

HANCOCK CEMETERY, 62 – 2

Summary Report



Hancock Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co. AL, March 12, 2003

View to north from south side of cemetery.
Indian Creek (Children's) Cemetery adjoins at north.

There are no tombstones in this cemetery. Accordingly, only the information from Beverly Curry's interviews and from old land records can be used to deduce anything about possible interments.



Hancock Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co. AL, March 12, 2003
View to northwest from south side of cemetery.

There are likewise few obvious grave depressions to be seen in the cemetery today. It is located in Northwest Quarter of Section 25, Township 4, Range 2 West, immediately south of the Indian Creek Cemetery. Both cemeteries are in Test Area 3, about 100 yards south of Hale Road and on the hill that forms the east bank of the creek. The early land records for this area are shown below:

TOWNSHIP 4 South		RANGE 2 West		HUNTSVILLE MERIDIAN				
DESCRIPTION OF THE TRACT		AREA		UNITED STATES TITLE		Date of Sale	Number of	Date of
PART OF SECTION	Section	Acres	100ths	TO WHOM SOLD OR GRANTED		Location or Grant	Certificate or Warrant	Military Act

Page 104 continued

	24	636.67						
North East ¼	"	159.17		James Manning, Asse				
North West ¼	"	159.17		John Boardman	3 Feb 1818		3033	
South East ¼	"	159.17		Elijah H. Boardman, Asse	28 Dec 1827		2117	
South West ¼	"	159.17		Elijah H. Boardman, Asse	3 Feb 1818		2403	
Page 105	25	636.40						
North East ¼	"	159.10		George P. Harrell, Asse	3 Feb 1818		2402	
North West ¼	"	159.10		Elijah H. Boardman, Asse	3 Feb 1818		15	
South East ¼	"	159.10		Eldred Rawlins, Asse	3 Feb 1818		1	
South West ¼	"	159.10		Eldred Rawlins, Asse	3 Feb 1818		16	
	26	645.95						
North East ¼	"	161.49		Elijah H. Boardman, Asse	3 Feb 1818		264	
North West ¼	"	161.49		Isaac Inman	3 Feb 1818		468	
South East ¼	"	161.49		Nathaniel Terry, Asse	3 Feb 1818		1123	
South West ¼	"	161.49		Name Unknown	10 Jun 1831		1073	
					Unknown		Unknown	
				*Letter Secretary of State dated 6-26-42				
				"On April 28, 1942, Patent No. 1113759				
				based on GLO 08866, issued in the name of				
				Nathaniel Terry for the SW¼ Sec 26, T4S,				
				R2W, Huntsville Meridian, Alabama contain-				
				ing 161.49."				
				Nathaniel Terry	30 Jun 1831		1159	
				*By US Gov't to Nathaniel Terry, April 28,				
				1942 Patent No. 1113759				
	27	630.96						
North East ¼	"	157.74		John W. Looney, Asse	1 Jun 1831		632	
North West ¼	"	157.74		Charles Betts	3 Feb 1818		478	
South East ¼	"	157.74		Charles Betts, Asse	3 Feb 1818		483	
E½ of SW¼	"	78.87		State	23 May 1828		*Memo	
W½ of SW¼	"	78.87		*River Impts Charles Betts	2 Feb 1830/46		*Vol 6, p422	
				State	23 May 1828		*Memo	
				*River Impts Charles Betts	2 Feb 1830		*Vol 3, p 288	
Page 106	28	648.71						
North East ¼	"	162.18		Robert Weakley	3 Feb 1818		326	
E½ of NW¼	"	81.09		James H. Weakley, Asse	3 Feb 1818		327	
W½ of NW¼	"	81.09		State	23 May 1828		*Memo	
				*River Impts Hardeman Jones	23 Jul 1830			
				Same-also	1 Jan 1968		*Vol 10, p356	
South East ¼	"	162.18		Charles Betts, Asse	3 Feb 1818		481	
E½ of SW¼	"	81.09		State	23 May 1828		*Memo	
				*River Impts Charles Collier	6 Jul 1830			
				Same-also Wm. H. Blackwell	12 Jun 1837		*Vol 3, p248	
W½ of SW¼	"	81.09		State	23 May 1828		*Memo	
				*River Impts Charles Collier	6 Jul 1830			
				Same-also Wm. H. Blackwell	12 Jun 1837		*Vol 3, p248	
E½ of NE¼	29	600.76						
	"	75.09½		State	23 May 1828		*Memo	
W½ of NE¼	"	75.09½		*River Impts A. N. Watkins	30 Jun 1830		*Vol 3, p570	
				State	23 May 1828		*Memo	
E½ of NW¼	"	75.09½		*River Impts A. N. Watkins	30 Jun 1830		*Vol 3, p572	
				State	23 May 1828		*Memo	
W½ of NW¼	"	75.09½		*River Impts A. N. Watkins	30 Jun 1830		*Vol 3, p572	
				State	23 May 1828		*Memo	
				*River Impts A. N. Watkins	30 Jun 1830		*Vol 3, p571	

Information in script appears on the copy from the office of the Secretary of State of Alabama.

*FACING PAGE	FUND	STATE TITLE	WHEN CONVEYED	Number of State Transfer or Conveyance	WHERE RECORDED	MEMORANDUM
		TO WHOM CONVEYED			VOL. PAGE	

79

OLD LAND RECORDS OF MADISON COUNTY, ALABAMA, by Margaret Matthews Cowart

INDEX TO LANDS

Section 25 Township 4 South of Range 2 west Madison County, Alabama.
G. W. JONES & SONS

PAGE	PAGE	Kind of Int.	SUB No.	GRANTOR	GRANTEE	DATE OF INSTRUMENT	DATE FILED	SECTION 25					
								N. E. Q.	N. W. Q.	S. W. Q.	S. E. Q.		
E	579	D		Johnston, Amos A	Smith, George S	1823							
E	756	D of Tr Set		Smith, George S	Johnson, Amos A	1824							
K	2	D of Tr		Hillott, John H	Blake, Wm Tr	1825							
S	17	D of Tr		Rawlins, Eldred	Pater, William	1820							
F	117	Wtg		Boardman, Elijah A	Ferry, Seth	1842							
F	75	Wtg		Boardman, Elijah A	Ferry, Seth	1841							
F	567	D		Rawlins, Eldred by Shff	Fletcher, J J & H A	1845							
V	284	D		Boardman, E H & Isaretia	American Asylum Hartfor	1844							
E	29	D		American Asylum by Com	Lipscomb, Richard	1846							
W	55	Wtg		Lipscomb, Richard & Sarah	American Asylum	1846							
AA	405	D		Lipscomb, Richard by Com	Lipscomb, Sarah	1856							
BB	162	D		Lipscomb, Sarah	Lipscomb, Caroline	1858							
CC	71	D		Fletcher, J J & Halse A	Hurdley, Orville S	1870							
CC	72	D		Hurdley, O M & Mary E	Hertler, Jacob	1870							
EE	124	D		Lipscomb, J T - Adm by Wm	McClelland, Thom J	1873							
FFF	366	D		McClelland, Thom J by Reg	McClellan, Robert A	1881							
GG	2	D		McClelland, Thomas J	Wiggins, Octavia	1885							
GG	149	D		McClelland, Aurora & Ra	McClelland, Thomas J	1885							
GG	150	D		McClellan, Thomas	McClellan, Robert A	1885							
GG	56	D		McClellan, Thom J & Sr	Duncan, Wm F et al	1884							
GG	519	D		Wiggins, Octavia A et al	Duncan & Bond	1887							
GG	532	D		Bond, Jackson & Laura C	Duncan, Wm F	1888							
GG	560	D		McClellan, R A etty et al	Duncan & Bond	1890							
GG	560	F of A		Wiggins, Octavia A	McClellan, R A	1890							
GG	515	Wtg		Duncan, W F & L A	Howe, Ann C	1891							
GG	566	Wtg		Duncan, W F & L A	Duncan, Robert F	1892							
GG	446	D		Hertler, Daniel et al	Hertler, John Jr	1894							
GG	3	D		Duncan, W F & L A by Admr	Duncan, Marcia	1898							
GG	592	D		Hertler, John & Annie H	Anderson, Annie H	1904							
GG	593	D		Hertler, John & Annie H	Hertler, Daniel	1904							
GG	594	D		Hertler, John & Annie H	Hertler, Mary J	1904							
GG	603	D		Hertler, John & Annie H	Hertler, John Jr	1904							
GG	339	D		Hertler, Daniel	Hertler, John Jr	1906							
GG	457	D		Hertler, John et al	Duncan, Colmar D	1910							
GG	273	Wtg		Duncan, Colmar D & E. L.	Hertler, John Jr	1910							
GG	322	Wtg		Duncan, R J et al	Duncan, C D	1912							

The above **INDEX TO LANDS** by G. W. Jones & Sons, Inc., shows that the northwest quarter of Section 25 changed hands more than all of the other quarters of this section combined. The parcel containing the cemetery was first patented from the government on 3 February 1818 by Elijah Boardman, who also got land in adjoining sections, according to Margaret Cowart's **OLD LAND RECORDS** book. Eldred Rawlins, who married a Lanier (see the Summary Report on the Rawlins – Lanier Cemetery, 37 – 4) took the Southwest Quarter of Section 25 on the same date that Elijah Boardman got his land. Isaac Inman (see the Summary Report for the Emeline – Inman Cemetery, 62 – 1) took land in adjacent Section 26.

Elijah Boardman sold his land in Section 25 to Richard Lipscomb in 1846, after he had mortgaged it in 1842 to Seth Terry. Richard Lipscomb already had land in the Southwest Quarter of Section 24. His cemetery is in that quarter of Section 24 (see the Summary Report for the Lipscomb Cemetery, 61 – 2), so it is known that he is **not** buried in the Hancock Cemetery. The Lipscomb family members have large obelisks to mark their graves in their own cemetery.

Richard Lipscomb’s family held the land of the Hancock Cemetery until 1873, when it was sold to Thomas J. McClelland at a sheriff’s sale. According to the tombstone inscriptions, many of the Lipscomb family members died in the 1850s, so the family probably couldn’t maintain control and productivity of their extensive land holdings after the Civil War. The land passed from Lipscomb and McClelland hands to families with surnames of Duncan, Wiggins, and Rowe until the early 1900s when John and Annie Hertzler purchased it. The Wiggins and Rowe family cemeteries are just outside the arsenal boundaries on the west side. The Hertzler family was prominent in the history of the town of Madison, just northwest of the arsenal boundaries, but none of the tombstones in the Madison city cemeteries have Hertzler inscriptions. The web site maintained by OLD HUNTSVILLE MAGAZINE for the listings of burials in Huntsville’s Maple Hill Cemetery has a few Hertzlers, but not John and Annie:

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HERTZLER--UNK----F--84--11/10/1916--W--MADISON--AL--UNK--UNK--SENILITY-  
-  
HERTZLER--DANIEL----M--49--7/8/1917--W--MADISON--AL--UNK--UNK--AGE 49--  
HERTZLER--F----F--UNK--12/10/1900--W--HUNTSVILLE--AL--UNK--UNK----  
HERTZLER--IDA----F--UNK--3/15/1956--W--HUNTSVILLE--AL--48--33----  
HERTZLER--LUCILLE--ANDERSON--F--52--2/21/1948--W--HUNTSVILLE--AL--108--  
C----  
HERTZLER--MARY--P--F--UNK--9/14/1932--W--ETERSBURG--FL--UNK--UNK----
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This listing includes an “unknown” female who died in 1916 at age 84 in Madison. However, it is not known whether or not this could be Annie Hertzler. Still, it is known that a John Hertzler who died in 1913 was buried in Maple Hill Cemetery in Huntsville, according to the Maple Hill death certificate below:

Death Certificate from Maple Hill Cemetery, Huntsville (Madison County), AL

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
FORM NO. 2

1. Full name of deceased *John Hertzler*
(Do not fail to give full name)

2. Date of death: Month *Jan*; day *3rd*; 19*13*; Hour: _____ A. M. _____ P. M.

3. Place of death (county) *Madison Co*; beat *Madison*

4. City or town *Madison*; ward _____; street and No. _____

5. Place of birth of deceased (state or county) *Penn*

6. White ~~or colored?~~ _____ Male ~~or female?~~ _____ Occupation *Farmer*

7. How long did deceased reside at place of death? _____

8. Where was disease contracted? _____ Duration of illness _____

9. Principal disease causing death *Tuberculosis*

10. Contributory disease causing death _____

11. If homicidal, suicidal, or accidental, state definitely how accomplished _____

12. Did deceased undergo a surgical operation, and if so when and of what nature? _____

13. Age: Years *49*; months _____; days _____; single, married or widowed? _____

14. Full name of father of deceased *Dr. John Hertzler*

15. Birthplace of father (state or country) *Penn*

16. Full name of mother of deceased *Hertzler*

17. Birthplace of mother (state or country) _____

18. Place of interment *Maple Hill* *Sec 1*

19. Remarks: *Transit Permit*

Date of Report *Jan 5th* 19*13* Reporter *J. A. Ryser* Post Office *Madison Ala*

Since the **INDEX TO LANDS** showed that John Hertzler Jr. entered into a mortgage agreement with Colmer D. Landon in 1910 regarding land near the cemetery parcel, it is likely that he was the son of a “senior” John Hertzler, as shown on the above death certificate. With a death certificate for a “junior” John Hertzler who died at age 49 in nearby Madison of tuberculosis in 1913, it is possible that either “senior” or “junior” was the one who

acquired the land in 1892. Of course, the Hertzlers came by land in the NW/4 of S25 through Jacob Hertzler in 1870. From Jacob it passed to Daniel Hertzler, who in turn deeded it to John Sr. – all per the **INDEX TO LANDS** above.

It should also be noted that Jacob Hertzler acquired the land from Orville M. Hundley, who was related to Lucy Lanier Ives Clark of the Clark Cemetery (65-2) on the arsenal. Exactly how the Hundleys got the land is not clear on the **INDEX TO LANDS**. That index shows that Orville Hundley purchased land in the area from J. J. Fletcher, who in turn acquired land in the area from Eldred Rawlins. However, the quarter section indications on the **INDEX TO LANDS** do not show that Eldred Rawlins or J. J. Fletcher owned land in the NW/4 to sell to Orville Hundley in 1870. It is possibly just an incomplete marking of the index, but until the original deeds are examined, the whole truth may not be known. It is known that Eldred Rawlins entered into some questionable land dealings during his residence in Madison County, before he moved to Limestone County and other areas (see the Rawlins – Lanier Cemetery Summary Report for more of Eldred Rawlins' life story).

Since there is no known arsenal or Madison-area cemetery with the graves of the Hertzlers, it is certainly possible that the Hancock Cemetery was used by their family for its burials until after the land was sold into black family possession. As is known from other cemetery records, such as the nearby Inman Cemetery (62-1), it is not unusual for the pre-Civil War white plantation owners to start a family cemetery that is later used by the black families. Sometimes, plantation cemeteries included especially the graves of household slaves with those of the white owners, even though normally they would be in separate sections.

Likewise, it is known that families of the “old days” generally buried their dead in their own land, as community cemeteries generally did not exist. (Of course, there were often church cemeteries used throughout the ages by several families together.) If family land burial practices were used here, then Jacob and Daniel Hertzler and their wives and children may well be buried in the Hancock Cemetery. The Maple Hill death certificate assures that John Hertzler Jr. was buried in Maple Hill, perhaps along with his wife, but there is no firm record of their burials there, other than the one death certificate. The death certificate for John Hertzler also shows that John Hertzler Sr. was a doctor, as reported by Dr. Kyser of Madison.

At this time, there can be only speculation regarding the origins of the cemetery. At least it has been determined which families of the land ownership were **not** likely buried in the Hancock Cemetery. While the Lipscomb, Rowe, and Wiggins families had their own separate cemeteries (and therefore no need to use the Hancock burying grounds), other known families who owned the parcel may have buried children and/or adults there. That would include the **Boardman, McClelland, Duncan, and Hertzler** families for possible interments. The cemetery is certainly large enough to accommodate all of these families and the later black family burials.

There should be a Hancock family associated with ownership of the land for such a name to have been given to the cemetery, but that must have occurred after 1900, since the **INDEX TO LANDS** of the 1800s does not show the Hancock family name in ownership of the property. Another possibility would be that Hancock family members were moved here from another cemetery, such as is discussed in the Summary Report of the Indian Creek (62-3) Cemetery, but there were no Hancocks noted in the land records of the only known original cemetery location from which graves were moved. However, there were indeed some Hancock families in Madison County in the earliest days of the county's history. The very first deed book recording, on the first page of the book, was for the Hancock / Handcock family, as shown below:

Madison County Court begun on and
 in the Town of Huntsville on the
 second Monday in January 1815
 Present Le Roy Pope, Abner Tatum
 Thomas Bibb and John Withers
 gentlemen Justices of the Inverum
 Ordered by the court that Wm
 Lisle, John Love, James Han
 James Hancock and William
 Johnson be appointed ^{or any three} of ~~them~~
 appraise the Estate of Joseph Hand
cock Deceased. -

It is ordered by the Court that Letters of Admⁿ
 be granted Louis Brown on the Est of William
Hancock Dec^d, and it is further order that
 the sd adm^r have have to sele all the
 Crop of Said Dec^d at Private Sale
 and further leave be dispose of all the
 Stock & Household furniture & Plantation
Tools of Said Dec^d at Public Sale

Paid for in Court

MAD. Co. AL
 Deed Book A
 Page 1 (Jan. 1815)
 [Wm/Joseph Hancock est.]

This 1815 record simply deals with the estates of Joseph Hancock and of William Hancock, both deceased. Notable Madison County pioneers LeRoy Pope (“Father of Huntsville”), Thomas Bibb (2nd Governor of Alabama), and John Withers (father-in-law of Clement Comer Clay, who was the 8th Governor of Alabama), were involved in the court action as “gentlemen Justices of the Inverum” (Interim) for the Territory. While this record gives no indication of the location of any land associated with the estates, other records do:

General Index to Real Property—		MADISON COUNTY, ALABAMA		No. 1—REVERSE—1810-1919		177					
SURNAME	TO WHOM MADE		MAKER	KIND OF INSTRUMENT	When and Where Recorded				Location or other Brief Description		
	GIVEN NAMES AS ABOVE	GIVEN NAMES IN FULL			Book	Page	Year	Sec. Tr. Blk.			
Hancock	Gabriel		John Sharpook	al Deed	D	B	78	1815	25	2	2-W
do			Wm Fains by Shf	Deed	D	X	409	1826	26	3	1-E
do			Amos Elliott	al Deed	D	K	408	1826	26	3	1-E
do			Thos Stewart	al Deed	D	K	124	1826	10	4	1-E
do	al		William John Baby	Deed	D	W	711	1830	35	2	4 1-E
do			Robert John I Steger	al Deed	D	Q	123	1836	31	2	1-W
do			William A John King	al Deed	D	Q	118	1836	10	4	1-E
do	Gabriel		Geo A Douglass	al Deed	D	T	268	1842	13	3	2-E
do	Gabriel		Samuel Hughes	al Deed	D	T	355	1842	24	3	2-E
do			Robt Jas H Scruggs	Deed	D	T	505	1843	31	2	1-W
do	Gabriel		John Derrick	al Deed	D	X	545	1850	13	3	2-E
do			Robert C C Sale	Deed	D	Z	637	1854	30	2	2-W
do		John W	Chas S Hancock by Reg	al Deed	D	GG	237	1867	31	2	1-W 25 2 1-W
do			Robert A John W Hancock	Deed	D	JJ	111	1868	31	2	1-W
do		John W	Robert A Hancock	Deed	D	KR	499	1871	31	2	1-W
do	Daniel		Russell Robt F B Gurley	Deed	D	PPP	164	1888			Gurley
Hancock (J) & Son Plf			B G Godins & Sons Dft	M Lien	M L	1	231	1894			
Hancock			Thomas W T Bennett	al Deed	D		83	107	1888		Gurley
do	al	James	M M Johnson	al Deed	D		88	350	1900		Gurley
do	Henrietta		Chas Hendley	al Deed	D		89	2	1901		Hvl
Hancock (J) & Son Plf			James McKee Dft	Jdgmt	Dkt	2	22	1903			
Hancock			Thos Aaron Frehld Lnd Mtg Co	Deed	D	92	567	1904	7	5	1-W
do	al	Alonso W	Wm P Miles	al Deed	D	96	435	1906	7	1	1-E
do			Wm D Alfred Moore	al Deed	D	97	508	1908			Callatin Hvl
do	al	A W	J P Thomason	al Deed	D	101	19	1909	6	1	1-E
do		M C	Minnie G Hefflefinger	Mtg	M	106	661	1911			Rdolph & Incoln St Hvl
do		James Tr	Mary Tolbert	Mtg	M	111	343	1911	36	3	2-E
do		M C	James T Baker	al Mtg	M	123	441	1913			Frankln St Hvl
do		M C	C O Robinson	al Mtg	M	131	289	1914			E Hvl Add
Hancock Bros Plf			W J Reed Dft	Jdgmt	Dkt	5	276	1915			
Hancock		Jim	Emerson Hayden	al Mtg	M	144	316	1916	26	3	2-E
do		M C	Charles C Crowson	al Mtg	M	149	389	1918			Mayaville
do		M C	J Frank Geiger	al Mtg	M	149	507	1918	28	4	1-E
do		Paul by Tr Ruth by Tr	Henry B Christian	al Deed	D	121	615	1919	6	1	1-E

This record shows that the lands bought by the Hancocks in Madison County typically were in the northern and eastern portions of the county.

General Index to Real Property

DEEDS, MORTGAGES, JUDGMENTS, LIS PENDENS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS AFFECTING REAL ESTATE

MADISON COUNTY, ALABAMA

No. 1—DIRECT—1810-1919

387

M A K E R				TO WHOM MADE	KIND OF INSTRUMENT	Where and When Recorded				Location or other Brief Description		
SURNAME	OTHER NAMES A B C D E F G H	OTHER NAMES I J K L M N O	OTHER NAMES P Q R S T U V W X Y Z			Book	Vol.	Page	Year	Sec.	Tr.	Sp.
Hancock			William Est	Louis Brown	Letters	D	A	1A	1816			William Hancock Est
do	Clement Ann			David Capshaw	Deed	D	K	323	1826		4 3	2-W
do	al		Wm	Thomas Stewart	D T	D	K	152	1826		35 3	1-E
do	al	Jas	Wm A	Edmond L Scruggs	Deed	D	N	353	1831		26 3	1-E
do			William A Sarah	John King	Deed	D	Q	169	1836		35 3	1-E
do			William A Sarah	Maurice Moore	Deed	D	Q	114	1836		5 4	1-E
do	Amaris	James		John King	Deed	D	Q	429	1837		35 3	1-E
do	Gabriel	Mary B		Spellman C Routh	Deed	D	T	74	1842		24 2	2-W
do			Robt	Robt Nance Tr	D T	D	Y	152	1845		31 2	1-W
do		Noah by Admr		Peter Binford	al Deed	D	BB	254	1857		1 -	-
do		Noah by Admr		do do	al Deed	D	BB	254	1857		11 -	- Indef
do	G Green	Mary B		David W Spivey	Deed	D	CC	479	1860		31 2	1-W
do	H E	John B	Thos B	John W Hancock	Deed	D	CC	287	1867		30 2	1-W
do	al Chas S Est by Reg	John W Admr	Robert H by Reg	John W Hancock	Deed	D	CC	287	1867		25 2	1-W
do	al Chas S Est by Reg	John W Admr	Robert H by Reg	do do	Deed	D	CC	287	1867		31 2	1-W
do	al Chas S Est	Julia by Reg	Reg	do do	Deed	D	CC	287	1867		31 2	1-W
do			Robt A	Sallie P Sale	Mtg	D	JJ	242	1868		31 2	1-W
do			Robt A	Sallie P Sale	Deed	D	JJ	301	1868		31 2	1-W
do		John W		Robt A Hancock	Deed	D	JJ	111	1868		31 2	1-W
do			Robt A	Sallie P Sale	Mtg	D	JJ	232	1868		31 2	1-W
do			Robert A	Robt S Spragins	Mtg	D	KK	52	1868		31 2	1-W
do			Robt A	Robt S Spragins Tr	D T	D	MM	238	1870		31 2	1-W
do			Robert A	John W Hancock	Deed	D	RR	439	1871		31 2	1-W
do		John W		Robt S Spragins Tr	D T	D	QQ	133	1871		31 2	1-W
do		John W		Amantis W Wade	Mtg	D	TT	408	1872		31 2	1-W
do		Jno W		Francis P Ward Tr	al D T	D	SS	444	1872		31 2	1-W
do		Jno W		do do	al D T	D	SS	444	1872		25 2	2-W
do		John W		Robt L Pulley	Mtg	D	YY	63	1874		31 2	1-W
do		John W		do do	Mtg	D	YY	63	1874		25 2	2-W
do		John W		John M Eldridge	Mtg	D	AAA	238	1875		31 2	1-W
do		John W		do do	Mtg	D	AAA	238	1875		25 2	2-W
do		John W		John W Barclay	Mtg	D	AAA	240	1875		31 2	1-W
do		John W		do do	Mtg	D	AAA	240	1875		31 2	1-W
do		J W		J H Beadle	Mtg	M	1	202	1876		31 2	1-W Hvl
do		J W		do do	Mtg	M	1	202	1876		25 2	2-W Hvl
do		Mtgee John W by		Joseph E Kelly	al Deed	D	FFF	180	1881		31 2	1-W 35 2 2-W
do	Henrietta		Richard C	Charles Hendley	Mtg	M	71	465	1901		Adams Ave Hvl	
do	Daniel			John Anderson	Mtg	M	84	194	1904		12 4	2-E
do	A W			Jere C Webster	Mtg	M	97	156	1909		7 1	1-E 1 1 1-E

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

The above Index also shows that the lands sold by the Hancock family in Madison County in the 1800s was typically in the either the northern or the eastern portions of the county. However, there were a few exceptions. Some of the real property bought or sold was in Huntsville, some was “indefinite(ly)” described in the records, and a couple of parcels were on land that became arsenal property. In 1904, **Thomas** Hancock sold land in Section 7 of Township 5, Range 1 West, to Aaron Freeholder Land & Mortgage Company. That parcel is immediately south of the Lanier Cemetery (46-3) on the arsenal. The other instance of Hancock land transactions in the area that became the arsenal was in 1918. At that time, M. C. Hancock mortgaged land in Section 28, Township 4, Range 1 West, to J. Frank, Geiger. This land is west of Patton Road, south of Cajun Drive, and north of Martin Road, basically centering on Madkin Mountain and the rock quarry. The difficulty is that M. C. Hancock was also listed in the Index as being involved in several land transactions in the towns of Huntsville and Maysville, so that one transaction is not necessarily an indication that he lived on the arsenal location. A look at the census records in the early 1900s for the Hancock families was the only other avenue to try to gain some insights:

TWELFTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES

State Alabama

E.D. 107
Sheet 15-A

SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION

County Madison

Township or other division of county Huntsburg Precinct 6

Name of Institution, _____

Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division, _____

Enumerated by me on the 20 day of June, 1900, William F. Gardner

LOCATION.			NAME of each person whose place of abode on June 1, 1900, was in this family. <small>Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. Insert every person living on June 1, 1900. Omit children born after June 1, 1900.</small>	RELATION. <small>Relationship of each person to the head of the family.</small>	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION.							NATIVITY.		
IF CITIZEN.	Color or race.	DATE OF BIRTH.			Sex.	Age at last birthday.	Whether blind, deaf, dumb, insane, idiotic, pauper, convict, or under 1000 words.	Number of years married.	Number of years away from home.	Place of birth of this person.	Place of birth of father of this person.	Place of birth of mother of this person.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
			<u>Walter Thomas</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>Nov 1847</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>12</u>		<u>Georgia</u>	<u>Virginia</u>	<u>Virginia</u>
			<u>Sara G</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>Sept 1848</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Early</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>May 1877</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>F</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Georgia</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Yancy</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Jan 1876</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>M</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Georgia</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Mama E</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>July 1877</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>F</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Georgia</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Wesley William</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Jan 1878</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>F</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Ruby Oscar</u>	<u>Nephew</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>July 1877</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>M</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Earl Richmond</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Sept 1872</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Golly</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>July 1872</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>F</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Harley</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>July 1877</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>M</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Jack</u>	<u>Brother</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Dec 1874</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>M</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Walter Dumas</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Nov 1840</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>M</u>			<u>Georgia</u>	<u>Virginia</u>	<u>Virginia</u>
			<u>Beenie Matilda</u>	<u>Aunt</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>Sept 1840</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Mississippi</u>	<u>Mississippi</u>	<u>Mississippi</u>
			<u>Thomas</u>	<u>Cousin</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Jan 1870</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>M</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Mississippi</u>	<u>Mississippi</u>
			<u>Samuel</u>	<u>Cousin</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Nov 1878</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>M</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Mississippi</u>
			<u>Roberson Andy</u>	<u>Boarder</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Sept 1862</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>M</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>More Rufus</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Apr 1853</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>8</u>		<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Vietaude</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Feb 1849</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Winnona Juana</u>	<u>Old Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>July 1875</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>M</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>William Stanley</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Nov 1853</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>22</u>		<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Virginia</u>
			<u>Caliza J</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>June 1857</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Mary J</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Sept 1878</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>F</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Louisa</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>May 1870</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>F</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Peter</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Sept 1874</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>M</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Stanhope J</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Aug 1870</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>M</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Hallac</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Nov 1877</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>M</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Caliza</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>July 1870</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>M</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>William</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>April 1876</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>M</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Caliza A</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Sept 1877</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>F</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>
			<u>Wesley W</u>	<u>Nephew</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>Jan 1874</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>M</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>

STATE Alabama

1910 Census, E.D. 111, Sheet 11-B

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR - BUREAU

COUNTY Madison

THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES

TOWNSHIP OR OTHER DIVISION OF COUNTY

Arantowille Precinct

NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE

NAME OF INSTITUTION

ENUMERATED BY ME

LOCATION.	NAME	RELATION.	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION.	SATIVITY.		
				Place of Birth of this Person.	Place of Birth of Father of this person.	Place of Birth of Mother of this person.
164 164	<u>James</u> <u>Boen</u>	Head	M 23 61 711 42	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Edna</u>	Wife	F 13 00 711 48	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Maryland</u>	Daughter	F 13 30 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Artina</u>	Son	M 13 28 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Benada</u>	Son	M 13 21 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Wesley</u>	Son	M 13 20 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Joseph</u>	Son	M 13 17 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Mathias</u>	Daughter	F 13 17 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Mlanda</u>	Daughter	F 13 17 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Jessie</u>	Daughter	F 13 17 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
165 165	<u>Walter</u>	Head	M 18 28 712 4	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Florence</u>	Wife	F 13 28 712 4	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
166 166	<u>David</u>	Head	M 13 45 711 15	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Ansie</u>	Wife	F 13 42 711 15	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>William</u>	Son	M 13 12 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
167 167	<u>Fair</u>	Head	M 13 28 711 4	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Levella</u>	Wife	F 13 22 711 4	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Levellen</u>	Daughter	F 13 12 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
168 168	<u>Edw. Sledge</u>	Head	M 13 24 711 10	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Mary</u>	Wife	F 13 29 711 10	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Francis</u>	Daughter	F 13 51 712 21	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Francis</u>	Daughter	F 13 46 712 21	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
169 169	<u>Wynell</u>	Head	M 13 45 711 22	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Kate</u>	Wife	F 13 44 711 22	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Conrad</u>	Daughter	F 13 17 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Edith P.</u>	Daughter	F 13 17 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Archie</u>	Daughter	F 13 15 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Manda G.</u>	Daughter	F 13 18 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Laura</u>	Son	M 13 8 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
170 170	<u>Levada</u>	Daughter	F 13 15 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Boyle</u>	Head	M 13 65 711 31	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Kittie</u>	Wife	F 13 47 711 31	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Ollie</u>	Son	M 13 15 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Beryl</u>	Son	M 13 14 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
171 171	<u>Henry</u>	Son	M 13 11 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Hancock</u>	Head	M 13 45 712 2	Alabama	Virginia	Virginia
	<u>Calloria</u>	Wife	F 13 38 712 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
172 172	<u>Mamie</u>	Daughter	F 13 11 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>James</u>	Head	M 13 29 711 5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama

Grand Total Precinct

State Alabama
 County Madison

SCHEDULE No. 1.

Township or other division of county Mountville Precinct
 Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division, Mountville
 Enumerated by me on the 11 day of June, 1900,

IN OTHER	LOCATION	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION								Place of birth of each person listed, give the State		
				Color or race	Sex	DATE OF BIRTH	Age at last birthday	Whether single, married, widowed, or divorced	Number of years married	Number of born alive	Number of those children living		Place of birth of this Person	
Street	House Number	Enter surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any.	Relationship of each person to the head of the family.	Male	Female	Month	Year	8	9	10	11	12	13	
	839 240 276	Turner Bettie	Str			13	7	Feb	1888	12	8	-	-	Alabama
		Peter	Son			13	m	Nov	1890	9	8	-	-	Alabama
		Mattie	Str			13	7	Nov	1891	8	5	-	-	Alabama
		Burgess	Son			13	m	July	1894	5	8	-	-	Alabama
		Foster	Son			13	m	Dec	1896	3	8	-	-	Alabama
		Addie	Str			13	7	Nov	1899	1/2	8	-	-	Alabama
	836 246 257	Steele Conchie	Head			13	7	Dec	1842	50	Wd	-	3 3	Alabama
		Bessie	Str			13	7	Oct	1898	1	8	-	-	Alabama
		Jimmie L	Son			13	m	Dec	1894	5	8	-	-	Alabama
		Lilly	Str			13	7	July	1897	2	8	-	-	Alabama
	247 258	Namcott H. C.	Head			13	m	Dec	1872	27	Wd	13	-	Alabama
		Hennette	Wife			13	7	Oct	1876	23	Wd	13	2	Virginia
	837 248 259	Pope James A.	Head			13	m	April	1850	49	Wd	23	-	Alabama
		Sellie	Wife			13	7	Oct	1854	45	Wd	23	8 4	Alabama
		George	Son			13	m	Feb	1882	18	8	-	-	Alabama
		Mattie	Str			13	7	Jan	1889	11	8	-	-	Alabama
		Thomas	Son			13	m	Sept	1892	7	8	-	-	Alabama
	838 249 260	East Banister	Head			13	m	Dec	1829	70	Wd	50	-	Alabama
		Maryonite	Wife			13	7	Sept	1830	69	Wd	50	12 5	Alabama
		Martin Susie	Grand Str			13	7	Feb	1899	5	8	-	-	Alabama

LOCATIONS.	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION								SATIVITY		
			Sex	Color or race	Age or last birth day	Married, single, widowed, or divorced	Number of years of present marriage	Number of born most children	Place of birth of each person and parents of each person enumerated. If born in the United States give the state or territory. If of foreign birth, give the country.	Place of birth of this person.	Place of birth of father of this person.	Place of birth of mother of this person.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
745-18-23	Walter, Ella	Daughter	F	W	10	1884	1	0	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Virginia
	Benny, Eugene	Boys	M	W	10	1884	2	0	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	William	Son	M	W	10	1884	0	0	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Margie	Daughter	F	W	10	1884	0	0	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Red	Son	M	W	10	1884	0	0	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
746-19-24	Summers, Charley	Wife	F	W	10	1884	0	0	0	0	Alabama	Georgia	Virginia
	Charles	Daughter	F	W	10	1884	0	0	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	George J.	Son	M	W	10	1884	0	0	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Elyse	Daughter	F	W	10	1884	0	0	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
748-19-25	Swain, George	Head	M	W	30	1856	0	0	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Virginia	Wife	F	W	28	1858	0	0	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
748-19-26	Anderson, Mary	Wife	F	W	60	1828	0	0	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Calder	Wife	F	W	57	1831	0	0	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
750-19-27	Anderson, Robert	Head	M	W	21	1888	0	0	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Mary	Wife	F	W	21	1888	0	0	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
752-19-28	David, John	Head	M	W	48	1844	0	0	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Bill	Wife	F	W	48	1844	0	0	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama

The problem with all of these census records for Thomas / Tom and C. / Charley Hancock is that they don't match at all between 1900 and 1910. The ages are grossly different, and the birthplaces don't agree, plus the family member names are all diverse between the censuses. There was nothing found to even remotely fit for a Thomas or an M. C. Hancock in the 1920 or 1930 census records of Madison County. The only thing that the census records provide is insight that the Hancock families that may have matched the land records of the early 1900s in Madison County were "colored". However, none of them lived near the Hancock Cemetery, 62-2, location.

Still, it may be that one or more of these Hancocks was buried in the Hancock Cemetery location or in the cemetery that got moved to the adjacent Indian Creek Cemetery, 62-3. At least one of the land records, the one involving Madkin Mountain and the rock quarry, was near the cemetery that was moved to Indian Creek. Furthermore, the old photo shown in the Indian Creek Cemetery Summary Report seems to include an adult-sized transfer coffin, whereas all of the graves known to exist in the Indian Creek Cemetery appear to be for children. That implies that if an adult was removed from the area near the intersection of Toftoy Thruway and Neal Road in Section 29, then that adult was not reburied in Indian Creek

Cemetery. Accordingly, the grave most likely would have been emplaced in the Hancock Cemetery. Furthermore, if there was ever a Hancock family member buried either originally or by transfer to the Hancock Cemetery, and if that person had an inscribed tombstone, then that stone could be the only basis for ever calling this cemetery the Hancock Cemetery. In such a case, the Hancock family member would not necessarily have had to own or live very near to the cemetery.

Hopefully, someday a detailed land record or other document will be found to mention the first uses of the cemetery. For now, that investigation remains pending for future research into all of the deed records and title abstracts for the area.

By John P. Rankin, August 22, 2005; revised September 17, 2005