

Mayberry Township Veterans



By David Cantrell

4/29/2017

In Memory of My Grandparents: Flora and Wilson Mayberry

They lived in the former Mayberry School House from 1951. I mowed cemeteries in Mayberry Township with them for several years in the late 70's and early 80's. Flora's nephew, Gene "Stub" Stubblefield, a World War II veteran and member of the McLeansboro American Legion, would ensure flags were on the Veteran's Graves in Mayberry Township each year.

In 2010, after serving as a Naval Submarine Officer and Pentagon Information Security Consultant, I moved back to the Mayberry Township. I discovered that flags had not been consistently put on the graves in Mayberry Township after Gene had passed away in 2005. I purchased some and have placed them to honor the veterans since that time. One of my friends from New Mexico, Jim McCallion, an Air Force veteran, has also provided flags for this project.

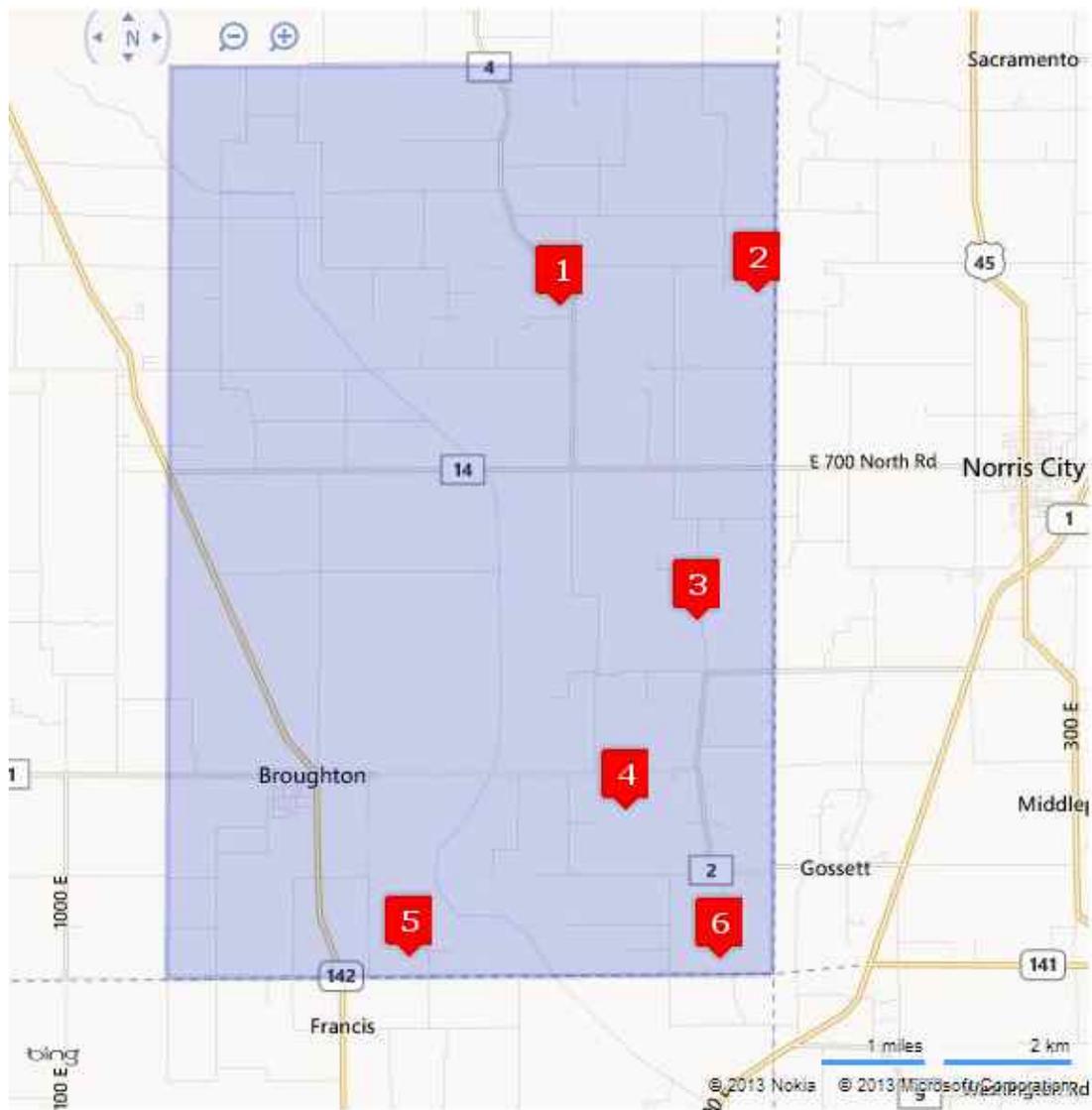
Since some of the monument inscriptions were fading, I decided to photograph them and record the GPS locations in the hopes that others will continue remembering veteran service at Memorial Day with flags.

The Mayberry Township board has been very supportive of the effort to honor veterans. John and Anna Lee Short have ensured the funds were available when new flags were needed. They have also coordinated with me to ensure the cemeteries are mowed before Memorial Day. Troy Mayberry has provided information that he had been given on burial locations.

John B. Mayberry, my great-great grandfather, served in the Civil War. His father, David Kambular Mayberry, served in the Black Hawk War. His father, Frederick Mayberry, II, served in the Revolutionary War as did his father, Frederick Mayberry, I, who is buried in Virginia. The rest of the Mayberry's mentioned above are buried at Big Hill or New Prospect Cemetery in Mayberry Township.

The veterans buried in Mayberry Township have been cataloged in this report and a website: <https://mayberrytownship.net>. The monuments have been photographed and GPS locations captured. Some of the inscriptions are difficult to read. Additional data was found in the following works:

1. 1985 Prospect Cemetery Inscriptions by W. E. "Ed" Shuster, McLeansboro, IL, provided by Troy Mayberry, Mayberry Township Cemetery Board.
2. Hamilton County, Illinois Cemetery Inscriptions, Volume I, Compiled by Mrs. Harriet Vaught, Indexed by Mrs. Harlin. B. Taylor, Printed by Decatur Genealogical Society.



These cemeteries have been indexed are:

1. New Prospect, GPS Coordinates:38.01345999352634, -88.419930031523108
2. Albion, GPS Coordinates:38.015339970588684, -88.383730016648769
3. Big Hill, GPS Coordinates:37.96829997561872, -88.394999988377094
4. North Fork, GPS Coordinates:37.940780008211732, -88.40775003656745
5. Gholson, GPS Coordinates:37.919879984110594, -88.44735000282526
6. Keasler, GPS Coordinates:37.919400036334991, -88.390599992126226
7. Wolfe – no longer an active cemetery accessible to public. Information for two veterans has been recorded. Unfortunately, no monument picture was available.

Information on veteran eligibility for a marker can be found at the Department of Veteran Affairs website <https://www.cem.va.gov/hmm>.

For guidance on obtaining a replacement headstone or marker, go to <http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/hmm/replacements.asp>.

The Memorial Programs Service Applicant Assistance Unit can be reached between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (ET), Monday through Friday, at the toll-free number: **1-800-697-6947**. Be sure to include the Veteran's name, social security and/or service number, and date of death.