



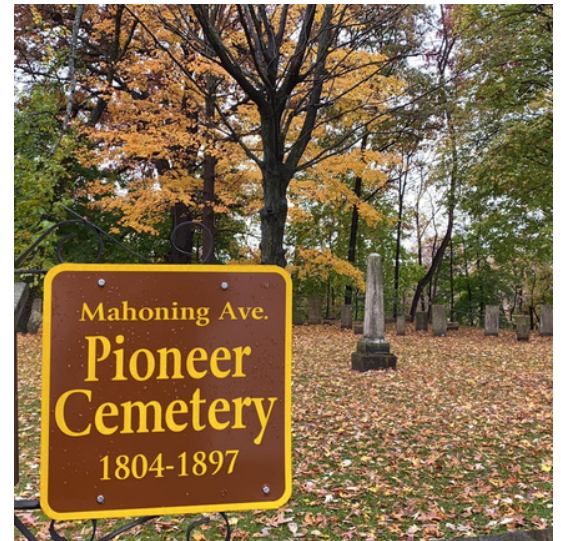
Trumbull County Historical Society Interim Report

Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board Grant

Digitization of Old Mahoning Cemetery Records

Summary of Project

The Trumbull County Historical Society (TCHS) received funding from the Ohio Historical Records Advisory Board to digitize survey records from Old Mahoning Cemetery in Warren, Ohio. Through this grant of \$4570.00, TCHS has hired an intern to assist with the project to catalog and digitize the cemetery's records, including approximately 800 records, 600 photos, and 200 negatives. The goals for the project are to digitize all documents, photos & negatives and upload them to TCHS's online collections database; create a dedicated page on TCHS's website for the cemetery; and integrate the cemetery records & photos into Find A Grave.



Level of Completion

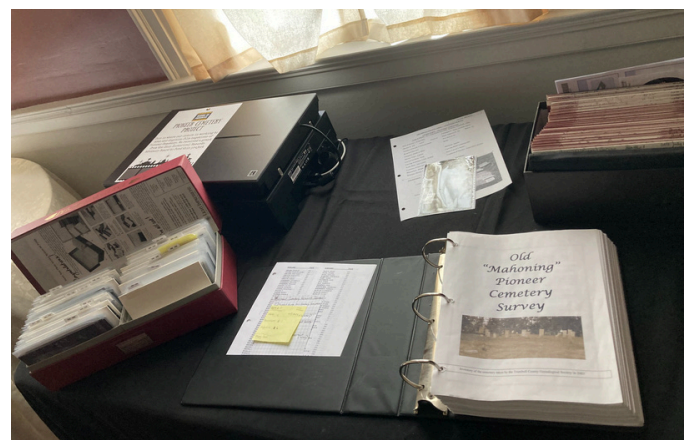
Since the grant period began in May 2024, TCHS has hired an intern, India Gatts, for an allotted 200 hours of work. Gatts has almost completed the project's inventory of all the records, photos, and negatives. She has completed 50+ hours of research into the individuals buried in Old Mahoning Cemetery. The project is around 40% complete at this point.

Summary of Expenses

We have paid out the following:

- Intern- \$2500
- Brochure Holder- \$22.99
- Epson Perfection V850 Pro Photo Scanner- \$1278.79

Total grant funds spent: \$3801.78



Staff & Volunteer Time



Our intern has dedicated 100 hours to this project, reaching the midpoint of her 200-hour internship. During this time, she successfully labeled and inventoried approximately 730 of the 800 survey pages, along with their corresponding photos. She will soon begin digitizing these documents and photos into our digital database, CatalogIt.

| READING HEADSTONES | STORIES OF CIVIL WAR VETERANS |
|--|---|
| <p>In addition to names, birthdates and death dates, headstones were also decorated with inscriptions which loved ones used to pay homage to their dearly departed.</p> <p>EPITAPH An epitaph is a short message honoring the deceased. They commonly reflected the religious beliefs, virtues and values of the interred. They tell of love lost, sorrow and sometimes they tell the story of how they died.</p> <p>Olive A., the daughter of Robert & Rebecca King, died March 25, 1853, aged 10 months and 20 days. Her epitaph reads:</p> <p><i>"Let little children come unto me, and forbid them not for such is the kingdom of heaven"</i></p> <p>Sadly, their son Charles J King, died June 28, 1854, aged 4 months and 28 days. His epitaph reads:</p> <p><i>"Sleep on sweet babe & take thy rest God called thee home he thought it best"</i></p> <p>Joseph Barber, died Sept. 25, 1861, aged 1 year and 9 days. His epitaph reads:</p> <p><i>"Dearest Joseph thou hast left thy loss we deeply feel But thy God that has bereft us He can all our sorrow's heal"</i></p> <p>Charles S. Van Gorder Died Jan. 7, 1851, aged 16 years and 9 months. His epitaph reads:</p> <p><i>"with all its beauty on Death comes of like a wintry day It cuts the lovely flower away"</i></p> <p>Enoch Reeves died March 15, 1839, aged 32 years. His epitaph reflects the hope of eternity.</p> <p><i>"Sleep until Christ shall bid thee rise"</i></p> | <p>Calvin A. Waterman (NS) served as an Army Private in Co. G, 2nd Ohio Vol. Heavy Artillery. He died at the age of 23, in Bowling Green, KY, on July 16th, 1864, of typhoid.</p> <p>His obituary in Western Reserve Chronicle 24 Aug 1864</p> <p><i>"Farewell dear Calvin we mourn thy loss, Though we know this world is naught but cross; We trust thou hast found a home sublime, Though thy eyes were closed in a southern clime. O!d would we have seen thy face again, Yet our loss is but thy greatest gain; We trust God heard thy dying prayer, Though great thy suffering surely were. Then why should we mourn; grow or weep, Since God his promises, always keep. Or, may it be ours to join the choir, In heaven so sweet to part no more. R. A. W."</i></p> <p>Benjamin Scott (NS) came to Warren at the age of 22. He was a barber by trade. He served in the Civil War as a Private in Co. A, 5th U.S. Colored Troops. He died of lung disease at the age 52.</p> <p>Charles Freese (NS) served as a Corporal in Co. C, 19th Ohio Vol. Inf. On Jan. 24, 1868, he stabbed his wife seven times, then committed suicide "by inflicting eight stab wounds to his chest, one penetrated the heart and was sufficient to produce death".</p> <p>Headline in the Western Reserve Chronicle Jan. 24, 1868</p> <p>"HORRIBLE TRAGEDY! ATTEMPT AT MURDER & SUICIDE"</p> <p>A Man Slabs his Wife Seven Times and Kills himself! WHISKY THE CAUSE!"</p> <p>Trumbull County Genealogical Society Old Mahoning Pioneer Cemetery Survey</p> <p>Trumbull County Historical Society 330-394-4653 trumbullcountystory.org info@trumbullcountystory.org 328 Mahoning Ave Warren, Ohio 44483</p> |

WALKING TOUR

MAHONING AVENUE PIONEER CEMETERY

661 MAHONING AVE NW WARREN OHIO

Take a walk through the historic Mahoning Avenue Pioneer Cemetery, the first burying ground in the Western Reserve. Here are the stories, etched in stone, of the lives and deaths of the early pioneers of Trumbull County.

1804 - 1897

"The grave is now my home But soon I hope rise Mortals behold my doom Keep death before my eyes"

epitaph of Sally Allen Tracy DOD Apr. 5, 1820

New Walking Tour Pamphlet

A volunteer has spent roughly 25 hours working on a new self-guided walking tour pamphlet for the Old Mahoning Cemetery. Using the grant funds, we purchased a new brochure holder to replace the weathered wooden box previously used to house an old walking tour guide. The new walking tour pamphlets will be freely available to those who visit the cemetery any time of year.

A new walking tour pamphlet for Old Mahoning Cemetery provides visitors with a structured, informative guide to the site's significant landmarks and stories. By highlighting the lives and contributions of those buried there, the pamphlet helps foster a deeper connection to the community's heritage, encourages exploration, and ensures that these individuals' legacies are remembered and celebrated by both locals and visitors.

ENTRANCE

CEMETERY WALKING TOUR - STOPS ALONG THE WAY

COMMON MASONIC SYMBOLS

6 ALL SEEING EYE OF GOD REFERS TO GOD AND/OR GEOMETRY SQUARE, MODALITY, "SEA SQUARE" COMPASS, WISDOM AND SELF RESTRAINT LOOK FOR OTHER MASONIC SYMBOLS ON CALVIN AUSTIN'S HEADSTONE.

Project Publicity

Along with the OHRAB grant-funded project to digitize the cemetery records, we are also working on cleaning up the cemetery and conducting a ground penetrating radar (GPR) scan to search for unmarked graves. Dr. Matt O'Mansky from Youngstown State University has volunteered his time and equipment to conduct the GPR scan. TCHS began hosting clean-up days at Pioneer Cemetery starting in May. Since then, we have removed over 100 bags of leaves from the cemetery, which has allowed us to uncover hidden headstones that haven't been seen in years.



Articles:

“Uncovering history at the Old Pioneer Cemetery in Warren”

May 30, 2024; Kaitlyn McCarthy

<https://www.wfmj.com/story/50849783/uncovering-history-at-the-old-pioneer-cemetery-in-warren>

“Project Aims to Identify Graves at Pioneer Cemetery”

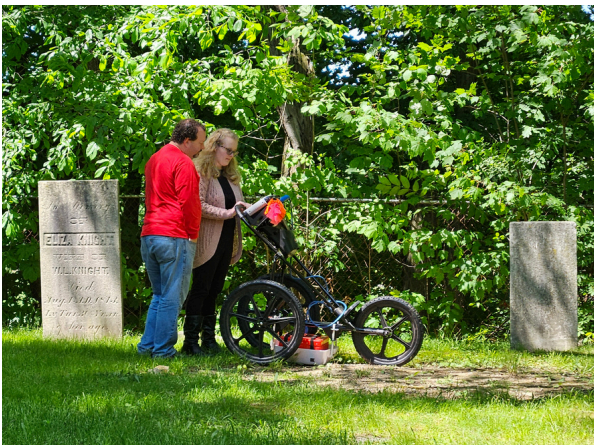
May 31, 2024; George Nelson

<https://businessjournaldaily.com/project-aims-to-identify-graves-at-pioneer-cemetery/>

“Radar to zone in on hidden gravestones”

May 31, 2024; Mason Cole

<https://www.tribtoday.com/news/local-news/2024/05/radar-to-zone-in-on-hidden-gravestones/>



TRUMBULL
COUNTY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Ground Penetrating Radar to be Conducted at Pioneer Cemetery
Contact: Savannah Moss, Collections & Research Manager (330) 394-4653 or
savannah@trumbullcountyhistory.org

WARREN, OH—The Trumbull County Historical Society is excited to announce a groundbreaking project at the Old Mahoning (Pioneer) Cemetery in Warren. Dr. Matt O'Mansky, a professor of Anthropology at Youngstown State University, is leading an innovative effort to map and uncover hidden headstones using ground-penetrating radar (GPR).

Pioneer Cemetery, a historical gem in Warren, holds the final resting places of many of the area's early settlers. The first burial there is recorded in 1804. Over the years, some headstones have become weathered, shifted, or buried, obscuring the complete historical record of the cemetery. Dr. O'Mansky's efforts aim to address this by using state-of-the-art GPR technology to accurately locate all existing headstones, including those that are currently covered and unseen.

This project is not only significant for historical preservation but also for enhancing the educational and cultural understanding of Warren's heritage. By mapping out the headstones, the Trumbull County Historical Society aims to create more detailed records and potentially discover new historical information about the early residents of the area.

The community is invited to follow the progress of this project, which promises to shed new light on Warren's rich past. For updates and more information, please visit the Trumbull County Historical Society's website and social media channels.

