

SETH HOWARD 1804-1887

Seth Howard was born in Georgia on Feb. 18, 1804. His full name was James Seth Howard but all records after 1840 give his name as Seth only. He served two enlistments in the militia during the Seminole Indian Wars as James S. Howard and James Howard which would cause him much confusion in later years when he applied for bounty land based on this service.

Seth Howard became a resident of Florida in February of 1816, according to an 1842 application he filed under the Armed Occupation Act. On Aug. 8, 1834, Seth joined the Old Providence Baptist Church in Columbia (present day Union) County. He was baptised by William A. Knight. On Oct. 11, 1834, he asked for and received a letter of dismission.

Seth was a private in the company commanded by Capt. Butt in the regiment of Louisiana Volunteers commanded by Col. Smith. He volunteered at Tampa, Florida on Feb. 20, 1836 and served until May 20, 1836 when he was discharged at Tampa.

Seth served during the Seminole Indian wars of 1839 & 1840 in three enlistments. He was a corporal in the company commanded by Hiram Hall in the regiment commanded by Col. William J. Bailey. He volunteered at St. Marks, Fla. on Dec. 10, 1839 and was honorably discharged on Mar. 10, 1840 at Ft. Pleasant. He reenlisted in Hall's company and served from March 11, 1840 to Aug. 3rd, 1840. Seth was a 4th sergeant in Capt. Thomas C. Ellis' company of Florida Mounted Militia in the First Regiment commanded by Col. W. J. Bailey. He volunteered at Fort White on Aug. 17, 1840 and was discharged at Newnansville on Dec. 5, 1840.

On Nov. 6, 1842 at Tampa Bay, East Florida, Seth Howard applied to the Register of the Land Office at Newnansville for a permit to settle on 160 acres of unappropriated public land under the provisions of the Act of Congress to provide for the armed occupation and settlement of the unsettled part of the Peninsula of East Florida. He stated that he was a single man over eighteen years of age and able to bear arms. The description of his intended settlement was given as: "In the Hammock commonly known as Simmon's Hammock commencing at a stake planted in the Pine barren on the West side of the Hammock running from thence due east 160 rods to a stake on an Indian Mound, from

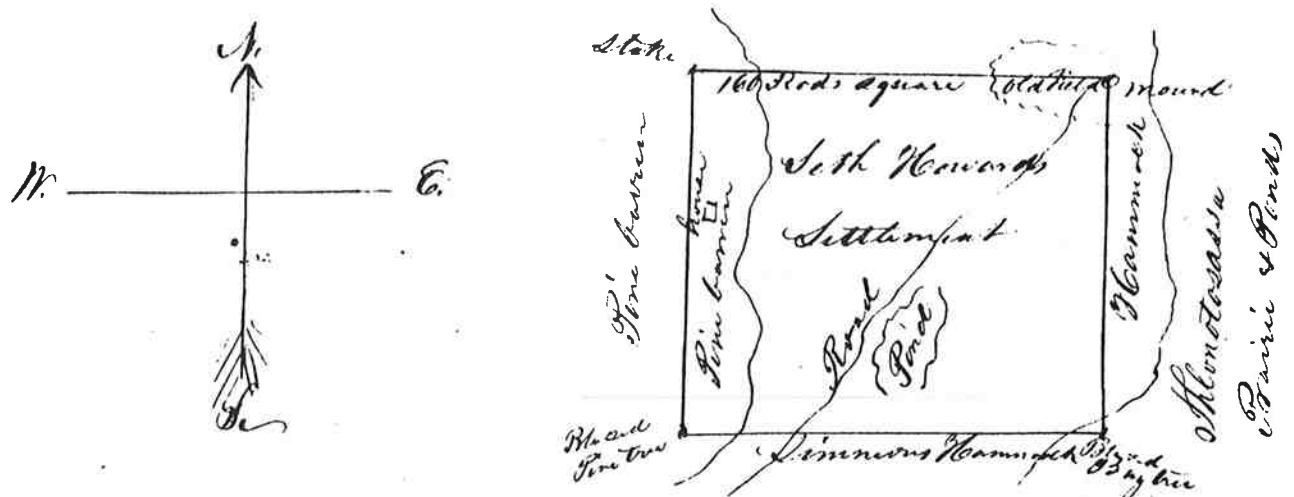


Diagram of Seth Howard's Settlement, 1842