

Warrensville West Cemetery Veterans Day Tour

November 11, 2021

Shaker Heights Public Library, Shaker Historical Society, The City of Shaker Heights

Intro — Cemetery Facts

- 2nd oldest cemetery in Cuyahoga County after Ontario Street Cemetery (1797 - defunct)
- Daniel (1786-1862) and Margaret Warren (1784-1869) - first permanent settlers and namesakes of Warrensville Township, built cabin in 1809 near Lee Rd & Chagrin Blvd; Daughter Lovisa (1809-1811) was buried 1811 on a hill east of the cabin
- Early settler Asa Stiles bought the lot from Daniel Warren in 1812 and turned it over to Warrensville Township to be used as a cemetery
- 1811 (Lovisa Warren) - 1964 (Myra Gibbs)
- ~167 markers, unknown number of unmarked graves
- Pioneer families, Manx immigrants, Shakers
- Counterpart was Warrensville East Cemetery (Beachwood Cemetery) at South Green Rd & Halburton Rd

Earl Kenneth Jones (1911-1955) — World War II (1941-1945)

- Born in Kent, OH
- 1939 married Mary Theresa Prah in Cleveland; three children.
- Worked at Leece-Neville Company, Cleveland
- Enlisted March 14, 1944
- Served on board USS Waller DD-466 destroyer September 1944-September 1945 (Philippines Campaign, Indonesia and China)
- Medals: Asiatic-Pacific Campaign, Philippine Liberation

John Cowan (1828-1874) — Civil War (1861-1865)

- Enlisted August 25, 1864 - June 5, 1865 in 29th Ohio Infantry Regiment
 - Siege of Atlanta, Sherman's March to the Sea, Siege of Savannah

Saxton Edwards (1830-1849) — Mexican War (1846-1848)

- Father Starks/Stark Edwards (1808-1877), mother Hannah Saxton (1810-1885)
- Grandson of Rodolphus Edwards (1759-1840) - Revolutionary War veteran (served under General Stark), Cleveland Early Settler, Chairman of Cleveland (elected in 1802); settled in Newburgh, present-day Buckeye-Woodland neighborhood
- 1840 census lists 2 boys under 10 (Saxton b. 1830 and Everett b. 1839) and 1 girl under 10 (Harriet b. 1835)

Moore Bell (1786-1874/75) — War of 1812 (1812-1815)

- 1786 Moor/Morris/Mose/More born in in Lyme, Grafton, New Hampshire
- 1802 Canada land grant: 1200 acres in Quebec
- 1809 married Annis Patterson in Vermont
- April 12-May 20, 1814 (or -Sept 30, 1814): Captain George Fisher's Company, Sumner's Regiment; 46th Vermont Regiment Militia
- 11 children born 1810-1831 in Canada (Belinda Bell Adams), Vermont (Clarissa Bell), New York, and Ohio (Samantha Bell Cooley)



- 1824-1860 tax rolls/census: Warrensville Township, Cuyahoga County
- 1870 census: Lorain County farmer
- 1874 died 'of old age'

James (Hogg) Prentiss (1750/55-1817) — Revolutionary War (1775-1783)

- Private in 1st New Hampshire Militia Regiment, also known as Stark's Regiment after General John Stark
- Fought in Battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775 during the Siege of Boston, first major battle in the Revolutionary War
- Father of Margaret Hogg who married Daniel Warren in 1807 in NH and moved to Western Reserve in 1809
- 1808 New Hampshire legislation approved change of family name from Hogg to Prentiss
- Discharged (unknown date) in Saratoga, New York and moved to Warrensville Township in 1811, built log cabin on Chagrin Blvd near Palmerston Rd
- Became Warrensville Township trustee in 1817, the same year he died
- First marked grave in Warrensville West, buried near daughter Betsey Prentiss and granddaughter Lovisa Warren
- Buried with full military honors by four comrades, including Moses Warren Sr. and Jacob Russell, on the Gibbs farm (Chagrin Blvd and Milverton Rd); Records say he was reinterred at Highland Park Cemetery
- Will included \$14.25 for funeral expenses (\$10.00 doctor bills and medicine for last illness, \$1.25 for making coffin, \$1.25 for digging grave, \$1.75 for funeral whiskey)

North Union Shakers (1822-1889)

- Believe in passive resistance and were pacifists
- Some of the first recorded conscientious objectors -- President Lincoln granted Shaker men an exemption from military service
- Shakers around the country took in and cared for both Union and Confederate soldiers as well as African American freedom seekers and formerly enslaved people
- In 1909, 89 of 135 bodies removed from South Park Blvd to Warrensville West
- Boulder from Shaker farm marked with a bronze plaque placed by SHS in 1949
- Shakers gravestones were marked with only initials
- E. J. (Emily Jefferson) -- Black Shaker, member of the Mill Family, died at the age of 13 due to an unknown disease
- Lydia Russell -- Sister-in-law of North Union founder Ralph Russell, marble stone placed by her daughters

Project Update

