

about 120 acres cleared and under good fence; this plantation lies 2 miles north of Brooksville, and contains some of the best hammock land in Hernando County. There is a good dwelling house and all the necessary outhouses, with fine peach, grape, plum, mulberry and banana orchards on the place.

"I will also sell some 7 or 8 mules and horses, carriage wagons, carts, farming utensils, corn and fodder, and everything necessary to carry on farming. Any person wishing to buy a place in south Florida will lose a good chance by not attending the above sale.

"Terms made known on day of sale.

Wm. B. Hooker

Tampa, August 17th, 1867

On February 12, 1869, a written agreement between Captain Hooker and his wife shows her relinquishing dower rights for the sum of \$2,400. She evidently died or was separated from her husband prior to 1870, for in the census for that year she is not listed in the Hooker household.

Volume 3, of Huxford's Pioneers of Wiregrass Georgia says the following:

William B. Hooker has been described by those who knew him as a man of much individuality and strong convictions, possessing in a very eminent way the power of initiative. He was endowed with a commanding personality and was a recognized leader in his county and section in his day.

During the early days he always kept a school teacher for his children and grandchildren. He was well educated for the times, as evidenced by his correspondence with the Florida governor and his official reports concerning activities during the Seminole Wars. He owned a library which he willed to his son, James N. Hooker. Active in the Democratic party, even as an elderly man, he was present at a party meeting in Tampa, July 1868, and was elected delegate to the upcoming county convention.

His health began to decline in the 1860's and his son-in-law, Henry L. Crane took over operation of the Orange Grove Hotel. According to the Tampa paper, Florida Peninsular, Dec. 7, 1870, William B. Hooker was reported to be seriously ill and staying at Live Oak.

Captain Hooker died at Tampa, at ten minutes before 5 A.M., June 2, 1871. His will, dated Dec. 5, 1870, was probated July 17, 1871. The Captain was buried beside his first wife at Oaklawn Cemetery in Tampa. A tall, obelish-like monument marks the graves of Captain and Mrs. Hooker.

Children of William Brinton Hooker and Mary Amanda (Hair) Hooker:

1. Ann Elizabeth Hooker, born Sept. 5, 1831, died Aug. 15, 1888, married John Henry Hollingsworth on July 24, 1845.
2. Eliza Jane Hooker, born Dec. 25, 1833, married William Walker Stallings, April 16, 1850.
3. Martha Harris Hooker, born Feb. 21, 1835, married 1st, Benjamin J. Hagler on May 27, 1857; married 2nd, Zorrie J. Curry on Oct. 30, 1869.