

OLD GOSHEN CHURCH AND CEMETERY

Contributed By

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By an act of the 1943 General Assembly, the Conservation Commission was authorized to receive, accept, administer, and maintain the Old Goshen Baptist Church and Cemetery in Harrison County as a public memorial to the pioneer settlers of Indiana. Built of massive oak and poplar logs, the church building is still in comparatively good condition after standing one hundred and twenty years.

It was in the first decade of the nineteenth century that Squire Boone, brother of Daniel, crossed the Ohio River from his home in Kentucky and established a new home some six miles north of the river in what is now Harrison County. With him were his four sons, Moses, Isaiah, Enoch, and Jonathan, and five sons of his cousin. Under the strong arms of these sturdy men, the wilderness soon began to take on the aspects of a settled community. A mill was built for grinding the grain of the neighborhood. When Harrison County was organized in 1808, Moses Boone was appointed one of the judges.

Religious services were, no doubt, held in the various homes of the neighborhood at first, but it was not long before the building of a church was discussed. The building now to be preserved by the state is thought to have been completed in 1813.¹ It stands on State Highway 11, about two and one-half miles north of Laconia. Moses Boone, on whose land it was erected, deeded the land to the church trustees in 1821; he also took a leading part in its construction. The Reverend David A. Leonard who died in 1819 and was buried in the church cemetery may have been the first pastor.

After being used by the Baptists for sixty or seventy years, the building was leased for brief periods to Dunkard and United Brethren congregations. In the forties it served as a school house. The benches, made of hewn logs and

¹ Information about the church is difficult to find. The early church records were destroyed by fire. County histories, deed records, and a newspaper article by John M. Dannenfelser, Jr. (clipping in Corydon Public Library) were the principal sources used. Mrs. Kate Douglass Funk, of Corydon and Indianapolis, has been helpful in securing information.

without backs, are now in the Old Capitol in Corydon. Small holes chipped in the west wall indicate the location of the shelf upon which the pupils did their writing. The original floor was of wide rough boards placed on slab sills of beech. A balcony, built about seven feet above the lower section, extended two-thirds of the way across the building from north to south. The building was repaired in 1913, but little change was made in its outward appearance.

In the large cemetery adjoining the church, many of the early settlers of the neighborhood are buried. Many graves are marked only by a rough slab with no name. All the inscriptions which were legible were copied in 1940 by Samuel P. Hayes, of Corydon, and myself. The original inscriptions have been shortened and abbreviations used to save space in printing.

Joel Cotner, b. Jan. 13, 1809; d. June, 1890.

Belinda, w. of Joel Cotner, Aug., 1811.

John, s. of Henry and Mary E. Guest, b. Mar. 29, 1849; d. July 11, 1849.

Margaret C., dau. of Henry and Mary E. Guest, b. Mar. 14, 1873; d. July, 1873.

Magdalena, w. of A. M. Hunter; d. Aug. 24, 1854. Age 45 yrs.

Catharine, dau. of Abner M. and M. M. Hunter; d. Apr. 14, 1853.

Age 18 yrs. 5 mos. 7 days.

Mary Ann, w. of Joel B. Rissler, b. 1829; d. 1850.

Elender, w. of W. Gaither; d. Oct. 10, 1855. Age 61 yrs. 7 mos. 21 days.

Rachel E., dau. of S. and M. E. Funk; d. Dec. 30, 1860. Age 2 yrs. 4 mos. 16 days.

Luther J. Wade; d. Aug. 15, 1931. Age 46 yrs. 5 mos. 9 days.

Anna Rebecca Jenkins; d. Mar. 12, 1938. Age 82 yrs. 11 mos. 24 days.

Mary, w. of James Jenkins, b. Sept. 16, 1832; d. May 13, 1882.

Calvin S., husband of L. Noon, b. Feb. 28, 1816; d. Aug. 14, 1885.

Lanta, w. of C. S. Noon, b. Dec. 11, 1810; d. June 18, 1896.

Solomon Harbaugh; d. Sept. 22, 1877. Age 75 yrs. 7 mos. 17 days.

Margaret, w. of Solomon Harbaugh; d. Apr. 3, 1875. Age 73 yrs. 10 mos.

Charles J. Harbaugh, s. of S. and M. Harbaugh; d. Oct. 21, 1837. Age 2 yrs. 1 mo. 29 days.

Alma F. Harbaugh, b. Jan. 19, 1878; d. Mar. 10, 1878.

Wm. H. Harbaugh, b. Nov. 14, 1832; d. Dec. 17, 1888.

Annie M., w. of W. H. Harbaugh, b. Nov. 26, 1842; d. Feb. 11, 1907.

Ada Lockett.

Benjamin D. Lockett.

Adam and Nancy Douglass.

Benjamin D., s. of Joel and Kate Bartley, b. May 15, 1850; d. Aug. 12, 1850.

Infant son of Joel and Kate Bartley, b. and d. Mar. 12, 1853.

Helen E., dau. of Joel and Kate Bartley, b. Jan. 15, 1849; d. Feb. 24, 1850.

Joel F. Bartley, b. Jan. 15, 1808; d. Sept. 27, 1883.
 Catherine Bartley, b. Mar. 10, 1824; d. Aug. 6, 1905.
 Sarah M. Douglass, b. May 13, 1822; d. Oct. 14, 1895.
 Narcecy Gulpertia Gaither, age 17 mos. save 9 days; d. Oct. 3, 1834.
 Nancy Emley Gaither, age 8 yrs. save 9 days; d. Sept. 14, 1834.
 Jane, w. of R. G. Bartley, b. Mar. 15, 1815; d. Nov. 4, 1857.
 Martha G. Groves, b. Dec. 22, 1840; d. Oct. 19, 1846.
 Mary T., dau. of J. F. and A. J. Newman, b. July 22, 1834; d. Dec. 11, 1850 [stone broken].
 Benjamin L., s. of J. F. and A. J. Newman, b. May 26, 1846; d. Feb. 5, 1848 [stone broken].
 Mary L., dau. of J. F. and A. J. Newman, b. Dec. 10, 1850; d. May 22, 1851 [stone broken].
 Susan C., w. of J. C. Lynn Esq. dec'd.; d. Jan. 18, 1852, age 27 yrs. 2 mos. 10 days.
 Benjamin F., s. of J. W. and H. A. Miller, b. Feb. 19, 1853; d. Mar. 1, 1853.
 Peter Miller who dept. this life 31st Dec. 1832 in 29th year of his age, a native of Washington Co., Pa.
 Jacob Miller who dept. this life 9th Sept. 1840 in 37th year of his age, a native of Washington Co., Pa.
 Peter Miller, Seigniour who dept. this life Oct. 10, 1842, age 67 yrs. 2 mos. 15 days. A native of Pennsylvania.
 Isiah Inman, s. of Isiah and Charlotte Inman; d. Nov. 10, 1835. Age 9 yrs. 3 mos. 7 days.
 Mary Ann Crosmon Inman, dau. of Isiah and Charlotte Inman; d. Oct. 20, 1832. Age 9 yrs. 10 mos. 6 days.
 Chas. Inman; d. Oct. 30, 1832. Age 47 yrs. 1 mo. 27 days.
 Our Baby, Claude Anderson; d. May 25, 1924.
 Aaron Howe; d. Aug. 16, 1839. Age 21 yrs. 10 mos. 21 days.
 Ann Pindell, w. of Jacob Pindell; d. July 5, 1838 in her 39th year.
 Isaac Cotner; d. Aug. 1, 1844. Age 16 yrs. 11 mos. 13 days.
 John Cotner [stone weathered away].
 M. S. [nothing more on stone].
 Anthony Cotner.
 John C. Cotner; d. Sept. 23, 1848. Age 33 yrs. 3 mos. 27 days.
 Lucinda, w. of Peter Frakes and dau. of John and Mary Cotner; d. July 9, 1849. Age 36 yrs. 17 days.
 Mary H., infant dau. of Peter and Lucinda Frakes; d. July 14, 1849. Age 2 mos. 15 days.
 Maria Boon; d. May 8, 1834 [creek slab; almost illegible].
 Hannah Boon; d. Dec. 18, 1833. Age 64 yrs. [creek slab; almost illegible].
 Mel. [creek slab; almost illegible].
 Sarah, w. of Henry Lenau; d. May 10, 1887.
 Henry L. Lenau; d. Apr. 29, 1881. About 78 yrs.
 Martha M. Lenau; d. July 14, 1849. Age 2 yrs. [creek slab].
 S. L. [nothing more on stone].
 Catharine Houser.
 Sarah Cable; d. Mar. 16, 1832. Age 17 yrs. 10 mos.

- James R. Nantz, consort of Nancy Nantz; d. Feb. 18, 1849. Age 54 yrs. 1 mo. 13 days.
- Nancy, consort of James R. Nantz; d. Sept. 8, 1849. Age 46 yrs. 11 mos. 3 days.
- Venevia C., dau. of James R. and Nancy Nantz; d. Aug. 3, 1847. Age 17 yrs. 3 mos. 7 days.
- Altha Ann Nantz; d. Oct. 15, 1844. Age 1 mo. 3 days.
- Eunice Eliza, dau. of Chas. and Versalia C. Inman; d. Feb. 18, 1847. Age 6 mos. 6 days.
- Mary Angeline, dau. of Orville and Sarah C. Nantz; d. Feb. 22, 1850. Age 6 yrs. 7 mos.
- Wm. S. Nantz; d. June 9, 1842. Age 8 yrs. 4 mos. 19 days.
- Hannah, w. of Hugh McIntire; d. Aug. 29, 1845. Age 66 yrs.
- Lawson J., s. of Jeremiah and Sarah Woods; d. July 16, 1847. Age 34 yrs. 6 mos.
- Sarah Woods; d. Aug. 9, 1852 [stone broken].
- W. Thomas, Company G, 50th Indiana Infantry [government stone].
- Thomas M., s. of James Pell and Elizabeth, his wife, d. June 23, 1830. Age 21 yrs. 11 mos. 7 days.
- Jesse H., s. of Jas. and Elizabeth Pell; d. July 3, 1827. Age 8 yrs. 7 mos. 2 days.
- Wm. T., s. of Jas. and Elizabeth Pell; d. Oct. 7, 1822. Age 5 yrs. 10 mos.
- Ezekiel, s. of Jas. and Elizabeth Pell; d. Jan. 18, 1825. Age 2 yrs. 4 mos. 17 days.
- Timothy Pell; d. Sept. 3, 1824. Age 23 yrs.
- Margaret Pell, w. of Wm. Pell; d. Nov. 19, 1828. Age 58 yrs.
- Isaac Cable, d. Sept. 22, 1824. Age 39 yrs.
- Frederick Cotner—the faith doctor.
- Rev. David A. Leonard; d. July 22, 1819. Age 45 yrs. [two stones].
- Elizabeth, w. of John B. Keller; d. Oct. 16, 1824. Age 29 yrs. 4 mos. 3 days [large flat stone].
- Hamilton, s. of Geo. W. and Lucy Boone; d. June 9, 1841. Age 32 yrs.
- Geo. W. Boone; d. July 1, 1857. Age 74 yrs. 3 mos. 25 days.
- Lucy, w. of G. W. Boone; d. of cholera, Sept. 18, 1833. Age 54 yrs.
- Also their daughter, Helen, w. of H. Luckett, died same day in her 27th year.
- Milton Boone; d. Sept. 17, 1818. Age 7 yrs. Son of Geo. Boone.
- Fielding, s. of E. B. and U. Boone, b. Sept. 11, 1838; d. June 13, 1862. Joined 50th Regiment, Indiana Militia, Company C.
- Blanch, dau. of C. and M. C. May, b. Jan. 20, 1870; d. Mar. 27, 1872.
- Lavina B., w. of C. M. Dawson; d. May 14, 1874. Age 42 yrs.
- Hiram C., s. of Samuel and Mary P. Boone, b. Oct. 29, 1820; d. July 12, 1849.
- Samuel, s. of Samuel Boone of Fredericktown, Md., b. Mar. 9, 1778; d. Jan. 8, 1856.
- Elizabeth, dau. of Samuel and Mary P. Boone, and w. of Dr. John D. Weaver, b. Dec. 14, 1812; d. Dec. 31, 1857.
- Fielding M., s. of Samuel and Mary Boone, b. Aug. 13, 1815; d. July 11, 1871.

Upton Boone, b. 1808; d. May 17, 1887.
 Elizabeth Howser, w. of Upton Boone, b. Dec. 13, 1810; d. Oct. 9, 1890.
 Wm. S. May, s. of Conrad and Mary C. May, b. Feb. 27, 1868; d. Aug. 6, 1893.
 Conrad May; d. Sept. 7, 1902. Age about 60 yrs.
 Mary C., w. of Conrad May, b. Feb. 20, 1836; d. May 11, 1914.
 Mayme May, b. 1879; d. 1935.
 Horace Boone, b. May 31, 1846; d. Jan. 30, 1915.
 Harriet E., w. of Horace Boone, b. Dec. 26, 1845; d. Oct. 30, 1932.
 Mary M. Hoby, b. 1850; d. 1926.
 Craven Boone, b. May 3, 1807; d. June 21, 1886.
 Sarah Newman, w. of Craven Boone, b. Oct. 20, 1811; d. Oct. 8, 1877.
 Craven G. Boone, b. Apr. 23, 1873; d. Oct. 7, 1906.
 Hadie L., w. of Craven Boone, b. Apr. 29, 1877; d. Mar. 19, 1922.
 Carrie M., w. of Wm. F. Rasure, b. 1890; d. 1933.
 Samuel Boone, b. Aug. 6, 1843; d. July 4, 1925.
 Mary, w. of Samuel Boone, b. Dec. 24, 1855; d. July 26, 1922.
 Upton, s. of Samuel and Mary Boone, b. Mar. 21, 1881; d. Aug. 9, 1896.
 Ada B., w. of J. E. Byrum, b. Aug. 4, 1879; d. Nov. 12, 1897.
 Lavina Boone, b. Nov. 10, 1809; d. Mar. 19, 1899.
 Mary Boone; d. June 26, 1929. Age 66 yrs. 7 mos. 2 days.
 Wm. Pennebaker, b. in Pennsylvania; d. in Indiana, 1822. Age 67 yrs.
 Mary, dau. of Wm. and Mary C. Pennebaker and w. of Samuel Boone, b. May 8, 1790; d. June 24, 1844.
 Landsdale Homer, s. of Samuel and Mary P. Boone, b. Sept. 4, 1828; d. Dec. 13, 1829.
 Mary Jane, dau. of Samuel and Mary P. Boone, b. May 4, 1818; d. Sept. 1818.
 Julia Ann, dau. of Samuel and Mary P. Boone, b. Apr. 8, 1822; d. Oct. 1823.
 Thomas Mitchel, s. of Samuel and Mary P. Boone, b. 1831; d. 1832.
 Jane Ann, dau. of Samuel and Mary P. Boone, b. Aug. 3, 1826; d. July 8, 1843.
 Helen, dau. of Samuel and Mary P. Boone, b. Apr. 2, 1824; d. July 9, 1849.