



SINCE

1841

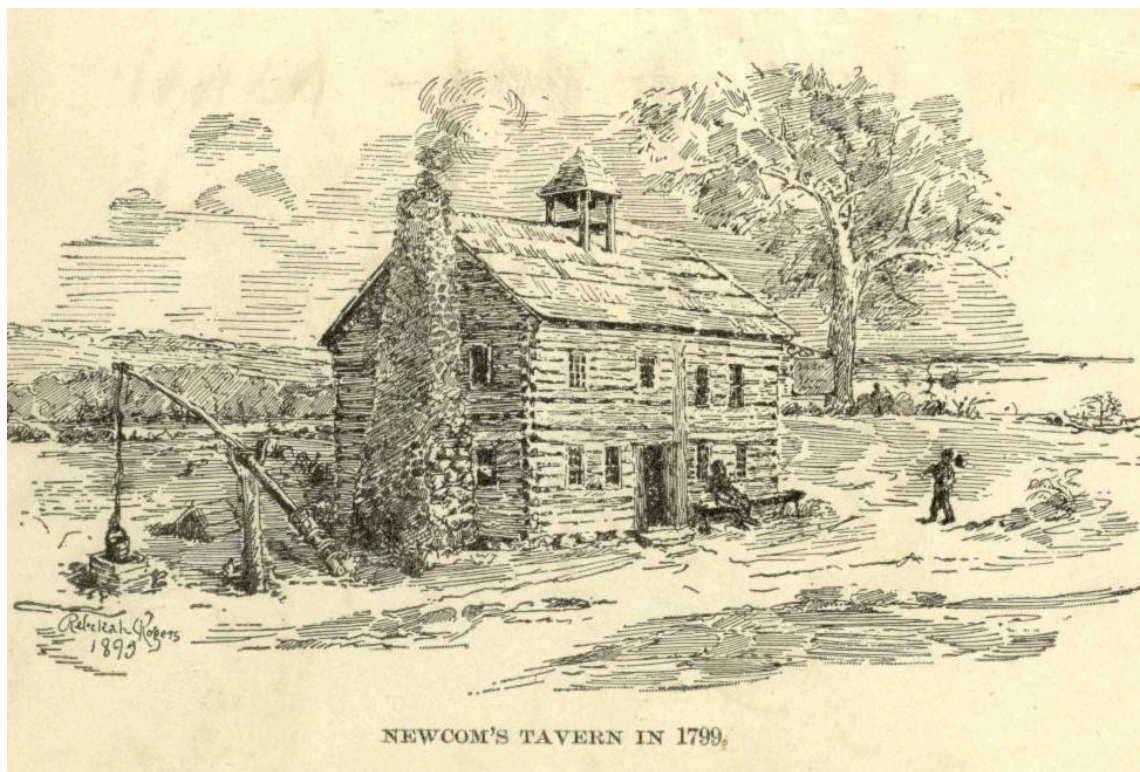
WOODLAND

HISTORIC CEMETERY & ARBORETUM

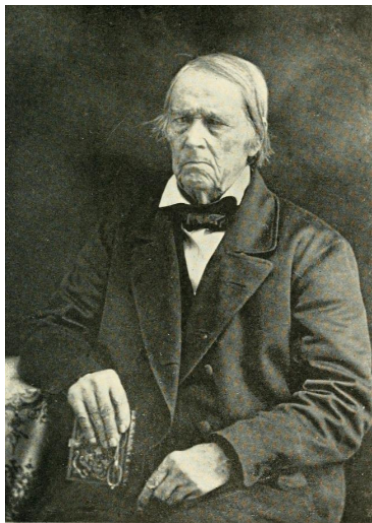


The Story of Newcom's Tavern

The oldest building in Dayton is Newcom's tavern. It was built by Robert Edgar in 1796 for George & Mary Newcom at what would become the southwest corner of Main and Water (later renamed Monument) Streets.



Above: Newcom's Tavern ca. 1799 by Rebekah Rogers (1875). Courtesy of the [Dayton Metro Library](#).



Above: Daguerreotype of George Newcom from the collection of Mrs. J. Gebhart, published in [Early Dayton](#) by Robert W. & Mary D. Steele, 1896.

George Newcom was born in Ireland in 1771 and came to the United States with his parents in 1775, settling in Delaware.

George met & married his wife, Mary, in Pennsylvania before travelling onward to Dayton in the 1790's.

As well as being the first tavern owner & trading post operator, George Newcom was Montgomery County's first sheriff & jailer, got elected to the Ohio state senate in 1815, then became the first president of Dayton's first bank.

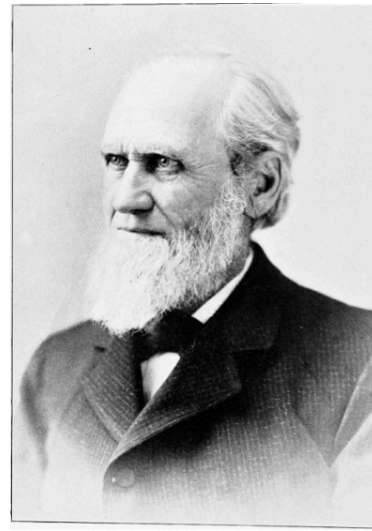
Though he had been a soldier under Anthony Wayne & served in the War of 1812, Newcom's title—he is often called "Colonel"—appears to be a term of respect rather than a military rank.

George Newcom died in 1853 at the age of 82. He and his wife Mary are buried in section 16, lot 53 at Woodland Cemetery.

According to Robert Edgar's son, John F. Edgar, Newcom would pay Robert Edgar 6 shillings per day for cutting & hewing logs, and Edgar in turn would provide the Newcoms with one deer per week to pay his board while the work was done [1].

Once completed, Newcom's tavern served as Dayton's first school, first church, courthouse, council chamber and store. George & Mary Newcom's daughter, Jane, was born in a second-floor bedroom in 1802—making her the first baby born in the newly settled Dayton [2].

In 1815 the Newcoms sold the tavern, which continued to be used; first as an inn, then a general store. Throughout the years, the structure had been altered—it had been plastered inside, weather boarded on the outside—until the original building was nearly forgotten.



John F. Edgar

is the author of Pioneer Life in Dayton and Vicinity, published in 1896.

He and his father Robert are laid to rest in the family plot in section 57, lot 44 at Woodland Cemetery.

In 1894, architect Charles Insko Williams began preparations to tear the building down to make room for a new apartment building.

Newcom's tavern might have slipped away from us then, and almost did—if not for Mary Davies Steele's determination to save it.

[1] "Pioneer Life in Dayton and Vicinity" by John F. Edgar, 1896.

[2] Jane Newcom married Nathaniel Wilson, and both are laid to rest in the Newcom family plot.



Upcoming Events!



INDOOR Mausoleum TOUR

[Indoor Mausoleum Tour](#)



NEW YEARS Bird Walk

[New Year's Bird Walk](#)

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	Christmas 12/25		

:7

Don't get caught by
surprise:

Please be sure to bring home all decor
items that you wish to keep.

Key:

Dark Green = Weekly Clean Off
 Orange = Do Not Clean Off
 Soft Grey = At Woodland's Discretion

Support Woodland!

For 184 years, Woodland has been a place of remembrance, reflection, and beauty. This Giving Tuesday, you can help preserve that legacy.

Your donation to the Woodland Arboretum Foundation supports landscape care, tree preservation, historic restoration, and our commitment to keeping Woodland a welcoming sanctuary for all.

Please consider a tax-deductible gift today

Thank you for supporting Woodland's mission.

With gratitude,

Woodland Arboretum Foundation



Come Visit Us!



Office Hours:

Monday-Friday
8am-5pm

If you need help finding where someone is buried, need directions to a particular area, or have questions about pre-planning or funeral services, Woodland's Staff is here to assist you!

Volunteer opportunities

Woodland is seeking volunteers to give presentations to community groups on subjects such as local history, notable biographies, and trees.

Not into public speaking? Consider getting involved with our horticulture team, or assisting with special events & research projects.

*If there is something you'd like to see here at Woodland please reach out to us & suggest it!

Tours & More:

We welcome walkers, runners, and wanderers -- leashed dogs & school groups.

Register for a guided tour: visit the Woodland Cemetery website! Learn about fascinating Daytonians resting peacefully in one of America's oldest rural garden cemeteries!

Or check out our **virtual tours!** (if you really don't want to go outside)



WOODLAND

HISTORIC CEMETERY & ARBORETUM

Committed to providing dignified and caring funeral services and burial options to families of all faiths since 1841.

Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum

118 Woodland Ave.

Dayton, OH 45409

woodlandcemetery.org

Beautiful. Timeless. Still Available...



Discover the men and women who made it great in Dayton on a guided walking or bus tour. Self-guided tours are available on our mobile app.

For information call 937-228-3221 or e-mail info@woodlandcemetery.org

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