

and said they believed their statement as made through fear and in hope of saving their own lives.

The trial of the Bowman negroes is the longest resulting from the murder, the other two negroes having been tried and convicted within a day's session of the court.

Montgomery Advertiser

March 27, 1914

BOWMAN NEGROES ARE GIVEN LIFE TERMS BY JURY

Declared Guilty of Participation in Murder last Fall of William H. Underwood, a Planter

John and Doc Bowman, negroes, were yesterday convicted of murder in the first degree for killing William H. Underwood last October, and were given life sentences by the jury which tried them. The jury was out less than an hour and returned the verdict about noon.

With the conviction of the two Bowman negroes, the four men charged with killing the prominent white planter near the city last year have been convicted of the crime. Lewis Johnson, who was tried and sentenced to death Wednesday, and Justice Arrington, who was given life imprisonment Tuesday, were the other two charged with the crime.

The State alleged that the Bowman negroes concocted the scheme and that Johnson fired the shot that ended the farmers life. Arrington, who originally confessed and cleared up the mystery, said Johnson actually fired the gun and Johnson laid the crime on one of the Bowman negroes. The Bowman negroes denied any connection whatever with the murder and robbery.

Arrington and Johnson were tried separately and the Bowman negroes were tried together. The four will be sentenced by Judge Brown on Saturday, the usual sentence day of the court.

Montgomery Advertiser

March 29, 1914

JOHNSON TO HANG ON FRIDAY, MAY 15

Judge Brown Sentences Several Negroes, Among Them the Four Who Murdered William H. Underwood

Judge Armstead Brown, in the criminal division of the City Court, yesterday set Friday, May 15, as the day for the hanging of Lewis Johnson, a negro, for the murder of William H. Underwood last October. The negro, who was convicted Wednesday, gave notice of appeal through his attorney, Julian Strassburger, and the sentence was suspended pending the appeal.

Johnson had nothing to say as to why he should not pay the highest penalty for his crime. Judge Brown said it had become his unpleasant duty to pass the sentence and Johnson arose and accepted it.

"The court has ordered that you hang by the neck until you are dead," was the sentence.

Justice Arrington, John and Doc Bowman, convicted of implication in the crime with Johnson were sentenced to life imprisonment in the penitentiary. Doc and John Bowman are 27 and 22 years of age respectively. Arrington did not know his age. They are all accustomed to farm life. Arrington is suffering with tuberculosis while the health of the other two is good.

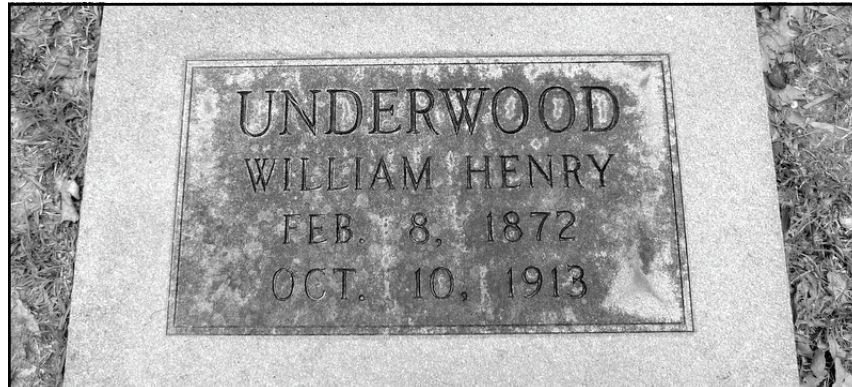
George Brown was sentenced to life imprisonment for the murder of Sherman Williams, his brother-in-law. He is 42 years of age, a farmer, and in poor health. The sentence was suspended pending an appeal.

Monroe Calvin , who killed and robbed Charles Patterson was sentenced to life imprisonment. He did not know his age, is a farmer, and in bad health.

While sentence was being passed on the prisoners a jury returned a verdict convicting Dan Weaver of highway robbery. His punishment was fixed at twenty-five years in the penitentiary and Judge Brown sentenced him immediately. He is 30 years old, a railroad employe, and in good health.

Ethel Williams, a negro woman, was sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary for cutting Cora Crawford to death. She is 27 years old, a cook by trade and suffering with heart trouble.

A number of minor sentences were given prisoners during the morning, and the City Court adjourned for the term after one of the busiest sessions in several years.



Two sections of text from burial slab for William Henry Underwood, Underwood Cemetery located off County Road 24

COMMENTARY ON NEWS ARTICLES

The preceding transcriptions of articles, which appeared in the *Montgomery Advertiser* at various dates between 1913 and 1914, tell the tragic story of the demise of local planter, William Henry Underwood, (1872-1913). The articles are available on microfilm at the Alabama Department of Archives and History, but do not print out in a readable format. There are discrepancies in the news articles for which there are no explanations. For example, the articles begin in 1913 reporting on suspect, Louis Perry, who in subsequent articles is reported to be Louis Johnson. It is assumed they are one in the same. The same is true for Will Roberson who becomes Richard Roberson. The article of October 12, 1913 stated that Underwood was 63 years of age at the time of death when in fact he was 41 years old. It also lists a Mrs. John Sellers as a daughter, which I believe should be listed as Regina Gomillion Underwood. I have not found a daughter listed as Mrs. John Sellers. The news articles contain information on other crimes committed in Montgomery County during the same time period as the Underwood murder. These have been retained in order for the reader to understand the environment of Montgomery County in 1913.

The *Advertiser* reports that Horace Hood was Sheriff of Montgomery County at the time of the crime. He had been appointed to the office by Governor B. B. Comer in 1906 to fill the unexpired term of his predecessor. Hood was an ambitious and hard working fellow who was involved with newspaper publishing in several towns in Alabama. *The Selma Daily Echo*, the *Monroe Journal*, the *Montgomery Dispatch* and finally the *Montgomery Journal* were all publications in which Hood was involved. In 1882-84 Hood was

elected assistant clerk of the house of representatives of the Alabama legislature and ultimately in 1898 was elected a member only to be unsuccessful in a bid for a second term in 1900. Additionally, he unsuccessfully ran for State auditor. At this point he received his appointment as sheriff and was duly elected to a full term, serving until 1915. He lived in an imposing home in Montgomery, which is now owned by the Landmarks Foundation of Montgomery. The Ware-Farley-Hood home can be seen at Old Alabama Town. To further place this crime in context of the times in Montgomery, William W. Gunter was Mayor of Montgomery and Woodrow Wilson was president of the United States of America.

The articles published in the *Montgomery Advertiser* have references to a section of early Montgomery known as Boguehomme. This area of the city is geographically located on South Decatur Street near present day Alabama State University and a housing project known as Patterson Court. Boguehomme was described by Mary Ann Neeley in *The Works of Matthew Blue: Montgomery's First Historian*, edited and annotated by Mary Ann Neeley (p.234). Neeley's description states, "Bogue Homme was on the southern outskirts of town and had a rather unsavory reputation stemming from the saloons, gaming establishments, and houses of ill repute in the area." This was the first part of the city that residents from the rural areas encountered on making their way to Montgomery to conduct business. The reverse was true as they returned to their homes in rural areas of Montgomery County. It was William Henry Underwood's last opportunity for supplies, food, and drink before the long, dark ride back to Robertson's Crossroads.

Little did he know that the men, who later in the evening of October 10, 1913 would brutally take his life, were in the same area of Montgomery, perhaps following his activities. The *Advertiser* reports that Underwood visited Seller's Grocery on North Court Street, which was owned and managed by his wife's Seller's relatives and Dean's Store listed in a Montgomery City Directory for 1910 as a general merchandise store at 901 South Decatur Street owned by William T. Dean. Dean lived just around the corner at 128 Cramer Street. The African-Americans, Arrington, Johnson and Doc Bowman made stops at Hamilton's Bar which is found in the 1910 City Directory as A.B. Hamilton Grocer at 807 South Decatur. The Grocer may have had a bar inside the store as did another of the stops for the perpetrators, Walker's Store. It is listed as Grocer and Saloon, owned by James L. Walker at 831 South Decatur Street. Also listed in the City Directory of 1910 is Boguehomme Gin Co. at 1018 S. Decatur. It could be possible that Underwood sold his cotton there and then took his income to Seller's Grocery Company to pay his bills. The other option for Underwood was to have sold his cotton in downtown Montgomery. The accompanying photograph gives an idea of what Underwood might have seen as he made his way into town to sell his cotton. All of the above establishments can be seen on the Sanborn fire insurance maps of 1910 reproduced here. These maps can be found at [alabamamaps.ua.edu website](http://alabamamaps.ua.edu).

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A typical scene of wagons filled with cotton bales waiting to be sold in downtown Montgomery. Photograph courtesy of Landmarks Foundation of Montgomery.

After his murder, The *Montgomery Advertiser* states that Underwood's body was taken to Tice, Moore and Diffly morgue. This business was listed as Tice, Moore and Diffly Embalmers and Undertakers found in the Montgomery City Directory of 1913 as located at 111 South Court Street. This Montgomery business was served by W.H. Tice as president, Fred O. Moore as Manager and J. J. Diffly whose position was not given. It was here that William Henry Underwood's body would have been prepared for burial in the Underwood Family Cemetery near Robertson's Crossroads in southern Montgomery County.

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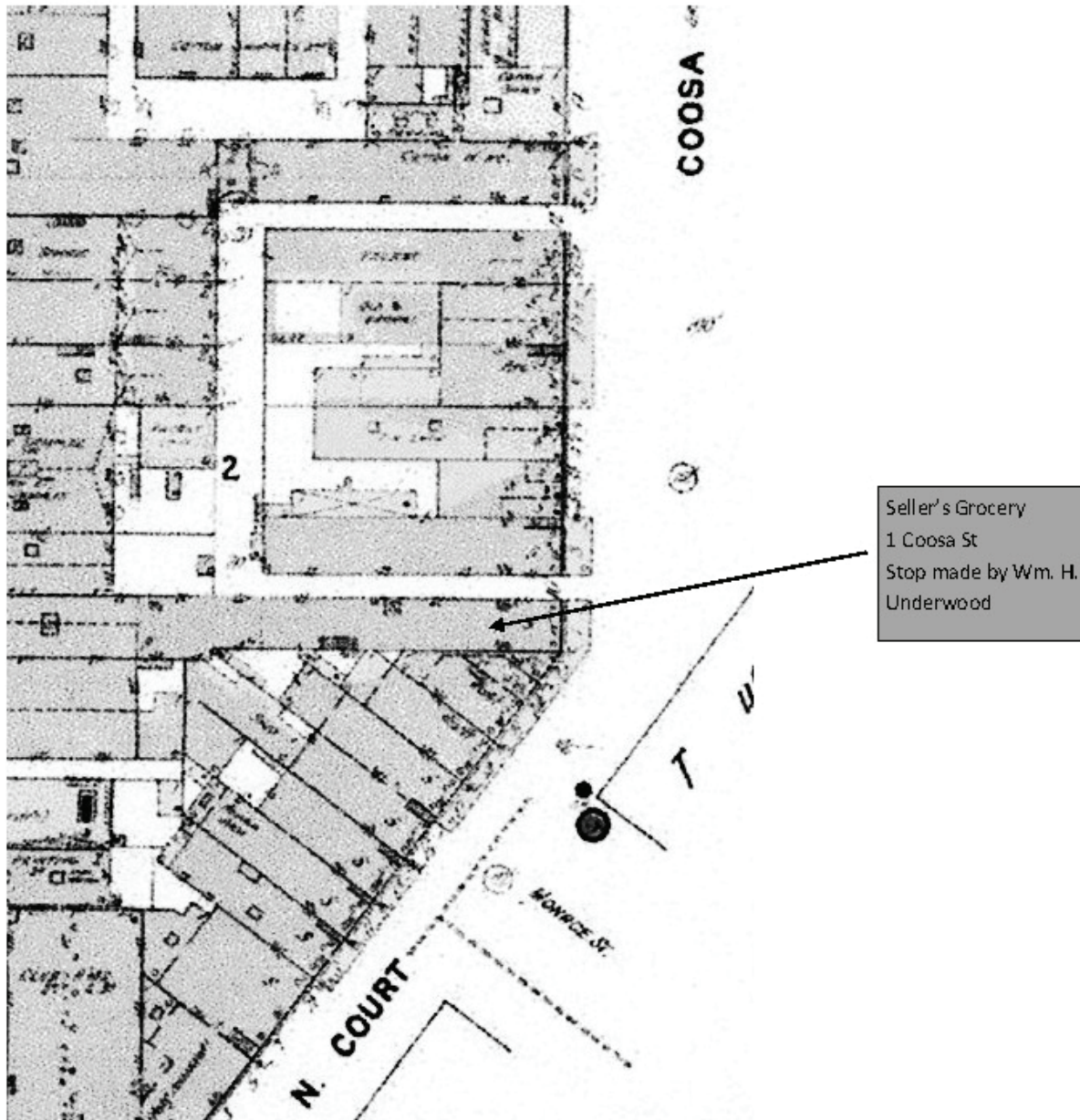
County Jail of Montgomery County, Alabama

Register of Prisoners Committed to the

2878

No.	NAME OF PRISONER	Description of Prisoner	Charge	By Whom Brought	Prisoner	When Committed	When Discharged	HOW SUBSCRIBED	REMARKS
	Jessie or Corry	C Nationality Sex Age Height Complexion Color of Eyes Color of Hair	Murder	Dry Court		Nov 10 1913	Mar 31 1914	J. F. Brown, Jr.	Sentence 2 yrs
	Bob Sherman	C Nationality Sex Age Height Complexion Color of Eyes Color of Hair	Murder	Dry Court		Nov 11 1913		J. F. Brown, Jr.	
	John Sherman	C Nationality Sex Age Height Complexion Color of Eyes Color of Hair	Murder	Dry Court		Nov 11 1913		J. F. Brown, Jr.	
	W. H. Sherman	C Nationality Sex Age Height Complexion Color of Eyes Color of Hair	Murder	Dry Court		Nov 15 1913		J. F. Brown, Jr.	Sentence 2 yrs
	John Sherman	C Nationality Sex Age Height Complexion Color of Eyes Color of Hair	Murder	Dry Court		Nov 15 1913		J. F. Brown, Jr.	Sentence 2 yrs
	Louis Johnson	C Nationality Sex Age Height Complexion Color of Eyes Color of Hair	Murder	Dry Court		Nov 15 1913			
	Louis Chew	C Nationality Sex Age Height Complexion Color of Eyes Color of Hair	Murder	Dry Court		Nov 12 1913			
	Wesley Williams	C Nationality Sex Age Height Complexion Color of Eyes Color of Hair	Murder	Dry Court		Nov 12 1913			

William H. Underwood's Last Day in Montgomery



Adopted from 1910 Sanborn (Fire Insurance) Maps, Montgomery, Alabama, Vol. 1, Sheet 6

William H. Underwood's Last Day in Montgomery



A.B. Hamilton's Grocery
807 S Decatur
Assailants Arrington, Johnson & Doc Bowman were seen here

Walker's Store
831 S Decatur
Assailants were here

Dean's Store
901 S Decatur
Stop made by Wm. H. Underwood

Bogehomme Gin Co.
1018 S Decatur
Possible stop made by Wm. H. Underwood

Adapted from 1910 Sanborn (Fire Insurance) Maps, Montgomery, Alabama, Vol. 2, Sheets 135 and 141.

Who Was William Henry Underwood?

In the 98 years since the murder of William Henry Underwood, (hereafter: WHU) details of his life have been blurred with the passage of time. Searching for the fabric of the man was not very productive. Plus he led a relatively short life in which to contribute to his community. His great grandson, Dr. Robert Rex Payne of Birmingham, related to me that WHU's tragic death was simply not spoken of in the family. His name was not mentioned. The trauma and grief suffered by his family is certainly understandable and may explain the family's reticence to speak of this episode in their lives.

WHU's parents were Robert Robinson Underwood (1832-1906) and his third wife Martha Caroline Smith Underwood (1844-1896). *Montgomery County Marriage Records, 1860-1877* indicate that RRU and Martha Caroline were married February 7, 1871 by P.W. Spear, Ordained Minister of God. From the 1880 Montgomery County, Alabama census records, two children William and Laban ages 8 and 3 respectively are listed. These are most likely his children with Martha Caroline with William being William Henry. Robert Robinson was married four times. His first wife was Dorcas R. Wilson whom he married on December 23, 1856 by Wm. C. Hays. She is buried in the Hood Cemetery off County Road 70 in south Montgomery County. According to an inventory taken by Rosemary Kennington in 2011, Dorcas' grave indicates that she was born December 27, 1837 and died December 11, 1857. This brief union produced no children. Mary Ann F. Amason whom Underwood married on January 15, 1859 in Montgomery County was his second wife. They had four children Ann Elizabeth, Dorcas R., Joseph and Lucy. Ann Elizabeth (Smith), Lucy and Dorcas are buried in the Underwood Cemetery. Robert Robinson married his fourth wife, Piety Jane Moseley (1840-1911), in 1897. Underwood would have been 64 years of age at the time of this marriage. Piety Jane is buried in the Ramer Cemetery and it appears to visitors to her grave that no family members are buried near her resting place. Robert Robinson Underwood died at age 74 in 1906. Robert and Piety are referred to in a death tribute by M. V. Gibson reproduced here from *Signs of the Times*, Volume 75, January 1, 1907, No1. WHU's parents, Robert Robinson and Martha Caroline Smith Underwood are buried at the Underwood cemetery near their son.

A further look into the life of WHU's father reveals that Robert Robinson is listed in the Minutes of the Ebenezer (Primitive) Baptist Association meeting in 1869 as a delegate representing Mt. Pleasant Church along with O.H.P. Cook and L.D. Walter. The *Signs of the Times* publication of 1907 reports that RRU joined the Mt. Pleasant Church in 1870, thus it can be concluded that he was a delegate to the Association during his first year of church membership. Mt. Pleasant Church is listed in 1869 with 58 members and located in Montgomery County receiving mail from a Ramer Post Office address. In Ebenezer Association Minutes for 1875, the church again has a Ramer (Ramah) address, 43 members and P. Jones, C.R. Sulevant and R. R. Underwood were Association delegates. Mt. Pleasant Church was listed in the 1878 Association minutes as receiving mail from a Post Office at Raif Branch. Raif Branch at Dublin, Alabama has been located on a 1901 Montgomery County map. The same delegates sent in 1875 returned in 1878 and the church membership decreased to 38 members. Despite efforts to locate the Mt. Pleasant Primitive Baptist Church, disappointingly, it has not been found.

The first recorded land patent of the Underwood family in Alabama was for Thomas Underwood who obtained a patent on March 1, 1824 at St. Stephens, Alabama. This patent was located in Township 14 North, Range 18 East in section 22, Montgomery County, Alabama. His father Josiah Underwood is found on a census record for 1830 in Pike County, Alabama and Josiah was issued a land patent on January 10, 1831 in Pike County; he died in 1832 in the same county. Josiah Underwood's son, Laban B. Underwood (1803-1865) obtained a land patent in each of the years 1833, 1834 and 1837, all located very near but not including Robertson's Crossroads in Montgomery County. Another of Josiah sons, John W. received four patents in the years 1831, 1834 and (2)1837. All were in the same area of the county as his brother's patents. Nancy Giles Underwood (1809-1879) wife of Laban was born in Georgia as was Laban. There are no land records found for Laban earlier than 1833; however, they probably came to Alabama earlier based on W.G. Robertson's statement in his *Recollections of the Early Settlers of Montgomery County, Alabama*. Laban B. Underwood "was the first man to settle on the east side of Ramer Creek around 1822." Laban and Nancy lived on a small farm and with good management and hard work, built a comfortable home and produced eleven children, all who lived to adulthood. Laban B. and Nancy Underwood are the grandparents of WHU (1872-1913).

PIETY JANE (HILL) SMITH MOSELEY was a typical step mother and anything but pious. She soon had her step-daughter LULA POWELL where she would not come to the house and when her stepson FRANK came home from college she'd hide his harness so he couldn't go to see LELA SHACKELFORD because she wanted FRANK to marry someone else. When ADKIN was sick he had to drink lemonade and PIETY would fix him one glass alright but she'd just pour water over the peelings and give it to him if he wanted any more. PIETY upon her husband ADKIN'S death took almost all of everything even the quilts FRANK'S mother had made for him. FRANK asked for them but PIETY said "you are not married and don't need them". When FRANK married he asked again and she said, "you have no home of your own and don't need them." He never did get his quilts either. A stock saying about PIETY was that she came to ADKIN'S without anything but went away with two wagonloads of things and these wagons were loaded to their limit.

Comments about Piety Jane (Hill) Moseley (Underwood), 2nd wife of Adkin McLemore Moseley of Pintlala, AL. Written about Piety Jane by Franklin Shackelford Moseley in his published, *Family Tree*, in 1927. Franklin was the grandson of Adkin.

BROTHER R. R. Underwood was born Dec. 14th, 1832, and moved to Alabama in early life and lived in the same county until his death. By his first companion were born to him several children; some of them are still living. He joined the Primitive Baptist Church at Mount Pleasant, in Montgomery Co., in 1870, and lived and died in fellowship with the same church, and all other orderly Baptists. On June 27th, 1897, he was married to Mrs. P. J. Mesley, who loved and nursed him, spending her time to make him comfortable; she was a faithful and loving companion till his death, which took place Sept. 7th, 1906. His body was interred in the family graveyard on the old homestead. The funeral service was conducted by Elder J. A. Mills, of our faith and order. He leaves his dear companion and children and a host of friends to mourn their loss, but God, who doeth all things right, called him home. My acquaintance with him was for many years. I have tried in much weakness to serve the church of his membership for more than eight years. He was not a man of many words on any subject, but when he spoke it was by way of considering, and in all the troubles which the churches of God have passed through he stood and contended for the old gospel. Let me say to the loving companion who is left all alone, never to see his face or hear his voice again on earth, Still hope to meet him and others who have gone before. May God be the husband to her. Dear children, may God bless you all, and especially his very dear boys, and make you just such men as your father was. May God bless you all for the hour of death, that you all may enter rest.

M. V. GIBSON.

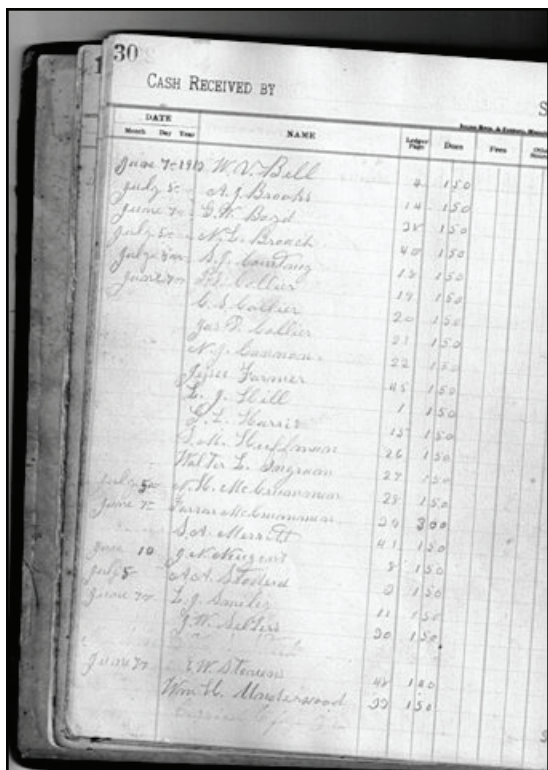
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, Alabama.

Memorial tribute written by M.V. Gibson about Robert Robinson Underwood, father of Wm. Henry Underwood, in the Baptist publication, *Signs of The Times*, 1907

William Henry Underwood married Cydia/Ciddie Lucinda Emerline Sellers in 1893. Ciddie, as she was most frequently referred, was born into the prominent Sellers family of Ramer, Alabama. Her father was Joseph Samuel Sellers and her mother was Lucinda Emerline Carter Sellers. William Henry and Ciddie had five children who lived to adulthood: Regina Gomillion, Robert Rex, Mattie Lou, George Beckham, and Joseph Samuel.

Nothing is known of William Henry's education or his church affiliation. He was a member of the Ramer Masonic Lodge #243, which met upstairs in the Sampey Memorial Baptist Church in Ramer. The Ramer Lodge was formed in 1857. This building still stands in 2011 just across the street from the Ramer City Cemetery where his in-laws, the Joseph Samuel Sellers are buried. Lodge minutes reflect that William Henry petitioned for membership in the Lodge in 1904 and was admitted in 1905. He served as Junior Deacon in 1908-1910. His duties as Junior Deacon were to guard the outer door of the Lodge. Underwood paid his dues for the last time in 1912.

Oral tradition in the Underwood family has passed down a story, which reflects the character of William Henry Underwood. In an unknown year, two African-American youths were about to be hung by the Ku



Treasurer's Receipt Book for Ramer Lodge # 243, shows dues paid by Wm. Henry Underwood Scan courtesy Alan Davis

Klux Klan somewhere in south Montgomery County. William Henry Underwood appeared on the scene and protested the action about to be taken. He reportedly stated to the Klan members present that the young men were innocent and that they should just hang him instead upon which the youths were released. This forever put Underwood in the good graces of the local African-American community. They respected and appreciated his actions. Robert Rex Payne relates that this incident was told to his mother, Myriam Underwood Payne, by Rosa Sankey, an African-American woman from the Ada area. The reputation of later generations of Underwoods was that they treated African-Americans who worked for them or lived on their property with respect and dignity. Another interesting story passed along by Robert Rex Payne was that the Robert Rex Underwood Store at Ada, Alabama was one of the few stores in South Alabama to have a restroom marked for use of "colored" clientele. This partly explains the popularity of the store with out-of-state African-American travelers who stopped for gas at the general merchandise store run by Robert Rex Underwood and his wife Anna Belle for many years. It was popular in the Ada, Legrand and Sprague areas of the county as shoppers could find everything from groceries, kerosene, clothing items, and animal food to horse collars. Myriam Underwood Payne, daughter of Robert Rex Underwood, was the last Underwood to manage the store. The building still stands in 2011 but has been sold out of the Underwood family.

Cydia Lucinda Emerline Sellers Underwood

The wife of WHU was the daughter of Joseph Samuel Sellers and Lucinda Emerline Carter Sellers, and was best known as Ciddie. Various versions of her name have been found such as Ciddie Lucinda Emerline and Cydia Elizabeth and Cydia Lucinda Emerline . She was born in 1877 and in 1893, at age 16, married William Henry Underwood. The couple produced six children: Regina Gomillion, b. 1894; Robert Rex, b. 1896; Mattie Lou, b. 1899; George Beckham, b. 1901, unnamed infant, b. and d. 1903, and Joseph Samuel, b. 1906. Regina would have been 19 years old when her father was killed; Robert Rex, 16; Mattie Lou, 14; George Beckham, 12 and Samuel would have only been 7 years old. What a grave responsibility for a mother in 1913. Oral family tradition says that Robert Rex was a student at nearby Highland Home College at the time of his father's death and that he returned home at 16 years of age to run the family farm. After the capture, conviction and sentencing of Lewis Johnson to be hanged for his crime, Robert Rex needed to seek special permission from the courts to attend the hanging, as he was a minor. This is also based on family oral tradition. It is unfathomable to empathize with this young son. How the family managed is not known. Federal Census records for 1910, a mere three years before the death of WHU, indicate that the family lived at "Tuckers Store" or "Tuckers" which is an early name for Grady, Alabama. Census records for 1920, show that Ciddie was living with her sister, Willie Sellers Milligan in Montgomery, who was married to Dr. Rufus Milligan. Where were the children? They are not listed on the census forms. At an unknown year Ciddie began living with her daughter, Mattie Lou and her husband Leon Bedsole . The three at one time lived



Robert Rex Underwood Store, Ada, Alabama as seen in 2011. Photograph courtesy Gary Burton

in Gadsden, Alabama but returned to Montgomery County, near the Fleta community. Lowell Thomas Hataway, nephew of Bedsole, believes this was in the 1940s. After Mattie Lou became ill, (unknown year) Ciddie lived with son, Sam and his wife Claudie Belle Carr Underwood in Ada. She died in 1962 and is buried with Sam and Claudie Belle at the Forest Hills Cemetery in Snowdown. This cemetery was established in 1955 and has since changed names four times. These names are: Montgomery Memory Gardens, Meadow Lawn Memory Gardens, Woodland Hills Memorial Gardens and finally Forest Hill Memorial Park. These name changes make it confusing for researchers unfamiliar with its history when searching for interments there.

Ciddie lived a sad life in many respects. According to a website devoted to the Sellers family and her mother, Lucinda Emerline Carter Sellers was a patient at Bryce Hospital in Tuscaloosa. We are mindful that this was in an era when behavior was sometimes misdiagnosed and there were few successful treatments for mental illnesses of any type. She is reported to have died at the hospital in 1903. Four years **earlier** Ciddie's brother, Robert Gomillian, died of a knife wound after an altercation with another man in Crenshaw County, Alabama. Thirteen years **later**, her husband was lost to an act of violence, which must have been almost unbearable for a young mother with five children to rear. Despite her many woes Ciddie is remembered by PHA member Lowell Thomas Hataway as being tall, thin, elegant in appearance with a lively personality. He found her fun to be around at family gatherings. To him her sense of humor could sometimes be a bit risqué, which did not seem to match her outward genteel appearance.

Ciddie's children led productive lives and cared for their mother. Regina Underwood married John B. Sneed and they had four children: Wm. Constantine, John, Jr., Beckham Underwood and Muriel. Regina died in 1955 and is buried at Forest Hills Memorial Gardens. Robert Rex (1896-1971) married Anna (Annie) Belle Parker (1899-1980) in 1918 and they had two daughters: Myriam and Gloria. This couple is buried at the Ramer Cemetery. Rex served as a deacon at the Sampey Memorial Baptist Church in Ramer. Ciddie and WHU's third child was Mattie Lou who married Leonadis Bedsole and they had one child, William Andrew. They are all buried at the Forest Hills Memorial Gardens Cemetery. George Beckham Underwood (1901-1950) married Elizabeth Persia Guy (date unknown and children unknown). He is buried in the Underwood Cemetery. Youngest son Joseph Samuel married Claudie Bell Carr in 1924 and they had three daughters: twins, Geraldine and Josephine and Ciddie. The Samuel Underwoods are buried at the Forest Hills Memorial Garden Cemetery in Snowdown. Robert Rex and Sam were large landowners in Montgomery County with many business interests. Together their landholdings numbered in the thousands of acres. Both men ran general merchandise stores, owned large herds of cattle and Sam had a successful timber business.

The Underwoods were one of the earliest families to settle in the south Montgomery County area. The family grew in terms of land holdings and business enterprises. There are no Underwoods currently living in the Ada/Robertson's Cross Roads area of the county. It is hoped that this article will bring one of the county's pioneering families back into the consciousness of readers.

Acknowledgements

My deep appreciation to Mary Grota of Sturgeon Bay Wisconsin whose initial inquiry about the Underwood Cemetery sparked this long and often frustrating search. Her help and that of Dr. Robert Rex Payne of Birmingham was invaluable and the beginning of new internet friendships. Sincere thanks go to Gary Burton for his many hours reading from a microfilm reader and never refusing to find "just one more thing." We **will** find Mt. Pleasant Church! Thanks to Alan Davis for his Ramer Lodge archives; to Ricky McLaney for a driving tour of Underwood territory; to David and Ann Latham, Julieanne and Lowell Hataway for sharing personal memories of the Underwoods; and to Lyn Frazer at the Montgomery County Archives for locating jail records documenting the crimes recorded in the *Montgomery Advertiser*; and to Jerrie Burton for scanning images.

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