



**Roots & Branches Genealogical Society
of West Volusia County, Florida**
130 East Howry Avenue, DeLand, FL 32724

Jerry's nephew and nieces
enjoying the Tulip Festival,
Pella, Iowa

Spring 2012

A quarterly news letter published in Winter (Jan-Mar), Spring (Apr-Jun), Summer (Jul-Sep) & Fall (Oct-Dec)

Reuben Marsh Family of Volusia County Florida



Photo by Jerry Hale 16 Apr 2012



In this issue:

- President's Desk
- New Membership Book
- 1940 Census
- Calendar (Lessons and Speakers)

Volusia County Pioneers

The Marsh family were some of the earliest settlers to come to Volusia County. The patriarch of the family was Reuben Marsh Sr. who was born in Edgecombe County, North Carolina in about 1793. Reuben moved his family to Georgia in about 1800, settling in Telfair and

then, in about 1828 in Irwin County. In addition to farming, Reuben and his sons ran "Marsh's Ferry" on the Alpaha River. At age 19 Reuben married Nancy Marshall, age 15, daughter of Matthew and Margaret (King) Marshall.

(Continued on page 6)

ROOTS & BRANCHES

Roots & Branches Genealogical Society of West
Volusia County
Volusia County Regional Public Library
130 East Howry Avenue
DeLand, Florida 32724
Genealogy Room
Tel: (386) 822-6430 ext 117
eMail: Roots.Branches.Volusia@gmail.com
Web site: <http://tinyurl.com/2c7bnzv>
Volusia Gen: <http://www.volusiagenealogy.net/>
VCPL: <http://volusialibrary.org/>



R&B Web Site QR

2012-2013 Officers

President: Louise Caccamise
1st VP/Publicity: Bob Weaver
2nd VP/Membership: Mary Lois Kelley
Programs Chair: Carol Izzo
Recording Secretary: Carol Dowling
Treasurer: Harriet Bolin
Corresponding Secretary: Jerry Hale
Newsletter distribution: Mary Lois
Newsletter editor: Kelley
Web Master: Jerry Hale
Five Generation Charts: Shanda Hebert

Editorial Policy

Submissions by members are ESSENTIAL to the continuation of this newsletter. The editor cannot possibly fill the newsletter by him/her self. If you enjoy receiving this newsletter you MUST submit articles about your family history research. Without your participation this newsletter WILL cease to exist. The Editor reserves the right to edit articles, files or queries prior to publication. Neither Roots & Branches Genealogical Society of West Volusia County nor the Editor assumes any responsibility for errors on the part of the contributor. Material contained in this publication may be quoted if credit is given for the source.
Editor's eMail: roots.branches.volusia@gmail.com

Suggestions? Ideas? Criticisms? Queries?

We strive to produce an interesting newsletter with original material. Our goal is to leave a trail that will help others. Our focus is **an ever expanding circle**: 1) West Volusia County 2) Volusia County, 3) Florida, 4) SE United States, 5) New England 6) the Middle West and 6) the World.
Are we succeeding? Please send feedback to guide us. Send your ideas and your problems, perhaps someone in the Society can assist you with a brick wall. Have a Query? We will include it in the newsletter so the WORLD will see it and assist. The newsletter is widely distributed including to the **PERSI** database at Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana (ACPL).

**Roots & Branches Genealogical Society
of West Volusia County
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name	Family / Single \$15.00
Address	Make checks payable to: Roots & Branches Genealogical Society
City	Mail to: Roots & Branches Genealogical Society c/o DeLand Public Library 130 E. Howry Ave. DeLand, FL 32724
State ZIP + 4	Annual dues run from 1 Jan to 31 Dec
Tel:	
eMail	

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Dues are considered delinquent if not received by the last day of February.

PROGRAMS (2 p.m. - Auditorium)

*April: Ann Bergelt - Foreign & German Research**
May - Clyde Stickney - All in the Family, Creating a Comprehensive Surname Database
June - Bob Weaver, Problems & Solutions
July-Aug summer break, no meetings
Sept - Kim Dolce VCPL's Newspaper Archives, Ancestry and Heritage Quest
Oct - Liz Whitaker - Volusia County Clerk's Databases
Nov - Carolyn Carlisle - DNA
Dec - Christmas Social and awards

*** HANDOUT AVAILABLE ON THE WEB SITE**

LESSONS (1 p.m. - Conference Room)

*April: Jerry Hale - Timelines & Research in Churches**
May: Rosemary Sutton - Genetic Heritage - DNA
June: Rosemary Sutton - Research Trip Preparation
July-Aug summer break, no meetings
Sep - Rosemary Sutton - Preserving Materials
Oct - Being a Private Investigator in Genealogy
Nov - Wars and Military Records
Dec - no lesson, Christmas Social and awards

*** HANDOUT AVAILABLE ON THE WEB SITE**

From the Desk of the President

Dear Members,



The arrival of the 1940 census on the internet got me to thinking about other free sources of genealogical information that are available. One source that I enjoy daily is the Standard Edition of Dick Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter. He writes in an interesting and easily understandable manner about a wide variety of topics. It has been said to be the most popular genealogy magazine in the world. You can find it and subscribe by typing Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter, in your browser. He also writes a Plus Edition for which there is a yearly charge.

Another free source that I subscribe to is "Genealogy Gems," the monthly newsletter of the Ft. Wayne, Indiana Library. They state their purpose as being to enlighten readers about genealogical research and to inform them of the vast resources of the Allen County Public Library. You can subscribe to it by going to www.GenealogyCenter.org.

FamilySearch, sponsored by the Mormon Church, describes itself as the world's largest genealogy organization. For many years researchers have gone to Family History Centers and rented microfilm, usable on a limited time basis. Currently the organization is digitizing copies of thousands of vital records from around the world which provides an unequalled opportunity to research one's ancestors. In their easy-to-use site you can type in an ancestor's name and multiple sources appear for your selection. It is reached by going to www.FamilySearch.org.

Cyndi's List, a trusted site for fifteen years, is an excellent source for providing a categorized and cross-referenced index to genealogical resources on the internet. It is a great place to begin and to return to.

And then, close to home is our own Volusia County Public Library website where we have simply to go online by remote access. You will be asked for your user name which is your library card number and your password, which you must get at the library. After entering your information, go to the Database login. From there you select the subject, Genealogy, and you will find two categories available. First will be America's Historical Newspapers in three series - 1690-1876; 1758-1900; 1829-1922, and the second choice, Heritage Quest Online. It will provide you with the US federal censuses; genealogy and local history books; PERSI, the index of over two million genealogy and local history articles; Revolutionary War pension, bounty land and warrant applications, and Freedman's Bank (1865-1874) African American records. By going to the library and using the computer in our genealogy room, you can go online and get Ancestry.com. There you will find vital, military, church, land and probate records, city directories, pension files, passenger lists and more.

There are also free trial memberships in several genealogy organizations such as Archives.com and GenealogyBank.com.

Louise Caccamise

1940 U.S. Census

The 1940 census was taken on April 1, 1940. The official census population count was 132,164,569 for the US proper but doesn't include the populations of the territories of the US.

The 1940 Census form called for the street, avenue, road, and house number; the number of dwelling house and family in order of visitation; whether the home was owned or rented; the value of home, if owned, or monthly rental, if rented; whether the family lived on a farm; the name of each person whose usual place of residence on April 1, 1940 was with this family; the relationship of this person to the head of the family; each person's sex; color or race; age at last birthday; marital condition; whether he or she attended school or college any time since March 1, 1940; highest grade of school completed; his or her place of birth; citizenship of the foreign-born; place of residence on April 1, 1935; his or her trade, profession, or particular kind of work done, and the industry of business with which he or she was involved, and his or her class of worker and number of weeks worked in 1939; wages or salary received in 1939 and whether or not \$50 or more was earned from non-wage or non-salary sources; It also includes, if applicable, the number of the corresponding farm schedule.

The National Archives web site has been severely taxed and you may be experiencing problems accessing it.

<http://www.archives.gov/research/census/1940/>

Meet Our Speaker



Our speaker for May, Mr. Clyde P. Stickney, will make a presentation entitled "Creating and Using a Comprehensive Surname Database in a Particular Location." Mr. Stickney grew up in Key West, Florida, where his family has lived since his ggggrandfather, a Florida State pioneer, shipwrecked in the late 1830s.

Mr. Stickney's genealogy roots trace to the Bahamas and Barbados. He has served on the Florida Pioneer Committee for the last three years. He is President of the Halifax Genealogical Society in Ormond Beach and Vice-President of the Florida State Genealogy Society for 2012.

Mr. Stickney spent his professional career in academics, retiring in 2003 as the Signal Companies' Professor of Management, *Emeritus* at the Amos Tuck School of Business Administration, Dartmouth College. He received his DBA from Florida State University and taught at the University of Chicago and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill before joining the Tuck School in 1977. He has also taught at business schools in Japan, Australia, Finland, and Germany. Mr. Stickney has authored and coauthored books on financial accounting, managerial accounting, and financial statement analysis.

Mr. Stickney and his wife Kathy, who is also an avid genealogist and has spoken to this Society on several occasions, live in Ormond Beach.

Membership Directory Update

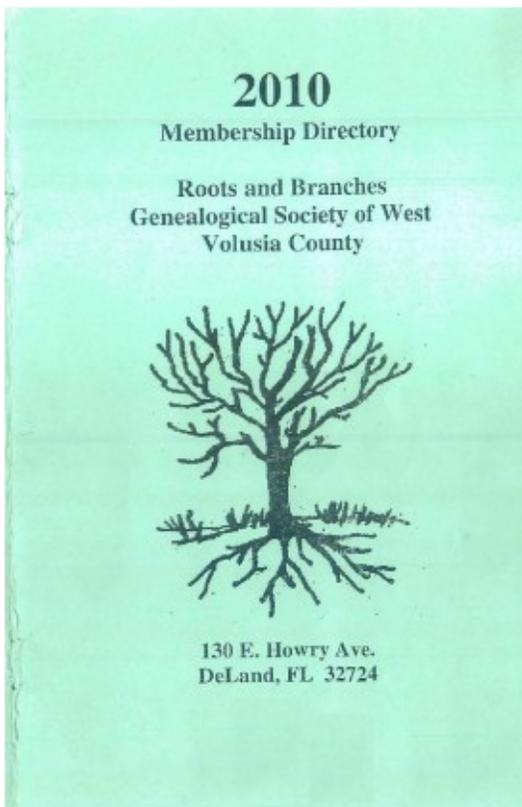
Mary Lois Kelley, our hard working membership chairman, is working on an update to the membership directory. The directory will have updated photos of our members so we can all recognize fellow members and get to know them. It is a lot easier to speak to someone at a meeting if you can remember the name of the person.



The new directory will be out soon but MLK still needs seven photos to complete the project. If you are one of the following members, or if you just want to submit a better picture, please send a photo; digital, Xeroxed (color preferred) or snail mail to Jerry at Roots.Branches.Volusia@gmail.com or to R&B c/o the library

(address on page 1.)

- Burr, Charles & Jane
- Davis, Sylvan J.
- Forsythe, Donna
- Probeck, Christina
- Robertson, Barbara D.
- Taunton, Marilyn & Richard
- West, Jane



Congratulations to Esther Gould for Winning 2nd Prize in "My Most Interesting Ancestor" Second Annual Contest

The contest rules are announced and submissions are accepted from June through December. Esther received a \$50 cash prize and a congratulatory certificate.

Gardner Dyer and Mary Elizabeth Gould moved to DeLand, Florida in 1886, brought with them their three children, Ward, Grace and Harold.

Harold was born in Saginaw, Michigan in September, 1886. His parents managed and owned the Putnam Inn in DeLand, where the family lived. Harold went into real estate with his brother Ward in 1907, but didn't stay with the business very long. He was said to be of a roving disposition and saw considerable of the world before his life was ended at the age of 33.

He joined the National Guard of Pennsylvania and traveled by train to El Paso, Texas when they were mobilized because of the Mexican border crises. In a letter home he said, "It is very dry. I was on a detail which went to town for oil, and had to go to a company which is situated right on the line with nothing but a barbed wire fence between. There is an armed guard at all open points with quite a lot of sniping by the Mexicans. About 50 percent of the population of El Paso is Mexican, but the people are very kind to the guardsmen, bringing them home in their autos." He resigned for awhile after returning from the conflict and returned to DeLand for a visit. He then went back to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Although beyond draft age, he enlisted as soon as his country declared war against Germany and was assigned to the 109th Pennsylvania infantry of the National Guard in 1918. He passed through training school and was recommended for appointment as a second lieutenant. He was sent overseas as a Sergeant before receiving his commission. His company was stationed in Fere-en-Tardenoes, France.

From a letter of a fellow corpsman, Corporal Harold Culley, published in the Philadelphia Public Ledger: "It was noon on July 15 and our company had just started a smashing, drive against the Germans. For three days we had been tucked away in the woods and they had given good protection. As we advanced we were subjected to a terrific machine-gun firing and shelling.

We kept going ahead and when a man fell somebody would assist



him to the rear (if no German bullets were in the way). A half-hour after we started forward, Sgt. Gould of Philadelphia, had forged way ahead of the boys and was doing wonderful work with his rifle.

Now that I have time to reflect upon the fight, I think Gould's performance will go down in the company's records as the most daring in its history. He kept crawling ahead until he reached a bunch of Germans and through his superb courage and coolness, took them prisoner. As he was disarming them, a sniper ended his life with a bullet through the head, killing him instantly."

Harold Gould's body is buried at Oise-Aisne American Cemetery and Memorial, France. He has a memorial tombstone in Oakdale Cemetery, DeLand Florida. *Esther Gould*

ROOTS & BRANCHES

(Cont'd fm pg 1) Reuben and Nancy raised 14 children, 13 of whom were born before Reuben joined the Georgia Militia fighting the Indians in the Second Seminole War. He was among a party of soldiers who set up a camp near what is now Astor. The story was passed down that Reuben was much impressed with the terrain, the abundant game and mild climate. Family tradition has it that he said that if he lived through the war he was going to come back and settle in Florida. He didn't make it back. After the war he returned to farming in Irwin County, Georgia and died there at age 56 in 1849, leaving Nancy with six minor children.

In 1851 Nancy and the children came to Florida, except for Mary who had married Jacob Bradford and remained in Georgia. The family settled near Ocala in Marion county. Eventually the family scattered, Abigail married and returned to Georgia, Nancy went to Alabama, James, and Henry moved to Sumter County and Eady (Edith) married and went on to Hillsboro County. John married Rebecca Hall they, with his mother Nancy remained in Marion County. Nancy (Marshall) Marsh died in Marion County and is buried in the Ocala City Cemetery.

Moses, still unmarried, and Reuben, with his 18 year old bride Mary Jane Clanton came to Volusia County where Reuben purchased a Settlers Claim from Bryant Osteen. He built a cabin and a store at Cabbage Bluff on the St. Johns River. Cabbage Bluff was where boats on the river stopped when they could not get into Lake Beresford..

When the Civil War started all seven of the Marsh boys joined the Confederate army. The brothers joined three Regiments according to their ages. The oldest, James and Henry, joined the 1st Reg, FL Inf. Reserves; the next oldest, John J., Little B. (aka Littleberry or L.B.), and George W. joined the 9th Reg FL Inf. and the youngest, Reuben and Moses joined the 2nd Reg. FL Cav. All survived the war. James' son Reuben Marsh was in the 5th Reg Florida Cavalry. This set the scene for many problems later when Reuben and his nephew were confused in the records.

REUBEN. Reuben expected the war to be a short one but when it became obvious that it was to be prolonged Reuben hired Eli Beasley as a substitute, was discharged and returned to his homestead at Cabbage Bluff. He almost got through the war unscathed but in about 1864 a Yankee raiding party came to his home and asked him to swear an oath to the Federal Government. When Reuben refused to sign he was taken Hilton Head, SC and held there for nine months until Lee surrendered. When he was set free he walked all the way to St. Augustine where he was able to buy a horse for the rest of the journey, knowing he would need a horse to work his land. Reuben and Mary built a trade, selling beef and venison to provision the river boats. Reuben set up a post office and became the first Postmaster

in the area. They raised stock and planted. Eventually a petition was circulated to move the post office from Cabbage Bluff to DeLand. Reuben was asked to sign the petition and, because he had so much going on, did so and put himself out of the postal business.

In 1885 the State of Florida offered soldiers pensions of \$5. Most every year the pension laws were changed. In 1889 pensions were allowed for the widows of Confederate Civil War soldiers. Reuben's pension application was filed in August 1907 and approved 16 Oct 1907 (#4526). Reuben didn't have long to enjoy his pension, he passed away on 26 Jan 1908. He is buried in Bethel Cemetery at Spring Garden and Glenwood Road in DeLand. Reuben's widow, Mary Jane (Clanton) Marsh, applied for and was granted a widow's pension on 7 Mar 1908. She first received \$120 per year, it was later increased to \$150 per year.

An interesting episode was discovered upon examining the Confederate Civil War Pension applications of all the men named Marsh in Florida. Reuben of Volusia county had a nephew (son of his brother James) who served in the 5th Battalion Florida Cavalry. He was paroled at Waldo and returned to Sumter County. In Reuben's (the uncle) pension application he clearly states that he had returned home after providing a substitute, one Eli Beasley. His pension was granted without any problem. The pension of the widow of Reuben (the nephew), however, was long delayed because the pension board decided that providing a substitute after a very short period of service was disqualifying. Of course they had the uncle in mind but the reason for the confusion was that the nephew's widow listed his unit as Dickinson's 2nd Regiment when, in fact he served in the Company H, 5th Battalion, Florida Cavalry. Many letters back and forth providing affidavits from men who had served with Reuben (the nephew) saying that he was never in the 2nd Florida Cavalry but served with them in the 5th Battalion finally convinced them they had the wrong man and she got her pension in July 1905.

Reuben had a daughter, Mary, from an early marriage (wife's name unkown), who was born in Georgia. With Mary Jane he had 12 more children, all born in Volusia County. Most of them remained in this county.

In about 1863 Reuben and Mary built a magnificent two story home on Marsh Road. The photo at the left was taken in 1974, the house was over 100 years old then and is still standing, being used, and it looks good. You can see how it looks today without leaving your own house. Use Google Maps to "fly" to the intersection of Carter and Marsh Road in DeLand then click on "street view" and turn to look down Marsh Road. The house is just a few yards away.

(Cont'd on page 7)

ROOTS & BRANCHES

[\(Cont'd from pg 6\)](#) Two of Reuben's sons, Moses and Joseph (J.E.J.) operated a meat market from the Michaelos Building on Woodland Blvd from about 1900 until 1910. Here is an article from 1907.

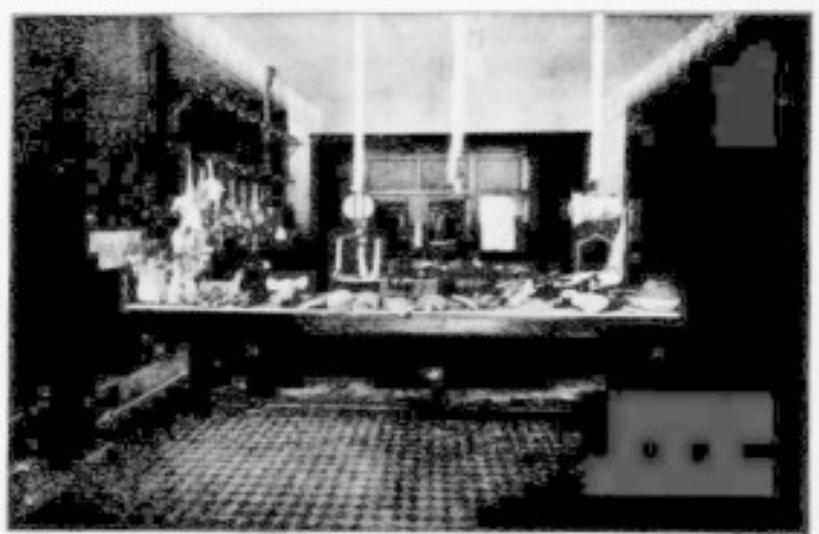
MARSH BROTHERS' MARKET.

We present a halftone view of Marsh Brothers' meat market, situated on the Boulevard. The enterprising young men who opened this market thoroughly understand their business, and are giving entire satisfaction to their large and ever-increasing list of customers.

The Marshes have been in the cattle business in Volusia county for two or three generations, and hence are well equipped to know good beef when they see it, and they give their customers the benefit of their knowledge and experience.

Their market is always supplied with the best native and northern meats, and prompt service and courteous attention is given.

The Florida agriculturist, January 17, 1906
Univ of FL via Chronicling America



MOSES. Reuben's younger brother Moses spent his military service driving cattle to various posts to provide the troops, part of Florida's effort to keep the Confederate troops supplied. He was paroled on 17 May 1865 at Baldwin Florida in Duval County and came to Volusia county where he met and married Cora O. Bracey at Enterprise. He was 33 years old and Cora, 24, was the daughter of Hugh David and Mary Bracey who had come to Florida from South Hill, Virginia. Mary's father, Hugh David Bracey, also a Civil War Veteran (14th Virginia Infantry) and was a doctor practicing in DeLand.

Moses and Cora had five children, four girls, Geneva, Maude, Viola and Lilla and one boy, Elmore Vernon. Their daughter Maude (1879–1913) married two of her cousins, Reuben's sons. In Aug 1900 she married Starke Seldon Marsh, a promising young lawyer. Maude and Starke relocated to Manatee County where he opened a law office. On a visit to his parents in 1905 Starke became ill with malaria. After a short illness he died, leaving Maude with two children,

Vera and Gordon. Moses Marsh died on 29 April 1892 or 1893 (his doctors alternated years in their affidavits) of pulmonary consumption (TB) and was buried in Beresford Cemetery. Cora applied for a widow's pension based on Moses' disease which he had contracted during his war service.

With her son-in-law and nephew, Stark S. Marsh (Reuben's son), acting as her lawyer Cora filed in September 1897. No action was taken on her application which caused Stark to write letters to the Pension Board for two years before Cora finally got her pension in August of 1899 (#829), \$60 per year. In his letters to Hon. W. D. Bloxham in Tallahassee, Stark described his aunt's condition as nearly destitute, delicate, about 49 years old weighing about 90 pounds. At one time he told the board that Cora's son, 13 year old Elmore Vernon, had broken his arm and was unable to do chores and that she couldn't afford to hire anyone to help. Another time he said that the oldest daughter, Geneva, had died and was the only family member capable of earning wages. At the time Stark was 23, Cora out lived him by 33 years! In September of 1909, living in Port Orange, she applied again under the new law of that year and was granted on the 23rd of the same month an increase to \$120 per year. She was again approved for pension when the law was changed in 1913 finally receiving \$150 per year.

In 1920 Cora was living in Jacksonville with her daughter Viola M. Scarborough as head of household and another daughter, Lilla M., Mrs. James C. Conn in the same household.

In 1930 she lived in Port Orange in the home of her sister and brother-in-law Dr. Henry K. & Mrs. Florence (Bracey) DuBois. Dr. DuBois was one of the doctors who attended to her husband before he died. [\(Cont'd on pg 8\)](#)



130 E. Howry Ave
DeLand, FL 32724



TO:

Founded in 1986, Roots & Branches Genealogical Society of West Volusia County serves the cities of DeLand, Deltona, DeBary, Enterprise, Osteen, Pierson and Seville. The purpose of this Society is to stimulate and promote interest in genealogical and historical research and provide instruction in the use of efficient mechanics and adherence to scientific principles of accuracy and thoroughness in research. We meet the third Sunday of each month, except July and August, in the Auditorium of the DeLand Public Library at 130 East Howry Avenue in DeLand, Florida. We have a 45 minute lesson in the Conference room (behind the Audio Visual Desk) given by one of our experienced members. Guests are always welcome. We also cover the Genealogy and Local History Room on the second floor of the library, attempting to provide a volunteer whenever the library is open. Library hours are: M-Th 9:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., Fri, Sat & Sun 1:00 p.m. to 5:0

<p>Cont'd fm pg 8: In 1935 Cora is the head of household at age 81 living with her sister Florence (Bracey) DuBois and daughter Lilla M. (Marsh) Rigby.. Cora died in 1936 and was laid to rest beside Moses in the Beresford Cemetery on West Beresford Road, Deland, having out lived Moses by forty four years.</p> <p>The descendants of these two pioneers of Volusia County are too numerous to mention. More information is available in the Brownell Collection at the Volusia County Public Library, Genealogy and Local History Room, DeLand, Florida.</p>	<p>References:</p> <p>Marsh Family notes & newspaper clippings from <i>The Brownell Collection</i> by Mrs. Daphne Brownell <i>Pioneers of the Wiregrass</i> Vol 1 1951 & Vol 2 1954; Folks Huxford; self published Federal and Florida Census 1840-1930 Volusia County Birth, Marriage and Burial records from <i>VolusiaGenealogy.net</i> by Bill Morgan & John Woodard <i>Confederate Pension Records</i>; Florida Memory; Division of Library & Information Services www.floridamemory.com/Collections/PensionFiles Conversation with Scott Perryman, present owner of the Marsh home. Telephone conversation with Steve Marsh, Magee, MS</p>
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