

Written In Stone

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Old Concord Cemetery

Families moved into Conecuh in the early 1800's and promptly gave names to the communities in which they lived. Some of these names have survived through the years; maybe shortened to some degree or renamed in succeeding generations. For example, Gravella or Gravel Station later became known as Owassa; Peach Bloom became Wilcox; Cosey's Old Field became Evergreen; Wilson's Field became Castleberry Station later becoming Castleberry. In searching for the cemeteries in the old records, sometimes we must look for not only the current name; but the historic name as well, to figure out where they are located.

Recently, we had a request for information about the old Concord Cemetery which is supposedly located in the old Spence Community, also known as Brownville and Flat Rock areas. This cemetery is listed in the Conecuh Headstone Book, Volume 2; page 214 and the directions given for the cemetery suggest that you would go US 31 North to Conecuh # 22 intersection. No remains are now evident of this cemetery, though. I would strongly suggest that before anyone ventures into the woods, there are several things to take into consideration. First, get permission from the landowner for access to the cemetery. Secondly, it's the wrong time of the year to be traipsing in the woods—the snakes are definitely there! Ask my cemetery friends in Montgomery about the Diamond Back Rattler they encountered last week in a grave! Third, IF you go, make sure you have a partner, a GPS, snake boots on and mosquito repellent, and the proper tools to properly identify those you've gone in search of.

Known to be buried here in Old Concord Cemetery are the following members of the King and Hobbs families. Mary Elizabeth King, daughter of John Mason King and Mary Matilda Diamond King was severely burned in a fireplace accident when she was about 5 years old. She never recovered and was buried near their home place in 1871. Also buried here are Thomas J. Hobbs, born circa 1824; Jasper H. Hobbs, born ca. 1848; Nancy Hobbs, born ca. 1815; and Buchanan Hobbs, born ca. 1856. Nancy Hobbs is the grandmother of Mary Elizabeth King, and Thomas J. Hobbs was Nancy's second husband.

According to research conducted by Noah Gilbert King in his book: "Some Kings and Allied Families of Conecuh County, AL", one of the largest 'settlements of HOBBS in the southeastern U.S. were in Laurens County, GA—the Dublin area. Most of these families came through the Carolinas and Virginia.' Thomas J. Hobbs family was possibly of Dutch ancestry and came to America from Holland, according to information recorded in Mr. King's book. For more information, please visit the Lucy C. Warren Heritage Section located in the Evergreen Public Library temporarily located at the old public health department building on 31 south in Evergreen, AL.