

Sarah's grave attracts trouble

Sentinel Report

As they do every year at this time, some Fulton County teenagers probably are planning a trip to the grave of "Sister Sarah" tonight.

And the McIntire family is seeking a way to protect the old Daniel M. McIntire cemetery from further destruction caused by rambunctious youths and cattle that roam the area along the Old Fort Wayne Road east of Rochester.

Alonzo McIntire of Rochester, a decendent of Daniel M. McIntire, thinks local government should help protect the graves and headstones. He said he wants to

put a fence around the cemetery.

McIntire has approached both the Fulton Board of County Commissioners and the Henry Township trustee, but has not received any help.

He says that several gravestones have been destroyed or are missing, and a thick brush has grown up around the cemetery.

County Attorney Ted Waggoner told The Sentinel that private cemeteries are not in the commissioners' jurisdiction, but they are the responsibility of township trustees. He added that the commissioners cannot force a trustee to maintain a cemetery.

The Sentinel was unable to contact Henry Township Trustee Marianne Carr.

McIntire disagrees.

He says Indiana law lists several methods by which the McIntire cemetery could be maintained by the county. Cemeteries included in the law are those that do not have funds or sources of funds for maintenance, that have sustained neglect and deterioration, and may be the burial grounds for state pioneer leaders or veterans of any war involving the U.S.

The United States annexed Hawaii in 1898.