

# Montevallo *Historical* Times

Vol. 3 No. 1

Newsletter of the Montevallo Historical Society

Winter 2019



Officers and directors of the Montevallo Historical Society gather for a photo at the October 21, 2018 general meeting following a presentation to Henry Emfinger of the Aldrich Coal Mine Museum. As a way of thanking Mr. Emfinger for loaning us his collection of photographs of Montevallo Mayors to use for a digital preservation project, vice-president Clay Nordan recreated an advertisement often used by the Montevallo Coal Mining Co. in the 1930's and had it made into a banner for display at the museum. Mr. Emfinger was also presented with a new set of the photographs, framed and printed on archival paper, to replace his deteriorating originals. (L-R) Melinda Nix, Bill Glosson, Mae Glosson, Janice Seaman, Jim Day, Anne Thomas, Debbie Pendleton, Rose Emfinger, Henry Emfinger, Clay Nordan. (See story on the Coal Mine Museum beginning on page 6)

## Heatherly and Hultquist Team Up for Presentation at Fall General Meeting

Dr. Clark Hultquist, professor of History in the University of Montevallo's Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Carey Heatherly, Associate Professor, University Archivist, and Reference Librarian at Carmichael Library, collaborated on a program for our final general meeting of 2018 on October 21.

Their program began with a general overview of the structure and nature of the digital archives that have been made available online to the general public through Carmichael Library's partnership with Lyrasis and The Internet Ar-

chive. Carey explained the holdings and workings of the Milner Collection, the Wyatt newspaper archive, and the Pat Scales collection. He went into some detail about the Montevallo yearbooks, newspapers, college catalogs, and other materials available to anyone interested in local history.

Clark presented several examples of newspaper advertising that can be seen in several late 19th century newspapers in the collection and explained their importance in showing how these ads reflected what was going on in contemporary society at the time.



Carey Heatherly (left) and Clark Hultquist making their presentation to the Montevallo Historical Society's fall 2018 general meeting. A video of their complete program can be viewed at [www.historicmontevallo.org](http://www.historicmontevallo.org).

# President's Letter

Welcome to 2019! Our January meeting will kickoff the second full year of the Montevallo Historical Society, and we're excited about upcoming programs designed to help celebrate the history and heritage of Montevallo.

This is also the bicentennial year for the State of Alabama, and the three-year commemoration of territorial status and statehood will culminate with a statewide celebration on December 14. Two hundred years ago, the nation experienced the Panic of 1819 – the first of several economic depressions that punctuated the nineteenth century. Nevertheless, President James Monroe signed enabling legislation on March 2 and visited the Tennessee Valley three months later. After initial preparations, the constitutional convention met in Huntsville in July, adopting the state's first constitution on August 2.

Of the fifteen members of the drafting committee, four became governors of the state, three served as U.S. Senators, one was selected as a U.S. Supreme Court justice, and another served as vice president. Ironically, delegates saw no need for popular ratification even though they had drafted what many considered the most democratic state constitution to date. (Subsequent constitutions were adopted in 1861, 1865, 1868, 1875, and 1901.) Nevertheless, Alabama became the 22nd state of the Union on December 14, 1819, and William Wyatt Bibb took the oath as the first governor.

As mentioned above, the state's bicentennial commemoration began two years ago, coinciding with Montevallo's bicentennial celebration. If you haven't done so already, you might visit the Bicentennial Commission's website at [www.alabama200.org](http://www.alabama200.org). Consider getting a copy of PastPort, a guidebook to important historical sites arranged by region and county.

You'll find a list of Bicentennial Schools selected for their emphasis on the state's 200th birthday, and there's a link to Alabama Legacy Moments, a video project sponsored by Alabama Public Television.

The site also features an exhibit – Making Alabama – that began traveling the state in April 2018. This portable display, sponsored by the Alabama Humanities Foundation, will come to Shelby County in August 2019. Scheduled to be housed in the newly constructed Shelby County Arts Council facility, it will remain in Columbiana for one month.

If that time frame doesn't work for you, plan to see the exhibit when it comes to nearby locations: Bibb County Board of Education in Centreville (April 2019) and Hoover Public Library (May 2019). One more note – if you don't know about the online Encyclopedia of Alabama, check out the website at [www.encyclopediaofalabama.org](http://www.encyclopediaofalabama.org).

You might consider using the year ahead to learn more about our state's history and/or to explore various parts of the state. The University of Ala-



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## Officers

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Montevallo, AL 35115

[www.historicmontevallo.org](http://www.historicmontevallo.org)



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DISTINGUISHED FOUNDING DIRECTOR  
Dr. S.M. Mahan, Jr. (1934 – 2018)

bama Press and New South Books have published a number of “Bicentennial Books” worthy of consideration, and the following titles should help to jumpstart your reading list.

## ***Alabama Bicentennial Books***

### **Alabama Tourism Department**

*Alabama Road Trips:*

*52 Great Getaways (2013)*

### **Bridges, Edwin C.**

*Alabama: The Making of an American State (2016)*

### **Hamilton, Virginia Van der Veer**

*Seeing Historic Alabama (1996)*

### **Lewis, Herbert James**

*Clearing the Thickets (2013)*

*Lost Capitals of Alabama (2014)*

### **Martin, Gay**

*Alabama, Off the Beaten Path (1992)*

### **Sledge, John S.**

*These Rugged Days (2017)*

### **Williams, Horace Randall**

*100 Things You Need to Know*

*About Alabama (2016)*

### **Wills, Glenn**

*Forgotten Alabama (2016)*

### **Wills, Kenneth M. and**

### **L. J. Davenport**

*Exploring Wild Alabama (2016)*

On a final note, January 2019 marks the end of my tenure as president of the Montevallo Historical Society. It has been a pleasure to serve in that capacity, and I applaud the work of the founding Board of Directors. The nominating committee will present recommendations for key positions, and we can expect a continuation of great things ahead. Thank you for supporting this community effort. Best wishes for a rewarding and “historic” new year!



## **➤ Holiday Open House** ◀



Montevallo Historical Society members and guests enjoyed a sumptuous Holiday Open house at the Fox and Pheasant Inn. (Above left to right) Janice Seaman, Bonnie Robbins, Bonnie’s friend Connie from Atlanta, and Bonnie’s husband Ross.

# Historical Society Partners With Montevallo Main Street

In the summer of 2018, Montevallo Main Street Executive Director, Courtney Bennett approached the Montevallo Historical Society about participating in something she was calling "Throwback Thursday". As a way of drawing attention to the Main Street business district, she wanted to start doing weekly Facebook posts every Thursday that would remind and educate visitors about the thriving business houses that have come and gone on Main Street for well over 100 years.

Montevallo Historical Society president Jim Day

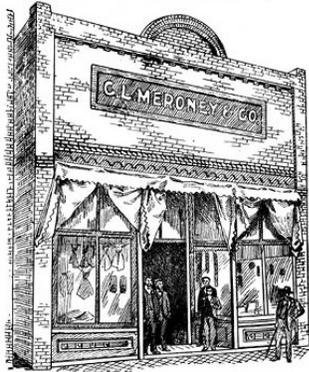
asked Clay Nordan, who edits the society's newsletter and website if he would coordinate the effort.

Having grown up in Montevallo and spending his youth haunting the drugstores, grocers, movie theatre, and barber shops, Clay was glad to put some of his knowledge, memories, and research to good use for others to discover in this modern format.

The presentation is essentially a walk in words and pictures down Main Street from the City Hall area. By the end of 2018, about half the block from Shelby Street to Middle Street had been featured. New items will be added each Thursday until the entire street has been covered.

For those who don't use Facebook, Courtney also makes the items available on a website that can be accessed from a link on [www.historicmontevallo.org](http://www.historicmontevallo.org).

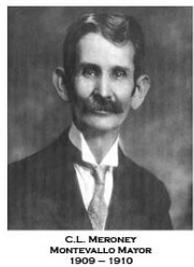
An advertisement from a December 1898 edition of the Montevallo News.



The poorly printed text from the ad above reads:  
**THE HOUSE THAT STARTED GREATER MONTEVALLO.**  
 The house that wants your cotton and your trade. They carry every thing in high-grade. Dry Goods, Clothing, Shoes, Hardware and Groceries at price to fit 4 1/2 cent cotton, see us before you buy.  
 C.L. Meroney & Co.

**C. L. Meroney & Co. MERCHANTS**  
**MONTEVALLO, - ALABAMA.**  
 Lead all others in the Cut from HIGH PRICES. Their Large and Well Selected Stock of Goods, of Every Description, Demonstrates the FACT **THAT THEY ARE UP TO DATE,** -AND- **Their Prices Defy Competition!**  
 25¢ They Sell Everything You Want, and Give Full Value for Every Cent. 25¢  
 Go to see them in their **Handsome New Brick Store** **THEY HUNT YOUR TRADE and GIVE YOU A COEDIAL INVITATION TO VISIT THEM.**  
 Don't Forget the place!  
**C. L. MERONEY & CO.,**  
 Montevallo, Alabama

**EVERY KIND OF CANDIES, Fruits, Dolls, AND OTHER CHRISTMAS GOODS**  
 We are too busy to quote prices, Yours to please.  
**C. L. Meroney & Co.**



**STRAW HAT SALE.**  
 A Good Dresser Always Wears a Stylish Hat.  
 We are making a special sale of stylish straw hats for a few days only. The stock will not last long, and you had better get one now.  
**C. L. MERONEY & CO.**

**The Little Shop To Hold Opening**  
**Informal Party Thursday, September 29, Will Start New Store for Women**  
 "The Little Shop of Personal Service," exclusively for women and girls, will hold its informal opening Thursday, September 29, from 7 to 10 p.m. While no merchandise will be offered for sale at these hours, Miss Ethel Reasoner, proprietor, extends an invitation to every woman to visit the new store and inspect its facilities and its stock of goods.  
 The shop will be open for business Friday, September 30, offering a wide selection of dresses, accessories, lingerie, sportswear and hosiery. A nice, quiet lounge will provide comfort, and professionally trained personal attention will be given to every customer.  
 The location of "The Little Shop" is in the building recently vacated by Ike Nathews.

Nationally Advertised Brands Mean Quality Merchandise  
**THE LITTLE SHOP**

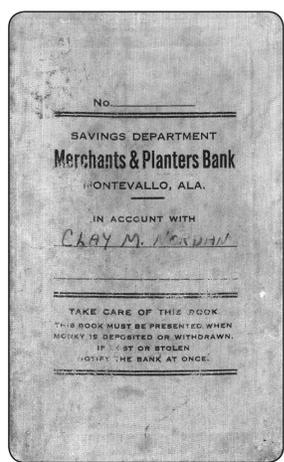


**A Shade for Every Taste**  
 Bright tulip tones Demure pastels  
 Prints as gay as a flower garden  
 The well-groomed foundation that comes only from Gossard and Vanity Fair  
 Even the stockings have spring in them if they're Archer  
**The LITTLE SHOP OF PERSONAL SERVICE**




**To Our Friends:**  
 We are pleased to announce that extensive improvements in our equipment and facilities make us more able than ever before to serve the needs of our customers.  
 Further, we wish to express our appreciation for your past patronage and invite you to continue to use us.  
**The Mahan Beauty Shop**  
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**We Make Loveliness Lovelier**  
**Red's Bobber & Beauty Shoppe**  
 EXPERT IN ALL LINES OF BEAUTY CULTURE  
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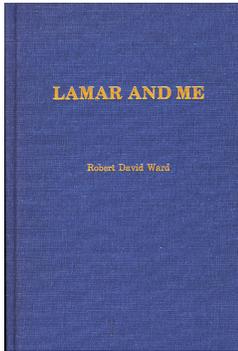
**Merchants & Planters Bank OF MONTEVALLO, ALABAMA**  
 DOES A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS  
 YOUR ACCOUNT IS SOLICITED

OFFICERS  
 C. L. MERONEY, President  
 J. ALICE MOORE, Cashier  
 W. L. LUKAN, Treasurer

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 W. L. LUKAN, J. ALICE MOORE, E. E. WICKLEY

1907

# “Lamar and Me” Back in Print



*Lamar and Me*, a small volume of remembrances about growing up in Montevallo was published by native son Robert David Ward in 1983. It went out of print shortly after its initial publication. The Montevallo Historical Society is pleased to bring this entertaining collection back to life as a digital pdf file that can

be read online or downloaded for free. You can find a link to the pdf file for *Lamar and Me* at [www.historicmontevallo.org](http://www.historicmontevallo.org).

David Ward was the youngest child of Alabama College Modern Languages professor, James Skillman Ward and his wife Lillian Kiber Ward. Professor Ward died when David was five years old, but thanks to the examples set by his mother and older sisters, he became the man of the house and excelled in his studies, on the athletic fields, and at his after-school jobs. After graduating from Montevallo High School, he entered Alabama Polytechnic Institute (Auburn) where he earned a B.S. and M.A. in history. At the completion of advanced studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, he was awarded the Ph.D. degree in history.

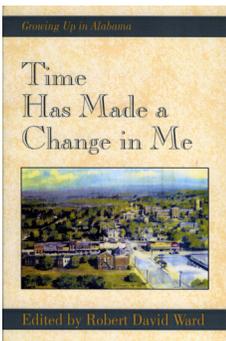


David made his career as a professor of history, spending his entire teaching career at Georgia Southern University in Statesboro.

No other product of Montevallo has been more expansive in praising its beneficial influence on those fortunate enough to grow up within its boundaries.

In addition to authoring *Lamar and Me*, David Ward was also the editor of *Time Has*

*Made a Change in Me*, a collection of remembrances written by an impressive number of David's contemporaries who also called Montevallo home at one time or another. A link to the publisher of this book can be found at [www.historicmontevallo.org](http://www.historicmontevallo.org) by clicking the *Books About Montevallo* button.



*“The things and the people that have touched us are unique in our own eyes – an unavoidable reflection of our own sense of worth and importance. But granting that, an impressive case can still be made for the uniqueness of Montevallo. It was a small town during the years that Lamar and I were players on its narrow stage. But it often rose above its provincial setting and it helped to endow a surprisingly large number of its children with the force and drive and aspiration that produces the directors, the achievers, and the movers of this world.”*





Wesley Wyatt

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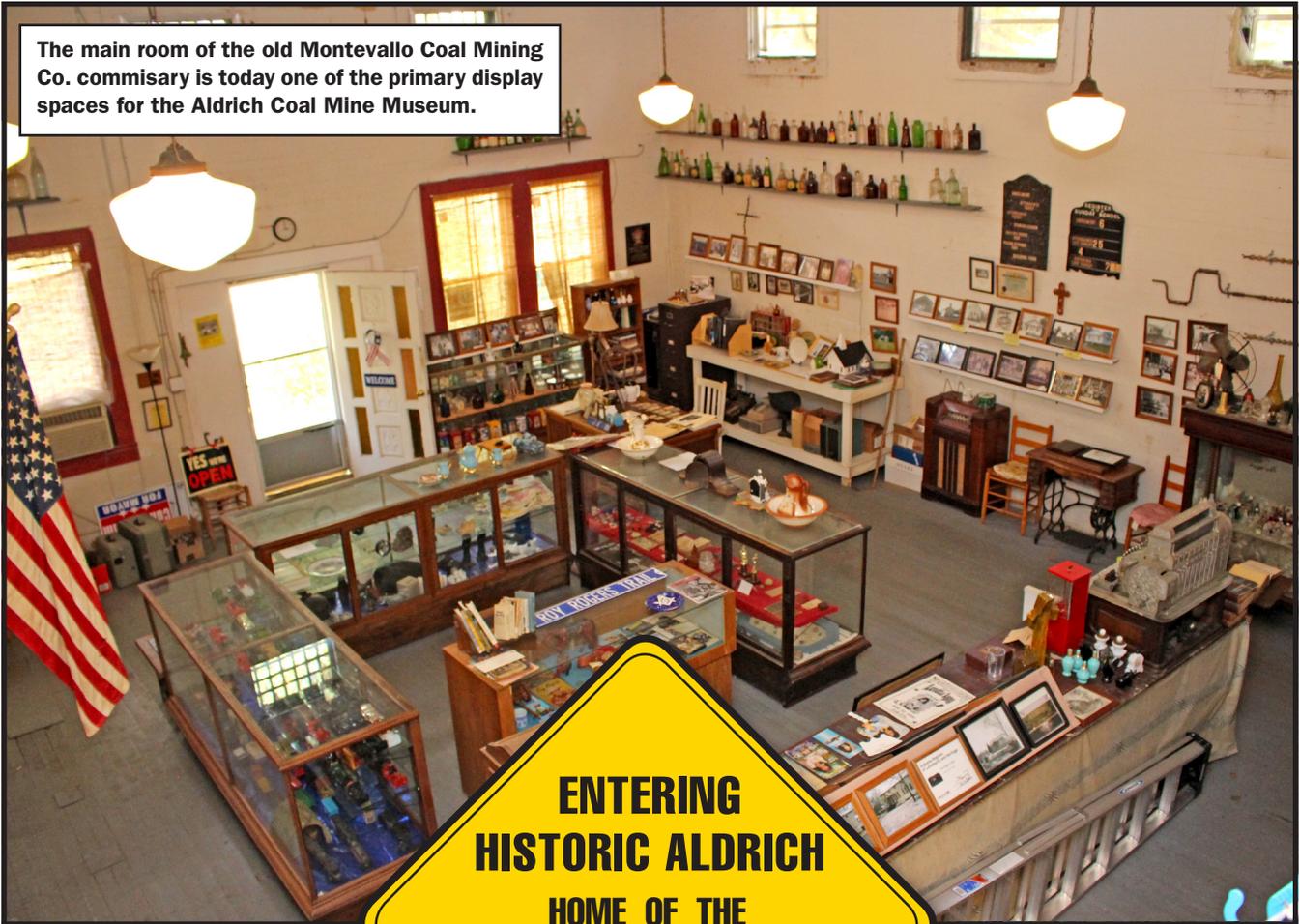
*Fox & Pheasant*  
BED & BREAKFAST INN

540 Shelby Street  
Montevallo, AL 35115

**JANICE SEAMAN**  
205.665.3080

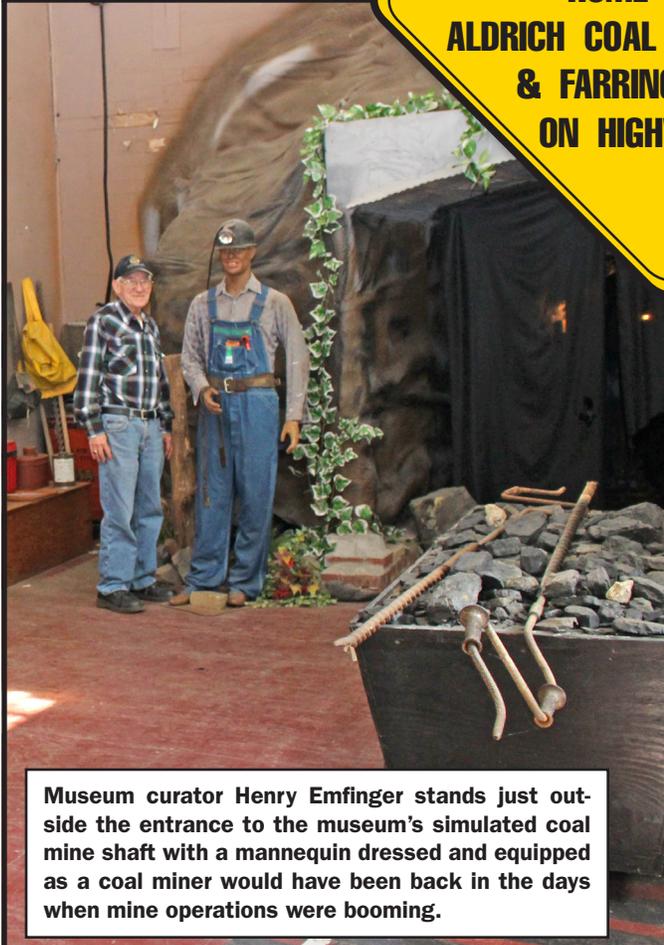
[www.foxandpheasantinn.com](http://www.foxandpheasantinn.com)

The main room of the old Montevallo Coal Mining Co. commissary is today one of the primary display spaces for the Aldrich Coal Mine Museum.

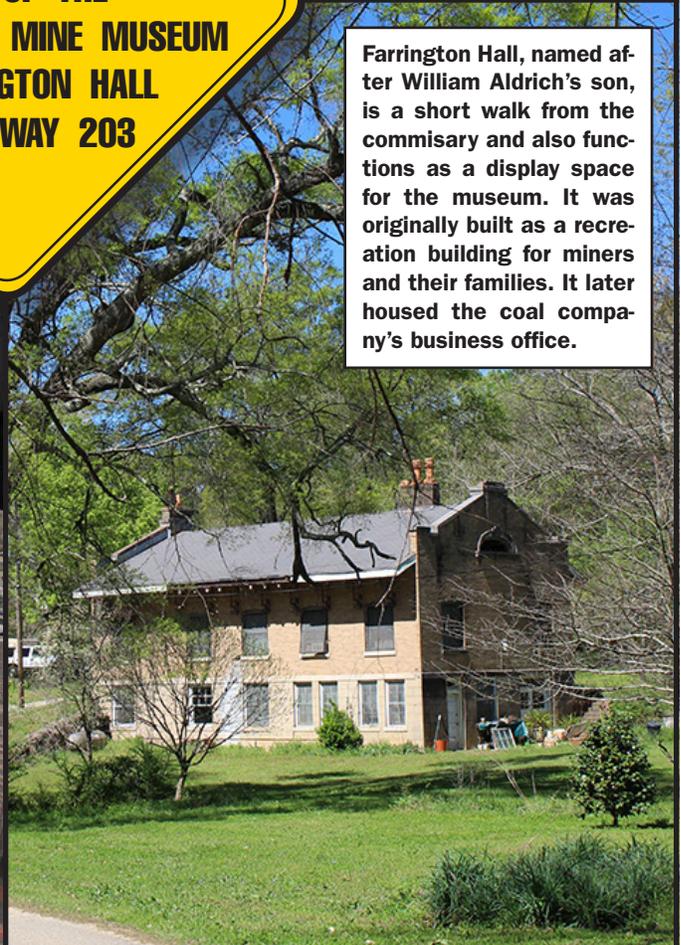


**ENTERING  
HISTORIC ALDRICH  
HOME OF THE  
ALDRICH COAL MINE MUSEUM  
& FARRINGTON HALL  
ON HIGHWAY 203**

Farrington Hall, named after William Aldrich's son, is a short walk from the commissary and also functions as a display space for the museum. It was originally built as a recreation building for miners and their families. It later housed the coal company's business office.



Museum curator Henry Emfinger stands just outside the entrance to the museum's simulated coal mine shaft with a mannequin dressed and equipped as a coal miner would have been back in the days when mine operations were booming.





# The Aldrich Coal Mine Museum

For more than 100 years, the village of Aldrich, Alabama has been associated with coal mines, visionary coal entrepreneurs, and the coal miners who brought this indispensable fuel from deep underground for sale and use in industry and to heat the homes of families everywhere.

The heyday of Aldrich as a local engine of economic prosperity is long gone. The Aldrich of old is mostly a memory today except for the railroad that still runs through the middle of the community. But its trains no longer stop as they pass on to or from some other place.

Even the boundaries marking its environs have been erased by the embrace of the city limits of Montevallo, which extend just west of the former site of the famous Aldrich coal mines.

But there is something remaining to tie us in the “here-and-now” to Aldrich’s former days of bustling industrial prosperity – The Aldrich Coal Mine Museum.

Housed in the building that served as the “Commisary” or “Company Store”, as well as in a second building known as Farrington Hall, owner and curator, Henry Emfinger has assembled an intriguing collection of artifacts, memorabilia, and photographs that tell the story of the mining industry that shaped not only Aldrich but the Cahaba Coal Field, of which Aldrich was a key component.

Aldrich gets its name from the two Aldrich brothers, Truman H. Aldrich and William Farrington Aldrich, the first trained civil engineers to mine coal in Alabama.



This photo shows the side-by-side entrances to two slope mines at Aldrich that miners worked for decades to produce many thousands of tons of high quality coal.

They built up the town and were instrumental in the development of the coal industry in central Alabama.

When the Aldrich mining operation was at its peak, it shipped coal by rail to domestic brokers and industries as well as for international markets.

William Farrington Aldrich and his wife Josephine C. Aldrich, as a result of their financial success, built a palatial victorian home just behind where Farrington Hall stands today that came to be known as Rajah Lodge. “Rajah” is a Sanskrit word meaning “king” or “ruler”. Surrounding the house

were manicured gardens as well as a pond and greenhouse for exotic plants. The entire compound was in a park-like setting that is still apparent today.

Once established as a coal baron, William Farrington Aldrich was elected to the United States Congress from the Fourth District of Alabama and served three consecutive terms around the turn of the century.

Following his retirement in 1905, he built a private office, library, and recreation hall (completed in 1908) which he and his wife named Farrington Hall, after their son who died that same year.

In retirement, Aldrich and Josephine continued to live in Rajah Lodge until new mine owners brought in convict labor, which they disagreed with. They soon moved away leaving Aldrich and their remarkable home behind.

Rajah Lodge was eventually dismantled and hauled away and the Aldrich coal mines closed for good in 1942.

A number of homes that provided housing for miners and company officials still stand in Aldrich, but Henry Emfinger’s mining museum is the remaining touchstone to the little town’s remarkable heritage

**“The first regular systematic underground mining in the state of Alabama had been done in the Cahaba field in 1856, at a point in Shelby County, one mile west of Montevallo.”**

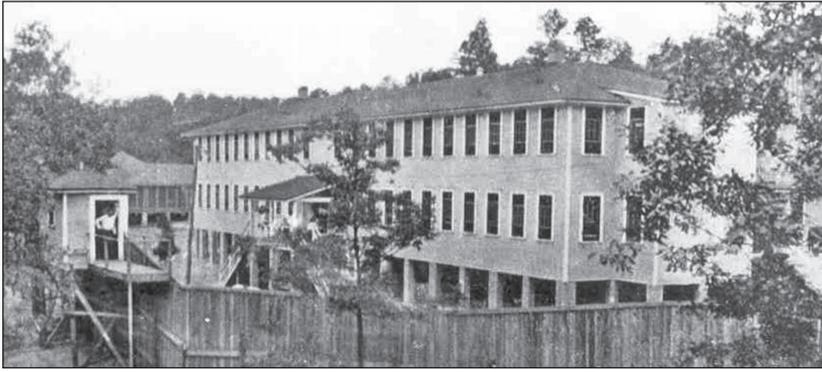
– Ethel Armes

*“The Story of Coal and Iron in Alabama” – 1910*



**(1)** Rajah Lodge in all its splendor. **(2)** Henry Emfinger stands at the entrance to Farrington Hall (1908). This entry faced nearby Rajah Lodge. **(3)** One of only a few rooms on the upper level of Farrington Hall. It served as William F. Aldrich's office and library and today contains an impressive display of Rajah Lodge and family photos. **(4)** A monumental mural in Farrington Hall's recreation room, painted by the Italian artist, Giuseppe Moretti, better known as the sculptor of Birmingham's famous Vulcan statue. Two other Moretti murals adorn another wall.





After William F. Aldrich retired and sold the Montevallo Coal Mining Co., new owners made use of convict labor in the mines from 1913 until 1928. This photo shows the Aldrich prison barracks that housed convict miners. It was situated close to the mine entrance. An excellent book, "Slavery by Another Name", by Douglas A. Blackmon, is a history of this system, emphasizing its considerable impact on African-Americans from Shelby and Bibb Counties.



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for **84** years

these three words have meant  
the **BEST** domestic coal



**1856 quality**

First in Southern homes since 1856. The first domestic coal to achieve a name and reputation. Perhaps you are one of the thousands of home owners who know from experience why Original Genuine Montevallo is everywhere recognized as the finest coal mined in the South. Free burning yet easily controlled. Does not clinker or coke. A perfect fuel for grate or furnace producing pure, clean heat with minimum attention and waste.

Marketed in Four sizes:

Fancy Lump, Domestic Egg,  
Washed Domestic Nut, and  
Domestic Stoker

**Montevallo Coal Mining Company**

DARIUS A. THOMAS, President  
ALDRICH, ALA.

**Call (205) 665-2886 to Schedule a Tour of the Museum**

**Convict Cemetery • 1913-1928**

Convicts were leased from the Alabama Prison System by the Montevallo Coal Mine Company in Aldrich. This cemetery contains over fifty graves of which the majority were black men, all were killed in the mines. Some were convicted for petty crimes and sentenced to prison specifically to work in the coal mine, subjecting them to cruel and unjust punishment. Under Governor Bibb Graves' Administration, the Alabama Legislature abolished the Convict Lease System in 1928 and these graves had been neglected and long forgotten until its restoration in 2004.

The information above is from a sign posted on Highway 10 in Aldrich marking the location of the cemetery.

THE MONTEVALLO TIMES

July 9, 1942

**Aldrich Mine  
Operations End**

Aldrich coal mine, two miles west of Montevallo, producer of the original genuine Montevallo coal, noted far and wide as the world's best domestic coal, hauled its last lump to the surface Monday. This brings to an end continuous operation of almost a century, during which time Aldrich has occupied a place of first importance in the business and commercial life of this section of Alabama

Advertisement of equipment of the mine for sale was followed by disclosure from D. A. Thomas, president of Montevallo Coal Mining Company, that "because the coal seam is quite well depleted," the company has abandoned operations after one of the longest records of continuous production in the history of coal mining in this country.

The first record of Montevallo coal dates back 90 years, when as early as 1852 the Alabama Coal Mining Company, with headquarters in Selma, produced Montevallo coal at Aldrich. The trade name of the coal was taken from the town of Montevallo nearby.

Mr. Thomas has operated the property at Aldrich since 1922. His father began operation of the mine in 1905.

Definite plans for the mining village of more than 100 homes have not been worked out, Mr. Thomas is quoted as saying, but every effort will be made to put the housing facilities to use some way in the war program or otherwise.

Stoppage of operations at Aldrich has put many men to looking for employment in other localities. Business generally in this territory accepts the verdict with regret and due regard for the certain effect it will have on all local operations.

# The Peterson – Givhan Connection

By Clay Nordan

At the Montevallo Historical Society's general meeting this past October, Gene Givhan Lightfoot caught up with me following the presentation of the program to share an old photograph that she thought would be of interest to me as well as to our members and readers of this newsletter.

Gene's older brother, Ed Givhan, M.D., was something of a local historian as well as a gifted writer and published author. He assisted Robert David Ward in encouraging and assembling the contributors to the local collective memoir, *Time Has Made a Change in Me*.

Ed died in 2004 at age 69, but during his life, he accumulated a good deal of information about the history and genealogy of his ancestors. The photo Gene had at the meeting is an important relic that Ed came to possess, and behind it lies an interesting story of how Montevallo brought the families of his grandparents together and the role they and their offspring played in the growth and progress of this small Alabama college town.

From written information that Ed put together before his death, he states, "In October 1904, Lena Parham Peterson wed Edgar Gilmore Givhan in what must have been an auspicious occasion for the village of Montevallo. He was a young physician descended from a family of Alabama Blackbelt pioneers. His father had also been a physician and a veteran of three years service in the Civil War."

"Lena's father was a classical scholar, an ordained Methodist minister and president of the new state girl's school in Montevallo. Her grandfather had been a prominent physician in Greensboro, Alabama through most of the 19th century and a founder of Southern University."

Gene thinks it is very likely that the photograph her brother had among his papers was taken on her grandparents wedding day. She is



**Alabama Girls Industrial School president Francis Marion Peterson, his family, and guests gather for a grand pose in front of the president's residence for a photograph on what is believed to be the wedding day for his daughter, Lena, in 1904. She was married to Dr. Edgar Gilmore Givhan, who had been the school's physician and now had a general medical practice in Montevallo.**

unable to identify either her grandfather or her grandmother in the photo, but the patriarch of the Peterson family and her great-grandfather, Dr. Francis Marion Peterson, president of Alabama Girls Industrial School, is certainly the bearded gentleman seated in the center of the front row. It is probably a good guess that the woman seated to his left is his wife, Helen ("Nellie") Winston Peterson, and the wedding party includes their four daughters, their son, and Dr. Givhan.

Following his graduation from

medical school in Mobile, Edgar Gilmore Givhan practiced medicine with his father for a time in Jemison, AL before moving to Montevallo. The A.G.I.S. catalogs for 1897 and 1898 list him as the "College Physician" for those school years. He apparently then went into private practice, serving the community for nearly forty years. It was in these early years in Montevallo that he met and courted his future wife.

The group photograph of the wedding party was probably taken in front of the "President's Home",



**This photo shows the quadrangle area in front of Main dormitory on the campus of the Alabama Girls Technical Institute as it looked in 1915. The president's residence, in front of which the Givhan/Peterson wedding photo was taken, can be seen at right.**



**Edgar and Lena Givhan lived in this house at the corner of Middle and Valley Streets. More recently this was the home of Glen and Doris Lien for a number of years.**

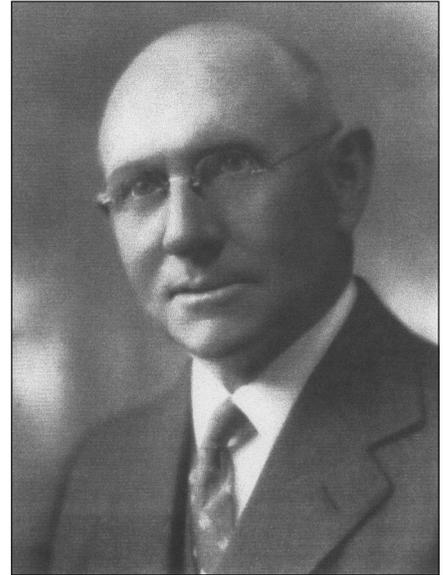
which was a handsome turn-of-the-century Victorian structure situated in the general vicinity of today's intersection of Highland and North Boundary streets on the UM campus. This is a pretty safe conclusion because the house in the background in the photo was known as the Storrs house, which had been used by the school as a dormitory and faculty residence. It was later moved a block away to open up the same spot for the construction of Palmer Hall.

Dr. Peterson was selected by the board of trustees as the second president of Alabama Girls Industrial School in 1899 following their failure to re-elect the sitting first president, Henry Clay Reynolds. Peterson was highly qualified and became

much loved by the students and faculty. Unfortunately, his health gave way in 1906, just as he was reaching his greatest success at the school. He took a leave of absence to recover, but was not able to return to his duties. He was forced to retire and bought a house on Middle Street, just off campus, where he died in 1908.

Again, in Ed's musings about his family, he writes lovingly about his grandmother, Lena Peterson Givhan, who spoiled him as a child with all kinds of delicious baked goodies. She was also instrumental in his education, and passed on to him a lifelong passion for the "magic" of flower gardening. He says, "I know from experience that my Peterson heritage forms a large part of whatever I became."

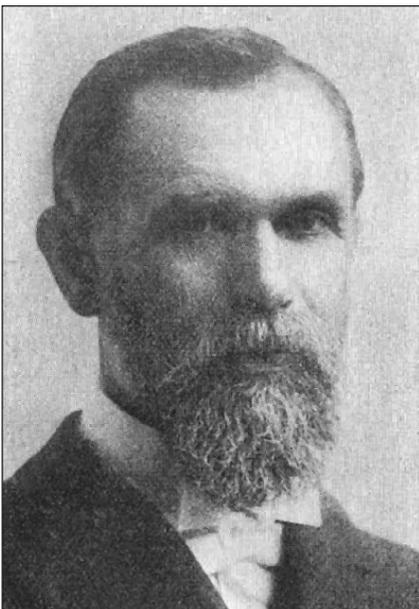
He says about his grandfather Givhan that "his memory achieved saintly quality in the minds of my parents, my grandmother, and my Peterson kin. My mother has told me Granddaddy Givhan was one of the town's 'characters'". "Apparently, he was a leading citizen of the little college town. He served as mayor during the Great War. He was chairman of the board of the Merchants and Planters Bank and was credit-



**Edgar Gilmore Givhan, M.D.**

ed with having a major influence in sustaining confidence in the bank during the panic of the Depression.

Ed and Gene's grandparents had two children, both boys. Edgar Gilmore Givhan, Jr. followed in his father's footsteps and became a highly regarded physician in Birmingham. Francis Peterson "Pete" Givhan (Ed and Gene's father) remained in Montevallo and married a local beauty, Frances "Sassie" Lewis. They also had another son, appropriately named Peter. "Pete" and "Sassie" made quite a team, together becoming active and successful in business, local government, and society as well as raising loving children who have honored and preserved their memory.



**Dr. Francis Marion Peterson**



**Dr. Peterson died in this house on Middle Street. His daughter-in-law, Charlotte Peterson, Montevallo elementary school principal for many years, lived in this house after the death of her husband and Dr. Peterson's grandson, Frank Peterson III.**

Montevallo Historical Society  
540 Shelby Street  
Montevallo, AL 35115

**--- First General Meeting of 2019 ---**

**Sunday, January 20, 2019 • Parnell Library 2:00 pm**

**Program Leader: James S. Day**

**Author of "Diamonds in the Rough"**  
**A History of Alabama's Cahaba Coal Field**

**Topic: The Montevallo Area's Coal Mining Heritage**

**--- Social Hour and Refreshments to Follow the Meeting ---**



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