

The Dickson are buried a few miles east of the Simpson Cemetery. It is known as the Dickson-Rankin Family Cemetery. Children of John and Margaret Ann (Dickson) Simpson are:

1. Alexander Heath Simpson, born Oct. 4, 1841, Ditto's Landing, Alabama. Married Feb. 5, 1868, Helen Grey Steger, Madison Co., Alabama. He died Nov. 1, 1919, Gulfport, Mississippi and buried next to his wife at McAlester, Oklahoma. Alexander served in the 4th Alabama Infantry and stood within a few feet of Gen. Bernard E. Bee, when he made his famous remark about Stonewall Jackson at First Manassas.
2. William Timmons Simpson, born July 21, 1844, Ditto's Landing, Alabama. He died unmarried, Jan. 25, 1877, Jackson, Mississippi. He got the middle name from the Timmons family. John Simpson was guardian of William Hardie Timmons after his parents died leaving him an orphan with no family to take care of him.
3. Marion Ellis Simpson, born Nov. 25, 1846, Ditto's Landing, Alabama. Married Laura Kelly, of whom little is known. He died between 1902, and 1910 near Whitesburg, Alabama.
4. Mary Ella Simpson, born Oct. 12, 1848, Ditto's Landing, Alabama. Married Jan. 12, 1870, John Alexander Steger, Madison County, Alabama. John was the brother of Helen Grey (Steger) Simpson, children of Kennon Harris Steger and Mary Elizabeth Wall, all buried at the Steger-Ormond Family Cemetery, at Ryland, Alabama.
5. Henry Clay Simpson, born May 22, 1850, Ditto's Landing, Alabama. He died before 1857, Pond Beat, Alabama.
6. Juriah Read Simpson, born July 8, 1852, Ditto's Landing, Alabama. She died Sept. 14, 1863, Pond Beat, Alabama.
7. Arthur Marcus Simpson, born Sept. 30, 1855, Pond Beat, Alabama. Married Apr. 20, 1880, Lura Lee (Dewoody) Cate, widower. He died 01 Nov 1883, Triana, Alabama. Lura Lee Dewoody was the daughter of William Aiken Dewoody and Lucy Ann Tanner. Lura's maternal great-grandfather Samuel Tanner, was first Mayor of Athens, Alabama. She is a lineal descendant of Nicolas Martiau ancestor to both George Washington and Queen Elizabeth II of England. Lura Lee Dewoody was born 1862, Athens, Alabama. She died 1898, Decatur, Alabama. (Arthur and Lura (Dewoody) Simpson were my paternal great-grandparents.
8. Henry Clay Simpson, born Mar. 14, 1857, Pond Beat, Alabama. He died unmarried, Feb. 26, 1918, at his home near Green Grove, Alabama. His obituary reads as follows: "Died on February 26th at his home near Green Grove, Alabama, Henry Clay Simpson, aged 60 years. Mr. Simpson was born March 14th, 1857. He was the youngest on of the late John Simpson of Madison County, Alabama, and a grandson of SIR William Simpson an Irish patriot who took refuge in this County at the time of the execution of young Robert Emmet whose cause he espoused and whose fortune he shared....."
9. Zuma Margaret Simpson, born Mar. 13, 1859, Pond Beat, Alabama. Married Apr. 21, 1881, Albert Gallatin Proctor, at the home of John A. Steger, Ryland, Alabama. She died July 3, 1929, Alhambra, California. She and her husband are buried at Santa Ana, California.
10. Emma B. Simpson, born Mar. 23, 1862, Pond Beat, Alabama. Married R.C. Stubbs. She died Mar. 4, 1893, Huntsville, Alabama.

The other family cemeteries are Jordan, Matkins, McDonnell and Tate. They were related to the Dewoody family. William Matkins first wife Margaret McDonnell, daughter of Archibald and Elizabeth McDonnell. Margaret was the grandaunt of James Smith McDonnell, Jr., the founder of McDonnell Aircraft which is now McDonnell-Douglas. William Matkins married as his second wife Margaret Adams Dewoody, sister to William Aiken Dewoody (my great-great grandfather). Margaret (Dewoody) Matkins was previously married to Uriah Milton Tate, and it is her children that are buried at the Tate Cemetery. Her son by William Matkins, William Blount Matkins married Bettie Jordan and are buried at the Jordan Cemetery south east of Madkin Mountain.

In regards to the Dickson-Rankin Cemetery, there are no graves marking the burial site of James Dickson or his wife Keziah (Wood) Dickson. However, several of their children who are buried there have markers they are as follows:

1. Nancy T. Graham, Relict of James B. Graham Born in Amherst Co., Va, Sept. 23, 1808, Died Oct 10, 1891. (Nancy's husband was clerk of the County Court of Morgan County, then located at Somerville, Alabama. He is buried at the old Somerville Cemetery).
2. Virginia G. Dickson, Born Aug. 23, 1811 Died Mar. 4, 1877. (Virginia was also born at Amherst Co., Virginia. She was married 30 Mar 1847, Nathaniel G. Mingea, Pond Beat, Alabama; however, after he stole and sold her slaves, he deserted her and she was granted a divorce).
3. Charles S. Fowler, Born in Mobile Ala, March 27, 1827, Died Dec. 11, 1889. (Charles Fowler was the husband of Juriah Graham, daughter of Col. James and Nancy (Dickson) Graham).
4. There was a marker for Sarah A. Dickson, born Oct. 29, 1813, died before Oct. 27, 1873, which has since disappeared. However, Frank Jacobs (a free black man before the Civil War) bought the Dickson plantation several years after the death of Nancy Graham. He was asked by the Government to record the information from the gravestone before they purchased the land from him. He recorded the birth dates of Nancy Graham, Virginia and Sarah Dickson from their gravestones, but failed to record the death dates.