

girl scouts
of central indiana



**OLD UNION
CEMETERY**



Founded in 1825

I'm a caretaker

**Patch
Curriculum**

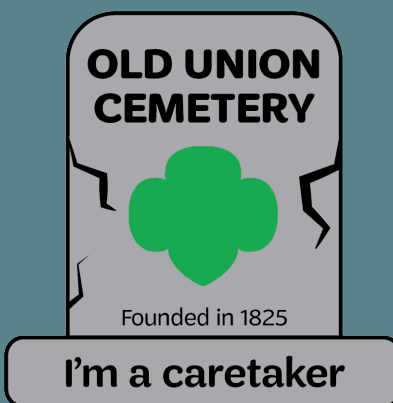
The Old Union Cemetery was founded by the Old Union Church congregation in 1825. As the years passed and the congregation dwindled, the cemetery remained. Now it's the oldest cemetery still in existence in Marion County. In 1917, the Old Union Cemetery Association was created to ensure the lasting memory of the church and burial ground.

In October 1990, the Old Union Cemetery Association dissolved due to a reduction in its membership. The cemetery property was then given to the Hoosier Capital Girl Scout Council. The cemetery is now going through a restoration to maintain and preserve it because it's an important part of Dellwood and Indiana history. By restoring it, we are able to keep it as a reminder of the people who are buried there, and the important lessons of diversity and inclusion that prevented others from being buried there.

Participation in this patch activity will help you learn the history of Camp Dellwood and discover all about cemeteries and their caretakers.

Steps:

1. Visit the cemetery
2. Headstone histories
3. Who is buried there?
4. Ceremonies
5. Become a caretaker



Purpose: When I've earned this patch, I will understand the history of the Old Union Cemetery, what it takes to care for a cemetery, and some of the history of the great state of Indiana.



Visit the cemetery

To learn its history, take a walk down to the Old Union Cemetery. Look around and note the things you see. How well is it kept up? What do the headstones look like? How is it different from modern-day cemeteries? Do one of the following:



Draw the cemetery.

Take time on your tour of the cemetery to sit down and draw what you see. Don't be afraid to get creative. For added fun, draw two pictures comparing what the Old Union Cemetery looks like and what cemeteries look like now.

Research fun facts.

This can be done individually or as a troop depending on access to technology. Use a search engine to look up interesting things about the Old Union Cemetery. Search ideas:

- Who made the head stones in the cemetery?
- Do different shaped headstones have different meanings?
- How does a restoration change the cemetery?



Make a bouquet for the headstones.

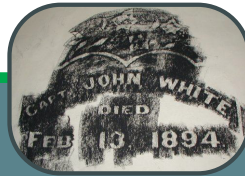
Be a part of restoring the cemetery! Take a walk through the Dellwood woods and pick up different flowers and leaves to make a bouquet. Remember to always be respectful of nature and try to only pick fallen flowers or leaves. Once you've made your bouquet, take a trip back up to the Old Union Cemetery and place your bouquet by the entrance or by one of the headstones. Discuss with your troop the importance of restoration.

Tip: Make sure to check with your leader before picking any leaves, you don't want to pick any poison ivy.

Headstone histories

In a cemetery, headstones are unique to each person buried there. They have different shapes, sizes, and materials. Most headstones stand upright and are usually made from granite, marble, or limestone. To learn more about headstones and their meanings, do one of the activities listed here:

Rubbing of the headstone.



Grab a piece of construction paper and a crayon. Place the paper on the front of a headstone. Take the crayon and gently rub the paper to capture the name and symbols on the headstone. Share with your troop your rubbings and explain why you chose that headstone.

Headstone symbols.



Usually headstones have different symbols on them. The different symbols each have a different meaning. Walk around the cemetery and pick a symbol from one of the headstones. Look at the list below to learn what the symbol means and of course share with your troop! If the symbol is not on the list below, then research what it means and/or make up a story of what you think it means.

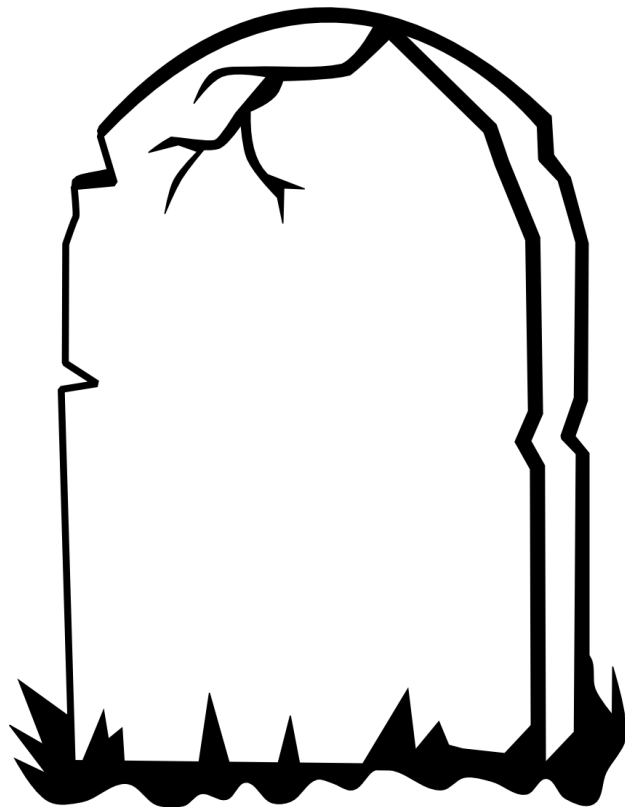
- The winged hourglass tells us that time flies, and the hourglass on its side indicates time stopping for the dead.
- A broken flower or tree symbolizes a life cut short.
- Hands in a prayer position can signify devotion, and a hand pointing down can indicate sudden death.
- A handshake can reflect the clasped hands of a couple to be reunited in death.

- The American flag, a symbol of courage and pride, is generally found marking the grave of a military veteran in American cemeteries.
- The anchor was regarded in ancient times as a symbol of safety and was adopted by Christians as a symbol of hope and steadfastness.
- Angels found in the cemetery are a symbol of spirituality. They guard the tomb and are thought to be messengers between God and man.
- A book found on a cemetery tombstone can represent many different things, including the book of life, often represented as the Bible. It can also mean the person was a scholar, writer, or loved learning.
- The dove is a symbol of resurrection, innocence, and peace.
- An oak tree, often represented as oak leaves and acorns, signifies strength, honor, longevity, and steadfastness.



Headstone epitaphs.

The quotes on people's headstones often represent a legacy they leave behind. Take a turn at writing your own epitaph to represent the kind of legacy you want to leave behind. Use the headstone template below to write and decorate yours and check out examples on the next page of famous epitaphs for inspiration:

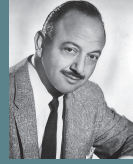


Headstone epitaphs.

Ludolph van Ceulen: “3.14159265358979323846264338327950288”. He was the first mathematician to calculate the value of Pi to 35 decimal places.



Mel Blanc: “That’s all, folks.” He was the voice of Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, and Porky Pig. They chose one of his most well-known lines to immortalize his legacy.



Martin Luther King Jr.: “Free at last, free at last, Thank God Almighty I’m free at last.” This is quoting one of the most famous lines from Dr. King’s “I Have a Dream” speech.



Susan B. Anthony: “Liberty, Humanity, Justice, Equality.” She is considered the co-founder of the women’s suffrage movement.



Who is buried there?

Now that you’ve visited the cemetery, it’s time to learn a little more about it. Think about who was and wasn’t buried there. Most of the people buried there attended the Old Union Church. That’s because they wanted their graves to be well preserved and near the church they had built.

One group of people who are not found in the cemetery are African Americans. The Old Union Cemetery Association stated in their bylaws, written in 1917, that African Americans could not be buried in the cemetery. It was wrong, but in 1917 America, Indiana and Indianapolis were segregated societies.

There were separate schools, churches, and cemeteries. It is important to learn how people of the past may have made choices that we of the present know to be wrong and hurtful. By knowing the past, we can do better. As Girl Scouts of the present, we know it is wrong to discriminate, and as an organization Girl Scouts is open to all girls. Be sure to check out section 6 (More Information) of this curriculum for a list of ways Girl Scouts have led the effort to be more inclusive. Do one of the following:



Create a story about someone buried there.

While walking around the cemetery, pick one of the names written on the headstones and look at any information about the person that might be on it (i.e. date of birth and death, quotes or sayings, if they are a father/mother/brother/etc.). Come up with a story about their life. How do you think they died? What kind of life did they live? Who were they? What did they do? Share with your troop.

Who isn't buried there?

An important thing to note about the Union Cemetery is that minorities were not allowed to be buried there. Discuss with your troop important figures in history who were alive during that time, and if they would have been allowed to be buried there. Discuss what other groups of people wouldn't have been allowed to be buried there.

Who's actually buried there?

To learn some of their history, start with these questions:

- How did they get there?
- What was their occupation?
- Who was their family?
- Did they live in Indiana their whole life?



Read the story of Jane Corbaley listed on the next page. Read the story as a troop and discuss.

Jane Barnhill was the eldest daughter, and the eighth of 12 children of Robert and Sarah Marvis Barnhill. She and her family, and her husband Jeremiah J. Corbaley were among the first settlers in Wayne Township, near what is now Indianapolis, Indiana.

In 1804, when Jane was only six, her family moved from Scott County, Kentucky, where she was born, to Butler County, Ohio. There she grew to adulthood, when she met and married Jeremiah J. Corbaley who had migrated from Maryland and worked as a teacher at the time. In March of 1820, she and her young husband, along with all of the Barnhill family moved to a new state by the name of Indiana where they settled in an area known as the New Purchase.

Indiana had achieved statehood only four years earlier, in 1816. Not two years after that, in 1818, the Delaware tribe had relinquished title to their tribal lands in central Indiana. The ceded lands (called the New Purchase) included the site which, five years later would be designated as the state capitol of Indianapolis. The main motivation for the Barnhill family's move was the opportunity opened in the area to purchase tracts of land in the New Purchase.

Being among the first white settlers in the area, the Barnhills and the young Corbaley's settled along the banks of Fall Creek near its junction with the White River, in what was soon to be designated Marion County. There, Jeremiah built a log cabin. In August of 1820, their first child, Richard was born. Richard had the distinction of being the first white child born in the New Purchase.

An outbreak of malaria took Jane's father along with several other settlers in 1821 just as the city of Indianapolis was being established. This prompted the families to move about nine miles west to an area that was less boggy. It was there, in Wayne Township, Marion County, near Eagle Creek, that the Corbaley's and Barnhill's finally settled and claimed their land.

Jane's husband Jeremiah set to work clearing land and planting the 160 acres he had acquired, and there, he and Jane raised their family. They had 10 children in all.

Jane's husband died in 1844 and was buried in the Old Union Cemetery in Marion County. Jane lived to be 72 years old and died in 1869. She was buried alongside her husband in the Old Union Cemetery.

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/190184648/jane-corbaley>

Ceremonies

Much like cemeteries, funerals have many traditions and ceremonies with specific meanings. Today they range from a memorial service or funeral service to a cremation or visitation. The Old Union Cemetery follows very Christian traditions since it was a part of the Old Union Church. To learn more about different funeral ceremonies, choose one of the activities below:

Other countries' ceremonies.

Funeral ceremonies are unique to different countries, cultures, and religions. For instance, a typical Norse funeral, otherwise known as a Viking funeral, consists of a funeral pyre on a boat. Research different cultures' types of funeral traditions. Share with your troop!

Tip: check out this clip from *How to Train Your Dragon 2* of a Viking funeral: <https://youtu.be/VcldajJZQU>



Make a candle.

The ritual of lighting a candle to pay tribute to a life 'passed' has long been a part of our culture. To find out how to make your own candle, take a look at the instructions below.

Materials: Mason jar, meltable wax, fragrance oil, wick, pot, knife, spoon

1. Have a parent or guardian help you cut the wax into small cubes if it is not already.
2. Place all the wax in a pot and ask for assistance from an adult to heat for approximately 10 to 15 minutes. Stir well.
3. This step is optional but if you choose to put fragrance oil in, put 3 to 4 drops and stir well.
4. Carefully hold the wick straight up in the mason jar as an adult helps you to pour the melted wax into the jar.
5. Let cool for 20 minutes or until completely solid.
6. Share your creation with friends or family!

Traditions.

Funerals in the 1800s were very different from what they look like now. They were held in the deceased person's home or in their church and were very public affairs. News would spread quickly of a death, and people would come and stop by their house to pay their respects. Funerals at funeral homes did not begin until after 1865. There were also a lot of traditions surrounding death.

Check out the list below to learn about some of them. Discuss with your troop any traditions you may have, and why you think these traditions existed for the people of Old Union Church.

- Someone had to always stay with the body of the deceased to ward off evil spirits.
- Clocks in the house had to be stopped or bad luck would fall upon the family's home.
- Mirrors were covered or removed out of fear if they saw the reflection of the deceased, they would die too.
- Family photographs were covered to prevent anyone in the photo from being possessed.



Become a caretaker

Cemeteries are a sacred place for many people and families. That is why being a caretaker of a cemetery is such an important job. They maintain the grounds and facilities, they fill the graves after a burial, and organize all the day-to-day operations. Now it's time to become a caretaker yourself! Do one of the following:

Cemetery service.



Brainstorm with your troop ways you could help take care of the Old Union Cemetery. Think of things like putting flags at the headstones of men who served in the military. Once you've thought of a way to become a caretaker, contact Mandy Montgomery at mmontgomery@girlscoutsindiana.org to make sure you can complete your idea.



Dellwood caretaker.

To learn more about the history of the Old Union Cemetery, do some research on who the caretaker is. The caretaker was once a part of the Old Union church but now the cemetery is owned by Girl Scouts. Why is it important that Girl Scouts of Central Indiana is the caretaker now?

Tip: Attending Camp Dellwood/completing this patch makes you a caretaker too!

Get to know a caretaker.

There are cemeteries in every community and being a caretaker is an important role in our society. Research other cemeteries near you and contact their caretaker. To get to know more about their role, try starting with these questions:

- What does your daily routine look like?
- How do you become a caretaker?
- What made you want to become a caretaker?

Now that I have completed this program, I:

- Know the history of the Old Union Cemetery
- Understand the inner workings of a cemetery
- Can share more information about Indiana history





More information



How Girl Scouts have been involved in making their communities more inclusive since the beginning:

- In 1912, Juliette Gordon Low founded Girl Scouts with an emphasis on inclusiveness, the outdoors, self-reliance, and service.
- In the 1920s, Girl Scouts expanded its reach by including girls and troops in China, Syria, and Mexico.
- In the 1930s, with a big wave of immigration, Girl Scouts started printing their “Who Are the Girl Scouts?” booklet in Yiddish, Italian, and Polish.
- In the 1940s, Girl Scouts expanded to Japanese American girls who were in internment camps.
- In the 1950s, Girl Scouts responded to the Korean War by continuing to press issues of inclusiveness and equality. In 1952, Ebony magazine reported that even in the south, “. . . Scouts were making slow and steady progress toward surmounting the racial barriers of the region.”
- In the 1960s, Girl Scouts held “Speak Out” conferences around the country to lend their voices to the fight for racial equality. They also launched the “ACTION 70” project to help overcome prejudice and build better relationships between all people.
- In the 1970s, Girl Scouts elected its first African American national board president, Gloria D. Scott.
- In the 1980s, Girl Scouts established the Daisy level for kindergarten-aged girls as interest in Girl Scouting expanded.
- In the 1990s, Girl Scouts started to tackle illiteracy with the Right to Read service project, which nearly 4 million Girl Scouts and leaders participated in.
- In the 2000s, Girl Scouts continued to emphasize inclusiveness by hosting a National Conference on Latinas in Girl Scouting. In 2005, Girl Scouts elected the first Hispanic woman as chair of the national board, Patricia Diaz Dennis.

Words to Know:

- **Epitaph:** The quotes, bible verses, or sayings engraved on a headstone.
- **Statehood:** The status of being a recognized state and part of the United States.
- **The new purchase:** A treaty that occurred in 1818 where the territory in Indiana was ceded by several Native American tribes to the United States as part of the Treaty of St. Mary's.
- **Ritual:** A religious or serious ceremony consisting of a series of actions performed according to a specific order.
- **Pyre:** A pile of burnable material a body is laid on during certain funeral ceremonies.
- **Sexton:** The office of the person who oversees the cemetery, commonly known as the caretaker.

Fun Facts:

- **Many gravestones face east.** This tradition was started by American settlers because they believed that if their feet pointed east and their heads pointed west, it would inspire their loved ones to rise up and face the sun in hopes they would be reborn.
- **Stones can reveal wealth or military affiliation.** Throughout history, wealthy families often opted for marble and granite, while others selected headstones made of sandstone, lime, or wood. Although most gravestone today are made of granite, government-issued military gravestones are uniform in design and made of marble, bronze, or granite.
- **Graveyard v. cemetery.** A graveyard adjoins a church, whereas a cemetery does not. You can also bury ashes in a cemetery.
- **Ice cream graveyard.** Ben & Jerry's has a "flavor graveyard" where there are tombstones for flavors that are no longer sold.
- **Bugs have caretakers too.** Ant colonies and beehives have graveyards and special "undertaker" ants/bees to collect the dead.

**CONGRATS ON COMPLETING
THE DELLWOOD CEMETERY
PATCH CURRICULUM!**

**COMPLETED THE PATCH?
GREAT WORK!
PATCHES ARE AVAILABLE
AT THE GIRL SCOUT SHOP**

**OLD UNION
CEMETERY**



Founded in 1825

I'm a caretaker