

WPA Alabama Writers Project
FOLKLORE
Baldwin County, #6

Note: this is unrequested and will not be
inserted in your guide book but if it were the
tourists might appreciate our kine more!

Box 214
Fairhope, Alabama.
Oct. 24, 1938.

THE SACRED KINE of BALDWIN

By Lawrence F. Evans

Mokkell

The British have their India, a vast far flung Empire that sprawls over Asia like a spider-web, teeming with millions of brown peoples who bow down and worship the SACRED COW. Here in America, we do not let the British surpass us for in that vast southerly Empire of Baldwin, State of Alabama, the cow is also held to be a sacred being.

Stalking serenely the SACRED COW habits the ways of man in uncounted numbers. With more hard roads than any other agricultural county, the Empire of Baldwin has turned them over to Madame COW, sacred, untroubled, calm and sure. Lay a hand on the Sacred Cow and the law reaches out her long arm. Hit a Sacred Cow with your automobile and pay a fine of no less than one hundred dollars or go to jail. Pass her you cannot - unless you go in the ditch - but move her - impossible. While you sit and angrily blow your horn she complacently chews her cud and deigns to cast an unruffled eye at mere man. Resting regally on her barreled belly she swishes her tail, tosses her head and calmly chews her cud some more. You get out of the car, approach her and slap her on her boxy rump and she merely chews her cud. Exasperated you get in the car and being unable to drive around the herd who blocks the highway so effectively, you drive toward the Sacred Cow to dislodge her from a place you'd like to pass and presto! Where there was no one but you and the Sacred Cattle before, there will be her protector and two witnesses. You have committed sacrilege! You have erred gravely. You have made the unforgivable mistake - it is the unpardonable sin. Madame Cow's Sacred Person must be avenged. Pay or go to Jail! Country lanes, dirt roads, paved roads and town streets are the worshiping places of Madame Cow.

In winter, when night falls and the Fog rolls in from off the Bay the Highway belongs especially to the Sacred Cow. In herds she sleep on the pavement, knowing full well that they are protected by law. If perchance, dear visitor, you should drive into a flock of them - they will not move but you had better. It would be better that you instantly get out of the machine, remove the license tag and motor number and abandon the automobile to the Sacred Cow for her worshipers will hunt you down relentlessly until they have avenged her regal person. If you are stranger, dear visitor, you would do well to heed this warning for you will lay in bastille vile if you but touch the Sacred Cow. She is the bringer of horseflies, cattle flies, cattle ticks, mosquitoes and houseflies but touch her you cannot. She is the wrecker of many cars and the Doctors of the Empire bow down to her for she send them patients! She is the murderer of numberers of citizens but the undertaker bows down to her because their business is increased. She is the wrecker of truckloads of produce where she has soent the night and scattered her barnyard refuse to make a slippery pavement, but the courts of the Empire bow down to her because she brings them business. County, state and federal governments plant grass along the highway that she may feed her sacred person. Tottering on her scrawny legs, she nips the sod on the highway and then sits down to mull over her position. Native and ugly with ribs unsightly Madam Cow wanders from one end of the Empire to the other. She has no owner - unless man touches her person, and then her guardian appears like magic and deputy sherrif and justice of the peace share in the spoils of your pocket book. Romping in the warm southern air, her few scrub calves push weak noses into an empty udder for a few days and then are taught to make their living on the highway. Ah yes, my friend if you drive through the Empire of Baldwin heed this well, get you a megaphone and in it you must yell "Long live the Sacred Cow!"

Week ending Dec. 24, 1936.
S-200

François Ludgère Diard, -1-
Identification No. 0149-5252
Federal Writers' Project, Dist. 6.
WPA Project 3014, Mobile, Ala.

Box 214,
Mobile, Ala.
October 24, 1936
ODD STORY OF BLASTED VEAL BY LIGHTNING.

(Compiled by François Ludgère Diard.)

Baldwin Co.

On Thursday, May 31st, 1883, during a violent lightning and thunder storm that visited the Bay Minette, Baldwin County, Ala., vicinity, five calves belonging to Mr. Hiram Taylor of Bay Minette, were killed by lightning. The calves were standing near a tree which was struck and shattered into splinters. The shock killed the calves in such a manner that their bodies were stiffened like iron while still standing erect on their feet. So perfect were their position as the shock struck them, at a distance the observer could not detect they were standing stiff in death. Most people and animals when struck by death, if standing, generally fall over on the ground or floor, but not the case with the calves owned by Mr. Hiram Taylor, who allowed them to remain as were in the position on the ground when death struck them.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: A scrapbook clipping from The Mobile Register of June 1, 1883.

The story as related by Mr. Hiram Taylor to Messrs. Marx, of Mobile, who gave the story to The Mobile Register.

A campaign was put on to raise money to have the bell lined with silver. The result was that \$800. in silver was raised and shipped to West Point, N.Y. where the makers in 1858 completed the bell and sent it to Baldwin County and it was immediately hung in the belfry. The bell had not been in place long before the call was for something besides the call to worship, the calling of the death knell or a simple mid-week prayer service, for war was declared between the states and the silver-lined church bell called people together to discuss the situation and learn the latest developments. Later in the war

Source of information.
Rev. S.D. Bradley
Mrs. W.C. Mason
Fairhope, Ala.
Mrs. J. Van Iderstein,
Daphne, Ala.

p.2 * possible continuation
Missing!

François Ladgère Diard,
Box 214, on No. 6143-22
Fairhope, Alabama
October 24, 1938.
L.F.E.
WPA Project No. 445A, Mobile

THE SILVER-LINED CHURCH BELL

VACATION VISIT TO THE TWO PRINCIPAL

GHOST TOWNS IN BALDWIN COUNTY, ALA.

One block south of the Daphne post office and three blocks west is the oldest Methodist Church in this vicinity. Not only is it interesting and a landmark because of its Civil War record and because there is the old cemetery still almost under its very steps but because the bell in the church tower is lined with silver and has one of the sweetest tones of any bell ever heard by a traveler - even one who is used to the melodic tones of cathedral chimes of Europe.

In 1856, according to Mrs. W.C. Mason, granddaughter of the builder of the church, this building was started by several members of the Methodists of the community - then the county seat of Baldwin. Most of the members of the organization were slave-holders and consequently a balcony was built in the rear of the church with a separate side entrance for the slaves who were also wont to attend religious services. Being more or less wealthy, the members of the congregation decided to have the nicest church bell in the state. A campaign was put on to raise money to have the bell lined with silver. The result was that \$500. in silver was raised and shipped to West Forks, N.Y. where the makers in 1858 completed the bell and sent it to Daphne and it was immediately hung in the belfry. The bell had not been in place long before the call was for something besides the call to worship, the tolling of the death knell or a simple mid-week prayer service, for war was declared between the states and the silver-lined church bell called people together to discuss the situation and learn the latest developments. Later in the war

and if he has read or been told anything of the bell...

March
Week ending/ 24th, 1939

-1-

YOUR VACATION IN ALABAMA

also 241: Folklore: Legends + Songs

François Ludgère Diard,
Identification No. 0149-5252,
Federal Writers' Project, Dis. 2,
WPA Project No. 4454, Mobile, Ala

A VACATION VISIT TO THE TWO PRINCIPAL
GHOST TOWNS IN BALDWIN COUNTY, ALA.

Compiled by François Ludgère Diard.

I.--BLAKELEY TOWN SITE.

The person on his vacation to points of interest in South Alabama, and whose car has a trailer outfitted for a stay, should not fail to visit the ghost towns of Baldwin County. Much interesting history is to be found connected with these places. Shifting population trends and abandoned industries leave behind them ghost towns, some forgotten in time as evidence of a once glorious past.

The first of the two principal ghost towns in Baldwin County is Blakeley with its once 8,000 population, which can be said to be the most important in Alabama history.

The vacationist coming to South Alabama by motor, the site of the old town of Blakeley can be reached best by way of Bromley, which is now itself almost a ghost town. The road to Bromley turns left (S.) from U.S. Highway 31, 10 m east of Bridgehead and $\frac{1}{2}$ m west of the intersection of State Highway No. 3; thence 5 m to Bromley over a fairly good road, then 3 m straight ahead to Blakeley, where avenues of beautiful oaks, a few old excavations, then the graveyard with its fine tombstones and markers, the latter placed there by the Baldwin County Historical Society, show the place that was once Mobile's rival for commercial importance in the early days of the last previous century.

When the vacationist reaches Blakeley site and gazes all around, and if he has read or been told anything at all of its past history, his

Week ending March 24th, 1939.

YOUR VACATION IN ALABAMA.

François Ludgère Diard,
Identification No. 0149-5252,
Federal Writers' Project, Dis. 2,
WPA Project No. 4454, Mobile, Ala.

A VACATION VISIT TO THE TWO PRINCIPAL
GHOST TOWNS IN BALDWIN COUNTY, ALA.

Compiled by François Ludgère Diard.

imagination will wander back to when Josiah Blakeley, who was born in Connecticut, arrived in Mobile in 1806, following a previous six years in Santiago, Cuba. This New Englander had dreams that he hoped to come to pass; for "he stood on the bluff at the foot of Dauphin Street near Royal Street in Mobile town in the autumn of 1807, and gazed across the delta land between him and the distant shores of Baldwin County, his interprising Connecticut mind saw in the prospect an opening for his unemployed talents."

The land was rich, a great expanse of unoccupied and unutilized real estate, needing only intelligent industry to draw from its reward beyond the dreams of avarice. This expanse of land would be a great place for raising cattle and hogs, thought Blakeley, as well as rice, sweet potatoes, cabbage and all variety of fruit and possibly wheat. He hastened to invest in this delta land, which formed three main islands lying between Mobile and the eastern shore in Baldwin County. These islands he purchased, 7,000 acres in all, and on a hummock overlooking an interior lagoon or bay he placed his home. From this point he began the development of what he called his Festino Plantation. He planted cotton, rice and Indian corn; also as he informed his sister Abby back in Connecticut, in a letter dated 1812, he stocked a part of his place with cattle. He had then about thirty head of cattle and hundreds of hogs, the latter so wild that guns had to be used in hunting them. Of fruit trees he had set out Creole orange, fig, quince and peach.

One does not know, except in a general way, what was the result

Week ending March 24th, 1939.

YOUR VACATION IN ALABAMA

-3-

François Ludgère Diard,
Identification No. 0149-5252,
Federal Writers' Project, Dis. 2,
WPA Project No. 4454, Mobile, Ala.

A VACATION VISIT TO THE TWO PRINCIPAL GHOST TOWNS
IN BALDWIN COUNTY, ALA.:

Compiled by François Ludgère Diard.

was of Josiah Blakeley's agricultural effort. The marsh land is practically as Blakeley viewed it more than a hundred and thirty years ago and as inviting as it was then, there being hardly any question that it could be developed; but the operation would take far more money than Blakeley had to put it through. A mark on the map shows where Blakeley's home stood, some three miles distant from Mobile.

Over the expanse of marshy islands, the largest, which bears the name of Blakeley, is traversed by a fine roadway leading to and from Mobile Bay Bridge, and along its western shore along Mobile River are many modern industrial plants.

The fame of Josiah Blakeley survived the obscurity that veils his farm from further view. He took the Spanish oath of allegiance July 10, 1810, and soon he was a man of high importance in the little community, holding the office of the justice of the quorum of Mobile County, and serving as a chairman in the organizing of Mobile as a town. He associated himself with a number of enterprising immigrants from New England States, and with some of his new made friends in Mobile, Blakeley purchased, in 1813, a large tract of land on Apalachee River, where that river separates from the ~~Ten-~~ Tensew his tract of land had been the seat of the Apalachees, but at the time of the purchase was owned by Doctor Joseph Chastang and was known as the White House plantation, which shows some of the land of old Blakeley site was under cultivation. The purchasers caused the tract to be laid off into city lots by James McGoffin, with straight streets, the main street bearing the name of Washington; others being Orleans, Franklin, Greene, Baldwin, Blount, ect., while the cross-streets were given the names of trees,

François Ludgère Diard,
Identification No. 0149-5252,
Federal Writers' Project, Dis. 2,
WPA Project No. 4454, Mobile, Ala.

A VACATION VISIT TO THE TWO PRINCIPAL GHOST TOWNS
IN BALDWIN COUNTY, ALA.

Compiled by François Ludgère Diard.

shrubs and flowers. The two public squares were provided, one for the public buildings and the other for the market. The lots of the new town were at least 429 in number, that being the highest number listed in the sale record. The town was open to investors in July, and the first sale was made to Warren Ross Dodge. The same year Mr. Dodge purchased the McVoy Mill site on Minette Bay and a woodland tract of 480 acres.

Mobilians attended the sale in considerable number, with the idea that if the new town of Blakeley had any advantages over Mobile, they would not be left with the bag to hold.

The town was incorporated January 6, 1814, under the name of Blakeley, and a map describing it was posted in the Mobile deed book A, where it remained until 1822, when it was removed and placed in the records of Baldwin County. Sometime later it disappeared.

Mobile in 1814 was yet a small place of several hundred inhabitants, the American government having taken possession only the year before, and although it increased rapidly, its census taken in 1822 showed but 1,200 summer population---enlarged in winter to 2,700 by persons tak-^{ing} part in business which at its best during the cooler season of the year. There were 110 stores and warehouses, 40 dwellings, two newspapers, three hotels, a custom house, a post office, a bank and several churches.

Although Josiah Blakeley died in 1815, and like his greater fellow founder, Bienville, who "lies buried somewhere in Montmartre," it is not known where he is buried. It may be in the very little cemetery of the town he founded, or it may be in the Spanish Graveyard ^{of Mobile} now occupied by the Cathedral site and the entire block east of this grand edifice. How-

Week ending March 24, 1939.

-5-

YOUR VACATION IN ALABAMA.

François Ludgère Diard,
Identification No. 0149-5252,
Federal Writers' Project, Ds. 2
WPA Project 4454, Mobile, Ala.

A VACATION VISIT TO THE TWO PRINCIPAL GHOST TOWNS
IN BALDWIN COUNTY, ALA.

Compiled by François Ludgère Diard.

ever, he did not live to see his town make its rivalry felt, for Blakeley was recognized as a port of entry; it built and owned steamboats that plied the bay and rivers; possessed cotton factors and warehouses, a court-house, a tavern and a newspaper. Early records show that the new town was making off with the older Mobile's prosperity, when a thing happened which, according to the story told in Strickland's Mobile City Directory of 1855, caused the younger city's downfall. No more along the banks of the Tensaw River teemed commercial activity, with foreign vessels going and coming, the stagecoach that ran between Blakeley and Montgomery and those that ran to Pensacola and Georgia were no more; and the steamer Emmeline and other freight and ferry boats that plied daily between Mobile and Blakeley between 1822 and 1830, with their landing place at the foot of Dauphin street, soon dropped out of the commercial limelight of Mobile River and Bay, and Blakeley following 1830 waned, becoming only a town of memory, where early records show parties excursions there following the ^{beginning of the} 1840's and on up through the 1850's.

The vacationist visiting the old site of Blakeley to realize the full charm of this ghost town must linger there for a short stay, for as the years have passed the pine forest has been ravaged by the hurricanes out of the Gulf as well as devastated by fire; but the graveyard remains, however, it also has suffered many changes since the first Blakeleyans passed to their rewards, and only eleven markers are found there to-day, dated in the first half of the 19th Century. The Baldwin Historical Society has been caring for the cemetery since 1923, restored all the broken tombstones, and in 1928 again this society cleared the place, fenced same, and appropriately marked the entrance.

Week ending March 24, 1939.
YOUR VACATION IN ALABAMA.

François Ludgère Diard,
Identification No. 0149-5252,
Federal Writers' Project, Dis. 2,
WPA Project No. 4454, Mobile, Ala.

A VACATION VISIT TO THE TWO PRINCIPAL GHOST TOWNS
IN BALDWIN COUNTY, ALA.,

Compiled by François Ludgère Diard.

Most of the graves are marked with upright stones, such as are found in every cemetery; but in few instances the graves are bricked up and the stones marking them are flat. One monument more pretentious than the others, is a square pedestal surmounted by a simple shaft, all of white marble.

Blakeley was the scene of the last battle of the War between the States. An old rifle canon can be seen, which was doubtless intended for use against the fortifications surrounding the site was found mounted on a barge near the battle field and there remained for many years until a storm washed it ashore near the mouth of one of the numerous delta creeks or bayous, where it can be seen to-day sunk in the mud and overgrown with march canes.

The once thriving city and seaport of Blakeley is probably the dearest "Dead Town" in Alabama, but the vacationist will be interested in visiting the site, where he can see from its history it was once a charm city of the Deep South, and he can see the site of the Confederate fort near the Apalachee River, or stand on its once famous Washington Avenue, where the business center of the city was located, or read the more interesting inscriptions on the tombs in its cemetery.

Bibliography: Personal visits to old Blakeley town site.
Hamilton's Colonial Mobile.
Reingard Family history.
Doctor Erwin Craighead's Mobile: Fact and Tradition.
Personal visits and observations.
Some notes from The Baldwin Times, February 2, 1939.

François Ludgère Diard,
Identification No. 0149-5252,
Federal Writers' Project, Ds. 2,
WPA Project No. 4454, Mobile, Ala

A VACATION VISIT TO THE TWO PRINCIPAL GHOST TOWNS
IN BALDWIN COUNTY, ALA.

Compiled by François Ludgère Diard.

II.--"JACKSON'S OAK" AND "THE VILLAGE."

The vacationist can have a pleasant stay by parking his car and trailer near the noted "Jackson's Oak." ~~near Daphne~~ It has a limb spread of 125 feet and stands at the avenue of ancient oaks two miles north of Daphne. It was here as tradition has it that General Andrew Jackson had his camping ground in his march to Pensacola in the War of 1812, and is called by the natives "Jackson's Oak." It is really a wonderful tree to see, as well as those of lesser size standing there also. The story that General Jackson climbed the tree and addressed his troops from one of its large limbs has been told in detail for an hundred years, and portions of the speech are sometimes quoted, but Colonel Landers of the Army College, visiting the scene with many military records to back him up, expressed doubt if the thing ever happened. The Mobile Advertiser, however, of Tuesday, April 22, 1856, gives a strong reference to this historical happening.

Standing on the site of an obliterated bayshore town termed "The Village," these stately oaks have seen history in the making. Indians, French, Confederate and Union forces, as well as local militia, have all held councils, sought enemies or camped beneath their spreading limbs. "The Village," which is three miles south from the Bridgehead, is termed like Blakeley one of the deadest of all dead towns in Alabama. Historian Hamilton writing of "The Village," says: "Many people had summer residents across the bay at the place called the "Village, and lower at Howard's, at Montrose, where British troops were once encamped, and at Point Clear, jutting into the bay, was built a hotel which became a favorite resort of Mobile during the summer. These places were reached by steam-

Week ending March 24, 1939.

-8-

YOUR VACATION IN ALABAMA.

François Ludgère Diard,
Identification No. 0149-5252,
Federal Writers' Project, Ds2
WPA Project 4454, Mobile, Ala.

A VACATION VISIT TO THE TWO PRINCIPAL GHOST TOWNS
IN BALDWIN COUNTY, ALA.

Compiled by François Ludgère Diard.

boats from town.

"The Village" waned in popularity before the Civil War and became a resort of some wild people who were law unto themselves. It has long been a deserted village, though occupying a beautiful site overlooking the bay and having a fine beach of clear sand at its front. But the glory of "The Village", old as its oaks, some of which are 200 years old and over, has come down to us as part of the history of South Alabama.

III.--OTHER GHOST TOWNS OF BALDWIN COUNTY.

Old Alabama City, which perpetuates as the present town of Fairhope, the only single taxed town in the world, was long a ghost city prior to 1894. A group of students of the Henry George philosophy founded Fairhope that year. The difference between Blakeley and Alabama City can be said to be this: "Alabama City was born again and in its reincarnation became Fairhope, a resort and trading point with a future greater than the builders of Alabama City ever dreamed of." There was Tensas Bluff once Stockton; Montgomery Hill and Pierce's Landing, on the site of the present Tensaw, Swift's Landing, or Sibley's Mill or D'Olive, predecessors of Bay Minette, where are these? Also where are the outlying villages of Claire and Byron, around Perdido, once inhabited but now unheard of? What is known of the industry of Roscoe, west of Orange Beach; of Gasque, between Bon Secour and Fort Morgan; Styx on Styx River; River Park below Marlow; Sumatra, between Robertsdale and Seminole, or Elkhart, below Stapleton?

Bromley is almost a ghost town, now that its postoffice has been discontinued and transferred to the village of Hurricane. Park City was once on the site of the present Bridgehead. Pendro, above Loxley, has vanished

Week ending March 24, 1939.

-9-

YOUR VACATION IN ALABAMA.

François Ludgère Diard,
Identification No. 0149-5252,
Federal Writers' Project, Dist. 2,
WPA Project No. 4454, Mobile, Ala.

A VACATION VISIT TO THE TWO PRINCIPAL GHOST TOWNS
IN BALDWIN COUNTY, ALA.

Compiled by François Ludgère Diard.

vanished into the past and Cavanac, the predecessor of Barnwell, is remembered only by the old timers living to-day. Van Kirk, a small settlement below Rosinton is just a memory, as are probably other villages in the county of which history has no record. There are the many once flourishing resort towns along the shoreline of Baldwin are just a memory to-day, such as Hollywood just north of Montrose, which once boasted several hundreds of resorters both winter and summer, and where the Confederate soldiers landed from Mobile on their way to points in Florida and Georgia. There is Shell Banks and Palm Beach and Navy Cove, the latter the early home of the quarantine station and which was practically wiped out by the hurricane of 1906, are seldom spoken of, as well as the early towns along the bay in French, British and Spanish colonial times.

Bibliography: Person visits to "Jackson's Oak" and "The Village" in Baldwin County.

Notes from The Mobile Advertiser of Tuesday,
April 22, 1856.

Conversations with older Baldwin Countians, with
ex-slaves of Baldwin Countians, and with Mammy Lucy Kimball, ex-slave.

Some notes from The Baldwin Times, Feb. 2, 1939.

Personal visits and observations in the past
to the old ghost towns of Baldwin County; conversations with older Baldwin Countians about the ghost towns and some of their inhabitants.

TAX UTOPIA.*Falkways
Baldwin Co.*

Fairhope, Alabama, on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay, is the only community in America where the refunding of taxes is a general practice. There are no individual landowners, all of the property being held by the Fairhope Single Tax Colony, which was established in January 1895 by a group of Des Moines, Iowa, residents, who decided to put the theories of Henry George into practice.

Other original settlers with similar theories from Ohio, Missouri, Pennsylvania, and Pacific Coast States joined the Iowa group and purchased land on the high bluff overlooking the bay. The town of Fairhope was incorporated and a form of single taxation developed. This has worked well. Fairhope is a prosperous vacation center of winter homes for out-of-state visitors and summer homes of Alabama citizens. Its population was 1549 in the 1930 census, with an estimated population of 1800 in 1937.

There has been no deviation from the original theory of taxation that a just tax on the land should pay all expenses of government that are now derived from so many other sources of levy. A simple form of taxation was set up within the complicated structure of State, county, and municipal taxes. No land is sold by the Fairhope Single Tax Colony but is leased for ninety-nine years at so much per year, which is considered a tax. The rate varies annually, dependent on economic conditions. From this ~~land~~ rental the Colony pays all State, county and city taxes. *on the land*

In turn the lease holder pays the usual State, county and city taxes on all improvements. This payment is then deducted from the rental paid to the Colony. If the regular taxes equal or exceed the Colony charge, the Colony charge is refunded. In the middle 1920's ~~there were~~

several leaseholders ~~who~~ were paid ^{the} difference between the Colony rental and taxes on improvements, when the latter was in excess. Even automobile taxes were included, but this practise has since been abolished.

Fairhope is also the center of a successful educational experiment. The School of Organic Education ~~was founded~~ there ~~in 1907~~ is one of the first institutions of progressive education established in America. It was founded in 1907 by Mrs. Marietta Johnson, one of the leaders in the new school of teaching, lecturer, and author of Youth in the World of Men. The school has been visited by educational leaders of America and Europe and praised for its efficiency. The average enrolment is between 150 and 200, with a faculty of 35. Students are admitted to the first grade and graduated with sufficient credits for college entrance. Artcraft, handicraft, and outdoor classes are stresses. No effort is made to force education on the children who are allowed to develop with a minimum of restriction. The majority of students come from without the State. In addition to the regular curriculum classes are conducted for teachers.

The principal aspect of Fairhope to the visitor is not the ~~political~~ ^{political} ~~experimental~~ ^{are not the most important features to the Fairhope visitor} in/economy and education ~~but that of a resort,~~ with comfortable hotels and cottages and ample facilities for fishing and water sports. It is eleven miles south of the junction of US 31 and US 90 at the eastern end of Cochrane Bridge across Mobile Bay.

EASTHAVEN REST
FAIRHOPE
ON MOBILE BAY
ALABAMA

Baldwin

DAPHNE L. E. CURTIS, PROP.

March 26th. 1937.

Dear Miss Myles,

Part of the Nunez story came from A Brief H
History of Baldwin County, compiled and writ-
ten by L.J. Newcomb Comings and Martha M. Albers.
and the real tale came from Mrs. Van Iderstein
in Daphne, she is Charles Hall's niece and gets
the story from her grandmother, she is much
interested in this project and can if she
wishes be a world of help, just now she waiting
for the Storcks ~~ward~~ visit to her daughter
so she is pretty busy. I have the Italians
pretty well stirred up and am hoping for news.
next Tuesday I plan to start in Foley but I
have a lot of contact laid out so I hope to
be able to finish up something, I get a story
and then it takes so long ^{to} get it verified,
Thank you for your help, am still half afraid
of this pesky type-writer.

Sincerely
Daphne L. E. Curtis.