

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
COUNTY:
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE
DEC 23 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:
Mt. Zion Church and Cemetery (United Baptist Church)
AND/OR HISTORIC:
See Dept. Interior Re. No. H34-PHR.

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
1700 ft. N.W. Bench Mark PN-2 T.V.A. 41-3
CITY OR TOWN:
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
STATE: **Tennessee** CODE **47** COUNTY: **Henry** CODE **079**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Homecoming picnic

4. AGENCY

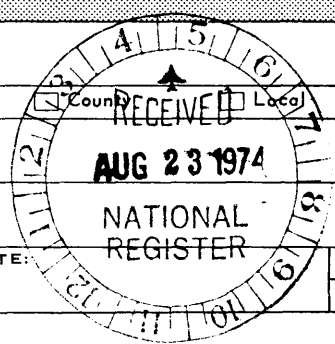
**Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife
Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge**
REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)
CITY OR TOWN: **Paris**
STREET AND NUMBER: **P.O. Box 849**
STATE: **Tennessee** CODE **47**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Courthouse, Register of Deeds
STREET AND NUMBER:
Court Square
CITY OR TOWN: **Paris** STATE: **Tennessee** CODE **47**

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE



DEC 23 1974

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: COUNTY: ENTRY NUMBER: DATE: FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Present church built in 1893 on site where log church was previously. Building constructed of wood, single story and in fair condition. Beveled siding is used on all sides. The roof is an unoriginal covering of corrugated aluminum.

The cemetery adjacent to the church contains burials as early as 1899. Approximately 40 marked graves and many more unmarked graves exist today. (108 "plus" known graves)

ARCHITECTURE

1. Framing uprights: 2" X 4" material.
2. Foundation material: 6" X 10" hand hewn cypress sill logs setting on a placed rock base.
3. Number and size of windows: 13 windows, 29" X 85" with 8 panes per window. (panes 12" X 20"). Windows will raise and prop with a stick. AUG 23 1974
4. Number and size of doors: 2 front doors 42" X 90" and 1 rear door 35" X 90", all hand made.
5. Flooring material: 3" and 4" wide red gum and maple, old time tongue & groove.
6. Inside dimensions: 49' long X 28½' wide X 13' high.
7. External dimensions: 51' long X 30' wide
8. Joist material (sleepers): 5" X 8" cypress logs, hand hewn on top side.
9. Inside wall and ceiling material: Beaded 6" pine.
10. Outside wall material: 6" pine weatherboard.
11. Lights and fixtures: No current lighting system. Originally, 3 large kerosene lamps were held on chains from the ceiling and 13 other smaller kerosene lamps were held along the wall in metal, moveable holders.
12. Electrical system: None. Church was never electrified.
13. Roads: Only one road leads into the church yard. However, at least two old wagon roads (trails) can be seen entering the church yard from the north and from the south.
14. Parking area: Vehicles may park between the church and the cemetery and also on the south side of the church.
15. Number and size of pews: 26 pews, hand made of poplar and sweet gum. Size is 10' long, 34" high. Seat is 11" wide.
16. Dimensions of cemetery: North side is 200', east side is 235', south side is 195', and west side is 145'. (see map).
17. Heating system: The old school house type of heating stove has been removed by thieves within the past 5 - 6 years.
18. Exterior paint and condition: The church has probably not been painted within the past 50 years. The exterior is a very drab white.
19. Chimney: A brick flue is found within the church, 13' from the west wall.
20. Pulpit: High reading desk is 24" X 10" X 45" high. Elevated portion of the pulpit area is 4' 7" X 7' 3". See photos.
21. Alter table: The alter table disappeared several years ago. See photos.
22. Attic: Framed by 2" X 4" rafters.
23. Restrooms: One pit type "outhouse" lies adjacent to the church. This structure has been designated for use by the ladies. Men were expected to go to the "woods".

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Early Baptist Church used prior to the Civil War by local settlers in the area. Some 50 yards northeast of the church is a gravel roadway used by Nathan Bedford Forrest and his men October 31, 1864 - November 1, 1864 in the Johnsonville Expedition to Pilot Knob during the Civil War.

The Mount Zion Church (congregation) was first established in 1852. A log structure was erected at the site where the present church structure now stands. The Western District Baptist Association minutes record that two members were sent to the 1853 associational conference. These same minutes record that the church had 24 members at that time. (See attached minutes).

Mount Zion Church was the only church in the immediate area of that land portion between the Tennessee River and the Big Sandy River during the early days. It served rural agrarian pioneers who had settled in a land rich with wild game.

The church remained active throughout the Civil War. However, no troops (Federal or Confederate) were believed to have used the log structure during the war. Mount Zion Church received no physical damage by guerrillas or other factions during that period.

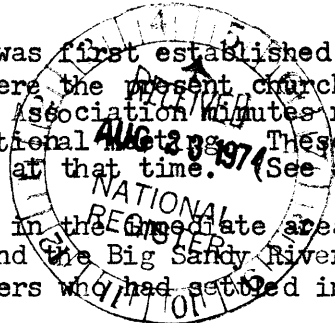
The Mount Zion Church congregation has only known two structures in its history, the log church built about 1850 (?) and the present building constructed in 1893. The overriding reason for building a new church was to accommodate a large and growing congregation.

Early preachers to the Mount Zion Church were the typical "circuit riders" who visited and preached to the congregations once per month. The most recent minister to the church has been Rev. D. W. Billington who has actually been coming to the church for the past 43 years.

Mount Zion Church has been the community focal point for residents of the Big Sandy Peninsula for many years. The community spirit has remained so strong that a reunion of former members, their families, and former residents of the area have met for an annual reunion the first Sunday of each July. Rev. D. W. Billington annually preaches the reunion service prior to the "picnic on the grounds". Annual attendance to the reunion is usually 150 - 250 persons.

The 2.7 acres of church property was purchased by T. V. A. in 1943 for \$1,000. Disbanding procedures for the congregation were accomplished during 1943, 1944, and 1945. T.V.A. agreed to let the present building stand so that an annual homecoming could be enjoyed. Homecoming reunions have been held annually from 1945 to the present.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

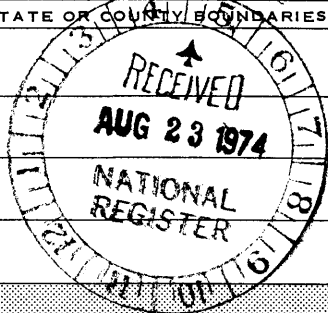
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES							
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE					
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds			
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	36	22	15	88	02	37
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	36	22	18	88	02	31
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"						

NO
LITH
CD

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **Transfer deed of 1942 states 2.7 acres.**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Staff of Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge** DATE: **Jan. 15, 1974**

BUSINESS ADDRESS: **P.O. Box 849**

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: **Paris** STATE: **Tennessee** CODE: **47**

PHONE: **901-642-2091**

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

Yes
 No
 None

Lawrence...
 State Liaison Officer Signature 8/15/74

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is National State

Donald G. Wheeler 8-20-74
 Federal Representative Signature Date

Deputy Assistant Secretary
 Title

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Dr. R. M. ...
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: **12/23/74**

ATTEST:

Wm J. ...
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: **12-20-74**

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

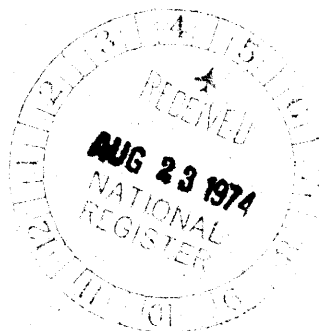
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Tennessee	
COUNTY Henry	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	DEC 23 1974

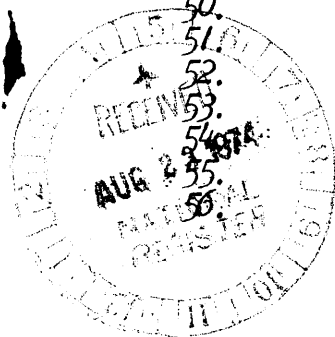
(Number all entries)

The following information is also enclosed for the nomination of Mt. Zion Church - Henry County.

1. Deed from Walter Gray Rec'd Dec. 23, 1903
2. Deed from I.G. Robbins Rec'd Jan. 16, 1942
3. Map - 23rd District - Henry Co. Tenn. 1936
4. Map - Mt. Zion Cemetery 1940
5. Chronological Minutes - Mt. Zion Baptist Church from minutes of the Western District Baptist Association



Grave Number	Name	Grave Number	Name
1. Infant	James C. Cathey	57.	Mary W. Gray
2.	Margaret Rawlett	58.	Mrs. Sallie Bradford
3.	W.S. "Bill" Grainger	59.	Mrs. Frances Neamon Evans
4.	Mrs. Martha E. Grainger	60.	Mrs. Carolyn Hampton
5.	Infant Chandler	61.	Finis Hampton
6.	Ambrose Lane	62.	Millard Hampton
7.	William Lane	63.	Hardy Hampton
8.	Bill Pierce	64.	Willis G. Grainger
9.	Ida (Bailey) Leagan	65.	B. J. Hampton
10.	Alfreda Bailey	66.	Annie Christopher
11.	Jennie M. Williamson	67.	Dallas Alline Hutchinson
12.	James Stanley Martin	68.	Evelyn Swon
13.	Mrs. Vena Medlock	69.	Mrs. Mary G. Swon
14.	Hannah Wood Medlock	70.	Rosaline Todd
15.	Hattie Herndon	71.	Henry Clay Todd
16.	Laura Todd	72.	Mrs. Matt Christopher
17.	Isham Maynard	73.	John Christopher
18.	Mrs. Alford (Mary E.) Dunn	74.	Mrs. Mart (Lizzie) Christopher
19. Infant	Willie V. Medlock	75.	Ed Christopher
20.	James Monroe Gray	76.	Mart Christopher
21.	G. T. McDaniel	77.	Infant Walker
22.	G. H. McDaniel	78.	Clarice Walker
23.	Infant Dunn	79.	Minnie Walker
24.	Mrs. J. H. (Rhoda) McDaniel	80.	Mrs. W. T. Walker
25.	Ina Bell Dunn	81.	John Gray
26.	Stella Gray Dortch	82.	Evola Gray
27.	Mrs. Ada Medlock	83.	Balaam Creight Gray
28.	Raymond Medlock	84.	Thomas Jefferson Gray
29.	Thurman Odom	85.	Cyrus H. Gray
30.	Minola Wright	86.	Clinton Eldridge
31.	May Stricklin	87.	Irving Watson
32.	John J. Odom	88.	Nadine Watson
33.	Isaac "Newt" Weldon	89.	Mrs. L. V. Merrill
34.	Sara Bell Welson	90.	Infant Hampton
35.	John W. Weldon	91.	Infant Hampton
36.	Sandra Leola Evans	92.	Infant Hampton
37.	Charlie Evans	93.	Allison Hampton
38.	Pink Bryant	94.	Mattie Hampton
39.	Taxanah Weldon Wood	95.	Catherine Hampton
40.	James Sylvester Wood	96.	Joe Hampton
41.	Willie Haskel Odom	97.	Sylvia Stagner
42.	Ronald Franklin Odom	98.	Talmadge Stagner
43.	W. H. "Babe" Wynn	99.	Rosaland Dortch
44.	Nannie Velma Bailey	100.	Naomi McDaniel
45.	Malinda Wynn	101.	Charlene McDaniel
46.	Henry Wynn	102.	Infant Culpepper
47.	James Medlock	103.	Howard Christopher
48.	Zola Lee Medlock	104.	G. S. "Sol" Christopher
49.	Mollie Ann Herndon	105.	Bell Wynn Christopher
50.	Mrs. Celie J. Evans	106.	Sam McFadden
51.	John Evans	107.	Mrs. J. H. McFadden
52.	Infant Evans	108.	J. H. McFadden
53.	Infant Gray (Twins)	109.	Elbert S. Gray
54.	Preston Evans	110.	Mrs. Lillie Bayne Robbins
55.	Mrs. Kiah "Bell" Gray	111.	Ida Gray Robbins
56.	Kiah Gray	112.	Mrs. Cynthia Robbins



Grave Number	Name	Grave Number	Name
113.	Mrs. Cornelia Robbins	169.	Britty Odom
114.	Mr. Thomas Robbins	170.	Coriene Odom
115.	Darius Robbins	171.	Virgill Odom
116.	Infant Robbins	172.	Mrs. Bessie Odom
117.	Lula Weldon	173.	Dick King
118.	Infant Weldon	174.	Mrs. Gorce Ann Phillips
119.	Mrs. T. J. "Lennie" Weldon	175.	Huice Mitcheson
120.	Larkin McFadden	176.	Infant Mitcheson
121.	Henry R. McFadden	177.	Bea Lemonds
122.	Royal T. McFadden	178.	Mrs. J. B. Morris
123.	Zittie L. McFadden	179.	Dinnis C. Morris
124.	Molene McFadden	180.	Infant Medlock
125.	Mrs. W. W. (Martha) (Christopher)	181.	Everette Wallace
126.	W. W. (Christopher)	182.	John Wallace
127.	Raymond Richardson	183.	Isa Medlock Flowers
128.	Infant Richardson	184.	Infant Hornburger
129.	Clady Richardson		
130.	Ruth Rudene McFadden		
131.	Helen McFadden		
132.	Mrs. Lula Robertson		
133.	Warren D. Robertson		
134.	Pauline Underwood		
135.	Alberta Underwood (Infant)		
136.	Charley Stitts		
137.	Mrs. Minnie Lee Odom & Infant		
138.	Infant Odom		
139.	Cyrus Hall Odom		
140.	Eugene Odom		
141.	Verby Odom		
142.	Infant Odom		
143.	Lennie Odom		
144.	Lora Bell Odom		
145.	Ida Lee Odom		
146.	No Grave		
147.	Granville Evans		
148.	Verbie Evans		
149.	Vernie Evans		
150.	Infant Evans		
151.	Nell Robbins		
152.	Ty "Yance" Robbins		
153.	Mrs. T. Y. (Mollie) Robbins		
154.	Floy May Robbins		
155.	John F. Evans		
156.	Mrs. Mollie Wynn		
157.	Herbert Wynn		
158.	Porter Wynn		
159.	Earnie Wynn		
160.	Unidentified		
161.	No Grave		
162.	No Grave		
163.	Lloyd Odom		
164.	Infant Wynn		
165.	Infant Wynn		
166.	Unidentified		
167.	Deckard Odom		
168.	Sally Odom		

Mt. Zion Baptist Church

1853 - The first time the name of the church appeared in the Western District United Baptist Association minutes. This year Mt. Zion was one of four new churches to present petitions and letters to the Association. The land for the church was donated by James Monroe Gray, Jr. His name is listed on the ministers' list and his address is given as Mouth of Sandy, Tennessee. Mr. William Roberts and Clinton Gibson served as messengers to the Association. The following statistics were given: number of days meeting each month - 4; new members by baptism - 4, by letter - 2, by restoration - 0, by examination - 1; members dismissed by letter - 0, excluded - 0, deaths - 0; total number of members - 24; contribution for printing of the associational minutes - \$1.00.

1854 - There were no representatives or messengers to the annual associational meeting, but according to the original associational minutes there was "some verbal intelligence". No statistics were given.

1877 - The word "silent" is listed under messengers from Mt. Zion Church. No statistics were given.

1889 - Mt. Zion was not represented at the annual associational meeting. The Association heard a report from the committee on Themes for the Ministers and Deacons Meeting. Mt. Zion was listed under the theme Bible Teaching on Brotherly Love.

1890 - Rev. P. I. Summers was the pastor. His address was Gillie, Tennessee. J. M. Gray was the messenger from Mt. Zion to the Association. The church reported 32 members, \$3.50 in the Minute fund, and 2 days of meeting each month. At the Association a report was given and resolutions were passed asking members to give to their pastors.

1892 - Elias Evens was the delegate from Mt. Zion Church and brought the letter to the Association from the church. The minutes record that "Elder J. M. Gray died in the summer, perhaps in July. Pro. Gray entered the ministry after the meridian of life, consequently failed to have the benefit of the strength of his earlier and better days for success in the

ministry, but not withstanding this loss, he made considerable progress in the work, was an able scriptorian, for he made the Bible the Book of God, the man of his council; was never pastor of but few churches, but done considerable preaching in destitute sections, lived and died in the faith, sustaining the character of a good citizen, aged 69 years".

1894 - Mt. Zion was not represented at the annual Association. Bro. W. Buck Williams was the pastor and Elias Evens was the clerk. The church received one member by letter, making a total of 44 members that year. Mt. Zion was asked to send \$6 to the Executive Board. Bro. Williams was on the list of ordained ministers.

1895 - The messengers from Mt. Zion Church this year were John Evans, Elias Evens, and James Wood. On the obituary list from the church were S. Hart, W. R. Sturdivant, and W. B. Williams. Mt. Zion was chosen as the place for the Association to meet on Tuesday after the first Lord's Day in the next October. Mt. Zion was one of three churches to report not one cent given to send out the gospel that year. There were 79 members. Bro. W. B. Williams was named as a representative to the Baptist State Convention in October at Mossy Creek. The church was requested to give \$3 to District Missions.

1896 - On Tuesday, October 20 at 10:30 a. m. the Association convened at Mt. Zion Church. The church letter was presented by the following delegates: Elias Evens, J. S. Wood, and James McDaniel. The pastor was W. B. Williams of Sip, Tennessee, the clerk was Elias Evens, and the Sunday School Superintendent was James Fielder. That year the church received by baptism-7, restored 1, excluded 2, for a total membership of 80. The church gave to missions. She was asked to give \$3 to the District. The Sunday School had 4 teachers, 25 pupils, and an average attendance of 20. The pastor's salary was \$40. The property was valued at \$355.

1897 - The messenger from Mt. Zion was J. C. Grathwell. The Sunday School Superintendent was Elias Evens. The church reported 27 baptisms, 2 restorations, and 4 exclusions. The average attendance in Sunday School was 35. The pastor's salary was \$25. Same pastor and clerk as last year.

About this time the present frame building and pews were constructed. The old log building and brush arbor were torn down.

1898 - Mt. Zion had the same clerk and pastor, but the Sunday School Superintendent was J. S. Wood. The messengers to the Association were Elias Evens and H. F. Pierce. The church reported 6 baptisms, 1 restoration, and 4 exclusions. There were 102 members. Sunday School attendance averaged 25.

1899 - The messengers this year were J. C. Grathwell of Face, Tennessee, Yencie Robbins, and J. W. Stricklin. The church officers were the same. There was reported 10 baptisms, 4 new members by letter, 3 exclusions, and 2 deaths for a total of 115 members.

Mrs. Fiah (Bell) Gray was the first person buried in the new church cemetery. She was a daughter-in-law of J. M. Gray. Darius Robbins, age 14 years, son of Thomas and Cornelia Robbins, was the second person buried there.

1900 - J. S. Wood represented Mt. Zion at the Association. A. E. Hawley was the new Sunday School Superintendent. It had an average attendance this year of 40. There was reported 4 baptisms, 2 exclusions, and 2 deaths for a total membership of 117.

1901 - The representatives to the Association were J. C. Grathwell, I. G. Robbins, and J. W. Walker. The church had the same pastor and clerk, but James Wood was the Sunday School Superintendent again. Eleven were baptized, 1 dismissed by letter, 2 excluded, 5 died, with 120 members.

1902 - J. W. Weldon and T. J. Robins were the representatives. The church was without a pastor, Elias Evens was still the clerk, and W. D. Wood was the Sunday School Superintendent. There were 7 baptisms, 2 joined by letter, 1 died, making 136 members.

1903 - Representatives were J. W. Weldon, W. E. McGee, and J. S. Wood. Six dollars and thirty-one cents was given to missions. W. E. McGee was the clerk and D. T. Spaulding was the pastor.

No Sunday School Superintendent was listed. There were 3 baptisms, 1 excluded, and 1 died making 117 members. The value of the church property was \$450.

December 23, 1903, Walter Gray deeded two acres of land to the Mt. Zion Church because his father James Monroe Gray, Jr. had intended to do so.

1904 - J. W. Cheatman, C. Robbins, and A. M. Hawley were messengers to the Association. W. E. McGee was again the church clerk, T. B. Holcomb was the pastor, and E. Trellers was the Sunday School Superintendent.

1905 - Mt. Zion was "silent" at this associational meeting.

1906 - The church sent a letter to the Association. I. G. Robbins was the clerk, A. M. Hawley of Big Sandy, Tennessee, was the pastor, and Porter Odom was the Sunday School Superintendent. There 8 baptisms, 6 dismissed by letter, 2 exclusions, and 2 died, leaving 123 members. The Sunday School had 3 teachers and 30 pupils.

1907 - J. C. Grathwell was the messenger, pastor, and Sunday School Superintendent. I. G. Robbins was again clerk. The church reported 4 baptisms, 3 deaths, leaving 124 members. The budget received \$600 and \$4.30 was for the orphan's home.

1908 - The church sent a letter to the Association. The officers were the same as in the preceding year. Eight baptisms and 134 members were reported. The Sunday School had 2 teachers and 39 pupils.

1909 - Henry Medlock and I. G. Robbins were messengers to the Association. The church had no pastor. The other officers were listed as I. G. Robbins, clerk; Edgar Fielder, Sunday School Superintendent; and J. M. Dunn, Sunday School Secretary. There were 5 baptisms, 7 dismissed by letter, 3 deaths, totaling 124 members.

1910 - The church sent a letter to the Association. It reported 18 baptisms, 1 death, and 146 members. The church property was valued at \$400. \$1.25 was given to the orphan's home and \$.50 to associational missions. The Sunday School had 3 teachers and 35 pupils.

1911 - J. H. Medlock represented the church at the Association. The church letter reported 13 baptisms, 1 received by letter, 3 deaths, and 157 members. Church officers were I. G. Robbins, clerk; A. M. Hawley, pastor; and J. C. Grathwell, Sunday School Superintendent.

1912 - The messengers to the Association were J. H. Medlock and J. S. Wood. There was no change in pastor or clerk. The report showed 35 baptisms, 1 received by letter, 1 death, and 193 members.

1913 - Representatives to the Association were J. S. Wood and J. H. McDaniel. There was 1 baptism, 1 restoration, 5 excluded, and 188 members.

1914 - There were no representatives and no letter to the Association.

1915 - There was no letter to the Association, but J. H. Medlock was the representative. The pastor was A. M. Hawley and J. S. Wood was the clerk.

1916 - There was no report to the Association.

1917 - J. H. Medlock and Mrs. Mattie Underwood were the messengers to the Association. Bro. Hawley is gain pastor. The other officers are W. C. Flowers, clerk; Sunday School Superintendent - J. H. Medlock; and Sunday School Secretary - I. G. Robbins. There were 6 baptisms, 1 dismissed by letter, 2 excluded, 2 deaths, and 93 members. The church property was valued at \$1000. Five dollars was given to the orphan's home and \$2.70 to State Missions. The Sunday School had 4 teachers and 40 pupils.

1918 - Mt. Zion was "silent" at the Association.

1919 - Bro. H. F. Robbins was the pastor. Mrs. Ora Odom was clerk, J. S. Wood, Sunday School Superintendent, and I. G. Robbins, Sunday School Secretary. The pastor's salary was \$50. The church reported 7 baptisms, 1 restoration, 5 dismissed by letter, 1 exclusion, 1 death, and 105 members.

1920 - Messengers to the Association were J. S. Wood, G. C. Robbins, and J. M. Dunn. The church was without a pastor. J. M. Dunn was the clerk, W. C. Flowers was the Sunday School Superintendent and the same secretary. There were 6 baptisms, 1 death, and 110 members. The church gave \$8.50 to the 75-million Campaign.

1921 - Bro. Will Jones was the pastor. His salary was \$60.50. J. S. Wood and B. F. McFadden were the messengers to the Association. The church received 3 by letter, excluded 1, had 4 deaths, and 102 members. She gave \$22.05 to the 75-million Campaign. and \$29.85 to help with the meeting.

1922 - The church was "silent".

1923 - Mt. Zion was without a pastor. W. C. Flowers was the messenger to the Association. The church officers were W. C. Flowers, Sunday School Superintendent; I. G. Robbins, Sunday School Secretary and church treasurer; and J. T. Robbins, clerk. The Sunday School enrollment was 75, officer and teachers - 7, average attendance - 60, and contributions - \$8.11. There had been 2 deaths, leaving 91 members. The church received 1 state paper. The building was constructed in 1872.

1924 - The church called Bro. W. W. Dickerson as pastor with a salary of \$73.13. The Sunday School Superintendent and secretary were the same as last year. There were 6 teachers, an enrollment of 100, and 65 in average attendance. It was a graded Sunday School. G. C. Robbins was the church clerk. \$32 was given to the 75-million Campaign, \$10 to foreign missions, and a total received of \$193.64.

1925 - Messengers to the Association were W. O. Medlock and W. C. Flowers, the latter also being church treasurer. The church letter reported 2 baptisms, 3 additions by letter, 1 restoration, 2 dismissed by letter, 1 death, and 112 members. It also stated that the present building was built in 1899.

1926 - Bro. W. W. Dickerson of Murray, Kentucky, continues as pastor. I. G. Robbins, Deekard Odum, and W. C. Flowers are messengers to the Association. Church officers are W. C. Flowers - Sunday School Superintendent, church clerk, and church treasurer and I. G. Robbins - Sunday School Secretary. The church lists its deceased as Mrs. Hannah Medlock. It reports that it is located in the country, that it was constituted in 1899, and that the regular meeting day is the first Sunday. There were 3 baptisms, 2 received by letter, 1 death, 112 members, 1 revival, no Lord's Supper, and no member receiving the State Baptist Paper that year. It also reports that the present building was built in 1899, that the material used was wood, that 300 people can be seated, and that it has one room. The value of the church is \$500. It has no debt and carries no insurance. The pastor's salary is \$125. Other expenses include, pastor help - \$25, building repair - \$15, literature - \$13, minutes - \$2, local church work - \$.75, Co-operative Program - \$44.46, and none to missions. The gifts totaled \$219.45. The Sunday School provides for most, but not all ages. Enrollment consists of: officers and teachers - 6, primaries (6-8 years) - 25, juniors (9-12 years) - 20, intermediates (13-16 years) - 15, adults (25 years and above) - 40. This makes the total enrollment - 100. The average attendance was 80.

1927 - Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Flowers were the messengers to the Association. There was one change in church officers from the previous year, I. G. Robbins is now serving as treasurer. Mt. Zion reports the deaths of J. W. Weldon and Mrs. S. B. Weldon. There are now 111 members. The pastor's salary is \$150. Sunday School has an enrollment of 88 with an average attendance of 70.

1928 - Messengers to the annual Association are Willie Thompson, I. G. Robbins, W. C. Flowers, and Miss Verlie Robbins. The membership is now 111 with 84 enrolled in Sunday School and an average attendance of 60. Total gifts for the past year were \$250.05.

1929 - Pastor and officers are the same as for the past two years, except no treasurer is listed. Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Flowers and I. G. Robbins are messengers to the Association. Mt. Zion lists as dead - Jim Farris. There are 108 members and Sunday School attendance averages 60. The pastor's salary was \$120. A total of \$186.50 was given to the church.

1930 - Bro. Dickerson continues as pastor. (His name is not on the list of ordained ministers.) Sunday School Superintendent is Willie Christopher, clerk is W. C. Flowers, and treasurer is I. G. Robbins. Messengers to the Association are I. G. Robbins, Lois Robbins, and D. Odom. There are 105 members. Value of the church property is \$300. The total gifts were \$246.28.

1931 - Messengers to the Association are W. C. Flowers, Y. C. Robbins, and E. L. Fielder. The treasurer this year is W. C. Flowers. This letter states that Mt. Zion was constituted in 1829 and that the building was built in 1896. Value of the church property is now \$300. There are 101 members. Sunday School has an enrollment of 80 and an average attendance of 52. Giving to the church this year totaled \$145.15.

1932 - There were no messengers to the Association, but a letter was sent. It reported 4 baptisms and 104 members. Sunday School has 36 enrolled, an average attendance of 65, and Willie Christopher is superintendent. \$192.30 was given to the church this past year. The pastor's salary was \$100.

1933 - Again there were no messengers to the Association, but a letter was sent. It reported 22 baptisms and 127 members. There were 102 members in Sunday School. No clerk or Sunday School Superintendent was reported. Gifts to the church over the past year were \$163. The pastor's salary was \$80.

1934 - I. G. Robbins and W. C. Flowers were messengers to the Association. The church dead listed Mrs. Stella Dortch. Sunday School Superintendent was I. G. Robbins. It had 90 enrolled and averaged 46 in attendance. The clerk was W. C. Flowers. The church reported 135 members, 1 revival, no Lord's Supper, \$80 for pastor's salary, and \$167 in giving. The church will seat 200 and its value is \$100.

1935 - Messengers to the Association were I. G. Robbins and Cleatus Flowers. The church reported 126 members, no revival, pastor's salary of \$100, giving \$197.77, no clerk or Sunday School Superintendent, and W. C. Flowers as treasurer.

1936 - Bro. W. W. Dickerson is still pastor. Sunday School Superintendent is W. C. Flowers and treasurer is I. G. Robbins. No messengers were sent to the Association. There were 60 members, 1 revival, 1 Lord's Supper, \$100 for pastor's salary, and \$201.30 in total giving. Value of the church property is \$200. Sunday School has 123 enrolled. Average attendance is 80.

1937 - Bro. W. W. Dickerson, pastor, was the messenger to the Association. W. C. Flowers was clerk and treasurer. There were 59 members, pastor's salary was \$125, and the total giving was \$207.68. Sunday School has 135 enrolled. Average attendance is 85.

1938 - The annual Association met at Mt. Zion October 6-7. In the minutes Bro. W. W. Dickerson is now listed with the ordained ministers. The messengers to the Association were I. G. Robbins, W. C. Flowers, E. Ross, and Ernie Watson. The church reported 59 members, 1 revival, and 1 Lord's Supper. W. C. Flowers was Sunday School Superintendent, clerk and treasurer. \$140.80 was given through Sunday School. The total church offering was \$243. The pastor's salary was \$125.

1939 - Messengers to the Association were Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Medlock, and Ernie Watson. The letter reported that the church was constituted in 1889. There were 60 members, 2 baptisms, 1 revival, and 1 Lord's Supper. Sunday School enrollment was 150. Average attendance is 37. Value of the church property is \$400. The pastor's salary is \$182.25. The total church offering was \$273.84.

1940 - W. C. Flowers and P. A. Medlock were messengers to the Association. There were 11 baptisms, 2 exclusions, 71 members, 1 revival, and 1 Lord's Supper. The pastor's salary was \$266.81. Total giving was \$372.65.

1941 - Messengers to the Association were Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Medlock, I. G. Robbins, Mrs. A. W. Odom, and Miss Julie Robbins. The pastor was Bro. W. W. Dickerson. The Sunday School Superintendent, clerk, and treasurer was W. C. Flowers. Mt. Zion had 7 baptisms, 78 members, 1 revival, and 1 Lord's Supper. Sunday School enrollment was 85. Value of the church property was \$1000. The pastor's salary was \$257.90. Total giving was \$396.21.

1942 - I. G. Robbins, W. C. Flowers, and Elmas Martin were messengers to the Association. The church was without a pastor, but reported 2 baptisms, 71 members, 1 revival, 1 Lord's Supper, and 1 receiving the State Baptist Paper. Bro. Dickerson has concluded 18 years as pastor of Mt. Zion. He had never lived in the church community, but came to Paris every Saturday afternoon. There he was met by a member of the church who took him to the community. He spent the night with some church family, preached on Sunday morning, then left Sunday afternoon. Often he left with some farm produce which some family would give in their appreciation for him. W. C. Flowers continued as Sunday School Superintendent, clerk, and treasurer. Sunday School enrollment was 85. Average attendance was 75. The pastor had received \$492.75. Total giving was \$637.45. That year a fence was placed around the cemetery. The labor was furnished by I. G. Robbins, Alton Robbins, Woodrow Robbins, and Lester Odom.

1943 - The church sent no messengers to the Association. She has no pastor, although Bro. Cecil Brewer served part of the year. The letter to the Association reported 50 non-resident members and a total of 70 members. Two members were dismissed by letter. There was 1 revival, no Lord's Supper, and one receiving the state paper. There was no Sunday School Superintendent, but it had an enrollment of 55 with an average attendance of 43. W. C. Flowers is the clerk and treasurer. The church building and 2.7 acres on which it sits was purchased by the TVA for \$1006. This money was paid to the church trustees, I. G. Robbins, T. J. Fielder, and W. C. Flowers. TVA agreed to leave the building standing and to allow the congregation to meet annually for a homecoming. The church is now in the process of disbanding.

1944 - No messengers represented Mt. Zion at the Association, but the church sent \$2 for the minutes. It reported 3 resident members and 46 non-resident members.

1945 to present - The church has since met annually for a homecoming. Originally this was on the first Sunday in June, but now it is the first Sunday in July. The cemetery grounds are cleaned prior to this gathering and for most of these occasions Bro. D. W. Billington has been present to preach the morning message. He had held revivals annually for 17 years at Mt. Zion. A business session is conducted after the preaching service. Collections are taken for the cemetery and for Bro. Billington. This is followed by a dinner-on-the-ground. Approximately 100 people gather for this service. Others often come during the afternoon to renew old acquaintances and to talk of the by-gone days. Arthur McDaniel served as church clerk during many of these years, but presently Clennie Christopher is the clerk.

information compiled by
Joyce Ann Medlock Montgomery
great-granddaughter of
James Monroe Gray, Jr.

Minutes of the Western District
Baptist Association were on
microfilm and a courtesy of
Bro. James Phelps, Associa-
tional missionary.

Mt, Zion (L. Church) It being my Fathers aim to give Two acres of land to the United
 Deed from) Baptist Church of Christ that worship at Mt, Zion 23rd Civil Dis
 Walter Gray) (now 10th) Henry Co, Tenn, said land falling into my lawful pos-
 Rec'd Dec 23rd 1903) sion by inheritance, I, Walter Gray this day transfer and convey
 At 10. A. M.) said land to said Church on which it now stands, bounded as fol-
 lows: Beginning at a stake on B. F. Hampton's North boundary
 line with Walnut & post oak pointers; thence West 14 Rods to a stake with Ash & R.
 Oak pointers, thence S. 19 1/2 rds to a stake with R oak & W oak pointers; thence
 E 15 Rds to the beginning. I bind myself & heirs and assigns to warrant and defend
 the title of said land to said Church against lawful claims of all persons whom-
 soever.

This 12th day of August 1903.

Walter Gray.

STATE OF TENNESSEE. HENRY COUNTY.

Personally appeared before me, J. W. Odom, Notary Public in and for said County,
 the within named Walter Gray, bargainer, with whom I am personally acquainted, and
 who acknowledged that he executed the within instrument for the purpose therein
 ----- contained.

J. W. Odom) Witness my hand this 14th day of August 1903.

Notary Public) J. W. Odom. Notary Public.

Henry County)

Tenn) Came to record Dec 23rd 1903, at 10. A. M. J. P. Fisher. Regr.

XX
WARRANTY DEED

Unites States of America
Deed From
I. G. Robbins, et als.
Rec'd. Jan. 16th, 1942
At 10:30 A. M.

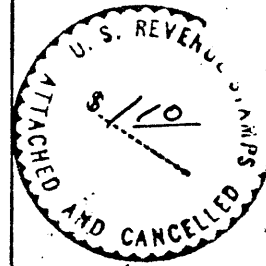
STATE OF TENNESSEE } GIR 3778
COUNTY OF HENRY }

THIS INDENTURE, Made and entered into this 15
day of January, 1942, by and between, I. G.
Robbins, T. J. Fielder, and W. C. Flowers, Trustees
of the United Baptist Church of Mt. Zion, Henry

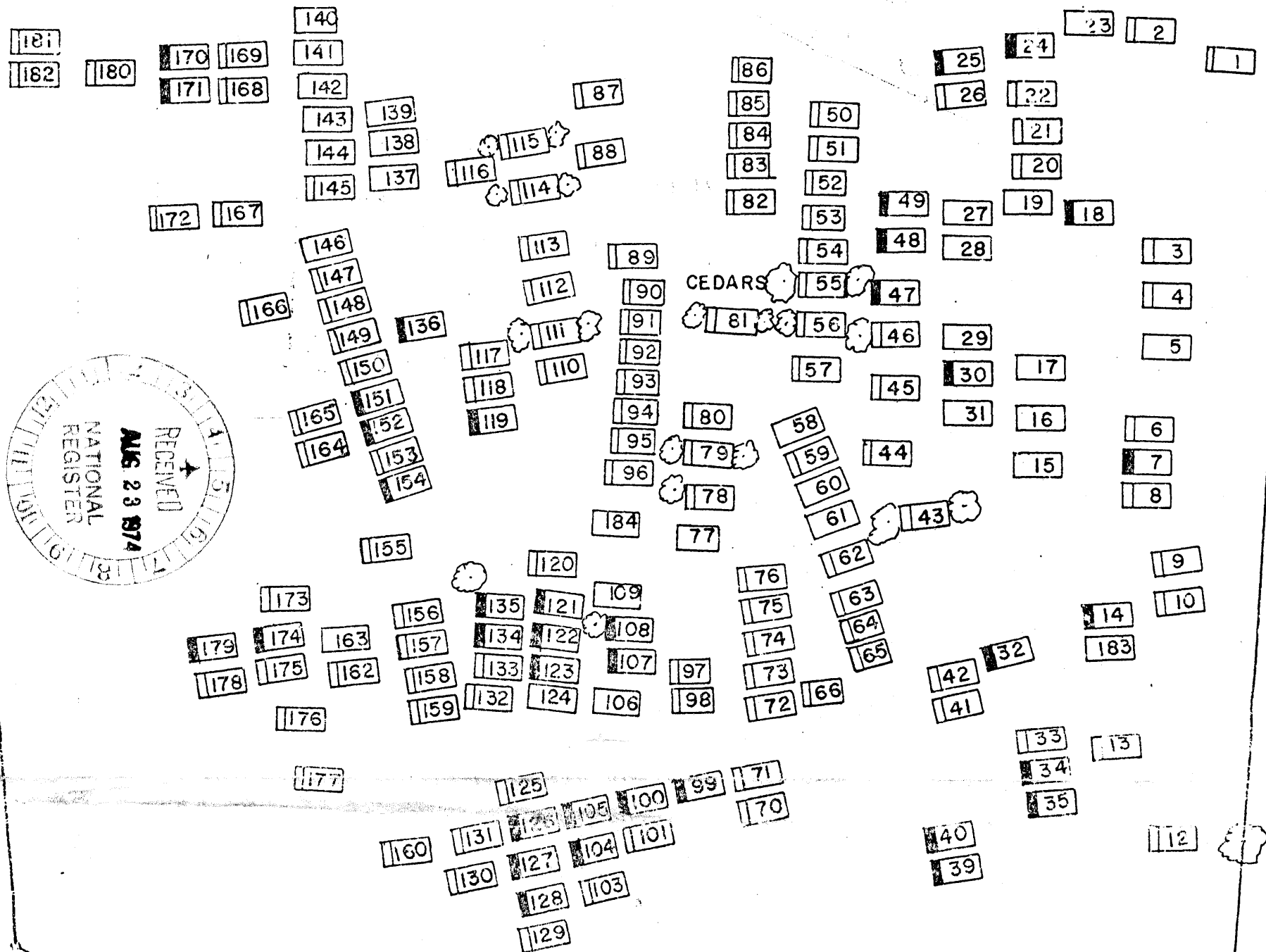
County, Tennessee, hereinafter called the First Parties, and the United States
of America, hereinafter called the Second Party;

WITNESSETH: That for and in consideration of the sum of One Thousand Six & No/100
(\$1006.00) Dollars, cash in hand paid, the receipt of which is hereby
acknowledged, the First Parties, have bargained and sold and do hereby bargain,
sell, transfer, convey and confirm unto the Second Party, the following described
tract or parcel of land, lying and being situate in the County of Henry, State
of Tennessee, to-wit:

A tract of land lying in the Fourteenth Civil District of Henry County, State
of Tennessee, on the left side of the Tennessee River, approximately 1 1/4 miles
south of the Pace Post Office, and more particularly described as follows:



MT. ZION
BAPTIST CHURCH



MT. ZION CEMETERY
1940