PINTLALA



HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

C/O PINTLALA PUBLIC LIBRARY 255 FEDERAL ROAD HOPE HULL, AL 36043

VOLUMN XI NUMBER I

JANUARY, 1997

MEETING January 19,1997	2:30 Pintlala Baptist Church
President	y McLaney288-1057
Vice-presidentJac	k Hornady265-5752
Secretary	.Mildred Shirley285-5450
Treasurer	.Thomas Ray
Parliamentarian	.J. P. Henry288-4347
Program Chairperson	.Alice T. Carter281-3708
Members-at-Large: Place 1.	.Gary Burton288-7414
Place 2.	.Carolyn Elgin288-5816
Place 3.	.Moses Sellers288-4626
Place 4.	.Dorothy Samuel262-2019
Editors	.Ethel Tankersley Todd288-3225
	Lurline Hall .281-3399

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

How many of those New Year's Resolutions have you broken by now? They are great to talk about but very hard to accomplish, maybe just the intent to do them should be just as gratifying. I hope everyone had a great Christmas season!

My oldest daughter (Tyler) had quite the eventful December. She turned 18 on the 13th of the month, got an engagement ring the same day (wedding not until April 1998) from a nice young man we think the world of, got baptized on the 16th along with her fiancee, took the ACT Test on the weekend in between all of these activities. We are extremely proud of Tyler, as well as her sisters Susanna and Kate. I know each of you feel blessed with your families just like we do. I see resemblances of ancestors in all of my kids from the wit and good naturedness of Kate (Uncle Boots) to the brains in our family which is Susanna (Grandmothers McLaney and Norman).

It sure was great to have our last brief meeting in the new meeting room at the Pintlala Library. I am sure this facility will host a lot of meetings over the coming years. It must have created the same type of excitement in "The Ole Grange Hall Days." I hope all of you have a great 1997!



Montgomery Genealogical Society
P. O. Box 230194
Montgomery, AL 36123-0194

Membership includes	* Monthly meetings v * Free queries in the * Surname Research (Annual List printed * Research assistance available probate re up to two hours)	S Quarterly (per calendar/memer), each issue 30 + pages, fur with programs of genealogical MGS Quarterly (Non-members Exchange with MGS members in Fall Quarterly) aby our staff, through State Accords) - \$25 for initial search additional cost for copies & Quarterly, \$5.00 per issue (se	Illy indexed interest s - \$5.00) s archives (including & report (incl. further research
Montgo	mery Genealogical Soc	iety MEMBERSHIP APPLICAT	ION
NAME		DATE MAILED	
ADDRESS			
		PHONE	
Computer users: e-mai	il address		
SURNAMES YOU ARE	RESEARCHING (Include	Family for CALENDAR	o 30 names total)
address and phone nu or other outline of know we cannot guarantee a question or problem. EXPLAIN CLEARLY, A	mber. Include with yo vn facts; and a list of so finding the records you Remember, we can ND TYPE OR PRINT Y	e question on a separate sheet ur request a family group shee ources already consulted or res want, we will search as far a only work with what YOU g OUR REQUEST!	et, pedigree chart earched. Though s possible on any ive us - PLEASE
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLO	DSED	(Membership \$ Rese	arch \$



MGSQ Back Issues \$ _____ Other \$ ____

PHA JANUARY PROGRAM

PHA meets on Sunday, January 19 at 2:30 P.M. at Pintlala Baptist Church. Our program is Family Heirloom Day! This program depends on YOU!! Those attending are asked to bring a family heirloom to share. Don't panic if you don't possess papers from the Mayflower voyage! Bring any object that is meaningful to your family and tell the group why it is important to you. Some suggestions that might help you think of something to bring are: photographs, quilts, Bibles, books, letters, clothing, silver objects, newspapers, landgrants, jewelry, small pieces of furniture, and guns (unloaded of course!). Use your imagination. Any object that has been passed along in your family will be wonderful. I think back to the portraits that Ricky McLaney brought for the Mount Carmel Cemetery tour and how real they made history for us that day.

If you have more than one object that you would like to share-bring it along as there may be time to share--if not we will do this again in the future if you like it. Don't let me down! See you and your heirlooms on the 19th.

PHA OCTOBER MEETING

Our last PHA meeting in October was enjoyed by all and the weather was beautiful. We began with a tour of the Pintlala Library for those who had not experienced this wonderful resource. We traveled on to Carolyn and Phil Snow's house where they shared the history of their home and stories of the restoration process. Clydetta and Constance Fulmer were charming and gracious hostesses at Clydetta's studio where we heard of the rebuilding after it was destroyed by fire. Two fawns on the back lawn added to the tranquil setting. Our last stop was to the Dr. Sankey home where renovation was going to begin. We all wished the present owners much good luck with their formidable undertaking!

Thanks to all who helped make the tour a success--from hosts to Pintlala Baptist for the van and chauffeur and Clydetta for videoing.

PHA MEMBERSHIP DUES

PHA membership dues have increased from \$8.00 to \$10.00 and are now due for 1997. Please mail checks to Thomas Ray, Route 1, Box 441, Hope Hull. AL 36043.

MONTGOMERY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

For those of you who might be interested, we are including a membership application from the Montgomery Genealogical Society. They publish a great quarterly journal.



GARY P. BURTON HONORED

On January 12, 1997 Pintlala Baptist Church honored Gary Burton with a reception recognizing his twenty-five years as Pastor.

PHA honors Gary for being a mover and shaker in getting us started, for serving as president for two years, for being on the board in varying capacities, and for assuring us of a great place to meet or driving a van on field trips. He even 'care takes' old cemeteries. Thanks, Gary. Just don't rest on your laurels!

ADDITIONS TO PINTLALA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION LIBRARY

Mrs. Dora M. Singleton, 578 North Hill Road, Tyler, Texas 75706 has sent us a book that she compiled, <u>The Panola Cemetery</u>.

Randy Randol has donated a lovely picture -- a copy of one of Mary Randol's paintings.

Frank H. Hawthorne, Sr. has given a book, <u>Yesterday's Faces of Alabama: A Collection of Maps, 1822-19</u>09. The book was compiled by John H. Napier III in 1978 and recently published by the Society of Pioneers of Montgomery.

Doris Thomas of Luverne has given a copy of the Crenshaw County <a href="https://linear.ncb.nlm.ncb.nl

Mary Lillian Rosier, PHA member, has written a history of Pintlala Baptist Church, <u>Grace and Glory</u>. It covers from 1960 to present and is a most interesting history, not only of the Baptist Church but of this area of Montgomery County. A copy is in our library.

A picture of Andrew Jackson, who certainly influenced the settlement of this area of Alabama, has been donated by Will Hill Tankersley.

We appreciate these nice additions to our growing files.

IN MEMORIAM:

Phillip Kraus, charter member PHA, died October 17, 1996. Etta (Mrs. Fred) Turnipseed died October 22, 1996. Our sympathy goes to their families.

MCGEHEE CEMETERY - ONGOING

The Abner McGehee Burying Ground is now on the Alabama Register of Landmarks and Heritage. Thanks to Rene Barnett and Miriam Williams, we now have a final corrected listing of those buried in this historic spot.





This is to certify that

Abner McGehee Burying Ground

has been deemed a significant landmark by the

ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION

and added to the

ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS AND HERITAGE

on

November_13, 1996

Governor of Aldrama

Executive Director Alabama Historical Commission







PHA

Copy from Archives and History given to PHA by Lula Davidson

McGEHEE PLANTATION BURIAL GROUND Montgomery County

Located on the Old Abner McGehee plantation on the L&N Railroad about a mile west of the home now occupied by J.A. Campbell. It is in beautiful condition with blooming flowers and graves kept in order. There are between 30 and 40 graves unmarked with mound or small unlettered stones at head and foot. (Note: Cemetery now (9/94) in terrible shape)

Information obtained by Miriam Brewer and Frank Richardson Mar. 9, 1936.

NAME	BORN	DIED	REMARKS
BIBB			
Charlotte Car	oline Mar. 5, 1814	Jan. 10, 1937	Born in Georgia, wife of George Bibb, daughter of Abner & Charlotte Mildred McGehee
Mary Charlott	e Mar. 17, 1834	Apr. 10, 1835	Daughter of George B. & Mary Charlotte Bibb
Twin boys`	Dec. 24, 1832		Sons of George B. Bibb & Mary Charlotte Bibb
BRIGGS			
E. E. (Doct)	Nov. 4, 1814	Nov. 15, 1850	
CRENSHAW			
E. W.	1879	1931	
J. M.	Jan. 1834	Aug. 12, 1909	aged 75 yrs
Virginia	1846	1872	
FERGUSON			
Mary L.	Dec. 5, 1847	Feb. 16, 1907	
FOWLER			
Bessie	Feb. 7, 1850	July 4, 1925	
Elizabeth W.	Jan. 29, 1846	Aug. 27, 1926	
Thomas	1879	1916	
Thomas A.	Nov. 8, 1846	Dec. 10, 1921	
GARDNER			
Flora E.	1880	1935	



.tAME	BORN	DIED	REMARKS
GILCHRIST			
E. J. (Mrs)	May 20, 1828	Feb. 2, 1891	
James G.	Oct. 21, 1814	May 18, 1900	
James N.	Nov. 15, 1860	June 12, 1891	
Sallie H.	May 27, 1873	Sept. 18, 1896	
Susan L.			Aged 3 months, daughter of James & Elizabeth Gilchrist
W. (?) T.	May 5, 1864	Jan. 22, 1881	
GRAVES			r.
Sallie M.	Aug. 21, 1830	May 11, 1854	Wife of P.S. Graves, married Dec. 1, 1852
HODGES			
Bessie	1858	1928	
JARRATT			
Martha Ann	Oct. 10, 1831	Aug. 25, 1832	aged 8 mos & 5 days
Thomas Key	June 27, 1801	Mar. 1, 1850	
Harriet Louis	a Nov. 30, 1805	June 20, 1862	Wife of Thomas Key
McGEHEE			
Abner		Feb. 19, 1855	Aged 76 years and 1 day
Abner	1882	1910	
Abner F.	Jan. 9, 1818	Apr. 8, 1849	Married Elizabeth A. Smith Sept. 18, 1839 aged 31 years, 2 months & 29 days
Abner F.		June 7, 1850	Aged 5 months
Elizabeth A. *	May 29, 1823	Jan. 16, 1850	Wife of Abner F. McGehee aged 20 years, 7 months & 12 days
Ellen O.	Nov. 9, 1829	Sept. 6, 1834	Daughter of Abram and Mary McGehee
4 infant chil	dren		Abner F. and Elizabeth A. McGehee - Erected 1850
Harriet Ann J	a n e		Aged 11 months, daughter of Edward and Harriet Ann R. McGehee



*Facts and dates do not agree

NAME	BORN	DIED	REMARKS
McGEHEE cont.			
Harriet Ann R	lichards	Oct. 20, 1827	Aged 27 years, wife of Edward McGehee of the State of Mississippi
James	June 23, 1820	July 24, 1874	
Jane M.	June 4, 1792	Sept. 2, 1839	
John J.	March 13, 1848	Nov. 18, 1875	
Lamar	1910	1912	
John H.	1883	1936	
Lucinda S.E.	Oct. 22, 1833	Mar. 23, 1835	Daughter of Abram and Mary McGehee
Nettie M.	1882	1922	
Rache1	Oct. 22, 1823	Nov. 9, 1899	
Samuel	1858	1910	
Sam L		Sept. 16, 1847	Aged 4 years and 5 months
Sara Frances	Jan. 12, 1886	Sept. 28, 1932	
Thomas N.	Feb. 13, 1833	July 25, 1853	
William P.	Jan. 4, 1853	Aug. 30, 1919	
William S.	May 18, 1812	Aug. 27, 1829	
MURPHY			
Bessie Fowler	Aug. 22, 1881	Nov. 14, 1909	Wife of James K. Murphy
	Aug. 3, 1905	Aug. 7, 1906	-
William Dunca	n Feb. 7, 1907	June 3, 1908	
NOLLEY			
Lacy L	Dec. 18, 1877	Feb. 21, 1932	
Rufus Lafayet (Daddy)		1937	
OLIVER			
Mary C.S.	Feb. 15, 1829	Oct. 15, 1829	Daughter of S.C.& M.S. Oliv
TAYLOR	~		-
	Feb. 22, 1846	July 24, 1848	Son of William & Ann Taylor
Ann Scott	Mar. 6, 1807	June 1, 1866	Wife of William Taylor



NAME	BORN	DIED	REMARKS
TAYLOR cont.			
Ann Scott	Oct. 25, 1844	Aug. 17, 1845	Daughter of William & Ann Taylor
George Benjam	nin		
-	Feb. 16, 1837	Mar. 2, 1837	Son of William & Ann Taylor
Richard Patrick			
	May 11, 1839	Aug. 28, 1841	Son of William & Ann Taylor
Susan A.L. (S	SCHOOL 1983 1		
	Feb. 14, 1841	July 10, 1856	
William	Aug. 11, 1798	May 21, 1882	
THOMPSON			
Allen	1860	1933	
Charles	1852	1935	
WILKERSON			
Milton	Aug. 2, 1854	Oct. 11, 1912	

Information obtained October 28, 1996 by Lorraine Barnett and Miriam Williams



Unmarked Markers/Stones

Main Part

1 plain unmarked marker besdie ALLEN THOMPSON

1 - 2-piece (head and foot) unmarked marker (made of small pieces of marble imbedded in cement) beside and off-center of E.W. CRENSHAW

Second row - 2 bases of monument with top of stone gone Second row - 3 small unmarked stones

6 plain unmarked markers
1 flat long marble marker

1 small E.E.M. initialed marker beside MURPHY marker Also 4 cement stones with undecipherable initials

1 small marker with initials W.D.M.

Approximately 30 paces to the right of the main part of cemetery are 4 unmarked small markers/stones and 1 smaller stone marker (slave section?)

38 small imbedded stones/brick which lined an edging approximately 36 feet by 16 feet ("L" shaped)... a pathway? or the marking off of a plot?



Located in the southern part (facing the road) of the fenced-in cemetery lot are the following graves with markers of stone or marble. (This section is in need of repair.)

2 overly large flat slabs:

GARNER

George H.

Aug. 8, 1893

Sept. 2, 1936

HARRISON

Frances (Garner)

July 17, 1935

Clifford

Dec. 29, 1882

Sept. 10, 1900

Son of S. and F. Harrison

James J.

Jan. 25, 1871

Mar. 20, 1920

In loving remembrance of Jesse Barginner by his wife May Barginner

W. T.

Feb. 22, 1867

May 27, 1921

J. Washington Chamber 2.4.93 E. Birmingham, Ala.

(This stone has a large star-like undecipherable symbol at top)

MILLS

Fannie

Jan. 9, 1861

Can't read-stone

broken at date

Also broken and undecipherable marker a few paces away

ALLEN

J. E.

Jul, 1899

Undecipherable



COFFEE BREAKS AT PINTLALA BRANCH LIBRARY

Please join your friends for coffee and chat in the meeting room of the Library each Thursday --9:30 A.M. 'til ---.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

The following information request comes to us from Annie Crenshaw Barnes, 306 Government Street, Wetumpka, AL 36092 via Ricky McLaney.

Dear Ricky.

You're probably already in touch with this cousin, but a CAPT. JOHN RUFF in California has written several times about his ancestors - one of whom is: BETTY LOUISE BARNES m. J. T. POOLE. If you don't know his family, Capt. Ruff is at 6532 Cibola Rd., San Diego, CA 92121. He thought Betty was the dau. of HENRY BARNES (my husband Lee's ancestor) but Henry's bible record shows his dau. ELIZABETH (1807-1844) m. James MOSELY and had several children.

Did we ever compare our POOLE ancestors? Mine were from Edgefield Co., SC (wasn't nearly everybody?) JOHN POOL (1758-1839) m. MAHULDA HOLLOWAY. They settled at Sumter Co. Ala. None of their children (that I know) ended up in Montgomery County, though. Oh well! Regards, Annie

HELP! DAVID BIBB GRAVES

At our October meeting someone handed to me on a yellow Lomotil notepad information on Bibb Graves. Please call E. Todd at 288-3225 and claim credit. Thank you.

ENTRIES CONCERNING BIBB AND DIXIE BIBB GRAVES

Following are the original entries from abstract owned by J.P. and Jean Henry concerning property on which Bibb-Graves cemetery is located.

ORIGINAL ENTRIES

FROM THE TRACT BOOK IN THE OFFICE OF THE JUDGE OF PROBATE
OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, ALABAMA

United States to Thos. K. Jarratt. Certificate of Entry dated Aug. 3, 1830 for the E/2 of SW/4 Section 8, T. 15, R. 17, containing 80 acres.

United States to Marshall Martin. Certificate of Entry dated Apr. 10, 1827 for W/2 of SW/4 Sec. 8, T. 15, R. 17, containing 80 acres.

United States to Thos. K. Jarratt. Certificate of Entry dated Oct. 13, 1828 for W/2 of NW/4 Sec. 17, T. 15, R. 17, containing 80 acres.



Bibb and Dixie Bibb Graves cont.

United States to Heirs of Stephen Heard. Certificate of Entry dated Feb. 12, 1828 for the E/2 and E/2 of NW/4 and SW/4 Sec. 17, T. 15, R. 17, containing 560 acres.

United States to Thos. K. Jarratt. Certificate of Entry dated Oct. 13, 1828 for NE/4 Sec. 18, T. 15, R. 17, containing 161 acres.

United States to Heirs of Stephen Heard. Certificate of Entry dated Feb. 12, 1828 for S/2 Sec. 18, T. 15, R. 17, containing 322 acres.

Henry L. Whipple Admr. of the	Kind of Conveyance Administrator's Deed.
Estate of J. L. & T. Jarratt	Date of Conveyance October 4, 1869. Date of Acknowledgment October 8, 1869.
Grantor To	Before Whom David Campbell, N. P. &Ex off Date of Filing for Record October 14, 1869. Recorded in Book 1 Page 331
Grantee	Consideration \$12541.92 1/2 cash & bal. by no dated Oct.4, 1869 and due Jan.1, 1871 with int. from date and has secured same by a mathematical upon the land. (L. A. Shaver - Jno. B. Fuller. Stemps \$12.00

Description of Property Conveyed

SE/4 of the NE/4 of Sec. 5, containing 41.92 acres, the W/2 of the SE/4 Sec. 5 containing 83.84 acres; E/2 of the SW/4 Sec. 8, containing 80 acres; the E/2 of Sec. 18, containing 322 acres; E/2 of NW/4 Sec. 17, containing 80 acres; E/2 of SW/4 Sec. 17, containing 80 acres and the N. end of the W/2 of NW/4 Sec. 17, containing 50 acres, all in Tp. 15, R. 17 and containing in all 737.76 acres.

Recites:

Whereas by a decretal order given by N.W. Cocke, Chancellor in vacation on June 18, 1868 in the Cause of James S. Jarratt Administrator Vs. Abner A. Jarratt et al in the Chancery Court of said County, I, Henry L. Whipple as authorized and empowered to make sale upon such terms and at such time as I might deem advisable of the lands described in the Bill of Complaint filed in said Cause and whereas pursuant to said decretal order, I did on October 4, 1869, at the Artesian Basin in Montgomery offer said lands for sale at public auction and at said sale R. J. Bibb became the highest bidder for \$12541.92.

Now, therefore, "etc. (Document ends)



AGRICULTURAL SCHEDULE - U.S. CENSUS RECORDS

Mamie Sellers copied the following information on James A. Sellers and James W. Bonham from the 1850 U.S. Census Records.

For those who had ancestors living in our area in 1850 and 1860 there is very interesting information available in the U.S. Census Records Agricultural Schedules. These schedules are available at the Alabama Archives on microfilm located with the US Census Records of the same period. The schedules are not indexed but are listed by beat and the number of farmers in each beat is not so great that a search is difficult.

Some examples of information contained in these records for two persons in Butler's Mill Beat, Montgomery County 1850 Agricultural Schedule:

James A. Sellers

90 acres improved 70 acres unimproved \$560 value of land \$50 value of farm implements 4 horses 2 mules 7 milch cows 4 other cattle 60 sheep \$150 value of livestock 500 bushels Indian corn 25 bushels oats 10 bales ginned cotton-400# each 5 bushels peas and beans 100 bushels sweet potatoes 100# butter \$100 value of goods manufactured for use \$80 value of animals slaughtered.

James W. Bonham

O acreage
\$25 value of farm implements
2 horses
4 milch cows
3 other cattle
30 sheep
\$300 value of livestock
250 bushels Indian corn
20 bushels oats
3 bales ginned cotton-400# each
25 bushels sweet potatoes
20# butter
\$50 value of goods manufactured
for use
\$20 value of animals slaughtered.

These men were cousins and neighbors living south and west of the present day Fleta intersection of Pettus Road and Union Academy Road. James Sellers mother, Lavinia Anderson (Mrs. William Calvin) Sellers was a younger sister of James Bonham's grandmother, Elvy Anderson Shepherd. Elvy's daughter, Charity, and Nathaniel Bonham were James Bonham's parents. James Bonham was farming land belonging to his uncle, Robert A. Shepherd who had moved to Texas. James B. purchased the land from Robert in 1852.

A genealogy puzzle: James Sellers' wife was Harriet Trotter. Her sister, Mariah, became the 2nd wife of William Calvin Sellers and the mother of Thomas Jefferson Sellers. Thomas J. Sellers married James Bonham's daughter, Martha Letitia. Anyone wish to try to determine the degree of kinship between the numerous present day descendants of James Sellers and James Bonham?



Sellers/Bonham cont.

Additional details of the farms can be found in the US Census Slave Schedules and in the Montgomery County Tax REcords for the period which are also on microfilm. The Montgomery Tax records are in two parts - real property and personal property. Some excerpts from the real property tax records have been previously published by PHA. The personal property tax records include the poll tax and taxes for such things as slaves, cattle (over 5), clocks, buggies or other vehicles not used for farm work, jewelry etc.

THOMAS BUTLER, PIONEER SETTLER IN SOUTHWEST MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Thomas Ray gives the following information on Thomas Butler, a pioneer settler in southwest Montgomery County. Efforts are being made by PHA to 'rescue' parts of the old mill that he had and to place them in an appropriate historic location.

Thomas Butler was born in Edgefield, South Carolina, ca. 1785. His first marriage was to Alethia Robey Barnes in South Carolina. Alethia Robey Barnes, who was born in 1791, was a sister of Elkanah Barnes, whose children included Justus M. Barnes, founder of the Barnes School and co-founder of the Strata Academy and Highland Home College.

Elkanah Barnes came to Montgomery County in 1818, the year before Alabama became a state. Presumably, Thomas Butler settled in Montgomery County about the same time since he and Elkanah Barnes were joint owners of a large mercantile business for a number of years. Mr. Butler also operated a grist mill on Pintlala Creek near the Butler Mill Road. This road was named for Thomas Butler and his mill. Some of the mill-stones and timbers from this old grist mill have been located in Pintlala Creek in recent years. The land around Butler's Mill served as drill grounds for a company of militia of which Elkanah Barnes was a member. This company was selected to escort the Marquis de Lafayette on his visit to Montgomery in April 1825.

Thomas and Alethia Robey Barnes Butler had six children: James, John, Thomas M., Frances Ann, Winifred and Mary Ann.

Alethia Robey Barnes Butler died in 1843. On October 15, 1845, Thomas Butler married Letitia Bussey Boyd, widow of Walter Boyd. Letitia and Walter Boyd were also natives of Edgefield, South Carolina, and settled in Montgomery County near Ada in 1822. Letitia and Walter Boyd had 16 children, including five who died in infancy or early childhood. Walter Boyd was one of the charter members of the Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church. He was born December 3, 1796 and died January 29, 1844. Letitia B. Butler was born May 8, 1800 and died April 20, 1864.

Thomas Butler died in 1855. He was buried at a site near the intersection of the Butler Mill and Union Academy Roads. The grave was reportedly marked with a portion of one of the mill-stones from his grist mill, but that stone was removed and the exact location of the grave is unknown.



BRIEF HISTORY OF PROVIDENCE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

On October 20, 1996 Providence Presbyterian Church at LeGrand had its Centennial Celebration. Thanks to Catherine Sellers, we include a brief history of this landmark.

In 1828, a group of pioneers of Irish descent, came together to worship God under a church government administered by Elders under the rule of Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church. The first and only Presbyterian Church in rural Montgomery County was thus formed. A log structure was built which served as the church's meeting place for over 20 years. In time, this structure deteriorated and a second meeting place was erected between LeGrande and Robertson's Cross Roads. In 1854, a few years before the beginning of the War Between the States, a new building of sawed lumber with plastered walls and ceilings was erected. After having stood as a beacon of Light in the community for over 40 years, this second church building was in need of extensive repairs. The decision was made to relocate to the present location of the now U.S. Highway 331 and Old Hayneville Road. The old building was torn down, moved and rebuilt with several changes. Instead of plastered walls and ceilings, wood boards were used and wainscoting added to enhance the decor. On July 19, 1896, the present church building was dedicated to the service of the Lord. In 1939, major improvements were made to the building when electric power was brought to the rural area and Providence had electric lights for the first time. The 1960's brought the installation of new windows and wooden blinds, the replacement of the original benches with the existing pews, and the addition of central heating and air conditioning. In 1982, the original pine wood, tongue and groove, floors were refinished for a second time. The education annex was completed in 1952 and the fellowship hall was built in 1991/92.

There have been many called ministers, supply preachers, and laymen, as well as dedicated church officers, teachers, musicians, carpenters, plumbers, electricians, individuals and families who have been bulwarks of strength to this church. It is impossible to write into this brief history the many deeds of kindness, hard work, and generosity of countless others who have given so unselfishly of their time, talents, and money for the work of the Lord through this church.

The members of Providence Presbyterian Church prayerfully and carefully uphold the teaching of God's Word, care for one another, members, non-members and strangers alike, give help where needed, and show loving concern for all whose lives are touched in any way by this congregation. In a similar manner, we continue to maintain and beadify the church building as a fitting house of worship to His honor, glory, and majesty. For in this church, God continues to reign, and praise and honor are given to our dear Savior, Jesus Christ, and King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, until He comes again. We pray that Providence Church will continue to be a lighthouse to all who seek to know the Lord, and that this congregation will provide abundant love, nurturing, strength, and abiding fellowship to every person who....(Brief History ends)



A DEFINITION OF ANCESTORS

The following definition of Ancestors was made by Pierson W. Manning, Secretary of the Sons of the Revolution.

"Ancestors are found along with old furniture and captive skeletons in all our best regulated families. Ancestors consist of forefathers and foremothers, to say nothing of foreuncles and foreaunts, who have done something grand and noble, like being beheaded by a king or having a relative who was governor of a colony. This enables them to be pointed out with pride by their descendants forevermore.

Being an ancestor is one of the easiest and most attractive of jobs. It merely consists of being boasted about by one's descendants. Thus many ancestors have been enabled to make good after they are dead. More than one ancestor who has gone out of this life a poor person, only a few jumps ahead of the sheriff, has had the good fortune, a century later, to become the ancestor of some ambitious family with plenty of money, and has become so famous in consequence that his tombstone has had to be greatly enlarged and improved.

Ancestors are one of the most valuable and satisfactory of possessions. They are non-taxable and cannot be stolen. The upkeep is practically nothing and they do not deteriorate with age and neglect. In fact, they increase in value as they grow older. An ancestor 600 years old is worth a whole mass meeting of 56 year old ancestors. Adam is the oldest ancestor. He is 6,000 years old and has a fine record. But he is a common possession, like education and liberty, so he is not valued very highly.

Almost all rich people own and operate ancestors. But the poorest men have them too. Many a man who hasn't two vests to his name and cannot hold a job two minutes, has ancestors who are the envy of his automobile neighbors. We cannot buy ancestors if we do not have them, but we can buy them for our children by marrying discreetly.....We should be proud of our ancestors...but not out loud."

