

CENTRAL FLORIDA GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

4706 Larado Place
Orlando, Florida 32806

Phone: 277-2459
January, 1975

Mrs. Edgar Train White, Jr., President
Mr. James D. Eller, Sr., Vice President
Mrs. J. Vernon Hinely, Rec. Secretary
Miss Minnie Witham, Corres. Secretary
Miss Beatrice Eller, Historian
Councillors: Mrs. Alice H. Rupe and Mr. Woodrow W. Hintenach

Mrs. Theodore Ochs, Ass't.
Corres. Secretary
Mr. Emerson Thompson
Anderson, Jr., Treas.

CREED

OUR LIVES are the gift of our many antecedents.
OUR GOALS are to perpetuate their names and activities.
OUR LABOR is to gather and preserve that left to us.
OUR LOVE to extend both backward and forward, so that
OUR CHILDREN may feel close to their folk and their land.
OUR DUTY is to share all gathered information, while
OUR HOPE is to interest others and to assist each member.

"The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I
have a goodly heritage." Psalms 16:6

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CALENDAR

January 30

February 27

March 27

Meetings are held in the auditorium of the Orlando Public Library at 7:30 P.M. If there is a change in the meeting place there will be sufficient advance notice.

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WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN THE CENTRAL FLORIDA GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY?

Send a letter to Box 177, Orlando, Florida 32802 and an application will be mailed to you. OR - visit our regular monthly meeting. If you are interested in visiting one of our meetings call 277-2459, or ask at the desk in the Local History-Genealogy Department at the Orlando Public Library, to check the exact location of the meeting.

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This newsletter is published for the benefit and enjoyment of all members of the Society. Copies are sent to local libraries for their files. If anyone wishes to send copies to out of locality friends, call 644-0516 for details. The newsletter will be published in January, April, July and October.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The last NEWSLETTER published was as the beginning of our New Year. At that time we published certain New Year resolutions. I would like to briefly review the last few meetings to see if we are hewing to the line as a Genealogical and Historical Society.

We have tried to have some aspect of Genealogy at every meeting, encouraging membership participation. In October, after a tasty covered dish Harvest Supper, we heard a short talk on Sources of Research. We will elaborate on some of these sources in a later issue of the Newsletter.

In November, the program chairman was unable to attend the meeting, so we had a continuance of the previous months program on sources of research.

At the December Dinner Meeting, we held a short business meeting, with Mr. J. D. Eller, Sr., Vice President in the chair. Mr. Eller stated that it had been recommended that the June, July and August meetings be dropped. He also stated that a committee was reviewing the By-laws and were working on the proposed amendments to be presented to the membership. If any member desires to make a change in the present By-laws he should send his recommendation to Mrs. Bonnie Hinely before 6 January 1975, to be reviewed by the committee and council and to be acted on at the January meeting.

The amendments to the By-laws are to be voted on at the January 30, 1975 meeting, which is to be held in the auditorium of the Orlando Public Library at 7:30 P.M.

After dinner, Mrs. Joyce Ford gave us a short but most enlightening review of the Jacksonville Genealogical Workshop. She also passed around some literature she had brought back from that most informative meeting.

Mrs. Mary Jane Knisely showed some very unusual wills. She explained when and where the original wills had been made, making them much more interesting to the group.

I believe you will agree that we are keeping to our New Year resolution - to have full membership participation in each meeting.

Thanks again, to all of those who helped to make our December Dinner Party Meeting such a success.

Mrs. Edgar Train White, Jr.
(Mary Virginia White)

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The members of the Society wish to take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Mary Jane Knisely for the fine work she did during the last two years in publishing the NEWSLETTER. Her articles were especially enjoyable and all other information printed was very helpful to everyone. Mary Jane regrettably resigned her position as Editor so she could spend more time at her own research. Hopefully, Mary Jane will find time to write more of her very educational articles for publication.

UNDERGROUND ORLANDO?

Some of the old citizens of Orlando were said to have told of a natural fountain which shot several feet into the air, spouting clear, sparkling water, which was an attraction for sightseers many years ago.

This location was said to have been in the College Park-Fairvilla area, somewhere off N. Rio Grande Avenue. Several years ago Jean Yothers wrote an article about it for the Sentinel Star.

Where is it today? No one seems to know. Probably the flow was stopped because it eventually cut an underground passage which joined some subterranean stream flowing into one of the nearby lakes. Such a stream is said to run underground between Taft Avenue and the Orange Blossom Trail, toward Big Lake Fairview. It is known that there is a place in that lake where a strong current sbots out from the shore.

Perhaps one of Orlando's early attractions vanished in just such a manner.

Leona L. Henkel

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TRAVELING ANCESTORS

Members who are researching Southern ancestors should not overlook the New England area. Early trading vessels were numerous between Massachusetts and Virginia and the Carolinas: also the islands. Families from Dorchester, England, settled in Massachusetts and then migrated to South Carolina. Some of the New England families landed in Virginia, and the Carolinas, then later sailed to New England.

The Witham family has been traced from England to South Carolina, Virginia, and the Barbadoes as well as directly from England to Massachusetts.

Also remember that the Connecticut and Hudson Rivers were high-ways to Canada, especially between 1675 and 1750.

Maybe you will find that a lost ancestor spent some time in New England or Lower Canada. They didn't all go west!

Minnie F. Witham

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DID YOU KNOW:

That through the Orlando Public Library anyone may borrow micro-film from the National Archives and Records Service. The library has a list of available microfilm. Members may check the catalogue for the film they would like to read, then order the film through the Local History-Genealogy department. The only charge is for postage, which is very reasonable. Making use of this service may save you a trip to the Archives in Washington or one of the branch locations.

HISTORY OF ORLANDO

In 1923, Mrs. Willa Vick Griffin read the following paper before the Sorosis Club. Mrs. Griffin, the Aunt of one of our members, Mr. Alton J. Nolle, Sr., was born at Crown Point on Lake Apopka near the edge of Winter Garden, on January 24, 1883. Her father was one of the first sheriff's of Orange County. As you will see, Mrs. Griffin was very interested in the life and growth of this city and county.

This paper is printed exactly as she read it so many years ago.

There seems little left to be said about Orlando. I am sure that we ought to know the town from the height of the tallest building, the Angebilt, which is 150 feet, to the depth of the deepest sewerage well 600 feet. And that we should be more useful citizens from the study of our town in Sorosis.

I overheard several prominent men talking about the recent election by which the city manager plan was adopted and they said it was undoubted due to the favorable discussion of it in Sorosis. So you see what a power we are destined to become to the community.

Forget for a moment if you please, the Orlando of today, and go back with me about seventy years to the little pioneer settlement which did not even boast a name. Perhaps a half dozen families with their slaves comprised the inhabitants. Mr. Lovell with a farm lying just south of Lake Eola: Mr. Speer with his little family and many slaves on a large plantation on the shores of what is now Lake Highland. Mr. Hull's home and farm was situated on Lakes Davis and Lancaster. Mr. Mizell moved down from the northern part of the state and brought hundreds of acres around Lake Virginia.

How up-to-date the settlers must have felt when Mr. John R. Worthington put up a general store on the lot which now is used by the Sunshine Club for their croquet grounds, even though there was not a cookstove nor piano in the county.

The merchandise was hauled by ox teams from Melonville, which was on the St. Johns river, just above the present site of Sanford. In 1856 the county seat of Orange County was located here, previous to which the county business was transacted at Ft. Reed, a settlement near the St. Johns river.

Mr. Speer, who afterwards became Judge Speer, was perhaps responsible for its location here. This question was of course decided by vote with Ft. Reed. The Lodge which is now Apopka and Orlando were in the race, with the odds seemingly in favor of Ft. Reed, when Judge Speer suddenly bethought himself of the fact that a United States soldier was privileged to vote wherever he might be on election day, so he went to Sumter county where a company of soldiers were stationed and persuaded a number of them to be here on that day, assuring them of a good picnic dinner. Before the noon hour the soldiers were on hand, and after enjoying the lovely dinner remembered that they might

HISTORY OF ORLANDO (continued)

vote here, which they did, thereby swelling the vote sufficiently for a victory.

As to how Orlando was named, I have asked three people this question. Mr. Fries told me a beautiful story of how the guard of a little band of travelers camping here for the night was killed by Indians, in giving the alarm that they were being attacked, saving the lives of the others at the cost of his own, and that this guard Orlando was buried on the banks of one of our beautiful lakes, and that travelers going through the southern part of the state after that, would say: "Let us camp by Orlando's grave." Hence the name.

I asked Hon. S. A. Robinson and he, getting his version from Mr. Arthur Speer, son of Judge Speer, and from Captain B. M. Sims, early settlers and Confederate veteran of Ocoee, told me this story.

That a man named Orlando became very ill here and was taken into Judge Speer's home and cared for and that he afterwards was in the Judge's employ, that a deep friendship sprang up between the two and so Judge Speer named the place Orlando in his honor.

I asked Hon. B. M. Robinson and he most emphatically declared that Judge Speer was a great lover of Shakespeare and that he named the place Orlando, for the well known character in "As You Like It."

I dared not ask another how Orlando got its name.

With the naming of the village and the selection of Orlando the advent of the postoffice, mail being brought by a rider from Melonville, and three days being required for the round trip.

Mr. James Hughey was one of the first mail carriers and on the first night out camped at Soldier Creek, the next day went the four miles into Melonville, procured the mail, did the errands and again camped at the same place, and back to Orlando the third day.

How many of you know that stamps were not used then, and that one paid ten cents for each letter when taken from the office.

Capt. B. M. Sims, who came here a young man at the close of the Civil War and taught school in the western part of the county, came into Orlando at the close of his school and found the sheriff crying bids for the court house. Friends asked him to bid, which he did and naming the lowest price of \$1,250, built our first courthouse, a two story building, four rooms for county offices below and court room above.

(to be continued)

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The Orlando Public Library now has complete sets of the census for all states east of the Mississippi. This film has been purchased over a period of time and I am sure that everyone using the library appreciates the efforts of the Local History-Genealogy Department. One way we could all show our appreciation would be to purchase microfilm to give to the library for your own use and the use of others.

NEW BOOKS AT THE ORLANDO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Check List of Historical Records Survey Publications RD-016.973 Chi
A History of our Country RD-973 Muz
An Index to the Vital Records of Boston (1630 - 1699) RD-974.461 Gla
History of Wayne County, Ohio RD-977.161-Dou
The Confederate Congress RD-973.713-Yea
Ralph and Elizabeth Rodman Voorhees A Tribute RG-929.2-Voorhee
Stow, Ohio--Shadows of its Past RD-977.136-Jam
Memoirs of Wayne County RG-977.263-Fox
History of Preble County, Ohio 1881 RD-977.171-His
Genealogical Research Sources in Tennessee RG-976.8-Hat
History of Medina County and Ohio 1881 RD-977.135-His
History of Sandusky County, Ohio 1882 RD-977.1214-His
History of Allen County, Ohio 1885 RG-977.142-His
Reminiscences of Elyria, Ohio Mrs. Mary Beebe Hall RG-977.123 Hal
Mad Anthony Wayne and the New Nation RD-973.3-Tuc
History of Brown County, Ohio 1883 RD-977.1796-His
Burke's Guide to the Royal Family RG-929.72-Bur
The Descendants and Antecedents of Milton Bird and Leonora
Dougherty Noble RG-929.2-Noble
History of Wyandot County, Ohio 1884 RD-977.126-His
Simple Heraldry Cheerfully Illustrated RG-929.6-Mon
Abstracts from The American Weekly Mercury RG-922.1-Sco
Pioneer Families of Eastern and Southeastern Kentucky RG-929.3 Koz
The County Courthouses and Records of Maryland RD-975.2-Rad Vol. I
The County Courthouses and Records of Maryland RD-975.2-Rad Vol. II

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If anyone is interested in the 1830 Federal Census: Territory of Michigan, I will check the index for a fifty (\$.50) cent fee to go to the book fund for the Society. Also in the same book is a section called "A Guide to Ancestral Trails in Michigan". I will copy sections of the Guide for a one (\$1.00) dollar fee for the book fund, plus the library copy fee of ten (\$.10) cents per page.

Betty Hughson

SOME MICROFILM AT ORLANDO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Listed below are reels of microfilm, held at the library, not included in their printed list.

1. Complete set of 1850 census film for the State of Iowa.
2. 1 reel - Mecklenburg County, North Carolina index to wills, 1763 --1965.
3. 10 reels - Colonial Records of North Carolina, 1662 - 1776. (The index to this set of microfilm is contained in a book entitled The Colonial and State Records of North Carolina by Weeks.)
4. 1 reel - Warner Family Record. (New England area)
5. 6 reels - American State Papers
3 reels - Index to above papers covering period 1789 - 1851.
6. 1 reel - Deed book - 1837. Early records of Hillsborough County, Florida.
7. 1 reel - Daybook, beginning 31 March 1837. (no ending date shown). Early Records of Hillsborough County, Florida.
8. 3 reels - St. Augustine Florida Historical Society Calendar of Spanish Documents, 1512 - 1790.
9. 1 reel - Feree Family Tree
10. 1 reel - Index to Passenger Lists, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. 1800 - 1906 Schi - Scht.
11. 1 reel - Index to Passenger Lists of Vessels arriving at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1800 - 1906. WU - Z and miscellaneous cards.
12. 2 reels - Southern Genealogists Exchange Society, Inc. A surname index and pedigree charts.
13. 1 reel - Index (soundex) to City Passenger Lists of vessels arriving at Baltimore, Maryland, 1833 - 1866 S - U
14. 1 reel - Index (soundex) to Federal Passenger Lists. 1820 - 1897 Letter T only some 1860 - 1870 - 1880.
15. 1 reel - 1820 census - Talbot, Washington and Worcester counties, Maryland.
16. 1 reel - 1880 Illinois census - Part of Pike County, all of Pope County and part of Pulaski County. (This roll of film was given to the library by Mr. Alton J. Nolle, Sr., in memory of his mother Mrs. Lillian Griffin Nolle)
17. Complete set of Virginia Magazine of History and Biography.
18. William and Mary Quarterly - First and Second Series.
19. Tindell Quarterly
20. 1 reel - Passenger Lists, 1820 - 19? Baltimore, Maryland

AT LAST - - - IT'S HERE

In keeping with previous donations to the Orlando Public Library, we should like to call your attention to the fact that in 1974, the Society voted to purchase and contribute to the Local History-Genealogy Department some reference material which would be beneficial to the majority of researchers. A publication was selected, and approved by the department head. We now are pleased to announce the following material is on the shelves, available for your use in the library:

Chronicles of the Scotch-Irish Settlement in Virginia

By Lyman Chalkley

Extracted from the original Court Records of Augusta County 1745-1800 generally referred to as "The Chalkley Records", or as "Records of Augusta County".

This is a publication of 1912, reprinted in 1955 by the Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, and consists of 1,988 pages, indexed. So popular and so much in demand was this reprint that it was reissued in 1974, Balto.

This monumental work in three volumes consists of abstracts of court records pertaining to the early Trans-Allegheny pioneers who first penetrated the mountain barrier which sealed off the Atlantic seaboard from the whole country west of the Blue Ridge.

In speaking of this work, the publisher states: "However it might be referred to, its value as a reference work is unsurpassed, genealogists and historians alike regarding it as the basic record of the first settlement in the country beyond the Blue Ridge Mountains. In 1745, when Augusta County, Virginia was erected, its domain extended from the Alleghenies to the Mississippi River and from the northern part of Tennessee to the Great Lakes."

- Vol. I consists of court orders 1745-1815, Criminal Prosecution prior to 1795, county court judgements, various old papers 1760-1770. Original petitions and papers filed in the county court.
- Vol. II contains wills 1745-1829 and deed books 1745-1792
- Vol. III contains judgments 1791-1824, marriage records (male names only) 1748-1774, marriage bonds 1786-1810, Fee Book 1745-1784. Augusta Parish Vestry Book 1746-1760, Revolutionary Declarations, military services in Frederick Co., Virginia, court martial records 1775 to 1761, county court orders

Considering the vast extent of the county, as well as the unparalleled scope of Judge Chalkley's researches in the original records, this work stands as one of the colossal and supreme sources of genealogical information for hundreds of thousands who trace their ancestry from eastern states to Virginia, Kentucky and points south and west. Many are the references to persons who have moved on to other areas. "Where they went" and "where they were" sometimes is surprisingly revealed through old documents reported herein.

A LIST OF REGISTERED VOTERS IN ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA

1876

I do solemnly swear that I will support, protect and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States, and the Constitution and Government of the State of Florida, against all enemies, foreign or domestic; that I will bear true faith, loyalty and allegiance to the same, any ordinances or resolutions of any State Convention or Legislature to the contrary notwithstanding, so help me God.

Auld, I. M.	Bunby, Jesse
Avery, Thomas	Bansley, Nathan
Anderson, Berry	Buchanan, Duncan
Allman, Jasper	Brantley, George C.
Allman, Willis	Bell, Enoch
Alsobrook, Z. T.	Brock, M. E.
Alsobrook, P. B.	Boone, C. M.
Askew, Henry	Barnhart, W. R.
Alsobrook, W. J.	Bradley, Wiley
Aulin, Andrew	Banks, John S.
Andersson, Carl	Buchan, Walter J.
Andersson, John	Brooks, James W.
Anderson, A. W.	Ball, John S.
Arnold, H. T.	Bent, John
Anderson, G.	Barnett, William J.
Arnold, G.	Bell, J. C.
Allen, Aaron	Brooks, John W.
Anderson, Solomon	Brooks, John R.
Allen, John H.	Bailey, G. P.
Arnold, John H.	Bryson, J. C.
Allen, William B.	Buchan, Albert H.
Anderson, Thomas L.	Ballard, A. M.
Arnold, J. P.	Bell, Joseph
Adams, Thomas J.	Bronson, G. W., Jr.
Aderhold, M. A.	Bronson, Richard
Arnold, William T.	Bronson, James C.
Anderson, Eric	Bronson, George W.
Arey, S. S.	Bruce, Angus D.
Anderson, J. C.	Barnhart, John S.

List of Registered Voters in Orange County, Florida 1876 (Continued)

Brack, W. J.	Bass, Robert
Bronson, James S.	Bronson, James J.
Ballard, L. M.	Bradshaw, J. G.
Barber, A. J.	Beasley, John
Blitch, James M.	Beasley, Hiram
Boone, C. A.	Brantley, B. N.
Burrall, John M.	Beck, Charles H.
Beasley, C. C.	Boyd, Thomas J.
Bresben, Romeo	Burkle, Lewis
Bryan, W. H.	Boswell, P. Keith
Bryan, J. M.	Bunce, Joseph B.
Barber, W. W.	Bass, George W.
Buchan, C. H.	Bourland, James M.
Blake, T. H.	Bobo, George
Burke, Isaac	Bispham, James S.
Byrne, R.M.S.	Bispham, N. C.
Benkson, E.	Brantley, S. W.
Balsley, John H.	Bryan, W. J.
Bowen, John D.	Bear, J. H.
Bumby, Joseph	Brantley, J. H.
Beall, A. B.	Brantley, Z. N.
Baxter, William P.	Bronson, Charles
Blackwell, G.H.H.	Bronson, Jenie
Ballard, H. D.	Bronson, Edward
Beagles, E. B.	Baker, Francis M.
Bent, Charles A.	Bispham, William H.
Batty, Job T.	Bayard, N. J., Jr.
Boatwright, William	Brown, L.J.A.
Barton, James W.	Baker, Richard F.
Bigelow, John	Bradshaw, E. D.
Brown, W. R.	Bass, William E.
Barlow, W. H.	Bass, Richard
Boals, W. H.	Bonaparte, Oliver
Brooks, Homer	Baxter, Alexander
Butler, Jacob	Baldwin, F. G.
Bronson, J. R.	Brown, George H.

BITS OF KNOWLEDGE

St. Michaels Catholic Church, 1523 Cleveland Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60614 has marriage records back to 1866.

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The Clerk of the Cook County Court, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois has Naturalization records from 1874 to 1906.

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Illinois State Historical Society, Springfield, Illinois has Declaration of Intention (re: naturalization) records 1894 - 1906, General Records 1874 - 1906, Minors Records 1876 - 1906, Records of Petitions, Marine Corps 1906, Index to Naturalizations 1896 - 1906.

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The Virginia State Library, Richmond, Virginia 23219, has a list of Virginians who served in the Franch and Indian Wars, the county from which they served, and whether or not they received bounty lands for their services.

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In the Massachusetts section at the Orlando Public Library you will find that two new sets of books were purchased, for your use, during the past summer.

30 volumes - Bulletin of the Essex Institute
First volume printed 1869 - last volume printed 1898.

85 volumes - Esses Institute Historical Collection.

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You can find out ⁱⁿ which Army National Cemetery your lost ancestor may be buried. Write the Director, National Cemetery System, Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C. 20420 and give him the following information:

Decedents full name, rank, service number if known,
Organization and date of death.

A search will be made of all cemetery records for the information you require.

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The Kentucky Historical Society at Frankfort welcomes data on your Kentucky forebears.

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ANCESTRY SERVICE

An Ancestry Service in our Central Florida Genealogical and Historical Society Newsletter can be of vital importance to the members. We can all know the names, areas and approximate date of the ancestors you are researching. It can give each member an exchange of vital information. This system is used successfully in many other genealogical societies.

If you wish to be listed in this service, please follow these directions:

SURNAME LIST. Prepare an alphabetical list and write the name (spouse's name in parenthesis), birth place and date, marriage place and date, and death place and date. Example:

		<u>Birth</u>		<u>Marriage</u>		<u>Death</u>	
		<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>
AINSWORTH							
	Florence (Aaron Witham)	1850	Vt.	1869	Vt.	1916	Vt.
	Royal (Diana Parks)	1821	Vt.	1841	Vt.	1900	Vt.
ALLEN							
	Polly (Mark Nelson)	?	?	1796	Vt.	?	?
BIRD							
	Prudence (Martyn Kellogg)	c1600	Eng.	1621	?	1671	Mass.

Repeat the process with each surname on your list. Use only maiden names for females. Do not include other spouses of an ancestor. List only your direct ancestors. Give at least one date and place of your ancestor. Use a circa date (c1600) if you do not have the correct date. This will help other members identify the person you are searching as to place and date he lived. Include ancestors between 1600 and early 1900. Do not list ancestors who died before 1600 or who were born after 1900. Please put your name, address, and membership number on each sheet. Numbers will be assigned to all new members at the next meeting.

Please mail your lists to Mrs. C. W. Hughson, 1148 Neuse Avenue, Orlando, Florida (C-5) before 1 March 1975, to be included in the April issue of the newsletter. It may be easier for you to send names beginning with letters A thru E at this time and work on the remaining lists for the next newsletter.

Sample of ANCESTRY SERVICE as it will appear in the CENTRAL FLORIDA GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY newsletter.

ANCESTRY SERVICE

		<u>Birth</u>		<u>Marriage</u>		<u>Death</u>		<u>Mbr.</u>
		<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Nbr.</u>
AINSWORTH,								
	Florence (Aaron Witham)	1850	Vt.	1869	Vt.	1916	Vt.	59
APPLEGARTH								
	Thomas (Sarah Whiteley)	c1770	Md.	1802	Md.	1851	Md.	C5
# C5	Mrs. C. W. Hughson, 1148 Neuse Avenue, Orlando, Fla.							32804
# 59	Miss Minnie F. Witham, 5521 Jessamine Lane, Orlando, Fl.							32809