

STATE OF ALABAMA

SHELBY COUNTY

Before me, Carl C. Harrison, the undersigned authority in and for said County in said State personally appeared A. B. Bristow, who, after being by me first duly sworn to speak the truth, deposes and says:

My name is A. B. Bristow. I was born in the year 1876 and have all along been well acquainted with the land hereinafter described and the persons in possession of it. Said land being described as follows:

The E $\frac{1}{2}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 16, Township 22, Range 1 East,
Shelby County, Alabama.

In fact affiant says he can remember the above described land since he was eight years old because of the fact when he was 8 years of age, his mother took him to the picnic grounds at Kewahatchee. We took picnic lunches and all of the people rode on three flat cars from Shelby to Kewahatchee. The train was propelled by an engine owned by Shelby Iron Company, an Alabama corporation, and the train was run over tracks owned and maintained by said Company and which tracks ran across both of said forties described above. The engine that pulled the cars had a big bell, smoke stack and was fired by wood. Affiant further says the engine was painted black and he vividly remembers the same had a brass bell and was trimmed with a lot of brass. The train ran about 10 to 12 miles an hour. The engine stopped at Kewahatchee and they unloaded the lunches and the people who wanted to were permitted to ride the train some six miles on to the Coosa River. All of the tracks belonged to Shelby Iron Company of Alabama. Approximately 1500 to 2000 people lived in the town of Shelby, Alabama in the year 1884 according to my best recollection. Affiant further says that a few years prior thereto, the payrolls of Shelby Iron Company of Alabama indicated there were 3500 people on the payroll. This included people on the wood crews which were from other parts of the county and state. Affiant further says that on the occasion when he visited Kewahatchee, as mentioned above, and on other occasions while he was a child, he remembers seeing a rock quarry and crusher located on the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of said Section 16 and the same was owned and operated by Shelby Iron Company of Alabama. Affiant further says that he recalls that Shelby Iron Company of Alabama owned and was in possession of all of the above described land and obtained wood therefrom for the purpose of making charcoal for its furnaces. Affiant further says that near the line dividing the above

forties, said Company had five ovens at the time affiant mentioned the picnic at Kewahatchee and said Company maintained said ovens continuously on said land for many years and made charcoal at them and affiant further says that Shelby Iron Company of Alabama owned said land and was in possession of it from as far back as affiant can remember and certainly since the year 1884. Affiant further says he has lived in and around Shelby, Alabama, which is approximately three miles from the above described land most of his life and has all along been familiar with it. Affiant further says that Shelby Iron Company, an Alabama corporation, conveyed said land, along with other lands, to Alabama Coal and Iron Company, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New Jersey in the year 1890 and that said Company went into immediate possession of said land and continued to maintain said charcoal ovens on the same until they were discontinued about the year 1891 and said Company continued to operate the rock quarry and crusher and continued to obtain wood for coaling purposes from the timber located on said land and continued to operate said railroad until about the year 1891 when said Company conveyed said railroad and it was thereafter operated by Alabama Mineral Division of the L & N Railroad. Affiant further says that said Alabama Coal and Iron Company changed its name to Shelby Iron Company, a New Jersey Corporation, in the year 1903, a copy of the Declaration of said change having been recorded in Incorporation Record A Page 275 in said Probate Office, and thereafter said Shelby Iron Company of New Jersey continued in the possession of said land and operated the rock crusher thereon, as mentioned above, until the year 1912. Affiant further says about the year 1891 said Alabama Coal and Iron Company constructed a pump station on the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of said Section 16 and pumped water therefrom to the furnaces and washers and to some of the residences in Shelby and Affiant further says that Shelby Iron Company of New Jersey continued in the actual possession of the above described land through each and every year and obtained timber for charcoal purposes therefrom and operated said pumping system thereon until about the year 1925 or 1926, at which time said pumping station was discontinued. However, Shelby Iron Company of New Jersey continued in the actual possession of all of the above described land and kept the lines clearly marked and sold the timber therefrom and in November 1930, as shown by deed recorded in Deed Book 154 Page 455 in said Probate Office, said company conveyed said land to Shelby Iron Company of Alabama, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Alabama,

and thereafter said Shelby Iron Company of Alabama went into immediate possession of said land and kept the lines bordering the same well marked and sold the timber therefrom on four different occasions and affiant further says that since the year 1923, affiant has been supervisor over said lands and he has been upon the lands almost weekly and he knows that Shelby Iron Company of Alabama has continued in the actual possession of said land, claiming to own it against all the world up until this very day.

A. B. Bristow
A. B. Bristow

State of Alabama
Shelby County

Sworn to and subscribed to before me this 28 day of May, 1954.

Carl C. Harrison
Notary Public for State of
Alabama at Large

State of Alabama

Shelby County

Before me, Carl C. Harrison the undersigned authority in and for said county in said state personally appeared W. L. Christian, who, after being by me first duly sworn to speak the truth, deposes and says:

My name is W. L. Christian. I am 77 years of age and have lived in Shelby County, Alabama, all of my life except for 7 or 8 years. I was born in Shelby, Alabama in the year 1877 and lived there until I was approximately 20 years old and have spent the remainder of my life in Shelby County except for 7 or 8 years. Affiant further says he has all along been well acquainted with the land hereinabove described in the affidavit made by A. B. Bristow and has been familiar with the persons in possession of it throughout the years. In fact, for some 20 years, affiant's father was Superintendant of Shelby Iron Company. Affiant says he can remember the above described land since he was approximately 7 years old. In fact, he remembers being on the same picnic as that described above by A. B. Bristow and affiant says that he has read the above affidavit by A. B. Bristow and he says the matters and things therein mentioned are true and correct and he adopts said affidavit in its entirety as being correct, except as hereinafter explained. Affiant says he has not been the custodian of the books and records of Shelby Iron Company and does not know the number of employees of Shelby Iron

Company. Affiant further says he has lived at the places mentioned in this his affidavit. Affiant further says that he does not have actual knowledge that Shelby Iron Company of Alabama sold said timber from said land four times, but he is informed that it has. Affiant further says he has never supervised said land and has only been upon said land every few years since he has been living in Columbiana, Alabama.

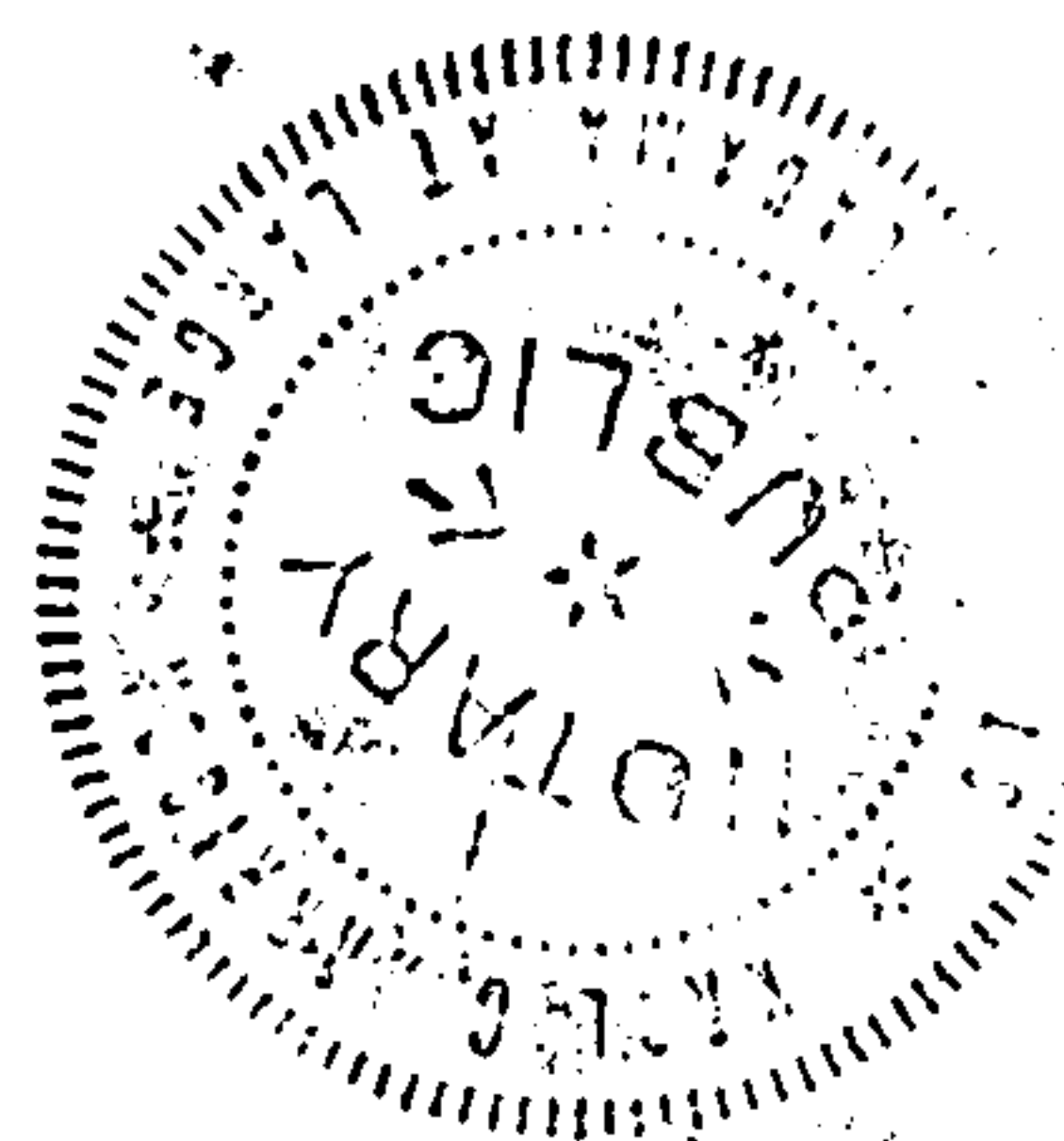
W. L. Christian
W. L. Christian

State of Alabama

Shelby County

Sworn to and subscribed to before me this the 31 day of May, 1954.

Carl A. Harris
Notary Public in State
of Alabama



STATE OF ALABAMA, SHELBY COUNTY
I, L.C. Walker, Judge of Probate, hereby certify that the within affidavit
was filed for record the 31 day of May 1954, at 8 o'clock P. M.
and recorded in Book 176 Page 312, and the Mortgage Tax of
Deed Tax of has been paid. L.C. Walker Judge of Probate