

## CANAWLERS AT REST

### COL. MARSHALL SMITH WINES

b. June 28, 1800

d. September 21/22, 1842

By Carolyn I. Schmidt

Marshall Smith Wines was born on June 28, 1800, in New Jersey to Josiah Leonard Wines (1770 - 1845) and Rhoda Baldwin Wines (1772-1836). He was the 6th of thirteen children. He had 6 brothers (Martin, John W. , Isaac B., William, Josiah Leonard, Ira Doty) and 6 sisters (Elizabeth, Huldah, Hannah, Triphena, Phebe, Betsy).

The commencement of the Wabash & Erie Canal attracted many men and their families to Fort Wayne, which at the time was a sleepy little village around a fort that was no longer in use. Two of the earliest canawlers to arrive were Colonel Marshall S. Wines, a canal contractor from New York, and Jesse Lynch Williams a canal engineer from Ohio, who eventually became chief engineer of all of Indiana's canals.

After arriving in Fort Wayne in 1832, Wines and his brothers were awarded contracts to excavate Section 9 of the St. Joseph Feeder Canal and a road bridge over the canal on November 6, 1832. These contracts can be found in a box of Wabash & Erie Canal contracts at the Indiana State Archives in Indianapolis.

Wines purchased land east of town. He named his estate "Woodlawn." Martha Brandriff Hanna in her recollections said that on this land Wines built "a log house containing one large room, part of which was divided off for a bedroom by curtains of bed quilts and coverlids [coverlets], and when guests were entertained another bedroom would be improvised in the same manner."

Martha went on to explain the hospitality offered by Marshall and Elizabeth Wines saying, "Mr. and Mrs. Jesse L. Williams came on horseback to settle in Fort

Wayne. It was shortly after their marriage, and they stopped with Mrs. Wines. In those primitive days cooking utensils were necessarily few, owing to the difficulty of transportation over the mountains. She told of the first meal that she prepared for her guests. She hung the kettle with water on the crane which swung in the large fireplace over the glowing logs. That was for the tea; the potatoes were put to bake in the hot ashes. She then took her one skillet, provided with three feet and tightly-fitted cover, and stood it over the hot coals. She first made and baked her biscuits, took them out, and set them aside on the hearth to keep warm; next she cooked the corn, and lastly the meat, which was venison. The meal was then ready to serve, and we know it was served with the sauce of the genial hospitality so well known to the Wines."

The Williams' were not the only ones to receive hospitality from the Wines. When Hugh McCulloch, who later was appointed Secretary of the United States Treasury by Abraham Lincoln, arrived in Fort Wayne, he was befriended by the Wines. At the time Fort Wayne was experiencing a rapid growth due to the construction of the Wabash & Erie Canal. Although Hugh was ill for a period of time after his arrival, when his health improved he opened a law office. He decided to marry Eunice Hardy, who lived in Kennebunk(port), Maine, and bring her to Fort Wayne. He wrote letters to her saying he planned to return to Kennebunk, marry her, transport her along with bedding, tablecloths, towels, carpets, clothing, etc. to Fort Wayne and then live at Col. Wines while building a home for them near Wines' home.

Perhaps Eunice was convinced to go along with Hugh's plan when she learned that Capt. Asa Fairfield was planning to leave Kennebunk to move to Fort Wayne at about the same time. Fairfield, who was Hugh McCulloch's brother-in-law, eventually moved to Indiana and operated the first canal boat, "The Indiana," on a section of the Wabash & Erie Canal from Fort Wayne to Huntington, Indiana.

On January 1, 1834, Hugh McCulloch wrote, "They [Marshall Wines and family] live on the opposite side of the St. Mary's and about ¾ of a mile from my office. I visit them frequently, and sometimes remain with them all night. I am very intimate with them, more so, than I ever was with any family upon so short an acquaintance...well educated, courteous, polite & sociable, they are eminently qualified to adorn any circle...I enjoy myself much at their house. They like a laugh as well as myself...Mrs. Wines is one of the best singers I every [sic] heard, and music is generally an addition to our other amusements. You must no longer credit the story, that the southern ladies are good for nothing for these are examples of industry & ingenuity."

Hugh went on to describe Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Lynch Williams saying he prized their friendship next to the family of Col. Wines. He said Jesse, the principal engineer of the canal, was a very worthy man but very different probably because he was educated as a Quaker and became a Presbyterian after marrying the daughter of William Creighton, a congressman from Chillicothe, Ohio. He said Susan Creighton Williams was very intelligent and pleasant.

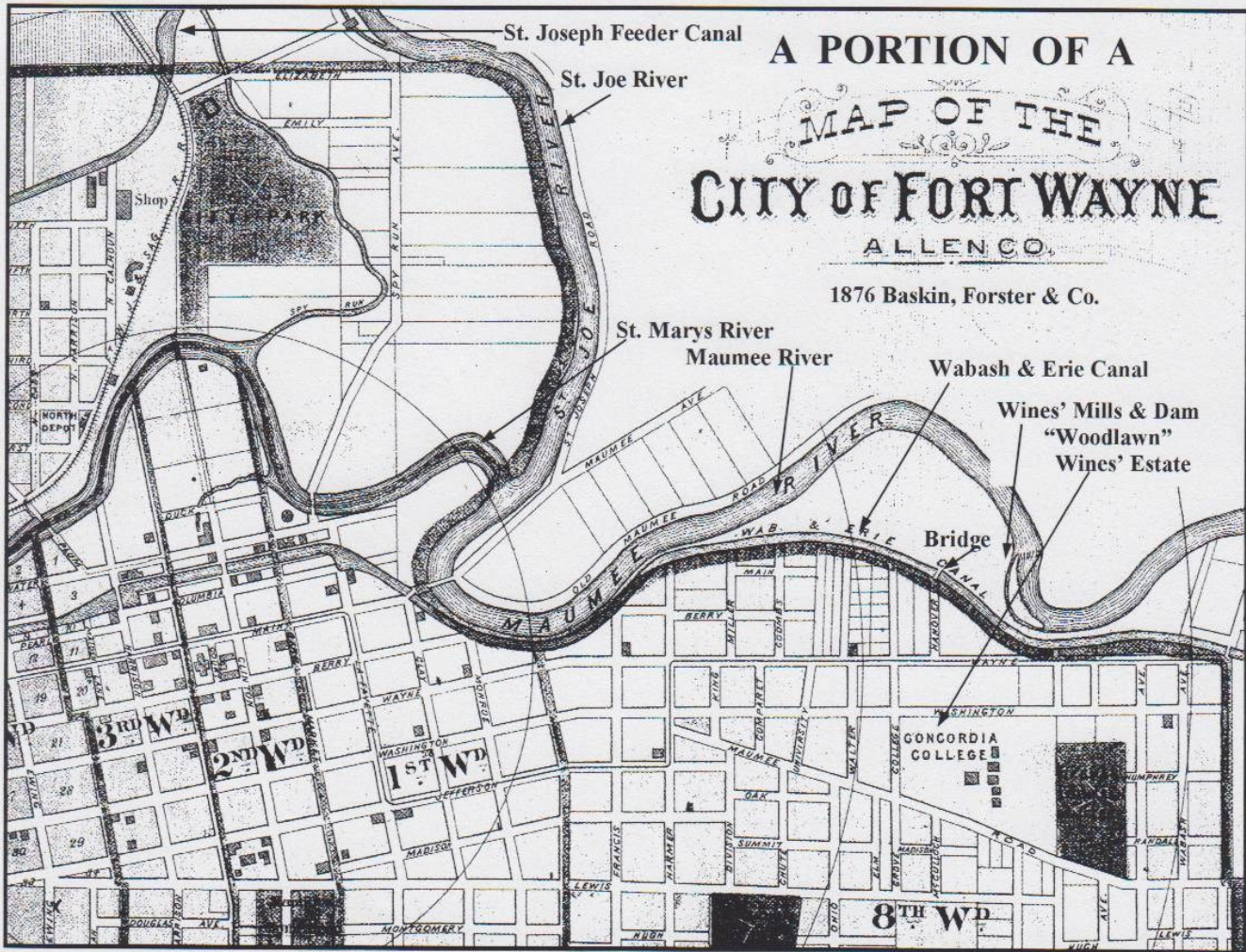
Hugh wrote another letter on April 16, 1834 informing Eunice he would arrive in 2 weeks and that they would stay with Dr. Thompson, who had added a room to his house just for them. Therefore the plan to stay at the Wines' home changed. On June 23, 1834, they were married.

On May 6, 1834, contracts were let to build the Wabash & Erie between Fort Wayne and Huntington, Indiana. Wines was awarded contracts in Section 19 for excavation and building an aqueduct and in Section 57 for excavation. He, along with Josiah L. Wines and William Wines, were awarded contracts on Sections 62

& 76 for excavation, one for building Lock #12 (Jim McDonald cut stone lock in Lagro, IN), one for a new river channel, and one for a road bridge over the canal.

In 1835 when Asa Fairfield and his brother brought their families to Fort Wayne from Maine, they bought carriages at Pittsburgh and loaded them onto the boat transporting their belongings. When the carriages were unloaded in Fort Wayne, they were the first of a kind seen there. Within a short time Marshall S. Wines purchased one of them.

Wines took part in an early effort to establish and maintain a Young Men's Christian Association in Fort Wayne. He served as the recording secretary under Isaac Jenkinson, president. He also belonged to the First Presbyterian Church. Prominent Fort Wayne citizens Samuel and Hugh Hanna, Allen Hamilton, Mrs. McCulloch, William Rockhill, Jesse Williams, Doctor Thompson and Doctor Sturgis were also members. The church was very authoritative much like the early Puritans.



In a "Men of the Hour" December 14, 1884 article that appeared in the Fort Wayne *Sunday Gazette* about Hugh McCulloch it said that "He (Hugh) brought letters of introduction to Judge Samuel Hanna, and we believe Allen Hamilton, and perhaps one or two earlier settlers, who were men of prominences in the new country, and he immediately commenced the practice of law. For a short time he served as probate judge, but when the branch of the state bank of Indiana was organized by Samuel Hanna, Allen Hamilton, Francis Comparet, Major Lewis, Doctor Thompson, Marshall Wines and others, he was elected cashier, and for twenty years was the active manager of that institution."

By 1836 Eunice McCulloch was pregnant and Hugh was off on business at the State Bank in Lafayette, Indiana. He wrote to her saying, "be sure that you recollect how much more important it is that you should be careful, of yourself. In your present situation, nothing is more dangerous than to take cold or to strain yourself by lifting. Recollect then not to expose yourself to the cold nor strain yourself by carrying wood up stairs. I would advise you not to confine yourself to the house; when you feel lonely visit your friends; call upon Mrs. [Allen] Hamilton and go out to Mrs. Wines...." Eunice died at age 26 on February 29, 1836, and the Wines' lost a good friend.

Marshall S. Wines took on civic duties. He was one of four associate judges of the circuit court along with Peter Huling, Nathaniel Coleman, and Michael Shiras in 1837. They served under Charles W. Ewing, president judge.

In 1837-1838 Marshall Wines was working closely with Jesse Lynch Williams in maintaining the St. Joseph Feeder Canal at Fort Wayne, which was 6 miles and 34 chains above the main canal and had been completed in 1834. He also was constructing some of the 40 sections of the canal from the east side of Fort Wayne to Defiance, Ohio, for which contracts had been let on April 15, 1837. From Fort Wayne to the Indiana/Ohio state line the canal dimensions were increased from 40 feet wide and four feet deep to 60 feet wide and 6 feet deep.

Wines employed William W. Carson in 1837, then a young man. Carson later became city attorney of Fort Wayne, county attorney, state senator, judge of the court of common pleas and judge of the thirty-eighth judicial district.

While still a canal contractor Wines entered the milling business in 1838. He purchased the Coles sawmill. Cole had advertised it for sale as early as June 14, 1834 in the Fort Wayne *Weekly Sentinel*. It was located between the south bank of the Maumee River and the

north side of the Wabash & Erie Canal just about ten rods east of where the Hanover Street bridge crossed the canal and about 3 blocks north of today's Indiana Technical Institute. This was west of Moots Lock #3. He then built a 3½ story flouring mill adjacent and adjoining its east side. A dam across the river backed up water used to power his mills. This \$6,000 investment included three run of mill stones - one of five feet diameter and 2 of four feet diameter - and three re-acting wheels. It could store 20,000 bushels of grain, could produce 50 barrels of flour per day, and employed four men. After a time he sold his flouring mill to Samuel Hanna and Ochmig Bird, and it operated as Hanna & Bird. In 1858 it was sold to Bostick and Fronefield and subsequent owners included Fronefield and Volland, Trentman and Volland, Orff and Volland, Comparet and Haskell, and finally E. A. Orff. It was destroyed by fire in 1879.

After the Panic of 1837, which caused western states to almost suspend their internal improvement programs, work had continued under adverse conditions on the Wabash & Erie Canal in Indiana. Wines was working on the eastern sections. In a letter to Jesse L. Williams, on September 29, 1839, he wrote that he was trying to push forward the work "just as if nothing had befallen our finances. In fact it is impossible for me to stop without money." Although he continued with the construction, he thought the canal might be permanently discontinued, so he sold his canal property.

Once again in 1839 Wines was an associate judge of the circuit court along with Nathaniel Coleman. Henry Chase was the judge. In 1840 Wines and Coleman were joined by J. H. McMahan as associate judges under J. W. Wright, of Logansport.

By 1840 work on the canal had halted. Susan McCulloch, Hugh's second wife, wrote to her mother in February, "Our business men begin to feel the pressure and will probably soon feel it worse for the State owes the Contractors on the Canal and they owe both the merchants and the poor laborers who have done all the work. The state will not pay and the contractors cannot pay their hands off nor their honest debts. I wish he [President Martin Van Buren] had to see the sufferings of the poor Irish and Germans on our canal lines and hear some of it too."

On April 8, 1840 a Circuit Court judgment was made between Marshall Wines, plaintiff, and English et al defendant. This was probably over canal matters. Robert English built the Clear Creek flood gate at Huntington.

Other Circuit Court judgments were given on August 31, 1841 between Wines & C. and Bowser, and on

March 26, 1841 between Jas. H Wines and Wines.

In 1841 Indiana was granted additional land to continue the Wabash & Erie Canal to Terre Haute, Indiana. The legislature enacted legislation that said the contractors, who had been paid by Jesse Williams with certificates, could use the certificates for payment to purchase canal lands. That year canal contractor Marshall Wines also served in the 26th regular session of the Indiana House of Representatives. He represented Allen County.

Wines supported the internal improvement projects. While a representative in 1842 he voted for a bill assessing 1¼cents on each acre of land, without regard to improvements, for the purpose of constructing roads in northern Indiana.

In a Fort Wayne *Sentinel* article on February 26, 1842, Wines pointed out that Allen County had more acres of taxable land than any other county, ¾ of its land was unoccupied and unimproved, and that many of the owners lived in other states. In the same article he criticized the state for its penitentiary system saying the superintendents were not supervised, there were instances of inhumanity and abuse of power, and that they could only be prosecuted for a violation of their contract. He said, "...nothing short of an entire change of the whole system of discipline and policy, under officers appointed by and responsible to state authority can possibly work a proper cure..."

Wines was opposed to issuing Treasury notes to pay the State Bank because he feared they would depreciate. At the time there was more than one million dollars of notes in circulation and if more were issued for the Bank, the amount would be over seventeen hundred thousand dollars. The taxes at the time were not enough to even pay twice the interest on the notes. To pay them off would take ten years of taxes at that rate. He said that "If the Bank resumes, and continues specie payments, that event will necessarily increase the difference in value between State Bank paper and State Treasury notes, and if a depreciation commences ever so slight at first, it will go on increasing, unless a change in measures shall prevent it."

He spoke out against a law that abandoned all the state's work on Internal Improvement, turned it over to corporations created by the law, and hoped to relieve the state of its debt. It also abolished the offices of Canal Fund Commissioner and Principal Engineer. He said, "It was urged that the companies would buy up and return to the State her Bonds in payment for the finished parts of the works. To an amount equal to the expenditure heretofore made thereon, and this provision was much dwelt upon by its friends. The question is, will

any State Bonds ever be returned to the State under this provision? I think no...companies always pursue their own interest by the most direct way, and a close inspection of the law will show that it contains provisions under which the companies can avail themselves of all the advantages of the finished part of any work on cheaper terms than by paying for it in State Bonds, even if those bonds should depreciate to fifteen cents of the dollars."

"I have another objection to the bill as it finally passed. Under its provisions the State may be literally 'shingled over with corporations.' A company may be formed for each ten miles, and I believe there is about 1,000 miles of unfinished canals and roads in Indiana. One hundred Companies may therefore be formed.... From what we know of such associations that have gone before we may guess what will be the history of these. The expenses incurred in preparing for operations and the necessary show of commencement will have exhausted the cash capital of the company and a blow out ensues. But unwilling to be losers in the speculation the members of such association will remunerate themselves by frauds practiced on the community before they dissolve."

"This law is one of those expedients that whether it fails or succeeds in its purposes [it] is destructive of the best interests of the State. If it succeeds the people bear a heavy burden for the benefit of the favored few. If it fails we lose time, deceive ourselves, waste our strength, involve ourselves deeper in dept, suffer much we have already done to decay, and present to the gaze of the world the sickening spectacle of a young, vigorous and free people quailing before a light wind of adversity. In either case the passage of the law must result in evil and only evil to the State."

Prior to 1842 important men such as Marshall S. Wines, William Rockhill, Henry Rudisill, Thomas Tigar and other active members of the Democratic Party named the party's candidates for election. In 1842 the county farmers demanded that they receive a voice in party decisions and the Allen County Democratic Party was officially organized. Wines was re-elected in August of that year and continued representing Allen County in the Indiana House of Representatives. He held that office until his death in the fall of 1842 when L. G. Thompson was elected to replace him by a special election.

Contractors worked under adverse circumstances on the Wabash & Erie Canal during 1842. They were paid in canal scrip under a legislative provision. It depreciated so much that they could not purchase all the provisions and materials necessary to accomplish the work. Division No. 2 of which Marshall Wines was

a contractor at that time also faced the problem of sickness. Division No. 2 encompassed the canal from below the aqueduct over Wea Creek southwest of Lafayette, Indiana through the lock at Attica. Wines did not complete his contract.

The Report of the Superintendent of the Wabash and Erie Canal to the General Assembly of December 1, 1845 gives the following information about why Wines canal contract was not completed and shows why he was replaced as a state representative:

"In the spring of 1842, this division was awarded and let on contract to Col. M. S. Wines, who, in the fall of the same year, after putting the work under way, died [September 20, 1842]. After the death of Col. Wines, it was undertaken to be carried on by John W. Wines and Ira Wines, and was prosecuted with all possible speed that the nature of the work would admit of during the years of 1843-'4., and up to the summer of 1845, when John W. Wines and Ira Wines both departed this life. After which time, Col. William Wines, the brother of the three that had deceased since the commencement of the work, undertook to carry it on to its completion. But a short time, however, before its final completion, he also departed this life.

"The melancholy event was as unlooked for, as it was unparalleled in the transaction of human affairs. They were all men of great energy of mind and perseverance in all their undertakings. They have been, and still retained the reputation up to their death, of faithful and responsible contractors on the public works of the State, since the commencement of the internal improvement system."

Further on in the same document it says that "Division No. 5, extending from Covington to Coal Creek, a distance of fourteen miles, was during the early part of July last, declared abandoned, for the reason that the contractors, Messrs. J. W. and W. Wines, refused to prosecute it; and at the same time refused to surrender it." According to the earlier quote these men had died that summer in 1845.

Division 2, through the efforts of Wines, then his brothers and others was almost completed by December 1845. A few farm bridges, part of one road bridge and the planking and trimming of the lock still needed to be finished.

Although many canal contractors went on to work on the railroad, became politicians, etc., the four Wines brothers lived and died for the canal. They received little reward for all their struggles.

Apparently Col. Marshall S. Wines' body was

not returned to Ft. Wayne. When I called the office at Lindenwood Cemetery in Ft Wayne they said he was not buried there, but that Elizabeth Tilley Wines had died on November 24, 1880 and was interred on November 27, 1880, in Section F Lot 30. They also said that she was 74 years, 4 months, and 6 days old. They also had recorded that Marshall W. Wines was buried in Section 4 Lot 30 and that he was 93 years, 6 months and 1 day old at the time of his death.

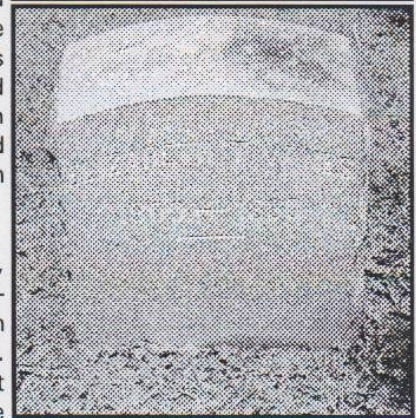
When I arrived at Elizabeth's stone it simply read Elizabeth T. Wines 1809-1880. To the right of her stone in the same line were stones for Effingham T. (Townsend) Williams 1841-1921 and Marshall W. Wines 1840-1933. To the left of her stone was a tall tablet that read:

ERECTED  
In Memory of  
MARSHALL S.  
WINES.  
WHO DIED  
September 21, 1842  
AGED  
42 Years, 2 Months,  
23 Days.

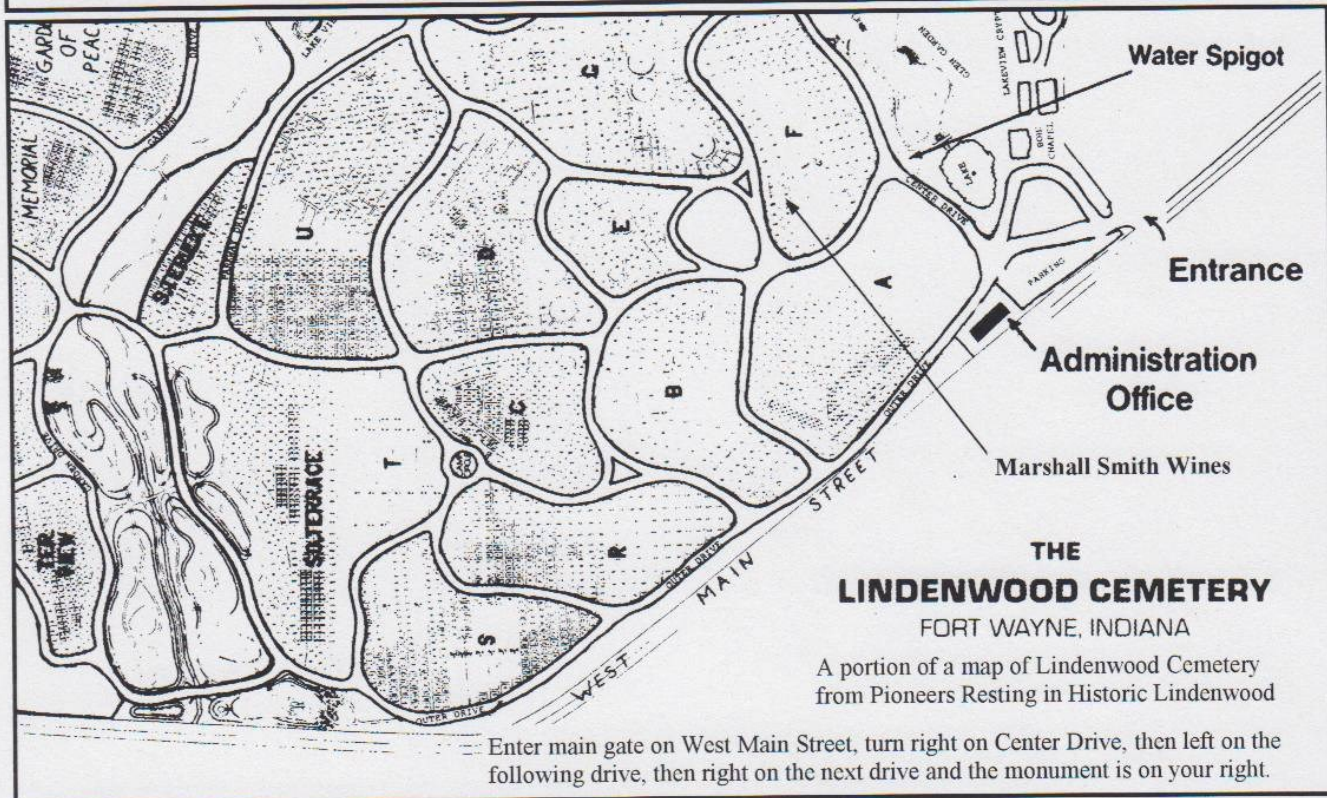
In a second row of the same style of stones as Elizabeth's we find Susan G. Hoffman 1834-1922 and Jacob Hoffman 1826-1860.

On May 24, 1872 two more bodies were buried in Section F Lot 30. They were Wines but no first names were given and there were no stones.

Unfortunately we have been unable to find when Col. Marshall S. Wines received the title of Colonel. We could not locate a picture of him or find out where he was buried. Since he died of an illness while working on the canal, perhaps it was cholera or another transmittable disease that they



Above: Marshall S. Wines tablet  
Below: Elizabeth T. Wines stone  
Photos by Bob Schmidt



**THE  
LINDENWOOD CEMETERY**  
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

A portion of a map of Lindenwood Cemetery  
from Pioneers Resting in Historic Lindenwood

Enter main gate on West Main Street, turn right on Center Drive, then left on the following drive, then right on the next drive and the monument is on your right.

were afraid would spread.

From the cemetery records we can see that Marshall W. Wines was born when Marshall S. Wines was 40 years old. Cemetery records showed that Marshall W. Wines last residence before his death was in Washington, D. C.

From the 1850 Federal Census Records below we note that Elizabeth Wines must have been pregnant with Ann E. Wines when Marshall S. Wines died. It also shows that they had three living children. Apparently Elizabeth was taking in boarders.

- Elizabeth Wines age 41, born Maryland
- Susan Wines age 15, born Indiana
- Marshall C Wines age 9, born Indiana
- Ann E. Wines age 7, born Indiana
- Ann McMahan age 18, born Ireland
- Mary Rockmore, age 16, born Germany
- Richard Chute age 29, merchant, born Kentucky
- Mary E. Chute age 18, born Ohio
- Edward F. Colerick age 17, recorder, born Ohio
- John Bulger age 22, clerk, born Virginia
- Anthony F. Yeager age 35, lawyer, born Germany
- John Hood 40, pump maker, born New York
- John W Reid 22, dry goods, born Ohio

The 1860 Census shows:  
Elizabeth Wines age 49, keeping house, born Maryland

- Marshall W. Wines age 19, clerk, born Indiana
- Anna Wines age 17, school teacher, born Indiana
- Caroline L Hoffman age 25, born Indiana
- Fanne Hoffman age 6, born Indiana
- Elizabeth Hoffman age 2/12, born Indiana
- Sam Lewis Hoffman age 14, born Indiana.

The 1867 Allen County Gazetter shows Elizabeth Wines, widow of Marshall S. Wines, living at 155 W. Berry in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. It also shows her son Marshall as an attorney at law and claim agent with his office at No. 2 Phoenix Block and living at 155 W. Berry.

The 1870 Census shows:  
Elizabeth Wines age 61, keeping house in the District of Columbia.  
Susan Hoffman age 34  
Fannie Hoffman age 16  
Bessie Hoffman age 10

Elizabeth had moved to Washington, D. C. sometime between 1867 and 1870. Marshall W. Wines, her son, had moved and stayed there until his death.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church purchased "Woodlawn," the beautiful country estate of Colonel Marshall S. Wines, in the late 1840s. The first building was erected in 1846-47. The property then became the grounds for Concordia College established in 1860. Af-



Concordia Lutheran College built this administration building on property once owned by Marshall S. Wines. 1888 lithograph from Robert D. Parker collection published in *Old Fort News*, Vol. 47, No. 1, 1984. Courtesy of Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Society

ter Concordia moved to the north side of Fort Wayne, the property was taken over by Indiana Technical Institute, which is a growing college in 2006.

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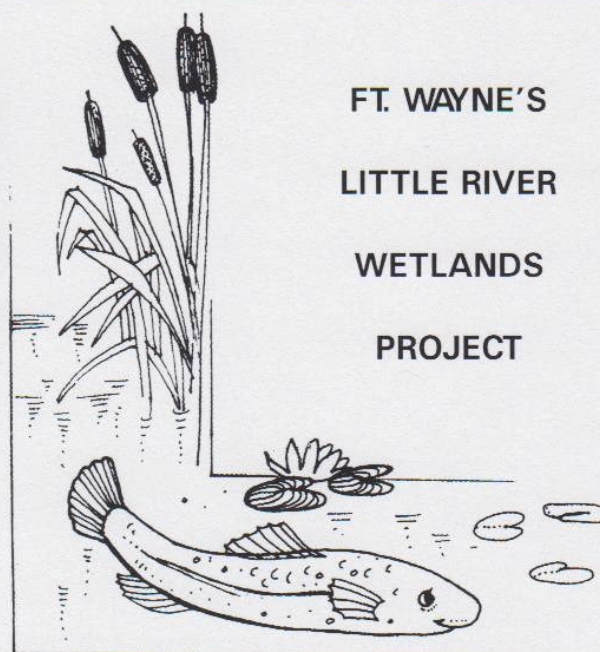
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FT. WAYNE'S  
LITTLE RIVER  
WETLANDS  
PROJECT

A lot is happening at Little River Wetlands Project (LRWP). Earth moving equipment is hard at work restoring wetland hydrology at Eagle Marsh, a 676-acre preserve southwest of Fort Wayne. Native prairie and wetland seeds will be dispersed soon in a process called dormant seeding, and more than 25,000 native trees and shrubs will be planted this spring. The work is being done with help from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, through the federal government's Wetland Reserve Program.

LRWP is sponsoring an 'Adopt an Acre' Fund Drive to raise money for ongoing care of Eagle Marsh and its other two preserves, Arrowhead Marsh and Arrowhead Prairie. They hope members and interested others will adopt one or more acres for \$30 each to help defray their stewardship expenses for 2007. Already more than \$5,000 has been contributed.

Trails are now open at Eagle Marsh and Arrowhead Marsh. You can access maps and trail regulations at their new website at [www.lrwp.org](http://www.lrwp.org) on the Eagle Marsh and Arrowhead pages.

There has also been a staff change. Executive Director, Aaron Wartenberg, resigned in early December. In the interim, taking on the executive director role is Jennifer Kleinrichert, their former Community Relations Coordinator, and Steve S. Ross, a long-time LRWP volunteer with extensive background and experience in natural sciences and preservation. Recruiting for a new Executive Director began in January.