

Written In Stone

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Rabb Family Cemetery

The Rabb Family Cemetery is located about 4 miles from Evergreen on US31North/US84East off of a dirt road in front of the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church; approximately 1/2 mile on the left of the dirt road, in front of and on the side of the Antioch (aka Rabb) Cemetery. The Rabb Family Cemetery is enclosed by an old brick wall, once secured by an iron gate (now gone).

The Rabb family settled in Conecuh around 1818, moving there from Edgefield District, SC--William Rabb, Sr. was born in 1775, and his father before him was born in Ireland. William met and married a young woman of Scottish ancestry, Miss Sarah McDonald, before moving to AL and settling in what was later known as Rabbville or Rabb's Store. William Rabb became a merchant, prosperous planter and large landowner, raising 10 children, some of which passed before reaching adulthood. William Rabb erected a grist mill and a saw mill on Old Town Creek; the area of Old Town being inhabited by the early families of Richard Curry, Joel Brown, Matthew Ray, Levi T. Mobley, Capt. Wilson Ashley. Adam McCreary, John Scoggins and a Mr. Cravey. The families of Wm. Rabb, Sr. and Adam McCreary were classed "Elite" because Rabb owned an old-time gig and McCreary owned an ordinary Jersey wagon. Rabb's Store was one of the first voting precincts in Conecuh County, an early trading post center, located on one of the first Post Roads in the county from Greenville to Sparta.

In the Rabb Cemetery, there are approximately 15 known graves, the first one being Isabel S. Rabb, born and died in 1828; Hannah Rabb, the mother of William Rabb, Sr., and wife of James Rabb, the Irishman. Hannah was reputed to be 105 years old at her death in 1843. The last known burial was that of Eliza M. Rabb, who passed away in 1872. Also buried in the Rabb Family Cemetery is Asa L. Chalker, a tutor to the Rabb children; he was from Saybrook, CT and he died in 1835 when he was 20 years old--in the prime of his youth.

If you're interested in learning more about this little known cemetery, the community of Rabb's Store, and the Rabb's influence in the growth of much of Evergreen and Conecuh County, I encourage you to come and visit the Lucy C. Warren Heritage Section of the Evergreen Public Library.