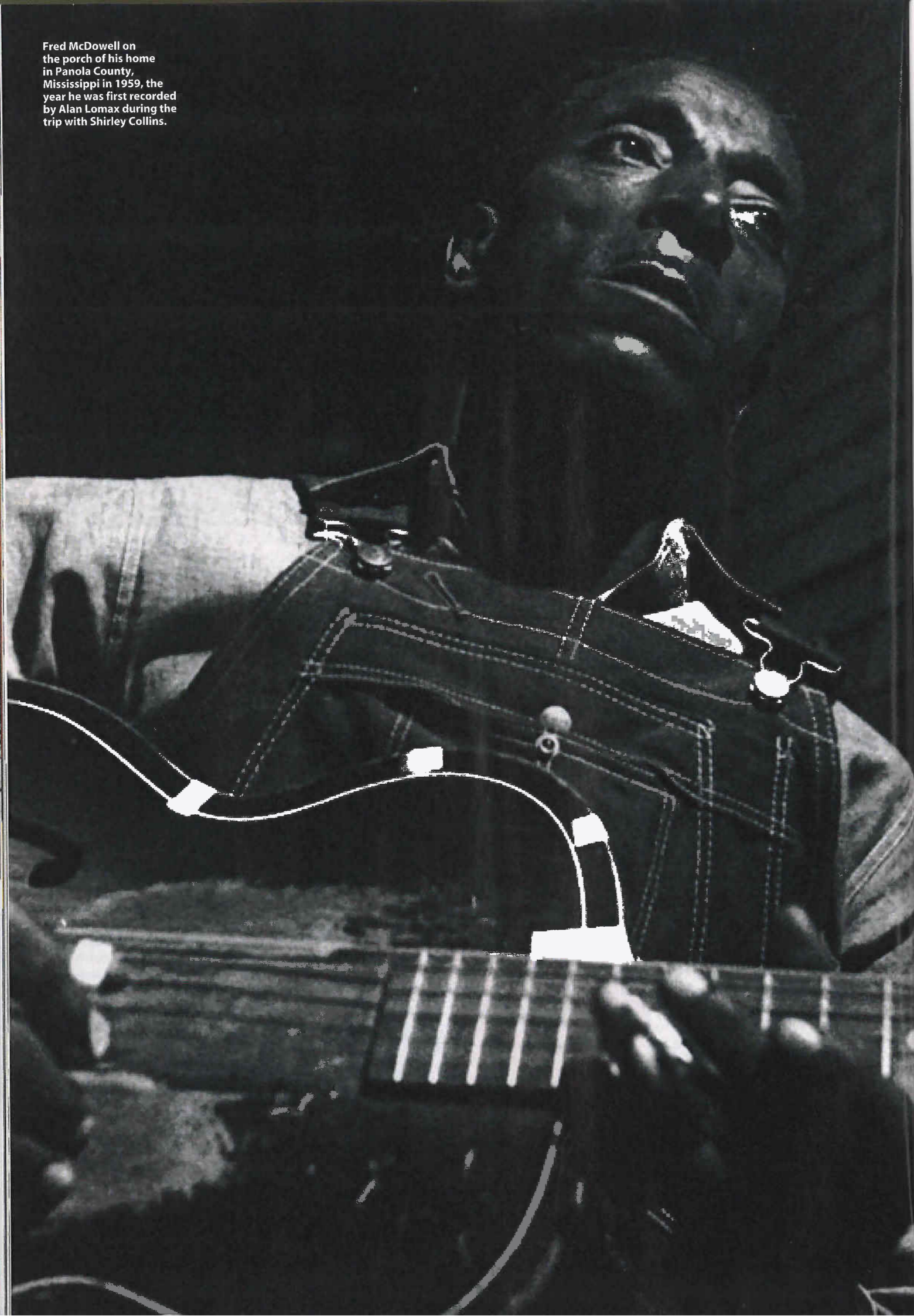


Fred McDowell on the porch of his home in Panola County, Mississippi in 1959, the year he was first recorded by Alan Lomax during the trip with Shirley Collins.



# HIGHWAY 61 REVISITED

In 1959 **SHIRLEY COLLINS** was a 22-year-old singer and banjo player from Hastings, Sussex. **ALAN LOMAX**, 42, was a Texan folklorist whose field trips in the American South with his father John had yielded thousands of recordings for the Archive of American Folk Song at the Library of Congress and included the discovery of Leadbelly, Woody Guthrie and Muddy Waters. Later, while travelling in Europe, Alan met Shirley. This is her story, in her own words, of their trip to the Deep South to record artists whose work nearly 50 years on are a cornerstone of modern music. As told to **COLIN IRWIN**.

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