

Cemetery of the Month for May 2015: Lipp/Rawlins Cemetery

The Lipp/Rawlins Cemetery is located in Washington Township in Monroe County just off Old State Road 37 North between Sample Road and Anderson Road and directly South of Fox Hollow Creek on the East side of the road (GPS Coordinates: Latitude: 39.26305, Longitude; -86.50210.) This location is just south of the Morgan Monroe State Forest. The drive off of SR 37 N is only marked by an orange utility marker with no signage. A few feet from SR 37 N there is a flat, low lying area with enough room for a few cars to park. This area contains some gravel but is prone to developing very thick mud after rainfall. The unimproved road continues on to the East toward private fields. The cemetery is on a small hill with a lovely view that is surrounded by mature trees, including several large beech trees. The ground is covered with star moss and curly grass with small wildflowers prevalent in the spring. The cemetery is also surrounded by the short, dark green leaves and purple flowers of vinca or periwinkle, quick-growing evergreen groundcover that typically indicates the presence of old cemeteries in the U.S. Midwest.

There are about a dozen graves from the 1800s inside a rusty barbed wire fence with a galvanized metal gate and two newer graves (1963 and 2004) outside the fence. The face of some of the old gravestones are lichen-covered, weathered and worn and a few have toppled to the ground for whatever reason. At least half of the gravestones carry the name "Rawlins." The earliest birth recorded on a gravestone is 1802, the birth year of James S. Rawlins. The earliest death date on a gravestone here is 1852, the year Sarah Ann Rawlins Butcher died. This cemetery is the final resting place of several farm families and includes Daniel S. Rawlins whose gravestone is engraved with "67B InVol" , thought to mean the 67th Battalion of the Indiana Volunteers during the Civil War.

<http://listsearches.rootsweb.com/th/read/INMONROE/2001-02/0982336991>

Other names on gravestones here are Fleener, Moree (a ten year old child who died in 1858), Quakenbush and Taylor. There is no indication of the origin of the name "Lipp" contained in the cemetery name, but there is a reference to the connection at this Lipp Genealogy link:

<http://www.linkpendium.com/genealogy/USA/sur/surc-L/surc-Lip/sur-Lipp/>.

By: Carol Seaman and Carole Stinson, MCHC Cemetery Committee, April 15, 2015



