

Albert Headley and “A. Headley & Son” Business by the Depot
By Derric Scott
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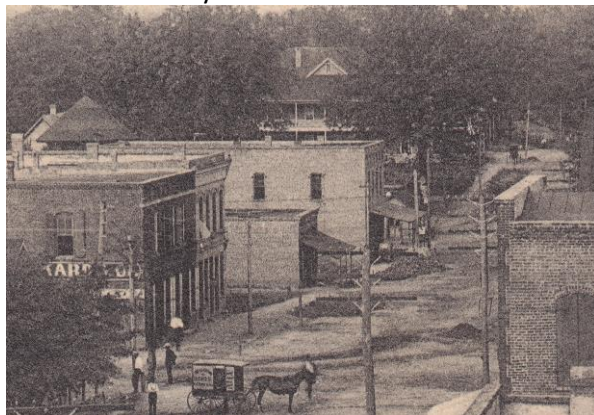
By Derric Scott

Many of the earliest photos of Clanton showed “Main Street” looking down 2nd Avenue North from 8th Street. In most of those, one of the most prominent features was the large two story brick building on the south side, sitting by the railroad.



Ca 1908 postcard of Clanton, 2nd Ave N looking east from 8th St. A. Headley & Son store by RR on right side.

Originally the store on the corner was built of wood and owned by Albert Headley and carried a stock of dry goods, groceries, and general merchandise. In 1897 he began to consider rebuilding it in brick, but it took several years for this idea to become reality. In May of 1901 Dr. E. A. Matthews bought the lot and planned to tear down the wooden building and build a two story brick one. However, it didn't happen then because a huge fire on the block in July 1901 destroyed A. Headley's building and 8 others. Rebuilding took a good bit of time and when they planned the new store they decided on the brick two-story design. Construction finally began in August of 1903. By April of 1904 the work had completed and Albert Headley was back in the building. Albert Headley continued in business with his son under the name “**A. Headley and Son**” for several years.



Ca 1905 postcard showing Pinckard Co. on corner, Tipton Mullins next door, unknown building, then A. Headley's by the RR.

Something in the business changed, however, and beginning around 1907 the business was advertised as **H. Headley and Bro.** “Successors to A. Headley and Son.” Harmon Headley was the brother “H.” and a son of Albert Headley. The **H. Headley & Bro.** continued in business for several years and then the name was switched back to **A. Headley & Son**. One last twist was that beginning in 1910 there are advertisements for **Headley & Co.**, which may or may not have been the same company or people.

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Main Street Clanton view east on 2nd Avenue North from about 8th Street, A. Headley's store on right.

Finally a bankruptcy notice was filed in February 1922 by A. Headley and he worked as a farmer after that.

Albert Headley's wife Emily (Crawford) died in April 1929. Albert died 10 years later in 1939 at the age of 86. They are buried in the Pleasant Grove Methodist Cemetery. They had two surviving sons, Harmon and Cleve. Harmon was apparently with Albert in the business and then was a farmer and Cleve was a barber.

More on the building:

Feb 1922 **A. Headley** filed bankruptcy.

Jan 1925 **Wingard Brothers** move out.

Feb 1926 **W. A. Huckabee** moved his **café** business in.

Oct 1933 **John Gore** advertises **fruit** stand there.

Jul 1934 **Sampey Davis** moves **restaurant** in and buys out **Gore fruit stand**.

Nov 1934 **Aubrey Gore** opened a **fruit and candy store** there.

Jan 1935 **Red Eyed John Gore** to use it again this year.

Jan 1937 **Little Eat Shop** opens by **John Gore's Little Fruit Store** and **Chilton Co Exchange** (Evan Parrish)

Sep 1937 approx. **S. A. Jones** opens **Jones Seed and Feed Co.** in.

Sep 1939 **Sanford, Wagoner, and Glass** moved their **barber shop** in.

May 1947, Jun 1948 **Drucilla Williams** running **boarding house** upstairs.

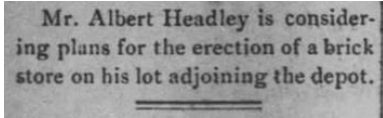
Nov 1956 **Jones Seed and Feed Co** recently moved across the street.

Feb 1957 The **H & R Furniture Company** moved in.

References

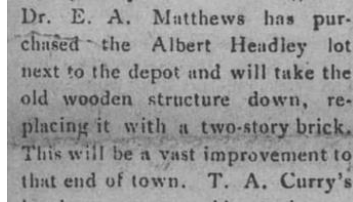
Facebook groups "U know u lived in CLANTON as a kid," "WE GREW UP IN CLANTON, ALABAMA" and others.

Union Banner:



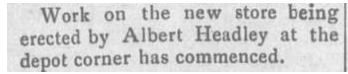
Mr. Albert Headley is considering plans for the erection of a brick store on his lot adjoining the depot.

7/8/1897



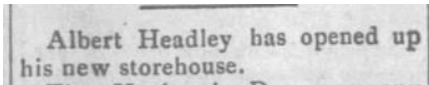
Dr. E. A. Matthews has purchased the Albert Headley lot next to the depot and will take the old wooden structure down, replacing it with a two-story brick. This will be a vast improvement to that end of town. T. A. Curry's

5/30/1901



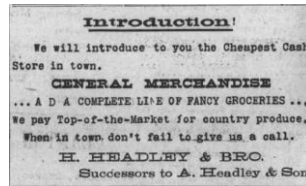
Work on the new store being erected by Albert Headley at the depot corner has commenced.

10/8/1903



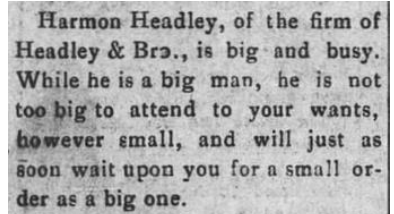
Albert Headley has opened up his new storehouse.

4/7/1904



Introduction!
We will introduce to you the Cheapest Cash Store in town.
GENERAL MERCHANDISE
... A D A COMPLETE LINE OF FANCY GROCERIES ...
We pay Top-of-the-Market for country produce.
When in town don't fail to give us a call.
H. HEADLEY & BRO.
Successors to A. Headley & Son

3/28/1907



Harmon Headley, of the firm of Headley & Bro., is big and busy. While he is a big man, he is not too big to attend to your wants, however small, and will just as soon wait upon you for a small order as a big one.

8/8/1907