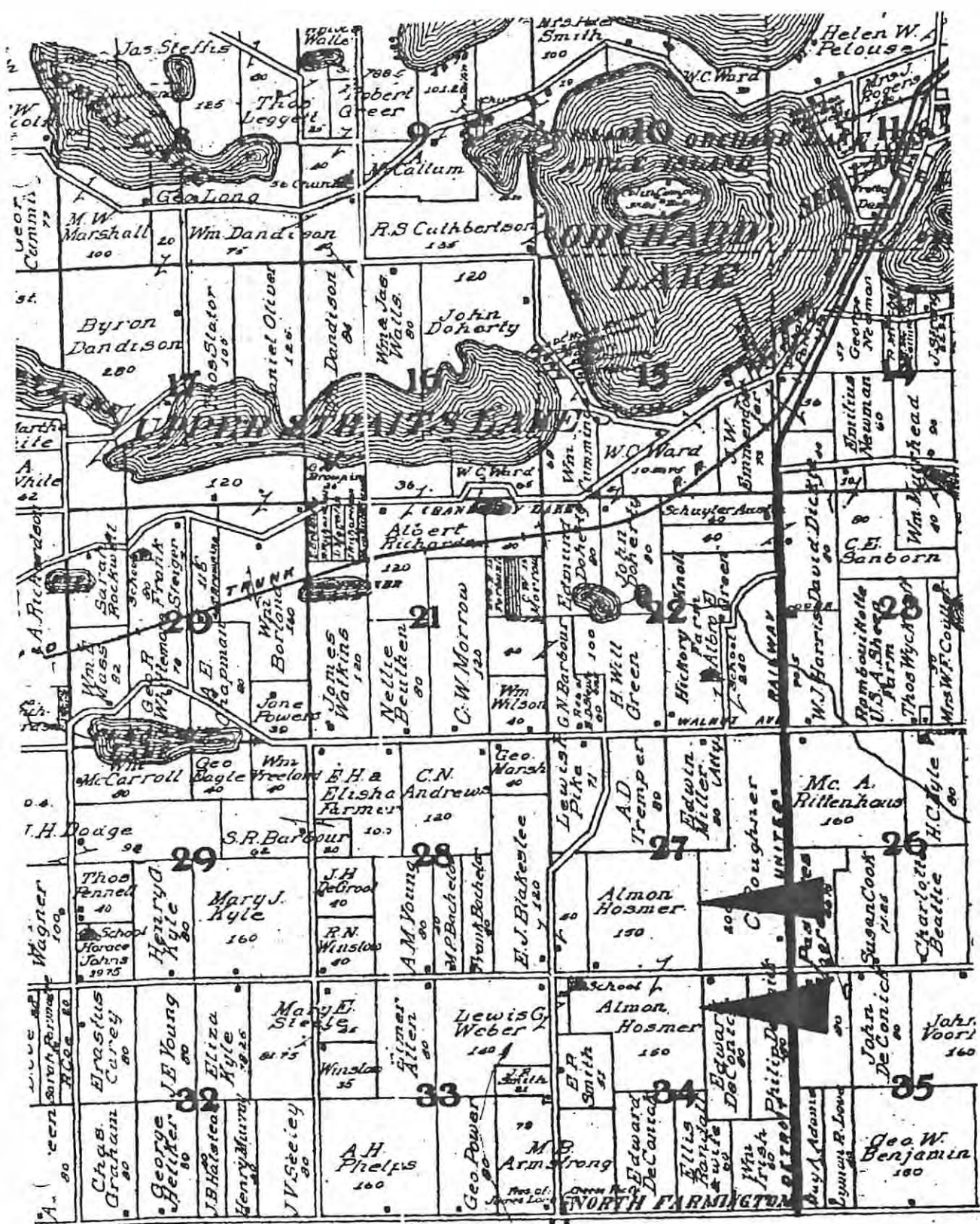


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REFERENCE



No. Farmington, MI & West Bloomfield Township area.

ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA  
Est. 1910  
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



## THE HOSNER FAMILY CEMETERY

In West Bloomfield Township, Michigan

By Gerald R. Hosner

The photograph, on the front of this HOSNER family cemetery story, is a composite of the upper and lower portions of a gravestone that was originally located on the East Side of Farmington Road, South of Maple Road in Section 33, West Bloomfield Township, Oakland County, Michigan. It Lists:

Jacob HOSNER, Sr. died March 3, 1835

Lucinda, died February 23, 1838

Alfred, died February 25, 1838

Erastus, died November 26, 1842

Children of Jacob and Asenath HOSNER, Jr.

This meant that Lucinda, Alfred and Erastus were the children of Jacob HOSNER, Jr. and his wife, Asenath WAIT or WAITE.

Due to the angle of the photograph, the data at the bottom of the picture did not reproduce. Bob Wheaton of the Rochester, MI office of the Oakland County Newspaper observed the original photograph in January 1998 and advised that the information read as follows:

Infant son of Thomas HOSNER – Isenath HOSNER, Jr.

Since these Hosners died and were buried at this gravesite in 1835, 1838 and 1842 we believe they originally used temporary grave markers and sometime on or after 1842 the permanent gravestone was erected.

According to Mike Messina, of the West Bloomfield Police Dept., when he first joined the police force in 1971 there were two gravestones on this gravesite. Both gravestones identified the Hosners that were buried in this small cemetery. In approximately 1972 vandals removed both gravestones from this cemetery.

As the result of newspaper and TV coverage in 1997 some very kind person mailed the composite photograph shown in this report to Mike Messina. The Hosner family is very grateful to the unknown person mailing in this photograph.

We are making a plea to anyone reading this report, that may have photographs of the two gravestones or have names of the remaining two Hosners listed on the second gravestone, to send that information to:

Mike Messina  
West Bloomfield Police Department  
4530 Walnut Lake Rd.  
West Bloomfield, MI 48325-0130  
Tele 248-682-9200 Fax 248-682-1811

The Hosners, also recorded as Horsner, Hosmer, Hasner and Hofner and other spelling variations were among the early Europeans to settle in Fishkill, Dutchess County, New York. We believe Jacob Hosner, Sen. (Senior) was born in the Dutchess County, New York area. His family moved to Minden Twp., Montgomery County, New York and later to Clarkston Township, Monroe County, New York.

Jacob HOSNER, Sr. married Catharine MURPHY and their children were Betsey, Thomas, Catharine, Nicholas, Jr., Jacob Jr. and Phebe. They lived in the Clarkston Twp., Monroe County, NY area in 1822 - 1830+.

There were many Hosner families located in or near Clarkston Township, Monroe County, NY from as early as 1822 until about 1866. However, the Hosner families involved in this story were:

Jacob HOSNER, Sr. and Catharine MURPHY  
Thomas HOSNER and Hannah BACHELOR  
Jacob, HOSNER, Jr. and Asenath WAIT or WAITE

In April 1820 the US Congress passed an Act, "an act making further provisions for the sale of the Public Lands." This included the Territory of Michigan. After these lands had been surveyed and plat maps became available the lands were offered for sale in Detroit, Michigan. This was an excellent opportunity for settlers in New York State to purchase virgin timberland sites for farming. Each of these Hosner families were eager to move from their small land holdings in New York State to the new lands in Michigan.

Thomas Hosner, of Monroe County, New York, purchase on May 2, 1831, 80 acres of land in West Bloomfield Township section 33. Later purchases would include the land next to this original purchase that included the site of the Hosner family cemetery.

