# E NEWSLETTER AND JOURNAL FOR

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# June 2015 \*<u>ECHS Will Not Have a Meeting</u> <u>On Tuesday,</u> <u>June 23, 2015</u>\*

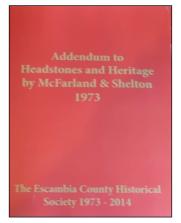
To Repeat: No Meeting on Tuesday, June 23, 2015

The regular meeting for June was the field trip to Selma, Cahaba, and Perdue Hill, which took place on Thursday, June 11, 2015.

## **Addendum to Headstones and Heritage**

#### **By Darryl Searcy**

The Escambia County
Historical Society is
pleased to announce the
publication of
its Addendum to
Headstones and
Heritage (McFarland &
Shelton, 1973) -Contributors to this work
were: Darryl Searcy and
Barbara McCoy of the
Escambia County
Historical Society; Martha
Williams of Pensacola, Florida;
Charlotte Williams of Walnut Hill,



Atmore, as well as the support and encouragement of Rev. Willie Blue of the Historic Second St. Siloam Church.

This Addendum to the original Headstones and Heritage book is intended to reflect those burials having occurred after its 1974 publication to the present day, October 2014. The source material was gener-

ated from headstone interpretations and hands-on survey work of all known cemeteries within Escambia County

(Continued on page 2)

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Florida; Jeremy Ray of the City of

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The July Meeting Tuesday, July 28, 2015

The Program will be a performance of piano arrangements for six-hand piano, three people at one piano.

The meeting and program will be in the Woodfin Patterson Auditorium on the Jefferson Davis Community College Campus.

Refreshments after the program will be in the Green Room which is a room at the end of the hall on the left side of the auditorium.



Confederate Monument Selma

Volume 42, Number 6

June 2015

## **Addendum to Headstones and Heritage**

(Continued from page 1)

(Alabama).

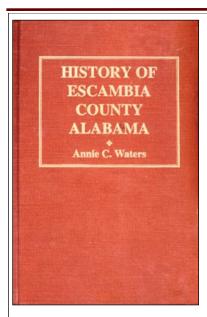
Newspaper obituaries, funeral home notifications, burial permits, church records, and the generous offerings of information from archives maintained by the cities of Atmore, Flomaton and Brewton were invaluable in developing a history that includes our

black friends and neighbors.

Price: Over-the-counter softbound book is \$20.00, or mailed for \$25.00. When combined with the original <u>Headstone and Heritage</u> book, the set is offered at the low price of \$40.00, or mailed for \$50.00.

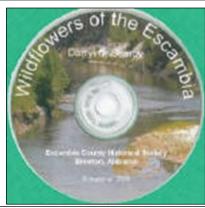
The book is also featured on our new website at: <a href="http://www.escohis.org/">http://www.escohis.org/</a> under the heading "Bookstore."

## **Books for Sale in the Alabama Room**



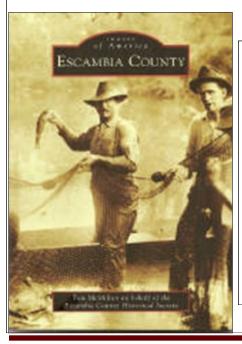
History of Escambia <u>County</u> By Annie C. Waters

Designated by the Escambia County Commission as the Official History of Escambia County. this delightful and informative narrative includes historic photos and area maps.



Wildflowers of the Escambia CD by Darryl Searcy - Range, Alabama

Darryl has over 3,000 photos and descriptions of flora and fauna from South Alabama and NW Florida - a superb example of the beauty of this area - you won't be disappointed (for use on computer only). \$10.00.



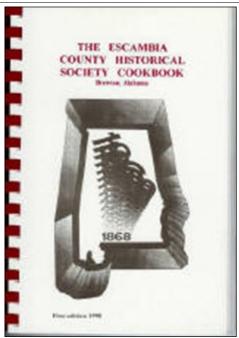
**Escambia County** By Tom McMillan

Softcover, 127 pages

A photo history book of Escambia County, Alabama, with great explanatory captions. You'll see photos never before published and marvel at the history that's taken place from one end of the county to the other! (2012) \$21.99 plus tax and shipping.

\$26.00 includes tax and shipping.

## Books for Sale in the Alabama Room (Continued)



Filled with mouth watering recipes, this cookbook offers a nice sampling of Deep South cuisine.

**Escambia County Historical Society Cookbook** 

Price: \$ 10.

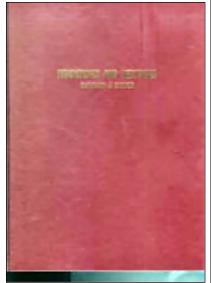


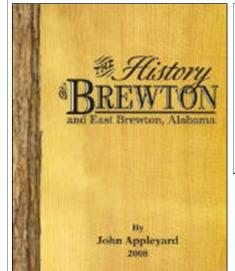
**Published by The** Alger-Sullivan Historical Society.

Historical pictures of people and places and historical accounts of Century, Flomaton and Jay and their respective surrounding areas.

(2009) Price: \$25 hardcover.







#### **History of Brewton and East** Brewton By John Appleyard

Appleyard's treatment of the cities' history covers the beginnings through about 1985.

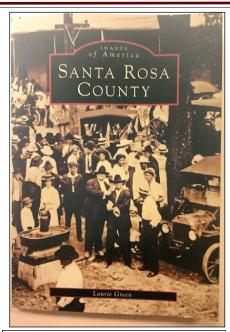
(2008) Price: \$35 softcover.

**Headstones and Heritages** By Reginald McFarland. Lennis Shelton, and Leslie Shelton

A must for a family researcher's library! Includes detailed listings for most Escambia county cemeteries with transcriptions of legible headstones. Price: \$20.

Of course, this book now has the update or Addendum which is also described in this newsletter.

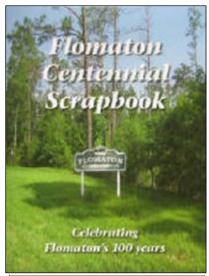
## Books for Sale in the Alabama Room (Continued)



## Santa Rosa County By Laurie Green \$20.00

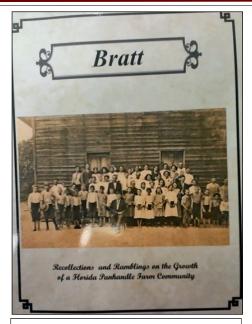
The author writes:
The history of Santa Rosa
County is closely associated
with wood and water. Harvesting of the huge virgin
pine trees that covered the
area attracted industry and
labor. Streams and rivers
powered the machinery
used to harvest the timber
and also provided the
means of transport.

The sawmills, shipyards, turpentine stills, and related Industries made Santa Rosa County the most industrialized county in Florida prior to the Civil War. After the war, the county rebuilt from the damage done not by raiding Yankee troops, but by retreating Confederates. The whine of the steam saw signaled the beginning of an era of great prosperity, an era that saw Milton build some of its most famous buildings and prominent businesses.



## Flomaton Centennial Scrapbook

By Jerry Simmons and Jerry Fischer Sponsored by the Town of Flomaton and the Flomaton Centennial Committee. This is a book commemorating Flomaton's 2008 Centennial Celebration. (2008) Price: \$25 hardcover



#### Bratt By Russell G. Brown

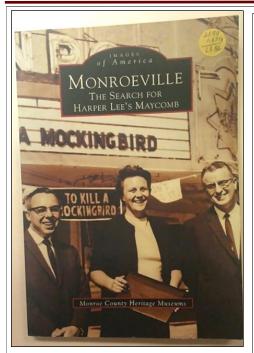
Bratt is one of the rural communities of North Escambia County, Florida.

The author writes of this book:

The text follows the history associated with this community in the first part of the twentieth century as the logging industry began to decline and the area became a magnet to Alabama farmers looking for a new start.

Shown through photos and stories from some of the local families, it will follow the development of this community during a time when the people of this region saw the introductions of the automobile, airplane, powered farm machinery, the telephone, electricity, refrigeration, and paved roads, as well as living in the difficult days of World War I, the Great Depression and World War II.

## Books for Sale in the Alabama Room (Continued)



#### Monroeville: The Search for Harper Lee's Maycomb \$20.00

For 39 years, people from all over the world and all walks of life have come to the small town of Monroeville, Alabama, in search of a place called Maycomb. They come in search of a story that has moved millions of people with its enduring message, and in search of the world of the storyteller.

This book explores the relationship between Harper Lee's hometown and the setting of her Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, <u>To Kill a Mockingbird</u>. Born in response to the curiosities of visitors to the Monroe County Heritage Museums, this book explores the parallels between the two worlds through vintage images and informative captions.

Included are photographs of the Lee family and the author in her early years; the sights of Monroeville that undoubtedly inspired the setting of Maycomb; the cast of the Oscar-winning film adaptation that premiered in 1963; and the Mockingbird Players, a group of Monroeville residents who, each year in May, present an authentic production of the two-act play adapted by Christopher Serge.

## ECHS Field Trip to Selma, Cahaba, and Perdue Hill

## Ready to Board the Bus







## First Stop, Selma, Live Oak Cemetery





**Confederate Soldiers' Monument** 



Examining Base of the Confederate Soldiers/ Monument which has Inscriptions of Deceased Soldiers' Names.



Bedford Forrest Monument
Part of the Inscription Reads:
"Defender of Selma
Wizard of the Saddle
Untutored Genius
The First with the Most."



The Spring House
This name came from the old practice
of having band concerts and Memorial
Day programs here each spring. This
building is also commonly referred to as
the "Pigeon House" because of the many
birds that roosted in its gables.

Second Stop Selma, Sturdivant Hall, Outstanding Example of a Greek Revival Mansion of the Antebellum Period. This stop included a catered lunch in White-Force Cottage next door to Surdivant Hall.

Sturdivant is a house museum which contains beautiful plaster work and period furniture. It also has a collection of prints of Native Americans copied from original portraits which were housed in an auxiliary to the Smithsonian in Washington D. C. When the building burned, the paintings were destroyed, but the book of prints remain.



**Sturdivant Hall** 



Outside Sturdivant Hall with One of Our Very Knowledgeable Guides.





White-Force Cottage was the home of Martha Todd White, a half-sister to Mary Todd Lincoln. Both Sturdivant Hall and this home were not damaged during the Civil War probably because of the connection to Mary Todd Lincoln.

The Picture to the Left as We Wait Outside Studivant Hall Gives You an Idea of the Size of the Massive Columns on the Front Portico.

Third Stop, The Joseph T. Smitherman Building. Shown below, it has served as a Confederate hospital, the Dallas County Courthouse, a Presbyterian high school for boys and again as a hospital until the city bought it in 1968. It currently houses the Vaughan-Smitherman Museum.

The four stories of the museum show Selma's history, hospital rooms and equipment of the nineteen and early twentieth centuries, pictures of dignitaries to visit Selma, military uniforms, munitions from Selma's foundries, which were destroyed at the end of the Civil War, and furniture from an early palatial movie theatre.

The Rural Southwest Alabama website describes the collection: "The museum houses an extensive collection of Civil War memorabilia and exhibits of medical and political artifacts. It displays beautiful Victorian antiques, nationally acclaimed art from local artists, antique documents, military memorabilia and uniforms, and medical equipment" (http://www.ruralswalabama.org/attractions/the-vaughan-smitherman-building-ca-1848/).



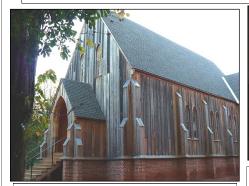
Vaughn/Smitherman Museum

# Picture of the Ruins of Selma's Foundry

The Foundry was destroyed by Union Troops actually after the Civil War had ended. Picture is part of the Vaugh/Smitherman Museum collection of historic and political photographs.



Fourth Stop, Cahaba, Alabama's First State Capital, County Seat of Dallas County, and the Fourth Wealthiest City in the United States at one time.



St. Luke's Exterior



One of the Guides/Caretakers at Cahaba Welcome Center.



Interior of St. Luke's

St. Luke's Episcopal Church illustrates the return to the Gothic style which reiterated in the structure of the church the rituals and traditions of the worship service in which the altar is central. This contrasted with the other Protestant American churches which had become part of the Evangelical movement and emphasized the sermon as primary and thus the pulpit as a focal point.



Thunderstorm as Seen Through **Doorway During** Our Visit to St. Luke's



Interior of St. Luke's

Drawing of the Original St. Luke.

At the Right: Posing for a Photograph with Our Guide to St. Luke's.



#### Fifth Stop, Perdue Hill

Perdue Hill has buildings and homes that were moved from the old settlement of Claiborne which is close to the Alabama River and was subject to flooding Claiborne was also an early Alabama Capital. The buildings which we were able to explore from the outside and glimpse into the inside through windows and doors are the Masonic Lodge/Courthouse, and two log cabins which are being restored.

ECHS member Mike Edwards gave us a narrative for these buildings relating that he had become involved with the Masonic Lodge by helping with the restoration of the shutters. He also reminded us that many of the skirmishes and battles of the Creek Indian War of 1813-1815 took place nearby.



Home of William Travis, Commander of the Alamo. Home was moved from Claiborne to Perdue Hill and is being restored. Home is dated c. 1820.



The Masonic Lodge



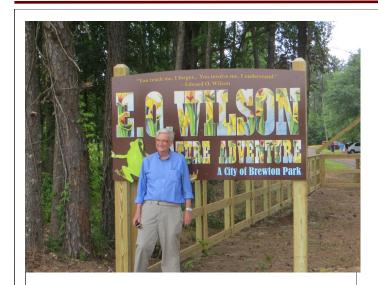


**Exploring Perdue Hill.** 



Peeking in the Windows of the Masonic Lodge to See the Courtroom. The Lodge occupied the top floor.

# **Dedication of E. O. Wilson Adventure Park**



Dr. E. O. Wilson in Front of the Sign for the Park Entrance.



E. O. Wilson and Ann Biggs-Williams



**E. O. Wilson and Darryl Searcy** 

## Dedication of E. O. Wilson Adventure Park (Continued)



Digging the First Shovels of Sand for the Building Projects



Dr. Wilson entertained the audience with stories of his boy scout days in Brewton and his adventures in the creeks and swamps. His love of reptiles was well known and his nickname was "Snake."

# **Dedication of E. O. Wilson Adventure Park** (Continued)



**Taking Pictures On and Off the Platform** 



Alan Baker and Dr. Wilson Having a Lively Conversation

# Dedication of E. O. Wilson Adventure Park (Continued)



Fascinated by Auburn University's Raptor Display.



Bob and Dana Murphy of Magnolia Springs Bob and E. O. Wilson were in school together in Brewton.

Dana is the Sister of Jan Redditt who was JDCC's first Librarian and one of the Founders of ECHS.

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# ECHOES THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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E-mail: escambiacohistoricalsociety@gmail.com\_

We're on the web! www.escohis.org

# FIRST CLASS MAIL DATED MATERIAL

# Address correction requested

**Books for Sale** Mailed Regular \$25.00 **Headstones and Heritage** \$20.00 \$15.00 **Escambia Historical Society Cookbook** \$10.00 Wildflowers of The Escambia CD \$15.00 \$10.50 History of Brewton and E. Brewton (sc) \$35.00 \$40.00 Flomaton Centennial Scrapbook \$30.00 \$25.00 Addendum to Headstones and Heritage \$20.00 \$25.00 **Headstones & Addendum Together** \$40.00 \$50.00

Clip the following form and send to ECHS Treasurer, P.O. Box 276, Brewton, AL 36427

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Donation	family members at same address; Lifetime, \$250.00/person \$50.00/year business)
You will help with	ECHOES, The newsletter for the Escambia County Historical Society, a 501 (c) (3) corporation, is published monthly except November. Comments are welcome. You may email the Society at escohis@escohis.org or call 251-809-1528.  OFFICERS  President, Sally Finlay  Ann Biggs-Williams
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