

HANCOCK CEMETERY, 62 – 2

Summary Report



Hancock Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co. AL, March 12, 2003

View to north from south side of cemetery.
Indian Creek (Children's) Cemetery adjoins at north.

There are no tombstones in this cemetery. Accordingly, only the information from Beverly Curry's interviews and from old land records can be used to deduce anything about possible interments.



Hancock Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co. AL, March 12, 2003
View to northwest from south side of cemetery.

There are likewise few obvious grave depressions to be seen in the cemetery today. It is located in Northwest Quarter of Section 25, Township 4, Range 2 West, immediately south of the Indian Creek Cemetery. Both cemeteries are in Test Area 3, about 100 yards south of Hale Road and on the hill that forms the east bank of the creek. The early land records for this area are shown below:

TOWNSHIP 4 South		RANGE 2 West		HUNTSVILLE MERIDIAN				
DESCRIPTION OF THE TRACT		AREA		UNITED STATES TITLE		Date of Sale Location or Grant	Number of Certificate or Warrant	Date of Military Act
PART OF SECTION	Section	Acres	100ths	TO WHOM SOLD OR GRANTED				

Page 104 continued

North East ¼	24	636.67						
North West ¼	"	159.17		James Manning, Asse				
South East ¼	"	159.17		John Boardman	3 Feb 1818	3033		
South West ¼	"	159.17		Elijah H. Boardman, Asse	28 Dec 1827	2117		
Page 105	25	636.40		Elijah H. Boardman, Asse	3 Feb 1818	2403		
North East ¼	"	159.10		George P. Harrell, Asse	3 Feb 1818	2402		
North West ¼	"	159.10		Elijah H. Boardman, Asse	3 Feb 1818	15		
South East ¼	"	159.10		Eldred Rawlins, Asse	3 Feb 1818	1		
South West ¼	"	159.10		Eldred Rawlins, Asse	3 Feb 1818	16		
North East ¼	26	645.95						
North West ¼	"	161.49		Elijah H. Boardman, Asse	3 Feb 1818	468		
South East ¼	"	161.49		Isaac Inman	3 Feb 1818	1123		
South West ¼	"	161.49		Nathaniel Terry, Asse	10 Jun 1831	1073		
				Name Unknown	Unknown	Unknown		
*Letter Secretary of State dated 6-26-42								
"On April 28, 1942, Patent No. 1113759								
based on GLO 08866, issued in the name of								
Nathaniel Terry for the SW¼ Sec 26, T4S,								
R2W, Huntsville Meridian, Alabama contain-								
ing 161.49."								
				Nathaniel Terry	30 Jun 1831	1159		
*By US Gov't to Nathaniel Terry, April 28,								
1942 Patent No. 1113759								
North East ¼	27	630.96		John W. Looney, Asse	1 Jun 1831	632		
North West ¼	"	157.74		Charles Betts	3 Feb 1818	478		
South East ¼	"	157.74		Charles Betts, Asse	3 Feb 1818	483		
E½ of SW¼	"	78.87		State	23 May 1828	*Memo		
W½ of SW¼	"	78.87		*River Impts Charles Betts	2 Feb 1830/46	*Vol 6, p422		
				State	23 May 1828	*Memo		
				*River Impts Charles Betts	2 Feb 1830	*Vol 3, p 288		
Page 106	28	648.71						
North East ¼	"	162.18		Robert Weakley	3 Feb 1818	326		
E½ of NW¼	"	81.09		James H. Weakley, Asse	3 Feb 1818	327		
W½ of NW¼	"	81.09		State	23 May 1828	*Memo		
				*River Impts Hardeman Jones	23 Jul 1830			
				Same also	1 Jan 1968	*Vol 10, p356		
South East ¼	"	162.18		Charles Betts, Asse	3 Feb 1818	481		
E½ of SW¼	"	81.09		State	23 May 1828	*Memo		
				*River Impts Charles Collier	6 Jul 1830			
				Same-also Wm. H. Blackwell	12 Jun 1837	*Vol 3, p248		
W½ of SW¼	"	81.09		State	23 May 1828	*Memo		
				*River Impts Charles Collier	6 Jul 1830			
				Same-also Wm. H. Blackwell	12 Jun 1837	*Vol 3, p248		
E½ of NE¼	29	600.76		State	23 May 1828	*Memo		
W½ of NE¼	"	75.09½		*River Impts A. N. Watkins	30 Jun 1830	*Vol 3, p570		
				State	23 May 1828	*Memo		
E½ of NW¼	"	75.09½		*River Impts A. N. Watkins	30 Jun 1830	*Vol 3, p572		
W½ of NW¼	"	75.09½		State	23 May 1828	*Memo		
				*River Impts A. N. Watkins	30 Jun 1830	*Vol 3, p572		
				State	23 May 1828	*Memo		
				*River Impts A. N. Watkins	30 Jun 1830	*Vol 3, p571		

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

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

INDEX TO LANDS

Section 25 Township 4 South of Range 5 west Madison County, Alabama
G. W. JONES & SONS

PAGE	PAGE	SEC. 25	GRANTOR	GRANTEE	DATE OF INSTRUMENT	DATE FILED	SECTION 25			
							N. E. 1/4	N. W. 1/4	S. E. 1/4	S. W. 1/4
1	379	D	Johnston, Amos A	Smith, George C	1823					
1	756	D of Tr Set	Smith, George B	Johnson, Amos A	1824					
1	1	D of Tr	Hillcutt, John B	Blaze, Wm Tr	1825					
1	17	D of Tr	Rawlins, Eldred	Peter, William	1825					
1	117	41g	Boardman, Elijah A	Ferry, Beth	1826					
1	75	41g	Boardman, Elijah A	Ferry, Beth	1841					
1	347	D	Rawlins, Eldred by SHFF	Fischer, J J & E A	1841					
1	284	D	Emmons, I E & Isabella	American Asylum Martifer	1844					
1	29	D	American Asylum by Can	Lipscomb, Richard	1844					
1	50	41g	Lipscomb, Richard & Sarah	American Asylum	1846					
1	408	D	Lipscomb, Richard by Can	Lipscomb, Sarah	1846					
1	161	D	Lipscomb, Sarah	Lipscomb, Caroline	1848					
1	71	D	Winters, J J & Stolina	Hendley, Orville	1870					
1	71	D	Hendley, O M & Mary E	Hertler, Jacob	1870					
1	124	D	Lipscomb, J E - dec by SHFF	McClelland, Thos J	1873					
1	394	D	McClelland, Thos J by SHFF	McClellan, Robert A	1881					
1	2	D	McClelland, Thomas J	Wiggins, Octavia	1885					
1	149	D	McClelland, Aurora & E	McClelland, Thomas J	1885					
1	150	D	McClellan, Thomas	McClellan, Robert A	1888					
1	56	D	McClellan, Thos J & E	Dunson, Ruf et al	1888					
1	219	D	Wiggins, Octavia A et al	Dunson - land	1887					
1	523	D	Rand, Jackson & Laura C	Dunson, Wm T	1888					
1	560	D	McClellan, R - atty et al	Dunson & Rand	1890					
1	560	D of A	Wiggins, Octavia A	McClellan, R A	1890					
1	713	41g	Dunson, W T & A	Rowe, Ann C	1891					
1	508	41g	Dunson, W T & A	Dunson, Robert T	1892					
1	446	D	Hertler, Daniel et al	Hertler, John Jr	1894					
1	3	D	Dunson, W T & A by Adm	Dunson, Maria	1898					
1	592	D	Hertler, John & Annie E	Anderson, Annie H	1904					
1	592	D	Hertler, John & Annie E	Hertler, Daniel	1904					
1	584	D	Hertler, John & Annie E	Hertler, Mary J	1904					
1	603	D	Hertler, John & Annie E	Hertler, John Jr	1904					
1	359	D	Hertler, Daniel	Hertler, John Jr	1906					
1	487	D	Hertler, John et al	Dunson, Colmar D	1910					
1	533	41g	Dunson, Colmar D & E L	Hertler, John Jr	1910					
1	322	41g	Dunson, R J et al	Dunson, O D	1918					

The above **INDEX TO LANDS** by G. W. Jones & Sons, Inc., shows that the northwest quarter of Section 25 changed hands more than all of the other quarters of this section combined. The parcel containing the cemetery was first patented from the government on 3 February 1818 by Elijah Boardman, who also got land in adjoining sections, according to Margaret Cowart's **OLD LAND RECORDS** book. Eldred Rawlins, who married a Lanier (see the Summary Report on the Rawlins – Lanier Cemetery, 37 – 4) took the Southwest Quarter of Section 25 on the same date that Elijah Boardman got his land. Isaac Inman (see the Summary Report for the Emeline – Inman Cemetery, 62 – 1) took land in adjacent Section 26.

Elijah Boardman sold his land in Section 25 to Richard Lipscomb in 1846, after he had mortgaged it in 1842 to Seth Terry. Richard Lipscomb already had land in the Southwest Quarter of Section 24. His cemetery is in that quarter of Section 24 (see the Summary Report for the Lipscomb Cemetery, 61 – 2), so it is known that he is **not** buried in the Hancock Cemetery. The Lipscomb family members have large obelisks to mark their graves in their own cemetery.

Richard Lipscomb’s family held the land of the Hancock Cemetery until 1873, when it was sold to Thomas J. McClelland at a sheriff’s sale. According to the tombstone inscriptions, many of the Lipscomb family members died in the 1850s, so the family probably couldn’t maintain control and productivity of their extensive land holdings after the Civil War. The land passed from Lipscomb and McClelland hands to families with surnames of Duncan, Wiggins, and Rowe until the early 1900s when John and Annie Hertzler purchased it. The Wiggins and Rowe family cemeteries are just outside the arsenal boundaries on the west side. The Hertzler family was prominent in the history of the town of Madison, just northwest of the arsenal boundaries, but none of the tombstones in the Madison city cemeteries have Hertzler inscriptions. The web site maintained by OLD HUNTSVILLE MAGAZINE for the listings of burials in Huntsville’s Maple Hill Cemetery has a few Hertzlers, but not John and Annie:

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HERTZLER--UNK----F--84--11/10/1916--W--MADISON--AL--UNK--UNK--SENILITY-  
-  
HERTZLER--DANIEL----M--49--7/8/1917--W--MADISON--AL--UNK--UNK--AGE 49--  
HERTZLER--F----F--UNK--12/10/1900--W--HUNTSVILLE--AL--UNK--UNK----  
HERTZLER--IDA----F--UNK--3/15/1956--W--HUNTSVILLE--AL--48--33----  
HERTZLER--LUCILLE--ANDERSON--F--52--2/21/1948--W--HUNTSVILLE--AL--108--  
C----  
HERTZLER--MARY--P--F--UNK--9/14/1932--W--ETERSBURG--FL--UNK--UNK----
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This listing includes an “unknown” female who died in 1916 at age 84 in Madison. However, it is not known whether or not this could be Annie Hertzler. Still, it is known that a John Hertzler who died in 1913 was buried in Maple Hill Cemetery in Huntsville, according to the Maple Hill death certificate below:

Death Certificate from Maple Hill Cemetery, Huntsville (Madison County), AL

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH
FORM NO. 2

1. Full name of deceased *John Hertzler*
(Do not fail to give full name)

2. Date of death: Month *Jan*; day *3rd*; 19*13*; Hour: _____ A. M. _____ P. M.

3. Place of death (county) *Madison Co*; beat *Madison*

4. City or town *Madison*; ward _____; street and No. _____

5. Place of birth of deceased (state or county) *Penn*

6. White ~~or colored?~~ _____ Male ~~or female?~~ _____ Occupation *Farmer*

7. How long did deceased reside at place of death? _____

8. Where was disease contracted? _____ Duration of illness _____

9. Principal disease causing death *Tuberculosis*

10. Contributory disease causing death _____

11. If homicidal, suicidal, or accidental, state definitely how accomplished _____

12. Did deceased undergo a surgical operation, and if so when and of what nature? _____

13. Age: Years *49*; months _____; days _____; single, married or widowed? _____

14. Full name of father of deceased *Dr. John Hertzler*

15. Birthplace of father (state or country) *Penn*

16. Full name of mother of deceased *Hertzler*

17. Birthplace of mother (state or country) _____

18. Place of interment *Maple Hill* *Sec 1*

19. Remarks: *Transit Permit*

Date of Report *Jan 5th* 19*13* Reporter *J. A. Kiser* Post Office *Madison Ala*

Since the **INDEX TO LANDS** showed that John Hertzler Jr. entered into a mortgage agreement with Colmer D. Landon in 1910 regarding land near the cemetery parcel, it is likely that he was the son of a “senior” John Hertzler, as shown on the above death certificate. With a death certificate for a “junior” John Hertzler who died at age 49 in nearby Madison of tuberculosis in 1913, it is possible that either “senior” or “junior” was the one who

acquired the land in 1892. Of course, the Hertzlers came by land in the NW/4 of S25 through Jacob Hertzler in 1870. From Jacob it passed to Daniel Hertzler, who in turn deeded it to John Sr. – all per the **INDEX TO LANDS** above.

It should also be noted that Jacob Hertzler acquired the land from Orville M. Hundley, who was related to Lucy Lanier Ives Clark of the Clark Cemetery (65-2) on the arsenal. Exactly how the Hundleys got the land is not clear on the **INDEX TO LANDS**. That index shows that Orville Hundley purchased land in the area from J. J. Fletcher, who in turn acquired land in the area from Eldred Rawlins. However, the quarter section indications on the **INDEX TO LANDS** do not show that Eldred Rawlins or J. J. Fletcher owned land in the NW/4 to sell to Orville Hundley in 1870. It is possibly just an incomplete marking of the index, but until the original deeds are examined, the whole truth may not be known. It is known that Eldred Rawlins entered into some questionable land dealings during his residence in Madison County, before he moved to Limestone County and other areas (see the Rawlins – Lanier Cemetery Summary Report for more of Eldred Rawlins' life story).

Since there is no known arsenal or Madison-area cemetery with the graves of the Hertzlers, it is certainly possible that the Hancock Cemetery was used by their family for its burials until after the land was sold into black family possession. As is known from other cemetery records, such as the nearby Inman Cemetery (62-1), it is not unusual for the pre-Civil War white plantation owners to start a family cemetery that is later used by the black families. Sometimes, plantation cemeteries included especially the graves of household slaves with those of the white owners, even though normally they would be in separate sections.

Likewise, it is known that families of the “old days” generally buried their dead in their own land, as community cemeteries generally did not exist. (Of course, there were often church cemeteries used throughout the ages by several families together.) If family land burial practices were used here, then Jacob and Daniel Hertzler and their wives and children may well be buried in the Hancock Cemetery. The Maple Hill death certificate assures that John Hertzler Jr. was buried in Maple Hill, perhaps along with his wife, but there is no firm record of their burials there, other than the one death certificate. The death certificate for John Hertzler also shows that John Hertzler Sr. was a doctor, as reported by Dr. Kyser of Madison.

At this time, there can be only speculation regarding the origins of the cemetery. At least it has been determined which families of the land ownership were **not** likely buried in the Hancock Cemetery. While the Lipscomb, Rowe, and Wiggins families had their own separate cemeteries (and therefore no need to use the Hancock burying grounds), other known families who owned the parcel may have buried children and/or adults there. That would include the **Boardman, McClelland, Duncan, and Hertzler** families for possible interments. The cemetery is certainly large enough to accommodate all of these families and the later black family burials.

There should be a Hancock family associated with ownership of the land for such a name to have been given to the cemetery, but that must have occurred after 1900, since the **INDEX TO LANDS** of the 1800s does not show the Hancock family name in ownership of the property. Another possibility would be that Hancock family members were moved here from another cemetery, such as is discussed in the Summary Report of the Indian Creek (62-3) Cemetery, but there were no Hancocks noted in the land records of the only known original cemetery location from which graves were moved. However, there were indeed some Hancock families in Madison County in the earliest days of the county's history. The very first deed book recording, on the first page of the book, was for the Hancock / Handcock family, as shown below:

Madison County Court begun on and
 in the Town of Huntsville on the
 second Monday in January 1815
 Present Le Roy Pope, Abner Tatum
 Thomas Bibb and John Withers
 gentlemen Justices of the Inverum
 Ordered by the court that Wm
 Leslie, John Love, James Han
 James Handcock and William
 Johnson be appointed ^{or any three} of ~~them~~
 appraise the Estate of Joseph Hand
cock Deceased -

MAD. Co. AL
 Deed Book A
 Page 1 (Jan. 1815)
 [Wm/ Joseph Handcock est.]

Paid for in Court

It is ordered by the Court that Letters of Admⁿ
 be granted Louis Brown on the Est of William
Handcock Dec^d, and it is further order that
 the sd adm^r have have to sele all the
 Crop of Said Dec^d at Private Sale
 and further leave be dispose of all the
 Stock & Household furniture & Plantation
Tools of Said Dec^d at Public Sale

This 1815 record simply deals with the estates of Joseph Handcock and of William Hancock, both deceased. Notable Madison County pioneers LeRoy Pope (“Father of Huntsville”), Thomas Bibb (2nd Governor of Alabama), and John Withers (father-in-law of Clement Comer Clay, who was the 8th Governor of Alabama), were involved in the court action as “gentlemen Justices of the Inverum” (Interim) for the Territory. While this record gives no indication of the location of any land associated with the estates, other records do:

General Index to Real Property—		MADISON COUNTY, ALABAMA		No. 1—REVERSE—1810-1919		177					
TO WHOM MADE		MAKER		DATE OF INSTRUMENT		Where and When Recorded		Location or other brief description			
SURNAME	ALSO KNOWN AS	ALSO KNOWN AS	ALSO KNOWN AS	DATE	TYPE	BOOK	PAGE	YEAR	SECTION	TOWNSHIP	RANGE
Hancock	Gabriel			John Sharpook	al Deed	D	B 79	1915	25	2	2-W
do			Wm	Wm Faine by Shf	Deed	D	X 409	1836	26	3	1-E
do			Wm	Amos Elliott	al Deed	D	K 408	1836	26	3	1-E
do			Wm	Isaac Stewart	al Deed	D	K 124	1826	10	4	1-E
do	al		William	John Hsby	Deed	D	M 711	1830	35	4	1-E
do			Robert	John I Steger	al Deed	D	Q 123	1836	31	2	1-W
do			William A	John King	al Deed	D	Q 118	1836	10	4	1-E
do	Gabriel			Geo A Douglass	al Deed	D	T 258	1842	13	3	2-E
do	Gabriel			Samuel Hughes	al Deed	D	T 366	1842	24	3	2-E
do			Robt	Jan H Scruggs	Deed	D	T 305	1843	31	2	1-W
do	Gabriel			John Derrick	al Deed	D	X 546	1850	13	3	2-E
do			Robert	C C Dale	Deed	D	Z 637	1854	30	2	1-W
do		John W		Chas S Hancock by Reg	al Deed	D	GG 297	1867	31	2	1-W
do			Robert A	John W Hancock	Deed	D	JJ 111	1826	31	2	1-W
do		John W		Robert A Hancock	Deed	D	RR 499	1871	31	2	1-W
do	Daniel		Russell Robt	F B Gurley	Deed	D	PPP 164	1886			Gurley
Hancock (J) & Son Plf				B G Perkins & Sons Dft	M Lien	M L	1 231	1894			
Hancock			Thomas	W T Bennett	al Deed	D	83 107	1898			Gurley
do	al	James		N M Johnson	al Deed	D	88 350	1900			Gurley
do	Henrietta			Chas Hendley	al Deed	D	89 2	1901			Rvl
Hancock (J) & Son Plf				James McKee Dft	Jdgt	Dkt	2 22	1903			
Hancock			Thos	Aaron Frelhd Ind Mtg Co	Deed	D	98 567	1904	7	2	1-E
do	al	Alonso W		Wm P Miles	al Deed	D	98 436	1906	7	1	1-E
do			Wm D	Alfred Moore	al Deed	D	97 602	1908			Callatin Rvl
do	al	A W		J P Thompson	al Deed	D	101 19	1909	6	1	1-E
do		M C		Minnie G Hafflefinger	Mtg	M	108 661	1911			Rdolph & Inohn St Rvl
do		James Tr		Mary Tolbert	Mtg	M	111 343	1911	30	2	2-E
do		M C		James T Baker	al Mtg	M	123 441	1913			Franklin St Rvl
do		M C		C O Robinson	al Mtg	M	131 269	1914			E Rvl Acd
Hancock Bros Plf				W J Reed Dft	Jdgt	Dkt	5 276	1915			
Hancock		Jim		Emerson Hayden	al Mtg	M	144 316	1916	25	3	2-E
do		M C		Charles C Crowson	al Mtg	M	149 389	1918			Wayville
do		M C		J Frank Geigar	al Mtg	M	149 207	1918	28	4	1-E
do		Paul by Tr Ruth by Tr		Henry B Christian	al Deed	D	121 615	1919	6	1	1-E

This record shows that the lands bought by the Hancocks in Madison County typically were in the northern and eastern portions of the county.

General Index to Real Property—

DEEDS, MORTGAGES, JUDGMENTS, LIS PENDENS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS AFFECTING REAL ESTATE.

MADISON COUNTY, ALABAMA

No. 1—DIRECT—1810-1919

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MAKER				TO WHOM MADE	KIND OF INSTRUMENT	Where and When Recorded				Location or other brief description		
SURNAME	OTHER NAMES A B C D E F G H	OTHER NAMES I J K L M N O	OTHER NAMES P Q R S T U V W X Y Z			Book	Vol.	Page	Year	Sec.	Tr.	Sp.
Hancock			William Est	Louis Brown	Letters	D	A	1A	1816	William Hancock Est		
do	Clement Ann			David Capshaw	Deed	D	K	323	1826	4	3	2-W
do	al		Wm	Thomas Stewart	D T	D	K	152	1828	35	3	1-E
do	al	Jas	Wm A	Edmond L Scruggs	Deed	D	N	393	1831	26	3	1-E
do			William A Sarah	John King	Deed	D	Q	169	1836	35	3	1-E
do			William A Sarah	Maurice Moore	Deed	D	Q	114	1836	5	4	1-E
do	Ananias	James		John King	Deed	D	Q	429	1837	10	4	1-E
do	Gabriel	Mary B		Spellman C Rount	Deed	D	T	74	1842	35	3	1-E
do			Robt	Robt Nance Tr	D T	D	V	152	1845	24	2	2-W
do		Noah by Admr		Peter Binford	al Deed	D	BB	294	1857	25	2	2-W
do		Noah by Admr		do do	al Deed	D	BB	294	1857	11	-	Indef
do	G Green	Mary B		David W Spivey	Deed	D	CC	479	1860	12	-	Indef
do	H E	John B	Thos B	John W Hancock	Deed	D	CC	297	1867	31	2	1-W
do	al Chas S Est by Reg	John W Admr	Robert H by Reg	do do	Deed	D	CC	297	1867	30	2	1-W
do	al Chas S Est by Reg	John W Admr	Robert H by Reg	do do	Deed	D	CC	297	1867	25	2	1-W
do	al Chas S Est	Julia by Reg	Reg	do do	Deed	D	CC	297	1867	25	2	1-W
do			Robt A	Sallie P Sale	Mtg	D	JJ	242	1868	31	2	1-W
do			Robt A	Sallie P Sale	Deed	D	JJ	301	1868	31	2	1-W
do		John W		Robt A Hancock	Deed	D	JJ	111	1868	31	2	1-W
do			Robt A	Sallie P Sale	Mtg	D	JJ	232	1868	31	2	1-W
do			Robert A	Robt S Spragins	Mtg	D	KK	52	1869	31	2	1-W
do			Robt A	Robt S Spragins Tr	D T	D	MM	236	1870	31	2	1-W
do			Robert A	John W Hancock	Deed	D	RR	499	1871	31	2	1-W
do		John W		Robt S Spragins Tr	D T	D	QQ	133	1871	31	2	1-W
do		John W		Ananias W Wade	Mtg	D	TT	408	1872	31	2	1-W
do		Jno W		Francis P Ward Tr	al D T	D	SS	444	1872	31	2	1-W
do		Jno W		do do	al D T	D	SS	444	1872	30	2	1-W
do		John W		Robt L Pulley	Mtg	D	YY	63	1874	25	2	2-W
do		John W		do do	Mtg	D	YY	63	1874	31	2	1-W
do		John W		John M Eldridge	Mtg	D	AAA	238	1875	30	2	1-W
do		John W		do do	Mtg	D	AAA	238	1875	25	2	2-W
do		John W		John W Barclay	Mtg	D	AAA	240	1875	31	2	1-E
do		John W		do do	Mtg	D	AAA	240	1875	30	2	1-E
do		John W		J H Beadle	Mtg	M	1	202	1876	31	2	1-W Hvl
do		J W		do do	Mtg	M	1	202	1876	30	2	1-W
do		J W		do do	Mtg	M	1	202	1876	25	2	2-W Hvl
do		Mtgee John W by		Joseph E Kelly	al Deed	D	FFF	180	1881	31	2	1-W 35 2 2-W
do	Henrietta		Richard C	Charles Hendley	Mtg	M	71	465	1901	11	4	2-E Grly
do	Daniel			John Anderson	Mtg	M	84	194	1904	18	4	2-E
do	A E			Jere C Webster	Mtg	M	97	156	1909	7	1	1-E 1 1 1-E

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

The above Index also shows that the lands sold by the Hancock family in Madison County in the 1800s was typically in the either the northern or the eastern portions of the county. However, there were a few exceptions. Some of the real property bought or sold was in Huntsville, some was “indefinite(ly)” described in the records, and a couple of parcels were on land that became arsenal property. In 1904, **Thomas** Hancock sold land in Section 7 of Township 5, Range 1 West, to Aaron Freeholder Land & Mortgage Company. That parcel is immediately south of the Lanier Cemetery (46-3) on the arsenal. The other instance of Hancock land transactions in the area that became the arsenal was in 1918. At that time, M. C. Hancock mortgaged land in Section 28, Township 4, Range 1 West, to J. Frank, Geiger. This land is west of Patton Road, south of Cajun Drive, and north of Martin Road, basically centering on Madkin Mountain and the rock quarry. The difficulty is that M. C. Hancock was also listed in the Index as being involved in several land transactions in the towns of Huntsville and Maysville, so that one transaction is not necessarily an indication that he lived on the arsenal location. A look at the census records in the early 1900s for the Hancock families was the only other avenue to try to gain some insights:

TWELFTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES

State Alabama

E.D. 107
Sheet 15-A

SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION

County Madison

Township or other division of county Whitaburg Precinct

Name of Institution, _____

Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division _____

Enumerated by me on the 20 day of June, 1900, William F. Gardner

LOCATION. IF OTHER, STATE, COUNTY, TOWNSHIP, RANGE, SECTION, AND NEAREST CROSSROADS, TO THE NEAREST CROSSROADS.	NAME of each person whose place of abode on June 1, 1900, was in this family. Give surname first, then the given name and middle initial, if any. Insert every person living on June 1, 1900. Omit children born after June 1, 1900.	RELATION Relationship of each person to the head of the family.	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION							NATIVITY				
			Color or race.	DATE OF BIRTH		Age at last birthday.	Whether blind, deaf, dumb, insane, idiotic, pauper, convict, or inmate of institution.	Number of years married.	Number of years single.	Place of birth of each person and parents of each person enumerated. If born in the United States, give the State or Territory; if of foreign birth, give the Country only.				
				Month.	Year.					Place of birth of this Person.	Place of birth of Father of this person.	Place of birth of Mother of this person.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	<u>Walter Thomas</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>W</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>1847</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>12</u>		<u>Georgia</u>	<u>Virginia</u>	<u>Virginia</u>	
	<u>Sara G</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>1851</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Early</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>1891</u>	<u>9</u>				<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Georgia</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Yancy</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>1896</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Georgia</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Mama E</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>1899</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>8</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Georgia</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Weyn William</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>1898</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Rhney Oscar</u>	<u>Nephew</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>July</u>	<u>1897</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Earl Richmond</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>1872</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Golly</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>1872</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Harley</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>1897</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Jake</u>	<u>Nephew</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Dec</u>	<u>1894</u>	<u>5</u>				<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Walter Dumas</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>1848</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>10</u>			<u>Georgia</u>	<u>Virginia</u>	<u>Virginia</u>	
	<u>Beene Matilda</u>	<u>Aunt</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>1849</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Mississippi</u>	<u>Mississippi</u>	<u>Mississippi</u>	
	<u>Thomas</u>	<u>Cousin</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>1890</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>5</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Mississippi</u>	<u>Mississippi</u>	
	<u>Samuel</u>	<u>Cousin</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Nov</u>	<u>1898</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Mississippi</u>	
	<u>Roberson Andy</u>	<u>Boarder</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>1862</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>5</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>More Rufus</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>1882</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>8</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Winstead</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>1849</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Demmon James</u>	<u>9th Son</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>1895</u>	<u>5</u>				<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Fellows Stanhope</u>	<u>Head</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>1853</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>22</u>		<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Virginia</u>	
	<u>Caliza J</u>	<u>Wife</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>1857</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Mary J</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>1878</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>5</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Louisa</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>1890</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>5</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Peter</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>1894</u>	<u>5</u>				<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Stanhope J</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Aug</u>	<u>1890</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>5</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Hallac</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>1899</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Calman</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Feb</u>	<u>1890</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>William</u>	<u>Son</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>1896</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Olga A</u>	<u>Daughter</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Sept</u>	<u>1899</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	
	<u>Higginbotham</u>	<u>Nephew</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>M</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>1874</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>5</u>			<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	<u>Alabama</u>	

LOCATIONS	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION	SATISFY		
				Place of Birth of this Person	Place of Birth of Father of this Person	Place of Birth of Mother of this Person
164 14	<u>Jessie</u> <u>Bass</u>	Head	W 23 61 711 42	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Oliver</u>	Wife	W 13 00 711 40	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Maryland</u>	Son	W 13 02 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Arthur</u>	Son	W 13 08 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Benada</u>	Son	W 13 21 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Wesley</u>	Son	W 13 20 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Joseph</u>	Son	W 13 17 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Mathias</u>	Daughter	F 13 18 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Blanche</u>	Daughter	F 13 17 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Jordan</u>	Sister-in-law	F 13 70 42	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
165 15	<u>James</u>	Head	W 13 28 711 4	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Alonza</u>	Wife	W 13 25 711 4	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
166 16	<u>Graham</u>	Head	W 13 45 711 15	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Angie</u>	Wife	F 13 42 711 15	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Estella</u>	Daughter	F 13 15 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>William</u>	Son	W 13 12 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
167 17	<u>Lizzie</u>	Head	W 13 28 711 4	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Leah</u>	Wife	F 13 20 711 4	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Langdon</u>	Brother	W 13 12 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
168 18	<u>Ernest</u>	Head	W 13 24 711 10	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Mary</u>	Wife	W 13 27 711 10	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Francis</u>	Son	W 13 51 711 21	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Edward</u>	Daughter	F 13 46 711 21	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
169 19	<u>Lacy</u>	Head	W 13 45 711 22	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Kate</u>	Wife	F 13 47 711 22	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Conrad</u>	Daughter	F 13 17 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Edith</u>	Daughter	F 13 17 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Archie</u>	Daughter	F 13 15 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Maudie</u>	Daughter	F 13 18 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Laura</u>	Son	W 13 8 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Levada</u>	Granddaughter	F 13 12 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
170 20	<u>Jacob</u>	Head	W 13 65 711 31	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Angie</u>	Wife	F 13 47 711 31	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Oliver</u>	Son	W 13 15 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Birge</u>	Son	W 13 14 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Henry</u>	Son	W 13 11 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
171 21	<u>Hancock</u>	Head	W 13 45 711 22	Alabama	Virginia	Virginia
	<u>Calloria</u>	Wife	F 13 38 711 22	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	<u>Michael</u>	Daughter	F 13 11 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
172 22	<u>Thomas</u>	Head	W 13 40 711 5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama

Precinct 104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200

State Alabama
 County Madison

SCHEDULE No. 1.

Township or other division of county Mountville Precinct

Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division, Mountville

Enumerated by me on the 11 day of June, 1900,

IN OTHER	LOCATION	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION							Place of birth of each person listed, give the State
				Color or race	Sex	DATE OF BIRTH	Age at last birthday	Whether single, married, widowed, or divorced	Number of years married	Number of born alive	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	839 248 276	Turner Bettie	Str	B. F.	July 1888	12	8	-	-	-	Alabama
		Peter	Son	B. M.	Nov 1890	9	8	-	-	-	Alabama
		Mattie	Str	B. F.	Nov 1891	8	5	-	-	-	Alabama
		Burgess	Son	B. M.	July 1894	5	8	-	-	-	Alabama
		Foster	Son	B. M.	Dec 1896	3	8	-	-	-	Alabama
		Addie	Str	B. F.	Nov 1899	1/2	8	-	-	-	Alabama
	836 246 257	Steele Conchie	Wife	B. F.	Dec 1892	50	Wd.	-	3	3	Alabama
		Bessie	Str	B. F.	Oct 1898	1	8	-	-	-	Alabama
		Jimmie	Son	B. M.	Dec 1896	5	8	-	-	-	Alabama
		Lilly	Str.	B. F.	July 1899	2	8	-	-	-	Alabama
	248 258	Namcott W. C.	Head	B. M.	Dec 1872	27	M	13	-	-	Alabama
		Hennette	Wife	B. F.	Oct 1876	23	M	13	2	-	Virginia
	837 248 259	Pope James A.	Head	B. M.	April 1850	49	M	23	-	-	Alabama
		Sellie	Wife	B. F.	Oct 1857	42	M	23	8	4	Alabama
		George	Son	B. M.	July 1882	18	8	-	-	-	Alabama
		Mattie	Str	B. F.	Jan 1889	11	8	-	-	-	Alabama
		Thomas	Son	B. M.	Sept 1892	7	8	-	-	-	Alabama
	838 249 260	East Banister	Head	B. M.	Dec 1829	70	M	50	-	-	Alabama
		Mary Jane	Wife	B. F.	Sept 1830	69	M	50	12	5	Alabama
		Martin Lucie	Grand Str	B. F.	Feb 1899	5	8	-	-	-	Alabama

LOCATIONS.	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION								NATIVITY		
			Sex	Color or race	Age at last birth	Married, divorced, widowed, or all other	Number of years of present marriage	Number of years of present widowhood	Number of years of present singlehood	Number of years of present orphanhood	Place of birth of each person and parents of each person enumerated. If born in the United States give the state or territory. If of foreign birth, give the country.	Place of birth of this person.	Place of birth of father of this person.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
715-18-23	Walter, Ella	Daughter	F	W	21	Mar	14	1	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Benny, Eugene	Son	M	W	16	Mar	14	1	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	William	Son	M	W	14	Mar	14	1	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Margie	Daughter	F	W	14	Mar	14	1	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Red	Son	M	W	14	Mar	14	1	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
716-19-24	Summers, Charley	Son	M	W	14	Mar	14	1	0	0	Alabama	Georgia	Georgia
	Charles	Son	M	W	13	Mar	14	1	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Georgie J.	Son	M	W	16	Mar	14	1	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Clara	Daughter	F	W	14	Mar	14	1	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
718-19-25	Swain, George	Head	M	W	35	Mar	14	6	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Virginia	Wife	F	W	28	Mar	14	6	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
718-19-26	Anderson, Mary	Wife	F	W	61	Mar	14	23	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Calderon	Wife	F	W	57	Mar	14	23	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
720-19-27	Anderson, Robert	Head	M	W	31	Mar	14	1	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Mary	Wife	F	W	31	Mar	14	1	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
72-19-28	Daniel, John	Head	M	W	48	Mar	14	11	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama
	Bill	Son	M	W	32	Mar	14	11	0	0	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama

The problem with all of these census records for Thomas / Tom and C. / Charley Hancock is that they don't match at all between 1900 and 1910. The ages are grossly different, and the birthplaces don't agree, plus the family member names are all diverse between the censuses. There was nothing found to even remotely fit for a Thomas or an M. C. Hancock in the 1920 or 1930 census records of Madison County. The only thing that the census records provide is insight that the Hancock families that may have matched the land records of the early 1900s in Madison County were "colored". However, none of them lived near the Hancock Cemetery, 62-2, location.

Still, it may be that one or more of these Hancocks was buried in the Hancock Cemetery location or in the cemetery that got moved to the adjacent Indian Creek Cemetery, 62-3. At least one of the land records, the one involving Madkin Mountain and the rock quarry, was near the cemetery that was moved to Indian Creek. Furthermore, the old photo shown in the Indian Creek Cemetery Summary Report seems to include an adult-sized transfer coffin, whereas all of the graves known to exist in the Indian Creek Cemetery appear to be for children. That implies that if an adult was removed from the area near the intersection of Toftoy Thruway and Neal Road in Section 29, then that adult was not reburied in Indian Creek

Cemetery. Accordingly, the grave most likely would have been emplaced in the Hancock Cemetery. Furthermore, if there was ever a Hancock family member buried either originally or by transfer to the Hancock Cemetery, and if that person had an inscribed tombstone, then that stone could be the only basis for ever calling this cemetery the Hancock Cemetery. In such a case, the Hancock family member would not necessarily have had to own or live very near to the cemetery.

Hopefully, someday a detailed land record or other document will be found to mention the first uses of the cemetery. For now, that investigation remains pending for future research into all of the deed records and title abstracts for the area.

By John P. Rankin, August 22, 2005; revised September 17, 2005