

SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP (Map Ref: 2)

Location: Part NE 1/4 NE 1/4 Sec 35. On the South side of U S. Rt. 6 and a few hundred feet west of SR. 66 on the SW corner of the intersection.

Name: Scheer, Zion. Benner*

This cemetery is one of the cemeteries referred to in the introduction as being named after a church and carries the name of a family who had no actual dealings in ownership of the land the cemetery lies upon. According to legal records the Scheer family lived directly across the road from the cemetery for many years before and after the cemetery came into existence. Either due to the Scheer family's long time residence or their possible association with the Zion Church, the cemetery became known also as the Scheer Cemetery.

DEED HISTORY:

U.S. Patent to James Wadsworth E 1/2 Sec. 35 160 acres. Vol. 129 p 294. Deed dated Mar. 18, 1837.

James Wadsworth to Samuel Benner NE 1/4 Sec 35, 160 acres. \$560 00. Vol 11 pp 347. Deed dated Nov. 01, 1851.

J.H. Benner to A.D. Benner, quit claim deed, E 1/2 N 1/2 NE 1/4 Sec. 35. 40 acres, \$1.00. Vol. 73 pp. 414, Deed dated Jan 05, 1895

Anson Benner to Mt. Zion German Reformed Church fraction part NE 1/4 NE 1/4 Sec 35, \$100.00, 50 5/8 sq. rods, Vol 77 pp. 485, Deed dated Aug. 04, 1897. THIS DEED DOES NOT MENTION A CEMETERY, HOWEVER IT IS ASSUMED THE CHURCH TOOK OVER THE APPARENTLY ALREADY EXISTING CEMETERY. SEE BURIALS.

A. Benner to Geo. L. McDaniel E 1/2 N 1/2 NE 1/4 Sec. 35, 40 acres, \$1500.00, Vol. 81 pp. 19, Deed Dated Sept. 02, 1899.

A couple of early burials in this cemetery are those of Conrad Buehrer (D: Mar. 7, 1888), Charles Buehrer (D: Mar. 10, 1879), and Frank Imthurn (1875-1879). Although a deed has not been located for this cemetery, it is obvious burials were occurring several years before the property was donated to the church.

The cemetery was apparently considered insignificant as no notation that a cemetery exists was made on the 1864 Wms. Co. Map, or the Wms. Co 1874, 1894 or 1904 Atlases. After the abandonment of the Zion German Reformed Church, this cemetery was turned over to the Springfield township trustees.

*The term Benner Cemetery was coined by this writer as he was the original owner and donor of the land the cemetery lay on