Bennett's Cove School

Location: S2/T1/R6# **Funds**: \$104 School District: 39 Teacher in 1923: Alta Manning Trustees in 1923: J. H. Scarborough, W. C. Wilkinson, and L. W. Jordan School was located in Bass Station. Teacher in 1939: None Found Grades Covered: 1-6



Years of Operation: 1900 (Eliza Woodall) to 1928 (last newspaper mention)

1909-1910: One teacher, 6 months at \$60

Wendell Page notes that this school was consolidated with Pleasant Grove. No mention of the school is found in the newspapers after the 1928 tax notice. See information from Eliza Woodall below.

First mention of this school is in the **Progressive Age** September 22, 1910: "There will be an ice cream supper given at the Bennett's Cove school house Saturday night."

Jul 12, 1928 PA: notice was published a notice that a special tax would be levied and collected annually, at the rate of 30 cents on each one hundred dollars worth of property tax for a period of two years to support the Bennett's Cove school. The tax voting notice also included the boundaries of the district, shown here.

The following information was provided by Eliza Woodall in *The* Stevenson Story.

A one-room school operated in Bennett's Cove in Crow Creek Valley in the 1890s and early 1900s. It was located on the hillside just back of the house T. Payton Summers lives in now. The seats in the building were made of split logs and without backs.

Water had to be carried up the hill from a spring; only the older, more responsible students were allowed to go after a buck of water. One dipper served all the students. When Maude Gonce taught there, the girls begged for the privilege of wearing her broad brimmed hat when they went after water. Each student brought his lunch in a pail, the favorite lunch being cold biscuit and sausage, baked sweet potato, and molasses, washed down with a drink from the dipper.

"Grades" were not used to organize students into classes; it was an early ungraded school, as most of its vintage were. The students were grouped according to which reader they were

Bennett's Cove District No. 39.

in said county, and to be continued for a period of two years from September 30, 128, the same to be for the support of the public schools within said district. The boundaries of said district are as follows:

Beginning at NW corner of section 30, Tp 1, R 7; thence east 1 1/2 miles; thence S 1/2 mile; thence E 1/2 mile; thence south 1/2 mile; thence east 1/2 mile; thence south 1/2 mile; thence east 1 1/2 miles; thence south 1 1/2 miles; thence west 2 miles; thence north 1 mile; thence west 1 mile; thence north 1 mile; thence west 1 mile; thence north 1 mile to point of beginning, said district contains sections 3 and 4, Tp 2, R 7; also sec-tions 30 and 32, the NW ¼ and the S12 of 29; the NW 14 and the S14 of 33 and the S14 of 34, Tp 1, R 7. All of said district being in Jackson County, Ala.

The following officers are appoint-

ed to hold said election: G. E. Champion, J. H. Grider, John Crowell, ins; E. D. Steele, J. R. Scar-brough, clerks; Lent Ttewart, R. O. R. S. Skelton, W. W. Trice, W. H. Cox, Raymond Bradford, Members, Board, of Commissioner, Johnson

Board of Commissioners, Jackson County, Ala., M. C. Thomas, Sheriff of Jackson County, Ala.

using. Teachers at Bennetts' Cove were Tom Hackworth, Beulah Walker, Marion Gonce, Py Rudder, Maude Gonce, Pyxie Rogers, Abbie Allison, Esther Tate, and Nora Allison.