling. It was two miles up and one place it was a fearful place to look down. Not room enough for a man to walk at the side of a wagon, but right straight down one hundred feet with nothing to save them from certain death. It is a little singular that no one has been known to meet - coming up or down this place on the mountain. And if such a thing was to happen it would be bad, for there is no passing in a great many places. We went up at Collins with a boy taking us up with a yoke of oxen. And I never saw such driving in my life. I thought it was necessary to holler and shout at them, but he did nothing of the kind, just spoke to them quietly and they went up admirably. He told us some tales of the KuKlux doings also of things that happened during the war. You must remember that climbing two miles up the mountains is not accomplished in a few minutes, it takes time and has to be gone over carefully. There was one thing that astonished me and it was to see so many branches and creeks and just as many good streams as there were in the valley. It was something I was not looking for. We went thirty miles over this mountain and it seemed uphill most of the way. I am sure that none of us could tell when we were on the highest part. We found plenty of people living there. Plenty that never had been off the mountain in their lives. Indeed where we stayed at nights they seemed to be very glad to see us and hear of something different from what they had seen. All the women smoked on the road and the houses were not tight. Cracks everywhere and very few stoves, only one now and then.

We saw pines growing and pine knots burning. They make a good light. We were on the mountain two nights and getting down at Robin's Gap was a feat for an acrobat or gymnast. We had been told it was very rough for fifty or a hundred yards at the top. Papa said it must be bad if they said it was. We had been told so much that the roads were good once that if they acknowledged them bad they must be bad and sure enough we found it bad. We got to the top and looked into the Sequatchey Valley there was a three story home and shed just looked like a little play house; fences looked like lines, corn shocks like little bits of things and could hear men chopping trees out of the way that had fallen during the hurricane that had not been removed. Well we commenced to go down the mountain and after a few yards it was straight up and down. We were all out but Papa and poor Kitty looked back as much as to say, she could not do it, so we got every wheel notched and Kitty out and Papa too, trembling for fear that the least motion would move the wagon a foot more and would have gone head over heels and Kitty was taken down and hitched about one hundred and fifty yards below. We unpacked the wagon and toted the things down and one part after I once got down and I did not venture up again for I could not manage it. It was too steep for me. They got a sapling, put it through the hind wheels, Papa took hold of the shaft, Eddie and Ida holding back and that was the way the wagon came down the first part of the mountain. We loaded up again, but just think of carrying everything out of the wagon down such a place. Well we started, Rachel and I walking, Eddie and Ida, Kitty and the brakes holding back most of the way down~down~down~and before we got clear to the bottom it was quite dark. A whole afternoon making that two miles, and we had to go about a mile before we came to a house. But they had a good fire in their kitchen and let us in there where we soon had some supper and got warm. Laid down on the floor and slept soundly till morning.

Got up in the morning and it was frosty, but the sun shown very bright and we could look as far as we could see. And saw the mountain looking down as it were. Well we crossed the valley and at night were at the foot of Walden's Bridge. We stopped for the night, took the floor as common and slept. Then in the morning we could not get any oxen to take up, so we started slowly, Kitty taking the wagon, the rest walking and it was two miles up with a little exception for in some places we had to put on brakes for a short distance, it was so steep then uphill again, on, on to the top.

To be continued . . . next issue

Florida State Census of 1885 Orange County, FL
(Film M845 Roll #10 at Orlando Library & Archives; #088971 at Family History Center.)

No guide to district lines has been located; District 11 seems to cover Apopka, Oakland, Winter Garden and vicinity.
Extracted by Betty Jo Stockton - 1998.

District 11 30 June 1885

House /Name	Race	Age	Relation	Marital	Birth	Occ.
Page 16						
149 cont. SEVER, Benj.	W	31M	Husb	M	MA/MA/MA	Laborer
FAVOR, E. R.	W	6M	-	-	FL/MA/MA	-
150 SWEAT, E. R.	W	55M	-	M	MA/MA/MA	Laborer
Sweat, M. I.	W	47F	Wife	M	MA/MA/MA	-
151 HILL, T? C.	W	40M	-	M	GA/GA/GA	Farmer
Hill, A. C.	W	37F	Wife	M	GA/GA/GA	-
Hill, A. J. ie	W	8F	Dau	S	FL/GA/GA	-
Hill, J. L.	W	5M	Son	-	FL/GA/GA	-
Hill, J. Ilie	W	3F	Dau	-	FL/GA/GA	-
RICHARDSON, Geo.	Mu	27M	Serv	-	GA/-/-	-
SODERHEND?, Chas.	W	14M	Serv	-	Swe/Swe/Swe	-
FORBES, Dora	W	45F	-	S	GA/GA/GA	Laborer
ISAACSON, Isaac	W	28M	-	S	Swe/Swe/Swe	Laborer
LILIOBRONE?, Henry	W	28M	-	S	Swe/Swe/Swe	Laborer
COLLINS, Geo.	W	25M	-	S	NC/NC/NC	Laborer
ROSE, J. E.	W	23M	-	S	NC/NC/NC	Laborer
AUGUSTINE, Jno.	W	15M	-	S	Swe/Swe/Swe	Laborer
152 HOLMER, M.	W	21M	-	M	Swe/Swe/Swe	Laborer
Holmer, A.	W	1F	Dau	-	Swe/Swe/Swe	-
SWENCER, P. G.	W	20M	-	S	Swe/Swe/Swe	Laborer
HENSCHER, Joseph	W	42M	-	S	Swe/Swe/Swe	Laborer
SEVENCIAN, C.	W	21M	-	S	Swe/Swe/Swe	Laborer
ANDERSON, H.	W	14M	-	S	Swe/Swe/Swe	Laborer
153 HOLMER, Chas.	W	22M	-	S	Swe/Swe/Swe	Laborer
ANDERSON, Oscar	W	19M	-	S	Swe/Swe/Swe	Laborer
154 SMITH, N. D.	W	42M	-	W	NY/NY/NY	Orange Grower
BURNHAM, I. W.	W	42M	-	S	NY/NY/NY	Orange Grower
155 WILIFORD, W. K.	W	36M	-	M	AL/AL/AL	Orange Grower
Wiliford, R. W.	W	35F	Wife	M	AL/AL/AL	-
HIGH, De.	W	18M	-	S	AL/AL/AL	-
156 COLLIMER, D. G.	W	72M	-	M	NY/NY/NY	Orange Grower
Collimer, Helen	W	62F	Wife	M	NY/NY/NY	-
Collimer, H. S.	W	26M	Son	S	NY/NY/NY	Laborer
Collimer, E. J.	W	28F	Dau	S	NY/NY/NY	-
157 TENNY, Albert	W	33M	-	W	MA/MA/MA	Orange Culture
Tenny, A. V.	W	7M	Son	-	FL/MA/NY	-
Tenny, Bessie	W	4F	Dau	-	FL/MA/NY	-
HILL, C. B.	W	53F	-	W	NH/NH/NH	-
158 CRANE, F. H.	W	31M	-	M	MA/MA/MA	Laborer
Crane, L. A.	W	30F	Wife	M	ME/ME/ME	-
Crane, R. E.	W	10/12M	Son	-	MA/MA/ME	-
159 TENNY, Jno.	W	40?M	-	M	MA/MA/MA	Orange Grower
Tenny, Abbie	W	40F	Wife	M	MA/MA/MA	-
Tenny, Lena	W	11F	Dau	-	MA/MA/MA	-
160 GONCE, L. C.	W	29M	-	M	TN/TN/TN	Laborer

Gonce, Sarah	W	20F	Wife	M	TN/TN/TN	-
Gonce, Josie	W	2F	Dau	-	TN/TN/TN	-
Gonce, Mattie	W	8/12F	Dau	-	FL/TN/TN	-
161 REED, Geo.	W	60M	-	M	CT/CT/CT	Merchant
Reed, Srah	W	55F	Wife	M	NY/NY/NY	-

Page 17

161 cont. Reed, J. C.	W	19F	Dau	S	OH/CT/NY	-
Reed, F. H.	W	28M	Son	-	OH/CT/NY	Merchant
162 JACKSON, Jno.	W	2 M	-	M	Swe/Swe/Swe	Laborer
Jackson, Mrs Jno.	W	25F	Wife	M	Swe/Swe/Swe	-
163 LOVE, B.	B	23M	-	M	FL/GA/GA	Laborer
Love, C.	B	20F	Wife	M	FL/GA/GA	-
WASHINGTON, M.	B	10F	-	-	FL/GA/GA	-
164 HOLTON, Henry	W	40M	-	M	NY/NY/NY	Orange Grower
Holton, Mrs. Henry	W	36F	Wife	M	NY/NY/NY	-
165 LAKE, Dan	W	58M	-	W	NY/NY/NJ	Orange Grower
JACKSON, B. J.	B	21M	-	S	FL/FL/SC	Laborer
BJARKANDER?, G.	W	40M	-	S	Swe/Swe/-	Laborer
166 McCOY, Chas.	W	31M	-	M	OH/OH/OH	Orange Grower
McCoy, Addie	W	29F	Wife	M	OH/OH/OH	-
McCoy, V? S.	W	8M	Son	-	OH/OH/OH	-
167 WILSON, S. A.	W	28F	-	M	ME/ME/ME	-
Wilson, D. S.	W	6M	-	-	ME/ME/ME	-
Wilson, E. A.	W	2F	-	-	ME/ME/ME	-
COOLEY, C. T.	W	27M	-	S	NY/NY/NY	Carpenter
168 COOLEY, G. W.	W	41M	-	M	NY/NY/NY	Carpenter
Cooley, P. E.	W	40F	Wife	M	NY/NY/NY	-
Cooley, C. R.	W	9M	Son	-	NY/NY/NY	-
Cooley, P.	W	4F	Dau	-	OR/NY/NY	-
SANDERS, W.	W	30M	-	S	FL/GA/GA	-
169 CUSHING, C.	W	32M	-	M	VT/VT/NH	Orange Grower
Cushing, E. F.	W	30F	Wife	M	MA/MA/MA	-
Cushing, W. D.	W	6M	Son	-	FL/VT/MA	-
Cushing, A. E.	W	2/12F	Dau	-	FL/VT/MA	Born Apr
STAFFORD, Peter	B	26M	-	S	FL/VT/MA	Laborer
MIDDLETON, Chas.	B	22M	-	S	FL/GA/MA	Laborer
F_NER, Loyd	B	23M	-	S	FL/FL/SC	Laborer
170 LEWTON, Geo.	W	35M	-	M	OH/PA/OH	Orange Grower
Lewton, A. L.	W	35F	Wife	M	OH/VT/NY	-
Lewton, T? L.	W	11M	Son	-	OH/OH/OH	-
Lewton, G? J?	W	10F	Dau	-	OH/OH/OH	-
Lewton, J.	W	5F	Dau	-	OH/OH/OH	-
JACOBS, Rosa	W	20F	Serv	S	ME/Swe/Swe	-
ASRTUM?, S.	W	18F	Serv	S	Swe/Swe/Swe	-
DAVIS, Walter	B	25M	Serv	S	GA/GA/GA	-
171 WHITNEY, L. D.	W	30M	-	M	OH/OH/OH	Orange Grower
Whitney, J. A.	W	28F	Wife	M	NY/NY/NY	-
JONES, Sam	B	20M	-	S	FL/FL/FL	Laborer
172 ERHART, Chas.	W	48M	-	M	Ger/Ger/Ger	Minister
Erhart, Dora	W	49F	Wife	M	Ger/Ger/Ger	-
Erhart, Mary	W	14F	Dau	S	OH/Ger/Ger	-
173 SHEPHERD, H? R.	W	41M	-	M	VA/VA/VA	Orange Culture
Shepherd, Annie	W	36F	Wife	M	VA/VA/VA	-
Shepherd, W. F.	W	16M	Son	S	VA/VA/VA	-
Shepherd, E.	W	5M	Son	-	FL/VA/VA	-

CHARLIE SMITH
by Odell Robinson, Cracker Tracker
From Polk County Historical Quarterly

The citizens of Polk County lost an irreplaceable international treasure when Charlie SMITH, who was recognized as being the oldest living American man, passed away on October 5, 1979.

He was first brought before the general public's eye in 1955 when the Social Security Administration recognized him as being the oldest person registered with them. At that time he was 113 years old and actively working as a fruit picker. He was thoroughly investigated by many different agencies and participated in old age medical studies. He had been interviewed by many scholars, historians and the news media, over the last years of his life.

These interviews and articles by the scholars, historians and newspaper reporters have presented a picture of Charlie that is quite different from most typical stories of slavery. Charlie had blue eyes and he was the son of freed slaves from the United States of America that had been shipped to Liberia to start a colony. If these written statements about Charlie are correct then his situation is quite unique.

Charlie Smith was born Mitchell WATKINS in Liberia, West Africa in 1842, the second son of Simon and Linda Watkins. His family included an older brother, Simon, two older sisters, Moselle and Laura, whose weddings he remembers, and "a baby sister, Hattie." He lived in "a house with a chimney near the water." Mitchell went to school in Liberia, studied English from a "blue-back Webster" and celebrated Christmas. (Note: The Liberian Embassy did confirm the existence of two Watkins families living in coastal towns in the 1840s.)

In the summer of 1854 (at age 12) Mitchell Watkins and several others were enticed on board a boat by the crew members, who spoke of the wonders of the "Fritter Tree" that grew in the new world and while they were below decks the ship set sail, trapping them on board. "White mens said when you git over to the United States, ain't nobody got to work. Said whenever you git hongry in that country, alls you got to do is go down to the fritter tree and git your fritter. Same thing now you call pancakes, they called 'em fritters in them days. Said that tree beared fritters just like a tree bear apples and oranges. That's the way they gits us on the boat. They tricks us. Not just me - everybody. Grown people."

His description of the voyage also differs from most tales of slave ships as there is no mention of being chained up or mistreatment by the crewmen. According to Charlie, his problems were with the

other slaves on board. Charlie was scared and lonesome, and cried most of the way. He made such a nuisance of himself the other slaves wanted to throw him overboard. "Had me by the arms. Carryin' me. Throwin' me off. But one of the white mens, name a Mr. Leg-ree, b'ject, said, 'Don't throw that boy overboard.' That's all what saved me from gittin' thrown off the damn boat."

The ship finally landed in New Orleans and he was placed, along with the others, on the auction block there. His description again differs from typical slave auction stories. He never mentions being shackled or chained up. He stated that he was placed upon the auction block three times and each time the man who eventually purchased him demanded that he be removed from the block. It was Mr. Charles SMITH of Galveston County, Texas, who purchased Mitchell Watkins on July 4, 1854, and took him back to Texas.

Mr. Smith took a great interest in young Watkins, raising him with the Smith children, and later directed him to change his name from Mitchell Watkins to Charlie Smith, after his own name. "Old Man Charlie thought mo' of me than the other coloreds. I don't know why. He give me his name, raised me right in the house with his other children. We et together, went to school together, slept together- the boys did. There wasn't no difference in the treatments 'cept I was colored and the rest of his children was white. I wasn't never bein' no slave. Old Man Charlie even tell me where he keepeed his money."

Charlie's life on the Smith Ranch was not significantly different from that of the other Smith children: attending school (1855-56) ranch responsibilities, learning to ride and shoot, etc. His teachers, he stated, were Mr. Delly ROBERTSON and Mrs. BELL. He remembers spelling bees, slates and slate pencils, the shoulder bag Mrs. Smith gave him for his school supplies and a book called *The First Reader*. But most of all, Charlie remembers recess. "The boys played marbles and running base. The girls played jump the rope. When time was out, the teacher'd rap a little bell. Ting, Ting, Ting. That mean to stop playin'."

As he passed through adolescence, he became aware of the events leading up to the Civil War. "I was ridin' hosses and totin' two 45's when I wasn't but a child, and the slaves didn't have nothin'. Slaves used to smoke chewin' 'tobacca after it was done chewed out. Chew a plug, set it out to dry, roll it up

in old newspaper or sack paper and smoke it. That was slavery times. Bad times. Southern white folks was workin' the coloreds. Whuppin' em. White mens was gittin' children by the colored womens. All like that. And the North found out how they were treatin' the coloreds, slavin' 'em, and that what caused the war. The North fought the South to free the colored people from slavery times. I know it. I didn't read it. I was there."

Charlie remembers Jefferson **DAVIS**. "He was the president of the southern part of the world. Then the Union Army come down and he wasn't president of nothin' no mo'."

He remembers **LINCOLN** with equal irreverence. "I never met'im. Never seen 'im. But I heard tell of 'im. He was the president of the United States. A white fella. Everybody sayin' Ab'ham Lincoln freed the slaves. Ab'ham Lincoln didn't free nobody from nothin'. Union Army freed the colored people from slavery times. I was there. I know it."

Charlie stayed on at the Smith Ranch past the Civil War, until the death of the elder Smith in 1874. Then he rode the range as a cowpuncher, hired hand, and bounty hunter known as "Trigger Kid". He claims to have associated with the Jesse **JAMES**. Charlie admits that he didn't spend much time with the famous outlaw Jesse James, but hung around the fringes of the James gang for perhaps a year.

The frontier was officially closed in 1890, and by the turn of the century farms and railroads and telegraph lines had transformed the once-seamless countryside of the West into a patchwork of barbed wire and no-trespassing signs. There wasn't much use for cowboys anymore, so Charlie Smith drifted east.

Charlie Smith first came to Florida working in the turpentine camps, logging industry and road building, what he calls "public works." Charlie said that he was working at a Polk County turpentine camp when the "Comet star came." That was in 1910. About 1920 he moved to the Lakeland area and opened a "Juke Joint" which closed about 1925.

In 1926, Charlie moved to the Polk City area and began working in the citrus groves picking fruit. He was picking oranges in a grove in Polk County in 1955 when he was told he must get a Social Security card. When he registered for the card he put his birth date down as 1842 and the Social Security personnel thought the registrant had meant 1942 until they went to the orange grove and found a very, very old man on a ladder picking fruit. This resulted in an extensive investigation with the results affirming rather than denying that Charlie could possibly be that old.

Charlie Smith was one of 24 of the "oldest people in the world" brought to Denver, Colorado for

scientific observation and study in the mid-fifties by the late Dr. Leo **SPEARS**, founder of the Spears Hospital in Denver. Spears was engaged in a longevity study and by the time the study was completed, Charlie Smith was a celebrity.

The publicity produced from the Social Security investigations put Charlie in the spotlight and eventually put him out of work. In 1963, he was directed by the Social Security people, who were concerned about his safety, not to climb any more ladders at his age. He moved at that time into a two-room bungalow at 1010 1/2 Palmetto Street in Bartow and opened a candy and soda shop to supplement his meager income from Social Security.

It was here that he held court for almost another 11 years. There were occasional visitors over the years from both local and national interests, wanting interviews, pictures and historical information. Loyal **FRISBIE**, editor of The Democrat, visited Charlie each year for a birthday story on the old man's recollections and outlook.

Charlie stated that he had been married three times, never formally divorced and had only one son, Chester **SMITH**, and had lived long enough to see his son on Social Security.

In 1972, the Society for the Aged in Agra, India, had sent a miniature marble replica of the Taj Mahal to the United States with a request that it be presented to the nation's oldest citizen. Charlie Smith had no contenders.

The request was made at about the time that The Democrat staff and the Bartow Recreation Department were making plans for the Second Annual Parade of Merchants. It was decided that the presentation would be made at a community birthday party for Charlie-the first birthday party he'd ever had - and from that day forward Charlie was famous. On Christmas Day, 1974, with his health failing and wholesale prices rising, Charlie Smith closed his business and retired to the Bartow Convalescent Home, room 201, where he resided until his death. Locally, Charlie was recognized in 1976 by the Polk County School Board who presented him with an Honorary High School Diploma because of his experience gained in long life.

Charlie was buried in Wildwood Cemetery and was honored at his funeral by the Bartow Police Officers acting as the active pallbearers and members of the Sheriffs Deputy's of Polk County were the honorary pallbearers.

In 1982, it was brought to the attention of Bartow's City Manager that there was not a monument on Charlie's grave. The City Fathers accepted donations and provided him with one inscribed "Charlie Smith - July 4, 1842 - Oct. 5, 1979 - America's oldest man."

TIME PROBLEMS FOR GENEALOGISTS

From Ventura County Genealogical Society Newsletter, May, 1999

In 1752 the Gregorian Calendar was adopted by Colonial America. In order to make this change, eleven days were omitted from September, 1752, and the first day of the new year was changed from March 25th to January 1st. The lost eleven days had no impact on a person's birth date, if it was expressed as a day, month and year. Therefore, George Washington's birthday on Feb. 22 did not change. However, the change of the beginning of the new year, moved the year of his birth from 1731 to 1732. Genealogists should express this dual year situation by double dating thus: 22, Feb 1731/2.

For any person living during the time of the calendar changes of 1752, the only place where the lost eleven days had an impact was in the month of September, 1752. For example, a problem would occur if a person died on Sept. 21, 1752 and the deceased's gravestone gave the inscription, "died at the age of 58 years, 4 months, 9 days." Since Wednesday, Sept 2 was followed by Thurs. Sept 14 in that month only, there were only 19 days in Sept. 1752. Therefore, counting backwards 9 days from Sept. 21" puts the individual's birth date as Sept. 1st, not Sept. 12th. The days in September 1752 were as follows: 1st, 2nd, 14th, 15th, etc.

Clues to Date a Male Ancestor's Photo

By Rhoda Joy Morley

The Genealogical Society of Okeechobee

The styles of men's facial hair and haircuts can offer a clue to date an ancestor's photo.

In the 17th century, the early American colonists were heavily bearded. By the end of the century, Louis XIII of France was losing his hair, so wigs became popular and beards were out.

During the 18th century, beards and mustaches remained out of fashion.

Sideburns were longer in the early 19th century, but it was not until about 1860 that beards became popular again. Mustaches, mutton-chop sideburns and goatees were also in fashion.

By the 1880s beards began disappearing. Small mustaches sometimes remained.

The movie idols of the 1920s set the style for slicked back hair and a clean shaven face. It took Clark Gable and other movie stars to bring back the mustache by the 1940s.

Crew cuts and clean shaven faces were in style from the war years through the 1950s. The Beatles popularized long hairstyles in the 1960s and soon after, mustaches and beards were both in fashion.

Family pictures from the 70s probably still show beards, but by the early 90s few beards remained.

BUMPER SNICKERS FOR GENEALOGISTS

Old Genealogists never die, they just lose their census.

My family tree needs more wood and less sap.

When tracing ancestors, please stay within the lines.

Genealogy is not fatal, but is a grave disease.

Heredity comes from hand-me-down genes.

Old genealogists never die, they just become vital statistics.

ENCOURAGING FUTURE FAMILY HISTORIANS....

By Juliana S. Smith

Ancestry Daily News, March 15, 1999

Many genealogists would love to share their genealogy interests with their children, but stirring that interest is not always easy. Watching you hunched over dusty books, furiously scribbling notes, filing huge piles of papers, or agonizing over a series of pedigree charts trying desperately to find that missing link, may not be the best inspiration for them. Don't give up. As a second-generation genealogist, I am proof that getting children involved is definitely not impossible.

My mother has been researching our family history for over 20 years. One of my memories I have of her interest in genealogy is of her standing in our kitchen weeping tears of joy as she received a letter from an aunt that she had just discovered. My interest grew slowly as she shared her discoveries with me. Although she never forced me to, I found myself asking more questions. I was very proud the day she let me sit at her microfilm reader and double check a census – looking for the list of names she had provided.

If your children have an interest in computers, you might ask for their help surfing the net and checking databases for your surnames. Maybe they can help you figure out and enter data in a new genealogy program. (I believe most software programs now come with the helpful instructions, "If you can't figure out how to install this software or don't understand the terminology, ask the nearest 12 year old for help.")

Share your discoveries and try to make them as interesting as possible. Illustrate your relationship with a pedigree chart. Show them pictures if you have them. Many times connecting a face with the relationship can be helpful. Tell them stories about your ancestors and if you have older relatives that might be willing to share some stories, you might find you have encouraged a closer relationship between generations.

Do your homework. Read about the times in which your ancestors lived and connect your ancestors with stories from history. A great time for this might be while you are helping them with their history homework. Tell them about your relatives that may have been involved in various wars, large migration movements, or other events in history. "This is your great-grandmother" may not get their attention, but, "This is your great-grandmother who crossed the United States in a covered wagon" might.

You can also share old family traditions and relate how they started. Spend a day in the kitchen together making foods with recipes that have been handed down. Bring out old heirlooms and tell your children where they came from. If you named your children after someone in your family, tell them stories about that person.

A great idea would be to include this information in a scrapbook for your child. Include a pedigree chart with pictures of the people on the chart and any stories you might have. Document historical events throughout your family's history. You could find newspaper clippings for important dates in your ancestors' lives. Show what was happening in the world when your grandfather was born, married, or died. Don't just look at articles, look at advertisements too – anything that puts their lives into context. Include the recipes and traditions too. Bring them back to life and let your kids get to know them.

You will want to leave space for your child to document his or her life as well. They are a part of your family's history and realizing that may be the first step in sharing a rewarding lifelong interest with your children.

Are you up to the challenge of identifying your ancestors?

You
2 Parents
4 Grandparents
8 Great-Grandparents
16 Great-Great-Grandparents
32 Great-Great-Great Grandparents
64 Great-Great-Great-Great-Grandparents
128 Great-Great-Great-Great-Great-Grandparents
256 Great-Great-Great-Great-Great-Great-Grandparents
512 Great-Great-Great-Great-Great-Great-Great-Grandparents
1024 Great-Great-Great-Great-Great-Great-Great-Great-Grandparents
Well . . . you get the idea . . .

*Clark County, WA Genealogical Society Newsletter
February, 1999*

~ Older Than Dirt ~

How many of the following do *YOU* remember?

1. Blackjack chewing gum
2. Wax Coke-shaped bottles with colored sugar water
3. Candy cigarettes
4. Soda pop machines that dispensed bottles
5. Coffee shops with table side jukeboxes
6. Home milk delivery in glass bottles with cardboard stoppers
7. Party lines
8. Newsreels before the movie
9. P.F. Flyers
10. Butch wax
11. Telephone numbers with a word prefix (Olive - 6933)
12. Peashooters
13. Howdy Doody
14. 45 RPM records
15. S&H Green Stamps
16. Hi-fi's
17. Metal ice trays with levers
18. Mimeograph paper
19. Blue flashbulbs
20. Beanie and Cecil
21. Roller skate keys
22. Cork popguns
23. Drive-ins
24. Studebakers
25. Wash tub wringers

If you remembered 0-5: You're still young

If you remembered 6-10: You are getting older

If you remembered 11-15: Don't tell your age

If you remembered 16-25: You're older than dirt

Internet Warning

Putting your living relatives' personal information on a Web page isn't a good idea. Scam artists and others might use these personal details to commit fraud either against your relatives, or to impersonate them. Often banks and institutions use mother's maiden names to identify customers. For these reasons, putting online the personal data of someone who is still alive, including their mother's maiden name, isn't safe.

Wayne County Genealogical Society Newsletter, July, 1998

Queries

ROBERTS, Spencer. Seeking his parents and origins. He was bc. 1807 NC, d. before 1850 Baldwin Co., GA? M1) Frances **JOLLY** in Baldwin Co. GA 26 Sept. 1827; M2) Ann Elizabeth **BROWN**, dau. of Henry **BROWN**, in Baldwin Co. GA 25 June 1831. Spencer appears in the 1840 census with 2 F under 4; 1 F 5-10; 1 F 20-30. Only child whose name is known is from wife #2: son William Henry **ROBERTS** b. 18 May 1842 Baldwin Co. GA. d: August 13, 1927 in N. Augusta, Aiken Co. SC. William H. **ROBERTS** m. Martha **HANNA**, dau. of Edward Thomas **HANNA** and Obedience **HARRELL**. William and Martha **ROBERTS** had the following children:

Martha "Mattie" Eugenia **ROBERTS**, b: September 09, 1867, d: October 21, 1883

Willie Florence **ROBERTS** b: March 06, 1871, d: August 18, 1932

Frances or Fannie **ROBERTS** b: January 10, 1874, d: January 05, 1964

Henry Edward **ROBERTS** b: March 29, 1877, d: May 17, 1900

Mamie Louise **ROBERTS** b: March 13, 1880

Jerre Thomas **ROBERTS** b: August 14, 1882, d: July 30, 1952

Charles Eugene **ROBERTS** b: November 07, 1884

CONTACT: Lorien Gunsallus, 3878 Watercrest Dr, Longwood, FL 32779 or MegLinGun@aol.com

DURHAM, Thomas. b. 1790 NC d. 1826 Monroe Co. GA. Seeking his parents. It is possible he is the son of William Lindsey **DURHAM** m. Nancy Anne **CATES** (Widow of ___ **Basket**), but I have been unable to prove this. Thomas **DURHAM** married Mary **TAPLEY** c. 1810 and they had the following children: John Pryor Tapley **DURHAM**, Thomas Edwin Booker **DURHAM**, Joab Jephtha **DURHAM**, Robert Augustus Flournoy **DURHAM**, James Lucius Constantine **DURHAM**, Sarah Seashay (Leah?) **DURHAM**, Sarah Ann Catherine **DURHAM** and Mary Jane Elizabeth **DURHAM**. CONTACT: Lorien Gunsallus, 3878 Watercrest Dr, Longwood, FL 32779 or MegLinGun@aol.com

BRYANT, Gamaliel b. 2 May 1813 NC. Preacher. Found in the following censuses: 1840 Sevier Co. TN, 1850 Cherokee Co. NC, 1860 Monroe Co. TN, 1870 Washington Co. AR, 1880 Madison Co. AR. He died in 1895 in Springdale, Washington Co. AR. He married first the daughter of Johnson **ADAMS** of Sevier Co. TN. Her name was Winifred "Absala" **ADAMS**. They had children: William Franklin b. 1835 TN; Johnson A. b. 1838 TN; Mathew C. b. 1840; Nancy b. 1842; Levi b. 1847; Andrew b. 1849. In 1854 in McMinn Co. TN Gamaliel married Rebecca **DOBKINS** b. 1824, daughter of Johnson **DOBKINS** of Sevier Co. TN. They had the following children: Elisha b. 1855, Saletha b. 1858, James b. 1861 and Sarah Jane b. 1864. Seeking Gamaliel's parents. Unproven information claims father of Gamaliel may have been E(lisha?) Alexander **BRYANT** from Ireland, but have been unable to locate any such person in NC or TN at the proper time. Contact: Lorien Gunsallus, 3878 Watercrest Dr, Longwood, FL 32779 or MegLinGun@aol.com

Seeking information on wife of **JOHN S. JERKINS**. We know John's father, Zachariah **JERKINS** was a Revolution soldier, was on the 1812 Hancock Co, GA. tax list, and John S. appeared on the 1840 Lee Co., GA Federal Census. John's wife, Sarah **STORY** was b. 1801, d. 1884 and is buried in the Ponceannah Cem, Paisley, Lake Co, FL. Who were Sarah's parents? Where was she born?

Contact: Mary W. Phillips, 1436 Bahia Ave, Orlando, FL 32807-1407, Email: Maryp5243@aol.com

CHEPAN, John & Caroline, 1880, Decatur, IL;

STOEWSAND, Fred, Born 1901, Decatur, IL;

KOSSIECK, Emma & Charles;

MOTT from Skorice, Czech Republic;

VAVROCH from Miroslav, Czech Republic;

JACKSON, James Henry, fought in Civil War;

Contact: Rose Chepon, 616 Riverview Ave., Altamonte Springs, FL 32714

BAILEY, Moses (?), born c 1850 in Ohio. Could be southern counties. Wife - Isabel **TERRY** - He was a farmer; they had 11 children. Alonzo Walker **BAILEY** was one of children.

Contact: Jane McArdle, 7311 Canal Drive, Sanford, FL 32771

ANNOUNCING!

The Orange County Directory of 1887

Our most ambitious project ever is almost complete. We are reprinting the Orange County Directory of 1887. This directory was the first county directory in the state and includes a wealth of information — on businesses, growers, and individuals. In 1887, Orange County encompassed a much greater area than it does today, including the towns of Mount Dora, Sanford and Kissimmee — and a number of small towns which no longer exist.

We have located only two copies of this book in the Central Florida area. One — in very poor condition — at the public library and a photocopy at the Orange County Historical Museum Library (with the original stored in the Museum office.) Our publication will be the best possible photocopy of the entire 300+ pages of the County Directory, along with a massive index which includes names, towns, businesses, railroads, etc. Every-thing possible is indexed —personal and business listings, advertisements, and town descriptions (over 8300 entries.) If your folks were in Orange County early, they are probably in this book.

We plan to have this ready for our 30th Anniversary meeting in September. It will include a copy of every page in the original 1887 edition plus a 67 page index. The final book is 8 ½ x 11" and 380 pages with PerfectBinding (quality soft-cover). The price is \$25.00. The original printing will be limited, so if you'd like to be sure of a copy, you might want to give Betty Jo (876-1688) a call to reserve yours before they are offered to the public.

Thanks to Eva Buchanan, Lynne Knorr, Martha Burns, Rose Hogan & Claire Heatherington for their assistance. The folks at the Orange County Historical Society have been most helpful as well.



Book Reviews



The Settlers of the Beekman Patent, Dutchess County, New York: Historical Records - Volume 1 An Historical and Genealogical Study of all the 18th Century Settlers in the Patent by Frank J. Doherty, 1990

This is a great example of what a genealogical source should be! The author began the project to document the history of his home in Lagrange, NY and became fascinated by the history of the area. This book is a result of his extensive research. There are documents, maps, diaries, sources and an extensive index. If your folks were in this section of Dutchess County, NY, you're in luck.

This is a very large book - almost 900 pages - and packed full of information. Beginning with an introduction which explains the "whys and wherefores" of the patent, the author then describes life in the 18th century in that area, including the people and places of importance. Original records are included - Patent Records, Military Records, Correspondence and a diary of an 18th century resident of the area. References are cited and there are two indices - one of names and the second of subjects. A number of maps are included to enhance the effort.

The Beekman Patent was granted to Henry BEEKMAN on 22 April 1697. This volume traces the settlement, early settlers and records through the 18th century. Other volumes are planned to continue the history.

The Orlando Public Library has Volumes 1, 2, and 3 in the Genealogy Collection with the call number: RG 974.733 DOH.

Review by Betty Jo Stockton, 1999

Letters written to Ruth Holmes **MARSHALL**. (1790-1878)
sister of Brilliant Holmes **SCOTT**. (1785-1853). Submitted by Nancy **YEAGER**

December 11, 1837

Ruth **MARSHALL**
Buffalo, Erie County
New York

[Brilliant **HOLMES** married John **SCOTT**. They traveled from Buffalo N. Y. to Dixon Illinois with daughter Seraphina Scott **WELTY** and husband David **WELTY** and son John. Brilliant's and John's children: Sophia Scott **HICKCOX**; Serphina Scott **WELTY**; Sarah Scott **HICKCOX**; Augustine is Brilliant's brother, Myron is Brilliant's brother, Wooster is the husband of Brilliant' Sister Laurana.]

Dear Sister

I have neglected writing to you for the want of time . You may think Strange but we have been so situated that it has been almost impossible & now John is at my elbow & in my light. So I can hardly write or move.

We had a tedious journey coming out here through the swamp it was dreadful. I walked every step of the way to the River. I crossed on logs & brush, the bridges were all afloat. The weather was very warm . Mosquitoes very troublesome so that we were glad get to the end of our journey, but then sister I just begun to see trouble when I think how far I was from all my children, relatives & friends.

It was almost impossible for me to contain myself. What grieves me more than all I did not see Sarah. I knew when she heard we had gone when she would not see us she would feel very bad. She wrote she had not heard that we were gone until we were at our journeys end & then she says Mother, you cannot tell how I felt when I found you were gone & gone where I could not see you. She says she was calibrating to go to Hamburg in the spring, & see us. She thought what she wanted to say to Mother . She thought what comfort She would take & how I will tell you how we have been situated.

I have but little time to write & have to scribble it over as fast as I can. If you can only read it I shall be glad for I have now the Ague & fever ever since last September, off & on . I broke my fits a number of times, it has left me now several days, but I am very poor & weak. My Health seems better now than it has before since I was first sick. I hope I shall not have any more , Mr. **SCOTT** was taken the day before I was. He has not had this four or five weeks.

David and Seraphinia have both had it. David did not have but three fits. Seraphina had it before her babe was born but not but a few fits. When we came here we had two men & a boy. I had every Meal of victuals to cook in the room. We eat & a great part of the bread to bake. Our being scarce of Money which makes it hard after we got here . We took Mr. Auguotus **TOWLEY** from Buffalo & nephew of Mrs. **DOARDAND** to Board to help get provisions which made our family quite large. I now do all the washing and work to do alone. The men have so much to do they cannot help me. It runs well for me for I have not time to think if it had been. Those young men boarding here & my work kept me from thinking so much. I never saw the face of but two Women till our folks came.

It was very sickly here in Dixon when we came here but then were not so many Deaths but this seasons. It has been very sickly all around through the country. There has been a quite a number of Deaths in Dixon. I stayed at our Brothers about two weeks. I have not seen Serphinia they have not here to see us. We had a letter from Wooster the other day they have moved out where Myron lives.

Dear Sister

There has been a great change in family since I saw you I feel to mourn with you in the loss of your Dear companion . I wish you would write to me as soon as you receive this, & write me about his sickness & Death as I have not heard the particulars.

I wish your would write me about Augustine where he is & whether there is any prospect of my getting any thing from him. I have written to him but have not had any answer. I do not know if I directed my letter to the right place . If ever we did need any thing in this world we do now. We calculate to go to keeping house by ourselves next spring, but we have nothing to do with. We have a good claim if we only had what Money is due from him. We could situate ourselves as well as we could wish. There is a great chance for living the country is beautiful if it was only Wealthy. I should be content our children are all here but I have never been content since I have been here . I shall have to content myself. We must have our home since I have been here I shall to content myself we must have home of our own some way. Mr. SCOTT has done a great deal of work since has been here. He has been very steady seems very anxious to get on living. I wish your would write to Augustine & see whether he can let me have any money. If he does pay any thing I would wish to have it sent to Edward & Sophia & have see that it is fixed some way to make us comfortable in our old age.

David & Serphina have as much as they can do to take care of themselves. Serphina has not been well since she came here until lately. David keeps a Public House and his Building is a new House. He rents the House he lives in he hires a great deal of help & has good a many travelers. Our Babe is very fretful a great deal of the time. We have now no girl. They have to pay them twenty shillings a week for women help.

If there is not some other way provided for me to live I am afraid my time will short in this world when there is so much to be done . It is impossible for a person to get by doing more than they are able. I wish Augustine would try & do something as we shall have hard times to live. We have nothing to do with. I expect we shall have to ask for other people to get something to live on. Perhaps David may keep us some but he not able. What I have written I hope you lock it up in your bosom for if Seraphina knows I shall have trouble. I cannot write any more for our folks have come home they have been away to Dixon.

Your Affectionate Sister

Brilliant SCOTT

~ Florida Facts ~

Joe Lang **KERSHAW** became the first black since Reconstruction to be elected to the Florida Legislature in 1968. He served for 14 years.

Gwen Sawyer **CHERRY** became the first black woman to serve in the Florida House of Representatives when she was elected from Miami in 1970.

Carrie P. **MEEK** became the first black and the first black woman elected to the Florida Senate when she was elected from Miami in 1979.

Dr. Arnett E. **GIRARDEAU** became the first black man to serve in the Florida Senate when he was elected from Jacksonville in 1982.

Joseph W. **HATCHETT** became the first black since Reconstruction to serve on the Florida State Supreme Court when he was appointed in 1975.

FAMILY FINDER

Surname	Location	Mem #			
Mendenhall	NC	956	Moulton	MA	544
Mercier	IRL, FRN	197	Mullen	KS, IA, IL, VT	1065
Merrill	NY	C28	Mullins	MA	464
Merriman	WI	1069	Mullins	TN, NC	741
Metzger	PA	783	Munday/Mundy	FL, GA, VA	463
Middlebrooks	GA, MD	983	Munden	VA	463
Miechiels	BLG, MI	197	Munro	SCT	197
Miggins	NY	293	Murchev	AL, GA, SC	463
Miller	FL, AL	335	Murdoch	Sc	996
Miller	CT	457	Murfin	ENG	497
Miller	VA, PA	741	Muzzy	MA	464
Miller	VA, PA	783	Myers	NY	704
Miller, Mueller	IL, GER	1057	Nail	AL, GA	564
Million	VA	457	Naimo	PA, ITL	783
Millman	IL	962	Nanney	PA	921
Mills	NC, SC	716	Neas	OH, VA	464
Millward	ENG	1063	Needham	MA	544
Minnick	PA, GER	783	Nees/Neese/Nehs	OH, VA	464
Minor	VA	457	Nell	OH, CND, GER	921
Miskell	KY	1080	Nelson	SWD	435
Mitchell	OH	574	Nelson	AL, IRL	753
Mitchell	TN, VA, NC	741	Nelson	PA	783
Mobley	GA, NC	664	Nesbitt	IRL	197
Mockerman	VA, OH, MI	574	Nevins	MA, CT, KY, IN	422
Moffet	MA	911	Newcomb	MA	464
Mol	NY	704	Newhall	MA, CT	464
Monjar	KY, OH	894	Newport	TN	395
Montgomery	KY, TN	1087	Nichols	PA	783
Montgomery	OH	C28	Niernsee	MD, SC, AUS	996
Moon	OH	457	Nilsdotter	SWD	312
Mooney	SCT	958	Nitschmann, Nitchman	OH, PA	464
Moore	MA	464	Nixon	OH	1125
Moore	PA	540	Njolstad	NRY	886
Moore	PA	783	Noe	VA, WI	1071
Moore	PA	540	Noren	IL	958
Moorehead	PA	335	Norris	GA	497
Morgan	AL	564	Norton	MA	464
Morgan	AL, GA	464	Nowinski	IL, PLD	1057
Morley	CT, MA	464	Nye	NY	197
Morris	MA, CT	464	Nye	NY	465
Morris	IN	C28	Ockley	ENG	463
Morrow	IN, OH, NC	497	O'Dea	MA	464
Morrow	IN, OH, IA	1000	Oestreich	NE	962
Morton	TN, AL	236	Ohanley	MA	911
Moses		465	Ohlweiler	GER, IL	922
Mosher	MI, NY	197	Ohmer	FRN	1043
Mossburg	MD	555	Olsson	SWD	312
Moulton	MD, ENG	333	Omansiek	MI, GER	197

Oppy	IL, IN, OH, NJ, VA	566	Platts	MA	464
Orr	PA	783	Plomer	MA	464
Osborne	FL, GA	664	Polk	CT, PA, OH	541
Ouellette	CND	500	Porter	IL	590
Owens	MD, NY, IRL	333	Porter	SC, NC	996
Owens	IN	559	Potter	MA	464
Oxnard	ME, MA	109	Poulter	MA	464
Paine	MA, CT, NY	704	Powell	TN, IL, MO	1068
Paine	CND, VA	1015	Power, Powers	VA, KY, WV	605
Palgrave	MA	464	Powers	CND, OH	1086
Palsgrove	MA	464	Pratt	CT	947
Paquette	CND	500	Prescott	MA	464
Parish	AL, FL	731	Prestin	WI	1064
Parker	MA	464	Preston	IN	1012
Parker	NJ, RI, ENG	497	Pritchett	MA	464
Parker	SC, GA	886	Pruitt	KY	1013
Parker	MN	1069	Quince	IL	647
Parrott	VA	457	Raasch	NE	962
Parsons	ME	1055	Rackliff	ME	886
Partin	GA, FL	928	Rainey	TN	635
Passmore	TX, OK	172	Ramage	AL, SC, PA	497
Patrick	PA	740	Ramey	GA, AL, AR, OK	172
Patten, Patton	MD, PA	783	Ramsey	KY, IN, IL	220
Patterson	PA, IRL, SCT	1043	Rapelje	NY	465
Patton	VA	457	Ratliff	AL, TN, VA	335
Paxton	VA	573	Rawson	MA	464
Payne	KS, OK, KY	1065	Ray	NC	956
Pearce	NJ	C28	Read	SC	300
Pearson	MA	197	Ready	AL	987
Peck	NY, CT	433	Reaves	SC	886
Pederson	MN, NRY	66	Redditt	GA	928
Pehrsdotter	SWD	312	Redner	MI	197
Pehrsson	SWD	312	Reed	MA	464
Peltier	RI, CND	635	Reed	NC	497
Pence	OH, VA, PA	464	Reed	MD, PA	783
Penland	NC	956	Reeder	IL, MD, SC, KY, IN,	220
Perry	IL, MO, MT	559	Reeder	OH, PA, NJ, VA	464
Perry	PA, ENG	740	Reeder	PA	783
Peters	MN, IL, GER	66	Rees	WV	457
Petty	KY, OH	564	Reeve	ENG	463
Pharo	ENG	497	Reid	NY, IRL	753
Phelps	CT, MA	464	Reifschneider	NY	1001
Phelps	MA	C28	Reimels	NY	1026
Phink	TN	395	Reinertsen	MN, NRY	979
Piatti	NY, ITL	626	Reynolds	MA	464
Picken	CND, SCT	500	Reynolds	IN, NJ	497
Pickett	NY	704	Reynolds	TN, NC, VA	741
Pigott	NC	292	Reynolds	PA, MD	921
Piles	KY	559	Reynoud	FRN	907
Plambeck	IA, GER	922	Rhoads	OH	C28

Rice	ENG	463	Sauer	OH	864
Rice	IL MA	590	Sawyer	MA	464
Richards	AL	335	Schaefer	PA	464
Richards	MA	464	Schaeffer	GER	921
Richardson	NC	1001	Scheetz	PA	1067
Richbourg	SC	996	Schellens	NY	500
Richmond	GBR	921	Schellig	GA, SWT	463
Riley	MA	464	Schenk	NY	465
Riley	AL, GA, SC	579	Scherer	PA	783
Riley	SC	886	Schindler	PA	497
Roan	PA	540	Schlemmer	GER, IL	922
Roberts	NC	956	Schmid	OH, SWT	1015
Robinson	FL, GA, ENG	463	Schmitt	GER	642
Robinson	MA, NH	529	Schneider	IL, GER	1057
Robinson	PA	540	Schoen	PA	1067
Robison	PA	540	Schooley	NJ, ENG	497
Rockhold	MD, WLS	1129	Schreiber	IL, GER	1057
Rodgers	IN	559	Schultz	IN, OH, GER	921
Roewer	GER, NY	1099	Schultz	GER, OH, IN	921
Rogers	TN	395	Schwinn	GER	642
Rogers	SC, GA, FL	928	Scott	IN, KY, VA	244
Rogers	FL	1063	Scott	MA	464
Rohrke	NE	962	Seckinger	GA, SWT	463
Rolphing	KS	1000	Selleck	CND, NY	197
Roney/Rooney	FL	886	Sessions	FL	886
Rose	PLD	500	Sexton	VA	497
Rose	NY, VA, OH	574	Seypelt	GER	864
Rose	PA	783	Shaneyfelt	IN, GER	1092
Rose	LA	1063	Shaw	MA	464
Rosenberger	IL, GER	566	Shelby	VA, NC, TN, KY	256
Rossington	ENG	463	Shepherd	MA	464
Rowe	SC	886	Sherman	CT, MA	464
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Rowley	VA	1013	Shilvock	ENG	544
Rowntree	CT, ENG	635	Shively	PA	783
Roy	VA	457	Shofner	GER	236
Rudd	ENG	497	Short	PA, ENG	497
Rudy	PA	783	Shufelt	CND, MI, NY	585
Ruggles	OH	541	Shuler	SC, GER	463
Rundquist	IL	585	Shuster	GER	900
Russell	VA, NC	220	Simcock/	IA, IN, OH, TN,	497
Rust	MA	464	Simcoke	NC, VA, PA, ENG	497
Ruston	ENG	395	Simmons	MN, NRY	979
Rutledge	OH, PA	464	Simon	GER, OH	574
Ryerse	NY, NJ	465	Simpson	SCT	197
Safranko	OH	713	Sims	MI, CND, ENG	197
Salen	PA	740	Sindelar	CZH, BOH	1055
Sampica	IA, NY	922	Sistare	CT	457
Sanders	AR, LA, SC	1013	Slaght	OH	714
Sands	FL, BHS	561	Sloan	GA	886
Sapp	GA	716			

Small	PA	540	Strickler	OH	464
Smith	VA	457	Strobel	SC, GER	463
Smith	AL, SC	497	Strohm	NY, GER	1099
Smith	OH	564	Stroup	NC	956
Smith	NC, VA, TN	648	Stuckey	OH	729
Smith	GA, FL	731	Sturdevant	ENG	463
Smith	TN, NC	741	Sturm	OH, IL, GER	1074
Smith	SC, CT, VT	886	Stutes	IN, IL	922
Smith	KS, VT	1065	Styren	NRY	979
Snook	NJ	465	Suhr	NY	1026
Sowers	IN	626	Sullivan	IA	1064
Spafford	VT, NH	1001	Sumpter	NC, GA	983
Spainhower	NC, VA, TN	648	Svensson	SWD	312
Sparhawk	MA	464	Swartz	PA	783
Spaulding	VT, NH	292	Swiec, S'wiec	CZH	642
Spears	NC, VA, TN	648	Swift	VE	1012
Spink	MA, RI	465	Swits	NY	704
Spurrier	NC, TN, KY	256	Szabo	OH, PA, HUN	504
Stacy	OH, PA	464	Talbott	PA	1025
Stalder	OH, FL, HLD	975	Tarter	KY	958
Staley	AL, SC	886	Tate	GA	987
Stamper	ENG	395	Tate	PA	C28
Stanard	VA	457	Taylor	KY, IN	220
Stanfield	PA	713	Taylor	VA	457
Stansfield	MA	464	Taylor	ENG	463
Stearns	ME	190	Taylor	MA	464
Stearns	MA, MI, VT, NY	197	Teat	MS	635
Stearns	MA	464	Teeter	PA	783
Stebbins	CT	464	Telkamp	GER	900
Steed	VA	525	Temme	NY, GER	500
Stephan	OH	713	Terhune	NJ, NY	894
Stephenson	AL	886	Terry	VA	190
Stevens	MI, ENG	C28	Thayer	MA	464
Stevenson	PA	540	Thigpen	FL	187
Stevenson	CND, SCT	1015	Thom	PA	783
Stewart	MA, VT	422	Thomas	PA, OH	574
Stewart	PA, OH, IA, SCT	541	Thomas	PA	783
Stewart	NC, VA, TN	648	Thomas	GA	886
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Stone	MA	464	Tibbins	PA, OH	541
Stonecipher	TN	395	Tierney	IL	1125
Story	AL, GA, NC	664	Till	PA	921
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66	Lorraine Block Hanson	642	Maryann Andrasik Forster	1068	Elaine Hatfield Powell
109	James C. Staples	647	Merlyn Wintenburg	1069	Elizabeth "Beth" Duff
172	Etta R. Redd	648	Jean Y. Fuquay	1071	Larry Saxon
187	Russell V. Hughes	664	Mary Louise	1074	Theo S. Kaffenberger
190	Claire Hughes		Osborne-Trescot	1080	Cynthia Etchison
	Heatherington	704	Stephanie Hochuli	1086	Pat White
197	Ralyne E. Westenhofer	713	Martha Jean Burns	1087	Verna Williams
220	Clifton O. Duty	714	Lynne Jacques Knorr	1099	Robert W. Vignec
236	Jean Barker Duty	716	Wilma Woodruff	C28	Eileen Brookhart Willis
256	Mary Clyta Horning	729	Ken E. And Betty E. J. Davis	C30	Lorna D. Lindstrom
292	Barbara Viehman Lytle	731	Judy L. Rogers		
293	Florence McDermott Gilmartin	740	Helen V. Bowman		
		741	Rose M. Hogan		
300	Elizabeth Hemphill Ward	753	Mary Gerity Bernier		
312	Nils W. Olsson	783	Kristal Reed		
333	Bertha Moulton Kidd Streeter	864	Paul L. Enchelmayer		
335	Tanya C. Miller	886	Leslie Jeffcoat Maddocks		
395	Grace M. Stinecipher	894	Sheryl Furbish Culver		
422	Buddy Brokaw (Ms.)	900	Joanne Telkamp		
433	Joan McGrath	907	Marcelle Hobbs		
435	Martha J. Nelson	911	H. Joyce Donegan		
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464	Richard A. Connell	928	Mary Phillips		
465	Rhoda W. Rollin	939	Agnes Marchand		
477	George L. Wannall	947	Alice Breausche'		
497	Norris L. Reynolds	956	Joyce Ray Lea		
500	Amy S. Giroux	958	Lawrence R. Kirkwood		
504	Ernest J. Kardos	962	Judy Weinberg		
512	James M. McMullen	975	Betty Jo Stockton		
525	Alice Creel Ball	979	Gayle Julsrud		
529	Robert L. Dean	982	Bob Carpenter		
540	Glenn V. Gibson	983	Mark Comer		
541	Helen F. Gibson	984	Sharon Comer		
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555	Ann Mohr Osisek	996	Frank Porter		
559	William McCracken McCallister	1000	Ellen Gilland		
		1001	Dodie Johnson		
561	Arthur A. Boza, Jr.	1012	Richard Paul Hosier		
564	Nadine Morgan McCabe	1013	Tommie Mardis Hosier		
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		1067	Susan Walters		

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NOTE: The two-letter abbreviations are from the U. S. Postal Service; the three letter abbreviations are from the Genealogical Helper.

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Central Florida Genealogical Society, Inc
PO Box 536309
Orlando, FL 32853-6309
Email: cfgs@geocities.com.



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KINSMAN

Original Poem by Wayne Hand, 1999

Alas, my elusive kinsman
You've led me quite a chase
I thought I'd found your courthouse
But the Yankees burned the place.

You always kept your bags packed
Although you had no fame, and
Just for the fun of it
Twice you changed your name.

You never owed any man, or
At least I found no bills
In spite of eleven offspring
You never left a will.

They say our name's from Europe
Came state side on a ship
Either they lost the passenger list
Or granddad gave them the slip.

I'm the only one that's looking
Another searcher I can't find
I play (maybe that's his fathers name)
As I go out of my mind.

They said you had a headstone

In a shady plot
I've been there twenty times, and
Can't even find the lot.

You never wrote a letter
Your Bible we can't find
It's probably in some attic
Out of sight and out of mind.

You first married a..... Smith
And just to set the tone
The other four were Sarahs
And everyone a Jones.

You cost me two fortunes
One of which I did not have
My wife, my house and Fido
God, how I miss that yellow lab.

But somewhere you slipped up,
Ole Boy, Somewhere you left a track
And If I don't find you this year
Well..... Next year I'll be back.

*Reprinted from The Quest (Fla. Ch. Of Ohio
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