

# Lemaster Graveyard

By Dave Hallemann



This lost cemetery is located in T39 R4 S13 NE¼ of the NE¼ somewhere in a field off Highway V and Mount Olive Road.

38° 6' 4" N / 90° 31' 35" E

The tract of land the graveyard is located on was first entered by Ammon Knighten on 1<sup>st</sup> May 1826, and recorded as Certificate #1094, for the E½ of the NE¼ T39 R4 S13, containing 80 acres.

Recorded in Book C Page 477 on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1828, Ammon Knighten transfers a deed to Samuel McMullin, Robert Whitehead, and James Donnell, trustees for the *Union Meeting House*, and also for the tuition of four (4) children therein and their successors in office a certain piece or parcel of land containing 100 poles, "begin at a white oak on section line running S 10 poles to a stake; thence E 10 poles to steak (sic); then W 10 poles to place of beginning..." *This is in error as it only list 3 sides. It should be 10 poles by 10 poles equaling 100 poles.*

A deed located in Book D Page 223 dated January 12<sup>th</sup>, 1836, from Ammon Knighten and Francis his wife, both of Jefferson County, to Robert D. Hicks of Washington Co. for \$1500.<sup>00</sup>, "...W½ of the SE¼ S12 80 acres and E½ of the SE¼ S12 80 acres; also W½ of the NE¼ S13 80 acres, and the E½ of the NE¼ S13 80 acres except 10 acres that was sold to William G. Walker, likewise ¾ of an acre deed for use of building a meeting house..." *This meeting house is mentioned as a church in a deed at Book O Page 217.*

Book Z Page 47 dated February 19<sup>th</sup>, 1868 reveals Robert D. Hicks selling William L. Lemaster for \$500.<sup>00</sup>, "...63 acres and 120 poles out of the W½ of the NE¼ of S13, also 12 acres out of the E½ of the NE¼ of S13..."

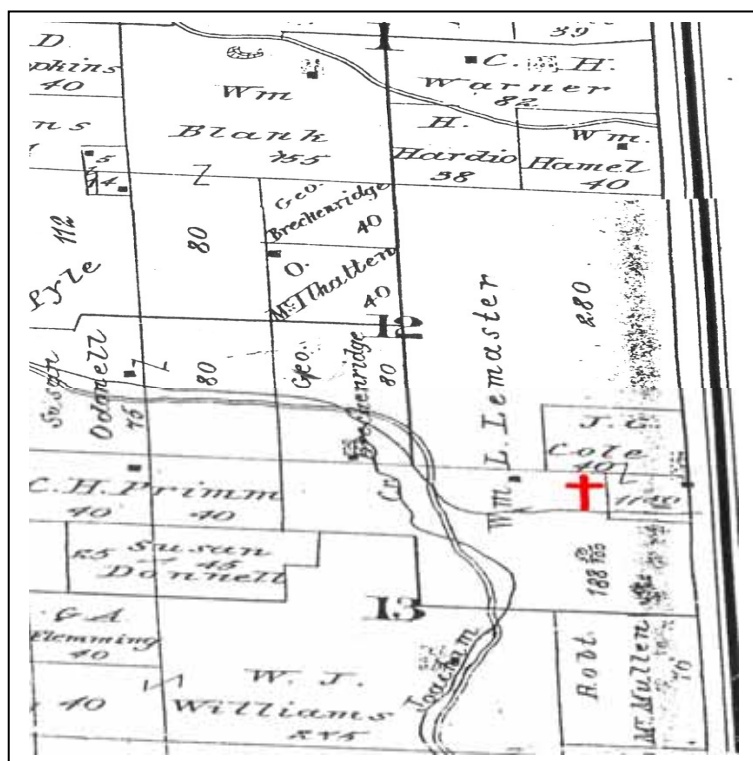
William L. Lemaster died July 31<sup>st</sup>, 1879 and as per his will to have the property sold as soon as possible, on October 21<sup>st</sup>, 1879 his executors William T. Lemaster and Robert S. D. Hicks sell to George Breckenridge for \$1252.<sup>00</sup>, "...also 5½ acres less about 1/4 acre taken out for a Graveyard in the north end of the E½ of the NE¼ S13 beginning on the N line of said tract 5 chains E of the NW corner; thence S 81¼° E to W line of a 10 acre tract owned by John C. Cole; thence S with Cole line to center of McMullen Creek; thence down (*west*) to the E line of a 20 acre tract; thence N to place of beginning..."

Medical Bill for last illness starting May 30 – July 31

## Bill for “Tall Glass(?) Satin Lined Burial Case”

## Bill for Burial Clothes

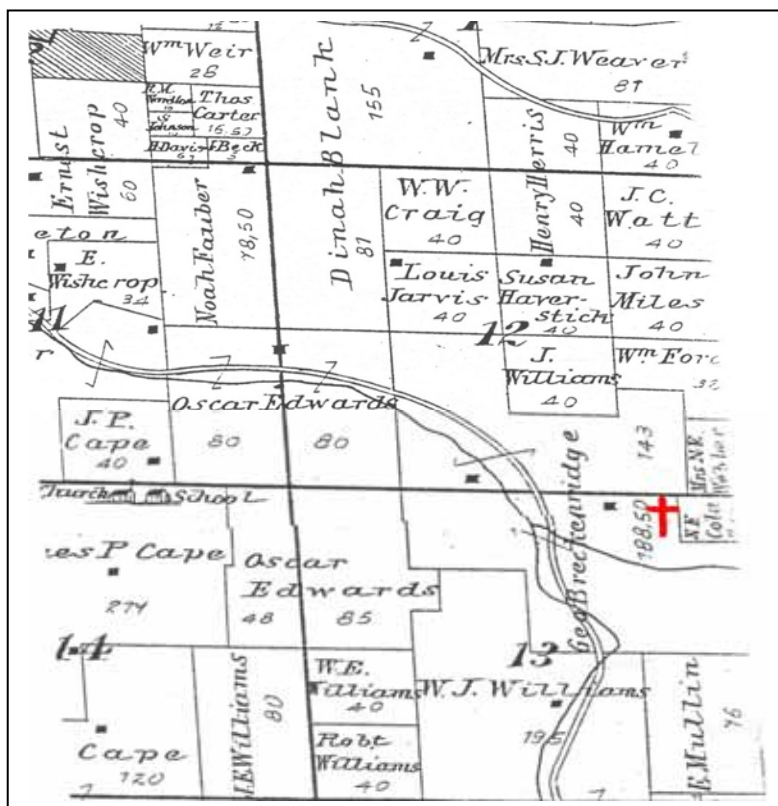
# Lemaster Graveyard



The 1876 Historic Atlas shows the farm in the possession of William L. Lemaster.

The cross I added to the photo in the approximate location of the cemetery.

The 1898 Standard Atlas shows neighbor George Breckenridge purchased the tract where the cemetery resides. As before I added the cross to show location.



De Soto Item—By H. S. Jenks—De Soto, MO.

August 4<sup>th</sup>, 1879—DIED—Wm. L. LEMASTER, an old resident of Jefferson County, July 31<sup>st</sup>, at 7 o'clock a.m., aged 66 years, 1 month, and 24 days. Mr. L. was born in Virginia, and removed to Mo., with his parents at an early age. He has been a resident of our county for about forty years. His funeral was largely attended, and his remains placed in the *family burying grounds* at the Lemaster home place. Mr. Lemaster figured at one time in this county quite largely in politics, and at one time being beaten by only 11 votes for the sheriffality in opposition as an old and tried opponent. Many friends at all points will regret to learn of his decease, and who will mourn his loss.

Jefferson Democrat  
Hillsboro, Jefferson, Missouri  
Wednesday 12 October 1887;

Charles LEWIS late of De Soto but now of St. Louis buried an infant child last Tuesday in the *Lemaster burying ground*, south of De Soto. (*Charles Lewis was the husband of Wm. Lemaster's daughter Clara.*)

HICKS, Elmer, 3-24-1888, 1 mo, 3 days, Le Master farm, Congestion of lungs; is listed in Coxwell Funeral Parlor Records.

These persons are known to be buried in the Lemaster Graveyard per their obituaries. It is thought that Margaret Lemaster wife of William L. is also buried here. She appears in the 1850 and 1860 census but is not listed in the 1870 census. William owned and lived on this tract during this time period and her grave is not listed elsewhere. Plus the fact that as per Williams's obituary he was buried in the *family burying grounds*. So it is likely that a cemetery was already established.

*I would like to extend my appreciation to Carolyn Nash Great-Granddaughter of William Lemaster for help with information for this article.*

*Copyright © 2003 by Dave Hallemann  
This article may be distributed in any form as long as there  
is no fee charged, it is transferred in its entirety, and the author is given credit.*