

BENNETT RAINEY CEMETERY
(SMALLPOX CEMETERY)
DeKalb Co. GA

This cemetery is at 4661 N Shallowford Rd off the parking lot of a business at that address. The graves are at the base of some cedar trees. There is one uninscribed marker lying flat on the ground.

According to Franklin Garrett's list the following children are buried there:

Fannie Adams
Lonnie Adams
Maggie Adams
Minnie Adams

They all died of smallpox during the epidemic around 1885. Even in 1931 when Mr. Garrett did his transcription there were no inscribed markers.

The following adults are buried there:

Bennett Rainey
Nancy Rainey

They did not die of smallpox. Mr Rainey died around 1884 or 1885 and Mrs Rainey died in 1899. They too had no inscribed markers.

Mary West June 1999

43 JEFFARES FAMILY, Note: This is taken from Bennett Rainey " notes prepared for a published work by a descendant of this family, of Diary To D.H. & C. (1991)

Bennett Rainey JEFFARES-Parazade COCHRAN

Bennett Rainey Jeffares was the youngest son of Henry Jeffares and Elizabeth Rainey. He married Parazade Cochran in 1861. Their first child, Bennett Wiley Thomas was born in 1862 just before/after? father Bennett left for the war.

Bennett is especially interesting to the family history since he is the first family member for which we have photographs and letters. Though the Cochran Bible survives with the descendants of ^{Clarence} Clarence Jeffares and only a few of the surviving letters have been recorded, these do provide an insight into the what life must have been like during the war.

Bennett Rainey Jeffares enlisted as a private in Company D McCullogh Rifles 38th Georgia Regiment on May 12, 1862. Six weeks later at the first engagement of the regiment, Bennett Rainey was wounded and disabled. The Henderson Roster shows the wound occurring at Cold Harbor on June 27, 1862. The military history places Gordon's 38th at the Battle of the Seven Days (June 26 thru July 1, 1862). This Battle is actually a sequence of engagements beginning with Mechanicsville (June 26), Gaines's Mill (June 27), Frayser Farm (June 30) and the Battle for Malvern Hill (July 1). The end result of the Seven Days was to have prevented and discouraged McClellan's Union army to attempt to take Richmond. Gaines Mill specifically was a Lee victory at a cost of 8,000 Confederate casualties on June 27, 1862. The Federal suffered only 4,000 casualties that day, but Gaines Mill is considered Lee's first major victory.

The more famous battle of Cold Harbor occurred June 3, 1864, on the same fields two years later. Bennett Rainey was probably wounded in the Gaines Mill engagement, though listed as the nearby Cold Harbor. Gaines Mill and Cold Harbor are only one mile apart, both lying about 10 miles east of Richmond, Virginia along the Chickahominy River.

After the Seven Days (and till the end of the war), Bennett Rainey was assigned to ambulance and nurse detail. The extent or type of wound received is not known, but Bennett Rainey is listed as "disabled". The ambulance referred to was just a wagon with a team of mules which carried wounded to the rear during battle.

The following letters from Bennett Rainey to Parazade Cochran are certainly some of the most interesting artifacts of the family.

Field Hospital Dec the 3rd 1864

Mrs P.R.H. Jeffares

My Dear & loving wife with the greatest of pleasure I seat myself this morning to pencil you a few lines those lines leave mein torble health hoping those lines may find you & Wiley and the connection in the best of health Zade I have no news to write you but the time has roled around for me to write to you & I try to

Biographical +

Genealogical

JEFFARE
Bennett R.
Henry (etc)

write to you every week though I have but very little hope of it getting to your loving hands but we must keep trying to get letters through for it is all the pleasure that I have on this earth is what few lines I receive from you and my Dear friends & that but few I received a letter from you and Almeda dated the 13th of last month I have written you 2 or 3 letters since that Zade am here at this place as a nurs I left my co last Saturday.....Mount Jackson some 15 miles below here & stayed there until Winsday & all the wounded was moved up here to this place & I came as a nurs I am assign to duty here until my regular detailed papers and then I may be sent some where else & I may stay here I cant tell what they will do with me I dont know one day where I will be the next I came by my Co wednesday as I came up here they was all in good health they are in a camp 5 miles below here I havent.....in sometime he was nearly well when I heard from him but was barfoted Zade I believe if new the manager of any Hospital in Georgia & could write to them & get them to send a requisition here for me I could get a transfer to Georgia if I know where Dr Richardson is & if he is at a hospital I want you to write to him & tell him that I am detailed as a nurs & I want him to make a requisition for me as this climate dont suit me & if you send it to Dr Black or to me in care of Dr Black Field Hospital the Army of Northern Va if Richardson is in charge of Hospital & you know where he is I want you to write to me how to direct letters to him & I will write to him also about it turn over Zade JJ Lawhorn got to the co last Sunday he can tell more about the country & the Yankeys than I have ever heard from there yet but he dont bring any good news Zade you cant imagine how bad it makes me want to come home & how bad I want to see you all when I hear what a condition you are all left in in that country it seems to me that it is more than I can bear to stay away from you & that Dear & Sweet child Oh if I could just see you with the natural eye as plain as I imagined I saw you in my sleep last night I thought I had you embraced in my arms but it turned out to be only a dream when I awoke up I was crying Zade you must do the best you can we must live in the hope of seeing each other again I will close I remain your loving husband until death BR Jeffares to P.R.H. Jeffares

To J.A. Cochran

Dear sister I will write you a few lines those lines leave me well hoping they may find you & the connection in good health Almeda I havent any news to write you I received a few lines from you & Zade wrote the 13th I was glad to recive it I want you to write often & write long letters & tell Sarah & Emalizer & Mary & Pope to write me when I write to one it is to all Meede

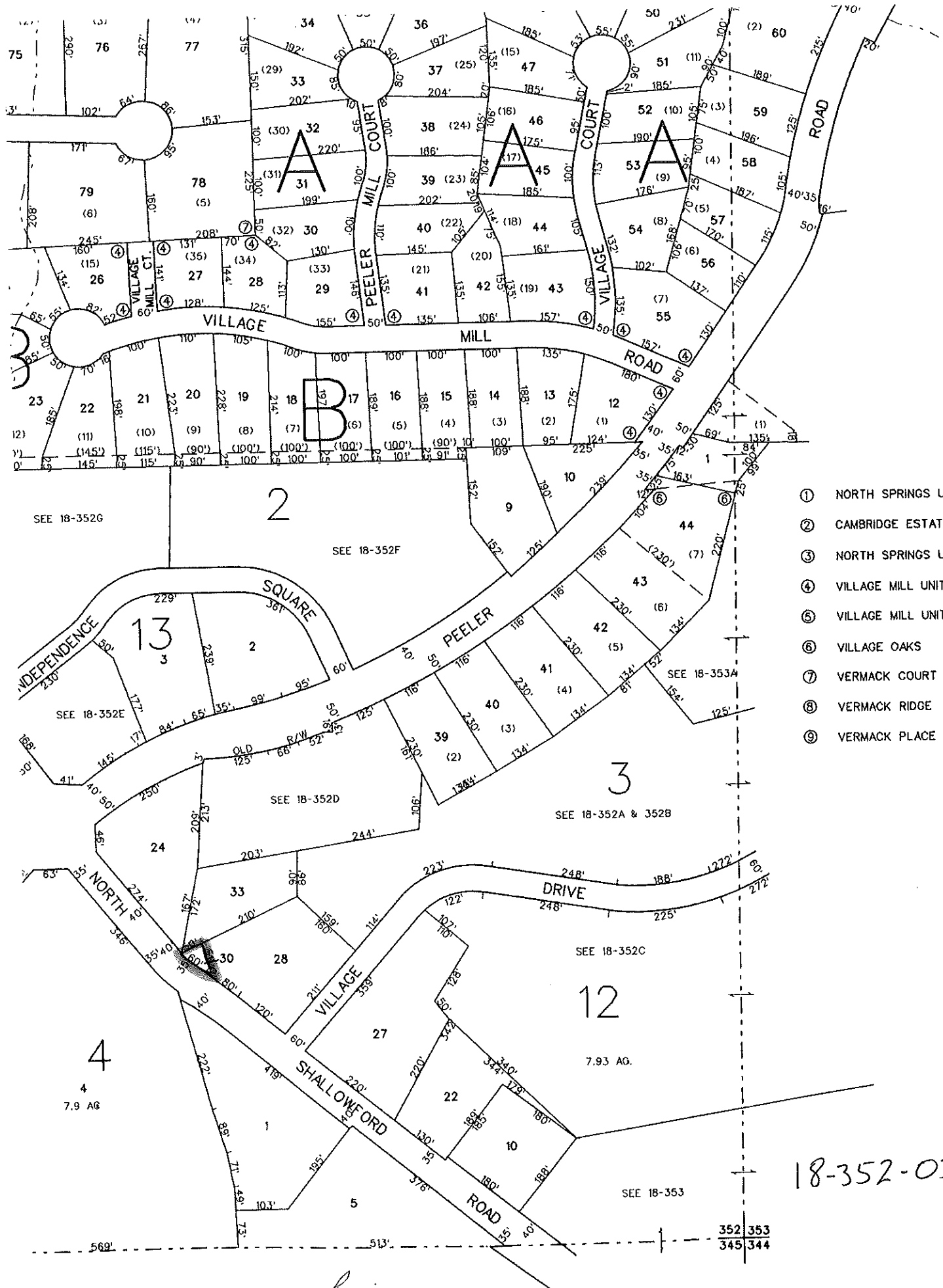
BENNETT (RAINEY) FAMILY CEMETERY. --
 It is known as Adams or Smallpox Cemetery.

Location: Chamblee-Dunwoody Rd, near junction with
 Peeler Rd. Land Lot # 352, 18th District,
 DeKalb County, Shallowford District.

Recorded August 30, 1931.

There are no inscribed markers in this small family
 cemetery, the site of which is marked by 3 cedar trees.
 The names and dates below were furnished from memory
 by old citizens of the community. With the excep-
 tion of Bennett and Nancy Rainey all of those interred
 here died during a smallpox epidemic about 1885.

1884	Benjamin	(Child)
1884	John	"
1884	William	"
1884	Samuel	"
1884	John	"
1884	Bennett	Died 1884 or 1885.
1885	Nancy	Died in the Spring of 1885.
		Wife of Bennett Rainey.



- ① NORTH SPRINGS UNIT 1
- ② CAMBRIDGE ESTATES UNIT 1
- ③ NORTH SPRINGS UNIT 4
- ④ VILLAGE MILL UNIT 1
- ⑤ VILLAGE MILL UNIT 2
- ⑥ VILLAGE OAKS
- ⑦ VERMACK COURT
- ⑧ VERMACK RIDGE
- ⑨ VERMACK PLACE

SEE 18-352G

SEE 18-352F

SEE 18-352E

SEE 18-352D

SEE 18-352A & 352B

SEE 18-353A

SEE 18-352C

7.93 AG.

SEE 18-353

7.9 AG

352 353
345 344

18-352-03-030

Rainey

LAND DIS
18
DATE: 10-2