



PINTLALA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION



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175 FEDERAL RD.
HOPE HULL, AL 36043

Volume 3 Number 4 December, 1989

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JANUARY MEETING: January 21, 1990, 2:30 PM Pintlala Baptist Church
Program: Readings from "The History of Devenport" by Charles Powell,
presented by Jim Edwards
Business: Election of 2 Members-at-Large

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT:

The January 21, 1990 meeting will begin a new decade for the Pintlala Historical Association. Let's all work to make our association a moving force in Southwest Montgomery County by the year 2000.

I'm sorry I had to miss the October 15th meeting - but Kerry Brown did an excellent job in my absence. Thanks, Kerry.

The two amendments voted on and approved at the last meeting make it easier to conduct future business. The January 21st meeting will be our annual business meeting with the election of two board members and any other business that needs the attention of the membership.

The treasurer's report at the October meeting was disturbing. 20 members had not paid their dues for 1989. The 1990 dues are due at the January meeting.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone in January.

JIM EDWARDS, President

LOOKING BACK:

At our last meeting a most interesting program was given by Styles Murrell and Jamie Henry. Styles commented about Oxcart Days and on up to the time man has walked on the moon. Jamie presented interesting information about the Indians.

Mamie Sellers requested that anyone having information on Hickory Grove community, contact her. Mr. Fields, living in California, is working to update an existing history written by Mr. Charles Powell.

SNOWDOWN

THE NAME:

A settlement in northwestern Montgomery County, 6 miles south of the city of Montgomery. A post office was established here on February 19, 1859, but was discontinued on July 31, 1957. William Falconer named it in honor of Mount Snowdown in Wales. copied.

ITS HISTORY:

In 1933, The Women's Club of Snowdown published, as a money making project, a newspaper called "The New Era". The following is a copy of the history of Snowdown, written by Mrs. Fannie H. Mason, whose husband was Dr. Joseph Crump Mason, a country doctor. Another interesting article was written by Mr. H. C. Lamar, Sr., entitled "Old Residents of Snowdown". Mrs. Hal (Mildred) Lamar, Jr. gave a copy of "The New Era" for our files.

Mrs. John A. Garrett (Katherine Stowers) sent a copy of the history of the Snowdown Methodist Church.

The article on the Snowdown Post Office came from the files of Laurie Sanders.

We hope these articles will inspire others in the Snowdown area to share INFORMATION on CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, WILLS, CEMETERIES, etc.

SNOWDOWN POST OFFICE

The records of the Snowdown Post Office span almost a century, from February 19, 1859 to July 31, 1957. The Postmaster Listing appears to be complete and the names of the various postmasters serving the area provide one, also, with the surnames of some of the families to settle in these parts.

Report to Topographer

Signed by J A Calloway, Postmaster

Dated May 22, 1878

P. O. Name, Snowdown; Local Name, Snowdown

Situated in: NE Corner of SW qtr of Sec 30, T 15; R 18; Montgomery County

Office 10 miles South of Alabama River

" 4 miles North West of Ramer Creek

Nearest P.O. on Route 17268 is Oakley, its distance 6 miles, by traveled road, in South Easterly direction. Montgomery is ten miles in Northerly direction.

Post Office is distance of 6 miles from McGehee's Railroad Station, Montgomery and Mobile Railroad.

Report to Div of Topography, U S Post Office

October 11, 1913

Submitted by J B Walter

"Situated: N E qtr of Sec 31; T 15; R 18; Montgomery Co. Al.

Nearest Creek - Catoma - P.O. is five miles on South side of creek

Tharin is 3 miles in South direction

Montgomery is 10 miles in North direction

Port Office is 100 years from Atlantic Coast Line Railroad; Station name is Snowdown."

The names of the Postmasters and their dates of service are on file in the PHA files in the Pintlala Library.

THE HISTORY OF SNOWDOWN

Mrs. Fannie H. Mason

Perhaps the first settler of Snowdown, long before it was named by one William Falconer, for some fancied resemblance to Mount Snowdown in Scotland, was a man by the name of Carr, who kept an inn on the hill where Mr. Curry's home now stands. Another of the early settlers was William Taylor, who came from his birth place in Wilkes Co., Georgia, in the early years of the 18th century. He brought with him his wife and family, his horses and his slaves, making the long trip on horseback. He acquired from the Government two square miles of land for which he paid 25 cents per acre. Later this land was divided among his numerous children, most of whom settled around him. His brother-in-law, Dr. Samuel Oliver, also acquired a large acreage, the nucleus of the neighborhood. Here they lived for many years until the Civil War broke out. Then the young men answered the call of arms, and bearing a flag made by the women of the neighborhood, the gallant Prairie Rangers marched away for the battle in Virginia. During the long years of that conflict the women carried on. Some lived alone with their children, on the plantations with the slaves. They raised the corn to feed the armies, wove and knit and sewed and always did their fair part, for the flame of patriotism burned high in those tenderly nurtured women. Most of whom till then had never known any sort of toil.

When the war was over and the tattered remnants of the troops came marching home again, they found their store houses robbed, their stock and cattle either killed or carried off and with the bare fields only left them, they bravely essayed the appalling task of restoring order in that ravished land, and raising food for their families.

In an amazing short time, prosperity returned and the old happy mode of life was resumed to some extent. Many moved to town, but others, more adaptable, rented their lands to negro tenants, or hired them by the month and continued to raise corn and cotton.

The history of Snowdown since the close of the Civil War is like that of other small communities remote from the railroad. The post road from Troy to Montgomery ran through the place--and the thrilling call of the bugle, blown by the driver of the mail coach, echoes still in the memories of all small boys of that period. Many, if not all of them, aspired to drive that crack team when they arrived at man's estate.

The families of that day were few but there were many children and the schools usually of three months duration, were well attended.

The boys who had their professions, doctors, lawyers, engineers, planters and business men, went forth into the world.

During those early years the large plantations were devoted to the production of corn and cotton. The fields resounded to the happy songs of the negro hands as they plowed and hoed and picked the cotton. With the coming of the railroad the negroes commenced to drift away. Finally the advent of the boll weevil spelled the doom of the cotton industry and the land owners were forced to turn to some other mode of farming.

It was in the beginning of this era that Mr. Joe Calloway bought some jerseys and a separator and started the community on the road to dairy and stock farming. About this time Northern farmers, attracted by the cheaper land and mild winters, came to try their fortunes with us and lend their examples of thrift and industry. All houses are filled and each year sees more modern homes built in this progressive neighborhood. The church interests are well supplied and the new brick church is an added attraction. It was built largely by the efforts of the Snowdown women.

(The History of Snowdown - con't)

During the World War these women supported a live chapter of the Red Cross and made many garments for the soldier boys. When that need was over, a Community Club was organized which functions today, giving its might to every charitable enterprise.

The club contributed generously to the storm sufferers at Elba and Geneva and recently the victims of the tornadoes which visited the state.

More recently they have entered heartily into the program for better homes and the canning projects sponsored by the Red Cross and developed with the assistance of our capable Home Demonstration Agent, Mrs. Mamie Thorington.

The neighborhood still retains its old charm for its former residents, and those who have been drawn away by stronger interests, carry with them an abiding love for the green hills and valleys of old Snowdown, and a secret hope to return someday to live amid its sunshine and its breezes.

OLD RESIDENTS OF SNOWDOWN

By H. C. Lamar, Sr.

During, prior and just after the Civil War, many fine people lived in the Snowdown Community. Such names as Wm. Taylor, (Brick House Taylor); Dr. Samuel Oliver; Willis R. Calloway and his son, Joseph A. Calloway; and a nephew, Jno. B. Calloway; Wm. Falconer; Dr. Wm. B. Armistead; Dr. Lynch; Dr. Rives; the Groom family; Wm. T. Mason. Brick House Taylor had four sons, Wm. Jr., Clark and Jim Taylor and Swept Taylor and a daughter, Mrs. Andrew, who also lived there. She was the mother of Ed. and Jim Andrew. Dudley Battle, who married a daughter of Brick House Taylor, lived there and reared a large family. There was a family of Murrys there in those days but they are gone and their descendents are scattered, I know not where. His home was on the place where Mr. Helms now lives. Dr. Lynch and Dr. Rives both lived, at different times, on the place now owned by Jason H. Smith. Jno. H. Leigh, also a prominent man, lived on this same place before Smith bought it. Mr. Leigh, Mr. Falconer and Dr. Armistead all were elected at different times after the Civil War to the office of Tax Collector. George Clisby, also a prominent and worthy man who married into the Mastin family, was elected to the office of Tax Assessor and was afterwards made Post Master at Montgomery, under the administration of Grover Cleveland.

Wm. Taylor (Brick House) and Dr. Oliver were both noted men. They had large families and I know of none of the Oliver family or their descendents who now live at Snowdown. Dr. Oliver was the Senator from Montgomery County for 12 or 14 years. He had opposition every time he ran, but no one could beat him. He lived on what was known as the Oliver place, a part of this place was called the Lamar place, now owned by J. A. Walter. He owned a beautiful large two-story house and during or before the Civil War it was blown into splinters by a storm or cyclone but no lives were lost. Dr. Oliver, as I have noted above, was the Montgomery County Senator. Snowdown was about in the center of the County and Dr. Oliver, when he had an opponent in the country section, he would go to the city and get enough votes with his county strength to put him over, and if a town man came out against him, he would gather enough town votes coupled with his country votes to always put him over. His descendents have long since disappeared from that community and the property is now owned mostly by J. A. Walter and the descendents of Willis and Joseph Calloway. Both Dr. Oliver and Mr. Wm. Taylor married daughters of Abner McGehee, another noted and rich man, who lived and died at Hope Hull. When they married Abner McGehee's daughters, they went over near Snowdown to live. I know of no descendents of Wm. (Brick House) Taylor except Mrs. Dr. Mason. She and the children of Mrs. Dr. Calloway are the only ones left who now own any part of the original property of Brick House Taylor.

Other old families living near Snowdown in those days were the Henry Jones family and Jack and Maleane Robertson, who lived just below Snowdown. A little further Southeast of Snowdown was a fine community composed of the Ponders, Elsberries, Harts, Dillards, Arringtons and others.

Before the Civil War there was a Methodist Protestant Church located about where Mr. Jno. Curry and family now live. There was a graveyard adjacent to this church and 15 or 20 marble stones or small monuments were in the graveyard. The church afterwards became an Episcopal church and at one time they had a good working membership. Through the influence of Wm. Falconer and Dr. Armistead and Mrs. Jno. B. Calloway, this church was established. This church must have had a successful course for 10 or 15 years. The community had a regular pastor, the Rev. James F. Smith. The pastor which was at the M.P. Church was the Rev. James Jarratt, a brother-in-law to Dr. Whipple at McGehee's Switch and Mr. Jarratt was related to the McGehees in some way. There is no trace of this church or the cemetery there now. After this church passed away there came into the lives and hearts of the people at Snowdown, the Rev. L.L. Hill, a Methodist Protestant preacher who preached for years for this and the Hope Hull Communities. He was a rich and prominent man and never charged anything for his service. He preached to all the people there, buried the old people and married the young ones. He is the father and grandfather of the noted doctors, dentists and lawyers of that name in Montgomery. He was an unusual and remarkable man, a profound student, a lovable soul. His sons and grandsons arose to the top, but not a one of them had a superior brain or soul to L.L. Hill, Sr.

Many years ago Snowdown had a noted shooting club and they used to shoot live pigeons. Dr. Hill, loving the community as he did, took issue with the club and contended that it was cruel and brutal to kill the innocent live birds as they were thrown from the trap. Members of the club and others went to war with him on the question, but he finally won out and public opinion backed him up and this sport was abandoned to the joy of everybody. At that time, there was no church building and Dr. Hill held his services at the Grange Hall, and by the way, the community sustained a Grange, one of the first to organize and one of the last to disappear. After Dr. Hill's regime as preacher and friend to all the people came Mr. Jordan, as pure and as incomparable a man as ever lived and a bright and shining Christian. Mr. Jordan preached, as did Dr. Hill, without pay for 7 or 8 years. He preached one Sunday out of each month. As a result of his **preaching quite** a lot of the people became members of the Church of Christ. After this two Methodist Episcopal ministers by the name of Jim and Will McCann who were brothers, came and held a two weeks meeting and started the movement to build a church. Walter Brothers donated the land and a large portion of the money and the House was built. After a few years this church building was demolished by a storm and thereafter Walter Brothers donated another lot and more money and the new church was built up again and in a religious way the M.E. Church still holds the fort at Snowdown. The Wm. Falconer that I have already referred to, lived in a cute and cozy log house with his delightful wife and four children on what is known now as the Slaughter place, and is owned by its present occupant, Geo. W. Dickey. Wm. Falconer, in this cozy log house, wrote a book whose title was "Bloom and Brier". It was a novel of tragedy in the beautiful ante-bellum days before the Civil War, and a more beautiful and heartfelt story I have never read. Hon. Tom Arrington was telling me a few days ago that he had read the book and that he estimated it as I did. The same little log house is standing where it was built, but it has weather boards over it and no longer is known as the Falconer log house.

Referring back to Brick House Taylor, this nickname came to him for the reason that he built the first and only brick residence that ever was built at Snowdown until Hon. Lee Calloway built his. This house of Mr. Taylor's was a two-story house and must have cost a lot of money. Wm. T. Mason, Clark Taylor and Jim Taylor, sons of Brick House Taylor and grandsons of Abner McGehee referred to in these pages, all married sisters of Jno. B. Calloway and all lived and reared families and died at Snowdown. Scovel Battle, a brother to Dudley Battle, also married a sister of Jno. B. Calloway. The Lopers, Dan and some other brothers lived there. They were poor before the Civil War but afterwards became quite independent. They are all gone. Some of their descendents live in Montgomery. There was a Mr. Baysen living just below Snowdown years ago and Capt. Dillard, one of his closest friends, mistook him for a wild turkey and killed him in the early morning. At least 40 years ago there also lived at Snowdown, Mr. Billy Reynolds, a successful and prominent automobile man and, the other, his sister, Mrs. Minnie Saffold Reynolds, a very noted and delightful writer. There is no member of Dr. Rives family living that I know except a son, Ed Rives at Crosada. Peter Powell and his family lived just below Snowdown on the Joseph place. He moved from Alabama to Kentucky many years ago. There was, in those days, a large and fine family of Sankeys who lived just below Snowdown. Capt. Tom Stacey lived on the Corbin place known now as the McDade place. Mr. Truss Walters last wife was his daughter and some of their children and descendents now have homes in Snowdown. In those days there was no free school system, but people had large families. My recollection is that between three men, Mr. Wm. Taylor and Dudley Battle, and Joseph A. Calloway, they had about 38 children, little and big. Mr. Malloy, a graduate of Princeton, was one time a teacher there. Snowdown, in the old days, was noted for its baseball teams and, at one time, they won the championship in Montgomery County, but finally lost to the Montgomery team and afterwards the Ramer Black Hawks won over Montgomery. We had no paved roads in those days and no railroad running through Snowdown and in the fall and winter thousands of covered wagons from Pike and Crenshaw counties passed through to market at Montgomery. During the rainy season the roads were almost impassable. I have seen the wagons surging through the mud for a quarter of a mile on each side of the main highway trying to find solid ground to pull the traffic over. It often took two days to go from Snowdown to Montgomery and return.

The school house at Snowdown was a log structure and was located very close to where Jesse Walters now lives.

Some may be interested in the origin of Snowdown's name. Wm. Falconer, who was a very highly educated man and read extensively, named it from a little town in Scotland. In Scott's "Lady of the Lake" he says that "The Knight of Snowdown was Scotland's Chief", so this was the name given to Snowdown. In the old days the country was full of negroes. They were as thick as black birds, but like all the old settlers they are gone. Many of them in leaving not only went to the grave, but thousands migrated to the North and the cities of the South.

Another prominent man who lived just below Snowdown was Peter Mastin. He had a large family. The late Peter B. and Thos. Mastin were his sons. He was a large land owner and had many slaves. Before the Civil War he bought land just South of Montgomery and built for his home almost a mansion and lived there until he died. He was quite a politician and his ambition was to be Sheriff of the County and was defeated three times for this office but in every election he came very close to the prize. One of his daughters married Hamilton McIntyre and one married Mr. Graham of Autauga County, one married Geo. Clisby. In the old days Geo. Clisby and Geo. Rives, and Pink Sayre were great fox hunters and in their pack they had some fine dogs.

The first store was built by a man named Wilson. A little one-room frame structure about 20x30 feet. His stock of goods was a few canned goods and a little meat and flour and several barrels of whiskey. It was designated by the best element of our white people as a "Dead Fall". However, Mr. Wilson was popular with all the negroes and with many of the whites. He passed out and Jno. B. Calloway and Wm. Falconer and Dr. Armistead jointly built a large two story store building with a Lodge Hall as the upper story and the community used this hall as a church and as a Grange Hall and for dancing and other purposes. This property finally passed from these owners to Walter Bros. who at that time had not moved to Snowdown themselves but they had investments there and later two members of this firm, Truss and Jesse with their families moved into the community and descendants of theirs now live at Snowdown.

In the evolution and revolution of time we who live today should feel grateful for the progress that has been made over the old days. While to many, those were happy, blissful days, yet the great mass of the people had no free schools, no good roads, no automobiles, no telephones, no radios, no airships, no quick transit of any kind.

In the old days Snowdown was noted for its barbecues through the summer months. People for miles and miles around, the people from the city of Montgomery and from all the countryside, met to enjoy these wonderful barbecues and everything was free. The neighborhood sometimes would furnish 40 or 50 carcasses just off their farms for these occasions. In those days everybody raised corn and hogs and you could sometimes find more home raised corn on one plantation than you will find in a whole township now.

Another distinguished man who sometimes attended our Grange meetings and other meets, but more connected with the Hope Hull Community was Col. James G. Gilchrist and his family. His last wife also was the daughter of Abner McGehee. He lived about two miles west of the Snowdown center. He was a great man in his day and time. He had vision and while a member of the Board of Revenue put in motion the idea of building good roads and is known to this day as the "Father of our good Roads". He had some descendants who still live and own a part of his home place. He was a Colonel in the Confederate War and was a brave soldier. He was a member of the Secession Convention that took Alabama out of the Union. After the Civil War he was urged by friends to run for Congress and he responded to the call but was defeated by the combination of two politicians. He was a big man, both in body and soul. In the old days a stage coach route between Montgomery and Troy was run and these trips were made on Wednesdays and Saturdays of each week. Sometimes you could see passengers, not only in the bus but on top of it. These busses brought the mail to the people from Montgomery and elsewhere. The passage of these busses through the summer was of great interest, especially to the young folks and children. In those days at barbecues they had the Gander Pulling stunt, where a live gander with a greased neck and head and wing was put upon a form and the participants, mostly young men, would ride under the gander in full speed of the horse and try their hands at pulling off the gander's head. It was a very exciting sport and the gander's head was difficult to pull. Sometimes 50 or more riders would be in the game and each would take his turn as his name was called, and after a great many efforts, some lucky Knight got the head off and you can rest assured that he was just as much of a hero as Hobson was when he sunk the Merimac. In the old days the women folks had no short hair nor short dresses and no bathing suits.

Snowdown in its time has had a fine array of physicians such as Dr. Oliver, Dr. Lynch, Dr. Armistead (who never practiced), Dr. Rives, Dr. Abercrombie, Dr. McGehee, Dr. McLean (who practiced at both Hope Hull and Snowdown), Dr. Taylor and last but not least, Dr. Mason and Dr. Calloway. All are dead and gone but Dr. Calloway and he, like the negroes who departed from our farms, now lives at a town called Deatsville, but in latter days this has been the fate of most of

our country communities. The doctors have all died or migrated to the towns and cities. Willis R. Calloway was the richest man that ever lived at Snowdown. At one time before the Civil War, he owned as many as a half dozen large plantations and every place was stocked with slaves, fine mules and overseers. At the breaking out of hostilities between the North and South, his son, Joseph A. Calloway, and his nephew, Jno. B. Calloway were ardent secessionists, but the old gentleman, like L.L. Hill and Brick House Taylor, had the vision to see that a war meant the emancipation of their slaves, as well as, the other resultant calamities that follow in the wake of war. But like Alexander Stephens, after the die was cast, they gave their all for the cause of the "Southern Confederacy". The old man had it up and down with his son, Joseph, and his nephew, John. The boys contended that the Yankees could be whipped in 90 days, but the old man said, no, my boys, you don't know what you are talking about. So the conflict came and the war lasted four long years and the South lost not only its slaves but everything else save its honor. The period after the war and reconstruction times are too horrible to write or say anything about.

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SNOWDOWN METHODIST CHURCH, Circa 1950

HISTORY OF THE SNOWDOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Prior to the Civil War a Methodist Protestant Church was located in Snowdown approximately where the Curry home now stands on U. S. Highway 331 bordered by the Hance Mill Road. Later, this church became an Episcopal Church and at one time had an active membership. Through the influence of Mr. William Falconer, a Dr. Armistead and Mrs. John B. Callaway, this church was established. The church had a regular pastor, the Reverend James F. Smith, and the church had a successful course for ten or fifteen years.

Some time after this, the Reverend L. L. Hill, a Methodist Protestant minister, held services at the Grange Hall as there was no church at Snowdown at that time. It is believed that Grange Hall was located where the Snowdown Grocery presently stands at the intersection of U. S. Highway 331 and Hance Mill Road. The Reverend Hill preached at Snowdown and at Hope Hull for a number of years and was never known to charge for his services. The Reverend Hill was the grandfather and great-grandfather of the prominent doctors, dentists and lawyers by that name in Montgomery today.

Some years after the Reverend Hill served as pastor at Snowdown, two brothers, James and W. E. McCann, held a two-weeks' revival in Snowdown and started the movement to build a church. Three brothers of the community--Duncan Campbell Walter, Tristram Bethea Walter and Jesse Bethea Walter--donated land and gave a large portion of the money to build a Methodist Church. About ten years after this church was built, a cyclone destroyed the building. The Walter brothers again donated a large sum of money and more land and another building was erected. This building was located at approximately the same spot as our present church. The following were charter members of this church: Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Callaway, Miss Nina Callaway, Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Stowers, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Mason, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Mason and Dr. and Mrs. J. C. Mason.

The Snowdown Church was placed in the circuit with Lapine in 1892. Dr. J. C. Mason, Mr. M. M. Stowers and Mr. David Livingston were among the first stewards. Others whose names were synonymous with Snowdown in this worthwhile undertaking were Mr. and Mrs. Bird Merriwether, Mr. Thomas Merriwether, Mr. and Mrs. Clark Taylor, Mr. T. B. Mastin, Mrs. H. C. Lamar, Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Mitchell, Mrs. Inda Callaway Curry, Mr. Frank Curry, Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Walter, Mr. J. A. Callaway and Mr. Lee Callaway, Sr.

In July 1924, the Snowdown Church was again destroyed by a cyclone. On August 13th a meeting was called and plans were made to rebuild the present church. Some of the most active in this undertaking were Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Walter, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Lee Callaway, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Callaway, Mr. and Mrs. John P. Curry, Mr. and Mrs. Owen Green, Mr. and Mrs. George W. Dickey, Mr. and Mrs. W. I. Wilborn, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Cutts, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Walter, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Walter, Sr., and Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Stowers.

One of the first projects to raise money for this church building was a Snowdown barbecue. Snowdown had established a reputation for

serving good barbecue back in the reconstruction days, and this reputation has continued through the years. An annual project to raise funds was a booth at the State Fair in Montgomery. For five years the men, women and children worked either at home or at the fair grounds preparing and serving turkey dinners. When sufficient funds were raised, the present building was erected. During the short time that funds were being raised for this building, Sunday School classes were held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Walter, Sr. This is the home now owned by Mr. and Mrs. John Walter Stowers, and located on the Butler Mill Road.

During the early years of the church, services were held only two times each month, and the minister resided at Lapine. In 1949 this church was placed on the circuit with Hope Hull, and the minister lived in that community.

In 1953, the Reverend T. J. Gross, who was semi-retired, became the first full-time minister of the Snowdoun church. Under his leadership, four rooms were added to the sanctuary to be used as classrooms.

In 1954, a parsonage was erected but was not occupied by the Reverend Gross because he owned a home in Montgomery and continued to reside there. The Reverend Joel Jones was the first pastor to occupy the new parsonage when he came to Snowdoun in 1955. Our church has had a resident minister since that time.

During the past years, many improvements have been made to the church building. Many beautiful memorials have been given which add to the beauty and comfort of the sanctuary.

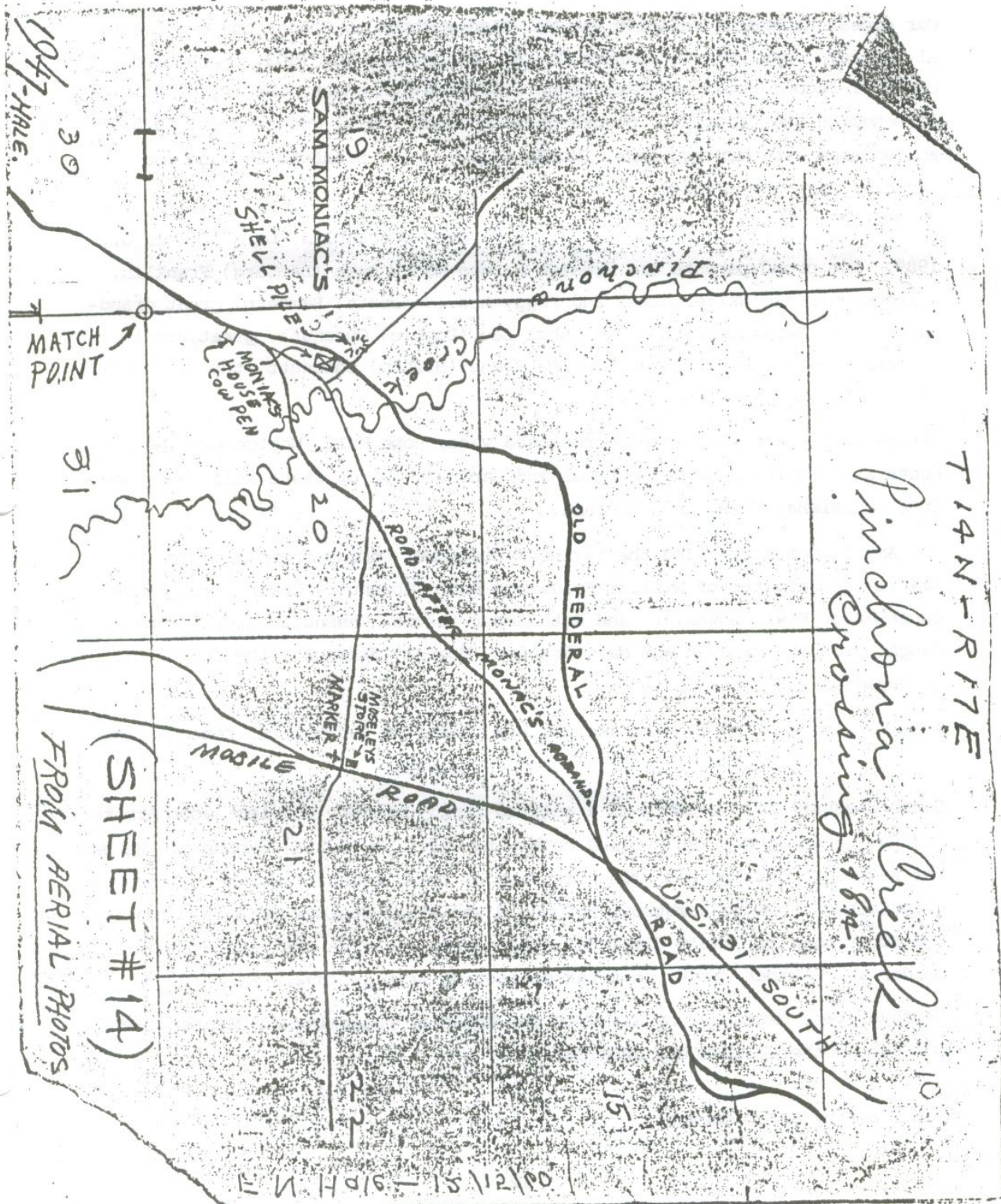
The original portion of the educational building was erected in 1960 during the ministry of the Reverend U. L. Martin. The most recent addition is the east wing consisting of five classrooms. The educational building presently consists of seven classrooms, a church office, a kitchen, a recreation-fellowship hall, two rest rooms, and a small library.

The Sunday School was under the able supervision of Mr. Owen Green for approximately 40 years, ending in 1965 due to illness. He then served as Superintendent Emeritus until his death in 1970. Since then, this position has been held by Messrs. Wallace Wilborn, Lee Duffey, and Donald Hall, Jr.

The Snowdoun United Methodist Church has contributed greatly to the religious life of the Snowdoun community throughout the years. It has grown and prospered in proportion to the growth and prosperity of the community. May God continue to bless the Snowdoun United Methodist Church and the Snowdoun community as we continue to work together toward a better way of life through His help.

Thanks to Will Hill Tankersley and the Dept. of Archives and History, an interesting map pinpointing the location of Moniac's Tavern is shown below:

Copy of an old map showing Old Federal Road & location of Moniac's Tavern.



CHESNUTT FAMILY REUNION:

The decendants of Nehemiah H. and Caroline Francis (Butts) Chesnutt met on Saturday October 14, 1989 at Pintlala Baptist Church for their annual reunion, with sixty-one (61) in attendance.

Our oldest attending relative was Ms. Gladys Chesnutt Conner of Montgomery, Al. Gladys was born in Lowndes Co. Al. on October 21, 1903, the second child of Jacob Thomas and Mary Susan (Stanford) Chesnutt, the third child of Nehemiah and Caroline. Gladys married Thomas Delma Conner about 1925-26 and to them was born two sons, Thomas Delma, Jr. ; Stanford Lon and one daughter Mary Sue (Jones).

The newest member of our clan is Laura Katherine Franklin, born October 6, 1989. The proud parents are Preston L. and Nancy Dale (Bamberg) Franklin, grandparents are Walter Jones and Peggy Lee (Chesnutt) Bamberg, great grandparents are Nehemiah Bishop and Ethel Lee (Luckie) Chesnutt, great,great,grand-parents are George Curtis and Mollie Rachel(Bishop) Chesnutt, the fifth child of Nehemiah and Caroline.

Cities in Alabama that were represented were, Hope Hull, Montgomery, Mobile, Huntsville, Birmingham, Pine Level and Lapine. Out of state relatives came from Louisiana, Texas and Virginia.

Ms. Amy B. Coats traveled the farthest distance, coming from Arlington, Vi. Amy is the daughter of William Price and Ruth (Chesnutt) Coats, the granddaughter of Edwin Bowen,Jr. and Ruth Amber (Davis) Chesnutt, great granddaughter of Edwin Bowen and Mary Frances (Mooney) Chesnutt, the forth child of Nehemiah and Caroline.

A grand time was had by all, meeting new relatives and getting reacquainted with others. The food was exceptional, as always.

Sarah Chesnutt told a story of a related family member, Charles Jacob Armstrong. Jake as he was known was a grand nephew to Caroline (Butts) Chesnutt. He was the father of Charles Benjamin Armstrong of this community for many years and grandfather of Sadie Armstrong McDonnold who still resides in this community. The story told of Jake's Civil War experiences and also the details of his murder at Panther Creek, on a tax collecting trip in 1892.

Goodbyes were expressed by all with the hopes of returning in October 1990 for yet another " CHESNUTT REUNION".

Submitted by Sarah Chesnutt

INFORMATION, PLEASE

The following is a request for information from Mr. Robert G. McLendon, Jr.:
"I have not been able to locate the burial places of the following and possibly someone might have this knowledge:

1. William B. Myrick (1816-1881) and his wife, Catharine C. Waller (1821-1884). They are my great-great grandparents. He was the son of Richard Myrick and she was the daughter of Nathaniel Green Waller. Both families came to Montgomery County about 1819. William B. Myrick purchased land on Pintlala Creek, about 2-3 miles west of Sprague, in 1849.
2. Nathaniel Green Waller and his wife, Annis Gregory, daughter of John R. Gregory. He came to Montgomery County in about 1819 and owned a large tract of land south of Montgomery. Waller Creek was named for him. He died in 1834.
3. Peter Blackwell Mastin (1811-1865). He came to Montgomery County in 1834 and obtained large tracts of land near LeGrand. In 1836, he married Mary Amelia Myrick, sister of William B. Myrick, mentioned above. In 1851, he bought the beautiful "Fairview" plantation near Montgomery, but retained his land near LeGrand. His wife is buried in the Mastin family plot at Oakwood Cemetery in Montgomery, but his grave has not been located. He was Sheriff of Montgomery County in the 1850's.

Any information you may be able to furnish me will be appreciated."

Address: Robert G. McLendon, Jr., P.O. Box 12775, Gainesville, FL 32604

BETHEL CEMETERY IMPROVEMENTS

Recent work has been done in the Bethel Cemetery. Mr. Lynn Gowan of the Montgomery County Commission was instrumental in the rebuilding of the road which links Highway 31 to the cemetery. Andy Dixon and Doug Griggs, who work for Mr. Ray Scott, along with Dwayne Miller and Butch Taylor, have continued the work of clearing away the underbrush. The names, addresses and phone numbers of surviving relatives of deceased persons buried within the cemetery should be given to Gary Burton. Your help in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

CRENSHAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

A notice from the Crenshaw County Historical Society tells of the varied projects they are pursuing and contains an invitation for anyone who wishes to become a member to contact Joe Horn at Horn & Son Grocery, Luverne, Ala., 36049. Phone: 335-3903. The annual membership dues: Single - \$7.00; Couple - \$10.00. Lifetime dues: Single - \$100.00; Couple - \$150.00

LOWNDES NEWSLETTER

The October Newsletter of the Lowndes County Historical Society, on file in the Pintlala Library, contains information from the Lowndes County Tract Book - Township 13 North - Range 16 East, continued from January, 1989. A story on Benton, excerpts from the diary of Dr. Hardy Vickers Wooten, ca 1838, Grant Cemetery, and membership list of Hopewell Methodist Church, Palmyra, 1850-1921.

NEW LIBRARY HOURS

The Montgomery City-County Library, Pintlala Branch, has new hours, as follows:

Sunday & Monday	-	Closed
Tuesday	-	Open 9 AM to 1 PM
Wednesday	-	Open 9 AM to 1 PM and 1:30PM to 4 PM
Thursday	-	Open 9 AM to 1 PM and 1:30PM to 4 PM
Friday	-	Open 9 AM to 1 PM and 1:30PM to 4 PM
Saturday	-	Open 9 AM to 1 PM

The historical files at the Library are available for those who wish to do research. Also we welcome additions from you such as family histories, newspaper clippings, pictures, old letters and other memorabilia. We would prefer copies, not originals, especially in reference to legal papers such as deeds, wills, marriage licenses, etc.

RODGERS FAMILY HISTORY

A beautiful book entitled "The Roots and Shoots of an Alabama Family" has been given to the PHA by Dr. Hugh Rodgers. It contains accounts of some Ancestors and Descendants of John Griffin Rodgers (1858 - 1933) and Emma James Rogers (1863-1932) of Montgomery Butler and Escambia Counties, Alabama". Dr. Rodgers paid our Organization a nice compliment in the book stating the PHA was very valuable for this research.

THE LASSITER FAMILY

The Lassiter family reunion, traditionally held on July 4th, was changed in 1986 to the last Saturday in June. This year a covered dish lunch was held at Liberty Church of Christ. It was enjoyed by everyone attending.

The following resume' of the history of the Lassiter family was written by the late Frank Grant Lassiter:

"This brief genealogy of the Lassiter family began about the dawn of the 18th century, which was about 257 years ago. John Allen Lassiter, with two brothers, came to this country from London, England. John Allen has been a very popular name in the Lassiter family all this time. Seventy-five years ago, when Frank Grant Lassiter was six, his Grandmother Lassiter was about one-hundred with a mind as clear as the morning sun. He enjoyed going to spend two or three days with her. She would tell him about his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, back generations and all of them were John Allens. As Frank Grant Lassiter is a link in this long family chain, I will come on down the stream of time to the 6th day of November, 1910 when Frank Grant married the former Annie Merle Brady, the daughter of Thomas and Virginia Thweatt Brady of Mt. Carmel, Alabama. To this union were born three daughters and six sons: Myrtle, Annie Miriam, and Mary Virginia; also, John Brady, Joe Frank, William Clarence, Jackson Hobbie, Felix Gunter and Glenn Allen.

Frank and Merle turned this over to their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren to carry on the Lassiter family."
