NEW ALBANY
COMMUNITY CONNECTS US

CEMETARY RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 8, 2025

Call to Order:
The meeting was called to order by Chair Mary Fee at 3:34 p.m.

Roll Call:

Mary Fee, Chair	P
Ron Stoughton, Vice Chair	P
Thomas Shockey, Secretary	P
Victor Wilson	A
Diana Jacobs	P
Elizabeth Murch	P
Jeffrey Gastineau	P

Staff present: Clerk of Council Jennifer Mason, Public Services Manager Angie Hobart

Annual Organizational Meeting:
Elect Chairperson: Tom Shockey moved to re-elect Mary Fee as Chair. Elizabeth Murch seconded and all members voted to elect Mary Fee as Chair.

Elect Vice Chair: Elizabeth Murch moved to re-elect Ron Stoughton as Vice Chair. Tom Shockey seconded and all members voted to elect Ron Stoughton as Vice Chair.

Elect Secretary: Mary Fee moved to re-elect Tom Shockey as Secretary. Diana Jacobs seconded and all members voted to elect Tom Shockey as Secretary.

Approval of the February 25, 2025 meeting minutes:
Secretary Shockey moved to approve the February 25, 2025 minutes as submitted. Vice Chair Stoughton seconded and all members voted to approve the February 5, 2025 minutes.

Approval of the Agenda:
Chair Fee moved to adopt the agenda. Vice Chair Stoughton seconded. All members voted to adopt the agenda.

Hearing of visitors:
NONE

Other Business:
New Albany Cemetery – Historical Marker Application – special call box, bibliography, revisiting the marker text and statement of significance – putting it all together

Clerk Mason passed around the attached pages from the book History of Otterbein University provided by Keri O'Donnell. This source supported that Joshua Montgomery, whose footstone was documented in the New Albany Cemetery restoration, was a co-founder of Otterbein University. Clerk Mason stated she would work this source into the historical marker application.

Clerk Mason displayed on Mondopad screen what she had already entered into the on-line Ohio History Connection (OHC) historical marker application. Public Services Manager Hobart confirmed that she had sent back a required letter signed by Public Services Director Ryan Ohly regarding marker maintenance to Clerk Mason.

Clerk Mason explained that the application warned that artwork included on a marker could reduce the amount of text on the sign. She understood that the marker text would be worked out between the applicant and the OHC. She recommended submitting the photograph of Joshua Montgomery and, if the OHC reported back that text would be lost, the CRAB could opt to leave the photo out. She had entered May 17, 2027 as the dedication date which would traditionally be Founders Day in New Albany, and Rose Run II major construction should be done by that time. Manager Hobart agreed.

Clerk Mason opened up the Statement of Significance and asked if board members wanted to use the OHC recommended prompt, "This subject merits recognition of an Ohio Historical Marker because..." Member Jacobs suggested finishing with a line from the marker text, "This is the burial place of many of New Albany's founders and earliest settlers." Board members agreed it was a good summary and it was inserted into the statement. Board members discussed when New Albany was founded compared to other early Ohio municipalities. The board discussed the lack of primary source evidence for the vandalization of the cemetery, purportedly in the 1970s. The board agreed to say the cemetery was "greatly damaged," as that also encompassed the flooding. The board added a sentence stating Joshua Montgomery was documented as buried in the New Albany Cemetery. The board discussed how Otterbein had been referred to as both a university and college at different times in its history.

Clerk Mason opened up the proposed Historical Marker Text and reminded the board that the application instructions stated that the 125-word count was somewhat flexible. The board added a reference to Joshua Montgomery into the marker text. Clerk Mason noted that the CRAB Report to council in 2017 referred to, but didn't name the individuals buried in the cemetery. The marker text was updated to, "After extensive research and geographic imaging, the advisory board determined 126 individuals were originally interred here. It is believed 68 individuals are still buried in the cemetery." The board agreed to state that "many" headstones were repaired versus "several." Clerk Mason reported that city records did not show a commitment to recreate headstones. Headstone recreation was recommended by the CRAB, but council did not vote on that request. The board changed the line about recreation to, "Additional headstones may still be replaced because the originals were missing or could not be restored." The board agreed to delete a phrase about "neglect" as redundant to reduce the word count and to update the final number believed to still be buried in the cemetery per Dr. Jarrod Burks' April 8, 2025 email. Clerk Mason stated there were still some citations to add/update which she would do before submitting the application.

Clerk Mason opened up the proposed bibliography. It was essentially a cut-and-paste of the statement and marker end notes. She noted, other than adding a cite for Joshua Montgomery's involvement in Otterbein, it was done. She would review the citation formatting for consistency. Member Murch reported that Keri O'Donnell would be sending a citation for Joshua Montgomery's date of death. Staff and members discussed Ancestry.com and Fold3.com. Ms. O'Donnell provided a lot of the website-linked records in the bibliography.

Clerk Mason opened the Special Call box wherein applicants had to say why they fit this year's special call. She had typed out some ideas. She couldn't find more description or narrative behind the special call title: "Ohio Originals: Highlighting points of pride and unity." Board members discussed the patriots buried in the cemetery, the importance of New Albany in central Ohio, the families with many children who settled in New Albany, New Albany's status on the world stage as the "Silicone Heartland," intentional and planned community, the business hub, being designated one of the "best places to live," the pride of New Albany residents, New Albany's value of preservation, New Albany's design standards, growth from

humble beginnings to a technological, pharmaceutical, and industrial powerhouse, "manufacturing" versus "industrial" descriptors, corporations headquartered and located in New Albany whose taxes funded city services, active historical preservation, good wording found on New Albany-related websites, maintaining a small town character in light of significant economic growth, and commitment to honoring those buried in the New Albany cemetery. Member Murch suggested that the city's communications department draft the Special Call box wording using the ideas generated at this meeting. Board members were supportive of handing off the special call to the communications department.

Clerk Mason explained her plan to request 1-3 CRAB members to meet with her on the day of the application submission to the OHC. She requested someone(s) to help her with the materials and to make any final necessary decisions. Chair Fee and Member Gastineau volunteered to meet with Clerk Mason to do the final tweaks and submission on April 22 at 1:30 pm.

Chair Fee moved to approve the Statement of Significance, the historical marker text, the Special Call box starter text, and the bibliography as reviewed by the board that day or documents substantially similar thereto. Clerk Mason noted there would be tweaks between this meeting and final submission. Member Murch seconded. All board members voted in favor of the motion. Motion passed.

Schedule next meeting: Clerk Mason stated she didn't anticipate having work for the board for a few months. The board agreed to aim for fall, perhaps September/October, for their next meeting. Clerk Mason stated she would reach out when she received word about the New Albany Cemetery historical marker application.

Poll members for comment:
Members discussed the Wagnor Cemetery fence and landscaping status. Council was receptive to upgraded fencing along Central College Road. Clerk Mason reported and Manager Hobart affirmed that MKSK was working on Wagnor Cemetery plans.

Adjournment:
Chair Fee moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Murch seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 pm.

Signed:

_____
Chair Mary Fee

_____
Secretary Tom Shockey

2-2-26
Date

History of Otterbein University

the Church. The latter was one of the earliest, most trusted, and helpful associates in the work. The relation of these fathers to the educational work will be set forth later.

Formidable as the work of founding a college must have appeared to these fathers, yet they found it a much larger and more difficult task than they had anticipated when they undertook it. In their inexperience, their ideas of what constituted a college, and the amount of money required to establish and maintain it, were very inadequate. It is doubtless well that it was so, or they might have shrunk from the undertaking. The light came as they could bear it, and after they were committed to the work beyond honorable retreat.

It was at the General Conference which convened at Circleville, Ohio, in May, 1845, that the first official action in relation to founding an institution of learning was taken by the Church. This General Conference was the ninth in the history of the Church, the first having been held in 1815. The second was held in 1817, after an interval of but two years. Between this and all subsequent General Conferences there is an interval of four years. In the General Conference of 1845, nine annual conferences were represented by twenty-four ministerial delegates. There were also four bishops, Jacob Erb, Henry Kumler, Sr., Henry Kumler, Jr., (father and son), and John Coons, all of them from Ohio except Bishop Erb, who was from Pennsylvania.

As it is a matter of interest to know who the men were who first, in an official way,

16

Beginning of Higher Education

discussed and passed upon the subject of higher education in the United Brethren Church, their names and the conferences they repre-resented, are here inserted: Virginia Conference was represented by J. J. Glossbrenner, J. Mark-wood and J. Bachtel; Pennsylvania Conference

Beginning of Higher Education

discussed and passed upon the subject of higher education in the United Brethren Church, their names and the conferences they repre-resented, are here inserted: Virginia Conference was represented by J. J. Glossbrenner, J. Mark-wood, and J. Bachtel; Pennsylvania Conference, by John Russell; Allegheny Conference, by J. R. Sitman, J. Ritter, and John Reiter; Muskingum Conference, by A. Biddle, J. McGaw, and W. W. Simpkins; Wabash Conference, by John Hoobler, Josiah Davis, and John Denham; Scioto Conference, by J. Montgomery, E. Vandemark, and M. Ambrose; Sandusky Conference, by H. G. Spayth, George Hiskey, and J. Brown; Miami Conference, by George Bonebrake, F. Whitcom, and John Crider; Indiana Conference, by Henry Bonebrake and J. A. Ball. All these representatives have passed on to their reward, the last survivor, Alexander Biddle, having died at Galion, Ohio, in February, 1899.

It was Rev. E. Vandemark, a representative from the Scioto Conference, who brought the subject of higher education before the General Conference by offering the following resolutions:

Resolved, That proper measures be adopted to establish an institution of learning.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the annual conferences.

After earnest discussion these resolutions were adopted by a vote of nineteen yeas and five nays, as follows:

Yeas—J. J. Glossbrenner, J. Markwood, J. Bachtel, J. Ritter, J. R. Sitman, J. Reiter, Alex-

History of Otterbein University

ander Biddle, E. Vandemark, Joshua Montgom-
ery, Mathias Ambrose, H. G. Spayth, George
Hiskey, J. Brown, George Bonebrake, Francis
Whitcom, Henry Bonebrake, J. A. Ball, Josiah
Davis, John Denham—19.

Nays—J. McGaw, W. W. Simpkins, John
Crider, John Hoobler, and H. Kumler, Sr.—5.

9. <u>Statement of Significance</u>- (Explain *why* the person, place, event or thing to be marked deserves recognition on an Ohio Historical Marker.)

The New Albany Cemetery (1854-1881)
This subject merits recognition of an Ohio Historical Marker because this is the burial place of many of New Albany's founders and earliest settlers.

The earliest settlers of European descent came to Plain Township around 1800. It is believed the first real estate transaction in Plain Township took place that year. Dudley Woodbridge acquired 4,000 acres of the United States Military Lands (the southwest quarter of Plain Township) from the United States President John Adams.[1],[2] The earliest pioneers included Joseph Scott, John Huffman (also spelled Hoffman) and the Baughman, Hills, Byington, Waters, Yantis (also spelled Yantes), Williams, Kohn, McCurdy, Smith, Triplett, and Moore families.[3]

Plain Township in Franklin County, Ohio was organized in 1810. It included present day Jefferson Township until 1815 and Blendon Township until 1816.[4]

In May of 1837, Noble Landon and William Yantis, laid out the town of New Albany. The main road, High Street, was the boundary line between their two properties. While Landon and Yantis founded and platted the town together, they were not partners in their real estate venture. Landon owned the lots on the east side of High Street and Yantis owned lots on the west side. [5],[6],[7]

In 1838, the first post office was established in New Albany and the post office was called Hope. Noble Landon was commissioned as the first postmaster on May 15, 1838 and served until 1853.[8]

The oldest headstone in the New Albany Cemetery records the death of Anna C. Benedict, infant daughter of J.C. Benedict, who died on March 9, 1837. It is likely her body was reinterred in the New Albany Cemetery. [9],[10]

Elizabeth Yantis wife of founder William Yantis, died on January 12, 1849. She was buried on property owned by her husband. Her daughter-in-law, Amanda Alvina Closson Yantis and Amanda's son, William H. Yantis, were also buried on this property. The site of these burials was soon to become part of the "New Albany Cemetery." [11], [12]

On July 29, 1854, Jesse Kohn, an adjacent landowner, sold 0.20 acres to Township Trustees Jacob Ulry, Daniel Horlocker, and John McCurdy for $5.00. The deed specified that it was, "for the use and purposes of a graveyard or burying ground for the inhabitants of New Albany and vicinity." [13]

On August 14, 1854, William Yantis sold approximately 0.33 acres to the Township Trustees for the same purpose at a cost of $5.00.[14]

On January 4, 1855, Elizabeth Armold sold approximately 0.029 acres on the eastern side of the cemetery to the Township Trustees, to form the boundary of the cemetery. The sale price was listed as $1.00. With this sale, the total acreage of the New Albany Cemetery became 0.568 acres.[15]

In 1856, the Village of New Albany was incorporated.[16],[17] The location of the New Albany Cemetery was reflected on the 1872 map of New Albany, Ohio.[18]

Between 1855 and 1881, up to 126 people were buried in the New Albany Cemetery including Noble Landon and his wife, Lovisa Landon.[19] Noble Landon was not only the founder of New Albany and its first postmaster, he was a carpenter/homebuilder and a businessman. He established the first business in New Albany, "Landon's Corners," a local inn and restaurant, and donated land for the Methodist Church on the corner of Third Street and Main Street. Before founding New Albany, Noble Landon lived in Licking County where he was the first clerk and justice of the peace in St. Albans township. He was given the privilege of naming St. Albans township. He named it after St. Albans, Vermont, where he had lived as a boy. He had also served as the postmaster of Johnstown, Ohio for a time. [20], [21]

According to William Yantis' descendants, William Yantis was buried in the New Albany Cemetery, but there is no marker associated with his grave. It is logical to assume he would be buried with his wife, son, daughter-in-law, and grandson in the cemetery he helped found.[22], [23]

The headstones in the New Albany Cemetery contain the names of many of New Albany's earliest settlers: Beecher, Ulry, Phelps, Ogden, Ginn, Phelps, Mead, Landon, Yantis, Miller, Staffer, Robbins, Conkle, Benedict, Baughman, Boston, Campbell, and Kohn. Silas Ogden, who was elected New Albany's first mayor after the village was incorporated in 1856, was also buried in the New Albany Cemetery.[24],[25] Joshua Montgomery, a co-founder of Otterbein University, was buried here and his footstone was recovered.[26]

On November 16, 1881, Dennis and Ann Strait, Alexander and Cynthia Doran, and William F. and Lyana Taylor purchased 10 acres known as the "Jesse Kohn farm," about ¼ mile south of the New Albany Cemetery and established the newly-formed Maplewood Cemetery Association. The association later turned the new Maplewood Cemetery over to the Plain Township Trustees. Maplewood Cemetery was on higher land and not prone to flooding.[27] After Maplewood Cemetery was established, the New Albany Cemetery was no longer used.[28]

Between 1882 and 1884, 73 bodies were reinterred at Maplewood from other cemeteries in the area, and 58 of those bodies are believed to have been reinterred from the New Albany Cemetery.[29],[30]

By 1978, the New Albany Cemetery was greatly damaged. In 1979, the Franklin County Genealogical Society "read" the stones and reported "very few stones remain." The society recorded the names which were still visible. The society found and recorded 25 stones at that time. [31],[32]

In 2015, the City of New Albany formed the Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board to lead efforts to restore the cemetery.[33]

Between 63 and 83 graves still remain in the New Albany Cemetery.[34] Additional monuments have been requested for reproduction because the originals could not be restored or were missing altogether. [35]

[1] Bureau of Land Management, US Department of the Interior, General Land Office Records, Land Grant Patent dated April 22, 1800, Accessed March 28, 2025. https://glorecords.blm.gov/details/patent/default.aspx?accession=OH2100__.172&docClass=STA&sid=pakblkk3.jxi #patentDetailsTabIndex=1, includes related screenshots accessed February 26, 2025.

[2] Ed, Lentz. "As It Were." *This Week News, New Albany News.* October 8, 2015.

[3] Martin, William T. "Chapter XXI. Plain Township." In *History of Franklin County*, 220–25. Columbus, Ohio: Follett, Foster & Company, 1858.

[4] Martin, page 220.

[5] Franklin County, Ohio, Recorder's Office, Deed Book 17, Page 278

[6] Franklin County, Ohio, Recorder's Office, and Deed Book 41, Page 544.

[7] Burks, Dr. Jarrod and Pecora, Dr. Albert. "Rediscovering the New Albany Cemetery: Results of Recent Archaeological Investigations in a 19th Century Cemetery in New Albany, Ohio." Ohio Valley Archaeology, Inc. Contract Report 2016-6, (2016). Page 17.

[8] Martin, page 224.

[9] Burks, Dr. Jarrod and Pecora, page 17.

[10] Horns, Ryan. "Them Bones…" *This Week News, New Albany News.* Volume 8, No. 52. March 21, 2001.

[11] Ferguson, Nancy. "Addendum to Ohio Valley Archaeology Report." July 8, 2017.

[12] Burks and Pecora, page 17

[13] Franklin County (Ohio) Recorder Deed Book 56. Pages 396-398.

[14] Franklin County (Ohio) Recorder Deed Book 56. Pages 397-398.

[15] Franklin County (Ohio) Recorder Deed Book 56. Pages 397-399.

[16] Martin, page 223.

[17] Burks, and Pecora, pages 17 & 20.

[18] Franklin County Engineer, New Albany 1872 map.

[19] Burks, Dr. Jarrod and Pecora, pages 105-106.

[20] Saveson, John E., and Yantis, Richard P. *Founders of New Albany, Ohio: Noble Landon and William Yantis.* New Albany Plain Township Historical Society, New Albany, Ohio, 2003. Page 3.

[21] Martineau, G. "Landon's Corners Restaurant to open in former Gibby's site." The Columbus Dispatch. Dated March 31, 2010. Accessed March 28, 2025. https://www.dispatch.com/story/news/2010/03/31/landon-s-corners-restaurant-to/23211760007/

[22] Ferguson, Nancy. "Addendum to Ohio Valley Archaeology Report." July 8, 2017.

[23] Saveson and Yantis, page 23.

[24] Martin, page 223.

[25] Burks, Dr. Jarrod and Pecora, pages 26, 102-104.

[26] Garst, Rev. Henry, *Otterbein University, 1847-1907,* University Publications- Historical. 1907. Pages 16-18. Accessed April 6, 2025. https://digitalcommons.otterbein.edu./archives_garsthis/1.

[27] Keesee, Dennis, "History of Maplewood Cemetery," Plain Township, Ohio website. Dated April 11, 2002. Copyright © 2021 Plain Township. https://plaintownship.org/cemeteries/history-of-maplewood-cemetery/

[28] Burks and Pecora, pages 102-104, page 18.

[29] Death book and Record of Interments for Plain Township, New Albany, Ohio. 1882-1884, page 3.

[30] Doran, Alexander, "List of Re-Interments in Maple Wood Cemetery From Other Grave Yards, 1882-1883." Provided by Dennis Keesee, President of New Albany Plain Township Historical Society.

[31] New Albany News, "Village Cemetery remains buried." Volume 6, No. 7. (October 5, 1978).

[32] Franklin County Genealogical Society, Franklin County, Ohio Cemeteries, Blendon & Plain Townships, excerpts from Volume IV. Copyright © 1981. Page iii.

[33] New Albany City Council Resolution R-52-2015 (November 17, 2015).

[34] Burks and Pecora, pages 101 to 106.

[35] Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board Report and Recommendation. 2017. Presented to New Albany City Council on May 2, 2017. Pages 8 and 12.

As submitted to OHC on 4/22/25

SIDE A

This is the burial place of many of New Albany's founders and earliest settlers. [1,2] New Albany Cemetery was created in 1854 from land owned by William Yantis, Jesse Kohn, and Elizabeth Armold.[3] Buried here are William Yantis and Silas Ogden, veterans of the War of 1812, and Joshua Montgomery, co-founder of Otterbein University. [4,5,6,7]

Because Rose Run Creek often flooded the New Albany Cemetery, a better cemetery location was needed. [8] Maplewood Cemetery was created in 1881, a short distance south of here. [9] Approximately 19 people were reinterred from the New Albany Cemetery to the Maplewood Cemetery.[10] Not long after, the New Albany Cemetery was closed to new burials.[11]

By 1970, many monuments were broken, displaced, or missing and few records existed for the individuals buried in the cemetery. [12,13,14]

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(Word count: 131)

SIDE B

Continued from other side

In 1979, the New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society retrieved several monuments from the creek. [15] The Franklin County Genealogical Society recorded all legible names.[16]

In 2015, the New Albany Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board was formed to help guide the city's restoration of the cemetery.[17] After extensive research and geographic imaging, the advisory board determined 126 individuals were originally interred here. It is believed 68 individuals are still buried in the cemetery. The oldest headstone is from 1837, predating the founding of the cemetery.[18]

While many headstones were cleaned and reset, the remaining headstones were repaired and placed carefully where no existing gravesites were located. Additional headstones may still be replaced because the originals were missing or could not be restored.[19]

(Word count: 123)

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[1] Saveson, John E., and Yantis, Richard P. *Founders of New Albany, Ohio: Noble Landon and William Yantis*. New Albany Plain Township Historical Society, New Albany, Ohio, 2003, pages 32-35.

[2] Burks, Dr. Jarrod and Pecora, Dr. Albert. "Rediscovering the New Albany Cemetery: Results of Recent Archaeological Investigations in a 19th Century Cemetery in New Albany, Ohio." Ohio Valley Archaeology, Inc. Contract Report 2016-6, (2016), pages 101-106.

[3] Franklin County (Ohio) Recorder Deed Book 56, Pages 396-399

[4] Ancestry.com. US War of 1812 Pension Files 1812-1815. Silas Ogen Pension Papers. Accessed April 3, 2025. https://www.fold3.com/file/638280785/ogden-silas-us-war-of-1812-pension-files-1812-1815?terms=states,war,ogden,silas,united,america,1812,of

[5] Ancestry.com. US War of 1812 Pension Files 1812-1815. Yantis, William Pension Application. https://www.fold3.com/image/642910333/yantis-william-page-1-us-war-of-1812-pension-application-files-index-1812-1815?terms=william,united,yantis,america,states,yantis,%20william

[6] Garst, Rev. Henry, Otterbein University, 1847-1907, University Publications- Historical. 1907. Pages 16-18. Accessed April 6, 2025. https://digitalcommons.otterbein.edu./archives_garsthis/1.

[7] Ancestry.com. Scioto Conference Journal. Joshua Montgomery Obituary. Published September 16, 1870. Pages 126-127. Accessed April 8, 2025.

[8] Ferguson, Nancy. "Addendum to Ohio Valley Archaeology Report." July 8, 2017.

[9] Keesee, Dennis, "History of Maplewood Cemetery," Plain Township, Ohio website. Dated April 11, 2002. Copyright © 2021 Plain Township. https://plaintownship.org/cemeteries/history-of-maplewood-cemetery/

[10] Doran, Alexander, "List of Re-Interments in Maple Wood Cemetery From Other Grave Yards, 1882-1883." Provided by Dennis Keesee, President of New Albany Plain Township Historical Society.

[11] Burks and Pecora, page 18.

[12] Burks and Pecora, page 19.

[13] New Albany News, "Village Cemetery remains buried." Volume 6, No. 7. (October 5, 1978).

[14] Village of New Albany, Record of Proceedings, Council Meeting, Book 1970-1979. Excerpts regarding "old cemetery," pages 185-186 (July 24, 1974), page 244 (June 16, 1975), and page 245 (June 22, 1975).

[15] Horns, Ryan. "Them Bones…" *This Week News, New Albany News*. Volume 8, No. 52. March 21, 2001.

[16] Franklin County Genealogical Society, Franklin County, Ohio Cemeteries, Blendon & Plain Townships, excerpts from Volume IV. Copyright © 1981. Page iii.

[17] New Albany City Council Resolution R-52-2015. Adopted November 17, 2015.

[18] Burks and Pecora, pages 17 and 97.

[19] Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board Report and Recommendation. 2017. Presented to New Albany City Council on May 2, 2017.

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Special Call Box

AMERICA 250
"Ohio Originals: Highlighting Points of Pride and Unity."

Indicate relevance of your topic to the SPECIAL CALL.

New Albany started with humble beginnings in 1837. Recently, the city has featured on the national stage due to growth in technology, retail, logistics, pharmaceuticals, and manufacturing. Even with these changes, New Albany maintains its small town character. It has >> on preservation and celebration of its earliest citizens. Notably, participants in the war of 1812 and a co-founder of Otterbein University.

Participation in War of 1812. Founding of institution of learning. Intentional. Founders would be proud. The importance of preservation.

- Coming together to build a village – contributing to the growth of America
- Working together (then and now) to honor New Albany and Ohio founders and patriots
- Preserving family histories and sharing their stories
- Carry on traditions of being remembered and remembrance

Historical Marker Text

SIDE A

This is the burial place of many of New Albany's founders and earliest settlers. [1,2] New Albany Cemetery was created in 1854 from land owned by William Yantis, Jesse Kohn, and Elizabeth Armold.[3] Buried here are William Yantis and Silas Ogden, veterans of the War of 1812, and Joshua Montgomery, co-founder of Otterbein University. [4,5,6,7]

Because Rose Run Creek often flooded the New Albany Cemetery, a better cemetery location was needed. [8] Maplewood Cemetery was created in 1881, a short distance south of here. [9] Approximately 19 people were reinterred from the New Albany Cemetery to the Maplewood Cemetery.[10] Not long after, the New Albany Cemetery was closed to new burials.[11]

By 1970, many monuments were broken, displaced, or missing and few records existed for the individuals buried in the cemetery. [12,13,14]

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(Word count: 131)

SIDE B

Continued from other side

In 1979, the New Albany-Plain Township Historical Society retrieved several monuments from the creek. [15] The Franklin County Genealogical Society recorded all legible names.[16]

In 2015, the New Albany Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board was formed to help guide the city's restoration of the cemetery.[17] After extensive research and geographic imaging, the advisory board determined 126 individuals were originally interred here. It is believed 68 individuals are still buried in the cemetery. The oldest headstone is from 1837, predating the founding of the cemetery.[18]

While many headstones were cleaned and reset, the remaining headstones were repaired and placed carefully where no existing gravesites were located. Additional headstones may still be replaced because the originals were missing or could not be restored.[19]

(Word count: 123)

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[1] Saveson, John E., and Yantis, Richard P. *Founders of New Albany, Ohio: Noble Landon and William Yantis*. New Albany Plain Township Historical Society, New Albany, Ohio, 2003, pages 32-35.

[2] Burks, Dr. Jarrod and Pecora, Dr. Albert. "Rediscovering the New Albany Cemetery: Results of Recent Archaeological Investigations in a 19th Century Cemetery in New Albany, Ohio." Ohio Valley Archaeology, Inc. Contract Report 2016-6, (2016), pages 101-106.

[3] Franklin County (Ohio) Recorder Deed Book 56, Pages 396-399

[4] Ancestry.com. US War of 1812 Pension Files 1812-1815. Silas Ogen Pension Papers. Accessed April 3, 2025. https://www.fold3.com/file/638280785/ogden-silas-us-war-of-1812-pension-files-1812-1815?terms=states,war,ogden,silas,united,america,1812,of

Historical Marker Text

[5] Ancestry.com. US War of 1812 Pension Files 1812-1815. Yantis, William Pension Application. https://www.fold3.com/image/642910333/yantis-william-page-1-us-war-of-1812-pension-application-files-index-1812-1815?terms=william,united,yantis,america,states,yantis,%20william

[6] Garst, Rev. Henry, Otterbein University, 1847-1907, University Publications- Historical. 1907. Pages 16-18. Accessed April 6, 2025. https://digitalcommons.otterbein.edu./archives_garsthis/1.

[7] Ancestry.com. Scioto Conference Journal. Joshua Montgomery Obituary. Published September 16, 1870. Pages 126-127. Accessed April 8, 2025.

[8] Ferguson, Nancy. "Addendum to Ohio Valley Archaeology Report." July 8, 2017.

[9] Keesee, Dennis, "History of Maplewood Cemetery," Plain Township, Ohio website. Dated April 11, 2002. Copyright © 2021 Plain Township. https://plaintownship.org/cemeteries/history-of-maplewood-cemetery/

[10] Doran, Alexander, "List of Re-Interments in Maple Wood Cemetery From Other Grave Yards, 1882-1883." Provided by Dennis Keesee, President of New Albany Plain Township Historical Society.

[11] Burks and Pecora, page 18.

[12] Burks and Pecora, page 19.

[13] New Albany News, "Village Cemetery remains buried." Volume 6, No. 7. (October 5, 1978).

[14] Village of New Albany, Record of Proceedings, Council Meeting, Book 1970-1979. Excerpts regarding "old cemetery, " pages 185-186 (July 24, 1974), page 244 (June 16, 1975), and page 245 (June 22, 1975).

[15] Horns, Ryan. "Them Bones..." *This Week News, New Albany News.* Volume 8, No. 52. March 21, 2001.

[16] Franklin County Genealogical Society, Franklin County, Ohio Cemeteries, Blendon & Plain Townships, excerpts from Volume IV. Copyright © 1981. Page iii.

[17] New Albany City Council Resolution R-52-2015. Adopted November 17, 2015.

[18] Burks and Pecora, pages 17 and 97.

[19] Cemetery Restoration Advisory Board Report and Recommendation. 2017. Presented to New Albany City Council on May 2, 2017.

August 15, 2025

Jennifer Mason
City of New Albany
99 W. Main Street, PO Box 188
New Albany, OH 43054

RE: **NEW ALBANY CEMETERY** Ohio Historical Marker

Dear Jennifer:

Thank you for applying for an Ohio Historical Marker through the Ohio History Connection. We regret to inform you that your application was not among those selected to move forward during this year's marker cycle.

Our charge to represent all of Ohio through the marker program meant that we had to carefully weigh all applications by looking at the strength of the statement, the suggested text, the supporting materials, the region represented, and the range of topics represented. Every application—and we received over seventy—was carefully read by multiple reviewers and the decisions to accept or reject were made after much serious consideration.

Our reviewers were not convinced that your application met the special call and were a bit concerned that the story was too recent rather than focusing on the burials, the history of the cemetery, and its importance in New Albany. We would suggest reworking your text and resubmitting during an open call marker cycle.

Thank you for your hard work pulling together the application. Our next open call deadline is May 1, 2026.

Sincerely,

Laura

Laura Russell, Historical Markers Program Manager

From:	Laura Russell <lrussell@ohiohistory.org>
Sent:	Friday, August 15, 2025 5:28 PM
To:	Jennifer Mason
Subject:	Ohio Historical Marker application (New Albany Cemetery)
Attachments:	REJECT (New Albany Cemetery) 8-15-2025.pdf

Thank you for submitting an application to obtain an Ohio Historical Marker. I regret to inform you that your application was not accepted into the program this marker cycle. Competition was very strong this year with 76 applications and only 28 spots awarded. We sincerely thank you for your hard work putting together your application and for your patience while we made difficult decisions.

We know that every topic is important to the applicant and are sorry to disappoint you and your committee.

Please consider re-working your application and resubmitting in a future application cycle. Be sure to check "RemarkableOhio.org" for current applications and any special considerations for the upcoming application deadline.

Laura

Laura Russell, Historical Markers Program Manager
Community Engagement Department
Ohio History Connection | 800 East 17th Avenue | Columbus, OH 43211-2497
614-297-2360 office
lrussell@ohiohistory.org?

The Ohio History Connection mission is to *Embrace the present, share the past, and to transform the future.*