

Some Pioneers

William and Rebecca (Brewer) Byerly entered land in this township in 1825. He died in 1839. Their children were: Sarah E., Andrew W., Nancy J., Mary A., Martha M. and Kelley F.

Two Everman brothers, Michael and Andrew, came to this township at an early date. The children of Michael, 1784-1867, and Deborah, 1787-1865, were: Joseph, 1807; Elizabeth (Pratt), 1809; Margaret (McGan), 1810; Andrew, 1814; Sarah M., 1818; James W., 1824; William W., 1828; and Emily, 1829; The children of Andrew, 1780-1857, and Nancy, 1790-1866, were Mary (Hughes), 1811; Demercy (Crooks), 1813; Barton S. 1815; Andrew, 1817; Finetta, 1819; Nancy (Garner, Forgey), 1821; Michael, 1825; Juliet (Norman), 1828; Joseph, 1828; Sally (Long) 1830; Abigail (Lookabill); Martha J., 1832-1833; and James J., 1835.

Two Gardner brothers, Andrew and Philip, came here early and left many descendants. The children of Andrew Gardner by his first wife, Margaret Byerly were: Neata (Everman), Alexander F., Serilda Jane, Frederick B., John W., Barbara (Knight), William H., and Elizabeth; by his second wife, Nancy Everman, the children were: Mary Ann (Walden, then Sandy) James, Barton S., Martha A., George W. and Amanda M. The children of Philip and Dicie (Brewer) Gardner were: Henry, James Larkin, Elizabeth (Goff), Minerva Jane (Smith), William M., and Hannah (Thompson, then Long).

Peter and Elizabeth Grimes entered land in Russell township in 1826. They had some daughters and perhaps eight sons. Of this group only the names of the following are known: Sarah, who was born in 1794 and married Andrew Byerly, and is buried in Pisgah; Matthias, who lived in Parke county for a while and then probably went to Iowa; Jonas, born in 1800, married Mary Sink, and was buried in Greenridge Cemetery, Wayne County, Iowa; and Solomon, born 1807, married Anna B. Butcher, and was buried in Pisgah.

William Grimes, 1764-1845, was another early settler. The children of William and Ann Grimes included: Edward L., 1797; William, Stephen, and Ann D.

By 1826 William McGaughey and his family were located in the area around Blakesburg. The children of William and Prepare (Clark) McGaughey were:

Frances, (Zaddock Connor), 1789; John C. (Polly Boyd) 1791; Andrew, 1793; William C. (Mariah Norman, and Maria Davis), 1796; James, 1798-1800; Margaret, 1800-01; Martha, (John Hart, John Hart, J. O. Connor), 1803; Samuel, (Abigail Bracken), 1805; James (Sarah Clodfelter), 1808, and Michael, (Sarah Lane) 1812.

John and Elizabeth (Bigham) Spencer came from South Carolina in 1830 and settled in southwestern Russell. Their children were: Thomas (Nancy Keenan) 1808; Frank (Susan Harbison), 1809; Susan (John Cunningham), 1810; Jackson, (Jane Tippin) 1816; Robert (Polly Ramsay), 1814; Jessie (Sarah Clodfelter), 1817; John (Jane Ramsay), 1823; Joseph who married Martha Spencer; Mary who married John Spencer; Lizzie Jane who never married, and two who died shortly after coming to Indiana.

Three sons of the ten children of William and Mary Sutherlin settled in Russell. William's first entry was in 1821 and George's first was in 1822, but these two brothers later moved to other townships of the county. Fendal and Lydia (Franklin) Sutherlin first settled in Clinton in about 1825. In 1831 he entered land in Russell and probably about this date moved here, where he died in 1834. The children of Fendal Sutherlin were: William, 1791; Sally (Vandiver); Sampson, John R., Polly born 1803 and died in Iowa, Thomas, Riffe, Madison and Owen.

Three Wilson brothers, Thomas, John and Samuel, settled here at early sates. The children of Thomas and Jane (Hughs) Wilson were: Nancy Ann (Benjamin Walden) William, Jane, (John M. Harris), John H., Mary, (George Leonard), and Cintilla, (John Goff). The children of John and Nancy Ann (Boyd) Wilson were: James B., John N., Elizabeth (Pugh), Warren S., Mary Ann (Lookabill), Nancy Ann, and by his second wife Abigail Snedgar, the children were Tursey Jane (Carrington), William B., Harriett (Lydick), Fleming, Samuel S., Preston, Thomas, Washington, Harrison, and Martha Ann (Carrington). The children of Samuel and Ann (Boyle) Wilson were: William B., Elihu, Sally (Stokes), Elizabeth Ann (Pottinger), Mary Ann (Byerly), Samuel, Jacenthia, James Hughs, Minerva (Kirpatrick), Burton and John Henry.