

## Pleasant Grove School

Location: S20/T1/R7E

Funds: \$247.60

1908-1939 Two teachers.

School Location: Eureka

School District: 38

Teachers in 1923: Carrie Houston and Vesta Hawkins

Trustees in 1923: M. W. Gonce and I. C. Gonce

Teacher in 1939: Mrs. Lon Shelton

Latitude: 34/9423053

Longitude: -85.9213674



Consolidated with Stevenson.

Before 1887 to 1962

From Eliza Woodall:

Just when and where the first school house at Pleasant Grove was built is not known, but it was prior to 7 June 1887 when the trustees of Pleasant Grove High School advertised in The Stevenson Chronicles for bids to erect a new school house and to remove the old school house to the new site chosen. The person to be contacted was John W. Gonce, Anderson, Tennessee.

Pleasant Grove High School opened 3 October 1887 with Charles B. Lenox, Principal, and Mrs. Lizzie Pearl Armstrong, primary teacher. This building was across Highway 117 from George Lloyd's house and about 150 yards up the valley toward Anderson. It was a frame building with two classrooms, one being quite large.

Other teachers at this school included Albert Dix, James E| Hackworth, Joe Hackworth, Professor Latimer, Mary Caperton, Cann: Wynn (1908), Ben L. Hill and Daisy Beeson (1909), D. K. Pegues, Jr (1909), H. T. Abbott (1912-13), W. M. Posey (1913), Helen Gonce (1917), Mary Gonce (1918), Lyda Hill (1920), Carrie Houston (1921-22), Vesta L. Hawkins (1922), Ruth Clark and Lois Graham (1923), Eliza Rudder and Cordie Brewster (1924), Trave T. Hackworth and Lila Beason (1925-26), Wilson Gonce and Evelyn Gonce.

When Stevenson High School opened in 1922, students in the upper grades attended there, leaving grades one through six at Pleasant Grove. The Dry Cove School House having burned in the fall of 1924. A school wagon, drawn by two horses, driven by John B. Thomas, an upper-grade student, furnished transportation for the Dry Cove students, some of whom rode seven miles each way daily in that wagon. The wagon was painted yellow; it had a frame top with glass windows, and seats that ran parallel to the sides and a long backless bench in the middle. Entry was up two steps and through a door at the back.

School was discontinued in the Pleasant Grove High School building - about 1931 or 32 when land was purchased from C. C. Matthews and a two-room frame building erected near the center of the consolidated school district. Dave Matthews built this new brick home on the campus of that Pleasant Grove School, the name having followed the school. Teachers in that building were David Cargile and Evelyn Gonce (1934), Evelyn Gonce and Katherine Thomas (1932), Cleo Gonce, and Lou Shelton.

The building burned in 1945 and a two room concrete block building replaced it. Teachers included Mrs. Ella Gonce, Helen Summers, Mrs. Mildred Sentell, Mrs. Lyda Walker, Mrs. Eliza Mae Woodall, Mary Nell Gonce.

Pleasant Grove High School was consolidated with Stevenson Elementary in 1964.

From Gordon Matthews: this is the old Pleasant Grove Grammar School (grades 1-6) up in the Bass community on Highway 117 north. it had two rooms separated by large heavy folding doors; the two rooms were called the little room and the big room. actually the rooms were the same size but were called that because of the bigger and littler kids in them. the school had a pot-bellied stove which burned coal, and also a water fountain which seldom worked. I had the same teacher for the first three years and then another teacher for the next three--namely Lyda Walker and Bennie Lee Summers. At 10:00 we had 30 minutes of recess and at noon one hour for lunch. I was in the last sixth grade class to attend here. A few years after the school shut down, the County sold the property via secret bids. My daddy was gonna turn in a bid, but his son Dave Matthews told Daddy the amount he was gonna bid, so Daddy decided there was no need for him to bid. so my half brother Dave acquired it and his wife Tweedie still owns it today

**Jun 21, 1928 PA:** Call for vote on 3-mil tax.

**Mar 15, 1927 PA:** School Pages, edited by Miss Haynes. Clyde Hartsell, a fourth-grader at Pleasant Grove talks about his school. "We have new shades for our windows and we have oiled our floors since Christmas," he writes, invited page editor Miss Haynes to visit his school. See article.

Stevenson, January 24.  
Dea. Miss Haynes:  
Here I come—a little boy twelve years of age. I go to school at Pleasant Grove school. My teacher's name is Mr. Wilson Gonce. I like him fine. Hope he shall always be my teacher. ing my best to make a grade this I am in the fourth grade. I am try-school so I may take up the fifth going to visit our school again? We grade. Miss Haynes, when are you enjoyed your visit very much before. We have new shades for our windows and we have oiled our floors since Christmas. Hope you may come to see us again soon.  
Your friend,  
CLYDE HARTSELL.

**NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given that a special election will be held in Pleasant Grove District No. 38, 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 Pleasant Grove District No. 38, 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 2, Tp 1, R 6; thence east 7 miles; thence south 6 miles; thence West 1 mile; thence north  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile; thence west  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles; thence north  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile thence west  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile; thence north  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile; thence  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile; thence north  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile; thence west  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mile; thence orth 1 mile; thence west 1 mile; thence north 1 mile; thence west 1 mile; thence north 2 miles to point of beginning.  
Said district contains sections 1, 2, 11, 12 and 13, Tp 1, R 6; also sections 2,3,4,5,6,7,8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22,23,26 27 28 35, the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of 29, the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of 33, and the N $\frac{1}{2}$  of 34, Tp 1, R 7; all of said district being in Jackson County, Alabama.  
The following officers are appointed to hold said election:  
L. W. Gonce, M. W. Gonce, C. C. Matthews, ins; J. H. Thomas, J. M. Gass, clerks; Charley Grider, R. O. R. R. Skelton, W. W. Trice, W. H. Cox, Raymond Bradford, Members, Board of Commissioners, Jackson County, Ala., M. C. Thomas, Sheriff of Jackson County, Ala.

Photos from Wanda Gonce Lovelace



front row Thomas McCallie, Dwain Roberts, Pat Russell  
2 nd Linda Gossett, ?, Betty Davis, Linda David,?,  
3 rd ? Ledal Lou Purdue, Linda Elliott, ?,?,? .

Wenda Gonce and Marylen Ware  
Pleasant Grove 1953.



