

Written In Stone

By Sherry Johnston

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Garvin Family Cemetery - Part II

According to the *Historical Atlas of AL, Volume 2, Cemetery Locations by County*, the Garvin Cemetery, Brooklyn Road, is #121-SE in Section 36 of Township 5 North, Range 12 East.

The *Conecuh Headstones, Volume 2*, lists 9 unmarked graves and 24 identified graves; however, paying my respects at the old cemetery, I could only locate 18 of those 24. The last two, one in 1985 & most recently, in 1992, join their loved ones in this serene and holy place. Emma Catherine Jerkins Barlow passed away in 1992 & John Greel Barlow passed away in 1985. They both had ties to the early Barlow line that called Centerville & the Horton communities' home.

Families bound by ties older than our county, thicker than the books that record our history continue to visit the old burial grounds of their ancestors; keeping the cemetery clean and maintained, with fresher bouquets atop many of the graves.

The 1860 Conecuh Census show the families of Adams, Barlow & McCormick living in close proximity; and in the marriage records of the late 1800's a Barlow married a McCormick by a Garvin, who served as Justice of the Peace. Others who were neighbors that possibly married into the families were Fortner, Griffin, Hughes, Moore, & Padgett families, many of them in repose in this cemetery and others nearby.

Missing from the old cemetery plot was a couple of headstones that could have deteriorated or been moved by human hands; and not replaced. Cemetery preservationists encourage the old stones be kept if descendants wish to replace them with newer markers, to keep the history of the older stone. For more information on these families, visit the archives of the Evergreen Public Library at 119 Cemetery Avenue, Evergreen, AL.