

Written In Stone

By Sherry Johnston

Evergreen Courant ~ 18 January 2007

Ithiel Lee Cemetery

On a lonely hill in Burnt Corn, there are two graves standing under an old oak tree, with an old ivy vine trailing beneath its limbs and onto the ground. Timber land that has been cleared; with just a few straggly saplings still standing and this majestic old oak with the two headstones beneath. This is the Ithiel Lee Cemetery, located in Township 7 North, Range 9 East, Section 36; and # 136 NW in the Historical Atlas of Cemeteries in AL. Ithiel Lee, son of Joel Lee and Media Lassiter Lee, was born in 1803; married Emily D. Witherington, in 1828; and died in 1877 in Conecuh County. Ithiel was born in Johnston County, NC and moved with his family to Conecuh in the early 1800's. He was a member of the Home Guard of Burnt Corn; trustee of the Burnt Corn Academy; and served in many other capacities to his community and county.

Ithiel and Emily had 8 children; from William J. Lee, the oldest to Texanna F. Lee, the youngest. The oldest, William Joel Lee, being named for his grandfather, Joel Lee, was born in 1829 in Conecuh County, and was killed in action at Gettysburg in 1863. Many of the descendants of Emily and Ithiel married into families with strong roots in Conecuh and Burnt Corn, AL; many of which still continue to call Conecuh County home.

Today, this cemetery along with others in this line, lie on Lowery Trust holdings, protected from further timber development by outside companies; they still need protection and restoration by the descendants of their families. If you're a descendant of the Lee Family or one of the allied families, and interested in preserving this cemetery along with others in the Burnt Corn area as well as all over Conecuh and/or the state of AL, please contact Sherry S. Johnston at canbrakesociety@yahoo.com or call (251) 578-2670. For further information about the Burnt Corn area or the Lee & Witherington Families, consider visiting the Lucy C. Warren Heritage Section of the Evergreen-Conecuh County Public Library.