

in Bartow, Fla.; HISTORY OF POLK COUNTY by M. F. Hetherington, p. 21; info from Zetta (Durrance) Hunt; PIONEER FAMILIES OF THE KISSIMMEE RIVER VALLEY by K. S. VanLandingham, pp. 13-14; Photo courtesy of Edna Mahon of Arcadia, Fl.

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### POLK COUNTY: EARLY JURORS

The foregoing list was copied in 1937 by Miss Lillian Carpenter of Bartow from Polk County Circuit Court Minute Book "A" (Nov. 1867-Oct. 1892). She also stated that this Minute Book is the earliest Polk County records now available in the Courthouse but it is known that there were earlier proceedings whose records have been lost. Polk County was formed on Feb. 8th, 1861 from parts of Hillsborough and Brevard Counties. Reminiscences of early settlers tell us of early proceedings, but we know that for the period of the War Between the States matters were so disrupted that authentic records were not preserved, and the court records now available take up that period just following the War, when the courts were reorganized and records kept more systematically.

The 1st Court of Polk County (James GETTIS, Judge of the Southern Judicial Circuit of Florida presiding) convened on Monday, Nov. 4, 1867 at the Court House and the "following named persons answered to their names and came into Court, to wit:-"

F. A. HENDRY	J. M. FUTCH	Thos. SULLIVAN
E. E. MIZELL	Early WIGGINS	J. P. MAYNOR
U. R. DURRANCE	J. W. HENDRY	Wilbert COMBEE
John HARRIS	J. T. WILSON	J. M. HENDRY
J. F. GRANGER	J. A. STEPHENS	Wm. M. HENDRY
W. H. WILLINGHAM	J. L. WHIDDEN	G. W. HENDRY
J. W. COSTINE	J. W. TANNER	J. B. CRUM
SAMUEL ROGERS	S. SINGLETARY	Benj. GUY
B. F. BLOUNT	R. H. SYLVESTER	John PARKER
Eli ENGLISH	W. H. PEARCE	Wm. SMITH

Spring Term of the Circuit Court opened Monday April 5, 1869 with Hon. James T. MAGBEE, Judge. Court opened by proclamation of sheriff and "fervent prayer was offered to the Throne of Grace by Rev. Samuel C. CRAFT, a member of the bar of this Court". The following Grand Jurors were called:

Wm. M. BOWEN	Wm. C. HAYMAN	W. W. SHEPHERD
S. M. CHANDLER	W. R. HOLLINGSWORTH	J. B. GUNTER
S. SINGLETARY	A. Z. ZIPPERER	John McAULAY
John BRANDON	G. L. KEY	James THOMAS
G. W. GANDY	W. M. HENDRY	B. F. BLOUNT
Willaby TILLIS	A. I. BULLOCK	J. M. SWEAT,
Thos. E. WILLIAMS		Foreman

The following Petit Jurors were called:

Elias WHIDDEN	Wm. RAULERSON	F. N. VARN
N. R. RAULERSON	Robert WILKISON	J. L. WHIDDEN
R. R. BLOUNT	P. O. KEEN	Hampton CUMBEE
Jasper SUMMERLIN	I. S. SIMMONS	W. H. ADDISON
R. P. LEWIS	T. L. MCKINNEY	Streaty PARKER
J. F. GRANGER	John PARKER	J. E. HARRELSON
Stephen HULL, Jr.	Eli ENGLISH	W. F. REYNOLDS