Page 12 (Book page 97) details the Mose Barber land that was later homesteaded by Crawford Bass. It also discusses the story by Boggy Creek ford that was operated by Quinn Bass and describes Rob Bass' (Needham's son & Crawford's half brother) cotton gin and gristmill on Mill Slough.

little town must have felt very proud of this handsome

ing of red brick. when a hurricane blew down the Mr. Lena Marth Mc Clark was the field. (Ed. Note: Mrs. Lena Matthews Harper Mr Tropical Hotel. (Ed. Note: Mrs. Lena Matthews Harper matthat when the hotel was partially built. a bio for the when the hotel was partially built, a big storm riors that when the lumber was partially built, a big storm rior down. The lumber was carefully picked up, and the

blew it down. The furnituding was completed.) inding was compared in front of the Osceola Hardware Store. The railroad storp of the Tampa, it was taken out of Broadway, when it was taken out of Broadway, when it was taken out of Broadway, string the present park in the center of the street. Mr. Clark auled part of the crossties for this road.

He tells about the old Brevard County log Courthouse, which He tells about the thirtier. There was only a small number of <sup>125</sup> built near trained and the was only a small number of <sup>125</sup> bring in that large county so they built it where there <sup>125</sup> mail settlement. Later portions of Brown and settlement. parsons in the country as a small settlement. Later portions of Brevard and Orange formed Osceola County.

Mr. Jimmie Yates was the first settler in this section, settling he old Iverson place at Shingle Creek. Then his brother, Mr. he old iverson place at things creek. Then his brother, Mr. Neetham Yates, settled the place on The Point, afterwards selling it to Mr. Milton Bryan. It has been known for many years as the O'Berry place.

Mr. Berry de Fease was the first settler at Edgewater, building a small house there.

Before the drainage, in order to get to Kissimmee, they drove n Campbell and crossed at the Needham Yates Ford, the distance to Kissimmee being about twelve miles. Sometimes they went to the Bryan place and used a boat, landing it where he old Clubhouse now stands, and walking down the lake heach to town. That was a much shorter route. After the drainage, they could follow the edge of the marsh and roads through the woods. It was much nearer to town than it is today when they have to follow the present roads

Mr. Clark said that during the Civil War there were some deserters who caused his people lots of trouble. They hid out in the woods and stole the settlers' food, horses, cattle, and anything they could use. They were not considered anybody at all by the substantial citizens.

Many years ago Mr. Mose Barber lived on the Hilliard's Island Highway, south of Rose Hill Cemetery. He had a fence built from East Tohopekaliga Lake southwest of Hilliard's Island to Tohopekaliga Lake, running near the present highway. This formed a complete pasture as it took in all the territory from that line to the muddy waters of Cross Prairie and was bound on three sides by water.

At that time pastures were used only for the beef cattle as it was an open range. The hired men on the range were paid in calves. When they separated them, four were given the owner, and one was given the caretaker. This fifth calf was called the "draw calf."

Mr. Clark recalled the days when he first knew my father at Narcoossee when he was a young man and said that my father Was an overseer of the building of the houses for the English colony. He also told incidents during the time my father served a County Commissioner and mentioned the fact that after our county was formed, Mr. Riley Johnson was the first Representative. For a period of time our county remained <sup>unamed</sup>, and to Mr. Johnson he gives the credit of naming our county after the great Indian chief, Osceola.

 $H_{e says}^{o}$  after the great Indian chief, Osceola. Be says that our second representative was Mr. E.L.D.

Overstreet, who since that time has served as County Commissioner for a long number of years.

He tells that during the time that Irv Story owned Hilliard's Island, he told him about going on a hunting trip. He tied his horses to the trees. When he returned, he found that his campfire had gotten out of control and burned his two horses, wagon, and everything he had with him.

Reedy Creek swamp is still the home of the deer and many other wild animals. The density of this swamp is a great protection to them, and the hunters must find places in it that are almost inaccessible.

One day we called at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clark, and they accompanied us on an all-day trip in the woods. Mr. Clark first guided us to the General Jessup Ford on Bonnet Creek about one and a half miles up the creek from the Shingle Creek Bridge on Road 17. He then showed us the old General Jessup Trail which crosses the highway at Campbell, and was made by his army in order to reach the Indians on Johnson Island.

He tells of the many islands originally in this section and showed us the place where Dick Bronson once lived. He had a pasture of several thousand acres for the cattle by building about a hundred feet of fence. This place is on the new highway

We next drove to Loughman, and Mr. Clark tells us that it used to be called Locke's Lake as a man by the name of William Locke settled there, afterward moving to Boggy Creek, on the General Harney Trail. This neighborhood has retained the Locke name for so many years.

He says that Mr. Quinn Bass once operated a store by Boggy Creek Ford, just south of the Creek and west of the trail. His brother, Mr. Rob Bass, operated a cotton gin and gristmill on Mill Slough, building a dam northeast of the new stock market and using the dam's power. Oxen were used in a circular movement for baling the cotton.

The cotton was woven into cloth and made into garments by the early settlers. Dye was gotten out of the woods. Indigo grows during the spring and summer and was dried and used when needed for dyeing the garments blue. Tan was gotten from the bay leaves and brown from the bark of the blackjack oak

Plenty of cotton was grown here, but a bug with a red body and black wings got into it. When the citrus trees were planted, the bugs destroyed the fruit. As the cloth could be purchased in the stores, it was no longer necessary to raise the cotton. Citrus culture was easier. During the first years only the fertilizer from the cattle was used to produce the fruit; consequently, the profit was far more than it is today

Mr. Clark hauled timber for the first trestles on the railroad to Tampa. The large trees were hewn out by Negroes.

When we reached Davenport Creek, we found the crossing of the old Mellonville (Sanford) - Tampa Trail, just east of the road to Lake Willson. On the western side of this old ford are the remains of a bridge, built by the Plant System, which was used when they hauled their supplies needed for building the railroad west of Kissimmee. It gave me quite a thrill when I saw an old moss-covered stump with round hewn pointed top so that when the wheel of the wagon stuck, it rolled off. Over a hundred years have passed since the U.S. troops felled that tree that they might enter that ford. This dim trail can be seen just east of the highway for some distance; then it turns to the left