

## CITIZENS CEMETERY

Located on State Route 132 just outside New Richmond this small burial ground is referred to in old T.P. White Funeral Home records as "Citizens Cemetery." Their records also refer to a "Union Aid Cemetery," which may, or may not be the same cemetery. The 1870 County Atlas labeled it simply "Cem. 3 3/4 a.;" while the 1902 Atlas refers to it as "Colored Cem."

Like the larger Good Samaritan Cemetery located near it on State Route 132, Citizens Cemetery is under the supervision of the Ohio Township Trustees and is well-tended and mowed by Alfred "Butch" Monson. It is unfenced and has no parking area or pullover for cars. Entry is currently made alongside Mrs. Frances Lamb's driveway.

It appears from the number of placed fieldstones that there are many graves here but there are only 9 stones with inscriptions, 4 of which are Civil War monuments. The burial records of the old T.P. White Funeral Home indicate that they handled many burials in Citizens Cemetery, 76 in the 36-year period 1889 to 1925 alone.\*4 "Butch Monson" believes that there may be additional stones that have fallen and are now buried, but I made no effort to probe and pry for such stones. [A project for the future, anyone?] Following are the only stones with inscriptions that we could read:

Corpl Silas OWENS\*2: Co K 27th U.S.C.T.\*7 [No dates on stone. \*5 lists a man named Silas OWENS who d. 5-18-1871 age 24, possibly and probably this same person.]

Jos. KING\*2: Co K 27th U.S.C.T.\*7 [No dates on stone.]

Alverta R. wf of Benjamin NELSON: b 3-30-1850; d 10-20-1883.

Benjamin GOWENS: d 6-13-1859, age 60y.

Sam'l BROWN\*2: U.S. Navy. [No dates on stone.]

Joseph & Sarah LOVE\*1: d 4-5-1886. [\*5 Could this be the "Joe LOVE" and "Josie LOVE" listed on pages 159 and 160 in the official Death Record Bk. 4 at Batavia? Joe LOVE d 4-3-1887 age 10 mo. Josie LOVE d 4-3-1887 age 11 mo.]

Geo. SWEETMAN\*2: 100th Co. F, U.S.C.T.\*7 [No dates on stone.]

O.A.V. ROBERTS: [No dates; no further inscription.]

Guilford WARD: b.12-12-1807; d.4-4-1856 \*6.

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### NOTES & ABBREVIATIONS:

- \*1: Illegible or difficult to interpret. Some stones are worn; some broken; some damaged.
- \*2: Civil War tombstone.
- \*3: Spanish American War tombstone.
- \*4: T.P. White Funeral Home Records, 1889 through 1925 published by Margie Thomas in 1987. This is an excellent reference book, listing the name of the deceased, date and place of death, age, and cemetery.
- \*5: Clermont County, Ohio, DEATHS, 1856-1908 published by Aileen M. Whitt in 1988 lists every death that was officially recorded prior to the requirement of death certificates, and gives the book and page of the official death record.
- \*6: This gravestone contains an additional epitaph and/or the engraver's name.
- \*7: Abbreviations: b.= born; d.= died; y.m.d.= age, year, month, day.  
bur.= buried; wf.= wife; NR = New Richmond.  
CT = Colored Troops; CI = Colored Infantry; Etc.

By Aileen M. Whitt