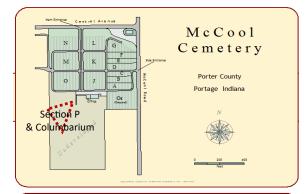
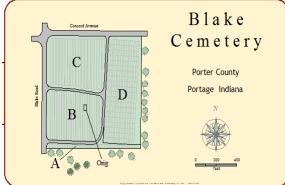


Est. 2014 at McCool Cemetery, Portage, IN





## **Cemetery Office Hours**

Monday - Friday 8:00a-3:30p

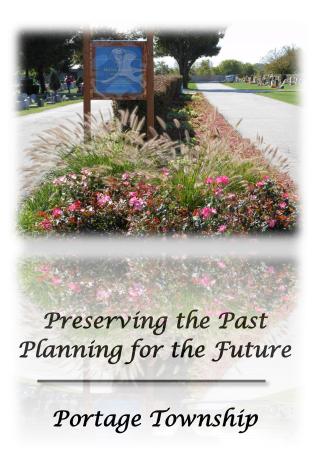
After Hour & Saturday Appointments
Available By Request

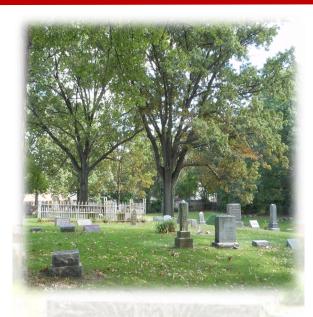


Brendan Clancy, Trustee Trey Rivas, Cemetery Director









Blake Cemetery, originally Jacob and Eleanor Blake's family homestead was established in 1843 after the loss of their infant daughter Caroline. Saddened by their loss, they buried her on a beautiful hillside on the family farm.

The same hillside adorns many tall oak trees. These trees have become home to two migrating broad-winged hawks for the past five years.

In 2009 Blake Cemetery was recognized as a State of Indiana Cemetery Registry of Historic Sites with the Department of Natural Resources. The James/Schrock Cemetery is a pioneer cemetery located along the Indiana Toll Road, east of McCool Road and behind the Pleasant Valley Trailer Park. Prior to 1900, the particular area was referred to as Joy's Run. The cemetery was established in 1838 and is named in honor of the Allen B. James family, original owners of the property, and the August Schrock family, later owners of the property.

This cemetery nearly became obliterated and removed when the Indiana Toll Road was constructed. The original survey plans for the toll road had the roadbed going through the cemetery. Mrs. Dave Magnuson of Chesterton protested the obliteration or removal of the cemetery and used a little known law to block the Toll Road



Commission from traversing the cemetery land.

Photograph published in the Chicago Sun-Times, May 28, 1954 [Photograph No. H-538]

## **GRAVE BLOCKS SUPERHIGHWAY**

Old cemetery on farm owned by Walter Schrock near Chesterton, IN., is blocking construction of Indiana's \$150 million toll road. A lone stand by Mrs. Dave Magnuson, 79, who refuses to move grave of her infant sister, may force state to spend \$100,000 rerouting the highway.

-Chicago Sun-Times, May 28, 1954.

Many descendants of Portage Township and surrounding communities have embraced McCool Cemetery as their family burial grounds. Established in 1852, the cemetery is rich in history.



Many war veterans have been laid to rest at McCool Cemetery including nine Civil War Veterans and two Spanish American War Veterans. Every Memorial Day their graves are adorned with American Flags.

The tallest of the headstones at McCool Cemetery is that of the Wolf Family. This family monument stands fifteen feet tall and is adorned by tulips and crocuses every spring.

In 2009 McCool Cemetery was recognized as a State of Indiana Cemetery Registry of Historic Sites with the Department of Natural Resources.