

GREEN MOUNT CEMETERY

Green Mount Cemetery, c/o Mary Hopkins, 2248 Smith Creek Road, Waynesburg, PA 15370. Phone: 724-627-3807
Visit us online at www.greenconnections.com (See Cemetery Index). E-mail: c/o Candice Buchanan candicelynnb@yahoo.com

A Word of Welcome

Welcome to the very first newsletter from the Green Mount Cemetery board! We are honored that you have chosen to participate in the effort to maintain and preserve this historic cemetery.

For over 150 years, the grounds of Green Mount Cemetery have provided rest for our ancestors and immediate families. Since 1853, generations of area residents have chosen Green Mount Cemetery because of its nearness to places that were dear to them during their lifetimes: homes, families, downtown Waynesburg and the Waynesburg College campus.

Today, with the coveted space nearly filled to capacity, the Green Mount Cemetery board is challenged to provide an adequate source of income for the cemetery's constant care. Services such as lawn maintenance, up-righting fallen markers, road improvement and so on, require labor and materials that exceed the cemetery board's limited resources. The board is in need of donations and volunteers to help improve the cemetery in order to honor the past generations of families at rest here and to educate present and future generations who will visit these grounds to remember and respect those who came before them.

Sign on the Way

Memory Medallion, Inc. is sponsoring a sign to be placed at Green Mount's front entrance on Morris Street. The sign is being crafted by Kevin Morris and will read "Historic Green Mount Cemetery, Est. 1853." The sign is expected to be in place by early spring.



Gov. Edward Martin
Among the Many Local
History Heroes Buried In
Green Mount Cemetery.

When former Pennsylvania Gov. Edward Martin was laid to rest in Green Mount Cemetery, John O'Hara wrote:

"But now, at long, long last, he is back with them again in eternal rest in historic Green Mount cemetery where his parents also rest as do so many of his dearest friends - the Thomas Cragos, the W. C. Montgomerys, the many members of the Sayers and Scott families, the Purmans, the Downeys and many, many others and just a comparative stone's throw away from their beloved college campus, the parks, the town, which now can be their perpetual Youth."

A Place of Remembrance...

Alfred Brashier & Margaret Kerr (Bell) Miller were a powerful pair. Margaret was the principal of the Female Seminary (later the Female Department) of Waynesburg College in its first year and A. B. was a student of Waynesburg College in its first year. Present from the opening day of class to the first graduation day for male students, 28 September 1853, A. B. had the honor of being the first young man to deliver a graduation speech. Soon after finishing his education at Waynesburg he became a professor there. In 1855, he married Margaret and established the partnership that would ensure the survival of Waynesburg College.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 3...

Friends of Green Mount

Donations

Consider what is involved in sustaining a hallowed and historic site such as Green Mount Cemetery. The monetary expenses presented in the Examples of Average Annual Expenses column demonstrate what the cemetery board needs just to maintain the cemetery, improving and preserving the historic grave markers and grounds will require much more. Any contribution you can make may add up to a big difference in what the board is able to do.

Please remember the cemetery in your Will and Estate planning. Donations of this nature go automatically into Green Mount's endowment fund.

Donations can be sent to: *Green Mount Cemetery, c/o Mary Hopkins, 2248 Smith Creek Road, Waynesburg, PA 15370.*

Volunteers

Beyond financial expenses, there is a lot of hands-on work to be done toward the goal of improving Green Mount Cemetery.

Manual work on-site such as lawn, landscaping, clean-up, up righting fallen markers and so forth could cost much less and be completed more quickly with volunteer help.

Researchers who could assist in completing the voluminous paper work involved in nominating Green

Mount Cemetery for its rightful place on the National Historic Registry could help generate positive attention and perhaps much needed funds for the cemetery's improvement.

Do you have other talents you could lend?

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer and/or have additional ideas about how others might get involved, please contact Candice Buchanan at 724-627-4632 or by email at candicelynnb@yahoo.com.

Examples of Average Annual Expenses

- Mowing takes place twice a month during the summer months, beginning in May. This service requires \$750 per/mowing. Rising gas prices will increase costs accordingly.
- Upkeep of cemetery roads varies in price according to needs. Loads of gravel are brought in when required, snow plowing is performed when necessary for winter funerals, etc.



Research & Preservation

Research is underway to remember and preserve the lives of every person buried in Green Mount Cemetery. The project includes:

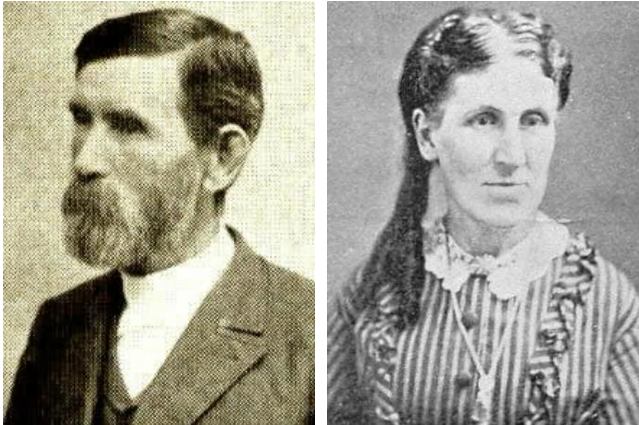
- Transcriptions of all gravestone inscriptions in Green Mount Cemetery.
- Photographs of all gravestones in Green Mount Cemetery.
- Transcriptions of all original caretaker records maintained by the Green Mount Cemetery Board.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 4...

"Our dead are greater and more truly alive than we are. When we forget them, it is our whole future that we lose sight of; and when we fail in respect to them, it is our own immortal soul that we are trampling under our feet."

-- Maurice Maeterlinck

Remembrance from page 1



Margaret's career as principal and teacher did not end with her marriage, and when A. B. became president of the college a few years later, they led the school together, surviving the Civil War years and bad economics that destroyed numbers of similar colleges across the country. In fact, when A. B. Miller was made Waynesburg College President in the fall of 1859, the board of trustees and leaders of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church (the body which had established the college in 1849) had lost all hope and only asked A. B. to see the college through to its end. Even then, A. B. and Margaret were encouraged to abandon the college, which foresaw no ability to pay their salaries.

Of course, the Millers did not give up so easily. During the difficult years, A. B. went without salary from the college, and used his small earnings as a pastor at the Cumberland Presbyterian Church to pay the salaries of other educators at the college and county levels.

Rather than fail, A. B. and Margaret came together with a strong faculty, loyal alumni and a growing number of students to save the college and see it prosper.

The Millers oversaw the merger of the Female Department into the body of Waynesburg College establishing one of the earliest successes of a co-educational institution.

The growth of the student population, curriculum and campus life over the years, eventually resulted in a new building, now the familiar Miller Hall, built under A. B.'s watch. Regrettably, Margaret, who had shared so diligently the work that brought the college's success, did not live to see the campus expansion as this grand building took form.

Margaret had continued as a leader in the college and as a teacher conducting classes at least six hours each day, while at the same time running a home and raising eight children. Ultimately she sacrificed herself for the success of the college and the progression of female education. Only 47 years old, she suffered a stroke that left her paralyzed and speechless. She passed away in April 1874, her oldest child just eighteen years old, and her youngest not yet two.

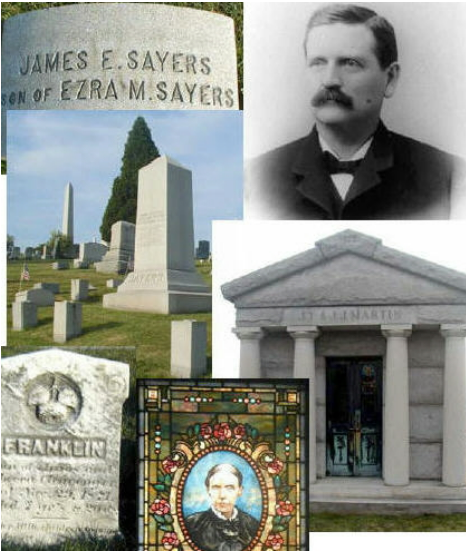
A. B. Miller continued on until his own death which took place in his beloved "Old College" known to us as Hannah Hall, in early 1902. He had been President of the college for over 40 years and continued as

President Emeritus until his death.



At Margaret's death, a gravestone was placed in Green Mount Cemetery by the Waynesburg College Alumni Association. The words of devotion and gratitude inscribed in her honor were equally fitting for her husband when the day came to add his name. Carefully positioned on the corner of a central lot, the Millers' gravestone is surrounded by those of their students and colleagues' – all of whom chose to be memorialized in a location conveniently overlooking their beloved college.

Research from page 2



These documents and photographs are being interlinked to compile a full and accurate list of all marked and unmarked graves.

In addition, an individual file is being created for each person buried in the cemetery that will contain photographs, obituaries and other historical and genealogical details about that person.

To view the ongoing research, please visit www.greeneconnections.com. If you would like to participate in or contribute to this research please contact Candice at 724-627-4632 or by email at candicelynnb@yahoo.com.

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