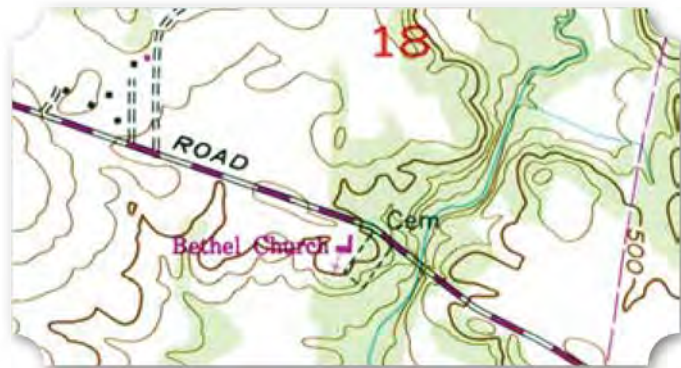


(Left) 1972 USGS Topographic Map of Bethel School and Cemetery, Sinking Creek, Alabama Quadrangle
(Bottom Left) 1988 USGS Topographic Map of Bethel Church and Cemetery, Sinking Creek, Alabama Quadrangle



Interestingly, the 1972 topographic map labels "Bethel School" with no church. By the 1950s, most rural schoolhouses of North Alabama had been consolidated, and by the 1970s, integration had made many of the smaller and poorly-equipped rural African American schools obsolete. With the exception of some of the larger schools in the cities, there were no African American schools used in the early 20th century that survived into the 1970s.

The Bethel Lauderdale MB Church Cemetery, also referred to simply as Bethel Lauderdale Cemetery, has at least 348 graves across two sections. One section is to the east of the church and is older, dating to the 1880s through to the 1970s, and has about 150

graves. The earliest burials from the 19th century appear to be of white families, including the earliest known interment of Effie Hendrix (1883-1884). The other section is to the west and dates from the 1970s to the present. Common family names here include Beckwith, Boddie, Brown, Chandler, Cole, Perkins, Rowell, Russell, Scott, Smith, Thompson, Vaughn, and Williams. Several landowning farmers are buried here. Ned Jones (1902-1946) owned a farm in the Woodland district in 1930. Wesley Williams, Jr. (1919-1986) is most likely the son of the Wesley Williams, who owned a farm in 1930. Thomas H. Perkins, Sr. (1879-1963), who owned a farm in 1920, and his son,

Thomas H. Perkins, Jr. (1907-1970) are both buried here. Fred Rowell (1887-1959) took over his father's farm by 1920 and is also buried here.

6 Buckingham Cemetery

The Buckingham Cemetery is a small cemetery located on the north side of Haviland Drive in North Florence on Chisholm Road. The cemetery is situated between two houses and surrounded by a mid-20th-century neighborhood built some 70 years after the cemetery was established. There are only about eight marked and two unmarked graves. The first interment is Candis Euins (died 1881) and the last known burial is Mahala A. Buckingham (1896-1983). One of the other burials here is that of Richard H. Buckingham (1868-

(Below) Excerpt of 1930 Census Record Showing Ned Jones Owning a Farm (National Archives and Records Administration via Ancestry.com)
(Bottom) Excerpt of 1920 Census Record Showing Thomas Perkins, Sr. Owning a Farm (National Archives and Records Administration via Ancestry.com)

74	1901/20	Jones Ned	Head	10	40	20	25	3	190	200	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	PA	1/2	Farm	General Farm	VVVVSD	74	200	187	74
75		Nora	Wife	16	37	20	30	0	200	200	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	PA	1/2	none						75
76		Eveline	Sister	16	23	20	24	0	200	200	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	PA	1/2	none						76
77		Annie	Sister	16	20	20	24	0	200	200	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	PA	1/2	laborer	General Farm	VVVVSD	77	200	77	
78		Statis	Wife	16	16	20	24	0	200	200	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	PA	1/2	none						78
79		Nora	Wife	16	15	20	24	0	200	200	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	PA	1/2	none						79
80		George	Nephew	16	9	20	24	0	200	200	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	PA	1/2	none						80
81		Johnnie B	Wife	16	8	20	24	0	200	200	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	PA	1/2	none						81
82		Lee	Nephew	16	8	20	24	0	200	200	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	PA	1/2	none						82
83		Edward	Nephew	16	8	20	24	0	200	200	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	PA	1/2	none						83
84		Bruce	Wife	16	8	20	24	0	200	200	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	PA	1/2	none						84

3		Perkins	Head	10	2	13	8	5	1905	1905	Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama	1/2	none							3
4		Currie	Daughter	10	7	13	6	8	1905	1905	Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama	1/2	none							4
5		Mary	Daughter	10	7	13	4	5	1905	1905	Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama	1/2	none							5
6	1920	Perkins Thomas	Head	10	4	13	30	20	1905	1905	Alabama	Virginia	Virginia	1/2	Farming	General Farm	Pa	200			6	
7		Eveline	Wife	10	7	13	48	20	1905	1905	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	1/2	none							7
8		Gramma	Daughter	10	7	13	20	3	1905	1905	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	1/2	laborer	Home Farm					8	
9		Louisa	Daughter	10	7	13	18	3	1905	1905	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	1/2	laborer	Home Farm					9	
10		Newton	Son	10	14	13	10	3	1905	1905	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	1/2	laborer	Home Farm					10	
11		John	Son	10	20	13	14	3	1905	1905	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	1/2	laborer	Home Farm					11	
12		Frank	Son	10	20	13	12	3	1905	1905	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	1/2	laborer	Home Farm					12	
13		Velma	Daughter	10	7	13	10	3	1905	1905	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	1/2	none							13
14		Odio	Daughter	10	7	13	8	3	1905	1905	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	1/2	none							14
15		Eva Mae	Daughter	10	7	13	6	3	1905	1905	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	1/2	none							15
16		Beth	Daughter	10	7	13	4	3	1905	1905	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	1/2	none							16
17		Fannie	Daughter	10	7	13	12	3	1905	1905	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	1/2	none							17