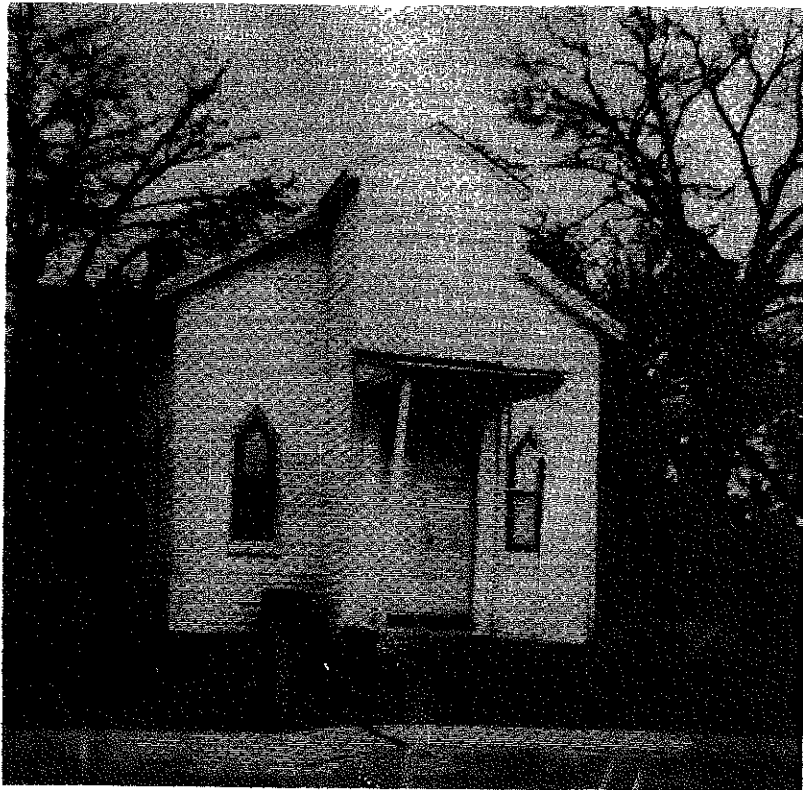


County. When he came to the Laurel Charge in 1904, he was a widower with seven children. He did not record any information in the Record during the two years that he served the charge.

In 1906 Reverend Joseph Henry was appointed to the Laurel Charge. He served the charge for two years. He stated in the Record, "Upon arriving at the Charge, I found the work situation in tolerable fair condition." He later wrote "Reappointed April 1, 1907 by Bishop William F. McDowell. D. D., Grand revival 98 converted, church indebtedness reduced to \$57."

Reverend Arnold Angold Brown was appointed to the Laurel Charge in 1908. He served the charge for three years. He wrote more prolifically in the Record than his predecessors and successors. Two weeks after his appointment, he described an administrative meeting as "a good meeting." He noted that the Parsonage Committee, after one of its meetings, "fixed up the parsonage in fairly good condition and up to that time the Pastor and his wife (were) comfortable." On May 14, 1908 Reverend Brown conducted a revival which he described as great. This revival closed two weeks later with 58 conversions. A second revival "broke out" in Reverend Brown's words, on watch night of 1908, and ran for three weeks. It gave the church 14 converts.

The remodeling of St. Mark's original edifice was completed during Reverend Brown's tenure. On November 8, 1908 Pastor Brown wrote in the Record, "The remodeling of St. Mark's - Laurel and the laying of the cornerstone are worthy of note. The members and friends worked heroically in helping to raise money, etc. The Ladies Aid Society donated over \$100 to the Board of Trustees. The cornerstone was laid by Mayor W. E. Gilbert of Laurel, and the sermon was preached by Reverend D. H. Martin of Centenary M. E. Church (in Laurel). On the Sunday of the cornerstone laying we raised \$84.24." On January 4, 1910, he recorded: "A note on bank lifted by the Trustees (in the amount) of \$100." And on November 13, 1910, he indicated: "St. Mark's, Laurel, was dedicated at 3 p.m. The Sermon was preached by the Reverend J. H. Jeffries of Centenary M. E. Church, Laurel. The meeting (continued) for a week. Mayor W. E. Gilbert sent a check for \$10, and many letters of greeting were read."



The congregation's first sanctuary was a building formerly used as a dance hall. This photo shows the building after it was remodeled in 1908.