

On the bank of Wickliff Creek is the old Grass Indian Cemetery.

It seems at first notice to be far removed from the world of confusion and hurried progress so far back in the hill country. But its apparent solitude and serenity belies the activity that sometimes comes invading.

Across the creek to the east, a twenty acre patch of brush recently was bought by a whiteman. The whiteman brought in equipment to clear and level all of his newly acquired land. Bent on getting every square inch under his fence he even tried to claim a part of the Grass Cemetery.

This upset Mrs. Ross, who is a life-long resident of the community.

She at once went to the records at the county seat and Sarah Bushyhead Grass had given of her allotment land to be set aside for the burial place, and it was so deeded and recorded in the official records.

Here in Grass Cemetery rest many Indians several of whom have headstones denoting military service to their country in the Civil War (Tom Peggs), Spanish-American War (George Mixwater), World War I and II, and the more recent conflicts. But that whiteman could care less.

Mrs. Ross obtained her education at the Wyandotte Indian School around 1920 or before. Just before she was to finish school at Wyandotte, a beloved principal left the school in protest over lack of treatment and care of the children by the government. She says many Indian children left school in sympathy for the Indian principal. The principal talked her into staying and finishing her remaining year, for which she is now grateful.

Again, commenting on the Grass Cemetery, she says that it was established long before her time. Many descendents of the Grass family are buried there, as well as many of the Smith, Ross, Rider, Pigeon, Vann, and Sixkiller families.

A short distance southeast of Kenwood is the old Wickliff family graveyard where sixteen or more graves can be seen there in the weeds