

Written In Stone

By: Sherry Johnston

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Green Street Church Graveyards – Part III

This column is co-written by Linda Broadus, a researcher and friend of mine, working on families from the Green Street community. She visited the cemeteries in the community some time back; and has created a website, not only for these; but for others she is researching. Visit her website at <http://www.SunriseHistory.com> or email her at lettstalk2001@yahoo.com for more information about her research.

Richard Lamar Lett escorted her to the Green Street African American Methodist Episcopal Zion Church cemeteries located on County Road 9. The dichotomy of the cemetery indicates that there are three distinct sections comprising Green Street A.M.E.Z. Cemetery -the section adjacent to the church; and the two sections across the street with one fenced approximately 25-50 yards in proximity. The local family historian and store owner, Mr. Johnny Mack Grace, walked Linda through the history of the church that is about 100 years old. Following is an excerpt of her story about the graves located within the cemetery.

It was fitting to start our research by visiting the stones of his mother, Ruther Grace, (1904-1995). Ruther's husband, Charlie Grace, Sr. died just before his 90th birthday in 1989, preceded in death by a brother, Claude Grace, while his younger brother, Earlie, outlived him by nearly 15 years. Together, Ruther and Charlie, Sr. had Charlie Grace, Jr. and Luella Marie, who would marry James Ed Harris, brother of Earnest Harris. Ruther and Charlie Sr. also have a daughter-in-law, Molly Grace, daughter of Mattie Lee Salter, as well as Charlie Sr.'s sister, Ceola Grace buried at Green Street .

The Dailey lineage is also very apparent from the grave-markers; with the earliest find that of Jennie Dailey born in 1877. Markers indicate at least nine offspring: L.T. Dailey, Eva Mae Hawkins, William C. Dailey, Lillie Belle Dailey, Earl Dailey, Eula Mae Dailey Andrews, Annie Mae Dailey-Rankins, John A. Dailey and Frank Sterling Dailey, Sr.

Jennie's granddaughter, Francis Virginia Montgomery (d/o Annie Mae Dailey-Rankins) is buried along with her husband, Dennis Montgomery. Clementine Richardson, wife of Frank Sterling, is there as well as their son, Frank, Jr. who died two years before his mother. L.T. & Willie Dailey are buried in close proximity to their 3 daughters, Viola Thames, Viteria Dailey Hunter, and Cinda Lee.