

Smith-Anderson-Hubbard Family Reunion



The Down Home Crew; copyright 2012



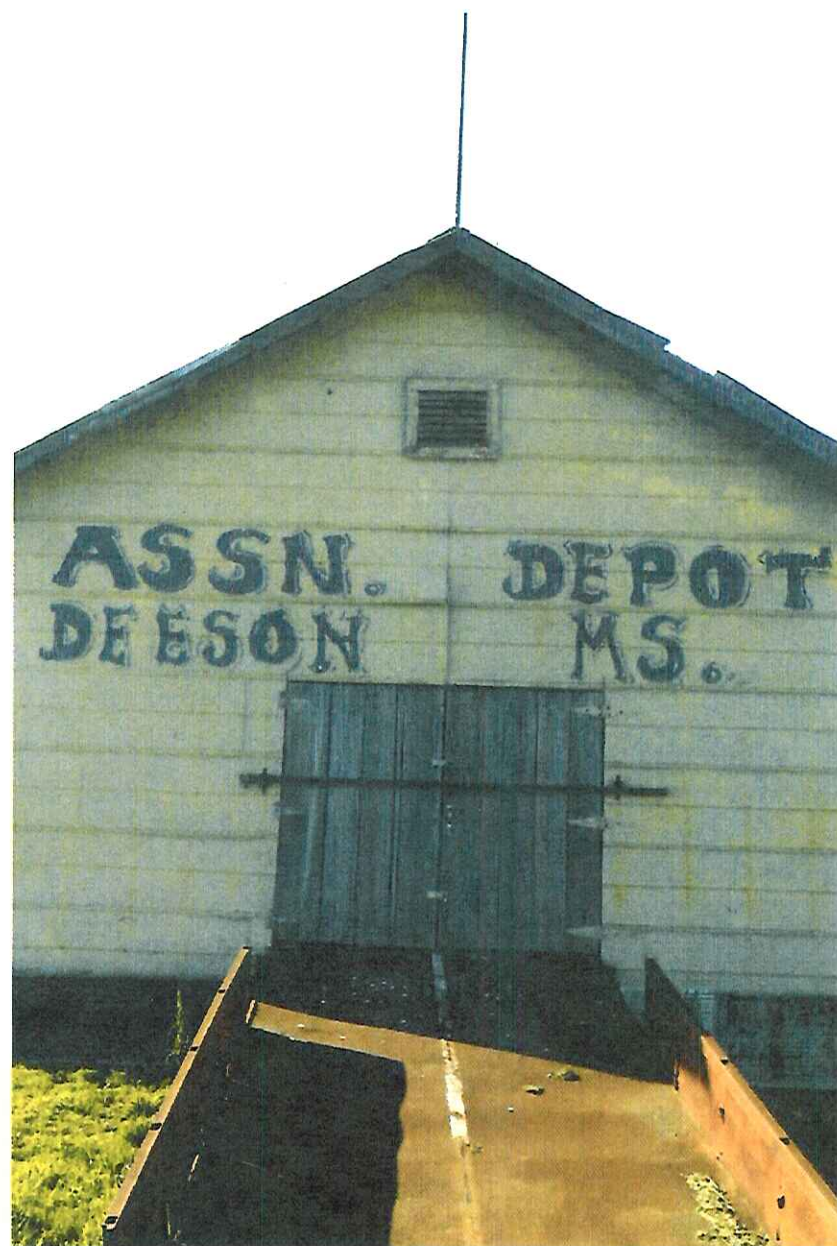
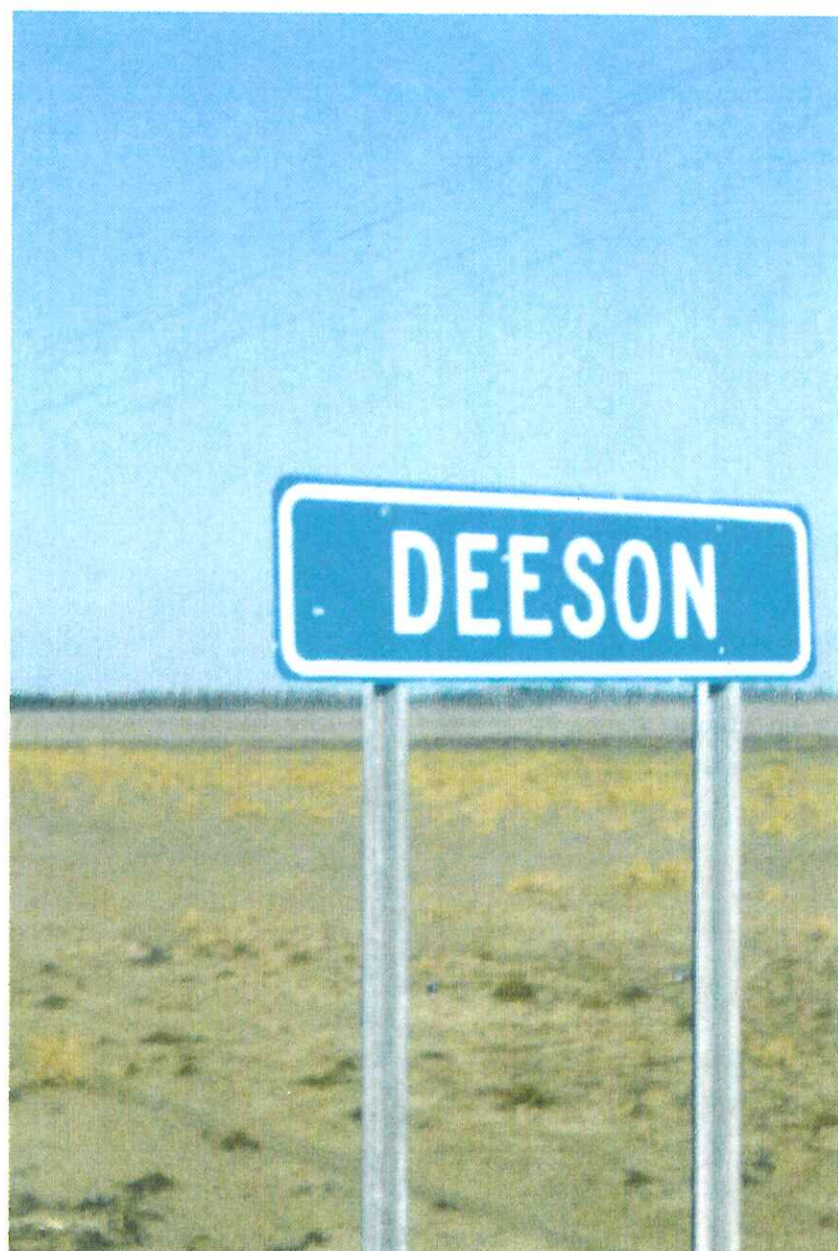
Hometown of the Smith Brothers

Birth Place of the 5 Brothers

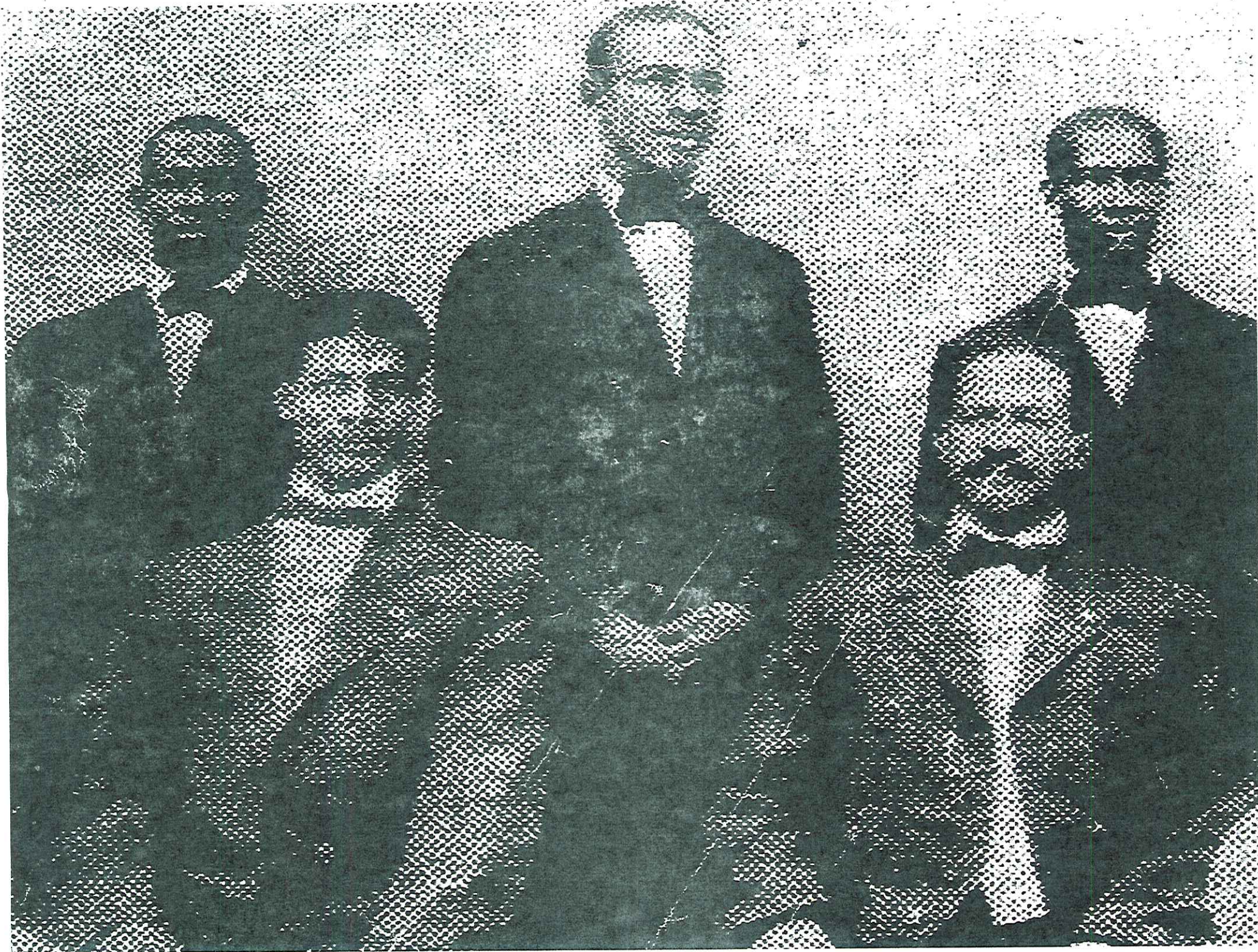
Deeson, Mississippi is the home of William, Perry, Arthur, Moses and Walter Smith.

Deeson is a populated place, located in Bolivar County. It is 19 miles northwest of Mound Bayou and 26.5 miles northwest of Renova, Mississippi.

The Smith Boys moved to Renova, Mississippi in 1906.



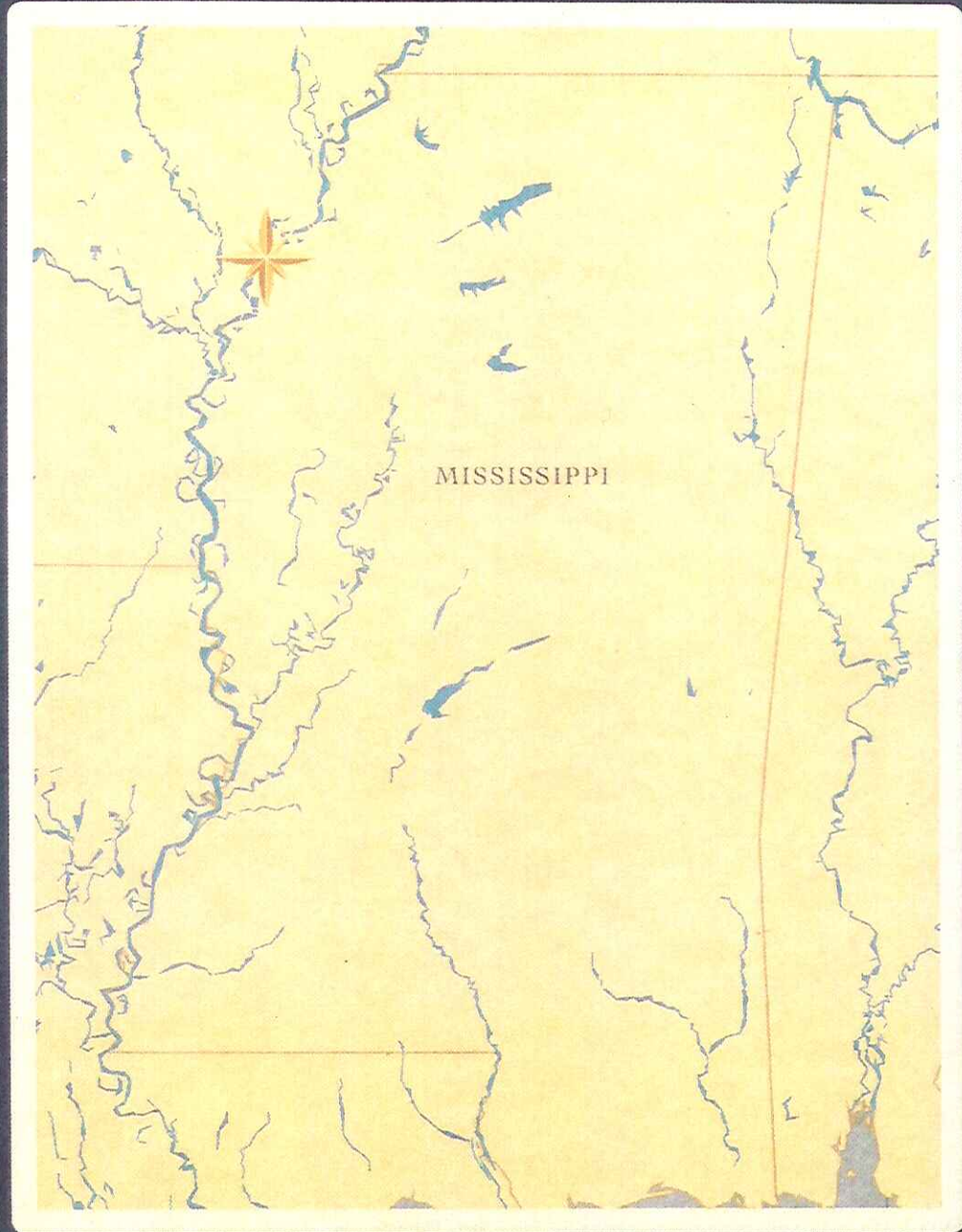
Deeson, Mississippi



Smith Brothers

OUR HERITAGE

The Smith Brothers moved to Renova MS in 1906. Renova is located two miles north of Cleveland and 6 miles south of Mound Bayou. G. O Ousley was the primary and founder of the town and his home was the first to be built. Mr. Carver owned a large saw mill, that gave the town its name of Renova.





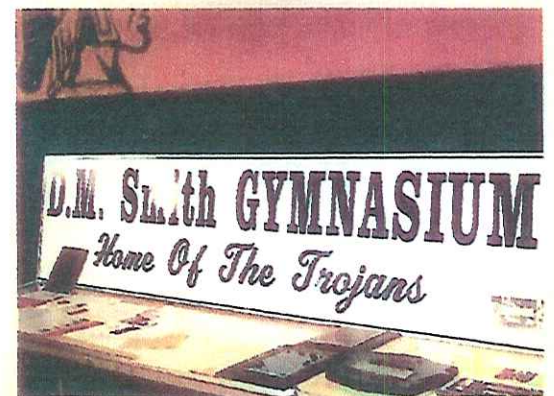
Matthew and Lettie Anderson
Matthew 1888 – 1973 ---- Lettie 1889 - 1951

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Matthew 1888 – 1973 ---- Lettie 1889 - 1951

Matthew Scott Anderson was one of 16 children born to the late Reverend and Mrs. Daniel Anderson. Matthew's father, Reverend Daniel Anderson possessed amazing talent as a horse doctor. This talent was in great demand during the time when animal power was in such great demand in the operation of farms. Rev. Anderson taught this invaluable trait to his son, Matthew, who fostered his father's legacy and also became a very efficient animal doctor.

Matthew married Lettie Williams in 1913 and to this union 16 children were born: After moving his family moved from Lexington, MS to Mound Bayou, MS Matthew became one of the early employees of the Taborian Hospital and joined St. Mark Church of God in Christ. His life of service gained him lasting friendships.



H. M. Nailor Elementary School has played an integral part in the early education of numerous members of the Smith-Anderson - Hubbard family.

In 1939, a new black school was erected and the Cleveland Separate School District was created. The school was known as the Cleveland Colored Consolidated School.

In 1944, Daniel M. Smith, a graduate of Tuskegee Institute and an acquaintance of George Washington Carver, moved to Cleveland to teach agriculture at the Colored Consolidated School.

In 1951, H.M. Nailor Elementary School, a grammar school for blacks was built. D. M. Smith became superintendent of the Colored Consolidated School in 1954, the year of Brown vs. Topeka Board of Education. Verna Jean Smith was among the early teachers.

H.M. Nailor remained the only black grammar school in Cleveland until 1977 when Cypress Park Elementary/Eastwood Jr. High (D.M. Smith Middle School was erected.



**MOUND
BAYOU**
BOLIVAR

BOLIVAR
COUNTY MISS.
127,115

BALES OF
STAPLE COTTON

IN 1928,
**STILL LEADS
THE WORLD**



MOUND BAYOU

Largest U.S. Negro town; settled July 12, 1887 by ex-slaves of Joe Davis, who conceived idea before Civil War; Isaiah T. Montgomery (member of 1890 state convention) & his cousin, Benjamin T. Green.

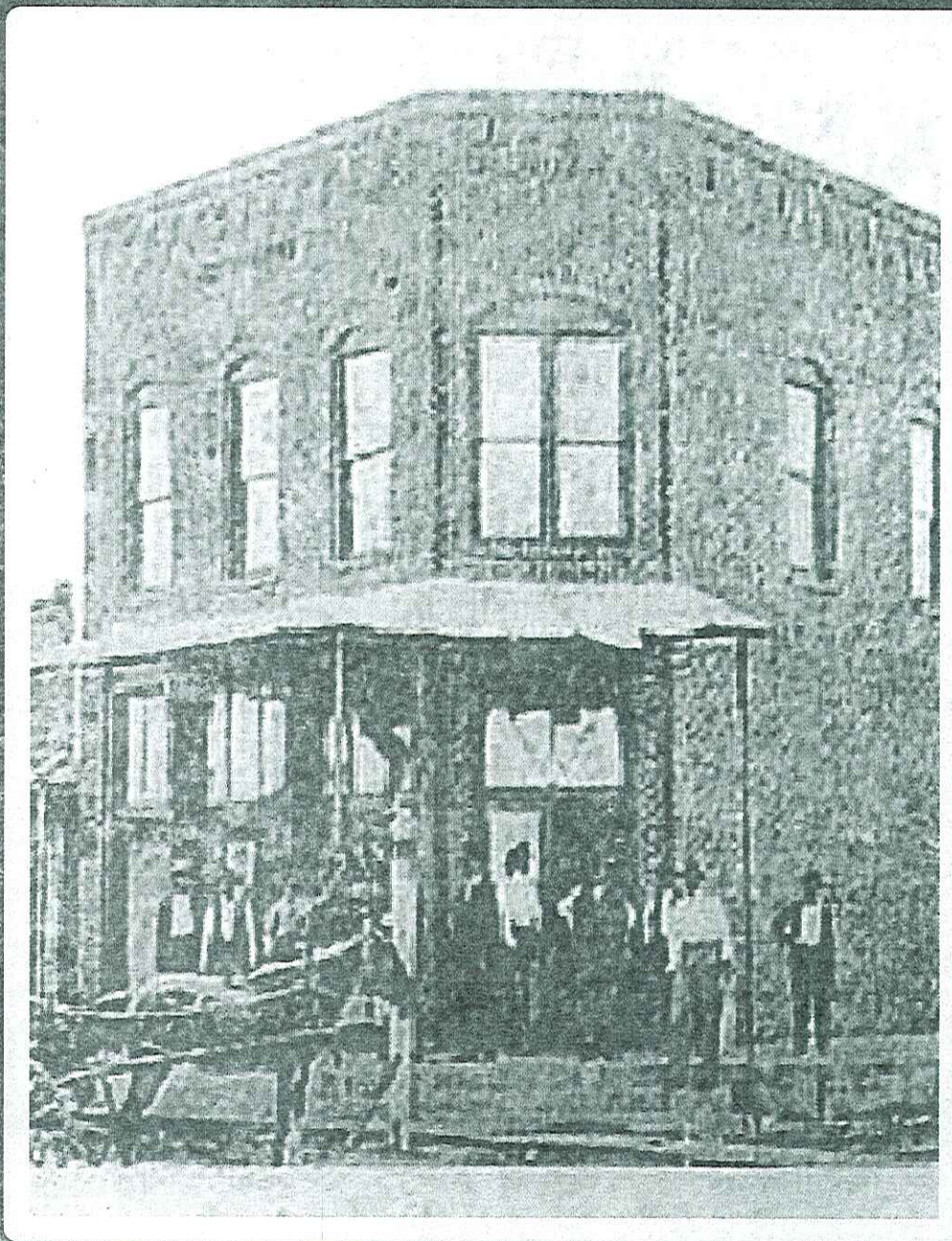
MISSISSIPPI HISTORICAL COMMISSION

1967

Mound Bayou is the oldest slave founded town in Mississippi. Tracing the history of the former slaves in Mound Bayou can be an interesting journey. Mound Bayou was founded in 1887 by Isaiah T. Montgomery and his cousin Benjamin T. Green. They were both former slaves of Joseph Emory Davis.

The story of Mound Bayou began in the 1820's with Joseph e. Davis, who wanted to create a "model" black community. Davis encouraged leadership, ownership and provided a higher standard of nutrition, health and dental care for the blacks in the city. He allowed slaves to become merchants.

The Bank of Mound Bayou was constructed entirely by Negro labor. Black banks in Mississippi organized by Charles Banks and opened in 1904 in the frame structure to the right. The current mayor of Mound Bayou is Kennedy Johnson.





Where It All Began

The Mississippi Unit of the Sir Knights & Daughters of Tabor (a fraternal organization) was established in 1889 for the purpose of providing insurance-burial, life and health care. Membership in 1946 had increased to 40,000 and the Chief Grand Mentor/Director P.M. Smith began the task of raising \$100,000 in order to build a hospital in Mound Bayou, MS.

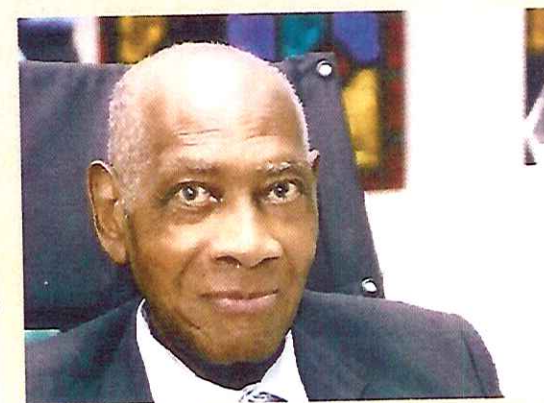
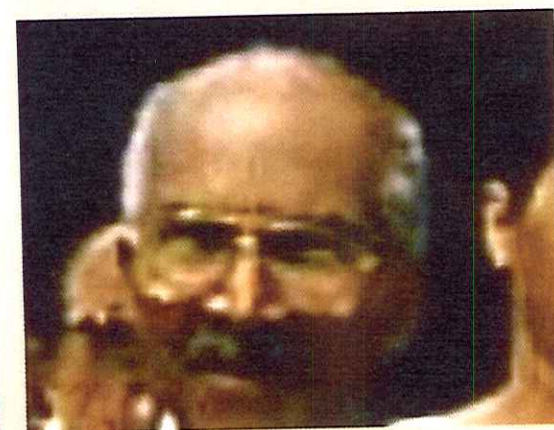
At that time, there was little in a way of hospitalization for African Americans in Mississippi. If they were admitted at all to white facilities, it was usually in a basement.

Shortly after a fire destroyed much of the business district, Mound Bayou began to revive in 1942 after the opening of Taborian Hospital by the International Order of Twelve Knights & Daughters of Tabor. Taborian Hospital officially opened February 12, 1942.

The hospital finally closed in 1983, in large part due to loss of federal funding.

For more than two decades, under its Chief Grand Mentor, Perry M. Smith, the hospital provided low-cost health care to thousands of blacks in the Mississippi Delta. The chief surgeon was Dr. T.R.M. Howard who eventually became one of the wealthiest blacks in the state. Howard owned a plantation of more than one thousand acres, home construction firm, small zoo and built the first swimming pool for blacks in Mississippi.

In 1952, Medgar Evers moved to Mound Bayou to sell insurance for Howard's Magnolia Mutual Life Ins Co. Howard also introduced Evers to civil rights through his Regional Council of Negro Leadership which organized a boycott against service stations which refused to provide restrooms for blacks. The RNCL's annual rallies in Mound Bayou between 1952 and 1955 drew crowds of ten thousand or more. During the trial of Emmett Till's alleged killers, black reporters and witnesses stayed in Howard's home, and Howard gave them an armed escort to the court house in Sumner.



Part of Our Heritage