

The Deppen Cemetery, Mt. Pleasant.

Approximately three miles southeastward from Bernville, not far from Mt. Pleasant is a little known burial ground which once was known as the Deppen Cemetery because the burial ground formed a part of the farm of Dr. Deppen. The entrance forms to the left of the highway which leads from Route 83 to North Heidelberg Church. Actually the entrance is the gateway to the first farmhouse along that route.

The last burial in this plot was seventy-five years ago in 1876. The inscriptions on many of the tombstones are now almost illegible. Fortunately, however, Michael A. Gruber copied some of these inscriptions more than forty years ago before the elements had obliterated many of the messages they carried. Since a number of the burials in the cemetery there were from Goshenhoppen and since other members of the families and relatives are buried here in Bally I have included this particular family ground.

List of Tombstones, Inscriptions in Deppen Cemetery.

Allwein, Elizabeth.....See Philipp Schmidt.

Deppen, Catharine, born October 1, 1837; died June 2, 1841; Dau. of Daniel

Deppen, Daniel, born Feb. 18, 1801; died May 12, 1863; married Catherine Smith.

Felix, Elizabeth.....See John Wummer.

Greth, Daniel, born Feb. 15, 1784; died Feb. 22, 1852; married Elizabeth Schmidt who was born March 4, 1781 and died Dec. 18, 1840.

Greth, Daniel, born May 26, 1806; died November 11, 1874.

Grath (Greth), David died 1849, son of D. and M. Grath.

Grett, (Greth) Elizabeth, born in 1755; died August 17, 1838.

Greth, Franklin Reuben, born August 19, 1851; died May 7, 1862. Son of Daniel and Mary Greth.

Grett, Magdalena.....See Philip Schmidt.

Grath, Sarah, old 14 W/ 1844.

Haag, Elizabeth.....see Joseph Obold.

Hetrick, Elizabeth.....See Philip Obold.

Kisling, John, born Sept. 14, 1801; died Feb. 1, 1847.

Kisling, John Sebastian, born January 31, 1773; died March 25, 1843; married in 1795 Catharine Schmidt who was born April 16, 1774; died April 9, 1825 with 2 sons and 2 daughters.

Kisling, Susanna, born April 22, 1842; died October 2, 1843; daughter of John and Catharine Kisling.

Kisling, William, born March 29, 1830; died Sept. 10, 1831; son of Jacob and Catharine Kisling.

Lambert, Jonathan, born December 15, 1798; died April 5, 1876.

Obold, George, born January 1, 1802; died February 20, 1854.

Obold, Joseph, born in 1762; died October 1824; married (1) Margaret (seems to be Rud or Rudt or Guds) with whom in wedlock 27 years; 4 sons and also 4 daughters; (2) Elizabeth Haag, 1 son; and (3) Margaret Obold, died in 1818 at the age of 47 years.

Obold, Philip, born November 10, 1796; died May 27, 1843; married in 1818 to Susanna Hetrick, in wedlock 24 years; 2 sons and 1 daughter.

Reber, Tillie, born November 3, 1864; died June 18, 1873.

Rick, George D. born September 7, 1853; died December 6, 1853; son of George and Mary Ann Rick.

Schmidt (Smith), Catharine.....see Sebastian Kisling and Daniel Deppen.

Schmidt, Elizabeth.....See Daniel Greth.

Schmidt, John, born March 6, 1812; died August 15, 1822; son of Philip and Madgalena Schmidt.

Schmidt, Magdalena.....See Adam Wummer.

Schmidt, Philipp, born August 12, 1747; died March 6, 1808; married Elizabeth Allwein who was born in 1742; died in 1814; in wedlock 37 years with 2 sons and 6 daughters. His wife had been the widow of Joseph Obold with whom in wedlock 6 years and had 2 sons.

Schmidt, Philip, born March 12, 1772; died October 21, 1813; married Madgaleda Grett in wedlock 13 years with 3 sons and 3 daughters.

Umberhauer, Samuel, born December 25, 1826; died January 13, 1844.

Wummer, Adam, born June 7, 1779; died November 18, 1854; married Magdalena Schmidt.

Wummer, John, born May 6, 1799; died January 20, 1866; married in 1825 to Elizabeth Felix who was born September 30, 1802; died February 7, 1835.

One Marker contains the inscription, "W.G. 1844."

Note: In 1940 a Mr. Clancy Lambert, who until recent years kept the graves clean, was interviewed. He was then past eighty years of age but he remembered the Catholic services in Mt. Pleasant. He told his interviewers that there are approximately twenty Irishmen who worked in the digging of the Union Canal who are buried there in unmarked graves. An epidemic, known as "canal fever" claimed many lives during the 1820's. See additional notes on Deppen Cemetery in Church files in office safe.

Additional information may be obtained from the writings of Leo Gregory Fink who wrote "Smith House and Deppen Cemetery at Mt. Pleasant" which may be found in Historical Review of Berks County; Vol. XXXIII. No. 1, pages 11 to 16 (Winter 1967-68 issue).

The above is only one of the many family cemeteries scattered over the countryside because between Oley and Kutztown there may be found as many as seventy-five family cemeteries. Some only had 6 burials on the family homestead and some ran as high as 100. Unfortunately I had neither the time nor the ability to go to all these cemeteries to see if former parishioners were buried there but undoubtedly many were.