

## LACEY CEMETERY, 75 – 2

### Summary Report

The name “Lacey” is a variant spelling of “Lacy”. It appears that after the Civil War, there may have been a deliberate action taken by court clerks or census enumerators to vary the spellings of a given surname to show a distinction between the white slave owners and the liberated former slave population who took their new surnames from their previous white owners. The spelling variation happened too frequently to be simply random, and the new variations were consistently used for the black population. However, the Lacy name was also changed in a sense for the white family that settled around Lacey’s Spring in Morgan County. The story is told that a postal clerk changed the spelling soon after the Civil War to add the “e” to the post office name, even though the white family who settled there and owned land and slaves in Madison County consistently spelled the name without the “e”. Perhaps the postal clerk was himself a freed former slave, given the job during the post-war Reconstruction period in the South, when many blacks had jobs formerly reserved for the white population. In any event, the name of this cemetery is without doubt connected to the land and slave owner **Theophilus Lacy**, who lived from 1804 to 1876.

This particular cemetery is located in the extreme southeastern corner of the southeastern quarter of Section 14, Township 5, Range 1 West. History of the ownership of the land can be reviewed in the Summary Report of the Lacy Cemetery, 75 – 1, which is named for Theophilus’ family and is about a quarter mile north-northeast of the Lacey Cemetery, 75 – 2. The history of the two cemeteries is closely linked until after the 1890s, about when the land is thought to have passed into black ownership.

NAMES OF HEADS OF FAMILIES	FREE WHITE PERSONS, INCLUDING HEADS OF FAMILIES																			
	MALES										FEMALES									
	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50
<i>Henry Thomas</i>	2	14	105	99	567	125	107	37	5	0	1	343	177	150	140	305	134	70	39	1
<i>A. H. Law</i>					1															1
<i>Samuel L. Jones</i>		1	1					1						1				1		
<i>William Swope</i>	1				2										1					
<i>John Morris</i>	2		1		1							2							1	
<i>James B. Jones</i>	1	2				1						1		1					1	
<i>James W. Tennell</i>	1				1							1							1	
<i>William A. Gresh</i>	1				1							1							1	
<i>Pleasant J. Austin</i>			1			1						1	2						1	
<i>Wesley Smith</i>				1	1			1												1
<i>John Simmons</i>	1							1				1							1	
<i>Thomas Simpson</i>	2	1	1					1											1	
<i>Joseph Lyman</i>			4	2	3	1													2	
<i>James Dickson</i>									1						1				3	
<i>James Ransom</i>					1	1														
<i>Rebecca Jacobs</i>																				
<i>Isaiah Williams</i>				2			1					1	1	1					1	

(Blank on this portion because Rebecca Jacobs & family are "Free Colored" persons, listed to right, off this sheet)

1840 Madison County AL Federal Census, page 163 excerpt

SLAVES										TOTAL	NUMBER OF PERSONS IN EACH FAMILY EMPLOYED IN					PERMISSIONS FOR REGULATORY OR MILITARY SERVICES, INCLUDED IN THE FOREGOING	NAME	AGE	SEX
MALES					FEMALES						Domestic	Manufacturing and Trades	Occupation of the Month	Profession of the Month	Learned Professions				
Under 10	10 to under 24	24 to under 36	36 to under 54	54 to under 100	100 and upwards	Under 10	10 to under 24	24 to under 36	36 to under 54	54 to under 100	100 and upwards	Domestic	Manufacturing and Trades	Occupation of the Month	Profession of the Month	Learned Professions	Under 14	14 and over	
122	20	421	227	73		665	299	297	271	43		6478	2377	96	179	12	24		
1	7	6				9		9		1		43	22						
												5	1						
												4	2						
												7	2						
												3	1						
2	2	1				1	1	1	1			15	6						
3	3	4	1	1		7	3	4	2	1		34	14						
						1						7							
4	4	4	2			9	6	4	1	1		45	21						
6	7	14	3	1		9	5	5	1	1		51	27						
												6	1						
							1					12							
1	2	2	1			1	3	2	1			23	11						
												4	4						
												3							

(Hughy Smith household)

1840 Federal Census, Madison County, Alabama, page 163, Slaves and Summary Sheet.

The top line above shows the slave count (41 of the 43 household total were slaves) by age brackets for the household of Alexander H. Lacy, one of the white Lacy plantation owners in the 1800s in southern half of Madison County, around the cemetery. His slave holdings were second only to those of Hughy Smith on this sheet. Alexander's brother Theophilus Lacy had fewer slaves, only 11. Others of the Lacy family, most of whom actually resided across the river at Lacey's Spring in Morgan County, no doubt owned additional slaves in the pre-Civil War days.

The Lacy slave cemetery (Lacey Cemetery, 75 – 2) is now peacefully set in a wooded area just north of Buxton Road, which in the 1800s was known as the Whitesburg – Triana Road in this area.



**Lacy Cemetery (75-2), Redstone Arsenal, Madison County, Alabama, July 2002.**





**Lacy Cemetery (75-2), Redstone Arsenal, Madison County, Alabama, July 2002.**

Within this cemetery are two inner fenced areas, which are probably small family plots, as neither would hold many graves. The Lacy Cemetery is large enough to hold perhaps many hundreds of graves, and there is obvious grave depression evidence for over a hundred. Some of the depressions are quite deep, indicating that adult-sized coffins were used.

There are only two inscribed tombstones in the cemetery, and neither of those is inside of the two separately fenced inner family plots.





**Lacy Cemetery (75-2), Redstone Arsenal, Madison County, AL, July 2002**



The "Gadsden Chamber" inscription on this tombstone may mean that Annie was a schoolteacher in Gadsden, Etowah County, Alabama. Census records indicate that she may have lived in Birmingham (Jefferson County) in 1910, when she was listed as a "School Teacher" by occupation. Gadsden is somewhat between Huntsville (Madison County) and Birmingham.

TWELFTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES. 82 A

SCHEDULE No. 1.—POPULATION.

State of Alabama Supervisor's District No. 7 Ward No. 3  
 County of Calhoun Enumeration District No. 16

Township or other division of county Madison Name of Institution X  
 Name of incorporated city, town, or village, within the above-named division X Ward of city X

Enumerated by me on the 5 day of June, 1910. Samuel Jackson Enumerator

SEX	MARITAL STATUS	NAME	RELATION	PERSONAL DESCRIPTION	RACE			EDUCATION	SCHOOLING	REMARKS	PROPERTY			VALUE
					White	Colored	Other				Real Estate	Personal	Other	
26	W	W.C. Boyer, Head of	Head	W. 30 Jan. 1874 26 26	Alabama	Virginia	Missouri							
	W	Lizzie H	Wife	W. 9 Feb. 1875 24 24	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	William	Child	W. 9 Apr. 1876 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	Emma	Child	W. 7 Aug. 1877 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
26	W	James Thompson, Head of	Head	W. 24 Feb. 1851 27 27	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee							
	W	Lizzie	Wife	W. 2 Apr. 1852 25 25	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 5 Mar. 1853 15 15	Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama							
	W	Martha	Child	W. 20 Mar. 1854 14 14	Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama							
	W	William	Child	W. 21 Jan. 1855 13 13	Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama							
	W	William	Child	W. 24 Apr. 1857 11 11	Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama							
	W	William	Child	W. 25 Feb. 1859 9 9	Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama							
	W	Mary	Child	W. 29 Apr. 1860 8 8	Alabama	Tennessee	Alabama							
26	W	James Robertson, Head of	Head	W. 20 Apr. 1829 44 44	South Carolina	South Carolina	South Carolina							
	W	Mary	Wife	W. 5 Apr. 1829 43 43	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia							
	W	Joseph	Child	W. 27 July 1830 1 1	Alabama	Alabama	Georgia							
	W	John O.	Child	W. 24 July 1831 6 6	Alabama	Alabama	Georgia							
	W	James	Child	W. 2 Aug. 1832 5 5	Alabama	Alabama	Georgia							
	W	Martha J.	Child	W. 18 Jan. 1833 4 4	Alabama	Alabama	Georgia							
	W	William H.	Child	W. 27 Apr. 1833 3 3	Alabama	Alabama	Georgia							
	W	William H.	Child	W. 24 Aug. 1833 3 3	Alabama	Alabama	Georgia							
	W	William	Child	W. 2 Mar. 1834 1 1	Alabama	Georgia	Georgia							
26	W	Robert, William, Head of	Head	W. 20 Jan. 1819 41 41	Alabama	Georgia	Georgia							
	W	Thomas, Margaret	Wife	W. 2 Aug. 1821 40 40	Alabama	Virginia	North Carolina							
	W	John	Child	W. 2 Feb. 1823 17 17	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 20 Feb. 1825 15 15	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	Martha	Child	W. 2 Apr. 1825 14 14	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	William	Child	W. 20 Mar. 1827 12 12	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 5 July 1829 10 10	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	Emma	Child	W. 20 Oct. 1830 9 9	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	James	Child	W. 20 Feb. 1831 8 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
26	W	Arch, William, Head of	Head	W. 20 Jan. 1817 43 43	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	Carah	Wife	W. 5 Aug. 1820 39 39	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	William	Child	W. 20 Feb. 1822 18 18	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	William	Child	W. 27 May 1824 16 16	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	William	Child	W. 20 July 1825 14 14	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	William	Child	W. 20 Jan. 1826 11 11	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
26	W	Arch, James, Head of	Head	W. 20 Feb. 1819 41 41	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	Martha	Wife	W. 5 Sept. 1821 39 39	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 5 Aug. 1823 17 17	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 5 Aug. 1824 16 16	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 20 Jan. 1825 14 14	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 20 Feb. 1826 13 13	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 20 Feb. 1827 12 12	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 20 Feb. 1828 11 11	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 20 Feb. 1829 10 10	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 20 Feb. 1830 9 9	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 20 Feb. 1831 8 8	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 20 Feb. 1832 7 7	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 20 Feb. 1833 6 6	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 20 Feb. 1834 5 5	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 20 Feb. 1835 4 4	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 20 Feb. 1836 3 3	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 20 Feb. 1837 2 2	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							
	W	John	Child	W. 20 Feb. 1838 1 1	Alabama	Alabama	Alabama							

1900 Colbert County, Alabama, Census: Annie Hobbs at age 19, in school. This was the only “close fit” found for name Annie Hobb(s) in the 1900 census records.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR - BUREAU OF THE CENSUS  
 THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910 - POPULATION 210

COUNTY: Colbert NAME OF INCORPORATED PLACE: None TOWNSHIP: None  
 NAME OF INSTITUTION: None DATE OF CENSUS: April 15, 1910

HOUSEHOLD	NAME	RELATION	SEX	AGE	ETHNICITY	BIRTH	EDUCATION	INDUSTRY	WEALTH	PROPERTY	REMARKS
14-37	David Hobbs	Head	M	37	White	Alabama	None				
14-38	Elizabeth Hobbs	Wife	F	35	White	Alabama	None				
14-39	Annie Hobbs	Daughter	F	19	White	Alabama	None	None			In school
14-40	John Hobbs	Son	M	17	White	Alabama	None				
14-41	William Hobbs	Son	M	15	White	Alabama	None				
14-42	James Hobbs	Son	M	13	White	Alabama	None				
14-43	Robert Hobbs	Son	M	11	White	Alabama	None				
14-44	Thomas Hobbs	Son	M	9	White	Alabama	None				
14-45	Charles Hobbs	Son	M	7	White	Alabama	None				
14-46	Frank Hobbs	Son	M	5	White	Alabama	None				
14-47	John Hobbs	Son	M	3	White	Alabama	None				
14-48	William Hobbs	Son	M	1	White	Alabama	None				
14-49	Elizabeth Hobbs	Daughter	F	1	White	Alabama	None				

1910 Jefferson County, Alabama, Census (Birmingham), showing Annie Hobbs as age 22, with occupation as School Teacher. This was the only “close fit” found in census records for 1910 for the name Annie Hobb(s).

The other inscribed tombstone in the Lacey Cemetery is for Zuleika Vaughn, as shown below. The inclusion of the word “MOTHER” reveals that she had children, so it indicates that she lived to adulthood and was probably married. With those clues, census records confirmed the deductions, as illustrated in subsequent photo insertions.





**Lacy Cemetery (75-2), Redstone Arsenal, Madison County, AL, July 2002**

21							
22		Barry John Lett	Mar 20				Alabama
23	161 170	Moore, Francis	Mar 70	11			Alabama
24		Wentons Miller A	Mar 34				Alabama
25		Nancy	Mar 25				Alabama
26	726 165 171	Joyce, Elmer	Mar 27	52			Alabama
27		Belle	Mar 26	56	1 5		Alabama
28		Beauford, Vera	Mar 25		1 1		Alabama
29		Gertrude	Mar 27				Alabama
30	708 164 170	Vaughn, Frank	Mar 29	18			Alabama
31		Zuleika	Mar 11	18	6 2		Alabama
32		Roberta	Mar 11				Alabama
33		Willie	Mar 21				Alabama
34	708 164 170	Emeline Bean	Mar 27	1			Alabama
35		Rochelle	Mar 27	1	0 0		Alabama
36		Mary	Mar 64	12	5		Alabama
37	708 164 170	Sioban Adair	Mar 27				Alabama
		Corrillo, Betty	Mar 20		2 2		Alabama

1910 Madison County AL Census, Madison Street in Huntsville  
 Excerpt showing details for Frank & Zuleika Vaughn

The above census record shows that Zuleika Vaughn gave birth to 6 children, but only 2 of them (listed above) were still living in 1910. It also shows that Frank and Zuleika had been married for 18 years as of 1910, that marriage being the second for each of them.



Laudree	At home	Col.		Yes	Yes					20
Laborer	City	W	No	No	Yes	Yes	5	4	5	21
Laudree	At home	Col.			No	No				22
Chambermaid	Private family	W	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	0	7	4	23
Laborer	City	W	No	No	Yes	Yes	5	4	5	24
None					No	No	0	7	4	25
None					No	No				26
Cook	Private family	W	No	No	Yes	Yes				27
None					No	No				28
Cook	Railroad	W	No	No	Yes	Yes	0	7	4	29
Merchant	Retail Grocery	Col.			Yes	Yes				30
None					No	No				31
None					No	No				32
Bachman	Public Park	Col.			Yes	Yes	0	7	4	33
Laudree	At home	Col.			No	No				34
Laudree	At home	Col.			No	No				35
Cook	Private family	W	No	No	Yes	Yes				36
Cook	Private family	W	Yes	10	No	No	0	7	4	37
Cook	Retail Grocery	W	No	No	Yes	Yes				38
Laudree	At home	Col.			Yes	Yes				39

1910 Madison County AL Census, excerpt showing occupations of Frank & Zuleika Vaughn

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR - BUREAU OF THE CENSUS  
 THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES: 1910 POPULATION

REGISTRATION DISTRICT No. 111  
 MADISON COUNTY, ALABAMA

SHEET No. A  
 POPULATION 8,201

NAME OF UNINCORPORATED PLACE: Huntsville  
 ENUMERATED BY: W. C. Riddell  
 DATE: APR 12 1911

MARITAL STATUS	RELATION	SEX	AGE	RACE	NATIVITY	INDUSTRY OR OCCUPATION	EDUCATION	VALUE OF REAL ESTATE	VALUE OF PERSONAL ESTATE	MARRIAGE		MARRIAGE	MARRIAGE
										Y	M		
M	Husband	M	37	White	Alabama	Cook				1901	1901		
F	Wife	F	33	White	Alabama	Merchant				1901	1901		
M	Son	M	11	White	Alabama								
F	Daughter	F	9	White	Alabama								
F	Daughter	F	7	White	Alabama								
F	Daughter	F	5	White	Alabama								
M	Brother	M	41	White	Alabama								
F	Sister	F	39	White	Alabama								

The above is a complete page of the 1910 census for Madison County, Alabama, showing Zuleika Vaughn and her husband Frank living on Madison Street in Huntsville. Frank's occupation was listed as "Cook" for the "Railroad". Zuleika was also listed with an occupation as "Merchant" in a "Retail Grocery". There was no record found for either Frank or Zuleika in the 1920 census, but the tombstone reports that Zuleika died in 1924, so she should appear somewhere in the census records.

Several of the deepest grave depressions are very close to Zuleika's tombstone, as shown in the photo below:





**Lacy Cemetery (75-2), Redstone Arsenal, Madison County, Alabama, July 2002.**

**Grave depression (marked with blue) in foreground, view toward east from south end of cemetery. Marker for Zuleika Vaughn in background (before cleaning & polishing).**

Some of the deep grave depressions at the other end of the cemetery are shown in the photo below:





Lacy Cemetery (75-2), Redstone Arsenal, Madison County, Alabama, July 2002.  
View of several grave depressions (marked with blue dotted lines) in foreground, looking west from gate area.

Some of the deeper grave depressions near the center of the cemetery are shown below. In the background, between the large trees, is one of the two separately fenced family plots.





**Lacy Cemetery (75-2), Redstone Arsenal, Madison County, Alabama, July 2002.**

**Grave depressions (marked with blue) in foreground, view toward SE from center of cemetery.**



The photo below shows the other separately fenced family plot. This one is near the entrance gate of the cemetery.



**Lacy Cemetery (75-2), Redstone Arsenal, Madison County, AL, July 2002**

Obviously, this cemetery was used for a long time by a large number of families, which would be typical of a community or large church. Of course, it may well be that it was used for about a century by the slaves of the Lacy and other surrounding plantations. Either way, it is impressive for its size and the number of graves evidenced by the depressions. Beverly Curry's interviews with Lacy / Lacey black descendants no doubt have significantly more "living memory" data about the cemetery and the families represented therein, so the serious researcher is referred to her report. It is known that there is an annual family reunion and visit to the Lacey Cemetery conducted by the descendants, so current contacts with them may be possible.

Prepared by John P. Rankin, August 10, 2005.