

Ms. A
 Vermont
 Historical
 Society

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The Welch Cemetery

The first settler and surveyor of Jordan Township was Benjamin Welch. He arrived from Ohio in the Spring of 1836.

Mr. Welch purchased his first tract of land in Jordan Township on April 10, 1843 from the United States of America signed by President Tyler. He bought another tract on December 29, 1849 from the United States of America signed by President Zachary Taylor. A total of 720 acres was purchased by Mr. Welch. Mr. Welch donated this land for the (Egypt) Welch Cemetery in Jordan Township. His daughter Mary, was among the first to be buried in the ground of the (Egypt) Welch Cemetery in 1841. (Indians used to congregate on this land as Mr. Job. Bramble and another man found a tomahawk while digging a grave)

The Egypt road where the cemetery is located was originally part of the old stage coach road which ran between the northern and southern parts of Indiana.²

Around the year 1847 pioneers going west to this new homestead, to make a new life traveled through this part of the country. A wagon train went through Jordan Township.

A family camped on the banks of Carpenter's Creek (which runs behind the cemetery) on a hill, which is now the Welsh Cemetery. The family became ill with the "Black Plague". The family's name was Smedgrabs. Five members (all children) of the family died. Their graves are located on the south end, the west side of the drive. They have small stones on their graves.³ These unfortunate travelers were some of the very first to be buried in the (Egypt) Welsh Cemetery.⁴ Several families died through this part of the country, although no record has been found of them. Joseph Haley gave ⁴\$500 dollars for the upkeep of the cemetery and donated enough dirt to cover the cemetery as the groundhogs were so bad that they brought up the clothes of the people buried there. Anyone in the neighborhood could be buried there.⁵

The name was changed from Egypt to Welsh in the year , the same year the fence was put up to mark the cemetery boundaries. The reason for this was because Mr. Benj. Welsh donated the land, and after a while the weeds and etc... were cut down so you could see. This part of the country used

to be as "dark as Egypt" some say. So after the cemetery was cleared up, they named it after the person who donated the land.⁶

The cemetery is a corporation and is partially, privately owned.⁷

Egypt schoolhouse was used for holding the funeral services until it was moved to Ferusman by a Mr. Wilson who remodeled it and used it as a home.⁸

By - Laws

I. Introduction

A. Association

1. Incorporated by a number of lot owners of the cemetery residents in Jordan Township, Indiana. Thought by the incorporators that under the laws of Indiana, a better control of property could be had and a better organization effected had for caring for grounds and providing means for such purposes.

There is a board consisting of five trustees who oversee the operation of the cemetery.

Entire revenue derived (received) will be spent on improving, maintaining and beautifying the property. Complete records are kept on all interments so information can be gotten with application to the secretary.⁹

Benjamin Welles
Died: November 9, 1854
Aged: 38 yrs, 4 mos, 6 days

Donated land for
cemetery in 1847
after his daughter
was buried in 1841

Mary, wife of Benj
Died: May 14, 1889
Aged: 94 yrs, 8 mos, 11 days

Mary, dau. of Mary & Benj. Welles
Died: August 10, 1841
Aged: 2 yrs, 10 mos, 10 days

Buried in (Egypt)
Welles cemetery
before land was
donated.

Melinda Jane Knowles
Died: August 24, 1839
Aged: 85 yrs, 8 mos, 20 days

Oldest known
grave in cemetery

Ella James, son of J. M. & A. C. Rowen
Died: July 12, 1844
Aged: 1 yr, 8 mos, 11 days

One of the oldest
aged infants in
cemetery

George W. Warrick
Died: March 2, 1942
Aged: 92 yrs, 5 mos, 13 days

Josephine A. Bullis, mother
1862 - 1942

2 most recent graves
in cemetery tract
book

Soldiers

Henry J. Adams "

Died: November 10, 1892
aged: 54 yrs

Perry Beal "

Com. A 87th reg. Ind. volunteers
Died: Nashville, Tenn; November 16, 1863
Aged: 30 yrs, 10 days

Ephraim Fleming "

Died: July 11, 1900
aged: 67 yrs

Joseph H. Haley "

Co K 48th Ind. Volunteers
Born: March 18, 1844
Died: February 9, 1931 B.A.R. marker

Cornelius Hutton "

Died: April 11, 1876
aged: 83 yrs. B.A.R. marker

John Waymire " Co A 87 reg. Ind. volunteers

Died: August 9, 1894
aged: 66 yrs, 6 mos, 7 days B.A.R. marker