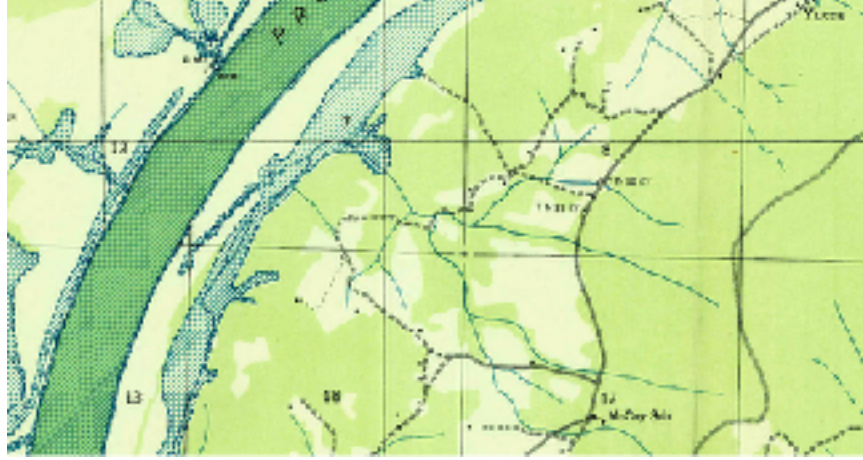


McCoy's Grove School

Location: S29/T3/R8E

Funds \$166.40

School District: 10



According to Wendell Page, the original school in District 10 was Monday's Chapel. Hilda McCoy says that Monday's Chapel and McCoy's Grove were separate churches, both in Yucca, and that both churches uses the McCoy's Grove church building after Monday's Chapel Church burned, some time before 1923. The teacher in 1923 was John Blancett, and the trustees were Ben Gofoth, L. C. Stearnes, and Jurd Thomas Thornhill.

Between 1908 and 1923, District 10 also supported the McCoy's Grove School near the Yucca Post Office. The two schools coexisted. Wendell goes on to say that "during 1923, this school was assigned one teacher. This school was probably consolidated with Stevenson."

According to Hilda McCoy and the 1950 *Progressive Age* school survey, the school was held in the McCoy Grove church building. It was a one-teacher school that covered grades 1 through 6. In 1940, 39 students were registered at this school, though the school had issues with low attendance. By 1950, the school had 26 pupils with 87% attendance. Teachers associated with this school include J. H. Jarnigan (1902), Ruth Bowen (1939), and Aubrey Culpepper (1950). The area school bus driver for several years was Thomas R. Hawes. In 1950, George Craze and W. R. Gamble were the school's trustees. The photo of the old school building is from Donna Rodgers Tignor.



McCoy's Grove

The first mention of McCoy's Grove as a place name was in the January 3, 1889 *Progressive Age*, telling farmers about the Farmer's Alliance, where Rev. T. B. Parks was the local president and J. H. Cawes was the local representative for McCoy's Grove and Fabius. The Trustee Stockholders of the Primary Alliances met at McCoy's Grove September 11, 1890, with newly elected president J. R. Gayle presiding.

Jun 16, 1898 PA: Baptist Evangelist planned a revival at McCoy's Grove for July 18.

Sep 7, 1899 PA: Fabius Column. "A weeks meeting closed at McCoys Grove. 34 baptisms in the river last Sabbath."

Jul 26, 1900 PA: Yucca Column. "The Rev Wm Bullard preached an interesting sermon at McCoy's Grove Sunday.

Jul 6, 1901 PA: Yucca Column "The Sunday School at McCoy's Grove is improving nicely."

Feb 21, 1907 PA: Yucca Column “Rev. Saul Smith will preach at McCoy’s Grove Sunday. Let everybody come out to hear him.”

Jul 30, 1908 PA: Yucca Column “A protracted meeting will begin at McCoy’s Grove the first Sunday in August.”

Sep 2, 1909 PA: “5th Sun. Meeting by the Tennessee River Missionary Baptist Association” held at the following churches, among them McCoy’s Grove, with Mrs. J. D. McCoy.

References to the Church continue at least as late as 1957 when references to Decoration and revivals at the church can still be found. The congregation still meets in a new church, but the original building no longer exists. It was torn down in XX.

McCoy Grove School

The first mention of McCoy’s Grove school was in the July 12, 1900 **Progressive Age**, where the statement “The school at McCoy’s Grove is in flourishing condition” is found.

May 2, 1902 SC: “J. H. Jarnigan will commence school at McCoy grove soon.”

May 8, 1902 PA: Yucca Column “Prof. Jarnagin’s school for five months term, will commence at McCoy’s Grove, May 12.”

1908: The school entertainment at McCoy Grove school house was quite a success. A large crowd of patrons and friends were present. We were glad to have our County Superintendent Cooper, Prof. G. S. Brewton and H. R. Thomas with us. The hall was beautifully decorated with flower and evergreens...Quit a crowd of young people from Sand Mountain attended the school entertainment on Friday night.”

Nov 27, 1930 PA: Pie Supper held at McCoy’s Grove.

Jan 29, 1931PA: Lorine Blansett, J. W. Craze, Vandie Long, and Mable Rogers from McCoy Grove recognized for perfect attendance.

Feb 5, 1931 PA: In the School Attendance analysis, McCoy’s Grove was cited for low attendance, at 31%.

Mar 31, 1932 PA: DPT inoculation clinic held at the school on April 8. Also on Aug 13, 1936.

Apr 29, 1937 PA: Rabies shots for dogs at McCoy’s Grove.

Nov 4, 1937 PA: Board of Education report showed that the Blancett Brothers were paid \$7.50 to cut wood for McCoy’s Grove School.

Nov 10, 1937 PA: R. L. Blancett was paid \$12.00 to provide wood for the school, and Mrs. Ada Wallace was reinsured \$4.08 for supplies for the school.

Jan 26, 1939 PA: Ruth Bowen was identified as the elementary teacher for McCoy’s Grove school.

May 25, 1939 PA: Smallpox, diphtheria, and typhoid innovation clinic held at school

Jul 20, 1939 PA: One of the bus routes accounted for by the county school system was McCoy's Grove to Flat Rock. "Begin at McCoys Grove School, go by Fabius to Flat Rock School. The County Board will required a used truck for this route with a 157 inch wheel base. The County Board will contract this route for two years." The August 3 paper shows that Thomas R. Hawes of Fabius bid on this route. He still had that route in the June 11, 1942 PA.

Nov 28, 1940 PA: For the period from Oct 14 to Nov 15, 39 students were registered for McCoy's Grove school, but only 16 attended, up from 12 the previous month.

Jan 2, 1941 PA: Forest Fire movie shown at McCoy's Grove school.

Nov 27, 1942 PA: "There will be a box supper at McCoy's Grove School, Yucca, Alabama, on Saturday night, November 29th. All the proceeds will be used for the school and school children. There will be a fish pond, cake walk, beauty context and other means of good entertainment. Everybody is invited to come for an evening of fun."

April-August 1950: Both the *Progressive Age* and the *Jackson County Sentinel* profiled many of the county's schools, and McCoy's Grove was among them. These profiles are written by a person associated with the school. In 1950, there were 26 pupils in grades 1 through 6 with an average attendance of 87%. After Grade 6, pupils were bussed to Stevenson Junior High. Notice that in 1950, the school needed "library books, a new stove, playground equipment and sanitary toilets."

1953: According to Hilda McCoy, who father was a trustee at the the school, it was consolidated with other school in 1953. "The younger children went to

**McCOY'S GROVE
SCHOOL**

McCoy's Grove School is located four miles south of Coffey's Ferry on the east side of Tennessee River. The building serves the community as a church.

The trustees are George Craze and W. R. Gamble.

The first six grades are taught. Aubrey Culpepper is the teacher. None of the pupils are transported. They are transported across the river to Stevenson to Jr. High School. There are 26 pupils on roll at present with a total enrollment for the year. The average attendance is 87%.

We have no books except those furnished by the state. The janitor work is done by the teacher and pupils.

We need library books, a new stove, playground equipment and sanitary toilets.



Cameronville and the older children to Stevenson. Cameronville consolidated with Stevenson in 1957.

Thank you to Hilda McCoy for finding these photos.



Top: The McCoy Grove Church/School building in 1962 from John Craze, The photo shows Elmer Goforth with his wife and son, Ben, Martha Craze Goforth and Denny Sanders. **Left:** The McCoy Grove Old Church and

New Church together in 1967, from Judy Tate . The photo is from the Sterne Cemetery Decoration with Agnes Hamilton (hair up), Effie Sandaer Meadows, Myrtle Hawes, Bertha Hampton Sanders, and Alvin Hodges.

Here is a picture from 1908-1910 where some of the children have been identified. #1 Eula Thornhill McCoy #7 Elsie Thornhill Holder #14 Tom Thornhill 28 John Mason 31 Stella McCoy Prince 37 John Theodore McCoy. 32 Lela Blancett Wann 34 Lizzie Blancett Garren 20 Lawrence Blancett 21 Leva Blancett Coffey 24 Sam Emory Blancett 36 John Blancett 38 Charlie Blancett



*McCoy's group with their children
of 1945 and 1946*