

JOSEPH UNDERHILL 1795-c1881

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Joseph Underhill, a son of William and Spisa Underhill, was born in Duplin County, North Carolina, about 1795. William had served in the Revolution as a private in the North Carolina Militia.

About 1810, Joseph Underhill moved to Bulloch County, Georgia and during the War of 1812, he served as a second lieutenant in the Georgia Volunteer Company of Capt. Lemuel Tippins. On April 13, 1815, in Bulloch County, Georgia, Joseph Underhill was married to Nancy Hilliard, daughter of Silas and Abigail (Bulloch) Hilliard. Nancy was born about 1797 in Georgia. Their children:

1. Mary "Polly" Underhill, born April 10, 1816; died April 7, 1904; married Benjamin Guy.
2. William Underhill, born May 20, 1821; died Feb. 13, 1905; married Samantha Chandler, April 25, 1865.
3. John Underhill, born 1823; married Keziah Tucker, Sept. 11, 1854.
4. Thomas Underhill, born 1825; died Feb. 20, 1864; married Rebecca Thompson, Nov. 2, 1852.
5. Spicy Underhill, born 1832; married 1st, George Jones, Feb. 9, 1852; married 2nd, Bennett Whidden, Oct. 28, 1858.
6. Barbara E. "Barbary" Underhill, born 1834; died Nov. 28, 1914; married 1st, Francis A. Ivey, Nov. 1850; married 2nd, James Thomas in November of 1877 (see SOUTH FLORIDA PIONEERS, Issue #12).
7. Levicy Underhill, born March 16, 1838; died Oct. 17, 1902; married 1st, Jeremiah Underhill (1st cousin), March 13, 1859; married 2nd, Noah Whidden, March 3, 1864; married 3rd, Thomas Sullivan, Oct. 24, 1867.
8. Matthew Underhill, born Dec. 4, 1840; died March 16, 1918; married 1st, Elizabeth Catledge, Sept. 25, 1873; married 2nd, Isabella Surrency, Nov. 19, 1879.

Joseph Underhill served in his local militia unit while a resident of Bulloch County and in 1820 he participated in the Georgia Land Lottery. By 1838, Joseph was living in Ware County, for on June 9th of that year he was mustered into Capt. James Sweat's company of militia in order to repel the invasion of Indians. He served until Aug. 19, 1838. He then reenlisted, serving until Dec. 21, 1838, being mustered out at Fort Floyd, Ga. The 1840 census shows Joseph and family residing in Ware County.

Prior to 1850, Joseph Underhill and family moved to Hillsborough County, Florida, and are shown living there on the 1850 census. Also moving to Hillsborough County about the same time were Joseph's wife's sister, Annie (Hilliard) Willingham, her husband William, and Benjamin Hilliard, brother of Joseph's wife.

A United States land map, prepared in 1855, of Township 31 South, Range 25 East, shows an Underhill family residing in Section 13, on the east side of Peas Creek, about 3 miles northeast of Fort Meade. This same Underhill homestead can also be found on Ives' 1856 military map of south Florida. It was the home of Joseph Underhill and his bachelor