

Subj: **John Coats Tombstone**
Date: 9/7/03 9:37:19 PM Central Daylight Time
From: ellen@linkstothepast.com
To: curator@eaglewi.org
Sent from the Internet (Details)

Dear Elaine,

In the Spring 2002 Eagle Historical Society Newsletter was published a note that stated:

Someone dropped off at the Don & Pat Wilton home a tombstone found in a barn. It reads:

In memory of John

Son of John & Ellen Coats

Died June 17, 1842

Aged 30 years 8 months and 12 days

I don't know if you received further information on this stone but I am aware of the following history about the Coats Family:

From the 1880 Publication History of Waukesha County comes the following:

Township 5, Range 17 East, was the first organized into a precinct separate from and independent of adjoining towns, in accordance with act of the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Wisconsin, January 12, 1841. Up to 1839, Eagle was a part of Mukwonago; then a part of Genesee up to the passage of the above act. The first town meeting was held at the house of Andrew Scofield, in Eagleville. However, it is impossible to be strictly accurate in the earliest details, owing to the fact that the first town records are lost, so far as ascertainable.

The town received its name in a rather singular manner, as follows: in the year 1836, while Thomas Sugden, John Coats and a Mr. Garton were prospecting, they came to a beautiful prairie about one and a half by two and a half miles in area. here, hovering and curving over a large mound, near the present residence of Ebenezer Thomas, was a monster bald headed eagle. From this incident and time, the prairie and town were called Eagle.

The Coats family cemetery was located on the west side of Highway EE, just south of the intersection with Highway E, now part of Country Squire Estates. This was the Coats family farm, in the East 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 7, Mukwonago Township

The cemetery was established in 1861 and the last burial was in 1928.

The bodies were eventually relocated to North Prairie Cemetery, Town of Genesee.

The following are transcriptions copied before 1950.

COATS:

Andrew J/1849/May __ 1915 North Prairie, Wisc./son of Thomas Coats & Jane (SUGDEN)

Eleanor (WATERMAN)/1864/Mar 14, 1925/daughter of Samuel Waterman & Lidia JERMEY

Charles Henry/1854/Jan 9, 1928/son of Thomas Coats & Jane (SUGDEN)/73 yr 2 mo 6 da

Elizabeth (HOEFT)/1868

Thomas/Nov 5, 1809/Yorkshire, England/1865

Jane (SUGDEN)/1823/1913/wife of Thomas Coats

John/1840/1861/son of Thomas Coats & Jane (SUGDEN)

Richard/Sept 16, 1844/Feb 6, 1904/son of Thomas Coats & Jane (SUGDEN)

Ada Jane (COATS) Swan daughter of Thomas and Jane above is buried in Oak Knoll Cemetery village of Mukwonago.

Emma (COATS) Fintel daughter of Thomas and Jane above is buried in North Prairie Cemetery Genesee Township

From History of Waukesha County 1880:

THOMAS COATS, deceased; born Nov. 6, 1809, in Yorkshire, England; came to America about 1830, his family being one of the first to settle on White Pigeon Prairie, Mich; in 1835, the brothers, Thomas and John, came to Wisconsin, reaching what is now Sec. 7, Mukwonago, via Southport (Kenosha), making a claim to several hundred acres here; they then returned to Michigan for provisions and stock; Mr. Coats made many a trip after this to the same State for supplies, the bachelor settlers meeting him, in a half-starved condition, at the Indian village of Mukwonago; the old wagon used for these trips is still kept as a relic on the farm. Among the first settlers here, were the Sugdens, widow and six children; part of the family located on Sec. 17, now the Hill farm; entirely destitute of means, this heroic pioneer family saw, perhaps, more of the actual suffering and privations incident to that early day, than any other in this county; a scant supply of potatoes, eaten without even salt, was their only sustenance for some time. On the 23d of March, 1840, Jane, the second daughter married Mr. Coats, they beginning housekeeping in the log house of John Coats, who lived with them; in May, 1842, having built a part of the present house, they removed, living for years in what is now the front parlor, doing the cooking in a shanty under a noble burr oak, which still spreads its branches over the family roof. Mr. Coats died in 1865, leaving eight children – Mary (Mrs. Amos Patterson), Richard and George, farming in Mukwonago, Andrew J., Ellen, Charles H. and Emma, all on the homestead; Ada J. is now Mrs. T. E. Swan, of Heart Prairie; John, the eldest son, died in 1861; the 280 acres of improved land, on Secs. 7 and 8, with its large and substantial house and barns, are the result of the energy and pluck of Thomas Coats, who is missed by a host of warm friends, as a man ever open handed to the needy and always ready to encourage any enterprise that gave promise of good; he was a stanch Republican, as are his sons. A. J. and C. H. Coats are breeding the best of stock; P. O. address, North Prairie.

In the 1907 Volume of Haight's Waukesha County Memoirs are Sketches on: (sorry I didn't have time to look these up yet)

Coats, Andrew J. Mukwonago pg. 401

Coats, George T. Mukwonago pg 402

Coats, Mrs. Jane (Sugden) Genesee pg 403

I don't know if this helps any, but it is the information that I could gather.

Ellen- Rohr

Coordinator Waukesha County Genealogy Website

www.LinkstoThePast.com/waukesha

People - Coats

COATS FAMILY CEMETERY

This inactive cemetery was established in 1861 with the last burial in 1928.

was the family cemetery for the Thomas and Jane (Sugden) Coats family of Mukwonago. A number of years ago, some of the tombstones were still there, but the bodies were relocated to the North Prairie Cemetery, Town of Genesee.

These transcriptions are from the time period 1861-1928 copied before 1950.

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