



*Cemeteries in English River Township, Washington County, Iowa. #50 - Middleburg; #51 - Richmond (public); #52 - Sharon Hill; #53 - Shiloh; #54 - Richmond (Catholic); #55 - Snider; #56 - Gingerich..*

This was one of the first townships settled and organized in the north part of the county. Although it was not formally organized until April, 1845, the first real estate transfer was executed and acknowledged before a justice of the peace, acting under appointment of the governor, on December 31, 1839.

The English River (from which the township received its name) runs through this township, from West to East on a very crooked course.

When the first settlements were made in the township the land had not yet been surveyed and there was much trouble among claim owners. Claims were jumped causing fights, and sometimes there was burning of claim cabins.

Three settlements were founded in the township: Richmond (laid out in the fall of 1840), Kalona, (laid out August 6, 1879) and Mid-

dleburg. Today, only Richmond and Kalona and remain.

Cemeteries in the township include:

Gingerich (Amish-Mennonite) - located in section 1. From Kalona and Highway 22, proceed north on Highway 1. Turn west on the first road, then north on the first road. The cemetery is about three quarters of a mile north, on the east side of the road between fields and in about 1 1/2 to 2 blocks. Easy access..

Snider - also located in section 1, in the northeast corner of the section.

Coffman - located in section 3, on the Mrs. Mary Manatt farm north of Kalona in a thick woods about 1/2 mile north of the road.

Sharon Hill - located in section 6. It was established in 1901 at the deah of John G. Myers on his own property north of the platted town of

Kalona. Thus began Sharon Hill which he had previously named and donated to the community. In 1903, the Sharon Hill Cemetery Association advised it was ready to sell lots.

Joseph P. Miller (possible also known as Moses Miller) - (Amish-Mennonite) - located in section 7.

Coffin - located in section 10

Middleburg - located in section 9. Travel east of Kalona on Highway 22 to Poplar Blvd. Cemetery is located on the left with access through a farm lawn.

Shiloh - located in section 19. Proceed south of Kalona on Highway 1 to the top of the long hill then turn east about 1 mile. Cemetery is located on the compound grounds.

Richmond (Public) - located in section 29, twp 77n - range 7-8 w.

This is about two miles south of Kalona on Highway 1, then 1 mile east on County Road G16. It is located at the east edge of Richmond, just east of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, on the south side of G16.

Richmond (Catholic) - located in section 29. Proceed east off Highway 1 on 140th Street for 2 miles. This will take you through Richmond, past the Holy Trinity Catholic church and the protestant cemetery next to the church. Continue down the road to the Holy Trinity Cemetery, located on the north side of the road.

Little history or information is available on the Coffman, Coffin, Snider and Miller cemeteries.

Townships and early towns often financed and created cemeteries for the burial of their residents. Many still do, but many cemeteries have disappeared or are no longer maintained.