

The new Mrs. Hooker had children from a previous marriage who were reported not to be congenial with the Hooker children. One story, possibly apocryphal, states that Captain Hooker had two sets of stairs built outside the house. The Cathcart children used the east stairs, the Hooker children the west, while Mr. and Mrs. Hooker used the inner stairway.

After the Civil War, maintenance of the house proved burdensome, so Captain Hooker gave it the name "Orange Grove Hotel", and became innkeeper and proprietor of Tampa's major hotel. Starting April 29, 1866, Captain Hooker ran an advertisement in the Florida Peninsular which continued for three months. The text of the notice is as follows:

ORANGE GROVE HOTEL

This house, having just been renovated and refitted, is now ready for the reception of boarders. Regular and day boarders will find this a comfortable and convenient house, and every attention will be paid to the wants of travelers. The table will be filled with the best the market affords, and the charge will be reasonable.

The climate, the sea breeze, fish, oysters, etc., make this a place of resort, for health and pleasure.

Stables are attached to the premises where horses will be attended to.

W. B. Hooker, Proprietor

Apr. 29, 1866, 3 mo.

Captain Hooker had planted many orange trees on the hotel property, hence its name. The Southern poet, Sidney Lanier, was a guest at the hotel in 1876-77, after Captain Hooker's death. He described the building as "a large three story house with many odd nooks and corners, although clean and comfortable in appearance and surrounded by orange trees in full fruit." The Orange Grove Hotel remained the major cultural center of Tampa until 1884 and the construction of the Tampa Bay Hotel. When the railroad came to Tampa, the building was used as a passenger and freight depot for the Tampa Northern Railroad. Its last owner was the Seaboard Air Line railroad which used it as a freight terminal office. Demolition of the building took place in 1945.

After the Civil War, when Captain Hooker resided in Tampa, it became necessary for him to petition President Andrew Jackson for a pardon, since he had supported the Confederacy in the war. Those persons who were worth more than \$20,000 were required to make individual applications for pardons, and Hooker was in this category. Records show that he was recommended by Gov. William Marvin for a pardon which was granted on Nov. 9, 1865.

As stated earlier, Captain Hooker and his family owned property in Hernando County where they had stayed during the early days of the Civil War. After returning to Tampa, he became interested in selling the property. The Florida Peninsular issue, August 24, 1867 carried the following advertisement:

LAND AND PLANTATION FOR SALE

"I will sell to the highest bidder, on the 2nd day of November, my Plantation consisting of 900 acres of land, with