

THE CEMETERIES OF REDSTONE ARSENAL

Project Process & Summary

Status as of September 20, 2005

By John P. Rankin

Volunteer Researcher

An effort was undertaken in the summer of 2002 by John P. Rankin as a volunteer historical researcher to document the old family cemeteries located on Redstone Arsenal. The project was initiated at the request of Beverly Curry of the U. S. Army's Redstone Arsenal Division of Environmental Management. John Rankin was solicited (and eventually agreed to volunteer) for the project as a result of his earlier similar work in finding and documenting cemeteries in and around the City of Madison, Alabama.

The approach for the effort involved personal visitation to the known cemeteries on the arsenal, as recorded on existing maps. Additional cemeteries were found or sought in accordance with reports of unmarked graves from former residents, arsenal personnel, and contract workers on the sties, or from references in old land deeds. Moreover, there were 7 nearby cemeteries documented that are not located within the boundaries of Redstone Arsenal today, but some of the people buried therein were landowners of property that became Army lands.

Each cemetery was visited to perform an initial field survey, as well as to locate and photograph obvious tombstones and fieldstones. Inscribed tombstones were cleaned and photographed in order to have a visual record of the inscriptions and styles of markers. Notes were made of the condition of each cemetery's grounds, its fence (when so enclosed), and the individual

tombstones and fieldstones. Photographs included overviews to show the condition and layout of the graves. After initial visits, most cemeteries to date have been revisited for the purpose of probing up to 6 inches beneath the ground in and around sunken grave depressions to locate any tombstones that may have been buried by debris and soil through the years.

As of this writing, 49 cemeteries within the arsenal boundaries have been located and documented, but there are indications on old maps of a few more that are known. Moreover, a total of 60 such cemeteries on the arsenal was reported in the 1959 newspaper account shown below. (In order to easily see details of the inserted digital photos here and in the Summary Reports for each cemetery, it will sometimes be necessary to select the "View" function from the Microsoft Word toolbar and then select 200%, if using a computer to examine the files and reports. If using printed hardcopy, then a good magnifying glass may be necessary.)

TIMES CHANGE, BUT THEY DON'T

Many Cemeteries Remain In The Shadow Of Missiles

By WELDON PAYNE
Of The Times Staff

Unmolested, undisturbed, unmoved by all the rumbling and jarring and booming of the missile works at Redstone Arsenal the people sleep.

Test stands tremble, buildings quake and flames roar, but the women, men and children who once walked there lie quietly in their graves.

The sun shines, the cold air waves across the grass and all is still on the hillside. A few yards away automobiles zoom after each other.

There are about 60 cemeteries on the 40,000 acres of Arsenal property. Some are very small, some have one tombstone, others have many. Some are fenced, some are not. Some are old, all have been there for several years.

They were there before the days when gun powder and other things of war were shuffled on the green fields. They were sleeping, before men began their talk of going to other planets. Long before the sharp-pointed vessels were made and talk turned to life on other earths, they had ended their life on this one and taken their places under the trees, under the grazing hooves of cattle, under the steps of the winter's cold ahead and the summer's breeze. They are the dead.

Once they lived, a century ago, some of them. And they died and were put to rest.

And their rest has not been broken by all of man's tramping and scientific plundering.

Records indicate there are 60 cemeteries on the installation. At least 45 have been located, identified and are cared for by the Army.

Two were found this year. One is the Woodard Cemetery, which lies in a pocket of the property which is lined by the Tennessee River.

Some of the graves are unmarked, others are sunken, but the burial lots are cared for, protected from the almost constant surge of activity which surrounds them. Those in areas containing cattle are fenced. Some have rock walls around them.

On the top of a mountain are many graves of a family called Woodward. Several of them died as children — perhaps victims of one of the plagues of typhoid fever, or malaria or influenza which socked this down in past years.

Paul R. Woodward died the day after Christmas, 1906, 19 years and three days after he was born. Did he look at the stars and wonder? Did he shoot fireworks? Did he plan to be a scientist, an engineer or one of the other professions represented so ably within sight of where he has lain almost 52 years? He would be nearing the end of his career now.

Three months before Paul was



UNDISTURBED — Just a few yards off Patton Road — the main thoroughfare at Redstone Arsenal—is a cemetery. A Nike-Hercules anti-missile missile passing the cemetery illustrates the change which has taken place at the government installation since the person whose grave is marked by this tombstone was buried. However, despite the drastic switch of the area from a quiet country place into use of the busiest places in the country, this graveyard and about 59 others on the Arsenal property have not been molested and are, in fact, kept up by the Army. (Photo by L.L. Cecil Staughton)

Huntsville (AL) Times
Sunday, Nov. 8, 1959
Page B-9

SAYS:

Population Imperils World Due To Death Drop

Chicago Daily News Service
Reduced mortality is threatening the world with the danger of a population explosion.

Walter G. Bosselman, consulting actuary, Gradel, J., discussed the impact of population growth before the annual meeting of the Conference of Actuaries in Public Practice.

He warned that unless the more populous nations are able to bring birth rates more nearly into line with death rates the increased population is going to result in widespread poverty and misery for a large segment of the earth.

Population of the world grew from an estimated 480 million in 1500 to one billion in 1925. In the next 100 years it is scheduled to reach three billion, as much in growth in 26 years as in the preceding 100. In 15 years another billion people will be added, and in another 12 years another billion.

The actuary pointed out that by 2050 population could reach 30 billion, unless curbed.

A high level of births was necessary to insure survival in the

support on her present land area. To avoid the adverse effects of overpopulation, that nation in nine years was able to obtain a 43 per cent reduction in the birth rate through various methods of contraception, abortion and sterilization. He said abortions recently have equaled the number of births in Japan.

Red China had a population of 607 million in 1954. At the present rate of increase its population will be a billion by 1990. But that nation also has legalized abortion and sterilization and is spreading contraceptive information.

Latin America is first in rate of growth. From 91 million in 1900 it grew to 187 million in 1950. At present rates of growth its population should reach 593 million by 2000.

This would contrast with an expected 312 million in the United States and Canada.

Puerto Rico's death rate has decreased 63 per cent in the last two decades, he pointed out. To relieve the population problem the Puerto Ricans have migrated. There are now one-fourth as

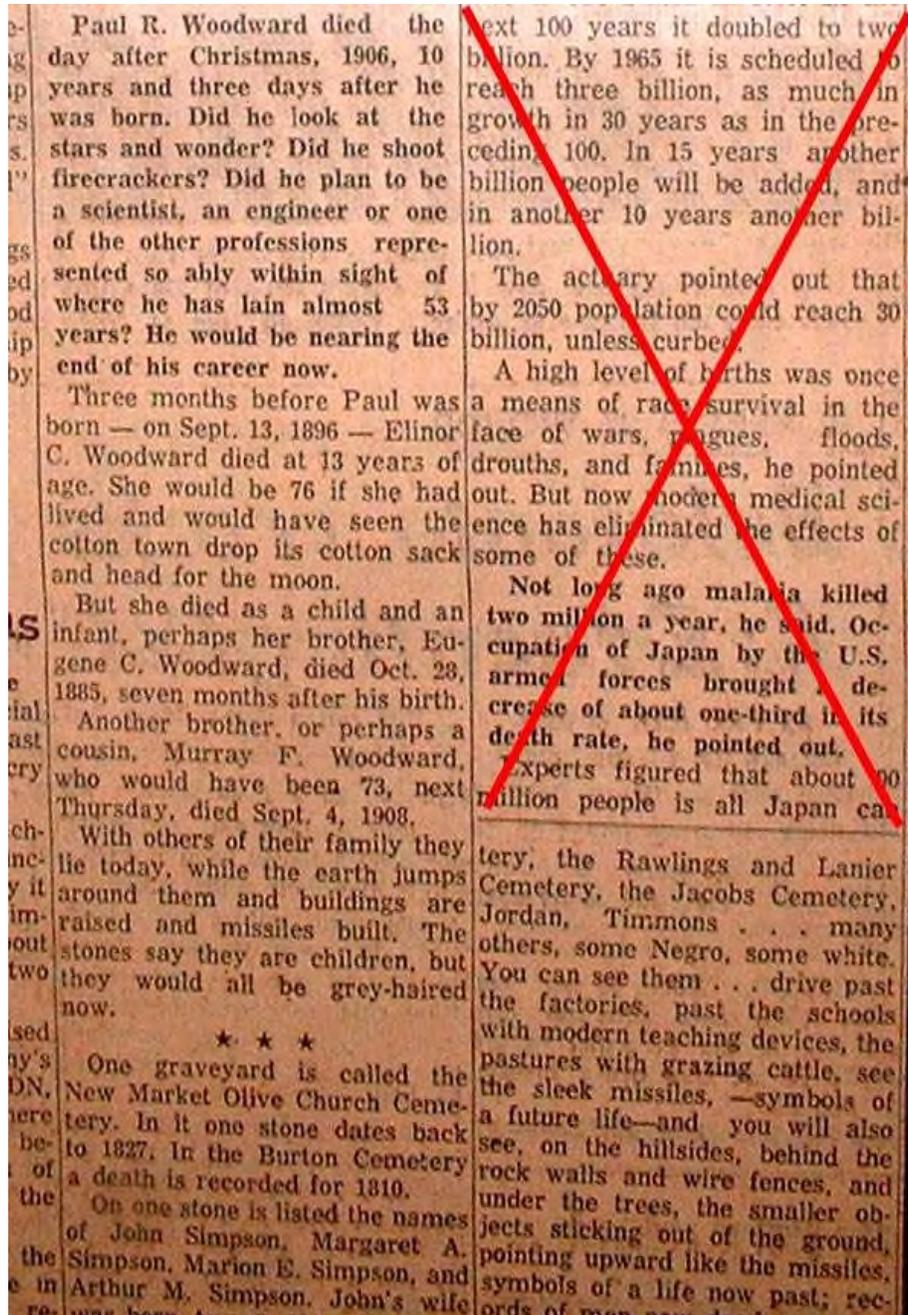
of living as destroyed when offset by too rapid population growth, he warned. It increases already heavy pressure on densely populated lands. It also tends to make an almost insoluble problem of capital formation because the heavy burden of dependent children makes the working population unable to save and invest economic status.

Even in the United States the growing population will create serious water shortages and reduced arable land per person. Wildlife reservations, parks, golf courses, and other playgrounds are already being done away with on a large scale.

In another 30 years many of the present amenities of our life will disappear, he predicted.

Dowling Named As Ambassador To W. Germany

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of State Dean Rusk has selected William C. Dowling as ambassador to West Germany.



The above reference to the “New Market Olive Church Cemetery should be to the “New Mount Olive Church Cemetery”. Reporter Weldon Payne or his editor no doubt got confused with the community by the name of New Market, located in the northeastern part of the county. It is interesting that tombstones are mentioned in this article that are no longer found in the cemeteries being discussed.

Thursday, died Sept. 4, 1908.
With others of their family they lie today, while the earth jumps around them and buildings are raised and missiles built. The stones say they are children, but they would all be grey-haired now.

One graveyard is called the New Market Olive Church Cemetery. In it one stone dates back to 1827. In the Burton Cemetery a death is recorded for 1810.

On one stone is listed the names of John Simpson, Margaret A. Simpson, Marion E. Simpson, and Arthur M. Simpson. John's wife was born Aug. 9, 1816, died Aug. 31, 1874. Did she dream that some of the world's smartest men would someday walk in their backyard — in the years ahead after her country had fought three big wars?

More than a hundred Christmases ago — on Dec. 25, 1844 died Lucy Clark who was born Nov. 29, in the last decade of the 1700's, but the last digit is worn off the stone. And another Christmas nears and the ground above her is the same, but the town that she once knew has changed, and the green fields have grown in importance.

A few yards from the Ordnance Guided Missile School where troops from all over the world come to train and learn about missiles, a graveyard holds a stone of a person who died March 7, 1860. This person was born in 1773, but there is no name to say who he or she was. Perhaps it was a school teacher, or an outstanding science student or a farmer.

And near the intersection of Mills and Martin Roads, one of the streets which stays the busiest with military and civilian traffic lies the body of a soldier, Cpl. Joseph Brasley, Co. C, 12 USCI. No dates are on his headstone.

There are others . . . an old slave graveyard, the Fennil Ceme-

tery, the Rawlings and Lanier Cemetery, the Jacobs Cemetery, Jordan, Timmons . . . many, some white. . . drive past the schools . . . ng devices, the . . . ing cattle, see —symbols of you will also es, behind the re fences, and he smaller ob- of the ground, re the missiles, now past; rec- dead.

Huntsville (AL) Times
Sunday, Nov. 8, 1959
Page B-9



FOR E
TO

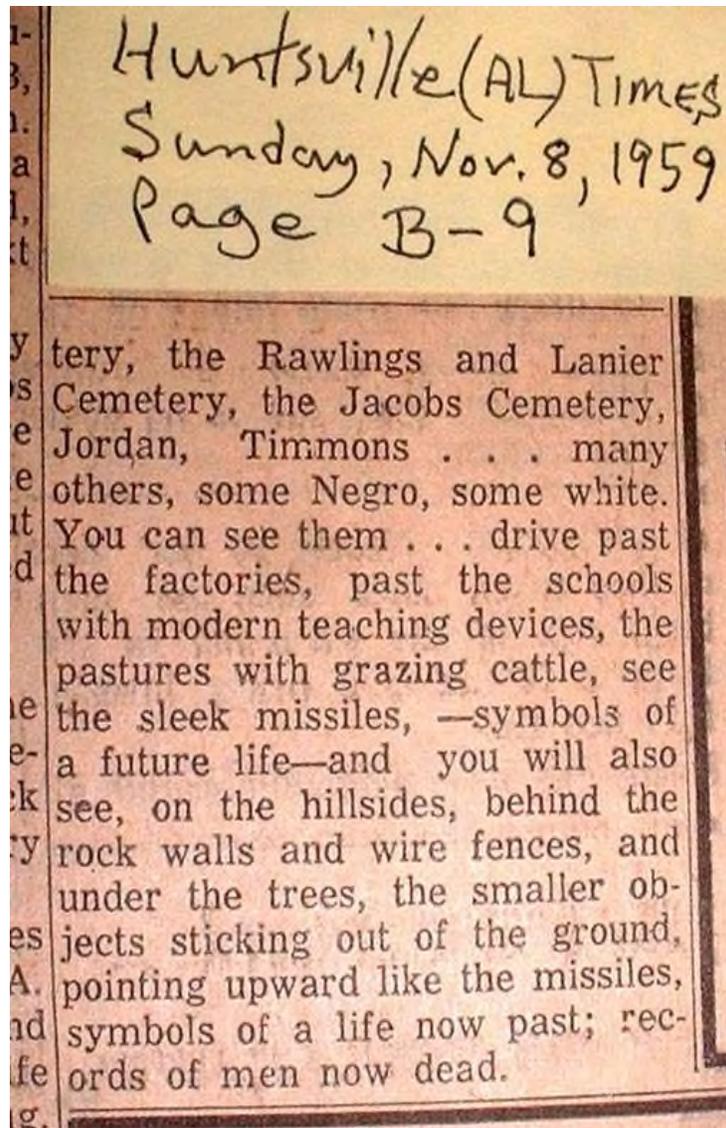
BUFF

from 5

Elks members and t
Sunday for a wonder
food for your selecti
family.

ADULTS \$2

ELKS L



Microsoft Word documents describing the historical significance (plus records of the lives of the interred people) have been prepared for the 49 cemeteries that have been explored. These cemetery “**Summary Reports**”, plus the associated report for one of the closely related “off-site” cemeteries, comprise an aggregate of **1613 pages of text and graphics**. Altogether, the **990 photographs** and associated thousands of images of data that was digitally recorded for the project to date are stored in 175 computer folders containing 4,560 files consisting of 1,592 million bytes of disk space. This magnitude of data requires more than two totally full CD-ROMs to contain it, so the complete data file is now on a 3-CD set.

Each cemetery has a name taken from the list supplied in the year 2002 by Ms. Curry to reflect the designations used by the Army offices. Generally, each cemetery is named according to association with the known landowner family or names inscribed on tombstones, plus a numeric designation that contains the arsenal area number and a sequence number within that area.

Data obtained during research was sometimes associated with more than one cemetery. In such cases, it was often duplicated in the computer file folder for each involved cemetery. However, sometimes the common data was left in generic folders, to be available as needed for any particular cemetery. Likewise, sometimes the data was left in a single cemetery folder and then used from there to insert the image into a different cemetery's Summary Report.

Each photo was made with a FujiFilm "FinePix" digital camera, with 2.2 megapixels. These images were then downloaded into a computer, and Adobe PhotoDeluxe version 2.0 software was employed to enhance the quality of the images and to trim, rotate, or resize the images as needed. The file density for each photo was converted (after enhancements) to 150 dpi in order to optimize file size and still allow clarity when printed.

Usually the detail of census images downloaded from internet sources was enhanced, trimmed, and annotated as well. When inserted into Summary Reports for the cemeteries, the census images are often difficult to read without magnification due to page fitting restrictions. When viewing the images with a computer, it is quite simple to set the "View" at 200% to facilitate review. When viewing hardcopy (printed) images, it may be necessary to use optical magnification devices for clarity.

Census records were in many cases searched by using on-line sources before "every name" indexes were available. Some of those searches were obviously unsuccessful without "every name" capability, but where these obstacles were noted, the some of the research has been repeated recently with the provision of "every name" indexes. Of course, even with that capability, there are often obstacles in census index searches due to interpretations of old handwriting and differences of given names or initials used from one census to the next. "Most likely" match-up was made whenever possible in these cases, using the data beyond the name fields for clues.

It will be noticed that census records are often red-lined, not only for the person of immediate interest, but also for the neighbors that provide clues to location. As more and more research has been done for early Madison County pioneers, it becomes fairly routine to know approximately where they lived. Each known pioneer can then be a “place marker” for neighbors as the additional families are researched.

The associated family data collected for the cemeteries typically includes digital photos of land records, probate records, wills, census records, and data from sources such as family books, published genealogies, postings from the internet about family histories, and newspaper or court records. However, the vast majority of the data collected focused on the 1800s, with some selected inclusions up to 1920, since that is where the Madison County land record indexes change volumes. [It has been agreed throughout the effort that Ms. Curry would cover the 1900s with her own work, based upon interviews with living persons (and their descendants) who resided on the property before it became part of the arsenal.]

The sheer volume of the digital photos of these records has required many hours of enhancement processing, and some of that effort has not yet been completed, even for many of the digital photos that are already made. After processing, these records will be added to future productions of updates of the master CD-ROMs for the Army. Additionally, if any particular item significantly alters the applicable knowledge base regarding any cemetery, then the Summary Report for that cemetery will be updated as appropriate in the future.

The 7 additional cemeteries outside of the arsenal grounds that have been investigated as being closely related to arsenal land history include the **Jamar – Owen Cemetery** (just west of Gate 7 on Martin Road), the **Jordan’s Chapel Cemetery** (on the grounds of Morris Elementary School, south of Bob Wallace Avenue, on property that once was a part of the arsenal), **Triana Lakeside Cemetery** (near the town of Triana, on Lakeside Drive), **Old Triana City Cemetery** (in the center of Triana), the **Watkins – Rowe Cemetery** (located near the southeastern corner of the International Airport), the **Wiggins Cemetery** (located near the northeastern corner of the International Airport), and the **Wiggins Slave Cemetery** (located east of the mid-point of the International Airport). Cemeteries outside the eastern boundary of the arsenal are typically already well documented as being within the metropolitan area of Huntsville, and they were not specifically

included in this project. **Of the 7 cemeteries that were included in this report, but located physically outside of current arsenal boundaries, only the Jordan's Chapel Cemetery has been fully documented with a narrative report for this project.** The Jordan's Chapel Cemetery report consists of 63 pages of text and graphics. The Jordan's Chapel Cemetery is perhaps one of the most historically significant of all of the cemeteries addressed by this project, as it is the burial place of a prominent pioneer pre-arsenal landowner and American Revolutionary War patriot, Bartholomew Jordan, for whom Jordan's Chapel was named. Jordan's Chapel was the second or third oldest Methodist Church in north Alabama, and its location was lost in antiquity until this effort was undertaken.

Summary Reports have been prepared and/or supporting data delivered on CD-ROM to the Army office for the following cemeteries:

- Andy Cowan Cemetery, 63-1 (13 pages)
- Austin Groves Cemetery, 67-2 (43 pages)
- Burton – Morton Cemetery, 71-1 (32 pages)
- Clark Cemetery, 65-2 (36 pages)
- Cooper – Penland Cemetery, 80-1 (12 pages)
- Dickson – Rankin Cemetery, 87-2 (40 pages)
- Elko Switch Cemetery, 20-1 (24 pages)
- Emeline – Inman Cemetery, 62-1 (60 pages)
- Fennil / Fennell Cemetery, 56-1 (35 pages)
- Green Grove Cemetery, 61-1 (14 pages)
- Hancock Cemetery, 62-2 (17 pages)
- Horton – Joiner Cemetery, 87-1 (19 pages)
- Indian Creek Cemetery, 62-3 (10 pages)
- Jamar – New Mt. Hope Church Cemetery, 82-1 (14 pages)
- Jamar – Owen Cemetery [no number; not on arsenal; no report]
- Joiner – Lacey Cemetery, 89-2 (25 pages)
- Jones Cemetery, 37-5 (18 pages)
- Jordan Cemetery, 45-1 (30 pages)
- Jordan – Jacobs Cemetery, 54-1 (29 pages)
- Jordan – Lanier Cemetery, 51-1 (26 pages)
- Jordan's Chapel Cemetery [no number; not on arsenal] (63 pages)

- Lacey Cemetery, 75-2 (18 pages)
- Lacy Cemetery, 75-1 (70 pages)
- Landman #1 Cemetery, 34-1 (27 pages)
- Landman #2 (Slave) Cemetery, 34-2 (17 pages)
- Lanier Cemetery, 46-3 (28 pages)
- Lanier Slave Cemetery, 46-2 (6 pages)
- Lipscomb Cemetery, 61-2 (39 pages)
- Looney Cemetery, [Number not yet assigned] (45 pages)
- Lynch Cemetery, 80-3 (11 pages)
- Lynch Cemetery, 89-3 (16 pages)
- Madkin Cemetery, 37-2 (11 pages)
- Matkin Cemetery, 37-3 (13 pages)
- McDonnell Cemetery, 37-6 (21 pages)
- Moore – Landman Cemetery, 46-1 (51 pages)
- Pet Cemetery, 35-1 (132 pages)
- Powhaton Toney, 67-1 (41 pages)
- Rawlins – Lanier Cemetery, 37-4 (19 pages)
- Simpson – Jones Cemetery, 65-3 (54 pages)
- Simpson Slave Cemetery, 80-2 (19 pages)
- Smith Cemetery, 72-2 (20 pages)
- Smith Slave Cemetery, 72-1 (17 pages)
- Timmons Cemetery, 89-1 (139 pages)
- Triana Lakeside Cemetery [no number; not on arsenal; no report]
- Triana Old (City) Cemetery [no number; not on arsenal; no report]
- Unknown Cemetery, 52-1 (40 pages) [“Poplar Hill Cemetery”]
- Unknown Cemetery, 83-1 (24 pages) [Jamar-Owen Plantation Cem.]
- Unknown Cemetery, 88-1 (18 pages) [Alex Joiner Cemetery]
- Unnamed Cemetery, 62-4 (37 pages) [Boardman Cemetery]
- Unnamed Cemetery, 65-1 (33 pages) [Horton-Jacobs Cemetery]
- Ward Mountain Cemetery, 20-2 (10 pages)
- Watkins-Rowe Cemetery [no number; not on arsenal; no report]
- Wiggins Cemetery [no number; not on arsenal; no report]
- Wiggins Slave Cemetery [no number; not on arsenal; no report]
- Williams-Scott Cemetery, 37-1 (16 pages)
- Woodward Cemetery, 88-2 (32 pages)

Of these cemeteries, the Lanier family cemeteries are perhaps the most historically noteworthy, as one of them (the Jordan – Lanier Cemetery, 51-1) contains the grave of Rev. William Lanier, who was another Revolutionary War soldier buried on the arsenal. His immediate family and Lanier relatives formed a sort of dynasty in pre-Civil War days, owning a large portion of the land that became the arsenal. Additionally, the Timmons Cemetery holds the story of an extremely prominent family that faded away with time, almost in a typical Tennessee Williams type of tale. Furthermore, the investigation into the Smith Cemetery unfolded the story of Hughy Smith and those who owned the land after his death. Hughy's descendants all married well and produced influential citizens of the area in the 1800s. However, none of them stayed on the old plantation where his cemetery is located on the arsenal. The land ownership passed first to William Edwards in a courthouse auction, and then William bestowed the Smith Plantation lands upon one of his daughters when she married Henry Grantland. One of Henry Grantland's daughters married Boling Rice, and they became the parents of Grantland Rice, who in the mid-1900s was America's foremost sportscaster and sportswriter. In fact, for many years the annual collegiate football championship trophy was named the Grantland Rice Trophy. It was Grantland Rice who coined the term "The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse" for the linemen of Notre Dame's football team in the 1900s.

There are, of course, many more fascinating family stories to be associated with the cemeteries of Redstone Arsenal. Most are yet to be written, but there are probably none that will exceed the human interest of the Jacobs family pioneers of arsenal lands. Jacobs descendants are buried in many of the arsenal cemeteries, but it was investigation of the Jordan – Jacobs Cemetery that revealed the story of this extensive family of free blacks and mulattoes who came here from South Carolina around 1822. Apparently, they were free back in South Carolina (probably granted freedom for service during the Revolutionary War), and some of them arrived in Madison County in the company of the earliest Kennamer and Lemley families to come here. They initially settled in the New Hope area of the southeastern part of the county before taking land where the arsenal is today. The Jacobs family was obviously accepted in the pre-Civil War white society, and they established several communities or small towns on the pre-arsenal lands. These settlements included Mullens Flats, Silverhill, Pond Beat, Green Grove, and others.

One of the more interesting oddities that run counter to traditional Southern stories is the fact that the black or mulatto Jacobs families “took in” white families who were in desperate times on occasion. One example is found in the 1850 census, when Hughy Smith’s daughter Mary and her four children by Pleasant Austin (deceased by 1850) were enumerated in the household headed by mulatto Rebecca Jacobs:



Jordan - Jacobs Cemetery, Redstone Arsenal, Madison Co., AL, June, 2002.

Elle / Ellie / Ella Jacobs was the son of Isaac Jacobs and his wife Betty. They were married in Madison County on Dec. 23, 1878. Per the 1900 census records, Ellie Jacobs was born in March of 1884. Isaac was born in January, 1847, and Betty was born in June, 1859. There was another Isaac Jacobs (b. Aug. 1845) in Madison Co., and it is often impossible to differentiate between the two in earlier censuses. They were cousins, part of a group of Jacobs families from SC that came with matriarch Fanny Jacobs, b. 1778 SC. It is likely that the other Jacobs families were headed by her children: Burrell (b. 1801/1810, SC), Unity (b. 1817, SC), Thomas (b. 1801, SC), Isaac (b. 1803, SC), Oliver (b. 1808, SC), and Rebecca (b. 1807, SC). All of these families were listed as Mulatto, and they were obviously free, in order to be named in the census records of 1850. In that year, the family headed by Mulatto "Becka" (Rebecca) Jacobs included 4 Jacobs children, including one of the two Isaacs that could be Ellie's father. Her household also included the white family of Mary E. Austin (b. 1812, SC). Mary had 4 of her children with her in Rebecca's household. Judging from the ages and birthplaces of the Jacobs children, the families came to Madison County by 1822. One other likely child of Fannie's was David Jacobs, listed in the 1850 census as age 43 (b. SC), but enumerated last in the household headed by George W. Jacobs at age 25. This indicates that David was somehow incapacitated.

277	277	George Cook	68	m			Virginia
		Mary Cook	68	f			Virginia
		Valentine "	23	m			Ditto
		Finley S "	20	m			Ditto
		Margaret J "	29	f			Ditto
		Melton R "	16	m			Alabama
		Keamy J "	16	m			Ditto
		Pratt G "	8	m			Ditto
		Carson R "	11	m			Ditto
		James G "	8	m			Ditto
		George S "	3	m			Ditto
278	278	Isaac Jacobs	47	m	m	500	Virginia
		Caroline "	20	f	13		Virginia
		Isaac "	7/12	m	m		Alabama
279	279	Becka Jacobs	43	f	m		Virginia
		Melvin H "	15	m	m		Alabama
		Martha	10	f	m		Alabama

1850 Madison County AL census page 448-A2: Families of Isaac Jacobs & Becka Jacobs from South Carolina

		Isaac Jacobs	7	m	m		Alabama
		Stanhope "	1	m	m		Ditto
		Mary E Austin	58	f			Virginia
		James M Austin	21	m		Farmer	Alabama
		Andrew E "	18	f			Ditto
		Martha R "	16	f			Ditto
		Mary E "	11	f			Ditto
280	280	Christobler G Stey	42	m		Farmer	Virginia
		Margaret A "	29	f			Alabama
		Sophie J "	3	f			Ditto
		Mitchman Smith	36	m			Virginia
		The S. H. Blackmore	10	m			Alabama
		James H "	8	m			Ditto
		John O "	6	m			Ditto
		Alexander S "	11	m			Ditto
		Asy S "	2	m			Ditto

1850 Madison County AL census page 448-B

Mary had first married Pleasant Austin, who owned land adjacent to the Smith Plantation and to the Jacobs holdings. Pleasant died before the 1850 census, and Mary didn't go home to live in the house of her father, apparently choosing instead to live with "Becka" Jacobs and her children. In 1852 Mary married again, this time to William Parker, and moved out of the Jacobs household. It is also interesting to note in the census records that some Jacobs children were named "Stanhope", apparently after Stanhope Smith, who was a brother of Mary and son of Hughy. Stanhope was a physician, so he may have delivered the Jacobs babies, and their names may have been given in respect and gratitude for that service. It was Stanhope who inherited Hughy's plantation, but Stanhope refused to remain on the land and be a farmer, so he eventually moved into Huntsville and Morgan County.

The Looney Cemetery is another with great historical significance, as the Looney family was headed in Madison County by Absolem Looney, who was another Revolutionary War soldier. Absolem assumed the defaulted debt for John Hunt's land where the old Huntsville Airport was located, on the west end of Airport Road. John Hunt, of course, was the recognized first settler of the town of Huntsville. Two of Absolem Looney's sons took land within the arsenal boundaries, and one of them operated a mill at the confluence of the Indian Creek (today known as Huntsville Spring Branch) with Price's Branch (also known as Hurricane Creek in the early 1800s) that has now become known as Indian Creek. His mill and surrounding property was bought by Thomas Fearn and his brother to complete the Indian Creek Navigation Company's plan to transport cotton to the mill site ("Looney's Landing"), from whence it was transferred to paddle wheeled steamboats for shipment to New Orleans markets. The Looney Cemetery is thought to have been located by using tips from old time residents and by field inspections that indicate possible grave sites, but the use of ground penetrating radar and/or archaeological excavations may be necessary to conclusively prove the existence of a cemetery at the assumed site.

As can be seen from this highly abbreviated overview, there are many items of great historical significance associated with the land that became Redstone Arsenal. While much has already been discovered, very little of the total available information has been compiled into these **Summary Reports**, and more remains to be discovered or proved with additional research. It is intended that the reports will occasionally be updated as time allows and information is further compiled.

Submitted by John P. Rankin, 103 Madison Avenue, Madison, AL 35758;
(256) 461 – 8142; jprankin@knology.net

September 20, 2005