

RESTORATION



Before



After.

ICU...Inspire, Create, Unite is raising funds to restore vandalized and damaged headstones and to landscape the area. Pictured above is one of the headstones that has been repaired.

ICU is obtaining grants and donations so that the damaged headstones can be repaired and re-erected. If funds permit, plans are to place a fence around the cemetery that will accent its natural beauty.



Well over half the headstones have been damaged and in desperate need of repair. The goal is to give these pioneers the quiet and peaceful resting place that their families chose over 150 years ago.

TEAMWORK



ICU...Inspire, Create, Unite would like to express gratitude and appreciation to the City of Dayton, especially the Department of Public Works, for all of the assistance they have given in the clean-up and restoration process.

ICU would also like to thank the young workers from the East End Teen Center who have assisted in the clean-up and research process.

If you would like to volunteer or make a tax-deductible donation to help restore the cemeteries, please contact ICU...Inspire, Create, Unite.



ICU...Inspire, Create, Unite

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KERR CEMETERY
Est. 1826
DRILL CEMETERY
Est. 1835

Pioneer Cemeteries
Dayton, Montgomery Co. Ohio



For many years these cemeteries have been ignored and left for Mother Nature and vandals to slowly destroy. In the spring of 2000, descendants of these pioneers and concerned citizens individually contacted the City of Dayton and requested help in this cleanup effort.

These descendants and citizens have now formed a non-profit organization, ICU...Inspire, Create, Unite.

HISTORY OF THE CEMETERIES



The largest of the two cemeteries is known as the Kerr Cemetery. It is named after the family that owned this land in 1826.

There are at least 46 known burials in the cemetery. The old sandstone and limestone headstones bear the names of Kerr, Kennedy, Huey, Gregg, Reed, McDonald, Wolf, Smith, Dickensheets, McClish, Harris, Jackson, and Mayhall.



The Drill Cemetery is adjacent to the Kerr Cemetery. The headstones bear the names of Drill, Ensley and Rice, the earliest dating 1835. A 200 year old hickory tree has encompassed the headstones of the family of James and Rebecca Rice.

PIONEER FAMILIES



JOHN KERR, SR.

Following are the names of the Pioneer Families, the year they migrated to Ohio and the state from which they migrated.

Gregg	1797	Pennsylvania
Kennedy	1804	Pennsylvania
Wolf	1804	Maryland
Reed	1806	Kentucky
Huey	1809	Virginia
Kerr	1809	Virginia
Smith	1810	Pennsylvania
Mayhall	1814	Pennsylvania
Ensley	1818	Pennsylvania
Rice	1826	Maryland
Drill	1828	Maryland
Dickensheets	1838	Maryland
Jackson	1840	Pennsylvania

Research has found that all of the families migrated from the Appalachian Mountains. They were Methodists, Quakers and Presbyterians. Most were farmers and one family owned a mill. George Drill and Smith Gregg were veterans of the War of 1812 and Enos McDonald was a veteran of the Civil War.

ABOLITIONISTS



SALLIE & WILLIAM REED

Many of the families were neighbors and were known Abolitionists and are believed to have assisted runaways on the Underground Railroad.

Stories passed from generation to generation tell us that family members were conductors on the Underground Railroad through the Miami Valley.



Harriet Tubman's Underground Railroad by world renowned artist Paul Collins.