


**ETOWAH VALLEY
 HISTORICAL SOCIETY**


May 1994

P.O. Box 1886, Cartersville, Georgia 30120

THE JACKSON BROTHERS

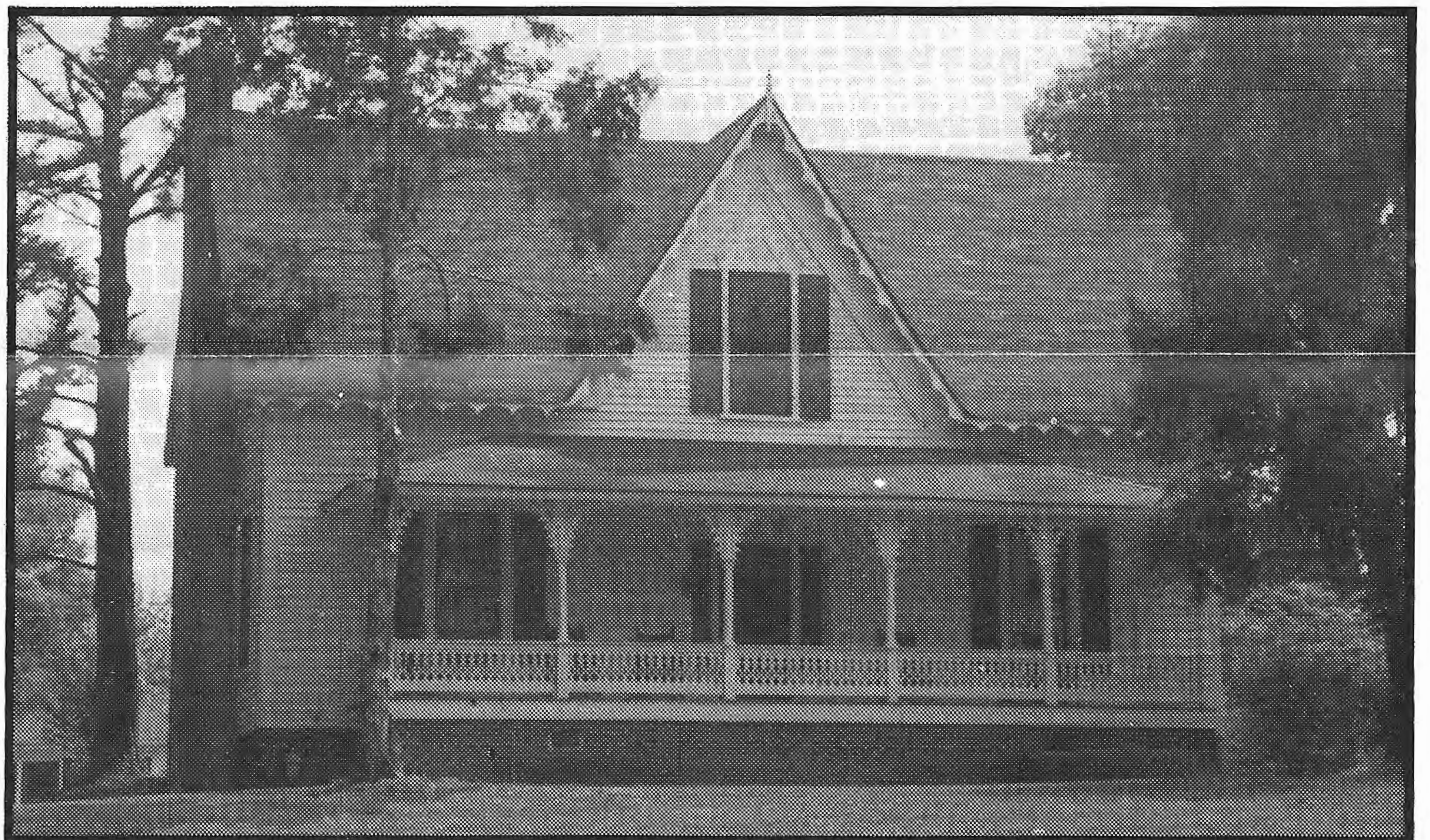
"BUILDERS OF CARTERSVILLE"

Editor's Note: This article was reprinted with permission of The Daily Tribune News, and was originally printed in their November 11, 1975 edition. It was written by the late Clyde Jolly, a very active and valuable member of the Etowah Valley Historical Society. Clyde served as our president in 1979. We have amended the original article to reflect current information.

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A city is made up of its people and its buildings. The people come and go, but the buildings although susceptible to fire, acts of God and the wrecker's ball, tend to endure through many generations of men. We see, we live in our buildings every day; but we rarely give thought to the builders who wrought them. In an earlier day our residential builders stamped each house they erected with something of their own character.

Two such builders, who fashioned some of the most enduring structures in and around Cartersville, were Zimri Wilson Jackson and his brother Milton C. Jackson who migrated to Cassville from North Carolina in 1846 when Zimri was 22 years old and Milton, 19. Another brother in this large family was Thomas Patterson Jackson, apparently not a builder, who enters the story a little later on.



Zimri Wilson Jackson's home on Cassville Road built in 1861. Now owned and occupied by Joe L. Myers.

The Jackson brothers delighted in building large story-and-a-half and two-story houses with soaring gables and fancy trim on the porches and around the eaves. They had a shop at the corner of Carter and Railroad Streets where they built furniture, blinds and the fancy mill work that they used to embellish their residences. The shop was recently razed. In later years it served as Bill Washington's Cafe, but most recently the Powell Grocery.

Among the earliest fine homes the Jackson's erected was the one they built for Zimri himself on Cassville Road in 1861. This stately residence was purchased in 1954 from the Howren family by Mr. and Mrs. Joe L.

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The C. G. Trammell home on Etowah Drive (originally named Douthett Ferry Road) built 1872. Now owned and occupied by Mr. & Mrs. John L. Conyers.

Myers. Interestingly, Mrs. Myers was a great granddaughter of Thomas Patterson Jackson.

The Jackson-Myers house is a good example of the craftsmanship and sturdiness that went into buildings constructed in the mid-19th century. The 10-inch-8 hand-hewn sills are mortised, tenoned and pegged with wooden pegs; the corner posts are heart pine; and all the doors were hand-planed and are put together with pegs. The floors, even the front porch floor, are the original wide boards laid down 133 years ago. More than one contractor has told Joe Myers there is enough material in the house to build five or six residences today.

Late in the war between the states, Zimri Jackson, then nearly 40 years old, enlisted in Company I, 40th Regiment, Georgia Volunteer Infantry; but instead of serving with the foot soldiers he was sent to the Confederate shipyards where he continued to practice his trade. It is not known whether Milton C. Jackson served in the Confederate armed forces.



Built for the Attaway family and located on Attaway Drive. Now owned and occupied by Mrs. Jeffie Gilreath.

Behind the Myers home there is still evidence of the ditch the Jackson's dug to hide their valuables when Sherman's troops appeared. Mrs. Jackson hid her nearly-grown son, Walter, and the family livestock in the back woods of the house.

After the war, the Jackson's hit their stride in the building trade. By 1869 they had completed Bartow County's new courthouse which was to remain the county seat of government until 1902. The old courthouse is now vacant, but soon to be occupied by the Bartow History Center. It is likely they built other downtown business establishments as well.

The brothers built, on Etowah Drive, the Trammell home, now owned by John L. Conyers, and the "Villa" for the Fredericks family which was abandoned and torn down in the 1950's; on North Erwin Street, they built Milton C. Jackson's home, now owned by Mrs. Rowland; and on Attaway Drive, for the Attaway family, they built the house occupied by Mrs. Jeffie Gilreath. For Zimri's son, Billy, they built a large home on Mission Road, presently owned by Mrs. Louis Jackson, whose husband was Billy's grandson.

They built the Lumpkin home on West Avenue, but after a fire damaged the upper story, the gables were replaced with a conventional roof-line. This home was torn down several years ago to make room for the new home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Shaw. Other examples of the Jackson brother's homes are the Gaz White, Sr. home and the Oscar Peoples home. The Gaz White, Sr. home once located on Cherokee Avenue in the vicinity of the Frank Moore Administration Center was last owned by the City of Cartersville and occupied by the Etowah Valley Historical Society (1982-1987). This house incurred a major fire in 1987 and was later sold and moved to an unknown location. The Oscar Peoples home, once located in Peoples Valley, was built in 1859 for Lewis Martin Munford. It was last occupied by the Etowah Valley Historical Society (1979-1982) and owned by Atlantic Steel. It was sold and moved to Cobb County sometime around 1983.

The R. D. Hale home on West Avenue was the home of George Jackson, son of Zimri. The late Miss Aileen Jackson, George Jackson's daughter, was not sure whether the brothers built this house, but it has the same soaring gables which was their trademark. The house is currently occupied by Mr. & Mrs. Julius Shaw.

Milton C., the younger of the brothers, died first. At

Jackson Brothers Continued

age 45, on Feb. 14, 1872, he passed away after a lingering illness. On his death bed he designed the elaborate tomb on the summit of Oak Hill that houses his remains. The candle-like spire atop the tomb is similar to the one



Located on Mission Road, this house was built for Zimri's son, Billy. Now owned by Mrs. Louis Jackson, whose husband was Billy Jackson's grandson.

pointing upward on the Jackson-Myers house and the one once located on Cherokee Avenue listed as the Gaz White, Sr. home. Milton C. Jackson was the architect half of the builder team.

Zimri Jackson lived for 20 years after his brother's death. In his later years, he turned more and more to farming as a way of life. In 1875 he brought into the office of the Cartersville Standard and Express an unusual stalk of wheat from his farm. He was an ardent



Located on West Avenue, this house was built for Zimri's son, George. Now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Julius Shaw.



Milton C. Jackson's home on North Erwin Street. Now owned and occupied by Mrs. Fannie W. Roland.

member of the Pettit's Creek Farmers' Club, an organization similar to the Euharlee Farmers' Club. And he raised a variety of corn deemed to prolific and so weevil resistant that his great grandson, the late Milton Jackson, once a Cartersville Realtor, planted some of the strain each year.

Always interested in education, he was a member of the board of trustees of Sam Jones Female College, where the cornerstone was laid in 1887.

Zimri Jackson died of a heart attack May 20, 1892, while seated at the breakfast table of his Cassville Road home. He left his widow and five sons to mourn his passing, and he is buried in Cassville cemetery.

Many descendants of Zimri are still living today in Bartow County. A partial listing of this family can be found in The History of Bartow County, Georgia/Formerly Cass by Lucy Cunyus.

It is possible that the Jackson's built other residences in Cartersville that are not topped with big gables. Certainly, some of their handiwork has been destroyed, as was the "Villa" of the Fredericks family.

But any time one sees around Cartersville a two story house with one, two or three bold gables forming part of the second story and fancy millwork around the porch and eaves, he can almost be assured that the Jackson brothers built the home back in the third quarter of the 19th century.

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Article contributed by DiAnne Smith Monroe and Joe Myers.

VAUGHAN CABIN

The Vaughan Cabin is about to be reassembled at Red Top Mountain State Park. Plans are in place to begin erecting the cabin this month. Any EVHS member desiring to be involved in this construction project should contact Guy Parmenter at 382-0500 (work). A special thanks should go to EVHS member, Frederick Knight, for his donation of cutting replacement logs. Less than 5% of the original logs were found to be rotten and in need of replacement. Your Society is a big part of this preservation project and will remain so. Donations of money, manpower and eventually, period furnishing will all be appreciated.

Thank you Susan Taylor
for the excellent job you
do with this newsletter!

NEW MEMBERS NEEDED

DiAnne Monroe is to be congratulated for the excellent job she has done promoting membership. In the last six months over 100 new members have joined. DiAnne has been conducting a very successful direct mail solicitation program using, in part, lists of prospective members supplied by many of you. An invitation to join is mailed, followed by mailings of brochures and sample newsletters if needed. Please help DiAnne by supplying her with names of friends that you feel might like to become a member of the Etowah Valley Historical Society. We find that many people are just waiting to be asked.

DiAnne's address is P. O. Box 200622, Cartersville, Georgia 30120.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Our Society will soon have an office in the 1903 Courthouse, thanks to the very active Historic Preservation Committee. Dianne Tate and her committee have been staying in close contact with County Commissioner, Clarence Brown and County Administrator, Steve Bradley.

With the office comes responsibility, such as guided tours within the Courthouse, disseminating information to visitors and cleaning and preserving many of the old records remaining there.

The office, located off the main lobby entrance, is presently undergoing restoration. Once ready for occupancy, numerous volunteers will be needed to keep the office open on a regular basis. Please contact any member of the Committee to get involved. Besides Dianne, committee members include, Susan Alexander, Lizette Entwisle, Frank Entwisle, Lynn Henderson, Carolyn Parmenter and Emily Champion.

ALLATOONA PASS

Plans are currently underway to highlight the history of Allatoona Pass and make it more accessible to the public. Trails and interpretive signs will be constructed so that visitors may enjoy the beauty of the area while learning more about the historic battle fought there on October 5, 1864.

Society members Larry Gregory, Diane Mooney, Guy Parmenter and J. B. Tate met with U. S. Army Corp of Engineer officials in February. A follow-up meeting was held in April and included those EVHS members previously named plus: David Grabensteder, Resource Manager; Carl Ethridge, Ranger and EVHS member; Robert Gentry, Ranger; Jerry Nielson and Donna Gibbons, Corps Archaeologists from Mobile; Tom Bott, Georgia Civil War Resource Manager for the Department of Natural Resources; and Chip Morgan, Archaeologist for the Department of Natural Resources.

All participants are extremely excited about this joint project and are eager to begin. However, actual work on the Pass will begin only after many more months of planning and final approval from the Corps.

1868 GRAND JURY PRESENTMENTS

Editors Note: The following information was taken from the October 16, 1868 edition of The Cartersville Express.

.....
We the Grand Jurors, chosen, selected, and sworn for the first week of the September term of the Superior Court of Bartow County, make the following presentments:

We find upon examination, that the books of all the county officers are correctly and neatly kept, with the exception of books of the Tax Collector.

The Books of the Tax Collector are kept in such a manner that it was hardly possible for the Jury to come to any definite conclusion as to how that officer has performed his duty. The Jury finds him with considerable funds belonging to the County in his possession, which should have been paid over long since, and that he has a great many executions for taxes, many of which are perfectly good. We therefore recommend that this Officer be proceeded against, as the law in such cases directs.

As the Jury system is now arranged, it is utterly impossible for the Grand Jury to examine the records and books of the County properly and attend to the other duties that naturally devolves upon them.

We therefore think that it would be to the interest of the County to appoint some competent person with a sufficient salary, to examine into the Books, records, and affairs of the County generally, and report at each term of the Court, the result of such examinations. It is our firm conviction that the County would benefit by this operation, as there are a great many leaks at which the County funds flow—and flow freely. We recommend that such appointment be made by the Court.

Upon examination we find, that the Court House, which is being built, progresses slowly towards completion. This Jury recommends that a reasonable length of time be given to the contractors to finish the building, and if not completed within the given length of time, that they be proceeded against according to law.

We find, that the Jail is not kept as well as it should be, and that the prisoners are not cared for as the law requires.

We find that the public roads generally, are in bad condition, and that the law directing that the public roads should be posted, sign-boards put up, and that the rates of toll of Ferries and Bridges should be placed in some

conspicuous place, has been generally, neglected. We recommend that the commissioners of all roads, that have not been worked properly, have it done within thirty days, or be fined to the extent of the law, and that sign-boards be put up and posted, commencing at the Court House.

We return our thanks to his Honor, Judge Parrott, for the able, energetic, and impartial manner in which he has discharged the duties of his office and his courteous attention to this body. We also return our thanks to the Solicitor General, for his politeness and attention. All of which is respectfully submitted: John L. Wikle, Foreman; Andrew F. Woolley, Robert H. Rowland, William H. Taff, Samuel P. Hawkins, James M. Smith, William K. Miles, John E. Worsham, Benjamin E. Rutledge, John Posey, David A. Vaughn, John G. Lynn, Monroe Goodson, John W. Callahan,

Hiram H. Holmes, Erastus V. Johnson, John W. Shepherd, Lyman A. Chapman, Robert Scott, Thomas Stephens.

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We the Grand Jurors, chosen, selected, and sworn, for the second and third week of the September term of the Superior Court of Bartow County, make the following presentments:

We fully endorse the presentments of the Grand Jury of the preceding week and would amend the presentment in relation to posting the roads, erecting sign-boards, and boards with rates of toll for Ferries and Bridges, by recommending that a sufficient sum of money be appropriated by the County to defray the expenses thereto.

We find that the Bridge over Petit's Creek, and know as the Harris Bridge on Rowland's Ferry Road, and the Bridge over Mansfield's Creek, on the Rolling Mill Road, both need repairing, and would recommend that so much of the lumber as is found suitable in the old bridge over Petit's Creek on the Cassville Road, be used in such repairs.

We recommend that the Ordinary be authorized to sell the Court House lot and Jail lot, in the former town of Cassville, together, with the brick thereon, at public sale, and the proceeds be applied to County purposes.

We recommend that the County purchase a suitable piece of land on which to build a poor-house, which tract of land shall not contain less than one hundred and sixty acres, or more than two hundred and forty acres, and at

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Grand Jury Presentments Continued

a cost, not to exceed three thousand dollars, and also erect suitable buildings at a cost, not to exceed fifteen hundred dollars. We also recommend that two commissioners be appointed by the Ordinary, to assist him in the selection and purchase of the land, and the planning of the buildings, and said committee be paid two dollars per day while engaged in the performance of the work, also that the Ordinary be instructed to make one third cash payments on the purchase of the land and the erection of the buildings, the balance to be paid in two installments, as by agreements between the parties.

We recommend the levying of the following tax:

Twenty-five per cent for general County purposes; twenty-five per cent for Poor-House purposes; twelve and a half per cent for Jury purposes; and twelve and a half per cent for the indigent poor; making, in the aggregate, seventy-five per cent on the State tax.

We recommend that the per diem of Jurors be increased to two dollars, in consideration of the additional duties imposed on them by the new Constitution, and that this recommendation date from the commencement of the September term of this court, and that Jury tickets be receivable for County taxes.

We recommend that the Ordinary purchase a suitable Iron Safe for the use of the County Treasurer, and have a room paneled within the bar for the use of the Solicitor General.

On examination of the Jail, we find that our efficient Sheriff has done as much for the comfort of the inmates as is possible, under the circumstances.

We find that the Passenger Coaches are well supplied with lights, water and fire, and are neatly kept.

We recommend that the presentments of the Grand Jury for the three weeks of the September term of Court, be published in the County paper.

We respectfully solicit his Honor, Judge J. R. Parrott, to furnish the Editor of the Cartersville Express a copy of his able charge to the Grand Jury, for publication.

We return our thanks to his Honor, J. R. Parrott, for his manly and able exposition and defense of the law, and in common with all good citizens will sustain him in the discharge of his duties.

We also return our thanks to the Solicitor General, Col. C. E. Broyles, for his uniform courtesy and attention to this body.

All of which is respectfully submitted: Nelson Gilreath, Foreman; Charles U. Mayson, Secretary; Duncan Murchison; William W. Myers; Frederick A. Boston; James C. Jones; Elliott Moore; Wingfield Gillam; William H. Lucas; Tillman F. Bridges; Samuel M. Norrell; William W. Cotton; Reaben F. Ellis; Francis

M. Johnson; John L. Wikle; William P. Milam; James W. Manly; Duncan G. Campbell, Christopher Dodd.
Bartow Superior Court, September Term, 1868

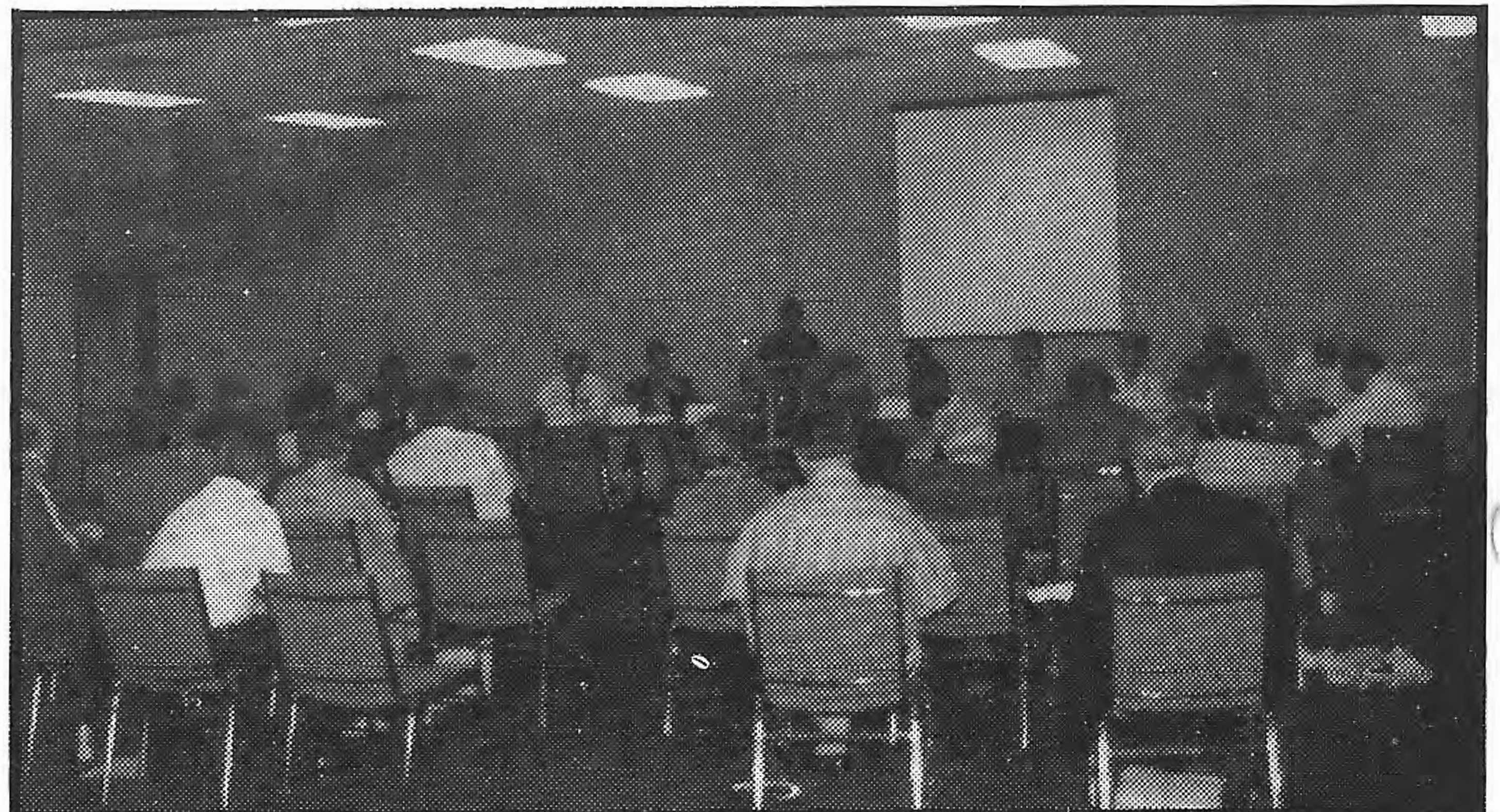
Submitted by Jean Bishop Cochran

CIVIL WAR COMMISSION MEETS IN BARTOW COUNTY

The EVHS was honored to serve as host for the April 30th meeting of the Georgia Civil War Commission. The meeting began promptly at 9:00 a.m. and adjourned shortly after noon. In addition to the meeting room at the Red Top Mountain Lodge, morning refreshments were provided by the Society. Representing the EVHS, J. B. Tate welcomed the Commission to Bartow County and gave a ten minute presentation on local Civil War sites. Attending the meeting from our Society were J. B. Tate, who served as project chairman, Larry Gregory, Guy Parmenter, Bob Crowe, DiAnne Monroe, Diane Mooney and Dennis Mooney.

One of the highlights of the meeting was a story told by Commission member Ollie Keller of Atlanta. He gave an entertaining talk about the fate of the Confederate Treasury and the Richmond Bank Treasury. Another highlight included Chip Morgan, State Archaeologist, who praised the Society's efforts at Allatoona Pass as a model program of cooperation between the Federal Government and a non-profit organization. Also, Lonice C. Barrett, Georgia Director of Parks, Recreation and Historic Sites was on hand to discuss recent developments at Pickett's Mill.

Following lunch, many members of the Commission elected to take a tour of the following locations: Allatoona Pass, Clayton House, Cooper's Furnace, Stilesboro Academy, Malbone and Valley View.



MEMBERSHIP MEETING

April 26, 1994

The Etowah Valley Historical Society met at the Bartow County Library on April 26, 1994. Approximately forty people were in attendance at 7:00 p.m. for what proved to be an enjoyable and informative meeting. President Larry Gregory presided over the meeting welcoming members and guests.

Dianne Tate, Historic Awareness Chairperson, reported on our new room at the 1903 Courthouse and the renovations underway. This room will serve as an office and is located on the first floor off the main lobby. Volunteers are needed to help clean and organize. Many more volunteers will be needed to staff the office, keeping it open to provide visitor information and to conduct guided tours of the court house.

J. B. Tate reminded those present that the Society is hosting the Georgia Civil War Commission this Saturday at Red Top Mountain Lodge. The public is invited to attend. J. B. also announced that the Cartersville Music Club will present a special program May 16 at Heritage Baptist Church. A band from Rome specializing in Civil War music will be performing. Dorothy Ann Roth is working with J. B. to sort out documents previously belonging to Lucy Cunyus Mulcahy. Many of these will be preserved and displayed by the EVHS.

Guy Parmenter reminded those present that newsletter binders were still available for \$5 each. Drop by his office or call him at 382-0500 to obtain yours.

Guy also gave praise for Joe Head's fantastic article about the Great Locomotive Chase in Bartow County in the March newsletter. Congratulations were given to

J. B. Tate for his work on the "CROSSROADS" program, "CCC & WPA". Others participating were Joe Myers, Olin Tatum and Woodrow Bradley. Other "CROSSROADS" programs being produced are "The Lost Community of Etowah and The Iron Industry", "The Great Locomotive Chase in Bartow County" and "World War II and the Home Front".

Stan Bearden presented our program for the evening. He is employed by New Riverside Ochre Company as a geologist. Stan did an excellent job speaking about the history of mining in Bartow County and what the future holds for the mining industry here.

Rosemary Clabo, Secretary



Stan Bearden addressing EVHS members.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Dr. & Mrs. Zim Choate
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Frisbee
Mr. Michael Garland
Mr. & Mrs. Warren Gaylord
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Frank Harris
Mrs. J. Thomas Keim
Mrs. Ross Whatley
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wilson

CARTERSVILLE'S CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS "HISTORIC TOUR HOMES"

The EVHS will host a candlelight tour of homes on Saturday, December 10th. This is quite an undertaking and will need a "cast of thousands" to make this a successful event. Details are still being ironed out, but locations will include properties on West Main Street and Cherokee Avenue. Featured this year are the 1903 Bartow County Courthouse, the Jerry Benton home, the Irick-Ascension home, the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, the First Presbyterian Church, the Strickland-Thacker home (Grand Oaks), the Stephen Dobson home and Roselawn.

The tour will begin at the 1903 Courthouse, where tickets and brochures may be obtained. The walking tour will be marked by luminaries and volunteers will be posted along the route and at each site.

Again, this project will need many volunteers. Watch for the "Help Wanted" ads later this year. Many thanks to the Historic Preservation Committee for another great idea. Where do they get all this energy?

CROSSROADS

The episode now being featured is "World War II and the Home Front". Herschel Wisebram can be seen interviewing Bill Wofford in the cockpit of a B-17. Guy Parmenter interviews Sidney Jolly and Lib Jackson about the Home Front in Bartow County. Ken Floyd tells of his exploits aboard the aircraft carrier, USS Hornet. This is another fine program in the "CROSSROADS" series produced by the Etowah Valley Historical Society and Cablevision Channel 4.



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