



—Times Staff Photo

River Hill Church at Its New Site: 'Ain't That a Pretty Sight'

River Hill Church Gets Out Of Hole

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

When the Interstate Highway is built through this region out six years ago, it literally left the River Hill Missionary Baptist Church in a hole.

The church, located at the Brown Road - I-75 interchange, had as its front view a blank wall, the interchange embankment.

Members of the Negro congregation didn't like their new location and wanted to do something about it.

They went to J. D. McKey of Adosia and asked for help. It was J. D. McKey's father, the late T. S. McKey, who had deeded the property to the church prior to the turn of the century.

The deed contained a clause that if the church moved or used the property for any purpose other than the church, the property would revert to the McKey heirs.

For about four years J. D. McKey worked on the details. He agreed to move the church to a new location on the McKey property, install rest rooms and make other improvements.

So the church was moved last month and the property on which it was located went back to the McKeys. J. D. McKey said he hopes to sell the former church site for a service station location.

The church was moved about one-half mile south of its former location.

How does the congregation like the new location? Frank Jones, long-time trustee of River Hall, answered:

"Ain't that a pretty sight," he said, pointing to the new corn breaking through the soil around the church. "Everybody likes it better, white and colored."

Jones, 83, who says he is the oldest member of the church, is also the man responsible for much of the work during the moving job.

Said McKey: "He (Jones) was a great help to me in moving that church. He supervised the whole thing and looked out for all our interests."

A carpenter, Jones is now busily making some of the final improvements to the building. He has been a member at River Hill since 1897.

The church was founded in 1873 and the present building was constructed in 1900.

The Rev. Theodore Williams of Adel is the pastor and there are about 300 members.

River Hill meets on the second and fourth Sundays of each month.

Water Lines Installation At Lake Park Going Well

BY TIMES STAFF WRITER

Installation of water lines at Lake Park is going along well ahead of schedule, said Mayor

Richmond Construction Co. of Augusta is doing the job. The Taylor Iron Works of Macon is also moving in to begin