

John Mathis **1802 - 1875**

John Mathis, who for a time signed his name as John Mathis, Jr., was a son of Edmund and Unity Mathis and was born in Bulloch County in 1802. The 1900 Census for Suwannee County, Florida contradicts the "cited" birthplace as it shows John was born in South Carolina. He moved to this section with his parents, and was married in 1827 to Jemima, born 1807 in Marion County, South Carolina. She was the daughter of Joshua Lee. To John and Jemima were born nine children:

1. Joshua b. 1828, m. Rachel Touchton, daughter of William and Sarah.
2. Nancy b. 1830, m. E. M. (Miles) Harnage.
3. Unity b. 1832, m. John L. Courson.
4. John b. 1834, m. Julia Ann _____. Moved to Florida.
5. Zachariah b. 1836, never married, died in C. S. Army.
6. Sarah b. 1838, m. James Clemmons, son of Wm. E.
7. James b. 1840 m. 1st Zilpha Joyce; 2nd Martha Brantley.
8. Ezekial b. 1844, m. Sarah Bennett, daughter of Felix.
9. Martha R. b. 1847, never married.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Mathis, after marriage lived in that portion of Lowndes, now Lanier, where the family is found in the 1830 and 1840 Census, until 1849 when they moved into what was then Ware County. The area was identified as "Lounder" in the 1830 Census, but no other reference to this name can be found.

The 1850 Census for Ware County indicates the area is 89th Subdivision. This was cut into the new county of Clinch sometime after the 1850 Census was taken. John was enumerated in this area of Ware/Clinch in both 1850 and 1860.

The home is now in the area known as the Southern District of Clinch County during the 1860 Census. Five of the children are still living in the John Mathis household (Unity, Zachariah, James, Ezekial, and Martha, with son John and his family in the next dwelling.

His home place was on lot 441, 7th district, where he lived until 1871 when he sold out and lived with his son Ezekiel south of Dupont until shortly before his death when he went to Hamilton County, Fla., to live with his son John, Jr. He died there and was buried at Prospect Church in that county in 1875.

Mr. Mathis was baptized Oct. 11, 1840, into Union Primitive Baptist Church; was dismissed by letter April 10, 1841, and then became a charter member of Wayfare Church; was dismissed by letter Feb. 3, 1855, by Wayfare, and transferred his membership to Bethany Church, where it remained until he went into the organization of Prospect Church nearer his home, Jan. 22, 1859. He

was a member of Prospect until his death. No record appears of his wife's membership.

John was ensign of the militia in the 442nd district of Appling County, 1822-25; Justice of the Peace, 664th district, Lowndes County, 1833-38 and Coroner of Clinch County, 1851-58 and again 1861-64. He served two enlistments in the Indian War in 1838, one under Capt. Jesse Carter and the other under Levi J. Knight."

Reference:

Pioneers of Wiregrass Georgia, Vol. 3, pgs, 200-201.

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(<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:MZYD-64S> : Fri Oct 06 23:22:52 UTC 2023), Entry

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U.S. Federal Census - Population," *Fold3.com*; p. 57, household ID 354, NARA microfilm publication M653; FHL microfilm 803117

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database, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVLP-T5D8> : 1 April 2023), John Mathis, ; Burial, White Springs, Hamilton, Florida, United States of America, Prospect Primitive Baptist Cemetery; citing record ID 104372774, *Find a Grave*,

<http://www.findagrave.com>.