

## **LOCATIONS TO BE VISITED BY BY BURGESS FAMILY**

I NEED TO ADD THAT ON THE LEFT A BLOCK AFTER WE LEAVE CHURCH THE BIG BRICK HOUSE, THAT SITS BACK OFF THE ROAD IS THE HOME THAT AUNT EVIE WOODRUFF HEFLIN BUILT. SHE IS THE SISTER OF MOLLY WOODRUFF BURGESS.

HER DAUGHTER JOSEPHINE HEFLIN LITTRELL LIVED HERE UNTIL HER DEATH AND HER CHILDREN NOW OWN IT.

- 1. The first location we will visit will be a driving tour. A block after we leave the church, the big brick house that sits back off the road (with the rock wall in front) is the home that Aunt Evie Woodruff Heflin built. She is the sister of Molly Woodruff Burgess. Her daughter, Josephine Heflin Littrell, lived here until her death and her children now own it. Next, we will visit the home place of Thomas Jefferson & Lou Snyder Burgess. This is the property Tom bought in 19\_\_ when he first came to Moulton. Part of this property is still in the family. I am not sure how many acres were in this property but all of the sub-division, behind it and over on New Hwy. 24 some property was sold to the city of Moulton for a treatment plant. Our Janis Moats and family live in the house on the corner as we turned off Hwy. 33. Her mother and father were J.M. & Mary Lou Kelly. Notice the street name “BURGESS CIRCLE”. Ben & Mary Frances owned a house and a few acres on the corner as we turned off Hwy. 33. This is where I was born. This was the summer home of Ben & Mary Frances. Several different family members lived in this house from time to time. It was called “THE LITTLE RED HOUSE.”**
  
- 2. To help you understand how many family members were around Moulton we will take another driving tour down Main Street. As we turn on Main St. A lot down on the left is where Uncle Walter and Aunt Willie Woodruff Almon lived. She was a sister to Molly W. Burgess. In the next block on the left about the middle of the block is where Ben and Mary Frances lived when mother was a little girl and they all walked to school. Later Grandmother**

- Drucilla and family lived there when mother was a teenager. The story goes that grandmother Burgess always a hot baked sweet potato for the children to get when they started home from school to keep their hands warm. Later years when mother would walk by Bess Woodruff (baby girl of Drucilla, would call for mother to slip in the window and visit. Drucilla would come in and ask if she had heard voices get the broom and poke under the bed where mother was hiding.**
- 3. Further down the same street, around the curve and over the bridge, you will see a big old white house which was the home of Jim & Virgie Woodruff Burgess. This home still looks just the same as when I was growing up. Across the road is where Wallace & Elaine Harris live. He is the son of Holt & Frances W. Harris.**
  - 4. Cross the new Hwy 24. And on the hill to the right is the place Jesse Holcomb & Molly Woodruff Burgess had. I barely remember a big old two story house sitting on the hill way back from the road. Mother always remarked that when she was picking cotton across the road where the cemetery is, that she never dreamed that she would be buried there.**
  - 5. Moulton Memory Gardens is located on the left of the road. There is a plot of land in the very back corner on the left where some Burgess Family members are buried. Ben & Mary Frances Burgess, their daughter Ruth Burgess, Their daughter Sadie Burgess Simms and her husband, James & Dot Turner Simms, and several other family members. Cila Estelle Vaughn Windle's grandfather Vaughn gave the land for the Shoemaker part of the cemetery. Our cousin J. P. Vaughn is buried in this section. Right next to that is the Walter Harris plot where Lowe & Katie Mae Burgess Harris, Holt Harris, Clayton & Peggy Terry Harris and his daughter Megan Harris. A section over are the burial site of Jesse H. & Molly Woodruff Burgess, their daughter, Bernice Branscomb. Wilson & Ruth Stinson Burgess. Our daughter Rebecca Kay Mote is buried up on the hill to the right. There are cousins on both sides of our family buried there.**
  - 6. Crossing 157 to the Hillsboro Road we will see Aunt Sadie Burgess Simms farm. James & Dot lived in the brick place on the left until their death and now his grandson, Adam Hill and his new bride live here. This was a large farm and includes a sub-**

division on the left on down the road and more land further down the road on the left.

7. It is my understanding that Granddaddy Ben Burgess owned all the land and as the boys wanted their own farm he would let them have it and they would pay him for it as the crops came in over the years. My granddaddy Burgess is the only boy who moved away from his farm and went to South Alabama. Ben owned land on both sides of the new 24 Hwy. Boy he was a real go-getter and very thrifty. Mother always said granddaddy Burgess owned the bank and went around most of the time in his farm work clothes and looked like he didn't have a penny and Granddaddy Woodruff looked like a Judge and dressed to the T's but didn't have much money.
8. Now we will drive by the house where Granddaddy William and Drucilla Moran Woodruff raised their family. This house looks very much like the old family pictures of the Woodruff Family with the house in the background. This house has also been taken good care of.
9. Liberty Methodist Church is our next stop. This is the home church of the Woodruff Family and we will find several graves of our ancestors. Molly's sister, Docia W. Barnes, was a life time member of this church and she and her family are buried here.
10. Now I am sure we are all tired and thirsty. We have been invited by the Burgess Girls - Patricia, Peggy, Mollie Sue & Barbara Nell, Jesse and Skylar - for refreshments at the home of Larry & Barbara Nell Burgess Watson. These girls are Wilson & Ruth's daughters, their brother Billy Joe Burgess and his daughters, Jesse & Skylar Burgess. We can relax, discuss our visits and visit together. **AND THE LOVE GOES ON!**