

INTRODUCTION TO MOUNT OLIVET CHURCH OF CHRIST CEMETERY

The Mount Olivet Church of Christ was established in 1911. The first marked grave in the cemetery is dated 1913. Mount Olivet is located in the far southern part of Greene County and is less than half a mile from the Coker County line. The area is very rural and has a number of designated "Century Farms".

Many of the persons interred in the Church Cemetery actually lived in Coker County after their arrival from North Carolina. The Church has an active congregation and is beautifully maintained.

The land for the Church was donated by James Mooneyham. The founding members included Lorenzo B. Tweed (1851-1936) and his wife, Amanda Belle "Polly" Roberts Tweed (1855-1925) who furnished the money to build the Church, and Amanda's brother, Richard S. Dewitt Roberts (1870-1958) and his wife, Elnora "Ellen Nora" Renner Roberts (1867-1956), who constructed the Church building. The Tweed and Roberts families came from Shelton Laurel, Madison County, North Carolina. Several generations of these founding members, their in-laws and extended family members are buried in the Church cemetery.

It becomes apparent when looking at death certificates that tombstones were often placed some years after a death occurred. On the accompanying cemetery transcription, you will see a number of "remarks" when the dates (both dates of birth and dates of death) on tombstones do not agree with the information on the actual death certificates. This is an indication that memories had faded after some time had passed before the departed's grave was marked with a tombstone.

There are a considerable number of unmarked graves in this relatively small cemetery. Many babies and children were interred without tombstones. Several young men who died in tragic accidents were also buried here in now unmarked graves. A thorough search as was possible was made to identify those buried without tombstones, but of course it can only be presumed that an unknown number of people could not be identified.

I am grateful to Mr. John L. B. Renner, the long time caretaker of the cemetery, whose memory of long past interments is un failing and goes back more than 70 years. Mr. Renner is the grandson and namesake of the Church founders Lorenzo B. and Amanda Bell Roberts Tweed.

In this, the centennial year, of the founding of Mount Olivet Church of Christ, the Greene County Genealogical Society is pleased to publish the transcription of the cemetery and to offer our sincere congratulations in this celebratory year.