

Cave Spring School

Location: S35/T1/R6E

Funds: \$124.80

School District: 41

School Location: Olalee

Sometimes written Cave Springs

1893: Cave Spring Church was built and the same building functioned as a school.

1915: School building constructed on the church grounds.

Teacher in 1923: W. J. Money

Trustees in 1923: W. T. Lovelady, J. Lee Morris, and I. N. Matthews.

1927: Cave Spring listed as a two-teacher school

1935: Not found. Consolidated with Rash and the building was used as a vaccination site for people and animals as late as 1941. It was torn down shortly thereafter. (James Sentell)

Inclusive Years: 1893-1938



Eliza Woodall in *The Stevenson Story* identified these Cave Spring teachers: The teachers serving Cave Springs School have included Ilah Lovelady, J. Lee Morris, W. J. Money, and Anna M. Izard. Some of the trustees were J. L. Wynne, C. L. Rash, Avery Lovelady, Bob Matthews, Charlies Allen, and I. E. Lovelady.

History of the Cave Springs Church, Little Coon Valley, Alabama

by: Pearl Sentell January 1976

The people of Cave Springs started going to Church a long time ago in a little log cabin. In 1893, Issac Matthews gave two acres of land for a church building. Augustus L Sentell II, Leroy Rash, Thomas Lovelady and James Monroe Sentell helped construct the Cave Springs Church building. It has had many pastors and members. Some of the previous pastors were Rev. Howell, Mike Hill, Fred McClendon, T J Dilbeck, C L Barnett, Crawford Morris, Henry Guinn and J B Igou.

The church was used for a school house until 1915 when a school house was built next to the church (note: school was located in the southwest corner of the church property). The church has members scattered ove the US, One of Isaac Matthews granddaughters lives in Oregon, one in Washington DC one in Indiana, and one in Birmingham, Al. (note: these four are daughters of James Monroe Sentell and Francis Miscal Matthews Sentell).The oldest granddaughter is Mrs. Nannie Morris of Stevenson who is 95 years old and lives with a grandson Mack Morris.

Cave Springs church has produced some fine citizens, Dr. Jessie Lee Prince came to Cave Springs Community from Paint Rock Valley at the age of 20. Augustus Sentell II, built Dr. Prince an office at the back of the Sentell house. (note: currently owned by Augustus descendants of Pam Tucker and sister Debbie). Dr. Prince worked here for several years before moving to Stevenson. Dr. James H Sentell, son of James Monroe Sentell and Francis, grandson of Isacc Matthews, (no other comments are on this manuscript, so he is just another fine citizen produced at cave springs)

Alvis "Babe" Austin, a former member homesteaded land under Andrew Jackson. Mr. Austin became a minister, sold his land to James Luther Sentell and moved to Texas. Mr. James

Luther Sentell (note: my grandfather), presented Mr Austin with a bible in 1896. On a visit to Alvis's son Joe Austin, of Lewisburg, Tenn, the author had the please of viewing this bible.

The first wedding of the history of Cave Springs church occurred in August of 1975. The daughter of Mr and Mrs James Matthews, Miss Alisa Matthews wed Mr. Hershel Price. Miss



Matthews is a great great granddaughter of Issac Matthews.

This photo of Cave Spring School was taken by Buford Sentell in 1921.
IDs from Buford Sentell. L to R.

Front Row. Elmer Rash, Harster Wynn, Buster Matthews, Buford Sentell, Earnest McCrary, Jimmy L. Matthews, Dave McCrary, Pat Matthews, Jesse McCrary, Mitchel McCrary, Mary Lee Rash, Ellen Rash, Charles Wynn.

Second row: Bettie Matthews, Rena McCrary, Verine McCrary, Louise Lovelady, Camie Lee Wynn, Allie McCrary, Mimia Summers, Hester McCrary, Armur Matthews, Mary Matthews, Teacher Will Money

Back Row: Mazie Sentell, Jeanett Wynn, Jesse McCrary, Horace McCrary, Harlston Sentell, Ellis Lovelady, Walter Morris, Earlnes Lovelady.

Newspaper Search:

Jul 3, 1902 PA: Cave Springs News. "The school at this place is moving nicely under the management of Mr. Gentry. It seems that all the obstacles has been removed, and it is hoped that the people of this place will awaken to the needs of their children to such an extent that they may become as growing and living monuments to the loving zeal and altruistic spirit of noble men and sympathetic women."

Sep 19, 1902 PA: Cave Spring News. "Our school under the management of J. A. Gentry will close Friday 19."

Nov 13, 1902 PA: Rash News. "Miss Canna Wynn began the public school at Cave Spring Monday."

Feb 5, 1925 PA: "Temperance Days was observed at Cave Spring school Friday afternoon and a very interesting program was rendered. Those who were on the honor roll for January were as follows: Sixth grade—Rena McCrary, Jimmie Lee Matthews, and Carl Champion."

Nov 17, 1927 PA: Sixth-grader Julia Faye Wynne wrote Miss Hayes, the editor of the short-lived Progressive Age school page. "Olalee, Alabama, October 31, 1927, Dear Miss Haynes: Cave Spring School had a splendid Hallowe'en program and supper Saturday night. We sold pieces, cakes, candy, and sandwiches. The amount we made was thirty-eight dollar and ninth cents. We want to get a library, book case, and other things. Yours truly, Julia Faye Wynne, Sixth grade pupil of Cave Spring School".

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that a special election will be held in
Cave Springs District No. 41,
at **School House**
Jackson County, Alabama, on the
26th day of July, 1928, for the purpose of determining whether or not a special tax shall be levied and collected annually, at the rate of 30 cents on each one hundred dollars worth of taxable property in
Cave Springs District No. 41,

in said county, and to be continued for a period of two years from September 30, 1928, the same to be for the support of the public schools within said district. The boundaries of said district are as follows:

Beginning at NW corner of section 27, Tp 1, R 6; thence east 3 miles; thence south 1 mile; thence east 1 mile; thence south 1 mile; thence east 1 mile; thence south 1 mile; thence west 3 1/2 miles; thence north 1 mile; thence west 1 1/2 miles; thence north 3 miles to point of beginning. Said district contains 25, 26, 27, 34, 35, 36, Tp 1, R 6; sections 5 and 6, Tp 2, R 7; also section 1, and the east 1/2 of section 2, Tp 2, R 6; also section 31, Tp 1, R 7. All of said district being in Jackson County, Ala.

The following officers are appointed to hold said election:

L. N. Matthews, J. L. Wynne, Albert Rash, Jr, ins; J Lee Morris, W E Lovelady, clerks; Avery Steele, R O

R. S. Skelton, W. W. Tries, W. H. Cox, Raymond Bradford, Members, Board of Commissioners, Jackson County, Ala., M. C. Thomas, Sheriff of Jackson County, Ala.

June 21, 1928: Vote on 3 mil tax.

Feb 25, 1932 PA: Health department showed a movie at the school teaching about diphtheria, hookworm, malaria, sanitation, and drainage.

1938: Photo of Cave Springs school from the 1956 Rash Yearbook.

May 22, 1941 PA: Rabies vaccinations for dogs offered at the school. Also May 29.

Aug 7, 1941 PA: Typhoid vaccinations given at the school. Also August.

The church today, from Nat Cisco.



