

ALABAMA

Judge Francis A. Macomber (1837-1893) was born in the Town of Alabama, where he attended public schools. He then attended Oakfield Seminary, Middlebury Academy and the University of Rochester where he studied law. In 1878 he was elected to the State Supreme Court and in 1889 he was appointed by Governor Hill to the General Term Bench of the Seventh Judicial District. Judge Macomber stood in the front rank of his profession as a lawyer and judge; his greatest achievements were in the realm of patent law. He was considered as a clear-headed wise lawyer and judge and was well respected by both political parties.

Submitted by: Joseph Cassidy, Alabama Town Historian

Rolla W. Roberts (1858-1931) was born in the small hamlet of Wheatville located in the Town of Alabama and was the oldest of five children of Charles W. and Huldah Laucks Roberts. Raised on a small farm, he was educated in public school and early in his career became a teacher. He learned surveying and relocated to Saginaw, Michigan in 1881. He continued surveying and general engineering work with the Pere Marquette Railroad Company until 1886 and was appointed Assistant Engineer for the city of East Saginaw. In 1888 he was appointed to the office of City Engineer and served in that position until 1897. From 1897 to 1902 Mr. Roberts engaged in handling a large private practice and had extensive professional connections through-out the State of Michigan. In 1902 until 1912 he was again appointed to the office of City Engineer when he built and laid out nearly all the streets and sewer system in the consolidated City of Saginaw. He was part owner of the Verne Coal Mine, the first coal mine discovered in the Saginaw area and also served as the company's secretary.

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