



For much of the time the cemetery has been known not as the Captain William Jared Cemetery, but as the Jared-Byrne Graveyard.

"The family is trying hard to put it all together," said Huddleston.

The cemetery which also contains the remains of individuals from the Denny and Byrne families is a reminder that the modern history of Putnam County was jump-started by the Revolutionary War.

According to the Patriot Index of the Daughters of the American Revolution, William Jared enlisted in the Continental Army when he was 17 years old. He served eight years rising to the rank of Captain and was with the patriots when the peace treaty was signed on September 3, 1783.

For his loyalty and service the fledging US government awarded the young captain 1,000 acres of rural farm land in what was soon to become the State of Tennessee. He traveled there from Virginia with his wife and their first two children. According to historic records he was an accomplished woodworker, as his father was before him.

Jared's family was one of the first Euro-American families to settle in Tennessee. The captain is listed in the book, *First Families of Tennessee*, published by the East Tennessee Historical Society.

William Jared was born in Pennsylvania in 1758 to John and Hannah (Whitacre) Jared. His mother's family was part of the Quaker community in Bucks County, and when the Revolution came, John and William had to decide whether to join the Continental Army, which would have been against the pacifist philosophy of the church, or to join in fighting for the establishment of a new country.

They decided to fight. Later, though, William became a Methodist minister.

With the graveyard protected from grazing animals and looking neat and tidy, what else does the family want for the little cemetery?

"We have a number of grave markers that need to be repaired," Huddleston said. "We're hoping we can begin to identify who the other people are who are buried there.

"We need to find a way to take care of the cemetery perpetually," she said.

To help with the weeding, next month Audrey June Denny Lambert will be coming back down from Michigan with her garden tools in hand.

"We've still got the trust fund and hopefully enough people will become involved in this project that we can continue to maintain the cemetery," Huddleston said.

"And, of course, we need a memorial marker installed with the name of the cemetery. And, who knows, someday we may even put in an access road."

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