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Interested? Contact Caroline Wadzeck
936-402-3797 or cwadzeck@hotmail.com

Visit <http://daytonxhistory.com> website
to see examples of decorated star statues

Rent Parker Hall For Your Event

To reserve Parker Hall, contact:
713-927-1629 or 832-233-3894

Newsletter or Website Contact

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Old School Museum: The Old School Museum is located next to Parker Hall at 111 West Houston St. in Dayton and is open Saturdays from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Dayton Historical Society: The Society meets in Parker Hall at 6 P.M. the last Monday of each month for a historical program presented by guest speakers. The program is preceded by a Society business meeting and followed by refreshments.

Dayton History News

Linney Cemetery, Association, Family, Town, Creek, Subdivision & Streets

Linney is a name often used in Dayton because the pioneer with that surname, Michael Linney, made an indelible mark on our community after his arrival in the 1840s.

Cemetery: The Linney Cemetery, located at the east end of Linney St. is registered with the Find-A-Grave website as having 1,330 graves.

The people buried there include pioneer settlers, city and county elected officials, community leaders, and veterans from the Civil War, World War I, World War II, Korean, and Vietnam wars.

Association: The Linney Cemetery Association was established in 1903 to care for the historic cemetery and continues to do so.

Family: The earliest interment was that of Joseph Monroe Linney who died at 6 days old in 1880.

Young Joseph's parents were James Monroe Linney (1856-1907) born in Old Saint Marys, Refugio County, Texas and Eugenia Josephine Gossie-Linney (1858-1939) born in Orange, Texas. They are buried in Linney Cemetery – as are their 9 children.

Town: The Texas State Historical Association (TSHA) lists a Texas town called Linney Creek and states:

“The agricultural community was named for Michael Linney, who settled the area in the 1840s. Linney Creek is now within the Dayton city limits. ... Linney Creek was on the Texas and New Orleans Railroad five miles west of Liberty in southwestern Liberty County.”

Creek: If Linney Street traversed through the cemetery, it would cross Linney Creek – a stream that begins northwest of Dayton in the town of Martha near the track built for the Beaumont, Sour Lake and Western Railway in 1904. The creek traverses southeast through Dayton, crossing under FM-1008.

Subdivision: The Linney Creek subdivision runs parallel to the Linney Creek waterway near where it intersects FM-1008.

Streets: Linney Street refers to an east-west road that starts in west Dayton at Waco St. and ends at the Linney Cemetery. It intersects N. Colbert St. which ends there as well. Linney transitions from W. Linney to E. Linney at Hwy 321.

Linney Creek Drive is a main road in the Linney Creek subdivision that runs parallel to FM-1008.

Linney Lineage

Michael Linney was the paternal great-grandfather of Linney Cemetery's first evident interment, baby Joseph Linney.

Michael Linney (1800-1871) was born in Kentucky. His wife, Elizabeth Weeks (1808-1862) was born in Louisiana.

Michael and Elizabeth were married in 1826 in Catahoula Parish, Louisiana and were the parents of 7 children:

- John (1828-1902)
- Rebecca (1830-1885)
- Mary Jane (1832-1905)
- Elizabeth (1836-1870)
- Henry Edmund (1837-1918)
- Nancy (1841-?)
- Martha Ann (1842-1908)

Their eldest child, John, was the paternal grandfather of young Joseph Linney and father of 11 children including young Joseph's father, James Monroe Linney.

Michael Linney came to Texas with his family, brother Charles, sister Rebecca and his widowed father Henry Hugh Linney who had emigrated from Manchester, England and settled in Kentucky.

In Texas, the Linney family settled in East Texas' Ayish Bayou District (San Augustine County) and registered with the Mexican Government.

When the Texas Revolution became eminent, the family returned to Catahoula Parish in Louisiana where

the family patriarch, Henry Hugh Linney, passed away in 1834.

After the Texas Revolution ended April 21, 1836, Michael Linney returned to Texas and settled in Liberty County where he purchased land on the west side of the Trinity River near West Liberty.

He operated a ferry across the Trinity River, accumulated land, and ran cattle and hogs in the river bottom.

Michael and Elizabeth Linney were both buried at the French Cemetery in Kenefick. It was 9 years after Michael's death before their great-grandson Joseph died in 1880 and the Linney Cemetery was established.

- 1) Henry Hugh Linney (1776-1834)
- 2) **Michael Linney (1800-1871)***
- 3) Col. John Linney (1828-1902)
- 4) **James Monroe Linney (1856-1907)***
- 5) **Joseph Monroe Linney (1880-1880)***

*Gravesite in Dayton



Grave Marker – Michael Linney
French Cemetery – Kenefick

Making History

East Linney St. in Dayton comes to an abrupt halt at the intersection of Colbert St. where 2 cemeteries are found – Linney Cemetery to the left and Acie Cemetery straight ahead.

Up until April 2019, there were two entrances and a chain-link fence that had separated them for more than 100 years.

The separation was based on Linney being reserved for white people and Acie being reserved for black people.

The Linney Cemetery Association was formed in 1903 and its current President is Mike George.

The Acie Cemetery Association was formed in 1928 and its current President is Lynda Young.

Both association were struggling for funds and volunteers to maintain their association's cemetery. And both Presidents have relatives buried in their association's cemetery and are personally concerned.

The trigger was a suggestion by Dayton's City Manager, Theo Melancon, asking Young, "Have y'all ever considered teaming up?"

Following a discussion between George and Young, the idea was agreed upon by their respective association members.

The outcome was historic with the removal of the fence that separated the cemeteries and dedication of special county markers by the Liberty County Historical Commission.

Acie Cemetery

The Acie Cemetery was established in the late 1800s. It was named after Acie Richardson who owned adjacent property. He voluntarily cared for the cemetery during his lifetime.

Among those buried in Acie are veterans of World War I, World War II, Korean War, Persian Gulf War and peace time veterans. Other burials include clergy, educators, business owners, civic and fraternal leaders.

As with many older cemeteries, some grave markers are missing or degraded to the point they are no longer readable.

The oldest Acie grave marker identified is that of Malinda Palmer-Day who passed away on 3 Dec 1894 at age 38.

Melinda's husband was Henderson Day after whom Henderson Day Park on Luke St. in Dayton is named.

She was mother to his five children – Cora, Willie, Savannah, Etta, and Wesley. Acie is also the location of her husband Henderson Day's grave.



Historical Markers
Linney & Acie Cemeteries