

Joseph P. Littleton Family Cemetery, Chilton County, Alabama

By Derric Scott, March 3, 2025

The Littleton Cemetery is the family cemetery of Joseph P. and Syntha Cleckler Littleton. It is in the NE ½ of the SE ¼ of S34 T23 R14E. Historically this was originally in Beat 1 (Mims Cross Roads) and then later, from about 1891 to 1895, it was in Beat 4 (Clanton). It finally settled in Beat 9 (Thorsby) in 1895 and remains there today.

Joseph P. was the son of Isaac A. Littleton (b 1786 - d 1855). Isaac was one of the earliest settlers in this area of the county and, among his large property holdings, owned the neighboring property west of Joseph's. Isaac obtained his first land in this area from the U. S. Government with a patent in 1831. Joseph was 23 years old when Isaac A. made this acquisition. Eight years later, at the age of 31, Joseph bought his own 40 acres for his homestead which was where he would build the cemetery. After Joseph died, his wife Syntha inherited the property and then later an uncle owned it for several years.

The property finally left the Littleton family when it was sold to a new immigrant family from Sweden, the Gronquists, in 1901. The one acre public graveyard and an easement were written into the deed.

P. N. Littleton's wife was Catherine Roberson, the daughter of Mordecia Roberson. Mordecia was the first Judge of Probate for the new county of Baker, created December 1868, and he served from 1869 through 1874. Around the end of his term the county was renamed Chilton County, which solidified his fame as the "ONLY Probate Judge of *Baker County*."

The remaining four legible headstones in the cemetery are those of Joseph P. Littleton, his wife Syntha Cleckler Littleton, their son Pinkney N. Littleton, and his wife Catherine Delaney Roberson Littleton. Four other (newer) markers are handmade of concrete with only an "L" molded into them and three more markers (apparently set sometime after 2007) are just blank concrete. It is unclear if there are any other burials on the site.

The grave listing of the Littleton Cemetery from **Chilton Cemetery Association** files is below.

Grave markers numbered 1 to 8 were present in 2007; markers 9-11 were made soon afterwards:

Name	Dates	Relationship Listed	Sentiment or Surveyor Comments
1. Unknown Littleton			Handmade concrete marker with "L"
2. Joseph P. Littleton	May 22, 1808 - May 22, 1881		Broken, had been repaired
3. Syntha Littleton	Sept 27, 1815 - Jan 16, 1897	"Wife of Joseph P. Littleton"	
4. Unknown Littleton			Handmade concrete marker with "L"
5. Unknown Littleton			Handmade concrete marker with "L"
6. Catharine Laney Littleton	April 7, 1844 - Jan 8, 1891	"Wife of P. N. Littleton"	Broken, had been repaired
7. P. N. Littleton	Aug 20, 1845 - Jan 29, 1910		
8. Unknown Littleton			Handmade concrete marker with "L"
9. Blank			Handmade blank concrete marker
10. Blank			Handmade blank concrete marker
11. Blank			Handmade blank concrete marker
Aaron Littleton ????	1850 – Jul 18, 1917	Son of Joe and Cynthia Cleckler Littleton	Chilton Deaths book lists this burial in Littleton Cem.
Has stone in Collins Chapel C.			

Survey by Jeff and Kat Reece for CCA on September 23, 2007