

Mr. H.K. Herring was one of the early merchants to arrive in the new town of Malone. He was born in 1867, died in 1953 and is buried in Friendship Cemetery. In 1915 an out of control fire destroyed several businesses including The H.K. Herring Mercantile. In his manuscript he barely mentioned the fire and said nothing of a personal loss. However his business was destroyed but a year later he had secured another location and was having a grand opening as reflected in the photo below. Mr. Herring is spoken of frequently in the context of his hand written Malone History Manuscript. Unfortunately it was not dated, however given the year of his death perhaps circa 1950 would be a proper assumption.



H.K. Herring Mercantile (Grand opening 1916)

This was transcribed verbatim from a hand written document by H.K. Herring. Mr. Herring was born in 1867 and lived until 1953. He was also one of the business pioneers to relocate and make a contribution to witness a logging camp become a town:

During the year of 1910 George Malone, a prominent Dothan Banker, saw one of his fondest dreams come true. A new town in Fla. which was to be named Malone. He had the details all worked out before hand. He sent his son John Malone down here to be in charge. They had an organization called Malone Land Co. who bought and sold land, mostly sold lots. Among the first land they bought were parcels from Jack Whellus and Dunk Willoughby.

Sid Wilson and E.L. Marbury owned approximately 40,000 acres of timber land in this area and intended to build a railroad to haul timber to their saw mill near Dothan. But the town organizers paid Marbury and Wilson ^{\$}4,000 to move the saw mill to the new town Malone, Fla. and haul the lumber to Dothan instead. The town land was surveyed, laid out in blocks and lots. Streets and roads were established. According to Mr. Ormand the town of Malone was planned, surveyed and permanently established more precisely than any other town in Jackson County.

John Malone had a small wood bank building, built and opened a bank with Billy Knapp as cashier. The present bank building was built later and has been re-modeled a number of times. When a giant bank in Pensacola got in distress John Malone was sent to Pensacola to buy and operate that bank. He spent the rest of his life there. Billy and Harry Knapp often stopped by to see him in Pensacola.

Some of the former owners of the bank of Malone include: John Malone, E.L. Marbury, Joe Davis, John Garrett, W.W. Beall, Euell Hughes and Will Johnson. When Marbury and Wilson finished sawing the timber Mr. Wilson moved back to Dothan. Mr. Marbury became interested in growing and handling peanuts. He employed Mr. W.W. Beall to come to Malone and promote peanuts. They bought peanuts and stored them in the old lumber

sheds where the sawmill used to be. After Mr. Beall got peanuts going good here Mr. Marbury went back to Dothan as owner and operator of Dothan Oil Mills. Later Mr. Marbury died and Mr. W.W. Beall became sole owner of the peanut business. Both Mr. Marbury and Mr. Beall were very public spirited. Mr. Marbury built the First Methodist Church of Malone and paid the Minister. Mr. W.W. Beall was a devout Baptist and heavily supported its needs. Mr. Beall was also very much concerned about education and the youth of the area. He was responsible for the first brick school building (built in 1920), the first Gymnasium, secured for the school a Home Economics Department, Teachers Training Dept. and an Agricultural Dept. before other schools in the County ever knew there was such a thing. Roy and Walter Hubert went all out for athletics, helping the team win championships, a tradition they still hold to. Mr. Roy coached and taught many years.

The first high school faculty was 1922-1923

Mr. Rutledge	Principal
Mr. Halliburton	Ag Teacher & Coach
Corrin Jones	
Myrtle Bevis	

The first graduating class was 1922-23

Johnnie Daniels
Winnie Mickler
Evelyn Chambliss
Vera Williams
Victor Bevis

Several Doctors soon came to Malone. Among them were Doug Whitfield, Elie Bell, Blogum Bell, Patterson, Whisnant, Daniels, Kennady and Dr. Thomas a Dentist.

A number of brick stores were built along the block where later Malone Trading Co. was, several were two stories. I think they were all destroyed by fire, after a few years.

Among the other original Buildings were:

The Depot

The Hotel

Vera Welch house, (originally 1 story)

Some of the early merchants were:

Malone Building Supply (John Malone relatives)

Hugh Baxter

Mr. Bozas

W.E. Long

Miss Faulk

Jack Adams

Johnson Mer. Co.

W.W. Beall

J.C. Langston Drugs

Roy Beall

Arthur Kingry

Ewell Hughes

L.L. Grunt Co.

Hegler & Snipes

Mr. Pines

L.L. Watford

H.K. Herring

Louie Dekle

Bigbee Telephone

Ed Rogers

Some of the family names heard were:

Charlie Williams, McAnulth, Anderson, Arnold, Jack Robinson, Baxter, Jordan, Tom Tolker, Roch Lockhard, Peeler, Phil Coulette, Herring, Whisnant, Tidwell, Joe Davis, Homer Flowers, Green, Mr. Gammons, Garrett, Fuller, Ducker, Sims, Johnson, Hughes, Ward, Pilcher, King, Matthews, Mathis, Stinson, Standland, McKnight, Pridgett, Hogan, Bigbee, Hart, Chambliss, Katchum