

There are a number of closed and abandoned cemeteries in Hope Township. While most were located near long-gone churches, a few are private family plots. The following notes are from *CemSearch* and Harold Reeve's 1967 *History of the Township of Hope*.

East Zion Bible Christian cemetery (Moon's) – Concession 7, lot 4

The church, built prior to its appearance on an 1861 township map, was located on the Moon farm, and called Moon's to distinguish it from the other Zion church in the township. Although not used regularly for many years, it functioned as a Sunday school until the 1920's. It was sold in 1930 to William Scott and taken down. When attempting to list the few stones, the entire area was found to be one solid mass of poison ivy, even beyond the fence. Seven burials are known.

Elizabethville Anglican cemetery – Concession 7, lot 29

A church south of the cemetery, long gone, was opened for service in 1855. Since no stones predate that, the cemetery property, about 40 feet wide by 75 feet long, was likely acquired at the same time. The church was taken down about 1907. The last of 21 known burials was c1946. Stones have been collected and arranged in the ground. The entrance is from county road 65, running north and south on the east side.

Elizabethville Methodist cemetery – Concession 7, lot 28

This small cemetery is on a knoll, located almost directly across the road from the Anglican cemetery. Many stones are broken and difficult to locate. The church was built in 1856 on land, deeded in 1860 from the Beatty family to the church trustees, at the corner of county roads 9 and 65. In 1925, it became United and in 1969 amalgamated with Garden Hill. The building is now a private residence. There were burials beside this church, but no stones remain. A new cemetery was started further south on land from the same family. An earlier stone from 1853 could have been moved. There are three large stones. It is less than one acre in size, with some 47 known burials.

Elliott's Mills (Eden) Bible Christian cemetery – Concession 6, lot 27

Little is known about this church/cemetery. John Elliott provided the land in 1851. There are two deed transactions: one of 1870, in which the grantor, Henry Elliott, is one of the trustees of Elliott's Mills Bible Christian Chapel (Eden BC Church); and one from 1878 showing James Elliott as a trustee of the Bible Christian Chapel & burying ground at Elliott's Mills (Eden BC Church). As a result of the 1884 Methodist Union, it became part of the Welcome Circuit. By 1890, it was part of the Canton Circuit, and closed in 1898 with the congregation going to Elizabethville Methodist Church. The church was taken down in the 1920s, and it is believed that the cemetery stones were plowed into the ravine. There is no record of the burials.

Marsh vault – Concession 1, lot 20

Built of Kingston limestone by Harold Reeve's grandfather, William. Susannah Marsh was the wife of James Sculthorpe of New York City. She had said that she did not want to be buried underground, so her father built the vault, approximately 15x15 feet, in the 1850s to meet her wishes. The Marsh families who were buried nearby were reinterred into the vault. She was the 27th and last buried here. In 1958, the vault was broken into and totally sealed thereafter.

Oak Hill cemetery – Concession 9, lot 29

A Presbyterian frame church was built in 1853. It was closed for a time but reopened c1900. It was taken down about 1920. There are some 133 known burials.

Perrytown Bible Christian cemetery – Concession 6, lot 14

Land was given by James Rutledge, for a Bible Christian church and cemetery, to the Rev. John Eymon in 1843. The church was closed in 1884 at the time of union with the Methodists. There are some 89 burials in this cemetery, now maintained by the Municipality of Port Hope. Gathering the data required considerable uncovering and even portions of inscriptions are recorded, with the hope that other information may someday complete them.

Perrytown Presbyterian cemetery – Concession 6, lot 15

The church began by Rev. Gordon as a mission in 1831, replaced by Rev. Cassie in 1835. The deed for lot 15 was given by Sam Corbett in 1838. The "new" 1851 building is no longer there. The cemetery area is about one acre, with some 114 burials. There are at least 22 broken or fallen stones; the oldest dates to 1837 and the latest, 1940. Most burials took place in the latter half of the 19th century.

Soper cemetery – Concession 1, lot 23

Nothing remains of this cemetery, located on a hill overlooking Lake Ontario, just west of Port Britain Road and north of Lakeshore Road in what was known as the Port Britain Commons on land which was part of the Soper grant. The cemetery is now part of a cultivated field.

Notes given to B.C. Stinson in 1989 from Mary Mack of Port Hope state, "The Soper graveyard was given by Timothy Soper to the Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto, registered Feb 27, 1858, exactly 2 acres." There was a total of eight to twelve burials. The cemetery fell into disuse and the stones were moved into the fence corner c1917 (Reeve) and the land cultivated over. c1948, Marcus and George Soper found Leonard's stone at this location, and removed it to the Bowmanville Cemetery, along with the other stones. Edwin B. Butter's appeal to the Historical Church in Toronto in 1972 to have this cemetery restored was not successful.

Walker cemetery – Concession 3, Lot 16

This is a family cemetery for the family of Hugh Walker, who was granted 200 acres around this site in 1797. It has since become an island in a farm field and the stones had begun to lean precariously when corrected in September 2001 by the late Edgar Walker of Gloucester. There are 7 burials claimed from 1807-1879.