

The Methodist Church
Nacoochee Valley

With the coming of the early settlers in 1822, the church history of Nacoochee Valley was begun. Among these pioneers were three Methodist Ministers- The Rev. Jesse Richardson, his son, the Rev. John L. Richardson, and a son-in-law, the Rev. Abram Littlejohn. Richardson had been ordained by Bishop Asbury before coming to Georgia from North Carolina. ✓ 1869

Coming as they did into the virgin country, the homes of these people were of necessity somewhat primitive for the first ten years. The first church was naturally of this order. Certainly it was around 1832 that a well-built wooden structure was erected on a plot of ground, six acres, given by Edward Williams, known as Major Williams. It was located about one hundred and fifty yds. north east of the present building, was painted white, and had plastered walls. There were two rows of windows-one above the other on each side of the church, and a gallery was built across the front and over the entrance for the slaves who worshipped under the same roof. Entrance to this gallery was reached by a flight of steps leading along the outside wall. ✓

In later years this building was used as a school house, and a more modern building was erected and dedicated. Bishop Pierce dedicated this building in 1874. In 1922 Sunday School rooms were added as a memorial to Major Williams by his grandchildren and great grandchildren. ✓

The building of 1874 was burned in April 1943, and the present brick structure was built, being dedicated by Bishop Moore the following year in January.