
Chiltonian

Volume 8 Number 1

March 1988

QUARTERLY MEETING

The Chilton County Historical Society will hold the annual Heritage Day Open House in Thorsby on the 10th of April, 1988. This means there will be no quarterly meeting in April; next meeting to be in July.

QUERIES

Families of west and southwest part of the county are subject of one of our requests. Mrs. Pawdy W. Centry is searching the Centry, Giles, Cobb, Davenport, Hubbard and other families. Anyone pursuing these lines may contact her at P.O. Box 14, McCalla, Al., 35111.

Pearson, Tippet, and Martin are families of interest to Lt. Col. Victor F. Martin. Rev. Robert Martin born circa 1780 in NC died in Perry Co., Al. He

was married circa 1810 to Martha ? and their son born in Ga. in 1815 died in Chilton Co. in 1878. Tradition was that the father, Rev. Martin had married an Indian woman, possibly Tippet. Col. Martin will share and pay for copy and postage costs. Contact him at 14262 Southern Pines Drive, Dallas, Texas, 75234.

Pochelle Marcus Brigance is researching the following families and will share information: Marcus, Mims, Plier, Motes, Arnett, Dutton, Allen, Thacker, Johnson, Teel, Mints, Popwell, Callaway and Reynolds. Her address is Pochelle Marcus Brigance, 414 Locksley Lane, Tallahassee, Fl., 32313.

NATIONAL HISTORICAL REGISTER

As promised in the last issue we present the background information on the Walker/Klinner

house which accompanied the nomination to the National Register. It was compiled and written by Sally Qualls.

"The bulk of acreage that is associated with the Walker-Klinner Farm during its formative period was acquired by William White between 1820 and 1831. White's landholdings in this area, according to the Bureau of Land Management Records, exceeded 600 acres that now encompass the farm and its surrounding area. White constructed a house approximately 50 feet northeast of the site of the 1890 house, and by 1850, he had become locally recognized as a prominent planter and landowner with two boarders--a physician and a tailor.

The northernmost section of the farm's present acreage, situated in the southern half of

Section 7, includes and adjoins the original site of Maplesville during the early 19th century.

Local historians state that Old Maplesville was a stage coach relief stop at the intersection of two important and early state roads. Running north and south was the Elyton Road which extended from Elyton (Birmingham) to Selma; and running east and west was the Fort Jackson Road, which extended from Fort Jackson (at Wetumpka) to Tuscaloosa. In 1826 when the State Capitol was moved from Cahawba to Tuscaloosa, the traffic on the Fort Jackson Road increased considerably. Often called the "high-and-dry road", it was this early south-central thoroughfare that led William Walker, the farm's second owner, to discover and eventually purchase the property.

Born in 1812, William Walker was the son of Hugh (1777-1821) and Margaret Carroll (1782-1831) Walker of Mecklinburg County, North Carolina. By 1844 Walker had moved to Prattville, Alabama and had married Sarah Virginia Shelton (1827-1874), the daughter of prominent planter Stephen (1797-1860) and Martha Graves Shelton

who were both early settlers of Prattville.

Although it has been often said that Walker's attraction to the old Maplesville area farm was the beauty of the land, it may also be deduced that he was aware of the movement to revive a late-1830s rail line which was projected to link north and south Alabama. This effort to connect the Alabama River at Selma with Tennessee was initiated in 1836 by the Selma and Tennessee Railroad Company, and revived in 1850 by the Alabama and Tennessee Railroad. Recognized as one of the most important and earliest railway enterprises in the state, the pre-1850 project exploded with the state banks panic. The grading of the road extended only as far as Plantersville, approximately 15 miles south of Old Maplesville. The 1850s revival of this line corresponded with the state's economic flush preceding the Civil War and by 1853, the track laying had reached the Coosa River. Up to 1854, the active section of the line ran 55 miles between Selma and Montevallo, bypassing Old Maplesville as the center point of operation by three miles. In 1856 the

Maplesville Post Office was relocated three miles west, providing it better access to the railroad. Almost without delay, the town followed, abandoning the stage line access for closer proximity to the rail line.

Walker, probably foreseeing the advantages of road, rail and river transportation access for his cotton crop, acquired White's 1300-plus (sic: 1300 acres-plus) landholdings in 1853 when White reportedly moved to Oklahoma. By 1854, Walker had purchased the additional 240 acres situated south of Benson Creek, bringing the total acreage up to approximately 1600 acres. The boundaries of the farm have remained the same since this period.

Typical of planters during the period, Walker raised cotton, and local accounts report that much of his crop was shipped abroad to England. He also raised horses and mules and was involved in horse racing. Evidence of a race track has been found in the lower northwest portion of Section 18, just west of Mulberry Creek.

Northeast of the residence is a board

and batten tenant house with evidence of a cemetery at the rear. Oral accounts revealed that a church and cemetery established during the mid 19th-century for the plantation slaves initially occupied the site. Margaret, the eldest Walker sibling, conducted school at the old church for the children of the Walker Farm tenant farmers. Following the Civil War, the church and a new cemetery were established at the site of Old Maplesville.

In 1890 the "Chilton View", a local newspaper, highlighted the construction of the new Walker House stating that Billy Walker, Walker's oldest son, had borrowed \$3,000 from a Mr. Patillo to build one of the county's finest homes. At that time, William Walker, his bachelor son, Billy, and his two maiden daughters, Sally and Margaret, occupied the property. Additionally, there were approximately 11 tenant farmers supervised by Ed Allison, a black man employed as the overseer.

Upon completion of the new residence, Billy and his sisters moved into the new house. Their father refused

to move and remained in the old house until it burned. Shortly after, (Jan., 1891), William Walker died.

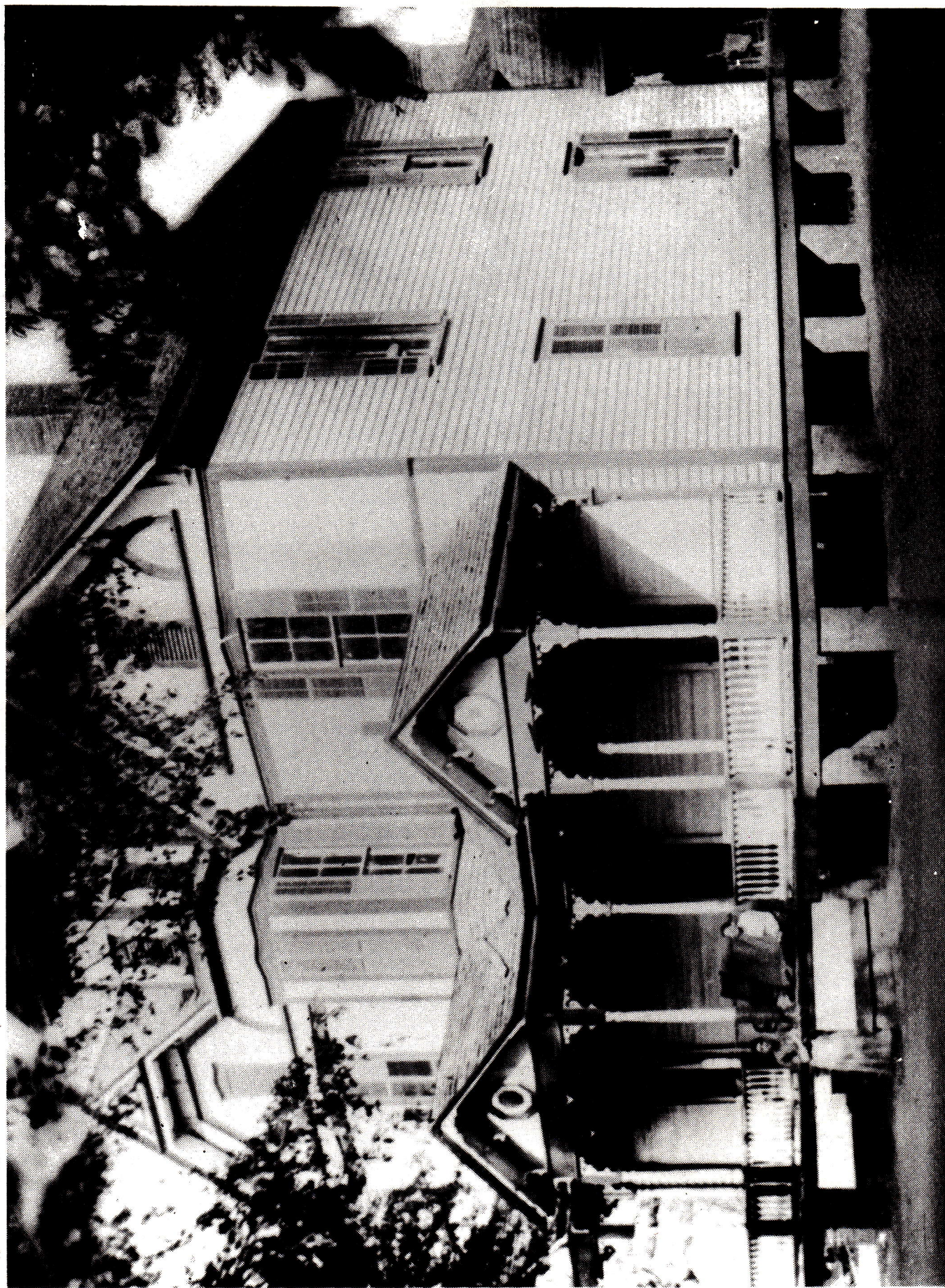
Oliver Walker, a descendant of the Walkers, reported to the present owners that Billy Walker inherited the entire Walker estate after his father's death. Billy would always have his crops planted carefully in conjunction with the calendar and the moon. He sold timber from his land, raised hogs, beef cattle and dairy cows. Slaughtered meat was stored in a 10-foot high smokehouse which measured approximately 16 x 16 feet. Former tenants report that Walker sold them meat and provided milk for them from the dairy cows; and that the overseer, with the aid of a typewriter, had charge of the farm's bookkeeping responsibilities.

Several cotton gins and sawmill sites have been located on the property. The concrete base for a sawmill steam engine has been located along the bank of Benson Creek in the south central section of the property. The remnants of the engine were intact as late as 1982. The existence of an 1820 grist mill, documented by local

histories as being situated along the northern section of Mulberry Creek in the southeast portion of Section 7, has been located. The mill was dismantled in 1910, but vertically placed timbers resembling a dam, remnants of an axial, a main and a drive shaft have been found and retained. Land management records list Cornelius Cox as owner of the parcel of land in the 1820s, but local histories state that Daniel Williams constructed the dam to furnish power for a grist and flour mill which he built and operated.

The Walkers were considered eccentric in many ways; and as the three unmarried siblings aged, they became more and more peculiar. For example, Walker and his sisters refused to drink well water; instead, they walked half a mile to the mineral spring. The two Walker sisters slept in the same bed, yet they often refused to speak for months at a time. Each of the sisters and Walker had their own refrigerator, often stocked with only a glass of water; and each of the Walkers required delivery of an individual newspaper daily.

Billy Walker's



favorite attestment to his wealth was "I never spent a dollar foolishly in my life." Although Walker very wisely kept a large stock of food and bolts of cloth, it is reported that he once purchased a frilly pink baby buggy for no apparent reason. He always maintained the area's best team of horses and is said to have spent money on women lavishly during rendezvouses in Selma. Shortly after 1919, Walker bought an automobile which most often was driven by his female companions or young men he hired to chauffeur him and his dates. During the late 1920s the concrete and wire fence was erected in front of the house, and electricky was installed.

Billy Walker and his sisters remained in the house until their deaths. Billy died in 1940 at the age of 88. He left all the farm equipment and the house to his two sisters. The land was inherited by the Walker grandchildren. Three years later, Margaret died at the age of 94; and in 1948 Sallie died at the age of 93.

Throughout the 1950s the house was occupied by Zachariah Taylor Abney, the son of

Volly Walker Abney, the youngest Walker daughter. In 1951 F.L. Klinner (b.1900), a furniture dealer since 1922, acquired the property. He recalls that at the time he purchased the 1600-acre farm, there were 30 structures standing--most of which were over 50 years old. Klinner filled in the old well at the house, dug a new well and constructed two concrete block houses and a pump house. He used the 1890 Walker House as a barn from 1951 through 1979 and operated a farm yielding hay, corn, cotton and livestock.

Following a heart attack in 1973, Klinner leased the land to eight tenants. In 1979 Klinner's son, John, and his wife, Linda, acquired the property and began restoring the house. Ninety-one years after its construction the house was returned to its original splendor. Several outbuildings are being restored and portions of the farm land have been revived with over 200 acres under culitvation, 50 acres used as pasture and more than 1300 retaining a natural stand of timber that is indigenous to the Chilton County area."

* * *

FAMILY BIBLE

We are indebted to Mrs. Margaret Kemp Owen for a copy of the Popwell/Kemp family Bible data; copies in vertical files at the Library.

CREDITS:

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EDITOR - Ben Roberts
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MEMBERSHIP-RATES:

Lifetime	\$100.00
Annual, single	7.00
Annual, couple	10.00
Annual, student	5.00

Dues payable in Jan'y.

MEETINGS:

Second Sunday in January, April, July, and October at the Chilton/Clanton Public Library unless changed by announcement in this publication. Officers are elected annually at the January meeting.

1988 OFFICERS:

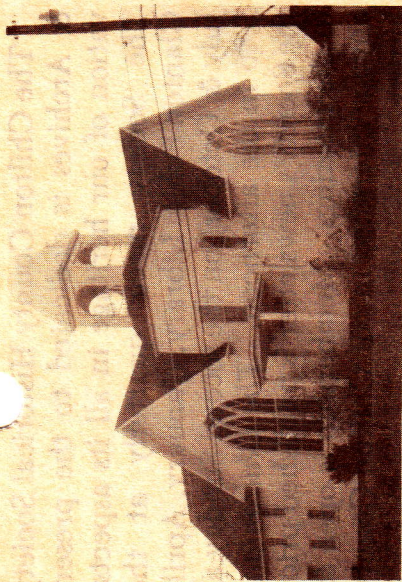
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Vice Pres.	Ms. Helen Parrish
Sec/Treas.	Ms. Mary Richardson
Historian	Mrs. Loris G. Thomas
Reporter	Mrs. Betty J. Collins

SPREAD THE WORD!

People who are not members
are also invited to the meetings
of the Chilton County Historical Society.
Meetings are held the second sunday
in January, April, July and October

Post Office Box 644
Clanton, Alabama
35045





**Masonic Lodge/St. John
Norwegian Lutheran Church**
Circa 1897

Ole Lefstead was the architect of this Gothic-style church built circa 1897. The large, pointed, arched windows at the gabled sides help to create an impressive structure.

In 1906 the United Congregational Denomination purchased the building. The Masons and Eastern Star later (1962) purchased the church and it now serves as their meeting place.

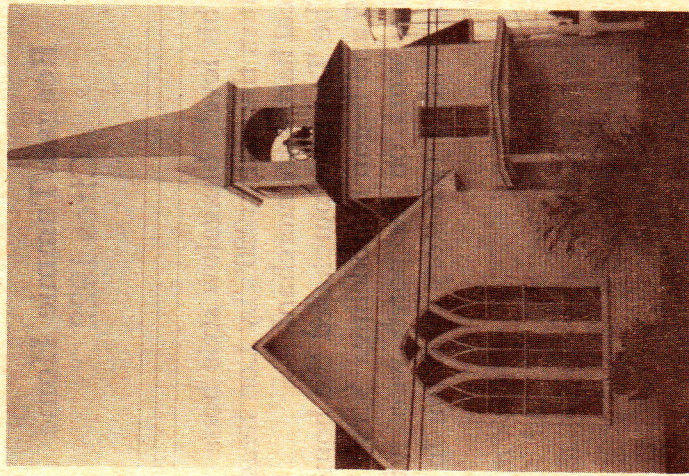
The Historical Society praises these men and women who have helped to preserve a part of our Chilton County heritage.

**Chilton County
Historical Society**
P. O. Box 644
Clanton, Alabama 35045

Co-Sponsored By
THE PILOT CLUB OF CLANTON

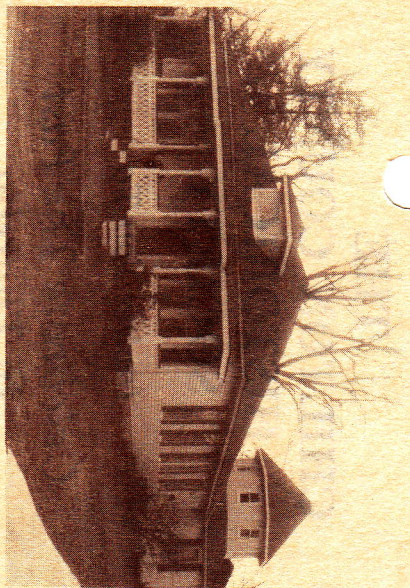
THE CHILTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*Invites You To
Celebrate The Past
In Thorsby*



**April 10, 1988
Sunday
Open House
2-5 p.m.**

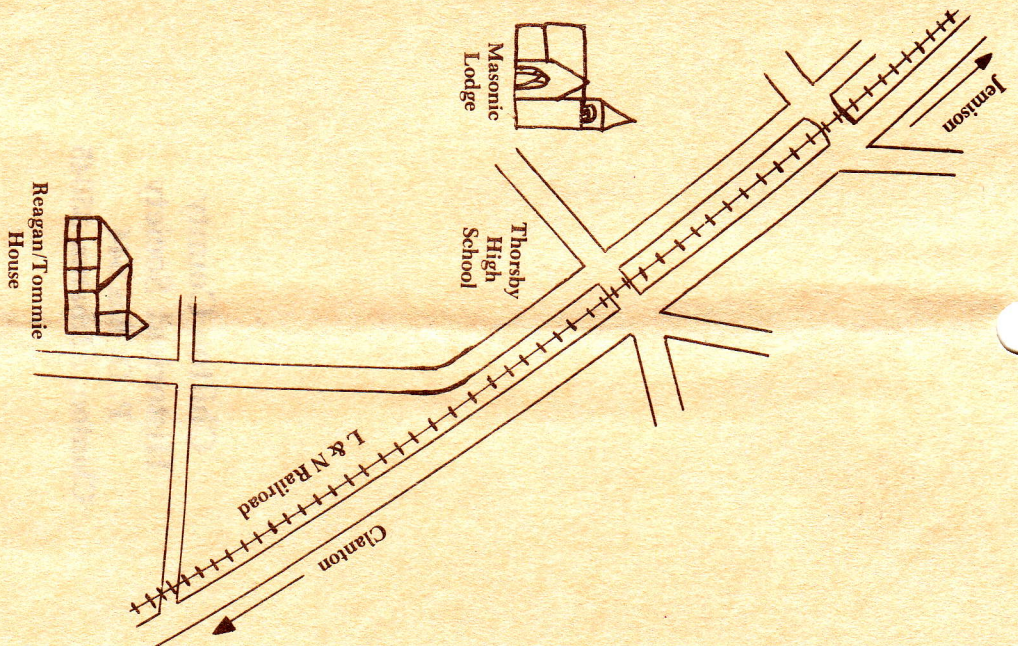
HERITAGE DAY



Reagan/Tommie Home Circa 1922

This lovely bungalow style home was built in the early 1920's by Lon Reagan, a local hardware merchant.

The Tommies purchased the home in 1975 and began remodeling. Scroll and lattice work on the porch were added along with a two-story addition in the rear.



The Chilton County Historical Society & Archives is dedicated to the preservation of our heritage in all its aspects. The Society meets quarterly at the Clanton Public Library, (January, April, July & October) on the second Sunday at 2:00 in the afternoon. *The Chiltonian*, the Society's newsletter is published prior to the meetings. Membership is open to anyone interested in our Chilton County history.

Dues —	\$ 7.00 yr.	Individual
	10.00 yr.	Couple
	5.00 yr.	Student
	100.00	Lifetime

Please Join Us!!

Admission
One dollar at
door of each location

Chiltonian

Volume 8 Number 2

June 1988

QUARTERLY MEETING

The regularly scheduled meeting will be held on July 10th at the Chilton/Clanton Public Library in the Conference room. A slide presentation will be made consisting of photos and other items from early Chilton County Newspapers.

CLANTON POST OFFICE

It must have been a festive atmosphere when the Shriners ended their parade in front of the new Post Office Building in Clanton on the 25th of October, 1935. It is estimated that there were about 2000 people in the crowd gathered to witness the advent of Clanton's first Post Office dedication (Population of Clanton at the time was given as 3663). Postmaster General James Farley was originally scheduled to be the main speaker for the dedication but, alas, was not able to attend.

In his stead Mr. W.E. Wooten, Inspector of Post Offices became the official representative of the Federal Government for the occasion. His remarks were interesting and informative and some of the early history of the Post Office in Clanton was revealed. He said, "On January 31, 1871 the local Post Office opened under the name of Goose Pond. It was then renamed Clanton on May 4th, 1871. In those days", he continued, "the mail arrived in Clanton at about 12:00 noon on Saturday after leaving from

Wetumpka by stage at 8:00 a.m. on Friday. This was a Star Route of 46 miles each way." (Accounts of the ceremony were published in both the Chilton County News and The Union-Banner the following week as the 25th fell on a Friday.)

Let us digress for a moment. We know that the South and North Alabama Railroad line was completed in October of 1871 and we can readily imagine the tremendous improvement in Postal Service to Clanton which was brought about as a result. The S. & N. company, however, was not favorably disposed to Clanton and selected Lomax as the freight terminus for their activity in Chilton County. Merchants were at their mercy and had to go there from Clanton to receive their freight until a proper Depot was opened in Clanton sometime in 1874. Naturally, this behavior on the part of the S. & N. Railroad Company was the subject of a number of vitriolic letters to the Montgomery Advertiser protesting such arbitrary and ill-received treatment of local customers.

Returning to Mr. Wooten's remarks, close inspection of the dates and names mentioned gives us some insight into resolution of a bit of missing information. It is evident that the designation of Goose Pond Post Office was short-lived. For according to the Baker County Probate Minutes for February, 1871 (Page 17) approval was given for the construction of a road from

Clanton east of the S. & N. Alabama Railroad to intersect with the Chestnut Creek-Maplesville Road. Hence the town had been renamed either some time prior to the opening of the Goose Pond Post Office or just after.

As General James Holt Clanton, for whom the town's name was changed, was still living at that time it was a significant tribute of the high regard in which he was held, both locally and statewide to have the town named for him. There are a number of Civil War Veterans buried in this town and county who served in units commanded by General Clanton, such as the 1st Alabama Cavalry, which he originated, and others. We can only conclude that some of these men were instrumental in honoring their former commander.

The actual date of the renaming of the town to honor him has eluded us so that we have been able to narrow it only to the period from August 1870 to February 1871. This information has been found in either the newspapers of that era or from the Baker County Probate Minutes. When we locate the actual time of the change we will be happy to publish the information.

Although we have received some correspondence from members that was intended for inclusion in the newsletter, circumstances did not allow it.

LITTLETON RIGGINS

The Rigginstown Association is a Historical Society composed of descendants of Littleton and Mary Riggins, early settlers (1817) on Mulberry Creek, Al.

The main purposes of the association are to contact present day descendants, to further knowledge of our ancestors and to enjoy the company of those present at the annual picnic held on the last Saturday in April at the Riggins Town Cemetery in Fayetteville, Al.

Allied families include Maddox, Farris, Ogletree, Childress, Dunlap, Roberson, Forshee, Green, Beaird, Henley, Cook, Walker, Collins, Sammons, Day, Littlejohn, Sims, Scarborough, and others.

For more information please contact Lisa Powers, 1915 Patton Chapel Road, Hoover, Al., 35226. Telephone (205) 822-9118.

WHO'S WHO IN CLANTON Union-Banner, Feb. 16, 1928

"It affords us great pleasure to print these articles on 'Who's Who in Clanton,' and it is very interesting and gratifying to know that they are being so enthusiastically received by our readers.

Clanton has a number of men who are most successful in business, and by their progressive spirit are reaching out and grasping the best things for Clanton. Needless to say they give unselfishly of their time and thought to their own.

It is a wonderful thing to be public spirited, and one has only to glance around them to realize that we have a host of public spirited citizens who co-operate well in every

movement for the betterment of Clanton, and the friction that exists in so many towns is conspicuously absent here. This fact is evidenced by the modern appearance our city has acquired in recent years. Attractive buildings of all types have been and are being constructed, and we are beginning to realize that in a few years Clanton will be a city.

We believe absolutely in these, our citizens, and we venture to say that a finer group of men can not be found anywhere. They are high type men of integrity and foresight, and we are happy to be able to bestow the flowers they so deserve while they are still with us.

One of our most substantial and dependable citizens is Mr. W. D. Spigener, who has been a citizen of Clanton for 26 years. Mr. Spigener, the son of Mr. W.H. Spigener and Caroline Spigener, was born in Elmore County (then Coosa), 13 miles above Wetumpka on the east side of the Coosa River in 1875. Mr. Spigener's parents were natives of South Carolina. His father and three brothers came to Alabama before the Indians left the state, the former settling here in 1836. He had opportunity to learn much of the interesting life of the red man in his native haunts, and he hunted with them and learned forest life as only Indians could teach it.

Mr. Spigener received his early education in the country schools of the county. Until the age of 21, Mr. Spigener farmed. His first position was clerk in the store of his brother-in-law, T. S. McDonald, at Rockford.

In 1883 he went into business with his brother, W.S. Spigener. In 1890 Mr. Spigener moved to Goodwater and established the firm of White

and Spigener.

In 1900 Mr. Spigener married Miss Brook Thomas, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E.W. Thomas, who lived near Kellyton, Al. Mrs. Spigener is one of Clanton's finest women. Both Mr. and Mrs. Spigener take an active interest in church work, and in every way they stand for the best.

Mr. and Mrs. Spigener have one child, a charming daughter, who is Mrs. Laurie Farrior of Birmingham.

Mr. Spigener moved to Clanton in 1902, and entered the hardware business with Mr. C. Fenn Jones in the firm then known as Jones Hardware Co. A few years later Mr. Spigener sold out his interest in that business and entered the dry goods business, in a firm known as Spigener Cash Store. Then followed five years of successful farming. In November 1919, Mr. Spigener was appointed as Register of Circuit Court in Equity, and for many years he has served his county well.

The highest compliment that can be paid any man is to say that he is a Christian gentleman, and this can be truly said of Mr. Spigener. He is a man of high ideals and principles. He is conscientious and sincere, and can be trusted as a friend. Needless to say, a man of this type is the backbone of any town and Clanton is indeed fortunate in having Mr. Spigener as a citizen. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he serves on the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Spigener supports his town in every way, and believes that it has great possibilities of becoming a city in the near future."

WHO'S WHO IN CLANTON

"One of the greatest necessities of a good farming country such as we find around Clanton is an up-to-date hardware store.

Needless to say Clanton boasts of two of the best and most complete hardware stores, not only in the county but in the state. It has often been said that Jones Hardware Co., carried every type of hardware on the market, regardless of the demand.

The credit for this business which is truly an asset to our community, belongs to Mr. C. Fenn Jones, one of the founders of the business.

Mr. Jones, the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Calvin Jones, was born in Coosa County, December 29, 1871. His father was a native of Tennessee and his mother, who was Miss Angelina Love before her marriage, was from North Carolina.

Mr. Jones spent his youth on a farm and his schooling was received in the common schools of the county.

From the ages of 22 to 27 Mr. Jones held a very responsible position for one so young. He occupied a place with the State at the Alabama Penitentiary at Wetumpka, serving in many capacities.

In 1902 Mr. Jones and Mr. W.D. Spigener came to Clanton and established the present firm of Jones Hardware Company.

In 1907 Gamble Hardware Company of Wetumpka bought an interest in the business and retained it until five years later when Mr. Jones bought out their interest and became sole owner of the business.

In 1925 Mr. Jones married his charming wife who was Mrs. Elizabeth Fuller Higgins. Both Mr.

and Mrs. Jones hold a prominent place in the religious, club and social life of Clanton.

It is interesting to note that when Mr. Jones first came to Clanton the only existing firms which were here then are Broadhead's Store, Peoples Savings Bank and W. I. Mullins who occupied the present stand of Mullins and Moore.

A good idea of the growth of Clanton may be obtained by comparing the present conditions with those 26 years ago when Mr. Jones moved here. At that time the town was a small place undeveloped and unorganized. Stock roamed the streets at will and the atmosphere of the town lacked hustle and bustle which today so impresses visitors to our city. Remarkable indeed are the changes that can be brought about over such a period of years, and Mr. Jones' enthusiasm over the changes impressed the writer very forcibly.

The farms throughout the county as well as Clanton in by-gone days were far from progressive. Mr. Jones chief interest has been, and still lies in assisting the farmers developing their farms to their fullest capacity. It has been his pleasure to supplant the crude farming implements of former times with the most improved implements that the times afford. Jones Hardware Company was one of the first stores in the county to introduce the cultivator.

When asked his opinion of the present and future Clanton, Mr. Jones said, "I think that Clanton is a splendid town and I believe that its growth in the next ten years will far surpass that of the past ten. With its location and territory to draw from, its extensive agricultural interests and its natural resources we are sure to have one of the most modern towns and counties in the south."

Mr. Jones is one of Clanton's most prominent citizens. He takes an active interest in every movement for the good of his community and his faith in Clanton's future is evidenced in the fact that he has invested much money in real estate in Clanton."

From the Chilton County Courier

19 Jan 1877. Some gentlemen went out netting yesterday evening and caught twenty-three partridges.

The sun took 2 1/2 seconds peep at Clanton this morning, but finding it so muddy decided not to come out.

Mr. M. J. McLaMORE, formerly of Montgomery county has made Clanton his home, he has taken the contract to have lumber hauled on the tram from Jackson, Morris & Co.'s., mill to this place.

The tram road which is being built from Jackson, Morris and Co.'s mill to Clanton is now nearly completed.

During the late cold spell nearly every bottle of ink in Clanton froze. Of course after freezing, the ink is good for nothing.

Campbell and Cook say they have just received the best Peach Brandy that was ever brought to Clanton. Fill your pockets with honey (money) and give them a call.

We heard Col. George say a few days since that he was getting his Mica minds (mines), which are about seven or eight miles from town, in a good condition for working. We were shown some specimens of the Mica, it looked very fine to us.

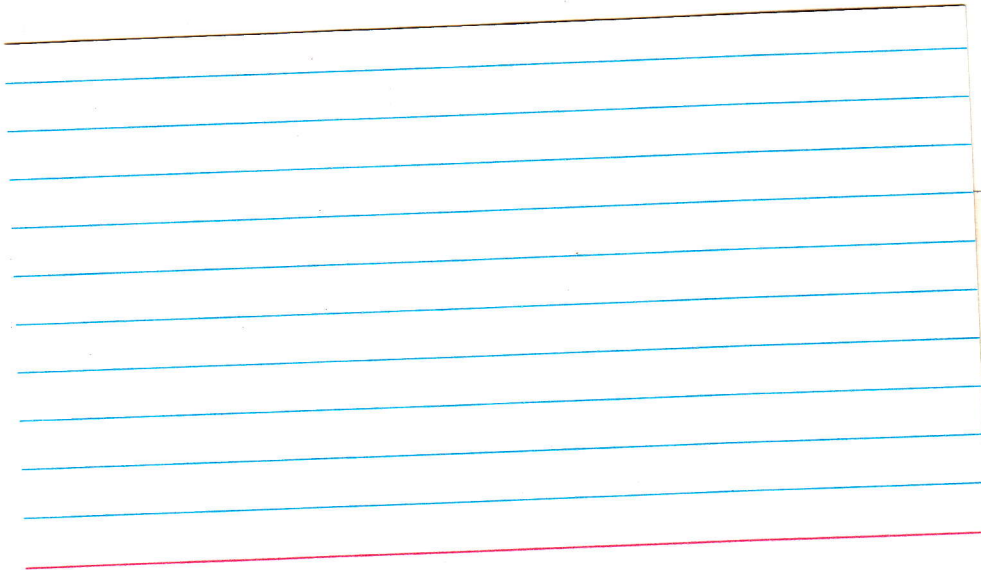
Mr. J. A. Welch who for the past year or two has been living in Verbena has moved to Clanton, he will open a school on next Monday. We hope he will succeed in getting a full school, and judging from the number of children in the place, we think he will.

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Chiltonian

Volume 8 Number 3

September 1988

QUARTERLY MEETING

The final quarterly meeting for 1988 of the Chilton County Historical Society and Archives will be held on Sunday afternoon, October 9th at 2:00 p.m. It will be held in the normal place at the Chilton/Clanton Public Library Conference room. Visitors, as well as members, are urged to attend to hear Professor Doug Rogers' revealing and interesting presentation on "Clothing and Bead-work of the Southern Indians."

QUERY

Farquhard Campbell of Duplin, Bladen and Cumberland Counties, N.C. Died 1808 in NC. Records show that he: patented 200 acres in Duplin Co, Nov 1757; was on a Cumberland Co jury in Oct 1758; was JP that county in May 1761; attempted to be on both sides fo American Revolution; jailed, later pardoned, returned to public life and became NC State Senator. Three wives: Isabella McAllister, Elizabeth Whitfield Smith and Rachel Whitfield. Parents and their origin not known. Help desired

from sources accessible to West Indies and London to ascertain his parents and their origin. LTC Victor E. Clark, Jr., 14262 So. Pines Dr. Dallas, Tx, 75234.

CEMETERY CENSUS

We know that our out-of-State members will be happy to know that about 25% of the Volume I cemetery census has been prepared for inclusion in the eventual publication. The 50 cemeteries that were incorporated in Volume I when added to the 158 that have already been prepared for publication will come to 208 cemeteries in the coming volume. There will be a few more than that as cemeteries very near the county line, but in other counties, that have never been previously published will be included within our volume.

WHO'S WHO

In keeping with our prior efforts we are bringing more of the articles written by Union-Banner editor Mack Wyatt in 1927 and 1928. Our subjects for this issue are first, Mr. W.H. Sartor, and second, Mr. B.C. Apperson.

WHO'S WHO IN CLANTON

Union-Banner 19 Jan 1928
MR. W.H. SARTOR

"The fruit of industry and pluck is success, hence Mr. W.H. Sartor is one of the most successful merchants in central Alabama because he has worked unceasingly to realize his boyhood dreams of being a merchant.

Mr. Sartor was born September 12, 1861, near Autaugaville, Alabama. He is the son of Mr. W.D. Sartor and Mary Elenor Sartor and is the brother of Mr. Eugene F. Sartor who holds a lucrative position with Schloss Sheffield Company in Birmingham.

On March 18, 1872, Mr. W.H. Sartor moved to Clanton from Baker County.

A real appreciation of the splendid salaries of today can be gotten by comparison with those paid when Mr. Sartor was a youth. His first position was at a brick yard where he received 25 cents a day. Later at a saw mill he was paid 75 cents a day. He re-

ceived his first regular monthly salary of \$10.00 as clerk for Capt. John Harmon (probably Hannon), a merchant for whom he worked two fall seasons. Later Mr. Sartor accepted a position with R. Ehrman, a merchant who came to Clanton from Montevallo and ran a general merchandise business on the site where Mullins and Moore now stands (present site of Western Auto). Mr. Sartor's salary at that time was \$35.00 a month. When he gave up the position 15 years later he was earning \$50.00 a month.

In 1897 he launched out into business for himself, forming a partnership with Mr. N.A. Kicker in a firm which will be remembered as Sartor and Kicker. On September 12, 1896, Mr. Sartor married his splendid wife who was Miss Mary Bell Watts. She lived near Clanton at the time.

Later Mr. Sartor bought out Mr. Kicker's interest in the business and the firm of W.H. Sartor and Sons, was established.

In 1916 the Clanton Bank failed and he lost all of his hard earned savings. At a time when many would have lost heart, Mr. Sartor's dauntless courage steered him over the rough places and in 1919 he formed partnership with Mr. V.J. Elmore. And now, regardless of the drawbacks in the past, Mr. Sartor's ability as a merchant has made his present business, Elmore's one of the most up-to-

date stores in this vicinity and has given him (self) a place of prominence with other business heads.

Besides being a good merchant Mr. Sartor is a splendid man of high ideals and principles. He has meant a great deal to the advancement of Clanton. In every movement for the betterment of his town Mr. Sartor has taken an active part, giving generously of his time and means. He is a member of the Baptist church, a member of the Masonic Lodge and a member of the Zamora Temple Shrine.

Mr. Sartor is the father of Mrs. Barney Roberts, Mrs. Crutcher Ross and Mr. Adolph Sartor. Two other sons, Lee and John Sartor, died some years ago.

Mr. Sartor and his family are very active in the church, social and club life of Clanton. His daughters, Mrs. Roberts and Mrs. Ross, are accomplished musicians who are very unselfish with their talents.

Mr. Sartor believes absolutely in Clanton where he has lived for over 50 years. He has had an opportunity to study the town from every angle and it is his opinion that in 8 or 10 years Clanton will be a city."

[Mr. Sartor's father was a soldier in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. Mr. Elmore sold his interest in Elmore's to Mr. Sartor and the business was later named "The

Fair Store''. All that time the store was located on the corner where Bennett's is currently located.]

BENJAMIN C. APPERSON

"The first public recognition of the advent of Benjamin Crichton Apperson into the activities of this world is found in The Banner of January 30, 1901, written by Frank Crichton, editor of The Banner, and for whom the subject of this sketch was named:

'I have just learned that a good lady on the western side of the county has honored me by naming her little boy after me. It has not been my good fortune to meet the lady, although I have the pleasure of knowing her husband whom I highly esteem. I am told that my namesake is a bright and intelligent little fellow now about eighteen months old and I feel proud of him. I hope he will grow up to be a better man than I have ever known how to be. Here's hoping for a long, happy, and prosperous life Crichton Apperson.'

Following the time when the above was written many years elapsed before we hear anything more of Crichton Apperson. He was just one of the many little boys of Chilton County who was growing up under the tender care of a good father and mother who were striving to prepare him for the battles of life and who were hoping with Frank Crichton and many other friends

that his little life might extend through many future years to bless his fellow man with happiness and usefulness.

When Crichton Apperson's life did break into usefulness it was with a great force, and since that day his name has been written on the pages of Birmingham's history in flaming letters. His rise to prominence has been phenomenal. His zeal for doing things has been without limit. He is a whirlwind when it comes to doing things. We know of no son of the soil of Chilton County who has gone forth and fared more successfully than this little boy of our western hills, who a quarter of a century ago was represented to be a bright and intelligent little fellow.

As Secretary and Treasure of the Alabama Retail Food Dealers Association and the Birmingham Retail Grocers and Butchers Association, he is one of the leading factors in promulgation of the work of protecting the health and welfare of the people of Birmingham and Alabama, by the inauguration and support of those policies which are suggested by a sanitary viewpoint with reference to preparation, handling and sale of all food stuffs. His organization is a powerful force maintained for the betterment of the food business.

Born in the western part of Chilton County April 1, 1900, Benjamin Crichton Apperson is now in the very prime of useful

young manhood. He brings to his work the enthusiasm of youth, combined with the expert experience of some years of practical work and study.

He is the son of D.M. and Viola (Lenoir) Apperson, the former of whom is a native of Autauga County; the latter of Chilton. D.M. Apperson is a prominent farmer. During the whole of his mature life he has been recognized as one of Chilton County's most substantial citizens. There are three other children of the Apperson family: Chas. L., William F., and David C.

The paternal grandfather, Samuel Labon Apperson, served as a soldier in the Indian wars of Alabama. The maternal greandfather, Thomas Lenoir, was an officer in the Confederate army during the Civil War.

..... True to the family tradition, Crichton Apperson is a member of the Baptist church and a Mason. He is one of the most outstanding young men Chilton County has produced, and he is yet only fairly well started on his life career."

EARLY SETTLERS

Entries in the Chilton County Tract Book, though not the lone source, are an excellent indication of the landholders who first settled in what later became Baker, then Chilton County. A sizeable number of land patents in that book are dated January

25th, 1820.

All but one of them is in the township enclosed within T21 R13 which includes Old Liberty Hill, Isabella, Old Maplesville, Sardis and extends just about to Pool's Crossroad. The names of those settlers were:

John Giles, Alexander Spears, James Page, John Hicks, Leo M. Whatley, Stephen Dunn, A. Cobb, Jacob Mink, W. Baird, C.R. Cox, Stephen Wilson, John Wilson, Bane Woolley, William White, James Davenport, P.J. Weaver, W. Beard, A. Atkinson, J. Goodgame, Wood, Riggins, and Baird.

The lone settler of that same year in T21 R15 was a man named F. Posey and the land lay in the vicinity of Chestnut Creek or Coopers.

Most of these men are confirmed as early settlers in the two publications compiled by Mr. U.H. Abrams. However, it is possible that there were others that did not file patents for land grants at that early a date. At any rate it would be safe to say that the largest group of settlers chose the terrain in the locale first mentioned above. Due to the number of those settlers it seems logical that that area would have been the quicker to develop as is born out by the formation of the Mulberry Baptist Church in 1816.

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PRINTER - Automotive Publishing, Tommy and Mark Patterson, Proprietors.

MEMBERSHIP RATES:

Lifetime \$100.00 Annual, single 7.00

Annual, couple 10.00

Annual, student 5.00

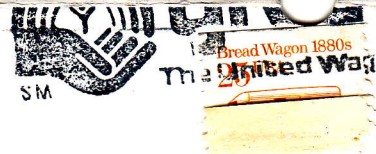
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Vice President.....	Ms. Helen Parrish
Sec/Treasurer.....	Ms. Mary Richardson
Historian	Mrs. Loris G. Thomas
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Chiltonian

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December 1988

QUARTERLY MEETING

The first quarterly meeting of the Chilton County Historical Society will be held at the Chilton/Clanton Public Library on Sunday, January 8th, 1989. At the regularly scheduled time, 2:00 p.m., the annual election of Officers will be held. This will be a hotly waged contest for those seeking election to leadership of the Society, so be sure to attend and have your vote and influence expressed.

CEMETERY CENSUS

As you will note from the size of this issue we have generated a dedicated effort to preparing the cemetery census for publication. Within a short time each member will receive a brochure stating the cost, publication date and other supporting information. It will request that you subscribe in advance so that cost of the printing will be in hand prior to mailing. We urgently solicit your cooperation in this effort and request that you send addresses of anyone that might like to purchase at the pre-publication price. That price for the census will only be made available to those who subscribe in advance.

Now for some facts about what your subscription will buy. All of the cemeteries in Volume 1 originally published, thanks to Sue Hardy Thomas will be included with some four or five cemeteries updated. That amounts to 50 cemeteries. In addition, there are an additional 161 cemeteries that were not in that collection and in many cases never before published which will be included. One other benefit will be in the inclusion of 12 cemeteries which are not in the county but are in close proximity. It would be reasonable to estimate that there will be about 20,000 names listed. Right now the appearance is that it will be a three volume set which will amount to about 500 printed pages.

There will be some decided advantages to this publication over the original volume and even over those Chilton cemeteries which were published in *Baptists of Bibb* by Howard F. McCord. This is not meant to detract from the fine effort in both those volumes in any way. What we refer to is that there will be a full name index for every entry in the census. Our estimate is that the index will add about 150 or so more pages to the

publication.

Because of its final size, we are leaning to a three book set, the third book would be dedicated to the index for the other two books. All of the books will be "perfect" bound and will have the general appearance of *The Alabama Review*.

We are also convinced that the format selected for the listing will provide more convenience. All listings will be by last name first so that family names can be spotted more readily when scanning a particular cemetery. The columnar aspect is maintained throughout so that there is a name column, a date of birth column, a date of death column and then a remarks column. Dates will be shown in this format: 1871-2-14.

Cemeteries of Chilton

Publication Date
Early 1989

A Brochure will be mailed in January
1989 announcing Price and Date of
Publication and options

The format chosen in that manner allows some insights readily from the computer. For instance, within the data for a given cemetery we are able to sort to find the earliest burial in each cemetery. It occurred to us that a line for each cemetery indicating the earliest burial could prove beneficial to researchers. When we saw the size the publication would be we declined that option.

Since the information will not appear in the publication we thought our members were entitled to the benefit of it at any rate. What we found as I am certain most everyone already knew was that the settlement of the western part of the county is supported by the earlier grave markers.

All of the cemeteries that have "Old" in front of their names usually have a later cemetery of the same name. Those that are "old" in the western locales have markers whose dates go back to the 1830's. Most of the older cemeteries in the eastern part of the county go back to the 1860's, generally. There are some exceptions: Rocky Mount, 1835; Chestnut Creek, 1848; Old Rock Springs, 1840; Walnut Creek, 1844; Caviness Garden, 1836.

There are several older cemeteries that are known and located alright but no grave markers remain to give any indication of who was buried there, nor when. We have managed through the diligence of our contributing surveyors to determine in a few cases who was buried in some of those cemeteries but can have no idea when they were interred.

Since the Confederate Memorial Park is within Chilton County, its cemeteries are included in this publication. For that matter, another of the benefits will be identification of a large number of Confederate Veterans whose grave markers do not reflect their service. Using the 1907 Confederate Veteran Census and pension applications in the local courthouse we included, in brackets, the information we found about them. It appears there are about 250 Confederate Veterans buried within the boundaries of Chilton.

Where remarks were included as being a part of the marker's inscription they are also listed in this census, that is, if they were provided to us in the survey. Now some of these remarks are quite interesting as you will find when you are perusing the books. For instance, there is one Union Army Veteran of the Civil War buried in the county. There is also one World War I British pilot buried in the county. We could list many more but think that this will give a fair representation of benefits of subscribing in advance.

We are fortunate to have the foreword of this publication provided by Dr. Edwin M. Bridges, Director of the Alabama Department of Archives and History. It will, indeed, be an impressive and classy endeavor.

Please, send in your check as soon as possible after you receive the brochure so that we can get your census in the mail to you at the outset.

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