Jackson Sheffield

The Savannah Tribune; Saturday 21 September 1918; pg. 1 col. 5 & pg. 4 col. 2

MR. JACKSON SHEFFIELD KILLED IN AUTO ACCIDENT -- Was Wealthiest Negro In Glynn County

Brunswick, -- Mr. Jackson Sheffield, one of the best known and wealthiest Negroes of this section of the state, was instantly killed in his automobile Friday afternoon about 4 o'clock as [he] and his wife were riding, the machine colliding with an outgoing Atlantic Coast line passenger train at the ball park street crossing on Norwich street. Mr. Sheffield was instantly killed while his wife who was occupying the front seat, escaped death with injuries not yet ascertained.

According to eye witnesses, Mr. Sheffield no doubt would have saved his life had any signal been given of the approach of the onrushing train which it is stated was running twenty minutes late. Mr. Sheffield was headed north out Norwich street. The train was rounding the curve by the ball park and could not bee seen by him until it was right on the car. The engine plowed through the car and completely demolished it. Mrs. Sheffield was knocked out of the car clear of the path of the speeding train and when picked up was seemingly not seriously injured. Mr. Sheffield was injured in several places, the injury causing his death being just above his heart. He too was thrown out of the car by the impact and when he was picked up life was extinct. His body was carried to the undertaking establishment of John Byrd. Mrs. Sheffield was rushed to the home of her daughter, Mrs. Chas. T. Hoskins, on Gloucester street.

Mr. Sheffield was the most prosperous Negro in Glynn county. He owned a large and beautiful home near Everett City, several thousand acres of land being in the tract. He also owned much other real estate in the city and county. He was unusually popular among his people and had scores of friends among the people of the city and county.

Mr. Sheffield was born in Everett city, October 26, 1864. He married Miss Carrie Williams, of Wareboro, Ga., thirty-six years ago. Aside from his wife, he is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Chas. F. Hoskins, four brothers, Messre. Robert, Emanuel, Dock and James Sheffield; and one sister, Mrs. Ceilie Duffy, all of Everett City, Ga.

His funeral was held 10 o'clock Sunday morning at Grace A.M.E. church, this city, the Rev. W.A. Holmes, of Statesboro, conducting the services. The honorary pall bearers were Prof. W.A. Perry, G.F. Allen, R.S. Fuller, H.E. Dent and W.A. Stewart, six being selected from the K. of P. of which he was a member. The interment was at Oak Grove cemetery.

The funeral was one of the largest Brunswick has ever witnessed.