

Jackson County

CHRONICLES

NEWSLETTER NO. SEVENTEEN

JANUARY 10, 1979

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: I begin this year with the Association both with a profound gratitude for the opportunity of working and learning with all of the membership and with sincere admiration for the resourcefulness and scholarship of those of you I have met who are active in the work of the Association. As I reviewed past work of the Association and reviewed old newsletters with Walt Hammer, I was thankful that we have such talent and willingness to work among us. Among projects I wish to discuss with you and seek your help and guidance on for the coming year are the continuation of work on the Stevenson Depot project, possible utilization of the log cabin we have been given as a shelter and snowplace for documents, photographs, artifacts and other items of historical significance to Jackson County, and the feasibility of moving that structure to a site which is possibly available in Scottsboro. Our help has also been requested by some who are at work to have downtown Scottsboro established as a historical district. I look forward to having your ideas and your time and talent for the coming year, and to seeing you at our next meeting on January 21, 1979.

BOB HODGES

PROGRAM MEETING - JANUARY 21, 1979

The Jackson County Historical Association will meet Sunday, January 21, 1979, 2:30 p.m., at Scottsboro City Hall Auditorium. Mrs. John F. Proctor (Judy) will present the program on the history of the boom period in Bridgeport, Alabama, using slides to emphasize the beauty and uniqueness of this special era. Mrs. Proctor spent endless hours in research, documenting events, people, and architecture pertinent to the birth and heritage of Bridgeport for her graduate thesis at Vanderbilt.

Judy is the wife of Attorney John F. Proctor of Scottsboro, and she teaches studio and art history at Northeast State Junior College. She has exhibited work in many regional juried art shows.

ATTENTION: EXECUTIVE BOARD

There will be a meeting of the Executive Board on January 21, at 2:00 p.m. just prior to the regular program meeting.

ATTENTION: ALL MEMBERS

The Jackson County Historical Association now has a safe deposit box. Please bring any documents or artifacts to the meeting on January 21 which you feel should be safeguarded in such a manner, including Association generated documents and any items you wish to donate to the Association.

Letter from Program Vice President to President Hodges:

December 12, 1978

Dear Bob:

I am sorry that I will be unable to fulfill the Program Vice Presidency job this year. Several things have come up which are making it difficult for me to spread my time among so many things.

Thanks for understanding.

Sincerely, Patty Johnstone

JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION MEMBER TO RECEIVE AWARD OF MERIT:

State Senator James Lemaster will present a 1978 Award of Merit to Ann Barbee Chambless at the January 21, 1979, J.C.H.A. meeting in Scottsboro City Hall Auditorium.

Each year the Alabama Historical Commission presents the Award of Merit to a few selected individuals chosen from several hundred nominations. The A.H.C. award is for substantial contributions made in preservation, restoration, legislation, and publication activities related to Alabama historic resources.

In 1974, Mrs. Ann Chambless was instrumental in the organization of the Jackson County Historical Association and served as the Association's first president in 1975 and 1976. She was a member of both the Jackson County and the Scottsboro American Revolution Bicentennial Committees and was appointed an Honorary Lieutenant Colonel Aide-de-Camp in the Alabama State Militia by Governor George C. Wallace in July of 1976.

During 1975 and 1976, Ann Chambless spent most of her spare time editing a pictorial slide history of Jackson County, Alabama, made possible by an American Revolution Bicentennial grant. A very detailed, documented narration describing more than 200 slides which depict 165 years of Jackson County's rich heritage was written and taped by Mrs. Chambless in both a thirty- and a sixty-minute account. She has presented both programs in several local schools and for most of Scottsboro's civic clubs. This pictorial history and the narration were studied by the Huntsville Public Library as a model for developing a similar program for Madison County.

Mrs. Chambless is presently engaged in additional research and documentation for future publication of Jackson County facts, figures, and faces. She is also attempting to recreate, on paper, Scottsboro as it existed between 1860 and 1890.

A native of Jackson County, Ann B. Chambless is the daughter of Mrs. Era Wilhelm Barbee and the late Leonard Barbee. She is married to Joe D. Chambless; and they have another budding historian, Robert Heath Chambless, a second grader at Brownwood School. Ann is presently serving as Regent of Tidence Lane Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. She is State Chairman of the School of the Ozarks in the U.S. Daughters of the War of 1812 and is a local member of the Peter Gold Chapter. She is also a member of The Huguenot Society of the Founders of Manakin in the Colony of Virginia, the Friends of the Library, and the Scottsboro Three Arts Club.

P U B L I C A T I O N R E V I E W:

CEMETERIES AND GRAVES IN MARSHALL COUNTY, AIA., by the Marshall County Historical Society \$15.00. This record of Marshall County cemeteries contains more than 16,000 names in 155 cemeteries, the result of ten years of data gathering by the Society. Available with a \$1.00 charge for mail orders from Mrs. Joe Nix, P.O. Box 733, Guntersville, Ala. 35976.

Judge Bill Page of Huntsville, Alabama, obtained the following Jackson County related data from Huntsville Library microfilm covering: Memphis and Charleston Railroad Company Corporate Minutes, Reports to Stockholders, Engineer's Reports, 1853-1870.

NOTE BY JUDGE PAGE: Minutes for 1862, 1863, 1864, and 1865 are not available on microfilm in Huntsville Library. This suggests a lack of minutes for these war years.

Exhibit of the Affairs of The Memphis & Charleston Railroad Company
May 1854

p. 9
Under contract and progressing rapidly 83 miles of road from Decatur to Stephenson, the point of intersection with the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, the grading, masonry and bridging of which is nearly completed and will be ready for the iron rail in a short time.

1855 Report to Stockholders
p. 7 - The grading and masonry is now ready to lay track from Stephenson to Decatur - road from Stephenson to Decatur expected to be completed "November or December next" (1855.)

Cost of Road p. 13 1855

Stephenson to Decatur 83 2/10 miles, whole estimated cost of road fully equipped and in operation - \$1,527,546.07.

p. 32, "Depot buildings and water stations have been placed under contract...."

NOTE BY JUDGE PAGE: Earlier reports in 1855 used spelling of "Stephenson". Note spelling on latter reports of 1856 of "Stevenson". Scott's Mill, below, is Scottsboro.

1856 Report to Stockholders
p. 11
Connection between Decatur and Stevenson was made 3-8-1856 and regularly opened for business 3-21-1856.

Engineer's Report, Eastern Division 3-10-1856
p. 26
"The depot buildings and water stations between Decatur and Stevenson are in a state of forwardness. Wooden freight-houses have been built at Mooresville, Madison, Bellefont and Stevenson stations; and those for Woodville and Camden (later Paint Rock) stations are framed and ready to put up. Brick freight-houses are building at Huntsville, Brownsboro and Larkinsville stations. At Stevenson it is contemplated to build a passenger house and a covered platform for transshipping freight; to be built and used in common by the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad and ours. They can be ready for use in a short time."

July 1, 1857 - Report to Stockholders

Report of Chief Engineer
p. 33
Depot buildings and division houses have been completed at all the necessary points except Cherokee and Dickson.

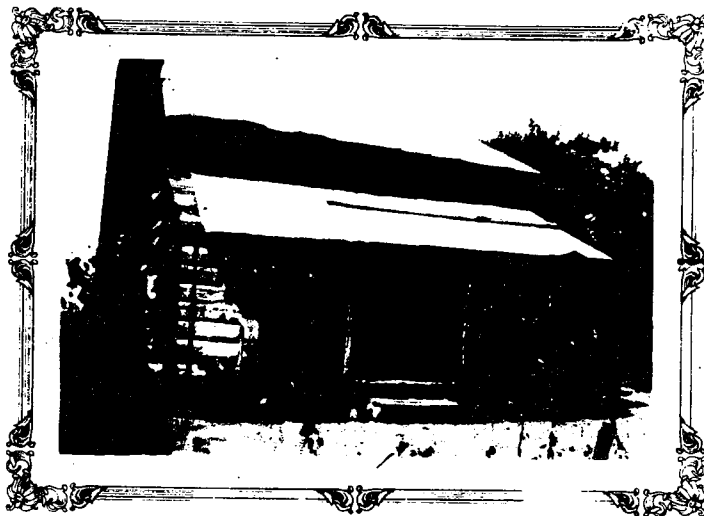
Fountain water stations have been obtained at Stevenson and Scott's Mill and will be established at Trinity and several other points. Most of the water station fixtures are still temporary....."

1861 Report
The next is 1866
Depot at Stevenson has "been more or less repaired".

Your Editor would like to acknowledge the typing and editing assistance of her sister, Martha B. Hess, in the preparation of this edition.

ANTEBELLUM JACKSON COUNTY LANDMARKS

NOTE BY EDITOR: Henceforth, your "Chronicles" Editor aspires to include an article about pre-Civil War homes as a regular feature in the Jackson County Chronicles.



The Cobb House

The Cobb House most likely was built in the 1840's shortly after W.R.W. Cobb moved from Madison County to Jackson County, Alabama, where he bought considerable land. This picture of the Cobb House was taken in 1936 by Misses Lucy and Jessie Bynum and is used here through their courtesy to your Editor. Only a part of the original log house was still standing at the time this picture was made (in 1936) and the extant part continued to be occupied until the 1960's.

W.R.W. Cobb, born June 8, 1807, was the son of David Cobb who moved from East Tennessee and settled at an early date near Cobb's Ford in Madison County, Alabama. W.R.W. Cobb grew up as a plow boy in that neighborhood. He successively became a clock peddler, general trader, merchant, and legislator. After moving from Madison County to Jackson County, W.R.W. Cobb was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives in 1844 and 1845. Later he was elected to six consecutive Congresses, serving from March 4, 1847 until January 30, 1861, when he withdrew. He has been called the most formidable opponent ever encountered by a congressional aspirant, as he defeated such men as Wm. Acklen, Jere Clemens, C.C. Clay, and James M. Adams, all considered far his superiors in educational opportunities. The suavity of his address, his towering, titan structure, the reach of his arms, his coolness, self-possession, and undaunted courage, and his perseverance more than counterbalanced any lack of education. Surely, his popularity among the people in Jackson County and his district would have kept him in Congress until he decided to retire, but for the War Between the States. Due to his pro-Union stand, he was an unsuccessful candidate for election in 1861 to the Confederate States Congress. However, he was elected in 1863 but was not allowed to take his seat.

On November 1, 1864, W.R.W. Cobb was killed by the accidental discharge of his pistol in a field near his home in Jackson County. He was an active member of the Mud Creek Primitive Baptist Church. In the 1850 Jackson County census, W.R.W. Cobb was listed as a farmer owning real estate valued at \$2300. He and his wife, Catherine (Kitty), had no children; and his brother, Bryant Cobb, was the administrator of W.R.W. Cobb's estate.

The Cobb House beside Cobb Pond was a well-known landmark just off present day Tupelo Pike for 120 years. Cobb House was located in Section 31, Township 3, Range 6 E. The Cobb farm, in more recent years, has been owned by Mr. J.B. Presley, Robert Word, and C.E. (Eb) Cornelison. In 1966, the old Cobb House was razed to make room for a new brick built by Lewis Cornelison, son of Mr. and Mrs. C.E. Cornelison. The last occupants of the Cobb House was the Luther Cornelison family, Eb's brother. A number of the logs from the old Cobb House were used to build a bridge on a road running through McBroom Hollow. This bridge is between Tupelo Pike and Liberty Cemetery - not quite a mile from Tupelo Pike.

Mrs. C.E. (Eulah) Cornelison lived on the Cobb farm for many years and states she has always been told the Cobb House was right in the center of Jackson County. (Neither she nor your Editor has verified this statement.)

Certainly, W.R.W. Cobb was right in the center of the political life of Jackson County for at least 14 years. Mr. Cobb and Robert E. Jones (J.C.H.A. member) hold the distinction of being the only two men Jackson County has ever sent to Congress. This honor was the major factor leading to the choice of the Cobb House for Feature No. One of Antebellum Jackson County Landmarks.

NOTE BY EDITOR: Thanks, Ms. Jessie Bynum for making this article possible.

Cobb House story references:

Valley Leaves Special Edition, December 1969, page 82,
"Later History of Madison County and, Incidentally, of North Alabama by Thomas Jones Taylor

Biographical Directory of the American Congress, 1774-1927

1850 Jackson County, Alabama Census

Editor's personal interview with Mrs. C. E. Cornelison, 1-8-79.

The Directory reproduced in its entirety on the following pages is a 1921 publication from the Editor's collection of Jackson County "treasures".

DIRECTORY

Methodist Episcopal Church
South

SCOTTSBORO, ALABAMA



**"A CHURCH WITHOUT LIFE AND
ZEAL MAKES CHRIST SICK."
—Spurgeon.**

OFFICIAL BOARD

STEWARDS:

O. A. Moody, Chairman; R. H. McAnelly, Secretary and Treasurer; D. S. Clemens, W. A. Kyle, T. E. Morgan, J. R. Gross, P. W. Campbell, J. P. Edmonds, Lindsay Boyd, Ralph Powell, C. F. Grigg, J. O. Dickinson, Mrs. F. D. Webb, Mrs. J. H. Wheeler.

TRUSTEES:

J. M. Miller, J. D. Presley, R. H. McAnelly, J. R. Gross, J. D. Snodgrass, C. F. Grigg, W. B. Gross, W. A. Kyle, E. C. Snodgrass.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT:

J. O. Dickinson.

PRESIDENT EPWORTH LEAGUE

Lindsay Boyd.

PRESIDENT WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY:

Mrs. J. W. Gay.

USHERS:

C. F. Grigg, Ralph Powell, Lindsay Boyd, P. W. Campbell

HOURS OF MEETING:

Preaching Sundays morning and evening.
Sunday School Sunday 9:45 a.m.
Prayer Meeting Wednesday evening.
Epworth League Sunday evening 6:30.
W. M. S. Monday p.m. after First and Third Sundays.
Stewards Meeting First Saturday evening in each month.

PASTOR:

Henry M. Hurst.

ISSUED DECEMBER 1921

PASTORS OF SCOTTSBORO METHODIST CHURCH
FOR FIFTY YEARS

W. T. Andrews	1871-72-73-74
W. D. Nicholson	1875
W. M. McQueen	1876
Phillip Henderson	1877-78
W. T. Andrews	1879-80-81-82
L. F. Whitten	1883-84-85
W. M. P. Rippey	1886
S. V. Blythe	1887
W. A. Montgomery	1888-89
D. W. Ward	1890-91
W. W. Dorman	1892-93-94
Edward Fulmer	1895-96-97
J. W. Shoemaker	1898
I. B. Sargent	1899-'00-01
F. W. Brandon	1902
S. J. Parrish	1903
R. E. Tyler	1904
(Half of above year finished by F. H. Gardner)	
S. R. Emerson	1905-06
C. L. Herring	1907-08
(H. L. Aldridge completed year 1908)	
J. T. Miller	1909
R. H. Hartford	1910-11
J. H. Leslie	1912-13
H. W. Rickey	1914-15
B. T. Cantrell	1916-17-18
H. M. Hurst	1919-20-21-22

ROLL OF MEMBERS

Anthony, Miss Kate	Campbell, P. W.
Ashmore, Miss Wheeler	Campbell, Mrs. P. W.
Ashmore, Miss Mattie	Campbell, Mrs. Della
Austell, W. J.	Clemens, D. S.
Austell, Mrs. W. J.	Clemens, Mrs. D. S.
Austell, Sibyl	Clemens, Albert
Austin, D. O.	Clemens, Tempie
Austin, Miss Lou	Clemens, Jewel
Austin, Lizzie B.	Clemens, Ruby
Arendale, Alvis	Clemens, McCoy
Appgar, Mrs. Mary	Clopton, R. W.
	Clopton, John B.
Barron, Mrs. Curtis	Clopton, Mrs. J. B.
Barron, Geo. B.	Cordell, Jennings
Bird, Mrs. J. A.	Cordell, Vera
Blakemore, Mrs. Walker	Cornelison, John
Brandon, Warwick	Cornelison, Eugene
Brandon, John V.	Cotton, Mary
Brewton, C. S.	Cowley, Elsie
Brewton, Mrs. C. S.	Cunningham, Mrs. R. W.
Brewton, Catherine	
Brewton, Lillian	Davis, Mrs. B. F.
Brewster, Cordie	Dicus, Mrs. L. H.
Brown, Mrs. Annie	Dickinson, J. O.
Bvnum, H. O.	Dickinson, Mrs. J. O.
Bynum, Mrs. H. O.	
Bynum, Clarence	Edmonds, J. P.
Bynum, Miss Jessie	Edmonds, Mrs. J. P.
Boyd, Lindsay.	
Burrow, Beatrice	Freeman, C. S.
Burnum, Mrs. Etta	Freeman, Mrs. C. S.
Byram, B. P.	Flynn, Mrs. Mary Chattin
Byram, Mrs. B. P.	

ROLL OF MEMBERS

Gay, Mrs. J. W.	Jones, R. E.
Gay, Amie Louise	Jones, Mrs. R. E.
Gay, Emerson	Jones, Cecil
Gardner, F. H. Jr.	Jones, Rudolph
Gardner, Mrs. F. H. Jr.	Jones, Ruth
Graham, Mrs. M. J.	Jones, Syddie
Graham, M. J.	Jones, Jack
Graham, Velta	Jones, Mrs. Ethel
Gray, Mrs. Beulah,	Jordan, Mrs. Walter
Gray, Leola	
Gray, Lurline	Keeble, F. H.
Grigg, C. F.	Keeble, Mrs. F. H.
Grigg, Mrs. C. F.	Keeble, Hattie
Grigg, Mattie,	Kirby, Clarence
Gross, Z. K.	Kirby, Ina
Gross, Mrs. Z. K.	Kirby, Louise
Gross, Miss Agatha	Kirby, Frank
Gross, Moten	Killian, J. S.
Gross, Fred	Kyle, W. A.
Gross, W. B.	Kyle, Mrs. W. A.
Gross, Mrs. W. B.	Kyle, Mack
Gross, J. R.	Kyle, Mary
Gross, Mrs. J. R.	
Gross, Harrel	Lasater, Miss Nannie
Gross, Norman,	London, Mrs. Frank
Gross, Zack	
	Maples, M. C.
Hackworth, Mrs. J. B.	Martin, Mrs. Saphronia
Hackworth, Eliza	Martin, Willie
Hammons, W. L.	Martin, Roy
Hammons, James Shook	Martin, Mrs. J. R.
Hodges, Mrs. Rayford	Martin, Walker
Hollis, Mrs. E. D.	Martin, Carter
Hollis, Ruth	Martin, Louise
Hurst, Mrs. H. M.	Martin, Hal
Hurst, Julia	McAnelly, R. H.
Hurt, Rosa	McAnelly, Mrs. R. H.
	McAnelly, Ethel
	McAnelly, Roy

A FEW INTERESTING FACTS

Of the pastors who have served the church, five have passed away: L. F. Whitten, W. A. Montgomery, W. W. Dorman, R. H. Hartford, J. H. Leslie and J. W. Shoemaker. & *Nicholson*

R. E. Tyler and F. H. Gardner have served in Mexico as missionaries.

L. F. Whitten being one of the first advocates of prohibition in Alabama, was often called the "Daddy of Prohibition." Through his influence saloons were driven from Jackson county.

Ed Fulmer, F. W. Brandon and J. H. Leslie have served as presiding elders. Dr. Brandon is presiding elder of Talladega district at present.

S. J. Parrish is now a prominent Baptist preacher.

S. V. Blythe and D. W. Ward are superannuates.

J. T. Miller is a supernumerary.

D. W. Ward is one of two of the charter members of the North Alabama Conference living.

Since 1871, nine have served only one year each, eight have served two years, four have served three years, three have served four years, and the present pastor now closing his fourth year.

W. T. Andrews served two terms of four years each.

Two have transferred to other Conferences: H. W. Rickey and W. M. P. Rippey.

Some of the presiding elders have been B. F. Lea, J. B. Gregory, Anson West, F. T. J. Brandon, W. T. Andrews, L. A. Darsey, George E. Boyd, J. F. Sturdivant, W. E. Morris, W. E. Foust, J. S. Robertson, R. T. Tyler, J. M. McClesky.

The brick building where Philen's Harness Factory is now located was the church building until 1895. It was dedicated by Bishop O. P. Fitzgerald.

The present building was completed in 1895, having been begun by W. W. Dorman. It was dedicated by Bishop J. C. Granberry.

Former Presiding Elder B. F. Lea was the grandfather of Kelly Osmond Ingram, the first American soldier killed in the world war.

ROLL OF MEMBERS

McCarley, R. L.	Payne, Mrs. Margaret
McCarley, Mrs. R. L.	Payne, Mrs. J. W.
McCarley, Carl	Pace, Thos. B.
McCarley, Doris	Pace, Mrs. Thos. B.
McCarley, Jessie	Parks, John
McCord, Mrs. J. H.	Parks, Mrs. John
McCracken, Mrs. Ola	Parks, Edward
McCracken, Mrs. Bennett	Parks, John Will
Miller, J. M.	Parks, David
Miller, Mrs. J. M.	Parks, Mary
Miller, J. J.	Perry, J. B.
Miller, Mrs. J. J.	Perry, Mrs. J. B.
Miller, Sam J.	Perry, Leon
Miller, Walter Fred	Presley, J. D.
Miller, Mrs. Charles	Presley, Mrs. J. D.
Moody, O. A.	Presley, Jas. B.
Moody, Mrs. O. A.	Presley, Mrs. J. B.
Moody, Mrs. Ed	Presley, Charles
Moody, Edward	Price, E. C.
Moody, Gordon	Price, Mrs. E. C.
Moody, Mildred	Phillips, Mrs. Martha
Morgan, T. E.	Powell, Ralph
Morgan, Mrs. T. E.	Proctor, John Will
Morgan, Pearl	Proctor, Worth
Morgan, Elizabeth	
Morgan, Bonnie	Robinson, Mrs. Evie
Morgan, Kelly	Robinson, Margaret
McCarrol, Mrs. M. M.	Rosson, Miss Dovie
Morris, Mrs. Fred	Rosson, Miss Sallie
	Rosson, James
Nve, Dr. G. E.	Ridley, Lizzie
Nye, Mrs. G. E.	Ridley, Johnnie
	Roden, Mrs. I. H.
	Roden, Trevah
	Rubel, Mrs. Elizabeth

JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION OFFICERS - 1979

President - R.L. (Bob) Hodges, Jr., Scottsboro
V. Pres. - Mrs. Nelson Varnell, Section
Secretary - Mrs. Harrison Smith, Scottsboro
Treasurer - Mrs. Rex Page, Woodville
Directors - Mrs. A. Kathryn Armstrong, Stevenson
Harry Campbell, Section
Mrs. Joe Cromeans, Scottsboro
Rex Page, Woodville

Jackson County Chronicles Editor: Mrs. Ann B. Chambless
Route 4, Box 265,
Scottsboro, Alabama 35768

Please submit your historical data to Ann Chambless for use
in Jackson County Chronicles.

You still have time to pay your dues; just mail your check to:

Jackson County Historical Association
Mrs. Alice Ruth Page
Route 1, Box 11
Woodville, Alabama 35776

Regular membership - \$7.50/year
Life Membership - \$100.00

Please provide: NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

(IF YOU HAVE ALREADY PAID YOUR DUES, PLEASE DISREGARD THIS NOTICE.)

The Honorable Robert E. Jones is the Jackson County Historical Association's
first life member.

Thank you, Bob Jones, for your continual intrest and support.

JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP DUES PAID

FOR 1979

A. Kathryn Armstrong	Mrs. Waco Derrick
Kate J. Bradford	Mr. Waco Derrick
Mrs. Loyd Crawford	Mrs. Ernestine Russell
Mrs. E. G. Henninger	Mrs. Bill B. Webb, Sr.
Mrs. Susan B. Rudder	Mr. Jess F. Phillips
Mr. F. B. Parker	Mrs. Helen C. Phillips
Mrs. F. B. Parker	Mrs. Ella Ruth Lamberth
Scottsboro Jr. High School Library	Mrs. Ann B. Chambless
Mrs. Christine Summer	Mr. E. L. Lamberth
Mrs. Dorothy M. Williams	Mrs. Virginia M. Lindenmeyer
Mr. Charles M. Heath	Mrs. H. T. Armstrong
Mrs. Charles M. Heath	Mrs. William W. McCutchen
Mr. Robert L. (Bob) Hodges	Dr. Janice Jones
Mr. Robert E. Jones	

ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION APPROVES GRANT FOR HISTORICAL SURVEY OF SCOTTSBORO!

The following information provided by Scottsboro City Planner, Mr. Dennis Griffin. Come to meeting January 21 and learn more of Mr. Griffin's plans.

GRANT APPLICATION FORM

Fiscal Year 1978

TO: Alabama Historical Commission
725 Monroe Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Name of Project
Historic District Survey

Applicant's Name and Address City of Scottsboro
City Hall
916 South Broad Street
Scottsboro, Alabama 35768
(205) 574-3100

Property Owner's Name and Address Approximately 125 separate
properties are to be examined by the survey.

Complete Address of Property The proposed historic district boundaries
are as follows: North - South Railroad Avenue, South - Magnolia Street, . . .
East - Scott Street, and West - Houston Street. (See Location Map)

Preservation Objective

The principal objective of this project is to develop an implementable strategy to insure that structures contributing to the historical significance of the proposed district are protected and preserved.

In order to meet this objective, the City must first perform a comprehensive survey which will adequately assess the historical and architectural significance of the individual structures located with the "Courthouse District". The survey will then enable the City to specifically define an historic district meeting National Register criteria.

After the district is defined, the City will be in a position to explore alternative strategies for the enhancement and preservation of the area.

Project Justification

The City of Scottsboro has demonstrated its keen interest in this district in allocating for improvements to the district approximately \$1.4 million dollars from funds obtained through the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Community Development Block Grant Program. Specifically, the funds have been used for street, water, sewer, drainage, sidewalks, and general landscape improvements.

Recognizing the importance of preserving and enhancing the historical character of this district, it is now appropriate that the City take its efforts one step further. A survey will provide the base needed for planning of preservation and restoration activities.

The City is seeking financial assistance from the Alabama Historical Commission for the specific purpose of surveying the "Courthouse District" resulting in a written plan which will outline preservation objectives and goals. All work performed with assistance from the Alabama Historical Commission will be directed toward this purpose.

Jackson County, the switzerland of the state of Alabama

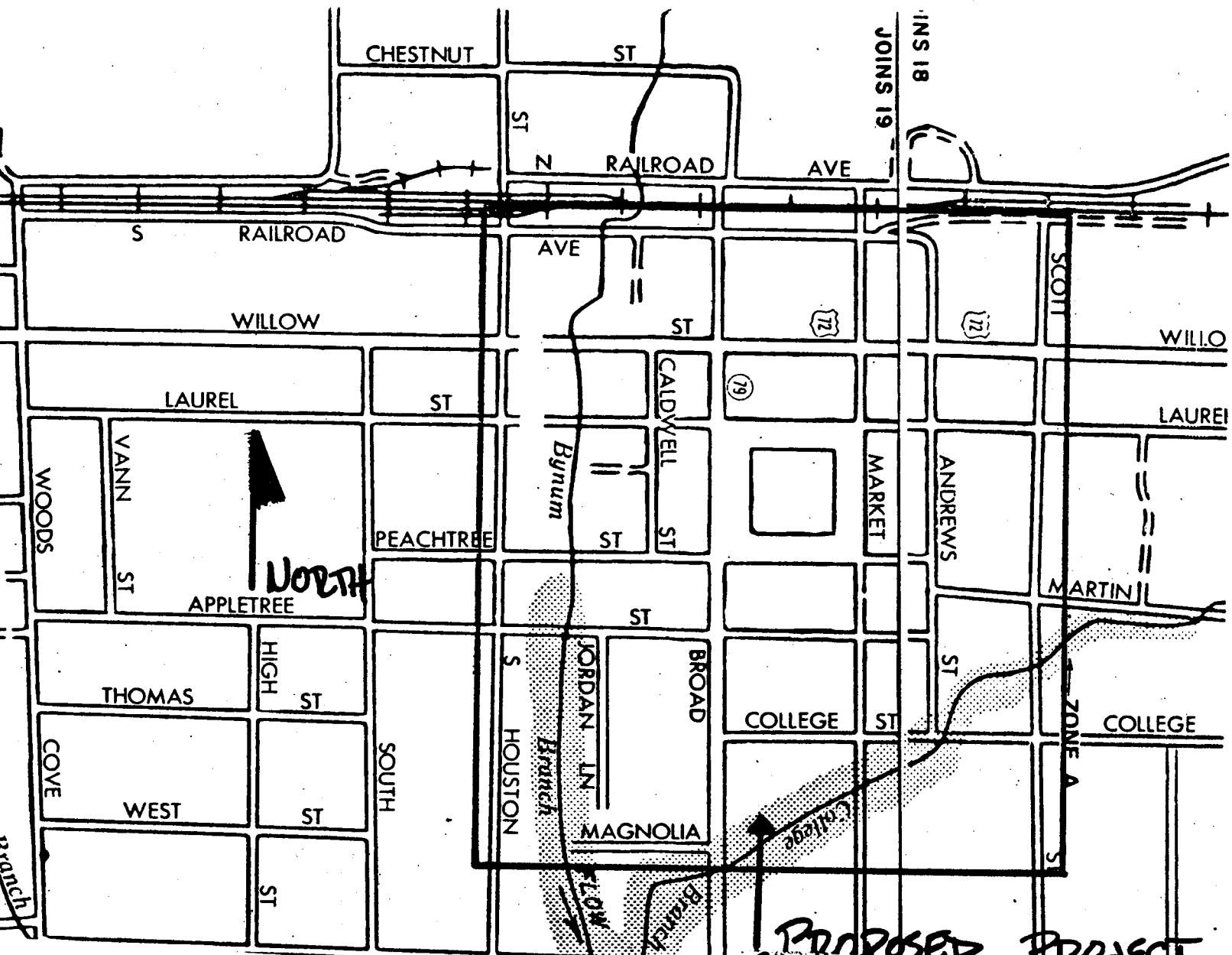
ADDRESS
CORRECTION
REQUESTED

Scottsboro, Alabama 35768

P.O. Box 638

Jackson County Historical Association

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SCOTTSBORO, AL. 35768
PERMIT # 11



PROPOSED PROJECT
AREA CITY OF SCOTTSBORO

Jackson County

CHRONICLES

NEWSLETTER NO. EIGHTEEN

APRIL 12, 1979

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Several Jackson County Historical Association members are now actively engaged in the Historic Survey of Scottsboro. We are all having loads of fun as we research old newspapers and deeds. Our researchers report the most pleasant and fruitful experiences as they interview some of Scottsboro's "historical oracles." One member expressed surprise in the amount of information he has been able to compile in such a short time. If you can expand our effort, please offer assistance to our "core" committee: Mrs. Judy Proctor, Mrs. Ann Chambless, Mr. Nelson Varnell, Mr. Carlos Page, Mr. Walter Hammer, or your President.

We are interested in any building over fifty (50) years old within our previously designated area whether residential or commercial. We must document when it was built, who designed it, and how the building was originally used. Please help us any way you can!

BOB HODGES, PRESIDENT

PROGRAM MEETING - APRIL 22, 1979 - 2:30 p.m.

The Jackson County Historical Association will meet Sunday, April 22, 1979, 2:30 p.m., at Scottsboro City Hall Auditorium. Mrs. Gene Henninger, Program Vice President, has announced her guest speaker as Mr. Jimmy Moore, an antique dealer of Ft. Oglethorpe, Georgia. Mr. Moore also teaches night classes at the University of Tennessee in Chattanooga relating to antiques and their collection. He will speak on "Antiques for Love and Investment." Mr. Moore is quite knowledgeable about cut glass and is considered an expert in the field of furniture refinishing. Portions of his discussion will cover antiques which might have been at home in many of Jackson County's older landmarks.

ATTENTION: EXECUTIVE BOARD

There will be a meeting of the Executive Board on April 22, at 2:00 p.m. just prior to the regular program meeting.

You still have time to pay your dues; just mail your check to:

Jackson County Historical Association
Mrs. Alice Ruth Page
Route One, Box 234
Woodville, Alabama 35776

Regular membership - \$7.50
Life Membership - \$100.00

Please provide: NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

(IF YOU HAVE ALREADY PAID YOUR DUES, PLEASE DISREGARD THIS NOTICE.)

Membership entitles you to receive the quarterly publication of the Jackson County Historical Association, "The Jackson County Chronicles" which is mailed approximately ten days prior to our quarterly meetings in January, April, July, and October.

GLEANINGS FROM THE PAST RELATING TO EDUCATION/SCHOOLS IN JACKSON CO.

This section of the Jackson County Chronicles is dedicated to education/schools in Jackson County. No attempt has been made to create a chronological, narrative history on this subject although there is a definite need for same. The information included herein has been compiled and contributed by Mr. Nelson Varnell, Mrs. Eliza Mae Woodall, your Editor Ann Chambless, and Mr. Wendell Page.

In 1850, the white population of Jackson County, Alabama was 11,754. The 1850 census for Jackson County shows that only 15 men listed their occupation as that of teacher. More than likely, there were others who listed some other occupation (such as minister or even farmer) as their primary occupation because school teaching only occupied their time two to three months during the year. The teachers taken from the 1850 census are:

John Montgomery - Long Island (near Harris Chapel)
Hugh Cameron - Long Island
James Verner - Doran's Cove
John Sherley - Bolivar
Martin Milligan - south side of Tennessee River near Capterton's Ferry.
John A. Hall - Roach's Cove
Robert Jones - Woods Cove/Sauta areas
William Higgins - Larkinsville
Ira G. Wood - Larkinsville
Henry Shelton - Boxes Cove
Joel C. Ledbetter - Woodville
Adam L. Hider (Hyter) - Paint Rock Valley
Francis Larkin - Paint Rock Valley
Benjamin Toney - Paint Rock Valley
William Ward - Bellefonte (lived at Daniel Martin Inn)

The first record of a female teacher found in Jackson County was in 1860 Jackson County census. Martha McCord, age 20, was living in the household of Elijah Baker Ligon and was listed as a school teacher. Elijah B. Ligon is your Editor's great-great-great grandfather; therefore, it is a known fact that Martha McCord was of no relation to the Ligons. The only reason for her to be found in this household in 1860 was because she was boarding with the Ligons and teaching their children. This family had donated land and some funds for a community church called Ligon Chapel in the Sauta area, and possibly Martha McCord taught her school in Ligon Chapel.

David H. Harris advertised his school near Bellefonte in the April 11, 1839, edition of the Bellefonte Courier and Jackson County Republican as follows:

"Academical Elysia - Six miles west of Bellefonte, T.3, R.6. The writer has a building being erected in which he intends establishing a permanent Seminary for the instruction of youth and dissemination of useful knowledge. It is located on an exquisitely delightful eminence where variety of scenery, pure air, good water, and the gymnasium will contribute to give buoyancy to the spirits, strength to the constitution, and vigour to the minds of the student. It is in the neighborhood of highly respectable and independent farmers, among whom boarding can be obtained on reasonable terms. Gentlemen residing at a distance who may be desirous to place their sons under the care of an experienced and skillful instructor in the rudiments of a good English education may get admittance by an early application.
Tuition - One Dollar per Month. Time - Nine Months. To begin April 1, 1839. Signed: David H. Harris."

You will note that Mr. Harris' Seminary was for boys. However, there was a female academy at Bellefonte, and Mrs. Clarence Kirby's grandmother attended same in the 1850s.

Possibly other Historical Association members can add additional names of students who attended the schools in Bellefonte.

NOTE: Silas P. Childress, Sr. was to earn \$33.33 per month for the scholastic year ending September 30, 1888.

School Contract. In Duplicate.

The State of Alabama,

Jackson COUNTY.

This Agreement, made this 15th day of November A. D. 1887, between Silas P. Childress Teacher and D. C. Farmer D. W. Snodgrass & J. H. Hancock

Township Superintendent, or Trustees of Public Schools in and for township five range six

(or other school district) in said county, witnesseth:—That the said Silas P. Childress agrees to teach a 2nd grade Public School for the White race in said township, for the term of 6, 7, or eight

scholastic months, beginning on the 21st day of November 1887

The said Silas P. Childress further engages to exert the utmost of his ability in conducting said School, and improving the education and morals of the pupils; to keep such register and make such reports to the township Superintendent and County Superintendent of Education as may be required of him; and in all respects to conform to the requirements of law. In consideration of these services properly rendered, the said Township Superintendent, or Trustees of Public Schools, agrees that the County Superintendent of Education of said county shall pay the said Silas P. Childress Thirty Three & one Third dollars per month from the school fund apportioned to said race in said district for the scholastic year ending September 30, 1888, the payments to be made quarterly as prescribed by law; Provided, however, that there shall be in said school a daily attendance of not less than ten, nor more than fifty pupils within the educational age.

Silas P. Childress Teacher.

D. C. Farmer Township Supt. or Trustees.

Approved this 15th day of Nov 1887

J. R. Austill County Supt. of Education.

Can any of our members tell us more about the Woodville Female Seminary? Mr. W. G. Jones, Sr. of Woodville has a certificate presented to his mother on September 13, 1872 when she was Miss Demarius Woodall which was signed: Affectionately presented by, Miss Rosalie Norris, PRINCIPAL OF WOODVILIE FEMALE SEMINARY. Please help your Editor learn of this school's location and history.

Miss Woodall was commended for reaching the highest honors of the most advanced class "of this Seminary of learning."

First Grade

TEACHER'S LICENSE

State of Alabama,

GRANTED AND ISSUED

9th 1889

DAY

Jackson COUNTY OF Jackson 1889

THIS CERTIFIES that Silas P. Childress has

been duly examined according to law by the Examining Board of said county, and upon said examination attained the grade set opposite each subject upon which examined, as follows, to-wit:

NAMES OF BRANCHES OF EXAMINATION.	GRADE IN EACH.
ORTHOGRAPHY.....	95
READING.....	95
PENMANSHIP.....	95
complete ARITHMETIC.....	100
GEOGRAPHY.....	95
HISTORY.....	95
ENGLISH GRAMMAR.....	95
ALGEBRA.....	100
PHYSIOLOGY AND HYGIENE.....	95
NATURAL PHILOSOPHY.....	95
GEOMETRY.....	95
THEORY AND PRACTICE OF TEACHING.....	100
Total Average Grade.....	93

And the said Silas P. Childress having answered in writing correctly 93 per cent. of the written questions propounded and being found to be of good moral character, a First Grade license authorizing the holder to teach in the Public Schools of said county for three years from date of issuance, subject to cancellation as provided by law, is hereby granted and issued by order of the Board, this the 9th day of November 1889.

H. D. Wood Secretary

C. W. Brown President

Teachers License issued to Silas Parsons Childress, Sr. on November 2, 1889. S. P. Childress taught in several areas of Jackson County in the 1880s and 1890s including several terms in the Santa/Temperance Hill (then called Bullet Ridge) area and at Kirby's Creek on Sand Mountain. It appears that the teachers had to pass a test each school year as the family has preserved copies of his graded license for many years. You will note the above license authorized him to teach for three years from the date of issuance.

GREEN ACADEMY

Green Academy at Nat, Alabama was built and operated by the Congregational Church whose headquarters were in New York City. A two-room school house was opened in 1890 on the top of Cumberland Mountain overlooking Peters Cove near Woodville, Alabama. After the first year, the school building was enlarged and more teachers were added. There were also resident cottages for the teachers who came mainly from the North. Students graduating from Green Academy were qualified to enter college. Many students also boarded on the mountain.

The following is an announcement of the opening of the fall term in an October, 1900 edition of The Progressive Age:

"Green Academy, Nat, Alabama"

The fall term opened September 17 (1900), with a corps of competent teachers, and there is the prophecy of a good year of work. Among our higher institutions of learning, Ingham University, Iowa College and Mt. Holyoke are represented in the faculty. It is hoped that many young men and women who are really earnest seekers after a thorough education will avail themselves of the splendid opportunities offered. Since the object of the school is to aid as many as possible, the tuition rates are put so low that none need be left out.

Tuition in Latin course per month, \$1.25.

Tuition in all other grades per month, \$1.00.

Tuition in Music per (half hour) lesson, \$0.25.

Special advantages to those fitting themselves for teaching.

Mr. John R. Kennamer gave a partial list of some of the students who attended Green Academy at Nat as follows:

George S. Gillis, Robert I. Gillis, Harry Gillis, Mabel, Roxie, and Elizabeth Gillis, William Hayes, Leslie H. Woodall, Sanford D. Lee, Wilbur Coe, Andrew Houk, Harvey Houk, Will Ed Stephens, Charles B. Kennamer, Thomas J. Kennamer, J. B. Woodall, R. E. Chandler, Hugh Walker, Andrew and Sam Shelton, John R. Kennamer, William Shelton, Nelson Cowart, Ezekiel Kennedy, Robert Precise, Edna Coe, Ed Broyles, Mrs. Leona Woodall Merritt, Mrs. Eleanor Lindsay Boyd, Mrs. Laura Wilson Battles, William Lilly, John, Richard, and Nellie Cochran, Nellie Frazier, Felix and Calvin Rousseau, William J. Whitaker, Samuel Winninger, Charley Manning, Robert A., Albert, Rufus, Parry, Arthur, and Miss Della Hall, Ed Clark, Martin Cobb, Robert McCamey, Robert Gross, Will, Hugh, and Pliny Jackson, Eva Jackson, W. S. Kennamer, Robert I and Will G. Jones, W. H. Butler, Julia Butler Kennamer, Low Goosby, James S. Swain, Will Money, Ben Isbell, Ernest Wann, Will Chandler, Robert L. Hall, Clay Evans, Bessie Evans Peters, Ben W. Kennamer, Susie Wilson Ballard, Lena Huggins, Joe, John, and Charles Lewis, Jonny Woods, Ida Walker, Ernest Kirby, Martha, John, and Oscar Allen, Sam and Mollie Maples, Cornelia and Columbus Owen, Elijah Potter, Harvey Kennamer, Will Evans, Nellie Coe, and Gillie Cornelison Bishop. (Pages 103-106, J. R. Kennamer's History of Jackson County.)

ORIGINAL

No. 5

SCOTT MALE AND FEMALE INSTITUTE.

Scottsboro, Ala. 14 August.....1874

Received of *J. Ross* *Sis* and *25* dollars
 tuition, and dollar incidental fee for *Martha J.* for the
 ten weeks commencing *14 August* 1874, and ending with *2d* Session
 1874 in *2d* class of Scott Male and Female Institute.

J. Kyle Treasurer.

Receipt for tuition for Martha Jane Rosson Childress,
 great-great grandmother of Ann B. Chambless

Larkinsville

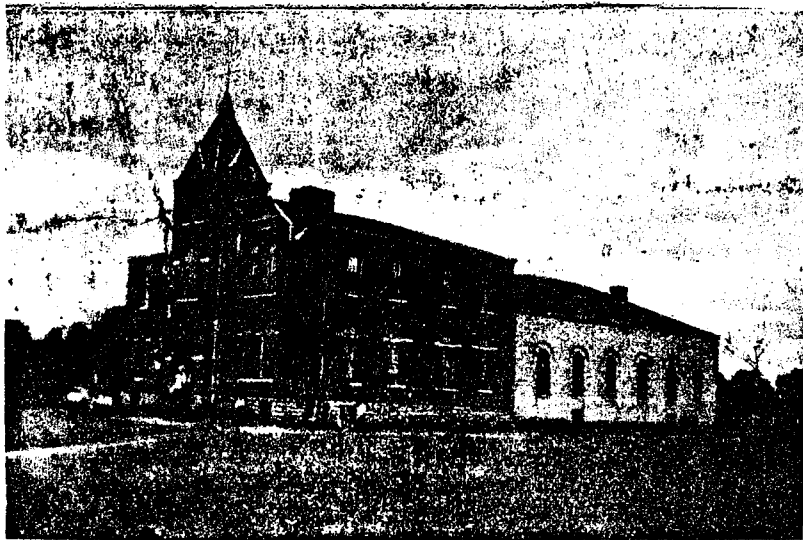
Your Editor found a reference to the Larkinsville Male Academy (in a deed) which would predate the Larkinsville High School described in an advertisement in the Jackson County Herald in 1868. Erskine Russell was principal of the Larkinsville High School in 1868.

Scottsboro

The first session of the Scottsboro High School opened on March 16, 1868, in a building on Chestnut Street (north of the railroad) which the Principal, T. G. Windes, had bought from Mrs. Robert T. Scott in 1868. Mrs. Bettie E. Mills was Mr. Windes' assistant. The next year, Mr. Windes sold his school to Mr. T. J. Woods, a Methodist minister, who advertised his school in 1869. Mr. Woods also allowed the community to use his building for church services until the Baptists built what was called the "Brick Church" on the corner of Laurel and Caldwell Streets (where Derrick Furniture Company is now located in the Derrick Building built in 1939.) "The Brick Church" was used as a school building from 1872 until August of 1883. In 1872, the school was under the direction of A. Erskine Russell and Mrs. M. P. Brown (his second wife). Mr. Erskine stood nearly seven feet, had long black hair and coat tails, and far-reaching arms that wielded a rod that showed a master hand. (Info on Mr. Erskine from written memoirs of one of his Snodgrass pupils.)

Scott Academy opened in August, 1883, and was located at the foot of Cumberland Mountain just north of the much later Carver High School. After Scott Academy burned, the Scottsboro College and Normal School opened in 1889 in the new college building at the corner of Martin, Scott, and College Avenue. The school here became the Tri-State Normal University in 1894. When the school property was bought by the Southern Baptist Convention in 1901, the name was changed to the Baptist Institute.

(Reference Sources: Jackson County, Alabama Deeds and Newspapers)



SCOTTSBORO COLLEGE BUILDING.
in 1900

\$10.00
Received Ten Dollars of Jas. Rosson
on tuition of daughters.
T. G. Windes,

Scottsboro, May, 28th 1869,

Receipt for tuition of Martha Jane Rosson Childress and
Mary Rosson Cunningham

JACKSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

The following information is from a report on the schools formerly occupying the premises whereon now stands the Wendell Page Elementary School. This information has been compiled by Mr. Nelson Varnell as a part of his contribution to the historic survey of Scottsboro being conducted by the City of Scottsboro with the help of Jackson County Historical Association members.

On August 7, 1907, a bill was passed by the Alabama Legislature providing for a county high school in each county within the State of Alabama. Scottsboro was selected as the site, and the first session of the Jackson County High School opened on September 21, 1908, at 8:00 a.m. with a total of 91 students enrolled on the first day. Mr. J. R. Ward was the first principal.

The following are the names of some teachers and students attending Jackson County High School from the first year, 1908, through the year 1916. At that time, only eleven grades were taught. The following early graduates were quite helpful in supplying names and memories of their years at the first Jackson County High School: Mrs. Dorothy Caldwell Huffman, Mrs. Mary McClendon Wynn, Miss Mary Cotton, Mrs. Annie Lee Cotton Webb, Mr. Grady Thomas, Miss Leola Matthews, and Mr. Claude Matthews. Mrs. Daisy Keeble also shared information on the subject.

The first class to graduate from the Jackson County High School received their diplomas in 1913 and were:

Dorothy Caldwell Huffman
Houston Maples
Madge Porter Hall
Veda Jacobs Spivey
Cornelia Caldwell Gay
Alma Blakemore Coffey

Some of their teachers were:

Principal, Professor John Huffstutler, Miss Melton, and Miss Will Maples.

Note; Mr. Varnell is trying to add to the list of teachers to make it more complete.

Students who graduated in the Class of 1914, according to The Progressive Age published that year, were:

Ruby Skelton Moody
Jep Moody, Sr.
Margaret Hayes
Annie Tucker
Ruth Skelton
Mary Nelson Beech
Ella Worthington Hembree
Charles Barclay
Albert Kirby

Note; Mr. Varnell is still in the process of identifying teachers for this class.

The following are names of the graduating Class of 1915, Jackson County High School, taken from the August 5, 1915, edition of the Progressive Age:

Eugenia Snodgrass	Hamlin Caldwell
Paul Smith	Ada Kirby
Europe Caldwell	William Jones
Richard McCulley	Walker Smith
Zella Williams	Henry Tucker
Douglas Timberlake	Frances Arendale
Lucy Fricks	Annie Lee Cotton (Webb)
Sam Hunter	Cora Province
Mrs. Sam Hunter	John Shipp
Herman Campbell	Nelle Ashmore
Eleanor Chandler	Bill Hunter

The Faculty that year: R. P. Wills, Miss Sarah Melton, Miss Evelyn Payton, and Mr. Ira Taylor.

The first football team of Jackson County High School was organized in 1913. This picture is of the 1914 football team and was loaned to Mr. Varnell by Mr. Claude Matthews, No. 8 in the picture. You will note the three dormitories in the background. Mr. Matthews lived in one of the three dormitories shown in the picture above. He said that the buildings were constructed on property owned by Mr. Robert Skelton and were rented to Jackson County High School as the school was not financially able to purchase the buildings at that time. In 1916, two of these buildings burned, leaving the one now standing at 518 Scott Street now owned by Mr. C. O. Blackwell. After being used by the school, the Roy Gist family resided here for several years. It has been altered considerably, and is now rented as an apartment building by Mr. Blackwell.

Notice that the players are on the football playing field at the rear of the buildings. This was where they practiced. Mr. **Claude** Matthews identified the **players** as follows, starting left to right, top row:

1. Adkins Smith
2. Jack Shipp - made a doctor
3. Paul Benson - father of Fred Russell Benson
4. Herman Campbell
5. Ray Campbell
6. A. L. (Mutt) Petty
7. Roy Sanders - was a car dealer in South Pittsburg, Tennessee
8. Claude Matthews - lives 705 Adams Street, Scottsboro, Alabama
9. Edward McGahey - father of Joe McGahey
10. Joe Thaxton
11. Bill Hunter
12. Lyles Hembree - worked in Post Office in Scottsboro
13. Jim Presley - owned drug store and was oil dealer
14. Bill Jones - mail carrier in Woodville, Alabama area
15. Porter Thaxton - lived in Tuscaloosa and Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Mr. Matthews thinks all these players except four or five are now deceased.

1914 Jackson County High School
Football Team



The names of the class graduating on May 10, 1916, was taken from an invitation belonging to Miss Mary Cotton who shared it with her friend, Mrs. Mary Winn. Mrs. Mary Winn was interviewed by Mr. Varnell, who gives the Class of 1916 as:

John Bouldin	Mary Clopton
Fred Kyle	Mary Cotton
Milton Devers	Millie Gentry
Lyles Hembree	Gladys Rowena Hanning
Raymond Hinshaw	Bessie Moody
Jim Presley	Leola Matthews
Virgil Proctor	Fletcher Jacobs (Benham)
Jerry Ike Williams	Ninon Gay
Hugh Parks Kirby	Janie Porter
Frank S. Kelley	Mary Lucille McClendon (Wynn)
Kate Chandler	Dora McCarley (her name was not on invitation as her family moved to Texas before graduation.)
Edith Boyd	
Olive Boyd	

The picture below is of an early home economics class (then called domestic science) made on the porch of the cottage known as Uncle Rip Ray's Cottage, located near where the old gymnasium once stood near the bridge where one enters the school grounds from Martin Street. This picture was shared by Mrs. Clarence (Bertha Cunningham) Kirby who recalls that the students cooked on oil burning stoves. Mrs. Kirby has identified the students from left to right, beginning with front row, as:

- | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| | (second row) | (third row) |
| 1. Mary Hunt | 5. Linita Jacobs | 13. Nell Ashmore |
| 2. Tut Boyd | 6. Pearl Matthews | |
| 3. Ida Morris | 7. Mary Wilson | (fourth row) |
| 4. Eleanor Boyd | 8. Bertha Cunningham | 14. Canna Mae Davidson |
| | 9. Bess Moody | 15. Annie Lee Tucker |
| | 10. Opal Ashmore | 16. Paralee Moody |
| | 11. Tempie Wynn | 17. Grace Harper |
| | 12. Fletcher Jacobs | 18. Zella Williams |
| | | 19. Dewey Proctor |



Old Scottsboro City School

The following article from the February 15, 1935 edition of the Jackson County Sentinel relates to the old Scottsboro City School or central school which was located on the grounds of the present-day Piggly Wiggly Shopping Center:

"Scottsboro City School"

Until 1909 the Public School of Scottsboro was taught just anywhere a place which seemed desirable could be secured. The last one was taught in the basement of the Baptist Church by Mrs. R. A. Coffey and Miss Hill Beech (Mrs. J. D. Garren.)

The present City school building then only four rooms was completed for the 1908-09 term. It had additional buildings at different times until today (1934) it has nine class rooms, two large halls, a principal's office, and an auditorium of which any town twice the size of Scottsboro might justly be proud. It has steam heat and sanitary drinking fountains. The grounds surrounding the building were very low, but it has been filled in and raised, shrubbery and shade trees have been planted, and today it is noted for its pleasing appearance, its clean and well kept campus.

Beginning with the 1909-10 term the following principals have been in charge: Mr. C. S. Brewton, later County Supt. of Education; J. D. Garren; H. C. Bennett; J. W. Willis; Miss Sally Caldwell, a local girl who now holds a responsible position at Columbia University; H. C. Bennett, a second term; Miss Boswell of Speigner, Alabama; Miss Elizabeth Monroe of Meridianville, Alabama; Mrs. Wilborn, wife of the High School principal at that time; and Boyd Turner who has held the position proficiently for the last eight years.

Until 1920, only the children within the city limits attended this school, but due to consolidation, the enrollment has gradually increased until today is above 500 pupils which situation alone demands that we have more rooms and teachers. We are dreaming of a time in the near future when we shall have these and rest rooms, cafeteria, and a kindergarten building on the campus.

A most interesting and unusual fact about the 25 years life of this school is that only three teachers have died in service, Miss Beulah Erwin, appendix operation; Miss Mildred Hays, pneumonia; Mrs. Waco Thomas, operation; and only six pupils have died while attending school: Alberta Shipp, pneumonia following measles; Virgil Matheney, first grade by accidental discharge of a pistol; Kathleen Price, second grade, operation; Bobby Wallace, heart trouble; and Jimmy Burrough and Mildred Elliott, both killed in car wrecks but not during school hours.

May the boys and girls of tomorrow who are fortunate enough to attend the Scottsboro City School look back with as much joy and satisfaction as we of the present and those of the past is the wish of the sixth grade."

Note by Editor: Scottsboro City School had an enrollment of 559 in February of 1934. Their average daily attendance was over 90% every week of that year. They had an active P.T.A. Mrs. R.L. Telford was music teacher in 1934, and the Rhythm Band was in its fifth year.

Interjection by Editor: By the time your editor started (1942) first grade at the old Scottsboro City School, the 1934 dream of rest rooms and a cafeteria had come true. However, stop and think how long Alabama teachers have had to wait for that kindergarten at the State level as a part of the elementary school program. Incidentally, your Editor does remember six very pleasant and happy years at the Scottsboro City School. The things remembered most are the love and concern of the world's best teachers, buying Savings Stamps at ten cents each, and finding a way to transport "scrap iron" to school on the school bus. Of course, the Savings Stamps and scrap iron collection were two War World II patriotic projects for children.

EDUCATIONAL DIRECTORY - JACKSON COUNTY, ALABAMA 1938-1939

The Educational Directory of Jackson County Schools for 1938-1939 is from the "treasures" of Mr. Wendell Page. A large number of our Historical Association members' names are found on this roster. How many of these teachers can you identify who are still in the field of education? How many taught you or some member of your family? Mr. Page is also sharing another of his "school treasures" - his 1937 Jackson County Highway map on which he has plotted 80 of the schools represented in the Educational Directory. Can you help Mr. Page locate Crescent Hill School? Miss Kate Steele taught there in 1937-1938.

EDUCATIONAL
DIRECTORY

JACKSON COUNTY,
ALABAMA

1938 - 1939



Board of Education

- O. E. HARPER, President
Section, Ala.
- W. H. BUTLER, Vice-President
Scottsboro, Ala.
- G. H. CAPERTON
Stevenson, Ala.
- L. S. BREWSTER
Hollywood, Ala.
- FELIX TRICE
Princeton, Ala.
- L. W. JORDAN
Superintendent of Education
- MATTIE LOU STOCKTON
Secretary
- ADELE RIVERS
Attendance Supervisor

ELEMENTARY

Teacher	School
Allison, Amanda	Long Island
Austin, Annie Ruth	Flat Rock
Austin, Rebecca	Long Island
Alsbaugh, Mrs. Pixie	Scottsboro City
Ayers, H. F.	Rosalie
Ballew, Lois	Bryant
Beason, Mrs. Lilah	Skyline
Berzett, Mrs. Ruth	Woods Cove
Bohannon, Leonard	Callahan
Bohannon, Mrs. Mertie	Callahan
Borden, Mrs. A. H.	Kyles No. 2
Bostic, Mrs. Lucille	Francisco
Bouldin, Mrs. G. P.	Scottsboro City
Eowen, Ruth	McCoy's Grove
Bowie, Margie	McCutheon
Bramblett, Howard	Central
Bramblett, Mrs. Irene	Central
Brewer, Mrs. Nannie	McCutheon
Brown, Mrs. Sammie	Fairfield
Britt, Mrs. Olive	Hollywood
Bryant, Pauline	Hollywood
Bryant, Mrs. Stella	Cross Roads
Butler, Cecil	Wininger
Callahan, Nola	Pisgah
Callahan, Thelbert	Freedom
Campbell, Mrs. Octavia	Langston
Carter, Zula	Section
Chambers, Mrs. C. R.	Dutton
Clemens, Tempie	Scottsboro City
Coffey, Mrs. Opal	Rash
Crabtree, Gladys	New Hope
Dean, Mrs. Ida	Kyles No. 1
Dean, Mrs. W. G.	Salem

ELEMENTARY—continued

Hughes, Iva	Pisgah
Jarnigan, J. H.	Pikeville
Jarnigan, Mrs. J. H.	Shooks
Johnson, Arnold	Jones
Johnson, E. A.	Larkinsville
Johnson, Mildred	Island Creek
Jones, Mrs. Elizabeth	Stevenson
Jones, Hassie	Langston
Jones, Mrs. Mary	Stevenson
Keller, Mrs. Bessie	Bethany
Kelley, Mrs. H. A.	Bridgeport
Kent, Mrs. Gaston	Limrock
Kennamer, Bertie	Princeton
Kennamer, Mrs. Beulah	Limrock
Kennamer, Charles	Hambrick
Kennamer, Elah	Guesses Creek
Kirkpatrick, Mrs. C. H.	Princeton
Kuykendall, Lillie	Coffey
Laney, Mrs. Abbie	Chalybeate Springs
Leming, Mrs. Martha	Woodville
Loyd, Miss Allie Mae	King's Cove
Lyda, Edna	Edgefield
Lyda, Sallie	Edgefield
McConnell, Mrs. Lucille	Mt. Olive
McCoy, Berth	Shooks
McGuffey, Eloise	Woodville
McGuffey, Sadie	Hollywood
McGuffey, Vivian	Fackler
McMahan, Mrs. Geraldine	Stevenson
Mason, Aline	Bridgeport
Matthews, C. E.	Stevenson
Matthews, Hazel	Hollywood
Matthews, Ollie Ruth	Limrock

ELEMENTARY—continued

Dicus, Mrs. Belle	Temperance Hill
Elder, Mrs. Louise	Christian Home
Elliott, Mrs. Katherine	Stevenson
Emmett, Mrs. R. L.	Long Island
Evans, Iris	Skyline
Evans, Norma	New Hope
Fennell, Elizabeth	Macedonia
Fennell, Mrs. Janie	Larkinsville
Finney, Beatrice	Stevenson
Flannagan, Mrs. Esley	Paint Rock
Fossett, Chalma	Piercetown
Garren, Mrs. Elizabeth	Rosalie
Garner, William	Gray's Chapel
Glover, Mrs. Ella	Concord
Goad, Mrs. Essie	Macedonia
Graham, Mrs. Sara	Stevenson
Green, Mrs. Hugh	Larkinsville
Griffith, Jewel	Sublett
Hackworth, Mabel	Bridgeport
Hackworth, Mildred	Woodville
Hall, Mrs. Madge	Boxes Cove
Harrington, Mrs. Rebecca	Pikeville
Helms, Mrs. Annie	Natt
Henson, Pauline	Bridgeport
Hicks, Curtis	Langston
Hjeks, Dennis	Hales Cove
Hicks, Mrs. Inez	Pisgah
Hicks, Mrs. Moline	Deans Chapel
Hicks, Ronald	Coffey
Hill, A. S.	Bridgeport
Hodges, J. F.	Scottsboro City
Holder, Mrs. Emmett	Carns
Holder, Mrs. Kenneth	Rorex
Holder, Stella	Wannville

ELEMENTARY—continued

Matthews, Loraine Union Hill
 Matthews, Pauline Carns
 Maples, Mrs. Jerry Woodville
 Michaels, Mary Princeton
 Money, Edith Scottsboro City
 Moody, Ida Scottsboro City
 Moore, Mrs. Alma Flat Rock
 Moore, Mrs. Martha Nila
 Morris, Cora Bridgeport
 Nelson, Inez Tupelo
 Nichols, Mrs. Lela Section
 Nichols, Mrs. Almon Cross Roads
 Nichols, Mrs. Nellie Dutton
 O'Brien, Mrs. Iris Scottsboro City
 Oliver, Naomi Skyline
 Outlaw, Lala Patterson
 Outlaw, J. V. Patterson
 O'Shields, Lucille Paint Rock
 Page, Bernice Trenton
 Page, Mrs. Elberta Bridgeport
 Page, Wendell Scottsboro City
 Parks, Elizabeth Scottsboro City
 Patrick, Fannie Scottsboro City
 Peacock, Gussie Bridgeport
 Phillips, Mrs. Louise Section
 Powell, Mrs. Bob Dutton
 Presley, Mildred Overlook
 Prince, Kathleen Bridgeport
 Raines, Mrs. Joe Fabius
 Raney, Mrs. Vivian Princeton
 Reagan, Flossie Bridgeport
 Reed, Mrs. Esta Skyline
 Reid, Catherine Princeton

ELEMENTARY—continued

Ridley, Faye Rash
 Robinson, Mrs. W. H. Temperance Hill
 Roden, Allie Webster
 Rogers, Mrs. Jannie Bridgeport
 Rogers, Thurma Shrader
 Rudder, Mrs. Esta Tate Walnut Grove
 Rudder, Mrs. Marvin Stevenson
 Russell, Crena Bellview
 Russell, Scott Bridgeport
 Sanford, Mrs. Vivian Macedonia
 Sentell, Mrs. Pearl Rash
 Sewell, Troy Pisgah
 Shelton, Mrs. Lon Pleasant Grove
 Shelton, Lon Mt. Carmel
 Simmons, Mrs. Nola Tupelo
 Sisk, Eva Fackler
 Sizemore, J. A. Shrader
 Smith, Mrs. Annie Mt. Olive
 Smith, Louise Pisgah
 Smith, Jewell Rosalie
 Smith, Ophelia Scottsboro City
 Smith, Mrs. Ruby Lee Skyline
 Smith, Mrs. Sue Outlaw Dutton
 Smith, Mrs. W. D. Paint Rock
 Southerland, J. D. Davistown
 Southerland, Mrs. J. D. Davistown
 Spears, Mrs. Audrey Section
 Starkey, Mrs. Hula New Herman
 Staton, Tossie Macedonia
 Staton, Mrs. Vera Davistown
 Steele, Kate Crescent Hill

ELEMENTARY—continued

Stockton, Beryl Scottsboro City
 Stockton, Gertrude Temperance Hill
 Story, Ewing Trenton
 Strickland, Agee Chalybeate Springs
 Stringer, Mrs. Alta Hodge
 Stringer, Mrs. Homer Rosalie
 Stringer, Mrs. Mayon Miles Sublett
 Stubbs, Mrs. Mary Lee Scottsboro City
 Summers, Mrs. Bennie L. Pleasant Grove
 Thomas, Maude Scottsboro City
 Thomas, Mrs. Winslow Deans Chapel
 Thornbury, Thelma Poplar Springs
 Toney, Mary Sue Princeton
 Varnell, Nelson Sulphur Springs
 Varnell, Mrs. A. N. Sulphur Springs
 Vaught, Mrs. Ola Skyline
 Wallace, Bernice Scottsboro City
 Wallace, Mrs. Ada Union Hill
 Walker, Mrs. Lucy Mt. Carmel
 Walsh, Virginia River Hill
 West, Virginia Skyline
 Whitaker, Mrs. Lela Mae Paint Rock
 Wicks, Katherine Sublett
 Williams, L. C. Hodge
 Williams, Mrs. L. C. Hodge
 Williams, Thelma Pisgah
 Woodall, Mrs. Eliza Bryant
 Woodall, Omega Freedom
 Woodfin, Mrs. Ruby Sublett
 Woosley, Annie Mae Limrock
 Young, Charlsie Hytop
 Young, Mrs. Bess Rocky Springs

JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Armstrong, J. B. Bryant
 Baas, A. F. Skyline
 Black, Chas. Dutton
 Breland, Virgil Hollywood
 Butler, T. O. Section
 Cargile, David Hollywood
 Carter, Elmer Skyline
 Crow, Bessie Skyline
 Dean, W. G. Macedonia
 Hall, R. L. Princeton
 Hargiss, J. R. Flat Rock
 Hicks, Delbert Deans Chapel
 Kennamer, J. R., Jr. Limrock
 Maples, Horace Limrock
 Martin, Mrs. R. M. Princeton
 Nichols, Almon Macedonia
 Rudder, H. J. Long Island
 Rudder, Sara Paint Rock
 Ryan, Era Section
 Sewell, A. W. Mt. Olive
 Smith, W. D. Paint Rock
 Stringer, Homer Rosalie
 Thomas, Talton Skyline
 White, P. L. Dutton

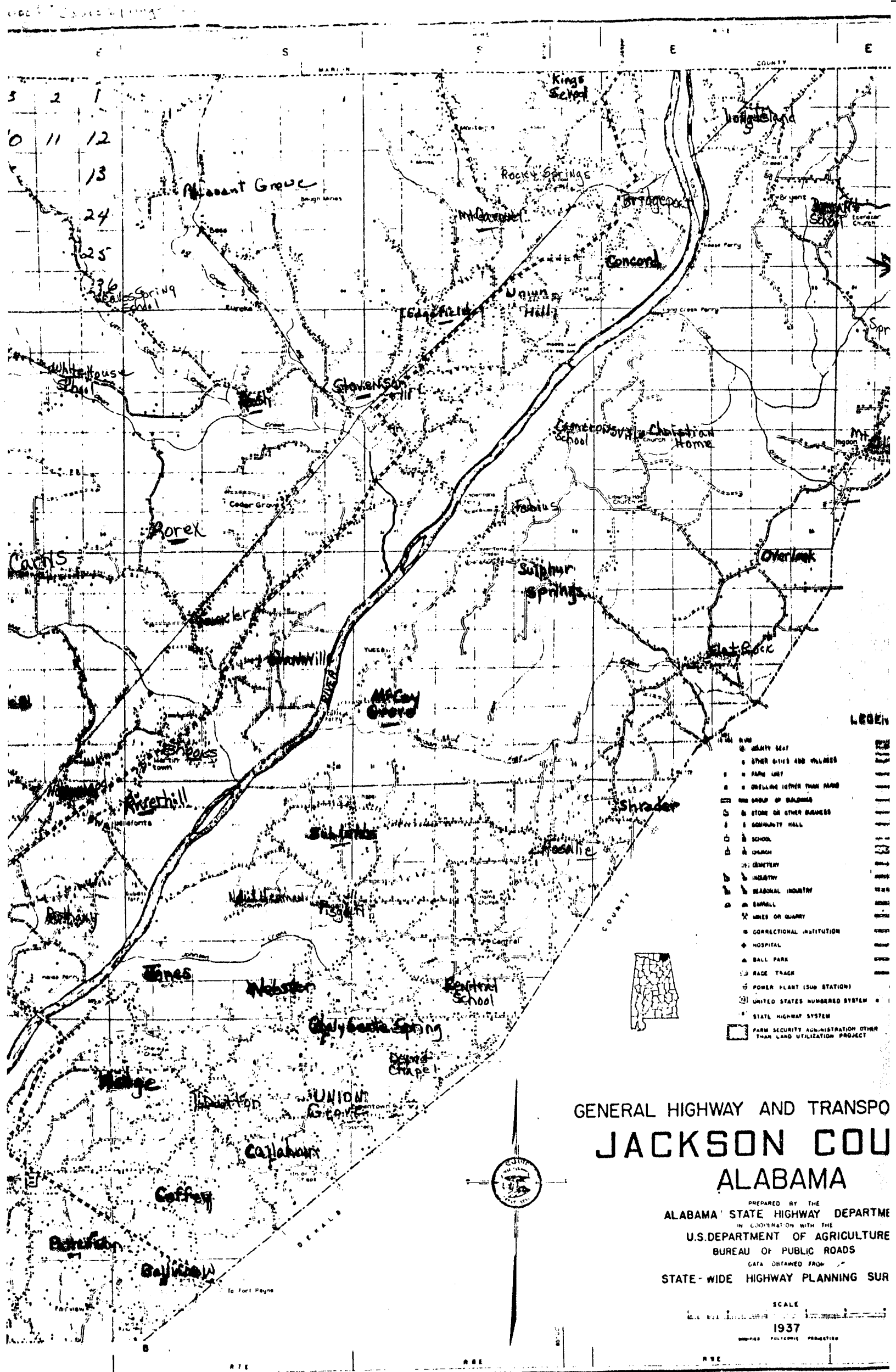
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Bailey, Mrs. Mabel J. C. H. S.
 Battle, J. A. Bridgeport
 Bogart, Matilde Stevenson High
 Borden, A. H. J. C. H. S.
 Browning, Murtha Bridgeport
 Carter, Quinnes Paint Rock Valley High
 Curray, A. C. Stevenson High
 Gonce, W. F. Bridgeport
 Gonce, Mrs. W. F. Bridgeport
 Hall, J. L. Bridgeport
 Hall, Mrs. J. L. Bridgeport
 Hallman, Charles Pisgah
 Hambrick, Mrs. Armine Hays Paint Rock Valley High
 Hayes, Mrs. Frances J. C. H. S.
 Hill, Mrs. Ruth J. C. H. S.
 Hodges, Mary June J. C. H. S.
 Holder, Mrs. Loyce Stevenson High
 Holland, Mrs. Myrtle J. C. H. S.
 Holley, G. W. Pisgah
 Hughes, Maurine Bridgeport
 Jones, Mrs. Christine J. C. H. S.
 Jones, Graydon Stevenson High
 Jones, M. H. Woodville
 Jones, Mrs. M. H. Woodville
 Lovejoy, Antionette J. C. H. S.
 McCrary, Mrs. Della J. C. H. S.
 McKelvey, Roy Woodville
 Mann, Ernestine J. C. H. S.
 Martin, Frances Pisgah
 Martin, R. W. Princeton
 Michaels, Cora Woodville

Nelson, C. P. J. C. H. S.
 O'Brien, W. G. J. C. H. S.
 Overby, Floye Pisgah
 Phillips, Harold Woodville
 Phillips, H. E. J. C. H. S.
 Pittman, Mrs. Mattie Stevenson H.
 Sanders, Bessie Stevenson High
 Sloan, William Pisgah
 Tanner, Mrs. Jewell Bridgeport
 Thomas, Coburn J. C. H. S.
 Thomas, E. G. Dutton
 Turner, Mrs. Sara Betty J. C. H. S.
 Vann Steenewyk, Mrs. Jessie Pisgah
 Wedgeworth, R. L. J. C. H. S.
 Wheeler, J. H. Pisgah
 Wheeler, Willie B. Dutton

WHERE WAS RYAN ACADEMY????

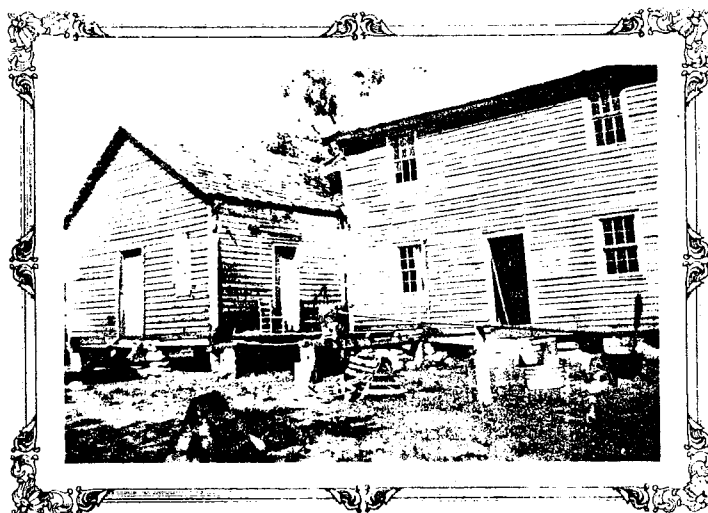
There is a reference to Ryan Academy on page 97 in the Jackson County Commissioners' Court Minute Book 1867-1884. R. H. Price, T. E. McMahan, T. B. Foster, L. B. Osborn, Wiley Parks, and H. B. Greer were appointed "to view and mark off a road leading from Stevenson by the way of Ryan Academy and T. E. McMahan to R. H. Price's farm on the Tennessee River...."(November, 1869). Therefore, Ryan Academy was located between the village of Stevenson clustered near the depot and T. E. McMahan's place - just past what is now Avondale Mills. (Source: Eliza M. Woodall)



GENERAL HIGHWAY AND TRANSPOR JACKSON COU ALABAMA

PREPARED BY THE
ALABAMA STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
IN COOPERATION WITH THE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PUBLIC ROADS
DATA OBTAINED FROM
STATE-WIDE HIGHWAY PLANNING SUR

SCALE
1:50,000
1937
UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA PRESS



The William Davis House

The William Davis House most likely was built in 1818 after William Davis moved from East Tennessee to Jackson County, Alabama, where he later bought 640 acres of land. His home was located in Maynard's Cove near the foot of Dean Ridge on its southwest side. Kate's Spring was immediately across the road in front of the Davis home. The spring which flowed from the mouth of a small cave provided year-round refrigeration for the Davis family's milk and butter.

William Davis and his eight children were born in Virginia. He served as a private in Captain Nicholas Lewis' and Colonel Lindsay's Virginia Troops under General LaFayette during the American Revolution. After the War, the Davis clan moved to East Tennessee. About 1818, William Davis and several of his married children moved their families to Jackson County, Alabama. According to 1850 census records, his grandson, Robert Tinker Proctor, was born 1815 in Tennessee, but another grandson, William Davis Holland, was born 1818 in Alabama. Family tradition relates that the Davis, Holland, and Proctor families came to Jackson County together; therefore, the 1818 birth date of William Davis Holland provides written proof these early settlers were in what became Jackson County, Alabama, by 1818.

The original part of the William Davis home, built circa 1818, was a one and one-half story, double pen, log house. (Later siding and other improvements were made.) William Davis burned native limestone to make lime for the mortice used to chink and daub between the logs. The rafters were put together with wooden pegs. The hardware for the original windows was forged in William Davis' own shop. Small port holes (for guns) were bored in the upper half story. The shakes for the roof were hand split shingles from native logs.

The house was sealed with 16" yellow poplar which was hand-planed. The floor, doors, and window casings were all white ash and were scrubbed with white sand and shuck mops to emphasize the beauty of that particular wood grain. The front porch and bannisters were of red cedar as was the pailing fence around the house.

A kitchen ell was added later as were windows with glass panes bought in Winchester, Tennessee. The shake siding visible in the picture above most likely was added after the introduction of the band saw circa 1840. The above picture was made in 1936 by Misses Jessie and Lucy Bynum and is used herein through the courtesy of Miss Jessie. The original shake shingles on the kitchen roof and the porch between the kitchen ell and the main house are readily visible.

William Davis was born in 1753 in Hanover County, Virginia, and died August 19, 1848 in Jackson County, Alabama. He and his

wife, Mary Ann (Black) Pogue Davis are buried in the Proctor Cemetery in Maynards Cove.

The homesite of one of Jackson County's earliest settlers was razed in the early 1950s. The property on which it stood is now owned by Ms. Ora B. Cornelison.

Reference Sources: 1850 Jackson County Census Records
William Davis' application for Revolutionary War pension
Will Book K for estate settlement of Wm. Davis in Jackson County, Alabama
Personal Interview by the Editor with Mrs. Clarence (Bertha Cunningham) Kirby on January 15, 1979 (Mrs. Kirby is a descendant of William Davis.)

NOTE BY EDITOR: Mrs. Eliza Mae Woodall agreed to share her material on education/schools in Stevenson, specifically on the William and Emma Austin College. However, the mails were too slow for her contribution to reach your Editor by publication deadline. Therefore, Mrs. Woodall's material will be forthcoming in the next edition of "The Jackson County Chronicles." Hopefully, by that time, someone else will volunteer to share data on other schools in the Stevenson area. Who can help us with the White House School in Big Coon?

PRIVATE SCHOOL IN STEVENSON

Mrs. James L. (Lizzie Pearl) Armstrong taught a private school in Stevenson in the early days of that town. Three of her known pupils were Mae Alston Rosser and Annie and Emma Russell. Can you identify others? Mrs. James L. Armstrong is the grandmother of two of our members, Mrs. Gene Henninger and Ms. Kathryn Armstrong.

Jackson County Historical Association
P.O. Box 638
Scottsboro, Alabama 35768

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Jackson County

CHRONICLES

CHRONICLES NO. NINETEEN

JULY 2, 1979

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Our thanks to Mrs. Gene Henninger for the most interesting program she arranged for our last meeting. We had an excellent attendance from our membership.

Some of our members have been working extremely hard in the compilation of information and documentation regarding buildings in the proposed Historical District in downtown Scottsboro. The task is not insurmountable, but the deadline is approaching shortly. If you have any information regarding the history of any building in this proposed District, please get it to Mrs. John Proctor or to Mr. Dennis Griffin at the Scottsboro City Planner's office. We need your assistance!

I want to express the gratitude of this Association to Kathryn Armstrong for a recent contribution she made to the Association in memory of Mr. Rosser Alston. Mr. Alston's contribution to the history of Jackson County has endeared him to those of our membership who were fortunate enough to know him.

We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on July 15. If you have not been receiving your Chronicles regularly, or if you know of a member who has not, please get the current address to me at the meeting.

Bouquets to Ann Chambless for another scholarly and very interesting article which appears in this "Chronicles." It is worthy of preserving.

BOB HODGES, PRESIDENT

PROGRAM MEETING - JULY 15, 1979 - 2:30 p.m.

The Jackson County Historical Association will meet Sunday, July 15, 1979, 2:30 p.m. at Scottsboro City Hall Auditorium. Mrs. Gene Henninger, Program Vice President, has another interesting program planned. All members are encouraged to bring a friend who enjoys learning more about the history of Jackson County.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD WILL MEET ON JULY 15, at 2:00 p.m., JUST PRIOR TO THE REGULAR PROGRAM MEETING.

You still have time to pay your dues; just mail your check to:

Jackson County Historical Association
Mrs. Alice Ruth Page
Route One - Box 234
Woodville, Alabama 35776

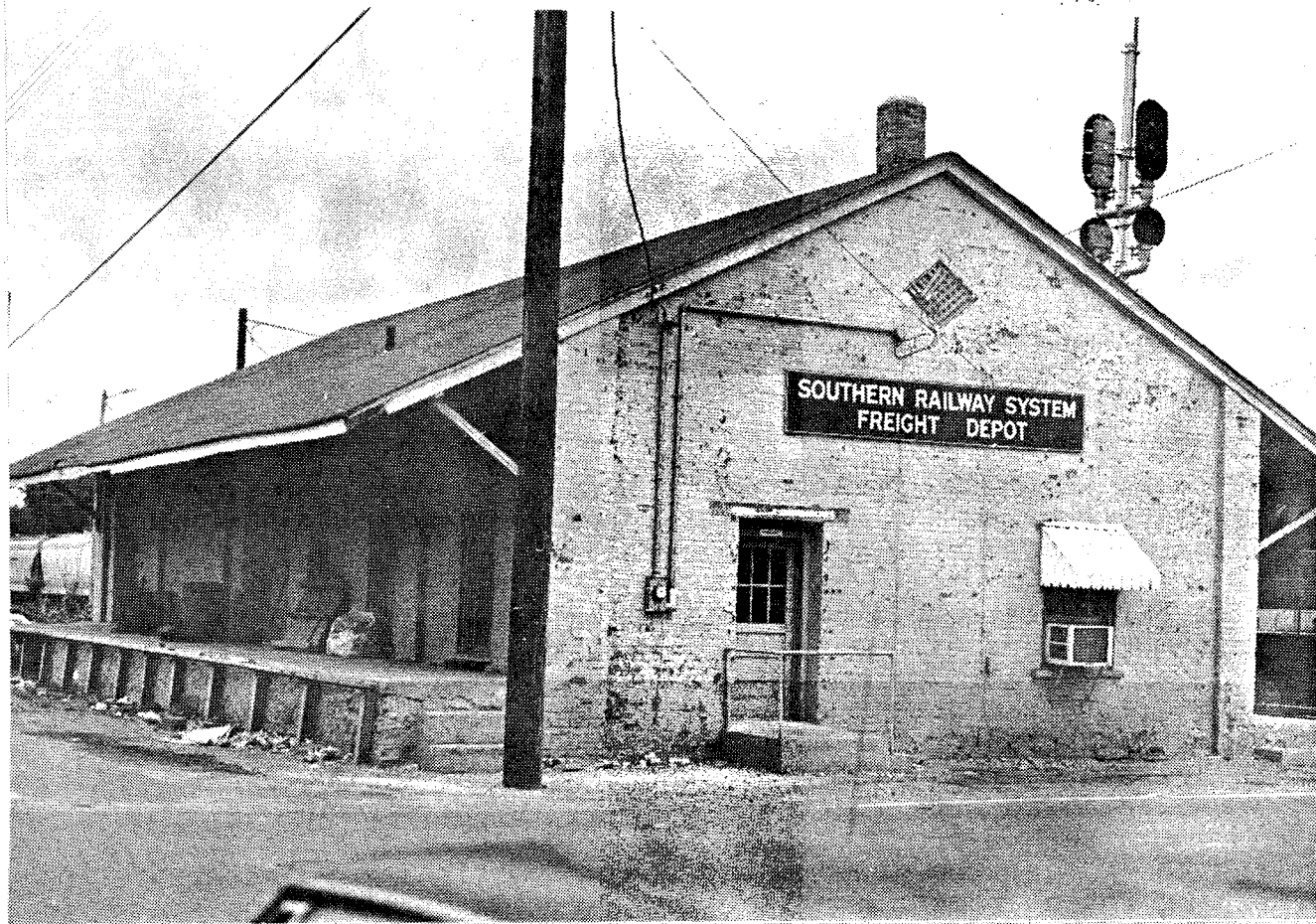
REGULAR MEMBERSHIP - \$7.50
LIFE MEMBERSHIP - \$100.00
MEMORIALS - \$100.00

Please provide: NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

(Our 98 members who have paid their dues, please disregard the above.)

Membership entitles you to receive the quarterly publication, "Jackson County Chronicles", mailed approximately ten days prior to our quarterly meetings in January, April, July, and October.

NOTE OF APPRECIATION: Your editor is most grateful to Mrs. Bob (Sharon) Hodges for typing all material for this edition of The Jackson Chronicles.



SCOTTSBORO FREIGHT DEPOT

The Scottsboro Freight Depot was started in late 1860 and was completed in 1861, at a total cost of \$2000. This makes Southern Railway's brick building at the corner of Houston and Maple Streets the first brick building erected in Scottsboro and Scottsboro's oldest known business house in continuous existence today.

On March 8, 1856, the Memphis and Charleston Railroad completed its connection between Decatur and Stevenson, Alabama - 83.2 miles. From 1852 until 1858, Scott's Mill was used to denote what became Scottsboro. The July 1, 1857, report to Memphis and Charleston stockholders states: "Fountain water stations have been obtained at Stevenson and Scott's Mill.....Most of the water station fixtures are still temporary." By 1859 report date, Scottsboro was used.

The Memphis and Charleston minutes indicate that the original depots in smaller towns and villages served as combined freight and passenger houses, and such was the case in Scottsboro until 1892 when a separate passenger depot was completed.

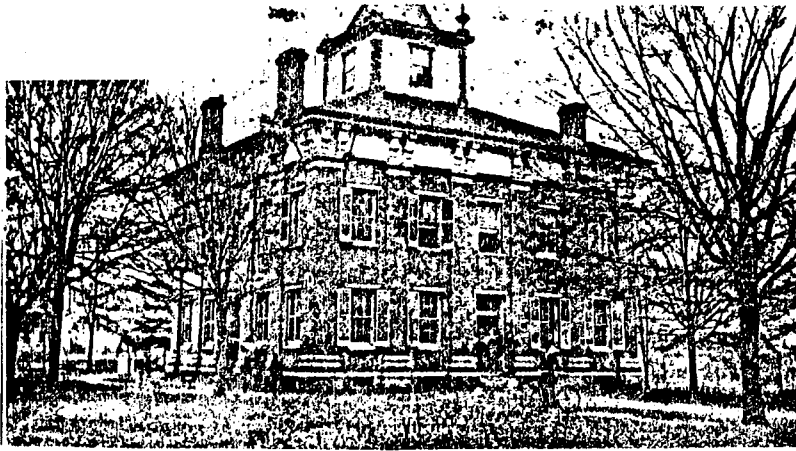
That the Scottsboro Freight Depot withstood the ravages of the Civil War is proved by the Memphis & Charleston report dated July 1, 1866, (No reports were published during the war period from July 1, 1861, to July 1, 1866.): "The depots at Dixon, Cherokee, Barton, Paint Rock, SCOTTSBORO, and Stevenson and the passenger house at Decatur have been more or less repaired." (The depots at Larkinsville and Bellefonte were destroyed during the War and had to be rebuilt.)

On November 3, 1870, the Scottsboro Industrial Herald reported that "The R.R. Company has been making improvements at station property and covering the Depot anew the last few days."

In 1885, the Scottsboro Freight Depot was remodeled, but no details or cost figures were given in the report to stockholders for that period. In 1895, the Memphis & Charleston was in receivership, but the company published a report that year on all buildings owned. Scottsboro Passenger Depot was reported in good condition, but the Scottsboro Freight Depot "needed repairs and painting."

The Scottsboro Freight Depot is our strongest asset in the package being prepared to define the Historic District of Scottsboro.

REFERENCE for above article written and researched by Ann B. Chambliss:
Microfilm in Huntsville Public Library of Memphis and Charleston
Railroad Company Annual Reports to Stockholders and Board of Directors,
(1852-1898)



THIS PICTURE OF JACKSON COUNTY
COURT HOUSE MADE IN 1900

Jackson County Court House
by Ann B. Chambless

Jackson County, Alabama, was created on December 13, 1819. Forty-nine years later, Scottsboro was incorporated and became the county seat the same year--1868.¹ From the beginning, the single, most important building in Scottsboro has been the Jackson County Court House. All other growth factors have been secondary to the controversial legislation which made Scottsboro Jackson County's second permanent seat of justice.

On Saturday, September 5, 1868, the Commissioner's Court met in Bellefonte with David Tate, Judge of the Probate Court, William Stockton, T. J. Mitchell, R. A. Coffey, and Alexander Reed present. A vote was taken on the subject of relocating the county site "by yeas and nays," and the following is an exact record of the vote:

"William Stockton	For Scottsboro
Thomas J. Mitchell	
Alexander H. Reed	

R. A. Coffey	For Cowan Spring"
--------------	-------------------

"The Judge then declared that Scottsboro was duly elected the county site for Jackson County."

Mr. J. R. Kennamer's interpretation of this vote was quoted almost verbatim by Jerry Gist; therefore, both wrote in their historical publications that "there is no record of the vote of T. J. Mitchell and Alexander Reed." However, this writer feels strongly that although the clerk entered "For Scottsboro" only once, Mitchell and Reed actually cast their vote "For Scottsboro" just as Stockton did. These three names are grouped and share a common entry, the "For Scottsboro" vote.

The only commissioner who voted for a site other than Scottsboro is set apart by sufficient blank space in the clerk's written minutes to show that his vote was different to his three counterparts.

These 1868-69 minutes are formally written and reflect the use of parliamentary procedure in every action. A skilled parliamentarian would point out that a governing body such as this would have required a chairman, and, in the case of a tie vote, the chairman necessarily would have voted to break the tie.

If Mitchell and Reed had declined to vote, then as chairman, Judge Tate would have been required to break the 1-1 vote by Stockton and Coffey. However, the vote surely was 3-1, and the clerk merely used the grouping format to record the vote in the interest of time, convenience, and neatness. Little did the clerk realize his chosen format would produce this lengthy discussion after his ink had dried 111 years.

Note: Thomas J. Mitchell was a large land owner in Dry Cove and lived closer to Scottsboro than either of his three counterparts--even closer than William Stockton. Mitchell and his constituents were in a locality destined to reap the most personal benefits if Scottsboro became the new county site. Therefore, it seems unreasonable to visualize Mitchell voting for any location other than Scottsboro.

On September 10, 1868, the Jackson County Commissioners met, in Bellefonte, and selected "the ground south of and near Andy Whitworth . . . as the point for erection of the county buildings."² G. W. Stovall was immediately directed to lay off said lands in Scottsboro according to the directions of the Court of Commissioners."³ Land for the county buildings was donated by the heirs of Robert T. Scott who also gave the county every other lot in what became the public square surrounding the court house.⁴

The county records were moved from Bellefonte to Scottsboro in November of 1868, and were housed in temporary quarters while the first court house in Scottsboro was being built.⁵ Probate Judge David Tate occupied "the new brick built by M. V. Conley" just south of the Memphis & Charleston Railroad about one-half block from the depot.⁶

On April 12, 1869, the County Commissioners ordered that: "David Tate be and is allowed the sum of \$80 moneys paid by him to M. Conley for the rent of the brick office during the four months it was used or contracted for by the Commissioners Court and also the allowance paid on said office until January 1, 1870."⁷

In February, 1869, the Probate and Circuit Court Clerks' offices built by Jason H. Dicus were accepted and received by the Commissioners who authorized the County Treasurer to pay Dicus \$225 for said house out of the court house funds.⁸ On February 26, 1869, the court ordered that J. P. Barclay be allowed \$14 for building two stove chimneys to county offices. About the same time, James Skelton received \$16 for a stove purchased for the Circuit Clerk's office, and Marion Miller was allowed \$8 for making two tables for use of Probate Judge's office.⁹

On January 5, 1869, Judge David Tate and County Treasurer Nelson Kyle had been authorized to contract for the building of a house on the public square 40 feet by 20 feet for the sum of \$200 out of funds set apart for court house purposes.¹⁰

Newspaper accounts indicate that Judge Tate moved into this new double office building on the public square, but his stay here was shortlived because the County Commissioners sold the 20 x 40 building on the square to John D. Boren. In the April 8, 1869, edition of The Southern Industrial Herald, the editor reported that Judge Tate would soon move the probate records back to "the Brick House formerly occupied by him" which he (Tate) had rented from M. V. Conley.

In the meantime, A. J. Huggins was allowed the sum of \$25 paid out by him for office rent for the circuit clerk and sheriff up to November 1, 1869.¹¹ The same day, A. J. Huggins was reimbursed \$2.50 for money expended to purchase a desk for use by the circuit clerk.¹²

In November of 1869, Thomas J. Wood received \$20 for house rent for court house during the Fall Term of the Court.¹³ At that time the only building in Scottsboro large enough for a courtroom would have been the first school building in the village. The building faced Chestnut Street (north of the railroad) and was purchased by T. J. Windes in 1868 from Mrs. R. T. Scott.¹⁴ In this two-story building, T. J. Windes established the first Scottsboro High School in 1868, and then sold same to Thomas J. Wood in 1869.¹⁵ Mr. T. J. Wood was a Methodist minister and a school teacher, and conducted the school after Mr. Windes left Scottsboro in 1869. Mr. Wood also allowed the village residents use of his building for church services until the "Brick Church" was built in 1870 on the corner of Laurel and Caldwell Streets.¹⁶

The October 22, 1868, edition of The Jackson County Herald carried the first public notice requesting bids for a plan "for the erection of a Court House in the town of Scottsboro." Prospective bidders were to submit their plans by November 16 (1868) to Probate Judge David Tate at Bellefonte, Alabama.

In November (1868), the Jackson County Commissioners authorized the Probate Judge to correspond with Matt W. Steel and request him to furnish "a plan and a drawing for a court house not to exceed \$15,000, provided his charge for the drawing is reasonable."¹⁷ Evidently Mr. Steel's reply was negative or unsatisfactory, as on December 15, 1868, the Commissioners authorized John D. Boren to draft a plan and specifications for a courthouse.¹⁸ The records state Mr. Boren was to be paid a reasonable compensation for same.

On the same day, the Probate Judge was ordered to levy a special tax of 25% on all state and county taxes already being collected by his office. The special tax was to be set aside for building the courthouse.¹⁹

About three weeks later on January 4, 1869, "plans and specifications drawn up and presented by A. M. Bradley were adopted as the plan for the erection of the Court House for said County."²⁰ The next day (Jan. 5, 1869), A. M. Bradley was employed to superintend the building of the court house at a salary of \$75 per month, "said Bradley agreeing to furnish the plans and specifications gratis."²¹ The Court was to notify Mr. Bradley later when his services were to begin.

The January 7, 1869, Southern Industrial Herald carried the following notice:

Notice to Mechanics

"The undersigned Commissioners of Jackson County, Alabama will receive at the office of the Judge of Probate of said County at Scottsboro up to the 2nd Monday in February, 1869, bids for the erection of a Court House for the said County of Jackson in the said town of Scottsboro. The said Court House is to be:

50 feet and 8 inches square, from outside to outside and made of good hard burned brick. The Court House of Limestone County, Alabama, at Athens, being the model. The entire structure is to be made under the superintendence of A. M. Bradley who is in our employ for that purpose.

Persons desiring to offer bids can find all the specifications at the office of the Probate Judge in Scottsboro. They are too voluminous to copy, and all persons interested are requested to come and examine them for themselves.

Rice A. Coffey

Alex Reid

Comm.

T. J. Mitchell

William Stockton

Scottsboro, Alabama, January 5, 1869."

The Commissioners had stipulated in their January 5, 1869, session that the above notice should be published in The Southern Industrial Herald and The Huntsville Advocate.²² The bids were to be opened on the 2nd Monday in February and prospective bidders were to use the Limestone County Court House at Athens, Alabama as a model.²³

On January 7, 1869, the editor of The Southern Industrial Herald commented on the Commissioner's choice of A. M. Bradley of Madison County by stating: "It is said Mr. B. erected the Limestone County Court House which is selected as a model. He is recommended by many prominent gentlemen from Huntsville and elsewhere as being preeminently qualified to conduct successfully the important enterprise to a successful termination. The Commissioners have ceased to ponder and hesitate, and seem determined to prosecute the work with spirit and energy."

Obviously something transpired between January 5 and March 10, 1869, which negated A. M. Bradley's contract with the Jackson County Commissioners. No specific written explanation has been found to-date (4-25-79), but it appears that his services may not have been needed after the Commissioners accepted the bid of John D. Boren of Stevenson, Alabama. As early as February 18, 1869, The Southern Industrial Herald reported as follows:

"The bid of Mr. Boren, of Stevenson, \$24,500, was accepted for the erection of the Court House by the Commissioners during their term this week. We did not get a copy of the minutes in time for publication." Note: The closing date for bids was the 2nd Monday in February which would have been the 9th. It appears the Commissioners accepted Mr. Boren's bid within ten days after the closing date. Possibly Mr. Boren's qualifications were equal to Mr. Bradley's and Boren's bid was the lower of the two. The only other bid discussed in the Commissioners minutes was that of a Mr. Hammond of Georgia. Although Hammond's bid was \$3500 lower than Boren's, the majority of the Commissioners voted to award the contract to Boren. The price difference was due to the two different methods proposed for obtaining/making brick for the courthouse. Mr. Boren must have impressed the majority of the Commissioners with his qualifications and past experience. The contract language Boren presented in the Commissioners' minutes is indicative of a man very knowledgeable in his trade, of a master mechanic as he would have been called in 1869.

On March 10, 1869, the Commissioners officially entered into a contract with John Boren in the amount of \$24,500 for the building of the Court House.²⁴ As Superintendent, Mr. Boren was authorized to employ the services of General H. H. Higgins, at the expense of the County, whenever the Superintendent should require the assistance of an architect.²⁵ Later General Higgins was complimented several times in Scottsboro newspapers for his expertise in the building of both the Limestone and Jackson County Court Houses.

Mr. Boren's estimate included the use of 400,000 brick at \$15 per 1000.²⁶ Since there were no brick manufacturers in Scottsboro at that time, Mr. Boren began "erecting sheds" and set up his own brickyard. On July 15, 1869, editor Alex Snodgrass

wrote of his recent visit to Mr. Boren's brickyard "in company with that distinguished architect, Gen. Higgins of Athens." Mr. Snodgrass further stated: "General H. is the author of the plan of the courthouse at Athens. He has been employed by our Commissioners and Mr. Boren jointly to superintend the building. He assures us that the material here is superior to almost any to be found anywhere and that the facilities of which Mr. B. has availed himself in the way of improved machinery meets every want and insures perfect success. Gen Higgins compliments Mr. Boren highly-- says he is making better brick than he ever saw from Philadelphia, Boston, or Baltimore; that his preparations are more perfect and his executions better than at any establishment in Nashville, Memphis, or Huntsville. Mr. Boren has procured the services of Gen. Higgins to lay up these brick. So, with this strong combination of favorable circumstances, we may expect a courthouse that will be a credit to our county."

The first incremental payment of \$5,000 was to be paid Mr. Boren on January 1, 1870.

In March, 1869, the Commissioners ordered the Probate Court to assess and collect a Special Tax of 33% on the State and County tax already being collected for 1869.²⁷ The Commissioners raised the Special Tax set aside for court house purposes to 66-2/3% of the State Tax for the year 1870.²⁸ So the Special Tax was eventually raised from the original rate of 25% to 66-2/3%.

In addition to the lots donated by the Scott heirs, two other Scottsboro promoters, John Whitfield and Thomas J. Wood, also made sizable land donations to the county.²⁹ However, Scottsboro did not experience an immediate growth "boom," and the lots sold very slowly at the first public auctions. Money was still very scarce in this area in 1868-1869. Therefore, since the Special Tax and lot sales did not provide sufficient funds to finance the courthouse project within the contract time-frame, the Commissioners sold \$5000 in county bonds at 8% interest. The bonds were to be paid out of taxes collected for that year and were due and payable "on the 1st day of January next." On July 15, 1869, The Southern Industrial Herald announced that the following "were willing to accommodate and encourage Mr. Borin" and had "faith in the ability of the County" and had purchased bonds in the amounts specified:

Reverend Thomas J. Wood	\$300
Jordon & Brown	400
Miles & James Moody	200
John Snodgrass	200
Mrs. Mary J. Kyle	500
Hon. David Tate	200
Hugh Shelton	200
M. P. Brown	500
J. & N. Skelton	200

On August 26, 1869, editor Alex Snodgrass announced in The Southern Industrial Herald that "Mr. Boren is preparing to lay the foundation of the Court House. The brick have been burning for some time." In a previous article in June, Mr. Snodgrass commented on the fact that Mr. Boren had visited brickyards in Nashville and

Huntsville and had bought the latest equipment and made extensive preparations for the brick making. At that time, Mr. Snodgrass called Mr. Boren "the right man in the right place."

In August, Editor A. Snodgrass reported: "A suggestion has been made that it would be appropriate for our people to prepare for a collection of people and proper demonstration at the laying of the Corner Stone."

Of the 66 white adult males listed on the 1870 census for the Scottsboro area, 18 were carpenters (John Boren included), 3 were brick masons, 3 were plasterers, and 2 were painters. There were 14 merchants/clerks, 3 physicians, 7 lawyers, 2 hotel proprietors, 1 silversmith, 3 wagonmakers, 2 blacksmiths, and 8 other non-construction trades listed. Therefore, in 1870, approximately 40% of Scottsboro's male population most likely were employed by Mr. Boren in the building of the Court House. Many of these men are known to have come here for that specific purpose and were living in the 2 hotels or boarding in private homes in 1870.

On March 28, 1871, Editor Alex Snodgrass reported that Mr. Boren was rapidly finishing the inside of the Court House and that the April term of Circuit Court would be held in the new court room.

According to editor Snodgrass, architect Higgins had stated "it was most rare that a workman comes up so fully and completely to the design as Mr. Boren had." General Higgins stated "the cupola on the Jackson Co. Court House was worth more by \$500 than another erected after the same plan."

The new Court House was the pride of the County. Not only was it the nicest building in Jackson County, it was also considered one of the finest court house buildings in Alabama in the 1870's.

"Tis no wonder the editor showed obvious personal grief and remorse in reporting: "Our Court House in Ashes!" on 2-20-1879, in The Alabama Herald.

The Alabama Herald
2-20-1879

Our Court House in Ashes!

The beautiful temple of justice that just nine years ago cost the people of Jackson County \$25,000, today lies in charred ruins and mouldering ashes! Just after dawn this morning the cupola was discovered to be on fire, and soon it was a lurid mass against the gray morning sky; the flames soon reached the roof of the main building and then all knew that the total destruction of the handsome public edifice would be the final work of the fire fiend. When the excited crowd saw this, the work of saving the archives began; all the county papers were saved, but were piled about so promiscuously that it will take Judge Kyle months of labor to get them straightened out. The furniture in all the office rooms was dragged out and Hon. G. D. Campbell who had his law office in the building is the only person who lost papers and furniture by the fire. The Court House was the pride of our County and was one of the finest in Alabama; and it is a great misfortune to our people that it is destroyed.

The Court House was discovered to be on fire yesterday afternoon, but it was extinguished. The fire was under the roof near the cupola on both occasions when discovered. We have neither time, space, nor inclination to dwell upon the circumstances of the burning at present. We are averse to the theory that it was the work of an incendiary, and will give our reasons next week, unless we are led to a different conclusion.

The Alabama Herald
2-27-1879

The best informed men we have on such matters are of the opinion that the walls of the Court House can be repaired so as to be successfully used by taking down a small portion of the top, and we hear expression to the purport that \$6000 will give us a better Court House with some desirable changes than we had before the fire.

We have availed ourselves of all information we can get and are confirmed in our opinion that the burning of the Court House was accidental.

The Jackson County Court House was restored to its original splendor as quickly as possible. On March 11, 1879, the Commissioners Court composed of Probate Judge Nelson Kyle, C. C. Spiller, Preston Brown, E. R. English, and James Jordon, voted to repair the Court House "upon the same plan it was originally finished with the following exceptions:

1. Leave off the galery in the Court Room
2. Seal all the rooms overhead instead of plastering as in original
3. Leave off the cupola and instead thereof have erected on top a base 16 feet square high with a dome on the top of said base 10 feet high and the Court Room to be arranged and seated as may be hereafter agreed upon."

William Whitworth (the builder and first owner of the Maples House) was employed as the "master mechanic" to superintend the repairs including both the wood and brick work. His wages were set at \$2.50 per day, and he had the authority to employ and discharge (for good cause) the workers.³⁰

Judge Kyle and James Jordon were authorized to procure the necessary repair materials, and they both made several out-of-town trips to expedite shipments and to secure the materials at the lowest prices possible.³¹

The cost of rebuilding totaled approximately \$3500. The County Commissioners were praised for "not letting it out at contract" and an article in the August 8, 1879, edition of The Scottsboro Citizen stated: "They (the Commissioner's Court) have been instrumental in saving a good deal to Jackson County."

On November 28, 1879, the editor of The Scottsboro Citizen reported:
"The Court House shines in all of its former glory and magnificence."

This building served the people of Jackson County until 1913 when a new building was built, but that is another story.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

Editor's Note: The article above was written by Ann B. Chambless based on research over a two-year period. Hopefully, this material along with other historical facts about Jackson County can be published by your Editor as time permits.

Footnotes:

1. Acts of the Ala. Legislature, Session of 1818, p. 93, and Sessions of July, Sept., Nov., 1868, pp. 474-477.
2. Jackson Co. Comm. Minute Book (unnumbered), 1868-69, p.56.
Note: In 1868, Andy Whitworth owned the west half of the entire block between Willow/Broad/Railroad/Market Streets. (W. J. Word Lumber Co. occupies most of this same area in 1979.)
3. Ibid., p.56. (Note: G. W. Stovall and Thomas Boyd Foster were elected County Surveyors on 9-5-1868. By Feb., 1869, G. W. Stovall had completed his contract for surveying and laying off the lots and the County Comm. authorized payment to Mr. Stovall for the sum of \$105.)

4. Jackson Co. Deed Book 3, p.564-565. (Note: The first public auction for sale of lots donated by the Scott family was held on the 2nd Monday in December, 1868⁽¹⁴⁾ Jackson County Comm. used proceeds from sale of lots to help finance county building program.)
5. Jackson County Comm. Minutes, 1868-1869, p.65. (Note: Parties employed included James Rosson, John Hargess, James Skelton, Jo Hoggs, and Charley Davis who were to receive an aggregate sum of \$15 for transportation of all county books, paper, and furniture from Bellefonte to Scottsboro by Nov. 14, 1868.)
6. The Jackson Co. Herald, Nov. 19, 1868
Jackson Co. Deed Book 5, p.24-25
7. Jackson Co. Comm. Minutes 1868-1869, p.83.
8. Ibid., p.80
9. Ibid., p.101
10. Ibid., p.71
11. Ibid., p.99
12. Ibid., p.99
13. Ibid., p. 101
14. Jackson County, Ala. Deed Book 3, p.587
15. Jackson County, Ala. Deed Book 4, p.124-126
16. Unpublished manuscript of Elizabeth Snodgrass written circa 1900. Elizabeth Snodgrass recalled a large bell which stood in front of this church/school building. In the early days in village of Scottsboro, stray cows were tied to this early landmark and Ms. Snodgrass recalled hearing the bell ring all night on many such occasions.
17. Jackson Co. Comm. Minutes, 1868-1869, p.63.
18. Ibid., p.68
19. Ibid., p.68
20. Ibid., p.70
21. Ibid., p.70
22. Ibid., p.71
23. Ibid., p.71
24. Ibid., p.81
25. Ibid., p.93
26. Ibid., p.95
27. Ibid., p.88
28. Ibid., p.118
29. Jackson County, Ala. Deed Book 3, pages 563 and 566.
30. Jackson County Commissioners Court Minutes, 1878-79, p.41
31. Ibid., p.41

CONGRATULATIONS to PATTY JOHNSTONE who is our second LIFE MEMBER!
Life memberships are conveyed upon a \$100.00 donation to the Jackson
County Historical Association.

SCHOOLS IN THE STEVENSON AREA

by Mrs. Eliza B. Woodall
of Nashville, TN.

Names of schools in the pre-Civil War times in the Stevenson area are hard to discover. T. Boyd Foster wrote in his memoirs that he came to Alabama from Franklin County, Tennessee, and taught one term at Bolivar in 1834. By 1840 he was teaching at Pleasant Grove in Crow Creek Valley. He then taught several terms further up the Valley in Tennessee before moving to Sand Mountain where he taught five terms at Munday's Chapel. And therein lies a clue about the names of early schools; in those days church buildings were used during the week for the short sessions of school.

The 1850 census lists two school teachers near the future site of Stevenson: John Shirley, living near Bolivar, and John Hall, living next door to the widow of Col. Charles Maclin Cross. It is presumed their schools would have been nearby. In the 1850's, Presley G. Griffin taught a school "at Collins Spring" according to Elder John A. Cargile who wrote that he attended that school along with "the Tally boys, the McMahan boys, the Jacoway boys, and my cousins".¹ In 1860, Richard Eulerick was living near Collins Spring and was listed on the census as a teacher.

On page 97 in the Jackson County Commissioners' Court Minute Book, 1867-1884, is a reference to Ryan Academy. R. H. Price, T. E. McMahan, T. B. Foster, L. B. Osborn, Wiley Parks, and H. B. Greer were appointed "to view and mark off a road leading from Stevenson by the way of Ryan Academy and T. E. McMahan to R. H. Price's farm on the Tennessee River..." (November, 1869). So Ryan Academy was located between the village of Stevenson clustered near the depot and T. E. McMahan's place--just past what is now Avondale Mills.

Col. W. Krzyzanowski, United States Military Agent, left in charge at Stevenson after hostilities ceased in the War Between the States, had erected a new building that housed a church on the first floor and the Masonic Lodge on the second. This building was on the hill behind what is now Bogart's Dry Goods Store. School held in the church was known locally as "Goat Hill School" because goats roamed the hill and even slept under the building at night. This may have been the "public school" mentioned in a news item in the July 12, 1887, issue of The Stevenson Chronicle which stated, "The public school opened in the old church here yesterday with Miss Alice Wimberley, an accomplished and experienced teacher in charge."

William and Emma Austin College

In The Alabama Herald, February 14, 1878, A. Snodgrass, editor, states

¹In Eliza Mae Woodall's book on Stevenson, she has deciphered the names of all these boys.

that the William and Emma Austin College was the "first house erected for the especial purpose of school ever built on Jackson County soil." This statement lends further support to the conjecture that the earlier schools were held in churches or private homes.

The College was a two-storied brick building which sat on land donated by the Quarterly Conference, Stevenson Circuit, Huntsville District, North Alabama Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. The first trustees of the school were J. F. Martin, T. & M. McMahan, W. M. Cowan, M. Graham, I. P. Russel, H. H. Hopkins, and W. P. Derick.

It is tradition that William A. Austin, merchant at Rash and Stevenson, contributed generously to the building of the school with the stipulation that it be named for him and his wife, the former Elvira Emmaline Saunders. However, both William and Emma died before the school opened; it fell to their daughter, Sarah, to pay over the sum promised by her father.

The first session of the school began in February, 1878, with Prof. A. F. Moore as President and also Professor of Mathematics and the Sciences. P. V. Livingston was Professor of Languages, Mrs. Lizzie Alston was in charge of the Primary Department, and Miss Angie Paine was the Teacher of Music.

In January, 1878, Prof. Moore had the following advertisement in newspapers:

"This institution, for the education of both sexes, is located at Stevenson, Alabama...The college building, recently erected, is of brick, tasteful and convenient in construction, and spacious enough to accomodate two hundred students...

Rate of Tuition for Twenty Weeks - Primary Department
Spelling, Reading, Writing, Orthography, Primary Geography,
Primary Arithmetic (sic), and Drawing -----\$10.00

Preparatory Department
Orthography, Reading, Penmanship, Geography, English Grammer,
Arithmetic (sic), United States History, English Composition,
Declamation and Drawing -----\$15.00

Collegiate Department -----\$20.00
Music, on Piano or Organ -----\$20.00
Music, on Guitar-----\$12.00
Use of Piano for Practice -----\$ 5.00"

Fees were payable at the close of the session; however, a 10% reduction would be made to those paying in advance. Mention was made also that board, lodging, bed, furniture, and fuel could be secured in good homes for ten dollars per month.

A. Snodgrass attended the closing exercises of the first session and reported:

"Our candid judgment is that many of the pupils made extraordinary progress for the first five months... All in all, the examinations and manifestations were a flattering comment upon the faculty, pupils and parents..."

The names of only three of the 75 pupils enrolled in that first session are known: Joanna Russell, Herschel Hudson (from Maynard's Cove), and George Alley who had formerly attended Sequatchie College.

In 1898, the school discontinued its collegiate department and became a preparatory school only. Records show that the head of the institution was still called President as late as the 1900's. Some of the early Presidents were:

1878	A. F. Moore
1881-82	A. F. Dix
1883	_____Phillips
1884-98	W. M. Gross
1900	C. E. Baxter
1901	J. C. Bryant

Other headmasters included Sheffy Roller, A. Samuel Abernathy, _____ Davis, James K. Stone, Harvey McGlothlin, N. Hosmer Price, and James Willis.

In 1914, a notice appeared in The Stevenson Chronicle that sounded the knell for William and Emma Austin College:

A meeting of stockholders and Trustees of William and Emma Austin College is called to be held at the First National Bank in Stevenson, Alabama, on Friday, June 19, 1914, at 3:00 P.M. for the purpose of electing Trustees and authorizing the sale of the property, namely The William and Emma Austin College to the town of Stevenson, Alabama.

P. B. Timberlake, Chairman of Board of Trustees
I. P. Russell, Jr., Secretary

The sale presumably was consummated; the institution became a public school and the minutes of the Jackson County Board of Education for March 11, 1916, show that the trustees elected for School District #89 (Stevenson) were J. L. Armstrong, E. K. Mann, and C. W. Potts. The teachers for 1916-17 were N. Hosmer Price, principal, Mattie Cargile, Ora Devers, and Mary Goodlett. James C. Dixon was the principal in 1917-18, and in 1919 Mattie Cargile assumed the helm for four years.

In 1923, the institution became Stevenson Grammer School with grades one through six, seven through eleven going to Stevenson High School in a new building south of town. The first principal of the Grammer School was Mrs. "Pixie" Alspaugh, Miss Mattie Cargile going to the High School.

The venerable old College building was razed in 1938 and the campus became the extension of Stevenson City Cemetery.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The article above is just a "taste" of the much more detailed information to be found in Mrs. Woodall's book on the History of Stevenson. Eliza Mae, we all ANXIOUSLY await the publication of your book!

Pleasant Grove School

(Crow Creek Valley) by Eliza Mae B. Woodall

Pleasant Grove community had a school as early as 1840 when T. Boyd Foster taught there.

In 1887, the trustees advertised for bids to erect a new school building and to move the old schoolhouse to the new site. These acts were accomplished and on October 3, 1887, Pleasant Grove High School opened its doors with Prof. Charles B. Lennox as principal and Mrs. Lizzie Pearl Armstrong as teacher.

Others who taught at this school during its forty-odd years of existence were Albert Dix, James B. Hackworth, Joe Hackworth, Prof. Latimer, Mary Caperton, Canna Wynn, D. K. Pegues, Jr., H. T. Abbatt, Lyda Hill, Helen Gonce, Mary Gonce, Carrie Houston, Ruth Clark, Eliza Rudder, Travis T. Hackworth, Evelyn Gonce, Lilah Wann, Wilson Gonce and David Cargile.

CORRECTION CORRECTION CORRECTION CORRECTION

Mrs. Lizzie Pearl Armstrong, an early teacher in the Stevenson area schools, was inadvertently listed as the grandmother of two of our members in the April, 1979, issue of the Jackson County Chronicles. However, Lizzie Pearl Armstrong was the great-grandmother of Kathryn Armstrong and Betty Ruth Henniger. Your Editor apologizes for the error in leaving off the "great." Mrs. Lizzie Pearl Armstrong is the grandmother and namesake of Mrs. Pearl Armstrong Mitchell of Stevenson.

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Jackson County

CHRONICLES

NEWSLETTER NO. TWENTY

OCTOBER 11, 1979

ANNOUNCING FALL PILGRIMAGE

OCTOBER 27, 1979

The Blount County Historical Society invites members of the Association to visit the Covered Bridges. The pilgrimage will arouse interest as to the construction and actual usefulness of the bridges. We will assemble at the Oneonta City School in Oneonta (Hwy. 75 as you enter the city) at 10:00 a.m. for a formal program, with Judge Frank J. Green of Blountsville telling of the early days of Blount County. Lunch on the school grounds. Bring your own lunch. After lunch school busses will carry the group to the bridges. With four bridges, Blount County has more than any other county in the state. Drop a note to James F. Sulzby, Jr., 3121 Carlisle Road, Birmingham, Alabama, 35213, stating number in your party. No names. Come rain or shine. Bring friends.

OCT. 27, 1979

Lt. Col. John H. Naper, III,
President, Ala. Hist. Assn.

PROGRAM MEETING - OCTOBER 21, 1979 - 2:30 p.m. - ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The Jackson County Historical Association will meet Sunday, October 21, 1979, 2:30 p.m., at Scottsboro City Hall Auditorium. Mrs. Gene Henninger, Program Vice President, has announced her guest speaker as Mrs. Hazel Isbell Roberts. Mrs. Roberts is the Assistant Librarian at Snead College and a past president of the Marshall County Historical Society. Hazel is also a member of the Jackson County Historical Association since she has always had a personal interest in Jackson County. Her family came here at a very early date and went on to DeKalb and Marshall County. Some of her family were in Marshall County as early as 1813-1816. Hazel is also a member of the Alabama Historical and the National Historical Societies and an active member in the Heroes of King's Mountain Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution. Her talk will be centered around a collection of very old letters written from Bellefonte residents to former Bellefonte residents who had moved to Texas, before the War Between the States. All members are encouraged to bring a friend who enjoys learning more about the early history of our County.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD WILL MEET ON OCTOBER 21, at 2:00 p.m., JUST PRIOR TO THE REGULAR PROGRAM MEETING.

You still have time to pay your dues; just mail your check to:

Jackson County Historical Association
Mrs. Alice Ruth Page, Treasurer
Route One - Box 234
Woodville, Alabama 35776

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP - \$7.50
LIFE MEMBERSHIP - \$100.00
MEMORIALS - \$100.00

Please provide: NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Membership entitles you to receive the quarterly publication, "Jackson County Chronicles", mailed approximately ten days prior to our quarterly meetings in January, April, July, and October.

NOTE OF INTEREST: After reading the article on the Jackson County Court House in the July issue of the Jackson Chronicles, John T. Reid was kind enough to advise that your Editor's supposition was absolutely correct in that Alexander H. Reid cast his vote "for Scottsboro" when the County Commissioners selected a new county seat in 1868. John T. Reid said he was positive his great-grandfather, A. H. Reid, voted "for Scottsboro" because he had been told the following family story from childhood:

"Alexander H. Reid lived in Paint Rock Valley near Estill Fork, Alabama. He served as County Commissioner from 1868-1872. A. H. Reid rode a horse or mule from Estill Fork to the Commissioners Court meetings in Bellefonte which at times was a difficult trip due to weather and road conditions. When the selection of a new county seat was under consideration in 1868, one of A. H. Reid's very good friends, Dr. Prince who then lived in Stevenson, asked Mr. Reid to vote for a site other than Scottsboro and Mr. Reid was considering doing so. However, when Mr. Reid did not make it to one of the Commissioners' meetings, Mr. Rice A. Coffey had the Sheriff issue a warrant demanding Mr. Reid's attendance at the next meeting and sent the Sheriff after Mr. Reid. This infuriated A. H. Reid! He immediately decided to vote for Scottsboro because Mr. Coffey was campaigning for Cowan's Spring."

Editor's Note: Alexander H. Reid is also the great-grandfather of W. R. and Frank Henshaw, Irene Henshaw Griggs, and Ruby Henshaw Green, and he is the grandfather of Mrs. Jessie Henshaw and J. F. Henshaw, Sr.

MANY THANKS TO JOHN T. REID FOR SHARING THIS BIT OF JACKSON COUNTY HISTORY!

BOOK REVIEW: THE FAMILY OF JAMES ALLEN KENNAMER AND MATILDA (MAPLES) KENNAMER, by Alice Ruth Page (Mrs. Rex Page) (1979), soft cover, 255 pages including complete index of 19 pages, 8-1/2 x 11 (\$10.00). Available from Mrs. Alice Ruth Page, Route One, Box 234, Woodville, Alabama, 35776.

Mrs. Alice Ruth Page, J.C. H.A.'s gifted treasurer, has published a well-documented history of James Allen Kennamer (1829-1904) and Matilda (Maples) Kennamer (1842-1908) which includes both their ancestry and descendants. In her account of this historic family, Mrs. Page also provides invaluable insight into the early history of Jackson County. Mrs. Page introduced the Kennamer family by tracing their lineage to Jacob Kennamer who arrived in America from Rotterdam, Holland in 1732. She traced the Maples line to the Virginia origin of William Caswell Maples through his son, Moses Maples who married Catharine Manning in 1821. One chapter each is then devoted to the 12 children of James Allen and Matilda (Maples) Kennamer and their descendants (including children born as late of May, 1979.)

Mrs. Page has written a most interesting narrative account of the twelve children based on numerous very old letters, personal interviews, and family records provided by family members. She has included portraits of Moses and Catharine Maples and James Allen and Matilda (Maples) Kennamer plus family pictures representing 11 of their 12 children. A complete index (numbering 19 pages) closes the volume.

A vast amount of labor and love went into the production of this family history and all James Allen Kennamer descendants are greatly in her debt. Alice Ruth Page is a very careful and thorough researcher, and her book amply demonstrates how geneological research can provide so much more than just dates of birth and death. The value of her work is inestimable and will be enjoyed by anyone interested in the history of Jackson County, Alabama.

EDITORIAL

Jackson County has many very old cemeteries which are fast disappearing due to age, location, neglect, and disrespect.

As land ownership has changed through the years, many small family plots have become invisible to the unknowing eye. Burial sites have been almost consumed by heavy growths of weeds, vines, briars, bushes, and trees. Roads leading to these cemeteries have deteriorated or disappeared.

Many small cemeteries have been eradicated by developers of subdivisions. In several known instances around Scottsboro, the plot contained a small number of markers but unquestionable evidence of numerous unmarked graves. The marked as well as the unmarked were completely ignored, and now houses stand over both. What happened to the markers? Why weren't they at least moved to a perpetual care cemetery, even if descendants are unknown?

There is even more evidence of destruction by cattle and farming equipment in rural areas where land was sold to someone who failed to remember and respect the final resting place of our earliest settlers. Stones have disappeared or have been broken and trampled by cattle. A perfect example is the once large cemetery nearest old Bellefonte. At one time, markers here identified a death in 1826 and many deaths in the 1830s and 1840s.

Throughout the County, markers have been vandalized or stolen. Inscriptions copied in the early 1950s can no longer be found. Reports of grave markers being used as doorsteps or pillar supports have been verified in more than one case.

Respect for the dead is no longer a guaranteed common courtesy! Thus, the identity of our early settlers is quickly fading into oblivion. What can we do about this as individuals?

1. Practice and teach respect for all cemeteries
2. Support cemetery maintenance groups
3. Repair and replace vandalized markers
4. Begin NOW to record all inscribed markers in our County cemeteries - both large and small.

Mrs. Jess (Annie Coleman) Proctor made many significant contributions to the preservation of Jackson County history, and her cemetery records are probably the most valuable single collection in the Scottsboro Public Library. She spent twenty or more years locating and recording grave markers in every burial plot she could get to in this area. Now her records are absolutely invaluable. However, she died before her project was ready for publication, and the only copies available to the public are in the Scottsboro and Huntsville Libraries. These records covered most County burials through 1964, but think of the number of markers added within the last 15 years.

What better project could the Jackson County Historical Association undertake than surveying our cemeteries and recording all inscribed markers? Members could work individually or as teams and solicit the help of local residents or landowners throughout the County. Once the project is fully documented, the resulting compilation should be published. Our Historical Association could have an income for years to come. The present demand for this type book is staggering. This type project has already been successfully completed by the Marshall County Historical Society, The Franklin County, Tennessee Historical Society, by an individual in Madison County, and in many other areas throughout the United States. All report that book sales are great.

HISTORICAL FACTS GLEANED FROM STUDYING JACKSON COUNTY, ALABAMA CEMETERY RECORDS

by Ann B. Chambless

In studying Mrs. Jess Proctor's cemetery records, it was interesting to note the relatively small number of existing inscriptions for burials prior to 1850. An actual visit to the cemeteries quickly revealed many, many unmarked graves or burials marked by limestone or sandstone rocks with no visible inscription. For every inscribed marker in almost any given cemetery, there are eight to ten (or more) unmarked graves. It becomes evident that it was extremely difficult and probably very expensive to obtain a grave marker before 1850 in Jackson County, Alabama.

Of the approximately 100 early inscriptions recorded, the earliest marked burial is dated 1822, and was found in the old Frazier Cemetery which was once located on Goosepond Island. (These markers were moved to Cedarhill when the Revere plants were built on the island in 1968.)

Rebecca Frazier (most likely the daughter of Samuel and Mary Frazier) was born in 1800 and died on November 17, 1822. Hers is the earliest known inscribed marker located as of September 15, 1979. She was buried next to Samuel Frazier, born 1770, who died December 3, 1826. Adjacent to these two graves was that of Mary Frazier, born January 12, 1779, who died December 13, 1847. Other families buried in the Frazier Cemetery were the Parks, Kirbys, and Gossetts. Rebecca Parks, born February 28, 1824, died in 1830, and is buried near John Parks, born January 11, 1782, who died August 22, 1845.

Samuel Frazier's descendants were among the original patentees of Goosepond Island when the land was first offered for sale by the Federal government in 1830. The Parks, Kirbys, and Gossetts remained neighbors of the Fraziers in excess of 50 years after their arrival in Jackson County. Many descendants have good reason to believe these same families had previously been neighbors in East Tennessee.

Another very early inscribed grave marker is that of Peggy Hastings, wife of J. H. Hastings and daughter of Joseph and Bell Gentry, born 1798, who died September 29, 1826. Her marker was found a number of years ago by Judge R. I. Gentry on the old Tate farm near Stevenson.

There are three markers in a small cemetery near old Bellefonte which record the 1829 burials of a Mrs. Hansbrough (possibly mother of Elijah Hansbrough, an early Bellefonte attorney), Jane Eustace Barber (first wife of Elias Barber), and of Tee (no other identification on the marker.)

The earliest recorded burial dates in Woodville's Union Cemetery are 1830 and 1836. A daughter of Daniel Martin was buried in the big Bellefonte Cemetery in 1826 and Lyman James was buried there in 1830. Marinda Kirby was interred in the Kirby Family Cemetery in 1831. Fannie Baker Beason was put to rest in the McAnelly Cemetery in May of 1831. Hans Kennamer was buried in Kennamer's Cove in 1836 beside his wife, Rachel, who predeceased him.

In 1833, John Jackson was interred in the Robertson Cemetery in Longhollow, and, in 1835, John McCutchen was buried in this same cemetery. Both men were Revolutionary War soldiers and early settlers at Sauta. John Jackson's wife, Ann, was buried beside him in 1838; however, the Jacksons' markers have both been stolen or destroyed within the last 25 years.

The earliest inscribed marker in the Talley Cemetery is dated 1837 to record the burial of John M. McMahan, son of John and Rebecca Talley McMahan. In this large, well-kept family cemetery, Captain Jacob Talley (1784-1842) is among the eight family members who were buried there before 1850.

Minerva Ann McMahan, daughter of Sanders and Nancy McMahan, was buried in McMahan's Cove in 1838 (she died July 5, 1838.) Major James Doran's 1840 grave marker is the earliest inscription found in the Doran's Cove Cemetery. The earliest date found in the Blue Springs Cemetery in Larkinsville recorded the death of Frances Countess, daughter of James and Winney Countess, born August 13, 1828, who died June 10 or 20, 1838. Two years later in 1840, Nancy, wife of W. Berry, and Minerva Jane, daughter of John and Sarah Newberry, were buried at Blue Springs.

In the 1840s and 1850s, the previously mentioned cemeteries as well as other small family plots throughout the County were dotted with a much larger ratio of inscribed markers. In the late 1860s, Preston Brown described the destruction of both churches and their adjoining cemeteries at the hands of Federal troops who used the buildings first as living quarters and then as stables for their horses while the horses grazed and mutilated adjacent cemeteries. (Preston Brown, an active Baptist leader, very sagaciously described the lack of church activities during Jackson County's Federal occupation when he explained a void in Friendship Baptist Church minutes for the 1860s.) Liberty Cemetery, just off Tupelo Pike, was especially abused in like manner according to another local scribe who also recorded the wartime fate of school/church buildings and adjoining cemeteries. Thus, these cemeteries probably had many inscribed markers predating the War Between the States of which there are no written records.

Human destruction and a continuous battle between the elements and sandstone or limestone rocks have plagued all our cemeteries for more than 150 years. For those of us who diligently strive to preserve the identity of those who made Jackson County an ideal place to live, these old cemeteries are a joy to behold and rightfully deserve our best preservation efforts as we move into the 1980s and add another decade to Jackson County's history and heritage.

HELP NEEDED TO COMPLETE NOMINATION OF DOWNTOWN SCOTTSBORO AS HISTORIC DISTRICT!

Mrs. John (Judy) Proctor, project coordinator for documenting the Downtown Scottsboro and its Multiple Resource Area as an Historic District on the National Register of Historic Places is in desperate need of your help! Her package must be completed by November 1, 1979. Anyone who has information on the history of older buildings around the square, the names of their architects and/or builders, and details of civic/city/county/state/national contributions made by those who have helped Scottsboro develop and grow through the years should call Judy Proctor or Ann Chambless. It is most urgent that we document the names of architects and builders for as many business houses and homes in this area as possible. If you have old pictures of the older buildings and homes in their original state, please let us make copies for the package. WE NEED ANY INFORMATION WHICH GIVES SCOTTSTORO HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE.

WHEN DID FIRST MONDAY TRADE DAY IN SCOTTSBORO BEGIN???

Did the following article found in the November 13, 1902 edition of The Citizen contribute to the birth of Scottsboro's "First Monday Trade Day" as we know it today???

Horseswapper's Day

"How would it be to have the first Monday in each month set apart as horseswapper's day at Scottsboro? Each first Monday COULD be made a lively day for buying, swapping, and selling horses and mules. The Citizen suggests that Monday, December 1, 1902, be so used."

DEAD TOWNS IN JACKSON COUNTY, ALABAMA

BY Ann B. Chambless

SAUTA

In 1819, The Alabama Legislature designated Sauta Cave as the temporary seat of justice for the county of Jackson and granted the County Court the power, by adjournment, to select any other place they might deem more expedient.¹ The County Court exercised this option making Sauta the first temporary seat of justice selected by the early settlers of Jackson County.² Matthew Powers Blue wrote a history of Jackson County circa 1861 in which he stated:

"Sauta Cave was designated as the temporary seat of justice with power granted to the County Court to adjourn to any place more suitable. The Court did remove to Thompson's, the residence a few years ago of W. W. McCutchen, where courts were held for several years." Mr. Blue selected an 1860-1861 contemporary resident who was well known in the Sauta area to define the geographic location of the County's first temporary court house. When land in Jackson County was first offered for sale in 1830, William W. McCutchen and his father, John McCutchen, and his brother, Joseph McCutchen, became the principal land owners in the immediate area of Sauta.³

Very little is known about the court house and jail at Sauta. In his history of Jackson County, Mr. J. R. Kemamer wrote that Sauta and its court house were located four miles south of Larkinsville near the old Birdsong Spring or House of Happiness.⁴

NOTE: The Birdsongs did not patent land in Jackson County until circa 1860. Was Birdsong's Spring originally called Thompson's?

Mr. Julian Clemons, Mr. Jim Clemons, and Mr. Tom Lindsay all verified the Birdsong Spring location, and Mr. Julian stated he was told as a very young man that the court house and jail at Sauta were built of logs.⁵

The site known today as Birdsong's Spring is a logical location due to the bountiful water supply which has never been known to go dry. It is interesting to note that the Alabama Legislature emphasized the importance of locating the county seat near an everlasting spring when they enacted instructions for county site selection in other areas.⁶ The fact that Sauta was on Winchester Road is also significant. Winchester Road began in Winchester, Tennessee, traversed Cumberland Mountain descending same at Larkinsville, and terminated at Andrew Jackson's Ft. Deposit in what became Marshall County. This made Winchester Road one of Jackson County's leading thoroughfares by land when Jackson County was created in 1819.

Until Decatur County was created in 1821, Sauta was centrally located in Jackson County. Larkinsville was in Decatur County, and Sauta would have been on the border line, if, in fact, it was not placed in Decatur County. In 1822, Bellefonte was selected as the second temporary county seat, and the political struggle between the two areas began.

Some of the original patentees in the Sauta area in 1830 were: Hiram Jackson, R. W. Robertson, John McCutchen and his sons, William W. and Joseph McCutchen, William Walker, David Larkin, Tate Robinson (original patentee of 40 acres which surround Birdsong Spring), and James Smith.⁷ The earliest cemetery in this area is known today as the Robertson Cemetery. Its earliest known marked graves were those of Hiram Jackson's father, John Jackson who died in 1833, and John McCutchen who died in 1835.

Sauta's political fame was shortlived, and the area eventually came to be known simply as "Sauty Bottoms" as it quietly took its place among "The Dead Towns in Jackson County."

BELLEFONTE

After the creation of Decatur County in 1821, Dr. George Washington Higgins and Stephen Carter evidently engineered a move to locate Jackson County's seat of justice in Bellefonte where they had obtained a title to 640 acres of land as early as 1820. Through their efforts, Bellefonte was selected as the second temporary county seat in 1822. On December 15, 1821, the Alabama Legislature incorporated the town of Bellefonte, inclusive of 60 acres, "agreeably to the plan of said town."⁸

Surveyed and laid out by Dr. George Washington Higgins and Stephen Carter, Bellefonte was named for the beautiful spring which became the town's water supply. Once again a spring determined the exact location of an early Jackson County town.

On October 3, 1820, James Riley, a Cherokee, bound himself in penal bond for the sum of \$13,000 to Higgins and Carter. This bond was to be void when Higgins and Carter paid Riley the specified sum and Riley had signed his 640 acre reservation over to them. By early 1824, George W. Higgins and Stephen Carter had made the incremental payments to James Riley, but Riley died before he could deed the land to them. Consequently, on July 20, 1827, Higgins and Carter petitioned Jane Riley, as administratrix of the estate of James Riley, for legal conveyance of the land title to them. The Judge of the Orphans Court of Jackson County set the date for the hearing on the third Monday in October, 1827. While no court records are extant for this hearing, it is assumed that the petition was granted because the earliest deed books for Jackson County (1830-1831) show that Higgins and Carter legally sold lots in Bellefonte and tracts in other parts of Riley's Reservation. Notice of their petition appeared in the July 20, 1827, edition of The Southern Advocate published in Huntsville, Alabama. Thank goodness for old newspapers!

A legislative act of December 24, 1824, appointed five commissioners to select a permanent county seat in Jackson County. However, no decision was reached, and the legislature approved the following Act on January 7, 1826:

Section 1: Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Alabama, in General Assembly convened, that George Caperton, David Williams, James Russell, Major William Proctor, Gilbreath Barton, William Hudson, Henry Derrick, and Captain Brantley Wright, be, and they are hereby appointed, commissioners, who, or a majority of whom, shall select TWO places, the most eligible and convenient sites, as near the centre of said county as may be, to comport with the future and permanent interest of the whole county, having a due regard to situation AND GOOD WATER, one of which shall be selected as the seat of justice for the said county, in the manner in this act hereafter prescribed. (ACTS OF ALABAMA, 1825, page 17.)

Still no decision was made, and the legislature again directed the commissioners to meet on the fourth Monday of February, 1827, and formally proceed with their appointive responsibilities.⁹

The Jackson County Plat Book for Township 4, Range 5 East shows that Section 17, T4, R5E was patented to the County in 1827. However, no record has been found to explain why the County's first permanent court house was not built on this Section (17) of land in Larkinsville.

Mr. J. R. Kennamer's "History of Jackson County" states that Higgins and Carter gave the land for the court house in Bellefonte which was built of native brick shortly after 1828. Most likely, their sizable land donation and Bellefonte's excellent water supply were the determining factors in the final location.

The Court House in Bellefonte burned in 1846 - - probably from a fireplace or chimney fire. Tradition states the court house had two stories and was heated by several fireplaces. Deeds previously recorded in Jackson County were re-recorded in Madison County, Alabama, with the deed itself stating the purpose of the re-recording was due to the original deed being burned at Bellefonte Court House. Since so many of the earliest court records, with the exception of the deeds, are missing in Jackson County, it is possible that some of the records were destroyed in the fire of 1846 as opposed to a mass loss when the Court House was burned by Federal troops during the War Between the States. Jackson County Commissioners Court Minutes dated 1866-1867 definitely state in more than one document that the Bellefonte Court House was burned by Federal troops.¹⁰

A post office was established at Bellefonte about December 14, 1822.¹¹ On July 21, 1824, Dr. Thomas J. Harris died in Bellefonte as a result of being thrown against a tree from a horse at full speed.¹² There was at least one store by 1828 and most likely several more. A Presbyterian church had been built by 1829. Henry F. Scruggs and Thompson Mason Rector were advertising attorneys at law in Bellefonte in 1829.¹³ At least two inns or taverns were in existence by 1830, the Mansion Tavern operated by James Turk and the Bellefonte Inn operated by Daniel Martin.¹⁴ James Turk died in 1835, and the Mansion Tavern changed hands several times. On April 1, 1841, the owner advertised in the Jackson County Democrat published at Bellefonte. The ad carried a drawing which depicted the Mansion Tavern as being two stories and of simple Federal architecture style. The earliest known newspaper published in Jackson County is the North Alabama Star of Bellefonte. The March 1836-December 1839 Probate Minutes of Marshall County, page 17-18, covers an estate settlement and publication was ordered to be made in the "North Alabama Star" of Bellefonte, Alabama requiring legatees and interested parties to appear before the County Court Judge in Claysville, Alabama on November 9, 1836.

The Bellefonte Courier and Jackson County Republican was published in Bellefonte in 1839 by Sewell and Eaton. Their editor was Robert T. Scott. The April 11, 1839, edition of their paper carried the following ad:

"Academical Elysia - Six miles west of Bellefonte, T.3, R.6. The writer has a building being erected in which he intends establishing a permanent Seminary for the instruction of youth and dissemination of useful knowledge. It is located on an exquisitely delightful eminence where variety of scenery, pure air, good water and the GYMNASIUM will contribute to give buoyancy to the spirits, strength to the constitution, and vigour to the minds of the student. It is in the neighborhood of highly respectable and independent farmers, among whom boarding can be obtained on reasonable terms. Gentlemen residing at a distance who may be desirous to place their sons under the care of an experienced and skillful instructor in the rudiments of a good English education may get admittance by an early application.

Tuition - One Dollar per Month. Time - Nine Months. To begin April 1, 1839. Signed: David H. Harris."

No name was assigned to the Seminary in this newspaper ad, but possibly it could have been the Franklin Academy referred to in The Democrat published in Huntsville, Alabama, on October 3, 1840, outlining a resolution passed by the teachers and pupils of Franklin Academy on the death of "two lovely sisters, Permelia and Martha Jane Clayton." (Could they have been daughters of Richard Clayton, County Court Clerk of Jackson County, 1828-1836?) The students' names signing the resolution were all names found in Jackson County in 1840. Most

likely the academy was in Jackson or Madison County, as the resolution stated copies were to be forwarded to the Jackson Republican and the "Huntsville Democrat." Why should the resolution be forwarded to the Jackson Republican if the students and their academy were not located in Jackson County?

NOTE: Early Madison County records do not reveal a Franklin Academy in Madison County.

Mr. J. R. Kenamer stated that a two-story brick Masonic Hall was erected in Bellefonte in the early eighteen fifties, and the lower story was used for schools. He also stated a Miss Finley was one of the first teachers in this new building. He described the first school house in Bellefonte as a long, one-room frame building, called the Academy.¹⁵

In 1850, Bellefonte's population was around 500.¹⁶ On March 21, 1855, the Memphis and Charles Railroad regularly opened for business in Jackson.¹⁷ The railroad by-passed old Woodville and Bellefonte's town square. The station which served the Bellefonte area was first called Bellefonte Station, but was built about one mile west of Bellefonte in what later became Samples and then Hollywood. The townspeople of Bellefonte had no desire to move their businesses and homes and disrupt their life style just to accommodate "iron horse" transportation.

The advent of the railroad was not the only factor which led to the eventual downfall of Bellefonte. The War Between the States took a heavy toll on the entire town of Bellefonte. Scars from the ravages of war were slow in healing and created serious postwar rehabilitation problems. In less than ten years after the War, the County's interest in the town square was worth less than \$100.

Also, the enterprising, long range plans of Robert T. Scott, Scottsboro's original city planner, contributed significantly to the final demise of Bellefonte. Although R. T. Scott died in 1863, after the War, Scott's family actively pursued Scott's prewar goals for developing a new County trade center in the village of Scottsboro. Their success in working with Senator Charles O. Whitney in obtaining legislation which relocated the county seat literally put Scottsboro on the map.

In November of 1868, the county records were moved from Bellefonte to Scottsboro.¹⁸ By 1870, the population of Bellefonte had dwindled to approximately 72, according to census records for that year.

On the fifth day of April, 1874, the real estate commissioners of Jackson County sold the plot of ground known as the old public square in the Town of Bellefonte at public auction. Hamlin Caldwell was the highest bidder and became the owner of the Bellefonte town square for the mere sum of \$80.00.¹⁹

The 1870s witnessed the curtains being drawn on old Bellefonte as one by one the lawyers moved their shingles to the new county seat and other business activity followed suit.

Even the beautiful spring which gave Bellefonte its name passed from view in the early 1940s when the Tennessee Valley Authority built Gunterville Dam. Lands on either side of the Tennessee River were flooded to create the Gunterville Reservoir, and the river's new, enlarged boundaries claimed the land on which old Bellefonte's spring was located.

After 100 years of quiescence, new life sprang forth at Bellefonte in 1974, almost as suddenly as it had disappeared in the 19th century. Once again the Tennessee River provided a strategic advantage and was the key in the return of bustling activity at Bellefonte.

Today from any approach to old Bellefonte, the Bellefonte Nuclear Power Plant's two giant cooling towers loom against the horizon, creating optical illusions. At first glance, the massive cooling towers appear as lofty as Sand Mountain itself in the background. This area has already experienced an equally imposing economic impact from the plant building activity alone. Scheduled for completion in 1982, the two generating units will provide nearly 2.7 million kilowatts of electricity for this region.²⁰

As the 1980s approach, the entire Tennessee Valley anxiously awaits the commercial operation of the Bellefonte Nuclear Plant. The stage is set, the curtains will soon rise, and once again Bellefonte will play a major role in the history of Jackson County.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Documentation for "Dead Towns in Jackson County, Alabama - Sauta and Bellefonte" is found in the files of its author, Ann B. Chambliss. All information used was the best available to the author to date. Corrections are welcomed, particularly if accompanied by irrefutable proof. Because it will add to our written history of Jackson County, you are encouraged to correct or add to these and any other articles appearing in the "Jackson Chronicles." ABC

Bibliography for "Dead Towns in Jackson County, Alabama":

1. Acts of Alabama, 1819, page 116
2. Handwritten, unpublished manuscript of Matthew Powers Blue, not dated, but written circa 1861, found in Department of Archives and History, Montgomery, Ala.
3. Jackson County, Alabama Plat Book for Township 4, Range 5E and for Township 5, Range 5E
4. History of Jackson County, by John Robert Kennamer, Sr., page 18
5. Author's personal interviews with Mr. Julian Clemons, Mr. Jim Clemons, and Mr. Tom Lindsay in the 1970s
6. Acts of Alabama, page 116 and 143
7. Jackson County, Alabama Plat Books for Township 5, Range 5E and Township 4, Range 5 E
8. Acts of Alabama, Chapter LXIII, Section 1, page 339
9. Acts of Alabama, 1827
10. Jackson County Commissioners Court Minutes, 1866-1867, pages 75, 133, 134, and 136
11. Early Jackson County, Alabama Postal Records furnished by General Services Administration, National Archives and Records Service, to Ann B. Chambliss
12. The Huntsville Democrat, published in Huntsville, Alabama in 1824
13. The Huntsville Democrat, published in Huntsville, Alabama in 1829
14. Jackson County, Alabama Deed Book E, pages 299-301, and Jackson County, Alabama census records for 1830/1840/1850
15. The History of Jackson County, by John Robert Kennamer, Sr., page 133
16. 1850 Federal Census records for Jackson County, Alabama
17. Memphis and Charles Railroad Company Corporate Minutes, 1856 Report to Stockholders, page 11
18. Jackson County Commissioners Minutes dated November, 1868
19. Jackson County, Alabama Deed Book 7, page 256
20. Tennessee Valley Authority Information Bulletin dated 1979

CONGRATULATIONS, ALICE RUTH PAGE!

The Jackson County Historical Association salutes its charter member, ALICE RUTH PAGE (Mrs. Rex Page) on the occasion of the publication of her first book! May your success with your family history, "The Family of James Allen Kennamer and Matilda (Maples) Kennamer" inspire you to produce other such quality work in the future.

CIVIL WAR CLAIMS PAID BY UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO JACKSON COUNTY CLAIMANTS

From The Scottsboro Citizen - March 9, 1899:

Government Claims

Before adjourning on the 4th, Congress passed a number of Southern war claims, and Jackson County gets the following allowances:

William F. Shelton - \$230 (William F. Shelton died 2-7-1864 and is buried in the Pace Cemetery. He had lived near William Woosley.)

Henry H. Coulson - \$250 (Henry H. Coulson lived in Bellefonte and was brother of Probate Judge Lawson C. Coulson.)

John H. Vaught, Administrator of Frederick Sterne, deceased - \$515 - (The Sternes lived at Bellefonte and the Vaughts at Langston.)

William R. Hill, Administrator of C. B. Hill, deceased - \$480 (Claiborne B. Hill lived near the Berrys and Lathams.)

John H. Vaught, Administrator of Jeremiah Arnold, deceased - \$1705

John P. Lewallen, Administrator of Madison Lewallen - \$395 (Madison Lewallen was a member of the Mud Creek Primitive Baptist Church. He lived near Richard Stogsdill and Matthew Washington.)

Thomas W. Woosley, Administrator of William Woosley - \$1382 (The Woosleys lived in the Larkinsville area.)

Hugh G. Kirby, Administrator of Richard Kirby, deceased - \$515 (Richard Kirby owned land in Sections 28 and 33 of T4, R6E.)

Thomas J. Hargiss - \$1637 (Thomas J. Hargiss lived between John K. Childress and William D. Parks and near Richard Kirby in Section 31, T4, R6E.)

~~Were these claims for homes burned or destroyed by Federal troops during the Civil War???~~

A later article in The Scottsboro Citizen in 1899:

"The President is to be congratulated upon not heeding those who urged him to veto the Bowman Bill. The time has certainly come when all Southern claims which can be properly established should be paid by the Government.

When the South laid down her arms at Appomattox, she accepted the full consequence of defeat without complaint and her sons went to work with a vim worthy of all praise. All over the country property was appropriated by the Union Army which should have been paid for. So just were the claims that Congress took cognizance of them and took certain steps for their payment.

LETTER REGARDING CLAIM OF OAK GROVE METHODIST CHURCH AGAINST THE U. S. GOVERNMENT:

On February 6, 1912, Attorney John F. Proctor wrote to the Hon. J. H. Bankhead in Washington, D.C. regarding the bill passed by the House making an appropriation to the Oak Grove Methodist Church of Jackson County, Alabama. Attorney Proctor advised Senator Bankhead that this "Omnibus Claims Bill" was of considerable importance to the people of North Alabama, and requested Bankhead's personal attention to same.

On March 10, 1915, Senator Bankhead wrote to Attorney John F. Proctor advising "at last of the allowance of the claim of the Oak Grove Methodist Church for \$550 included in the Omnibus Claims Bill, approved by the President on March 4th (1915.)"

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH, OF BELLE-
FONTE, ALA.

LETTER FROM THE ASSISTANT CLERK OF THE COURT OF CLAIMS
TRANSMITTING A COPY OF THE FINDINGS OF THE COURT IN
THE CASE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH, OF
BELLEFONTE, ALA., AGAINST THE UNITED STATES.

FEBRUARY 13, 1908.—Referred to the Committee on Claims and ordered to be printed.

COURT OF CLAIMS, CLERK'S OFFICE,
Washington, February 12, 1908.

SIR: Pursuant to the order of the court I transmit herewith a certified copy of the findings of fact filed by the court in the aforesaid cause, which case was referred to this court by resolution of the United States Senate, under the act of March 3, 1887, known as the Tucker Act.

I am, very respectfully, yours,

JOHN RANDOLPH,
Assistant Clerk Court of Claims.

HON. CHARLES W. FAIRBANKS,
President of the Senate.

[Court of Claims. Congressional case No. 12404. Methodist Episcopal Church South, of Bellefonte, Ala., v. The United States.]

STATEMENT OF CASE.

By resolution of the United States Senate adopted June 13, 1906, Senate bill No. 6393, Fifty-ninth Congress, for relief of various churches and other organizations, was referred to this court for findings of fact under the terms of the act approved March 3, 1887. Said bill, so far as is material to this particular case, reads as follows:

"A BILL For the relief of certain churches, Masonic lodges, and colleges in the State of Alabama, and for other purposes.

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to pay, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to claimants in this act named the several sums appropriated herein, the same being in full for and the receipt of the same to be taken and accepted in each case as a full and final release and discharge of their respective claims for use, occupation, and damage to their buildings and grounds by United States military authorities during the civil war, namely * * *

"To the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, of Bellefonte, Alabama, one thousand two hundred dollars."

2 METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SOUTH, BELLEFONTE, ALA.

The claimant in its petition alleges:

That during the late civil war the Methodist Episcopal Church South, of Bellefonte, Ala., was the owner of a certain frame building, used and occupied by said church as a house of worship; that during said war the United States military forces tore down and carried away the materials of said building and converted the same to the use of the United States Government; that at the time of the demolition of said building it was reasonably worth the sum of \$1,200.

The case was brought to a hearing upon loyalty and merits on the 6th day of January, 1908.

Moyers & Consaul appeared for claimant, and the Attorney-General, by W. H. Lamar, esq., his assistant and under his direction, appeared for the defense and protection of the interests of the United States.

The court, upon the evidence and after considering the briefs and arguments of counsel upon both sides, makes the following

FINDINGS OF FACT.

I. During the late civil war the Methodist Episcopal Church South, of Bellefonte, Ala., as an organization was loyal to the Government of the United States.

II. During said period the United States military forces, by proper authority, took possession of and tore down the church building belonging to the Methodist Episcopal Church South, of Bellefonte, Ala., and used the material therein contained in the erection of winter quarters. Said building at the time it was so torn down was reasonably worth the sum of three hundred and eighty dollars (\$380), for which no payment appears to have been made.

III. The claim herein was never presented to any Department of the Government prior to its presentation to Congress and reference to this court by resolution of the United States Senate, as hereinbefore mentioned, and no reason is given why the bar of any statute of limitation should be removed, or which shall be claimed to excuse the claimant for not having resorted to any established legal remedy.

BY THE COURT.

Filed January 13, 1908.

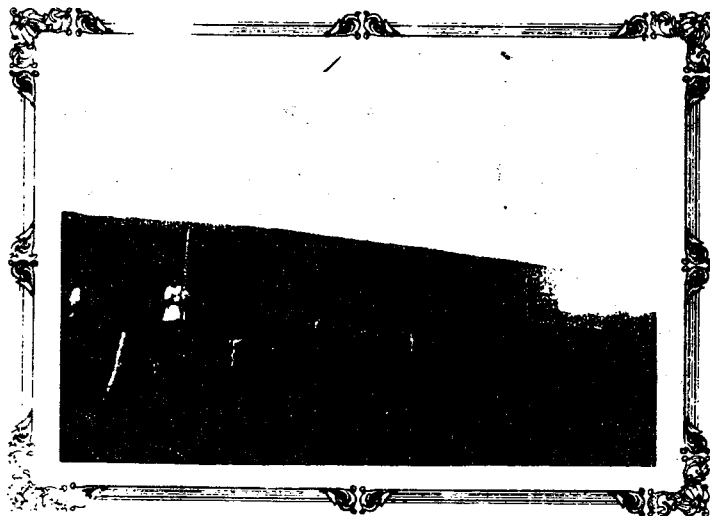
A true copy.

Test this 10th day of February, 1908.

[SEAL.]

JOHN RANDOLPH,
Assistant Clerk Court of Claims.

ANTEBELLUM JACKSON COUNTY LANDMARK



NETHERLAND HOUSE

The old NETHERLAND HOUSE was located near old Bellefonte and was built at the close of the War Between the States, but it has a history which goes back to pre-war days. The above pictured house was built on the site of a much earlier Netherland home which was burned during the civil war. It is said to have been rebuilt with money the family managed to save through the courtesy of the captain of the group who burned the original house. The Netherlands had about \$4,000 in gold they had put in a masonic apron. In the rush to get the family out of the house, the apron was dropped by its protector. Seeing the name written on the apron, the captain returned it to the wife of the owner. It was with this money that the house was rebuilt at the close of the war. This picture and story are used through the courtesy of Miss Jessie Bynum.

The house no longer stands, but the Netherland family cemetery, enclosed by a wrought iron fence, remains as a silent sentinel to proclaim the identity of this family who intermarried with the Norwoods. This house is among many old Bellefonte landmarks which have disappeared since the turn on the century, but this land is still remembered by many senior citizens as the Netherland-Norwood farm of days gone by.

JACKSON COUNTY
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
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