

# Written In Stone

*By Sherry Johnston*

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## **Horton Cemetery – Part II**

Studying the families who are buried in the Old Horton Cemetery out on Brooklyn Road is similar to reading a volume of “Who’s Who in Alabama” as familiar names keep crossing the pages. Prominent family names, both African American and Caucasian, like Brye, Drakeford, Floyd, Feagin, Horton, Kendall, McCreary, Meeks, Perryman and Stallworth are all found inter-connected for all races in this historic combined family & community cemetery.

The Horton name can be found in Conecuh in the early 1800’s all the way to present day. Eliab Baluse Horton, born 1824 and died 1900, appears to be the beginning of many of the Horton descendants in Conecuh County today. The families married into many other pioneer families, like Adams, Floyd, Kendall and Turk, as well as others.

The 1950 Courant obituary for “W.K.”, William Kendall Horton states that he was a lifelong resident, pioneer citizen involved in civic and religious duties; serving his community in various ways and had numerous occupational interests with farming, timbering and mercantile at the top of the list. Though he moved to Evergreen away from the old plantation, he remained a member of New Bethel Baptist Church and when he passed away at 86 years of age, he was interred in the family lot at Horton Cemetery.

The African American presence was always felt in the Horton Community, and many of them attended church at Pleasant Hill Baptist Church just down the road. There were several schools in the area; Centerville and Horton, and others in the community where folks lived. The Finch Meeks family and descendants appear to be buried here in Horton Cemetery; with many of them still active in the Pleasant Hill community. Sandy Brye and his descendants are another family active in the community, with burials of many of the family members buried in the cemetery as recently as 2006. Though the cemetery is old in establishment, it is still an active cemetery. For more information on the cemetery and the families interred here, visit the local library at 119 Cemetery Avenue, Evergreen, AL.