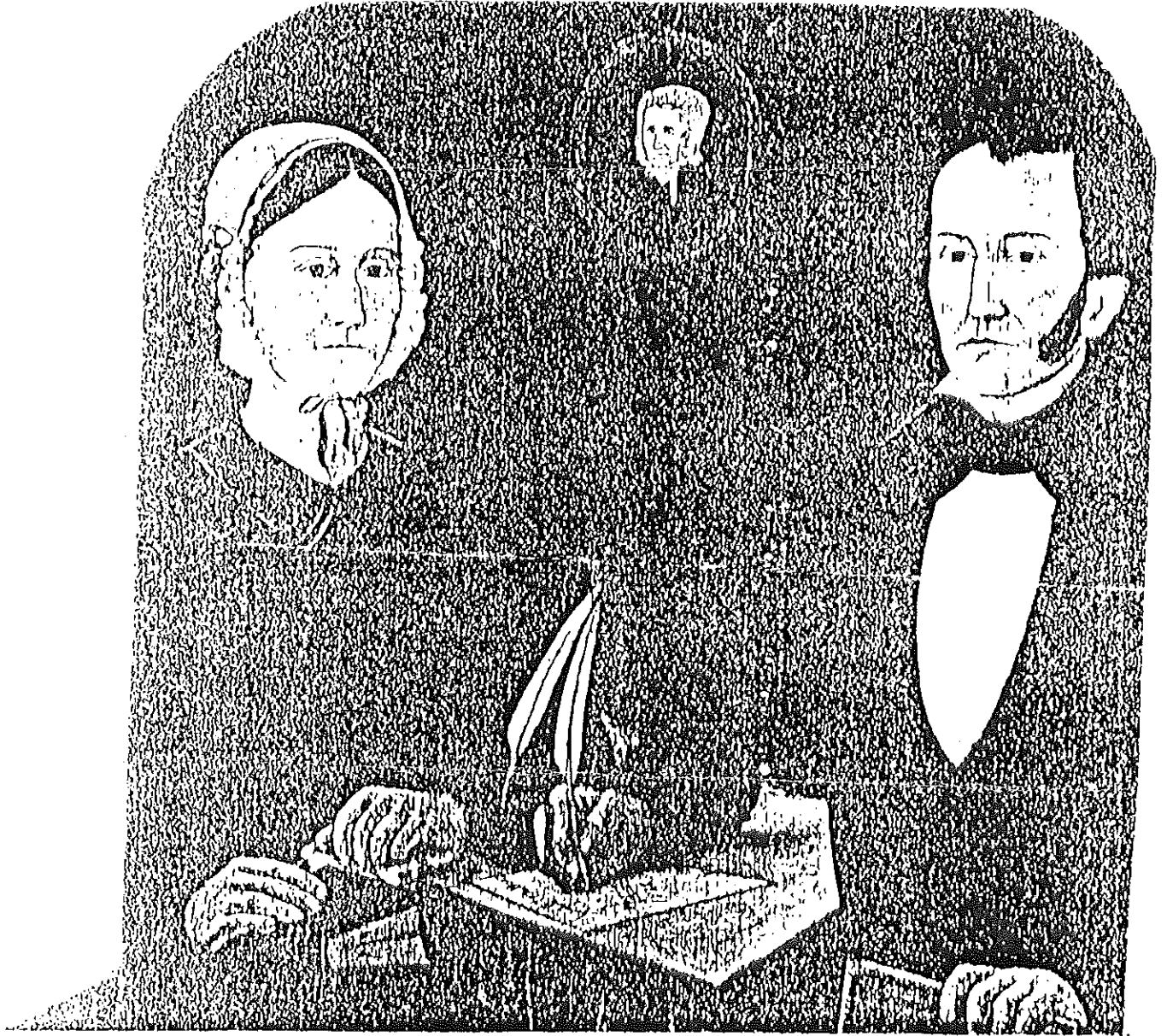
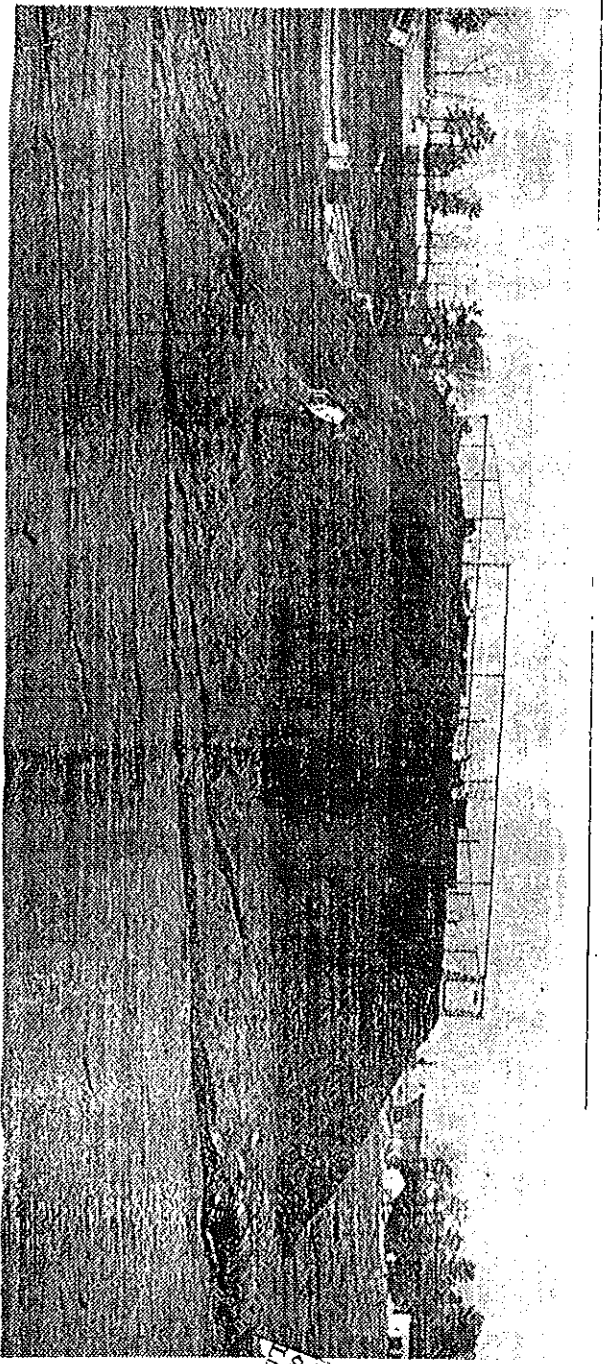
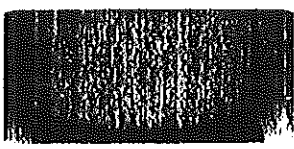
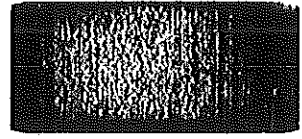


Joseph Walker married Jane Murphy Towers, the sister of Eliza Towers Crowley. Joseph & Jane Walker were the grandparents of Julia Elizabeth Corley. Julia married Jefferson Davis Crowley. Jeff was the youngest child of Benjamin C. Crowley and Mary Jane Tuggle Crowley. Jeff was a grandson of James Crowley and Dorcas Smith Crowley,



*Jane Murphy Towers and Joseph Walker*  
B. 1804 D. Sept 19, 1869 | B. March 8, 1808 D. 11-12, 1889

*Wm Benjamin  
Company*



# PROGRESS EVERYWHERE . . . ALMOST

Near Columbia and Memorial drives land is being cleared where business structures will soon be raised. But despite construction in the name of progress one plot of ground remains as it is. It is a

small grave plot. The height of the plot gives an indication of how much the construction site has been graded to make way for new buildings.

Staff Photo—Hugh Stovall

CROWLEY, JAMES M. b. 1777 Pittsylvania Co., VA, d. ca 9 Feb. 1828, [1224] bur. Crowley Cem., near Decatur Co., GA, son of Benjamin Crowley, Sr. and w. Sara Crowley, m. 2 Feb 1799, Oglethorpe Dist., GA, Darcus Smith b. 1778, NC, d. ca 1850-1860 bur. Crowley Cem. near Decatur Co., GA. [1225]  
Issue of James M. Crowley and his wife, Darcus (Smith) Crowley are:

- i. Crowley, Joseph b. 1802, DeKalb Co., GA, d. before 1847, MS, m. before 1828, Sarah Jennings.
- ii. Crowley, Nancy b. 3 Oct 1804, KeKalb Co., GA, d. 18 Nov 1871, bur. Boswell Jennings Cem., Double Springs, Webster Co., MS, [1226] m. 30 Dec 1823, Oglethorpe Co., GA, Boswell Smith Jennings, Sr. son of Robert B. Jennings and w. Tabitha (Lockhart) Jennings.
- iii. Crowley, Allen b. 15 Jan 1806, old house near Decatur, GA, d. 1864, m. 28 Dec 1836, Eliza Towers [1227].
- iv. Crowley, Delaney "Dealy" b. 1808, GA, d. GA, m. Zachariah Cross.
- v. Crowley, James b. 1810, DeKalb Co., GA, d. GA, m. Mary Smith.
- vi. Crowley, Benjamin C. b. 3 Aug 1812, DeKalb Co., GA, d. 3 Jan 1869, Crowley Cem., Decatur, DeKalb Co., GA, m. Mary Jane Tuggle.
- vii. Crowley, Seaborn b. 1814, Decatur, DeKalb Co., GA., d. 1894, GA, m. Fannie E. Ragsdale.
- viii. Crowley, Harrison "Harris" b. 1818, DeKalb Co., GA, d. GA, m. Mary J. Sturges.
- ix. Crowley, George Washington b. 1820, GA, d. bur. Thrasher Cem. Trinity, AL, m. (1) Sarah J. Jones, m. (2) ?.
- x. Crowley, (infant son)
- xi. Crowley, (infant son)
- xii. Crowley, (infant son)

Ten sons and three daughters; three sons died young.

CROWLEY, Jeffrey b. Eng or Ireland d. early 1762, Halifax Co., VA, bur. Antrum Parish, VA, m. (1) 1731, North Ireland Alice A. Bradford, m. (2) Martha d. after 1762. [1228]

Issue of Jeffrey Crowley and his second wife, Martha are:

- i. Crowley, Benjamin Sr. d. 1817, m. Sara.
- ii. Crowley, Samuel "Old Sam" d. 10 Oct 1774, Western VA, Killed in Indian Battle at Point Pleasant on Ohio River.
- iii. Crowley, (female) m. Gibson.
- iv. Crowley, (female) m. Heath.

FOREST CROWLEY  
107 WOODLAND HILL DRIVE  
BROOKHAVEN, MS 39601

OLD CEMETERIES NEVER DIE  
Written by Forest Crowley in November 1993

I am sure all of you have heard the statement - "Old soldiers never die, they just fade away" - (Gen. MacArthur). What do you think happens to old cemeteries?? Do they just fade away too??? I don't think so. What happens if they stand in the way of (quote "PROGRESS" unquote)???? I will attempt to tell you about one cemetery in particular in Decatur, Georgia. Curtis has a brother, Carl A. Ball, who lives in Atlanta, GA. Curtis said Carl knew where my Great Great Grandparents, James Crowley (1777-1828) & Dorcas Smith, his wife, are buried. I called information and got his number. He said they are buried in the middle of the parking lot of the South DeKalb Shopping Center near the old Davidson Dept Store which is now closed. Carl called this the Old Hudgins Cemetery. About 20 people are buried here - most of them were Hudgins who died in the 1700's. Carl said that the Hudgins are relatives of ours but that is a new name to me. Stanley Hudgins, who is a big real estate broker and developer in Atlanta has the key to get in the cemetery. I think that Carl said that Stanley owns the shopping center also. The builder of the cemetery could not get permission to move the cemetery so he dug down about 6 feet around the cemetery and then put up a 12 foot granite retaining wall around the cemetery so it looks like a big building in the middle of the parking lot. The cemetery is near the intersection of So. Columbia Drive and Memorial Drive in Decatur. Carl said he visited the cemetery a couple of times before the shopping center was built. It was in the middle of an open field with a barbed wire fence around it. I told him that I had written the Chamber of Commerce in Decatur trying to find the Crowley Cemetery but they did not answer my letter and Carl believed they probably didn't have any info on the cemetery. The old Davidson Dept Store is part of the Macy's chain with their main store in New York City. This area is now black and is getting run down but should be safe to visit during the day.

# #

*Ben Crowley, my grandfather, is buried on  
The Crowley Farm 3 mi So of Decatur, Ga, near  
my old home.*

*Stanley Hudgins  
Baton Rouge*

# #

Ben Crowley (1812-1869) was the son of James Crowley and the brother of my Great Grandfather, Allen Crowley (1806-1864). This makes Forest Crowley and Stanley Hudgins Jr third cousins.

February 5, 1994

Dear Forest,

Just a note to let you know I received your letter of Jan 27th. I was impressed with the names, locations and dates in the Jennings book and particularly impressed by the information from Ariel Crowley. I have never seen information that far back on the Crowley family.

I am enclosing a clipping from the Atlanta Constitution newspaper showing the Crowley cemetery. I was angered by the article and intend to advise them so. They describe it as a weird place.

I still am unable to find anyone in the family with a key but am planning to cut the lock off and gain entrance.

Sincerely,

Stan Hudgins

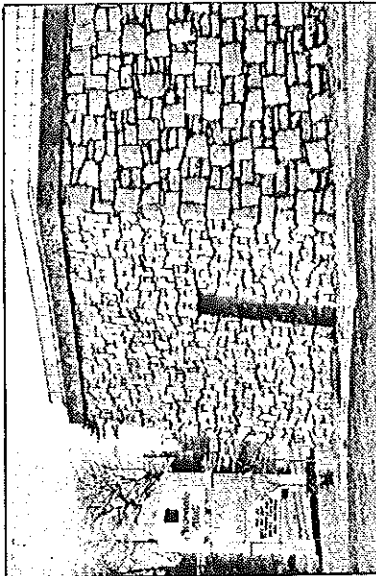
ATLANTA CONSTITUTION

C2 Monday, January 24, 1994 \*\*\*\*\*

# Talk of the Town

## Odd Spot

WEIRD PLACES AROUND ATLANTA



### The Mall 'Mausoleum'

When I die, bury me at the mall. That way I know you'll come to see me every day. Or so the old joke goes.

But someone beat you to it. Out in the parking lot at Avondale Mall, you'll find a forbidding granite structure protecting the gravesites of Benjamin Crowley, who settled in DeKalb County in 1802, and some of his kin.

The developers of the mall, which was built in 1963, agreed to build around the graves and to put up the hewn-granite walls that protect the Crowley family site.

Have an **Odd Spot** to pass along? We'd love to hear about it. Call 526-5342, fax us at 526-5746, or write to Odd Spot, AJC City Desk, P.O. Box 4689, Atlanta 30302.

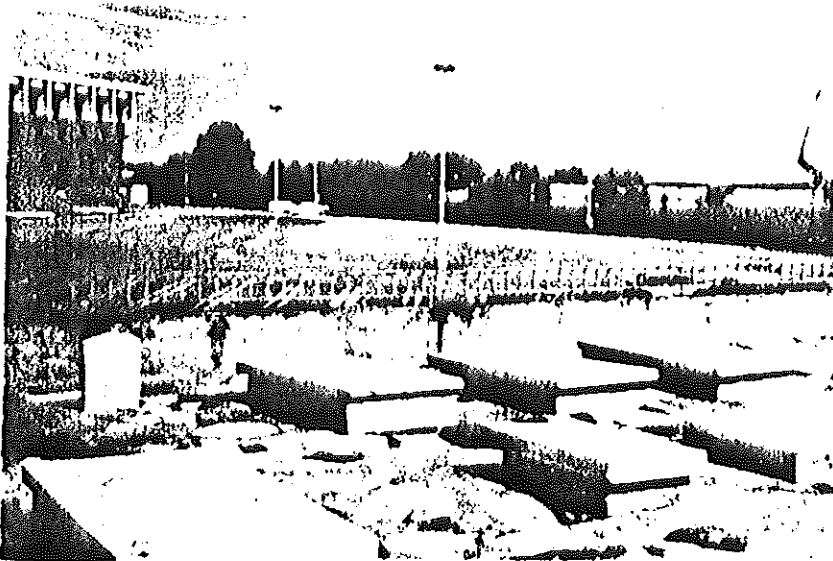
The article above is from the Atlanta Constitution Newspaper of 24 Jan 1994.

This is no ordinary run of the mill article - especially for us Crowleys - and this newspaper is certainly going to hear from me about it.

((The problem is I can't decide whether to congratulate them on this article or give them a piece of my mind for calling this a weird place.))

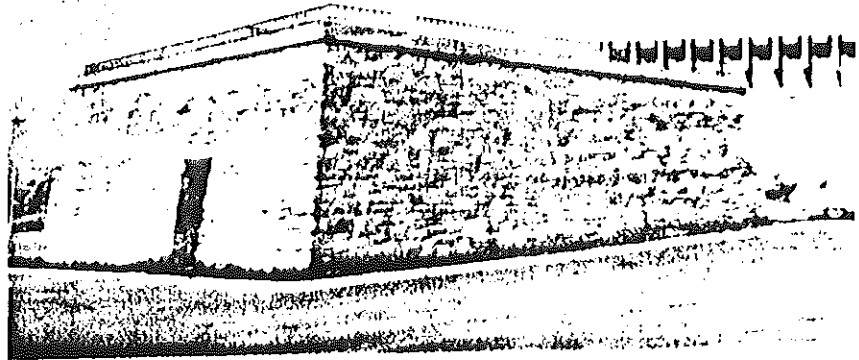
FAMILY CEMETERY OF BENJAMIN C. CROWLEY  
AND A NUMBER OF HIS DESCENDENTS  
HEIRS INCLUDED THE MUDGINS AND WEBB  
FAMILY. THEIR HOME WAS LOCATED 100 YARDS  
SOUTHEAST OF THIS AREA.  
THEY SETTLED HERE IN THE YEAR OF 1807  
THIS AREA WAS A LAND GRANT FROM THE  
KING OF ENGLAND.  
THIS PROJECT WAS ACCOMPLISHED UNDER THE  
PLANNING COORDINATION AND SUPERVISION  
OF JOHN H. CROWLEY.

OLD DAVIDSON  
DEPARTMENT STORE



OLD DAVIDSON  
DEPT  
STORE

GRAVES FROM  
TOP OF MAUSOLEUM



# CROWLEY FAMILY CEMETERY.

Location: Near intersection of <sup>Memorial Drive</sup> Columbia Road<sup>Dr.</sup> and Midway Road, Land Lot #217, 15th. District, DeKalb County Decatur District. *Avondale mall*

Recorded Dec. 11, 1931.

Cross,	Delaney.	BORN 1810 Died April 17, 1892. Aged 82 years.
	(Mother. N.C.)	Wife of Zachariah D. Cross.
Cross,	Zachariah D. (BORN. S.C.)	Aug. 15, 1815. Nov. 18, 1891. Parents B.
Crowley,	Benjamin.	Aug. 3, 1812 - Jan. 3, 1869.
Crowley,	James, Sr.	No inscribed marker. Died 1828. Came to DeKalb County from Oglethorpe County, Ga.
Crowley,	Dorcas Smith.	No inscribed marker. Died about 1851 or 1852. Wife of James Crowley, Sr.
Crowley,	James, Jr.	No inscribed marker. Died when a young man.
Crowley,	Mary Jane <i>Duggli</i>	July 12, 1823 - Sept. 14, 1863. Wife of Benjamin Crowley.
Hawkins,	John.	No inscribed marker. Father of John M. Hawkins.

There are 11 graves in this cemetery, 7 adult & 4 children, marked by box tombs, un-inscribed. These include the graves of James Crowley, Sr., Dorcas Smith Crowley and James Crowley, Jr.

Information about un-inscribed graves furnished a daughter of Benjamin Crowley and granddaughter James Crowley, Sr.

# 'Tomb of the Unknown Shopper' Family cemetery is parked at mall

By Sarah Cash

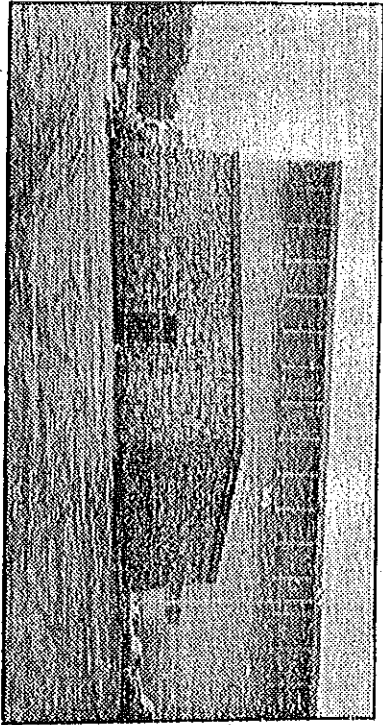
Staff Writer

If cemeteries make you feel creepy, then stay clear of the eastern side of the Avondale Mall parking lot.

Eleven graves are housed within a stone-walled mausoleum that stands on the fringe of the mall's parking area.

Nearby residents and shoppers often have referred jokingly to the mausoleum as "the tomb of the unknown shopper."

Outside the state, people may not recollect the name of the old Columbia Mall — which has been revamped and renamed the Avondale Mall — but they remember "the shopping center with a cemetery," according to Avondale Mall marketing direc-



A stone-walled mausoleum houses 11 gravesites in parking lot of Avondale Mall. (Staff Photo — Billy Downs)

tor Monica Warner.

The bodies of DeKalb pioneer Benjamin C. Crowley and his family are buried within the mausoleum, which stands on property originally settled in 1802 under a land grant from the King of England, according to a memorial plaque at the mausole-

um gate.

When Columbia Mall was built in 1964, the family cemetery was left undisturbed. According to a newspaper clipping provided by the DeKalb Historical Society, the mausoleum was erected to protect the gravesites in 1965.

### Listing of shops at Avondale Mall

- Davison's Clearance Center
- Davison/Macy's
- Sears Surplus Store
- Easy TV & Appliance
- Oriental Toys/Gifts
- Lee's Children Shop
- Shallimar Jewelry
- Step Ahead Inc.
- Rainbow Records
- Louise Falke—custom jewelry
- Hats & Handbags

### Sears Dry Cleaners H & R Block

- M. Larry Gifts
- Market Research
- Sav-on-Pots-n-Plants
- Hahn Shoes
- Cherries (women's clothing)
- Great Expectations
- Real Jewelry
- ETC (gifts)
- Key Jewelers
- Gusini Shoes
- Eckerd Drug Company
- Barrett Shoes
- Earl & Run Sandwich Shoppes

### Joe Field's

- Marcellie's Hot Dogs
  - Piece of the Pie Pizza
  - Six Star (variety store)
  - Stuart's Women's Apparel
  - Neal's Cookies
  - Fresh Fruits & Nuts
  - Frontier Fruit & Nut
  - International News Rack
  - Sunshades
  - Jewelers
  - National Automobile Service Association (computer automobile service)
- (Shops not included in this list may still be undergoing lease negotiation).

*Handwritten notes:*  
 X [unclear]  
 [unclear]  
 [unclear]  
 [unclear]



Forest CROWLEY  
107 WOODLAND HILL DRIVE  
BROOKHAVEN, MS 39601

A VERY SHORT SUMMARY OF ARIEL CROWLEY'S MICROFILM NO. 1035673  
By Forest Crowley - March 1994

I should give you a little background information before I summarize what is in this film. First of all I want to say that we are extremely lucky to have Ariel's records to read. He spent 60 years working on our family genealogy. This film contains 1961 pages on his notes and it took me eight hours just to scan this film for information. After five or six generations there are thousands of people and hundreds of family names that must be sorted thru to find our direct descendants. Anyone who has \$4.50 can bring this film into their local Mormon library for six months and see his notes and all the supporting documents. Ariel stated that he spent many of these years searching for where Jeffrey Crowley was born. (Note: Jeffrey Crowley (1702 - 1761) was the great, great, great, great grandfather of both Ariel and myself.) Ariel had predicted many years before Jeffrey was found that if he was found it would be in the vicinity of Birmingham, England. Therefore he started looking there and then searched in an ever widening circle until he finally found Jeffrey in Kinwarton about 50 miles away from Birmingham. Ariel has spent a fortune going to Europe and writing numerous letters seeking information on the family. Most of his letters were to genealogical societies, to numerous records offices, and many churches in the search area. He even paid them for their time to research their records. Ariel also has several other microfilms which can be ordered from the Mormon Library in Salt Lake City. I have brought two more of Ariel's films into the Mormon library in Jackson but have not scanned these films as yet. Paul Crowley was in error in identifying our people in England. These people existed and were distant relatives but were not our direct descendants.

We are descendants of James Crowley (1777 - 1828). James had a brother - William - who was Ariel's descendant. This makes Ariel and me fourth cousins. James's father was Benjamin Crowley Sr., who is the Triple Great Grandfather of both Ariel and myself. I have scanned his film twice so I am going to publish my report on it. It will be several months before I see this film again and if I find any errors I will correct them at that time.

This film covers the period from about 1470 when Robert Crowley was born in Wexford, Ireland to about 1730 when our ancestors arrived in this country.

Paul's writings for our ancestors in this country were mostly correct and is the main record we have on the immediate family going back to our great, great grandfather, James Crowley (1777 - 1828). Ariel also differs from Paul as to who the wife of Jeffrey Crowley was.

Lets start with Benjamin Crowley Sr (1730 - 1817). Ben was born in 1730 in Caroline County, Virginia. He died in 1817 and his will was probated on 15 Oct 1817 in Oglethorpe County, Georgia. His parents were Jeffrey Crowley and Effie (Efra) Nearne. Ben was possibly their first child but there may have been an older child named John, born ca 1729 in Orange County, Virginia. John sometimes appears in our history but we are not sure who his parents were.

Ben sold his land in Pittsylvania County, Virginia to Enoch Conley in 1783 and moved to Oglethorpe County, Georgia in 1784.

Jeffrey Crowley was born in 1702 and christened on 29 Mar 1702 in the Church of England at Kinwarton Parish, Warwickshire, England. He married Effie (Efra) Nearne ca 1729, probably in Virginia. He died in

His mother was Alicia Dowler, buried in 1596 in Wootton Wawen.

Thomas Crowley, born ca 23 Apr 1548, married 6 Jul 1568, to Alicia Dowler at Wootton Wawen. He was buried on 15 Apr 1596 in Wootton Wawen.

Thomas Crowley, born ca 1527, probably in Warwickshire, England. He married Agnes Jennings on 20 Jul 1547 in Wootton Wawen, Agnes was born ca 1529 in England. Thomas's mother was Elizabeth and was buried on 11 Apr 1546 in Wootton Wawen.

John Crowley, born ca 1500, probably in Wootton Wawen, buried 24 Apr 1546 in Wootton Wawen, He married Elizabeth,

Robert Crowley, born ca 1470, probably in Wexford, Ireland. He had a house and 60 acres of land in Wootton Wawen in 1495. This land was owned by the Duke of Buckingham as common people could only have land in trust. He died in Wootton Wawen.

The Gaelic spelling of our name was originally O'Cruadhlaoch and was anglicized to O'Croley, ultimately losing the "O", and finally Crowley. In the past it was sometimes spelled Croly and Crolly. Cruadh means "hard" and laoch means "hero". Most of the Crowleys were originally from the territory near Dunnaway, in the County Cork. 75% of the Crowley births were registered in the County Cork and 25% of the births were in other Munster counties. On one of his trips Ariel Crowley visited the ruined Crowley castle at Ahakeera on the farm of Thomas Buttmeir.

The strife between England and Ireland is many centuries old. Our family found itself in the wrong place at the wrong time in the middle 1400's and were considered traitors for supporting the English and had their land and property confiscated from them. Our family finally moved to England in the late 1400's. Times were so bad in Ireland at this time that half the English speaking people in Ireland left the country.

Ariel has visited the old Crowley farm near Wootton Wawen. There is an old Oak tree on this farm which is reputed to be over 1000 years old and even to this day this tree is known as the "Crowley Oak". It is the oldest tree in the district. It measures 33 feet around at the base and the diameter is about 10 1/2 feet.

The Crowleys are mentioned in Dugdales History of Warwickshire which was written in the 1600's. The house there is described as the "Manor of the Crowleys" in the old roll. The house stands on a moated site, and an earlier house was undoubtedly there before this house, probably in the 12th or 13th century. The present farmhouse was built of narrow red bricks, beautifully mellowed with age. The back of the house is gabled in the 16th century style but the front is probably 18th century and the ground floor windows and Verandah were added in Victorian times.

The Crowley Manor was one of the places to visit in the Village Pageant in 1959. The masters of the house were played by Thomas and Erica Crowley and they were dressed as in the old days. Other people played the farm servants and there were demonstrations on buttermaking, cheesemaking, milking the cows, cutting the wood and other chores around the farm.

Mary Friend owned the farm then as her family had done for the past century. She told Ariel that her family had sold about 60 acres of the farm in 1898. Mary was living in a smaller house near the old house in 1975. I wrote to Mary Friend in November 1993 using the address that Ariel had supplied but my letter came back that she had moved from there about 17 years ago. I was hoping to get pictures of the old Oak tree, the Manor of the Crowleys, and of the old farm, and the names and addresses of some of the Crowleys still living in the area.

3.

(Comment by Forest) Kinwarton is 8 miles West Northwest of Stratford on-Avon and Wootton Wawen is 6 miles Northwest of Stratford-on-Avon. Wootton Wawen is 6 miles Northeast of Kinwarton. With our relatives living so close to the home of William Shakespeare (1564 - 1616), they probably knew him. I have heard that people living in Shakespeare's time didn't realize how great he was.

LAOCH MEAN HERO

Crowley Bo

**Letters written by Benjamin Crowley, Co. K, 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment,  
11<sup>th</sup> Brigade, G.M., Griffin, Georgia between October 8<sup>th</sup> and  
November 16<sup>th</sup>, 1864.**

Camp near Lovejoy Station

Oct. 8, 1864

Dear Lizzy I received a letter from home this morning the first in about a week I was glad to hear from yoall I am well this morning. James eat supper with me last night he is camped a bout one mile from me he is well he brought me a quart of syrup last night he said he walked a bought ten miles after it and paid \$0.50 a quart. I could have sold it for 5 dollars thear is nothing in the neighborhood to eat we are still getting beef & meal enough to eat we are now Drilling in Scurmish Drill it is prtty hard Moastly Double quick I stand it very well we have one tent in our company now I sleep in it theare are several cases of Small Pox in the Seceon Brigade I learn that Marshall Edwards came into camp to day. I have not saw him yet. I suppose I will seen he camps close to James B.

Well Lizzy it is now nearly night I have just come from Drill I will try to finish my paper I am well but fatiegued tell all the childn howdy I want to see them all very bad tell them I try to pray for them every day.

Mary if you new how glad I am to get a letter from home you would write often Direct your letters to Griffin I must close may god bles yoall good by

B. Crowley

Camp Stephens near Griffin Ga

Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> 1864,

Dear wife, I take the pleasure of writing to you again; I have no news of interest to write, we are in camp where the Company was when it was disbanded. It is talked that we will gow to Atlanta though no one of the men knows about it except the Gen. We heard cannonading this morning in the direction of Atlanta, I have not heard any thing more about it the result I can not tell. I suppose the last Brigade of militia will come up this evening our brigade came up first we got hear on last Friday evening our rations of meat is pretty short. We got meal enough it is very course & some times very musty.

I am well; hoping when the few lines come to hand may find you & my Dear Children all well. I have not received any letter from you yet, I am very Anxious to hear from you.  
Your Dear Husban until death

Ben Crowley

Address me thus, B. Crowley  
Co. K 3<sup>rd</sup> Reg., G. M.  
Griffin  
Georgia

Side note: (Deposit money)  
With Marcrum I will  
Frank my letters hear often.

Write soon  
Mary will be at home (mid week?)  
She must write too or three times a week I am well this morning  
Oct. 25, 1864 B. Crowley  
Tell (Mark? Mary?) to write to me

Camp Stevens Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> 1864

Dear Wife

I take the pleasure of writing you a short letter I have no news of interest to write, we are going to move some way I do not know where, we were cooking rations last night for three days we were ordered to be ready at 7 O'clock it is now past the time we are still at camp  
I want you to send me a Colored Comferter by Mr. James Adkins have it at Antioch next Sunday at church. I am well I hope when the few lines come to hand may find you all well, I think I will stand the march as well as some of the men that is hear. I have only received one letter from you your Husban B. Crowley

Address you letter thus, B.C. Co, K 3 Reg. 11<sup>th</sup> Brigade  
G. M. Griffin, GA

Camp near Lovejoy Station

Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> 1864

Dear Wife

I avail myself of the pleasure of writing you a letter in answer to Mary. We left Griffin on Sunday about 11 O'clock and marched about 14 miles we arrived hear about 7 O'clock P.M. I stood the march very well I got to ride Col. Johnsons horse a little. The Capt. & Boys all are very kind to me they respect

me as an old man; some of the boys help me to tote my gun. Tell Jimie if his company is disbanded and if he has to go into service I want him to come where I am.

We hear no news from Gen. Hood's army we do not get to see any papers since we left Griffin I hear nothing of our moving from here, It has been drizzling rain ever since last night & still continues to rain up to this evening. I am well hoping when these lines come to hand may find you & dear Children all well

B. Crowley

Well Lizzy I will try to write you a few lines myself. There is so much noise and confusion I can not write. I am in better health than I have been since I left home in May last.

Our fare is rough beef and coarse meal Brother Merrow preached last night in ten Steps of our Camp fire we have no tents yet Since we left Griffin Write Mary B. Crowley

Camp near Lovejoy

November 15, 1864

Dear Lizzy I will try to write you a few lines this morning to let you know I am well but living hard. Our beef is poor and meal not good the Boys eat and grumble We hear a great many rumors about moving I think we will move soon I don't know where to. You must write twice a week direct your letters to Griffin Well Lizzy I have had my dinner Jimmy eat dinner with me today. He is well Marshal is well.

Write often direct to Griffin tell (Mark? Mary?) to write

B. Crowley

(Same Letter)

Camp Stephens near Griffin

November the 16 1864

Well Lizzy I left off writing after dinner yesterday at Lovejoy we started from there last night about Six O'clock. We arrived here about One O'clock this morning we are all up this morning I am well myself and stood the march as well as I expected I do not know where we are going the Yanks burnt Jonesborough Yesterday evening I do not know where we are going I do not know where Jimmy is going I will write soon.

B. Crowley

BILLY DOWNS / Staff

Raking leaves at the old Bethlehem Memorial Methodist Cemetery, next to a 400-acre golf course, Pete Wilson helps keep the 75 grave sites clean.

# KEEPING THE PEACE

*Developers showing respect for old cemeteries*

By **Actor Cordell**  
STAFF WRITER

Historical societies, preservation groups and even developers are coming to the rescue of the graves of Georgia's pioneers.

For some, it's too late. With metropolitan Atlanta's commercial and residential sprawl, many small, abandoned family plots are now covered in concrete, historians and archaeologists believe.

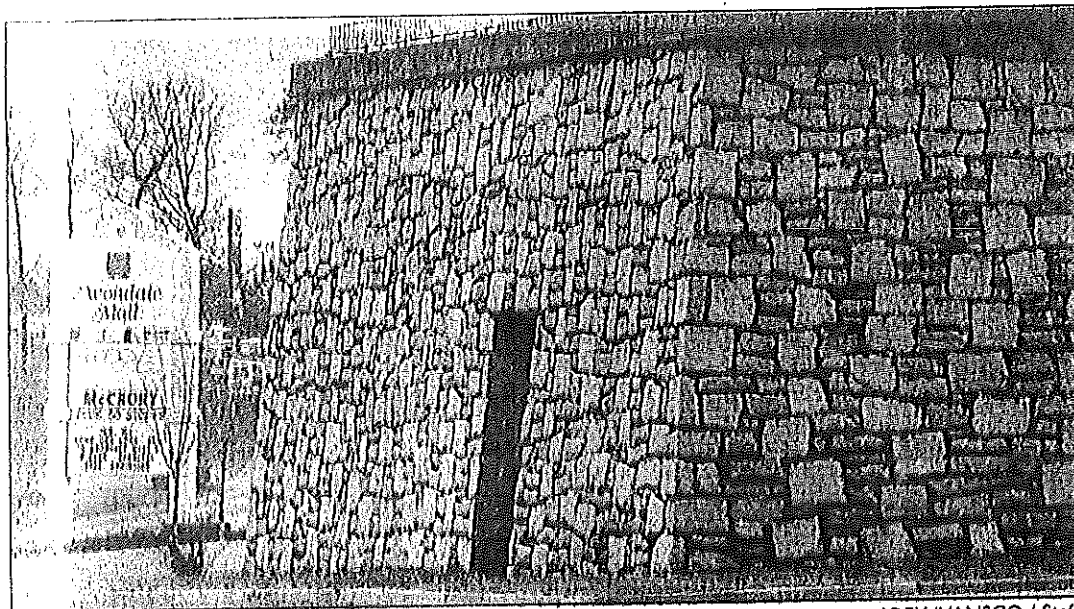
The grave of James Jett, a 19th-century

ferry operator and miller, lies beside the driveway of a dentist's home in a Sandy Springs subdivision.

Benjamin Crowley, who settled in DeKalb County in 1802, is in repose in a parking lot mausoleum built by the developer of Avondale Mall. He and some of his descendants were originally buried in a family cemetery on the site.

But the land squeeze is turning into a

Please see **GRAVES, F:6** ▶



JOEY IVANSCO / Staff

In the parking lot of Avondale Mall, a mausoleum contains the body of Benjamin Crowley, who settled in the DeKalb area in 1802.

January 24, 1992

*The Atlanta Constitution*

subject file; CROWLEY, Benjamin

1/24/92

*The Atlanta Constitution*

# Graves: Developers involved in cemetery preservation

Continued from F1

*"There's no telling how many small cemeteries with poorly marked graves have disappeared."*

**FRANKLIN GARRETT**  
historian

blessing in disguise. Historians and archaeologists say developers are showing increased sensitivity to the plight of family cemeteries and the graveyards of defunct churches.

Some developers are hiring archaeologists to detect burial spots not noted in deeds; and they are getting involved in cemetery preservation.

Historical societies are keeping registries of cemeteries and are asking hunters and hikers to report obscure grave sites they discover. Some corporations and civic organizations are volunteering as permanent caretakers.

On Saturday, the Cobb County Cemetery Preservation Commission will see the first results of its new Adopt-a-Cemetery program.

Company A of the Sons of Confederate Veterans' 18th Georgia Volunteer Regiment adopted the Davenport family cemetery in Powder Springs and will unveil marble markers at the graves of Marcus and William Davenport, brothers killed in the 1862 Battle of Antietam.

The private, non-profit cemetery commission, which has identified 230 family plots, offers guidance to Cobb developers on preservation and restoration.

In Fulton County, the 3,400-acre Windward development off

Georgia 400 in Alpharetta has become caretaker of two burial grounds — the old Bethlehem Methodist Church's 75-grave cemetery in woods abutting the Golf Club of Georgia, and a small family plot where the only discernible name on a broken stone is "Matlock."

Scout troops and descendants of the Bethlehem congregation are assisting in the restorations.

The Avondale Mall mausoleum was a forerunner of the trend toward cemetery preservation.

"When I was taking an inventory of cemeteries in the 1930s, that whole area where the Crowley cemetery was and where Avondale Mall is today was pretty much woods," said historian Franklin Garrett, who found 792 family or church cemeteries

within a 30-mile radius of Five Points.

The Crowley family home stood near the cemetery, and when the 40-acre mall was developed in 1964, arrangements were made with descendants for a mausoleum to replace the cemetery, said Steve Davis, the mall's security chief.

Family cemeteries legally belong to the heirs of those buried there. But when surrounding land changes ownership and the plots aren't on public roads, descendants may have to ask landowners for access.

Retired WSB-Radio newsmen Aubrey Morris of Alpharetta has permission to cross residential property on Crest View Drive in Sandy Springs to maintain the cemetery of his great-grandfather, James Jett, and about 45 other ancestors.

To help families and new property owners know the locations of graves, the Gwinnett County Historical Society has compiled a registry of 407 burial grounds, about 300 of which are family cemeteries.

Delia Gilliland of the DeKalb Historical Society said most of the 133 cemeteries on file in her county were listed in the 1930s. The majority are family plots.

"There's no telling how many small cemeteries with poorly marked graves have disappeared," Mr. Garrett said.

**HUSBAND** BENJAMIN C. CROWLEY  
 (First) (Middle) (Last)  
 Born August 3, 1812 Where  
 Died January 3, 1869 Where  
 Burial Where  
 Father Where Mother's Maiden Name  
 Married November 14, 1844 Where

**WIFE** MARY JANE TUGGLE  
 Born July 12, 1823 Where  
 Died Sept. 14, 1863 Where  
 Burial Where  
 Father Where Mother's Maiden Name

Male or Female	CHILDREN (In order of birth) (For marriages see same number at bottom of page)	BORN			PLACE OF BIRTH	DIED		
		Day	Mo.	Yr.		Day	Mo.	Yr.
	1 James L.	11	2	1846				
	2 Margaret	1	2	1847				
	3 Tom	5	4	1848				
	4 John	4	11	1850				
	5 Robert	1	7	1852		14	9	1852
	6 Susan	1	7	1853				
	7 Henry Clark	27	9	1855				
	8 Martha Ann	24	2	1858		14	4	1937
	9 Parry Lee	26	11	1859				
	10 Jeff	13	7	1861				
	11 C.C.	10	9	1863				19-10-1863
	12							

Information furnished by Mary Hudgins Allgood  
 MARRIAGES OF ABOVE CHILDREN from the family Bible

(DATE)	(NAME OF SPOUSE)	Source of information shown on the family record
1		Note: Benjamin Crowley and Mary Jane Tuggle Crowley are buried in the small cemetery in the parking lot at Columbia Mall at Memorial Drive and Columbia Drive, Decatur, GA
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8	Jeffrey William Hudgins	
9		
10		
11		
12		



File, Govt.  
Surveyor

FORM L-277

SURVEYOR'S CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that I surveyed the lands of J. D. Crowley, Jr., located in Pantherville Militia Township (or district) in DeKalb County, State of Georgia, on the 13 day of December, 1934, and according to the deeds, established corners, and land marks, the plat hereto attached is an accurate representation of the property lines, adjoining land owners, the buildings located thereon, etc. I further certify that at the time the survey was made, the only persons, firms or corporations using, occupying or in possession of any of the lands on buildings for any purpose were the following:

J. D. Crowley, Jr.

This 24 day of December, A.D., 1934

C. S. Mercer  
Surveyor

APPLICANTS VERIFICATION OF SURVEY

I, the undersigned applicant for a loan from the Federal Land Bank of Columbia, hereby certify that the plat hereto attached and referred to in the foregoing surveyor's certificate is a true and correct plat of the lands described in my application and offered as security for the loan applied for therein and said plat is hereby made a part of the application.

This 24 day of December, A.D., 1934

Attest:

Secretary-Treasurer

J. D. Crowley, Jr.

NOTE--The first certificate must be duly executed by the surveyor and the plat attached. The latter certificate must be executed by all parties signing the application. These certificates and the plat must be attached to the application.