**SULLIVENT CEMETERY**

1842-1904

Before 1888 which was about the time that the Dyer City Cemetery was laid out for burial place for a last resting place for our loved ones, other cemeteries were used for this purpose.

The first date of burial that I find is in the Sullivent or Dake Cemetery. Maude Beatley, a daughter of W. A. and M. Dyer, 1842; she was ten years old. So this must be the oldest cemetery around Dyer. Others buried there are: Joel Dyer and Sarah Ann Talkington Dyer who died January 18, 1864, and 1887. Martha Heard, wife of James S. Heard who died 1889. The Sullivent stones are broken. One reads wife of xxx Sullivent 1880. The last one buried there was John Jordon in 1804. This cemetery is located about two miles southwest of Dyer; the land was given by the Sullivent family. This is one of the projects of Wanda Porter Dyer, a member of the Bicentennial Committee, to repair stones and have a fence put around this cemetery which holds some of our earliest settlers.

**HENSON CEMETERY 1832**

This cemetery is located on the Clyde King farm, east of Interstate 40, between Dyer and Mulberry. The first marker is that of Daniel Chitwood, 1832, the grandfather of Jewel and Lois Chitwood (Williams).

**LOVE CEMETERY 1870**

Located in the Pine Springs area, off Highway 71. Some of our people buried here are the Humphreys, Chastain (John and Egna), Thomas and Susie James, J. F. and Carrie Lee Love.

**THURSTON CEMETERY 1872**

Located between Dyer and Alma off Highway 64. A family plot with some of Thurston family and also John G. Rogers, husband of L. E. Rogers, died 1881. Could this be first husband of Laura Rogers Wagner?

**KING CEMETERY 1875**

This cemetery is on Highway 64 below the Alexander farm and toward Mulberry. 1880 Lucy Caroline James Moss and Martha Frances James Davidson, wives of John William Moss and T. J. Davidson. These women were sister and mothers of Thomas William Moss and Addie Davidson. The Hill's, Ben F. and two of his sons, Sterling and Olen. Allen and Trudge Heard, C. A. Wells, John Wesley and Nannie Henson, Alphaus and Lou Bennett, Babies and Van Burrough, children of Henry and Ada Burrough. Pink and Easter Winfrey.

**MORSE CEMETERY 1876**

East of Dyer off Highway 64. This is a family plot located on the homestead of Perseval Morse. Buried here are Persehevel (not dated), Frank, Charlie, and Serene Morse, parents of Earl Morse. Polly Morse died 1896, Fate Morse died 1972. He lived the longest as a resident of Dyer of anyone born in Dyer.

**SIMMONS CEMETERY 1882**

This cemetery was named for the Simmons family and is located about ¼ mile west of Dyer. You find these familiar names here: Simmons, Peevy, Belt, Garrett, Summers, Lamb, Bowlin, Cottrell. W. J. Simmons seems to be the first one buried here.

**HARRIS CEMETERY 1885**

This is located on Old Harris Farm about one mile southwest of Dyer. Names found here are: Harris, Johnson, Green. First interment was Robert M. Harris in 1885.

**TWELVE CORNERS CEMETERY 1883**

Once there was a school that stood nearby name the Twelve Corners School. Listed here are: Birdsong, Pounds, Fears, Coates, Mangrum, Warrick, Davis, Hankins, Whitlock, Porter, Johnson, Aldridge, Golliher, Means, Albert H. Weese and Sarah E Thomas, parents of George Weese.

**NELSON CEMETERY 1884**

Southeast of Dyer, near Meadors farm. This was property of A. Monroe Lipscomb who gave the land for the cemetery. Alice Hayes 1884 was burled there first. Elizabeth and A. Monroe Lipscomb died 1889 and 1895, grandparents of Lucy Nelson Thomas who is still living in Dyer. Her parents John and Columbia Lipscomb Nelson are also buried here as is her sister, Olga Nelson Andrews and two of her children. Floyd and Fannie Loomis, parents of Florence Bennett. Others are Weavers and Adkins.

**ALMA 1888**

Located on east side of Alma. Walter D. and Lena Humphreys Patton who once resided in Dyer. George and Alice Meadors, Jesse Cravens, James, Bill McNeely (Depot agent for many years), Bettie Davidson, Annie Malone, Daisy C. Fine, Vilus Powell, Glen D. Wilson, James E. and Martha J. Sullivent, Doug Renfroe, and many others.

**DYER FAMILY CEMETERY**

Located on the Stephen Dyer homeplace, just north of Highway 64. Stephen Dyer, who died in 1903, and his wife Elizabeth are buried here. Cyrus, husband of Viola Dyer was buried here in 1895. Charlie E. Dyer buried in 1947 and father of Mrs. Fannie Pine.

**GRACELAWN CEMETERY IN VAN BUREN**

Thomas J. Wells 1968 Fred Patton 1947

Thomas Lea Wells 1946 Dora Patton 1965

Rev. Floyd Villines 1971 Cabol Rhodes 1964

Robert Lee Lester 1944 Ned Rhodes 1928

Maggie V. Lester 1959 Terrell Rhodes 1943

William Henry Burrough 1934 Jerusha Rhodes 1942

Ada Johnson Burrough 1940 Wallace Mason 1959

William M. Renfroe 1957 Saviller Rhodes Meadors 1941

Some other cemeteries where people from Dyer are interred are:

Chastain, Dugan, Echols, Manuel, Newberry Chapel, Pounds, Manuel plot is on the old home place and Mr. and Mrs. Manuel are buried there and a son. (No markers).

**DYER COMMUNITY CEMETERY 1888**

And last but not least is the cemetery where most of us will be resting when the Tri-centennial rolls around. We are proud of our lovely cemetery and thankful to Jewel Chitwood who has made it such a lovely, well kept last resting place. We can recall when it was not well kept and one almost had to hunt in the tall weeds for a marker.

**BICENTENNIAL 1776- 1976**

**Old Dyer Cemetery**

by Martha Chitwood

The Dyer City Cemetery is located between Highway 64 and Interstate 40 in the city limits of Dyer. The city of Dyer was named for the Dyer family.

Somewhere around 1888 the land for the Cemetery was donated by Mr. Steve Dyer. As far as we know everyone who wanted lots went in and nicked them out where they wanted them until the Cemetery was full.

The first one buried there was Elizabeth Dyer and Baby. She was the wife of Joel Mack Dyer (Uncle Mack Dyer). Elizabeth was survived by a daughter, Susie Dyer Bennett Tomlinson, and a son, Cy Dyer.

There have been a lot of people buried in this Cemetery and a lot of lost graves for at one time the Cemetery grew up in bushes, honeysuckle and underbrush. Sometime in the early 1950's the men went in and cleaned it up. Lots of headstones which were just rocks were lost.

As of this date (1976) in the old cemetery there are 438 graves and 64 of these have only field markers, and we do not know who they are. There could be more or less in this count. Lots of people who have lived in Dyer are buried here, and there is a big count of infants.

Five Methodist preachers are buried here. Bro. W. C. Davis, born 9-7-18, and died 1-20-1890, was a school teacher in the Dyer school and preached in the school before a Methodist Church was built. You will find Bro. Davis's grave with a concrete slab over it.

Brother James Martin served at Dyer Methodist Church in 1891 and again in 1895. He was a native of Kentucky born in 1852 and died in 1895. As you visit in the Cemetery he is the one buried with the rusty iron fence around it.

Brother Elisha Dyer married a Dyer girl, Lena Moss Dyer, and was the father of Nellie Dyer. She was a prisoner of the Koreans for years. He was ordained to preach at the Dyer Church but never served as its pastor. He was born in Arkansas in 1873 and died in 1935.

Brother W. J. Faust was born in Tennessee in 1875. He married a Dyer girl, Lucy Moss Faust. At this time she and her daughter, Mary Angus, lived at Memphis, Tennessee. He was also ordained to preach from the Dyer Methodist Church but never served as it pastor. He died in 1949.

Brother Andrew Thresher was born 4-20-1854 and died 1-22-1898. He died while serving the Dyer Methodist Church. These data were given to me by his granddaughter, Cora Henson, who at this time (1976) is still living. Mrs. Henson died 9-3-1975.

There is buried at the Southeast side of the cemetery a man who came in on a freight train, became ill, and died, and no one knew his name.

The road to get to the Cemetery once entered from the South side.

Even though Steve Dyer gave the land for the Cemetery he is not buried there. He is buried in the Dyer family cemetery which is not far away.

Across the ditch on south side you will find a marker which reads: MERL O'DELL MOPSE, SI USNR, WORLD WAR II. He was born 10-19-1921 and died 11-24-1945. This is a memorial. The body was buried overseas. He was the son of Jap and Ruby Eichelbarger Morse.

We find no deed recorded at the Courthouse for the old Cemetery so it must never have been recorded.

About 1937, the Trustees, Raymond Kaiser, Tom Morse, and R. C. Wright of the Odd Fellow Lodge of Dyer, bought for $25.50 from J. R. Chastain and his wife Alice Chastain, the land where the New Cemetery is located. We find this deed recorded the 24th day of May, 1940.

Lillie Lawrence Renders on, born in 1892 and died 1937, was the first one buried in the New Cemetery.

There was a fence that divided the land between the Old and the New cemeteries, and the Jordon baby was buried just over the fence; that could have been the first marker but no record to tell us if this so.

When the new Cemetery was bought, there was a new road made to get to both Cemeteries and the old road from the South side was done away with. The Trustees marked the Cemetery in 5 space lots and sold them for $3.00 to help pay for the land. They are sold in 1 space lots today. Since so many deaths the Cemetery is filling up quickly.

There are no lost graves in the Cemetery, there are some with only field markers, but we know who they are. There are 147 graves and 8 of these are unmarked.

Julia Wanicek, born in Germany in 1872 and died at Dyer in 1964, and her husband's ashes were buried with her. John Wanicek was born 1870 and died 1949. John and Julia are parents of Beatrice Muller.

There is only one preacher buried in the New Cemetery, Brother A. N. Jean, born 1885 and died 1956. He served in the Baptist Church and married a lot of couples.

As you enter the Cemetery there is a brick monument with Dyer Cemetery written on it. This was put there by the Quince J. Wells family in 1972. Mack Dyer and Jerry McAdoo laid the brick and saw the job completed.

In the early 1950's both the old and new cemeteries were overgrown with honeysuckle and underbrush. A committee was appointed: Sebe Tomlinson, Susie Tomlinson, and Bonnie Rhodes. This was the Cemetery Association. They raised funds to pay someone to care for the Cemetery. The names and addresses of survivors of the dead were put on a mailing list and sent letters to support the upkeep of the Cemetery.

Sebe Tomlinson was the Caretaker until his death in 1952 and then his wife, Susie Tomlinson, took over. In 1957 Susie Tomlinson and Bonnie Rhodes asked Jewell Chitwood to become the caretaker. He did take the job and has served 19 years in 1976.

In the early 1950's, Memorial Services were begun at the Cemetery on the third Sunday in May. The speakers for the Memorial Service are pastors who are serving the Churches in Dyer. The services are well attended by people who come from far and near to visit with friends and place flowers on the graves of their loved ones.

There are 22 Veterans buried here. In 1968 the Navy Reserve began a service at 2:00 P.M, with the 21 gun salute. This service is appreciated by us and would like to thank Bill Weese for his part in this service.

In 1972 George Weese and his 5 sons, Bill, Scott, Raymond, and Jessie gave a flag to be used at the Cemetery. ***[Editor's note: the fifth son?]***

In 1974 the Dyer City Council voted to blacktop the road at the Cemetery.

Since Jewell Chitwood has been the caretaker from 1957 to August 26, 1975, there have been 180 burials at the Cemetery.

***Filename: LookingBackAtDyer 1838-1976 Book 01, 070-074 ~ assorted cemeteries***