

Marietta Campground

The campground was established in 1837 at the recommendation of a Methodist “circuit rider” who traveled to serve many churches. The original 40-acre site was purchased for \$40.00 and included the land now occupied by the church and cemetery across the street. The tabernacle was built in 1838 and cabins were added later. Although services have been held every year, camping was discontinued for a brief period during and after the Civil War. As members of other churches joined in, meetings became nondenominational. Descendants of the founding families and newcomers alike have continued the tradition of coming together for spiritual refreshment and renewing social contacts.

Sources – Marietta Campground

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The campground was established in 1837 at the recommendation of a Methodist “circuit rider” who traveled to serve many churches.¹ The original 40-acre site was purchased for \$40.00 and included the land now occupied by the church and cemetery across the street.² The tabernacle was built in 1838 and cabins³ were added later.⁴ Although services have been held every year, camping was discontinued for a brief period during and after the Civil War.⁵ As members of other churches joined in, meetings became nondenominational.⁶ Descendants of the founding families and newcomers alike have continued the tradition of coming together⁷ for spiritual refreshment and renewing social contacts.⁸

¹ Website (click on History), Wiley, 8.

² Website (History), Wiley, 8, 9.

³ The author’s use of the word “cabins” is intentional for purposes of clarity and brevity. Members of this organization use the word “tents”, the people who own the “tents” are called “tent holders” and they refer to their activity as “tenting” instead of camping. The older (1930s-era) references followed this same convention. Modern sources either used the word “cabins” outright, or they provided an explanation so that readers would understand what was meant by those words. Members reading the text will know which structures are being referred to by the word “cabins”. However, to the average citizen who stops to read the marker but knows nothing of this history, the word “cabins” will be clearer because the structures he will see in the background are made of wood and not cloth. Also, the text in its present form already exceeds 100 words. If the word “tents” had been used, additional words would have been needed to provide clarification.

⁴ Website (History), Wiley, 9, 11.

⁵ Website (History)

⁶ Website (Homepage), Marietta Daily Journal.

⁷ All sources except Temple.

⁸ Temple, 93.