

I Remember Old Tuscaloosa

By Fred Maxwell

AT THE foot of "River Hill" (24th Ave.) an interesting complex of manufacturing plants were located. Included in this group were:

A cotton mill.

A plow manufacturing company.

A foundry.

A "shot tower."

What is a "shot tower?" Well it is a tall tower resembling a smokestack. The one mentioned above was made of brick masonry. At the top molten lead was poured through a wire screen. The size of the mesh determined the size of the shot.

As these lead pellets or droplets fell the height of the shot tower they

solidified into round shot suitable for use in a shotgun. The final catch basin was filled with either water or oil depending on whether the final shot would be "soft" or "chilled."

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