

Co. Sunday, March 1, 1903 Hall County history

Robert Young one of Hall's first pioneers

Several years ago, before the completion of the present Atlanta Stadium, many Hall Countians often attended sporting events in the old Ponce de Leon Ball Park in Atlanta.

Some of these people may have been interested in history, and possibly read the data on the Historical Marker in front of Sears across the street from the park. However, it is doubtful that many people in this area are aware of the existence of this marker with the inscription about a pioneer Hall Countian.

"Atlanta and Environs," by Franklin Garrett, "In 1865 the Joseph Habersham Chapter D.A.R., Atlanta, placed a bronze tablet upon the front of the Sears Roebuck Building on Ponce de Leon Ave. It is inscribed:

"This tablet commemorates the spot, formerly Ponce de Leon Springs, where Robert Young, a Revolutionary Soldier of Cherokee, now Hall County, first traded with the Creek Indians and built the Peachtree Trail from Atlanta to Flowery Branch."

Robert Young was the son of Stephen Young and Diana

Tucker Young. He was born in North Carolina, died in Hall County, and is buried, along with several members of the Young family and about seventy slaves, in the YOUNG Family Cemetery, Atlanta Hwy (23) about 2 miles this side of Flowery Branch.

A short distance from the cemetery across from Gold Kist Mills, U.S. 23 is another Historical Marker.

"The route leading west from this point is the Old Federal Road, an early thoroughfare which linked Georgia and Tennessee across the Cherokee Nation. Rights to open the passage were granted informally by the Indians in 1803 and confirmed by treaty in 1805. Beginning 10 miles to the east, on the former Cherokee boundary, now the Hall-Jackson county line, the road crossed the Chatahoochee 4 miles to the west at Van's Ferry and bore northward.

This highway was the first vehicular and emigrant route of Northwest Georgia. Andrew Jackson passed here in 1818 enroute to the Seminole Campaign."

Robert Young and his brother John Young came to Georgia at the time the state, by treaties, drew liberally. He was a man

was rapidly acquiring land from the Indians which was then available for settlement, by drawings in land lotteries. Land was cheap and Robert Young purchased property in what is now Hall County. He built a large two story log house with twelve rooms, chimneys, pillars and flag stone walks were made of stone cut from that found on the plantation. The original farm consisted of 1600 acres.

Robert Young was a man of many interests, but cattle raising and farming were his chief occupations. J.C. Flannigan wrote a description of this pioneer citizen of Hall County in his publication of "Gwinnet County History."

"It was said he marked out the road from Fort Daniel at Hog Mountain to Standing Peachtree. Later on Robert, John Young and Augustin Young were employed to grade and construct this road." Mr. Flannigan states that Robert Young, "was a character, whose like will seldom be seen hereafter. He was original in his looks, in his language, in his habits, and in the character of his mind, wholly with no knowledge of books, except the great book of nature, from which he drew liberally. He was a man

of superior judgement and had stored up from observation a large fund of information that was valuable to him and his friends. He was true to his word, faithful to his honor, truthful to the fullest extent. His word, his promise, and his integrity were never questioned by those who knew him. He always wore his hair tied in a queue, which he prized most highly, and of which he was proud to the day of his death."

His house across from the family burial plot was a place where travelers frequently stopped for lodging. A Historical Marker was placed at this site by the Ga.

Historical Commission in 1937. "Jackson at Young's Tavern, 12 room log home of Robert Young where travelers frequently stopped for lodging. Andrew Jackson, his staff and two companies of militia spent a night on their way to the Seminole Campaign in 1818. General Jackson followed the road through Monticello and Hawkinsville, while the main body of troops went to South Georgia by way of Alabama. This was on the Federal Road. The first vehicular way in northwest Georgia opened in 1805 Robert Young born in North Carolina in 1760, son of a Revolutionary soldier had a 1600 acre farm

here and was a leading pioneer citizen of this section." The will of Robert Young, dated 24 May 1851 and probated, 3 April 1854, is recorded in "Book 'A' Wills" (pp 98-102), Hall County court-house.

"To wife, Elizabeth Young (2nd wife), one Negro by name Cleto To minor son, Nelson T. Young, 2 lots numbers not recollected in 8th district, 1 lot where my Mill stands on Mud Creek and the lot covering Beaver Run Place." Also named are: daughter-in-law, Lucinda Young, widow of son, Richard; granddaughter, Mary Ann Young, daughter of

son Richard; son, Augustin; son, Wilson, the children named to receive distributive shares of estate; Irene Strickland and children; Selannah Blake, wife of Thomas Blake, and children; Wiley Young; Louzanna Gatre; Blake, wife of Allen Blake; Robert Young (Jr); Isaac Young; Selah Strickland, wife of Talbot Strickland and her children; Samuel B.F. Young; grandchild: Robert Clinton Young; Matthew T. Young; Elizabeth and Emily Young; children of son Richard, deceased; Robert Lumpkin Young; Louisa, Samuel Young, children of Harrison B. Young, deceased.