SECTION 1

COOSA VALLEY BAPTIST CEMETERY

Grady Nathaniel Mathis 13 APRIL 1913-21-MARCH 1988
Rosa Lee Mathis 19 JANUARY 1923-
JOE ELLA BALEY 25 FEBRUARY 1890-19 OCTOBER 1971
JOE M BALEY 14 APRIL 1883-18 MARCH 1959
JOHN T BALEY 13 JULY 1922-14 MARCH 1982
POLLY CASTLEBERRY AGE ABOUT 45 YEARS
REV. PAUL CASTLEBERRY 5 MARCH 1829-18 NOVEMBER 1905
LARRY M BALEY 17 FEBRUARY 1941-20 JULY 1993
MILDRED BALEY 21 MAY 1922-
HARRY BALEY 15 AUGUST 1919-7 OCTOBER 1958
LEE ROY SMITH 1909-1981
MARY LOU SMITH 1912-1982
STELLA CASTLEBERRY 1872-1941
PAUL C CASTLEBERRY 1866-1947
INEZ CASTLEBERRY 1913-1970
WILLIAM R CASTLEBERRY 1908-1986
POLLY COBERN 4 APRIL 1896-28 DECEMBER 1983
DAYTHA CASTLEBERRY 25 JANUARY 1909-22 NOVEMBER 1976
PAUL CASTLEBERRY JR. 22 MARCH 1906-29 SEPTEMBER 1978
MARGARET????
MARY WILLINGHAM ELLIOTT 30 JUNE 1851-1 NOVEMBER 1886
JAMES EZEKIEL WILLINGHAM 1 DECEMBER 1844-29 JANUARY 1882
JOHN A WILLINGHAM 14 APRIL 1870-6 MARCH 1893
EDMOND KILGROE 5 OCTOBER 1906-19 NOVEMBER 1906
SALLIE KILGROE
? KILGROE
FRED H WALKER JR. 14 JUNE 1947-26 OCTOBER 1969
MATTIE WILLINGHAM ABBOTT 19 MAY 1867-16 JUNE 1939
THOMAS J ABBOTT 25 SEPTEMBER 1857-7 AUGUST 1931
EE WILLINGHAM 16 DECEMBER 1840-?
R.D. WILLINGHAM 10 APRIL 1839-11 MAY 1892
MATTIE LURIE KILGROE 22 OCTOBER 1910-16 APRIL 1912
LURA B KILGROE 1871-1941
SOLOMON KILGORE 1861-1931
CARRIE KILGROE 8 JANUARY 1863-3 NOVEMBER 1906
DIXIE MONGOLD 1888-1926
WILLIE M WILLINGHAM 18 APRIL 1865-13 DECEMBER 1939
MARY E WILLINGHAM 8 AUGUST 1874-1 NOVEMBER 1948
HOWARD WILLINGHAM 26 JUNE 1916-8 MAY 1939
RUBY WILLINGHAM DODSON 3 DECEMBER 1913-26 AUGUST 1934
SUSAN TURNER 2 JUNE 1859-17 JANUARY 1861
MARY TURNER 1830-1903
PERRY TURNER 22 JUNE 1825-1 NOVEMBER 1896
MARIE DILL COSHATT 21 MARCH 1931-
CECIL E COSHATT 2 MAY 1922-
MATTIE NIXON 24 FEBRUARY 1865-6 FEBRUARY 1938
ELIHU J NIXON 20 OCTOBER 1864-
SARAH ANN HAYES 21 MAY 1885-25 DECEMBER 1908
JENNIE MODE 10 DECEMBER 1885-28 JUNE 1985
JOHN W MODE 9 APRIL 1886-14 APRIL 1921
INFANT SON OF JOHN AND JENNIE MODE 10 SEPTEMBER 1911
JOHN J ABBOTT 3 FEBRUARY 1821-22 NOVEMBER 1876
PURLINA ABBOTT 11 MARCH 1824-9 OCTOBER 1867
MATTIE ABBOTT 17 JULY 1838-21 DECEMBER 1898
MARIE ABBOTT 12 DECEMBER 1917-
JOSPEH ABBOTT 28 MARCH 1915-18 FEBRUARY 1970
ROBERT ABBOTT 10 APRIL 1873-25 JANUARY 1932
ELIZA ABBOTT 19 JULY 1882-4 JULY 1934
NETTA ABBOTT 1861-1937
WILLIAM R ABBOTT 1854-1896
CLENTELLE GAMBLE ABBOTT 13 SEPTEMBER 1886-16 OCTOBER 1965
JOHN DEJOURNETTE ABBOTT 23 FEBRUARY 1879-5 SEPTEMBER 1951
HENRY ABBOTT 4 MARCH 1885-7 AUGUST 1937
PAULINE ABBOTT 4 SEPTEMBER 1886-16 JULY 1956
PAUL RANDALL ABBOTT 6 JUNE 1922-4 JANUARY 1943 U.S. NAVY WWII
MATTIE LOU ABBOTT 1898-1898
INFANT ABBOTT
MARY ELLEN ABBOTT 31 MARCH 1905-22 MAY 1918
JAMES THOMAS BUCHANAN 2 NOVEMBER 1934-
MAMMY E BUCHANAN 9 SEPTEMBER 1932-
S.M. BUCKHANNAN 1835-9 NOVEMBER 1910
WILLIAM HENRY RICH 11 MAY 1909-14 FEBRUARY 1926
THOMAS J RICH 19 APRIL 1858-7 FEBRUARY 1944
MARGARET RICH 15 JUNE 1859-12 NOVEMBER 1930
BETTY ENSLEY 10 NOVEMBER 1953-15 MARCH 1982
SARAH MCKNIGHT 25 JULY 1933-
LOUIE MCKNIGHT 29 JANUARY 1932-9 SEPTEMBER 1995
HENRYNETTA WADSWORTH 1911-
PRESTON ROBERT WADSWORTH 1908-1991
ADDISON CONNOR WADSWORTH 24 OCTOBER 1995-11 JUNE 1996
HUBERT MCKNIGHT 22 AUGUST 1902-19 JANUARY 1988
MAXINE ABBOTT 26 JANUARY 1928-
CHARLES ABBOTT 4 DECEMBER 1927-21 DECEMBER 1985
JOHN DEJOURNETTE ABBOTT JR. 30 NOVEMBER 1921-23 DECEMBER 1987
HEATH E ABBOTT 11 AUGUST 1971-22 JUNE 1973
LAURA OAKS 25 APRIL 1866-9 OCTOBER 1905
JOHN J OAKES 5 JANUARY 1890-29 APRIL 1979
MATTIE OAKES 20 SEPTEMBER 1896-19 MAY 1972
BENJAMIN OAKES 26 APRIL 1932-30 MARCH 1985
JOHN F OAKES 2 MARCH 1916-18 DECEMBER 1985
S. M. KARR 11 JULY 1876-17 APRIL 1940
J.W. KARR 5 AUGUST 1869-20 APRIL 1930
MERASON KARR 1 APRIL 1878-14 FEBRUARY 1911
PAT KARR 17 FEBRUARY ?-1 MARCH 1924
?
?
JAMES JOHNSON 26 APRIL 1846-13 MAY 1923
EDITH JOHNSON 13 MARCH 1850-9 MAY 1917
SARAH L FUNDERBURG 22 JULY 1890-21 MARCH 1981
PETER CHARLES FUNDERBURG 3 SEPTEMBER 1879-14 JUNE 1938
RUSIE JOHNSON DABNEY 14 MARCH 1911-11 OCTOBER 1995
JAMES O DABNEY 11 JULY 1911-8 OCTOBER 1991
DEWEY JOHNSON 25 FEBRUARY 1905-1 MARCH 1925
ESTELLE ZOE JOHNSON 25 JUNE 1881-17 JUNE 1952
R.L. JOHNSON 15 MARCH 1881-16 JULY 1962
J. FRANKLIN HARMON 10 NOVEMBER 1867-21 JULY 1946
JAMES E HARMON 28 JULY 1900-26 JUNE 1901
LONIE HARMON 14 JUNE 1870-11 MARCH 1920
CAROLINE MCBREYER HARDWICK 20 JUNE 1833-18 APRIL 1907
G.R. HARDWICK 10 NOVEMBER 1836-6 SEPTEMBER 1909
FRANCIS BARKER 13 FEBRUARY 1878-3 APRIL 1957
JANIE BARKER 30 MARCH 1893-29 APRIL 1961
DIXIE HORTON 23 SEPTEMBER 1913-25 JANUARY 1983
MILDRED MACON 23 SEPTEMBER 1926-8 SEPTEMBER 1981
RUTHIE MATHIS 1874-1932
KATIE GANN 20 SEPTEMBER 1886-2 MARCH 1988
EDDIE MATHIS 9 DECEMBER 1909-27 JANUARY 1991
INFANT DAUGHTER OF MR. AND MRS. SANFORD 17 MAY 1949-18 MAY 1949
JERRY WILLIAMSON 12 SEPTEMBER 1867-17 SEPTEMBER 1898
EMMA WILLIAMSON 7 DECEMBER 1870-15 SEPTEMBER 1898
WILLIAM ROWLAND 1798-1884
RITA ROWLAND 1805-1880
JAMES FRANKLIN ROWLAND 16 APRIL 1839-21 MAY 1885 PVT. CO F 10TH ALA
PARAZETTE ETTA ROWLAND 29 OCTOBER 1843-3 OCTOBER 1927 DAUGHTER OF JOHN AND NANCY NOE RAGLAND
GEORGE W RAGLAND OCTOBER 1846-MAY 1863 PVT. CO F 9TH ALA
P.L. ROWLAND 25 AUGUST 1866-15 JULY 1899
C.A. JONES 22 NOVEMBER 1838-26 JUNE 1928
R.M. JONES 8 SEPTEMBER 1835-2 APRIL 1921
FRANK WILLIAMSON 1891-1898
JOHNIE WILLIAMSON 1893-1896
SARAH BISHOP 23 JUNE 1908-27 NOVEMBER 1995
LEONARD BISHOP 28 JANUARY 1905-22 AUGUST 1946
DAVID SCOTT MATHIS 7 DECEMBER 1976-18 JANUARY 1980
JESSE WAYNE MATHIS 17 JUNE 1942-12 NOVEMBER 1947
DOROTHY MATHIS 24 FEBRUARY 1939-13 AUGUST 1940
ANNA MATHIS 16 SEPTEMBER 1921-11 JANUARY 1985
JESSE MATHIS 19 APRIL 1916-
JOHNIE MATHIS 1921-1923
WILEY MATHIS 1879-1936
LULA MATHIS 1890-1976
SAMUEL MATHIS 5 FEBRUARY 1920-6 APRIL 1945 WWII
GARY SPRAYBERRY 1957-1957
BILLIE SUE SPRAYBERRY 1 MAY 1937-13 OCTOBER 1957 WILLIAM SPRAYBERRY 5 DECEMBER 1936-
SAMUEL THOMAS BARKER 1942-1942
WILLIE MAE BARKER 3 SEPTEMBER 1911-28 MAY 1991
WILLIAM H BARKER 18 JUNE 1907-2 APRIL 1974
LENA MORGAN DONAHOO 18 MAY 1898-1 AUGUST 1966
GRADY DONAHOO 27 AUGUST 1900-7 MARCH 1974
RAY PIKE 19 JULY 1921-11 MARCH 1954 WWII
LERA JOHNSON 28 SEPTEMBER 1902-11 JANUARY 1978
SARAH MITCHUM 6 JULY 1848-9 FEBRUARY 1926
C.W. MITCHUM 22 OCTOBER 1843-21 JULY 1907
CYNTHIA L GRAHAM BORN AND DIED 22 JANUARY 1961
MARVIN VARDAMAN 19 MARCH 1902-8 NOVEMBER 1975
BESSIE VARDAMAN 5 MARCH 1905-
EARL D SMITH 11 JUNE 1935-11 JUNE 1935
CLAUDE SMITH 13 JULY 1913-15 JULY 1987
PEGGY JEAN SMITH WILLIAMS 7 FEBRUARY 1938-2 AUGUST 1985
MARGARET SMITH RAY 5 MARCH 1922-25 SEPTEMBER 1987
RAYMOND RAY 15 JANUARY 1912-6 MARCH 1964 WWII
J.C. SMITH 8 APRIL 1908-6 MAY 1985
JANIE SMITH 11 JANUARY 1915-20 APRIL 1991
BETTIE SMITH 24 JUNE 1884-30 JUNE 1972
JOE SMITH 24 FEBRUARY 1879-6 JUNE 1947
ROBERT SMITH 16 AUGUST 1924-26 SEPTEMBER 1978
DALLAS MALCOM GRAHAM WIFE OF J.C. LEE 10 SEPTEMBER 1851-12 NOVEMBER 1903
JERRY C LEE 22 JULY 1852-29 SEPTEMBER 1942
LUDIE VARDAMAN 4 JULY 1880-8 APRIL 1958
J.H. VARDAMAN 4 OCTOBER 1867-25 DECEMBER 1937
WILLIAM VARDAMAN 15 JULY 1907-1 MAY 1980
BARBARA VARDAMAN 24 JULY 1955-1 JANUARY 1989
BILLY JOE VARDAMAN 18 NOVEMBER 1931-17 FEBRUARY 1974 KOREAN VETERAN
BENJAMIN DONAHOO 1887-1912
MARY RUNYAN WIFE OF A.J. DONAHOO 1868-1906
ANDREW JACKSON DONAHOO 1853-1915
JAMES C DONAHOO 1909-1969
MARGARET DONAHOO 14 FEBRUARY 1891-16 DECEMBER 1955
MACK CLEVELAND DONAHOO 5 MARCH 1886-25 JANUARY 1942
RUBY LEE DONAHOO 27 JUNE 1915-22 JUNE 1965
LENA DONAHOO 1899-1906
CECIL DONAHOO 23 APRIL 1907-2 JUNE 1926
BILL DONAHOO 14 SEPTEMBER 1879-30 MARCH 1944
HATTIE DONAHOO 29 AUGUST 1878-15 APRIL 1942

Section 2

Edith Morris Cosper 9 Feb 1926-
Shade Cosper 6 Mar 1915-
Virginia Jenkins Cosper 1908-1983
Pickens D Cosper 1909-
Margaret Slack Cosper 23 June 1910-2 Oct 1991
Charles Henry Cosper 9 Sept 1907-26 April 1964
James W Cosper 17 May 1924-18 Feb 1981
Robert H Cosper 7 Jan 1927-19 Mar 1992
Lucille Pryor Cosper 31 May 1921-
Thomas Clifton Cosper 29 April 1912-23 April 1988
Martha Jeanette Hartness Cosper 18 Feb 1917-24 Dec 1980
Pearl Tucker Cosper 13 Jan 1898-11 Dec 1962
Manley Hill Cosper, Jr. 16 Sept 1927-22 Oct 1977
Manley Hill Cosper 5 Jan 1901-4 Mar 1959
Madalyn Burnett Cosper 26 Dec 1904-28 Aug 1930
Sarah Frances Watson wife of J.H. Cosper 11 July 1876-10 Aug 1922
James Henry Cosper 15 April 1876-28 Dec 1939
Lula May Cosper 19 Dec 1897-10 Sept 1985
James W Cosper 20 Nov 1898-5 May 1947
Jeannette Cosper Riggs 22 April 1903-
Horace Lester Riggs 6 Dec 1902-15 July 1986
John E Bradford 25 Aug 1877-7 Sept 1918
Carrie Bradford Cosper 22 Aug 1889-28 Dec 1959
Walter Cosper 13 Mar 1877-6 Mar 1932
Edgar Marvin Cosper 16 Dec 1881-3 Nov 1933
Elizabeth M Cosper 17 July 1882-19 Aug 1939
L. Polk Cosper 30 Jan 1893-9 Jan 1954
Leta Milner Cosper 6 Aug 1889-12 May 1990
Jerome George Foote 14 Jan 1931-19 Dec 1993
Joyce Harrison Foote 16 July 1936-
Robert Ross Byrd 20 Jan 1957-29 June 1989
Jack Ralph Benjamin 24 July 1917-
Sarah F Cosper Benjamin 26 Sept 1922-12 Jan 1973
Fred Cameron Benjamin 1946-1985
Alice Lois Depee Cosper 5 Mar 1924-15 Jan 1965
Aleta Cosper Byrd 26 May 1928-
Charles Lafayette Byrd 5 Jan 1924-
Mary E.R. wife of J.W. Cosper 13 Nov 1854-16 July 1926
James W Cosper 6 Mar 1854-5 May 1923
Willie Haralson 24 Feb 1891-13 Jan 1922
Mary Cosper 13 Jan 1886-5 May 1918
Antionette Cosper 10 July 1884-7 July 1910
Shade Cosper 23 Mar 1879-9 Sept 1880
Sallie Cosper 17 Oct 1882-22 Mar 1886
Alse Bell 1 June 1885-9 Aug 1926
Jesse Thomas Holladay 22 Sept 1921-17 Jan 1994
Hilda Bell Holladay 20 June 1921-
Dr. Carlos James Ross 22 Nov 1918-7 Dec 1982
Bobbie Cosper Ross 23 July 1924-
Fall Franklin Funderburg, Sr. 26 Mar 1914-8 Aug 1985
Fall Franklin Funderburg Jr. 20 Mar 1935-25 May 1991
Fall Franklin Funderburg III 26 May 1957-11 Oct 1972
Turner Funderburg 14 Nov 1907-16 April 1970
Fannie Cosper Funderburg 1878-1945
Rev. D. Funderburg 1869-1939
Daniel S. Funderburg 19 May 1896-10 Sept 1952
Marcelle Hunter Bell 30 Sept 1925-
William Bell 3 May 1919-18 Nov 1996
James B Cosper, Minister for 50 years, 6 Mar 1796-26 Aug 1875
Sarah H Cosper wife of J.B. Cosper 31 Aug 1803-13 Jan 1863
Jacob Cosper born 1 Oct 1771 Edgefield Dist S.C. died Talladega 1859 Joined Methodist
Church 1803 and licensed to preach by Bishop Asbury 1810
Phoebe wife of Jacob Cosper died 6 Oct 1858
Sarah F Cosper 16 Aug 1829-18 Aug 1890
Dr. Pickens D Cosper 6 Jan 1820-25 Mar 1877
Fannie Cosper 1865-1866
Sallie wife of W.D. Cosper 22 April 1857-15 April 1918
Annie V. Cosper 10 Sept 1867-13 Sept 1892
Lafayette son of D.F. and F.E. Funderburg 1 Sept 1916-5 Aug 1917
Jim Cosper son of D.F. and F.E. Funderburg 27 Dec 1905-21 Jan 1906
Peggy Payne 12 Feb 1932-7 Sept 1994
Robert Payne 3 Feb 1930-21 Sept 1993
Carolyn Underwood 14 Mar 1943-
Herman Underwood 29 Sept 1931-6 June 1989
John E Cosper 17 Feb 1912-12 Dec 1987
Elizabeth Dianne Lister Bergeron 11 Nov 1947-30 June 1976
Mabron Lister 26 June 1902-18 Dec 1967
Elizabeth Cosper Lister 7 May 1916-6 Feb 1988
Robert P Cosper 3 Nov 1874-28 May 1952
Margie Cosper 9 Aug 1878-21 April 1929
Infant son of Mr. and Mrs. R.P. Cosper 1898
Mack Young, Jr. son of W.M. and Grace Young 8 Sept 1924-24 Feb 1926
Grace C Young 15 July 1907-6 August 1992
William McKinley Young 30 January 1904-18 April 1936
Robert Young son of W.M. and Grace Young 18 July 1926-11 January 1931
Rosa Lee West 1 May 1906-11 July 1967
Dee Dewey West 20 Sept 1898-29 May 1975
Infant daughter of J.K. and Eva Walker 12 January 1905-28 March 1905
Eva Walker 5 Sept 1879-4 August 1918
John K Walker 9 Oct 1877-23 May 1940
Sarah Anne Willingham 22 Feb 1851-28 Feb 1890
Earnest Willingham 1885-1905
Nannie Willingham 1879-1896
Esther daughter of J.J.A. and Lillie Box 31 March 1912-26 August 1915
James Milford Box son of W.E. and Laura Box 11 Oct 1886-3 August 1897
Lillie Lee Box daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leroy H Box 1901-1906
Ara Morgan Roberts 3 Feb 1894-4 April 1945
William T Roberts 5 March 1880-14 April 1934
James M Seals 1 March 1865-11 Sept 1947
Annie Seals 11 April 1872-11 Dec 1952
Otis Seals 26 March 1902-6 Feb 1979
Goldie Seals 21 Feb 1907-16 Dec 1971
James T Seals 15 August 1905-12 August 1926
Maud Fant 15 July 1900-31 Dec 1909
James Allen Box Pvt Company G 3RD Alabama Cavalry 26 June 1843-21 Dec 1909
Sarah Eliza Box 18 March 1852-5 June 1928
Mary J Box wife of J.H. Stone 28 April 1871-28 Feb 1947
Nannie daughter of J.A. and S.E. Box 1 Oct 1882-2 Nov 1881
Lillian daughter of J.A. and S.E. Box 12 Nov 1891-23 Nov 1891
J.L. Willingham 24 Nov 1849-11 April 1922
James F Willingham 10 July 1873-6 Sept 1909
Nunnely P Jones 16 Sept 1896-24 Nov 1919
Albert R Jones 16 June 1887-10 July 1915
Henry Eugene Box son of James Elijah and Emma Rebecca Box
Ruth Scott Box daughter of James Elijah and Emma Rebecca Box
Emma Rebecca Box daughter of James Elijah and Emma Rebecca Box
A. Jose Chambers 1860-1915
John T Chambers 1852-1927
Earlene Willingham 3 June 1896-17 June 1897
Lenora Willingham wife of J.W. Willingham, daughter of J.H. and M. McBrayer
10 Nov 1865-21 June 1886
Joseph Walker Willingham 10 Nov 1856-30 April 1901
James Berry Willingham 9 Nov 1892-19 July 1949
Lawrence son of J.N. and G.A. Willingham 18 Oct 1902-28 Dec 1902
William P Braden Alabama Private Artillery 24 May 1901
Bailey Lee Braden 12 Sept 1902-7 Oct 1903
Eugene Scott 3 Mar 1892-14 April 1916
Raymart Hardwick 1878-1891
Madison Hardwick 1 Jan 1899-26 Aug 1899
Dora Hardwick
Lucy E wife of J.T. Hardwick 20 June 1857-9 Nov 1912
James T Hardwick 24 Oct 1850-6 Oct 1922
Elizabeth wife of David Wood 14 March 1834-18 March 1907
Louisa wife of David Wood 2-24 May 1861
George Hardwick 15 March 1860-12 Dec 1913
William B Hardwick 27 Jan 1856-10 Dec 1932
Nancy wife of James O Hardwick 13 Dec 1825-7 August 1906
Louisa wife of James O Hardwick 1835-11 April 1863
Pearl Scott Graham 19 Sept 1889-30 Nov 1918
Sarah Margaret Braden daughter of William and Sarah 28 May 1879-12 May 1880
W.P. son of William and Margaret Braden 28 August 1875-24 May 1900
W.M. Braden 8 May 1834-5 Oct 1901 Pvt Company A 10th Alabama
Sarah E Braden 23 June 1849-18 May 1923
T.B. Braden 7 March 1878-5 March 1919
J. Jones Willingham 6 June 1832-24 Jan 1894
Jane C Willingham 1830-3 March 1890
Cecil Jones Willingham 16 Aug 1894-23 May 1896
McLellan Charles Willingham 17 June 1900-17 April 1901
Mary Lee Willingham 7 Feb 1898-26 July 1899
Henry Chambers 1887-1908
Oliver Chambers 1889-1891
Esau Chambers 1900-1902
Clara Box wife of George H Jones 31 Aug 1883-31 Dec 1906
Clara Scott
James Elijah Box
Bertie Mae Harrison 17 Nov 1889-24 Feb 1920
Nancy Scott 3 March 1862-11 Sept 1951
N.T. Scott 15 Sept 1847-11 May 1911
Sarah wife of J.C. Walker 10 March 1848-
Fred son of J.C. and S.C. Walker 11 Oct 1889-16 Jan 1911
Joe C Walker 1 Jan 1855-
Infant daughter of H.H. and G.A. Alexander born and died 27 Sept 1877
John W son of F. and S.E. Kaufman 3 Feb 1896-15 May 1911
Thomas B Bell 28 August 1837-
Lucille Davis 15 Dec 1906-2 May 1915
Nay Davis 7 April 1898-19 August 1898
Sophia Davis 21 Feb 1863-15 Oct 1923
John Franklin Davis 27 Feb 1859-14 March 1943
Nannie wife of J.C. Embry 15 Oct 1872-19 May 1910
John R Bell 15 Sept 1870-2 May 1934
Jerry D Bell 15 August 1874-24 May 1935
Mattiie Abbott wife of Jerry Bell 10 July 1874-5 August 1915
Martha Bell 24 April 1811-13 Feb 1880
Sallendia Bell 21 Dec 1828-7 April 1875
Mary Jane Jewett Tucker 18 Jan 1855-15 Aug 1945
Ruth K Masters 18 Sept 1903-31 March 1939
Fred Kaufman 1866-1951
Susan Kaufman 1871-1938
Mittie Alexander 9 Oct 1893-10 Jan 1990
Newman Alexander 2 Nov 1881-24 July 1974
Henry H Alexander 7 April 1838-13 Nov 1910
Georgia Ann Alexander 27 March 1857-15 Feb 1934
Viola Bynum 1886-1915
W.T. Bynum 1860-1932
Sarah Bynum 1862-1934
Timmie Mae Drummonds 1 May 1880-4 Jan 1949
A. Graves Drummonds 29 June 1883-8 April 1953
Sarah D Haynes 25 June 1919-17 Jan 1984
George W Harrison 4 April 1883-11 Feb 1978
Buna L Harrison 6 June 1886-24 July 1924
Louie Payne 15 Jan 1911-7 June 1994
Carrie Payne 2 Sept 1914
Joe P Reynolds 18 Jan 1909-9 March 1911
Blicker F Reynolds 22 March 1881-6 Aug 1921
Mary Ann Belew Keller 26 May 1863-20 Jan 1893
R.E. Keller 12 Sept 1840-25 June 1916
Marie Holcomb 23 May 1911-17 Nov 1913
Dorothy Murphy
M. Frances Murphy
Jimmy L Murphy
S. Vester Murphy
Clarence McGuire 3 Aug 1908-3 June 1982
Eunice McGuire 9 April 1912-23 June 1983
Clemons McGuire 17 Feb 1910-5 March 1977
Charles Richard Alexander 25 Nov 1916-7 July 1917
Summa Collett 28 Feb 1899
Alfred Mitchell Collett World War I 4 Sept 1892-7 Jan 1959
Odie Dee Collett 31 March 1913-3 Feb 1969
Marcus Fraim 27 Sept 1836-27 Sept 1909
Margaret Howard Fraim 29 Oct 1839-23 April 1907
Grace Carter 2 May 1904-15 July 1905
Gladis Carter 2 May 1904-8 July 1905
Unetta Carter 10 Sept 1901-28 Feb 1902
J. Leon Murphy
L.D. Murphy 8 Aug 1906-26 July 1956
Mary L Murphy 18 May 1914-27 July 1983
James W Reynolds 9 May 1873-12 March 1941
Rose Reynolds 16 April 1914-23 Dec 1925
Eugene Richey 24 Aug 1926-24 April 1973
Catherine Richey 22 Dec 1930-
Sammy Willis (Vietnam) 21 April 1942-18 Oct 1975
Howard Thompson 6 Aug 1913-12 July 1969
Sandra Renee Leathers 29 Dec 1963-28 Mar 1964
Harry Paul Thrower 9 May 1962-21 Dec 1987
Emma Louise Alexander Ingram 3 Jan 1924-18 March 1984
John D Prince 3 Jan 1870-24 April 1922
Mary C Prince 18 Aug 1845-11 Feb 1915
John S Prince 13 May 1830-27 Jan 1917
Mandy Glidewell 16 June 1852-18 Nov 1906
Kenneth Gerald Washburn 27 Nov 1965-16 July 1990
Evans Wayne Hand 30 May 1937-31 May 1937
Dexter Hand 2 Nov 1934-2 Nov 1934
Donald Willis 1940-1969
Annie Ruth Willis 26 March 1939-21 Dec 1939
Lura Mae Willis 7 May 1925-27 Aug 1926
Sarah Florence Willis 3 Oct 1932-27 June 1934
Blair Willis 13 Dec 1929-18 Jan 1939
Alma Willis 1904-1946
Enos Willis 1901-1946
Francis Jane consort of William Mark and daughter of Sheriff and Melinda Brewster born
14 May 1831 Harris Co, Ga and died 18 April 1860 St Clair Co, Al
Ben Brewster 10 Oct 1893-8 Sept 1904
Mary Brewster 1880-?
Carrie Brewster 1891-?
A.J. Brewster 25 July 1847-14 March 1919
H.B. Brewster 19 May 1849-31 Jan 1936
Mickey Otis Phillips 18 Jan 1956-5 July 1977
Paul Edward Moore 10 March 1946-21 Aug 1947
A. Jack Brewster 8 May 1903-23 Dec 1951
John S Brewster 1862-1942
Amanda Brewster 1882-19?
Bertie Stephens 17 Aug 1907-
J.D. Stephens 1 Aug 1904-12 Nov 1960
Ada Lee Stephens 11 Jan 1912-15 June 1944
Daisy Rich 22 March 1885-
J. Will Rich 6 April 1879-25 May 1936
Elorea Marie? 22 June 1901-4 June 1902
Samuel Brewster 5 Aug 1830-24 Sept 1855
Temperance Brewster
Cecil Hall 23 Sept 1908-5 Dec 1939
? (World War I) 14 Dec 1893-8 July 1957
James Burgess 1919-1923
William Kimberly 1911-1913
? Wife of James Kimberly 6 Nov 1910-20 Oct 1934
James Albert Kimberly 1929-1929

SECTION 3

Martha Susan Seales 1862-1914
John Wesley Seales 1861-1941
Mariah Drake Waite 21 Sept 1858-18 July 1937
Daniel Waite 28 Feb 1848-1 April 1904
Bewlah Stone 19 May 1870-13 Aug 1916
George Milton Stone 20 Aug 1870-30 July 1938
William Davis 17 Dec 1867-19 Oct 1933
Leonidas Davis 22 Jan 1861-8 Dec 1938
Sudie Davis 6 Jan 1870-26 July 1941
Infant son Huston 26 Feb 1922
Emma Spradley Huston 28 June 1897-21 Dec 1991
William Robert Huston 1 Nov 1894-16 Jan 1944
Lucy Elizabeth Gamble 7 April 1865-17 March 1951
John Calhoun Gamble 27 Nov 1858-19 June 1930
Rosa Spradley 16 Jan 1881-14 Aug 1946
Joseph Kirk Spradley 26 Sept 1869-2 Dec 1934
Ida Davis Spradley 1 July 1871-22 May 1927
Floy Elliott 19 Sept 1905-22 Dec 1905
John Daniel Maddox 17 March 1873-12 March 1939
Agnese Waite Maddox 28 Oct 1877-28 Dec 1916
John Shade Maddox 27 Aug 1835-3 Oct 1915
Nannie Johnson Maddox 22 June 1841-8 Aug 1915
Dr. Robert Steadham born Lineville 3 April 1861 died Childersburg 5 Nov 1898
Loula Steadham 1876-1972
William F LeFils 12 Dec 1832-22 Sept 1913
Leona Harmon 26 March 1909-11 March 1910
Samuel Harmon 13 Dec 1853-5 Jan 1925
T.M. LeFils July 1873 age 38
Frank LeFils died Aug 1885 age 20
M.E. Todd daughter of Philip Wait died 1863 age 38
P.J.C.C. Wait died August 1863 age 17
L.F. Wait died Feb 1869 age 60
S. Monima Wait wife of L.F. Wait and daughter of Daniel Ghent died Aug 1881 age 67
Etta Sue Castleberry 18 Jul 1935-
J. Charles Castleberry, Sr. 19 Dec 1927
Julia Yarbrough 1877-1960
Will T Yarbrough 1877-1949
Infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Will T Yarbrough 1912
Margaret Brown Stone 15 April 1877-5 Jan 1918
Annie Brown Stone 2 May 1842-
George W Stone 1 Aug 1844-2 Feb 1912
Frank Brandon Stone 21 Dec 1881-27 Jan 1901
Inf. Son of John and Mary Stone 19 April 1897-5 Aug 1897
Joel Edgar Stone son of Joel and Alice Stone 24 July 1878-30 July 1878
Susan Stone born Tennessee 25 Oct 1810 died Easonville Jan 18??
Joel Stone born Bedford Co Va 4 Dec 1809-died St Clair County, Al 6 Dec 1872
Mary wife of A.P. McCleskey and daughter of Joel and Susan Stone---born Talladega 4 June 1842 and died Easonville 22 July 1881
Sampson McSwain 10 Oct 1869-14 Feb 1921
Harriet Beavers 21 March 1818-21 May 1853
William S Beavers 1853-1855
Sterling Beavers 7 July 1839-15 May 1855
Ann Eliza Beavers 7 Dec 1842-22 July 1858
Ira Harmon 26 April 1826-17 May 1903
Samira Harmon 10 Aug 1829-6 April 1906
William Joseph Harmon 11 Nov 1855-10 Oct 1911
Oliver Izera Harmon 5 July 1889-4 Feb 1890
Sarah Jenkins wife of William Joseph Harmon 25 July 1855-11 April 1891
Albert Ira Harmon 20 Sept 1877-4 Feb 1897
West Mae inf. Daughter of Edward and Lula Chandler 12 June 1879-17 April 1880
Annie Conkle 18 Jan 1900-7 May 1903
Rhoda Elizabeth Crawford 12 March 1885-27 Feb 1900
Clara Crawford 3 March 1850-2 March 1909
D.A.Waits 12 March 1900-Dec 1925
Moses Branson McRae 1819-1891
Dawson Augustus McRae 1863-1893
Fred Moncrief 1831-1901
Charles Moncrief 1 Feb 1856-19 June 1892
Annie wife of J.M. Hardwick 21 April 1867-22 Jan 1883
Delilah Lister 25 Jan 1803-3 May 1889
Abner Lawler 30 Jan 1828-15 Sept 1896
Lourenda Lawler 27 Feb 1842-6 Oct 1916
Samuel Patton McLellan 22 March 1827-15 April 1896
Margaret Morrison McLellan 24 Dec 1827-22 Jan 1897
Pearl C Evans 17 Aug 1911-1 Sept 1913
Kate Stone Johnson 3 March 1852-28 Feb 1926
William R Johnson 5 Sept 1848-3 July 1925
Willie Kate Johnson 2 July 1892-25 Jan 1915
Charlotte Grissom
Sallie Hord
Jack Drennen
Lizzie Langley Drennen
Jane Langley Hinton
Mrs. Susie Colston 7 Dec 1895-29 Nov 1937
Dr. William C Neal died 27 Oct 1897 age 27
Jesse Adams 1849-1913
Amanda Adams 1839-1913
William Allen 11 Dec 1846-16 May 1914
Thomas Fletcher 19 Feb 1861-
Myrtle Hayes 1926-1927
Maggie Lou Hayes 1924-1924
Ulmon Hayes 1920-1921
Katie Hayes Fant 11 Jan 1897-14 May 1990
Theo Glidewell 1919-1935
Fred Hayes 16 Nov 1922-1 Aug 1987
Claude Henderson Hayes 24 June 1914-11 Dec 1991
James C Lee 18 July 1910-27 Nov 1983
Maggie Lee 7 Jan 1913-10 April 1993
Clarence Lee 4 Sept 1908-2 Jan 1986
Pauline Lee 23 May 1908
Comellor Viola Hayes 13 Jan 1891-15 Jan 1967
Fred Hayes 27 Dec 1890-15 May 1967
Marion Hayes 7 Aug 1860-5 June 1946
Ellen Jane Hayes 20 March 1859-23 Nov 1946
Susan wife of J. Hayes 10 March 1816-1 July 1885
? Duck wife of B. Fulmer 8 Nov 1848-15 May 1911
Isaac Hayes 15 April 1857-30 June 1907
James Roberds died 28 Jan 1905 age about 50
Ella Jane wife of Thomas Graham 12 May 1823-15 March 1888
Joe Lee 30 May 1912-2 July 1937
Kate Lee 8 Feb 1903-16 May 1947
Inf. son of Mr. and Mrs. Otto Lee 27 Aug 1907-27 Oct 1907
Mary Alma Lee 30 June 1879-23 June 1928
Ruth Lee Harmon 26 April 1916-
Jacob Harmon 3 Jan 1916-
Otto Mathias Lee 1 Aug 1881-13 March 1955
Annie Harmon 28 May 1914-7 Sept 1992
William A Harmon 25 July 1910-1 July 1978
Bess Clayton Castleberry 29 Jan 1901-16 May 1980
John Castleberry 18 Nov 1894-22 March 1980
R.M. Clayton 28 Aug 1859-27 Jan 1922
Dan Masters 18 Sept 1931-4 Nov 1970
Ida Alexander
Agnes Oden 13 Feb 1888-10 Aug 1924
Josie Lee Oden 1920-1936 buried Orange Hill Tampa Florida
Polly Anna Oden 1922-1923
? Coley
William Martin Dunaway 2 Feb 1912-9 May 1964
Annie B Dunaway 5 Sept 1912-3 Dec 1955
Steven Scott Rich 5 Feb 1968-12 Feb 1968
Lonnie Haynes 2 Nov 1897-31 May 1966
Daisy Haynes 15 June 1898-7 Oct 1975
Mary Sue Haynes 30 April 1879-26 Oct 1939
Alberter Fulmer 1895-1902
Ervin Fulmer 4 March 1869-26 Aug 1910
Ruby Lee 27 Sept 1927-21 March 1995
Bithie Lee 4 Feb 1898-2 April 1967
Floyd Lee 25 Feb 1897-19 Nov 1971
Robert E Lee 13 Aug 1917-26 Jan 1991
Melvin Lee 18 Aug 1919-10 May 1976
Wesley Glidewell 1879-1883
Howard Glidewell 27 June 1896-7 May 1898
William Perry 28 Jan 1929
Kathleen Perry 10 Aug 1933-28 June 1985
J.D. Ford 4 July 1862-20 Oct 1891
J.J. Banker 30 July 1847-6 Oct 1902
Jessie Banker 1880-1908
Green Park Jordan 1834-25 July 1899
Nancy Jordan 10 April 1838-29 Aug 1928
William Patterson (Alabama Infantry) ?-28 Sept 1878
Hazel Moody 2 May 1917-7 Aug 1919
Lizzie Moody 9 June 1866-17 May 1931
Daniel Moody 3 Nov 1857-17 Feb 1937
Forney Moody 17 April 1889-3 July 1971
Lavada Moody 13 April 1897-13 June 1978
Sarah F Moody 1919-1977
Maggie Mae wife of Wesley Haynes 1887-1915
Elizabeth Haynes 1909-1916
John Henry Haynes 1925-1925
Johnny Eugene Garrett 2 March 1935-6 March 1935
William R Fuller 1856-1867
Susan Hutcherson 4 July 1846-21 Jan 1913
Mary Fant 10 Dec 1830-2 Feb 1915
H.E. Williamson 17 Sept 1853-11 Oct 1910
Amanda Williamson 1859-
Mary Williamson 11 Sept 1889-6 June 1897
Annie Williamson 14 May 1810-4 Jan 1901
D. Williamson 31 May 1808-11 June 1879
Elizabeth Williamson 31 May 1843-8 Sept 1917
Hezekiah Ingram---broken marker
Iwanowa West 1913-1915
Inf. son West born and died 1910
Rachel Thomas--broken marker

Section 4
Ed P Wade 27 Feb 1898-25 April 1985
Leona Wade 20 Dec 1909-13 Jan 1994
William H Foote 27 June 1888-31 Oct 1969
Clyde Key (WW II Vet) 1 June 1928-6 July 1974
Walter West 19 Sept 1911-14 June 1972
Lura West 29 Mar 1914-9 Sept 1994
Elmer White 25 June 1915-9 Dec 1974
Irene White 19 Dec 1917-26 Feb 1989
Marion Gunter 22 Aug 1917-
Myrtle Gunter 24 July 1912-18 June 1971
J. Austin Masters 15 Jan 1896-10 June 1977
Otis Masters 30 Sept 1897-5 Aug 1976
Hoover Masters 8 Dec 1928-26 Mar 1984
Juanita Masters 31 Jan 1933-7 Oct 1980
Carre Drummonds 9 Aug 1902-27 March 1983
Arthur Brazier 9 May 1921-31 Jan 1980
Timothy John Smith 7 Jan 1970-11 Aug 1992
Mildred Smith 10 April 1911-25 June 1985
R. Dean Simpkins 2 Feb 1934-7 Nov 1992
Nell D Wheatley 7 April 1917-14 April 1986
Joseph Wheatley 24 April 1913-21 Oct 1975 (WW II Vet)
Essie Mae Lovell 12 Aug 1913-
Lorenze Whitten 19 Jan 1920-27 Mar 1968
Irene Whitten 19 Sept 1918-
Laveran Whitten 22 Nov 1924-19 Nov 1972
Gertrude Whitten 13 Oct 1927-
Johnny Webster 12 Sept 1921-7 Mar 1977
Margreuite Webster 25 Mar 1924-
Rita Faye Holmes 12 Sept 1956-4 June 1977
Janet Lynn Holmes 3 Sept 1976-4 June 1977
James Paul Holmes 5 Nov 1955
Annie Lee Barber 24 June 1912-6 Feb 1993
Johnnie M Donahoo 18 April 1914-12 June 1991
Inf. son of Lawrence Ray
Zener Schell 18 Oct 1915-16 June 1972
Comer Schell 6 Oct 1910-4 Jan 1991
Luther F Hodge 16 July 1945-
Luther L Hodge 18 Oct 1924-29 Nov 1981 (WW II Vet)
Verna Mae Donahoo 10 April 1920-3 June 1992
Norman Donahoo 16 July 1913-25 May 1993 (WW II Vet)
Eula Mae Webster 11 May 1905-27 Nov 1995
Thomas Webster 2 Oct 1898-10 Feb 1957
Clara Graham 15 June 1922-1 Oct 1991
Benjamin Graham (WW II Vet) 14 June 1919-27 Jan 1974
James Dale Whitten 21 Sept 1952-8 June 1979
Katie Mae Parks 1935-1992
Sudie Adell Canada 8 Sept 1897-20 Mar 1969
Cleveland Canada 15 Mar 1892-15 Aug 1973
James Fonzie Mathis 1908-1981
Mary Kate Mathis 1913-
Ben Wolfe 4 Oct 1895-24 Mar 1955
Lillie Macon Wolfe 1 July 1905-16 June 1986
Alfred Macon 16 Sept 1901-30 Mar 1984
Grover Macon 7 June 1909-8 Mar 1993
Lillie Macon 7 June 1913-
Amber Sheree Mathis 20 Feb 1992
Robert Cheatwood 30 July 1920-15 April 1977
Laura Cheatwood 9 April 1917-20 Dec 1979
Annie Mae Crowe 25 April 1939-14 June 1993
Keith Wayne Crowe 18 Sept 1966-
James Christopher Crowe 1 Oct 1961-20 Dec 1974
Ruby Goss 18 Oct 1920-3 Dec 1989
James Goss 23 May 1897-13 Dec 1968
Otis Dunaway 19 Mar 1941-5 May 1971 (Vietnam Vet.)
Peggy Clement 1 Sept 1935-21 July 1986
Sarah Elizabeth Hardwick 11 Nov 1984-26 Dec 1986
Hubert Allen 9 July 1928-
Helen Ruth Allen 2 Sept 1932-30 April 1987
John Smith 17 Feb 1914-13 Jan 1991
Eva Smith 26 Aug 1923-
Walter Winslett 14 June 1909-18 May 1988
Carrie Winslett 21 Dec 1914-
Virgil S Winslett, Sr. 7 Sept 1939-
Vivian Ann Winslett 12 April 1945-17 Sept 1986
Angelia Marie Thomason 15 Jan 1974-16 June 1974
Section 5
Sara Terrell 8 Dec 1917-27 Dec 1984
Jeff Terrell 28 Feb 1920-
Max Smith 11 Sept 1910-20 Aug 1983
Maggie Smith 30 Nov 1924-

Shep Scott Hall 20 April 1994-1 June 1994
James R Bishop 28 Feb 1937-
Mary Lou Bishop 10 Sept 1938-12 Mar 1988
Harry Haisten 22 Jan 1934-10 May 1934
Doris Haisten 20 Feb 1940-26 Feb 1940
Hugh Wayne Haisten 6 Jan 1939-10 Mar 1947
Gloria Haisten 7 Sept 1932-20 Aug 1943
Flora K Haisten 1913-
E W Haisten 1910-1980
Daniel D Smith 9 Mar 1928-22 Sept 1984
Redie Smith 8 July 1898-27 Sept 1992
John Henry Smith 11 April 1880-26 May 1940
Earley Hindman 17 Mar 1910-29 July 1910
G.H. Voss 25 Feb 1839-2 Mar ?
Mark Killingsworth 24 Mar 1798-16 April 1883
Morgan White 28 Nov 1834-Oct ? 1866
THE HISTORY OF EASONVILLE

Only Woods and Indian People

Easonville was once an Indian Village. Until about the year 1820 it was a beautifully forested area inhabited by Indians and the game which they hunted. It was an ideal site for an Indian village because of its nearness to the Coosa River, the number of springs and streams located there, and because the deep forests abounded in wildlife. The Indians there surely had an abundant water and food supply. Nearly all traces of the Indian village have disappeared now. There is an Indian burial ground on some land that Mr. Grover Waite owned until he sold it to Avondale Hills a few years ago. From time to time a farmer's plow has unearthed arrowheads and other Indian relics. At least one peace-pipe has been plowed up.

There are many stories that have been handed down about how the Indians put such faith in dreams that the first white settlers capitalized on it and relieved them of tracts of fine land. One story was about an Indian who told a white man that he dreamed that a white man gave him a gun. The white man gave him a gun because he knew that the Indian expected the dream to come true. A few days later the same white man told the same Indian that he dreamed that an Indian gave him some land. The Indian took him up the river and gave him what is now Collins Bend. According to an abstract deed, Mr. Jeremiah Collins did get possession of the land in 1821 but it is not known for certain that he got it so easily. There are other stories similar to that one but they might be purely fiction.

The older people living in the community now remember hearing Mr. Ira Harmon (1826-1903) tell of how the Indians and white settlers lived together harmoniously in Coosa Valley. Mr. Harmon had lived on both sides of the river—in both Talladega and St. Clair Counties before all the Indians left for the reservation and, according to Mr. Harmon's accounts, most of the settlers treated the Indians fairly and all was well between the two races. He told of only one incident where a white man tried to be dishonest with an Indian but the Indian would not let him. When the Indians were being sent away to the reservations the Chiefs and other important tribe members were last to go, it seems. They remained on their land as long as possible and bargained for more money for their land. One old Chief, who lived near Mr. Harmon, before leaving for the reservation, sold his land to a white man who made a down payment and promised to send the remainder of the money to the Indian the following fall. When he broke his promise and failed to send the money the Indian came back with a gun and collected it. Mr. Harmon was down near the trail splitting rails when the Chief came galloping around the bend into the clearing, on his way to his creditor's home. When he saw Mr. Harmon he pulled on his reins and stopped to greet him. Mr. Harmon expressed surprise at seeing him back there. The Indian said, "He come back to get me money. He got him, too." Then he nodded toward a gun he had with him. He rode on to his white creditor's place and collected what was due him. He then galloped back to Talladega, checked the rented horse in at the livery stable, and returned to the reservation.

THE WHITE SETTLEERS

Around the year 1820 Mr. Deliver Eason and his wife, Sarah Shelly Eason and their children, settled at Easonville. They were the first white people to settle there. The Easons were followed by other white families. Most of them arrived after 1840. Some of the other early families were as follows: Waite, Cooper, Willingham, Haddock, Abbott, Collins, Adams, Lee, Haynes, Stone, Davis, Smith, Madsworth, Drake, Harmon, Hardwick, LeFils, LeTasto, Fountaine and McLellan. Most of the early settlers came from the Carolinas and Virginia.
Some of the people who settled at Easonville were people of education, refinement, and means. They brought with them slaves to help build homes and clear land. They brought books, music, and furniture. They built good homes. They lived more leisurely than did the settlers of some of the other parts of the county. They had more time for social activities and life there was pleasant. There were many parties, and many kinds of hunting. One form of recreation, however, was not tolerated for a long time. It was dancing. When some of the young people, as late as the 1890's, took a liking to a dance which they called "twistification" they were promptly called to an accounting by the churchmen. When Mr. George Stone, Sr., who was slightly deaf, got up in church to protest the dancing he said, "Some of our young people are doing a dance which they call buck-up-to-the-nation." Mr. Stone had misunderstood the word "twistification."

For a long time after the white settlers came, the community was not called Easonville but was known as Eat-And-Camp. It was a Methodist camp ground. Because of the springs on what is now Joe Ingrum's farm and the stream (Easonville Branch), the location was an ideal campsite. Every year people from miles around came there and attended a camp meeting. They came in buggies and wagons and brought with them food and bedding for their families, and feed for their stock. The last year that a meeting was held the people had become so wicked that some of the stock were badly cut one night. Many of the people there, upon hearing of it, feared for the safety of their own stock and fled in the night from the camp. That put an end to Eat-And-Camp.

THE CIVIL WAR AND RECONSTRUCTION PERIOD

The Civil War and Reconstruction period was a sad time for the people of Easonville. Most of the young men went away to fight for the Confederacy. They were Philip Waite, Jim Johnson, Jim Trussell, John and Jim Drake, William Walker Wadsworth, Doman Turner and Masco Collins. Philip Waite was the only one who lost his life. He was killed by a draft-dodger at Vandiver. During the Civil War many Southern families were pro-union, and did not want to fight against the Federal government. Some of those families hid their boys out in the hills to keep them from going to the army. It was Philip Waite's assignment to ferret them out and get them into the Confederate Army. He learned that a number of boys were hiding near Vandiver. He found that their hiding place had a very narrow passageway leading to it, and only one person at the time could enter it. No officer could have entered it to apprehend the boys without being killed first so he stood watch near their homes waiting for them to go home for a visit. When one of them ventured home, Philip tried to capture him and was killed in the effort.

Many of such boys did have to go to the Confederate Army and some of them purposely let themselves be captured by the Union forces. Mr. Doman Turner was one of them. He was a conscientious person and his people were good people. They didn't think that the South should have seceded from the Union and they didn't want their sons to fight against the Union. After he was forced to go against his will, he watched for an opportunity to surrender himself to the Union forces. It came one day when he and a group of Confederate soldiers were facing a bank of Union men. Both groups were lying behind logs, bushes, and banks which separated them. The strip that separated them was narrow. Mr. Turner was on the end of the Confederate group and he started working himself further away from his group and forward into some bushes toward the Federal soldiers. Finally, just ahead of him he saw two men in blue lying behind a log. He ducked lower and put a white handkerchief on the end of his gun-barrel. Then he crawled forward and eased it over the log. Immediately the Union men looked over the log and beckoned to him to come on. One of them said, "Cone on over, Johnny (Rob). Come on."
The other one said, "Lay your gun down, Johnny."

The first one said, "He's all right. Let him bring his gun."

So Mr. Turner surrendered himself with his gun in his hand which was against army regulations. He spent the remainder of the war years cooking for the Federal army. He was treated well and had plenty to eat. As long as he lived he told his surrender story without shame. He had merely gone over to the side that he thought was right in the beginning and he had no regrets.

The people back home did their bit by striving toward increased production on the land and by making sacrifices in every way possible in order to help win the war. Two men, Mr. Ira Harmon and Mr. Frank Lee, served the Confederacy by boating coal down the river from a loading point near Ragland to Montgomery where it was used in ammunition plants which manufactured gun-powder for the Confederate Army. A mine near Ragland supplied the coal. Mr. Lee was head steersman of one boat and Mr. Harmon was head steersman of another boat. It was not easy work to get the heavy flatboats of coal over the shoals and through the rapids. The Confederate government had had some of the dangerous rocks cleared out of the shoals to make openings, called "boat shoots" a little wider than the boat and the boat had to be maneuvered just right or it might become jammed. According to Mr. Harmon's account of it, they always managed to get the coal down on time but they were glad when it was over. The trip down took about five days on an average. The swift water carried them about as fast as a train would have carried them but the slow waters slowed them down. They made the return trip as far as Talladega by train. Upon reaching the loading point near Ragland they always found new flatboats, made by a crew of workmen whose job it was to see that the boats were ready when they were needed. There was never a delay.

At the close of the war the people had a hard time just as they did throughout the South. The older people living in the community now remember hearing their parents or grandparents tell of the poverty that they endured in that postwar period. They did without many things that they needed and they used such makeshift substitutes as parched corn for coffee, persimmon seed for buttons, and pokeweed juice mixed with water for ink. They took up the soil under their smokehouses and boiled it to get the salt to use again.

The Confederate soldiers came home telling stories of the hunger that they endured during the war. The older people who remember hearing them talk say that they never had enough food and were hungry nearly all during the war. All of them settled on farms in the valley and farmed. Walker Wadsworth, who returned from the war with an injured hand, combined teaching and farming. In the late 1860's he started teaching and taught a short term of school every year until his death in 1877.

The slaves went free and some of them settled on land about three miles west of Easonville. Their descendants live there still. They live in reasonably liveable homes on their farms. They have a church and they did have a school in the community until consolidation of schools came about. These descendants of the Easonville slaves are rather idealistic negroes. They have good principles to live by and are respected and trusted by the white citizens. They are industrious and intelligent. Too, they strive to educate their children. A number of boys and girls from that community have gone a way to college.
THE EARLY HOMES

Some of the first dwellings of Easonville were frame buildings and some were logs. The rooms were very large. The large kitchen was set apart from the main part of the house. Sometimes a bridge-like walk was built from the main part of the house to the kitchen door. The kitchen was a workroom where much work besides cooking was carried on. It was really a part-time factory where much was made which is bought at the store today. There the women of the house did the spinning, weaving, candle making, and part of the sewing. Sometimes dying of cloth, rendering of lard, soap making, and sausage making was done in the kitchen. If the weather permitted, these chores were done outdoors in the back yard.

The home was lighted by candles which were made in the kitchen. There were two ways to make candles—by dipping and molding. To dip candles several pieces of string, preferably wool string, were tied to a stick. The stick was held over a pot of hot melted tallow and lowered until the strings were submerged. Then it was lifted up to allow the tallow that clung to the strings to stiffen. That took only a moment. Then it was lowered to dip the strings in over and over until the candles were the desired size. Each time they were dipped they became larger. That was a simple method of making candles but it required more time, patience, and back-bending than molding them. Also, more tallow was required with which to work than was needed in molding. For dipping, the tallow had to be as deep in the pot as the strings were long but a small amount of tallow could be molded into candles. It was melted and poured into wool-threaded molds, allowed to set two or three minutes, and removed from the mold. The molds were rethreaded and refilled with tallow until the desired number of candles were made or until the tallow was used up. Most of the candlemolds used by the women of Easonville held three candles. Candle-making was an easy little chore that no one minded doing. When the women made candles for their homes they usually made some extra ones for the church.

Lamps appeared in the Easonville homes in 1876. They were small and shaped like a teacup and had a handle on one side. They were made of brass. They had no chimney so they sent up a black smoke. They also reeked of kerosene. As time went on, better and better lamps appeared. Finally, pretty lamps hung like chandeliers from the ceilings of the Easonville parlors. Later came Delco and carbide light plants. Then, in 1926, the Alabama Power line was extended to Easonville.

Soap was made from fat and lye which was taken from wood ashes. Clean oak and hickory wood ashes were saved and put in ash hopper which stood near the smokehouse. One kind of hopper was a barrel with holes bored near the bottom. It sat on a slanting shelf built against the smokehouse. The other kind of hopper was a wedge-shaped wooden box built within a frame. The pointed end was at the bottom. It sat on a slanting shelf built against the smokehouse. The pointed end was at the bottom. Both hoppers were kept covered to protect the ashes from the rain. The lye was taken out of the ashes by pouring water into the hopper. As it ran through the ashes it was caught in pails which were set under the hopper. This process was called "running the lye down." The lye was tasted to see if it was strong enough. If it wasn't the damp ashes were allowed to set a few days and the lye was "run down" again. Then the reddish-brown lye water was added to the boiling fat. About one part fat and nine parts lye water were used. A gallon of good fat was required to make ten gallons of lye soap. It was cooked in a large pot and stored in a barrel or in churns and kept in the smokehouse.
Usually hominy was made a day or two after soap was made. A little lye was saved for hominy-making. Corn was put into a pot of boiling water. Then enough lye was added to redden the water. It boiled until the husk loosened. Then the corn was taken out and rubbed and washed until the husk was out of it. Then the hominy was cooked in clean water until it was tender. No one used a recipe. They just guessed about how much lye to use. Approximately three pints of lye were used on one gallon of corn. The corn swelled up and made about three gallons of hominy. That was enough to share with two or three neighbors who repaid it when they made hominy.

Cooking was done on a huge fireplace in the kitchen. The utensils were not at all like those that are used today. They included iron kettles, pots, and frying pans. There was a Dutch oven for baking. Around 1800 small iron cook stoves, which burned wood, came into use in the valley.

Matches did not come into use until around 1886. Before that time fire was kept in a fireplace all the time and never allowed to go out. When the fire was not needed the coals were banked in ashes to keep the fire. If a family "lost its fire" someone had to go to the nearest neighbor to "borrow a coal of fire." Even after matches came into use, before they became plentiful, coals were banked and the matches were saved for use at times when the fire was lost. The first matches came in a little long round wooden box with a push-on wooden lid. There were twenty-five matches in a box and the price was ten cents per box. One of the early families got its first box of matches and kept them three months before having to use one. Finally, when they lost their fire and had to strike a match, all the children gathered around the hearth to see the sight. The father bent over to strike the match, then straightened up and said, "Where's John? Go get John. He would like to see this as same as the rest of you!" So the fireworks were held up until big son John could be fetched from the back field where he was cutting bushes.

The homes were harder to keep clean than the homes of today. Floors were scrubbed with a heavy shuck mop. Sand and lye soap were the detergents used.

There were no refrigerators in the early homes. The people who lived near springs put their milk and butter in containers which they set in the cold water. Some of the others let their milk and butter down a few feet into the well or cistern. It hung there on a rope and was drawn up at mealtime. A few other families dug a hole four feet square and about four feet deep in a shady place near the kitchen. They put milk and cream in it and every day during the summer they watered the ground around the hole to make it cooler.

A paling fence was built around the yards to keep out livestock. Old-fashioned briery rosebushes, crepe myrtle, butterfly bushes, and other flowering shrubs grow in the yards. Also, there were rock-bordered flower-beds in which pinks, marigolds, hollyhocks, zinnias, prince's feathers, and cosmos grew.

AN AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY

Most of the early settlers of Easonville farmed for a living. Farming continued to be the principal occupation of the people there until World War II. The early farmers of Easonville had to clear away forest to make fields to cultivate. They raised cotton, corn, wheat, peas, hay, oats, fruits, vegetables, and sorghum.
Cotton was the main crop. The first cotton growers had to pick the seed out of their cotton by hand. The lint was put in a cloth bag and packed with a round stick until the bag could hold no more. Then it was tied at the top and marketed like that. Each bag weighed approximately a hundred pounds. It was taken in wagons to Wetumpka, the nearest cotton market. Wetumpka was a cotton market because the river was navigable up to that point and from there cotton could be transported by boat. Cotton was a precious commodity in those days and it brought a good price. Later horse-drawn cotton gins were used in the valley. The gin had two lever-like projections to which horses were hitched. Two horses were hitched to each of the two levers. One man ran the gin inside and a man or a couple of boys drove the teams outside. It took a long day to gin two bales of cotton. As the lint came out of the gin it went into a lint-room. The next day it was carried by basketfuls to the horse-drawn press and pressed into bales. It took a day to press two bales of cotton. One person ran the press and one person drove the horse that pulled it. The mule was hitched to a lever which projected from the press and he pulled it around and around just as mules pulled the cane mills. (The presses used in Coosa Valley were like the one that stands in front of Continental Gin in Birmingham.) The bales were much like the bales of cotton that one sees today. They were covered with brown bagging and bound with metal ties. They weighed about the same as the bales of today. There were three such gin and press outfits in this vicinity. They were on the Jones Willingham place, the Joe Harmon place and the old Laney place.

The farmers continued to market their cotton in Wetumpka. A group of them went along together, forming a wagon train. They could take only two bales on each wagon because the roads were bad and a heavier load would have bogged down. The party traveled by day and camped by night. It took a week or eight days to make the round trip. While in Wetumpka they bought supplies for the year. Not much had to be bought because most of the food and clothing needed by the family was raised and made at home. Some of the items that a settler's wagon brought back were a two-hundred pound bag of green coffee which had to be parched in a pan on the fire and ground in a coffee mill on the wall as it was needed, a barrel of New Orleans syrup, and a barrel of sugar. The New Orleans syrup was a treat for the settlers. They raised sorghum cane and made syrup in the valley but it was cooked in a deep sugar kettle (wash-pot) and it was dark and strong-tasting.

Later, just prior to the Civil War, the farmers found a better way to take their cotton to Wetumpka to market it. They built flatboats and floated it down the river. They were able to take more cotton per trip and it did not take as long to make the trip. They made the return trip to Talladega by train since a railroad had been built by that time. Wetumpka continued to be a cotton market until after the Civil War. Then Talladega became a cotton market. From there cotton could be shipped by rail. The railroad was a boon to the cotton farmers of this section.

Some of the early cotton gins were run by water power. There was one at Drako's Mill on the Coosa River. Next came gins run by a steam engine which could gin around twenty bales of cotton per day. Wood was cut by the cord to fire the boiler. Last came the gins run by electricity.

The cotton growers began to sell their cotton to local buyers around the year 1895 and no longer had to market it in Talladega. These buyers were usually merchants and ginneres, and after 1902, Avondale Mill bought local cotton.
When the land was cleared the topsoil was deep and not much, if any, commercial fertilizer was used. No records of yields during the early years have been found but in the 1880's the yield was one-half to one bale of cotton per acre, 25 bushels of corn, 30 to 50 bushels of oats, and 15 to 25 bushels of wheat per acre. Wheat was not raised on a commercial scale but every farm family raised enough for bread.

Wheat and oats were cut with a hand-cradle and tied into bundles by hand. As early as 1882 these grains were threshed by a machine run by a steam engine. Wood was used to fire the boiler. Two of the first steam-driven threshing machines were owned by Mr. Bob Ewen and Mr. Bill Dunlap. They traveled from farm to farm and threshed for one-tenth toll. Before then horse-drawn threshing machines were used. Peas and corn were shelled by hand until 1885. That year hand-turned corn shellers and pea threshers were used in the vicinity of Easonville. One of the first pea threshers was owned by Mr. Milton Clinkscales. He rented it to farmers who turned it themselves and paid one-fifteenth toll. Not until around 1916 did a steam-driven pea thresher come to the community. It was owned by Mr. Dutch Cosper. He went from farm to farm with it and threshed peas for one-eighth toll.

In addition to the field crops every farm family raised hogs, sheep, cows, geese and chickens. They raised geese for meat, eggs and feathers. In those days people slept on feather beds. The sheep that were grown supplied wool for clothing, blankets and coverlets, and candlewicks and mutton for food. Both milk and beef cattle were raised. The beef cattle were slaughtered for both meat and tallow.

The families arranged their slaughtering and swapped out beef in such a way that they had fresh beef all along through the year. They made candles from the tallow and they had the hides tanned at the local tan yards.

There have been at least two tan yards in the vicinity of Easonville. The oldest one was located near a pond on the old Wadsworth place below Easonville. It was in operation many years before the Civil War but was not used long after the war ended. The old troughs in which bark was soaked were still there in 1885 but were falling apart. The other tan yard was located on the low place about fifty yards back of Hermon Fraim's store. Water was run from the springs upon the hill down a long trough to the tan yard. The trough was made of 1 by 6 inch lumber. Much water was needed because the oak bark was soaked in water to take out the tannic acid. This tan yard was in operation in the 1880's. There was a two-story building connected with it. The first floor was used for the tannery and the upstairs part was used for a cobbler shop. Mr. Tipton was the cobbler. He was also a preacher and he liked to talk scripture to his customers as he tapped and sewed on the shoes.

Farming in those days consisted of many chores besides planting, cultivating and harvesting. Wood had to be cut for fuel, new ground cleared, bushes cut from last year's new ground, stumps pulled and cut up into kindling, cornstalks and cottonstalks cut or knocked down by hand, rails for fences split, and fences built and mended.

The land was cleared slowly. As late as 1885 over half of the land in Coosa Valley was in timber. The roadsides were beautifully wooded. One could not sit on a voranda and see very far down the road because the woods cut off the view. There was a wealth of long-leaf pine and also such trees as hickory, chestnut, persimmon, oak, and sweetgum.
The fields that were in cultivation were fenced in to keep out the stock because there was no stock law in those days. The fences were made of rails. The very early settlers made rails from chestnut wood which was durable, plentiful and easy to split. Huge chestnut trees two feet in diameter were found growing in abundance in the forest when the very first settlers came, but by 1860 the supply of chestnut was so nearly depleted that oak, pine and other easy-to-split woods were used for rails.

The family's food supply was grown at home or secured from the woods and streams. Besides beef, mutton, poultry, eggs, milk and butter which the farm animals supplied, river fish and wild game were plentiful. As late as 1875 wild turkeys were in abundance. In 1874 one man got nine turkeys on one hunt. After 1880 there were not many wild turkeys left except in the hills and mountains.

Every family had a garden and an orchard. Too, they grew cane and made syrup. The first cane mills had wooden rollers. The syrup was stored in barrels and in earthenware jugs and sealed with black and torri-cotta colored sealing wax. It was more difficult in those days to preserve foods for winter use. Fruit jars did not come into use in the valley until around 1887. Most of the families bought only one or two at first to experiment with. They paid twenty-five cents for each jar. In a year or two they were in common use for preserving easy-to-keep fruits and vegetables but it took the homemakers many years to realize the full possibilities of the fruit jar.

Before the coming of the fruit jar apples and peaches were dried for winter use and apples were sulphured. To sulphur apples one prepared them as for canning and placed them in a wooden tub. A hole was scooped out in the center in which to set a saucer of burning sulphur. Then the tub was covered with sheets for several hours to hold the sulphur fumes. Next the apples were put in earthenware containers, covered with water, and put in the smokehouse. Vinegar was made from dried peckings of apples and water sweetened with syrup. Cabbage and collards were made into kraut and stored in earthenware crocks and in kogs. Peas and beans were dried and put in bags. Sausage was fried, placed in earthenware crocks, and covered with hot lard. These preserved foods were stored in the smokehouse with the cured hickory-smoked pork and the herbs. Bunches of onions and herbs and strings of red pepper hung from the rafters. There were bunches of pennyroyal and fennel to make tea with which to treat colds. There were roots of mountain fern with which to make tea to treat certain kidney ailments. Near the smokehouse grew a clump of mullen for the treatment of colds and a bunch of catnip from which to make tea for the baby's hives. Persimmon bark was boiled and the tea was used for a mouthwash in case of sore mouth. A clump of sage was grown for seasoning dressing and sausage.

Broom sedge was gathered by the armloads, tied into bundles, and stored in the smokehouse to be made into brooms as they were needed. The smokehouse was a storage place for food and other necessary commodities and was a place where the pork was cured and smoked. It had an earthen floor in the center of which was a fire-hole. After the pork had been salted down for about a month it was then washed and hung to the smokehouse rafters and a hickory wood fire was burned in the fire-hole for four days and nights to smoke the meat.

Sweet potatoes and turnips were stored in a hill near the smokehouse. The hill was made by scooping out a saucer-shaped place about eight feet in diameter. Some timbers were stood up in the center to form a ventilator. A bed of pine straw or oat straw was laid on the scooped-out place. The potatoes were put on the straw and hilled around the ventilator. Then they were covered with a layer of cornstalks, a layer of straw and a layer of dirt. An opening was left on one side through which to get the potatoes out when needed. The turnips were not put in until time for freezing weather.
Corn and wheat were ground at water mills. There were small mills on streams before Drake's mill was built. Drake's Mill was constructed on the Coosa at the exact location where the proposed Howell Mill Shoals Dam is to be built. (The older people who remember going to both mills to have grinding done say that the Howell Mill was three miles further down the river on the old Marion Howell place which was later sold to the Willinghams who ran a fish-trap at the old Howell Mill location). Drake's Mill was built before the Civil War and continued to operate at its original location until 1883 or 1884. It was a huge mill made of heavy timbers. It was three stories high and it was the most powerful mill that was ever built in that vicinity. It was certain in times of drought when the mills on small streams had to close. In dry seasons Drake's Mill served people as far away as Cook Springs. At one dry time just after the Civil War Bob Ritch (1852-1940) came all the way from what is now Camp Winnataska and had milling done for his family and also for some of his neighbors at Drake's Hill because his father's mill at the present Camp Winnataska site on Kelly's Creek was stopped by the drought.

At Drake's Mill there was also a sawmill and gin, after the Civil War ended it was operated by Captain John Drake and his brother, Jim. Later it was taken over by Dan Waite who had married one of the Drake girls. Mr. John Shields was the miller during the years that Mr. Waite owned the mill. Sometime after 1883 it was moved to a location up the Easonville Branch above the old ford which, as most people living there remember, was in the center of the community. It was not called Drake's Mill after it was moved but was called Stone's Mill or The Mill. It was owned by a group of men including Mr. George Stone, after it was moved. From this time on, it was run by steam instead of water-power. It still ground grain, sawed lumber, and ginned cotton. Mr. Harris Hord was the miller.

THE SCHOOLS

Easonville has had a school of some kind ever since enough white people settled there. The people who settled at Easonville were not illiterate and they didn't want their children to be. The very earliest schools were the subscription type taught in dwellings and churches. The parents paid the teacher's salary. The very oldest people now living can remember their parents tell of going to such schools, but they do not recall much about them. Mr. Lee Wadsworth, who was born in 1872, remembers hearing his parents tell of going to school in the valley. His mother, Sarah Lee Wadsworth, and his Lee uncles went to a school taught by Miss Eliza Bardwick. His father and also his Uncle Jim Owen Lee later taught. His father, William Walker Wadsworth (1842-1877) began teaching in the late 1860's and taught at first in homes and churches, but later in school houses at New London and Mt. Pisgah. He was teaching at Mt. Pisgah when he died in 1877. The schoolhouse in which he was teaching was a crude building which had been constructed in 1870. It was located on the ridge where the cemetery is now. Probably, Easonville had a school building long before Mt. Pisgah did, but there is no one living now who knows when the first school building was constructed at Easonville. The first one was located between the church and Harmon Frame's store. Miss Reza Roberson, who was born in 1873, started to school there in 1879. It was not a new building then but it was a good building with a large stage. Miss Roberson said that the people of Easonville always liked to see their children "show off." Mr. Moore was her first teacher. The parents paid his salary and he spent nights in the homes of his pupils. Emma Maddox and Loula Lefils were two of her school mates in that little school. Emma Maddox led them into mischief and the teacher a merry chase.
They slipped off and went to the tan yard and on up the creek to the mill. The first schoolhouse was not used long after 1880. A new school called Coosa Valley High School was built where Preston Wadsworth's home now stands. It was a one-story building made partly of hand-hewn timber. Part of the lumber was used in the Wadsworth home. This Coosa Valley High School stood there several years and served both Easonville and Cropwell communities. Then a movement was made to have it moved to Cropwell. This did not materialize, however, because Easonville and Cropwell were always about as friendly and helpful to each other as two Greek city-states. Besides, Easonville already had the school with Mr. I. W. Hill as its principal.

This new building was a large two-story frame building, part of which is still standing. The big auditorium which is still being used was the first story. The second story which has been torn down had two classrooms in it. Trees were set out in rows on the campus. Mr. Hill was principal of the school during its most successful years. He had one assistant. One of his assistants was Mr. Jesse Willingham, a cousin of Henry J. Willingham. Another was Wallace Houston. Later, 1890, Miss Rena Roberson was the assistant teacher. She had attended both the Coosa Valley High School and this new school, which has been called by two names—Easonville Academy and Easonville High School. She owed $50.00 back tuition. In the spring of 1890 when she was seventeen years old she taught two and a half months to finish out the term when the regular assistant resigned. She was paid $20.00 per month and she applied it on her debt. She still has the receipt that Mr. Hill gave her. During the following summer Miss Rena attended a female college in East Lake and got her diploma at the end of the summer. The following term she taught with Mr. Hill and was paid $40.00 per month for 9 months. Some years later she was principal of the school.

Besides the principal and assistant, there was a music teacher who taught on the stage.

Young men and women came from all parts of the county and from other counties and boarded in the Easonville homes and attended the school. Some of the students who attended Mr. Hill's schools were as follows: Minnie and Grover Waite, John, Emma, and W. N. Maddox, Kirk Spradley, Dutch, Edgar, Rob and Nannie Cosper, Ida Davis, Margaret, John and Sue Stone, Tom Roberts, Dan Funderburg, R. E. Abbott, Joe, Captain, and Dallie Willingham, Lee Abrams, John W. Abercrombie, R. L. McLellan, Loula LeFils and Jimm Walker. Mr. Hill remained at Easonville many years. He built a good home across the road from the school. It is now owned by Mrs. Stella Harmon. After Mr. Hill left Easonville he became State Superintendent of Education and later he was National 4-H Club Leader.

This institution remained a high school until 1929. The last year that it had a graduating class was 1928. The members of this class were: Lois and Lester Hoyle, Kyser Leonard, Vera Wadsworth, Wilbur Payne, Lonnie Harrison and W. R. Castleberry. The stone building was constructed in 1928. The school became an accredited junior high school in 1937.
THE CHURCHES

Three churches have served the people of Easonville. They are the Mt. Pisgah Baptist, the Easonville Methodist, and the Coosa Valley Baptist Churches. All these churches were organized before the Civil War.

The first Mt. Pisgah Church building was constructed of logs located on the ridge where the present cemetery is. It was replaced by a large frame building made partly of hand-hewn timber. Around 1904 the present church building was erected and the old building was sold two or three years later for $20.00 to Nenon Gunter, Lee Wadsworth and John Tucker. Some of the early families who attended Mt. Pisgah Church were the Smith's, Lee's, Turner's, Castileberry's, and Beaver's. Most of the church-going people who live at Easonville now belong to Mt. Pisgah Church.

The Easonville Methodist Church has always stood where it is now. The cemetery was started before the Civil War. At first the building had no steeple but in 1912 it was remodeled and a steeple was added. Some of the early members were: L. F. Waite (1809-1869), Monima Waite (1811-1881), Joel L. Stone (1809-1877), Susan Stone (1819-1896), George W. Stone (1814-1904), Samuel Patton McElhan (1827-1896), Margaret Morrison McElhan (1827-1897), William F. LeFle (1832-1913), John Shade Maddox (1835-1915), Daniel Waite (1848-1904), Sterling Beavers (1839-1876), Susan Hayes (1816-1885), Ira Harmon (1826-1903) and Sumira Harmon, Francis M. Grisson (1830-1900), Charlotte Grisson (1836-?), Dr. William C. Neal (1830-1857).

At first the Easonville Methodist Church was on the circuit with Vincent and Harpersville and was served by a circuit rider who lived at one of the charges, usually at Vincent. In 1883, the local church bought the home of Dr. J. B. Robinson to be used for a parsonage. It is still the parsonage. About that time Easonville was made a station and Eden was put on the circuit with it. Later Nepsby was added. Narkey's Chapel, at Coal City, was put on the Easonville Circuit in 1935, and remained on it a few years. Lawley's Chapel was added in 1951.

It is possible that Easonville Methodist had another name at first because the community was not known as Easonville until the post office was established in 1872.

The first members of the Easonville Methodist Church encouraged their slaves to attend church services. A section of the church was designated for the negroes. Some of the slaves who died were buried in the back part of the cemetery.

Possibly, Coosa Valley Baptist Church was the oldest of the three churches. One of its early pastors was Rev. Jesse Collins, who had received a fine education in Virginia before coming to St. Clair County around 1815. Some of the early members of the church were: Willingham, Collins, Jonoses, Wadsworths, Funderburgs, Bells, Abbotts, Hardwicks, Castileberrys, and Williamson.

During the Civil War the Coosa Valley Church building served as a schoolhouse. School was in session when the Wilson's raiders came through. Mr. Brickhouse was the teacher at that time and, upon hearing that the raiders were on the way, he hurried the children off home. Among the children were John, Jim, and Charlie Roberson, elder brothers of Miss Rena Roberson. Some of the Yankee raiders overtook the boys and raided their lunch pails.
According to records of the Post Office Department, now in the custody of the Archives and Record Service, a post office was established at Easonville in 1872. Mail was brought down to it tri-weekly. Names of postmasters and the dates of their appointments are:

- Bolivar Eason -- April 2, 1872
- Joel L. Stone -- January 5, 1875
- Holland M. Laney -- November 26, 1877
- William A. Tipton -- April 10, 1883
- George R. Hardwick -- October 2, 1886
- William H. Miller -- September 15, 1898
- John H. Jones -- February 15, 1902
- Eugene G. LaTaste -- October 2, 1905
- Pearl F. Coker -- February 28, 1910
- Mrs. Annie Etheridge -- February 8, 1922
- John C. Gamble -- March 14, 1924
- Preston R. Wadsworth -- August 30, 1930
- Rusie L. Johnson -- October 1, 1935
- Mrs. Carrie Cospers -- April 25, 1936

Justice Courts

In the 1880's and 1890's a Justice Court was held at Easonville. Squire John Davis, who lived in what is now the Roper home, was the Justice of Peace who presided over the last Courts held at Easonville. He noted out punishment for Civil offenses, but in criminal cases, the offender was bound over to the Grand Jury or to a higher court. The Justice Court was held in the schoolhouse about once a month or more often, if necessary. Samuel Patton McLellan, a local lawyer, was always on hand during the Justice Court to defend or to prosecute.

Country Doctors

Dr. William C. Neal was the first doctor to practice medicine at Easonville. He was a young doctor who came from Georgia before the Civil War and remained at Easonville until his death in 1857. He boarded in the old Abbott home where Harvey Davis lives now. His body was buried in the Easonville cemetery by a tiny cedar seedling which has grown to be a large tree since he was buried there.
Next came Dr. P. D. Cooper who practiced until his death in 1877. He was followed by Dr. J. B. Robinson who remained until 1883. He owned what is now the parsonage and sold it to the church the year he left.

Dr. Chandler was the fourth doctor to practice at Easonville. He had a home across the road from the old Jerry Lee place, now the Gamble home. Dr. Chandler was followed by Dr. Oliver Steadham from Clay County. He died a year or two after coming there and his practice was taken over by his brother, Dr. Robert P. Steadham, also from Clay County. The latter remained there a few years then moved on to Auburn. He married Miss Loula LeFils, daughter of William F. LeFils and granddaughter of L. F. Waite. Dr. Ware, a brother-in-law of Dr. Steadham, came next. He did not remain at Easonville long but moved on to New London then to Vincent.

About the time Dr. Ware moved Dr. R. L. McLellan, a native of Easonville, returned home from medical college and began practicing there. That was around 1890. He remained until around 1919. He was succeeded by Dr. B. R. Bradford from Linden. He remained until 1923 and then moved to Ragland. By that time country doctors were on their way out. However, during the depression, two young doctors, Dr. Henderson and Dr. Eversole, practiced for a brief period each at Easonville.

Those country doctors had their offices in their homes. In those offices they kept a stock of medicines, some of which came in five-gallon jugs. When they made calls they took pills and medicines with them. If they had to prescribe something that wasn't in their little black bags a member of the family rode home with them and got the necessary medicine. There were no drugstores near-by in the early days of Easonville.

Sometimes they had to do surgery on a kitchen table. Dr. McLellan, in the 1890's, sent patients to specialists in Birmingham. He sent one of his patients who had cataracts to Dr. L. S. Ledbetter, an eye, ear, nose, and throat specialist who cut the cataracts off without benefit of anesthetic, charged five dollars per cataract, and let the patient return home alone immediately after the operation.

The Stores And Other Enterprises of Easonville

Mr. Jerry Lee and Mr. Daniel Waite had the first stores in the vicinity of Easonville. Mr. Lee's place of business was located near Sterley Bridge and was a combination liquor and grocery store. Mr. Waite's store was a small building about 12 by 14 feet and was located at Drake's Mill on the river. Both stores sold salt, pepper, spice, brown sugar and buckshot. Mr. Lee sold liquor, in addition to the other items, and Mr. Waite sold calico and red-striped stick candy. Both of those stores were in operation during the 1870's. When liquor stores were voted out Mr. Lee moved his business to the heart of Easonville. He constructed a large building across the road and to the left of the G. W. Ingram home around 1880. The old building stood until a few years ago. There he handled many wares, some of which were as follows: buggies, wagons, horse collars, bridles, horseshoes, saddles, including ladies' side-saddles, dishes, spoonholders, gingham, calico, alpaca, brass lamps, kerosene, bulk crackers that came in a barrel, shoes that came in 100 pair lots in a large wooden box, buckshot and gunpowder that were sold by the pound, and New Orleans syrup which came in huge barrels.
Next Mr. Holland Lancy built a store a few yards from Mr. Lee's store. Neither
Mr. Lee nor Mr. Lancy stayed there long. Mr. Lancy moved on to Eden and operated a
business there and Mr. Randel Willingham went into business in the Lancy building but
did not remain long. Mr. Lee's sister-in-law, Mrs. Morgan, had a store in the Lee
building. In the early 1880's Mr. Waite moved his business to a location just above
the old ford on the Easonville Branch (across the branch from Harmon Fraim's store)
but later erected the building that is now occupied by Harmon's Grocery. Later he
took his brother-in-law, W. F. LeFils, into the business and it became Waite and LeFils.
They remained together for a number of years then Mr. LeFils and his son, Armand,
constructed a big yellow frame building across the road from Grant Watson's home and
went into their own business, LeFils and Son. Mr. Waite then took his son-in-law
into his store and it became Waite and Maddox. Next he took in another son-in-law,
Mr. T. W. Elliot, and the name was changed to Waite, Maddox and Company. After Mr.
Waite's death in 1904 it became Maddox and Elliott. Around 1920 they sold the store
to Mr. J. K. Spradley who changed the name of it to Easonville Cash Store, although
it never did a cash business. Mr. Spradley sold the business to Mr. T. J. Harmon in
1934. Mr. Harmon had build a store a few yards from Mr. Spradley's store around 1925.
When he bought the Spradley business he had his other store building torn down. In
the meantime, the old Lee store had changed hands and Abbott Brothers had put in a
stock of goods but they later moved to the old LeFils store. In 1926 they moved their
business to Pell City and the old LeFils building was torn away to make room for the
highway. In 1935 another little store was built near the site of the LeFils store.
It was run by Tom Watson a year or two, then Claude Wadsworth bought it and remained
in business until 1944. He sold it to Roper and Davis who ran the store until it
burned down in 1949. Harvey Davis built a store by his home near Waite's Lake in 1949.
Easonville Merchantile Store was built by Harmon Fraim and Mr. Claude Gholston in 1945.

Besides the stores and the enterprises already mentioned, namely: farming,
Drake's Mill, and the tan yard and cobbler shop, Easonville has had some dairies, a
bean mill, and a brick yard. Two of the first dairies were Kinot's dairy and Waite's
dairy. The brick yard was operated by Mr. Welly Spradley. It was a small brick
yard located in the low pasture near Barney Ingram's home. The bean mill was located
near the crossroads where Mr. T. J. Harmon's store was built. The mill crushed
velvet and oceola beans into feed.

Politics

Easonville boat has always had about an equal number of Democrat and Republican
voters and a good number of independent voters. Possibly, Easonville has a greater
percentage of independent voters than most of the other beats of the county. In most
general elections, until 1932, the Republicans carried the beat. From 1932 to 1952
the Democrats carried it but, in the last presidential election the Republicans
carried the beat nearly two to one -- 68 to 32.
The Most Outstanding People

1. Dr. Henry J. Willingham -- Superintendent of Education (1911-1914) Later President of Florence State Teachers College


3. Dr. Issac W. Hill -------- State Superintendent of Education (1903-1907) National L-H Club Leader. (Not a native but a teacher and resident for several years).

4. Dr. Thomas Neal -------- President, Howard College (Came from Shelby county and lived in vicinity of Easonville until he went away to college).

5. John Shade Maddox -------- Member, House of Representatives, (State) Member, County Board of Education.

6. Joseph Willingham -------- Member, County Board of Education

7. Miss Josephine Still ------ Missionary

8. Miss Sue Stone (Mrs. Tom Roberts) -- Teacher, Athens College

9. Mrs. Gladys Dycus Holcomb --Teacher, Laboratory School, Montevallo

10. Rev. Dan Funderburg ------ Baptist Minister

11. Rev. Tom Roberts -------- Methodist Minister

12. Rev. Harold Spradley ------ Methodist Minister

13. James Cosper ----------- County Tax Assessor (Populist Ticket)

14. Jim Box ----------------- County Tax Collector (Populist Ticket)

15. Dr. R. L. McLellan -------- Physician

16. Capt. John Drake -------- Captain in Confederate Army

17. Kyser Leonard -------- Member of the 1928 graduating class of Easonville High School), Representative from Talladega County State Legislature.
THE BIRMINGHAM AND ATLANTIC (B & A) RAILROAD

The B & A Railroad ran from Pell City to Talladega via Renfroe. It was built in 1886 by the Rogers Brothers Lumbering Company. They were engaged in cutting millions of feet of fine long-leaf timber and saving it into lumber. They operated a mill at Renfroe and needed a railroad to transport their lumber to both Pell City and Talladega. From those points it could be shipped on other railroads. They had difficulty in getting a right-of-way through the property of Liz Walker. After much wrangling and bargaining with her, they finally made a deal with her and built their railroad. One of the things that they promised her was a free ride on the train any time she wanted to travel on it. They assumed that she would go to the depot to board the train, but she didn’t see any need of going to that much trouble since the train went near her home. When she wanted to take a little trip she stepped out to the railroad track, fired her pistol to signal the engineer to stop the train and he stopped it.

Although the train was built primarily to carry lumber it had a passenger car and it carried mail. The passenger train was usually hooked on to the freight train and went slowly. There was a depot at Cropwell and Mr. Don Haselett was the depot agent.

The B & A crossed the Coosa River on a bridge near Cropwell. The bridge was later sold to Mr. Grover Waite who had it floored and turned it into a toll-bridge. The State bought it from Mr. Waite.

The B & A Railroad was discontinued in 1918. Building it had been an expensive undertaking which did not pay off. The Rogers Brothers Lumbering Company was forced into bankruptcy because of it.

Vera Wadsworth

LATHRIP'S RAILROAD

Possibly Lathrip's Railroad was the shortest lived railroad to span St. Clair County territory. It was built in 1907 and discontinued in 1911. It was built by Lathrip and Hatton Lumber Company for the purpose of moving logs from Kendrick's mill on Kelley's Creek in Shelby County to Pell City and it connected those two points. Lathrip and Hatton had a lumber mill at Riverside. They bought a lot of timber at Kendrick's mill which had to be cut down and hauled to their Riverside mill to be sawed into lumber. The Lathrip's Railroad ran southward from Pell City, crossed the old Trussville road two miles west of Easonville, continued southward and crossed what is now highway 25 at the Pierce Lee home two miles east of New London, and ran on southward five miles to Kendrick's mill.

After the timber was cut the railroad was discontinued. The rails were ripped up and sold for scrap and the ties were sold to farmers who used them in making fence posts. Mr. Whittle, who was the foreman, built a home out of boxcars near the tracks about two miles east of Easonville and lived there for fifteen years.

Vera Wadsworth
NOTICE OF REMOVAL
OF GRAVES FROM
THE EASONVILLE
METHODIST CHURCH
CEMETERY
IN ST. CLAIR COUNTY,
ALABAMA

TO: The heirs, next of kin and relatives of all persons buried in the cemetery described.

All heirs, next of kin and relatives of persons buried in that certain cemetery which, to the knowledge, information & belief of Alabama Power Company, is known as the Easonville Methodist Church Cemetery and which is located in the Northwest quarter of the Southwest quarter NW¼ of SW¼ of Section 25, Township 17 South, Range 3 East, St. Clair County, Alabama, on property now owned by Alabama Power Company, which was formerly owned by the Easonville Methodist Church, and which property is located in the Town of Easonville, St. Clair County, Alabama, are hereby notified that Alabama Power Company is in the process of constructing Logan Martin Dam on the Coosa River and that the lands upon which such cemetery is located will be disturbed by construction activities, inundated by waters impounded by said Logan Martin Dam, or rendered inaccessible by the inundation of roads.

All heirs, next of kin and relatives of persons buried in subject cemetery are further notified that such cemetery has been surveyed by Alabama Power Company and contains forty-three (43) unmarked graves, two (2) of which have been identified by Levi Brookshire and Leonard Hardwick, who were given removal permits having been granted to Alabama Power Company by all of the known next of kin in reference to an additional fifteen (15) such unmarked graves that have been identified, and one hundred forty-four (144) marked graves, removal permits having been granted to Alabama Power Company by all of the known next of kin in reference to seventy-seven (77) of such marked graves; of the remaining sixty-seven (67) marked graves, forty (40) of which by their markers indicate that James Roberters (1905), Suddie Abbott Davis (1870-1941), Leonidas Cunningham Davis (1861-1938), William G. Davis (1867-1933), John Shede Maddox (1835-1915), Nannie Johnson Maddox (1841-1915), Mary F. Jarrett (1856-1924), J. J. Jarrett (1847), Dr. Robt. P. Steadham (1861-1898), William F. LeFils (1832-1913), Arnoese Waite Maddox (1877-1916), Daniel W. Waite (1849-1904), Fanny Elliott (1905-1905), Annie L. Hardwick (1867-1889), Rosa V. Spradley (1881-1946), Delilah Lister (1803-1889), Lourenca C. Lawler (1842-1916), Abner J. Lawler (1828-1896), Samuel Patton McClellan (1827-1896), Margaret Morrison McClellan (1827-1897), Samira A. Harmon (1829-1906), Ira Harmon (1826-1903), Thomas Fletcher (1881), Ann Eliza Beavers (1842-1858), S. Monima Wait (1881), Infants Wait, L. F. Wait (1869), P. J. C. Wait (1880), M. E. Todd Wait (1883), Sterling J. Beavers (1839-1855), Wm. S. Beavers (1853-1857), Mrs. Harriet Beavers (1818-1853), Infant Laney (1872-1872), Dr. William C. Neal (1857), Annie B. Conkle (1903), Lonnie Carr (1945), Mrs. M. D. Carr, D. M. Carr (1864-1894), Sampson A.

WE WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION!

At Noon Thursday, Nov. 1, 1962

DELUPHUS ROBERTSON

WILLIE AUSTIN

OLIVER SMITH

OAKLAND, ALABAMA

WE WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION!

AT NOON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1962

AT THE COURT HOUSE IN ST. CLAIR COUNTY

WE WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION!

AT NOON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1962

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AT NOON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1962

AT THE COURT HOUSE IN ST. CLAIR COUNTY

WE WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION!

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from Onville Church. Tery, R County, Alabama.

next of kin and persons buried. AM.

of Levi Brookshire and Leonard Hardwick (1869), whose removal permits having been granted to Alabama Power Company by all of the known next of kin in reference to an additional fifteen (15) such unmarked graves that have been identified, and one hundred forty-four (144) marked graves, removal permits having been granted to Alabama Power Company by all of the known next of kin in reference to seventy seven (77) of such marked graves; of the remaining sixty-seven (67) marked graves forty (40) of which their markings indicate that James Rogers (1865), Susie Abbott Davis (1870-1941), Leonidas Cunningham Davis (1867-1938), William C. Davis (1875-1933), John Shade Maddox (1885-1915), Nannie Johnson Maddox (1841-1915), Mary F. Jarrett (1858-1924), J. F. Jarrett (1847), Dr. Robt. P. Steadham (1861-1899), William F. LeFils (1822-1915), Agnes Waite Maddox (1877-1916), Daniel W. Waite (1848-1904), Floy Elliott (1865-1905), Annie L. Hardwick (1887-1889), Rosa V. Spradley (1881-1946), Delilah Lister (1863-1939), Lourenda C. Lawler (1842-1916), Aberner J. Lawler (1829-1896), Samuel Patton McClellan (1827-1898), Margaret Morrison McClellan (1827-1877), Samira A. Harmon (1829-1906), Ira Harmon (1828-1903), Thomas Fletcher (1861), Ann Eliza Beavers (1842-1853), S. Monina Wait (1811), Infants Wait, L. F. Wait (1869), P. J. C. C. Wait (1893), M. E. Todd Wait (1893), Sterling J. Beavers (1839-1855), Wm. S. Beavers (1853-1855), Mrs. Harriet Beavers (1818-1853),

infant Lane (1872-1872), Dr. William C. Neal (1857), Annie B. Conkle (1903), Lonnie Carr (1954), Mrs. M. D. Karr, D. M. Karr (1864-1894), Sampson A. cSwain (1921), and R. L. Johnson (1962) are buried therein and two (2) of which have been indentified as the graves of Samuel E. Harmon (1926) and James Turner Bark- er (1916), Alabama Power Company has acquired such re- moval permits from a part of the know next of kin, or has been unable to ascertain the heirs, next of kin and relatives of the persons buried therein, and that Alabama Power Company has used reasonable diligence to ascertain the names of the persons buried in the remaining twenty-six (26) unmarked graves and twenty-five (25) marked graves and to ascertain the heirs, next of kin and relatives of the persons buried therein, but has been unable to do so.

All heirs, next of kin and relatives of persons buried in subject cemetery are further notified that it has become necessary for the graves and the remains of persons buried in such graves located in such cemetery to be removed to some other suitable plot in some other cemetery or on before the 31st day of Dec., 1963, that subject cemetery will continue to be used as a final resting place for the dead after such date, that the heirs, next of kin and relatives of persons buried in such cemetery, who have not previously granted a permit for the removal of the remains of their next of kin, are earnestly requested to communicate with Mr. Walter S. Smith, Project Supervisor, P. O. Box 514, Pell City, Alabama, Telephone Edgewood 8-2933, or Mrs. Ollie D. Smith, Manager of Land Department, Alabama Power Company Building, Birmingham, Alabama, in respect to their wishes in the removal of the remains of such persons from subject cemetery and the reinterment of such remains elsewhere, that the heirs next of kin and relatives of such persons are free to enter subject cemetery and to remove the remains of any persons kin to them at their own expense and in the manner that they choose to do so.

Any persons having information or knowledge concerning subject cemetery are requested to communicate with the above named persons at their earliest convenience.

DATED this 2nd day of October, 1962.

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY
By Ollie D. Smith
Manager of Land Department
10/4-11 & 18 1962

THE STATE OF ALABAMA,
ST. CLAIR COUNTY IN CIRCUIT COURT IN EQUITY

JAMES WRIGHT Complainant vs.

CAROL WRIGHT Respondent

In this cause it being made to appear to the Register by James Wright that the Defendant is a non-resident of Alabama, and that her postoffice address is unknown, and further that in the belief of said affiant, the Defendant is of the age of twenty-one years, it is therefore ordered by the Register that publication be made in the St. Clair News-Aegis a newspaper published in St. Clair County, once a week for four consecutive weeks, requiring her, the said Carol Wright to plead, answer or demur to the Bill of Complaint in this cause by the 20th day of September, 1962, or in thirty days thereafter a decree Pro Confessore may be taken against her.

Dorothy Doris
Register
10/4-11-18 & 25 '62

LEGAL NOTICE
Treasury Department, Office of the Director of the District Director, Birmingham, Alabama, October 19 1962. Sealed bids will be accepted on the below listed property from this date until Tuesday 3 o’clock P.M. October 30, 1962, the date and hour of the sale to be held in Pell City, Alabama at Custom Fabricators, Inc. Bids should be

533 sheets 15" x 12" x 128 1¾ in. Doors and 64 Primed Doors and - 62 sheets 1½ x 4" x 8’ M Paneling; 90 sheets 4’ x 8’ Paneling; 113 she 8” Masonite Paneling; Sawk Electr. Black & Mod.; J - 42 gal. B - heater, 6 heating units. To be sold by 121 parites (or in gro in the aggregate.

1 Double End Trim boxes (6 per box winders; 20 boxes to a 5 lator screens; 7 Steel 8 Boxes to a Box Shutters; 12 - 18 gal.

Paint, 14 - 20 gal. Dru 44 - 5 gal. cans Pair 1 gal. cans Paint; 8 gal. Tile Primer; 20 Br. Board; 355 T’s and 0 Joined 2 by 4’s 8 ft. sheets 8½ inch plywood ft. long; 3 and ¼ dr. spray paint; 270 stra ¾” 12 inches b. length.

29 each type SEFP main disconnect pane flush surface elec boxes; 30 each 35x x 12 in. 4×12 12 in. casts nimble b. 4×12 12 in.

Corning fiberglass insulat. Oct. 18, 1962

Sprangly New

By Margaret For

The Opal Robinson the Methodist church the home Mrs. C. Tuesday night.

Mr. and Mrs. W. are spending this we

Mr. and Mrs. Vor. of Mayfield Ky., is a her mother, Mrs. W wart, this week.

Dr. and Mrs. J. L. baby of Birmingham: Sunday with Mrs. W
Easonville School Built In 1879

The first Easonville School was built in 1879. Prior to that time school had been held in the Coosa Valley Baptist Church and in homes. The first school building was a pretty little white school house with sunny windows, a large wood heater and a very big stage. The people were proud of the stage because they liked to see their children show off, so it is said. The school was located beside Easonville Methodist Church to the north. This first school was moved three years later to a site near where Mt. Pisgah pastoriurn now stands on some land owned by Mr. Ira Harmon, and it became known as the Harmon School.

Then the Coosa Valley High School was built, where Preston Wadsworth's home now stands. This school served both Easonville and Cropwell communities. Mr. I. W. Hill was principal and Mr. Jesse Willingham was his assistant.

In 1887 a new school was built part of which is now standing and it is in use today. It was called Easonville Academy. Music, art and drama were stressed in the curriculum. Young People came from all parts of this county and thirty other counties and attended it. This school turned out many successful teachers, ministers, etc. in all walks of life.

To mention a few outstanding people who attended the Academy: 1. John W. Abercrombie, who served as State Superintendent of Education, President of the University of Alabama and U. S. Congressman; 2. Henry J. Willingham, Superintendent of Education and President of Florence State Teachers College; 3. Dr. Thomas Neal, a noted Baptist minister, who later became president of Howard College.

Later the school became Easonville High School. Mrs. Julia Waite, now a resident of Easonville community was the music teacher for many, many years. She was the teacher again last year and gave a very lovely recital in the spring.

In 1928 the new rock addition was built. In 1938 it became an accredited junior high school.

A few years later the lunchroom was built, and it has served first as a lunchroom; and second for church and community functions.

Space will not permit a list of the principals and teachers, who have served this school; but citizens of this community look back with pride at the fruits of their endeavors. A glimpse of the modern scene still reveals doctors, ministers, teachers, engineers, politicians and business men and useful citizens in all walks of life.

Many of the former students are now attending various colleges preparing for more useful lives.

Easonville School observes National Education and Book Week; and Religious Emphasis Week. They have had open house and assembly programs along with suitable classroom activities while observing these weeks.

In the past years, many plays and operettas have been given and enjoyed. Mrs. Sublett is the music teacher this school term.

Easonville has a wide awake P. T. A. whose members have the best interest of the school at heart, and they want everything that will promote the welfare of all the students.

This brings us up to the 1960-1961 term of school. The faculty consists of the following teachers:

PRINCIPAL:

Mr. W. Owen, Degree—B. S., Schools attended: Howard College; Calloway Institute, Georgia Tech; A.P.I; University of Buffalo and University of Alabama Center, Birmingham. Member of Professional Organizations: (N. E. A.; A. E. A.; St. Clair County Teachers Association and P. T. A.) Yes.

BRAXTON B. SIZEMORE:


NINA WHISENHUNT:


PATSY OWEN:


HELEN WATSON INGRAM:


MAURINE RILEY SIMS:

Leave it to the little kids to put life into dull, dreary gathering of PTA

BY BOB HAWKINS, News staff writer

EASONVILLE, Dec. 15—“Isn’t he just the smartest thing you ever saw,” a grandmother beamed as her second generation mumbled a two-line Christmas verse at the school’s annual pageant.

The kid blew the lines, but to grandma it was an actor’s triumph. Her pride had been elevated far beyond the strata of Cloud Nine.

Coosa Valley Elementary School was having its yuletide extravaganza, promoted, backed and accompanied at the piano by Maurine Sims, first grade teacher for so many years she stopped counting long ago.

Although there will be thousands of Christmas programs for PTA mamas and papas, this production set some sort of record for this community on the shores of Logan Martin Lake, near Pell City.

PTA meetings had become something short of exciting. About the liveliest thing to come up for discussion at the last few meetings was whether to plant boxwoods or something else outside the school’s front entrance. Or should the group continue its annual chicken-supper-fund-raising project?

THE CHICKEN FRIZZ HAD been shelved for easier things and attendance had obviously favored TV horse operas over the great American educational process.

The Christmas program episode changed all that. The lake yielded bodies that had long since been forgotten. Everybody piled into the auditorium, which doubles as a lunchroom and rainy day rumpus hall, ready to see and hear their freshly shrubbery business came up briefly before the program got under way. It was quickly decided that boxwoods were definitely out this year. Someone suggested having a program after every business meeting to speed up action on major projects.

The lights dimmed and out trooped the stars in kaledoscop ic array of Sunday best, overalls and what have you. The show was terrific. Blown lines and skipping the seventh day in the “Twelve Days of Christmas” wasn’t even noticed.

It was so good, in fact, that next year the production management may add “Little Drummer Boy” to the act, but then if it is added, discussion had better begin at the January PTA meeting, now that the boxwood dilemma has been solved.

And the Coosa Valley Elementary School PTA is assured of another good year.
Easonville Residents Get Ready To Leave Their Valley

Variety Show Saturday June 15

The Ashville PTA and Pine-dele Civic Club will sponsor a Variety Show featuring local talent Saturday June 15 at the Pine-dele Civic Center, Pine-dele Shores. The program will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Come out and enjoy this clean, wholesome entertainment for the entire family.

Hootenanny At Hoss Pens Forty Sunday

There is going to be a real old fashioned Hootenanny at the Hoss Pens Forty.

It's going to be next Sunday afternoon, June 16, starting at 1 p.m., and lasting until sundown. Hoss Pens Forty is located on Chandler Mountain in St. Clair county.

Just about everyone who ever heard a song will be there.

Richard and Jim, Alabama's own Gadsden natives, who have recently gained folk singing fame in England, Europe and New York, will head up the Hoss Pens Hoot.

The great Axel of Denmark will be there with what has been called the world's sweetest voice.

The Hoot will be held in the natural stone corral where the Indians once kept their ponies.

That's Hoss Pens Forty's first Hootenanny Sunday afternoon from 1 p.m. to sundown June 16.

Plane Found On Chandler Mountain

The remains of a Murray, Kentucky, businessman who disappeared in his private plane more than two months ago, were found on Chandler Mountain in St. Clair county last week.

Coroner Jimmy Davis who investigated said the man was positively identified as H. W. Wilson, of the Kentucky city.

Wilson was last seen at Gadsden where he landed for gas late on the afternoon of April 6. His remains were found by Alton Cline, a resident of the neighborhood who told investigating officers that he was following a swarm of bees when he found the wrecked plane in a plot heavily surrounded by bushes and small trees. The place could be seen easily from the air, but was difficult to locate from the ground.

R. E. Terry and his wife, who live in the neighborhood, told officers they heard the plane on a misty rainy afternoon, April 6. They said they heard a crash, but thought nothing of it when they heard nothing more.

Investigating officers were Sheriff Red Wood, Deputies Joe Locke, Thompson, State Troopers Gantt and Decker and ABC men Owens and Hamilton.

Coroner Davis rendered a

Century - Old Home Sites Will Be Abandoned

It could never be called The Naked City because it never was a city. But from appearance today Easonville could be called The Naked Community.

The once beautiful little community that is situated for just a short distance on both sides of highway 231, will soon be buried under water and in history.

Some of the giant oaks were estimated to be as much as 400 years old. That's a long, long time to live . . . and then to be destroyed in a matter of minutes.

Churches, homes, school houses are being moved. Some of the homes are being moved to new sites, up the road a piece. The Easonville Methodist's, their church in the path of the water, moved to other churches. They gave their building to the Coosa Valley Baptist Church who will move it and use as an educational building.

Singing School Begins Mon.

The summer singing school which has been in the planning stage for several months, will begin Monday night, June 17. R. M. Whitten announced.

Now they are getting ready to abandon the town to the surging backwaters of the Coosa River. What is now the center of the townsite will be covered with 20-25 feet of water when Logan Martin Dam is completed and all gates are

Hootenanny At Hoss Pens Forty Sunday

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SCHOOL AID PROBLEMS

Senator Ribicoff (D., Conn.) proposed the use of tax deductions and a shared time plan as key points in a program to end the religious battle over federal aid to education.

The battle involving financing the education of students in private schools has held up every school aid bill, Ribicoff declared.

ago, were found on Chandler Mountain in St. Clair county. They are of some kind of sand and had been over the valley. Trees that once shaded the highway and much of the acreage have been cut down. They are big dead trees in great heaps all over the countryside waiting for the torch that is about to be destroyed in a matter of minutes.

R. E. Perry and his wife, who live in the neighborhood, heard the plane on a misty rainy afternoon, April 6. They heard a crash, but thought nothing of it when they heard nothing more.

The investigating officers were Sheriff Red Wood, Deputies Roe, Lockridge, Thompson, State Troopers Ganni and Decker, and ABC men Owens and Hamilton.

Coroner James Davis rendered a verdict of accidental death.

The coroner, who is the only officer of the Fredwill Baptist Church, conducted services for the deceased, beginning at 7 p.m. each night. Singing school committee members believe these sessions will be beneficial as well as enjoyable to everyone and extend a cordial invitation to anyone wishing to attend.

Singing School Begins Mon.

The summer singing school, which has been in the planning stage for several months, will begin Monday night, June 16, at R. M. Whitten's announced recently. The school will be held at the Fredwill Baptist Church in Ragland for three weeks, beginning at 7 p.m. each night. Singing school committee members believe these sessions will be beneficial as well as enjoyable to everyone and extend a cordial invitation to anyone wishing to attend.

A corollary building, something like 1200 bodies were moved from cemeteries to a new burial ground.

Ludford Harmon owns a store that has been on the site for about 60 years. He expects to be in business there for many more years. He said, "Our store is the first to be moved because the work would start lining the new store and his business would be there."

Harmon also owns a mortgage, which will be underwritten unless moved. He said, "I can't even start to move it because it has to be underwritten."

The cotton growers need that gin and it looks now that there will be no gin. We can't get the court to set, and I can't get an appraisal commission out here." Harmon said.

Several other landowners in the vicinity also are in litigation about the price of their property.

Now they are getting ready to abandon the town to the surging backwaters of the Coosa River. What is now the center of the townsite will be covered with water for 20-35 feet of water when Logan Martin Dam is completed and all gates are up.

People first started gathering at what is now Easonville well over a hundred years ago. Handled down history says the site was first used as a camp meeting ground, that people gathered there for church revivals soon after.

General Jackson drove the Creek Indians out of St. Clair across the Coosa River into Talladega County.

After it was used for a camp ground for several years, families began to settle there along in 1814-15-16.

Now they are unsetting, definitely moving out. Fast. Some 40 to 60 families will be displaced. They must find new homes, new farms, many must find new ways to make a living. Many already have," Many are looking for work. Many find it hard to leave life-long homes. Such emotions run deep. There is more than a little sadness. But most recognize it as the inevitable march of progress.

They know there is no way to stop the encroaching water.
In an historic operation that will turn the clock back to the life time of George Washington, the Alabama Power Company will soon begin removal of the remains of more than 1000 people from what was to have been their final resting place.

The remains are to be moved to make way for back-waters of Logan Martin Dam. When the dam is completed the land on which the cemeteries are located would have been under many feet of the great body of water known as Logan Martin Lake.

To date a total of 1145 graves have been found from which the remains must be moved. Those experienced in this type of work say that a number of other graves, completely hidden for many years will be found and of course the remains moved.

The cemeteries from which the remains will be moved are all landmarks in this section. They include the Easonville Methodist cemetery, The Coosa Valley Cemetery, the Cooper Family cemetery, the Truss Family cemetery & the Blooming Light cemetery. In addition the same operation will be conducted on a small cemetery across the Coosa river in Taladega county. Elevation of the Coleman Family cemetery in Riverside will be raised slightly.

Most of the remains will be re-buried in a new cemetery to be known as the Coosa Valley Baptist Church cemetery. It will be located high on a beautiful slope alongside the new highway 231, about one-half mile west of the Coosa Valley Baptist Church.

The new cemetery has been engineered and laid out in ample blocks and lots. Walkways will be built so every spot in the new cemetery will be easily accessible and the area will be beautified by planting flowers, shrubs and shrubbery.

All caskets and remains will be placed in new boxes before being intered in new graves. All existing markers and monuments will be relocated at the far new graves and small remains can
Every Changes

Eighty-three people have requested that the remains of their loved ones be re-buried in cemeteries other than the new one to be provided. Fifty-six will be moved to other cemeteries in St. Clair County & 27 will be moved to other counties. None have requested an out-of-state re-burial.

There are dates on the monuments that date back as far as 165 years. Others that cannot be read are thought to date back even longer.

The earliest legible marker bears the name Isaac Willsinghman. The record shows he was born in 1797, two years before George Washington died. He died in 1830. Beside his grave lies the marker of Sara Williams, presumably the wife of Isaac Williams. The record shows that she was born in 1800, died in 1831.

In the Truss Family cemetery the name of Betsy Castleberry was legible on a monument. She was born in 1810, died in 1840. Another close by marker bears the name of 'Castleberry infants' buried in 1844. They can of course be presumed to be relatives of Betsy Castleberry.

A marker or monument in the Easonville cemetery was inscribed with Mrs. Harriet Beaver's name. She was born in 1818 and died in 1853. Name of a Beaver infant, born in 1853, died in 1855, was also legible.

One can march through the pages of history reading names in this and other old cemeteries. They were pioneers indeed.

Life and times were exceedingly hard. A living for a man, his family, was literally dug out of the ground. Wildlife and game for meat was abundant. So were marauding Indians.

On these monuments can be read something of the life and times of a great people who labored in the early period of a great nation.

Power company officials say contract for this work will be awarded in a short time and work is expected to get started about mid-November.
HARBOR IS ALWAYS FULL OF BOATS FROM OUTBOARDS TO LARGE CRUISERS

Marina overlooks two-mile stretch of water which once was Easonville community

Progress prevailed, Easonville rides heady crest of water sport boom

BY JACK HOPPER
News staff writer

PELL CITY, July 10 — A little over a year ago the area was a small community; with a church, cotton gin, several homes—all satisfied to be quiet, serene community.

Today it is a luxurious spot area, with clear blue water, speeding motorboats, a large, attractive motel and restaurant, a complete area for family vacation or a weekend of fun.

And, all made possible by harnessing the water of the Coosa River with the Logan Martin Dam, constructed by the Alabama Power Co.

Early in 1964 a letter was received at The News, a pitiful plea from the residents of Easonville—one of the oldest communities in the state. Their complaint: The dam was going to flood the entire community, forcing all residents to evacuate the area. This included tearing down the oldest stone schoolhouse in the state, moving churches, homes that had been located there for hundreds of years.

Today on that same ground is found a two-mile wide area of sky-blue water, rippled occasionally by a speedboat, and seeing the land area walked upon by young men and women in shorts, with the sole idea of recreation and relaxation on their mind.

Old Easonville, or at least close to the original site, on a small hillside is the luxurious Pine Harbor Marina, a $500,000 resort area, all designed for the vacationer and the water enthusiasts.

Considered one of the most attractive motor lodge and marina complexes in this section of the country, the area surely has changed.

Of Early American architecture, the rustic, attractive motor hotel and restaurant offers something unique to its guests.

Although only open little more than a month, the marina has more than 150 boats snuggled in its harbor while many others put their boat in the water here. Other persons from nearby cities come here for a quiet weekend of relaxation on the blue water of Logan Martin Lake.

Owned by Tom Casady, the exquisite Marina has a 21-unit motor lodge, a restaurant, a snack bar, a swimming pool, a 150-boat marina, a dry storage area for boats, and a unique “Chapel In The Pines” for church services every Sunday morning.

The Chapel is Casady’s idea. The reason: “I have always wanted to develop a place where the whole family could go and feel completely at ease,” he said. A minister from Pell City holds services every Sunday.

The complex isn’t complete. Casady said other things to be constructed include a playground area for children, construction of 49 cottages for families, another 24 units to the motor hotel and nine-hole three-par golf course. A putting green is now under con-
RUSTIC MOTOR HOTEL NOW IN FULL SWING AT PINE HARBOR MARINA

... Of early American architecture, it is on shores of Logan Martin Lake