

“To This High Moment...”

EDUCATION IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, N.C.

1865 - 2019







Montgomery County
Reunion of
Confederate Veterans
-1910-





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THE PAST AND THE FUTURE.

(10) 15402E

Simmons' Tan-yard

Troy, N.C. was once known as Simmons' Tanyard, the ford across Little River bore the name of "Simmons Ford."

Instrumental in the founding of Wake Forest Manual Labor Institute, which later became Wake Forest College. Today it is known as Wake Forest University.

Owner of 29 slaves according to the 1860 U.S. slave census.



Lockey Simmons
1796 - 1880

Schools for the Freedmen -

After the Civil War and Emancipation, the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands, commonly known as the Freeman's Bureau, established Freedmen's Schools throughout the South. In 1866-1867, General Daniel Sickles commanded the Department of the South in District 2, or the Carolinas, and had these schools established. Lockey Simmons, who had owned (or controlled) 40 slaves, taught the Freedman's School in Troy, called Simmon's Tan Yard. Louiza*, a former slave, was his assistant. Upon his departure from Troy and death in 1880, the American Missionary Association took over the work in Troy.

*Louiza and Cicero Simmons, Wayne County, N.C. 1870 census. Union League supporters.

MONTHLY REPORT.
FREEDMEN'S SCHOOLS,
 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Name of the School, *Simmons Tan Yard*
 Name of Town or District,
 County of *Montgomery*
 Post Office address of the Teachers, *Troy, Montgomery County, N.C.*
 Date of Commencement of the present School Year, *first day of January*
 State when present School Year will close, *the last day of December*
 Its present Teachers, *Lockey Simmons & Louiza Simmons*
 Commissioned by what Society, *Freedmens Bureau*

Report for the Month of *September*, 1869

☞ A School under the distinct control of one Teacher, or a Teacher with one Assistant is to be reported as one School.

DAY SCHOOLS.	No. 1	NIGHT SCHOOLS. [Report the Night Schools as fully as the Day Schools.]	No.
Do the Freedmen own the School Building?	<i>no</i>	<i>Our night School</i>	
No. of different pupils,	<i>25</i>	<i>will commence the</i>	
Whole No. of Males,	<i>10</i>	<i>1st November</i>	
Whole No. of Females,	<i>15</i>		
No. pupils enrolled last report,	<i>25</i>		
No. left School this month,	<i>0</i>		
No. of new Scholars this month,	<i>0</i>		
Average attendance for the month,	<i>24</i>		
No. pupils paying tuition,	<i>5</i>		
No. White pupils,	<i>0</i>		
No. always present,	<i>24</i>		
No. always punctual,	<i>24</i>		
No. over 16 years of age,	<i>6</i>		
No. in the Alphabet,	<i>1</i>		
No. who spell and read easy lessons,	<i>8</i>		
No. of advanced readers,	<i>12</i>		
No. who study Geography,	<i>0</i>		
No. who study Arithmetic,	<i>4</i>		
No. in higher branches,	<i>0</i>		
No. in writing,	<i>10</i>		
No. in needle-work,	<i>0</i>		
No. of Sabbath Schools for colored people in your town or vicinity,			<i>1</i>
No. of White Teachers in such Sabbath Schools,			<i>1</i>
No. of Colored Teachers in such Sabbath Schools,			<i>3</i>
No. of Pupils in such Sabbath Schools,			<i>45</i>
How much has been received from Freedmen this month for tuition, \$	<i>1.50</i>		
Give the whole amount contributed by Freedmen towards your support, (including board), \$	<i>2.00</i>		

Lockey Simmons, Teacher.

☞ Each Teacher will make out this report in FULL, sign and return the same to L. E. RICE, Wilmington, Assistant Superintendent of Education North Carolina, PUNCTUALLY, on or before the 30th of each month. Give approximate returns if exact ones cannot be obtained.

pushed, the problem looked even more difficult to grasp and solve than at the beginning. Nevertheless, three things that year's work did, well worth the doing: it relieved a vast amount of physical suffering; it transported seven thousand fugitives from congested centres back to the farm; and, best of all, it inaugurated the crusade of the New England schoolma'am.

The annals of this Ninth Crusade are yet to be written, — the tale of a mission that seemed to our age far more quixotic than the quest of St. Louis seemed to his. Behind the mists of ruin and rapine waved the calico dresses of women who dared, and after the hoarse mouthings of the field guns rang the rhythm of the alphabet. Rich and poor they were, serious and curious. Bereaved now of a father, now of a brother, now of more than these, they came seeking a life work in planting New England schoolhouses among the white and black of the South. They did their work well. In that first year they taught one hundred thousand souls, and more.

Evidently, Congress must soon legislate again on the hastily organized Bureau, which had so quickly grown into wide significance and vast possibilities. An institution such as that was well-nigh as difficult to end as to begin. Early in 1866 Congress took up

THE AMERICAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION



Rev. William Harmon Ellis



Rev. Caleb Churchill Collins



**The Reverend Orishatukeh Faduma
takes charge of Peabody Institute in
1895.**

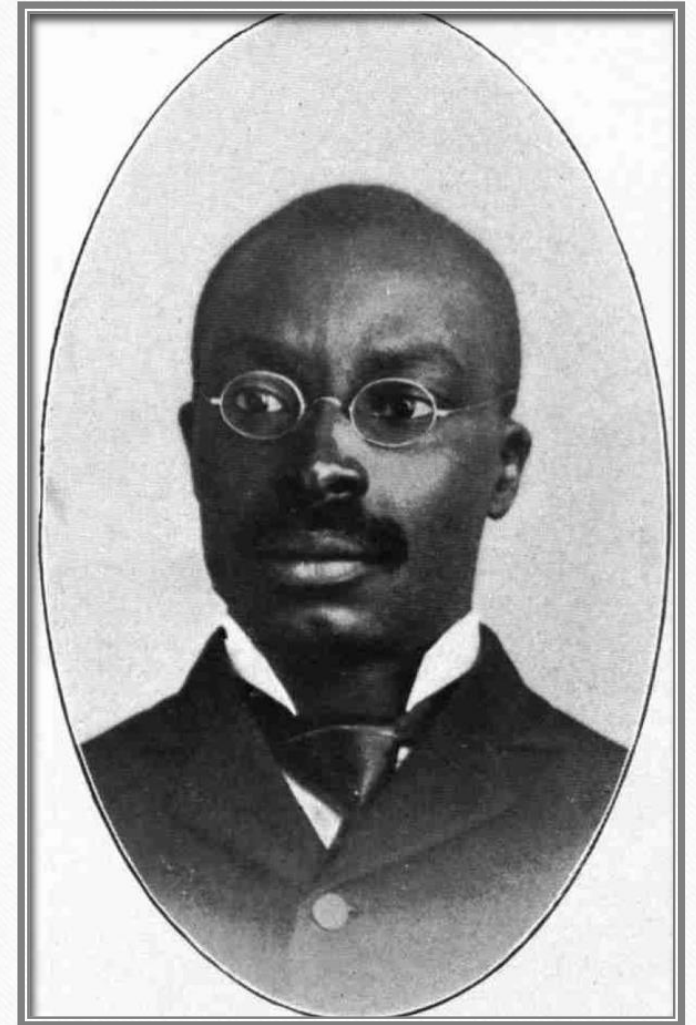
B.A. Queens College, England, 1883

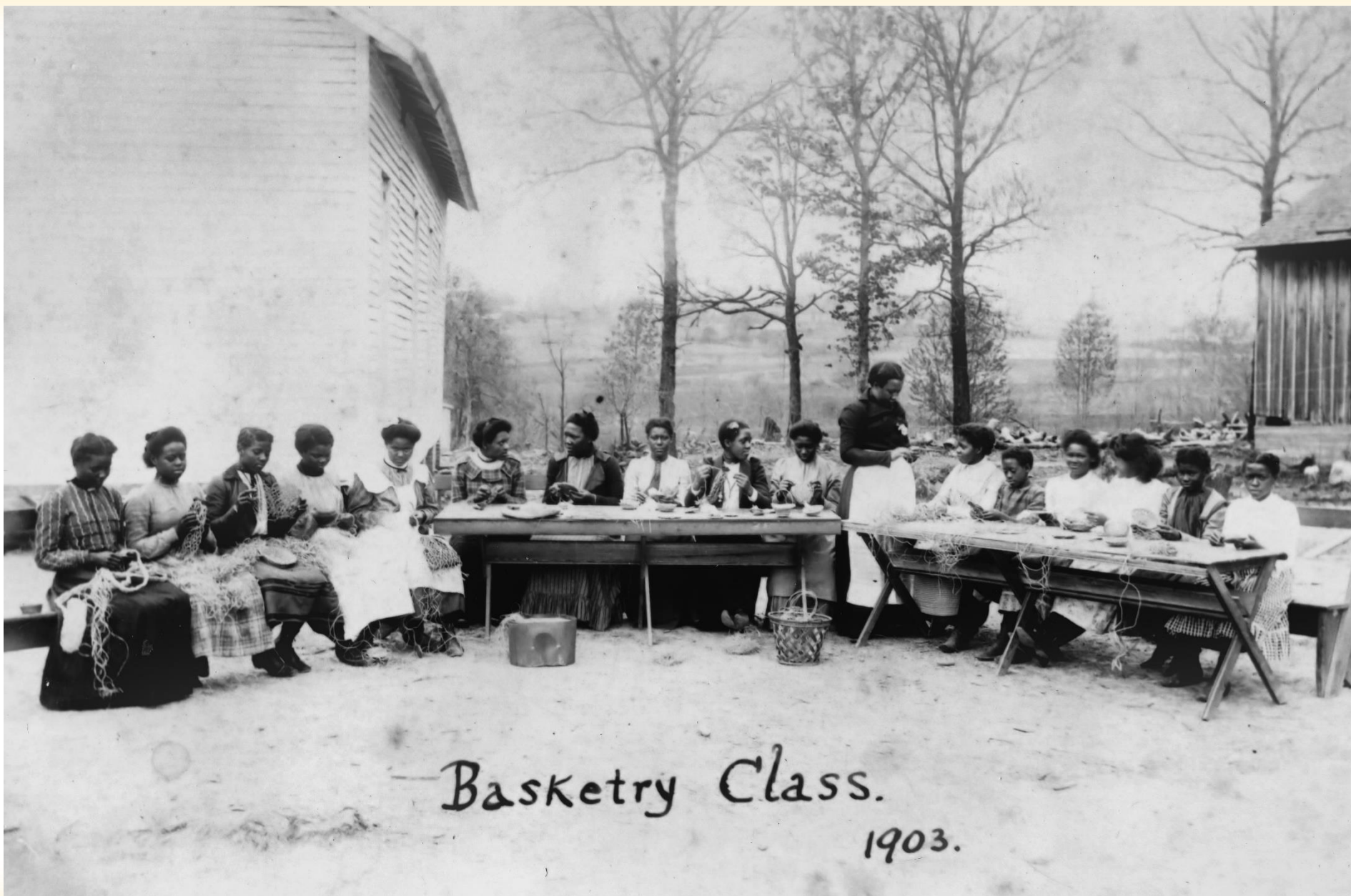
B.A. University of London, 1884

M.Div. Yale Divinity School, 1894, Master of
Sacred Theology with Honors

University of Chicago Theological Seminary, 1927

Honorary PhD, Livingstone College, Freetown,
Sierra Leone





Basketry Class.

1903.







Peabody - Normal and Industrial Students
1903



Sewing Class.
1903.



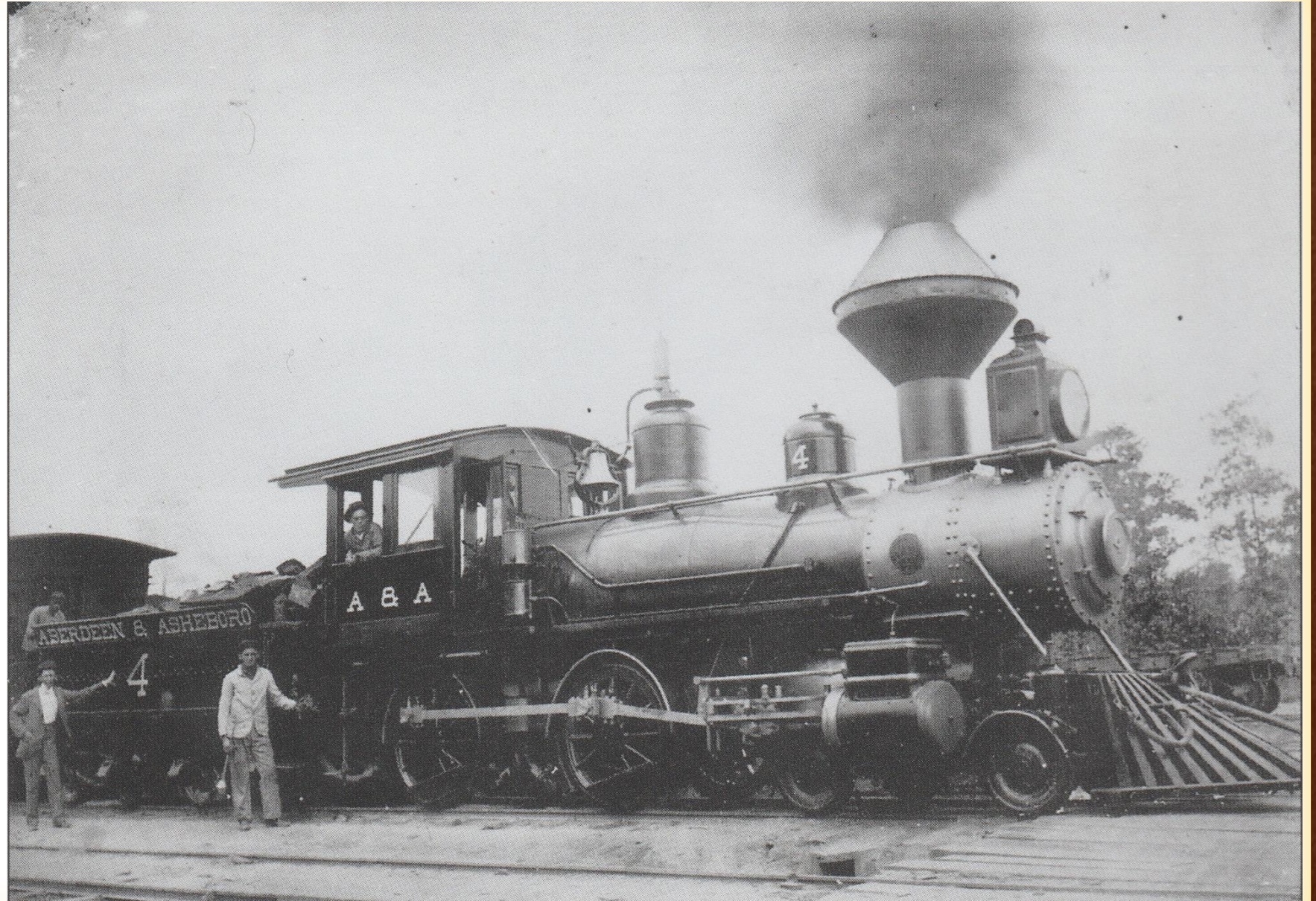
Principal J. F.





Walter Hines Page

Aberdeen & Asheboro
Railroad







An oval-shaped, sepia-toned portrait of a young man with short, dark hair, wearing a dark suit jacket, a white shirt, and a dark bow tie. He is looking slightly to the right of the frame.

Robert Tyrell Poole
Montgomery County Superintendent
1901-1903, 1907-1908

“I have been in close touch with the educational interest of Montgomery County for the past year and can truthfully say that the Educational revival that is now going on throughout the state has become [an] epidemic with us. Fully two-thirds of the patrons of the public schools are wide-awake on the subject of education. Five rural districts have recently secured libraries and I expect others to be established soon by private subscription. We have had for the first time in the history of our county funds sufficient to run a four-months school in every district. Our greatest present need is larger and better school houses and longer terms”

*MAY 30, 1902 – Ten Years of Educational Progress in North Carolina
Raleigh News and Observer.*









**YE OLE TIME
Fiddlers'
Convention**

--- AT ---
TROY,

Friday, April 3rd, at the Academy.

When the fiddlers swing the bow
All who hear will jump Jim Crow.

All are cordially invited, but don't come if you are too delicate to withstand Convulsions of Laughter.

DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 P. M.

PRIZES.

BEST FIDDLER.....	\$10.00.
2nd " "	5.00.
BEST SPECIALTY	5.00.
BEST JIG DANCER.....	5.00.

ADMISSION {
25c.
35c.
50c.

The proceeds from the Convention will apply on piano for Graded School.

RULES.

- (1) A competent committee will determine who are entitled to the several prizes, and their decision, whether it agrees with others or not, shall be final and conclusive.
- (2) Every one may contest for any and all prizes.
- (3) Every contestant for fiddlers' prize must play one piece unassisted, and a second selection with whatever accompaniment contestant desires; but one selection must be from list as compiled by arrangement committee.
- (4) Contestants for specialty prize may use any instrument or any number of instruments (banjo, guitar, mandolin, dulcimer, harp, etc.) and play, sing or recite any selection they may choose.
- (5) Jig dancers may select their own music.
- (6) All contestants are required to write or see the chairman of committee of arrangements and enlist his name with him not later than April 1st, that arrangements may be made for his accommodation.

A. LEACH & SONS,
STAR, N. C.

**AN OLD TIME
FIDDLERS
CONVENTION**

will be held in the ACADEMY at

Ether, N. C.,

Friday Night, FEBRUARY 28, 1908.

PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED AS FOLLOWS:

First Best Fiddle	- -	\$5.00 in Gold.
Second Best Fiddle	- -	\$2.50
Best Banjo	- -	\$2.50
Best Specialty	- -	\$2.50

Anyone who plays a fiddle, banjo, guitar or dulcimer can enter the contest for prizes.

Those who enter will be the guests of the good people of Ether and will enter free of charge. Come one and all for we are going to have a good time.

ADMISSION:

ADULTS	25 CENTS.
CHILDREN FROM 8 TO 12 YEARS	10 CENTS.

The proceeds are to be used for painting the Academy.

The Ladies of the Methodist Church,

Under the auspices of the
Ladies Aid Society,
will give an

Old Time Fiddlers' Convention

IN THE

Academy at Mt. Gilead, March 20th, 1908.

This will be an occasion of genuine pleasure, and all who can be interested are invited to enter the contest.

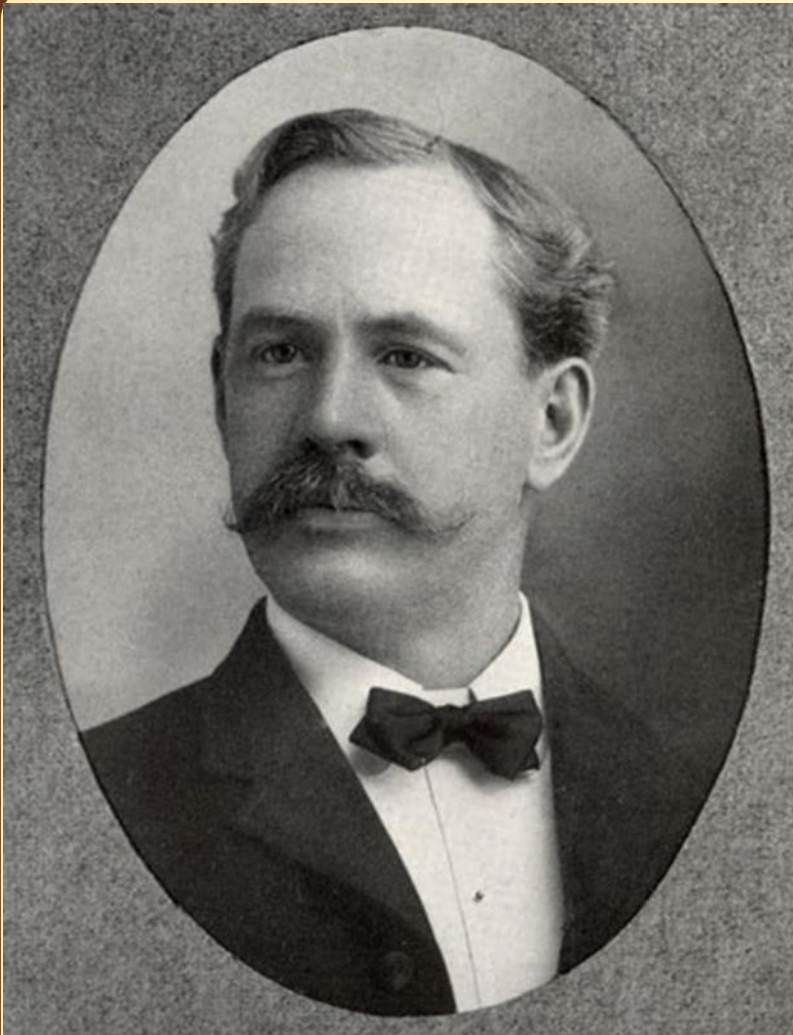
PRIZES:

1st Best Fiddler.....	\$5.00.
2nd " "	\$2.50.
1st Best Banjo Picker.....	\$2.50.
2nd " "	\$1.00.

Remember the date; Friday night, March 20th.

For further information or particulars apply to

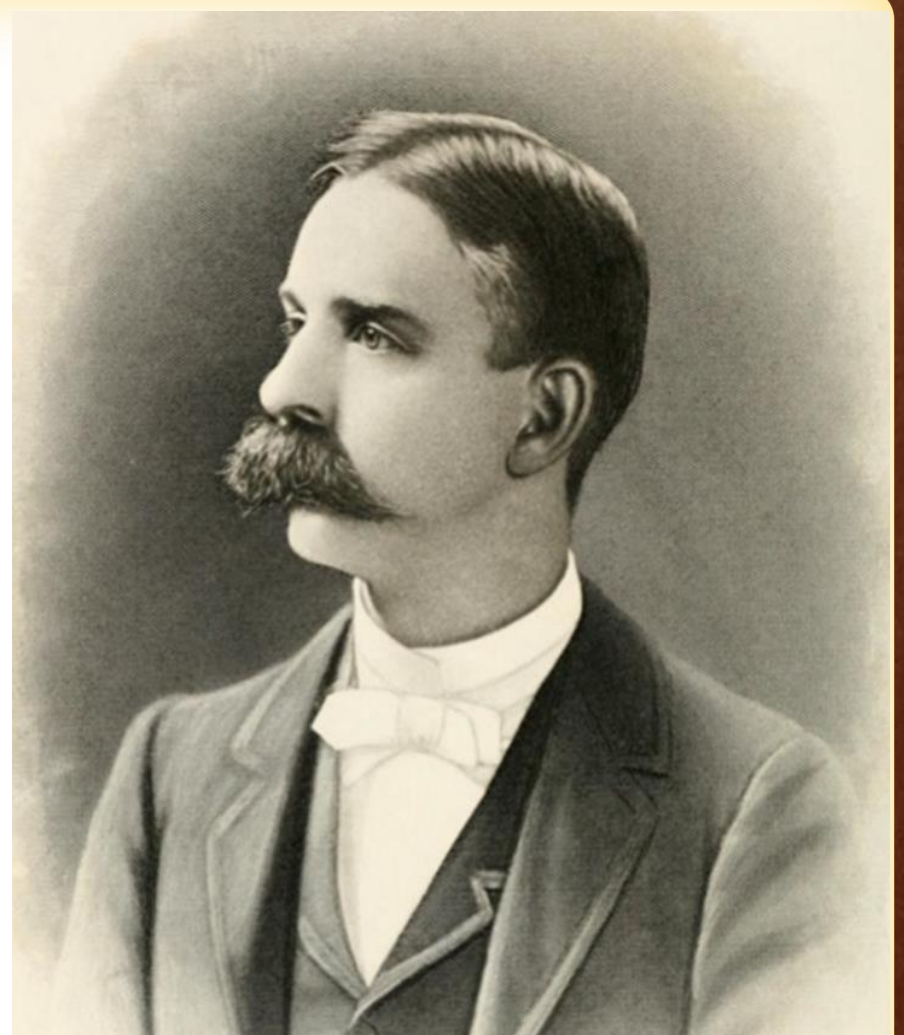
O. C. BRUTON, Mt. Gilead, N. C.



Dr. Edward F. Green



Dr. John B. Shamburger



Dr. Eugene C. Branson





James Spurgeon Edwards

Mr. Edwards took the oath of office
Monday, October 7, 1918.

Superintendent of Montgomery County Schools
from 1918-1958.

The consolidation superintendent, 86 one and two
Room school houses abandoned and new consolidated
facilities erected.



Montgomery Is Hitting A Terrific Gait In Education And The Little Red 1-Teacher School House Is Doomed

Desecration and Vandalism it Would Have Been Five Years Ago

By W. T. BONY.

Three years ago Montgomery county which sat yesterday morning its last to make good North Carolina's boast for 20 years—building a schoolhouse a day—today is doing a better job in that line at least two daily until the glorious work of desecration shall have been complete.

Desecration and vandalism it would have been called five years ago; regeneration and sanctification it is today. Montgomery has not about a little house-wrecking in order to get the debris, the dirt and the chert scattered so that a fine order may be up in this grand old kingdom of pins and oak and sand.

"The little red schoolhouse on the hill" which next to woman has been the greatest historical possession on the earth has been embelished in wood and story until we had come to think that a special virtue inhered in that community ideal which placed with equal impartiality the pig and the schoolhouse. To be sure the little red schoolhouse was the community center and nearly always there were several of his planks confined in the place—but nobody has done to explain why any group of men anywhere should have persevered in the faith that in the schoolhouse, the center of civilization, whose children are the childhood and yesterday's continuing and undying forward effort at making a better world, there should have been the loss of aesthetic inspiration and the lowest form of physical contact.

Much house-wrecking has been done. But the way little J. H. Edwards, county superintendent, has been tearing down these one-teacher schoolhouses and setting up temples on their ruins has been the vilest in North Carolina for the years 1921, '22 and '23, and if his hand will back him, as it will, he will see this consolidation to a glorious consummation.

It is a world the chattering to say what Montgomery county is interested enough in a school's determination to reduce itself, may well be one of the most splendid of all the counties. It would have a right to be one of the most beautiful and practical. It has no towns of any size. It is about 25 miles from any place which thinks it is anything, the best thing in Charlotte, Winston-Salem, or Greensboro from central Montgomery would be forced to go about the named mileage. Although it is 25 miles from Troy and Raleigh is 15, Raleigh is 100. There is nobody near it but the county seat and sets its own example. It has its own saving gear and has led it.

Down goes the little red. Montgomery is in an evolution. It is a revolution. It isn't a better. It is a process. It isn't a steady progress; it is J. H. Edwards, whose natural gift, like Teddy's and Charlemagne's, is "running away." It ought to have run away. After three centuries over which the gentle reader is asked to extend his respect, though not stretching a country out of a year's

Uwarrie and Its Evolution.



Thirty miles from the railroad stands this school building, which represents the final stage of school evolution. It is the only one of its kind in the county.

Today It Is Looked On as Regeneration And Sanctification.

quieted or battered, Wadesville does it. There are six small schools consolidated here. The absorption includes the three-teacher school at Wadesville. This structure stands near the state highway and is on the Norfolk Southern between Raleigh and Charlotte. It is a beautiful building which occupies the former high school. There are 300 school children in the district who did not have high school advantages in 1921 who have the opportunity now if Wadesville is made a high school. Three trucks carry the children to the school, but better, the school to the children.

Pinkie, which is a composite of 2000 and oak is another 1000 consolidation, which had no high school advantages in 1921. It totals itself in 1922 when it consolidated two of its two-room and one of its one-room schools. This building stands on a site of seven acres. Pinkie has six rooms and an auditorium. It is a fine building with ample provision for those who wish to go to a standard high school which can be reached west of the school. There are 125 boys and girls who may go to the high school if they desire. Two trucks are used for carrying the children. The building stands out on the best achievement on the money invested. Two tractors carry on the work.

Pekin in Pinkie's location in Greensboro appearance. It has five acres in the school site, was established in 1922 cost \$12,000 and gives three miles of school bus service. It is in the very heart of Pinkie, but it is a modern building with two high grades taught and the public auditorium board. One truck carries the delivery here, because every road leading to Pekin is a modern roadhouse and every person in the district is happy in having a proprietary interest in it.

Edwards Pinkie itself. While foolish people have been hunting for Edorado the world over, Edorado in Montgomery has been hunting for itself and has made a discovery. It has found a community may live 14 miles from a railroad and be still in the world and of it.

In 1922 Edorado put up a \$25,000 brick building with all modern equipment. It consolidated three schools, one of them a three-teacher and three a one-teacher type. It is a high school complete with seven acres on the site and a home for the teachers on the school grounds. It bears the name of the first officer here. Towns in this county, fitting enough since his name has a meaning all its own. Edorado completes the list of new centers for the whites in 1922. It is a modern three-teacher building which has replaced the one-teacher school. It stands six miles from Troy and five from Candler. It is a modern structure. It is an old structure remodeled. It is now modern and has the best auditorium in the county. The building has put \$40,000 in it to make it worthy of the home of former Congressman. The building has steam heat, electric lights, water and sewerage, and a fine auditorium for educational purposes and is ready to meet the standards of instruction. It is beautiful in behalf and stands a block or two off from the state highway.

loads follow wheels. Assigns duty to the deputy he. More than ten boys and girls, the better able than one-half the lot of the new between the roads and the school. In Montgomery's revolution, there is no contest for glory. The roads do not say they are the greatest of the kingdom, the school the best, the street the best, and the town the best. Each, the road and the school, fights for it in the child and each knows that the little child is not quarrel with the school because they come with their advantages weekly and a fine fact to see when they come to the school. The schoolhouse is not a mere building. The roadhouse steers their way straight to the temple. And here they come with their advantages and building erected this way is on the road to heaven.

Behind the Hessian House. Behind was the excellent go-cart. There isn't anything in Montgomery county of which its citizenship is prouder than these buildings which back up to the consolidated

"There were in 1921, 57 one-teacher schools; in 1923 there were 24

"33 schools consolidated and contracts for six large buildings have all structures are of brick and each site has five or more acres – still away from the pig sty ideal."

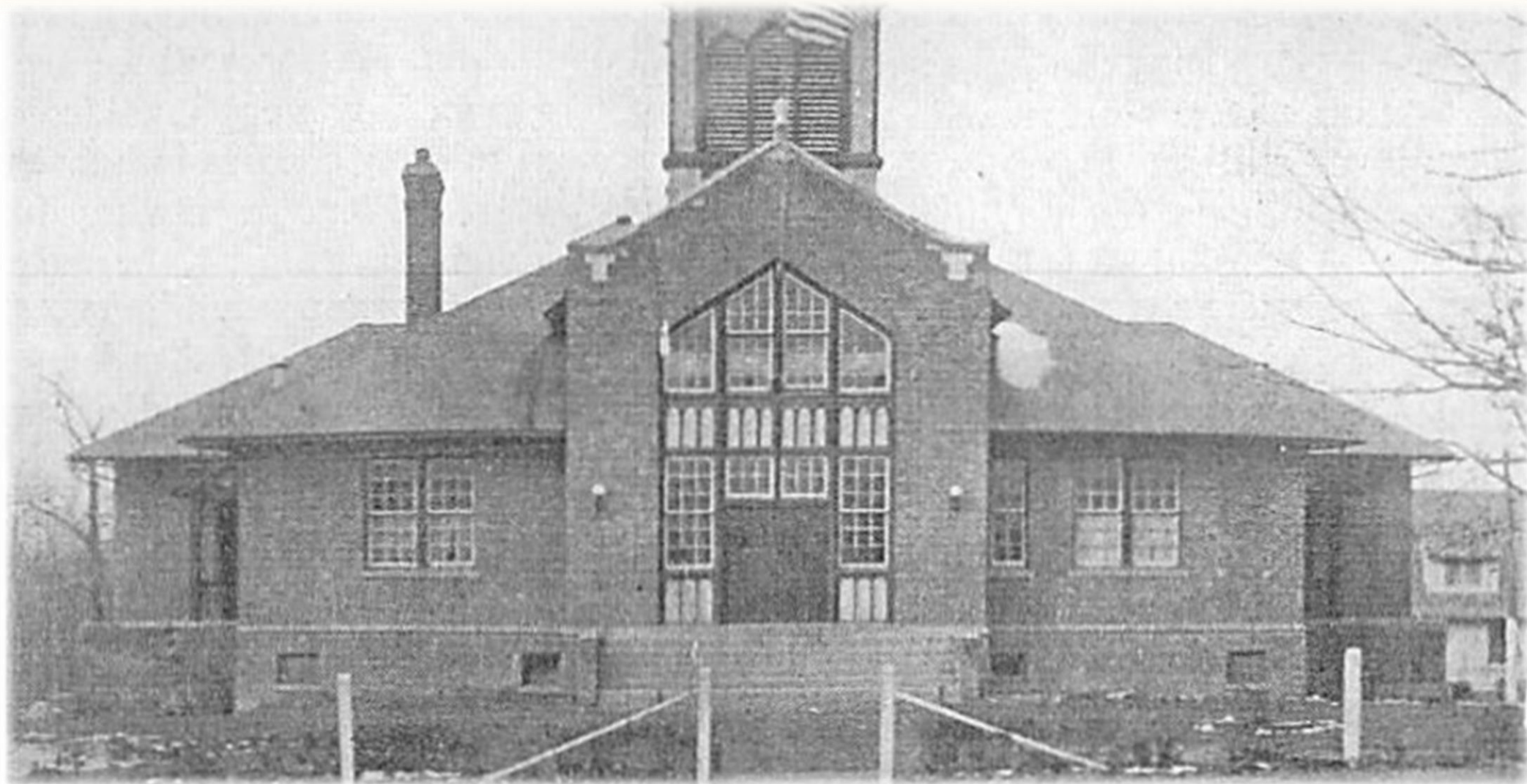
"Each, the road and the school, fights for it to the child and each knows that the little child shall lead them... it has come about that every school erected ... is on the main highway."

"Behold, now, the gasoline go-cart! There isn't anything in Montgomery County of which its citizenship is prouder than these benzine buggies back up to the consolidated areas and carry off the precious cargo of children. There are eight Republic 1 1/2 ton trucks and three Ford cars

"Every child in these consolidated areas WILL be given high school

"The Candor High School, the handsomest of them all, saved from \$25,000 to \$40,000... it would cost \$85,000 to build it today [1923]."





April 22, 1926





L. A. Hitchcock
Albemarle
N.C.





WADEVILLE
CONSOLIDATED
HIGH SCHOOL







Uwharrie School - 1924















L. A. Hitchcock Studio
Albany, N. C.



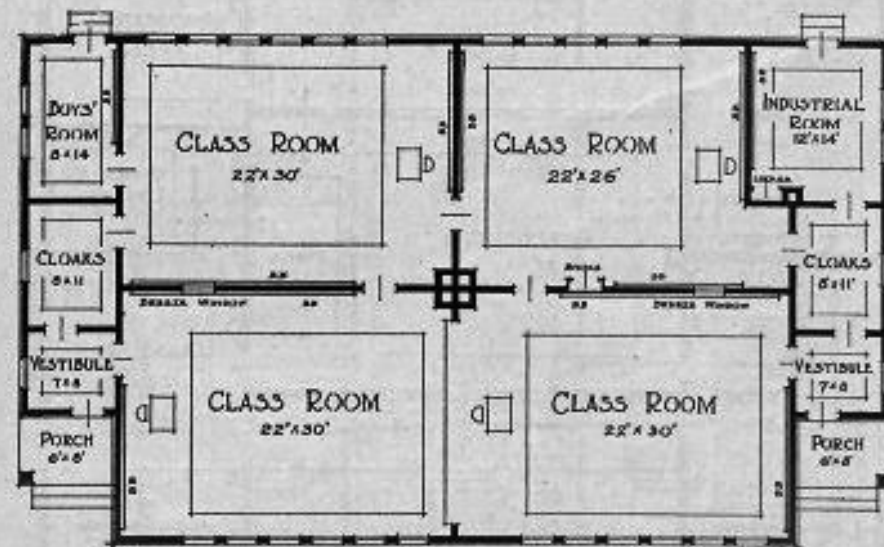
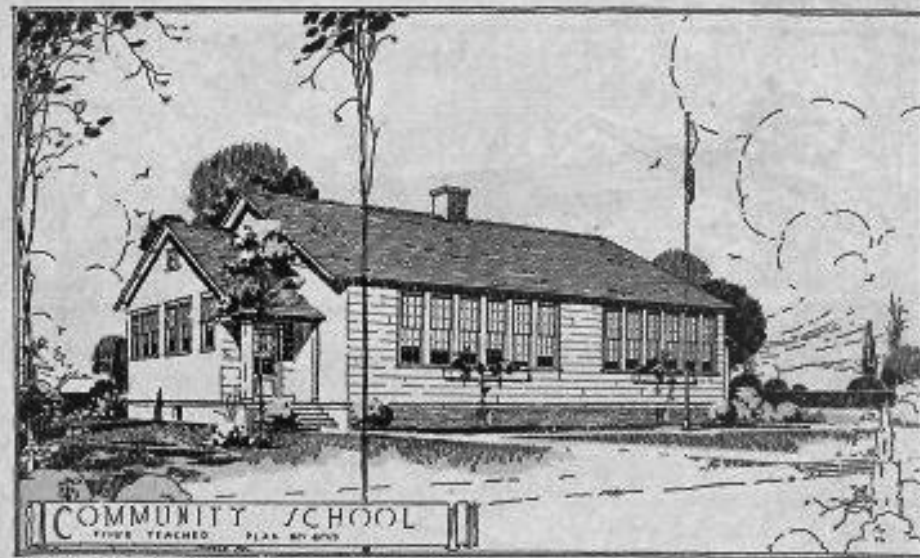
L. A. Hitchcock
Studio
Albany
N. Y.

The Rosenwald School Movement

Improved primary school buildings were built in Montgomery County in the 1920's. The African American communities received money from the Rosenwald Fund, the county school fund, and donated their own money, labor, and supplies to build these schools.

Julius Rosenwald was the president of Sears Roebuck and Company and was very passionate about schools for African American children in the South. The original plans were drawn at Tuskegee Institute under the direction of Dr. Booker T. Washington.





FLOOR PLAN NO 400
FOUR TEACHER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
TO FACE EAST OR WEST ONLY



Leake's School near Candor – Note school bell and strain insulator for radio.



Zion - Wooley School



Mt. Gilead School



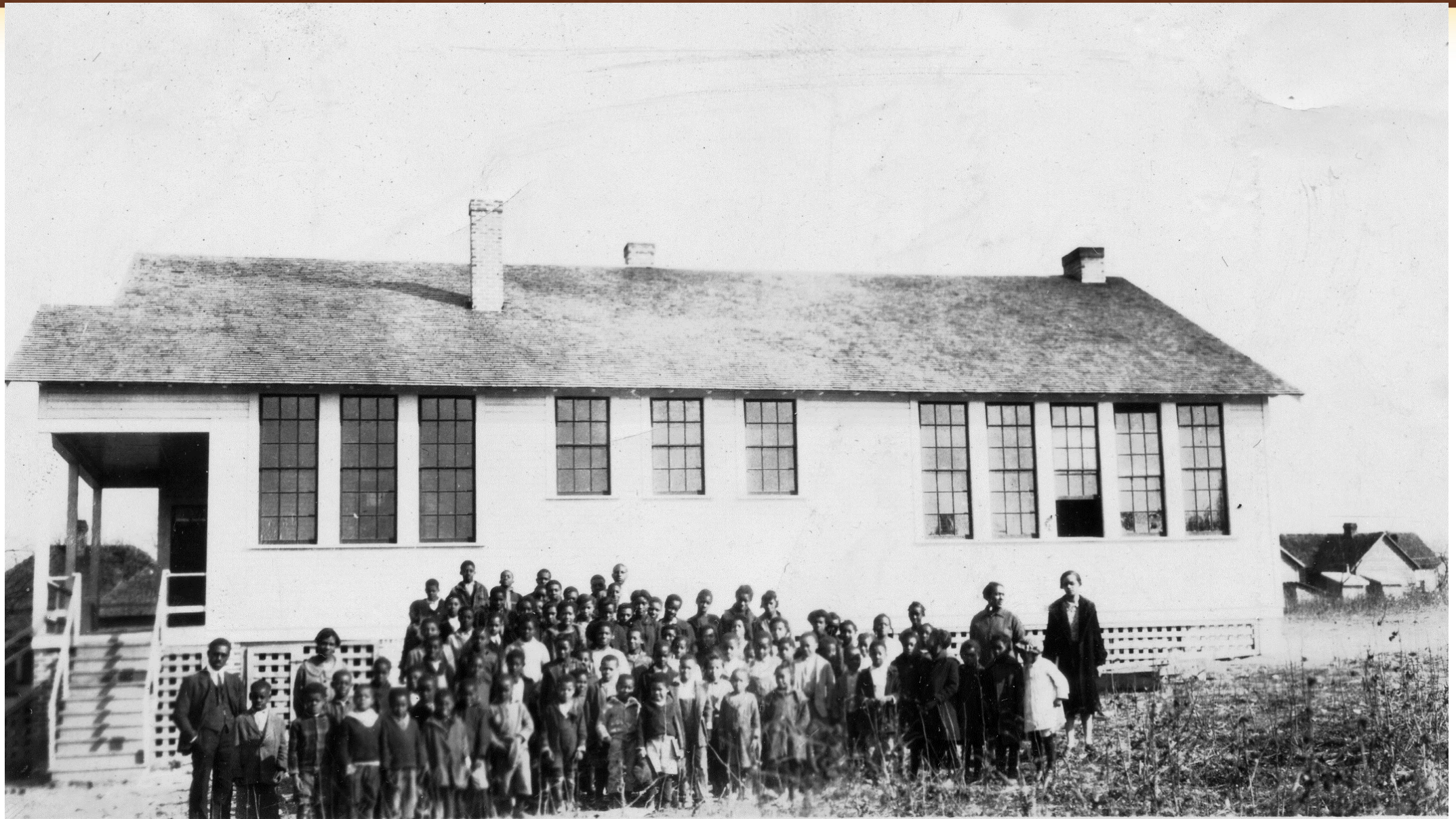
St. Stephen's School Front



Wadeville School Rear







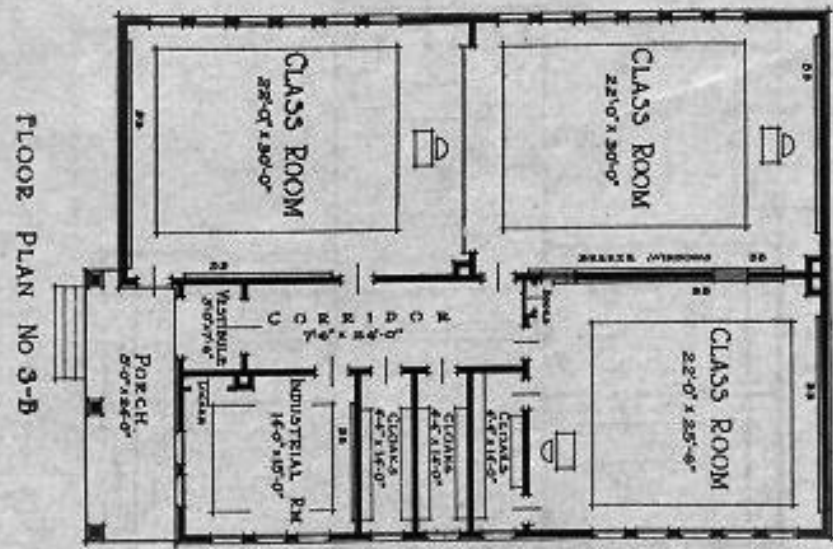
Troy Elementary School –
Rosenwald School Plan # 3-B





Troy School with rear of Douglass Hall left Background.





THREE TEACHER COMMUNITY SCHOOL
TO FACE NORTH OR SOUTH ONLY



THE JULIUS ROSENWALD FUND SCHOOLHOUSE CONSTRUCTION MAP

4354 COMPLETED BUILDINGS

JULY 1, 1928.



KEY TO MAP

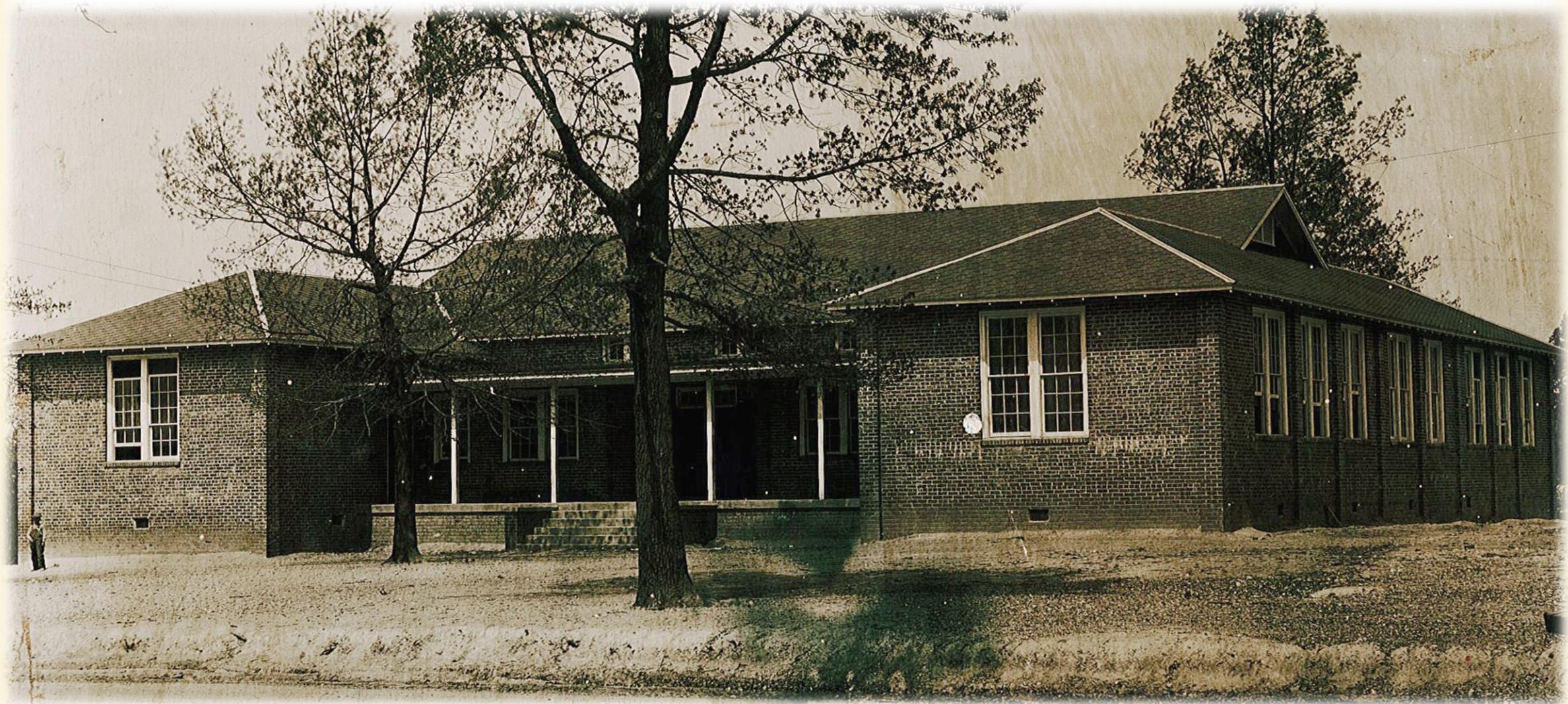
- School
- 2-story "Kaiser" School
- "Kaiser" School
- 1-story

THE JULIUS ROSENWALD FUND
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, BUILDING
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE
Issue No. 25, 1928

SUMMARY OF COMPLETED BUILDINGS

STATE	No. of Buildings	Capacity	Area (Acres)	Value (Dollars)	Cost (Dollars)	Percentage of Total
ALABAMA	228	7,735	9,973,400	5,735,750	4,312,500	20.12%
ARKANSAS	370	12,775	1,367,076	723,436	376,277	17.24%
FLORIDA	80	2,205	672,875	31,677	576,687	2.65%
GEORGIA	181	5,775	863,656	308,785	468,912	21.78%
KENTUCKY	127	2,000	526,320	60,447	579,500	2.65%
LOUISIANA	327	24,150	1,271,027	300,036	671,352	30.80%
MARYLAND	118	2,000	373,385	68,936	476,481	2.20%
MISSISSIPPI	477	7,444	66,896	2,128,546	771,250	35.40%
NORTH CAR.	651	12,635	2,100,756	602,748	70,943,672	3.20%
OKLAHOMA	124	2,300	175,000	25,450	479,746	2.20%
SOUTH CAR.	444	6,366	61,470	2,211,665	492,073	22.50%
TENNESSEE	304	7,790	27,300	1,061,511	240,796	11.00%
TEXAS	356	7,357	35,585	1,061,796	240,796	11.00%
VIRGINIA	227	3,777	49,266	1,420,046	240,796	11.00%
TOTAL	4,354	66,262	20,200	28,507,350	11,313,517	100.00%

PERCENTAGE AREA 58.5
PERCENTAGE COST 44.4
PERCENTAGE CAPACITY 16.4
U. S. FUND 16.4%



1912

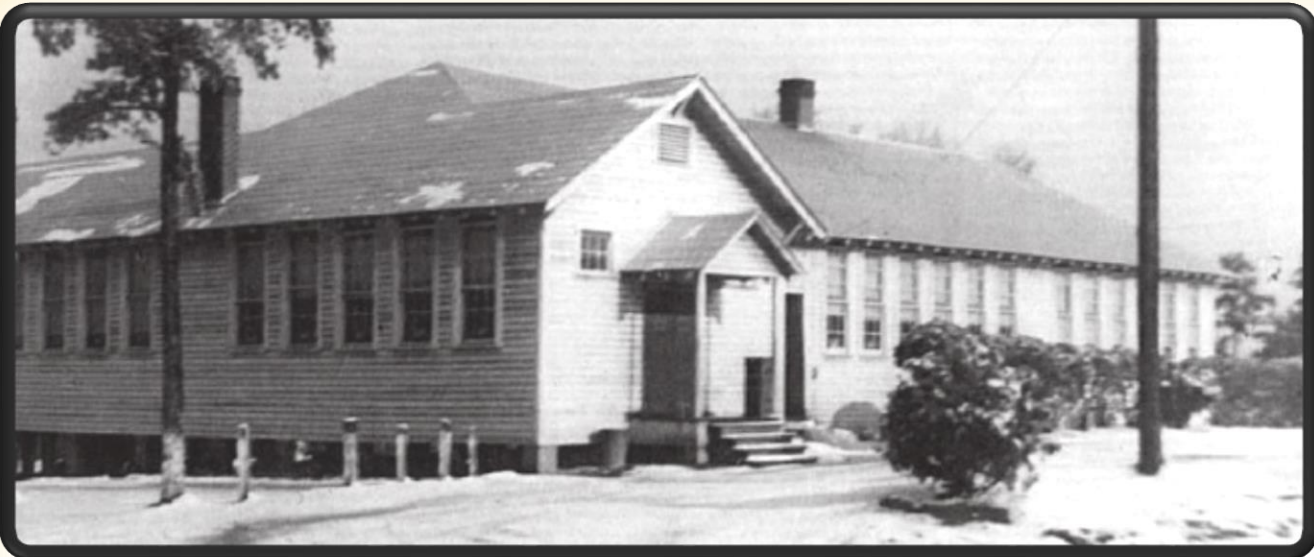




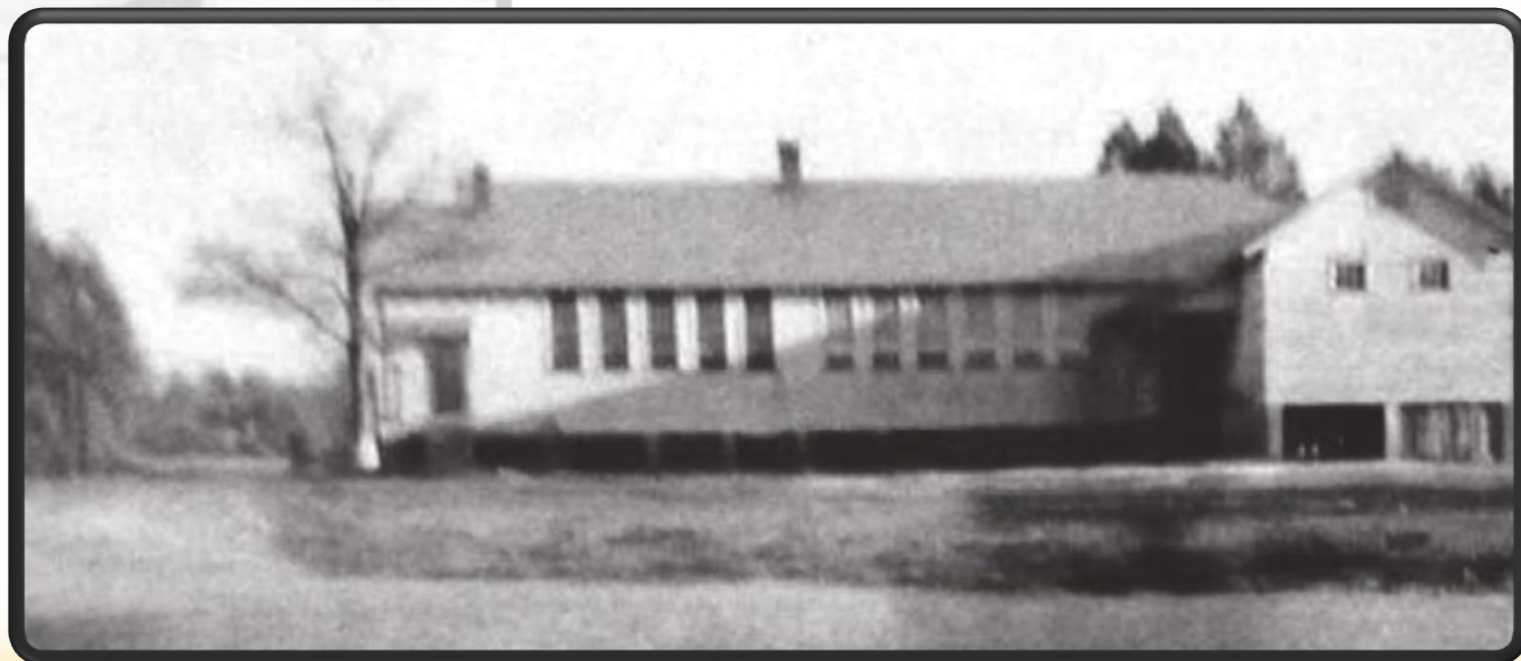








Mount Gilead Colored School-
Name changed to Mount Gilead
Negro School later.
In use until 1954



BROWN VS. BOARD
OF EDUCATION –
May, 1954



The Peabody Community residents went before the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners on September 7th, 1954, with a petition for the desegregation of Montgomery County Schools. Twenty seven people had signed the petition which was delivered by J. Kenneth Lee and George A. Lawson, the attorneys for the petitioners.

The petitioners were A. E. Thomas, Purty Thomas, Ada Butler, Hattie Stanback, Erie Green, Sam Butler, James Smith, Jessie N. Marshall, Henry Baldwin, Rushie McAuley, Trumella A. Diggs, A. D. Freeman, J. W. French, Oscar Thomas, Gladys K. Thomas, Sydney Thomas, R. D. Gainey, Bertie N. Hammond, Jass Cagle, Irene Martin, Daisy Harris, James Butler, N. W. Lowery, Flora Kelly Simmons, T. H. Simmons, Ernest Simmons, and George Simmons, President of the Peabody High School Parent-Teacher Association (P.T.A.)

“The above petition was presented to the board by J. Kenneth Lee and George A. Lawson, attorneys, requesting immediate desegregation of the county schools in accordance with the recent decision of the United States Supreme Court. This petition was read and heard by the board and the attorneys were advised that the board would take it under consideration and would give them some answer thereto within ten days. The Board of Education advised Attorney G.S. Garriss and Superintendent J. S. Edwards to take the above petition before the Attorney General of North Carolina for his advice. It was agreed by the board that this meeting adjourn until the thirteenth day of September, 1954 at which time an answer would be given to the above petition.”

THE PEARSALL PLAN

to

- *Save*
- *our*
- *Schools*

Here, briefly, is the Pearsall Committee plan to preserve North Carolina's public school system. It is the result of a hard, conscientious study conducted since the U. S. Supreme Court decision of May 17, 1954. This pamphlet does not attempt to answer every question. It is designed to give basic information. Full information may be obtained by writing the North Carolina Advisory Committee on Education, Room 357, Revenue Building, Raleigh.

Quoted from the bulletin:

1. What is the purpose of this Program?

A: It is an effort to preserve North Carolina's Public School System.

2. Why should we amend our state constitution?

A: It is necessary to amend the N.C. Constitution in order that the state Legislature can pass the necessary laws to protect the people against unacceptable mixing of the races and thereby assure public support of the schools.

5. If the people approve this program will my child be forced to attend school with a member of another race?

A: Emphatically NO.

6. Is this whole thing an effort to defy the U.S. Supreme Court?

A: It is not defiance. It is an attempt to stay within that decision, even though a great majority of our citizens disapprove of the Supreme Court's ruling...Etc.

Peabody Gymnasium built 1955

-Students of Peabody High & Elementary raised money for the erection of the gymnasium/auditorium by fund-raising. They sold candy, nuts, cookies, popcorn, freeze pops, fruit, magazine and newspaper subscriptions, produce, etc. to build the gymnasium.

-Pictured from left to right:

E.B. Coleman, Edgar Anderson, J.S. Edwards, R.T. Hoffman, and S.T. Hawkins

-Samuel T. Hawkins, graduate of Burlington City Schools and N.C. A & T University and Columbia University, became principal of Peabody in that same year, 1955.





1959. Our elementary schools were, at that time, deemed too small for consolidation.

Project #1 - The construction of the new West Montgomery High School, the new construction and alterations at Troy Elementary Schools, and the new construction and/or alterations at Peabody School.

Project #2 - The construction of the new East Montgomery High School, the new construction at Brutonville Elementary School, the new construction at Highland Elementary School, and alterations at Mt. Gilead Elementary School.

Advertisement for bids on June 6th, 1960. - Bids opened July 5th. Construction began on August 1st, 1960. - Buildings completed and accepted by the Board of Education, August 7, 1961.

West Montgomery: Wilson Property, Approximately 60 acres, Martin Property, Matheson Property south of Highway 27A, approximately 4 acres at a price not to exceed \$300 per acre.

East Montgomery: J.C. McCaskill Property 41.8 acres, B.B. Monroe Property 72.2 acres.

Approximate cost of the West Site : \$26,100.00

Approximate cost of the East Site: \$33,110.00

Total cost of land purchase : \$59,210.00

In summation - The plans for that great new consolidation was thus:

\$1,200,000 - for the proposed new consolidated high schools (including land purchases.)

\$290,000 - for the Troy, Star, Biscoe, Candor and Mt. Gilead Elementary Schools

\$260,000 - for Peabody School, Brutonville School, and Highland School.

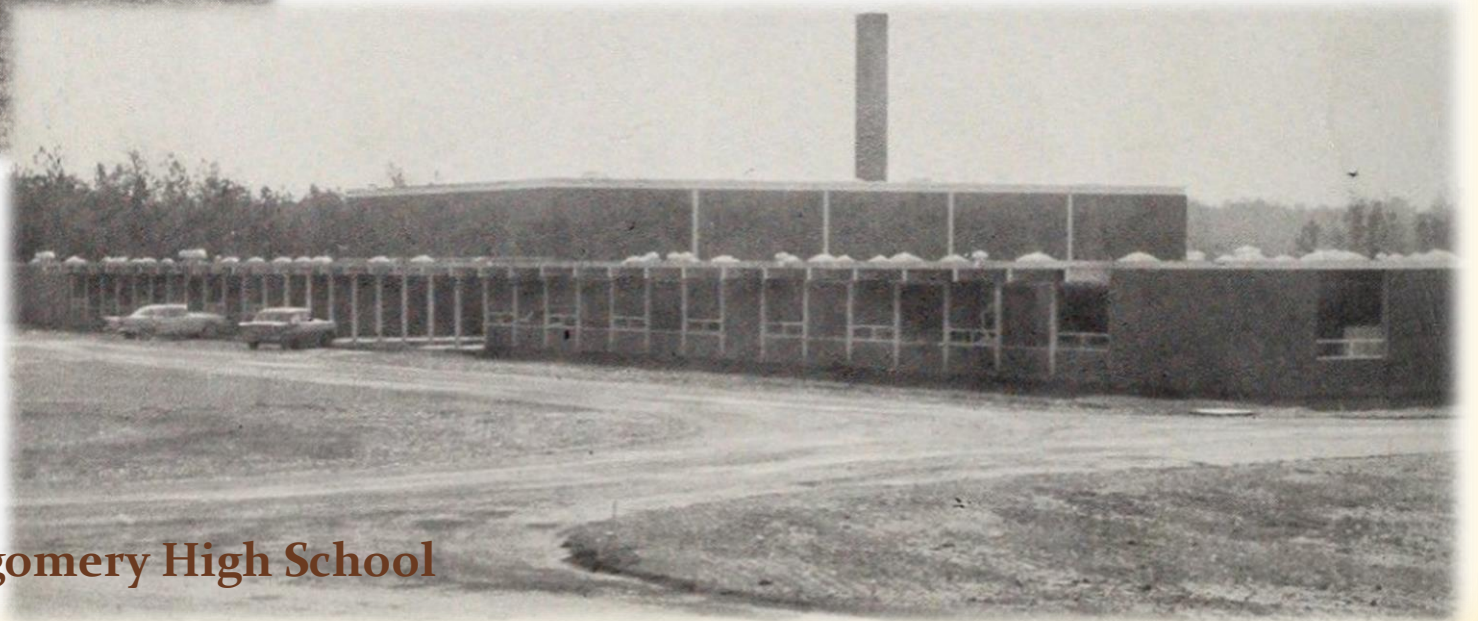
TOTAL:\$1,750,000.00

It may be noted that the white schools were appropriated \$1,490,000 for new buildings or improvements...the black schools received \$260,000. In light of these numbers, it is interesting to note that the schools were integrated almost completely by 1968.

West Montgomery High School



East Montgomery High School



Date, April 14, 1965

(Note: The following is a copy of the form which will be sent to each parent on Friday, May 7, 1965, which is to be returned by Monday, May 17, 1965).

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOLS
Troy, North Carolina

TO: Parents of All School Children in Montgomery County
FROM: Montgomery County Board of Education
DATE: April 7, 1965
SUBJECT: Pupil Assignment for 1965-66

In compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Montgomery County Board of Education hereby informs you of your freedom of choice to select the school in a designated attendance area that you wish your child to attend during the 1965-66 school year.

Please fill in the attached sheet and return to your child's home-room teacher within the next ten days. The deadline for turning these forms in is April 17, 1965.

The same form must be submitted to the local school for all children who will be six years old on or before October 16, 1965. This form may be obtained from the principal's office.

After receiving these forms, the Montgomery County Board of Education will assign your child to the school of your choice. No assignments made will be based on race, color, or national origin. Notification of the Board's decision concerning school assignments will be made prior to the close of the 1964-65 school year.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
School Assignment Request Form

Child's Name Last First Middle Date of Birth
Name of Parent or Guardian
Address
Present School Grade

Each of the five attendance areas in our county is served by two or more schools. Every child in our county may choose to attend the school of his choice that serves his attendance area. The attendance area and the schools serving each area are listed below. Please put a check mark in the box in front of the school that you would like for your child to attend.

Available Choices Within Attendance Areas

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| Star Attendance Area | Biscoe Attendance Area | Candor Attendance Area |
| Elementary Students: | Elementary Students: | Elementary Students: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Star | <input type="checkbox"/> Biscoe | <input type="checkbox"/> Candor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brutonville | <input type="checkbox"/> Brutonville | <input type="checkbox"/> Brutonville |
| High School Students: | High School Students: | High School Students: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> East Montgomery | <input type="checkbox"/> East Montgomery | <input type="checkbox"/> East Montgomery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peabody | <input type="checkbox"/> Peabody | <input type="checkbox"/> Peabody |
| Mt. Gilead Attendance Area | Troy Attendance Area | |
| Elementary Students: | Elementary Students: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mt. Gilead | <input type="checkbox"/> Troy | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Highland | <input type="checkbox"/> Peabody | |
| High School Students: | High School Students: | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> West Montgomery | <input type="checkbox"/> West Montgomery | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peabody | <input type="checkbox"/> Peabody | |

To be completed by school official
Date Received
By Whom Received Signature of Parent or Guardian

FREEDOM OF CHOICE PLAN



Montgomery County N.C. Board of Education examining the Compliance plan for the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Seated from left Howard Dorsett- Chariman, C. Wade Mobley, Superintendent. Standing From left, James A. Burt- Vice Chairman, Earle Connelly, Everette Freeman, and Ralph Lassiter.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY SCHOOLS

Troy, North Carolina

March 31, 1966

Dear Parent:

Our community has adopted a school desegregation plan as required by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. We will no longer have separate schools for children of different races. The desegregation plan has been accepted by the U. S. Office of Education under the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The plan requires **every** student or his parent to choose the school the student will attend in the coming school year. It does not matter which school the student is attending this year, and it does not matter whether that school was formerly a white or a Negro school. You and your child may select any school you wish.

A choice of school is required for each student. A student cannot be enrolled at any school next school year unless a choice of schools is made. This spring there will be a 30-day choice period, beginning March 31, 1966, and ending April 30, 1966.

A choice form listing the available schools and grades is enclosed. This form must be filled out and returned. You may mail it in the enclosed envelope, or deliver it by hand to any school or to the address above any time during the 30-day choice period. No one may require you to file your choice form before the end of the choice period. No preference will be given for choosing early during the choice period.

No principal, teacher or other school official is permitted to influence anyone in making a choice. No one is permitted to favor or penalize any student or other person because of a choice made. Once a choice is made, it cannot be changed except for serious hardship.

Also enclosed is an explanatory notice giving full details about the desegregation plan. It tells you how to exercise your rights under the plan, and tells you how teachers, school buses, sports and other activities are being desegregated.

Your School Board and the school staff will do everything we can to see to it that the rights of all students are protected and that our desegregation plan is carried out successfully.

Sincerely yours,

C. Wade Mobley
Superintendent

Enclosures



July 8, 1982
Demolition of Star Middle School for new
Star-Biscoe Elementary School building.







THE END...



...FOR NOW

"In the race of life we seldom see, the baton that's handed to you and me...The meaning and purpose of what's to be - the reason we're born, ... our legacy." - C. Pickernell