

Edward Johnson

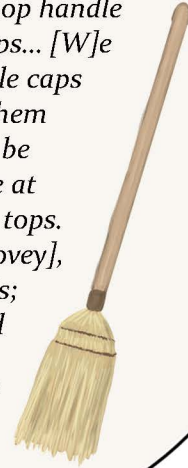
“When we played baseball, because we couldn’t afford a baseball and bat, we had a broomstick and a bottle top that you would get off a soft drink. And the bottle top we would learn how to put the rim of the bottle top, pull it back, and snap it and it would spin like a frisbee.”



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Clauzell McCovey

“We would get like a broomstick or a mop handle and we’d get these tops... [W]e would pitch these bottle caps to us. And tried to hit them with a broomstick. We’d be out there sometimes late at night, and we’d hit them tops. My brother [Willie McCovey], Hank Aaron, Amos Otis; all them guys learned how to do that with those bottle caps.”



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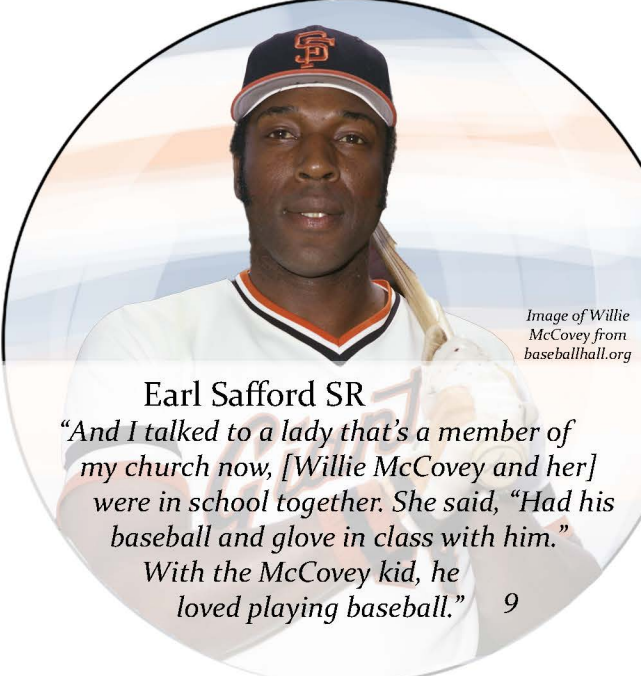


Image of Willie McCovey from baseballhall.org

Earl Safford SR

“And I talked to a lady that’s a member of my church now, [Willie McCovey and her] were in school together. She said, “Had his baseball and glove in class with him.” With the McCovey kid, he loved playing baseball.”

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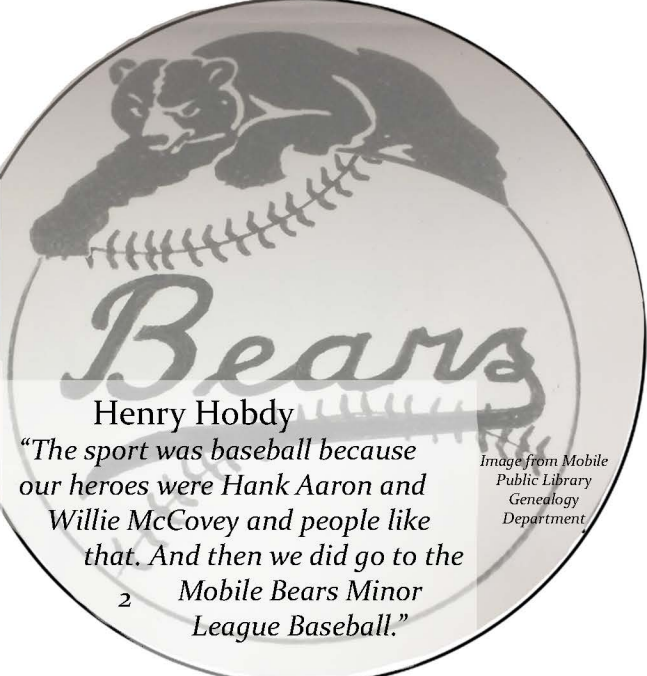


Image from Mobile Public Library Genealogy Department

Henry Hobdy

“The sport was baseball because our heroes were Hank Aaron and Willie McCovey and people like that. And then we did go to the Mobile Bears Minor League Baseball.”

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Created for the Down the Bay Oral History Project

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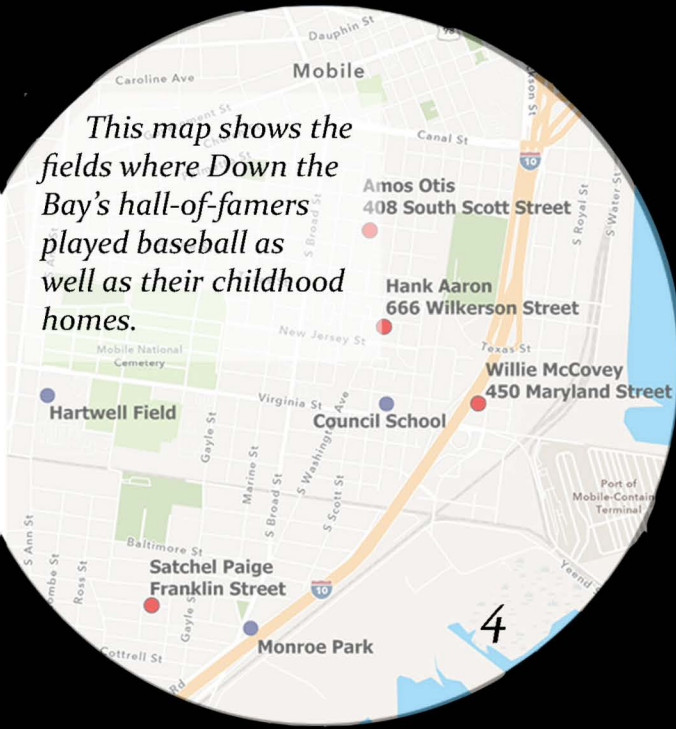
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Creola Gibby Ruffin
I can remember sitting
on [Satchel Paige's] sister's
porch with him and he would
always have a lot of kids
around him.

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*This map shows the
fields where Down the
Bay's hall-of-famers
played baseball as
well as their childhood
homes.*



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