

Mrs. Pearl J. Stephens



Pearl J. Stephens, a native of Wellston, Georgia, was born February 22, 1887, to the late Warren and Emma Jackson. Mrs. Stephens taught for more than 25 years, beginning in the early 1900s.

Her first teaching job at Sandy Run Baptist Church, 12 miles from her home required her to be away from her husband and children for two weeks at a time.

The conditions of the schools for children at the time were deteriorating, and fundraising efforts were unsuccessful, so Mrs. Stephens made the Board of Education members an offer: she would give them the land if they would agree to build a school. The Board accepted her offer, and in 1949 a two-room school house and an outhouse were built. This would later

become a milestone in the history of Warner Robins as the first tax-supported school in the black community.

The original Pearl Stephens School was located off Feagin Mill Road, now South Davis Drive. Later, in 1953, another school was built on Reid Street, now Scott Boulevard, which is named Pearl Stephens Elementary School. Mrs. Stephens was generous with both her time and money, giving all she had to the community. "Pearlie," as she was affectionately known by her friends and family, was a true "Drum Major' for good" to all who knew her.

Mrs. Stephens passed away in January of 1980 at the age 92.