

## Blair Cemetery

This cemetery is located in Van Buren Township, Section 17, The GPS coordinates are 39.126153, -86.6632770, on land owned by the Pike Lumber Company. It is about a half mile hike, over some rough terrain, from the West end of Eller Rd. This cemetery is abbreviated BLA2 in the Monroe County Cemetery survey.

This cemetery has a single headstone for Carlyle Blair, aged 1 year, 10 months, son of Marion and Hester Blair. Captain Marion Blair led Company D, 110th Regiment Minutemen at the start of the Civil War, when it was feared that hostilities would spread immediately to Indiana

Marion also graduated from Indiana University, and had won some fame as an artist by painting a portrait of Governor Oliver P. Morton which was hung in the Indiana State House. But he is best remembered for a portrait of President Lincoln, following the assassination, He studied the President's body while it lay in state in the State House in Indianapolis, and then painted the portrait from memory.

On the USGS quadrangle map the area below this cemetery is referred to as Blair Hollow. There is a fairly steady flow of water from the cave system under the Garrison Chapel Ridge. It looks like someone went to a great deal of work to cut and shape a channel for the water to flow through, possible for a grist or saw mill.



Pike Lumber Company is placed orange warning markers around the headstone for Carlyle, and they do not cut any trees within 150 feet, to protect it.



This headstone is made of marble and has a beveled top to shed the rainwater. It has some mosses and lichens growing on it, but it is very good shape. It is loose and has a large stone at the base to help prop it up.

Historic notes are taken from the Histories of Morgan Monroe and Brown counties.