State of Alabama, **Probate Court.** Colbert County. Know all Men by These Presents. That we, Grant Richer George Ricks A. C. Ricks Chis Hosendove T & B. Ricker of the County and State aforesaid, are held and firmly bound unto Ose on J. Singer on Judge of the Court of Probate for said County, and his successors in office, in the penal sum of the Thousand DOLLARS. for which payment, well and truly to be made and done, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and administrators, jointly and severally. firmly by these presents. Scaled with our seals, and duted this 26 day of January 1009 The Condition of the Above Obligation is Such. That whereas, the above bound Sumt Ricks had been appointed administrator of the estate of George Ricks, deceased. Now is the said Grant Richer . shall well and truly perform all the duties which are or may be by law required of horn as such administic teator then the Taken, approved, and ordered to be recorded this 26 day of Story 1997 above obligation to be void; otherwise to remain in full force.

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(Left) 1909 Probate Court Settlement of George Ricks' Estate, Left to His Children (Ancestry.com, User Laura Corbett) (Above) 1870 Federal Census Excerpt Showing George Ricks and His Family (National Archives and Records Administration via Ancestry.com) (Below) 1900 Federal Census Eexcerpt Showing George Ricks Owning a Farm and a Few of His Sons Living Nearby, Presumably on His Land (National Archives and Records Administration via Ancestry.com)

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P. B. Swoopes (1902-2000)

Paris Baker Swoopes was one of the most prominent African American citizens of Sheffield in the early- to mid-20th century. Mr. Swoopes grew up on the east side of the city of Sheffield, born about 1902 to John and Eliza Swoopes. In 1910, the family was living in Sheffield where John Swoopes owned a house and his own barbershop. A decade later, Swoopes' mother was remarried to James Anderson. Swoopes and his younger sister, lived in a house on 13th ½ Street owned by their step-father, who was a fireman for the railroad. In his youth, Swoopes attended Sheffield Colored School and was one of the first students, along with Ms. Marion C. McDaniel, to graduate from the high school. He went on to study at Tuskegee Institute before returning home to Sheffield.

In 1927, P. B. Swoopes opened a tailoring shop in downtown Sheffield on 2nd Street. His shop was a success and he moved his business to 105 Montgomery Avenue in 1941. Swoopes was the only tailor in the city. His clients were both white and people of color. Residents remember his shop on Montgomery for the large windows in the front where Mr. Swoopes would measure and mark his customers. During the Jim Crow era and even afterwards, it was best practice for Mr. Swoopes to be seen conducting