History

NEW HOPE METHODIST CHURCH

Rabun County, Georgia

New Hope Methodist Church was founded about 1830 by Daniel Duncan; William Singleton (known to everybody as "Uncle Billy"); and Irvin Price. These men moved from Oconee County, S. C. to Rabun County, Georgia, and built the first church building on Land Lot No. 3. The land belonged to Mr. Dudley Singleton, and services were held here all during the civil war.

Then the church was moved to Lot No. 27, on the land of Mr. Edward Singleton. These first church houses were made of logs and had a rock chimney with fireplace for heating the room. The leaders of the church were: Daniel Duncan; David, John, Bill, Jefferson, Dennis, and A. J. Duncan; Dudley, Edward, and "Uncle Billy" Singleton.

In later years the church was moved to Lot No. 24. The land was given by Mr. F. A. Bleckley. He was an active church worker; he also gave the lumber and helped build the church. These are some of the members who helped with the church house: F. A. Bleckley; A. J. Duncan; Sylvester Price; J. H. Coffee; Roland Coffee; Benjamin, John, and Jim Bleckley; Dennis Duncan; Moses, John, and Dennis Williams.

The lumber was sawed on a saw pulled by water, and hand dressed. The seats are made of wide boards, hand planed, and made in perfect order. This little church was built about 1880, and is still standing. It is located in Rabun County, just off
Highway No. 76 in a little valley by a small stream. It is about six miles from Chatooga River, the dividing water between Georgia and South Carolina. When the new highway was built, the church was left on the old road, a few hundred yards distant, but it may still be seen from the highway.

These are the names of some of the ministers who have served as Pastor for the church at some time during its history.

C. V. Weathers
D. C. Brown
J. W. Spear
W. A. Simmons
A. A. Landrum
R. B. England
J. W. Quillian
A. P. Watkins
C. M. Rogers
R. P. Ethridge
Enoch Doster
Hamp Sewell
Everett MCDougle
Allen Phillips
A. B. Whittemore

(This history was collected and written by Miss Annie Perry, who is at present a member of the church. August, 1957.)