Evans Burials

By Dave Hallemann



This well kept burial site is located in T41 R4 S23 NE½ of the SW¼.

38° 16′ 14″ N / 90° 32′ 45″ W

This burial site was visited on March 23, 2001 by Dave Hallemann and Linda How.

The burial site is named for John and Barrilla Evans. This tract of land was first entered into

record as Original Certificate # 16617, entered on November 20th, 1851, per military land warrant # 1948 by act of September 28th, 1850 as located by Henry Rowe.

If one searches the Bureau of Land Management Internet site for this tract it will return Mary Boyd as the original purchaser on January 15th, 1856. Evidently military warrants were issued by the land office in St. Louis and the Bureau of Land Management didn't have access to these documents. So the land was rightfully in Henry Rowe's possession.

On October 31st, 1851, Henry Rowe and wife Peninah, sell the tract to John Evans for \$500^{.00}, "...the W½ of the Southeast quarter Section 22 Township 41 Range 4 containing 80 acres, Also the *Northeast ¼ of the Southwest 1/4 Section 23 Township 41 Range 4* containing 40 acres less the portion thereof hereto conveyed by the parties of the first part to John R. Campbell. All situated in the County of Jefferson aforesaid located by said Henry Rowe per Mil(itary) land warrant #1948. Peninah signing with her mark (X).

As per the 1876 Historic Atlas John Evans owns this tract. The 1880 census shows;

Evans, John, white male 60, married, farmer, born England with both parents born in England;

Berrilla, white female 56, married wife, keeping house, born in Illinois with both parents both in Illinois;

Robert, white male 24, son, working on farm;

Thomas, white male 15, son, working on farm.

Checking John's Probate case #1526 we learn that his heirs are listed as; Louisa O'Donnell and husband David, Roberts Evans, Gabrilla Horine, Geneva Shelton, Thomas Evans aged 17 years, Julia Koerner. That Dr. Brewster attended him in his final illness.

Looking at Barilla's probate file case #1872, I saw a receipt for \$20.00 for a burial case, and \$4.00 for burial shroud from Coxwell of De Soto, \$30.00 for marble headstone from the De Soto Marble Works, Hirsch Proprietor. And a receipt from T. S. Brewster, MD, whose office is west of the courthouse, for care in final illness.

On January 3^{rd} , 1887, recorded in Book 29 at Page 170, Julia D. Koener and Henry D. her husband, quit claim to Thomas Evans, for \$100. 00 "...W½ of the Southeast quarter and the Northeast quarter of the Southwest quarter, Section 23 Township 41 Range 4 containing 120 +/-acres..."

At the same time recorded in Book 29 at Page 171, Geneva Shelton quit claims the same property to Thomas Evans.

On March 17th, 1888 David E. O'Donnell and his wife Louisa and M. W. Horine and his wife Gabrilla, for \$100.⁰⁰, deed to Thomas Evans "...our right, title, and interest of, in, and to W½ of the Southeast quarter and the Northeast quarter of the Southwest quarter, Section 23 Township 41 Range 4 and also a small tract of land in the North side of the Southwest quarter, sold to Jno. Evans in his lifetime by T. Brown, in said Township, Range and Section. This conveyance is intended to dispose of all our interest in all the land in said section owned by John Evans in his lifetime..."

So Thomas Evans, son of John and Brilla Evans, acquired the remaining interest of the other heirs.

Thomas Evans kept possession of the family farm until February 13th, 1897 when he, a single person, deeded the tract to John E. Ellis, "...W½ of the Southeast quarter and the Northeast quarter of the Southwest quarter, Section 23 Township 41 Range 4 containing 120 +/-acres..."

And finally on January 6^{th} , 1908, John Ellis and wife Verdie , of St. Louis, sell the tract to James W. King for \$2500.⁰⁰.

The last two deed checked did not mention the cemetery. However, in Book 374 at Page 920-923, in the estate of Elizabeth M. Knoll, I found a "Final Settlement" decree, issued on August 19, 1987, among the various parcels of land,

"...Less and excepting: One acre in the Southwest corner of the Southeast quarter of the Southwest quarter and one acre in the Southeast corner of the Southwest quarter of the Southwest quarter of Section 23, both sold for school purposes;

Also excepting 50 square feet on which a burial is located..."

Coxwell Funeral parlor records list Barilla as dying of Pneumonia.

One final thought. I am not sure why "Evans" and "Barrilla" are misspelled. On the probate receipts the name is both ways. I feel that Evans and Barrilla are the correct spellings.

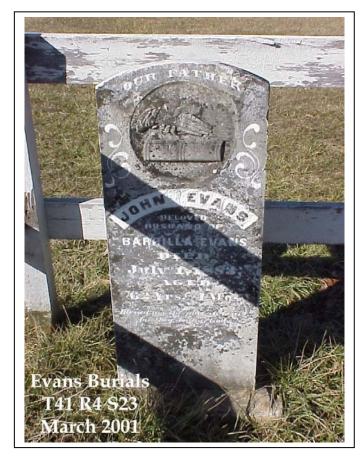


As can be seen in the picture at left, by 1876 John Evans is now in possession of the property. The cross I added to the photo to denote approximate location of burials.

By 1898 John Ellis has become owner of this tract. As before I added the cross to show location.



The following persons are listed on the monuments in this cemetery,



Our Father

John Evans

Beloved Husband Of **Barrilla Evans**

Died **July 1st, 1883**

Aged 62 Yrs 4 Mos (b. March 1st, 1821)

Blessed are the pure of heart for they shall see God.

Top Broken

Brilla

wife of **John Eavens**

Died March 5th, 1889

Aged 63 Yrs 6 Mos 5 Ds (b. August 28th, 1825)

Farewell children???

E Hirsch, De Soto maker mark





Detail of the symbolic carving on the top of John Evans' monument. Man's hand pointing with one finger to the left where John is lain. Book I take to be the bible, possibly denoting marriage.

At first I thought it said "Our Father" because it was erected by their children, however when I looked at John Evans' probate record I found the following receipt;

No. 381 Sold by A. S. Jennings Agent July 9th, 1883, P. O. Hillsboro, Jefferson County, Barrilla Evans res. Near Hillsboro, Mo. This is to certify that I have this day bought of R. L. Rosebrough and sons, of St. Louis, Mo.

one set of Itialian Marble Gravestones; headstone about 3 1/2 feet, motto Our Father polished on sides, socket and footstone, to be shipped to (who) Barrilla Evans (where) Victoria IMRR (when) August 1883 or a reasonable time thereafter with the following inscription; "John Evans beloved husband of Barrilla Evans, died July 1, 1883 aged 62 years and 4 months no days Blessed are the pure of heart for they shall see God." of which I agree to pay R. L. Rosebrough and sons, or order thirty three dollars (\$33.00) on delivery. (signed) W. R. Donnell administrator of estate of John Evans Dec'd.

At the bottom of Barilla's monument is the "makers mark" E. Hirsch, De Soto, who owned the De Soto Marble Company.

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