

## **Directions to “William Ham Family Cemetery” from Sprott, Alabama:**

Note: This cemetery is the burial site of **William & Eliza Ham; Martha J. Ham Hopper (Mattie)**, a daughter of William & Eliza; Martha’s husband, **Isaac Alexander Hopper; John Thomas Ham**, a son of William & Eliza; and numerous others unknown—original markers missing.

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Starting reference point for directions is **Sprott, Alabama** at the **intersection** of **Alabama Highway 14** and **Alabama Highway 183**.

At this intersection, **PROCEED NORTHEAST** on Alabama **Highway 183** for **5.2 miles** to **milepost 32**. (Note: This portion of the highway is Al. Hwy 183 only, and not shared in common with Ala. Hwy 14.)

**TURN LEFT (North) onto County Rd. 51** and continue north for **3 miles** to the end of the pavement.

Road now becomes a dirt & gravel road. **Continue 1.1 miles** to **“Y” intersection**.

**BEAR LEFT** and continue for **0.7 miles**.

**TURN RIGHT** onto “gray gravel” & dirt road and continue **1.0 miles** into forest.

**Notes:** The cemetery is just a few feet off to the right of the road and would be very easy to miss. It is a very small cemetery plot with a chain link fence around it. As of **10-17-04**, the road was being encroached upon by weeds on either side which frequently touched both sides of the car. Drive slowly and carefully to avoid scratching the sides of your car. A good alternative would be to park your car off to the side in an early clearing and hike up the road 15 to 20 minutes to the cemetery. The plot itself is currently in real need of maintenance. A tree has split and fallen across the fence into the middle of the plot—likely due to hurricane Ivan in September ‘04. Five graves have markers, but only four grave markers have names with them. There was one granite tombstone for **Mattie (1863-1892) & I.A. Hopper (1856-1922)**; 2 pottery markers for **William & Eliza Ham**; one marker of concrete, **John Thomas Ham**; and a square post (stone/concrete?) marker—**unknown**. Many other unknown grave sites were designated with a flat rock stuck vertically into the ground—most likely replacements for wooden crosses which have long since vanished. In a clearing several hundred yards further up the road and off to the right of the clearing, there was another single unknown grave mound similarly marked by a flat rock stuck vertically into the ground. A sign should probably be posted at the cemetery to try to find out if anyone has a plot plan for any or all of the unknown graves. The concrete marker for John Thomas Ham was difficult to read, but the date(s) appeared to be incorrect. From compiled information, it probably should be: Born July 8, 1850 & Died July 18, 1905. Mattie Hopper died in 1892, the same year that her son, Robert Solomon Hopper was born (Jan. 16, 1892). The surrounding land is now being used by hunt clubs. The cemetery appears to be located just south of Eliza A. Ham’s homestead (U.S. Land Patent issued 11-23-1891) on land that was originally sold to Fowlkes and Satterfield by a cash sale U.S. Land Patent issued 6-9-1888.

**Returning:** Proceed back **1.0 miles** to main dirt road ( extension of County Rd. 51 ).

**TURN LEFT** onto main dirt road / CO-51.  
Continue **4.7 miles** to **Alabama Hwy 183**.

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