

Minnie G. LAYPORT April 4, 1916 - January 20, 1978

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WILLIAM HENRY HART AND THE HART CEMETERY

Continued from Issue #29/30:

When the heirs to the Hart estate took control of the property, they felt that the five acres grandpa had deeded to the dead would not be adequate for future generations, so they gave another five acres. The attorney who handled it for them, suggested an association be set up and trustees appointed to accept the deed, so the following grandchildren were appointed: Clinton C. SKIPPER, Ralieg SKIPPER, Vera CREWS and Loca HART. No one today can recall the name of the fifth trustee, if there was a fifth. In 1965, when only two of the first trustees were still alive, a new group of trustees were appointed as follows: Cecil P. SKIPPER, Wendell SMITH, Elton CREWS, Vasco SKIPPER, Wallace PIETY, Waneta ASTEN, Myrtis GUERNDT, Loca STUCKY, Vera BUSH.

There has never been a lot sold in Hart Cemetery, but since 1965, all spaces near the family graves have been reserved for the family. Those wishing to reserve a plot in other parts of the cemetery may do so by contacting Mrs. Margaret SMITH HENDERSON, a great-granddaughter who is secretary and treasurer of the Association. Contributions from those interested are gladly accepted. The second Wednesday P.M. in April and October those interested meet and hear the reports of what has been done and is to be done.

At the time of his death, grandfather had twenty-two grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Earl, Roy's oldest son died three years later, then two others were born to them, so there were only 23 living at one time. Today there are 17 of that 23 still living, and as many as can try to attend the SKIPPER-HART family reunion at Zolfo Springs the third Sunday in September. Of the 17, only four live in other states: Winston HART in New Jersey, Gordon SKIPPER in Michigan, Lucile HART McCALL in North Carolina and Bill HART in Colorado. Eight of the others are living in other parts of Florida. Besides the 17 grandchildren there are living descendants of William and Mary Hart scattered everywhere.

Although the intervening years have scattered the grandchildren and of necessity the great-grandchildren, the families have kept in touch.

William McRae HART, the youngest grandson who was born after grandfather's death, is a career man in the USAF, with rank of Colonel. He & wife, Gay, have reared a nice family of three children. He brought them from Colorado in 1968 so they could get acquainted with his HART relatives.

Two great-grandsons have had careers in the military service, as well as several great-grandsons-in-law.

The discharge paper which grandfather kept proudly for so long has been placed in the museum at Zolfo Springs.

The old HART homestead has always remained in the hands of some member of the family. A great-grandson owns the groves surrounding the