

STEPHEN HOLLINGSWORTH 1797-1870

The following sketch was researched by Kyle S. VanLandingham (P. O. Box 1779, Ft. Pierce, Fla. 33450) and Mr. & Mrs. James H. Gardner (Rt. 7, Box 933, Lakeland, Fla. 33801). It was compiled and contributed by Mr. VanLandingham.

Stephen Hollingsworth, the founder of the Hollingsworth family in south Florida, was born in Sampson County, North Carolina, Sept. 3, 1797. His father, Zebulon Hollingsworth, served in Col. Kenan's Regiment of North Carolina troops during the American Revolution. Stephen's mother was Elizabeth (Chestnutt) Hollingsworth.

Stephen Hollingsworth grew up in Sampson County and about 1816 he married Elizabeth Colwell, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Spell) Colwell. John Colwell also served in the Revolution, having been a private in Capt. Tartanson's company, 8th North Carolina Regiment.

Stephen and Elizabeth (Colwell) Hollingsworth had the following children, all born in North Carolina:

1. Margaret Ann Hollingsworth, born Oct. 8, 1818; died Aug. 22, 1902; married Samuel Rogers, Jan. 16, 1839.
2. William Right Hollingsworth, born June 11, 1820; died July 14, 1880; married Sarah Porter, June 11, 1851.
3. John Henry Hollingsworth, born April 18, 1822; died 1893; married Ann Elizabeth Hooker, July 24, 1845. (See Issue #6, Oct. 1975 of SOUTH FLORIDA PIONEERS for biography of John Henry Hollingsworth).
4. Catherine Hollingsworth, born 1825-28; died young.
5. Elizabeth Jane Hollingsworth, born 1829; died Feb. 23, 1908; married John Levi Skipper, Oct. 8, 1849.
6. Stephen Thomas Hollingsworth, born 1830; died Oct. 2, 1903; married, 1st, Ann Tanner on Dec. 25, 1850; married, 2nd, Sarah Ann Caroline Pearce, July 11, 1852.

Stephen and his family are shown on the 1830 census for Sampson County and resided there until the mid-1830's. At that time, they moved to Alabama where Stephen Hollingsworth was issued a certificate from the land office at Montgomery for 40 acres of land in Tallapoosa County. The certificate was issued April 5, 1837. Stephen soon gave up his land in Alabama and returned to Columbus, Georgia, where his wife died.

The Second Seminole War was underway and Stephen enlisted July 7, 1838, at Columbus, for an indefinite period of service under Capt. Philip T. Schley. He soon moved with his family to south Georgia, for on Nov. 25, 1838, at Thomas County, he married Perlina Fulford. She was born in Georgia, Feb. 7, 1814.

Stephen and Perlina (Fulford) Hollingsworth had the following children:

7. Timothy Hollingsworth, born Oct. 18, 1839; died Oct. 26, 1872; married Elizabeth Lawson.
8. Martha Ann Hollingsworth, born Jan. 15, 1842; died Jan. 28, 1912; married George Durrance, Oct. 31, 1858.