

Stones at Warren Union Cemetery by Wesley Arnold humble historian page 3109 The officers of the Warren Hysterical Society who have appointed themselves cemetery Gods and in 2011 passed rules in which they claim the right to remove any gravestone they do not like without notice, without public hearing, without vote of Village Commission and without vote of their membership. They were behind the stealing 5-7 or more memorials worth a total of several thousand dollars.

We veterans condemn these disrespectful acts which disrespects men who died and or served their country. We feel that they did this because they could not take credit for the stones. And they like to take credit for everything historical. They were also upset because the historian was quoted on two of the stones. It appears to be a power thing and this social club wants to take credit for everything historical in this city. They are really a social club and do very little research. They put out a history book that totally ignored our soldiers and veterans. They removed/stole at least four soldier memorials from Warren Union Cemetery. The police do not know what to do about this. But us veterans are gathering forces to sue them.

See their new dictated rules. I am a member of the Warren Historic Commission and a copy of this was given to us. One rule states all stones must have a 42 inch deep foundation using 5-6% aerated concrete. This means that a simple four inch flat headstone requires this huge unreasonable foundation which in several cases will mean that creating it may actually desecrate remains because in the old days not all remains were buried below this level. Even today the top of a vault is often only about four feet down. What if a baby is buried on top of this? And there are often shallow graves in old cemeteries. Remember these were dug by hand, often in bad weather sometimes with rain partly filling the grave hole. If the body had an infectious disease or the family was ill or weak or if the ground was frozen or if it was pouring rain all of that influenced how deep the grave was dug. More than one person including a sexton informed me to be careful in digging around in cemeteries because in a few cases the remains were not far below the surface. Remember this is not a modern commercial cemetery where commercial mechanical diggers do the hard work. Rather this is a rural farmers cemetery. The new unnecessary rules do not even allow people to leave a flower on a stone or grave without a receptacle. This is unreasonable to loved ones and creates unnecessary work for me a caretaker. We don't need more plastic glass and metal things blowing around to get cut up by the mower and create sharp fragments that can injure children and hurt feet.

If they are so concerned about foundations there are many stones that have fallen over (like Metro which may weigh half a ton) and some that are on the verge and they have done nothing about this. I brought this to their attention over a year ago and even suggested they have a company fix a few of the taller monuments that are teetering on the verge of falling over and possibly hurting someone especially children who lean and may pull on them. A child could actually be killed there it is so dangerous. I met a man there who had two legs broken by a falling stone there when he was a child. But they have ignored my warning.

The people responsible for the records were negligent in their duty and responsibility. This is most disgraceful. This is absolutely inexcusable. And it is even more so for a local historical society that has been around for a very long time to not to have pursued the gathering of records and now for their actual selling or disposing of memorials placed in this cemetery by families in memory of their loved ones. They all seem like nice persons. But their their ignorance of research by my myself and others leading to the stealing of the only Soldiers Memorial naming many buried here, and the Unknown Soldier memorial, and the Memorial to all Soldiers and those Killed on Attacks on our Country, and the stealing of the Flag Memorial and the Children and Pioneers Memorial and most recently of several other memorials now perhaps even including Epitaphs and markers is criminal (grand larceny), disrespectful, destructive of history and inexcusable.

And as a soldier and veteran when one considered what soldiers have had to go through in war

and that many of them died and to have someone who has never fought for our country steal a soldiers memorial they do not own out of a cemetery they do not own. We veterans have to stand up and say this was wrong. As a soldier and veteran I will work until I die to respect our soldiers and their honor. But I am old and in poor health and all I can do is write books and speak to people because it seems no one cares. We soldiers die to secure your freedom and low lifes like these rip out our gravestones and destroy our history. We veterans fully earned the right to speak for these Warren boys who served our country.

We feel ripping out soldiers memorials is desecration and treason and those who stole them should have to replace them.

See the names and details of the soldiers of Warren Union Cemetery in the other books.

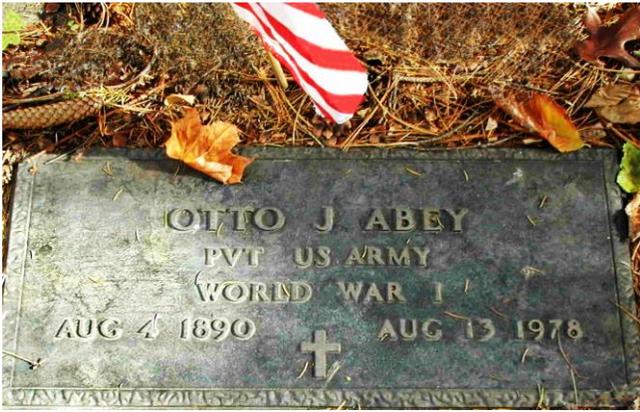
Unfortunately I did not get pictures of some of the stones that were stolen by this Warren grave robbing society. I know there was a beautiful epitaph stone. Must have been expensive. It is now gone.

There are probably other stones that have been stolen. I have had leg problems and have not rewalked the cemetery to see what stones are missing. . So If I was unable to write down or photograph what was on the stone I can not report it in this history book. What a shame that in the nearly 170 years that this cemetery has been here families can no longer safely place stones in this Warren Michigan Cemetery. Warren Michigan is becoming known as the only city that allows people to steal stones out of its cemetery.

Note some pictures of tall stones have been shortened and or cropped. Usually all readable words are shown. To see the base uncrop the picture.

What is the code at the end of each name? That is the code for the first stone in the row where that stone is located followed by the row number. **If the stone has been stolen by the Warren Hysterical grave robbing society there will be no code following the name.**

Warren Michigan is the only city that allows people to steal memorials out of its cemetery and does not prosecute them. In 170 years families can no longer place memorials in our cemetery for fear that they will be stolen. And this is being done by people who are supposed to be protecting our history not selling or trashing it.



Hugh Alexander



Franklin Ames



A Mable



Milo, Cordlia w Ames



Elton Ames + Ames big



Willie Ames