

Where We Lived

I was born in a log cabin on Downs Road in Mt. Olive, Alabama. It had a dirt floor and no ceiling. It had one room. When I was about 18 months old we moved to Crocker Junction, about 4 miles away. My brother, Pat was born there.

About six months later we moved back to Downs Road into an old corn crib. (That's where they at one time stored corn.) My dad and the owner, Mr. Buckelew, converted it to where we could live in it. It had cracks in the floor you could see through. The walls were a little better, but not much. We moved from there into Mr. Down's father's house.

It was a GOOD house. It had been sealed inside all the walls and ceiling. Dad had been working for a man, Ira Handcock. He had a large farm and dad did the plowing with a mule for 50 cents a day, for 16 hours per day, 7 days a week. Dad started working for Mr. Down's on the chicken farm for \$1.00 per day, about the same hours and still plowing. This was about 1934 or 35.

We moved from there to Wylam in Birmingham, Alabama in 1937. We then moved next door in 1940. Dad bought that house and they lived in it till just before they died. After Dot and I married in 1948, we lived in Pratt City, in Birmingham. Then Fairfield, Alabama and back to Wylam in the only house on that block that I hadn't already lived in.

From there we moved to Bayview, Alabama. Then we bought the house in Hueytown, Alabama in 1952 [*actually 1954*ⁱ] and there we stayed.

ⁱ H.H. "Coot" Little told this story as part of the Vincent Family genealogy themed Cousin Camp in April 2003. The house he bought in 1952 (located at 142 Hardy Rd., Hueytown, AL) had belonged to a family named Skinner. In 1949, my father W.G. Vincent had bought the property next door (146 Hardy Rd.). Skinner bought the house on a low-interest veterans loan. Coot said he "took over the payments" (meaning he got the same loan rate) for which he was always grateful. Coot was probably in error about the year they bought the house in Hueytown. I recall that I was already attending school and in the 2nd grade (1954) before Skinner sold the house. His oldest daughter, Sue, confirmed this. She said she was 5 years old and I was 7 when we first met as new neighbors. That was 1954. 13 years later, I married Sue and became Coot's first son-in-law. ~Ron Vincent