

A HISTORY OF THE CAVE CITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

This Material Compiled and generously offered By Gary Perkey

Methodism has been a prevailing influence in the Cave City area long before the town itself was actually organized. At one point, there were three Methodist churches in Cave City. This division was not unique to Cave City or to Arkansas, but reflected the sectional and doctrinal differences existing throughout the country and within Methodism.

In 1830, the Methodist Protestant Church split from the Methodist Episcopal Church over church organization, primarily due to the latter's emphasis on bishops and the lack of lay representation in the church and at conference. The original Methodist Episcopal Church divided again in 1844 over the question of slavery. Those congregations which remained loyal to the federal government and opposed slavery considered themselves the true heirs of "the Mother Church" and retained the name Methodist Episcopal Church. They were also referred to as the "North Methodist" by individuals, especially in the South, who were not members of that branch of the Methodist Church. The churches of the South who supported the Confederacy and the Southern cause during the Civil War became the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Cave City, not unlike the rest of Arkansas and the country as a whole, found itself supporting three distinctive branches of Methodism. In the order of their establishment in Cave City, these churches were:

Flat Rock Methodist Episcopal Church, South
The Methodist Episcopal Church ("North Methodist")
The Methodist Protestant Church

After several decades of dialogue and conferences dedicated to union, the three branches of Methodism formally merged on May 10, 1939 to form The Methodist Church. It would have probably also been around this time that the Methodist Church at Cave City would become known as the Cave City Methodist Church, although it would continue to be known as "Flat Rock" by many of the older members. In 1968, The Methodist Church merged with the Evangelical United Brethren Church to form The United Methodist Church.

The history of the Cave City United Methodist Church, as it currently exists, requires a closer look at the original three Methodist Churches that met in present-day Cave City before the union of those branches in 1939. This also included the migration of many families from the outlying rural Methodist Churches which were forced to close their doors due to attrition and decisions made by the conference during the 1950s-1970s.

Flat Rock Methodist Episcopal Church, South

The earliest known Methodist Church in the immediate Cave City area was the Flat Rock Methodist Episcopal Church, South, or “Flat Rock Church” as it was more commonly referred. The church was so named because of the large formation of limestone rocks which was prevalent in that part of Independence County. The boundary line between Independence and Sharp counties would change in later years, but the location of the Flat Rock Church would remain in Independence County until more contemporary times.

The exact location of the original Flat Rock Church is not known. The general consensus for many years has been that the Flat Rock Church had its origination just south of Cave City and east of the “Welcome to Cave City” sign on Highway 167, in the vicinity of the flat rocks where the Fairfield Institute was located.

Two other sources, however, have detailed another site as the location of the first Flat Rock Church. Both place the first congregational gathering place as being located “northeast of the cave” on a “glade or flat rock.” The *Sharp County Record*, dated October 1, 1909, describes that location and men involved in its creation as follows:

“...We have no data at hand, but we learned when we were a boy that the first building was erected on a glade or flat rock about half a mile northeast of the present church site, and was built by such men as Jerry and Bob Wooldridge, Andy Laman, Willis Brewer, Rube Holland, Armistead and John Rawlings, Jiles Baker, Frank Ball, John W. Meacham, John Green, some of the Fores and Barnetts, all of whom have long since passed away. Yet those men are revered by posterity for their loyalty, honesty and fidelity, for their faithfulness to the church and state. This first church was discarded some time in the fifties [1850s] and a more commodious building, with a Masonic hall above, was erected on the present church site, and in 1875 this second building was replaced by a handsome frame building, which was built by a committee composed of George W. Laman, Green B. Stout, Henry S. Horn, Elisha Gray and James M. Laman,”

The second reference, which seems likely to be the most accurate, was derived from a W.P.A. Church inventory taken in March of 1941 and gleaned from members of the church. This material offers a more detailed and thorough history of Flat Rock Church from its beginnings through the completion of the new church building in 1940. The following is an excerpt from the W.P.A. Church Inventory of Flat Rock Methodist Church:

“A little log school house on the flat rocks northeast of the cave served as the first Methodist Church in this community. The colored folks too had held ‘church’ in this building. In 1858 these interested people Geo. W. Laman, Green Stout, Riley Lewis, T. A. Meacham, Ed Carter, E. C. Gray, Jim Brewer, J. M. Green nephew of A. L. P. Green of Nashville, Tenn., one of Methodism’s greatest preachers at the time the Methodist Church divided, built the first church of hewn logs at present site.

The above mentioned building was torn down and replaced with frame building in 1879. Preachers serving this church were: Franklin Noe, Vinson, Southworth, Pick, Edwards, Kelley. This church building burned 1911. Was rebuilt 1913 with another frame building: J. A. Laman, T. A. Laman, G. T. Laman, W. A. Meacham, J. M. Simpson, Horns, Burr Gray, Brewers, etc., contributing which served until 1939 when torn down and replaced with the present building of Batesville marble with upper room and full basement at a cost of app. \$6600.00. Same bell used since the use of frame building. Those especially helpful in erection & support of present church: W. F. Laman, J. O. Laman, Elmer Meacham, J. W. Taylor, G. T. Laman, C. A. McSpadden & others....

The Register of Members shows some received by profession of faith in June 1822, 1840, 1841, 1844, 1845, 1849, 1850, etc.”

(Source: Special Collections Division of the University of Arkansas Libraries, Fayetteville, AR. See “W.P.A. Form 20-HR -- Arkansas Historical Records Survey Church Inventory, Form Identification Number 133,” dated March 23, 1941. Reprinted by permission.)

One of the pioneer settlers of Cave City was Benjamin Franklin Jackson. On July 28, 1859, B. F. Jackson and his wife, Tabitha Ann Stewart Jackson, deeded two acres and four rods of their property to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South and Curia Lodge #144 for the sum of one dollar. Mentioned in the deed as both the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South and representatives of Curia Lodge #144 were: J. W. Peters, J. H. Sims, B. F. Ball, G. W. Laman and W. N. Green. Although the deed specified that the property was to be jointly owned by the Masonic Lodge and the Methodist Episcopal Church, there is no record that the Masonic Lodge ever actually assembled at this location.

In his book Centennial History of Methodism -- A History of the Methodist

Episcopal Church, South of Arkansas 1815-1935, James A. Anderson lists some of the early members of Flat Rock Church. Those listed are:

George W. Laman	Mrs. Leacy Witten
James A. Laman	Mrs. Mary Wooldridge
John W. Laman	Mrs. Tabitha Stewart Jackson
Thomas A. Laman	Mrs. Sarah A. Laman Brewer
W. R. Lewis	Mrs. Eliza J. Laman Brewer
T. H. Stewart	W. R. Albright
James Laman	M. G. Wainwright
Ed Johnson	

There were other Methodist Episcopal Churches, South in the areas surrounding Cave City, some of which were on the same charge as the Cave City church and others which were not. Some of these churches were: Ash Flat, Bear Creek, Cave Creek, Evening Shade, Hardy, Maxville, Powell's Chapel, Sidney, Smith's Cross Roads (Grange), and Williford. Records seem to indicate that the Flat Rock Church was most consistently on the same charge with the Evening Shade and Maxville Methodist Episcopal Churches, South.

In May of 1901, arrangements were being made for the construction of a parsonage for Flat Rock Church. Those bearing the expense of building the parsonage were the children of George W. and Mary J. Green Laman, who were having the parsonage built in memory of their parents. Those individuals were: Sarah A. Laman (Mrs. Claborne) Brewer, Eliza J. Laman (Mrs. Frank) Brewer, James A. Laman, John W. Laman, and T. A. ("Alex") Laman.

At the thirty-seventh session of the Batesville Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, meeting at Evening Shade on July 18, 1906, the following report was made by the minister representing the Cave City Circuit:

"Rev. R. A. Robertson, P.C., Cave City Ct. reports as follows,
The Spiritual State of the church reasonably good. Several Members obligated themselves to save at least one soul each. We have two Women's Foreign and Home Missionary Societies. We have four Sunday Schools doing well. Educational interest good. We use the assessment plan on part of the work. We have four houses of worship and one parsonage all in reasonable condition."

On March 1, 1907 the Grand Lodge of Arkansas, upon the request of Curia Lodge #144, sold its one-half interest in the property jointly deeded to the Lodge and

the Methodist Episcopal Church, South in 1859. The Lodge sold its half interest to the trustees of Flat Rock Church for the sum of one dollar. The trustees of the church as mentioned in this deed were W. T. Horn, W. R. Albright and J. A. Laman.

At the 1907 session of the Batesville District Conference, held at Calico Rock on July 18th of that year, the following members were listed as representing the Cave City Circuit:

W. D. Ellis, P.C.	C. D. Perkey, Delegate
W. R. Albright, L.D.	James Simpson, Delegate
E. D. Williams, L.D.	A. S. Wilson, Delegate
Albert S. Reves, L.D.	John Suttle, Alternate
W. H. Pearson, L.D.	W. M. Trent, Alternate
T. A. Laman, Delegate	

In April of 1909, the Flat Rock Church was totally destroyed by fire. This report from the *Sharp County Record*, dated April 9, 1909, describes the results of the fire and where the congregation met from that point:

“The noted old Flat Rock church building, which has stood defiantly for the past 30 years, with all the fixtures contained inside, was burned to the ground Monday in less than twenty minutes. Luckily no other buildings were burned, but no doubt would have been but for the heroic work of our citizens. Several other buildings caught fire, but only two were damaged. . .

The last prayer meeting held at Flat Rock church was conducted by Mrs. W. B. McGee and was a success. The members of Flat Rock church will worship in the M. E. church [North Methodist] until they can rebuild. They are talking of rebuilding of stone.”

Soon after the church was destroyed by fire, the building was reconstructed on the same property. The following entry in the *Sharp County Record*, dated October 1, 1909, chronicles the rebuilding of Flat Rock Church after its destruction by fire:

“Steps are being taken toward the erection of a new church building to take place of the Flat Rock church, which was burned last spring. The community has planned a building 30x12 [sic] feet and the foundation is being sawed this week. This is a church in which many people are interested, it being one of the first churches in this part of the state... The community has met with fair success in the matter of contributions and it is hoped that ere long this, one of the oldest organizations in North Arkansas, will again have a home in which to worship as in years gone by.”

This construction must have been completed in short order, as the minutes of the 1909 conference reported that Cave City was chosen for the next meeting of the conference in 1910. The 1910 session of the Batesville District White River Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South convened at Cave City on July 6, 1910 at 9 a.m. with Rev. A. T. Galloway, Presiding Elder, officiating. Those representing the Cave City mission at the 1911 Conference were T. A. Laman, delegate, and W. A. Meacham, alternate.

In 1937, Flat Rock Church was part of the Evening Shade charge which was being served by Rev. Charles L. Franks. By 1938 Cave City had its own station and remodeled the parsonage, which was soon inhabited by Rev. Franks and his family. In July of 1939, Rev. Franks called together the church board where it was decided that a new church would be constructed. The next day the building was being demolished to build the rock building which burned in 1997. The members of the Building Committee in 1939 who oversaw the construction of the new structure were:

J. O. Laman, President
Judge J. M. Simpson, Treasurer
W. T. Laman, Secretary

Honorary Members:
Elmer Meacham
Dr. G. T. Laman
Ed Woodyard
N. A. Conyers
Adolphus McLeod
Rev. J. W. Due

Completion of the new church building was achieved in one year's time. The demolition of the old building and construction of the new structure had begun in July of 1939 and was completed in July of 1940. The success of this tremendous endeavor was due in no small part to the membership of the church and to those individuals of the community who volunteered their time and talents in this undertaking. The new building was dedicated on September 6, 1940.

In the early morning hours of December 3, 1997, Flat Rock Church was once again totally destroyed by fire. On the first Sunday after the church building burned, services were held under a tent on the lawn of the parsonage. Sunday services (and Sunday School classes) were then held in the Cave City Community Center through Easter Sunday, April 12, 1998. On Sunday, April 5, 1998, the members of the Cave City United Methodist Church met at the Cave City Community Center to vote on two proposals presented by the trustees of the church: to rebuild on the lot where the

church has been destroyed or to rebuild at another location. Two-thirds of the members voted to accept the offer made by Joe Frank and Linda Patterson to purchase seven acres of their property on the north side of Highway 115, just off Highway 167 in Sharp County. The trustees of the church at the time were:

O. J. Laman, President	Carthel McSpadden
Jim Harper	Duane Anderson
Carl Dene Medlock	C. W. Perkey
Larry Wilson	Larry Goodwin

Beginning Sunday, April 19, 1998, services were held in the old First Assembly of God church building across the highway from the location where Flat Rock Methodist Church had stood for so many years. When the old First Assembly of God building was sold and converted into a day-care center, church services were held in the Crouch- McGee Funeral Home chapel until the new church building was made suitable for occupation.

On Sunday, July 11, 1999, a “Leave Taking” service was held at the former church location and a dedication service and the first official services were held in the new church building on Highway 115.

The Cave City Methodist Episcopal (“North Methodist”) Church

The Methodist Episcopal Church (or “North Methodist,” as it was more commonly known) in Cave City was organized in the early 1890s as the town itself was beginning to grow and develop. The property which would eventually provide the meeting place for this congregation had been a part of a land patent purchased by John Crow in Independence County on January 16, 1856. This property, due to alterations in the boundary between Independence and Sharp counties around 1875, was included in an area of town known as “Jackson Square.”

One of the earliest deeds pertaining to the Methodist Episcopal Church was granted on March 9, 1893. On that date, John A. Laman and James W. Laman, along with their wives, Martha E. Barnett Laman and Elizabeth A. Brewer Laman, deeded the following property to the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church for the sum of \$10.00:

“. . . -- Beginning 160 yds West of the NorthEast corner of the SouthWest qr of Sec 17 Township 15 North of Range 5 West.

All in the S.W. qr of the S.W. qr Running 70 yds West thence 70 yds South, thence 70 yds East, thence 70 yds North to point of Beginning containing one acre more or less.”

The trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church mentioned in the deed were W. J. Gilbert, B. C. Gilbert, J. A. Mobley, F. Rawlings and J. B. Morris. Although this property was deeded to the Methodist Episcopal Church, there is no reference to this location again in the subsequent deeds. This may have been purchased for use as a parsonage or as an early meeting place for the church.

On August 26, 1896, R. D. and Hallie Horn deeded their property to the Methodist Episcopal Church and its trustees for the sum of \$25.00. The following coordinates were listed in the deed for that location:

“ . . . beginning 170 yds N of the N.E. corner of the S.W. qr of the S. W. qr of Sec 17 Township 15 of Range 5 West Running East 70 yds to center of Public Road leading from JacksonPort to Evening Shade Thence N 50 yds in keeping with center of said road, thence west to line thence South to point of beginning containing 3/4 acres more or less.”

One of the early and prominent businessmen and civic leaders of Cave City was G. M. D. Rodgers. Ledgers of his accounts show that Mr. Rodgers was instrumental in the building of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Cave City, providing most if not all of the materials used in building the new church. These records indicate that G. M. D. Rodgers provided the lumber, nails, windows, doors, etc., while individual contributions helped pay for these materials. Some of the people listed as providing donations are: John P. Danes, H. W. Herington, “Old Bob” Wooldridge, George Powell, Eliza Stout, G. W. Alcorn, “Rome” Ball, John B. Weaver, James Powell, Russell Jordan, J. A. Mobley, T. S. Ottinger, W. M. Jackson, T. J. Wooldridge, and J. M. Fry.

The church building was completed and used for the first time on Sunday, January 2, 1898. Rev. Peter M. Brakebill conducted the first services in the new facility. By March of the same year, the quarterly meeting of the Methodist Episcopal Church was held at Cave City’s newest church. On March 12, 1898, Rev. P. M. Teeter presided over the meeting at the Cave City Methodist Episcopal Church. Rev. William F. Wood was placed in charge of the Cave City circuit. The itinerary of services for the circuit was as follows:

Cave City -- first Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Mt. Tabor -- second Sunday at 11 a.m.

Fairview -- second Sunday at 4 p.m.
Palestine -- third Sunday at 11 a.m.
Highrock -- third Sunday at 4 p.m.
Powell's Chapel* -- fourth Sunday at 10 a.m.
Pineville -- fourth Sunday at 4 p.m.

(* According to the W. P. A. Survey history of the Powell's Chapel Methodist Church, this congregation was originally organized as a Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1928, due to the fact that the M. E. Church was not able to supply them a preacher, the congregation chose to become part of the M. E. Church, South.)

Children's Day services were an early and important part of the Methodist Episcopal Church and its activities in the community. As early as June of 1898, Children's Day services were scheduled at the Cave City church. In years to come, these services would also be conducted at Palestine and other churches on the circuit. By May of 1899, Children's Day services were being scheduled for the Methodist Episcopal Church on one given Sunday and for Flat Rock Church on the next Sunday.

In April of 1900, a 250 pound bell was added to the church to call the faithful to services. The bell was procured in large part by the efforts of Rev. Wood.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was totally destroyed in late December of 1900 or early January of 1901, when a strong wind or "cyclone" moved through the Cave City area and inflicted tremendous property damage. According to the report given in the *Sharp County Record* on January 4, 1901, the Methodist Episcopal Church, along with barns belonging to James A. Laman, Joe Carpenter and Frank Brewer, were totally demolished.

Before long, construction was underway to rebuild the church at the same location. The rebuilding process began in January, 1901, with W. M. Jackson, Frank Wooldridge and T. J. Wooldridge in charge of construction. Shortly after the work began, the scaffolding gave way beneath the workers and all three fell several feet. W. M. Jackson was injured in this mishap, and T. Mobley and George Rawlings were later hired to complete the construction of the new church building.

The parsonage for the Methodist Episcopal Church was once reported to have been located on Center Street in Cave City. In later years, the parsonage would be located on Cave Street on the property that would later be owned by George B. ("Short") Wooldridge.

Reminiscences of the Methodist Episcopal (“North”) Methodist Church

Rev. Joseph Howell Smith and his family moved to Cave City to serve the Methodist Episcopal Church and that circuit in the fall of 1920 and remained in the area until 1925. Rev. Smith’s daughter, Mrs. Lorene Smith Houston, who lived in Heber Springs when this history was originally written, had a vivid memory of her childhood days in Cave City and her father’s traveling as a circuit minister to the churches on the Cave City charge.

Mrs. Houston referred to the Methodist Episcopal Church as “the Mother Church,” as it was the original Methodist Church before the divisions which occurred over slavery before the Civil War. She remembered living in the parsonage behind the cave, their house being next door to the Hinson family. Mrs. Houston was friends with the Hinson girls (whom she believed were members of the Baptist Church), the Puckett family, and the Carpenter family, of whom she had particularly fond memories. Mrs. Houston stated that her family kept their milk in the cave for refrigeration purposes, as did many other families of the immediate area. She remembered visiting in the Gilbert home and playing the organ for Zola Gilbert, who was crippled from birth. She also described “the beautiful Wright girl” who married the Carpenter man who was her teacher at Cave City – this being her description of Servetus Wright and Will Ed Carpenter, who were later married.

There were tent meetings in a wooded area on the property owned by Dr. G. T. (“Doc Tom”) Laman. This is where the Baptist Church is now located, and the tent was set up on the property closest to the cave. Mrs. Houston was sure that most of the local churches participated in the tent meetings. When it came her father’s turn to preach, he would try to bring in someone “from off somewhere who would really be good” and someone who would be an asset to the services.

Mrs. Houston remembered the Methodist Episcopal Church holding its prayer meetings on Wednesday nights. She would go with her father when he preached at Fairview and Mt. Tabor, and recollected with amusement the big singings that were held at Mt. Tabor and the dinner on the ground that accompanied those singings.

Mrs. Houston also described a Mrs. Montgomery who was a member of the church and who donated a piano to the parsonage. Rev. Smith expected his daughter to learn how to play hymns. She was given piano lessons by Ruthel Laman. Before

they left the Cave City charge, Rev. Smith, Lorene Smith (Houston) and Ruthel Laman went to a community east of Batesville to purchase the piano which was used at the church.

Mrs. Houston has returned to Cave City on several occasions over the years since her family removed from the area in 1925. Although she had the fondest memories of Cave City and the people she remembers from her childhood, Mrs. Houston was sad to discover on one of her trips that most of the old homes of Cave City were no longer standing and that the town had changed so markedly over the years.

The Methodist Episcopal Church in Cave City, both the North and South congregations, shared ministers and other church-related functions before their formal merger in 1939. According to the late Mrs. Ruthel Laman Heasley, the South Methodists conducted their Sunday school classes in the morning and the North Methodists held their classes in the afternoon. Mrs. Heasley, who as a young lady attended the Flat Rock or South Methodist Church, taught a “card class” at both churches on Sundays. Members went back and forth to Sunday school and to hear preaching. In her recollections, Mrs. Heasley stated that Rev. Due was the backbone of the North Methodist Church in Cave City and was beloved and respected by all the people of the area.

An exact listing of the ministers of the Cave City Methodist Episcopal Church is not available, but the following are some of the ministers who served the church:

Peter M. Brakebill	W. M. Lane
William F. Wood	W. A. Franks
Reverend Hall	Joseph Howell Smith
Walter J. Gilbert	Reverend Davis
Reverend Conyers	John W. Due
Fred Cloninger	Reverend Ball
Reverend Wood	Reverend Branstetter

On May 10, 1939, the three branches of the Methodist Church merged to form The Methodist Church. The trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church, A. H. McLeod and N. A. Conyers, sold the church property to Noel K. McGee on May 25, 1939, for \$450.00. Many of the former members of the North Methodist Church transferred their membership to Flat Rock Methodist Church as a result of the merger.

The property that had once housed the Methodist Episcopal Church would change ownership several times over the next four years. Noel McGee sold this property to The Church of the Nazarene on October 31, 1941, for \$650.00. Although the Nazarenes purchased this property, there appears to have been limited interest in the denomination by local residents. The old church building would be used as a place to make mattresses and other relief-related services during the Depression years. On October 19, 1943, this location would become the home of the Cave City Church of Christ.

The Cave City Methodist Protestant Church

Very little information is available in terms of research material pertaining to the Methodist Protestant Church in Cave City. The fact that the church existed is not in doubt; how, when, and by whom the church was organized is, however, in question.

The Methodist Protestant Church of Cave City was located on the property that later belonged to Coy and Oma McClure. The site was on the corner of Center Street (Highway 230) and Meadow Lane, which would currently be part of the parking lot of the First Baptist Church in Cave City. Maps of Cave City and reminiscences of several area residents place the church at that location during the years of its existence in Cave City.

According to the late Ruthel Laman Heasley, the Methodist Protestant Church in Cave City was established by Winfred Gray. There seems to have been a struggle or disagreement of sorts between the Grays and the Lamans at Flat Rock Methodist Church, which resulted in Winfred Gray's establishing the Methodist Protestant Church in town.

Although the Cave City Methodist Protestant Church was not mentioned in the conference notes of the Arkansas Methodist Protestant Conferences, there were other Methodist Protestant congregations in the Cave City area. The churches which reported to the Hickory Valley circuit were: Gray's Chapel, Hickory Valley, Kerr's Chapel, Lee's Chapel, Oak Grove and Pleasant Grove. Some of the ministers who served on the Hickory Valley circuit during the years 1903 through 1929 were:

L. H. Covey
E. A. Horn
Young J. Cathey

W. E. Marlar
M. C. Jackson
E. Mitchell

J. F. Martin
Samuel N. Adams

R. W. Marlar
D. W. McGinnis

The parsonage of the churches on the Hickory Valley circuit was originally located a short distance west of Hickory Valley Methodist Church, on what is now (1999) Arrowhead Lane. On January 31, 1921, Sarah Ann Davis and her daughter, Coy Davis, traded their house in Cave City for the parsonage building at Hickory Valley. The Trustees of the Parsonage of the Hickory Valley Circuit of the Methodist Protestant Church mentioned in the deed were: Frank Staggs, J. A. Tugwell, Edgar Woodyard, A. E. Gray and F. B. Gray. The property which was deeded to the trustees for the sum of \$1.00 was described as follows:

“Lot 8 of Block 1, College Square in Town of Cave City, Sharp County, Arkansas more particularly described as follows to-wit:

Beginning 122 yds. S.N.W. Cor. of S.W. quarter of S.E. quarter of Sec. 17 Township 15 R. 5 W: thence East 70 yds, thence South 52 yds, thence West 70 yds thence North 52 yds to place of beginning.”

This location is on what is now First Street, across from the Thomas Franklin Robinson residence.

When the Methodist Protestant Church became defunct in Cave City and no longer served as a church facility, the dwelling was later used as the agriculture building for the Cave City Schools. As late as the 1929-1930 school year, the agriculture building was being utilized in what had once been the Cave City Methodist Protestant Church.