

EARLY BEGINNINGS IN DUNWOODY, 1821

Native Americans, Land Grant Holders,
Connection to Roswell, GA

Site of the Creek Indian trading-post town of Standing Peachtree



One of a line of forts hastily constructed during the War of 1812 to control the Creek Indians who were in alliance with the British. Fort Peachtree occupied the summit northeast of the confluence of the Chattahoochee River and Peachtree Creek, and overlooked the Creek trading-post town of Standing Peachtree. First Lt. George Rockingham Gilmer (Governor of Georgia, 1829-31, 1832-39) erected the fort in 1814. He later said he had "never seen a fort" up until that time, but as far as anyone knows, his construction was successful, since the strength of the fort was never tested. Sgt. James McConnell Montgomery, one of Gilmer's command of twenty-two, wrote Gen. Andrew Jackson (March 20, 1814) that the site, "on a commanding eminence," provided a "romantic" view of the river, both up stream and down. In July he described the fort as being "two large hew'd logg block houses, six dwelling houses, one fram'd store house, one Bridge... and five boats" which cost "the Government not less than five thousand dollars." (Montgomery later returned to live here. He became postmaster of Standing Peachtree and established Montgomery's Ferry near the fort site.) After the War of 1812, Fort Peachtree was apparently abandoned. No trace of the fort remains atop the hill.

DeKalb County Early Towns

DeKALB COUNTY

GEORGIA

organized December 9, 1822
from portions of Henry, Fayette and Gwinnett counties

THE ORIGINAL COUNTY BOUNDARY

"Beginning at the Gwinnett corner on the Newton line, thence along the Hightower trail to where the peach tree road crosses said trail, from thence a direct line through Gwinnett county, to the lower corner of fractional lot on the Chatahoochie river, number three hundred and forty-four, in the sixth district of said county, thence down said river to the boundary line near Sandtown, thence along said boundary line to the district corner between district number nine and fourteen, on the Chatahoochie river, thence a due east course along the district lines of thirteen and twelve to the corner of Newton county on the south Ocmulgee river, thence along the line of Newton county to the beginning corner of the Hightower trail..."

enacted by the Georgia Legislature and
signed by G. M. Troup, Governor
December 20, 1823

LEGEND

Land Lot 344 boundary of original DeKalb County

Land Lot 200 site of Solomon Goodwin home

Land Lot 230 site of James McC. Montgomery home

Land Lot 231 site of Fort Standing Peachtree

Land Lot 246 county seat of Decatur

Land Lot 134 original land lot
of Sandtown Indian village

Land Lot 38 site of
Dempsey Perkerson home

Fractional Land Lot 40
westernmost point
of original DeKalb
County

Modern county
boundary - - -

EARLY TOWNS

County seat of Decatur established 1823

Sandtown and Standing Peachtree, inhabited by both Indians and
white settlers, predate Decatur by at least 300 years

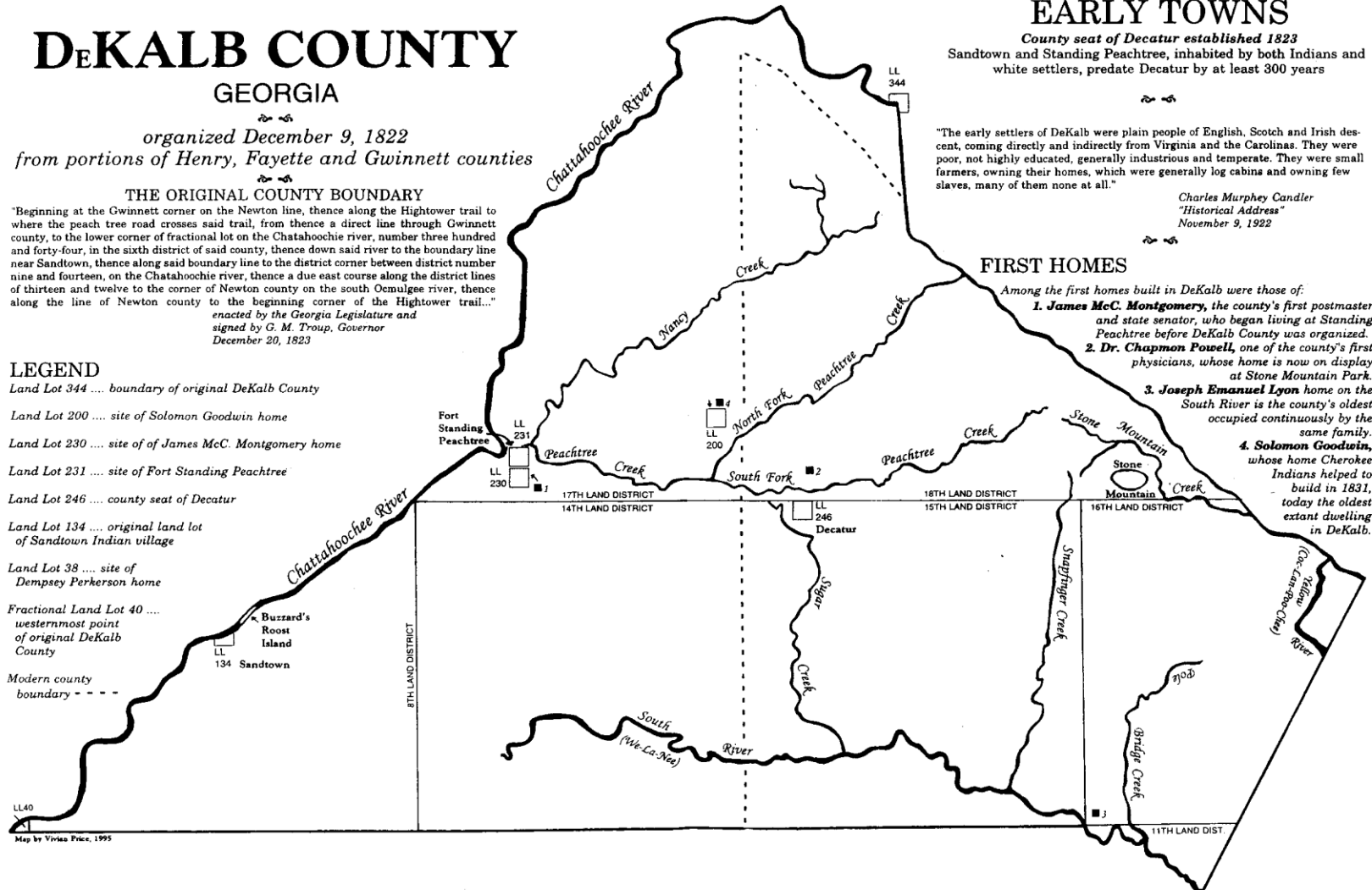
"The early settlers of DeKalb were plain people of English, Scotch and Irish descent, coming directly and indirectly from Virginia and the Carolinas. They were poor, not highly educated, generally industrious and temperate. They were small farmers, owning their homes, which were generally log cabins and owning few slaves, many of them none at all."

Charles Murphey Candler
"Historical Address"
November 9, 1922

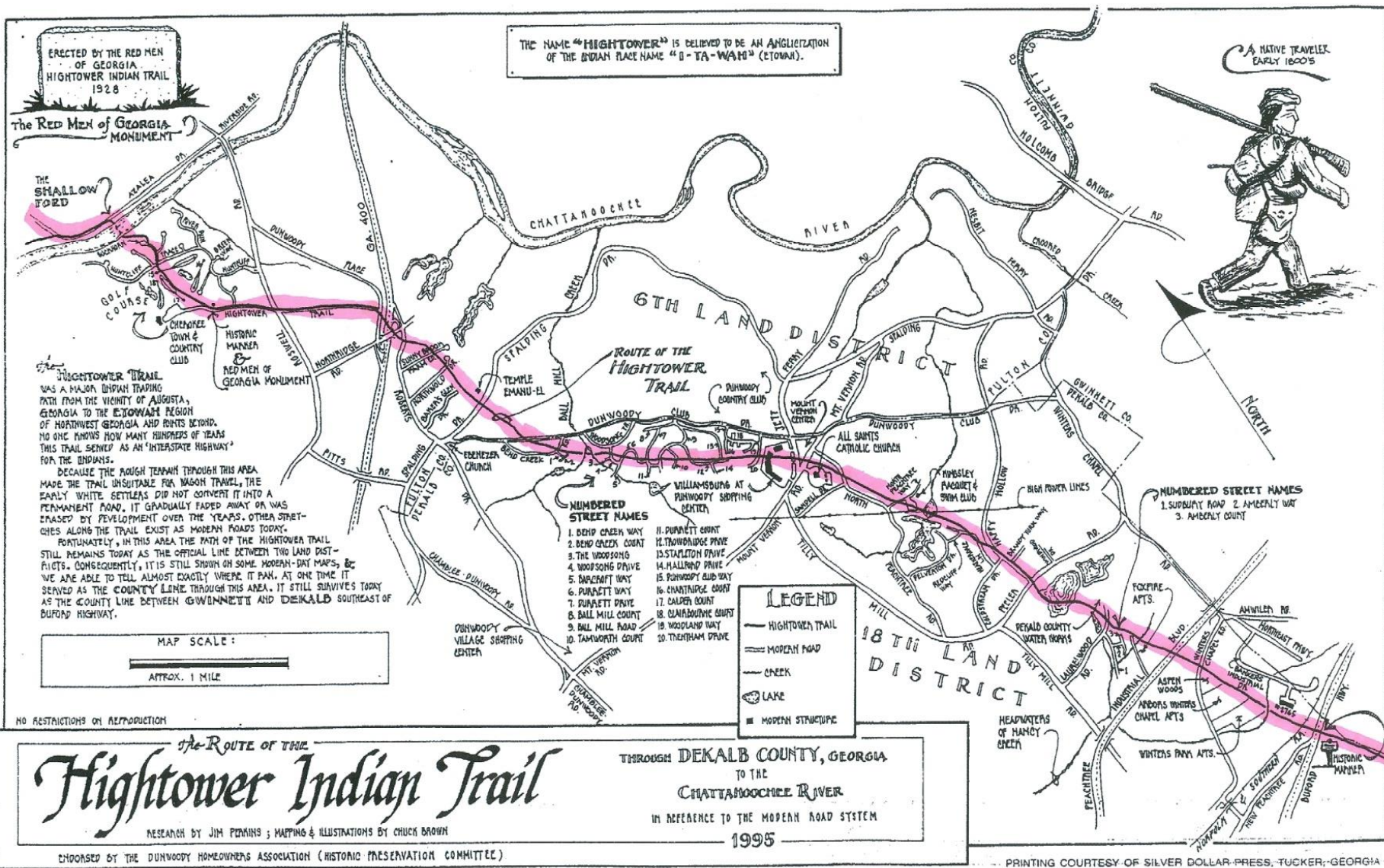
FIRST HOMES

Among the first homes built in DeKalb were those of:

1. **James McC. Montgomery**, the county's first postmaster and state senator, who began living at Standing Peachtree before DeKalb County was organized.
2. **Dr. Chapman Powell**, one of the county's first physicians, whose home is now on display at Stone Mountain Park.
3. **Joseph Emanuel Lyon** home on the South River is the county's oldest occupied continuously by the same family.
4. **Solomon Goodwin**, whose home Cherokee Indians helped to build in 1831, today the oldest extant dwelling in DeKalb.



The Hightower Trail

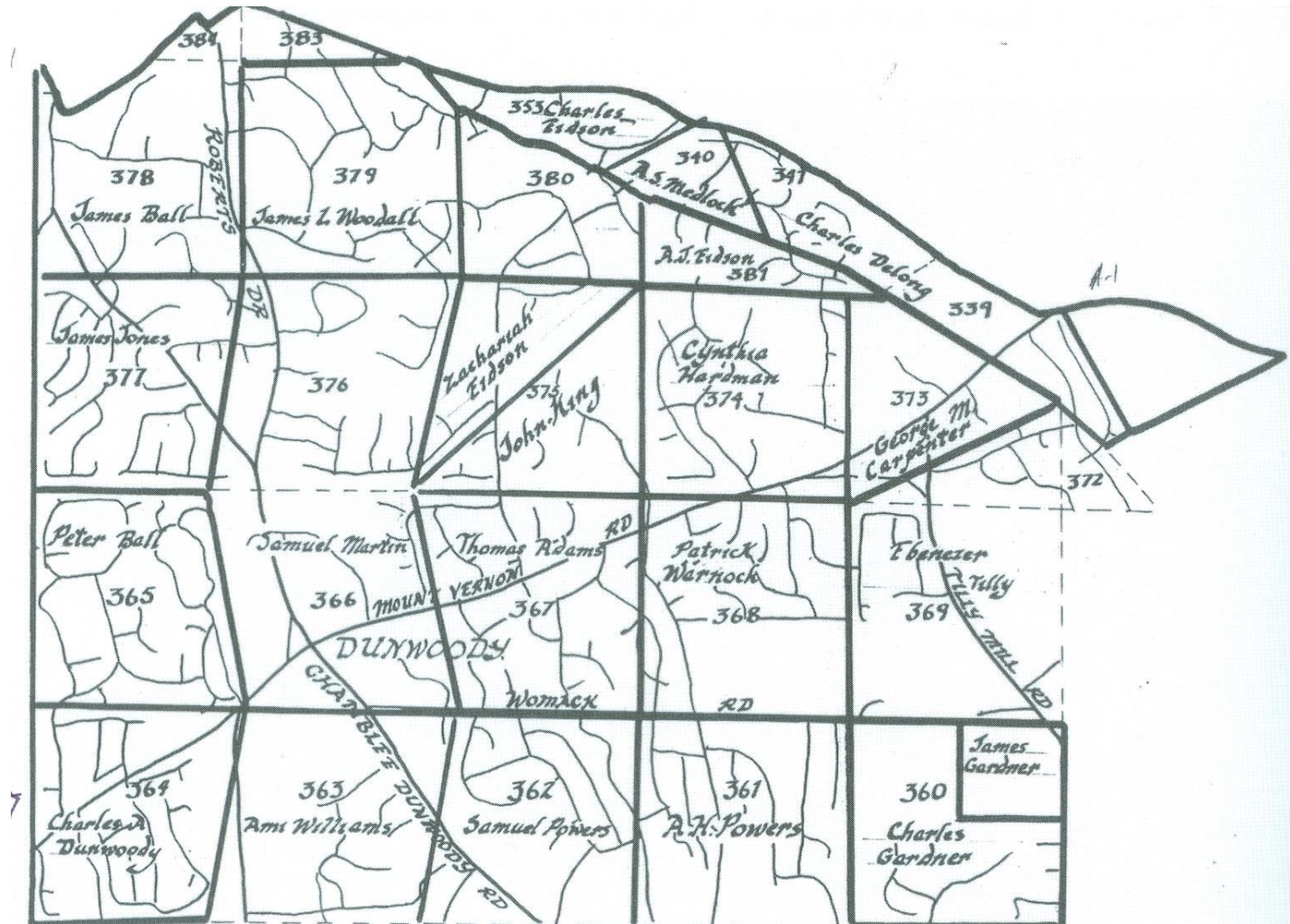


Hightower Trail Plaque

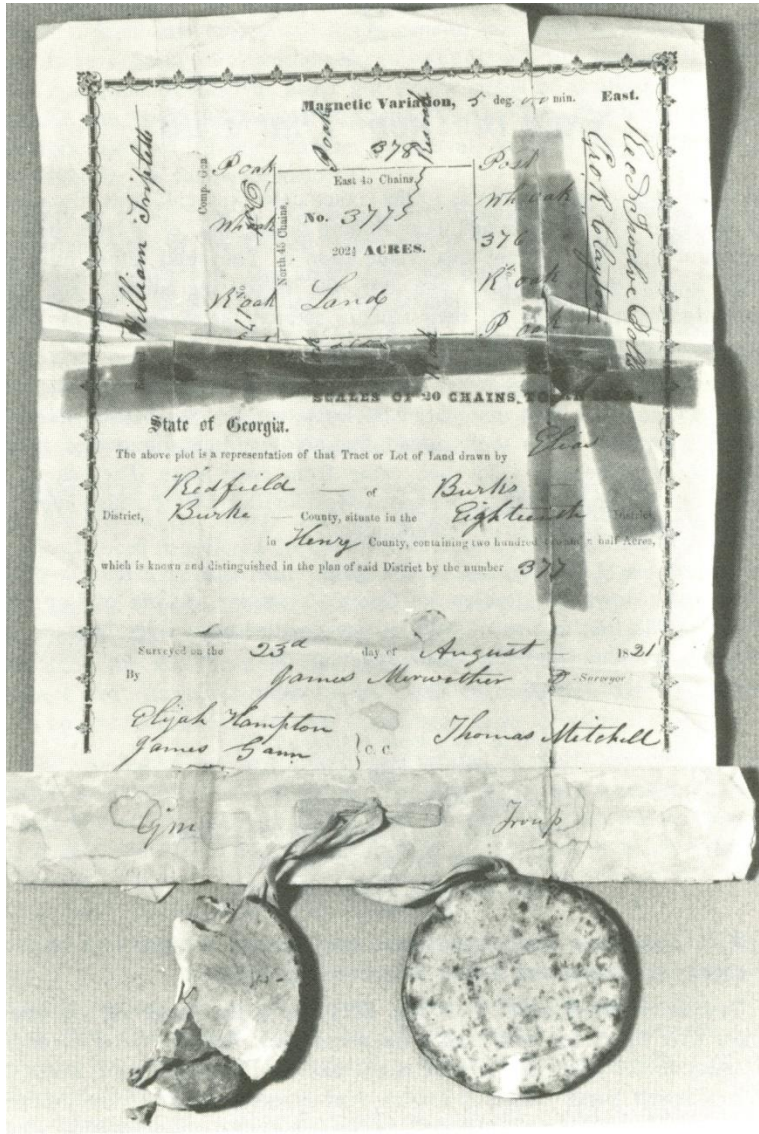


1830's map of Land Lots

Land Lots originally awarded in 1821 lottery



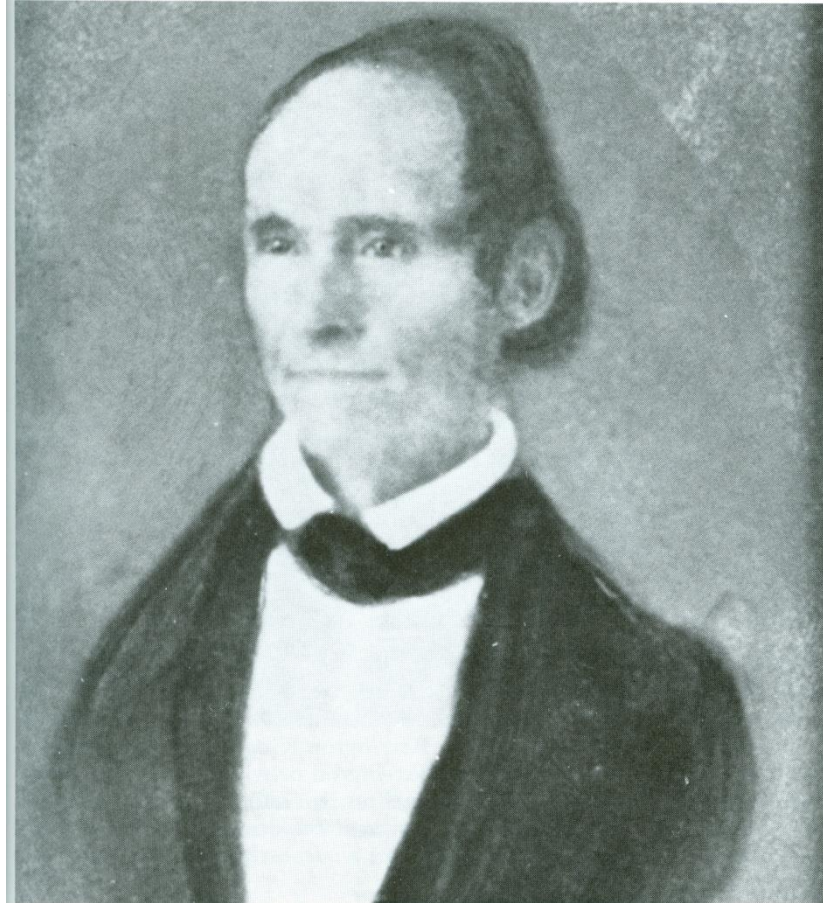
**Original deed to Land Lot 377
Issued to Elias Redfield in 1821**



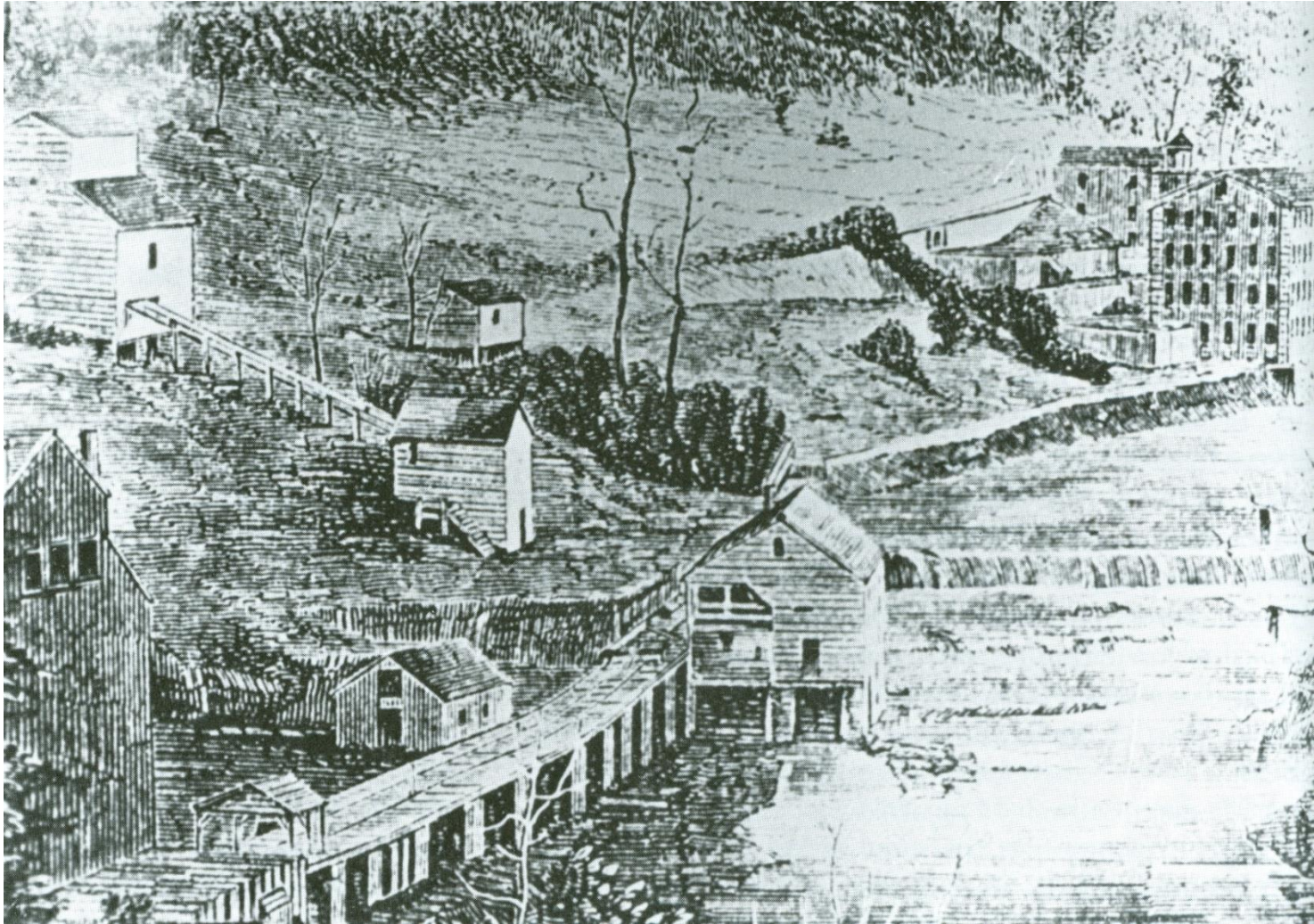
**Original Land Grant to Land Lot 373 –
issued to William Worthy (father of
Susan, wife of George Carpenter)**



Roswell King – Roswell Pioneer Founder of Roswell Mfg in 1839



The Roswell Mill complex



“The Bricks” – 1840

**Rented to mill workers and families
Among the earliest apartments in USA**



**Mimosa Hall, 1842 - Built in Roswell
by John Dunwoody,
(boyhood home of Charles Dunwoody)**



Built by Major Charles Dunwoody – 1824
Current site of Redfield tennis courts



The Roswell Bridge – rebuilt in 1869

5 cents per person – 25 cents for wagon & mules



Dunwoody's first Methodist Church

Built in 1903 at a cost of \$500



Wedding of Nettie Southern and Glenn Austin – 1906

First wedding in Dunwoody Methodist Church





These are the parents of Ambrey Carpenter: Francis Owen Carpenter and Amanda Carpenter. Amanda Carpenter was born in 1859, and this photograph was taken around 1905. (Courtesy of the Anderson family.)

Francis & Amanda Carpenter – 1905

(married in 1878)
(Parents of Ambrey)



This portrait is of Ambrey M. Carpenter (born in 1880) and Effie Spruill Carpenter (born in 1888), who met at the Dunwoody School. They were married in April 1904. Ambrey was a carpenter who worked on Camp Gordon, the Biltmore Hotel, and Davisons department store in downtown Atlanta. (Courtesy of the Anderson family.)

Ambrey & Effie Spruill Carpenter



**Railroad watch,
hidden from Union
forces, in hollow log**



Carpenter baby and mother



The Carpenter home stood where Mt. Vernon Rd & Tilly Mill Rd meet



Ambrey Carpenter (front right) On Biltmore construction



Calhoun Spruill

Father of Stephen



Stephen Spruill 1870-1967

Early Pioneer and Land Grant Holder



Mollie Lee Carter Spruill (first wife of Stephen Spruill)



The Spruill Homeplace (The Spruill Art Gallery)



“Cotton was King”

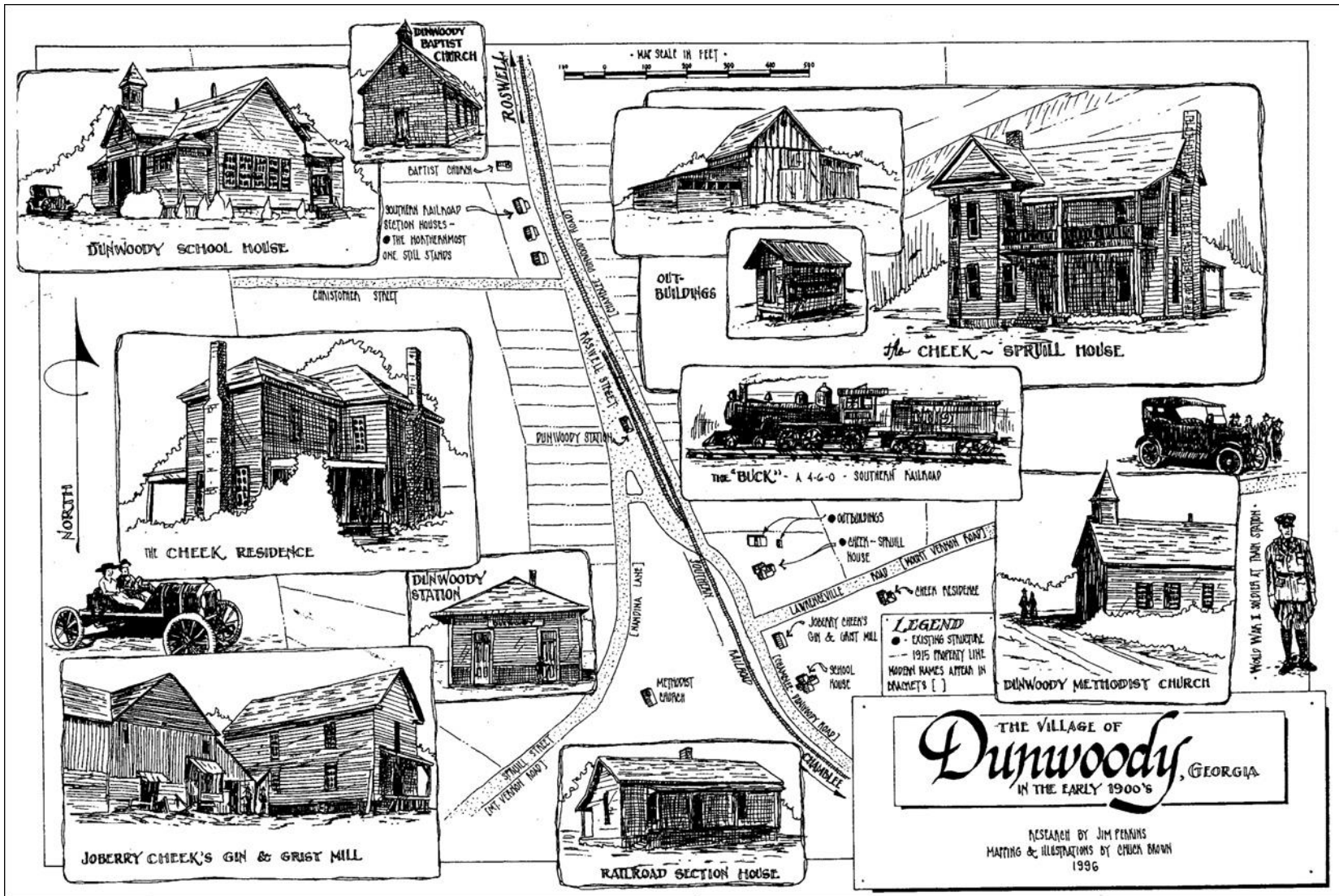
Mr. Spruill had 3-400 acres in cotton



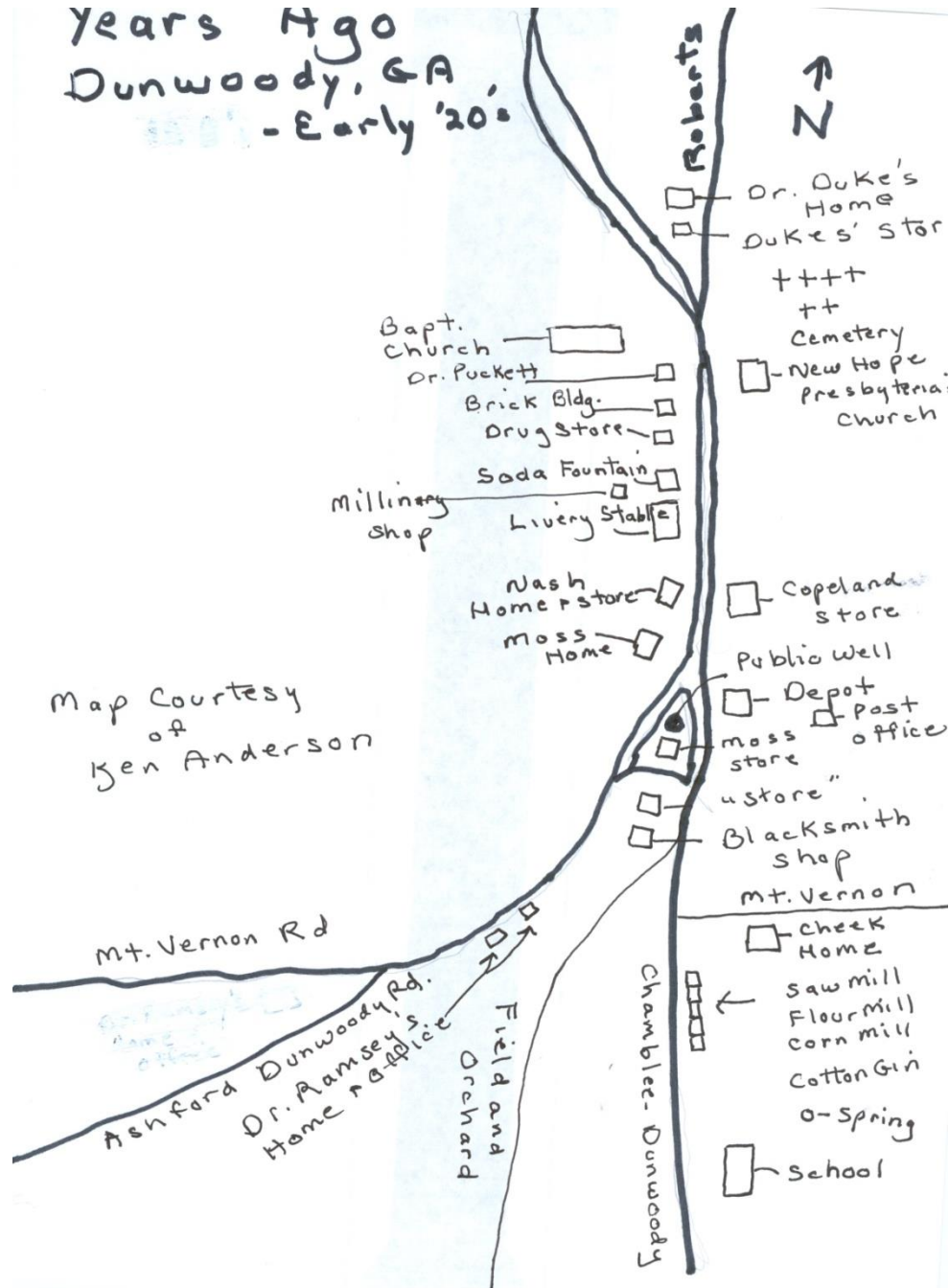
Mrs. Ethel Warren Spruill
2nd wife of Stephen



The Village of Dunwoody



Years Ago Dunwoody, GA - Early '20s



P.L. Moss General Store, and Home Located in the Dunwoody Triangle

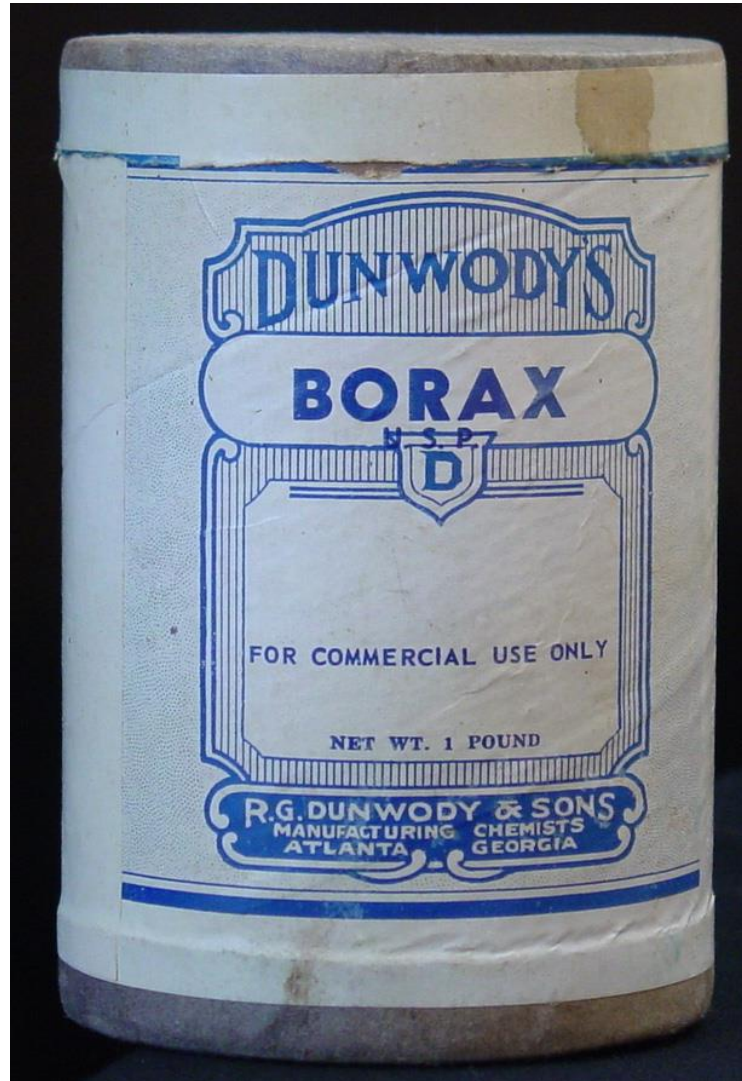


Village Public Well

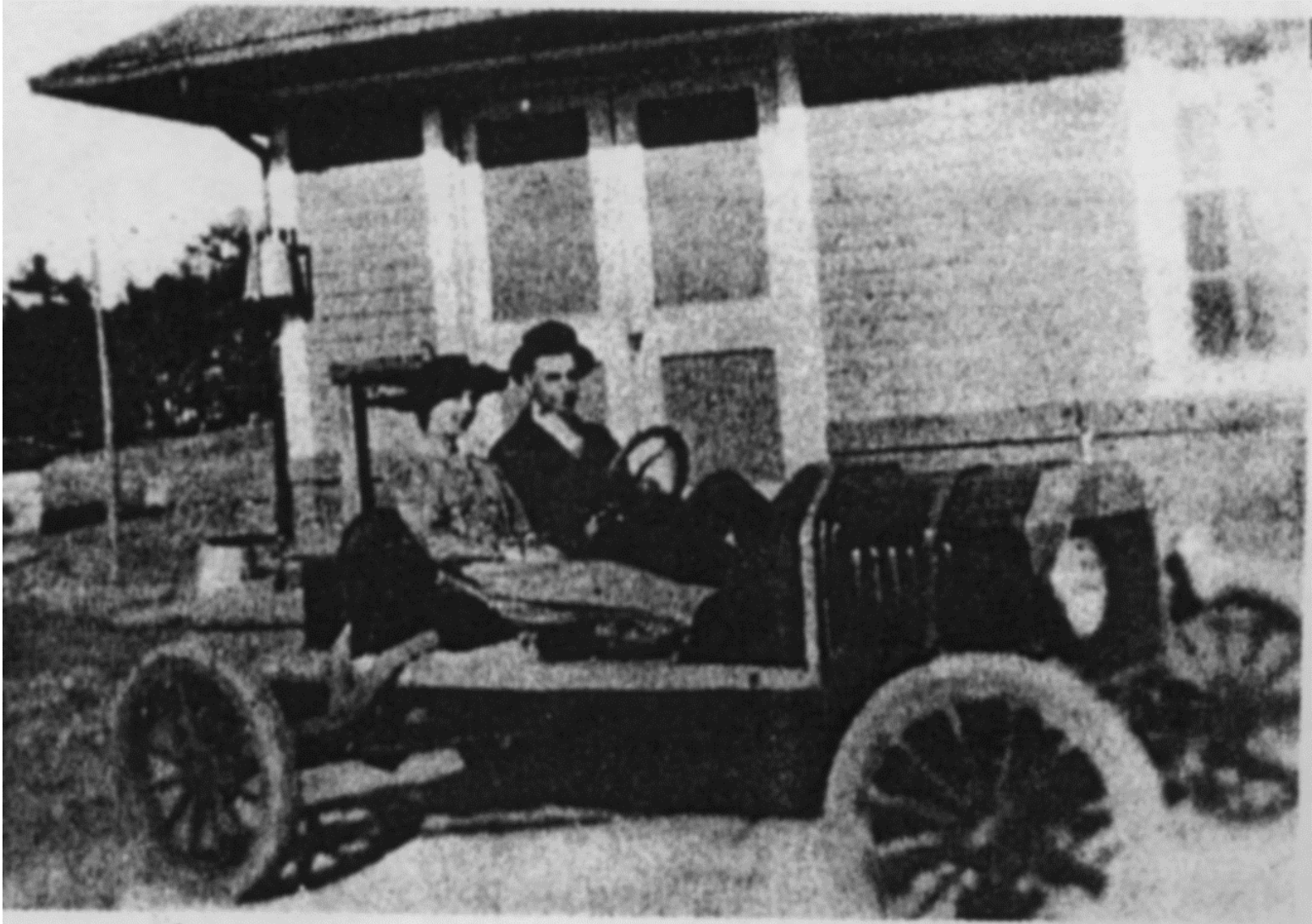
John Austin, Kathryne Nash & Sentell Spruill



Borax from the Dunwody Pharmacy (notice there is only one “o”)



The Dunwoody Railroad Depot (Located between CVS and the Chevron Station)



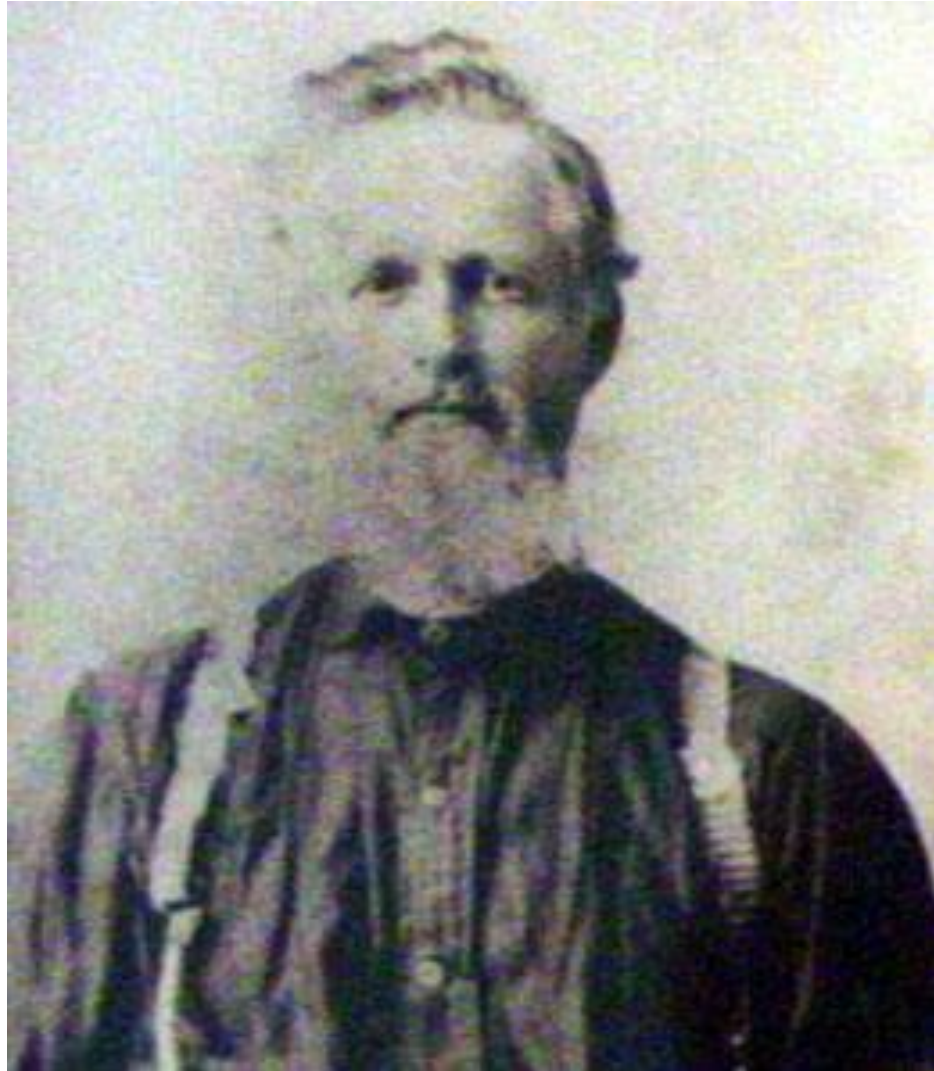
2 Section Gang Houses bulldozed 1 remains - 1994



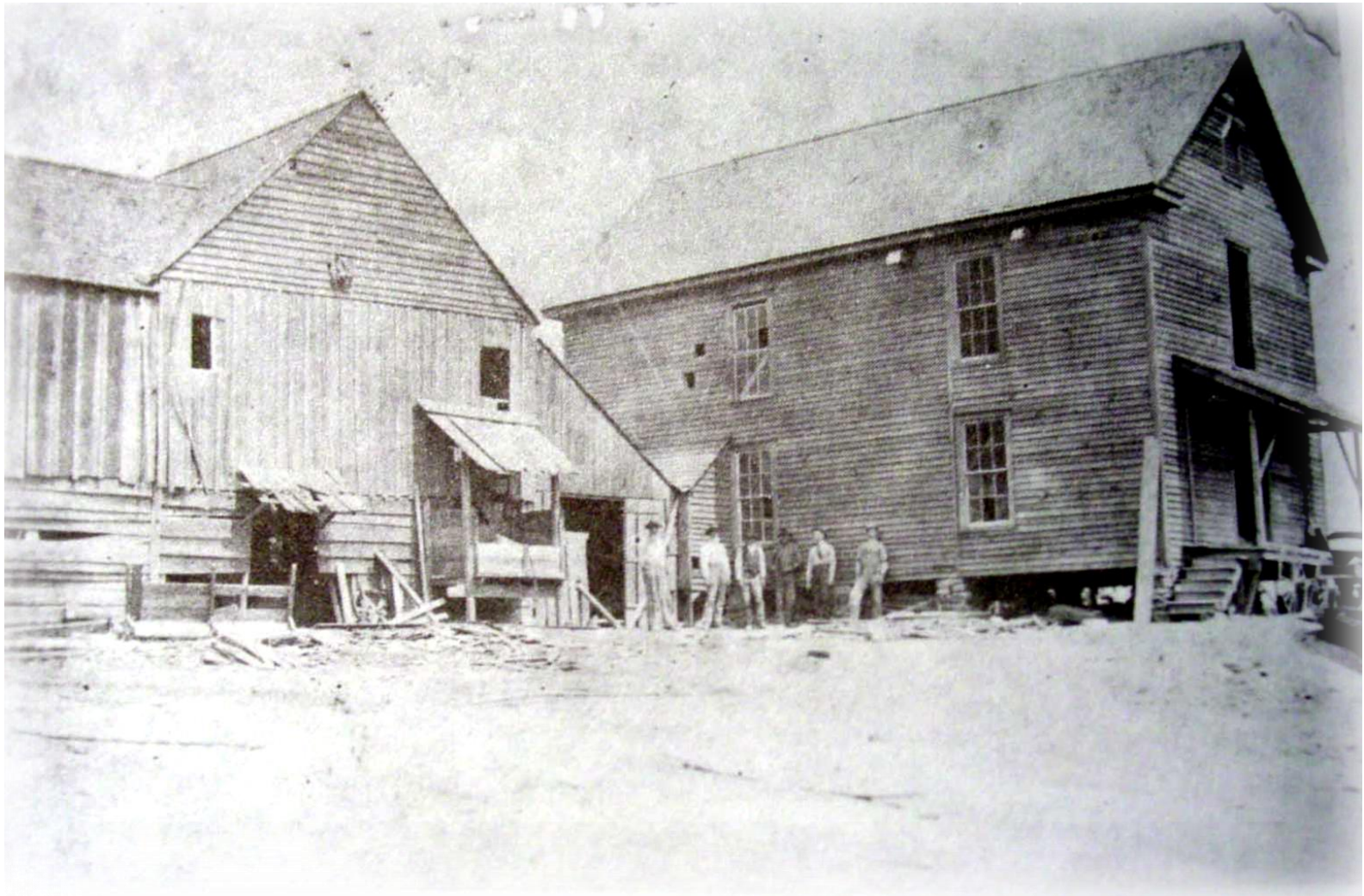
Railroad Section Gang



Joberry Cheek



Joberry Cheek's Gin, Flour and Cornmeal Mill



Joberry Cheek weighs cotton which sells for 40 cents per pound



Saw Mill owned and operated by Joberry Cheek



Myra Cheek Martin, Will Martin Hiram and Gladys Martin



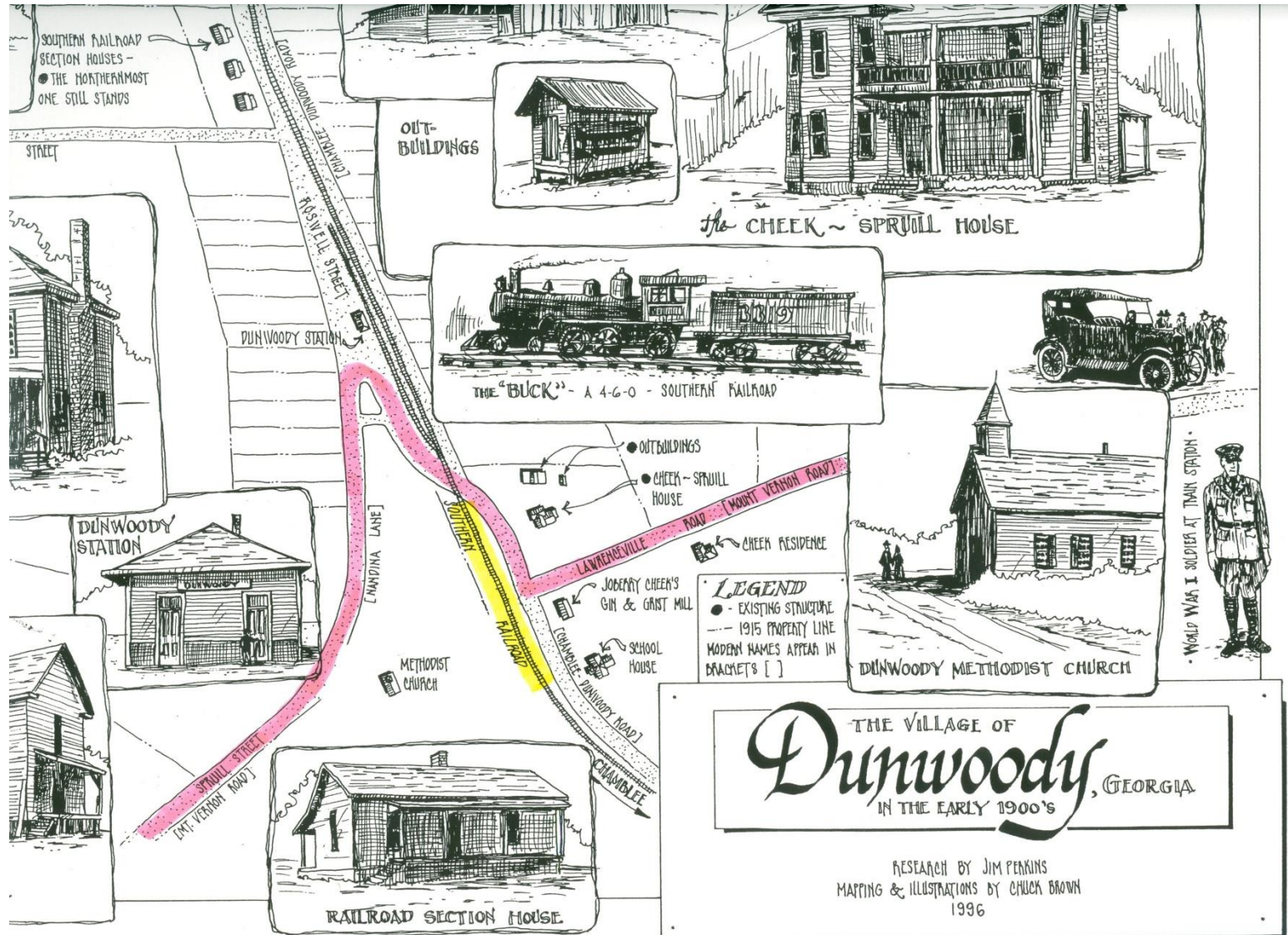
The Cheek-Spruill House – c.1906 (The Dunwoody Farmhouse)



Mr. Carey Spruill plows corn with Shorty (in modern times)



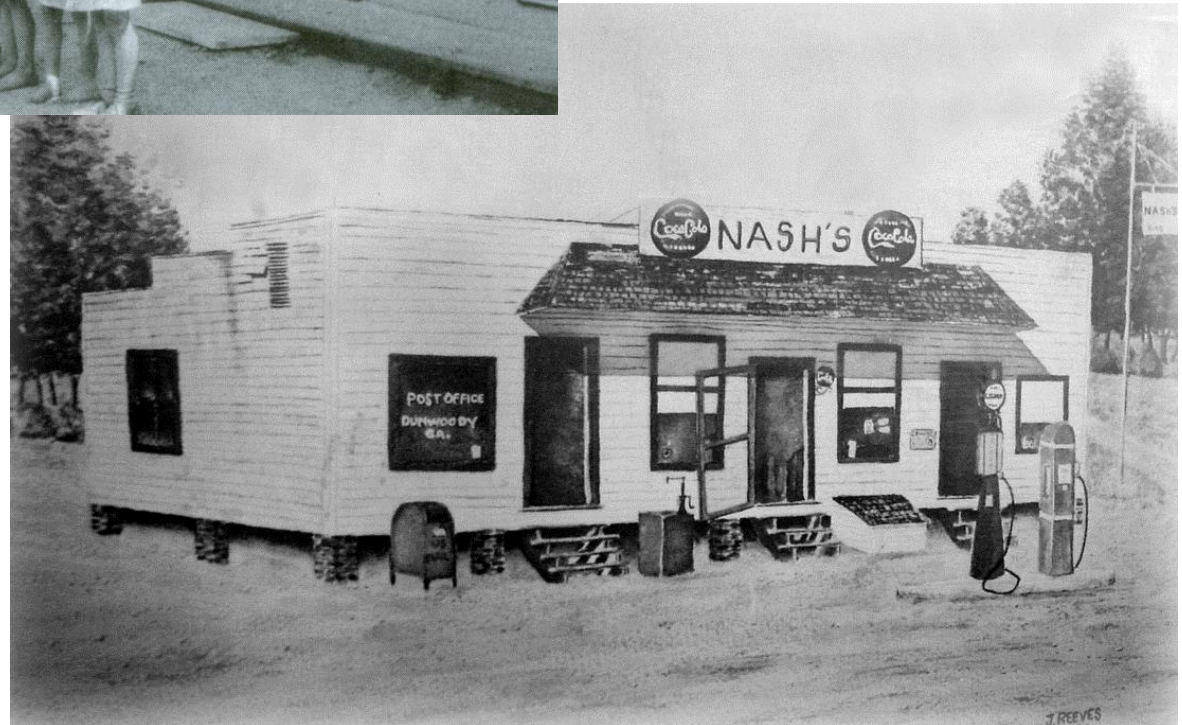
Making the railroad work, through Dunwoody



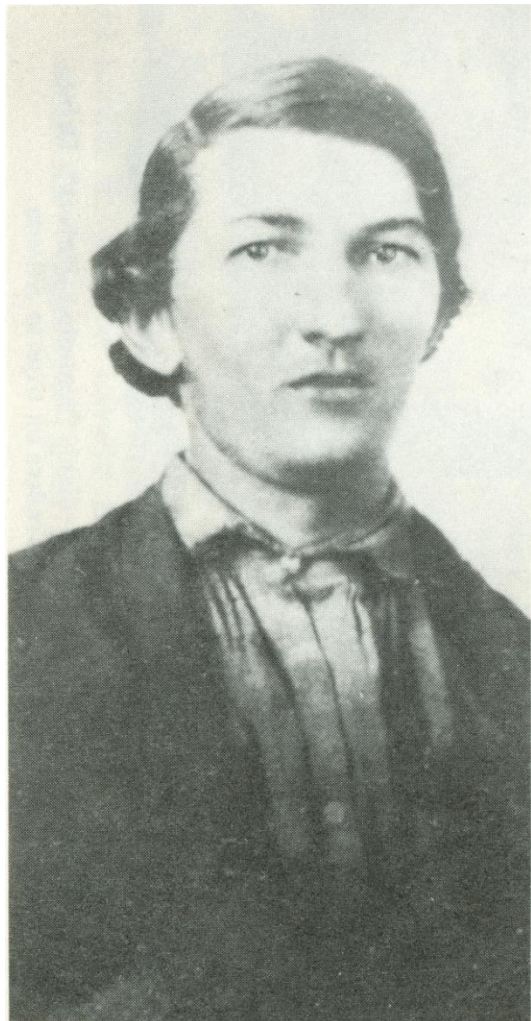


**The First Post Office
was part of the
Dunwoody Rail
Road Depot**

**Nash's General Store
c.1930**



The Obediah Copeland Family



Obediah Copeland.



Larkin Copeland
and wife (Lavada Ball),



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Copeland.
Children—Zadie Lou and Lee Eula.

Four generations of Copelands

Salina (wife of Obediah) on right



The Obediah Copeland Plantation



The Obediah Well



The Pioneer Ware Family



Ware family members were pioneers of Dunwoody, and this photograph shows several of them along with other Dunwoody residents. Pictured from left to right are (first row) Amanda Ware, W. N. Ware, and Bill Nash; (second row) Lee Nash, Ethel Nash, Jeannie Nash Raney, Lelia Ware, Harper Nash, and Ella Ware; (third row) John Nash (Lelia's husband), Carl Raney, ? Raney, Don Raney, W. J. Ware, and Winifred Reeves. (Courtesy of Bill Ware.)

The Donaldson Home c.1870

Photo taken in late 1920s



The Eidson Homeplace



First brick house in Dunwoody Built by Eidson

