

HENRY LANGFORD 1826-1901

Researched, compiled and contributed by Spessard Stone, Rt. 1, Box 255A, Wauchula, Fl. 33873.

Henry Langford was born December 7, 1826, Georgia. Nothing is known of his early history, but by 1850 he was living in Hillsborough County, Florida where he married on June 3, 1852, Jane Whidden, born April 23, 1835, daughter of Willoughby and Eliza (Pennington) Whidden. They had the following children:

1. Columbus Langford, born ca. 1855.
2. William Washington Langford, born ca. 1858; married on January 8, 1880 in Manatee Co., Fl., Martha Dyess (born February 21, 1861; died March 21, 1950).
3. Eliza Jane Langford, born May 17, 1860; died September 4, 1923; married on August 31, 1876 in Manatee Co., Fl., Jeremiah M. Carlton (born December 9, 1854; died February 4, 1918).
4. Mahala Clementine Langford, born 1863; died 1946; married on September 28, 1881 in Manatee County, Fl., William Henry Hooker (born January 19, 1859; died December 7, 1931).
5. Mary Priscilla Langford, born ca. 1864; married on September 28, 1881 in Manatee Co., Fl., William H. Simmons.
6. James Henry Langford, born April 6, 1867; died June 1, 1953; married on January 17, 1891 in DeSoto Co., Fl., Carrie Viola Lastinger (born October 16, 1872; died April 3, 1953).
7. Missouri J. Langford, born June 9, 1869; died August 9, 1929; married on September 9, 1886 in Manatee Co., Fl., William S. Worley (born February 5, 1856; died October 23, 1911).

The Langford family first lived in the Simmons Hammock Settlement (present day Seffner) and in the 1850's moved with other family members to the Fort Hartsuff area (near present day Wauchula, Hardee County) in Manatee County, Florida.

During the Third Seminole War, Henry Langford served in Capt. William B. Hooker's Company, Florida Mounted Volunteers, which was mustered in state service on January 3, 1856 and into U. S. service at Fort Meade on February 21, 1856. Private Langford was mustered out on August 20, 1856 at Fort Meade.

In October of 1857 in the Manatee County elections, Henry Langford, along with John Platt, James G. Williams, and N. P. Hunter, was elected a County Commissioner. The 1860 Manatee County Census recorded in the Fort Hartsuff area the Langford household, consisting of: Henry, Jane, their children, Columbus, Wm. Washington, & Eliza Jane, plus Mary Ann Matthews and her daughters, Margaret and Emily Matthews.

Albert DeVane, late Lake Placid historian, listed Henry Langford as a member of DeSoto Camp, United Confederate Veterans; however, the company in which he served is not known. Most likely,