

APPENDIX H: Former Comb Cemetery Inventory

Cems which once had combs, but which no longer do: 45 – 44 in TN, 1 in KY.

(If 13 possible ex-comb cemeteries—indicated below by *-- are included, the ex-comb cemetery total = 58.)

Cems from which all combs lost since first visited: 19 – 18 in TN, 1 in KY

UID = Unidentified cemetery, no basis on which to name.

QUAD CEMETERY

Alpine Q:

*Allison (Winton) Cem. —recorded on original comb survey as a comb cemetery; no combs extant in 2013 and caretaker claims there have never been combs here.

*Wm Ledbetter Cem --possible ex-comb cem

Robbins Cem. --about a mile SW of Bolestown Ch. (combs when originally visited; as of 6/2013 6 ex-combs, all slabs laid flat)

Bald Knob Q:

Dodson Rd. Cem. near old distillery: at least one comb present when first visited (1960s?); cemetery completely gone by 2002.

Earls Cem. No. 2 --1 ex-comb + 1 prob ex-comb; recorded in Pollard (2003) as having 5 combs, but none were present in 2018.

Haston Cem. —2 children's ex-combs

Moon Cem.--1 or 2 ex-combs: several sandstone comb slabs, representing at least two combs, visible when first visited; not as many slabs visible when revisited in 2014; slabs gradually being buried. Mr. Rogers, 95 yrs. old in 2013, said these stones have lain here as long as he can remember, but he has no memory of them as intact combs.

Baxter Q:

Maxwell Cem. (in Baxter) --1 child's ex-comb indicated by paired gablestones and a probable 2nd ex-comb indicated by a single gablestone beside the first pair.

Halfacre Cem.-- at least 1 sheet metal ex-comb when first visited; collapsed as of 2010.

Burgess Falls Q:

West Cem.— no extant combs; 1 for certain ex-comb, to possibly as many as 4.

Burristown Q:

Hall Cem.—no extant combs, but one when first visited; dismantled as of 2012.

Campaign Q:

Len Cantrell Cem. --no extant combs, but Ronnie Cantrell (current landowner, who is very familiar with comb graves) states that Jerry Wright, who was born in a log house very near this cem, told him there were combs present until the property was bought by a developer prior to Cantrell's ownership; the developer took the stones for use elsewhere; broken slabs still lie beside the cem.

Cassville Q:

Baker Cem. east – no extant combs, but 4 ex-combs + 1 possible ex-comb.

Mt Zion Cem -- all that remains is a gable stone and a remnant of a side slab from a small comb (probably a child's comb) crudely made of shaly rock; counted as an ex-comb cem due to scant remains

Cookeville East Q:

Campbell-Bohannon Cem. -- 4 or 5 combs photographed in 1979; all gone when revisited in 2012.

Mathis-Hunter-Patton Cem 36 11 48.2 85 36 50.8 1 ex-comb, a sheet metal matrimonial comb erected ca 1922, extant and photographed by Brent Cantrell in Apr. 1981, but now (2021) gone without a trace.

Phillips Cem.-- combs present when first visited in 1970s; all combs gone as of 6/2012; reportedly removed by family members who feared vandalism.

*Salem Church Cem. – no extant combs, but 3 probable ex-combs.

Cookeville West Q:

Cooke Cem.-- at least 1 comb present when first visited; no trace in 2012.

Crossville Q:

*Crossville City Cem. – no extant combs; 2 possible ex-combs.

Dale Hollow Reservoir SE Q:

*Hummel Cem.—features one grave originally covered by sandstone slabs, now collapsed; impossible to tell whether it was a comb or a box grave; slabs are thin, like comb slabs, but there are no gablestones; had a large vertical rectangular stone at one end, now broken off; stone at opposite end too broken up to know original shape, but certainly not a gablestone; landowner of more than 40 years believes it was a comb, and says it was more “teepee” like years ago, but has continued to collapse.

Old Bethel Cem.-- combs when first visited; none in 3/2013; present groundskeeper says there were originally at least 2, possibly 3, that they were in poor condition and former groundskeeper (now deceased) took them down.

Doyle Q:

*Abel Hutson Cem.--remains of one pos. comb, cannot tell for sure

Earls Cem No. 1 – reported in Pollard (2003) to contain 2 combs, but only shattered slabs & 1 uprooted headstone remained in 2018; appears to have been deliberately destroyed.

Rock Island Cem.– no extant combs, 2 ex-combs

UID destroyed cem – no visible sign of any graves; formerly a small cem with 2-3 combs; deliberately and completely destroyed by landowner. Source of information: Mr. David Cook, local historian and cemetery restorer who was personally familiar with this cem. Also: Dr. Margaret Rhinehart recorded this cemetery in her compilation of Van Buren Co. cemeteries as an unidentified Sparkmantown cemetery formerly with 3 comb graves.

Dry Valley Q:

*Board Valley Free Will Baptist Church Cem. –no extant combs, but there are Numerous “arrowhead” style headstones which generally occur with combs; however these are not paired with matching footstones, so they may never have been associated with combs.

*Key Black Cem. --possible ex-comb cem: reported in Pollard (2003) to contain 1 comb, but no evidence of any comb remained in 2018.

Robinson – Stallion Cem. — no extant combs; 9 or more ex-combs.

Whiteaker Cem.-- 2 ex-combs, completely collapsed; dismantled in 2013 during construction of new home; owners stated (in 2014) that they intended to restore the combs; they eventually re-set the headstones but not the combs, instead using the broken side slabs in a small patio.

Hilham Q:

Campground Cem. --ex-comb cem, based on the presence of two triangular stones, apparently comb gable stones; were these two stones in line it would be obvious that they represented a single former comb; however, they are side by side and it is uncertain if they are remnants of two dismantled combs or one that has been redistributed to mark two graves; the logical interpretation in either case is that this cemetery once had at least one comb.

Spicer Cem. –ex-comb cem, based on a photograph taken between 1905-1935 that shows a tall comb in this cem, covering the grave of L. B. Dale. This comb was removed long ago; no physical evidence of it remains at the grave today.

Hillsboro Q:

Lambert Cem. – no extant combs; 1 sheet metal comb photographed by Ball (1977).

Livingston Q:

Ben Allen grave, one lone comb grave stood 2 blocks west of courthouse square; moved (supposedly to Bethlehem Church Cem.) as of 1997. Commercial development of the property followed.

Old Walnut Grove Cem. -1 ex-comb + 1 pos. ex-comb

Walnut Grove Cem. – no extant combs in 2/2012; at least one when first visited.

Lonewood Q:

Welch Cem.– no extant combs, but 2 or 3 ex-combs.

Monterey Lake Q:

England Cove Cem.--1 ex-comb evinced by a matched pair of triangular gablestones.

Obey City Q:

*Pine Ridge Cem. –1 pos. ex-comb

Okalona Q:

*Christian Cem. – marked on original survey as a comb cem; no trace of combs in 2012; farm manager of many years claims there have never been any combs here.

Copeland – Carr Cem. – formerly had 2 combs + 2 ex-combs; as of July 2020 2 children's combs had been taken down, leaving 4 ex-combs.

Harris Chapel Cem. – no trace of a comb in 2012; had at least one metal comb when first visited in 1980s.

Jones Cem. (1 probable ex-comb) – no combs in 2012; had at least one when first visited in 1970s or 80s.

Martin-Phillips Cem. -- combs present when first visited; when revisited in 2012 there were only the remains of 2 or 3 combs laid flat)

*Wells Cem. –1 pos. ex-comb; said to have been combs here (Wm. Carmack)

Pall Mall Q:

Jasper Pile Cem. -ex-comb cem, said to have had 3-4 metal combs at one time; at least one sheet metal comb present when first visited, gone when revisited in 2012

Powersburg, KY Q:

Taylor Grove Cem. -- metal comb, seen in 1990s, not photographed; gone when revisited in 2012

Riverton Q:

Wright Cem. --1 metal comb when first visited; gone when revisited in 2012

Silver Point Q:

*Christian Cem. --contains 1 possible child's comb made of Chattanooga Shale.

Smartt Mtn. Q:

Seitz Cem. (Walling Cem. on quadrangle) -- 6 graves covered by flat rectangular sandstone slabs of proper size for comb side slabs; likely the remains of at least 3 comb graves, if not 6, in spite of there no triangular end stones remaining; one comb seen in the background of a photograph taken at Seitz in 1955.

Sparta Q:

Jarvis Cem. -- fragments of a single comb, so little left that it must be called an ex-comb

*Officer Cem 1 pos ex-comb; slabs so disrupted by growth of a tree that it is not possible to tell for certain if this was a comb or a box grave; no gable stones visible.

Spencer Q:

Hale – Sodom Cem. --1 metal comb here in 1970s; gone when revisited in 2012.

Spencer Town Cem. --said to have once contained perhaps a dozen combs; they were removed under controversial circumstances; a few triangular gablestones remain.

Windle Q:

Crawford Chapel Cem. --7 probable ex-combs: 4 graves are marked with pairs of triangular stones, apparently gable stones; 6 additional graves are covered with slabs that appear to have been side slabs from 3 comb graves.

Dodson Chapel Cem. --no identifiable remains of comb graves but once contained 20 or more; in the mid-1960s the cemetery trustees decided to have the combs and box graves removed to "modernize" the cemetery.

Isaac Gore Masters Cem. – marked on original survey as a comb cem; no trace of combs in 2012; several local witnesses say there never were any combs, but Mrs. Patty Huddleston and her aunt believe there was one.

Poplar Springs Cem. -- no extant combs; 7 ex-combs.