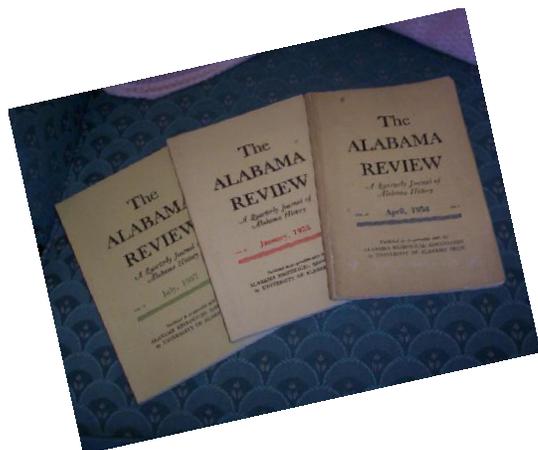


On the Trail Again Alabama – Evergreen, Monroeville, Camden, Pine Apple March 2011

We were up early heading south on an overcast spring day! We took I-85 to Montgomery and I-65 to Evergreen. I called ahead to make an appointment with [L.W. Reid & Company](#). He is a busy man, and I wanted to be sure he was there. He suggests calling before driving to visit his store. He has several American empire pieces that I am dreaming about... I wanted to look one more time! It is also a pleasure just to listen to him share his knowledge about antiques.



[Treasures on the Corner](#) is also located on Front Street of Evergreen. You will not believe what all this store holds. The owner, the historical building, and the contents are a delight! This Alabama antique store has many books and paper collectibles; these Alabama Reviews are on her website too. I also like the bench on the side of the building. It was occupied when this photo was taken and when I was there the last time. It is a very welcoming and comfortable place to be!



Evergreen and Conecuh County is known for the great sausage it sells across the south.

As we were leaving Evergreen, we noted a sign for the town of Burnt Corn. We could not resist heading that way. However, we somehow missed it! We took a wrong turn but enjoyed the trip. Redbuds were blooming along the road. I wish one of our readers would tell us why it is called Burnt Corn and exactly where it is!

Another trail...another day...

Peterman was one of the next interesting towns we passed through. There was a well preserved train depot and log cabin at the railroad crossing. We did not see **one** person while going through the town! It must be a quiet place to live.



I loved this old church building that we saw somewhere (I've forgotten exactly where!)



The dead kudzu created a gray ghost town along the trail. Ray said it wasn't dead; that it was resting. He says one can hardly ever kill it!



We finally arrived in Monroeville! There are many inviting looking southern homes and buildings; the top left photo is the First Presbyterian Church built in 1845. The home on the right is just one of many period homes in the area! It is quite amazing to tour the town where Harper Lee, author of To Kill a Mockingbird, grew up with Truman Capote, her childhood friend. The play, To Kill a Mockingbird, is presented annually but one must make reservations ahead of time. The courthouse was surrounded by a maze of camellia bushes/trees. I was in heaven! Blooms of all different kinds, colors, and shapes!



While driving around the square, Ray saw a sign for an antique store! We are now surprised when we find one that we have not visited in Alabama! We were delighted to find [Elaine's Antiques](#) on the square.

The shop was originally Elaine's husband's law offices. The office still contains the law library which serves as a background for her antique collection which she has accumulated for many years.



Finally, we came to our destination: [Black Belt Treasures](#). (We met the Martins while touring their beautiful historical home on the Marion, Alabama Christmas Tour last December. They recommended that we visit Black Belt Treasures.) They were so right about it being worth the drive!



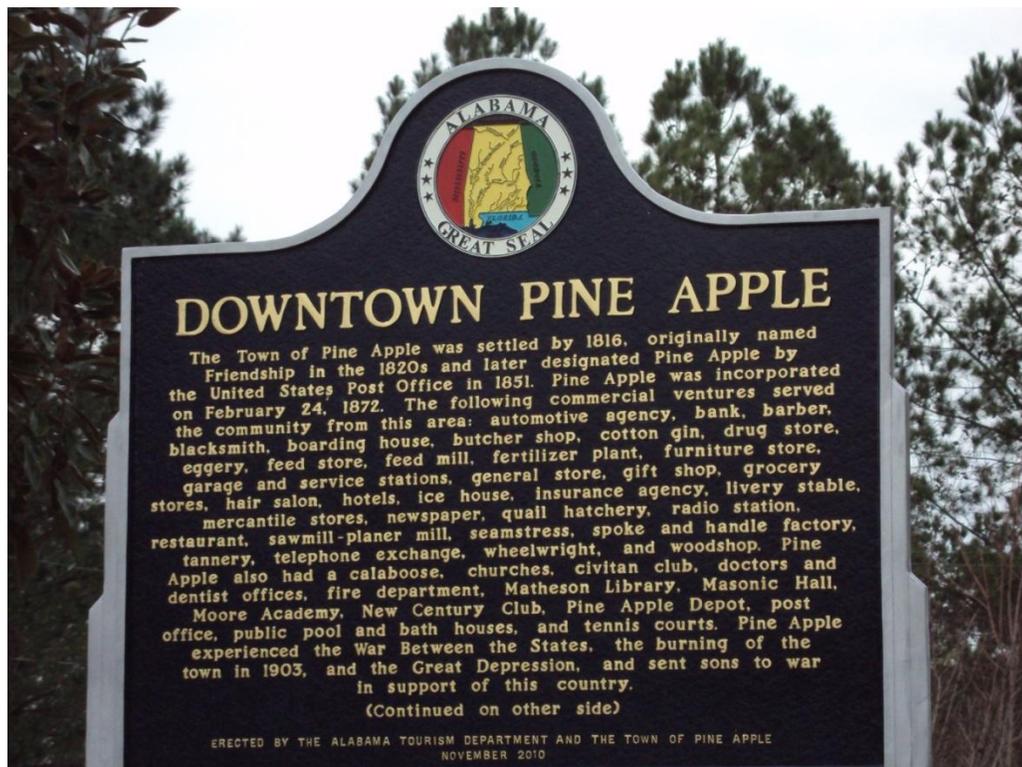
According to our hostess and the website “it is a non-profit organization developed to showcase and promote the arts of the Black Belt region... Since its opening in September 2005, Black Belt Treasures has grown from representing 75 artists to representing over 350. Black Belt Treasures features the works of a cross section of talented painters, sculptors, potters, basket-weavers, quilters, and woodworkers. Visitors from throughout the United States and abroad have visited the Black Belt Treasures Gallery since its opening in 2005...” The painting is representative of the center. You may order these beautiful works of art from the website; however, there are always more items in the store than on the website. The products are excellent! It was surprising to me that there was handpainted china included in the shop. Our hostess knew the artists, of course.



We are coming back to Camden when we visit Gees Bend.

Another trail...another day...

We returned to I-65 via Highway 10 through another lovely village called Pine Apple. We followed two signs that said “antiques and pecans” (we were looking for both); however, we were not able to find the store.



The building below is Pine Apple's Town Hall. Note the palms; we are on the edge of the deep south when there are palms and Spanish moss!



On the way back on Highway 10, I stopped to take photos of the Spanish moss. (I continue to try to talk Ray into spreading Spanish moss on the trees on the empty lot next to us. He thinks the owners might not appreciate that! It would look so good hanging over the little creek between our house and the lot.)



When I turned around from taking the photos of the moss, I noticed that in the field behind me was a little fountain with a field of daffodils. Possibly, the remains/shadow of a home and “life” long ago.

It made me think of my favorite poem...



Daffodils

by William Wordsworth (1770-1850)

I WANDER'D lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.
Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the Milky Way,
They stretch'd in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,

Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.
The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed -- and gazed -- but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:
For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.



Happy Trails

Marcia