

FENNIL / FENNEL CEMETERY

56 – 1

Summary Report



Fennil Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

This cemetery is located in the Southeast Quarter of Section 32, Township 4 South, Range 1 West. It forms the southwest corner of the intersection of Mills Road with Martin Road on the arsenal today. The name on the cemetery marker is incorrectly spelled, as the true spelling of the name

comes from the famous **Fennell** family, owners of large plantations who came to Madison County from Virginia by way of North Carolina. The history of the Fennell family is closely linked to that of the Jordan family, also of Virginia, North Carolina, and early Madison County. Bartholomew Jordan was the namesake for Jordan's Chapel, an early Methodist Episcopal Church on arsenal lands. It is believed that Jordan's Chapel was either the 2nd or 3rd Methodist Church in Alabama. The chapel was first established around 1820 on the lands of Robert Langford, near where the Matkin Cemetery (37-3) is located today. After a couple of years, it moved to land donated by Bartholomew Jordan near the northern edge of arsenal lands. To understand the history of the Fennell family, the history of the Jordan family of early Madison County must also be studied. (The reader is referred to the file / report on Jordan's Chapel.) The history of these families was linked before they came to Madison County, as shown in the North Carolina church deed below:

Jordan Data found on Ancestry.com Family Message Boards, 11-2-02:

Submitter: jim dunning

Subject: [Concord Church Deed](#)

Message: Hello Nannette, While researching my Isham Fennell family in Greenville Co., Va and Northampton Co., NC, I came across the deed for the Concord Methodist Episcopal Church. The Concord Church and Cemetery is located along the Northampton county road which parallels the NC-VA state line. Concord Church is the oldest active church in the county. It served many families in the area of Greenville and Northampton. The Long Family now living in Greenville Co on land originally patented to John Fennell in 1760 are current members of the church. I am sure that you will see some familiar names in the deed.

Deed for the Concord Methodist Episcopalian Church

of Northampton County, North Carolina

SMITH to **JORDAN** & OTHERS -This indenture made this 6th day of November in the year of our Lord 1794 between Joel Smith of Northampton County in the state of North Carolina of the one part and Jesse **Jordan**, John Luke, Charles Harrison, Robert Finner, Batt **Jordan**, ISHAM FENNELL, and Thomas Dupree, part in the said County, part in Greenville in Virginia of the other part witnesseth that in consideration of Five shillings current money of North Carolina by the said Jesse **Jordan**, John Luke, Charles Harrison, Robert Finner, Batt **Jordan**, ISHAM FENNELL and Thomas Dupree to the said Joel Smith truly paid be-fore the sealing and delivering hereof the receipt whereof the said

Joel Smith doth hereby acknowledge and for divers other causes and considerations him thereunto moving the said Joel Smith hath granted bargained and sold and by those present doth bargain and sell unto the said Jesse Jordan, John Luke, Charles Harrison, Robert Finner, Batt Jordan, Isham Fennell and Thomas Dupree, their heirs and assigns forever, all that lot or parcell of ground whereon the church erected for publick worship now stands in the County and state aforesaid. Be-ginning at a corner white oak on James Walter Clark's line, thence west to a corner red oak, thence north to a corner Spanish oak, thence east to a corner pine on the said Clark line, thence on the said line to the beginning, containing one acre of land more or less together with all the ways and priviledges to the said premisis apportaining and all the profits thereof with all the right title in trust in Law & Equity to have and to hold the said lot or parcell of ground to the said Jesse Jordan, John Luke, Charles Harrison, Robert Finner, Batt Jordan, Isham Fennell and Thomas Dupree, their heirs and assigns for-ever, nevertheless upon special trust and confidence and to the in-tent that they and the survivors of them and the trustees for the time being do and shall permit Francis Asbury Bishop of the Methodist Epis-copal Church in America and such other persons as he shall from time appoint and at all times while he retains the office of a Bishop in the said Methodist Episcopal Church and no other person to have and enjoy the free use and benefit of the said Premisis the said Francis Asbury and such other persons as he shall appoint may therein preach and espound the Holy Scriptures and after his decease or when he shall cease to exercise the office of Bishop in the said Methodist Episcopal Church upon further trust and confidence and to the intent that the said Jesse Jordan, John Luke, Charles Harrison, Robert Finner, Batt Jordan, ISHAM FENNELL, and Thomas Dupree or the major part of their trustees or of the trustees for the time being shall from time to time and at all times forever permit such persons as shall be appointed at the yearly conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church and no others to have and to enjoy the said for the purposes aforesaid and upon further trust and confidence that as often as one of the trustees for the time being shall cease to be members of the said Methodist Episcopal Church or shall remove to so great a distance as to be unable to discharge the duties of a trustee the rest of the said trustees or the trustees for the time being as soon as conveniently may be shall and may choose another trustee or trustees in order to keep up the number of seven trustees forever. In witness whereof the said Joel Smith hath hereunto set his hand and seal day and year aforesaid. Signed, sealed & delivered in the presents of

William Finner
John Perry Northampton County, Sept 1795

This deed was proven by

The oath of John Perry.

Ordered to be registered.

Witness E. Haynes, C.C.

(signed) Joel Smith

James Dancy-Reg. 10 Dec 1795

Book 10, page 172-173
Northampton Deeds
Jackson, N.C.

Regards from Jim Dunning

Isham J. Fennell was one of the pioneer landowners of arsenal areas. He married Temperance Jordan, a daughter of Bartholomew Jordan. The land transactions of the Fennell family and the Jordan family are very much interwoven in Madison County history. The Fennell family's wealth is indicated by the monument of the senior Isham Fennell's son (Isham Jordan Fennell), who is buried in Huntsville's Maple Hill Cemetery, as shown below.



Maple Hill Cemetery (Huntsville, AL), September 7, 2004



Maple Hill Cemetery (Huntsville, AL), September 7, 2004



Maple Hill Cemetery (Huntsville, AL), September 7, 2004

The 1830 Madison County census page shown below lists George W. Fennell among the known plantation owners of early arsenal lands.

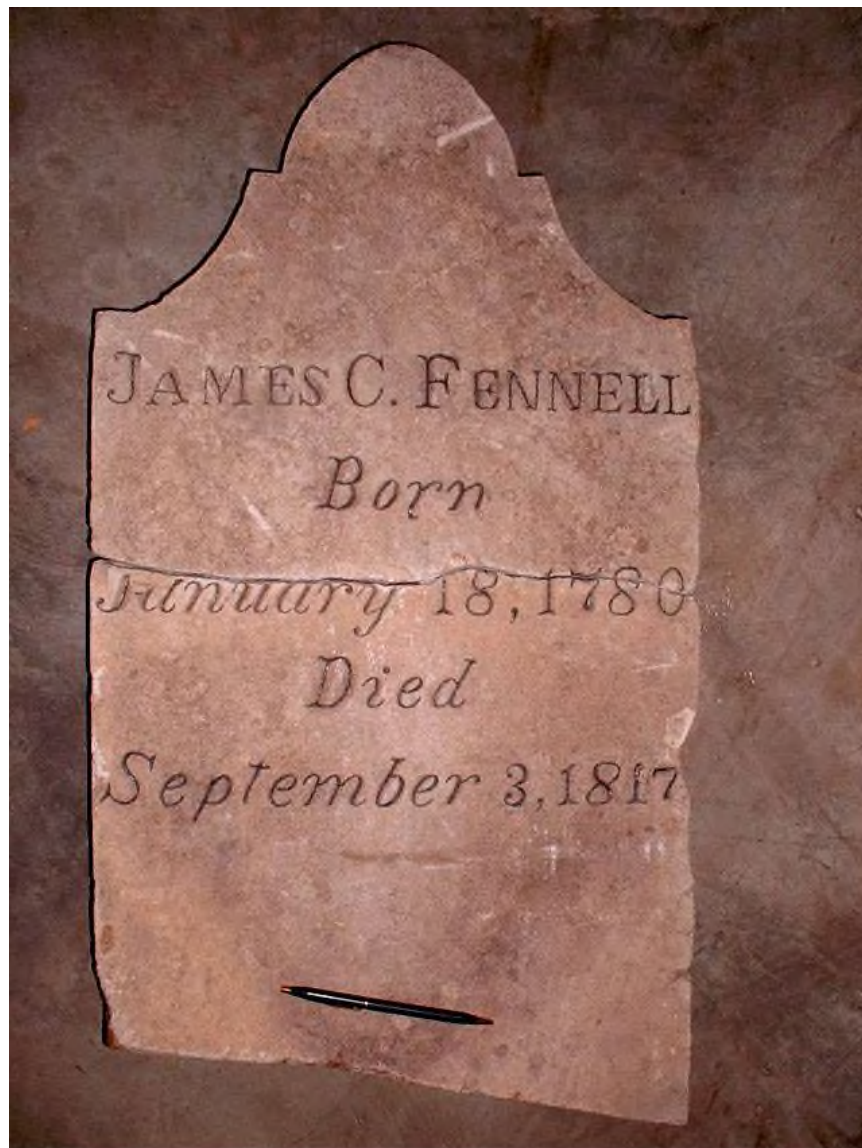
SCHEDULE OF THE WHOLE NUMBER OF PERSONS, WHITE AND NEGROES

NAMES OF HEADS OF FAMILIES	FREE WHITE PERSONS, INCLUDING HEADS OF FAMILIES																							
	MALES													FEMALES										
	Under 5	5 under 10	10 under 15	15 under 20	20 under 25	25 under 30	30 under 40	40 under 50	50 under 60	60 under 70	70 under 80	80 under 90	90 under 100	100 and up	Under 5	5 under 10	10 under 15	15 under 20	20 under 30	30 under 40	40 under 50	50 under 60	60 under 70	70 and up
<i>George W. Fennell</i>	16	71	31	23	91	55	26	15	5	3	1			16	43	22	17	72	28	30	17	9	3	
<i>William Lanier</i>		1								1														
<i>James W. Allen</i>	1	2	1			1								1	1					1				
<i>James L. Jordan</i>	2	1	3			1								1	1					2				
<i>James Lan(d)man</i>	2					2								1					1					
<i>James Hatton</i>					2													2	1					1
<i>George W. Fennell</i>					1																			
<i>William M. Magab</i>					1	1								1	2					1				
<i>George Moore</i>					1																			
<i>Wm. H. Owens</i>	3	1			1	1								1	1	2	1			1				
<i>John Giles</i>	2	2			1	1								1			1							
<i>Thomas J. Owens</i>	2				1									2		1			1					
<i>Harrison Owens</i>	2									1					1								1	
<i>Abraham Bransford</i>			1		2					1							1	1						
<i>Richard Jamar</i>										1										1				
<i>Joseph Dunaway</i>	1		1	1		1											1	1						

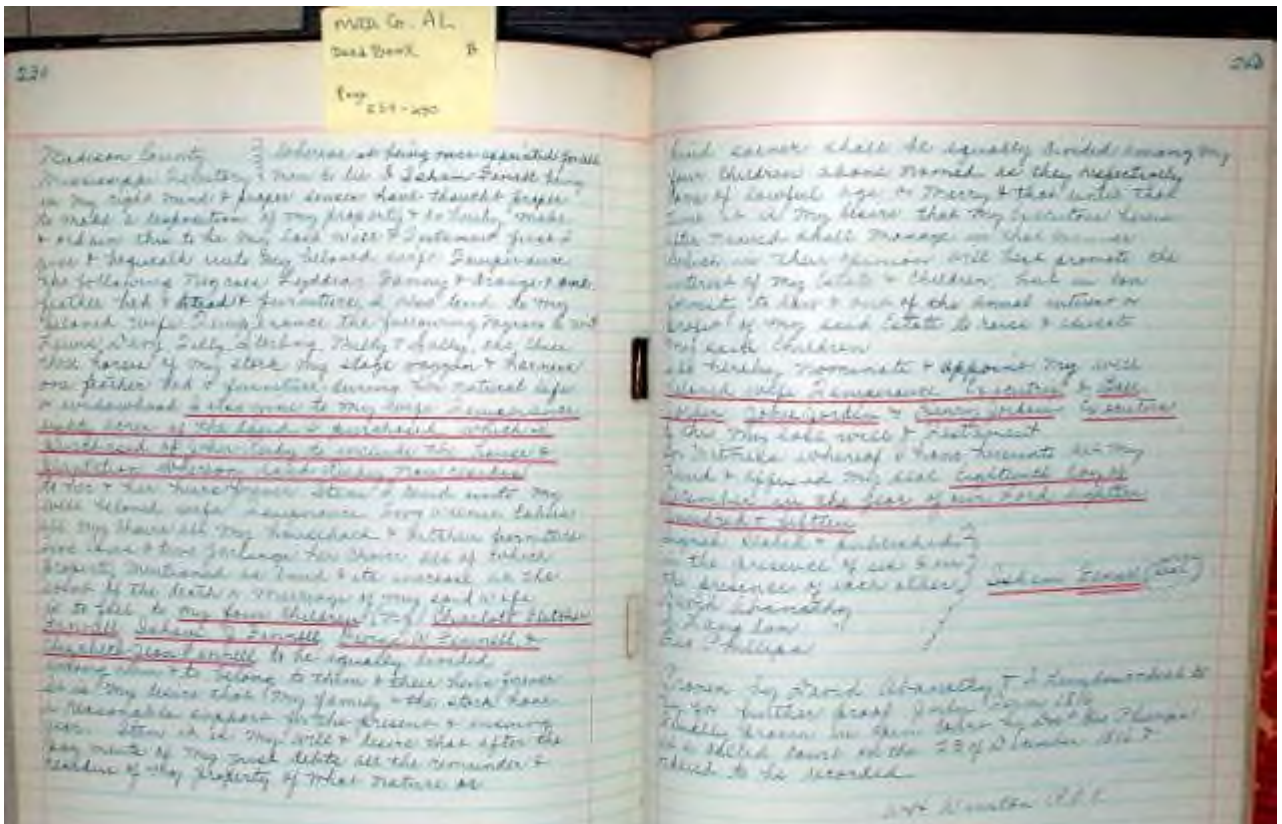
1830 Madison County AL census: Lanier, Jordan, Lan(d)man, Hatton, Fennell, Moore, Owens, Bransford, & Jamar families

The slave count for George W. Fennell in the 1830 census is given below:

The tombstone of an older James C. Fennell is one of the earliest known in the county. He was buried at the foot of the east face of Green Mountain, in what is today the Camelot housing development. His grave was moved in the 1968-9 time of that development to the Hobbs Cemetery, about a mile to the south of its original location. At that time, his tombstone was also moved, but after it was knocked over several times by vandals, it was kept by a descendant for several years. The tombstone was offered for archives storage of the Huntsville Public Library some time ago. It may someday be emplaced at the Hobbs Cemetery, at his new gravesite, since the vandalism there seems to have subsided.



Tombstone in Courthouse Archives storage at Huntsville - Madison County (AL) Public Library.
[Thought to be the earliest death date inscribed on any tombstone in Madison County.]



The 1815 will (above) of the senior Isham J. Fennell names George W. and Isham Jordan Fennell (Jr.) as being among his children. He also names several slaves who were bequeathed to his wife Temperance Jordan Fennell, and he appointed “Batt” (Bartholomew) Jordan and his sons John and Henry Jordan as Executors, along with Temperance. The will as shown above is of course a transcription – a handwritten copy entered into Madison County Deed Book B, which was itself copied during the 1930s or 1940s. The actual original will is in the Probate Packet in the courthouse archives repository, but this transcription is easier to read today.

The 1846 estate papers from the death of Temperance J. Fennell list her slaves and their valuation at that time for division among the heirs:

We the undersigned the heirs at law of Temperance Fennell
 deceased late of Madison City Ala and of William Fennell deceased
 executor of the aforesaid City and State do hereby appoint and
 constitute Stephen S. Ferriss William Patton and Geo. W. Allen
W. Bennett Elizabeth S. Fennell and Martha S. Mary S. Holt her
Sanford executor the children of Charlotte S. Sanford deceased and the
 those heretofore belonging to the estate of the aforesaid decedents.
 And We do solemnly bind jointly bound ourselves and each of persons
 individually and Wm Sanford binds himself in behalf of the children
 of Charlotte S. Sanford aforesaid to acquiesce in and abide by
 the decision which shall be made by the aforesaid commissioners.
 Witness our hands and seals this 7th March 1854.

J. Fennell (Seal)
 Geo. W. Allen (Seal)
 Elizabeth S. Fennell (Seal)
 Wm Sanford (Seal)

Pursuant of the provisions of the above commission or trust We the
 undersigned have this day made the division of the Negro property
 belonging to the estate of William and Temperance Fennell deceased and
 We appoint to each of the legatees the said joint list No
 1 was drawn by W. S. Fennell and consists of

- Bill aged 31 years \$850
- Milly " 35 " "
- Willy " 8 Mos " "
- Tom " 6 " " 650
- Alceda " " " 500
- V. A. " 11 " " 500
- Villy " 18 " " 275

The said list was struck at two thousand four hundred dollars. This list has
 to pay to list No 2 fifty dollars and to list No 3 one hundred and
 twenty five dollars.

List No 2 was drawn by Elizabeth S. Fennell and

- Orange aged 30 \$800
- Charlotte " 26 " "
- Mary Ann " 5 " "
- Sam " 2 " "
- John infant " 1000
- Henry " 20 " "
- Mary " Infant " 700

This list consists from
 No 1 fifty dollars and twenty five and from No 2

List No 3 was drawn by Geo. W. Fennell and consists

- Harry aged 23 \$700
- David " 15 " 500
- John " 15 " "
- Thomas " 7 " "
- Mary " 4 " "
- Richard " 2 " 950

This list consists from
 No 1 one hundred and twenty five dollars and from No 2 one
 hundred and twenty five dollars.

FENNELL estate sale of slaves, with names, Madison County, AL, Probate Record Book 11, page 502.

Set, M^{rs} 4 was drawn by the children of Elizabeth S. Sanford deceased, and
 Consider
 Marden aged 23 \$500.
 Tollen " 30
 Embley " 7
 Derry " 7
 Deham " 5
 Hayward " 2 " 1875 \$1775 forwarded

Cost Recd \$1775.
 Duggan aged 25 \$750
 Lewis " 53 750 \$2525 This Lot payable M^{rs} S. C. B.
 Thousands and twenty five dollars. Given under our hands this
 7th day of March 1844

Stephen S. Conroy
 Wm Patton
 Jas W. Allen

The State of Alabama
 Superior Court of Madison County April 9th 1844
 A Division of the slaves belonging to the Estate of Temperance Fen-
 nell deceased having heretofore been returned by Stephen S. Conroy
 William Patton and James W. Allen is ordered to be recorded (see
 Minute Book M^{rs} 11 Page 308) Pursuant to said order said Division
 was duly recorded on the 13th of July 1844
 Jas W. Allen Secy

Final Settlement of James W. Allen Executor of Anna Lanier deceased
 The Estate of Mrs Anna Lanier dec^d
 Wm W. Allen Secy

Dr	Cr
100 To amt legacy given Matilda Allen (see Will 1 Apr 4)	\$1485.00
" " " " given North S. B. & Co. to Jordan (see W)	225.00
" " " " given North Sumner and Charlemagne in my Inventory as goods of Wm Sumner at the valuation of original appraisement	1162.00
" To valuation of goods left for " " " " " " " " " " " "	\$100
See the Bull Book	6
15 bbls Corn	22.50
1 donkey	8.
1 stack of fiddle	5.
1 cow & calf	6
20 To amt pay of (see W)	197.50
" " " " " " " " " " " "	53.75
" " " " " " " " " " " "	23.91
" " " " " " " " " " " "	507.50
" " " " " " " " " " " "	50.75
" " " " " " " " " " " "	7.00
" " " " " " " " " " " "	2.22
" " " " " " " " " " " "	30.00
" " " " " " " " " " " "	7.60
" " " " " " " " " " " "	3.00
" " " " " " " " " " " "	77
21 To amt A. D. Smith & Son of (see W)	45.00

FENNELL estate sale of slaves, with names, Madison County, AL, Probate Record Book 11, page 503.

The last page (above) of the record of the slaves of Temperance Fennell in her estate includes the Final Settlement of the estate of a close neighbor, Ann Lanier. (See the Lanier Cemetery reports, especially the Jordan – Lanier Cemetery, 51-1, Summary Report for more details on the Laniers.) Ann Lanier had a daughter who married a son of Bartholomew Jordan. That son would, of course, have been a nephew of Temperance Jordan Fennell.

While Temperance and other early Fennell plantation owners lived on the land that became Redstone Arsenal, it is not believed that they were buried in the cemetery at Mills Road and Martin Road. They are almost certainly buried in the little cemetery that served Jordan's Chapel, which is located today on the east side of the grounds of Morris Elementary School. The cemetery site is at the property line separating Morris Elementary from the Huntsville Botanical Gardens, on the south side of Bob Wallace Avenue. No inscribed markers remain there today. (A complete account of the basis for defining this location for the Jordan's Chapel Cemetery is to be found in that cemetery report. Since the location is no longer within the bounds of Redstone Arsenal, it has no location numeric code to relate to arsenal areas. However, it is included in the Summary Reports delivered to the Army offices, since the people buried there held land that became large portions of Redstone Arsenal, even for its present boundaries.

The cemetery at Mills Road and Martin Road is generally believed to have been used exclusively by black families through the years. However, a check of the old land records for its location (SE/4, S32-T4-R1W) shows the pioneer ownership of the parcel. Any of its owners could have begun the cemetery as such by burying family members there, and then when black families came into possession of the land, they naturally continued to use the cemetery for interments.

TOWNSHIP 4 South		RANGE 1 West		HUNTSVILLE MERIDIAN			
DESCRIPTION OF THE TRACT		AREA		UNITED STATES TITLE			
PART OF SECTION	Section	Acres	100ths	TO WHOM SOLD OR GRANTED	Date of Sale Location or Grant	Number of Certificate or Warrant	Date of Military Act
Page 47 continued							
E½ of NW¼	32	81.19½		State			
W½ of NW¼	"	81.19½		*River Impts Geo. Mason	23 May 1828		
South East ¼	"	162.39½		State	26 Jul 1830	*Memo	
South West ¼	"	162.39½		*River Impts Geo. Mason	23 May 1828		
Frac E of B Line "	33	290.75		John Brahan	26 Jul 1830	*Memo	
		352.14		Thos. & William Brandon, Asse	2 Feb 1818		54½
		290.75		East of Indian Boundary Line	2 Feb 1818		193
Lot "A" or NE Frac ¼	blank			West of Indian Boundary Line			
Frac W of B Line "	352.14			Francis Anderson, Asse	30 Aug 1809	399	
*Pat. No. 1112906 by US to Francis Anderson 20 Jan 1942							
Vincent Thomas 25 Jun 1903 19479							
*Entry says 25 Jun 1902 (Does not appear on S of S copy)							
Francis Anderson, Asse 2 Feb 1818 547							
*On January 20, 1942, Patner No. 1112906, to cure defective record of a previously issued patent, based on Huntsville Credit System Final Certificate No. 399 (Prior), issued in the name of Francis Anderson, for the fractional section 33, T4S, R1W, Huntsville Meridian, Alabama, containing 290.75 acres". (Letter of Secretary of State dated 2 Apr 1942)							
*Note does not appear on Sec. of State copy)							
Page 48							
NE¼ of NE¼	34	625.60		James W. Allen	6 Jun 1843	12596	
NW¼ of NE¼	"	39.10		Benjamin Du Armon	10 Jan 1835	3138	
SE¼ of NE¼	"	39.10		Winslow L. Dyer & Jno. W. Williams	25 Jul 1843	12602	
SW¼ of NE¼	"	39.10		James W. Allen	20 Jun 1844	12718	
North West ¼	"	156.40		William Lanier	30 Aug 1809	683	
NE¼ of SE¼	"	39.10		Hugh N. Moore	1 Nov 1843	12630	
NW¼ of SE¼	"	39.10		Thos. & William Brandon	27 May 1839	12164	
SE¼ of SE¼	"	39.10		George Horton	blank	4148	
SW¼ of SE¼	"	39.10		John Franklin Mills	10 Jul 1832	5019	
South West ¼	"	156.40		Francis Anderson	25 Feb 1818	546	
North East ¼	35	630.00					
North West ¼	"	157.50		John Turner	21 Oct 1814	3041	
South East ¼	"	157.50		John Turner	22 Oct 1814	3042	
Stephen S. Ewing & Geo. P. Beirne, surviving Exects of David Moore, dec'd 25 Aug 1846 13101							
N½ of SW¼	"	78.75		Thos. & George Fearn	19 Oct 1833	6534	
SE¼ of SW¼	"	39.37½		George Horton	blank	4148	
SW¼ of SW¼	"	39.37½		George Horton	blank	4148	
North East ¼	36	634.00					
North West ¼	"	158.50		John Turner, Asse	18 Sep 1809	630	
South East ¼	"	158.50		John Turner	1 Aug 1814	1005	
South West ¼	"	158.50		John Turner, Asse	18 Sep 1809	631	
	"	158.50		John Turner	1 Aug 1814	1004	

Information in script appears on the copy from the office of the Secretary of State of Alabama.

*FACING PAGE	FUND	STATE TITLE	WHEN CONVEYED	Number of Sixty Transfer or Conveyance	WHERE RECORDED	MEMORANDUM
		TO WHOM CONVEYED			VOL. PAGE	

The above page image shows John Brahan as the original owner of the land of the SE/4, S32-T4-R1W, as of 2 Feb. 1818. It also shows that Thomas and William Brandon got the SW/4 of the same section.

INDEX TO LANDS											
Section	Tr	Township	South of Range	East	Madison County, Alabama						
Book	Page	Sub	Sec No	GRANTOR	GRANTEE	DATE OF GRANT	1	2	3	4	5
104	27	4 of	25	Dyer, Martin	Gally, Samuel et al	1874					
1	140	4 of	25	Dyer, Martin	Hatkins, Miles J. et	1887					
2	42	2		Brandon, Thomas et al	Wills, John F	1874					
4	408	2nd Sec		Brandenburg, Minnie	Spencer, Thomas	1874					
2	242	2 of	25	Brant, Susan, George	Young, Gal. et al	1820					
4	129	2		Brown, Geo & Elizabeth	Scott, David	1827					
4	212	2		Brown, Geo & Elizabeth	Jordan, James	1827					
4	224	4 of	25	Brown, Maria	McDonnell, Wm Jr	1870					
4	221	2 of	25	Brown, George	McDonnell, Wm Jr	1868					
2	120	2		Thompson, J & et al	Scott, David	1828					
2	274	2		Pennington, Penelope by adm	Fennell, Isham	1840					
2	417	2		Wills, John F & Catherine	Fennell, Isham	1843					
1	22	4		Jordan, J. S. & Mary A	Fennell, Isham	1843					
44	140	2		McKinnon, Robert G	Sanford, Wm & et al	1828					
12	277	2		Sanford, Samuel S	Sanford, Alexander Jr	1827					
19	276	2		Sanford, Wm S	McDonnell, William J. et al	1827					
17	202	2		Sanford, James A & S. J.	Sanford, Wm S	1827					
12	272	2		Sanford, James A	Sanford, Alexander Jr	1827					
19	264	2		Sanford, Wm S	Sanford, James A & S. J.	1827					
11	272	2nd Sec		Sanford, J. S. et al by adm	Wills, John F. et al	1827					
14	282	2nd Sec		Sanford, Wm S. et al by adm	Wills, John F. et al	1827					
12	284	2nd Sec		Sanford, J. S. et al by adm	Wills, John F. et al	1827					
20	282	2		James, Paul & Mary et al	Pennington, John	1870					
20	281	2		James, Paul & Mary et al	Pennington, John	1870					
21	282	2		James, Paul & Mary et al	Pennington, John	1870					
27	143	2nd		James, William & Lee	Smith, J. & Brother	1874					
43	209	2		James, Lee & William	Pennington, John	1877					
7	126	2nd		Keatinger, Jacob C	Hendley, Orville H	1820					
17	27	2nd		Kearney, Samuel	Smith, William	1827					
20	182	2nd		Kearney, Saml & Julia	Smith, William	1828					
20	179	2nd		Kearney, Saml & Julia	Smith, William	1828					

This record shows that Thomas Brandon (possibly an heir of John Brahan, since there is no record of John Brahan selling his land to a Brandon) and others sold land in the SW/4 (perhaps an incomplete recording summary – it may have also included the SE/4) to John Mills in 1834. John Mills then sold land to include the SE/4 in 1843 to Isham J. Fennell. Thus, the Fennell family came to own the land where the cemetery is located. By 1843, the Jordans and the Fennells had already buried several of their patriarchs in the Jordan's Chapel Cemetery, but they may have used this property for slave burials. Still, it is not totally out of the realm of possibility that even Temperance herself could be buried here, rather than beside her husband and her father at Jordan's Chapel Cemetery. There are no known records to state where she was buried. One would almost expect a large monument to remain at her gravesite, but there are none known for her today.

As for the burials evidenced by tombstones in the cemetery at the junction of Martin Road with Mills Road, they include only Corporal Joseph Beasley, Mary Lightford, and Silla Moore. These are names found on the only inscribed tombstones in the cemetery today.



Fennil Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

There was only one possible match found for “Silla” Moore in Madison County marriage records per the on-line index of the Madison County Records Center web pages. Joe Moore took out a license to marry “Scilla” Pope (both noted as “Colored”) on 16 February 1901, per Marriage Book Volume 26, page 401. With that information, Joe and “Cilla” Moore were found in the 1920 census as shown below:

State Alabama
County Madison

SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION.

Supervisor's District No. 8 Ward No. 1
Enumeration District No. 99 Sheet No. 38 62

Township or other division of county West Park Precinct No 1 Name of Institution _____
Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division _____ Word of city _____
Enumerated by me on the 4th day of July 1900. W. H. Beasley Enumerator

LOCALITY	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION				RACE			CITIZENSHIP	EDUCATION		PROPERTY & VALUE
			SEX	AGE	COLORED	WHITE	Color of Skin	Color of Hair	Color of Eyes		Years of Schooling	Years of Reading	
	Joseph	son	M	22	1878	5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	Joseph	son	M	20	1880	8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	Mary	Daughter	F	17	1883	5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
77-78	Joseph	son	M	15	1885	8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	James	son	M	12	1888	5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	Robert	son	M	10	1890	5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
78-79	Jordan	son	M	18	1882	10	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	Jordan	son	M	16	1884	10	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	James	son	M	14	1886	5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	Stephen	son	M	12	1888	5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
79-80	Jordan	son	M	10	1890	11	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	James	son	M	8	1892	11	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	6	1894	7	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	William	son	M	4	1896	5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	Charles	son	M	2	1898	5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
80-81	James	son	M	18	1882	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	George	son	M	16	1884	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	14	1886	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	12	1888	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	10	1890	15	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	8	1892	15	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
81-82	Kibble	son	M	15	1885	3	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	Leanna	daughter	F	13	1887	3	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	Mary	daughter	F	11	1889	3	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	9	1891	5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	Silla	daughter	F	7	1893	5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	5	1895	5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
82-83	John	son	M	18	1882	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	16	1884	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	14	1886	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	12	1888	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	10	1890	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	8	1892	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	6	1894	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	4	1896	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	2	1898	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	18	1882	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	16	1884	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	14	1886	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	12	1888	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	10	1890	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	8	1892	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	6	1894	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	4	1896	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	2	1898	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	18	1882	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	16	1884	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	14	1886	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	12	1888	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	10	1890	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	8	1892	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	6	1894	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	4	1896	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	
	John	son	M	2	1898	18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	From birth	0	0	

This census page for "West Park Precinct 1" has several neighbors of the family that are recognizable with common surnames found on arsenal-area lands at the time. Among them are Jacobs, Jordan, and Beadle. The listing for Silla Pope shows her in a household headed by John Kibble. John is not Silla's father, but he is her stepfather. John's wife Leanna is Silla's mother. She was shown as age 39, born in December of 1860 in Alabama of parents

who were both born in Alabama. John was born 10 years earlier than Leanna, in March of 1851. Silla was shown as born in August of 1885, while her sister Ollie was given as age 14 and her brother Bryan was listed as age 12. All three children were born to Leanna and fathered by her first husband, not John Kibble. Leanna and John were shown as married for only 3 years in 1900, but since Leanna was listed as giving birth to 7 children (of whom 7 were still living in 1900), she had apparently not borne any children for John Kibble yet. This is the case because Bryan Pope was age 12, so any children born to John Kibble would have had to be younger than Bryan. As such, they would have to be living at home, and there were none younger in the household than Bryan Pope.

Since there are no 1890 census records available for Madison County, the next oldest census for these people was the 1880 listing. Obviously, Silla Pope would not be found, since she wasn't born before 1884, according to her tombstone. However, Leanna should have been listed with perhaps one or more of her children who were older than Silla. The only possibility found for her under the Pope names was as shown below:

D.

Page No. 5
Supervisor's Dist. No. 1
Enumeration Dist. No. 203

Note A.—The Census Year begins June 1, 1870, and ends May 31, 1880.
Note B.—All persons will be included in the Enumeration who were living on the 1st day of June, 1880. No others will. Children BORN SINCE June 1, 1880, will be OMITTED. Members of Families who have DIED SINCE June 1, 1880, will be INCLUDED.
Note C.—Questions Nos. 20, 21, 22 and 23 are not to be asked in respect to persons under 10 years of age.

SCHEDULE I.—Inhabitants in Dist No 6 in the County of Madison, State of Alabama, enumerated by me on the 10th day of June, 1880.

No.	Name	Sex	Age	Color	Profession, Occupation, or Trade	Place of Birth	Place of Birth	Place of Birth	Place of Birth
72 73	Harrietal Annelle	W	9	B	Wife	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Frederick	M	24	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Margaret Eddie	W	17	B	Daughter	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	William	M	9	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Louisa	W	7	B	Daughter	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Charles	M	5	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Edward	M	2	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
74 75	Eddy	M	24	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	William	M	18	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Samuel	M	14	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Hampton	M	14	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	William	M	14	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Edmond	M	14	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Spiffin	M	13	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	George	M	10	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Joseph	M	8	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Thomas	M	5	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Amos	M	3	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Edward	M	1	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
75 77	Shirley Lucy	W	21	B	Wife	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Robert C.	M	1	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	William	M	4	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
76 94	Harrietal Jane	W	24	B	Wife	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	George	M	1	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Rebecca	W	20	B	Wife	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Sally	W	15	B	Wife	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Sally	W	15	B	Wife	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Wiley	M	14	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Shige	M	11	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Spencer	M	7	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Walter	M	11	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
77 79	John	M	20	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Dixon	M	17	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Robert	M	14	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
78 80	Thomas Peter	M	25	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Sally	W	25	B	Wife	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
79 81	Thomas William	M	31	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	18	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
80 82	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
81 83	John	M	21	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
82 84	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
83 85	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
84 86	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
85 87	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
86 88	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
87 89	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
88 90	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
89 91	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
90 92	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
91 93	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
92 94	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
93 95	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
94 96	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
95 97	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
96 98	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
97 99	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
98 100	John	M	22	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	John	M	12	B	Son	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama

In 1880 the census showed Leeana Pope as head of her own household (husband deceased, divorced, otherwise away from home, or never married in the first place?) at age 21. This census shows that Leeana was born in Mississippi of parents both born in Mississippi. There is only one child in the household in 1880, Laura Ann, age 2, born in Alabama, with her father given as born also in Alabama. No marriage record was found for a Leeana or Leanna of any surname to any groom surnamed Pope in the 1800s per the index posted on-line by the Madison County Records Center. However, it was interesting to note that in 1873 there was a Burwell Pope who married a Frances Kibble, both indicated as “Colored”. There may be some connection to the John Kibble and Leana Pope marriage of 1897, but the exact nature of any such connection is not yet known.

Similar research was done with respect to the tombstone for Mary Lightford:



Fennil Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

Madison County marriage records don't contain any data that conclusively points to the person named Mary Lightford buried in this cemetery. However, there are several possibilities for connections. For example, there is a record in Marriage Book Volume 5, page 391, that has the 13 Sept. 1867 license of Bartley Lightfoot to marry Mary E. Sisley, both of whom are noted as "colored". Likewise, there is another entry in the index for a Milton Lightfoot licensed (7 March 1883) to marry Mary L. **B**radford in Volume 12, page 546. Again, both are noted as "colored", and both Lightfoot and Bradford are surnames known to have resided on lands that became arsenal property. (The Mary **B**. Lightfoot of the 1910 land sale shown below is probably this one, who would have been a widow to be "unmarried" at the time.) Either of these marriages could have produced a daughter named Mary who could be born in 1883. Of course, this avenue of conjecture assumes that "Lightford" was actually "Lightfoot", which was a common name in the area at the time.

Below is one of two possible matches for Mary Lightford in the census records of 1930:

The image shows a 1930 US Census Population Schedule for Enumeration District 45-10. The document is titled "FIFTHY-FIFTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES 1930" and "POPULATION SCHEDULE". It includes handwritten entries for names, ages, and other details. Several entries are highlighted in red, including one for Mary Lightford. The table has multiple columns for personal and household information.

Both this page (15-B of Enumeration District 45-10) and the next match (shown below, page 18-A of the same E. D.) list families along “Triana Pike” as it passed through land that became arsenal property. The surnames of the neighbors of the Lightford families found on these two pages include Jacobs, Moore, Love, Langford, Jordan, Lacy, and Mastin – all recognizable as those who lived on pre-arsenal lands. The age of the two Mary Lightfords is within a year of one another – ages 47 and 48. One Mary was the wife of James Lightford, and the other was the wife of Claudie Lightford. As of this writing, there is no known way to ascertain which is the one represented by the tombstone in the Fennil / Fennell Cemetery.



Fennil Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

In his personal input to the book "SLAVE GENEALOGY" by Thomas Henry Kenny, James Beasley stated on Nov. 13, 1869 that he was 26 years old. He further stated that he had served in the recent war in Company C, 12th regiment of the U.S. Colored Infantry. In 1869 he was a farmer on Matt Strong's plantation.

James Beasley further stated that his father was Bill Beasley, his mother was Maria Beasley, and his wife was Emmaline Beasley. He mentioned no children, but he said that he had a brother Elick Beasley (there was a "Nick" Beasley who served also in the USCI) and four sisters.

The sisters were named Mary Ann, Emma, Lucinda, and Becky.

The 1880 AL census has James Beasley (white), age 63, born in Virginia, as head of a household in Enumeration District 200, page 53A. His wife was Harriet (55 AL), and they had 3 daughters and 2 sons in the household. The household also included Mulattos Lizzie Mastin (married, 60, AL), Francis Mastin (single, 12, AL), and WILLIAM BEASLEY (married, 60, VA).

The 1880 AL census of Lauderdale County has the only Maria Beasley listed as head of household. [She was not found in a scan of the Madison County census records of 1880.] The Maria in Lauderdale Co. AL was shown as age 57, b. VA. She was listed with 3 sons: Edward (18, b. VA), Moses (16, b. AL), and William (14, AL). While Maria of Lauderdale Co. was the right age and name to be the mother of Corporal Joseph Beasley, she was listed as a WIDOW, whereas it appears that Joseph's father William ("Bill") was still living in Madison Co. in the household of James Beasley, the plantation owner. Furthermore, Maria's sons gave conflicting information about their parents. Edward's parents were listed as father born in VA and mother born in VA, agreeing with data for Maria. However, Moses' father was listed as born in VA and mother in AL, and William's father was listed as born in AL and mother in AL. All of these children were born late enough to not yet be born when Joseph listed his brothers in 1869 in the book "SLAVE GENEALOGY".

Probate Records of Madison County, Alabama, show that Joseph Beasley died February 15, 1918. His brother Thomas became Administrator of the small estate.

The data to support the statements in the caption above is contained in the files on the CD-ROMs delivered to the Army offices. The CDs in fact contain much more information than the above caption reveals, but the salient points of what is known of Corporal Beasley's life are in the caption. The confusion between the names "James" and "Joseph" (or even "Josiah") is not uncommon in older records, probably due to the practice of abbreviating the name(s) as "Jos." and "Jas.", when the writing of the "o" versus the "a" was difficult to differentiate.

Beverly Curry sent notes of her interviews with living former residents of pre-arsenal lands regarding the Fennil / Fennell Cemetery:

[cemetery notes](#) may interest you

Emma Horton March 9, 2001

Born: June 24, 1920=20

Husband: Ovoy Horton

Her cousin is Charles Burns

Buried in Fennel Cemetery:

Her brother (Walter Lee Lankford)

Her grandmother: Emma Slaughter

Her aunt: Maggie Simpson

Emma and Ovoy lived on Francis Horton's place: Map D-185

Moved off arsenal from there.

Got married and lived there, "across the yard from her big L house"

Fa: Ernest Lankford

April 8, 1902 - Sept 14, 1956

Dickson Lot: Mullen Flat

A creek ran through called Horton's Ford

Rented land from : Darphus Love

FaMo: Emma Simpson

Married name: Slaughter

Died Nov. 1926 Fennel cemetery

She was in her late 1940's

Her father had his own stock. He rented the land. Ernest Lankford worked 3rd and 4th,, which meant he got 3 out of 4. He had his own horses and tools. He had a crop with Anderson.

Dixon Lot. Near Horton Ford was the last place Emma lived where her dad farmed. Not too far from where Felix Lanier lived.

Emma's mother, Magnolia Baker Lankford was born Aug 23, 1902.

Emma's MoMo: Agnes McVay

Died in the 1960's. About 98 or 99.

Provided husband's genealogy

March 9, 2001

Even without Beverly Curry's notes, it is obvious that there are many more burials in the cemetery. Not only are there numerous grave depressions, but there are some fieldstones and other unscribed markers to show graves. Some of the photos of those markers are given below:



Fennil Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

This photo shows an area bounded by stones to possibly denote a family area for burials. There is a leaning tombstone in the upper background, at center.



Fennil Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.
This uninscribed rectangular concrete tombstone has a brick at its base.



Fennil Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

This broken piece of a tombstone contained no inscriptions, but it is located at an obvious gravesite.



Fennil Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

This overview from the southwestern portion of the cemetery perimeter looks toward the intersection of Martin Road with Mills Road, which can be seen as the traffic light in the background. Careful inspection of the photo will show the tombstone of Silla Moore in the center of the picture, very near the base of a pine tree.

At this time, nothing else is known of this cemetery.

By John P. Rankin, August 22, 2005