

# Written In Stone

*By: Sherry Johnston*

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## **Bluff Springs, FL Cemeteries**

The Kendrick Family of the Fork of Sepulga River & Duck Creek communities can also be found in the Bluff Springs community of Escambia County, Florida. According to a Kendrick researcher, Leon Weekley, there were 5 known Kendrick siblings who came to Conecuh. Their names were Sheldrake, William, Josiah, Polly and Robert “Bob” Kendrick. My fellow researcher and friend, Leon, descends from both the Sheldrake and Josiah Kendrick brothers—his great grandparents were already cousins when they married each other! This is a common occurrence in our early settlement times, as families traveled together from one community to the next and it was hard not to find someone you weren’t already related to when it came time to marry, settle down and raise a family of your own.

In researching the Conecuh connections in the cemeteries in and around Wawbeek, I found Josiah Kendrick and his second wife, Amanda Perry Kendrick buried at Canoe Canaan Freewill Baptist Church Cemetery. He was born 22 Feb 1810 and died 31 Oct 1901; his wife, Amanda was born circa 1856 and died 7 Feb 1898 at the age of 62 years. According to Leon’s research, after his wife passed away, Josiah was found living in Bluff Springs FL with his brother, Robert “Bob” Kendrick. Sheldrake was married twice; first time was to Josiah’s first wife’s sister; and the second time to Sarah Lane “Laney” Skinner. After Sheldrake died in 1879, Laney remarried a Mr. Hobbs and wound up in Bluff Springs, FL. Three of their daughters ended up residing in Bluff Springs, and Laney and her daughters are all buried in the Byrneville Cemetery near Bluff Springs.

We’ll look more at this family and their ties to the Gilmore, Creamer and Cooper lines next week.