

HUNTING AN OLD HOUSE IN RANDOLPH COUNTY, NC

By Becky Craddock

Dad and I had not planned on hunting this day, but the weather was just too nice to pass up. Since he had taken Friday off from work anyway, we decided to take advantage of the time and conditions. The Randolph County, NC house to be hunted had been built around 1934, and we hoped it might hold some silver coins.

Within the first two minutes of detecting, Dad found the first silver coin of the day, a 1934 Mercury dime. Talk about excited! We were hoping it was going to be a good spot. Turns out it definitely was. Up close to the house, I recovered a wheat penny, but could not read the date at the time. After "cleaning the front yard", we had located one Mercury dime, two wheat cents, two clad dimes and four newer pennies.

We then headed to the side yard, where I dug a military button. Looking it up later on the internet, the only thing I found was that it was made from 1902 to the present day. Couldn't find anything else in that section of the yard, but I was totally excited!! We decided to call it a day at that time and head out for lunch.

The next day we were eager to find more of the good stuff. The back yard had not been touched at all, so we were hoping to search it and recover more items. Shortly after turning the detectors on, Dad found another Mercury dime dated 1944. My daughter Skylar, and nephews Cody and Andrew, also went with us on Saturday. They all found a quarter, a couple of pennies and a trailer hitch that the home owner had lost. (I love seeing the kids enjoy this hobby!)

I finally got a good target right beside of Dad. I started to dig and thought I saw something shiny.



HUNTING AN OLD HOUSE IN RANDOLPH COUNTY, NC

As I dug a little deeper, there it was...the prettiest coin I have ever seen. Of course it is so pretty because I found it. Both sides had been burned and turned black. After a little cleaning, it turned out to be a Standing Liberty Half-Dollar, dated 1938. I was so excited !!! My detector even indicated it was a fifty cent piece. I have dug many times that never ending up being what I had hoped, but this time it was legit. That coin made my whole day most enjoyable.

At the conclusion of our fun, we had located and recovered two silver Mercury dimes, three wheat pennies, one military button, and one Standing Liberty Half-Dollar. A nice return for a few hours of hunting, and, we were able to keep what we found.