

BOYD CEMETERY [2005]

Latitude 30° 10' 26" Longitude 96° 38' 34"

Located on private property in a wooded area west of Nixon Lake Road and North of Harmon School Road.

Samuel L. and Mary Green Boyd lived in Benton County (currently Calhoun Co.), Alabama in 1850, where Samuel owned 8 slaves. The Boyd Family purchased land in the Samuel Hinch League west of the present Town of Burton, in Washington County, Texas, in 1853. Samuel died circa 1856 and Mary Boyd is shown on the Washington County Slave Schedule in 1860 as owning 13 slaves and 3 slave houses. Mary Boyd married William Carmack (Cammack) in 1868. The Boyds & Carmacks are buried in the Boyd – Carmack Cemetery on the same property.

In an 1899 deed record, reference is made to the property “being a part of Mrs. Mary Carmack homestead tract.....less $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre reserved.....for grave yard near old Carmack residence also to be contained in said $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre but at a different place the graves of some of the old slaves formerly owned by Mrs. Carmack.”

Extensive dowsing located many burial sites, but a topical search of the area revealed no indication of markers.

Local lore tells of an open area near some woods that was the area referred to as the slave cemetery. Further research has indicated that there are graves in that area and that there are probably more graves than the number of slaves shown on the two census records mentioned above.

Sources: 1850 Benton County Alabama Slave Schedule; 1860 Washington County Texas Slave Schedule; Washington County Texas Deed Records, Vol. 42, p. 248.

