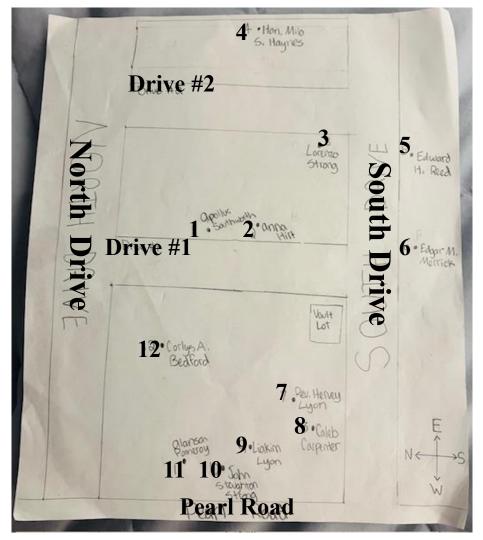
# A Guidebook of the Strongsville Cemetery and Famous Residents Buried There

The Silver Award Project for Strongsville Girl Scout Cadette Vivian Eich

# Map and Key Page

- 1. Apollus Southworth
- 2. Anna Hirt
- 3. Lorenzo Strong
- 4. Hon. Milo S. Haynes
- 5. Edward H. Reed
- 6. Edgar M. Merrick
- 7. Rev. Hervey Lyon
- 8. Caleb Carpenter
- 9. Liakim Lyon
- 10. John Stoughton Strong
- 11. Alanson Pomeroy
- 12. Corlys A. Bedford

The numbers above correspond to each grave's number on the map, and the order in which you should visit the graves. The Famous Strongsville Resident's name is also written next to their grave on the map.



# **Apollus Southworth**

**Apollus Southworth was born on November 16, 1792** in Stoughton, Massachusetts. He was born to Sarah Hewett and Captain Jedediah Southworth. His father played an important role in the creation of the United **States of America.** Captain Jedediah Southworth was a Revolutionary War soldier and a member of the first **Constitutional Convention in Massachusetts. Apollus** Southworth moved to Strongsville with his wife and children, where they lived and worked on a farm. Apollus died on June 16, 1878 at age eighty-five. It is completely fascinating to think that the child of a **Revolutionary War veteran who attended the Constitutional Convention is buried right here in** Strongsville!





Apollus Southworth's grave is located a few yards off to the left of the road marked 'Drive #1' while facing South Drive. His grave is marked with a tall gray headstone.

#### <u>Anna Hirt</u>

Anna Hirt was born in Wisconsin in 1874 and lived in Chicago with her family during the early years of her life. When Anna came to Cleveland later on, she met Sam Hirt, an Austrian immigrant. The two married in Cleveland in 1896. The couple later moved to Strongsville. In 1915, Anna and her husband opened a small greenhouse called Hirt's Flowers on the corner of Royalton Road and Pearl Road. Their business sold all types of flowers, each grown in their greenhouse. Anna worked at Hirt's Flowers for her entire life until she died in 1937. However, Hirt's Flowers carried on for long after Anna and Sam Hirt's deaths. Their descendants and family continued operating the business until it was knocked down in 2005 and relocated to Granger Township. For many years, Hirt's Flowers supplied the residents of Strongsville with bouquets, corsages, and a smile whenever they walked into the flower shop. Even though Anna and her greenhouse are no longer around in Strongsville, the memories that she created still linger with many Strongsville residents today.





Anna Hirt's grave is located a few yards off to the left of Drive #1 when facing South Drive. Her grave is marked with a flat grey stone, and is near a larger headstone marked 'Hirt'.

# **Lorenzo Strong**

Lorenzo Strong was born in Strongsville on May 29, 1842. He was taught his primary education by Reverend Harvey Lyon and went to college at Baldwin University. Lorenzo served as a private and a musician during the Civil War. He played the trumpet while marching with the troops. Lorenzo served as the First Lieutenant in the Co. F and in the 8th Regiment of the Ohio State Militia. Later in his military career, Lorenzo was promoted to the Captain of his regiment. Back in Strongsville, Lorenzo owned a farm that he took care of diligently. While he was home, Lorenzo also worked as one of the leaders of Strongsville and guided the residents of the city through any hardships they might've had. As a member of the leadership board at the time, Lorenzo was always willing to help his fellow citizens and always strived for the greater good of Strongsville. Lorenzo Strong was a memorable figure in both American and Strongsville history.





Lorenzo Strong's grave is located near the corner of South Drive and the street marked Drive #1 on the packet map. His grave is marked with a smaller headstone that says 'Father' on the top.

# Hon. Milo S Haynes

Milo S. Haynes was born on July 14, 1830 in Strongsville. As a child, Milo remembered his father as a strong Abolitionist, housing slaves in their own home and store. Later on in his life, Milo received a good education which led him to partake in many different careers. Milo worked as a teacher, blacksmith, farmer, and politician. He contributed to and worked for the High School and Brick Road in Strongsville. Milo was also elected as a member of the 70th General Assembly of Ohio in 1891 and helped to introduce the bill that established the first West Cuyahoga County Fair. Milo was also very active in his church community, offering up his assistance wherever he could. He married Elizabeth Hobbs, whose family had come to Strongsville from England when she was very young. Elizabeth Hobbes was a wise teacher, one of the best the Strongsville school system had. Milo S. Haynes improved many aspects of life in Strongsville through his efficiency in different trades.





Hon. Milo S Haynes' grave is located in the plot of land to the left of the road marked 'Drive #2' while facing South Drive. His grave is marked with a gray headstone. Note that the headstone reads 'Fetterman' on one side, but the other side has Haynes' name and information.

# Edward H. Reed

Edward H. Reed was born in St. Agnes, England on October 22, 1823. He moved to America with his family when he was just fourteen years old. When Edward reached Cleveland, he hired himself to a farmer in the town of Newburg. He was prepared to work on the farm to earn money and have a job. However, after working for some time, Edward missed his family terribly and walked back to where they were living at the time, which happened to be Strongsville. After that, he spent the rest of his life living in Strongsville, taking part in a series of activities around the city. Edward bounced through jobs during his time in Strongsville. He seemed to have done each occupation at some point, from owning a general store to working on a farm to constructing a railroad. Edward served as a trustee in both the Congregational Church and in the township. He also served as treasurer in Strongsville for some time. Throughout all the positions and jobs Edward took part in, he was loved by everyone he interacted with. Up until his death in 1900, Edward H. Reed was a man for others in every aspect of his life.





Edward H. Reed's grave is located on the right side of South Drive, and is almost parallel to Lorenzo Strong's grave. His grave is marked with a tall gray headstone that is marked 'Reed'.

## Edgar M. Merrick

Edgar M. Merrick was born in Sand Lake, New York in 1806. He worked for five years in Mississippi as a carpenter before moving to Strongsville in 1840. Edgar owned and worked on a farm in the southeastern part of Strongsville, all while continuing his carpentry business. Edgar built Strongsville's Episcopal Church, which was an important part of the Albion area's early history. The church he built helped bring the community of Strongsville and the surrounding areas together. Edgar had two children, Joseph and Henry. Joseph served in the Civil War for three years, fighting for the Union. Edgar M. Merrick and his children are important in the history of Strongsville and the history of our country, and they are buried right here in the cemetery!



Edgar M. Merrick's grave lies almost flat on the ground. It is near a larger gravestone marked 'Merrick', and it is on the right side of South Drive. The black circle in the larger picture shows the grave in comparison to the larger 'Merrick' gravestone.

## **Reverend Harvey Lyon Sr.**

Reverend Harvey Lyon Senior was born in New York in 1800. He graduated from Andover College, which is located in New Hampshire, and became a teacher and a reverend. Once he came to Strongsville, Harvey continued his work teaching in the local schools and being a reverend in the local parish. Harvey's skill was in teaching others, especially younger people. Everyone who knew him said that he had a way of explaining things so that even the most confused could understand. Harvey was considered a notable mathematician, and was an all around respected scholar in the city of Strongsville. **Reverend Harvey Lyon Senior died in Brunswick in** March of 1862 after living a fulfilling life as a teacher, reverend, mathematician, and a lovely person to all.





Reverend Harvey Lyon Sr.'s grave is located near South Drive. His grave is marked with a cracked gravestone.

#### **Caleb** Carpenter

Caleb Carpenter was born in Brattleboro, Vermont in 1798. He bought 75 acres of land east of Strongsville in 1820, for \$3 per acre. Caleb ran a large, wealthy farm in Strongsville with lots of livestock and spent most of his life working on his land. Throughout Strongsville, Caleb was known as a man of good morals. He was an advocate for good schools and city improvements. Caleb was always empathetic of the poor and those who were suffering. He was an Abolitionist, along with most residents of Strongsville at the time, and his home was used as a stop on the Underground Railroad during the Civil War. Caleb's first wife was Susan Haynes, who was one of Strongsville's early teachers. She was loved by all of her students. Susan died in 1841 after having eleven children, including three sets of twins. Caleb remarried in 1843 to a woman named Beulah Dewey who was from Brecksville. The two lived happily married until Caleb's death on January 20, 1873.





Caleb Carpenter's grave can be found near South Drive. His grave is marked by a tall white headstone that is labelled 'Carpenter'.

#### **Liakim Lyon**

Liakim Lyon was born in Woodstock, Connecticut on November 3, 1781. He married Miss Mary Strong, John Stoughton Strong's half sister. Liakim walked the entire distance from Connecticut to Strongsville, Ohio in 1818. His family moved shortly after, and they lived in a log cabin together. The family eventually moved to a farm in an area that was called Jehiel Cross Clearing. Liakim was involved in a lot of the pioneer work in Strongsville, helping with other residents' farms and building houses for newcomers. He was elected into the Strongsville board for many years, starting when he came to the town in 1818. As a leader in Strongsville, Liakim Lyon helped with the laws and policies of the city. He helped create the laws that everyone would abide by, and he helped create a government in the town until his death in 1856, at the age of 75. Liakim Lyon was an important person in the foundation of Strongsville, from the moment he arrived to the day of his death.





Liakim Lyon's grave is located in the middle of Section A, near Alanson Pomeroy's grave. His grave is marked with a tall, slightly tilted white headstone with a vase on top.

## **John Stoughton Strong**

John Stoughton Strong is known for being the founder of Strongsville, but before that, he came from an important family. He was born on July 19, 1771 in Stafford, which was located in the Connecticut colony in colonial America. John's father and two of his uncles were soldiers in the Revolutionary War, and he was a descendant of Elder John Strong, a Puritan who came from England to America in 1620. When John Stoughton Strong was 22 years old, he moved to Malboro, Vermont where he was a jack of all trades. John worked on a farm, a distillery, and other businesses until 1816. During that time, John married Tamar Whitney who would become his wife and partner of 68 years. In 1817, John moved to Township No. 5, Range 13, of the Connecticut Western Reserve in Ohio with his eldest son, Emory. The rest of his family moved into the area in 1818. The township was mainly owned by two men from Connecticut, but in 1815-1816, the men sold over a half of the area to John, meaning he now had control over most of the land. John was a leader in creating the settlement, naming it Strongsville and establishing roads, schools, churches, shops, homes, and more. With John's driving determination, Strongsville grew to be an important settlement in the Cleveland area. John died on February 23, 1863 in Strongsville at the age of 91. John Stoughton Strong's intelligent decisions and positive work energy helped shape Strongsville to the beautiful city it is today.





John Stoughton Strong's grave can be found near the fence by Pearl Road.

## **Alanson Pomeroy**

Alanson Pomeroy was born in Northampton, Massachusetts on February 20, 1805. His family moved to Strongsville in 1822. Through his own hard work, Alanson grew in his popularity and importance in Strongsville. He was an organizer of the Berea Bank and a leader of Strongsville's Congregational Church. Alanson also had the position of Justice of the Peace in Strongsville, and was a trustee to the city. Many referred to Alanson as 'Judge Pomeroy' for his just and peaceful ways. In 1847, Alanson built a large mansion in Strongsville that he called The Homestead, which is now a restaurant known as Don's Pomeroy House. At this time, President Lincoln and the Union were very popular in Strongsville, resulting in most of the residents being Abolitionists. Alanson's strong beliefs led to him turning his Homestead into a stop of the Underground Railroad. Harlan Pomeroy, Alanson's son, reported seeing their mother going down into their cellar with fresh food and said he saw slaves in their cellar when the cellar door was opened. Harlan also said that Alanson would bring slaves concealed in a wagon with hay into the cellar until his father received word that the next boat was leaving for Canada. Then, under the cover of nighttime, Alanson would hide the slaves in his wagon and take them to Rocky River to sail across Lake Erie to Canada. Alanson continued his beliefs of freedom for all until his death in Berea on February 7, 1901. Alanson Pomeroy was an inspiring person because of his bravery while fighting against slavery. The next time you sit down for a meal or a few drinks at Don's Pomeroy House, make sure you remember Alanson **Pomeroy!** 





Alanson Pomeroy's grave can be found near the fence by Pearl Road. His grave is marked with a tall gray headstone.

# **Corlys A. Bedford**

Corlys A. Bedford was born on February 6, 1920 in Strongsville. He was the son of Herbert and Myra Bedford. Corlys served in the 367th Fighter Squadron, 358th Fighter Group in World War 2. He had the position of Second Lieutenant and was a fighter pilot. Corlys flew a P-47D Thunderbolt. While on an escort mission in Ludwigshafen, Germany, Corlys was shot down by enemy fighters. He died in action at the young age of 23. We remember and honor Corlys A. Bedford and so many other soldiers who died for our country and our freedom.





Corlys A. Bedford's grave is located near the cross of North Drive and the road marked 'Drive #1'. His grave is marked with a flat gray headstone.