

Documenting Schools in Jackson County

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Jackson County Historical Association

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How I Got Started at This Project

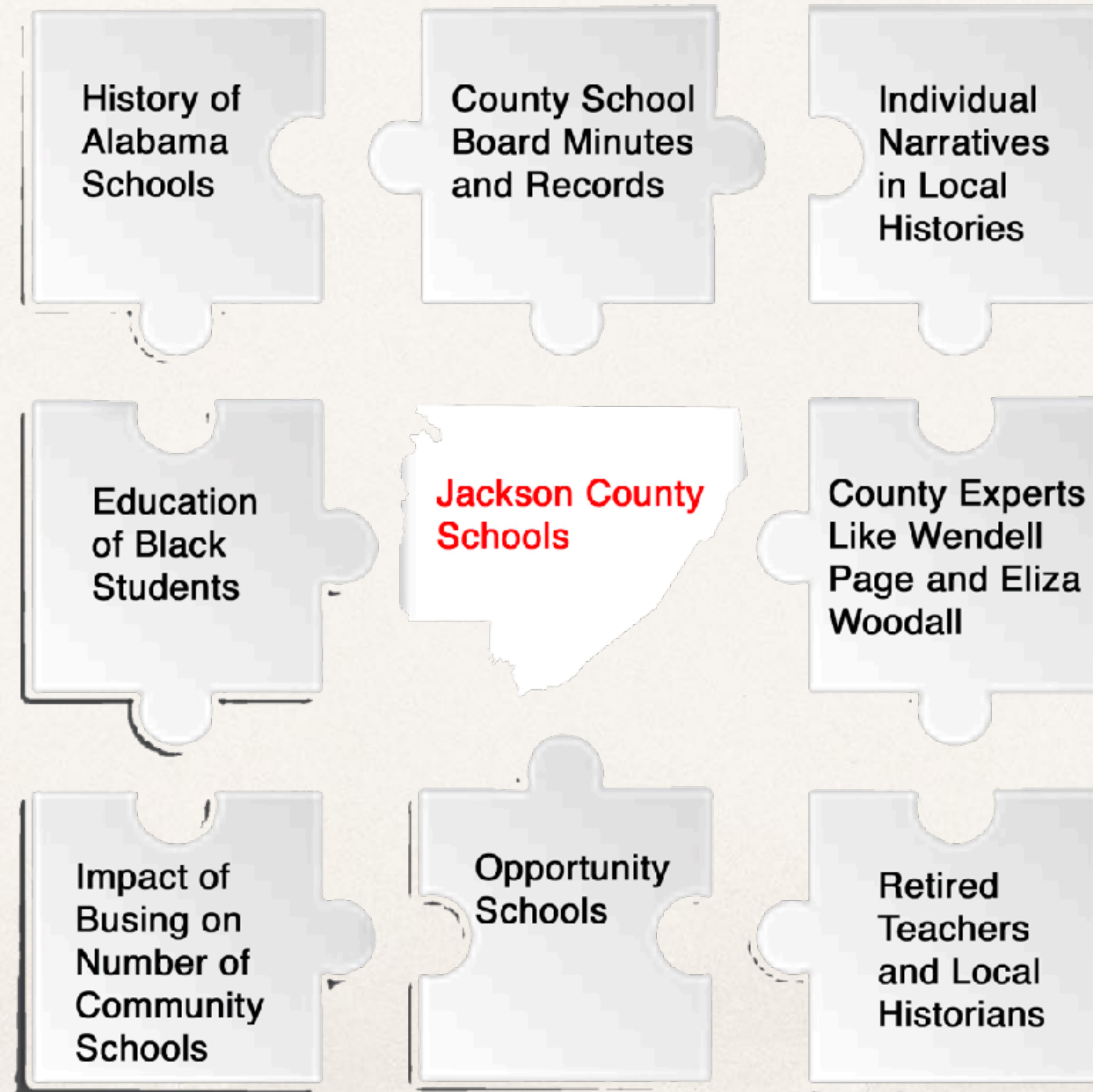
- ❖ I am editor of the *Jackson County Chronicles* and Admin for the JCHA Facebook page.
- ❖ We have many people posting photos or asking questions about schools. I had never heard of most of the schools they were asking about.
- ❖ I found the 1950s “Know Your Schools” features in the local newspapers, but none of the schools on Facebook were part of this discussion.
- ❖ I began scanning yearbooks and local histories and finding gems of school history.
- ❖ I wrote about a history of public transportation in the county and discovered that most of these small schools disappeared when school buses appeared.

But generally...I am clueless...

- ❖ I am not from Jackson County.
- ❖ I had no real experience with the structures in public schools. I cannot generate information; I can only discover it and organize it.
- ❖ It felt like a job that needed to be done, but I was going to need a lot of help.
- ❖ The clock is ticking. There are few people with first person experience with all these small schools.



Documenting Schools is a Multidimensional Problem



Good County School Resources

- ❖ Before 1920, grand jury and school board reports.
- ❖ Minutes of school board meetings since 1907 and rolls of classes in every school kept at the county school board office on West Willow. Many school board minutes and financial reports published in the newspapers.
- ❖ 1922-23: Educational directory published in the *Progressive Age* ahead of the vote for or against the 3 mil tax.
- ❖ Periodic lists of all teacher (white and black) with salary information in the newspaper
- ❖ 1939: Educational Directory published in the *Progressive Age*
- ❖ 1950: "Know Your Schools" columns in both *PA* and *JC Sentinel*
- ❖ Wendell Page's "100 Schools" document and college hill document
- ❖ Ann Chambless's school files and articles in the *Chronicles*
- ❖ Historic USGS maps and the courthouse map collection

How Many Schools Are We Talking About?

- ❖ A number of early academies
- ❖ At least 167 elementary schools
- ❖ At least 6 colleges
- ❖ The history that goes around it.
- ❖ I am looking for photos of the school and students, teachers at the school, location of the school, stories of attending school there.

What Kinds of Profiles Am I Creating?

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 Blascett, and the trustees were Ben Goforth, L. C. Stearns, 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 Eowen (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. Gayles 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 McCoy's 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. Jarnigan'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 fower and evergreens...Quit a crowd of young people from Sard 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 Blansett Brothers were paid \$7.50 to cut wood for McCoy's Grove school.

Nov 10, 1937 PA: R. L. Blansett 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 McCoy's Grove School, go by Fabius to Flat Rock School. The County Board will require 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 cortex 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 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 Blansett Wann 34 Lizzie Blansett Garren 20 Lawrence Blansett 21 Lera Blansett Cuffey 24 Sam Emory Blansett 36 John Blansett 36 Charlie Blansett



❖ Here is McCoy School. Hilda McCoy helped me a lot with this.

Methodology

- ❖ Locate the school on historic maps.
- ❖ Solicit information about the school using, for example, the JCHA facebook page and Jackson Tales in the Sentinel.
- ❖ Search the old newspapers online for references to this school.
- ❖ Look at Wendell Page's 100 School document
- ❖ Read regional histories for account of attending or teaching local schools
- ❖ Look at standard county references like Kennamer's Woodville book, Dennis Lambert's Bridgeport book, John Hembree's Hog Jaw Valley book, Marlin Tucker's Limrock books, Eliza Woodall's Stevenson book
- ❖ Put individual school profiles out on the JCHA website and ask for reviews for subject matter experts.
- ❖ May never be published in book form. The DeKalb County schools book is 600 pages. I have 12 pages already on Section and I am not done.

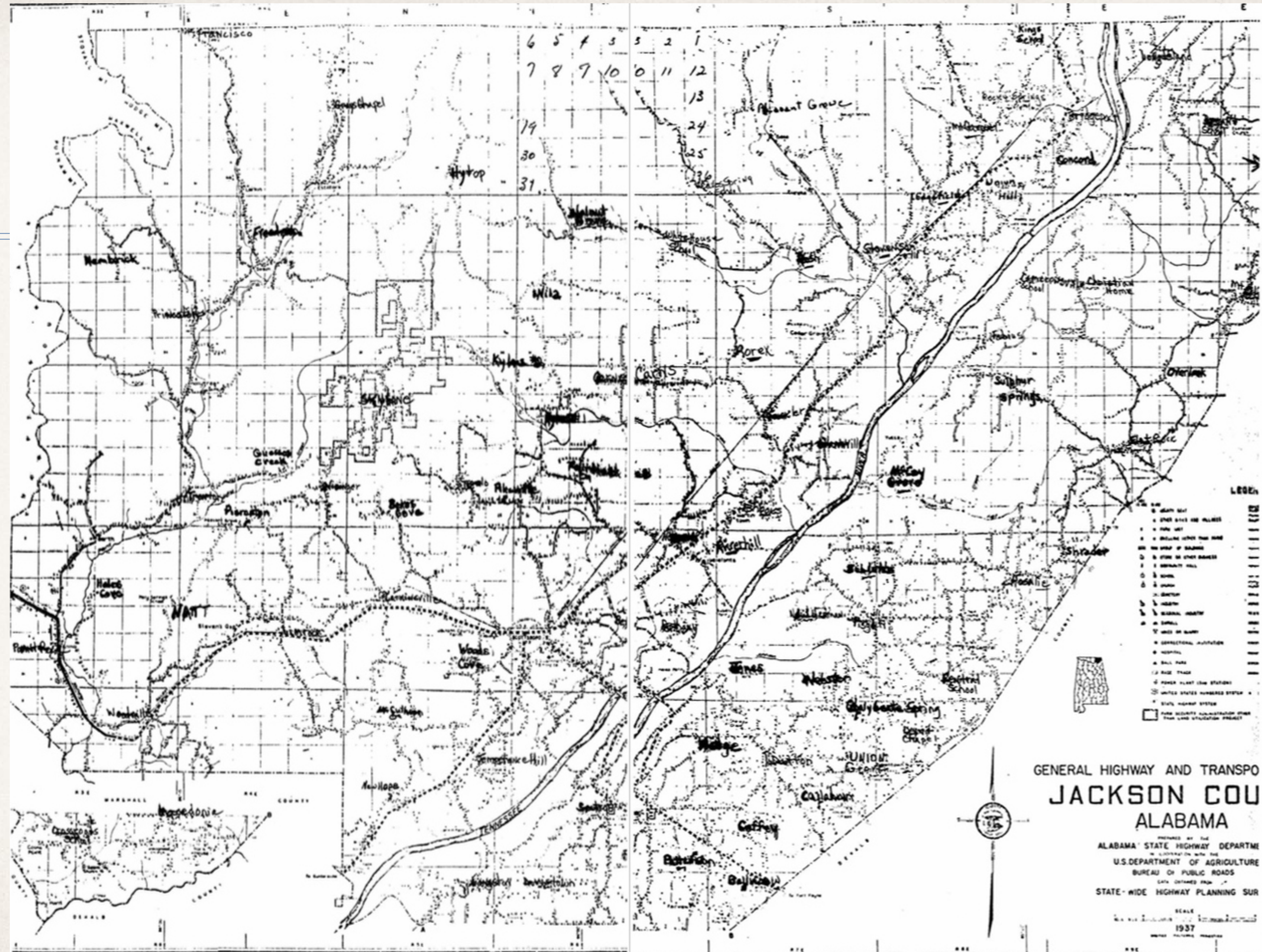
Wendell Page

- ❖ Teacher and principal in the Jackson County School system for 32 years, retiring in 1977.
- ❖ President of the Jackson County Retired Teachers Association.
- ❖ Treasurer of the Civitan Club.
- ❖ Member of the Church of Christ.
- ❖ Director of the Heritage Center and active in the Jackson County Historical Association.
- ❖ Received an award of merit for building the Heritage Center collection from the Alabama Historic Commission.
- ❖ Named citizen of the year in 1993.



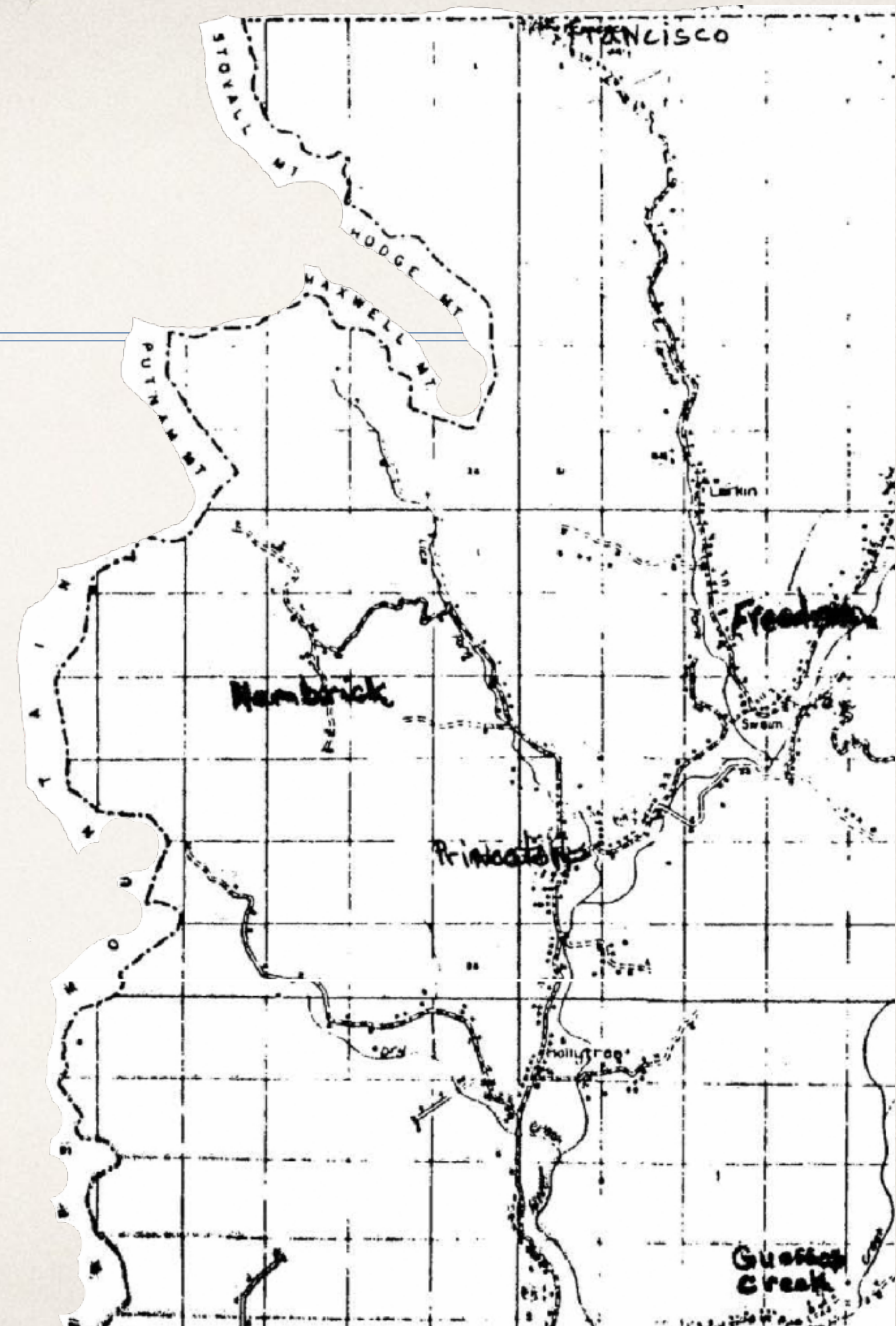
Wendell Page

- ❖ With Carlus Page, created the One Hundred Schools document, showing 100 school active in JC in 1907.
- ❖ This document was my starting place and this 1937 map.



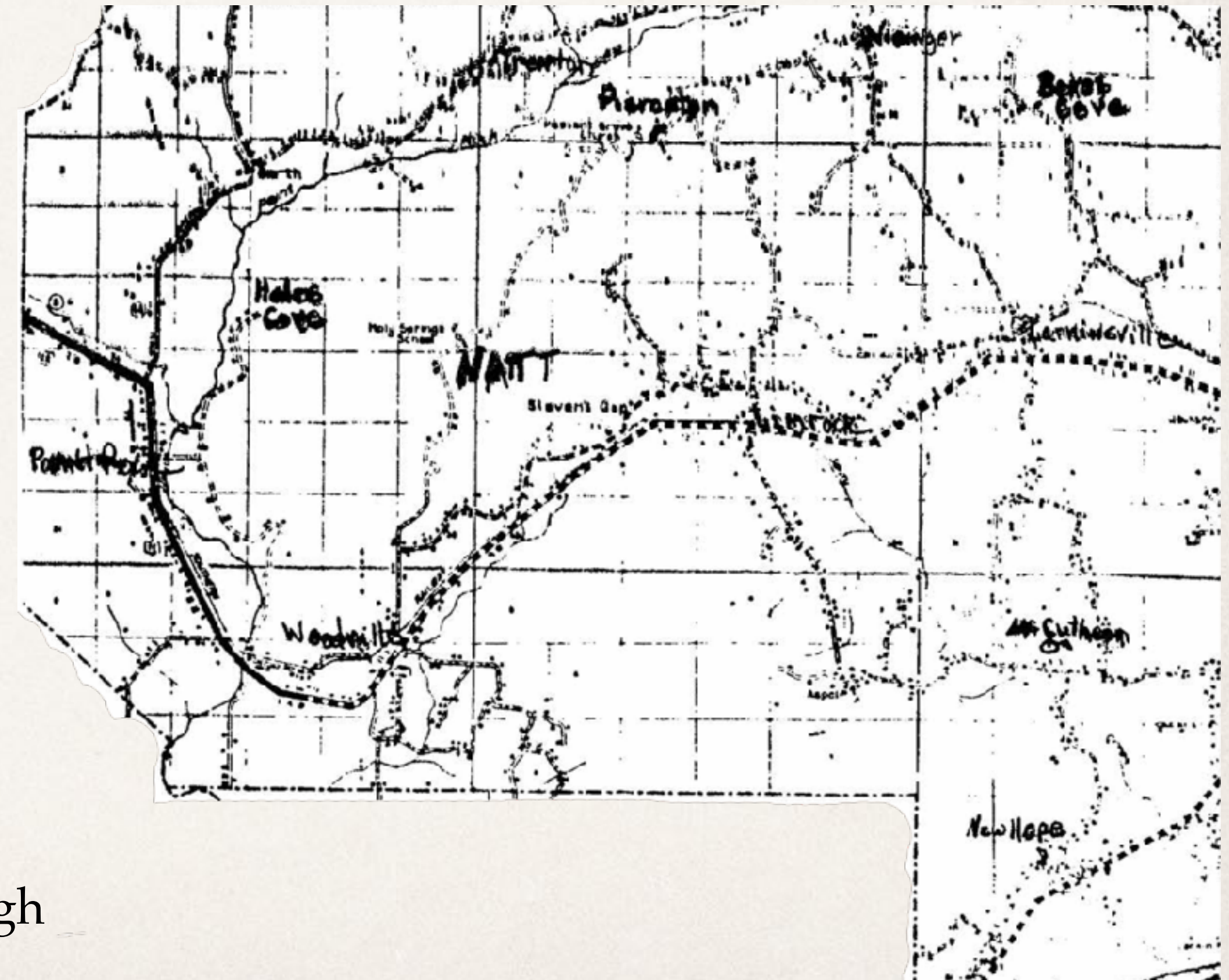
Paint Rock Valley and Skyline

- ❖ Alto
- ❖ Beech Grove
- ❖ Francisco
- ❖ Freedom
- ❖ Gray's Chapel
- ❖ Guess Creek
- ❖ Hambrick/Price's Chapel
- ❖ Mountain Grove
- ❖ Mt. Sane or Sano
- ❖ Oakley
- ❖ Paint Rock Valley High School
- ❖ Princeton
- ❖ Sinks/Cunningham
- ❖ Skyline
- ❖ Smith
- ❖ Sunset/Hytop
- ❖ Trenton
- ❖ Union Chapel
- ❖ William's Cove
- ❖ Winninger



South of Paint Rock Valley to the River

- ❖ Boxes Cove
- ❖ Cedar Glade
- ❖ Cedar Grove
- ❖ Green Academy
- ❖ Gurley Conyers Rosenwald (Black)
- ❖ Hale's Cove
- ❖ Hunt's Store
- ❖ Larkinsville
- ❖ Limrock
- ❖ Mt. Olivet/Mt. Olive
- ❖ Nat
- ❖ Paint Rock
- ❖ Peters Cove
- ❖ Pine Grove
- ❖ Rocky Ridge
- ❖ Thomas/Davistown
- ❖ Woodville Elementary and High School



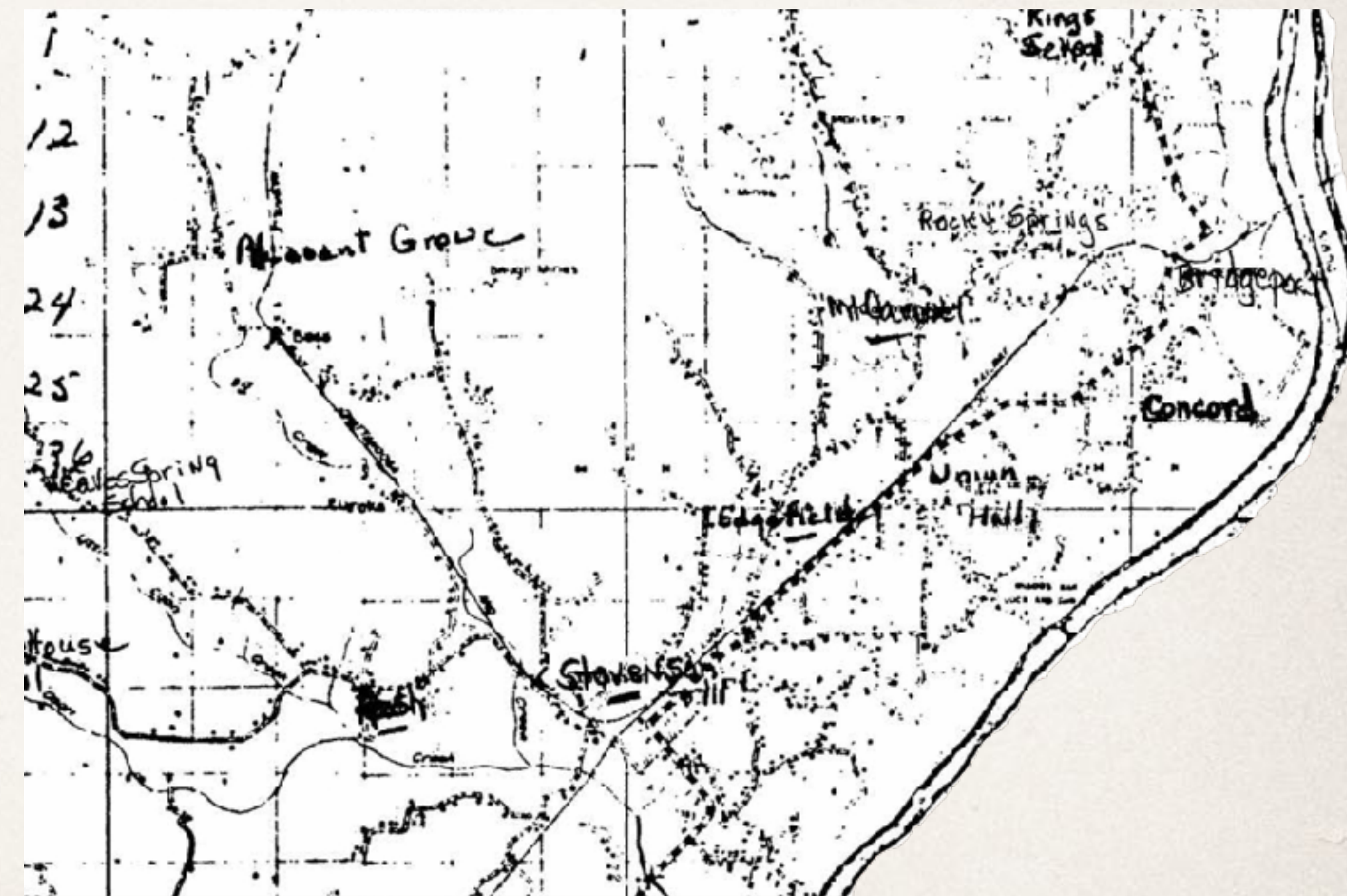
Greater Scottsboro

- ❖ Aspel
- ❖ Bethany/Shake Rag
- ❖ Bullet Ridge/Temperance Hill
- ❖ Byrd Hill (Black)
- ❖ Campground
- ❖ Carnes
- ❖ Carver (Black)
- ❖ Centerpoint
- ❖ Central Elementary
- ❖ Fackler Elementary
- ❖ Fackler Rosenwald
- ❖ Fairfield
- ❖ Gant
- ❖ Greasy Hill/Johnson/Patterson
- ❖ Happy Hollow
- ❖ Hollywood Schools
- ❖ Hollywood Colored
- ❖ Jackson County High School
- ❖ Kyles
- ❖ Maynard's Cove
- ❖ McCutchen
- ❖ Nila
- ❖ Oak Grove
- ❖ Pierceton
- ❖ Pikeville
- ❖ Randall's Chapel
- ❖ River Hill
- ❖ Roaches Cove
- ❖ Scottsboro School (Black)
- ❖ Shooks Mill
- ❖ Tupelo
- ❖ Union (Goosepond)
- ❖ Wannville (Colored)
- ❖ Woods Cove



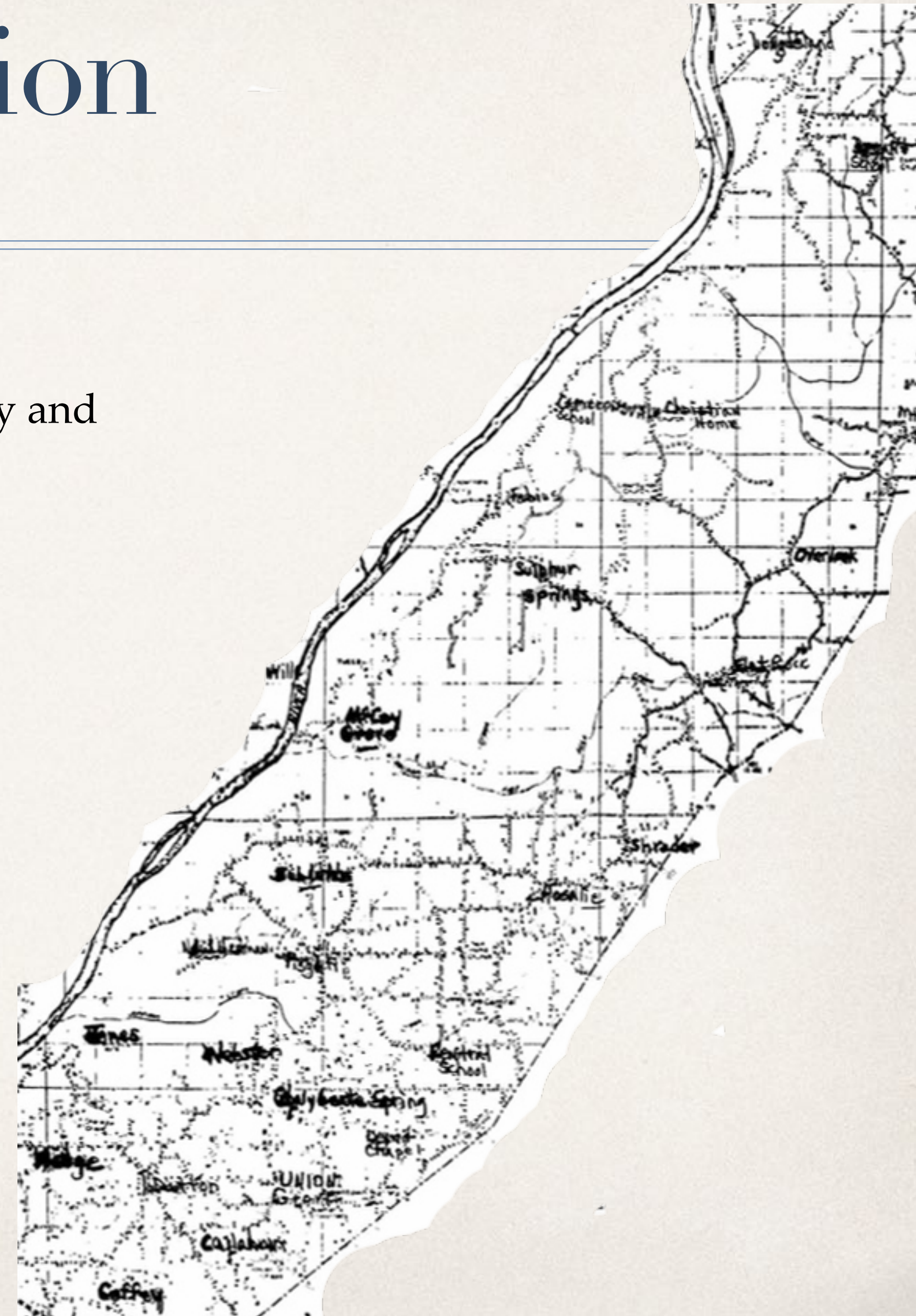
Greater Stevenson and Bridgeport

- ❖ Bennett's Cove
- ❖ Cave Springs
- ❖ Champion
- ❖ Concord/Sodom
- ❖ Doran's Cove
- ❖ Dry Cove
- ❖ Edgefield
- ❖ Goodview
- ❖ Hymer
- ❖ King's Cove
- ❖ Mt. Carmel
- ❖ Pleasant Grove
- ❖ Poplar Spring
- ❖ Rash
- ❖ Rocky Springs
- ❖ Rorex
- ❖ Rudder's Chapel
- ❖ Shavers
- ❖ Stevenson Elementary and High
- ❖ Stevenson Rosenwald
- ❖ Union Hill
- ❖ Walnut Grove
- ❖ White House



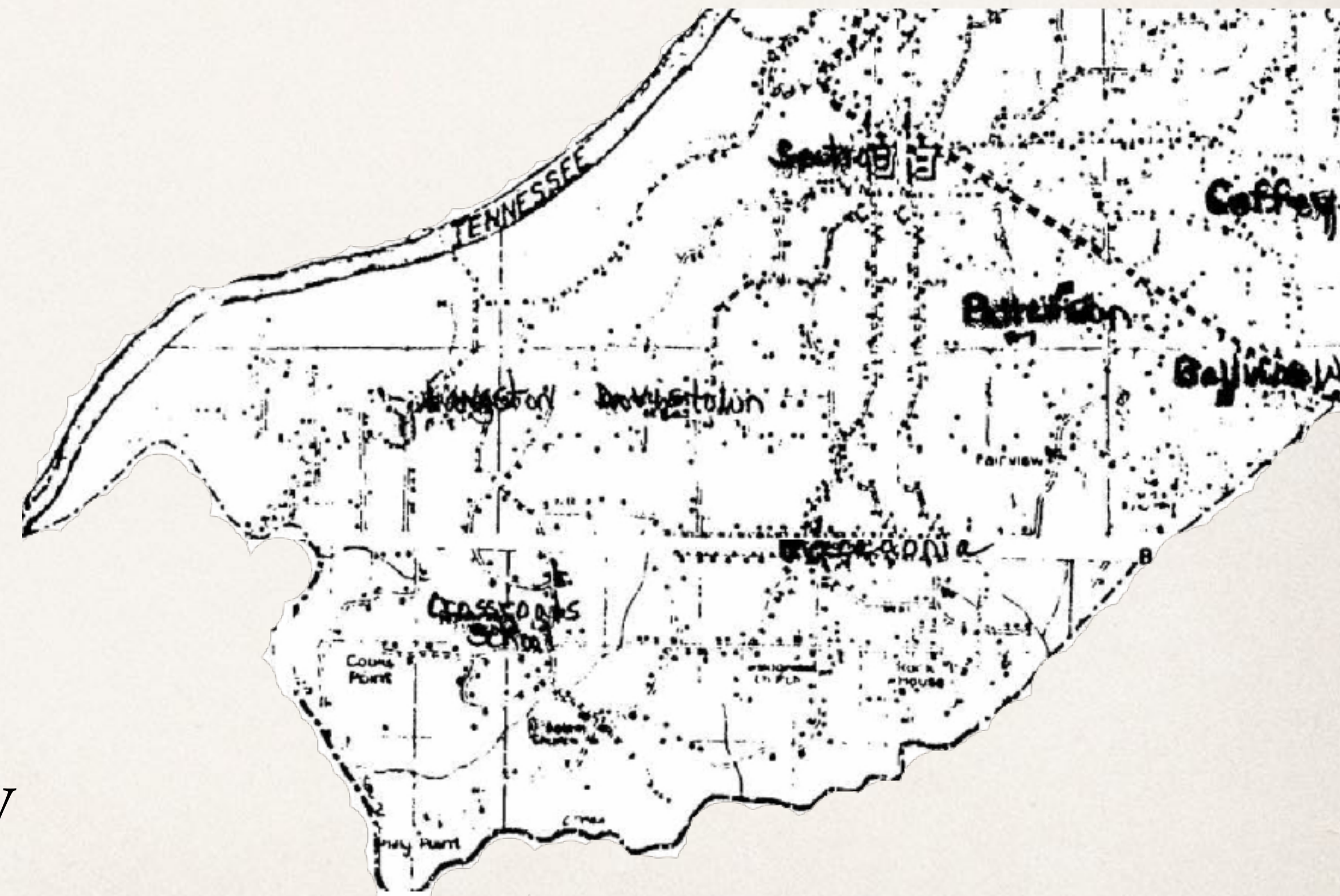
Sand Mountain South to Section

- ❖ Beeson Academy
- ❖ Brewton
- ❖ Bridgeport Elementary and High School
- ❖ Bridgeport Rosewood
- ❖ Bryant
- ❖ Carpenter/Long Island
- ❖ Chalybeate Springs/Pleasant View
- ❖ Christian Home
- ❖ Dean's Chapel
- ❖ Dutton Elementary
- ❖ Fabius
- ❖ Flat Rock
- ❖ Henegar
- ❖ Higdon
- ❖ Kosh
- ❖ McCoy
- ❖ New Herman
- ❖ New Shady Grove
- ❖ North Sand Mountain
- ❖ Overlook
- ❖ Pisgah Elementary and High School
- ❖ Rosalie
- ❖ Shrader
- ❖ Shumake
- ❖ Sodom
- ❖ Sublett's
- ❖ Sulphur Springs
- ❖ Union Grove
- ❖ Webster



Sand Mountain Section and South and East

- ❖ Bellview / New Hope
- ❖ Callahan
- ❖ Coffey
- ❖ Crossroads
- ❖ Davistown
- ❖ Hodge
- ❖ Langston
- ❖ Macedonia
- ❖ Red Field
- ❖ Salem
- ❖ Section Elementary and High School



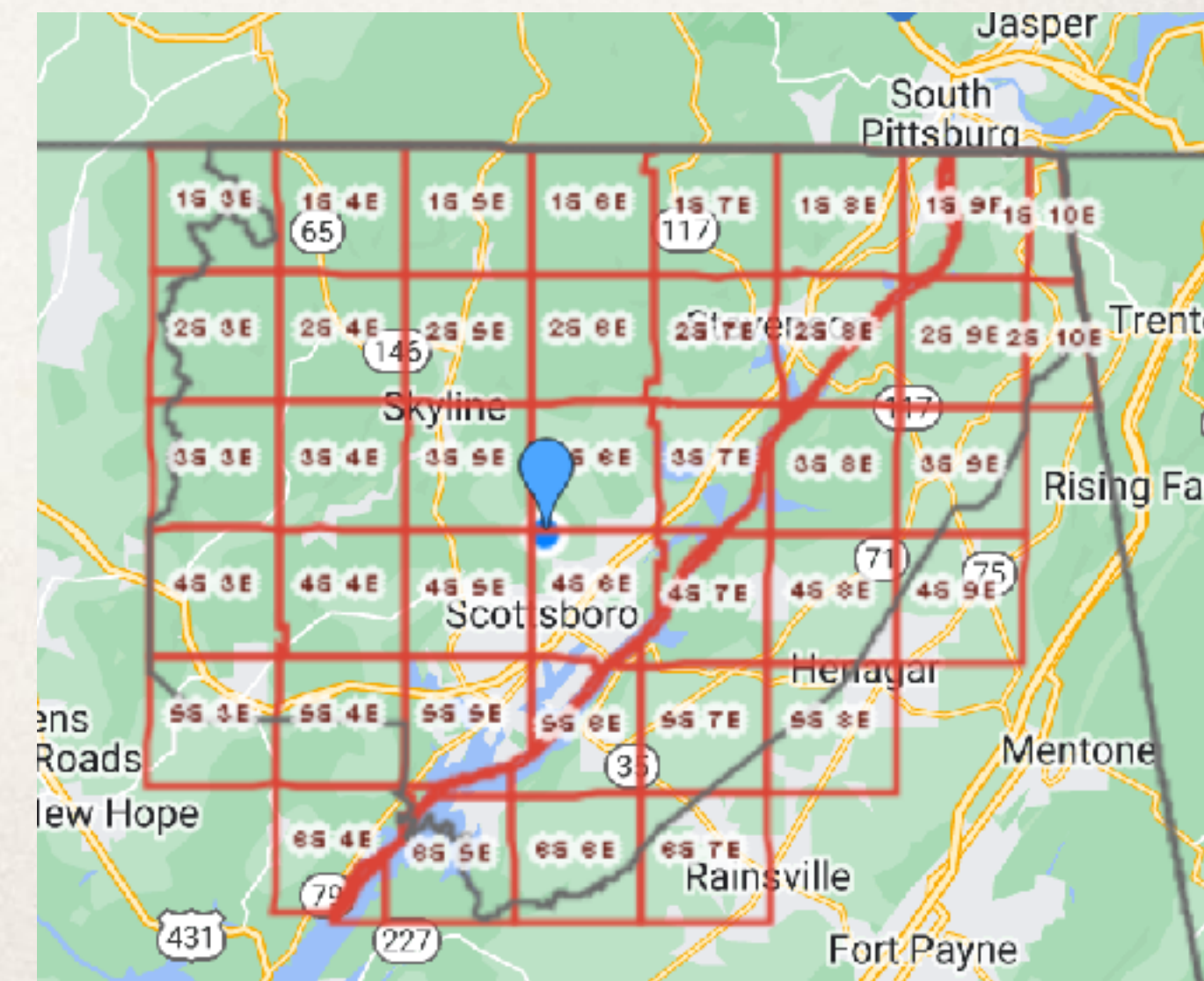
Schools I Have No Information About

- ❖ Alabama
- ❖ Belgreen
- ❖ Bouldin (near Milan)
- ❖ Centennial
- ❖ Crescent Hill (Long Island)
- ❖ Island Creek / Gross Spring
- ❖ Milan (Woodville or Stevenson)
- ❖ Price Chapel
- ❖ Sanders (Larkinsville)
- ❖ St. Joseph's (Langston, Black)
- ❖ Thomas

Earliest Schools: The 16th Section Law

- ❖ In 1785, the U.S. Congress committed the **16th section** of every township for the maintenance and promotion of public schools. A township is 6 miles x 6 miles, so 1 square mile of each 36 square mile township was set aside to fund education.
- ❖ This commitment continued as a stipulation when Alabama was admitted to statehood in 1819.
- ❖ Over the next several years much of this property was sold and the proceeds deposited in the state bank. The state bank failed in 1843 and the funds were lost forever.
- ❖ In addition, several of the 16th sections were located under water or on restricted federal lands and as a result a county's 16th section lands were often taken from another county.

6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
18	17	16	15	14	13
19	20	21	22	23	24
30	29	28	27	26	25
31	32	33	34	35	36



Earliest Schools: The 16th Section Law



- ❖ Early in the history of the State, a law was enacted to provide for the election of three trustees in each township, whose duties were similar tho those of a much later date. The County Judge, with the trustees, handled the school funds and paid the teachers.
- ❖ At the time of the public land sales, beginning in Jackson County in 1830, the county governing body, Commissioner's Court of Roads and Revenue, became responsible for the establishment of a free public school in each township. The income generated by this township had to be spent within the producing township.
- ❖ In 1854, the State school system was established.
- ❖ In February 1856, an Act was passed creating the office of county superintendent of education. This was a change of vital importance to the school and was an epoch in the history of education. The State had begun two years previously to appropriate money to supplement the sixteenth section funds. The appropriation was \$100,000 for the whole state.

Earliest Schools: Before the Civil War

- ❖ Most early schools were held in church buildings. There were no free schools. Parents paid a fee for children to attend.
- ❖ **1834 Bolivar:** T. Boyd Foster's memories talk about teaching there. By 1840, he was teaching at Pleasant Grove in the Crow Creek Valley. (EW)
- ❖ **1841 Woodville:** Seaborn Roundtree who was postmaster taught school in his home, as did his daughter Evangeline. (Kennamer).
- ❖ **1843 Collins Springs:** Elder John A. Cargile attended a school taught by Presley Griffin that included "the Tally boys, the McMahan Boys, the Jacoway boys, and my cousins." (EW)
- ❖ **1850 Stevenson:** Census list two school teachers in the area: John Shirley and John Hall. (EW)
- ❖ **1852 Woodville:** Eliza Smith and India McBride taught a three-month school in the Primitive Baptist Church at Union Cemetery. A "crippled man" named Switcher taught an early school in his home as did Bud Ross, George Gipson, Robert Mackey, and others. (Kennamer)
- ❖ **1856:** First public schools in Jackson County established. (Heritage of JC)
- ❖ **1859 Bellefonte:** Trustees of public school number 3 located at Union Academy in Township 4, Range 6 in Jackson County contracted with H. H. Coulson, teacher, for a three-month term beginning July 18, 1859. (AC) The first schoolhouse was a long, one-room frame building called the Academy. Later the people saw need of better school facilities, so they built a two-story brick Masonic hall in the 1850s and used the first floor for school. Daniel Martin in his letter mentioned Elder Roundtree as the teacher of his children. (AC)
- ❖ **1860 Rocky Springs:** Ann had a teachers' contract from Margaret Tate for a school held in the 1808 church. (Rocky Springs records)
- ❖ **1861 Pisgah:** Sam Rorex and others built a church near Callahan Spring. As was the custom of the period, the church also served as a school. It burned in 1880 and was rebuilt. In 1881, J. J. Beeson taught there. (Pisgah yearbook)

Black Schools Before the Civil War

- ❖ We can only speculate about education of Black people who were enslaved in Jackson County before the Civil War.
- ❖ Many states, including Alabama, had anti-literacy laws. In 1832, Alabama passed a law that prohibited whites from teaching blacks to read or write, punishable by fines and floggings. Slave owners saw literacy as a threat to their financial investment. Literacy enabled slaves to read the writings of abolitionists and better navigate the Underground Railroad if they escaped.
- ❖ Washington Lawyer Elias B. Caldwell summarized the prevailing argument succinctly: “The more you improve the condition of these people, the more you cultivate their minds, the more miserable you make them, in their present state.”
- ❖ Some slaves did become literate in spite of the law, whether from such informal means as playing school with the slave owner’s children or through the clandestine efforts of sympathetic whites, or by attending informal schools operated by churches.
- ❖ By 1900, even without school board records, we can document black schools in Scottsboro, Trenton, Limrock, Hollywood, and Stevenson but there are probably more than this. But the situation was far from perfect, Black schools met for shorter terms, and, I have been told but cannot confirm, used different, easier textbooks than the white schools of the time. And black teachers were paid less than white teachers.

Earliest Schools: Civil War and Reconstruction

- ❖ The Civil War disrupted everything.
- ❖ We have an account from the June 10, 1865 *Jackson County News* written in Stevenson by carpetbagger A. C. Conduit about no schools for his children while there were two good Black schools. “I brought a teacher here at my own expense. The school suspended at the end of the month for lack of patronage.
- ❖ **1869 Stevenson:** Ryan Academy referenced in a Commissioners’ Court minute book. Col. Krzyzanowki built a church and Masonic lodge also used as a school known as “Goat Hill School” because goats slept under the building.
- ❖ **1870 Stevenson:** Census reported teachers for Edgefield-Bolivar, Pinder’s Hill, Stevenson (3), and Pleasant Grove.
- ❖ **1887 Stevenson:** “The public school opened in the old church here with Miss Alice Wimberly, an accomplished and experienced teacher, in charge.”

Common Schools.

I have been a citizen of Stevenson fifteen months. Being anxious to have my children educated, I brought a teacher here from the North at my own expense. The school suspended at the end of a month for want of patronage. At the same time there were over fifty WHITE CHILDREN that should have been in school every day. I have since had to send my children North to go to school; for I will educate my children if it takes every cent I can earn; and such should be the sentiments of every man.

During this time the blacks have had here two efficient, flourishing, well organized, graded schools, of about 170 pupils. Daily you will see the little darkies trudging to school with satchel, slate and books; or sitting on doorsteps, book in hand, and spelling earnestly out their lessons—c-a-t eat, d-o-g dog, m-a-n man; while on the street you see the white children playing marbles. Allow such a state of things to continue one year more, and the young colored folks will be capable of offering their services as teachers for the whites. Oh shame on such white fathers and mothers! Have a gathering at once; turn out and haul some logs together, and put up a school house, and if you are not able to employ a teacher, some one will volunteer his services; or Gen. K. may kindly detail a soldier.

Fellow-citizens, let us submit to this disgrace no longer, but let us have a WHITE SCHOOL at once.—

EDITOR.

Schools During Reconstruction

- ❖ “It is very hard to procure labor here at a living rate and this emigration has carried all the money out of this county to yours, consequently it makes money exceedingly scarce here. We had bad crops, it is very true, but this is not all. Our taxes are enormous and that had it weigh with a great many who left the county. Our State Legislature made up of scalawags, carpetbaggers and negroes, for there were but few white men in it and they are so devoid of principle that they shrink from nothing that will oppress our good citizen. They have taxed us long as as could find money to pay. And upon the heels of that, our county commissioners who are of the same stripe and equally base as the members of the legislature, have taxed us to build a Court House worth, or at least they promise to pay \$24,500 for a building worth ten or twelve thousand dollars when finished. Then we have a heavy school tax to pay for the education of the negro, when the negro pays no tax except a poll tax, of one dollar and a half. So you see that those of us who emigrated west could not do worse, let them go where they will.” ...Daniel Martin writing to his daughter Ella living in Texas, March 1870.

Post-War Schools Documented in Newspapers

- ❖ We have the *The Jackson County Herald* (1868, ed. Alexander Snodgrass), *The Southern Industrial Herald* (1869-70, ed. Alexander Snodgrass), *The Alabama Herald* (1878-1881, A. Snodgrass), *The Scottsboro Citizen* (1879-1918, ed. James Armstrong), *The Fellow Citizen* (1977-78), *The Banner* (1896, ed. F. F. Conway), *The Progressive Age* (1887-1962), *The Stevenson Chronicles* (1887-1896) and *The Bridgeport News* (1891-1893). Don't forget early papers in Nashville, Huntsville, and Chattanooga.
- ❖ In 1873, the State Board of Education mandated that there be "one white and one colored Normal School" for teacher training per congressional district. Our colored normal school was in Huntsville, organized in 1875 as the result of a bill passed in the State Legislature in 1873 with William Hooper Council as its president. The school opened on May 1, 1875, as the *Huntsville Normal School* with an appropriation of \$1,000 per year, 61 students, and two teachers.
- ❖ In 1874 the public schools in Jackson County received the sum of \$1.75 per pupil in public funds as an allocation from the legislature. All schools at that time and until June of 1956 were under the Jackson County School System.

Post-War County Academies

- ❖ Early Woodville schools (Kennamer)
- ❖ Larkinsville School
- ❖ Averyville (Stevenson)
- ❖ Scott Academy
- ❖ Green Academy
- ❖ Bridgeport Schools



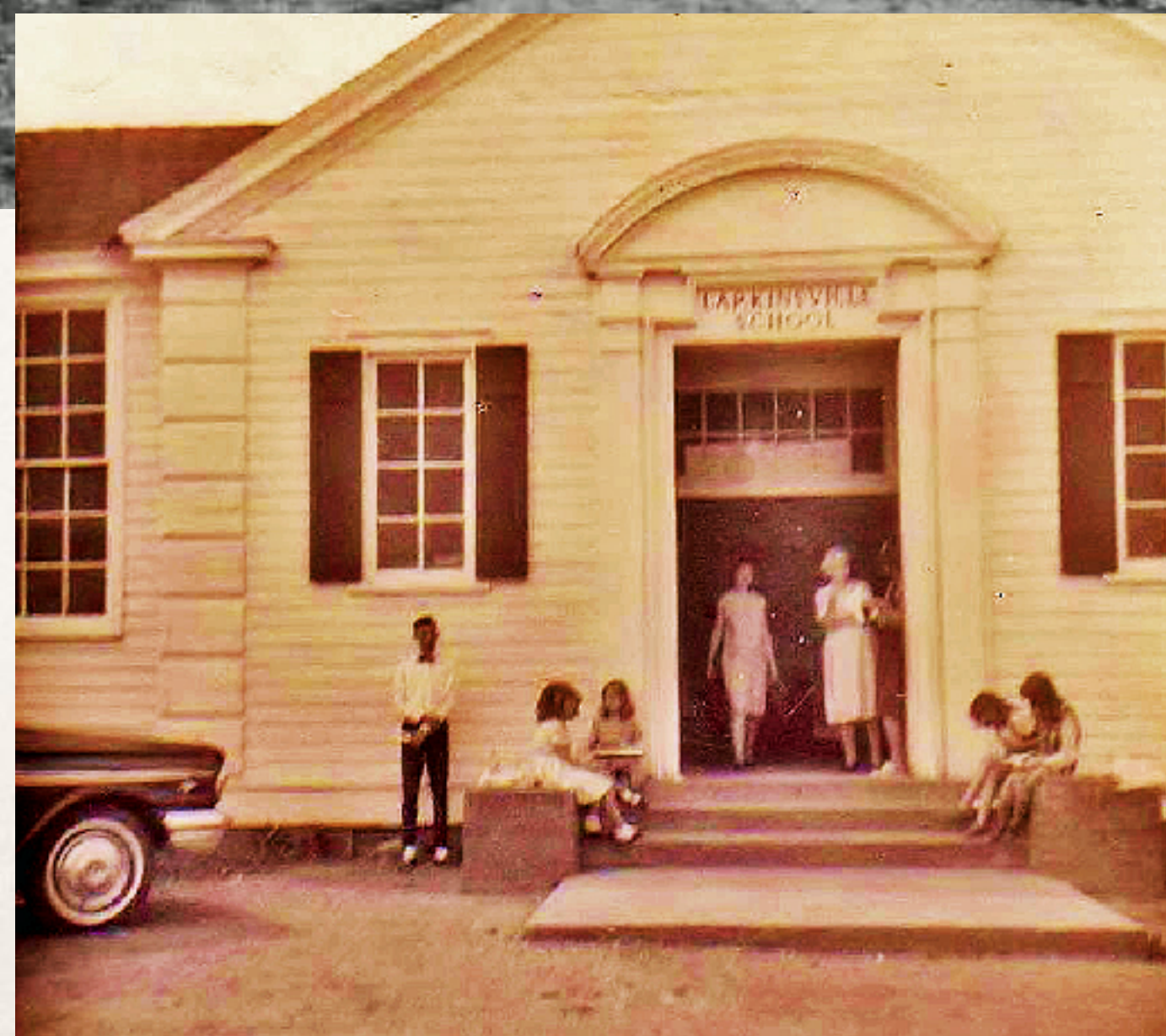
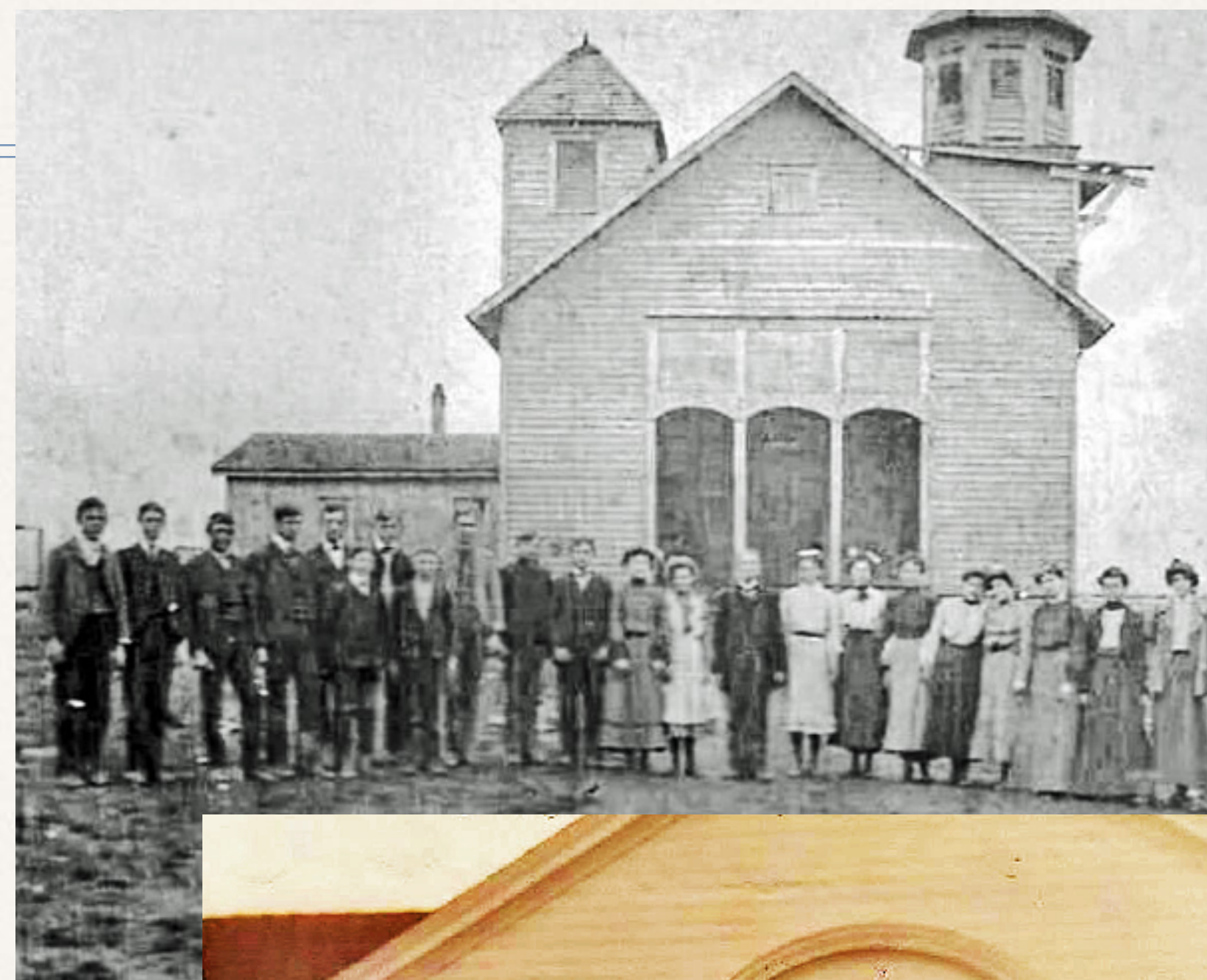
Post-War Woodville Schools

- ❖ Rosa Norris taught in various Woodville schools after the Civil War.
- ❖ Annie Scruggs taught a school at the Methodist church. Dan Coleman taught there 1877-78. James Wann taught in 1879, and did many others.
- ❖ Late 1880s, school house built above the R. L. Jones house.
- ❖ Joe B. Sherrill taught on Tick Ridge, and Woodville and published his "Short Method of Arithmetic" in 1884.
- ❖ I found this photo in the archives in Montgomery. Back of the photo said, "School House Woodville in District 63. Deeded to state in 1907. Jackson Co. June 17, 1911."
- ❖ References too numerous to go thru. See the Kennamer Woodville book on the JCHA website.



1866: Larkinsville School

- ❖ Started in 1866 by a Professor Ainsworth
- ❖ Picture is from 1910
- ❖ Was a three-teacher school in 1938
- ❖ Eventually consolidated with Scottsboro.



ADVERTISEMENTS.

LARKINSVILLE SCHOOL.
 C. M. AINSWORTH, A. M. Principal.

FIFTH SESSION
 WILL OPEN
January 2nd, 1871.

FIFTH SESSION, SIX MONTHS.
 SIXTH SESSION, FOUR MONTHS.

TERMS:

First Class per month.....	\$2 50
Second " " ".....	3 50
Third " " ".....	4 50
Music " " (extra).....	5 00
Accidental fee per session.....	1 00

Pupils invariably charged from date of entrance to end of current session. No deduction, except in cases of protracted illness.

Board can be attained in good private families at reasonable rates. Special attention given to High Mathematics.—The Practical arts, Surveying, Book Keeping, etc.

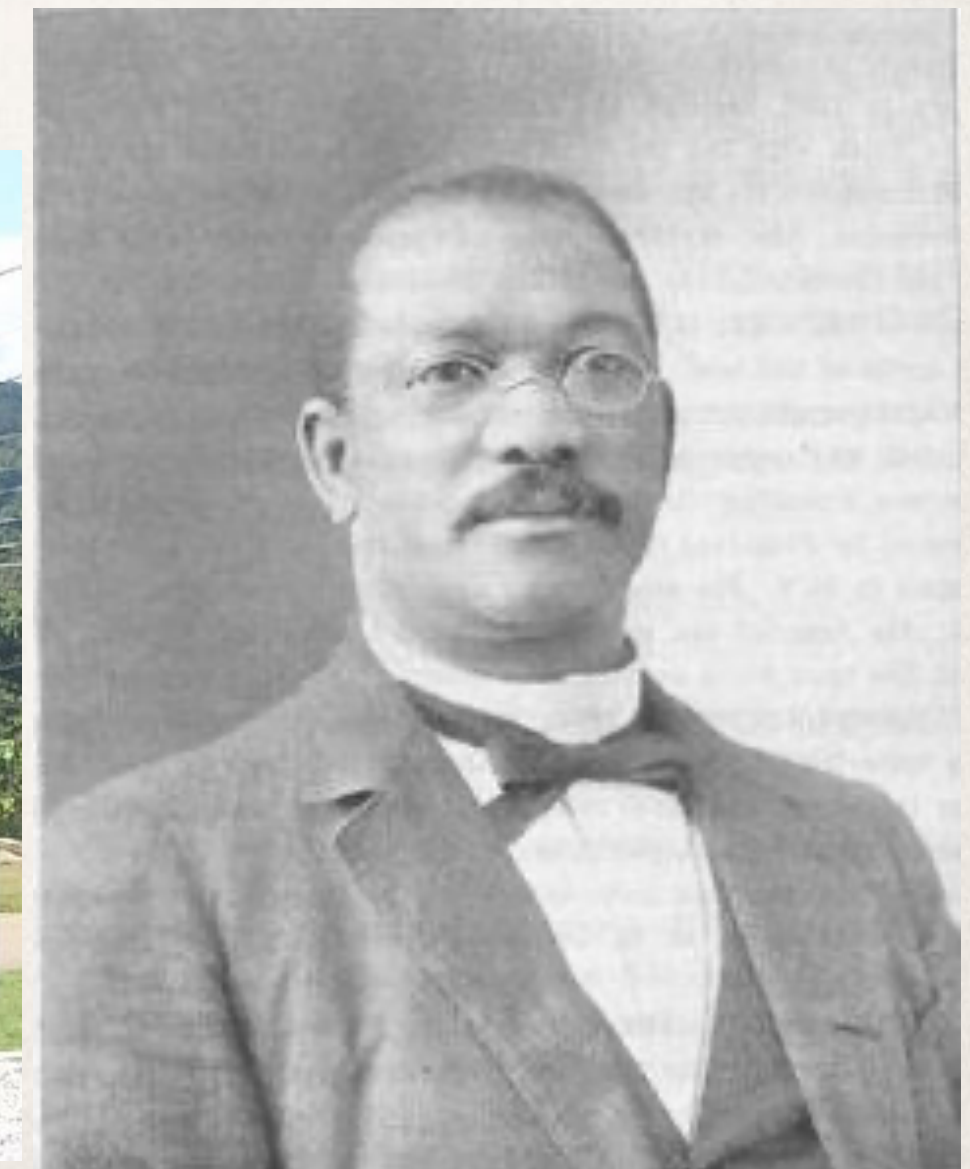
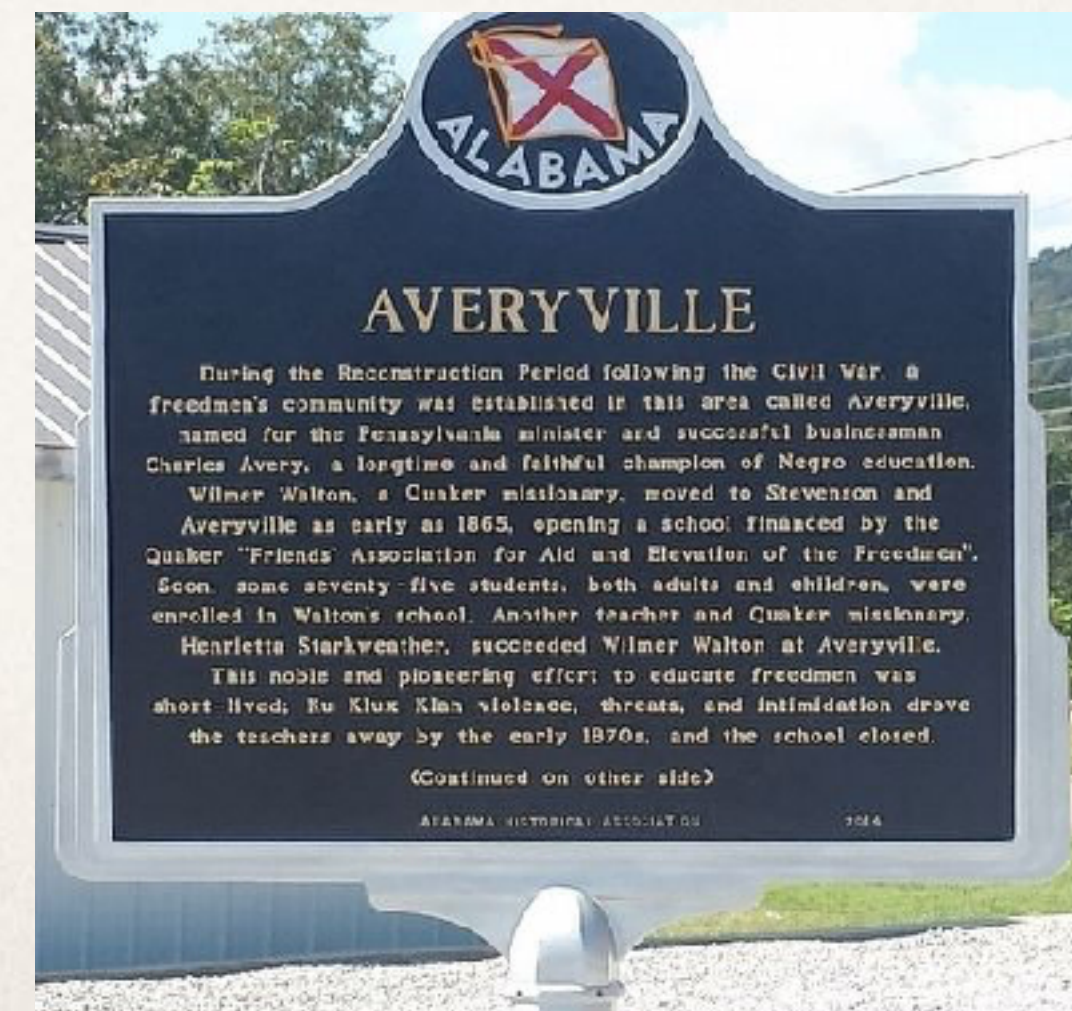
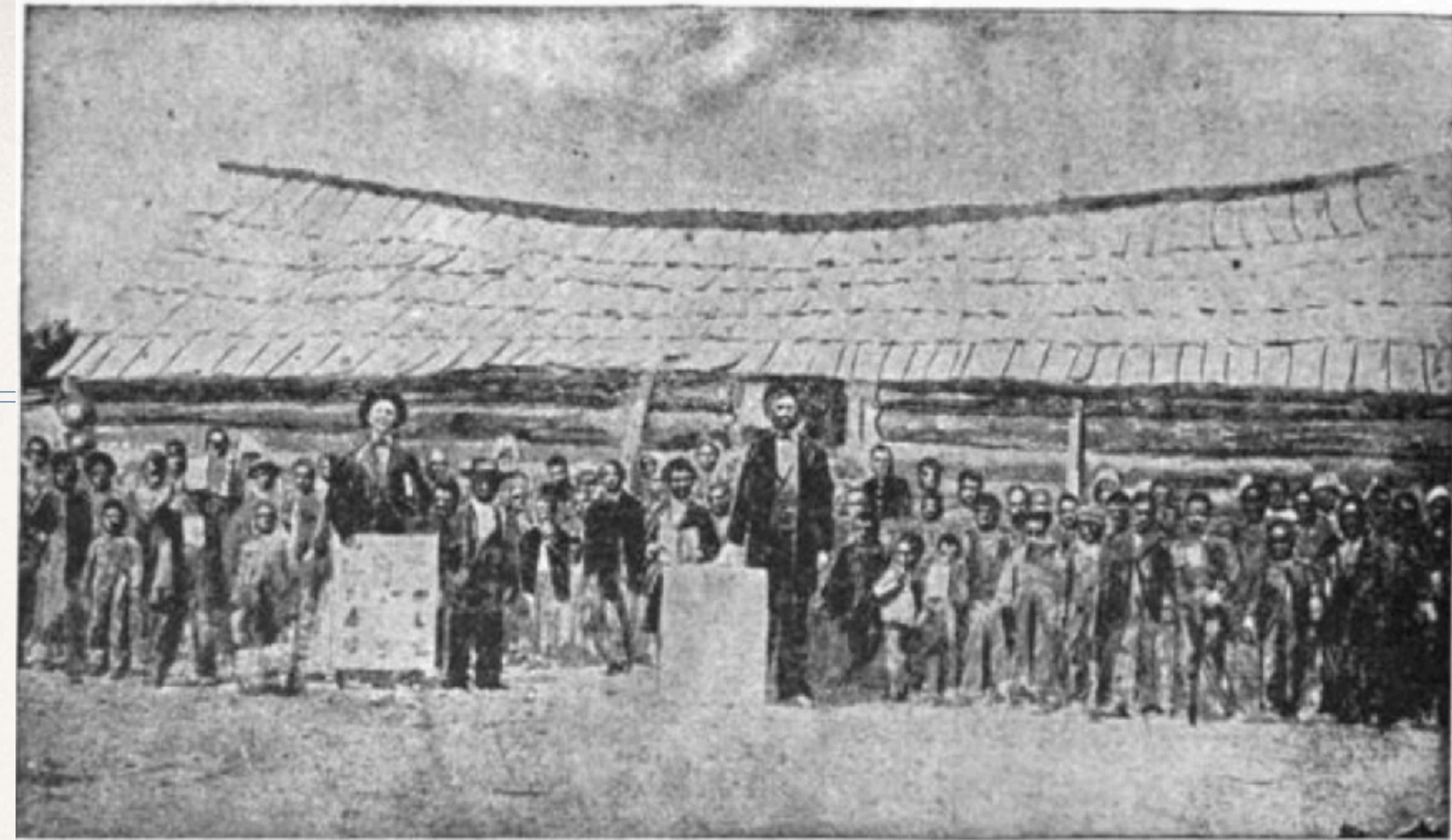
Instruction in the Primary department is very careful and thorough, under the immediate supervision of Mrs. Ainsworth.

The teachers are EXPERIENCED AND SUCCESSFUL.

For particulars, address, or call on the Principal at Larkinsville. Ala. nov10, 1870-n29-3mos.

1867: Averyville

- ❖ Averyville was a Quaker school in Stevenson organized to meet the needs of newly freed African-Americans between 1865 and the early 1870s.
- ❖ Quaker missionary, Wilmer Walton, came to Jackson County to serve in the Avery schools in the Stevenson area where he organized two First-Day schools without public school funds.
- ❖ The first building was described as a log building in a letter Walton wrote to the Quaker Journal, the *Friends' Intelligencer*. The following photo is taken from page 206 of G. F. Richlings' *Evidences of Progress Among Colored People*, published in 1902 in Philadelphia. The caption reads,
- ❖ Averyville was “The only school every attended by William Hooper Council.” Professor Council is significant because he was the same William Hooper Council who founded the Colored Normal School in 1875 in Huntsville, Alabama, which became Alabama A & M University.
- ❖ Before he died in 1909, Dr. Council became one of the two most important and influential black men in Alabama, the other being Booker T. Washington



1878: Scott Male and Female Academy

- ❖ Organized Feb 23, 1878. Trustees were James W. Moody, Nelson Kyle, J. T. Skelton, and William Robinson. Described as a “commodious frame building.”
- ❖ Opened in August, 1883
- ❖ Located at the foot of Cumberland Mountain just north of the much later Carver High School on lots 230-233, each a half acre.
- ❖ Was a school for both boys and girls.
- ❖ Burned in 1888. Fire caused by phosphorus in a box of chemicals.

SCOTT ACADEMY,
 —o—
SCOTTSBORO, - - ALABAMA.
 —o—
 A LOCATION UNSURPASSED for variety and beauty of mountain scenery, and entirely exempt from all malarial and epidemic diseases.
 THE METHOD OF INSTRUCTION in this institution will be such as common sense and modern wisdom have demonstrated to be most effective.
 THE TEACHING in this Academy will be fully up to the demands of the present progress. The instruction and example will arouse to a sense of duty, and will become a habit.
 THE STANDARD of education will be as high as complete as that found in any of the best Colleges of the South.
 THE FACULTY will consist of M. W. Gross and John M. Hopkins, associate principals, by other necessary competent teachers.
 THE SCHOOL YEAR is divided into two terms: First and Second term. The first begins Monday, August 27, 1883, and continues twenty weeks, and ends January 18, 1884. Second term begins Monday, January 21, 1884; and continues twenty weeks; ends Friday, June 1, 1884.
 EXPENSES PER TERM OF MONTHS.
 Primary School, - - - - -
 Grammar School, - - - - -
 Collegiate School, - - - - -
 Music on Piano or Organ, with use of instrument, - - - - -
 Incidental fee per term, - - - - -
 Terms of tuition are strictly in advance. Remittances made for time by sickness greater than two weeks.

NAMES OF PUPILS.
FEMALES
 Fannie Snodgrass Mollie Golightly
 Sue Snodgrass Anna Gurley
 Mollie Womack Kate Lindsay
 Phebe Price Mattie Nicholson
 Lela Jones Lexie Snodgrass
 Eric Brown Julia McCarroll
 Sallie Parks Nannie Bynum
 Sidney Skelton Lettie Buchanan
 Idella Brown Sally Lanham
 Rebecca Graham Kate Starnes
 Lot Skelton Josie Warren
 Sallie Kyle Lizzie Snodgrass
 Mand Skelton Alice Graham
 Annie Bradford Lizzie Buchanan
 Annie Jones
MALES
 John McCord Wm. Bynum
 Joe Burgess Wm. Stratton
 Wm. Kyle Charles Kyle
 James Kyle John Buchanan
 Ben Ellis Ed Rosson
 John Nelson John Holland
 Wallace Roach Tom Bynum
 Thomas Snodgrass Perry McShroom
 John Hunt Milo Moody
 James Whiteley Charles Bradford
 Charles Nicholson Ed Metts
 Tate Wallace Isaac Bynum
 John Skelton Europe Caldwell.
 Frank Burgess.



In his remarks to the pupils at Scott Academy on Monday morning, Mr. Hopkins said to the boys that they must not carve the columns, door facings or any of the furniture with their knives—that they must not use profane language, must not smoke in the Academy or on the grounds near, and above all they must not chew tobacco and spit puddles of the filthy juice on the floors. We will supplement his remarks with the following: They should not carry pistols or bottles of ruin and death in their pockets, and if they wear boots they ought not to have their pants above their boot legs to show the ornamental red or blue lining. We had an old friend, Uncle Johnny Jones, who used to laugh at the young men for exhibiting the fancy leather on the tops of their boots, and say that the fools ought to know that it was put there on account of its cheapness, to save better leather.

SCOTT ACADEMY.
School Opened.
 The first session of the school of Scott Academy at this place, under the new faculty of M. W. Gross and John M. Hopkins, associated Principals, and Miss Finch, in charge of the Musical Department and assisting in the Primary Department, opened on Monday last. There were present a considerable number of parents and persons interested in the school, and over sixty pupils. The academy had been put in good condition generally and newly seated, and the large recitation room tastefully decorated with new maps and encircled with blackboards on which were written appropriate and impressive suggestions, mottoes, couplets, verses and mandates. All we witnessed and heard tended to impress us with the idea that the young men at the helm are properly indoctrinated with advanced ideas, and further more well disciplined in improved methods and are full of the spirit and purpose essential to leadership and to make them successful educators. All things considered in our judgment the school opened auspiciously. The indications were and are such as to bid us hope that Scottsboro is entering upon a new career in point of educational facilities. There are no substantial reasons why it should not, and countless reasons why it should be.

1890: Green Academy

- ❖ Built and run by the missionary association of the Congregational Church in New York.
- ❖ Private boarding school accepting pupils from Madison and Marshal counties.
- ❖ Colony of Russian Jews built within a half mile of this school and ten of their children attended school here.
- ❖ Tuition was \$1.00 a month.
- ❖ Last reference I find to it in newspapers was 1909.

GREEN ACADEMY,
V. DILLARD PEEK, Principal.
NAT, ALA.

FALL TERM BEGINS SEPTEMBER 1, 1902.

Situated four miles Northeast of Woodville, on top of a hill, it places it within reach of a large area of country; its elevated position is free from malaria.

The design of the **School** is to place an up-to-date, modern school building.

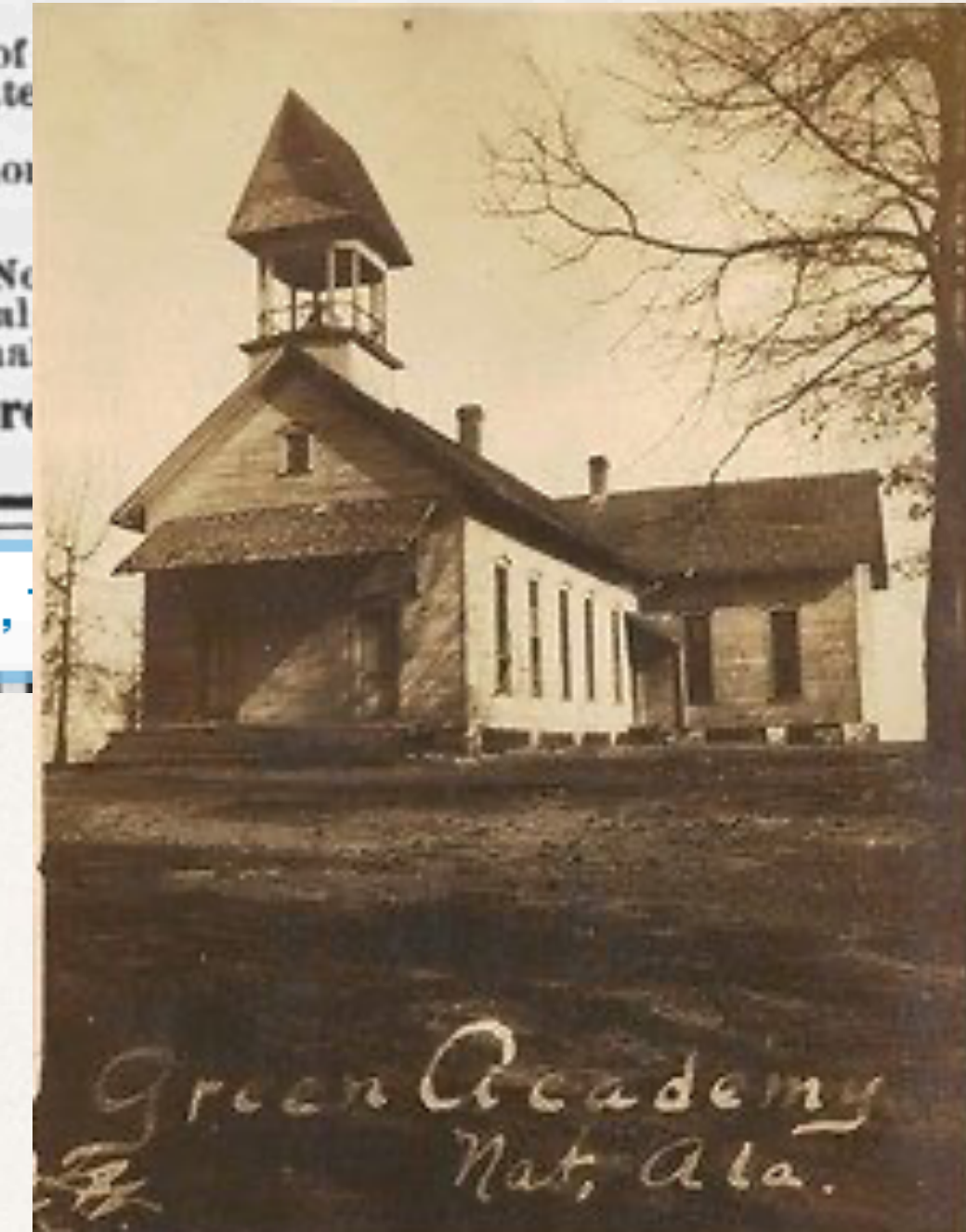
EXPENSES

Tuition*to the Sixth Grade, four week.....	.75	Tuition No
Tuition from the Sixth to Eighth Grade	\$1.00	Incidental

Rooms may be rented at reasonable rates.

For catalogue and further information, address V. Dillard Peek, Nat, Ala.

< > The Progressive Age > 24 Jul 1902, >



1895: Bridgeport Training School

- ❖ First private school in Bridgeport. Followed by Altennga College and Bridgeport Academy. It was a very good private boarding school.
- ❖ Very good and early schools in the areas around Bridgeport: Rocky Spring, Mt. Carmel, Edgefield, Jeffries' Cove, Doran's Cove.
- ❖ Also found this photo in the Archives. Photo said, "Bridgeport Public School Jackson Co. June 17, 1911." Dennis Lambert said, "This is the old Alabama College of Dental Surgery building built in 1892. Became a public school a few years later. Torn down 1912/1913."
- ❖ Again, too numerous to go over. The ad is from Dennis Lambert and Joe Lee's book on Bridgeport, available at the Heritage Center.



Vanderbilt Training School, Bridgeport. Photo from Miss Ida McFartane. The school opened in the Whitcher Building on September 5, 1895 as a college preparatory school, operated by Vanderbilt University. Almost sixty students were enrolled on that first day. Classes continued until the 1898 commencement was held. School headmaster was Edward K. Turner, a Bridgeport native, with other teachers including Rev. James Robert Hunter and J. S. Johnson. Miss Rebekah

Bridgeport Training School
BRIDGEPORT, ALA.

Prepares for Harvard, Yale, Princeton and like universities; also for Wellesley, Vassar, Bryn Mawr. Our pupils are admitted to the Freshman class of Vanderbilt University on Certificate, without examination. The course of study is arranged in accordance with the

Recommendations of the "Committee of Ten,"

and all needed alterations will be made to meet the requirements for admission into the different universities. Six officers and teachers, faculty of university-trained men, each a specialist in his line. We emphatically disclaim

ALL "SHORT ROADS"

to the estate of educated manhood. Until the completion of new building, the school will be quartered in a splendid suite of rooms in the Whitcher Building. If you want your children truly educated; if you want their minds rightly developed, send them to us and let us show them for some great university. If you want to become "humbugs," send them to one of those "methods," "one-horse," so-called colleges, and they, these "colleges," will be the laughingstock of the world. We do Earnest, Honest, Faithful work. BRIT is our only plea for patronage. Our rates of tuition are \$50 per session of ten months; to stockholders \$30 per session of ten months. For the poor, especially to the children of needy widows, no fees will be charged. The Fall Term begins Tuesday, Sept. 4th, 1895. For further particulars

E. K. TURNER, M. A. (Vanderbilt),
Head Master.

Bridgeport Training School advertisement appeared in The Bridgeport News, September 20, 1895.

Earliest Colleges

- ❖ 1875: Sand Mountain Institute in Dutton
- ❖ 1878: William and Emma Austin in Stevenson
- ❖ 1889: Scottsboro College and Normal School
- ❖ 1894: Tri-State Normal University
- ❖ 1901: The Baptist Institute



WILLIAM AND EMMA AUSTIN.
COLLEGE,
 ELEVATED AND HEALTH-
 FUL SITE-PURE COLD
 SPRING WATER-DE-
 LIGHTFUL SCENERY.
 At the Junction of the
 Memphis & Charleston
 and Nashville and
 Chattanooga Rail-
 roads, at Steven-
 son, Jackson Coun-
 ty, Alabama.

SCOTTSBORO COLLEGE.
 A contract between the trustees of
 Scottsboro College and an eminent
 Ohio educator, by which the college
 is to be opened in September, next,
 under most favorable circumstances
 has been virtually agreed to by both
 parties.
 Under the new arrangement the
 school will open up under the man-
 agement of one of the most noted
 school managers in the country with
 at least three hundred pupils, and by
 the strictly economical principle of
 every
 rate
 no de
 time
 way.



EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
 WHICH HAVE BEEN LOCATED ON THIS CAMPUS

SCOTTSBORO COLLEGE AND NORMAL SCHOOL	1889
TRI-STATE NORMAL UNIVERSITY	1894
THE BAPTIST INSTITUTE	1901
JACKSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL	1938
SCOTTSBORO HIGH SCHOOL	1957
SCOTTSBORO JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL	1967
SCOTTSBORO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1975
LEWIS WENDELL PAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	1977

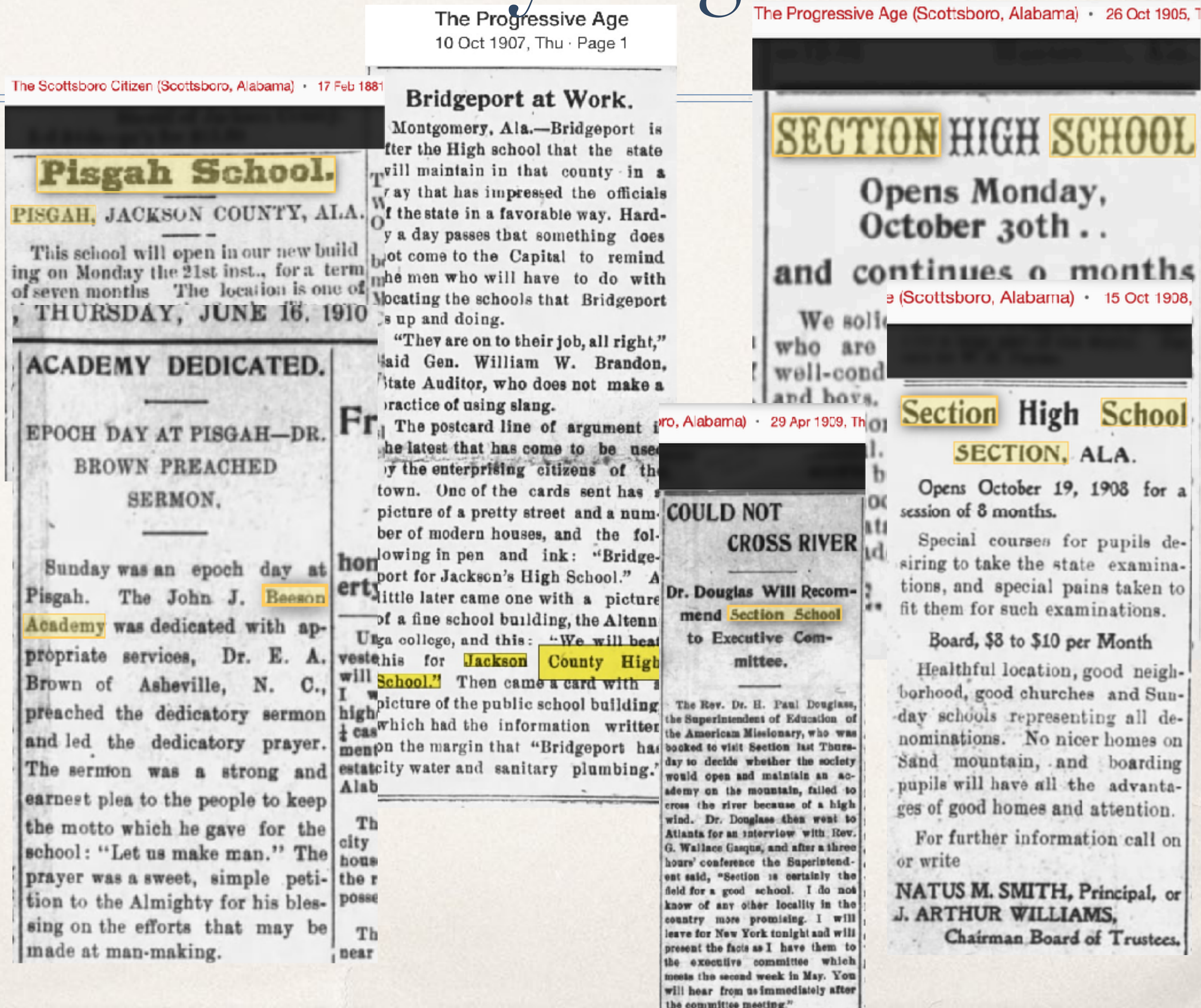
DOCUMENTED BY THE JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Jackson County Public School Landmarks

- ❖ 1908: Competition for the county high school
- ❖ 1915-1932: Rosenwald Schools: improving facilities for Black schools
- ❖ 1922-23: Vote on the 3-mil school tax: list of schools, trustees, and districts
- ❖ 1928-1931: Opportunity schools: using county facilities for adult education
- ❖ 1930s: Bussing and the first wave of closings for small public schools
- ❖ 1937: School directory: alphabetic list of teachers with their schools
- ❖ 1938-1942: New Deal era schoolhouses built and consolidations of small schools
- ❖ 1940s: Closed public schools as community centers
- ❖ 1950: "Know Your Schools" campaign and checkpoint on what schools remained
- ❖ 1964: Integration and consolidation; closing of historically black schools

1908: Competition for the County High School

- ❖ In 1907, the Alabama legislature passed an act providing for a public high school in every county.
- ❖ Competition was fierce for this school. Scottsboro, Langston, Dutton, Hollywood, and Bridgeport all campaigned to be the site.
- ❖ There was a high school in Section in 1893, led by John Roach. Section was favored by “citizens of the Dixie plateau”
- ❖ Pisgah had a high school very early under J. J. Beeson, Beeson Academy.



1908: JCHS Located in Scottsboro



The Progressive Age
30 Sep 1903, Thu - Page 4

BOARDERS WANTED—I am prepared to take a few female boarding pupils who will attend the Jackson County High school. Mrs. W. W. McCutchen. 1171tf



The Progressive Age
24 Sep 1908, Thu - Page 5

JACKSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL SCOTTSBORO, ALABAMA

Session begins Monday, Sept. 21, 1908
and continues nine scholastic months

TUITION FREE. BOARD \$10 TO \$12 PER MO.

Course of study broad and liberal.

Four courses are offered, all embracing thorough training in English, History, Mathematics, Manual Training and Drawing, Science and the Languages. Completion of any one of the courses entitles the pupil to a Certificate of Graduation.

Pupils prepared to enter the 7th Grade, that is, to take up the following studies, will be admitted to the High School this year: Higher Lessons in English, Advanced Arithmetic, complete Advanced Geography, History.

Boarding pupils will be under the direct control of the Principal.

Discipline of the school, mild but firm.

For further information address

J. R. WARD, Principal.

The Progressive Age

SCOTTSBORO, ALA., THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1908.

THERE ARE MANY REASONS

WHY SCOTTSBORO should be made the location of the High School to be established in Jackson County. Its central location, its railroad facilities and pike road advantages, its healthfulness, its interest in education, its telephone and mail facilities, its homes, its churches, its people—all can be used as strong arguments for the location of the school at this place. When the

The Scottsboro Citizen
03 Sep 1908, Thu - Page 2

for the school are in the southern and south-central parts of the county. This shows for itself where the interest in the school is greatest and whence it will probably receive its greatest patronage, if properly located. In this especially interested district, you will notice that Scottsboro is centrally located, and is easily accessible to all parts of it. We are located advantageously for attendance at the high school not only from the county in general but also from the section shown to be most intensely interested in the school.

Located at any other contesting town, it is destined to be a local institution, its influence confined very largely to the town and its immediate vicinity. Such is not the purpose in establishing these schools. They are to be so situated as to give the greatest service to the greatest number of people. They are to be county schools.

THE COUNTY-SEAT.

county must have some where county business is conducted, and county government administered. There must be a representative town for the county. Scottsboro was selected as the most town in Jackson County county-seat. While we hear murmurings of dissatisfaction at the distance traveled and the time to reach the county-seat remote borders of the county for Jackson is an ex-large county—yet it is dged that it is by far t easily reached town whole county is consid-

If Scottsboro is the logical business and government center of the county, there is not the shadow of a doubt that it should be made and will be the educational center. The one town of all others most easily reached by business men of the whole county, is the one most easily reached by young men and young ladies wishing to attend school. The prosperity of the school will depend upon the patronage given it, and the patronage it receives will depend upon the ease of reaching its location.

If the school were located at Section, it would certainly be of greater advantage to that particular vicinity than it would be if located at any other place. That community would doubtless give it better patronage than if located at another town. The same is true of Dutton, of Langston, of Hollywood, of Bridgeport; but none of these places could command the patronage from the county in general that would be given the school at Scottsboro.

Aside from the importance of accessible location, the fact that Scottsboro is the county-seat gives it a decided preference over all other towns. People like to put their boys and girls in school where there is a chance of visiting them occasionally, a chance to take them home for a Saturday visit, a chance to keep them in touch with home life, and occasionally to take them some little expression of home cheer, say from mother's pantry. Such privileges are most likely to be enjoyed if the sons and daughters

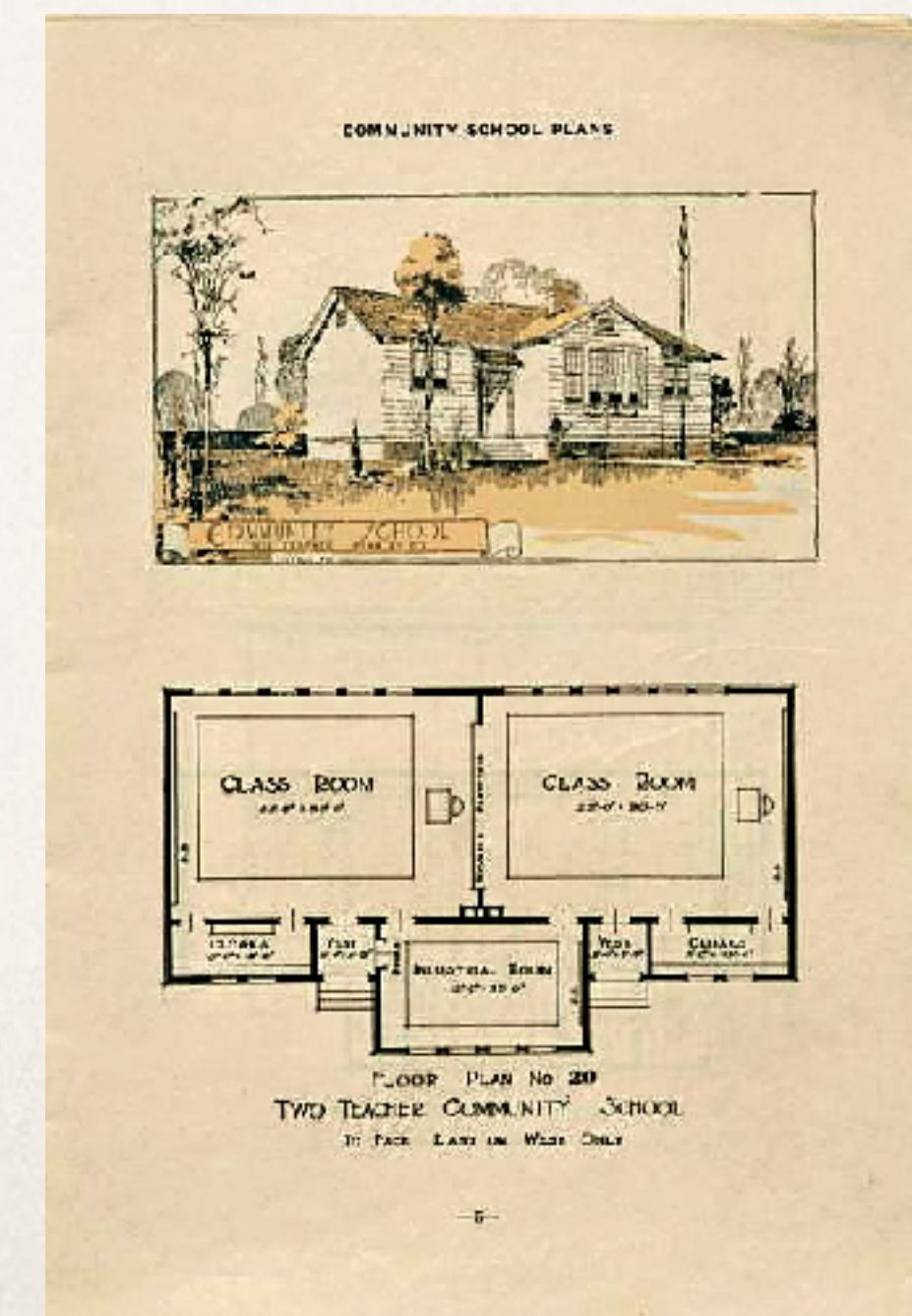
High School Opening.

The High School for Jackson county will open Monday, Sept. 21. It should be made an auspicious day in the history of Scottsboro, and people from all parts of the county are invited to be present at the opening.

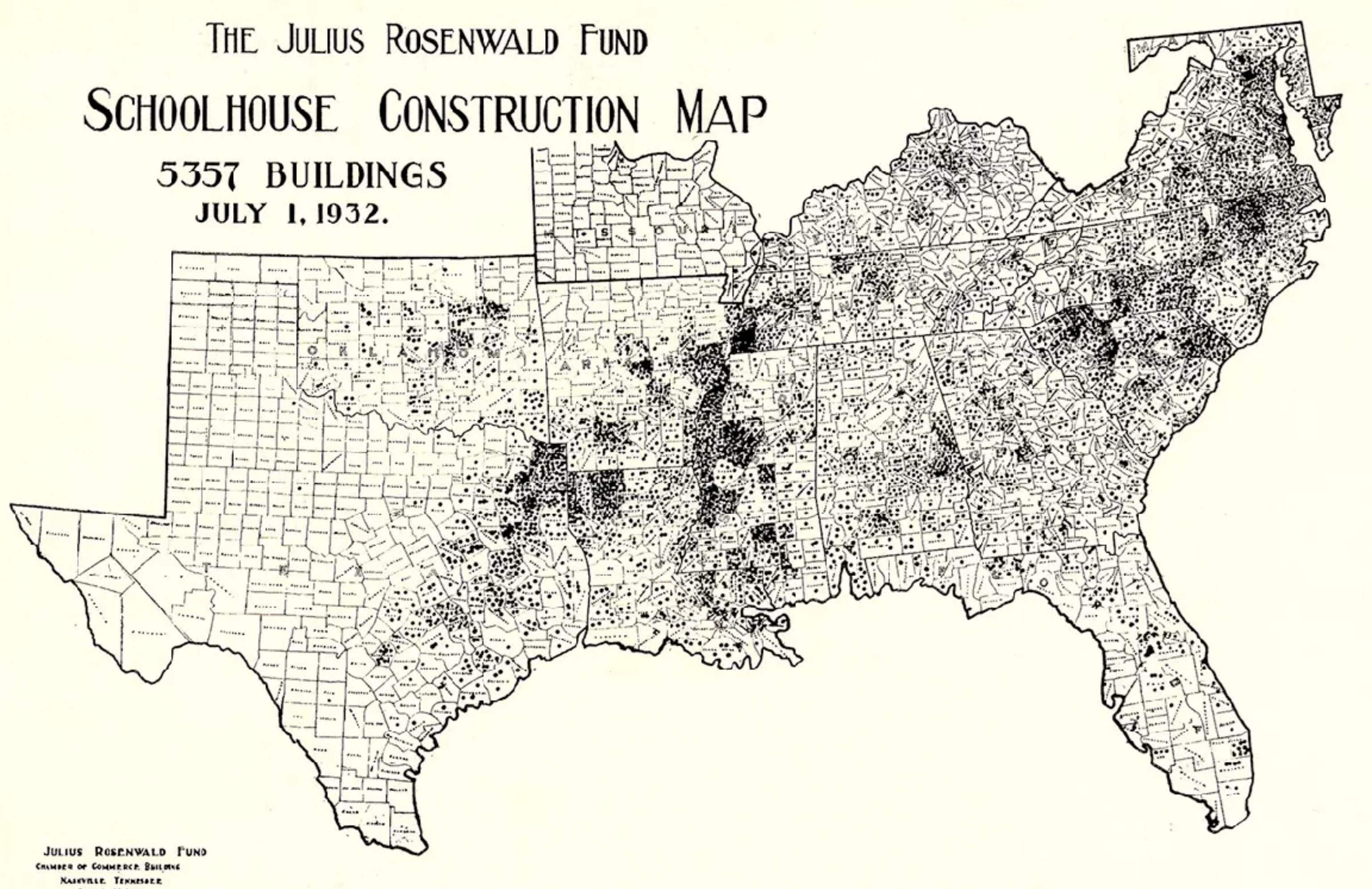
Students who intend to enter should do so the first day.

1915-1932 Rosenwald Schools

- ❖ “Rosenwald schools refer to a group of educational institutions established in the South for African Americans in the first half of twentieth century.
- ❖ The schools were named for Julius Rosenwald, president and later chairman of Sears Roebuck & Co. and creator of the philanthropic Rosenwald Fund, which provided matching funds for the schools.
- ❖ Nearly 400 schools and houses were constructed in Alabama and nearly 5,000 new schools were built in 15 southern states between 1917 and 1932 as part of this civic effort to increase educational opportunities in the largely rural and segregated South.”
- ❖ Jackson County had three Rosenwald Schools (Stevenson, 1921; Fackler, by 1927; Bridgeport, 1929); Madison County had nine. This is Gurley.



Rosenwald Schoolhouse in 1932



1922-23 Three-Mil School Tax

❖ Each district held a special election to decide if they would pay the 3 mil tax to support schools. Most did. Some did not.

❖ Tables list 113 school districts, some with more than one school.

NOTICE OF SCHOOL TAX ELECTION, CHALYBEATE SPRINGS, DISTRICT NO. 92

Notice is hereby given that a special election will be held in Chalybeate Springs, District No. 92, Jackson County, Alabama, on the 6th day of August, 1927, 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 Chalybeate Springs, District No. 92 in said county, and to be continued for a period of four years from September 30, 1927, the same to be for the support of the public schools within said district.

The boundaries of said district are as follows:

Beginning at the N E corner of Section 31, Tp. 4, R. 8, thence west 1 1/4 miles; thence south 1 1/4 miles; thence west 1/2 mile; thence south 1/4 mile; thence west 3/4 mile; thence south 1 mile; thence east 1 1/2 miles; thence south 1/2 mile; thence east 1 1/2 miles; thence north 1/2 mile; thence west 1/2 mile; thence north 1 1/2 miles; thence east 1/2 mile; thence north 1 mile to point of beginning.

Said District contains Section 31, Tp. 4, R. 8, E 1/2 of 36, Tp. 4, R. 7, E 1/2 of NW 1/4 of 36, Tp. 4, R. 7, E 1/2 of SW 1/4 of 36, Tp. 4, R. 7, W 1/2 of 6, Tp. 5, R. 8, W 1/2 of 7, Tp. 5, R. 8, SE 1/4 of 7, Tp. 5, R. 8, E 1/2 of 12, Tp. 5, R. 7, NW 1/4 of 12, Tp. 5, R. 7, N 1/2 of 11, Tp. 5, R. 7, S 1/2 of 2, Tp. 5, R. 7, SE 1/4 of NE 1/4 of 2, Tp. 5, R. 7, E 1/2 and the SW 1/4 of 1, Tp. 5, R. 7, E 1/2 of NW 1/4 of 1, Tp. 5, R. 7, SW 1/4 of NW 1/4 of 1, Tp. 5, R. 7. All of said district being in Jackson County, Alabama.

The following are hereby appointed officers to hold said election: W. W. Richards, R. J. Allen, Earnest Rush, Inspectors; J. H. Holland, L. D. Clark, clerks; Card Parker, returning officer.

W. R. Bogart, Probate Judge. W. W. Trice, Raymond Bradford, W. H. Cox, County Commissioners; M. C. Thomas, Sheriff of Jackson County, Alabama.

13 of 51 of

DISTRICTS, TRUSTEES AND TEACHERS

District and Name

- 1—Carpenter ----- Trustees: W. L. James, John McCutchen, Joe Beene, Long Island.
- 2—Bryant ----- Trustees: E. H. Smith, T. J. Smith, J. M. Winters, Long Island.
- 3—Island Creek ----- Trustees: Jim Cooper, Walter G ray, L. B. Daniel, Smilax.
- 4—Overlook ----- Trustees: W. G. Shaw, W. P. Forsyth, Geo. Clark, Flat Rock.
- 5—Christian Home ----- Trustees: Jasper Gray, Joel Maxwell, G. E. Smith, Fabius.
- 6—Flat Rock ----- Trustees: J. C. Austin, D. F. Hogue, Isaac Sampson, Flat Rock.
- 7—Sulphur Springs ----- Trustees: J. A. Goforth, Mansel Smith, Sam Keys, Fabius.
- 8—Shumac ----- Trustees: J. H. Cameron, Sam W. Maxwell, Cameronsville.
- 9—Fabius ----- Trustee: G. H. Caperton, Fabius.
- 10—McCoy's Grove ----- Trustees: Ben Goforth, L. C. Stearns, Jurd Thornhill, Yucca.
- 11—Rosalie ----- Trustees: T. O. Lister, J. J. Schultz, Perry Bowman, Pisgah.

Leachers

Summer School

1—Carpenter ----- Doris McGee

2—Bryant ----- Doris McGee

3—Island Creek ----- Summer School

4—Overlook ----- Opal Hogue

5—Christian Home ----- Maud Brown

6—Flat Rock ----- Grady Hinshaw

7—Sulphur Springs ----- J. W. Thompson, Anniebel Buckner

8—Shumac ----- Summer Term

9—Fabius ----- Summer Term

10—McCoy's Grove ----- John Blancett

11—Rosalie ----- John Blancett

EDUCATIONAL DIRECTORY, JACKSON COUNTY
For Year Beginning October 1, 1922

COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS

W. P. Judd, President; S. B. Jones, Vice-President; J. A. Cox, Clerk; W. H. McLeod, Treasurer; L. H. Hight, Auditor

SUPERINTENDENT
J. H. Wheeler

ASSISTANT OFFICERS
T. A. Clayton, Lower Sand Mountain District; J. L. Brewster, Upper Sand Mountain District; W. M. Graham, Lower Valley; J. A. Thornton, Upper End of County

DISTRICTS, TRUSTEES AND TEACHERS

District and Name

1—Carpenter ----- Trustees: W. L. James, John McCutchen, Joe Beene, Long Island. Teacher: Sam Shahan, Geo. Berry, Herman Powell, Leno, Ark.

2—Bryant ----- Trustees: E. H. Smith, T. J. Smith, J. M. Winters, Long Island. Teacher: A. E. McAllen, Leno, Ark.

3—Island Creek ----- Trustees: Jim Cooper, Walter G ray, L. B. Daniel, Smilax. Teacher: E. J. Gurrison, C. M. Dyer, Alto.

4—Overlook ----- Trustees: W. G. Shaw, W. P. Forsyth, Geo. Clark, Flat Rock. Teacher: Sam Shahan, Geo. Berry, Herman Powell, Leno, Ark.

5—Christian Home ----- Trustees: Jasper Gray, Joel Maxwell, G. E. Smith, Fabius. Teacher: A. E. McAllen, Leno, Ark.

6—Flat Rock ----- Trustees: J. C. Austin, D. F. Hogue, Isaac Sampson, Flat Rock. Teacher: A. E. McAllen, Leno, Ark.

7—Sulphur Springs ----- Trustees: J. A. Goforth, Mansel Smith, Sam Keys, Fabius. Teacher: A. E. McAllen, Leno, Ark.

8—Shumac ----- Trustees: J. H. Cameron, Sam W. Maxwell, Cameronsville. Teacher: A. E. McAllen, Leno, Ark.

9—Fabius ----- Trustee: G. H. Caperton, Fabius. Teacher: A. E. McAllen, Leno, Ark.

10—McCoy's Grove ----- Trustees: Ben Goforth, L. C. Stearns, Jurd Thornhill, Yucca. Teacher: A. E. McAllen, Leno, Ark.

11—Rosalie ----- Trustees: T. O. Lister, J. J. Schultz, Perry Bowman, Pisgah. Teacher: A. E. McAllen, Leno, Ark.

1926-1932: Opportunity Schools

- ❖ Prior to the 1930 census, the state superintendent of education for Alabama, and therefore the local county superintendent, became concerned with the illiteracy rate in Alabama.
- ❖ Since the 1930 census anticipated recorded whether or not a respondent could read or write, Alabama set out to improve their status by offering adult education in existing school in the county. These were called Opportunity Schools.

OPPORTUNITY SCHOOLS LEAD IN THE STATE

Jackson County's Opportunity Schools made the greatest advance in the second week of any in the state. The per cent of attendance and the number of beginner also made a good gain.

The schools making the state's honor roll are as follows:

Miss Hazel Sanders, Carns enrolled 53, had 45 in attendance, 40 perfect

this is the greatest
ners yet reported.

Chalybeate has an en-
roll 38 daily, and 17
k leads the county in

ADULT SCHOOLS WILL BE ESTABLISHED

According to C. P. Nelson, director of Adult **School** work in Jackson County, his work is progressing nicely and is being met with a hearty response in the various sections of the county. Up to the present time the necessary number of students have been secured in thirteen communities and it is probable that at least sixteen communities will take advantage. However, this will have to be done in the next few days as the **school** will begin on July 22. The following communities are assured of the schools: Bridgeport, Sulphur **Springs**, **Chalybeate Springs**, Carns, Tupelo, Boxes Cove, River Hill, Union Hill, Overlook, Mount Olive, Subletts, Wannville, and Shooks.

Shrader had 37 en-
rollment, 23 per-
centers.

Overlook and Miss
are progressing nicely
work

Lacedonia, Callahan,
and Mt. Olive deserve
in their work to-
day the state in on-
work.

Opportunity Schools

OPPORTUNITY SCHOOLS WITH TEACHERS FOR 1929

School	Teacher	Post Office
Overlook	Miss Vivian Letson	Flat Rock
Subletts	Miss Margaret Wann	Pisgah
Shooks	Mrs. Frank Hodges	Scottsboro
Wannville	Miss Alama Shrader	Wannville
Union Hill	Miss Nell McCrary	Stevenson
Carns	Miss Margaret Foster	Fackler
Pikeville	Miss Pearl Cunningham	Scottsboro Rt.
Boxes Cove	Miss Eva Gargus	Scottsboro Rt.
Sulphur Springs	Miss Mattie Mixon	Fabius
Francisco	Miss Beatrice Jarnigan	Francisco
Chalybeate Springs	Mrs. L. L. Williams	Henagar
Bridgeport	Mrs. Sam McCrary	Bridgeport
River Hill	Miss Beatrice Finney	Hollywood
Mount Olive	Miss Mary McCampbell	Higdon
Aspel	Miss Rachel Rowe	Scottsboro Rt.
Rosalie	Miss Cosby	Pisgah

Total Preliminary Enrollment, 351. this County. Enrollment expected to according to Miss Bloodworth, the state has one of the strongest corps of for Opportunity School work.

Largest enrollment ever secured in reach 400 before the year ends. According to Miss Bloodworth, the state has one of the strongest corps of teachers ever assembled in a County

SUBLETT OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL

Friday the pupils of the Opportunity School at Sublett rendered the following excellent program:

March and songs by the school.
Bible reading by Mrs. Martha Baine.
Prayer by Mr. John Sattain.

Why I Am Attending This School.
Mr. Lon Woods, Mr. John Rooks and Lawrence Walker.

Vocal duet by Mr. Wesley King and Mr. Nat Roberts.

Call for Leadership by Mr. G. W. Holley.

Band music—Three pieces by Prazier Brothers; Tent pieces by school band.

Each pupil rendered the assigned part in a highly creditable manner. Special mention should be made of Mr. Lon Woods. He could not read nor write and had never made a public speech before in his life. In a clear connected way he told why he was attending school and how much he was learning, stating he wanted to learn to read so that he could read and study the Bible for himself. His teachers, Miss Allie Roden and Miss Mayon Miles, expressed their delight at the progress he is making.

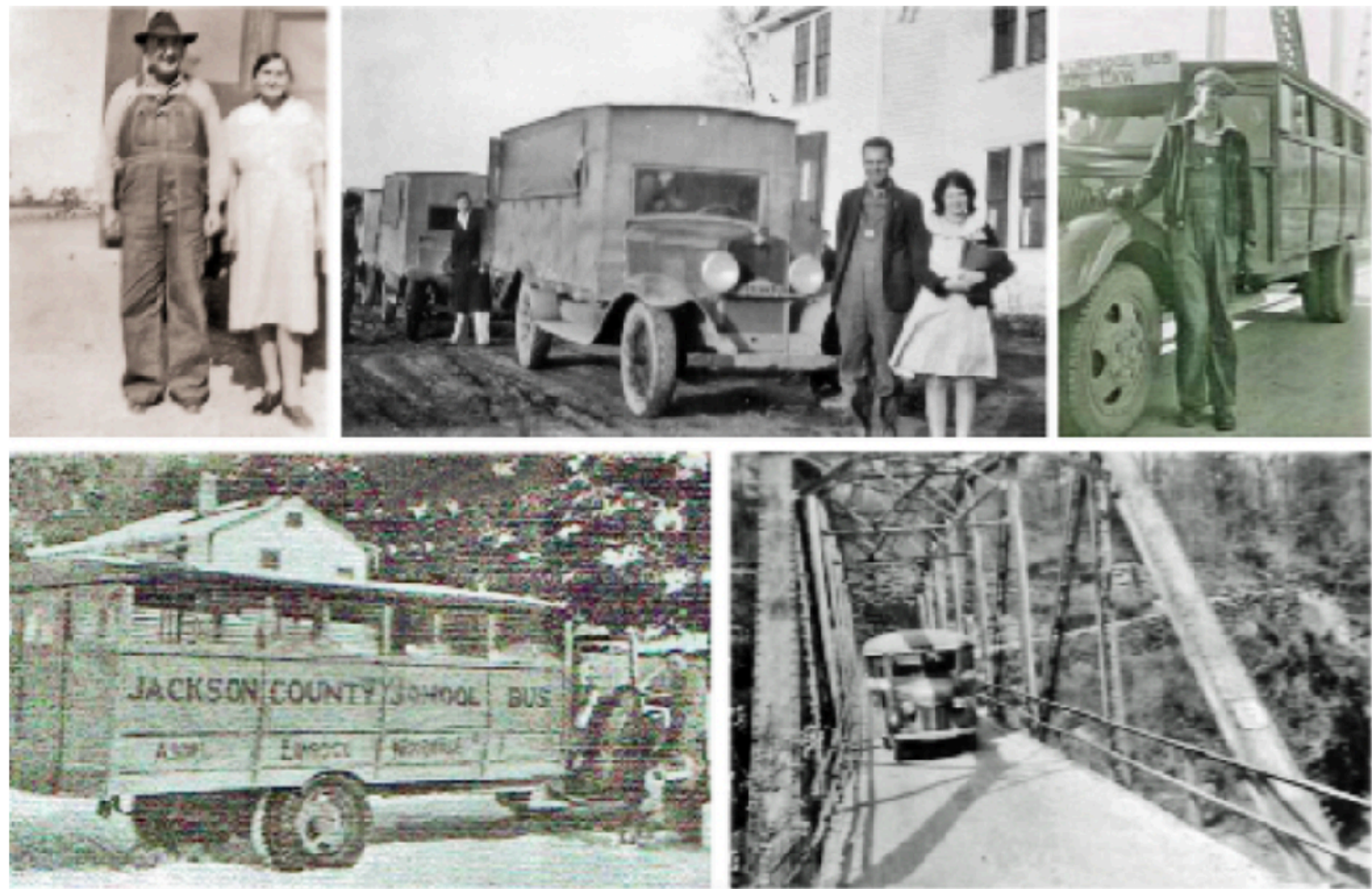
The other parts were fine and each is hereby congratulated.

1930s: Closing and Consolidating & The Impact of Busing

- ❖ When students had no way to get to school other than walking, there were many, many small schools, some with no more than three last names per school.
- ❖ As roads improved to accommodate public transportation, schools jumped on the bussing bandwagon surprisingly early.
- ❖ The book about the House of Happiness, an Episcopal mission and school, notes that the County Board of Education began offering bus transportation to the pupils above the sixth grade in Sauta Bottom in 1930. One of the earliest photos of a county school bus is from the House of Happiness book, which notes that the House of Happiness rented a school bus to ferry children to school and church.
- ❖ In the earliest days of transporting county students to school, the county provided bus transportation to schools by contracting with individuals through a bidding process. In 1935, 18 bus routes were identified and eligible for bidding, and the type of equipment required was specified in the contract.

School Buses in the 1930s: Lots of Stories

- ❖ Jane Stinnett (PRV) remembers that when her mother, born in 1927, started school, buses picked them up except when the creeks and river were high, and then the driver picked the children up in a wagon. The boys in the wagon bed could get rowdy enough to overturn the wagon.
- ❖ Debra Underwood, who wrote a history of Pisgah School, sent a photo of Martin Burkhalter in front of the homemade bus he drove.
- ❖ Kenneth Manning recalled that in 1948, his father, “S. B. Manning and a Mr. Hillary, purchased truck chassis and the county installed bus bodies on their chassis. He recalls that this bidding system continued until the early 1950s.
- ❖ Jerry Marlow remembers that children in Fackler rode the “Bear Bus” driven by Bear McCrary, who drove a bus back built into a pickup truck base. Chester Sharp described the harrowing ride from Rosalie to Section and noted that the bus was as scary as the bridge—“a big old rattle trap.”
- ❖ Arnold Wheeler remembers a turn so sharp in Pisgah that the bus had to back up and pull forward multiple times to make the turn.



Caption upper left to lower right: John Henry “Doc” and wife Pearl Patterson in the Greasy Hill community; Pisgah school bus in the 1930s from Debra Underwood, Marvin Burkhalter in front of the Pisgah school bus he drove; the House of Happiness bus from *House of Happiness Story* by Campbell Long; Pisgah school bus after sharp turn from Arnold Wheeler.

New Deal-Era Schools: 1938-1942

- ❖ **Jul 7, 1938 PA:** As part of a Public Works Administration New Deal program, the county embarked on a \$400,000 county school building program, where half the cost was matched by the PWA.
- ❖ “Upon approval by the Public Works Administration of contracts award February 16 by the County Board of Education, Jackson County will have under contracts school buildings to the value of \$347,414 and equipment to the value of \$25,828, according to E. M. Beardslee, Resident Engineer Inspector here for the Public Works Administration.
- ❖ Of these buildings, 5 are expected to be ready for occupancy by the 2nd week in March, and these are located at Mount Carmel, Hollywood, Rash, Wininger, and Chalybeate Springs. Total contract value of the buildings is \$35,581.”
- ❖ Funding also provided for JCHS, Bridgeport High School, Larkinsville, Stevenson, Hodge, and Macedonia.

Jackson County School Program Now Under Way

Upon approval by the Public Works Administration of contracts awarded February 16 by the County Board of Education, Jackson County will have under contract school buildings to the value of \$347,414, and equipment to the value of \$25,828, according to E. M. Beardslee, Resident Engineer Inspector here for the Public Works Administration.

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Work is well under way on the Jackson County High School at Scottsboro, the Bridgeport High school and additions to the Elementary School in Scottsboro. The Jackson County High School is a modern, 2-story and basement building, of semi-fire-safe construction; the Bridgeport School is a one-story building, of brick and tile construction.

Construction has been started by R. C. Patrick, local contractor, on the new school at Larkinsville, which is a 5-room and auditorium building. This contractor will also build schools at Stevenson, Hodge, Macedonia, and other points throughout the County, under a contract totaling over \$125,000.

Bids were opened on February 16 for schools at Pisgah, Bryant, and Rosalie; these schools are expected to cost approximately \$42,000, and construction should get under way early next month, or as soon as PWA has approved the contract.

The total amount of the program is \$418,000, of which \$189,000 is a grant by the Public Works Administration, the balance being raised by the County Board of Education and the communities in which the schools are located.

1940s — Schools as Community Centers

❖ Closed schools continued to be used as became community centers, places for farmers' meeting, health screenings, and vaccination clinics

The Progressive Age
27 Dec 1951, Thu · Page 2

LARKINSVILLE 4-H PROGRAM

Sarah L. Jacks, Asst. Home Agent "Joy to the World" was the title of Christmas pageant presented by the Larkinsville boys and girls 4-H Club members on December 19 in the school auditorium. The Christmas program was planned and prepared for their regular club meeting. The setting of the play was the "Bethlehem Scene" of Mary, Joseph, and the Christ Child. The part of Mary was played by Jimmie Pritchett and Joseph

The Progressive Age
17 Aug 1950, Thu · Page 7

THE STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT HAS SET
AUG. 21 THRU SEPT. 1, 1950
AS THE TIME FOR
EVERY PERSON IN JACKSON COUNTY
TO BE

BLOOD TESTED FOR **DIABETES** CHEST X-RAY FOR **HEART DISEASE**

ALL AGES — AND — ALL AGES

SYPHILIS — AND — **TUBERCULOSIS**

Alabama Again Leads The Nation

RABIES CLINIC SCHEDULE

Thursday July 23
Bryant School — 10:00—10:45
Long Island at Depot — 11:00—11:30
Bridgeport City Hall—1:00-3:00

Friday July 24
Caperton's Store - Stevenson
Over Bridge—8:00 — 8:30
Abius — 8:30 — 9:00
at Rock Post Office — 9:00-:00
verlook Church — 10:15 — :45

Typhoid Clinics Are Announced

The following dates are announced by the Jackson County Health Department for rounds for giving typhoid inoculation:

Monday, May 26—
Langston—8:45
Davistown—9:20
Harmony Church—10:00
Cross Roads School—10:30
Salem School—11:00
Haigwood Church—11:30
Macedonia School—11:45
Rock House—1:00
Patterson School—1:30
Bellview—2:00
Coffey School—2:30
Section School—3:00
Tuesday, May 27—
Fern Cliff House—8:30
Hodge—9:00
Chaney's Chapel—9:30
Dutton—10:00
Callahan—10:30
Pleasant View Church—11:00
Cross Roads—11:30

The Progressive Age
23 Oct 1941, Thu · Page 3

PIE SUPPER AT EDGEFIELD

There will be a pie supper at the Edgefield school Saturday night, Oct. 25th for the benefit of the church. Ice cream, candy and cookies will also be sold. Everybody is invited to attend.

PIE SUPPER AT PLEASANT GROVE SCHOOL

There will be a pie supper at Pleasant Grove School on Saturday night, October 25. Everyone is invited.

WININGER AND TUPELO FARMERS PLAN IMPROVED FARM PRACTICES

At a recent evening school meeting, farmers of Tupelo and Winger communities planned important improved farm practices to carry out on their individual farms. The members agreed to plant good varieties of a long staple cotton, suited to their community and to build rotary treaters for cottonseed treatment. Participation in growing oil crops, peanuts and soybeans, was also agreed upon.

Planting permanent pasture and hay during the Spring is to be increased. Members had already planted an increased acreage of Winter cover crops to further soil conservation practices. Field selection of seed corn, a timely practice now, is to be used to improve seed corn in the communities.

A. F. Baas, Vocational Agricultural Teacher.

The Progressive Age
05 Mar 1953, Thu · Page 4

SPECIAL SINGING AT MACEDONIA

Please remember our singing at Macedonia this coming Sunday night, March 8th. We have the promise of some special singers, quartets and trios. Everyone has a special invitation to attend. The singing will start promptly at 7 o'clock. If you love good gospel singing don't miss this one. The new 1953 Harvest Songs will be used throughout the singing.

Mrs. J. D. Culpepper

Monday, May 26—
Langston—8:45
Davistown—9:20
Harmony Church—10:00
Cross Roads School—10:30
Salem School—11:00
Haigwood Church—11:30
Macedonia School—11:45
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Pleasant View Church—11:00
Cross Roads—11:30
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What Became of the Closed Schools?

- ❖ Some are still standing though abandoned.
- ❖ Many were torn down or fell down or burned, like Pleasant View (Dec 2022 photo by Dale Crawford)
- ❖ Larkinsville converted to a cattle facility
- ❖ Temperance Hill converted to a trucking business and now a private home.
- ❖ I am trying to provide coordinates for every school site. You can get this with GoogleEarth.



Know Your Schools: Snapshot of 1950

- ❖ 55 schools, 48 white supporting 8900 pupils and 7 black supporting 600 students, for a total of 9500 in the county system
- ❖ 6500 in elementary, 2000 in junior high, and 1000 in senior high
- ❖ Of the 2328 student who entered first grade, only 269 graduated
- ❖ 5200 students rode 65 buses, which cost \$100,000 to operate
- ❖ Attendance rate was well below state average (78% in Jackson County compared to 85.6% statewide). Truancy cost the school \$1625 per day in state funding.
- ❖ 305 teachers in the system, 5% with more than 5 years of college, 34% with 4 years, 26% with two years and 27% with less than 2 years

1950: “Know Your Schools” Schools Profiled

- ❖ Bridgeport Colored (1-6)
- ❖ Bridgeport School (1-12)
- ❖ Bryant (1-10)
- ❖ Carns (1-6)
- ❖ Crescent Hill
- ❖ Dean’s Chapel
- ❖ Dutton (1-9)
- ❖ Fabius (1-6, total 41)
- ❖ Fackler Negro (1-6, total 15)
- ❖ Flat Rock (1-9)
- ❖ George Washington Carver High (1-12)
- ❖ Grey’s Chapel (22 total)
- ❖ Hodge (1-6, 40 total)
- ❖ Hollywood (1-9)
- ❖ Hollywood Colored (1-8)
- ❖ JCHS (1-12)
- ❖ Kyles (1-6)
- ❖ Langston (1-4)
- ❖ Larkinsville (1-6)
- ❖ Limrock (1-9)
- ❖ Macedonia (1-8)
- ❖ McCoy Grove (1-6, total 26)
- ❖ Mt. Carmel (1-6)
- ❖ Paint Rock Elementary (1-6)
- ❖ Paint Rock Valley (1-12)
- ❖ Pierceton 1-4 only 40 students)
- ❖ Pikeville (1-6)
- ❖ Pisgah (1-12)
- ❖ Pleasant Grove (1-6)
- ❖ Pleasant View (1-6)
- ❖ Rash (1-6)
- ❖ Rosalie (1-9)
- ❖ Scottsboro Elementary (1-6)
- ❖ Section (1-9)
- ❖ Skyline (1-9)
- ❖ Stevenson (1-12)
- ❖ Stevenson Rosenwald (1-9)
- ❖ Sublett (1-4 & 6)
- ❖ Temperance Hill (1-6)
- ❖ Tupelo (1-6)
- ❖ Winner
- ❖ Woodville (1-12)

Communities Served by 1950s Schools: 113 to 55

- ❖ **Bridgeport:** Mt. Carmel, Rocky Springs, Bryant
- ❖ **Dutton:** Callahan, Coffey, Poplar Springs, Hodge, Pleasant View
- ❖ **Fabius:** Cameronville
- ❖ **Flat Rock:** Overlook, Liberty Hill, Christian Home, Fabius
- ❖ **George Washington Caver Negro:** All Black schools in the county
- ❖ **Hollywood:** Martintown, Bellefonte, Cuba, Kyles, Fairfield, Fackler, Carns
- ❖ **Hollywood Colored:** Cedar Grove, Fackler
- ❖ **JCHS:** Larkinsville, Temperance Hill, Bethany, Tupelo, Pikeville, Macedonia, Section, Dutton, Hollywood, Limrock, Skyline
- ❖ **Larkinsville:** Boxes Cove, Sauta Bottom
- ❖ **Limrock:** Gentle's Cove, Berry's Cove, Shipman's Cove, Aspel
- ❖ **Macedonia:** Crossroads, Davistown, Salem
- ❖ **Mt. Carmel:** Doran's Cove
- ❖ **Paint Rock:** Garth, Reel's Mountain, Madison line
- ❖ **Paint Rock Valley:** Trenton, Hollytree, Princeton, Swaim, Francisco, Estill Fork
- ❖ **Pisgah:** Sublett, Dean's Chapel, Pleasant View, Henanger, Rosalie, Flat Rock, Central, Mt. Olive, Fabius, Christian Home, Hodge, Dutton
- ❖ **Rash:** Big Coon, Little Coon
- ❖ **Rosalie:** New Hope, Central, New Home, Shrader
- ❖ **Scottsboro Elementary:** Beech Grove, Randall's Chapel, Centerpoint, Wood's Cove, Campground, Langston
- ❖ **Skyline:** Pleasant Grove, Winninger, Bailytown, Hytop
- ❖ **Stevenson:** Edgefield, Pleasant Grove, Rash, Wannville, Union Hill, Cameronville
- ❖ **Temperance Hill:** New Hope, Sauta Bottom, McCutchen
- ❖ **Woodville:** Paint Rock 7-12, Limrock 9-12

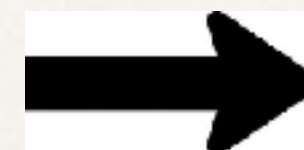
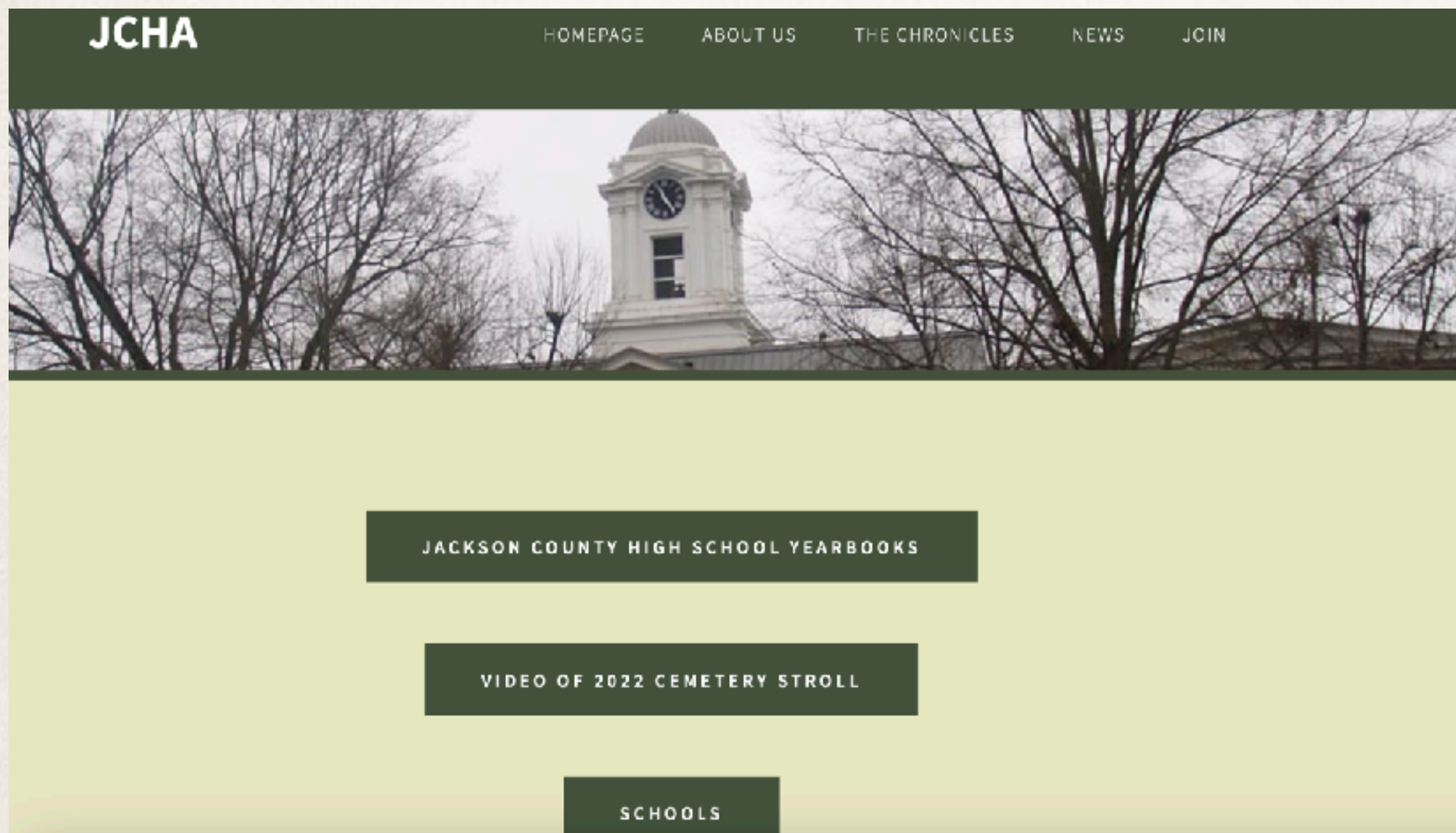
What is Conspicuously Missing?

- ❖ Everything since 1962.
- ❖ I cannot get at this except through the school board minutes (not transcribed) and public press (not online).
- ❖ I don't know, for example, when we achieved the distribution of schools that we have now. My best source is yearbooks I have scanned.
- ❖ This is where I suffer from not being a local and living out of state between 1979 and 2017.

How Can You Help?


- ❖ Share ideas.
- ❖ Send me your school teaching experiences.
- ❖ Send me your family's photos of your early schools
- ❖ Email these to me at jcha@scottsboro.org.
- ❖ Attach them to the conversations on the JCHA Facebook page. You might encourage others to contribute as well.
- ❖ When I am done with a school you have expertise in, please review what I have written and correct me.

Finding School Information on the JCHA Website



Jackson County Yearbooks

This page is for accessing yearbooks for Jackson County High Schools.



Jackson County High School and Scottsboro High School

The first JCHS class to publish a yearbook was 1930. This page contains all the digitized yearbooks between 1930 and 1979 that I have been able to locate. The yearbooks were scanned OCR and are searchable. New yearbooks will be made available as they are found and scanned. Years in **bold** indicate these yearbooks have been found and scanned.

Comments and suggestions for content can be submitted to jcha@scottsboro.org.

1889 Scottsboro College and Normal School Bulletin
1962 DAR School Historical Brochure
1929 JCHS Bulletin
1928-29 JCHS Graduation Articles and **1929 JCHS Graduation Program**
1971 Junior High Yearbook
JCHS Wildcat 1952-1955

1930s
1930
1931
1932
1933

Jackson County Public Schools

This page is for accessing historic profiles of schools in Jackson County.

In 1923, Jackson County had 119 school districts, some containing more than one school. Please contribute to this information. You might be the last person living who remember Beech Grove School, for example, or has photos of the school or could provide coordinates about the school's location. Some of these profiles are fairly complete but most are rough. If you do not see your school, drop me a note. Comments and suggestions for content can be submitted to jcha@scottsboro.org.

Overview Topics

Introduction
General Introduction
Opportunity Schools
Rosenwald Schools

Schools

Alto School
Averyville School
Beech Grove School
Beeson Academy
Bennett's School
Bethlehem Overlook School
Bird Hill Colored School
Boxer Cove School
Brewton School

Website: www.jchaweb.org