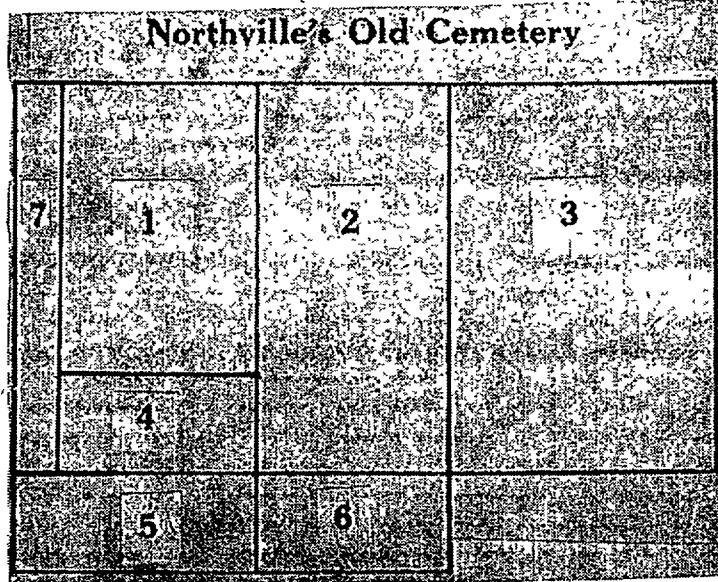


# History of Oakwood Cemetery Is Dug Up By Earl L. Reed



Residents of Northville who have wondered for years when Oakwood cemetery was started, and whether it belonged to the Village of Northville or the Northville school district, will be able to satisfy their curiosity somewhat through the efforts of Earl L. Reed, Village commissioner and an employee of the Abstract & Title Guaranty Co. of Detroit.

After nine months of effort, during which he pored over countless records, Reed has come to the conclusion that the cemetery, located on W. Cady St., was started about 1828, for the graves of Edwin Randolph and Henry E. Cady, both of whom died in that year, are there. However, Reed in his studies found that the history of the cemetery and matters pertaining to its ownership over the years is quite confusing.

"It will be necessary to break the chain of title down into seven parts," said Reed, "because the title to the whole tract comes down from the U.S. Government in seven different lines though Ira Rice took title on 160 acres which includes the cemetery property and he deeded to Hiram Robinson the same 160 acres. At this point the chain of title then branches in various lines. The accompanying diagram is numbered to correspond with each of the different chains of title as they develop."

The history of the various plots follows:

**No. 1**  
Conveyance made in 1826—U.S. to Ira Rice and Sarah Rice, of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 3, Town 1 South, Range 8 East, of 160 acres. In 1830 they deeded to Hiram Robinson the entire 160

acres. On his death his wife Julia Robinson was appointed Administratrix in 1832, and the Probate Court of Wayne County ordered Partition proceedings with part of the 160 acres set aside to the widow as her dower right and part to two sons of the deceased. On March 10, 1835, Julia A. Robinson, Administratrix, deeded a strip 165 feet east and west and 297 feet north and south, which is parcel No. 1 on the sketch, to Daniel L. Cady, William Dunlap, and Elisha Morse, School Directors of District No. 2, "To be used as a Public, free burying ground".

**No. 2 and 3**

Charles A. Robinson (son of Hiram Robinson) and Abigail A. Robinson, his wife, and Julia A. Robinson (widow of Hiram Robinson) deeded 36 acres (which included parcels 2, 3 and 6 on the chart) to Peter Phillips on January 15, 1852. On March 16, 1922, on petition of A. G. Newman and wife, to determine heirs of Peter Phillips the Court deeded Parcel No. 7, a strip 12 feet wide to the President and Trustee of the Village of Northville and their Successors in Office provided "The second parties (Village) are to move the fence on the line". There is a quit claim deed dated January 16, 1880, from Charles G. Harrington to the President and Trustees of Northville on this Parcel, probably intended to clear a mortgage.

**No. 6**

William and Ursula Ambler deeded to Ambrose and Jared S. Lapham on June 1, 1854, 3.84 acres which included Parcel No. 6. Ambrose Lapham deeded his 1/2 interest to Jared S. Lapham on May 10, 1870. Jared S. Lapham and Martha G. Lapham deeded Parcel No. 6 to the President and Trustees of Northville on January 19, 1876.

This completes the record title and places part of the title in the Village of Northville and part in School District No. 2 and parcels 4 and 5 without any deeds to the Village.

**No. 4**

William Robinson (son of Hiram Robinson) and Pamela, his wife, deeded to Adam Van Valkenburgh and Mary, his wife, on May 1, 1855, 22 acres which included parcels No. 4, 5 and 7. On May 13, 1864, they deeded to Amos and Elizabeth Stone, 16 acres, and on July 12, 1864, they deeded to John Ovenshire the Parcel marked as No. 4. A deed dated August 13, 1864, from John and Catherine Ovenshire to Henry P. Cobb is for Lot 14 in Ovenshire's Addition to the Northville Cemetery. There is no recorded deed as to the balance of Parcel No. 4.

**No. 5 and 7**

Amos and Elizabeth Stone

## The GREEN THUMB

by Paul Newton

Each year we try to think of something new and novel for our porch box, but invariably we end up with petunias or geraniums or both.

One of the boxes we shall always remember was at Northport. Salmon colored geraniums were planted with white petunias in the foreground, the balcony variety which trails down over the edge of the box.

A heavier planting, for a plant box along a walk, would be zinnias of a bright color. Perhaps the new variety, "Blaze", would brighten a spot near your yard entrance.

Double petunias planted with a single variety of a lighter shade make an attractive showing, too. For blossoms all summer, petunias are an excellent choice; also wax begonias and ageratum can be included in this list. Nasturtiums do well in boxes on the floor of the porch. Their large leaves seem to give a massive, and substantial feeling as you look down at them.

Coleus makes a splendid showing of color and requires very little care, except to pinch back now and then, to keep them from becoming too tall and leggy.

**Care of Plants**

The length of the blooming period of the flowers will be extended by keeping all the dead blooms picked. If a plant forms seeds it will not continue to bloom. Watering must be done daily as evaporation is excessive in a plant box. A layer of stones or coarse gravel in the bottom of the box will prevent the soil from becoming soggy.

Fertilizing should be done once a month. The new liquid fertilizers are ideal. They should not, however, be applied oftener than once a month because more frequent feeding will cause the plants to produce leaves and less flowers. Fertilizer should be applied when the soil is damp, with care not to get it on the foliage.

If at the end of summer, your plant box seems exhausted, replant it with potted chrysanthemums for color during September and October.

**IVY IN FULL BLOOM**

East Lansing—Michigan's weather may be tough on the flowers that bloom in May, but poison ivy is doing all right. More than 30 cases of poison ivy or poison sumac have been treated by health officials at Michigan State college in recent weeks. Grounds Supt. Burt Ferris, however, announced that spraying had begun to destroy the plants, principally along the campus' Red Cedar river.

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**Mrs. Cliff Rollings Pres. Mothers' Club**

Charter and life members of the Northville Mothers' club were honored at a meeting last week at the home of Mrs. Orson Atchinson of Orchard Dr.

The president, Mrs. Rano Papi-ni presented a corsage of crab-apple blossoms and pansies to each of the honored guests. Charter members of the club are: Mrs. Eural Clark, Mrs. Ted Kampf, Mrs. Alton Peters, Mrs. Gerald Taft, Mrs. Ernest Wood, Mrs. Howard Whipple, Mrs. Harry German and Mrs. Aubrey Gates.

Life members are Mrs. Eldon Bery, Mrs. A. Russell Clarke, Mrs. W. E. McCarthy, Mrs. Orson Atchinson and Mrs. R. M. Atchison.

Mrs. Cliff Rollings was elected president for the coming year; Mrs. Paul Terry, vice-president; Mrs. C. M. Goodrich, secretary, and Mrs. William Weidner, treasurer.

Following the election of officers games were played and dessert enjoyed by the 35 members and guests.

The final meeting of the season, which is a picnic, will be held June 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Cliff Hill, 17740 Beck Rd.

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