THE BEGINNINGS OF "WILLIAM'S CHAPEL"

William Harrison Morrow, the man for whom the Church became a memorial, was born Oct. 22, 1841, the son of Radford E. and Mary Ann (Strickland) Morrow. He enlisted on May 6, 1862, in a unit of Ga. Cavalry organized at Jonesboro by Capt. M.H. Chapman. The unit was mustered-in at Camp Stephens, Ga., as Co. "F", 2nd Ga. Regt. Cavalry. THIS REPRODUCTION OF AN AMBROTYPE PICTURE SHOWS HIM IN UNIFORM.

On Apr. 8, 1863, the Adjt. & Insp. Generals Office at Richmond, Va., ordered William H. Morrow and A.J. Vinyard to report to R.E. Morrow "government contractor" at Jonesboro, for "detached duty with the Quartermaster's Dept." (Spec. Ord. 85/8) making shoes for the Army and leather goods for the Cavalry. W.H. Morrow was made Superintendent of a Harness Shop in the Atlanta Arsenal, and on Aug. 1, 1863, when the employees of the Arsenal were formed into Co. "C", 2nd Battalion, Ga. State-Guard Infantry, W.H. Morrow was made a Captain. This unit was sent to Columbus, Ga.

AFTER THE WAR was over the Confederate soldiers returned to their disrupted homes and delapidated farms. In dejection they called on GOD in the Spirit of REVIVAL. Here at "Morrow Station" the Circuit Riding Methodist Preachers and the Local Preachers began calling the people to Repentance and Faith in JESUS CHRIST. Meetings were held under an old BRUSH ARBOR at the site of old "William's Chapel" Church during the period 1865 to 1868. On Aug. 23, 1868, William H. Morrow died. In the old ROLL BOOK it is recorded J.C. Bawknigh joined "William's Chapel" in 1868. On Aug. 1, 1870, Radford E. Morrow deeded an acre of land (quote) "The Arbor Place" to the first Board of Trustees: James Sneed, Hampton Lambert, A.J. Vinyard, A.F. Sears, and James Coker.

It is known that James Sneed was one of the Local Preachers who preached The Gospel of the Saving Grace of THE LORD JESUS under the old BRUSH ARBOR. He was born in Wilkes Co., Ga., Sept. 10, 1819, and married Frances Jones in Newton Co., Ga., in 1839. He served as a Justice of Peace in Newton until 1858, and in the year Clayton was formed, moved to this County. He had a farm here at Morrow Station. He died May 27, 1898, and is buried in old "Williams Chapel" Cemetery.

AT THIS TIME it is not known who the Circuit Riders were who worked with the Williams Chapel Congregation in the beginning, but our oldest Member, Joe Rad Morrow, said George Sneed told him it was a man named B. (or D.) M. Foster.

The original rough-hewn building was torn down in 1881 and a white frame building was erected on the site.

One of the first Teachers in the Church School was Miss "Tiny" Butler, who is shown standing beside the old Williams Chapel Church.