

Baldwin County History Files

Miflin

An unincorporated community, Miflin is located along County Route 20 (Miflin Road) 5 miles east-southeast of Foley.^[2] The community is probably named after the Miflin family who owned land in the area in 1840s. In 1913, the Star Route mail carrier, Clarence Walker's carrier left Miflin at 8 a.m., made connection with noon train in Foley, returning to Miflin at 3 p.m. A post office operated under the name Miflin from 1907 to 1951.

Julius E Howell said, "Miflin, a pretty community with lots of beautiful homes, had on one of the best places to eat in the area" when he working for the AAA as a crop reporter. The Swift Presbyterian Church, located in Miflin, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places,

Miscellanea that may include periodical and newspaper abstracts, clippings, biographical sketches, reminiscences, personal profiles, local history, family histories, facsimile of documents, etc. pertaining to Baldwin County, Alabama.

2017

Alabama, Local History & Genealogy Collections

Foley Public Library

319 East Laurel Ave

Foley, Alabama 36535



Alabama Secretary of State



The Miflin Lumber Company	
Entity ID Number	771 - 722
Entity Type	Domestic Corporation
Principal Address	MIFLIN, AL
Principal Mailing Address	Not Provided
Status	Exists
Place of Formation	Baldwin County
Formation Date	5-18-1910
Registered Agent Name	Not Provided
Registered Office Street Address	Not Provided
Registered Office Mailing Address	Not Provided
Nature of Business	MFRE LUMBER RC
Capital Authorized	\$5,000
Capital Paid In	\$3,000
Incorporators	
Incorporator Name	PATERSON, B
Incorporator Street Address	Not Provided
Incorporator Mailing Address	Not Provided
Incorporator Name	PATERSON, H
Incorporator Street Address	Not Provided
Incorporator Mailing Address	Not Provided
Incorporator Name	THOMSON, J T
Incorporator Street Address	Not Provided
Incorporator Mailing Address	Not Provided
Incorporator Name	JOHNSON, M
Incorporator Street Address	Not Provided
Incorporator Mailing Address	Not Provided

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Yesterday's News: Wednesday, August 4, 2010 By Jeanette Lott, Press-Register August 04, 2010

Thursday, Aug. 4, 1910

J.H. Johnston and **B. Peterson** of Miflin, Baldwin County, were in Mobile Wednesday for the purpose of purchasing machinery to install in their planing mill at the **Miflin Lumber Company's** saw mill on Perdido Bay. Both said that things were humming on Perdido Bay, and much business was being transacted there. The lumber cut at the Miflin mill goes entirely to the Baldwin County trade. So great is the building industry in Baldwin that the mill finds difficulty in supplying the demand for material."

The Lumber Trade Journal, Volume 58, August 15, 1910 pg 35

NEW NOTES OF EAST GULF COAST STATES

Better Feeling Evidence Among Lumbermen in the Mississippi and Alabama Territory.
Bought Mill Machinery

J. H. Johnston and B Person, of the Miflin Lumber Company, Miflin, Ala., were in Mobile recently to make purchases of machinery for their planning mill. They report such an extensive building boom on in Baldwin County that they are disposing of all their product to dealers and contractors at home. Their plant is located on Perdido bay.

National Lumberman, Volume 46 pg 46:

The St. Louis Lumberman

Mobile Letter: Mobile, Ala. November 28, 1910: excerpt

The Pensacola & Southwestern Railway company, which is constructing a railroad through the southern end of Baldwin County, this state, toward Mobile, has awarded a contract to the Miflin Lumber company, to cut about 500,000 feet of lumber to be used in the construction of the Perdido bay bridge. The lumber is to be delivered by March 1. The right of way from Millview to Cummings has already been prepared and the ties are being cut out. The railroad will be pushed to completion as rapidly as possible.

In February 1906, Joseph Leckner was appointed postmaster in the first post office in Elberta.

In those days, a letter posted in the Swift post office at Miflin to a lumber company at Bon Secour took five days to reach its destination, going by sail boat 12 miles to Millview, then by horseback to Pensavola, Florida, then by train to Mobile, then by steamer to Fairhope, by mail driver to Magnolia Springs and on to Bon Secour.

What do you know about South Alabama?

Reprinted from the 1938 edition of The Onlooker and used by permission of Claude Bagge of Goldenrod Studios in Bon Secour.

A REMARKABLE COLLECTION OF BOOKLETS THAT IS SAID TO INCLUDE EVERY BOOK ABOUT BALDWIN COUNTY THAT HAS EVER BEEN PUBLISHED, FROM THE EARLIEST DAYS TO THE PRESENT TIME, IS OWNED BY MRS. A. B. CODDINGTON, OF BAY MINETTE, ALABAMA.

P. A. BARNARD, OF MAGNOLIA SPRINGS, ALABAMA, HAS A PET "GOPHER" (LAND TURTLE) THAT HAS BEEN IN HIS POSSESSION FOR MORE THAN THIRTY YEARS. THIS OLD-TIMER WEIGHS CLOSE TO FOURTEEN POUNDS, AND IS STRONG ENOUGH TO CRAWL RIGHT ALONG WITH A GROWN MAN STANDING ON HIS BACK! AS ANY SMART GOPHER WOULD DO, THIS OLD FELLOW IS PLANNING TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL BALDWIN COUNTY FAIR, AT SILVERHILL, ALABAMA, THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 7-12. SO IF YOU'RE THERE, TOO, YOU'LL SEE HIM ON EXHIBITION — AND YOU'LL SEE, ALSO, MANY OTHER INTERESTING EXHIBITS — AGRICULTURAL, LIVE STOCK, COOKING, FINE-ARTS, ETC. — ALL OF THEM INTERESTING, AND ALL OF THEM WORTH SEEING.

Baldwin County beaches are equipped with tables and all picnic facilities for better enjoyment of the year-round outdoor climate and natural beauty.

THE FIRST RAILROAD IN BALDWIN COUNTY IS SAID TO HAVE CONNECTED THE SOUTHERN STATES LUMBER COMPANY'S LOGGING CAMP AND THEIR SAWMILL AT SWIFT'S, ALABAMA. THE LOGGING CAMP BUILDING STOOD EXACTLY WHERE THE CENTER OF THE TOWN OF FOLEY NOW IS — THE SETTLEMENT AT SWIFT'S IS NOW KNOWN UNDER THE NAME OF MIFLIN. (SUGGESTED BY WILLIAM H. SWIFT, OF BON SECOUR, ALABAMA.)

TO THE BALDWIN COUNTY FAIR

Walter Braxton

EARLY SETTLERS OF FOLEYJ. B. Foley - 1901

1. Bought 55,000 acres of raw land.
2. Organized Magnolia Land Company.
3. Built a model farm to advertise this section.

W. H. Montieth - 1904

1. First citizen of Foley.
2. First Postmaster.
3. First General Store.
4. Built first church.
5. Built first house.
6. His daughter, Laura, was the first person to marry in Foley.

H. J. Coenan - 1905

1. General Store

Frank Fesler - 1907

1. Established the Onlooker, our local newspaper, which is published weekly.

C. A. Boller -

1. Bought Coenan's store and later became Foley's Postmaster.

Rueben Ard -

1. Operated livery stable and saloon.

J. C. Lehr - 1908

1. Managed the Magnolia Hotel, first hotel, which was built by Magnolia Land Company.

James T. Dumas - 1908

1. Built the first drug store.

Mr. G. I. Weatherly - 1911

1. First Mayor.

Elec McNatt -

1. First sheriff.

S. D. Gaar -

1. General Store.

Russel Willis -

1. First meat market.

Rudolph Willis -

1. Helped survey land for town site.

*Wiflin Res.**Wiflin resident*Cecil Merks -

1. Helped survey land.

William Stelk -

1. Hardware and furniture store.
2. One of first councilmen.

Henry Brockmann -

1. A councilman in 1915.

P. J. Cooney -

1. One of first councilmen.

Dr. Ludewig -

1. Third Mayor of Foley.

H. C. Byrnes -

1. First Conductor on the "Pine Knot Special."

A. N. Hayselden -

1. Sixth Mayor.

C. W. Green -

1. Seventh Mayor.

Mr. Frank Kuhn -

1. First school Trustee.

Del. Co. Mail Routes

From Bay Mills by Stockton, Litchon, Tensaw, and Little River to Mount Pleasant, daily except Sundays.

From Bay Mills to Roy, twice a week, Mondays and Fridays

From Hurricane Bayou to Broraley, daily except Sundays

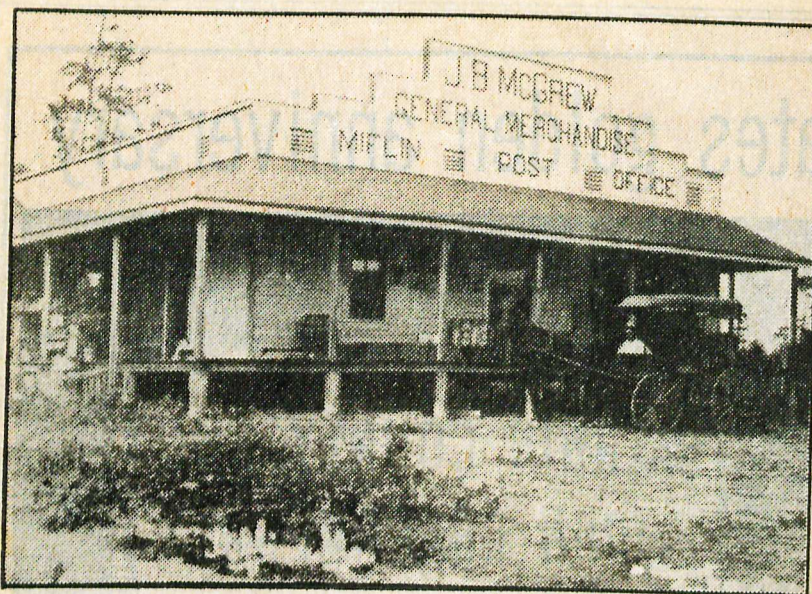
From Depue, by Resenton to Hillion, twice a week, leaving Depue Mondays and Wednesdays

From Swifts, by Josephine and Hillion to Grubwin, Tex. leaving Swifts Mondays and Thursdays.

From Paint Creek, by Darlow, Lombetta and Josephine Springs to Borse Cour, twice a week, leaving Paint Creek on Tuesdays and Fridays.

From Borse Cour to Theresa, Gasque, Honey Cone and Herndon, twice a week, leaving Borse Cour Wednesdays and Saturdays.

Thursday, April 30, 1987



General store

The J.B. McGrew General Merchandise store doubled as the Miflin Post Office back in the early 1900s. Folks still came by horse and buggy to get their mail and supplies.

Miflin was
called "Peterson's
Paint"

There were back
houses, a lighted
pew, a high
slide and dining
board. There was a
dovecote where
doves were held
once a week.

a sack shed
where you could
rent a towel for
5¢ and a bucket
and for 25¢

Everyone came about
dusk to close up

9/24/05

'Cold hard Cash'

Money from Wolf Bay Lodge goes from wall decor to local charities

Celeste Newton
Staff Writer

cnewton@gulfcoastnewspapers.com

Sisters and restaurateurs, Charlene Haber and Alice Bretz, of the well known waterfront landmark restaurant Wolf Bay Lodge, will present funds to two local nonprofit organizations on Wednesday. The recipients will be announced at that time.

The gift comes from literally thousands of patrons who had visited the well known spot, unknowingly. Thousands of dollar bills once papered the quaint bar's interior, part conversation starters - part fun - wall art, totaling a sizeable amount over the course of 21 years. Next week the \$7,500 will be donated to, what has been deemed by Haber as, "a worthy cause."

Haber chose to focus on the immediate area community. "So many need help here, in our area," Haber said, "especially our community children."

Charles Wrape, Haber's father, recalls his friends, Bob Petterson and Al Nieme, gathering in celebration of his Wolf Bay Lodge ownership back in March, 1973, taping the "first" dollar bills, adorning the bar's mirror, and beginning the collection that in years to follow were added, personalized and hung or taped throughout.

The bills eventually ran three deep along the mirror

littering the four walls and ceiling of the Donkey Bar. One message read "the crew from St. Lou" spelled out on consecutive dollar bills hanging from the ceiling, Haber said. They were donated by visiting and local restaurant patrons in celebration of life's special moments.

Twenty five years later and after the arrival Hurricane Ivan the eatery's dollar bills could be found floating in muddy hurricane waters up to a mile away, well outside the walls of the popular gathering place.

Good Samaritans gathered the money throughout the neighborhood and returned the bills to Wolf Bay Lodge, realizing the marked dollars belonged to the restaurant, Haber said. There was money hanging on the walls too but what remained adhered to the walls was a mess, muddy, and mildewing.

Wrape with the help from his girlfriend, Velma Davis, cleaned the money up as best they could, bundled it up in \$50 increments, counted it, and for safety sake threw the garbage sacks of cash in their meat freezer. The \$7,500 of "cold hard cash" as Haber called it was later deposited at Vision bank.

The restaurant took a hard hit with Ivan, the worst Wrape could ever remember. The storm flooded the restaurant bringing in excess of

SEE WOLF BAY, PAGE 12A



Celeste Newton/Staff Photo

Wolf Bay Lodge owner Charlene Haber and father Charles Wrape, will present funds next week to a local nonprofit organization. In counting their many blessings, "it's unbelievable that people I've met from every state and Canada have heard of us," Wrape said.

WOLF BAY LODGE OPENS ITS DOORS IN SEPTEMBER FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER

Continued from Page 1A

four feet of water and incurring better than \$500,000 in damages, the family owners said.

Wolf Bay Lodge was closed from Sept. 5, 2004 until Feb. 10. The restaurant is traditionally closed during the month of September, but in light of the extended closing after Ivan, the waterside diner now remains open this month for the first time ever, Haber said.

Pensacola in the early 1970s and after serving more than 21 years with the Navy as Chief Parachute Rigger, Wrape met Miffin locals, those in the seafood trade, and particularly local owners of Wolf Bay Lodge, the restaurant he would later own.

The restaurant changed hands from the Mahoney family who had run it for the previous eight years to Wrape in March 1973. Wrape recalls starting out the business with his partners, Harold and Edna Fautheree, and his wife, Sandy, who passed away 11 years ago.

"Sandy was a super cook. I was only the manager at the Chief's club, and everyone had to do a little bit of everything back then," Wrape said. "Pauline Salzman, Louise Hagedofer and Laura Hagerly cooked too. The ladies of the area got together and created their favorite recipes and they could cook."

Wife Sandy decided to leave a private practice in 1973 as a registered nurse to devote herself to the growing business. He and Sandy ran it at night, except on weekends, and the Fautherees ran it during the day. Daughter Haber recalls her childhood sleeping in the restaurant, her home away from home.

Thinking back over the years, Wrape recalls their first and only Thanksgiving open at the restaurant and one of the few days not deemed a success. "People kept calling about Thanksgiving dinner, the more they called - the more turkey I cooked, about a dozen turkeys cooked in all." Only four dinners were served that Thanksgiving and Wrape said he ate turkey for months.

Back then the Lodge made seven gallons of gumbo a week, now they cook 40 gallons three times a week. Their space doubled in 1974 with an addition of 5,500 sq. feet for a total of 11,000 sq. feet. Since Ivan, the kitchen was redesigned and enlarged and a full dining menu can now be served throughout the dining and bar areas. Fifty-six employees make it all happen, and all but one worked with them pre-Ivan.

"I travel by motor home all over. I've been to every state and Canada. All I have to do is put on one of the Lodge shirts," Wrape said. "Inevitably, someone recognizes the restaurant, 'It's unbelievable that I've met people from every state and Canada who have heard of us.'"

Miflin Notes

Roberta ~~Black~~^{Spek}--sandcasting

New homes--stricter about septic tanks

One woman's husband built her a home--she took one look and never came back (Fuller)

At one time Peterson's Point was THE place to go. The A .H. Muellers operated a bath house and later a dance hall.

Peterson's Point, 90 acres was once owned by a man named Peterson.

He had a whole row of bathhouse-- a " place to go on Sundays?

later the dance hall

Storm damage-- A frame "Just sat down"

block houses, frame houses, stucco houses, trailers, many weekend houses, scattered about. the view from the water front along Wolf Bay--lovelt.

Many of those living in Miflin are retired and many are just vacation time residents. Farms surround

Hammock Bay abd Hammock Creek---

Many of the early settlers were farmers and "half of them couldn't cu it the gutsy ones stuck it out." Mrs. Fuller. Her parents were among the gutsy ones

Many of those who have built new homes in Miflin are second of third generation Baldwin Countians-- descendants of those who arrived early.

Idelewild Estates on Hammock Creek, lining the creek for the equivelant of about two blocks on both saides. the homes are new large and small

Residents of Miflin are retired, employed in neighboring towns.

Not many navy retired????

The old vacant house stood next to McGrew's Store

One time there was a ferry across Miflin Creek--then a draw bridge and then the present bridge

Old one room school house--purchased by Mrs. ^{Armstrong} _____ and used as a residence for a number of years

The white building is the second school building- - used as community building for a period

Lay Cemetery, one part set aside for the Lay family.

schoolhouse used to have parties and record hops there.

Sandy Creek and Wolf Creek are the Twin Creeks---Twin Creek

Quick Stop

Marina

Twin ridge Estates homes built of wood some trailers, said to be temporary until houses can be built. Other section -larger lots, brick homes.

Old Rudolph Willis home, restored?????

Miflin once a choesive community, built around a lumbering business, now loosley bound, mostly by the territory

Hard to determine the boundaries of Miflin - decided between Hammock Creek and Sandy and Wolf Creeks, mostly south of state road 12²⁰

with the new subdivisions just north of the road on the west side of the Miflin territory



This Was Mifflin Long Ago

Mifflin one of oldest Baldwin communities

by Mrs. Robert Fuller

Life in Baldwin County was much simpler in the early 1900's when the picture above was taken.

Mrs. Flora Cowan of Mifflin recalls many of the activities of that era. She is the only still living member of the J. T. Johnson family, which moved to Baldwin County from Mitchell, South Dakota in 1904. There were three children in the family, Flora, Lillian and Ted.

The two story home in the photograph was built for the Johnsons in 1905 by Rolfe and Son and their boat, the "Minnie Jo," often took parties out to the Gulf for picnics and turtle hunts. On Sunday mornings, the Johnson children and some of their neighborhood friends went by boat to Sunday School at Swift Presbyterian Church in Mifflin.

The small building to the right of the bridge was used as a bath house by the Johnson and McGrew children.

The bridge spanned Mifflin Creek and was built in 1909 to replace the handdrawn ferry that had carried people, farm wagons and buggies across the creek for several years. The bridge had a turntable to permit passage of sloops and pleasure boats up the creek.

and post office. It was built about 1905 and was owned and operated by J. T. Johnson and J. B. McGrew for about six years, and then changed owners.

The building shown under construction at the waterfront was Johnson's warehouse and ice storage.

None of the buildings in the

picture exist today. The home in which Mrs. Cowan and her daughter, Lillian, live is located about at the site of the old general store and post office. Their close neighbor now is Mrs. Marie Russell, who moved here from Chicago several years ago. She was the wife of Ted Johnson until his death some years ago.

During the hurricane of July 4, 1915, Mrs. Cowan recalled that the bridge was damaged by logs pounding against it in the flood waters. The turntable was never repaired and so the draw remained closed.

The bridge before which had received additional repairs from time to time, was replaced by the present concrete bridge.

The white building just to the left of the bridge was Mifflin's first general store.

The home in which Mrs. Cowan & her daughter lived is at the site of the old general store & P.O.

During hurricane July 4, 1915 (?) 1916

The bridge was damaged by logs pounding against it in the flood waters

In 1930, the bridge was replaced by present concrete bridge

The first had bridge the lumber?

News From

(Name of Community)

By

(Correspondent's Name)

NUMBER PAGES

USE TYPEWRITER or WRITE PLAINLY
PARAGRAPH EACH SEPARATE ITEM
WRITE ON ONE SIDE OF PAPER ONLY

TO THE ONLOOKER:

Span Mifflin
Creek

1

Bridge in picture spanned Mifflin Creek, it was built in 1909, and ^{to replace} it replaced the hand drawn ferry that had carried people, farm wagons and buggies across the creek for several years. The bridge had a turn table to permit passage of sloops and pleasure boats up the creek.

During the July 4th hurricane in 1915 the bridge was damaged by logs pounding against it ~~with~~ ⁱⁿ the flood waters. The turn table was never repaired and so the draw remained closed. The bridge received repairs from time to time and remained in use until the early 1950's when it was replaced by the present concrete bridge.

The white building just to the left of the bridge was Mifflin's first general store and post office. Built about 1905 it was owned and operated by J. J. Johnson and J. B. McDevew for about six years at which time it changed owners. The building shown under construction at the waterfront was Johnson's warehouse and ice storage.

News From _____
(Name of Community)

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TO THE ONLOOKER:

Boat in the picture ^{was} the "Minnie J.", the Johnson's pleasure boat. It often took parties out to the gulf for picnics and turtle ^{hunts} ~~hunting~~. On Sunday mornings it took the Johnson children and some of their neighborhood friends to Sunday School at the Swift Presbyterian Church.

Among the first homes built in Mifflin was the two story home in the background. It was built in 1905 by Rolfe and Son for ~~Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Johnson and their three children Flora, Lillian and Ted, who moved to Baldwin County in 1904 from Mitchell, S. D.~~

Small building at right of bridge was used as a bath house by the Johnson and Mc Grew children.

None of the buildings in the picture exist today

Information furnished by Mrs. Flora Cowan, the only living member of the J. J. Johnson family. Mrs. Cowan + her daughter Lillian came back to Mifflin ^{about 10 years} ~~several years~~ ago. Their

News From _____
(Name of Community)

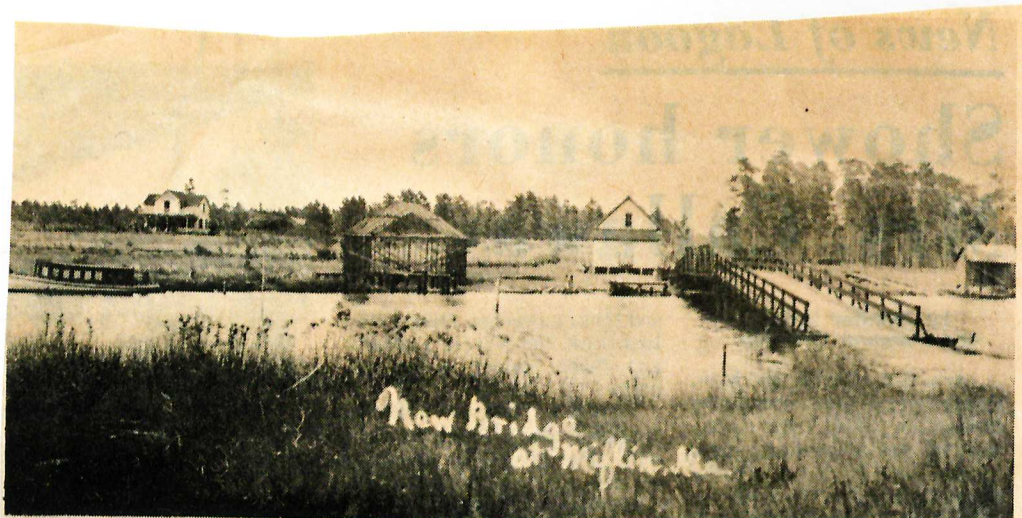
By _____
(Correspondent's Name)

NUMBER PAGES

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TO THE ONLOOKER:

house is located at about the site of the old general store and post office. Their close neighbor is Mrs. Marie Russell who moved here from Chicago several years ago. She ^{is} the widow of the late Ted Johnson. remained to
Russell



This Was Miflin Long Ago

Miflin one of oldest Baldwin communities

by Mrs. Robert Fuller

Life in Baldwin County was much simpler in the early 1900's when the picture above was taken.

Mrs. Flora Cowan of Miflin recalls many of the activities of that era. She is the only still living member of the J. T. Johnson family, which moved to Baldwin County from Mitchell, South Dakota in 1904. There were three children in the family, Flora, Lillian and Ted.

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*The first had
bridge the turntable?*



New Bridge
at Millers, Va.

Miflin

Foley, Alabama, Thursday, April 23, 1959

HISTORY OF MIFLIN
By Mrs. E. A. Anderson

Miflin is a village of 200 population, located on Wolf Bay and interlaced by lovely Sandy, Wolf, Miflin and Mammoth Creeks. Not too much of it's very early history is known but the number of arrowheads and pieces of tomahawks and other tools found in this vicinity would suggest that Indians had roamed the woods before the white men came.

Abstracts to land date back to 1850. Byard Roberts and Harry Lay are citizens who have lived here since 1880 and it is to them we owe the known history of that period. Mr. Lay came here as a small lad with his parents from nearby Fish River area. He recalls that there was an abundance of wild game in those days, especially deer and turkeys. The settlers had a few head of cattle, sheep, hogs and farms of six or eight acres grubbed out of the new ground and "pea-patch farmed". He was told by his elders that before the Civil War a Mr. Miflin had a sawmill and a grist mill up Miflin Creek behind what is now known as the "Aden Engel place". The creek was dammed to furnish power for the mill. The creek, and later the community, was named for the owner of the mill.

Byard Roberts remembers the founding of Swift community as this was first called. Marshall and James A. Carney, Bill Orrel and a Mr. Owens came from North Carolina bringing with them a large number of Negroes to work in the turpentine business, the still being located on Wolf Creek near the spot where the Esnauls recently built a new home. A Mr. Dowty also came from North Carolina and put a turpentine still near the head of Bon Secour River. A John Hall owned much of the land in this area. He sold the land to

from
"Values + Legends of South Baldwin County" column

THE FOLEY ONLOOKER

George Robinson who started a big logging operation. Charles Swift with his three brothers came from Florida to run the business for Mr. Robinson. Miss Susan Roberts of Mobile was school teacher at the "Dowty Still" and it was there that Charles Swift met, wooed and wed her. After their marriage, they came to "Swift" on Sandy Creek to live. (The Charles Swifts were parents of Robin Swift of Atmore, Mrs. Susie Nell Marshall, Mrs. Meme Wakeford and William H. Swift of Bon Secour). Soon after the Swifts were married, Mrs. Swift's father, W. H. Roberts brought his family here to live. They were Misses Miriam and Amelia (the late Mrs. G. E. Gavin) and Mr. Byard. W. H. Roberts was bookkeeper for the Swifts.

The logging business was a thriving one. A railroad was built to bring the logs from the woods to the creek and they were floated by raft to a sawmill at Millview, Florida. A large community grew up in the area and a big one-room schoolhouse was built. Often reli-

gious services were held in the schoolhouse. Some of the pupils attending this school were the Hadley boys, Cruett, Tom and Joe, some of the Fells, Mannings, Flirts, Willis, R. Leon Jones and Byard Roberts. On the road between the school and the creek there were so many small children that it was nicknamed "Squall Street". Twice a week Mr. Byard rode horseback to the "Dowty Still" for the community mail which was brought overland from Point Clear. Afterward a postoffice was established and named Swift and the mail was brought by boat from Millview, Florida.

After the timber was cut out, the logging business moved to Seminoe, Alabama and most of the residents of Swift moved with it. The Roberts family remained here and W. H. was postmaster until his death. Mr. Byard was appointed postmaster and had the office until it was moved to Elberta, still retaining the name of Swift. About 1905, the location of the community shifted from Sandy to

Miflin Creek. The J. B. McGrews and John T. Johnsons settled there and opened a general merchandise store. Miflin postoffice was established. Both merchandise for the store and the mail was brought by boat. About this time, the August Andersons, Gust Lundquists, the Kaemmerers; the August Johnsons and several other families came to live. A new schoolhouse was built. Capt. Robert Lauder, with Mrs. Lauder, his son Robert and family, his daughter Mrs. J. A. Pilgrim with her husband and family came in 1912.

As yet, no church had been built in the community. Miss Miriam Roberts taught Sunday School and the "Busy Bees" in her home each Sunday for the children. Music was by phonograph. Her dream was to have a church for the people living here. It was through her efforts and her dedicated life that Swift Presbyterian was built and was dedicated in 1910. Plans are being made to celebrate it's golden anniversary in 1960.

B. Peterson purchased the land

fronting Wolf Bay and developed "Peterson's Point" into what was the most popular resort in Baldwin County for several years. Then the property was sold and has been subdivided. There is no longer a public beach there.

Miflin School was consolidated with Elberta. The postoffice was discontinued and mail is received by star route from Elberta. Farming is the main industry. Those engaged in other businesses commute to Pensacola, Mobile and Foley.

The creeks and bay have always been an important part of the life of the community. They have furnished water power for a mill, transportation for mail, merchandise and people, barges for pulpwood, schooners for watermelons and log rafts. Swimming, boating and fishing have always been favorite recreations. The creeks are unexcelled for fishing and many a prize in the fishing rodeos have been won from a fish caught "up Sandy" or "Miflin". There are fishing camps all along the creeks

where boats and bait may be obtained. Skiing and speedboat races are enjoyed on Sunday afternoons.

ew families are moving in all along. Some are retired couples who lived here in their younger days and remembered how good life was and is here. Others came on vacation, liked what they found and came back to live. Weekend cottages are being built all along the water by owners from nearby towns. We have REA service, telephones, paved road, good climate, good people, a good place to live. Long live Miflin!



BETTY J. HODGES
1674 ROCKY TOP DRIVE
LILBURN, GA 30247

Librarian
Foley Library
Foley, Alabama

Dear Friend,

Enclosed are pictures of the school environs of Mifflin, Alabama, June 1920-1922. My mother, Sarah Annie Law Quick (later Mrs. Lawrence L. Jackson Sr.) taught there before her marriage in the summer of 1922. If you have an archives room, can you find a place for them? She attended the Baptist Church in Mifflin while she taught there, so if you can't use them, there may be a place in the church history for them.

My father and mother moved to Sea View after their retirement, living at Suggs's Landing. Her brother, Henry Allen Quick lives on the river there now. It is a joy for me and my family to visit South Baldwin when we can.

Sincerely,
Betty Jackson Hodges



"Church at Miflin"



At Miflin 1920-21





"Miflin Creek looking up the creek. This is the place I learned to swim across. But the bathing beach is farther down on the bay. This is just in front of Mrs. Johnson's and we went in bathing here a great deal."

Annie Lou Quick teacher 1920-21



Miflin Creek

"Miflin Creek looking towards the Bay. This is just in front of Mrs. Johnson's house."



1. "Miflin Class"
Annie Lou Quick, teacher
1921-22



2. "Class at Miflin"
Annie Lou Quick, teacher
1921-22



3. "Mr. Rudert and boys
at Miflin"
Annie Lou Quick, teacher
1921-22



4. "Miflin Baseball (school)
team"
Annie Lou Quick, teacher
1921-22



5. "The girls in my room"
Annie Lou Quick, teacher
1921-22



7. "Some of the kids in
Margaret's room"
Miflin
Annie Lou Quick, teacher
1921-22



6. "Horrible!!!
Mrs. Johnson's home"
Annie Lou Quick, teacher
1921-22



8

8. "This is the largest boat that has been to Miflin since I've been here. It is the same one on the other picture."
Annie Lou Quick 1920-21



9

9. Miflin Creek looking towards The Bay. This is just in front of Mrs. Johnson's house."
Annie Lou Quick, teacher
1920-21



10

10. "Miflin Creek looking up the Creek. This is the place I learned to swim across. But the bathing beach in (is) farther down on the bay. This is just in front of Mrs. Johnson's and we went/go in bathing here a great deal."
Annie Lou Quick, teacher 1920-21

History of Swift Presbyterian Church

by Mrs. Byard Roberts

Many wonder why Swift Church(at Miflin) was built so far from the center of the Miflin Community and ~~many wonder why it was called " Swift Church. "~~ A young woman, ~~a stranger this past summer(1960) saw "Swift S.S" written on the bakeboard and asked it it were because the church did things in a hurry. Use visiting Presbyterian minister, years ago thought the Church should never have been built in its present location, and wanted to have it moved over to the heart of Miflin. This distressed Miss Miriam Roberts, through whose efforts the church was built for she felt that he did not understand or he would not have spoken as he did.~~

Years ago there was a large commissary on the right bank of Sandy Creek, several nice homes and a railroad track running from far out into the pine forests down to the creek's edge. Here every week came a steamer from Millview. This logging center on the creek was owned by Mr. George Robinson, and the business was operated by C.A. Swift. It was here that Mr. Swift brought his bride, Susie P. Roberts of Mobile to make her home.

~~There was~~ ^{had been built} a large school building and on one ~~side~~ of the roads there were so many houses and so many little children that it was known as "Squall Street."

Miss Cornelia Miriam Roberts, her father, her brother, Byard Roberts and sister, Mrs. G.E. Gavin came ^{to Miflin} ~~here~~ to live and when ^{lumber} the business was moved to Seminole, ~~many~~ ^{residents} of the ~~people~~ moved with it, but the Roberts family stayed on.

94 years old

Mrs. Roberts account Swift Presbyterian 2

^{There} Life was very lonely ~~here~~ for Miss Roberts. She missed her old friends and she especially missed her home church (Government Street Presbyterian, Mobile)

Her brother, Platt Roberts died and his wife and five children came ^{to Miflin} ~~here~~ to live. Miss Roberts ^{held} ~~always had~~ Sunday School for these five little folks, and on pleasant Sundays they would walk up the hill where the church stands ^{amid the pine trees} and she would tell them her dream of building a church there.

After two years, the Platt Roberts moved to Mobile, and Miss Roberts was alone again, but she didn't give up her dream.

^{she told her} One day, her brother in law, C.A. Swift ~~was talking to her~~ ~~she told him~~ of that dream. He said " Why don't you build that church, Min? I'll give you the land and the lumber." And so the church was begun in 1905.

Miss Roberts said that she especially wanted the church ^{in Miflin} ~~here~~ so that her sister's family, her brother and ^{others} ~~the people~~ scattered throughout this area might have a place to worship the Lord.

Much of the lumber was brought here by boat from Bon Secour. Some came from the mill here. Miss Roberts had many difficulties and labor troubles while the church was being constructed. Two families, the Nelsons and Whites moved here from Penn. and put up a saw mill. They were zealous Presbyterians and Miss Roberts felt that her troubles were over, for now there these men could shoulder the responsibility, but Both Mr. Nelson and Mr. White died of typhoid fever after a few months ~~and~~ ~~but the work must go on.~~ The Swift family, Dr. and Mrs. G. E. Gavin other relatives and friends contributed funds and helped

Swift
 Sift Church 3
 Mrs. Roberts account

Swift Church was not built and furnished all at one time. The pulpit was built by ~~Mr.~~ Chris Hansen and copied from the Government Presbyterian Church in Mobile. The chair was made in Mobile and paid for by the "Busy Bees." Some of the pews were made in Mobile and paid for by donations. When ~~we needed~~ ^{were needed} extra pews, they were made by ~~Mr.~~ Emory Anderson. The organ was bought by the Sunday School. The contribution plate was given by Mrs. Wwift. The bell was given by Mrs. G.E. Gavin in memory of her husband, Dr. Gavin. The Young People's Society with the help of some outside contributions paid for the building of the flu. The first Bible came from the old school building. The chandelier was a gift from Mrs. Swift.

There was no community in Mifflin when the church was ~~be~~ begun, but now people began to move in. The church was completed in 1907 and in the autumn of 1910 the Swift Church was formally organized by the Presbytery of Mobile and the building was dedicated by Rev. Smith of Brewton, Miss Roberts was elected Deaconess. The church was named "Swift Church in 1924 to honor C.A. Swift one of its first elders. Miss Roberts died in 1926.

The church was damaged in 1933 by a cyclone, but repaired and reroofed after funds were raised at an all day picnic. Electricity was ~~not~~ installed in the church until 1949

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HISTORY OF SWIFT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
By Mrs. Byard ROBERTS
Submitted by Mrs. Davida HASTIE

Vol V Oct 1977 No 1
Ball Co Historical Society
Quarterly

Twice I have written the History of Swift Church and twice it has been destroyed by fire. Someone lost the Church Record so I am now endeavoring to re-write the history giving dates and facts as accurately as I can.

Many wonder why Swift Church was built so far from the center of the Mifflin Community, as many wonder why it was called "Swift Church". A young woman, a stranger this past summer saw "Swift S. S." written on the blackboard and she asked if it were because the church did things in a hurry. One visiting Presbyterian minister, years ago, thought that the Church should never have been built on its present location, and wanted to have it moved over to the heart of Mifflin. This distressed Miss Miriam ROBERTS, through whose efforts the church was built, for she felt that he did not understand, or he would not have spoken as he did.

Years ago, on the right bank of Sandy Creek, there was a large commissary, several nice homes and a railroad track running from far out into the pine forests, down to the creek's edge. Here every week came a steamer from Millview, Florida to tow huge rafts of logs to Millview. This logging center on the creek was owned by Mr. George ROBINSON, and the business was operated by Mr. C. A. SWIFT. It was here that Mr. SWIFT brought his bride, Susie P. ROBERTS of Mobile, to make her home.

There was a large school building and on one of the roads; there were so many houses and so many little children that it was known as "Squall Street".

Miss Cornelia Miriam ROBERTS, her father, her brother, Byard ROBERTS, and sister, Mrs. G. E. GAVIN came here to live, and when the business was moved to Seminole, Alabama, many of the people moved with it, but the ROBERTS family stayed on.

Life was very lonely here for Miss ROBERTS. She missed her old friends and she especially missed her home church. (Government Street Presbyterian Church, Mobile, Alabama.)

Her brother, Platt ROBERTS died and his wife and five small children came here to live. Miss ROBERTS always had Sunday School for these five little folks, and on pleasant Sundays they would walk up the hill to the spot where the Church stands, and she would tell them of her dream of building a church there.

After about two years, the Platt ROBERTS moved to Mobile, and Miss ROBERTS was alone again but she did not give up her dream.

One day, her brother-in-law, Mr. C. A. SWIFT, was talking to her, and she told him of that dream. He said, "Why don't you build that Church, Min? I'll give you the land and the lumber." And, so the Church was begun in 1905.

Miss ROBERTS said that she especially wanted the church here, so that her sister's family, her brother, and the people scattered about throughout this area might have a place to worship the Lord.

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There was no community in Miflin when the Church was begun, but now people began to move in. The J. B. MCGREWS, the John T. JOHNSONS, the August ANDERSONS, the LUNDQUISTS, the FORSBERGS, and many others came. A day school was organized, and a P. T. A. which finally merged into a Ladies Aid with Mrs. M. B. MCGREW as its first President. The Charter members were: Mrs. MCGREW, Mrs. Scott BARNES, Mrs. Annabel, Mrs. INGALLS, Mrs. John T. JOHNSON, Mrs. August ANDERSON, Mrs. Johanna ANDERSON, Mrs. FORSBERG, Miss C. M. ROBERTS, and Mrs. LUNDQUIST.

Finally, the Church was completed, about 1907. Several ministers held services here, among them were: Dr. HOYT, Rev. FLOYD, Rev. W. F. ROGERS and Mr. Eugene CROSBY.

In the autumn of 1910, the Swift Church was formally organized by the Presbytery of Mobile and the building was dedicated by Rev. SMITH of Brewton, Alabama. Mr. C. A. SWIFT and Dr. E. A. MOORE of Foley were elected elders. There was no man to take the office of deacon so Miss ROBERTS was elected Deaconess.

In the summer of 1911, Mr. E. D. CURTIS, a student preached, and the following summer Mr. Murdoch MURPHY, another student, preached. Then came Mr. William F. HARRIS who preached from time to time for about eight years. Other early ministers were: Rev. Arthur FOGARTY, E. T. AUSTIN, A. T. TAYLOR, Rev. P. S. VAN DYKE, Roy WILKIE, and Rev. T. C. DELANEY. Rev. James W. MARSHALL, Superintendent of Home Missions, often visited Swift Church, and we will long remember his helpful sermons and kindly ways.

It has been said that, "The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world". Since the Sunday School is the cradle of the church, we will give the names of the superintendents who have tried to guide young people in the paths of righteousness. Who knows but that some of these young people may be world rulers at some future time? Miss C. M. ROBERTS held Sunday School in her own home. Afterwards, Mr. William G. NELSON of Mercer, Pennsylvania, came to Miflin. He was the first Superintendent of the organized Sunday School. He lived at the old mill site just below Swift Church, and died of typhoid fever a few months later. Miss ROBERTS became Superintendent and served for many years.

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Other superintendents who served were: Mr. Jacob JOHNSON, Mr. J. A. PILGRIM, Mrs. Maria L. RADCLIFFE, Mrs. Byard ROBERTS, Mrs. Robert J. LAUDER, Mrs. Evar ANDERSON, Mr. Eric LAUDER, Mrs. Peggy Lauder SCHEER, Mrs. Rose Epperson FLIRT, Mrs. Lillian Pilgrim WILLIS, Mr. Andy JENSEN, Miss Therese ROBERTS, Mr. Ernest ROCKSTALL, and at present, Mr. Tony SCHEER.

Miss ROBERTS organized the Busy Bee Society and the young people spent many pleasant profitable hours in her quaint southern home. The charter members were: Vernon, Evar, Arthur, and Anna ANDERSON; Margaret and Bernard MCGREW; Flora, Lillian, and Ted JOHNSON; Edith LUNDQUIST; Jane, Corrine and Willie LAY. The Busy Bees finally became a C. E. and then Young Peoples Society.

In 1911 or 1912, the PILGRIMS, LAUDERS, Jacob JOHNSONS, Emory ANDERSONS, and Mrs. M. L. RADCLIFFE came and added much to the church's life and progress. Mr. JOHNSON was selected elder and also Sunday School Superintendent. The Sunday School flourished under his leadership.

Mr. JOHNSON and his family moved back to Kentucky and Capt. R. R. LAUDER became Sunday School Superintendent. He also taught the Adult Bible Class, and when the Church was without a pastor at one time, he held the Church together giving some splendid sermons. He died in August 1922 and his wife died in October of the same year.

Miss ROBERTS served as President of the Aid for many years. She managed and controlled all the Church funds and business. She always said that she answered every call, and the treasury, like the cruse, was never empty.

In 1924 the Ladies Aid became an Auxiliary and at a meeting of Presbytery held here about that time, the Church was named "Swift Church" in honor of Mr. C. A. SWIFT, one of its first elders, and its most generous contributor. On March 3rd, 1926, Miss ROBERTS passed to her eternal reward, and soon afterwards the Auxiliary became the Miriam Roberts Auxiliary in honor of her memory. But it was during Mrs. J. A. PILGRIM's term of office as President that the society became a fullfledged Auxiliary with all the cause secretaries. Later, the Auxiliary became known as the Women of the Church. This group of women has always been active in the work of the church. They have supported the causes which the Presbyterian Church U. S. supports, giving of their time, talents, and money. Besides contributing to the regular program, they have, over the years, given bridal showers, stork showers, sunshine baskets for the sick. The Circle Bible Study is one of the most enjoyed features of the W. O. C. program with a number of ladies, of other faiths, joining the study group. The following is a list of presidents of the Women's work, who served faithfully and well. Some of them have gone to their Heavenly Home, but their work follows them: Miss C. M. ROBERTS, Mrs. J. B. MCGREW, Mrs. J. A. PILGRIM, Miss Margaret MCGREW, Mrs. Knut JENSEN, Mrs. Rose Epperson FLIRT, Mrs. Andy JENSEN, Mrs. Tony SCHEER, Mrs. Evar ANDERSON, Mrs. Ernest ROCKSTALL, Mrs. Bruce WILLIS, Mrs. John KAECHLE, and Mrs. Fred SEIBERT.

Some of our ministers have served as foreign missionaries: Rev. John B. VAIL (Korea), Rev. P. S. VAN DYK (Japan), Rev. S. K. DODSON (Korea), and Rev. Charles BUTLER (Brazil). Dr. Vernon ANDERSON, a son of our Church, served forty years in the Belgian Congo. Mrs. John BOYLE, who as Mae SCHLICH, attended Swift Church, and is now serving the Mission Field in Brazil.

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The influences of Swift Church have been spread to the Presbyterian Churches in the South Baldwin area. To Foley Church went Mrs. George ROBINSON and her two daughters, Mrs. John HEILMEIER and Mrs. MACK FELL. Mrs. Augusta KAEMMERER was a member of our Ladies Aid. Some of her descendants are members of the Gulf Shores Church. Mrs. Abbie WALKER was interested in the Ladies Aid and Busy Bees, and the Young Peoples Society. Her children and grandchildren are prominent workers in the Orange Beach Church. Ronald and Neil LAUDER are workers in the Orange Beach Church. They are the sons of the late Mr. and Mrs. R. J. LAUDER, beloved workers of Swift Church. The Carl SCHLICHS were members here. Mr. SCHLICH was clerk of the Session when they moved to Loxley, Ala.

Our Charter Members were: Miss C. M. ROBERTS, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. SWIFT, Miss Emily SWIFT, Miss Eleanor SWIFT, and Dr. E. A. MOORE.

Mr. W. F. HARRIS was the first minister of the organized church. Other firsts: Mysie Pilgrim ROCKSTALL, first child received by infant baptism; Vernon ANDERSON, first young person united by profession of faith; Miss Margaret MCGREW, first President of the Christian Endeavor Society; Robert LAUDER (Bobby) was the first President of the Presbyterian League, Presbyterian Young Peoples' Organization; Mr. and Mrs. John CLIMIE (nee Corrine LAY), the first couple united in marriage in the sanctuary; Byard Wilmer ROBERTS, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Byard ROBERTS, first funeral service held in the church.

On March 31st, 1933 the Church was badly damaged by a cyclone, but the men of the Church with the help of some good friends in the community repaired it, but it was badly in need of a new roof. The members of Swift Church gave an all day picnic and barbecue at the home of Mr. Byard ROBERTS and funds were raised to reroof the Church.

A very successful Daily Vacation Bible School was held in the Church in 1951. After two weeks of Bible study and pleasure, forty-two children were made happy when they received their certificates.

In 1956 Foley became an independent church, and Swift, after many pleasant years of sharing Foley's pastor, joined the group of Swift, Orange Beach, and Gulf Shores Churches. The Rev. Howard LAWSON of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania was called as pastor of the three churches. He was installed in an impressive service at Swift on July 1, 1956.

Electricity was installed in the Church in 1949. For the first time the annual Birthday Party was held in the Church. Heretofore, because of poor lighting in the building, the meetings had been held in the homes.

Additional furnishings were placed in the building by the Sunday School, Women of the Church, some members, and friends. Mr. J. A. PILGRIM donated a hot water heater and gas stove. Mr. Tony SCHEER gave an electric pump. Mr. Evar ANDERSON made and gave a lectern. A baptismal bowl was given in memory of Mrs. Anna ANDERSON JENSEN. Hymnals were placed in the sanctuary in memory of Mrs. Mary ANDERSON.

The construction of a Fellowship Hall was begun in 1958. Contractors built the outer shell, and the men of the church did much of the finish work, wiring and plumbing. The addition was almost completed in February 1960, when District Conference was held at Swift. A Family Night Supper

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was given in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Vernon ANDERSON on March 7, 1960, and the new building was used for the first time by the congregation. Presbytery met at the Church on April 19, 1960. Approximately forty-five ministers, elders, and guests attended.

Present officers of the Church, Sunday School, and Women of the Church are as follows: Elders-- Mr. J. A. PILGRIM, who has served continuously since 1923, and Mr. Andy JENSEN; Deacons-- Mr. Alan PILGRIM, Mr. Bruce WILLIS, Mr. Joe GOOD, Mr. Ernest ROCKSTALL, and Mr. Arlo BELL; Sunday School Superintendent-- Mr. Tony SCHEER; President, Women of the Church-- Mrs. Naomi PILGRIM.

We do not want to forget those families and individuals who have worked and worshipped in Swift Church in the past: Mr. J. T. JOHNSON, Mr. J. B. MCGREW, Bernard MCGREW, Mrs. August LUNDQUIST, Edith LUNDQUIST RIEFENBERG, the Albert ARD family, William and Donald ARMSTRONG, Mrs. Roy DAVIS, the BREITSWERDT family, the Misses SUCKAU, Mrs. SCHULT, the Harry LAY family, the KEENON family, the RAINWATER family, the MANNING family, the FELL family, the COUNTS family, the HUGGINS family, the HARRISON and STASSI families, the RICE family, Mrs. Laura LASSON, the Eric LAUDER family, the WILLIS family, the Everett SMITHS, the Harry CRAWFORD family, and Mrs. Ida BORIS.

Many people have taught and worked with the Sunday School: Miss C. M. ROBERTS, Mrs. Scott BARNES, Mrs. J. B. MCGREW, Mr. Jacob JOHNSON, Mr. J. A. PILGRIM, Mrs. Byard ROBERTS, Mrs. R. G. STEVENS (nee Eleanor SWIFT), Mrs. Maria L. RADCLIFFE, Capt. R. R. LAUDER, Mrs. R. J. LAUDER, Miss Margaret MCGREW, Mrs. Bruce WILLIS, Mrs. John KAECELE, Mrs. Evar ANDERSON, Mrs. Rose Epperson FLIRT, Miss Therese ROBERTS, Mrs. Tony SCHEER, Mr. Andy JENSEN, Mrs. Andy JENSEN, Mrs. Howard PILGRIM, Mr. Arlo BELL, Miss Joyce KAECELE, Mrs. Claire Lauder HERTEL, Mrs. Barbara Pilgrim SEIBERT.

Those who served for many years as pianists: Mrs. R. G. STEVENS, Mrs. R. J. LAUDER, Miss Margaret MCGREW, Mrs. Claire Lauder HERTEL, Mrs. Eric LAUDER, Mrs. John KAECELE, and Miss Polly SCHEER.

A few years ago the Adult Bible Class was named The Marie Lauder Bible Class in honor of Mrs. R. J. LAUDER who had served so faithfully as Sunday School teacher, Church Treasurer, soloist and pianist.

Mrs. J. A. PILGRIM, Mrs. Mary ANDERSON, and Mrs. Anna Anderson JENSEN were always present at Sunday School, Church services, and other Church meetings.

Kenneth PILGRIM should be commended for his many years of perfect attendance in Sunday School.

Much has been omitted for lack of space. Some errors may have been made. We hope you will pardon us if we left out any names, or made any errors. It certainly was not intentional.

A.M.R., T.K.R., and B.D.A.

Notes From Minutes of Mobile Presbytery

In April 1922 Rev. W. F. HARRIS was supply. In 1923 the pulpit was vacant.

In November 1923 Presbytery's Home Missions reported that Swift Church had an elder, Mr. J. A. PILGRIM, and a deacon, after being without resident

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officers for many months. Rev. A. T. TAYLOR served Swift, Foley, Atmore and Uriaiah.

April 14, 1924 Elder J. A. PILGRIM attended a meeting of Presbytery at Bell's Landing Presbyterian Church at Tinela, Alabama.

November 10, 11, 1924 Presbytery met at Swift Church, thirteen ministers and twelve elders were present. Mr. J. A. PILGRIM represented Swift Church, and Rev. V. A. ANDERSON was elected Moderator. He told of his work in the Belgian Congo and all were much impressed. Quote: "This meeting was the most numerously attended in the history of Mobile Presbytery."

In 1924 Rev. George A. JOHNSON held an evangelistic meeting at Swift.

In 1925 the Minutes of Presbytery noted that Swift Church gave more than its apportionment to Presbytery's Home Missions.

In 1925 the pulpit was vacant.

In 1926 Rev. Charles GHISELIN of China Mission Field visited Swift Church. Presbytery's Benevolent Treasurer reported that Swift Church made a regular gift of \$25.00, Special gift \$84.00. Rev. J. B. VAIL, Jr. came to Swift, Foley and Loxley in May. During the same year, Mr. J. A. PILGRIM was elected Alternate Delegate to the General Assembly at El Dorado, Arkansas.

In 1927 Robert LAUDER (Bobby) was the first President of the Presbyterian League, an organization of Presbytery's young people.

In 1928 Rev. James I. PAISLEY of Korea Mission visited Swift Church.

In 1929 Rev. A. R. CATES came to Swift Church as minister. In November of the same year Presbytery met in Swift Church. Rev. V. A. ANDERSON was elected Moderator, Mr. J. A. PILGRIM, Elder Delegate. Delegates to General Assembly, Rev. V. A. ANDERSON and Mr. J. A. PILGRIM.

In 1932 Mr. J. A. PILGRIM was Clerk, Mrs. R. J. LAUDER was Treasurer, and Mrs. K. T. JENSEN was Benevolent Treasurer.

In 1933 the following was taken from the minutes of Presbytery: "Since the last meeting of Presbytery, Rev. A. R. CATES of the Foley group (including Swift) and Rev. George F. JOHNSON of the Jackson group have exchanged fields of labor. Done with the consent of churches and the Home Mission Committee."

November 8, 1937 the Minutes of Presbytery record the death of Dr. and Mrs. Vernon ANDERSON's son in Africa.

In 1939 Supt. of Home Missions was serving the Church since Mr. JOHNSON left in the fall of 1938.

In 1940 Rev. S. K. DODSON became minister of Swift and Foley Churches.

In 1944 Rev. S. K. DODSON resigned as pastor of the church.

In 1947 Rev. Charles BUTLER, who has served as a Student Pastor on the South Baldwin Field, has agreed to serve in the Field full time for at least one full year prior to his entering Foreign Mission Work.

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In March 1948 Rev. Charles BUTLER resigned, and in October in the same year Rev. H. R. MILLER was received by Presbytery and served the South Baldwin area.

In October 1950 Rev. MILLER was elected Moderator of Presbytery and Commissioner to the General Assembly (1951).

In 1951 Mr. MILLER resigned from the South Baldwin Field.

In October 1952 Rev. Marvin BRYANT was installed as pastor of the Church.

In 1953 a petition was presented to organize a church at Orange Beach.

In 1956 Rev. Marvin BRYANT resigned as pastor of the Church.

In July 1956 Rev. Howard A. LAWSON was installed as pastor of Swift, Gulf Shores and Orange Beach Churches.

Miss Miriam ROBERTS

Cornelia Miriam ROBERTS was born March 13, 1857, in Mobile, Alabama, the second of six children of William Henry ROBERTS and Sarah Cornelia (BULL) ROBERTS. When a girl of about twelve years she united with the Government Street Presbyterian Church of Mobile on profession of faith. About 1890 she moved to Miflin, Alabama, where she died March 3, 1926 at the home of her brother. She is survived by two sisters, Mrs. C. A. SWIFT of Bon Secour, Alabama, and Mrs. G. E. GAVIN of Mobile, Alabama, and one brother, Mr. Byard ROBERTS of Miflin.

For godliness of life, purity of motives, and thoughtfulness of others the name of Miss ROBERTS will be revered by those who knew her best. Her lot having been providentially cast in a community where there was no church, she followed the footsteps of David in that it came into her heart to build a house for the worship of God. Under many difficulties this ambition was realized, so that her faith and devotion were rewarded both by the construction of a church building and the organization of the Swift Presbyterian Church December 4, 1910, the pulpit furniture being modeled after that of the Government Street Church in Mobile, the home of her childhood.

Into this little church she poured the precious ointment of her prayers and zeal throughout the years. Whether with the little children, the young people, or the older members, her labors were abundantly fruitful in directing their hearts heavenward, in enlisting their hands in the service of her Master. "The Woman that feareth the Lord shall be praised; for in her tongue was the law of kindness."

-Written for the Christian Observer,
by Rev. James W. MARSHALL, 1926

Biography of Dr. Vernon A. ANDERSON

Dr. Vernon A. ANDERSON served for thirty-nine and a half years, from 1920 to 1960, as an evangelistic Missionary of the Presbyterian Church, U. S., to the Belgian Congo. He had an interesting and exciting career which spanned four epoch-making decades during which kaleidoscopic changes were taking place on the continent of Africa. He was privileged to arrive there

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in time to see something of the primitive Congo and to remain long enough to get a glimpse of the now hectic era in which numerous new nations have emerged.

Born in Illinois, August 23, 1896, he was reared and educated in Alabama. He attended a little one-room school house in Miflin, in South Baldwin County.

Under the influence of two godly women, his mother and Miss Miriam ROBERTS, he early found the Lord. He united with the Swift Presbyterian Church and felt the call to the ministry while in his early teens.

He is a graduate of the Alabama Presbyterian College, 1917, and the Louisville Presbyterian Seminary, 1920.

While at home on his second furlough he completed work for the Th. M. Degree at the latter institution, and on a subsequent furlough the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary conferred on him the Ph. D. Degree upon the completion of his studies there. The subject of his thesis was: "Witchcraft in Africa, A Missionary Problem."

Laura Muflord STAFFORD and he were united in marriage in October, 1920 and the following December they sailed for Africa via Europe. She died in the Congo after only six years, leaving three children. In 1930 Dr. ANDERSON married Eva Hawes STAFFORD, the sister of his deceased wife.

His first child, Miriam, died of tropical dysentery, and Vernon Stafford, the only child of his present wife, likewise succumbed to that disease. At that time the antibiotics had not yet made their appearance. Their two living children are Mrs. W. C. WORTH, Jr., of Tampa, Florida, and the Reverend David L. ANDERSON of Lake Luzerne, N. Y.

Dr. ANDERSON is a co-author of a Tshiluba-English dictionary at which they labored for seven years, and was a member of the revision committee which has recently completed a new translation of the Tshiluba Bible. He wrote the World Mission study book, "Still Led In Triumph", which was widely used by our church in 1959.

From 1946 to 1948 he served as Interim General Secretary of the Congo Protestant Council which organization is made up of forty-five of the Protestant missions laboring in the Congo.

He was a member of the Government Commission for the Protection of Africans to which he was appointed by the Belgian King.

During the concluding decade of his service on the field he was his Mission's representative in government affairs. Three times he was decorated by the Belgian Government for the signal service he rendered in assisting them in their efforts to educate and elevate the Congolese peoples.

Above all Dr. ANDERSON has always been a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and he has had the joy of seeing thousands of the Congolese come to know the Savior. In recent years his interest was directed to the establishing of an indigenous church which will be self-sustaining and self-propagating.

Davidson College conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity in May 1960.

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Having severed his official connections with the Board of World Missions of our Church in June of this year, 1960, Dr. and Mrs. ANDERSON are making their home in Dallas, Texas where he is the Minister of Evangelism in the First Presbyterian Church of that city.

Comparative Statistics

	Eld ers	Dea cons	Prof of Faith	Com- muni- cants	S.S.	Benv.	Cur- rent Exp.	Misc. & Building Fund	Total
1922	1	0	2	22	62	67.00	210.00	12.00	289.00
1925	1	1	6	26	62	100.00	266.00		366.00
1930			15	55	52	146.00	615.00	49.00	810.00
1933			1	51		128.00	241.00	12.00	381.00
1937			1	39	37	58.00	150.00		208.00
1942			6	64	30	94.00	260.00		354.00
1947				46	20	348.00	263.00		611.00
1955	2	6	8	52	42	430.00	2037.00	70.00	2537.00
1959	2	5	8	73	33	739.00	2590.00	350.00	3679.00

Men Who Served in the Armed Forces

From World War I to the present time many young men from the Community having ties with the Swift Church served our Country in the Armed Forces. They are listed here as follows:

ANDERSON, Evar	JENSEN, Knut	PILGRIM, Joe
ARMSTRONG, William	KAECELE, John, Jr.	ROBERTS, Gavin
BETHUNE, William	KAEMMERER, Henry	SCHEER, Tony
EPPERSON, Arthur	KAECELE, James	SMITH, Berkely
EPPERSON, Edwin	LARSON, Henry, Jr.	WILLIS, Bruce, Jr.
GOOD, John, Jr.	McGREW, Robert Dunlevy	WILLIS, Russell
HOFFMAN, Carl	PILGRIM, Alan	WILLIS, Wilbur
	PILGRIM, Howard	WRIGHT, Gerald

List of Church Members 1960

ANDERSON, Mrs. Evar	HAIRSTON, Mr. & Mrs. Bob	LABRATO, Mr. & Mrs. Eugene
BECK, Mr. Richard	Mae	PILGRIM, Mr. & Mrs. Alan
BETHUNE, Mr. & Mrs. William		PILGRIM, Mr. & Mrs. Howard
BELL, Mr. & Mrs. Arlo	HOFFMAN, Mr. & Mrs. Carl	Diane, Kenny, Susan
BELL, Mr. & Mrs. Clarence	HOFFMAN, Mr. & Mrs. Richard	PILGRIM, Mr. & Mrs. J.A.
CLIMIE, Mrs. John		PILGRIM, Mr. Kenneth
CREIGHTON, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph		ROBERTS, Mr. & Mrs. Byard
CRESAP, Mrs. James (nee Carrie GOOD)		ROBERTS, Miss Therese
DAVIS, Miss Barbara Faye		ROCKSTALL, Mr. & Mrs. Ernest
DAVIS, Silas	JENSEN, Mr. & Mrs. Andy	Charles
EPPERSON, Mr. & Mrs. Roy	Richard	SCHEER, Mr. & Mrs. Tony
FLIRT, Mr. & Mrs. Aubrey	Van	Polly
FLIRT, Mr. & Mrs. Joe M.	James	Ronald
FLIRT, Mr. Robert	KAECELE, Mr. & Mrs. John, Sr.	Robert
GOOD, Mr. & Mrs. John, Sr.	Joyce	Alan
Betty	Vernon	
GOOD, Miss Helen	Madelyn	SEIBERT, Mrs. Barbara
GOOD, Mr. John, Jr.	KAECELE, Mr. & Mrs. John, Jr.	WILLIS, Mr. & Mrs. Bruce, Sr.
GOOD, Mr. Joe		Bruce, Jr.

She was a pioneer in postal field

By Jessica Smith
Staff Writer

Snapshot

When she was 16 years old, in 1924, Azaline Lipscomb began delivering mail. Running the route from Mifflin to Elberta to Foley, she drove an old Model T Ford on all-dirt roads. Since no bridges existed then, she had to cross the rivers on pine logs tied together.

Lipscomb thinks she may be the first woman in Alabama, or possibly the nation, to have a mail route. And, she thinks she probably was the youngest.

"I was just a little kid," she said. "You're not afraid of too much when you're young."

However, Lipscomb also described that time of her life as very serious.

"I was older at 16 than I am today," she said. It wasn't until she got older, she explained, that she learned how to relax and enjoy life.

Lipscomb was from a family of seven children. They lived in Mifflin. The family was poor, so when her stepfather died, her mother talked authorities into allowing her to take over his mail route. A county road commissioner taught her how to drive, she recalls.

She said the postal system

worked on "cancellation" back then, meaning that carriers would be paid according to the quantity of mail carried. Because of this, the Elberta postmistress always kept her as long as she could, to pay her each day as much as possible.

This however, would create anxiety, because she made private deliveries in Foley later in the afternoon and wanted to have time to do them. These errands would bring in only about 5 cents or so, she said, but 5 cents was significant in those days.

But despite the tie-ups, Lipscomb said she usually got home by about 2 p.m. She worked six days a week, Monday through Saturday, with no holidays off.

In the afternoons and on Sundays, she would often go swimming at Peterson's Point, which is where Wolf Bay Lodge is now. Dances were also popular at the Farmer's Club in Elberta.

"We used to have what you would call real Alabama rain," Lipscomb said. And when it rained, those dirt roads weren't easy to pass on.

Many times, she said the Ford's bicycle-thin tires would get stuck in the mud. She devised methods to get herself free, such as placing a burlap bag in front of the wheels. She kept a shovel in the Ford at all times.

Some items of mail were of utmost importance to the people along the route. In those days, as is the case today, a mail carrier was expected to deliver, rain or shine.

If something did not arrive when it was supposed to, Lipscomb felt bad, even if the mail had not been mailed to begin with.

One family, for example, received a check for about \$5 a month from a relative. When the check wasn't sent, Lipscomb worried that the family might think she took it. Finally, word was received that the relative had been in the hospital.

Lipscomb carried mail for 3½ years. She later worked "indoors" in the postal department, got married, had children and held down a variety of other jobs in the nearby area.

At 82, the vibrant, energetic woman is contentedly settled just outside of Foley.



Azaline Lipscomb

Onlooker
May 10, 1990

AZALINE LIPSCOMB DIED AT THE AGE OF 84 (APRIL 92)
ALONG W/ DAUGHTER BETTY BEMIS 50 IN A CAR WRECK IN ESCAMBIA CO.

Baldwin Baptist Camp dedicates Bay complex

ELBERTA • LILLIAN LEDGER, Thursday, May 10, 2001, Page 11A

By Bruce Sims
Staff Writer

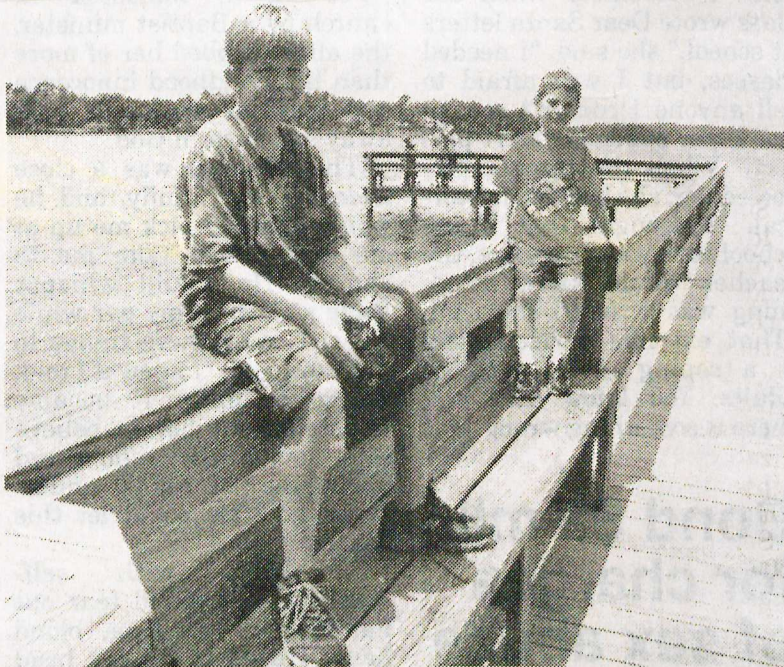
WOLF BAY – A dedication service was held Saturday at Baldwin Baptist Camp, located on a knoll overlooking Wolf Bay, to give God the glory for the construction of a 20,000 square-foot dining and gymnasium complex.

“What makes this so wonderful,” said the Rev. Bill Stephens, pastor of Vernant Park Baptist Church and moderator for the Baldwin Baptist Association, “is that it’s paid for.”

Although there are at least two weeks worth of finishing, trim and cleanup work left to do on the new building, Camp Director David Payne said the facility should be ready for the first event of the summer, an annual Girls Auxiliary camp for GA’s from all over Baldwin County.

“This facility was made possible in part by the Reynolds family of Foley, along with 16 Baptist churches within Baldwin County who have us in their budget on a monthly basis,” Payne said, adding that it was J.P. Reynolds who, along with several other businessmen, saw the potential in having a camp for children back in 1956.

Payne said the Reynolds group asked the Baldwin Baptist Association to purchase the original 17 acres that made up the camp.



From left, Alex Horn and James Thornton enjoy a day at Baldwin Baptist Camp, located on Wolf Bay near Elberta. There they helped dedicate a 20,000 square foot dining hall and gymnasium facility that will help feed the growing number of campers who come to BBC each year. Prior to the dedication a group of over 200 people enjoyed a meal of hot dogs and hamburgers, as well as the opportunity to swim in the BBC's new pool. The BBC is booked solid throughout the summer, however as growing number of youth and adult groups are coming to Baldwin County to hold retreats and conferences during the autumn, winter and spring months.

“At the time, the association voted not to buy it, so Mr. Reynolds and his friends went in together and bought it for \$5,000,” Payne said. “When the Association met two months later they agreed to accept the camp from them.”

Elsie Lipscomb, a long-time Baldwin County resident, said, “I remember that my husband, Clyde, would bring our children over to swim. At the time, the only thing here in the way of facilities was a hand pump for water.”

Since its purchase and organization as a camp in 1956, the facility has grown at a gradual rate as a dining hall, chapel and dorm, all constructed of block and involving a lot of volunteer labor, began to take shape.

“There wasn’t any air-conditioning,” said Selena Parks, choir director at VPBC, “so when we would come down for GA camp, or later as coun-

selors, when we were in Acteens, the thing to bring was a good fan.”

With the addition of 34 more acres, as well as the building of two new dorms, complete with central heating and cooling, and a swimming pool, where life guards can watch campers swim safely, BBC began to make strides toward becoming more than just a summer camp.

Today, BBC has 260 beds and can feed approximately 300 in the main dining room. Another, 60-bed dorm is being planned, with an additional 60-bed wing to be attached when the first 60 goes on line.

As more dorms are constructed, Payne said the additional number of campers can be fed in conference rooms that are located in the facility dedicated Saturday. A renovation of the chapel, which overlooks Wolf Bay, has also been planned.

“Over the past few years, a lot of churches have booked the camp for weekend retreats, for both youth and adult groups, during the autumn, winter and spring months,” Payne said.

“Summer is still our busiest season, as evidenced by the fact that we are booked solid this year.”

Recently, the camp hosted six different spring break groups, ranging from Louisiana to Mobile to churches in Baldwin County.

Last year well over 387 people made a profession as Christ being their savior while at the camp.

“These are just the numbers that were reported,” Payne said, “as there were a lot of other church groups who didn’t give out numbers ... nor did we ask for any.”

Churches wishing to use Baldwin Baptist Camp should contact Payne at (334) 987-5100, or by e-mailing him at camp@gulftel.com for more information.

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