

68th Young Family Reunion



Panoramic Picture at Voss Home



I was given the following picture by Hassell Caudle. He told me it was of a family get together somewhere in Winston-Salem back in 1923. Some of the families in the photo were the Voss, Young and Caudle's. The only person in the photo that he was sure of was Oscar Caudle who is his cousin and the husband of Hattie Mae Young. I thought it was a really cool picture and decided to do some research on it and find out where and when the picture was taken.

Panoramic Picture at Voss Home



The picture was taped together and in pretty bad shape.

On the back "1923" was written on the tape.

There was also some other faintly written text on the tape. After taking pictures of the text, which allowed me to zoom in on it, I determined that it said "Reunion Charlie Voss House"

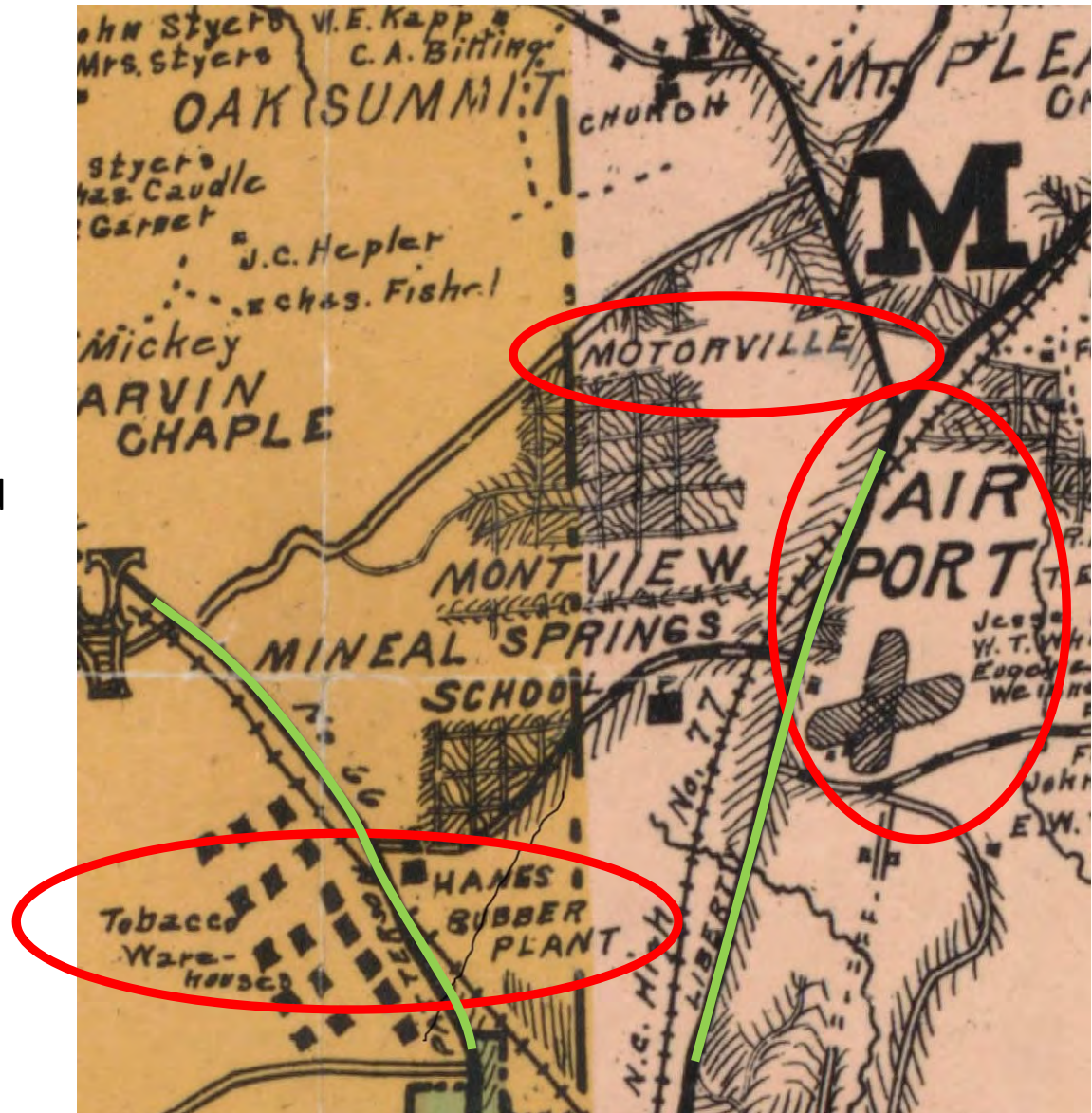
Where is the Voss Home Located ?

Charlie Voss married Macie Young. Macie was the youngest child of A.C. and Malissa Young. Since I knew this was at the Voss home, I wanted to find out where that house was located. I looked into Forsyth County records for the mid 1920's and found the following. In 1924 Charlie and Macy were located in the Motorville section of Winston-Salem. Anybody know where Motorville was? Over the years, Motorville would merge into the Mineral Springs community that we know today.

Where is the Voss Home Located ?

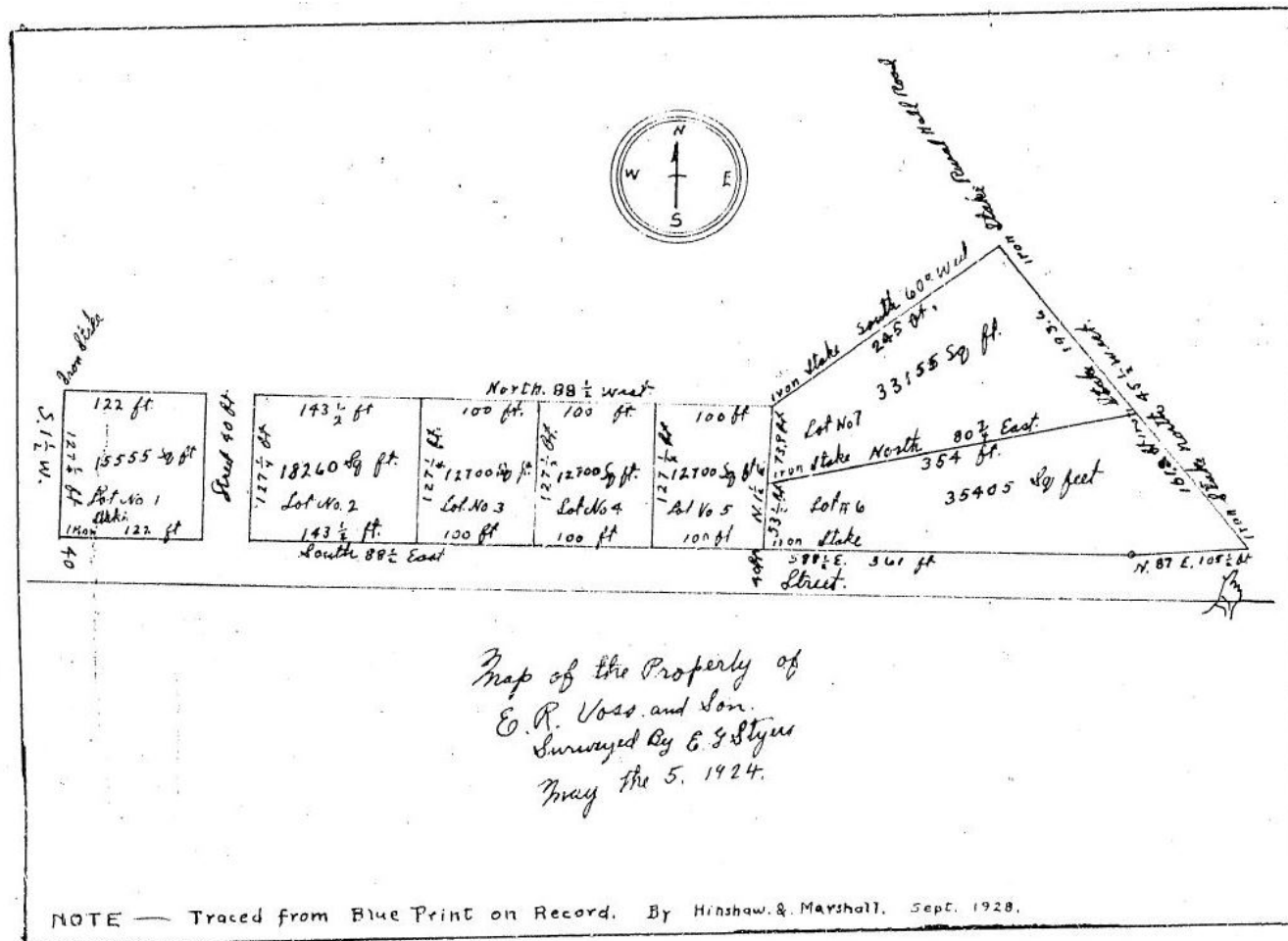
Here is the Motorville area on a map of Winston-Salem back in 1927.

You can see the Airport, Liberty Street, Patterson Ave and the Hanes Rubber Plant and Tobacco Warehouses.



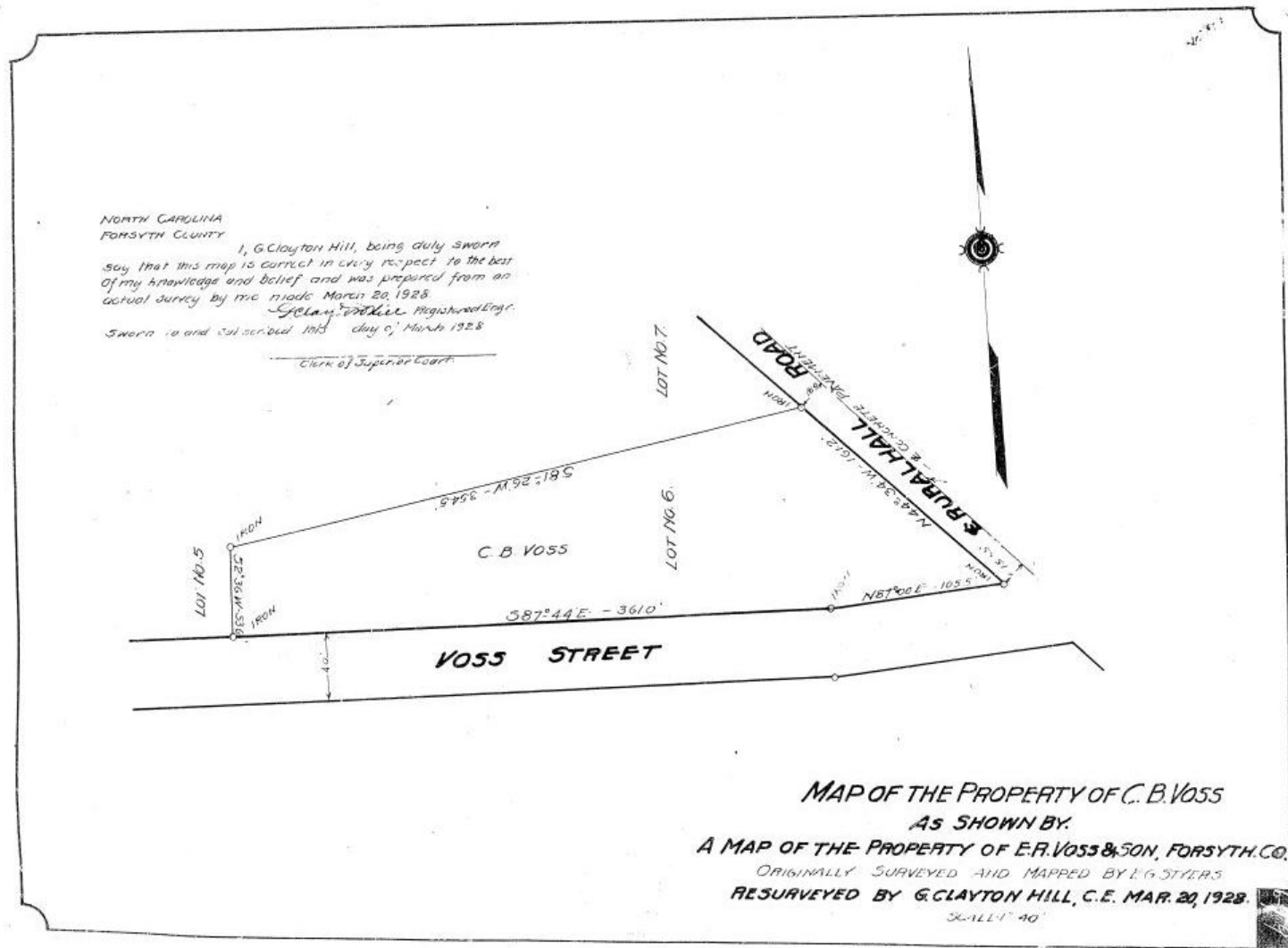
Voss Home Location

Looking into the deeds I found that in 1924 Charlie Voss and his father E.R. bought land in Motorville off Rural Hall Road and developed it into 7 housing lots.



Voss Home Location

Charlie was an Insurance Agent and would build his house on Lot #6 at the corner of Rural Hall Road and Voss Street.



Voss Home Location

This is an overhead view of the lot in 2015. Unfortunately, the house was torn down in the late 70's or 80's. You can see that the oak trees have grown to be very large.



What Month?

Late October



Mid January



So what month was the picture taken?

Looking at the trees in the photo they still have leaves on them but they look like they have dried and browned.

Also the people are wearing cold weather clothing.

I visited the lot in late October and mid January to compare the leaves on the trees.

This narrows down the time frame to sometime in November or December.

What Year?



So is it really 1923?

While showing the picture to others, Kim Ferrell said that she had a copy of the same picture from her Mother Dot's collection. Dot Alley had pointed out the Jim and Emma Young Family in the photo which included a baby that Jim was holding. This baby is Moir and he was born on 11/9/1924. In the picture Moir could not be 1 month old because he is holding his head up by himself. He is not 2 years old because he would be standing and walking like the other children in the picture.

So the picture had to have been taken in the fall of 1925 not 1923 which was written on the back.

What is the Date?

So we know the picture was taken in the fall of 1925, but I was curious to see if I could figure out the exact date. Thanks to the internet I was able to pull up weather reports for November and December of 1925. I made the assumption that any party like this would have taken place on a Sunday back then. So I just needed to determine which Sunday this picture was taken. I took the following into account:

Temperatures – Doesn't look very hot or cold

Rain – Ground is not wet / No Snow

Cloudiness – Does look Mostly Cloudy

Holidays – I assumed this is not Thanksgiving or Christmas – No Turkey on the table and no Christmas decorations

What is the Date?

One other interesting piece of data that I realized was that Malissa Young's birthday is on December 8th and she is sitting in the middle chair next to Macy in the right chair. Note that Malissa, who is Albert Calvin's wife, had moved or would soon move in with the Voss's and she lived with them until her death in this house in 1931.



What is the Date?

With all of these data points in mind, I estimate the date of this picture to be December 6th, 1925 and that this was a Family Reunion/Get Together with 109 people to see the Voss's new house and to celebrate Malissa's upcoming birthday the following Tuesday. Included in the photo that I know of are members of the Voss, Young and Caudle families. I assume that they are all of Charlie Voss' and Macie Young's relatives.

Also, after looking at more dates I realized , that Macie Young would have been 4 months pregnant in the picture with her daughter Marie.

December 6th, 1925



While visiting Kim Ferrell to look at the copy of the picture she had we realized that in fact she not only had two copies of the picture but that she had two different versions of the picture. If you look at the two pictures you can see slight movements by the people in the picture.



These versions were in better shape than the 1st one but still had a lot of scratch's and water damage on them.

Photo Shopping the Picture

Kim's copies were in good enough condition that I thought I would be able to use Photoshop to bring the photo back to its original condition. Using the two versions I was able to make the following changes.

I removed water damage which had left yellow stains on the pictures.



Photo Shopping the Picture

**Water
Damage
Removed**



Photo Shopping the Picture

Scratches



Photo Shopping the Picture

**Scratches
Removed**



Photo Shopping the Picture

Lines and Marks



Photo Shopping the Picture

Lines and Marks Removed



Our Family Portrait – December 6th 1925

So after many many hours of editing the picture, I had the completed version enlarged and framed. I now present you with Our Family Portrait from December 6th 1925.

