

Bainbridge Township Historical Society Newsletter

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Bainbridge Township, Ohio, 44023

Spring 2012

Bainbridge's Pioneer Cemeteries



Fowler Cemetery on Haskins Road

Bainbridge's early pioneer cemeteries, you probably never thought of them? Just think of Bainbridge's early settlers starting out with family and belongings heading west. There was nothing here but wilderness. If a member of the family died along the way they were buried and the family moved on. Sometimes they used stones as a marker with maybe a cross on the top to mark the grave.

After they got to their destination and settled down, I am sure they mourned their family but were very busy with gathering food, building a shelter to live in and just existing. We never hear of the families that did not make it, those that had their oxen or horses die, or shot by natives, drowned fording rivers and other mishaps.

The early settlers in Bainbridge buried their family in an appropriate place on their land. This is evidenced by the burials that were found documented such as the **Vincent Burial Ground** at Chagrin and Cats Den Road and since been moved to Restland Cemetery. (*Shadrack Vincent and sons Chauncey and Jonathan came to Bainbridge in May, 1833. Shadrack died Oct 1833. Nicholas Vincent, s/o Shadrack came in Feb, 1834. Jonathan's wife, Sally, died July 1833. Jonathan moved to Chagrin Falls in 1863 and is probably buried there. Perhaps his wife and father were moved there when the other stones were moved.*)

Next is the **McConoughey Burial Plot** on the hill just west of Snyder Road on Washington Street on the farm of Porter D. McConoughey. The stones were moved Evergreen Cemetery in Chagrin Falls about 1926. (*Arthur McConoughey, s/o Porter died 17 Dec 1854, age 3 months. Mary (Carter) McConoughey, mother, died 22 Jan 1864, age 93y 7m. Father, (David), died 25 Sep 1849, age 82. Porter McConoughey, s/o David & Mary died 19 Jun 1867, age 74. Margaret Nettleton, h/w died Jan 1848. Samantha, daughter of P.D. & Margaret, died 25 Nov 1853. Almon P. s/o P.D. & Margaret died 28 Jul 1867*)

Chamberlin Burial Site on Snyder Road. (*Henry G. Chamberlin s/o Joseph B. & P, died Aug 1851. Dimmis Chamberlin, born Colchester, CT., died 1 Mar 1846, age 83. Other stones including one marked Lydia Bigelow. Benjamin, John, Joseph Chamberlin, and their mother and perhaps Demmis, along with*



McFarland Cemetery on Chillcothe Road

Benjamin's wife's parents came to Bainbridge. Benjamin moved to Auburn. Joseph and Louisa (Brown) Chamberlin are buried at Evergreen in Chagrin Falls. Their daughter Julliatt married C.R. Post.)

Fowler Cemetery – It appears that the earliest internments were made at Fowler Burial Ground. John Smith is listed at 28 December 1818-1819, John Fowler, died 2 Sep 1824, 2 yrs 4 months old, Amariah Bissell, son of Justus & Nancy Bissell, died 28 Jul 1828, 24 yrs. Other familiar names that are interned there are Ely, Howard, Pettibone, Osborne, Kent, Mayhew, Goodman, Henry, Benja-

min, Fowler, Smith, Hollister, Bissell. Fowler Cemetery has 140 burials.

John Fowler sold the property to the Trustees of Bainbridge Township for the purpose of being occupied as a common burying ground where the citizens of Bainbridge may at all times have the privilege of burying their dead. The papers were signed May 7th, 1849. Trustees involved at the time were W. Hannum, Charles Neice and S. D. McFarland.

McFarland Cemetery – It appears the earliest internment at McFarland Cemetery was Avis McFarland, w/o Daniel McFarland, died 5 Dec 1824, 64 yrs. Other prominent names in the cemetery are Phillips, Bliss, Nettleton, Robinson and Eggleston. There are 48 Burials in McFarland Cemetery including Revolutionary War veteran Daniel McFarland.

The McFarland cemetery is written up a little different. John W. McFarland To John W. McFarland and Jonathan McFarland, Shadrach B. McFarland, Shirbal J. McFarland, Lorenzo D. McFarland, Andrew Phillips, William S. Phillips, Mison(sp) Soule. Ammiel Robins, Joshua M. Burnett, Olney R. Bliss, Pursie Whipple, Joanna Eggleston, Hannah McFarland, William Chase, Peley Brown, Abner Ellis, Daniel S. Phillips, Bennet Robins, Sucian B. McFarland, John Pierce, Oliver Nettleton, Ambrose Bliss, Otis B. Bliss and all others above mentioned for the term of time above specified the described piece of property convey by lease for burial purposes so long as it shall be used for said purposes. Property conveyed on October 22nd, 1859

Received and Recorded April 20th October 1868 at County Recorder.

Old Southeast Cemetery – AKA – Brewster Road Cemetery, Henry Cemetery, Contains 15 Graves. The first burial was in 1837. Joseph Witter, a Rev. War soldier is buried there in 1851. There is a marker on his grave. According to the roster he was a private in Capt. Black's Co. and was one of the guards of the execution of Major Andre. Ref.: Mass. Soldiers & Sailors Vol. 17 p698 and 648. Middlefield, Mass.

Vital Records. He married Hannah Washburn March 5, 1783, died in Bainbridge in 1831. Will probated in Feb 1831. Buried in Old Southwest burying ground. Children: William, Hannah, Lucy, Dolly, Joseph and Abraham. Many members of the K.W. Henry family are buried in part of the cemetery. A large monument in the center of this enclosure bears their names. Others buried there are Linton, McClintock and Ozrod. There are 15 burials in this cemetery. This cemetery has no access road and is several hundred yards from a private drive. Records show it was deeded February 9, 1835



Restland Cemetery in Bainbridge Center

Restland Cemetery – In 1869, two acres were bought from William Harpham for the future Bainbridge Township cemetery. The deed records show a transfer of 0.75 acres in 1870 with family graves to the township by Abner Ellis with the request that he be allowed to cut the grass in the cemetery. In 1935 the township bought 3 more acres and an additional 1.24 acres in 1936.

In 1871 the Bainbridge Township trustees accepted the layout of the new cemetery by H. H. Benjamin, Esq., who was born in New York, a farmer and Justice of the Peace for the township. The Classical symmetrical design with a main axis, on which the receiving vault is located, is influenced by the Renaissance Revival Period of the time. The extension of the cemetery in the 20th century continues the neoclassic plan.

The oldest tombstones are made of white marble. Others from the late 1800's to the present are of polished granite. There are several monuments in the cemetery, some for the earlier settlers in the township. There are graves dating back to 1812. Families had these deceased relatives reburied them from family plots when the township established the cemetery.

The Foresyth Brothers, Scottish stone masons from Chagrin Falls, built the Italianate style receiving vault in 1879. The vault is made of tooled sandstone with a slate roof and arched entrance. It was constructed to be used in the winter to hold the deceased until the ground thawed enough to dig a grave. The interior has a curved wooden ceiling and brackets on the walls to store caskets on shelves. There is also a wooden litter for carrying caskets.

Over the years many of the stones have been broken due to vandals and also from caskets and dirt settling because of improper bases on the monuments. This is a constant maintenance problem. In the 1970's vandals toppled 104 headstones, flowerpots smashed and permanent flowers uprooted.

Officers 2012

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&
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Meetings of the Bainbridge Township Historical Society are held the second Wednesday of the month (September through June) at 7:30 p.m. in the Burns-Lindow Building at the corner of Route 306 and Bainbridge-Solon Road.

**Bainbridge Township Historical Society
P.O.Box 23363
Bainbridge Township**



Town Hall—Circa 1914
Now—Burns Lindow Bldg

Everyone enjoys the refreshments at our meetings so remember when the refreshment sheet gets passed around to be sure to pick a convenient date and add your name to the list. It will make the job of our Refreshment Committee much easier. Barb Phan and Lois Little are our chairmen and will save them time calling around to find volunteers. Please call **Barb Phan, 543-7972**, if you can help.

Thank you to the following for hosting the refreshments at meetings.

March—Harriet Novy and Gerry Chittock

April—Elaine Witmer and Barbara Hess

May—Marilyn Vance and Gloria Triplett

Picnic—PICNIC AT THE HESSE HOME **TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2012, 6:30 PM**

Welcome New Members

Kevin & Laurie Burns	George Ihnatko
Wilma Clifford	Benjamin King
Gail & Olney Dekker	Judith Koltas
Laura Domiano	Pete & Beth Krause
Richard & Susan Doughman	Jerry & Mary Moreno
Ted & Catherine Fabyan	Anne Randall
Mitsy Furlong	Mary Jane Shaffer
Dan & Nancy Gallik	Carl Spitznagel
Eugene Griewisch	Jeff & Susan Wright
Nancy Grossman	Caroline Young
Robert Hodder	

The Historical Society is now in a position to accept your donated artifacts, both large and small and we'd certainly appreciate any time you can give to work towards this dedication, even an hour or two. If you do not wish to donate an item, please share it with the community by lending it to the museum. Photos can be scanned into the computer and returned.

Please contact our curator David Edmondson at david.edmondson204@gmail.com



Just a Reminder—Annual dues are payable in September but no later than December-\$10.00 for singles, \$20.00 for family. Life Membership-\$100.00. Make checks payable to *Bainbridge Township Historical Society*. Pay Marge Cook at the meeting or mail to her at 116 Leaview Ln., Chagrin Falls, OH 44022.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL - PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

2012 Meeting Schedule

Tuesday, June 12th, 2012— Annual Potluck Picnic—This year it will be at the home of Barbara & Chuck Hesse at 7777 Bainbridge/Solon Road, 6:30 p.m.—Members are asked to bring a covered dish or dessert or salad to share.

Because their home at 7777 Bainbridge Road has limited parking, Chuck is suggesting that drivers, other than those who truly need to park close to the house, park on Northwood Lakes Drive, the street just west of their home. Parking instructions will be provided at the site.

Some members may recall that area property had once been owned by Justus Bissell and a barn had been built around 1870. After World II, Charles and Shirley English purchased the barn and began converting it to a home. The house remained the English family home until 1988. Chuck and Barbara took ownership in 1997.

Plan to attend our picnic and gather more history about one of Bainbridge's unique structures.

No meetings until September 12th.

Check out our web page www.bainbridgemory.org