

While the Town of Mooresville has had a majority white population historically, as a census district, Mooresville included communities such as Belle Mina, which were mostly African American. Between 1900 and 1940, the Mooresville census district contained about 350 to 430 households. In 1900 and 1910, there were only between five and seven African American landowners in the Mooresville area, or only one or two percent of the total population. In the following decades, there were four times as many landowning African American farmers: 20 in 1920 and 21 in 1930, which represented five percent of the population. The peak number of African American farm owner/operators in Mooresville was 28, or eight percent of all households, in 1940.

Although the Mooresville census district included the Town of Belle Mina, which had a large population of African American farmers and landowners, few were included the district. It may be that some of the African American landowners were in the adjacent districts of Greenbrier and Quid Nunc-Tanner. Some of the farmers of color who owned farms in the Mooresville area included John Page, Gilliam Thatch, Anthony Hayes, and Robert Pryor, who owned farms between about 1900 and 1940. Several families were able to pass down land from father to son or husband to widow. Few women owned land in this area at the time, but if they did, they were most likely widows. The Harris, Thompson, Hobbs, Jefferson, and Anderson families were African American farm owners in this area.



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Moses Chapel and Moses Temple School*

(First) 1900 Federal Census Showing John Page and Anthony Hayes (National Archives and Records Administration via Ancestry.com) **(Second)** 1900 Federal Census Showing the Yarbrough Family (National Archives and Records Administration via Ancestry.com) **(Third)** 1910 Federal Census Showing Gilliam Thatch (National Archives and Records Administration via Ancestry.com) **(Fourth)** 1930 Federal Census Showing Robert Pryor (National Archives and Records Administration via Ancestry.com)

Originally referred to as Moses Chapel, as seen on the 1935 USGS topographic map, the church is located northeast of the intersection of Looney Road and Lindsay Lane with Compton Road. A church building remains there today and is known as the Moses Temple Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America. The church also hosted the Moses Temple School for children of color from 1939 to the late 1960s. The first teacher was Ms. Clara Mason. Other teachers

81	88313 88772	Hayes Anthony	Wife	10 M	1839	60 M	20	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	3 acres	70	70	70	0	7	7	133	81			
82		Nellie	Wife	10 F	1848	52 M	20	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Farm labor	70	70	70					82			
83		Malone Sillie	Servant	10 F	see	1881	18 M	2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Farm labor	0	40	40	40			83			
84		Aron	Son	10 M	Feb 1876	24 M	2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Farm labor	70	70	70					84			
85		Abdelia	Daughter	10 F	Aug 1879	21 F	5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama									85			
86		Ally Flora	Sister	10 F	1854	45 W	7	Alabama			Farm labor	70	70	70					86			
52	276236 276232	Page John	Wife	10 M	Oct 1869	30 M	11	Alabama	Virginia	Alabama	5 acres	5	40	40	40	0	7	7	162	52		
53		Sellie	Wife	10 F	Mar 1874	26 M	11	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Farm labor	6	40	40	40					53		
54	276337	Agnes	Wife	10 F	May 1827	73 W	3	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	1.10	0	70	70	40				54			
56	165177	Thatch Hillman	Head	14 M	13 58	11 14		Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	English	Farm	Home Farm	4 MP				0 F F 226	56			
57		Mary	Wife	14 F	13 32	11 14	4 3	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	English	Farm labor	Home Farm	20	40	40	40			57		
58		Brooks	Daughter	14 F	13 10	3		Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	English	Farm labor	Home Farm	40	40	40				58		
59		Willie B	Son	14 M	13 7	3		Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	None								59			
60		John H	Son	14 M	13 6	3		Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	None								60			
61		Edmund	Hired man	14 M	13 18	3		Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	English	Farm labor	Home Farm	40	40	40	40			61		
24	76 92	Boy of Robert	Head	0	40	70	60	70	24	70	40	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	12	40	Farm	Home farm	VVVV	30	70	24
25		Maria	Wife	0	40	70	54	70	17	70	40	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	12	40	Chick	Home farm	8290	0	40	25
26		Robert Lizzi	Wife	0	40	70	53	70	20	70	40	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	12	40	Home farm	Home farm	6V96	20	40	26
27		Edwin Fleming	Wife	0	40	70	25	70	70	70	40	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	12	40	Home farm	Home farm	VIUV	40	70	27