

knowing that he was about to die (his death was reported as December 19, 1837), he designated as Executors his “friends Eldred Rawlins and George Mason. Since he is not known to be buried anywhere else and because his mother owned the land around the Rawlings – Lanier Cemetery until 1832, and since his firstborn child (William Dickson Lanier Jr.) was buried in the little cemetery, it is considered likely that William himself is also buried within these walls. It may well be that his wife Lucy Ann Caldwell Lanier (1813 – 1868) is also buried with her husband and child. No markers remain there today to verify the supposed burials, but since there is indeed evidence of other graves within the walled area, it is logical that all three members of this part of the Lanier family were buried in the little plot where Eldred Rawlins left the body of his deceased wife Ann, who was a sister of the senior William D. Lanier.

To review the original documents that support the statements given herein and supply much additional information about the history of the family, see the files of digital photographs of the document pages as provided on CD-ROMs to the Office of the Directorate of Environmental Management at Redstone Arsenal.

Prepared by John P. Rankin, November 6, 2004; revised December 2, 2004.