

SHIRLEY CHUNN
Interviewed summer of 2005

The researcher talked with Shirley Chunn by telephone in the early summer of 2005. Mrs. Chunn talked for a while, and then said she “had to go now.” However, even that short conversation introduces another member of the a former arsenal community, identifies another member of Gaines Chapel Church (where school was also held), provides the location of another store that was located in someone’s home (Parcel E-212), and reveals that the man who ran the store was a World War I veteran.

Shirley Chunn said her mother’s father was Adolphus Love, and her mother’s father’s father was Rufus Love. Moses Love and Adolphus Love were half-brothers (see James Love interview), which causes the researcher to question whether Rufus Love was the biological grandfather of Shirley Chunn. She said her grandfather had owned land “out there” [on what is now the arsenal]. This was an understatement, as Adolphus owned a significant amount of land (see James Love interview), and was a pillar of the Mullins Flat community. Shirley Chunn also is tied into the Joiner family. She said Walter Joiner is her cousin. Mrs. Chunn said:

When my grandmother [Mary] married Ernest [Burton], they lived on the land of Mr. Cliff. I lived with them. It was on Burton Road. Daddy lived on Pond Beat Road. Burton [Road] is where Thiokol used to be. [Burton Road is shown on map insert.]

Elbert Elliott was my step-daddy. His mother was Jeanette Elliott. We used to walk from Burton Road to her house.

A map drawn in 1909 shows Burton Road, which begins in Section 36 and goes south to the Farley-Triana Road.

