

Hamilton County Cemetery Commission

384 North 11th Street, Noblesville, IN 46060-2146

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DEC 02 2002
INDIANA HISTORICAL
BUREAU

30 November 2002

To: Board of Commissioners
Hamilton County, Indiana

In January 2002 the Trustee of Jackson Township informed this Commission that vandals had done considerable damage in Taylor Cemetery. This marks the 3rd time in the life of this commission that this particular cemetery had been vandalized. Employees of this commission worked the first two weeks of this past season in resetting stones and piecing together some stones that had been fragmented, this totaled 60 stones. In addition there were 11 larger stones that they could not manhandle, Noblesville Monuments was hired to reset these stones and their invoice indicated that they had also buffered out what they term on their invoice as "vulgar words". To-date we have expended \$1,650.77 on repairs to this cemetery. In addition, we noted that several large stone not turned over but showed chipping as though smaller stones had been used to hit the larger ones. This made us think that some of the smaller stones used in this manner might be completely destroyed. Members of this commission made a survey of this cemetery and compared it with a listing made by James Correll in the early 1970s and also with a listing made in 1983 by a Boy Scout working on his Eagle Scout. This revealed that six stones had been pulverized. We are at present looking into the costs of putting the information that was on these six stones on a plaque so that these names and information thereon would not be lost to posterity. We are at present trying to get the Jackson Township Trustee, the tenant on the farm surrounding this cemetery and a representative of our commission together to see if we can determine some method that would exclude automobile traffic in the lane leading to this cemetery but still giving access to the tenant farmer for fields accessed from this lane and further still permitting people who have legitimate reasons to visit this cemetery foot access.

Helms Cemetery located on Florida Road in Fall Creek Township was offered to the county by the owner. We surveyed this land and he conveyed it to the county including a 10 foot strip from Florida Road to the actual cemetery. We have fenced this cemetery and cleared brush and trees. We also stood the expense of preparation of the deed etc. This has been a normal method we have used as we feel since these owners are giving us the land that any expense of transferring title ought to be our expense.

Faucett Cemetery located on the south side of Geist Reservoir, which we have known about for several years, but have not attempted to clean up etc. because of the impossible terrain in getting equipment to this site. Canal Place has been platted and the subdivision has now reached where we will have access by streets to this cemetery. The plat shows a Tract "D" which was supposed to be this cemetery but the stakes for Tract D did not include all of the cemetery. We called this to their attention and they have changed the size to include what we feel will cover the entire cemetery. At this time they also informed me that it is their intention to fence this cemetery with a wrought iron fence (in order to be compatible with the higher priced homes in

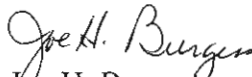
this subdivision) and then they would convey the cemetery to the county. This seems to be alright with us. At that point we will start our clean-up of this cemetery and also probe for tombstones that may be covered by years of silt etc.

We have attached our financial statement as of this date which is now required by state law, and also a list of cemetery's worked in by employees of this commission, including mowing, removal of shrubs and trees, stonework and fencing.

Our attempt to obtain title to Eller Cemetery in Delaware Township is still on hold. Mr. David Gatewood had indicated he would convey this to the county but when it came to providing an easement for ingress and egress he backed off. Our inquiries during this past year have gone unanswered.

The term of Richard E. Mallery on this commission expires on 31 December 2002. Upon inquiry he indicated a willingness to accept another term on the commission if offered. The Commission then voted to recommend his reappointment to another 5 year term.

Respectfully Submitted,


Joe H. Burgess
Chairman

JHB/jb

copy to Hamilton County Council
copy to Indiana Historical Bureau



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FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance forwarded 30 November 2001	8,289.70
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Receipts:

Annual Appropriation	19,000.00
Interest on checking account	<u>181.66</u>

Sub-total	27,471.36
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Disbursements:

Labor	8,463.00	
Trips	976.00	
Reimbursement for gas etc.	134.88	
Surveying	1,000.00	
Title & Lien Searches	125.00	
Bureau of Motor Vehicles	29.75	
Repairs (Reynolds & Farm Plan)	998.27	
Ditch Assessment	21.00	
Noblesville Monuments	1,300.00	
Barn Rental (equip. storage)	120.00	
Copies (Randolph Co. Clerk)	1.00	
Attorney Fees	117.00	
Glidden Fence Co., Inc.	<u>4,338.00</u>	<u>17,623.90</u>

Balance forwarded 30 November 2002	9,847.46
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Balance forwarded on Savings Account 30 November 2001	1,818.31
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Receipts: Interest	<u>14.97</u>
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Sub-total	1,833.28
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Disbursements:	<u>0.00</u>
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Balance forwarded 30 November 2002	1,833.28
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Above funds include obligated funds as follows:

Reserve Account:	
In checking account	\$3,338.09
In Savings account	<u>1,833.28</u>
Total Reserve Account	5,171.37

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NAME OF CEMETERY	MOWED	TREES & SHRUBS	FENCED	STONE WORK
Strawtown	X (16)			
Hurlock	X (16)	X		X
Buscher	X (14)			
Greenwood	X (14)			
Hammack	X (14)			
Thos. B More	X (14)			
Phillips	X (14)			
Teeter	X (14)			
Bradley	X (8)			
Finch	X (8)			
Lennen	X (8)			
Burke	X (8)			
Henry Gasho	X (8)			
Moppis	X (8)			
Little Carey	X (4)			
Burris	X (4)			
Taylor				X
Helms		X	X	
Anti-Slavery				X