

# Morning Star Tour

**Pastor R. Steven Norman, III**

Guide and Historian

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- 8 Then the voice which I heard from heaven spoke to me again and said, “Go, take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel who stands on the sea and on the earth.”
- 9 So I went to the angel and said to him, “Give me the little book.”
- And he said to me, “Take and eat it; and it will make your stomach bitter, but it will be as sweet as honey in your mouth.”

## **Revelation 10:8-11**

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- <sup>10</sup> Then I took the little book out of the angel's hand and ate it, and it was as sweet as honey in my mouth. But when I had eaten it, my stomach became bitter. <sup>11</sup> And he said to me, "You must prophesy again about many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings."

## **Revelation 10:8-11**

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- October 22, 1844 thousands looked for the coming of Christ.
- They “wept and wept until the day dawned.”
- Why didn't Jesus come?
  - Vision at Hiram Edson's farm.
  - More than 8 million Blacks in America still enslaved and still needed to hear the gospel.
- God said "Thou must prophesy again!" Jesus cannot come anywhere until the message has gone everywhere!
- The Seventh-Adventist Church has been called to preach a special message for the end time.

# **Go and Prophesy Again!**

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- 1863 - January 1 Lincoln issues Emancipation Proclamation
- 1863 - Seventh-day Adventist Church is organized to preach truth.
- 1865 – Civil War ends
- 1865 – Education Movement begins



# Steps Toward Freedom

- May 20, 1865 – The first school for Blacks south of the Mason Dixon Line was established in Lexington, Kentucky.
- 1865 the Methodist Episcopal Church allocated \$10,000 for the education of Negroes and immediately opened the Central Tennessee College in Nashville. Other denominations opened

# Education Movement

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- Fisk University and Meharry College in Nashville.
- Tougaloo College in Tougaloo Mississippi
- Lane College established in Jackson, TN
- Morris Brown College in Atlanta



# Education Movement

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In 1865, just after the close of the Civil War, Ellen White counseled the Church to begin working in the South.

## **Ellen White Calls for Work in South**

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The General Conference  
took the following actions:

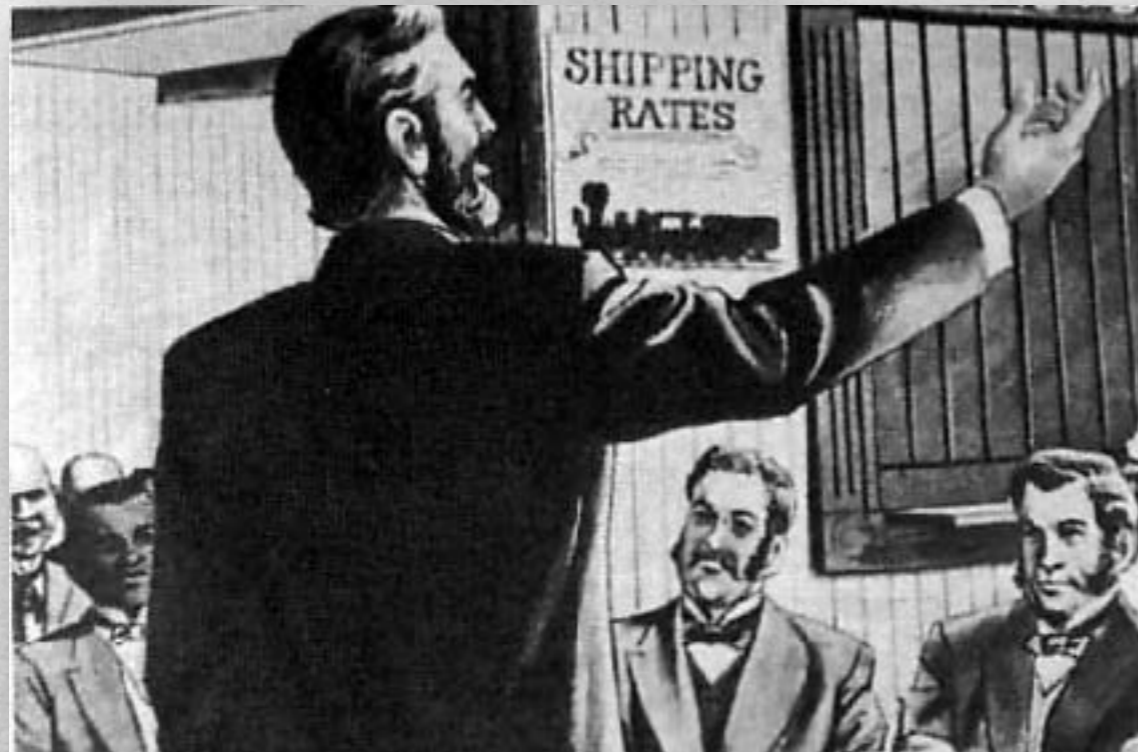
- Action: Resolved, that a field is now opened in the South for labor among the colored people and should be entered upon *according to our ability*.
- Other actions indicated that the Civil war had retarded the work in the South.
- Action: “Resolved, . . . we solemnly consecrate ourselves anew to this great work to which God has called us.”

## GC Votes to Work in South

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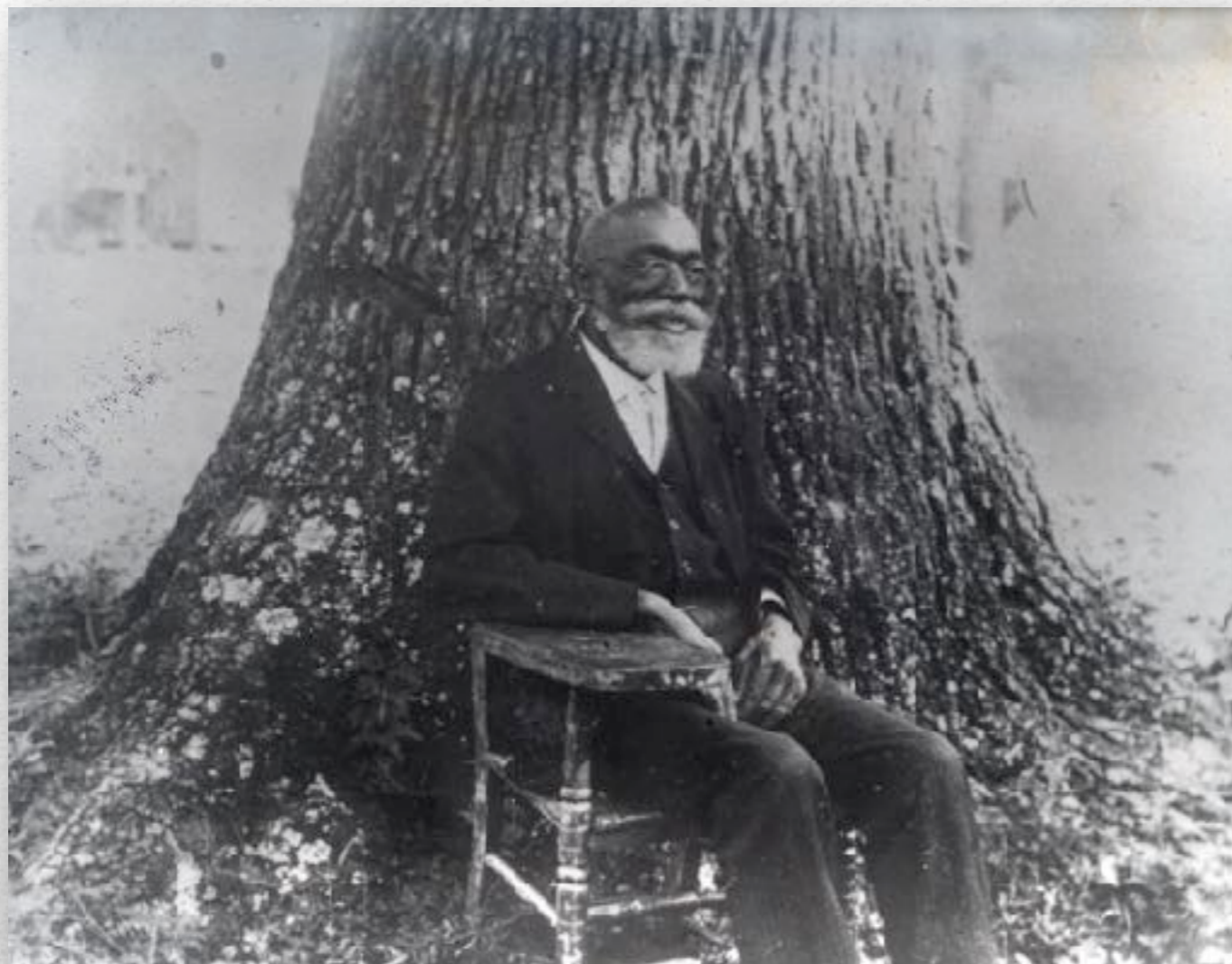
Elbert B. Lane preached for several weeks at the Edgefield Junction L&N Railway Station in 1871 and left a company there.



In 1873 he returned and organized the Edgefield Junction Church, the first Seventh-day Adventist Church south of the Mason Dixon line.

## **Church at Edgefield Junction**

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# **First Two Black SDA Pastors in South**

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1883 – Edgefield Junction, TN  
1890 – Louisville, KY  
1891 – Bowling Green, KY  
1892 – New Orleans, LA  
1894 – Nashville, TN  
1894 – Memphis, TN  
1896 – Birmingham, AL

# First Seven Black Churches

# Charles M. Kinney Chronology

The First Official Effort for  
the Colored People.

August 1878 Eld J. W. Loughborough at Int  
in Reno Nevada

Sept I kept my first Sabbath

Reno Church gave \$50.00 for first communion

1883 - 5 Henderson College Reno gave \$50  
on my second years schooling

1885 California Conference gave \$75.00 for  
to Defoe Kansas to Legion

Nov 1889 Edgefield Church organized by Eld J. W. Loughborough

Feb 16, 1890 Lowell Church, organized by Eld J. W. Loughborough

June 13, 1891 Bowling Green Church, 10 members

June 4, 1892 New Orleans " 10 members

Sept 15, 16, 1894 Knoxville " 7 members

Fall of 1894 Eld. White Legion with 11 members  
Sharon Wakebryan joined

June 19, 1896 3rd Birmingham Church, 15 members, Eld. H. H. H.



- When the Church is slow to work in the South, Ellen White wrote “*Our Duty to the Colored People*” on March 21, 1891.
- Ellen White never expected her son, Edson White, to be the one who would start the first organized, large scale work in the South.

## **Ellen White Repeats Call for Work in the South**

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Who was James Edson White?

- Second son of James and Ellen White
- Born on July 28, 1849 in Rocky Hill, Connecticut

# James Edson White

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- Married on July 28, 1870 (his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday) to Emma L. McDearmon
- Writer, printer, publisher of five hymnbooks, worked with General Sabbath School Association for seven years 1880-1887

# Edson White

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Why did Ellen White not expect her counsel to the church to be fulfilled by Edson?

- On May 18, 1893 Edson White wrote a letter to his mother. On page 2 he said, “I have no religious inclinations now in the least...”
- Later in the same paragraph he wrote “I am not a Christian yet.”

shall have other means of support to go with it so that I shall be sure of a support. And while I have no religious inclinations now in the least, I shall make a business of studying and getting into line. This is not a new plan, but I have had it in mind for at least two months, and am working to that end. But I have about \$800.00 of debts I must pay before I try anything of that kind. I will not budge a step till that is paid. I am in a fair way to reach that before the summer is over, and then I am ready for study and to see if there is anything of me that can be of use. But I shall not go out for any conference, but shall begin to study and work something after the way Bro. Whiteman did in Kansas Cy. Now, I have opened up my plans to you so far. Further than this I have not gone yet. I am not a Christian yet. My resentment burns strong towards W.C. He knew better than to leave me in the way he did with those people at Battle Creek. When I undertake the work mentioned it will be as I would undertake any other piece of work. I know what I have to do, and it will be to go to work and do it. I am sorry I cannot make a more flattering showing. I have felt humiliated, disgraced, and insulted, and that my own people assented to it, and were willing I should remain in that position. That sums up the situation in a nutshell. And it has been the cause of my silence for the months that are past. I only speak now because of the new plans that have been forming with me for weeks in the past.

Now, these are some things I shall ask. I ask that orders be given the postmaster at Battle Creek to deliver the Central Manufacturing Co.'s Mail to me. There is nothing in it worth while, but you can show me that much consideration. Then, there are from \$180.00 to \$200.00 on the books that could have been collected if any effort had been made to do so. I could have assisted them to collect, but they took matters into their own hands, made no effort to collect, and were too high and mighty to consult me in the matter. I ask that the books be returned to me where they belong. There is no longer anything at stake, and if I can collect anything I will pay it all over on accounts, or do with it whatever you say. I would like control of the four small holiday books,-- Snow-Flakes, Autumn Leaves, Spring Blossoms, and Little Teacher. Those having them in charge will do nothing with them, but I can put them into the hands of publishers who will pay me a royalty, and I will turn it over to you until I have paid say \$300.00 for them. If this is done I shall want all stock and everything belonging to them turned over all together.

# Edson White

## “No Religious Inclinations...”



Ellen White received Edson's letter in Wellington, New Zealand. She then dreamed Edson was drowning in an undertow and wrote a ten-page letter to him on June 21, 1893. In the letter she appealed to him to accept Christ as his Saviour.

## **Edson White Converted by Mother's Letter**

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August 10, 1893 he wrote his mother: “I have surrendered fully and completely, and never enjoyed life before as I am enjoying it now. I have for years been under a strain, with so much to accomplish, and it stood right in my way. Now I have left it all with my Savior, and the burden does not bear me down any longer. I have no desire for the amusements and pleasures that made up the sum of my enjoyments before, but have an enjoyment in the meetings with the people of God such as I never had before.”

## Edson Accepts Christ



After a talk with Dr. J. E. Caldwell; Edson wrote to his mother, “I have been thinking of going down into Tennessee to work among the colored people . . . I shall go to work in the spring . . . I still hope and trust in God, and am sure He will care for me. I have proved my own way and it is a poor way. I now want God’s way, and I know it will be a good way.”

# **James Edson White**

## **Dedicates Life to Work for God in the South**

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Edson worked in the South for eight short years, 1895-1903, during which time God blessed him to open or sponsor

- Approximately 28 schools and churches
- The Gospel Herald Publishing House and
- The Nashville Colored Sanitarium

## Edson's Productive Ministry

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"He who loves Christ the most will do the greatest amount of good. There is no limit to the usefulness of one who, by putting self aside, makes room for the working of the Holy Spirit upon his heart, and lives a life wholly consecrated to God." *Desire of Ages*, p. 250

# **Edson a No Limit Man**

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# THURSDAY'S ITINERARY

- Memphis Riverboat Cruise
  - Mississippi Boulevard Church
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# Michigan to Memphis

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# Mississippi Riverboat

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# Slave Haven

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# Mississippi Blvd. Church

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# **MORNING STAR BOAT AND STAFF**

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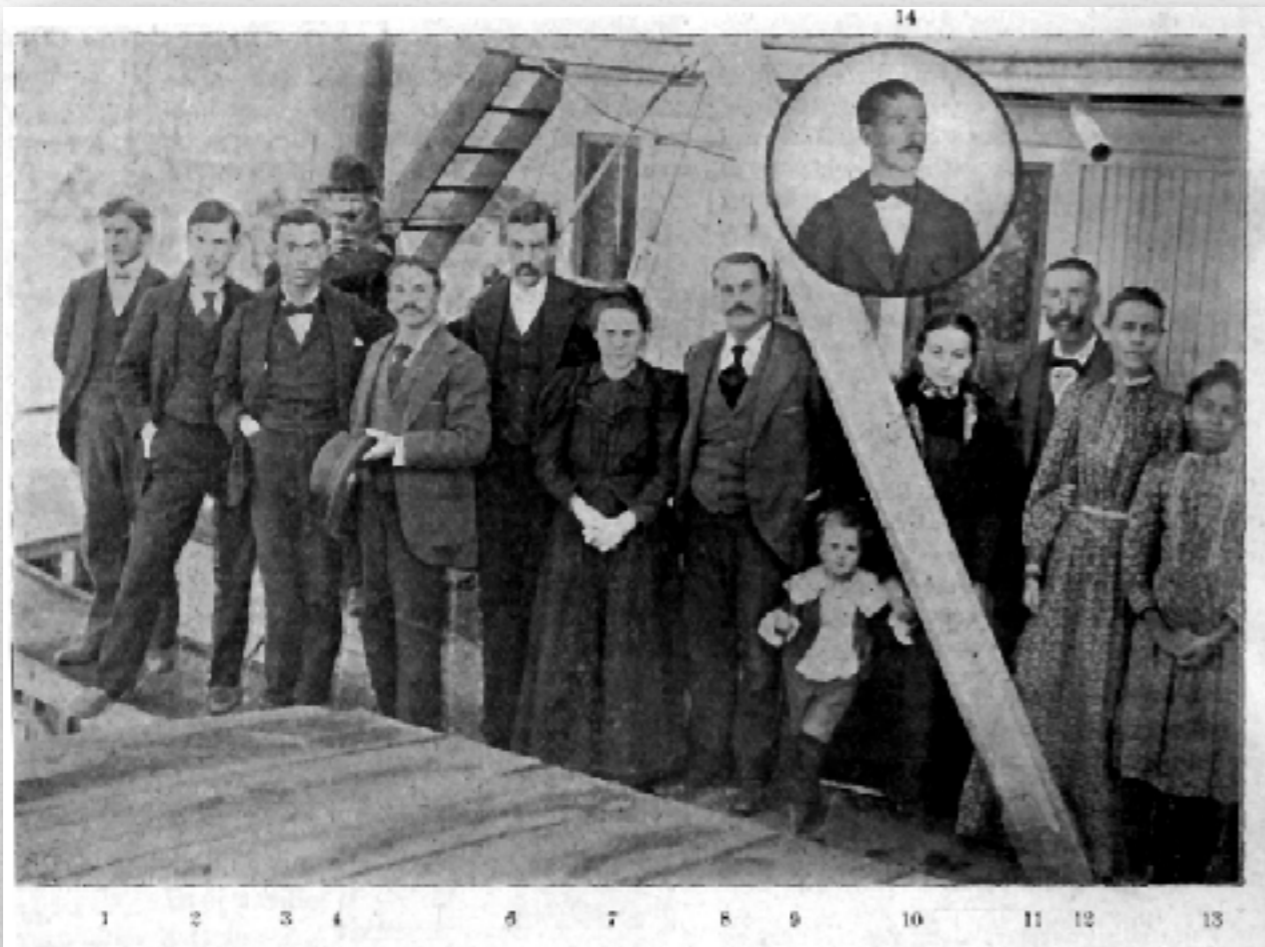


Edson had a steamboat built which he called the Morning Star. He then traveled from Allegan, Michigan and down the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers to Mississippi.



## Morning Star Steamboat

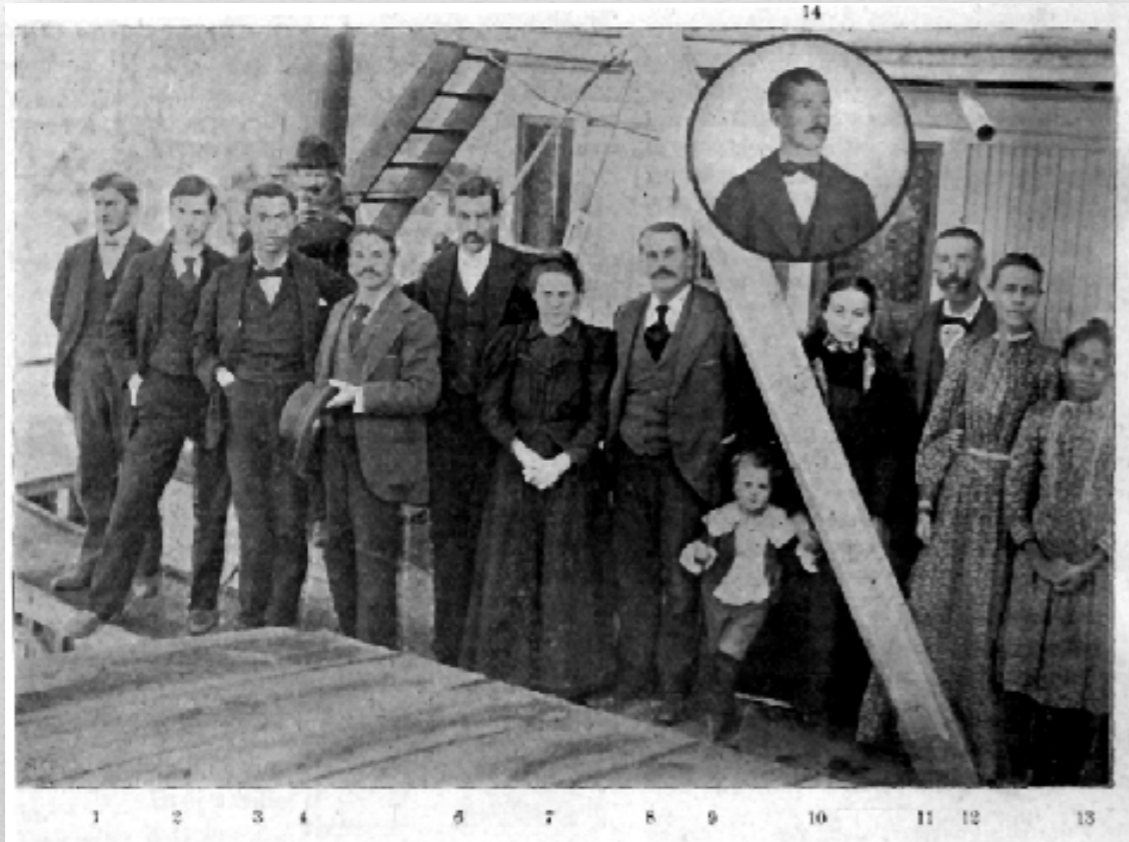
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# Morning Star Boat Staff

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1. Isaiah Moore of Pulaski Iowa.
2. S. W. Trump from Salem New Jersey, printer and pressman in the Gospel Herald Publishing office on board the Morning Star.
3. Frank H. Bryant of Yazoo City, Mississippi. (More about Frank Bryant on next slide)
4. J. R. Moore of Vicksburg, Mississippi boat pilot.



# Morning Star Boat Staff

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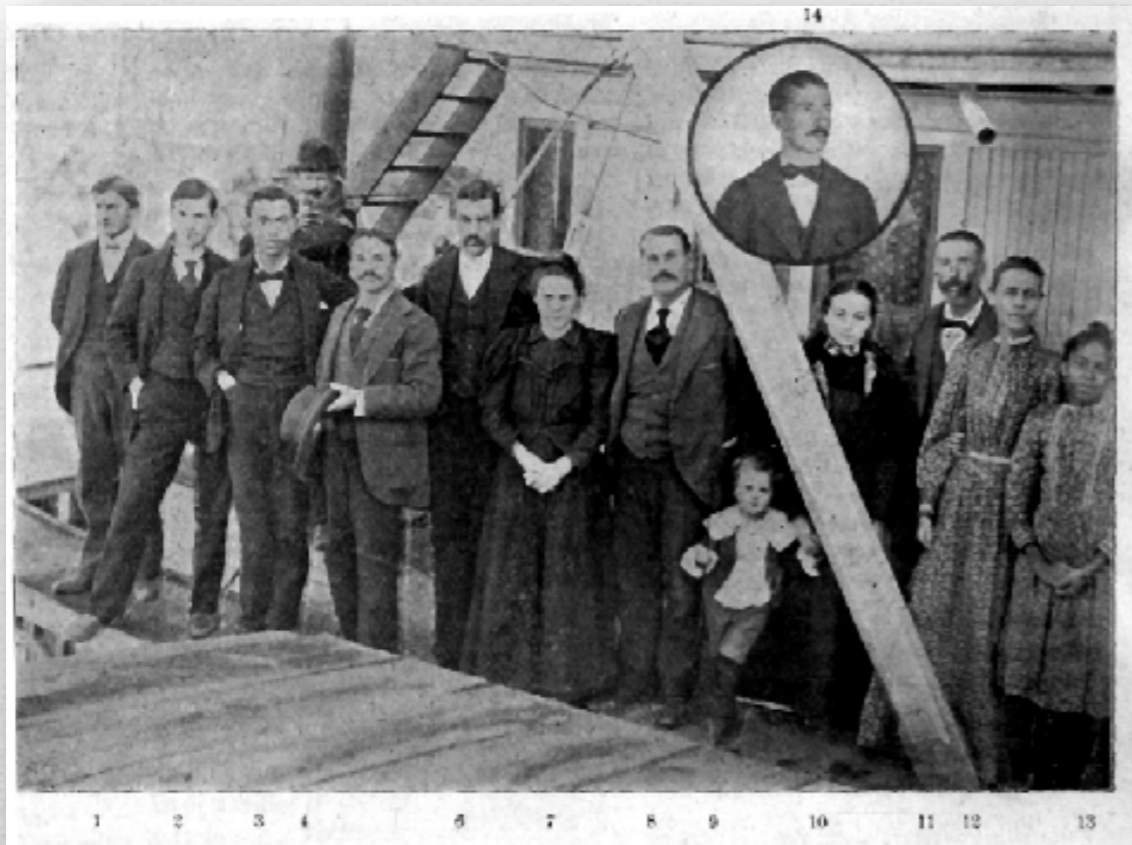
5. Dan G. Stephenson, a photographer from Tchula, Mississippi. He gave up his business and became the teacher at the Calmar School.

6. Fred W. Halladay of Ottawa, Illinois. Joined boat in summer of 1894. Holds ministerial license and is a Bible worker.

7. Mrs. I. C. (Wekell) Halladay, of Farlington, Kansas. Served as Bible Worker and teacher.

8. Fred R. Rogers from Walla Walla, Washington. Served as principal of school in Lintonia.

9. Chester Rogers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rogers.



# Morning Star Boat Staff

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10. Mrs. Fred R. Rogers,  
assistant teacher in and Music  
teacher in Lintonia.

11. James E. White from Battle  
Creek, Michigan.

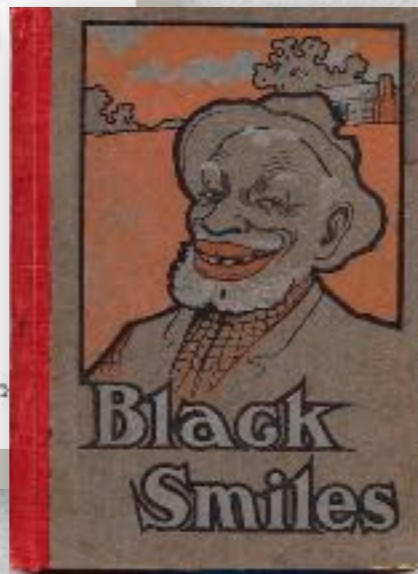
12. Mrs. Emma McDearmond  
White. Teacher and Edson's wife.

13. Anna Slaughter of Yazoo  
City. Assistant in kitchen work  
on boat.

14. F. H. Schramm of Grand  
Rapids, Michigan. Bible Worker  
and teacher. He was also the  
photographer, pressman, and  
superintendent of the food work.



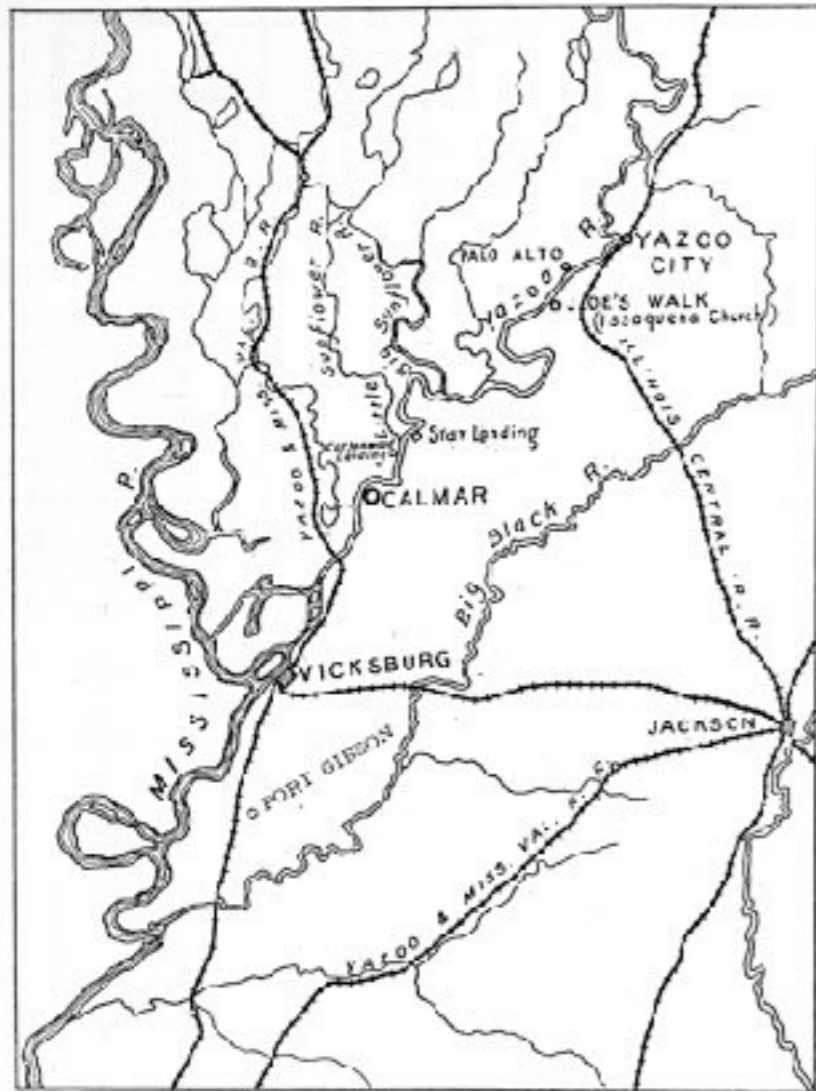
Young for Smiles  
Franklin H. Bryant



Franklin H. Bryant of Yazoo City, Mississippi. Stenographer and later a teacher in Hickory, NC. He also published a book of poetry called “*Black Smiles*” the first book published by a African-American Seventh-day Adventist.

# Franklin H. Bryant

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This map shows the present field of operation of the Southern Missionary Society, as mentioned in articles in this paper. In addition will be seen Star Landing, a piece of wood land bought as a fuel station for the "Morning Star," and Cottonwood Landing, the home of Albert Jones, who first took the truth in Calmar.

Now that we have met the Morning Star staff, let's visit some of Edson's schools along the Yazoo River.

- Vicksburg (2)
- Calmar
- Palo Alto
- Joe's Walk
- Yazoo City
- Lintonia
- Wilsonia – A floating school
- Jackson

## Map of Edson's Schools

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# FRIDAY'S ITINERARY

## Jackson

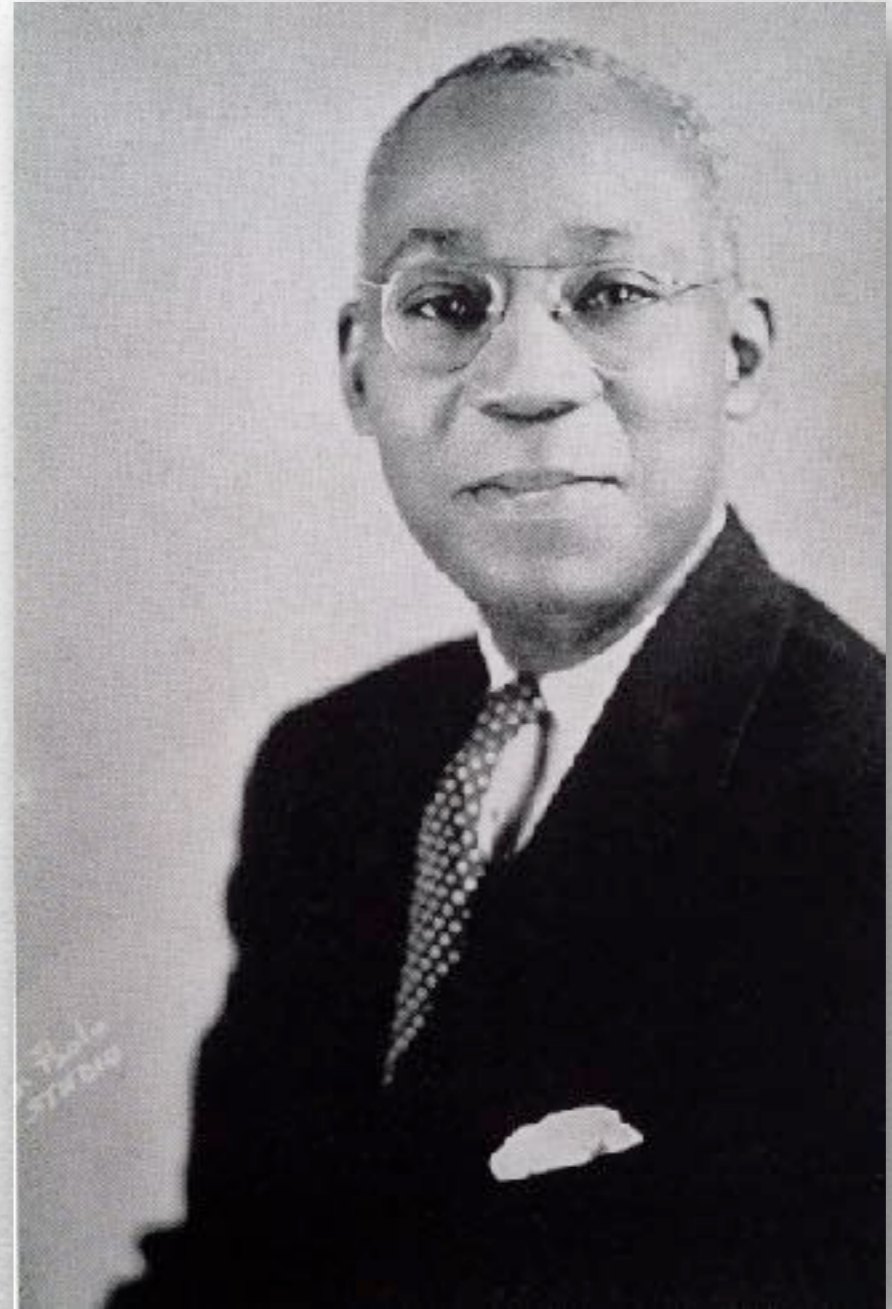
- Mississippi Civil Rights Museum

## Vicksburg

- Vicksburg National Military Park
  - The Walnut Street Chapel and School
  - The Vicksburg Mission School
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# JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

- E. E. Rogers School
  - Berean SDA Church
-

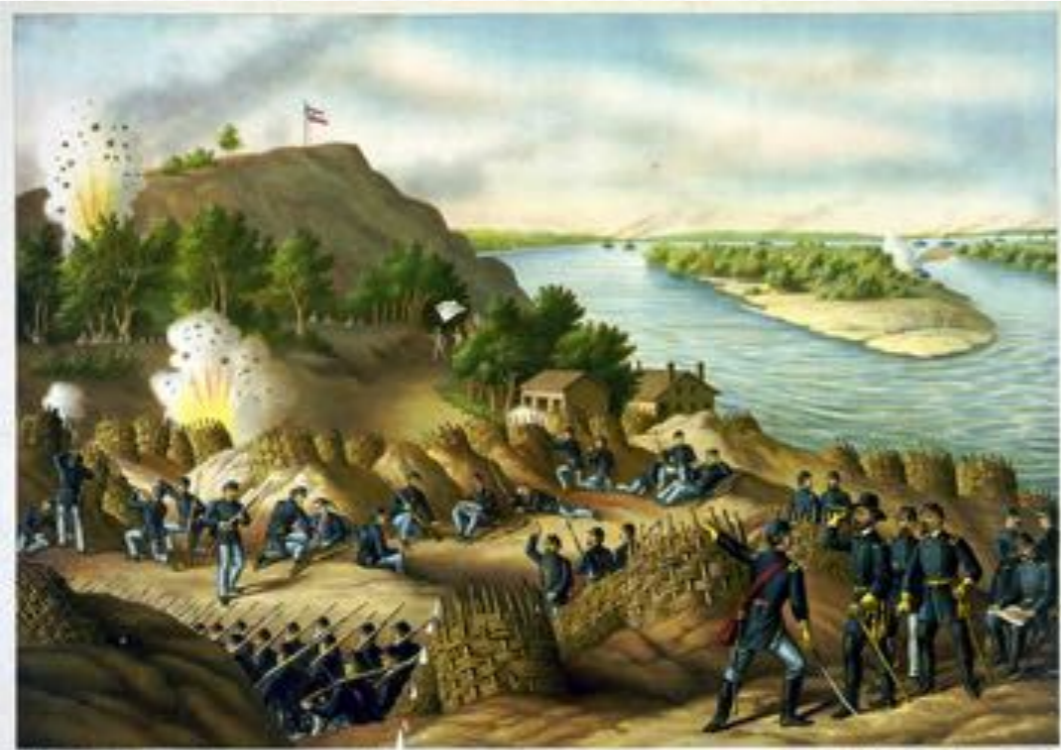


# Joseph H. Laurence - 1904

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# VICKSBURG

- Vicksburg National Military Park
  - Site of Walnut Street School
  - Fayette Street School
-



SEIGE OF VICKSBURG



- During the Civil War Lincoln called Vicksburg “the key to the South. We will drive through the historic battlefield where General Ulysses S. Grant defeated General Pemberton and broke the Confederate’s hold on the Mississippi River.

## **Vicksburg National Military Park**

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# **Vicksburg National Military Park and Museum**

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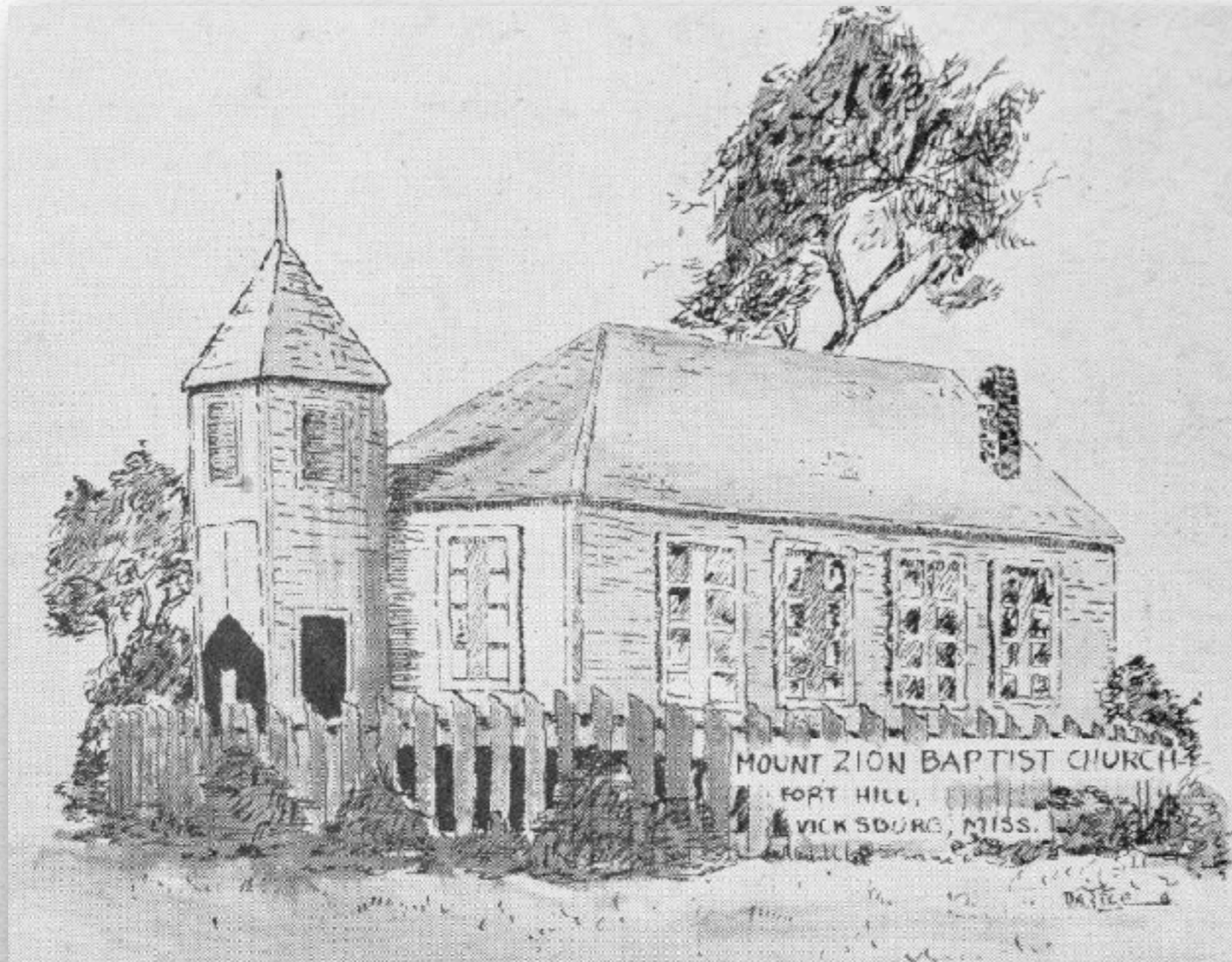
# **Edson Anchors on Centennial Lake**

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# Louis and Anna Hansen

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# Mt Zion Baptist Church Fort Hill

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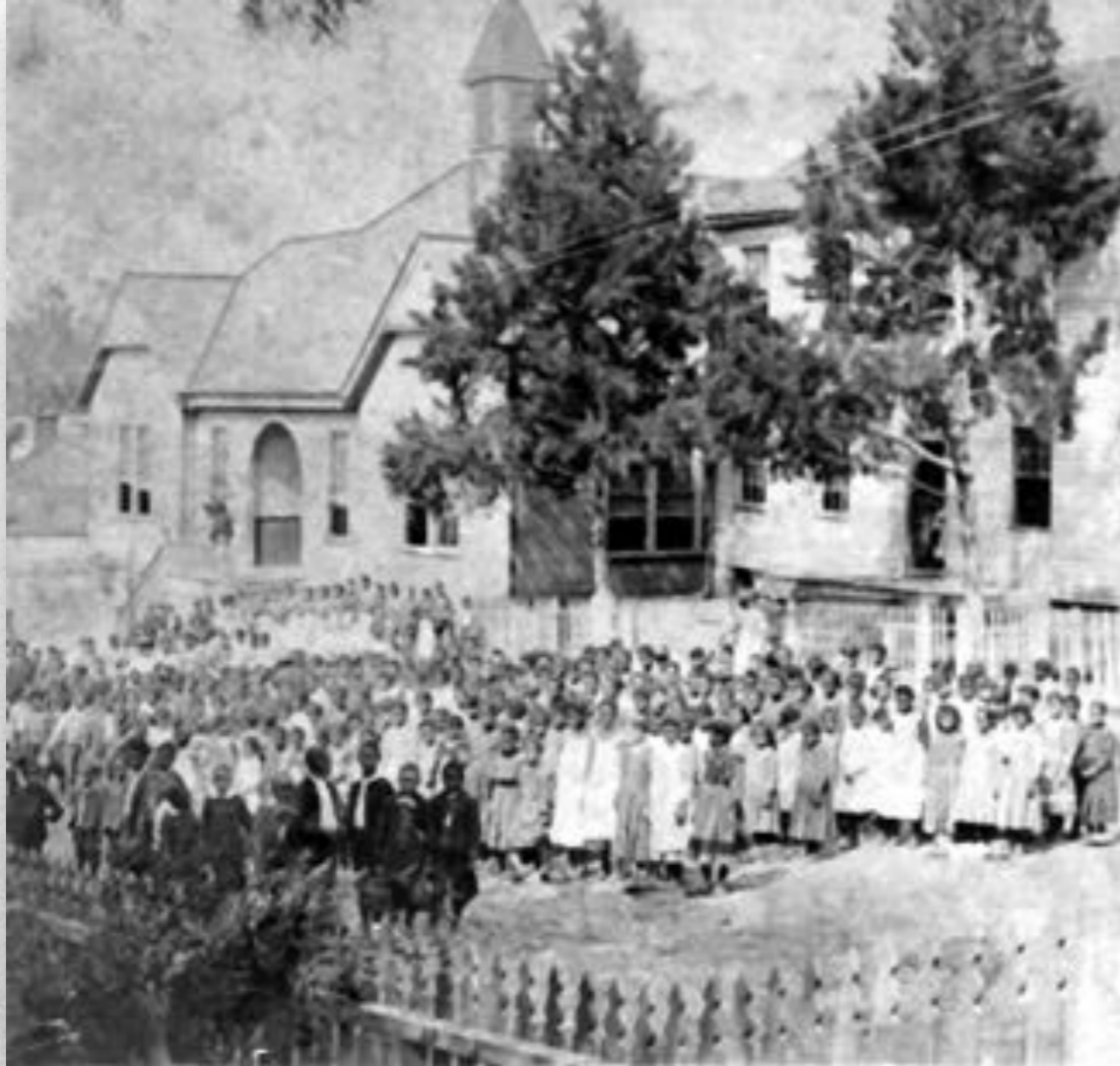


- Edson opened his first school in Vicksburg on the corner of Walnut Street and East First Avenue in 1895. He purchased three bells in Battle Creek. One was on the roof of this school.

# **Edson's First School**

## **The Walnut Street School**

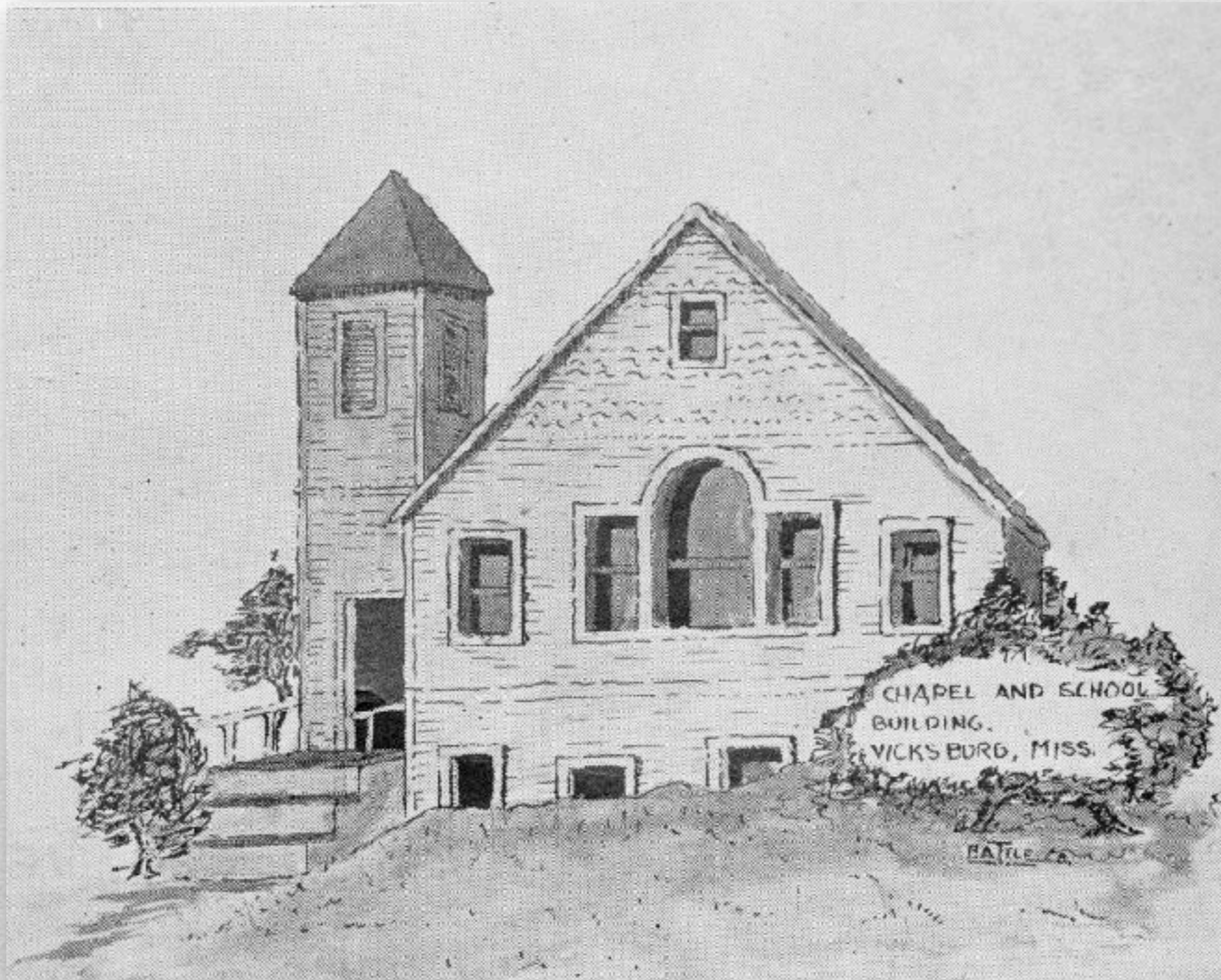
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- The Mission School was moved from Walnut Street to 209 Fayette Street. It was designed by W. K. Loughborough. Ellen White preached the dedication sermon for this school and chapel on March 18, 1901.

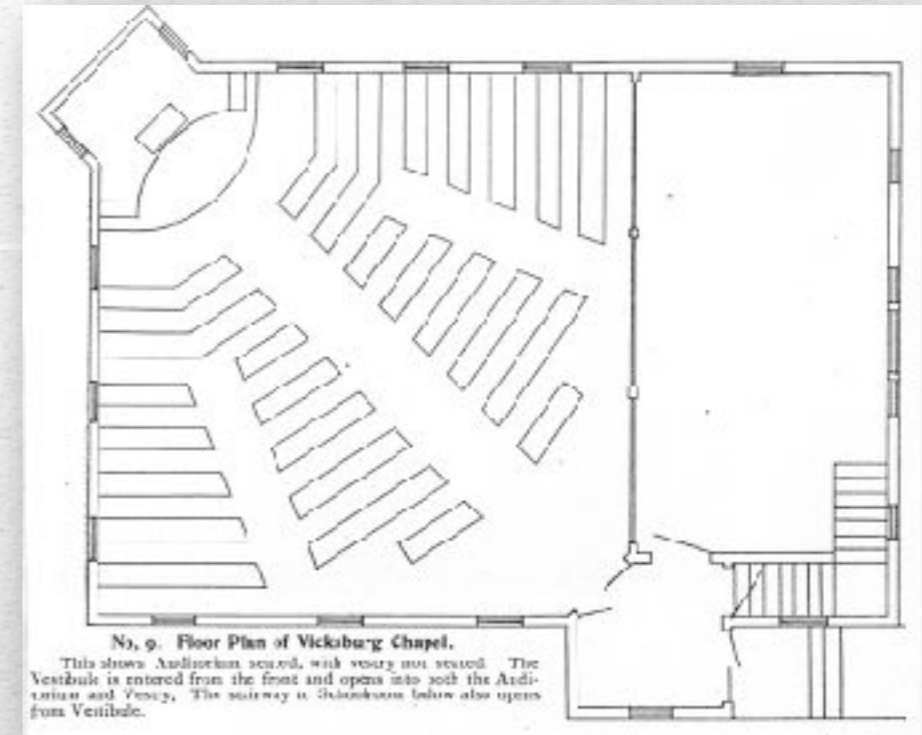
# Vicksburg Mission School

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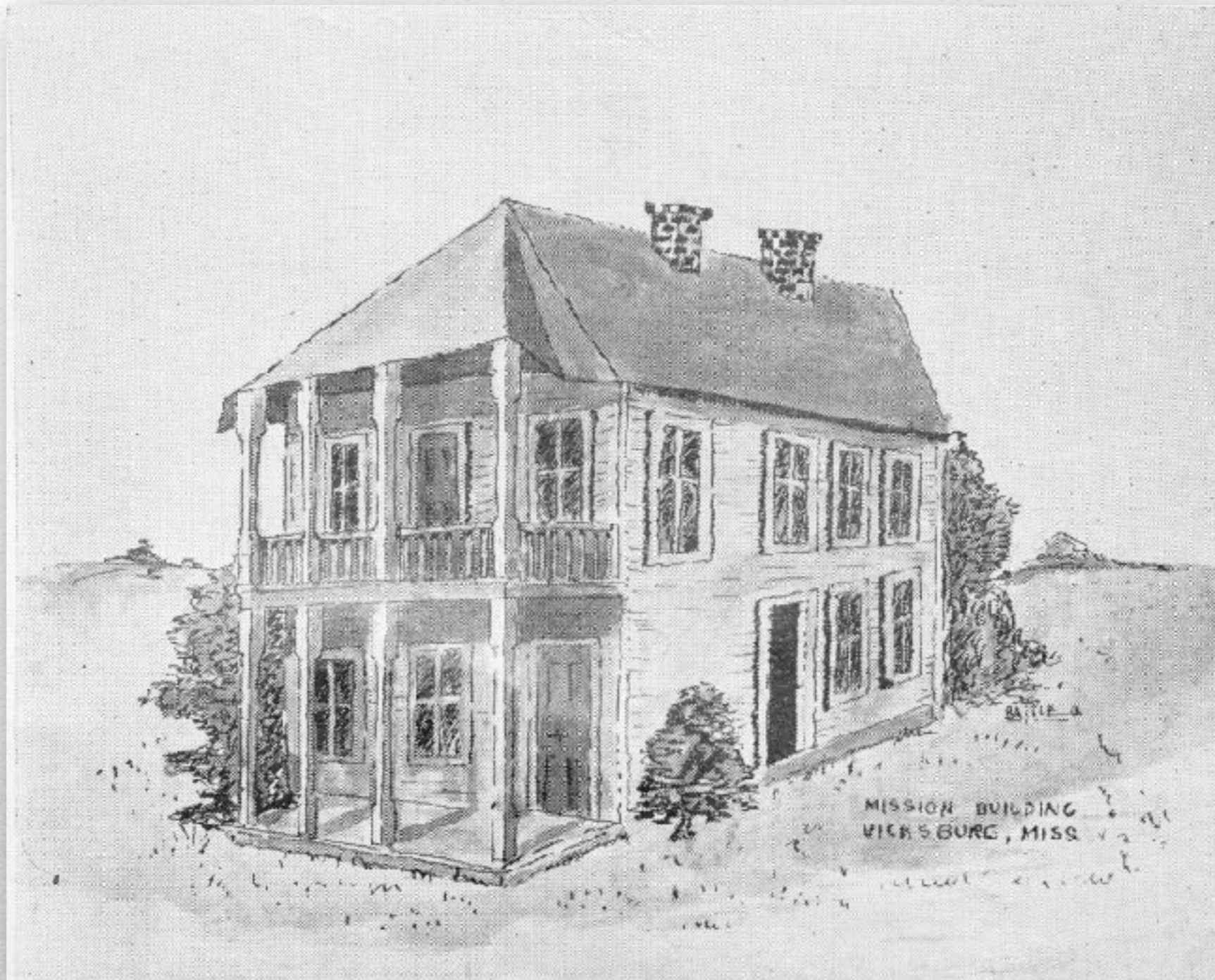
# Vicksburg Chapel and School

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# Drawings of Vicksburg School

Architect: W. K. Loughborough



# Mission Building

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# Morning Star Church

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- The original church was destroyed by a tornado in the early 1950's. It was replaced with this building which was renovated in 2006.
- **Thomas Murphy** was a long time pastor.

## Morning Star Church

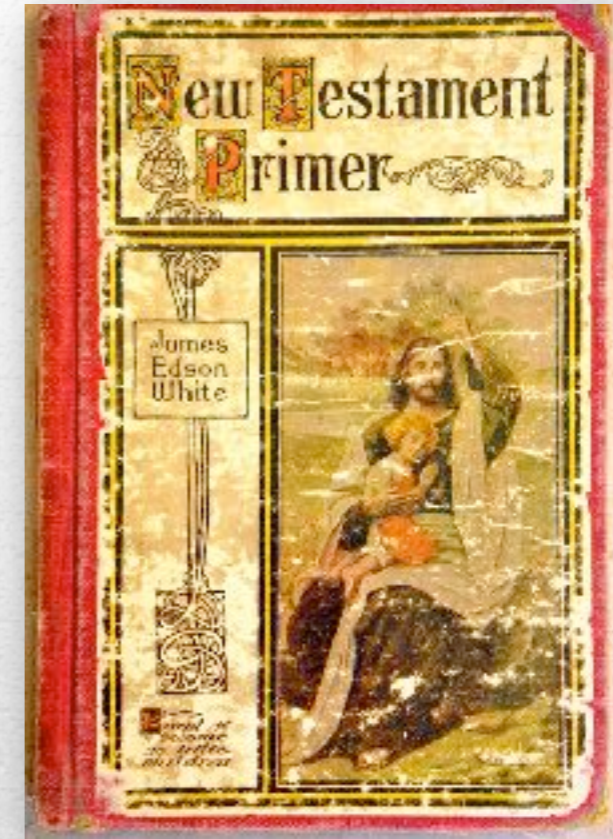
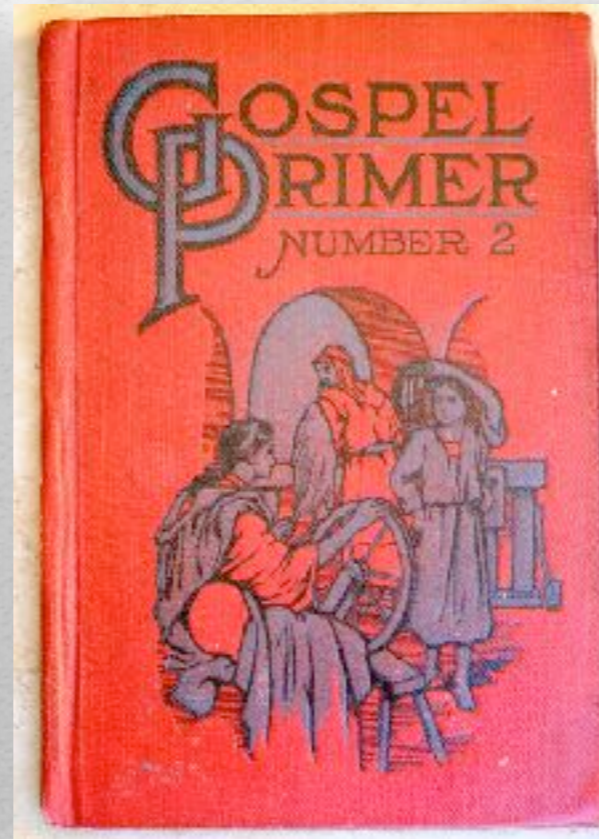
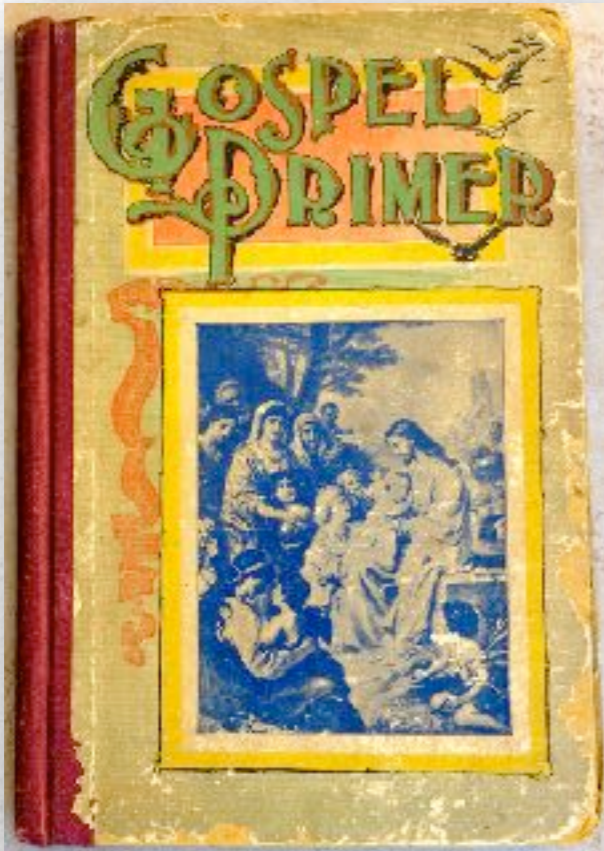
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- Barber and trumpet player to pastor
- Born: 1878
- Wife: Addie
- Pastored in Vicksburg and New Orleans

# Thomas Murphy

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# Textbooks

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**Madeline Shipp Edwards**

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**Cynthia Millet  
and Etta Littlejohn**

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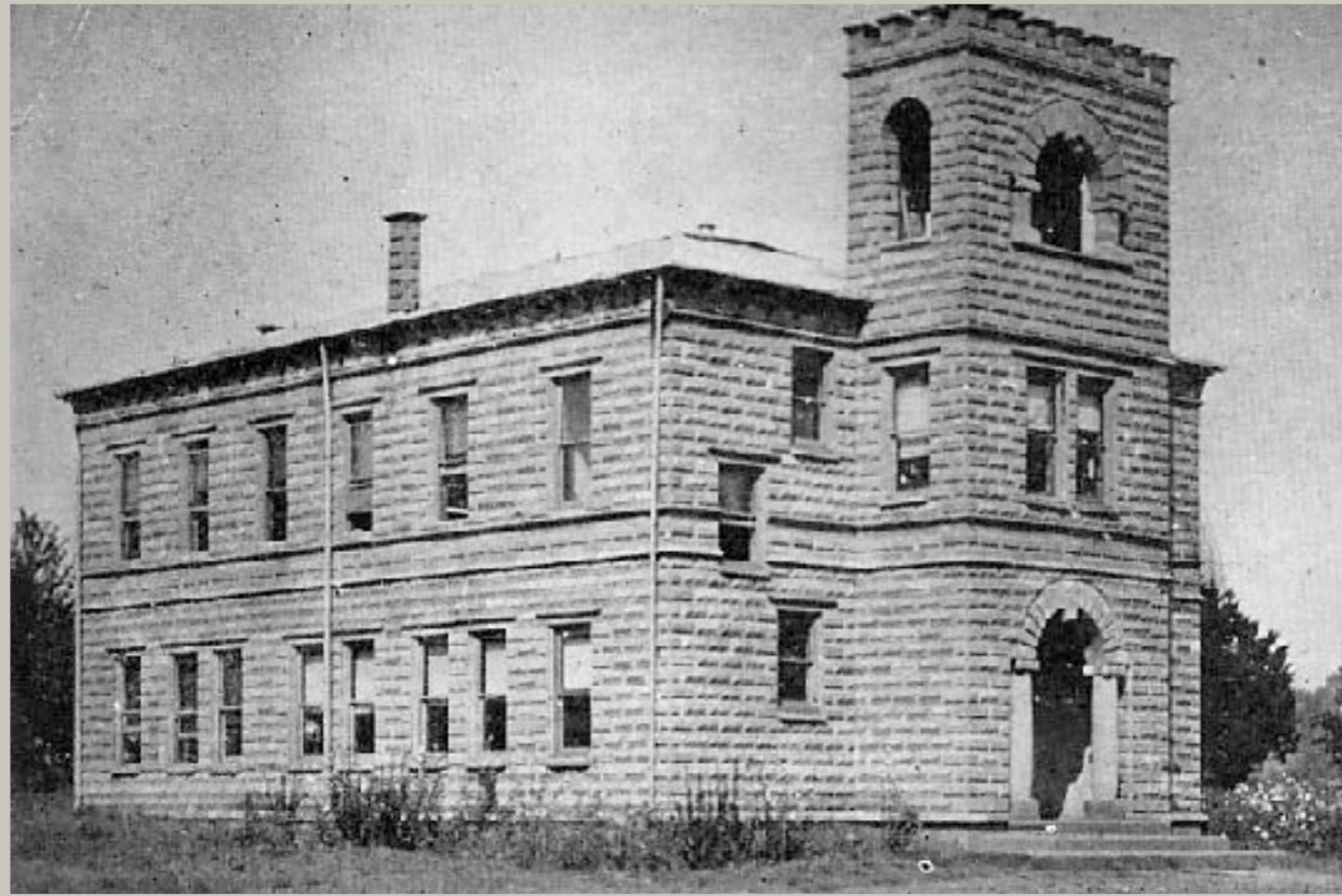
**Lula Johnson  
and John Salfore Nippmach**

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# **Taretha Weathington Davis**

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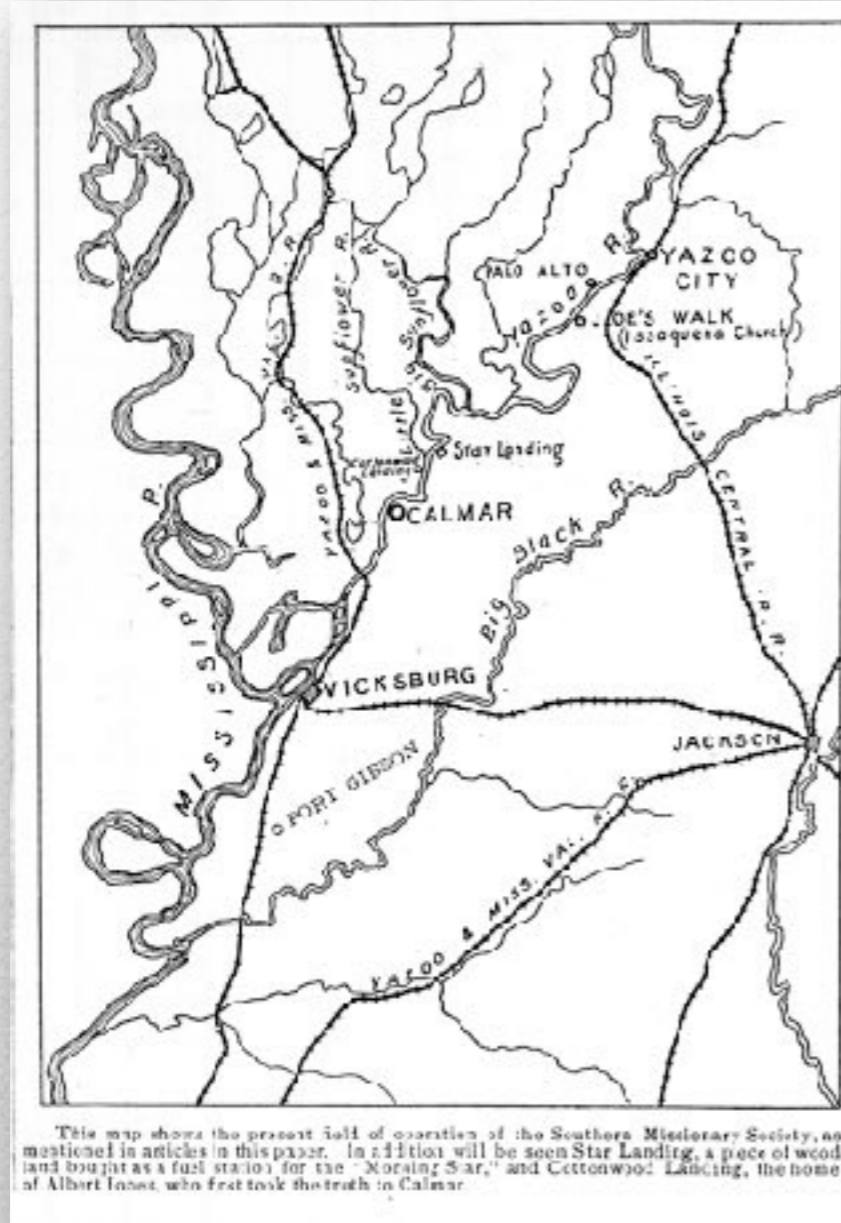
Oakwood College opened on November 16, 1896 in  
Huntsville, Alabama with sixteen students.

# **Oakwood College**

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# SABBATH ITINERARY

- Redwood
  - Calmar
  - Yazoo City
  - Natchez
-



Some of Edson's School along the Yazoo River.

Vicksburg (2)

Calmar

Palo Alto

Joe's Walk

Yazoo City

Lintonia

Wilsonia – A floating school

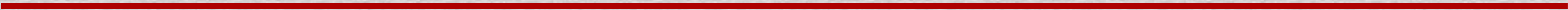
# Map of Edson's Schools

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# REDWOOD

- Site of Redwood Train Depot





# **Site of Former Redwood Train Station**

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At Redwood -  
Franklin Warnick  
leaped from a train to  
escape a lynch mob  
that was called to kill  
him. Warnick was the  
grandfather of the  
Simons family.



F. R. Rogers, wife, and boy. R. T. Nash, wife, and boy. Franklin G. Warnick.  
No. 14. Day School at Lintonia.

## Redwood, Mississippi

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# Franklin Warnick Family

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# Descendants of Franklin Warnick

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# **CALMAR, MISSISSIPPI**

- Site of Calmer School and “Whuppin Spree”
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CHAPEL AND PARSONAGE, CALMAR, MISS.

In Calmer is the Ballground Plantation where N. W. Olvin was whipped and his wife shot because of their commitment to keep the Sabbath.

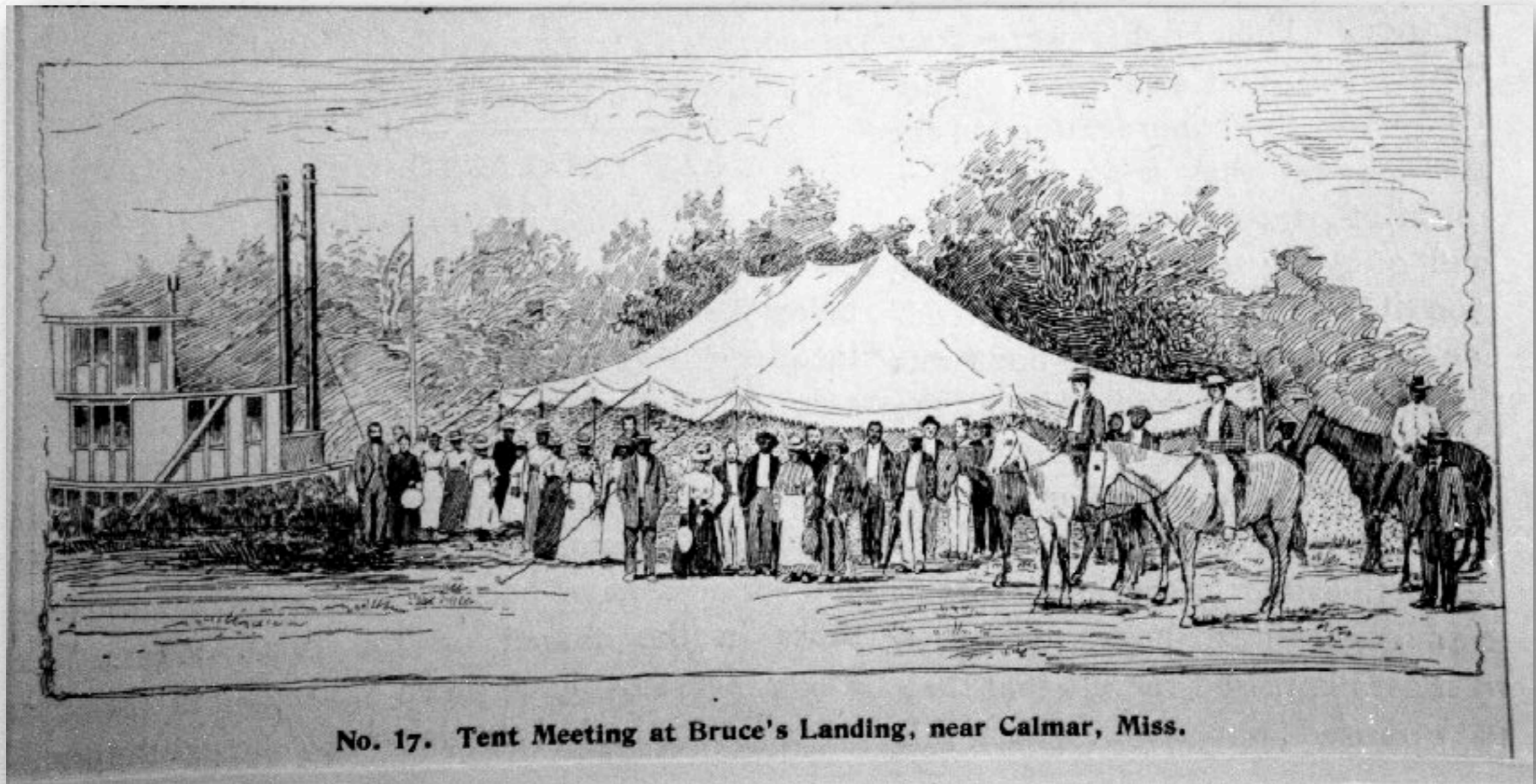
## Chapel and Parsonage at Calmar

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# Ballground Plantation

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# Tent Meeting at Bruce's Landing

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# YAZOO CITY

- Lintonia Chapel
  - Afro-American Sons and Daughters Hospital
  - Oakes House
-



# Yazoo River

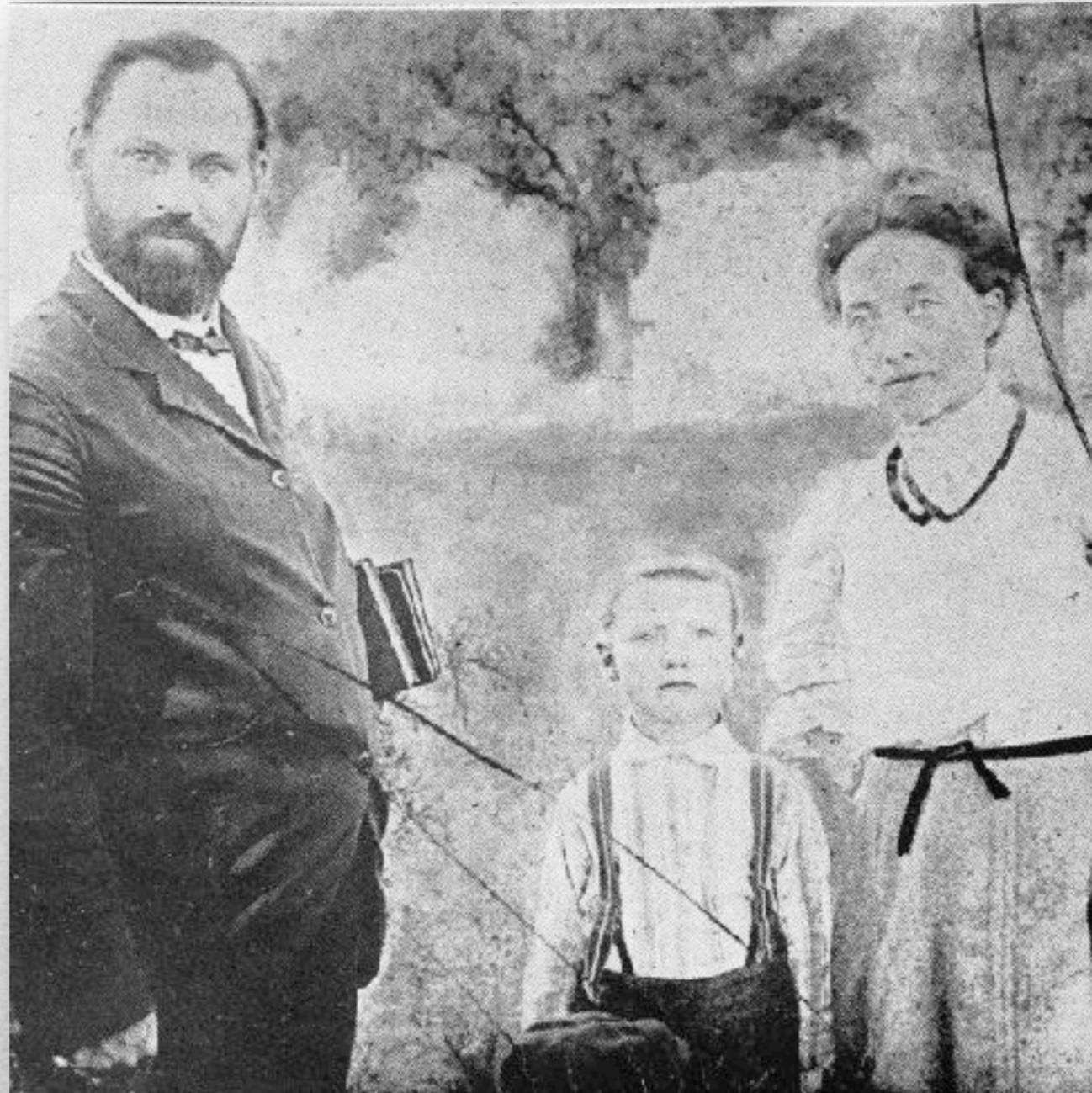
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29. Yazoo Canal 1910

# Yazoo Canal 1910

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# **Fred Rogers and family**

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No. 13. Movable Chapel and Recent Addition.



This school was opened in 1897. It was first a moveable chapel but was rebuilt in 1906. It is believed to be the oldest original Adventist building in the South.

# Yazoo City

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# Lintonia Chapel

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# Lintonia School Bench

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# **Afro-American Sons and Daughters Hospital**

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# EDSON'S OTHER MINISTRIES

- Wilsonia Floating School
  - Dixie Food Company
  - Southern Missionary Society
  - Gospel Herald
-



This barge was used for the  
Wilsonia floating school.



**Lelar Knighton, Rosa Jones, Olive Knighton.**

These are three scholars in the Wilsonia School. They are supported in school by "our babies' money," sent by Mrs. F. M. Arnold, mentioned on next page.

# Wilsonia Floating School

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- Edson established the Southern Missionary Society on September 13, 1898.

- Mission: “To carry the principles of Christian education to the people of the South.” Gospel Herald, December 1899, p. 5.
  - First Headquarters in Yazoo City, Mississippi
  - The Dixie Food Company
  - The Herald Publishing Company
  - The Nashville Colored Clinic
  - 28 Mission Schools with 1,000 pupils (October, 1908)
  - In 1901 it became a branch of the Southern Union Conference.

## **Southern Missionary Society**

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In 1898 Edson launched the *Gospel Herald* to inform Adventists about the work in the South.

The first nine issues were printed on the Morning Star. Subsequent issues were printed in Battle Creek, MI and Nashville, TN.

# Gospel Herald Newsletter

# SUNDAY'S ITINERARY

- Natchez
  - Soso
  - Meridian
-

# NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

- Monmouth Plantation
  - Under the River
  - Site Forks of the Road Slave Market
  - Rhythm Club
-



**W. H. Sebastian**

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# Richard Wright Home

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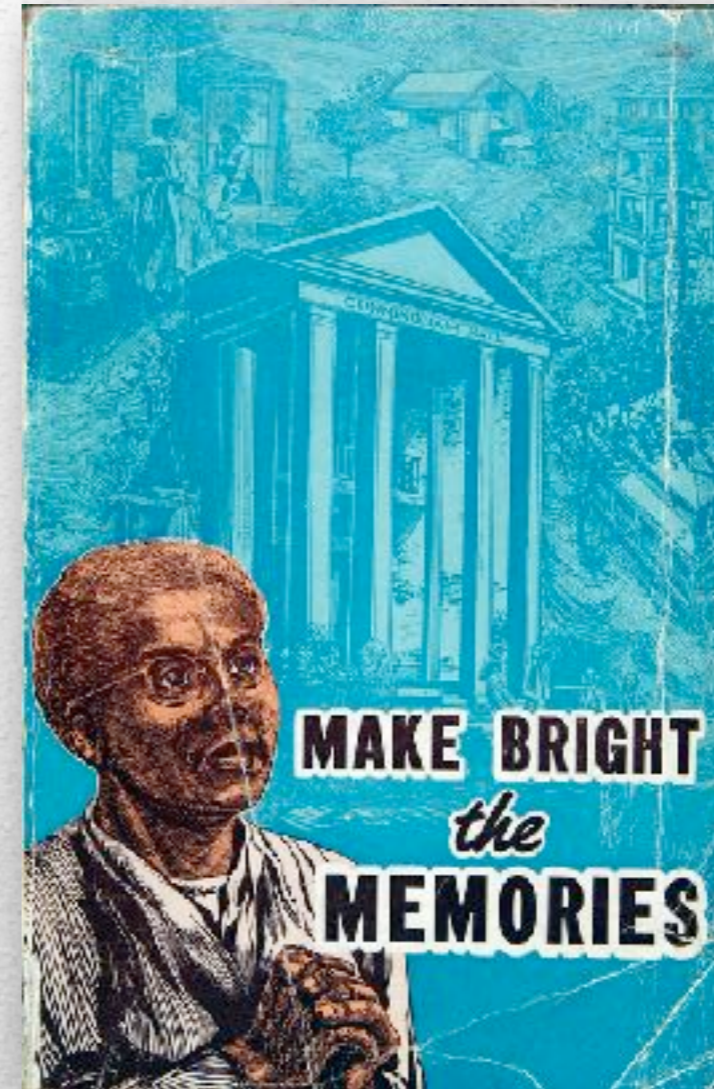
# Rhythm Club

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# Forks of the Road Slave Market

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# Eugenia Isabella Cunningham

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# Monmouth Plantation

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# Monmouth Servant Quarters

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# SOSO, MISSISSIPPI

- Soso Seventh-day Adventist Church
  - Soso SDA Cemetery
  - Knight Cemetery
  - Home of Florence Blaylock
-



- From Soso, MS
- First woman to serve as a missionary in India.
- Served Southern Union in Education, Health and Youth Ministry.
- Served on the Colored Survey Committee that recommended formation of the South Atlantic and South Central Conferences.

**Anna Knight**

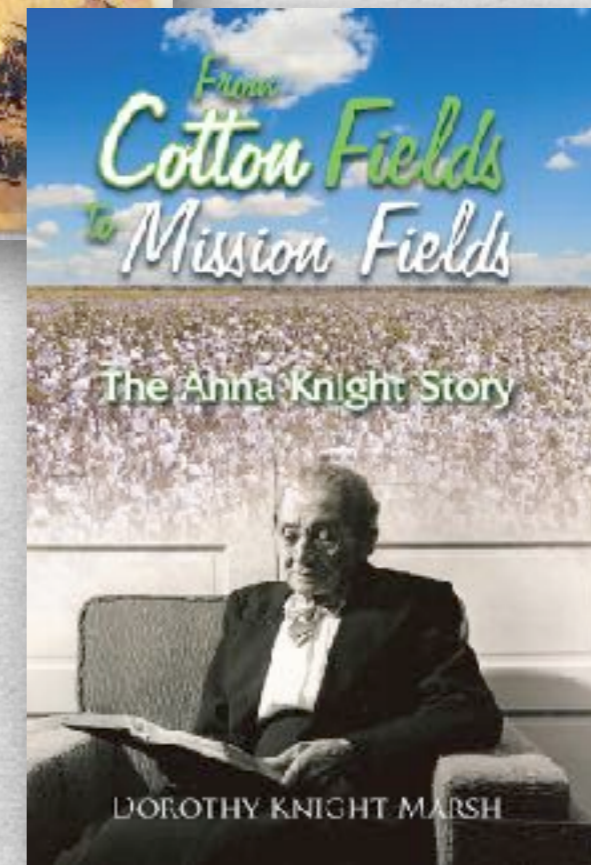
**Missionary, Educator, Nurse, Administrator**

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# Statistics of Her Life Work

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# Mississippi Girl

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# **Knight Cemetery**

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# Anna Knight's Grave

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**Grace Knight**

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# Rachel and Newton Knight

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- The gospel has come a long way.
  - Millions know Christ
  - Millions still need to hear the three angels message
- We must go and prophesy again! There are still millions of people Black, White, Hispanic, and others that still need to hear the everlasting gospel.

# **Go and Prophesy Again!**

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# CONTACT

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*Adventist Heritage Tour Guide*

## Tours

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