

Written In Stone

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Unknown Cemeteries of Conecuh County

There are numerous cemeteries in Alabama unaccounted for, un-plotted, and in uncertain locations in all sixty-seven counties. In efforts to locate, document and preserve these cemeteries, preservationists must depend on families, churches, historians and property owners. We're seeking information about some little known family cemeteries which are perhaps known by a different name than what they were originally called. These cemeteries include the Barlow, Johnson, McNeil, and Murphy Cemeteries in Conecuh; and seven that are listed as being of unknown names. All we sometimes have are the township, range and section number and a non-descript location to go by. Other times, we may have nothing but a few names known to be buried in these cemeteries.

The Historical Atlas of Cemetery Locations by County, published by the UA Cartography Lab is an excellent resource tool for locating cemeteries in every county in AL. The book lists the cemetery name, number of interments, church affiliation, and the surnames most commonly found in them. Much of the information enclosed can be found in family records, county history publications, and state and local library archives.

The Conecuh Atlas lists 144 known cemeteries, with 43 named cemeteries of uncertain location and 7 cemeteries of unknown name. Through the help of many individuals and groups, 14 of these 43 cemeteries have been identified and located in the past year; however, there are many others waiting to be discovered and/or uncovered!

The Conecuh County Headstones, Volumes I & II, lists 134 known cemeteries; and yet, many still lie undetected and forgotten in the forests and fields of Conecuh. Those graves that were previously identified as unmarked have perhaps been identified since the first publication of our Headstone books; as well, as the many burials that have occurred since the publishing dates of 1982 & the 1986 supplement. We are in the process of updating our materials and we need everyone's assistance in doing so. If a church, family or cemetery association has compiled an updated cemetery listing; and/or discovered a cemetery on property that was previously unknown to you; I'd like to ask you to submit this information to us. You may call me at (251) 578-2670 or email me at canbrakesociety@yahoo.com; with all of us working together; we can preserve the cemeteries for generations to come.