

## **BALDWIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY - NOTICE OF MEETING**

The next meeting of the Baldwin County Historical Society will be a cooperative effort of the Baldwin County Historical Society and the Fairhope Public Library.

Date: Sunday, May 18, 2008

Time: 2:30 PM

Location: Fairhope Public Library, Giddens Conference Center at 501 Fairhope Avenue in Fairhope

Program: Clay City Tile: Frank Brown and the Company that Built Fairhope

Presenter: Alan L. Samry

Alan is a member of the Baldwin County Historical Society, a student at the University of South Alabama and a part-time Reference & Circulation Clerk at the Fairhope Public Library. He received his A.A. in Liberal Studies from Cape Cod Community College in Massachusetts in 1990 and is currently pursuing a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies at The University of South Alabama. He has completed research papers on the historical and architectural significance of the Montgomery Hill Baptist Church in Tensaw, Alabama and the Bayside Academy Building, originally the Howard Hotel, in Daphne.

Alan will present the results of his extensive field work and research on Clay City tile, a building block manufactured locally at Clay City along the Fish River. As the title of the program implies, these tile blocks were and still are a major component of most of the early buildings in Fairhope. They are also found in residences, commercial buildings and farm buildings throughout Baldwin County.

We look forward to hearing Alan's presentation and viewing the numerous photographs he has collected showing the use of Clay City tiles.

May 6, 2008

# **Fairhope History Lecture Series**

**Fairhope Single Tax Corporation**

**2016**

**Please return to Savan Wilson, 120 Oak Bend Court, Fairhope, AL 36532 or [savanw@gmail.com](mailto:savanw@gmail.com) as soon as possible. The Lecture Series is from 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. and should leave time for questions.**

**Presenter: Alan Samry**

**Address: 20670 Northwood St., Fairhope, Alabama**

**Telephone: 251-233-3648**

**Email: [alansamry@gmail.com](mailto:alansamry@gmail.com)**

**Topic Title:**

**Clay City Tile: An Architectural History of Fairhope**

**Brief Topic Synopsis to be used in publicity:**

**Have you seen it? It's a construction block. It's orange-red color is unmistakable. For nearly a century this building block, and other clay-fired products, were used in the construction of many buildings, sometimes visible, but often hidden behind stucco. Businesses, homes, farms, and outbuildings were all built with this locally-made product.**

**Fairhope Founder Frank Brown's influence can be seen today in the buildings and structures in Fairhope and throughout Baldwin County. Shortly after 1900, Brown began manufacturing all types of clay products. The company really took off when he built a large plant on the Fish River and began mass-producing structural clay tile, a product locals call, "Clay City Tile."**

**Photographs, illustrations, and documents will show the manufacturing process, and how Clay City products were used, and how the local architecture and building trades were influenced by national trends. For nearly a century, Fairhope was built with products from one locally owned and operated company. From drainage to roof tiles and everything in between, Clay City's products are what make Fairhope's architectural history so compelling.**

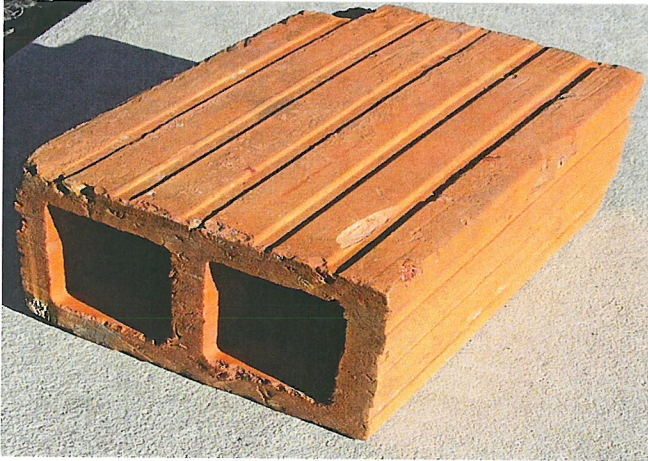
**Date of Presentation:**

**Equipment Needs: PowerPoint, Video, Other:**

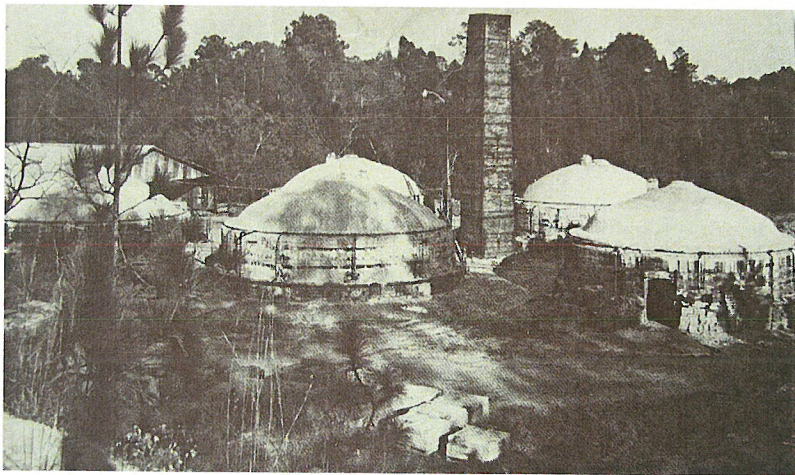
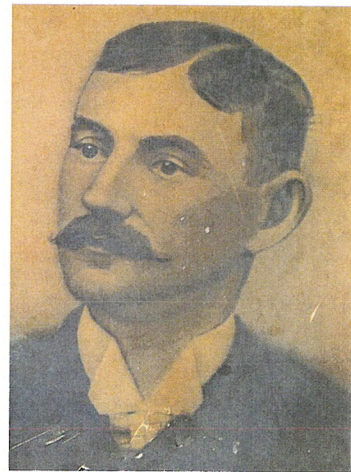


The Baldwin County Historical Society and the  
Fairhope Public Library Present

## Clay City Tile:



Frank Brown  
and the  
Company that  
Built Fairhope



Presenter: Alan L. Samry  
Date: Sunday May 18, 2008  
Time: 2:30 PM  
Location: Fairhope Public Library  
501 Fairhope Avenue

The program is a result of Mr. Samry's field work and undergraduate research paper on locally manufactured structural clay tile. Mr. Samry is currently pursuing his B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of South Alabama.



# USA student researcher looks for answers

## Public input sought on Clay City tile structures

By Curt Chapman

Staff Writer

cchapman@gulfcoastnewspapers.com

One might say University of South Alabama junior Alan Samry is out from behind the news desk and getting his hands dirty these days. The former Fairhope Courier reporter is now manning the research desk at the city's new library on a part-time basis, while spending a great deal of time immersed in his studies.



Alan Samry

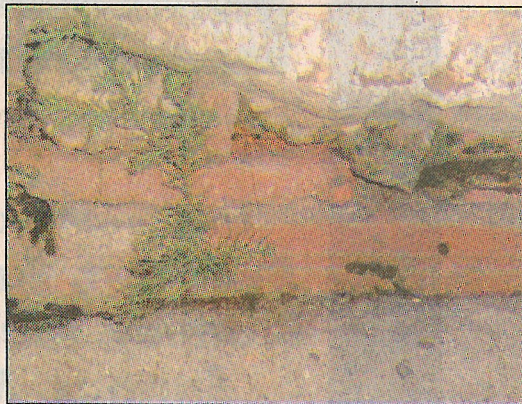
Samry is focusing on history, English, communication and art history through the USA Adult Interdisciplinary Studies program. His latest endeavor, a directed studies research project, involves digging up the architectural past.

Clay Products and the tile the company once produced from material dug from the banks of Fish River are the subjects of the project, which is directed by Dr. Philippe Oszuscik, a USA associate professor of art history. Samry hopes to learn more about the company, the family that operated it and the structures built using the tile fired in its kilns.

"It's a pretty broad topic," Samry acknowledged last week during an interview. "The starting point was my fascination with the tile. I was seeing it everywhere. When I thought about the topic, I started hunting it more seriously."

Clay City tile is shaped more like cinderblock than brick, and is a terra cotta or reddish-brown color, according to Samry. He plans to compile an inventory of all

SEE TILE, PAGE 17A



Curt Chapman/staff photos

What is believed to be Clay City tile is revealed underneath the stucco on this Fairhope Avenue building. Alan Samry, a junior at the University of South Alabama, is conducting research on the material and the family that made it.

Fairhope Courier 9/12/07 VF Clay City



# TILE

Continued from Page 1A

structures in Clay City and Fairhope that were built using the material, as well as a few still standing in Daphne, Belforest, Loxley and Silverhill.

Samry is quick to point out that Clay City tile buildings range from farm structures to many types of folk houses. He said, "I'm interested in how a building looks, but I'm also interested in how they're made."

He also noted that many Clay City tile residential and commercial buildings were finished in stucco, so he may have a difficult job ahead of him.

"There's never really been any study about it," Samry said. "It's so closely related to Fairhope and Baldwin County though because of the clay source out there by the river."

Clay Products Co. was formed in 1917 with Frank Brown as its president, according to an incorporation document Samry found while working for the Baldwin County Department of Archives and History. He said, "I want to pay attention to not only the structures themselves, but also the history of the families — the Brown and Jennings families."

Samry recently spoke with Ralph Brown Jennings, a descendent of Brown. They will soon walk the old Clay City tile manufacturing site and talk about the process of mining the clay and firing the product.

The old company records were lost in a fire, however. Samry said, "The fire wiped out what would have been a great look into the past about the company. It makes my job more of a challenge."

That's why Samry is asking anyone who owns or occupies a clay tile structure to contact him. He'd also like to hear from anyone with knowledge about such buildings.

"I need the community's help," he said. "I need folks who know the history, or some of the history of these buildings and will share that with me because I think it's important to document it."

The old Magnet Theatre

on the corner of Fairhope Avenue and Church Street (built in 1924) is an example of a building of Clay City tile construction. The structure now houses Papa's Pizza and other businesses.

Other such buildings include the Lebanon Chapel AME Church on Young Street (built in 1923), the old Fairhope City Hall on North Section Street (built in 1927) and Gulf ArtSpace on Young Street (the old Masonic Hall built in the 1940s).

"Architectural historians will talk about material culture because they tell you about who people were or who people are in a community," Samry said. "They used what was in nature for their buildings. When it's done right, and you learn more about the buildings, you learn more about the people. I think that's important."

Samry began work on his research project well before the current USA academic semester began. He must finish it in December. He said he will interview local historians and photograph each building as he adds them to his list.



Photo courtesy of the Fairhope Single Tax Corp.

The old Fairhope City Hall, shown here circa 1928, was built using Clay City tile. USA junior Alan Samry is compiling an inventory of all such structures in Fairhope and Clay City, as well as significant clay tile buildings in Daphne, Loxley, Belforest and Silverhill.

"If someone sees me out taking photographs, they should come out and share their history of the building," he said. "I'll be out on the weekends taking photographs. If they want to be sure their building is in the inventory, they can give me a ring."

Samry added, "My goal is

to take photographs of Clay City tile I can identify. If it is stucco with Clay City tile underneath, I have no way of knowing. That's why I need people's help."

To help Alan Samry learn more about Clay city tile structures, as well as add more to the list, call him at (251) 233-0248.



## Historical Society to hear talk on Clay City tile

Submitted

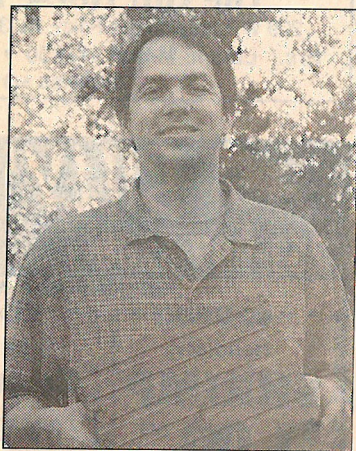
The next meeting of the Baldwin County Historical Society will be a cooperative effort of the Baldwin County Historical Society and the Fairhope Public Library.

The meeting will be held Sunday, May 18, 2:30 p.m., in the Giddens Conference Center of the Fairhope Public Library.

Alan L. Samry will present a program titled "Clay City Tile: Frank Brown and the Company that Built Fairhope."

Samry will present the results of his extensive field work and research on Clay City tile, a building block manufactured locally at Clay City along the Fish River. These tile blocks were and still are a major component of most of the early buildings in Fairhope. They are also found in residences, commercial buildings and farm buildings throughout Baldwin County.

Samry is a member of the Baldwin County Historical Society, a student at the University of South Alabama and a part-time reference and circulation clerk at the Fairhope Public Library. In 1990, he received an associate's degree in lib-



Alan L. Samry holds a sample of Clay City tile, a topic he will address at the upcoming Baldwin County Historical Society meeting.

eral studies from Cape Cod Community College in Massachusetts and is currently pursuing a bachelor of arts in interdisciplinary studies degree at the University of South Alabama. He has completed research papers on the historical and architectural significance of the Montgomery Hill Baptist Church in Tensaw, Ala. and the Bayside Academy Building, originally the Howard Hotel, in Daphne.



## Marietta Johnson School pre

Submitted by Leslie Mulcahy

The Marietta Johnson School announces the opening of its new Learning Center for home-schooled high school students.

The program offers a safe location where high school students can gather together for tutorial services, socialization and mentoring. Teens may participate in a variety of art programs including: drawing and painting, ceramics, sculpture, photography, folk dancing, violin, guitar and piano lessons.

"We're hoping to fill a real need in our community," says school director Leslie

Mulcahy, "teenagers need an option to dropping out of school and working parents can't always provide all the support necessary for home schooling in the upper grades."

Program staff will assist parents in obtaining a church school home school cover and creating a course of study that meets the student's unique learning needs. High school level textbooks, reference materials and a computer lab with wireless Internet access and individual work spaces will be provided. Tutors will be available Monday through Thursday

for math, science, history, English and foreign languages.

Participants will find that the entire community is a classroom and are encouraged to explore internships and job experiences. Learning Center staff can assist teens in developing the skills necessary to obtain and keep a job or start a career. A list of interested local businesses willing to work cooperatively with home-schooled teens will be available.

For additional information about this program, please call 928-9347 or visit the high school page on the school Web

## Samry to present Clay City tile talk at Daphne Public Library

By Jessica Jones

Staff Writer

[jjrjones@gulfcoastnewspapers.com](mailto:jjrjones@gulfcoastnewspapers.com)

**DAPHNE** — Alan Samry, a University of South Alabama student and part-time reference and circulation clerk at the Fairhope Public Library, will present findings on the history of Clay City tile from his book titled, *Clay City Tile: Frank Brown and the Company That Built Fairhope*, to be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday at the Daphne

Public Library.

He has researched the subject — a building block manufactured locally at Clay City along Fish River — for more than a year.

"I became interested because I saw it in old farm buildings and just wanted to learn more about it," he said.

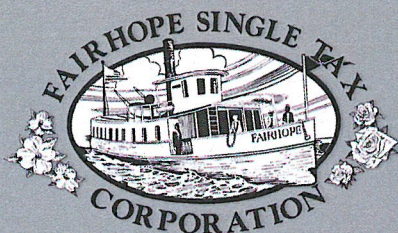
"What amazed me was the diversity of buildings; from giant warehouses, to downtown Fairhope buildings, to bungalows.

"They are constructed of the tile and most of the time it can't be seen simply by looking at the building because it's covered in stucco or brick."

Jubilee Mornings is a monthly presentation by an author at the Daphne Public Library. Friends of the Daphne Public Library will provide refreshments.

The library is located at U.S. Highway 98 and Whispering Pines Road. For more, call 621-2818.





# 2016 LECTURE SERIES ON FAIRHOPE'S HISTORY

**IN THE GIDDENS AUDITORIUM AT THE FAIRHOPE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
EVERY 1ST TUESDAY, JANUARY THROUGH MAY, 6:00PM - 7:00PM**

Please join us for this free lecture series on the unique history of Fairhope which began when our founders sought to "establish a model community with equality of opportunity, rewards of individual efforts, and the benefits of cooperation in matters of general concern."

This utopian heritage is what makes our city such a special place to live and work.



**JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup>**

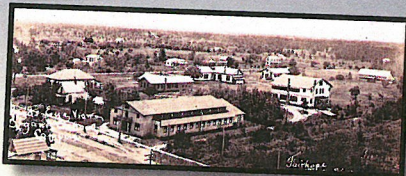
**STEWART THE PICTURE MAN: FAIRHOPE HISTORY  
PRESERVED IN PHOTOGRAPHS**

Speaker: Donnie Barrett, Director, Fairhope Museum of History

**FEBRUARY 2<sup>ND</sup>**

**FAIRHOPE: A HUNDRED YEARS AGO**

Speaker: Mary Lois Timbes Adshead, Author



**MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>**

**EARLY FAIRHOPE FAMILY: STORIES & PHOTOGRAPHS**

Speaker: Pinky Bass

**APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup>**

**THE HISTORY OF GEORGIST ECONOMIC SYSTEMS  
AROUND THE WORLD**

Speaker: Dean Mosher, Artist, Historian, Author



**MAY 3<sup>RD</sup>**

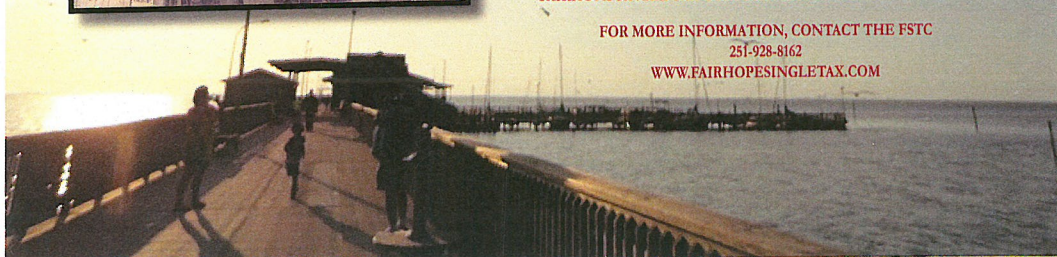
**CLAY CITY TILE: AN ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF  
FAIRHOPE**

Speaker: Alan Samry, Reference Librarian, Fairhope Public Library

SPONSORED BY THE  
FAIRHOPE SINGLE TAX CORPORATION EDUCATION COMMITTEE

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE FSTC  
251-928-8162

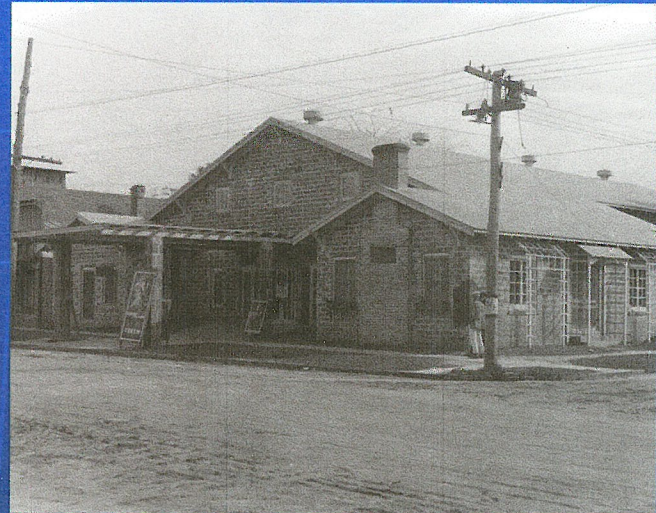
[WWW.FAIRHOPESINGLETAX.COM](http://WWW.FAIRHOPESINGLETAX.COM)







# Clay City Tile: Frank Loton Brown and the Company that Built Fairhope



With Alan Samry

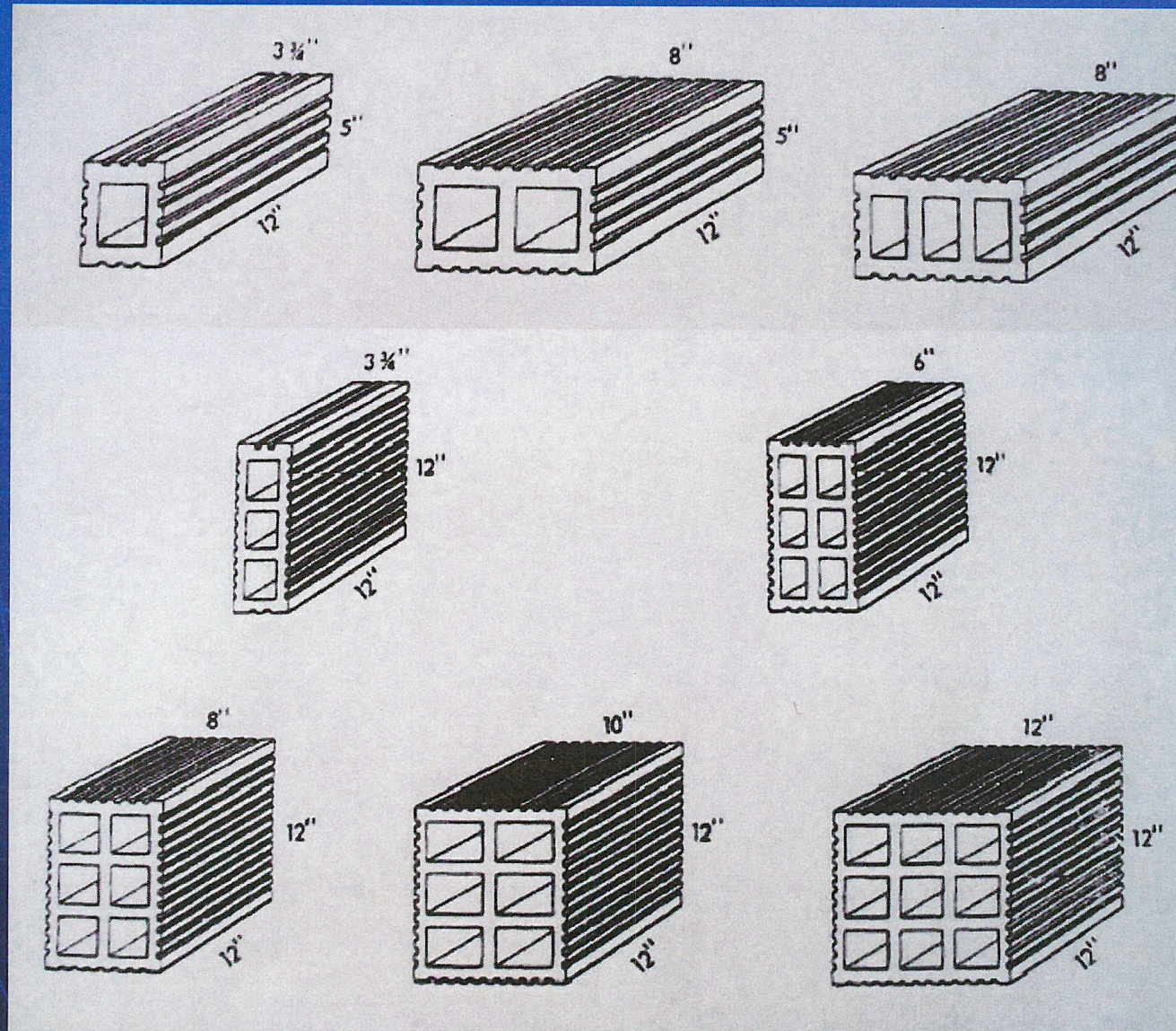


# Clay City Tile

- Brief History of Structural Clay Tile in the United States
- Making SCT at Clay City
- Local Building Construction
- Significant SCT buildings in Fairhope from 1910-1960

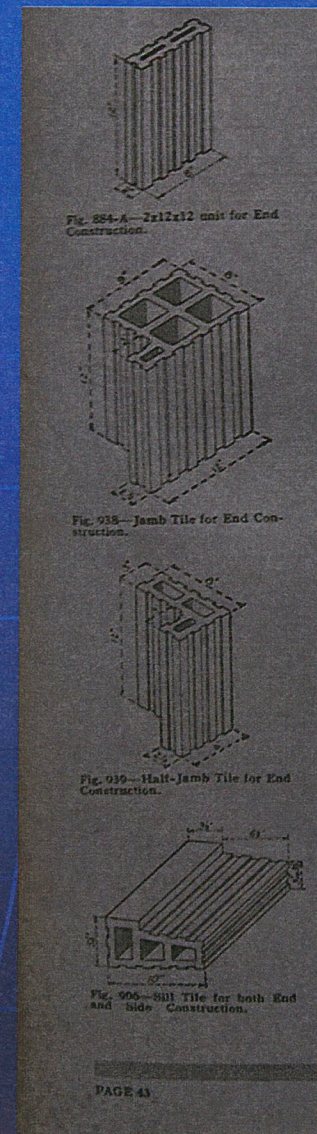
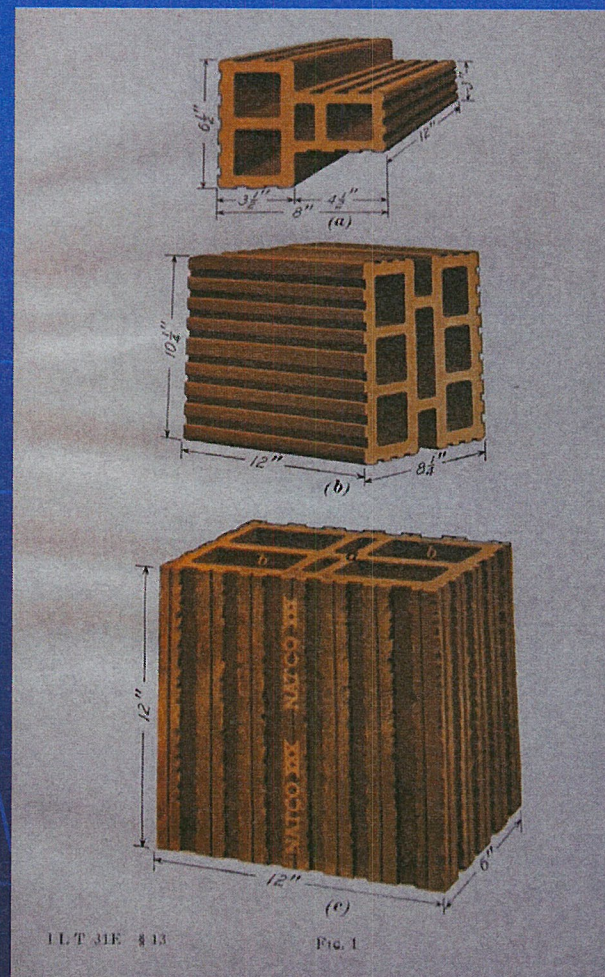
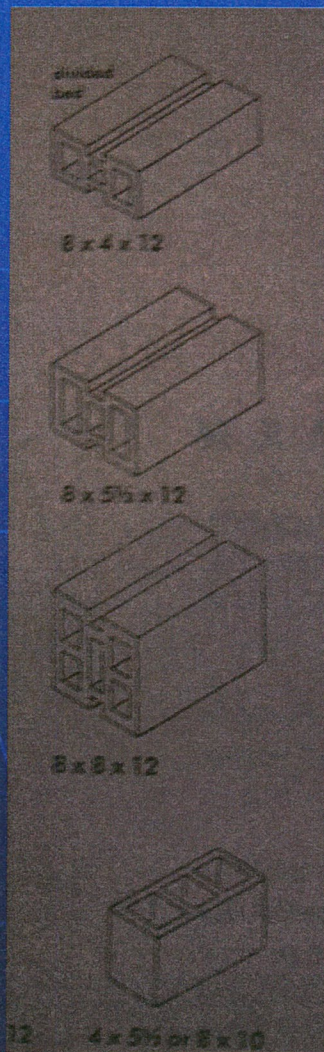


# Early Structural Clay Tile





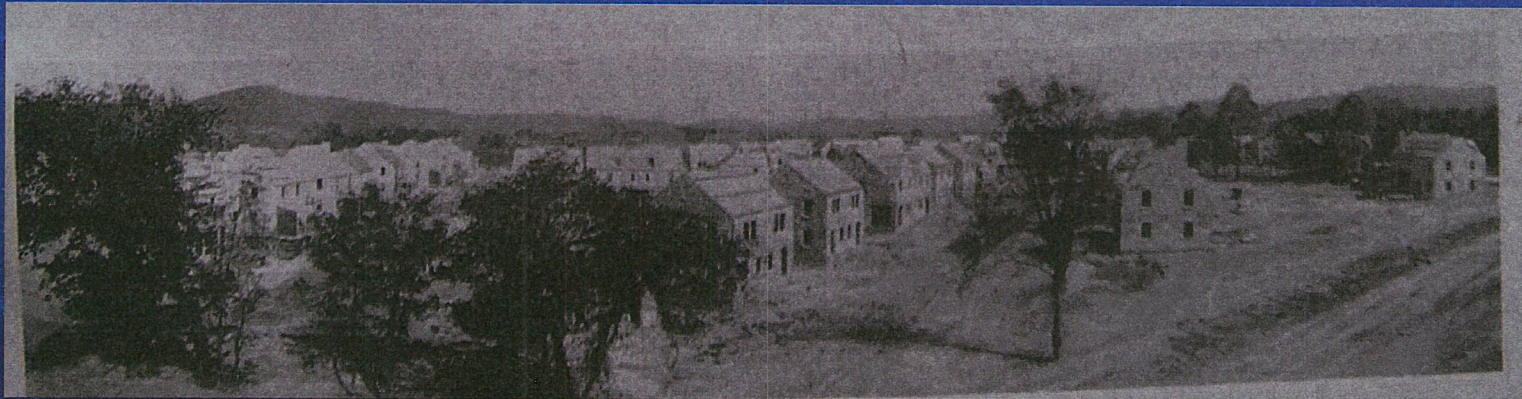
# Early 1900s Modular SCT







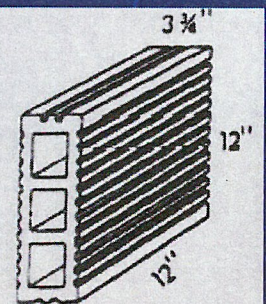
*Hollow Tile for the  
Home, 1920*





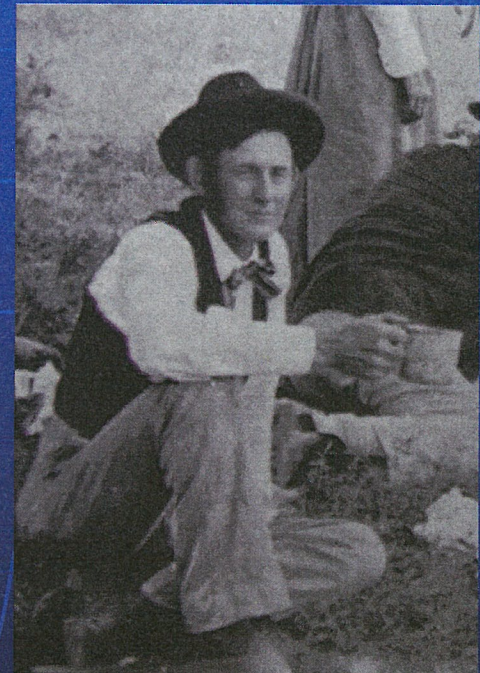
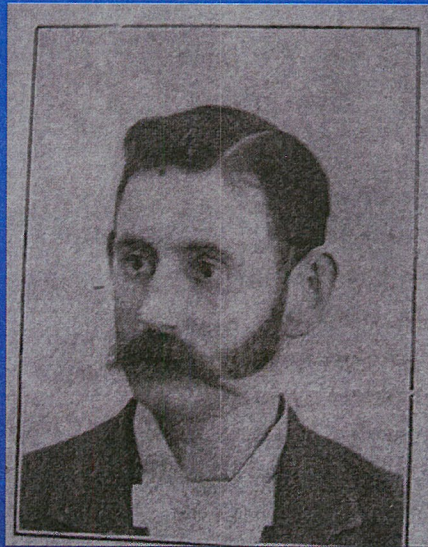


Chrysler Building, NYC,  
Completed 1930





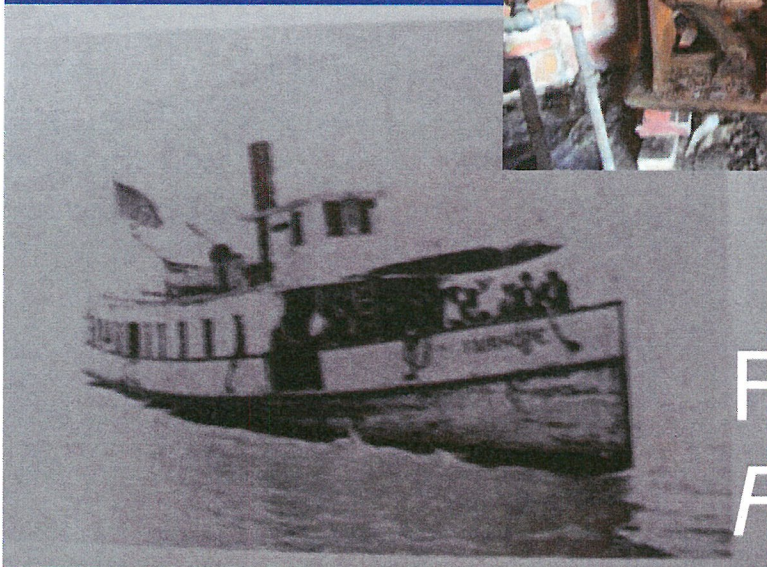
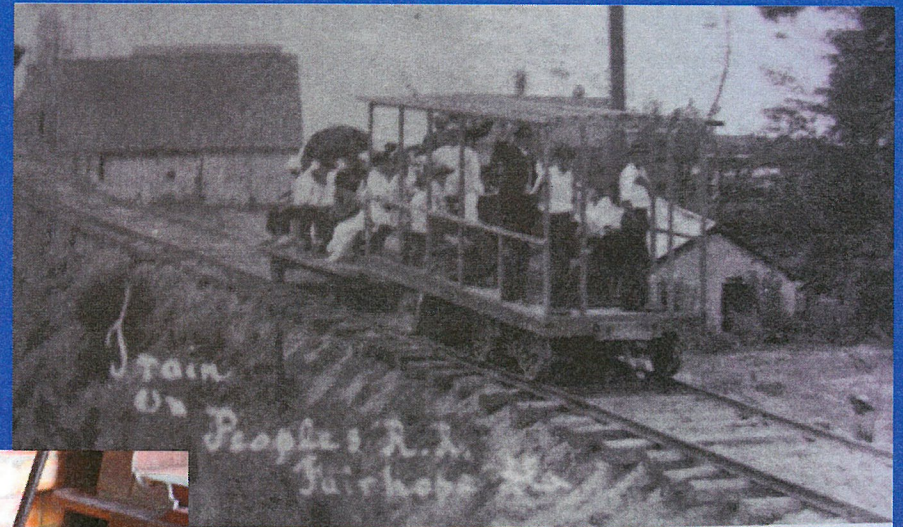
# Brown's, Anderson's, and Jennings'



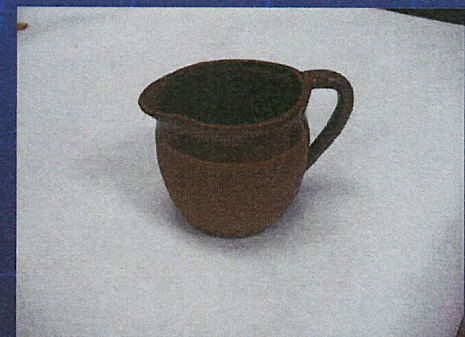
“Fantastic” Frank Loton Brown  
(1861-1940)



# First People's Railroad Car

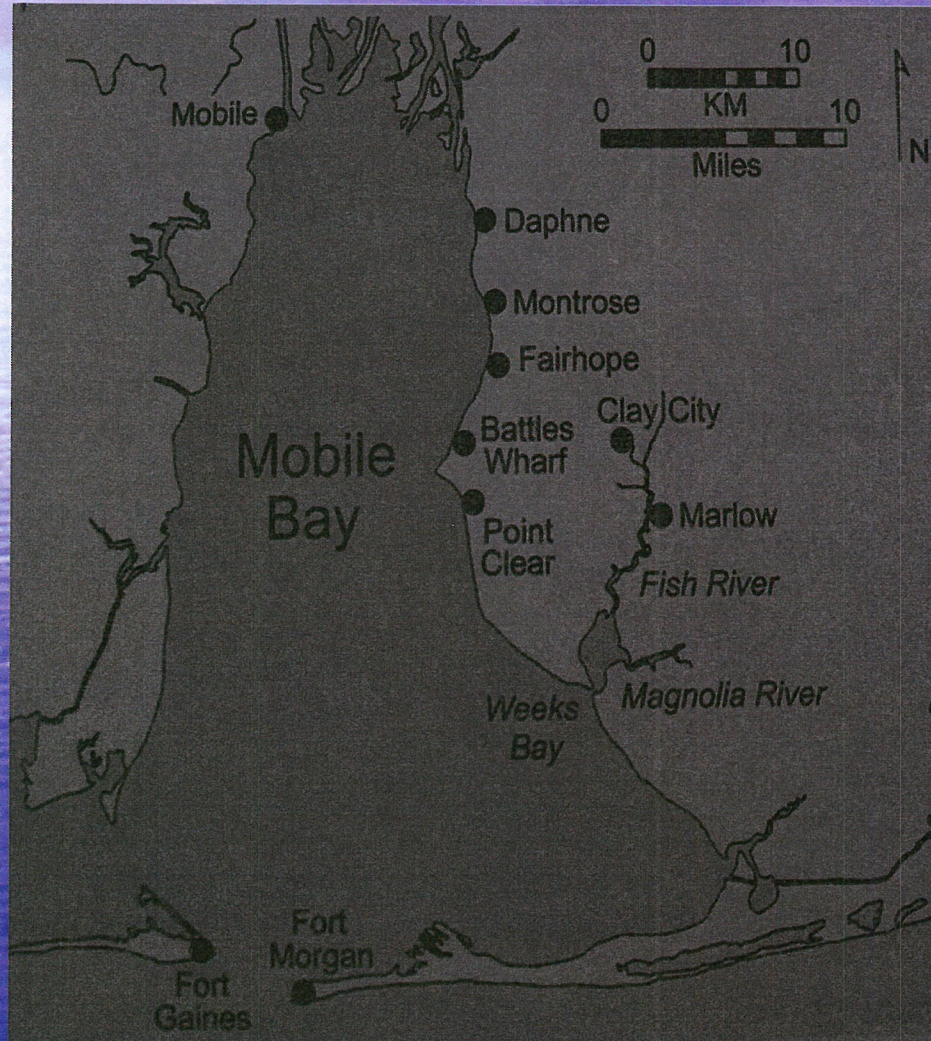


First Steamer  
*Fairhope*





# "Clay City"



Map of southwestern  
Baldwin County  
(Made of Alabama Clay by Bonnie  
Gums)



# Clay Products Company



Kiln Lighting Ceremony at Clay City, 1916



DOMESTIC CORPORATION

TO THE JUDGE OF PROBATE,

*Baldwin*

COUNTY, STATE OF ALABAMA:

The *Clay Products Co.* a corporation organized under the laws of Alabama, files the following statement under Act approved September 14, 1915:

That the name of the corporation is *Clay Products Co.*  
that it was incorporated under the laws of Alabama  
that its principal place of business is *works Clay City office Taulohope*  
that the name of its authorized agent thereat is *F. L. Brown Pres*  
whose postoffice address is *Taulohope Ala*  
that the amount of the total authorized capital is \$ *100,000*  
that the amount of the actual paid up capital stock is \$ *53,000*

The foregoing statement is rendered by the *Brown* and *Deay* of said corporation and signed by them respectively under oath, with the corporate seal attached.

*F. L. Brown Pres*  
*W. B. Martin Secy*

Sworn to and subscribed before me this *5th* day of *February* 191*7*  
as witness my seal of office.

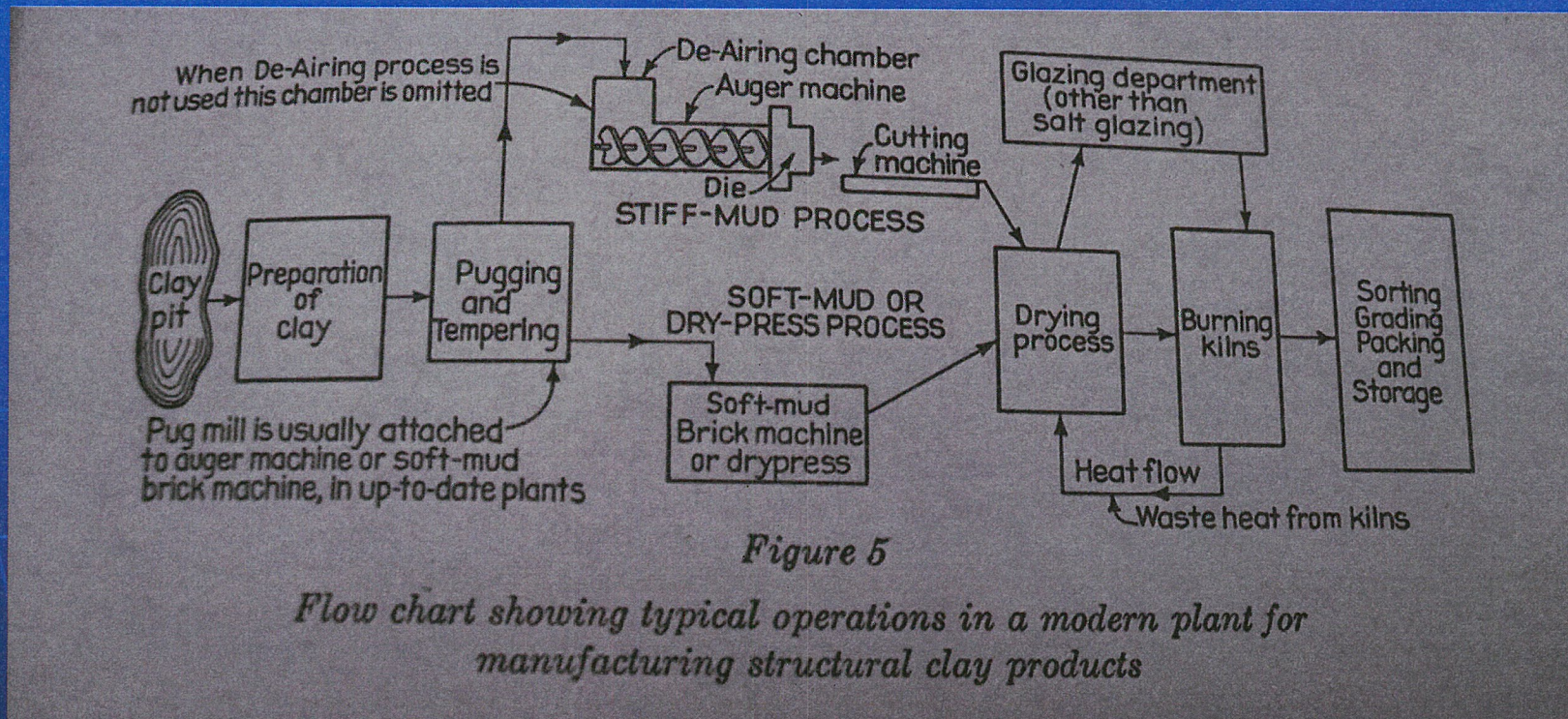
*F. B. Martin*

EADEN PRINTING CO. MOBILE

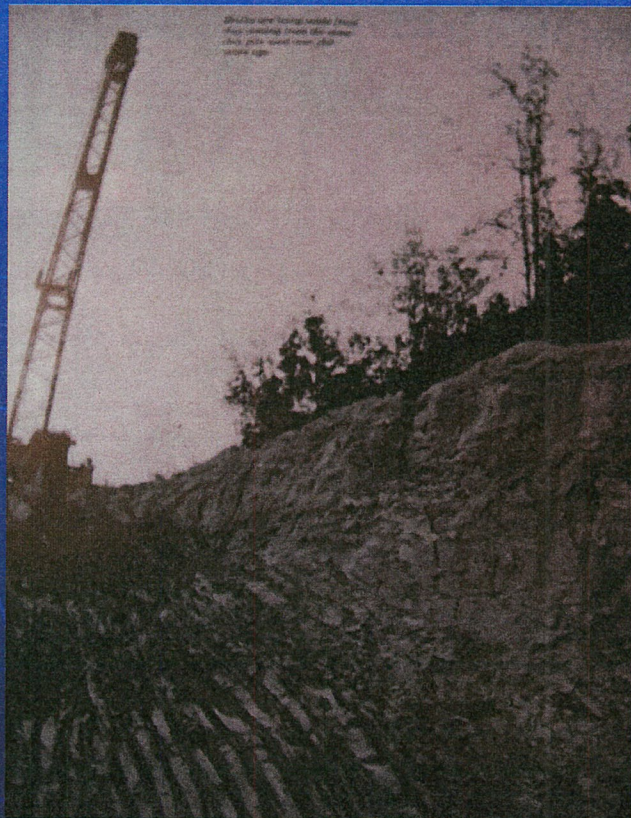
Clay Products Co.  
Corporation  
papers filed with  
Baldwin County  
February 5, 1917



# Making Structural Clay Tile at Clay City







Clay Pits beside the Fish River

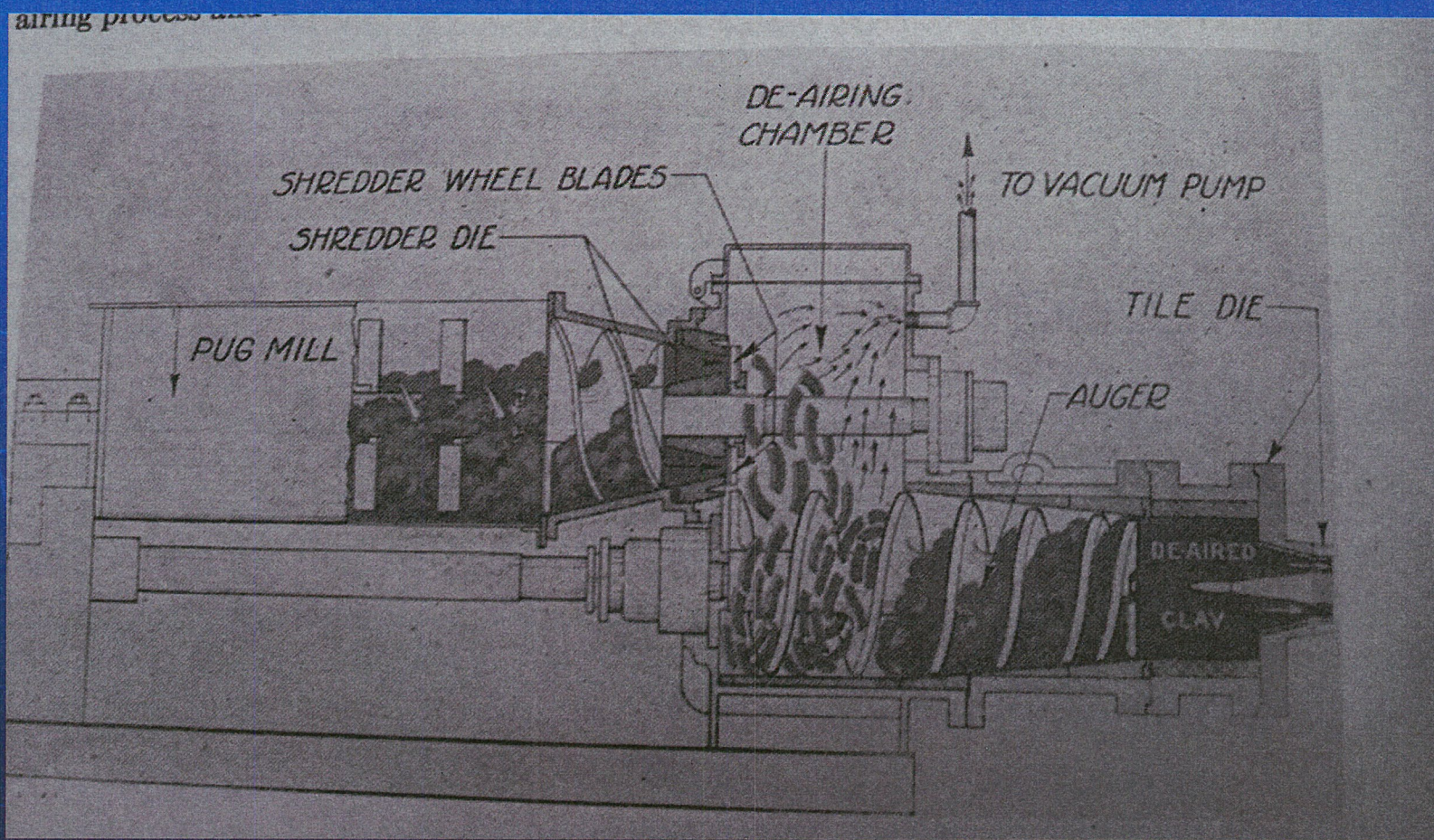


# Clay Tile Production



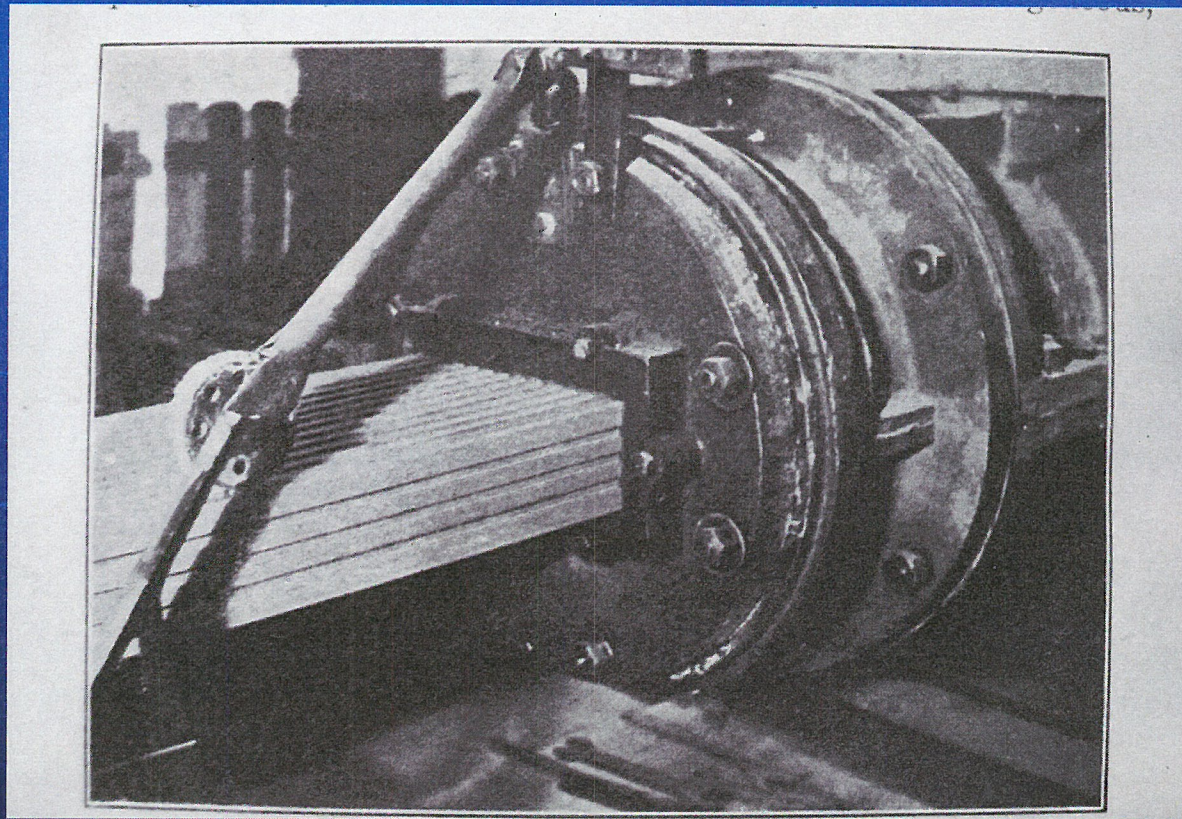


# Heart of Brick and Tile Making





# Column of Clay leaving the die of an Auger Machine



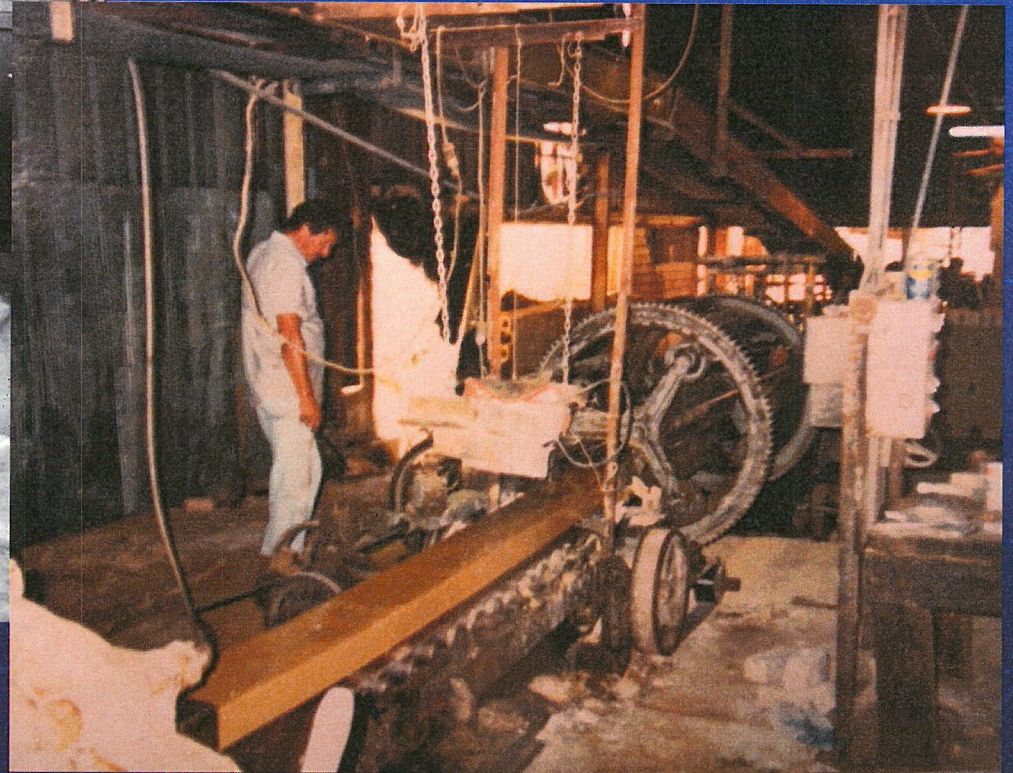
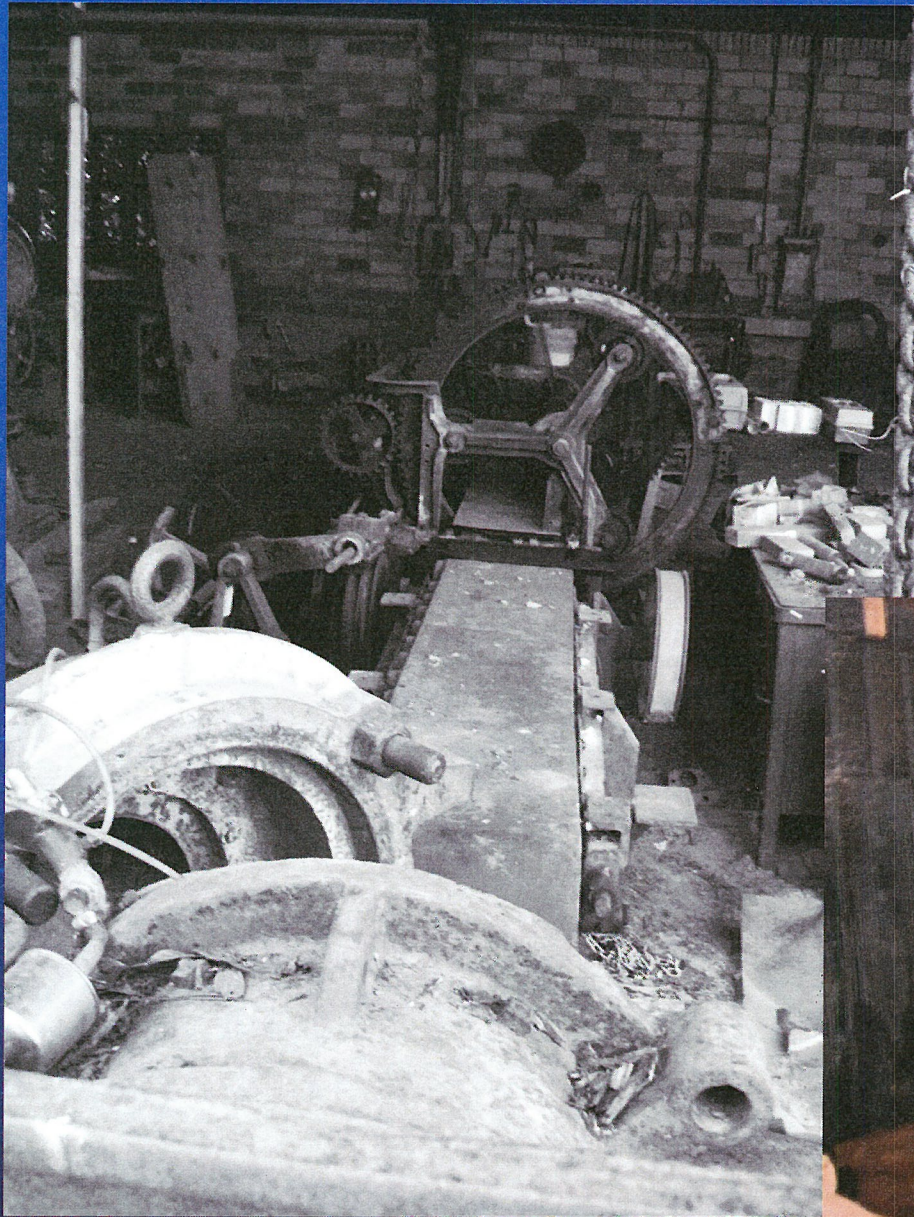


# Ralph Jennings Guiding Column, 1995-1996



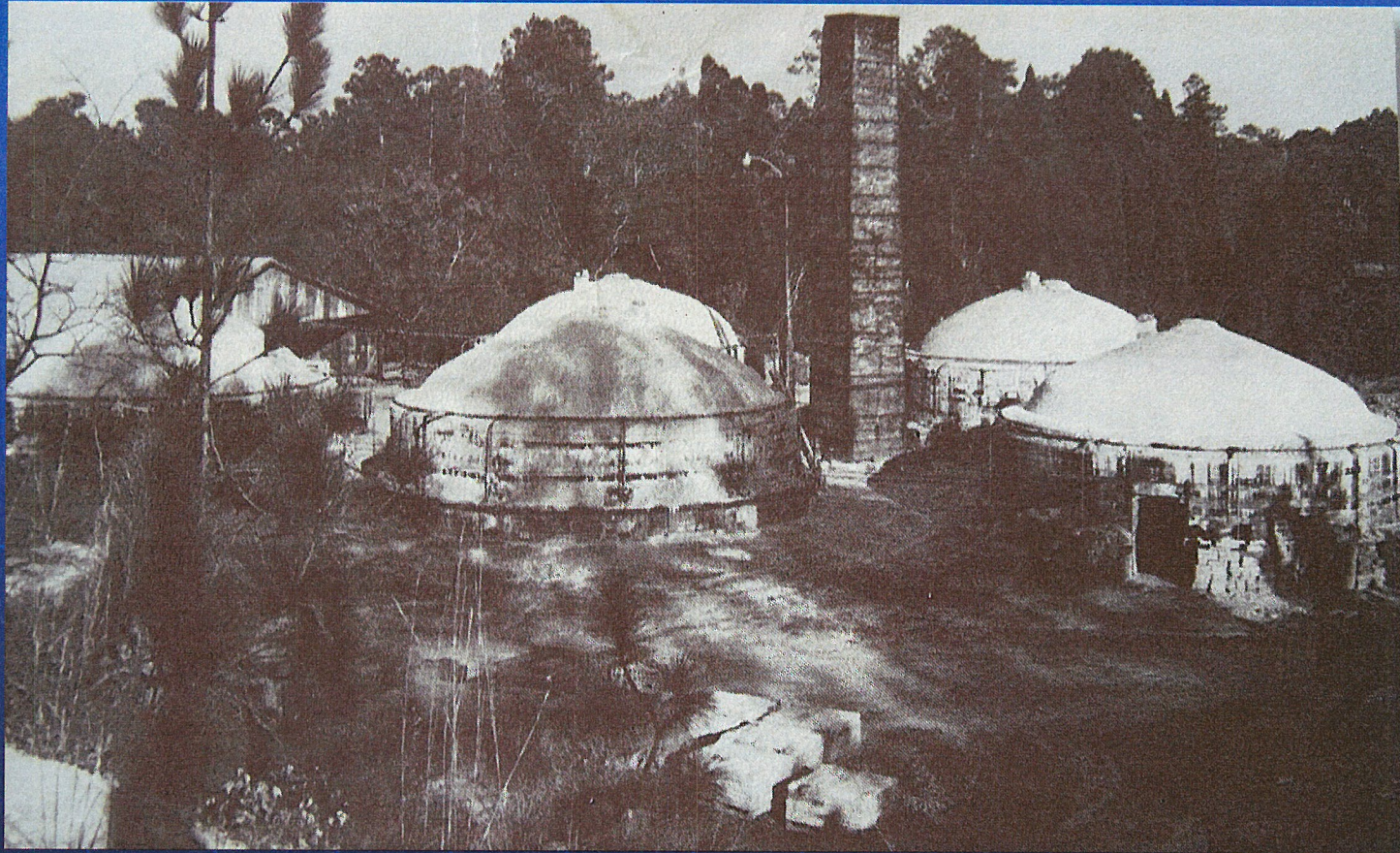


# Column to Cutter





# Beehive Kilns and Drying Shed at Clay City



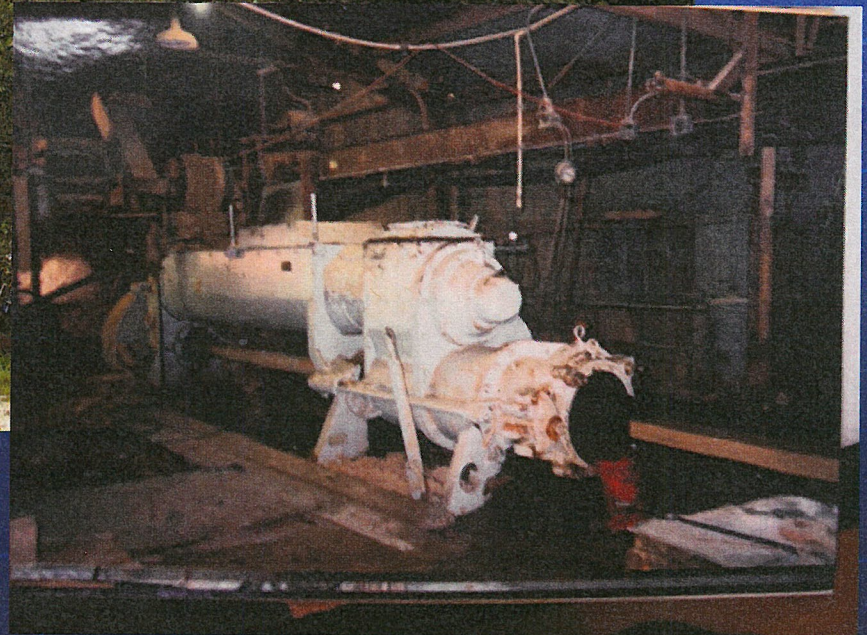


# Sealing the Kiln for Firing at Clay City






# Bicentennial Kiln





Family Member	Fairhope Single Tax Corporation	Marietta Johnson Organic School	Fairhope Town Council
Charles K. Brown	Treasurer (1905)		
Frank Brown Minnie Heald Brown	First President 1905 Treasurer	Teacher First President	Member (1 <sup>st</sup> Woman)
Ralph Brown Lucille Wienand Brown	Board Member Board Member	President	Two Term Member
Biron C. Anderson Daphne Brown Anderson	President	Teacher	
Bart Jennings Beverly Jennings	Trustee	Board member	



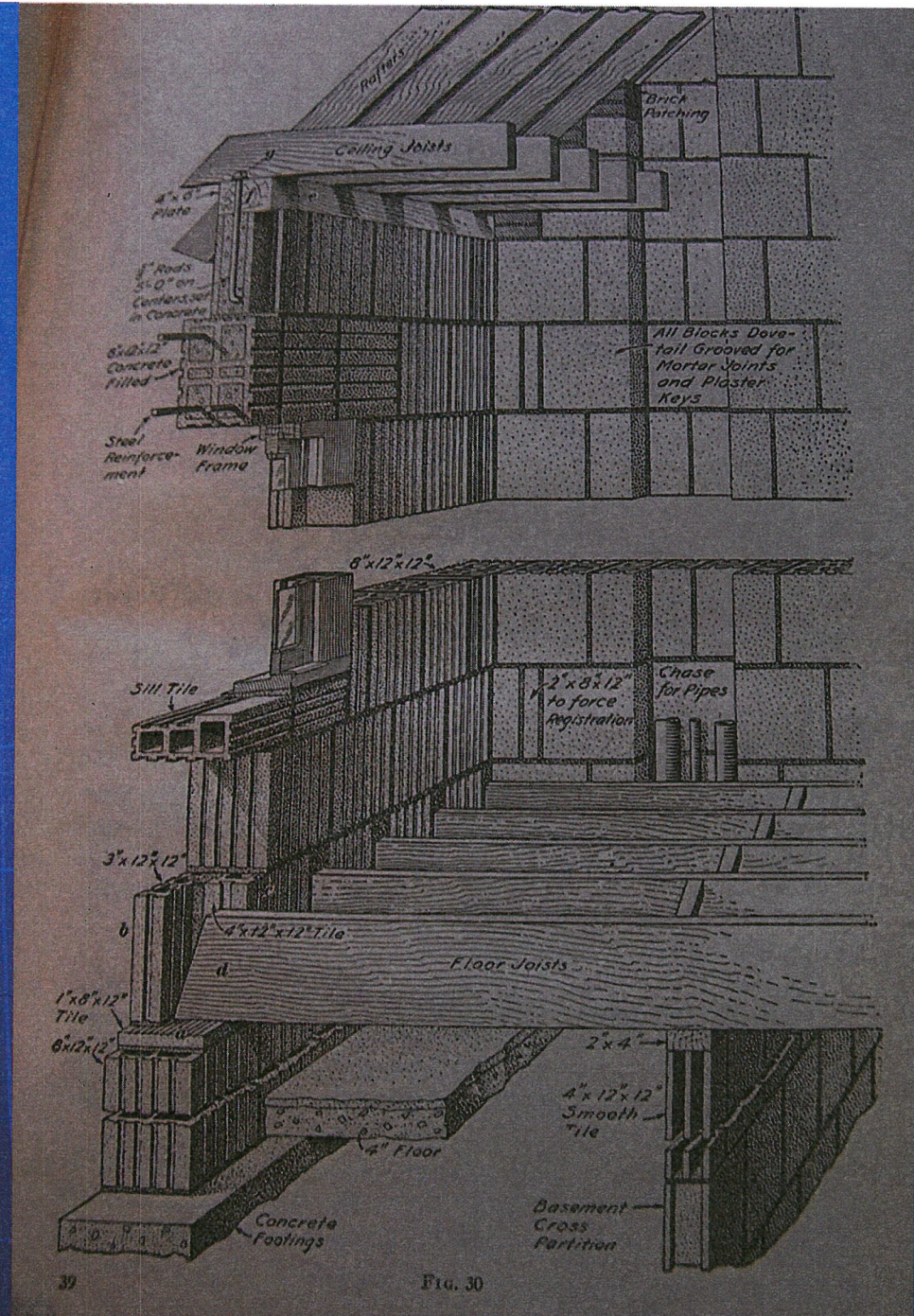
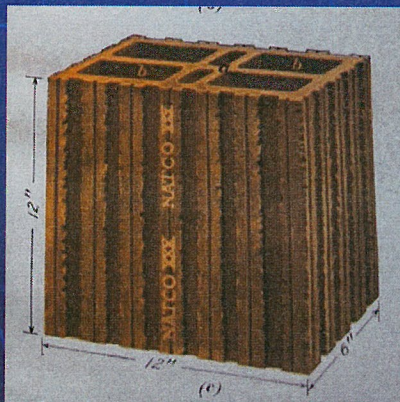


# Building Construction In Baldwin County



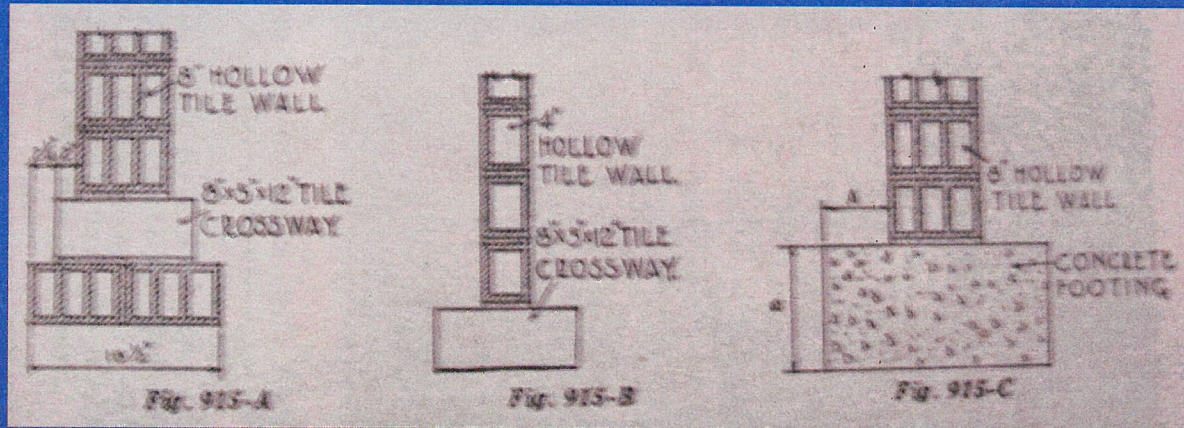


# National Example Of SCT Construction





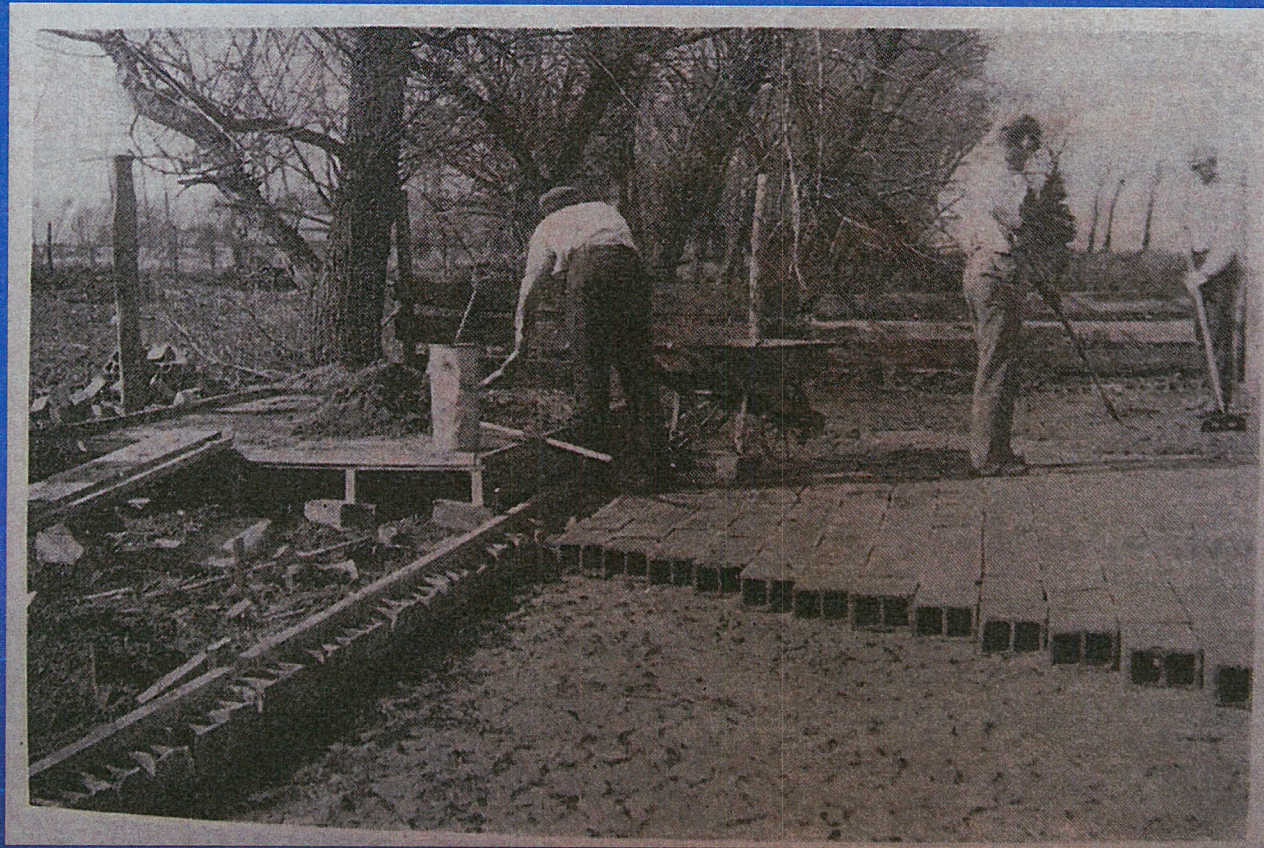
# Foundation Footings



56 Cliff Drive







Hog House Floor

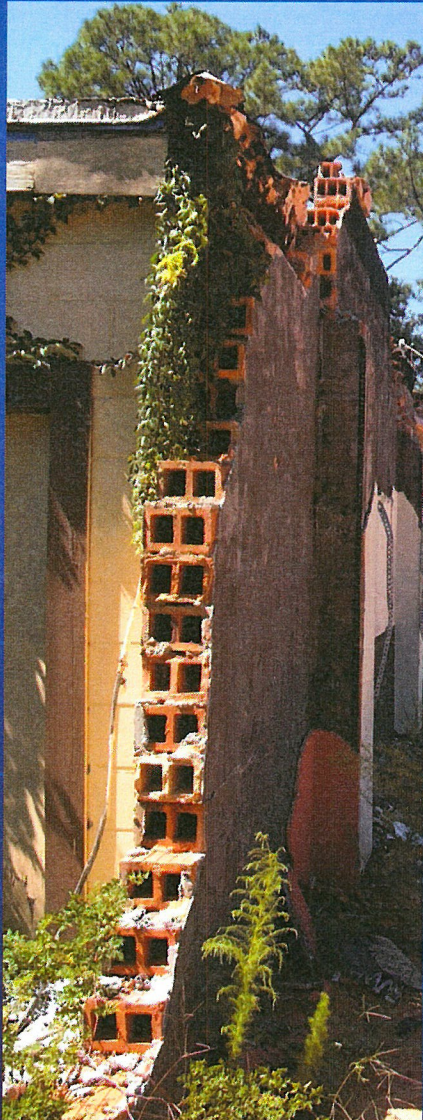




Tom Jones Pottery, Clay City Road



## Types of Wall Construction



Side Construction



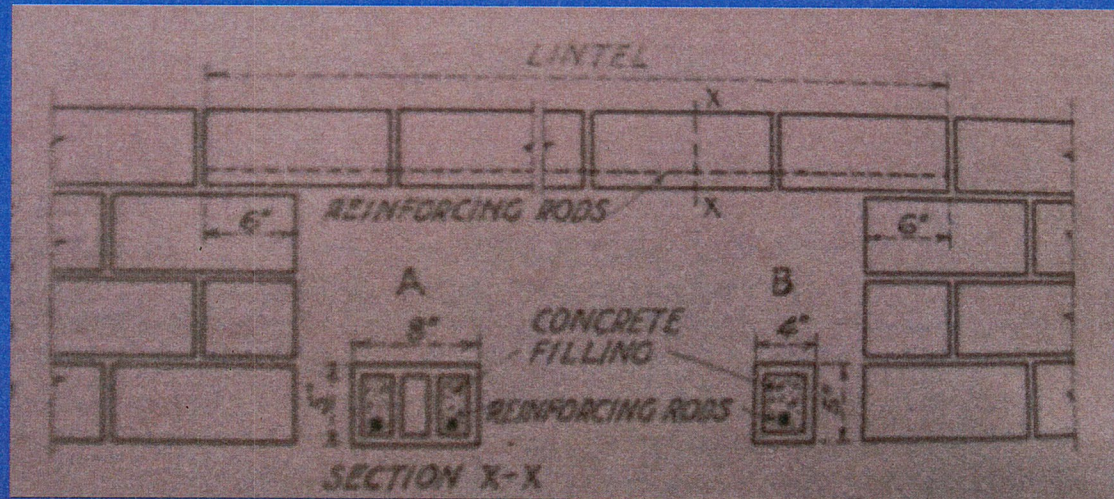
Edge Construction



Side and Edge Combined



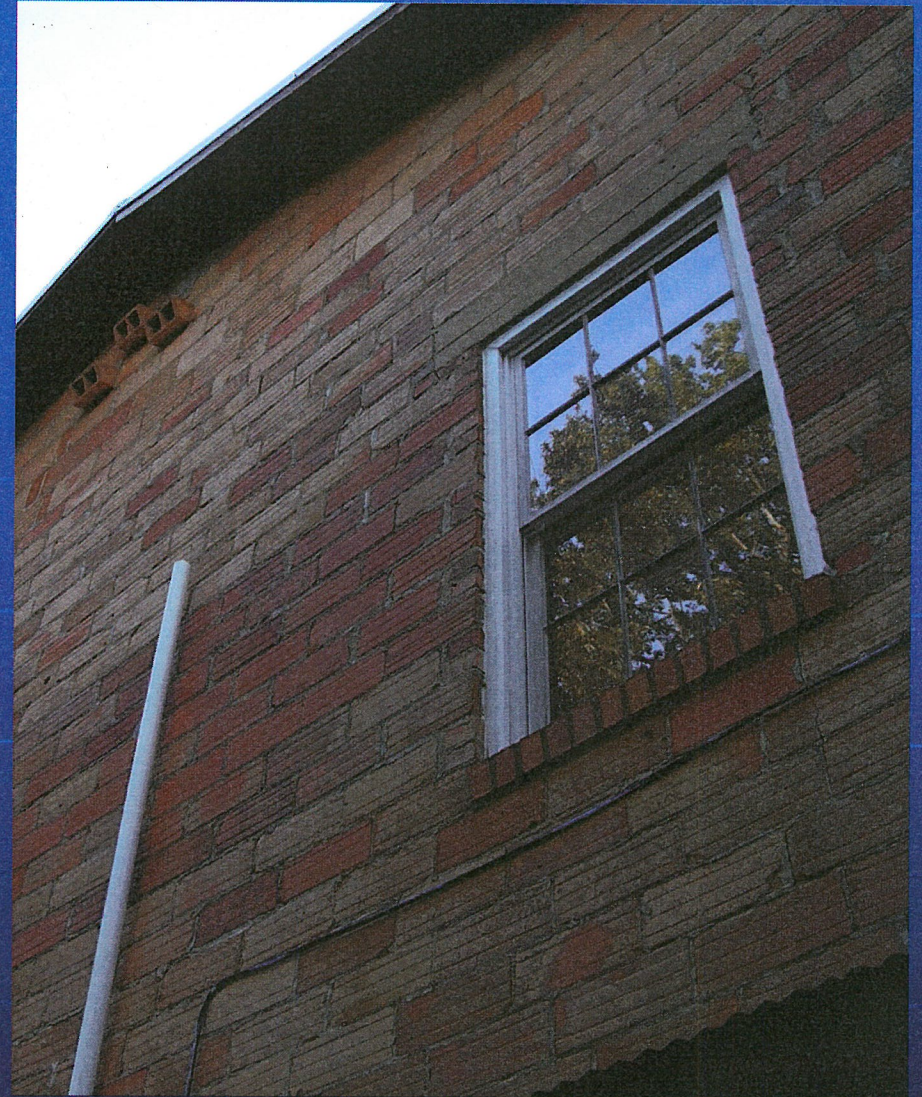
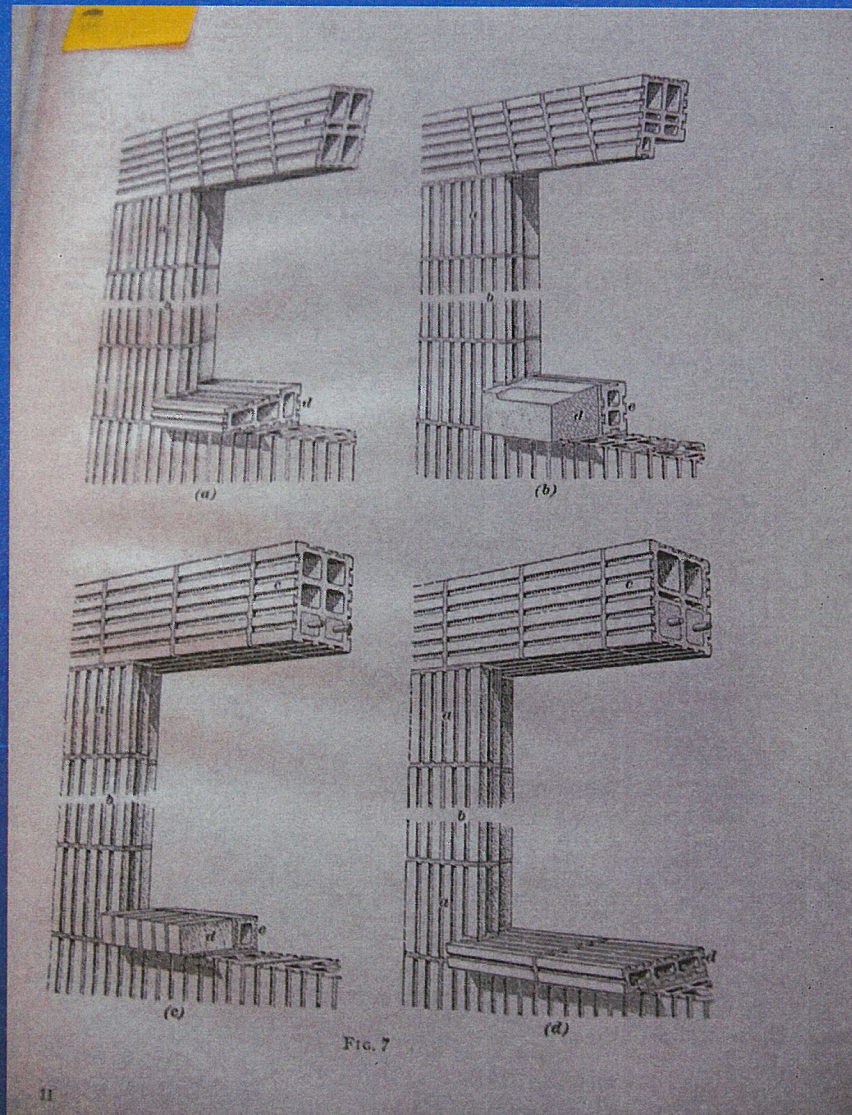
# Lintels



256 Morphy Ave.

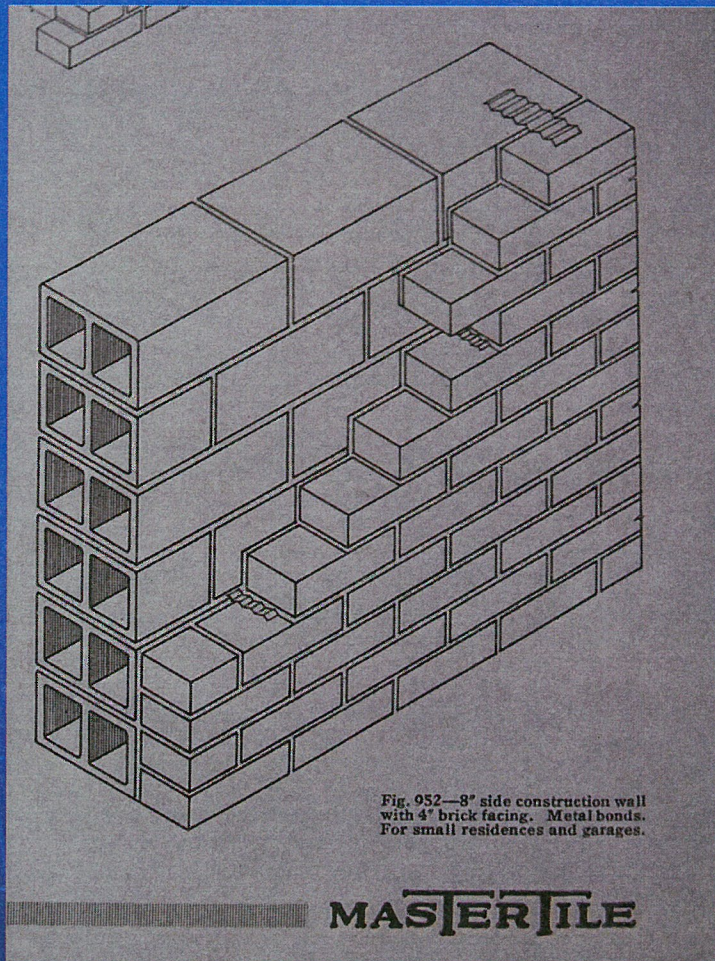


# Windows

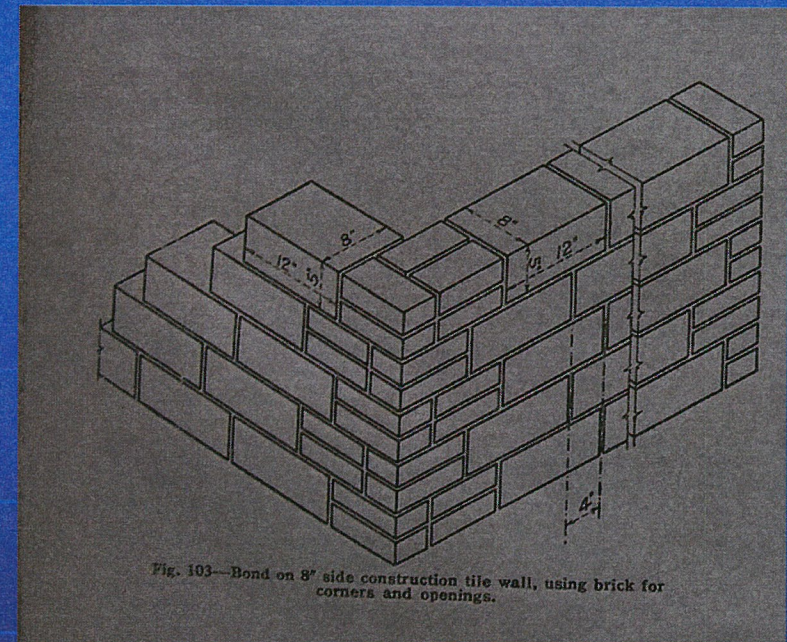


Young St.





Side Construction  
with Brick Facing



Side Construction  
Using Brick at Corners  
and Openings



# Brick Over Tile Construction



FIG. 39

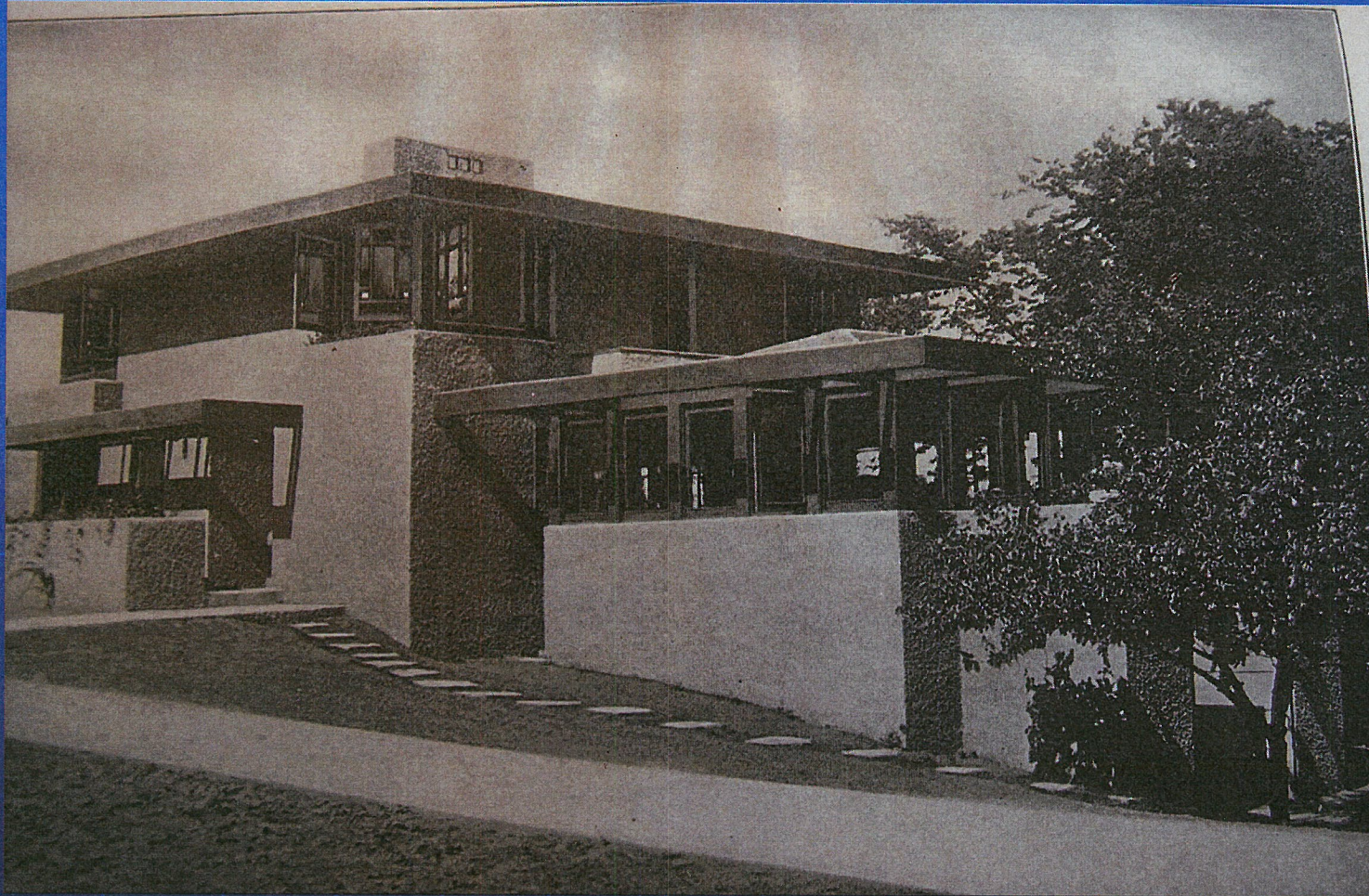




Denison Fire-proofing Company (Mason City, Iowa)



# *Hollow Tile Construction, 1924*





# Clay Tile structures from 1910s to 1960

- We shift here from the makers of the tile to the buildings in Fairhope who used Clay City Tile.
- Commercial
- Municipal and Community
- Residential
- Daphne/Belforest
- Agricultural



# Significant Clay City Tile Structures



396 Fairhope Ave.



## Fairhope Single Tax Corporation Office



336 Fairhope Ave.



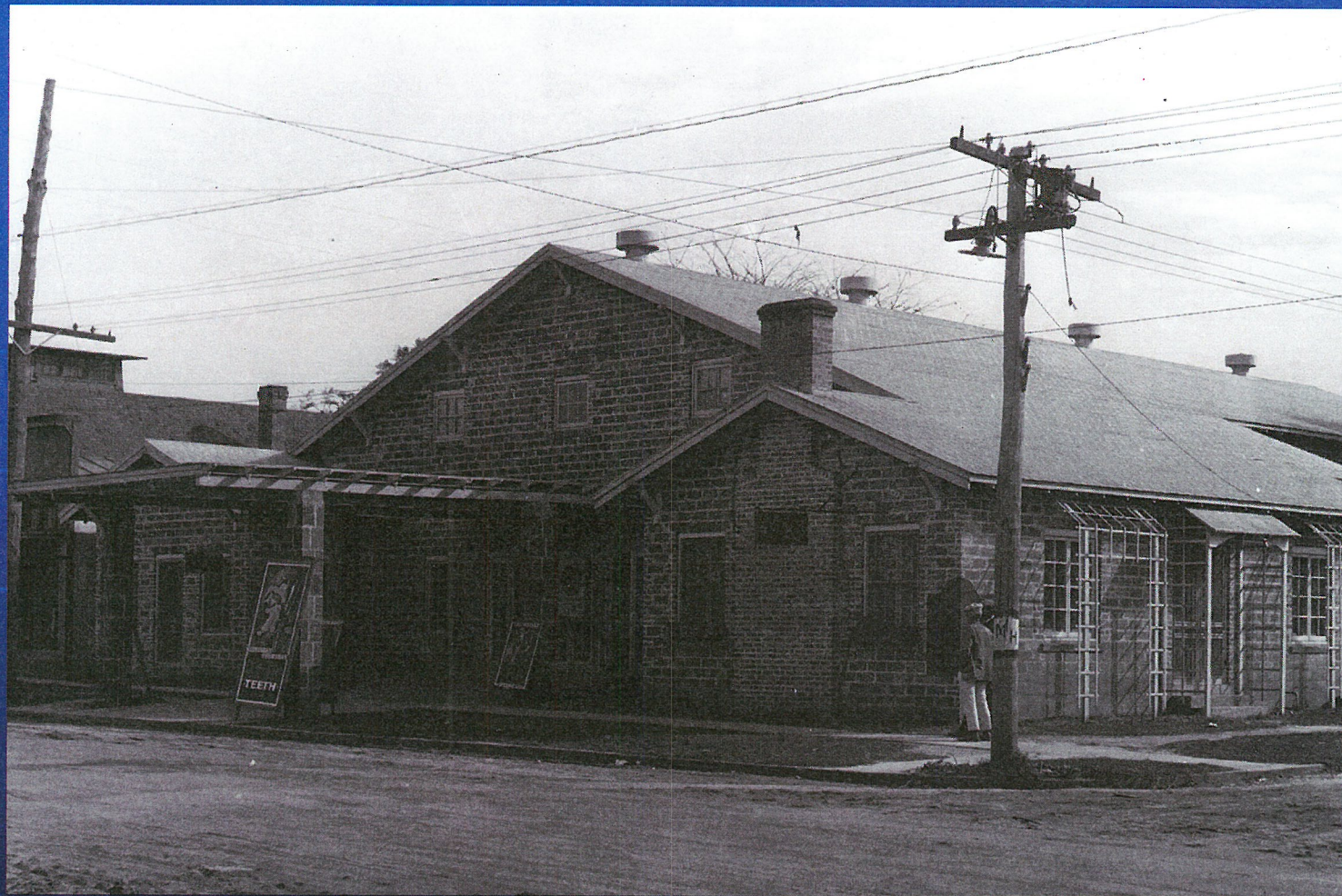
## Builders' Cooperative, 1936



335 Fairhope Ave.



# Magnet Theater



University of South Alabama Archives, C. 1932

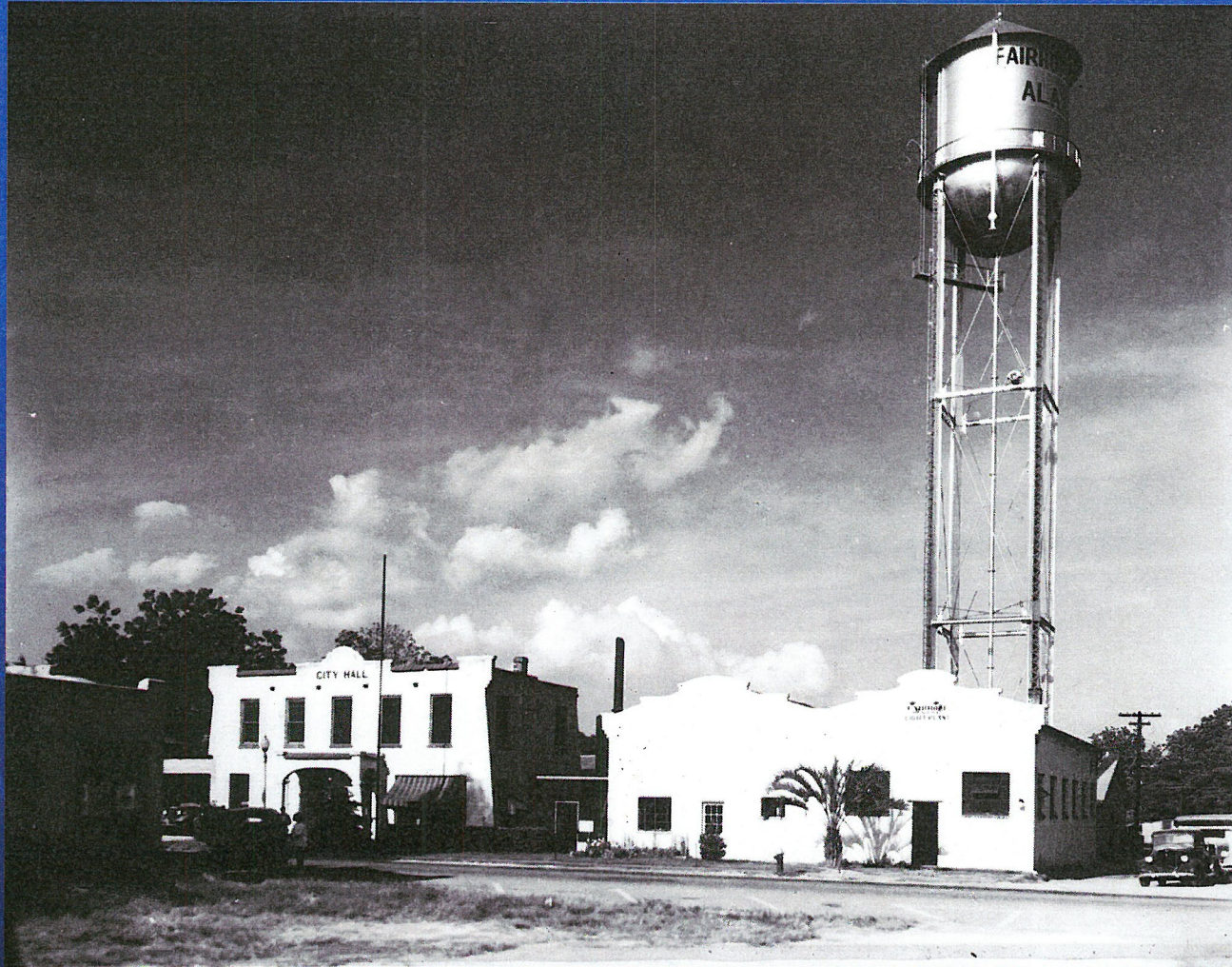


## Village Square Shops





# Municipal and Community Buildings



City Hall, Electric Plant and Water Tank

University of South Alabama Archives, late 1930s



# Fairhope Museum of History



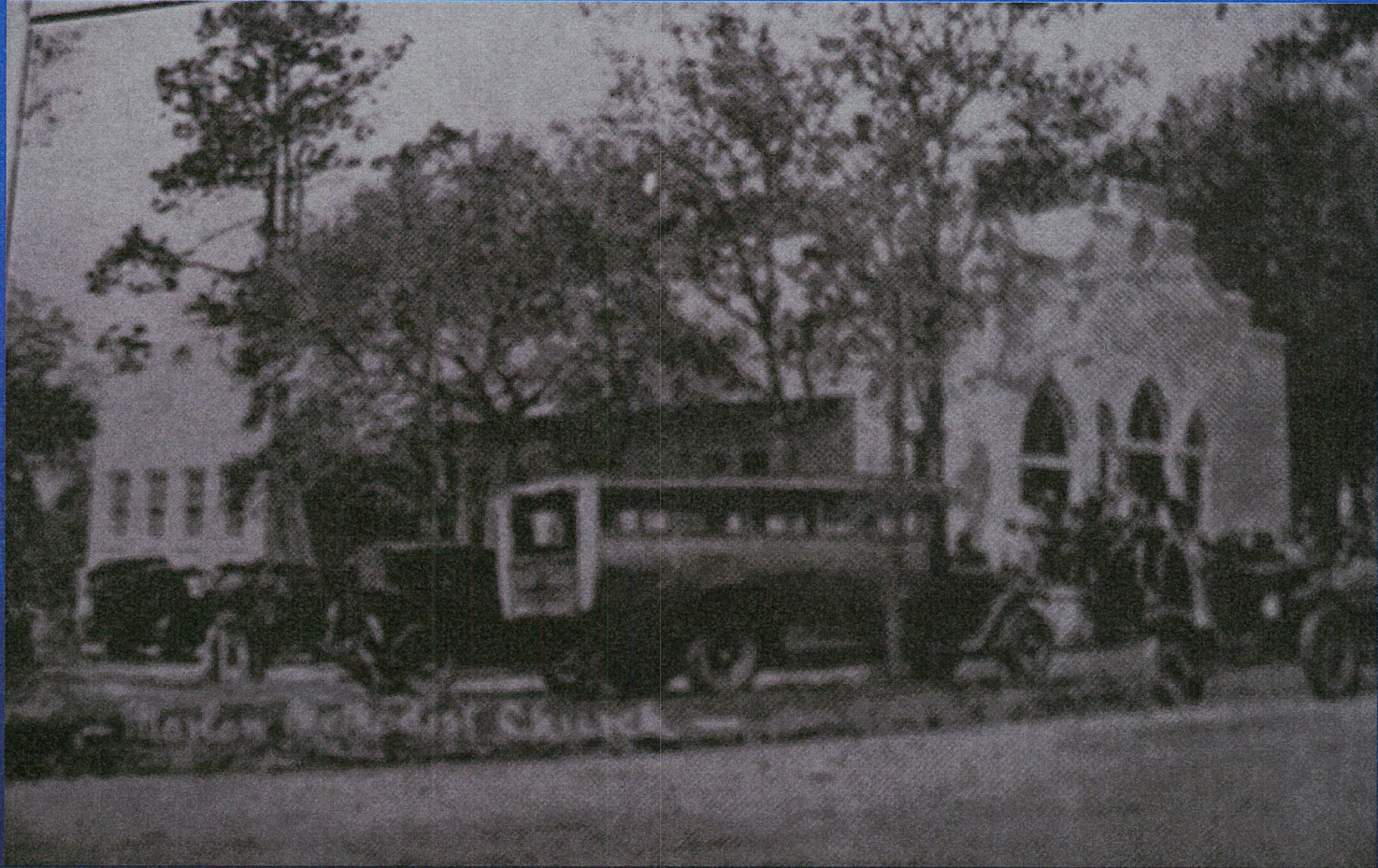


# Fairhope Gun, Golf and Country Club





## Marlow Methodist Church, 1927





## Young Street Lodge, 1938





# Homes



Arthur "Spider" Gaston House, 58 Summit St.

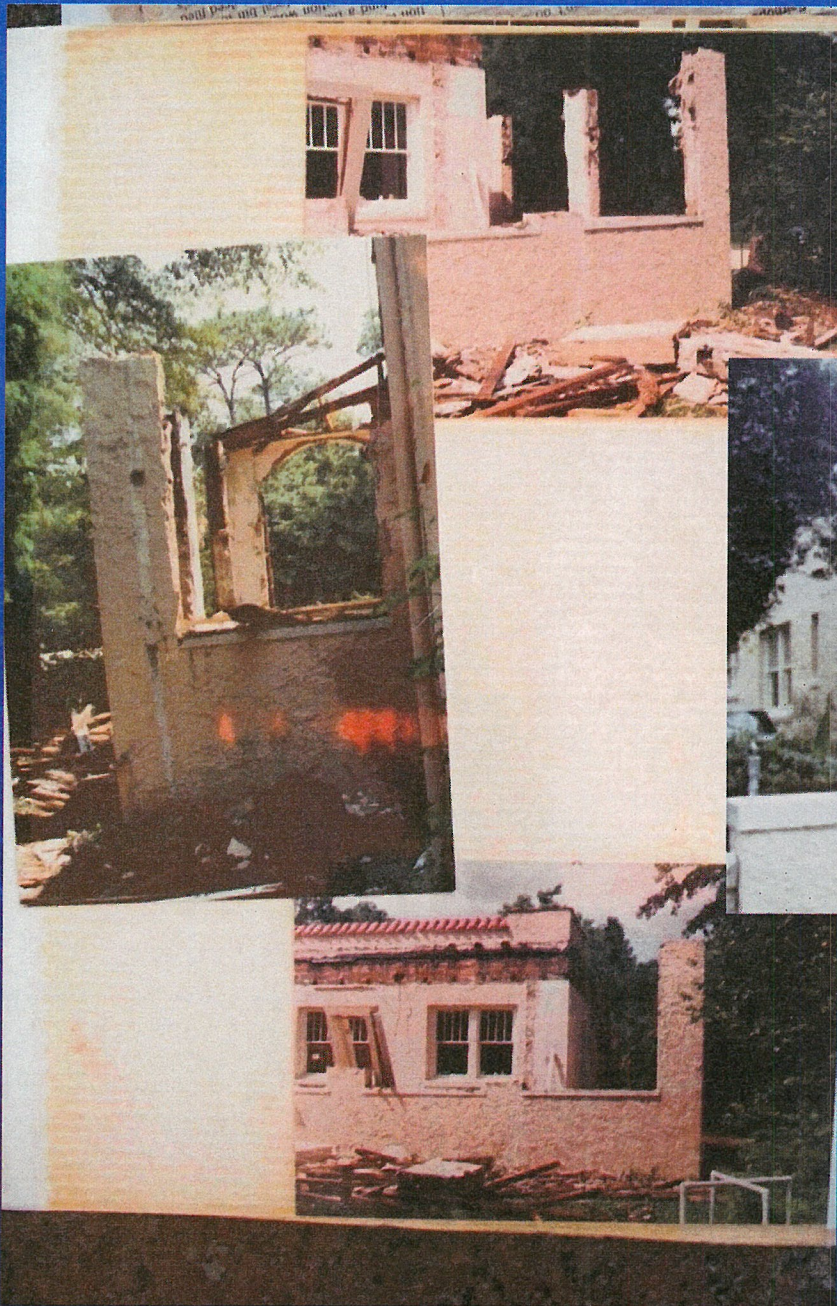


# Church Street Inn





54 Fairhope Ave.



1987



2008

54 Fairhope Ave.

*Hollow Tile Construction*

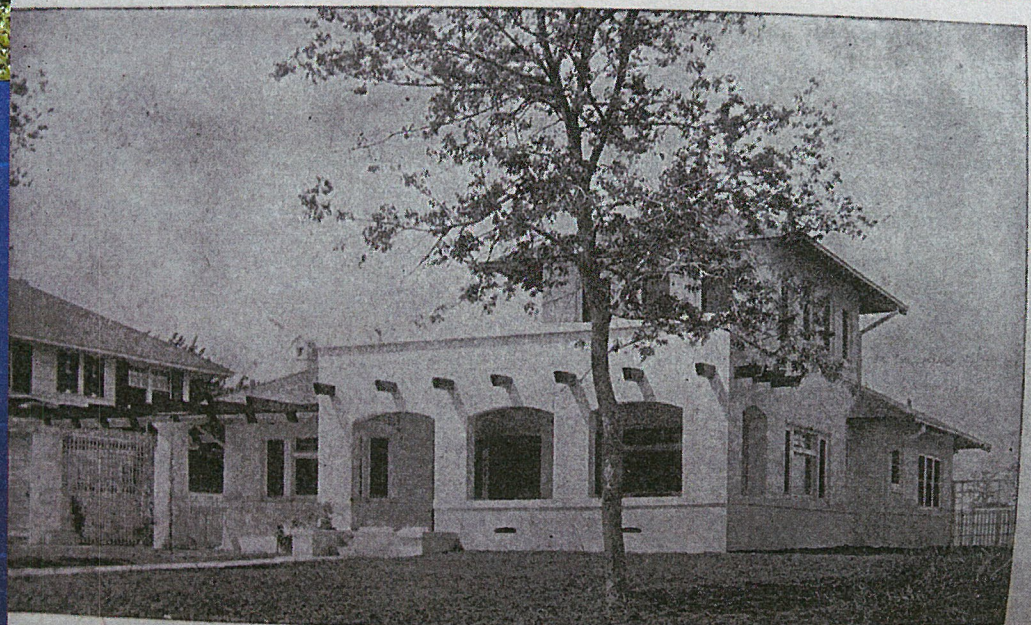
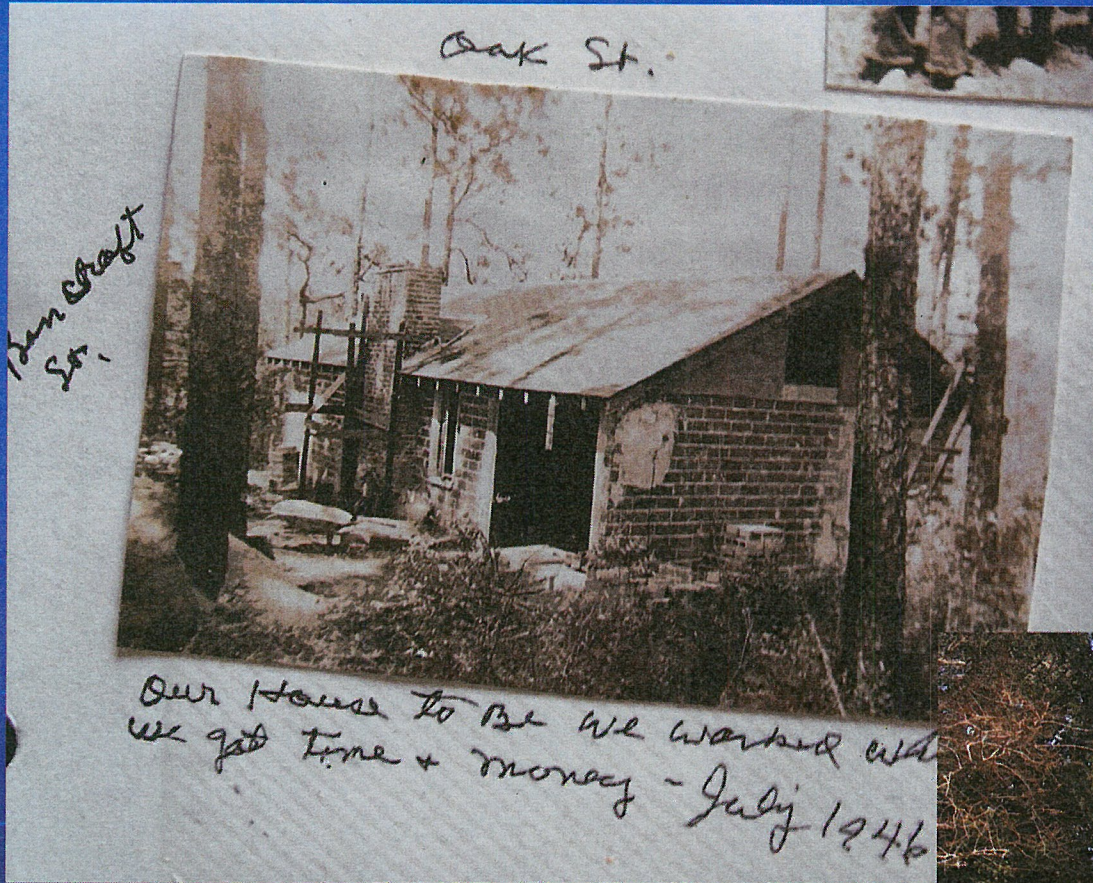


FIG. 154.—Modified Spanish Design. Common to the Extreme Southwest



# Craig Sheldon's House



## Storybook Castle





256  
Morphy  
Ave.



Librarian Anna Braune





751 Edwards Ave.

7 Fels Ave





[illegible]



# Wasp Lane, Point Clear





# 559 Morphy Ave., 1953





# Daphne/Belforest



Highway 64

Book,





# Belforest Church of God in Christ





# Simms Cash Store, 1930





# Belforest Farm Worker Housing

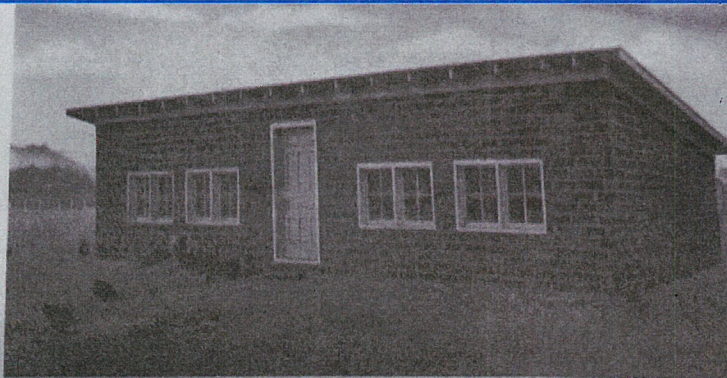




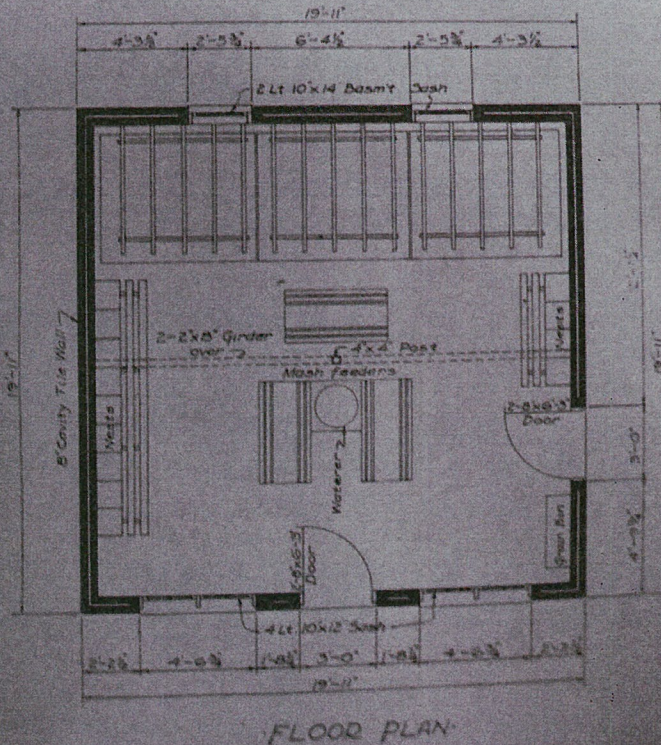




# Outbuildings



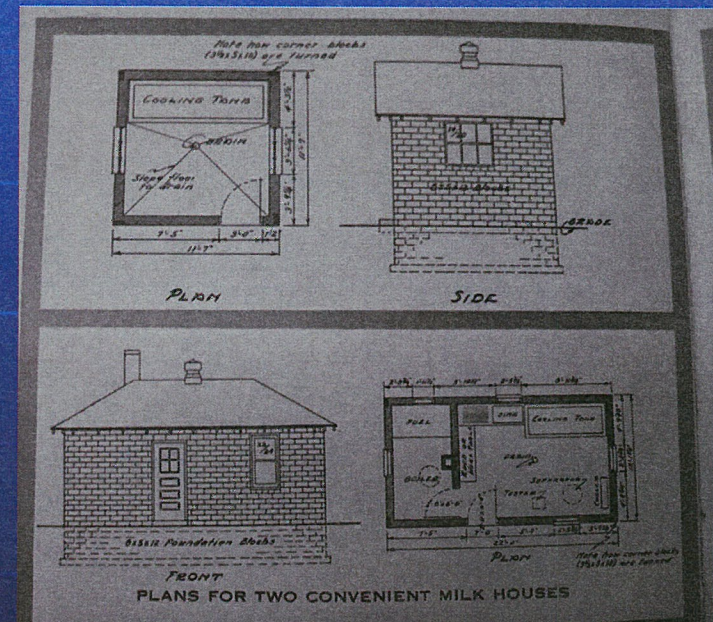
The modern twin poultry plant designed for raising battery chickens under artificial light—with heating unit in center.



## Poultry Plant and Chicken House



# Milk House





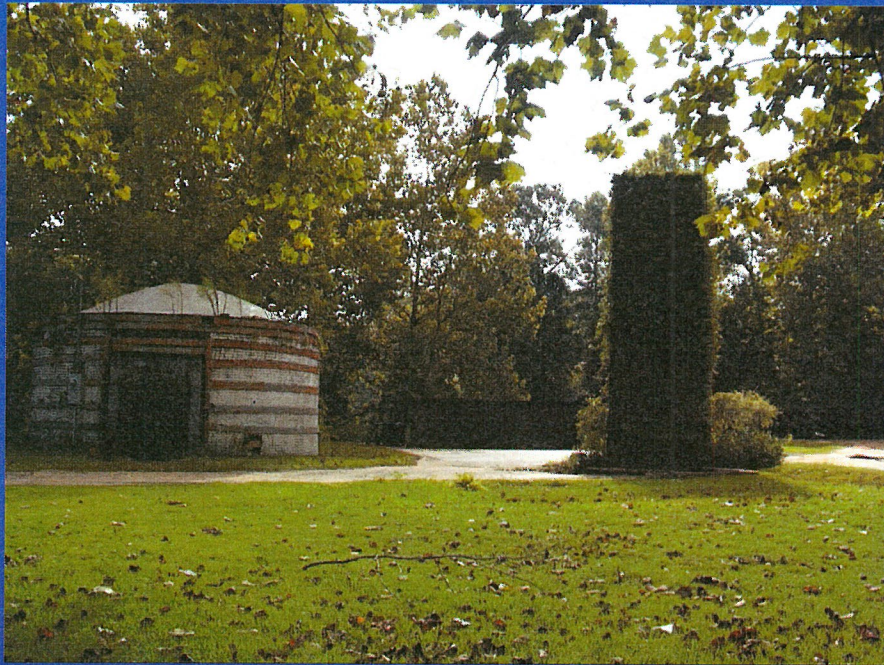
Silo



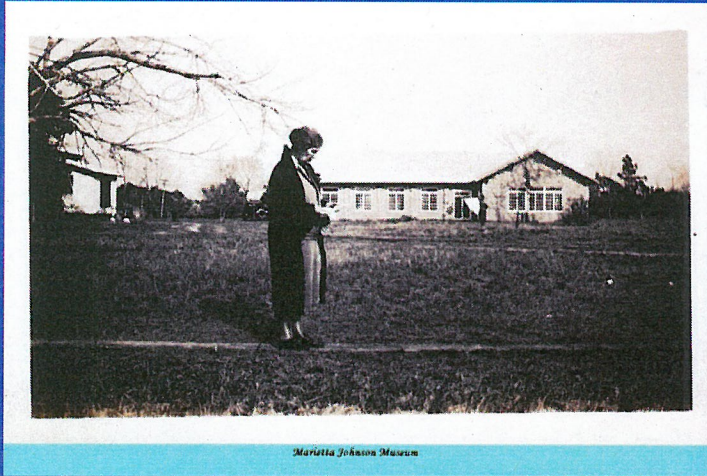
Brooder











Arts and Crafts, Organic School,

Urbanek Property,



AP Minnich,

Magnet Theatre,

Frank Brown House





## Title page

Ever want to know how something is made?

Well what follows is a story that tries to answer that very questions

### 2. Brief History of Structural Clay Tile in the US

Family history of the Brown's Anderson's and Jennings's

Making SCT at Clay City

Local Clay City Tile building construction

Significant Building types 1910s-1960

### 3. SCT tile is a machine made product invented during the Industrial Revolution.

Structural Clay Tile was first manufactured in United States in New Jersey in 1875. It was and still is a durable fireproof building block that has several names, including,

SCT, Hollow clay tile, hollow structural tile, hollow tile, structural clay load bearing wall tile, and structural terra cotta block

Around here it's called Clay City Tile, after the place where it was made

Early tiles look much like the ones found in Fairhope With the most common the 5 x 8 x 12. The holes in the block are cells and the dividers are webs. partition tile

### 4. By 1903 hundreds of SCT shapes were being manufactured in a wide variety of sizes for specific uses. Many were called modular because they fit together for added strength

### 5. This picture from Hollow tile for the home shows a US government housing project under construction in New Brunswick NJ and Charlestown, VA in the book states "all the houses were finished with stucco."

### 6. Another early use for hollow tile was for fire proofing with partition walls. The partition tiles we find in Fairhope were used in the Chrysler Building in New York 1930, 1046 feet tall. SCT was also fit over steel beam as a method of fireproofing. Steel burns at a lower temperature than SCT tiles, which is fired at 2300 degrees F.

### 7. Frank Brown and Family

Frank Brown and his descendents the Andersons and the Jennings have contributed mightily to Fairhope for 110 years.



Fantastic Frank Brown Came to Fairhope from Des Moines Iowa 1896 at the request of the Fairhope Industrial Association, later Single Tax. He sold his jewelry store, bought a sawmill with proceeds and moved to Fairhope.

His first home and brickyard were located behind the Rite aid Pharmacy, which was built in 1897.

8. He helped build the steamer Fairhope which was launched in 1901. and was also known to pull a few teeth as the town's unofficial dentist.

A 1906 Courier ad "dealer in lumber brick drain tile, pottery wood turning rice hulling and corn grinding." He made brick and drain tile using this press, which was manufactured in 1850.

He's also credited with building the first railroad car in 1912 for the People's Railroad.

And yes with all this clay he even made pottery this pitcher is an example. Frank Brown's daughter Daphne Anderson and son Ralph Brown ran the company from 1920-1960 and are credited with saving the company during the depression.

9. Clay City on the Map.

10. Firing ceremony 1916

Fairhope Courier Editor EB Gaston called the Clay products plant "The most important industrial enterprise projected in this vicinity and its successful establishment and operation will be a great thing for the section." It helped that a Fairhope City Ordinance in 1912-14 required all new buildings to be fireproof. Machinery and die needed to make tile came to Clay City in 1915. Frank Brown's Father in Law operated a brick and tile mill in Denmark Ohio, and likely came to oversee the building of the first two beehive kilns at the Fish River.

11. Incorporation 1917

12. Tile making process by Clay Products Inc, at Clay City from 1910s -1960 Using the flow chart I'll try to recreated the steps as it was done in Clay City using, which followed the stiff mud process

13. Winning the clay or getting it from the ground was done first by shovel, backhoe, then as you see here by drag line. It is then stored

14. The clay is then fed into the granulator, which breaks up the clay and then discharges into the bin below, which is the pug mill.



15. The pug mill mixes together clay sand and water if needed into a mixture called "bulk.". The bulk is then de-aired and an auger is used to push the clay through the brick machine, where in this case it has a SCT die installed.

16. As the column of clay emerges, the die also puts the finish on the tile. It can be smooth scored or scratched. Most tile made at Clay City was scored with dovetail like grooves to hold mortar and stucco better.

17. Ralph Brown Jennings, Frank Brown's great Grandson Last time tile was made at clay city, for Dean Mosher's Castle on Oak St

18. Once through the die the column of clay moves to a conveyer and is cut into 12 inch lengths by steel wires. Its then stacked and sent to the dryers.

19. The kilns are central to the picture but the drying sheds played a critical role. Drying time varied with the seasons for the most part. Until the 1960s when the waste heat from the kilns was sent to the drying sheds.

20. Pine lighter knots were first used to fire the kilns, In 1926 brick and tile was fired with coal. The five kilns were converted from coal to gas in 1968. This picture was taken during a geological survey by Otis Clarke in 1969.

21. In 1976 Clay Products purchased a then state of the art fiber lined gas kiln and by 1978 stopped using the brick bee hive kilns. The Bicentennial Kiln was built next to the river. After the area was flooded by Hurricane Frederic in 79, it was moved up the hill to its present location northeast of Tom Jones Pottery

22. On the cart is a sampling of all the products made at Clay City In addition to tile building blocks, brick, drain tile, floor tile, etc. To the right is a sample title. It's the same as the lobby in The Grand Hotel in Point Clear

Before going to the next segment The Browns Andersons and Jennings have been involved in the social, economical, political, religious and educational institutions in Fairhope for over 110 years.

Frank's wife Minnie first pres of Marietta Johnson school board directors 1907



23. Building construction

Off loading the tile by hand was critical to prevent breakage  
this photo is from a book about the history of the Marlow Methodist Church.  
photo was taken in 1927.

24. national example of SCT use. This wall construction with openings at the top and bottom of the wall was a national technique. I have not found any examples in Baldwin County

25. Footings

Because tile was lighter than stone or brick, smaller footings were often used. Sometimes on these farm structures no footings were used.  
Ron Schindler footing

26. Floors, cement poured over these floors

27. Tom Jones Pottery has Clay City tile floor like this one shown in the photograph.

28. Walls Fairhope builders used Side, 5 inch showing outward or Edge 8 inch showing outward or a combination of both

29. Lintels provide structural support over wall openings As the graphic shows it was done with steel rods or rebar and cement filled into clay city tile. This is the home of Toni and Larry Ackerman

30. Headers and window Sills A specific die was used for window sills nationally. In Baldwin County cement or bricks were used as sills.

31. side construction with brick facing.. side construction with brick at corners,

32 Durable built to last fireproof. 12 inch wall

33. completed building using end construction

34. That same building Stuccoed was and is my enemy for this project. As you can see from this before and after photo in a book published in 1924 It



hides what I am looking for. All this research and I'm far from an expert, What I needed is Superman's vision to see through the stucco. I love the FLW design though. with the corner windows banked windows and hidden side entrance.

35. Clay Tile structures between 1920 to 1960

- We shift here from the makers of the tile to the builders in Fairhope who used Clay City Tile.
- Commercial
- Municipal and Community
- Residential
- Daphne/Belforest Tour
- Agricultural

36. The Bank of Fairhope was designed by Mobile Architect William March in the neo classical revival style. Dyson and Company built it using local hollow clay tile in 1927. The blocks were stuccoed over to resemble large stone blocks.

37. The former Fairhope Courier building and now the single tax office is brick over tile and was constructed in 1924

38. Built in 1936 this stucco over tile building became the home of a consortium of builders that all used Clay City Tile. The builders were Marmaduke Dyson and Sons, Robert Stapleton, Edwin Sheldon, Gene Lawrence, and Axil Johnson. six celled tiles on side. Cast Iron medallions on front?

39. the Old Magnet theatre which was built for Edward Totten. It was designed by architect J. Platt Roberts of Mobile and was completed in 1924 by local builder Edwin Sheldon, who I am told is not related to Craig Sheldon.

40. The same building now. Alley with exposed tile and exposed tile at Papas Pizza

On November 21, 2010, my birthday the building burned



41. Municipal and Community, City Hall building completed in 1928 along with the rebuilt electric plant both by Oswalt Forester the two buildings cost \$6,000 combined. This photo was taken after 1935 because this water tank with the straight legs was built in 35

42 City Hall now Museum of Fairhope Donnie Barrett the curator has applied for listing on the National Register of Historic Places More Clay City at the new museum

43 Community

Gun, Golf and Country Club on Johnson Ave., 1922 Single Tax Corporation

44 Marlow Methodist Church, 1928 Leonard Neese additions but the same

45 Young Street Lodge, 1938

46 Homes Spider Gaston 1910s Earliest clay City House

47 Church Street Inn 1923 Airplane Bungalow stucco over tile

48 54 Fairhope Ave 1987

49 Today with national example exclusive to the southwest

50 Craig Sheldon House under construction in 1946 Storybook Castle now a band b. tower built in 1953

51 Fairhope Library Connection 256 Morphy Anna Braune Library Anna Braune's home built in 1940s librarian from 49 to 56

52 Edwards Ave Axil Johnson's Home 1940

and Fels Ave Morrow Niemeyer home 1935 side and edge construction

53. Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps found them too late for most of my research But they are valuable tool and available online. Details frame materials

54 Wasp Lane Point Clear 1955 Edge construction AA community

55 559 Morphy 1953 smooth finish tile 4x5x12



- 56 Daphne/Malbis Tour Tudor home someone told me built 1930s
- 57 Belforest Church of God in Christ three cells
- 58 Simms Cash Store Sims Hardware Axil Johnson block then RJ CCT
- 59 Belforest Farm Worker housing
- 60 Big Red Container smooth tile
- 61 OUTBUILDINGS
  - poultry plant/ chicken house
- 62 Milking house
- 63 Silo and Brooder a round structure made with rectangular blocks
  - Nationally they were made curved.
- 64 stack of tile
- 65 Last Kiln and Chimney

Beverly Jennings created a booklet for her Girl Scouts who toured the the family business. It states

I Hope you've enjoyed my presentation.

. Ralph's Daughter Beverly married Bart Jennings Jr. and they ran the family business for about 25 years Bart Jenning their son, ran it for a time and Ralph took over after Bart died in 1983. While they ran the company they made numerous improvements to increase brickmaking production. Beverly was also an officer for many years with the BCHS

11. The Browns Andersons and Jennings have been involved in the social, economical, political, religious and educational institutions in Fairhope for over 110 years.

Frank's wife Minnie first pres of Marietta Johnson school board directors 1907

I'll answer some questions