The Seven McMullen Brothers of Pinellas County

Robert C. Harris

Pinellas County Historical Museum

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarcommons.usf.edu/tampabayhistory

Recommended Citation
Harris, Robert C. (1979) "The Seven McMullen Brothers of Pinellas County," Tampa Bay History: Vol. 1, Article 9.
Available at: https://scholarcommons.usf.edu/tampabayhistory/vol1/iss2/9

This Notes and Documents is brought to you for free and open access by the Open Access Journals at Scholar Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Tampa Bay History by an authorized editor of Scholar Commons. For more information, please contact scholarcommons@usf.edu.
The year was 1841. President William Henry Harrison became the first president to die in office. The earliest commercial use of oil occurred in northwestern Pennsylvania, and Dorothea Dix launched her arduous campaign to improve the mental and penal institutions in the United States. As Secretary of State, Daniel Webster was negotiating a treaty with Great Britain over the disputed United States-Canadian border, while on America’s southern boundary the annexation of Texas was a controversial subject between the free and slave states. The first covered wagon train arrived in California by way of the Oregon Trail. Thousands of people were heading west along the pioneer trails in hopes of finding peace and prosperity.

But not all settlers were looking west for a better life; some considered the territory of Florida as the “promised land.” The year 1841 loomed significantly in the history of central Florida because that year the McMullen story began. James Parramore McMullen, then only eighteen years old, was sent by his father to Florida for health reasons. He had contracted “consumption,” now called tuberculosis, and he realized that if he stayed home he would contaminate his family. So he left Quitman, Georgia and wandered south, staying in the Tampa Bay area for about a year. After he had completely recovered, James returned to Georgia and “talked to his six brothers about the area, and said it was the closest thing to heaven that he could imagine.”

Migration to Florida had been curtailed by the long Second Seminole War, but with the announcement by President John Tyler on May 10, 1842, that the war was over, optimism prevailed. Although the first bill to aid settlers in acquiring free land in dangerous areas had failed the previous March, Senator Thomas Hart Benton re-introduced the Armed Occupation Bill, which was signed on August 10, 1842. Within the next two decades several hundred families migrated to central Florida, especially to those areas that were blessed by deep harbors and waterways.

Because of the tremendous number of waterways within Hillsborough County, established in 1834, the Tampa Bay region was destined to become a major area for new settlements. Between 1848 and 1871, seven brothers by the name of McMullen moved their families from Georgia, and settled what is now Pinellas County. Although four of the brothers left temporarily, two of them returned permanently to the peninsula. The brothers who came to Florida were third generation Americans.

Just prior to the Revolutionary War, three brothers named McMullen came to the New World, landing at Halifax, Nova Scotia. The youngest brother was James, who was born in Scotland in 1758, and who was the grandfather of the seven McMullen brothers. During the Revolution, James lived in North Carolina, serving in Canbury's Company, North Carolina Regiment for nearly three years.

After the war, James McMullen received 309 acres as a veteran's bonus and in 1781 he married Sarah Minton. They settled in Burke County, Georgia, building a substantial home called Halifax. Their second son, James Jr., was born in 1788, and in 1811, he married Rebecca Fain.
Twelve children were born to this remarkable couple: five girls and seven boys. Since the name James appears continuously in the McMullen lineage, it was appropriate perhaps that the first of the seven sons to come to Florida would be James.

When young James McMullen left his family in Georgia, it certainly was an act of great courage. Taking his horse, dog, bedroll, gun and even “his bullet-molds and powder,” James wandered south towards Florida. He arrived first at Rocky Point, which is located between Clearwater and Tampa, and then went across the bay to a high bluff, which became known as Bayview. He was virtually a hermit, since the “only human beings he saw while he camped out were Indians.”

However, to the north of Bayview, in what is now Safety Harbor, Odet Phillippe, the first permanent settler in Pinellas County, had built a home. He came to the peninsula by way of Charleston, South Carolina, and Key West around 1830. Odet brought to central Florida the first citrus plants, which were to become the basis for a thriving industry in the area. According to legend, Phillippe was lured to the Tampa Bay area by Thomas Gomez, the pirate. Phillippe had saved the lives of two of his crew, and in gratitude, Gomez gave him a map and told him “what a beautiful bay it was.” This event prompted the first settlement in what is now Pinellas County, and was called Phillippe Hammock. In the early 1830’s Richard Booth, an Englishman,
came to the area on an exploratory expedition and visited the Phillippe home. Eventually, Booth, married Phillippe’s daughter, Merlineya, and their first child, Odet K. (Keeter) Booth was the first white child born on the peninsula.\textsuperscript{14}

\begin{figure}
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{images}
\caption{James Jr. and Sarah McMullen, the parents of the seven McMullen brothers (courtesy of Bolivar McMullen Jr.).}
\end{figure}

\begin{figure}
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{images}
\caption{Coachman Log House, built around 1852 (courtesy of Pinellas County- Historical Museum).}
\end{figure}

After leaving the peninsula in 1841 on a return trip to Quitman, Georgia, James McMullen stopped in Brooksville, Florida. There he met Elizabeth Campbell, and after a brief period of correspondence, they were married on December 16, 1844 in Brooksville. The following year, Bethel, the first of eleven children, was born. James and his family apparently lived there until 1848, when they moved to the Pinellas peninsula. They constructed a log house, but because of the presence of unfriendly Indians, they returned to Brooksville. While the family was gone, the Indians burned the little log cabin.\textsuperscript{15} This event did not discourage James McMullen, however, in late 1850, he returned and built a substantial log house in the wilderness.\textsuperscript{16}

In the meantime, Elias Hart had settled in Bayview, where James had camped almost a decade earlier, and these two pioneer families were supposedly the first settlers in that area of the peninsula.\textsuperscript{17} There were plenty of fish in the bay, and game and berries in the woods. They planted seeds and even plants in the early 1850’s. James also fought in the Third Seminole War in 1856, serving as captain in William B. Hooker’s Company of volunteers from the central Florida area.\textsuperscript{18} James McMullen soon returned to his farm, increasing his stock and his land holdings each year.\textsuperscript{19}

In the early 1850’s Daniel McMullen became the second brother to move to the Pinellas peninsula. Born in Georgia in 1825, he married Margaret Ann Campbell at Brooksville on November 18, 1851.\textsuperscript{20} She was a sister of Elizabeth McMullen, the wife of James McMullen. They probably homesteaded in the spring of 1852 in Largo.\textsuperscript{21} They built a log cabin and raised vegetables. Immediately, James and Daniel worked on joint projects, especially in the cattle business. They prospered considerably during the next few years, although when the Civil War began, each brother served the Confederate cause in a different way.
John Fain McMullen moved from Georgia to the Pinellas peninsula around 1852. He settled in Anona, near the southern end of Clearwater Bay. Around 1857, he sold his property to Captain John T. Lowe, and moved to Madison County, Florida. Like most of his brothers, John Fain returned to Georgia and fought for the Confederacy.

James McMullen remained on the Pinellas peninsula and helped form a company of volunteers from the immediate area. He served as captain in the service of the State of Florida, under the command of General J. M. Taylor for three months, from July 20 to October 20, 1861. The company was stationed at Clearwater Harbor and was given the responsibility of driving cattle to Savannah, Georgia and Charleston, South Carolina. After the company was mustered out, the men joined other commands. James continued to serve the Confederate army in the Quartermaster Corps throughout the duration of the War.

Daniel also served in the Quartermaster Corps in Captain McNeil’s 19th Georgia Infantry, part of Finnegan’s Brigade. Like his brother James, his early experiences as a pioneer in central Florida and as a cattleman were indispensable to the Confederacy. Daniel was discharged from the Confederate Army on April 15, 1865.

The second oldest brother, Thomas Fain McMullen, was born in 1817 and lived in Thomas County, Georgia before moving to Madison County, Florida in the late 1840’s. He married Mary Jane McCloud on May 21, 1844, and they had seven children. Their last child, Malcolm Joel, was born in Florida. When the War began, Thomas Fain returned to Georgia to enlist in the Confederate Army. Five of the brothers returned to Georgia to help protect the large family that lived in several Georgia counties.

David McMullen, the second youngest brother, also moved to Madison County in the late 1850’s. His first job was working to build the railroad from Madison to Tallahassee. From this early experience, he developed a keen interest in railroad expansion, which he would pursue three decades later. Unlike most of his brothers, however, he remained in Florida, and fought in Company I, 2nd Florida Cavalry, “made up of prominent citizens from all over the state.” He was involved in scores of battles and skirmishes, had two horses shot from under him, and was a prisoner for a short time. He served throughout the duration of war, returning to Madison after its end.

The most interesting war experience of any of the McMullen brothers happened to Malcolm, the youngest brother, who was twenty-one when he enlisted. He became a private in the 9th Georgia Volunteer Infantry, which became an important unit in the famous Army of Northern Virginia, under the command of General Robert E. Lee. In Richmond, on September 2, 1862, Malcolm received for his services the sum of $66.50 for four months duty, which included $11.50 per month and $25.00 for clothing. The sum of $3.50 was deducted, however, from his pay. He fought in all of the major battles from First Bull Run to Gettysburg. On July 2, 1863, the second historic day at Gettysburg, he was taken prisoner and sent to Fort Delaware, which was situated on Pea Patch Island in the Delaware River between New Jersey and Delaware.

Malcolm spent the remainder of the war in prison, and upon his release, he was given ten dollars and a suit of clothes. He immediately shaved, got a haircut, and, “worked his way to the
ocean . . . and went into the Atlantic Ocean and left the prison clothes, and he stayed there until all the lice were gone.” Malcolm had told this story to his nephew Ward McMullen, who was born in 1870, and young Ward probably heard other stories about the war while sitting on his uncle’s knee.

In contrast to his brothers, William McMullen, the oldest of the clan, apparently was not involved in the Civil War. He did, however, participate in the Indian wars in Georgia between 1836-1840. He moved to Madison County, Florida in the late 1840’s, and then to Taylor County, about 1856. He was sympathetic to the Confederacy, but he did not fight in the war.

The McMullens befriended an outsider who became a virtual member of the family. A young Mexican boy, named Juan Patrecia, who was escaping from a vindictive stepmother in the 1840’s, became a stowaway on a boat headed for Cuba and, was caught and sold into slavery. After a few years he managed to steal a boat and get to Florida; he also changed his name to John Sanders. He arrived on the peninsula prior to the Civil War when, he remembered, “the Yankees nearly caught him over on the island,” now St. Petersburg Beach. They were raising pigs there, and apparently he was trying to steal some for his friends. After the war he became very fond of Captain James, because the latter never made fun of his small size. He lived with the family, taking care of the garden and attending to the chickens. He also helped David and his family during special harvests, especially cane grinding time. He was affectionately called “Uncle Johnnie” by his loved ones. “He was always very good to all of us and we all loved him to death,” one of James descendants remembered.

At the conclusion of the war, Captain James McMullen quickly developed a very lucrative farm, increasing his profit and acreage each year. Cotton and cattle contributed the main staples until about 1875. However, with the increasing demand for citrus, he converted his farm to this cash crop. James designed the first orange crates and put a “bunch of men in the woods to split
three-foot boards and they used palmetto stems to fasten them down as wires.”

Previously, the oranges were either placed in barrels or just dumped into the boat. These ingenious crates made the citrus that much more attractive to buyers in the North.

James would charter a boat and take his citrus and other products to the various ports along the Gulf of Mexico. One of his favorite ports was Cedar Key, because there he could put his products on the railroad and transport them to markets in the North. The railroad from Cedar Key to Fernandina, which is north of Jacksonville, was completed in 1860. He would travel as far west as Pensacola and, Mobile, the former being one of his favorite ports. He worked with Gustave Axelson, who owned a small fleet of boats. Since citrus was a popular commodity in the Gulf ports, this partnership was obviously profitable for both men.

By 1890, Captain James owned one of the largest citrus groves in the county. A severe setback occurred in 1895, when a killing freeze hit the peninsula. “They had a slight freeze in December, 1894, and then it turned real warm and the new trees put out a new growth, and then in late January, they had a killing freeze,” which completely destroyed the crop. The trees did not die, but it took several years before they produced fruit again.

James McMullen also established the first school on the peninsula, in his sugar house. He “had benches built and hired a teacher,” and all the children were invited to attend. He also established Bayview, the spot where he had camped over thirty years before, and immediately he
built stores, wharves, a church, and a hotel, which still stands today. His brother Daniel operated one of the stores, and his son Bethel built the first frame house on the peninsula in 1875. Born in 1845, Bethel had previously helped his father drive cattle to Georgia for the Confederacy and later became the first dentist on the peninsula. He traveled all over the county, including Tampa, making house calls and accepting whatever his patients offered him as payment for his services.

The log house that Captain James McMullen built around 1852 played an important role in the history of the county. It is estimated that about fifty-five children were born in the structure. Not only did James and Elizabeth raise eleven children of their own, but they fostered nearly twenty-five children who were orphaned in the area. Elizabeth also served as a midwife for the surrounding area, which explains why so many children were born in that log house. It was

Capt. James P McMullen, 1823-1895
(courtesy of Pinellas County Historical Museum).

Daniel McMullen homestead on Rosery Road circa 1900
(courtesy of Nancy McMullen McLaughlin).
unquestionably the first hospital in the county. It was also a stagecoach depot between St. Petersburg and Tampa. In 1881, Captain James McMullen designated a few acres of land near the old log house to be used as a cemetery for his descendants. Fourteen years later, the grand patriarch of the clan was laid to rest in the McMullen Cemetery. In 1936, the Clearwater, Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution placed a plaque on the log house, commemorating its distinguished background.

Daniel McMullen was likewise very active in the early business activities on the peninsula. In 1868, he acquired 160 acres not far from his original homestead. He erected a magnificent three-room log house, which still stands today as the oldest inhabited structure in Pinellas County. His three youngest children were born in this house, and Charles, the youngest, vividly remembered the “nice old house.” Daniel initially grew vegetables, but soon planted groves of citrus trees, because of the demand in the North. Charles also recalled that in 1880, there were about 100 families on the whole peninsula. At least ten of these families were McMullens, or
at least related to the McMullen clan. Cattle were also an important business to Daniel McMullen, and within a decade he acquired an additional forty acres for this thriving enterprise.
Daniel was perhaps the biggest cattle rancher in Pinellas County, and by 1890 he possessed one of the largest herds, estimated at 1500 heads. In fact, Robert Lee, his youngest son, remembered helping his father drive cattle where the Belleview-Biltmore Hotel stands today. The two oldest sons, John J. and William Alonzo were indispensable to the early success of the family. In addition to helping on the farm, John J. served a term as a representative in the Florida Legislature. Daniel received a letter from John T. Lesley, a State Senator, saying that John J. was a “young man of no ordinary talent and if a field is offered him, his future is a fixture, his station high, and far above the mediocrity of man.”

William Alonzo also settled in Largo, building a one-room log cabin in the woods near his father's home. His young bride got him up early the first morning because in his desire to hurriedly finish the cabin before the wedding, he “had forgotten to cut a door in the cabin.”

Daniel also was involved in the first ice company in Largo, the Farmer's Alliance, and the Largo Bank. He was active in such civic affairs as the Largo band. In his last years, he enjoyed sitting on the front porch that he had built nearly four decades before, talking with his grandchildren and “smoking his pipe which he would light with a strong magnifying glass.” Daniel died in 1908, and sympathy was received by the family from everyone who knew him. He “was well known, and beloved by all.”

Instead of returning to Madison County, Florida after the war, Thomas Fain McMullen moved his family to the Pinellas peninsula about 1868. He settled one mile west of Safety Harbor, formerly known as Davey Place. He and his three sons built a substantial log house, which still stood until a few years ago. Like his brothers, he raised vegetables, cotton, and cattle. His oldest son, Rufus Fain, soon left the homestead, and on February 21, 1874, married Georgia Ann Hammock in the old log house of James Mc-Mullen.
After Thomas Fain McMullen died in 1888, Rufus Fain moved his family to Largo so that the children could be closer to school, and he could be near his business interests. He built a boarding home, which was called the McMullen House, located adjacent to the railroad. Rufus had a large citrus grove and was involved in several business ventures, including the Farmer’s Alliance and the Largo Bank. He was one of the contributors to the Largo band, and he was “always willing to help friends in need.” He died in 1915.

John Fain McMullen returned to the peninsula in the early 1870's and settled in the Lealman area of St. Petersburg. Cattle and citrus were his main sources of income. He stayed there only a few years, moving to Perry, in Taylor County about 1878. He apparently lived there the rest of his life; he died in 1895.

Moving from Madison in 1866, David, McMullen settled on Morse Hill in Safety Harbor, near Bayview, and directly adjacent to the property owned by his brother Thomas Fain. David stayed only a few years in Safety Harbor.
before moving back to Madison. However, when the Florida Southern Railroad was completed to Lakeland in 1885, he sold his property and moved his family to the new town of Lakeland. There he built the Sunnyside Hotel, a two-story wooden structure, “notable for its spacious double verandas which extended the full length of the building.” The Sunnyside Hotel was a “good house where the hungry men may be fed and the weary find rest.” His wife, Martha, was described as a “most excellent lady.” David helped to operate the hotel until his death in 1896. David McMullen was a “man of many sterling attributes, a keen sense of humor, and a heroic soldier in the struggle for Southern independence. The life of David McMullen is a source of inspiration to all.”

Malcolm moved to Hillsborough County in the early 1870's and settled in the heart of the Pinellas peninsula. His homestead was located about one mile from Daniel’s home in Largo. He apparently lived on occasion in New Jersey, where two of his three oldest brothers were born. Malcolm had the distinction of outliving all of his brothers, dying in 1909.

After the war, William McMullen moved to the Pinellas peninsula, settling four miles south of Largo near Ridge Road. He was a farmer by trade, but within a few years, he began to specialize in raising cattle. In order to accommodate this new interest, he acquired an additional quarter-section about a mile directly north of the homestead. He also developed one of the first commercial salt works on the peninsula. He later moved to Polk County and lived between Lakeland and Mulberry for about seventeen years. In the early 1890's, William returned to Largo to live with his son, Daniel. William died in 1898. “The privilege of associating with him (William) in my early boyhood is a heritage I shall always appreciate” his grandson fondly recalled.

The McMullens were a close-knit family, participating together in business and social functions. In 1925, in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Daniel, all McMullen descendants were invited to the First Annual McMullen Reunion. It was held at Daniel’s old wooden home that he built in 1868. Maude McMullen Cone recalled that first reunion: “There were two whole steers roasted and more than 1,000 fish cooked.” Except for a few years during World War II, a family reunion has been held every July 4th.

The rich heritage of the McMullen family tells a story of life on the American frontier. The McMullens conquered the Pinellas wilderness, because these men and women were rugged pioneers who understood that survival meant hard work, loyalty, and compassion for each other.
They shared joys and hardships as they grew with the Suncoast. The McMullens were without question an extraordinary family.

McMULLEN BROTHERS CHART

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Born Year</th>
<th>Arrival in Central Florida</th>
<th>Map* No.</th>
<th>Homestead Description</th>
<th>Present Location</th>
<th>Died Year</th>
<th>Buried Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WILLIAM</td>
<td>1818</td>
<td>Ridge Road and 102nd Avenue North 1868</td>
<td>1 SE 1/4 Sect. 16-30-15</td>
<td>Ridge Road and Walsingham Road</td>
<td>Lone Pilgrim Cemetery</td>
<td>1898</td>
<td>in Largo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THOMAS</td>
<td>1817</td>
<td>State Road 588 and McMullen Booth Road 1868</td>
<td>3 SW 1/4 Sect. 4-29-16</td>
<td>Sylvan Abbey Cemetery</td>
<td>in Safety Harbor</td>
<td>1888</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAMES</td>
<td>1823</td>
<td>State Road 590A and Old Coachman Road 1850</td>
<td>4 N 1/2 Sect. 7-29-16</td>
<td>McMullen Cemetery</td>
<td>in Clearwater</td>
<td>1895</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DANIEL</td>
<td>1825</td>
<td>Rosery Road and Missouri Avenue 1851</td>
<td>5 SW 1/4 Sect. 27-29-15</td>
<td>Rosery Road and Highland Avenue</td>
<td>Largo Cemetery</td>
<td>1908</td>
<td>in Largo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JOHN</td>
<td>1832</td>
<td>Indian Rocks Road and Wilcox Road 1852</td>
<td>7 NE 1/4 Sect. 7-30-15</td>
<td>US 19 and Lealman Avenue</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>1895</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAVID</td>
<td>1835</td>
<td>State Road 588 and State Road 590 1866</td>
<td>9 SE 1/4 Sect. 4-29-16</td>
<td>Lakeview Cemetery</td>
<td>in Lakeland</td>
<td>1896</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MALCOLM</td>
<td>1840</td>
<td>Belcher Road and East Bay Drive 1871</td>
<td>10 NE 1/4 Sect. 36-29-15</td>
<td>McMullen Cemetery</td>
<td>in Clearwater</td>
<td>1909</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Homestead location numbers correspond to map below.
1 Taped Interview with Louise Cone Potter, great granddaughter of Captain James Parramore McMullen, March 23, 1979. Hereafter cited as Potter Interview. There are over 100 tapes in the Oral History Collection at the Pinellas County Historical Museum at Heritage Park in Largo. This was launched by Owen North, a social science teacher at Kennedy Middle School in Clearwater, in 1958, and he is presently chairman of the Oral History Committee of the Pinellas County Historical Society.


3 *United States Statutes At Large*, 1842, 502.


5 Harvey L. Wells, “The Collection: Genealogy for the McMullen Family,” Book 19, 1969, 2-8. Hereafter cited as Wells, “McMullens.” Harvey L. Wells was a genealogist and a member of the Pinellas County Historical Commission. He spent hundreds of hours researching the Georgia and Florida Census Records. He compiled twenty-eight notebooks of pioneer families of Pinellas County. These notebooks with reels of microfilm are available at the Pinellas County Historical Museum at Heritage Park in Largo.

6 Some members of the McMullen clan believe that their ancestors migrated to America through North Carolina, not Nova Scotia. Thus, their home was named for Halifax, North Carolina. For the early history of Brooks County and Quitman, Georgia, see *Historic Treasures of Brooks County, Georgia*, compiled by The United Daughters of the
Confederacy. Quitman Chapter No. 112 (Madison, Florida: Jim Bob Printing, Inc., 1974). The McMullen family is mentioned throughout the book. Burke County later was called Brooks County.


8 Potter Interview.

9 See the map of Pinellas County for all locations referred to in the article and the McMullen Brothers Chart for all homestead descriptions and present locations. Taped Interview with Ward McMullen, the youngest child of Captain James McMullen, October 8, 1958. Hereafter cited as Ward Interview. See also Meador Interview. Bayview is located at the western entrance of the Courtney Campbell Causeway.

10 Potter Interview.

11 W. L. Straub, History of Pinellas County, Florida: Narrative and Biographical (St. Augustine: The Record Company, 1929), p. 34. Hereafter cited as Straub, Pinellas County. Although Straub's book is rather antiquarian in composition, it is well written and accurate. It is still the only scholarly work on Pinellas County.


13 Meador Interview.

14 Wells, “Phillippe,” 41 and Straub, Pinellas County, p. 31.

15 Potter Interview and Ward Interview.

16 The 1850 Census Population Schedules (Florida), Alachua-Gadsden (part) Counties, T-6 Roll N. 48, National Archives. These census figures include Benton County, now Hernando County, and show the James P. McMullen Family on the rolls of that county. The log house built by James P. McMullen about 1852 was located near the present intersection of N. E. Coachman Road, Old Coachman Road, and the Amtrak Seaboard Coastline Railroad. The Coachman family purchased the property from the McMullen family in 1903 and is still raising citrus on the land.

17 Meador Interview. See also Potter Interview and Ward Interview.

18 Soldiers of Florida in the Seminole Indian, Civil, and Spanish-American War, prepared and published under the supervision of the Board of State Institutions, as authorized, by Chapter 2203, Laws of Florida, May 14, 1903, 13. Hereafter cited as Soldiers of Florida.

19 Potter Interview, Ward Interview, and Meador Interview.

20 Taped Interview with Nancy McMullen McLaughlin, granddaughter of Daniel McMullen, August 3, 1979. Hereafter cited as McLaughlin Interview. See also “Daniel McMullen Family Bible,” in possession of Nancy McMullen McLaughlin, and Hinsey Interview.

21 McLaughlin Interview.

22 Straub, Pinellas County, p. 34.

24 Meador Interview, Ward Interview, and Potter Interview.

25 Hinsey Interview.

26 “The Thomas Fain McMullen Family Bible,” in the Pinellas County Historical Museum at Heritage Park in Largo.

27 Wells, “McMullens,” 45.

28 Clement A. Evans, Confederate Military History, XI (Atlanta: Confederate Publishing Company, 1899), p. 138. Daniel must have been very proud of this Confederate unit, because the only inscription on his tombstone beside his name is “Co. I, 2 Fla. Cav.”

29 Family notes of Alec White, husband of Lucy McMullen White, granddaughter of Daniel McMullen. Hereafter cited as White, “Notes.” Alec White has an elaborate collection of notes and documents pertaining to the McMullen family.

30 White, “Notes,” A copy of the Adjutant General's Report, National Archives.

31 No explanation was given for the reduction.

32 White, “Notes,” Copy of Prisoner Register, Fort Delaware, 112 National Archives. See also “A Guide to Historic Fort Delaware State Park,” prepared by the Fort Delaware Society. Most of the prisoners captured at Gettysburg were held at Fort Delaware. There were 12,500 prisoners on the island in August, 1863.

33 Ward Interview.

34 White, “Notes.”

35 1860 Census Population Schedules, Florida (free), National Archives, T-7, Roll 24. These figures show the William McMullen family in Taylor County.

36 Potter Interview.

37 Ibid. In the 1880 Census Population Schedules, John Sanders is included with the family of James P. McMullen and his age is listed at forty-four. He died in 1920 and is buried in the McMullen Cemetery in Clearwater.

38 Ward Interview.

39 Ibid., and Meador Interview.

40 Meador Interview.

41 Ward Interview.

42 Meador Interview.

43 Ibid.

44 “Recollections of Birt L. McMullen,” daughter of James P. McMullen. This document was written in 1945 when she was seventy-nine years old; it is located in the Pinellas County Historical Museum at Heritage Park in Largo.

45 Wells, “McMullens,” 49 and Potter Interview.
Since records were not kept in that remote area of the peninsula, most descendants and family historians, including the Coachman family, generally agree that the figure definitely exceeds fifty children.

Meador Interview.

The land grant signed by President U. S. Grant in 1875 stated that the total acreage was 160 acres and forty hundredths of an acre, Homestead certificate #715, Application 3357. The original is in the possession of Nancy McMullen McLaughlin. Hinsey Interview and McLaughlin Interview.

Carl and Nancy McLaughlin live in the old house. Nancy was raised in this lovely old home by her aunt, Nannie McMullen Hardage.

Taped Interview with Charles McMullen, son of Daniel McMullen, September 10, 1958. Hereafter cited as Charles Interview.

Charles Interview.

Hinsey Interview.

Taped Interview with Robert Lee McMullen, grandson of Daniel McMullen, July 8, 1975.

John T. Lesley to Daniel McMullen, Tallahassee, February 14, 1883. A copy of this letter is located at the Pinellas County Historical Museum at Heritage Park in Largo.

Hinsey Interview.

The Farmer’s Alliance was perhaps Largo’s first department store. It was a big two-story building where groceries, hardware, dress material, etc. was sold.

Hinsey Interview.

St. Petersburg Times, August 8, 1908. Daniel is buried in the Largo Cemetery and at the bottom of the tombstone is the word “FATHER.”

The Thomas Fain Family is listed in the 1870 Census for Hillsborough County.

Straub, Pinellas County, p. 34.

“Family Bible of Rufus Fain McMullen,” located in the Pinellas County Historical Museum at Heritage Park in Largo. Georgia Ann Hammock McMullen lived until 1951 at the age of ninety-three.

Thomas Fain McMullen is buried in Sylvan Abbey Cemetery in Safety Harbor. He was also a friend of Odet Phillippe, since Thomas witnessed the signing of his will on May 22, 1868.


White, “Notes.”

The John Fain McMullen family is listed in the Census Records for Taylor County in 1870.

When this article went to press, it is still a mystery as to where he is buried.

Straub, Pinellas County, p. 34.

The David McMullen family is listed in the Census Records in 1880 for Madison County.

70 White, “Notes.”

71 *Polk County News*, March 6, 1891

72 David McMullen is buried in Lakeview Cemetery in Lakeland, Florida.


74 The Census Records for Hillsborough County in 1880 show that his wife and two of their children were born in New Jersey.

75 Malcolm McMullen is buried in the McMullen Cemetery in Clearwater.

76 Straub, *Pinellas County*, p. 34.

77 White, “Notes.”

78 *Clearwater Sun*, September 3, 1950. A reporter interviewed Martin McMullen, the grandson of William McMullen.

79 William McMullen is buried in the Lone Pilgrim Cemetery in Largo, just south of his original homestead.

80 *Clearwater Sun*, September 3, 1950.

81 *Clearwater Sun*, July 5, 1978. At the time of the interview, Maude McMullen Cone was ninety-eight years old and had she lived until her birthday on July 12, 1979, she would have been the first centenarian in the McMullen family. She died on May 15, 1979.