



Dawson-Lunnon Cemetery

The Lunnon Tract

By Virginia Hancock, Historian

Before it disappears, it may be prudent to record some of the history of the area to the near north side of Houston Country Club Place (HCCP) designated on the city plat maps as the Lunnon Tract. Mike Lunnon (sometimes called Mike Perkins) and George Lunnon, Mulattos, are presumed to be brothers who came to Houston from Tennessee possibly with Rufus Cage. Since the Lunnons are African-American, their history is not readily available until after the Civil War. *Antes de que desaparezca, podría ser prudente registrar algo de la historia del área norte cercana Houston Country Club Place (HCCP) señalado en los mapas de la ciudad correspondientes a la zona de Lunnon. Mike Lunnon (algunas veces-llamado Mike Perkins) y George Lunnon, Mulattos, se presume fueron hermanos que vinieron a Houston de Tennessee posiblemente con Rufus Cage. Puesto que los Lunnons fueron African-Americans su historia no está fácilmente disponible hasta después de la guerra civil.*

In about 1870, Houston Deed Records show Rufus Cage selling, for a nominal fee, large amounts of land in the east one-half of the Luke Moore Survey to the Lunnons that was eventually inherited by family members who were named: Brown, Gordon, Haynes, James, Jones, Leonard, McCoy, Sims, Williams, Yates. On the 1870 Harris County Census, a black male, Samuel Yates age 80 and the extended Lunnon Families are listed as living close to Rufus Cage. Is Samuel a member of the prominent Houston Jack Yates family?

Cerca de 1870, los expedientes de Houston muestran que Rufus Cage vende, por un honorario nominal, cantidades grandes de tierra en el medio este sobre Lucas Moore Survey, al que Lunnons fue heredado eventual por los miembros de la familia que fueron nombrados: Brown, Gordon, Haynes James, Jones, Leonard, McCoy, Sims, Williams, Yates. En el censo de 1870 del condado de Harris, un varón negro, Samuel Yates de 80 años y las familias extendidas de Lunnon fueron enlistadas como que vivían cerca de Rufus Cage. ¿Es Samuel un miembro de la familia prominente de Houston, Jack Yates?

As the 1900's began, many of the Lunnon Family homes in the 1900's were located along that part of Polk (then named Davis Street) in an area called Dissen Heights which is to the west of Hughes (then called Baker Street). Polk did not open up to S. Wayside until the 1950's. The

streets in Dissen Heights were named for Presidents. From east to west, Leeland was Cleveland, Bell was Grant, and Pease was Roosevelt. North-south crossing streets were Taft (Lansing), Lincoln (Collier), and Harrison (Henninger). Jefferson, west of Hughes, was called Corona. *En 1900's comenzaron muchos de los hogares de la familia Lunnon, fueron situados a lo largo de la Polk (entonces nombrada Davis Street) en un área llamada Dissen Heights que está al oeste de Hughes (entonces llamado Baker Street). Polk no se abrió a S. Wayside hasta los años 50. Las calles en Dissen Heights fueron nombradas para los presidentes. Del este al oeste, Leeland era Cleveland, Bell era Grant y Pease era Roosevelt. norte-sur cruzando were Taft (Lansing), Lincoln (collier), y Harrison (Henninger). Jefferson al oeste de Hughes fue llamado Corona.*

About this same time, the great oil find at Spindletop occurred bringing entrepreneurs to Houston, one being E.F. Simms who began about 1910 to buy Lunnon property which we now know as the Simms Estate (Simms Woods, HCCP, the Wall Street, Courtyard and Fair Oaks Apartments, Fiesta, Carrillo Elementary, etc.).

Sobre este mismo tiempo, el gran hallazgo del aceite en Spindletop ocurrió trayendo a empresarios a Houston, una era E.F. Simms que comenzó cerca de 1910 para comprar la propiedad de Lunnon que ahora la conocemos como el estado de Simms (Simms Woods, HCCP, el Wall Street, los apartamentos de Courtyard y Fair Oaks, El Fiesta, Carrillo Elementary, etc.).

With the advent of WWI (1917), Howard Hughes and the Baker Family built their Hughes Tool Company and the extended Lunnon families began to move to the current site just east of Hughes and north of Polk. Their new homes were just south and west of Country Club Bayou (then called Slaughter's Pen Bayou). The new community was bordered on the south by their former land which had been bought by E.F. Simms. Within the curve of the bayou, as it turned south on its way under Polk, was the Mt. Gilead Missionary Baptist Church, the Mt Gilead School, the family cemetery. The oldest stone there read: "Margaret Lunnon (wife of Mike) died May 15, 1915. Age 80. Our Mother."

Con el advenimiento de WWI (1917), Howard Hughes y la familia Baker construyeron su Compañía "Hughes Tool Company" y las familias extendidas de Lunnon comenzaron a trasladarse a su sitio actual apenas al este de Hughes y del norte de Polk. Sus nuevos hogares estaban justo al sur y al oeste del Country Club Bayou (entonces llamado "Slaughter's Pen Bayou"). La nueva comunidad fue delimitada en el sur por sus tierras que habían sido compradas por E.F. Simms. Dentro de la curva del bayou, volteando al sur bajo de Polk, estaba la iglesia Mt. Gilead Missionary Baptist Church, la escuela Mt Gilead, el cementerio de la familia. La piedra más vieja en la que se lee: "Margaret Lunnon (esposa de Mike) murió el 15 de mayo de 1915 a los 80 años. Nuestra Madre."

The Lunnon Cemetery is listed in Trevia Wooster Beverly's recent third edition publication titled *At Rest: A Historical Directory of Harris County, Texas (1822-2001)*.

El cementerio de Lunnon se enumera en publicación reciente de la edición de Trevia Wooster Beverly la tercera titulada en el resto: Un directorio histórico del condado de Harris, Texas (1822-2001).

Until the 1960's this area remained a thriving community. The families worked for Hughes Tool, The Grand Prize Brewery, The Crain Lumber and Manufacturing Company (Ready cut houses),

the Simms Estate and some worked for HCCP residents. The well-respected Motorcycle Shop of Fred Williams at 5619 Polk received clients from across the entire city, county and state. One by one, the families have moved away with only a few descendants remaining. The granddaughter of Milton Yates became a teacher at Deady Middle School. After integration, the children from the Lunnon community and HCCP became long-time friends cherishing shared memories of J.P. Henderson Elementary School.

Hasta los años 60 esta área seguía siendo una comunidad próspera. Las familias trabajaron para la Hughes Tool Company, la cervecería Grand Prize, el Crain Lumber y Manufacturing Company, el Simms Estate y algunos trabajaron para los residentes de HCCP. El bien-respetado Motorcycle Shop of Fred Williams en 5619 Polk recibía a clientes a lo largo de la ciudad, del condado y del estado. Uno por uno, las familias se han separado con solamente algunos descendientes restantes. La nieta de Milton Yates hizo se hizo profesora en la Deady Middle School. Después de la integración, los niños de la comunidad de Lunnon y HCCP hicieron amigos de mucho tiempo y disfrutaban memorias compartidas de la J.P. Henderson Elementary School.

As you drive north past Polk, note on the right at 704 Hughes the little abandoned green Milton Yates (1893-1985) house which is a nostalgic reminder of an era that is worthy of telling and recording for Houston's rich East End history.

Conduciendo al norte más allá de Polk, observe a la derecha en 704 Hughes las casas verdes abandonadas de Milton Yates (1893-1985) que es un recordatorio nostálgico de una era que es digna de decir y de registrarse para la historia.



