

JORDAN – JACOBS CEMETERY, 54 - 1

Summary Report

This cemetery is near the hazardous chemicals and materials disposal site close to Buildings 5405 and 5417. It is just north of the water tower in the area between Calibration Drive, Jungerman Road, and Fowler Road. The water tower is west of Building 5417, on a hill accessible by a narrow gravel road, connecting to the northwest part of the parking lot at Bldg. 5417. It is possible to drive right up to a gate in the fence near the cemetery on its west end and south of the back of Building 5405. On the gate into the area (but not on the gate into the cemetery) is a sign that warns of a contaminated area, but the fence at that point is not continuous, so it is not known whether the contamination is in the cemetery's fenced area. If someone approached the cemetery from the north or from the east (or even from the south or anywhere except at the end of the road at the southwest corner of the cemetery), then the warning of contamination would not be evident.



Jordan - Jacobs Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

This cemetery is located approximately on the line between S33-T4S-R1W and S4-T5S-R1W.



Jordan - Jacobs Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.



Jordan - Jacobs Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

There are numerous rectangular grave depressions evident outside both the east and the west sides of the inner (hogwire) fenced area. The overall size of the cemetery could hold many hundreds of graves, but the depressions are only in evidence at the west end of the cemetery.

(This view is toward the west from the center of the cemetery.)



Jordan - Jacobs Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

There are very few rectangular grave depressions in the center or on the east end of the cemetery, but it could hold many hundreds of graves, if full.

(This view is toward the east from the center of the cemetery.)

The Jordan – Jacobs Cemetery has only 7 grave markers to be seen above ground as of June, 2002. They are show below:



Jordan - Jacobs Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

Elle / Ellie / Ella Jacobs was the son of Isaac Jacobs and his wife Betty. They were married in Madison County on Dec. 23, 1878. Per the 1900 census records, Ellie Jacobs was born in March of 1884. Isaac was born in January, 1847, and Betty was born in June, 1859. There was another Isaac Jacobs (b. Aug. 1845) in Madison Co., and it is often impossible to differentiate between the two in earlier censuses. They were cousins, part of a group of Jacobs families from SC that came with matriarch Fanny Jacobs, b. 1778 SC. It is likely that the other Jacobs families were headed by her children: Burrell (b. 1801/1810, SC), Unity (b. 1817, SC), Thomas (b. 1801, SC), Isaac (b. 1803, SC), Oliver (b. 1808, SC), and Rebecca (b. 1807, SC). All of these families were listed as Mulatto, and they were obviously free, in order to be named in the census records of 1850. In that year, the family headed by Mulatto "Becka" (Rebecca) Jacobs included 4 Jacobs children, including one of the two Isaacs that could be Ellie's father. Her household also included the white family of Mary E. Austin (b. 1812, SC). Mary had 4 of her children with her in Rebecca's household. Judging from the ages and birthplaces of the Jacobs children, the families came to Madison County by 1822. One other likely child of Fannie's was David Jacobs, listed in the 1850 census as age 43 (b. SC), but enumerated last in the household headed by George W. Jacobs at age 25. This indicates that David was somehow incapacitated.



Jordan - Jacobs Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

The only Lucien Jacobs found in the Madison County census records are for a son of Burrell Jacobs. Lucien J. Jacobs was born in August of 1885 to Burrell and his wife Kitty. Burrell was born April, 1855. Kitty was born July, 1860. They were married 20 years at the time of the 1900 census. Burrell was the son of a Burrell Jacobs born in SC in either 1801 or 1810, depending upon which census record is believed. His wife was Elizabeth ("Betsy"), born 1818 in NC.

There was no census record found in Madison County for Lucien Jacobs after the 1900 census. The senior Burrell Jacobs married "Betsy" (Elizabeth) Jacobs in Madison County on Dec. 20, 1846. The junior Burrell Jacobs married Kitty JORDAN on February 1, 1879 in Madison County.

Land records show that Lucien Jacobs received rights to George Jacobs' 22 acres of land after George's death from his heirs in 1908. In 1918 Lucien's widow Estell sold the same land back to Burwell Jacobs.



Jordan - Jacobs Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

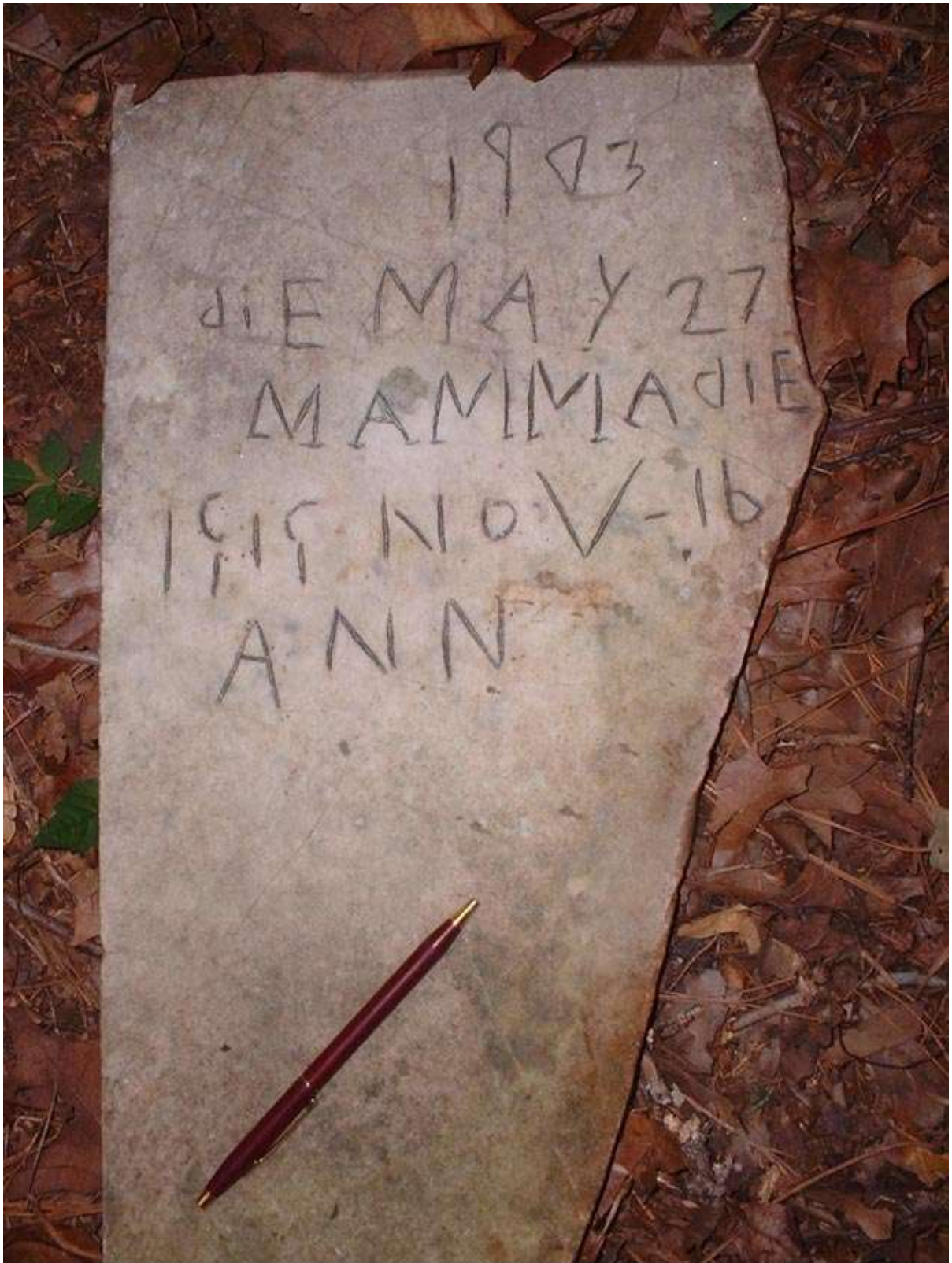


Jordan - Jacobs Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.



Jordan - Jacobs Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

(A closer view of this marker is given below.)



Jordan - Jacobs Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.



Jordan - Jacobs Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

Badly rusted metal funeral home marker. Located in Northeast corner of inner (hogwire) fenced plot near west end of cemetery. No other markers or fieldstones found within inner fenced area.



Jordan - Jacobs Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

No. 275798 (or 276798?) from unknown funeral home. Located in Northeast corner of inner (hogwire) fenced plot near west end of cemetery. No markers or fieldstones found within inner fenced area.
[To facilitate reading, this image has been horizontally flipped so that data on marker is not mirror imaged.]



Jordan - Jacobs Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

Located in extreme NW corner of cemetery. Two pieces may be for different markers, as they don't seem to fit together. Neither has inscriptions on either side, so far as could be detected.



Jordan - Jacobs Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.



Jordan - Jacobs Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

This marker will have to be dug out with a shovel to view both sides clearly in checking for inscriptions. It is firmly buried in very hard clay and could not be extricated with the hoe handle and hook used for the June 2002 visit.

There are perhaps more than fifty obvious rectangular grave depressions at the west end of the cemetery. In the center and on the east end, there are no definite depressions to indicate graves during the growing season for vegetation. If visited during the cold weather periods, after low-lying vegetation has died from frost and freezes, there could well be many more depressions visible. If this cemetery is filled with graves, there could easily be many hundreds of them within the fenced area.

The cemetery has a very good chain link fence around its perimeter. Within that fence, near the west end, is another fence that may have been originally erected to enclose a specific family set of plots. If so, that family was most likely the Jacobs family, as all of the markers with legible inscriptions are located near (but outside of) the inner fenced area. It is obvious that these markers have been moved from their original positions, except for the one for Elle Jacobs. Even so, the Elle Jacobs marker is small enough that it may have been moved from its original location, and it is still very near the inner fenced area.

Additionally, located in the northeast corner of the inner fenced area are found the remains of the metal funeral home marker shown above. All traces of the deceased's name and dates and funeral home name (generally printed on paper and set in the metal frame) have long since weathered away. Still, the serial number on the marker is mostly legible, showing the numbers **275798** or **276798**. Even with photo enlargement and enhancement, the determination of whether the 3rd digit is a "5" or a "6" is impossible to make. If someone wanted to learn the identity of the deceased associated with the metal marker, those numbers could perhaps be used to narrow it down to two individuals, assuming that funeral home records of the pre-arsenal days could be accessed and correlated from the serial numbers to the names. Since this is known to be a cemetery for the black race at the time of its use (and since there probably were not many black funeral homes in business in the west Huntsville, Triana, and east Madison area that used metal markers during the early 1900s), the search would be limited in scope. The Royal Funeral Home is also known to have conducted many funerals on the pre-arsenal lands.

[One other note of the condition of the cemetery is that Max C. Bennett has set up a website to describe the cemeteries of Redstone Arsenal. On his site, believed to have been constructed in 1999, he stated that the inner fenced area was the **only** place where headstones were to be found. In the visit to the cemetery in 2002 by John Rankin, there were **no** headstones within the perimeter of the inner fence. All headstones found in the cemetery were outside the inner fence. Some of them may have been moved, but several are in fact set upright in the ground, and apparently have not been moved. More specifically, one of them is even mostly buried in the ground, with the base of a tree trunk beginning to enclose it. Obviously, that particular stone (which may be uninscribed, but it is so far buried that inscription status

cannot be determined) has not been moved since long before 1999. Dense vegetation must have covered these markers whenever Max Bennett visited the site.]

The search for information about Elle Jacobs has been interesting. At first, the name “Elle” was thought to be for “Ellen” or “Eleanor”, indicating a female. Accordingly, marriage records of Madison County for a Jacobs male to a female named Ellen or Eleanor were investigated, but no possibilities were found to match the name and time period. Census records for 1930 and 1920 were also checked to no avail for likely matches. The Huntsville City Directories were checked for the time period from 1916 through 1925 for any E. Jacob / Jacobs (who lived 1892 – 1926, per the tombstone), but nothing close was found. No probate records were found for the name, but there were probate records for Burrell Jacobs and Burrell J. Jacobs that were found and checked. (Most of the records that were researched have been digitally photographed and are included on the CD-ROMs provided to the Army offices.)

Madison County Probate Minute Book 15, on page 48, shows that Thomas Jamar was appointed administrator for the estate of Burrell Jacobs on October 20, 1873. Madison County Probate Record Book 33, on page 637, mentions that there are a widow and minor children of Burrell Jacobs and describes his real estate as including the W/2 of the NE/4 of Section 17, the NE/4 of the SW/4 of Section 9, and the NW/4 of the SW/4 of Section 9, all in T5S-R1W, comprising 160 acres. This property is described as an exemption for the widow and minor children, **including the residence**. Therefore, it can be concluded that Burrell Jacobs and his family lived within about two miles (and southwest) of the Jordan – Jacobs Cemetery.

Elle was born many years too late to appear as a child of Burrell’s in the 1860 or 1870 census records, but it was thought that Burrell could well have been the grandfather or even the great grandfather of Elle. One of the likely candidates for being the father of Ellie Jacobs was Burrell Jacobs, Jr. He is listed in the 1880 census of Madison County on page 134A under the name Barret Jacobs, Mulatto, age 28. His wife is shown as Kittie, Mulatto, age 20. The only child in the 1880 household is listed as Kittie also, Mulatto, age 5 months. All are given as born in Alabama, with father and mother also born in Alabama. Subsequent census data showed, however, that Burrell Jr. was **NOT** the father of Elle / Ellie Jacobs.

One interesting side note is that when the Madison County Circuit Court Papers index was checked at the courthouse archives room in the Huntsville – Madison County Public Library, there was an entry for **ELLIE JACOBS**. In packet number 732 was found the case record of Ellie Jacobs filing suit against the Alabama Power Company on March 8, 1919. The basis of the suit was that Ellie was driving his horse and buggy down West Clinton Street, just west of the Huntsville City Limits, when an “electric street railway” came along and startled the mare. The horse bolted, running into a fence and becoming “...injured, rendering its value lower”. Moreover, the buggy was damaged, and Ellie *himself* was injured. As plaintiff, Ellie was asking \$1000 compensation on each of the three points. The finding was that the mare was “...not a gentle mare”, and there was “...no malicious intent to cause injury.” The timing was right for this Ellie of the case to be the one for which the tombstone was erected in the Jordan – Jacobs Cemetery, meaning that the grave would be for a male rather than for a female. Certainly the location of the case event fits for one who may have lived on the pre-arsenal property. This was the first evidence found to indicate the likelihood of the name Ellie being for a male of the Jacobs family.

Subsequent checks of census records for other years plus additional files turned up Elle himself. The 1900 Soundex was examined for all Jacobs families of Madison County. It showed only one child named Elle / Ellie in the various Jacobs families of the county. That was **Ellie Jacobs**, born March of 1884 (per the Soundex and census record) in Alabama, as **the son of Isaac Jacobs, age 53 (b. January 1847 in AL)**, and his wife Bettie / Bittie, who was born in June of 1859 in AL.

	Ben	son	13	M	May	1875	10			Alabama	Alabama	
	Bessie	son	13	M	Mar	1874	4			Alabama	Alabama	
	Henry J.	Son	13	M	Sept	1899	8			Alabama	Alabama	
44	Isaac Jacobs	Head	13	M	Jan	1847	53	7	22	Alabama	Alabama	
	Bittie	Wife	13	F	Jan	1857	40	7	22	Alabama	Alabama	9
	Frank	Son	13	M	Nov	1879	20			Alabama	Alabama	
	James	Son	13	M	Dec	1881	18			Alabama	Alabama	
	Ellie	Son	13	M	Mar	1884	16			Alabama	Alabama	
	George	Son	13	M	May	1889	11			Alabama	Alabama	
	Joseph	Son	13	M	May	1891	9			Alabama	Alabama	
	Dock	Son	13	M	Aug	1892	7			Alabama	Alabama	
	Tyra	Son	13	M	May	1895	5			Alabama	Alabama	
	Charity Ann	Daughter	13	F	Oct	1897	2			Alabama	Alabama	
44	Ampeon	Head	13	M	May	1834	66	7	31	Alabama	Virginia	
	Cornelia	Wife	13	F	Mar	1864	36	9	5	North Carolina	North Carolina	
	Cora	Daughter	13	F	July	1872	22			Alabama	Alabama	
	Emma	Daughter	13	F	April	1872	18	2	2	Alabama	Alabama	
	John	Grandson	13	M	Feb	1887	13			Alabama	Alabama	
	Emma	Grand Daughter	13	F	July	1889	11			Alabama	Alabama	
	Calvin	Grand son	13	M	Aug	1890	9			Alabama	Alabama	
	Maggie	Grand Daughter	13	F	May	1892	3			Alabama	Alabama	
	Albert	Grand son	13	M	Sept	1899	1			Alabama	Alabama	
	William	Grand son	13	M	Jan	1895	5			Alabama	Alabama	
	Ann	Grand Daughter	13	F	June	1896	3			Alabama	Alabama	
116 44	Isaac	Head	13	M	July	1870	29	7	3	Alabama	Alabama	
	Nancy	Wife	13	F	Feb	1875	25	7	3	Alabama	Alabama	

Other children in the home headed by this Isaac Jacobs (there was another Isaac Jacobs in the county, a cousin of Ellie's father, born August of 1845 and married to Nancy, who was b. Sept. 1847) were: Frank (b. Nov. 1879), James (b. Dec. 1881), George (b. May 1889), Joseph (b. May 1891), Dock (b. Aug. 1892), Tyra (a son, b. May 1895), and Charity Ann (b. Oct. 1897). The census record shows that Isaac and "Bittie" had been married for 22 years by 1900, and that Bittie had given birth to 11 children, 8 or 9 of whom were still living when the census was taken. [The numbers 8 and 9 are written over one another with equal weight, so it is impossible to tell which number is correct. If the 9 is correct, then one of the children was not enumerated as a part of the household, probably due to marriage and establishing a house of their own.] The Isaac Jacobs family in 1900 was living between two Simpson families, one of which was headed by William Simpson (age 66) and his wife Cornelia (age 64). The Simpsons had been married for only 35 years, so it is possible that Cornelia was a second wife to

William. Still, it suggests that Isaac Jacobs could be a younger brother of Cornelia, since it is often observed that in those times a couple would live adjacent to the close relatives of the wife. Furthermore, in this case, there is a Simpson family on each side of the residence of Isaac Jacobs and his wife Bittie.

The 1910 census showed no Elle or Ellie Jacobs, but it did have **Ella** Jacobs as a male head of household #274 in Enumeration District 145, Sheet 19-B. This E.D. was in the West Huntsville Precinct 24, Merrimack Village. Ella Jacobs was shown as age 24 in 1910, with wife Paralee. She was given as age 20, and they are shown as being married for 3 years, with two children, both still living. In fact, the children are listed in the household as Sylvia (age 1) and Babie (a son, age 3 months).

29 April 1910 MAD. Co. AL Census, ED. 145 Sht 19-B

Household #	Name	Relationship	Sex	Age	Marital Status	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama			
271	Chancy Walter F	Boarder	M	48	3	3	Alabama	Alabama			
	Hula Thomas A	Boarder	M	49	3		Georgia	Georgia			
	Hubbfield Thomas	Boarder	M	23	3		Tennessee	Tennessee			
272	Baucum Sela	Head	M	26	1	5	Tennessee	Tennessee			
	Addie	wife WF	F	23	1	6	2	2	Alabama	Tennessee	Tennessee
	Nina	Daughter	F	4	3		Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama		
273	Louise	Son	M	2	3		Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama		
	Perkins Patricia	Head	M	13	4	2	4	Alabama	X	Alabama	
	Harrista	wife WF	F	13	3	2	4	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	
	Rosa	Daughter	F	13	3		Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		
274	Ada L	Daughter	F	14	5		Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		
	James H.	Son	M	13	4	3	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		
	Clayburn Luvesta	Step-daughter	F	13	2	3	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		
	Head Mariachi	Head	M	13	2	2	4	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	
275	Johnie	Son	M	13	5	5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		
	Henry	Son	M	13	3	5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		
	Randle	Son	M	13	2	5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		
	Jerry	Son	M	13	1/2	5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		
276	Jacob Ella	Head	M	24	1	3	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		
	Paralee	wife WF	F	20	1	3	2	2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Sylvia	Daughter	F	1	5		Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		
277	Babie	Son	M	3	5		Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		
	James James	Head	M	31	1	4	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		
	Maggie	wife WF	F	29	1	4	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	
	Hughley Percie	Head	M	25	1	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		
278	Rena	wife WF	F	19	1	0	3	3	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Jessie	Son	M	4	5		Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		
	Oscar	Son	M	1	5		Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		
279	Henry	Son	M	3/2	3		Alabama	Alabama	Alabama		
	Joness Bittie	Wife	F	28	1	4	4	4	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Morsehead Alvin	Head	M	24	1	3	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee		
280	William Williams	Boarder	M	54		Alabama	Alabama	Alabama			

Here ends the enumeration of Merrimack Village.

Elle / Ellie / Ella Jacobs was not found in the 1920 (or 1930 census, as expected, since his death date was 1926). However, he was found in the World War I Draft Registration records. He completed and signed his own registration card (was literate, versus others who made their “mark”). He gave his name as Ellie Jacobs on September 12, 1918. He listed his age as 36, and the month of his birth as February of 1882, without giving the exact day of the month. He noted that his occupation was “farmer”, employed by Jack Clift in the town of Madison, Alabama. He listed his “Nearest Relative” as **Parlee** Jacobs of Huntsville, Alabama. The local draft board representative provided information that described Ellie Jacobs as being of medium height and medium build, but he provided nothing for the color of eyes. He did indicate that Ellie had suffered no loss of limbs or other disqualification for military duty.

WW I Draft Registrations, MAD. Co. AL

REGISTRATION CARD 4876

NAME: *Larson* JACOBE
 RESIDENCE: *Garby, Madison Ala.*
 DATE OF BIRTH: *Aug 30 1887*

CITIZENSHIP: CITIZEN ALIEN

EMPLOYER'S NAME: *Larson*
 PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: *Garby, Madison Ala.*
 REGISTERED BY: *Walter Jacob*

1-4-13-C
 REGISTRAR'S REPORT

REPORT MADE BY: *Stok Stok*

NO

LOCAL BOARD
 County of Madison, - State of Ala.
 City of Huntsville, Ala.

REGISTRATION CARD 4875

NAME: *Allen* JACOBE
 RESIDENCE: *Northville, Madison Ala.*
 DATE OF BIRTH: *Feb 28 1887*

CITIZENSHIP: CITIZEN ALIEN

EMPLOYER'S NAME: *James*
 PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: *Madison Ala.*
 REGISTERED BY: *Allen*

1-4-13-C
 REGISTRAR'S REPORT

REPORT MADE BY: *Stok Stok*

NO

LOCAL BOARD
 County of Madison
 City of Huntsville, Ala.
 State of Alabama

REGISTRATION CARD 4897

NAME: *Branch* JACOBE
 RESIDENCE: *Garby, Madison Ala.*
 DATE OF BIRTH: *Nov 28 1879*

CITIZENSHIP: CITIZEN ALIEN

EMPLOYER'S NAME: *Branch*
 PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: *Garby, Madison Ala.*
 REGISTERED BY: *Branch*

1-4-13-C
 REGISTRAR'S REPORT

REPORT MADE BY: *Stok Stok*

NO

LOCAL BOARD
 County of Madison, - State of Ala.
 City of Huntsville, Ala.

In the above image of a page of the World War I draft registration cards, the front of each card is on the left. The back of the card, with the physical description, is on the right. The card images for Ellie Jacobs are in the middle.

Meanwhile, Ellie's mother, Bittie / Bettie was living with her son Frank, per the census records of 1910 and 1920, indicating that Ellie's father Isaac had died sometime between 1900 and 1910. His brothers and sisters were also living with Frank in the 1910 census, as was another sister, Beulah, age 9 in the 1910 records. Frank was unmarried in 1910, but in the 1920 census he was shown with a wife named Addie, age 27, while Frank was age 40 in that year. His mother was shown as "Bettie", age 60. There were no children of Frank & Addie or siblings of Frank and Ellie listed in the household in 1910. Frank's World War I draft registration card is shown above as the 3rd in the set of the images.

During the course of checking all of the Jacobs families of Madison County in the various censuses, it was noted that Burrell Jacobs (who was born in April of 1855) with his wife Kitty had a son named **Lucien J. Jacobs** and several other children per the 1900 census. Lucien was born in August of 1885 according to the record. This family was not checked in the 1910 or the 1920 censuses, so it is not known whether Lucien survived that long. However, it is likely that he is the Lucien Jacobs with a tombstone in the Jordan – Jacobs Cemetery, as no other entries were noticed for a Lucien Jacobs in any other census records for the families of that surname.

The 1930 census for Madison County, Alabama, has an entry for Burrell Jacobs shown as age 74. [This man was listed as the 13 year old son of a Burrell who was age 60 in the 1870 census.] He is listed in 1930 with a wife named Nettie, who is shown as age 68. The data includes that he was married first at the age of 23, and she was married first at the age of 17. She is shown as being born in Alabama, as were her father and mother. However, he is shown as being born in Alabama, with his father having been born in North Carolina and his mother in South Carolina. Their household sequence is number 378 in their district during the census. In household number 377 is the family of Smithy Jacobs and wife. Smithy is age 42, married since the age of 25, while his wife was first married at the age of 13. She is age 30 in the census. Household number 379 (the other side of Burrell's house from Smithy's) is that headed by Renny Jacobs, age 32,

married first at age 22. Renny's wife is **Maggie Jacobs** (*see photo on page 7 above as a possible match*), age 32, married first at age 22. They have 5 children enumerated in the household with them: Edward (age 8), Leonard (7), Lawrence (5), Jessie (a son, 4-8/12), and **Burrill Jr.** (2-6/12).

The 1870 census for Burrell Jacobs lists him as "Burrill" at age 60, a mulatto farmer born in North Carolina. His household [#57] included: Booker Jacobs, (female) age 40; George Jacobs, 22; Julia Jacobs, 16; (another) George Jacobs, 18; Matilda Timmons, 20 (a seamstress); Burrill Jacobs, 13; William Jacobs, 12; Eliza Jacobs, 10; and Prudence Jacobs, 8. Household #58 was headed by Pinckney Looney, 23, with no children, but wife Agnes, 17. Household # 59 was headed by Isaac Jacobs, 26, with no children, but wife Visa Jacobs, 24, and also Elizabeth Curry, 28. John Jacobs, 28, headed household # 60, and William Jacobs, 48, headed household 64. Household # 51 was headed by Reilley Jacobs, 35; household # 54 was headed by Unity Jacobs (female, could be wife of the older Burrill), 50; household # 55 was headed by Rebecca Jacobs (another candidate for wife of Burrill), 52; and household # 56 was headed by Amanda Jacobs, 23.

The 1850 census records for Madison County include an entry that gives some insights toward the social prominence and kindness of the free Mulatto Jacobs families. In that year, Mary E. Austin and some Austin children were enumerated as living within the household headed by Becka (Rebecca) Jacobs. Mary was shown as of the white race, age 38, born in NC. Her son James M. (age 20, b. AL) was also listed in the household, as were 3 younger females. The girls were probably Mary E.'s daughters. They were given as Prudence E. (18, b. AL), Cynthia N. (16 [or 14?], b. AL), and Mary E. (11, b. AL). The next household was headed by Christopher C. Otey and included Mijamin Smith – of the Hughy Smith plantation family. (See the related **Summary Report** for the **Smith Cemetery, 72-2.**)

The ages given in 1850 for Mary Austin and her children fit precisely with the family of Pleasant S. Austin in the 1840 Madison County census. Pleasant bought land 28 April 1818 per Certificate # 3026 located in Township 5 South, Range 1 West, the 80 acres of the W/2 of the SW/4. This land adjoined that of Hughy Smith and his family, as well as being near the Jacobs property. Pleasant was not found in the 1850 census, so it is assumed that he died during the 1840s. The 1840 census listed Pleasant S. Austin as

being in the 30 – 40 age bracket. In the 1830 census the family of Sarah Austin is shown with one male age 5 – 10 and another male 15 – 20, which could well have been Pleasant Austin. Sarah herself was given as the only female, in the 50 – 60 age bracket.

By 1860, Mary and her children were no longer living in the Jacobs household, but apparently they were either “taken in” by the Jacobs family during their time of bereavement, or they sold the Austin lands to the Jacobs family, who then allowed them to stay on until they could “get settled”. Either way, the situation was quite different from the typical Southern stereotyped image of relations between the races of that period. It indicates graciousness on the part of the Jacobs family, no matter exactly how the situation developed. It further indicates social acceptance of the mixed household long ago.

Even without further detailed proofs yet collected, the data strongly suggests that the Burrell Jacobs who was born in South Carolina in 1810 and died in Alabama in 1873 was the progenitor of a number of Jacobs families, along with his siblings and mother Fannie / Fanny (b. 1778 SC). In the 1830 Madison County census, Burwell Jacobs was enumerated as living beside the families of John Lemley Sr. and John Lemley Jr. The Lemley families came to Madison County in the very early 1800s from **Fairfield District of South Carolina**, accompanying Hans Kennamer who settled Kennamer’s Cove and owned the land around today’s Cathedral Caverns. The Lemleys settled in what is now the New Hope area, along the near the confluence of the Paint Rock River with the Tennessee River.

Apparently, most of the Jacobs families, including Burwell / Burrell, lived on pre-arsenal lands by 1850, and perhaps many of them are buried in the Jordan – Jacobs Cemetery. Some of the records found in researching the Jacobs line are provided below for further review, but many of the records were not copied or scanned for this computer file. Those that were copied from the originals were supplied in hardcopy form to the Redstone Arsenal office that sponsored this investigation and the photography of tombstones on the arsenal.

Pursuant to a Search of this Court the foregoing Inventory was duly recorded this 18th day of October 1874 (See M.B. No 15 Page 2110) Lewis M. Douglas Judge Probate

Inventory and appraisement of the property belonging to the Estate of Burrell Jacobs, dec'd, shown by Thomas James Administrator including the portion set apart as exempt for the widow and minor Children, as well as the residue

See: Property set apart for the widow and minor Children as exempt:

Real Estate

The West 1/2 of the North East 1/4 of Sec 17. The North East 1/4 of the South West 1/4 Sec 9. and the North West 1/4 of the South West 1/4 of Sec 9. all in Township (5) Range (1) West containing 160 acres of land more or less

Personal Property to the amount of \$437.25 being all that said Burrell Jacobs dec'd possessed of Sworn to & subscribed our names & date

J. D. Graham
J. W. Morton

4/7/74 Lewis M. Douglas Judge Probate

Madison County Probate Record Book 33, page 637, Land Description of Estate of Burrell Jacobs, all in T5S-R1W. This land is within about one mile of the Jordan - Jacobs Cem.

October Term 1873

October 20th 1873

Estate Burrell Jacobs, dec'd, 3
Administrator, qualified

Comes Thomas Jamar, and makes an oral application for Letters of Administration upon the Estate of Burrell Jacobs deceased,

X Whereupon It is Ordered by the Court that said Applicant be granted and that he give bond and security in the full sum of Twelve hundred dollars, as required by law, with said Thomas Jamar, together with Richard J. Owen and Joseph A. Brown his securities, who are approved by the Court, having entered into bond conditioned as provided in the Penal Sum aforesaid, and taken the Oath required by law.

It is Ordered by the Court, that Letters of Administration upon the Estate of Burrell Jacobs deceased be issued to said Thomas Jamar accordingly.

It is further Ordered that the Bond be filed and recorded.

October 20th 1873

Estate Dolia Smith dec'd, 3
Administrator

Madison County Probate Minute Book 15, page 48, Thomas Jamar appointed Administrator of Estate of Burrell Jacobs, Oct. 20, 1873.

Dated this the 21st day of June, 1945.

Johnnie Pearl Robinson
Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 21 day of June, 1945.

E. D. Hilder
Notary Public

Filed June 21, 1945.

THOS. W. JONES, JUDGE OF PROBATE

ESTATE OF BURWELL J. JACOBS, DECEASED

PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

STATE OF ALABAMA

IN THE PROBATE COURT

MADISON COUNTY

TO THE HON. THOS. W. JONES, JUDGE OF PROBATE:

Comes Kitty Jacobs, and respectfully represents to the Court: That Burwell J. Jacobs, a resident and inhabitant of Madison County, Alabama, died in Madison County, Alabama, on the 19 day of June, 1945, leaving certain assets in Madison County, Alabama, and leaving a last will and testament, a copy of which is hereto attached and made a part of this petition. That said will was executed on the 11 day of March, 1937, and witnessed by Rachel Tomlinson and W.E. Lanier, both of whom reside in Madison County, Alabama; the original will being filed with this petition.

That petitioner is the surviving widow of said Burwell J. Jacobs, and resides in Madison County, Alabama, and was living with decedent at the time of his death.

That the heirs at law and next of kin, including the surviving widow and their addresses are hereinafter particularly set out as follows:

Kitty Jacobs, petitioner, and surviving widow of Burwell J. Jacobs, whose address is Huntsville, Alabama, Route 3, Box 122;

Smithie Jacobs, a son of decedent, whose address is Huntsville, Alabama, Route 3 Box 122.

Viola Jacobs Joyner, a daughter of decedent, whose address is, 2701 Columbus Ave. Indianapolis, Indiana.

Henry Jacobs, a son of decedent, whose address is 922 1/2 11th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Lawrence Jacobs, a grandson of decedent, whose address is: Harvest, Alabama, Route 5.

That all of said heirs at law and next of kin including the widow are over the age of twenty one years.

That by the terms of said last will and testament the said Burwell J. Jacobs devised and bequeathed all of his estate to his surviving widow, the petitioner, Kitty Jacobs, and named her as Executrix, and provided that she not be required to give bond as such.

The Premises Considered petitioner prays that a time be set to hear this petition, and that due and proper notice be given to the heirs at law and next of kin, and that upon a hearing of said petition said will be duly proven and admitted to probate as and for the last will and testament of Burwell J. Jacobs, deceased, and that Letters Testamentary be accordingly issued to petitioner.

Witness:
Kitty J. Jacobs
Mark

Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 2 day of July 1945.

Rachel Tomlinson
Notary Public

Lanier Price Shaver & Lanier
Attys

STATE OF ALABAMA
MADISON COUNTY

I, Burwell J. Jacobs, a resident of Madison County, Alabama, over the age of twenty-one years, of sound mind and disposing memory, do make and declare this to be my last will and testament.

First: I give, devise and bequeath to my wife, Kitty Jacobs all of my estate, both real, personal and mixed of every kind and description, absolutely and in fee simple.

I hereby nominate and appoint my wife, Kitty Jacobs as Executrix of this my will and testament, and hereby expressly exempt her from giving bond as such, and provide that she shall not be required to file any inventory of my estate, or make any report of her administration thereof, to any Court of record.

In Witness Whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal on this the 11 day of March, 1937.
Burwell J. Jacobs (SMAL)

Madison Co. AL Probate Record Book 55, page 519: Burrell J. Jacobs last will & testament + heirs named, with addresses.

The above images of old documents can be viewed for clarity at 200% on a computer, when using the CD-ROM versions of this report. The CD-ROMs provided to the Army offices have many more of the researched files as digital images to support the statements in this **Summary Report**. This cemetery no doubt has many more families represented in its graves, but only the Jacobs family has a marker to point to them today. Their story has been most unusual for a black or mulatto family of the Old South, indicating strength of character that persevered through harsh times prior to the Civil War (as “free people of color”) and the extension of those harsh times into the segregation and discrimination times after the Civil War. The Jacobs families had a large measure of success through all circumstances, and they are to be highly respected for their surmounting of social obstacles.

Prepared by John P. Rankin, June 23, 2002; revised September 19, 2005