

Alycedale, Arkansas

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Alycedale is located on Highway 79 between Eagle Mills and Millville. It was named for Alice Venable, a young lady who lived there in the 1920s. The recorded history of Section 5 of Township 12 S, Range 15 W began in 1852 when a land patent was awarded to Valentine E. Brazil. His heirs were the primary residents for many years. Before 1900 there was a small school called Possum Trot School. Students later attended Millville and then Bearden schools. In the 1920s road construction became a priority for local and state governments. The area had large gravel deposits right under the surface. Pine Bluff Sand & Gravel and several independent operators began extensive excavations which continued into the 1960s. A number of Calhoun County families moved to Alycedale when construction of the Naval Ordnance Depot forced them from their homes. These two factors contributed to a minor boom for Alycedale in the 1940s and 50s. But the only business besides the gravel operations was a small neighborhood grocery and gas station owned by John C. and Maggie Cox. The main families associated with the area are Benson, Blann, Chambliss, Cox, Hopkins, Jackson, James and Pate. Today Ouachita 427, also known as Hopkins Loop, and Highway 79 form a loose boundary around the Alycedale community.