

Charles Miller Family Cemetery

By Dave Hallemann



This unusual cemetery among cedar trees with its concrete wall surrounding it, is located in T42 R4 S34 SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$.

38° 20' 7" N / 90° 33' 28" W

This cemetery was visited March 15th, 2003 by Dave Hallemann.

This tract was first entered into record in Original Entries Book 2 under a new location, "...the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 34 T 42 R4 and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 30 T43 R4, containing 142.03 acres, to James McKay or his legal representative, as part satisfaction of Survey General Certificate #100 Register 187."

13th September 1850 we find George A. McKay of St. Louis County, (*probably heir and legal representative of James McKay*) selling the tract to Lewis Riddle of Jefferson County, for \$40.⁰⁰, "... SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 34 T42 R4, containing 40 acres." recorded in Book K Page 559.

21st February 1853, Fredericka Riddle (*probably the wife or daughter of Lewis Riddle*), of Jefferson County, sells the tract to Charles Miller, also of Jefferson County, for \$450.⁰⁰, "...NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 42 T42 R4, containing 40 acres, also the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 34 T42 R4..." recorded in Book L Page 315.

According to probate record 1640, Charles Miller probably died around 1885. His heirs could not settle on division of the property so the court ordered the following Sheriff's sale.

Jefferson Democrat
Hillsboro, Jefferson, Missouri

WEDNESDAY, 25 APRIL 1888

SHERIFF'S SALE IN PARTITION - Charles MILLER and Edward MILLER, in their proper person, Henry WEBER, Edward WEBER, George WEBER, Emma WEBER and Albert WEBER, minors, by Adolf WEBER, curator of their estates; and Ellen MILLER, Mabel MILLER, Lily MILLER and Jenny MILLER, minors, by Edward MILLER, curator of their estates - exparte petitioners. -

Charles Miller Family Cemetery

In the Circuit court of Jefferson County, Missouri.

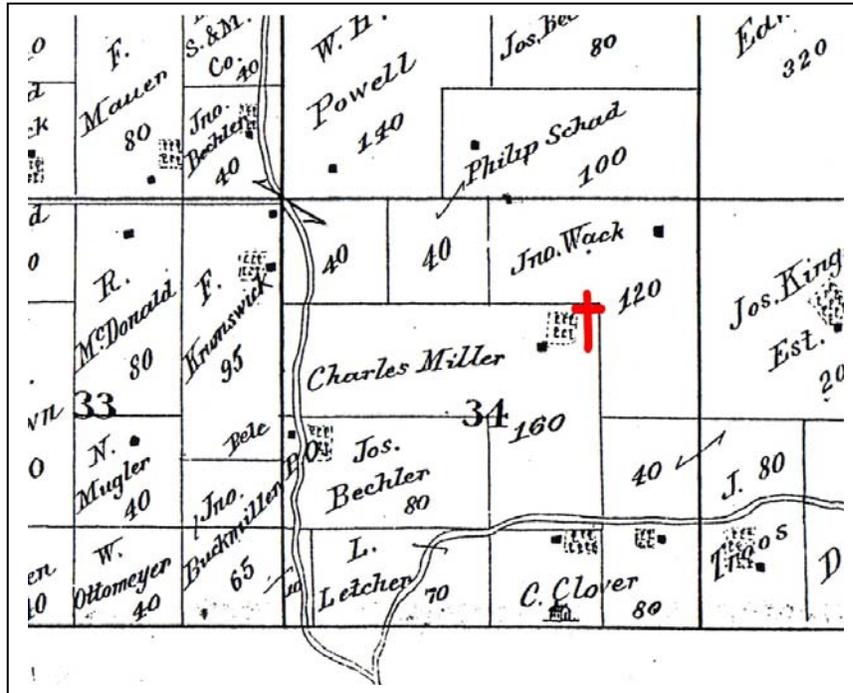
By virtue and authority of an order made by the Circuit court of the County of Jefferson, State of Missouri, at it's January term, 1888. I will, on the 18th day of May, 1888, at the courthouse door in the Town of Hillsboro, between the hours of nine o'clock in the forenoon and five o'clock in the afternoon of that day, offer for sale, at public auction to the highest bidder, the following described land or real estate to-wit - the south half of the northwest quarter, and the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter, and the northeast quarter of the southeast quarter, of section number thirty-four (34), township number forth-two (42), south of the base line of range number four (4), east of the fifth principal meridian, containing 160 acres, situate in Jefferson County, Missouri, for the purpose of making partition between said parties, for which the purchaser will be required to pay twenty-five percent of the purchase money in hand at the time of sale, the balance in twelve months, purchaser giving his bond with approved security, bearing interest at the rate of six per cent, per annum from date, or all cash at the option of the purchaser.

*George W. McFRY, Sheriff
April 23, 1888.*

In deed recorded in Book 35 Page 1, the property was sold on the courthouse steps and Edward Miller was the highest bidder with a bid of \$1100.⁰⁰.

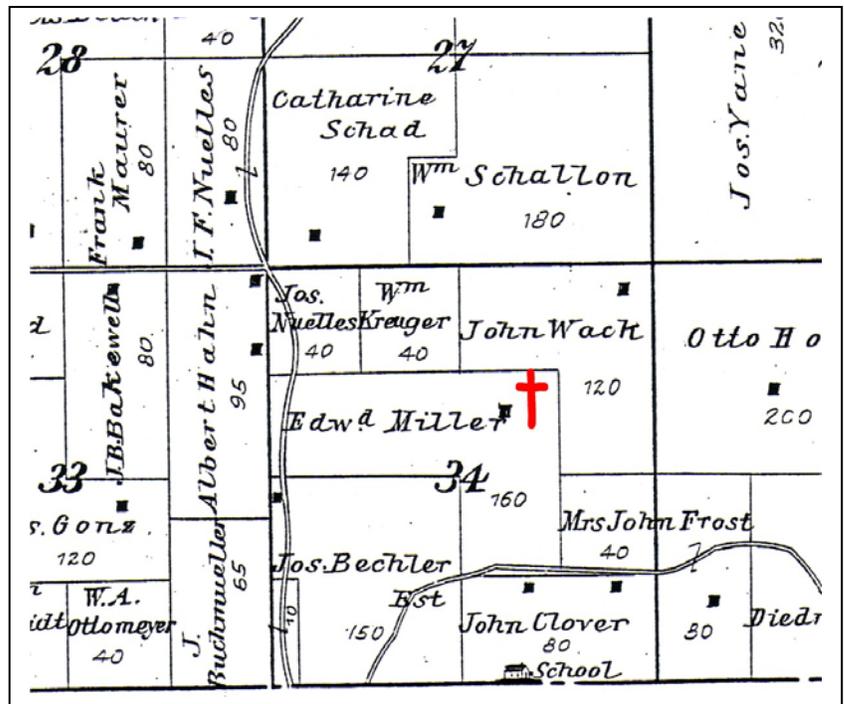
The tract remained in the Miller family for 98 years until on 14th August 1951 the remaining heirs sold the tract. "...Louise Miller, a single woman, an undivided ½ interest, Carol Buxton and Jerome C. her husband, an undivided ¼ interest, June Vieland and her husband Wilber, an undivided ¼ interest, and Louise M. Miller, widow of William H. Miller, deceased, a single person, all of Jefferson County...for \$100.⁰⁰ and other valuable considerations, sell to Joseph Gartner and his wife Vitalia, of Jefferson County...Also the S½ of the NW¼ and the SW¼ of the NE¼ and the NW¼ of the SE¼ of Section 34 T42 R4 containing 160 acres...Parties of the first part reserve the right to visit and care for the family cemetery located on the above described property...." Recorded in Book 200 Page 114.

With this deed we can establish an "official" name of Charles Miller Family Cemetery.



The 1876 Historic Atlas show Charles Miller owns the tract after purchasing it in 1853. The cross I have added to denote the approximate location of the cemetery.

By 1898 Edward Miller has possession of the tract. Probably a son of Charles Miller. Again I have added the cross.





The photograph at left shows the concrete wall surrounding this cemetery. The concrete is starting to crumble in places as can be seen in the photo.

The photograph at right shows the entrance on the south side. It appeared to have once had an iron gate, which is no longer there. Also note the size of the cedar tree located within the walls. This cedar is 2-3 feet in diameter attesting to the age of this cemetery.

No monuments were seen to record the persons buried here. I feel they probably have fallen and become covered over as elderly neighbors remember see monuments long ago.



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