

## **MITTE J. WASHINGTON TURNER CAMPBELL 1875-1933**

**Birth: March 25, 1875**

**Death: November 5, 1933, Freestone Co., TX**



Mitte J. Washington Turner Campbell was born 25 March 1875 and died 5 November 1933. She first married Jessie J. Turner, a minister beside whom she is buried. After his death in 1912 she married E. B. “Ebby” Campbell in 1915.

Mittie Campbell is credited with opening the first school for black students in Conroe. According to information from the Heritage Museum of Montgomery County, the school was rebuilt after a fire in the Dugan neighborhood in 1919 across First Street between Ave. K and Ave. M. Prior to Campbell High School being completed, classes for black children were held at Central Baptist Church located in Madeley Quarters.

In "Montgomery County History - Texas" published in 1981, a passage tells of Ms. Robin Goffrey's experiences at the school. According to her, the school accommodated grades one through 11. There were 11 rooms with one teacher in each. Goffrey graduated in 1931 at the peak of the Depression.

Mittie Campbell resigned as principal of the school to become a Montgomery County Home Demonstration Agent, according to the museum's information. The same year, the Campbell School name was changed to Booker T. Washington School. The school burned in 1933, but the name continues on as Washington Junior High in the Conroe school district. Campbell died on Nov. 3, 1933 in Freestone County in Texas.

Mittie’s sister Carrie Pearl Washington married Robert Hines. Carrie wrote two books of poetry and several plays. One of their sons, Melvin, was a dentist.

By: John Meredith