

Booth

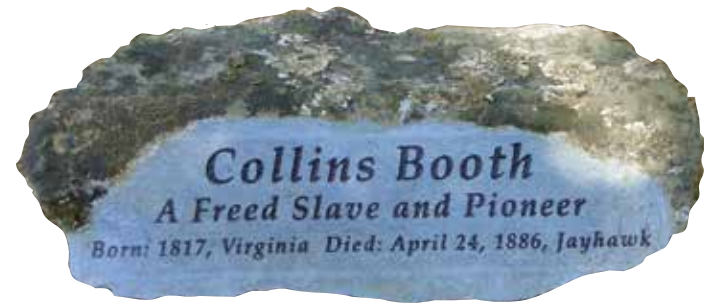
Collins Booth was born about 1817 in Virginia. The 1860 census lists him as a 43-year-old freed slave, living near Mud Springs. He never married. He worked as a laborer, painter, and teamster. At one time, he worked at the Zentgrafs. In fact, there is a black man in the picture of the Zentgraf Mine (page 347); the family says this *may* be Mr. Booth.

Historical note: When Collins Booth was buried in Jayhawk Cemetery, he was buried just outside the perimeter fence. The cemetery was enlarged many years later, and his resting spot is now well inside the cemetery.

In 1870, he lived on the Davidson Toll Road, between Buckeye Flat (Mother Lode Drive at the Buckeye School) and Kingsville (Mother Lode Drive just east of Green Stone Road). Ten years later he lived and worked at the Meyer’s Hotel and roller rink on Buckeye Flat.

On April 24, 1886, Booth was working his field when he stopped to rest. He sat down on his plow and “fell over dead.” He is the only black man buried in Jayhawk Cemetery.

Coroner Spencer was called to Jayhawk on Saturday last to hold an inquest on the remains of Collins Booth, a darkey residing in that vicinity. While plowing he sat down to rest on the plow beam, and immediately fell over dead. The jury found that he “came to his death from natural causes.” He was one of the oldest residents in the vicinity.



This is the new grave marker that marks Collins Booth's final resting place.