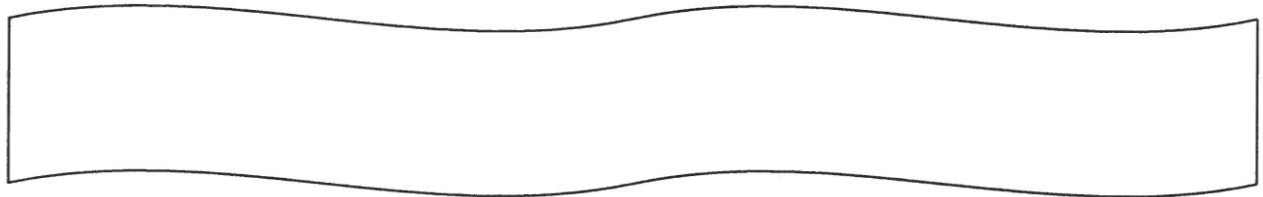


HERITAGE TRAIL

BICENTENNIAL EDITION 1976

COCHRAN & BLECKLEY

COUNTY GEORGIA



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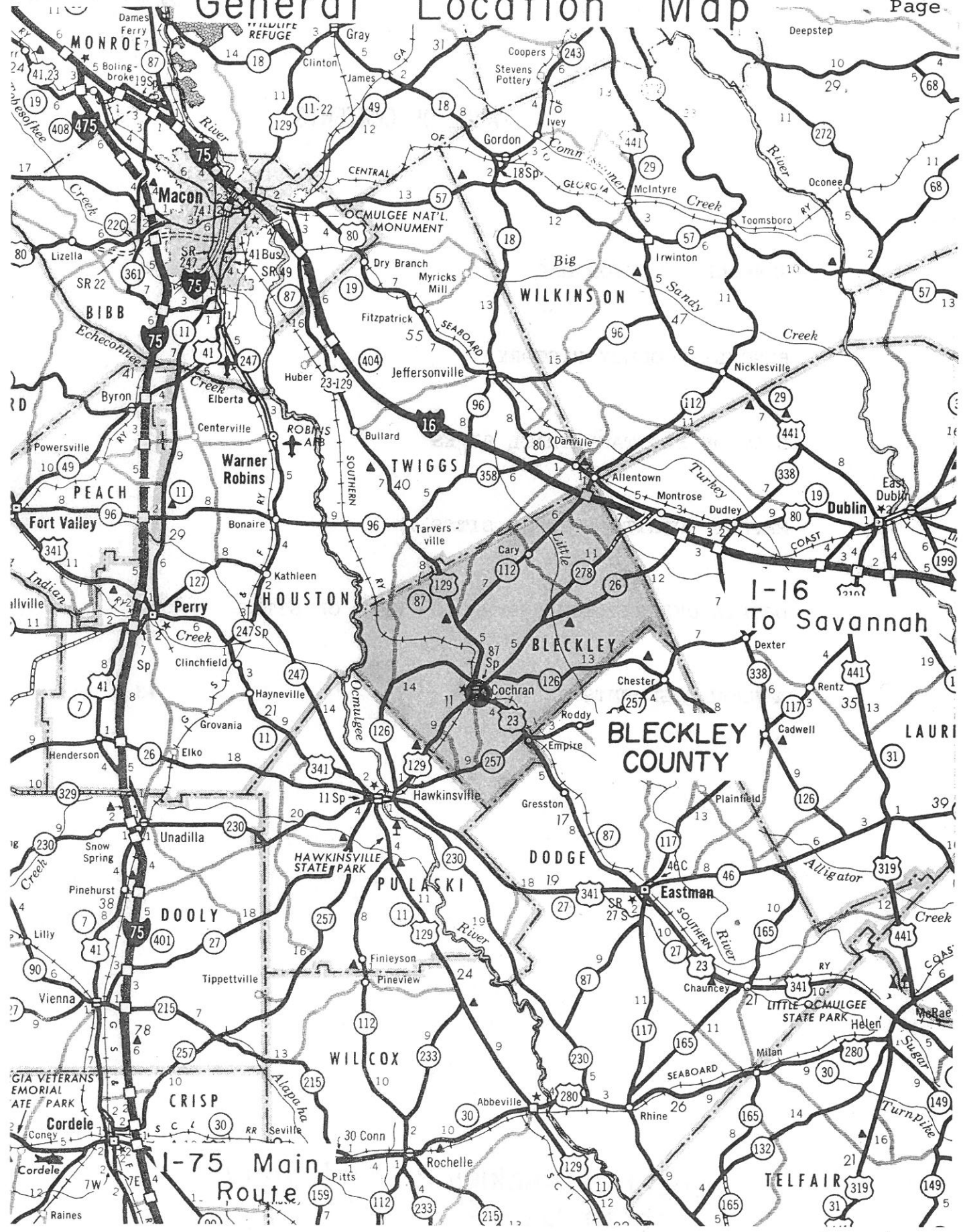
COCHRAN-BLECKLEY
Bicentennial Committee

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
GENERAL LOCATION MAP	2
BLECKLEY COUNTY HISTORY	3
LIST OF HERITAGE TRAIL SITES	5
MAPS OF HERITAGE TRAIL SITES	7
DETAIL DESCRIPTION AND PHOTOGRAPHS OF SITES	9
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	43

General Location Map



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BLECKLEY COUNTY

Bleckley County was created by an Act of the Georgia Legislature July 30, 1912, ratified at a popular election held October 2, 1912, and proclaimed by the Governor Hon. Joseph M. Brown, October 12, 1912. The new county was formed from Pulaski County, created by Legislative Act, December 13, 1808, from Laurens County.

The County was named for Chief Justice Logan E. Bleckley, of the Georgia Supreme Court, one of the greatest jurists in the history of this State. Born in Rabun County in 1827, he served as a Confederate soldier, resumed his law practice after the war, was an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court 1875-1880 and Chief Justice 1887-1894.

Cochran, the county-seat, was named for Judge Arthur E. Cochran, a noted jurist and a practical man of affairs, who, as President of the Old Macon and Brunswick Railroad, now the Southern, was largely instrumental in developing this section of Georgia. Judge Cochran was the first Judge of the Brunswick Circuit. He served on the Bench from 1856 to 1859, after which he retired for two years; but, resuming the ermine, he held office from 1861 to 1865, throughout the entire period of the Civil War.

Cochran, the county seat of Bleckley, was known in the early days as Dykesboro, so-called after a wealthy land owner of this locality, Mr. B.B. Dykes, who owned the site on which the town was afterwards built. Deeds to property in the city of Cochran traced to B.B. Dykes are unquestionably good. The oldest inhabitants of Dykesboro were: Austin Lanfair, John J. Green, Duggan McPhail and P.T. McGriff. One of the early magistrates of the town, F.B. Green, became famous in the early days for performing marriage ceremonies. Judge P.T. McGriff, a former Ordinary of Pulaski County, built the first store in the town of Cochran. Originally the Macon and Brunswick Railway ran to a point six miles north of the town and when the line was extended to Cochran, Judge McGriff was made the agent at this point. At the same time the name of the town was changed from Dykesboro to Cochran in honor of Judge Arthur E. Cochran, the president of the line. During the war the terminus at Cochran was abandoned; whereupon Judge McGriff removed his office to Coley's station about five miles north of the town. In 1872, he relinquished the post of agent to become Ordinary of Pulaski County, an office which he filled for more than forty years. The earliest settlers in Cochran located here to engage in the turpentine industry and they included: P.L. Peacock, J.E. O'Berry, C.D. Woodward and A.T. Wiggs. Among the pioneer physicians were Dr. T.D. Walker, who served the town as Mayor.

On January 1, 1913, the first election of county officers for the new county of Bleckley resulted as follows: Ordinary, Judge W.M. Wynn; Superior Court Clerk, Joel T. Deese; Tax Receiver, James Holland; Treasurer, J.R. Taylor; Surveyor, W.H. Berryhill; Coroner, Morgan Barrs; Sheriff, J.A. Floyd, and County School Commissioner, I.A. Willis. Hon. Leo H. Browning was chosen the first representative of the county in the State Legislature.

The first comers into the area were Joseph Reeves, Edmund Hogan, S. Golson, George Walker, William Hawthorne, J.M. Taylor, E. Blackshear, and Mark Mason.

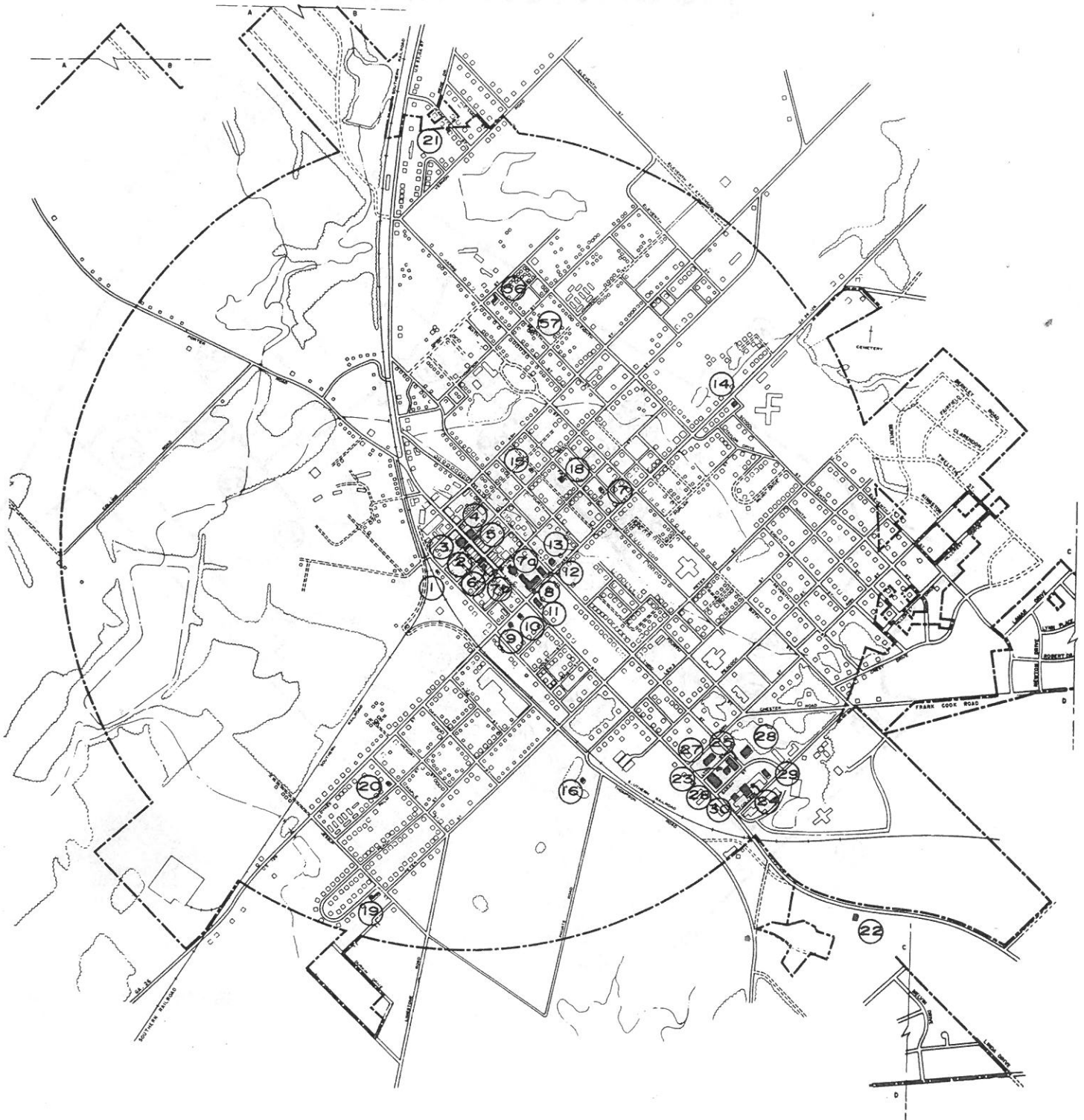
To the pioneer list may be added the following names: Dr. J.B. Peacock, J.P. Peacock, J.C. Dunham, J.H. Mullis, Jr., J.A. Walker, T.D. Walker, J.B. Thompson, A.J. Thompson, B.J. Wynn, W.M. Wynn, T.L. Bailey and J.J. Taylor. These men laid the foundations of the present city of Cochran, one of the most enterprising communities in middle Georgia.

LIST OF HERITAGE TRAIL SITES

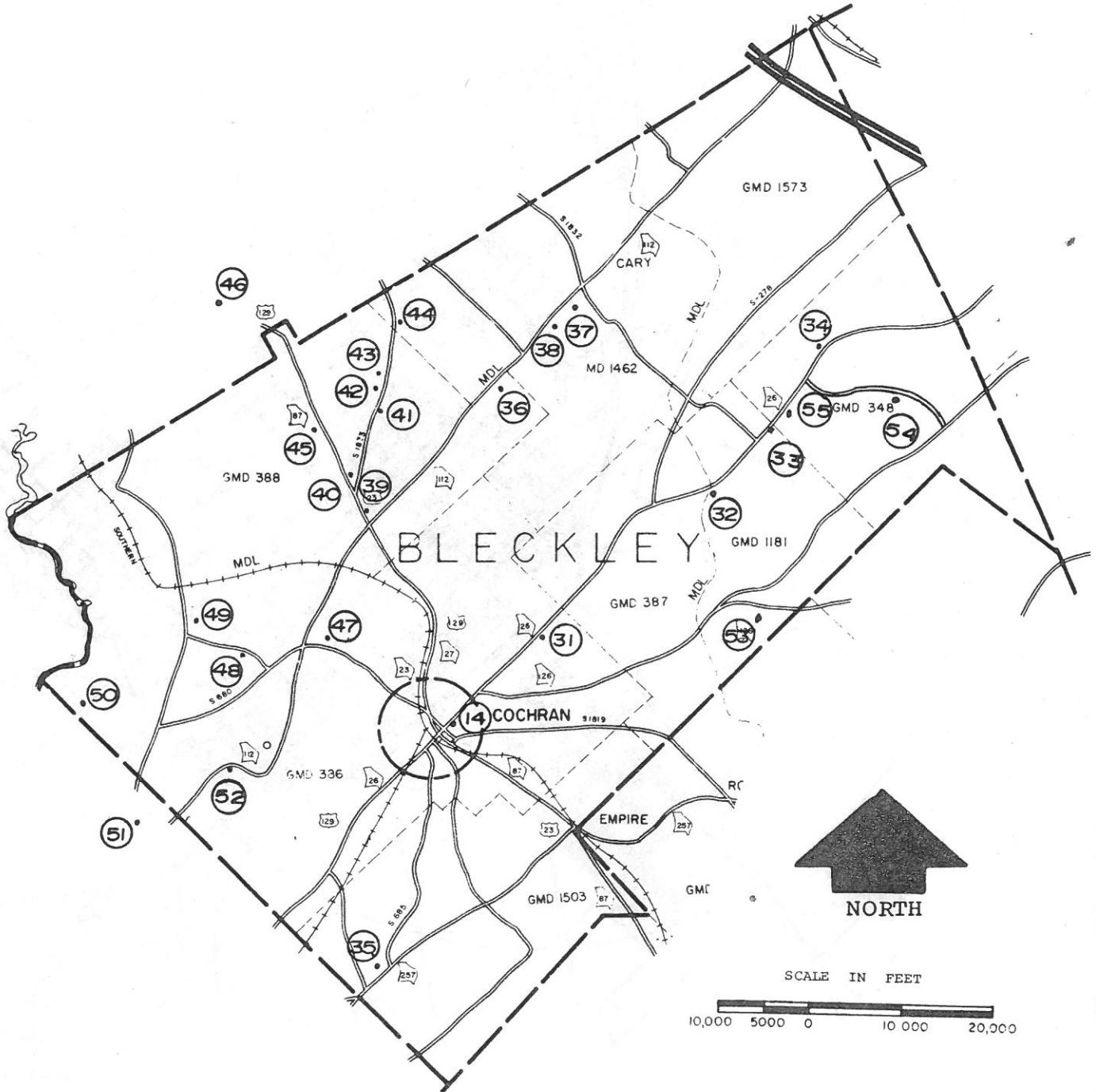
Key	Name of Site
1.	Original City Hall
2.	Maas Brothers Building (Allied Department Store)
3.	Walker Pharmacy Building (Cochran Finance Corporation)
4.	Old Opera House (Western Auto)
5.	Merchantile Building (Time Loan Company)
6A.	Masonic Hall
6B.	Masonic Hall Cornerstone
7A.	Bleckley County Court House
7B.	Georgia Historical Commission Marker
8.	Confederate Monument
9.	Charles Mullis Farmhouse (Wimberly House)
10.	J.H. Mullis Home (Town and Country Antiques)
11.	First Baptist Church
12.	Old Cochran High School
13.	First United Methodist Church
14.	Uchee Path Marker
15.	Pace House
16.	Colonial Plantation
17.	Trinity Episcopal Church
18.	Tabernacle Baptist Church
19.	Southside Baptist Church
20.	Church of God
21.	Lakeview Baptist Church
22.	Church of Christ
	Middle Georgia College
23.	Sanford Hall
24.	Walker Hall
25.	Memorial Hall
26.	Russell Hall
27.	Roberts Library
28.	Dillard Hall
29.	Ebenezer Hall
30.	Peacock Hall

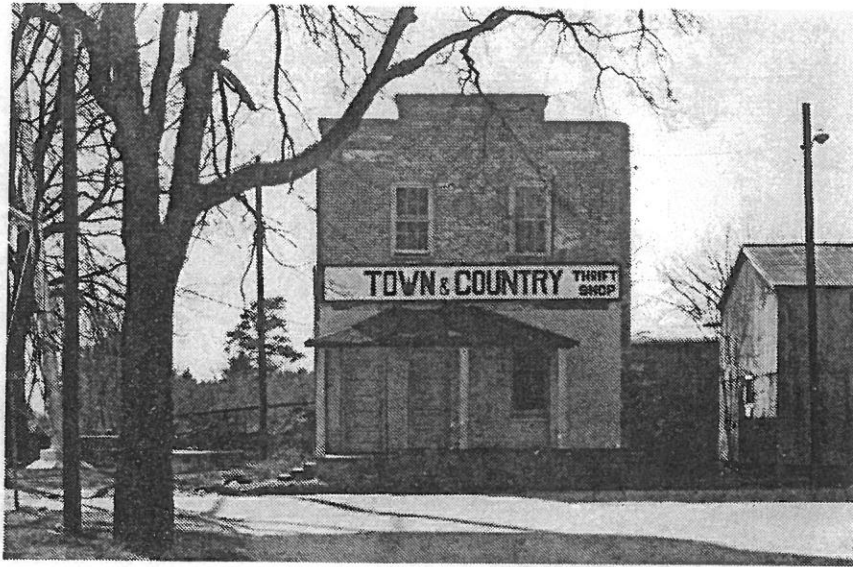
31. Bethany Baptist Church
32. One-room School House
33. Salem Baptist Church
34. Cain Coley Home
35. Limestone Baptist Church
36. Antioch Methodist Church
37. Mt. Calvary Baptist Church
38. Dykes Log Cabin
39. Evergreen Baptist Church
40. George Jordan House (Wimberly Home)
41. Walker-McCall-Mullis Home
42. Longstreet Methodist Church
43. David Walker Home
44. George Walker III Home
45. Walker Cemetery
46. DeSoto Trail Marker
47. Coley's Station
48. Helms House
49. Centenary Methodist Church
50. Revolutionary Soldier Grave Site, Coalson Cemetery
51. Judge Miles Blount Home (Clayton Foskey, Jr., home)
52. Collins School
53. Union Hill Baptist Church
54. Little Bethel Free Will Baptist Church
55. Trail Branch Primitive Baptist Church
56. Marthann Baptist Church
57. Turner Chapel A.M.E. Church

CITY OF COCHRAN (LOCATION MAP)

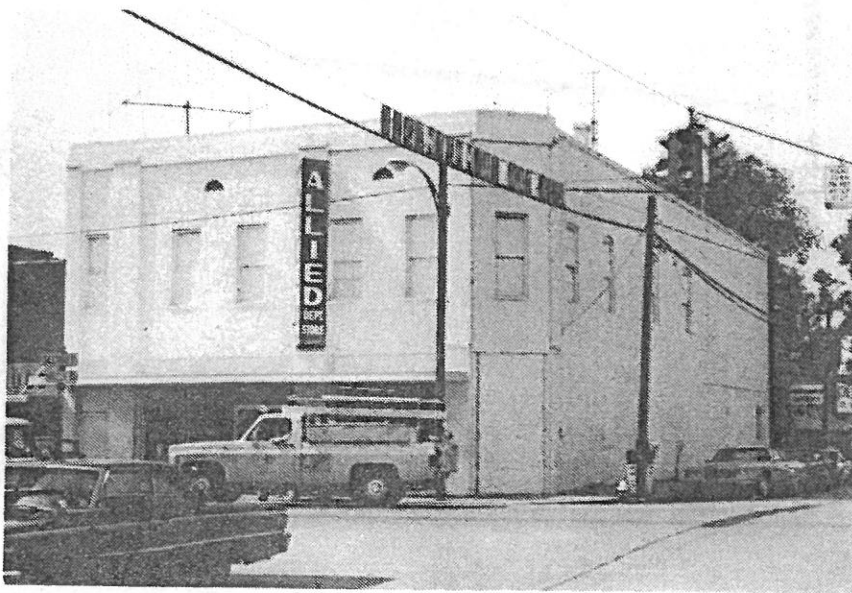


COUNTY OF BLECKLEY (LOCATION MAP)





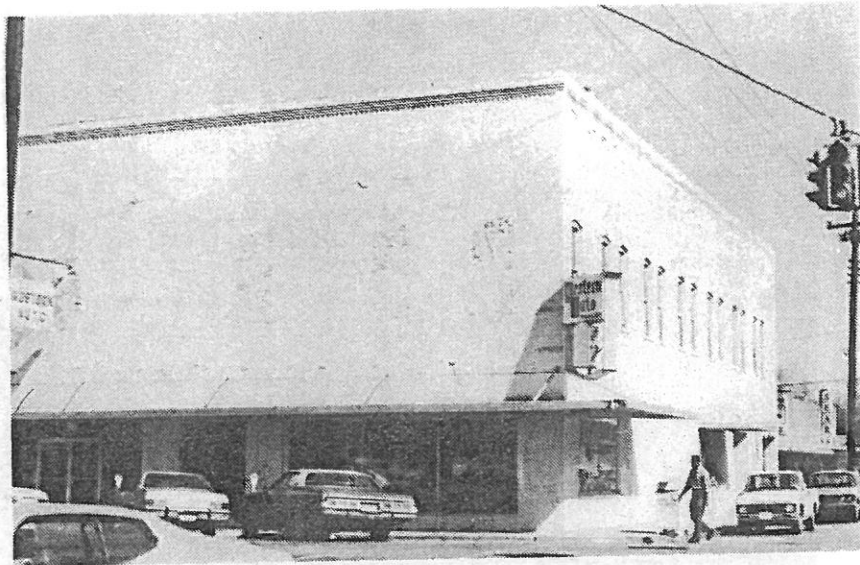
1. **Original City Hall, Beech Street at First.** The original town hall and fire station was built in the 1870's. The horse-drawn steam fire engine was housed on the ground floor and council chambers were on the second floor.



2. **Maas Brothers Building (Allied Department Store), Second and Beech Streets, south corner.** The oldest brick store building in Cochran was built in 1879 by Jake and Sol Maas, pioneer merchants who had their beginnings in Cochran with a general store. They later moved to Tampa, Florida, and, in 1929, Maas Brothers of Tampa became a subsidiary of Allied Stores Corporation, the largest retail department store organization in the United States.



3. **Walker Pharmacy Building** (Cochran Finance Corporation), Second and Beech Streets, west corner. The second oldest brick building in Cochran, owned by Dr. Thomas D. Walker, Sr., and operated under his ownership for many years as a drugstore, was built in 1880. A drug store existed on the corner for over 70 years.



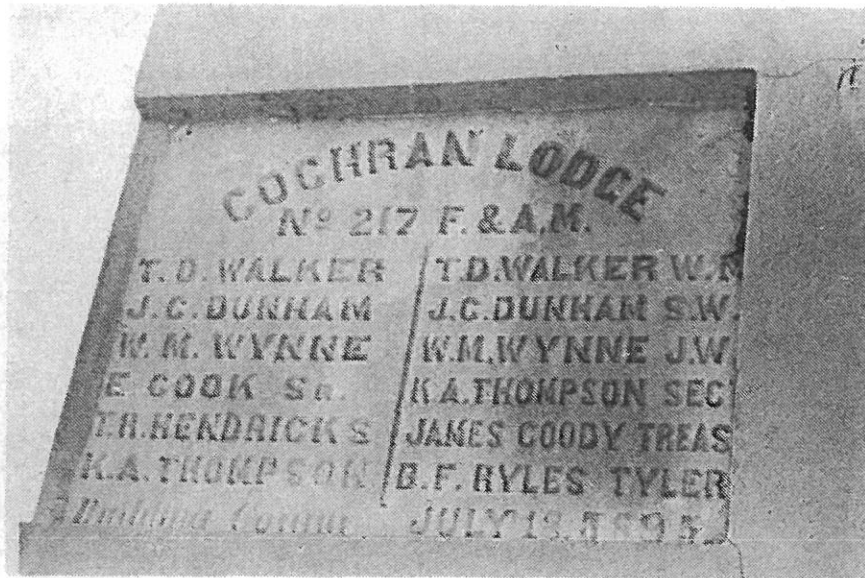
4. **Old Opera House** (Western Auto), Second and Beech Street, north corner. A large frame building in which W.T. McVay and later Sam Mayor and W.B. Watts, Sr. did business for many years was located on this corner. The wooden building was torn down and the present brick building was erected in 1904. Owned by Taylor and Mullis, the Opera House contained two floors. The second floor housed the Opera House and also several offices. On the lower floor were three large rooms, two for stores and one for a post office. The first Superior Court convened in the old Opera House at 10:00 o'clock on Monday, January 13, 1913, and continued to meet here until the present Bleckley County Court House was completed in 1914.



5. **Merchandise Building (Time Loan Company), Second and Beech Streets, east corner.** On this corner was located a wooden store building in which Rinaldi and Choate conducted a merchantile business. This building was torn down and the present brick building was constructed.

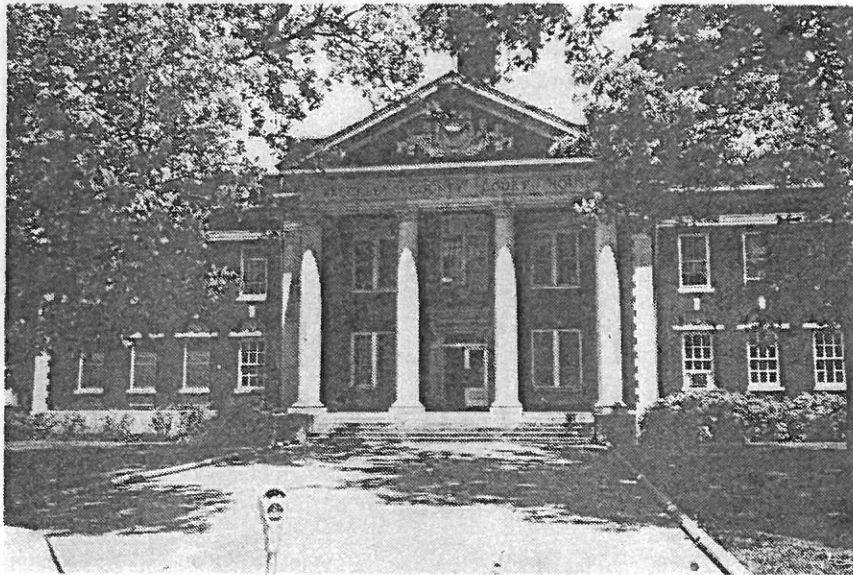


- 6A. **Masonic Hall, Second Street.** The Cochran Masonic Lodge No. 217 F & AM, chartered October 6, 1874, is housed on the second floor. The cornerstone was laid on July 18, 1895.

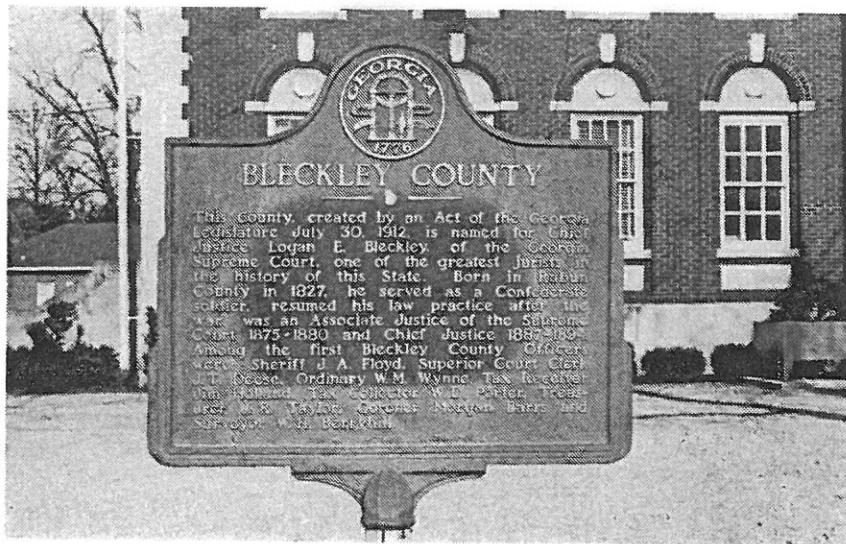


6B.

Masonic Hall Cornerstone



- 7A. **Bleckley County Court House, Second Street.** Bleckley County, created by an Act of the Georgia Legislature July 30 1912, from Pulaski County, is named for Chief Justice Logan E. Bleckley, of the Georgia Supreme Court, one of the greatest jurists in the history of Georgia. Born in Rabun County in 1827, he served as a Confederate soldier, resumed his law practice after the war, was an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, 1875 - 1880, and Chief Justice, 1887 - 1894. The Court House, of Greek Revival architecture, was designed by Gayre and Baldwin, Architects, of Columbia, S.C. Groundbreaking took place on February 5, 1914, and the building was completed in November, 1914.



7B.

Georgia Historical Commission Marker



8. **Confederate Monument, Second Street.** On April 26, 1910, the Confederate Monument, of Georgia marble, was unveiled by the United Daughters of the Confederacy with an impressive program. Now located on the grounds of the Cochran Elementary School, the monument was originally located in the exact center of the intersection of Beech and Second Streets. The speaker's stand was in front of the monument and was decorated with battle flags and garlands of flowers. The Honorable Hoke Smith, Governor of Georgia and later United States Senator, was the orator for the occasion. A crowd estimated at 10,000 people was assembled. The monument was unveiled by four widows of Confederate veterans following a salute of thirteen rifles by old Confederate veterans. The unveiling was assisted by six granddaughters of the Confederacy. The monument was moved from the intersection of Beech and Second Streets to the grounds of the elementary school about the year 1922 when Second Street was paved.



9. **Charles Mullis Farmhouse (Wimberly Home)**, 107 Easy Dykes Street. The house was built as a farmhouse in 1874 by Charles Mullis. The house served later as the residence and clinic of Dr. Thomas D. Walker, Jr., son of Dr. Thomas D. Walker a founder of Middle Georgia College. It also served as the home of Col. Leo H. Browning following his retirement as the first President of Middle Georgia College.



10. **J.H. Mullis Home (Town and Country Antiques)**, Second and Dykes Streets, south corner. The house an architectural landmark in Cochran was built in the Georgian style by J.H. Mullis, Jr., about 1917. It later served as the home of the James Howard family. Mrs. James Howard, the former Ann Lucas Walker, is a daughter of Dr. Thomas D. Walker, and a descendant of George Walker, Jr., a pioneer settler and Revolutionary soldier. A stately two-story red brick house with white Corinthian columns, the structure is reminiscent of the stately homes of the Old South.



11. **First Baptist Church**, Second and Dykes Streets, east corner. The First Baptist Church was established in 1868. The present church building was built in 1917, replacing an earlier wooden building built around 1892. An educational building on Second Street was completed in 1951 and another on Dykes Street was completed in 1975. The church is noted for the beautiful stained glass windows in the sanctuary.



12. **Old Cochran High School**, Third and Dykes Streets, west corner. The original building, completed in 1913, had two stories and a basement. The auditorium was on the second floor. This floor was removed in the renovation begun in 1940. The building is located on the original lot set aside for educational purposes. In 1872 Burrell B. Dykes deeded to certain trustees and their successors in office an acre of land to be used for public school purposes. A frame building was then erected and called Martha Ann Academy in honor of Mr. Dykes' daughter. The school was in operation around twenty years.



13. **First United Methodist Church, Third and Dykes Streets, north corner.** The First Methodist Church was organized under a brush arbor in 1866. The brush arbor was used until 1868 when David Q. Dykes made a deed to the different denominations of the lot of land on which the present building is located. The first building was erected in 1868 and was owned jointly by the Methodists, Baptists, and Presbyterians. It was used as a Union Church until 1879 when the property was sold so that a division might be made among the denominations. A new deed was made to the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, on October 11, 1879. A new wooden building was erected on the site in 1890. The present red brick structure replaced the frame church building in 1916. An adjoining education building was erected in 1956.



14. **Uchee Path Marker, W. Dykes Street.** Located in front of Cochran City School Building, it is also in front of site of Burrell B. Dykes' home. This highway coincides closely with a segment of a noted east-west Indian trail called the Lower Uchee Path. Beginning at Old Town on the Ogeechee River, the trail led this way by Carr's Shoals on the Oconee River above present Dublin, thence via the present towns of Cochran, Hawkinsville, and Montezuma to Uchee Town on the Chattahoochee River in Russell County, Alabama, across the river from present Columbus, Georgia.

At the Ogeechee, the trail connected with various paths leading from former Uchee settlements on the middle Savannah River.

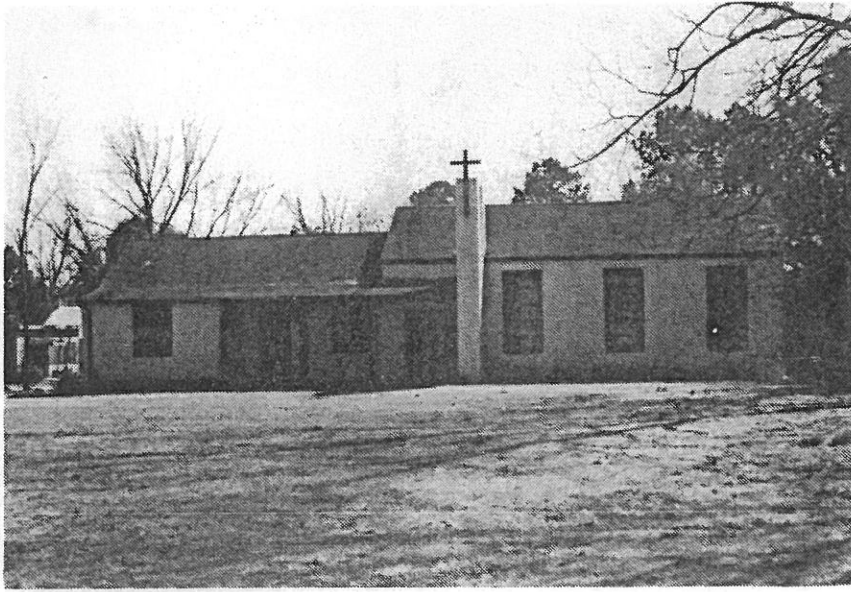
The route was opened in 1729 when the Uchees began removing to the town on the Chattahoochee River. Quite possibly this is the route taken by General James Edward Oglethorpe, founder of Georgia, in 1739 when he went from Savannah to Coweta Town on the Chattahoochee to secure aid of the Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Cherokees, and other Indians against the Spanish and to make treaties of alliance and extending Georgia's boundaries from the Altamaha to the St. John's River. Although historians cannot with any exactitude trace his route, a course taken steadily westward from Uchee Town, a point some 25 miles above Ebenezer, where he started, across Georgia to Coweta Town would undoubtedly cross the Ocmulgee at one of the three fording places known and used by the Indians at Macon, Hawkinsville, or Abbeville, with the central one, Hawkinsville, being the more reasonable.



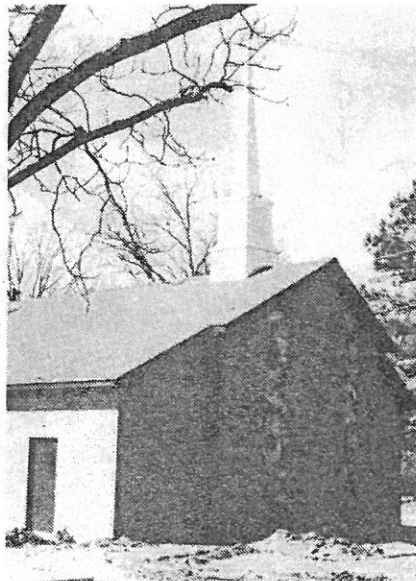
15. **Pace House, 406 Beech Street.** Reputed to be the oldest house in Cochran, built in the 1870's, the house was owned by Thomas B. Pace. From 1886 to 1889 it served as the home of Palemon J. King, the first President of New Ebenezer College, now Middle Georgia College. The two-story white frame house is built in the plantation "plain style" of two rooms above two rooms on either side of an open central hall, known in the rural areas as a "dog trot."



16. **Colonial Plantation, Dohl Street.** The original plantation home built here by Peter Lewis Peacock was destroyed by fire in 1905. The beautiful colonial home which still stands was built in 1907. It was occupied by Kemper Peacock Thompson and later by her son Andrew Lewis Thompson. It was later purchased by James Dykes. Surrounded on three sides by colonaded porches and second-floor balconies, the columns are of an unusual octagonal shape. The house is reminiscent of the "Gone With the Wind" era of the Old South.



17. **Trinity Episcopal Church, Cherry Street.** On May 21, 1950, Trinity Episcopal Church was made an organized mission by the Rt. Reverend Middleton S. Barnwell, Bishop of Georgia. The present building was constructed in 1952.



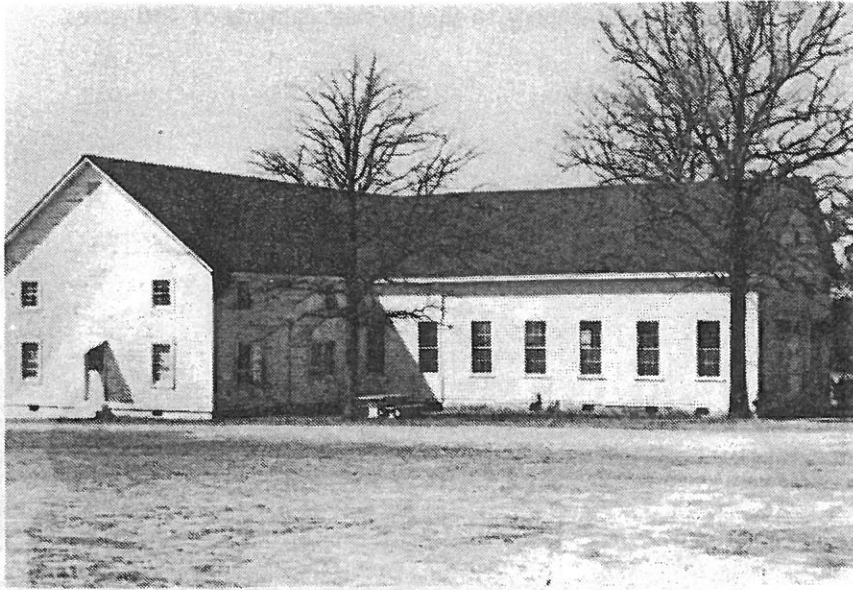
18. **Tabernacle Baptist Church, Fifth and Cherry Streets.** The church was organized in 1965. The present building was completed in 1976 and dedicated on March 14, 1976.



19. **Southside Baptist Church, Jessup Street.** Organized in 1957 as a mission of the First Baptist Church, the church was constituted as Southside Baptist Church on June 8, 1958. The foundation for the present building was laid in August of 1957 and construction completed in 1958.



20. **Church of God, 511 Oak Street.** Organized on March 3, 1946, the present building was completed in 1946.



21. **Lakeview Baptist Church, Lakeview.** Organized in 1960, the church held a note-burning ceremony for the present building on March 7, 1976.



22. **Church of Christ, Eastman Highway.** The church was organized in 1970 and the present building was built in 1972.

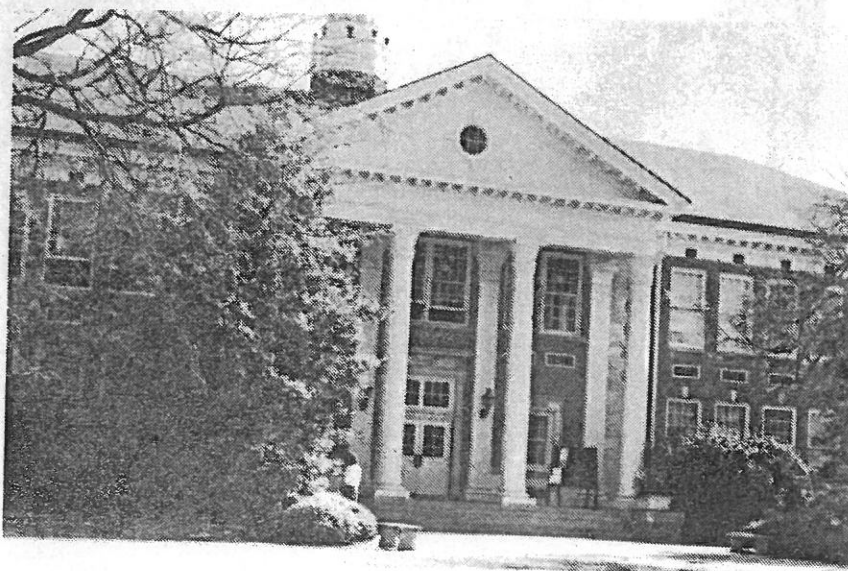
MIDDLE GEORGIA COLLEGE

Page :

Founded in 1884 as New Ebenezer College, one of the first junior colleges in America, the forerunner of Middle Georgia College. The campus has grown from the original 12 acres donated by Peter L. Peacock and James E. Oberry to the present campus of 166 acres.



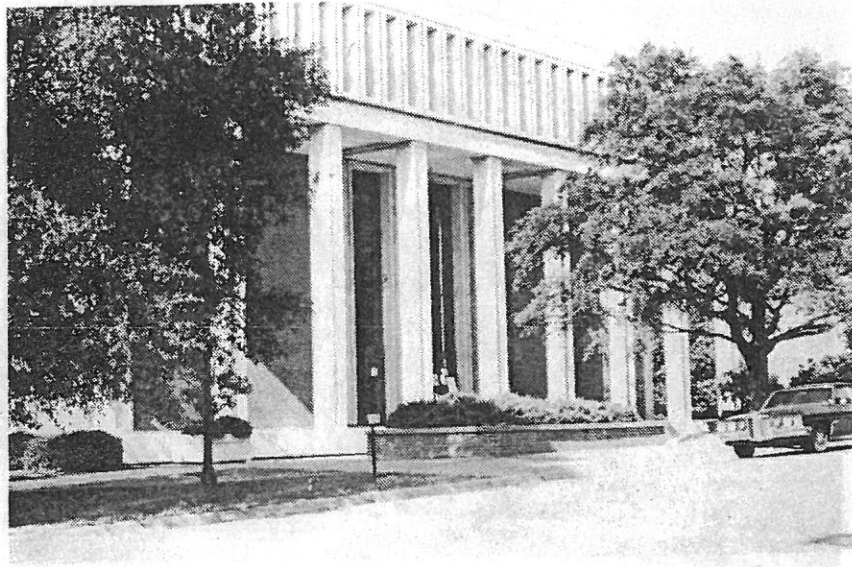
23. **Sanford Hall.** Completed in 1939 and named for the late Chancellor S.V. Sanford, the building served as a library until 1965. It now houses administrative offices. The “welcoming arms” entrance stairs and the “raised cottage” architecture reminiscent of the Jeffersonian style at the University of Virginia are architectural distinctives.



24. **Walker Hall.** Completed in 1928, the building replaces the original New Ebenezer College building built in 1885-86 which burned in 1926. The oldest academic building on campus, Walker Hall is named after Dr. Thomas D. Walker, founder of the college. It is distinguished by its Greek Revival style.



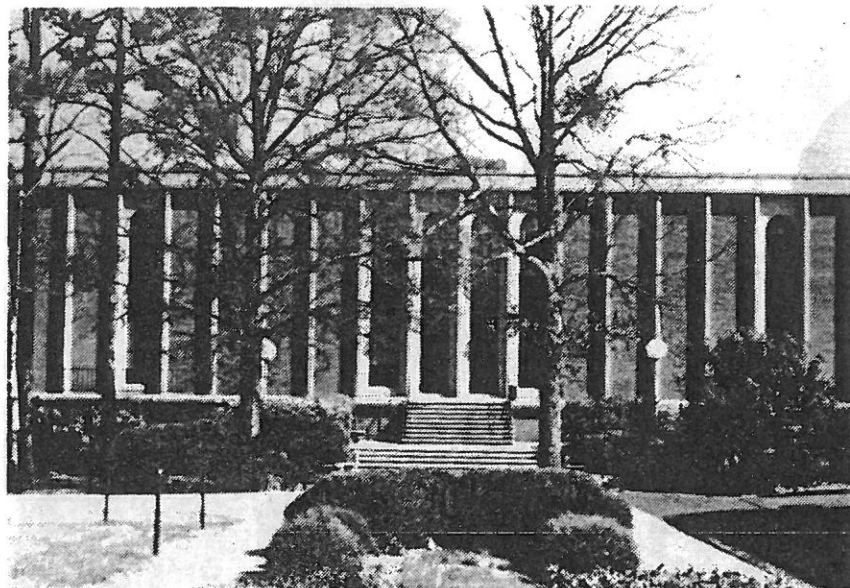
25. **Memorial Hall.** Completed in 1938, the building has served as student center, dormitory, and dining hall. It now serves as a student religious activities center. The home economics department is housed in the rear. It serves as a memorial to the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence and plaques are placed as memorials on each of the benches in the colonial style "meeting house". It is inspired by the Fifth Congregational Meeting House of Lancaster, Massachusetts, designed by the noted early American architect Charles Bulfinch third architect of the nation's Capitol in Washington, designer of its dome and architect of the Boston State House and the Hartford State House. The portico of the building is a scaled replica of the portico on the Bulfinch Meeting House, built in 1816 and considered one of his masterpieces. The curved brick arches inside the columns was "modern" design at the time.



26. **Russell Hall.** Completed in 1971, the newest academic building houses art, music, and drama departments. It is named after the late Richard Brevard Russell, Senator of Georgia and Governor of the State under whose administration the University System of Georgia was created, Middle Georgia College being one of the original units of the University System established in 1932. Russell memorabilia and a bust sculptured by the late professor Glenn Chesnut are in the West Gallery.

The performing arts theatre on the first floor is noted for its exceptional acoustics. Art galleries, music studios, speech studios and design laboratories are contained in the building along with sixteen general classrooms for the humanities and social sciences.

The colonnade on all four sides of the building in neo-classical style is a distinguishing architectural feature blending both the old and the new. Forty-eight columns surround the building, representing the States that composed the Continental United States during most of Russell's tenure as a United States Senator.



27. **Roberts Library.** Completed in 1965, the library was named after the late Lucien E. Roberts, third President of Middle Georgia College, during whose administration the library was planned. It houses 66,260 volumes and contains 4, 110 microfilm items. A Special Collection Room contains a Georgiana collection, a genealogy collection, and autographed books by Georgia authors. The library also has a Heritage Room containing a Freedom Shrine of documents important in American history. A Museum Room displays exhibits that are changed regularly.



28. **Dillard Hall.** Completed in 1958 with an annex added in 1966, the building was named after the late Ernest Dillard, Dean of the College for twenty years and Professor of Science. The building houses the Division of Science and Mathematics including the departments of chemistry, biology, geology, physical science, engineering and mathematics.



29. **Ebenezer Hall.** Constructed about 1890, the wooden frame building is the only structure remaining from the original campus of New Ebenezer College. Built as a home for the President, the building has served as a Dean's residence, as both men's and women's dormitories, as a dining hall, and as a classroom building. It is now preserved as an alumni house, home management house, guest house, as a museum depicting the era of the Victorian during which the house was built and New Ebenezer College established. The Seth Thomas clock placed in the original New Ebenezer College building is a prized possession along with other items reflecting the college's history.

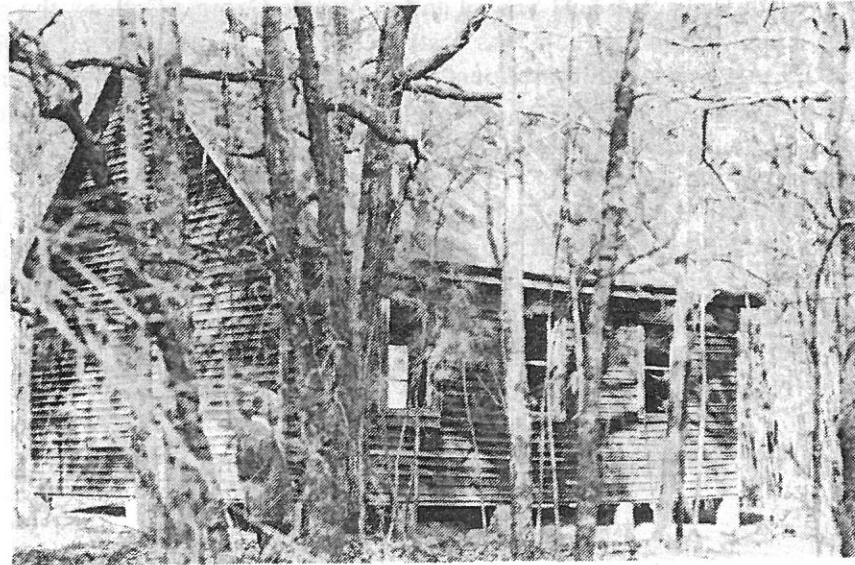


30. **Peacock Hall.** Named after the late P.L. Peacock, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Twelfth District A & M School and of Middle Georgia College, the original building, a men's residence hall, was destroyed by fire in the 1940's when it housed U.S. Air Force cadets stationed on the campus for pre-flight training. It was rebuilt by the United States Government following World War II. Middle Georgia College received a citation from the United States Air Force for its contribution to the war effort.

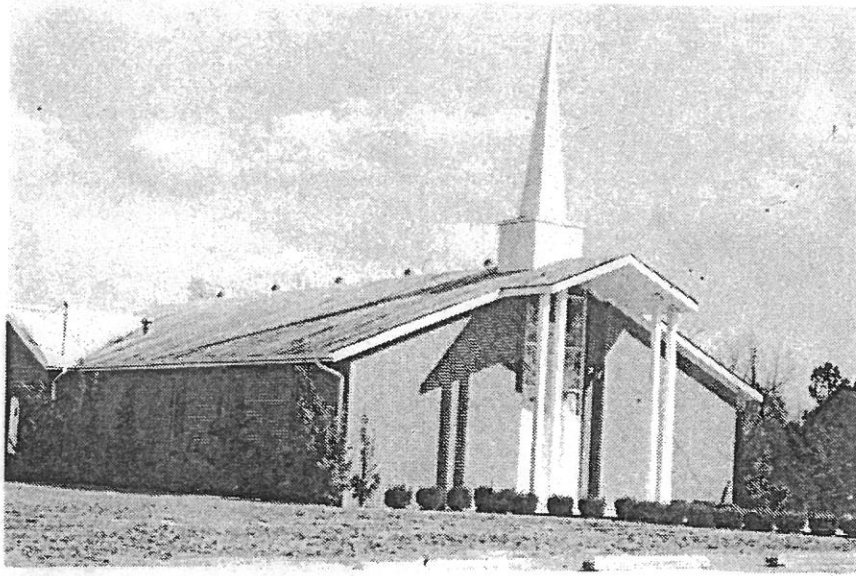
Its twin structure, to the north of Walker Hall, Wiggs Hall, was the first brick dormitory to be constructed on the campus. Built in 1922, it was named after Mrs. Walton H. Wiggs, an early college benefactor, and served for many years as a women's residence hall.



31. **Bethany Baptist Church, Highway 26, Dublin Road.** The church was organized in the 1860's with a deed dated October 28, 1867, from Elizabeth McPhail conveying two acres of land to the church, one-fourth acre being reserved for a burying ground. It is not known when the present building was erected. The auditorium was brick veneered in 1958. A new educational building was added in 1968.



32. **One-room School House, off Highway 26, Dublin Road east on side road past the William Perry Farm.** This one-room school house was originally a part of the Bleckley County School System located on the Dublin Highway. It was later moved to its present location and used as a school for black children in the rural area.



33. **Salem Baptist Church**, Highway 26, Dublin Road. The church was constituted and the original building was constructed during the first year of the Civil War 1861. The original seats reserved for the slaves remained in the church until its remodeling in 1952. Sunday school rooms were added in 1954 and in 1963 part of the old Salem School buildings were purchased for educational use. A new brick building was built in 1969 and the old church building was torn down. The present structure was dedicated on May 25, 1969.



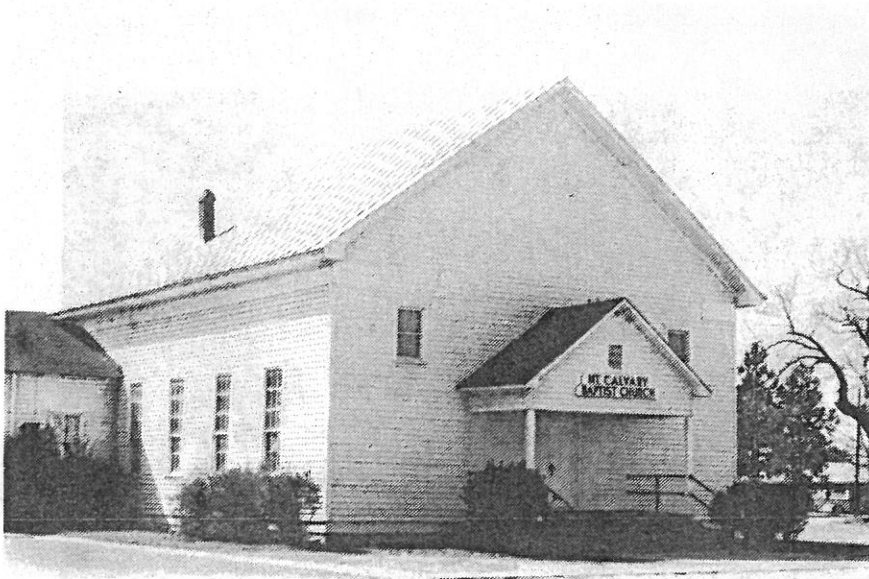
34. **Cain Coley Home**, Highway 26, Dublin Road. Eleven miles east of Cochran on the old Uchee Trail, the Cain Coley home of Southern colonial architecture was built about 1834. It is now occupied by the family of Paul English, former sheriff of Bleckley County.



35. **Limestone Baptist Church, Highway 257, Chicken Road.** The Limestone Baptist Church was established from the Old Hartford Church in 1833. The church got its name from the fact that it sits on the banks of the Limestone Creek. The first church was a small log building about 16 feet by 20 feet which was also used as a school house. The second church was built across the road in the 1850's and was later destroyed by fire in the 1870's. The third church was a wooden frame building moved to make room for the present brick building constructed in 1960 and dedicated on March 23, 1960.



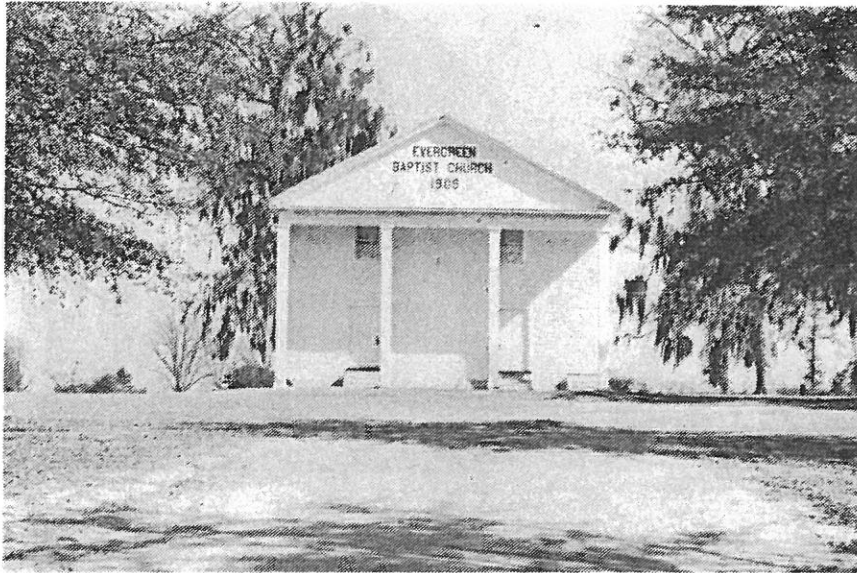
36. **Antioch Methodist Church, Ruth Community.** The movement resulting in the organization of the Antioch Methodist Church began in the school building in the Antioch Community. Services were later conducted under a brush arbor. Some time in the year 1881 the congregation meeting under the brush arbor crystallized into a church organization and took the name of the Antioch Methodist Church. It was at this time the first building was constructed. In 1896 the present church building was constructed and after 80 years of use it is still a substantial building.



37. **Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Cary.** The church was organized about 1850. It is said that the name of Cary was derived from part of the church's name, Calvary. The present church building was constructed in the latter part of the 1800's.

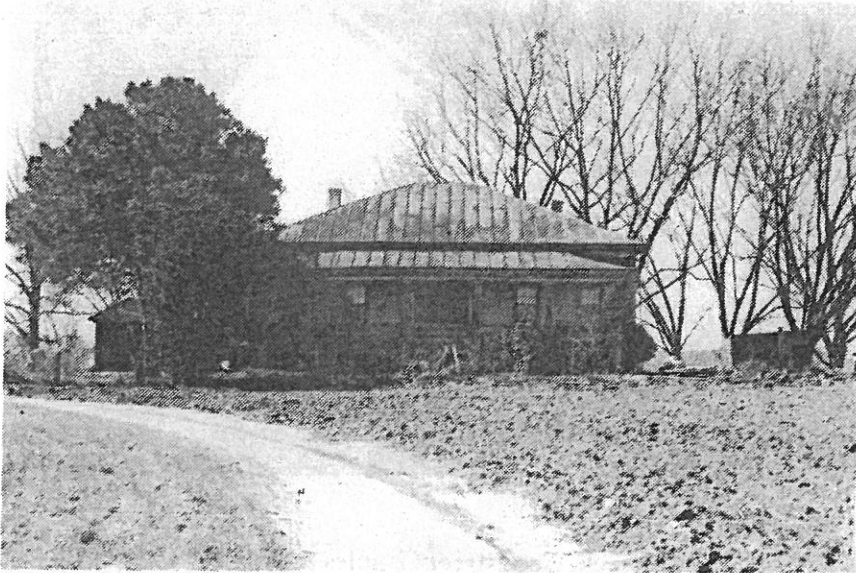


38. **Dykes Log Cabin, Cary.** The log cabin on the property of Everett Dykes was moved from its original location where it was built by the Dykes family in the 1840's.



39. **Evergreen Baptist Church**, Macon Highway, U.S. 23 and Ga. 87, 6 miles north of Cochran. The oldest church in the area and in continuing service for the longest period of time, Evergreen Baptist Church was constituted on October 15, 1809. The original name of the church was Mt. Horeb Church located on the "Old River Road" at or near the site of the Centenary Methodist Church. On February 14, 1844, the congregation and pastor found themselves locked out of the church by a Brother Buckhalter. Most of the congregation considered "mission-minded," formed a new church and constructed a new building in 1844 on the banks of Evergreen Creek, calling it "Evergreen Church," The congregation met at the Methodist Campground on Longstreet Road until the new building was completed.

In slavery days Negroes walked for miles to attend the services at Evergreen. A gallery was built to accommodate the Negro members who at one time outnumbered the white members. In 1864 there were 130 Negro members and 86 white members. In 1870 the Negroes chose to worship separately, so they were dismissed to their own fellowship. The slave gallery may still be seen in the beautiful old church.



40. **George Jordan House (Wimberly Home), Longstreet.** This house was the property of Judge George W. Jordan of Macon, formerly of Hawkinsville, born at old Longstreet. The house was built about 1850. Mrs. Mary Blackshear Wimberly, the great-granddaughter of Brig. General David Blackshear of War of 1812 fame presently lives in the house. It was originally the home of Mrs. Betsy Walker Wimberly Jordan, daughter of George Walker III, prominent Longstreet settler.



41. **Walker-McCall-Mullis Home, Longstreet.** This house, built in the 1840's by Charles Walker, was occupied by the Rev. George R. McCall and his brother Moses McCall when they taught at the Old Longstreet Academy across the road from Longstreet Methodist Church. It was later owned by the Mullis family and is still owned by a descendant.



42. **Longstreet Methodist Church, Longstreet** (2 miles from Junction U.S. 23 and Ga. 87, north of Cochran 6 miles). Longstreet Methodist Church was organized around 1812 and the original building is still in use. Thus it is the oldest church building in this area. Land for the church was given by Charles Walker, one of the five sons of George Walker, Jr., Revolutionary soldier and early settler in the area who built his home on the banks of Shellstone Creek in 1806. Four of the sons built on a three and one-half mile stretch of the "Federal Stage and Post Road," running from Milledgeville to Hartford, that became known as "Longstreet." Two acres of land were given by Charles Walker, one for the church and one for the school. When the school, Longstreet Academy, was abandoned, its land reverted to the church. There is an old cemetery in the rear of the church.

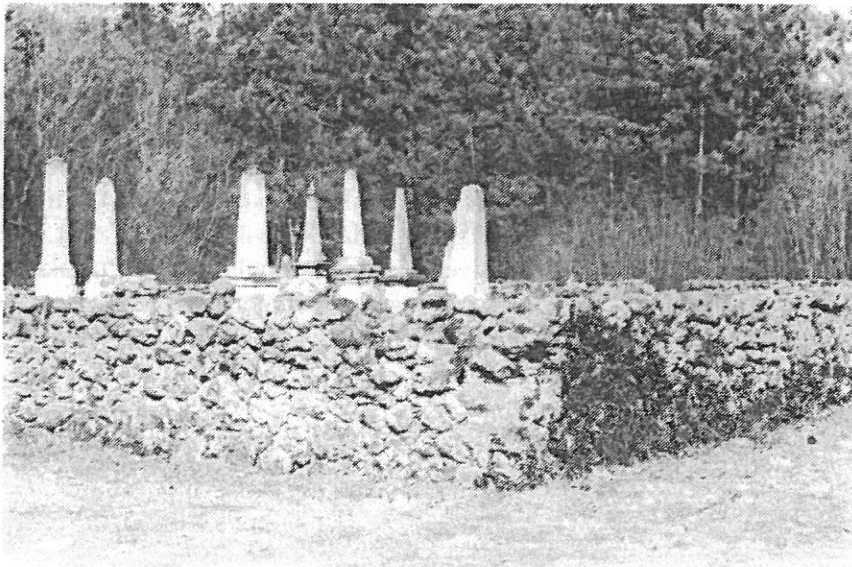


43. **David Walker Home, Longstreet.** This house, the oldest house in Bleckley County was built in 1823 by David Walker, son of George Walker, Jr. It is the birthplace of Dr. Thomas Duhart Walker, founder of New Ebenezer College and later Middle Georgia College. It was later owned by the late J.P. Shedd and his heirs.



44. **George Walker III Home, Longstreet.** This house near the Twiggs-Bleckley County Line on the historic old Milledgeville road, was built around the 1850's.

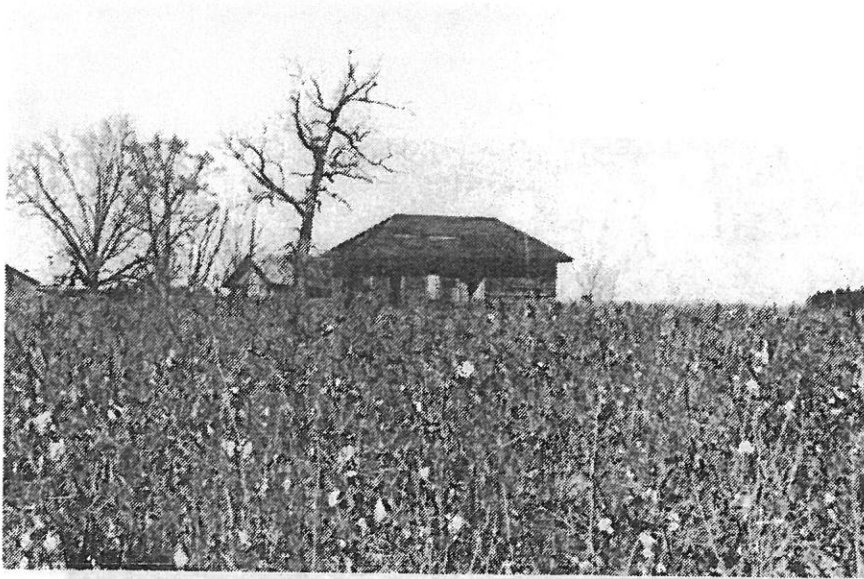
**Macon Road
U.S. 23 and Ga. 87**



45. **Walker Cemetery, Macon Road.** The Walker Cemetery, dating from 1811, is the final resting place for many of the earliest pioneer settlers of the area. Here lies George Walker, Jr., 1763-1830, a Revolutionary soldier from Burke County, Georgia, who settled on Shellstone Creek about 1806 in the new lands that had been recently ceded by the Indians. Here lies George Walker III, 1793-1865, hero of the War of 1812, and on the first Board of Directors of the Macon and Brunswick Railroad.



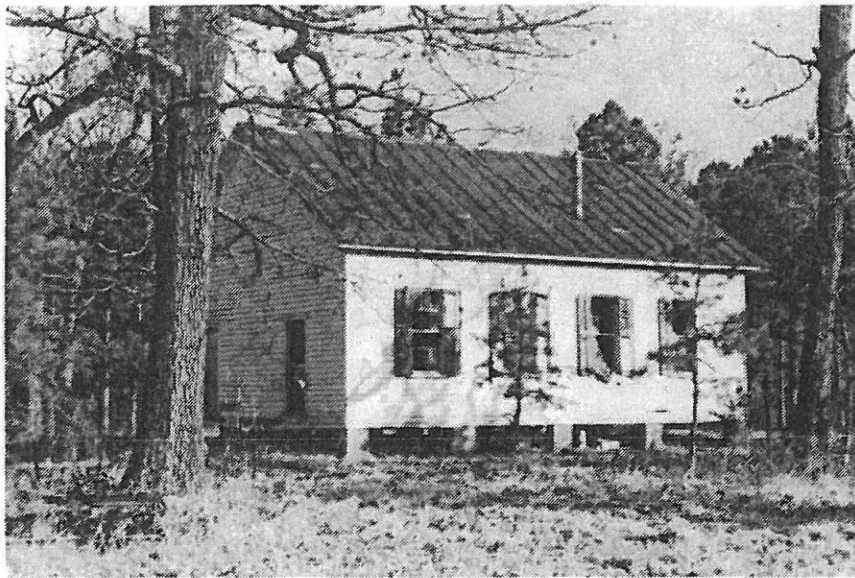
46. **DeSoto Trail Marker, Macon Road.** Across the Twiggs County line is a marker depicting the route of the first white men to traverse this area, that of DeSoto who passed with his Spaniards through the area of present Bleckley County. In this neighborhood lay the towns of Cotaqui and Patota, visited by Hernando de Soto, April 12-16, 1540. From them he turned directly east in search of the Province of Cotetachequi on the Savannah River. DeSoto crossed the Ocmulgee River Shoals at the present site of Hartford and Hawkinsville in April of 1540. He followed a path along the "Upper River Road," through present Pulaski and Bleckley Counties on his way to a crossing on the Oconee River above the present site of Dublin.



47. **Coley's Station**, Ga. 126, Porter Road. The old M & B Railroad Depot at Coley's Station was moved to this site from its original location. At the end of Longstreet was Coley's Station which had been placed at the end of the old Macon and Brunswick railroad line. Chartered in 1856, the railroad was the first to be built in the area and eventually extended all the way to the coast at Brunswick. The President of the M & B Railroad, Judge A.E. Cochran of Brunswick, was the person for whom the former village of Dykesboro was named when it was chartered as the City of Cochran on March 19, 1869. The bringing of the railroad to this area created a new naval stores empire which resulted in the influx of many new settlers in the 1860's and thereafter.

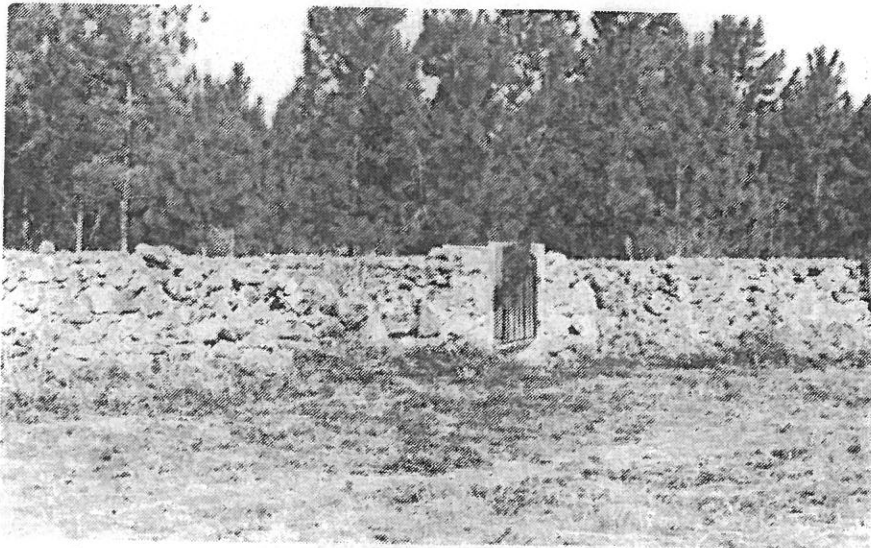


48. **Helms House**, (Charles Parker home) River Road. This plantation style house was built by William Helms in the 1870's. The white frame house is a typical one-story style with a portico supported by wooden column on brick pillars overhanging a recessed porch with decorative balusters.



49. **Centenary Methodist Church, River Road.** The Centenary Methodist Church was organized in 1884 and the present wooden frame white building was constructed and dedicated in 1885. The congregation dissolved in 1939, its members joining the First Methodist Church of Cochran. The church was used as a Negro school by the Bleckley County School System and is now abandoned.

It was in the corner of the field nearest the road that the old Mt. Horeb Baptist Church stood, the church having been constituted in 1809 and from which Evergreen Baptist Church was split in 1844. It was here that the Ebenezer Baptist Association, formed in 1814, the sixth association to be formed in Georgia, met in its annual convention in October, 1816, when Jesse Mercer and Luther Rice filled the pulpit. Luther Rice had arrived on horseback representing the Triennial Convention of Baptists formed two years before in Philadelphia. He preached a sermon on foreign missions and obtained promise of financial support from the Ebenezer Association. He is credited with having knit Baptists into a denomination centered around a cooperative missionary enterprise.



50. **Revolutionary Soldier Grave Site, Coalson Cemetery, Arrowood Seed Orchard, State Highway 126.** Pulaski-Bleckley County Line is the Forestry Service seed orchard containing a rock-walled cemetery in which the Revolutionary soldier John William Snelling, 1760-1815, an early settler, is buried. A white marble marker placed by the Hawkinsville Chapter, D.A.R., marks his grave.

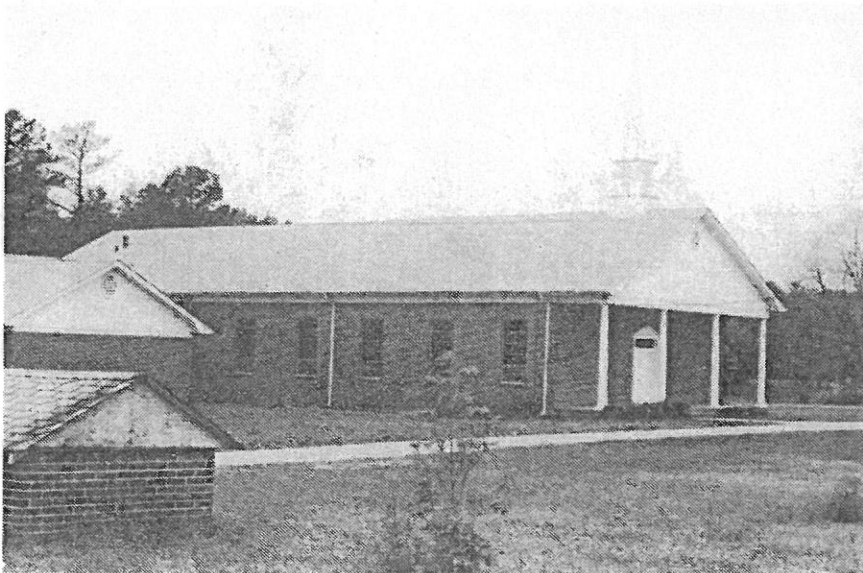
Near this site is an Indian cemetery recently excavated by archaeologists. On the nearby R.M. Allison Cattle Farm in the Ram Woods is a circular piece of bare ground, approximately twenty feet in diameter. This was an Indian Ceremonial dance ground.



51. **Judge Miles Blount Home, (Clayton Foskey, Jr., home), intersection of State Highway 126 and Collins Road.** This house originally stood on the Collins Road in Bleckley County. This fine old home was built in 1877 and was the home of Judge Miles Blount. The house was recently bought by Clayton Foskey, Jr., and moved about 1 1/2 miles into Pulaski County. It is of the one-story white frame plantation cottage style, typical of this area. The portico is supported by wooden columns on brick pillars overhanging a recessed porch with decorative balusters characteristic of this style of architecture.



52. **Collins School, Collins Road.** The Collins School, built in 1912, is typical of the many one-room schoolhouses once found in the area. It has been moved from its original site.



53. **Union Hill Baptist Church, Airport Road.** Union Hill Baptist Church was established in 1895. The original church building was built around 1895. The present church building was completed in 1966 and dedicated on October 9, 1966.



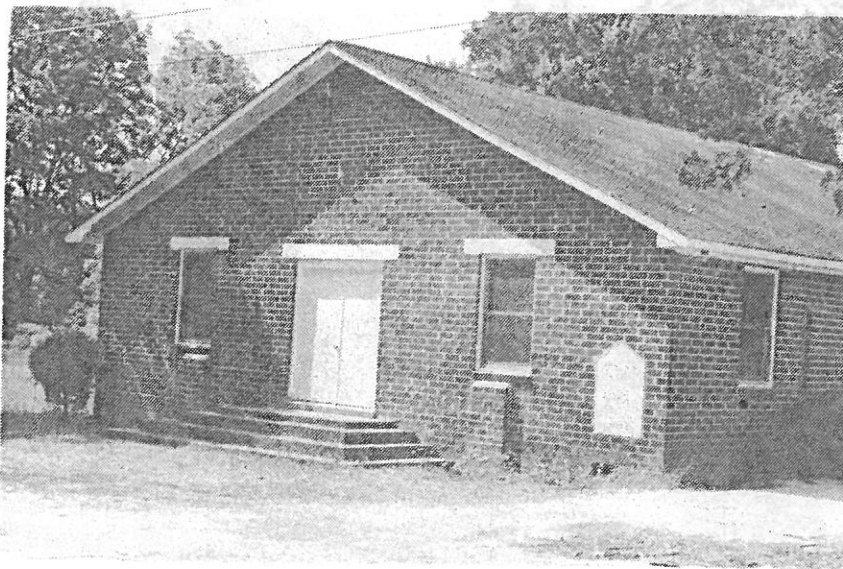
54. Little Bethel Freewill Baptist Church, Rebie. The church was founded in 1915.



55. Trail Branch Primitive Baptist Church, Georgia Highway 26, Dublin Road. The church was constituted in 1812.



56. **Marthann Baptist Church.** The original cornerstone of the church is dated September 16, 1904. Brick-veneering was completed in 1953.



57. **Turner Chapel A.M.E. Church.** The present church was rebuilt in 1958, and dedicated in 1973.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Cochran-Bleckley County Bicentennial Commission wished to express our appreciation to the following persons who helped to make the study possible:

Dr. Louis C. Alderman
President, Middle Georgia College

Heart of Georgia Area Planning and Development Commission
Eastman, Georgia

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Secretary: Jenelle F. Floyd

Clerk of Court: Gynelle Van Buren
Secretary: Patti Moores
Secretary: Judy W. Mullis

Tax Commissioner: J.T. Smith
Secretary: Marian S. Holland
Secretary: Doris L. Sapp

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Deputy: John R. Johnson, Jr.
Deputy: George Patton Selph

Coroner: Bobby Mathis

Surveyor: John Dye

County School Superintendent: Tom Watson Dykes
Secretary: Betty Purser

Justice of Peace: F. Gene Horne

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