

GREENE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

INTRODUCTION TO CEMETERY TRANSCRIPTIONS

For a few years now the Greene County Genealogical Society members and other interested persons have visited numerous Greene County cemeteries to read and re-read tombstones. The last comprehensive undertaking occurred in the mid-1960's, and even then some very important cemeteries were omitted. Therefore, the Society thought an update after forty plus years would be of vast importance to many persons with Greene County roots. Any cemetery under this section of this website has been surveyed, researched, reviewed and sanctioned by members of the Greene County Genealogical Society. This assures the highest level of authenticity, and only those cemetery transcriptions that are sanctioned by the Genealogical Society are allowed to be placed on this website.

In addition to the most recent reading of tombstones, any prior surveys such as the 1930's WPA list and the 1960's Buford Reynolds' work, have been reviewed and compared for accuracy and possible omissions. Funeral Home records may be checked for early-to-mid 20th century burials so that persons who have been buried without a tombstone are included. Once our transcription is deemed to be as accurate as possible, then a limited amount of time is spent to research as many people as possible. This research includes full dates of birth and full dates of death when available (death certificates began in 1915, but were not routinely issued until several years later), the names of the spouse(s) and sometimes the date(s) of marriage, the names of the parents, and other relevant information, such as military service. There are, of course, time constraints involved, so research and the resultant "commentary" on the spreadsheet is more comprehensive for some people than for others. A list of abbreviations that are used in the "remarks" section is included at the end of this introduction.

We realize there will be errors and the "remarks" section may be brief or excluded for some people. There will also be omissions if a person was interred without a tombstone and the person is not found in a funeral home index, or the tombstone is so old it is (and has previously been) unreadable. We would greatly appreciate any documented information that you, the reader, may have. Inquiries are also accepted. You should direct your request and/or corrections in writing to the Greene County Genealogical Society, c/o T. Elmer Cox Historical and Genealogical Library, 229 North Main Street, Greeneville, TN 37745. We are unable to accept telephone calls because we are not staffed to do so.

Old Harmony Graveyard and Mt. Bethel Presbyterian Church Cemetery are the oldest public graveyards in the Town of Greeneville. We begin our online cemetery transcriptions with Mt. Bethel Presbyterian Church Cemetery. We hope to publish the Old Harmony Graveyard transcription before too long. Additions of other cemeteries in Greeneville and in Greene County will be added regularly, so please bookmark this page.

Of course in the very early times most people were buried in small, private graveyards on their farms. A very few of these old family graveyards still exist today, but most have vanished over time. Should you have documented information on family graveyards we would very much welcome this information.

All of this work is accomplished by our volunteers. Should you wish to volunteer time to help us with this massive undertaking, this will allow us to post more cemetery information at a faster pace. Volunteer work can include “fieldwork” to read tombstones and “research work”.

We would like to have you join the Greene County Genealogical Society. Annual dues are only \$15 a year and you will receive our semiannual publication of The Greene County Pioneer. We welcome submission of your family histories and records, and you may publish stories on your Greene County families in our publication.

Abbreviations used in the “remarks” section follow on the next page.

Sincerely,
Greene County Genealogical Society
229 North Main Street
Greeneville, Tennessee 37745

Spreadsheet Abbreviations and Notations

Family Relationships:

h:	"husband is" (if only one spouse)
h1:	"husband # 1" with repeat of "husband #2", etc. for multiple spouses
w:	"wife is" (if only one spouse)
w1:	"wife # 1" with repeat of "wife #2", etc. for multiple spouses
f:	"father is"
m:	"mother is"
p:	"parents are" or "parent is"
ap:	"adoptive parent is" or "adoptive parents are"
p/o	"parent of"
gf:	"grandfather is"
gm:	"grandmother is"
stepm:	"stepmother"
stepf:	"stepfather"
d:	"daughter is" or "daughters are"
s:	"son is" or "sons are"
br:	"brother is" or "brothers are"
hbr:	"half-brother is" or "half-brothers are"
sis:	"sister is" or "sisters are"
inf	"infant"
i/o	"infant of"
id/o	"infant daughter of"
is/o	"infant son of"
d/o	"daughter of"
s/o	"son of"

Military Service:

Revolutionary War:	"Rev War"
War 1812:	"War 1812"
Civil War:	"Union" for Federals; "CSA" for Confederates
Infantry:	"Inv"
Cavalry:	"Cav"
Company:	"Co"
World War I	"WWI"
World War II	"WWII"
Korean War	"Kor War"
Viet Name War	"VN War"
Middle East Service	"Mid E Serv"

Tombstone Abbreviations:

In notes regarding age, "y" means "years," "m" means "months," and "d" means "days."

Source References:

md	“married”
death cert	“death certificate” (TN Death Certificates begin in 1915)
obit	“obituary”
Death Index	State of Tennessee Death Index, also known as “Leatherwood”
D-S	Funeral Home in Greeneville. Information derived from Doughty-Stevens records refers to dates of casket purchase, which are not necessarily the same as dates of death. Doughty-Stevens records begin in 1908.
Kiser	Kiser Funeral Home record
Jeffers	Jeffers Funeral Home record
WPA	Works Progress Administration (WPA) cemetery transcriptions of the 1930s. (Not all of the Greene County Cemeteries were recorded by the WPA)
Reynolds	The term “Reynolds” refers to <i>Greene County, Tennessee Cemeteries from Earliest Dates to 1970-1971</i> , compiled by Buford Reynolds.

Each and every annotation and/or source cannot be given because of space limitations. The above list of abbreviations is the most commonly used.