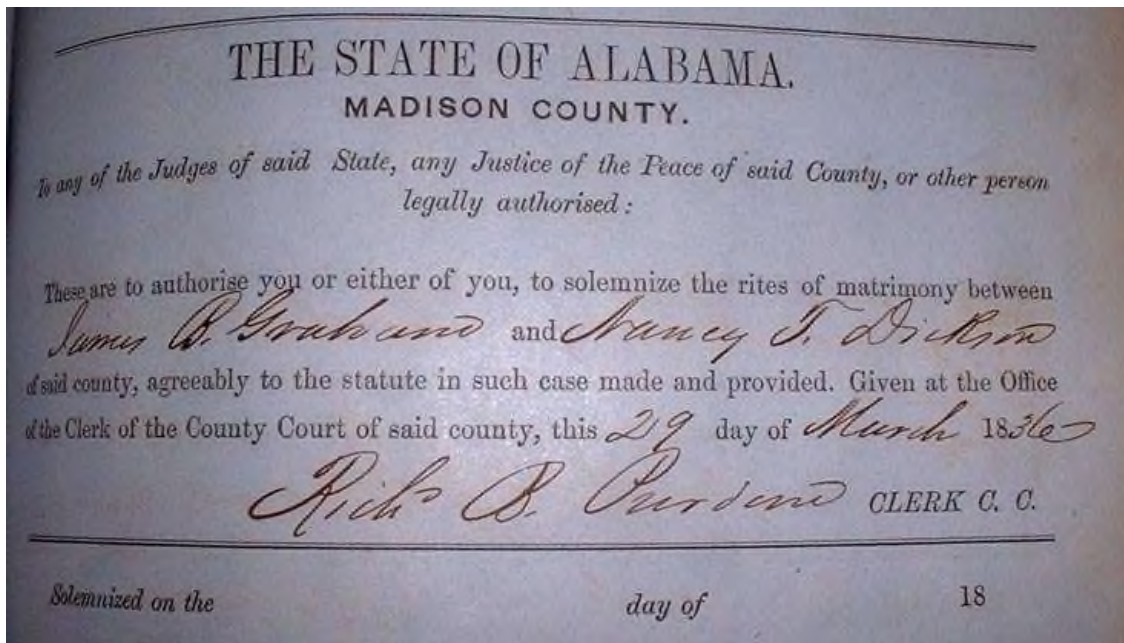


Nancy Tyree Graham is the key to understanding the Dickson – Rankin Cemetery. She was, as Dennis Simpson stated, a Dickson before she married James Graham. The word “Relict” on her tombstone was the old term for “widow” and is often found on the older markers. [The word “consort” was used for women who died before their husbands.]



There are several Ahnentafels found on Ancestry.com’s web pages to trace the history of the families represented in this cemetery. However, the most thorough treatment of their history found to date is Dennis William Simpson’s book about his ancestor, Madison County pioneer Doctor William Simpson. Pertinent pages of that book have been photographed and are included in the CD files given to the Army offices. In fact, several additional resource folders of historical data files have been provided in digital form on CDs for the history of the families of this cemetery.

Researchers will find that the history of the Laniers is strongly intertwined with the Dickson and Graham history, so review of the various Lanier cemetery Summary Reports for Redstone arsenal is also recommended. In particular, William Dickson was the father of Mary D. Lanier of pioneer arsenal land days, and Joseph Dickson was the father of Ann D. Lanier. There are several extensive Ahnentafels for the Dickson family history