Stony Hill Cemetery—A History

In 1916, the township accepted a deed of the quarter acre cemetery known as the Miller and Public Cemetery. The cemetery was renamed after the community in which it is located. It is situated on Medina Road (formerly known as Smith Road) on the south part of Lot 100 of Bath Township. The majority of the markers belong to the Hopkins and Miller families which arrived in the area in 1813 and 1827 respectively. According to Bath Township Trustee minutes, in 1923 the township “fixed up” the cemetery. In 1934 the trustees approved $90 for Shaw, Ira, East Bath and Stony Hill Cemeteries and approved $150 for the Bath Center Cemetery Association to take care of Bath Center Cemetery. Other funds were subsequently approved to continue care of the cemeteries. Also in the Stony Hill Community is the Stony Hill Schoolhouse on Hametown Road owned by the Bath Historical Society and the new fire station on Medina Road named in honor of the all-volunteer Stony Hill Fire Protection Association (1938-1953).

Stony Hill Cemetery is one of the five cemeteries within Bath township. Although it no longer has lots available for purchase, it remains a township attraction.

Stony Hill Cemetery has also been referred to as the Miller or Hopkins Cemetery.

These names reflect the cemetery’s direct link to the early families of the Stony Hill community, a vital portion of the development of the Western Reserve in northeastern Ohio.

Acknowledgements

Bath Township
Bath Township Historical Society
Bath Township Museum
Cemetery Tour Committee
Sam’s Club

Brochures of this and other Bath Township tours are available at:
www.bathtownship.org
Elisha and Sarah Miller

Elisha Miller was born in Connecticut in 1776; his wife Sarah F. in 1781. They had ten children: Elisha E., Lyman, Anson, Sarah, Clarinda, Lowley, Nathaniel, George, Harvey and Evelina, before purchasing 800 acres in the Connecticut Western Reserve.

The Millers moved to Bath Township Lots 99, 100 and smaller adjoining parcels, arriving in horse drawn sleighs in February 1827. Elisha gave land to his sons to farm while he built a meeting house with a tavern along Old Smith Road (Route 18).

He made certain a schoolhouse was built for his younger children and his grandchildren, and he operated the first mail station at Stony Hill naming it the “Yellow Creek Post Office.”

The Millers donated land for a cemetery for their families and other Stony Hill residents. Elisha died in 1851 at the age of 75; Sarah in 1858 at the age of 77.

John and Polly Lee

John Lee was born in Massachusetts in 1797; his wife Polly in Connecticut in 1803. The Lee Family lived in New York, where their children were born. They moved to Bath Township, living near the Miller and Hopkins families at Stony Hill and first appeared in the 1840 Census of Bath Township.

The Lees had two sons, Calvin and Benjamin, and two daughters, Elizabeth and Eunice. John was a farmer and a cooper, making barrels for local businessmen. His sons also learned the cooper trade. Calvin married Rosamond Brewer and later moved to Copley Township. Benjamin married Charlotte Miller, enlisted with the Union Army and was later killed in battle in Georgia.

Elizabeth married Roswell Hopkins. John Lee died at the age of 55 years on September 22, 1852. Polly lived on one acre in Lot 99 of Bath Township until she died, nearly 79 years old, on February 10, 1881.

Isaac and Susanna Hopkins

Isaac Hopkins was born in New York in 1784; Susanna Harrison in Connecticut in 1789. In 1806 they were married in Pennsylvania where their children Lucy, Jarrias, Sally, and William were born.

The family decided to purchase land in Indiana. After six weeks in a wagon drawn by a yoke of oxen, the family reached Bath Township on Sept. 10, 1813. One of the oxen went lame that afternoon and when they found a good spring at Stony Hill, they camped overnight. While letting the oxen rest for a few days, they decided that this would be a good place to settle. They built a shelter for the first winter, and would build a frame house two years later.

Isaac built a cooperage and a sawmill for cutting lumber for the barrel staves. The Hopkins had four additional children, Stephen, Clarissa, Isaac Roswell, and Susanna Maria while in Bath Township. The family built a frame house on Hamestown Road. Their son Roswell and his descendants operated a saw mill on Granger Road. Isaac died in 1852; his wife Susanna in 1862.