

Smith Family Cemetery

Smith Family Cemetery
Hycotee Farm
NC Highway 119
Caswell County
North Carolina

This family cemetery is located on the farm of William Osmond Smith III and Yancey Moorefield Smith, 10790 NC Highway 119 N, Semora, North Carolina. This is private property, and permission must be obtained before visiting the cemetery.

The graves are oriented to the east and are laid out as follows (from north to south):

Gravestone Inscription

Row One:

Rebecca Cameron
Daughter of
Richard Ivy & Mary
Amiss Smith
Born June 21, 1840
Died Jan. 5, 1888

¹
Pensie S.
Beloved wife of
Thos. W. Long
Born July 11, 1853
Died October 14, 1887
“He gaveth his beloved sleep”

²
Annie
Beloved wife of J. P. Rainey
Died November 4, 1882
“Asleep In Jesus Blessed Sleep”

¹
Penelope Campbell (Smith) Long, married Thomas Webb Long 1 October 1885. He was born 21 September 1851 in Hillsboro, Orange County, North Carolina, and died 1 November 1926 at Fairview, Buncombe County, North Carolina.

²
Anne Wilson (Smith) Rainey (born 14 August 1850), daughter of Richard Ivy Smith and Mary Amiss Smith, married John Parish Rainey II on 3 November 1882. He was born 18 August 1842 in Caswell County, North Carolina, and died 14 March 1903 (buried at Red House Presbyterian Church).

MOTHER³

Mary Amiss Goodwin
 Daughter of
 Maurice & Frances
 Goodwin Smith
 Born May 9, 1815
 Died Apr. 24, 1889

FATHER⁴

Richard Ivy
 Son of Samuel & Elizabeth
 Harrison Smith
 Born Feb. 16, 1800
 Died July 28, 1871

James Richard
 Son of
 Richard Ivy & Mary
 Amiss Smith
 Born Aug. 5, 1858
 Died May 5 1887

Maggie Berringer⁵
 Daughter of
 J.B. & A.L. Smith
 Born Dec. 7, 1879
 Died June 7, 1880

Row Two:

Samuel Maurice Smith⁶
 Born July 30, 1838
 Died June 25, 1839

³ Mary Amiss Goodwin (Smith) Smith was born in Granville County, North Carolina. She and her husband, Richard Ivy Smith, were first cousins. Their fathers, Samuel Smith and Maurice Smith, were sons of Samuel Smith and Mary Edmondson Webb Smith of "Abram's Plains" in Granville County, North Carolina.

⁴ Born and died at Hycotee.

⁵ Daughter of John Baptist Smith and his wife Sabra Annie Long. John Baptist Smith was a son of Richard Ivy Smith and Mary Amiss Goodwin (Smith) Smith. The spelling of her second name on the gravestone is probably an error as she was named for her uncle, Rufus Berringer.

⁶ Son of Richard Ivy Smith and Mary Amiss Goodwin (Smith) Smith

⁷
 Amy Webb Smith
 Born Sep't 15, 1847
 Died July 6, 1848

⁸
 Mildred I. Smith
 Born Nov. 15, 1848
 Died June 10, 1849

⁹
 Richard I. Smith
 Born Feb 9, 1857
 Died July 1 1859

Row Three:

Eight fieldstone markers (head and foot)

Row Four:

¹⁰
 "My Mother"
 Anne S.
 Wife of
 John Wilson
 Died
 in Milton, N.C.
 Sept. 21, 1838:
 Aged 35 years
 Samuel S.
 Aged 4 years
 William A.
 Aged 1 year
 "Children of the above
 rest by her side."¹¹

⁷ Daughter of Richard Ivy Smith and Mary Amiss Goodwin (Smith) Smith

⁸ Mildred Isabella Smith, daughter of Richard Ivy Smith and Mary Amiss Goodwin (Smith) Smith

⁹ Richard Ivy Smith, son of Richard Ivy Smith and Mary Amiss Goodwin (Smith) Smith

¹⁰ Anne (Smith) Wilson was born 28 October 1802 and died 21 September 1838. On 6 December 1821 she married John Wilson. He was born 10 October 1796 in Norfolk, Virginia, and died 21 October 1875 at Melville, Milton, North Carolina (buried at Cedars Cemetery, Milton, North Carolina).

¹¹ Query whether her sons are two of the unidentified gravestones in this row.

Comments:

This graveyard stands to the left of the old farm road leading from present NC Highway 119 to the old house at Hycotee.

Family tradition holds that Samuel Smith (September 29, 1765 - June 4, 1816) and his wife, Elizabeth Harrison (February 28, 1772 - December 17, 1838) are buried here. They were the first of this branch of Smith's to settle in Caswell County, Samuel having come from Granville County, North Carolina. It seems logical that their infant children, Jane, James Webb, and Henry Pattillo, are also buried here, as well as a daughter, Mary Kennon, who died at age eleven. Samuel Smith and Elizabeth Harrison are the parents of Richard Ivy Smith (in first row above).

Another grave may belong to Frances Elizabeth Smith (July 30, 1836 - May 11, 1873), who died at age thirty-six, daughter of Richard Ivy Smith and Mary Amiss Goodwin (Smith) Smith. They had thirteen children, eight of whom are shown above. Four others are in marked graves at Red House Presbyterian Church, just up the road to Semora. I know of no record of Frances's burial and find this puzzling as I believe all the "squarish" stones in this cemetery were erected at one time by her surviving sister and brothers, Mary Ivy Smith, John Baptist Smith, William Goodwin Smith, and Robert Kennon Smith.

That leaves at least nine graves unaccounted for. There are no other likely candidates in the six generations who have lived here.

One other burial of interest was that of "Buff", the beloved pet dog of Lilly Webb Smith, daughter of John Baptist and Sabra Annie Smith. For many years a small monument in the shape of a dog stood above Buff's grave which was to the right of Anne Smith Wilson in row four above. Unfortunately the statue was stolen sometime in the past twenty years.

Cemetery surveyed by John Douglas Storey 21 November 2007.