

LACEY CEMETERY, 75 – 2

Summary Report

The name “Lacey” is a variant spelling of “Lacy”. It appears that after the Civil War, there may have been a deliberate action taken by court clerks or census enumerators to vary the spellings of a given surname to show a distinction between the white slave owners and the liberated former slave population who took their new surnames from their previous white owners. The spelling variation happened too frequently to be simply random, and the new variations were consistently used for the black population. However, the Lacy name was also changed in a sense for the white family that settled around Lacey’s Spring in Morgan County. The story is told that a postal clerk changed the spelling soon after the Civil War to add the “e” to the post office name, even though the white family who settled there and owned land and slaves in Madison County consistently spelled the name without the “e”. Perhaps the postal clerk was himself a freed former slave, given the job during the post-war Reconstruction period in the South, when many blacks had jobs formerly reserved for the white population. In any event, the name of this cemetery is without doubt connected to the land and slave owner **Theophilus Lacy**, who lived from 1804 to 1876.

This particular cemetery is located in the extreme southeastern corner of the southeastern quarter of Section 14, Township 5, Range 1 West. History of the ownership of the land can be reviewed in the Summary Report of the Lacy Cemetery, 75 – 1, which is named for Theophilus’ family and is about a quarter mile north-northeast of the Lacey Cemetery, 75 – 2. The history of the two cemeteries is closely linked until after the 1890s, about when the land is thought to have passed into black ownership.

NAMES OF HEADS OF FAMILIES	FREE WHITE PERSONS, INCLUDING HEADS OF FAMILIES																																		
	MALES														FEMALES																				
	Under 5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-30	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70	70-75	Under 5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-30	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70						
<i>Henry Thomas</i>	37	145	105	99	567	125	177	57	15	6	1				343	177	150	140	305	134	70	38	1												
<i>A. H. Law</i>					1																														
<i>Samuel L. Jones</i>		1	1																																
<i>William Sweet</i>	1				2																														
<i>John Morris</i>	2		1		1										2																				
<i>James B. Jones</i>	1	2				1									1																				
<i>James W. Funnell</i>	1					1									1																				
<i>William M. Gresh</i>	1					1									1																				
<i>Pleasant J. Austin</i>			1				1								1	2																			
<i>Hughy Smith</i>					1	1																													
<i>John Simmons</i>	1														1																				
<i>Thomas Spencer</i>	2	1	1																																
<i>Joseph Layman</i>			4	2	3	1																													
<i>James Dickson</i>																																			
<i>James Ransom</i>						1	1																												
<i>Rebecca Jacobs</i>																																			
<i>Abraham Williams</i>					2			1								1	1	1																	

(Blank on this portion because Rebecca Jacobs & family are "Free Colored" persons, listed to right, of this sheet)

1840 Madison County AL Federal Census, page 163 excerpt

SLAVES										TOTAL	NUMBER OF PERSONS IN EACH FAMILY EMPLOYED IN					PENSIERS FOR REVOLUTIONARY OR MILITARY SERVICES, INCLUDED IN THE FOREGOING	NAMES	AGE	SEX
MALES					FEMALES						Household	Agriculture	Domestic	Manufactures and Trades	Profession of Law				
Under 10	10 under 24	24 under 36	36 under 55	55 under 100	100 and upwards	Under 10	10 under 24	24 under 36	36 under 55	55 under 100	100 and upwards	Male	Female	Under 14	14 and over				
22	23	22	22	23		66	29	29	29	43		647	237	50	179	11	24		
1	7	6				9	9			1		43	22						
												5	1						
												4	2						
												7	2						
												3	1						
2	2	1				1	1	1	1			15	6						
3	3	6	1	1		7	3	4	2	1		34	14						
						1						7							
4	4	4	2			9	6	4	1	1		45	23						
4	7	14	3	1		9	5	2	1	1		51	27						
												6	1						
							1					12							
6	2	2	1			1	3	2	1			25	11						
	1						1					4	4						
												3							

(Hughy Smith household)

1840 Federal Census, Madison County, Alabama, page 163, Slaves and Summary Sheet.

The top line above shows the slave count (41 of the 43 household total were slaves) by age brackets for the household of Alexander H. Lacy, one of the white Lacy plantation owners in the 1800s in southern half of Madison County, around the cemetery. His slave holdings were second only to those of Hughy Smith on this sheet. Alexander's brother Theophilus Lacy had fewer slaves, only 11. Others of the Lacy family, most of whom actually resided across the river at Lacey's Spring in Morgan County, no doubt owned additional slaves in the pre-Civil War days.

The Lacy slave cemetery (Lacey Cemetery, 75 – 2) is now peacefully set in a wooded area just north of Buxton Road, which in the 1800s was known as the Whitesburg – Triana Road in this area.



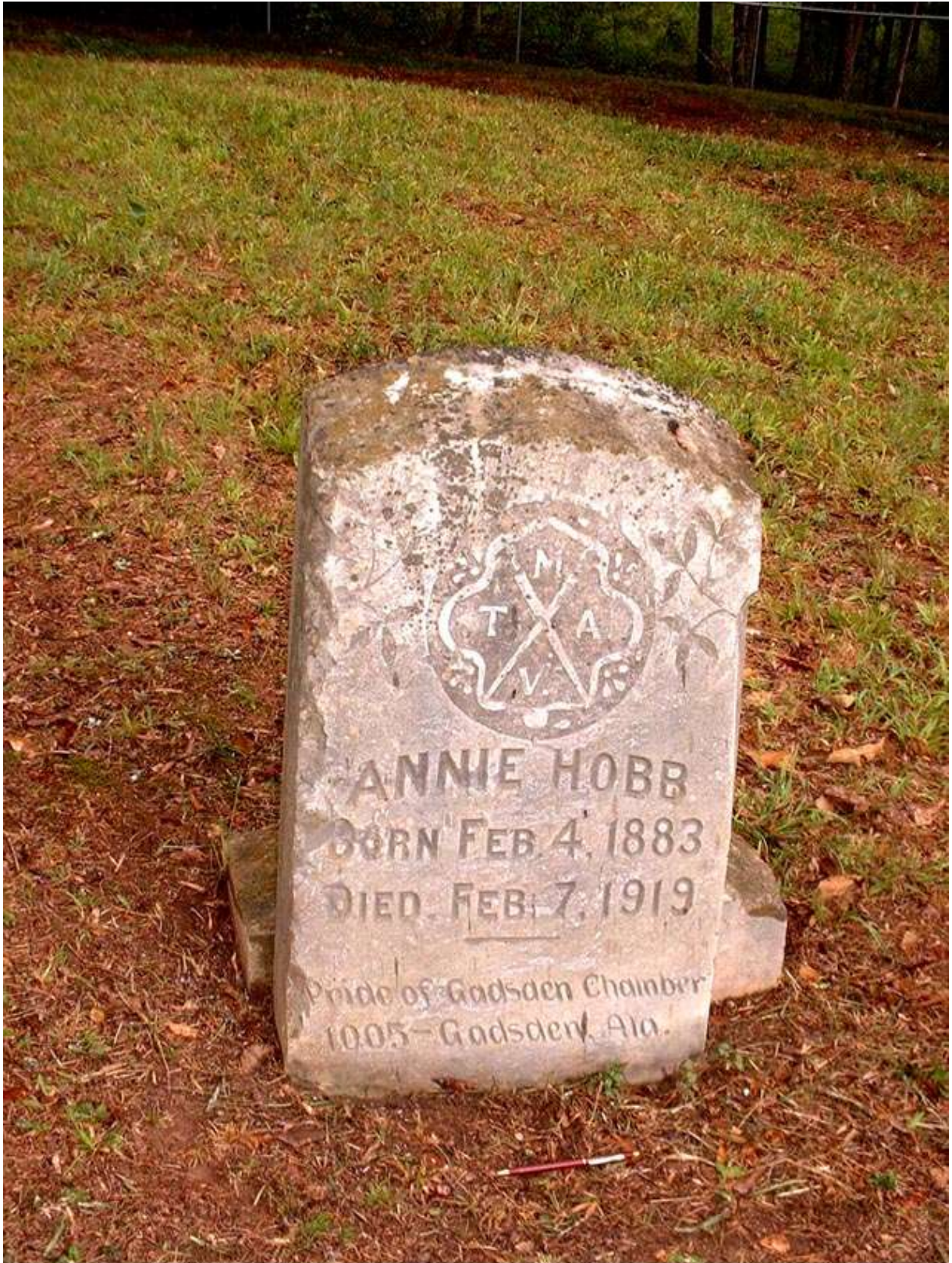
Lacy Cemetery (75-2), Redstone Arsenal, Madison County, Alabama, July 2002.



Lacy Cemetery (75-2), Redstone Arsenal, Madison County, Alabama, July 2002.

Within this cemetery are two inner fenced areas, which are probably small family plots, as neither would hold many graves. The Lacey Cemetery is large enough to hold perhaps many hundreds of graves, and there is obvious grave depression evidence for over a hundred. Some of the depressions are quite deep, indicating that adult-sized coffins were used.

There are only two inscribed tombstones in the cemetery, and neither of those is inside of the two separately fenced inner family plots.



Lacy Cemetery (75-2), Redstone Arsenal, Madison County, AL, July 2002

The "Gadsden Chamber" inscription on this tombstone may mean that Annie was a schoolteacher in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama. Census records indicate that she may have lived in Birmingham (Jefferson County) in 1910, when she was listed as a "School Teacher" by occupation. Gadsden is somewhat between Huntsville (Madison County) and Birmingham.

TWELFTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES. 82 A

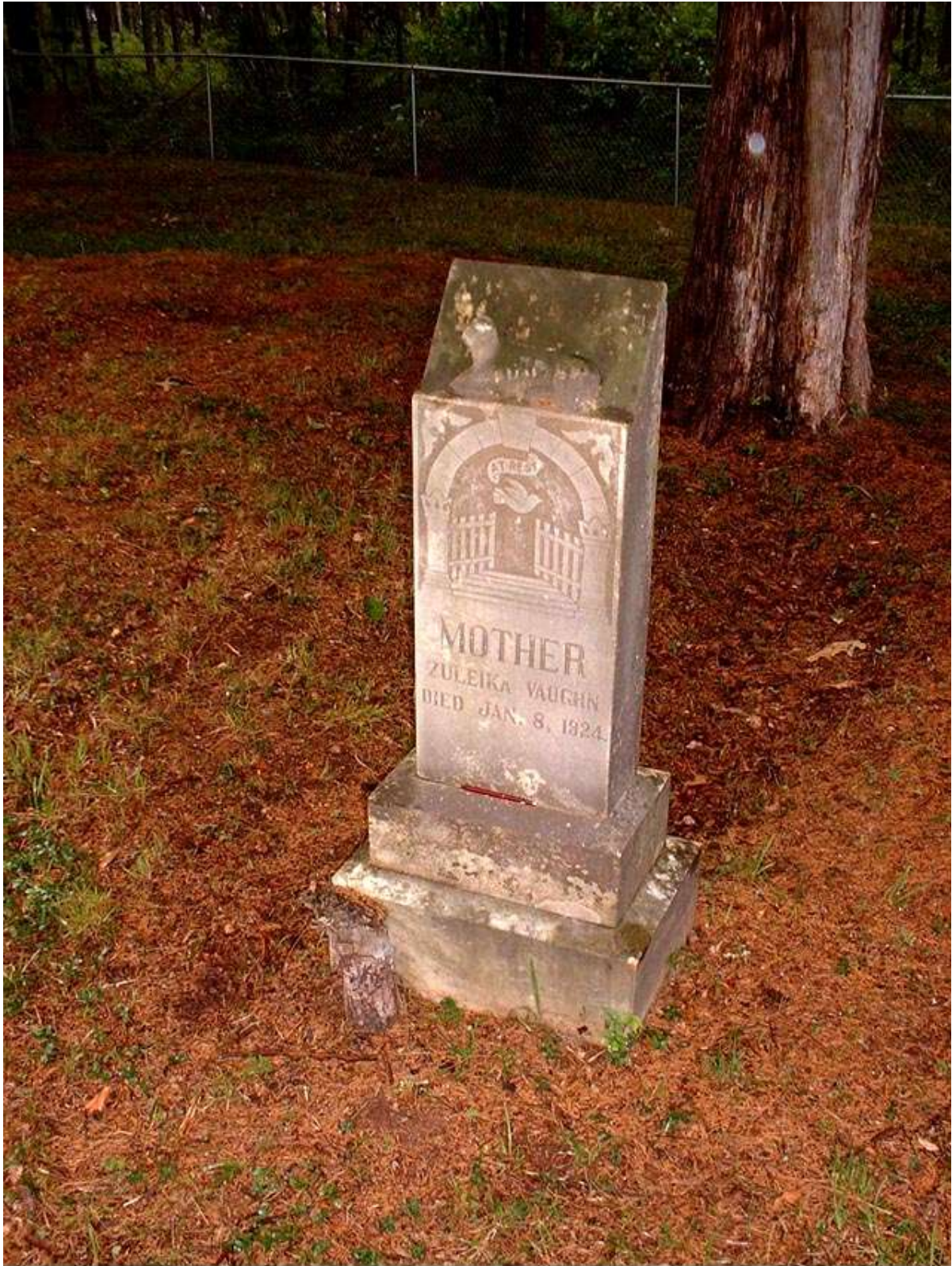
SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION.

State Alabama Supervisor's District No. 9 Sheet No. 3
 County Calhoun Enumeration District No. 16

Township or other division of county North Hill Name of Institution X
 Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named district X Ward of city X

Enumerated by me on the 5 day of June, 1900. David Harrison Enumerator

SEX	AGE	NAME	RELATION	FEDERAL DESCRIPTION	RACE			CITIZENSHIP	EDUCATIONAL TRAINING OR PREPARATION			REMARKS	FINGER & NO.	
					White	Colored	Other		None	Common School	Academy			College
26	25	W.C. Boyer, Bud H.	Head	W. 20 Jan. 1874 24 2 1	Mississippi	Virginia	Mississippi							
		Lizzie H.	Wife	W. 15 Feb. 1875 24 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Willie A.	Daughter	W. 5 Nov. 1876 2 2	Alabama	Mississippi	Alabama							
		Emma J.	Daughter	W. 5 Aug. 1877 2 2	Alabama	Mississippi	Alabama							
26	25	Anna, Emma J.	Wife	W. 20 Feb. 1878 2 2	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee							
		Lizzie J.	Wife	W. 20 Nov. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	North Carolina							
		John J.	Daughter	W. 5 Dec. 1878 1 2	Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama							
		Martha E.	Daughter	W. 20 Nov. 1878 1 2	Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama							
		William H.	Daughter	W. 20 Jan. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama							
		William V.	Daughter	W. 20 Feb. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama							
		Wesley S.	Daughter	W. 20 Aug. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama							
26	25	Samia, Elizabeth	Wife	W. 20 Nov. 1878 2 2	South Carolina	South Carolina	South Carolina							
		Mary	Wife	W. 5 Nov. 1878 2 2	Georgia	Georgia	Florida							
		Joseph	Daughter	W. 5 July 1878 1 2	Alabama	South Carolina	Georgia							
		John O.	Son	W. 20 Feb. 1878 6 2	Alabama	South Carolina	Georgia							
		Pauline	Daughter	W. 20 May 1878 6 2	Alabama	South Carolina	Georgia							
		Martha J.	Wife	W. 20 Jan. 1878 2 2	Alabama	South Carolina	Georgia							
		Martha E.	Daughter	W. 20 Feb. 1878 2 2	Alabama	South Carolina	Georgia							
		William H.	Son	W. 20 Aug. 1878 2 2	Alabama	South Carolina	Georgia							
		William H.	Son	W. 20 Nov. 1878 1 2	Alabama	Georgia	Florida							
26	25	Robert, William	Wife	W. 20 Nov. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Georgia	Florida							
		Charles, Margaret	Wife	W. 20 Aug. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Georgia	Florida							
		Martha	Wife	W. 20 Jan. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Robert	Son	W. 20 Feb. 1878 1 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Martha	Daughter	W. 20 Nov. 1878 1 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		William	Son	W. 20 Nov. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Emma	Son	W. 20 July 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		William	Son	W. 20 Feb. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
26	25	Arch, William	Wife	W. 20 Jan. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Joseph	Wife	W. 20 May 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		William	Son	W. 20 Feb. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Elizabeth, Susan	Daughter	W. 20 May 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Samuel, Susan	Wife	W. 20 July 1878 1 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Samuel, Martha	Wife	W. 20 Jan. 1878 1 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
26	25	Arch, James	Wife	W. 20 Feb. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Martha	Wife	W. 20 Feb. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Paul	Daughter	W. 20 Aug. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Paul	Son	W. 20 Jan. 1878 1 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Harold, Joseph	Son	W. 20 Feb. 1878 1 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Harold, William	Wife	W. 20 May 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
26	25	William, W. J.	Wife	W. 20 Jan. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		William	Wife	W. 20 Jan. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Martha	Wife	W. 20 Jan. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		William, Mary S.	Wife	W. 20 Jan. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Harold, Joseph	Wife	W. 20 Jan. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Harold, William	Wife	W. 20 Jan. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Harold, William	Wife	W. 20 Jan. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Harold, William	Wife	W. 20 Jan. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
		Harold, William	Wife	W. 20 Jan. 1878 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							



Lacy Cemetery (75-2), Redstone Arsenal, Madison County, AL, July 2002

21		James John Lett	Wife	B 20 d		Alabama
22		Mrs. Franca	Mother - RT	B 70 d	1 1	Alabama
23	161 170	Wentons Millie A	Wife - X	B 34 d		Alabama
24		Nancy	Wife	B 35 d		Alabama
25	706 165 171	Joyce, Elsie	Wife	Mar 27 1881 56		Alabama
26		Belle	Wife	Mar 26 1881 56	1 5	Alabama
27		Beauford, Cora	Wife	Mar 25 d	1 1	Alabama
28		Ernie	Wife	Mar 25 d		Alabama
29	182 169 170	Vaughn, Frank	Wife	Mar 29 1872 18		Alabama
30		Zuleika	Wife	Mar 11 1872 18	6 2	Alabama
31		Roberta	Wife	Mar 11 d		Alabama
32		Willie	Wife	Mar 11 d		Alabama
33	708 169 171	Franklin, Ben	Wife	Mar 27 1881 1		Alabama
34		Rachie	Wife	Mar 27 1881 1	0 0	Alabama
35		Mary	Wife	Mar 64 1881	1 2 5	Alabama
36		Silva, Abell	Wife	Mar 7 d		Alabama
37	705 165 174	Barrett, Bettie	Wife	Mar 5 d	2 2	Alabama

1910 Madison County AL Census, Madison Street in Huntsville
 Excerpt showing details for Frank & Zuleika Vaughn

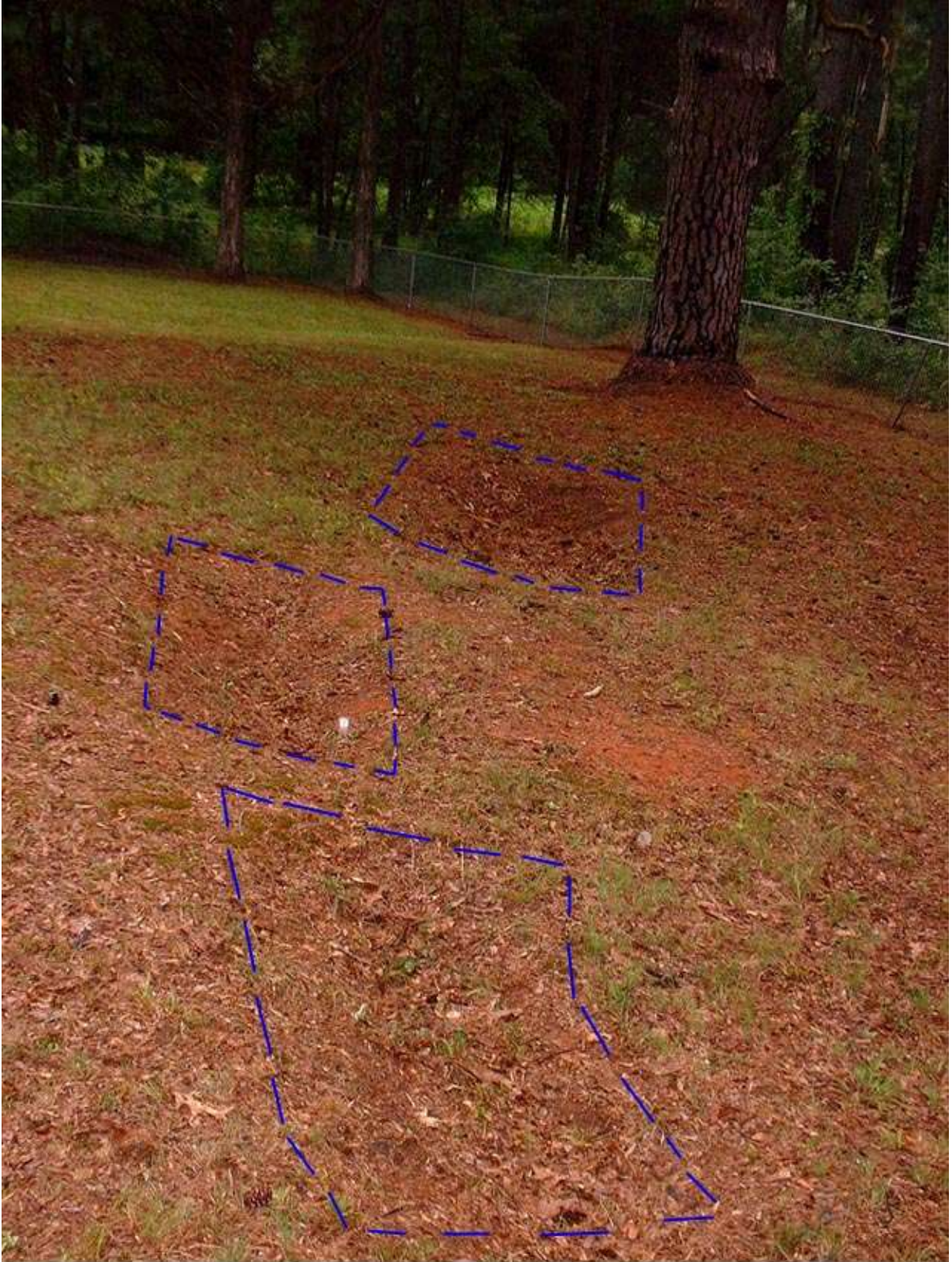
The above census record shows that Zuleika Vaughn gave birth to 6 children, but only 2 of them (listed above) were still living in 1910. It also shows that Frank and Zuleika had been married for 18 years as of 1910, that marriage being the second for each of them.



Lacy Cemetery (75-2), Redstone Arsenal, Madison County, Alabama, July 2002.

Grave depression (marked with blue) in foreground, view toward east from south end of cemetery. Marker for Zuleika Vaughn in background (before cleaning & polishing).

Some of the deep grave depressions at the other end of the cemetery are shown in the photo below:



Lacy Cemetery (75-2), Redstone Arsenal, Madison County, Alabama, July 2002.
View of several grave depressions (marked with blue dotted lines) in foreground, looking west from gate area.

Some of the deeper grave depressions near the center of the cemetery are shown below. In the background, between the large trees, is one of the two separately fenced family plots.



Lacy Cemetery (75-2), Redstone Arsenal, Madison County, Alabama, July 2002.

Grave depressions (marked with blue) in foreground, view toward SE from center of cemetery.

The photo below shows the other separately fenced family plot. This one is near the entrance gate of the cemetery.



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Obviously, this cemetery was used for a long time by a large number of families, which would be typical of a community or large church. Of course, it may well be that it was used for about a century by the slaves of the Lacy and other surrounding plantations. Either way, it is impressive for its size and the number of graves evidenced by the depressions. Beverly Curry's interviews with Lacy / Lacey black descendants no doubt have significantly more "living memory" data about the cemetery and the families represented therein, so the serious researcher is referred to her report. It is known that there is an annual family reunion and visit to the Lacey Cemetery conducted by the descendants, so current contacts with them may be possible.

Prepared by John P. Rankin, August 10, 2005.