



73½ South Professor Street  
P.O. Box 455  
Oberlin, OH 44074-0455  
Phone: 440-774-1700  
Fax: 440-774-8061  
Website: [www.oberlinheritage.org](http://www.oberlinheritage.org)  
E-mail: [members@oberlinheritage.org](mailto:members@oberlinheritage.org)

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Contact: Linda Owens at (440) 458-6849 or 440-610-9716 or [owens\\_linda@msn.com](mailto:owens_linda@msn.com)

## **National Society of DAR Dedicates Historical Marker in Oberlin**

The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) will dedicate a historical marker in memory of Deborah McEwen Little of Oberlin on Saturday, April 27, 2013. Little's father, Duncan McEwen, was a Revolutionary War soldier and patriot who served in New York regiments. The public is invited to the ceremony that takes place at 10:45 a.m. at Westwood Cemetery, 455 Morgan Street, in Oberlin. Guests should follow the ring road to the south west corner and park along the paved or gravel pathways. In the event of rain, the outdoor ceremony will not take place.

Duncan McEwen (1755-1808) was born in Perth, Scotland. He emigrated to America and eventually enlisted under Captains Hasbrook, Hardenburg, Barnet, and Colonels Pawling, Van Cortland, Livingston, and Dubois of New York regiments. His service earned him a military pension. He married Martha Dickerson (1765-1841) with whom he had three daughters, Clarissa, Deborah (1797-1880) and Jane. The McEwens raised their family in various areas of New York including Ulster and Orange Counties. Deborah married William Little (1790-1870), a miller by trade, and they moved to newly established Oberlin in 1835.

Deborah was a constant church attendant, a provider to the needy, and a boarder to students whom she mothered and showered with the warmest hospitality. Deborah's sister, Jane, was married to Lewis Holtlander, the first Mayor of Oberlin. The Littles and the Holtlanders were among the first families in the community. William and Deborah's family included ten children. Daughter, Sophia, enrolled as a student at Oberlin College and lived to be 100 years old. Another daughter, Mary Jane, became a missionary to Minnesota with her husband. Son, Charles Finney Little became a well-known carpenter in Oberlin. A number of family members are buried in Westwood Cemetery.

The placement of the historical marker is part of a larger celebration hosted in Oberlin by the Nathan Perry (Ohio) and Shawnee Mission (Kansas) DAR chapters, which includes a luncheon at the Oberlin Inn for invited guests and a historic mini exhibit researched and displayed at the Inn by the Oberlin Heritage Center. For more information, contact Nathan Perry Chapter members Rosemary (440-288-4557) or Linda (440-458-6849).

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