

ALABAMA REGISTER OF LANDMARKS AND HERITAGE NOMINATION FORM

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY - DATE ADDED: _____

1. NAME Washington Baptist Church

Historic: "Old" Washington Baptist Church
and/or Common: _____

2. LOCATION

Street & Number: Old Washington Church Road (Hawthorn) County Road 22

City, Town: Wagarville

---Vicinity of: Hawthorn

State: AL

County: Washington

Zip: 36585-

3. CLASSIFICATION

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <i>Church</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Educational
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> In process	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> Government
	<input type="checkbox"/> Being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> Military
			<input type="checkbox"/> Museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> Park
			<input type="checkbox"/> Private residence
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <i>cemetery</i>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

Name: Washington Baptist Church

c/o Malcolm or Lynda Waite

Street & Number: 265 Jelks Road c/o Malcolm & Lynda Waite

Telephone: (251) 944 -2398

City or Town: Wagarville

State: AL

Zip: 36585-

Email Address: _____

5. FLOOR PLAN & SITE PLAN

(Attach sketched floor plan and/or site plan.)

6. DESCRIPTION

(See attached instructions for specific guidelines on completing the description.)

CONDITION

- Excellent Deteriorated
 Good Ruins
 Fair Unexposed

CHECK ONE

- Unaltered
 Altered

CHECK ONE

- Original Site
 Moved Date Moved

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE.

Old Washington (Baptist) Church is a typical one-room church once common in the rural south; but which now have largely disappeared due to declining community populations or obscured by modern remodeling. The church is nestled deep in the piney woods of central Washington county in the community of Hawthorn. The building sits on pillows and raised about two feet above ground level. The steep roof of the structure is today cocered with a light gray tin topping.

There are five windows evenly spaced on either side of the building. Each window is wooden framed with four upper panes and four lower panes. Two windows, one on each side of the bay area which is the pulpit section that extends the sanctuary outward toward the adjacent cemetery grounds. The interior of the building is lined with one-by-four pine boards including the floors, walls and ceilings. The interior is neatly painted with white paint. The floors and the home-made pews are painted brown. The pulpit and the choir section is raised about one foot above the floor level of the remainder of the sanctuary. The front of the little church has double doors that open into a single central isle down the center of the sanctuary. One single door exits the church on the left side of the pulpit to a gate and the cemetery just outside the back of the church. Diagonal braces were added to the interior walls for bracing from storm damages during hurricane Frederick in 1979. The older tin top of the church was replaced with newer tin topping as damages were repaired.

The church has no steeple, no water, no heating and no air conditioning. The wiring in the church is very old and accomodates two light fixtures that hang from the ceiling. The outer walls still has wooden fuel lamp holders that once held the oil lamps which provided early lighting in the church. Electricity is only connected at the church for special occassions and for homecoming on the first Sunday in May of each year.

A large cemetery is found behind the church with about one hundred graves that date back to the 1800's. A large marker stands near the church entrance to commemorate the founding of the church in 1883 and the five charter members - Clem and Sarah Henson, Augustus Kirkland, Sally and Dr. Obadiah Lynes, the first pastor.

The present building was completed in about 1916. The initial roof was pine shingles. Shingle were replaced with a tin roof sometime in the 1950's. Most of the pillows that support the church are original with a few added over the years to firm up the supports to the sanctuary. A new coating of paint was completed in 2003 both inside and outside. All or the windows are original and were repaired and restored during 2003. Prior to the construction of the present building, the Hawthorne church community held church first in a tiny log building and then a rough lumber building until the present one was finished in 1916.

7. SIGNIFICANCE

(See attached instructions for specific guidelines on completing the significance.)

PERIOD

- Prehistoric
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- 1900-

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE-CHECK AND EXPLAIN BELOW

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning | <input type="checkbox"/> industry | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic | <input type="checkbox"/> conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> scientific |
| <input type="checkbox"/> agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> education | <input type="checkbox"/> law | <input type="checkbox"/> sculpture |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> literature | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social history |
| <input type="checkbox"/> art | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> military | <input type="checkbox"/> theater |
| <input type="checkbox"/> commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> funerary art | <input type="checkbox"/> music | <input type="checkbox"/> other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> communications | <input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian | <input type="checkbox"/> politics/government | |

SPECIFIC DATES: _____

BUILDER/ARCHITECT: _____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Though the present building was constructed in 1916, the Washington Church was established in 1883 and has had a congregation since that time. This church building is significant because it is one of the very few remaining built in the 19th century which has not been modernized and remodeled; with the exception of the electrification. The hanging fixtures are not modern ornate. The original wood shingle roof has been replaced with tin. Most of the foundation pillows are original, but additional ones have been added through the years. The walls, ceiling floor and outside-lapped siding are original as are the windows. Washington Church is very significant as an authentic, unaltered example of the typical one-room rural church.

Immediately behind the church building is an historic cemetery which is over one hundred years old. The oldest death date on a headstone is 1901. The Washington Cemetery is still actively used by descendants of the early members of the congregation. The annual Homecoming each May is one of the remaining examples of the once-common Southern Dinner on the Ground. Boards stored inside the building are laid across posts driven into the ground and the meal is literally served "on the grounds." for its unbroken commemoration of this once-common social event, Washington Church is very significant.

Washington Church is significant also because of the contributions to Washington County by the descendants of the founders. The Henson family has produced several elected officials at the county level, as well as two Alabama State Representatives. Many descendants also became educators and some still teach in the Washington County schools.

Washington Church is significant for its simple, enduring one-room architectural example; it's historic cemetery and the contributions of its members to society.

8. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The History of Washington County-First County in Alabama; Jacqueline Matte; 1982 edition.
The History of Washington County- Volume II; Robert Stockton; 1989 edition.
Mrs. Marie Blount Henson; County Road 22 Hawthorn; Wagarville, AL 36585
Mrs. Williw Margaret McKee, 1326 McKee Drive, Jackson, AL 36545
Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm Waite, 265 Jelks Road, Wagarville, AL 36585
Mrs. Ellen Williams, 1730 Carson Road, Leroy, AL 36548
Mr. Luther W. Schell, Hwy 43 Sunflower, Wagarville, AL 36585

9. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of nominated property: 2 acres

Quadrangle name: TWP 4N and RNG 1W

Enclose map showing location of property. (city or county map, state highway department map, or USGS map)

10. FORM PREPARED BY

Name/title: Roy Henson Schell

Organization: _____

Street & Number: 134 Schell Drive

City or Town: Wagarville

Email Address: hensonschell@yahoo.com

Date: Sept 22, 2010

Telephone: (251)246 - 5810 or 251-769-8364

State: AL Zip: 36585 -

11. PLEASE SUBMIT COLOR IMAGES OF THE PROPERTY WITH THIS FORM:

Images are essential to the review process. They can be 4x6 color prints or digital images on a CD. Please see the "Instructions for Completing an AR Form" for more details on images or contact the AHC at 334.230.2687.

12. PLEASE RETURN NOMINATION FORM AND DOCUMENTATION TO:

LOCATOR 28 - NORTHWEST

WASHINGTON COUNTY, ALABAMA (TWP.4N-RNG.1W)



TWP.5N-RNG.1W

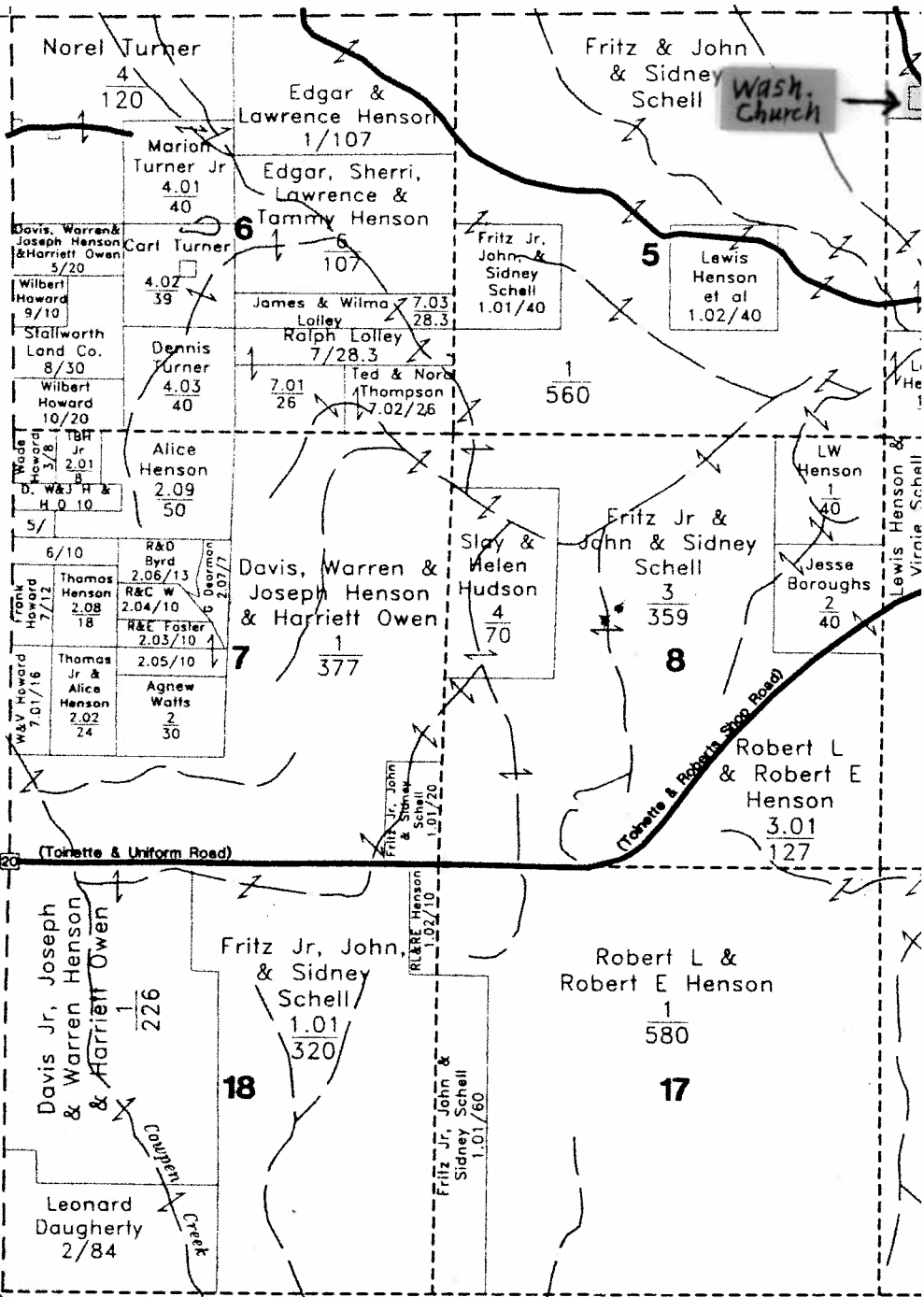
SEE PAGE 92

TWP.4N-RNG.2W

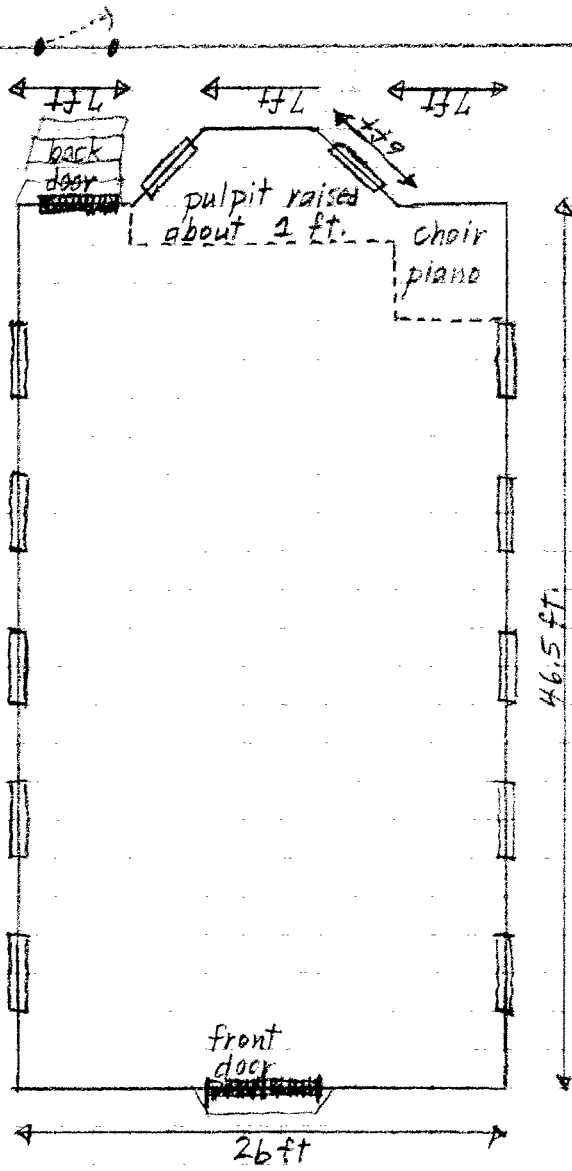


SEE PAGE 111

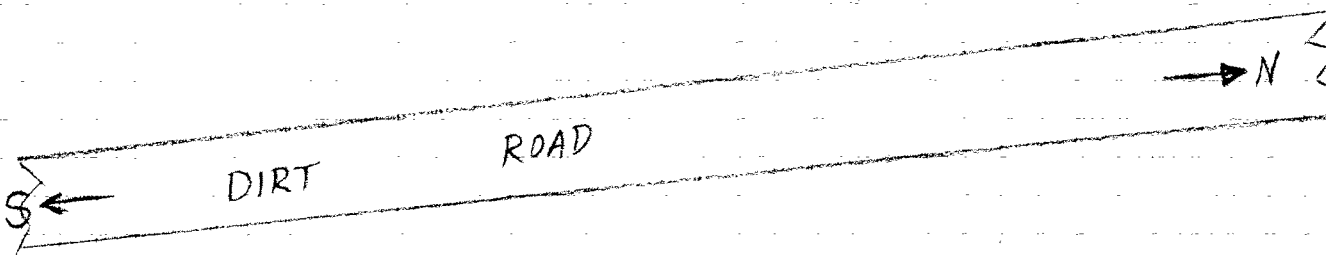
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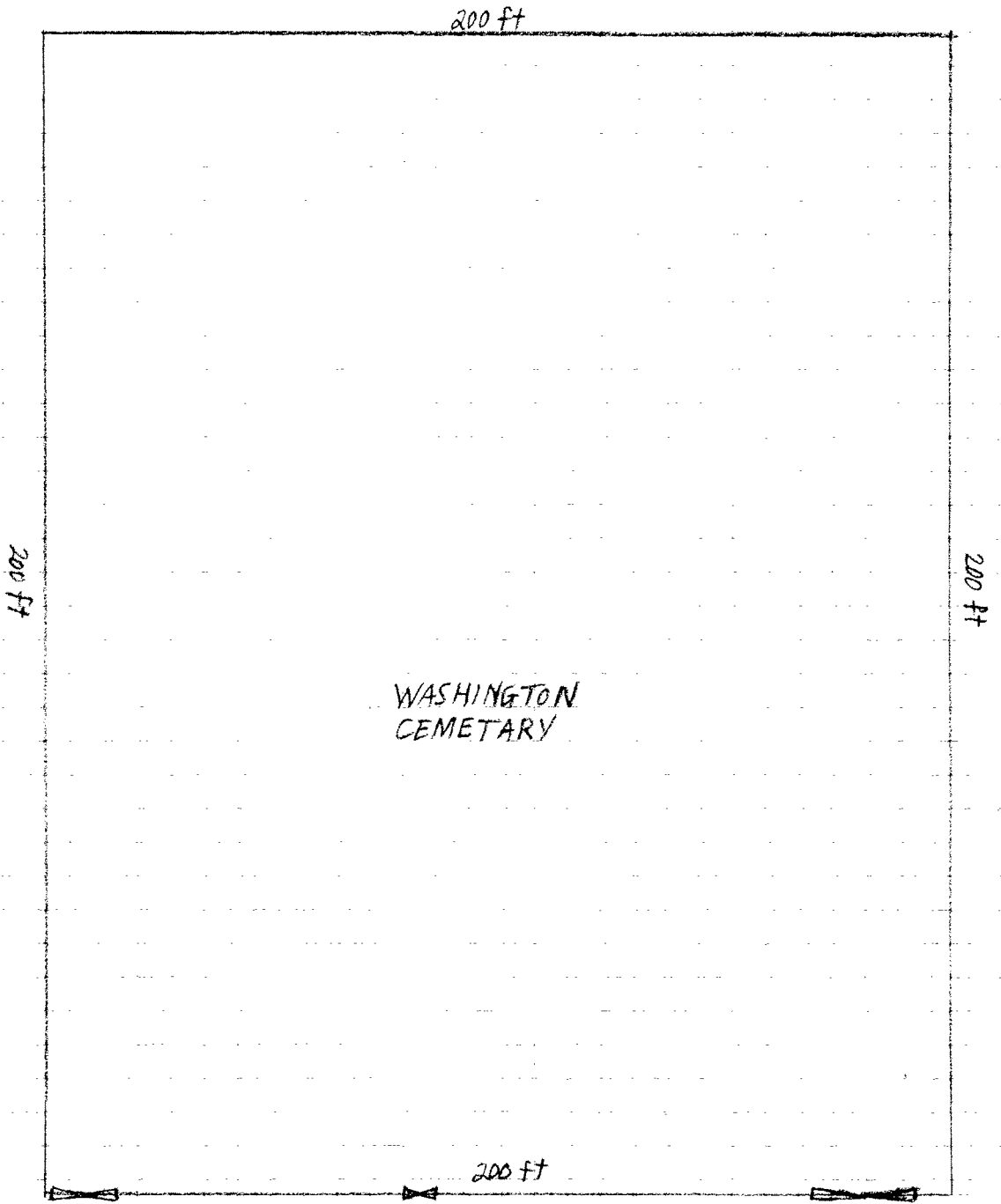


CEMETARY



OLD WASHINGTON CHURCH





200 ft

200 ft

200 ft

WASHINGTON
CEMETARY

200 ft



CHURCH

S ←

→ N

LOCATOR 28 - NORTHWEST

WASHINGTON COUNTY, ALABAMA (TWP.4N-RNG.1W)

0 < MILES > 1/2
0 660 1320 1980 2640 < FEET > 5280

TWP.5N-RNG.1W

SEE PAGE 92

TWP.5N-RNG.2W

TWP.4N-RNG.2W

N

SEE PAGE 111

TWP.4N-RNG.2W

20

SOUTHWEST

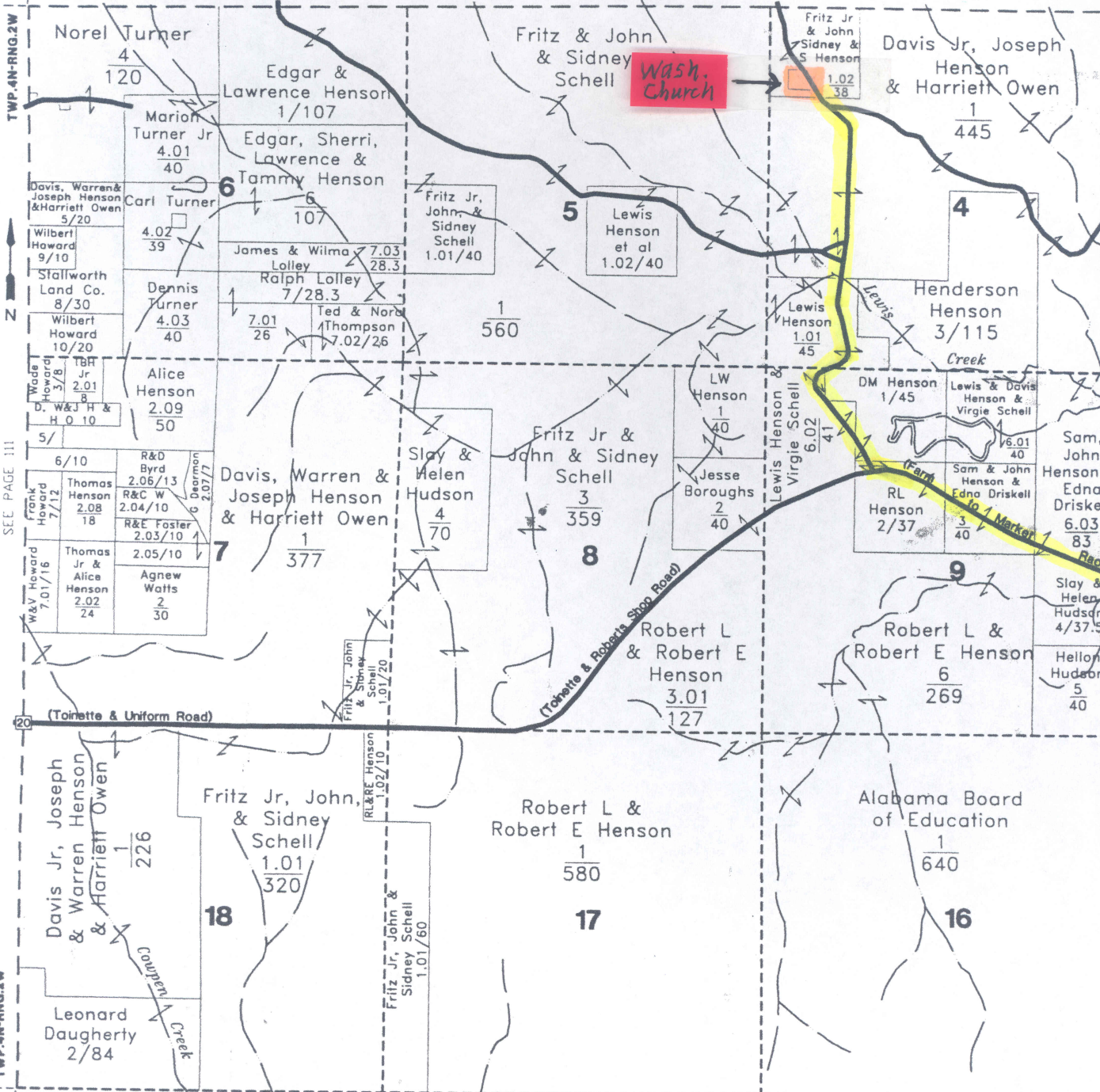
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QUADRANT

SEE PAGE 108

OF

TWP.4N-RNG.1E



Wash. Church

(Tobette & Roberts Shop Road)

(Toinette & Uniform Road)

Courpen Creek

Alabama Board of Education

Norel Turner
4
120

Edgar & Lawrence Henson
1/107

Fritz & John & Sidney Schell

Fritz Jr & John Sidney & S Henson
1.02
38

Davis Jr, Joseph Henson & Harriett Owen
1
445

Marion Turner Jr
4.01
40

Edgar, Sherri, Lawrence & Tammy Henson
6
107

Fritz Jr, John, & Sidney Schell
1.01/40

Lewis Henson et al
1.02/40

Henderson Henson
3/115

Davis, Warren & Joseph Henson & Harriett Owen
5/20

Wilbert Howard
9/10

Stallworth Land Co.
8/30

Wilbert Howard
10/20

Carl Turner
4.02
39

James & Wilma Lolley
7.03
28.3

Ralph Lolley
7/28.3

Ted & Nora Thompson
7.02/26

1
560

Lewis Henson
1.01
45

Wade Howard
3/8

Alice Henson
2.09
50

Dennis Turner
4.03
40

Slay & Helen Hudson
4
70

Fritz Jr & John & Sidney Schell
3
359

LW Henson
1
40

DM Henson
1/45

Lewis & Davis Henson & Virgie Schell
6.01
40

Frank Howard
7/12

Thomas Henson
2.08
18

Davis, Warren & Joseph Henson & Harriett Owen
1
377

Fritz Jr & John & Sidney Schell
1.01/20

8

Jesse Boroughs
2
40

RL Henson
2/37

Sam, John Henson Edna Driskel
6.03
83

W&V Howard
7.01/16

Thomas Jr & Alice Henson
2.02
24

Agnew Watts
2
30

Fritz Jr, John & Sidney Schell
1.01/20

Robert L & Robert E Henson
3.01
127

Lewis Henson & Virgie Schell
6.02
41

Robert L & Robert E Henson
6
269

Sam & John Henson & Edna Driskel
10
1

Slay & Helen Hudson
4/37.5

Hellen Hudson
5
40

Davis Jr, Joseph Henson & Warren Henson & Harriett Owen
1
226

Fritz Jr, John, & Sidney Schell
1.01
320

Robert L & Robert E Henson
1
580

Alabama Board of Education
1
640

18

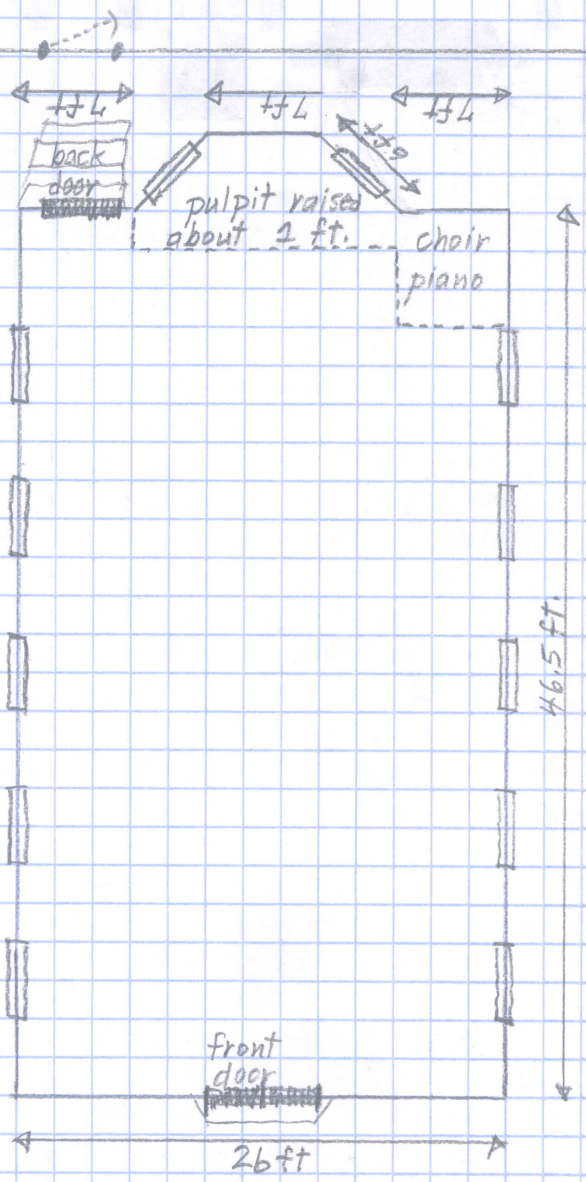
17

16

Leonard Daugherty
2/84

Fritz Jr, John & Sidney Schell
1.01/60

CEMETARY

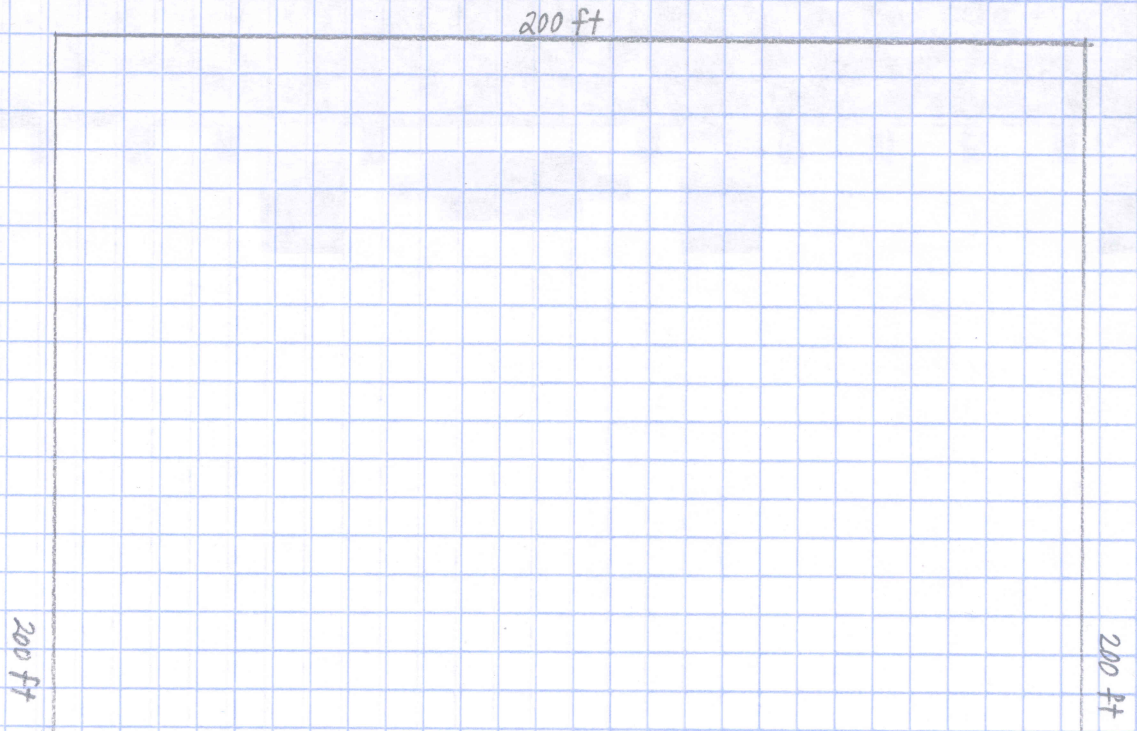


OLD WASHINGTON CHURCH

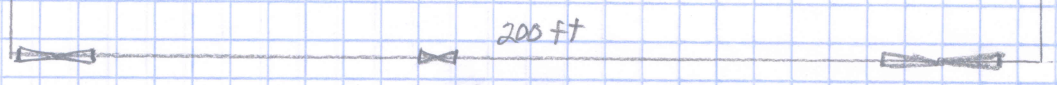
DIRT

ROAD

→ N



WASHINGTON
CEMETARY



S ← → N



09/23/2010

CHARTER MEMBERS

CLEM HENSON
SARAH HENSON
AUGUSTUS KIRKLAND
OBADIAH LYNES
SALLY LYNES

FIRST PASTOR
OBADIAH LYNES

09/23/2010



09/23/2010



09/23/2010