

## Billy Morgan gravesite search

14 messages

**Jim and Bev Wiggins** <jimerly@embarqmail.com>

Sat, Jan 16, 2021 at 1:07 PM

To: "Ron.Lambert" <Ron.Lambert@elevatetextiles.com>

Cc: Dennis Brooks <jdenbros55@gmail.com>, Brantley Webster <bpfarms@embarqmail.com>, Warren Mitchell <warrendmitchellpe@gmail.com>

Dear Billy Morgan team--

I've added Warren Mitchell to this thread so you will all have the same information.

Ronnie noted that the gravesite location is described as being 3000 feet north of [the west end of] Gilmore Rd., but that the coordinates put it west of that. I noticed that as well. I have gone back to the paper records to see if any additional information is available there. The coordinates on Lamont's original data sheet (which someone else would have filled in, I'm sure), are exactly what we have in the current record and put the cemetery at the mark on the county GIS. However, I noticed that Lamont's original sheet describes the location differently. It says "100 feet west of a dwelling owned by Mrs. Ward." The oldest map layer available on the GIS is 1997. I can't see any dwellings. They could be there, of course, but just not visible. If Warren has found any traces of old dwellings, that would be a good clue. He mentioned an old roadbed or driveway. That could be helpful. Perhaps he can supply the coordinates for that, or show you all when you go out there.

There's also a topo map in the notebook with the cemetery location penciled in. That was done by Will Heiser when he was doing all of the cemetery work. Comparing that map with the topo on the GIS, it appears to me--just estimating the coordinates from the GIS--that more accurate coordinates would be 35-51-44.7 79-08-58.38. Caution--all of this is really rough. We are working with small maps, so the tiniest fraction of an inch changes the coordinates a lot. The main point is that the X on the map seems to put the gravesite a bit east of where we currently indicate it--and that meshes with Ronnie's observation that it is a bit west of how it is described. It is unclear that Will knew the location of the "dwelling owned by Mrs. Ward" when he plotted this. He might have. I'm sure he changed the description so that there would be a reference to a landmark shown on the map. I will attach a scan of Will's map so you all can play with this and see if you come up with something different. Perhaps Warren can have his cultural resources consultant do a more intensive search in the area suggested by this info, as well as near what might have been any structures on the parcel.

New coordinates will give you another place to look. However, sometime after 1997 and before 2002, a gas line was put in through the parcel in question (90267) and my new guessed-at coordinates put the gravesite just a tad to the west of it. It could have been in the path of the gas line. I hope not! And the area east of the gas line has been logged, so that's scary, too.

I have looked up some info about Billy Morgan, none of which will help find his gravesite. I will write up a fact sheet and share it with you in the next few days just in case you are interested.

I will let you know as soon as I get any info from Britt Norwood. He said he has already checked with several people with no luck yet, but has a few more in mind to ask about it.

Thanks,  
Bev

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ron.Lambert" <Ron.Lambert@elevatetextiles.com>

To: "jimerly" <jimerly@embarqmail.com>

Cc: "Dennis Brooks" <jdenbros55@gmail.com>, "Brantley Webster" <bpfarms@embarqmail.com>

Sent: Friday, January 15, 2021 9:03:55 PM

Subject: RE: CSA question-- can you help?

Sounds like a plan. Guess we need to pick a day this winter that fits everyone's schedule. Anyone that knows the area would be a great help. Yes, please keep us informed what Britt Norwood finds out.

Another issue I noticed was the gravesite location description has it 3000 feet north of Gilmore Road. The coordinates show the gravesite due north of Emily Lane.

Best wishes taking care of your parent.

Thanks,

Ronnie

-----Original Message-----

From: Jim and Bev Wiggins <[jimerly@embarqmail.com](mailto:jimerly@embarqmail.com)>  
Sent: Friday, January 15, 2021 8:49 PM  
To: Ron.Lambert <[Ron.Lambert@elevatetextiles.com](mailto:Ron.Lambert@elevatetextiles.com)>  
Cc: Dennis Brooks <[jdenbros55@gmail.com](mailto:jdenbros55@gmail.com)>; Brantley Webster <[bpffarms@embarqmail.com](mailto:bpffarms@embarqmail.com)>  
Subject: Re: CSA question-- can you help?

Thanks for your willingness to help with this. Dennis and Warren Mitchell now have each other's contact info and Warren has invited you all to walk the property with or without him. I worked with him on another property he developed and found him willing to do the right thing.

I've also contacted Britt Norwood, who knows that area and most of the older folks around there. He's asking around to see if he can find anyone with more info. I'll let you know if I learn anything.

If y'all go out walking to look for Billy, please take some photos that we can share to let people know of your efforts and maybe encourage others to help locate other gravesites. Wish I could go with you, but I'm avoiding everyone except my very small bubble, trying to keep my folks (ages 96 and 101) safe.

Thank you!  
Bev

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ron.Lambert" <[Ron.Lambert@elevatetextiles.com](mailto:Ron.Lambert@elevatetextiles.com)>  
To: "jimerly" <[jimerly@embarqmail.com](mailto:jimerly@embarqmail.com)>  
Cc: "Dennis Brooks" <[jdenbros55@gmail.com](mailto:jdenbros55@gmail.com)>, "Brantley Webster" <[bpffarms@embarqmail.com](mailto:bpffarms@embarqmail.com)>  
Sent: Wednesday, January 13, 2021 9:06:57 PM  
Subject: RE: CSA question-- can you help?

Hey Bev,

I copied Dennis on this reply so you'll have his new email address.

It's unfortunate that this CSA veteran's gravesite can't be located. Only one grave sure makes it hard to find even if the coordinates were correct or close. With the amount of text on the marker, it should be of descent size. Since it doesn't have dates, it won't be a Confederate marker. I assume that you, Jim & others have done a thorough search of this area. Have you been there at different times of the year? How about during the winter when the underbrush foliage has died down vs. the summer time. Of course, the fallen leaves can make the marker harder to see along with possibly falling over or being pushed down.

I see that J. Lamont Norwood canvassed the grave in 1991. I found where James Lamont Norwood died in 2005 & is buried at Mt. Pleasant UMC, Pittsboro. Lamont Norwood Road is just south of Gilmore Road (Gilmore Road becomes Emily Lane). According to the county GIS, there's only one parcel on Lamont Norwood Road that is owned by a Norwood. It's owned by James Norwood. I can only assume that he's the son of James Lamont Norwood. James doesn't live there but does lives nearby at 35 Norwood Road, Chapel Hill, NC which intersects Manns Chapel Road. I wonder if he would know where William Morgan's grave is?

Dennis & Brantley...any ideas? Our roster only has name, rank, company, unit & born date.

Thanks,

Ronnie

-----Original Message-----

From: Jim and Bev Wiggins <jimerly@embarqmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, January 7, 2021 2:03 PM

To: Ron.Lambert <Ron.Lambert@elevatetextiles.com>

Subject: CSA question-- can you help?

Hi Ronnie and Dennis--

(I don't have a current email address for Dennis--please share this with him. Thanks!)

CCHA has the estimated location of the gravesite of William "Billy" Anderson Morgan in Baldwin Township on a parcel scheduled for development. Recent efforts to locate the gravesite have been unsuccessful. It's possible that the estimated location is off enough to put the grave on another parcel, but if the grave is out there, I'm hoping we can locate it so it can be protected. If you or anyone in your group has any info that might help, please let me know. What we have in our records is pasted below. Thanks, Bev Wiggins

052 MORGAN, WILLIAM [D17.1]

Location - Baldwin. 3,000 feet north of west end of SR 1535, Gilmore Road

Coordinates: 35d 51m 44.0s N; 79d 09m 09.0s W [Click here for Online Maps](#)

Reported by J. Lamont Norwood, 27 March 1991.

Topo Quadrant: Bynum.

Family owned: Yes.

Abandoned: Yes.

Number of graves: 1.

White: Yes.

Restricted access: Yes. Private property Well maintained: Yes.

Enclosed: No.

Markers: Yes.

Markers with inscriptions: Yes.

Number of readable markers: 1.

Last burial: 1900.

First burial: 1900.

Markers damaged: Yes.

Hazards: None.

Miscellaneous information: There are no dates on stone. Dates obtained from a relative..

Last canvassed by: J. Lamont Norwood. Date: 27 Mar 1991.

Morgan, William "Billy" Anderson (b. 25 Mar 1825 - d. 15 Dec 1900)

Only words on stone are: W.A. Morgan, Company D, 61st NC Infantry, CSA. A descendant of his brother filled in birth and death dates. He was called "Billy".

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Jim and Beverly Wiggins  
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**Will Heiser map showing Billy Morgan gravesite001.jpg**  
4306K

Mon, Jan 18, 2021 at 11:56 AM

**Warren Mitchell** <warrendmitchellpe@gmail.com>  
To: Jim and Bev Wiggins <jimerly@embarqmail.com>  
Cc: "Ron.Lambert" <Ron.Lambert@elevatetextiles.com>, Dennis Brooks <jdenbros55@gmail.com>, Brantley Webster <bpfarms@embarqmail.com>

Good morning:

I am glad to meet any of you at the property to look for this grave. You can get close by using this map. The road is a new paved road that we just constructed. It is called Morgan Ridge Way but there is no sign yet. Just let me know when is a good time for you.

Thanks,

Warren Mitchell  
919-593-1916

On Sat, Jan 16, 2021 at 1:07 PM Jim and Bev Wiggins <jimerly@embarqmail.com> wrote:

Dear Billy Morgan team--

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