

# ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS & HERITAGE NOMINATION FORM

Alabama Historical Commission  
725 Monroe Street  
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC

Old Fort Dale Site

AND/OR COMMON

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Alabama Highway #185 North - Range 14E, Township 11N, Section 28

CITY, TOWN

5 miles North of Greenville, Old Fort Dale Community,

Butler

36037

STATE

COUNTY

CODE

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

Present use as a site is educational & is related to the military & government affairs.

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Edna Rogers Selleh

STREET & NUMBER

102 Mayfair Lane

CITY, TOWN

Oak Ridge, Tennessee

STATE

VICINITY OF

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Butler County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

East Commerce St.

CITY, TOWN

Greenville, AL 36037

STATE

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Included in The Bartram Trail Brochure

DATE

October, 1979

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Butler County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Greenville

STATE  
Alabama



# 7 DESCRIPTION

<b>CONDITION</b>		<b>CHECK ONE</b>	<b>CHECK ONE</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RUINS (Fort)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fort Dale was erected in the Spring of 1818, by order of Colonel Samuel Dale. It was built on the top of a small hill, near a spring, later known as the Old Poplar Spring. Although all traces of the fort have long since been removed, the site still bears the name of the noble soldier who was so instrumental in its erection for the protection against outrageous attacks by the Indians.

Old Fort Dale, probably a stockade with strong inner buildings of logs, was similar to those mound posts you find in the early records located at Fort Hull, Fort Decatur, Fort Mitchell, and others along the Federal Road.

All the settlers in this section had to stay in the Fort a large part of the year 1818. Food was scarce and because of the danger, only a portion of the men worked the corn crop, while others did guard duty. Water from the old spring was obtained from the two wells which were dug near the fort.

After the excitement of 1818 was over, the settlers returned to their homes and resumed work. The land on which the fort was built was acquired by Joseph Hartley in 1825. Mr. Hartley built his family a home out of logs and timbers from the fort and later the home was converted into a barn and is still standing about one half mile Southwest of the original site of Fort Dale. Several other dwellings were constructed from these logs but the old barn is the only surviving building and is thought to be the oldest structure in Butler County.

The exact location of the fort is unsure, but two partially filled wells and two historical markers, are visible from Hwy. 185. The oldest marker, which was placed near the road by the Father Ryan Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, April 2, 1925, with the words "Fort Dale - 1818" inscribed in the marble, is a tall monument standing 6'-0"x1'-0" wide and 6½" thick on a base of marble 4'-10"x2'-0" & 1'-0" high. The other marker was erected by the Woodmen of the World and presented to the Landmarks Foundation of Butler County and all citizens on November 25, 1979 in ceremonies held at the Oak Grove Church. The marker is of old brick standing about 4'-0"x3'-6" wide and about 2' depth. The bronze plaque with the inscription written with raised letters is inbeded in the brick. The inscription was written by the Landmark President Tom Braxton, who expressed the foundation appreciation toward the Woodmen of the World for their concern in the heritage of Butler County by presenting the Woodmen a certificate of achievement for marking a very important and historical site.

See drawing of site and newspaper clippings.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES Spring of 1818

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Col. Samuel Dale of The U.S. Army

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE ATTACHED INFORMATION.



## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Little's "History of Butler County 1815-1885"
2. "Alabama Life" Sept-Oct. 1978 pages 60 & 61
3. Old Newspaper Article from "The Greenville Advocate" - Jan. 5, 1898, October 20, 1909, Jan. 15, 1953 and Nov. 8, 1962

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY about 1/4 of an acre

QUADRANGLE NAME Ft. Dale

QUADRANGLE SCALE 1:24,000

UTM REFERENCES

A | 16 | 532930 | 3528890

B | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

D | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Tom Braxton, President

January 12, 1980

ORGANIZATION

Landmarks Foundation of Butler County

DATE

382-5551

STREET & NUMBER

125 Boutwell St.

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Greenville

STATE

Alabama 36037

## 12 FOR ALABAMA HISTORICAL COMMISSION USE ONLY

Staff Member \_\_\_\_\_

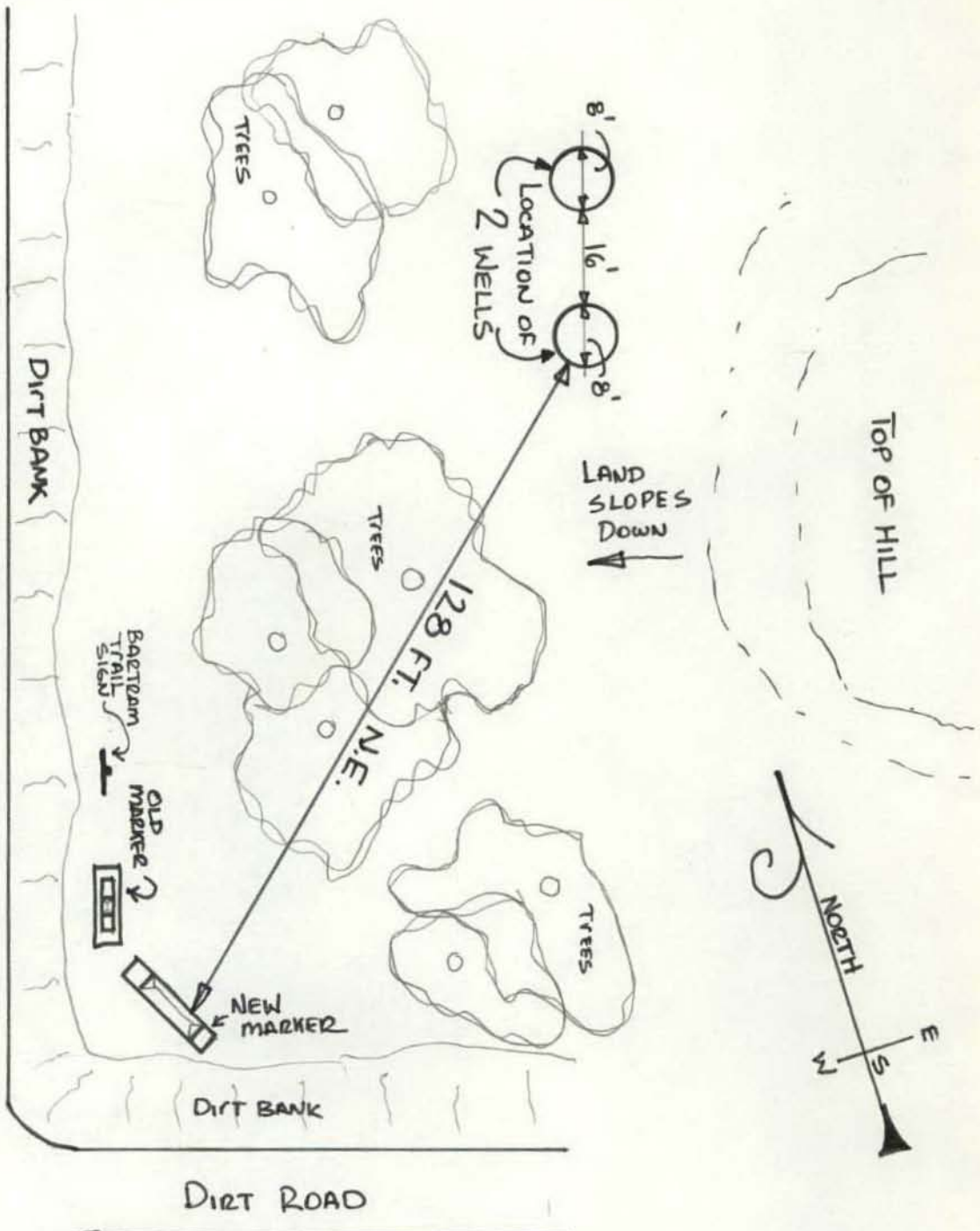
ADDED \_\_\_\_\_

Number \_\_\_\_\_

Thematic Category \_\_\_\_\_

National Register Potential

Added to National Register \_\_\_\_\_



HIGHWAY #185 NORTH

FORT DALE SITE, BUTLER CO.

DRAWN BY TOM BRAXTON

JAN 8, 1980





**THIS HANDSOME MARKER** has been erected by Woodmen of the World to mark the site of Fort Dale on Highway 185 north.

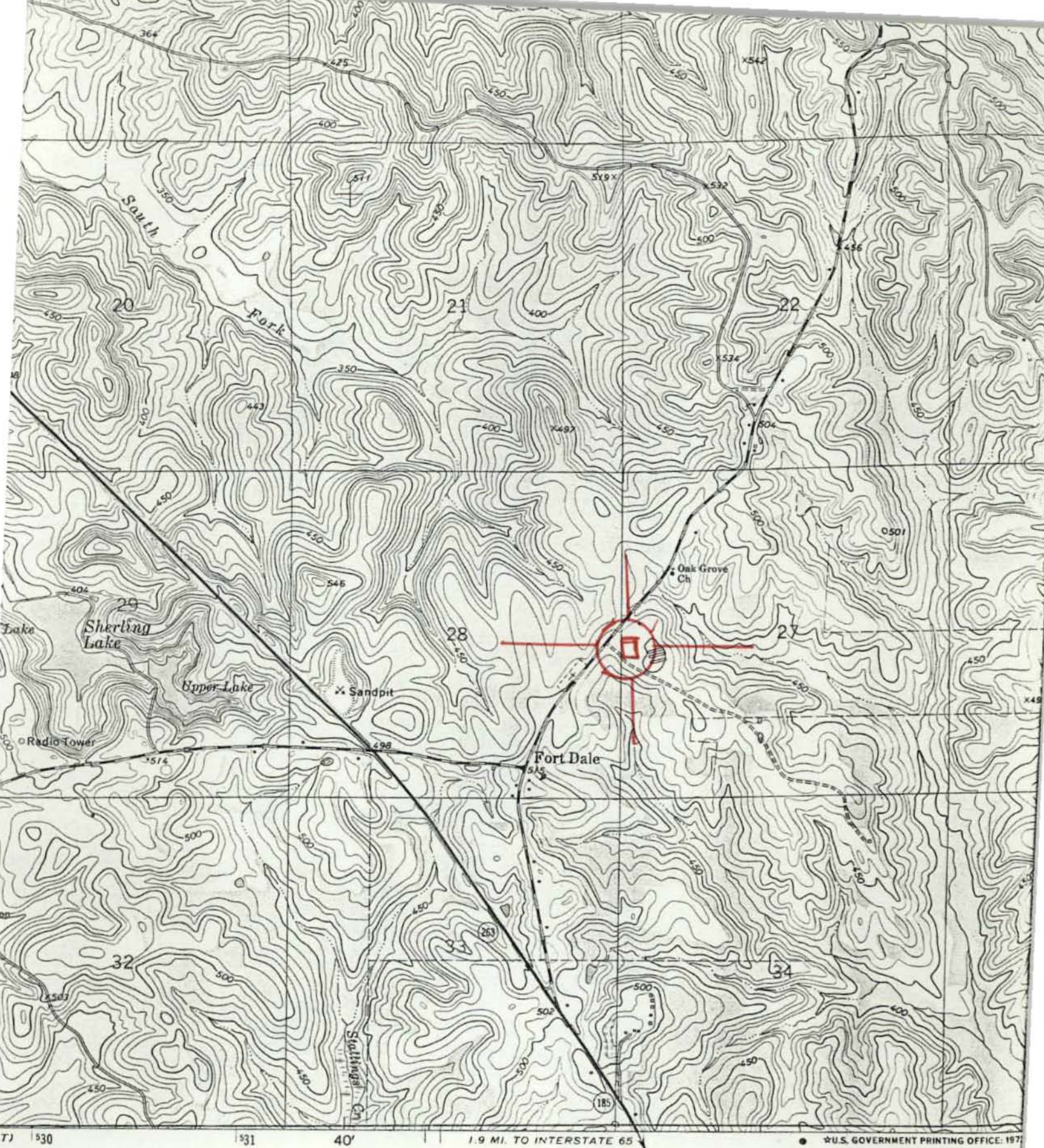
**The Greenville Advocate**

GREENVILLE, ALABAMA  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1979

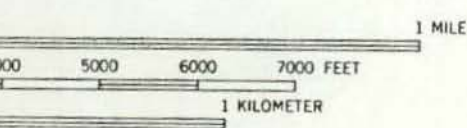


**INSCRIPTION ON THE FORT DALE MARKER** that was dedicated last Sunday in ceremonies at the Oak Grove Methodist Church.





U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1977



*Fort Dale Site*

**ROAD CLASSIFICATION**

Primary highway, hard surface	_____	Light-duty road improved surface	_____
Secondary highway, hard surface	_____	Unimproved	_____
○ Interstate Route		□ U. S. Route	

0 FEET  
LEVEL

