



her son, James B. Horton moved to a house on Pulaski Pike. The family was made to move again in the 1960s due to a road project. This time, however, they moved their beloved house with them and relocated to Harvest where a family friend, Uncle Aaron Burns—another former resident of Pond Beat—owned land.

James B. Horton and Callie Sue Daniel Horton were Ms. Deborah’s parents. They made their home in Harvest and raised Ms. Deborah and her sisters, who now own the property and several houses on the idyllic Horton Family compound. While researching the extensive family history, Ms. Deborah has learned more about her Pond Beat/Mullins Flat extended family most of which reaches back to the union of William and Louisa Timmons. Ms. Jordan is the great-great-granddaughter of William and Louisa Timmons.

Dr. Victoria L. Joiner

Dr. Joiner has conducted an impressive amount of research into her family’s history. A doctor of education, she can succinctly recount her family tree with two connections to the Pond Beat community. Like many other descendants, she is related to the Timmons as the great-great-granddaughter of William and Louisa through their son John (Timmons) Joiner. She is also related to another large and well-known family of Pond Beat, the Barleys. John Joiner and his wife Emma Jacobs married in 1891 and had eight children, one of which was Elijah Joiner. Elijah married Geneva Barley, daughter of David Dixon and Rhoda Lee Abernathy Barley.



(Above and Right) Dr. Victoria L. Joiner Shared Several Photograph which Testify to Life on the Barley Farm



Mr. Thomas Lyle, Jr.

Mr. Lyle is the great-great-grandson of William and Louisa Timmons of the Pond Beat/Mullins Flat community on what is now Redstone Arsenal.

His ancestry connects through William and Louisa’s daughter Kate (Timmons) Joiner Lacy. Kate married Wyatt Lacy, another prominent family of landowners in Madison and Morgan counties. The Lacys may also have some Native American ancestry—Mr. Lyle’s grandfather was names James Pensacola Lacy and family stories indicate a connection to the Choctaw.



A resident of Huntsville, Mr. Lyle has delved into researching the tangled roots of the families of Pond Beat and Mullins Flat. He is particularly interested in the various relationships that resulted in his family’s inclusion of African American, white, and Native American ancestry. Mr. Lyle still lives in a house purchased by his grandparents, Amanda E. Lacy

and James P. Burns, perhaps adding to his interest in the family tree.

Ms. Elaine Watkins Patton

Ms. Patton is a descendant of Murphy “Jim” and Helen Jones Jordan—landowners in the Pond Beat/Mullins Flat community before the land was Redstone Arsenal. Her family owned land in Harvest adjacent to Aaron Burns and the Hortons. She remembers the landscape of the large fields roaming with cattle. She also recalls coming to the Arsenal land at the end of Triana Boulevard before the Arsenal was completely fenced off. Her father, uncle, and grandmother would bring her down to participate in an Easter egg hunt.



In an effort to continue the family’s rich traditions, she has helped to organize several family reunions for both her mother’s and father’s families. She is particularly well-connected through her church community. Ms. Patton has attended the Center Grove United Methodist Church all her life. Her great uncle, Newman Jordan, was a minister in the United Methodist faith and passed on may stories about Pond Beat and Mullins Flat.