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James Ingram Love Sr.

Love Family

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2020

### News Clipping - Undated - "The Survey; Needed Deeds"

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### STIRE SURVEY.

Since much of the property then as vacant the engineer, or surveyor, as he was known, plotted all of the property in lots of equal sizes and streets were laid out and surveyed for three-quarters of a mile in each direction. Such was the precision of the early survey that today a small, worn dent in the center of the court house lobby in Shelby is the exact center of the town property. The court house sets amid the court square of two acres and in the four directions the four main streets radiate from the square with other streets branching off at regular intervals. Today scores of cities would give thousands of dollars to be so charted.

When the center plot, now the court square, was plotted trees were planted and today the big plot in the center of a business district is covered with stately trees. Since that date the county government has kept the square in condition and few city parks are more beautiful. Perhaps that gesture of maintaining the beauty of the original and remaining center of Jimmy Love's town was somewhat of a monument to him. Still there is the late day suggestion of a copper still slab to go on Love's court square, although it isn't even known as that.

### NEEDED DEEDS.

Until recent months it is likely that few living citizens ever saw the deed that was the beginning of Shelby. But for some time lawyers digging back in records for property titles have been stumped. Just so far did they go and no farther, until one day the old record with the Love deed was pulled from the musty shelves. In the book also was a plot of the ground made by Surveyor J. R. Logan. Now it is possible for lawyers in drawing deeds to Shelby property to get the exact lines and beginning points of all property.

Just what section of Shelby saw the first churches and the two educational institutions, called for in the Love deed, is not known. It is known, however, that the four first churches, Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Episcopalian, are not located on the original lots. As the years passed and the town grew it is presumed that the lots increasing in value were sold and other sites purchased. However today two of the three uptown churches, in fact three, are located on valuable corners of the business district, and it is likely that either of the three would sell for the actual worth of the entire Love property when it was donated. In fact the fourth church site, located on a corner only two blocks from the square, would likely sell for that price.

### CATCH NOT THERE.

For years there has been a legend to the effect that if the court square was ever used for anything else than public property it was to revert to the Love heirs. Schemers, it is said, have even considered starting a movement to remove the court house to another section of the city, hoping, perhaps, that they might profit by the change of the property into a business section. But the old deed contains no such clause.

Whether Jimmy Love, who made

possible such a beautiful town, will ever have a monument erected in the center of it to his memory is somewhat doubtful. The legend of how it came to be may be carried on down through several more generations until finally the benevolent harness-maker entirely slips the memory.