

Weathered and polished by rain, a lamb signifies the grave of an infant in Bainbridge Cemetery.

#### A BRIEF GUIDE TO COMMON CEMETERY SYMBOLS

Anchor Christian hope (Christ as anchor of stability).

Bird Soul, child burial.

Book Bible; book of recording angel, doomsday book, book of heaven; divine knowledge.

Column, broken Death, interruption of life (column can be either broken or cut short).

Compass & Right-Angle Indicates member of the Masons or "Freemason" fraternal group.

"Consort" A wife who died before her husband.

Cross & Crown Hope of salvation; victory of soul.

Dove Christian constancy; devotion; soul - usually flying upwards; holy spirit with olive branch; Noah's Dove-of-Promise that told him the waters had receded.

Drapery Mourning; depicts funeral drapery (palls); portal/window opening/closing into the otherworld.

Enclosures of a cemetery plot Victorian guarded sense of family: distinguish family from community.

Evergreen Plants Immortal soul.

Fans Sometimes depicts wings or sunset/sunrise, but usually just ornament in corners.

Flower(s) Human life is like the blooming and dying of a flower. If pointed downward or stem broken: support of life has been broken; innocent life cut short.



Finely carved tablet Cemetery show the "Tree of Life" and a sunburst.

Gates Biblical image of the gates of heaven

Globe One true God with dominion

Grapes Food of communion; symbol of Christ.

Hand(s), upward Pointing towards heaven; God's hand.

Hand(s), downward Death before baptism.

Hand, infant's/child's Infant or child burial.



The "Chest Tombs" in Dill Cemetery coffins, which are actually buried Hands, clasped Love and friendship are stronger than death; farewell; marriage.

Headstone Portal into the otherworld - often depicted as arched.

Heart Human affection and love (typically German; usually a two-lobed turnip shape).

Ivy Friendship; fidelity; immortal soul.

Lamb Child's grave; Christian (flock of Christ); Christ as the Lamb of God.

Lily Purity.

Logs See "Tree."

Morning Glory Death of a child.

Oak Leaf Strength; Christian constancy.

Obelisk Points the way to heaven (from Egypt).

Palm Victory over death.

Patterns, geometric or abstract Decorative (typically



On opposite sides of the ghway and framed from behind the cemetery's archivay. Springbank Church, like many rural churches, began this Union Township cemetery.

German).

Pinwheel a.k.a. Compass Star: a cross; the sun; eternity; talisman (typically German).

Plant, odd-looking see "Treeof-Life."

"Relic" A wife whose husband died before her

River Course of life.

Rose Beauty: womanhood.

Scroll, unfolding Future life in heaven; one end is the past/earthly life and other the future - life is nothing more than the unrolling of a scroll.

Shell, scallop Resurrection; rebirth (from use as a ladle in baptizing); may also be a Sunburst.

Star, five-point Member of the "Grand Army of the Republic" Civil War veterans group.

Stump Life ended.

Sun, rising Resurrection of the soul after death.

Sun, setting End of life.

Sunburst Life and renewal (could also be a Fan or Scallop Shell).

Swastika Cross; the sun; eternity (a.k.a. "fylfot;" typically German, long before infamous misuse in WWII).

Tree Biblical Tree-of-Life; nature. Also sticks, twigs and logs used as enframement.



The oldest markers in Chillicothe's Greenlown Cemetery were moved in fron older, smaller cemeteries now long

Tree, large/old Adult or elder - size of tree often indicates age (typically German).

Tree, Oak Strength; Christian constancy.

Tree, lopsided One partner in a marriage died earlier.

Tree, seedling Infant or child (typically German).

Tree-of-Life Cycle of birth, growth, decay, death, rebirth (image from Garden of Eden; lower two branches usually drooping; and often growing from Urn or Heart).

Trefoil or Triad Christian trinity of God

Tulip Life; love; immortality (typically German).

Urn Death of an adult.

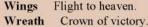
Urn, with flame New life associated with death: rebirth, life in heaven; soul rising to heaven.

Vase Water of life - often with Tree-of-Life.

Wheat Fruitfulness: death of an older adult

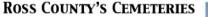
Willow, weeping Mourning (drooping symbolizes

sorrow); resurrection (lives on streams, symbols of life). Often in a classical image of a mourning woman leaning on a funeral urn under a weeping willow.





"Like a swelling of the ground," as poet Emily Dickinson wrote, is this tomb in Grandview Cemetery.



Burial grounds are sacred spaces, and should be treated with respect. Their old monuments to the deceased are historical objects and irreplaceable documents that deserve special care.

Preparing for America's Bicentennial, the Ohio Genealogical Society asked local genealogical groups to provide the locations of their area's cemeteries and burials.

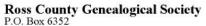
This information was exhaustively sought out At the most prominent by the Ross County Genealogical Society and Cometery, Chillicothe, is was published in Ohio Cemeteries and its updates. Locally, it was included in the Bicentennial Atlas of Ross County and is archived at the genealogical society's library.



point in Grandview a memorial obelisk, a patriotic flagpole, an immortal-seeming evergreen tree, and a

The cemetery locations were added to the county engineer's map at the same time in order to aid researchers and visitors, and any additions or corrections are welcomed by the department.

#### WHERE TO LEARN MORE



444 Douglas Ave., Chillicothe, Ohio, 45601 740 / 773-2715 • rcgs@bright.net

Ross County Historical Society 45 W. Fifth St., Chillicothe, Ohio, 45601 740 / 772-1936 • info@rosscountyhistorical.org

surrounds the Renick family plot, the 1804 · Other local historical societies

Township trustees
 Nearby churches

#### Chillicothe & Ross County Public Library 140-146 S. Paint Street, Chillicothe, Ohio, 45601

740 / 702-4160 • chillcot@oplin.lib.oh.us · Several branch libraries are located throughout the county.

#### Ross County Archives

21 W. Main St., Chillicothe, Ohio, 45601 • 740 / 774-1179



A low stone wall

Chillicothe's 1845

art triumphant arch, afterlife are the trance signs of the Deerfield Township Cemetery (left), and (right) Chillicothe's enlawn Cemeter



#### FURTHER RESEARCH & READING

- The Ross County Genealogical Society has many publications covering all 16 townships, most of them recently revised.
- · Ohio Cemeteries. Ohio Genealogical Society, 1978. with addenda in 1990 and 2003
- · Bicentennial Atlas of Ross County. Chillicothe-Ross County Bicentennial Commission, 1976.



The sun sets on the shadowkunds of Green Summit Cemetery, Colerain Township.

Thanks to:

The Ross County Genealogical Society Chillicothe & Ross County Public Library The Ross County Engineer's Office

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## THE CEMETERIES OF ROSS COUNTY

shown on the Ross County Engineer's Map



Bainbridge Cemetery, Paxton Township





visitchillicotheohio.com

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# THE CEMETERIES OF ROSS COUNTY

shown on the Ross County Engineer's map

Listed alphabetically by township and cemetery name. Largest cemeteries have additional information. Consult the county map for locations.

#### BUCKSKIN

Black Cemetery
Dean Cemetery
Finch Cemetery
Harper Cemetery
Hickson Cemetery
Jameson Wilson
Cemetery
Kerr Cemetery

Milligan Cemetery

Mt. Pleasant Cemetery
Murray Farm Cemetery
Robbins Cemetery
Satchel Cemetery
Scott Wilson Farm
Cemetery
South Salem Cemetery
about 1,700 burials, begun c1821

Wright Cemetery

## COLERAIN

Green Summit Cemetery about 3,400 burials, begun 1878

Hallsville Cemetery (a.k.a. Maple Grove Cemetery) about 1,800 burials, begun 1851 Hickle Cemetery Leasure Cemetery Old Lutheran Cemetery Old Methodist Cemetery Pleasant Hill Cemetery Throckmorton Cemetery

## CONCORD

Barclay Cemetery
Bridges Cemetery
Christie Cemetery
Concord Church
Cemetery
Day Cemetery
Fletcher Cemetery
Fultz Cemetery

Greenlawn Cemetery
(Frankfort Area)
about 5,200 burials, begun 1876
Greenlawn Cemetery

Greenlawn Cemetery (northeast portion of township) Hardy Cemetery

Hardy Cemetery Hire Cemetery Junk Rd. Cemetery

Lane Cemetery

Mallow-Hegler Cemetery

Old Methodist Cemetery
Old Partist Compton

Old Baptist Cemetery Parish Cemetery

Pisgah Cemetery

Sam Blue Farm Cemetery Shobe Cemetery

Stewart Cemetery

Strader Hill Cemetery Sultz Cemetery - see Fultz

Wilson Cemetery
Wornstaff Cemetery

### DEERFIELD

Baptist Cemetery Brown's Chapel Cemetery about 2,700 burials Clarksburg Method

about 2,700 burials

Clarksburg Methodist

Cemetery

Collins Cemetery

Evans Cemetery
Hall Cemetery
Hickle Cemetery
Lutz Cemetery
Old Brown's Chapel
Cemetery
Plum Run Cemetery

## **FRANKLIN**

Bethel Cemetery
Bland Cemetery
Crouse Chapel Cemetery
Edward Farm Cemetery
Gibson Cemetery
Green Township
Cemetery
Higby Cemetery
Hudnell Cemetery

Loel Cemetery
Miller Cemetery
Mt. Pleasant Cemetery
Salem Reform Cemetery
Sandy Cemetery
Snyder Cemetery
Three Locks Cemetery
about 520 burials
Union Chapel Cemetery
Winchell Cemetery

## GREEN

Bethel Cemetery Crouse Chapel Cemetery Miller Cemetery

Hurles Cemetery

Mt. Pleasant Cemetery about 2,840 burials, earliest c1801 Salem Reform Cemetery Union Chapel Cemetery

## **HARRISON**

Blue Lick Cemetery Charleston Cemetery Esery Cemetery begun 1798 Hanson Cemetery

Jones Cemetery
McGee-Stanhope
Cemetery
Timmons Cemetery

Woods Cemetery

## HUNTINGTON

Animan Cemetery Moore Farm Cemetery **Baptist Cemetery** Mt. Tabor Cemetery about 700 burials, begun 1816 Bishop Hill Cemetery Nebergall Cemetery Bontz Cemetery Neff Farm Cemetery Catholic Cemetery Offut Cemetery Clark Cemetery Pritchard Cemetery Denver M.E. Cemetery Ralston Cemetery Floral Hills Memory Rieley Cemetery Garden about 2,350 burials, begun 1965 Seelig Cemetery Golden Gate Cemetery Shotts Cemetery Gordon Cemetery Thomas Cemetery Klutz Cemetery Tuvell Cemetery Liberty Hill Cemetery Waggy Cemetery Lump Farm Cemetery Yankee Hill Cemetery McWhirt Cemetery

## **JEFFERSON**

Beals Cemetery
Caldwell Farm Cemetery
Caldwell Cemetery
about 800 burials, begun c1820
Elliott Cemetery

Hickson Rd. Cemetery

Old Quaker Graveyard
Sigler Cemetery
Stockman Cemetery
Stratton Cemetery

Little Mound Cemetery

about 800 burials, begun c1848

To the brave genealogists who researched, hiked, located cleared, and recorded the most obscure burials, as well as those who counted every stone in the largest cemeteries - perhaps 70,000 of them in Ross County - this pamphlet is dedicated.

### LIBERTY

Ackley Cemetery Claypool Cemetery Concord Church Cemetery Londonderry Cemetery about 2,400 burials, begun c1852 Peecher Cemetery Schooley's Cemetery Tweed Cemetery

### **PAINT**

All are small cemeteries, some with exceptional carvings. **Nuckols Cemetery** Brake Cemetery Dwyer Cemetery Old Benner Cemetery Garman Cemetery Old Pricer Cemetery Pepple Cemetery Gray Cemetery Rockhold Cemetery Hamilton Cemetery Holby Cemetery Sheely Cemetery Howry Cemetery Snyder Cemetery Knisley Cemetery Waller Cemetery Nixon Cemetery Ziegler Cemetery

### PAXTON

Bainbridge Cemetery about 4,100 burials, begun 1823 Benner Cemetery Burke Cemetery Dills Cemetery Garner Cemetery Jewett Cemetery Mann Cemetery

McMichen Cemetery
Mt. Carmel Cemetery
Old Potts Cemetery
Pake Cemetery
Platter Cemetery
in two parts, separated by road
Pleasant Hill Cemetery
Potts Hill Cemetery

## SCIOTO

Adena Cemetery
Caldwell Cemetery
Chandler Cemetery
Chestnut-Malone
Cemetery
England-White Cemetery
Findley Cemetery
Fruit Hill Cemetery
Grandview Cemetery
& Chillicothe Mausoleum
About 15,000 burials, begun 1845.
Listed on the National Register.

Greenlawn Cemetery about 12,000 burials, begun 1861 Hamilton-Lunbeck Cemetery Haynes Cemetery Hoggard Cemetery Massieville Cemetery McDills Cemetery Mischal Cemetery Ott & Geil Cemetery St. Margaret's Cemetery

about 4,000 burials, begun 1892 White Cemetery

## SPRINGFIELD

Boblett Cemetery Curtis Cemetery Fairfax Cemetery Mt. Carmel Cemetery about 1,200 burials, begun c1851 Overly Chapel Cemetery Wesley Chapel Cemetery

## TWIN

Old Bourneville

Palmer Cemetery

Pettiford Cemetery

Cemetery

Fels Cemetery Platter-Morris Cemetery Pool Cemetery Freshour Cemetery Prather Cemetery Fuller Cemetery Harris Station Cemetery Rowe Cemetery Shoultz Cemetery Igou Cemetery McDonald Cemetery Taylor Cemetery Minney Cemetery Teeter Cemetery Mitchell Cemetery Tinker Cemetery Moore Cemetery **Tuvell Cemetery** Nessel Cemetery Twin Township Cemetery Newlan Farm Cemetery about 3,000 burials, begun c1886 Newman-Pool Cemetery

**Baum Cemetery** 

Christian Hollow

Cemetery

Core Cemetery

#### UNION

Beaver Cemetery Biers Cemetery Bowdle Cemetery C.C.I. Cemetery Cook Cemetery Crispin Cemetery Duckworth Cemetery Fulton Schafer Cemetery Hicks Cemetery Hicks Cemetery -African American Hurst Cemetery **Hutton Cemetery** Jones Cemetery Maughmer Cemetery Minear Cemetery Mt. Union Cemetery

Old Storm Cemetery

Noble-Flesher Cemetery Old Mace Cemetery

Noble Cemetery

Wesley Chapel Cemetery

Actually in Paint Township

Poole Cemetery
Pryor Cemetery

Rowland Cemetery
Springbank Cemetery

about 1,400 burials, earliest c1806
Thompson Cemetery

Tootle Cemetery Wheeler Cemetery Williams Cemetery Withgott Cemetery Worthington-Snyde

tery Worthington-Snyder Cemetery Cemetery

Wright Cemetery
Union Chapel Cemetery

Many cemeteries are known by different names and spellings.
Many smaller, older graveyards have been abandoned and their
burials moved into later, larger cemeteries. Several single burials
and loose gravestones are not indicated.

Through more than two centuries of history, the people of Ross County have created more than 300 cemeteries and isolated burials Time, forgetfulness, and vandalism have hidden, damaged, and destroyed many. Some shown on the map are lost or no longer exist, and some are not marked on the map. Most of those that remain need care and investigation to preserve their fragile history