

clerk who interpreted wording of the deed when preparing the index. The deed does indeed mention the “sixteenth section”, but the manner in which it is used and the directions given for laying out the land *relative to the 16th section* indicate that **it certainly had to lie north of the 16th section**. This puts it in the 9th section, which is known to have been owned by Batt Jordan. Conversely, there is no record that Batt Jordan ever acquired or owned land in the 16th section to sell to anyone.

The bottom line is that the only possible interpretation of the various land records shows that Bartholomew Jordan never lived in the area of Mullin’s Flat. While living in Madison County, he always owned land in sections 4, 8, and 9 (T4S-R1W) and resided there near his adult children, in close proximity to Brown’s Ferry Road. Therefore, when he deeded to the church some land “... whereon the said Batt Jordan now resides”, he was making deed to land in one of the above sections.

CLUE 3, Deed Details – “...beginning at a rock on the line of Ellison & Jordan, running due south 73 yards by a white oak in front of the meeting house ... to a corner rock ... thence west 67 yards ... to another corner rock and thence north 73 yards to another corner stone ... thence east to the beginning ...”:

This layout describes a rectangle of 219 feet by 201 feet. That amounts to 44,019 square feet, or 1.01054 acres. The specifications mention that from the beginning point **the line runs south in front of the meeting house** before turning west. That tells us that the meeting house faced east, probably toward a primitive road or overlooking a valley from a hill. The statement that the beginning point was “on the line of Ellison & Jordan” is a bit ambiguous, since one at this point cannot tell whether that line ran east – west or north – south. Either would suffice. However, it suggests that one could perhaps determine the locations of properties owned by Batt Jordan and compare their locations with properties owned by William Ellison, who was one of the church trustees named in the deed. He was also a close neighbor of Batt Jordan in the 1830 census, enumerated only 3 houses away.

Unfortunately, no record has been found of **William Ellison (or Allison)** buying any property from either the government or from private citizens in the area adjacent to the holdings of Batt Jordan in sections 4, 8, and 9 of