

"Mrs. Barnwell was the wife of William H. Barnwell. She came from Marengo County, Alabama and lived near Fort Ogden until the death of her husband. Since then she has lived among her children. She was in her eighty-third year, professed faith in Christ at about sixteen years of age, and joined the Missionary Baptist Church and from that time until she fell asleep as stated above, she lived a devoted, Godly, Christian life. She leaves four children to mourn their loss - Mrs. Sallie E. Martin, of Charlotte Harbor; Mrs. Kate Williams of Fort Myers; Mr. S. A. Barnwell of Fort Ogden; and Mrs. Hollie Morgan, Plant City, besides a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren and a host of friends whose hearts go out in profound sympathy for her sorrowing loved ones. Internment was in Bethlehem Cemetery."

REFERENCES:

Special thanks to Mrs. Helen Van Ostran, Rt. 1, Box 78, Marshallville, Ga. 31057 who has collected material on her Barnwell and Massey families for years and contributed most of the above material; Mrs. Doris Nicholson for getting in contact with Mrs. Van Ostran and also collecting additional local information on the family; Mrs. Marjorie Allen of Riverview, Fla.; Mr. & Mrs. Bill Barnwell and Mr. Albert Barnwell of Fort Ogden, Fla; Barnwell & Massey family Bibles; "The Story of My Life" written by Mrs. Kate Barnwell Williams in 1927; Alabama State Archives; 1840, 1850 & 1860 Marengo Co., Ala. Census; 1860 Clark Co., Ala. Census; 1870 Hillsborough Co., Fla. Census; 1880 & 1885 Manatee Co., Fla. Census; marriage records of Marengo Co., Ala., Manatee & DeSoto Co., Fla.

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WILL OF WILLIAM JOHNS, 1879

State of Florida  
County of Polk

In the name of God, Amen. I, WILLIAM JOHNS, of said county and state being of sound mind and memory and considering the uncertainty of this frail and transitory life do therefore make, ordain, publish and declair this to be my last will and testament, that is to say - First, that after all my lawful debts are paid by executors herein after mentioned the rest and residue of my estate both real and personal, I give, bequeath and dispose of as follows, to wit. To my beloved wife, HARRIET JOHNS, I give and bequeath my horse, Jerry, and also the improvement on which I now reside together with all and singular the appurtenances thereunto belonging also all of my household and kitchen furniture, and all the rest and residue of my personal estate as well as the real estate which I may be seized with at the time of my death for and during her natural life and after her death then the said property to be equally divided between my children, to wit: CLARISSA HAGAN, HENRY JOHNS, MARY JOHNS, ELIZA HONORS and DERRY JOHNS, share and share alike. Likewise I make, constitute, and appoint my beloved son-in-law, JACOB HAGAN, and my beloved son, DERRY JOHNS, to be executors of this my last will and testament hereby revoking all former wills made by me.