

Next CCHGA Meeting March 24, 2005

7:00 p.m. at the Cheatham County Public Library

2005 CCHGA Officers

President R.D. Huffines
VP Cleo Hogan
Treasurer Betty Cannon
Secretary Judy Mayo

PALS BOOK

PALS has started collecting material for the "PALS Book" and they want input of everyone connected with their chapter and area of the county. Contact Judy Mayo at judimay@att.net or call (615) 352-4408.

PALS Meeting

PALS will meet Tuesday March 15, 2005 at the CCHGA office in Ashland City at 7:00 p.m.

Kingston Springs Meeting

On March 19, 2005 the Kingston Springs Chapter of CCHGA plans to digitize articles and photos from 10:00-12:00 a.m. Contact Roy Miles at 615-952-9552 or roymiles@TheMilesCo.com for additional information.

Cemetery Clean Up

The Shaw Cemetery at Thomasville is scheduled for a major work party (bring chain saws & pruners) on Saturday, March 12 at 9 a.m.; meet at Mac's Dairy on Hwy 12 North at Henrietta at 8:30 a.m., bring tools & gloves! Reschedule if rain or snow. Call Cleo Hogan at 931-206-2571.

Mound Bottom: A Poem by Kitty Mayo

They came like morning mists
slowly creeping over the centuries
inundating the valley, those Mississippian people
whose labors are still visible by the Great Sun

While their children played beside the river
they planted their seeds of corn and knowledge,
hoping to leave to succeeding generations
a legacy of prosperity and peace.

A testament to their society
the temple mound stands tall and proud,
overlooking the remnants of a civilization
that flourished- only to vanish with the evening breeze.

From farmsteads and hamlets the people came
to pay tribute to their rulers and their gods
They celebrated the autumn harvest
and became united in their traditions.

They left behind their timeless treasures;
fine pottery and effigies of clay;
shell beads that spoke of long-distance travelers
The Sun and Moon were a reflection of their spirituality
while the mace on the bluff- was it a portent
of bloodshed and destruction?

Pile upon pile of solid earth
served as a monument for their ancestors
they buried deep within the sacred mounds
To sleep throughout eternity
beneath the glow of the moon and stars,
beside the flowing water that would
wash away their tears.



CCHGA ON THE TNGEN WEB IS AT: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~tncheath>
CCHGA ON THE WW WEB IS AT: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~tncchga>
Or visit the myfamily.com sites! Send email to ltinch@bellsouth.net or
cchga007@bellsouth.net to subscribe

Districts 8 and 9 in 1858: Names taken from the 1858 Cheatham County Tax List

Continued from previous issue. - Greg Poole

District 8

Anderson, D.W.	1 poll
Anderson, R.W.	1 poll
Anderson, J.T.	1 poll
Batson, S.C.	2460 acres; \$1800 value; 1 slave; \$1000 value
Collins, Anthony	7 slaves; \$6000 value
Collins, David	1 poll
Cochran, J.W.	1 poll
Davis, Ellen	100 acres; \$600 value
Daniel, J.M.	1 poll
Eleazer, Levi	138 ½ acres; \$380 value
Groom, Henry	1 poll
Harris, James M.	126 acres; \$625 value
Harris, S.C.	328 acres; \$1500 value; 1 poll
Hagewood, N.P.	781 acres; \$7500; 3 slaves; \$2400 value
Hagewood, J.B.	1 poll
Hagewood, J.A.	1 poll
Hagewood, William	1 poll
Jones, David	257 acres; \$2500 value; cash \$400
Jones, D.D.	257 acres; \$2500 value; cash \$400
Jackson, McKennan and Co.	1638 acres; \$3300 value
Mayberry, Thomas E.	130 acres; \$1400 value
Mayberry, G.W.	1 poll
Mayberry, J.A.	1 poll
Mills, W.B.	1 wagon valued at \$40; 1 poll
Peck, T.	1 poll
Williams, A.S.	220 acres; \$1500 value; 4 slaves; \$3500 value; 1 poll
Williams, W.A.	220 acres; \$1500 value; 4 slaves; \$3000 value; 1 poll
Williams, W.W., heirs	1 wagon valued at \$200
Weakley, David	1 poll

District 9

Allen, James R.	165 acres; \$1200 value; 2 slaves; \$1300
Allen, E.C.	140 acres; \$1200 value; cash \$300; 1 poll
Allen, Mrs. F.	300 acres; \$1500 value; 1 slave; \$900 value
Allen, G.W.	1 poll
Appleton, W.	1 poll
Balthrop, Frank	70 acres; \$800 value; 6 slaves; \$4900 value; cash \$300
Brown, Barthenia	40 acres; \$100 value
Bryan, Joseph	1 buggy valued at \$75; 1 poll
Bryan, W.W.	1 wagon valued at \$20; 1 poll
Cox, Benjamin	288 acres; \$1000 value
Crouch, Thomas J.	790 acres; \$2000 value; 3 slaves; \$2300 value; 1 buggy \$50; 1 poll
Cullom, J.H.	1 wagon \$15 value; 1 poll
Cullom, Peter W.	1 poll
Dickson, J.S.	1 watch \$50; 1 poll
Dozier, G.W.	1 poll
Dozier, N.W.	1 poll
Dozier, Joseph N.	1 poll
Dozier, Dennis	350 acres; \$3000 value
Dozier, Willoughby	140 acres; \$4500 value

Continued next issue

History of Pleasant View United Methodist Church - Submitted by Greg Poole

Pioneer ministers were among the first settlers of this county. They had a living faith which they accompanied with diligent physical and spiritual work. With their own hands, they cleared their little patches and planted the seeds and trusted God for their increase. Likewise, they sowed the seed of Christianity and lived to see the result of their own good works. Many children of these early settlers were indebted to them for their education for they served as teachers as well as preachers. For many years there were houses of worship and the people without regard to denomination, would select camp grounds where they would hold camp meetings in the summer months. The country was thinly settled and many people traveled great distances to attend the camp meetings. When the population increased churches began to be erected.

A Methodist church was organized on Spring Creek at the crossing of the Nashville and Clarksville dirt pike on 1836 by Peter Woodson, William Shaw, Christopher Williams and Shadrack Hunt. The meeting house was one log room and known as Shaw's Meeting House.

In 1872 the congregation moved to a building two miles south of Pleasant View to a location known as Shaw's Cross Roads. (See deed below.) In 1881 the Cumberland Presbyterians, with eighteen members, organized and built a church in Pleasant View. The Methodists and Presbyterians conducted a joint Sunday School in this building with Professor W.I. Harper and Amos Felts as superintendents.

In August 1887 the present Methodist church was organized and built. Mr. and Mrs. Martin Frey gave the land and Mr. Jim Newton built the building. There were ninety-two names on the first church roll. Bishop E.R. Hendrix, Rev. J.W. Hill, presiding elder, and the Rev. G.S. Byrom, pastor, were the first to have charge of the Pleasant View Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Other pastors were: J.T. Blackwood, J.G. Rice, J.L. Chenault, C.S. Gobard, J.N. Jones, E.T.S. Cook, J.L. Teague, J.G. Harper, T.C. Adams, Ronald Casto, W.E. Couser, J.K. Sides, J.H. Chesnutt, C.W. Scragg Jr., W.G. Harris, W.D. Putnam, Robert H. Case, W.H. Lovell, J.M. Oakley, W.F. Powers, J.R. Reaves, F.L. Hawkins, J.O. Crawford, C.P. Givens, E.U. Robinson, G.M. Davenport, W.H. Beasley, J.R. Wright, S.M. Ensor, J.W. Lantrip, Grady Wall, Cecil Harper Jr., Ernest Blessing, J. Franklin Mraz, J. William Menees.

In 1947 the educational annex was built, consisting of seven Sunday School rooms which were badly needed. In 1960 additional space was made by adding a basement which has a dining room and kitchen facility, two extra class rooms, and assembly hall and two restrooms. A gas furnace and water was installed. The front of the church was reworked. The church was extensively remodeled in 1974. At this time, new pews were purchased as well as a new pulpit stand. As of this date (1978), the membership is 230.

From a history of the church written in 1978.



History of Mound Bottom - Submitted by Kitty Mayo

The area known as Mound Bottom encompasses 101 acres and contains the remains of a prehistoric Native American settlement. The civic/ceremonial center is a state-owned archaeological area which lies in a bend of the Harpeth River about one mile north of Highway 70 on Cedar Hill Road. Based on radiocarbon dates, archaeologists estimate the occupation of the site between 900AD and 1300AD.

Prior to this time the natural resources of this area had been utilized by earlier Native peoples. First, there were the nomadic big game hunters of the Paleo culture (15,000BC-8,000BC), then the hunter-gatherers of the Archaic culture (8,000BC-500BC), and the hunter-gatherer-farmers of the Woodland culture (500BC-800AD). These people established temporary camps as well as small seasonal settlements. Their purpose was to hunt and gather nuts, fruits and other wild plants in this valley.

Mound Bottom represents the Mississippian culture which flourished not only in the Harpeth Valley but throughout the entire Southeast from about 800AD to 1450AD. This prehistoric agricultural society was centered around intensive corn agriculture. In addition to corn, other cultivated plant foods included squash, gourds, sunflowers, sump weed, and the common bean. Local wild plant foods were also utilized.

Hunting was still an important activity. Animals were used not only for food sources but also for tools, clothing, and adornments. The white tail deer was probably the most important meat source, with turkey being the second. Grey squirrel, fox squirrel, rabbit, raccoon, ducks, geese and pigeons were part of the diet. The remains of black bear and elk were also found at the site.

Fishing was also a source of food but less important than agriculture and hunting. Drum, red horse, catfish, and bass were all used, as well as shellfish. The crushed shell was then used as temper in pottery. These people were involved in long distance trade in copper, marine shells, mica, soapstone, flint, and pottery pieces. This indicates that there was more time for craft specialization.

A rare and unusual petroglyph, or rock carving, of a mace is another feature associated with this site. The mace represented authority or leadership within the Mississippian culture. The symbol appears in both shell art and chipped flint.

Mound Bottom contains fourteen mounds. The largest, called a platform mound, faces to the east. This mound held the dwelling place of the leader, a temple, townhouse, or other important communal buildings. The other smaller mounds were probably used by lesser officials and their families as residences. Other communal and ceremonial structures may also have been atop the mounds. There are also cemetery areas on the site which have been documented. The mound complex and residential area was surrounded on at least three sides by an earthen embankment topped by a wooden stockade of upright logs. It was situated on the north, east and south sides of the site.

Where a person resided depended on his social position within the society. Anthropologists called this social structure a chiefdom. The chiefdom was headed by a "priest-elite" or "shaman-chief." His influence was widespread throughout the farming populations. The majority of the people were farmers, with some living within the walls of the town and others living in other villages, hamlets or farmsteads throughout the valley. It is believed that they came to the large mound centers for seasonal ceremonies and other important social events.

The Mound Bottom people lived in square-to-rectangular wattle and daub houses which were usually about four meters long. First, large upright timbers were placed in the ground. Next, small branches, or perhaps cane, was woven between them (wattle). Then a clay plaster was applied to the walls (daub), and it was all covered with a thatched roof. The houses within the walls of the town were laid out in rows.

Mound Bottom is thought to be part of a larger complex. The Pack site, another mound group, is located to the south of Highway 70 about ½ miles past the Harpeth River bridge. The property is privately owned and is about four times larger in area than Mound Bottom. The town was also surrounded by a palisade, and had a main east/west trail running through it. Archaeologists believe that the two mound centers were contemporary based on a similarity of pottery and house styles, mortuary practices, and the design of a mound plaza configuration.

History from Early Deed Books

The First African Methodist Episcopal Church in Cheatham County

We, Wyatt Lee and my wife, Flora Lee for the consideration of a desire to promote the cause of God and the cause of Christianity, do convey to D. Hancock, John Little and to Wyatt Lee, for the use and benefit of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, for the purpose of erecting a house of worship. The trustees shall at all times permit any regular preacher of the African M.E. Church, who is in good standing in the church to occupy and preach in the house that may be erected. The land is in the First District near the town of Ashland City, beginning at Harriet Lowe's corner; on J. S. Oakley's line. This October 27, 1874. Wit.: S.D. Power. Registered October 27, 1874. Cheatham County, Deed Book D, pg. 307.

The Meeting House at Shaw's Cross Roads

This indenture made August 1, 1874, between Peter H. Woodson, J.R. Binkley, James W. Walker, J.A. Justice, the Trustees of Shaw's Cross Roads Methodist Episcopal Church, South of one part and Sterling Walker of the other. For \$300, said Sterling Walker has sold to Trustees land in District 3, Cheatham County on Spring Creek, beginning southeast of the church house on the bank of Spring Creek; George C. Bell's corner, containing 22 acres. This August 1, 1874. Registered February 15, 1875. Cheatham County, Deed Book D, pg. 350-351.

Deposition of James Lenox, September 8, 1875

(In the Circuit Court of Davidson County. This deposition involves the disputed will of Dennis Dozier of Cheatham County. The widow, Harriett Dozier was being sued in court by the children [heirs] of Dennis Dozier, including: David T. Dozier, Martha Stump, F.H. Stump, Dennis Dozier Jr., James Dozier, A.J. Dozier [commonly called Jack] Dozier. James Lenox, born 1797, was called to testify concerning Dozier's will.)

James Lenox Sr., being 78 years old and duly sworn, deposes as follows:

Question 1: State your residence and how long you have been acquainted with Dennis Dozier.

Answer: I live in Cheatham County near Ashland City. I have known Dennis Dozier since the year 1826.

Question 2: Have you or not lived as neighbors and friends and have been intimate with him and frequently together?

Answer: I saw him all the time.

Question 3: State if or not, you heard him speak of making his will.

Answer: I never heard him speak of making a will until the day he made it.

Question 4: State if you were present on the day he made his will.

Answer: I was present when it was done. It was made in the old court house in Ashland City. He said he was going South from home, down into Georgia and that he wanted to leave his business, so that his wife would not be disturbed. That he might not get back so that his wife might be provided for. He said that he had been down South before and that his wife had been disturbed by some of his heirs.

Question 5: State how you happened to be present when he made his will.

Answer: He came to my house and said that he wanted me to come to Ashland City. That he wanted to make his will.

Question 6: When you reached Ashland City, who wrote his will?

Answer: W.A. Henderson wrote the will and it was written at his request.

Question 7: State if or not, W.A. Henderson was a lawyer.

Answer: He was no lawyer and not a man of much business capacity.

Question 8: Who, if any body, was present when the will was write?

Answer: William H. Cato and no one else was present that I remember of.

Question 9: Who were the witnesses to the will?

Answer: Myself, W.H. Cato and W.A. Henderson.

Question 10: State if the other two witnesses are living.

Answer: No, they are not.

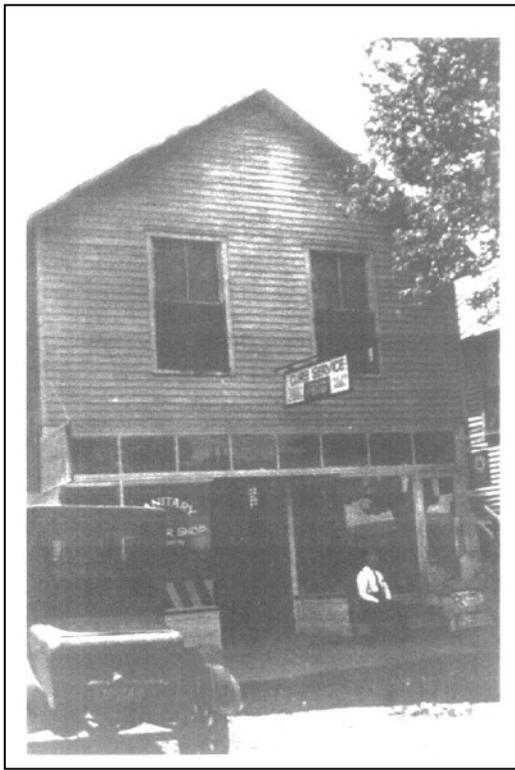
Question 11: State about what date the will was made.

Answer: About May, 1867.

Question 12: State if Dennis Dozier was on the day he made his will of a sound and disposing mind and memory.

Answer: From his conversation and conduct on that day and the manner of his dictating his will offhand without any notes, describing how the heirs were to divide the lands, I regarded him as much as himself as I ever saw him in my life. I never saw him that he was not perfectly at himself until 5 or 6 years ago, when I was at his house on business. Then his mind had finally given away. I saw him one time after he had made his will and had gone South and returned and that time he gave me a history of his trip South and of his business down there. There was nothing wrong to be discovered in him. James Lenox. Taken September 3, 1875.

Cheatham County, Deed Book D, pg. 494-497.



The Ashland City Telephone Office was upstairs in this building when the photo was taken in 1928 according to the Robertson County History Museum.

Mr. William J. Tomerlin who was Manager of both the Springfield and Ashland City telephone company for many years made the photo. It was presented to the Robertson County Museum by his grandson Mr. Willard Sanders on June 12, 2000 and the Museum Director Linda D. Dean forwarded a copy to the Cheatham County Historical and Genealogical Association for our anticipated Museum.

The building burned in 1936 Mr. Tomerlin retired from his position as Manager in 1933.

Mark your calendars for upcoming 2005 CCHGA meetings:
March 24 and April 28 (Annual Meeting)

CCHGA BYTES

Cheatham County Historical and Genealogical Association
P. O. Box 703,
Ashland City, TN 37015
Phone 615-792-3623

Next meeting: March 24, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cheatham County Public Library