



WALTON RELATIONS & HISTORY

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Walton County Heritage Association

April 2018

WPA County Histories

By Sam Carnley

In last month's newsletter we brought you the history of the "Walton County Seat" from the WPA's collection of Walton County Histories available on the Florida Memory website of the State Library and Archives of Florida found at the URL: <https://www.floridamemory.com/items/show/321166>.

Our article this month is a continuation of Walton County history from the website with a focus on a brief sketch of the county's history and several of its churches. Histories of a few county churches are included in the book, "The Heritage of Walton County, Florida," so the focus here is on selected churches not found in the book.

To provide perspective on the rationale behind these county histories, the WPA preceded them with the following discussion:

This collection contains brief county histories and related notes collected or written during the Great Depression by agents of the Works Progress Administration's Historical Records Survey. The manuscripts are in varying stages of completion and often focus on specific details relating to each county's formation, courthouses, boundaries, early settlers and so on. The histories were designed to provide context for the WPA's *Inventory of the County Archives of Florida*, a county-by-county survey of local governmental documents available in courthouses around the state.

Upcoming Reunions

Spence: The 48th Spence Reunion was held Saturday, May 21, 2016, at the DeFuniak Springs Community Center, 361 North 10th Street. For date and place of 2018 reunion call Irmalee Spence Bass at 850-892-6103.

For a complete listing see the Reunions page at the following link:

<http://www.waltoncountyheritage.org/genealogy.htm>

Send Us Your Genealogy and Historical Articles for Publication

If you have genealogical or historical articles you would like to see published in the newsletter, please send them to us. There are many areas and families with Walton County connections who have never been spotlighted in the county's history but played major roles in its development. Those are the people and places we would like to know more about in the furtherance of our mission to find, record, preserve and publicize a more complete and balanced record of the county's past. If you know about any of these people or places, please let us know about them.

Walton County Heritage Museum

Open Tuesday – Saturday, 1:00 – 4:00 PM
1140 Circle Drive, De Funiak Springs, FL 32435
850-951-2127

<http://www.waltoncountyheritage.org/>

(Cont'd page 2)

(Cont'd from page 1)

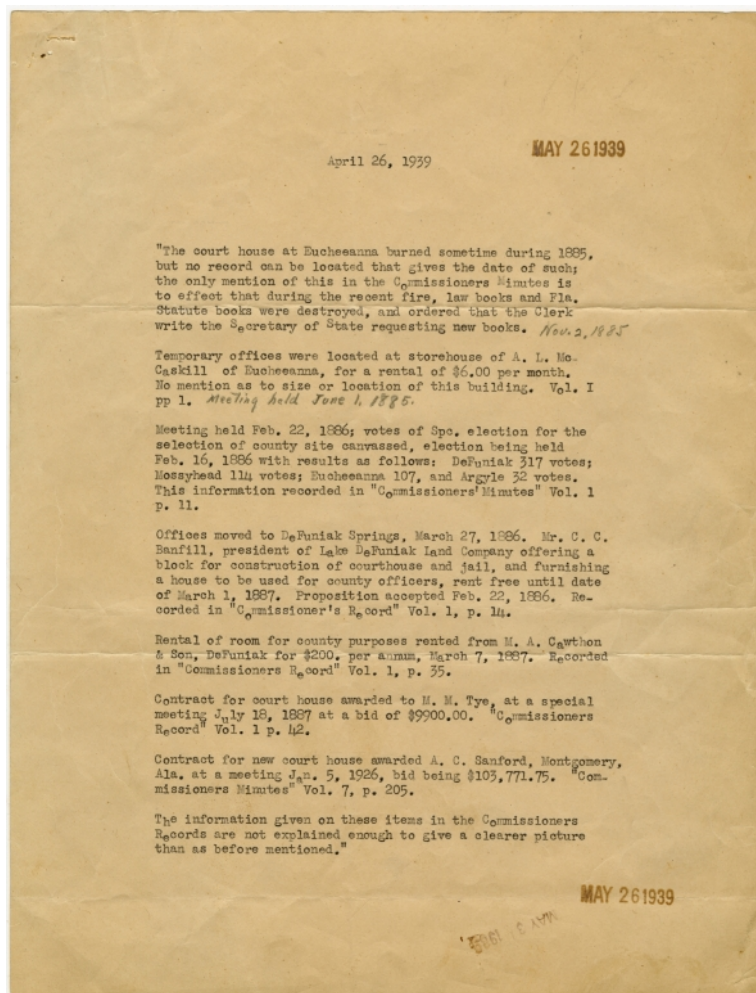
The idea was to create a useful guide to these records while providing employment to historians, lawyers, teachers and other professionals whose jobs had fallen victim to the economic downturn of the 1930s.

Field workers began surveying county courthouses for the project in 1935, noting the various kinds of records available and the scope and extent of each collection. They were also tasked with preparing a short historical introduction for each survey. Each county survey was to be published in its own volume. The first volume was released in February 1938, but only 12 volumes appear to have ever been completed. Both the published volumes of the *Inventory of the County Archives of Florida* and the manuscript histories for those volumes never published are held by the State Library of Florida and included in this collection. The manuscript histories presumably would have been edited and published as other county volumes.

These documents are valuable reference guides for researching the history of particular Florida counties. The manuscripts are in many cases meticulously researched and footnoted and include information obtained from older citizens and records that would be difficult – if not impossible – to reproduce. Furthermore, the field workers emphasized specific dates in their writing, which makes these documents particularly helpful for tracing events in a county's history, such as when a courthouse was constructed or when a major boundary change occurred.

The Florida Memory website provides both original document images and transcripts. Shown below is an example of a document image:

**Document Image,
WPA Court House History, Post 1885**



The transcripts provided are a great convenience in that they eliminate the necessity for readers to go through the sometimes laborious task of making their own. Shown below is the transcript of the foregoing document:

April 26, 1939

"The court house at Eucheeanna burned sometime during 1885, but no record can be located that gives the date of such; the only mention of this in the Commissioners Minutes is to effect that during the recent fire, law books and Fla. Statute books were destroyed, and ordered that the Clerk write the Secretary of State requesting new books. *Nov. 2, 1885*

Temporary offices were located at storehouse of A. L. McCaskill of Eucheeanna, for a rental of \$6.00 per month. No mention as to size or location of this building. Vol. I pp 1. *Meeting held June 1, 1885.*

Meeting held Feb. 22, 1886; votes of Spc. election for the selection of county site canvassed, election being held Feb. 16, 1886 with results as follows: DeFuniak 317 votes; Mossyhead 114 votes; Eucheeanna 107, and Argyle 32 votes. This information recorded in "Commissioners' Minutes" Vol. 1 p. 11.

Offices moved to DeFuniak Springs, March 27, 1886. Mr. C. C. Banfill, president of Lake DeFuniak Land Company offering a block for construction of Lake DeFuniak Land Company offering a block for construction of courthouse and jail, and furnishing a house to be used for county officers, rent free until date of March 1, 1887. Proposition accepted Feb. 22, 1886. Recorded in "Commissioner's Record" Vol. 1, p. 14.

Rental of room for county purposes rented from M. A. Cawthon & Son, DeFuniak for \$200. per annum, March 7, 1887. Recorded in "Commissioners Record" Vol. 1, p. 35.

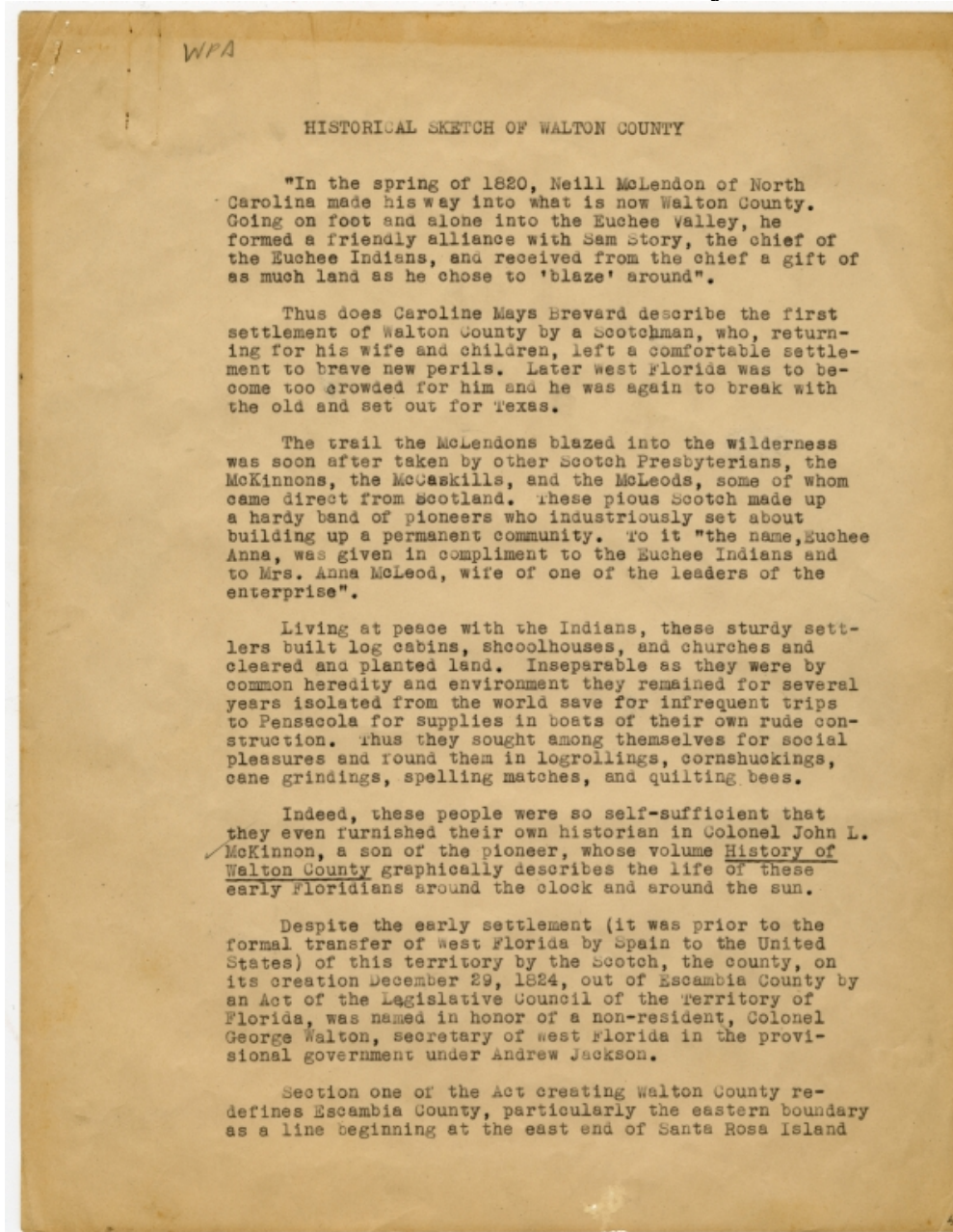
Contract for court house awarded to M. M. Tye, at a special meeting July 18, 1887 at a bid of \$9900.00. "Commissioners Record" Vol. 1 p. 42.

Contract for new court house awarded A. C. Sanford, Montgomery, Ala. at a meeting Jan. 5, 1926, bid being \$103,771.75. "Commissioners Minutes" Vol. 7, p. 205.

The information given on these items in the Commissioners Records are not explained enough to give a clearer picture than as before mentioned." *MAY 26 1939*

In reading the WPA's version of the History of Walton County it becomes readily apparent that much of their information came from John L. McKinnon's original edition of the county history published in 1911. The most recent edition available for sale at the WCHA Museum was published in 1968, subsequent to the WPA work in 1939. The image of the first page of the WPA sketch is shown on the following page.

Document Image
WPA Sketch of Walton County



Presented below is the Florida Memory website transcript of the entire sketch:

Transcript
WPA HISTORICAL SKETCH OF WALTON COUNTY

"In the spring of 1820, Neill McLendon of North Carolina made his way into what is now Walton County. Going on foot and alone into the Euchee Valley, he formed a friendly alliance with Sam Story, the chief of the Euchee Indians, and received from the chief a gift of as much land as he chose to 'blaze' around".

Thus does Caroline Mays Brevard describe the first settlement of Walton County by a Scotchman, who, returning for his wife and children left a comfortable settlement to brave new perils. Later West Florida was to become too crowded for him and he was again to break with the old and set out for Texas.

The trail the McLendons blazed into the wilderness was soon after taken by other Scotch Presbyterians, the McKinnons, the McCaskills, and the McLeods, some of whom came direct from Scotland. These pious Scotch made up a hardy band of pioneers who industriously set about building up a permanent community. To it "the name, Euchee Anna, was given in compliment to the Euchee Indians and to Mrs. Anna McLeod, wife of one of the leaders of the enterprise".

Living at peace with the Indians, these sturdy settlers built log cabins, [schoolhouses], and churches and cleared and planted land. Inseparable as they were by common heredity and environment they remained for several years isolated from the world save for infrequent trips to Pensacola for supplies in boats of their own rude construction. Thus they sought among themselves for social pleasures and round them in logrollings, cornshuckings, cane grindings, spelling matches, and quilting bees.

Indeed, these people were so self-sufficient that they even furnished their own historian in Colonel John L. McKinnon, a son of the pioneer, whose volume *History of Walton County* graphically describes the life of these early Floridians around the clock and around the sun.

Despite the early settlement (it was prior to the formal transfer of West Florida by Spain to the United States) of this territory by the Scotch, the county, on its creation December 29, 1824, out of Escambia County by an Act of the Legislative Council of the Territory of Florida, was named in honor of a non-resident, Colonel George Walton, secretary of West Florida in the provisional government under Andrew Jackson.

Section one of the Act creating Walton County redefines Escambia County, particularly the eastern boundary as a line beginning at the east end of Santa Rosa Island and running due north to the Alabama line. Using this as the western boundary of Walton County, section two of the same Act further defines the boundaries: "That there be, and hereby is established a county to be comprehended within the following boundary lines, beginning on the boundary line at the north east corner of Escambia County, running east along the boundary line of said Territory to a point on the said line, whence a line running south east will strike the south east side of Hickory Hill, thence a direct line to Wood's ferry on Bear Creek, thence down said creek to St. Andrew's Bay, thence through the middle of said bay to the Gulf of Mexico, thence along the shores of the Gulf to the beginning, to be called Walton County".

From 1824 to 1915 the boundaries of Walton County have a history of their own. In 1846 a southeastern portion of the county is used to help form Washington County while two years later a northeastern part is used for a similar purpose in the case of Holmes County. In 1851 and 1853, after the creation of Santa Rosa County, small changes were made in the western boundary of Walton County, one adding to and the other subtracting from its territory. In 1913 when Bay County was created out of Calhoun and Washington Counties Walton County regained part of the territory yielded to Washington County in 1846. Finally, in 1915, Okaloosa County was formed from eastern portions of Santa Rosa and western parts of Walton, leaving the latter defined today by Section 11, Article I, Chapter II of the Revised General Statutes of Florida, 1920: "Walton county shall be comprehended with the following boundaries-- beginning on the Alabama State line where it is intersected by the line dividing centrally range eighteen west; thence south along the section lines to the line dividing townships two and three, north, in range eighteen, west; thence east to the Choctawhatchee river; thence down the main channel of the Choctawhatchee river to a point where said Choctawhatchee river intersects the range line dividing ranges seventeen and eighteen, west; thence south along said range line to the Gulf of Mexico;

thence in a westwardly direction following the meanderings of said Gulf to the range line dividing ranges twenty-one and twenty-two, west; thence north up said line to the dividing line between Florida and Alabama; thence easterly along said State line to the place of beginning".

The first county site of Walton County was at Alaqua, a small settlement some fifteen miles southwest of Defuniak Springs. However, a short time later it was moved to Euchee Anna. Here in 1885 the courthouse burned down and the records of the first government of the county were destroyed. Thereafter a rented building served as a courthouse until February 16, 1886 when by a special county election DeFuniak Springs was selected as a new county site. Here again a rented building was used for a courthouse until August of 1888 when upon the gift of a block of land from a real estate company a courthouse was erected which served until the construction of the present building in 1926.

BIBLIOGRAPHY PRINTED REFERENCES

Brevard, Caroline M., A History of Florida, from the Treaty of 1783 to Our Own Times, two volumes, The Florida State Historical Society, Deland, Florida, 1924.

Cutler, Harry G., History of Florida, three volumes, The Lewis Publishing Company, Chicago, Illinois, 1923.

Rerick, Rowland H., Memoirs of Florida, two volumes, The Southern Historical Association, Atlanta, Georgia, 1902.

OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

Acts of the Legislative Council of the Territory of Florida, 1824.

Acts of the General Assembly of the State of Florida, 1848, 1851, 1853.

Acts of the Legislature of the State of Florida, 1913, 1915.

Revised General Statutes of Florida, 1920.

MANUSCRIPT REFERENCES

Nettles, B. J., Manuscript History of Walton County, Historical Records and State Archives Surveys, Florida Works Progress Administration, Jacksonville, Florida, 1937.

WPA Church Records

The Florida Memory website does not provide transcripts for these documents so it is up to the reader to decipher them, unfortunately in some cases because the hand writing is sometimes illegible. A total of 68 individual Walton County church records compiled by the WPA are available on the website. Many more than that number are listed by name only in "The Heritage of Walton County, Florida" but histories are provided for only 16 of them. A few of those on the website no longer exist, one of which is Gordon Chapel. A brief history of this church appeared in the September 2016 issue of the "Walton Relations" newsletter in an article titled "History of Miller Community Cemetery".

A church whose WPA compiled records is found on the website but is neither listed by name nor has its history included in the "Heritage" book is Childrens Home Assembly of God. Its name when it was

founded according to the WPA was Childrens Home Holiness Church although its denominational affiliation was with the General Council of Assemblies of God. The image of the first page of the WPA documents on the church appears below:

Document Image
WPA Record of Childrens Home Holiness Church, 12-31-1937

12-31-37

W. P. A. Form 20 HR
 (Worker's full name) Mrs. Leona Hensley - c Parish Record

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
 SURVEY OF STATE AND LOCAL HISTORICAL RECORDS: 1936
Florida HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY
 (Name of State)
 CHURCH RECORDS FORM

(Leave this space blank)

1. County Walton City or town Laurel Hill, Rt. 2
 2. Name of church Childrens Home Holiness Church Street address None
 3. Denomination Holiness Date organized 1931
 4. Date of lapse, if now defunct None
 5. Information as to previous buildings. The only meeting house this organization has ever had is a school house built by neighborhood funds for a Union Church building and school house as Union church and school.
 6. Date present building dedicated or consecrated 1930 Rebuilt 1930
 7. Architecture, bells, inscriptions, special features of building a wooden structure; a bell, no steeple; no inscriptions; built for a union church and school house.
 8. First settled clergyman Pastor Rev. J. F. Ellensbury Tenure 1937
 Educational background Pastor Rev. J. M. Steph Tenure 1931
 9. Minute books 1932-37 in home of J. W. Rushee, Rt. 2, Laurel Hill, Fla.
 10. Register books of baptisms, confirmations, marriages, members, deaths 1932-37 in home of J. W. Rushee, Rt. 2, Laurel Hill, Fla. no registers kept of confirmations or marriages.

(See reverse side) 10-1180

JAN 10 1938

The total record for this church consists of ten sheets including the one above. In studying the documents one thing becomes immediately clear - two surveys were conducted of the records of this church. The first was done by Mrs. **Leona Hensley** who recorded her information on a set of forms titled "Works Progress Administration, Survey of State and Local Historical Records: 1936." She hand dated them 12-31-1937 and they were date stamped Jan 10 and Mar 4, 1938. She entered the church name as Childrens Home Holiness Church, with no street address. For "City or Town," she entered Laurel Hill, Route 2. Date organized was 1931 and for "Information as to previous buildings," she entered "The only meeting house this organization has ever had is a School house built by neighborhood funds for a Union Church building and school house as Union church and school."

For "Date present building dedicated or consecrated" she entered 1920 and for "Rebuilt" she entered 1930. On the line for Architecture, bells, inscriptions, special features of building, she wrote "A wooden structure, a bell, no steeple, no inscriptions, built for a union church and school house." She identified Rev. **J. F. Ellenbury [Ellenburg]** as the present pastor with a tenure of 1937. The first settled pastor was Rev. **J. M. Stephens** whose tenure was 1931 and with an educational background of "common school." Dates covered by the records; 1932-1937, and were in the home of **J. W. Busbee**, Rt. 2, Laurel Hill, Fla. Records consisted of a register of baptisms, members, and deaths. No registers for confirmations and marriages. Records of 1931 had been destroyed. The foregoing document, date stamped Jan 10 1938, appears to indicate a number of corrections were needed as evidenced by the red pencil markings.

A second copy of the same form completed by Mrs. Hensley is date stamped Mar 4 1938 and contains slightly different information, indicating she may have prepared it to correct discrepancies on the one of Jan 10.

The second survey was made by **Verbie D. Smith** on documents hand dated 8-1-1939 and the form used is titled "Works Progress Administration, Division of Women's and Professional Projects, The Historical Records Survey: 1937." An image of the form is shown below.

Document Image
WPA Record, Childrens Home Holiness Church, 8-1-1939

Spec #

Verbie D. Smith (Worker's full name) 8-1-39 (Date) (Form identification number)

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
DIVISION OF WOMEN'S AND PROFESSIONAL PROJECTS
THE HISTORICAL RECORDS SURVEY: 1937
1734 NEW YORK AVE. NW.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

VOLUMES AND UNBOUND RECORDS FORM

Items 22(a)-(c)

County Walton State Florida

Name of agency or office Childrens Home Holiness Church
(Office of custody) (Office which made the record, if different)

Address of office of custody 95 mi. S. Road 2 1/2 hrs. S. of Laurel Hill Fla.
(Name of building, room number, street address)

1. Title Redgers: Minutes of Childrens Home Holiness Church
(Give present full title in quotes; assigned title, if any, in brackets; If record has had other titles, list them with dates or quantities or both)

2. Dates 1932-37
(Earliest and latest dates; missing dates. Show exact date of breaks)

3. Quantity 1 vol.
(Number of volumes; file drawers; file boxes; bundles; other)

4. Labeling None
(Explain fully; years; numbers; letters; number of records so labeled)

5. Discontinued and missing records 1931 records were lost
(If record discontinued, give reason and state whether same information shown in another record. Explain why records are missing, if possible)

6. Contents Minutes of Business meetings Church roll, baptisms, deaths and financial records showing amount paid to Church funds and how spent.
(Purpose and general nature of record. Principal items of information shown. Summary of forms used in making record, their headings, etc. If a very general or miscellaneous record, detailed information as to types of records contained and dates covered by each should be given. Unless contents of these records are described by other Form 18-12832, each form should be filled out and attached)

WPA Form 18-12832-Rev 12-41 (See reverse side) 18-9419

Date stamped Aug 7 1939, it asks for information a little different than that on the form Mrs. Hensley used. The church address given as 9 1/2 miles E. Route 2, (no road #) Laurel Hill, Fla., offers slightly more detail than that in the Hensley document. On the "Contents" line, it reads "Minutes of business meetings, church roll, baptisms, deaths and financial records showing amount paid into church funds and have spent." On another sheet it states that records are located in the home of the church clerk, Mr. **J. W. Busbee**, Route 2, Laurel Hill, Fla. Under "Other information" is written "Condition of records good, records prior to 1932 lost. It gives the date the present building was erected as 1933, whereas Mrs. Hensley seemed to misinterpret the present building info she entered as applicable to an earlier structure used as a church and school. Mrs. Smith described the present building as "Rectangular frame building painted white." The present clergyman per these documents is Rev. **E. G. Jackson** of Lockhart, Ala. whose tenure was 1938. Under "Education" is written "Lives out of State."

Church membership race is white and language is English. Denomination is General Council of the Assemblies of God. The national denomination body is General Council, Biennial, Springfield, Mo. "No State" entered for that level of affiliation, but was corrected to show that affiliation although it is illegible. Local affiliation is District West Florida Council, District Marianna, Fla. Date church originated was 1931 and services were previously held in the Childrens Home Community Church and School building [Union church and school per Mrs. Hensley] where the congregation was organized and which they used until the present Church was erected in 1933.

Based on this writer's knowledge of the Childrens Home Community, the Union Church and School house mentioned by Mrs. Hensley as built in 1920 by neighborhood funds seems to be the old Childrens Home School that closed about 1949 or 50. It was where I began the first half of my first school year. Due to my not turning 6 until January 10, 1949, Paxton school would not allow me to start first grade there in the fall of 1948. My mother found out however that I could enter Childrens Home School then so that is where she enrolled me. After I turned 6 in January of the next year, I was allowed to finally enroll in first grade at Paxton and never returned to the old Childrens Home School but I rode by it on the School bus to Paxton for many years until one winter morning when as I rode by I was shocked to see that it had burned down during the night.

The Childrens Home Church built in 1933 was located about a quarter of a mile north of the old school house on the west side of the road which Mrs. Verbie D. Smith identified as having no number (or name, for that matter). The road was paved in late 1960 or early 1970 and is now designated as County Highway 147 west. The property the church was built on was originally owned by Mrs. **Julia Price**, a widow who issued a warranty deed for one acre to Childrens Home Holiness Church Assembly of god, **Frank Jones**, as Trustee; whose permanent post office address was Laurel Hill, Fla. RFD #2. The property description was One square acre in the southeast corner of NW14 of SE1/4 Section 20 Township Five North Range 21 West. The deed was dated 19 May 1933, witnessed by J. W. Busbee and **Pearl Edwards** and signed/sealed by Mrs. **J. F. Price**, grantor. In January 1945 Mrs. Price deeded an additional 2 acres to the church trustees who were **Alfred Adams** and **N. A. Story**.

The church house was indeed, as Mrs. Verbie D. Smith described it, a rectangular (wood) frame building painted white. Its dimensions were approximately 25 or 30 ft. wide by about 40 or 50 long with a gabled tin roof. The longer dimension sat at right angles to the north-south oriented road and the front door faced east toward it. The structure sat a couple of feet above the ground on brick or concrete piers, I don't recall exactly which, with an open crawl space beneath. Tall concrete steps led up to the white painted wooden front door. Oak trees surrounded the church yard, which was of clean white sand with not a blade of grass on it. A string of bare electric lightbulbs stretched across the front of the church yard in the parking area next to the road and I seem to remember there was an outside light over the front door. Inside the front door a narrow aisle passed between rows of pews on

either side and led to the altar at a distance of about three-fourths of the length of the building. The altar, built of unpainted yellow pine tongue and groove lumber was about knee high and twelve or fifteen feet long oriented across the longer dimension of the building. The first half dozen or so pews back from the altar were about 8 or 10 feet long constructed of narrow pine slats. The slats were nailed horizontally across vertical uprights cut out of pine lumber in the shape of a chair to form the seats and backs of the pews. Each pew was supported by probably four or five of the uprights. Seats behind the last pews and the interior back of the church which was its exterior front were simple boards nailed on short wooden vertical posts or heavy boards standing about 18 inches above the floor. One night in the middle of prayer meeting when I was about 5, I fell asleep on one of the benches and rolled off onto the floor without waking up. The next thing I remembered, someone was shaking me and calling my name and on opening my eyes and looking up from flat of my back on the floor, I saw Mama bending over me. Apparently the sound of my hitting the floor disrupted the service, and I thought I recalled a slight jolt on impact which, for lack of a better way to put it, seemed to register semiconsciously, but was not strong enough to wake me.

The floor on which I found myself that night, as well as the walls and ceiling, was of unpainted tongue and groove yellow pine lumber. Between the altar and the front-most pew on the right side of the aisle stood a sometimes black and sometimes rusty cast iron wood burning heater with a pipe running up to a flue in the ceiling. The windows were of the four-pane double hung sash kind framed in pine with paint on the outside and none on the inside. There was probably one of them on either side of the front door and four to six along the building sides. There were none behind the podium which stood on a low stage a few feet beyond the altar. A piano sat with its back against the wall behind the podium. The piano player, when there was one, which was seldom, sat with his or her back to the audience when playing. My mother who was a devout church member was so frustrated with the absence of a reliable piano player that she bought her own piano and took lessons so she could play the one at the church, which she did for many years until she moved to Pensacola.

Mama insisted that her children attend church with her which we did regularly when we were growing up. Daddy died in 1960 when I was seventeen years old and we held his funeral at the church. I don't remember all that went on during the funeral, including who the preacher was, but I remember that my mother was grief stricken and I remember the tan corduroy sports jacket of Daddy's that I wore, as strange as that may seem.

I graduated high school in 1961 and went away to FSU for a couple of years and although I didn't stay long enough to earn my degree from there I never returned to Childrens Home to live. Sometime after I left, the congregation sold the old church building to **Jack Webster**, a dairy farmer in Paxton and he moved it several miles to his property intending to use it for a feed storage building. Unfortunately he passed away before he could accomplish that and the last time I saw the old building it sat abandoned in the weeds on his property with its roof falling in. A fine brick building has taken its place in Childrens Home but it is devoid of all the memories that the sad remains of the old church held for me. In telling its history, I have told a little of mine, but there is much more to come in future articles.

Genealogy of Persons Referenced in WPA Childrens Home Church Records

Leona Hensley

Born Tennessee, Jun 1893, birth name Leona White, parents Julius and Jennie S. White
Married Howard C. Hensley 28 Aug 1916 in Washington, Tennessee
Lived in Limestone, Cherokee, South Carolina as of 1920 U.S. census
Moved to Florida ca 1930-33
Lived in Garden City, (near Laurel Hill) Okaloosa County, Florida

as of 1935 state census.
As of 1935 she was 40 year old housewife with high school education
Husband's occupation was merchant.
Number of children - 6

As of 1940 U.S. census lived in Crestview, Okaloosa Co. Fla.

Occupation was research editor in Historical Records Survey
Husband's occupation was salesman in political field
Husband d. 17 Oct 1945 at age 50, buried Oakland Cemetery, Tallahassee, FL
She died Apr 1957, age 64, Crestview, Okaloosa County, Fla, burial place unknown.

Verbie D. Smith

Born 26 Dec 1893 Verbie L. Dozier, Dozier, Crenshaw, Alabama to Joseph L. and Mary A. Dozier

As of 1910 resided Brooklyn, Conecuh, Alabama

As of 1920 resided Milton, Santa Rosa County, Florida

2 April 1920, married Stephen A. Smith, Santa Rosa County, Fla

As of 1930 resided Crestview, Okaloosa, Florida

As of 1935, resided Crestview, 41 year old housewife, 11th grade education
husband an invalid, unable to work.

As of 1940 resided Crestview, housewife age 46, no indication of employment

As of 1945, resided Allen Town, Santa Rosa, Fla. 51 year old housewife, no employment indicated. Husband 52, no work.

Died 5 Feb 1983, buried Liveoak Park Memorial Cemetery, Crestview.

Rev. J. F. Ellenbury (Ellenburg)

Research on the familysearch.org website disclosed very little info on the surname Ellenbury as spelled in the Historical Records survey documents. It therefore seems more likely that the correct spelling was Ellenburg because research into this name on familysearch.org yielded numerous individuals of this name. The most likely candidate found for the person referenced in the survey documents is Joseph Freeman Ellenburg although nothing was found indicating he was a clergyman. His occupation according to census records was farmer, but it was not uncommon for unordained itinerate lay preachers to make their living in an occupation other than the ministry. Ellenburg may have been such a preacher. Information found on him is presented below.

Born 24 Mar 1895, Alberton, Coffee, Alabama

1900 resided Oldtown, Paul, Coffee, Alabama

24 Jul 1914, m. Martha Coon, in Covington, Alabama

1917-18, WWI Draft Reg. Covington, Alabama

1920, resided Holley, coffee, Alabama, occupation farmer

1930 resided Piney Grove, Geneva, Alabama, occupation farmer

1935 resided Sampson, Geneva, Alabama

1940 resided Floral, Covington, Alabama, occupation farmer

14 Apr 1969, died Enterprise, Coffee, Alabama, buried Meadowlawn Cemetery

Rev. J. M. Stephens

Nothing found on this individual.

J. W. (James Walter) Busbee

Born 29 July 1900, Laurel Hill, Okaloosa, Fl., to James Henry and Alice Busbee.

7 Feb. 1920 married Agatha Lee Jone, Walton County, Fl. She was the daughter of Robert Lee and Laura Parker Jones of Childrens Home Community.

1930 residence, Stella, Walton Florida.

1945, as of Fl. State census year lived in Bay County, Florida, occupation Policeman
1 June 1955, died Lake Wales, Polk, Florida
4 June 1955, buried Lake Wales Cemetery, Lake Wales, Florida

Rev. E. G. Jackson

As with Rev. Ellenbury above nothing was found in familysearch.org indicating this person was a clergyman. He was born in Coffee County, Alabama ca 1902 and died in Florala, Covington County, in 1969 and was buried in Greenwood Memorial Cemetery. He married Ella Presley between 1920 and 1930. From 1930 to 1940 he worked in a sawmill in Florala or more likely Lockhart as a carpenter and saw filer. Possibly, like Rev. Ellenburg, he moonlighted as a lay preacher, but nothing has been found to confirm that.

Mrs. Julia Price

The widow of a deceased large land owner. Place of residence unknown.

Frank Jones

Brother-in-law of J. W. Busbee, and resident of Childrens Home Community.

Pearl Edwards

Wife of Harry Edwards and resident of Childrens Home Community. She was a daughter of Melton Canon and granddaughter of Mach Henry Busbee.

Alfred Adams

Another resident of Childrens Home Community. At one time he lived across the road from the church.

N. A. Story

Nothing is known about this individual.



Walton County Heritage Association

Membership in the Walton County Heritage Association includes
Membership in the Museum and Genealogy Society

2018

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM as we are updating our records

Membership Benefits:

The Museum Research Center:

Members get free copies of documents and use of the Genealogy Society computer when Museum is open to the public.

The Museum Gift Shop:

Members receive 10% discounts on books, special publications, postcards, photographs, CDs, DVD's Videos and Gift items.

Membership is on a calendar year basis. Those paying in November or December will be members during those months as well as the next calendar year..

Walton County Heritage Association annual dues: Single - \$25.00 Family - \$40

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State** _____

Zip: _____ **Phone** _____

Email: _____

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift to the Walton County Heritage Association:

		Individual, Family	
_____ \$ _____	Dues	\$25.00 \$40.00	
_____ \$ _____	Other Cash Donations		Total Enclosed \$ _____

- I would like to volunteer at the Walton County Heritage Museum
- I have genealogy information I would like to share with the Genealogy Society
- I would like to talk with someone about how to get started researching my family tree
- I have artifacts or photographs I wish to donate or loan to the Museum

Please mail your check and this form to
Walton County Heritage Association
1140 Circle Drive
De Funiak Springs, FL 32435
 Thank You!
 All membership dues are tax deductible.

The Walton County Heritage Association, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization as defined by the Internal Revenue Code. Gifts may be tax deductible as defined by the Federal Income Tax Regulations. To request a receipt for your tax deductible membership in the WCHA please contact us.