

Mary Turner and The Little River

Mary Turner and the Lynching Rampage of 1918

Near this site on May 19, 1918, twenty-one year old Mary Turner, eight months pregnant, was burned, mutilated, and shot to death by a local mob after publicly denouncing her husband's lynching the previous day. In the days immediately following the murder of a white planter by a black employee on May 16, 1918, at least eleven African Americans including the Turners died at the hands of a lynch mob in one of the deadliest waves of vigilantism in Georgia's history. No charges were ever brought against known or suspected participants in these crimes, From 1880-1930, as many as 550 people were killed in Georgia in these illegal acts of mob violence.

Erected by the Georgia Historical Society, Lowndes/Valdosta Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Valdosta State University - Woman and Gender Studies Program, and The Mary Turner Project

