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OLD CAMPBELL COUNTY COMMENTARY

**1974 NEWS LETTER OF OLD CAMPBELL COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



**OLD CAMPBELL COUNTY COURTHOUSE AT FAIRBURN, GEORGIA
103 YEAR OLD LANDMARK AND REMINDER THAT
THERE WAS A CAMPBELL COUNTY IN GEORGIA**

of the judges bench, gavel, and keys to the old court house, and a steel grating that barred the windows of the jail at Campbellton.

1844

CAMPBELLTON METHODIST CHURCH

Methodist at Campbellton became an organized church in 1844 and was in the LaGrange District of the then Georgia Conference, 26 years before the state was divided into the North and South Georgia Conferences in 1866. The Campbellton Church was organized as a Methodist Episcopal Church South after the Plan of Separation had been adopted in 1844.

Among items of interest the Church has the first pulpit Bible, a copy of the 1848 map of Campbellton, and a cannon ball that was fired into Campbellton in the summer of 1864 by Union artillery.

In 1860, Rev. Thomas J. Embry was the pastor, and the Church had 451 members, 401 Whites and 50 Blacks. This was the largest Methodist Church in the area and exceeded in membership only by the now First Methodist Church, LaGrange. In 1870, Rev. Richard J. Howell was pastor, and in 1871 Campbellton Methodist Church became a part of the Fairburn Circuit.

In the cemetery adjoining the church are markers inscribed with names of pioneer residents of Campbellton, 1829-1870: Brockmans, Camps, Glover, Cochrans, Howards, Lathams and others with and without markers.

The present pastor is Rev. Gaines Spivey, and the Church is in the Atlanta Southwest District of the North Georgia Conference.

1847

CAMPBELLTON BRIDGE COMPANY

The Campbellton Bridge Company was incorporated with the purpose of bridging the Chattahoochee to connect the now Douglas County, then Campbell, with Campbellton. The plans never materialized and the ferry continued to be the only means of connection at this point until the present bridge was built in 1953.

1848

MASONIC LODGE

On September 4, 1848, the first official meeting of Free and Accepted Masons was held at Campbellton. For some time the desire to have a Lodge at Campbellton burned within the hearts of Masons living in Campbellton & Campbell County. Petition was made to the Grand Lodge of Georgia, and on November 1, 1848, Charter Number 76 was granted to the Campbellton Lodge. The first Worshipful Master was appropriately, John Campbell, and the first secretary, Robert Tuggle. Unique in the by-laws is Article VIII - Meetings: "The regular meetings of this Lodge shall be held on the 2nd and 4th Saturday nights in each month at early candlelight." For 126 years the Lodge is meeting in the original two story, white frame building. It shows shell marks of the Civil War, and has a mail chute downstairs that speaks of the days when the Campbellton Post Office was located there. The Lodge boasts of a complete set of minutes from the first meeting and uses the original furnishings and furniture in the Lodge Hall.