

uncle were buried because a cedar tree was planted at the head of each grave when the relative was interred. In 1986, Charles and other descendants bought a granite monument to mark the family graves. According to Ed Peters, Burns stated: "I appreciate them even in death and want my folks and everybody to know where my people are buried."

### **CHARLES BURNS—HIS MEMORIES OF GROWING UP AND HIS FAMILY**

The script from the 32-pages handwritten by Charles Burns was typed verbatim. The font has been changed to a script that lends itself to the personal nature of the account. The researcher has limited any inserted comments so as not to disrupt the flow of Charles' writing.

Earlier in this manuscript the Horton family was discussed. The reader will recognize the names and become more acquainted with the life and members of Everett Horton's family and the Burns family. Charles mentions in his writing that Mandy Lanier was the second wife of his Grandfather James P. Horton and the one who he knew as a grandmother when he was growing up. She was also the grandmother of Felix Lanier who was interviewed during the course of this research (Georgia and Felix Lanier interview). Mandy's son was Felix's father.

The location and description of the Silverhill School (C-132) was established in a previous section of this manuscript. In the memories of Charles, the names of other students who attended the school and additional names of teachers are found. Perhaps even more important, Charles presents a view of the fields, the streams, the boys who played, and the interaction of a family, including the love, the joys, the sorrows, and the problems.

### *Memories of Charles Burns* *written by Charles Burns*

*There comes a time in a busy man's life when a glance backwards over the road traveled turns him into a picture taker of sorts, and his life becomes a colorful path of memories connecting the past with the present. My life has been like that: a series of paths, each leading through a landscape of places and faces made dear to me by familiarity and family ties.*

*My earliest memories, childhood glimmerings, are of the paths that my family's feet had trod through the bottom land connecting my parents home in Mullins Flat, Madison County, Alabama, with the homes of my neighboring*