

## Chronology of the 32.5 acre tract containing the Litchford Cemetery

- 1789 Pleasant Litchford was born in Lynchburg, Virginia.
- 1831 P. Litchford moved to Ohio by this year.
- 1833 – 1849 P. Litchford purchased land in Perry Township, acquiring over 227 acres.
- 1879 P. Litchford died. Daughter Catherine Litchford Depp inherited the 32.5 acre tract of land.
- 1900 Daughters of Catherine Depp sold their inheritance so Litchford heirs no longer held title to this tract.
- 1906 For the first time the cemetery land was referenced in a deed but the language did not indicate a cemetery, only that ½ acre was “excepted and reserved,” meaning that whoever bought the 32.5 acres did not have legal interest in the cemetery. Litchford heirs maintained access to, perpetual use of, and responsibility for the cemetery. Also at this time the cemetery was surveyed for the first time.
- 1950 For the first time the cemetery land was referenced in a deed as a ½ acre tract known as a *graveyard*, and it appeared on the 1950 Franklin County Tax Map marked as “G.Y.”
- 1951 Upper Arlington annexed this 32.5 acre tract and surrounding land.
- 1955 Upper Arlington Board of Education bought four (4) properties comprising the 32 acres for the new location of the high school. The Board spent six months reviewing court records, locating Litchford heirs and initiating condemnation proceedings to acquire the ½ acre overgrown cemetery. The court established a value of \$1,600 for the property which was paid by the Board and distributed among known Litchford heirs. The Board also funded the removal and reinternment of discovered remains to both Union and Green Lawn cemeteries.
- 2020 Construction of the new high school near the current one along with advanced archeological technology resulted in the discovery of additional remains. Work is on-going until a complete and final resting place is achieved for all concerned.