

Chitwood Cemetery Benton Township Monroe County Indiana

Location: Off 45 East beyond Unionville Coordinates: 39.2300000 -86.4012778

This is a Pygmalion story. A few years ago when Herman Young and I visited the Chitwood Cemetery we literally found one stone with pieces of others nearby in a cornfield. Cemeteries of Monroe Counties (Rice 1998) indicated there were some 16 burials at the Chitwood Cemetery so finding just one was heart breaking.

Today it is a well-cared-for cemetery whose boundaries are designated by four large limestone blocks and a magnificent sign. Many stones have been recovered, i.e. see list below – stars indicate I was able to photograph the stones. There were possibly three or four additional stones but they were not readable.



Rice lists the following:

Chitwood, Boy no dates

Chitwood, David d. 4/26/1850 Age: 50 *

Chitwood, Sarah d. 11/20/1864 wife of David *

Goodman, John (Baptist) 8/8/1871 Age: 57.01.27 *

Goodman, Nancy d. 9/2/1873 wife of John *

McCoy, Katie Goodman unmarked

McCoy, Martha J. d. 3/17/1851 Age: 3 mo. Daughter of H & LL

Neal, James D. d. 12/26/1840 Age: 8 mo. Son of SH and NC *

Neal, Sarah d. 8/4/1854 Age: 5 mo. Daughter of SH & NC *

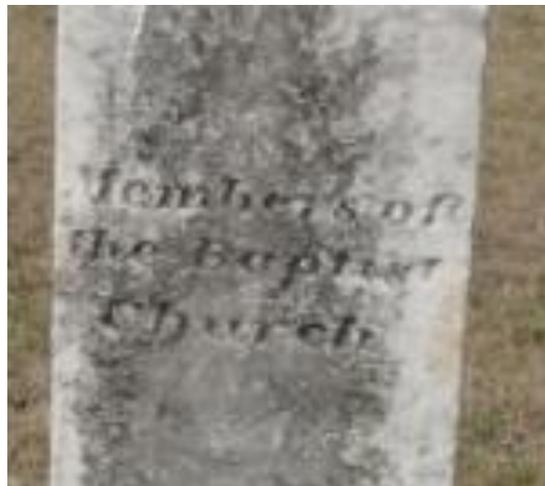
Pruitt 7 in row no inscriptions

David Chitwood had made full payment for the property on October 1, 1834 at the Jeffersonville General Land Office but of course had probably laid claim to it during the late 1820s.

<http://www.gloreords.blm.gov/details/patent/default.aspx?accession=IN0270...200&docClass=STA&id=mab4en2v.ytm#patentDetailsTabIndex=1> He would go on to purchase other properties through the Public Lands Act of April 24, 1820.



Most interesting inscription on the side of the tombstone: "member of the Baptist Church" which is just not seen that often.



The two Neal Children were the children of S.H. and Nancy Ann Chitwood Neal and listed in a family tree on Ancestry Library Edition <http://trees.ancestrylibrary.com/tree/40903398/person/29340790296>.



John Goodman married Nancy Becknell January 26 1826.



The Pruitts listed are interesting because there are no inscriptions. There were two large Pruit families listed in the 1850 Census in Brown County's Jackson Township but I didn't find the Chitwood connection nor did I find a connection to the McCoys although there were numerous McCoys in Benton Township listed in the 1850 Census. A Catherine Goodman married William McCoy in 1838.