

## **Appendix 4A**

### **Calhoun County Historical Markers Locations and Text**

#### **Savany Hunt**

*Address/Location: U.S. Hwy. 21, 20 mi. N of St. Matthews; marker has been removed and stored at SCDAH.*

This stream was originally called Savannah Hunt, but German-speaking settlers about 1740 corrupted the first word and Savany Hunt became the permanent name.

#### **Sandy Run Church -- Christian Theus**

*Address/Location: 1927 Old State Rd. (U.S. Hwy. 176)*

This Lutheran church, one of the oldest in the state, is thought to have been organized ca. 1765. By 1774, the Rev. Lewis Hochheimer was minister here. The church was incorporated 1788 as "The German Lutheran Church of Salem, on Sandy Run" and located at the present site by 1806. The SC Synod has met here several times. Buried in this cemetery is the Reverend Christian Theus, whose grave was moved here in 1932 from its original location near the Reformed Lutheran Church of the Congarees, once standing about 7 miles northwest in old Saxe-Gotha Township. From 1739 to 1789, Theus was pastor of the Congarees church and also the local school teacher.

#### **Mt. Carmel Baptist Church**

*Address/Location: 1887 Old Belleville Rd., St. Matthews vicinity*

Organized in 1870 by freed slaves, this Baptist congregation is said to have first met in a brush arbor before temporarily worshipping in the balcony of nearby Buckhead Baptist Church, the later disbanded congregation of their former owners. In 1871, six founding trustees acquired a 1-ac. lot at this site "to be used for the erection of a Church building." The first pastor of Mount Carmel Baptist Church was Rev. Joseph Michael (1837-1896), a farmer like many early members, who served until his death. For a century, the church performed baptisms in the creek 500 ft. NE, rights to which were granted them in the original deed. A cornerstone was laid in 1926. The church was brick-veneered in the mid-1970s.

#### **Fort Motte Rosenwald School Site**

*Address/Location: Fort Motte Rd., W of Spigner Rd., Fort Motte*

This site was the location of the Fort Motte Rosenwald School, one of two built in Calhoun County between 1924 and 1926. With support from the Julius Rosenwald Fund, the white and Black communities covered the \$3,700 total cost of the two-teacher building. The school was built for African American children in the Fort Motte community. At least three previous schools have been located in this general vicinity. The first was an early 1900s public school, which was replaced by the Rosenwald School. The last was Fort Motte Elementary, a brick "separate but equal" school built c.1956 for grades 1-8. A few years after the 1970-71 desegregation of Calhoun Co. schools, the school at this site was closed.

#### **St. John Good Samaritan Lodge Hall and Cemetery**

*Address/Location: S.C. Hwy. 419, directly across from Mt. Pisgah A.M.E. Church, Fort Motte*

St. John Good Samaritan Lodge Hall and Cemetery were established c. 1900 on land sold by Jack Johnson. Among the early trustees was S.C. Senator Samuel Duncan. African American families buried here include Brown, Duncan, Green, Hanes, Lemon, McDuffie, Patterson, Slaffey, Spann, Stewart, Stuart, and Wright. African American benevolent and fraternal societies grew in number during the late 19th century as a way of providing support to members in times of need. Many also sponsored church

construction and maintained cemeteries. They also supported education and “The Hall” served as a school through the late 1920s.

### **British Outpost at Belleville Plantation/Col. William Thomson**

*Address/Location: W side of U.S. Hwy. 601, 1/4 mi. S of Congaree River, Fort Motte vicinity*

West of the highway is the site of Belleville, a plantation on the banks of the Congaree River owned by William Thomson. Soon after the Siege of Charleston (1780), British forces took possession of Belleville and fortified it into a strategic outpost. They evacuated it in 1781 when Patriots took nearby Ft. Motte. William Thomson (c.1727-1796) was a local Patriot leader who commanded the 3rd S.C. Regiment (Rangers). His regiment played a key role at the Battle of Sullivan’s Island (1776), an early major Patriot victory of the American Revolution. Known to his men as “Old Danger,” Thomson also served in the colonial S.C. and state legislatures. He lived most of his life at nearby Belleville Plantation.

### **Lang Syne Cemetery**

*Address/Location: Near the intersection of Old Lang Syne Rd. and Adams Rd., Fort Motte vicinity*

Established by the Peterkin family c. 1905, buried here are many former slaves and their descendants. Among those interred here are African American inhabitants of Lang Syne depicted in Julia Mood Peterkin’s novels: Mary Weeks Bryant (Scarlett Sister Mary), Daniel Anderson (Bree-dee), Louvenia Berry (Maum Vinner), Anniker Spann Bryant (Maum Aneky), and Hannah Jefferson (Maum Hannah). Several graves are marked by Holley Burial Aid Society tombstones. The area around the cemetery was also known as Sunday School Woods because it was the place where slaves from Lang Syne met for religious worship. Near here is Lang Syne School, the plantation’s slave cemetery, known as The Yard, the African American Bellville Cemetery, and the Heatley-Dulles-Cheves-McCord family cemetery.

### **St. Matthew’s Parish**

*Address/Location: 1164 Fort Motte Rd., Fort Motte*

St. Matthew’s Parish was established by the S.C. Colonial Assembly between 1765 and 1768. The first of four church buildings was erected in Amelia Township c. 1765. The parish church was incorporated by the S.C. General Assembly in 1788 as the Vestry and Church Wardens of the Parish of St. Matthew. The current sanctuary, known for many years as “The Red Church,” was built in 1852.

### **Congaree River Ferries**

*Address/Location: U.S. Hwy. 601, near crossing of Bates Old River, Lower Richland County*

Joseph Joyner owned a private ferry on the Congaree River near this site by 1749. John McCord’s private ferry succeeded Joyner’s by 1757, becoming public in 1766 by statute. A route from Charleston to Camden crossed the river at McCord’s Ferry. Due to its strategic location, the ferry figured in actions on the south side of the river during the Revolutionary War. As the river cut a new channel, isolating the oxbow lake now called Bates Old River, a second ferry was chartered in 1845. This ferry was operated by the Bates family from the Civil War until bridges replaced both crossings in the 1920s. U.S. Hwy. 601 crosses the old river west of the McCord’s Ferry site and the Congaree River two miles downriver from the former Bates Ferry site.

### **True Blue Cemetery**

*Address/Location: True Blue Rd. (State Rd. S-9-132), between S.C. Hwy. 601 and Fort Motte Rd. (State Rd. S-9-25), Fort Motte vicinity*

True Blue cemetery was established as the burial ground for slaves, former slaves, and their descendants from True Blue Indigo Plantation (c. 1700), as well as the Singleton, Hanes, Weinges (Winsey) Street, and Fort Motte communities. This cemetery also served as the original burial ground for

nearby Mt. Zion, Mt. Salem, and Jerusalem (Ancestors of True Blue) Baptist Churches. Those buried here are members of the Brizz, Brown, Cannon, Cokley, Colter, Garner, Glover, Heyward, Jones, Kirkland, Lavan, Logan, Milligan, Mitchell, Moultrie, Mosely, Owens, Palmer, Ravanel, Sasportas, Scott, Snipes, Switzer, Turquand (Turkvan), and White families. Some graves are marked by field stones while others have Holley Burial Aid Society tombstones.

### **Oakland Cemetery**

*Address/Location: New Bethany Rd., Fort Motte vicinity*

This cemetery was named for nearby Oakland Plantation (c. 1800), the home of William Sabb Thomson (1785-1841), a planter and state senator. This cemetery served as the original burial grounds for Mt. Pleasant Church (1867) and New Bethany Church (1914). Buried here are former slaves who organized Mt. Pleasant and New Bethany Churches and their descendants. Families buried here include Bartley, Bates, Brown, Buckman, Cheeseboro, Davis, Esaw, Fogle, Ford, Glover, Gold, Goodwine, Govan, Green, Hart, Heatley, James, Keitt, Lomas, Lucas, Major, Miller, Morant, Noble, Pinckney, Reese, Seawright, Smith, Stewart, Stuart, Taylor, Wallace, Wolfe, and Wright. Fieldstones and Holley Burial Aid Society tombstones mark several graves.

### **Mount Pleasant Baptist Church**

*Address/Location: Fort Motte Rd. (S.C. Hwy. 419) near Adams Rd. (S.C. Sec. Rd. 9-80), Fort Motte*

The first church built by African Americans at Fort Motte grew out of services held by slaves at nearby Bellville, Goshen, Lang Syne, and Oakland plantations. It was formally organized in 1867 by Caleb Bartley, Israel Cheeseborough, Cudjo Cunningham, Anderson Keitt, William McCrae, John Spann, and Harry Stuart. Rev. S.A. Evans, the first minister, was succeeded by Rev. Henry Duncan, who served until his death in 1905. The sanctuary, built in 1869 on land donated by Augustus T. and Louisa McCord Smythe, was remodeled in the 1970s and the 1990s. Mount Pleasant School educated students here from the 1870s into the 1920s.

### **First Land Granted in Calhoun County Area**

*Address/Location: S.C. Hwy. 6, about 4 mi. SE of St. Matthews*

George Sterling was granted 570 acres of land here on March 14, 1704. During the lifetime of his daughter, Mary Sterling Heatly Russell, the plantation was a stopping place for Indians and travelers on the Cherokee Path. The Rev. John Giessendanner held early religious services in the house (1750-1754).

### **Shady Grove Church**

*Address/Location: Cameron Rd. (S.C. Hwy. 33), 3 mi. NE of Cameron*

Shady Grove Methodist Church was an outgrowth of Tabernacle Church, the parent Methodist body of this area. It was built in the early 1800s on land of Adam Holman, has a framework of hewn logs held together with wooden pegs, and has been remodeled three times. Ministers of Orangeburg Circuit, St. Matthews Circuit, and Cameron Charge have served Shady Grove.

### **Pine Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church**

*Address/Location: 2688 McCord's Ferry Rd., Lone Star*

In 1841, St. Matthews Lutheran Church (5 mi. W) directed Rev. J.P. Margart to begin holding services in the nearby Pine Grove community. On September 27, 1847, congregants formally organized as Pine Grove Lutheran Church. They moved to this site during the pastorate of Rev. W.A. Houck (1854-1869). The first church on this site was a frame building. Its nave contained a rear section for those enslaved to various church members. The current church was built in the 1890s under the pastorate of Rev. J.D. Bowles. The previous structure was demolished to expand the church cemetery, which opened in 1874.

### **Good Hope Picnic**

*Address/Location: McCord's Ferry Rd. (S.C. Hwy. 267), Lone Star vicinity, between Lone Star and Ellore*

The Good Hope Picnic, a celebration of the end of the planting season, is the oldest African-American event in the Lone Star community. Founded in August 1915 by farmers to market their produce and held on the second Friday in August, it has often included games and music. Members of several African-American churches in and around Lone Star helped found the picnic and still support it.

### **Camp Harry E. Daniels**

*Address/Location: Camp Daniels Rd., 1/2 mi. E of State Rd. S-9-203, Ellore vicinity*

Opened in 1949, this 4-H camp for African American youth was named for state extension leader Harry Daniels (1894-1944). Fundraising and planning was led by extension leaders E.N. Williams, W. Johnson, G.W. Dean, M.B. Paul, and M. Price, with help from farm and home agents and 4-H members. The 267-acre camp included a dining hall, barracks, a lake, bath houses, and athletic fields. When in operation, this was S.C.'s only 4-H camp for African Americans, hundreds of whom visited here each summer from around the state. Campers rotated weekly by counties from June to August. They participated in farm and home demonstrations, recreational activities, and leadership and citizenship programs. Camp Harry E. Daniels closed in 1964 after the signing of the Civil Rights Act.

### **Mt. Lebanon Cemetery**

*Address/Location: Mt. Lebanon Rd., just SW of its intersection with Old State Rd. (U.S. Hwy. 176)*

This is the original site of Mt. Lebanon Lutheran Church, organized January 13, 1844, as an extension of the St. Matthew's Church, Creston. Later, Mt. Lebanon Church moved to Cameron about 2 miles NW, dedicated its new building in 1917, and was renamed the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection. The congregation maintains the old cemetery here.

### **Jericho Methodist Church Mile and a Half East**

*Address/Location: Intersection of U.S. Hwy. 176 and Jericho Rd., 2.5 mi. S of Cameron*

Bishop Francis Asbury stopped in this region in 1801 and 1803. About 1811, a congregation was organized and by 1815 Jericho Meeting House was standing on land given by Jacob Felkel. The present building there was apparently erected before 1850. A low partition separating the men and women and a slave gallery were removed in 1890 and a porch was added. Two annexes were built later.

### **St. Matthews C.T.S. Site**

*Address/Location: 125 Herlong Ave., St. Matthews*

St. Matthews County Training School (C.T.S.), one of two Rosenwald Schools in Calhoun County, was built on this 4-acre site. The 1924 brick school building cost \$13,500 and was paid for by public funds, monies raised by local African Americans, and the Julius Rosenwald Fund. The five-teacher building featured a hipped roof, central entrance, and banks of windows. As a C.T.S., it was centrally located to serve students from throughout Calhoun County. St. Matthews C.T.S. offered special training for rural African American teachers and the Tuskegee model of industrial education. As a forerunner to modern high schools, a C.T.S. offered 2-3 years of advanced vocational training, mainly in agriculture and home economics. In 1949, the school was renamed for longtime principal John A. Ford (1889-1956). In 1954, the campus became Guinyard Elementary after a new high school was built.

### **West End Public Library**

*Address/Location: 1708 Calhoun Rd., St. Matthews*

In 1950, West End Calhoun County Library opened in a rented 4-room building off Clahoun Road to serve Black residents of Calhoun County. It was organized by local African Americans, who sought Calhoun Co. Public Library (CCPL) support to help secure resources. Its collection of 3,000 books originated from those given in 1937 by Rev. J.L.C. Riley of Lone Star to a library service run by the Works Progress Administration. To provide a larger, more permanent facility for the library, a concrete block building was built here in 1960 on a lot owned by the Calhoun Co. Colored Teachers Association. Funded by a legislative appropriation, the 936-sq. ft. structure cost \$6,500 and could house 8,000 books. West End became a CCPL branch library after desegregation. It closed in 1996 after the retirement of its longtime librarian, Hennie Owens Parker.

### **John Ford High School**

*Address/Location: 304 Agnes St., St. Matthews*

In 1954, this became the new site of John Ford High School, a segregated school for African Americans. Previously known as St. Matthews Colored School and located on Herlong Ave., it was renamed for longtime principal John Andrew Ford (1889-1956) in 1949. The campus constructed here was funded by the state equalization program, an effort to preserve segregation by upgrading African American schools. John Ford High School was an important social center for the Black community in St. Matthews. It remained all-Black until 1970, when a federal judge ordered Calhoun County School District 1 to desegregate. This campus subsequently became John Ford Middle School, which closed in 2009. In 2014, the facility reopened as the John Ford Community Center. Only the gymnasium and shop remain of the original school.

### **Calhoun County**

*Address/Location: Calhoun County Courthouse, S. Railroad Ave.*

First settled in 1704, this region by 1733 included Amelia and lower Saxe Gotha townships. In 1765 much of it was made part of the new St. Matthew's Parish and was so named until 1865. Efforts in 1890 and 1896 led to an act signed on Feb. 14, 1908, forming a new county from parts of Orangeburg and Lexington, named for John C. Calhoun.

### **Bethel A.M.E. Church and School**

*Address/Location: 410 S. Railroad Ave., St. Matthews*

Bethel A.M.E. Church was established in 1865 and held its early services under a brush arbor. Bethel was the first A.M.E. Church in Lewisville (now St. Matthews). Trustees Robin Amaker, Jack Dantzler, and Frank Keitt purchased land from Jacob G. Keitt to build the first permanent sanctuary and school house in 1867. The church was dedicated in June 1867 with Rev. Abraham J.C. Hamilton serving as the first pastor. The Freedmen's Bureau contributed \$250 to aid in the construction of a school for use by African American students. Known originally as the African Methodist Episcopal Church School, it was later renamed Bethel School. Mary Spiessegger was the first teacher, followed soon after by Charlotte S. Riley in Oct. 1867. The school served African American students from 1867 until the early 20th century.