

[July 1964]

Gluckstadt: General Information

Gluckstadt is roughly ten miles south of Canton, just west of Route #55. It is an area rather than a real town - there is no clustering of houses, there are no stores or gas stations. The most likely focus of organization for the Negro community (all farm families) would be Pratt's Church, Pastored on the first and third Sundays by Rev. N. E. Taylor of 4119 Wabash St. in Jackson. Phone 366-1665.

A mass meeting ("Freedom Day") was held at Pratt's Church on . . . Thirty names, about half of them with usable addresses, were taken at that meeting. A platoon of Bouldin's attended the meeting - the family might well be used as an initial contact... they are at Rt. 1 Box 45 Madison, Miss. If the meeting-rol is any indication, Gluckstadt people have Madison addresses. Ask the Bouldins about the Smiths.

I traveled to the Gluckstadt area with James Sanders on Sunday Feb. 23. A great deal of time was lost in looking for my supposed contact, a Mrs. Busie Brown. She did not, as it developed, live near the Gluckstadt area - she had never heard the term "Gluckstadt". She referred to the area as "Pratt's Beat". After leaving Mrs. Brown we drove south to Pratt's Church and found that there are no services on the fourth Sunday. We mentioned Freedom Day to the Sunday School, but it seemed poor taste to wait and speak to the funeral later in the afternoon. We returned to Canton at about 1:00.

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