

Brandt Family Cemetery

This family cemetery is located in a heavily wooded area. The family was considered one of the “founding families” of Warren County and were considered “very prominent”, producing three generations of physicians. There is quite a bit of history to be learned from these stones. The cemetery consists of two rows of markers, inscribed using the German words “Geboren” (Geb.) meaning born and “Gestorben” (Gest.) died. There are also 2 stone markers with no inscriptions in one of the rows. Additionally, there are other unmarked stones approximately 100 yards east of these interments. These could be enslaved persons’ interments, as the family did utilize enslaved people.

Interred back row:

Heinrich (Henry) F Brandt, M.D. February 4, 1801 – February 8, 1871

Mary Catherine (Bockhorst) Brandt June 28, 1802 – November 5, 1861

Mary Margaret Brandt April 3, 1843 – February 18, 1848

Interred front row:

Mary Elizabeth (Zimmerman) Brandt February 15, 1764 – November 15, 1851

J Hiram F Brandt December 31, 1808 – December 29, 1868

The 2 uninscribed stones are also in this row.

Dr Henry Brandt and Mary Catherine were a married couple. Mary Margaret was one of their children. Mary Elizabeth was Henry and Hiram’s mother, with Henry and Hiram being brothers.

Henry was born in Osnabrueck, Lower Saxony, Germany (then Prussia). He received his education as well as physician training while there. Mary Catherine was also born in the same area to Johann Herman Bockhorst and Gesina Maria Meesmann. She was baptized July 3, 1892 in Badbergen. The couple were married while still living there, and immigrated to this country in 1833, arriving September 28. They spent ten weeks crossing the Atlantic Ocean, during which time Henry served as the ship’s physician. Landing in New Orleans, they traveled

to St Louis, where they expected to live, however due to a cholera epidemic they proceeded to Dutzow, Missouri where Henry began his physician's practice. Many of his patients were German immigrants. The couple only stayed there for a year, after which they purchased a farm in Hickory Grove Township on Charrette Creek. Henry and his wife Catherine, the name she generally went by, were both naturalized January 16, 1834, in St Charles County, Missouri. Henry also became a loyal Republican. Additionally, Catherine's brother Johann Heinrich Bockhorst also settled in this area, and is buried at Harmonie Church cemetery.

The 1840 census lists the couple living with four children, Eliza, age 5, Henry, age 3, John, age 2 and Julius, only a few months old. Later that year daughter Amelia was born. In 1843, nearby Harmonie Church was organized and Dr Brandt was one of the founding trustees. He remained involved with the church, and most of his children and later grandchildren were baptized there. During this time he was also cultivating his farm, in addition to his physician duties. In 1849 he moved his family to another farm which he felt had better buildings. He lived on this farm until his death. He continued to buy additional property throughout his lifetime and had an extensive estate, being quite prosperous as both a farmer and physician. Interesting to note is that one of the parcels of land he purchased was originally part of a land grant from the "Florida War". It had been awarded to David Rison, who was enlisted in Captain Finley's Company 2nd Regiment Tennessee Volunteers. Another interesting note is that at one time Henry served as the postmaster for "Brandt's Rock Springs" post office in Warren County, Missouri.

Henry and Mary Catherine had a total of five children, two daughters and three sons. The Brandt family produced 3 generations of physicians. Their oldest son, Henry Jr, became a physician as well as his father's office partner, and they had a grand opening for their practice in 1855. Their son Julius also became a physician. Additionally, there were three grandsons who become physicians as well, Henry Jr's son as well as two of their son John's sons. Their son John became a Captain of Company H, Regiment 57 of the Missouri Militia in October 1862 and served in the Civil War in various locations until 1865. Following his service, he became a merchant and operated a General Store in the area.

With Dr Brandt's prosperity also came the utilization of enslaved people to work his extensive estate. In 1850, he was listed as owning \$1,000 in real estate as well as four enslaved African American females ages 1 to 26, two enslaved African American males ages 22-24, and a mulatto female age 6 months. By 1860 his real estate holdings had increased to \$8,000 and his personal wealth was listed as \$10,000. His children Henry, Julius and Amelia are still in the household. At this time he had three female (ages 55, 10 and 8) and two male (18 and 11) enslaved African American persons. Some of them now lived in their own building. From the ages listed, it appears they might have been a family unit. Sadly, Mary Catherine died at the age of 59 in 1861. The 1870 census lists Henry as simply a farmer and his son Julius is the only family member in his household. With slavery being outlawed, he employed two laborers, Herman Heir, an immigrant from Prussia, and Christopher Berger, as well as his wife Mary. The household employed a neighbor's daughter, Martha Woltemar, as a domestic servant. It is probable there is a connection to Simon Woltemar, or Lucia Margaretha Woltemar, both interred in nearby cemeteries. Dr Brandt's real estate holdings were listed as \$121,000 in real estate and \$9,000 in personal wealth. These amounts would provide almost \$3,000,000 in purchasing power in 2023.

The IRS was also looking for their share back in the 1860's, although taxation was quite a bit different. Various IRS schedules still exist for citizens of this area. In December of 1863 Dr Brandt paid \$23.18 in taxes, which was 3% of his income listed at \$706 as well as tax due on a one-horse carriage valued at \$80. In May of 1864, he paid \$19.41, 3% of his income listed at \$647.

Dr Henry F Brandt died at the age of 70 in 1871. He left a detailed will leaving his estate in equal portions to his children and their heirs, as follows. Henry specified that his funeral costs and debts be paid first. As for his five children, Eliza Hedemann was to receive \$50, Henry Jr \$50, John \$50 and parcels of land, Julius \$50 and parcels of land near the creek, and Amelie Griedmann \$50 and parcels of land. His intent after these bequests was that all have equal shares of his sizeable estate, so he further specified that any money advanced to them as well as the value of the land bequeathed to them was recorded in his account book. After taking these figures into account, his estate was to be further distributed so that each child was given an equal amount. Then the remainder was to be passed

equally to each of the five to be passed to their heirs. His sons John and Julius were named co-executors.

Not as much information is available for Hiram and Mary Elizabeth, unfortunately. They were born in Lower Saxony, Prussia as well. Baptismal records reflect Maria Elisabetha Zimmerman being baptized March 23, 1764, in Prussia, which could be the same person. The 1840 census lists the pair as living next door to Henry and Mary Catherine. The 1850 census is about the same, but also lists real estate with a value of \$80. Hiram died at the early age of 59, and no marriage records have been found. Further research will continue for them....