HISTORICAL SUMMARY OF CHURCHES

CHURCH: Hopewell
CHARGE: Hopewell-South Bend
DISTRICT: Gainesville

Location—COUNTY-Hall
CITY-1 mi from Murrayville, Ga.
ADDRESS-Rt 9 Gainesville

DATE OF ORGANIZATION—Before June 16, 1837 when first deed was made.


Deeds and other records are at various members' homes and at parsonage.

Hopewell has been Hopewell since its organization as far as known.

OUTSTANDING PERSONS: The Rev. Melvin Russell Hughes, a local Methodist preacher was a longtime member (50-70 yr). He served churches near Dawson Co. then moved to this community where he died March, 1946 and buried in Hopewell Churchyard. The Rev. Allen Reark, a member of the North Georgia Annual Conference (supply or not, not known for certain) never served this church, but he supenannuated in 1930 and lived in the Methodist Parsonage located in Murrayville when Hopewell was on another charge. He died in 1948. The Murrayville (or Hopewell) parsonage burned while Bre. Reark lived there.

It was said to be the nicest home in the little town. His daughter is Mrs. Ruby Cook of Rt 1 Murrayville, his son is Bryson Reark of Rt 9, Gainesville (a Hopewell member).
EVENTS

The Rev. Dr. Claud Haynes, Ex. Sec. Bd. Church Ext., preached his first sermon at Hapewell Church of which his father was a longtime church school supt.

June 31, 1955 they dedicated their six room, two-story church school annex. Value $6,000 or more.

DEEDS: BOOK PAGE

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They have a Pauline Whelchel Smith Trust Fund and its interest is added to its BLDG and Upkeep Fund.

Negroes once worshipped with their masters at Hopewell. It is thought that some of the graves, marked only with stones, may be those of Negroes.

First deed (original in possession of Elred Jr.
Gainesville

Date—June 16, 1837; Given by David Jay Sr.

"Meeting house" already on property, says deed.

Deed witnesses: David Jay Jr. and Reuben W. Gamblin "A brush arbor" preceded this, according to granddaughter (Ione Burruss) of Mrs. Emma Elred Burruss, whose father fought in Confederacy and was never heard from after the war. (name—Robert)

SOURCES

Ione Burruss
At F. Muraville

D. H. Elred
At F. Muraville

Alton Haynes
At F. Muraville