

Record Group 14
Wayne County Cemetery Records
1808-2003
2 manuscript boxes

Plymouth Historical Museum, Plymouth, MI
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Creator: Plymouth Historical Museum
Acquisition: The Wayne Country Cemetery records were deposited initially in the archives in 1975, with later additions from 1989 - 2003
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Abstract

Many of the cemeteries in Wayne County, MI, date from the early 1800s and feature burial sites of prominent metro Detroiters, veterans and other residents.

Scope and Content

The Wayne Country Cemetery record group is composed of records for cemeteries surrounding the Plymouth area. The cemetery records include cemetery maps, names and dates of the deceased, and some photos and veteran information. A large portion of these records consists of records from Plymouth cemeteries such as Riverside, Shearer, Plymouth Village, and Presbyterian cemeteries. Other records come from cemeteries in Wayne country, including Canton, Westland, Wayne and some communities just outside of Wayne Country.

Entries

[Entry 1:](#) Guides

[Entry 2:](#) Plymouth Cemetery Records

[Entry 3:](#) Non-Plymouth Wayne County Cemetery Records

Important Subjects

Cemeteries – Wayne Country
Cemetery Maps – 20th century
Veteran burial sites

Entry 1: Guides

Box 1

Folder 1

Directory of Cemeteries in Wayne County, Michigan, Pamela L. Lazar, Dearborn Genealogical Society (1982)
Nankin Twp Cemetery Map (Van Akin, Wayne, Catholic, Glenwood, and Ganong)
Plymouth Cemetery descriptions (Old Baptist, Presbyterian and Riverside)

Entry 2: Plymouth Cemetery Records

Folder 1: Riverside Cemetery, ¼ mile south of Plymouth Road, ½ mile east of Lilley Road, Plymouth, Michigan. Established in 1880.

Plot locations of veteran interments
Veteran Grave Sites, May 1999
Veteran's Grave Sites compiled by Harry Krumm, May 1986
Riverside cemetery, Graves of Veteran Soldiers of the Revolutionary War, Civil War and World War. Lists also from Newbury, Waterford, Kinyon, Plymouth, Cherry Hill, Geer, Lapham, Chubb and Union
Map of Riverside Cemetery. Inscriptions of veteran soldiers from the Revolutionary War, Civil War and World War I and may list name, service, lot and group, marker type or block. Established in 1880, many of the area's prominent citizens are buried here.

Folder 2: Riverside Cemetery

City of Plymouth Riverside Cemetery Location Map (No date)
From Vermeulen Funeral Home Records of People Buried in Riverside (2003). May include name, birth, death, and burial dates
List of Bodies and Slab Markers Removed from Presbyterian Church Cemetery and Placed in Riverside (No date)
Rough for Cemetery Walk by Jack Wilcox
Riverside Cemetery transcriptions by Arthur Booth, before 1979
Confirmation of work done on fence, gateway, tool house and grading of Carriage Drive, 1879
Gravestone Inscriptions from Riverside Cemetery from Detroit Society for Genealogical Research (1960 – 1965)
Riverside Cemetery Indenture Papers, Mar. 4, 1937
DVD (2) of Rededication of Charles R. Dobbins Civil War Memorial

Folder 3: Shearer Cemetery (also known as North Territorial Road Cemetery)

45452 North Territorial Road, Plymouth Township, Wayne County, Michigan. Some remains were removed and re-interred in Riverside Cemetery. Earliest burial circa 1838.

Shearer Cemetery inscriptions and photos of Tibbits Farm Well
Shearer Cemetery reading done by DAR, no date
Shearer Cemetery transcription done by Arthur Booth, 1960
Shearer Cemetery transcription taken from 4 different sources
North Territorial Road Cemetery transcription, June 18, 1956 with accompanying correspondence from Robert Bowen to Samuel Hudson
Two articles of historical interest

DVD "Brining Shearer Back to Life"

Two letters from State Cemetery Commission, Nov. 13, 1968; Dec. 18, 1975

Folder 4: Old Baptist/Plymouth Village Cemetery, York and Pearl Streets (also called North Village Cemetery, Old York Street Cemetery, or North Plymouth Cemetery), Plymouth, Michigan. Founded in 1845, it went out of business in 1891. Some bodies were removed to Riverside Cemetery but many still remain. This cemetery contains the remains of soldiers who fought in the Black Hawk War and the Civil War in addition to many early area settlers.

Asenath Delia Lyon was the first to be laid to rest at the tender age of nine on April 24, 1845. Over 200 people are in this cemetery. On June 20, 1891, the grounds were turned over to the Village of Plymouth.

Plymouth Village Cemetery Society, Readings and comments by Ronald Collopy, 1972

Old Baptist record of internments in the cemetery

Old Baptist Cemetery Plots with names

Old Baptist Cemetery transcriptions by Arthur Booth

Old Baptist Cemetery or Plymouth Village Cemetery by Sarah Ann Cochrane

Old Baptist Cemetery transcriptions taken from 9 different sources

Records of the Plymouth Village Cemetery Society, 1962

Records of the Plymouth Village Cemetery Society, business meetings and internments, no date

Index to Records of Plymouth Village Cemetery

Notes re North Village Cemetery Society from N. Dibbles's History

North Village Cemetery

Article on "City Takes over the Permanent Care of Old Village Cemetery"

Folder 5: Presbyterian Cemetery, Church Street, Plymouth, Michigan (also known as Old Presbyterian Cemetery). The land was sold by Edward and Margaret Brooks in August 1835 to the Presbyterian Society of Plymouth. When the cemetery was closed in 1915, many bodies were transferred to Riverside Cemetery and the land was used as a park.

List of burials in Presbyterian Park Cemetery by Mr. Passage in 1916

List of burials dated 11/30/2003

5 articles of historical interest

Entry 3: Non-Plymouth Wayne County Cemetery Records

Folder 1: Aldrich – Knapp Cemetery, 9 Mile Road, Northville Township, Michigan.

Single sheet, partial list, names starting with A – C.

Folder 2: Bell Branch Cemetery (currently known as Redford Cemetery) and Mount Hazel Records. Bell Branch Cemetery is located on the east side of Telegraph, ½ mile north of Five mile Road, Redford Township, Wayne County, Michigan. Booklet by Marjoria Norris Beavis, c1939 includes a cemetery map

Records of Redford Cemetery (originally Bell Branch Cemetery) and Mount Hazel Cemetery by Marjoria Norris Beavis, with 1994 Supplementary data and cemetery map (two copies) (Acc #: 2003.178.01)
Mount Hazel is located on the east side of Lasher Road, ¼ mile south of Seven Mile Road.

Folder 3: Catholic Cemetery, Michigan Avenue, Nankin, Wayne County, Michigan

Folder 4: Champlain Street Cemetery of Temple Beth El or Lafayette Cemetery, 3371 East Lafayette, Detroit, Michigan. Two alphabetized lists, one under the name Champlain the other under the name Lafayette. Original records are in the custody of Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph at 14 Mile Road, Birmingham, Michigan 48010. This is the oldest Jewish cemetery in Michigan, established on September 22, 1850.

Folder 5: Cherry Hill Cemetery; Ridge Road, Canton Township, Wayne County, Michigan. DAR copy was done in 1934. Second version was done by Arthur Booth. Includes a plat map with lot numbers.

Folder 6: Chubb Cemetery, Canton Township, Wayne County, Michigan. DAR version was done in 1934. Land was used as a burial ground starting in 1852.

Folder 7: Clarenceville Cemetery. Base Line Road near Grand River Avenue, Livonia Township, Wayne County, Michigan. Index included. Version was done by DAR, no date.

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Folder 8: Downer Cemetery, Old Michigan Avenue, Canton Township, Wayne County, Michigan. DAR copy was done in 1934. Second version was done by Arthur Booth. Third version has no author. Many graves are in evidence with no markers. A neighbor to the cemetery mentioned stones had been moved back to allow room for widening Michigan Avenue and when he moved to this location he found his driveway had been paved with gravestones.

*Folder 9: Elmwood Cemetery, East Lafayette and McDougall, Detroit, Wayne County, Michigan. Elmwood Cemetery by Jack Lessenberry, *Detroit Monthly*, October 1991.*

This is a suggested cemetery walk. (Two copies) Elmwood Cemetery by Tour Director, Martin Brosnan (No date). Contains a list of important people buried in Elmwood Cemetery.

Folder 10: Ganong Cemetery, Henry Ruff Road, Westland, Wayne County, Michigan. Additional copies, one from MIGenWeb 2002 and one transcribed by Arthur Booth of Dearborn, Michigan (No date). Land for the cemetery was set aside by William Ganong in 1832.

Folder 11: Glenwood Cemetery, Glenwood Road, Westland, Wayne County, Michigan

Folder 12: Kinyon Cemetery, Corner of Ridge Road and Gyde Road, Canton Township, Wayne County, Michigan. A history of the cemetery is included. Copy done by DAR was in 1934, a second version was downloaded from Interment 2003, a third version includes lot numbers, a fourth version was taken from records from Roxanna Kinyon's Record Book showing lot numbers from a map drawn before 1900. Land was purchased for the cemetery in 1840.

Folder 13: Knollwood Cemetery, Ridge Road just south of Ford Road, Canton, Wayne County, Michigan.

Folder 14: Livonia Center Cemetery, Farmington Road South of Five Mile, Livonia, Michigan, read 1975. Includes some photographs, obituaries and index. Second reading, compiled by Julie F. Witkowski, July 2006

Folder 15: Maple Grove Cemetery, Ann Arbor Trail, east of Middle Belt, Canton Township, Wayne County, Michigan. Another copy in binder titled Maple Grove Cemetery Tombstone Inscriptions, Westland, Michigan, prepared by Western Wayne County Genealogical Society, 1998. A one page transcription by Arthur Booth of Dearborn is located in the pages of the Binder above. Includes two former cemeteries: the Van Akin Cemetery and the Memorial Park Cemetery. The Van Akin built a church free to all denominations and platted a cemetery at the same time in the year 1864. The last known burial was in 1940.

Folder 16: Martinsville Cemetery, Sumpter Township, Wayne County, Michigan. Copied by Arthur Booth, Dearborn, no index. Many burials have been made with no stone to mark them; many stones are only unmarked field stones, or flat ones. Numerous stones in satisfactory condition have fallen; some are broken.

Folder 17: Newberg Cemetery, Ann Arbor Trail between Wayne and Newburg Roads, Livonia Township, Wayne County Michigan. Copied 1932, recopied 1975. Includes an index. Separate list of Civil War Veterans.

Folder 18: Oakwood Cemetery, 1808 – 1990. Northville, Michigan. Article from the Mill Race Quarterly, Fall 2001.

Folder 19: Old Cemetery, Cady Street, Northville, Wayne County, Michigan.

Folder 20: Old Sheldon Cemetery. "Any Canton Townshipites Know History of Old Sheldon Cemetery," by Esther Springel. Plymouth Mail, April 23, 1959.

Folder 21: Old Wayne Cemetery, Michigan Avenue, Wayne, Michigan

Folder 22: Rural Hill Cemetery, Northville, Michigan. Cemetery read 1990

Folder 23: Saint Mary's Cemetery, Michigan Avenue and Howe Road, Wayne, Wayne County, Michigan. Alphabetized partial transcription of the 347 total, 2001.

Folder 24: Sheldon Cemetery; South Sheldon Road, Canton Township, Wayne County, Michigan. Version done by DAR in 1934, version downloaded from Interment 2002, third version shows lot numbers with names of interred. The land for the Sheldon cemetery was purchased in 1869 from George Smith for \$100.00 per acre. There are two acres in the plot.

Folder 25: Thayer Cemetery, Northville Township, Wayne County, Michigan. The earliest interment was in 1811.

Folder 26: Union Church Cemetery (also called Briggs), Waterford Road, Livonia Township, Wayne County, Michigan read 1999. Includes some photographs, obituaries, historical notes, and index. This cemetery contains some of the oldest graves in the Livonia area.

Second reading, compiled by Julie F. Witkowski, July 2006

Folder 27: Van Akin Cemetery, Ann Arbor Trail, Nankin, Wayne County, Michigan

Folder 28: Waterford Cemetery, Northville Township, Wayne County, Michigan. Includes inscriptions and information taken from other sources such as newspapers and death certificates. Not to be confused with the existing city of the same name in Oakland County, this community of Waterford, which in Civil War times promised to become one of the largest towns in Michigan, had entirely disappeared by 1899. The village was also known as Meads Mills.

Folder 29: Yerkes Cemetery, Eight Mile at Meadowbrook Road, Northville Township, Wayne County, Michigan.

Folder 30: Parkview Cemetery, Livonia