

Written In Stone

By Sherry Johnston

Evergreen Courant ~ 15 November 2007

Brewer Cemetery

Traveling down County Road 30 in Conecuh County, you will pass several homes, pastures, ponds, Cold Creek Lake, and rolling hillsides with dirt roads cutting in different directions. Farm equipment lies idle in vacant fields, and play toys scattered on the lawns of the homes indicating children at play. Not evident is the fact that up on a certain hillside are the remains of some of the families who once farmed and played in the community.

When the county road crews cut the roads through in the outlying rural areas, many times, the actual construction would cut through old homesteads, old churches, graveyards, and sometimes the graves would be removed; however, many times they would not. In the case of County Road 30 or Lyeffion to Burnt Corn road, the paved highway cuts through an old cemetery known as the Brewer Cemetery. The cemetery is located in Township 7 North, Range 10 East, Section 24 and in the Historical Atlas is listed as # 131-NW.

The first known interment is James W. Reaves/Reeves born Feb. 3, 1878 and died Feb. 26, 1890. He was the son of J.C. and D.E. Reaves. The mother of the child is also buried here, and she was possibly his first wife, as he married again less than 6 months after the death of James' mother. D.E. Reaves was born 25 March 1855 and died 17 Aug. 1905 and his remarriage was to Malissa Sellers, in 1906. The families found here all have Joiner/Joyner family connections, with Joel Joyner also found buried here. One Joiner/Joyner buried here is Mattie Joyner who married J.A. Kelly, and nestled beside her is their infant son. She died in 1903. Many of the graves here are covered with fallen trees, debris, and the brick and mortar are scattered throughout the old burial ground.

If there are any descendants who would be interested in restoring and repairing this cemetery, please contact me at canebrakesociety@yahoo.com or call me at 251/578-2670.