

Written In Stone

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Amos Cemetery – Part I

Continuing on our journey towards Brooklyn, AL just past the Robinson Family Cemetery on CR42, enclosed by a chain link fence, old trees dripping with Spanish moss, is the Amos Cemetery. This particular cemetery is cared for by the Brooklyn Baptist Church, and has been known by many different names throughout its history. Library documents call it the Amos; Hart; Presbyterian Church; Brooklyn Methodist Church; as well as the Old Brooklyn Cemetery.

Mr. David Sanders, in his book on *Cemeteries in Conecuh County*, suggest that those buried in this cemetery are mainly descendants of Lawrence and Addie Amos and their neighbors. An Escambia County Quarterly recognizes this cemetery as the Presbyterian Church Cemetery, stating many of the original gravestones are unmarked, and some disappeared completely. According to the publication, *“The Presbyterian Church in AL”* by James W. Marshall, it is suggested there was a mission in Brooklyn, possibly in the Pea River Synod. There were churches in both the Brooklyn and Belleville areas, being dissolved around 1898. According to other documentation on the early settlement of Brooklyn, the earliest meeting house was a Methodist Episcopal Church, on the Brooklyn to Evergreen Road. A public school was established in 1908 at the old Methodist Church, being taught by Henry Crumpton.

According to the Alabama Historical Atlas of Cemeteries, published by the UA Cartography Lab., the Amos Cemetery is located in Township 4 North, Range 13 East, and Section 32. It is listed as #114-SE on our local cemetery map for Conecuh County.

A series of articles about the Brooklyn community, published in the Courant many years ago, and written by the late Mable Amos, suggests that this cemetery was located near the spot where the Old Methodist Church stood, possibly used not only as a Union Church, but as a school as well, as evidenced by previous documentation. She suggested that the cemetery here is much older than the Baptist Church Cemetery with some of the very first settlers to Brooklyn laid to rest in this cemetery. According to local information, Capt. Benjamin Hart owned land in this same general area, and here beneath the trees you will find him, his wife, and daughter, Amelia Frances Hart who married the founder of Brooklyn, Edwin Robinson. She is buried with their young daughter, Amelia Margaret Robinson, and they died in 1834. Other Robinson names you will find is the young son of Julius Gurdon Robinson & Margaret Matilda Bradley Robinson, Dudley Hubbard. Dudley was born about 1858 & died after the 1860 Census, and he's beside his grandmother, Amelia Robinson, along with another brother named Rufus Harvey, who died in 1854. Charles M. Robinson, who served in the AL 108th Ammunition, 31st Div., WWI, is buried here as well as Julia, his wife. She died in 1911 & Charles in 1952.

Next week, we'll look at the other earlier Brooklyn settlers who rest in this old cemetery. For more information about the Amos, Hart or Robinson families, visit the archives of the Evergreen-Conecuh County Public Library.