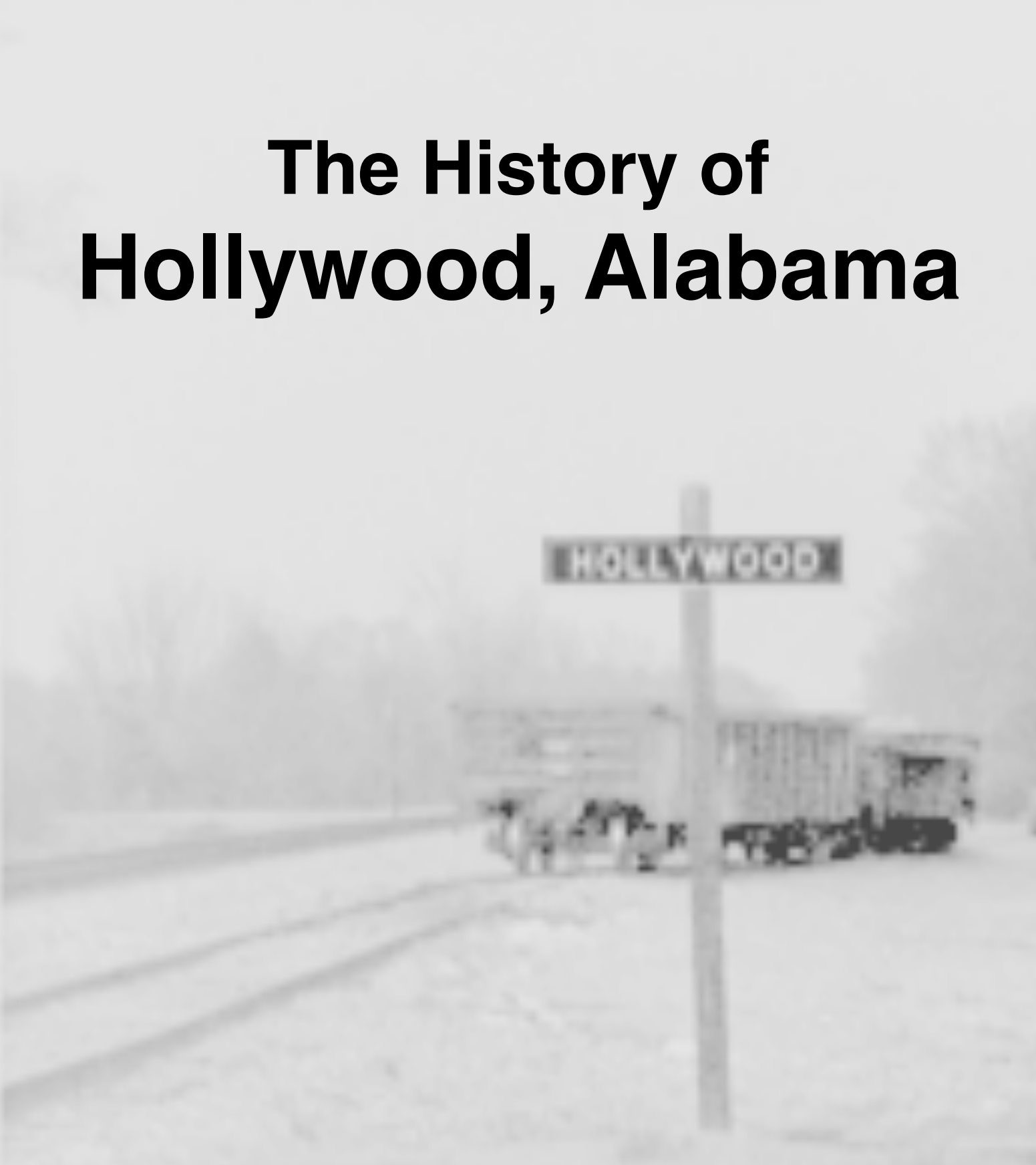


The History of Hollywood, Alabama



A work in progress by
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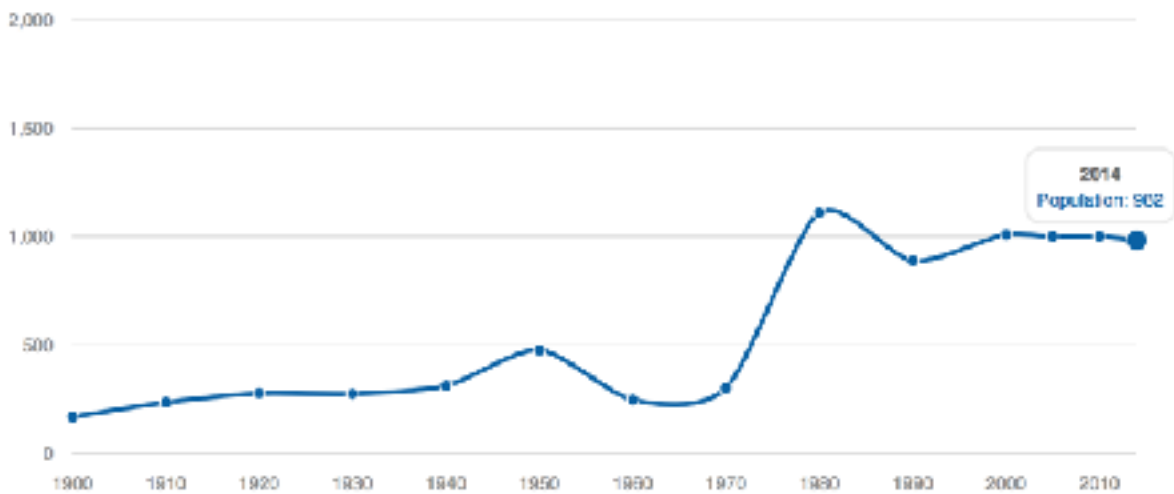
Introduction

“The building of a railroad through a county will build some towns and kill others,” John Robert Kennamer wrote in *The History of Jackson County Alabama*. “It was railroads that built ...Hollywood.” The story of Hollywood is the story of the coming—and going—of the local rail service. The town was born when the tracks were laid, and it began its decline when local passenger and freight service stopped in the late 1960s.

The story of the town of Hollywood is, in many ways, a sad story. Hollywood never lived up to its promise, and the loss of railroad service sealed its fate. In 1900, the population of Hollywood was 168 and in 1910, it was 234. (FN ADAH Website) By 1950 the population had grown to 477, falling by 230 people in the next decade. The building of the nuclear plant produced a population boom, with the 1980 topping out at 1110 people. After this construction boom passed, the population leveled off about 1000 people. (<http://population.us/al/hollywood/#1>)

Historical population

Historical population of Hollywood town for period 1900-2014:



The 2010 census, the most recent for which there is a detailed analysis, showed a population of 1,000. Of that number, 75.8 percent of respondents identified themselves as white, 14.8 percent as African American, 4.9 percent as Hispanic, 4.3 percent as two or more races, 1.7 percent as Native American and 0.3 percent as Asian. The town's median household income, according to 2010 Census estimates, was \$35,000, and the per capita income was \$18,558.

The work force in Hollywood in 2010 was divided among the following industrial categories:

- Manufacturing (25.3 percent)
- Retail trade (16.8 percent)
- Construction (14.0 percent)
- Educational services, and health care and social assistance (12.2 percent)

- Wholesale trade (9.4 percent)
- Finance and insurance, and real estate and rental and leasing (6.6 percent)
- Arts, entertainment, recreation, and accommodation and food services (5.4 percent)
- Other services, except public administration (3.6 percent)
- Transportation, warehousing, and utilities (3.0 percent)
- Professional, scientific, and administrative and waste management services (1.8 percent)
- Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting, and extractive (1.2 percent)
- Public administration (0.8 percent)

But Hollywood is and has been home to many and remains the source of strong family ties and fond memories. For that reason, it deserves more than dry statistics. The origin and progress of this town needs to be recorded and appreciated.

There are not many original sources of information about the Jackson County town of Hollywood. This account is based on information from historical newspapers; family sketches originally written for *The Heritage of Jackson County, Alabama*; the brief (two-page) account in Kenamer's 1935 *History of Jackson County*; two series of articles written for *The Jackson County Advertiser* in 1974 and 1977 by Madge Willbanks and Elizabeth McAllen, both of whom relied heavily on interviews with Ruby Matthews Johnson; photos and information from city hall; the incredible archive of photos and information collected by Paul D. Machen; and discussions with residents and former residents, young and old, face to face and on Facebook. For details about sources, see Bibliography at the end of this document.

One final caveat. Though Annette has done a lot of genealogy research on families from Hollywood, Annette is not from Jackson County. This document is more of a research report than an experience report. (AB) The real expert is Paul Machen.

Hollywood History

From the time when the first white squatters began to call Jackson County home, through the bright optimism of the 19th century when anything seemed possible and the fire, pestilence, and natural disasters that tried to wipe the town off the map, to the boom times during construction of the nuclear plant in the 1960s and 1970s, and the 21st century depopulation, Hollywood has survived. Let's walk through some of this history.

Elizabeth McAlpin in her 1977 series for the Jackson County Advertiser gives this brief overview of Hollywood history:

For many years, there was only one small mercantile store, located on the south side of the tracks, near the depot, to serve the farmers in that area. It is generally believed that the store was operated by a Samples family. Merchants entering the business scene later were Henry Harris, Pleasant P. Campbell, Brewster Brothers, Robert O. Starkey, C.K. Bradford, Pete Collins, Joe McCrary, Ed Machen, Arthur Wann, Gordon Harris and T.I. Davidson.

The town was surveyed and sold in town lots on the south side of the tracks where a few small frame houses, community center, and a log jail were erected. The north side of the track remained in timberland until the turn of the century.

The small frame depot served Hollywood until 1902 when a much larger depot was erected. In 1966, the depot was sold to Gordon Harris and Dewey Bryant and rebuilt on a tract of land a mile northwest of the town. It was later sold to John and Ruby Odom and remains a beautiful home today.

Miles Burton and Denard Henry, slaves of Bellefonte, helped to build the Memphis and Charleston Railroad through Jackson County. According to family tradition, Henry was given small strips of blue ribbon by the company for a day's pay, which were traded to a mercantile store in Bellefonte for chewing tobacco and candy.

In 1905, G.H. Strickland was the depot agent and telegraph operator. J.M. Matthews owned the only livery stable, and Rev. S.R. Corn operated a wood and blacksmith shop.

In the late 1890s, J.H. Kennedy emigrated to the town from Huntsville and opened a photograph gallery. When business was slow in this line, he worked as a carpenter.

Will Matthews established a modern up-to-date cotton gin in 1904, which was a great convenience to the farmers in that vicinity. In 1907, the Farmers' Union established a second cotton gin. The gins were later purchased by Bradford, Clopton, and Robert O. Starkey.

History records that Hollywood continued to grow in both population and growth. New houses were going up at a rapid pace to provide housing for the influx of people streaming in to the town from Ohio, Georgia, and Indiana.

Hollywood as part of the Harlin Reservation

The earliest mention in historical documents of that land that would become Hollywood is found in the definitions of Cherokee reservations. Much of the land that was part of Hollywood was part of what was known as the Harlin Reservation. In fact, people who own land within this area still find the notation "Harlin Reservation" on their annual property tax statement. These Cherokee reservations came about through the 1817 Cherokee Land Cession Act, a program of the fledgling U.S. Government meant to codify their relationship between U.S. citizens and the Cherokee population. The act included an option for those Cherokees wishing to remain east of the Mississippi River to obtain a 640 acre land grant. This action marked the beginning of the Americans' ultimately successful removal of the southeastern Indians by changing the manner in which the Cherokee perceived land ownership. Before this time all Cherokee land was "owned" in common by the tribe as a whole. Now, individuals became land owners. The grant constituted a life estate to the reservee, dependent on the reservee maintaining possession of the land, with a right of passing the reserve on to the reservee's heirs in fee simple.

Note: Overview based on

http://tngenweb.org/records/tn_wide/history/first/1817cherokee.pdf

Patty Woodall is the local expert on Cherokee history. In 2004, she wrote about George Harlin for *The Jackson County Chronicles*. The owner of the reservation that included most of Hollywood was George Harlin, a 5/16 blood Cherokee man who was born in 1779 in the Cherokee Nation East in what later became Tennessee and died in 1848. George had strongly supported the U. S. Government to the displeasure of the Cherokee nation, and for this reason, he was granted two reservations; one in Georgia

where he lived and this second reservation in the area that is now Hollywood. The second reservation was granted February 27, 1819.

Robert Armstrong surveyed the reservation on February 12, 1825. It was located primarily in Section 3, Township 4, South Range 6 East and joined Margaret Morgan's reservation, which joined James Riley's reservation. In 1828, a list of reserves, which included George Harlin that had been surveyed and were exempt from land sales and entered on the books at the Huntsville Land Office, was sent to the Office of Indian Affairs. Harlin felt that the Hollywood reservation was too isolated and that he would "lose what is intended for him," so he petitioned repeatedly and unsuccessfully to have the location of his reservation moved. The location of this reservation and its relationship to modern Hollywood can be seen in the map that Patty included in her article for the *Chronicles*.



MAP SHOWING THE HARLINE, MORGAN, AND RILEY RESERVATIONS IN JACKSON COUNTY, EARLY 1820S

George Harlin had received his reservation "in fee simple," meaning that it was legal for him to sell it, which he did before August 1828. In a letter to Thomas McKinney, Gideon Morgan, Jr. stated that George Harlin's reserve was on rich cotton land and that it sold for \$5,120. The buyers name was not specified.

It is, however, interesting to note that Thomas Henry Machen (1817-1877), the first of his family in Hollywood, is a descendant of Thomas Henry Machen, a DAR patriot buried in Greenville, SC. Thomas Henry married Francis Barringer, and they had a number of children among them a son Frances Barringer Machen. Son Frances married Margaret Harlin, who was born in Greenville, SC around 1782-1790, the daughter of John Harlin. It is worth noting that in the table of people desiring reservations, which is organized chronologically rather than alphabetically, the name John Harlin immediately follows the name George Harlin. Margaret Harlin Machen is the right age to be a sibling to George Harlin. T. H. Machen who is buried in Old Baptist married Lovie Payne, and his children (according to census records) were born in Georgia. It seems possible, but not provable, that the T. H. Machen who bought the White Plantation and was one of the settlers of Hollywood acquired the Harlin Plantation because the land was transferred within the Harlin family.

Early Land Patentees in the Hollywood Area

Margaret Matthews Cowart in her *Old Land Records of Jackson County* (Cowart, 1980, 439 pages) provides a transcription of the best-available government tract book for Jackson County. This book is out of print and expensive to buy, when a copy can be found. The Scottsboro Public Library has a copy, and this transcription of her introduction was made from that copy. This information is reproduced here because it explains the survey and distribution of land in early Jackson County.

History: The Territory of Alabama was organized on March 3, 1817, two days after Congress had admitted Mississippi as a State in the Union. (Alabama was formerly a part of the Mississippi Territory.) Two years later on March 2, 1819 Congress, by resolution, authorized the Alabama Territory to form a Satea. A Constitutional Convention met in July in Huntsville. All that part north of the Tennessee River, east of Madison County as it then existed had been ceded to the national government by the Cherokee Indians on February 27, 1819. From those lands Jackson County was created by an Act of the State Legislature on December 13, 1819 and was named in honor of General Andrew Jackson. The next day, December 14, 1819, Alabama was admitted as a State in the Union.

Cherokee Treaties: The Cherokee Treaties of 1817 and 1819 were of upmost importance in Jackson County. In the treaty of July 8, 1817, the US made its first major attempt to resettle the Cherokees peacefully in the west. This treaty gave the Cherokees title to lands in Arkansas in exchange for an equal tract of land in the east. Since many Cherokee families residing on the lands in the east would not wish to move, provision was made for them allowing each head of a Cherokee family who wished to become a citizen of the US to receive a life reservation of 640 acres, with reversion in fee simple (absolute title) to his children with the stipulation that removal from the reserved land would result in title passing to the US. A life reservation meant they were not able to sell their land or hold on to it if they moved elsewhere but their children would accrue those rights after the death of the parent.

Dissatisfaction with certain provisions of the treaty of 1817 led to a new treaty on February 27, 1819. In it the US agreed to pay for improvements left by Cherokees who vacated their homes in the ceded areas in the east. The condition of US citizenship in order to remain on the land in the east remained the same.

From the beginning the Indians who remains had trouble with their white neighbors and the State governments. Of the four states involved (Tennessee, Georgia, North Carolina, and Alabama) only Alabama never asserted any rights against the reservations, but most of them fell into the hands of white individuals, in some cases probably by purchase, neither party realizing the inability of the Cherokee reserves to sell the land himself.

A register of persons who wish reservations under the Treat of 1817 and 1819 shows 311 names. Another document shows three lists of names under the heading "Reservee under Treaty." The first contains the names of person "now in office in the Cherokee Nation who taken (sic) reservation in the Treaties of 1817 and 1819. The second list shows persons entitled to reservations for life with 107 names, of which 18 are known to be in Georgia. The last list shows persons receiving reservations in fee simple with 39 names, of which 5 are known to be in Georgia. This last list was of Cherokee families who were felt able to handle their own affairs and therefore were given title by the treaty. This document was signed: Dept of War, Off Ind Affairs, 22 Nov 1830 by Sam'l L. Hamilton.

The original boundaries of Jackson County as given in the Statutes are as follows: "All that tract of country lately obtained from the Cherokee nation of Indians, lying on the north side of the Tennessee River, south to the Tennessee State line, and of the Flint River, after it has left Madison County." The boundaries of this county have been changed at least six times since its organization. One interesting boundary change was the creation of Decatur County by an Act of Legislature in December 1821. This short lived county was formed out of parts of Jackson and Madison Counties and all of the northern part of the present county of Marshall. Decatur County was surveyed around 1822 by John Coffee, (at this date not more than half of the 32 counties of the state had been surveyed including Jackson County). Decatur County was subsequently abolished by the Legislature on December 28, 1825 because "it did not possess the territory required by the Constitution."

Another change was that all that portion of the present county of Jackson south and east of the Tennessee River was added in 1936 after it was acquired by the Cherokee Indians by treaty signed at New Echota on December 29, 1935.

Public Land Sales: Those researching Jackson County are fortunate in that this land was in the public domain. Before the public land sales, land descriptions were metes and bounds. In the public land states, a person could obtain title to a tract only after it had been surveyed. The surveys of public land states depend upon east to west base lines and north to south meridians. In our area the first work done was the survey of Huntsville Meridian from the Tennessee line to the Tennessee River. This line bisects Madison County and the Range number is counted from the line. In other words, Jackson County starts in Range 3 East and continues through Range 10 East. The base line is the Tennessee State line and the townships are counted down. A township is a square of land with sides of 6 miles each and contains 36 sections of land each one mile square.... Jackson County was surveyed as of December 17, 1827.

By way of background information, the Public Land Sales in the United States in the earliest time period (1785-1796) were determined by the Federal Government's urgent need for money after the Revolutionary War. The land was sold by section of 640 acres at a minimum of one dollar an acre, payable over one year. The Ordinance of 1796 raised the minimum price to two dollars an acre. The credit system was introduced in the 1800-1820 time period when it became clear that the settlers could not buy such large tracts especially if they had to pay for it within a year. The time allowed for payment was extended to five years and a half section could be bought. This encouraged speculation. The Act of 1820 permitted land to be bought in tracts as small as 80 acres at no less than \$1.25 an acre and no credit was allowed. During this period the feeling grew that the land should be disposed of to the greatest advantage of the settler and this led to the first preemption Act of 1830 which legalized the vested interest of the squatter. This Act allowed any settler (or squatter) on the public land who had cultivated a tract in 1829 to buy it (up to 160 acres) for \$1.25 an acre. This was merely a pardon to those who had illegally settled. The Act was renewed almost every time Congress convened. In 1841 a permanent preemption Act was passed which allowed anyone who was the head of the family and over 21 who as a US citizen to stake a claim on any tract of up to 160 acres and then buy it from the government for \$1.25 an acre.

At the Public Land Sales of July 1, 1830, the land in Jackson County was first offered for sale at the Huntsville Land Office. The second offering was on October 1, 1830. Land Sales notwithstanding, it is a well known fact that many whites lived, died, joined churches, conducted business, had attorneys and even owned land before this time. Kennemer [sic] mentions that a road from Huntsville via Marysville, Old Woodville, and Sauta to Bellefonte opened in 1819 and extended across the county in 1820. Bellefonte was incorporated by an Act of Legislature on December 15, 1821. The first mail route crossed the county at that time. A Post Office was established about 1822 in Bellefonte. The first courthouse was built in Bellefonte circa 1828. The Flint River Association (Baptist) was organized in 1814 and churches

present in Jackson County were represented. The Mud Creek Association (Baptist) was organized in 1821. The Jackson Circuit (Methodist) in 1822 reported there were 231 white members under their jurisdiction. A Paint Rock Circuit was organized in 1824. Grave markers indicate that white burials took place as early as 1822. Ann B. Chambless in her excellent article "Dead Towns in Jackson County, Alabama," states that "Dr. George Washington Higgins and Stephen Carter evidently engineered a move to locate Jackson County's seat of justice in Bellefonte where they had obtained a title to 640 acres of land as early as 1820." She further states that the land was bought from James Riley, a Cherokee, for \$13,000. Obviously many white people were living and doing business in Jackson County (illegally or not) before the land sales in 1830.

Military Land Grants: There were no land grants given for military service in Jackson County until the Mexican War. The column headed "Date of Military Act" is important because four very important acts were passed between 1847 and 1856.

The Act of 1847 gave a land grant for soldiers who served at least one year in the Mexican War. The Act of 1850 extended this to include all War of 1812 veterans and Indians War veterans. The Act of 1852 included officers as well as enlisted men and made all benefits assignable. The Act of 1855 included every soldier (or his heirs) who had served at least 14 days in any war since (and including) the Revolution.

All of these acts provided that a warrant for a quarter section (160 acres) of land, located on any part of the surveyed public domain, would be granted to those who qualified.

Large Land Holder: One of the large land owners appearing in the tract book was the Wills Valley Railroad, land for which was bought under the Act of June 3, 1856 and approved on June 30, 1860. The Wills Valley Railroad Company was organized to build a railroad through Jackson and DeKalb Counties. After the Civil War, this railroad and the northeast and Southwest Alabama Railroad were united to form a new corporation, the Alabama and Chattanooga Railroad Company. The proposed road would be 295 miles long and completed. The history of this railroad and "carpet-bag legislature" after the Civil War would indicate carelessness and a disgraceful collusion between the governor, the Legislature, and the railroad. *Civil War and Reconstruction in Alabama* states that congress had made a grant of land, 6 sections per mile, amounting to 1,000,000 acres, for all the roads within the boundaries of Alabama, and the state held a mortgage on this land. Much of it was sold fraudulently by the railroad company and titles were given where there had been no sales. The state never received a cent.

Cowart's book goes ahead to list the names of land patent holders by sections within the townships for all of Jackson County. Most of Hollywood falls within Township 4 South Range 6 East of the county grid. The *Family Maps of Jackson County, Alabama* shows this information visually. This layout follows.

Addison White and the White Plantation

The other prominent name associated with the early settlement is Hollywood is Addison White, who was one of the sons of Colonel James White (1770-1838), the “salt king” from Abington, VA, the “Sam Walton” of his time, with over 50 mercantile establishments in the Tennessee Valley. He lived in life in Abington, VA but travelled frequently in the Tennessee Valley. Of his four sons who lived well into adulthood, Addison, a Princeton graduate, made Huntsville his home. After serving as US Congressman representing Kentucky in the United States House of Representatives, 1851-1853 and fighting on the Confederate side in the Civil War, Addison returned to Huntsville to administer his father’s holdings and distill whiskey.

The Huntsville History Collection internet portal (<http://huntsvillehistorycollection.org>) includes this biography of James White:

Before Alabama was a state, when the Tennessee River ran wild and free, frontier industrialist James White pushed into the Tennessee Valley and established a successful chain of mercantile stores in river towns that may have been the first large retail store chain in America.

As a young 17 year old James White left his home in Carlisle, Pennsylvania and worked in Baltimore, America's leading seaport. There he learned the business of mercantile, shipping, commerce and trade. America was moving west and White relocated to Abington, VA, the most western town in Virginia on the edge of the frontier, located on the "Great Road". He married and started his family and business in Abington where his home stands today next to the Washington County Courthouse. He built and operated a gristmill and sold necessities to pioneer families traveling west. White looked to the Tennessee Valley and saw tremendous business potential.

Salt was a commodity in great demand in the American frontier. Salt was required for the preservation of meat and leather tanning and therefore was a vital and indispensable to all frontier families. Circa 1802 James White began producing salt near the present town of Saltville, VA. White's salt production operations were in proximity to the Holston River in Virginia. At that time America's rivers were the main route for commerce. The Holston River provided White a gateway to the Tennessee River which was the natural highway for commerce into the Tennessee Valley. Not only did White master the transportation, distribution and retail sale of salt, he also controlled salt production, thereby giving him a total monopoly on salt across a large geographic area. In 1812 White opened one of his first of many mercantile retail stores in Huntsville adjacent to today's Madison County Courthouse.

Huntsville became White's second home. His business success in Huntsville and the Tennessee Valley made him one of the wealthiest men in America. At that time, circa 1810, Alabama frontier towns were located almost exclusively along the rivers and included the Alabama towns of Bellefonte, Gunter's Landing (now Guntersville), Whitesburg at present day Dittos landing, Triana, Decatur, Florence and many others, along the 652 miles of the Tennessee River. James White personally owned and operated 55 mercantile retail stores mostly along the Tennessee River in these and other river towns. His business enterprise was the "Walmart" of the early 1800s.

White's domination of the salt market lead to him being called the "Salt King of Abingdon, VA". To survive in frontier Alabama families had to buy large quantities of salt each year. If you bought salt in North Alabama in the early 1800s you bought it from James White. He accumulated great wealth and acquired vast land holdings along the Tennessee River in both Tennessee and North Alabama that later

became profitable family plantations in Jackson, Madison and Limestone counties. White built a home in Huntsville on Madison Street in 1827 that still stands today on property he purchased from LeRoy Pope, the "Father of Huntsville". He founded the town of Whitesburg in 1824, just south of Huntsville. Whitesburg was on burned July 28, 1862 by Union forces leaving many families homeless.

Over his life James White made many extended visits to Huntsville from his home in Abington, VA. With his employees and sons he traveled into the Tennessee Valley by flat barge river boat transporting salt and other goods to his chain of retail stores. His return trips back to Abington were on horseback. His land holding were so extensive that during the 337 mile trip from Huntsville to Abington he could always overnight on property he owned. It was said he lived in the saddle and was a driven enterprising entrepreneur with boundless energy. He spent much time in Huntsville away from his Abingdon home. James White and his wife Eliza had 7 sons and 3 daughters. Three of his sons, Addison, Thomas and Francis graduated with law degrees from Princeton University and other Ivy League colleges. They later managed his retail businesses and plantations in the Tennessee Valley and beyond as far as Marvell Arkansas.

The James White son most closely associated with Hollywood is Addison White. The White family had a plantation called Bellefonte near the railroad tracks in Hollywood. Margaret Cowart's *Old Land Records of Jackson County* records only one original patent/warrant for Col. James A. White, a patent for 39.83 acres near Bellefonte dated September 19, 1833. On November 25, 1847, son James W. White patented 79.66 acres about two miles from his father's 1833 purchase.

Ann Chambless has analyzed the Addison White holdings. Addison White purchased Township 4, Range 7 East, Section 16 (original school section) from the State on January 18, 1866. This entire 640-Section was on south side of the river just below old Bellefonte area. In 1856, Addison White was the original patentee of 40 acres just north of his Section 16 purchase of 1866. In 1882, he purchased another 40 acres that joined his 1856 40-acre purchase. Before the building of Guntersville Dam, this land on the south side of the River was excellent farm land.

In December 1855 Addison White had purchased 80 acres near Hollywood. Since several census record show that his son Newton was born in Virginia in 1857, Addison probably came to North Alabama in 1856 to visit his brother, Thomas White, who had purchased property in Jackson County in 1847. There is a Thomas White living in the Bellefonte-Hollywood area at the time of the 1860 census. The Cowart book shows Addison White's total acreage via original patents as 801 acres. Determine what land he bought from other patentees would require careful analysis of the deed books, some of which were lost when Bellefonte was burned. Ann notes that the local Snodgrass family ended up with a great deal of the White plantation property when the White family heirs disposed of it.

James White's son Addison lived in Huntsville but spent considerable time overseeing his father's plantations in the Tennessee Valley after his brief political career in Kentucky and his service in the Civil War. This biography was taken from *Northern Alabama - Historical and Biographical by Smith & De Land, Birmingham, Ala 1888*:

Addison White was born at Abingdon, Va., May 1, 1824, and was a son of James and Eliza (Wilson) White, natives of Pennsylvania and Virginia, and of Irish and Scotch-Irish descent, respectively. When a youth James White went to Baltimore, and was there for a time employed by a wholesale dry goods firm. Later on he went to Abington, Va., where he engaged in the mercantile business, and was married to Eliza Wilson, of Pittsylvania County.

He became largely interested in the production of salt, iron and lead, and at the time of his death, which occurred in Wythe County, Va., 1838, was reported to be worth over a million dollars. He took an active part in the war of 1812, holding the rank of colonel. His father, William White, was a farmer near Carlisle, Penn., and spent his life in that State.

Addison White grew to manhood in his native village, receiving an academic education, which he completed at Princeton, N. J., in 1842. In September, 1844, he was married to Miss Sarah Irvine, a daughter of Col. David Irvine, of Richmond, Ky. Soon after his marriage he became a resident of Kentucky, and was elected to the Thirty-second Congress for the Sixth District of that State. At the close of that Congress, coming into possession of his inheritance, he removed to Huntsville, Ala., and engaged in planting in Alabama, Mississippi and Arkansas. He has six children: Alice, wife of Dr. G. C. Greenway; Eliza W., wife of O. B. Patton; David Irvine, Susan McDowell, Newton K., and Shelby, wife of Richard W. Walker. Mrs. Sarah Irvine White, is a grand-daughter of the illustrious Dr. Ephraim McDowell, of Kentucky, and great-grand-daughter of Gov. Isaac Shelby.

Source: Northern Alabama - Historical and Biographical by Smith & De Land, Birmingham, Ala 1888 - Transcribed by Veneta McKinney

Addison White lived in Huntsville. He is found in every federal census there between 1860 and 1900. In each census, he defined his occupation as "Planter" though this designation must have seemed fairly archaic by 1900. In the 1870 census, his large household is filled with his wife and children but also a number of black Whites who had remained in the family's employ after emancipation. When the Memphis and Charleston tracks were laid between Stevenson and Huntsville, they passed with yards of the site of the White Plantation. While this fact made the plantation less desirable as a residence, it could only have been advantageous and sold for considerable profit, though the White family in Huntsville was already wealthy.

At the White Plantation in Hollywood, Addison White operated a distillery. Ann Chambless's analysis of industrial output for early Jackson County industry found that 17 industries were operating in the county in 1860, producing coal, shoes, leather, fish, and lumbers. Most employed 1 or 2 people with small capitals investments. Addison White operated a distillery. Based on an investment of \$4500, White used steam and employed 7 workers to produce whiskey valued at \$8064. The enumerator of the 1860 census Jasper J. Jones, also recorded that Addison White bought 4800 bushels of corn and 1086 gallons of yeast and paid his 7 employees a total of \$200.00 in 1860. White's Distillery produced 566 barrels of whiskey that year. (Ann Chambless, "Jackson County, Alabama Products of Industry 1810-1870," *The Jackson County Chronicles* V5N4 (October 1993), pp. 10-11.) Addison has many descendants in the Huntsville area today. He is buried in Maple Hill Cemetery with his wife Sarah.

Many of the White family papers are archived at the University of Virginia: <http://ead.lib.virginia.edu/vivaxtf/view?docId=uva-sc/viu00730.xml>.

When Thomas Henry Machen came to Jackson County from Greenville, South Carolina by way of George, he bought the property by the railroad tracks that included the site of the White Plantation, and on the part of it that fronted the dirt road that became The Pike (Highway 33) he built his home and store. The store has been enlarged and modified, but is still there, the business of great grandson Ronnie Machen. The family home, shown in the Machen family sketch, remained until quite recently when it burned by family resident Canna Mae Machen Dawson. It was torn down recently and the city park was built on this site.

Paul Machen, grandson of T. H. Machen who bought the White Plantation property, visited the site of the plantation in the late 1960s and said that at that time, the foundation could still be found and some parts of columns were still standing. Here is the location of Addison White's plantation.



When Elizabeth McAlpin interviewed Hollywood residents for her 1977 series in the *Jackson County Advertiser*, she had this information about Addison White (Sep 15, 1977):

In the late 1880's, Addison White, a prominent farmer, shipped two freight cars of holly to Huntsville just prior to Christmas. Being well pleased with his new business venture and an ample crop of holly, White persuaded the farmers in the area to change the name of the town to Hollywood.

White was elected to congress in the state of Indiana [AB: Kentucky, not Indiana] when scarcely of constitutional age. In time, he emigrated to Huntsville, then purchased a large and productive farm on the south side of the Tennessee River, near Bellefonte. His home was a sprawling frame house surrounded by a cotton plantation, located a mile west of the town on the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, later known as the "White Switch."

When the Memphis and Charleston Railroad was built through Jackson County, White bought stock in the company and became a privileged passenger, boarding the train at the "White Switch" and traveling over the country. His family remained in Huntsville except brief visits by his daughter, Sallie. [AB: White Switch was an M&C stop near Memphis. This information cannot be verified.]

After the Civil War, salt was scarce and sold for as much as five dollars a pound. White acquired a freight car of salt and traded a bag of salt for an acre of land to the farmers in the area and soon came to own extensive farmland in and near the town.

White was quite a colorful figure dressed in a white suit, white panama hat, and traveled around town in a fringed, horse-drawn buggy, driven by a negro servant.

As noted in context, not all of this information can be verified. Ann Chambless recalls that Addison and his brother Thomas owned stock in the Memphis and Charleston Railroad (TVGS Quarterly). Ann also notes that "Addison White owned an entire section of land (641.41 acres) south of the river between

Bellefonte Landing and Sublett's Ferry (on the mountain side). This would have been prime crop land before TVA gave us the Gunter'sville Reservoir. This would have been the bulk of his cleared land. He also patented 160 acres west of Hollywood. This was probably his underdeveloped and woodland in 1870 agriculture census." However, it is obvious that he did purchase from others since his total acreage in the 1870 agriculture schedule is more than the above cited 800 acres, and most likely he kept buying land after 1870." Ann notes that it is possible that the White family owned a business in old Bellefonte. "Stephen Carter's son James Lewis Carter was in business in Bellefonte at the time of J. I. Carter's death. Sally Carter simply called the business Carter and White so I don't know which of the White family had a store with J.L. Carter."

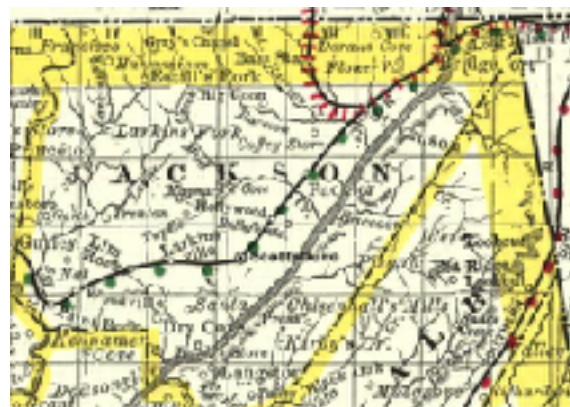
Naming the town



1887 PEOPLES PUBLISHING COMPANY. SOURCE: UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA MAP SITE.

In 1838, the only Jackson County town on the map was Belfont, and the typography of its name makes it seem as big as Huntsville. Hollywood was not even a twinkle in the cartographer's eye until the railroad came along in 1860, and then the town was marked "Sta." meaning Bellefonte's rail station. After Scottsboro became the county seat and Bellefonte was all but wiped away by the Civil War, the dot that had been Bellefonte's station became the town of "Bellefonte Station" on the 1879 map. The 1882 railroad map labeled the town that would be Hollywood as "Bellefonte." The name "Samples" is found on two state maps in 1887. But on the 1890 railroad commission map, the name "Hollywood" is found for the first time.

The name "Bellefonte Station" is logical, especially since there is evidence that as early as 1861, William Lewis in a letter mentioned there was a hack from Bellefonte that served passengers to the Memphis and Charleston Railroad depot. The earliest account of Hollywood speaks of the town as if it were a northern appendage of Bellefonte. There are two stories about why the town was called Samples for two years. The most repeated one



1889 RAND MCNALLY. SOURCE: UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

is that Mr. Samples from Nashville owned a lot of the land around town and sold these lots of early merchants. Kennamer wrote, "Mr. Samples, of Nashville, Tennessee, first owned the land around the town, but when the railroad was built settlers came and he sold it as building lots and farms." But this cannot be proven using census records. The Encyclopedia of Alabama says Hollywood was "known as Samples, after a railroad engineer who worked on the line." The origin of the Hollywood name is less contested, at least for its first hundred years. Local legend says that Abe White gathered the abundant holly in the area and shipped it to Huntsville to use in decorating homes for the holidays.



In February 1989, Hollywood, California sought a trademark for the name Hollywood that would have prevented any other town from using it for commercial purposes. Jackson County's Hollywood joined with Hollywood, California and the six other Hollywoods in the US to fight the trademark restriction. Byron Woodfin, a writer on the Sentinel, noted that this controversy led the town to adopt the slogan "The Real Hollywood."

Hollywood in the Civil War



COLONEL ORLANDO BOLIVAR
WILCOX. SOURCE: LIBRARY OF
CONGRESS

Kennamer wrote, "During the winter of 1863-64, the One Hundredth Indiana regiment of the Fifteenth Army Corps camped here. This regiment was commanded by Colonel Willcox, whose headquarters were in Carter's yard at Bellefonte. This regiment left in May to join General Sherman's Army in the campaign around Dalton, Georgia. " Colonel Orlando Bolivar Willcox is shown below. (FN Library of Congress)

Like all of the towns in Jackson County, Hollywood lay on a valuable artery of Civil War transportation: the Memphis and Charleston rail line. Advisors to Robert E. Lee referred to the Memphis and Charleston as "the vertebrae of the Confederacy." For this reason, and because Union troops mustered in the area late in the war in preparation for the siege of Chattanooga, Hollywood must have been constantly crisscrossed by troops, both Union and Confederate, trying either to destroy the track or preserve and rebuild it.

There is some discussion of a skirmish at the Mud Creek railroad bridge in DATE. The Official Report (ORs) report the skirmish that took place at the Scottsboro Depot on January 8, 1865 (WAR OF THE REBELLION OFFICIAL RECORDS OF THE UNION AND CONFEDERATE ARMIES, Series I, Vol. 45, page 522). This OR records yet another short description of the skirmish at Scottsboro depot by Union Col. Benj. Harrison in his report dated Jan. 12, 1865. The following is only a small part of his report. He was NOT in Scottsboro but gave his brief thoughts on what he heard from a distance (in what is now Hollywood) of the activity in Scottsboro on Jan 8:

"In a few minutes the musketry firing was renewed at Scottsboro, and was soon followed by five discharges of artillery, after which all firing ceased. The fight certainly did not last more than one half an hour. I was now satisfied that the real attack had been made in Scottsboro, and concluded that the garrison of colored troops (55 in number) had been overcome. I felt satisfied that the enemy would not delay long at Scottsboro, but would probably push on at once for some of the ferries on the river. My cavalry returned about this time (to Bellefonte Station now Hollywood) and brought with them two citizens residing in Maynard's Cove and one notorious guerrilla who had seen Lyon's command 9 miles from and going toward Scottsboro one hour and a half before sunset, and who estimated his force at 800 cavalry and one light piece of artillery, and that his men said they intended to attack Scottsboro."

During the winter of 1863-1864, when the 100th Indiana Regiments of the 15th Union Army Corps was encamped here, their campsite left miniballs in such numbers that Paul Machen remembers he and his friends throwing them at each other when they were children.

Well positioned on county roads

Today, Hollywood is well served by roads. The town is located on County Road 33, which runs northwest-southeast through the town and connects with U.S. Highway 72 to the southeast. Historically, the town has always been positioned favorably for highway access.



Even though early Hollywood was not a river town, the Hollywood area was readily accessed because of its position along the old stage road.

Early maps show that the main road in the county ran between Larkinsville and Bellefonte, right through Hollywood. On this 1844 John LaTourrette map of the state, the route from Bellefonte to Larkinsville passed through Hollywood. “Scottsville” would not be found on maps for another 15 years, but already, Hollywood is “on the main road.” Once Scottsboro became a destination, the road that is County 33 today went to the Pikeville Store and took a left down Tupelo Pike, one of Scottsboro’s three roads between 1856 and 1886. And that was before the railroad came along.

Road building was a priority in Jackson County at the turn of the century. The newspapers in the early 1900s are full of news about the construction of The Pike, led by Hollywood native Guideon Boldin. This article from August 23, 1900 reports that contracts are being put in places and “soon everything will be humming all over the county.”

Pike Roads.

The pike roads are the most business like looking place in the county just now. The road that is being graded to Section Ferry is moving right along. Messrs. Love and Lawler, who are connected with Mr. R. H. Bynum, are hustlers and up-to date road men. The work being done is first class and up-in-date every respect and the pikes will be of great benefit to the people along its route. Messrs. Bouldin and Tally are going right along with their contracts at Hollywood and Stevenson and soon everything will be humming all over the county. Mr. Thomas Cobb, who has the contract out from Woodville, has been hard at work on his road and is getting along all right.

SCOTTSBORO, ALA., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1900.

Pike Roads.

The reports from the different sections where road construction is going on show that progress is being made generally satisfactorily with some exceptions, on account of various causes.

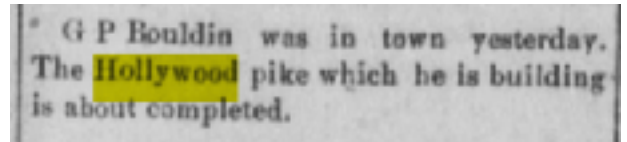
Contractor Bouldin, of **Hollywood**, was here today and reports that he has about 12 miles road for the rock and the big contract on hand. Work is going on steadily on the road to section ferry, the grading being done with a mule or so of the crew. The gravel for this road will be taken from both Stone ridge, and in the best quality for the purpose.

The grading of the road from Langston to the top of the mountain has been completed, and is a fine piece of work.

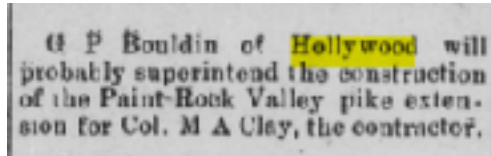
At present the roads built by the Government is coming completion, and is the price of all who have seen it.

This article, from the September 27, 1900 Scottsboro Citizen reports that Contractor Boldin is working steadily not just on “the Pike” (Tupelo Pike) but on the road from Scottsboro to Section.

The August 13, 1901 Citizen reported that the Hollywood Pike is nearly completed.



G P Bouldin was in town yesterday. The Hollywood pike which he is building is about completed.



G P Bouldin of Hollywood will probably superintend the construction of the Paint-Rock Valley pike extension for Col. M A Ulay, the contractor.

Bouldin's success in Hollywood continued with he was selected to build the Paint Rock Valley Pike, as this note in the May 19, 1904 Citizen indicated:

In 1915, the road known as the Dixie Highway was completed. Ann Chambless reproduced this account in *The Jackson County Chronicles*.

(Special to The Daily Times) HOLLYWOOD , Ala., July 17, 1915 - The people of this section are rejoiced that Jackson County has won its portion of the Dixie Highway from Huntsville and joins actively with its promoters to make it the greatest success possible. Beginning up there at Fackler and coming this way via W.J. Williams' farm, a magnificent and enthusiastic attention follows the Old Stage Road between Stevenson and Scottsboro. The chert is along this route for the improvement. The ridges are not bad ones, and small cost will get the route in shape. Also a blessing is appreciated from the fact that the present Tupelo Pike will be finished up in time, and the tourists can elect to go either route or go and come back the other. Along the Old Stage Road are such active boosters as C.M. Huntoon, A. L. Starkey, J. W. Holder, L. A. Darwin, L. W. Gamble, S. S. Puryear, F. M. Grider, J. H. Pitman, W. H. McKee, Dr. R. E. Smith, and others. Also active boosters for the proposition and the connecting up of the Tupelo pike are such good friends as J. D. Presley, Len Bailey, and J. P. Hewlett therein Scottsboro, all of whom join with the enthusiastic and co-operative business and professional men of Scottsboro mentioned in The Daily Times last Sunday. it is now three cheers for the Dixie Highway Boosters' progressive ideas and friendship for the cause of religion, education, and good roads.

Born for the railroad

According to Jack Daniels' history of the southern railroad, the Memphis and Charleston built a freight depot in Bellefonte Station in 1856, which was destroyed during the Civil War. The town that became Hollywood was born to support the railroad.

In 2015, historian Ann Chambless debunked the prevailing myth that citizens of the town of Bellefonte Station embraced the railroad that the citizens of Bellefonte rejected. "It appears that Robert T. Scott had more to do with the route of the railroad than any other person or persons in Jackson County, Chambless explained. "Once he influenced the M&C Railroad to traverse his property, the company began to seek the most direct northern route from Scottsboro to Stevenson. They looked for land that would make the most stable roadbed and with the least number of creeks and swampy areas to cross. This in itself would have eliminated Bellefonte, as the area around Bellefonte was prone to flooding until Guntersville Dam was constructed in 1939. Also, one must consider the fact that to include old Bellefonte as a station point would have required a lengthy detour from the optimum straight, direct route to Stevenson. IF the railroad had gone through Bellefonte, the tracks would have necessarily veered sharply due east before entering the Hollywood area and then almost immediately the tracks would have required another sharp veer northwest from Bellefonte to travel north to Stevenson. Such a "V-shaped" detour would have added an unnecessary construction expense, especially when one considered the swampy terrain around Bellefonte." (Jackson County Chronicles, DATE)



STATION CROSSING SIGN IDENTIFYING HOLLYWOOD SOUTH OF TOWN. SOURCE: CITY HALL

The Harris family provided this 1890s shot of Calvin Hartley and his crew working on the tracks.

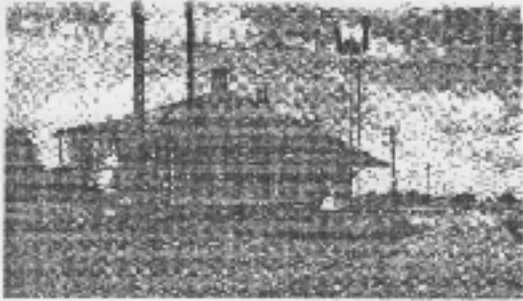


CALVIN HARTLEY AND HIS CREW MAINTAINING THE HOLLYWOOD TRACK. SOURCE: HARRIS FAMILY COLLECTION.

Jack Daniels and other men ruled by the love of locomotives have chronicled its station masters of the entire Southern Railway line. In his book, Mr. Daniels chronicles the history of every railroad station between Memphis and Charleston and provided this information from the Southern Railroad records about the Hollywood station:

HOLLYWOOD

Originally this was the Bellefonte Station stop, but this was not the original town of Bellefonte. This railroad stop was named after the original town, which had objected to the railroad, and thus it ran several miles north of the old town. For a short while this settlement was known as Samples before being renamed Hollywood. The 1856 freight house was destroyed during the Civil War. In 1886, the report says a new depot is needed at Bellefonte, and the 1887 report states that a new depot has been built at Hollywood, the first year it showed the new name. In 1891, this building was burned, and in 1892, a new one built for \$1,103. Agent here for many years was Mr. D. Meek. Other railroaders coming from here: D. C. Minor, Charles C. Chandler.



A booklet for the Tuscumbia Eighth Annual Railroad Celebration The excerpt from the *Celebration Booklet* states that G. W. Chapman, owner of Chapman House Hotel, was the first station master who was also a telegrapher, though a Mr. Russell was agent before him. This seems to be list of station agents:

- Mr. Russell
- G. W. Chapman
- J. A. Wilson
- George H. Strickland
- J. W. Maples
- J. D. Brandon
- A. Hamilton
- Dee Meeks



(Photo by Cozner, Sheffield)

Hollywood (292) Ala. — First named Belle Fonte Station, afterwards changed to Samples and later to Hollywood. This new depot was built in the spring of 1940. With my pictures as a guide I shall have to give second place to Hollywood and the credit to Jimmy Haines, Supt. B & B Department.

Mr. Meek agent, tells us that he was checked in here June 4, 1910, by Mr. T. H. Seay (who was then traveling auditor and is now comptroller in Washington). Forty years at one station is a mighty good record. Best authorities have it that Mr. G. W. Chapman was first telegrapher-agent, but prior to him a Mr. Russell was non-telegrapher agent. Following Mr. Chapman was J. A. Wilson, Geo. H. Strickland, J. W. Maples, J. D. Brandon and A. Hamilton. The Old Depot served from 1890 to 1940. From this station come the following good B. N. men: D. C. Minor, C. Chandler.

Dee Meeks' long tenure as station agent and telegrapher took him through two wars. He was station master for 47 years, starting on June 10, 1910 and serving until September 16, 1957, when he was killed in an automobile accident.



STATION MASTER DEE MEEK IN HIS OFFICE IN APRIL 1941 (DATE ON THE CALENDAR).
SOURCE: HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL

Here are landmark dates in the history of railroads in Hollywood, captured from Memphis and Charleston Railroad reports and period newspapers.

1856: M&C records report that a freight house has been built in Bellefonte Station. This facility was burned during the Civil War.

1866: M&C report records that a new depot is needed in Samples.

1872: Scottsboro is capable of sending and receiving telegrams. This ability came later in Hollywood since George Chapman was the first telegrapher. George was born in 1854. His obituary states "For many years he was station agent for the Southern Railroad at Hollywood, also operated in other business enterprises all of which he managed successfully on a basis of 'The Golden Rule.'" (The Progressive Age, 1929) Stevenson had telegraph service by the early 1880s, so Hollywood, between these points, must have had service by 1880.

1887: M&C report states that a new depot has been built at Hollywood.

1891: Depot burned when thieves drilled through the floor into a whiskey barrel to steal whiskey. Dee Meeks recorded the story of this fire.

"Before the Eighteenth Amendment was added to our Constitution, all alcohol (legal) was shipped into Hollywood by Railway Express. Until the "spirits" could be claimed by the customer they were stored in the Depot. (In Hollywood the Freight Depot, the Passenger Depot, the Express Depot, and the Western Union Telegraph Office were the same.) Someone, name

unknown between the years of 1880 and 1890, tried to drain the whiskey from the barrels by boring holes through the warehouse floor. Something went wrong. The whiskey went everywhere but where intended. Someone struck a match to find the problem and correct it. A lot of good drinking whiskey went up in a flash. Hollywood needed a new Depot minutes later....Story told by D. Meek, Depot Agent, Hollywood, AL

January 19, 1892: *The Progressive Age* reports that “The M&C Railroad authorities have at last commenced to rebuild the depot at Hollywood

February 5, 1892: *The Hollywood News* reports that “The new depot is progressing nicely, and we will soon have a good depot again.” An M&C report notes that the new depot cost \$1,103. Photo of this new depot is shown below in 1900:



FUTURE MAYOR WALTER JOHNSON, AGE 9, WHO LIVED ACROSS THE ROAD IN THE JOHNSON/TATE HOUSE, ON HIS HORSE TULL IN 1900. SOURCE: BRADFORD FAMILY COLLECTION

In this photo, the low, white structure behind the depot (which would be on Railroad Street, to the left of Shorty Machen’s store) is unidentified. The structure with the dark roof seen at the left is probably T. H. Machen’s store (later Wann’s store). Notice the hook in front used to pick up mail. The poles in the photo support the telegraph.

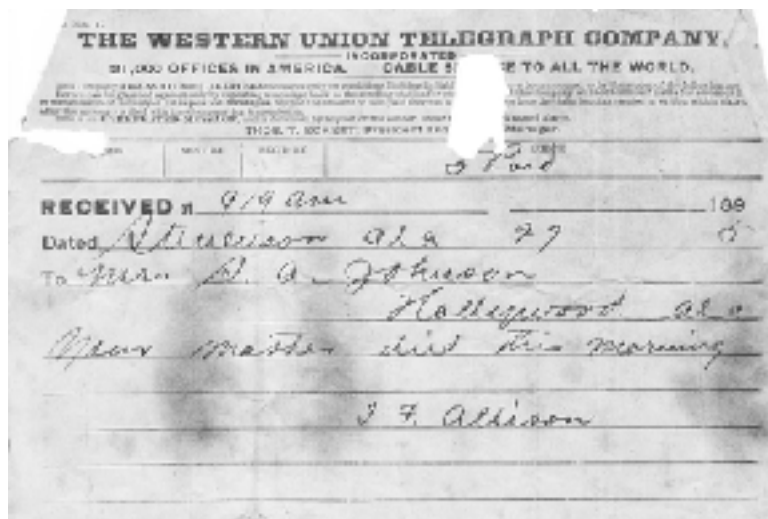
Here is another view of this depot, from Dee Meek’s book.



VIEW OF THE 1890 DEPOT SHOWN IN JERRY MEEK'S BOOK. SOURCE: HOLLYWOOD AND OTHER IMPORTANT PLACES IN THE WORLD BY JERRY MEEKS.

This photo is looking toward Fackler. Notice the building called simply “The Brick” can be seen at the left. The freight platform is visible behind the depot. The structure visible on the right is probably the Johnson barn.

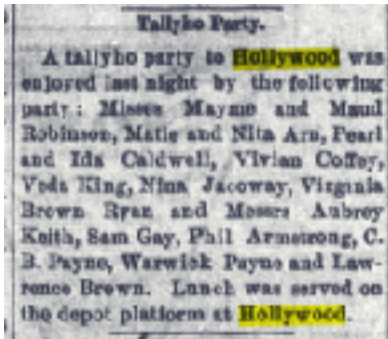
1870s: George Chapman becomes the first telegrapher in Hollywood. All at once Hollywood was not longer an isolated village. It was tied to other places through the miracle of telegraphy. Here is an early telegram, from 1895.



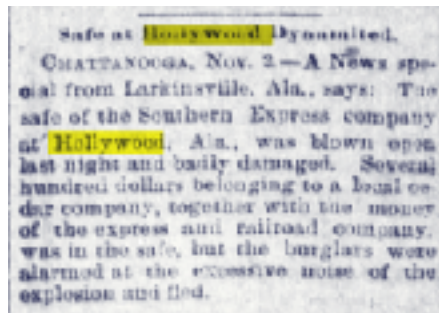
AN 1895 TELEGRAM SENT BY J. F. ALLISON TO HIS SISTER-IN-LAW SALLIE WASHINGTON JOHNSON TELLING HER THAT HER MOTHER, CATHERINE LOUELLA WASHINGTON, HAD DIED. SOURCE: KATE BRADFORD' FAMILY ALBUM

Trying to determine George’s service dates by the coming of the telegraph, Ann Chambless noted that “Samuel Morse and his associates obtained private funds to extend their first effort telegraph line that operated from D.C. to Baltimore on to Philadelphia and New York. Small telegraph companies, meanwhile began functioning in the East, South, and Midwest. Dispatching trains by telegraph started in 1851, the same year Western Union began business. Western Union built its first transcontinental telegraph line in 1861, mainly along railroad rights-of-way.” But of course, the beginning of the telegraph predates the beginning of Hollywood, and the stringing of telegraph lines along the Memphis and Charleston route has to be later than this. Ann also remembers that “There is a copy of a telegram sent from Stevenson, Alabama, on March 1, 1870, via The Western Union Telegraph Company” printed in the July 2012 issue of THE JACKSON COUNTY CHRONICLES on page 7.

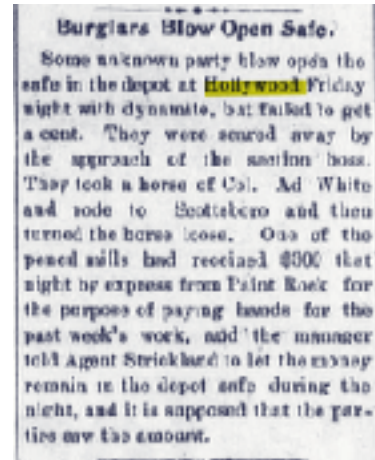
1901: Sample newspaper articles from the Scottsboro Citizen about the Hollywood depot indicate that it is busy place: site of a ladies’ afternoon party (June 1901) and a burglary that involved blowing up the safe.



JUNE 1901, SCOTTSBORO CITIZEN



NOVEMBER 7, 1901, PROGRESSIVE AGE



NOVEMBER 7, 1901, SCOTTSBORO CITIZEN

1920: Hollywood is a busy rail stop. This photo from Paul Machen’s collection shows a Hollywood bustling with the activity of the arriving train.



TRAIN 42 ARRIVING AT HOLLYWOOD IN 1920. SOURCE: PAUL D. MACHEN

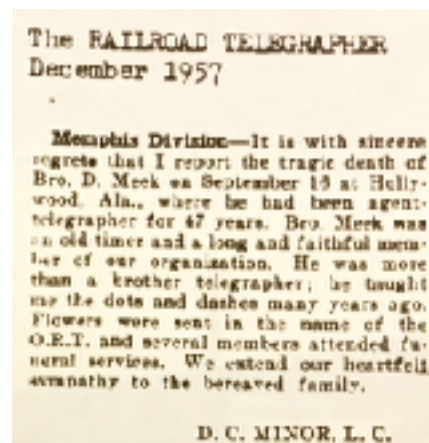
Dee Meek served the longest tenure as station master—47 years—and wrote several self-published volumes filled with receipts, photos, and train-related humor and memorabilia. Jerry Meek said of his father Dee in the introduction to his *Hollywood Alabama and Other Important Cities on Earth*: “He loved Hollywood and its people, especially the young people. He left a scrap book and boxes filled with paper clippings, pictures, railroad tickets, passes, letters, and Civil War material.” (FN to preface)

Bill Bradford, among others, remember the sorry of seeing Dee Meek approach your family’s house during the world wars. While there was not kinder man and finer neighbor, Bill recalled, seeing Dee Meek approach usually meant bad news. As telegrapher, Dee transcribed the dots and dashes of the telegraph into the news that devastated families’ lives—a son in France who was captured, a brother serving in the Pacific whose plane was shot down, a mother who had died suddenly. Seeing Dee Meek ride past your house was like feeling the Death Angel pass you by. Blending the sense of dread that Dee Meek engendered with the kind, friendly man who greeted his neighbors daily was difficult.

Son Jerry also wrote about this sad part of being the station agent:

D. Meek, depot agent at Hollywood from June 10, 1910 until September 16, 1957, served as agent during two world wars in which the Southern Railroad was an important part in the war efforts. The depot at Hollywood was an integral part of the Memphis Division of Souther Railway. The agent at Hollywood worked seven days a week and from eight to ten hours each day. His job was many fold. He spent many hours writing train orders and handing them to the train crews without stopping the trains (by use of hoops). All messages concerning the men from Hollywood in service were sent by telegraph to their families. The agent had the job of delivering these messages. Some were concerning sickness, other wounds and, the most dreaded, killed in action. The messages were written on yellow telegraph forms. The citizens of Hollywood watched the agent leave the depot. If he had a yellow piece of paper in his hand the people of Hollywood went into shock, especially those who had loved ones in service in the battle areas. This situation became very emotional for the people of Hollywood and the agent (my father, D. Meek).

When Dee died, his railroad colleagues ran this obituary message in *The Railroad Telegrapher*:



Spring 1949: Southern Railway report notes that the new depot opened. This photo was taken just after the new depot opened. Station Master Dee Meek is standing in the foreground. Bob Gilbert on Facebook reported that “the structure was originally built in the 1940s and remodeled after freight and passenger service ceased in Hollywood. When it was moved, the walls were pushed out of the edit of the roof and a few rooms were added to make it a house.



STATION MASTER DEE MEEKS STANDING IN FRONT OF THE LAST HOLLYWOOD DEPOT, BUILT ABOUT 1945. WHEN IT WAS ABOUT TO BE TORN DOWN, IT WAS BOUGHT AND MOVED BY XX. IT WAS BURNED IN A FIRE IN DATE.

2015 The building deteriorated and was used as a rental house. It was partially burned in a fire and then burned to the group by the Fire Department.



BURNING OF THE OLD DEPOT BUILDING, 2015. PHOTO FROM RONNIE MACHEN VIA FACEBOOK.

Fire, pestilence, and natural disaster

It seems that all of nature has conspired to turn Hollywood into a ghost town. When you read any account of the history of Hollywood, it is striking how many times fire, disease, and tornados have produced the town that you see today.

NOTE: Much of the information that follows about the timing of fires comes from the Elizabeth McAlpin account; attempts to verify these dates with period newspapers have been unsuccessful. (AB)

(From the September 22, 1977 Story)

Thomas H. Machen emigrated to Hollywood from the state of Georgia at the age of eleven, lived with families in the town, became a Baptist minister and came to own extensive farmland. History records that the Machens purchased the White Plantation. In the early part of the century Machen purchased choice town lots of the south side of the tracks from Addison White, and built a number of business houses which were rented to merchants. Side walks were built of wood. Among the merchants were M. I. Cheshire, Thomas H. Machen, Campbell and McClendon, Hartly Drugs, and Sisk's Barber Shop. One building was stocked with coffins.

A disastrous fire erupted in the store of Thomas H. Machen about 1911 and quickly spread to the other buildings. The buildings were reduced to ashes except the old red two story brick building that stands forlornly beside the tracks today.

Fire again swept across a business district on the north side of the tracks in 1929. An entire block of business houses were destroyed, including the post office.

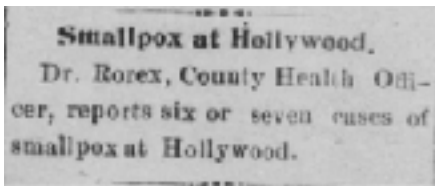
With inadequate fire fighting equipment, Hollywood lost many fine and beautiful homes to the flames. The homes of C. M. Templeton, C.M and Clara Huntoon, and Robert M. and Lilly Starkey bored in the early 1930s and were never rebuilt.

A smallpox epidemic swept across the town in 1904 and claimed the lives of two persons. Twenty cases were reported by the Jackson County Health Department. Homes of the victims were quarantined and a guard posted. Burning six or eight pounds of sulphur in an iron vessel was used as treatment, according to an old Jackson County newspaper. Many wives headed with husbands to "move from this sickly place" because of the epidemic.

A freakish tornado cut a swath across north Alabama in 1932, Killing many people, destroying homes, and leaving many people homeless. The high winds demolished Hollywood Methodist and a nearby dwelling occupied by Nannie Nichols. The home was leveled to the foundation, yet a tea kettle remained on the back porch untouched. Zinc wash tubs reportedly were flying through the sky like kites, along with pieces of timber and other debris.

Examination of period newspapers cannot validate the timing of the fires. However, the persistence of smallpox and the 1932 tornado are well documented.

This article was found in the 1901 *Scottsboro Citizen*:



And this one was found in the *Citizen* in January 12, 1905.

And this one as late as 1939 in the *Progressive Age*.

Smallpox outbreaks were apparently seasonal, more likely to occur in the dank coldness of winter.



And the devastation of the 1932 tornado is well documented and remembered. It did indeed destroy the Hollywood Methodist Church and a number of homes

Hollywood timeline

1817 Cherokee Land Cession Act, granting 640-acre reservations to Cherokees
1818-19 George Harlin granted to reservations, one
1856 M&C built a freight house at Bellefonte Station that was destroyed during the Civil War
1858 Joseph McKolip becomes the first permanent settler in Hollywood
1886 Railroad reports says that a new depot is needed.
1866: M&C report records that a new depot is needed in Samples.
1887: M&C report states that a new depot has been built at Hollywood.
1887, May 13. Hollywood became an incorporated city.
1898 Alabama Tile and Brick established
1908 Masonic Lodge #893 established; met over what is today Shorty Machen's store. Was an active lodge until 1933. Cunningham & Campbell General Merchandise opened in the fall.
1909 Marion Lorenzo Johnson buys E. J. Neher General Merchandise and opens Johnson General Merchandise in June 1909.
1909 T. B. Walsh Groceries. Post office is in the same building on December 16, 1909.
1909 Matthews and Gullatt General Merchandise opened for business.
1910 Dee Meeks checked in as station agent by T. H. Seay on June 10 and stayed in this position of XX years.
1932 Devastating tornados destroy homes and the Methodist church
1949 Final Hollywood Depot built
1974 TVA began construction of the Bellefonte Nuclear Generating Station on the Tennessee River on the eastern side of Hollywood.
DATE Depot slated to be torn down is rescued by XX and moved to his property.
2015 Ravaged the a fire in 2014, the final Hollywood Depot is burned

Commercial enterprises

Hollywood has been home to a number of businesses, for the earliest sellers of General Merchandise to the service station and market being built on the corner across from the site of Claytor's store. The businesses we can document are included below, alphabetically by name.

Alabama Brick and Tile

The Ezra Jacob Neher family started Alabama Brick and Tile in Hollywood in 1897. According to an interview with a descendent Gerald Neher in *The Huntsville Times*, Ezra Jacob Neher, the first of his family in Jackson County, was an Ohio native who worked as a merchant and minister who had chosen a location further south initially. Jacob Neher lost his orange grove in Keuka, Florida to a hard freeze and traded in his grove in a transaction negotiated by post for land in Hollywood that he had never seen. Gerald noted that, “he had been reading about drainage of farm land using clay tile, and he became enthused about it. So the first part of the plant was set up to make farm drainage tile. He thought he had a good market for it because there’s a lot of wetland in Jackson County.”

(FN: Mike Salinero, “Brickyard brings back ton of memories,” *The Huntsville Times*, 1970, get reference)

Elizabeth McAplin noted in 1977: *The Alabama Brick and Tile Company was established in 1898 by the Rev. Jacob Neher and his son, William. The company created an increasing demand for drain tile, an article entirely new to farmers of that section. They company shipped tile by rail freight to Tennessee and Georgia. A group of stockholders purchased the company on February 1, 1909, and continued to manufacture brick and farm drain tile. The stockholders were: Jacob Neher, president; W.J. Matthews, vice president; William B. Neher, secretary and treasurer; and J.C. Jacobs, Virgil Bouldin, and Dr. W. L. McClendon. (Jackson County Advertiser, September 15, 1977)*

The Neher family and their business was located in Hollywood until 1928. As the output of Alabama Brick and Tile moved from drainage tiles to brick, the family needed a better market with better transportation. Decatur offered two railroads and the Tennessee River to help them get their product to markets.. The Decatur brickyard used clay from the Tennessee River banks and, at its height, produced 15 million bricks a year and employed 57 people. Here, for example in the 1939 *Progressive Age*, a load of Neher bricks from Decatur is being delivered at Port Scottsboro, so designated just after Guntersville Lake filled and became navigable in August of that year, being delivered to build Word Motor Company on Andrews Street.

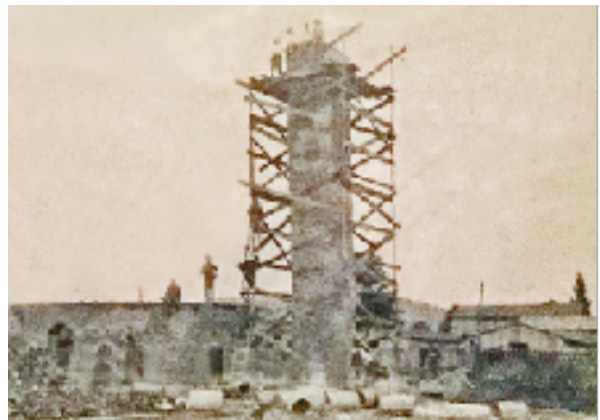


Alabama Brick and Tile was located on the left side of Main Street, which was originally across from three large Victorian homes that burned, across from the remaining Neher House, which is currently in litigation and owned by the descendants of Leonard Machen.

Kenamer in in 1935 history of Jackson County had this revealing contemporary analysis of the Neher company:

The most important industry Hollywood ever had was the Alabama Brick and Tile Company, which was established in 1898, by Northern men. E. J. Neher, J. F. O'Haver, Henry Clark and others came from Indiana; C. M. Huntoon came from Ohio. He had had experience in tile draining in the North. The people around Hollywood were a little slow in seeing the great good to be had by draining their lands with tile, so the new company had a hard time in selling their tile. But after installing a few drainage systems here and there, the demand for draintile began to grow rapidly. In order to meet this demand, the company was incorporated under the name of the "Alabama Brick and Tile Company," February 1, 1909, with a capital stock of \$5,000. Two years later the plant was increased, by erecting another modern kiln, and increased the capital stock to \$10,000. It prospered a few years and was moved to Decatur, Alabama, and is managed by Willis Neher.

Here is a 1905 photo of Alabama Brick and Tile.



DITCHING MACHINE WHICH PREPARES A FIELD FOR LAYING DRAINAGE TILES. WILLIS NEHER IS THE ADULT IN THIS PHOTO. FROM THE HUNTSVILLE TIMES AND FROM THE PAUL MACHEN COLLECTION

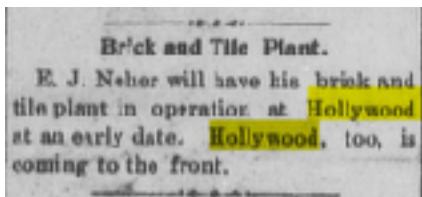
The Neher family dug their clay out of a pit across the road from the factory. This left behind the local children’s favorite swimming hole, known as “The Pit.” Here is Bill Bradford’s photo of the Pit in 1994. Bill writes “This is the Pit. Was dug when Brick was made here. Myself, Snookers and June Bug would skinny dip here.”



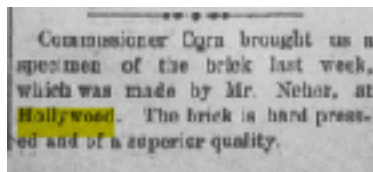
THE PIT, THE LOCATION FROM WHICH ALABAMA BRICK AND TILE DUG CLAY, AS PHOTOGRAPHED IN 1993. SOURCE: BILL BRADFORD

Elizabeth McAlpin had this information about the Pit in her 1977 series:

During this period of time (in the early 1930s), there were a number of small frame structures located on the banks of the Pits, presumably for workmen employed at the Alabama Brick and Tile Company....According to an old Scottsboro newspaper two employees were killed at the Pits. A workman was digging clay at the bottom of a pit when six feet of clay caved in killing him instantly. A second workman was killed oiling machinery. His arm became entangled in the machinery jerking it apart from his body. He died a slow and painful death. (October 27, 1977)



PROGRESSIVE AGE, JUNE 8, 1888



PROGRESSIVE AGE, AUGUST 24, 1899.



AD FOR THE NEHER BUSINESS IN THE 1910 PROGRESSIVE AGE, SHOWING THE VARIATIONS IN NAME.

Farmers' Canning Company

This business is referenced in Elizabeth McAlpin's Hollywood series with the following details:

The Farmers' Canning Company was established in the town in 1911, by farmers in and near the town.

The committee members were George H. Chapman, Frank Hurt, and Henry McDonald. McDonald was from Huntsville and was the promoter of the enterprise. The directors were W.H. Holder, M.L. Cheshire, Z.E. Kenner, Frank Gullatt, Mike Brewster and William B. Neher.

All sorts of vegetables, fruits, and berries were canned and the industry made a splendid market for the tributary to the plant.

(September 15, 1977, The Jackson County Advertiser)

Nothing else is known about this business.

Cunningham and Campbell

Cunningham & Campbell General Merchandise opens in the fall of 1910. It is discussed in the 1910 Progressive Age Supplement. The article said, "The concerns Cunningham and Campbell has but just opened. They are both natives of this place and carry an extensive line of general merchandise." The writeup was accompanied by this photo:

Harrison Macon "Hal" Cunningham was born January 17, 1861 in Lincoln County, TN, the son of Joseph Cunningham and Nancy Macon. He married Maggie Card in Jackson County in 1888 and they had three daughters before Maggie died in 1900. After her death, Hal married Mary Bynum and they had two children.

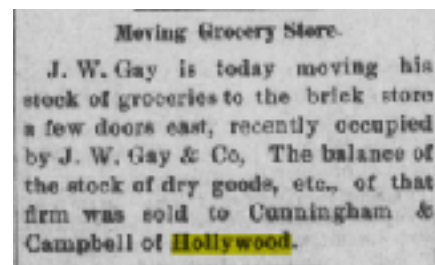
Hal is found in the 1910 census for Tupelo, Jackson County, AL and identifies himself as a merchant in a dry goods store. He is the head of a household that included a widowed sister-in-law and her children and three boarders. He was a widower living with his daughter Pearl Cunningham Matthews when he died in December 1945. His time as a dry goods merchant was brief because by the time of the 1920 census, he identified himself as a farmer. He lived in the area his whole life and is buried at Goosepond.



CUNNINGHAM AND CAMPBELL STORE OPENED IN FALL 1910.
SOURCE: PROGRESSIVE AGE SUPPLEMENT (OCTOBER 1910)

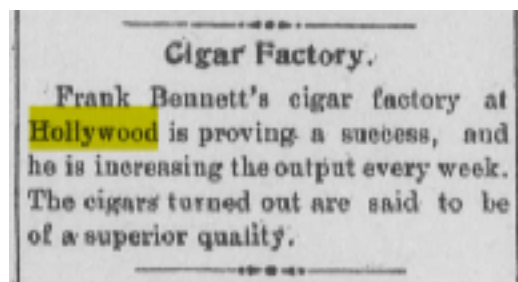
It is interesting to note that he married a Card, because either before his business Cunningham and Campbell, there was also a business named Cunningham and Card.

The *Progressive Age Supplement* said that Cunningham and Campbell was a new business in 1910, but the *Scottsboro Citizen* indicates otherwise. A 1901 note in the Hollywood news column indicated that Cunningham and Campbell had bought another's store stock nine years earlier.

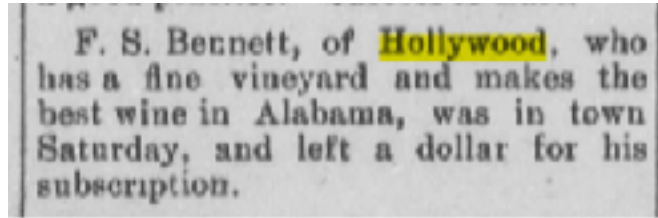


Frank Bennett's Cigar Factory

I have seen several references to this business but few details. This note was found in the August 31, 1899 *Scottsboro Citizen*:

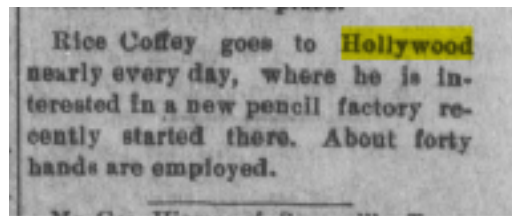


Apparently Frank also had a vineyard and made wine. The 1999 Citizen also reported this:



Pikeville Pencil Mill

The October 31, 1901 *Scottsboro Citizen* reports that banker Rice Coffey is following the progression this pencil Mill closely and notes that about 40 people are employed at the site.



EMPLOYEES OF THE PIKEVILLE PENCIL MILL, 1910-11. SOURCE: PIKEVILLE STORE.

This photo appears in the newspaper at one time (date was not preserved) and is on the wall at the Pikeville Store. This photo provided the following information and IDs.

Pikeville Pencil Cedar Mill. This is a photograph of the workers at Pikeville Cedar Pencil Mill circa 1910-12. The mill was located six miles north of Scottsboro. Pictured are, front row seated from left, Jim Gentry, Clines Boys, John

Matthews, T. J. Davidson, Sam Harding, Arthur

Harding, Dave Seablot, John Tubbs, Fred Womack. Standing from left, Marion Carter, Bill Woods, Tom Hickman, Faye Sinclair, Virgie Sinclair, Jose Rodgers, Lee Womack, Burma Sinclair, Meg Tubbs, Clara

Rodgers, Mae Woosley, Oscar Sinclair, Tom Carter, McKinley Brandon, Will Reed, George O. Grady, Mr. Clines, Dump Harrison, Jesse Tubbs, Tom Chandler and W. R. Womack.
Two additional photos of this business exist, clearly taken on the same day.



EMPLOYEES OF THE PIKEVILLE PENCIL MILL, 1910-11. SOURCE: PIKEVILLE STORE.



EMPLOYEES OF THE PIKEVILLE PENCIL MILL, 1910-11. SOURCE: PAUL D. MACHEN COLLECTION.

Dwayne Wilkerson is owner of the Pikeville Store, which is located next door to the site of the Pikeville Pencil Mill. The remains concrete footing for the pencil mill is located behind the double-wide trailer next

door where his aunt lives. There were eight footings when Dwayne was a boy, but now only one remains, along with the well whose abundant water once supplied 7 or 8 houses in the area.



Dwayne's grandfather McKinley Brandon worked at the pencil mill when he was only 13. The old Pikeville store was built next door to the pencil mill in 1906, and was torn down and rebuilt in the 1960s. This photo of the old store is on the wall of the current Pikeville Store.



The Pikeville community had its own school. This photo of Pikeville School is found on the Jackson County Yahoo forum.



J. M Card Lumber Company

Early Hollywood was home to a number of lumber and lumber-related concerns. Margaret McAlpin in 1977 went through this list of businesses:

Back in 1876, the town really hit its stride when dressed timber was stacked around the depot and shipped out by rail freight daily. Too, the town was surrounded by a fine agricultural region, which meant permanent prosperity for its people.

History records that Captain Frank Gurley, for whom Gurley is named, entered the timber industry in the town in 1876. In that same year, Gurley shipped a thousand year telegraph poles from the depot by rail freight. Gurley was Commander of Company C, 4th Alabama Cavalry, and in 1862 was sentenced to be hanged for the murder of a yankee, General McKook, at Huntsville. Gurley was jailed at Huntsville for a period of time and released near the end of the Civil War.

Another thriving timber industry in the town was the J.M. Card Lumber Company, who owned a large number of saw mills in Jackson County, and did an enormous export business, shipping hardwood lumber to various parts of Europe and South America.

Miles Moody and George Warren established a Cedar Mill in the town in the early part of the century, and they employed about forty people. The mill was the town's chief and leading industry and was a great benefit to the town and to the people who had timber to sell.

The Oak Lumber Company joined local timber industries at an early date. The company was owned by J.J. Downey, a pioneer settler of the town.

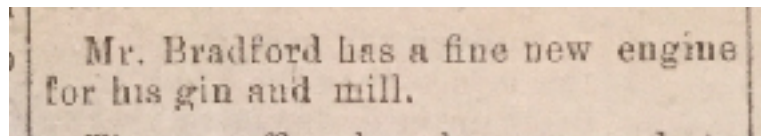
Another thriving cedar mill was that of Duncan and Coffey, located near the Ponds, or Pits, as they are referred to today. Russell Duncan, for whom Duncan Hill and Cemetery are named, later established Duncan's Pencil Plant near The Ponds.

The history of the bucket plant, perhaps one of the town's first industries, has been lost to the passing of time. According to an old Jackson County newspaper, the plant existed at a very early date.

The 1910 Progressive Age Supplement stated that "Another thriving timber industry in the town was the J.M. Card Lumber Company, who owned a large number of saw mills in Jackson County, and did an enormous export business, shipping hardwood lumber to various parts of Europe and South America."

New Gin

The New Gin was located on the right side of Highway 33 just over the railroad track heading toward Bellefonte. The Bradford family owned ginning businesses in Hollywood and Fackler. Charles Keith Bradford (1862-1937) came to the Hollywood-Fackler area with his father and siblings in 1866, coming to an area where his uncle Theodoric and his Coffey cousins could help them recover from loss of his wife and fortune. C. K. spent some time in Morgan County in the 1880s where he married Matilda Jennings Hough in 1883, a young widow with some family money that he used to establish gin and sawmill businesses. He also operated a feed and seed business associated with the gin and a dry goods store on State Road 33, the business later purchased and run by the Hammon family. The 1904 *Scottsboro Citizen* contained this notation is found:



C.K. and Matilda are found in Hollywood in the 1900 and 1910 Censuses for Jackson County, AL. About 1908-09, C.K. and Mathilda built the house on Scott Street known today as the "Bynum House" after its later owner, Hugh Otis Bynum. They were living here in this house in the 1920 and 1930 census records. Just before C. K.'s death (10 days before, in fact) they moved back to Hollywood, where Matilda lived until she died four years later.

When the gin business office was torn down, Paul Machen saved ledgers from the gin dated in the 1930s. This photo was taken of son Raymond running the Hollywood gin, known as the New Gin. The photo below shows Raymond with bookkeeper A. U. Geren and customer Pearl Jones at the window in March 1948.



RAYMOND BRADFORD, A. U. GEREN, AND XXX AT THE NEW GIN IN HOLLYWOOD IN MARCH 1948. SOURCE: BRADFORD FAMILY PHOTOS.

Raymond's son Bill Bradford took the photo below of the gin property in 1994 and wrote, "This property has changed a lot. This was Dad's gin property. I worked here during the first part of World War II." The gin went out of business in the late 1950s, but stayed open as a feed store until about 1965.

Milton Tate remembers that “they had one of the very first television sets in the old gin building for people to watch while waiting on their cotton to be ginned. I can also remember wagon loads of cotton being line up a long way down the road every day.” David Bradford wrote this memory of his grandfather’s gin for the JCHA cotton display at the depot museum:



NEW GIN SITE IN 1993. PHOTO BY BILL BRADFORD



REMAINS OF THE NEW GIN, 2016. PHOTO BY DAVID BRADFORD

Ginning season was a time of considerable excitement for a community. Families whose routines were governed by the sun and the season found themselves away from home for overnight vigils, waiting in line for their time in the unloading bay of the gin.

Cotton wagons pulled by mules, tractors and pickup trucks lined the shoulders of rural roads. Frequently, farmers hung kerosene lanterns on the sides of their wagons, and gin owners gave farmers large reflectors for their wagons, imprinted with the gin’s name. It was an exciting sight for a child to walk out on a road rarely used after dark and see a line of forty or fifty lanterns stretching down the street.

Men, and sometimes their families, milled about through the night. They were expected to keep the line closed tightly. As a result, they had to move their rigs forward a wagon length or two every 10 to 15 minutes.

Men who rarely drank whiskey at any other time of the year, except for the occasional funeral visitation, would take advantage of the time away from the constraints of home, and the bootleggers did a booming business. The country stores stayed open late, although I don't recall their staying open all night.

The ginning season would run for weeks, starting in September and ending in October. Typically, it was still warm enough for homes to leave their windows open during that time, and cotton lint flying from the gin would clog window screens and cover the floors and furniture.

The noise was constant. There was the hum of the vacuum, the roar of the separator, and the rhythmic clank of the compactor/bailer. When the roar stopped, typically as the result of a failed drive belt, there was panic as the mechanics worked to fix the problem as quickly as possible.

The process was fascinating to us children. It began with a gin hand vacuuming the cotton from the wagons. The employee would wield a tube around eight inches in diameter over the surface of the load, guiding the intake with the help of two rods running parallel on either side of the tube.

As children, we weren't allowed near the massive drive trains that ran the gin, but we could stand next to the output of the seed/lint separator, where the combed cotton passed beneath a glass panel under the scrutiny of a gin employee who was there to insure quality control.

Passing through overhead ducts, the cotton would be dumped into a large hopper in fairly large increments and be compressed by a hydraulic press into bales. When the level of the hopper reached a certain height, the side of the hopper would be opened and steel bands would be wrapped around the bale and its covering of burlap.

The banding process was treacherous. The bands would be fastened while the cotton was still compressed. As the mechanical press was raised, the band would bear the load of the expanding cotton. The bands would sometimes snap as they stretched with the expanding cotton, resulting in serious injuries to workers or bystanders.

The final chore was trucking, where men of enormous strength (or so it seemed to us at the time), used hand trucks to move the bales from the hopper to the warehouse. The feats of the truckers are legendary, and bets were frequently placed on what a trucker was capable of lifting.

Shorty Machen's Store

Shorty Machen, whose store is one of our buildings still standing in downtown Hollywoods, states that a Harris researcher stopped by his store and told him that it was built in 1869 and it was built to house the business of a Mr. McClendon who had a grocery store downstairs and a clothing store upstairs. P.D.



SHORTY MACHEN'S STORE IN 1994. PHOTO BY BILL BRADFORD

Machen notes that this building showed silent movies, that an unexplained step up in the rear floor was made to accommodate the movie projector.

The business that is today Shorty Machen's store started its commercial life in 1862 as McClendon's Store (based on information from a Harris research who visited Shorty's store. McClendon's Store sold groceries downstairs and clothing upstairs.

This sketch is found in *The Heritage of Jackson County*:

The Hollywood country store owned and operated by Shorty, Caroline, and Robbie Machen. The building is about 100 years old, has served the needs of the community. Progress may have changed the way people live, but in the rural county, country stores still have their places, people stopping by for last minute needs. This old store was one run by Aubrey and Lewis Machen, then by Shorty, Caroline, and Robbie Machined. The family owned store is located on Railroad Road in Hollywood. The store where customers bought seed from bins weighed on scales and bagged. Fresh cuts of metas, cheese, produce, eggs, and milk. Shorty added a deli on the side of the store which Robbie manages. Customers stop mornings for a cup of coffee, homemade biscuits, ham, sausage, and bacon or sandwiches and hot plate at lunch.

In a Facebook discussion Joy Sloan Trousdale remembered encephalitis killed a lot of horses in the 1970s and that the tree across from Shorty's was where you took your horses to have them vaccinated.

Machen's Store on Highway 33 (Bellefonte Road)

The store was built by T. H. Machen, who lived in the big white house next door which burned only recently while descendent Canna Machen Dawson was living there with her family.

The store was out of the family for a time. It was run by Bill Ledwell in the 1950s, and then by Arthur Ewing "Tiddy" Wann and his wife Virgie Holder. The grocery store owned by Billy Machen in the 1960s and 1970s, and he doubled the size of the original store.

In Bill Bradford's 1994 photo of this building, shown above, Bill has written, "This store belonged to Mr. Wann. We would play football in the adjoining lot. When we were broke, we could charge cokes and cookies. I hope I paid my bill, but don't remember that I did."



This store, or another store in this position, was in evidence as early as 1910:



PHOTO TITLED "LOOKING UP THE PIKE" IN THE 1910 PROGRESSIVE AGE SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT WHERE THIS PHOTO APPEARS.

Chapman House Hotel and Boarding House

George W. Chapman was the only member of his family who moved from Coffee County, Tennessee to live in Jackson County. He was the son of George Washington Chapman (1810-1870) and Nancy Ann Womack (1813-1882). He married Mariah Louisa Brown, the daughter of Reverend Preston Brown (1819-1903) and Rebecca Dunbar (1822-1895). George and Mary Lou had no children.

In the 1880 census, George and Mary Lou are already married. George is a 26-year-old farmer and the couple has a Kitty Brown age 32, a cousin living with them, and W. H. Call age 19, a nephew. At some point, George was the station agent and the first telegrapher at the depot; his name is at the top of a long list of agents. Dee Meeks assumed the role of station master in 1910, so George had this job some time after 1880 but prior to operating the rooming house, though this information is not captured in the census.

In the 1900 census, George and Mary Lou are running their boarding house in Hollywood. These people are found in the boarding house:

Name	Age	Sex	Mar	Prof	Place of Birth	Place of Birth	Place of Birth	Occupation
George Chapman	32	M	M	Farmer	Alabama	Tennessee	Tennessee	
Mary Lou Chapman	26	F	M	Farmer	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	
Robert Brown	32	M	M	Farmer	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	
Willie Smith	25	M	S	Traveller	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	
James Smith	25	M	S	Day Laborer	Alabama	Tennessee	Tennessee	
George Strickland	25	M	S	Railroad Agent	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	
Lulia Mungo	25	F	S	Servant	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	
Alice Tubb	25	F	S	Servant	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	

George and his wife live in the house with her widowed father, Preston Brown; Dr. Lafayette McClendon, the local physician, is a boarder; traveller Willie Smith from Tennessee is a boarder with no occupation listed; James Smith, perhaps a relative of Willie but born in Alabama, is a day laborer boarder; George Strickland from Tennessee is a railroad agent boarder; and Lulia Mungo and Alice Tubb are “servants” at the boarding house.

Elizabeth McAlpin’s 1977 series about Hollywood made this statement: “George Chapman emigrated to Hollywood from Carnes and built the Hollywood Hotel. The hotel contained twelve rooms. Braxton B. Comer, Governor of Alabama, and his party lunch at the hotel in 1908. In that same year the hotel was sold to Robert O. Starkey and converted into apartments.” (September 22, 1977) It cannot be determined how much of this is true.

The 1910 *Progressive Age* supplement said of the hotel, “There is one other gentleman, whom it is necessary to name if we wish to do the town justice. He is Mr. George W. Chapman, whose hospitality and kindness it is a pleasure to enjoy. Mr. Chapman is proprietor of the hotel and a better place or more cheerful fireside never greeted a tired traveler. We commend to the tourist and businessman the table, lodging, and pleasant company of the proprietor of the Chapman House.” This photo accompanied the article and was identified as Chapman House.

Name	Age	Sex	Mar	Prof	Place of Birth	Place of Birth	Place of Birth	Occupation
Robert Brown	32	M	M	Farmer	Alabama	Tennessee	Tennessee	
Willie Smith	25	M	S	Traveller	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	
James Smith	25	M	S	Day Laborer	Alabama	Tennessee	Tennessee	
George Strickland	25	M	S	Railroad Agent	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	
Lulia Mungo	25	F	S	Servant	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	
Alice Tubb	25	F	S	Servant	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	



CHAPMAN HOUSE IN 1910. SOURCE: PROGRESSIVE AGE SUPPLEMENT, OCTOBER 1910.



CHAPMAN HOUSE AFTER THE SECOND STORY WAS ADDED. DATE IN CITY HALL SAYS 1910 BUT IT IS PROBABLY LATER. SOURCE: HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL

In the 1910 census, the proprietor of the hotel is Alva Bryant. Alva's wife Mary and daughter Ethel are living at the hotel. George and Mary Lou Chapman are living there also as boarders, though his occupation is listed as Farmer. Two boarder, a 63-year-old woman named Catherine Sanders and Hunt Stuart, age 24, a mail carrier. Alva Bryant could be almost family. Mary Lou's brother Charles married a Bryant but no connection can be determined. This could be a glitch in the census; the census taker could have mistaken a guest for the proprietor, since the Progressive Age article was written after the census was taken. Ralph Mackey apparently found evidence that

a "Tubby" Davis ran the hotel at one time. It burned in DATE. Also, a man named Bob Guinn worked at the hotel and, as the article reports, drowned in the lake in 1904. He was only 29 and is buried in the Roach Cemetery.

George and Mary Lou cannot be found in 1920, but his obituary states that he was living in Scottsboro when he died in 1929. Mary Lou died the same year in Florida.

The story below is from the 1907 *Citizen*.

George Chapman has plenty of drummers these days and his livery stable is doing a rushing business.

Drowned in the Lake.
 A party of young men from Hollywood and vicinity, went to Schriek's Lake to celebrate the Fourth with a fish fry. On arriving at the lake they concluded to sail. While sailing Bob Guinn, of Hollywood, a man of family was drowned before his companions could rescue him. Reports vary as to how he was drowned.
 Mr. Guinn worked for George Chapman at Hollywood, and was an industrious man. His sudden and tragic death has caused deep sorrow in his community.

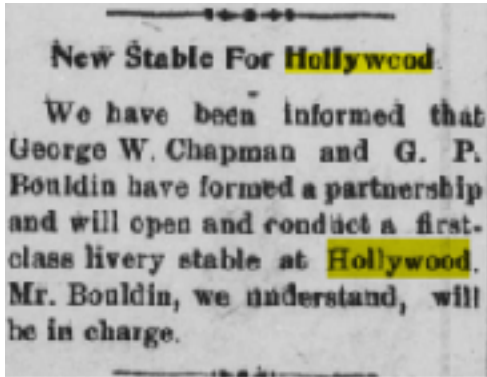


George Chapman is buried in Duncan Cemetery with his wife, near her Brown parents

GEORGE W. CHAPMAN DIES
—BURIED IN SCOTTSBORO—
 The people of Hollywood and many other communities were shocked Sunday morning when the death of George W. Chapman was announced. This good and successful citizen died at his home in Hollywood about midnight Saturday after an illness of only two days. Mr. Chapman has been suffering from asthma for some time, but he or his friends did not realize his condition was serious.
 Mr. Chapman was 49 years of age and had lived a splendid life filled with goodness and help to others. He was a native of Coffee County, Tennessee, but came to Jackson County when a young man. For many years he was station agent for the Southern Railway at Hollywood, and operated in other business enterprises all of which he conducted successfully on a basis of "The Golden Rule." He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal church and ranked one of the widest circles of friends of any man in this county. His wife died in Fort Myers, Fla., the first of July this year and since that time Mr. Chapman has been disappointed and despondent as was proved in 1928, 29 as reported by former and present news and reporters and many readers.
 The funeral was held at the Baptist Church Monday afternoon and burial was in the Hollywood cemetery at Hollywood. Rev. W. F. Brooks and E. S. McChesney officiated for the service. The funeral and burial were attended by many relatives and friends.
 J. D. Chapman was a man of education, a man of honor, a citizen and community worker who had labored for the good and he will be missed in Hollywood and elsewhere.
 The following list of friends sends expressions of sympathy and condolence: W. H. Cline and family, Andersons, John Tark and family, Deaton, John Dwyer and family, Webster, Mrs. E. T. Miles, Henderson, Mr. and Mrs. James Wilson, Bossert, Tenn.; G. W. Coker, Deaton, Tenn.; Mrs. G. W. P. Doss, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Mrs. Boudin, Fort. Mrs. Alice Price, Jacksonville, Fla.; Mrs. Boudin, Jacksonville, Tenn.; Charles Priddy, Columbia, Tenn.; Mrs. and Mrs. John Campbell, Birmingham, Lawrence and Andrew, Birmingham, Illinois; Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Hatcher, Illinois; Mrs. W. M. Rogers, Philadelphia, Tenn.

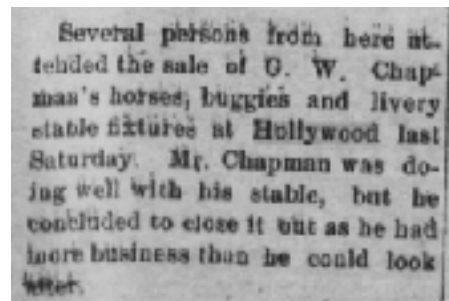


Chapman's Livery Stable



New Stable For Hollywood.
We have been informed that George W. Chapman and G. P. Bouldin have formed a partnership and will open and conduct a first-class livery stable at Hollywood. Mr. Bouldin, we understand, will be in charge.

Apparently, the earliest livery stable was owned and operated solely by George Chapman. On April 19, 1904, this note appeared in the *Scottsboro Citizen*:



Several persons from here attended the sale of G. W. Chapman's horses, buggies and livery stable fixtures at Hollywood last Saturday. Mr. Chapman was doing well with his stable, but he concluded to close it but as he had more business than he could look after.

But on April 24, 1904, *Scottsboro Citizen* reported that Chapman had partnered with G. P. Bouldin, under the management of Guideon Bouldin.

Christa's Garage/Fire Department/City Hall

This building, built with Neher bricks, is one of four buildings still standing in the center of Hollywood. When the building served as City Hall, a small jail building was located behind this building, which has since been torn down.



PHOTO OF JACOBS STORE AND CITY HALL 1994. LATER CHRISTA' GARAGE. SOURCE: BILL BRADFORD

Bill Bradford took this photo in 1994, calling it Jacobs Store and noting, “My first real jobs was driving a rolling store for this family. The health department would set up in front of this store to give us shots.” Here is another more recent photo from Facebook.



PHOTO OF THE JACOBS STORE/CRISTA GARAGE/CITY HALL BUILDING WHEN IT WAS THE FIRE HALL SOURCE: FACEBOOK PAGE

Businesses between the track and the Baptist Church site

Today, there is only one store in this stretch at a right angle to Shorty’s store, the durable structure known simply as “The Brick.” But in old Hollywood, there were several stores in this space. The Harris family provided this photo from around 1910 of showing three stores: The Brick, Harris’s Store, and Lowe Johnson’s store.



THE BUSINESSES PERPENDICULAR TO THE RAILROAD TRACK IN HOLLYWOOD, 1910. SOURCE: HARRIS FAMILY

Harris Brothers Store/Harris and Hartley

The Harris family lived in Hollywood in the early 20th century and were shopkeepers. The family left Hollywood in the late 1930s and moved to Gadsden, but they are the source of many of these good, old photos of Hollywood.

Here is a photo of the Harris Brothers store from the Harris family.



PHOTO OF HARRIS'S STORE IN HOLLYWOOD ABOUT 1910. SOURCE: HARRIS FAMILY

William Henry Harris was born 1951 and died in 1903. He married Iguiria J. Hartly, born in 1860 and died 1943.

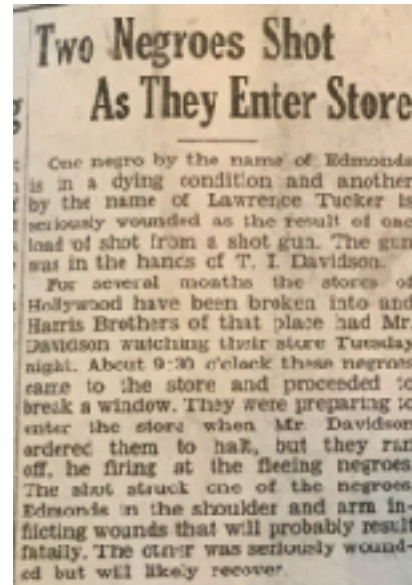
William Gordon Harris was born March 1890 in Alabama and died July 1977 in Gadsden. He married Veda Beatrice Bryant (1896-1977), the daughter of John Preston Bryant and Duanna Sanders. Her second husband was J. Walter Darwin. Veda's brother were Eli and Dewey Bryant (Eli is shown in the photo with Walter Johnson).



HARRIS AND HARLEY STORE IN HOLLYWOOD ABOUT 1900. SOURCE: HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL

Harris partnered with Hartly for a time. This photo is clearly the same store but more recent. It is found in City Hall.

Harris Brothers Store was still in business in 1929. That is the date of this newspaper account of theft from this store.



Marion Lorenzo Johnson's Store

Marion Lorenzo "Lowe" Johnson's roots run deep in Hollywood. Though he was born in Tishamingo County, MS, where his family fled during the Civil War, Lowe was the son of Michael and Mary Townsend Johnson, and the grandson of Cornelius Johnson and Henrietta Johnson. Henrietta was the sister of the notorious Townsend brothers who came with their father William into Hazel Green about the time Alabama became a state and owned cotton plantations all over northeast Alabama. Their holdings were so dense in the area around Greasy Cove that the area was called Johnsonstown.

Lowe inherited considerable land and money from the Townsend fortune, and his grandson Bill Bradford did not think his grandfather had ever worked. However, he did for a time operate this store, which he bought from the Neher family in 1909, in Hollywood, across the road from his house (the Johnson/Tate house). This photo was found in Kate Johnson Bradford's family album, labeled in her handwriting, and points to the store to the right of the Harris/Harris & Hartley store.

The 1910 Progressive Age Supplement described Lowe's store thus: "A store of which M. L. Johnson is the proprietor has been opened only a short time, having bought out E. J. Neher the first of last June. He carried a full stock of general merchandise."



PHOTOS OF MARION LORENZO JOHNSON'S STORE AND HORSE FROM HIS DAUGHTER, KATE JOHNSON BRADFORD. SOURCE: KATE BRADFORD'S FAMILY PHOTOS.

The Brick

This store is the leftmost of the three stores shown in this space.

Bill Bradford notes that that when he was a boy (in the 1930s), this building was called simply “the Brick.” Bill write, “This location made furniture at one time. After our new church building was built, on Saturday we made homemade ice cream here to sell to pay on the new building.” Bill Bradford took this photo of this familiar building in the 1970s.



Businesses further down Highway 33

Not all commerce in Hollywood was in the area around the railroad track. Businesses grew up along Highway 33 south of town, along the old Bellefonte road.

C. K. Bradford/Hammons' Store

There was a store on Highway 33 in the spot where the store known in recent memory as Hammons' Store. It was originally Charles Keith Bradford's store. Clifford Hammon took over the store when he returned from WWII and the store closed about 1970. The photo on the left shows someone (not Clifford Hammon according to all reports) pumping gas in front of this store. This photo is easy to date because behind him is Bill Bradford and his friend Snookums, who used to swim with him in the Pit. Based on Bill's age, this photo was taken about 1935. His father, Raymond is shown in the photo on the right in front of the store.



1930S PHOTOS OF C. K. BRADFORD AND CLIFFORD HAMMONS' STORE. SOURCE: KATE BRADFORD'S FAMILY ALBUM

Bill remembered his grandfather Charles Keith spending time in the store. People who share cropped C. K's land and used his gin charged groceries in the store. Bill did too. He and his family lived behind the store on Highway 33. When he wanted his first bicycle, his mother Kate told him to take the Sears catalogue down to the store and get his grandfather to buy him a bike. He said he was scared of C.K. because he was gruff and had beard that was often stained with chewing tobacco, but he really wanted the bicycle, which is grandfather ordered for him. The bicycle was to arrive on the train, and Bill watched the train every day waiting for his bike to arrive.

Clover Farms

Patricia Geren Brooks remember that building was constructed by J. A. Cook to house the post office. Phil Dutton remembers that the post office was moved from the Fire Hall/City Hall building on the corner of Railroad Street and Highway 33 in the 1950s, and that Veda Harris was the postmistress at the time. Phil says that the grocery store in the right side of this building was run by the Harris Family, and that Thomas Grider was a clerk in this store. Edith Webb Rogers remembers that I Clover Farm was run by Tom and Grace Tubbs and then by Albert and Daisy Webb. David Bradford remembers calling it the "chloroform," because children heard the name incorrectly.



In a Facebook discussion of this photo, Phil Dutton recalls that there was a barber shop located in a small white wood siding building to the right side of this brick building operated by barber Walker Carlton. The building in this location previously housed a grist mill that was operated by Doffus Morris. Phil recalls that this building was torn down or moved in the 70's or 80's.

Bob's Auto



Claytor's Store

Frank and Mary (Johnson) Claytor ran a small grocery store on the corner of Highway 33 and US 72. They opened this store in DATE. Mary is the daughter of Walter and Ruby Johnson. The store closed in the early 1980s. Here is a photo of Frank and Mary with their son Roy, taken about 1955.



FRANK AND MARY CLAYTOR FAMILY IN 1955.
SOURCE: MARY JOHNSON CLAYTOR

1910 Snapshot

One of the best sources of information about early Hollywood was the October 1910 Supplement to the *Progressive Age*. The supplement includes an economic sketch of each major town in Jackson County. What follows is a transcription of this 1910 article:

One third of the Hollywood sketch is about Bellefonte, a nostalgic longing for the “years before the war.” But the section that follows, in spite of the flowery language and hyperbole that is the style of the time, provides an excellent timetable for the growth of Hollywood. The author is not identified.

As one nears the station the appearances impress him as being different from any town on the line. The houses and stores clustered around the station are neat and in many cases admirable looking structured, well painted and well-built, while the adjoining grounds are noticeable on account of their cleanliness and neat appearance. Shade trees have been left uncultivated around the dwellings making the place cool and shady and presenting an inviting aspect to the dusty, weary trailer. It is said “beauty is only skin deep” but in that instance we take issue and affirm that although Hollywood is one of the most beautiful little town in Jackson county yet her other more substantial qualities are even superior to have beauty, but picturesqueness boom the least among her many advantages.

The town really commenced its growth about 1884 or 85 when, with a nucleus of a store and couple of plain dwellings it began to thrive, until at the present its commercial establishment number some half a dozen while the residences are among the most substantial and attractive in the county.

The town has realized its growth and has in a logical and educated manner built up those institutions which are always necessary and important in giving a town prestige or influence. The most important factors were discussed and established, namely, the church and the school. While it is claimed by men of morals that religion is not necessary to best conditions of life, yet it is acknowledged that a religious community is the better patronized and is certain to contain the most cultured men and women, while it is obvious that a town with houses of worship is the best to live in.

One of the most complete systems of education possible to adopt is followed out by the people of Hollywood. Taking hold of this affair with a thoroughness that characterizes few communities, they have instituted an organization of which they may well be proud. For nine months of the year school is held under the leadership of Mr. W. H. Varnell, who is a college-bred young man and thoroughly capable to conduct any public school. He is ably assisted by his wife, a lady who is endowed with much natural talent besides having acquired a complete education. For a new town the number of pupils is abnormal having attendance as they do daily of between sixty and one hundred. Although they have not yet built a building for the sole purpose of a school house, they are well equipped with a church which is sufficient to meet every requirement in the shape of room, facilities, etc.

This section of country is set unlike the rest of the region which is all a perfect wealth of fertility. The famous “backbone ridge” which extends for many miles east and west through this county, separates Hollywood from the Tennessee River, which is only four miles to the south. The country is well watered, has not too extensively or too an extent that would be injurious to crops. Instead it is so admirably controlled by the land structure and natural drainage that it remains yet to be recorded that crops have been drowned out or devastated by inundations. This year cotton is looking superb while corn and other grains have not suffered to any extent from excessive rains, which in other parts of the south have inflicted rain and destruction to such an extent. What crops are below the standard are simply so because

the planter has raised or attempted to raise ...that he was capable of cultivating. The lands which are present under cultivation are not the best the section can show and while they are raising crops of extraordinary magnitude and condition, it only shows what future possibilities are in store for Hollywood in the shape of agricultural progress.

There is an almost unlimited timber supply which comprises the best and most important woods now used by manufacturers. It is easily accessible and can be gathered at any one point with practically little labor or expense. This town would make an exceptionally fine location for a furniture factory. Material could be secured cheaply, and the line of railroad running through here and connecting this point with places east and west would afford a distributing field which would be certain to consume the output as fast as it could be manufactured. And the people of Hollywood are anxious and willing to have a concern of this kind start up here and would do everything within their power to facilitate affairs by giving a company land gratis and in other ways lending their aid. The county inhabitants are universally in favor of home industry and every town in the county would patronize such a concern to a large degree.

People here about pride themselves, and not in vain, upon their morality and peaceful state of affairs which are always in evidence. There is no community in any one of the southern states where people are more imbued with the spirit of home patriotism or are more content with their present environments. Content does not exist under adverse conditions and the fact of the people are in their present state of mind speaks well for their surroundings. They are contented but are ever on the lookout for opportunity to expand and enlarge their home industry, and the fact that their growth has been steady in the last ten years shows that it is sure, if gradual, positive, if slow.

There is an extensive lumber business now going on here as there are several mills which annually have a large output. They report business this year as being very brisk and are unanimous in stating that in order to fill orders they have been compelled to hustle.

The churches are well represented, there being worshipers of four different denominations who hold services in the town.

The social conditions and race problem have never caused the least agitation here. White people predominate by a large percent and what few negroes are here live to a quiet unassuming manner and have never been the cause of a disturbance. They realize the advantages of morality and education and as far as learning goes they are above the representative negro of the south.

One of the most progressive and industrious men in Jackson County lives at Hollywood and conducts his business here. He is Mr. Neher who has made himself known throughout the county by the manufacture of tile and brick. He has demonstrated very decisively the value of tiles and now has all the trade he can handle. Besides being a brick and tile manufacturer, he has a grist mill, cotton gin, and small store all of which he has built up and opened within the last year and a half.

The merchants are progressive and enterprising. Some of the well known establishments are:

A store of which M. L. Johnson is the proprietor has been opened only a short time, having bought out E. J. Neher the first of last June. He carried a full stock of general merchandise.

Another store is that of T. B. Walsh, who opened the 16th of last November. He originally came from Tennessee and has had long experience in store keeping. He carried a line of groceries in connection with the post office.

The concern of Cunningham and Campbell has just opened. They are both natives of this place and carry an extensive line of general merchandise.

Matthews and Gullatt started in business in the fall of 1906 establishing a store of general merchandise. Proprietors were reared in the vicinity of Hollywood.

A good example of what perseverance and industry can do is the next concern, T. H. Machen, who has been established nine years. He started in with \$192.00 and now has a stock with shelves of \$2500. He handles everything in the shape of general merchandise.

All these stores enumerated are bustling concerns who proprietors are men of honesty and integrity who are thoroughly acquitted with the needs of their customers and well able to supply them with every accessory at intelligible prices. They came forward with commendable promptness to push the town and deserve every success which they popularity merits.



There is one other gentleman, whom it is necessary to name if we wish to do the town justice. He is Mr. George W. Chapman, whose hospitality and kindness it is a pleasure to enjoy. Mr. Chapman is proprietor of the hotel and a better place or more cheerful fireside never greeted a tired traveler. We commend to the tourist and businessman the table, lodging, and pleasant company of the proprietor of the Chapman House.

1917 Snapshot: Phones in Hollywood

The 1917 phone book is reproduced in its entirety in Robert L. "Jerry" Meeks' book, *Hollywood Alabama and Other Important Cities on Earth*. These people in Hollywood had phones in 1917. No number is included. Hollywood is merged with Scottsboro, and Hollywood phones are designed "Hollywood."

Allen, T. J.	Darwin, J. O.	Knight, Joe
Allen, W. J.	Darwin, Walter	Matthews & Johnson
Bradford, Raymond	Duncan, Sam	McClendon, Dr.
Bryant, Chas.	Foster, Jim	McCrary, Joe
Bryant A. F.	Houser, Joe	Neely, J. S.
Bryant, Eli	Honey, M. I.	Neher, W. H.
Bryant, W. J.	Holly, Henry	Nye, Dr. G. R.
Brewer Bros.	Holder, Hugh	Pegues, John
Brown, Morris	Holder, H. M.	Proctor, A Z Store
Campbell, J. E.	Johnson, Frank	Reid, T. L.
Campbell, Rufus	Johnson, M. L.	Rounsaville, Mrs.
Cheshire, M. L.	Kant, Carl	Starkey, Albert
Clifton, Mrs. B. C.	Kenamer, J. R.	Starkey, Bob Jr.
Cook, I. T. Residence	Kenamer, S. W.	Starkey, Bob Sr. Residence
Coffey, C. R.	Kilgore, R. L.	Snodgrass, Mrs. Texas

1923 Snapshot: Dun Mercantile

The 1923 R. G. Dun Mercantile Agency Reference Book listed merchants, tradesmen, and businesses in 35 towns in Jackson County. This reference found that Hollywood with its population of 276 had eight general stores, a grist mill and handle mill, a gin, and a grocery store, operated by these merchants:

Judson Barber (near Hollywood) - groceries
Charles K. Bradford (near Hollywood) - general store and gin
Brewster Brothers - general store
R. T. Fowler - general store
J. F. Gullatt - general store
Harris Brothers - general store
T. Machen - general store
R. O. Phillips (near Hollywood) - general store
Starkey Brothers - general store
J. L. Taylor - grist and handle mill
S. C. Wynn - general store

1935 Snapshot: Kennamer

But Hollywood continued to shrink. In 1935, when Kennamer wrote his history of Jackson County, he said, "Hollywood has six stores, two gins, two churches, a Methodist and a Baptist."

Hollywood has six stores, two gins, two churches, a Methodist and a Baptist. The new five-teacher school building was completed in 1928. Professors J. H. Jernigan, J. E. Hinshaw and Cecil Hodges have served as principals of this school, which does ninth grade work.

Summary: Ralph Mackey Business Index

Ralph Mackey and a group of volunteers compiled a document kept at the Heritage Center in Scottsboro titled *Historical Sites, Businesses, Professionals and Tradesmen in Jackson County, Alabama* is based on a long list of sources *without regard for the time period* in which the business existed but is still a valuable "laundry list" of every business that has ever existed in Hollywood.

Entry for Bellefonte Station -> Samples -> Hollywood, the original Hollywood (so named because of many holly trees)

- **Hotel:** George Chapman and "Tubby" Davis

- **Cafe:** Buckhorn Cafe: T. A. Davidson and Walter R. Bogart
- **Masonic Lodge #893**, 1908-1933
- **General merchandise:**
 - Judson Barber
 - Charles Keith Bradford (near Hollywood)
 - Brewster Brothers
 - Card and Campbell
 - P. P. Campbell and Company
 - Cunningham and Campbell
 - Campbell (also Post Office)
 - Jewell Darwin (burned 1944)
 - R. T. Fowler
 - John Frank Gullatt
 - Harris Brothers.
 - Hurley Brothers
 - Jacobs Rolling Store
 - M. L. Johnson and Company
 - J. L. Larkin
 - Aubrey and Lewis Machen
 - Edward Daniels Machen
 - Thomas Henry Machen (who also had a rolling store)
 - Matthews and Gullat
 - Matthews and Johnson
 - John Felix McIntire, Jr.

- J. Pemberton
- R. O. Phillips (near Hollywood)
- J. B. Stagner
- Starkey Brothers
- Robert O. Starkey
- S. C. Wyn
- **Groceries:**
 - Judson Barber (near Hollywood)
 - L. S. Brewster and Company (also hardware)
 - I. A. Bynum
 - Matthews and Baxter
 - P. P. Tolliver
 - Thomas B. Walsh
- **Physicians** serving the community (not all were resident):
 - Thomas Jefferson Bouldin
 - Duncan
 - George T. Hayes
 - Hudson
 - Kenneth McClendon
 - W. Lafayette McClendon
 - McCrary
 - George Earl Nye (also Scottsboro, Section, and Sylvania)
 - George Berry Tate

- Womack

- **Drug stores:** Will J. Hartley and George T. Hayes

- **Furniture:** W. R. Hurley

- **Millinery:** Mrs. Clara Benham and Mrs.H.V. Hudson

- **Blacksmith:** Isaac Clark and Mungo

- **Livery stable:** George W. Chapman [AB: G. P. Bouldin]

- **Grist mill:**
 - Jessie T. Machen
 - J. L. Taylor (and handle mill)
 - P. P. Tolliver

- **Grainery:** Gordon Foster

- **Cotton gins:**
 - Hollywood Gin: Charles Keith Bradford
 - New Gin: Raymond Bradford
 - Stephen Carter
 - Gordon Foster
 - Hodges
 - Larkin and Tolliver
 - W. J. Matthews
 - P. P. Tolliver

- **Sorghum mill:** P. P. Tolliver

- **Farmers' Canning Company:** Baker

- **Saw mills:**
 - Harry Macon Cunningham;
 - Manufacturer of Hardwood Lumber: J. S. Neeley
 - Tennessee Alabama Lumber Company: Richard C. Patrick, Sr.

- **Stavemill:** Tennessee Poplar Company

- **Cedar mill**

- **Alabama Brick & Tile Company:** E. J. Neher and Son

- **Scrap Metal:** E.E.Dutton

- **Old Baptist Cemetery:** land for white section of cemetery donated by Thomas Henry Machen; land for black section by Henry A. Stewart; land for church donated by Joseph Eustace in 1844

Additional businesses

We have run across additional references to the businesses in Hollywood.

There was a Warren and Moody Saw Mill (referenced in May 1903)

J.M. Ledbetter seems to have had a store in 1903, when papers reported that his stock was attached by creditors.

U. B. Hunt owned a “engine and boiler” which he sold to Coffey and Duncan. This machinery was used to power a cedar mill.

In 1886 survey of mills generating water power in Jackson County, **Shook Mills** in Hollywood, was among the largest in the area (in terms of horsepower) grinding both flour and corns with a 60hp engine. Ask Paul where this was.

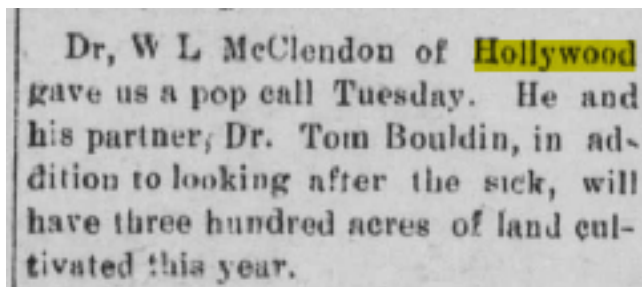
(FN: Bulletin of the Geological Survey of Alabama by Truman H. Aldrich, 1886-, transcribed by Veneta McKinney, as cited by Ann Chambless in the Jackson County Chronicles, V27N2 (April 2015), p. 13.

Paul Dutton remembers a grist mill to the right of the Post Office/Clover Farms building on 33 operated by Doffus Morris. On that same site was a barber shop operated by Walker Carlton.

Professional Services

Physicians

Hollywood seems to have had access to the services of a number of doctors, and at least three doctors (Nye, McClendon, and Tate) who lived in Hollywood.



In 1917, Dr. Nye and Dr. McClendon were listed in the phone book.

This account of doctors in Hollywood is from Elizabeth McAplin: Sept 29, 1977

Pioneer doctors in Hollywood travelled by horseback, or in a horse drawn buggy. Medicine was carried in a saddlebag. Saddlebags contained Laudanum (various preparations of opium), Asafetida (a fetid resinous gum of various oriental plants), Quinine (a bitter substance made from cinchona bark and used for fever), Caster Oil (made from castor oil tree), Paregoric (camphorated tincture of opium and used for pain), Calomel (used as a purgative), Laudanum also used for toothache.

Drs. T. J. Bouldin and W. L. McClendon were partners in the practice of medicine and surgery in the town in 1905. They had an extensive practice and were highly esteemed in the community.

Among the doctors who arrived in the town later were Drs. George Tate, George E. Nye, Dowel McCrary, George Christian, and Lafayette McClendon.

Dr. George Tate, son of Probate Judge David Tate, attended Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, where he received a degree in medicine and practiced in Jackson County, mainly in Hollywood, for many years. His oblong office building remains standing today. The story has been told many times that when Dr. Tate made a house call he often stopped at the wood shed and chopped wood to get exercise. Dr. Tate was a fine doctor and highly esteemed by all who knew him.

Dr. George E. Nye emigrated to Section, Alabama from Dayton, Tennessee, where he practiced medicine for a short period of time before removing to Hollywood. His office was an oblong frame structure located at the rear of the passenger depot where he practice until 1914, then removed to Scottsboro.

Dr. George Christian practiced medicine in the town for a short period of time int he early 1930s. He married Mary Rainy, caught of Nancy Rainy of Centre Point.

Dr Dowel McCrary taught school in Little Coon for a year, then entered Vanderbilt University where he received a degree in medicine and practiced in Stevenson and Fackler before removing to Hollywood. Dr. McCrary was the last doctor to practice in Hollywood.

Dr. McCrary was the son of Joseph L. and Nancy E. McCrary of Little Coon. His ancestors emigrated to the United States from Scotland.

At the regular meeting of the Jackson County Medical Society, that was held in the Health Department January 1, 1935, the following officers were elected:

President, Dr. William Bogart, Stevenson; Vice President, Dr. Dowel McCrary, Hollywood; Sec-Tres., Dr. E. A. Thorne of Scottsboro.

Members of the society were: Drs. Rayford Hodges, M. H. Lynch, R. R. Bridges, E. A. Thorne, W. M. Bogart, and Dowel McCrary.

Dr. Lafayette (Fate) McClendon, son of James Polk and Mary McClendon of Centre Point, attended a school of medicine at Mobile, Alabama where he secured a degree and practiced in Jackson County. Dr. McClendon was know to ride horseback across the rugged Cumberland Mountains to Paint Rock Valley to see patients.

Dr. McClendon purchased the first automobile in Hollywood at Chattanooga, Tennessee, and had it shipped by water freight to Bellefonte Landing. The truth of the matter is, I am told, that Dr. McClendon couldn't drive and had not choice except to ship his card. However, a fine doctor had graduated from the horse an buggy days.

Dr. T. J. Bouldin, who was born and raised in Jackson County, died in St. Johns, Arizona, where he practiced for 30 years before his death in 1939.



Schools

Public education was a priority in early Hollywood. Elizabeth McApline wrote, “Education came to Hollywood in the form of private school in its early history. Private school operated on a tuition basis. The first known school in the town, so far as can be established, was taught by Egbert Paxton of Indiana in the summer of 1886. The school closed September 17, 1886, and Paxton returned to his home in Indiana, where he taught school in the winter months. In 1887 Paxton returned to Hollywood with his family and continued to teach.”

“In 1895, Prof Cooper of Fackler taught a private school in the town. Cooper was assisted by Ann Stodgily. Tuition was also charged at this school.”

Before there was a dedicated building for the school, class was held in the Masonic Building, located in the curve of the road in approximately the location of the Dutton home today. According to Paul Machen, the iconic log jail was located just behind this building. This building is shown in the school picture below. Ruby Matthews Johnson provided this **1908** photo of the first public school in Hollywood, held in the old Masonic Lodge. Pictured in the foreground is the early teacher, Ethel Corn, and a group of students. Picture was made shortly after the school opened.



FIRST PUBLIC SCHOOL IN HOLLYWOOD, HELD IN THE MASONIC BUILDING ON MAIN STREET, 1908. SOURCE: THE 1977 JACKSON COUNTY ADVERTISER SERIES (SEPTEMBER 27, 1977). PROVIDED TO THE ADVERTISER BY RUBY MATTHEWS JOHNSON.

This second photo from the Harris family also claims to have been taken in 1908 and shows a much smaller group in front of what seems to be the same building.



1908 PHOTO OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOL IN HOLLYWOOD HELD IN THE MASONIC HALL WITH SOME IDS. SOURCE: THE HARRIS FAMILY.

This third school picture was among Kate Johnson Bradford's pictures. This photo looks like a different location and would have been made about **1895**.

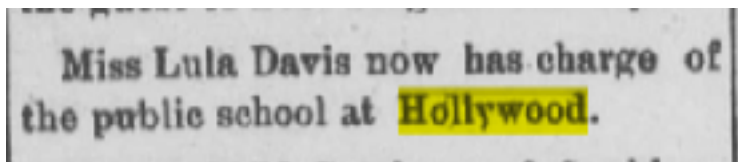


UNIDENTIFIED SCHOOL ATTENDED BY THE FOUR CHILDREN OF MARION LORENZO JOHNSON AND SALLIE WASHINGTON JOHNSON. ABOUT 1895. SOURCE: BRADFORD FAMILY PHOTOS.

No comprehensive IDs are available for this photo. However, we can identify the four Johnson children on the front row. Front row, fifth from the left is Frank, 7th from the left is Kate. End of the front row is Walter. Next to Walter is Mary.

These three photos, however, represents the beginnings of public education. Before this time, families were sending their children to private schools. However, reading the census shows just how many families sent their children away to school. These children often appeared in the census twice: once with their families where the notation “At school” was made in the census record; a second time at the school they were attending, as most private schools listed their pupils by name and age in the census records.

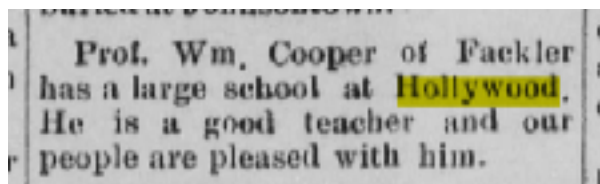
Apparently the school in Hollywood changed hands frequently but always seems to have been going on. For example, the July 18, 1910 *Scottsboro Citizen* reported that Miss Lula Davis was running the public school.



The summary below is from the 1977 *Jackson County Advertiser* series by Elizabeth McAlpin, based on her research and interviews with residents.

The first known public school was established in 1908 in a two story, rough lumber structure owned by the local Masons. Masons met on the second floor. As enrollment increased, the second floor was also used as a classroom. J. H. Jernigan was the first principal. Among the teachers were Virgie Walsh, Elizabeth Corn, Gertrude Collins, and Madge Duncan Moody.

The *Scottsboro Citizen* calls out this person associated with Hollywood School.s On June 18,1903. The *Citizen* reported about William Cooper’s school in Scottsboro:



This bit of information about teachers in the schools is found in *Hollywood, Alabama and Other Important Cities on Earth*, edited by Robert L.”Jerry” Meeks, son of station master Dee Meeks.

The Hollywood School System in 1915 was composed of two people. Mr. W. B. Thomas was the Teacher and Miss Sallie Cobb was the Assistant Teacher. Note: No Principal. Payroll for October, 1915: Mr. W. B. Thomas....\$65.00, Miss Sallie Cobb....\$35.00, Total....\$100.00. This was a monthly payroll for the months when school was in session. The checks written to these educators were signed by D. Meek, Treasurer of Hollywood.

Again, this summary about the building of schools in Hollywood is from the 1977 *Jackson County Advertiser* series by Elizabeth McAlpin, based on her research and interviews with residents.

In 1928, a white frame school building with an auditorium and six classrooms was erected at the site of the present Hollywood Jr High School. This building is shown below.



OLD HOLLYWOOD SCHOOL BUILDING, BUILT ABOUT 1926. BURNED IN DATE. SOURCE: YEARBOOK

In time three additional class rooms were build to the original building. The Rev. Thomas H. Machen donated the site. John H. Jarning was the first principals. Among the teachers were Eva Ruth Sisk, Pauline Bryant, Olive Britt, Jessie Kent, and Nola Simmons. Grads 1-9 are taught.

A number of students after completing the ninth grade rode horseback to Jackson County High School to finish. Students from Carnes, Cuba and other nearby communities rode horseback to Hollywood Schools. Horses were penned in a nearby horse lot. Later, when a school bus was sent to Hollywood, student rode horseback to Hollywood, left the horses in the lot, and rode the bus to Jackson County High School.

The earliest school building in Hollywood was located beside the current Missionary Baptist Church on XX street.

Scool is progressing nicely under the management of Prof. Cooper, and his assistant, Miss Allie Stogsdill.

June 18, 1903

There was until DATE a “high school” in Hollywood, although that school covered only Grade 1-7 and the graduating classes were small. Here, for example, is the Spring 1924 graduating class:



1924 HOLLYWOOD SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS (9TH GRADE). LEFT TO RIGHT, LIZZIE MAE BASS, LAWRENCE SEBRING (TEACHER), MARY NELL CAMPBELL, LUCILLE STAGNER, MARIE STARKEY, SAMMIE MOORE, STELLA GILES, GENEVA GENTRY, EVELYN TATE, AND RUTH STARKEY. SOURCE: FILE KEPT AT CITY HALL.

The Elizabeth McAlpin account continues:

The new, all modern Hollywood Jr. High was under construction in 1968 when the old school building burned. Students attending classes in the old building were sent to the new building. The new school was equipped to meet the needs of the student body.

Some of the more affluent families sent children to the J. J. Beeson Academy, at Pisgah. Students rode horseback to Bellefonte Landing, cross the Tennessee River on a ferryboat, and walked up Sand Mountain. Room and board was eight dollars per month. Girls stayed in a dormitory and the boys boarded with families living in Pisgah.

An Act was passed by the State Legislature in 1908 to establish a high school in Alabama. Governor Braxton B. Comer, the one Governor of the State of Alabama, arrived in Hollywood in a horse-drawn buggy in search of the most suitable location to establish a high school. Governor Comer spoke to more than two hundred people packed into the Hollywood Missionary Baptist Church, then he and his party lunched at the Hollywood Hotel before boarding the train for Stevenson and Bridgeport. Scottsboro was selected as the most suitable location for the new high school.

The Barn, also known as New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, was a colored subscription school taught one month a year. The building was located near the Old Baptist Church.

The Rosewood School for colored students was erected about 1920 on the old Mud Creek Road a mile east of Hollywood. Among the teachers were Mary Hunter, Cornelius Stapes, and Susie Sanford. Colored students now attend school at Hollywood Jr. High School.

Beech Grove Methodist Church served the dual purpose of church and school. The building was located in downtown Hollywood. Among the teachers were Mary Hunter and a Mrs. Hawkins.

Cedar Ridge Missionary Baptist Church also doubled as a school. Students attended this school in 1888. The building was located on a cedar ridge three miles northwest of Hollywood.

The Jackson County Technical School was constructed on a 40-acre tract of land near Hollywood crossroads in 1968.

The school features three buildings which encompass a total of 70,000 square feet.

The facility is operated by Jackson County and Scottsboro Boards of Education.

Courses offered are auto mechanics, auto body and fender repair, business education, drafting, cabinet making and carpentry, clothing production and services, diesel and heavy equipment mechanics, offset printing, electricity, machine shop, masonry and concrete work, radio and television repair, refrigeration and air conditioning, and welding.

Director of the school is Ernest V. Pruett.

Depending on where Hollywood students lived, some attended the school at Carnes, shown below. This school was destroyed in the tornado that devastated the county in 1932.



CHURCH SCHOOL BUILDING AT CARNES, DESTROYED BY THE 1932 TORNADO.
SOURCE: CITY HALL

A Walk Around Old Hollywood

It you had gotten off the train in 1920 onto the bustling Hollywood platform, you would have seen a sizable town. You could have walked across the street to George Chapman's hotel and boarding house. Built in DATE as a single, story structure, the Chapman Hotel added a second story in DATE, as this announcement in the *Scottsboro Citizen* noted. The photo of the busy platform in Hollywood was taken in 1920.



TRAIN 20 ARRIVING IN HOLLYWOOD IN 1920. SOURCE: PAUL MACHEN

This pump was located across from the Fire Department. There was also a pump behind the school, on the hill overlooking the softball field. It was located 75 feet from the huge tree behind the backstop. Michael Grider notes that it has been gone for 45 years. Mike Lankford remembered this pump from elementary school, when it used to be the water supply for the school.

From Elizabeth McAlpin Series, September 22, 1977:
The pioneer settlers carried water from the village pump, located in a beech grove. A short distance away a second well was drilled to water stock. Near the well was a camp group for gypsies. Too, barring was practiced at this well where farmers displayed vegetables, chickens, eggs, and ginseng. The present well and a reservoir are located atop Duncan Hill, which provides an ample supply of water for the inhabitants of the town.



OLD PUMP IN THE CENTER OF HOLLYWOOD. SOURCE: REGINA GRIDER PIPES ON FACEBOOK.

Families

Families have come and gone in Hollywood. Many names associated with the earliest day of Hollywood survive, while others lived for a while in the area and then moved on, leaving nothing but headstones behind in Duncan Hill and Old Baptist cemeteries. This introduction calling out key pioneer families is from *The Heritage of Jackson County, Alabama*:

Some early families were Matthews, Gulatt, Johnson, Upton, George Chapman, kept a hotel and livery stable. The Mungo family were blacksmiths. Machen, had a store, Hurt, big land owners, Camphill, kept a store and post office, Huntoon, Dr. Nye and family. There was also a Dr. Kenneth McClendon, a Dr. Tate, who would make house calls, come and spend the night until he was sure you were going to be alright. There was a Dr. Womack, a Dr. Hudson, and Dr. Bouldin. Nehr, owned a brick and tile company, Bryant, Starkey, Brewster and family, and countless others.

Mark Keller provided this information about families in the 1940s and 1950s. Some of his information has been merged under topics about the families he discussed.

Weeks - Barbara Bradford, Scottsboro (married Kenneth Bradford). The Weeks were in Hollywood at least as early as the 1940's and lived between us and Mrs. Ruby. There were several children in that family, mostly born in the 1940's. Barbara, Brenda and David were the children. Silas and Margaret were the parents. The parents both had jobs outside of Hollywood.

Harding - Tommy Harding, Scottsboro. Tommy's father was named Paul and the children were Jimmy, Shirley, Patsy, Larry, Tommy, Mikey, and Ricky. The Harding family was fairly large and there were several brothers who raised families in Hollywood in the 50's and forward. They had jobs outside of Hollywood for the most part. Charles Harding had a construction company in Hollywood from the 1950's up into the 1990's. He passed away probably around 2005. The matriarch of the family was a Reed.

Reed - Robert Reed, Jasper. Robert Reed is my half brother. He was the youngest mayor ever in Hollywood at the age of 24 in 1968. He also farmed and had a construction business in Hollywood. He moved here to Jasper, Alabama in 1972 following the coal business. He bought a coal mining company here in Jasper and recently sold it to the North American Coal Company. His father owned a cotton gin across the road from Raymond Bradford's home in Hollywood and Hammond's store. His father had a heart attack and died at the gin in 1949. His father's sister was Lucy Reed Harding. They had a farm in Hollywood and raised several boys including Bill, Charles, Paul and a couple more. They had sisters Anna Mae Gullatte, Velma Campbell and a couple others who lived in Hollywood in the 40's and up to now. Most have died. Bill and Anna Mae are still living. I think Anna Mae is 94 and still sharp. She would know a lot of history.

Grider - family came to Hollywood probably in the 1940's. They raised a large family there. I think there were about 12 or 13 children. They all worked outside of Hollywood. The children were Michael, Hurley, Vickie, Rita, Darlene, Perry, and others.

Rogers - large family. Big Jim and Stella had Joe, Dick, Scoot, Sam Pat, Kitty, Sipe and Dick. Dick was killed in the Vietnam war in the late 1960's. He was a decorated hero. He was probably only 19.

Allen Family

From Elizabeth McAllen: Joseph Allen was know to his many friends as "Dock". He was the son of John and Nancy Atkins Allen and was a life-long resident of Hollywood and Bellefonte. Nancy Atkins was the daughter of Andrew Jackson Adkins, a Civil War veteran. The photo was made around 1914 and submitted as a courtesy of Mrs. Juanita Allen Haskell.



JOSEPH ALLEN, 1914. SOURCE: JUANITA ALLEN HASKELL

Bouldin Family



GEORGE (LEFT) AND THOMAS (RIGHT) BOULDIN, PART OF THE COLLECTION OF RUBY MATTHEWS JOHNSON.

Note: his sketch of the Bouldin family is based largely on information provided by Stanley Sebring Jones Jr. of Atlanta for *The Heritage of Jackson County, Alabama* (Heritage Publishing Consultants, 1998), p. 94).

Mary Ann Collins (1834-1912) and John Bouldin (1828-1904) “were progressive farmers, brilliant, and well-read parents raising and college-educating 12 children to adulthood. John’s professional ancestors in Virginia served with eminent folks— James Madison, Patrick Henry, John Randolph, John Tyler, Thomas Reed. Mary’s grandfather, Capt. Barbee Collins, served under General Andrew Jackson, War of 1812...and later fished with him near Huntland, Tennessee. Her 11th great grandfather, theologian Sir. Adam Loftis, was the first Provost of Trinity College, Dublin Ireland.

They were always working to improve the schools, churches, roads, farms, and living conditions of the valley. They helped to found the beautifully named “Freedom Church-School” in Estill Fork. Mary Ann’s brother, General Anthony Bureaugard Collings, my great-grandfather, lived near that church. My grandfather, John A. Jones, Princeton, boarded with him and great grandmother, Mary Jane Bean Collins, while he taught at Freedom. There he met and married my grandmother, Alice Collins Jones.

Mary Collins Bouldin was an ancestor to a number of notable Jackson County figures, included Mayor John T. Reid (a grand nephew), high school principal Ray Collins, teacher Mildred Collins Gentle, Dr. Carl Collins (all grandchildren), and Judge Jennifer Holt (a great granddaughter).

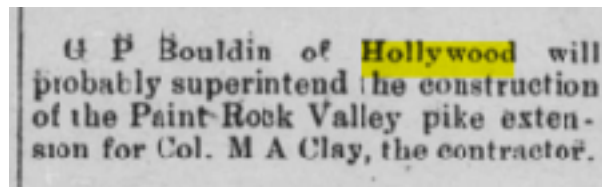
Mary Ann and John helped to fund and build Scottsboro College in 1890.

Most of this family is buried in Bouldin Cemetery at the end of County Road 516 in the Paint Rock Valley. Their children were:

- Amanda M. Bouldin (1865-1895), teacher. She married Edward Robinson.
- Virgil Bouldin (1866-1949), Alabama Supreme Court Justice. He married Irene Jacoway, and his son Walter was president of Alabama Power Company.
- Laura Ann Bouldin (1868-1919), music teacher in Alabama and Ft. Worth, Texas.
- Gideon Price Bouldin (1868-1951) who constructed the first hard surface road in Jackson County. His name is all over period newspapers because he constructed many of the most memorable county roads, including the road up the mountain to Section and The Pike. He married Roda Neher.

- Benjamin Franklin Bouldin (1870-1944) lawyer who practiced law in Ft. Worth, Texas for 50 years. He married Florence Alberta Lowe and had two children. After Florence died, he married her sister Maud M. Lowe. (Mt. Olivet, Ft. Worth, TX)
- Mary Elizabeth Bouldin (1873-1956) teacher in Texas.
- John McDonald Bouldin (1876-1932) who farmed in Hollywood. He married Myrtle XX. (Old Baptist in Hollywood)
- Thomas Jefferson Bouldin (1878-1939) who practiced medicine in Hollywood and was a First Lieutenant in World War I. (St. John's, Arizona Cemetery). He moved to Arizona and practiced there. (St. John's Cemetery in Apache County, AZ.
- George Washington Bouldin (1881-1967) who was a missionary to Japan and translated Japanese at the Pentagon in World War II and for Charles Lindberg when he traveled to the Orient. He married Margaret Alice Lee. (Winchester (TN) City Cemetery)
- Terrill Bunyan Boldin (1885-1979) who was sales manager for International Harvester in Argentina. He married Margaret "Peggy" Fennessey. (Cedar Hill)

The Bouldin family member most associated with Hollywood was Guideon, who constructed many of Jackson County's roads (see . He and his wife Myrtle are buried in Old Baptist.



Bradford Family

The XX children of DAR Patriot Joseph Bennett Bradford have left a considerable mark on early Alabama History. The children of his first marriage to XX were early settlers of Huntsville, and grandson Henry Clay Bradford was a lawyer and state representative from Bellefonte. The children of his second marriage, all born in Burke County, NC where Bennett had received land grants for his Revolutionary War service. The Bradford family

When heavily Unionist Jefferson County, Tennessee forced the Bradford family to flee during the Civil War, they spread out across the south, and many Bradfords ended up in Jackson County. John Reid Coffey, the early merchant, landowner, and sheriff so prominent in the Mexican War, was the son of Sarah Bradford Coffey. Three other of Sarah's are buried in the Roaches' Cove Cemetery, and most of the Coffeys in Jackson County today are their descendants (John Reids living descendants were daughters). Jacob Tipton Bradford, the land agent from Huntsville, entered Jackson County through Roaches Cove.

A man of 50 when the war started, Alexander Keith Bradford was a retail merchant in Dandridge and operated a ferry in Roane County, TN, having left Unionist Dandridge for the more Confederacy-friendly area of Roane County on the south bank of XX River. He had no living children by his previous two marriages, and in DATE married Margaret Moore, the daughter of Cleon and Margaret Moore and sister of Confederate General John Creed Moore. Bradford served briefly in Weckler's Battalion, and when the area was occupied by the Union army early in the war, the Bradford fled, eventually ending up in Texas where son Alexander "Ollie" Keith Bradford was born. The family was on its way to Jackson County when daughter Maria was born in Senatobia Mississippi. Margaret died three days later and the family left Senatobia under cover of darkness in 1866 to escape a town shut down with a typhoid quarantine. After the war ended, Alexander Keith, like most wealthy southerns, lost their family fortune and after the war could return to an area where he had family support. In Jackson County, he had four Coffey cousins—John Reid (an early sheriff of Jackson County), Alexander,

Many members of the Bradford family have lived in Hollywood. Sons Henry and Ollie (A. K. Jr.) were farmers married Hollywood women and had many children. They raised large families and have many descendants, and are both buried in Old Baptist Cemetery.





Campbell Family

This is from the 1977 series by Elizabeth McAlpin for the *Jackson County Advertiser*.

A prominent pioneer settler living in the town was Joseph D. Campbell, son of James and Sarah E. Browning Campbell of Greasy Cove near Chickenfoot.

Joseph D. Campbell was born April 16, 1863 in a little log cabin in Greasy Cove his father built in 1822, died February 20, 1898, was buried in Harmony Cemetery at the head of Mud Creek. His wife, Nancy Brandon Campbell, was born August 1, 1863, died in Hollywood January 28, 1898 was buried at Old Baptist Cemetery, according to Perry Campbell, author of Campbell History. Nancy Brandon Campbell was a daughter of Thomas Gold born in North Carolina 1794, and Nancy, born in Tennessee 1796, were in Jackson County before 1840. Children were Ettice born in 1884, married Sam Cook; Lula born 1886, married Lonnie Brewster; Beulah E. born February 1, 1890, married Jim Gentry; Charley born 1892, died November 7, 1858, married Allie Rorex, born July 24, 1898; Paralee born 1894, married Buren Upstain, born 1899; and Maude born 1896 married Polk Brown.

George W. Campbell, son of James and his first wife, Jennie Allege Campbell, served in the Civil War. Near the end of the war George hid out in the mountains, then gave himself up and was jailed in Huntsville.

Ettice Campbell made her fastest horseback ride ever to the partly place near Red Cut on February 11, 1899, coldest day ever recorded in Alabama, around 20 below zero. She rode that day to tell Texarkana Hartly about Jim Cambell shooting two fingers off his left hand.

James Campbell, son of George W. and Mary Jane Proctor Campbell, born October 9, 1877, died February 8, 1898, married Texarkana Hartly, born May 16, 1884, was a daughter of Columbus Franklin Hartly, born 1863, died 1886, and wife Mary Jane Keith Hartly, born 1863, died 1932.

Rufus Campbell, son of George W. and Mary Jane (Milly) Proctor Campbell, was born 1880, died April 7, 1969, married Eliza Knight, born in 1884, daughter of John Mack and Nancy Allen Knight. Mary Jane Proctor was a daughter of Micajah A. (Cagy) Proctor and his wife Minerva Davis Proctor, daughter of John P. David and granddaughter of the revolutionary war veteran William David born in Va. in 1753, died in Maynard's Cove in 1848, where he built a log cabin in 1815 and lived among the Indians. Children born to this union were Ethel born 1903, married Tom Bohanon; Ula Pearl born August 8, 1905; Annie Mae born 1906, married Dock Akins; Susie born July 10, 1909, died July 6, 1910, George Mack born 1912, died 1972, married Mildred Crye; Lester (Leck) born 1915, married Velma Harding, daughter of Arthur and Lucy Reed Hardings; and Jim born 1918 married Winnie Durham.

Chapman Family

Elizabeth McAlpin wrote on September 22, 1977, "George Chapman emigrated to Hollywood from Carnes and built the Hollywood Hotel. The hotel contained twelve rooms. Braxton B. Comer, Governor of Alabama, and his party lunch at the hotel in 1908. In that same year the hotel was sold to Robert O. Starkey and converted into apartments." For more about this family, see Chapman House Hotel.

Coffey family

This is a prominent black family that I need to research.

Cook Family



Cook - Eddie Cook's parents (had a large farm in Hollywood for many years). Mr. Charlie Cook was part of the family. He lived to be 107, I believe and was the oldest living Alabama World War I veteran at the time of his death a few years ago. He was a very prominent member of Hollywood church until his death and was friends with Raymond Bradford and family. Charlie had a farm just outside the city limits.

Scottsboro, Alabama Sunday, May 28, 1995

WWI vet celebrates 99 years today

By STEVE PATRICK
Staff Writer

"I was George Bush's grandfather in Bradley in January of 1900. I was 69 years old. I am the only World War I veteran in Jackson County." There is only one man who can say those things, and that is Charlie Cook.

Cook celebrates his 99th birthday today, but that is not the only thing he makes this a special weekend for him. It is also Memorial Day weekend, and Charlie Cook is excited about walking to the Memorial Day Parade in his hometown. The film is shown in front of the World War I Memorial.

On December 17, 1917, Cook enlisted in the U.S. Navy and was assigned to the USS Hatteras. Cook served on that ship three months and then was transferred to a gun crew on an old battleship where he was rated a machine gunner.

After the armistice in 1918, Cook was stationed at a coal boat in New York where he saw George Washington. Then Cook went on to the USS Hatteras where he worked for a while when the attack on Pearl Harbor took place.

Charlie Cook has been a long way in his years, and he is determined to go further. The Memorial Day Parade will be the Memorial Day Parade. He has had some health problems, but he has been going forward in preparation for the march.

"I will pass all that I can with all the way," said Cook. "I will stand at attention, and I have to show these boys."

The parade starts at 10 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church on Broad Street and will march through the square where a Memorial Day ceremony will be held.

Happy Birthday

Charlie Cook, who claims to be the only World War I veteran in Jackson County, turns 99 years old today and is marching in the Memorial Day Parade tomorrow. The parade will start at 10 a.m. at the First United Methodist Church on Broad Street and will go to the square where there will be a Memorial Day ceremony.

Dutton Family

Eugene Dutton was mayor of Hollywood for many years. His son Phil lives across from Missionary Baptist with his mother Marguerite.

Mark said: Phil Dutton and Linda Dutton, Hollywood. Phil's father (Eugene) was the Hollywood mayor in the early 1970's. Phil was also a teacher at Hollywood school and a football and basketball coach. He left teaching and became a real estate developer and later had an HVAC business outside of Hollywood. Phil's Mom, Marguerite still lives across the road from Hollywood Church today and is still pretty sharp. She would know a lot of history.

Duncan Family

I believe there were early prominent white Duncans and black Duncans.

Green Family



GREEN HOUSE IN HOLLYWOOD IN 1994. PHOTO BY BILL BRADFORD

Betty Gullatt Budlong remember visiting her aunts in Hollywood in the 1930s. Her grandfather Frank was the owner and operator of Gullatt's Store, which was in the building where Shorty Machen's store is today. Frank died in 1936, and his granddaughter Betty has no memories of him, but she remembers very fondly staying with her aunts, Lucy Gullatt Green and Maggie Gullatt. Betty writes:

“We drove from Connecticut to Florida every year until I was about 13. Coming and going we would spend 4 days to a week in Alabama. A day or two with my Grandmother, Nora Lee, in Birmingham and a day or two in Scottsboro. There was no place to stay in Hollywood. We stayed at the Jessica Hotel or the Holiday Inn. I, alone would spend a couple of nights with my Aunts, Lucy and Maggie Gullatt at their house where I helped them make and can sausages, stir soap in an iron kettle (which now sits on my front porch) etc.. It was exciting as the road was dirt, there was no electricity, but Aunt Lucy did have a pump installed at her kitchen sink (I think it may have been attached to a storage tank). Obviously, there was no indoor plumbing.

During WWI 2 of my Grandfather's sisters went to Chattanooga to work “in the mills”. When the war was over and the men returned there wasn't as many jobs for ladies. Aunt Maggie (who was definitely the better looking and the most lady-like of the two) received a letter from a local Hollywood farmer, Tull Green. He respectfully asked her to return to Hollywood, marry him, and keep house for him.

She didn't answer. Instead he received a letter from Aunt Lucy saying that Aunt Maggie had had a beau who was killed in the war and was so broken up about her loss that she refused to even talk about marriage again. However, she, Lucy Gullatt, Would be delighted to take him up on his proposition as long as he promised to provide care and housing for both she and Aunt Maggie as long as either one was alive. He accepted, Aunt Lucy went to a lawyer, had a contract drawn up; it

was signed and they were married. He was the ugliest man I've ever seen, but he died sometime in the 1940's. Aunt Maggie and Aunt Lucy continued living in the house and the working farm. Aunt Maggie died in the 1950's and Aunt Lucy in the 1960s. We always visited them when we went to Alabama. Aunt Lucy was me favorite relative. She never had any children and she tried really hard to teach me how to make soap over an open fire etc.

The kicker of the story is that when she died she left me and my brother each several thousand dollars in War Bonds which she said was the money that my father had given her in case she ever needed it and no one else had thought to ask if she was all right.. Many of her Gullatt relatives who lived in Hollywood were furious when she died and they found out that the house and farm went to the Greens as per he terms of the 1918 contract -- and they had been so nice to her too.

Gullatt Family

Ann Chambless wrote this description of the historic house

One of Jackson County's best kept secrets will be revealed to the public on October 31, 2004. At the end of Jackson County Road 34', three miles west of Hollywood, Alabama, a stately farm house stands as a silent sentinel overlooking 640 acres of cotton fields, soybean crops, and a low ridge filled with dense timber. Glancing west, an admiring eye quickly locates the southeastern brow of Cumberland Mountain.

Built in the mid 1860s by Daniel and Nancy L. Townsend, Jr., this historic house has been carefully restored by its present owner, Betty (Gullatt) Budlong of Los Angeles, California. Architectural and physical evidence indicates this working farmhouse was constructed shortly after Daniel Townsend purchased the 640 acres comprising Section 16, Township 3, Range 6, in 1866. The 1870 census recorded the value of Daniel Townsend's property as \$4,000. This is strong evidence that the house pre-dated the 1870 census.

Civil War aficionados marvel that such a large house was constructed in war-ravaged Jackson County in 1866. Jackson County Probate records verify that Daniel Townsend was a man of means from the time he arrived in Jackson County, shortly before 1860, until his death in 1883. When Daniel's bachelor uncle, Edmond Townsend, died in Madison County, AL, in 1853, Daniel and his siblings received a sizable inheritance. A comparison of 1860 and 1870 census records indicates Daniel Townsend's real estate and personal property values were higher than most Jackson County residents during that time period.

Daniel Townsend, Jr, married Nancy L. Williamson May 13, 1850, in Lunenburg County, Virginia. According to census records, their first two children were born in Tennessee: Lavina was born in 1855 and Marcellus was born in 1858. Emma and Sarah (called Sally) Townsend were born in Alabama in 1862 and 1864, respectively. Nancy L. Townsend did not live long after moving into her new home, as Jackson County, AL, probate records show she died in 1868. On March 29, 1870, Daniel Townsend married Mary (Polly) Rodden, and they also had four children: Joseph (Joe) D. was born in 1871; Parks, born in 1873, died young; Parthena was born in 1874; and Robert was born in 1879. Their ages are based on the 1880 Jackson County, AL, census enumeration for Daniel Townsend.

On December 24, 1876, there was a wedding in the Townsend-Gullatt House. According to her marriage license, Emma Townsend married Thomas M. Angel at the home of her father, Daniel Townsend, on Christmas Eve of 1876.

A rectangular one-story log dwelling with a side gable is located a short distance north of the farmhouse and faces west. Although the stone chimney on its south side has collapsed, it is easy to fathom that the log structure predates the restored farmhouse. According to Architect David Ely of J H Associates of Huntsville, AL, this building appears to have been constructed as a one-room house with a second room added to the north in the late 19th to early 20th century. Most likely the Townsend family lived in the log house while local artisans constructed the large farmhouse in keeping with the Virginia Tidewater architecture of their native state. The Townsends came to Alabama from Virginia via a short sojourn in Tennessee.

The farmhouse is an L-shaped, one-story frame dwelling. The roof has a decorative cross gable centered at its front slope and boxed cornices with a plain frieze boards and returns. A less than full facade hipped porch extends across the center of the front of the house. Cut, native limestone exterior-end chimneys provide for large fireplaces in the front parlor and keeping room, and an interior limestone chimney is

located within the L. Both exterior chimneys were restored to assure safe use of the wood-burning fireplaces. The exterior of the house is clad with board and batten weatherboards, and the foundation is constructed of cut limestone. Tall, single wood, one-over-one, double hung sash windows flank the entrance.

The interior plan of the house consists of a central hall which was flanked by twin parlors. When Betty Budlong submitted her application for placement on the National Register of Historic Places, she requested and obtained permission to convert the north parlor into a keeping room-kitchen. The parlor and keeping room fireplace have been reworked and are graced by the original mantel pieces, typical of that era, which are painted white to match the original, wide door surrounds and baseboard.

Three bedrooms are located in the rear L wing as well as an atrium porch. The 12 foot ceilings remain intact. One bedroom retains its beaded board ceiling and wall finishes. Bathrooms and closets were added during the restoration.

The farmhouse was built on an elevated slope which affords an almost breathtaking, sweeping panoramic vista from the front porch and the parlors' front windows.

The backyard slopes upward into the first bench of the mountain ridge which appears to wrap and protect the house from inclement weather. Today the property owner and visitors reaffirm Daniel and Nancy L. Townsend's excellent choice of building site and house plans made 138 years ago. The house is definitely a spirit in tune with its own time.



Harris Family



< Aubrey and Dovie Harris

Other Harris Brother >



Bill wrote on this photo “The Harris House. Mrs. Harris was post master had two sons—were friends. Saw lots of Mrs. Harris at the Post Office. Post Office was the social center.”



Bill wrote, "This is another Harris family. Had two sons about three years older than me. Not real close. These two boys were killed on D Day." This is the Aubrey Harris home. I can find only



one son who died on D-Day and info about him is below.

**BODY OF BILL HARRIS
TO ARRIVE FRIDAY**



The body of Pfc. Bill S. Harris will arrive in Hollywood Friday, June 1st. Funeral plans will be announced in Thursday's paper. He was killed in Luxembourg Dec. 28, 1944. He served with Gen. Patton's Third Army.

**Pfc. Bill S. Harris
Killed In Action**

Mrs. Bill S. Harris, of Hollywood, received a telegram Sunday from the War Department stating that her husband, Pfc. Bill S. Harris, had been killed in action in Luxembourg on December 28, 1944.

Pfc. Harris is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Harris, also of Hollywood, and one of the community's finest boys. He was 20 years of age and had been overseas more than a year.

Mr. and Mrs. Harris also received word that another son, Albert J. Harris, had been wounded in France on December 23rd. The nature or seriousness of the wounds was not disclosed in the official message, but many friends are praying that he will recover and return safely.

The young widow, the parents and other sorrowing relatives have the sincere sympathy of all our people in this tragic sacrifice.

Huntoon Family

Note: This sketch of the Huntoon family is based largely on information provided by Nora Huntoon Inglis for *The Heritage of Jackson County, Alabama* (Heritage Publishing Consultants, 1998), p. 204).

Traveling from Ohio by Oxen-driven covered wagon, the Huntoon family arrived in Jackson County on November 22, 1889 and settled in the town of Hollywood. Family members at that time were my grandfather C. M., grandmother Clara, and baby daughter Fern. Sons Cliff and Clem were born later in Hollywood.



C.M. & CLARA HUNTOON, SCOTTSBORO DEPOT MUSEUM

C. M., aided by seven-year-old J. F., cleared and broke land for farming. They used the oxen that had brought them, along with a team of young steers named Buck and Bull. In 1898 C. M. helped establish Hollywood's chief industry, the Alabama Brick and Tile Company.

The children's formal education was limited to the one-room school in the same building where the family attended church services. Only the youngest son, Clem, had the opportunity to travel by horseback to Scottsboro and graduated from Jackson County High School. His expenses were paid by J.

F., who was working at the time at Hollywood's cedar mill.

In the 1920s, all the family except J. F. moved away from Alabama. J. F., known to most people as Mr. Frank, continued to live in Hollywood until his death in 1971. During those years he continued to farm on a small scale, worked at road building with the WPA during the Depression, and spent many years as bookkeeper for local cotton gins. The longest period of time was twenty-three years with the Airheart Gin in Scottsboro.

In addition to his regular employment, J. F. served on many juries, helped with elections, and volunteered time for projects such as construction of Sunday School rooms at Hollywood Baptist Church. Like the rest of the Huntoon family, he was a man of his word, and because he genuinely cared about people, he was always willing to help family members, friends and co-workers as much as possible.

J. F.'s first marriage, to Lula Starkey, ended with her death, following the death of their infant daughter, Laura Clara. Then in 1936 he married the former Pearl Matthews and became stepfather to her daughters, Mary Lou and Lennis Dawson. In 1942, when he was almost sixty years old, his daughter Nora was born. He was a wonderful father, always believing in me and encouraging me, and generally being my best friend."

Elizabeth McAlpin had this short description of the Huntoon family in the October 13 installment of her series:

Joining the pioneer settlers in the town were C. M. and Clara Huntoon, for whom Huntoon Hill was named. Huntoon Hill lay south of the town and encompassed Duncan Hill. The Hollywood Housing Development is built on the White Plantation at the foot of Huntoon Hill. the house burned in the early 1930s. [AB: This is contrary to P.D. Machen's report of the White Planation being located behind the Wann/Machen store.] Huntoon was Justice of the Peace in the town for a number of years and traveled in a horse drawn buggy. Both he and his wife are buried on Huntoon Hill, known today as Duncan Hill.

Hurt Family

Hurt- these folks lived just outside the city limits of Hollywood but were the largest landowners possibly in Jackson County. They are all gone now. You may know John Frank Hurt who owned all the land where TVA built the nuclear plant at Bellefonte. He owned several thousand acres along the Tennessee River. His ancestors supposedly made their fortune in the slave trade. They also had farm land just outside the city limits on the other side of Hollywood from Bellefonte.

Johnson Family

The area around Hollywood has been associated with four generations of the Johnson family. However, the story of how the Johnson family came to be in Jackson County goes back another generation, to Henrietta Townsend who married Cornelius Johnson. The Townsend family from which Henrietta descended accumulated wealth and property before the start of the Civil War that was exceptional and well documented by various Madison County historical societies.

Two of Henrietta's brothers are at the center of this story: Edmund (1791-1853) and Samuel (1801-1856) Townsend. Both brothers were major landowners in Madison and Jackson Counties between 1820 and 1856. Both administered huge cotton plantations worked by many slaves. Neither married, but both fathered children by the slave women. Both tried to legally enable their mulatto children to inherit the bulk of their fortunes. And finally, both were thwarted.

Edmond was the older brother, and died first, in 1853, of tuberculosis. When the rights of Edmond's children were not recognized, younger brother Samuel bought his two nieces and their probable brother Woodson, and set about to ensure that the same fate did not befall his own half- black children. He made elaborate preparations to have his children sent north to Ohio and Illinois to be educated, though the welcome they received there was not much warmer than the one they experienced in Alabama. He had sent Thomas, the oldest of his children, to Ohio with a minister to search out a school and a settlement that welcomed freed, educated blacks.

In the middle of these preparations, Samuel Townsend died in 1856, and most of his vast estate was divided among white descendants and lawyers. His plantation holdings were sold and subdivided, and today, nothing but some cemeteries and street names in sparkling new subdivisions remain to remind the world that these two strong-willed men ever lived—that and the record left by the descendent of his lawyer, historian Frances Cabiness Roberts, and the mountain of legal paperwork documented in her dissertation. The story has always captured the imagination of black history advocates and local historians, and several accounts of these brothers have been written.

Edmund and his brother Samuel owned a great deal of the land around Hollywood (in fact, all over north AL). The land occupied by the Townsend (and later Johnson) plantations in Jackson County was for a time known as Johnstontown. To locate Johnstontown in “modern Hollywood,” if you stand in the Hurt Cemetery and look northeast, the settlement of Johnstontown followed the ridge.

Henrietta “Ritter” Townsend is the daughter of Elizabeth and William Townsend. She was born in 1789 in Lunenburg County, VA. On October 30, 1806 in Lunenburg County, VA, she married Cornelius Johnson. She died August 1, 1856 in Jackson County, AL and is buried in the Hurt Cemetery near the area that was once known as Johnstontown. Henrietta moved to Jackson Co., AL soon after the death of her brother in Madison Co. in 1853. She purchased 1,600 acres and 40 slaves with her part of his estate. Her husband, Cornelius, died about 1848-9 in Mississippi. In 1850, she is living with her youngest son, Michael Johnson and his family in Tishomingo County, MS; but soon after, she moved to Madison County, AL. Her oldest son, Robert and his family moved from MS to Hazel Green before the 1850 census. By the time that Henrietta died in August 1856, all of her children had moved to Jackson County.

Henrietta and Cornelius had these children: Cornelius (1809-BF 1853), Robert (1808-1889), Keziah (1860-70) -(Wm. L. Rye), Elizabeth (Lawrence/Houston/Sims), Michael (1822-1862), Mary (James P. Steeley) ?-?), and Parthenia (James Stuart (?-1860-70).

Note: There are descendants living in Jackson County now who descend from Robert, Michael and Mary (Steeley), but none from Elizabeth or Parthenia.

Michael and Mary Franklin (Townsend) Johnson are listed on the 1860 Jackson County, census along with their daughters: Cordelia, Emma, Annie and Elizabeth. Elizabeth married Sherrod Brewster and they lived out their lives in Hollywood. The others married husbands who were from the Pinson/Henderson, TN area and they lived out their lives there. They all had children, but their descendants are few.

Michael and his family moved to Bolivar County, MS soon after the 1860 census. Michael was killed in March 1862 (according to family history) by his wife's half brother, Frank Dean. We do not know the circumstances or what became of Mr. Dean. Mary had a very difficult time after his death. Michael had only paid part of the mortgage on the plantation and there was no money made during the Civil War.

In 1867, Mary married Tilman B. Brooks and, they along with three of her daughters and her son Marion Lorenzo, moved back to Jackson County because Michael still owned land there. During the time that she was gone, Robert Johnson and some of the other Johnson children had been using this property and wanted to keep it. This was settled in the court many years later.

Marion Lorenzo Johnson (1861-1939) was born in Bolivar County, MS, the only son of Michael and Mary T. Johnson. He married Sarah A. Washington, daughter of Matthew Washington and Catherine Louella Walker of Wannville, and they had the following children: **Frank W.** (1887-1952), **Mary** (Weatherly) (1890-1976), **Catherine** (Bradford) (1889-1984), and **Walter** (1892-1963). All of them lived most of their lives in Jackson County except Mary (1890-1976) Weatherly who lived in Ft. Payne, AL. All of them left heirs.



LEFT TO RIGHT, MARY JOHNSON WEATHERLY, WALTER LORENZO JOHNSON, FRANK WASHINGTON JOHNSON, CATHERINE LOUELLA JOHNSON BRADDED, LOUELLA RICH RUDDER



JOHNSON FAMILY IN FRONT OF THE JOHNSON HOUSE IN HOLLYWOOD: L TO R, KATE, MARY, MARION LORENZO, SALLIE, WALTER, UNKNOWN, AND FRANK. SOURCE: ELIZABETH JOHNSON HAAS

These photos of Marion Lorenzo and Sallie Johnson show a lot of the layout of old Hollywood.



JOHNSON HOUSE. SOURCE: KATE BRADFORD'S ALBUM



SALLIE WASHINGTON JOHNSON AND MARION LORENZO JOHNSON (BACK) AND THEIR FOUR CHILDREN: L TO R FRANK AND ANNABELLE BROWN AND JOHNSON AND CHILDREN, WALTER JOHNSON, MARY JOHNSON WEATHER AND G.I. WEATHERLY AND DAUGHTER, AND KATE AND RAYMOND BRADFORD. SOURCE: MARY JOHNSON CLAYTOR



LOWE JOHNSON'S BARN WAS ON THE STREET IMMEDIATELY BEHIND THE JOHNSON HOUSE. SOURCE: KATE JOHNSON BRADFORD'S ALBUM.

**M. L. JOHNSON DIES
SURDENLY IN FLORIDA**

Marion Lorenzo Johnson, age 77, died suddenly at his residence in Fort Myers, Florida, last Friday morning, March 10, 1920 about eight o'clock. He had been in good health up to Thursday night, but got up Friday morning and suddenly became ill, dying almost instantly of a heart attack. Word of Scottsboro went to Post Office and brought the remains back to Hollywood to the home of Mr. Johnson's daughter, Mrs. Raymond Bradford, where the funeral was held Monday morning at 11 o'clock with Rev. J. R. Rush in charge, and burial followed in Cedar Hill cemetery in Scottsboro.

Mr. Johnson is survived by his widow, two daughters, Mrs. O. L. Westmore, of Fort Payne, Mrs. Raymond Bradford of Hollywood, two sons, Frank Johnson, of Stevenson, and Walter Johnson, of Hollywood, and several grandchildren and other relatives.

Mr. Johnson was a native of Johnsonsown community near Hollywood, his family having settled that area when a young man he went into the mercantile business at Hollywood and operated a store there until he was sixty years of age. He then retired from business and looked after his farming and real estate interests in this county and Florida. He had spent the last 21 winters in Fort Myers, where he owned a winter residence, and had other holdings. He was a man of powerful physique and serious heart trouble was not suspected by himself or the family.

His passing removes a pioneer citizen and business man of this county, especially among the older residents but he has a wide circle of friends who will regret to learn of his death.

Walter Johnson Family

Walter Johnson and his wife Ruby were born in Hollywood. They lived their lives in the house shown below on the corner of Walnut Street and Highway 42. Walter's father lived across the street in his later years, splitting his time between Florida (where his second wife Ida lived) and Hollywood (where the Mungos lived in his house and cooked for him).



RUBY MATTHEWS JOHNSON.
SOURCE: MARY JOHNSON
CLAYTOR



WALTER AND RUBY JOHNSON HOUSE IN 1994. SOURCE: BILL
BRADFORD.

Ruby Matthews was the daughter of William J. Matthews and Deliah Johnson. She married Walter Johnson, the son of Sarah Washington and Marion Lorenzo Johnson, and they had five children:

- Will Jack Johnson (1918-1920), buried in Cedar Hill
- Elizabeth Johnson Haas (1922-2010) who married Robert Haas (1920-2005) who sold insurance and have three sons. Elizabeth lived on the right on County Road 33 just before Highway 79. She taught first grade and served two terms as Hollywood's mayor. Walter operated two grocery stores: one in Hollywood and one in the Bynum Building on the square in Scottsboro. Buried in Pine Haven.



- Mary Lunita Johnson Claytor who married Frank Claytor in Hollywood. Frank was a pilot and career military man. After Frank's retirement, Mary ran a store that stood for many years on the corner of the County Road 33 and Highway 79. She now lives on some of the original Johnson

property in Jackson County. They had two children. Son and husband buried in Maple Hill in Huntsville.

- Mazie Johnson Hereford (1927-2013) who married Thomas Wilson Hereford (1919-2005). Tom was a dairy farmer and Mazie was a homemaker and gardener in Gurley. They had five children. After they divorced, Mazie moved to Pelham in 1996 to be near her daughter. She is buried in Pine Haven. He remarried and is buried in Gurley.
- Billie Johnson Puckett (1929-2016) who married Lewis Wilson Puckett (1927-2006). Lewis was a veterinarian and they practiced in Charlotte, NC. She taught science and home economics and worked in the veterinary practice. They had three sons.

Everyone who talks about Ruby remembers her fondly. Daughter Mary Claytor remembers her mother riding her horse from Hollywood to Scottsboro every week to study piano, a skill she developed and shared for many years as the organist at the Methodist Church.

During the depression, Ruby and Walter's house was a regular stop for out-of-work men who rode the rails looking for work. Mary said that hobos chalked a symbol on their fence. At regular train stops in Hollywood, Ruby set out a pot of beans and warm cornbread for the hungry men who poured off the train and headed for her cool yard.

Mark Keller, who grew up across the street from Ruby and Walter, remembers her well because she was his babysitter, a woman with a huge smile who loved children. Her warm house, where all the kids were welcome, had a hidden door in the kitchen floor. The neighborhood kids played in her barn and climbed in her trees. Her shady yard included the Hollywood carving tree, a huge Hackberry tree with had names and art carved into it from bottom to top. "I have spent many many hours in that tree," Mark remembers. "She also had an Eastern Red Cypress in her yard next to the road that we stayed in sometimes day and night. We would throw the green cones (very small) at passing cars and pedestrians and friends on bikes."



WALTER AND RUBY JOHNSON WITH THREE OF THEIR FOUR DAUGHTERS, 1930S. SOURCE: MARY JOHNSON CLAYTOR

Mark and Ruby's great-nephew David Bradford both remember her fondness for cats (David because his desire to spend time with Ruby was mitigated by his cat allergy). "She made us feel welcome; not like we were a burden," Mark remembers. "She didn't seem to care when we did things we shouldn't."

Keller Family

The Hollywood Keller family came to Hollywood in about 1955. My Dad had a water well drilling company and he had a logging company. He operated those into the early 1970's until he retired. My mother worked at Dover Mills in Pisgah for about 35 years and taught Sunday School at Hollywood Missionary Baptist Church for about 40 years. She loved Mrs. Kate and they were great friends. I think Raymond helped my mother with the cotton gin when her first husband Robert Reed died in 1949. My parents had the following children beginning in 1943, Robert Reed (my mother's son; his father died), Helene and Charles (their mother died in 1949), my Dad was a widower and my Mom was a widow and they married in 1949. Their children were, Joe, Steve, Doug and Mark. Steve still lives in Hollywood. All others have left Hollywood. Helene passed in June of this year.



The house above was home to the Keller Family from the 1950s to the early 1980s. In the late 1940s, it was home to the Bob Reed family. It is currently home to the Adkins family.

Machen Family

Certainly no family has formed an earlier or more enduring connection to Hollywood than the Machen family. T. H. Machen came to Hollywood from...need to get with Paul on this.

Shorty's grand father Machen



Machen - Shorty and Carolyn, Hollywood. The Machens owned two stores in Hollywood and also had a farm. Aubrey had the main store that I think his father started in the early 1900's and it is still in operation today. Shorty and Carolyn are still working there and they are in their 70's. You could ride up there and get a lot of information from them.

This photo of the T. H. Machen home on Highway 33 was posted on Facebook.



Matthews Family

The Hollywood Johnson family descends from the Charles and Elizabeth Matthews family of Virginia. Their son William Matthews married Susannah Reade of Brunswick Co., VA. They had several sons, among them John Matthews, the progenitor of the Hollywood Matthews line. also came to Jackson Co., AL and lived on Big Coon and there are many other descendants from his line.

Generations 3...They had other brothers and sisters, but not much is known of them except that brother Drury Matthews moved to Montgomery Co., TN.

Generation 3: James Matthews (born: 1764, VA, died: 1847, Jackson Co., AL)

Married: 10 DEC 1788, Brunswick Co., VA Elizabeth Hardy (Hardaway?) (born: 1771, died: 10 MAY 1834, Jackson Co., AL). Buried: Cumberland Presbyterian Cemetery near Gonce, AL.

They had these children:

1. Anna Matthews married Absolum Stubblefield

2. William Jefferson Matthews (born: 1798, Brunswick Co., VA, died: before 1830, Jackson Co., AL)
Married: Rachel Williams (born: 1803, Maury Co., AL; daughter of Sherrod Williams and Mary Ann "Polly" Looney)

3. Susannah Matthews (born: 1798, Hawkins Co., TN, died: 1859 Franklin Co., TN) Married: #1 Michael Looney, #2 Stephen Sutton, #3 Jesse Rogers

4. Jeremiah Matthews (born: Oct 15, 1800, Hawkins Co., TN; died: May 10, 1845, Jackson County, AL). Married: Jane "Jennie" Williams (born: Jan 22 1805, Maury County, TN; died Dec 27 1821, Franklin County, TN, the daughter of Sherrod Williams and Mary Ann Looney.
They had these children:

4A. Mary Matthews who married Campbell Middleton

4B: John Michael Matthews who married Sarah Ann Thurman

4C: William Jasper Matthews who married Mary Ann Anderson

4D: Elizabeth Matthews who married John Thurman

4E: Sarah Ann Matthews who married: #1 Solomon Banks Gover, #2 William Leroy Rogers and moved to Young Co., TX after the Civil War

4F: Lent Sherrod Matthews who married Married #1 Mary Jane Stewart (born August 13, 1839 and died Nov 27, 1869). Married on Sep 22, 1858-9. #2 Elizabeth Ann Stewart (born Mar 3, 1842 and died Sep 18, 1883) Married Feb 15, 1870. #3 Hannah Kennamer (born Nov 30, 1847 and died Dec 17, 1889) Married May 24 1885. Mary Jane and Elizabeth Ann were the daughters of John and Lucy Stewart and are buried in the Sherrod

Williams Cemetery near Winchester, TN. Lent and Hannah Matthews are buried in the Old Baptist Cemetery, Hollywood, AL. He had these children:

Wife #1

- 1) Cordelia Matthews (born Sep 16, 1860 and died Dec 10 1884). Unmarried.
- 2) Williams J. Matthews (born Jul 20, 1865 and died Jul 19, 1927. Married: Deliah (Lila) Johnson daughter of Montfort T. and Jerusha (Gullatt) Johnson on Dec 24, 1891
Children: Wayland, Bedford and **Ruby**

Wife #2

John Michael Matthews who married Rona Gold
Sarah Jane Matthews who married Charles Goolsby
Lucy Ellender Matthews who married Michael Brewster
Andrew Jackson Matthews who married Annie Brewster
James Penn Stewart (1879 - 1890). Unmarried

*Michael and Annie Brewster were the children of Sherod and Elizabeth (Johnson) Brewster

Wife #3

Alabama Valentine Matthews who married J. W. Upton
Zachias Lent Matthews Unmarried (died young)
Samuel C. Matthews Unmarried: (died young)

5. Elizabeth Matthews (born: 1803, Hawkins Co., TN, Died: ?) Married Samuel Willis (born: 1803, Hawkins Co., TN, died: ?) .

6 Arthur S. Matthews (born 1804, TN, died 1862, Benton County, AR) Married Mary Campbell Looney.

McIntire Family

The Hollywood McIntire (also McIntyre) family came to the area from Chatooga County, Georgia. John Felix McIntire married Bagronzy Davis, the daughter of Adam Davis, a shoemaker, and his wife Sarah (found in Cherokee County, AL in 1860 and in South Pittsburg, Marion County, TN in 1880). John Felix is 30 years old than his wife Bagronzy. They are found in Chatooga County in 1880 with the first four of their children: Minnie (b. 1870), Jesse (b. 1871), Felix (John Felix Jr.) (b. 1876) and Cynthia (b. 1878).

John Felix had entered the Civil War on the Confederate side as a private in Company C of the 39th Regiment of the Georgia Infantry (perhaps explaining why he married late). He enlisted in on July 15, 1863 and mustered out on Mar 25, 1864 and transferred to Company C, Georgia 52nd Infantry Regiment. the next census we can locate

It seems likely that John Felix was the son of John F. (1780-1850) and Elizabeth McIntire, an early Methodist minister who filed a land patent in Huntsville on May 10, 1831. He purchased 144 acres in Township 4-S Range 7-E (just east of Hollywood, consistent with the location that Opal Meek designated) as a cash sale). John Felix is found in 1820 and 1820 in the household of Felix McIntire from Anderson and Pendleton, South Carolina. In 1840, the family is in District 9 in Georgia. No burial site in Jackson County can be found for John F. the minister or his wife. This is only a theory based on a a land purchase and information from this query was placed in the Jackson County Chronicles:

McINTIRE. Rebecca Spencer, 5612 Lawrence 2100, Stotts City, MO, 65756-9116, seeks info on John F. and Elizabeth McIntire. John F., born 1780-1790, was a Methodist minister who died ca 1830-1840 in Jackson Co. Elizabeth was born ca 1789, and died after 1850 Jackson Co, AL census.

The John Felix McIntire and Bagronzy Davis marriage seemed to have produced these children, though not all of them can be traced: Minnie b. 1870 GA; Jesse b. 1871 GA; Todd, 1873-1874 buried in Old Baptist; Felix (John Felix Jr.) 1876-1959 b. GA married Lizzie Clifton and buried in Old Baptist; Cynthia 1878-1917 b. GA married John Brooks and buried in Old Baptist; Noah b. June 1881 GA; Adam R. b. November 1883 AL; and Robert 1885-1970 in AL married Gertrude Whitaker, both buried in Price.

In the October 13, 1977 installment of her Hollywood series, Elizabeth McAlpin wrote about pioneer families of Hollywood and had this to say about the McIntire family.

John Felix and Elizabeth McIntire lived in a two room log house at Mud Creek, near the Old Baptist Cemetery. A road ran across the cemetery during this period of time and only two or three graves were there. The Mud Creek Church had rotted and toppled to the ground and no church was there, according to family tradition.

(AB: Opal Meek, who is a granddaughter of John McIntire, said that their farm was located on County Road 412, land that has been subsumed by the county dump.)

Pictured is John McIntire, son of John Felix and Elizabeth McIntire. Picture was made about 1920. Courtesy of Mrs. Pearl Garrett Long.



The October 20, 1977 installment included this information.

Elizabeth McIntire, a half Choctaw Indian, was well skilled in midwifery and as an herb doctor. She was also an excellent dentist, having used a needle, similar to acupuncture, more than a hundred years ago to prick the nerves around an aching tooth. The story goes that the tooth worked on by Elizabeth McIntire could fall out, but it would never ache again.

McIntire traveled by horseback to see her patients and carried her black doctor's bag. She also enjoyed trading horses and offend traded in the middle of the road on the way to see a patient. She was also seen riding an ox in Scottsboro and knitting. No bout the ox was so slow in traveling that she spent her time knitting.

The McIntire's established a mercantile store near their home in 1908. Merchandise was purchased from the store of Robert O. Starkey in Hollywood and hauled in a horse-drawn wagon. Children born to this union were Jessie, John, Flix, Robert, Bert, Todd and Centhia.

Victoria McIntire was married on Easter Sunday. Five hundred guests were invited to the wedding. Elizabeth and a servant, Aunt Angy, prepared the food. Coffee was brewed in a big black wash pot in the yard. The days was a bit chilly and guests warmed by the fire around the coffee pot.

Neher Family

The Ezra Jacob Neher family



The Rev. Jacob Neher emigrated to Hollywood from the state of Ohio. His home was a white frame house located atop Huntoon Hill, known as Duncan Hill today. Rev. Neher and his son, William, established the Alabama Brick and Tile Company near the Pits. He died in 1904, is buried in Duncan Cemetery.

William Neher erected a white frame dwelling near the pits in the late 1800s, which remains in excellent condition today. A round brick wine cellar, build of brick made at the Alabama Brick and Tile Company, is located int he back yard. A light house, also built of brick, is located in the yard.



This biography of Ezra Neher was found in the July 1910 Progressive Age.



A Progressive Citizen.
 E. J. Neher, of **Hollywood**, our new citizen, who came to this county three years ago from Florida, to which state he had gone a short while before from Indiana, is one of the most useful and progressive farmers and business men we have in the county. Last fall he began the manufacture of drain tile, but got started too late to do much. This year he has burned his second kiln of tile. He burns about ten thousand feet at a time. He has perfected arrangements for a tile ditching machine, which will probably be operated by Mr. C. M. Hantton, who came to this county from Ohio, and has had large experience in the draining.

Nothing could be of more service to our farmers than having drain tile manufactured at home and someone of experience and well known to our people to put it down. Nothing would increase the profit of farming like successful drainage. It doubles the yield per acre, enables the farmer to plant his low lands earlier, makes the land more easy to cultivate, insures the crop against drought as well as loss from excessive rain. Let every farmer make up his mind now to try it, if not on a large scale then on a few acres, and he will never regret it, seeing at once the advantage and profit to him of a more extended use of tiles next year. No good farmer should think of trying to make a crop on low land that is not tile drained. It will pay for itself the first year. Talk this to your neighbor, and go to work at least to try the experiment. This fall is the time to do it, or as soon as your crop is out of the way.

This is how I know the Neher family originally lived on Huntton Hill. It is from the April 28, 1904 Scottsboro Citizen.

Mr. and Mrs. Pierce Hewlett are in **Hollywood** for some time and are pleasantly domiciled with Mrs. Neher at her pretty home on the ridge above the town.

Nicholas Family

The Alexander and Lucy Nicholas family came to Hollywood through Stevenson. Alexander was the son of William Nicholas, who was born in 1810 in Tennessee. Alexander was born July 28, 1841 in White County, TN. The 1860 census shows William and his wife Nancy living in Stevenson with sons Alexander 19, Wade 17, Columbus 12, and Tuston 9 and daughter Ann 14. William was born in Tennessee and his wife was born in Kentucky, and William is a farmer. The last two children were born in Alabama, so the family moved from Tennessee some time between 1844 and 1848.

Alexander was living in Hollywood when he entered the Civil War in 1862 from Trenton, GA in the 24th Tennessee Regiments, but was discharged two months later as physically disabled. This record is found in the 1907 Alabama census of Civil War soldiers.

No. 162
 Full name: Alexander Nicholas
 Date of birth: 29th day of Feb. 1841
 Place of birth: White County, Tenn.
 Discharged on: 1st of Feb. 1862
 Reason for discharge: physically disabled for service, having been wounded about 7 months prior.

On January 18, 1872, he married Lucy Harris. It is not known if Lucy was related to the Harris family that operated the Harris and Hartley Store. The couple, ages 39 and 34, are found in the 1880 census in Hollywood. Their only child, Nannie, was born December 22, 1872.

In the 1880 census, Nannie is 7 and living with her parents (ages 39 and 34) next door to the Gullatt family.

1880	Nichols, A.	39	1872	1	Farmer
	Lucy N.	34	1874	1	Housewife
	Nannie	7	1872	1	Daughter

In the **1900** census, Nannie is still found with her parents (who are now 59 and 56) and lists her occupation as dress maker. No other children seem to be part of this family. She is living on Water Street, three houses away from the Johnson Family (the white house on the corner).

In **1910**, her father is a shoemaker operating his own shop, and Nannie is working as a Classifier in the Slat Mill. They live between the McClendons (who operated what is now Shorty Machen's Store) and the Lo Johnson family, who lived in the big white house across the from the Baptist Church.

Nicholas, Alex	head	25	W	4	1	38	General	Tennessee	English	Shoemaker	Common	Shop
Lucy	wife	27	W	6	1	38	Tennessee	with Carolina	English	Shop	Common	Shop
Nannie	daughter	7	W	3	1	38	Alabama	Tennessee	English	Classifier	Common	Shop

Her father Alexander died in 1917 and is buried in Old Baptist Cemetery. Her mother Lucy, born in 1844, died the next year, 1918, and is also buried in Old Baptist. She cannot be found in 1920. In the 1930 census, she is living in Hollywood and is a waitress, living on Water Street between the Starkeys and the Brewsters. Nannie continued to live in Hollywood in the same location in 1940. She must have continued to live in Hollywood since she died December 22, 1972 and is buried in Old Baptist.

Here are photos of Nannie Nicholas from the Harris Family.



PHOTOS OF NANNIE NICHOLAS. SOURCE: THE HARRIS FAMILY.

This note about Nannie Nichols was found in the 1977 series on Hollywood by Elizabeth McAlpin:

A freakish tornado cut a swath across north Alabama in 1932, Killing many people, destroying homes, and leaving many people homeless. The high winds demolished Hollywood Methodist and a nearby dwelling occupied by Nannie Nichols. The home was leveled to the foundation, yet a tea kettle remained on the back porch untouched. Zinc wash tubs reportedly were flying through the sky like kites, along with pieces of timber and other debris.

Robinson Family

These photos of the John Duncan Robinson family came from Paul Machen.



Starkey Family

The Starkey family has been in north Alabama almost since Alabama was a state. The family came from Virginia to Tennessee in a generation. John Forrest Starkey was born about 1800 in Warren County, Tennessee, but migrated to Alabama by 1824 where he met and married Margaret Price (1804-1870). All of their five sons and six daughters were born in Alabama.

Their youngest son was George Monroe Dallas Starkey (1843-1902). He married Sarah Haynes in 1868. This couple had three daughters and five sons who grew to adulthood in Jackson County. Their oldest son was Robert Oglesby Starkey (1869-1936). He married Laura Caldwell (1869-1940) in 1891 in Scottsboro. They had two children: a daughter Lula V. (1893-1934) who married John Franklin Huntoon (1882-1971) and had one daughter, Laura Clara Huntoon, who died as an infant; and a son Robert Matthews who married Lilly Hartley (1889-1973) and had three daughters and one son. R. O. died in 1936 and Laura in 1940. Both are buried in Duncan Cemetery with their daughter, Lula Starkey Huntoon.

There are a great many Starkey descendants in Jackson County, but the most prominent in Jackson County History was Hollywood resident R. O. "Bob" Starkey. McAlpin relates history of this family in Hollywood garnered from interviews with local residents in 1977.

"Starkey served Jackson County as Sheriff from 1910 to 1914. He traveled in a horse drawn buggy. In 1911, Starkey purchased two blood hounds in North Carolina to aid the Sheriff's Department. The hounds were trained by Frank Johnson of Hollywood.

In 1918, Robert O. Starkey purchased Caldwell Island, a hundred acres of sun bleached farmland lying in the middle of the Tennessee River at public auction. The land was later known as Starkey's Island and was frequently used in the warm months of the year for picnics and swimming. In time three houses were erected on the island, which were rented to tenant farmers. Children of the farmers cross Tennessee River by boat to attend school at Shipp's Chapel Baptist Church, near Bellefonte. While the tenant farmers cultivated the land and bathers swam in the Tennessee River, the south side of the river was still infested with wild cats screaming as they roamed through rugged terrain foraging for food.

Another early family living in the town was Albert and Minnie Starkey. Starkey was the son of George Milton and Sarah Starkey, and a brother to Robert O. Starkey. He served the town as mayor in the early 1930s. Children were Dovie and Bertie."

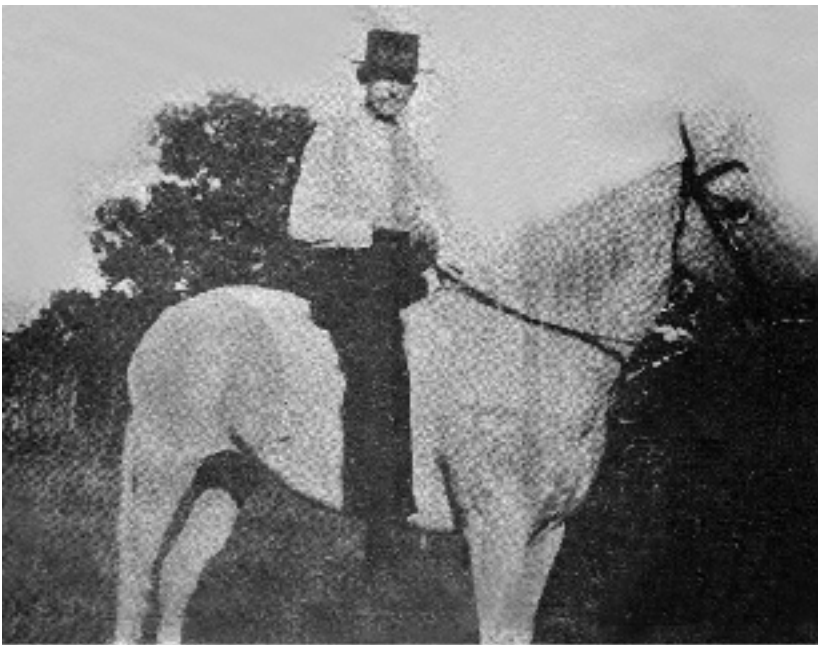
On October 6, McAlpin wrote about this about Bob Starkey:

A prominent farmer and businessman living in town was Robert O. Starkey, son of George Milton and Sarah Starkey of River Bend. Starkey sold a mercantile business in Bellefonte in 1908 and removed to Hollywood where ehe established two mercantile stores and purchased the Hollywood Hotel. His home was a sprawling frame house erected at the Hollywood-Mud Creek junction.

Starkey, a prominent and leading citizen in Bellefonte and Hollywood, came to own extensive farmland in Jackson County. Too, he rented tracts of land from farmers at Aspel and other nearby communities, which were planted in such crops as corn and cotton.

A kind and generous man, Starkey furnished work in his cotton and corn fields for tenants living on his farms during the Great Depression. He frequently purchased shoes and clothing for the needed, and distributed pork, taken from his own smoke house, to the poor.

Here are photos of Bob Starkey. This photo is Robert O. Starkey, son of George M. and Sarah Starkey. He was a farmer, businessman, and at one time, Sheriff of Jackson County. This photo, included with the 1977 McAlpin series, was made around 1925 and is courtesy of Mrs. Laura Starkey Stuart.



ROBERT L. "BOB" STARKEY, SHERIFF OF JACKSON COUNTY 1910-1914. SOURCE: LAURA STARKEY STUART, FROM THE 1977 MARGARET MCALPIN SERIES IN THE ADVERTISER.



PHOTO OF RAYMOND BRADFORD AND BOB STARKEY IN DRY CREEK. SOURCE: KATE JOHNSON BRADFORD. REPRODUCED IN THE JACKSON COUNTY ADVERTISER.

**A. L. STARKEY
PASSES AWAY**

Outstanding **Hollywood** Citizen Dies After Useful Life and Career

Albert L. Starkey, aged 57 years, passed away at his home in Hollywood on last Saturday night, March 25th, at about 11 o'clock after an illness extending over a period of several years. The funeral service was at **Hollywood** Monday morning at 10 o'clock with Rev. Walter Reuter, pastor of the **Hollywood** Baptist Church, conducting the service. Interment followed in the Haynes cemetery with McAnelly in charge of the burial.

Mr. Starkey is survived by his widow and two daughters, Mrs. Aubrey Harris and Mrs. David Tate, both of **Hollywood**. Also two sisters, Mrs. C. R. Tate and Mrs. Walter Ingles, and four brothers, Robert O. Starkey, J. W. Starkey, T. W. Starkey of **Hollywood** and Tax Collector J. D. Starkey of **Hollywood**.

The deceased was a native of Jackson County and had spent his life in the **Hollywood** and Packler communities, having engaged in both the mercantile and farming business over a period of many years. Mr. Starkey was known to have been one of the best citizens of the county and passed away with a mantle of integrity and good will of all neighbors and citizens upon his shoulders. He was a very modest man and spent most of his time with his family and business, yet his gentle disposition and inclination to be kind and helpful to all people brought to him a circle of friends not surpassed by any man in his community. His life was the kind of life upon which the pioneers builded this country and his passing will leave a place that will not be filled in the **Hollywood** community and Jackson County. Mr. Starkey had been a member of the Masonic fraternity for many years and lived an exemplary life of devotion to his family and fellowmen. His last years were years of pain, yet he smiled until the shadow softly closed his eyes.

The Sentinel joins many hundreds of friends in deep regret over the passing of Albert Starkey and extends to his sorrowing family heartfelt sympathy.

Tate Family

The Tate family from which the Jackson County Tate family descends, are first recorded in August, Botetourt, Virginia. John Knox Tate was born there in 1791. The family migrated to Grainger County, Tennessee by 1816 when he met and married Rachel Carmichael (1796-1870). The couple had moved on to Big Coon, the Rash community in Alabama by the time their son David M. Tate born in 1924. John Knox Tate is buried in Ellis Cemetery in Marion County, TN.

John Tate's gravesite in Findagrave includes this biography, created by the DAR.

John Knox Tate (Jr.) (1791-1853) was born in the year 1792, in Virginia and was the 4th child of David Tate, the Revolutionary soldier who settled in Grainger County (Tennessee) and his wife, Comfort (Knox) Tate. John Knox Tate Jr., served as a soldier in the Creek War under General Andrew Jackson, and after the close of the hostilities, he removed to Jackson County, Alabama, where he lived until 1829, when he moved back into Tennessee and settled in the beautiful Battle Creek Valley. John Knox Tate took an active part in the public affairs of this locality and served as a member of the county court of Marion County and as Trustee.

John Knox Tate Jr. married December 5, 1816, in Grainger County, Tennessee, Rachel Carmichael, born 1790, died March 4, 1870, at Battle Creek, Marion County. The license for this marriage is recorded in Grainger County and the ceremony was performed by Isaac Thompson, Justice of the Peace. John Knox Tate Jr. died on December 20, 1853, at his home on Battle Creek, Marion County, Tennessee.

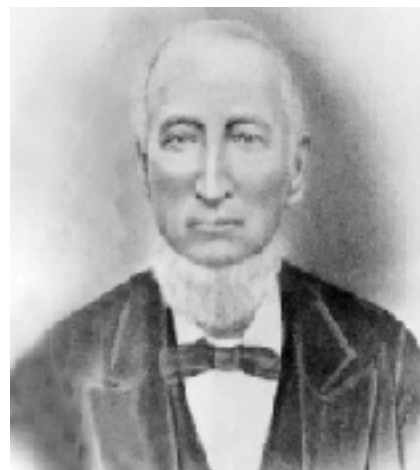
John Knox Jr. and Rachael (Carmichael) Tate had issue:

1. Edward Tate, married Lydia Speegle
2. Samuel Tate, married Catherine Anderson
3. James Mack Tate, died unmarried.
4. David M. Tate married Martha Winn and Mrs. Maggie Aiken.
5. John K. Tate, Jr., married Lou Payne and Jane "Deakins" (illegible)
6. Abigail Tate, married Berry Wynn
7. Elisha Tate, married Jane Coppinger.
8. Elijah Duncan Tate, married Malinda Jane Haskew.
9. Comfort Tate, married William Raulston.
10. Margaret Tate, married Spencer Anderson.

Source: "Chattanooga Sunday Times", Grundy County History: Leaves from the Family Tree: 3rd article in the Tate Family series. by Penelope Johnson Allen, State Chairman of Genealogical Records, Tennessee Society, D.A.R. —

Son David Tate was raised in Rash and was one of the first probate judges in Jackson County. Kennamer notes that he "moved his office into the new brick courthouse of Conley and Miller, near the railroad, in November 1868 until the new courthouse could be built." (p.68) This office was the little brick courthouse.

The Tate family lived near Big Coon. Jus and David Tate are listed as some of the early pioneers of Big Coon (Kennamer p.149) David



PORTRAIT OF DAVID TATE HANGING IN THE "LITTLE BRICK COURTHOUSE" AT THE JACKSON, COUNTY AL HERITAGE CENTER

Tate belonged to the Big Coon Lodge No. 75 of the Odd Fellows (organized in 1873) (p. 93 Kenamer)
“The county seat remained at Bellefonte until the records were moved to Scottsboro, November 13, 1868.

Judge David Tate began to attend to the county’s business in a little brick house near the railroad.”

(Kenamer, p. 168) David Tate was appointed Probate Judge on July 6, 1868 and served until November 13, 1874, when he was replaced by Nelson Kyle. (Kenamer, p. 203)

David Tate married twice. His first wife was Martha A. Wynn (1836-1886). This marriage must have ended in divorce in 1882 he married Margaret Elizabeth Haver (1844-1931). He died April 25, 1908 and is buried on the family farm in Rash .



..Judge David Milton Tate & Martha A. [Wynn] House, West end of Co Rd 584, in Big Coon, S of Bell Store

Martha and David had the following children:

1. Tennessee Rachel Tate (1860-1923)
2. John Knox Tate (1862-1930). Married Callie J. Devers. (Stevenson City)
3. Edward G. Tate (1863-1893) (Old Tate Farm Cemetery)
4. D. Thomas Tate (1864-)
5. Samuel Tate (1868-1933)
6. David Milton Tate (1869-1892). (Old Tate Farm Cemetery).
7. George Tate (1872-1929). He married Viola Cameron and had children David G. Tate, (1903-1966) Haynes Milton Tate Sr. (1905-1964), and Tennessee Eveline Tate (1914-1985)
8. Mary Comfort Tate (1874-1936). Married George Washington Allison. Buried in the Wimberley Cemetery in Stevenson.
9. Charles Mack Tate (1876-1947). Married Nancy Tennessee McCrary Williams (1878-1965). Buried in Stevenson City.

George Berry Tate was a doctor in Jackson County. He was born in 1872 in Hollywood and died January 24, 1929 in Hollywood. He lived in the white house across from Hollywood Missionary Baptist Church. Grandson Paul Machen recalls that his grandfather built an humble structure on his front lawn that served as the office where he saw patients. The Tate family lived in the house that Marion Lorenzo Johnson and Sallie Washington built and in which they raised their four children. This photo of George Tate hangs in Shorty Machen’s store, because he is Shorty’s grandfather.



Elizabeth McAlpin wrote in 1977: “Dr. George Tate, son of Probate Judge David Tate, attended Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, where he received a degree in medicine and practiced in

Jackson County, mainly in Hollywood, for many years. His oblong office building remains standing today. The story has been told many times that when Dr. Tate made a house call he often stopped at the wood shed and chopped wood to get exercise. Dr. Tate was a fine doctor and highly esteemed by all who knew him."

Mark Keller remembers, "The Tates had a farm in Hollywood and originated from Doc Tate, a prominent circuit rider doctor from Hollywood many years ago (early 1900's). My brothers and I picked cotton on their farm to earn extra money in the fall in the 1960's prior to mechanical pickers arriving in the early 1970's."

Family short summaries from Elizabeth McAlpin

On October 27, Elizabeth McAlpin finished her series on Hollywood with this short summary of family information that she had gathered from her interviews in 1977 and prior:

Ollie Echols carried mail from the post office to the railroad station for more years and anyone could remember. In the early 1930s, Echols delivered merchandise, such as overalls, shoes, hats, socks, and shirts from the railway station to merchants in a wheelbarrow. He died in the early 1970s at the age of ninety-eight.

Another early settler was Kayle Poe, a retired farmer. Poe's last request before his death in the early 1930s was to be buried in a winding sheet (white sheet wrapped around the body). Neighbors tried in vain for half a day to fit the sheet. It is said when the sheet fitted properly the corners fold into lapels, similar to the lapels of a coat.

Edd and Cora Machen emigrated to the town from the state of Georgia. Machen, a brother to Thomas H. Machen, operated a general store in the town for many years or until his death. Children were Jessie, Luke, Aubrey, Eddie, Buddy, and Canna Mae.

Another prominent and early family living in the town was Russell and Ellen Duncan, for whom Duncan Hill is named. Huntoon Hill was changed to Duncan Hill after Duncan purchased the property. Children were Jean, Madge, Russell Jr., Paul, and Laura.

Another early family living in the town was Richard and Betty Rogers, farmers. Rogers entered a tract of land a mile northeast of Hollywood. Children were Maggie, Jess, Matt, Hubert, Amos, Sarah, Francis, Hanna, Josie, Clara, Johnny, and Tilda.

Tilda married John Womack, farmer. Their children were Livie and Elva. Both he and his wife are buried at Old Baptist Cemetery.

Maggie married Andrew Foster, son of Thomas and Fannie Harper Foster of Tupelo. Children born to this union were Paul, Edd, and Eunice.

Hanna married Pat Dudley of Kyles, commonly called the "End of the Pike." Children born to this union were Nancy and Hugh.

Francis married Jesse Tubbs, farmer. Tubbs later purchased a farm know as the Tubbs Farm in what is known as Ridgedale today. Both he and his wife are buried at Old Baptist Cemetery.

Joining the early settlers in the town was Thomas Jefferson and Octavia Venson who emigrated to the two from East Tennessee. Benson established a blacksmith shop near the tracks in down town Hollywood. He was also well skilled in the art of coffin carpentry and kept a coffin on display in his shop. Children were Raymond, Avery, Will and Walter.

Will Venson, farmer, married Dovie York, daughter of John and Elsin Selby York, and granddaughter of Marion and Mary York. Elsa Selby York was the daughter of Robert Selby of Byrd's Hill. Children born to this union were Henry, Eddit, George, and Ina.

Joining the pioneer settled in Big Coon were Alfred and Dallas McCrary, farmers. There children were:

Jan married Charley Smith, farmer, son of Green and Polly Smith of Hollywood. Children born to this union were Pauline, J. B., Charley, Grady, Edd, Nadine, and Ollie Jean.

Lou married Russ Turner, farmer, also of Hollywood. Lou died in a house fire in the early 1940s, in buried in Old Baptist Cemetery. Children born to this union were Dowel, Tanker, Winnie Lou, Pete, and Sarah Ruth.

Myrtle married William Robinson, farmer. Robinson was a World War I veteran. Children born to this union were J. W., Fred, Grover, Ellen, Lucille, Mae, Jean, Sonny, and Roy.

Grover married Ruth Heflin. Grover died in 1972, is buried in Pine Haven Memory Garden. Children born to this union were Sarah, Betty Faye, Annie Be a, Ruby, Billy Ray, Virgle, and Fred.

The Rev. Jacob Neher emigrated to Hollywood from the state of Ohio. His home was a white frame house located atop Huntoon Hill, known as Duncan Hill today. Rev. Neher and his son, William, established the Alabama Brick and Tile Company near the Pits. He died in 1904 , is buried in Duncan Cemetery.

William Neher erected a white frame dwelling near the pits in the late 1800s, which remains in excellent condition today. A round brick wine cellar, build of brick made at the Alabama Brick and Tile Company, is located int he back yard. A light house, also built of brick, is located in the yard.

The following families were living in Hollywood in the early 1930s:

Hick and Willie Brown, farmers. Children born to this union were Clara, Archie, Edith, William, Shirley, and Clarence.

Sam and Ethel Corn Hunter. Hunter was a rural mail carriers in the Hollywood area for many years. Children born to this union were Sam, Pat, Margaret, and Dick.

Charley K. and Tee Bradford, merchants. The C. K. Bradford General Store remains standing today and is in excellent condition. Children were Raymond and Ruth Clopton.

Raymond Bradford and his lovely wife, Miss Kate, as she is fondly called by friends, operated the C. K. Bradford General Store for many years. They were members of the Baptist Church and were held in very high esteem by all who knew them. Children were Marion, Sarah Tee, Charles Raymond, and Bill.

Will and Hanna Watkins, farmers. Mrs. Watkins was an excellent barber who cut hair for many people during the Great Depression. Children born to this union were Maudie and J. R.

Dewey and Stella Bryant, farmers. Bryant was a former road commissioner. In his later years, he served with the Scottsboro Police Department. Children born to this union were Preston, Louise, Pauline, and Marvin.

Another well known family was Mark and Myrtle Thomas, farmers. Children born to this union were J. P., Dub, Imogene, and Jewel.

Walker and Fannie Crawford Carlton. Carlton was a barber by trade and cut hair for many years in Hollywood. Children born to this union were Edna, Stella, Betty Ann, Jackie, Patrick and Ray. Stella Carlton Rogers is the mother of Bobby Rogers, who was killed in Vietnam.

Sam and Lula Gold, farmers. Gold was overseer for Robert O. Starkey for many years. Children born to this union were Richard, Jim, Taul, Odell, Fannie Lou, and Laura.

James and Annie Nolly Wilson, farmers. Children born to this union were Lucy, Grover, Annie, Thomas, and Charley.

Charles Joseph (Dock) Allen, son of William and Nancy Adkins Allen, married Jennie Smith, daughter of Jacob and Margaret Smith of Bellefonte. Children were Hess, Juanita, and Juicy.

John Allen, also a son of William and Nancy Adkins Allen, grew up in Hollywood and spent his entire life there. His home was a small frame dwelling located near the Pits. During this period of time (in the early 1930s), there were a number of small frame structures located on the banks of the Pits, presumably for workmen employed at the Alabama Brick and Tile Company. Children born to this union were Margie, Ida, Ocean Mae, David, and Nancy. Margie was killed in 1932, at the age of 16, in an automobile accident at Dry Creek.

According to an old Scottsboro newspaper two employees were killed at the Pits. A workman was digging clay at the bottom of a pit when six feet of clay caved in killing him instantly. A second workman was killed oiling machinery. His arm became entangled in the machinery jerking it apart from his body. He died a slow and painful death.

Another well-known family was Henry and Lugie Walker, farmers. Lugie was the daughter of Miles Burton, a slave, and was reared near the Tennessee River, near Bellefonte. She was a cook for Robert O. Starkey for many years. Children were Hazel and Ruth.

Willis and Julie Snodgrass, farmers. Snodgrass and his family attended church at Cedar Ridge Missionary Baptist Church in 1888. Children were Dora, Martin, Henry, Clarence, Louis, Mattie, Ada, Ollie, and Charley.

Sam and Dollie Burton, farmers. Children born to this union were Jay, Maybell, Ruby, Ozell, Hester, Tom, Boyd, and Earl.

Charlie and Sallie Grayson Snodgrass, farmers. Children born to this union were Mose, Aeron, Fate, Clarence, and Musie.

Music married Charley Hardie. She attended school at Rosewood and Beech Grover Methodist Church. She is currently secretary of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church.

William R. and Mollie Womack, farmers. In the early 1930s, Womack purchased the property on which the log jail was erected. Children born to this union were Elbert, Fred, Alma, Earline, Lucille, Willis, and Millard.

Another well known family living in the town was Mr. and Mrs. Odell James. James was a tool guard at Comer Bridge until tool was lifted. He died in the early 1930s from injuries received in an automobile accident near Guntersville. Three other occupants of the car, Dr. Dowel McCrary, Oscar Proctor and Ollie Proctor were painfully injured in the wreck when the car driving by Oscar Proctor crashed into the side of a concrete bridge. The party was returning from a trip to Montgomery where James had been assured of a job by political friends.

Another pioneer family living in the town was Mr. and Mrs. John W. Waller. At the time of his death in the early 1930s, he was the oldest resident in the town. He was held in very high esteem by all who knew him. Children were Arthur, Ernest, Mrs. J. T. McIntire, Mrs. J. C. Grider, Mrs. J. I. Fairbanks, and Mrs. W. M. Gibson.

Passtimes

A cold watermelon on a hot afternoon. “Hand-screwed ice-cream” (as Bill Bradford used to call it. He like having the preacher come home after church because he got to skip church and make the hand-screwed ice cream). Watching training. Racing cards. Swimming in the quarry.

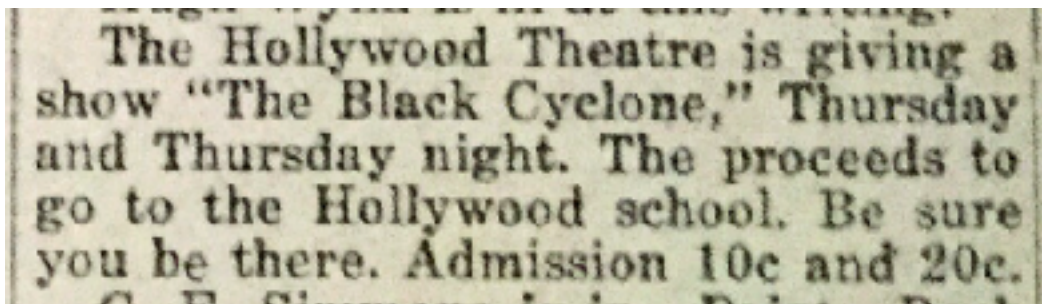
Ice Cream Socials

On a warm summer afternoon, there was no better entertainment than sitting down with neighbors and enjoying a watermelon or ice cream supper. Notices like this one appear very frequently in Hollywood news.



Movies

In one of Hollywood’s three remaining business buildings, Shorty Machen’s store, there is evidence upstairs of a platform that supported a projector, and silent movies were shown. The newspaper recalls the Hollywood Theater, where silent movies were played upstairs.



No child who grew up in Hollywood after the Tawasentha Drive-In was built could have missed the chance to walk down the ridge at night and watch the movie for free.

Additional “Recreational Pursuits”

Although this short article in the August 30, 1900 Progressive Age indicates that the case was dismissed, this note was found:

Turned Loose.
Dave Jenkins and wife, who were detained in jail for about ten days on the charge of keeping a house of ill fame at **Hollywood**, were turned loose after an examination by the grand jury.

Remember that articles about Chapman's Hotel talk about all the drummers (salemens) staying in the hotel. Maybe they appreciate forms of entertainment outside the community norm.

Drag Racing

Mark Keller wrote this description of drake racing in the 1960s and 1970s.

Drag racing was a frequent occurrence for the most part in the 60's and 70's in Hollywood during the muscle car era. From the railroad track to the school property was about 1/4 mile and that was the drag strip.



RAY VENABLE'S DODGE 6 PACK RACING STEVE KELLER'S 1955 CHEVY. SOURCE: MARK KELLER ON FACEBOOK.

We also drag raced in Carnes and Black Ankle. We had quarter mile strips at both places. The pictures you see are of my cousin's (Ray Venable) Dodge 6 Pack and my brother's (Steve Keller) 1955 Chevy racing up near Fairfield just out of Hollywood. Those were two of the fastest cars around. The favorite models were Dodge 440's, GTO 389's and Chevy SS big blocks.

We didn't have a policeman for years in Hollywood so the police didn't normally bother the dragsters unless someone called the county police occasionally. When we did get a policeman it placed a little more of a damper on street racing. Dragsters hung out on weekends at Hollywood long after Shorty's store closed waiting to get ready to drag race. The county was dry so the guys drove to south Pittsburgh, TN to obtain alcohol. The police would wait at the Alabama line to catch the guys with illegal alcohol. So the guys developed a back road that required crossing the Tennessee River on a ferry. It was an every weekend occurrence for them to go to South Pittsburgh. I personally did not drink but I think I was the only one who did not.

Train Watching

People in rural places knew when the trains arrived (which was not nearly so frequently as they roar through today) and often congregated around the depot to watch the train arrive and take on supplies and passengers. This photo of train watchers came from Kate Johnson Bradfords photos and includes Nellie Neher, Carl McGuffey, Gordan Harris and his sister, and Bill Neher, along with Kate, her brother Frank, and her one-day husband Raymond Bradford. This would have been about 1908.



YOUNG PEOPLE IN HOLLYWOOD ABOUT 1908. SOURCE: KATE JOHNSON BRADFORD

Baseball

This is a photo of Walter John (2nd from the left) and his baseball team. This photo would have been made about 1908. We do not know where the team was from. Because of the M on their uniforms, some guessed the McCallie School in Chattanooga, which was founded in 1905.



WALTER JOHNSON AND HIS BASEBALL TEAM ABOUT 1908. SOURCE: KATE JOHNSON

Hayrides and picnics

We have seen several versions of this photo of a group of young ladies out riding in a wagon with Bill Neher driving. Kate Bradford is the 7th from the left.



HAYRIDE IN HOLLYWOOD ABOUT 1908. SOURCE: KATE JOHNSON BRADFORD

Elizabeth McAlpin noted on September 22, 1970: Members of the congregation gave church picnics at various scenic spots in the warm months of the year. In 1908, the church, along with the churches from Scottsboro, Carnes, and Fackler, gave a picnic and rally in the beech grove at the head of Robinson Creek near Chickenfoot.

In 1914, Lilly Starkey, a teacher at the church, took a group up teenagers up a horse drawn wagon to a picnic at the old mill pond in Bellefonte.

Swimming in The Pit and in the quarries

Hollywood children loved swimming, in “the Pit,” the hole left behind by the clay that Alabama Brick and Tile removed to make drainage tiles and in the gravel pit behind the Tawasentha Drive-in. Local kids, now grown up, reminisce on Facebook about gathering at the gravel pit after a rain to

temporary
created by a hard

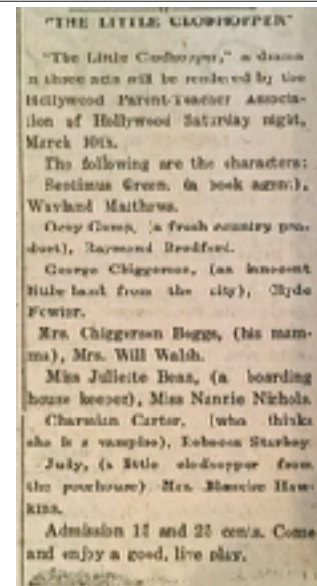


enjoy the
swimming hole
Alabama rain

Plays and musical performances

In the early 20th century, there were active theaters and vaudeville houses in Scottsboro, and occasionally those acts performed in Hollywood as well. Sometimes plays were produced locally. Elizabeth McAlpin recalled, “A play called “Hearts and Diamonds” was presented at the church in 1911, for the benefit of the church. Music was furnished by the Scottsboro String Band.”

The 1923 Progressive Age, for example, showed this play produced in Hollywood.



Churches

As it was in many small towns, churches were the historical center of social life in Hollywood. Hollywood columns in the Scottsboro paper are filled with reports of ice cream socials and revivals that brought the community together.

And before the days when you could phone your friends, the church bell served the important function of announcing information. Elizabeth McAlpin wrote, “How sad it was” according to reliable services, to hear the church bell tolling, announcing the death of a citizen in the town. Men and women as well, rushed to the church to learn the identity of the deceased, then rushed to the home to aid the bereaved or dress the dead.

From its earliest days as an organized town, Hollywood had two active Baptist congregations and an active Methodist church.

Hollywood Missionary Baptist Church

Note: This sketch of the Hollywood Missionary Baptist church is based on material written by Kate Johnson Bradford and interviews with Ruby Matthews Johnson, conducted by Ann Chambless for *The Jackson County Chronicles* (July 12, 1980, No. 22), p. 12.

The Hollywood Missionary Baptist Church was organized in 1889 in Hollywood, Alabama, a small village which developed around the railroad station built two miles west of Bellefonte and five miles northeast of Scottsboro. The village was first called Bellefonte Station and then Samples, but by 1889, the post office and the railroad station shared the name, Hollywood. When the Missionary Baptists first organized in Hollywood, the town was quite different to its 1980 profile. In 1889, there were no paved streets—only dirt roads with deep ruts and many large mud holes made by horse drawn vehicles. However, from the beginning, the town was blessed with many good, industrious families who became charter members of the Hollywood Missionary Baptist Church.



FIRST MEETING PLACE FOR HOLLYWOOD MISSIONARY BAPTIST, 1994.
SOURCE: BILL BRADFORD

The first church meetings were held in an old store building across the road from the site of the former post office in downtown Hollywood. Two or three years later, the first church building was begun. (The oldest church building is now used as a dwelling by Mr. Erskine Womack.) Mr. J. F. O'Haver donated the first building lot. Almost everyone in town donated labor. Members donated as much financial assistance as could be spared. The women helped raise funds by having ice cream suppers and by selling quilts. Once the building was completed, it was used as a community center, a school building, and by all denominations in town.

This one-room building was oblong and had two front doors. The men entered the left door and also sat on the left side of the church. The women entered the right door and sat on the right side of the church. Mrs. Raymond (Kate) Bradford remembers strict adherence to this practice and pointed out that even sweethearts did not sit together in church. Mrs. Walter Johnson remembers that as a newlywed, she continued to sit on the right side and Mr. Johnson sat on the left.

The pulpit or podium was located between the front doors with a bench against the wall for the preachers to sit on until they stood before their congregation. This bench was also home for a water bucket with a dipper placed there especially for the ministers, babies, and small children. Mrs. Bradford remembers frequent use of the water bucket by all mentioned. Mrs. Johnson also recalled that any water remaining in the dipper after one's thirst was quenched was poured back in the bucket to save water for other thirsty souls.

Mrs. Bradford also has fond memories of the bell in the belfry which was a Sunday morning delight . However, at times it was saddening when it tolled the death of a neighbor. The older ministers who stand out most in Mrs. Bradford's mind are Preston Brown, Wixey Collins, and T. W. Caves. Charles T. Starkey was another dedicated minister after the turn of the century. He held many "union" services in the Hollywood Baptist Church before the Methodists built a separate church. The Presbyterians also attended the "union" meetings and Brother Shook preached many sermons there. Mrs. Bradford can still see the results of their labor as time marches on. She pointed out that Brothers Collins and Caves walked and rode horses all over Jackson county as they practiced what they preached and preached what they practiced.

In the early days of the Hollywood Missionary Baptist Church, meetings were held on Saturdays. The business of the Church was transacted first and then a sermon OR TWO were preached. Sacrament was often taken. Many Fifth Sunday Meetings were held in Hollywood, and this Church entertained many Tennessee River Baptist Associational meetings, always with a filled house and a bountiful dinner on the ground.

The Hollywood Missionary Baptist Church grew and a Sunday School was begun around 1905. Mr. G. Bouldin was the first Sunday School Superintendent. The church acquired its first pedal type organ about this time, and Mrs. Ethel Corn Hunter was the first church organist. As the Sunday School grew, a few Sunday School rooms were added when the church was remodeled. After many years of service, a new church was needed, and the little block church was built. The land was given by Raymond Bradford, Sr. Deacons at this time included among others, Gordon Harris, Sam Hunter, and Raymond Bradford, Sr.



NEW CHURCH SHORTLY AFTER IT WAS BUILT SOURCE: BILL BRADFORD

Through the years the loyal , dedicated membership continued to grow. A new brick building was dedicated in 1975. This building was built under the leadership of Pastor Donald Jacobs, Sr . The present pastor of the Hollywood Baptist Church is the Reverend Jimmy Garner.

Ann Chambliss EDITOR'S NOTE: The above history is based on material written by Mrs. Charles Raymond Bradford, Sr. and an interview with Mrs. Walter Johnson. Your Editor is most grateful for their generous contribution in preserving our religious heritage.

Hollywood Methodist Church

Note: This sketch of the Hollywood Methodist Church was based on information from Ruby Matthews Johnson and was written by Ann Chambless and was written for *The Jackson County Chronicles* (January 12, 1980, No. 21), pp. 5-6.

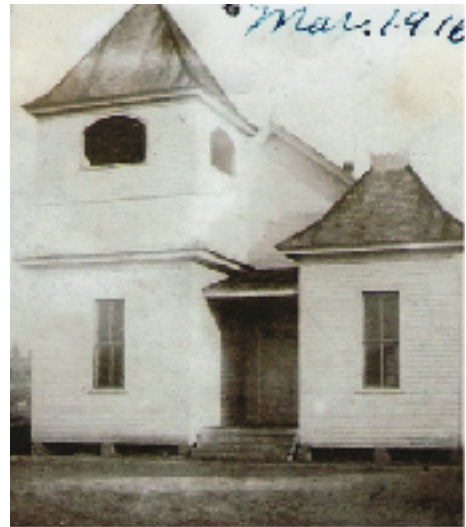
The Hollywood Methodist Church was organized in 1910. The organizational meeting, held in the Baptist Church, was led by the Reverend David K. Pegues, Sr. (FN Ann B. Chambless' personal interview with Mrs. Walter (Ruby) Johnson on January 5, 1980) On March 12, 1910. C. M. and Clara A. Huntoon deeded two acres of land to Trustees D. K. Pegues, Sr., John Pegues, and W. S. Oxendine for the sum of \$200.14. (FN Jackson County, Alabama Deed Book 44, page 148)

According to Mrs. Walter (Ruby) Johnson, some of the earliest members were the David K. Pegues, Sr. family (which included John, Jim, Dave, Jr. and Maude Pegues Knight), Mr. and Mrs. Mike Brewster, Mrs. Rosa Walsh (the first organist), Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gullatt, Mrs. Walter Darwin, Frank Hurt. Sr., Walter Johnson, and Ruby Matthews who became Mrs. Walter Johnson in 1915. Today Mrs. Walter Johnson and Mrs. Joe (Maud Pegues) Knight are the two oldest members.

The first building was considered both spacious and well furnished for a community of Hollywood's size in 1910. A splendid organ and an elegant brass chandelier added much to the edifice. The chandelier was about four feet in diameter and its oil burning lamps supported 12 lovely glass globes. This building was demolished by a storm in the 1935, and the present building was built as a replacement.

Although Hollywood's charter membership in 1910 was not a direct carryover from the Bellefonte Methodist Church, the building of the Hollywood Church was strongly influenced by the demise of the Bellefonte Methodist Church which was organized before 1832 (Most likely by 1822.) The Federal troops tore the Bellefonte Methodist building down during the Civil War and used the lumber to construct winter quarters. (FN Senate Document 269 (See Jackson County Chronicles, October, 1979))

Over a period of years, the Reverend David K. Pegues, Sr. and others kept petitioning Congress for reparation damages. (FN Letter from Dr. Jim Pegues directed to Mrs. Walter Johnson) in 1908, the 60th Congress appropriated \$380 in payment of the Bellefonte Methodist Church claim (U.S. Senate Document 269, dated 1908). This money was used in the 1910 building program of



METHODIST CHURCHING MARCH 1916, DESTROYED IN THE 1932 TORNADO. SOURCE: PAUL MACHEN

the Hollywood Methodist Church, according to Mrs. Walter Johnson's information from Dr. Jim Pegues, the son of D. K. Pegues, Sr.

After the Civil War the bell from the old Bellefonte Methodist Church was used in the bell tower of the Johnstown Methodist Church (just west of Hollywood.) The church at Johnstown burned, and the old Bellefonte bell found its third home in the tower of the Hollywood Methodist Church in 1910.

This bell was to survive yet another battle. A storm in the 1938 completely destroyed the Hollywood Methodist Church. The brass chandelier, the beautiful organ, and the building itself were completely demolished. Only the old Bellefonte bell remained intact. When the church was rebuilt, the bell was not immediately replaced. However, in later years through the foresight and generosity of Mrs. Walter Johnson, the bell was reinstalled. Today it provides a priceless link between one of Jackson County's first Methodist churches and the Hollywood Methodist Church, which will celebrate its own 70th anniversary this year.



HOLLYWOOD METHODIST CHURCH, 1994. SOURCE: BILL BRADFORD

Think of the stories this aged bell could tell! It very well could be more than 150 years old. In the early 1800s a church just was not a church without a bell. Bellefonte's earliest settlers from Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina had grown up accustomed to the peal of the church bell calling their families to worship services. It seems almost certain Bellefonte's earliest settlers would not have rested until a bell was secured for the churches they established in the 1820s in Bellefonte. AND thank goodness, Mrs. Walter Johnson could not rest until the Bellefonte bell was securely installed at the Hollywood Methodist Church.

Ann Chambless EDITOR'S NOTE: According to Miss Daisy Caldwell and Mrs. Dorothy Huffman, the Bellefonte Presbyterian Church was also equipped with a church bell at an early date.

Mud Creek Primitive Baptist

Mud Creek Primitive Baptist church has left more records than almost any church in the county. Though it burned in 2000, the footprint of the church is enclosed with a fence and a marker showing an image of

the church with information about its founders sits on the site. It is surrounded by Old Baptist Cemetery, the primary burial ground for Hollywood residents.



VIEWS OF MUD CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH AT VARIOUS POINTS IN ITS HISTORY. SOURCE: OLD BAPTIST CEMETERY FACEBOOK PAGE AND REGINA GRIDER PIPES

Ann Chambless did this analysis of Mud Creek Primitive Baptist in the “HISTORY OF THE MUD-CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH,” *Jackson County Chronicles*, July 20, 1980.

The Mud Creek Primitive Baptist Church is located in the outskirts of Hollywood, Alabama, and is sometimes referred to locally as the Old Baptist Church/Cemetery. The Church will celebrate its 161st birthday in November, 1980, and is the oldest (documented) Baptist church in Jackson County, Alabama. In 1844, Joseph Eustace deeded the present site to the Mud Creek Church. The sites of the first and second buildings is unknown.

The original church minutes are extant from date of organization in 1819, but provide no clue to exact geographic location until April, 1845, when Brother Joseph Eustace was appointed to keep the new meeting house key. Evidently he was the member who lived nearest the church. (Joseph Eustace was a substantial landowner at Cowan's Spring just above Hollywood.) Most likely, the November and December, 1819, organizational meetings were held in the home of a charter member. Since land ownership in Jackson County at that time could transpire only via a deed from a Cherokee reservationist, the church buildings would have been "Squatters" in the same sense as the white populace unless extended special privileges by a reservationist. Therefore, any building constructed in 1819 or 1820 probably was a very simple, single room, log building.

In August, 1821, Brother Archibald McDaniel agreed to make a door and a table for use of the Mud Creek Meeting House for \$2.50. Brother David Benton was paid \$1.00 for 77 feet of plank for use of the Meeting House. Could this have been for benches?

In October, 1822, repairs were made to the Meeting House. In March, 1824, Daniel Peyton, James Taylor, and Andrew Estes were appointed trustees to superintend building a new meeting house by subscription. Did this building retain a dirt floor until May, 1843? According to Church minutes, Brother Wilson was appointed to make a contract for plank to floor the meeting House in May, 1843. (It was circa 1840 when steam sawmills made t h e scene in Jackson County.)

By November 1844, the membership appointed Joseph N. Eustace, William O. Haynes, and F. A. Hancock to contract for the building of a new meeting house. It was evidently completed to some degree by April of 1845, when Joseph Eustace was appointed to keep the new meeting house key.

In June, 1845, W.R.W. Cobb was appointed to take the subscription list raised for building of the meeting house and endeavor to collect what he could of it. Senator Cobb must not have met with complete success, because in November, 1847, Brothers Sewell and Haynes were appointed to obtain subscriptions to finish the meeting house. In January, 1848, the church paid \$22.62% for a stove. Did they utilize fireplace(s) prior to 1848?

In November, 1859, a committee of five was appointed for the repair of Mud Creek Meeting House. The meeting house was destroyed or abused beyond church use during the War Between the States. In August, 1865, the membership agreed to hold monthly meetings at Brother Thomas Wilson's vacated house nearby the old church until further arrangements could be made. (Thomas Wilson had bought the Joseph Eustace place or some portion thereof.) The minutes do not record the exact date the new building was completed. However, money was almost nonexistent immediately following the War, and this fact must surely have influenced the congregation's building progress. In the Spring of 1867, Mud Creek Church met at Peter Pond and also at a school house near Mrs. (Mark) Eliza Barbee's. (Peter Pond was near Wannville and Mrs. Barbee lived near the head of Mud Creek.

The first recorded activities of the Mud Creek Primitive Baptist Church are dated November, 1819. The church sat in conference twice in November after divine services. Their first order of business was to choose Brother John Horn as Moderator and Brother David Benton as Clerk. Brother Hugh Gentry was appointed to bear a letter to the elders of the Macedonia and Hopewell churches (probably situated in Tennessee) petitioning for elderly assistance. The congregation received the help of Elders Richard Wilson and John Horn in December, 1819. Both these men were received by letter into the newly constituted Mud Creek Church that same day.

The seventeen charter members were:

1. David Benton
2. Pheraby Benton
3. Hugh Gentry
4. Betsey Gentry
5. John Horn
6. Hannah Horn
7. Richard Wilson
8. Betsey Wilson
9. Isaac Cates
10. Anderson Robertson
11. Betsey Nicholds
12. Betsey Stansfield
13. Nancy McDaniel
14. Piercey Blagg
15. Nancy Lewis
16. Nancy Estes
17. Nancy Ward

The church membership grew rapidly as the early settlers poured into the newly created County of Jackson. Twenty-eight new members were added within the first three months. Brothers Andrew Estes, William Ward, Berry Vester, Archibald McDaniel, and Sister Fanny Mathis had become members in December, 1819. The Church agreed to sit in a church capacity on Raccoon Creek to open their door for reception of members. There they received Sisters Mary Isabella (Isbell?), Peggy Wilson, Hannah Biggs, and Nancy Isabella (Isbell?) and Brothers Jesse Biggs and David Watson. Sister Sally Bennett was received under the watch care of the church as was Mother Ziporah Garner's application for membership.

In June, 1820, Mud Creek Church resolved that the 4th day in July be set apart in every year for fasting and worship. In April, 1820, Brother John Horn submitted to the call to take pastoral care of Mud Creek.

In August, 1820, Brothers John Horn, Richard Wilson, and Daniel Peyton were chosen as delegates to the Elk River Association and Sister Elizabeth Gentry and Brother Washington House joined at Mud Creek. In September, 1820, Sisters Jenny and Nancy Bennett were received as new members and Brothers Daniel Peyton and Washington House were granted letters of dismission. Daniel Peyton moved his membership to Friendship Church which had been organized by Mud Creek in August, 1820. In October, 1820, Sister Betsey Wilson was received by experience, and the church agreed that each and every male should pay 2; cents annually for defraying church expenses. Brother Anderson Robertson was chosen church treasurer. By December, 1820, Brother Anderson Robertson and Sister Penny Melton had been excluded from the church.

Women were evidently allowed some voice in the church at an early date, as in November, 1820, a verbal request was received from Providence Meeting House for the assistance of Sisters Elizabeth Forbus, Elizabeth Wilson, and Nancy Wilson to sit with them in an advisory council on the second Saturday in December. This request was granted by Mud Creek.

The foregoing history is given in detail to show that Mud Creek Church was very active in its first year of existence on a new Western frontier in Jackson County, Alabama. The membership roll is the only written record in existence for documented proof of when many of Jackson County's early settlers arrived in this County.

By early 1821, evidently there was a "regular" Baptist Church in Jackson County. The January, 1821 Mud Creek minutes show that a report was entered against Brother Hutcherson for joining the Schismatick and communing with them. The church agreed to write to him demariffnghis answer as to the truth of this report. This is not the only reference to action being taken by Mud Creek when a member joined the Schismaticks.

Mud Creek Church's building burned on August 4, 2005. The remaining members informed the Mud Creek Association that they would not be rebuilding and would sadly disband. Elizabeth McAllen wrote on September 22, 1977:

Among the circuit Baptist preachers were Rev. Thomas Caves, Rev. Brown and Rev. D. S. Collins.

Rev. Thomas Caves, who home was in Pisgah, had been a member of the Missionary Baptist Association almost since its beginning and had served many charges in Jackson County. He was a dedicated man with simple ideas of religion. He died December 31, 1937, was buried in Pisgah Cemetery.

Rev. D. S. Collins, whose home was in Carnes, spent nearly seventy years in the ministry. He was born April 26, 1849, died June 5, 1936. Both he and his wife, Sally Ann, were buried in Inglis Cemetery in Carnes.

Bethel Baptist Church at Carnes

Many Hollywood people attended the Baptist church at Carnes. There have been several buildings on this spot, replaced as need required. The memorable old church was destroyed in the 1932 tornado. The building shown below is the current church.



Cemeteries in Hollywood

Early on, Hollywood families buried their dead atop Huntoon Hill, the rise on which the town's signature water tank is found today. It was originally the site of the large, Victorian Huntoon house, which burned in DATE. After the Huntoon family rebuilt at a lower spot, the Duncan family had a large house on this hill and indeed, the area is known today as Duncan Hill. The Duncan Hill Cemetery is a compendium of the family names that formed the early core of Hollywood—Harris, Campbell, Neher, MORE. Late families, especially Baptists, were buried in Old Baptist Cemetery. The cemetery has over

Some Hollywood residents who live on the Fackler side of Hollywood are buried at Price Cemetery, about a mile past Mud Creek Barbeque on the left.

Elected Officials

Hollywood honors their recent mayors with a plaque in city hall:

1972-1980: Eugene Dutton

1980-1984 Virgil McCrary (replaced by Elizabeth Haas)

1884-1988: Lee Roy Hollis (replaced by O. C. "Tommy" Dawson)

1988-1992: Truett Lankford

1992-2000: Elizabeth Johnson Haas

2000-2004: W. K. "Bill" McClendon

2004-2008: Ricky Koole

2008-2012: Tommy Allen

2026-2020 Jerry Adkins



ELIZABETH JOHNSON HAAS.
MAYOR 1992-2000
SOURCE: HOLLYWOOD CITY HALL



EUGENE DUTTON. MAYOR 1972-1980 SOURCE:HOLLYWOOD
CITY HALL

From Elizabeth McAlpin Series, September 22, 1977:

In the early 1930s, Henry Gullatt, Mayor of Hollywood, presided over minor court cases and sentenced criminals operating outside the law to clean drainage ditches and cut weeds inside the city limits. More serious cases were tried at Scottsboro.

Among the deputy sheriffs who served the town were Shed Brewster, Dewey Bryant, Charley Simmons, Sam Gold, and Aubrey Grider.

Among the mayors were Steve Archer, Odell James, Albert Starkey, Robert M. Starkey, and Robert Reed. Eugene Dutton is currently serving as mayor.

Post Office

The tacit recognition of an area's status as a town is the existence of a post office. The Hollywood Post office came into existence WHEN. At one time, the post office was part of Shorty Machen's store; a letter slot it still found on the front right side. The post office more residents remember is in the brick building on the right as one drives through Hollywood on HW toward Highway 72.



The building on Highway 72 was built in WHEN and has how many PO boxes. Most Hollywood residents receive have their mail delivered to their homes through rural free delivery.

Mrs. Harris was at one time post mistress. Also, Elizabeth McAlpin noted that “Ollie Echols carried mail from the post office to the railroad station for more years and anyone could remember. In the early 1930s, Echols delivered merchandise, such as overalls, shoes, hats, socks, and shirts from the railway station to merchants in a wheelbarrow. He died in the early 1970s at the age of ninety-eight.” (October 27, 1977)

The 1899 Scottsboro Citizen reported:

A snippet of a newspaper clipping from 1899. The text reads: "Thomas B. Walsh is making the people of Hollywood a good postmaster." The word "Hollywood" is highlighted in yellow in the original image.

Thomas B. Walsh is making the people of Hollywood a good postmaster.

One of the Neher sons was also postmaster about 1905.

Fire Department

Hollywood has always had an all volunteer fire department. The fire chief in the late 1950s and early 1960s was J. P. Thomas. Talk to his wife Gaynell Thomas Allen.

Mark Keller sent these memories of the Hollywood Fire Department:

The old fire department in the 1960's was between Billy Machen's and Aubrey Machen's stores. The building is still there I believe today. It was as someone stated, an old garage. JP Thomas was the first fire Chief and started in the early 1960's. I believe we got our first new fire truck in the mid-1960's (a red one). Mr. Grady Dawson was mayor during the mid 1960's and then Robert Reed in 1968. I remember Robert holding "court" in that old garage and Tom McEntire was the police Chief. He brought them in and Robert doled out the punishment. Mr. Eugene Dutton became mayor after Robert in about 1972. I believe we had an old hand-me down fire truck before the new one. After JP retired I believe that Bub Christa took it for a little while and then turned it over to his son-in-law Lonnie (forgot his last name). I think Tommy Allen took it over after that. And then Al Wright. After Al I think Patrick Allen became Chief. The new City Hall was built in the late 1970's and is located on highway 72. I think Mr. Eugene Dutton was instrumental as mayor in obtaining the funding with the help of TVA when they were building the nuclear plant.

Here is that department in DATE.



IDS: TOP ROW CRIS WRIGHT, RAYFORD GRIDER, MICHAEL GRIDER, TONY KELLER. MIDDLE ROW: AL WRIGHT, DOUG KELLER, BILLY MACHEN. BOTTOM ROW: RAY VENABLE, JOEY WILLIAMS, RIP JOHNSON, TOMMY ALLEN, STEVE KELLER. SOURCE: HOLLYWOOD FACEBOOK PAGE

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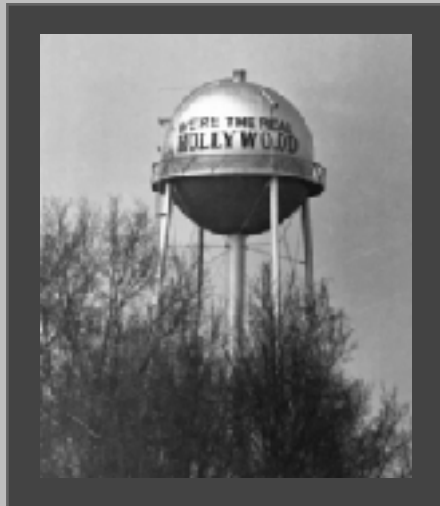
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Photo of Colonel Orlando Bolivar Willcox: Library of Congress

Photo of Hollywood history, mayors, and new stories: Hollywood City Hall

Photo credits: See individual photos.

