

An 1819 Snapshot of Huntsville

By Jacquelyn Procter Reeves

In late spring of 1819, residents of Huntsville were preparing to host the upcoming constitutional convention, the final step to statehood. A surprise visitor, impending statehood, and prosperity were reasons to celebrate, but it would soon be revealed that the economic foundation of the area was built on shifting sand.

As the hot sun rose on the morning of Tuesday, June 1, 1819, the residents of Huntsville began their day as they had on so many mornings. Cows were milked, eggs gathered, and biscuits baked for breakfast before the fields were worked. But this day soon proved different as a rumor spread quickly through the streets of the village. The President of the United States was a few miles away, en route to Huntsville. President James Monroe had stopped at John Williams Walker's Oakland Plantation near Meridianville to pay his respects before continuing south. His visit was unannounced, though he claimed he came to see how well the South was fortified against potentially hostile Indians and Europeans. With the Creek Indian Wars only five years in the past and still fresh in memory, President Monroe planned to visit forts to determine if more were necessary.¹

The excitement in Huntsville paralleled a sense of panic. A proper celebration, fit for the president, had to be hastily thrown together. Huntsville's residents would represent the entire territory, and they were eager to make a first-class impression.

At 4 p.m. the following day, Claiborne Clay, LeRoy Pope, Irby Jones, and Henry Minor presided over the celebration on the southwest corner of Franklin Street

and Gates Street in a large frame building² where more than one hundred “respectable citizens” had gathered.³ A cannon fired in salute, and twenty-one toasts were offered, including those “to the President, to the Constitution of the United States, to national heroes and celebrities, to the army and navy, to the late treaty with Spain, to the women, to Alabama, to the people west of the Mississippi, to the friends of freedom in South America, and to public sentiment.”⁴

Andrew Jackson, hero of the War of 1812 and the Creek Indian Wars was remembered in a toast, as well as those who had fallen in battle. Glasses were raised to “the heroes and sages of the Revolution. Many ‘have gone to the abodes of more than mortal freedom,’ the survivors will be sustained, in their declining years, by a grateful country.” The president offered a toast of his own to the Territory of Alabama: “May her speedy admission into the Union advance her happiness, and augment the national strength and prosperity.”⁵

By the time the president’s horse was saddled the following day for his departure, there was no doubt the residents of the Alabama Territory would be enthusiastic citizens of the Union, if given the chance. Monroe rode off to Nashville, escorted a portion of the way by some of Huntsville’s leading men.⁶

It seemed to make sense that President Monroe would come to Huntsville, the temporary state capital since November of the preceding year, and the largest community in the Tennessee Valley.⁷ After all, the largest population of the Alabama Territory was in Madison County, and Huntsville was the county seat.⁸ The actual number of settlers was a constantly moving target. The 1809 census taker complained that he could not accurately report how many people lived in the county because “more families are coming in

daily!”⁹ Property boundaries, in those early days, were established in ways that severely complicated future ownership issues. A parcel of land may have been described as “beginning at a white oak and Spanish oak, thence east 40 chains to a hickory, thence north 60 chains to a sweet gum....”¹⁰ A tangled legal mess was sure to follow if and when the trees were no longer standing.

By coming to the Mississippi/Alabama Territory, those early settlers traded the comfort of a predictable life for either a shot at true prosperity or the heartbreak of devastating loss. Most residents hastily built log cabins for shelter so they could get to the fields to plant their crops. Many preferred two log rooms separated by a covered passageway, called a dog trot, which became common among Alabama’s earliest settlers. On each end of the log cabins were fireplaces for heating or cooking. Some homes had a puncheon floor, made of split logs turned so the flat side was up. Others made do with a temporary dirt floor.¹¹ As crude as it may seem by today’s standards, many were still inhabited even at the end of World War I.¹²

After nightfall, families gathered about the fire and listened as veterans of the Indian Wars, the War of 1812, and even the American Revolution swapped stories about the battles won and friends lost. Off in the distance, catamounts screamed and wolves howled, mingling with the summer songs of crickets and cicadas. Fireflies and twinkling stars danced in the darkness of the summer night.

After the 1813 Ft. Mims Massacre near Mobile, uneasy residents remained wary of the potential for Indian attacks. In wooded areas, armed white men who came together to talk stood back to back to watch

for Indians who might surprise them. Despite at least one rumor of an impending attack, there are no recorded incidents of deadly encounters. Prior to the influx of settlers during the period we refer to as Alabama Fever, the Chickasaws and Cherokees hunted in the Tennessee Valley. The abundance of discarded arrowheads still found today is proof there was once a strong Indian presence.

From the time pioneer John Hunt arrived in 1805, the quality and size of family homes had changed considerably. In time, and as fortunes increased, home owners added rooms and/or a second story to the original structure, and in some cases, they encased the original log cabin with clapboard, plastered the interior walls, and installed glass windows and fancy trims.¹⁵ It was not unusual for the original log structure to become engulfed by a substantially larger and grander home, leaving remnants of the original log cabin to be uncovered decades later.

Progress came swiftly to the residents of Huntsville. John Reed built the first brick home in 1810.¹⁶ With the arrival of brothers Thomas and William Brandon from Virginia, the look of the village slowly transformed. The Brandons considered themselves brick masons, but they were so much more. Their brickyard provided materials to construct public buildings and private homes. Historian Edward Chambers Betts wrote, "Thomas and William Brandon, who came into the community in 1810, with nothing but their mason's tools, and in these few years had transformed the crude log hut settlement into the brick and mortar metropolis of the territory...."¹⁷

Anne Newport Royall, a frequent visitor to North Alabama from various places up North, aptly described Huntsville in a letter to a friend on January 1, 1818:

“You will expect something of this flourishing town....The land around Huntsville, and the whole of Madison county, of which it is the capital, is rich and beautiful as you can imagine; and the appearance of wealth would baffle belief....It contains about 260 houses, principally built of brick; has a bank, a court house, and market house. There is a large square in the centre of the town, like the towns in Ohio, and facing this are the stores, twelve in number.... The workmanship is the best I have seen in all the states; and several of the houses are three stories high, and very large. There is no church. The people assemble in the Court House to worship.... The citizens are gay, polite, and hospitable, and live in great splendor. Nothing like it in our country.”¹⁸

Land and lot prices began to soar. A vacant lot on Williams Street sold for \$50 in 1816 to Alexander Wasson. Two years later, John Jones purchased it for \$350. In 1819, the same lot sold for \$700 to Henry Bradford.¹⁹ Today, Bradford’s 1819 home serves as a museum that honors a later resident, Maria Howard Weeden.

By 1819, one third of the 60,000 acres under cultivation in Madison County was planted in cotton. Nearly 4.5 million pounds of cotton were shipped out, processed by 149 gins.²² Anne Royall described her first glimpse of a cotton field when she arrived in Huntsville: “...These are astonishingly large; from four to five hundred acres in a field! – It is without a parallel! ...Although the land is level, you cannot see the end of the fields either way. To a stranger, coming suddenly amongst these fields, it has the appearance of magic....”²³ When it was time to pick cotton, all who were able were needed to work the fields. Some stalks grew as tall as six feet, six inches.²⁴

The west side of the courthouse square became unofficially known as Cotton Row for the many cotton brokers whose offices stood there. After the fall harvest, farmers brought samples of their crops to have them graded and assessed for sale.²⁵ In the winter of 1817-1818, cotton was selling for as much as thirty cents per pound, encouraging planters to clear more land for planting, which in turn brought about an increased need for slave labor.

Between 1816 and 1820, the population of slaves grew from 4,200 to 9,255, an increase to 47% of the total population of Madison County.²⁶ The average price paid for a slave in 1819 was just under five hundred dollars, depending on a number of factors. Was the man, woman, or child crippled? Did he or she have a drinking problem; was he or she known to be a runaway? Did he or she have a skill, and how many more years could each be expected to work? Five hundred dollars in 1819 is the equivalent of nearly ten thousand dollars today.

In some cases, after the slave had finished tasks for the owner, he or she was allowed to work elsewhere for their own wages, and eventually even buy their own freedom. It was legal, in early Alabama, to petition the state legislature to emancipate slaves. In 1820, there were forty-six free black men, women, and children living in Madison County. Seventeen slaves were freed during the first legislative session in 1819.

Huntsville's Thomas Fearn, who owned slaves, referred to slavery as "that foulest blot in our national character, that damning curse entailed on us by our forefathers...."³⁷ The hows, whens, and whys of emancipation of slaves had been discussed at length for decades, but no conclusion could be agreed upon.

Forty-five years would pass before that process was accomplished.

Progress brought law and order, crime and punishment. Court was held only twice every year, in the spring and in the fall. A new jail replaced the wood structure that had been located on the northeast corner of the courthouse square.²⁸ A public pillory, located on the northwest corner of the courthouse, was constructed in early 1819 for public punishment. Thieves had their right hands branded with the letter "T" along with an appropriate number of lashes with a whip. Before Stephen Neal was hired as sheriff in 1809, a vigilante group known only as "Captain Slick's Company" warned counterfeiters and thieves, in a most menacing way, that their presence was no longer welcomed in Huntsville. They were given a certain amount of time to put their affairs in order and clear out, and if they chose to remain, the punishment was harsh.²⁹

While work kept residents busy, they still found time for entertainment. A Nashville theater company occasionally came to Huntsville to perform in the building where the constitutional convention convened. "Speed the Plough" was performed in November 1819, and a concert at the Huntsville Inn raised money for a fire engine when the first fire department was officially organized on December 10, 1819.³⁰ The Masonic Lodge, a benevolent fraternal organization, was established in 1811 as Madison #21, the first and oldest Masonic Lodge in the State of Alabama and the forerunner of today's Helion Lodge #1. Among the charter members were John Williams Walker, Sheriff Stephen Neal, Marmaduke Williams, and Huntsville's namesake, John Hunt.³¹

The newspaper advertised items for sale, unfamiliar and unusual to us today. John M. Tilford's establishment sold baize, bombasetts, manchester, levantine, and mantua silks (different kinds of cloth), elegant lace pilerines (lace-up ballet flats), a variety of ribbands (ribbons), violins and violin strings, plain and brass mounted military fifes (musical instruments), gentlemen's and ladies' riding whips, ruffs (starched ruffle worn around a lady's neck) and spencers (short jackets for men and women).³²

In order to become and remain a successful community, a system of educating young people was put into place. Sons and daughters of wealthy citizens were sent to boarding schools up North, or were taught basics by imported teachers. Both were costly. By 1819, the boys' Green Academy, the first state chartered school in Madison County, had been educating Huntsville's future leaders for seven years.³²

Culture and refinement can neither survive nor thrive without books. In July 1818, Dr. Thomas Fearn wrote a letter to persuade Clement Clay of the need for a library, observing "How pleasing it would be to see the hours lost at the card table, with the dice box, or even those more innocently thrown away in idle chitchat, exchanged for profitable employment."³⁴ Within a few months, his dream came to fruition. A meeting was held to discuss the establishment of a public library in Huntsville. It was the first in the Alabama Territory. The newspaper reported that a total of "between 2 and 3,000 dollars was subscribed in a few hours for this highly laudable purpose."³⁵ The library, for gentlemen only, was located in the Madison Street law office of John Nelson Spotswood Jones and opened on Tuesdays and Thursdays while Jones was out to lunch.³⁶

Members of local churches as well as members of the “genteel sex” – wives, mothers, and sisters – did all they could to discourage uncouth and immoral behavior. The Madison County Bible Society was created in 1818 to shed residents of the “torrent of vice and immorality” in the community.³⁸ Wives pressured their husbands to stop gambling and drinking and become active in church leadership, while local dram shops welcomed the sinners with everything from homemade hootch to fine imported rum.

Circuit riding preachers representing Cumberland Presbyterians, Presbyterians, Methodists, and Baptists came to the territory soon after the arrival of settlers. Cumberland Presbyterian minister Robert Bell, thought to be the first to come into North Alabama as early as 1807, preached from John Hunt’s cabin. His cousin, Robert Donnell, held the first camp meeting in early 1809 at the area now known as Brahan’s Spring. Camp meetings took place over a period of several days and attendees camped on site, cooking over open fires,³⁹ and absorbing religion in large doses. Depending on the time of year, the women became the founders, organizers, and backbone of the churches as the men toiled night and day to get the crops in from the fields. Ministering to the needs of Indians fell under the direction of the church’s foreign missions societies. Money was raised by the ladies of the church for that purpose. By 1820, Rev. Robert Bell established a boarding school for Chickasaw children in Mississippi.⁴⁰

Illness and death were ever-present. The newspaper reported that bilious typhoid fever, a common ailment, hit hardest between late June and early October,⁴¹ indicating that it may have actually been malaria, unknown to them that it was spread by mosquitoes. At

that time, it was surmised that most illnesses were contagious or caused by miasmas (bad air). Wealthy families fled the city for sparsely populated areas to avoid getting sick.

One of the deadliest illnesses was smallpox, a highly contagious disease with a mortality rate as high as 35% during severe epidemics. Smallpox caused huge losses in the American Indian population as well as the Colonial Army during the Revolution. An 1817 smallpox outbreak in Huntsville brought an urgent need to prevent another. Doctors Thomas Fearn and David Moore placed an ad in the *Alabama Republican*, announcing they would provide free smallpox vaccinations – a controversial treatment that sometimes caused death.⁴²

Jarvis Milam of the non-extant community of Hickory Flat advertised that he had a stone that would cure rabies as well as the bite of any snake or poisonous reptile. He claimed that the stone, when applied to the bite, would extract the poison.⁴³ There was no offer, however, of a money-back guarantee. And just in case his cure failed, the town cemetery, at that time, was located where present-day Holmes Street intersects with Greene Street.⁴⁴

The mail system in 1817 was haphazard, at best. Mail was delivered every other Saturday, but for a period in 1816, no mail was delivered for six months. Indians sometimes stole the mail carrier's horse, which delayed the mail even more. New mail routes were established and additional mail carriers were hired. Newspaper advertisements specified that mail carriers could not be drunkards, and the smaller (lighter) they were, the better. Tardiness on account of darkness was unacceptable, and they were required to control their tempers, especially around Indians. If they were

on time, they *might* even earn a bonus of \$1 - \$2 per quarter.⁴⁵

In early 1819, the *Alabama Republican* announced that incoming mail would arrive every Thursday morning, giving the recipient time to answer letters before going out again at 3 p.m. If the recipient failed to pick up his or her mail within three months, it went into the dead letter file. As a reminder, the recipient's name would be published in the newspaper up to three times.⁴⁶

Affluent early settlers brought with them silver and cut glass, carpets and fine linens. LeRoy Pope, whose mansion sat atop the highest hill overlooking Huntsville, rode about town in a four-wheeled carriage, as did John Taylor, Thomas Bibb, and James Manning.⁴⁷ Others rode in two-wheeled carriages while most walked or rode horseback. Pope's pretentious lifestyle, as well as others in his circle, did not gain him favor among the lower classes. Many of the affluent, natives of Virginia, came to North Alabama after several years in Petersburg, Georgia. They were referred to as the Royal Party, or the Georgia Nabob.

One member of the Royal Party seemed to be accepted among members of every class. John Williams Walker, Pope's son-in-law, stood out as a man with exceptional character and honesty.⁴⁸ It was no surprise that President Monroe stopped at Walker's Meridianville plantation before pressing on into Huntsville. Walker was unanimously elected to preside over the constitutional convention which convened on July 5, 1819 to write Alabama's constitution. When the document was finished on August 2, it was considered one of the most liberal and progressive of any ever written.⁴⁹

Plans for the future were falling into place in preparation for statehood. On November 9, 1819, William Wyatt Bibb, the territorial governor, was inaugurated in Huntsville as the first state governor.⁵¹ Andrew Jackson, a frequent and popular visitor to Huntsville, attended the meeting of the state legislature on December 13, 1819 and was given the “privileges of the floor,”⁵² in spite of not being a resident or Alabama politician. On that day, Jackson County, Alabama was named in his honor. The following day, December 14, 1819, Alabama was granted statehood. On December 17, 1819, John W. Walker was appointed as Alabama’s first United States Senator.⁵⁰

Even as the excitement of statehood buoyed local residents, far-reaching financial problems were simmering below the surface. An 1818 letter from New York in the *Alabama Republican* stated: “We regret to say that the quality of nearly all your cotton is so terribly bad that we have not been able to obtain an offer for it. There has never been so much trash together in this market as we have received this year from Huntsville....Prime Huntsville Cotton (of which we have received none this season) would command 33 cts....Letters from Liverpool have been received which state that the Cotton is but little better if any better than the common India Cotton!! And we find that those who have shipped it once will not buy it a second time.”⁵³

The price of cotton plummeted to a low of twelve cents per pound in late June, 1819.⁵⁴ The ripple effect extended across every realm of the economy. Within a few months, cotton had fallen to less than ten cents per pound. Those who sought to multiply their

fortunes through land and cotton speculation were shocked by the financial collapse.

Many of Huntsville's residents had relied on a barter system and bought merchandise on credit, with the promise that debts would be paid when the fall's cotton crop was harvested. They loaned money and sold goods to each other as well, so when one man felt his financial belt tightening, he went to those who owed him money to pay off his own debts, only to find others were in the same financial grip. Some avoided going into town for fear they would be approached to settle their debt. Public sales and auctions were held to liquidate assets in order to pay off debts, but in many cases, even that wasn't enough. Merchants across the country who had bought cotton at high prices felt the devastation of the Panic of 1819 as well. In addition, loans were taken out with high interest rates and many banks suspended specie payments.⁵⁵

An additional wrinkle in the dilemma was that some had signed notes backing others in their financial endeavors. Willis Pope, who owned a mercantile house, was deeply in debt and on the verge of losing everything. His loans had been endorsed by his father, LeRoy Pope, as well as both brothers-in-law, John Williams Walker and Thomas Percy. With his own precarious finances compounded by the possible collapse of Willis Pope's business, Walker admitted to a friend, "Here lies my greatest danger."⁵⁶

The early rush to buy land had negative consequences. The minimum tract of land one could buy was 160 acres and the lowest price one could pay was \$2.00 per acre. One fourth of that total amount was required in cash, and one fourth had to be paid each year for the following three years.⁵⁷ The financial panic of 1819 was devastating in that many people

who could not afford their installment lost everything. A year later, Congress reduced the minimum number of purchased acres to eighty at a minimum cost of \$1.25 in cash⁵⁸ – too little, too late.

The financial collapse brought stress, pressure and depression. Lewellen Jones, a veteran of the American Revolution, had just bought a tract of land from Irby Jones (no relation) for \$18,742. Irby Jones owed Lewellen Jones \$8,000 and Lewellen was afraid Irby would default on what was owed him. By buying Irby Jones's property, Lewellen Jones would then owe Irby Jones \$10,742. Inside his unfinished new home of only three weeks, Lewellen Jones hanged himself on the rafter.⁵⁹ He had put himself in deeper financial debt and could see no resolution. His sons were able to maintain the bulk of their father's Avalon estate while many others lost their land, their homes, as well as their hopes and dreams. For so many men, status was tied to their wealth. The worries of the women were more immediate and realistic – how to get food on the table for the next meal.

The rapid expansion of wealth, prosperity, and growth in Madison County had come to a complete and utter halt by the end of 1819. All had hoped the financial storm would soon pass, but many threw in the towel and continued west to Mississippi.

While Huntsville survived and eventually regained lost ground, other communities, now lost to the soft black of the past, hoped to emulate Huntsville's success. The October 17, 1818 edition of the *Alabama Republican* reported that \$27,000 worth of land had just sold for the establishment of the town of Marathon, which would be "laid out by government at the place called Melton's Bluff near the head of the Shoals in Tennessee river."⁶⁰ Land sales in Huntsville

promoted Havannah, a town to be located in Lauderdale County, nine miles from Florence. It was one of forty-two townships where land sales brought a combined total of five million dollars into the government coffers.⁶¹ Monroe, located twenty miles from Huntsville, was established on the south side of the Tennessee River in Cotaco County near Burleson's Ferry. It too has disappeared from memory. Hillsborough Town, sixteen miles from Huntsville, was located on what was then known as the Post Road to Knoxville.⁶² These are just a few of the towns that no longer exist.

Why did Huntsville succeed while other villages did not? Perhaps the residents, stewards of land, prosperity, and pride in their community, are the key. Huntsville has proven to have a knack of reinventing herself when the need arises, conforming to a changing world but able to recognize the importance of our Southern roots.

Two hundred years later, Huntsville continues to be a thriving community, albeit quite different from that described by Anne Newport Royall. At one time, Madison County boasted the cultivation of 1,000 pounds of cotton per acre.⁶⁴ Over the years, the vast fields of cotton have been devoured by crops of asphalt and subdivisions. Progress requires a heavy price.

Today's courthouse, the fourth on that spot, remains the center of city government. One can't help but wonder if those men and women who welcomed President Monroe in the summer of 1819 could have envisioned celebrations of the future. On that same soil, Federal soldiers celebrated the end of the Civil War and military parades circled the square before and after world wars. Well into the next century, loud and impromptu celebrations were held after successful

milestones in the space program. Huntsville residents, who helped America reach far into space, had a special reason to rejoice at the courthouse square.

Did our ancestors look up into the black night sky and imagine that one day, space pioneers of the future would walk the same streets? Did they imagine those same people would look back and wonder about life in 1819? We will never know the answer to that question, but we can be assured that the richness of the beauty that surrounded our ancestors and that same pioneering spirit is with us today.

Footnotes:

¹ G.W. McGinty, "Alabama Makes Her Debut into the Union," *Huntsville Historical Review*, 2:1 (January 1972): p. 48.

² Edward Chambers Betts, *Historic Huntsville from Early History of Huntsville, Alabama 1804 to 1870* (Birmingham: Southern University Press, reprinted 1966 from original printed 1909), p. 37.

³ Ranee' G. Pruitt, *Eden of the South, A Chronology of Huntsville, Alabama 1805-2005* (Huntsville, Alabama: Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, 2005) p. 8.

⁴ McGinty, *Huntsville Historical Review*, p. 48.

⁵ *Alabama Republican*, Huntsville, Alabama, June 5, 1819, p. 2.
digital.archives.alabama.gov/cdm/ref/collection/voices/id/7257, page 2, top of 3rd column.

⁶ *Ibid.*

⁷ James Record, *A Dream Come True, The Story of Madison County and Incidentally of Alabama and the United States, Vol. 1*, (Huntsville, Alabama: John Hicklin Printing Company, 1970), p. 57.

- ⁸ Daniel Dupree, *Transforming the Cotton Frontier, Madison County, 1800-1840* (Baton Rouge and London: Louisiana State University Press, 1997), p. 38.
- ⁹ *Huntsville Times, Huntsville's Sesquicentennial*, September 11-17, 1955.
- ¹⁰ Ibid.
- ¹¹ McGinty, *Huntsville Historical Review*, p. 39.
- ¹² Robert Gamble, *Historic Architecture in Alabama, A Guide to Styles and Types, 1810-1930* (Tuscaloosa and London: The University of Alabama Press, 1990) p. 24.
- ¹³ Betts, *Historic Huntsville from Early History of Huntsville* p. 9.
- ¹⁴ *Huntsville Times, Huntsville's Sesquicentennial*, September 11-17, 1955.
- ¹⁵ Gamble, *Historic Architecture*, p. 24-26.
- ¹⁶ Pruitt, *Eden of the South*, p. 4.
- ¹⁷ Betts, *Historic Huntsville from Early History of Huntsville* p. 30.
- ¹⁸ Anne Newport Royall, *Letters from Alabama, 1817-1822*, edited and annotated by Lucille Griffith (University, Alabama: University of Alabama Press, 1919) p. 118-119.
- ¹⁹ Sarah Huff Fisk, "The Williams Street Area in the Early 1800s," *Huntsville Historical Review* 1:1, January 1971, p. 19.
- ²⁰ Ibid, p. 20.
- ²¹ Dupree, *Transforming the Cotton Frontier*, p. 44.
- ²² Ibid, p. 39.
- ²³ Royall, *Letters from Alabama*, p. 114-115.
- ²⁴ Ibid, p. 139.
- ²⁵ Madison County History (madisoncountyal.gov/government/about-your-county/history)
- ²⁶ Dupree, *Transforming the Cotton Frontier*, p. 39.

²⁷ Record, *A Dream Come True*, p. 55.

²⁸ Ibid, p. 61.

²⁹ Betts, *Historic Huntsville from Early History of Huntsville*, p. 15-16.

³⁰ helionlodge.org.

³¹ *Alabama Republican*, Huntsville, Alabama, October 31, 1818, p. 1.

³² O.C. Skipper, "Huntsville's Green Academy 1812-1862" *Huntsville Historical Review*, 2:4, (October 1972): p. 16-17.

³³ *Huntsville Times, Huntsville's Sesquicentennial*, September 11-17, 1955.

³⁴

[http://huntsvillehistorycollection.org/hh/index.php=Person:Dr. Thomas Fearn](http://huntsvillehistorycollection.org/hh/index.php=Person:Dr._Thomas_Fearn)

³⁵ *Alabama Republican*, Huntsville, Alabama, October 24, 1818, p. 2.

³⁶ Pruitt, *Eden of the South*, p. 7.

³⁷

[http://huntsvillehistorycollection.org/hh/index.php=Person:Dr. Thomas Fearn](http://huntsvillehistorycollection.org/hh/index.php=Person:Dr._Thomas_Fearn)

³⁸ Dupree, *Transforming the Cotton Frontier* p. 156.

³⁹ *Huntsville Times, Huntsville's Sesquicentennial*, September 11-17, 1955. Also, alabamapioneers.com/Presbyterian-history-alabama-10068/ by Donna Causey, see "First Camp-meeting Held in Huntsville

⁴⁰ websites for First Methodist Church, First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, First Baptist Church, and First Presbyterian Church.

⁴¹ *Huntsville Times, Huntsville's Sesquicentennial*, September 11-17, 1955.

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ *Alabama Republican*, Huntsville, Alabama, August 5, 1817.

- ⁴⁴ *Huntsville Times, Huntsville's Sesquicentennial*, September 11-17, 1955.
- ⁴⁵ Ibid.
- ⁴⁶ Ibid.
- ⁴⁷ Dupree, *Transforming the Cotton Frontier* p. 82.
- ⁴⁸ Jacquelyn Procter Reeves "Fare Thee Well – From the Papers of John Williams Walker," *Historic Huntsville Review* 30:1 (Fall-Winter 2004-2005): p. 61.
- ⁴⁹ Record, *A Dream Come True* p. 58.
- ⁵⁰ Record, *A Dream Come True* p. 59.
- ⁵¹ Betts, *Historic Huntsville From Early History of Huntsville*, p. 37.
- ⁵² Henry Marks, "Andrew Jackson's Activities in the Tennessee Valley," *Historic Huntsville Review* 3:2 (April 1973), p. 32-33.
- ⁵³ *Alabama Republican*, Huntsville, Alabama, October 17, 1818, p. 2.
<http://digital.archives.alabama.gov/cdm/compoundobject/collection/voices/id/7340/rec/16>
- ⁵⁴ Dupree, *Transforming the Cotton Frontier* p. 50.
- ⁵⁵ Ibid, p. 76.
- ⁵⁶ Ibid, p. 54.
- ⁵⁷ McGinty, p. 35.
- ⁵⁸ Ibid.
- ⁵⁹ Dupree, *Transforming the Cotton Frontier* p. 57.
- ⁶⁰ *Alabama Republican*, Huntsville, Alabama, October 17, 1818, p. 2.
- ⁶¹ Ibid, p. 3.
- ⁶² Record, *A Dream Come True* p. 56.
- ⁶³ *Alabama Republican*, Huntsville, Alabama, October 24, 1818, p. 4.
- ⁶⁴ www.madisoncountyal.gov/government/about-our-county/history

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