

The original name of Union Hill School was Pleasant Hill. The school was established and operated by the Methodist Church. The exact time of founding is not known, but it is believed to be in the late 1840's or early 1850's. It was operated in connection with the Pleasant Hill Methodist Church. The pastor of the church was automatically the head of the school. The school was considered as one of the better schools of the area. It was also one of the larger schools from the 1870's on up to around 1910. Many families moved into the area in order to have the school available to their children. Many students also came here to board in local homes near the school. The church also had a campground area and many cabins were built that families used during summer revivals. The school was well noted for excellent teachers.

The Civil War caused a sharp division in the Methodist Church organization and a split resulted. Many of the Methodist churches of the Appalachian area and a few in the upper Piedmont were not in sympathy with the South's war against the Union. The division left two groups known as the Northern Methodist and the Southern Methodist. This was about 1862.

A few influential Northern men moved into the area soon after the Civil War. With their influence they were able to get the name of the school changed from Pleasant Hill to Union Hill. This was probably in the late 1870's. This name change also seemed to reflect the feelings of the church toward the war and toward the Union. In spite of this, however, no one escaped the war. All able bodied sons and fathers of the Appalachian and upper Piedmont area fought in the war. This was especially true with the sons and fathers of the Union Hill area.

Another word was added to the name, making it Union Hill Normal School. The time of this is vague, but it is believed this happened around 1900. There was a tremendous need to train teachers. The school trained teachers up to around 1910.

Great progress was being made in getting state money to finance public education. This influence, along with the tremendous financial problems of the church caused the church to turn the operation of the school to the Cherokee County Board of Education. This was in 1911.

Another milestone in the history of Union Hill Church came in 1932. This was the union of the Northern and Southern Methodist Church.

It should be noted here that the school became smaller with the advent of public education in the area. It should be further noted that the Union Hill Church continued to have a vital influence on the school.

Finally, with the advance of school bus transportation of school children and mass consolidation, the school was closed and consolidated with Hickory Flat and Macedonia.