

## TUSCOLA CEMETERY

Tuscola Cemetery was established within two years after the town of Tuscola was laid out in 1857. Elijah S. Terry, one of the officials of the Town Company, deeded four acres to a cemetery company to be used for burial purposes. The cemetery officials were William Wamsley, A. G. Wallace, S. G. Bassett, J. H. Harrison, M. Noel, and A. L. Otis.

The four acres were in the southeast corner of the Tuscola section, now the old part of the cemetery. Price of the lots were \$4 to \$5 for all sizes. Previously a burial ground was established some 80 rods west, without any organization, but only one body was buried there. In 1861, permission was obtained to move it to the new location.

There have been a total of seven additions to the cemetery. The cemetery is now operated by the township and owns a total of approximately 16 acres. Because of the possibility of running out of room and no more ground to expand, ground has been purchased on Egyptian Trail Road to establish a new cemetery. The current cemetery trustees are, Tim Hilligoss, William McCarty, and Alan Michener.



## A TRIP TO THE CEMETERY

**Perry M. Moore, Attorney – 1845-1925.** He was quite a prominent man, it seems, but the history available did not seem to record it.

**Cornelia Bye – 1856-1919.** He was active in Masonic circles.

**Robert C. Patterson – 1830-1889.** He was the man for whom Patterson Springs was named. He established the brick and tile factory at that place and erected a large brick mansion, which is now the home of Mrs. Rosemary Nussel-Cox. He was the grandfather of the late Robert B. White, former president of the B&O Railroad.

**Dr. James L. Reat – 1835-1921.** He was a well-known physician. He located in Tuscola in 1859. After service in the Civil War, he returned to Tuscola and was a leader in the establishment of the Tuscola Union School.

**Kimball Glassco – 1819-1899.** A prominent farmer, he was well acquainted with Abraham Lincoln. He was married to Margaret Reat and after she died in 1880, he married her sister, Hester. He was a Democrat but always voted for Lincoln when the latter was on the ticket.

**Erasmus Hudson – 1825-1893.** He operated the Hudson Lumber company on the site now occupied by F. H. Jones. A fire that started at the lumber company in 1871 destroyed the opera house and the better part of the city block. He taught school before going into business. He was active in the Masonic and was the second master of the Tuscola Lodge. He was also the first high priest of the chapter and the first thrice illustrious master of the council.

**Harry Madison – 1856-1901.** A member of a prominent mercantile family, he had a clothing store on North Parke street.

**Charles L. McMasters – 1867-1916.** A handsome, enterprising gentleman, he was in the grain business and also served as Mayor of Tuscola for three terms. While mayor, a threat was made on his life that made quite a stir in the community, but it never materialized.

**Dr. W. S. Martin – 1837-1923.** A Tuscola physician who was educated in New York City. He built a brick office building, which was occupied by the law firm, Nichols, McCown and Lincoln. He also built a home on south Main St., which was called the Shangri-la center.

**Dr. Sam T. Spees – 1824-1900.** Practiced in Tuscola from 1874-1900. Came to Tuscola in 1866.

**S. S. Goehring – 1852-1935.** He was the developer of the Goehring subdivision in Tuscola, and built several of the finer homes. He also built the Methodist Church in 1896. He also built the Coles County Court House. In 1910, he went to Pawkuska, Oklahoma, where he reportedly prospered in the insurance business. He was buried in the Goehring plot at the local cemetery.

**J. C. Cutler, 1842-1926.** Well known Civil War veteran. At various times, he served as county sheriff, deputy, city marshal and city street superintendent.

**David N. Boyce – 1858-1948.** A talented photographer. His studio was located at the west end of Sale St.

**John B. Wamsley – 1839-1917.** He operated a mill on the present site of the Dollar Store.

**Alonzo Clayton Sluss – 1860-1927.** He was the publisher of the *Tuscola Journal* from 1898-1904. He also served as postmaster for several years.