HISTORY

OF

CAVE SPRINGS CHARGE

Cave Springs Church
Jackson's Chapel Church
Livingstone Church
Van's Valley Church
The Cave Spring charge is made up of four churches as follows: Cave Spring, Van's Valley, Livingston and Jackson's Chapel. According to the not too well known facts each of these churches was organized around the year 1850 - one hundred years ago. The Cave Spring church, being the only one located in a town, holds the distinction of being the leading and strongest church of the charge. The congregation worshipped for thirty or more years in a frame building a few hundred feet back of the site of the present church. Sixty eight years ago, in 1883, a very fine brick church, serving still, was erected on one of the most desirable corners of the town. Fifty four years later an addition of four rooms was added. The corner stone of this addition has inscribed upon it: "Erected 1937 in memory of Margaret J. Ford and Arthur S. Ford members of this church 1850 to 1900. A large, attractive parsonage graces the church property standing among great trees upon a spacious lawn. This parsonage has served as the home of the preachers of this charge for eighty years.

**VAN'S VALLEY CHURCH**

Mrs. Mid Montgomery started to school at Van's Valley Academy in 1850. The Methodist church stood near the Academy at that time according to a statement she is known to have made. This church was originally an appointment of what was known as the Forrestville Circuit. It was added to the Cave Spring circuit probably about 1873. The land for the church was deeded to trustees in 1859. There are about three acres situated on a graceful elevation some ten miles out of Rome, Georgia. It is understood that this fine old church house, which serves the congregation to this day, was erected over an Indian burial ground. The earliest known Presiding Elder was Thomas Pierce and pastor was William P. Rivers.