

## Freedom School

**Location:** S36/T1/R4E

**Funds:** \$239

**1908-1909** Three teachers

**1918-1919** One Teacher

**1923-1924** Two teachers

**1938-1939** Two teachers

**School District:** 79

**Teachers in 1923:** W. Bentley Thomas, Ola Thomas

**Trustees in 1923:** I. S. Sanders, G. R., Gifford, and E. D. McGee

Located in Milan

Teachers in 1939: Thelbert Callahan and Omega Woodall

**Latitude:** 34.9106416

**Longitude:** -86.1672065

**Grades Included:** 1-6

**Years of Operation:** 1893-1949



Some teachers: W. T. Cooper (1893-1896); W. Bentley Thomas and Ola Thomas (1923); and Thelbert Callahan and Omega Woodall (1939). The school shared space with Freedom Church, as evidenced by the fact that the school vacated in 1896 during a revival. A standalone school building was constructed some time before 1938. A PTA was organized in 1938 and raised money to paint the school. The school was closed some time before 1949, when the building and two acres on land were sold. The students were consolidated with Paint Rock Valley school.

**May 5, 1893 PA:** "Mr. W. T Cooper opened school at Freedom School house last Monday morning.

**May 21, 1896 SC:** Milan column "William Cooper who has been engaged to teach the Freedom school, began Monday, 11th inst., with bright prospects for a good school."

**Aug 6, 1896 SC:** "Big Meeting commenced at Freedom church last Saturday. William Cooper's school will vacate while the meeting lasts."

**May 3, 1928 PA:** School Page. Louise Prince and Eula Mae Bishop of Freedom School passed the 6th Grade Examination.

**Feb 26, 1931 PA:** Cinderella presented at the school. See article.

**Mar 19, 1931 PA:** "The sixth grade pupils of Freedom school went to Princeton March 17th and took the standard test given by Miss Rivers."

**Feb 11, 1932 PA:** The health department showed a movie and sanitation and malaria control at Freedom School in Estill Fork.

**"A SOUTHERN CINDERELLA"**

At Freedom School, Friday, February 27th, at 7:30 P. M.

characters:

Madame Charteris, an old Aristocrat,  
Lucille Maples,  
Enid Bellamy, A Southern Cinderella,  
Louise Prince,  
Miss Rose Winterberry, a famous settlement worker,  
Pearline Sanders,  
Miss Johnnie Bell Randolph, a little Coquette,  
Willie Robertson,  
Katherine Hawke, An English Nurse,  
Kate Reid,  
Caroline Hawke, Her Sister, an Adventuress,  
Beulah Robertson,  
Mammy Judy Johnson, A Black, Blue-grass Widow,  
Mrs. Stanford Robertson.

Place—A Southern Home.  
Time of playing—About two hours.  
Act I.—Living room of Charteris Hall. Enid comes home.  
Act II.—Same, three days later. The burning of the will.  
Act III.—Same, two years later. Cinderella goes to the ball.  
Admission 15c and 25c. Proceeds for benefit of school. Everybody come!

**October 20, 1932:** School rally held in eight locations in the county to discuss "the school situation." Freedom School was one of those schools, as was Princeton.

**Dec 6, 1934 PA:** "A very enjoyable Thanksgiving program was given by the pupils of Freedom school Thursday."

**Jan 17, 1935 PA:** Freedom School reported 74.4% attendance.

**Nov 4, 1937 PA:** School Board financial report., R. T. Sims was paid \$36 for providing coal for Freedom school.

**Oct 13, 1938 PA:** "The PTA at Freedom school will meet Friday, October 14 at 2 pm. Every patron and interested citizens of the community is urged to be present."

**Oct 20, 1938 PA:** Estill Fork News. "On Friday, Oct. 14, the PGA of this community met for the second regular meeting. An interesting program was rendered by the president, Mrs. Thelbert Callahan residing. A splendid report was given by the Secretary and Treasurer Miss Omega Woodall, on donations for painting our school building. Other plans were made after which we adjourned to meet on Friday, Nov. 11....There will be a Pie Supper at Freedom school on Saturday night, Oct. 22. A fish pond for the kiddies and side shows will be other sources of entertainment. A whole evening full of fun and enjoyment. The public is cordially invited. Proceeds go for the benefit of the school.

**Jan 2, 1949 PA:** Educational Directory. Teachers Thelbert Callahan and Omega Woodall.

**Mar 1, 1940 PA:** "A closing day program, consisting of songs, reading, recitations and dialogs by the children and last but not least, two black-face comedians which will be the fun of the evening at Freedom on Monday, March 25, at 7....A laugh from beginning to end. Come out and enjoy a full evening of entertainment. Admission 5 and 10 cents."

**Aug 7, 1941 PA:** Typhoid clinic at Freedom School. Also July 16, 1942.

**Apr 30, 1942 PA:** Registration for sugar rationing at Freedom School with Miss Catherine Reed.

**Oct 29, 1942 PA:** School Board Report. Dick Sanders was paid \$23 for labor on Friday school and H. R. Reid was paid .68 for repairs.

**Sep 19, 1946 PA:** Rabies Clinic at Freedom School.

**Apr 3, 1947 PA:** Typhoid, Smallpox and Diphtheria clinic at Freedom School.

**Sep 29, 1949 PA:** "Notice is hereby given that I will accept seals bids until 12 o'clock noon, October 15, 1949 on the school property listed below. A cashier's check cover the amount of the bid and made payable to the State Superintendent of Education must accompany each bid. 1. Freedom School building and two acres of land....Delbert Hicks, Superintendent of Education."

PaintRockValley High School from 1952 yearbook



Paint Rock Valley High School  
Princeton, Alabama



Agriculture and Home  
Economics Building