

## D17.1 William Anderson Morgan

Notes on gravesite location by Bev Wiggins Jan 2021:

The gravesite location is described as being 3000 feet north of [the west end of] Gilmore Rd., but that the coordinates put it west of that. The coordinates on the paper records (which would have been added at a date after Lamont Norwood's report of the cemetery) are exactly the same as those in the current record and put the cemetery at the mark on the county GIS. However, Lamont's original sheet describes the location differently. It says, "100 feet west of a dwelling owned by Mrs. Ward." The oldest map layer available on the GIS is 1997. I can't see any dwellings. They could be there, of course, but just not visible. If the developer found any traces of old dwellings, that would be a good clue. He mentioned an old roadbed or driveway.

There's also a topo map in the notebook with the cemetery location penciled in. That was done by Will Heiser when he was doing all of the cemetery work. Comparing that map with the topo on the GIS, it appears to me--just estimating the coordinates from the GIS--that more accurate coordinates would be 35-51-44.7 79-08-58.38. Caution--all of this is really rough. We are working with small maps, so the tiniest fraction of an inch changes the coordinates a lot. The main point is that the X on the map seems to put the gravesite a bit east of where we currently indicate it--and that meshes with Ronnie's observation that it is a bit west of how it is described. It is unclear that Will knew the location of the "dwelling owned by Mrs. Ward" when he plotted this. He might have. I'm sure he changed the description so that there would be a reference to a landmark shown on the map.

New coordinates gave volunteers another place to look. However, sometime after 1997 and before 2002, a gas line was put in through the parcel in question (90267) and my new guessed-at coordinates put the gravesite just a tad to the west of it. It could have been in the path of the gas line. And the area east of the gas line has been logged.

I have looked up some info about Billy **Morgan** and created a fact sheet (see below).

I also checked with Britt Norwood but he was unable to add any information about the possible location of Mrs. Ward's house or the gravesite.

## Notes on the person of William Anderson Morgan (Billy) by Bev Wiggins

Billy was born to Alexander and Mary (Polly) Morgan. He had 5 brothers and 2 sisters, according to the 1850 census. Before the war, Billy was a shoemaker, and that occupation is also noted on his military record. He's in Chatham in the [1850](#), [60](#), [70](#), and 80 censuses. It appears that he was a small farmer after the war. I found several deeds where his siblings left land to him and the surviving siblings. I have not determined where Billy lived. His burial spot might be on his own property, or perhaps that of one of his siblings. Four of Billy's brothers appear on the John Randolph Lane organization's list of Confederate veterans: Joseph N., Manly, Mark J. and Warren F. There was only

one other brother, Isaac, listed in the 1850 census when Alexander and Mary's family was together. I don't know what happened to Isaac.

The original record indicates that the marker was a Confederate grave marker without dates. This would indicate it was an early Confederate marker. I was not able to find a record of the application for the CSA marker. It would not have the specific location of burial, but should have the name of the person who applied for it, and when, and that might be useful.

CCHA Preservation Committee Chair Sy Robbins researched the deed history of the proposed Pyewacket development, on which our records indicate William Morgan was buried. His notes follow:

### Pyewacket Land History

(Draft 10/12/21)

#### 90267 (Jones Ferry Road) (128.39 acres) (Plats A-26 & 39-145; Plat 2014-226, New Tract 3)

2015	Ruby Hunt Merritt Revocable Trust to Wyndell H. Merritt (128.391ac)	1785/301
2007	Ruby Hunt Merritt (widow) to Ruby Hunt Merritt Revocable Trust (560.34ac) *except 26.67 acres conveyed in 1975 by 255/267 (1311/83)*	1311/83
1946	Henry A. & Mary Ellice Doak to E.G. & Ruby Hunt Merritt (560.34ac)	1276/822
1944	Frank S. & Gladys May Lobisser to Henry A. & Mary Ellice Doak (560.34ac)	J-E/307
1943	Frank S. Lobisser to J.E. Pearson (Trustee) (560.34ac)	I-U/461
1943	Dr. W. R. & Ella Sherrod Baynes to Frank S. Lobisser	J-A/341
1939	Roberta J. Atwater (widow) to W.R. & Ella Sherrod Baynes (560.34ac)	I-G/306
1930	James Bunn Atwater (7/16/64-11/4/30) wife to Roberta J. (Snipes) Atwater	Will-
1933	Roberta J. & J. Bunn Atwater to W.O. McGibony (Trustee) (560.34ac) *known as the J.N. Atwater Place on the waters of Meadow Branch Creek, now in the possession of J. Bunn Atwater; bounded N-Otis Neville & Edwards Brothers, W-Edwards Brothers and Robert Morgan, S-Robert Smith, E-C.L. Lindsay, Mr. Weaver & W.A. Long; described by plat prepared by J.R. Weaver, Surveyor, Sept. 19, 1933 (H-N/9)*	H-N/9

#### A (Bingham Township, Orange Co.) (350 acres)

1925	R.L. Strowd (unmarried) to J.B. Atwater (1 <sup>st</sup> Tract) (350ac) *N-Chas Neville, W-Wilson Atwater & Manly Morgan, S-Wesley Atwater, E-James B. Atwater; being Lot No. 3 drawn by J.N. Atwater in a division of the lands of Jehiel (?) Atwater, dec. and a part of the land drawn by James B. Atwater in said division – the house lot place, and purchased by J.N. Atwater (H-E/425)*	H-E/425
**	W.F. Strowd to son R.L. Strowd (H-E/425)	Will-
**	J.N. & Atwater to W.F. Strowd (H-E/425)	**

#### B (Baldwin Township, Chatham Co.) (150 acres)

1925	R.L. Strowd (unmarried) to J.B. Atwater (2 <sup>nd</sup> Tract) (150ac)	H-E/425
1923	Otis Neville (unmarried) to R.L. Strowd *adjoining James N. Atwater & Manly Morgan, Neverson Thrift, Sina Ellis (H-G/146)*	H-G/146
1920	Dr. York Cotton et al. to Otis Neville	F-P/507
**	Robert Cotton to	Will-
1886	R.L. & M.J. Sutphin to Robert Cotton *Sulphin of Alamance Co.; \$950; bounded N-James Atwater, E-Neverson Thrift, S-Sina Ellis, W-Manly Morgan (C-R/564)*	C-R/564

Manly Morgan Notes

Manly Morgan (4/18/32-6/20/10) (Bethel Baptist Church Cemetery, Chapel Hill) (Find a Grave)

Manly Morgan marries Margaret Jane Ivy in Orange Co. (10/12/1857)

- 1873 Hannah Morris to Manly Morgan (20ac) B-N/116  
\*on Meadow Branch adjoining Wilson Atwater (B-N/116)\*
- 1877 Alfred Neville & Wm Meacham to Wm & Manly Morgan A-W/244  
\*POFPs heirs of Alexander Morgan; POSPs to sell property of POFPS to pay debts (A-W/244)\*
- 1877 P.J. Snipes et al. (Commissioners) to Manly Morgan (Lot #3) (22½ ac) A-W/242  
\*division of lands of Joseph Morgan, dec. (A-W/242)\*
- 1857 Mary Morgan (widow of Isaac Morgan) to Manly Morgan (100ac) (1/3 interest) A-O/219
- 1857 Wm & Ataline Meacham to Manly Morgan (100ac) (1/8 interest) A-O/218
- 1857 William A. Morgan to Manly Morgan (100ac) (1/8 interest) A-O/216  
\*Both brothers & heirs of Isaac Morgan, dec., along with Ataline(?), Sally, Sintha, Joseph, Franklin & Mark; land on waters of Meadow Branch adjoining Jehiel Atwater, Allen Ellis et al. (A-O/216)\*
- 1856 Wilson Atwater to Alexander & Isaac Morgan (200ac) (\$380) A-O/215  
\*Chatham & Orange Counties, on waters of Meadow Creek; adjoining Jehiel Atwater, Wilson Atwater, Allen Ellis, Alvis Snipes, Asa Willis et al. (A-O/215)\*