DEPARTMENT OF
ARCHIVES AND HISTORY
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
JACKSON

R. A. McLEMORE
DIRECTOR

# CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY

This is to certify that the microphotographs appearing on this reel are the accurate, complete and official reproductions listed on the target (title) sheet preceding each volume or series of records.

As reproduced by the Photo-Duplication Laboratory of the Department of Archives and History.

It is further certified that the microphotographic processes were accomplished in a manner and on film which meets with the requirements of the National Bureau of Standards for permanent microphotographic copy.

Richard A. McLemore

RICHARD A. McLEMORE, Director
Mississippi Department of Archives
and History
Jackson, Mississippi

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY
P. O. BOX 571
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI 39205

R. A. McLEMORE, PH.D., LIT.D.
DIRECTOR

Because of the diversity of sources and of the fallibility of human memory, it is suggested that documentary material be consulted in verifying data in this volume, as much of the information was obtained through personal interviews.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
For
Mississippi

Source Material
For
Mississippi History

Preliminary Manuscript

Walthall County

Volume LXXIV

Compiled by
STATE-WIDE HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
Susie V. Powell, State Supervisor

8/27/36

CORRECTED COPY

OF

ASSIGNMENT NO.I

Walthall County

I Source of Information

I. LIST OF OUTSTANDING POINTS OF INTEREST TO TOURISTS:

1. Unusual geological formations.
   (a) The County Agents and Surveyors say there are not any geological formations in the county.

2. Indian Mounds and Caves.
   (a) There is an Indian mound two miles north of Walker's Bridge in the swamps of the Bogue Chitto River, seven miles west of Tylertown on highway 24.

   (b) An Indian mound was found in the northern part of the county in the Dinan Community several months ago but was destroyed by WPA road builders, located eight miles North of Tylertown.

   (c) A small Indian mound lies south of China Grove half-way between the set lement road and the dry creek, on highway 24, Eight miles East of Tylertown.

3. Recreational facilities and parks.
   (a) The Armory in Tylertown furnishes a place for dancing, banquets, and various intertainments for Boys Scouts, National Guards and the young people of the town and the county. It is located in the Southern city limits near the Mississippi Power & Light Company.

   (b) Base-ball, foot-ball, and basket-ball are the only recreational facilities in the Tylertown and County schools.

4. Unusual hunting and fishing.

   (a) We find unusual quail hunting grounds in the cut-over lands in fields of the entire county.

   (b) Statum's lake a quarter of a mile North of Tylertown on highway 24.

(Cont'd on page No. 2)

formation



Unusual hunting and fishing (Cont'd).

   (c) Statum's lake a quarter of mile north of Tylertown on highway 24.

   (d) Bogue Chitto river on highway 84, seven miles West of Tylertown near the Pike County Line.

5. Scenic Beauties.

   (a) Brock's Swimming pool- artesian well with unusual over-flow is located on highway 34 three miles from the La. State Line.

   (b) Naturual place for swimming in Magee's Creek is noted for its clear water, rocky bottom is noted for its gradual deepness, for swimming and diving. During the summer months is crowded with the people and children of the town. It is located just above the bridge of Magee's Creek, on highway 84, east of Tylertown, just outside the city limits.

   (c) Beautiful sand bar on the Bogue Chitto river, one mile from Brock's swimming pool on a picturesque road overlaping with beautiful oaks and moss and filled in with the yukon trees for which this county is noted. It is located on highway 34 near the La. State Line.

   (d) Walker's Bridge is an old rusty bridge made of iron railings over a blue clear stream, and the approach on both sides is crowded with oak trees and moss. It is located on highway 24, Seven miles West of Tylertown and about three hundred feet from the Pike County Line.

   (e) Artesian well- this well is located near the La. State Line, highway 34, about 8 miles South of Tylertown at one of the most attractive old residence in the county. This residence is about one quarter of a mile off the Tylertown-Franklinton road on a flat plot with many large trees and the wayside is beautifully decorated with foliage that is low to the ground; these plants enjoy the added dampness that comes when the wind blows against the tremendous force of the large wheel that pumps water into a large tank.

WALTHALL COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

8/27/36

CORRECTED COPY

OF

ASSIGNMENT NO.I

Walthall County

I Source of Information

I. LIST OF OUTSTANDING POINTS OF INTEREST TO TOURISTS:

I. Unusual geological formations.
(a) The County Agents and Surveyors say there are not any geological formations in the county.

2. Indian Mounds and Caves.
(a) There is an Indian mound two miles north of Walker's Bridge in the swamps of the Bogue Chitto River, seven miles west of Tylertown on highway 24.

(b) An Indian mound was found in the northern part of the county in the Dinan Community several months ago but was destroyed by WPA road builders, located eight miles North of Tylertown.

(c) A small Indian mound lies south of China Grove half-way between the set lement road and the dry creek, on highway 24, Eight miles East of Tylertown.

3. Recreational facilities and parks.
(a) The Armory in Tylertown furnishes a place for dancing, banquets, and various intertainments for Boys Scouts, National Guards and the young people of the town and the county. It is located in the Southern city limits near the Mississippi Power & Light Company.

(b) Base-ball, foot-ball, and basket-ball are the only recreational facilities in the Tylertown and County schools.

4. Unusual hunting and fishing.

(a) We find unusual quail hunting grounds in the cut-over lands in fields of the entire county.

(b) Statum's lake a quarter of a mile North of Tylertown on highway 24.

(Cont'd on page No. 2)

Formation

 List of outstanding points of interest to tourists.

Unusual hunting and fishing (Cont'd).

(c) Statum's lake a quarter of mile north of Tylertown on highway 24.

(d) Bogue Chitto river on highway 24, seven miles West of Tylertown near the Pike County Line.

5. Scenic Beauties.

(a) Brock's Swimming pool- artesian well with unusual over-flow is located on highway 24 three miles from the La. State Line.

(b) Naturual place for swimming in Magee's Creek is noted for its clear water, rocky bottom is noted for its gradual deepness, for swimming and diving. During the summer months is crowded with the people and children of the town. It is located just above the bridge of Magee's Creek, on highway 24, east of Tylertown, just outside the city limits.

(c) Beautiful sand bar on the Bogue Chitto river, one mile from Brock's swimming pool on a picturesque road overlaping with beautiful oaks and moss and filled in with the yukon trees for which this county is noted. It is located on highway 24 near the La. State Line.

(d) Walker's Bridge is an old rusty bridge made of iron railings over a blue clear stream, and the approach on both sides is crowded with oak trees and moss. It is located on highway 24, seven miles West of Tylertown and about three hundred feet from the Pike County Line.

(e) Artesian well- this well is located near the La. State Line, highway 24, about 8 miles South of Tylertown at one of the most attractive old residence in the county. This residence is about one quarter of a mile off the Tylertown-Franklinton road on a flat plot with many large trees and the wayside is beautifully decorated with foliage that is low to the ground; these plants enjoy the added dampness that comes when the wind blows against the tremendous force of the large wheel that pumps water into a large tank.

WALTHALL COUNTY, FORMATION

CITIZENS OF UNUSUAL NOTE:

(1) Dr. R. E. Sylverstein, first Mayor and the present Mayor, established the first school system of this county.

(2) J. C. Rimes, promoter for the Red Cross and other civic interest of the town.

(3) Seth E. Ginn, the unfortunates friend, is the present Chancery Clerk and has always been a friend to mankind.

(4 ) The Lamptons established the first bank, and have the oldest mercantile business in town.

(5) The McDonalds are some of the oldest settlers and have done much in helping build up the county.

(6) Burk Bauls has promoted the lumber industry in this county.

(7) Dr. A. B. Harvey established the first hospital in this county in 1926.

(8) S. E. Honea, owner of the Ford Industry, has always had interest in the county.

(9) Jno. A. Packwood, promoter of Agriculture, and has always had the interest of the county at heart.

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF:

Mrs. Vivian Packwood Stubbs.
Vivian Packwood Hobbs,
Walthall County Supervisor of
Historical Research Work

Formation

Walthall



WALTHALL COUNTY

Historical Research Project

March 20th, 1936.

Assignment: "FORMATION OF THE COUNTY".

Canvasser: Alma Bilbo.

I. FORMATION OF COUNTY

Walthall County, whose County seat is Tylertown, is located in southeast Mississippi. It is one of the newest counties in the State, having been created from Marion and Pike in 1910 but owing to legal technicalities, did not set up its local government until 1st Monday in May, 1914. It was obtained by a bill passed in the legislature to permit the vote on it by election.

Laws of 1910, pp. 278 ff.

II. SHAPE

The shape of the county is very much like a boot. The major part of the county has a rolling topography. Bogue Chitto River bordering the county on the west affords several hundred acres of river bottom land. The northern part of the county has fewer streams, thus affording a more general sloping topography.

III. SIZE

It has a total area of 404 square miles.

(a) Boundaries Get definite original boundaries

Space

The County is bordered on the North by Lincoln County and Lawrence County, South by Louisiana and the East by Marion and West by Pike County.

WALTHALL COUNTY, FORMATION

WALTHALL COUNTY
Historical Research Project
March 20th, 1936.
Assignment: "FORMATION OF THE COUNTY".
Canvasser: Alma Bilbo.

IV. Name and Nick Name (if any)

Walthall County was named for Gen. Edward Cary Walthall, an American lawyer, born in Richmond, Va., April 4th, 1831, received a fair education and was admitted to the bar in 1852 and began practice in Coffeeville, Miss. He won the title of Major General in June 1862 during the civil war. He was in law practice in Grenada, Mississippi, in 1871-1885 when he was appointed a U. S. Senator to ~~fill out~~ the unexpired term of Lucius J. C. Lamar, was then elected for a full term in 1888 and in 1892. He was chairman of the committee on the Improvements of the Mississippi River and on Public Lands. He died in Washington, D. C., April 21, 1898.

V. COUNTY SEAT OR SEATS

The County seat of this territory is Tylertown. Tylertown is located on a tract of land originally acquired by J. Thornhill, Sept/ 20, 1816. By custom the place came to be called Tylertown and the post office was changed to that name in honor of W. G. Tyler. Tyler came from Boston, Mass. and was an artillery soldier under Gen. Andrew Jankson in the war 1812 and 1815 against the hostile greeks and their

formation



WALTHALL COUNTY
Historical Research Project
March 20th, 1936.
Assignment: "FORMATION OF THE COUNTY".
Canvasser: Alma Bilbo.

British allies and participated in the battle of New Orleans in 1815 which settled the fate of the English arms in America. He was a splendid blacksmith and molded the small martars used to fire salute on public occasions. His wife was Mary Conerally whom he married in St. Helna Parish, Louisiana. Tylertown is the only incorporated town in the county. The population is 1103. Dr. R. E. Sylversteir is the mayor.

VI. EARLY SETTLEMENTS

The early settlements in the County are China Grove, Sartinsville, Darbun, and Magee's Creek, now Tylertown, of which have interesting histories.

China Grove was first settled and owned by Ralph Stovall in 1815. He settled on land about one-quarter of a mile from where the China Grove School house and church have stood since established. At the foot of a steep elevation there is a splendid free-stone cold water spring east of the church that formed an over-flowing branch which bubbled on down westward and emptied into Magee's Creek. This spring and branch afforded ample water for domestic

WALTHALL COUNTY
Historical Research Project
M rch 20th, 1936
Assignment: "FORMATION OF THE COUNTY"
Canvasser: Alma Bilbo.

purpose and for stock. At this period of the first settlement of the community under the Stovall regime, the church erected here belinged to the Baptist denomination. There was a grove of china trees set out in the grounds around the school-house which was a little log building, (the original church house), and the church yard, which gave it the name of China Grove.

Ralph Stovall employed John Barnes, the grand-father of Major Sartin, and constructed a set of mills over Magee's Creek about one mile southwest from the church and his residence run by water power.

These mills consisted of an up-right saw, a cotton gin and press, a rice pestle mill and fan, for cleaning and a grist-mill. It was built across the streams at the foot of a bluff, which afforded a good embankment on the east side. Dury and Henry Stovall, brothers of Ralph, settled a few miles North of China Grove at this same period. Richard Ratcliff settled there in 1817, Benjamin Yon ngblood in 1816, Ben Jones in 1818, and Joseph Thornhill in 1812.

Formation



WALTHALL COUNTY
Historical Research Project
March 20th, 1936.
Assignment: "FORMATION OF THE COUNTY".
Canvasser: Alma Bilbo.

In 1882 Owen Conerly and his brother, Rev. and Dr. Luke Conerly, emigrated from North Carolina, Duplin County. They married sisters. Owen married Mary and Luke married Rebecca, daughters of William Wilderson, and Elizabeth. The latter left no issue. Owen and Mary married January 14, 1808 in the town of Fayetterville, North Carolina. When they came to Mississippi Owen Conerly purchased all of Ralph Stovall's property at China Grove. Rev. and Dr. Luke Conerly settled near by in Marion County on the head-waters of the Pushepatapa, in the vicinity of Waterhole Church. After this the church house property which had been used by the Baptists, being included in the act of sale, was turned into a Methodist Church. The childred of Owen Conerly and Mary Wilkerson were Cullen, William W., John R., Eliza, Owen, Emily, Luke (died early), Catherine (died early), Mary Jane and James, Mellissa, and Susan (died early).

This During the early period of China Grove there were few post offices, mostly located in the county seats of Justice. There was none at China Grove until 1836, when the first post office was located through the efforts of Col. William B.

WALTHALL COUNTY
Historical Research Project
March 20th, 1936.
Assignment: "FORMATION OF COUNTY".
Canvasser: Alma Bilbo.

Ligon at his plantation on Magee's Creek, a few miles south of China Grove, and he was made postmaster. It was given the name China Grove Post Office throuth him. It was subsequently moved to Raifords Store, three miles nearer the church, and afterwards in the fifties was moved to Packwood's Store, about three-quarters a mile from the church. China Grove is about equal distance from Holmesville and Columbia, and the residence of Owen Conerly being located at the crossing of the Monticello and Covington road and the Holmesville-Columbia road, made it a central and convenient stopping place for travelers. Owen Conerly and Mary Wilkerson and five sons; Hohn R. (Jackie), Cullen, William, Owen and James, and three daughters; Eliza Emily, and Mary Jane and they all became settlers on Magee's Creek or near it. Owen Conerly Sr. kept his mill in operation attended by his son, Owen Jr. until his death, about 1848 after which the property was sold at administrators sale and fell in the hands of Neeham B. Raiford, the Methodist minister, who at that time filled the pulpit at China Grove. Owen Conerly, Sr. and his brother Luke were among the organizers and principal supporters of the Methodist church. At this place up to the death of the former and the removal of the latter to Western Louisiana in 1848.

Formation



WALTHALL COUNTY
Historical Research Project
March 20th, 1936.
Assignment: "FORMATION OF THE COUNTY".
Canvasser: Alma Bilbo.

After the sale of his father's China Groves property and the mill, (Owen Conerly, Jr. having purchased a place higher upon Magee's Creek, settled by John Gordan in 1817, erected a saw, to Thomas J. Conerly, a blacksmith, who named these places "Possum Trot" from which the "Possum Trot" road leading from there to Tylertown derived its name.)

Citizens of China Grove were farmers, who came from English, Scotch and Irish stock. Many of them migrated to this section from South Carolina; others came form New England States.

In addition to farming at which many of them prospered the citizens operated several saw mills.

China Grove has almost faded away as the only remains is the old church and one or two old homes. The post office which was established in 1836 has been discontinued, the school abandoned. The church, a one-story frame structure built in 1854 is no longer used except for funerals. This building has a balcony, which in pre-war days was used by the slaves, who, like their masters, attended church regularly.

WALTHALL COUNTY
Historical Research Project
March 20th, 1936.
Assignment: "FORMATION OF THE COUNTY".
Canvasser: Alma Bilbo.

-SARTINSVILLE-

In 1813 Sartins church was established by John Sartin; Joseph Newsom, James Reed, John May, Joseph May, Owen Elliott, and Stephen Ellis. This community is now known as Sartinsville. Stephen Ellis was a school teacher and minister of the gospel and was one of the prime movers for the establishment of a church of peeled logs and was used as a house of worship, a day school and a Sunday School with Stephen Ellis as the Minister, Teacher and Superintendent.

Schools have been maintained at China Grove and at Sartinsville almost continously since the settlement of this section. Among the teachers who served in the community were Joseph Smith, Partick McCelping, Charles and Jeseph Bancraft. There were pay schoods supported by parents of the children. At this time there was no public school system in the state. All the schools were supported by tution fees given the teacher There was a public school fund which the law provided should be distributed in proportion to attendance of each student,

formation



WALTHALL COUNTY
Historical Research Project
March 20th, 1936.
Assignment: "FORMATION OF THE COUNTY".
Canvasser: Alma Bilbo.

which was paid to the parents of the pupils, but so small as to count but little.

-TYLERTOWN-

Tylertown, the only incorporated town in Walthall county, was first known as Magee's Creek Settlement and also Magee's Settlement in generally considered as a part. Cullen Conerly went there in 1850 and became owner of a tract of land, bought a small sote known as Garland Hart Sote and established a post office which was called Conerly's Post Office for many years according to available history. Tylertown is located on a tract of land originally acquired by J. Thornhill, Sept. 20, 1816. Tylertown has always been considered a part of Magee's Creek, though the village as now located is on Dry Creek which empties into Magee's Creek a short distance below. Its first settlement dates back to the emigration of the Magees and Thornhills.

Tylertown was named for William G. Tyler. Tyler came here from Boston, Mass. and was an artillery soldier under General Andrew Jackson in the was of 1812 and 1815 against the hostile Greeks and their British allies and participated in the battle of New Orleans (Chalmette) in 1815, which

WALTHALL COUNTY

Historical Research Project

March 20th, 1936.

Assignment: "FORMATION OF THE COUNTY".

Canvasser: Alma Bilbo.

settled the fate of the English armies in America.

During the time that this country was being settled and Tylertown growing into a town, Walthall County, as a county, did not exist. This land, now known as Walthall County, was part of Marion and Pike counties until 1914 when it set up its local govennment.

- DARBUN -

Darbun Creek, from which Darbun derived its name, one of the head tributaries of Magee's Creek got its name from Colonel McGowan, an eccentric bachelor, who settled there with his brother, Elizah McGowan in 1815, along with Drury and Henry Stovall, frothers of Ralph Stovall, the founder of the China Grove Settlement, Richard Ratcliff, and Harrison Bracey. They were all slave owners and progressive and sus-cessfur cotton planters.

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF:

Vivian Packwood Hobbs

VIVIAN PACKWOOD HOBBS,
COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF
HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

:E

formation

WALTHALL COUNTY

2nd copy

NOMENCLATURE

HISTORICAL NAMES

Walthall County was named for Colonel Edward Cary Walthall, one of Mississippi's most distinguished figures. He was born in Richmond Va. in 1831. He was known as General Walthall, having won this title by hard fighting and leadership wuring war.

Tyl rtorn is the only incorporated town in the county. Tylertown was named for William G. Tyler, one of the early settlers. Tyler came here from Boston, Mass. and was an artillery soldier under General Jackson during the War 1812 and 1815.

Across the Bogue Chitto River there is an iron bridge, known as the Stallings Bridge. The Bridge acquired this name from an old man James Stallings who settled on the banks of this river more than one hundred years ago. He reared a large family here.

There is a bridge just below Stallings Bridge, which is over the Bogue Chitto River and is known as Dillons Bridge. In 1873 an old man by the mane of Richard Dillon settled near this bridge, thus acquiring the name. A postoffice and store was once at this place. It was then known as Dillontown.

Walkers Bridge was built over Bogue Chitto River in 1880. This bridge derived its name from an old man by the Name of John A. Walker who lived near this bridge years ago. Walker was Supervisor of county at that time. It is said this was the first iron bridge built in this section.

WALTHALL COUNTY, FORMATION

Magees Creek flows down through the central part of the county. This creek was named for John Magee, one of the oldest settlers of the county.

Carters Creek flows through the Northwest part of the county. This creek was named for John Carter, who used to own and operate a mill on this Creek near where it runs into Topisaw.

Collins Creek two miles east of Tylertown, was nemed for Chauncy Collins, an early settler. He settled on this creek about 1842. (See Chap. 15 Old Homes.)

Darbun Creek, in the Northeastern part of the county was named by Colonel McGowen, who was among the first settlers along this creek in 1851.

Kirkland Creek that runs the southeastern part of the county was named for an old settler Joe Kirkland, who lived on this creek. A postoffice was once on this creek, but it was called Kirklin as there was already one postoffice in the state by the name of Kirkland.

There is a Creek in the Northern part of the county by the name of Beaver Dam Creek. It was so called because many years ago, when beavers were plentiful in this county they built a dam of trees across this creek.

About two miles east of Tylertown., on the east side of Magees Creek, there is an extra large bluff that is known as Lover's Mountain.

A mile north side of Highway # 24 near Walkers Bridge there are some steep hillsknown as Turkey Ridge. It is said years ago turkeys were plentiful on this ridge. Men came for miles around to hunt them. They would put corn at the roots of trees then hide



and kill the turkeys as they came to get the corn.

There is a large tract of land that is North of Kiota, known as Wolf's Ridge. This land was so called because wolves were trapped on this land. This land is known to be the poorest in the county. Most of the land is not good for a pasture, land being rolly and stoney. For this reason only a few negroes have settled in this section. Several wells have been dug here to secure drinking water but failed to reach a vein of water. It is said from six to eight families had to bring water from a great distance.

About fourteen miles from Tylertown, in the Northern part of the county there is a hollow known as Wolf Pit Hollow. Years ago when wolves were plentiful in this section, the men dug a pit in this hollow at the foot of a steep hill. The wolves would come running down the hill and jump into the pit, thus they were captured in this way.

INDIAN NAMES

Bogue Chitto River is said to be an indian name, and that it was named by the Choctaw Indians, who used to have a trail along this river. Indian graves and mounds are to be found along this river above Walker's Bridge. (See Assignment #4).

There is a Creek in the Southern part of the county, near the Lexter Community by the name of Pushepatapa, which was named by the Indians. (See Assignment # 4.)

Near Kiota there is a family by the name of George Wingo. This is supposed to be an indian name.

FAMILY NAMES

James Decree and Lizzie Goodman are unusual names. They were

WALTHALL COUNTY, FORMATION

the first colored couple to be married after Walthall County was formed. The license being issued May 15th, 1914.

There is a family by the name of Shoemaker living in the eastern part of the county. Josh Tarbutton, oldest negro slave of this county. Ollie Coon, all these are unusual names.

The following names are prominent in early history of the county: Ellis; McGowan; Thornhill; Connerly; Sandifer; Magee; Stovall; Packwood; Smith; Holmes; Harvey; Grubbs; Sartin; Collins; Dillon; Raiford; Stallings; Lampton; May; Cothern; Tyler; Dunnaway and Brumfield.

MISCELLANEOUS

Across the Northern part of the county there is an old road that was called the Summit and Hammond Ferry Road. The early settlers used this road to haul provisions from Summit. As there was no bridge at that time across Pearl River they used a ferry boat at Jack Hammond's place. (See Assignment #23 Transportation ).

There is a gravel highway that leads from Thlertown to the North eastern part of the county known as the "Possum Trot Road." Years ago there was a cotton gin, saw mill and grist mill on this road. It was owned by Owen Conerly and Thomas J. onnaly, some of the early settlers of this county. Thomas J. Connally named this road Possum Trot.

A dangerous curve on a dirt road about a mile west of Stalling's Bridge is called "Dead Man's Curve." This curve is so called because



there are such steep hills that a complete elbow curve had to be made in the road, so no one can see another person approaching.

Kirklin School is named for Joe Kirkland. Sartinsville Church and School named for an old settler John Sartin. China Grove Church named by Wm. B. Ligon, and early settler, who was a wealthy farmer, merchant and served as postmaster. A grove of China Trees was set out here thus acquiring this name.

Midway-the Midway Community gets its name from a School that was named Midway, as it was supposed to be located on a central point between old Chapel Hill and Dillon Schools.

Darbun gets its name from Darbun Creek.

References: Fred Sartin; Henry Wood; L. W. Thrornhill; J. W. Brumfield Luke Connerly's History of Pike County."

WALTHALL COUNTY, FORMATION

2nd copy 4/18/39 Walthall Co

Page I

Historical Research

Assignment : Formation Chapter

Reference: Magnolia Gazette - Volume- 33-34 for 1910-11
Magnolia Gazette - 1914-15.

Historian: Ruby Dean Williams

Typist: Grace McElveen

INTRODUCTION

From Luke Conerly's History of Pike County, we find that this county was origionally occupied by the Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Natchez Indians. From what we can learn they had no permanent settlements but traveled from place to place. Very little is known of them from a historical standpoint. Though several Indian mounds have been found throughout the county.

FORMATION

Walthall County was officially established and Government set up, Monday, May 4, 1914. A full set of officers were appointed by Governor Brewer. These men were to hold office until the next regular election in 1915, and to qualify on the first Monday in January, 1916. The first officers for the new county were as follows: County Attorney, J.M. Alford;

Page II

Sherriff, S.A. Simmons; Chancery Clerk, C.H. Carruth; Circuit Clerk, B.B. Breeland; Supt. of Education, J.J.Lee ; Surveyor, J.L. Yarborough; Treasurer, Ollie Bridges ; Coroner and Ranger, Charles Patton; Tax Assessor, C. Carl Ball; Supervisors, Willie McDaniel, Tom Jones, D.M. McElveen,(President), A.D. McGuffie, Webster Dunaway. These officers were sworn into office on May 4, 1914.

Four of the five members of the board of supervisors had served on the boards of Pike and Marion counties, so the work to be done by them was not new to them. Mr. D.M. McElveen, who was made President of the board, had served as president in Pike county for a number of years.

In January 1910 a large delegation headed by J.C. Rimes of Pike County, and Albert Patton of Marion County, called on Governor Noel and urged him to recommend an act creating the new county of Tyler, from parts of Pike and Marion. This proposal had the approval of all the Representatives and Senators of Pike and Marion Counties, with the exception of Rep. Yates of Marion, and at this time Gov. Noel refused to recommend the suggested legislation. There was very

WALTHALL COUNTY, FORMATION

little opposition to the formation of this new county from Pike, but quite a bit from Marion, led by Yates. Some of the petitions to the Governor on this subject, show people residing in the territory demanded from Marion County, opposing this proposal, because they thought there would be a decided increase in taxes, which they could not afford.

This bill was presented to the Senate by State Senator M.C. McGehee. It was then turned over to a committee on local and private legislation which gave a favorable report. The fight pro and con was made mostly by Senator Bilbo and Rep. Yates. The bill for the new county passed the Senate by a vote of 23 to 1, with an amendment to change the name of the proposed new county from Tyler to Walthall, in honor of the distinguished Mississippi Statesman of that name. This was agreed upon without objection. The only decided protest against the new county came from the people of Marion. At this time through the efforts of Rep. Yates the bill was again defeated.

WALTHALL COUNTY, FORMATION



On March 10, 1910, there was another decisive defeat of the bill to form Walthall County out of portions of Pike and Marion. But on the next day, Friday, March 11, the bill passed by a vote of 57 to 28.

On Thrusday afternoon when the news of defeat reached Tylertown, the county seat of the prospective new county, the leading citizens of the town formed a delegation and promptly set out for Jackson. It was then 4;00 P.M. and the regular Fernwood and Gulf Train had departed but the delegation boarded a construction train and reached the I.C. railroad. Arriving at Fernwood they found the early night train going north had already gone. The delegation walked up the railrodd track from Fernwood to McComb in time to catch the 10:30 train north. Early the next morning they were out at work seeing Representatives and urging their claims. When the bill was again put to a vote it passed by a majority even greater than that which defeated it the day before. The bill, having been passed in both the Senate and House, must still be put to the vote of the ppople in the parts of the two counties to be dismembered.

On April 22, a vote was taken by the people of the parts of Pike and Marion Counties which were to become Walthall, and even though there was a majority vote in favor of the formation of the new county, it was defeated because of illegal ballots cast in Marion County. The following Monday a hearing was set, the Walthall promoters being represented by Judge J.H. Price Of Magnolia, and the Honorable J.M. Alford of Tylertown; and those opposing the county scheme had retained the law firm of Mounger and Mounger, of Columbia. There was conclusive evidence of fraudulent voting in Slades' precinct, and these votes were thrown out entirely. This having been a majority vote for the county, threw a small majority of votes against the formation of Walthall County. This settled the matter for another four years, as section 260 of the State Constitution provides that elections for the purpose of determining the will of the people shall not be held oftener than once every four years.

After four years of unceasing work on the part of the people of what was to become the new county, another vote was taken. On Wednesday April 22, 1914, and election was held in conformity to the act of the Legislature, in those sections of Pike and Marion Counties,



which were to constitute the new county of Walthall. Those favoring the creation of Walthall, outvoted the opposition by a majority of 228 votes. All that was then lacking to make Walthall County an accomplished fact was the proclamation by Gov. Brewer which was to be made in the near future. This proclamation was made almost immediately by the Gov. and on Saturday, April 25, government was officially set up.

## SIZE, SHAPE, BOUNDERIES

Walthall County covers an area of 404 square miles, 296 square miles having been taken from Pike County and 108 square miles from Marion County. In shape Walthall County is somewhat like a square cut boot. There is some few irregularities on the East side. On the East it is bounded by Marion County, on the West by Pike County, on the South by Washington Parish, La., and on the North by Lawerence County.

Walthall County was named for General Edward Cary Walthall, who was born in Richmond, Va., in 1931. He was known as Gen. Walthall, having won this title by hard gighting and leadership. The first name chosen for this county was Tyler for William G. Tyler,

one of the early settlers. Tyler came here from Boston, Mass., and was an Artillary soldier under Gen. Jackson during the war of 1812-15. Just before the bill passed making Walthall a county an amendment was made changing the name to Walthall in honor of Gen. Walthall.

The County Seat of Walthall is naturally Tylertown, as that has always been the only incorporated town in the territory which is now Walthall C County. As has already been stated, the first officers of the county were appointed by Gov. Brewer.

Historical Research

Assignment: Formation Chapter

Reference: Magnolia Gazette --- Volume 33-34.
Magnolia Gazette---- 1914-15

Historian--- Ruby Dean Williams

Typist---- Grace McElveen

WALTHALL COUNTY, FORMATION

Introductory remarks of Mayor G.H.Collins, at the Installation of Officers of Walthall County May,4th,1914.

" My friends and Fellow Citizens, and Appointees of Walthall County: we are here today to engage in one of the most signal events that has ever occured in our midst; an event which is fraught with grave and far reaching consequences and grave responsibilities; and event which marks the culmination, the consumation and the fruition of a long cherished hope; an event which which signalizes the addition of another bright star in the galaxy of Counties of the grand old State of Mississippi; an event, my friends, which marks the beginning of a new era in our social, economic and political relations.

" The future of Walthall County, for weal or for woe, my friends, depends largely upon the principles and purposes that guide these who are to man the new barque on its initial voyage: we have confidence in your wisdom, your ability and your purposes, and we here and now, bespeak for you the co-operation and support of every citizen of the new County in the discharge of the great trust which is about to be committed to you.

" The peace, happiness and prosperity of the people, and the perpetuity of our institutions and our Government, rests largely, if not entirely, in the hands of those who administer its affairs. Let us therefore now, entertain the fond hope, and earnestly and devoutly pray, that the affairs of the New County of Walthall, are about to be committed to hands, and that they may ever remain in such hands, as will insure the guidance unto a glorious destiny."

Historical Research.

Assignment - Formation Chapter.

Refrence - Vol. #1 Minutes of Board of Supervisors.

Historian - Ruby Dean Williams.

Typist - Grace McElveen.

April 14, 1939.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY Sixth District.

ASSIGNMENT # 17: AGRICULTURE -------HORTICULTURE

DATE: DECEMBER 28, 1936.

CANVASSERS: LUCY THORNHILL AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, (NYA)

IMPORTANCE OF AGRICULTURE IN COUNTY

Agriculture is considered the most important means of livehood for the people of this county, especially the poorer class. Some of the best class of our people are farmers and very good ones.

There is very little employment to be had in this county other than the farm affords. During the summer some of the farm hands get out cord wood and cross ties which are shipped out of the county. This mass of people are almost wholly dependent on the soil for their living.

The approximate acreage of county land in farms is 178,000 acres. There is a larger per cent of cultivated land in Walthall county than any of the hill counties.

Crop rotation is one of the means of soil building on our farmlands. Some farmers plant leguminous plant crops and adds more fertility to the soil. Terracing is an important factor in preserving the fertility of the soil as most of it is hill land. Some farmers haul in fertile soil from the woods and put in poor spots of soil. Some turn under the green forage crops to rot and improve the soil. Large amounts of commercial fertilizers are used.

Cotton, corn, cane, potatoes, peas, beans, oats, hay and a wide variety of vegetables thrive on this soil.

EARLY HISTORY OF AGRICULTURE



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 17: AGRICULTURE-----HORTICULTURE

DATE: DECEMBER 28, 1936.

CANVASSERS: LUCY THORNHILL AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, (NYA)

COTTON (CONT'D)

The census report shows that there were 16,224 bales of cotton ginned in Walthall County from the crop of 1936 prior to October 18, as compared with 15,320 bales ginned to October 18, crop of 1935.

REFERENCE: Tylertown Times, Vol., XXIX

November 5, 1936 Issue.

CORN AND FORAGE CROPS

Corn and forage crops plays an important part on our farms. We use corn for food both green and dry. It is used to feed poultry and all live stock. Forage crops are very useful to use as food for stock. Corn and forage crops are not marketed in this county to a great extent. What is sold is used by other farmers in this county.

TRUCK FARMING

For the past few years truck farming has been one of the farmers' way of making some ready cash on a small acreage. They highly fertilize the ground and harvest a good crop. This money comes in when most farmers are having to trade on the credit. Cabbage, beans, cucumbers, spinach, tomatoes, potatoes and okra are sold. Some of these vegetables and probably a few others are sold on the local market. Approximately $75,000 of truck is sold on the local and out of town markets in this county yearly. Canning plants from out of the county usually send in a buyer for the vegetables, and they are shipped out by trucks and trains.

In our home gardens, beans, peas, cucumbers, tomatoes, corn, okra, beets, cabbage

WALTHALL COUNTY, FORMATION

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 17: AGRICULTURE----- HORTICULTURE

DATE: DECEMBER 28, 1936.

CANVASSERS: LUCY THORNHILL AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, (NYA)

TRUCK FARMING(CONT'D)

are the main vegetables that are conserved. These are canned in both glass and tin cans. Some women have pressure cookers to can with, which is the best way to can while some has to the cold pack method or any way that they can to keep the food. Beans and peas are dried and used for food.

POULTRY AND LIVE STOCK

Almost every home in the county has poultry for the home use. Poultry is not raised for the market on such a large scale. Some farmers buy baby chicks and raise them to put on the market as friers. We only have a few poultry farms in the county that sell eggs on the market. Most of the eggs that are on our market comes from the homes where they have only a few chickens. Some sell their surplus eggs in order to be able to buy necessities for the home.

Livestock is grown in this county for home use, and also for the market. We have several good dairies in this county. Milk is trucked to town, and left at the cooling plant, then when cooled is shipped out of the county. Approximately $150,000 of milk products are sold to the Louisiana market each year.

Beef is grown for home use and also for the market. Many of our farmers are now canning their beef for home use instead of selling it at a cheap price, then buying it back from the butcher at a high price.

Hogs are raised more in this county for food than sheep and goats. Hogs are raised for home use and also the markets. A few farmers have sheep and goats to be placed on the market.

D

6

ASSIGNMENT NO. 28 " NOMANCLATURE"

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

THIRTEENTH AREA

JUNE 1, 1937

WALTHALL COUNTY, FORMATION

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT #28 "NOMaNCLATURE"

DATE: JUNE 1, 1937

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL. HISTORICAL NAMES

Walthall County was named for Colonel Edward Cary Walthall,one of Mississippi's most distinguished figures. He was born in Richmond Va. in 1831. He was known as General Walthall, having won this title by hard fighting and leadership during war.

Tylertown is the only incorporated town in the county.Tylertown was named for William G. Tyler, one of the early settlers. Tyler came here from Boston, Mass. and was an artillery soldier under General Jackson during the war 1812 and 1815.

Across the Bogue Chitto River there is a iron bridge, known as the Stallings Bridge. The bridge acquired this name from an old man James Stallings who settled on the banks of this river more than one hundred years ago.He reared a large family here.

There is a bridge just below Stallings Bridge, which is over the Bogue Chitto River and is known as Dillons Bridge. In 1873 an old man by the name of Richard Dillon settled near this bridge, thus acquiring the name.A postoffice and store was once at this place. It was then known as Dillontown.

Walkers Bridge was built over Bogue Chitto River in 1880. This bridge derived its name from an old man by the name of John A. Walker who lived near this bridge years ago. Walker was Supervisor of county at that time.It is said this was the first iron bridge built in this section.

Magees Creek flows down through the central part of the county. This creek was named for John Magee, one of the oldest settlers of this country.

Carters Creek flows through the Northwest part of the County. This creek was named for John Carter, who used to own and operate a mill on this Creek near where it runs into Topisaw.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT #28 "NOMANCLATURE"

DATE: JUNE 1, 1937

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL. HISTORICAL NAMES (Cont'd)

Collins Creek two miles east of Tylertown, was named for Chauncy Collins, an early settler. He settled on this creek about 1842.( Ref; Assignment# 15 "Old Homes" )

Darbun Creek, in the Northeastern part of the county was named by Colonel McGowen, who was among the first settlers along this creek in 1851.

Kirkland Creek that runs the southeastern part of the county was named for an old settler Joe Kirkland, who lived on this creek. A postoffice was once on this creek, but it was called Kirklin as there was already one postoffice in the state by the name of Kirkland.

There is a Creek in the Northern part of the county by the name of Beaver Dam Creek. It was so called because many years ago, when beavers were plentiful in this county they built a dam of trees across this creek.

About two miles east of Tylertown., on the east side of Magees Creek, there is an extra large bluff that is known as Lover's Mountain.

A mile north side of Highway #24 near Walkers Bridge there are some steep hills known as Turkey Ridge.It is said years ago turkeys were plentiful on this ridge. Men came for miles around to hunt them. They would put corn at the roots of trees then hide and kill the turkeys as they came to get the corn.

There is a large tract of land that is North of Kiota, known as Wolf's Ridge.This land was so calleed because wolves were trapped on this land. This land is known to be the poorest in the county.Most of the land is not good for a pasture, land being rolly and stoney.For this reason only a few negroes have settled in this section.Several wells have been dug here to secure drinking water but failed to reach a vien of water. It is said from six to eight families had to bring water from a great distance.

WALTHALL COUNTY, FORMATION

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT #28 "NOMANCLATURE"

DATE: JUNE 1, 1937

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL. HISTORICAL NAMES (Cont'd)

About fourteen miles from Tylertown, in the Northern part of the county there is a hollow known as Wolf Pit Hollow. Years ago when wolves were plentiful in this section, the men dug a pit in this hollow at the foot of a steep hill. The wolves would come running down the hill and jump into the pit, thus they were captured in this way.

INDIAN NAMES

Bogue Chitto River is said to be an indian name, and that it was named by the Choctaw Indians, who used to have a trail along this river. Indian graves and mounds are to be found along this river above Walker's Bridge. (Ref. Assignment #4 )

There is a Creek in the Southern part of the county, near the Dexter Community by the name of Pushepatapa, which was named by the Indians. (Ref. Assignment #4)

Near Kiota there is a family by the name of George Wingo. This is supposed to be an indian name.

FAMILY NAMES

James Decree and Lizzie Goodman are unsual names. They were the first colored couple to be married after Walthall County was formed. The license being issued May 15th, 1914.

There is a family by the name of Shoemaker living in the eastern part of the county. Josh Tarbutton, oldest negro slave of this county. Ollie Coon, all these are unsual names.

The following names are prominent in early history of county; Ellis; McGowan; Thornhill; Connerly; Sandifer; Magee; Stovall; Packwood; Smith; Holmes; Harvey; Grubbs; Sartin; Collins; Dillon; Raiford; Stallings; Lampton; May; Cothern; Tyler; Dunnaway and Brumfield.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT #28 "NOMANCLATURE"

DATE: JUNE 1, 1937

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL. MISCELLANEOUS

Across the Northern part of the county there is an old road that was called the Summit and Hammond Ferry Road. The early settlers used this road to haul provisions from Summit. As there was no bridge at that time across Pearl River they used a ferry boat at Jack Hammond's place. ( Ref. Assignment #23 " Transportation )

There is a gravel highway that leads from Tylertown to the North eastern part of the county known as the "Possum Trot Road ". Years ago there was a cotton gin, saw mill and grist mill on this road. It was owned by Owen Conerly and Thomas J. Connally, some of the early settlers of this county. Thomas J. Connally named this road Possum Trot.

A dangerous curve on a dirt road about a mile west of Stalling's Bridge is called " Dead Man's Curve ". This curve is so called because there are such steep hills that a complete elbow curve had to be made in the road, so no one can see another person approaching.

Kirklin School is named for Joe Kirkland. Sartinsville Church and School named for an old settler John Sartin. China Grove Church named by Wm. B. Ligon, an early settler, who was a wealthy farmer, merchant and served as postmaster. A grove of China Trees was set out here thus acquiring this name.

Midway- the Midway Community gets its name from a School that was named Midway, as it was supposed to be located on a central point between old Chapel Hill and Dillon Schools.

Darbun gets its name from Darbun Creek.

Reference; Fred Sartin; Henry Wood; L. W. Thornhill; J. W. Brumfield

Luke Conerly's ,"History of Pike County"

Alma Bilbo- County Historian

WALTHALL COUNTY, FORMATION

Entered by

SCHOOLS - Walthal County

| NAME | DATE FOUNDED | LOCATION | SIGNIFICANCE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Kirklin | | | Named for Joe Kirklin early settler. |
| Sartinsville | | At Sartinsville | Named for Community |
| Mesa | 1900 Information- County School Records. | Mesa Community | High Point of county. |
| Lexie | | Lexie Community | Named for daughter of Wess Holmes. (Information-F.Sartin) |
| Dinon | | | Named by Mr. D. Andrews for fine bird dog. (Information- F.Sartin) |
| Marion-Walthall (Cons.) | July 13, 1920 (Walthall Co. school records) | Marion-Walthall County line | Line school. Marion, Walthall. |
| Ginndale(Negro) | July 11, 1925 (Walthall co. school records) | Four miles west of Tylertown. | Located on property owned by Ginn family. |

Information gotten fxom county school records; Fred Sartin; C.I. Brumfield.

Ruby Dean Williams-- Historian

Grace McElveen--- Typist.

COUNTY - Walthall -

| NAME | DATE FOUNDED | LOCATION | SIGNIFICANCE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Walthall | Created from Pike and Marion in 1912, but did not set up local gov. until 1914. | Southwest district of Mississippi, adjoining the La. line. | Named for Gen. Edward Cary Walthall, an American lawyer. |
| | | TOWNS | |
| Tylertown** The only incorporated town in Walthall County. | | | Named for W.G. Tyler, an early settler who served under Gen. Andrew Jackson in the war of 1812- 1815 |
| | | COMMUNITIES | |
| China Grove | Settled and owned by Ralph S Stovall in 1815 | | Named for grove of China trees set out by Stovall. |

WALTHALL COUNTY

COMMUNITIES, (Con'td) — Walthall County

| NAME | DATE FOUNDED | LOCATION | SIGNIFICANCE | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sartinsville | [illegible] | | Named for early settler John Sartin. | |
| Darbun | 1815- Settled | | Named [illegible] for Darbun creek, which was named by Col. McGowan. | |

PRODUCT OF Amfile EST. 1868 KANKAKEE, ILL. AMBERG FILE & INDEX CO.

WALTHALL COUNTY, FORMATION

Copy

Written

(1)

HISTORICAL RESEARCH WORK

WALTHALL COUNTY

pubj file - 2

ASSIGNMENT NO. 4

4/14/36

(2)

(6)

WALTHALL COUNTY, TOPOGRAPHY

OUTLINE

I. WATER-SHEDS

a. Name of rivers, creeks, etc. Origin of names.
b. Direction of flow, into what stream do they flow.
c. Effect on county, on health, soil, etc.

II. ELEVATION

a. Highest point (Where)
b. Lowest point "
c. Bottom lands "
d. Prairie lands (and flat-wood regions)
e. Rugged regions.

III. LAKES - MARSHES - BAYOUS

a. Effect on; temperature, health, soil, etc.

IV. SPRINGS, WELLS, AND MINERAL WATERS

A. Springs (Where found)
b. Wells
   1. Ordinary wells
   2. Artesian wells
c. Mineral waters
   1. Kind, analysis, where found.

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

APRIL 14-1936

ASSIGNMENT: " TOPOGRAPHY OF WALTHAL COUNTY ". (#4)

CANVASSER : ALMA BILBO

I. WATER-SHEDS:

The Bogue Chitto river is the only river in the County. It is located in the extreme east ~~of~~ part of Walthall County and the origin of its name was derived from an Indian name. This stream takes its rise from a multitude of springs and branches that come out North and West of Brookhaven, in Lincoln County, Bogue Chitto, and Johnson's Station and flows in a south-easterly direction through Walthall County and Washington Parish. ~~This~~ It ~~stream~~ empties into Pearl River in St. Tammey Parish, Louisiana.

Magee's Creek, the largest tributary of Bogue Chitto, derived its name from early settlers of this county. It flows Southward and empties into the Bogue Chitto river.

Pushapatapa Creek originated from an Indian name. This stream flows southeast and empties into Pearl River in Louisiana.

Collin's Creek is located two miles southeast of Tylertown and acquired its name from Chauncey Collins, who was an early settler over a hundred years ago.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

APRIL 14- 1936

ASSIGNMENT:: " TOPOGRAPHY OF WALTHALL COUNTY "

CANVASSER : ALMA BILBO

Beaver Dam Creek is located in the southern part of this county and its name was obtained because the beavers maintained a dam across the stream for a number of years. This streams flows northwest into the Kirklin Creek.

Darbun Creek, one of the head tributaries of Magee's Creek, ~~and~~ got its name from Col. McGowan, an eccentric bachelor, who settled there in 1815. This creek flows northeast and into Magee's Creek.

(The above statements were rendered by Mr. G. C. Ball, Civil Engineer and Ex-Assessor of Walthall County).

The effects of creeks and rivers on the county are that these streams which are fed by springs carrying pure water, affords an abundant supply for livestock throughout the county as well as for domestic use. These streams also add to the recreational facilities in the way of swimming, fishing and boat-riding.

Since there are few stagnant ponds, lakes and marshes in this county all the rivers, creeks and streams branch out from pure

WALTHALL COUNTY, TOPOGRAPHY

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

APRIL 14- 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "TOPOGRAPHY OF WALTHALL COUNTY"

CANVASSER : ALMA BILBO.

water springs they afford good health to the people living in this county. (2) (For reference: Dr. B.L. Crawford, County Health Officer)

The soil in Walthall County is the most fertile in the State of Mississippi because of the unusual overflow of these streams. This being a hilly section and the land being well drained, agriculture has made a wonderful progress in this county.

II. ELEVATION: (Reference: Dr. B. L. Crawford, Co. Health Officer). and; G. C. Ball, Civil Engineer, Ex-Assessor.)

We find the highest point of elevation to be four miles West of Tylertown at Mesa, which is approximately 325 feet above sea-level.

The lowest point of elevation in Walthall County is at Simon, near the Louisiana line, nine miles south of Tylertown, which is approximately 260 feet below sea-level.

Since this section is all very hilly and of equal elevation we do not have any bottom lands, prairie lands, and rugged regions.

(Reference: G. C. Ball- Civil Engineer, Ex-Assessor).



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

APRIL 14-1936

ASSIGNMENT: "TOPOGRAPHY OF WALTHALL COUNTY"

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

III. LAKES: MARSHES : & BAYOUS:

Packwood's Lake is the only lake of importance in the county, and it not being very large has no special effect on temperature, health, and soil.

We do not have any outstanding lakes and marshes in this county.

(Reference: G. C. Ball, Civil Engineer-Ex-Assessor).

IV. SPRINGS, WELLS, AND MINERAL ~~WELLS~~ Waters:

Springs:

There is a pure, clear water spring found at Lover's mountain on the old Grubbs place, now owned by Rev. Murray, about two miles North of Tylertown. Many people visit this spring and it is noted for its pure, clear water ~~and its gradual deepness.~~

Another spring is found on the old Chauncey Collins place, about two miles southeast of Tylertown, which has been used for many generations.

(Reference: G. C. Ball, Civil Engineer-Ex-Assessor

WALTHALL COUNTY, TOPOGRAPHY

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

APRIL 14-1936

ASSIGNMENT: "TOPOGRAPHY OF WALTHALL COUNTY"

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Assg 4 Written

Wells:

The ordinary wells in the rural districts vary from 10 to 200 feet in depth. This county has a large number of ordinary wells, most of which furnish pure water.

Artesian wells are found in the lower levels of the county, in the valleys of Magee's Creek and Bogue Chitto river. These wells are known as flowing wells and range from a depth of 175 to 1400 feet.

A fine over-flowing artesian well is found on Vic tor Holmes' place, three and one-half miles south of Tylertown. This well is 175 feet deep. The Ball brothers of Tylertown has a fine artesian well which affords enough water to furnish the many homes in Tylertown. This water is specially noted for its purity.

(Reference: G. C. Ball, Civil Engineer- Ex-Assessor).

Mineral Wells-

An over-flowing artesian well is found at Saul's mill. The water from this well is used by physicians of county for treatment of liver and kidney diseases. It contains sulphur, iron, magnesia, litha and soda.

(Reference: Dr. B. L. Crawford, Co. Health Officer)

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF: Vivian Packwood Hobbs
SUPERVISOR OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH WORK
WALTHALL COUNTY- TYLERTOWN, MISSISSIPPI.

WALTHALL COUNTY, TOPOGRAPHY

PRODUCT OF Amfile EST. 1868 KANKAKEE, ILL. AMBERG FILE & INDEX CO.

ASSIGNMENT NO. 25.

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT.

THIRTEENTH AREA.

---

MAY 11, 1937.

WALTHALL COUNTY, TREES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

ASSIGNMENT #25 "TREE SURVEY" Page # 1.

WALTHALL COUNTY

DATE: MAY 6, 1937.

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL. TREE SURVEY

I- There's an old Indian Trial that grosses the southwest corner of Walthall County. This tral was later called the Holmesville and Covington road. This being used to haul produce to the Covington Markets years ago.

Besides this trail on the old J. M. Elezey place there stands an old water oak that is about 7 ft. in circumference. J. N. Barnes owns the land where the tree stands.

It is thought to be money buried near the roots of this old tree. Many people have dug here hoping to find a "pot of gold" years ago. It is said that a farmer carried his produce over this road to Covington. He sold his produce and also his team. He was returning home on horseback, as night was approaching he deceided to bury his money before askung to spend the night at one of the farm houses. It was thought that he buried his money at the roots of this tree

this old man took sick and died that night and was unable to tell anyone where the money was so that they could find it.

I- There's an old black Walnut Tree on the old Richard McDanul place that has been there for years. This old tree is about 75 ft. high and about 5 ft. in circumference. This old tree has been struck by lightening four or five times and failed to kill it.

ASSIGNMENT # 25 "TREE SURVEY"

WATHALL COUNTY

DATE: MAY II, 1937.

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

TREE SURVEY

I- It is still bearing an abundant crop of Walnuts. This farm is now owned by H. S. Rush near Stallings Bridge on the Bogue - Chitto river.

II- There's an old post oak of Heorge Brock's place that is about I50 years old. This is on the old Brock Homestead. This oak stands near the barn and is about 7ft. in circumference.

There's an old Pecan Tree on the old Stallings place at Stallingss Bridge that is thought to be over I00 years old. This old tree is about 6 ft. in circumference and stands near the old Stallins house that is now used for a farm shed by Henry Ginn who owns the place. This old house is one of the oldest in the Connty being there during the Civil War.

Crepe Myrtle Trees are in front of this house that has been there since the Stallins lived there and they still bloom each year.

There's an old post oak tree on the old Sibley place that Julius Bacot now owns. It stands near the house. It is said to have been a small tree about a ft. in circumference when the old Sibley home was built about 90 years ago. Its about 6 ft. in cirvcumference



TREE SURVEY (CONT'D)

II- Behind this house in the pasture is the place where the Sibley's lived before building their new home. At this old place there stands Crepe Myrtle that is covered with beautiful flowers each year. They are over I00 years old.

On the old Ben McClendon place, an old slavery place, there stands several old cedars that are thought to be over I00 years old. They are about 3 ft. in circumference.

Thesis owned by S. N. Morgan of Carter's Creek. These trees have been trimmed up add to their beauty. (Ref: Walter Holmes & S. N. Morgan.)

At the old Chauncey Collins home about a mile southwest from Tylertown there stans an old cedar tree that has been standing over 60 years. This tree was planted by Mrs Daniels whenShe was a small child. This tree is about 3 ft. in circumference. The huge branching of this tree almost hides the view of the house.

On the old Ben McClendon place at Carters Creek there stands a very large old oak. McClendon owned several slaves and was thought to have been a very wealthy old bachelor. As banks were scarse at this time this man used betwsen two large roots of this tree to bury his money. He blazed a place so he could find the place where he buried the money The owner of this old home, S. N. Morgan wished to keep these old trees but a thoughtless tenant killed the tree as they were sapping the land. This tree is ab out 8 ft. in circumference.

II- The first store that was built in Tylertown belonged to Walter Lampton in I869. The Business was known as B. Lampton & Son. There's an old oak tree standing in Dr. B. F. Crawford's yard that stood near this old store. It was there at the time that the store was there. Its a beautiful water oak, around its are planted flowers and ferns. Its about I2ft. in circumference.

WALTHALL COUNTY, TREES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

ASSIGNMENT # 25 " TREE SURVEY "

WALTHALL COUNTY

DATE: MAY 11F: 1937.

TREE SURVEY (CONT'D)

When Marion Lee bought the Jessie K. Brumfield place located two miles north of highway 24 on Boguechitto river. He put out a number of fruit trees. Back of the house there are two pear trees that are still standing that bear fruit every year. These trees are 60 are 60 years old. These trees have never been treated any way which makes them very unusual. The place is now owned by J. E. Pigot. He often puts strong oak ashes at the roots of the trees, which she thinks will keep away disease. Mrs. Lee put out a Crepe Myrtle that is every year loaded with beautiftel flowers. At the side of the house there is an old Wisteria Vine that Mrs. Lee put out that is about 3 ft. in circumference. The vine has been saved off about two ft. from the ground several times and sprouted out anew, and each spring is covered with flowers. It has also been there 60 years.

II- About the most Historical trees we have in Walthall County are lowated at Walkers # Bridge on Bogue Chitto river. These trees are large water oaks. The circumference of these trees are about I2 ft. They are all covered with moss, everybody passing has to notice the unusual beauty of these trees.

(Ref. to first store. C. Hinson & J. C. Rimes.)

Alma Bilbo

ALMA BILBO
Historian
Historecal Research.

WALTHALL COUNTY, TREES

PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

Summit-The municipal water supply at Summit is obtained from two wells, each 110 feet deep, capacity 27 strokes per minute, 1½ gallon to a stroke. Centripital pump 450 gallons per minute. (Well No. 15). The water has its source in typical sand and gravel of the Citronelle formation. The log of a typical shallow well on the upland 7 miles northwest of Summit is given below:

Log of well of C. W. Chisholm 7 miles northwest of Summit (No. 16)

(Authority, C. W. Chisholm)

| | Thickness | Depth |
|---|---|---|
| Citronelle formations: | Feet | Feet |
| Clay | 20 | 20 |
| Red sand | 20 | 40 |
| Light-colored sand | 10 | 50 |
| Quicksand | 10 | 60 |
| Light sand and fine gravel; water bearing | 5 | 65 |

Osyka.-The town of Osyka is provided with a municipal water supply derived from a well which penetrates a water-bearing sand in the Hattiesburg clay at a depth of 500 to 580 feet (No. 14). The well is located 400 yards southeast of the Illinois Central Railroad station at the edge of Tangipahoa River bottom, at an altitude of about 240 feet above sea level. The well was originally drilled to a depth of 1,510 feet but apparently failed to find an adequate supply below the stratum indicated. The water flows from the well at the rate of 35 or 40 gallons a minute into a ground reservoir that holds 43,000 fallons.

Incomplete Copy 6

ASSIGNMENT #7

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH

APRIL 29,1936

WALTHALL COUNTY / SOILS & MINERALS

# OUTLINE

ASSIGNMENT: #7

I. SOILS

1. The Principal soil-forming material in your county. (Such as limestones and marls, calcareous, clay soils).
2. List soil types, as based on similar origin, similar color, structural characteristics, surface features and drainage. (Sand, clay, rock, sholes, slates, silts, etc.)
3. If you can list all the series of soils that may be found in your county, as: Granada series, Pheba soils, Lexington soils, Montrose series, and any other soil series you may have. Give characteristics of each.
4. State briefly the value of each type as to crop raising, grazing, timber crop or any other value.
5. Commercial Stones; Building Stones; Iron Sandstones, Hydraulic Limestone, etc.
6. Petrified Rock
   (If found to any great extent give area found and state kind of fossils. Consult Technical Bulletin No. #7 - "The Soils of Mississippi" by Wm.H. Logan, Agricultural College, Miss.)

II. MINERALS

1. Metalic minerals
   (a) Iron
      1. Bessemer ores
      2. Non-Bessemer ores

   State in a narrative for what these iron ores are particularly useful, as mineral paints or for iron manufacture.
   (b) Aluminum
      1. Kind of ore

   (Consult Mississippi Geological Survey Bulletin No. 19)
2. Non Metallic Minerals.
   (a) Cement Resources
   (b) Lignite
   (c) Clays, kinds (Such as red or brick clay, white clay.)
   (d) Special Clays (Fullers earth)

   In each ~~statement~~ case write a statement or two about the various uses these different types of clay are used.
   (e) Bentonite
   (f) Other minerals (1) Silica (2) Ochres
   (g) Sands, for glass manufacture and pottery
   (h) Mineral waters
   (I) Oil and Gas



ASSIGNMENT: #7

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

TOPIC: " SOILS AND MINERALS "

DATE: April 29, 1936

I. SOILS -

(1) The principal soil-forming material in Walthall County is that of clay sub-soil with a rich sandy loam. While in the Western part of the county the sediments are a bit calcareous; the general formation consists of clay, sand, and ~~very locally~~ gravel.

(Reference: G. C. Ball, Civil Engineer, Ex-Assessor)

(2) The texture of the soil is quite uniform being that of a fine sandy loam, but there are small areas nearly pure clay and others of a very sandy nature. However, two general types of soil may be recognized: A gray sandy loam, and a brownish loam. There are also some small areas of gravelly soils. The gray soil has a yellow sandy clay sub-soil from which the soil has been derived. The brownish loam originates by the weathering of a red sandy soil which forms its sub-soil. The gray sandy loam of the uplands contain about 65% of sand, mostly fine, about 30% silt, and 5% of clay. As a rule the gray soil occupies the more level areas and the brown soil the rolling and broken lands. The brown sandy

WALTHALL COUNTY, SOILS & MINERALS

ASSIGNMENT: #7

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

TOPIC: "SOILS AND MINERALS"

DATE: APRIL 29, 1936

loam contains more coarse and medium soil than the gray loam.

Because of the rolling nature of the lands and the open texture of the soils, the natural drainage is good. (Ref. G.C. Ball, Civil Engineer & Bulletin- "Mississippi Soils"

(3) Listing the soils in series according to : Granada series, Pheba soils, Lexington soils, and Montrose series, is so textual that we have been unable to find anybody to tell us these, nor do we have any available books, bulletins, etc. that we could get this information from.

(4) The general surface of the area of Walthall County is high and rolling with moderately high ridges and on the slopes rapid erosion follows deforesting and poor tillage. However, on the whole, the soil in Walthall County is more fertile than that of any other part of Mississippi othern than the Delta regions (which is caused by the overflow of the Mississippi River) and agriculture is the chief industry of the county, which has a semi-tropical climate and a rich soil.

The brown upland soils of this area are generally low in the amount of some of the mineral plant foods. The average amount of Phosphorus, Potassium and lime is far below the minimum estimate for a productive soil; hence it is that these soils respond



ASSIGNMENT: #7

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

TOPIC: " SOILS AND MINERALS"

DATE: APRIL 29, 1936

readily to applications of phosphate and yields average crops of cotton, corn, and foreage crops. Trucking crops of potatoes, both sweet and Irish, turnips, cucumbers, cabbage, and tomatoes do well,

The bottom soils of this area usually contains slightly larger amounts of phosphorus, lime and nitrogen than the upland soils.

The virgin soils of this region generally contain only a small amount of organic matter and this is exhausted by a few crops of cotton or corn. Restorative crops must be used to maintain the nitrogen content of the soil. The most economical way of restoring the humus to the soil is by growing leguminous crops such as lezpedeza, cowpeas, soy beans, or velvet beans, feeding these to livestock and returning the manure to the soil.

Bermuda and carpet grass are the principal grasses for pasture. The ground is sown or sodded with Bermuda one season and the next is plowed up and sown with oats; thus the land is kept in a continuous rotation of profitable crops during the entire year and, at the same time, permits cattle to graze in comfort the whole year round, except during the period of killing frost which range from November 10th to March 10th. (Reference: O. B. Elliott, County Agent & G. C. Ball- "The Soils of Mississippi" (Bulletin).

WALTHALL COUNTY / SOILS & MINERALS

ASSIGNMENT: #7

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

TOPIC: "SOILS AND MINERALS"

DATE: APRIL 29, 1936

This region is particularly noted for its long-leaf pines, hardwood, and some poplar trees; most of which have been cut-over, but these types of soils together with the elevation, drainage, and climate join to produce a numerous output of timber from the young growth of trees so rapidly growing off.

(Reference: G. C. Ball- Civil Engineer, Ex-Assessor) and Surveyor.

(5) We do not have any Commerical Stones, Building Stones, Hydraulic Limestones, etc. in this county. We have a small amount of Iron sandstones but not of commercial value.

(Ref. G. C. Ball- Civil Engineer, Ex- Assessor)

(6) Except for very rare cases we do not find petrified rock in this county. The fossils of these few are all of land plants and animals (except, of course, the fossils derived from the earlier formations).

(Ref. "The Soils of Mississippi"
G. C. Ball, Civil Engineer-Ex-Assessor).

II. MINERALS:

(1) There are no mineral deposits, Metalic minerals or Non-Metallic minerals, in Walthall County such as ores, Aluminum, etc.

(Ref. Mississippi Geological Survey Bulletin No. 19



ASSIGNMENT: #7

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

TOPIC: " SOILS AND MINERALS"

DATE: APRIL 29, 1936

(2) We do not have any non-metallic minerals except a small amount of clay and one minor artesian well of mineral water.

This clay is of no commercial value and is very irregular and the formations ranges from brick-red through various pinks, purples, oranges, and yellows, to white.

We have one artesian well of small capacity that contains some portions of sulphur, soda, litha, iron and magnesia, and is sued by some of the physicians of this county as an aid in treatment for liver and kidney diseases.

(Reference: Dr. B. L. Crawford, Co. Health Officer).

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF:

Mrs. Vivian Packwood Hobbs.

MRS. VIVIAN PACKWOOD HOBBS,
WALTHALL COUNTY SUPERVISOR
HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY / SOILS & MINERALS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9: " INDIANS " Written

CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

"The Natchez, Chickasaws, and Choctaws were the most important tribes to be found in our State. The smaller tribes, Biliexi, Pascagoula, Chocchumas, Tunicas and Yazoos were found near the Gulf of Mexico. These tribes were small and weak and were the first to be met by the explorers and settlers. Some of these tribes were completely destroyed in battle, some united with larger tribes, while still others moved away to distant land"

~~"From Mississippi History by- Sydnor-Bennett).~~

"Indian villages were often built about a large mound which they threw up themselves with the assistance only of rude implements of stone or wood. On the top of the mound, an acre or more in area, stood the house of the chief, a temple and sometimes, one or more wooden houses for general gatherings. At the foot of the mound on one side was laid out a square, facing which, were the houses of the chief warriors, and behind these and on the other side of the mound, were the houses or wigwams of the common people.

When they were able to use wood in making houses, cracks were daubed with clay and the roof thatched with straw and leaves. Sometimes, the walls and roof were daubed over with clay inside ~~and~~



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

and out. Great strips of cane were sometimes used in making houses. Smaller splits were often woven into mats of attractive designs, which were sometimes used as roof coverings on the chief's houses. Again, skins were used on the roofs, generally painted with clay in some bright color designs. The temples were often decorated around the edge of the roof with colored stones or pebbles occasionally and occasionally with beautiful quartz.

For food, their dependence was mainly upon killing wild animals and upon wild fruit and berries, but they planted some vegetables such as corn, peas, squash, pumpkins and possibly melons. The virgin soil was so fertile that seed would grow even though carelessly planted.

They were skilled hunters with their bows and flint lipped arrows. In order to decoy a creature within range of his bow a hunter would cover himself with a skin of the kind of animal he sought, and getting down on all fours, imitate its movements. They also imitated the cry of different kinds of animals and birds in order to decoy them.

They were able to preserve a supply of meat by smoking it. Some tribes had a practice of storing a quantity of smoked meat on the hunting ground against the next hunting season. They were very skillful in cleaning and tanning skins which they used

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 : ASSIGNMENT # 9; " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

for many purposes. This skill was to serve them in good stead in their intercourse with white men".

"History of Mississippi- by Fant"

"They owned no land separately, certain regions were claimed as the hunting fround of the tribe. A family would cultivate a piece of land one year and might the next year abandon it for a more favorable location; the land was so abundant that ownership was not necessary. The cultivation of the soil and most of the hard work of the home was done by the women.

Although the Indians had no schools their children learned many things not found in books. The girls learned to crush grains of corn by pounding or rubbing them with stone; then to make the meal into bread which was baked into bread as "hoe-cakes" in the ashes or upon hot rocks. They learned to dress and cook the fish, buffalo, deer, birds, and other game brought home by the men and boys. The boys learned how to make canoes, light boats made of bark or hallowed logs and to paddle them skillfully through the dangerous rapids. They learned how to make bows and arrows and to shoot the arrows with unerring aim. They learned some lesson that every boy and girl who reads books should learn: one was to bear pain without a murmur; another was to make good use of their eyes and ears in



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN.

observing the trees, plants, birds, animals and all other objects of nature"

"Beginners History of our Country- by Harry F. Estell)

"For clothes or instead of clothes they used fringes of moss and bark or strings of beards and skells girded around the body. Sometimes they made mantles of the inner bark of trees interwoven with a species of flax. They had also mantles of skins and gorgeous ones of birds plumage. Chiefs on special occations wore such mantles, They made moccasins and buskins of skins embroidered often with beads. They decorated the beads with feathers and other showy ornaments; and in war the warriors frequently wore horrid head-dress of the heads of animals or some other fearful traphy of former prowess.

The Indians contrived to make implements out of wood and of various clays, stones and rocks. The tougher hides also served them in this way. They had mortar stones for grinding corn and bowls, pitchers and pipes of clay. They were very ingenious also in weaving mats and baskets from split cane.

They made ax-heads and clubs of stone and of wood and used flint rock or bone sometimes even cane to tip their arrows and wooden spears. They also made a sort of sword of cane; and shields

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

to be worn suspended from the neck were made of wood or of a tought hide. These were generally covered with ornamental makin s. They had a small shield similiarly made to protect the arms from rebound of the bow.

The Indians had no iron but they had some crude and massive articles of silver or copper".

"~~History of Missis ippu~~ By Fant"

"In the large t houses of their villages lived the chief, whom the Natchez called the Great Sun. The two warriors next to him in powerewere called the angry Serpent and the Little Sun. They worshipped the sun which gave them light and warmth. They believed that their chief was a brother of the sun. Each morning the Great Sun and his followers climbed to the top of a mound of earth and there waited for the sun to rise. The Indians thought that their chief could talk to the sun. As soon as the sun appe red the chief could talk to the sun. ~~As soon as the sun appeared the chief~~ He would waved his arms from east to west to show his brother in the sky the way he should travel that day".

"~~History of Mississippi~~- By Sydnon and Bennett"

"Upon the death of the Sun, a fearful sacrificial ceremony was enacted. A great many persons designated either by the Sun, who



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1935 ASSIGNMENT # 9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

would succeed, or by fact of having been born at the same time as the great deceased, were strangled in order that they might accompany the dead and home for him in the other world.

"The bones of the dead chiefs were placed in baskets on shelves in the temple of the Sun and the bones of those who had died with him were piled underneath the shelves. The latter was such a honor that there was rivalry for the privilege of being strangled at these funerals."

"~~History of Missis ippi~~ - b. Fant "

" When an important member of the tribe of Natchez Indians died a number of other people were killed also, so the dead warrior would not be lonesome in the new hunting ground often little children were killed.

"When a warrior of the Chickasaw tribe died his face was painted red and his head was anointed with be r's oil. He was clothed in his finest garments and buried in a sitting position with his face toward the east. With him were placed bow and arrows, and all other things they thought he might need in the new hunting ground.

"The Mississippi Indians had many stories which they told over and over around the campfire. Some were stories of war, some of love and some about animals. One of their stories about the turkey and

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9: "INDIANS "

CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE

and terrapin is similar to the one told about the bear and tortoise.

"The Indians believed that even the sun was in eclipse it was being eaten up by the quirrels or other animals. As soon as the sun begins to grow dark they tried to fighten the black squirrels away. They beat on things to make a great noise. The warriors shot arrows at the sun, and women and children threw sticks and stones".

~~"Mississ~~ i History - b Synder & Bennett).

STORY OF CHOCTAW, NANIH WAIYA, WHICH THE CHOCTAWS THOUGHT WAS THE PLACE THEY ALL CAME FROM.

"A verylong time ago, the first creation of man was in Nanih Waiya; and there they were made and there they came forth. The Muscogees first came out of Nanih Waiya, and then they sunned themselves on Nanih Waiya's earthern rampart, and when they got dry they went to the east. On this side of the Tombigbee, there they rested and as they were smoking tobacco they dropped some fire.

"The Cherokee next came out of Nanih Waiya and they sunned themselves on the earthern rampoart, and when they got dry they went and followed the trail of the elder tribe. And at the place where the Muscogees had stopped and rested, and where they had smoked tobacco, there was fire and the woods were burnt, and the Cherokees could not find the Muscogees' trail, so they got lost and turned aside and went towards the North and there



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 : ASSIGNMENT # 9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

they settled and made a temple.

"And the Chickasaws third came out of Nanih Waiya and then they sunned themselves on the earthern rampart, and when they got dry they went and followed the Cherokee's trail; and when they got to where the Cherokees had settled and made a people, they settled there. ~~and make a people close to the Cherokees.~~

"And the Choctaws fourth and last came out of Nanih Waiya and they sunned themselves on the earthern rampoart and when they got dry, they did not go anywhere but settled down in this very land and it is the Choctaw's home".

~~"Mississippi History- by Sydnor Bennett)~~

There is an old Indian Burying ground on the farm now belonging to H. S. Smith, who lives in the Southwestern part of Walthall County, near the Pike County and Louisiana State Line. Raymond Alford, an old civil war veteran, father-in-law of H. S. Smith, owned the farm. There have been several skulls and bones plowed up at this place.(information given by J. Walter Holmes who got this information as a boy from Raymond Alford.)

In the Bogue Chitto River Swamp, about a mile from the Stallings Bridge, on a Spring Branch, is a large mound that is thought to be an Indian mound. It is about fifteen feet in hbight and about two hundred feet in diameter at the base. It is not known

WALTHALL COUNTY / INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9 : " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

what this mound contains.

(Information given by J. Walter Holmes, citizen of this county).

"Among the Indians of early history were several whose names have become famous. Some of these were chiefs, noted for their wise control of their tribes in time of peace or skillful leaderships in time of war. Other Indians are remembered for the great help they gave to the white settlers. Some of the famous Indians are Powhatan, Pocahontas, Tomochic, Massacoit, and King Philip, and Sequoyah"

"Beginners History by- Harry F. Estell"

INDIAN MOUNDS.

On Mrs. Nammie McCullough's farm about two miles from the Pike and Walthall County's line a group of WPA Road workers dug up some bones. They were about three feet under the ground. They were placed in two rows with some heads one way and some another. These bones were sent off to be tested and word came to these workers that they were bones of Indians. It was estimated to be the remains of 40 bodies. Four full sets of teeth were found. One whole under-jaw bone with teeth attached, more bones were found that were thought to have been those of dogs and cats.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9 : " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

Two yellow clay bowls were also found in this mound. It is thought that they have been there since 1800.

"Shirley Tullous a Pike County WPA Road Worker gave this information".

CHOCTAW INDIANS

The Choctaws were the main mound builders and the magnitude of the rampart and mound, Nanih Waiya, in Winston County, together with the legendary traditions concerning them, led to the conviction that this was the center of the Choctaw population during the prehistoric period.

The Choctaws were sun-worshippers. They regarded the sun as the type and essence of the Great Spirit. And as the Sun God warmed animates, and vivified everything, he was the master of Father of Life. "Aba Inki"- - "The Father Above". Rev. Peter Folsom, a hostage of the Indian Territory, and Baptist Missionary in 1882 to the Choctaws, visited Nanih Waiya in company with his father and relates this legend of his people:-

"In ancient days the ancestory of the Choctaws and Chickasaws lived in a far western country under the rule of two brothers, Chahta

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT #9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

and Chickasaws. As their people became numerous, it was found difficult to procure sustenance in that land. Their prophets therefore announced that far to the east was a country of fertile soil abounding in game, and the entire populationresolved to journey eastward in search of the happy land. They marched in several divisions of a days journey apart. A great prophet marched at the head bearing a pole. At the close of each day as they stopped to camp for the night the prophet planted the pole erect in the earth in front of the camp. Every morning the pole was seen leaving in the direction they would travel that day. One morning, many moons after they first started on their journey was interpreted as an omen from the Great Spirit that the long sought land was found.

It so happened that the very day that the party arrived at Ninah Waiya a party under Chickasaw crossed the creek and camped on the east side. That night a great rain fell and continued for several days. All the lowlands were inundated and Nanih Waiya Creek and other tributaries of Pearl River were impassable. After the water subsided messengers were sent across the creek to bid the Chickasaws' party to return, as the oracular pole had proclaimed that the long sought land was found, with a mound as a center. But, regardless of the weather, the Chickasaw's had proceeded on their journey and the



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9: "INDIANS "

CANVASSER: MRS? BERNICE MORGAN

the rains had washed away all traces of their march; messengers were sent, but returned to the camp with word of their brothers. So Chahta's ~~had proceeded on their jou~~ division learned they had reached the center of their new home land and rested from their pilgrimage. Chickasaw's party, after its separation from the bretheren under Chahta, moved on to the Tombigbee and unmentionally became separate nationality.

This somewhat explains the origin of the mound, historically known as Nanih Waiya. That since the magic pole had stood erect here proclaiming this, their promised land, andas they had carried bones of their ancestors and recent dead for so long the burden bearers became fatigued. A great council and mass meeting was called by the clan leader and chief and together it was agreed after the wandering of 43 years and the accumulation of the bones our journey is at an end, and we shall grow to be a nation of happy people in this fruitful land, let us call this place, our home. "These bones, are of the same (kindred). For us to pile their bones all in the same leap and securely cover them up will be more pleasing to the Spirits than it will be to let them remain and be scattered over the plains. So this mound is the "great grave of the dead nation." Nanih Waiya became the great national center of the Choctaws.

References: Beginners History of Our Country Harry F. Estell
Mississippi History by Sydnor - Bennett J. Walter Holmes
History of Miss by Farel Shirley Tullous

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

JULY 1, 1936

ASSIGNMENT # 9 " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

## I. Early Inhabitants

### a. Major and Minor Tribes

In Luke Conerly's "History of Pike County" we find this county was originally occupied by the Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Natchez Indians. From what information can be gathered from various citizens there was only small groups of each. They traveled from place to place camping where night overtook them. We have a creek in the Northern part of the county called Indian Creek because of the Indians, who camped here.

Taken From " Luke Conerly's History of Pike County"

### b. Customs and Characteristics.

The Choctaw are by far the strongest Indian tribe in Mississippi. No tribe made greater advances in civilization than this tribe. They were honest and trustworthy in their dealings. They were good friends and bad enemies for they never forgot a favor or forgave an injury. The men were physically strong, brave and able to bear considerable pain without flinching.

The Choctaws love war and are acquainted with stratagem. The harass and tease their enemies, such without being cowards. They fight cooly in close engagements. The women are so fond of their husbands as to go into war with them; stand by their sides in battle with a quiver full of arrows, and encourage the, telling them not to fear their enemies but die as true men.

They are not as neat in their person or houses as the Chicasaws but said to be very affectionate and truthful. Their friendship is said to be worthy of imitation.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

JULY 1, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: # 9 " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

They were also fond of dress and took long hours to adorn themselves with paint, plumes, and jewelry of red and blue color. They also wore fine metal ornaments for the Choctaws early learned to make objects of metal.

The Chickasaws were next in number; they were unlike the Choctaws as they were haughty, cruel, lazy and thieving. They were however brave and fighters.

The Natchez Indians included two large divisions, each made up of four clans. The people of each clan was divided into two groups, the aristocrats and the stinkards or common people. The Aristocrats were harsh and brutal and treated the common people badly. Many of the latter were forced to live in extreme poverty. The chief of the entire Natchez tribes called the Great Sun was the highest Aristocrat of all. He never worked, and he made his subjects furnish him with everything he needed.

We know very little about the early Indians. Their tools and weapons were made of stove and wood. In time they learned to shape jugs from clay and to weave mats and baskets with reeds. Because they built mounds of earth throughout their lands the Indians of this section were called Mound Indians.

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
JULY 1, 1936
ASSIGNMENT # #9 " INDIANS "
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

These mounds were made in different shapes, square, round, triangular, or even in shape of different animals. The mounds served for various purposes. As covering the bones of dead, places of worship; some were safety spots in case of flood.

Although the Indians of Missis ippi were divided into different tribes all of the tribes had much in common. All of them depended on hunting and fishing for the greater part of their food. Few crops were raised as the Indians knew very little about agriculture. Usually a small patch of ground was planted, with corn, beans, potatoes, pumpkins, and melons. The garden was property of the entire tribe, though each family worked a small section of it and was allowed to use whatever crops grew there.

The Indian women did all the work. The men gambled, hunted, fished and made war. It was considered dishonorable for an Indian Warrior to carry a burden or to work in the fields except to raise his own tobacco. An Indian wife was little better than a slave to her husband.

In religious beliefs Indian tribes are much a-like. Most of them believed in a powerful unseen god called "The Great Spirit the Giver of Breath". They had no definite idea what this god was like, nor did they have any definite form of worship. They believed



WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
ASSIGNMENT # 9: "INDIANS "
JULY 1, 1936
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

in heaven. A Happy Hunting Ground, where game was plentiful and the Indians could hunt all day long. Because of this belief, most Indians were not afraid to die. In some tribes when a great chief died his warriors were eager to be put to death so that they could go to the Happy Hunting Ground and serve him there. When a warrior was buried, his weapons were usually buried with him for his use in the Happy Hunting Ground. And in many instances their dogs were buried with them.

The Indians had many strange beliefs. Certain members of a tribe were considered holy. In times of long drought, the rain maker was called upon to bring rain. By his prayers and spells he was supposed to be able to cause the rain to fall. The medicine man was called in to help people who were sick or troubled. He had no knowledge of medicine or surgery as doctors today, but with hideous work and strange mumbling words he was supposed to drive away spirits of devils that were making his patients ill. They also consulted the medicine man about meanings of disturbing dreams. Some tribes had conjurers or magicians who worked with the medicine man to drive away evil spirits. Some had prophets who told fortunes.

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

ASSIGNMENT " #9 " INDIANS "

JULY 1, 1936

ALMA BILBO : CANVASSER

Each tribe was divided into clans or groups made up of families who were related to one another. Each clan had its own rules and each member was supposed to be loyal to his group.

The Indian villages were usually built around large mounds of eatth which the Indians slowly and painfully piled up with the help of crude wooden shovels. Many of these mounds were sometimes 20 feet above the surrounding land. However, the mounds we have in this county are small. Around the mounds were little bark covered huts where the people lived. Clay was plastered on walls of houses to keep out rain and wind.

The laws of the Indians were simple. An Indian who killed a member of his tribe had to pay for this action with his own life. Likewise a woman, man, who practiced witchcraft and tried to cast evil spells over others must die. When a crime was committed the Indians knew the penalty and volunteered to punishment without flinching.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

JULY 1, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: # 9 "INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

C. Traditions, Legends, Myths, and Romances.

THE CHOCTAWS OF MISSISSIPPI

CUSTOMS OF SOME OF THE INDIANS CLASSED AS CIVILIZED.

MUCH LIKE THEIR RELATIVES

The are good Workemn, But won't Work- except for Specific Necessity- They Have One Great Virtue, White Women May Safely Employ Them as Servants- Their Marriage Customs.

---

From a Correspondent of the Times.

Dixon, Miss. July 26, 1895.

No more picturesque people are to be met in any part of the world than are the Choctaw Indians who live in Mississippi. Because they elected to remain and become citizens of the State instead of being deported to the Indian Territory when the government secured possession of their lands, they are classed as "civilized Indians". The Origianal parties to the treaty by which their claims were bought and removal to the Territory arranged for those who would consent to go have now passed away, and their descendants are an apparently contented race in the midst of two formerly alien races.

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

ASSIGNMENT # 9 : " INDIANS

JULY 1, 1936

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Contact with the whites has improved their condition in many respects, but the general tenor of their lives is after the fashion of their forefathers; and while they have adopted the ruder and more primitive ~~accessories~~ modes of civilization they cling to old faiths in all major matters, thus effecting by their commingling of the new and the old an added element of picturesqueness.

They are and ever have been a peaceable people and friendly toward their white neighbors. Gradually they have acquired some of the white man's craft in agriculture, but after a spasmodic and irregular plan. As hired laborers they are much esteemed for their industry, which, however, lasts but until some debt is paid or some coveted object attained. It is noteworthy in this connection that whereas negro men servants are feared by ladies left ~~hom~~ alone or unprotected in their homes or traveling upon the highways, the Indians are subjects of no apprehension. ~~The crime of the black is unheard of among them.~~

---

It is asserted by persons well informed in their habits that with the acquisition of wooden houses- always rude, windowless



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9 : " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

and poorly ventilated- the Indians have declined in physical stamina. Diseases formerly unknown work ravage among them, the mortality being without doubt greatly augmented by poor nursing and insufficient hygienic knowledge. However, if must not be concluded that because they own houses the Indians make themselves homes in our sense of the word. A glance at the interior of one of their houses is sufficient to prove the impossibility of the thing. The first effect of permanency in a home is evidenced in the arrangements for sleeping; in an Indian's house the beds are poor, foul and of materials convenient to carry, at a moment's notice, to some camping site, a state of things rendered, easy and reasonable by the genial climate.

Recognizing the advantages of the white man's fashion of dress, they have adopted it, with modification for state occasions, when their incongruous mating of colors and of stuffs is marvelous to behold. In the ordinary routine of their lives they prefer scantier raiment, sometimes dispensing with it altogether, notably when at work in the fields and when engaged in athletic spprts.

The women dress as they have dressed since first they were able to substitute woven goods for the skins of the lower animals. Seasons come and go, but no change of mode is to be detected in the

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9 : " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

squaws' apparel, or even in the material or number of their garments, with reference to conditions of heat and cold. Always of the daudiest or falling color, of the ligtest stuffs, they are cut aftr the old style of Mrs. Noah, in which the "infant" waist is gathered into a band, into which, on the lower edge, is gathered the fullish skirt with its weight of trimmed and scalloped flounces, This is their gala attire, for as a true historian I must state that their ordinary garb is less quaint, less fine, and, alas, less clean.

For large and small there s not variation in the cut, and whatever the altitude of the head the ankles mark the lower limit of the skirts' extension. Grave or gay, the triming contrasts to the utmost and consists always of a horizont l arrangement of bands, some wide, some narrow and others serrated, oftentimes as many as ten in number and all sewn in the neatest manner.

Big and little are dressed alike- little tots with their odd gowns flopping about their heels and beaded and beshawled like their elders. Aprons are dear to their untutored hearts- aprons like Eve's, of minute dimensions and ornamented with the ever-present band of contrasting color. The older women may wear bright kerchifs upon the head, but young girls have only bright combs or "streamers" of many clored ribbons to deck their hair. To cover all this glory would appear to them an actual profanation. On gala days their display of finery, beads and silver ornaments is bewildering to the



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

eye, the bucks being scarcity less gorgeous than the young squaws, their silver hatbands and sumounting tiaras of plumes and their beautifully-wrought belts representing much of actual money value.

Their lives are divided into two great epochs, for, unlike the whites, their advant into the world is made a matter of small moment, the mother, even, losing little time from her work on account of the interesting event.

It is at marriage and at death that each has a compensating fanfare.

No society belle has her matrimonial proppects more thoroughly discussed than has the young squaw, nor is the celebration of the nuptials more brilliant, according to Indian Standards.

After a preliminary courtship by proxy, in which wrinkled old crones are supposed to enact the part of the youthful Cupid and arrange the match, there is a brief engagement- not as in the case of the whites to admite of a billing and cooing and the bliss supposed to precede a wedding, b , alas, to admit of the fulfillment of a sordid agreement of exchange.

The parents of the prospective bride, having told the daughter's ~~bit~~ suitor the number and amount of beeves, hogs, flour and meal he must provide as an equivalent to her value. It behooves him to bestir himself to hasten the happy day by securing her price.

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

ASSIGNMENT #9 " INDIANS " JULY 1, 1936

ALMA BILBO: CANVASSER

If he is rich the matter is quickly arranged- otherwise his friends may volunteer their aid and the same end be accomplished.

Whatever the kind and amount of payment demanded, it is invariably brought up cheerfully and in full- for the greater the price the greater the feast, the entire supply being expected to be consumed during the nuptial festivities. By one mode the bride runs as if for liberty until she is overtaken by the groom, when congratulations are in order, the ceremony being completed. This proceeding is by no means so tame as it sounds in the telling; for Indian maidens feel or feign the coyness of fairer maids and are moreover, fleet of foot. The groom may not be reluctant to possess his prize and yet find himself led quite a dance to overtake her, the unwonted amount of his clothing and paraphernalia being impediments to which he is not used to submit in athletics. For in their ball plays and other competitive performances only a breechclout and the tall of a deer or of a horse, adjusted by the means of a belt, are added to Nature's Array of the bod .

The second and more favored style is the "ribbon" marriage. By this mode two lives are united by the mere laying of gifts, in the form of ribbons of all possible hues, beads and other light trinkets, upon the heads of the contracting parties. These are afterwards distributed among the guests as souvenirs of



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 : ASSIGNMENT # 9: " INDIANS "

ALMA BILBO* CANVASSER.

the occasion, the bride, after all, having little to show for a momentary munificence, save a sometimes brutal husband and taskmaster.

After the presentation of gifts, the groom is treated to a public lecture on the duties of the matrimonial state, the nearest male relative of the bride being spokesman; then he receives some greeting from each of his new relations, his acknowledgment of which courtesy consists of tremendous and deep-sounding grunts.

The performance closes with a collation in the form of a particularly obnoxious looking mess made of dough boiled with beans or peas and grease and rolled in cornhusks for distribution.

The is contributed entirely by the women who attend the wedding and is merely supplementary to the succession of meals provided by the bridegroom. The entire entertainment is prepared with a view to food and drink. To while away, the hours of perfect repletion there are dances and other relaxations, but these are side issues to an important function. There is no effort whatever at cleaing or beautifying the house in which the marriage is to be celebrated.

The Indian's dog is much in evidence upon these occasions, and the babies enjoy the rare privilege of reposing in the arms of their mothers instead of being tucked away upon

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

JULY 1, 1936 : ASSIGNMENT # 9 "INDIANS

ALMA BILBO: CANVASSER:

maternal backs as on working days. So many white babies in any assembly might safely be depended upon to furnish music of a particular quality; but the real man's stoicism is displayed b mere infants and rarely is one heard to cry.

After the marriage there usually elapses a period in which the young couple live with the wife's parents; for rarely will the husband consent to take her from her mother until their first child is born.

Until recently only nature and certain old squaws presided over these affairs, with the aid of so-called magic in urgent cases. It is noticeable that with their partronage of white doctors fatal results are more frequent among them. This is due to their imperfect understanding of medical advice. For, while those who Speak English are usually able to understand it, their knowledge of the language is confined to everyday matter.s

Evangelization proceeds slowly among them, so death is to them a mere going out of life into a similar and happier existence.

When a Choctaw dies he is vured without unnecessary lapse of time, usually wrapped in a blanket but sometimes in a rough, unplaned coffin. They have no cemeteries, and burial takes place where the death has occurred, no mound being left to mark the spot. A piece of cane or wood corresponding to the height of the deceased



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

is kept in the house, and before this "measure" the family mourn daily at sunset, for a month. Then is celebrated the final and crowning lamentations, called a "cry".

Materials for the inevitbale feasting having been secured all the tribe collect where the death occurred and, before they join the company, go to the grave and weep, holding their shawls before their faces and moaning pitifully. If they do not feel actual grief they are at least adepts at feigning it.

When all have arrived and there are no more to "cry" at the grave, there is a dance to the accompaniment of weird music which with the intermittent feasting, lasts throughout the night.

Until the time, if the deceased was a wife, the husband does not permit shears to touch his head, and conducts himself much more as becomes a bereaved individual than does many a man who deems himself a gentleman.

clipping
Newspaper/from the Times in written in 1895.

LEGENDS, MYTHS AND ELOQUENCE OF MISSIS IPPI

Many beautiful legends and myths of the Indians tribes of Missis ippi have been preserved through studies conducted by the Bureau of American Ethnology and by missionaries and others directly associated with the tribes. While these myths do not rise

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT: #9 " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

to the dignity of history they contain much which adds interest to and throws light on the manners, customs, affections and ideals of the primitive peoples of Mississippi. Some of them are given here ~~are~~ as a fitting conclusion to the chapter which precedes this brief narrative.

THE LEGEND OF ATALA

The tale of romance among the natives of the South which most grips the heart is that of the Muscogee maiden Atala and her lover Chactas of the Natchez tribe, as recorded by Chateaubriand, the earliest of the French romanticists. When the proud tribe of the Natchez were routed by the warlike Muscogees, Chactas, some of their chief, escaped to St. Augustine and remained there for some time before attempting to return to his people. Soon he was captured by his enemies, who intended taking him to their great village for torture. On the march Atala, daughter of the chief and a Christian through the te chings of her mother, fell in love with him, arranged his escape and fled with him into the wilderness. Past danger of pursuit, they began the long journey to Chactas' Mississippi home, but the brav , strong maiden soon began to blench and grown weak. Finally overcome, she was rescued with her lover from a howling tempest by the pious hermit Father Aubry. The



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 : ASSIGNMENT #9 " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

next morning Chacts walked out with the father, and at the sight of his good works among the neighboring Indians was ready to embrace Christianity and be united to Atala in her faith; on returning, they found her in mortal illness. Her mother, Atala explained, had made her take an oath to dedicate her life to the queen of virgins. Never, before seeing Chactas, had she felt the power of love. But once fled with him, she was torn between the desire of her heart and filial love, between passion and a solemn oath. This it was that had caused her weakness and decline. Comfort, however, came from the good Father Aubry, who explained that true Christianity could not cause such a tragedy, that she could be released from her unwise vow. Too late, too late it came. Torn by pain and remorse, Atala told her father and her anguished lover how in the storm, fearful that she was near breaking the oath, she had taken poison. After the last sad rites over the body of the Christian maiden, Chactas returned in sadness to his own people. In the story are many passages of lyric beauty, and "Atala's song" is quoted in full:

"Happy are those that never beheld the smoke of stranger's feasts, and only sat down at their fathers' banquets.

"Was the blue jay of the Meschacebe to ask the Florida nonpareille, why sadly complain? Have you not here, as in your forests, fine shades, limpid streams, and delicious fruits? Yes,

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936. ASSIGNMENT # 9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

would answer the nonpareille, but my nest I left in the jessamines, who will fetch it to me? Have you the bright sun that blazed on my savanna?

"Happy are those that never beheld the smoke of the strangers' feasts, and only sat down at their fathers' banquests.

"After a toilsome march, the exhausted traveller mourn - fully seats hi self down. He looks raound at the smoking tops of huts; the traveller has no place to rest himself.... He knocks at the door, hangs his bow behind it, claiming hospitality.-- The owner makes a dismal sign with a refusing hand; the traveller takes back his bow and bends his wearies steps toward the wilderness.

"Happy are those that never beheld the smoke of strangers' feasts, and only sat down at their fathers' banquets.

"Marvelous stories, told around the parental hearth, sweet flowings of the soul, tender bliss of mutual love, you charm the days of those that never forsook their own country. Bathed at eve by the religious tears of friendship, their tombs arise in their native land.

"Happy are those that never behold the smoke of strangers' feasts, and only sat down at their fathers' banquets".



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT : #9 " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

THE ROMANCE OF STEL-O-NA AND THE SIEUR DE MACE

J. F. H. Claiborne, in his Mississippi as a Provine, Territory and State, has preserved the story of Stel-o-na daughter of White Apple, the Great Sun of the Natchez nation, and the Sieur de Mace, a gallant lieutenant of the French detachment at Fort Rosalie. The details of the romance which led to a determined effort on the part of Stel-on-a to save the French from the Natchez, who had fixed a day for a general massacre of the garrison at the fort and of all colonists, were left by Colonel Anthony Hutchins, the grandfather of Claiborne, in some historical notes found after his death in his papers. In referring to Colonel Hutchins, Claiborne says:

"He selected a settlement on St. Catherine Creek. Soon after he fell in with, and secured the attachment of an Indian, who claimed to be of the Natchez tribe. He advised the Colonel to give up his settlement, and offered to show him a scared place, guarded by good spirits, where the water was always sweet. He conducted him through the cane, over hills and slopes timbered with Magnolia, walnut, sassafras and mulberry, trellised with grape vines, to the White Apple Village, the hereditary residence of a chief of that name. It stood twelve miles south of Fort Rosalie, three miles east of the river, on a beautiful stream now known as Second Creek, on what

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTH LL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 : ASSIGNMENT # 9 "INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

is now called the Homochitto or Woodville Road. A large field has been cultivated by the Indians, and on a spacious and commanding mound had stood the wigwam of the chief. The Indian then conducted him to the White Cliffs, (since known as Ellis' Cliffs) on whose lofty brown, frowning over the whirling waters beneath, had been the village of the noted chief, Terre Blanche, or White Earth. 'When the French First came', said the guide, 'they were welcomed and the white and red men were brothers. But after a while the French, not content with the use of what land they desired and a liberal share of the crops, coveted even the fields where these crops were grown. They ordered the chiefs to abandon their villages, and fields, that the white people and their slaves might occupy them. Dreading the power of the French and frightened at their menaces, our chiefs consented to go, but gegged for time to harvest their crops, then not matured. The commanding officer granted only a month. Find that they were to be starved as well as exiled, my fathers resolved on resistance. They dispatched runners to the Chickasaws and Choctaws, to invite their cropration against a common enemy. Twenty days were to transpire before the three tribes, having united, were to make a simultaneous attack. That no mistake might be made a quiver of twenty arrows was sent to each tribe. One was to be withdrawn and broken every morning before they resumed their march. At daybreak



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

on the morning when the last of the twenty arrows should be broken, the three tribes would commence the attach, and equally share the spoils.

"The quiver of the Natchez was deposited in the Temple of the Sun, and it was the duty of the guardian to withdraw an arrow every morning and consume it in the sacred fire. Only the great chiefs and the princesses of the blood royal had the privilege to enter this consecrated edifice. One of these princesses, Stel-o-na the beautiful daughter of White Apple, loved the Sieur de Mace, a lieutenant of the French, and hoping to save his life and not dreaming of the destruction she was bringing upon her people, she disclosed to him the fatal secret. He communicated it to the commandant, who rejected the story, and put de Mace under arrest. The Princess then entered the temple, and clandestinely abstracted two arrows from the quiver. This precipitated the attack before the Choctaws, who were on the march, could arrive at the point of redenzvous. A general massacre of the French ensued. The Natchez monopolized all the rich fields themselves. This disgusted the Choctaws and they united with the French to exterminate the Natchez."

THE CHIEF OF THE BEARD'S WAR SONG

"'Let there be joy in the hearts of the Natchez! A child is born to them of the race of their Suns. A boy is born with beard

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 : ASSIGNMENT # 9: "INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

on his chin! The prodigy ~~is~~ still works on from generation to generation! So sand the warriors of my tribe when I sprung from my mother's womb, and the shrill cry of the eagle in the heavens was heard in joyous response. Hardly fifteen summers had passed over my head, when long and glossy my beard had grown. I looked round, and I saw that I was the only red man that this awful mark on his face, and I interrogated my mother, and she said:

Son of the Chiefs of the Beard,
Thous shalt know this mystery.
In which thy curious eyes wishes to pry,
When thy beard from black becomes red,

"Let there be joy in the hearts of the Natchez! A hunter is born to them, a hunter of the race of the Suns. Ask of the bears, of the buffaloes, of the tigers, and of the swift-footed deer, whose arrows they fear most. The tremble and cower when the footsteps of the hunter with beard on his chin is heard on the health. But I was born too with brains in my head, as well as beard on my chin, and I pondered on my mother's words. One day, when a leopard, which I strangled, had torn my breast, I painted my beard with my own blood, and I stood smiling before her. She said nothing, but her eyes gleamed with delight, and she took me to the temple, where, standing by the sacred fire, she thus said to me:



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT #9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

Son of the Chiefs of the Beard,
Thou shalt know the mystery,
Since, true to they nature, with thy own blood,
Thy black beard thou hast turned red.

"Let there be joy in the hearts of the Natchez! for a witted chief, worthy of the race of their Suns, has been born to them, in thee, my son; a noble chief with beard on his chin! Listen to the explanation of this prdigy. In days of old, a Natchez maid of the race of their Suns, was on a visit to the Mobilians. There she soon loved the youthful chief of the nation, and wedding day was nigh, when there came from the big salt lake, south, a host of bearded men, who sacked the town, slew the red chief with their thunder, and one of those accursed evil spirits used violence to the maid, when her lover's corpse was hardly cold in death. She found, in sorrow, her way back to the Natchez hills, where she became a mother; and lo! the boy had beard on his chin! and when he grew to understand his mother's own words, she whispered in his ear:

Son of the Chiefs of the Beard,
Born from a bloody day,
Bloody be thy hand, bloody be thy life,
Until thy black beard with blood becomes red.

WALTHALL COUNTY / INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9: b" INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

"Let there be joy in the hearts of the Natchez! In my first ancestor, a long line of the best of hunters, of chiefs, and of warriors of the race of their Suns, had been born to them, with beard on their chin! What chase was ever unsuccessful, when over it they presided? When they spoke in the Council of the wise men of the nation, did it not always turn out that their advice, whether adopted or rejected, was the best in the end? In what battle were they ever defeated? When were they known to be worn out with fatigue, hardships, hunger or thirst, heat or cold, either on land or on water? Who ever could stem, as they, the rushing current of the father of rivers? Who can count the number of scalps which they brought from distant expeditions? Their names have always been famous in the wigwam of all the red nations. They have struck terror into the boldest breats of the enemies of the Natches; and mothers, when their sons paint their bodies in the colors of war, say to them:

Fight where and with whom you please,
But beward, oh! beware of the Chiefs of the Beard!
Give way to them, as you would to death,
Or their black beards with your blood will be red!



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 : ASSIGNMENT # 9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

"Let there be joy in the hearts of the Natchez (When the first Chief of the Beard first trimmed the sacred fire in the temple, a voice was heard , which said, "As long as there lives a chief, of the race of the Suns, with beard on his chin, no evil can happen to the Natchez nation; but if the white race should ever resume the blood which it gave in a bloody day, woe, three times woe to the Natchez! of them nothing will remain but the shadow of a thick on years, and none of the accursed white faces were seen! But they appeared at last, wrapped up in their pale skins like shrouds of the dead; and the father of my father, whom tradition had taught to guard against the predicted danger, slew two of the hated strangers, and my father, in his turn, killed four!

Praise be to the Chiefs of the Beard!
Who knew how to avenge their old ancestral injury!
When with the sweet blood of a white foe,
Their black beard they proudly painted red.

"Let their be joy in the hearts of the Natchez! When I saw the glorious light of the day, there was born to them a great warrior, of the race of their Suns, a warrior and a chief with beard on his chin! The pledge of protection, of safety, and of glory stood embodied in me. When I shouted my first war-whoop, the owl hooted and smelt the ghosts of my enemies! --- the wolves howled, and the carrison vultures shreiked with joy, for they knew their

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9: b" INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

"Let there be joy in the hearts of the Natchez! In my first ancestor, a long line of the best of hunters, of chiefs, and of warriors of the race of their Suns, had been born to them, with beard on their chin! What chase was ever unsuccessful, when over it they presided? When they spoke in the Council of the wise men of the nation, did it not always turn out that their advice, whether adopted or rejected, was the best in the end? In what battle were they ever defeated? When were they known to be worn out with fatigue, hardships, hunger or thirst, heat or cold, either on land or on water? Who ever could stem, as they, the rushing current of the father of rivers? Who can count the number of scalps which they brought from distant expeditions? Their names have always been famous in the wigwam of all the red nations. They have struck terror into the boldest breats of the enemies of the Natches; and mothers, when their sons paint their bodies in the colors of war, say to them:

Fight where and with whom you please,
But beward, oh! beware of the Chiefs of the Beard!
Give way to them, as you would to death,
Or their black beards with your blood will be red!



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 : ASSIGNMENT # 9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

"Let there be joy in the hearts of the Natchez (When the first Chief of the Beard first trimmed the sacred fire in the temple, a voice was heard , which said, "As long as there lives a chief, of the race of the Suns, with beard on his chin, no evil can happen to the Natchez nation; but if the white race should ever resume the blood which it gave in a bloody day, woe, three times woe to the Natchez! of them nothing will remain but the shadow of a thick on years, and none of the accursed white faces were seen! But they appeared at last, wrapped up in their pale skins like shrouds of the dead; and the father of my father, whom tradition had taught to guard against the predicted danger, slew two of the hated strangers, and my father, in his turn, killed four!

Praise be to the Chiefs of the Beard!
Who knew how to avenge their old ancestral injury!
When with the sweet blood of a white foe,
Their black beard they proudly painted red.

"Let their be joy in the hearts of the Natchez! When I saw the glorious light of the day, there was born to them a great warrior, of the race of their Suns, a warrior and a chief with beard on his chin! The pledge of protection, of safety, and of glory stood embodied in me. When I shouted my first war-whoop, the owl hooted and smelt the ghosts of my enemies! --- the wolves howled, and the carrison vultures shreiked with joy, for they knew their

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9: "INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

food was coming!---- and I fed them with Chickasaw flesh, with Choctaw flesh, until they were gorged with the flesh of the red men! A kind master and surveyor I was to the, the poor dumb creatures that I loved! But lately, I gave them more dainty food. I boast of having done better than my father; five Frenchmen have I killed, and my only regret at dying is, that it will prevent me from killing more!

Ha! ha! ha! that was game worthy of the Chief of the Beard.

How lightly he danced! ho! ho! ho!

How gladly he shouted! ha! ha! ha!

Each time with French blood his black beard became red.

"Let sorrow be in the heats of the Natchez! The great hunter is no more! The wise chief is going to meet his forefathers; the idomitable warrior will no longer raise his hatchet in the defense of the chilren of the Sun. O burning shame! -- he was betrayed by his brother chiefs, who sold his blood. If they had followed his advice they would have united with the Choctaws, with the Chickasaws, and all the other red nations, and they would have slain all the French dogs that came prowling and stealing over the beautiful face of our country. But there was too much of the women in their cowardly hearts. Well and good! Let the will of fate be accomplished! The white race will soon resume



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

the blood which they gave, and then the glory and the very existence of the Natchez nation will have departed forever with the Chief of the Beard; for I am the last of my race, and my blood flows in no other human veins. O Natchez! Natchez! remember the prophets voice! I am content to die, for I leave behind none but the doomed, and I go to reveal with my brave ancestors!

They will recognize their son in the Chief of the Beard.'
They will welcome him to their glorious homestead.
When they see so many scalps at his gridle,
And his black beard with French blood painted red! "

LEGEND OF THE CHEROKEE ROSE

Father Davion was a consecrated Jesuit priest who gave his life in the attempt of christianize the Natchez. Indians. The following legend connected with his mission among the Mississippi Indians in narrated in Romance and Realism of the Southern Gulf Coast:

"Like a mirage from the past, tradition brings to us visions of romance and adventure with every step that we take upon this enchanted shore. Even the flowers distill their fragrance with memories of the past, and the white Cherokee rose bends and blooms as sweetly now as it did on the night of long ago, when its soft radiance illuminated the pathway of the good Father Davion. Lost in the tangled depths of palmetto and swaying reeds, be vainly sought

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

the pathway to Fort Louis (Biloxi). At last the light from a Cherokee encampment gleamed upon him, and there he found refuge. That night he prayed long and earnestly that he might be restored to his people. Sleep came and

"In a dream he saw once more his mother's tender eyes
Bending above him in the light that fell from Paradise!
" Pointing to a snow-white flower, she told him that it would lead him to his home. In a pathway of light the roses descended from Heaven to earth, and above them he saw among the stars the Master's crown of thorns.

"Waking, he found, with joyous wonder, the flowers, blooming around him, and extending far into the depths of the forest, ever before him they sprang up to mark his pathway----

'Follow' they seemed to whisper, 'for we are leading thee
On ard and ever onward to the old fort by the sea!

"Over white sand dunes they led him, and when swollen bayous were reached, they tangled their tiny tendrils into strong bridges upon which he crossed. On and on they led him until at Fort Louis (Biloxi) he heard the joyous welcome of Bauvolle and his comrades. And in the forest we still find this Cherokee rose 'with its snow-flake petals and heart of golden light'".

THESE LEGENDS, MYTHS, ETC. WERE TAKEN FROM DUNBAR ROWLANDS
" THE HEART OF THE SOUTH"



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT #9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

d. Mounds, location, and present condition.

On the Bogue Chitto River we find mounds of the Indians about two miles North of Walker's Bridge. The mound is oblong and about 75 feet long and 50 feet wide. Trees and brush have grown so thick you can hardly get to it. A tunnel has been cut through it years ago by treasure hunters.

An Indian mound was discovered in the northern part of the county, January 1936 by W.P.A. workers making roads through the county. It was evident by the numerous fragents of human bones exhumed from it. From the number of bones found in this county the population of the Indians ~~were numerous~~ was large. This mound is located in the Nothern part of the county, in the Darbun community, District #5.

Another mound is found south of China Grove church on the Magee's creek and a small part of the creek runs around the mound. Trees have grown through it, and it resembles a mound very much. However, if any human bones have been found we have no evidence of it.

(Old pioneers, citizens and surveyors)
(rendered the above information.)

II. NOW LIVING IN YOUR COUNTY.

We do not have a single person belonging to the Indian race living in Walthall County today., nor do we have

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

JULY 1, 1936 ASSIGNMENT # 9 : " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

an available list of the prominent Indian men and women, who lived in this county. ~~All the older citizens who lived here in the days of the Indians have been used.~~

PREPARED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF:

Vivian P. Hobbs

VIVIAN PACKWOOD HOBBS, SUPERVISOR
WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Typed by:

Earline Brodie- Sec'ty.

Old Pioneer Citizen Survey
Duke Conelys History of Pike County
A Correspondent of the Times, Dixon Miss. July 26, 1895-
Clipping from the Times, written in 1895-
L. F. K. Claiborne



WALTHALL COUNTY

accepted K

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

JULY 1, ASSIGNMENT #9: " INDIANS "

CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

The Choctaws Leave: An Indian agent registered those who wanted to stay and the government sent an officer to make surveys of reservations.

The Chickasaws Leave: About two years earlier (1832) a similar treaty was concluded with the Chickasaws at Pontotoc. The same plan was pursued. Chickasaws and Choctaws became one nation in the Indian Territory, now the State of Oklahoma where they are under partial care of the government. There are about 2000 Indians Legend- Oka Faloma (The Flood)/

REFERENCES:

James Malone History of the Indians
James Adair " " " "
R. B. Cushman " " Chickasaws, Choctaws no Natchez.
Dr. Dunbar Rowland - Heart of the South. Vol. I.

PREPARED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF:

Vivian P. Hobbs

WALTHALL COUNTY SUPERVISOR
HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Typed by:
Earline Brodie, Sec'ty.

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

ASSIGNMENT NO. 9 "INDIANS" SUPPLEMENT

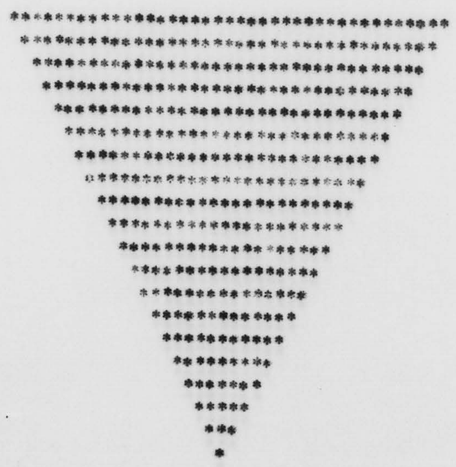
WALTHALL COUNTY.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

THIRTEENTH AREA.

---

May 6, 1937.





HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 9 "SUPPLEMENT TO INDIANS" Page 8 "INDIAN MOUNDS"

DATE: MAY 6, 1937.

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

"Indian Burying Ground" is discovered in Walthall County.

"Interest in parts of Walthall and Pike Counties has recently been centered about the discovery of an Indian burying mound near Carters Creek High School. The skeletons of 25 Indians have been removed by the W.P. A. crew that accidently made the discovery while working in a newly opened gravel pit last week.

The discovery was made on the place of Mrs. Mamie McCullough, which is located on the Jayess road about two miles from the Carters Creek School. The skeletons were found lying with their heads to the East indicating according to those who have studied the subject, that they were Sun Worshipers. At the head of one was found a small piece of pottery. The skeleton was in such a position as to indicate they were not under ground more than 18 inches.

The fact that the graves were so shallow has given rise to the belief that there was an Indian Mound over the burying ground but that it had been washed away by soil erosion.

Members of the W. P. A. crew discovering what is regarded as one of the few Indian burial grounds in this section of Mississippi were: B. S. Boyd, foreman; C. D. Raburn, timekeeper; Earl Dunaway, R. E. McLeod, W. E. Boyd, T. C. Reeves, C. C. Dickerson and others."

Reference:

February 27, 1936 issue of the

Tylertown Times.

Alma Bilbo

Alma Bilbo
County Historian
Historical Research.

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDIANS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15: PILGRIMAGE "OLD HOMES"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 29, 1936.

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD,(NYA)

"LAWRENCE HOME"

George Dunaway built a home about 150 years ago. His daughter, Ann, married John Lawrence. John and Ann's daughter, Epsey, married Ira O'Quin. This couple has reared all their children at this place and now reside there.

To reach this old place, take the highway from Tylertown that leads to Enon Community. When you have travelled this road about 12 miles you will find a cross road, where the South Harmony school building did stand, take the left hand road and this will take you to the place, which is about 1½ miles from the highway.

This is a large old split log house, that only had one small window by the fireplace, when it was made. This window slid back and forth as they did not have any hinges at this time. They had a dirt chimney with a fireplace to keep warm.

The kitchen was made of logs and was off several feet from the house. A walk led from the house to the kitchen. The kitchen also had one slide window and two doors. They used a dirt chimney to the kitchen and cooked on the fireplace. This kitchen was in use until about 50 years ago when it was torn down and one made to join the house.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15: PILGRIMAGE "OLD HOMES"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 29, 1936.

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, (NYA)

"LA RENCE HOME (CONT'D)

About 50 years ago the dirt chimney was torn down to the house and a brick one put up. Dressed lumber was used to ceil the house. The logs on the porch are covered with ceiling. Some glass windows were also put in at this time. There are no windows that open on the porch only two large home made doors. The old flooring was taken up and some more put down when this other work was done.

REFERENCE:

Mrs. Ira O'Quin
Mrs. W. H. Roberts
Mrs. L. A. Burnett.

"BACOT HOME"

This home in earlier years was known as the Bibley Home. To locate this place, take the highway out of Tylertown that leads to Enon School and Church. When you have gone 10 or 12 miles you will notice on the right a road leading due east with a sign that says WPA Project, 1010. Take this road for about 2 miles, until you come to a cross road, then take the right hand leading South. About ¼ mile down this road you will come to a little road leading into the woods to the right just beyond a boxed house. This little road will carry you to this house.

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15: PILGRIMAGE "OLD HOMES"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 29, 1936.

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, (NYA)

"BACOT HOME (CONT'D)

John Sibley began this home in 1843 and it took three years to complete it. The house is made of heart lumber sawed from logs off his place. The lumber was planed by hand. The glass for windows were bought in large pieces and cut and put together with small strips at this place by hand. Blinds or shutters were also made by hand to go over these windows and put together with pegs. Foundation was all pegged together, but square headed nails were used to nail on lumber. House was painted white with green shutters but the paint has nearly worn off.

Joe Page was one of the carpenters and John Little did the masonery work.

This house is built with two large rooms down stairs and two large ones upstairs. The stairway leads up from one of the large rooms. A brick chimney is at each end of the house with a large fireplace in each of the rooms upstairs and downstairs. The windows from the upstairs open on the porch roof.

The kitchen was built off from the house with a walk leading to it. This kitchen has been torn down and one built joining the house.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15: PILGRIMAGE "OLD HOMES"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 29, 1936

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, (NYA)

"BACOT HOME (CONT'D)"

The porch has home made lattice work bannisters around it and is pegged together also. The kitchen being changed and the house being recovered are the only changes made since it was built.

REFERENCES:

Mr. & Mrs. Julius Bacot.
Mr. Eugene Bacot.

"SARTIN HOME"

16 miles North of Tylertown on the Tylertown-Monticello Highway one mile North of Sartinsville is located a house built by Major Sartin.

The house was built with two rooms size 20'x20', two small rooms with a small porch connecting them and an extra large front porch downstairs, two large rooms upstairs with a hall between. A chimney stands at each end of the house furnishing a spacious fireplace for the two large rooms downstairs and the two rooms upstairs. The rooms were all papered and the outside painted. The large windows are protected with blinds. The painting of the front porch are arranged in blocks lined with white giving the a pearance of brick and upon first sight they may be taken to be brick.

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15: PILGRIMAGE "OLD HOMES"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 29, 1936

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, (NYA)

"SARTIN HOME (CONT'D)

Leading from the house was a covered walk to the dining room, kitchen, pantry, and porch. This was used until twelve or fourteen years ago when the back porch connecting the two small rooms was converted into a dining room and one of the small rooms into the kitchen. The old kitchen and dining room was standing until four years ago when that part was torn away.

The lumber in the house was sawed by hand, also two slaves owned by Major Sartin planed the lumber for the house by hand, taking one year to do so.

The house is still in a good state of preservation,( as the lumber in the house was of the best), except for the need of repainting and repapering. At the date it was built, it was considered one of the finest in the country. It was built during the Civil War and has been in the hands of the Sartin generation since. At Major Sartin's death, his son, J. O. Sartin fell heir to the home and he lived there until his death when his son, J, E. L. Sartin fell heir to the home.

REFERENCE:

J. E. L. Sartin.

F. S. Sartin.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15: PILGRIMAGE "OLD HOMES"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 29, 1936.

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, (NYA)

"BULLOCK HOME"

The Bullock home in which Mr. Bullock lives is 75 years of age. Mr. Bullock is the only Confederate soldier living in the county. The house is a two-story frame structure, George Washington style, with all the rooms fitting within a single rectangular block for economical building. The house with its steeply pitched roof facing the South, its long slooping roof toward the rear and the graceful lines of the balcony all contribute to an encouraging hint of hospitality in the pleasant exterior that we found borne out in the intimate living room, the airy bedrooms and snug kitchen. It has a large entrance porch, with single columns supporting it and chimneys at both sides of the house.

Specifically, this house is designed to provide pleasant living quarters for a large family, yet, the house is capable of meeting the demands of the re-union that is held there every summer by the family. The surroundings are darkened by the huge oak trees over-shading it and the long "Ole Time" walk is perfected by the large gardenias growing by the wayside.

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15: PILGRIMAGE "OLD HOMES"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 29, 1936.

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, (NYA)

"BULLOCK HOME (CONT'D)

There is further promise that the house is susceptible to change without much cost to its integrity, and could be made into a very beautiful early American home.

REFERENCE:

Mr. Jessie Bullock.

"COLLINS HOME"

The home of Chauncey Collins is the oldest in the county. This place was settled in 1842 and is located two miles East of Tylertown on Collins Creek. This is an early American style with columns made of thin plank. It is a two-story frame building with kitchen built away from the house but is joined to house with plank walk. Low shrubbery is close around the edge of the house. The house has been standing here about 94 years, in fairly good condition. An interesting thing about the place is the nails used in the building are aquare headed. When the Collins built the home the columns were built of plank and old papers were sealed up in them. A short time ago a copy of a religious paper "The Christian Advocate" was pulled out from the columns. Collins



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15: PILGRIMAGE "OLD HOMES"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 29, 1936.

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, (NYA)

"COLLINS HOME (CONT'D)"

wife belonged to the Methodist church and it was thought by surviving descendants that these old papers were put in these columns for curiosity.

The house is now occupied by John Carr, his wife being a grandchild of Chauncey Collins. Many interesting things are seen here. Chauncey Collins made shoes and a part of the bark mill, where leather was tanned is still there, also planks at the spring that Chauncey Collins placed there.

REFERENCE:

Mr. & Mrs. John Carr.

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

Vivian Packwood Hobbs,
County Supervisor
Historical Research Project,

Eloise Sartin, Typist.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15 "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques, and Relics".

DATE: MARCH 3, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

"Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques, and Relics".

INTRODUCTORY

In the Ante-bellum Days home life of the early settlers was very simple for more than a generation. The young couple grew up, married, then settled down. They selected a suitable tract of land and with the help of neighbors and friends constructed a humble pine top hut to begin life with. A little patch was cleared for a garden, a few chickens that the old folks gave them, a pair of pigs, a cow and calf and perhaps a pony constituted the bulk of personal property. The bedstead was of home-made pattern, framed and held to-gether by inter-lacing quarter inch cotton cords, made by hand at the old home, which constituted the bed springs, but more often it was framed to the walls in one corner of the cabin and made of ordinary split timber. A three legged griddle to cook corn hoecakes on, a saucepan, a common frying pan and a small oven to bake suffiesd for the kitchen outfit. A common wooden bench and a few three-legged stools would do to sit on until the head of the house hold could manage to do better. The lands upon which they settled were public property. Wash basins, water buckets, milk piggens and well buckets were made by hand in the shape of those who manufactured the reels, spinning wheels and looms, which all who could must be provided with. There were no allurments beyond the enviraments of these simple homes to distract the minds of the beginners of farm life, and their thoughts and energies were concentrated on the development and strenghtening of the resources acquired.

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15 "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques, and Relics".

DATE: March 3, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

INTRODUCTORY (cont'd)

Love in its purity, strenghtened by mutual confidence, with radiant hope and faith in the Divine Ruler shown with replendent beauty. The young husband with his axe and his rifle on his shoulder, his clear sounding horn swinging to his side, with his ever attendant faithful dog, went about his duties with self-confidence and a bayant heart. The young wife, with rosy cheeks, a loving smile, and a happy heart, made the little home an Eden of joy and gave strength to his soul in the battle of life. The little pine-pole meeting house was good enough for them. It may, however seem very simple to the reader of the present day who has known only the comfort and luxuries of to-day, be he rich or poor, whose ancestors belong to America's past history, sprang from just such people as these, living under just such conditions. The great body of the pioneers of this section came from revolutionary series, schooled in the science of Indian fighting and the hardship and exposures incident to camp life, the hunt for wild game and the labor of their farms. They had inherited the characteristics of their mothers and fathers and they were properly qualified to undertake the mission of establishing new homes in these unbroken wilds and laying the foundation of a great state government.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT #15 "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques, and Relics".

DATE: March 3, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

"THE OLD HOME"

THE CHAUNCEY COLLINS HOME

The Chauncey Collins home is one of the oldest in Walthall county. It was built by Chauncey Collins on Collins Creek in the south eastern portion of the county. The home was built in the year 1843, Chauncey was a tanner & made fine shoes, briddles, and saddles. During those days money was scarce and the people who bought shoes etc. from him paid with trees of which he made lumber by hand and built his house with. It is said it took 2 negro slaves 1 year to make the shingles for this house. They were made with a draw knife. This is an early American style house with colums of thin plank. It is a two-story frame building with kitchen and dining room built away from the house with a plank walk joining them. Low shrubrey is close around the house. An old cedar tree was planted by his daughter Priscilla is in the front yard and the branches are so large until it almost touches and hides the view of the house. The house is in fairly good condition. An interesting thing about the place is the nails used in the building are square headed. When Collins built the house the colums were built of plank and old papers were sealed up in them. A short time ago a copy of a relegious paper "The Christian Advocate" was pulled out of the colum down close to the floor where the floor had rotted. Collins' wife, Cemelia Woodruff belonged to the Methodist Church and it was thought by surviving decendants that these old papers were put in these colums for solid helping.

In the front room of the house is a large fire place in which logs are burned. Over the fire place is an old mirror that has been hanging there

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15 "Ante-bellum Days- Old Homes, Antiques, and Relics"

DATE: March 3, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME (cont'd)"

for many years. On the wall is a hand painted picture of Chauncey Sr. This picture was painted by ~~a Walthall County girl~~, Miss Ella Conerly, who was born & reared in this County. She was the Tylertown Normal an artist and ~~was~~ taught art for a number of years in ~~this county~~. Since the death of Chauncy Collins and his wife, ~~Amelia~~, his home has been in sole posession of the near relatives who have tried to keep the house with all relics etc, as it was when they lived .

When Chauncey Collins first came to this county he came here from Salisburg, Conn., selling the Seth Thomas Clocks. He traveled around over the country on horse back and it was in this way he met his wife, ~~Pamila~~ Amelia Woodruff. Her father, Elias Woodruff, was a native of New Jersey but at this time was living in Columbia, Miss., Marion County. A neighboring county to Walthall which was at that time Pike County.

Chauncey Collins was born in Sallisburg, Conn., Feb. 27th, 1810. In the year of 1831 at the age of 21, he started out to make his own living. He went to Newark, N.J. where he worked four years. He then went into business of making shoes, taking a course at Boston, Mass. He worked there five years as an apprentice to learn how to tan leather and to make all leather goods such as saddles, bridles and shoes. Later he began selling Seth Thomas Clocks and started on a trip to Mississippi coming down in Pike County.

On April 21, 1842 he was married to ~~Camilla~~ Amelia Woodruff. She was a member of a pioneer family living in Marion County. After the marriage they

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15 "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques, and Relics".

DATE: March 3, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

"THE OLD HOME" (cont'd)

settled at the head of Dry Creek which was later called Collins Creek. It is said that he chose this location because he had to have water to put the hides in to soften the leather. He damed up a part of the creek to soak the leather in. The leather had to be treated in several different ways. A redoak solution was prepared to soak the leather in. Redoak bark was ground up in a mill made of wood with two iron rollers. The mill was pulled by a horse hitched to a long pole. After the bark had been run through the two rollers it was placed in water to make the solution to put the leather in . Part of the bark mill where the leather was tanned can still be found. When Chauncey Collins and his wife first settled here in 1842, the place where the home now stands was a wilderness. First one small room was built of peeled logs. There were some wild animals, such as wolves, bears and panthers in the wilderness. They would catch the hogs and make a wierd noise at night. As time went one one or two other log rooms were built where the family slept. There were no near neighbors. Here he started making shoes and was said to be the best shoe-maker in the country. People would come from miles around and send orders to have him make shoes for them. He kept his hides in vats for two years and made the most lasting leather that could be had. He also followed the trade of selling Seth Thomas Clocks and in his diary we find where he and his company, two boys, sold $9,000.00 worth of Clocks.

C

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT# 15" Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques, and Relics".

DATE: Mareh 3, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME" (cont'd).

Chauncey Collins was an intelligent man and a fine historian. Chauncey Collins Sr., was president of the Board of Supervisors when the county seat was at Holmesville and when the county seat was moved to Magnolia he selected the present site for the court house there. Fred Collins, son of Chauncey Sr., was mayor of Magnolia when the Corner Stone was layed in May 27, 1876.

We find a mill that was put in Collins Creek long before Chauncey Collins settled there, about 1843. There is no record of who put it there but it is the belief that some of the early settlers placed it there and were probably killed by the Indians..

In this home we find a good many old antiques. A table and a safe made by Chauncey Collins. They are both hand made. The table isput together with wooden pegs. A knife which he used to shave the hair off the hides is still in the home. An old album , 125 years old, with tin-type pictures of Chauncey Collins, his wife, and several other near relatives. This old Album has been in the family for many, many years. Several of the old pots are still there. They did most of their cooking on the fire place.

The old planks are still in the spring that Chauncey put there. His old diary is still in the home. In the diary we find he took chickens, eggs, lumber etc. for payment of shols Chauncey Collins and his wife lived on this place all their married life. To them were born nine children, Caroline, Julia, Fred W. Chauncey Jr., Warren N., Seth W. Wesley and Rovilla ~~George Jr.~~

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15 "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques, and Relics".

DATE: Mareh 3, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

"THE OLD HOME" (cont'd).

At this writing only one child survives, a daughter, Mrs. Rovilla Daniels, of Magnolia. Seth W. was postmaster for thirty-six years at McComb City, Miss., in Pike County. Wesley E. was postmaster at Summit for several years. Fred W., was a very prominent citizen and a consistent conservative Republican. The following is copied from Luke Conerly's history of pike county, " Fred Collins was born on Magees creek, or rather on Collins creek, near its junction with the former stream in the south eastern portion of Pike county, on the 14th, of September 1846. His father, Chauncey Collins of Scotch abeestry, a native of Salisburg, Conn., came to Mississippi in 1842. His mother, Cemelia Woodruff, a native of New Jersey and daughter of Elias Woodruff lived in Columbia, Miss. Marion county. Fred W. Collins received his education in the common school in the neighborhood of Tylertown. He grew up with the boys of his generation on Magees creek, a section of Pike county which has sent out into the world some brillant self made men. He was too young to enter into Civil War.

At the age of twenty-three, on Jan, 12, 1870, he was married to Mary Elizabeth Smith daughter of William Smith and Angeline Magee.

William Smith was of German decent and a son of one of Pike county's original pioneers, Angeline Magee was a daughter of Sier Magee, who settled on Magees creek in 1811. It was Sier Magee and his brother, Jeremiah Magee that Magees Creek took its name. The Magees came

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15 "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques, and Relics".

DATE: Mareh 3, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME" (cont'd)

Mississippi at large in the Republican National Convention at Chicago and supported Roosevelt and Fairbanks for President and Vice-President. He was also elected chairman of the Republican State Committee and assisted in managing the National Campaign. When Roosevelt sueeeeded to the presidency upon the death of President McKinley, he appointed Mr. Collins Registeror of the Land offiee at Jaekson, Miss. At the end of hds four years term , Roosevelt appointed him to the offiee of Collector of Customs for the Distriet of Rearl River in Mississippi with headquarters at Gulfport, Miss. Chauncey Collins Jr. a brother of Dred Collins was one of the first school teachers in the county. The following write up was clipped from a Tylertown Times , recording his death, Feb.14, 1936, was the date of the paper.

Death of Uncle Chauncey Collins,

Funeral services were held Feb, 10, 1935 for Chauncey Collins Jr., eighty-seven years old, citizen of this county. "Uncle Chance" as he was familiary called was the last of the Collins brothers, who for many years were connected with the business interests of this section of Mississippk. More than 62 years ago he taught in Walthall county schools (when this county was still a part of Pike county), He was a business man for more than sixty years. He was the son of Chauncey Collins Sr. and Cornelia Woodroff. His father was of scotch ancestry and came here-

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15 " Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques, and Relics".

DATE: Mareh 3, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

" THE OLD HOME" (cont'd)

from South Carolina, the Smiths eame from Germany, the Collins and Woodruffs eame from New England. It was a very important epoeh in the history of Pike county that brought Fred Collins to the front as a public man. It was to save pike county from carpetbagism. The Confederate soldiers were his warm personal friends. Governor Ames tried the experiment of appointing an alien sheriff, who mysteriously disappeared. W. H. Raune of Magnolia, member of the State Legislature, in support of Aleorn's policy of appointing native citizens(under the reconstruetion aets) to offiee, had him appointed Circuit Clerk, to which position he was twiee eleeted, while nearly all the other offiees were filled by the eleetion of Democrats. In 1870 he was eleeted Mayor of Magnolia and served as Deputy Sheriff under J. T. Travis. He moved to Summit and was eleeted by the Democrats of that town an Mayor. He held the offiee of postmaster of Summit for several years under appointment of President Hayes. In 1890, President Harrison appointed him Untied States Marshal for the southern distriet. In 1892 he was a delegate to the Republican National Convention of Minneapolis and a delegate at large to the St Louis Convention. He was appointed Marshal by President McKinley in 1897. The Govenor of Mississippi appointed him alternate commissioner to the Worlds Fair at Chieago. In June 1900, he was sent as a delegate at large to the Rupublican National Convention at Philadelphia that nominated McKinley and Roosevelt for President and Vice-President. In 1904 he again served as a deligate from

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT #15 "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques, and Relics."

DATE: Mareh 3, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME"(cont'd)

from Salisburg, Conn. in 1842. He settled on Magees Creek on the same farm on which his son Chauncey died. His mother ~~Cemelia~~ Amelia Woodruff was also from New Jersey. Chauncey Jr. never married. Each year he would celebrate his birthday with a picnic dinner on May 2, and it was a custum of all the near relatives and many friends to gather at this old historic home.

Chauncey Collins Sr.'s wife was a decendant of the Choctaw Indian Tribe. ~~Cemelia~~ Amelia Woodruff's mother was named Sookie Davy and her father Gilbert B. were full blooded indians. There is in the Collins home an indian basket which was made by the indians. It is in good condition and is being used by the Carr family.

The old family cemetary is about two-hundred feet in front of the old Collins home. Chauncey Collins Sr. his wife, and two of his sons are buried there. On Chauncey Collins Sr. tomb we find this:

"Chauncy Collins Sr.-Born Feb., 27, 1810
Died July 1887 .
He lived and died an honest man the
nobliest work of God."

Mr. and Mrs. John Carr are now living in the old Chauncy Collins home.

Mrs. Carr is Mr. Chauncy Collins granddaughter.

George H. Collins is a son of Chauncey Collins Sr. and we have sent in an autobiography of his life

Ref: Mrs. Ramella Collins Daniels
Magnolia, Mississippi
Mr. & Mrs. John Carr, Tylertown, Miss
Lucas Conerly's history of Pike County

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15, "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques, and Relics."

DATE: Mareh 3, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME"

THE OLD NEEDHAM RAIFORD HOME

The old Raiford home was built in 1850 at China Grove and was considered the finest home in this part of the country. It was painted, made early american style, two story, beautiful winding stairway, and it contained twelve rooms. They were beautifully furnished but all the antique furniture dealers and decendants of the old family have carried them out of this county, and we have been unable to locate any of them. Twenty years ago one of the old slaves who lived there during Raifords time told of the pots of gold that had been buried there before the masters death and had never been found, so night after night large holes were dug all around the house. It was never known if they found the gold, but a neighbor wrote to Raiford's wife who then lived on the Gulf Coast and asked if she thought there could be any gold there. She replied, that she was sure her husband never found all that he buried.

Needham Raiford came from North Carolina. His first wife belonged to a Penn. family of Louisiana. He was a Methodist Minister and preached at China Grove. He acquired considerable wealth as a cotton planter, in land, slaves and stock and employed Joseph Barr, who was an experienced farmer and manager. His plantation is located a short distance south of China Grove Church. He became the owner of the entire land estate of Owen Conerly Sr. about 1850, at an administrator's sale including the plantation and Ralph Stovall s mill property. He was fond of hunting and on one of his trips to North Carolina he procured

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15 "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques, and Relics."

DATE: Mareh 3, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME"(cont'd)

THE OLD NEEDHAM RAIFORD HOME

some long eared blue speckled deer dogs. They were slow trailors, but whenever they got a smell of a deers track it was almost certain to be caught. They took the hounds and stuck to their game for days and even weeks. On one occasion they started a deer hunt on magees creek, chased it up to Darbun, around by Waterhole's Church in Marion county and back, and then out on Pearl River in the neighborhood of the Lenoirs above Columbia, then back to it's former lair on magees creek and was captured. Raiford's first wife died in the early sixties. He then married Miss Emma Summers of Smith county. They had only one son. Raiford died and his wife married A. S. Bishop. She was a lady of the sweetest and most charming manners. This splendid plantation mansion then became known as the Old Bishop place of which a very wierd ghost story is told. The Bishop house was supposed to be haunted. It had an enclosed stairway. An old man that walked with a stick lived and died at this place. Noises could be heard coming down the stairs. Some thought that it was the old mans ghost on the stairs. Great crowds of young people would go there to see if they could discover what the noise really was. One day someone looked up the stairway when this noise was heard and saw a large snake crawling down the stairs. His tail would hit each step and make a noise like someone walking.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT #15 "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques, and Relics."

DATE: Mareh 3, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

"THE OLD HOME"

THE ANTI-BELLUM HOME

There is an old home that is about 135 years old in the north-western part of Walthall county on a creek called Carter's creek. The old house is made of split logs and ceiled with sash sawed lumber. The ceiling overhead is put on top of the beams that cross the house. The original flooring has worn out and it has been refloored with old fashion lumber. It had wooden shutters for windows. At a later date one or two glass windows have been put in besides these shutters. A dirt chimney was used until a later date when a brick chimney replaced it. This brick chimney fell and now a flue with a heater is used for heating. This house had a large fireplace room with shed rooms to the north and east attached to it. The porch faces the south. An old log kitchen was made seperate from the house on the north side. This has been torn down now and also the east shed room. A room has later been put on one end of the porch.

An old road passed in front of this house that intersected the Summit and Columbia road about a mile from the house. This road has been discontinued and a public road passes to the east of the house.

This place was owned during slavery time by a bachelor, Ben McClendon. His sister, Mrs. Ziggler and a cousin, Betsy Horn lived with him. He

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

"THE OLD HOME" (cont'd)
ANTI-BELLUM HOME

owned ten or fifteen slaves. One of these slaves did the cooking. The cabins for the negroes were situated west and south west from the main dwelling.

At the creek was an old wooden water wheel that provided the power for a grist mill and gin. At a later date horses helped to give power to the gin. When the wooden water wheel gave way an iron one was installed and used. This wheel and shute along with some sills are still in the creek. The grist mill and gin were used at this site until about fourty years ago.

This place is now owned by S. N. Morgan, who lives at this time on the place. The old house is used now by tenants.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
WALTHALL COUNTY
ASSIGNMENT # 15 "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques and Relics."
DATE: MARCH 3, 1937
CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME"
PETER SANDIFER'S HOME

In 1820 at Magees creek a few miles below Conerly's mill lived a family by the name of Peter Sandifer. They were deseendants from South CarOlina, coming here on pack-horses. It was during this year that the noted Pacific-Atlantic hurricane commencing on the Pacific Ocean past through this country to the Atlantic somewhere in North Carolina. It made a through sweep through this part of the country and struck a little below China Grove where Peter Sandifer settled. It swept his home and everything off the face of the earth, leaving him in the woods with no place for protection for his family. At that time neighbors were so few and scattered he could not gather his little family and find shelter in anothers home as we of to-day. But, it was customary in those days to help their neighbors in time of need, so all his neighbors for miles around were summonsed to his aid.

The woods were so thick and bears, panthers, wolves and wildcats were in such an abundance that it was not a safe place, by any means, to leave the women and children at home unprotected, so it grew to be customary to take the women and childrew along whenever the man went. The women usually quilted while the men did the other work.

All the neighbor-men with their families came to Peter Sandifer's place to assist him in erecting some means of a home for his wife and children. The men immediately went to work , some cutting blocks and

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15 ."Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques, and Relics."

DATE: March 3, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME"

PETER SANDIFER'S HOME (cont'd)

some pine poles and peeling them, and some reving boards and the women set about preparing their meals.

In these days this section of Magees creek had a wide flat bottom, which was good for wild animals to hid in. It was covered with a very thick undergrowth and wild cane. There was a spring some distance from the house that furnished water for this place. The women were in need of more water to finish the meal and they sent the children, unprotected, to the spring for water. Who should be in posession of the spring but a big, black, grizzley bear, and demanded that the children come no closer. As you know, the children suddenly became frantic with fear at the sight and voice of such a monster. They began screaming in such pitiful and wailing tones until it immediately brought out the entire fighting force of the small group. Men were armed with guns and knives, women and the well trained dogs. But the women as they usualy are, were so frightened they could not and did not do anything but assist the children with their screaming. The bear however, was not alarmed over the appearence of the force but was rather infuriated. At first, the men let the well trained dogs try to mannage the bear as they were afraid to shoot him on account of the presence of the women and children for fear they would kill one of them. There was a tremendous fight put up, finally the dogs were exhausted in strength and were

ISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

ALTHALL COUNTY

SSIGNMENT # 15, "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques and Relics.

DATE: March 3, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

"THE OLD HOME"

PETER SANDIFER'S HOME(cont'd)

not able to endure the fight any longer. The bear finally picked up one of the most valuable dogs and proceeded to caress him vigorously while folded in his massive arms. The dog howled for dear life and this was too much for the dog's owner and he and the others rushed in with their big knives to put the rascal to pursuit. The bear would first slap one man away then another one, growling and grinning , exposing his great big sharp teeth as if to say, " I am king of this place and nothing or nobody can put me to flight." This attitude of the bear gave the men more zeal to fight. They realized they had a horrid fight on hand and did not think their lives were of much value in the hands of such a commanding animal as this, but they were thinking at this crucial moment of their wives and children and put forth all the strength they could manufacture to win the fight. The women and children screamed all the more for they almost knew without doubt that some would be widows and orphans in just a few minutes. The men were strong and kept straight ahead in the fight with a feeling their maker was near with a protecting hand . The bear kept his strength up , however, the men fought the harder. He had already scratched the men badly and torn their flesh as he ripped most of their clothes from them and the blood was streaming forth. Finally Peter Sandifer saw where he could take advantage of the bear, so he rushed forth and stabbed the bear with a long sharp knife. The knife pierced his heart and left him laying prostrate at the mens' feet.

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15 , "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes,Antiques and Relics."

DATE: Mareh 3, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME"

PETER SANDIFER'S HOME (cont'd)

A part of this old home is still standing. W. M Sandifer, great grandchild of Peter Sandifer, lives on the place. The home hasbeen in possession of the Sandifer family all these years.

W. M. Sandifer who lives on Rt.1 Tylertown has a flour barrel which has been in the Sandifer family since 1820. Peter Sandifer, great grand-father of W. M. Sandifer settled five miles north of Tylertown in 1820. Sometime during this first year, a neighbor made a trip to Natchez and brought back a barrel of flour amoung other provisions. When the flour was emptied the barrel was used for a meal barrel.

The youngest son of Peter Sandifer became the owner of the barrel. He used it for years then passed it on to his youngest son, W. M.(Bill) Sandifer, who is useing it daily as a meal barrel.

Mrs Sandifer said that it had the same hoops that came on it and that if it didn't get burned wh would hand it down to his youngest son.

Peter Sandifer's decendants have lived a few miles from Tylertown since 1820 and they are probably the oldest family in the county.

We also find in this home an Iron cooking kettle that was brought from South Carolina. The pot was bought in 1812 by Peter Sandifer. This pot is now 125 years old.

HISTORICALN RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15. "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques, and Relics."

DATE: Mareh 3, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME"

THE MARION LEE HOME

The Marion Lee Home was built in 1880. Mr. Lee had the home built by Joe Page, a carpenter at that time. It is of wood structure with one large room upstairs, the length of the building, with stairs leading from the back hall. The downstairs has two rooms on either side of the hall. The kitchen and dinning-room were made of logs and it to had an up stairs. The steps in it leading from the pantry. This log structure was connected to the main building by an uncovered plank walk. The foundation is of large sound rocks and heart sills.

The log building was the original home of Armstead Hall, one of the karlier settlers. His grandson, T. Wes Thornhill, now lives in the Marion Lee Home.

T. E. Pezant bought the home in 1907 from Mr. Lee's son-in-law, John J. Brumfield. In 1913, Mr. Pezant built a kitchen and dinning-room to the main building and in the fall of 1927 that same part was torn down and another built. The place is now valued at $3000.00. The owner is Mary Ida Thornhill, former wife of T. E. Pezant.

The place is located eight miles west of Tylertown on the Bogue-Chitto River, two miles north of Highway 24. There is a large Post Oak in front of the house that is about 100 years old. The crib setting north of the house is made of hand hewn logs; built about 1850, and still in use. To the back of the house is a boiling spring. On a hot summer day this water is equal to ice water. There was a house built

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15, "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques and Relics."

DATE: March 3, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME"

THE MARION LEE HOME (cont'd)

over this spring, called by the users the "Spring House". This was used to cool milk (usually butter milk churned in a large earthen-ware churn ) for table use. There were shelves in the house used to keep canned fruits on. It was used to preserve fresh meat and any perishable food that could be saved by ice, or the coolness of this spring. The house has washed away in flood waters but the faithful little spring still boils its pure, cool water.

There are two pear trees still bearing fruit that were set out sixty years ago on the premises.

Mr. Lee was a Confederate War Veteran. He was wounded in the war, wearing a silver plated skull to his grave. The wound was inflicted by a boomshell.

Mr. Lee was born in Marion County, his family moved to this county when he was a mere boy. He grew up in this county and later married Polly Sandifer, daughter of John and Nancy Sandifer. Mr. Lee was a farmer and stuck to farming throughout life. Together, Mr. and Mrs. Lee worked and reared six noble men and three fine women. These were; Henry M., Fannie, Jessie J., Eliza, George W., Molly, Albert S., Eugene, and Joe E., there is one daughter, Molly, and three sons Henry, Jessie and George living at this writing. Henry and Jessie still live in this county and George and Molly live in Magnolia, the former trading town.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15, "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques and Relics."

DATE: March 3, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B? THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME"

THE MARION LEE HOME (cont'd)

There grew out of this family a noted Physician, Dr. Albert Lee, and Professor of Public Schools and County Superintendent of Education for years, Professor J. J. Lee.

ANTIQUES AND HEIRLOOMS IN THE HOME

There is a child's teaster bed that has been in the Pezant family about 85 years and is still in use. A table belonging to the family brought from Germany. It is about 100 years old. A Loom used by Mrs. Lee and her ancestors. A tin-type picture of T. E. Pezant's grandmother, still well preserved, over 100 years old. Two pictures of T. E. Pezant's mother and father that are sixty years old or more, that are still clear. There is a pair of Cuff-Links made of Gold German Dollars that are over 100 years old, a rifle used by James W. Thornhill 80 years ago to hunt with. It is now owned by his son, T. Wes Thornhill, an occupant of the house.

ANTE-BELLUM APPAREL

There is a bustle worn by Mrs. Polly Lee, wife of Marion Lee.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

There is a walking cane used by Armstead Hall, then by Jane Hall

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15, "Ante-bellum Days, Antiques, Old Homes, and Relics."

DAT E : Mareh 3, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME"

THE MARION LEE HOME (cont'd)

Thornhill, daughter of Armstead.The walking cane is now owned by Jane's son, T. Wes Thornhill. It is still useable and has been used 85 years.

ANTIQUES

There are a few antiques that have not been mentioned before, they are; An old spinning wheel and loom owned by T. W. Thornhill that his mother used. His mother was known as "Grandma Jane Thornhill" in this county. She spun and wove yards and yards of cloth on it during Civil War. It is over 100 years old. T. Wes Thornhill has a bedspread that was spun and woven on this spinning wheel over 75 years ago.

There is an old fashioned watch chain made of braided hair. It now belongs to Doris Pezant. It was made from her grandmother's hair. She also has an old fashioned breast pin with saphire stones over 100 yrs. old.

There is a library table made by Armstead Hall fastened together with pegs instead of nails. It is made of cherry wood 100 yrs. old. It is owned by Mrs. Lucy Thornhill, she also owns a diary 75 yrs. old. It is pegged together and was made by James W. Thornhill.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15. "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques and Relics."

DATE: Mareh 8, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME"

THE ELIGA WALKER HOME

Mr Walker was one of the early settlers of this county. He settled this place in 1825. It is located two miles south of highway 24 on the Bogue Chitto River. He built this house of peeled pine pokes notched at the ends. It is a two-story building with four bed rooms down stairs and one large room up stairs. It has one large chimney on the west side of the house. The kitchen and dining room is built separate from the house with a plank walk leading from the house to the kitchen. The front porch extends all across the front of the house. At the back of the house sits the barn, also made of pine poles. At the front and side of the house there are several wateroaks that are at least 150 years old. They are covered with moss that has been there for at least 75 years. At the back of this plantation there is a huge marshy swamp where, at that time, there were known to be lots of wild animals, such as wildcats, panthers, deer and a good many bears. Joining this place on the north side there is an old cemetery where some of the early settlers are buried. The cemetery is called the Land Cemetery. All of the Lane family is buried there.

Mr. Walker and his wife raised four children, three sons and one daughter. All of their sons served in the Confederate War. Their names were; John A.,Thomas, and Anderson. The daughter was named Margaret.

In 1850, John A., became Supervisor of Pike County,during this time he had a grist mill on this farm. He ground meal for all the

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
WALTHALL COUNTY
ASSIGNMENT #15, "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques and Relics."
DATE: Mareh 8, 1937.
CANVASSERS: MRS LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME"
THE ELIGA WALKER HOME (cont'd)

people around there.

John A. Walker had the first bridge built over Boguechitto River, on what is now called highway 24. It has been called Walker's Bridge ever since. Mr. Walker owned a large number of slaves on his plantation. He owned one slave that he bought from Sherrod Gray. The slave kept slipping away from Mr. Gray's farm and coming over to Walkers', so Mr. Walker bought the slave from Mr. Gray for $1000.00 . The next morning when the negro was eating breakfast, Mr. Walker told him to take the mules and wagon and go over to Mr. Jessie Brumfields' and get a barrel of syrup. The negro said he would but he did'nt need a horse and wagon. He went to Mr. Brumfields and brought the syrup to Mr. Walkers on his shoulders, a distance of two miles. When he returned to Mr. Walkers, Mr. Walker told him that he believed he was realy worth $1000.00.

He then put the negro to spliting rails. He could split more rails in a day than any of the others.

This old slave lived with Mr. Walker until he died at the age of 90 years.

Mr. Walker built nice warm cabins on his plantation for the slaves to live in. He would roast large amounts of peanuts for his slaves and they would build a large fire near their cabins and sit and eat them and have a good time.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
WALTHALL COUNTY
ASSIGNMENT # 15. "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques and Relics."
DATE: Mareh 8, 1937.
CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME"
THE ELIGA WALKER HOME (cont'd)

Mr. Walker's daughter, Margaret, married John D. Simmons and they fell heir to the old home in 1900. They raised a large family of children there, their names were; Hester, Julia, Frank, Jamie, Lovey, Mattie, Walter and Eliga. All of them are dead exeept Eliga and Walter. Eliga is living on the place at the present time. The only changes that have been made in the house is that it has been sealed and the kitchen and dining room is joined to the house.

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15, "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques and Relics."

DATE: March 8, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME"

ELISHA THORNHILL HOME

This place is located four miles north of Tylertown, on what is known as Dry Creek. The house was built in 1854. It is made of peeled round pine poles. Elisha Thornhill built one large room with a porch and a shed room to the side. It had one large room built off from the house used for the kitchen. These pine poles were notched together at the corners. It has a little uncovered plank walk that led to the kitchen from the house. The windows have shutters made of plank. The flooring is made of wide plank. It has one large dirt chimney on the north side of the house, the fireplace is wide enough to put wood six or seven feet long in it. In 1860 , Elisha Thornhill added an extra room to the house. There was an open hallway between the two rooms, with a long porch all across the front of them. On the north side of the house sits the barn. It is also made of pine poles. On the west side of the house there are a few large trees about 75 years old. There is an old cemetery on this place known as the Thornhill Graveyard. All the dear are buried there.

Elisha Thornhill was born in South Carolina in 1799. His father was named William Thornhill.

Elisha married Mary Carr and they raised a large family in this home. Their names were; William B., Elizabeth, Ishman, Brian, Adeline, Mary Ann, James W., Millie, Susan and John M.. John M. was a carpenter of that day. Ishman, Brian,&James W., were all killed in the Civil War.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15. "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques and Relics."

DATE: March 8, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"THE OLD HOME"

ELISHA THORNHILL'S HOME (cont'd)

Elisha Thornhill did not have any slaves.

Susan and Millie never married. Susan is the owner of the homestead at the present time. Susan, known as Aunt Susan, in this county is 92 years old.

People all over the county have always thought that Mr. Thornill left a lot of money buried on this place. Lots of mornings there would be large holes dug around in the yard and around the chimney. Aunt Susan and her sisters would'nt give any one permission to dig in the yard so that gave any one with a mineral rod more curosity to dig.

Aunt Susan has several old fashioned bedsteads that are at least 100 years old. Also, in this old house is a clock made of wood about four feet high and two feet wide. All the works in it are made of wood. It is an old Thornhill Relic, 100 years old.

Since they are all dead except Susan, she has moved in the house with her cousin, Miss Myra Owens. The old home is now vacant.

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
WALTHALL COUNTY
ASSIGNMENT # 15. "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques and Relics."
DATE : March 8, 1937.
CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

ANTIQUES AND RELICS

Mrs. Lucy Conerly Ball daughter of R. A. Conerly has a New Testament that was given her as a birthday gift by her father. This Bible is a treasure. It was given to Mr. R. A. Conerly by his father, James Conerly when he was just a small boy. His father had used the Bible for many years. It is over 100 years old.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT
WALTHALL COUNTY
ASSIGNMENT # 15, "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques and Relics."
DATE: March 8, 1937 .
CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"ANTIQUES"

Eugene Bacot has a silk bonnet that belonged to his wifes great,great grandmother. It is padded with cotton and quilted. It is about 150 years old.

Julius Bacot has a quilt that his grandmother made. It's name is The Wheel of Fortune. The top is pieced of brown and white with a white lining. It is over 100 years old. Mrs. John Sibley made the quilt.

Julius Bacot has his grandfather's walking cane that is about 75 years old. He also has a marble top bureau that belonged to his grandparents. It was bought new in 1843 to go in their new home. He also has a small spool legged table, a glass water pitcher, a glass footed preserve dish and a home-made cupboard that was built when their new home was built in 1843. The pitcher and preserve dish are over 100 years old. He has a photograph of his grandparents that is 100 years old.

Irs O'Quin has an extra large hunting horn that his uncle Isaac Duncan gave him. This horn is about 100 years old.

The first cane mill known of in this county was on the farm of W, M. Stovall Holmes about seventy years ago. It was made of wood and two wollers that turned around. The cane was put in between the rollers, on stalk at the time. The cane was first washed and dried by hand and the juice was put in a wash pot and boiled to make the syrup. This was a very slow process.

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 15, "Ante-bellum Days, Old Homes, Antiques and Relics."

DATE: March 8, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THAORHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"ANTIQUES" (Cont'd)

Mrs. Dr. Boyd is now useing one of these old pots to boil clothes in on wash days.

REFERENCES:

Pike County History by Luke W. Conerly.

Mrs. A. Z. Breeland.

E. W. Kitchen

Mrs. L. A. Burnett

Mrs. W. M. Boyd

Mrs. Lucy Ball

Mr. R. A. Conerly

Mr. J. W. Thornhill

Files of the Tylertown Times.

PRODUCT OF Amfile EST. 1968 KANKAKEE, ILL. AMERICAN FILE & INDEX CO.

WALTHALL COUNTY, OLD HOMES

Copy

1

6

ASSIGNMENT: NO. 5

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH

May 14, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: NO 5-

OUTLINE

SUBJECT: WARS:

I. Make a careful survey of the citizens of your county as to what part each played in the wars of:

(a) World War
(b) Spanish American War
(c) War between the States
(d) Mexican War
(e) War of 1812
(f) Revoluntiopary War

II. If you can find a roster (List of Officers) of both Army and Navy, make a copy and attach to manuscript.

III. Give an account of any exploits you can find in which an active part was taken.

IV. Get a record of the First Mississippi Regiment of as far back as you can, through as many of the wars as possible, up through the World War when it was called 155th Mississippi Regiment.

WALTHALL COUNTY, WARS

WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: " WARS "
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

I. CITIZENS WHO SERVED IN THE WARS FROM THIS COUNTY

(a) World War

1. Carl B. Bullock- (pvt.) 28th Co., 20th Engineers. Served with Co. F. 8th Bn. Served in France.
2. Rufus Martin (pvt.) Co. F. 317th Inf. Served in France and England.
3. Marshall Roberts (pvt.) Engineers 134 Transportation Corps.
4. Altus B. Harvey (pvt.) Medical Reserve Corp.
5. Hicks M. Yarborough (pvt.) S. A. T. C. University Miss.
6. Clive Yarborough (cook) A. S. C.
7. Seth Bridges (pvt.) Co. A327. Served as Bn.
8. Hugh J. Bullock (pvt.) Co. F-7th Inf. Served in France.
9. Albert J. Yarborough (Copp.) Co, D-508 Engineer.
10. Robert H. Howell (pvt.) Co. 10 Recruit Dep't.
11. John D. Breeland (pvt.) M. T. C. Detachment #1- Motor Transportation Corps.
12. Harrison Brister (pvt.) Q. M. C. Co. A-307. Served in Bn.
13. Virgil T. Pigott (pvt.) Co. B-149th Inf.
14. Andrew J. McKenzie (pvt.) Military Police, 3rd Army Corps.



WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: "WARS "
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

World War (Cont'd)

15. George P. Harvey (pvt.) Hdqts. Dep't. 605 Engineer
16. Thomas T. Comerly (Corp.) U. S. Marine
17. R. S. Ginn (pvt.) Co. B- 151st Inf.
18. Curtis Johnson- Co. C-5th Field Signal (Horseshoer) Served in France, Germany, Belgium and Lexingburg.
19. Roy D. Sinclair (pvt.) Air Service, 7th Balloon Co.
20. Bouie G. Simmons (pvt) Hdqts. Co-140th Reg. Field Artillery.
21. Victor N. Morgan (pvt.) Medical Corp.
22. William O. Magee (cook) M. D. Base Hospital #24.
23. Richard Foil (pvt.) Bakery Co.-310 Q. M. C.
24. Earl C. Magee (Segt) #6 Hdqts. 26th Inf.
25. Troy Rushing (pvt.) Co. D-56th Engineer
26. Sam B. Lampton (Segt).Medical Dep't Base Hospital #24 Served in France.
27. Anthoney E. Boyd (pvt.) Causal Co. 17- Recruit Dep't. 150th Inf.
28. Warren Q. Ard- Wagon Supply Co.- 137th Field Artillery.
29. Frances M. Crawford (copp.) Co. B-140th M. E. Battallian.
30. Geogge H. Pittman (Corp.) Co. F-154th Inf. Served in France.

WALTHALL COUNTY, WARS

WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: " WARS "
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

World Wars (Cont'd)

31. Samuel R. Dunaway (pvt.) Battery F. 138th Field Artillery and w s with A. E. F. England and France.
32. Percy Joe Owens (pvt.) Causal Co. #4 - C o. K. 150th Inf.
33. H. M. Etheridge (pvt.) Causal Co. #16- Recruit Dep't.
34. Latimore Ball (pvt.) Co. A-530.
35. Wirt L. Alford (pvt.) Co. K. 150th Inf.
36. Dudley Alford (pvt.) Co. F-7th Inf.
37. Albert J. Howell (pvt.) Co. F-2nd Battalian
38. Needham Ellzey (pvt.) Wagon Supply Co. 2nd Q. M. Corp.
39. Thad Ball (pvt.) Gas Co. #112 (839) Transportation Corp.
40. William Marion Conerly- Co. C-114th Inf.
41. George W. Rushing (pvt.) Co.-327 Inf.
42. James L. Conérly - Mechanic Enlistment Recruit.
43. Jasper Holmes (pvt.) Co. C-407th Reserve Labor Battalian.
44. Maxie James (pvt.) Co. A-15th Bn. Replacement & Tr. Gr.
45. Fred Lundy (pvt.) 209 Transportation Cor. Served in France
46. James Cleave Craft (pvt.) C o. C-152nd Inf. Served in France.
47. Ellis Sims (pvt.) Co. D- No. 2-162 Depot Brigade .
48. Otis Nelson Harvey (pvt.) S. A. T. S. Miss. College
49. Jewel Harvey (pvt.) Co. A-38th Inf.
50. Dewitt E. Crain (pvt.) Co. F-84th Inf.



WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14- 1936
ASSIGNMENT: " WARS "
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

World War (Cont(d)

51- Earnie R. Beard (pvt.) Co. K-149th Inf.
52. Boyd Pigott (pvt.) 31st Co. Transportation Corp.
53. David C. Reeves (pvt.) 8th Co. 162nd Depot Brigade
54. Clyde Cothern (segt). Utility Detachment Q. M.
55. John H. Ratcliff (pvt.) Casualty Co. 10-Recruit Co.
56. Willie Smith (pvt.) Co. 21-420th Reserve Labor.
57. Hollis Jones (pvt.) 810 Co. Transportation Corp.
58. Chauncey J. Jacobs (pvt.) Q. M. C. Co-A0539 Service Battalian.
59. James Pittman (cook) Co. D -806 Inf. Sered in France.
60. Clyde Foil (cook) Casual Co. No. 10- Co. C-148th M. D. Battalia
61. Bural Albert Toney (pvt.) Q. M. C. Dept. Co# 84
62. James Magee (pvt) Co. 112th Inf.
63. Ed Owens(Corp.) Co. B-140th Machine Gun Battalian
64. Albert Fortenberry (pvt). Battery D.-138th Field Artillery
65. George Washington Pope (pvt) Co.F-166th Inf.
66. Marcus Fortenberry (pvt.) Engineers Co. A-113th Engineer. Served in France and Germany.
67. Ezel Magee (pvt.) Casual Co. #27 (368th) Inf. Served in France and England.
68. Claude I. Pigott (pvt.) Co. 13 Recruit Camp.
69. Eric Alton Brock (navy) Fireman Second Class.

WALTHALL COUNTY, WARS

WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: "WARS"
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

World War (Cont'd)

70. Edgar Magee (pvt.) Q. M. C. Co. B-328. Served Ben. Served in France.

71. Eckie Fortenberry (pvt.) C.o. A-141st Inf. Served in France.

72. Samuel Foil. Q. M. C. (pvt.) Co. 55- A. E. C.

73. Alvin Brown Cantwell (pvt.) Co. K. 42rd Inf.

74. Ado Smith (pvt) Co. A-513 th Engineer

75. Seab W. Ginn (pvt) Co. -10- Recruit Department.

76. William D. Ginn - Medical Dep't. Labor Corp. Co. H- Geneva France.

77. Homer L. Alexander, (Segt). Co. B-140th M. G. Batt.

78. Walter C. Hones (pvt). 156th Inf.

79. Clarence Pigott (pvt.) Co. K- 147th Inf. Served in France and England.

80. Arthur Brister (pvt.) Co. C-415 Labor Batt.

81. John C. Brock (Segt). 312 Fire Truck (345th Inf.) and Hose Co.

82. Eugene Barber (pvt.) Co. A-330 Inf.

83. George H. Lewis (pvt.) Salvage Co. M. G. Corp.

84. Ira L. Fortenberry (cook) 4th Co.

85. Eugene D. Pigott- A recruit of General and Assist of



WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: " WARS"
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

World War (Cont'd)

of 87 DW. N. A.

86. Eddie J. Webb- Veterinary Corp.

87. Burrell H. Fortenberry (pvt.) Engineer Co. A-116 Engineer 41st Division.

88. Paul Brewer (pvt). Evacuation Hospital #32, Served in France and England.

89. George K. Fortenberry (cook) Air Service Co. E-and C orp.

90. Daniel Lewis (pvt.) 809 Transportation Corp. Served in France.

91. Edward Dillon Co. B-419 Reserve Labor.

92. Jessie Leonard Bullock (pvt.) S. A. T. C. Miss. College-Clinton.

93. Hallie S. Magee (pvt.) Co. B-5th M. C. Served in France, England and Germany, Lucenburg and Belgium.

94. Curtis Magee (pvt.) Engineers Reserve Corp.

95. Algemon F. McDaniel Casual Co. 10, Co. B- 153th Inf. Served in France.

96. Eddie Jacobs (cook) 821 Transportation Corp. Served in France.

97. Hosea J. Cother (Corp.) Co. K- 140th Inf. Served in France.

98. Dewitt C. Conerly (pvt.) 481st Aero Squadron.

99. Luther Webb (pvt.) Co. A-18th Inf. 1st Army Dep't.

100. Willie Dillon (pvt.) Casual Transportation Corp. Served in France.

WALTHALL COUNTY, WARS

WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: " WARS
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Word War (Cont'd)

101- Ola Otho Magee (pvt.) Co.-E. 327th Inf. Served in France.

102- Paul E. Fortenberry (pvt.) 113th French Motor Battalian.

103- Lem. Harrison Ginn- U. S. Navy. Naval Service Force. Active service from 6-20-1918 to 8-15-1918.

104. Clyde E. Stogner (pvt.) 1st Class Medical Dep't.

105. Henry Smith (pvt. Co. D. 526 Engineer Service. Served in France.

106. Robert F. Ryals (pvt. Co. D-38th Inf. Served in France and Germany.

107. Stanton K. Calhoun - S. T. A. C. A & M. College.

108. Ottis Lee Brumfield (pvt.) Co. K. School Troop Inf.

109. William S. Blackwell (pvt). Co. G. - 30th Inf.

110. John Moses (pvt.) Co. 1-314th Pioneer Inf.

111. Elisha Magee (pvt.) Co. D- 319 Serv. Bn. Served in France.

112. Bruster V. Alford (pvt.) Battery A. -138th Field Artillery

113. Arthur V. M. Creel (pvt.) Co. F-328th Inf.

113. Wesley Palmer (pvt.) Remount Troop A.R.D. 313 Q. M. C.

114. Ira M. Craft (pvt. ) 1st Class Casual Co. 10-

115, Marcus Eli Pigott (pvt.) Co. C-150th Inf. Served over se



WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: "WARS"
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

World War (Cont'd)

116- Joe Red Parsons (pvt.) 15- Co. 4- Recruit B. 16 Depot Brigade.

117. Mason E. May (pvt.) Battery E. 20th Field Artillery.

118. Albert Barlow (navy) Served in w r on U. S. S. Montana.

119. Willie F. Fortenberry (cook) 4th Co. M. Regment Air Service.

120. Fred W. Magee - Co. B-152nd Inf. Served in France.

121. Dan Magee (pvt.) Co. A-513 Engineers.

122. Monroe Dunaway (pvt.) Co. C-Casual Center.

123. Dewitt Alexander (pvt.) Casualty Co. 4(153rd D. B.)

124. Marshall I. Bracey (cook) 29th Co. Transportation Corp. Served in France.

125. Ben Smith (pvt.) Co. B-14th Replacement Bn.

126. Soleman Singleton (pvt.) Co. C- 508th Engineers.

127. Sebe Easterling (pvt.) Co. E.-2nd Inf. Casual Dep't.

128. Edgar Hodges (pvt.) Casual Co. 16th Recruit Co.

129. Fredrick Hilton Ball (pvt.) Student Army Training Camp, Mississippi Agricultural School.

130. Hampton W. Reid (Co. E-306) Inf.

131- Alexander Fortenberry (pvt.) Co. C-3rd Batt.

132. Prentiss Boyd (pvt.) Salvage Co. Q. M. C.

133. Randolph Marion McGaughey (-vt.) Casual Co. D-113 A. F.

134. John Ratcliff (pvt.) Co. A.-419th Reserve Labor Batt.

WALTHALL COUNTY / WARS

WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: " WARS "
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

World War (Cont'd)

135. Alfred Ball (Pvt.) Co. A-565 Engineer Serv. Batt.

136. Warren Pigott (pvt.) Co. F- 2nd Group Replacement and Training Center.

137. William M. Ball- 2nd Lieut. - 155th and 51st Inf.

138. William M. Bowman- Medical Dep't. Served in France.

139. Jimmie I. Walker (pvt.) 11th Inf. 5th Div.

140. Marcus Turnage - 156th M. G. Battalian.

141. Dillie A. Richmond- Co. K. 163 rd Inf.

142. Benjamin H. Rimes, S. A. T. S. A & M. College.

143. Dewitt Pigott, U. S. Navy.

144. Collins C. Pope- Medical Department

145- J. Nelson Payne, 5th Machine Battalian.

146. Floyd McKenzie, Base Hospital #118.

147. Ernie Johnson, 27th Casual Co.

148. Vester Graham- 236 Field Artillery.

149. Ollie E. Holmes- Navy. U. S. Annapolis

150. Carl Holmes- Co. H- 155th Inf.

151- Otley J. Ginn- U. S. Navy, U. S. S. Minnepolis

152. Dallas D. Futch, Co. M. 2nd Miss. Inf.

153. Clyde Foil - 140 M. G. Batt.

154. J. Elisha Fortenberry- Base Hospital Boston, Mass.

155. Lee Carmen Battery D. 130 F. A.



WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: " WARS "
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO .

World War (Cont'd)

156. Lyman Brumfield- Casual Co.

157. Clayde N. Brumfield- 302 Calvery

158. J. R. Bryant- 334 Aero. Squadron.

159. Marvin Bacot- Co. C- Postal Service

160. Emon L. Alford- U;S. Navy, U. S. S. Lauriana.

161. Wesley Holmes ). . . . Died on the way to France. Body was
)buried in France but later moved back to Miss.

162. Limuel Davis. ). . . . Died of disease.

163. John Ira Boyd- Co. H-113th Inf. 29th Div. . . . . .

He was in training 6 months during the war. Enlisted first at Camp Pike. Sailed from New Port News to France. Upon reaching he was transferred to another company and was sent to front as a guard at Bardune. While in this position a bomb killed him instantly. The fragmants of his body was collected and buried in the Muse Argenne Cemetery at Verdum France in an Unknown Soldiers graveyard, at which place his body now remains. His mother is the only Gold Star Mother in Walthall County. Mrs. Ready Beard Boyd, being a member of the American Gold Star Mother Club, was granted the privilege of going to France with a company of eighty-six Gold Star Mothers. Mrs. Boyd was the only Mississippian in this company.

WALTHALL COUNTY, WARS

WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: " WARS "
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

World War ( Cont'd)

164- T. B. Cleveland, 1st Lieut. trained in Texas.

165- Walter Simmons- 2nd Lieut. Co. M -141st M. G. Served in France.

166- Mack Ball- 2nd Lieut. 89th Div. Co. A-355th Inf.

167- Hazel Brumfield (Mrs. Homer Alexander)- the only woman who served(in Walthall County) in the World War. She served as landsman for Yoeman of Navy. She was stationed at Washington U. S. Naval Reserve Force Class 4. Although she was the only woman serving in Washington, the women of Walthall County disbandoned their clubs, etc. and spent their spcial hours knitting for the soldiers.

NOTE: - ( SEE PAGE NO. 11-A )

References: Names from 1 to 140 were collected from interviews of World War Veterans and various citizens of the county, also the records of discharge from the Chancery Clerk's Office.

Names from 140 to 160 were taken from the American Legion Records.

(b) SPANISH AMERICAN WAR

1. Parker Byrd- was a private in the Spanish American war. Was in Co. G- First Regiment Miss. Inf. under command of George W. Govan. Was only in service eight months.



WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: "WARS"
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

World War (Cont'd)

168- Dewey G. Collans- Musician Co. D-141st Machine Gun Battalian- National Guard Corpral- 17 Hdq. Camp Beaureguard. He was with American Expedition Force in force from Aug. 6, 1918 to Jan 1, 1919.

169- Seth H. Collins - 1st enlisted in Calvery troops A and was later transferred in corporal at Camp Beauregaurd 114th amunition training serving in recruiting service.

170- Wesley Collins- was serving in France and died from disease. He was buried in France but after a period of two years his body was returned to Mississippi.

171- William Marlon Pope- the son of W. W. Pope who represented this county in the state legislature for three terms. Long before America entered the conflict of the World War, Marlon became a member of the Aero Squadron and was trained in Texas. He was a passenger of the steamship, Lusitania, when it was torpeoded without warning by a German submarine off the Irish coast, May 7, 1915. One hundred and fourteen Americans were lost. Marlon was one of the survivors. After convalescing from cold and exposure he served the remainder of the war stationed in England.

WALTHALL COUNTY / WARS

WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: "WAS"
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Spanish American War (Cont'd)

2- William F. Walker (pvt). Co. E. First Regiment of Mississippi, Volunteer.

Reference: Interviews with citizens of this county.

(c) WAR BETWEEN THE STATES

1- Needham W. Alford- Co. K. La. Battalian.

2- Bill Burner- Co. H. 39th Mississippi Regiment

3- Newland Ginn - Co. E.

4- J. Judson McDaniel- Co. G. 39th Miss. Regiment

5- James Brock- Co. C- Calvery

6. E. C. Holmes - Co. G- 39th Miss. Regiment.

7. J. H. Craff- Co. H- 7th Miss. Regiment 13.

8. Charlie Ward- 36th Miss. Regiment Co. A-

9. Elisha Brumfield- Co. K. 38th Miss. Regiment.

10. Jee Cu Gulledge- 7th Miss. Regiment.

11. W. E. Rayborn- 38th Miss. Regiment - Co. H.

12. Joel P. Dillon - Co. E-33 Miss. Regiment.

13. Clark Dillon - Co. H- 38th Miss. Regiment.

14. F. M. Lee- 33rd Miss. Regiment.

15. Newton Holmes - Co. A.- Artillery.

16. J. A. Burnett- 1st Miss. Regiment.

17. Jessie Stallings- Co. E-33rd Miss. Regiment.

18. Phelix Anderson - Co. H- 38th Miss. Regiment.



WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: "WARS"
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

War Between the States (Cont'd)

19- Louis J. Payne- Co. D-

20- John J. Renfoe - Co. C- 38 Miss. Regiment

21- J. D. Kaigler- Reg. 14

22- William Parker- Co. A-3rd La. Calvery

23- J. H. Crawford- Co. K.

24- Owen L. Conerly- 33rd Reg.- was color Bearer and was killed charging enemy's work at Franklin, Tenn, Nov. 30th, 1864.

25- Dr. Chauncey Conerly- hospital stewart and acting assistant Surgeon of 33rd Miss. Reg. Also clerk of chief Surgeon, P. E. Whitehead.

26- Jesse K. Bullock- only confederate soldier living.

27- Walter M. Lampton- told some interesting stories of life during the trying hours of the war between the state, although he was a year or so too young to serve. Twice he drove from his home to Mobile by ox team to bring home salt. They had more trouble getting salt to preserve the meat than anything else. He lived in Tylertown throughout the war, and did not see a yankee soldier during the war. Yankees had been pictured to have had horns. During the war his father, Ben Lampton, was a colonel of malitia which meant he stayed at home and protected the wives and children. Aft r the close of the war Mr. Lampton recalls that Greeman's command passed through

WALTHALL COUNTY, WARS

WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: "WARS"
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Wars Between the States (Cont'd)

Tylertown, his men going by taking all day for the passing. The men carried pontoon bridges for crossing streams. This was a cavalry unit war 1861-865.

27- Samuel E. Packwood- was not a member of any of the companies that went out from Pike County. It would be proper to state here that he was a member of the 13th Mississippi Barksdale Brigade, Army Northern Va. which served with great distinction in the numerous conflicts in Va. and participated in the battle of Gettsburg, Pa.

28- E. C. Holmes- Enlisted in the civil war at Summit, Mississippi in May 1961- Company A- 16th Mississippi "Known as the Summit rifles" sent from there to Richmond, Va. Fought at Gettisburg and many other important battles- was wounded at Penn. court house and was in hospital about 60 days. He was captured by the yankees about nine months before the surrender and kept in prison at Point- Lookout, Maryland and took the oath of allegance at that point.

29- Lampkin Craft )
30- Samuel D. Pinkinton ) The Company numbers are
31- F. M. Parson ) not available on the
32- E. E. Parson ) following:
33- John R. Collins )



WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: "WARS"
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

War between the States (Cont'd)

34- Frank W. Myers

35- William Jesper Eaton

36- Isaac Brumfield

37- W. I. McDonald

38- J. H. Crawford

39- Thomas G. Warren.

40- Warren Lafayette Payne

References: Various citizens of the county and records on file in the Chancery Clerk's Office.

(d) MEXICAN WAR-

We have interviewed citizens, searched all county records, etc. but so far we have been unable to find any person serving in the Mexican War.

(e) WAR OF 1812

1- Dudley W. Packwood came to New Orleans in 1810 and was in Jackson's Army at the battle of New Orleans.

During the war of 1812- 1815 General Carroll commanded a small division of Tennessee troops marching through the country all the way from Tennessee to New Orleans and cut his trail through the forest as they traveled for the purpose of reaching New Orleans

WALTHALL COUNTY / WARS

WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: " WARS "
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

War of 1812 (Cont'd)

in time to aid Gen. Andrew Jackson in defence of that city against the British invaders under General Packington. His route to Pike County was nearly due South crossing the Bogue Chitto river above the town of Holmesville at a point afterwards known as Carroll's ferry and passing down on the west side of the river.

An interesting incident ~~has~~ is here related to Walthall County:

"UNKNOWN SOLDIER OF 1812"

---

We find with the traditions of history of Gen. Carrolls march through Pike County in 1812 the death and burial of a soldier in an isolated place in the woods of Love's Creek (which is now Walthall County). Mr. Henry Brumfield took the matter up with the Secretary of War and asked for the body to be moved to Chalmette Cemetery. This request was granted and this was done October 9, 1908. The Sup't. of Chalmette Cemetery, Capt. O'Shea made the trip to Magnolia and was met by H. S. Brumfield, owner of the land, and E. T. Thornhill of Walker's Bridge. On beginning the work of



WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: " WARS "
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Unknown Soldier of 1812 (Cont'd)

disinterment, it was found that the clay soil was packed as hard as though it had never been disturbed, but on reaching a depth of five feet it was soft and loamy. At this depth, the bones of the veteran were discovered. There was no sign of a coffin, and it is possible that none was available for his burial. The bones were loose and a great many of them had wholly disintegrated. Some fragments of the soldier's uniform were unearthed but these crumbled to dust as soon as touched. The most important discovery, however, and one which clinches the question of identity, was two brass buttons such as were used on military uniforms in the war of 1812. The buttons had retained their original form, but the lettering on them was undecipherable.

Capt. O'Shea carefully gathered every bone that could be found, and placing them in an ordinary wooden box, took them to New Orleans with him on the afternoon train. There they were placed in a casket and interred with military honors in the national cemtery. So far, it has been impossible to ascertain the name of the soldier, and hence upon his tomb was engraved the simple but significant words:

"Unknown Soldier
U. S. A.
war of 1812".

(This incident is a clipping of the Magnolia Gazette- found in Luke Conerly's "History of Pike County".)

WALTHALL COUNTY / WARS

WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: " WARS "
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

(f) REVOLUNTIONARY WAR

1- Joseph Packwood was a sea captain during the Revoluntionary war and served in the interest of the colonies against Great Britian. In a naval engagement he lost one of his eyes.

Reference: Taken from Luke Conerly's /"History of Pike County".

II. (LIST OF OFFICERS) BOTH OF ARMY AND NAVY FROM ROSTER.
(In accordance with instructions in your letter April 30th, 1936, stating that you were being furnished a this information in full, we are omitting same. )

III. EXPLOITS -

1- Monroe Dunaway (pvt) Co-C, Casual Center. Served in France. He was in the battles of Marne, in battle of Argonne during which time he was gassed.

2- Solemon Singleton (pvt) Co-C, 508 Engineer. He was in the battles of Toul Sector, Seicheprey and Xivray. Also in the battles of St. Michial and the Muse Argonne.

3- Hampton W. Reid- Co. E-306 Inf. He was in the battle of Argonne and served in England and France.

4- William S. Blackwell (pvt.) Co.-G, 30th Inf. He was



WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: "WARS"
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Exploits (Cont'd)

in the battles Marne Sector, Champagne, Marne Def., Aisne Marne Off., Vesle Sector, St. Michael Off., Muse Agronne Off., he received bronze lapel button and was entitled to five victor badges with five battle clasp, and served in France and Germany.

5- Ira W. Craft- (pvt). 1st class Casual Co-10, Battery C, 1st Bn. French Artillery. He served in the battles Aisne, Marne Off., St. Michael Off., Muse Argonne Off., and served in France.

6- Mason E. May (pvt). Battalian E-30th F. A. Served in the battles of St. Dee Sector, St. Michael Front, St. Michael Drive, and served in France.

7- Dewitt C. Conerly (pvt) 481st Aero Squadron, served in France and was entitled to wear one gold service chevron.

8- Luther Webb (pvt). Co-A-18h Inf, 1st. Army Def. Sector. He served in the Muse Argonne battle and was entitled to (crox-de-Guerre Fourragere); entitled to victor medal with two badges, two battle clasp, and served in France and Germany.

WALTHALL COUNTY) WARS

WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: " WARS "
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Exploits (Cont'd)

9- Paul E. Fortenberry (pvt) 113th French Motor Battery Hdqs. Co. Artillery, entitled to wear one gold war service gold chevron and served in France.

10- James Pittman (cook) Co.-B 806 Inf. Served in France. He was in the battle of Muse Argonne Off.

11- George Washington Pope (pvt) Co-F. 166th Inf. He was in the battles of the Muse Argonne, Michael Sector, Muse Argonne (Sommerance), army of occupation. He served in England, France, Belgium and Germany.

12- Thomas T. Conerly (pvt.) - Enlisted in the marines at Parish Isand, S. C., March 18, 1918. He was in training from March 18, 1918 to May 19, 1918 at this place. He then went from her to Quantico, Va. where he trained from May 19, 1918 to Aug. 18, 1918. Sailed from France Aug. 18, 1918. His foreign service was in France, Belgium, Lexenburg and Germany with the A. E. F. with 67th Co., 1st Battalian 5th Regiment, U. S. Marine. Mr. Conerly was in active service on November 1st to 11th 1918 and was in the battle of Muse Argonne Offensive of which many lives were lost November 10th, the last day of



WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT" "WARS"
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Exploits (Cont'd)

the battle. His company of 257 men were crossing the Muse River at Setana, France. Machine guns were firing at a rapid speed and some of the men had to swim the river and lost their lives. More than fifty were killed on the bridge. Soon after the few remaining men had crossed the bridge a shell from the machine totally destroyed the bridge. The next day, November 11, 1918, at eleven o'clock Armistice was signed. On November 13, 1918, the roll was called and only fourteen men out of the 257 answered. Mr. Conerly was one among the fourteen.

On November 17th, 1918, the company started a march to the Rhyne a distance of 500 miles. This march began November 17th and they reached the Rhyne December 13th, 1918. After Armistice was signed Mr. Conerly enlisted in the army of occupation in Germany and served from Dec. 13, 1918 to July 19, 1919. He was discharged in Aug. 1919 and when he came back to the States he was with the 2nd Division who paraded the 5th Avenue, New York City. This parade was a 113 blocks and they carried packs on their backs weighing 101 pounds. They then went to Washington to parade and had they pictures made on the

WALTHALL COUNTY / WARS

WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: " WARS "
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Exploits (Cont'd)

steps at the Capitol. Mr. Conerly was the only boy enlisted in the U. S. Marines from Walthall County and the following is a clipping of tribute paid to the Second Division, of which Mr. Conerly was a member:

" Quote:

WORK OF MARINES
PRAISED BY BAKER

Restoration of Brigade to Navy
Made Occasion for Congratulation.

Washington, Aug. 18-1919- Tribute to the performance of marines in France as a "new and heroic demonstration of the unconquerable tenacity and dauntless courage of the American soldier", was paid by Secretary Baker today in a letter to Acting Secretary Roosevelt of the Navy Department. The letter was occasioned by the restoration of the marione brigade to the Navy Department after its service overseas under General Perishing.



WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: " WARS "
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Exploits (Cont'd)

The brigade, composed of the Fifth and Sixth Regiments, which played a large part in turning back the German forces at Chateau Thierry and Belleau Wood, was demobilized today by the Marine corps at Quantico, Va. Many of the members of the brigade, which was made up of men from every state, left for their homes today and others will leave within the next few days.

Replying, Acting Secretary Roosevelt characterized the Second Division, composed of marines and regulars, as "one of the greatest fighting organizations the world has ever known", and expressed gratification that the pride of the navy in the performance of the marinas should be the War Department.

Unquote" -

Reference: All information of exploits was secured from war veterans, citizens, clippings, and recorded papers of discharge found in the Chancery Clerk's Office.

WALTHALL COUNTY, WARS

WALTHALL COUNTY
HISTORICAL RESEARCH
MAY 14, 1936
ASSIGNMENT: " WARS "
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

IV: CITIZENS OF WALTHALL COUNTY LISTED IN 155th MISSISSIPPI REGIMENT-

1- Carl Holmes- Co.-H. 155th Infantry.

2- Mack Ball- 2nd Lieut.- 89th Div. Co-A. 155th Inf.

3- William M. Ball- 2nd Lieut.- 155th and 51st Inf.

Reference: The above war veteran, "Mack Ball".

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF:

Vivian Packwood Hobbs

VIVIAN PACKWOOD HOBBS,
WALTHALL COUNTY SUPERVISOR
HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Typist: EB



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

MAY 28th-1936

ASSIGNMENT: " SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT ON WARS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

When the United States entered the Worl War in 1917 Walthall County gave valuable assistance to the cause. While the boys showed their patrotic duty in volunteering their services in battle, the men left at home also did what they could to make it easier for these noble soldier.

The Red Cross sent out a nation-wide call to muster the children of America into national service under its banner, which was called the "Junior Red Cross". To this cause the children of Walthall County did their "bit" This organization was organized through local red cross chapter. A fee of twenty-five cents was charged to become a member. Of course all were not able to pay the fee so various entertainments were given, charging a small entrance fee- sandwiches and tea was served. This was done through the school. After the fee was paid each member was entitled to wear a Red Cross Button. These children were taught how many ways they could help the Senior Red Cross. B y helping in local campaigns, with canvassing, poster work and often the children would help pack supplies to be sent to the soldiers on battle field.

The teachers would have the children put on programs where posters were used to show how they could be patrotic by saving

WALTHALL COUNTY, WARS
accept-
7
6

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

MAY 28th- 1936

ASSIGNMENT: " SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT ON WARS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

food, buying thrift stamps; many of patrotic songs were taught. The Junior Red Cross membership grew out of the desire of school children to engage in war relief.

It is interesting to note that the young ladies of Tylertown made two service flags. One was made by the Baptist Church and one by the Methodist Church on which a star was placed for every member of the church participating in the battles. A silver star was placed on the flag for every member who had gone abroad in service and who still lived; while a gold star was placed in memberance to those who had died in service. After completion of these flags a service was held in the church of both denominations honoring these soldiers at which time the names ospresenting each star placed upon the flag was read aloud very patriotically.

Men were sent out to the different schools to explain the war situation and urged the people to show their patriotic duty by buying liberty bonds. Walthall County always responded liberally. The men and women made every effort to support the cause by buying liberty bonds, war saving stamps and thrift stamps.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

MAY 28, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: " SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT ON WARS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

The Red Cross played quiet an active part during the world war. Noble contributions were made in cash and in supplying other organizations with material to convert into garments such as bandages, knitting yarns for socks, etc. Different citizens would go out in county and make four minute speeches in interest of Red Cross contributions, war saving stamps, and liberty bonds. The money being obtained by membership drives and private contributions. According to available records the Red Cross contributed approximately $3,000.00 in cash during the world war in this county. ( This information was obtained from the records of the Tylertown Bank, Tylertown, Miss.).

Walthall County always responded promptly one hundred percent to every demand made by people from appatriotic or any other worthy standpoint.

The women sewed for the Red Cross. The Women's Club, the only Federated Club in the county, did their "bit" during the world war by disbanding their regular meetings and through the help of the Red Cross they would spend their time in making bandages knitting sacks, sweaters, etc. for the soldiers, also packed boxes of supplies.

Mr. J. C. Rimes is chairman of the Red Cross in this county and has served for seventeen years.

WALTHALL COUNTY, MISS.

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

MAY 29- 1936

ASSIGNMENT: " SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT ON WARS ".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Dr. L. A. Welch served as Chairman of spearkers campaign during the World War, sendingmout different citizens to various parts of the county to urge people to do their patriotic duty by buying liberty bonds, war saving stamps and thrift stamps.

The women had to take the mens places in business during the war in the way of managing homes, clerical jobs, etc. The women, men and children, both rich and poor, learned to be saving in many ways by observing wheatless, meatless and sugarless days so the soldiers over there might be fed.

In the war between the States the women and children had to work hard. Some of the better families had slaves who did the work on farm. Mr. Bobbie Conerly relates this story. He was a small boy and the yankees would come to their home and steal horses, food, silver, etc. One occasion his mother put him in the attic of the house and gave him silver, meat, etc. to hide from the yankees. The children were the sole help to many of the families who did not have slaves. Guns were put into the hands of boys at a young age to protect families against wild animals and indians.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

MAY 29- 1936

ASSIGNMENT: " ASSIGNMENT ON WARS, SUPPLEMENT"

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Some of the families had grist mills and had plenty of meal and flour. Salt was hard to get and often would have to make trips in wagons to Mobile to get salt. These trips of course were made seldom because of the distance and methods of travel.

A story told by a negro woman said the life during the war between the states was mighty hard. In the smoke houses where the salt dripped from meat the dirt was dug up and boiled-very much the same process as making soap. The salt was not white but was a good substitute. Corn was parched to be used for coffee. The women would weave cloth and knit socks and sweaters for the soldiers, children and slaves. Homes had been destroyed, much of land had not been cultivated- property stolen and many people were killed.

Wide-spread desolation reigned in this section. War had made an indelible mark on the homes. Dilapidated dwellings, fences needed repairing, ruins were everywhere. Many men were killed and widows were left penniless. The gloom was appalling and the people were poor.

(This narrative was prepared in accordance with the information and suggestions from the followings

WALTHALL COUNTY, WARS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

MAY 29th- 1936

ASSIGNMENT: " SUPPLEMENT ON ASSIGNMENT ON WARS"

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

MRS. TOM CONERLY

MR. BOBBIE CONERLY

H. H. McLEOD

J. C. RIMES

L. A. WELCH

MANDY HENRY (NEGRO)

AND THE CASHIER OF THE TYLERTOWN BANK

At the time of all the other wars listed in this Assignment, Walthall County was but a dense forest with very few settlers, all of whom have deceased without leaving any record of the situations of this county during war times- -- either written or by descendants.

PREPARED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF:

AB:EB

Vivian Packwood Stubbs
HISTORICAL RESEARCH SUPERVISOR
WALTHALL COUNTY



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 28, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "WARS" SUPPLEMENT

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

MUESE ARGONNE BATTLE

During the World's War, O. M. Sandifer was sent to the 80th. Division 313 Machine Gun Battalion. This division had been resting for several days behind the trenches where the distant gun fire sounded as a continual rumbling. At night of October 31, 1918 this division was marched up to the front under cover of darkness. The Soldiers did not know where they were being sent.

The first guns they passed while marching were the 10 or 12 inch guns the next the 6 inch, next the 4 inch, the Machine Guns and then the Infantry. The men were firing as they came so they had to change the sights on their guns every 100 yards to be able to fire over their own men's heads. The battle front was a 100 miles wide.

While advancing one night about dark the Americans captured a German town. The town was shot to pieces and completely torn up/ The men were wet and cold as it had been raining for several days. The Lieutenant told the men that they could sleep in the woods in safety or under the torn down walls of the town and risk losing their lives, as they were expecting an attack that night. The men decided to sleep in the town as it would afford better protection fron the cold and rain. The Germans began firing on them and their battery of 6 inch guns silenced the Germans for the night.

WALTHALL COUNTY, WARS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 28, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "WARS" SUPPLEMENT

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

MUESE ARGONNE BATTLE CONTINUED

The next morning 1000 Soldiers left the town and marched to a large valley and here is where the Germans really made a raid on the American army. One shell cut a Lieutenant into. Men were falling in piles. Arms and legs could be seen sticking out of the ground. Bullets were whistling everywhere. Men were calling for God and their mothers in their last minutes on earth. This was a terrible sight.

In advancing later, near night the Captain wanted to stop for the night as he was afraid the Germans would locate them. There were hundreds of aeroplanes in the air fighting during this time. The Germans shot up an American plane and it fell to earth in a solid flame of fire. A German plane cirbled low and discovered the American men.

They attacked them that night in a pine thicket. A German gun was keeping up a steady fire just on the other hill. Some of the American boys pulled up a 1 lb. Cannon on wheels and made two shots with it and silenced the machine gun. The men were still wet and cold and their blankets were wet. They dug them a small hole in the ground and lay down in it to sleep/ They had to put their heads on their helmets to keep them out of the mud and water. By the next morning the German bodies had been removed but their machine gun was still there.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 28, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "WARS" SUPPLEMENT

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

MUESE ARGONNE BATTLE CONTINUED

The night before the Armistice was signed the Americans had advanced within 30 yards of the German Army. There was a railroad that was between them and it was completely torn up. These men had been on duty eleven days and nights and were still wet and cold. When they received work that the war was over they were too completely exhausted to make any noise in celebrating.

They marched back in the woods to build some fires and to dry their clothes and fix something to eat. All at once around them big shells began to fall. They began to investigate and the Germans had dug a tunnel and was attacking them from the rear. They had not received word that the war was over. These shells were coming ten or twelve miles. These tired men had a 100 mile hike back to Camp through mud and water that was knee deep in places.

Mr. Sandifer wishes to state a word in the behalf of the Gallant Salvation Army Lasses. He says that no other organization except the Salvation Army would venture forth during battle to serve hot cocoa and food to the soldiers while on the front lines.

REFERENCE:
O. M. Sandifer.

Vivian P. Hobbs
VIVIAN PACKWOOD HOBBS
COUNTY SUPERVISOR
HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY / WARS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 18, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: " SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT ON WARS."

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

1. Battle On Look Out Mountain.

James A. Morgan, a Civil War Veteran was in the Battle on Look Out Mountain. The Confederate soldiers having the highest point of ground on the mountain and killed the Federal Soldiers. Morgan heated his third gun in four hours and ten minutes. He was turning over the dead bodies of his comrades to try to find suitable ammunition for his gun when suddenly he looked up and the enemy had retreated. He was promoted to a higher position on account of his bravery in this battle. Morgan was born and reared a large family in what is now Walthall County in Enon Community.

References:
Mrs. W. H. Roberts
S. N. Morgan.

2. A Civil War Train Wreck.

On a foggy morning during the Civil War the Confederate Army had a train load of soldiers transporting them where they were needed most. The Federates learned of this train through spies. They immediately loaded a train with heavy timbers and started it to meet the army. Due to the fog they saw too late what was happening. The Federate engineer and fireman jumped from their



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 18, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: " SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT ON WARS."

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

2. A Civil War Train Wreck, continued.

cabs just before they struck. Many lives were lost during this wreck that accurred on what is now the I.C.Railroad Company, near Osyka in Pike County. Joe Cotherin was one that survived, but he was thrown over the telephone wires. Jum Wallace lost a leg. Joe Adams, Steve Reeves, a Roberts and a Boyd all of Pike and Walthall Counties were killed in the wrenk. The bodies of some of these are in the Bogue Chitto Church Cemetery.

References:
Mrs. Henry Roberts.
S. N. Morgan.

Vivian Packwood Hobbs.
VIVIAN PACKWOOD HOBBS
COUNTY SUPERVISOR
HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY, WARS

accepted K

no 2nd copy D

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH

JULY 28, 1936

SUPPLEMENT TO ASSIGNMENT # 5: " WARS"

SUBJECT: "EXPLOITS"
QUESTION NO. 3- UNDER ASSIGNMENT # 5-

" A CONFEDERATE PRISIONER

In 1864 James Alex Burnett a Confederate soldier was captured, along with some more soldiers, by a band of intoxicated Federate Calverymen. He had already lost his hat and coat collar in battle. When he saw the calverymen he at once fell on the ground thinking maybe they would think he was dead. They begin to shoot among the soldiers and make their horses jump over them. They decided to surrender before they were killed.

The calverymen took the soldiers and forced them to march to New Orleans. They were very tired and hungry when they arrived there. The ladies of the city prepared baskets of good food and carried the prisioners. They were not allowed to serve them. The Calverymen crossed bayonets and let the ladies toss the food over them and the men had to jump and catch it. The most active got most of the food.

Two ships were prepared to carry the prisioners to Ship Island, the prision. One of the ships was the "Merimac", and the other was the "Belvidere". Burnet sailed on the "Merimac". The prision was infested with body lice, so that the men could scarcely rest at night. They only had one suit of clothes at the time so they had to pull them of and try to pick them off. Before they were discharged the lice was seen crawling on the ground like ants.

WALTHALL COUNTY / WARS



Exploits ----( CONT'D)

" A CONFEDERATE PRISIONER"

They were fed one "hard tack"- four ounces meat and one pint of mush a day. They held out their hands and the mush was served in them. They were also given a small amount of tobacco. Some decayed onions were thrown away. They sprouted and came up through the sand. The men were so hungry for green vegetables that they nearly fought over these tender onions when they were found.

When the war closed the prisioners were shipped to Vicksburg and were discharged twelve miles East of the City at what was called the "Big Black Bridge".

INFORMATION GIVEN BY: Mrs. Bessie Burnett Roberts,
Daughter of James Alex Burnett.

Vivian P. Hobbs.
Vivian Packwood Hobbs,
Supervisor
Walthall County Historical
Res arch Project.

V.H:ES

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 18 "REVISED ASSIGNMENT # 5 WARS."

DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"WORLD WAR"

LETTERS FROM FRONT.

Varenus France,

December 28, 1918.

Dear Auntie:

I will try to tell you a little of my travels. We landed at Breast France. It is a big seaport but I did not think so much of the place. We were at Breast about a week and left Breast to St. Florent France. It is a small place way down in Southern France and there had been no fighting. We moved from there to another small town, by the name of St. Agnon, a little closer up front. There were hospitals there and lots of wounded soldiers I knew. We only stopped there for a few days and then went to a small town Chitney, France. We were the first soldiers to stop at that place. The French people sure treated us fine. We were there about a month and and got orders to come to front. You should have heard us yell. We wanted to go bad, or at least we thought we did. On the road from there we came through Blair and Paris and saw lots of wonderful things I would like to tell you of but I haven't the paper. At Chaleau Thiery we saw the first effects of the War. The station was all full of shell holes and most of the houses down, and as far as you could see nothing but shell holes. All around the railroad from there on we could see graves of Germans, French and Americans, and the Country was all shot up for a long ways. We got off the train at Sauiley, France. It is about fifteen miles from Verdum. We went from there to Epicaurt, about half way between Sauiley and



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 18 "REVISED ASSIGNMENT # 5 WARS."

DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

LETTERS FROM FRONT (CONT'D)

Verdum, and the first night we began to hear the cannon roaring and could see aeroplanes fighting on the Verdum front. We were put in charge of the Verdum Section and the Armistice was signed just a few days afterwards, so I did not get to see so much of the fighting. The day the shooting stopped, I was at Verdum and it was the most wonderful thing I saw and even expect to see. The last thirty minutes of firing was the fastest shooting I ever saw. Both sides knew they were going to stop firing at 11 O'Clock. There were thousands of dead men all over the woods that had been dead for months. It was awful. Verdum is a city under the ground. I am in charge of Telephone Station in Varenus and Grandpre, in the Argonne, on the Aisne River. I have been up in Belgium and the Dexenberg, Germany, and saw lots of interesting things. There isn't a house in 15 miles of here that hasen't been shelled and the woods and fields are all torn up. The dugout I am living in was used by a German Officer not over 2 months ago. It has electric lights in it. We have an electric plant under Dead Moris Hill about 50 feet under the ground.

Corporal A. H. Hull,

Co C. 114 F S. Bn, American E. F. France.

My dear Father:

Tonight before I get into the hay I'll deop you a short letter. I have not written you or anyone for sometime owing to the fact that I had been too busy getting rid of Kaiser Bill's soldiers to write: hence the delay.

Father since I wrote you last I have been through some experiences that I have never seen or dreamed of before, but at that I came out all in one piece. Thank the Maker. We were in the scrap on July the 1st., when we advanced for some distance. Guess you read

WALTHALL COUNTY, WARS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 18 "REVISED ASSIGNMENT # 5 WARS."

DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

LETTERS FROM FRONT (CONT'D)

about the sweep the Americans made. Believe me, it was some sweep to. We captured over 500 prisoners besides what we did away with otherwise. If you could have seen the boys going over the top smoking cigaretts and laughing about the shells that missed them, you could then know the courage and bravery of the Americans. We have received the thanks of the French also the congratulations of all our commanding Officers.

The Bocke may know how to fight but they failed to show it on this day. What surprised them so was, that we went over in broad daylight. They have been used to getting all their attacks in the night and they could not understand how, nor why we picked the daylight.

I hope all at home are well and enjoying life. If we amid the shell fire of battle can cuddle up in a hole in the ground and get a good nights rest, why not those in some good goose hair bed.

I say that the red cross has been of more help to the soldiers here, ( especially during the winter months than any other organization operating in connection with the government. They arranged for each and every soldier in my company to be equipped with a sweater, helmet, mittens, socks, mufflers, and an extra blanket. Besides the smokes that was so very hard to obtain when we first came over. We are always glad to say a word for the red cross.

Pete ( John G. Gardner)

1st. Sgt. Co, H, 9nth, Infantry American Expeditionary Forces, France.

Copied from Tylertown Times.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 18 "REVISED ASSIGNMENT # 5 WARS."

DATE: FEBRUARY 1, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO.

"CIVIL WAR"

LETTERS FROM FRONT AND FROM WAR PRISONS:

The letter which is reprinted below was written 72 years ago by Jessie C. Davis while he was a prisoner of War during Civil War. He was captured in a severe battle on Missionary Ridge of Chattanooga, Tenn., and was made a servant in the Navy Department suffering many hardships before his release.

The letter was written to Mr. Davis's father, Hosea Davis, and has been kept all these years by the writers brother, Rev. A. F. Davis who several years ago while in Tennessee visited the battle ground where his brother was made a prisoner.

U. S. Sabine

June 15, 1865.

Dear father:

I seat myself this morning with the greatest of pleasure to try to inform you that I am still living, and inform you where I am. Dear father I am enjoying as good health as ever, and I do hope these few lines will reach you and find your family enjoying the same blessing.

This is the first I have attempted to write to any one in three years. Father, I am in New Port, Rhode Island but we will leave here on the 17th., of this month for New London, Conn. I shall not write very much this time for fear it will not reach you.

Your son,

Jessie C. Davis.

Copied from Tylertown Times.

WALTHALL COUNTY, WARS

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF:

Vivian P. Hobbs

Mrs. Vivian P. Hobbs,
County Supervisor,
Historical Research Project,

ES: Typist.

ASSIGNMENT NO. 18 "WARS" SUPPLEMENT

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

TRIRTEENTH AREA

---

MAY 27, 1937.

---

MAY 27, 1937.

WALTHALL COUNTY, WARS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 18 "SUPPLEMENT TO (REVISED ASSIGNMENT #5; WARS) PAGE 4 " CIVIL WAR "

DATE: MAY 26, 1937.

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

"Jessie C. Davis a Civil War Veteran"

At the out break of the Civil War Jessie C. Davis enlisted as a volunteer and became a soldier of the 7th Mississippi Regiment , fighting many hard battles. He fought in one battle above the clouds, on the summit of Look-Out Mountian in Tennessee. The Union Army was at the base of the mountian. During the battle, a cloud arose and the thunder and lightning played, great torrents of rain poured between the two armies, drenching the army below while those above remained dry. A few days later during a great battle on the mountain side at Chichamunga he was captured, and carried away as a prisoner of war. He was placed on board a War-ship traveling to almost parts of the world. For a long time his where-a-bouts were not known, They made him a servant on the ship . He climed many a mast pole to repair rigging high above the ocean. At length they came back to Boston Mass. and he was given a pass and was permitted to land and visit the city. While at liberty in company with other prisioners, they left the city on foot and made good thier escape, hiding in various places. He frequently hired himself to farmers earning a meager living until the close of the war when he returned home. he endured many hardships during his time in prison. On one occasion after returning home he was suspected as a escaped prisioner,and hounds were put on his trail, trailing him the greater part of one night. He escaped and was brought home by a friend near Brookhaven Mississippi.

Jessie C. Davis and his wife Mary Stovall were among the early settlers in this county, making thier home in the New Zion and Darbon communities.

Reference- Copied from Tylertown Times.

Alma Bilbo

Alma Bilbo- County Historian.

WALTHALL COUNTY, WARS

ASSIGNMENT NO. 22.

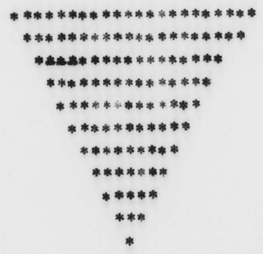
WALTHALL COUNTY.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

SIXTH DISTRICT

---

MARCH 30, 1937.





HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 22 "RECONSTRUCTION"

DATE: MARCH 30, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

"RECONSTRUCTION"

PROBLEMS BEFORE THE COUNTY AT THE CLOSE OF THE WAR.

"When the Confederate armies in the field had surrendered, knowing that the state government would have to be reconstructed in a radical way, Governor Clark called a special meeting of the state legislature. The Federal army would not allow the functioning of the state government in any respect as it existed. This legislature adjourned to avoid arrest after providing commissioners to go to Washington.

A convention was held and the constitution of 1865 was drawn up which President Johnson approved. The new governor General B. G. Humphreys and the legislature had a heavy task before them. The state was prostrate and impoverished to a critical degree. On one hand were the wounded and disabled soldiers returning to their ruined homes; and on the other was the great body of negroes newly freed from slavery, who, while they had received the great blessing of personal liberty had at the same time lost the care and provisions for their wants that they had been accustomed to receive from their masters."

REFERENCE:

History of Mississippi by Fant.

At the close of the war the railroads were torn up also roads and bridges. By 1867 the railroads and bridges had been largely rebuilt.

Most of the farms and plantations were without fences, tools, barns or farm animals, and were actually grown up in weeds.

REFERENCE:

History of Mississippi by Fant.

"During the four years of the war a great change had swept over the plantations. Time, with its ravages, the mis-management of farms and plantations, left largely in charge

WALTHALL COUNTY, RECONSTRUCTION

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 22 "RECONSTRUCTION"

DATE: MARCH 30, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

PROBLEMS BEFORE THE COUNTY AT THE CLOSE OF THE WAR (CONT'D)

of the negroes, the vandalism of armies in the destruction of property, had made hideous alterations in the condition of the country. Delapidated dwellings, fences in need of repair and in many instances burned, sugar houses and gin houses damaged or in ruins were seen everywhere. Farms once producing profitable crops were now grown up in broon-sage. The chimneys of hundreds of comfortable homes furnished the only evidence that these places were once the abode of human habitation.

Social intercourse between the negroes and the Federal soldiers without regard to color became a fixed reality and their camps on Sundays and other times were scenes of social intercourse. This led the negroes to have a desire to equal opportunity with white women, but there was a barrier that stood between them and the white women and they knew it. It was a gun and a Southern white man behind it. In Pike county a white girl was persuaded to run away with a young negro man, which resulted in the parties being overtaken, the girl rescued and the negro escaped.

In the towns and cities Yankee white soldiers thought nothing of walking arm and arm with negro women and negroes would shove white women off the banquettes. Complaint to military authorities was contemptuously ignored."

EFFORTS MADE BY THE COUNTY FOR RECONSTRUCTION.

In 1875 the people were so tired of the way that the affairs of the state were handled that clubs were organized to plan the best ways to make conditions better. "The club at Tylertown was organized with Benjamin Lampton, President; Jessie K. Brumfield, First Vice President; George Smith, Second Vice President; F. M. Lea, Treasurer and J. H. Crawford, Secretary. The men composing this club were the most influential of their race in the precinct, and went to work to organize this club of their own accord and without any influence used on them by the white people. They had lived ten years under the rule of the military



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 22 "RECONSTRUCTION"

DATE: MARCH 30, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

EFFORTS MADE BY THE COUNTY FOR RECONSTRUCTION (CONT'D)

and carpetbagism, which created only a feeling of unrest and a clashing of interests with the white people and they were willing to make the change in harmony with those upon whom they must depend for peace and protection to themselves and their famlies. The Freedman's Saving Bank, the offspring of the system of carpetbag robbery of the negro race in the South and the total failure of a delivery of the gift of forty acres and a mule had impressed themselves on their minds and caused an awakening which placed them in line with their old masters to free the state from misrule."

REFERENCE:

Luke Conerly's History of Pike County.

"The earlier railroads in the country had been largely in the nature of experiments and were simply an interesting addition to river and canal transportation. But after 1870 the railroads became the supreme means of transportation in the U. S. opening regions before inaccesible to commerce, and bringing into quick communication remote and diffiant places.

Before the war the value of cotton seed was partially understood but cotton itself was so richly profitable that little attention had been given to seed. The immense piles that accumlated about the gins were regarded as waste and had been generally burned. But in these lean times attention began to be given to getting the value out of this waste product and several cotton-seed oil mills were started by 1880.

Attention also was given to the establishing of mills for the manufacture of cotton cloth. Nine cotton mills for making the coarser kinds of cloth had been set up by 1890."

"Changes were made in the school law which brought the matter of special taxes and administration of schools within the control of the local people, and the common school fund was distributed so as to guarantee to each county a school term of four months. Elementary

WALTHALL COUNTY, RECONSTRUCTION

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 22 "RECONSTRUCTION"

DATE: MARCH 30, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

EFFORTS MADE BY THE COUNTY FOR RECONSTRUCTION (CONT'D)

schools were soon provided wherever practicable for white children and also for colored children. The Mississippi Agricultural and mechanical college at Starkville was established in 1878. Alcorn Agricultural and Mechanical College was established for negroes in 1878 in Claiborne County.

REFERENCE:

HISTORY OF MISSISSIPPI
by
FANT.

OPERATIONS IN THE COUNTY OF THE DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS.

"There were a few Northern people who had come shortly before the war and taken no part in the conflict and there were a good many others who had come directly after the war, either in connection with the army or speculating in cotton. There were some others who came because they thought they saw conditions that would enable them to make money rapidly. In 1868 some of these were ready to offer themselves for official position of Mississippi. A little later when it became apparent how readily outsiders could obtain offices of trust, a still worse class of northerners came. All these men were soon dubbed as "Carpet-baggers," meaning that they were transients who had only their carpet bags or grips with them."

REFERENCE:

History of Mississippi
by
Fant.

"Associated with the "Carpetbaggers" were two classes of native whites, those who had joined the Republican Party from fear or with hope of reward called by their opponents, "Scalawags," and a much smaller number who having opposed secession had become Republicans from conviction."

REFERENCE:
U.S. History, Riley, Chandler & Hamilton.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 22 "RECONSTRUCTION"

DATE: MARCH 30, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

AGENCIES OF RECONSTRUCTION IN THE COUNTY

"The Freedman's Bureau was established in 1865. This bureau was under the control of the army. It protected many negroes in their rights, cared for their sick and furnished food and clothing to the paupers, yet it did much harm. It made the negroes look to the Government for support, it caused them to want to hold office; and it made them dislike the white people in the South amoung whom they had to live and upon whom they were dependent. Some men connected with the bureau made thousands of negroes believe that the United States was going to give each one of them forty acres and a mule and many waited for this gift instead of going to work."

REFERENCE:

History of U. S.

by

Riley, Chandler and Hamilton.

"At first the bureau merely fed and otherwise looked after destitute negroes. Then it took care to place where they could work. Some of them were colonized on confiscated land and others were hired to Northern men who were in possession of the great plantations along the Mississippi River. These plans to make the negroes self sustaining generally failed. Then its policy became to encourage them to go to work for their old masters, or other white people among whom they lived. But the Bureau undertook to supervise all contracts made by a negro, and to receive any complaint that a negro might make.

REFERENCE:

History of Miss

by

Fant.

WALTHALL COUNTY, RECONSTRUCTION

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 22 "RECONSTRUCTION"

DATE: MARCH 30, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUSY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

AGENCIES OF RECONSTRUCTION IN THE COUNTY (CONT'D)

"The most effective agency for massing the negroes in solid opposition to the white people and in support of the Carpet-bag regime, was the organization of Loyal Leagues . These leagues were fostered by the Federal Administration and the army for the purpose of offering an avenue by which the people might return to allegiance to the United States Government. Those who originally opposed sesession and those who despaired of the cause of the Confederacy and were willing to promote a return to the old Federal relations affiliated with them." Most of the white people withdrew from the league after so many negroes joined it. Then the leagues were in the hands of the "Carpet-baggers" who used it as mere agencies for instructing negroes how to vote.

REFERENCE:

History of Mississippi

by

Fant.

"In September 1867 the Republican party was organized in Mississippi by the Northern men and a few Southern "Loyalists." Measures were taken to enroll into the fold of the Republican party all the negroes which was readily done through the agency of the Loyal Leagues.

Then this party undertook to identify itself with loyalty to the United States Government, notwithstanding the fact that half the people of the North were still Democrats, who had supported the War against the Confederacy no less arduously than had the Republicans and that the Democrats of the South had manifested every intention of loyalty abiding by the results of the war. But the negroes readily believed that to vote the Republican ticket was voting for the U. S. Government, and to vote the Democratic ticket was voting for the South and against their freedom, as if the war was still going on.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 22 "RECONSTRUCTION"

DATE: MARCH 30, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

AGENCIES OF RECONSTRUCTION IN THE COUNTY CONT'D)

There were a few genuine Southern people who advocated joing the Republican party, with the idea that by this means the confidence of the North might be ragained and proper men given leadership of State affairs."

REFERENCE:

History of Mississippi

by

Fant.

"The situation finally became unbearable, and the white people of the South were driven in selfdefense to take some decided steps to regain control. In 1867 there appeared, first in Tennessee and later all over the South, what was known as the Ku Klux Klan, or, as it was also called, "The Invisible Empire," a secret organization used first for protection against violence and later for political purposes. It was made up of small groups or "dens", and no one but the leaders knew who were members of other dens. Long processions of white shrouded figures on white-veiled horses with horrible badges and mysterious signs and symbols would suddenly appear and throw the negroes into an agony of superstitious terror. They visited evil-doers, white as well as black, with certain and severe punishment. They even at times administered the death penalty. By these means they did much to check the wrong that the South was enduring. In the course of time reckless people were admitted into the Klan and caused it to commit atrocities. The best men then withdrew from the Klan and helped to put it down."

REFERENCE:

U. S. History

by

Riley, Chandler and Hamilton.

WALTHALL COUNTY, RECONSTRUCTION

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 22 "RECONSTRUCTION"

DATE: MARCH 30, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

AGENCIES OF RECONSTRUCTION IN THE COUNTY(CONT'D)

Instead of seeing the causes of the Ku Klux disturbances in the outrageous conditions that existed in the South, the Congress was induced to take the view that the Klan was a conspiracy to enter into rebellion again. Accordilgly a bill to suppress it was passed, called the Ku Klux or Enforcement Act.

This act called for the haling before a Federal Court of any one suspected of being implicated in any so-called Ku Klux outrage and provided for the use of United States troops to make arrests. Any kind of disturbance could be supposed by the radicals to indicate Ku Klux activity, and thus they were enabled to use the troops for their own ends, which they did not fail to do, particularly at times of elections. There were many arrests made of the young men at different times in nearly all communities. These were tried before Federal Court at Jackson or Oxford. Most of the witnesses would be negroes. These would crowd around the court house for weeks. The pay that they received for their time was one of the abuses of the period.

REFERENCE:

History of Mississippi

by
FANT.

Vivian P. Hobbs

Mrs. Vivian P. Hobbs
County Supervisor
Historical Research.

WALTHALL COUNTY, RECONSTRUCTION

ASSIGNMENT NO. 14.

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT.

---

OCTOBER 14, 1936.

SUPERVISOR: VIVIAN P. HOBBS.

ASSIGNMENT # 14

O U T L I N E

OUTLAW DAYS

NOTE: By this time you have discovered something interesting on this subject while "cruising" for historic data. Using this and any other information to be found in books of these stories, magazine and newspaper files, scrapbooks, interviews and perhaps, court and prison records, write a brief historic narative on each topic which concerned your county. Get as authentic and interesting facts as possible, and bring them up to date.

I. Gang and feud leaders.
   - A. How they originated.
   - B. Date of first influence felt in your county, and what this influence was in a general way.
   - C. What they did and how they operated.
   - D. Results.

II. Riots.
   - A. Causes
   - B. Description
   - C. Leaders.
   - D. Results.

III. "White Caps and Bull Doozers"
   - A. Purpose
   - B. Leaders.
   - C. Description of procedure.
   - D. Results.

IV. Saloon Days.
   - A. Description
   - B. Social and Economic Effect.
   - C. Results.

V. Early Horse Thieves and Cattle Rustlers.
   - A. Operation
   - B. Results.

VI. Periodic Outlaws and Deserters.
   - A. Any information

VII. Kidnappers.

VIII. General Method of Extermination.

---

Susie V. Powell, State Director,
Historical Research Project
P. O. Box 2091

WALTHALL COUNTY, OUTLAW DAYS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 14: OUTLAW DAYS

DATE: OCTOBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN, LUCY THORNHILL AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD(NYA)

GANG AND FEUD LEADERS

In about 1896 a band of outlaws consisting of Dr. Grady, Colonel Hopgood, Doc Magee, Tom Magee and Barney Lewis operated in the edge of Louisiana and Mississippi. They robbed people and stole whatever they found that they wanted.

One night they planned to rob an old farmer by the name of Bill Grumsley. Colonel Hopgood turned traitor and notified J. Wes Holmes of Lexie, who was constable at that time. Holmes carried Frank Davis and Walter Johnson with him to capture Dr. Grady. They stationed themselves in the house to wait. Bill Grumsley was repairing harness before the fire when they came in and attempted to rob him. Holmes called for them to surrender but they would not, so he shot Dr. Grady in the head and face. While Dr. Grady was shot down old man Grumsley jumped on him and nearly beat him to death with his hands. They finally got him stopped and carried Grady to jail. He was tried in Magnolia and sentenced to the penitentary. It is said that when he got out he organized another band and still operated. Colonel Hopgood turned traitor in order to collect the reward that was out for Grady.

References:

M. L. Holmes, Walter Holmes



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 14: OUTLAW DAYS

DATE: OCTOBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN, LUCY THORNHILL AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD(NYA)

GANG AND FEUD LEADERS (CONT'D)

In its early history there existed in the State of Mississippi a band of outlaws, and many were the scenes enacted that gave rise to exaggerated sensational reports of lawlessness which frustrated the authorities as to the methods best to be adopted to defeat the schemes concocted by them to further their aims in depredating on the live stock and other movable property of farmers and others that the orginization operated upon.

There was an orginization known as Copelands's Clan. A system of relays was established, so that a horse could be stolen from a community and during the night hurried off twenty miles to the next man and the actual thief back at the place of theft without being missed from the neighborhood, and the horse hurried on to the next relay and so on until he was entirely out of reach. This was finally broken up by the Governor of Mississippi.

Reference:

Pike County History.

Copeland was hanged at Pass Christian.

John A Merriel, murder and robber went as a preacher as a shield and while he preached his clan stole horses and outlawing in this

WALTHALL COUNTY, OUTLAW DAYS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 14: OUTLAW DAYS

DATE: OCTOBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN, LUCY THORNHILL, KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD(NYA)

GANG AND FEUD LEADERS(CONT'D)

community and surrounding communities in general. They stole a horse from a widow and her son joined the clan and gave him away to officers in Mobile. Merriel was hanged and blamed his mother on the scaffold because she sheilded him. This happened sometime in 1700. A law was passed to hang horse thieves and this put a stop to it.

Reference:

John W. Brumfield.

RIOTS

In about the year 1875 an old negro named "Wash" stole a middling of meat from "Oz" Dunaway. A group of men led by Buck Brewer, Needham Barnett, Went and Oz Dunaway took the negro and hanged him in the woods about two miles from what is now the Pike and Walthall County lines near the Enon Community. The negroes never knew for seven or nine days what became of him. His body was left hanging all this time. An old lady by the name of Sarah Howell was looking for her calves and found his body. She told about what she found. This made the negroes mad and about fifteen armed negroes rode the roads looking for the men that hanged this negro. They had trouble with the negroes for quite a



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 14: OUTLAW DAYS

DATE: OCTOBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN, LUCY THORNHILL, KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD(NYA)

RIOTS (CONT'D)

while. The women and children were afraid to stay at home alone.

Reference:

Mrs. L. A. Burnett and Eugene Bacott.

WHITE CAPS AND BULL DOZERS

After the Civil War the negroes thought they could do as they pleased so a band of about three hundred or four hundred negroes were organized with Cado Smith as their leader. They went in the woods in the Northern part of what is now this county and rudely constructed a house for their meeting place. Here is where they made their plans. One night during one of their meetings about fifty white men known then as "White Caps" slipped up near the building. These negroes were making plans to capture some white women and have as their wives. These white men shot and killed Cado Smith and wounded some of the other negroes. They meant to kill the leader, but just to frighten the others. The negroes thought it was a large army of white men and fled and never gave any more trouble. Some of the colored leaders were: Harry May, Sam Moss, Tom Lenoir, Jake May, Bill Terp and Sam May. Some of the white leaders were John and Eugene Bacot, Went Dunaway, Oz Dunaway and Needham Barnett.

WALTHALL COUNTY, OUTLAW DAYS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 14: OUTLAW DAYS

DATE: OCTOBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN, LUCY THORNHILL, KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD(NYA)

WHITE CAPS AND BULL DOOZERS (CONT'D)

During this riot, Nannie and Mary Manning of above Salem were frightened away from their home by negroes and slept in a cane patch one night.

Reference;

Eugene Bacot.

The purpose of the "White Caps" was to maintain peace and order after the Civil War, when the negroes were very unruly. Neither white nor colored people were whipped unless they had proof that they were guilty. Things were done that the White Caps never had anything to do with and they received credit for it.

Reference:

Henry Gill.

It is said that the White Caps forced white couples to marry after all their children were born. Some colored men and women were forced to marry also. Some of the members of this "White Cap" band, were Jade Morgan, Andrew Dunaway, John Lawrence, S. N. Morgan, Jim Morgan and John Lawrence .

In about 1888, Eugene Morris owned and was operating a store near



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 14: OUTLAW DAYS

DATE: OCTOBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN, LUCY THORNHILL, KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD(NYA)

WHITE CAPS AND BULL DOOZERS (CONT'D)

Dillons Bridge on Bogue Chitto River. Some negroes planned to rob the store. Frank Warren was to do the robbing, and Lum Catlin, Ben and Hardy Keighler were to dispose of the stolen goods. Frank Warren stole the goods but for some reason the other negroes never helped. He was caught by a band of white men. He told about what the others had planned with him. These negroes were beaten unmercifully by these white men. The white men, were arrested and tried in Court at Magnolia and were acquitted.

Three women, who were known to be undesirable characters lived near the Mississippi and Louisana State Line. They were causing considerable disturbance in the community so, some white men went there and gave the e women a whipping. The men were Henry, Vol and Seymore Brock and probably Barney Lewis. These men were arrested and tried at Magnolia and were acquitted. This happened about 40 years ago.

Reference:

Walter Holmes.

About 60 years ago, a negro, Bill Tapp was at Elijah Cothern's under the house. There were only women at home, so this frightened them very much. Needham Barnett, Went Dunaway and Bill Burnett went to Homi-

WALTHALL COUNTY, OUTLAW DAYS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 14: OUTLAW DAYS

DATE: OCTOBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN, LUCY THORNHILL, KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD(NYA)

WHITE CAPS AND BULL DOOMERS (CONT'D)

Chitto River and got this negro and brought him to John A. Boyd's place. They put him across a log and whipped him until his blood ran in the road. The sign of blood stayed on the log for about fifty years.

Reference:

Eugene Bacot.

SALOON DAYS

Saloon Days in this county will always be remembered. Whiskey was sold in any amount and to boys over sixteen years. The streets were full of drunks and it was dangerous for women and children to be on the streets especially on Saturdays. Shooting and disturbances were common. The Social and Economic Effect was so bad until the people voted out Whiskey.

Near what is now the Pike and Walthall County lines there is a large hill called "Buck Snort." About sixty years ago a young man, Tom Holloway operated a grocery and saloon at the foot of this hill. There were so much drinking and fighting going on at this place that people called it "Buck Snort".

Reference:

Eugene Bacot.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 14: OUTLAW DAYS

DATE: OCTOBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN, LUCY THORNHILL, KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD(NYA)

EARLY HORSE THIEVES AND CATTLE RUSTLERS.

About sixty years ago a young man named Wilson, about twenty-one that lived near Pearl River stole Robert Bacot's horse. Bill Burnett, Quila Coney and Robert Bacot followed him home. When they found him he was in the bed asleep. They brought him back and he made good promises that he would not steal any more and they let him go free, but later he stole another horse and was sent to the penitentiary.

Reference:

Eugene Bacot.

About fifty or sixty years ago David Lenard was known through this part of Mississippi as a horse thief by trade. His brother was hanged in Texas by some rancher for stealing horses. Once David Lenard stole a horse in Texas and the ranchers were after him. He overtook Tom Holloway as he was moving to this country and made him hide him under his bedding. The Ranchers had a rope to hang him with. He served several terms in the penitentiary for horse stealing. There he learned to make picture frames. About twenty-five years ago he came through this county selling picture frames. He spent the night at W. H. Robert's. Robert's locked his horse

WALTHALL COUNTY, OUTLAW DAYS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 14: OUTLAW DAYS

DATE: OCTOBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSERS: BERNICE MORGAN, LUCY THORNHILL, KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD(NYA)

EARLY HORSE THIEVES AND CATTLE RUSTLERS(CONT'D)

for fear Lenard would steal it as he especially admired the horse.

Reference s:

Mrs. W. H. Roberts

Mrs. L. A. Burnett.

PERIODIC OUTLAWS AND DESERTERS.

Some of the Deserters from the Civil War were, Frank Beard, John Cook and Amos Peavy. Some Calverymen rode up to Peavy's house while he was eating breakfast and he ran through the field with the men shooting at him. They failed to capture him.

Reference:

Mrs. L. A. Burnett.

KIDNAPPERS.

In about 1866 Polk Morris and his wife separated. Polk and his brother Office rode up to the porch and took Polk's two year old child named Eugene. He carried him to Texas and reared him. When he was grown he came back to this country and operated a store at Dillon's Bridge, and remained here ten or twelve years, then returned to Texas where he has n t been heard from since.

Reference:

Walter Holmes.

Vivian P. Hobbs
Vivian P. Hobbs,
County Supervisor
Historical Research

Eloise Sartin: Typist.

WALTHALL COUNTY, OUTLAW DAYS

accepted but written to get more material on person write up K

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 10, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: ""RACES AND NATIONALITIES OF COUNTY"

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

Walthall County has a total area of 404 square miles or 357 people per square mile according to 1930 Census. These include 7,824 White people and 6,047 Negroes.

We have no other nationality in this county.

The negroes as a whole of Walthall County have been very industrious. Since the organization of the County in 1914 rapid progress has been made with the negroes. In the early days the negroes had no responsibility as they were slaves and the masters looked out after their welfare. When they became free they had to begin looking after their own interests. Most of the negroes started working at odd jobs with the white people for just what they could get. Sometime would do a days work for some old clothes and food. Soon they started working on shares. The farmer would furnish them with house and he would pay him back ¼ or ½ of crop when grop is gathered. We have in our county several negroes who own their farms, some 40 acres and some 100 acres. The negroes have taken a good bit of interest in building their schools. In recent years they have built up a good school system.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 10, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "RACES AND NATIONALITIES OF COUNTY"

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

They have also progressed in other ways. They have become interested in making their homes more attractive by planting flowers, trees etc. They make their homes more attractive on the inside as they have learned to make rugs and furniture .

We have in Walthall County 307 negro farm owners with acreage of 21,382 acres.

29 part farm owners with acreage of 1,819.

Cash Tenants 52.

Share Croppers 549 acreage 4,476 acres.

Other Tenants 251.

Total Number negro Tenants 822.

The Federal Farm Census of 1935 made public some encouraging facts. The report says that during the past five years there has been a marked increase in the number of farms and the total farm acreage in Walthall County. This expansion in agriculture is attributed to the movement of people from the small towns where full time employment has been difficult to secure.

WALTHALL COUNTY, RACES AND NATIONALITIES

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 10, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "RACES AND NATIONALITIES OF COUNTY"

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

Many of the negroes of Walthall County are farm owners and share croppers. They have made good progress in their line in the past few years and by this means have made fairly decent living for their families.

Walthall County has four successful negro merchants, Arthur Dillon in the Northern part of the county, who has a full line of staple and fancy groceries and has kept store for eight years. York Ratliff in the same community who has kept a grocery store for 15 years. Joe Ginn who lives in the Ginntown Community and has kept store for a number of years. Joe Magee, who lives at Kioto, Miss. has the largest negro store in Walthall County offers a full line of dry goods, hardware, staple and fancy groceries. The above named merchants are successful farmers.

In very recent years the Beauty Culture have become a very important enterprise in our County and a number of Beauty Shops have sprung up over the county. L. V. Varnado's wife received her training from the Poro Beauty College at Saint Louis, Mo. and has the oldest and best equipped shops in the county and had twenty



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 10, 1936

ASSIGNMINT: "RACES AND NATIONALITIES OF COUNTY"

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

YEARS EXPERIENCE IN THE BUSINESS. Maggie Davis, who received her training at Moro Beauty College, Memphis, Tenn., ~~had~~ had twenty five years experience. Ben Conerly is proprieter of the oldest Cafe in the county and has built up a thriving business well worth over a $1,000. He has the oldest barber shop in the county. The barber shop of W. M. Ginn is a very promising business, has all modern equippment and is worth more than $500. The latest entry in the beauty trade is that of Emma Magee, who lives in the Ginntown Community is the dauthter of D. Nelson Magee. She is a graduate of Magnolia Training School and equipped to do high grade work.

It can easily and safely be said that the largest business enterprise in the county is the Enterprise Burial Association of which James J. Washington is the proprieter. It has more than 1000 members that live in Walthall, Marion, Pike and Lawrence Counties. It gives employment to 14 persons. The business is worth more than $8,000. James J. Washington was born at Osyka, Miss. about 50 years ago and married to Frances Wesley, May 16,1904.

WALTHALL COUNTY, RACES AND NATIONALITIES

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 10, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "RACES AND NATIONALITIES OF COUNTY"

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

There are 31 negro schools in Walthall county. Two are accredited high schools, Magees' Creek and the Walthall County Training School. The two high schools have a faculty of six teachers each, including the two Vocational and Economics teacher for each school. Mt. Morriah, Hope, beech Ridge, and Tylertown offer the 9th. grade to its pupils. The Faculties of the other schools are from one to four teachers. The training of the Teachers range from the 10th. to B.S. Degrees. There are 80 negro Teachers at work in the 31 schools. Eight have degrees, 12 have Teachers' Training Certificates, the others High School Certificates or less. Walthall County has four Rosenwald Schools, one a cement block building, three wooden and one cement block building under construction.

The teachers of Walthall County have improved their Class room instruction by improving themselves.

There are ten one teacher schools, Namely: (1)Gallilee, (2) Goff, (3) Dillon, (4) Ginndale, (5) Star Hill, (6) South Cherry,



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 10, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "RACES AND NATIONALITIES OF COUNTY"

CONVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

(7) New Bethel, (8) Tees Chapel, (9) China Grove, (10) Henry Line.

There are ten two teacher schools, Namely: (1) Sunny Hill, (2) Holmes, (3) Mt. Olive, (4)Singleton, (5) Weary, (6) Rose Hill, (7) North Cherry, (8) Harvey, (9) Sunlight Line, (10) Forest.

There are three, three teacher schools, Namely: (1) Darbun Line, (2) Gatlin, (3) Pine Grove.

There are five four teacher schools, Namely: (1) Saint Paul, (2) Beechridge, (3) Brandon Boy, (4) Mount Bethel, (5) Mt. Morriah.

One six teacher school, Magees Creek High School.

One eight teacher school, Ginntown Training School.

The six teacher school is Magees Creek Vocational School and is an accredited School. The teachers all have college training. They teach Vocational Training & Home and ~~have~~ Economics.

Walthall Training School is an accredited High School. The two high schools have a faculty of six teachers each, including the two vocational and have Home Economics teachers for each school. Mt. Moriah, Hope, Beech Ridge offer the 9nth. grade to the pupils.

WALTHALL COUNTY, RACES AND NATIONALITIES

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 10, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "RACES AND NATIONALITIES OF COUNTY"

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

Some of the teachers have training through the 10th. grade while others have B.S. Degrees. Twelve have Teacher Training Certificates. The others have high school certificates.

Magees Creek School building was built with the Julius Rosenwald fund, a block building. The teachers' home is a block building built by the patrons of the school. Two Sanitary pit toilets built by the WPA and the poultry houses by the school boys. The Vocational Shop, a frame building was built by the patrons of the community. This School is located four miles North East of Tylertown.

Walthall Training School is five miles South of Tylertown. This building was built with the Fu ius Rosenwald fund also the teachers' home. This Sc ool has a girls' dormitory where the girls come from all over the county and board to attend school. The girls' dormitory was built by the patrons of the community, also, the vocational shop and the poultry houses were built b the boys. There are three sanitary toilets built by the WPA.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 10, 1936

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

These training schools gives the negro boys and girls excellent training in agriculture, home economics and music.

Fannie A. Styles who lives in the northern part of the county is the Jeans Supervisor, who helps the teachers with their classroom work, as making a workable schedule, reading material for the primary grades, teachers industrial work, as sewing, handicraft, by the use of sheucks, pine needles, old inner tubes, spools, rugs, etc. She has college training and helps to improve the community.

The WPA has two negro teachers teaching in adult education, Mellerson Guy, and Anna Conerly.

Some of the leading negro teachers in the county are: M. A. Huey,, A. L. Conerly, Pearl Jenkins, F. S. Comford, H. S. McCellan, S. B. Bridges., I Pit man, Frankie E. Gunn, Margie Bullock.

J. W. Mark who lives in the third district has a poultry farm with blood tested chickens. He has the brown leghorn chickens

P. B. Williams writes poems for the colored magazines which the readers of the paper appreciate, has written one short story.

WALTHALL COUNTY, RACES AND NATIONALITIES

Copy

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

ASSIGNMENT # 6

5/15/36

Walthall
Co —



History In. Progress
Folk-Lore and Folk-Customs
Walthall County
(1)

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

May 15, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: # 6 "~~FOLKLORE~~ AND FOLK CUSTOMS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Particular Days

~~I. CELEBRATIONS:~~

~~(1)~~ We celebrate Christmas because it has always been a custom. For weeks before December 25th ~~I am~~ we are busy preparing for the week of Christmas, for all our children come home and the neighbors come in to visit, ~~us~~ me. I bake cakes, pies and make candy to last for the week. The men ~~My husband~~ kills a fat pig and a turkey. The children find a pretty christmas tree and decorate it with strings of crepe paper, pop-corn and candles. We have presents for the family and remember all the old trust-worthy neighbors on the farm. The children build a log fire in the living room and play games while I finish up the Christmas dinner. We enjoy this holiday more than any other one.

~~Mrs. J. O. Holmes,~~

~~FRD #1~~ Tylertown, ~~Mississippi~~

WALTHALL COUNTY, FOLKLORE

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

MAY 15, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: #6 " FOLKLORE AND FOLK CUSTOMS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Celebrations (Cont'd)

(2) Thanksgiving- is celebrated in this county with a church service at early morning and then home to dinner of possum or pork and other good things raised on the farm. The men and children go to a foot ball game in the afternoon and the women visit their neighbors.

Reference: Belle Lampton

Tylertown, Mississippi Rfd # 4

(3) Memorial Day - Each year a Memorial Service is held in the Tylertown Cemetery by the American Legion. This is called the "All War Day" which is held on May 30th. This service is always held on Sunday in order all the people to attend. This is considered a very sacred day in the hearts of all people in the county. Services consist of speeches, music, and decoration of all soldiers' graves with flowers.

Reference: Olin Anderson

Tylertown, Mississippi



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

MAY 15, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: " FOLKLORE AND FOLK CUSTOMS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Celebrations (Cont'd)

(4) New Year's, The only celebrations on New Years is that of "midnight picture shows", "Rural parties" and at twelve o'clock (midnight) fire-works are shot and the ringing of the bells can be heard from far and near- "ringing out the old year and ringing in the new".

J. M. Bilbo,

Tylertown, Mississippi

(5) Armistice- The 11th day of November, various patrotic programs and speeches are held throughout the county. In one particular school district, the largest rural school in the county, a community fair is held giving various programs of readings, writings, drawings, paintings, plays, etc. with competers from other schools. Athletics is also one of the leading features at this celebration in the way of base-ball, basket-ball, foot-ball and other games between the schools over the county. To create a greater interest, prizes are offered for all winners throughout the day and that night a play is given.

Reference: H. H. McLeod,

Tylertown, Mississippi

WALTHALL COUNTY, FOLKLORE

~~Easter Services-~~ On Easter Sunday- the rising of Christ predominates in all programs- thus various programs and services of songs, readings etc. are held in the early morning. In the afternoons, the Sunday Schools, various organizations, etc. or maybe families have egg hunts.

Mothers Day is celebrated the second Sunday in May. This day is set aside to ~~show~~ honor to mothers. Various services and programs are given in the churches of the county, with the thoughts of mother reigning in the hearts of all those who are present. It is customary for those whose mothers are living to wear a red rose while those whose mothers are dead must wear a white rose. This is a very sacred day and all the people who have living mothers communicate with them in some way that day, either by gifts, flowers, or messages of love.

VI: Childrens Day- among the negroes is a big day. They dress all the children who are to take a part in the programs in white. Speeches and songs are said and sung.

Since we do not have any large schools, organiz tions, etc. of any sort in this county, "Home Comings" are known here only as the home comings ~~all~~ of all members of large familys gathering home for a reunion during the vacation months.

In this County we have ~~Associations- (Mr. Bobbie Conerly, Tylertown.)~~ Religious Customs

~~In this county we have the~~ B. Y. P. U., Sunday School, and W. M. U. Associations. These are all gathered at one location where all churches, organizations, etc. go ( this is held every quarter) and programs are provided by different members. The women, in the community where the Associations is held, prepares lunch for the entire crowd which is spread upon the ground.

~~Mr. Bobbie Conerly- Tylertown.~~

prepare the meals while the men would cut trees in to 15 to 20 ~~ft.~~ feet pieces, roll them and pile in a heap and burn. One big log was sawed until last, this log was called the "coffee log". When this log was thrown on the heap this ended the days work and they all drank their coffee. That night they celebrated with a frolic which consisted of square dancing and usually one or more men were present with a fiddle which furnished the music. They have been known to dance all night. Some of these people are still living and say logs were cut up and burned that would bring from $10.00 to $15.00 each today.

~~References:~~ - J. M. Bilbo,
Tylertown, Mississippi

WALTHALL COUNTY, FOLKLORE

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

MAY 15, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: #6 FOLKLORE AND FOLK CUSTOMS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO Social Customs

~~VII. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES.~~

(1) Box Suppers- ~~This~~ is a gathering which creates a good bit of interest in the county. Girls prepare a box of dainty food such as chicken, cakes, sandwiches, etc. When the crowd has gathered these boxes are auctioned off- the boys bidding on them. The highest bider gets the box and eats the contents with the girl who owns the box.

~~Mrs. Tom Conerly, Tylertown, Miss.~~

(2) About one-half dozen times each year a dance is given at the Armory. Excellent music is furnished by bands. The expense is paid by an admission fee of $1.50 per couple.

~~Mr. J. M. Bilbo- Tylertown, Miss.~~

(3) Singing schools are held in the various Rural districts. These "singings" are usually held in the summer months just before the revivial meetings. These schools are conducted by a man who knows music and the pupils are taught to read music by the"round note system". The idea is to learn to sing sacred hyms. These schools last one or two weeks.

~~Mr. J. M. Bilbo- Tylertown, Mississippi~~

PREPARED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF:

Mrs. Vivian Packwood Hobbs.

MRS. VIVIAN PACKWOOD HOBBS, CO. SUPER*

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

TYPED BY: Earline Brodie-



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

MAY 15, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: #6 "FOLKLORE AND FOLK CUSTOMS "

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

~~III. Workings~~

The gatherings in which members of the community share labor of the individuals- such as quiltings, house-raisings, shuckings,- gatherings in which the friends share the trouble of the individuals ~~such as burial makes devoting parties.~~

Mrs. Jno. A. Packwood,

Tylertown, Mississippi

Table Customs

~~IV.~~ Background position of housewife at Meal time.

The female member of the family serves the children and the grown ups serves themselves from main dishes.

~~Mrs. J. O. Holmes,~~

~~Tylertown, Mississippi RFD #1~~

Dress Customs

~~V.~~ "Slat Bonnets", "Fascinators", "Mother Hubbard", ~~etc.~~

Here in this county the style is dead dead in women today, especially in the country and for those that do farm work.

~~Mrs. J. M. Bilbo,~~

~~Tylertown, Mississippi~~

WALTHALL COUNTY, FOLKLORE

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

MAY 15, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "# 6 "FOLKLORE AND FOLK CUSTOMS"

CANVASSER:

~~II. "Black Mammy" influences. (on Birth)~~

Superstitions

(1) If an expectant mother looks thru a crack at the moon the baby will be crosseyed.

(2) Bad luck to take ashes out of the house before the baby is a month old.

(3) When mother carries baby out of the house the first time she must come back in the same door she went out but she must go around the house.

(4) Bring a thimble full of water before bringing a bucket full from the well will keep the baby from teething hard.

(5) To cure thrash let someone who has never seen the father blow his breath in the baby's mouth three times in succession.

(6) Its bad luck to sweep under the bed until the baby is a month old.

(7) When mother sleeps before the baby is four hours old the baby will have fits.

Reference: Courtney Comfort,

Tylertown, Mississip i RFD #1



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

MAY 15, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: #6 " ~~FOLKLORE AND FOLK CUSTOMS~~ "

CANVASSER: ~~ALMA BILBO~~

~~II. "Black Mammay " influences (on Birth Cont'd)~~

(1) Don't let the fire go out until the baby is a month old.

(2) When a baby starts cutting teeth tie nine buttons around its neck and the child will have a easy time and not be sick.

(3) Elder buds and sassafras buds tied around neck of child will help child cut teeth without pain.

~~Reference:~~ Dora Gatlin

Tylertown, Mississippi RFD #1

~~"Black Mammy" influences on funerals and burials.~~

(1) Very often when a negro dies, the body is buried and it is sometimes a month or two later before the funeral is preached.

(2) When a negro dies the neighbors are asked to "sit up with the wake".

(3) [illegible] cemetery near Sandy Hook a picture of the dead is placed in a frame and cemented in the frame and placed at the head of the tomb. This is the only place that this is customary.

In the country ~~I [illegible]~~ at a funeral the casket is opened in the church and the public is invited to view the corpse.

WALTHALL COUNTY, FOLKLORE

References:-
Mrs. J. O. Holmes - Tylertown, Miss
Belle Lampton - Tylertown, "
Olin anderson - " "
J. M. Bilbo " "
H. H. McLeod " "
Courtney Comfort " "
Dora Gatlin " "
Mrs Jno A Packwood " "
Frank Comfort " "
Rev. W. A. Roper - Meridian Miss.
Mr Bobbie Conerly - Tylertown Miss
Mrs Tom Conerly

Accepted
K

6

Page No. -1-

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 5, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: # 6 "FOLKLORE AND FOLK CUSTOMS" SUPPLEMENT

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

1. ANIMAL TALES:

(1) There is an old house near Magee's Creek Church called "The Bishop House". It was supposed to be haunted. It had an an inclosed stairway. An old man that walked with a cane lived and died at this place. Noises could be heard coming down the stairs. Some thought that it was the old man's ghost on the stairs. People were afraid to live there. So one day some one looked on the stairway when he heard the noise and it was a large snake crawling down the stairs. His tail would hit each step and make the noise that people heard.

Reference: Mrs. A. Z. Breeland
Tylertown, Mississippi

WALTHALL COUNTY, FOLKLORE

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 5, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: " 6 "FOLKLORE AND FOLK CUSTOMS" SUPPLEMENT

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

CUSTOMS:

(1) Birth- Years ago it was very seldom that a doctor was called when a child was born. Midwives, who were only Colored Women with no education or training at all were used at these times. All that they knew they learned from experiences and "here say", most of it just being talk and superstition. The babies and mothers too were given "teas" from different herbs grown in the field and woods.

(2) Courtship- When a young man went to call on a young lady it was usually with the consent of their parents. They sat aroung the fireplace with all the family present. If they went some place some one else went with them.

(3) Marriage- When some of the young people married it was mostly public weddings. The brides family would cook for days preparing a feast so they could invite all their friends and neighbors.

(3) Death- When a person died they knew nothing of embalming them so they would a saucer of salt on their stomach, so they could be allowed to keep them until burial arrangements could be made.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 5, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: #6. "FOLKLORE AND FOLK CUSTOMS" SUPPLEMENT

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

CUSTOMS (Cont'd)

(3) This is even used now in this county and especially among the colored people. These facts mostly occurred from 1875 - 1900.

Reference; S. N. Morgan

3. WITCH AND GHOST TALES:

On an old place about 18 miles North of Tylertown there stands an old Ante Bellum home. This old place is thought to be haunted. Here are a few incidents relating to this old place.

Hollis Chapman and some workers were camping in this old house cutting and hauling some timber in 1924. Mr. Chapman knew nothing of the superstition in regards to this place. One day he was at the house while the other men were working. He was writing some letters when he heard a terrible groaning and knocking over in the corner where a woman had died only a few years before. He got up and looked all around and never did find anything.

WALTHALL COUNTY, FOLKLORE

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 5, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: # 6 "FOLKLORE AND FOLK CUSTOMS" SUPPLEMENT

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE M RGAN

WITCH AND GHOST TALES (Cont'd)

In 1923 Inez Morgan, Modena Morgan and a child named Cleavie Dunaway ~~w~~s getting potatoes and apples near this old house. Cleavie's mother had died a few months before. She said if her children were not placed in the homes where she wanted them to be that her spirit would come back. These three people heard a loud noise at the back door like some one tearing in. They looked and saw a woman standing on the steps dressed and looked like Cleavie's mother. He screamed "Thats my Mother" and they all ran and when they looked back she was standing at the gate.

Some of the older folks went back to investigate and could not even find a track.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 5, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: # 6 "FOLKLORE AND FOLK CUSTOMS" SUPPLEMENT

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERN CE MORGAN

4.NEGRO SUPERSTITIONS:

(1) If you hear a dove cry and it is the first one you have heard, take off your shoe and stocking, and on the inside of the feet of your stocking, you will find a hair the color of the man's hair that you are to marry.

(2) If you walk backwards nine steps, and then dig in the ground, you will find a hair the color of that of your husband to be.

Reference: Dora Gatlin

Tylertown, Mississippi.

WALTHALL COUNTY, FOLKLORE

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 5, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: # 6 "FOLKLORE AND FOLK CUSTOMS" SUPPLEMENT

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

5. CUSTOM OF DRESS

In 1875 people wore clothes very differently from what they do today. Boys wore long shirts that reached about half way from knees to the ankles. Boys as old as 18 years wore these shirts unless they went some place which was very seldom. The girls wore full long dresses with high necks and long sleeves. They also wore as high as six petticoats. Their shoes were high top. They all wore long hair, sometimes with bangs cut and they mostly curled these.

Reference: S. N. Morgan

An old resident of this County.

6. Religious Customs:

Religious customs in this County differ according to denominations. We have a Holiness Church called Bethel about 15 miles north of Tylertown. They have peculiar customs. The men in this church dress as other men but the women wear long sleeved dresses and plenty of underwear. They wear long hair also. They donIt usually use a doctor when some one is sick. They pray and depend on God to do all the healing.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 5, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: # 6 "FOLKLORE AND FOLK CUSTOMS" SUPPLEMENT

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

RELIGIOUS CUSTOMS: (Cont'd)

During church service their singing is accompanied by various string instruments and much clapping of the hands. Sometimes some of them will quit singing and go to shouting. This usually takes place on the stage or out in front. When they go to pray all the leading Church members and even their children kneel and all pray at once. Sometimes they get so loud they can be heard for miles around. The preacher gets his wife or some other lady to read the Scripture and he reads each verse behind her and makes comment on it. During Scripture reading and the sermon they say "Amen" to nearly everything that is said.

Reference: Bernice Morgan, Canvasser.

Vivian P. Hobbs

VIVIAN PACKWOOD HOBBS
SUPERVISOR
HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT.

WALTHALL COUNTY, FOLKLORE

Accepted K. 10

WALTHALL COUNTY TYLERTOWN, MISSISSIPPI

HISTORICAL RESEARCH JULY 20, 1936

ASSIGNMENT # 11:

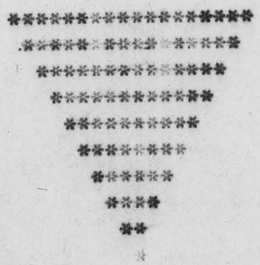
"SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

---

SUPERVISOR: MRS. VIVIAN PACKWOOD HOBBS

CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

TYPIST: EARLINE BRODIE



Accepted 7

WALTHALL COUNTY, SCHOOLS



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

ASSIGNMENT # 11: " SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

DATE: JULY 20, 1936

CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

(NAMES OF EARLY SCHOOLS OF THE COUNTY WHICH PRECEDED THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM OF MISS. AND A BRIEF NARRATIVE ON EACH).

(1) Chapel Hill School was organized in 1886 by the citizens of the community as there was none in this locality. It was located in the Southwestern part of what is now Walthall County about a mile from the Stalling's Bridge. The building was on the farm belonging to a patron, I.M. Ellzey.

Some of the teachers were Leslie Alford, Norman Gunn, Hettie Smith and Bessie Johnson. Some of the pupils were Hettie McDaniel Alford, Willie McDaniel, Burk Holmes, Dort Holmes, Mrs. Conn Hinson, Mrs. John Barnes, Claude Ellzey, Bessie Smith Powers, Mrs. George Estess, Ellis Alford, Nannie Berryhill, Janie Berryhill, Walter Holmes, Elias Holmes, Mrs. H. S. Smith and Martin Alford.

Some of the main contributors to this school were Jack Holmes, Newton Holmes, Jim McDaniel, I. M. Ellzey, Bill Rimes, Dock Smith, Needam Alford, Joe Berryhill and John Alford, Joe Berryhill is the only surviving patron of this old school when organized.

Four months of school was paid by the State and the patrons paid in a certain amount of money each month so th t they migh

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY: DATE: JULY 20, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: # 11 " SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY" CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

have a longer school term.

The house w s a boxed house about 16" X 20" with a dirt chimney. It had four windows made of lumber. Home made desks and b benches that six or even eight children used to sit on were used.

The"Blue Back" Speller, McGuffy Reader and Arithmetic were the main subjects used at first. Later as the school grew more subjects were added until accredited work was done at the school that grew from this old one.

A few of the outstanding people who received their first education in this school are: N. B. Smith, Music and singing teacher, Mrs. Kitte Smith Ellzey, Music Teacher, Mrs. Bessie Smith Powers, Music Teacher, Trejolie Fuller, Secretarial Work.

This school remained at this location about 12 years then the building got burned. A similar house was built about one-half mile North of the old location on Dock Smith's farm. It only was there a few months then it burned. Another small boxed house was built about two miles north of the other location on what is now Willie McDaniel's land. It stood at this place for about ten years, then it was burned. It was then moved about two miles south and at this place they named the school Midway. A larger building w s put at this place made of rough weather boarding and ceiled with dressed ceiling. Glass windows were used. Heaters were used for heating and



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT, WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 11: " SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

DATE: JULY 20, 1936 CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

homemade desk of lumber were used where two children can sit.

As the school grew more rooms were added until it was a very nice country school. Some smaller schools, or parts of them, consolidated with this and helped to make it a better school. In 1933 this building w s burned, and Some of the territory was put in Lexie Consolidated School and some in Progress Consolidated School in Pike County.

This school was very helpful to the community and it was used as a community center. The house was used for school, church, Sunday School, Prayer Meetings, and also voting precinct. Some of the leading farmers of the county and their wives received wh t education they have at this place.

" INFORMATION: BY: J. Walter Holmes
Student, Patron and later Trustee
of this school."

(2) Pine Ridge School w s organized in about 1856. It was located in the northern part of what is now Walthall County. Oliver Boyd now owns the land where the old building stood.

This school was founded because the community was becoming more populated and a school was needed at this place. Rev. J. A. Burnett, Adam Bacot, John Boyd, Osbun Dunaway, John Rayborn, Jeff Morgan, and Felder Dunaway were the chief contributors to this school.

WALTHALL COUNTY, SCHOOLS

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

ASSIGNMENT # 11: " SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

DATE: JULY 20, 1936 CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

Sidney Allen Myra Bullock, John I. Hyde, Will Russell, Madison Holmes, Dean Holmes, and Richard Holmes were some of the earlier teachers, Bessie Burnett Roberts, Jennie Rayborn, W. B. Dunaway, Billie Rayborn, Quillar Coney, Bennie Alford, Oliver Bacot, Hellite Dunaway, Ross McCullogh, and Bessie Dunaway, were some of the pupils that attended school at this place. Each child's parents had to pay a certain amount each month for their education as this was the only way the teachers could get paid for their work. Sometimes the salary spent was so small that the teachers spent a few days each with all the patrons that could afford it.

The house was built of logs and was about 20' x 30'. What few windows it had was made of lumber shutters and dirt chimneys were the source of heat. The benches were of split logs with pegs in them for legs. The desks were fastened on the wall like a shelf. About 1900 this log house was replaced by a boxed house about 16' x 30' with a brick chimney and glass windows. Home made desks and benches were made of lumber that were more comfortable for the children.

In the earlier years, Webster's Dictionary, "Blue Back" Speller, McGuffey's Readers and Arithmetic were the chief subjects. Later History, Grammar, Physiology and Pholosophy were added, also Geography.



WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH

ASSIGNMENT # 11: " SCHOLLS OG YESTERDAY"

DATE: JULY 20, 1936 CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

Outstanding people who received their first education at this school were: W. B. Dunaway, Teacher, Milton Gulledge, Teacher, Bennie Alford, Minister, Quilla Coney, Teacher, Ross McCullough, Teacher, Oliver Bacot, Teacher, Rosa Bacot, Teacher, and Hettie Dunaway, also a teacher.

This school was consolidated with Enon and Ridge schools in the year of 1921. This school was very beneficial to this community for without it the greater portion of the children would not have received any education at all. Their parents were not able to pay their board and tuition elsewhere. This school paved the way for institutions of higher learning, that are being operated in this part of the county. As there were no church in the community this school building was used for preaching services.

" INFORMATION: BY: Mrs. L. A. Burnett and S. N. Morgan
Citizens of the communtiy ".

(3) In about 1855 a school was organized on a Creek called Carter's Creek from where the school derived its name. Located about eighteen miles Northwest of Tylertown. As their being no school in this vicinity it was built to accommodate the children of the community. The teachers were paid by the patrons and for only a few months in the summer. Ben Hart was one of the earlier teachers,

WALTHALL COUNTY, SCHOOLS

also Clinton Barnes, Nat Hawthorne, Jose O'Mara, Miss Liz ie Gulledge, C. B. Ross, Mr. Walker and Miss Williams, Nannie Wilkinson, and R. A. McCullough. Some of the pupils were: Mrs. L. A. Bunnett, Andrew Dunaway, Press Brent, Nammie Walker, Henry Reeves, Sheldon McCullough, John Walker, Nannie B. Walker, Hoe Beard, Murrary Beard, Eula Walker, Alfred Garner, Joshua Garner.

Some of the earlier contributors were: Richmond Dunaway, Johnie Catherine, George Dunaway and Denis Dunaway, Some later contributors were: Press Brent, Jerry Walker, Quillar Boney, Gus Walker, Chris Beard.

The first building was made of logs, about 10' x 20'. It had two homemade doors and one window shutter. A shelf was made by the wall for a desk. The benches were made with pegs for legs and no backs. Pegs were put on the wall to hang lunch buckets, coats, and hats.

Spelling, reading, Arithmetic, writing, History and Grammar was the only subjects taught. One teacher had to teach all grades so a very short time was allowed each class. Some of the outstanding people who received their first education at this school were: Tas Morgan, Teacher, R. A. McCullough, Teacher, John Walker, Teacher, Nammie B;Walker, Teacher William Walker, Teacher, Joe Beard, Blacksmith, John Howell, County Demonstration



Agent, Eula Walker, Teacher, Jerry Walker, Doctor, Powers Walker, Dentist, "Breezy" Reeves, Lawyer, Nannie Wilkinson, Teacher, Alfred Garner, College Professor, Joshua,Garner, College Professor, Sheldon Reeves, Trustee S. W. J. C. , Joe Walker, Doctor.

In 1867 this chool was moved about a mile West on the same creek. This took it just across what is now Pike and Walthall County line into Pike County. The building erected at this place was made of logs and was about 20' x 30' with a dirt chimney. It had two doors and one window. The furniture was of the same as the other place. A few years later a small edition was put to this building as the children were too crowded.

A few years later the church was used for a school house after the log house was too small. A boxed house was then built. It was about 20' x 30' with a few glass windows. It had a brick chimney, no grades were recognized. They studied Reading, Arithmetic, Spelling, and Geography. Better desk were made of lumber and the seats had backs to them. A small side room was put to this building for one of the teachers a Miss Gulledge to live in. Later this room was torn down and put on a different side to be used as a class room.

Later this building was torn down and a more modern house was built. It was made of weather boarding and had two stories. Woodmen's Lodge was used upstairs. Long homemade desks were used.

WALTHALL COUNTY, SCHOOLS

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH

ASSIGNMENT # LL: " SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

DATE: JULY 20, 1936 CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

Several children sat at these. This house burned in 1911. The children was again taught in the church until a cyclone blew the church down.

They finished out the school term in a small house on a nearby farmer's place. They then built a three room house of weather boarding with glass windows. ~~Hatersweee~~ used for heating. Long homemade desk and benches were used in this building. More subjects were introducted as the school made progress. More rooms were added to this building until there were four class rooms and an auditorium.

"INFORMATION: BY: Mrs. L. A. Burnett,
Pupil and citizen of the community.

(4) The Precincit School was located in the Northwestern part of Walthall County about fifteen miles from Tylertown. It was organized because there was no school near and in those days transportation was unheard of. IT was founded in 1870. Some of the patrons who helped organized this school are: W. Dunaway, Parham Thompson, Adam Bacot, John Catherine, Joe Cotherine, J. L. Thornhill, and some of the later teachers are: H. J. Bearden, M. C. Bacot, Mrs. D. F. Boyd, Miss Jannie Conerly, Mrs. Etta Magee, Miss Ada Walker, Professor and Mrs. Johnson. Some of the earlier teachers are: Rev. J; R. Boone, Sam Williams, Wiley Thornhill, A Mr. Rogers, Fannie Thompson, Lucetie Dunaway. Some of the pupils were: Jidia Cotherin,



WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

ASSIGNMENT: # 11: "SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY "

DATE: JULY 20, 1936 CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

Joe Cothernine, Johnie Cothernine, Frank Cotherine, Hettie Dunaway, Ada Dunaway Thompson, Bailey Thompson. Some of the contributors to this school are: C. B. Dunaway, J. W. Thornhill, B. F. Cothernine, Leon Boyd, V. E. Thornhill, W. B. Dunaway, Walter Mulford, D. F. Boyd, B. J. Burnett, J. Hascul Alford, H. J. Cothernine and O. L. Rand.

A boxed house was used about 25' x 30' and only one teacher was had. About four months public school was all they had. Homemade desk were used. Spelling, Reading, History, Geography, Arithmetic, and all subjects that were taught us to the 8th grade.

Some of the outstanding people who received their education at this school were: O. C. Brewer, Doctor, Lucious Cotherine, County Demonstration Agent, J. B. Thompson, Teacher, Mrs. Barbara Mason, Teacher, H. Lacey Dunaway, Salesman, M. C. Bacot and H. J. Bearden, Teacher and H. J. Cotherine, Teacher.

In 1884 the name of this school was changed to Enon. The old house was burned, then they built a two story weather boarded house. The upstairs was used for a masonic and woodmen Lodge. The first floor was for school. It had glass windows and partly ceiled. Homemade desks were used. In 1921 Enonn Pine Ridge, and Ridge were consolidated and a more modern building was built and amore comfortable convenience was furnished, a more complete course of study was adopted. This building was a large frame building, ceiled throughout

WALTHALL COUNTY, SCHOOLS

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH

ASSIGNMENT # 11: " SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

DATE: JULY 20, 1936 CANVASSER: MRS. BERNICE MORGAN

with glass windows. Heaters were used for heating. Bought desks were used and school only stood on the said spot a year then it was burned. The territory was then divided and two frame buildings were built, known as North and South Harmony. These buildings were made of weather boarding and ceiled with dressed lumber. Plenty of glass windows were put in for light and ventilation. Good heaters were installed for heating purposes. North Harmony's building was burned and South Harmony's material was used to build a modern school at the site where Enon Church stands and this one is called Enon. It has an auditorium 48' x 60' with three class rooms, on each end. There are two basement class rooms 21' x 30'. The building has plenty glass windows and sufficient heaters for heating. The building is painted white. One year of high school accrediated work is being carried on now and they plan to make it a four year High School.

The effect of the school on the community is to bind the people together and work to the interests of all the community. They are training their citizens to be as good as any in the county.

"INFORMATION: BY: Mr. W. B. Dunaway, an old school teacher and also a patron of the school and Milton Gulledge, an old student and also a patron of this school."

SUPERVISOR OF:
WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT:
Vivian P. Hobbs

Typed: EB

Misnomered (This is largely present day School material - Hold for further Ass.
Written to - 8-1-36

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH
FOR
WALTHALL COUNTY
ON
ASSIGNMENT # 11: "SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

SUBMITTED: 7/29/36
CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

WALTHALL COUNTY, SCHOOLS

ASSIGNMENT # 11: " SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY

DATE: JULY 29, 1936

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH

In writing a history of the Walthall County Schools, it is necessary to consider conditions that existed while this section was a part of the parent counties- Pike and Marion.

Back in the early eighties, our folks were just beginning to adjust themselves after the staggering influence of the carpetbag rule. They had been so busy trying to make a living under that oppressive reign and were depressed that they had not found time to look after their school interests. The public school fund would not permit the running of the schools for more than three or four months, with very meager salaries. On account of the very poor salaries and conditions prevailing, efficient teachers could not be secured.

While these conditions prevailed throughout this section of the state, some of the patriotic citizens of Tylertown, a small inland village, began to plan for better things in an educational way. The late Jas. R. Conerly with the assistance of others secured a location of a public school within the village of Tylertown and the Masonic Hall was selected for the school building. Miss Emily Stafford of Magnolia was the first teacher



ASSIGNMENT # 11: " SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

DATE: JULY 29, 1936

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH

and taught only a few months during the winter of 1883-'84.

During the summer of 1884, the trustees secured the services of the late Prof. R. G. Hicks as principal for the ensuing session. As there was not a 9 months school between Magnolia and Columbia, Prof. Hicks at once saw a great opportunity to develop a boarding school. The teacher and citizens named it the Tylertown Normal Institute and arrangements were made to take care of boarding pupils. Board and lodging obtained in private homes or in the boarding house for $7.00 per month. Those who came Monday and returned home Friday got board and lodging for only $5.00.

In the year of 1888 W. B. Mixon was principal and D. C. Easley, teacher. Some of the pupils were: Claude Lampton, prominent merchant, Dudley Lampton, Magnolia prominent business man, Leslie Lampton, Prominent Jackson business man, C. I. Brumfield, first Sup't. of Education, Mrs. Lovie, Ball, Excellent teacher, Fred Applewhite, Methodist Preacher, Percy Payne, owned first hardwared store in Tylertown, and Thad Harvey, first dentist in Tylertown.

This write up would not be complete without mentioning the name of Mrs. Mary Conerly, familiarly called "Aunt Mary" by

WALTHALL COUNTY, SCHOOLS

ASSIGNMENT # 11:" SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

DATE: JULY 29, 1936

CANVASSER: AEMA BILBO

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH

all the boys and girls. This noble lady exerted a great influence upon the boys and girls who boarded in the dormitory. She set a beautiful table of wholesome well prepared food. When we consider the price of board now, it seems like a miracle that she should have been able to furnish plenty of choice food at such a low price.

The school was financed as a regular public school for four months of the session. The pupils paid regular private tuition during the remainging five months and those who carried studies above the public course paid supplement during the public term. Incidental expenses and money for repairs were obtained by giving concerts during the session and charging admission.

The school grew and prospered under many able principals with similar financial arrangements, as at first, until after the village was incopporated into a town in 1907. In 1908, the Tylertown Separate School District was formed and a special tax was placed upon the taxable property for schools and the plan of private tuition was abolished.

The most excellent school spirit in Walthall County is the result largely of the germination and development of seed sown by the boarding schools of Tylertown and Columbia. The school at Columbia was established several years before the Tylertown Normal Institute. Many of the boys and girls who attended these boarding



ASSIGNMENT # 11: "SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

DATE: JULY 29, 1936

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH

schools twenty, thirty and even forty years ago are now patrons, trustees and supporters of the Consolidated schools of Walthall County.

The only direct tax for schools paid by the people of Pike County prior to 1897 was the $2.00 poll tax. The tax with the state distribution of $2.00 for each educable child constituted the county school fund which any one may readily see was very inadequate for efficient teachers with even fair salaries. So the advocates of better schools succedded in having a 2 mill levy placed upon the taxable property for the extension of the term beyong the regular four months, which custom had prevailed many years. This two mills remained on until the formation of the new county and permitted the schools to run six months.

There were several good public schools in different sections of the territory which is now Walthall before the county was created. Dexter, New Zion, Sartinsville, Knoxo, Darbun, Union maintained good successful schools by supplementing the salaries of teachers paid by the county some extended the term.

WALTHALL COUNTY SCHOOLS

ASSIGNMENT #11: "SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

DATE: JULY 29, 1936

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Many advocates of good schools withdrew very reluctantly from the mother county because they feared that the new county being so small would not be able to supply funds adequate for school purposes. They had not caught the vision of the school district as a local taxing unit.

People were so prejudiced against taxation that they did not grasp readily the idea of taxing property for the purpose of building school houses, supplementing teachers salaries, etc. So there was a hard fight to get folks to take the advantage of the law giving patrons the power to consolidate into one large school and place a tax upon the the taxable property of the district for the purpose of paying off bonds for building and equipping modern school houses.

The Darbun community was the first in this whole section to consolidate under the new law granting that privilege. In the fall of 1914 the patrons and qualified electors petitioned the Board of Supervisors to place a levy of 5 mills upon the taxable property of the district for school purposes and, in February 1915, they voted almost unanimously for a $5,000 bond issue upon the district for the purpose of building and equipping a modern school. They had a hard time getting their bonds in shape for sale, but finally the sale was consumated and, during the summer of 1916, they



ASSIGNMENT #11: "SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

DATE: JULY 29, 1936

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH

completed the best modern school building in all this section and equipped it with the best furniture which required an additional 4 mill levy, upon the taxable property of the district. This extra levy was put on without any trouble and made a total of 14 mills upon the district for school purposes.

To show how rapidly the progressive school spirit has grown in Walthall during the last ten years, we have but to note the small amount available for the public schools of the county for session 1915-'16. The people had opportunity in the summer of 1914 of voting, for schools, a 4 mill levy or a 2 1-2 mill levy. The 2 1-2 mill levy was carried which produced for session 1915-'16 with the poll tax $18,960.20 and the amount received from the state was $9,702 making a total for the session, $18,662.20 for educating 5359 children making only $3.48 for each child.

The 2 1-2 mill levy was continued each year until 1919 when a vote was taken for a 5 mill levy for schools but same was defeated, but after the equalizing fund was appropriated by the legislature in 1920, the matter was placed before the people again and realizing that the county would have to have a greater millage or not share equally in the equalizing fund, they carried a majority for the 5 mill levy.

WALTHALL COUNTY SCHOOLS

ASSIGNMENT # 11: " SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

DATE: JULY 29, 1936

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH

This 5 mill levy produced with the poll tax for school purposes during 1924-'25, $16,172.38. The state furnished $31,107.25 making a total for the school year $47,280.08 for educating 5215 children making $9.06 for each child, nearly three times what it was nine years previous. And too, instead of one modern school house as it was in 1916, there are now fourteen at a valuation of something like $120,000 for all the school houses, teachers homes and grounds.

In the fall of 1924 when the Supervisors were placing levies only two districts; Sartinsville and Marion Walthall, petitioned to have levies placed upon their districts for schools; but now every district in the county has a levy from 5 to 16 mills either for bonds or maintenance or for both. There are no complaints in the county now against taxes for schools.

---

INFORMATION: TAKENS FROM AN EDITION OF THE TYLERTOWN TIMES
PRINTED IN THE YEAR: APRIL 2[illegible], 1926



ASSIGNMENT # 11: " SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

DATE: JULY 29, 1936

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

INTERVIEW WITH DR. R. E. SYLVERSTEIN - PRES. O F THE FIRST BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF TYLERTOWN, MISS.

Dr. Sylvertein and other citizens of Tylertown organized the first school which was privately owned. Dr. Sylverstein was elected President of first board of trustees with other members including; J. C. Rimes, George H. Collins, N. E. Ball, Dort Holmes, N. Stringer, Wm. Hopgood, John Ellzey, Lem Ginn, Perry Smith, and others.

This board which came from widely scattered parts of the county had to guarantee the payment of the teachers salaries and if the funds which the state allowed for four months school and the tution which all pupils had to pay was insufficient to meet the salaries of the teachers then the trustees had to pay it personally. Dr. Sylverstein says he does not think in the entire time the school was privately owned they had to pay over $150 or $200.

The first school was in what for many years was known as the old Masonic Hall in north Tylertown, a two story frame building which had formerly been the school at Holmesville and was moved here for a Masonic Hall and later used as a school. In later years a new school was built on the site of the present home of J. R. Boyd.

One trustee, Perry Smith, is reported to have mortgaged his home to

WALTHALL COUNTY, SCHOOLS

ASSIGNMENT # 11; " SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

DATE: JULY 29; 1936

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH

help finance the building of the school. This school building was ued until 1918 when the present school building was erected. Tylertown and ~~ether~~ Walthall County has developed educationaly fast in the past few years, We now have in Walthall County 13 white schools and 31 colored schools offering every girl and boy in the county the chance to get an education.

In recent years rapid advances have been made and the one room schools have given way to large consolidated schools for white children. The one room school is largely in use for colored students but there are two large industrial schools that do excellent work in training the colored youths of the county.

The white schools employ a total of ninety teachers. Seventy one teachers in twelve schools and nineteen in the Tylertown school. Approximately thirty thousand dollars is paid annually to the white teachers and eight thousand dollars to the colored teachers.

There are 3267 educable white children and 2893 educable colored children in the county.

School bus lines employing seventy-four drivers carry the white boys and girls to and from school.The average mileage being approximately 800 miles. A survey of conditions in the Walthall County schools was made in 1933. It revealed the following interesting information about the schools. The survey



ASSIGNMENT # 11: " SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

DATE: JULY 29, 1936

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

WALTHALL COUNTY HIS TORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

as submitted to the County Sup't. of Education says in part:"When Walthall is measured in terms of relative ability to support an adequate program of education it falls in the middle fifty of the eighty-two counties of Mississippi. There are no extremely wealthy schools districts in the county, but all the larger districts have a reasonable amount of taxabe wealth back of each child in average daily attendance and the smaller districts merge their high school work with the larger districts and with in their own districts support an adequate grammar school system."

The salaries of Walthall's teachers, the report continues, "Compare favorably with those having similar training and experience in other counties. " "The tax rates for school purposes on Walthall County are the average for counties of equal wealth".

The County has two Vocational Agriculture Schools known as Smith-Hughes Schools. One is located at Lexie and the other at Marion-Walthall. In these two schools and Tylertown High School Home Economics courses are taught. They Tylertown high school has an average of 400 pupils but 19 teachers. Students in this school not only have advantages of regular grammar and high school courses, but are offered courses in music, expression and home economics. An Athletic coache is provided to supervise games and sports.

WALTHALL COUNTY, SCHOOLS

ASSIGNMENT # 11: " SCHOOLS OF YESTERDAY"

DATE: JULY 29, 1936

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

WALTHALL COUNTY SUPERVISOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Records show that Walthall County's youths educated in its schools stands high in their classes at the colleges to which they go in large numbers each year.

FROM NOTES: " LUKE'S CONERLY HISTORY"

Schools have been maintained at China Grove and at Sartinsville almost continuously since the settlement of that section. Among the teachers who served in the community were Joseph Smith, Patric McCelpin and Charles and Joseph Bancraft. These were pay schools supported by parents of the children. At this time there was no public school system in the state. All the schools were supported by tution fees given to the teacher. There was a public school fund which the law provided should be distributed in proportion to attendance of each child, which was paid to the parents of the pupils, but so small as to county but little.

At the schools, horse races, foot races, and wrestling matches and other athletic sports were emerged and town-ball. These constituted sources of amusement. There was many streams of water where boys and girls learn to swim. The boys had shot guns and rifles at an early age and were trained to become experts. Horseback riding prevailed altogether until at least three decades from the early settlement of the county.

VPH:EB

Vivian P. Hobbs
WALTHALL COUNTY SUPERVISOR
HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

ASSIGNMENT NO. 19.

WALTHALL COUNTY.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT.

THIRTEENTH AREA.

---

MARCH 31, 1937



WALTHALL COUNTY SCHOOLS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 19 "SCHOOLS OF TODAY"

DATE: MARCH 31, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

Walthall County became a county in 1914. J. J. Lee was appointed as first Superintendent of Education and served twenty months receiving a salary of seventy-five ($75.00) per month. Then an election was held and C. I. Brumfield was elected and served until 1919 at a salary of seventy-five dollars ($75.00) per month. A three mill levee was put on then and the salary advanced. The county didn't have a court house during this period. The Superintendent used a little brick building where the court house now stands. In 1919 the court house was erected and an election was held and J. J. Lee was elected Superintendent again. He served from 1920 until 1924. The salary at this time was $900.00 annually. At this time the building of the schools(all or most of them) needed repairing. Superintendent Lee put forth every effort to consolidate the schools and build nicer buildings over the county, which he succeeded in doing. In August, 1930 Mr. Lee informed the public that the last of Walthall county schools had been consolidated by arrangement effected at the meeting of the School Board. There are now thirteen white schools and twelve colored consolidated schools in the county.

From 1924 until 1928 C. I. Brumfield was again elected Superintendent of Education. The salary at this time was $2000.00 annually. In 1928 another election was held and C. I. Brumfield was re-elected as Superintendent of Education, and served until 1932.

He is a native of Tylertown, received his education from Tylertown High School, later graduating from Miss College. For nineteen years Mr. Brumfield served the county as teacher, Superintendent, and County Superintendent of Education. His entire life has been devoted to school work. For twelve years Mr. Brumfield held office of County Superintendent of Education. When he entered office there was practically no high school work done outside of Tylertown. Through his efforts the schools were improved, building up the public school



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 19 "SCHOOLS OF TODAY"

DATE: MARCH 31, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM (CONT'D)

system. There were at the close of his term of office there four rural high schools offering four full years of high school work, and a high school education was available for every child in the county.

In working for the upbuilding of the school system, he also worked for establishing the libraries in the schools. When he entered office, there were no libraries in the schools, but when his term expired there was a library, even though small, in each Public School in the County.

In 1932 D. E. Lott was elected Superintendent of Education serving until 1936. He did a great deal for the schools, encouraging the importance of better libraries. He also put on more trucks to transport the children to school.

In 1936 J. J. Gulledge was elected and is now serving. The salary is about the same.

Through the efforts of Mr. Lott and Mr. Gulledge, we have succeeded in having better schools as the buildings have been enlarged and the libraries made better. Mr. Brumfield and Mr. Lott did much in providing a good library for Tylertown High School and enlarging the libraries throughout the county. The equipment of the schools are much improved. The Federal Government put on a Sanitary Project in the county which has meant much, not only to private homes but also schools where Sanitary toilets have been built. This means fewer diseases which here-to-fore has been common in the county.

The county schools are financed from sources such as; Sixteenth Section Fund, County and State taxes, Separate School District and Rosenwald Fund for negro schools.

Tylertown is a separate school districtand is financed by local taxes per-captia.

We find this record of county finances for the years 1921-1922.---State Distribution $33,661.04; Polls, $3,942.08; Sixteenth Section Fund, $2,409.11; County Levy 5 mills,

WALTHALL COUNTY, SCHOOLS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 19 "SCHOOLS OF TODAY"

DATE: MARCH 31, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM(CONTINUED)

$14,293.44; received from Separate School District, $78,821.08.

The county has only one city school and it is a separate School District located in Tylertown.

We have only two types of racial schools, negro schools and white schools. We have two vocational schools for negroes which do excellent work in training the colored youth of the county. These schools are Magees Creek Vocational School and Walthall County Training School. The white schools are all consolidated in the county.

The W.P.A. Adult Education Director of this county is E. C. McNeil. He has nine Adult Teachers working with him; three being negro teachers and six white teachers. Classes of negroes are tenght. Others are teaching different ways of improving the homes, new hints on cooking, etc. Thirteen white schools and thirty-one colored schools offer an opportunity for every boy and girl in the county to obtain an education.

In recent years rapid advances have been made and the one-room school has given way to large consolidated schools for white children. The one-room school, however, is still largely in use for colored students but there are two large Vocational schools that do excellent work in training the colored youth of the county.

The white schools employ a total of ninety teachers; seventy-one in the twelve rural schools and nineteen in Tylertown. Approximately $30,000.00 is paid annually to the white teachers and $8,000.00 to the negro teachers.

The schools have advanced so rapidly until school bus lines employing Seventy-four drivers at an annual salary of approximately $17,000.00, carry the white boys and girls to school, and in their daily trips cover approximately 800 miles. Through consolidation by transportation to these schools more of the children are able to go th school and receive



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 19 "SCHOOLS OF TODAY"

DATE: MARCH 31, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM (CONT'D)

an education. Before the schools were consolidated many of the children could not go to school because they had to walk too far. Now the school buses bring the children to school which is a great advantage to the child. The salary of these bus drivers come out of the tax.

"Walthall County Training School" for negroes is located at Ginntown about five miles from Tylertown. The school was first established in 1920, since that time it has been steadily growing. The attendance of the school has grown quite a bit. In this there are 208 students and 7 teachers. The next improvement made was the change in the type of instruction. From 1920 until 1924 the school offered to the farm negro yough a small literary education but with the advent of the Smith Hughes vocational agricultural department to the school in 1925 the curriculum was changed to meet the need of the farming community. Six years later this type of instruction was extended to the girls. In 1935 this was made a vocational high school. A teacherage is on the campus. An industrial building and a girls dormitory is at this school. The negro girls come here to board and get a high school education. A well equipped work shop for the training of boys to do such work connected with the farm. The girls dormitory and industrial building was built by the boys of the school. The boys are tenght to do all kind of farm work such as land terracing; tanning of hides; screening homes, meat curing, etc.

Magees Creek Vocational High School located three miles North East of Tylertown on Highway 24 is doing good work toward teaching the colored boys and girls of the county. In September, 1932, D. E. Lott, Superintendent of Education permitted Smith Hughes Agricultural work to be started with H. H. Lee as instructor. The school enrollment has increased each year since 1932, the enrollment now being 245 pupils.

WALTHALL COUNTY SCHOOLS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 19 "SCHOOLS OF TODAY"

DATE: MARCH 31, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM (CONT'D)

Four types of instruction, all day, day unit, part time, and evening, were offered by the vocational department. The instruction was not limited to Magee's Creek community but to farmers of Beechridge, Brandon Bay, Singleton and Mt Bethel communities. Instruction in all-day,, day unit and part time classes covered butchering, curing meat, care of home orchards, fertilizing of field crops, terracing land, starting cover crops, beautifying the farm, farm sanitation, home tanning, repairing harness, saw filing, general repairing, wood working, care of farm animals, prevention of cholera in hogs, proper use of leisure time, organizing and financing N. F. A. chapter, which is the same as F. F. A. for whites. Twenty-three boys are enrolled in all day classes, and thirteen are carrying home projects. Ten boys are enrolled in day unit classes and four are carrying home projects. Twenty boys are enrolled in part time classes and ten are carrying home projects. Of the fifty-three boys in all-day day unit and part time classes only three are carrying systematic savings.

Instruction in evening classes covered the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, planning the farm food and feed supply, terracing land, home tanning, determing the variety of cotton to grow, securing crop production, credit, prevention of cholera in hogs, using the school farm shop, butchering and curing pork, sanitation and beautification of the farm home, proper use of leisure time and fertilizing field crops. Of the five hundred farmers enrolled in evening classes only one hundred and forty have made outstanding changes in farm and home practices as a result of attending evening classes. However, more than five hundred farmers have been benefitted by receiving information on the S. C. D. A. A. and other problems common to farmers of South Mississippi. The most interest seemed to have been created in the study of the S. C. D. A. A. and planning the farm food and feed supply with farm sanitation. Land owners were particularly interested in the study of land



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 19 "SCHOOLS OF TODAY"

DATE: MARCH 31, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM (CONT'D)

utilization and fertilizing of field crops.

One center has purchased a 40 quart pressure cooker and a standard automatic sealer. More than four hundred acres of land have been terraced. Twenty farmers are able to terrace their own land. Four farmers were assisted in prevention of cholera in hogs. Twelve farmers have made use of the farm shop at school. Three homes have been painted. One hundred homes have been screened as a result of organized instruction. A community survey revealed that in the month of March only two homes in the five centers were properly screened. The vocational department is conducting a laboratory plat on the problem basis.

In the study of the various problems the teacher of agriculture has secured an ample supply of first hand information from reliable sources.

The two schools were built with Julius Rosenwald funds.

There are two white vocational high Agricultural Schools known as Smith Hughes Vocational Schools. One of these is located at Lexie, Miss. The other at Marion-Walthall, Darbun. Dexter school is making an effort to secure a Smith Hughes teacher. The instruction in these schools is the same as above mentioned. In these schools and in Tylertown High School there are Home Economics Classes. This training has meant much to the girls and boys of the county. In the past three years the development of agriculture has meant much as walthall county is an agricultural district, and farming is the chief industry.

Home Economics is taught in these vocational schools and the girls, both colored and white, have been greatly benifited, as what they are taught makes these girls better home makers. The Walthall County Training School for negroes has a girls' dormitory which gives the colored girl a better chance to get a high school education. Home economics is also taught in the Tylertown High School.

WALTHALL COUNTY SCHOOLS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 19 "SCHOOLS OF TODAY"

DATE: MARCH 31, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS AIMA BILBO.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM (CONT'D)

Dexter School is located ten miles East of Tylertown. This is a one story frame building estimated at $9,000.00. The equipment is estimated at $4,500.00. It has a library consisting of approximately 1,000 books. This is a High School.

Improve School is located seven-teen miles East of Tylertown. This is a one story frame building estimated at $5,000.00. The equipment is estimated at $3,000.00, the library $200.00. This is an elementary school.

Mesa School is located four miles West of Tylertown. It has a nice frame building estimated at $5,500.00, equipment $4,000.00, library $200.00. This is an Elementary School.

Union school is located five miles North of Tylertown, with a building estimated at $6,500. The equipment is estimated at $3,500.00, library at $200.00. This is an Elementary School.

Salem School is located eight miles North of Tylertown. The estimated cost of building is $7,500.00; equipment $4,500.00. A very good library valued at $400.00 is in the school. This is a high school. Music is taught in this school.

Kirklin School is located six miles South East of Tylertown. A wood frame two story building valued at $2,500.00, equipment $1000.00, library $50.00. This is an elementary school.

New Zion School is located five miles East of Tylertown. This is a two story frame building valued at $7,500, equipment $4,000.00, library $1,000.00 (but the building and equipment burned in the last few days). This is a High School.

Martinsville School is located fifteen miles North of Tylertown with a building estimated at $3,000.00, equipment $1,500.00, library $50.00. This is an Elementary School.

Dinan School is located nine miles North West of Tylertown with a small wood frame building at $5,000.00, equipment 2,000.00, library $50.00. This is an Elementary School.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 19 "SCHOOLS OF TODAY"

DATE: MARCH 31, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS AIMA BILBO.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM (CONT'D)

Enon School is located fifteen miles North West of Tylertown. This is a nice school valued at $11,000.00, equipment $3,500.00, library $200.00. Regular courses are taught here with two years high school work.

Marion Walthall School is located seventeen miles North East of Tylertown. This is a Smith Hughes School, with a wood frame one story building valued at $12,000.00, equipment $4,000.00, library $1,000.00. This is a High School. Home Economics, Agriculture, Music, and Physicial Culture are taught here.

Lexie School is located three miles South of Tylertown. This is a Smith Hughes School with a wood frame building at $12,000.00, equipment $4,000.00, Library $1,000.00. Home Economics, Agriculture, Music, Physical Culture, are taught here.

Magee's Creek Vocational School (Colored) is located three miles North East of Tylertown on Highway 24. This school is built of cement blocks. It also has a teachers' home. This school building has nine large rooms and a large auditorum. All rooms are well equipped for the ascribed work. The boys are taught to tan hides, and are instructed in the Conservation of the Soil, by way of terracing. Home Economics is also taught in this school.

The Walthall County Training School (Colored) is a wood structure, well arranged. Literary Courses and Home Economics are taught here. It has a well equipped work shop on the campus for the training of the boys to do repairing of farm tools. A teachers' home and girls' dormitory are conviently located on the campus. These two buildings were built by the school boys.

All of the above white schools transport their children by way of buses.

We have Dramatic Clubs in the different schools of the county. They put on good plays in different schools. The schools have debating. Some few have Hi-Y's and girl reserves.

WALTHALL COUNTY, SCHOOLS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 19 "SCHOOLS OF TODAY"

DATE: MARCH 31, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

Public School System (cont'd)

All of the disciplinary control is under the teachers supervision.

First Aid is taught under the biology department of the schools.

In the schools of Marion Walthall Vocational School, and New Zion are parent-teachers Association. All the schools of the county have Faculty meetings to discuss better plans of teaching. Each month a teachers' meeting is held where all the teachers in the county meet and discuss problems and have some kind of educational program.

We have only one school in the county where lunch is served. The W.P.A. has a lunch room in the Tylertown negro school.

After the schools of the county were consolidated, the teachers instead of having to board around just where they could, were provided with teachers' homes in most all of the rural schools. Most of the time the Superintendent of the school has charge of the teachers' home and some light house-keep. This has been an advantage to the teachers as they can be near their work.

Most of the teachers have college education. In the colored Vocational School of Magee's Creek; the school employs six teachers, three of which are graduates of Alcorn A. & M. College. All the teachers have at least two years college work. This makes the teachers more efficient in their work. With a better education, the teacher of to-day has improved in personal appearance, and personality.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS & COLLEGES IN COUNTY

We have no private schools or colleges in this county.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 19 "SCHOOLS OF TODAY"

DATE: MARCH 31, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

REFERENCES:

H. H. Lee, Principle of Magee's Creek Vocational School.

Tylertown Times Records.

J. E. Magee, Principle of Walthall County Training School.

J. J. Gulledge, Superintendent of Education.

F. Comfort, Negro Teacher.

J. J. Lee, Former Superintendent of Education.

C. I. Brumfield, Former Superintendent of Education.

E. C. McNeil, Supervisor of Adult Education.

Supv. of Historical Research
Vivian P. Hawkes
Walthall County

WALTHALL COUNTY, SCHOOLS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 17: AGRICULTURE-------HORTICULTURE

DATE: DECEMBER 28, 1938.

CANVASSERS: LUCY THORNHILL AND KATHLEEN BRADFIELD, (NYA)

EARLY HISTORY OF AGRICULTURE (CONT'D(

The Choctaws were better farmers than most Indians. They raised enough to support a fairly large number of people. The women did the farming and all the other work, while the men were hunting, fishing, and fighting. They took large stones and shaped them into spear heads or axes. They also used stone tools of different kinds about their homes and in the fields. In cultivating their crops of corn they used hoes made partly of stone. After the corn was dried it was ground into meal between two stones.

REFERENCE: Mississippi History

by

Sydnor & Bernett.

Corn and potatoes were first cultivated by the Indians. Beans, peas, pumpkins and melons were also developed by them from wild plants. Tobacco is an Indian plant.

REFERENCE: HISTORY OF OUR COUNTRY

by

HARRY F. KEFILL

Before Mississippi was admitted to the Union as a State the chief business of the people were farming. By 1807 cotton was the chief crop in what is now our county. Cane and food crops were also grown.

The methods of farming of the early settlers were very hard on the land. They burned the cotton stalks and seed. Slaves were expensive and often cost $1000 each, and they



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 17: AGRICULTURE-----HORTICULTURE

DATE: DECEMBER 28, 1938.

CANVASSERS: LUCY THORNHILL AND KATHLEEN BRADFIELD, (NYA)

EARLY HISTORY OF AGRICULTURE (CONT'D)

thought that was too high priced labor, when more land could be bought for little money. By this method much of our mineral resources were lost in our land. There were progressive farmers who carried on many experiments to find new crops. They also sought improved ways of cultivating those already grown.

REFERENCE: Mississippi History

by

Sydnor--Burnett.

COTTON

The early history of cotton in America is obscure, its use predating all authentic records. Columbus on his voyage of discovery in 1492 noted in his diary that the natives came toward us and brought us balls of cotton thread. He and other explorers found cotton growing abundantly in the West Indes and Continental America.

The cotton mill era is usually considered to have started in the United States in 1790 with the erection and equipping of a mill in Rhode Island under the direction of Samuel Slater. Expansion was slow for the next 15 years or until the Embargo of 1807, the Non Intercourse Act, and the War of 1812 interferred with the importation of cotton cloth from England. The consequent high price of cotton attracted investors to this farm of industry, and the expansiod from then on was fairly rapid.

REFERENCE: Encyclopedia Brittennea.

By 1807 cotton was the chief crop in this county. It was necessary to pick the lint from the seed by hand, a very slow process. The amount of cotton grown could never be

WALTHALL COUNTY, AGRICULTURE

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 17: AGRICULTURE-----HORTICULTURE

DATE: DECEMBER 28, 1936.

CANVASSERS: LUCY THORNHILL AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, (NYA)

COTTON (CONT'D)

very great until some quicker and cheaper way of separating the lint from the seed could be found. It cost three or four times as much to have the lint separated as it did to raise the cotton. Some kind of a gin had to be invented before cotton could be produced on a larger scale.

The first cotton gin was made entirely of wood and turned by a crank. It usually took two boys to turn this crank. Later a small engine was attached and made it much easier.

Slaves were first used in our part of the country in about 1810. By 1830 there were plenty of slaves used on the larger plantations. Smaller farmers who only had a few slaves did not employ an overseer but worked in the field with the negroes themselves. The larger farms used overseers. Both negro men and women worked in the field. Some of the slaves were skilled carpenters and blacksmiths and did not work in the field. They were given a certain amount of work to do each day, and when they finished they were allowed some time for themselves. The old negroes cared for the children of those who worked in the field. Usually the more intelligent slaves worked in the house of the owner as cooks, nurses, and butlers. Then there were grooms, stableboys, coachmen and others who seldom or never worked in the fields.

REFERENCE: Mississippi History

by

Sydnor & Burnett.

Cotton is now grown and harvested by white and negro labor. It is usually hauled to the gins with trucks and ginned with engines to run the gins. It is usually carried to the market on turcks.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 17: AGRICULTURE-----HORTICULTURE

DATE: DECEMBER 28, 1936.

CANVASSERS: LUCY THORNHILL AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, (NYA)

POULTRY AND LIVE STOCK (CONT'D)

the market. Wool is sold from the sheep in small quantities.

RURAL HOME IMPROVEMENTS

The first homes of the people of this county were little better than shelters or pens, built of logs. They were covered with boards and had cracks between the logs filled with mud. The chimneys were built of sticks and covered with mud inside and out to keep them from burning. As time passed the settlers built larger houses. To their first one-room cabins they added other rooms, halls and porches. These porches were called galleries. If a farmer wanted a two-room house, he built two log pens with a hall between them, and covered them with the same roof. Then he added a long veranda or gallery running the length of the house. If he wanted more room he added shed rooms at the back on each side of the hall. A few better houses were built in this county about a hundred years ago, but very few. No early farm house was complete without a pack of dogs which slept in the hall or on the veranda. Saddles, bridles and farm harness hung from wooden pegs fixed on the wall of the hall or porch.

The floors of these homes were sometimes carpeted with deer skins. The chairs were home made with rawhide bottoms. The hairy side turned out for a cushion. Tables and bedsteads were made of plain lumber and no effort made to make them beautiful. The rifle, powder horn, and shot horn hung on the pegs over the door in the corner. The cooking was done at the fire place in one of the shed rooms, or in a separate cabin joined to the main house by a plat form.

WALTHALL COUNTY, AGRICULTURE

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 17: AGRICULTURE-----HORTICULTURE

DATE: DECEMBER 28, 1936.

CANVASSERS: LUCY THORNHILL AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, (NYA)

RURAL HOME IMPROVEMENTS (CONT'D)

Later the more prosperous people bagan to build better homes of lumber and a few of brick. They had servants to do the work and attend to the children. The owners of these homes bought furniture from Covington and New Orleans and spent much money to make their homes comfortable and attractive, but they lacked bath tubs, screens, and modern light. They were large and airy, but our own simpler homes are much more comfortable now.

REFERENCE: The Story of Our Nation

by

Eugene C. Barker, Walter P. Webb & William E. Dodd.

The modern county homes are all built under one roof with the main idea of convenience. They have low ceilings to make them much warmer and some have heaters for circulating heat, and fire places in every room. Water and lights are in the most progressive homes. Sanitary toilets have been built in most every farm home. Most all houses are screened. Servants are more scarce in the homes of today on account of labor saving devices, which has been invented for conveniences.

Mail was everywhere slow and uncertain. There were no newspapers until the middle of the eighteenth century; and letters were generally carried by travellers. Sometimes one traveller would carry a letter part of the way toward its address and leave it at an inn to be picked up by another traveller going farther in the right direction weeks or months later. When a very important letter had to be written two or three copies were made and sent by different hands to be sure at least one copy would arrive. Because mail was slow and travellers few, people knew so little of what was going on outside



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 17: AGRICULTURE-----HORTICULTURE

DATE: DECEMBER 28, 1936.

CANVASSERS: LUCY THORNHILL AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, (NYA)

RURAL HOME IMPROVEMENTS (CONT'D)

their own neighborhood. The arrival of a stranger at the village hotel or blacksmith shop always brought people crowding around to ask the news of places he had passed through.

All the roads were bad. There were no good roads at all. The well-to-do-planters owned coaches or carriages which were driven by proud negro coachmen and drawn by four or six horses. These heavy carriages were mostly for show. They were polished up for the governor's ball and were used sometimes when the mistress went calling in town. For short trips people traveled on horseback and for long trips as much as was possible was by water.

REFERENCE: Story of Our Nation

by

Eugene C. Barker, Walter P. Webb

William E. Dodd.

We now have daily rural delivery within reach of every home. We have daily news papers. It only takes a few days for a letter to go thousands of miles or even across the ocean, if sent by air mail. News travel by telephone, telegraph and by radio. For travelling we now have good roads and automobiles, trains, and areoplanes to make it more convenient and quicker.

MODERN AGRICULTURAL AGENCIES

The clothing program as conducted in Walthall County embraced discussions and

WALTHALL COUNTY, AGRICULTURE

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 17: AGRICULTURE-----HORTICULTURE

DATE: DECEMBER 28, 1936.

CANVASSERS: LUCY THORNHILL AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, NYA.

MODERN AGRICULTURAL AGENCIES (CONT'D)

demonstration in the selection, use and alterations of patterns, study finishes, color demonstrations, tailoring schools, dry cleaning, moth prevention, care of clothing, cotton dress contest, wool style show, and care of sewing machine.

As rural women had very limited amounts of money to spend for clothing, they showed much interest in the clothing program which enabled them to make the best use of the means they had in clothing their families. The women who had inadequate funds for clothing made savings by exercising greater care in selecting and purchasing materials according to recommendation, by making more garments at home instead of buying ready made clothing, by altering and remodeling garments, and by dry cleaning garments at home.

195 women who followed recommendation as to selection, care and construction of clothing. There was a total of 7,050 garments made by club members.

Community Style Revues held with 44 dresses being modeled, 18 modeled at county style revue.

Tailoring school women were instructed in preparation, cutting, fitting and finishings of old garments into more attractive ones, also studied all details covering the purchase and making of woolen dresses.

Home Management---They were instructed in improvements in farm houses installation of labor saving equipment, provision of storage space, renovation of furniture, sanitation, and house furnishing. Club women learned to construct small pieces of furniture, recovered chairs, and stools.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 17: AGRICULTURE-----HORTICULTURE

DATE: DECEMBER 28, 1936.

CANVASSERS: LUCY THORNHILL AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, (NYA)

MODERN AGRICULTURAL AGENCIES (CONT'D)

4-H Club members were taught to make needed articles for bedroom, framing picture, renovating old furniture, selection of proper pictures for room. Making curtains, scarfs, bedspread for room.

The importance of year round garden and to can surplus foods instead of letting them ruin, also teaching the girls the different ways of canning.

The importance of pure breed chickens, best rations of feeds and best methods of caring for baby chicks.

Foods and Nutrition studied the importance of vitamins in the diet. Demonstration were given in cooking different foods at each meeting. The agent also instructed the Club members in canning foods.

Contest were held for both Home Demonstration women and 4-H Club girls in foods.

The Nutrition Program was carried this year. Many topics were discussed by the agent on nutrition. Demonstration were given on preparing the different kinds of dishes. In this program the Home Demonstration Women and 4-H Club girls learned to make lots of new dishes out of home grown products.

Most of the 4-H Club members have learned to sew, cook, can, and to make a number of articles for their room.

The Home Demonstration work in Walthall County has helped the people to can more and in many communities has influenced more of the Home Demonstration women to get steam pressure cookers and other canning equipment so that they might can more and in a shorter time.

REFERENCE: Miss Helen Parker

Home Demonstration Agent, Walthall County.

WALTHALL COUNTY, AGRICULTURE

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 17: AGRICULTURE-----HORTICULTURE

DATE: DECEMBER 28, 1936.

CANVASSERS: LUCY THORNHILL AND KATHLEEN BRUMFIELD, (NYA)

## HORTICULTURE

This county has many cultivated flowers and shrubs used to landscape the homes and public buildings of the county. Japonicas in every hue start blooming before Christmas and bloom into early spring. The Spirea of every type blooms in all the old homes, as well as the Forsexthia and Snow-ball. The Azelia is being broughtin from the coast, and making a good show among the shrubs. Privet hedge, Abelia, Japonica and the wax leaf Lugustrum are used mostly for back ground.

The annual flowers that are used in this county, extensively are Zinnas of every color, Verbena, Snap Dragons, Pansies, Nasturtiums, Sweet Peas, Asters, Salvia (blue and red) Ragged Rabius and Larkspur.

We do not have any Nurseries in this county.

There are a few peach orchards in this county but none are shipped out of the county. Some are sold locally.

The Garden Club in Tylertown is composed of about thirty members, who are interested in the raising of flowers and beautifying the public buildings as well as their own homes. They have built a very attractive log cabin on the Magees Creek for their Club meetings. The grounds are planted with wild flowers and native shrubs and is most attractive. A flower show is held every year and merchants of the town cooperate in giving prizes for the best specimen.

Typist: Eloise Sartin.

Vivian P. Hobbs

Mrs. Vivian P. Hobbs
County Supervisor, Historical Research.

WALTHALL COUNTY, AGRICULTURE

ASSIGNMENT NO. 20.

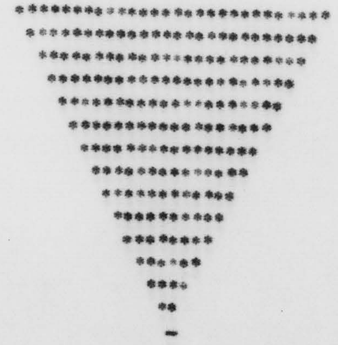
WALTHALL COUNTY.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT.

THIRTEENTH AREA.

---

MAY 6, 1937.





HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 20 "INDUSTRY"

DATE: MAY 6, 1937.

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

COUNTY'S MOST IMPORTANT INDUSTRY, OR INDUSTRIES:

Farming is the most important industry in our county. Many of the farmers also use dairying, raising of cattle, stock, hogs and poultry as means of increasing their income.

PRIVATE INDUSTRIES:

The B. G. Simmons Iron Works, located on Ginn St. in Tylertown, was built in 1935 by the present owner. This company makes plows and other farm tools, including middle-splitters, sweeps and harrows and also does general repair work. Five men are employed in the shop. The payroll amounts to approximately $75.00 per week. Local farmers can get their work done near home and can get implements made to order.

The Saul Lumber Company was first built about twenty-five years ago and was owned and operated by this same company until about two years ago, when Miller and Williams bought the whole plant. They now own and operate it. It is located within the corporation of Tylertown in the South Eastern part.

This mill manufactures pine and all kinds of hard wood lumber. They sell both finished and unfinished lumber. A kiln is operated here to prepare lumber for interior building.

This company employs about thirty men including saw mill plant and logging division. Their payroll aggregates $1200.00 per week and in excess to $60,000.00 annually.

This payroll is chiefly spent in the local town. This plant furnishes employment to people of this town, and buys timber from land owners of this county. All kinds of building material are available at this mill.

A saw mill which was owned by Porter and Morgan Lumber Company in now owned and operated by W. M. Porter. This mill is also located in the South East portion on Tylertown. This

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDUSTRY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 20 "INDUSTRY"

DATE: MAY 6, 1937.

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

PRIVATE INDUSTRIES: (CONT'D)

company deals in lumber, logs, ties and piling. Their products are chiefly sold in the raw stage with much of it going for export purposes. About twenty men are employed here with an annual payroll of about $25,000.00 per year.

Watson Smith owns and operates a saw mill at Lexie and saws lumber for both local and shipping purposes. His payroll amounts to about $5,000.00 annually.

Ainsworth's saw mill is located on Magees' Creek in the Northern part of the county. He saws lumber for local and shipping purposes also. His payroll amounts to about $100.00 per week. This mill furnishes lumber to surrounding people who live so far from town.

The Mesa Gin Company is owned by S. A. Simmons and Sons. It is located on the F. C. & G. Railroad, three miles West of Tylertown at Mesa. This gin has been in operation for about fourteen years. The cotton seed are shipped to cotton oil mills located at Magnolia, Hazelhurst and Jackson, Mississippi. The seed is manufactured into cotton seed meal, hulls, jute and other fertilizer properties. The lint is shipped from this county by rail and also by trucks.

Active gining season is from about August 1, to December 1,. The balance of the year being a dormant season when equipment is prepared for another year. Five to ten men are employed at this gin during gining season. The payroll for this season is approximately $5,000.00. This gin serves the local cotton belt adjacent to it.

W. M. Rials Cotton Gin, formerly Rials and Magee is located about 6½ miles South East of Tylertown on Tylertown and Sandy Hook road. This gin has been located here for about six years.

Thompson, Rials & Thompson's Gin is located at Darbun fourteen miles North East of



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 20 "INDUSTRY"

DATE: MAY 6, 1937.

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

PRIVATE INDUSTRIES: (CONT'D)

Tylertown. This gin has been in operation about nine years.

Lexie Gin Company is located at Lexie, three miles South of Tylertown on the N. O. G. N. Railroad. It has been in operation about eight years. Prior to this time Ernest Holmes owned and operated a gin, propelled by a steam boiler.

Price Gin Company located fourteen miles North of Tylertown on Tylertown and Brookhaven highway. Present structure located here about years. (Seven years.)

All these above gins employ about the same number of men and the payroll is about the same.

Walthall Gin Company, Inc., formerly Seth E. Ginn Gin Company located on Second Street in Tylertown is owned by C. N. Brumfield and B. H. Rimes. This gin is about sixteen years old. About eight men are employed here during gining season. The payroll is about $2,000.00 annually. This company operates two gin plants on the same premises.

Farmers Gin Company, located on Conerly's Street in Tylertown is owned and operated by Seth E. Ginn, Sr., Seth E. Ginn Jr., and Mrs. Seth E. Ginn. The gin formerly belonged to the Hiwaitha Ginn Company. It has been operating eight years. About ten men are employed at this plant.

Ellzey Gin Company is located in the edge of Tylertown on the "Possum Trot Road." It was built in 1936. This gin has all metal machinery with practically a fire proof structure. This building is of concrete block with a metal roof. It is well grounded to eliminate static conditions. It employs about ten men. This is by far the most modern Gin in the county.

Bryant Gin Company located on the Tylertown and Sandy Hook road, ten miles South East of Tylertown in the Dexter community. This gin was constructed in 1936. It is owned by W. W.

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDUSTRY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 20 "INDUSTRY"

DATE: MAY 6, 1937.

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

PRIVATE INDUSTRIES: (CONT'D)

Bryant and Sons. These owners operated gins also at Summit, Mt. Olive and Crystal Springs.

D. W. Boyd's Cotton Gin is owned by D. W. Boyd and Sons. It is located nine miles North East of Tylertown in the Salem community. A saw mill is operated in connection with the gin. It is propelled by steam and is about twenty-five years old.

Reference:

H. H. McLeod.

We have four companies that sell wholesale. These firms also run a retail business. McDonald Waring Co., Walthall Grocery and Grain, Lampton Bros. and Co., and Willis Grocery Co. These are located in Tylertown, Lamptons' being the oldest of these firms.

The Magnolia Compress Company is located on Second Street in Tylertown. It comprises of one main storing shed and one auxiliary cotton ware house. The cotton is assembled in these ware houses and shipped by railroad to Magnolia, where the bales are compressed. These houses store cotton from August until February. During this time six or seven men are employed. Maximum storage at any one time being 10,000 bales.

Much pulp wood is sold from this county to the Bogalusa Paper Mill, at Bogalusa, La., which is about forty miles South of Tylertown. This gives the landowners a market for their yongg pine which is not marketable any other way. It is sent to the Paper mill by trucks and also by railroad. $3.00 to $5.00 is paid per cord for the wood. This has been available for about twenty years. Holly is sent from this county to New York to line musical instruments. Ski material made from hickory is also sent from this county.

Mr. Bullock buys 8,000 eggs each week from farmers of this county, adjoining counties, and parishes. He employs one man during hatching season.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 20 "INDUSTRY"

DATE: MAY 6, 1937.

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

PRIVATE INDUSTRIES: (CONT'D)

This industry is very helpful to the people of this community as they get better prices for their eggs when sold for hatching purposes. Young chicks are available here also.

Reference:

E. L. Bullock.

The Squire Dingee Company owns and operates a branch Pickle Salting Station. This concern was established in Tylertown about 1930. Mr. E. L. Bullock is the local manager of this concern. The farmers are given a contract to grow a pickle variety of cucumbers. About 500 acres are planted in this county each year. Pickles are brought to the station and graded with grading machines and put in vats containing brine. The twenty-five vats holds 17,600 bushels of cucumbers, each bushed weighing 50 pounds. These pickles are shipped to Northern points where they are made ready for the market. This station employs about twenty men during the cucumber season. The payroll for May and June amounts to about $40.00 per day. Approximately $10,000 is paid to the farmers of this county for cucumbers.

Reference:

H. H. McLeod.

In each community there is a grist mill and sometimes more than one. These are run by gasoline engines and are prepared to serve the surrounding farmers. They get meal ground at these mills and also chops for feeding purposes. The mill owners toll the corn for expense of grinding. This toll is usually ground and sold at nearby towns.

Farmers of this county also has cane mills for the purpose of mamufacturing syrup from sugarcane. Some mills are run by horses used to a lever to turn the mill and some are run

WALTHALL COUNTY / INDUSTRY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 20 "INDUSTRY"

DATE: MAY 6, 1937.

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

PRIVATE INDUSTRIES: (CONT'D)

by gasoline engines. Syrup is made for home use and also the market. This helps to add to the incomes of the farmers and also serves to provide syrup for the families of this county.

PUBLIC INDUSTRIES:

Ball Bros. Plumbing Company furnishes water for the town of Tylertown. They also do repair work. This plant was founded in 1915 by the present owners, Carl and Mack Ball (brothers). A negro is employed to do the plumbing work.

They have a large storage tank which has the capacity of 120,000 gallons. Their elevated tank holds 140,000 gallons.

This water is known to be strictly pure and healthy. It is tested about three times a year by a member of the State Board of Health.

The Mississippi Power and Light Company furnishes light for the town. It is operated by J. W. Hoff with three employees. The light plant was first owned by C. H. Stevens. He sold the plant to Mr. W. A. Boyd and Mr. Boyd to Mr. J. B. King. Mr. King sold to Mississippi Power and Light Company in 1929.

The Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company has their own plants. They employ about three operators.

At first the only Telephone in the county was located in Lamptons' store. The line running from Tylertown to Magnolia, Miss. There was also a telephone at Walkers Bridge, seven miles West of Tylertown. J. C. Rimes, connected with Lampton Brothers, made a trip to New



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 20 "INDUSTRY"

DATE: MAY 6, 1937.

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

PUBLIC INDUSTRIES: (CONT'D)

Orleans to confer with Southern Bell and Telephone Company Officials to get a plant installed at Tylertown. The manager told him if he could get fifty people to sign for a telephone, they would put a plant here. Rimes came home and got the fifty people to place telephones in their residents and stores thus getting the plant, which has grown, there being over two-hundred telephones in the county at present.

The Fernwood, Columbia, Gulf Railroad crosses the county from Fernwood, Miss., to Columbia, Miss. They carry passengers and also freight daily.

The Gulf and Mobile Railroad Company operates from Tylertown to Bogalusa, La. They bought this property from New Orleans and Great Northern Railroad Company three years ago. They operate freight train, freight trucks and also bus line on highway for passangers, from Tylertown to Bogalusa.

Bob Bracey also owns and operates a bus line from McComb to Columbia that goes through this county.

Reference:

Carl Ball.

CITY AND COUNTY CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

"The Chamber of Commerce in Tylertown" was founded in the year 1926-27, with J. C. Rimes, President; V. M. Roby, Vice President; Edgar Rushing, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Executive committee consisted of J. C. Rimes, President; V. M. Roby, Vice President; S. E. Ginn; R. Babington; L. S. Quin; C. W. Sumrall; James O. McDonald and J. P. Fraim.

The membership of approximately forty members were made up of the business men of

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDUSTRY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 20 "INDUSTRY"

DATE: MAY 6, 1937.

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

CITY AND COUNTY CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE (CONT'D)

Walthall county. Immediately following the organization they began their activities. In 1928-32, H. H. McLeod served as Secretary-Treasurer, serving with S. E. Ginn, A. W. Willis, Lester Williams & J. C. Rimes. Committee Chairman Executive, J. C. Rimes; Civic Improvement, L. A. Welch, Complaints and Grievances, H. C. Scott; Industry and Enterprise, Lester Williams. Mr. H. H. McLeod, during his four years as Secretary and Treasurer, linked the organization with Mississippi and Louisiana Executive Association and the Association of Commerce of New Orleans, La. The Louisiana-Mississippi Organization was made up of Chamber of Commerce Executives throughout La. and Mississippi. He also identified the Tylertown Chamber of Commerce with United States Chamber of Commerce.

The Tylertown Chamber of Commerce engaged in the following activities in connection with Industry:

(1) Sponsoring and developing dairy Industry of Walthall and surrounding communities. This dairy development has grown from its origin in 1927 to its milk production of 2,000 gallons per day which nets the citizens of this section approximately $15,000 annually from dairy products. Local bank and business interests finance the purchase of dairy cattle.

(2) The extension of our rural mail route that serves Tylertown and adjacent territory.

(3) Public road improvements and general development of Tylertown trade territory.

(4) Organization of the truckers association and Commerce.

(5) The cooperation with neighboring towns in the establishment and location of garment factories.

The Chamber of Commerce was very active in 1926-27, the date of organization, up until 1932, sponsoring civic interests and general welfare of Tylertown and its territory. Through the State Board of Development at Jackson, Mississippi, they were known as one of the most



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 20 "INDUSTRY"

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

CITY AND COUNTY CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE (CONT'D)

active organizations throughout the state. The Chamber of Commerce is still active in Tylertown.

Tylertown is centrally located in the center of a large farming section. It furnishes a competition market for forest products, dairy products, poultry, truck and other products. During 1935 thirty-one car loads of beans, potatoes; 156,422 gallons of cucumbers and most of 16, 141 bales of cotton were shipped.

Its poultry industry has grown rapidly. The hatchery that several thousand eggs are set annually and yet cannot meet the demand.

According to the census of 1935, dairying is making rapid advance in the county. Cattle has increased 5843 in 1930 to 13,000 in 1935. The two milk cooling plants in Tylertown handle approximately 9300 pounds of milk per day. The farmer recieves $1.90 for 4% butter fat with average price being $2.20 as the milk averages 5% or over.

This income in Tylertown and Walthall County has meant much to the public in general as it puts the county on an equal with other counties, and making it possible for them to dispose of their products.

A meeting was called July 2, 1936, and the following officers were selected; J. H. Bailey, President; O. B. Elliot, vice president, and Loyd Simmons, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Rotary Club was chartered December 2, 1935. This club is known as (Rotary Baby Club) with the Columbia Rotary Club sponsoring. Tylertown organized a Rotary Club September 13, 1935.

The Rotary Club is an organization similar to the Chamber of Commerce, consisting of business and professional men of a community selected for their value to society with regard to the realization of the ideal of service. Its membership is formed on a unique plan of one active and representative man from each line of business and profession in the county.

WALTHALL COUNTY / INDUSTRY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGEMENT # 20 "INDUSTRY"

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

CITY AND COUNTY CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE (CONT'D)

Breed Monger (a prominent lawyer) serves as president; J. O. McDonald (Director of Bank of Tylertown) is vice president and Wyant C. Wharton (leading dentist) serves as Secretary and Treasurer).

Reference:

Newspaper files,

J. C. Rimes,

H. H. McLeod.

Alma Bilbo

Alma Bilbo
Historian
Historical Research.

Bernice Morgan: Senior Typist.

WALTHALL COUNTY, INDUSTRY

ASSIGNMENT NO. 23.

WALTHALL COUNTY.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJET.

THIRTEETH AREA.

---

MAY 21, 1937.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 23 "TRANSPORTATION"

DATE: MAY, 21, 1937

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

OLD ROADS

About two miles from the Bogue Chitta River, on what is known as the old Minerva Smith place there are several choctaw indians buried. An old Choctaw Trail used to pass this place and on up the river into Holmesville, Pike County.

In the south east comer of Pike County on J. W. Barne's place there is a road that is said to be an Indian Trail, in the early days. later this road was one of the first roads to be usedb by the pioneer farmers from Holmesville to Covinting, Lousiana. Much beef was driven over this road into Covington to be sold. Men would carry them and camp along the roads. Cotton and other produce was hauled to market over this road by ox team. Supplies for the farm was them bought at Covington as there were few towns then.

In the northern part of the county there is an old historic road that is known as Hammond's Ferry & Summit Road that came through Summit and Sartinsville to Pearl River. This road was used by the early settlers, hauling their produce to Summit, which was that time t thier nearest shipping point. Cotton and other produce was hauled with ox teams. As this was such a slow means of travel, they would have to camp on the road when they failed to find a place to spend the night in some home. It is said that James Alex Burnett a Civil War Veteran, and a Pioneer Preacher always welcomed these travelers and never charged then any thing for a nights lodging. At some places there were regular camping grounds where several men would camp together at night.

In 1869 Walter Lampton went into business for himself at Tylertown. When he was thirteen years of age he made his first trip to Mobile, Alabama from Tylertown. He made the trip with an ox team taking thirty days to make the trip. These trips were made to obtain salt. The road at that time was very rough, making travel very difficult.

WALTHALL COUNTY, TRANSPORTATION

STORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 23 "TRANSPORTATION"

DATE:MAY 21. 1937

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

THE PRESENT HIGHWAYS OF THE COUNTY:

Hiram Patterson, Brown Williams and Abe Lincoln are members of the Highway-Commission. We do not have any Federal Appropriations for roads inour County, except WPA funds. The State appropriates approximately 2,500 per month for roads as their share of the gas tax.

The County redieves approximately $9,000 per year, from the sale of auto and truck tags to be used on the roads. We do not have any Na tional Highways in the County.

State highway number 24 runs east and west through Walthall County, a distance of about eighteen miles. This highway leads from McComb through Tylertown to Columbia. About three miles of this road west of Tylertown is paved, the rest gravel.

We have a State highway from Tylertown to Monticello running north and south a distance of about eighteen miles to the county line. This is a gravel highway but is not numbered.

From Tylertown to Brookhaven there is a State Highway, eighteen miles of this road is in our county. This is a graveled highway and not numbered.

Most of the other roads in the county are graveled. The dirt roads have gravel in some of the worst places.

We have the Bob Bracy's Bus line through Walthall County. This bus line operates on Highway number 24, making two trips daily from Columbia to McComb. The G. M. & N. railroad has put on a Transfer Bus Line which runs from Tylertown, south to the State line and to Bogalusa Louisiana. This bus carries the mail as well as passengers, taking the place of a passenger train.

R

RAILROAD PIONEERING IN COUNTY

The following article was copied from (Luke Conerly's History of Pike County) Which shows the early development of railroads which meant much to the progress of this section.



WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 23 "TRANSPORTATION"

DATE: MAY 21, 1937

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

RAILROAD PIONEERING IN COUNTY (CONT'D)

"(The New Orleans, Jackson & Great Northern Railroad)"

In 1848 a railroad convention was held in the city of New Orleans, La., to consider the construction of a steam railway to penetrate mississippi and to connect with other systems then in operation. William Elzey and Ross A. Elzey were sent as delegates from Pike county to the convention.

The Question had been agitated for a number of years, but no definite route had been determined upon. There were three parties in the convention, favoring different routes. That party, led by Tom Marshall, then president of the Jackson & Vicksburg Railroad, was in favor of the route that the Yazoo & Mississippi Valey road now runs. One party was in favor of crossing the Lake Ponchartrain at Madisonville and from thence to Jackson, pursuing a course which would bring it to the town of Holmesville, which would offer a location and facilities for one of the finest cities in the State.

After two weeks of discusion it was finally agreed to pursue a route passing the western shore of Ponchartrain and crossing the Pass Manchac.

James Robb was one of the zealous advocates of this great enterprise.

The articles of the charter of the company were formed in accordance with the provisions of a general law of the State of Louisiana, approved March 11, 1850. This law was framed in conformity with the 123d article of the constitution of 1844, which limited the duration of corporations to twenty-five years.

A convention of the State assembled in 1852 to frame a new convention, abolished the restriction and delegated to the Legislature the power of granting special charcters.

An act was passed and approved April 22, 1853, fixing the capital at eight millions of dollars, with exemption from taxation, and giving perpetual existence, besides other important and liberal privileges.

WALTHALL COUNTY, TRANSPORTATION

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 23 "TRANSPORTATION"

DATE: MAY 21, 1937

Enumerator: LUCY THORNHILL.

RAILROAD PIONEERING IN COUNTY ( CONT'D)

"(The New Orleans, Jackson & Great Northern Railroad)"

James Robb, L. Matthews, Wm.H. Garland, Peter Conway, Jr., Judah P. Benjamin, H. C. Carmack, George Clark, Isaac T. Preston, J. P. Harrison, Wm. S. Campell Glendy Burke, R. W. Montgomery, H.S. Bucker, A. D. Kelly and E. W. Moise were appointed commissioners for the purpose of receiving subscriptions to the stock of the corporation. James Robb was elected president of the company. The subscription books were opened in New Orleans in April, 1851, and $300,000 conditionally subscribed.

Subscriptions to the amount of $3,250,000 were received on the line of the railroad.

Louisiana took shares to the amount of $1,600,000, which added to the preveious subscritions increased the total stock to $4,850,000. A corps of engineers was organized under the direction of Col. W. S. Campbell, in June, 1851, and commenced an examination and survey of the country between New Orleans and the State line, Near Osyka, which, on account of Ponchartrain swamps and umbroken forest, consumed nearly a year.

In 1852 James Clarke entered on his duties as chief engineer of the southern division.

A law granting privileges to the company in Mississippi was passed soon after the organization of the company.

The first eleven miles of the road were put under contract in Septemver, 1852, and twenty-five and a half miles to the south Pass Manchac in October.

Early in December the road to the State line was let, making in all eighty-seven and one-third miles under contract and in process of construction.

The route in Louisiana begins at Claiborne Street, follwing the center of Calliope to canal Avenue, then deflects to the west by a curve of 11,460 feet radius, and continues straight to the estate of Minor Kenner; crosses Bayou La Branch about a half-mile from Lake Ponchartrain, and continuing nearly parallel with its western shore to the thirteenth mile, crosses South-Pass Manchac at the foot of Lake Maurepas, on the thirty-seventh mile, reaching the pine



HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 23 "TRANSPORTATION"

DATE: MAY 21, 1937

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

RAILROAD PIONEERING IN COUNTY (CONT'D)

"(The New Orleans, Jackson & Great Northern Railroad)"

woods at forty-six miles form New Orleans, and enters Mississippi at a place which belonged to a place of Mr. Stephenson and John H. Moore at the time of completion to that point in 1854.

Durin 1854 and 1855 the work on the railroad progressed slowly. The financial affairs of England and this country were of such a nature that the company was nat able to convert the securities into cash at anything short of an unwarrantable sacrifice, and apart from their securities they had little or nothing with which to carry on the work. Five milesof track was laid and crossties for ten miles more were furnished. The iron for the road was purchased in England and had to be transported across the Atlantic on sailing vessels.

By April, 1857, the road was completed through Pike County, and depots established at Magnolia and Summit. After the Civil War this railroad became known as the Illinois Central.

The first railroad that came through this county, which was at that time Pike County was in 1904. It belonged to the Fernwood Columbia & Gulf R. R. At this time the Fernwood Lumber Company owned vast acres of timber in this county. Small railroad lines were first used where the timber was being cut, so they could haul the logs to the mill. As all th larger logs were cut the track would be extended to another section where logs were plentiful. This being the way the railroad was built. In 1919 this railroad became a main railroad, running from Fernwood to Columbia, thus passing through Walthall County. A passenger train was put on with Bob Statham of Fernwood as engineer. The Fernwood Columbia track was only built to Foxworth where it intersects with the N.O.G.N. track running into Columbia on the N.O.G.N. track. This freight rrain was a great benifit to the County as a whole, as the farmers could ship their cotton to Summit and Osyka. The people also shipped other produce here as these were the leading markets at that time.

The next railroad in this county was the Great Northern. This is a branch line extending

WALTHALL COUNTY, TRANSPORTATION

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 23 "TRANSPORTATION"

DATE MAY 21, 1937

ENUMERATOR: LUCY THORNHILL.

RAILROAD PIONNERING IN COUNTY ( CONT'D)

from the main line at Rio Louisiana. The main line coming from New Orleans La.

For years there was a railroad that ran from Liberty Mississippi to Tylertown known as the Liberty White Railroad Company. This track was built by the J. J. White Lumber Company in 1911 & 1912 and was used to haul logs to mill from the vast acreage of timber scattered in this section. It took several years to build this road, extending track as logs were needed to supply mill. This track also extended in to McComb Miss. A passenger train was put on making two trips a day.

MISSISSIPPI RIVER TRAVEL BY:

AIRWAYS: Walthall County has a $20,000 weather Report Station. The Department of Commerce Washington, established a weather reporting station in tTylertown at the Emergancy Airport landing field on L. F. Magee's place, the half way point on the Jackson New Orleans Airline.This station cost$19,000 for a house and equipment and is the last link in a chain of raido stations giving hourly reports on weather conditions along the Airway between New Orleans and Saint Louis.This station employs four men.

Mail is not carried from this station as it is used for emergency landing.

Reference: Luke Conerly's History of Pike County; Newspaper files;
J.J. Lee; L.N. Thornhill; G. Carl Ball; Seth E. Ginn;
Mrs L.A. Burnet; J. Walter Holmes; J. T. Lewis Sr.
F. S. Sartin.

Alma Bilbo

Alma Bilbo--County Historian

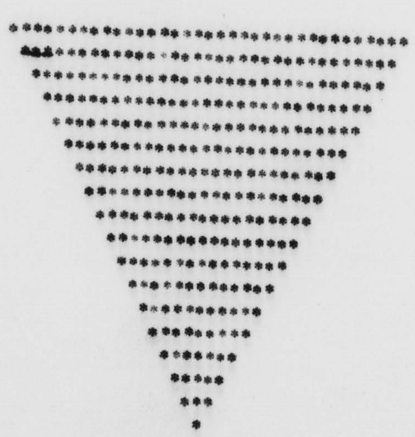
WALTHALL COUNTY, TRANSPORTATION

ASSIGNMENT NO. 16

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

THIRTEENTH AREA.





HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 16 "FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS"

DATE: APRIL 1, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

DIVISION OF FINE ARTS:

LITERATURE

We have searched every available record also interviewed citizens and we have been unable to find any novelists in our county.

Luke W. Conerly was born at Holmesville, but later his parents moved to China Grove where he lived from a small child until young manhood. He was a lawyer and an outstanding historian in the early days when this county was Pike. He lived with his parents, Owen and Ann Louise Stevens at China Grove. Luke wrote a history of Pike County, which relates many things of interest. He traveled from house to house, searched records and obtained history of the early settlers who came to this part of the County. The object of writing the history of Pike County was the preservation of the names of the Confederate Soldiers of Pike. In presenting it to the public, the author does so with the consciousness of having performed a sacred duty. Much of historical interest and importance to the future of Pike County, Walthall County and the historian is found in this book.

Luke W. Conerly served as 5th. Sergeant in the Quitman Guard during the Civil War, enlisting April 21, 1861.

Ann Louisa Stevens, Luke Conerly's mother was also a historian. She was the daughter of Ann Town and Samuel James Stevens. She taught school at China Grove where she met young Owen Conerly, Jr., and married him in 1838 at the age of twenty. She read and spoke French fluently. She was a woman of fine mental qualities and a great reader. She was regarded as one of the brightest and most intellectual woman of her time; was a fluent writer and occasionally contributed to the local newspaper, was also musicial and poetical.

REFERENCE:

R. A. Conerly,

WALTHALL COUNTY, ARTS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 16 "FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS"

DATE: APRIL 1, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

LITERATURE (CONT'D)

REFERENCE: (CONT'D)

Mrs. Florence Harvey,

Lake Conerly's History of Pike County.

Mrs. Lucy Conerly Ball, a resident of Tylertown was educated in the Public School of Tylertown and the Tylertown Normal. For twelve years she served as reporter for the Tylertown Times, a local paper, writing the locals. Many of her poems were published in the paper. On one occasion the local happenings were written in poetry form which was very interesting.

Mrs. Ball was a teacher in this county for many years.

Cullen Conerly the first settler in this county is Mrs. Ball's Great Great Grandfather, a very prominent family in this county. She is a daughter of Robert Conerly.

Following are two of her poems: "Youth" and "The End of The Way." The poem "Youth" was written and entered in a contest which was put on by the Federated Woman's Club, winning third place.

THE END OF THE WAY

As we journey through this land,
As we weave our ropes of sand,
As we press on toward the goal,
Whether little or big of soul,
We must each the same price pay,
When we reach the end of the way.

Page # 2.

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 16 "FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS"

DATE: APRIL 1, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

LITERATURE(CONT'D)

THE END OF THE WAY (CONT'D)

There's no peaceful dream of wealth,
There's no flattering form of health,
That withstands the fateful blow,
When each of us is called to go
And meet his Maker on that day
When he comes to the end of the way.

There's not one who does not know,
Skeptical he be, even so,
But that feels he needs support
As his ship now leaves the port,
To carry his soul across the Bay,
When he comes to the end of the way.

All the dissapointments of life,
All the worries, all the strife,
All the good that I have done,
All the victories I have won,
Will be as naught upon that day,
When I come to the end of the way.

WALTHALL COUNTY / ARTS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 16 "FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS"

DATE: APRIL 1, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

LITERATURE (CONT'D)

THE END OF THE WAY (CONT'D)

If, beside me Love will stand,
Firmly clasping my withered hand,
And those dear lips to mine are prest,
With my head pillowed on that breast,
And to me my Beloved shall say;
"Together we've reached the end of the way."

Youth

O Youth, in its entirety,
So full of grace and charm,
That has always within itself,
No fear of pain or harm.

Youth, with all of its enchantment,
And living light of life,
That feels and knows and sees the best,
And shuns all thought of rife.

O Youth, that is so affable,
As stirring as the breeze
That so calmly and serenely
Goes sighing through the trees.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 16 "FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS"

DATE: APRIL 1, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

LITERATURE (CONT'D)

Youth (Cont3d)

Youth, that is forever swaying
With an emotion free,
Like unto the silver river
Surging on toward the sea.

Youth, that ascends the mountain tops,
Or dips the valleys green,
That all may give unto its life
A happy glistening sheen.

O Youth, like a supling sapling,
That wars and bends and shakes,
But stands undaunted in the fight,
Fearless of bruise and breaks.

Youth, that can weep with all the world,
Or laugh when it laughs, too,
That feels the abyss of sorrow,
Or height of joy with you.

WALTHALL COUNTY, ARTS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 16 "FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS"

DATE: APRIL 1, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

LITERATURE (CONT'D)

YOUTH (CON'TD)

Youth, that can acquire a knowledge,
Something akin to God,
By never losing sight of Him,
Who that same path, hath trod.

Youth, in whose eyes there is brightness,
That only love can give,
Love that is illimitable,
And makes us want to live.

Youth, that begins in infancy,
And keeps on through the years,
Whether life is full of brightness,
Or mayhap, full of tears.

O Youth, with its sceptre waving,
O'er heads now silver gray,
Whose eyes are sunken in their depths,
And voice seems not so gay.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 16 "FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS"

DATE: APRIL 1, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

LITERATURE (CONT'D)

YOUTH (CONT'D)

Whose step is somewhat faltering,
Whose frame is slightly bent,
But keeps forever in its heart,
The glow of youth, that's spent.

Mrs. Edith Roby won a prize in a contest sponsored by the Federated Woman's Club. The title of the paper was "Peace," and was said to be very fine. It was pertaining to the World War. The prize was given by General Federated Woman's Club.

Mrs. Roby is a decendant of the early settlers. Her great grandfather being William Tyler for which Tylertown was named. Mrs. Roby is a teacher, teaching for many years in the Walthall County Schools. She now holds a good place in the School in Jackson, Miss.

MUSIC.

Miss Catherine Ball is a talented Violinist in Walthall County and a resident of Tylertown. Miss Ball studied music in Tylertown High School; Whitworth College, Brookhaven, Miss, and M. S. C. W. Columbus, Miss. Since completing her course, she has taught private classes. She is a member of the "Dixie Trio" in which she has played at Northern Summer Resorts, for the past six years. She very often appears on various programs in the County, and is now a member of the Tylertown High School Faculty, teaching English. She is a descendant of the early settlers of this county and has lived in Walthall County all her life. Robert Conerly is her grandfather.

WALTHALL COUNTY, ARTS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 16 "FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS"

DATE: APRIL 1, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

MUSIC (CONT'D)

Miss Mammie M. Battles was a fine music teacher. She taught in the Tylertown Normal Institute in Walthall County. This was a fine school. Music and art were tenght by teachers that were highly educated. Miss Battles was a teacher in this school when it was established and chartered in 1884, and was a member of the faculty for a number of years.

In the Tylertown High School music is taught both, piano and voice.

Lexie and New Zion do not have a paid teacher in the school but local girls in these communities get up their on music classes and are paid by the pupils.

Mr. Reasey Beard is one of the outstanding teachers of music in Walthall County. He lives on Varnal Creek in the Northern part of the county. His sons Fred and DeWitt were taught by their father to play any kind of musical instrument, more especially piano and organ. The father and two sons also teaches singing schools all over Mississippi. They have written music and words to several hymns. People from all parts of the state go to Beard's home and take music lessons.

J. O. Boyd's early training in music started in his home under the direction of his mother. He later studied under members of the Beard Music Company at that time located at Nome, Miss. He first learned to play the organ. At the age of seven he begin playing and continued to advance in music until he could play any kind of instrument. The study of theory and harmony started at the age of twelve. At the age of sixteen, he recieved his diploma in this work. His musical training has taught him to play piano, organ, clarinet, he also can sing; has composed sacred music of which four are in publication.
He teaches singing schools; direct choirs; directs orchestras and band. He learned to



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 16 "FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS"

DATE: APRIL 1, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

MUSIC (CONT'D)

band instruments while in college.

We have only one band in the county. The Tylertown High School band tenght by Paul Hewitt.

Jimmie Wallace, Virgil Boyd, Mon Magee, Obed Magee, Quitman Blackwell, Bob Johnson and Loyd Dillon, are some old time fiddlers of this county.

For several years Loyd Dillon has been broadcasting over the Radio from New Orleans at different times. He entertained on a "Bullova Watch" program from New Orleans last year.

PAINTING

Mrs. Dora Sandifer Payne was an outstanding artist in this county. In the home of her sister, Mrs. C. I. Brumfield, are found many of her paintings. She studied art in the Tylertown Normal under the supervision of Miss Ella Conerly a very talented and highly educated art teacher.

Miss Ella Conerly was an artist. She was a teacher of art in the School at Tylertown. She began teaching here when the Tylertown Normal was established and chartered in 1884. She also taught Art at Buford, Mississippi, and also had private classes during the summer months. She studied art in the Tylertown School then went to Mount Eagle, Tennessee and studied. She did pastel painting using oil paints. A picture of an old Aunt is in the home of her sister, Mrs. Florence Harvey which is real good. She painted a picture of Chauncey Collins. It is found in the home of Mrs. John Carr known as the old Chauncey Collins Home. Several other beautiful paintings are found in the home of her brother, Robert Conerly. Miss Conerly was a member of the early settlers of this county. Her great grandfather, Cullen Conerly came here from North Carolina. He married Letticia Ward, was a full-blooded Choctaw Indian. Her father was an Indian Chief and signed the Treaty

WALTHALL COUNTY / ARTS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 16 "FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS"

DATE: APRIL 1, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

PAINTING (CONT'D)

of Dancing Rabbit Creek in 1830, which is recorded in Mississippi History.

Ella Conerly's mother, Mary Lampkin, was a daughter of Sampson L. Lampkin. She was born in Harrison County, Georgia, September 29, 1838. She was married to James Conerly, October 20, 1853. They moved to this County and settled near China Grove. She was the mother of seven children. The names are as follows: Robert, William, Mary, Ella, Tilman and Florence. At this writing only two children are living, Robert and Florence.

Ella Conerly married a Fosby who was a photographer. They moved to Texas, and made their home there until her death. To them was born one girl.

DIVISION OF PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS

HANDICRAFT

We have two vocational schools in Walthall County, Lexie and Marion Walthall where repairing furniture and making different articles such as book cases, magazine racks, etc.

Magees Creek Vocational school also teaches wood carving.

The Recreation Project W.P.A. teaches students to make magazine racks, whatnots, etc., by carving them out of wood. They also are taught weaving little baskets and making picture frames out of wood.

We have an old negro woman living in Tylertown who makes hats, baskets, etc., out of pine straw. She also has an old spinning wheel which she spins thread and makes into sweaters gloves and socks. William Ravencraft who settled on Magees Creek, which later took the name Ravencraft Creek, was a skilled mechanic being a fine cabinet maker. He made wagons, chairs, spinning wheels, looms and fine white hickory baskets, some of which are in use today.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 16 "FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS"

DATE: APRIL 1, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

HANDICRAFT (CONT'D)

Needham Lee, son of Randolph Lee is also a fine basket maker who sells them all over the county each year. He lives two miles North of Walkers Bridge.

Mrs. Jane Thornhill, wife of James Thornhill, who died in the Civil War reared her children by weaving and spinning. She would sit until twelve O'Clock every night and weave in order to be able to feed and clothe her sons, Wes, Joe, and Jim, before they were large enough to work. She lived in Walkers Bridge Community.

ARCHITECTURE

The county court house of Walthall County located in Tylertown, the county seat is a very pretty building, with beautiful shrubbery. The Methodist and Baptist churches in Tylertown are large brick buildings with shrubbery planted.

The hospital in Tylertown is a nice building with beautiful shrubbery. We have one attractive hotel known as the Walthall Hotel. It is a nice brick building with beautiful shrubbery and grass.

Mrs. Chris Honea, Carey Whittaker and George Sumrall have very pretty homes in Tylertown.

Dannie Pittman, living in the Dexter community, has a beautiful home. It is equipped with all modern conveniences.

LANDSCAPING

Miss Minnie Ball has a sunken garden. This garden was made on what is known as the old Magnolia Road. In the center of the garden is a fish pond. The garden is built of large rugged stones with beautiful ferns hanging over the stones. A great mass of beautiful Verbenia also grow on the embankment. The most artistic thing about the garden is an

WALTHALL COUNTY, ARTS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 16 "FINE ARTS: PRACTICAL ARTS AND CRAFTS"

DATE: APRIL 1, 1937

CNAVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL, MRS. BERNICE MORGAN, MISS ALMA BILBO.

LANDSCAPING (CONT'D)

imitation of an old dug well with wooden bucket suspended above. The well is made of old rocks taken from the old syrup mill of Miss Ball's father, D. N. Ball. Ivy vines almost cover the rocks on the well. D. N. Ball was among the early settlers of this county. Miss Ball also has in her garden two gate post that stood at the home of her grandfather William Tyler, from whom Tylertown was named. A shady bower covered with vines makes a delightful place to sit in summer. The white tables and benches look very inviting. Many plants are grown in the garden.

Mrs. Carl Ball's garden arrangement is very odd. On one side of the garden is grown all kinds of native wild trees and vines, such as wood vine, cross vine, yellow jessamine, Southern Smilax, honeysuckle, crab apple, huckleberry, sweet Gum, red bud, cherry, poplar, parsely hall, May haw, black gum and wild willow.

In the spring the garden is colorful and very beautiful.

On the other side of the garden is a rock garden with fish pond and lily pond. All hues of flowers are grown such as roses, bulbs, azalias and weeping willow. An arch over the entrance of the garden makes it very attractive. A fountain with water running over the rocks adds to the attractiveness of the garden.

REFERENCES:

J. O. Boyd, Miss Minnie Ball, Mrs. Carl Ball, Robert Conerly, Mrs. Tom Conerly, History of Pike County.

Vivian P. Hobbs

Mrs. Vivian P. Hobbs,
County Supervisor
Historical Research.

WALTHALL COUNTY, ARTS

ASSIGNMENT NO. 21.

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

SIX DISTRICT

---

FEBRUARY 10, 1937.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 21 "THE LOCAL PRESS-OTHER PUBLICATIONS"

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

"NEWSPAPERS"

THE COUNTY'S FIRST PAPER

The first issue of the Tylertown Times, the only newspaper ever printed in Walthall County, is dated October 25, 1907. It was published by the Tylertown Publishing Company, a Stock Company made up of J. C. Rimes; L. H. Ginn, Sr; George Linton; George Collins and Dr. R. E. Sylverstien. They selected J. A. Doyle as their first Editor.

The files of the paper are not available from the first issue, October 25, 1907, a copy of which is owned by the present Editor, Lester Williams until the paper of August 13, 1914 when the records show the paper as still being published by the Tylertown Publishing Company with W. C. Callendar as Editor and publisher. Files of the Times are missing from September 14, 1917, at which time Mr. Roby was still Editor, until February 23, 1918, when Franklin Speights became Editor.

The suggestion of establishing a newspaper met with favor. The hustling and enterprising citizens organized a company and put up money that this might become a reality. The result was that they were enabled to make their bow to the public with Volume 1, Number 1 of the Tylertown Times.

The policy of the Times politically has always been Democratic, circumstances always governing. The object and purpose of the paper: to publish all news of general interest, without fear or punishment or hope of reward when believed to be for the welfare of the community or interest of the readers.

A change was made between the papers of April 9, 1915 and April 16, 1915 from Tylertown Publishing Company to W. C. Callendar, but no details of the transfer are available. Mr. Callendar edited the paper for the period from April 16, 1915 to May 14,

WALTHALL COUNTY / PRESS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 21 "THE LOCAL PRESS-OTHER PUBLICATIONS"

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

THE COUNTY'S FIRST PAPER (CONT'D)

1915 when the announcement was made of the purchase of the paper by the late V. M. Roby who edited the paper until February 23, 1918, when Franklin Speights became Editor. Franklin Speights sold to D. J. Dismukes in 1920, August 1. In the news story of the transfer Mr. Speights stated that he had enlarged the paper to an eight page paper on February 1, 1918, and had kept it as such despite the adversities of the World War and the difficulties all papers were experiencing in securing printers. He also stated that Mr. Dismukes had ordered a linotype for $3000.00 and would, upon the installation of the new machine, be able to greatly improve the appearance of the paper. The picture of the first linotype which was installed in October, 1920 appears in the paper of October 1. On January 1, 1926, Lester Williams bought the paper from Mr. Dismukes. The first paper under his editorship appeared on Friday , January 1, 1926, and the second on Thursday, January 7, 1926, announcement being made of the change in date of publication from Friday to Thursday. Another change was made on November 17, 1927 when the size of the paper was changed from six columns to seven.

NAME PAPERS & MAGAZINES DOWN TO DATE

The Tylertown Times is the only paper ever published in this county and we have no record of any magazine ever published in the county.

The Times has had six editors during its 28 years, but it has always lived up to the principled of what it believed best for the community. It has always worked for the up-building of the civic, religious and social life of Walthall County. It has tried to give its subscribers news of the state and nation as well as that of a local nature. It has always contributed generously of its space for the printing of news of churches, schools, fraternal organizations and all other institutions working for the best interests of the community.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 21 "THE LOCAL PRESS-OTHER PUBLICATIONS"

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

PAPERS & MAGAZINES DOWN TO DATE (CONT'D)

"We should stop to think just how much our newspaper means to this community. To have a newspaper, however, there must be an editor and it is to him, Lester Williams, of this city, we owe our appreciation.

I, as one of the force, having been in his employment since January, 1926, when he took the paper over from the former editor, D. J. Dismukes, want to give you a few facts concerning the improvements Mr. Williams has made in this paper.

When he bought the paper it was at thattime in a large frame building with very little equipment. The first step Mr. Williams took to improve the paper for his advertisers and readers was with a formal opening of a new brick building, April 24, 1926. In July of the same year he installed a new Model 14 linotype, which enabled him to give better service.

In 1927 he installed a new Lee press which made the print clearer, this making a more attractive paper, as well as easier to read. This press also runs the paper off at a greater amount of speed and accuracy.

Since 1926 Mr. Williams has been a member of the Mississippi Press Association and in 1930 was elected a member of the board of governors serving two years in that capacity. In 1933 he was elected second vice president, and in 1934 was elected first vice president and served as state representative on the National Editorial Association through 1935. In 1935 he was made president of the Mississippi Press Association and is now giving valuable service to his new office.

Not only in this community does Mr. Williams put his interest but also in the adjoining town, Columbia, Miss. There he is president of the Columbia Publishing Company, publishing Columbian-Progress. This paper has also shown many improvements.

WALTHALL COUNTY / PRESS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 21 "THE LOCAL PRESS-OTHER PUBLICATIONS

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MES. EUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

PAPERS & MAGAZINES DOWN TO DATE (CONT'D)

Hats off to you, editor, we all appreciate the services being rendered to our town by your newspaper and the influence it has contributed to the religious, social, and commercial interests of Tylertown."

--A Member of the Force.

OUTSTANDING EDITORIALS

The editorial appearing in the first-edition of the Tylertown Times, published on Friday, October 25, 1907 by the Tylertown Publishing Company and its editor, James a Doyle, fully outlines the principles upon which this paper was founded and which it has always striven to live up to.

The editorial as it appeared at that time is as follows:

"Away back in the forties, now more than sixty years ago, the first resident of this community came here and settled and shortly thereafter a store was established. Natchez was then the trading point and from there also weekly trips were made by a mail rider. It was before the time of railroads in Mississippi. The place was then called Conerly, having been named for the first settler, Cullen Conerly. The next resident of the place of whom the oldest inhabitants have any recollection was Benjamin Lampton, who, in 1868, came and established a business which is still being conducted bearing his honored name. Benjamin Lampton was the head of the Lampton family so well known in this section. In 1857, "Uncle Jack Holmes made his debut in business in Conerly and in the course of time became post-master. In 1866, he succeeded in having the name changed from Conerly to Tylertown.

"There were at this time quite a few settlers in this section, and as time grew on, others came to seek fortunes among the pine forests of eastern Pike, and slowly and surely the lands, but a few years before wrestled from the Red Man, and only a short time known



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 21 "THE LOCAL PRESS-OTHER PUBLICATIONS"

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

OUTSTANDING EDITORIALS( CONT'D)

to the white man, became a country where smoke from many hearthstones could be seen from any hilltop. Settlements grew thicker, population increased, until this portion of the county known as the "Mighty East" but still Tylertown did not grow. In the more than three scores years of her existence her progress had barely been perceptible.

"Three or four years ago, (in 1903 and 1904) attracted by the all but inexhaustable resources of the country, capital began to invade, and within a short time the first whistle of a locomotive echoed through forests of the "Mighty East." A bank was then established, new brick stores took the place of the old wooden ones, residences of modern architecture could be seen onevery hand, sawmills sprang up everywhere, and finally from another direction is coming another line of rail which soon will be welcomed as one of our public conveniences."

ADDRESS OF MAYOR G. H. COLLINS 1914

Below we reproduce the address tendered the Board of Supervisors of Walthall County at their first meeting after the organization of the County. George Collins wasappointed mayor in 1912 and was serving when the county was organized in 1914. When Mr. Collins was appointed on December 31, 1912 Tylertown was quite a village having about three stores, a hotel and meat market, no railroads with the old ox cart being principal mode of travel.

"MY FRIENDS AND FELLOW CITIZENS,AND APPOINTEES OF WALTHALL COUNTY

---

We are here today to engage in one of the most signal events that has ever occurred in our midst; an event which is fraught with grave and far reaching consequence and grave responsibilities; an event which marks the culmination, the consumation and the fruition of a a long cherished hope; an event which signalizes the addition of another bright star to the galaxy of Counties of the grand old State of Mississippi; an event my friends which marks

WALTHALL COUNTY / PRESS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 21 "THE LOCAL PRESS-OTHER PUBLICATIONS"

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 1937.

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

OUTSTANDING EDITORIALS (CONT'D)

the meaning of a new era in our social, economic and political relations.

The future destiny of Walthall County, for weal or for woe, my friends, depends largely upon the principles and purposes that guide those who to man the new barge on its initial voyage; We have confidence in your wisdom, your ability and your purposes, and we here and now bespeak foryou the cooperation and support of every citizen of the New County in the discharge of the great trust which is about to be committed to you.

The peace, happiness and prosperity of the people, and the perpetuity of our Institutions and our Government, rests largely, if not entirely, in the hands of those who administer its affairs. Let us therefore now, entertain the found hope, and earnestly and devoutly pray, that the affairs of the new County of Walthall, are about to be committed to hands, and that they may ever remain in such hands, as will insure its guidance unto a glorious destiny."

AMITE STORM RELICS FOUND I WALTHALL COUNTY April 25, 1935.

Relics of the storm which wrecked Gloster and did heavy damage near Gillsburg two weeks ago are being found in various parts of Walthall County .

The marrigge certificate of Mrs. Vardaman Caston, Twenty-two year old niece of D. E. Felder of Tylertown, who was killed when her home near Gillsburg was distroyed was found recently by Easley Rushing who brought the certificate to Mr. Felder. It was found on the farm of Nat Graves who lives 8 miles east of Tylertown and about 50 miles from the storm area. The certificate was in good condition.

A second relic of the storm was an Amite County tax receipt found by John Swan. It was dated December 12, 1883 made out to R. F. Williams and signed by A. J. Whittington, Sheriff and Tax Collector of Amite County. Several pictures were also found in the county.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 21 "THE LOCAL PRESS-OTHER PUBLICATIONS"

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

OUTSTANDING EDITORIALS (CONT'D)

TORNADO AND RAIN STORM WRECK TIMBER AND HOUSES AND CAUSE TREMENDOUS LOSS---MARCH 1922.

Just North of Tylertown the Fernwood Lumber Company suffered heavy damage from the tornado. At camp 16, 53 of the 55 camp houses were destroyed. The loss of timber to the Fernwood Lumber Company will run into the thousands of dollars. For 15 or 20 miles a strip of timber varying from one-fourth to one-half mile or more was completely destroyed.

Near Barto one Negro was killed and another seriously injured. The O'Quin store was washed several feet from its sight by the high water, and Fernwood tracks were severely damaged, numerous spans of bridge work having been necessary in addition to considering filling.

Relief in the form of food and clothing was donated by the citizens of Tylertown to many destitute on account of loss of everything they had.

A good many of the farmers suffered loss of barns and fences, to say nothing of loss of land washed. The damage to the roads is beyond estimate.

The tornado was general over the Southern States taking a total of over 100 lives, and thoudands in loss of property.

$100,000 FIRE DESTROYS TWO BUSINESS HOUSES--Friday, February 15, 1924.

Fire originating in the loft of L. H. Ginn's Sons Company store about 7:30 Tuesday caused a damage of around $100,00 to the Ginn Store and the store of D. E. Lampton and Company which joins it. It is supposed to have caught fire from a devective flue.

The store had just been closed a few minutes before and by the time Clint McElveen saw the smoke and gave the alarm the inside was full of smoke. The entire roof blazed up almost at once, and efforts were started at once to save adjoining buildings. The available supply of

WALTHALL COUNTY / PRESS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 21 "THE LOCAL PRESS-OTHER PUBLICATIONS"

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

$100,000 FIRE DESTROYS TWO BUSINESS HOUSES--FRIDAY? FEBRUARY 15, 1924 (CONT'D)

was insuffieient, but the "Bucket Brigade" finally confined the flames to the main building of the Lampton Company and the Ginn Company. Everything in the Ginn store was lost, while the Lampton Company saved all their stock.

Everything was moved out of the adjoining buildings as far as the Railroad and the only damage suffered by others in the block was damage by handling.

Much credit is due the citizens for their help in fighting the fire and protecting goods.

The vault of the Ginn Company is thought to be intact, and it will probably be opened tomorrow to see if the books are secure. The Lampton Company's vault locked in the ware house building which was saved is thought to be safe as only one side was exposed to the fire.

Several speed records were broken by Tylertown folks who attended the K. K. K. parade in McComb that night when they heard that the town was on fire and started home.

It is thought both concerns will build this summer doing business in the meantime in temporary locations.

OLD HOTEL BUILDING DESTROYED BY FIRE MONDAY--MARCH 11, 1926. HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS SAVED

BUSINESS DISTRICT THREATENED.

Monday, March 11, a fire was discovered in the large two-story building across the street from the Court House which proved disastrous although the business houses closed and a large number of people rushed to the scene and worked heroically, it was soon discovered that it would be impossible to save the building owing to the fact that Tylertown has no fire protection except individual fire plugs which some of the business men had installed for their own protection.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 21 "THE LOCAL PRESS-OTHER PUBLICATIONS"

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

OLD HOTEL BUILDING DESTROYED BY FIRE MONDAY--MARCH 11, 1926. HOUSEHOLD EFFECTS SAVED

BUSINESS DISTRICT THREATENED (CONT'D)

There was a North wind which caused the flames to spread but by several hose connections and some men who fought hard the buildings close by were saved.

The building was generally known as the Ball Hotel as it was built and used for a hotel for a number of years. Recently though it was used as a rooming house and office building. At the time of the fire, Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Calhoun and a few others had rooms there. Dr. McHaffe, our Chiopractor had his office there also.

Through the efforts of a large number of volunteers a large part of the household furnishings were saved.

There was a humerous incident too, while the building was burning and while some of us were trying to show what we were made of--that we really wanted to help in a case like this, some absent minded noddlum kicked over a hive of bees near the Woodmen Of the World building. This building was at that time apparently about to catch from the intense heat. A few of us did the cowardly thing by running when the bees started to remind us of their presence. They seemed to be miffed because they were made homeless through carelessness.

The Ball Hotel was owned by S. L. Moore and was partly covered by insurance.

I AM

The man who signed your birth certificate, and the man who will sign your death certificate. I stand by you in your hour of greatness happiness and your hour of greatest sorrow. I listen to your confessions not breathed to another soul, and keep them inviolate.

My life work is consecrated to serving and administering to your physical wants. Night

WALTHALL COUNTY PRESS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 21 "THE LOCAL PRESS-OTHER PUBLICATIONS"

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

I AM (CONT'D)

or day, rain or shine, I am at your beck and call. I sacrifice my rest, my pleasure, my strength to comfort you.

As I wend myself past the "Year Stones" of life toward the Eternal sunset I am striving to be more charitable, more unselfish, more kindly; toward my fellow man.

I am the first one you think of in times of sickness and the last one thought of in times of health.

I am not rich because I serve suffering humanity which embraces the poor, whom we have with us always.

I am the man who cannot pay his grocery bill, his dry goods bill, his drug bill or in fact any bill on earth until I am paid by you.

I am

Your Family Doctor.

H. R. EUBANKS FOUND ALIVE

The most exciting incident that ever happened in Walthall County was April 16, 1931, when H. F. Eubanks, a resident of Tylertown and a rural Jackson Daily News Carrier was kidnapped and taken for a ride. Walthall and Marion Counties were full of excitement. An Extra Edition of the Tylertown Times was printed relating the facts and more than 250 copies were sold that day on the streets in about two or three hours after Eubanks was found.

Mr. Eubanks, his wife, and two children made their homes in Tylertown at the Walthall Hotel. Mr. Eubanks was a rural carrier for the Jackson Daily News leaving here in the morning, he went to Mendenhall, Mississippi for his papers. When he failed to return to Tylertown his wife became frantic and notified Walthall County authorities. His abandoned car was found. Several



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 21 "THE LOCAL PRESS-OTHER PUBLICATIONS."

DATE FEBRUARY 10, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

H. F. EUBANKS FOUND ALIVE (CONT'D)

car loads of Tylertown men went out to search for Eubanks. Sheriffs and Deputies from Walthall and Marion Counties with over a hundred men were in the search. On Thursday, about ten-thirty in the morning he was found near Independence, La., in an unconscious condition. He later gained consciousness and was brought back to Tylertown and was interviewed. He had been missing since Monday. There was a bruised place on his head possibly where his kidnappers struck him. An ex-convict negro man was arrested and lodged in the Marion County jail. He however denied any knowledged of the crime. Particulars were never learned except it was a fact that Eubanks met with fowl play. He went through and experienced tortures that few ever survive. He was flogged, robbed and left for dead.

FORMER SLAVE 108 YEARS OLD DIES—MARCH 21, 1935.

Lydia Stewart who is believed to be the oldest colored woman in Mississippi and probably in the Southern States died Friday at the age of 108 years old. Up until one year ago it is said that she was able to thread a needle without glasses. During her slavery days she was the property of the late William Lampton. She is survived by 481 descendents which is outstanding record. She was the mother of eleven children, eight sons and three daughters. She has ninety-six grandchildren, two hundred and forty-eight great grandchildren and one hundred thirty-six great great grandchildren.

(Aunt Lydia) as she was better known was born about 1832 to Ben Youngblood family. When she was about thirty years old she was given to Mrs. Lucy Ann Lampton, mother of the late Benjamin and Frank Lampton of this county.

CHARTERED MEMBERS OF TYLERTOWN LODGE HONORED, JULY 1, 1926.

One of the most successful banquets given on any occasion in Tylertown was staged last Thursday evening honoring the three Charter members of the Tylertown Lodge. Those

WALTHALL COUNTY PRESS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 21 "THE LOCAL PRESS-OTHER PUBLICATIONS."

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

CHARTERED MEMBERS OF TYLERTOWN LODGE HONORED, JULY 1, 1926.

honored were Jessie K. Brumfield who has been a Mason for 64 years; W. J. O'Quin, Mason for 45 years and J. Wes Sandifer, Mason for 47 years. Tylertown Lodge Number 392 F & A. M. was chartered February 15, 1883.

A. L. Millington resided over the banquet, serving as toastmaster, George D. Riley of Jackson, Past Grand Master of Mississippi was the principal speaker of the evening and delivered an interesting address.

Each of the honorees of the evening was presented with a Lamb Skin apron by Mr. Millington on behalf of the Tylertown Lodge as a token of the esteem in which these Charter Members are held.

The banquet was given in the Honea Building and the attendance upon this occasion was probably the largest ever witnessed at a Masonic meeting of any nature, in Tylertown. Almost all members of the Tylertown Lodge was present and a large number of visitors from the Lodges in surrounding communities.

LEXIE MAN AMONG FIRST MARINES CHOSEN TO GUARD U. S. MAIL

Quantico, Va. December 15, 1926.

Among the United States Marines who were first selected to guard the mails against possible attacks by bandits is Jewel Edgar Brock of Lexie, near Tylertown who was stationed here prior to his assignment to the important duty.

He is one of the several picked men from Quantico who began their duties as mail guards immediately after President Coolidge had given his approval. They are now furnishing protection to the mails intransit guarding important postal centers and insuring the same delivery of valuable mail packages. They may not return to this post for several months.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 21 "THE LOCAL PRESS-OTHER PUBLICATIONS"

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

LEXIE MAN AMONG FIRST MARINES CHOSEN TO GUARD U. S. MAIL

Jewell 22, was born in Tylertown. He lived at the home of his father Waldo Brock, Route 1, Lexie, before he joined the Marines Corps at New Orleans in August 1923. It is the first time the Marines have guarded the mails since November 1921 when they were assigned this task for about four months. During this period no mail robberies occurred.

A FEW INTERESTING ITEMS AS RECORDED BY FORMER EDITORS.

August 13, 1914.--Circuit Court News--The first Circuit Court of Walthall County convened in the Court House in the town of Tylertown on August the 13, and the following Grand Jury were empaneled to serve at said term, viz:

Alex Brock, C. E. Pigott, J. B. Ginn, Sr., H. H. Ginn, Tave Bracey, E. L. Magee, S. E. Ginn, J. W. May, I. I. Pigott, H. T. Stogner, W. F. Morris, Foreman, Wm Hobgood, Henry M. Martin, J. E. Harvey, L. M. Adams, W. H. Spence, W. M. Luter, Joe C. Boyd, B. J. Burnett, W. H. Andrews, John M. Conerly, Bailiff.

Oct. 23, 1914.--Thursday, October 15, was the thirty-fifth anniversary of the business association of Messrs. W. M. and L. L. Lampton. On this date of the year 1869, Mr. Walter and Lucious Lampton having secured a capital of $2,000.00 from their father opened a store in Tylertown and continuously since that time they have been in the mercantile business.

Dec. 10, 1915.--Court House Site Selected--On last Wednesday, December 8, the Board of Supervisors approved the proposals of Messrs. A. W. Willis and I. A. Robins to sell and convey to the county of Walthall as a Court House and Jail site.******Thus the matter of the location of the court house which has been hanging fire for several months has been settled.

WALTHALL COUNTY PRESS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 21 "THE LOCAL PRESS-OTHER PUBLICATIONS"

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

A FEW INTERESTING ITEMS AS RECORDED BY FORMER EDITORS (CONT'D)

May 19, 1916.--During the past week Tylertown has seen shipped six carloads of vegetables besides other small express shipments. These shipments were of beans, cabbage, and peas. The most any car has brought so far is $890.00 and the least that has been received is $430.00/ The average is about brokerage fees which comes back to the grower and with this basis we can safely estimate that the past week has put at least $4,000.00 into the pockets of the truckers.

All Walthall Schools Consolidated--(Aug. 6, 1920)--County Superintendent Lee informed the Times that the last of the Walthall County Schools were consolidated by arrangement effected at the meeting of the School Board last week. There are now thirteen white schools and twelve colored consolidated schools in the county.

CIRCULATION BUILDING IN MISSISSIPPI

The outstanding feature of the editor, Lester Williams, is the plan he has worked out for circulation. The plan was completed in September 1932 and the first Tylertown Times Scholarship Contest was announced in September, 1932.

The contest was under the direct supervision of the editor, the contestants were high school seniors and the grand prizes were all-expense scholarships to Southwest Mississippi Junior College. These scholarships, which paid tuition, entrance fees, medical fees, room and board and books, were given to the seniors with the most credits or votes at the end of the six-week campaign.

The plan was endorsed by the county superintendent of education as well as the superintendent of all high schools in the county. The schools were visited, the seniors talked to and enrolled as contestants.

Contestants were provided with a working kit, rules and vote schedule carefully worked out



HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 21 "THE LOCAL PRESS-OTHER PUBLICATIONS"

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 1937

CANVASSERS: MRS. LUCY B. THORNHILL AND MISS ALMA BILBO

by the contest manager.

A commission of ten per cent was paid all workers not winning scholarships and various special awards were given from time to time. These included visiting cards, fountain pen and pencil sets, watches and diaries.

For their co-operation, both grammar and high schools were given athletic equipment and cash prizes each week during the contest.

The "Times Scholarship Plan" has been successfully used here for four years and remains essentially the same as it was in 1932. Minor changes, which we regard as improvements, have been made from time to time.

After four contests we find that ninety-five per cent of our subscriptions are paid in advance as compared to twenty per cent when we started.

Our ultimate goal, of course, is to put our paper in every home in the county, but we realize it will take years to do it the way we have started.

The next move will be to put a man on circulation in this an adjoining county. The two counties should offer a field large enough to justify a circulation man. Then we shall attempt to put out the kind of paper that a majority of our readers want, using the features they suggest, and cutting out those in which little interest is shown.

WHERE NEWSPAPERS HAVE COMMERCIAL JOB SHOP, MENTION SAME

The Tylertown Times has a Commercial Job Shop.

REFERENCES:

Chancery Clerk's office, Print Shop

Local Editor, Newspaper Files.

Vivian P. Hobbs

Mrs. Vivian P. Hobbs
County Supervisor

Historical Research.

WALTHALL COUNTY / PRESS

Compilation

Fed copy

Thill

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

WALTHALL COUNTY

Feb. 23, 1938 Alma J. Causey, Historian

HEALTH

Mississippi's First Board of Health (1877)

"In 1877 the Mississippi State Board of Health was organized, consisting of fifteen members and a secretary." (1) Walthall County was not established until 1914, but neither Pike nor Marion counties from which Walthall was formed, were represented on Mississippi's First Board of Health, nor has Walthall County been represented since.

Three Epidemics of Disease Have Visited Mississippi

In the year 1878 a scourge of yellow fever visited Mississippi, and extended far into Tennessee, touching many places in Arkansas and Alabama. Walthall County suffered no loss by death from this disease, and only once case was within her borders, which was that of Hollis Fortenberry; and John W. Brumfield states that he was reported to have contracted the fever from cotton bagging which was shipped into the county from Osyka, where the disease was raging. Mr. Fortenberry's home was quarantined, and one member of the family was designated to nurse him through his illness. All food left on his plate, and execreta disposal from his room was burned, and the bedclothing was boiled separately from that of the family. A disinfectant, prepared by the family physician, Dr. Jep Brock, was used by the nurse, possibly preventing him from contracting the fever, and giving it to other members of the family.

(1) Health Syllibus, State of Mississippi, Mississippi State Board of Health, Jackson, Mississippi.



WALTHALL COUNTY

"Since the discovery of the fact that the stegomyia mosquito is the carrier of yellow fever, this disease is controlled by the elimination of the mosquito. Doubtless, this mosquito still exists in some localities, but cannot convey the disease unless infested."(1)

In the years 1900 and 1901, another disease of a loathsome and fatal nature made its way into Mississippi, and before people were hardly aware of its presence, had ravaged the state in many sections. In five months, a death toll of 500 persons was reported from Small Pox. The disease reached the proportion of a local epidemic in the southeastern section of what is now Walthall County. Dr. R.E. Sylverstein a prominent physician, had charge of the situation, he being near the locality where the disease was prevalent. He states that about thirty cases developed in this vicinity before its progress was checked, and several deaths resulted, chiefly among the negroes. Walthall put forth every effort possible in the extermination of small-pox during this epidemic, by the use of vaccine prepared for them by the State Department of Health. Doctors all over the county cooperated in their efforts in stamping out the disease. Dr. Aubry Quin was County Health Officer at this time, and his efforts were untiring in securing serum for use in the county, and in telling the people how to use precaution against infection.

Influenza visited Mississippi during the winter of 1918-1919, and practically every portion of Walthall County was effected by this epidemic. No person or home was immune, and in many instances an entire family would contract the disease, and there would be no one to nurse them. The body already weakened by influenza, was an

(1) R.E. Sylverstein, M.D., Tylertown, Miss.

WALTHALL COUNTY, HEALTH

easy victim of pneumonia, and many deaths were the result. Dr. H.H. Ramsey of Tylertown, was county Health Officer and was faithful in the discharge of his duty during this epidemic. As the years have passed, influenza has lost the terrors of this first great epidemic.Physicians have learned better how to treat and control its progress, and although no serum has been perfected, or proven entirely successful in preventing the disease, much has been done toward enlightening the public as to methods of precaution against it.

Malarial Control

Malaria is not as prevalent in Walthall County as it was in years past. More homes are screened, and as a whole, the county is fairly well drained. Some work along sanitary lines has been done by W.P.A. in recent months.

The county cooperates with the state Board of Health as far as possible in complying with requirments and regulations. Dr. H.H. Pittman is employed as part time health officer, but no regular nurse is maintained.

Sanitation

"Two dairies are maintained in Walthall County, owned and operated by Tom and Ivan Connerly. They are up to date plants with modern equipment. Milk is delivered daily, in air-tight bottles, which renders it practically germ free when received by the customer. There is only one bakery in the county, and it is owned by a Mr. Blackwell. This bakery, all fruit and grocery stores, hotels, meat markets, restaurants, and soda fountains of the county are inspected every two weeks,and conditions reported to Dr. Pittman.



This check up is valuable in maintaining more sanitary conditions in the county, because it tends to keep proprietors on the alert, and undesirable conditions are thus, not permitted.

"The water supply of Tylertown has been tested, and found to be of the purest quality found in the United States. It is slightly mineralized, and of a soft quality, and abundant flow.

"Excreta disposal is chiefly an individual problem in Walthall County, and the people who maintain water systems in their homes have their own cess pools. This also applies to Tylertown, but if cess pools are not maintained, pipes carry the waste matter into the creek that flows through the town. All garbage and rubbish is hauled away each week by the town. The various organizations ~~of the town~~ work together in so splendid a spirit of cooperation, that Tylertown is one of the cleanest towns in south Mississippi.

"There are no swimming pools or tourist camps in the county, but the Boy Scouts of Tylertown, through their own efforts, built a cabin on the creek, which is the place of meeting of their organization. In this cabin they often cook, work at handicraft, and train in the various activities of the organization." (1)

Child Hygiene and Public Health Nursing

Dr. Pittman has this to say concerning maternal hygiene in Walthall County. "All women desiring pre-natal care during pregnancy may come to either Dr. Harvey or myself, and receive treatment free of charge for the entire nine months period."

(1) H.H. Pittman, M.D. Tylertown, Miss.

WALTHALL COUNTY, HEALTH

This free treatment has doubtless saved the lives of many mothers and made for healthier, better cared for children.

Due to the fact that no nurse is employed in the county for health work, very little is done in the schools toward mouth hygiene. However, through the efforts of the health officer, the mouths of school children are checked once each year, and some follow up work has been done. Talks on this subject, communicable diseases, and first aid are made by the health officer. School children are also vaccinated as a preventative against communicable diseases, common in the schools, the vaccine being furnished free of charge by the State Department of Health.

### Accident and Accidental Deaths

Dr. R.N. Whitfield, Director of Vital Statistics for the state, gives the following accidental deaths for the county during the year 1936.

| Cause | Total | White | Colored |
|---|---|---|---|
| Burns | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Firearms | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Fall | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Hunger and Thirst | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Lightning | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| All Other Accidents | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Automobile | 7 | 4 | 3 |
| Total | 14 | 8 | 6 |

### Doctors and Nurses in County

There are at present, five practising physicians in Walthall County: R.E. Sylverstein, B. Lampton Crawford, Ralph Reagan, A.B. Harvey, and H.H. Pittman. There are four graduate nurses, each of whom are employed at the hospital: Misses Marjorie Boyles, Lessie Slocum, Miss Cupit, and Miss Hunter. Miss Marie Lawrence is a practical nurse and does some work at the hospital, and a colored nurse, Essie Jefferson, nurses the colored patients. Dr. A.B. Harvey is superintendent of the hospital. (1)



### Old Family Physicians

Walthall County has had a number of old family physicians, who, through the years have given lives of service and sacrifice for the alleviation of human suffering. Among these are, Dr. E.L. Applewhite, Dr. Samuel McQueen, Dr. Newey Smith, Dr. H.F. Hart, and Drs. Booth, May and Payne.

Dr. E.L. Applewhite, son of Dr. Eldridge Applewhite, was born Nov. 22, 1843 in Yazoo County. When a small boy his parents moved to Lincoln County, where his father engaged in the practise of medicine. In early manhood Dr. Applewhite entered the Medical College at Louisville, Ky., and remained until he obtained his medical degree. Just as he was entering upon his professional work, the civil war called him into service, and he went through the four years, being wounded twice while under Lea's command, at the battle of Seven Pines, and at Bull Run. On Jan. 13, 1881, he

---

(1) H.H. Pittman, M.D., Tylertown, Miss.

WALTHALL COUNTY, HEALTH

married Miss Lou Davis who still survives him. Dr. Applewhite practised medicine thirty-four years in Walthall County, and Mrs. Applewhite states that when they moved to Tylertown, there was not a church there, but there were saloons and she relates the following story concerning her husband's practise and a saloon disturbance.

"One night during a drunken brawl, a white man stuck a knife into the jaw of a negro. This case was tried by the court and the man was sentenced to serve a term in the penitentiary. About three years after this, the same negro came to Dr. Applewhite, suffering with what he thought was a sevre toothache. After examining the negro's jaw, Dr. Applewhite discovered a piece of the knife with which he was injured, removed it and he soon recovered. A few months later, a white man living near became ill, and Dr. Applewhite was summoned, and while administering to him, the man told him that he was the man who plunged the knife into the negro, that night in the darkened saloon. He had guarded his secret, and an innocent man was paying the penalty, ~~and~~ but when he came to die he felt that he must tell the truth about the matter."(1) Mrs. Applewhite stated that many times during his practise that he had to ford swollen streams and sometimes sleep on the roadside being unable to cross, as bridges were scarce in those days.

Dr. R.E. Sylverstein, a prominent physician of Walthall County was born in Columbus, Mississippi. After graduating at Tulane University in the spring of 1896, he moved to China Grove community, where he spent his first years in the practise of medicine. During the year 1898 he moved to Tylertown, where/he has practised, in the town and community, since. Through the years he has been active in

(1) Mrs. A.L. Applewhite, Tylertown, Miss.





public and civic affairs of the county and state, and is at present, mayor of Tylertown.

Dr. Payne was a pioneer doctor of Walthall County. He practised in the old styled method, often rolling his own pills, and carrying his medicines in "pill bags." After a number of years he moved to Texas, where he lived until his death. (1)

Anna D. Causey
Rewriter, Historical Research Project
WPA .

(1) W.F. Holmes, McComb, Miss.

WALTHALL COUNTY X, HEALTH

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

AUGUST 10, 1936

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO AND BERNICE MORGAN

Isaac Pittman who has a college training at Alcorn A & M College finished in May 1934 and is prepared to do all kind of painting. ? what kind ?

Frances Washington and Emma Ginn have been trained in music.

A. W. Goff, J. E. Di lon and F. B. Hendrick are leading preachers in the county.

The following negroes own nice homes: Nelson Magee, Percy Harrel, Charlie Bryant, Houston Dillon, Jessie Ball. They also own 100 acres of land.

There are no other nationalities in this county.

References: J. J. Gulledge, Supt. Education
Melerson Guy (Adult Teacher)
F. S. Comford (Teacher)
Fannie Styles (Jean Supervisor)

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF:

Vivian Packwood Hobbs.
VIVIAN PACKWOOD HOBBS
WALTHALL COUNTY SUPERVISOR
HISTORICAL RESEARCH

D



HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 13: "INTERVIEWS:"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSER BERNICE MORGAN.

"MUSE ARGONNE BATTLE"

During the World's War, O.M. Sandifer was sent to the 80th. Division 318 Machine Gun Batalion. This division had been resting for several days behind the trenches where the distant gun fire sounded as a continual rumbling. At night of October 31, 1918 this division was marched up to the front under cover of darkness. The Soldiers did not know where they were being sent.

The first guns they passed while marching were the 10 or 12 inch guns, the next the 6 inch, next the 4 inch, the Maching Guns and then the Infantry. The men were firing as they came so they had to change the sights on their guns every 100 yards to be able to fire over their own men's heads. The battle front was a 100 miles wide.

While advancing, one night about dark the Americans captured a German town. The town was shot to pieces and completely torn up. The men were wet and cold as it had been raining for several days. The lieutenant told the men that they could sleep in the woods in safety or under the torn down walls of the town and risk losing their lives, as they were expecting an attack that night. The men decided to sleep in the town as it would afford better protection from the cold and rain. The Germans began firing on them and their battery of 6 inch guns

6

WALTHALL COUNTY / INTERVIEWS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 13: "INTERVIEWS:"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 1936

CANVASSER: BERNICE MORGAN.

"MUESE ARGONNE BATILE (cont'd)

silenced the Germans for the night.

The next morning 1000 Soldiers left the town and marched to a large valley and here is where the Germans really made a raid on the Americans. One shell cut a Lieutenant into. Men were falling in piles. Arms and legs could be seen sticking out of the ground. Bullets were whistling everywhere. Men were calling for God and their Mothers in their last minutes on earth. This was a terrible sight.

In advancing later, near night the Captain wanted to stop for the night as he was afraid the Germans would locate them. There were hundreds of aeroplanes in the air fighting during this time. The Germans shot up an American plane and it fell to earth in a solid flame of fire. A German plane circled low and discovered the American men.

They attacked them that night in a pine thicket. A German gun was keeping up a steady fire just on the other hill. Some of the American boys pulled up a 1 lb. Cannon on wheels and made two shots with it and silenced the machine gun. The men were still wet and cold and their blankets were wet. They dug them a small hole in the ground and lay down in it to sleep. They had to put their heads on their helmets to keep them out of the mud and water. By the next morning the German bodies had been removed but their machine gun was still there.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 13: "INTERVIEWS:"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSER: BERNICE MORGAN

"MUESE ARGONNE BATILE (cont'D)

The night before the Armistice was signed the Americans had advanced within 30 yards of the German Army. There was a railroad that was between them and it was completely torn up. These men had been on duty eleven days and nights and were still wet and cold. When they received word that the war was over they were too completely exhausted to make any noise in celebrating.

They marched back in the woods to build some fires and to dry their clothes and fix something to eat. All at once around them big shells began to fall. They began to investigate and the Germans had dut a tunnel and was attaching them from the rear. They had not received word that the war was over. These shells were coming ten or twelve miles. These tired men had a 100 mile hike back to Camp thr ugh mud and water that was knee deep in places.

Mr. Sandifer wishes to state a word in the behalf of the Gallant Salvation Army Lasses. He says that no other organization except the Salvation Army would venture forth during battle to serve hot cocoa and food to the soldiers while on the front lines.

REFERRENCE:
O.M. Sandifer.

Vivian Packwood Hobbs
County Supervisor
Historical Research.

WALTHALL COUNTY INTERVIEWS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 13: "INTERVIEWS:"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSER BERNICE MORGAN

"A CONFEDERATE PRISIONER"

In 1864 James Alex Burnet a Confederate doldier was captured, along with some more soldiers, by a band of intoxicated Federate Calverymen. He had already lost his hat and coat collar in battle. When he saw the calverymen he at once fell on the ground thinking maybe they would think he was dead. They begin to shoot among the soldiers and make their horses jump over them. They decided to surrender before they were killed.

The calverymen took the soldiers and forced them to march to New Orleans. They were very tired and hungry when they arrived there. The ladies of the city prepared baskets of good food and carried the prisioners. They were not allowed to serve them. The Calverymen crossed bayonets and let the ladies toss the food over them and the men had to jump and catch it. The most active got most of the food.

Two ships were prepared to carry the prisioners to Ship Island, the prision. One of the ships was the "Merimac" and the other was the "Belvidere." Burnett sailed on the "Merimac." The Prision was infested with body lice, so that the men could scarcely rest at night. They only had one suit of clothes at the time so they had to pull them off and try to pick them off. Before they were discharged the lice was seen crawling on the ground like ants.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 13: "INTERVIEWS:"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSER: BERNICE MORGAN.

"A CONFEDERATE PRISIONER (CONT'D)

They were fed one "hard-tack"-four ounces meat and one pint of mush a day. They held out their hands and the mush was served in them. They were also given a small amount of tobacco. Some decayed onions were thrown away. They sprouted and came up through the sand. The men were so hungry for green vegetables that they nearly fought over these tender onions when they were found.

When the war closed the prisioners were shipped to Vicksburg and were discharged twelve miles East of the City at what was called the "BIG BLACK BRIDGE".

Information Given By:

Mrs. Bessie Burnett Roberts,

Daughter of James Alex Burnett.

WALTHALL COUNTY INTERVIEWS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 13: "INTERVIEWS:"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSER: BERNICE MORGAN.

"UNKNOWN SOLDIER OF 1812"

---

We find with the traditions of history of Gen. Carrolls march through Pike County in 1812 the death and burial of a soldier in an isolated place in the woods of Love's Creek (which is now Walthall County). Mr. Henry Brumfield took the matter up with the Secretary of War and asked for the body to be moved to Chalmette Cemetery. This request was granted and this was done October 9,1908. The Sup't. of Chalmette Cemetery, Capt. O'Shea made the trip to Magnolia and was met by H. B. Brumfield, owner of the land, and B. T. Thornhill of Walker's Bridge. On beginning the work of disinterment, it was found that the clay soil was packed as hard as though it had never been disturbed, but on reaching a depth of five feet it was soft and loamy. At this depth, the bones of the Veteran were discovered. There was no sign of a coffin, and it is possible that none was available for his burial. The bones were loose and a great many of them had wholly disintegrated. Some fragments of the soldier's uniform were unearthed but these crumbled to dust as soon



HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 13: "INTERVIEWS:"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSER: BERNICE MORGAN.

"UNKNOWN SOLDIER OF 1812 (CONT'D)"

as touched. The most important discovery, however, and one which clinches the question of identity, was two brass buttons such as were used on military uniforms in the war of 1812. The buttons had retained their original form, but the lettering on them was undecipherable.

Capt. O'Shea carefully gathered every bone that could be found, and placing them in an ordinary wooden box, took them to New Orleans with him of the afternoon train. There they were placed in a casket and interred with military honors in the national cemetery.
So far, it has been impossible to ascertain the name of the soldier, and hence upon his tomb was engraved the simple but significant words:

"UNKNOWN SOLDIER
U. S. A.
WAR OF 1812".

(This incident is a clipping of the Magnolia Gazette-found in Luke Conerly's "History of Pike County".)

WALTHALL COUNTY, INTERVIEWS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 13: "INTERVIEWS"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSER: BERNICE MORGAN.

"BEAR FIGHT SCENE ON MCGEE'S CREEK"

In 1820 at Magee's Creek a few miles below China Grove on the West side of the creek below Conerly's mills lived a family by the name of Sandifer. They were descendents from South Carolina, coming here on pack horses. It was during this year that the noted Pacific-Atlantic hurricane, commencing on the Pacific Ocean, passed through the country to the Atlantic somewhere in North Carolina. It made a swipe through this part of the country and struck a little below China Grove where Peter Sandifer had settled. It wiped his improvements off the face of the earth, leaving him in the woods with no place for protection for his family. At that time neighbors were so few and scattered he could not gather his little brood and find shelter in anothers home as we of today. But it was customary in those days to help their neighbors in time of need, so all his neighbors for miles around were summoned to his aid. The woods were so thick and bears, panthers, wolves and wildcats were in such an abundance it was not a safe plan, by any means, to leave the women and children at home unprotected, so it grew to be customary to take the wife and children along wherever the men went. The women usually quilted while the men did the other work. So all the neighbor



HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 13: "INTERVIEWS"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSER: BERNICE MORGAN.



men with their families came to Peter Sandifers place to assist him in erecting some means of a home for his wife and children. The men immediately went to work, some cutting blocks and some pine polls and peeling them, and some riving boards, and the women set about preparing for their meals.

There was a spring some distance from the house that afforded water for this place. The women were in need of more water to finish the meal, and they withought a second thought sent the children unprotected to the spring for water. As they reached the spring, who should be in possession of the spring but a big, black, grizzly bear, and commanded that the children come no closer. As you know, the children suddenly became frantic with fear at the sight and voice of such a monster. They began screaming in such pitiful, wailing tones until it immediately brough out the entire fighting force of the small group; men armed with guns and knives, women, and the well trained dogs. But the women as they usually are were so frightened they could not and did not do anything but assist the children with their screaming. The bear, however, was not alarmed over the appearance of the force but was rather infuriated

WALTHALL COUNTY INTERVIEWS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 13: "INTERVIEWS."

DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSER: BERNICE MORGAN. "BEAR FIGHT(CONT'D)

and put on his very best fighting clothes. At first the men let the well trained dogs try to manage the bear as they could not shoot him on account of the presence of the women and children for fear they would kill one of them. But finally the dogs were exhausted in strength and was not able to endure in the fight any longer. The bear finally picked up one of the most valuable of the dogs and proceeded to chew him vigorously while folded in his massive arms. The dog screamed for dear life, and this was too much for the owner, and he and others rushed in with their big knives to put the rascal to pursuit. He would first slap this man away and then that one, growling and grinning exposing his great long, sharp teeth as to say, "I am king of this place and nothing or nobody can put me to flight." But this attitude of the bear gave the men more zeal to fight. They realized they had a horrid fight on hand and did not think their lives were of much value in the hands of such a commanding animal as this, but they were thinking at this crucial moment of their fine wives and children and put forth all the strength they could manufacture to win the victory. The women and children screamed all the more for they almost knew withought doubt that some would be widows and orphans in just a few moments. The men were strong and kept their thinking powers working and kept straight ahead in the fight with a feeling their maker was near



HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 13: "INTERVIEWS"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 14, 1936.

CANVASSER: BERNICE MORGAN. "BEAR FIGHT(CONT'D)

with a protecting hand and the fight would win out. The bear kept his strength up, however, and the men fought the harder. He had already scratched the men's face badly and torn their flesh as he ripped most of their clothes from them and the blood was streaming but finally one of the men saw where he could take advantage and rushed on stabbing the bear with the long sharp knife he had which pierced his heart and left the black gentleman laying prostrate at their feet.

Reference:

History of Pike County

by

Luke Conerly.

Vivian P. Hobbs

Mrs. Vivian Packwood Hobbs
County Supervisor
Historical Research Project.

Eloise Sartin: Typist.

WALTHALL COUNTY INTERVIEWS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 13: "SUPPLEMENT TO INTERVIEWS"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 21, 1936

CANVASSER: BERNICE MORGAN

"THE SLAVE THAT ATTACKED HIS MASTER'S DAUGHTER"

In the Eastern part of what used to be Pike but now Walthall County lived a very prominent family by the name of Sartin, one of the first settlers of that part of the County. He was the owner of quite a few slaves.

One day some of the smaller children of one of the slaves were playing in the yard of their master, Major Sartin, when they became so interested in their playing they disturbed some flower beds. The daughter of their master came along and rebuked the children for what they had done, not using any form of punishment, but the children were afraid and went to their mother hurridly, telling what had happened. In turn she told the father of the children and he became very angry. He made his threats before his wife what he would do. Of course, his master did not know he was talking so boldly. The slave kept quite however until his opportune time came which was not long after.

In those days schools were few and far apart, some children being forced to walk some distance through dense woods with just a narrow road for wagons, horseback riders and pedestrians.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 13: "SUPPLEMENT TO INTERVIEWS"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 21, 1936

CANVASSER: BERNICE MORGAN.

"THE SLAVE THAT ATTACKED HIS MASTER'S DAUGHTER (CONT'D)"

This daughter of Major Sartin's and her brother were attending one of these schools. One afternoon on their way home her brother was walking some bit ahead of her. She was walking along singing, in a very high spirit. So this slave thought this was a very good time to "Get Even" as he called it, with this girl who had rebuked his children. Out he stepped in her pathway. Of course, this frightened her and she began screaming. Her uncle did not live far from the scene and he and her brother heard at the same time and they both came running to her rescue. But before they arrived he cut her throat very badly and in the fight with him for her life, she kept pushing the knife away from her throat and this cut three of her fingers on one of her hands but saved her life. When he saw her uncle and brother he fled into the swamp. After whe was given first aid treatment and returned safely home, a search was started for the slave. He was soon overtaken and brought back to his master. But as slaves were valuable, and in those days they did not put any of them to death for some meanness they had done, but gave them severe punishment , he was flogged good, put under guard and was made work very hard thereafter

WALTHALL COUNTY / INTERVIEWS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 13: "SUPPLEMENT TO INTERVIEWS"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 21, 1936

CANVASSER: BERNICE MORGAN.

"THE SLAVE THAT ATTACKED HIS MASTER'S DAUGHTER (CONT'D)"

for the brave and brutal attack on a helpless child he had known from infancy. She recovered and grew into womanhood and is liv ing at present but she has always had a very soft voice and has never been able to use the fingers that was cut during the fight.

REFERENCE:

F. S. Sartin.



HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 13: "SUPPLEMENT TO INTERVIEWS"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 21, 1936

CANVASSER: BERNICE MORGAN.

"THE COON SCENE"

When Walthall County was a part of Pike and Marion, and settlers were coming from other states to locate here, this part of the woods were full of wild animals , and the men found great sport killing these animals and they furnished abundance of meat to feed their families.

These animals were very dangerous and no man ever left his home to to to the field without his gun, and the women never got far from the house when left without protection.

One of the early settlers, Daniel Burkhalter and his wife mary lived on Magees Creek just above Sandifer's place wherethe bear fight took place. Their settlement being situated on the hill near where the Holmesville and Columbia road crosses. This man owned several slaves and among them was one negro woman by the name of Lena. She worked in the field and when not in the field, helped with the housework for her Master.

One day while working in the field, she left her small children in the yard of her master to play, thinking they would be safe. One child was only large enough to sit alone, but the others would care for it as best they could. While they were playing with everything very

WALTHALL COUNTY, INTERVIEWS

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

WALTHALL COUNTY

ASSIGNMENT # 13: "SUPPLEMENT TO INTERVIEWS"

DATE: SEPTEMBER 21, 1936.

CANVASSER: BERNICE MORGAN.

"THE COON SCENE (CONT'D)

quiet and peacable, a large fat coon came up in the yard and caught the little child by the cheek . The little children were very brave as they had been brought up under such conditions. They began fighting the coon and thought perhaps he would get frightened and leave but the more they fought the more firmly he held on to the child's cheek and the child crying all the more. After they saw they could do nothing they screamed for the mother. When she got to the scene, her first effort to release her child of the coon's grip proved worthless and she called her master for assistance. The coon would not let go his hold on the child after the master tried to fight him away, but held on tenaciously. He had to be choked to death before he would consider releasing the child. The child recovered but two large scars were left on his face to go through life, but this and many other hardships like this the early settlers had to face.

REFERENCE:

History of Pike County
by
Luke Conerly.

Vivian P. Hobbs
Vivian Packwood Hobbs,
County Supervisor
Historical Research.

Copy
Only file 12

(1)

(6)

ASSIGNMENT NO. 3.

TOPIC: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

DATE: March 31, 1936.

COUNTY: WALTHALL

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

SUPERVISOR: VIVIAN PACKWOOD HOBBS

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

STENOGRAPHER: EARLINE BRODIE

WALTHALL COUNTY, INTERVIEWS

ASSIGNMENT NO. 3.

TOPIC: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

OUTLINE

1. PIONEERS:
   (a) Old Settlements.
   (b) Antibellum homes.
   (c) Historic art.
   (d) Antiques, etc.
2. HISTORIANS:
   (a) Land grants.
   (b) Historic Land marks.
   (c) Indian Mounds
   (d) Unusual geological formation.
   (e) County seat, or seats, etc.
3. OFFICIALS AND EX-OFFICIAL:
   (a) County records.
   (b) Manuscripts.
   (c) Other historic documents of note, etc.
4. ANY OTHER INTERESTING INTERVIEW.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

TOPIC: Early Settlements.

The early settlements in the County are China Grove, Sartinsville, Darbun, and Magee's Creek, now Tylertown, of which have interesting histories.

(Dr. R.E.Sylverstein & Jno. A. Packwood gave the following:)

China Grove was first settled and owned by Ralph Stovall in 1815. He settled on land about one-quarter of a mile from where the China Grove School house and church have stood since established. At the foot of a steep elevation there is a splendid free-stone cold water spring east of the church that formed an over-flowing branch which bubbled on down westward and emptied into Magee's Creek. This spring and branch afforded ample water for domestic purpose and for stock. At this period of the first settlement of the community under the Stovall regime, the church erected here belonged to the Baptist denomination. There was a grove of china trees set out in the grounds around the school house which was a little log building, ( the original church house), and the church yard, which gave it the name of China Grove.

WALTHALL COUNTY, NARRATIVES

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

Ralph Stovall employed John Barnes, the grand-father of Major Sartin, and constructed a set of mills over Magee's Creek about one mile southwest from the church and his residence run by water power.

These mills consisted of an up-right saw, a cotton gin and press, a rice pestle mill and fan, for cleaning and a grist-mill. It was built across the streams at the foot of a bluff, which afforded a good enbankment on the east side. Drury and Henry Stovall, brothers of Ralph, settled a few miles North of China Grove at this same period. Richard Ratcliff settled there in 1817, Benjamin Youngblood in 1816, Ben Jones in 1818, and Joseph Thornhill in 1812.

In 1882 Owen Conerly and his brother, Rev. and Dr. Luke Conerly, emigrated from North Carolina, Duplin County. They married sisters. Owen married Mary and Luke married Rebecca, daughters of William Wilkerson, and Elizabeth. The latter left no issue. Owen and Mary married January 14, 1808 in the town of Fayetterville, North Carolina. When they came to Mississippi Owen Conerly purchased all of Ralph Stovall's property at China Grove. Rev. and Dr. Luke Conerly settled near by in Marion County on the headwaters of



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

the Pushepatapa, in the vicinity of Waterhole Church. After this the church house property which had been used by the Baptists, being included in the act of sale, was turned into a Methodist Church. The children of Owen Conerly and Mary Wilkerson were Cullen, William W., John R., Eliza, Owen, Emily, Luke (died early), Catherine (died early), Mary Jane and James, Melissa, and Susan (died early).

During the early period of China Grove there were few post offices, mostly located in the county seats of Justice. There was none at China Grove until 1836, when the first post office was located through the efforts of Col. William B. Ligon at his plantation on Magee's Creek, a few miles south of China Grove, and he was made postmaster. It was given the name China Grove Post Office through him. It was subsequently moved to Raifords Store, three miles nearer the church, and afterwards in the fifties was moved to Packwood's Store, about three-quaters a mile from the church. China Grove is about equal distance from Holmesville and Columbia, and the residence of Owen Conerly being located at the crossing of the Monticello and

"Possum Trot" from which the "Possum Trot" road leading from there to Tylertown derived its name.

WALTHALL COUNTY INTERVIEWS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

Covington road and the Holmesville-Columbia road, made it a central and convenient stopping place for travelers. Owen Conerly and Mary Wilkerson and five sons; John R. (Jackie), Cullen, William, Owen and James and three daughters; Eliza, Emily, and Mary Jane and they all became settlers on Magee's Creek or near it. Owen Conerly, Sr., kept his mill in operation attended by his son, Owen Jr. until his death, about 1848 after which the property was sold at administr tors sale and fell in the hands of Needham B. Raiford, the Methodist minister, who at that time filled the pulpit at China Grove. Owen Conerly, Sr. and his brother, Luke were among the organizers and principal supporters of the Methodist church. At this place up to the death of the former and the removal of the latter to Western Louisiana in 1848.

After the sale of his father's China Groves property and the mill, Owen Conerly, Jr. having purchased a place higher upon Magee's Creek, settled by John Gordan in 1817, erected a saw, to Thomas J. Conerly, a blacksmith, who named these places "Possum Trot" from which the "Possum Trot" road leading from there to Tylertown derived its name.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

Citizens of China Grove were farmers, who came from English, Scotch and Irish stock. Many of them migrated to this section from South Carolina; others came from New England States.

In addition to farming at which many of them prospered the citizens operated several saw mills.

China Grove has almost faded away as the only remains is the old church and one or two old homes. The post office which was established in 1836 has been discontinued, the school abandoned. The church, a one-story frame structure built in 1854, is no longer used except for funerals. This building has a balcony, which in pre-war days was used by the slaves, who, like their masters, attended church regularly.

- Sattinsville-

(S.F.Sartin, Circuit Clerk & Bobbie Conerly gave the following:)

In 1813 Sartins church was established by John Sartin; Joseph Newsom, James Reed, John May, Joseph May, Owen Elliott, and Stephen Ellis. This community is now known as Sartinsville. Stephen Ellis was a school teacher and minister of the gospel and

WALTHALL COUNTY, INTERVIEWS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

was one of the prime movers for the establishment of a church of Methodist peeled logs and was used as a house of worship, a day school and a Sunday School with Stephen Ellis as the Minister, Teacher and Superintendent.

Schools have been maintained at China Grove and at Sartinsville almost continously since the settlement of this section. Among the teachers who served in the community were Joseph Smith, Patrick McCelping, Charles and Joseph Bancraft. There were pay schools supported by tution fees given the teacher. There was a public school fund which the law provided should be distributed in proportion to attendance of each student, which was paid to the parents of the pupils, but so small as to count but little.

- Tylertown -

(The following was given by R.E.Sylverstein,Mayor & Lawyer Alford)

Tylertown, the only incorporated town in Walthall County, was first known as Magee's Creek Settlement and also Magee's Settlement in generally considered as a part. Cullen Conerly went there in 1859 and became owner of a tract of land, bought a small store known as Garland Hart Store and established a post office which



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

was called Conerly's Post Office for many years according to available history. Tylertown is located on a tract of land originally acquired by J. Thornhill, Sept. 20, 1816. Tylertown has always been considered a part of Magee's Creek, though the village as now located is on Dry Creek which empties into Magee's Creek a short distance below. Its first settlement dates back to the emigration of the Magees and Thornhills.

Tylertown was named for William G. Tyler. Tyler came here from Boston, Mass. and was an artillery soldier under General Andrew Jackson in the war of 1812 and 1815 against the hostile Greeks and their British allies and participated in the balle of New Orleans (Chalmette) in 1815, which settled the fate of the English armies in America.

During the time that this country was being settled and Tylertown growing into a town, Walthall County, as a county, did not exist. This land, now known as Walthall County, was part of Marion and Pike counties until 1914 when it set up its local government.

WALTHALL COUNTY INTERVIEWS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

(This information was given by: J. H. Lampton & Bobbie Conerly)

-Darbun-

Darbun Creek, from which Darbun derived its name, one of the head tributaries of Magee's Creek got its name from Col. McTowan, an eccentric bachelor, who set led there with his brother, Elizah McGowan in 1815, along with Drury and Henry Stovall, brothers of Ralph Stovall, the founder of the China Grove Settlement, Richard Ratcliff, and Harrison Bracey. They were all slave owners and progressive and successful cotton planters.

" The territory of which the county of Walthall is a part was originally occupied by the Chickasaw, Choctaw, and Natchez Indians, of which we have interesting Indian Legends, as, Legend of Cherokee Rose, etc.

John Applewhite and Jacob Ford, with others from North Carolina with their families, embarked in flatboats on the Cumberland River floated down to Natchez and moved across to Pearl River and settled. Michael Harvey came in there from Georgia in 1808. As far back as 1798 immigrants began to come in and locate on the different streams threading the extensive territory embraced in Marion County, the Pearl and Bogue Chitto Rivers receiving the



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

larger number and extending along Magee's Creek, Tangophiho and Otopasas, and their numerous tributaries.

John Warren is said to have settled on the Otopasas about seven miles North of town of Holmesville as early as 1799 and John Magee even earlier than this on Magee's Creek, and Jacob Owens on Dry Creek about 1800. Between this time and 1816 they came in larger numbers, locating themselves more nearly to the beautiful clear water streams and tributary branches.

The river and creek bottomswere covered with dence growth of wild cane and the pine hill regions with a wild pea commonly known as partridge pea, beggar lice and other rich vegetation and grasses, affording pastures for horses, cattle, sheep, goats and hogs; and the swamps with most producing trees, and the streams abounding with an unexhaustible supply of fish, wild deers, turkeys, bear, wolves, panthers, coons, oppossums, beavers, otters, squirrels and numerous game were practically unexhaustible.

Reports going back from these who were first to venture into these regions to their friends in the States induced

WALTHALL COUNTY, INTERVIEWS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

others and during the interviewing years prior to 1815 the population had increased to thousands instead of the few dozens, nearly, if not all, of the first settlers of Marion County embraced within the designated lines of Pike County settled on public lands, built their homes and lived on them long before acquiring deeds from the government, and hence the map of the first entries cannot be relied upon as a guide to determine the date of settlement, and some of them not for nearly a half century afterwards.

By an act of December 9, 1815, of the Territorial General Assembly the county of Marion was divided in the following manner, which record was transcribed from the county records of Pike several years before the destruction of the courthouse in Magnolia when the records of court were lost.

"Beginning on the line of demarkation at the southwest corner of Amite County, running from thence east along said line thirty miles, thence a line to run due North to its intersection with the summitt of the deviding ridge between the waters of Bogue Chitto and Pearl Rivers, after the same shall cross the water of Magee's Greek; thence along the said ridge until it intersects the southern boundary



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO

of Lawrence County; and all that tract of territory formerly a part of Marion County, lying North and West of the lines thus described, shall form a new county to be named Pike(in honor of Gen. Zebern Pike).

Until the commissioners appointed to fix the permenant seat of justice had designated the spot the place of holding court in Pike County was at the residence of Grabrial Allen, who acquired ownership to the North half of section 28, township 3, range 9, east in January 17, 1815, and March 6, 1816, on the West side of the Bogue Chitto River near center of the new County. A Committee was appointed to secure a place to build a public building for court house. This building had to be within three miles of the geographical center of the county of Pike. These commissioners were required to procure, by purchase on the best terms, or by donation, as much land as necessary for the seat of justice provided by quantity was not less than 40 acres nor more than one hundred and sixty acres, and to have an equal regard for eligibility of situation and the convenience of the inhabitants, as to promote the best interests of the county. Said lands to be laid off in town lots, reserving sufficient quantity for a public square, a courthouse, a jail house, and church, the balance

WALTHALL COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

to be sold and the proceeds used for county purposes.

The Commissioners having located the spot and procured the property as required by the law, an act was passed by the General Assembly, Dec. 11, 1816, ratifying the action of the commissioners and giving it the name of Holmesville, in honor of May Andrew Hunter Holmes(Major Holmes was an army officer, Captain, of the 24th infantry, in 1812; he was major June 8th to Sept. 4th, 1813; was major 32nd Infantry April 18, 1814. He was killed August 4th, 1814, in an attack on Fort Machinac, Michigan.

In 1820 an act was passed by Gen. Assembly of Mississippi to incorporate the town of Holmesville. An election was held and James C. Dickson, Peter Quinn, Jr., I. Cuken, Wiley R. Harris, and Major Lea were chosen trustees; Buckner Harris, Assessor, Collector and town constable and William Orr, Treasurer. Previous to this in 1813, William Dickson, Peter Quinn, Peter Felder and Mathew McEvan presided as justice of the orphan's court, which had jurisdiction in probate matters. In 1822 this system was changed by the Legislature.

"Beginning with quotations, the above remarks were taken from Luke Conerly's "History of Pike County".



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: Alma Bilbo.

TOPIC: ANTIBELLUM HOMES

The houses of the first settlers were built of peeled pine poles, notched in at the corners for immediate use then added to, next grade were double pinned, hewed log houses, open entry, front gallery and back shed room. The floors were first made of split boards, and the roofs were covered with boards weighed down with poles treated to make them secure, Later a few of the well-to-do settlers built homes, large two-story buildings with shed roofs on either side dropping below upper story, sash and blind windows with rooms on front and back, giving half-front and half-back gallery, usually brick chimneys at each end with fireplaces up stairs and down stairs. The upstairs was sometimes divided into one large and two small rooms. Sometimes a wing was extended from one end of the resident for a dining room. The kitchen being set away from it. Some of these old residents are standing yet. Such houses as these were not constructed by early settlers.

Due to the fact that this county had no attractions in the early history settlers who were able to build good houses went to the Mississippi river lands where towns and tradings had been longer established.

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

Antibellum homes in this county are few, because the county is so progressive they had been remodeled. Many have burned, and none are noted for their antique architecture.

We find several old homes in the Holmesville community, built before the war, that are still standing. They are all noted for their lovely japonicas trees. Some are as large as 15 feet in diameter. It is a feast for the soul to see them in bloom. The first japonica was brought from France, and the many others in this county have been rooted from this one.

(Mr. & Mrs. Jessie Bullock were interviewed).

We find the Bullock home in which Mr. & Mrs. Bullock live is 75 years of age. Mr. Bullock is the only confederate soldier living in the county. The house is a two-story frame structure, George Washington style, with all the rooms fitting within a single rectangular block for economical building. The house with its steeply pitched roof facing the South, its long slooping roof toward the rear and the graceful lines of the balcony all contributes to an encouraging hint of hospitality in the pleasant exterior that we found borne out in the intimate living room, the airy bedrooms and snug kitchen. It has a large entrance porch, with single columns supporting it and chimneys at both sides of the house.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

Specifially, this house is designed to provide pleasant living quaters for a large family, yet, the house is capable of meeting the demands of the re-union that is held there every summer by the family. The surroundings are darkened by the huge oak trees over-shading it and the long "ole time" walk is perfected by the large gardenias growing by the wayside.

There is further promise that the house is susceptible to change without much cost to its integrity, and could be made into a very beautiful early American home.

(Mrs. E. W. Kitchen was interviewed.)

The old Raiford home was built in 1850, and was counted the finest home in this part of the country. It was painted, early American style, two-story, beautiful winding stairway. It contained twelve rooms. At the time the Raiford family was reared ~~there~~ they were beautifully furnished but all the antique furniture dealers and descendants of the old family have carried them out of this county, and have been unable to locate them. Twenty years ago one of the old slaves who had lived there during Raiford's time told of the pots of go that had been buried there before the masters death, and had never been

WALTHALL COUNTY, INTERVIEWS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

found, so night after night, immense holes were dug all around the house. It was never known if they found the gold, but a neighbor wrote to the Raifords wife who was then living on the Gulf Coast and asked if she thought there could be any gold. She replied that she was sure her husband never found all that he buried.

(Mrs. Kate Ginn Ellzey & Pas Conerly were interviewed).

George Smith, Sr., and his wife, Clara Dillon settled near Dillon's Bridge on the Bogue Chitto River in 1817. Sometime later they built a home and a water-mill and dam on Kirklin Creek. The home is still standing and descendants of the Smith family still own it. Part of the mill remains and is noted for its picturesque beauty. The home is well built and has been kept in good repair.

(Mr. & Mrs. John Carr were interviewed).

The home of Chauncey Collins is the oldest in the county. This place was settled in 1842 and is located two miles East of Tylertown on Collin's Creek. This is an early American style with columns made of thin plank. It is a two-story frame building with kitchen built away from house but is joined to house with plant walk. Low shruby is close around the edge of the house. The house has been standing here about 94 years, in fairly good condition. An interesting thing about the place is the nails used in the building are square headed.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

When the Collins built the home the columns were built of plank and old papers were sealed up in them. A short time ago a copy of a religious paper "The Christian Advocate" was pulled out from the columns. Collin's wife belonged to the Methodist church and it was thought by surviving descendants that these old papers were put in these columns for curiosity.

The house is now occupied by John Carr, his wife being a grandchild of Chauncey Collins. Many interesting things are seen here. Chauncey Collins made shoes and a part of the bark mill, where leather was tanned is still there, also planks at the spring that Chauncey Collins placed their.

TOPIC: Historic Art.

Thus far we have been unable to maintain any available information in reference to historic art in this county.

TOPIC: Antiques, etc.

(Mrs. Geo. Whitaker was interviewed).

The prettiest antique in Walthall County that we have found belongs to Mr. Anslie Whitaker and it is a rosewood piano that is 87 years of age. This piano has been in four different

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936.

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO

generations of Anslie Whitaker's mothers family. It was bought by Jane Covington's father when she was sixteen years of age. The young lady had a very beautiful voice and studied under a German Professor, who took her to New Orleans and had the piano pitched to the tone of her voice. It is solid rosewood with solid mother of pearl behind the key board. The whitakers have had it reconditioned but everything is just as it was bought 87 years ago.

(Mrs. John Carr gave the following informatio:
Various old antiques are found in the home of Chauncey Collins. Mr. Collins sold Seth Thomas Clocks when he first came to Mississippi in 1828, and we find one of these old clocks here. It is operated by weights. Also an old safe and table. The table is put together with pegs. In the early days pegs were used in constructing all furniture owing to scarcity of nails. These old relics are about one hundred years old.

(The following old land grant was secured from Mr. Jno. A. Packwood).
TOPIC: Land grants.

On the following page is a copy of an old land grant we find made in 1854, January 5th,.



THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

WHEREAS, in pursuance of the Act of Congress, Approved September 28th, 1850, entitled "AN ACT GRANTING BOUNTY LAND TO CERTAIN OFFICERS AND SOLDIERS WHO HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN THE MILITARY SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES," Warrant No. 45,246, for 80 acres, issued in favor of John I. Robintet, Corporal in Captain Curd's Company, Missouri Volunteer, Florida War. has been returned to the GENERAL LAND OFFICE, with evidence that the same has been duly located upon the North west quarter of the West quarter, of Section twenty-eight and the North East quarter of the North East quater, of Section twenty-nine in Township three, of range eleven East, in the District of Lands subject to sale at Washington, Mississippi, containing eighty acres, according to the Official Plat of the Survey of the said Land returned to the GENERAL LAND OFFICE, by the SURVEYOR GENERAL, which has been assigned to William G. Balll.

NO KNOW YE: That there is therefore granted by the UNITED STATES unto the said William G. Ball the tract of Land above described: TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said tract of land, with the appurtenances thereof, unto the said William G. Ball and to his heirs and assigns forever.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I, Franklin Pierce

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have caused these Letters to be made Patent and the SEAL OF THE GENRRAL LAND OFFICE to be hereunto affixed.

GIVEN: under my hand at the CITY OF WASHINGTON, the fifth day of January in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four and of the INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES the seventy-eight.

U.S. General Land Office Seal

Record of Miscellaneous)
Military Grants, Vol. )
154, Page 169 )

BY THE PRESIDENT: Franklin Ford

BY: Jno. A. Andrew, Ass't. Sec'ty

J. A. Granger,
Record of the General Land Office

COPY



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

(The following statement made by:
TOPIC: Historic Land Marks. Mr.Jno.A. Packwood

The historic land marks of this county were made by the virgin pines, most of which has been cut and manufactured into timber. Few are made by the various streams of the county.

"the following information was secured from an old slave,
TOPIC: Indian Mounds. John Failsan."

On the Bogue Chitto river we find mounds of the Indians about two miles North of Walker's Bridge. The mound is ob-long and about 75 feet long and 50 feet wide. Trees and brush have grown so thick you can hardly get to it. A tunnel has been cut through it years ago by treasure hunters.

An Indian mound was discovered in the northern part of the county, January 1936 by W.P.A. workers making roads through the county. It was evident by the numerous fragents of human bones exhemed from it. From the number of bones found in this county the population of the Indians was numerous.

Another mound is found south of China Grove church on the Magee's Creek and a small part of the creek runs around the mound. Trees have grown through it, and it resembles a mound very much. However, if any human bones have been found we have no evidence

WALTHALL COUNTY / INTERVIEWS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

of it.

TOPIC: Unusual geological formation.

The County Agents and the surveyors states that we do not have any unusual geological formations in this county.
"Statement made by O.B. Elliott, Co. Agent, & G.C. Ball, Surveyor"

TOPIC: County seat, or seats, etc.

Tylertown is the county seat of Walthall County. Tylertown is located on a tract of land originally acquired by J. Thornhill, Sept. 20, 1816. By custom the place got to be called Tylertown and the post office was changed to that name in honor of W. G. Tyler. Tylertown is the only incorporated town in the county having a population of 1103.

TOPIC: Officials and Ex-Officials
"Lawyer Alford, Co. Attorney, J. J. Lee Ex-Sup't of Education, and Seth E. Ginn, Chancery Clerk". (County Records).

According to available history the land on which Tylertown is located was originally acquired by J. Thornhill, Sept. 20, 1816.

During the time that this country was being settled and Tylertown growing into a town, Walthall County, as a county did



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

not exist. This land, now known as Walthall County was part of Marion and Pike counties until 1914 when it set up its local government.

The county's first officials, appointed by the governor took their oath of office in May 1914. These officials were: S. A. Simmons, Sheriff, C. H. Carruth, Chancery Clerk, J. J. Lee, Superintendent of Education, B. B. Breeland, Circuit Clerk, and G. C. Ball, Assessor. The members of the first Board of Supervisors were: D. M. McElveen, W. H. McDaniel; W. B. Dunaway, T. B. Jones, A. D. McGuffee. The County Treasurer was L. O. Bridges.

These officials served until January 1916 when new officers elected in the general election of 1915 were installed. At this time S. A. Simmons was re-elected for sheriff, J. C. Luter Chancery Clerk; C. W. Hinson, Circuit Clerk; B. B. Breeland, Assessor, C. I. Brumfield, Superintendent of Education; and M. M. Brumfield Treasurer.

Dr. Sylverstein was a member of the first Board of Alderman of the town of Tylertown, which at the time of its incorporation in 1907 had only 375 inhabitants and assessed valuation of property was only $25,000.00. This may be compared with the present population of 1102 and the assessed valuation of $600,000.00

WALTHALL COUNTY / INTERVIEWS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

The petition of incorporation of Tylertown was filled with J. W. Powers, Secretary of State 1907, at the time when James K. Vordeman was governor. This petition was signed by George Lenton, J. R. Cable, F. C. Parsons, W. D. Davis, H. A. Brumfield, T. M. Adams, J. W. Willis, T. W.Holmes, W. B. Conerly, J. M. Bazoon, P. C. Stringer, Albert W. Willis M. E. Futch, D. E. Felder, E. D. Safford, Charlie Sawyer, James A. Doyal, R. A. Conerly, G. C. Ball, T. J. Futch, Pedro Smith, Jessie M. Conerly, B. O. Holmes, George Dilbon, S. Wilkinson, and E. M. Martin.

The charter was received December 19, 1907 and the new officers, who were appointed b the governor, were installed on December 30, 1907. The appointed officers were: J. H. Crawford, Mayor, M. H. Holmes, Marshall; W. S. Lampton, Treasurer; and W. H. Morse, George Linton, J. C. Rimes, George H. Collins, and R. E. Sylverstein, Alderman. The oath of office was administered by L. W. Beard, Notary Public.

Dr. Sylverstein served continuously on the town board from 1907 to 1913 and again from 1930 to 1932, when he became Mayor in which capacity he has served for the past four years.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

Dr. Sylverstein is now Mayor of Tylertown, has served for the past four years. He was also president of the Board of Trustees of the Tylertown High School. Dr. Sylverstein was actively connected with the early history of Tylertown. He was elected president of the first board of trustees whose membership included: J. C. Rimes, George H. Collins; N. E. Ball; Dort Holmes; N. Stringer; Wm. Hopgood; John Ellzey; R. E. Sylverstein,; Lem H. Ginn; and Perry A. Smith.

TOPIC: Manuscripts.

We have been unable to secure any information regarding manucripts of the county.

TOPIC: Other historic documents of note, etc.

The first white couple to be married in Walthall County was Arley Sartin and Alma Duncan. The first colored couple was James Deecree and Lizzie Goodson, 5/15/14/

B. B. Breeland was Circuit Clerk at this time.

(This data was taken from the Circuit Clerk's Records- S. F. Sartin ).

WALTHALL COUNTY INTERVIEWS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

TOPIC: Other interesting interviews.

"The following was taken from Luke Coherly's "History of Pike County" (Klu-Klux-Klan)

The high price of cotton in 1865 and 1866 was a blessing to the people. Large quantities had been hidden away in nooks and corners where the Yankees could not find it, or failed to do so, by those who were exempt from military service and in the fall after the surrender a small crop was gathered which brought the high price of fifty cents and over. This gave strength to the merchants who were thus enabled to help the farmers, struggling against the fretful conditions that prevailed. All the merchants in Summit, whose business houses had been swept away by the vandalism of Grierson's raiders, were rebuilding their stores, and those in Holmesville, Magnolia, Osyka and Tylertown endeavored to place themselves in condition to meet the necessities of their people. Every man who had been a soldier of the Confederacy was working to re-establish himself in the conditions had beforethe war, and all worked to rebuild their lost fortunes. The wails of the widow and the suffering of her children were head and given attention.

When freedom vanished with the fall of stars and bars,



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

the giant monster that had crushed them had no terrors for them save the dastard attempt to supplant them with the recently liberated negro slaves. They had been deprived of their arms, but a way was provided to place themselves in a position to meet the worst.

Four millon negroes were not only free, but were invested with civil rights. What a novel condition! What a tremendous experiment! At this stage a most novel condition was presented by the ex-negro slaves. The sudden close of the war and the knowledge of emancipation struck the great mass of them with amazement. They were living with their families comfortable homes, on the plantation of their masters, who had always provided for them. They had no knowledge of the responsibility which emancipation had cast upon their own shoulders. They had nothing on earth with which to begin life; not a mouthful of food, not a stitch of clothing, not a cent of money; not a shelter to protect them from the weather except that which came through the tender humanity of their former masters. The impulse was to leave their old homes and go somewhere else. Think of it! Four million ignorant slaves suddendly liberated and thus actuated and no provision made by the government to care for

WALTHALL COUNTY, INTERVIEWS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: " NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

them. They were penniless, too. But the negro men scattered hither and thither, leaving their wives and helpless children at the old plantation quaters to be taken care of by "de white folks". They flocked to military camps in great droves, men and women, with complaints of inhuman treatment and stories of barbarity, and the Yankee Officer, who was bred and born and brought up to the period of donning the brass button in the belief that the negro was a peer of himself, believed these stories, and this resulted in squads of cavalry and infantry being sent over the country to investigate them, thus eternally harassing the white people and overturning their efforts to bring about a just equilibrium between themselves and these ex-slaves. Thus fell upon the authorities a new problem. The military were driven to the necessity of organizing a written contract system in order to force the negroes to remain on the plantations and relieve themselves of the burdens. This system, while it was the best that could be done at the time, was fruitful of great vexation on trouble. Under this system the negroes were required to procure passes from their employers when they wished to go away



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

from the plantations. This was adopted to put a stop to their indiscriminate roaming and desertion of their own families and to give relief to the authorities. The pass system was productive of much good, but it was also productive of much evil.

Social intercourse between the negroes and the Federal soldiers without regard to color, became a fixed reality and their camps on Sundays and other times were scenes of social intercourse. This may truthfully be said to be the beginning of race trouble after emancipation. The negro men seeing and having a knowledge of the intimate relations between white Federal soldiers and officers with negro women and openly taught equality, led them to desire an equal opportunity with white women, but there was a barrier that stood between them and the white women and they knew it. It was a gun and a Southern white man behind it. This is no satutory law that could be brought into play to prohibit intermarriage, nothing except the inflexible principle and will of the Southern. There was one instance in Pike County where a white girl was persuaded to run away with a young negro man, which resulted in the parties being overtaken, the girl rescued

WALTHALL COUNTY, INTERVIEWS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

and the negro escaped.

One can scarcely conceive how gradually, but how quickly, the situation dawned to excite the fears of the white people of the South in regard to dangers threatening their race. One who has lived through it and taken part in the events and changes of the times can more fully, perhaps, appreciate the wide world calamity that stared them in the face then and which leads to a recital of circumstances following.

Where should they turn for help? What herald would bring them the tidings? A message came and gave to them a gleam of hope and with came the mystic letters K.K.K. Upon the threshold of a great calamity this organiz tion arose, out of the bowels of the earth, as it were, and formed into a solid phalanx of oath-bound determined men. Who were they? Whence came they? The shades of the dead who have passed the Styx of Dante's infernal regions, where they were sent for their inhuman crimes could not tell, nor the ghosts of of the villians who wronged our helpless and defenseless women.



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSERS: ALMA BILBO.

It rose, it flourished, it performed its mission and disappeared as mysteriously as it came; this wonderful organization, The Klu-Klux-Klan. The organization of the Klu-Klux-Klan was so thoroughly systematized that all its movements were in harmony. It secrets were so well guarded that its leaders and members were unknown outside of the organization.

(The following article was taken from "Luke Conerly's History of Pike County" )

(When the Stars fell)

In 1833 a great meteoric display occurred. There are few people living in Pike County yet, white and black, who have a vivid recollection of this wonderful phenomena. It was dark that night, and the shower was so great and brilliant as apparently to set the whole heavens ablaze. The ignorant and superstitious were frightened and thought it portended the destruction of the earth , and they resorted to prayer. The event has been handed down and spoken of by those who were living then as "When the Stars fell", and many old negroes of that day dated their birth to that period.

WALTHALL COUNTY, NARRATIVES

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT : " NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

(Court Sessions)

(Taken from Luke Conerly's "History of Pike County".

Holmesville was the only town in the county at this period. The Circuit courts were held in the spring and fall every six months and lasted two weeks, for the trial of civil and criminal cases. The petit juries, the grand juries, and the witnessers, litigants, curiosity-seekers, sportsmen and lawyers from adjoining counties brought great crowds of people to the courthouse. The hotels and boarding houses were unable to accommodate the crowds, and hundreds returned home at night or scattered out among friends in the vicinity.

"This incident was given us by Dr. L. A. Welch, and is in the "History of Pike County" book. (A Balloon Incident)

In 1858 two ballonists, a man and a woman, undertook to go from New Orleans to Jackson in an old fashioned gas inflated balloon. They went up late in the afternnon, sailed over lake Ponchartrain progressing finely until they passed the dividing line of Washington Parish and Pike County near the home of Dr. McQuen about one and half miles Southeast of Tylertown. The balloon came down nearer to the earth than they supposed and became entangled in the top of a tree, some fifty feet above the ground. In this deplorable condition the occupants had to remain in the tree top until daylight when ropes and



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS"?

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

ladders were provided by the near neighbors to help them down. The balloon was saved. There was great excitement over this incident for many of the people had never heard of a balloon.

It was announced by the balloonists that there would be given a lecture at Conerly's Post Office, Tylertown, and an expedition showing the philosopphy of air navigation for which a small fee would be charged to enable them to pursue their journing to Jackson. This brought out people for miles around who were well entertained by the woman's lecture and the accension of large paper balloons inflated with hot air.

PREPARED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF:

VIVIAN PACKWOOD HOBBS, SUPERVISOR

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH.

:E

WALTHALL COUNTY, INTERVIEWS

WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT : " NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS".

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

(Taken from Luke Conerly's "History of Pike County". (Court Sessions)

Holmesville was the only town in the county at this period. The Circuit courts were held in the spring and fall every six months and lasted two weeks, for the trial of civil and criminal cases. The petit juries, the grand juries, and the witnesses, litigants, curiosity-seekers, sportsmen and lawyers from adjoining counties brought great crowds of people to the courthouse. The hotels and boarding houses were unable to accommodate the crowds, and hundreds returned home at night or scattered out among friends in the vicinity.

"This incident was given us by Dr. L. A. Welch, and is in the "History of Pike County" book. (A Balloon Incident)

In 1858 two ballonists, a man and a woman, undertook to go from New Orleans to Jackson in an old fashioned gas inflated balloon. They went up late in the afternnon, sailed over lake Ponchartrain progressing finely until they passed the dividing line of Washington Parish and Pike County near the home of Dr. McQuen about one and half miles Southeast of Tylertown. The balloon came down nearer to the earth than they supposed and became entangled in the top of a tree, some fifty feet above the ground. In this deplorable condition the occupants had to remain in the tree top until daylight when ropes and



WALTHALL COUNTY

HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

MARCH 31, 1936

ASSIGNMENT: "NARRATIVES ON INTERVIEWS"?

CANVASSER: ALMA BILBO.

ladders were provided by the near neighbors to help them down. The balloon was saved. There was great excitement over this incident for many of the people had never heard of a balloon.

It was announced by the balloonists that there would be given a lecture at Conerly's Post Office, Tylertown, and an expedition showing the philosophy of air navigation for which a small fee would be charged to enable them to pursue their journing to Jackson. This brought out people for miles around who were well entertained by the woman's lecture and the accension of large paper balloons inflated with hot air.

PREPARED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF:

VIVIAN PACKWOOD HOBBS, SUPERVISOR

WALTHALL COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH.

:E

WALTHALL COUNTY, INTERVIEWS

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRARION
FOR
MISSISSIPPI
PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

CANVASSERS: MRS. F. R. WHITTINGTON, ALICE RAY BRISBANE, MRS. DELLA BRENT

April 16, 1936

Copy C

Written

Assignment #4

SUBJECT: County History:

1. WATER-SHEDS.

(a) Name of rivers, creeks, etc. Origin of names.

1. Bogue Chitto River-Indian name, Big creek. (Memoirs of Miss. Vol.1)
2. Tangipahoa " " " , Corn on cob. (Mrs. Murry Addison) (McComb)
3. Balachitto Creek " " , creek.
4. Topisaw " " " ,
5. Clear Creek Named after it's clear sparkling water. Knowledge of writer
6. Terry " " " family in southwestern part of county.
7. Silver " " " the Silver maples along the streams.
8. Carroll " " " John Carroll.
9. Carters " " " John Carter.
10. Clabber " The milk was kept by many housewives to prevent it from turning to clabber, it would sometimes turn over and the water became milky thereby acquiring the name Clabber Creek.
11. Magee's Creek - Named after John Magee.
12. Collins " - " " Chauncey Collins.
13. Little Tangipahoa - Little Corn on cob.
14. Union Creek - Where they held their first Union Church meetings.
15. Minnehaha - Laughing waters.
16. Indian Creek - Head tributary of Magees creek, was the camping grounds of Choctaw Indians.
17. Darbun " Named after Col. Darbun McGowan.



PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

E.R.A. History - Interview "Uncle" John Gatlin Pres. Board of Supv. Pike Co. 40 yrs. (deceased)

18. Still Creek - A small stream forming one of the head tributaries of of Tangipahoa, was first settled by William Bagley. Like many other sections in Pike at that time it was a wild, unsettled country, a wilderness of wild cane, full of bear, wolves and other dangerous animals. The bear were so bad at times that they would come into the yards at night and attack the hogs in the lots and pens, where they could get at them easier than chasing them through the cane. The men never went out day or night without their guns and knives and dogs. Bagley owned a whiskey still and learned the bear's fondness for sweetened whiskey, which enabled him to trap many of them. He made peach brandy and corn juice, as the settlers called it. It is related that there was an old lady in the neighborhood whose people had emigrated and brought her from a wheat-growing country and she had a dislike to cornbread. She used to say that she never did like corn in any shape or fashion until Bill Bagley got to making that corn juice; she could manage to worry down a little of it then. Still Creek thus got its name.

Indian creek, Darbun creek and Collins creek which are tributaries of Magee's creek were in Pike but now in Walthall county.

(b) Direction of flow, into what stream do they flow?

All the streams of Pike county are feed by ever flowing springs and contain flowing water throughout the year, known as perennial streams.

The rivers and the creeks of Pike county have a general flow in a southeastern direction.

WALTHALL COUNTY, INTERVIEWS

1. Bogue Chitto with its tributaries flows in a southeasterly direction draining the eastern part of Pike county emptying into Pearl River in St. Tammany Parish La.
2. Tangipahoa empties into Lake Pontchartrain.
3. Balachitto " " Tangipahoa.
4. Topisaw " " Bogue Chitto.
5. Clear Creek " " Bogue Chitto
6. Terrys Creek " " Tangipahoa.
7. Silver Creek " " Balachitto.
8. Carroll Creek" " Little Tangipahoa.
9. Carters Creek" " Bogue Chitto.
10. Clabber Creek" " Bogue Chitto.
11. Magee's Creek " " Bogue Chitto.
12. Collins Creek " " Magee's Creek.
13. Little Tangipahoa River empties into Tangipahoa.
14. Union Creek empties into Balachitto.
15. Minnehaha " " Tangipahoa
16. Indian Creek " " Magee's Creek.
17. Darbun Creek " " Magee's Creek.
18. Still Creek " " Tangipahoa.

(c) Effect on county, on health, soil, etc.

Pike County is higher in the northwestern part gently sloping southeast.

There are hill and valleys all over the county. In places along the rivers and creeks there are high bluffs cut by erosion. The rivers and creeks help to make the temperature cooler in the summer, along the banks of the creeks being a very desirable place to live.

In olden times the rivers afforded water power for water mills for grinding corn, ginning cotton and saw mills.



All up and down the rivers and creeks you may yet see the old ruins of the water mills. Out at Pricedale, a pioneer community only recently named there is a water mill, but its chief purpose is to operate a hydro-electric plant that furnishes current for that community.

The soil in the bottom lands on the creeks and rivers is very fertile, producing good crops without the aid of commercial fertilizers. This soil compares with the rich delta lands.

II. Elevation.

(a) Highest point. (where)

Summit is the highest point in Pike County from which it derives its name. When the Illinois Central Railroad went through they allowed a four foot grade to the mile. Summit is about 420 feet above sea level.

(b) Lowest point. (where)

Osyka at the southern boundary line is the lowest point in Pike County.

(c) Bottom lands. (where)

The best bottom land can be found along the Bogue Chitto and the Tangipahoa rivers and along the southern boundary of Pike County. In good cotton years the land has been known to produce a bale of cotton to the acre.

(d) Prairie lands. (and flat-wood regions). NONE.

(e) Rugged regions. Interview Mr Page and Mr Claude Lampton (Magnolia)

At Chatawa on the east side of railroad there is a forty foot cut. This pit is known as the old Bartlett gravel pit and has furnished gravel for the Illinois Central railroad for its road-bed for twenty five years or more. Where the 51 highway goes through Chatawa there has been a 50 ft. cut where 65,000 yards of gravel have been removed for the building of the highway.

WPA, PIKE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, INTERVIEWS

PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

Along the roads in Chatawa you will find these cliffs and lots of natural rocks which make it very picturesque.

At Fernwood, Summit and Johnston Station there are cuts of 40 to 50 feet through which the I. C. railroad runs.

III. LAKES - MARSHES - BAYOUS Interview, Mr. A. Warnamaker, Civil Engineer.

(a) Effect on; temperature, health, soil, etc.

Kramer Lake at St Mary of the Pines Academy Chatawa was a gift of Xavier Kramer to the Academy. It covers approximately three acres with minimum depth of 10 feet.

I. C. Lake on highway 51 in Lake View sub-division covers approxmately eleven acres is stocked with fish and is under supervision of the Gun and Rod Club, but is owned by the I. C. railroad.

Bevens Lake is just north of I. C. Lake on highway 51 in Summit stocked with fish and furnishes recreation. Covers 8 acres.

One mile south of Johnston Station, at Dixie Springs on highway 51, a large lake is being excavated by the W. P. A. under supervision of Mr. A. Warnamaker, Civil Engineer. The land was donated by F. C. Carruth, who owns all the land thereabout.

The lake covers 120 acres with an average dept of 7 feet with a natural fall of 17 feet. It is one and one quarter mile long and one quarter mile wide and is to be stocked with fish by the State Fish Commission and protected by the State game warden.

Purpose to create public fishing ground and recreational lake, also refuge for migratory water fowels. The dam 1100 feet in length; Concrete spillway 80 feet and equipped with two 24 inch culverts with flood gate valves for emergency purposes. It is fed by countless number of springs assuring ample supply of fresh cool water at all times.



PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

C.C.C. Lake on highway 24 at Percy Quin Park is under construction by Works Progress Administration and will be the largest lake in the county when completed.

These lakes are all artificial but are very cooling to the atmosphere especially for those living in the vicinity. They have little or no effect upon the health or soil.

IV. SPRINGS, WELLS AND MINERAL WATERS.

(a) Springs (where found)

Gardner Springs, which have clear, pure water are about one half mile north of Osyka. A dancing pavilion is by the springs and the grounds are used for picnics.

The Barrymore Springs are in Osyka on the Barrymore place near the site of the old Barrymore Hall or Opera House. There are about six springs at this place and it was at one time very popular for picnics, public speakings and ball games. It was near these springs in 1812 that Jesse Redmond settled.

The Benjamine Springs on the north edge of Osyka, which is built up and bricked in is used for picnics and merry-making.

Just this side of the State line is another group of springs on the old Carter place.

In Chatawa, on the road from St Marys Convent to the depot are the St Charles Springs. This water is very pure bubbling up out of the rocky hill.

There are numerous springs in Chatawa and many having a sulphur taste.

East of Magnolia on the old Vaughn place there is a spring which has been there for many years. It is now used by the colored women in that section for washing clothes.

PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

Ten miles west of Magnolia is a spring called "Muddy Springs". By this spring is a Methodist church bearing the same name.

About one and one half mile southeast of Magnolia on Hillside Farm, is a spring which has been cemented around. At this spring the water is pure and it is there that the people of Magnolia have their picnics and weiner roasts.

—— Interview Dr. B. J. Hewitt.——

On highway 51 one mile south of Johnston Station are the Dixie Springs which at last analysis was 100% pure. Several of the springs have been boxed and tiled with a pike on one. Have been government inspected. Mr. F. C. Carruth owner of these springs sells the water for two cents a gallon. Dr. Hewitt's family and many families in McComb, Summit, Johnston Station and Brookhaven use Dixie Spring water entirely for drinking purposes. It is just about 300 feet on the other side of Highway 51 that the large 120 acre artificial lake is under construction by the Works Progress Administration. Grounds donated by Mr. F. C. Carruth.

At Holmesville, Quins Bridge, Hoover Bridge all over the county are numerous small springs. Inquiry at Health Unit, no analysis had been made of them. Many around Chatawa and Osyka having a strong sulphur taste.

(b) Wells (where found)

1. Ordinary wells.



PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

THE GROUND-WATER RESOURCES OF MISSISSIPPI

LLOYD W. STEPHENSON, WILLIAM N. LOGAN AND GERALD A. WARNING

WITH DISCUSSIONS OF THE CHEMICAL CHARACTER OF THE WATERS

BY C. S. HOWARD

PREPARED IN COOPERATION WITH THE MISSESSIPPI STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE WASHINGTON 1928.

(b) Wells (where found)

1. Ordinary wells.

Pike County is in the Long-leaf Pine Hills district. Two principal geologic formations appear at the surface- the Pascagoula clay (Miocene), which occurs only in small outcrops low on the valley slopes in the northern parts of the county, and the Citronelle formation (Pliocene), which overlies the Pascagoula and determines the principal topographic characteristics of the area.

GROUND-WATER CONDITIONS

Supplies of water for domestic and farm use are derived principally from the Citronelle formation, which immediately underlies practically the whole county and ranges in thickness on the divides from about 150 feet in the north to 300 feet or more in the south. The water is obtained by bored and dug wells, chiefly bored, which range in depth from 20 to 100 feet, and from the numerous small springs which flow from the water-bearing sands and gravels where they crop on the lower slopes of the valleys. Most of the wells are cribbed with wood and are quickly and cheaply constructed, at a cost that ranges from $15 to $40 a well.

The static head of the water in the basal beds of the Citronelle is probably high enough to produce flowing wells low in the valleys of Tangipahoa River, Bogue Chitto, and their principal tributaries in the southern half of the county.

Two so-called blowing wells, are located in Magnolia. One of them J. M. Hutson says:

W. C. Lang, of Magnolia, has an 80-foot well that is called the blowing well. From it a current of air flows constantly with sufficient force to play a French harp, and the well is a weather sign, the current being stronger just before rain or falling weather.

Of the other well J. S. Roberts states:

E. F. Cupit, of Magnolia, has a well that has a strong current of air coming from it.

In certain parts of Mississippi these shallow wells exibit peculier phenomena which are locally described as "blowing", "breathing", or "sucking", and some wells in which air currents are not noticed become muddy, milky or irony at certain times.

These manifestations are in all places correlated with certain weather conditions, and with the exception of the inward breathing or sucking they are generally observed just before storms or rains.

More wells affected by weather conditions in the manner described have been reported in Amite County than in any other county in the State. One rather extreme example in which mud and water were blown from the well has been reported near Carrolton in Carroll County. The phenomenon of blowing wells is not uncommon, for many such wells have been reported in certain parts of the United States.



A few wells have drilled into the Pascagoula clay, which under-lies the Citronelle, and some into the still deeper Hattiesburg clay. These two formations, though composed chiefly of clay, have a total thickness of 800 or 900 feet, and contain interbedded sandy layer, some of which have been demonstrated to be water bearing. The static head of these waters is high enough to cause flows from wells located low in the deeper creek and river valleys. The Hattiesburg clay is underlain by the Catahoula sandstone, of Miocene age, which is 350 or 400 feet thick. In some of the counties to the north the more porous beds of this formation constitute a valuable aquifer. In Pike County the Catahoula is estimated to lie at a depth of 900 to 1,400 feet in the north and somewhat deeper in the south; but, so far as reported, no adequate tests have been made to determine the quanity or character of its contained waters. The static head of these waters would doubtless be high enough to produce flows in the valleys of the larger streams.

Pike County has many ordinary wells McComb, Summit and Magnolia are classed as such. These wells furnish the supply for their respective towns.

About forty years ago the Godbolds wells ane mile and a half east from Summit depot were very popular.

A Dr. Simmons sent the water to be analyzed it was found to be very rich in calcium and was very healthful. A hotel was built and a street car run from McComb to Godbolds wells but it did not prove a success as there was so much dancing, skating and merry making and little quiet for those who came for their health and rest. After this venture failed it was decided to make use of the hotel for a club house. This was called the "Dixie Club". Membership was given to President Theodore Roosevelt and others to popularize it. A large artificial lake being stocked with fish. A German named Grubb kept the club. This did not pay as people only came during the hunting season.

WPA, PIKE COUNTY, INTERVIEWS

This German family lived there for six years until (18) years ago it was bought by the County and is now a part of the Southwest Jr. College.

Johnston Statkon has just 100 foot wells some dug and some bored and reported to be irony.

Chatawa - St Marys Institute is provided with small materials and obtains the water from a spring. The water is reported to be irony. Inquiries at Health Unit in regards to these wells and all water in Pike. Dr. Hainey-

Hydrogen Iron or (P. H. index) of Pike Co. Water.

Ranges between 5.6 & 6.5 showing all Pike County water to be highly acid.

2. Artesian wells

Just back of E. W. Reed home in Magnolia is an artesian well which furnishes the water supply to a beautiful pond on his private property.

At Chatawa is an artesian well on west side of railroad used for drinking purposes. Which I was told at Health Unit to be very pure with a slight acidity of iron.

The artesian well in Osyka is noted for its mineral waters. Analysis of which will be given below.

(c) Mineral waters.

1. Kind, analysis, where found.

The artesian well in Osyka is noted for its mineral water. The analysis analysis shows that this water is especially good for stomach and intestinal trouble. This well is in lower Osyka and was sold to the town of Osyka by Mr. E. G. Thompson whose father came to Osyka about the time Jesse Redmond settled there, his wife being Jesse Redmond's sister. This well furnishes water for the town of Osyka.



Analysis of Osyka well:

Parts Per Million

Analysis No. 119051

By Dr. W. F. Hand State Chemist

| | |
|---|---|
| Silica | 19.43 |
| Iron | .39 |
| Calcium | 3.75 |
| Magnesium | 1.28 |
| Sodium and Potassium | 8.94 |
| Bicarbonate | 13.42 |
| Sulphate Radicle | 11.01 |
| Chlorine | 6.00 |

Analysis of City of Magnolia Water:

PARTS PER MILLION

| | |
|---|---|
| Total Solid Matter in Solution | 30.00 |
| Carbonic Acid | 0.00 |
| Bicarbonic Acid | 17.00 |
| Chlorine | 6.50 |
| Free Ammonia Nitrogen | 0.00 |
| Albuminoid Ammonia Nitrogen | 0.00 |
| Nitrogen in the Form of Nitrates | 0.00 |
| Nitrogen in the Form of Nitrites | 0.00 |

The analysis indicates a water altogether suitable for domestic use if it is properly protected from contamination by surface drainage.

The total amount of dissolved matter in the water is very small. The salts in solution consist mainly of bicarbonates of calcium, magnesium and sodium,

WALTHALL COUNTY, INTERVIEWS

PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

sodium cholride and a trace of calcium sulphate.

From a chemical point of view, the water is altogather satisfactory.

Chemical Analysis of Water of

McComb - City

| | |
|---|---|
| Total solid water in solution | 72.00 |
| Carbonic Acid | 0.00 |
| Bicarbonic Acid | 14.64 |
| Chlorine | 12.00 |
| Free ammonia | 0.00 |
| Albumicid ammonia | 0.00 |
| Nitrogen in form of nitrates | 0.05 |
| Nitrogen in form of nitrates | 0.00 |

THE CHEMICAL CHARACTER OF THE WATERS

BY C. S. HOWARD.

Average, Minimum, and maximum quanities of mineral constituents in waters

from Citronelle formation

(Parts per million)

| | Average | Minimum | Maximum |
|---|---|---|---|
| Silica ($SiO_2$) | 19 | 7.4 | 36 |
| Iron (Fe) | .47 | Trace. | 3.0 |
| Calcium (Ca) | 2.3 | .4 | 4.1 |
| Magnesium (Mg) | 1.2 | .3 | 3.1 |
| Sodium and potassium (Na+K) | 31 | 5.7 | 92 |
| Bicarbonate radicle ($HCO_3$) | 69 | 7.3 | 228 |
| Sulphate radicle ($SO_4$) | 4.9 | .8 | 15 |
| Chloride radicle (Cl) | 9.5 | 4 | 21 |
| Nitrate radicle ($NO_3$) | 2.7 | .0 | 19 |
| Total dissolved solids | 105 | 23 | 270 |
| Total hardness as $CaCO_3$ | 15 | 2 | 20 |

Based on results of analysis of 19 wells in different Counties from Citronelle formation

Pike (No 7) McComb municipal, (NO 9) R.E.McInturf 4½ miles south of McComb and

(No 15) Summit municipal.

Page 60.



PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

Average, minimum, and maximum quanities of mineral constituents in waters

from Pascagoula clay

(Parts per million)

| | Average | Minimum | Maximum |
|---|---|---|---|
| Silica ($SiO_2$) | 33 | 11 | 53 |
| Iron (Fe) | .22 | .00 | 1.1 |
| Calcium (Ca) | 2.4 | .5 | 11 |
| Magnesium (Mg) | .9 | .1 | 2.5 |
| Sodium and potassium (Na+K) | 122 | 10 | 381 |
| Bicarbonate radicle ($HCO_3$) | 242 | 30 | 531 |
| Sulphate radicle ($SO_4$) | 6.7 | .7 | 15 |
| Chloride radicle (Cl) | 55 | 3.7 | 284 |
| Nitrate radicle ($NO_3$) [b] | .25 | .00 | 1.3 |
| Total dissolved solids | 338 | 49 | 979 |
| Total hardness as $CaCO_3$ | 9 | 2 | 36 |

Based on results of 33 analysis of wells in different counties.

Pike well (No 11) Magnolia municipal.

Page 58 (b) Based on 26 determinations.

Average, minimum, and maximum quanities of mineral constituents in waters

from Hattiesburg clay

(Parts per million)

| | Average | Minimum | Maximum |
|---|---|---|---|
| Silica ($SiO_2$) | 29 | 16 | 50 |
| Iron (Fe) | .70 | .07 | 1.5 |
| Calcium (Ca) | 2.5 | .6 | 5.2 |
| Magnesium (Mg) | 1.5 | .4 | 3.2 |
| Sodium and potassium (Na+K) | 43 | 4.6 | 90 |
| Bicarbonate radicle ($HCO_3$) | 107 | 9.8 | 206 |
| Sulphate radicle ($SO_4$) | 12 | 6.5 | 16 |
| Chloride radicle (Cl) | 5.2 | 3.0 | 12 |
| Nitrate radicle ($NO_3$) [b] | .12 | .00 | 1.0 |
| Total dissolved solids | 144 | 29 | 230 |
| Total hardness as $CaCO_3$ | 12 | 4 | 24 |

Based on results of 11 analysis of wells in different counties.

Pike County well (No 14) Osyka municipal.

Page 57. (b) Based on 10 determinations.

WALTHALL COUNTY, INTERVIEWS

PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

## The Logs of Pike County Wells.

MCCOMB.-- The waterworks at McComb is owned by the town and is located 150 yards north of the Illinois Central Railroad station on ground about 10 feet lower than the track at the station. The water supply is obtained from three wells, each about 100 feet deep, one of which is described in the table of well data (No. 7). (See analysis 7.) The log of an abandoned 615-foot well (No. 8) at the waterworks is given below. The source of the water in the 100-foot wells now in use is the sand and gravel layer in the Citronelle formation indicated in the log at a depth of 28 to 93 feet. A previous attempt to get water by drilling to a depth of 1,509 feet was unsuccessful, and several shallow wells have been abandoned, due to the rusting out of the strainers.

Log of well owned by the town of McComb.[a]

| | Thickness | Depth | | Thickness | Depth |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Citronelle formation:- - - - - | Feet | Feet | Pascagoula clay(?)-Continued. | Feet | Feet |
| Sandy clay - - - - - - - - - - | 28 | 28 | Gumbo - - - - - - - - - - - - | 175 | 380 |
| Sand and gravel; water bearing | 65 | 93 | "Soapstone" - - - - - - - - - | 88 | 468 |
| Hard gumbo and dry gravel - - - | 48 | 141 | White packed sand - - - - - - | 4 | 472 |
| Fine sand - - - - - - - - - - - | 5 | 146 | Gumbo - - - - - - - - - - - - | 26 | 498 |
| Pascagoula clay(?) : | | | Hard gray packed sand; water | | |
| Gumbo - - - - - - - - - - - - | 30 | 176 | bearing - - - - - - - - - - - | 102 | 600 |
| Hard gumbo and dry gravel - - - | 29 | 205 | Hattiesburg clay(?);Gumbo - - | 15 | 615 |

a Adapted from columnar section in U. S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 98, pl. colums 8,1916.



PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

The following log shows the character of the beds penetrated in a well owned by R. E. McInturff, 4½ miles southeast of McComb, in the SE. ¼ sec. 34, T. 3 N.,R.8 E.

Log of well of R. E. McInturff, 4½ miles southeast of McComb (No. 9 )

(Authority, the owner)

| | Thickness | Depth |
|---|---|---|
| Citronelle formation: | | |
| Red clay - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - | Feet | Feet |
| Sand with small pebbles - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - | 20 | 20 |
| Ironstone - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - | 26 | 46 |
| Sand with small pebbles - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - | 12 | 48 |
| Yellow sand; water bearing - - - - - - - - - - - - - - | 32 | 80 |
| Black sand; water bearing; well ends on a layer of ironstone | 10 | 90 |
| | 14 | 104 |

At the above R. E. McInturff's well the water is bottled and sold.

Magnolia - The waterworks at Magnolia, the county seat, is owned by the town and water is obtained from a 324-foot well (No. 11) at the pump station; when first drilled in 1911 this well flowed 50 gallons a minute, 5 feet above the surface, but the head has been lowered until the well no longer flows. A log of the waterworks well is given below.

Log of well at the waterworks at Magnolia (No. 11)

(Authority, C. L. Brown, driller)

| | Thickness | Depth |
|---|---|---|
| Citronelle and Pascagoula formations: | | |
| Red sand and gravel - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - | Feet | Feet |
| White pipe clay - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - | 8 | 8 |
| Conglomeration of ironstone and gravel- - - - - - - - - | 19 | 27 |
| Coarse sand and red gravel- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - | 2 .5 | 27.5 |
| Red "chalky" clay - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - | 28.5 | 56 |
| Stiff white pipe clay - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - | 9 | 65 |
| Coarse red sand and gravel; water bearing - - - - - - - | 70 | 135 |
| | 189 | 324 |

WPA-THALL COUNTY, INTERVIEWS

PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

In the 84-foot well of J. S. Roberts (No. 10), a mile south of the post office, the following materials, named in the descending order of their stratigraphic occurrence, are reported to have been penetrated, but their thickness are not stated: Black sandy loam, soft brown or red clay, hard red clay, very hard deep red sand and chalky (clay), very coarse gravel and irony rock, reached at a depth of 65 feet, and coarse gravel and yellow sand, water bearing. These materials belong to the Citronelle formation. The log of J. M. Hutson's well, 1¼ miles southwest of Magnolia, a typical well used for domestic supply, is given below.

The Log of well of J. M. Hutson, 1¼ miles southwest of Magnolia (No. 12)
(Altitude of mouth of well, about 104 feet above water level in Tangipahoa River.
(Authority, the owner)

| | Thickness | Depth |
|---|---|---|
| Citronelle formation: | Feet | Feet |
| Red sand and clay, mixed | 75 | 75 |
| Black clay, sand and gravel | 7 | 82 |
| Red sand; water bearing | 5 | 87 |
| "Soap sand" | 3 | 90 |
| White or gray chalk(clay) | 9 | 99 |
| Gray sand, chalk (clay), and scattered pebbles; water bearing | 5 | 104 |
| Quicksand, micaceous; water bearing | 4 | 108 |



PIKE COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH PROJECT

Log of well at the water works, Osyka (No.14)[a]

| | Thickness | Depth |
|---|---|---|
| | Feet | Feet |
| Citronelle formation: Sand and gravel with some red clay- | 150 | 150 |
| Pascagoula clay: | | |
| Blue "mucky" clay | 200 | 350 |
| Very coarse sand gravel, light fray with reddish tinge; water bearing (?) | 100 | 450 |
| Undifferentiated Hattiesburg clay and Catahoula sandstone: | | |
| Grayish-blue clay | 50 | 500 |
| Light-bray sand; water bearing | 80 | 580 |
| Hard clay(?) | 680 | 1,260 |
| Red sand | 50 | 1,310 |

[a] Adapted from section published in U. S. Geol. Survey Prof. Paper 98, pl.43, column 9, 1916

Fernwood-At Fernwood 450 yards south of Illinois Central Railroad station. Mississippi Power and Light Co. well. Depth 130 feet. Citronelle formation, sand and gravel. 130 feet of 8 inch casing including strainer at bottom, water raised by electricity for boilers and condensers.

Fernwood-At Fernwood the Fernwood Lumber Co. is equipped with a waterworks for boiler supply and fire protection. The water is obtained from Little Tangipahoa River. Three other wells 97,325, and 194 feet deep (Nos. 3,4 and 5), are used for drinking and domestic purposes. The log of one of these wells is given below:

WALTHALL COUNTY INTERVIEWS