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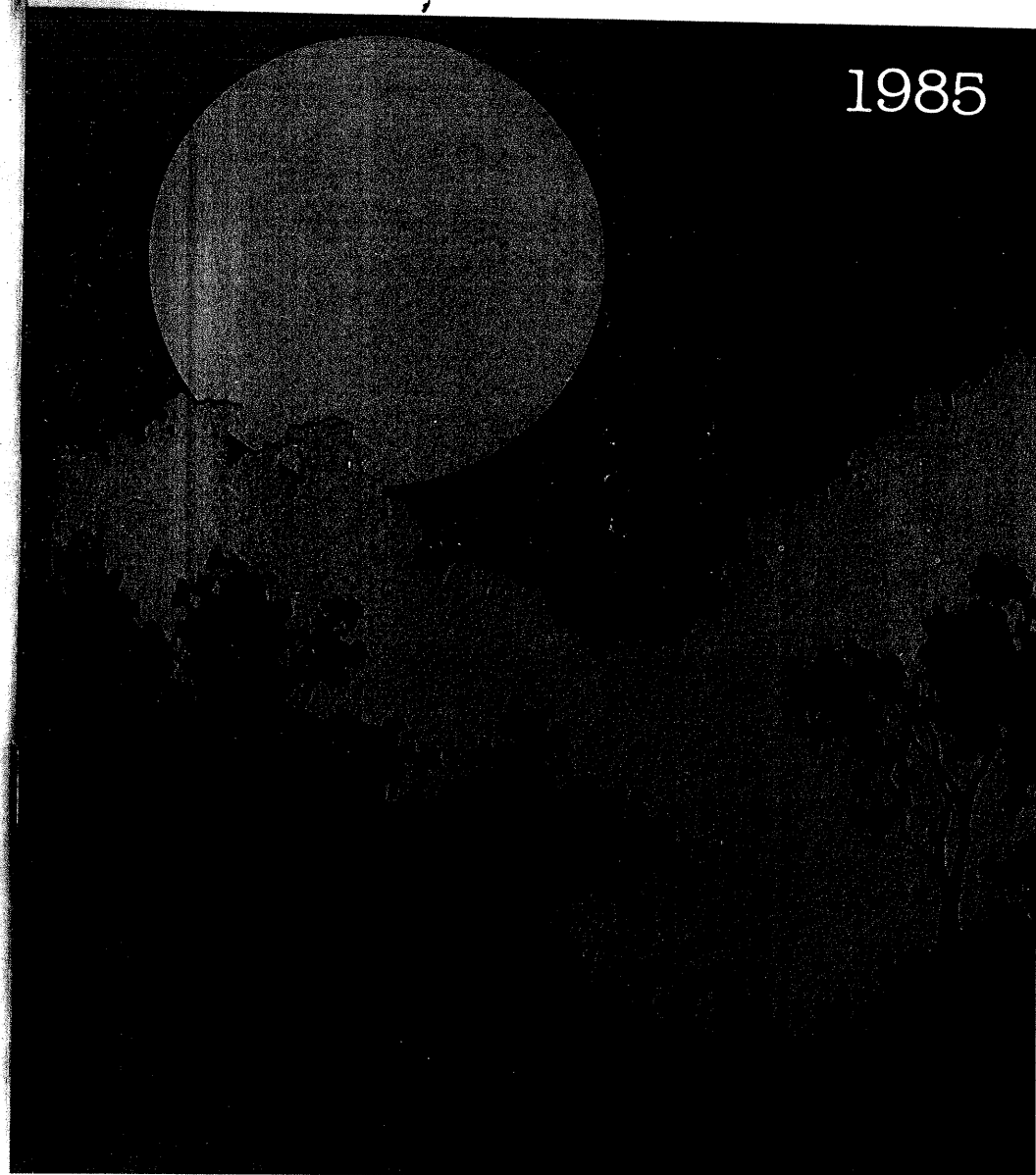
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HIXSON AREA COUNCIL

Chattanooga Area Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 727, Hixson, Tennessee 37343

(Extra copies of Directory available—\$2.00 each)

Message from our chairman:

The membership of the Hixson Area Council hopes this directory will be of value to the residents of our community, to newcomers, and to the business firms who have supported its publication. We feel that the Hixson Community is a great place to live and to do business. We think you will agree.

Everett Fairchild
Chairman 1985

HIXSON AREA COUNCIL OFFICERS:

Everett Fairchild, Chairman; Bobby Douglas, Vice-Chairman; Helen McKeown, Secretary; Linda Hixon, Treasurer

BUSINESS DIRECTORY PROJECT COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

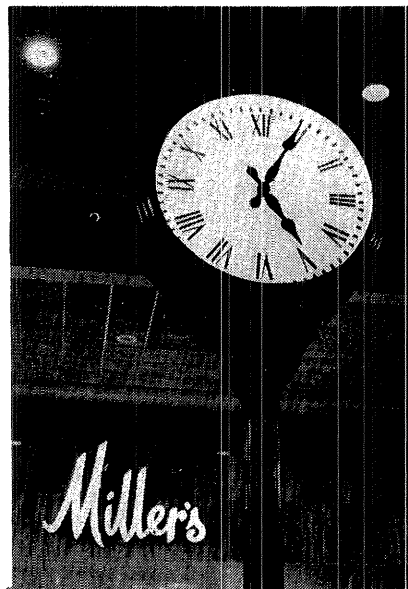
Linda Hixon, Chairman; June Cooper, Mary Cox, Jon Grimes, Maxie Green, Jimmy Johnson

COVER DESIGN BY

Ledarrall Brumley
Cleveland, Tennessee

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HIXSON YESTERDAY

Prepared By: Inez McConnell, Betty Ann Barrett, Bob & Luella Hixson, James Holcomb, Susie Smith, Georgia Williams, Jerry Wormsley. Special thanks to Dr. James W. Livingood for his assistance. (Committee's detailed report available at Northgate Branch of the Library.)

GOLIATH PRINTING COMPANY

HIXSON TODAY

Where is Hixson?

All of us have heard this question asked with various levels of vocal intonation. And many times we have explained, "Hixson is located close to Chattanooga, Tennessee."

This is true, but there is a lot more that can be added. Let's note some of the pleasures we enjoy as Hixsonians so our future answers can show some of the pride we have in our home.

First of all, did you know the community of Hixson is over 150 years old? From the settlement of the Ephraim Hixson, Jr., family in 1830 to our present year, Hixson has marked 155 notches on the chart.

From these beginnings, Hixson has grown and prospered to become an important and supportive section of the greater Chattanooga/Hamilton County area. And situated directly between the modern and progressive City of Chattanooga and the rural areas of mountain ridges and winding creeks, Hixson residents enjoy the best of both worlds.

The downtown Chattanooga business section can be reached in only 10 to 20 minutes as several major traffic arteries lead to one of the five bridges that span the Tennessee River.

For aesthetic pleasures and relaxation, State Routes 27 and 29 lead to the rural areas and provide various outings. Nature lovers are on the go year round enjoying hiking, fishing, and hunting.

Spring and autumn colors, coupled with the wildflowers of both seasons, encourage cameras clicking in all directions. Winter's climate brings moderately cool weather and some snow allowing for fun and challenge.

FACTS AND FIGURES...

- The 1980 Census showed the fastest growing section of Hamilton County during 1970-80 to be the Middle Valley area of Hixson—a 148% increase in population was registered.





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Getting Settled

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was residing at time of registration, or fails to vote in at least one election in four (4) years. Permanent registration office: 514 East 4th St., Chattanooga, TN 37403. Open Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

PRECINCTS

Precinct Name	Precinct Address	Districts
16-DUPONT	DUPONT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	SEN/HSE/COM
25-HIXSON	HIXSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	10/26/03
29-LUPTON CITY	LUPTON CITY GYM	10/26/03
36-NORTHGATE	HIXSON CHURCH OF CHRIST	10/29/03
37-NORTHWOODS NORTH	FIREHALL #22	10/29/03
38-NORTHWOODS SOUTH	TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH	11/26/01
66-DALLAS	JOHN H. ALLEN SCHOOL	10/27/03
68-FALLING WATER	FALLING WATER SCHOOL	11/30/01
70-GANNS	GANNS MIDDLE VALLEY SCHOOL	11/27/01
71-LAKESITE	LAKESITE MUNICIPAL BUILDING	11/26/03
73-MIDDLE VALLEY	MIDDLE VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH	11/26/03
75-PLEASANT GROVE	PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH	11/27/03

Mary Cox, Editor

HIXSON YESTERDAY

EARLY BEGINNINGS

Hixson's history begins with the formation of Hamilton County on October 25, 1819, following the U.S. Government's acquisition of the property north of the Tennessee River from the Cherokees. Land on the south side of the river became a part of the county in 1838, when the Cherokees were made to leave on the "Trail of Tears."

Under the terms of the Treaty of 1819, several Cherokees retained reservations on the north bank of the river. Hamilton County's first courthouse was built at Dallas on a part of Cherokee Fox Taylor's reservation. The site is now under water at Chester Frost Park. The town that developed around the courthouse included a post office, a school, a Methodist Church, four stores, a blacksmith's shop, a hotel, one lawyer and two doctors. The county's population in 1820 was approximately 800 people.

The present Hixson community received its name from the descendants of Ephraim Hixson, Jr., of whom there were 11 children. The family settled here in 1830 on the site now just east of the railroad on Old Hixson Pike.



E.F. Hixson—postmaster and railroad agent. Also served as



Railroad Depot at Hixson

POST OFFICE

The first post office of the area was at Dallas in 1822 with Asahel Rawlings as postmaster. After several beginnings, it was finally discontinued in 1872. Mail was brought by way of the Tennessee River, and some was delivered to surrounding communities by way of horseback and saddle bags.

The first Hixson Post Office, called North Chickamauga, was established in 1833, by Ephraim Hixson, Jr., but was discontinued in 1839. The second one, called Lakeside, was established in 1880, and was located in the store of E.F. Hixson, grandson of Ephraim Hixson, Jr. In 1878 the civil engineer corps surveying the Cincinnati Southern Railway near the Hixson store caught a glimpse of Lookout Mountain. As a result, the railroad station placed there was called Lookout. In January 1884, due to confusion with a station south of Chattanooga, a traveling auditor changed the name to Hixson. And in 1892 since E.F. Hixson was both station agent and postmaster, the post office name was changed to Hixson, also. The Hixson Post Office has been in continual operation for



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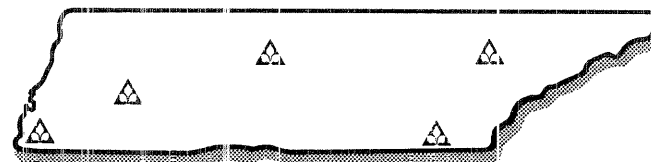
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HIXSON YESTERDAY

105 years, with 3 more locations. The first rural mail delivery began in 1905 by horse and buggy. 1918 marks the beginning of rural delivery by automobile.

Union forces occupied Chattanooga, Wilder's men forded the river and went on into the Battle of Chickamauga.

After Chickamauga and during the siege of Chattanooga (Sept. 21-Nov. 25, 1863), Federal soldiers were again stationed near Friar's Island on river patrol duty. The Confederates again occupied the south bank.

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THE CIVIL WAR ERA

On June 8, 1861, in a state referendum on separation, Chattanooga voted for secession and the people of Hamilton County to stay in the union. Divided loyalties throughout the war were a serious civilian problem.

On river patrol on the north side of the river in August, 1863, Col. John T. Wilder bivouaced his mounted infantry in the vicinity of Friar's Island. The island was a blind for Federal down river crossings. When the



Friar's Island. Site is now location of Chickamauga Dam.

HIXSON YESTERDAY

During this period, the Union troops hid 116 pontoons in North Chickamauga Creek. To guard their secret, a special road was built and citizens detained. On the night of Nov. 23-24, some of General Sherman's men drifted down the Tennessee River to establish a bridgehead near South Chickamauga Creek on the eve of the Battle of Missionary Ridge.

CHURCHES AND SCHOOLS

Churches and schools were among the first public buildings erected in the early settlement. In most cases one building would be used for both a school and a church. The oldest church in the area was Jackson's Chapel Methodist built on the property of Asahel Rawlings in the early 1820's. The log structure was called Prairie Springs Meeting House until 1872 when a frame building was built and the name was changed to Jackson's Chapel. In 1925, the church rebuilt beyond the cemetery gate, and the steps of this church still remain at the entrance to Chester Frost Park. When the area was flooded by TVA in 1939, the fellowship merged with Burkes Chapel Methodist, built on Hixson Pike in 1874, and is flourishing today.



Mail carrier J.B. Rogers. Rural mail delivery began in 1905

Hixson Methodist was first organized about 1835 as a worship group growing out of Hamill Springs Camp meetings. The first building, built in 1860, was Barker's Chapel located on Ely Road. In 1889 the church moved to its present site, building a one-room frame structure.

By the early 1900's, Hixson area churches included Fairview Methodist, Hixson First Baptist, Cumberland Presbyterian, the Church of Christ behind Hixson Methodist, Rogers Chapel Methodist, and First Baptist Church of Hixson on Winding Lane.

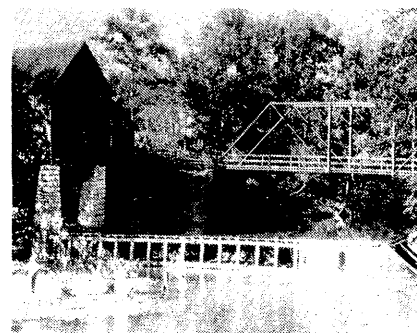


Housing grades 1-12, this school building was completed in 1908

Schools during the early and middle 1800's were held in churches or in cabins and buildings made available by the owner free of charge. These were subscription schools where those who were financially able paid tuition and merchants and farmers paid the deficit. In 1889 a two-story frame building was erected by the community on property given by the wife and heirs of Ephraim Hixson, Jr., to the county for an academy of learning. The site was on Old Hixson Pike where the Masonic Building now stands.

HIXSON YESTERDAY

In 1908, a two-story brick building serving grades 1-12 was erected on land donated by P.A. Rogers, now the present site of Hixson Junior High School gymnasium. Students came from Red Bank, Falling Water, Gann's, Miller's Grove, Gold Point, and Daisy. Some walked, other rode horses, bicycled, or came by horse and buggy. A barn was back of the school to keep the horses. Those in the Daisy area rode the train, "The Accomodation." Three girls, Lula Gooden Lewis, Anne Pitts Clarke, and Carrie Watkins Foster, made up the first graduation class, 1909. All three became teachers.



The Lower Mill

COMMUNITY LIFE

Early stores were located near the intersection of the railroad and Old Hixson Pike: the E.F. Hixson Store, 1880; the Bill "Dock" Hixson Store with the first gas pumps in the area; and the Rogers and Riddle Store in the Masonic Building.

Four doctors served the area in the early 1900's: Dr. Smith; Dr. J.C. Cunningham, whose home and office attached to the garage still



FDR at Chickamauga Dam Dedication

stand at 5253 Old Hixson Pike; Dr. Skillern; and Dr. N.S. Ritchie. In 1927, Dr. Ritchie established an office in the south side of the post office at the corner of Adams Road and Old Hixson Pike. They were truly general practitioners, making house calls, taking care of all needs of the patient from doctoring toothaches to delivering babies and setting bones. These routine practices earned the confidence of the people when they had more serious ailments.

Of great importance were two water-wheel mills where corn and wheat were ground. The Upper Mill was located on Chickamauga Creek at Boy Scout Road. The Lower Mill was built in 1868 on the creek at Lower Mill Road and still stands today.

Chickamauga Creek and the Tennessee River provided a great deal of the recreation with swimming, boating, and camping. Curve In and Long Beach on Old Hixson Pike were popular swimming areas. Camp Tsatanugi, the Boy Scout Camp from 1925-1967, and Camp Hixson at the Lower Mill were used by family and community groups. After the Chickamauga Dam was built, the lake became the great recreational area.

Baseball was the sport of the day in the 20's and 30's. Free-will collections

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HIXSON YESTERDAY

taken at the games and other donations paid expenses. The games were played on the field that is now the Hixson Junior High track. Concession stands were made of boards nailed from tree to tree with cold drinks iced down in wash tubs. Several of the players went on to play professional ball.

Other sources of entertainment were plays sponsored and performed by many school and community groups. Fiddling contests, musical programs, and some square dances were also in the offing. Admission to the programs was ten and fifteen cents, and in later years raised to 25 cents.

Progress began to show in Hixson in the late 20's and early 30's. The radio appeared in most homes during the twenties. Local telephone

service came in the late thirties, but the post office and Dr. Cunningham had phones before that time. Electricity was installed in a small area of Hixson in 1928, although the school, the E.F. Hixson Store and a few homes had their own Delco systems. With the completion of the Chickamauga Dam in 1940, electricity came to the whole area. Many residents gathered to hear the dedication by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. 1945 brought the formation of Hixson Water Company and since then there has been rapid growth and progress.

The beauty of the land with its hills, creeks, river, lake, and surrounding mountains has been a great factor in the settling of people from the Cherokee Indian to the great influx of people today.

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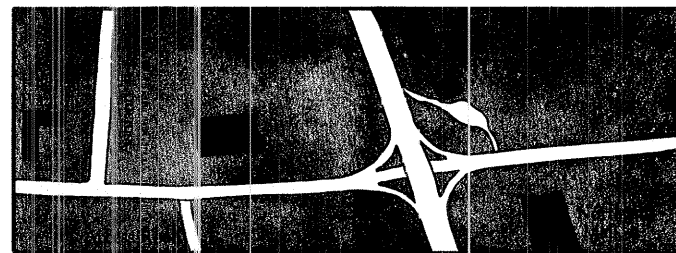
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