

Friends and Descendants of Johnson's Island Civil War Prison



Major Henry Eversman:
Perhaps in after years I
may pass here and
hardly recognize the
place. Time works
changes – which no hu-
man hand can stay.
June 25, 1865

A non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the Johnson's Island

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Island*



Land Preserved-Plaque Erected



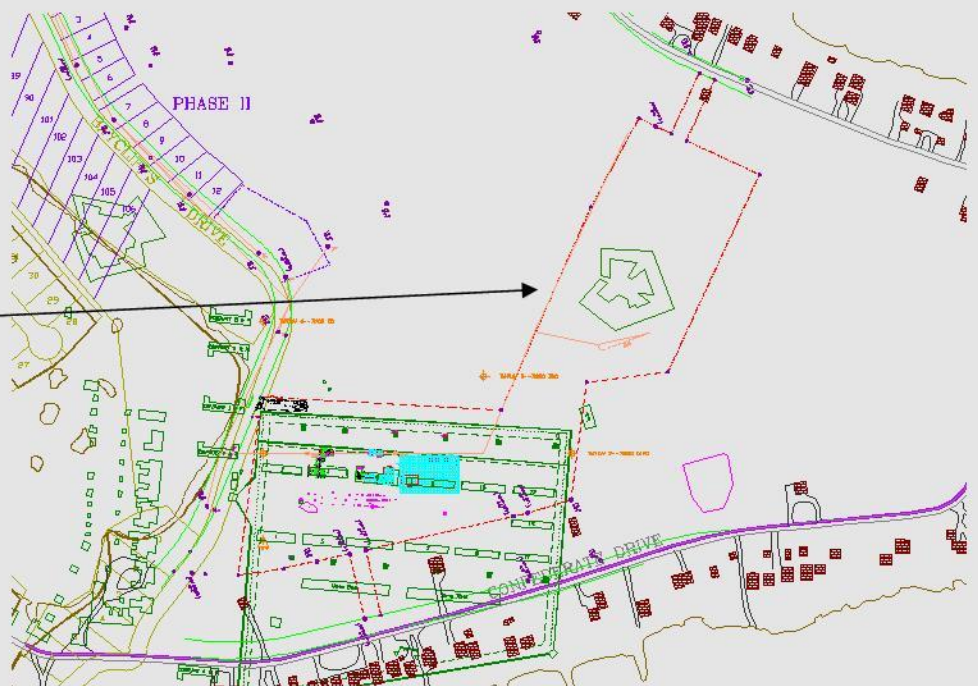
Here is the long promised plaque now residing at the 1862 wall west of where Block 4 once stood on the Johnson's Island Civil War Prison. We hope you can come and see it soon.

Johnson's Island Civil War Prison SAVED

WE DID IT!!

April 2, 2011, on Johnson's Island in Sandusky Bay, Ohio, a group of approximately 130 *Friends and Descendants of Johnson's Island Civil War Prison* celebrated the successful securing and retiring of the mortgage of 17.1 acres of this National Historic Landmark for research, educational and interpretative purposes. The Johnson's Island Civil War Prison Mortgage Burning and Donors Plaque Dedication Ceremony was truly a day for celebration. This accomplishment was possible through the insightful and unyielding leadership of Dr. David Bush, chairman of the board of our dedicated group, known as *Friends and Descendants of Johnson's Island Civil War Prison*. Along with great leadership, contributions from many generous supporters made repaying the loan of \$355,000 within ten years possible. We, the *Friends* are especially appreciative of the timely assistance from the Sidney Frohman Foundation, along with the 14th OVI and Findlay High School students for numerous fundraising events and donations. The afternoon events included congratulatory sentiments from Heidelberg University's Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, Dr. David Weininger and a representative from the George V. Woodling, Jr. Foundation, Ed Patrick of which both organizations have been extremely supportive. Jim Sass, Ottawa County's Commissioner honored the group with an official Proclamation. After Dr. Bush's reflective and heartfelt address to the excited crowd, the ceremonial "burning" of the mortgage was met with cheers and a standing ovation. The unveiling of the donors' plaque was also met with joyous shouts, congratulatory hugs and lots of photographs. The ceremony concluded with an honorable 21 Gun Salute by the 14th Ohio Volunteer Infantry Color Guard (Civil War re-enactor soldiers in full uniform) led by Brian Porter. Everyone enjoyed beverages donated by Dean's Place in Lakeside, Marblehead and refreshments provided by the Findlay High School students. The cake itself was of great interest as the Findlay students designed, baked and decorated the cake which replicated the prison compound itself (approximately 2 meters x 1 meter size) complete with block houses, soldiers, outbuildings and more. While we have accomplished our first goal of preserving the property, we will be continuing our fundraising efforts to provide groomed interpretative walking trails with signage explaining the layout of the compound, making the site more illustrative and accessible to all. To all of you who helped make this possible, a sincere thank-you!! WE DID IT!!

The property we now have preserved is outlined in red.





CWT Park Day Participants once again worked hard to clean up OUR site from winter's wrath. Thanks to all that helped to make this truly a celebration. Check out more pictures on our web site.



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Dawn at JI
January 25, 2008

Upcoming Events:

April 12-October 28, 2011

Uniquely Rubber: Exhibit of use of hard rubber and gutta percha. Exhibit includes lecture by Mike Woshner on May 5th and one exhibit case about the use of Hard Rubber at Johnson's Island.

July 9, 2011

Johnson's Island Heritage Day-Join us in the morning at the Johnson's Island Club House to celebrate the vast history on the island.

July 11-15, 2011

Graduate Education courses at Johnson's Island. Volunteers welcome.

August 20, 2011

Great Golf Escape. Look for information and bring a team to compete for prizes and at the same time support this annual fund raising event.

From 2001



Trying to save HISTORY

■ Clyde man fights to save Confederate prisoner of war site on Johnson's Island.

By **BRENDA M. CULLER**

One hundred and thirty-seven years ago today, 8,200 Alabama Infantry U.S. POW Moore drew his last breath of freedom in Sandusky Bay as while being held prisoner on Johnson's Island.

Today, amid 12 years worth of articles, Clyde resident David Bush is trying to save the prisoner of war site where Moore and 10,000 other Confederate soldiers lived at some point during the Civil War.

"We are optimistic that we are going to be able to purchase the land for preservation," said Bush, who is part of the non-profit group Friends and Descendants of Johnson's Island.

Some island residents have expressed concern that the archaeological dig and the possibility of a museum on the prison site could turn the quiet island into a tourist trap. But Bush and others are for saving and displaying the nation's history.

"We are trying to put the pieces of who Moore and the other men were, if they were married, who their family was and who their descendants are," Bush said. "We are working on this, but it is still going to take some digging."

Friends formed in July with the goal of preserving the Johnson's Island Prisoner of War Depot — one of 68 National Historic Landmark sites in Ohio — for present and future research, educational and interpretive uses.

In 1990, three island residents for 21 years.



Thank you for supporting Johnson's Island! All contributions are tax deductible. If you wish to make a contribution, see our web site for more information.
www.johnsonsisland.com

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