**Blondella Dunlap Biography**

Blondella Dunlap had a short life. She was the only child of Monroe and Ellen Stewart Dunlap who married on July 22, 1890. Blondella was born shortly afterwards. The record is unclear exactly when, but she was very likely born in 1891.

Her father, Monroe, was a carpenter and was quite successful because in the 1900 Montgomery County census, the family is listed as living at 110 Carpenter Street, a house they owned free of a mortgage. Ellen, her mother is listed as working as a laundress. By the 1910 census, the house was renumbered as 108 Carpenter. Today Carpenter Street is located in the Lincoln Holmes neighborhood, and 110 Carpenter is an empty lot. Ellen, by 1910, was not working outside the house. Blondella was 19 years old and also was not employed.

The next year, the family moved to 549 Ford Street. Monroe was working as a grocer, and Blondella was listed as a laundress. Ellen was keeping house. Seven years later on May 23, 1918, Blondella died from pneumonia. This was a timeframe when the United States was fighting a flu epidemic. Blondella may have been a victim since pneumonia is a common secondary condition of severe flu. She was buried three days later in Mt. Olive Cemetery by Sam Dabney.

The 1920 Census shows Monroe and Ellen still living at 549 Ford Street. They owned the house free of a mortgage. Monroe was working once again as a carpenter. Sometime between 1920 and 1925, Ellen died. Currently no record of her death and burial has been found. In 1925, Monroe made a will dividing his possessions between his siblings: Stanford Dunlap, Andrew Dunlap, Viney Harris, and Mollie Weed. He owned seven houses. He left Stanford two houses and lots on Bailey Street and a three-room house on Ford Street. Andrew inherited Monroe’s homeplace on the corner of Ford and Carpenter Street, a small two-room house on Ford Street, and Monroe’s piano. His sister, Viney, received a four-room house and lot on Ford Street. Mollie received a three-room house on Ford Street. Monroe was very particular in specifying that the property willed to his sisters should be theirs and “absolutely free from the debts, contracts or control of any husband she may now or hereafter have.”

Monroe Dunlap died on May 7, 1926 and was buried in Dunlap Cemetery. His cause of death is listed as epilepsy with arterio-sclerosis as a contributory cause.