

**New Friendship Baptist Church
1254 Villa Rica Road
Powder Springs, Georgia**

**Cobb County Register of Historic Places
Justification Report**

Physical Description

New Friendship Baptist Church is located at the northwest corner of Villa Rica Road and Friendship Church Road in unincorporated Cobb County, Georgia. The church is a great example of rural African-American church architecture and construction found in Cobb County. The front façade of the church faces south, the left façade faces west, the rear façade faces north and the right façade faces east. The church, built c. 1890, has been identified in several Cobb County historic resource surveys. In the 2007 Historic Resources Survey, the church building is described as a “frame, front gable rural church with boxed eaves and a square tower with pyramidal shaped roof and diamond shaped wood vents. Original featured separate gable stoops over side doors and shed roof over central main entrance”.

The original building is Folk Victorian in style and is one-story. The approximately 1,600 sq. ft. rectangular shaped building has a gabled-front entrance with large double front doors. A simple cornice runs along the roofline of the front façade. A square steeple with a pyramidal shaped roof with vents rises out of the front gable. The gabled roof consists of asphalt shingles, the siding is clapboard and the building sits on brick piers that have been infilled with concrete blocks. The front façade has two windows on either side of the front doors. The east façade has four consecutive windows, followed by a door that provides access into a rear addition. One window on the west façade of the original church is visible.

In the early 1960's, the original windows were replaced with metal awning windows. Additions were added to the church at this time. Symmetrical gabled rooms and a vestibule were added to the front entrance of the church. Improvements were also made on the interior during these renovations. Later during the 1960's, an approximately 900 sq. ft. addition was made to the rear with a shed porch, which was later enclosed. This rear addition has one window on the east façade, four windows on the north façade and one on the west façade.

An approximately 1,350 sq. ft. rectangular shaped fellowship hall was added in 1975. This addition extends from the west façade of the original church building. The fellowship hall has three windows and one door on the front façade, two windows on the west façade and two windows flanked by two doors on the north façade. Stairs on the west and north facades lead up to the doors. The fellowship hall has a gabled roof. A wheelchair ramp was added in 1990 along the front of the fellowship hall.

All the additions have wood siding, but in the shiplap style, which differs in appearance to the siding on the original part of the church. The additions all have asphalt shingle roofs and 2-over-

2 metal windows, with the exception of two 6-over-6 windows on the north façade of the rear addition.

The church sits on 2.385 acres and the building is situated in the southeast corner of the property. When the church was constructed, it was in a rural area of west Cobb County. Today, the area has become more suburban as development has occurred in the area. It sits approximately 65 feet north of Villa Rica Road and west of Friendship Church Road. The land slopes down from Villa Rica Road to the northern property line. Parking spaces are located in two asphalt paved lots positioned parallel to Villa Rica Road. A cemetery is located immediately behind the church and contains numerous burials. Two small modern storage buildings are located at the rear of the property, along the tree line. A chain link fence and metal carport are located on the east side of the church. There is no formal landscaping and there is minimal vegetation. There is a mature tree located next to the east façade of the church. A mature tree line runs along the rear property line and provides a buffer between the church and the residential properties located behind the church.

Historic Significance

New Friendship Baptist Church was founded in 1881 by Reverend Alexander Penn. It is one of the oldest African-American churches in Cobb County. James T. Echols sold the property to the Trustees of New Friendship Baptist Church for \$25.00 on May 8, 1891. The deed states the property was sold for church and school purposes.

The New Friendship Elementary School, built c. 1881, educated children from the first through seventh grades and was located on the property. The building is no longer extant and it is unknown when the school closed and was demolished. A 1910 survey indicates the existence of the school and locates it near the western property line, due west of the church.

The congregation grew over the years and saw a succession of pastors and leadership. Reverend James A. Alford served as pastor from 1963 to 1967. Reverend Marvin L Brown, Sr., succeeded Rev. Alford and served until his retirement in 1993. These two pastors oversaw the majority of the renovations to the historic church.

Reverend A. L. Zollicoffer began serving as pastor in September 1994. Under Rev. Zollicoffer, the church began to outgrow the building. By 2007, the congregation purchased a larger building, located just east of the historic church, to accommodate the growing congregation. The historic New Friendship Baptist Church is not regularly used by the congregation, but remains an integral part of their history.

New Friendship Baptist Church, being one of the oldest African-American churches in Cobb County, is an excellent example of a religious institution and their historic use as spiritual, educational and social centers in the African-American community.

Bibliography

Ciucevich, Robert. Cobb County Historic Resources Survey. Cobb County, Georgia, 2007.

Cobb County, Georgia. Deed Record Book: O, Page 533.

Cobb County, Georgia. Deed Record Book: 14465, Page 2010.

Merritt, Carole. Historic Black Resources: A Handbook for the Identification, Documentation, and Evaluation of Historic African-American Properties in Georgia. Atlanta: Historic Preservation Division, 1984.

Roth, Darlene R. Architecture, Archaeology and Landscapes: Resources for Historic Preservation in Unincorporated Cobb County, Georgia. Cobb County Historic Preservation Commission, 1988.

Stephens, Mechelle. "New Friendship Baptist Church Cobb County Register of Historic Places Nomination." New Friendship Baptist Church, 2016.

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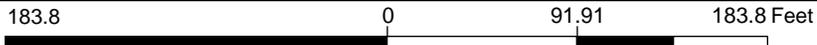


Photograph Descriptions

1. Church – South Façade
2. Church – East Façade
3. Church and Addition – East and North Facades
4. Rear Addition – North Façade
5. Rear Addition – North and West Facades
6. Church and Addition – West Façade
7. Fellowship Hall – North Façade
8. Fellowship Hall – West Façade
9. Fellowship Hall – West and South Facades
- 10 Fellowship Hall – South Façade
11. Cemetery – Facing Northwest
12. Cemetery – Facing – Northeast
13. Baptismal Font and Storage Buildings – Facing North
14. Church and Parking Lot – Facing East
15. Parking Lot – Facing Southwest
16. Open Space – Facing West



New Friendship Baptist Church Photo Key



WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere
© Cobb County Georgia

This map is a user generated static output from an Internet mapping site and is for reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable.

THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

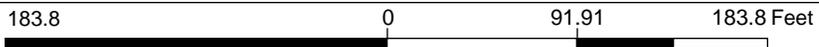
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Map Notes:



New Friendship Baptist Church



WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere
 © Cobb County Georgia

This map is a user generated static output from an Internet mapping site and is for reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable.

THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

1: 1,103



Map Notes:

Cobb County Register of Historic Places
Nomination Form

I. General

Name of Property

New Friendship Baptist Church

Location & Legal Description

Address: 1254 Villa Rica Road
Powder Springs, GA 30127 (Cobb County)

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being located in Land Lots 203 and 242 of the 19th District, 2nd Section of Cobb County, Georgia, being the property of the New Friendship Baptist Church as per plat of survey prepared by A.O. Carlile, Surveyor, dated June 4, 1975, a copy of which is recorded in Flat Book 63, Page 180, Cobb County Records, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at and iron pin where the northeasterly right-of-way of Old Ville Rica Road intersects the south line of said Land Lot 203; thence running north 04 degrees 00 minutes west for a distance of 170.5 feet to an iron pin; thence running south 84 degrees 59 minutes east for a distance of 432.6 feet to an iron pin; thence running south 02 degrees 49 minutes west for a distance of 258.5 feet to an iron pin; thence running north 72 degrees 47 minutes west for a distance of 425.4 feet to the iron pin at the point of beginning.

Parcel Identification Number

190203000010

Land Lot

203 & 242

District

19

Acreage

2.385

Property Owner & Property Owner's Address

New Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
1251 Villa Rica Road
Mariette, GA 30127

Historic Use

Religious Facility

Un-adjacent school was on the property.

Current Use

Church Services

II. Justification

The property is located in unincorporated Cobb County. The boundaries of this property, for the purpose of the nomination to the Cobb County Register of Historic Places, will be the same as the current surveyed plat (see attached plat) and includes all outbuildings. Mature landscaping helps screen the historic structures.

Architectural Description

The church is a Folk Victoria style, rectangular, one story, Symmetric front door (one). The church has an asphalt (composition) shingle roof. Gable-front oriented, Pyramidal. The church sits on a brick foundation with Pier/Post with Infill. The church has a wood exterior, Novelty/drop siding. The windows are double-hung sash, flat-headed, rectangular 2/2. The grounds are casual and unplanned.

In 1960 the original windows were replaced with metal awning windows, façade porch enclosed to create a foyer.

In 1960, Partial width gable all added off rear with shed porch on side (later enclosed).

In 1980, large gable wing added on west side with metal 2/2 windows – probably church social hall. Description from prior Survey by Cobb County HRS (Updated 2007/05/09):

Frame, front gable rural church with boxed eaves and a square tower with pyramidal shaped roof and diamond shaped wood vents. Originally featured separate gable stoops over side doors and shed roof over central main entrance. Good integrity.

Property Significance

This property is significant in that it one of the oldest African American churches and elementary school^{1/} in Cobb County. The New Friendship Elementary School served children first through seventh grades. It was built around 1881. The teachers were Mrs. Chapman, Mr. Edmond Roger and Mattie Lue Clowers. It is not known when the school was closed and torn down.

The church was founded in 1881 by Reverend Alexander Penn. Reverend Penn was called to serve as its first pastor. The first service held at New Friendship was the

funeral service for Brother William Calvin Edwards. At that time, there were no pews in the building. Chairs and wagon seats were used instead.

In the absence of ordained deacons, the following brethren were called upon to serve as acting deacons: Brothers Peter Turner, Marshall Wallace, Jake Foster, Frank Travis, Charlie Posey, and Hugh Silman. They also served as the original trustees of the church. During the twenty-two year pastorate of Reverend Penn, Brothers Jim Luster and James Shepard were added to the deacon board.

In 1903, Reverend H.W. Henderson was called to serve. During his pastoral, Brother Pinkie Luster and Brother Monroe Hunter were ordained to serve on the board of deacons. During this time, Brother A. Favor became the first minister to be licensed by the church to preach the gospel.

Following Reverend Henderson, Reverend H.T. Thomas was called and served briefly. Following his pastorate was that of Reverend David Dixon. Under Rev. Dixon's leadership, the Board of Deacons increased to include the following brothers: Julius Hunter, Millard Copeland, and Moses Brown.

Reverend Dixon's pastoral period was followed by three years of service with Reverend Field. Upon his departure, Reverend R.R. Freeman was called to lead the congregation. Reverend Freeman served two periods of service. During his first period of service, the pastor's study, choir loft, and choir room was added. Brother Gus Robinson was also ordained.

Reverend Harps served briefly as pastor following Reverend Freeman. The next pastor of New Friendship was Reverend Bivins. Under his pastorate, Brothers Junie Copeland, Tommie Broadnax, Carthell Brown, and Luther P. Copeland were ordained as deacons. Also, Reverend J.H. Hunter was ordained to the ministry during this time.

Reverend D.R. Britt was called to fill the pulpit after Rev. Harps. Reverend R.R. Freeman was called for a second period of service following Rev. Britt's tenure. After Rev. Freeman's second pastorate, Rev. Marion served as New Friendship's pastor.

Reverend Delaney was called after Reverend Marion. During the ministry of Reverend Delaney, Brother Walter Musgrove was added to the board of deacons.

In 1963, Reverend James A. Alford, answered the call as Pastor. Under his leadership, the junior choir was organized. The Trustee Board was reorganized with the following brothers: Ben Robinson, Phillip White, Alonzo Roberts, Johnny Shepard, Roy Delay, C.L. Luster, William Dorris and Joseph Holliman. Later, brothers Grant Pless and George Castle were ordained as deacons. Several additions were made to the church. Two side rooms and a vestibule were added to the front of the church. The sanctuary was enhanced by the addition of gas heaters, new pews, pulpit furniture, and metal windows. Reverend

Alford's pastorate was cut short by his death in 1967. He left behind a Christ like spirit that lives with us still.

Following Reverend Alford, Reverend Marvin L. Brown, Sr. was called to serve as pastor. Under his leadership, New Friendship continued to undergo renovations. Water, natural gas, restrooms, and a water fountain were added to the church. Also, outside lighting, a floor furnace, and ladies' lounge furnishings were added. During Reverend Brown's service, the following brethren were added to the Board of Trustees: L.C. Delay, Aubrey Cumberland, Roy Delay, Tommy Broadnax and Bobby Cook.

In 1975, a fellowship hall was added to the church. It was named the James A. Alford Fellowship Hall, in memory of New Friendship's former pastor. After the hall was completed, a telephone was added. Mother Addie Luster, president of the Mothers Board, and the Mothers Board helped to purchase tables, chairs, and other items to furnish the fellowship hall. In 1978, a new piano was purchased by the youth of the church. Two years later, the first organ was purchased.

In April 1978, the following brethren were ordained as Deacons: Brothers Aubrey Cumberland, Roy Delay, Tommy Broadnax, and Bobby Cook. Brother Swift Young was ordained at a later date.

Reverend Brown continued to lead the growth of New Friendship through the 1980's. Early in 1980 New Friendship began having church service each week, instead of the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Church renovations continued during this period. Central air and heat were installed; padded seats were added to the pews; pulpit chairs were upholstered; and a communion table was purchased. In May 1981, a microphone and speakers were installed. Brother James Hinton donated glass doors. The outside bulletin board was built and donated by Brother Roosevelt Stinson. In 1986, a second and larger organ was purchased. In 1987, tinted window covers were added.

In December 1990, the parking lot was paved, a handicap ramp was built, and new concrete steps and sidewalks were added. During this time several other additions and improvements were made. The ceiling was lowered; new lights and circulating fans were added. The choir loft and pulpit were enlarged. The building was expanded to install an in-door baptismal pool. A new room was provided for the pastor's study. Wall to wall carpeting was installed. New furniture was purchased for the pastors' study, the ladies' lounge and the two rooms at the front of the church.

During Reverend Brown's pastorate, the church constitution and by-laws were proposed and adopted. Reverend Brown licensed two ministers, Brother J.T. Musgrove and Brother M. Leonard Brown. Rev. Brown was later ordained by Reverend Marvin L. Brown, Sr.

Also during this period, in honor of those who have passed this way before, Brother Roosevelt Stinson lead the way in cleaning the cemetery area. It is now cleaned and maintained by the church.

After 27 years as a faithful and dedicated pastor of New Friendship Baptist Church, Reverend Brown retired effective Dec. 31, 1993. He left behind a legacy that will be difficult to surpass. For a brief period, New Friendship was without a pastor.

New Friendship Missionary Baptist Church-The Present

In September 1994, Reverend A.L. Zollicoffer came into the New Friendship Church family to serve as its leader. With the help of God, he has been able to move the church to new heights.

Church renovations continue to go forth. The parking area was enlarged and a van was purchased. The building was made more accessible to the handicapped. A new piano and organ was purchased for the sanctuary. The PA system was upgraded and security system installed. New tile was installed as well as a TV, VCR and furniture purchased for the fellowship hall. A computer and copier were also purchased. In 1999 a new electronic piano was purchased.

With God's blessing we have been able to grow spiritually as well. We have had many to come to Christ and be baptized. We have added to our Board of Deacons, Brother James Delay, Brother Archie Hall, Brother Timothy Simpson, and Brother Alan Wyche. This year Brother William Collins was also added.

In 1998 Brother James Delay and Brother Archie Hall were ordained to the Deacon Ministry. In 1999 Brother Timothy Simpson and Brother Alan Wyche were ordained and added to the Deacon Ministry.

In 2000 Brothers Jimmy Chapman, Bruce Arnfield and William Collins were ordained and added to the Deacon Ministry.

From 2001-2003 Bro. Irvin McClure, Brother Rodney Powell was ordained as deacons. Also during this time, Deacons Kenneth Woods and Arthur Peyton, Senior joined the New Friendship Baptist Church family as ordained deacons.

The following ministers were licensed from 1994 to present: Ministers Loretta Hall, Dollie Reed, John Petty, Shirley Harper, Evangelist Pharis Adams, Ministers William Collins, William A. David, Mechelle Stephens, Janett Thomas and Cynthia Wallace. There are currently 17 ministers on role with Elder Clyde Adams as the Assistant Pastor.

New Friendship has continued to grow and prosper with many souls being saved and many lives being changed through the preaching and teaching of God's word.

Our 2003 active trustee ministry members are: Brother C.L. Luster(Chairman), L.C. Delay (Asst. Treasurer), Charles (Jim) Jones, Roosevelt Stinson, Donald Brown(Assistant), Jean Dorris, Kesha Beavers (Financial Secretary), Mary Ann David (Financial Consultant), Linda Wyche (Church Clerk), Cassia Cato (Asst. Church Clerk), Cynthia Bazille (Record Keeper), Seymour Watts, and Ernest McBurrows.

III. Bibliography

Reverend A.L. Zollicoffer, Senior Pastor
Deacon Timothy A. Simpson, Chairman of the Board of Deacons

IV. Supporting Documentation

Photographs
Floor Plan
Survey
Legal Description/Plat

Attorney's Certificate and Opinion On The Property Of

NEW FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

C A P T I O N

All that tract or parcel of land lying and being located in Land Lots 203 and 242 of the 19th District, 2nd Section of Cobb County, Georgia, being the property of the New Friendship Baptist Church as per plat of survey prepared by A. O. Carlile, Surveyor, dated June 4, 1975, a copy of which is recorded in Plat Book 63, Page 180, Cobb County Records, and being more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron pin where the northeasterly right-of-way of Old Villa Rica Road intersects the south line of said Land Lot 203; thence running north 04 degrees 00 minutes west for a distance of 170.5 feet to an iron pin; thence running south 84 degrees 59 minutes east for a distance of 432.6 feet to an iron pin; thence running south 02 degrees 49 minutes west for a distance of 258.5 feet to an iron pin; thence running north 72 degrees 47 minutes west for a distance of 425.4 feet to the iron pin at the point of beginning.

STANDARD OBJECTIONS:

- (1) Area and Dimensions, including all questions of survey.
- (2) Rights of parties in possession:
- (3) No liability is assumed for possible unfilled architect's mechanic's, laborer's and materialmen's liens.
- (4) All questions of easements, roads and rights of way over, through or across the property described in caption, whether acquired by prescription or otherwise, are excepted; also zoning restrictions of any applicable municipal or county government.
- (5) State of Georgia or U. S. tax liens that have not been recorded in the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of Cobb County, Georgia
- (6) All taxes for the current year. - Exempt

~~SPECIAL OBJECTIONS~~

- (7) This Certificate does not cover any personal property which may be attached to realty and considered a part thereof, unless the lien against said personal property is recorded in the real property indexes of said County.
- (8) Right-of-way Deed from Friendship Baptist Church to Cobb County, Georgia dated June 30, 1948, recorded in Deed Book 202, Page 238, Cobb County Records.

SPECIAL OBJECTIONS:

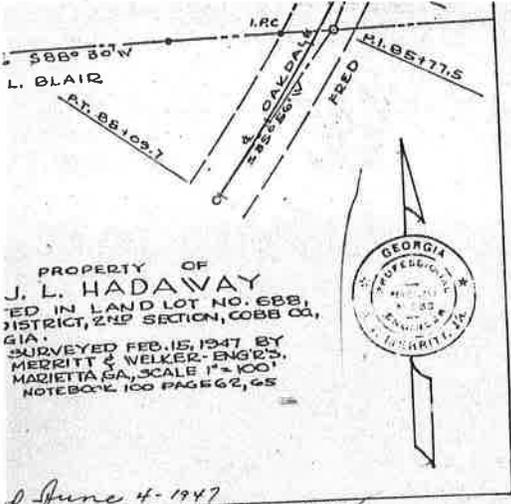
- (1) Outstanding Loan Deed from The Trustees of Friendship Baptist Church (Reverend Marion L. Brown, Walter Margrove, Ray Delay) to The First National Bank of Marietta, dated November 17, 1969, in the original amount of \$3,054.24, recorded in Deed Book 1132, Page 307, Cobb County Records.
- (2) Outstanding Loan Deed from the Trustees of New Friendship Baptist Church to The First National Bank of Cobb County, dated June 14, 1975, in the original principal amount of \$10,414.20, recorded in Deed Book 1610, Page 560, Cobb County Records.

Subject to the above objections, I am of the opinion that your security deed covering caption will, when properly executed and recorded, constitute a first lien on said property sufficient to support a loan in the principal amount of \$.....

This 15th day of October, 1979 at 5:00 PM.

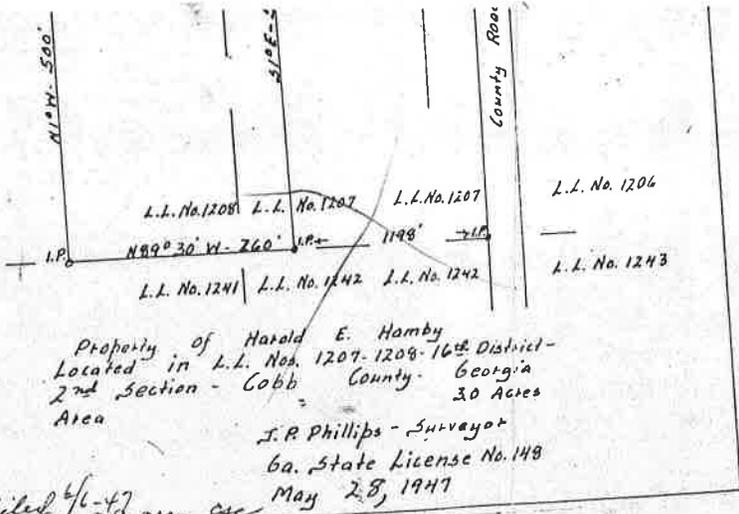
HENDERSON, ~~XXXXX~~ AND THURMOND

BY: 
EXAMINING COUNSEL
MARIETTA, GEORGIA



PROPERTY OF
J. L. HADAWAY
 Located in LAND LOT NO. 688,
 DISTRICT, 2ND SECTION, COBB CO.,
 GA.
 SURVEYED FEB. 15, 1947 BY
 MERRITT & WELKER-ENGLE,
 MARIETTA GA., SCALE 1"=100'
 NOTEBOOK 100 PAGE 62, 65

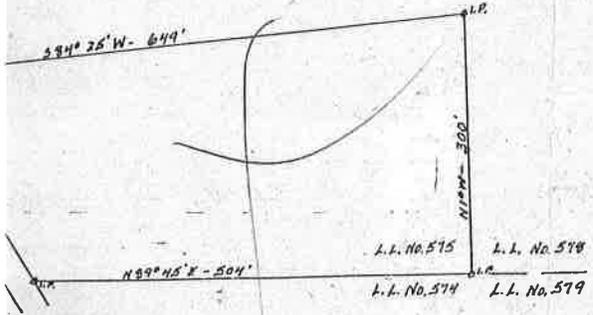
June 4 - 1947
 not a survey etc



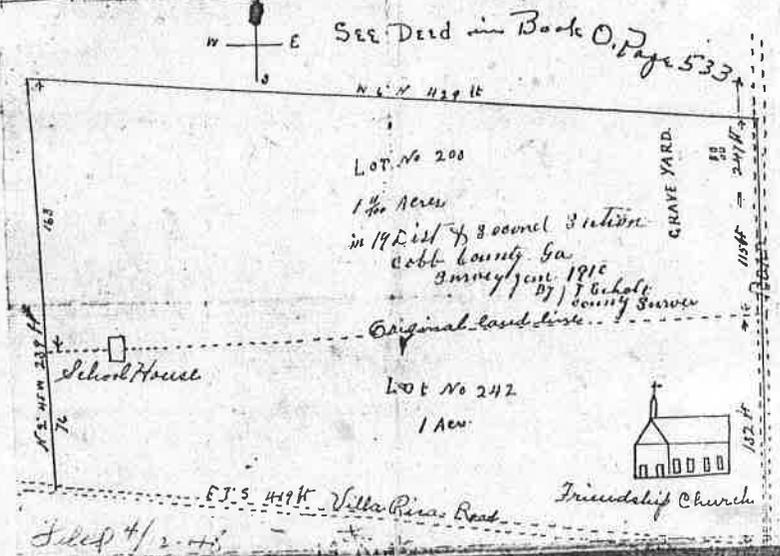
Property of Harold E. Hamby
 Located in L.L. Nos. 1207-1209-16th District -
 2nd Section - Cobb County - Georgia
 30 Acres
 Area

J. P. Phillips - Surveyor
 Ga. State License No. 148
 May 28, 1947

Filed 4/6-47
 for 5 acres etc



Property of G. R. Bentley Estate
 in L.L. No. 575-17th District -
 Section - Cobb County - Georgia
 3.6 Acres
 J. P. Phillips - Surveyor
 Ga. State License No. 148
 May 6, 1947



SEE Deed in Book O, Page 533

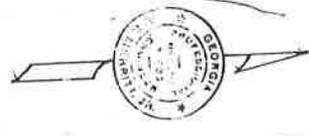
Lot No 200
 1 1/2 Acres
 in 17th Dist of 800000 Section
 Cobb County Ga
 Surveyed 1910
 by J. P. Phillips
 County Surveyor
 Original land list

Filed 4/2-48

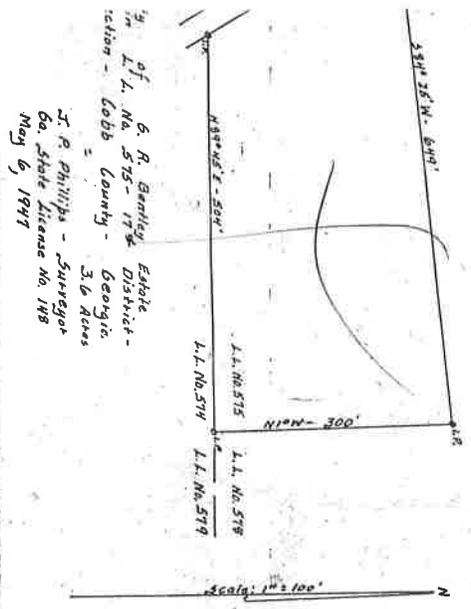




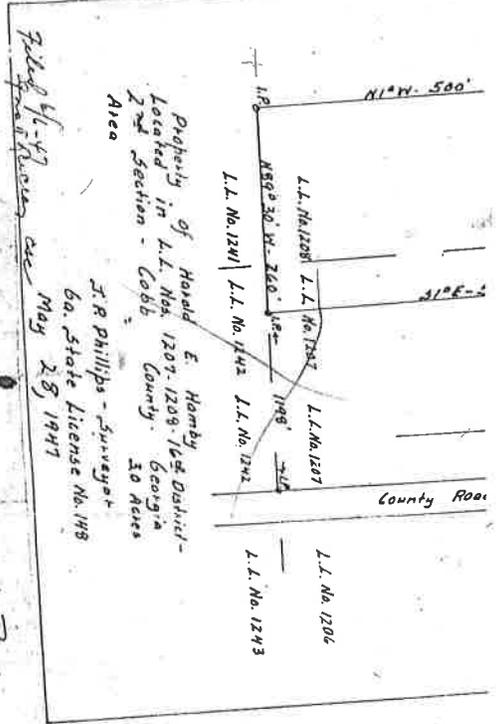
PROPERTY OF
 J. L. HADAWAY
 1/2 AC. LAND LOT NO. 688,
 2ND SECTION, 2ND DISTRICT, COBB CO.,
 GA.
 SURVEYED FEB. 15, 1947, BY
 J. R. PHILLIPS, SURVEYOR,
 GEORGIA. SCALE 1" = 100'.
 NOTE: SEE PAGE 6, 7, 8, 9, 10



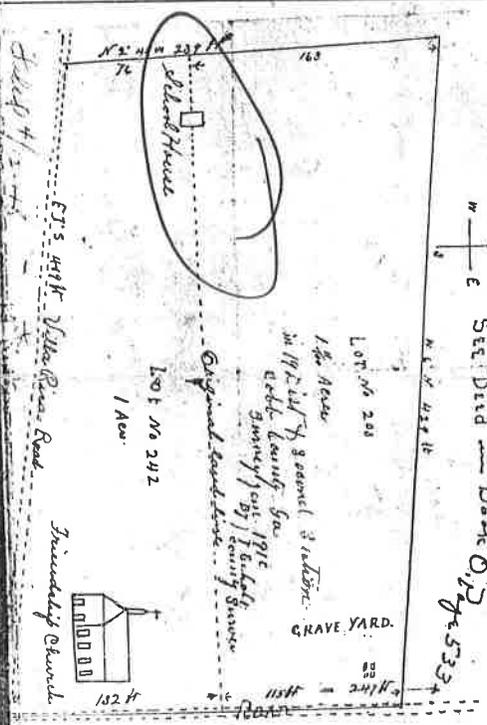
June 4, 1947
 from survey etc.



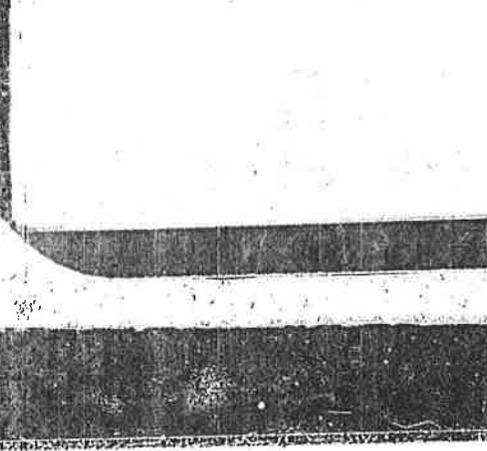
of L. No. 575 - 17th District -
 Cobb County - Georgia
 3 1/2 Acres
 J. R. Phillips - Surveyor
 Ga. State License No. 148
 May 6, 1947



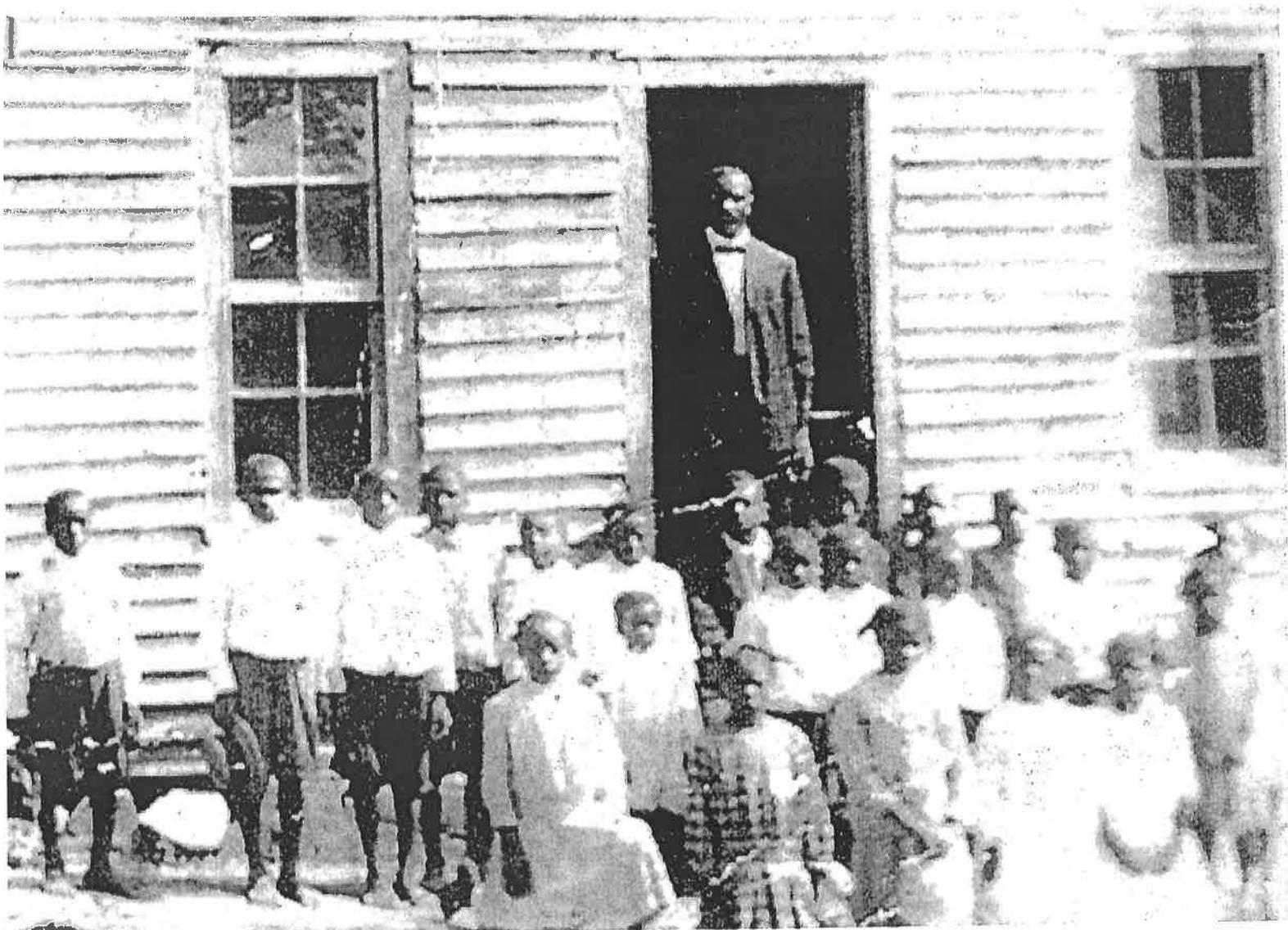
Property of Harold E. Hamby
 Located in L.L. Nos. 1201-1204, 1st District -
 Cobb County, Georgia
 2nd Section - Cobb
 30 Acres
 J. R. Phillips - Surveyor
 Ga. State License No. 148
 May 28, 1947



1 1/2 Acres
 in 1947 of second section -
 Cobb County, Ga.
 Surveyed by J. R. Phillips
 Original land line.
 Lot No 202
 1 Acre.
 Church
 Grave Yard
 J. R. Phillips - Surveyor
 Ga. State License No. 148
 May 28, 1947



Church
 Grave Yard
 J. R. Phillips - Surveyor
 Ga. State License No. 148
 May 28, 1947



J. T. Echols, of the State of Georgia,
Cobb County

The Trustees of Friendship Baptist Church,
In consideration of the sum of twenty five Dollars to me paid,

James T. Echols of the County of Cobb do hereby sell and convey unto Peter Turner, C. P. Perry, Wm. McCullars, Gustus Turner, Frank Truitt, Jake Foster, & Matthew M. Guthery as Trustees of Friendship Baptist Church, Colored, and their successors in office of the County of Cobb, their

19-7- assigns a tract or parcel of land which is divided as follows: One acre more or less at the North East Corner of lot (242) two hundred and forty two, and one acre out of the South East Corner of lot (203) two hundred and three, more or less, and bounded in South by the Tilla Rica road, on West by roadway cut on the East by a road along the original land line, all of said land in the 19th District and 2nd Section of Cobb County, sold for Church and school purposes.

I have and to hold said land and appurtenances unto said Peter Turner, C. P. Perry, Wm. McCullars, Gustus Turner, Frank Truitt, Jake Foster & Matthew M. Guthery as Trustees of Friendship Baptist Church, Colored, and their successors in fee simple. I warrant the title to said land against the lawful claims of all persons. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year, this 8th day of May 1891.

Signed, sealed & delivered in presence of
A. H. Talley,
D. W. Blair,
N. Cobb County Ga.
J. T. Echols. (Seal)

Filed for record, May 30/91. at 11. A. M.
Recorded. May 30/91 N. R. Montgomery, C. C.

For Plat Book
Plat Book 7 - Page 16

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