

# Written In Stone

*By Sherry Johnston*

*Evergreen Courant ~ 16 August 2007*

## **Brooklyn Baptist Church Cemetery – Part II**

An early Brooklyn family found buried in the Baptist Church Cemetery can trace its' lineage to Scotland's James Moffatt. He came to America, settling down in Lincoln County, GA. A wealthy man, James Moffatt married at least 5 times, with only 2 children surviving: Elizabeth, (born 1750) and her half brother, Thomas, (born 1761). As it happens in many of the early settler families, cousins married cousins when Elizabeth's granddaughter, Sarah Saunders/Sanders married at age 16 to her half cousin, Jacob Moffett who was already 31 years of age. They married 25 July 1822 in Jasper County, GA.

Sarah and Jacob Moffett raised six children one of which was the third daughter known as Josephine Caroline, born in 1831, with a thirst for knowledge, and love for books. Josephine began teaching at the tender age of 14, and continued her studies at college in McDonough, GA where she met and married A.J. Robinson in 1852. She traveled with him to Brooklyn in Conecuh County AL shortly after 1856 where he studied medicine under a Dr. Scott. After his studies with Dr. Scott, he attended classes in Memphis, TN and in 1861, began practicing medicine in Brooklyn where he and Josephine had settled. He declined an appointment as Captain of the 28<sup>th</sup> AL Regt, serving instead as an Army Surgeon throughout the war. The Robinson's had five children, two of whom died in their youth, with the other three living: Josephine, Andrew, and Estelle. In addition to her duties as a wife, mother, and member of the community, Josephine M. Robinson taught and served on the Board of the Brooklyn Academy. Her husband, Dr. Andrew Robinson, also served on the State Legislature as well as being Moderator of the Bethlehem Baptist Association for a number of years.

Buried in the cemetery are Josephine and Dr. Andrew Robinson—she died in 1898; he died in 1883; a son, Arthur J. died in 1884; another son, Charles died in 1883; and nearby are her parents: Jacob who died in 1869 and her mother, Sarah who died 10 years later in 1879. Their daughter, Josephine who was born in 1858 in GA married Matthew H. Sanders in 1881; they and their children are all buried in Brooklyn's cemetery as well. Estelle, the 2<sup>nd</sup> daughter of Josephine and Dr. Andrew, married John F. Williams in 1885 and you find them nearby as well. The life and fate of young Andrew Robinson is unknown to me at this time; however, if you have information on him, we'd love to add that to our archives.