

**NAMES INDEX OF THE RIVERVIEW CEMETERY
AT BONNER SPRINGS, KANSAS**

Compiled by
Jeffrey Wayne Keath
Troop 44

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An Eagle Scout Project
October, 1992
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FOREWORD

"Show me the manner in which a Nation or Community cares for its dead and I will measure with Mathematical Exactness, the tender mercies of its people, their respect for the laws of the land and their loyalty to high ideals."

-Gladstone

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my thanks to those who have helped me with my project: former Eagle Scouts, Elder Dan Reynolds, and Elder Clint Garner. Also Scout Troop members; Jess Reynolds, Billy Bruce, Seth Starnes, Adam Starnes; and church members; Elder Scott Hepworth, Mr. D. J. Vander Werff; my Scout Advisor, Mr. Larry Reynolds, and my brother, David B. Keath, for helping me with the cleanup of the graveyard.

I would also like to thank my parents, Danny J. Keath and Karen L. Keath for their support with cleaning up, donating sand and gravel, typing the index, and providing food when it was needed.

I would also like to thank John H. Harrington of Alden Harrington Funeral Home for helping me with referencing the names in the book and other background information on Riverview Cemetery.

I would like to thank Paul Tady of Paul M. Tady Construction, Inc. for the donation of materials for a sign for the cemetery. I would also like to thank Marilee Fisher for the use of her laser printer to print the book; and also thanks to all those who supported and encouraged me in other ways not already mentioned.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF RIVERVIEW CEMETERY

The legal description for what was known as the **SHERMAN TOWNSHIP CEMETERY**, was described as land located in Section Six (6), Township Twelve (12), and Range, Twenty Three (23).

According to Mr. John H. Harrington of the Alden Harrington Funeral Home, there originally were 105 counties formed and townships were created in each county. Each Township was committed by law to set aside a certain number of square feet for a cemetery. This same Township administered its responsibilities through a Township Board or Committee. This Board was responsible for allocating monies to provide regular upkeep of its cemetery.

As time passed the governing body changed and was no longer "Township-Oriented" as a governing system for the community. Depending on which political party was in office and whether caring for the cemeteries was a popular issue, was the determining factor as to how well and whether the cemeteries continued to be cared for as they had been cared for previously.

Some community cemeteries such as Edwardsville Cemetery and Glenwood Cemetery are cared for by tax dollars. Riverview Cemetery is not situated within the existing boundaries of the city of Bonner Springs as of this time. Therefore, it does not qualify for financial assistance for maintenance purposes. Instead, the Wyandotte County Parks and Recreation Department of Kansas City, Kansas is responsible for its upkeep.

This upkeep presently consists of going in twice each year, once near Memorial Day and once near Labor Day, to remove the weeds and brush with a brush hog. The effect of this type of upkeep has been that many of the older broken stones have been further destroyed and eventually ground into dust particles. Many stones are missing from their original burial sites. This has been further evidenced by the Bonner Springs Chieftain and the Wyandotte Chieftain newspaper obituaries that have been included in this index, for your information.

The Riverview Cemetery was utilized by many prominent families of the Bonner Springs community and surrounding areas. Mr. Harrington further described that there were also many migrant families in the area prior to World War II. The children of those families buried their parents, many in single plots, in the Riverview Cemetery. He also explained that the cemetery was never designated as a "poor cemetery" only that it was never really cared for after the late 1960's.

The Riverview Cemetery was also described as a "dead cemetery." Mr. Harrington elaborated further that "this was due to the fact that the original cemetery records had been taken away by someone who previously lived in the area." Without cemetery records to determine where persons were already buried and where lots remained available, the cemetery could not be used, except for one condition.

That condition applied to families who still had a deed to remaining lots in the cemetery. This provided evidence as to where vacant lots remained existing next to deceased family

members. Other than the deed, if stones were destroyed, there was no sure way of determining what lots remained available for use.

This particular cemetery had lots that were legally described as the "next single grave next to _____." Most cemeteries were plotted into sections and lot numbers. Mr. Harrington also explained that most individuals are buried "head to foot" and "East to West" with the head at the West end. The old saying was "to rise as the sun does, to face the East, on Resurrection Day."

Riverview Cemetery lies along Stillwell Road and Loring Drive, just outside of Bonner Springs proper, in Wyandotte County. It overlooks the Kaw River, thus identifying the definition of its name. Mr. Harrington agreed that "the best reference for a family tree is to find out where the family members are buried."

The Alden Harrington Funeral Home has been in existence since 1908, when it was located at Front and Cedar Streets. It is one of the oldest continuous operations in the Bonner Springs community. Mr. Harrington's Grandfather started the existing business in 1908 after working for Mr. Twist's Funeral Home from 1903 to 1908.

Mr. Harrington stated that his existing records on hand, go back to September of 1908. He also stated that the last known burial in the Riverview Cemetery, that was performed by his funeral home, took place in 1964.

Mr. Harrington explained that it is "the apathy of a political system that lets this get away from us; that of neglect and properly caring for a cemetery." He expressed appreciation for the work that was done at this time to beautify and restore the Riverview Cemetery; from himself, as well as "those deceased who cannot speak for themselves who would also express appreciation."

Reference:
Wyandotte Chieftain
October 29th, 1896
Front Page

POINTS ABOUT FUNERALS

"In small villages and rural neighborhoods funerals are conducted by neighbors, who are often without much experience. As a result there are occurrences which are distressing to all. To explain how to avoid most of these is the purpose of this article.

Much confusion arises from announcing the hour of the funeral before the minister has been secured. No one will now bury the dead without religious services; therefore the minister should be seen first of all. Too often the hour is set, people at a distance notified and then word is sent to the preacher, perhaps ten miles away. Everything gives way for a funeral, but it may be absolutely impossible for him to reach it then; and he will be blamed for the disappointment which was caused only by a lack of foresight on the part of others.

It is then necessary to put somebody in charge of the arrangements. In some communities there is one of peculiar fitness and experience who will be on hand. If there is no such person, there should be a man selected who possesses good sense and is not fussy or excitable. To him will be left the invitation of the pall-bearers, order of teams in the procession starting for the church and cemetery and

all the other details; so that the family, having made their wishes known to him, will be relieved of further trouble. Secret societies have a marshal or committee for this purpose. If no one else is available, it had better be left to the direction of the preacher, but this will rarely be necessary.

Custom varies with regard to the length of stay at the grave. The rule should be that the family withdraw and congregation disperse as soon as the service is concluded. If there is no sexton in charge of the graveyard, enough can remain to fill the grave, while it is both tiresome and uncomfortable for all to stand waiting. In cold or stormy weather it is dangerous and unnecessary. Proper respect for the dead does not require injuring the living.

Many persons are in doubt as to whether a preacher expects a fee for a funeral service. I am not familiar with the customs of other churches in this matter, but the discipline of the Methodist church declares that under no circumstances will we make a charge for burying the dead. Of course we are often called upon by families not connected with the church who are abundantly able to give the preacher five or ten dollars for a funeral service. Such a tender is often made. We refuse it, however,

because, if this were the custom, many people who have already been severely taxed by sickness and undertaker's bills would be still further burdened. The lack of money does not prevent any man from wishing to show all possible respect to his dead; nor should he be deprived of consolation for that reason. He should not be made to feel that he is imposing upon the charity of the preacher, therefore we render our services alike to all--without money and without price. If required to go on the railroad with the funeral, it is customary to pay all the preacher's expenses. Outside of that the richest and poorest are equal. The first must accept them as a free gift; the latter need not hesitate to ask for them.

Cut this article out, and keep it where it can be easily found if needed."

- "H.B. Creel"

Reference: Wyandotte Chieftain
Late 1890's

**DIPHTHERIA IN BONNER---SCHOOL
CLOSED.**

"Funerals of diphtheria deaths are not allowed to be made public. No one thinks of attending them. The dead are buried with all possible haste, not even a funeral sermon being preached over the remains.

It seems inexcusable that people in whose families the disease is prevalent should want to go about where others are liable to be infected."

RIVERVIEW CEMETERY INDEX LIST

"MOTHER"

Small Stone in Ground, top seen only.

"B"

Small square Stone.

No Name Listed

Small Stone, 4th tree down.

Stone half buried.

No Name Listed

Small Stone in ground, top seen only.

No name evident.

No Name Listed

Two broken stones, only top showing.

Unidentified Stone

Half Buried, (Row 2).

AXE, Irene

o.s.s. w/W. Vernon AXE

(Row 5 by fence)

"Children of Wm. & R. AXE"

(B) 22 Feb 1890

(D) 18 Nov 1905

AXE, W. Vernon

By Fence, NW Corner, o.s.s. w/Irene AXE

"Children of Wm. & R. AXE"

(B) 12 Dec 1885

(D) 12 Jan 1904

BALLENTINE, Dora

"BALLENTINE"

(B) 1884

(D) 1902

BLACKMAN, Ida L.

"Daughter of Emeline W. Wharton"

(B) 28 Jun 1856

(D) 09 Jul 1916

BOICOURT, James

Large Stone [BOICOURT]o.s.s. w/Mary E. [1850-1931]

(B) 1841

(D) 1918

BOICOURT, Jas. SERGT
Civil War Military Stone,
Co. K, 33 Ill. Inf.

BOICOURT, Frank Erastus
(B) 1880
(D) 1903

BOICOURT, Mary E.
Row 1, NE Corner, right of driveway entrance.
(B) 1850
(D) 1931

BOICOURT, Marjorie L.
(B) 28 Jul 1908
(D) 06 Dec 1914

BORDEN, George PVT.
Civil War Military Stone,
Co. B., 2nd Ohio Art.

BORDEN, Sarah A.
"Wife of George Borden"
(B) 25 Apr 1848
(D) 15 Mar 1909

BRADSHAW, George W.
(B) 8 Sep 1826
(D) 4 Oct 1904
"In Loving Remembrance of"
"A precious one to home has gone,
A voice we loved is stilled,
A place is vacant in our home,
Which never can be filled."

BRAWNER, George
o.s.s. w/Anna BRAWNER
(B) 24 Dec 1805
(D) 19 Nov 1884

BRAWNER, Anna
o.s.s. w/George BRAWNER
(B) 09 Mar 1812
(D) 08 Nov 1891

BRUNSON, William
No Stone in Cemetery
(B) 07 Feb 1847, Texas Co., Mo.
(D) 09 Feb 1907, Mo. Pacific Hosp., K.C., Mo.
Order of Woodmen
Obituary-B.S. Chieftain, 14 Feb 1907, p.3, col.3

BUBENHEIM, Conrad
South side, o.s.s.
(B) 31 Jul 1873
(D) 1 Mar 1912

BUBENHEIM, Charley
o.s.s., South side, below Conrad's name.
(B) 4 May 1865
(D) 2 Nov 1905

BUBENHEIM, Nicholas
Large Stone, West side of stone "FATHER"
o.s.s. w/Anna, his wife.
(B) 16 Sep 1836
(D) 02 Feb 1912

BUBENHEIM, Anna
o.s.s. w/Nicholas. "His wife"
"MOTHER" "AT REST"
(B) 04 Dec 1844
(D) 22 Jun 1918

CHAIN, Preston P.
Large Stone, Mason Markings
(B) 1886
(D) 1936

CHAIN, Cecil R.
Large Stone, "Gone But Not Forgotten"
(B) 04 Aug 1891
(D) 01 Oct 1910

CHAIN, Annie L.
"Daughter of D. L. & A. L. Chain"
(B) 27 Sep 1894
(D) 25 Jul 1900
"Budded on earth to bloom in Heaven"

CLAY, George P.
(B) 18 Apr 1835
(D) 07 Nov 1901

COMMONS, Clair
(B) Aged 36 Years
(D) 19 Jan 1904
Large Stone, Erected by Woodmen of the World.
"I have fought a good fight,
I have finished my course,
I have kept the faith."

COOK, Anna E.
(B) 1854
(D) 1932

CREE, James A.
Son of M. & S. CREE
(B) Aged 9 Y's & 12 D's
(D) 01 Jun 1873
Double Stone, w/ Lawson CURRIE
"God blesses in an early death,
And takes the infants to Himself."

CRITTENDEN, M. F.
(B) 13 Apr 1834
(D) 02 Nov 1907
Large Stone, "AT REST"

CRITTENDEN, Mary L.
Large Stone, "Wife of M. F. CRITTENDEN"
(B) 18 Sep 1830
(D) 08 Feb 1904
"AT REST"

CURRIE, Lawson
Son of T. & S. CURRIE
(B) Aged 16 Days
(D) 28 Dec 1873
Double Stone, w/ James A. CREE
"God blesses in an early death,
And takes the infants to Himself."

CURRIE, John N.
(B) 1878
(D) 1924
(*See Peiplow/Wife of John N. Currie)

CURRIE, Walton Ollie
(B) 20 Aug 1906
(D) 18 Jun 1921

CURRY, O. T. CORP'L
Civil War Military Stone,
Co. B., 32 Ill. Inf.

CUTSHELL, Amon
(B) Aged 81 Y. 3 M. 11 D.
(D) 15 Jun 1977
Alden Harrington Funeral Home Marker

DE MARANVILLE, Jasper
(End of Row 1) "Father"
(B) 14 Feb 1879
(D) 16 Jan 1964

DE MARANVILLE, Vera Marie
(B) 07 Jul 1931
(D) 12 Aug 1931

DE MARANVILLE, Rosa

(B) 17 Apr 1908

(D) 01 Apr 1924

DE MARANVILLE, Annie

"Mother"

(NE Corner, SE tree, (Row 1)

(B) 03 Apr 1886

(D) 11 Jul 1917

DENSLAW(?), G. B.

Civil War Military Stone

HOSP. STWD., 18 Mo. Inf.

DOWDING, Lelia J.

(B) 20 Nov 1904

(D) 06 Dec 1904

DOWDING, Rhea Wm.

(B) 09 Mar 1903

(D) 08 Oct 1908

DOWDING, Thomas

(B) 13 Jul 1841

(D) 26 Nov 1928

DOWDING, Mary C.

"Wife of Thomas Dowding"

(B) Aged 57 Yrs. 9 Mos.

(D) 22 May 1903

DOWNING, Jane

"Sister" o.s.s. w/Charley Downing

(B) 1909

(D) 1916

DOWNING, Charley

"Brother" o.s.s. w/Jane Downing

(B) 1904

(D) 1920

DUNN, Edward J.

(B) 1853

(D) 1908

FISCUS, Norman

(Row 6)

(B) Aged 27 Yrs.

(D) 18 Jun 1902

HARTLEY, Walter E.

(B) 31 Jul 1881

(D) 28 Mar 1903

HASTINGS, Nola L.
Large Stone, HASTINGS (last of row 2)
"Dau. of W. S. & A.M. HASTINGS"
(B) 21 Feb 1900
(D) 21 Feb 1908

HENRY, Freddie
"Son of R. E. & E. B. Henry"
(B) 17 Jan 1904
(D) 05 Feb 1904

HOLLADAY, Rena
Small Stone, "Wife of Marcus Holladay"
"Gone But Not Forgotten" (Row 3)
(B) 29 Apr 1873
(D) 31 Aug 1908
Obituary-B.S. Chieftain, Sept. 3, 1908, p.3, col. 4

HOLLIDAY, Elta Marie
No Stone in Cemetery
(B) 2 weeks old
(D) 14 Jan 1908
Obituary-B.S. Chieftain, Jan. 23, 1908

HOWARD, Catherine
Alden Harrington Funeral Home Marker
(B) Aged 84 Years
(D) None listed

JACKSON, C. H.
(B) Aged 63 yrs., Chattanooga, TN
(D) 18 Mar 1904
12 Mo. Inf. Member of GAR
Obituary-B.S. Chieftain, Mar. 24, 1904

JOHNSON, Mary A.
o.s.s. w/Cyrus K.
"His Wife" "Gone But Not Forgotten"
(B) 16 Feb 1832
(D) 20 Jan 1908

JOHNSON, C. K.
Civil War Military Stone
Co. F., 11 Kan. Cav.

JOHNSON, Cyrus K.
Large Stone, "Gone But Not Forgotten"
(B) 07 May 1830
(D) 07 May 1905
Obituary-B.S. Chieftain, May 11, 1905, p. 3, col. 2

K., M. K.
Broken Stone
Initials Only

KEELY, Louisa
"Daughter of D. A. & M. H. Keely"
(B) Aged 14 Yrs. 9 Mo. 7 D.
(D) 22 Jun 1883

KERN, Elizabeth
(B) 1825
(D) 1903

KERN, Philip
(B) 1854
(D) 1875

KERN, John
(B) 1821
(D) 1889

KESTLER, Ransom S.
(B) 03 Sep 1833
(D) 15 Mar 1901
KESTLER, "Not Lost But Gone Before"
(*See wife/Mary E. McGarvin)

LAYTON, Margaret M.
o.s.s. w/Abraham L. Layton, "His Wife"
(B) 10 Oct 1866
(D) Not listed on stone

LAYTON, Abraham L.
o.s.s. w/Margaret M. Layton
(B) 11 Feb 1861
(D) 01 Feb 1912

LEONARD
Stone Broken up next to first stone
"LEONARD" on it

LEONARD, George H.
Small Stone, "son of W. D. & C. L. Leonard"
(B) Aged 15 Y. 11 M. 20 D.
(D) 17 Sep 1905

LEWIS, William McKinley
No Stone in Cemetery
(B) Not listed
(D) 18 Jan 1906
Obituary-B.S. Chieftain, Jan. 24, 1906, p.1, col 1

MADSEN, Mette C.
(B) 1820
(D) 1907

MANN, Marguerite B.
"Daughter of C. A. & M. A. Mann"
(B) 05 Jul 1895
(D) 13 Jul 1895

MANN, W. J.
(B) 05 Jan 1837
(D) 11 Sep 1909

MANN, P. J.
"Wife of W. J. Mann"
(B) 05 Aug 1836
(D) 23 Feb 1905

MANN, Charles A.
(B) 03 Jan 18?
(D) 15 Feb 1900

MANN, J. Harvey
(B) 14 Nov 1887
(D) 17 Feb 1902

MATTOX, Mary E.
MATTOX, "At Rest" (Row 2)
(B) 13 Dec 1848
(D) 07 Dec 1914
Obituary-B.S. Chieftain, Dec. 10, 1914, p.4, col. 3

MATTOX, H. T.
Civil War Military Stone
Co. G., 149 Ind. Inf.
(B) Not listed
(D) 10 Feb 1902
Obituary-B.S. Chieftain, Feb. 13, 1902

MAUPIN, Walter G.
(B) 28 Feb 1855
(D) 19 Oct 1902

MC GARVIN, Jas.
Civil War Military Stone, Top broken off
Co. A., 15 Kan. Cav.

MC GARVIN, Lucinda
"Wife of James McGarvin"
o.s.s. w/James McGarvin (Row 1)
(B) Aged 84 Y. 4 M. 23 D.
(D) 06 Feb 1896

MC GARVIN, Mary E.
Large Stone, "Wife of R. S. Kestler"
"Gone But Not Forgotten"
(B) 28 Oct 1853
(D) 17 May 1908

MC GARVIN, James
Large Stone, "OUR PARENTS"
(B) Aged 84. 3 M. 2 D.
(D) 07 Apr 1894

MEINERT, H. J.
Large Stone, "Aspen Lodge No. 59, Aspen Colo."
(B) Aged 47 Yrs.
(D) 28 Sep 1900

MILLER, Sadie
No date on stone
(First of Row 4)

MITCHELL, A. T.
(B) 06 Jun 1861
(D) 07 Oct 1919

MITCHELL, W. A.
(B) 09 Mar 1858
(D) 03 Dec 1906

MORRISON, Nora
(B) 22 Jun 1896
(D) 05 May 1902

NELSON, Frank
Large Stone, "FRANK"
"Son of J. & L. J. Nelson"
"Gone But Not Forgotten"
(B) 24 Sep 1885
(D) 21 Nov 1904

PIELOW, Nellie A.
"Wife of John N. Currie"
(B) 1882
(D) 1931

PRATT, Charles H.
Broken Stone
(B) 16 May 1845
(D) Not listed on stone

PRATT, Clorinda
"Wife of Charles H. Pratt"
(B) 21 Aug 1854
(D) 27 Mar 1917

PRIDY, Frances J.
(B) "B & D" 1918
(D) "B & D" 1918

PRIDY, Ester N.
(B) "B & D" 1930
(D) "B & D" 1930

PRIDY, Elia
(B) 1888
(D) 1918

READY, Jessie C.
Small Stone, "READY"
"AT REST" "Asleep in Jesus, Oh how sweet."
(B) Aged 10 Yrs.
(D) 09 Apr 1900

READY, Jessie SERGT
Civil War Military Stone
Co. B., 53 Ill. Inf.

READY, Burton M.
Small Stone, "BROTHER"
"Brother at rest"
(B) Aged 22 Yrs.
(D) 05 Dec 1899

RILEY, Edith M.
Old tree growing in around stone
"Dau of J. A. & G. O Riley"
(B) 08 Feb 1905
(D) 26 Jul 1906

SCHAEFER, Henry G.
"Son of Fred & Mary Schaefer"
(B) 19 May 1892
(D) 25 Aug 1898

SCHAEFER, Ferdinand C.
(B) 1858
(D) 1938

SCHAEFER, Marie C.
(B) 1862
(D) 1915

SHARPE, E. A.
(B) Aged 72 Yrs.
(D) 25 Sep 1908

SHELDON, Sue N.
(B) 06 Aug 1851
(D) 25 Mar 1927

SMITH, Malinda H. A.
"Wife of John J. Smith"
(B) Aged 73 Y. 5 M. 22 D.
(D) 20 Mar 1908

SMITH, John J. CORP.
Civil War Military Stone
Co. F., 8th Ia. Inf.

TURNER, Angeline
(down to second tree, SW)
"DEAR MOTHER"
(B) Aged 67 Years
(D) 13 May 1919

VIAR, Allen
(B) 16 Dec 1898
(D) 23 Jul 1912

VIAR, Albert P.
(B) "B & D" 04 Nov 1902
(D) "B & D" 04 Nov 1902
"Son of H. T. & Laura E. Viar"

VIAR, Henry T.
(B) 1864
(D) 1943

VIAR, Laura E.
"Wife of H. T. Viar"
(B) 05 Nov 1863
(D) 15 Aug 1906

WATKINS, Jesse A.
(B) 1903
(D) 1918

WATKINS, Paul M.
(B) 1907
(D) 1910

WATKINS, Richard K.
(B) 1918
(D) 1918

WHARTON, Emeline W.
(B) 07 Oct 1828
(D) 03 Aug 1900
(*See daughter/Ida L. Blackman)

WHITE, (No first name listed)
"Daug. of M. R. & M. White"
Two small stones lying near this one,
marked only w/ "Ethel" & "Edith."
(B) Aged 3 M. 20 D.
(D) 12 Aug 1902

WILLIAMS, William A.
(B) 17 Aug, ?
(D) ? Mar, ?

WILLIAMS, Cathern
Old Broken stone
(B) 1827
(D) 1899

WILLIAMS, Catherine
(B) Aged 78 Yrs. 1 M. 8 D.
(D) 31 Mar 1875