

Douglas County Cemeteries

An Information and Location Guide

*We are pleased to include
member cemeteries located in Todd County*



Douglas County
Cemetery Association, Inc.

A Minnesota Non-Profit Corporation

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Mission Statement

The Douglas County Cemetery Association will work hard to fulfill its purpose of being a resource for member cemeteries in dealing with the operational problems that arise, creating mutually beneficial relationships between our members, promoting our cemeteries as the guardians of our county's heritage and as a place of lasting tribute to the memory of those who have gone before us.

Introduction

The oldest structures in our county are the white marble markers and the granite monuments that mark the remains of our earliest settlers. These fading gravestones with their engraved words, names and dates give us a glimpse of our heritage and also of a growing and developing county.

People coming to Minnesota and to Douglas County came from all parts of the world, giving us a variety of heritages and cultures. We do not indulge in ancestor worship but we do reverence those who worked so hard to make this earth a better place for us. We gain inspiration to do the same for our descendants.

Beautiful shaded hillsides and prairies are the setting for many cemeteries, and are a living monument to our predecessors. Each and every site is special.

Records maintained by our cemeteries contain the careful, and not so careful, evidence of the existence of our ancestors. Some cemeteries are making the transition to computer record keeping. It's a labor of love and respect, done by many good people and countless hours of volunteer time.

Thank you.

George Gaffaney

Charter Chairman,

Douglas County Cemetery Association, 2003

(used with permission, 2012)

We honor those men and women who serve
our country in times of war and peace.

May they rest in peace.

Lund Township

No. 1 Calvary Covenant (Mission) Cemetery

North side of County Road 24.

Across the road from Christina Lake Church is a site where graves from the original Calvary Covenant (Mission) Church are located. The Mission church was built in 1887 on Oak Hill and the cemetery was located on the corner of the Olson farm. The church was moved into Evansville in 1913, and the cemetery then became part of the Christina Lake Church and Cemetery.

No. 2 Christina Lake Lutheran Church Cemetery

Both sides of County Road 24.

On 14 July 1871, the pioneers of the Christina Lake area held a meeting that established the Christina Lake Lutheran Church. However, it was not until 1 February 1877 that the present location was decided upon. The two acre site is situated on the east end of Borg Hill and two miles southeast of Lake Christina.

At the church's annual meeting in 1928, a memorial stone marking the grave of the late Pastor Kronberg, the congregation's first pastor who spent his entire ministry at Christina, was proposed. Funds were gathered and the stone was unveiled on 28 February 1929 in his honor.

Millerville Township

No. 3 Trinity Lutheran Cemetery

East side of County Road 16.

Trinity Cemetery was started in 1892, some years before the church was built. The earliest burial in the cemetery was in 1892. The church is currently a member of the Missouri Synod, after years of being independent.

No. 4 Lake Moses Lutheran Cemetery

East side of County Road 16, south of the Lake Moses Public Access.

Lake Moses congregation was organized in 1880 by the Swedish families living near Lake Moses. The congregation considered itself a branch of Christina Lake Church, but the roads were poor and means of transportation was primitive, so they built a church.

The building was approximately 18' by 28', with two windows on each side. Seats were planks on blocks of wood. Per Lofdahl made the pulpit and pews during the winter of 1893. The congregation numbered at one time about 30 members. It was disbanded in approximately 1911 and the church building sold for lumber. Only the cemetery remains on a little hill.

No. 5 The Church of Seven Dolors Catholic Cemetery

In the city of Millerville, north of the church on County Road 7.

Leaf Valley Township

No. 6 Ebenezer Evangelical Lutheran Cemetery

County Road 5, east of the County Road 6 and County Road 5 "T".

On 4 July 1875, W. Dittberner donated a half-acre for a church. In 1878, the congregation paid Mr. Dittberner \$7 for another half-acre, and was given an additional half-acre by F. Schmidt. In 1881, the congregation received title to all three of these parcels of land, which, with another half-acre donated by R. Schmidt in 1906, comprise the present cemetery.

The first church, which was built in 1875, stood near the southeast corner of the present cemetery, with the entrance facing east. It was a log structure measuring 16' by 20'. The congregation decided on 10 February 1891 to build a new church on the present site. That decision also prompted another resolution on 19 February 1891; namely that "the resolution passed in 1890 'that the old church lot forever shall be and remain the cemetery for the congregation' shall never be amended or rescinded." This explains why the cemetery, for which a record of graves was begun in 1910, is located where it is.

Among the burials are four ministers, a Civil War Veteran, and a German Army soldier from WWI.

No. 7 Ellis Burial Plot

Corner of County Roads 5 and 6 in Leaf Valley.

On 14 March 1871, a town meeting was held in School District 28, in part to establish a burial ground on the W. B. Ellis land; near the present cemetery.

Miltona Township

No. 8 St. Paul Cemetery

West Miltona Road, near County Road 63.

St. Paul Cemetery is church affiliated. It was started next to the original church which was built in 1890. At first it was called the Miltona Cemetery. By 1921, it was called St. Paul's German Lutheran Cemetery, Miltona. Since approximately 1937, it has been called St. Paul Cemetery.

Most people buried here are members of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church and their families, or former members of the church.

Maintenance of the cemetery has always been done by a member of the congregation.

No. 9 Mount Calvary Cemetery

County Road 102.

Mount Calvary Cemetery is located approximately one mile northwest of Miltona on County Road 102 near the south end of Lake Irene.

Spruce Hill Township

No. 10 Oak Hill Cemetery, formerly Scriven Cemetery

On Oak Hill Drive, west of County Road 3.

On 19 November 1898 the Oak Hill Cemetery Association was formed. The Certificate of Organization was filed 13 May 1899. This is a beautiful, small, fenced in cemetery on the north side of Oak Hill Drive. An old gate in the southeast corner opens into a quiet setting with large trees and some very old monuments.

There are graves of Civil War soldiers as well as early settlers. Earliest recorded burials: Wm. Peckham, age 28, 5 October 1877 and Samuel Peckham, age 72, 2 August 1879. Last burial was Charles A. Rice, age 56, on 11 September 1937.

No. 11 Rose City Swedish Baptist Cemetery

On the north side of Rose City on County Road 18.

This is a small cemetery atop a hill. Some names on monuments are Sundberg, Nystrom, Malmsten and Brandt.

No. 12 Susan McGriff Burial Site

County Road 14.

Susan McGriff died 20 November 1890. She was born in Ohio and died at age 54 of typhoid. On the Douglas County Death Index, her parents were listed as Abel and Mary (no last name given). She was married to James McGriff (McGriffen) and they had four children.

She is buried in the northeast corner of the northwest quarter of Section 26. The grave is along the fence line approximately 50 feet from County Road 14 on private property.

(Note: While there is no demonstrative proof, Susan McGriff is rumored to have been removed to Kinkead Cemetery in LaGrand Township. Also, the possibility of two or three children's graves located on the Susan McGriff Burial Site is being researched.)

No. 13 Spruce Hill Lutheran Cemetery, original site

Off County Road 3 in Section 28.

On 30 January 1876, members wanted to locate the church and cemetery on land owned by N. P. Haggblad in Section 28. A crude log church was built and a burial ground was platted. When there was a need for a larger church, it was built in Section 34. Some of the graves were moved to the new location.

No. 14 Rose City Evangelical Free Church Cemetery

At the intersection of County Roads 3 and 14.

When the first church was built on the cemetery lot, it was called Swedish Free Mission Church. The first annual meeting was held in the log church in 1891, at the site of the cemetery. The log church served the congregation until the Spruce Hill Evangelical Free Church was built in Rose City in 1911.

The oldest marked grave is Reverend C. J. Bardwell, 1895, a Civil War Chaplain. The well-known sculptor, Dwayne Hanson is also buried here.

No. 15 Halvard Olson Burial Site

A Private Cemetery. "Inside the northwest corner of Section 28, next to Road 3 and Road 14 is one lone gravestone surrounded by an iron fence. Mr. and Mrs. Halvard Olson are buried at this site. About 1910 the Olsons farmed this parcel of land. And it is reported that when Ingeborg died she was placed in the cemetery across the road in Section 29. Halvard is said to have removed her remains by lantern and the light of the moon, with a wheel-barrow, to this final resting site." From *Spruce Hill Remembered* by Mildred Dahl.

No. 16 Spruce Hill Community Cemetery

On Otter Tail Trail Northeast, off County Road 5.

In 1884 a new church was built on land donated by Ole Swenson. Some of the graves were transferred from the old site after a cemetery was platted in 1895 and trees were planted. This cemetery is located in the churchyard of the Spruce Hill Church and is maintained by Douglas County.

Belle River Township

No. 17 Rasmus Larson Farm Burial Site

South of County Road 5.

Notes for Mary Larson: born 21 April 1886, died 1 December 1886.

The reason for death is unknown but diphtheria was rampant at the time. This is now private land.

No. 18 St. Nicholas Catholic Cemetery

North side of County Road 3, east of Belle River.

St. Nicholas parish began in 1870. The original log church was dedicated in 1871 by St. Paul Archbishop Thomas L. Grace. The church began as a mission outpost with the famed Minnesota missionary Father Xavier Pierz, stopping in to say Mass and perform the Sacraments.

The oldest burial record found is of Cornelia Schackers in May 1878, though there may have been earlier unrecorded burials. German immigrants were the primary ethnic group who founded the church.

No. 19 August Tonn Farm Burial Site

Near the City of Carlos.

Private land. Reportedly two burials are at this farm site.

Carlos Township

No. 20 Trinity Lutheran Cemetery

County Road 13 Northeast, near the City of Carlos.

In approximately 1899, a fire destroyed the church that was located at the former site, approximately 5 miles northeast of Carlos. After the fire, the Emmanuel congregation bought an acre of land outside of the city of Carlos and built a new frame church. The church was dedicated on 23 July 1899.

Today the Trinity Cemetery marks that site.

No. 21 Carlos Prairie Cemetery

County Road 42, west of Carlos.

On 5 February 1891, a meeting was held to establish Carlos Cemetery Association with W. B. Dow as President and J. Pennar as Secretary. The first board of trustees was appointed to act for 1 year until their successors could be elected.

The cemetery plot containing 2 acres was purchased from A. Hasbrouck at \$25 an acre. Members each paid \$3 toward the purchase price of the land.

The earliest burial was 6 February 1890. Carlos Prairie Cemetery was formerly known as the Carlos Union Cemetery.

No. 22 Zunker Cemetery

On County Road 11, just south of the County Road 62 Northeast and County Road 11 "T".

The Emmanuel Congregation had its beginning when Rev. A. Hertwig, pastor of south Effington, made trips to the area to serve Lutheran families. A congregation was formally organized in 1874. The first log church served the congregation for 25 years, but was struck by lightning and burned in approximately 1899. It was located on the then Zunker farm. The Zunker Cemetery marks the site.

Ida Township

No. 23 Lake Charley Cemetery

Sunset Strip Road, south of County Road 61.

Lake Charley Cemetery's first burial was in 1873; the most recent in 1947. There are 17 known, marked grave sites and many unknown graves. Simple wooden crosses serve as locators for the unknown sites.

Two of the known burials are Civil War Veterans Henry H. Brown and Wm. S. Lyon. Also buried here: Ole and Caroline Floding, an African-American named John Johnston, members of the Henry H. Brown family and members of the John Ole and Marie Lundgren family.

This cemetery is maintained by Ida Township and is once again open for burials.

No. 24 Lake Ida Cemetery

County Road 61 and Lake Ida Way.

On 24 November 1877, Jens and Karen Olson sold 1 acre of land for \$1 to build the Norwegian Lutheran Church, and a foundation was laid. However, because East Moe Lutheran Church was already in the area, the new church was not built.

There are 5 veterans buried in the cemetery. For many years the site was not maintained. In 1973 the council of the First Lutheran Church in Alexandria appointed a committee to oversee the care of the cemetery. A fund was established with donations for care.

No. 25 Hjalmer Peterson Burial Site

Near County Road 22 in section 34.

There are reportedly 2 bodies interred on a private burial site, one is thought to be a young Swedish man, Frederick Landeen, born 21 January 1854, who died from exposure in the winter of 1869. The other is unknown.

No. 26 St. John's Lutheran Cemetery

East of Garfield on County Road 22.

Mr. Julius Linser donated a parcel of land on the east side of town for a church cemetery for St. John's, and later (1960's) the cemetery size was increased by a gift of land from Harry and Nina Ziegelmann.

No. 27 St. Luke's Lutheran Church Cemetery

Clear View Road and Pleasant Grove Road.

In Lake Ida minutes 1898: "The cemetery was plotted out, the lots to be east to west, 10 feet wide; north to south, 20 feet long and 4 foot alley. This was only on the south side of the road which was planned to go through the cemetery east and west. Oak stakes were used to mark the lots."

A new map was made in 1962 and family information was gathered and recorded by Eunice (Linnard) Peterson.

No. 28 Oak Hill Cemetery

West side of hill, adjacent to St. Luke's Church Cemetery.

The Swedish Ida Mission Church, later the Lake Chippewa Covenant Church, was officially organized in 1889. According to oral history, they bought one-half acre from John E. Norgren for a cemetery adjacent to the Lutheran Cemetery, now St. Luke's, which had been established approximately 20 years earlier.

The first recorded burial permit was issued in 1916. In the 1960's additional land was purchased and plotted. The requirement of congregational affiliation was removed, though the majority of people buried here continue to be of Swedish ancestry. Hilmer Peterson, an ardent conservationist and Charter Member of the Viking Sportsmen, is buried here.

Brandon Township

No. 29 Edgefield Cemetery

Three miles north of Brandon on County Road 16.

Edgefield Cemetery was established by G. A. Freudenrich near the Village of Chippewa. Two acres were surveyed and platted, then it was recorded on 6 December 1879 after Brandon was moved to present site at

the rail line. A copy of the indenture filed on 11 June 1890 formalized the continued use of the plot for a cemetery.

The cemetery was abandoned around 1889 and the land around it sold in 1890. No burial records have been found.

The Brandon Lions Club has been clearing the property and have sponsored a large sign.

No. 30 Brandon Cemetery

One mile west of Brandon, off County Road 82.

August Swanson donated 3 acres of land to the Brandon Village on 6 April 1889 for a public cemetery. There are 4 blocks of 80 plots per block and 8 graves per plot. In 1889, lots sold for \$5 each and a deed was given to the buyer.

The earliest monument records the burial of P. J. Carlson in 1883.

In 1912, the cemetery was incorporated with its own board of directors and has continued that way since that time.

C. J. Blatt, a Civil War Veteran; John Knudson, one of the first electricians in the county; and Fred Mathison, a co-founder of the Douglas County Historical Society, are among the pioneers buried here.

No. 31 St. Ann's Catholic Cemetery

In Brandon.

In 2002, St. Ann's Parish celebrated 100 years.

No. 32 Chippewa Cemetery

One mile south of Brandon, then one mile east on Skrove Road.

Chippewa Cemetery Association dates back to the years before the church was built. The plot of land was given to the church by Ole Thompson, in 1875, with the intention that the church would also be built on the site. Because the railroad had not yet been built, they delayed building the church until the route of the railroad was established. The church was built in Brandon, but the original plot is still used as the church cemetery. In 1966, the cemetery was incorporated and enlarged by an addition to the west of the original plot.

Evansville Township

No. 33 Mound Grove Cemetery

South of Evansville on Railroad Street.

The cemetery association was formed on 9 June 1873. Equal parcels of land were deeded to the Norwegian Lutheran Church (now Our Savior's) and to Mound Grove Cemetery Society by Levi Thompson. In 1884 and 1885, Thompson deeded more land to each group to connect the site with the public road from town.

One of the earliest recorded burials was Mr. Thompson's daughter, Frances Partridge in August, 1873.

In 1934 and 1945, Anna Lesh donated land to the cemetery.

In 1963, the idea began for the Mound Grove Memorial park. With the help of many people, who donated money, time and labor the Memorial Park became a reality. The park presently encircles the cemetery.

City water was also brought to the cemetery, made possible by Alf Thompson, a former resident of Evansville. Mr. Thompson also donated acreage in 1963.

Mound Grove Cemetery is the site of the first Veterans Memorial in Douglas County.

No. 34 Zionsborg Cemetery

County Road 56 near the Grant County line.

On 19 December 1884, the Swedish Lutheran Zionsborg Congregation was born. Assistance was given by Reverend I. J. Kronberg of the Christina Lake Lutheran Church. The first church was built in 1885. In 1886 a fence was built around the cemetery "In which all could be buried who so desired whether members or not."

In 1917, lightning destroyed the first church and records. The church was rebuilt on the same location, but due to decreasing membership, was discontinued in 1965. Many of the family names were the same on the last membership list as on the list of charter members.

The 1921 bell and a plaque rest on the site of the church, a symbol of faith and trust in God to all who visit the cemetery.

Urness Township

No. 35 Fryksande Cemetery

Fryksande Road, just off County Road 8.

The pioneers of Urness Township felt they could not live and prosper without a place to worship, so Fryksande Lutheran Church (formerly spelled Fryksende) was built. It was organized in 1877, and was affiliated with the Swedish Lutheran Church and was also a branch of Christina Lake Parish. It was used by both the Swedish and Norwegian parishioners, each taking turns.

The cemetery was also started with the Swedish section being on the south side of the church and the Norwegians on the north.

The Swedish congregation ceased having services in 1932, at which time it became the property of the Norwegians who continued to have services in Fryksande until 1956, when the building was sold and moved.

It was at this time that the Fryksande Cemetery Association was organized, which continues the upkeep of this beautiful little cemetery.

No. 36 St. Petri Lutheran Cemetery

County Road 15, south of County Road 56.

The organization of St. Petri congregation dates back to 17 December 1877, and parish records begin in 1886. The decision to build a church was made in early 1880 and by September 1880 the church was completed and dedicated. The cemetery is located in the churchyard, surrounded by a fence.

No. 37 Peter Peterson Burial Site

County Road 15. A private burial site.

Moe Township

No. 38 Holmes City Lake Finnish Apostolic Lutheran Church Cemetery

West of County Road 7, off County Road 107.

Both the church and the cemetery were established in 1877. The land was purchased from Johan Pippo and in 1959 additional land was purchased west of the buildings.

The oldest burial marker is that of Maria M. Pippo, born 3 January 1880. One of the earliest Finnish settlers in the area, Johan Pippo, is buried just east of the church. There are some unmarked graves on the east end of the cemetery.

No. 39 St. Paul's Lutheran Church Cemetery

County Road 7.

St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery was organized the same time as the church was built in 1900. In 2000, the cemetery was separated from St. Paul's Church, but the name is still the same.

The annual meeting is the second Monday in May.

No. 40 Moe Heights Cemetery

County Roads 7 and 27.

Moe Heights Cemetery was incorporated in 1957. There are 8 burials at this cemetery so far. It was established because St. Paul's Cemetery was full.

No. 41 West Moe Lutheran Church Cemetery

County Road 8.

The West Moe and Urness Cemetery Association was founded in 1924 with Mrs. C. B. Hanson and Miss Gena Burkee as Treasurers. The money went into an endowment fund and the interest used for upkeep of the cemetery. In 1953, three members were elected for the first Cemetery Board, with terms of three, two and one years. Now the board consists of five members and meets a minimum of six times a year.

There is room for 1,300 plus graves at the current site, approximately half are occupied.

No. 42 Adkinsville Cemetery

Corner of County Roads 7 and 8.

There is evidence a cemetery was started at this site, one and one-half miles east of the current West Moe Lutheran Cemetery, prior to the official beginning of the church in 1867. Forty-six people are thought to be buried at this site. This is now private land.

In the churchyard at West Moe Church, a monument stands in honor of the people buried here.

No. 43 East Moe Lutheran Church Cemetery

East Moe Road, off county Road 56.

East Moe Lutheran Cemetery is located in the churchyard of East Moe Lutheran Church. It was started at a meeting on 8 November 1886.

LaGrand(e) Township

No. 44 White Garden Cemetery

County Road 27, north off State Highway 27.

The White Garden Cemetery was organized in 1900 by the LaGrand(e) Mission Church. J. N. Hagstrom donated one and one-half acres of land for the cemetery. It was surveyed on 26 December 1900.

On 29 January 1946, a meeting was held at School District 60 to organize a community cemetery association and to elect a board of directors.

In 1976, Reverend Allen Hagstrom and John Hagstrom deeded a strip of land on the east side of the cemetery.

The White Garden is a very peaceful, secluded spot, surrounded by trees.

No. 45 Evergreen Cemetery

West of Alexandria on State Highway 27.

On 20 February 1898, Evergreen Cemetery Association was established. Twenty-four people were present and elected a board: a president, treasurer, secretary and three directors.

Evergreen is not a church affiliated cemetery and is open to the public for burials. Each lot owner becomes a member of the association, has the right to attend the annual meeting and has one vote. The annual meeting is held the second Tuesday of April each year and notification of said meeting is published.

There are 2 lots per block consisting of 4 graves: 1 through 4.

The first burial recorded was an infant "four months, 23 days old" buried on 25 May 1898.

No. 46 St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery

West Winona Drive, on Alexandria's southwest side.

St. Mary's parish cemetery was laid out in 1882 when the first church was built. Originally it was located near the railroad tracks west of town. Fires from the right of way often damaged the wooden fence and destroyed the crosses marking the graves, as well as damaging the shrubbery and trees. Because Catholic burials took place in the morning it so happened that the funeral processions reached the cemetery about the time scheduled trains were due, frightening horses and causing inconvenience and danger of serious accident. Father Haupt and the parishioners decided to choose another site.

The cemetery was moved to its present site, approximately a mile to the west and south of the old cemetery. Two acres of land were purchased for \$130 on 12 January 1901, surveyed in the spring and the bodies interred in the old cemetery were transferred, some to the new cemetery, and others to resting places in parishes near other relatives.

Today the cemetery includes 10 acres of land. Built on the grounds are 6 mausoleums (with 64 crypts each) and 3 columbariums (with 24 niches each).

Landscaping and impeccable caretaking make this a beautiful, peaceful resting spot.

No. 47 Kinkead Cemetery

City of Alexandria, northwest side.

On 6 February 1875, 13 men met at the local Methodist Church to organize Kinkead Cemetery Association. Most of the by-laws that were adopted then are still in use today, with some additions.

The cemetery has established a Permanent Care Fund that has grown over time and provides some of the income for the operation of the cemetery. Also a Perpetual Care Memorial Flower Fund provides for live flowers, planted each year in planters on lots designated by the purchaser.

The records of lot owners and burials are on computer, providing information and printed maps for interested parties.

The earliest burial was 1865, before the cemetery was officially organized. Some of the early pioneers buried here: Senator Knute Nelson, members of the Cowing families, the Robards families and John Abercrombie. The only Law Enforcement officer in Douglas County to be killed in the line of duty, Curtis Felt, is also buried here.

A music tower plays appropriate music every 15 minutes all year long.

No. 48 Sunset Memorial Park

East side of Kinkead Cemetery in the city of Alexandria.

Sunset Memorial Park, a part of Kinkead Cemetery Association, was formed and opened in 1954. Sunset Memorial Park is a name used on many cemeteries around the country where there are no upright tombstones or grave markers, but rather a flat or horizontal bronze marker installed on a granite base. The cost of lots and all charges are the same throughout all of Kinkead. In the Sunset section there are facilities for mausoleum (casket burial) and columbarium (cremation) burials.

Alexandria Township

No. 49 Geneva Cemetery

County Road 73, off State Highway 29 north.

A man named Mr. Bolin sold the property to the cemetery. The first person to be buried here was Charlotte Matilda Olson.

Osakis Township

No. 50 Fahlun Lutheran Church Cemetery

Approximately 4 miles northeast of Nelson on County Road 74.

Ole Olson Solum deeded the land to the Swedish Lutheran Fahlun Church on 23 January 1882. More land was purchased in 1892 and 1912. The oldest burial is Brita Olson in 1870, probably moved from the old cemetery approximately 2 miles south of Fahlun.

Fahlun Cemetery is located by the Swedish Fahlun Lutheran Church.

No. 51 Fahlun Lutheran Cemetery, Original Site

Approximately 2 miles southwest of the present Fahlun Church.

A 15 foot granite monument was erected in 1912 by the relatives and friends of those buried here. The names of those buried in the cemetery are sealed in the concrete base. No other list is known.

Mrs. Swan Anderson was the first person buried in the cemetery.

No. 52 Nelson Cemetery

One-half mile east of Nelson on State Highway 27.

The Nelson Danish Cemetery started in 1873. The west part of the cemetery was the Norwegian Lutheran Cemetery associated with Our Savior's Lutheran Church of Nelson. In 1951, the two cemeteries became the Nelson Cemetery. The earliest grave is Johannes Anderson in 1870.

No. 53 Calvary Catholic Cemetery

West of Osakis on State Highway 27.

Calvary Cemetery is affiliated with the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Osakis. The first person buried here was a little girl, Helena Tax, in 1899. Her mother, Helen Tax, was also buried here in 1899.

Cremations are allowed provided the ashes are buried with dignity. There is a tombstone erected by the Knights of Columbus in memory of all aborted little ones.

No. 54 Lakeside Cemetery

In Osakis on Lake Street, approximately the 1100 block.

Note: this cemetery is actually in Todd County

See page 29 of this guide.

No. 55 Evergreen/Rinehart Cemetery, or Danish Lutheran Cemetery

Eighth Avenue West, south of Oak Street in Osakis.

This cemetery was platted 11 April 1877, incorporated 1 October 1914 and contains 90 lots. Evergreen/Rinehart was founded by John E. Rinehart. Mr. Rinehart died in 1897.

No. 56 West Evergreen Cemetery

Approximately 1 mile south of Evergreen/Rinehart Cemetery.

West Evergreen Cemetery was started on 10 March 1967 and has 4 sections equaling 1600 lots. Each lot is 4'X10', with a public walkway of 8' between rows. The first person buried was Otis Withers on 10 July 1968.

The name of West Evergreen was decided upon by the City Council after a school contest to name the cemetery. Barbara Krause, age 12, was the winner. She received \$5.

Orange Township

No. 57 English Grove Cemetery, formerly Orange Grove

Cemetery Road, south of Osakis.

A warranty deed, made out to the Town Board of Orange Township and their successors, was dated 27 March 1873. It was voted that the association should have 5 trustees: 1 for the term of 3 years, 2 for the term of 2 years, and 2 for the term of 1 year.

This cemetery is the only one in Orange Township and has very old monuments, including one for the English family

The cemetery is now maintained by Douglas County.

No. 58 Hudson Cemetery, Union Lake

County Road 86, on North Meades Addition Drive.

Hudson Cemetery (formerly Union Cemetery) occupies a two-acre plot, originally a part of the Ben Gunsalus farm. Mr. Gunsalus donated the original acre to the cemetery.

In March 1877, a meeting was held in the Union Lake School to form the Hudson Cemetery Association. Officers were elected and they voted to purchase an additional acre of land from Mr. Gunsalus for which they paid \$15. The cemetery was surveyed and staked in 1877.

Some of the old family names on stones in Hudson Cemetery are: Smith, Strang, Burgan, White, Russell, Mitchell, Moulton, Sheldon, McClellan, Myers and Boyd.

In August 2009, an additional 1.2 acres was purchased from Bobby Drake. The additional ground is located on the south end of the existing site and is covered with a grove of beautiful pine trees. A 2009 capital fund drive also allowed new west entrance bricked pillars and wrought-iron gates; as well as a new walk-in wrought-iron gate to the north.

Lake Mary Township

No. 59 Lake Mary Cemetery

County Road 28, south of Lake Andrew.

On 10 March 1881 a group of Lake Mary Township citizens met to organize a cemetery association. On 13 May 1881, one acre was bought from Albert and Cornelia McKillips for \$25. On 2 June 1971 another acre was bought from Steve and Elsie Hiebel.

The record of the earliest burial was 1908. Early settlers of Lake Mary Township are buried here. There is no church affiliation.

No. 60 Bohemian Independent Cemetery

29 South out of Alexandria, turn right on County Line Road (CR 88), about 4 miles, on right.

December 1916, the Bohemian Independent Cemetery was established. This cemetery is tree encircled with beautiful stately monuments.

Holmes City Township

No. 61 Johnny Thoen Farm Burial Site

Near County Road 7, on private land.

Originally a church was to be built, but the plans were changed to Farwell.

No. 62 Van Loon Cemetery

State Highway 114, west of Pocket Lake.

Minor Van Loon and wife, Charity, came to Douglas County in 1862 and "squatted" on land which they later secured as a homestead. Minor and Charity conveyed land to the trustees of Van Loon Cemetery on 1 May 1883 for \$5. In 1884, officers were W. Mackenzie, Pres., and Henry Blackwell, Treasurer. They were still serving in 1892.

On 12 August 1899, two sons of the Van Loon's nine children, Charles and Draper Van Loon, gave another plot to the cemetery. Constant and Adina Wesen donated more land on 16 November 1945, and on 12 September 1978, Delphin and Annie Wesen added to the plot. Recently more land was donated by Dennis Wesen to be used as cemetery lots.

In 2008, a black wrought iron fence along with a drive-in gate and a walk-in gate was completed. The name of the cemetery and the date it was established is included in the design of the drive-in gate.

No. 63 Christian Union Cemetery

County Road 4 and State Highway 114.

A warrant deed was given by John Benson and his wife to J. P. Grubb and others of the Christian Union Cemetery Association on 24 January 1898.

The corporation took effect on 30 March 1918. Incorporators of this association were; Reverend J. P. Grubb, Kajsa Johnson Nyquist, Kasper Olson, Carl O. Skoglund, Louisa Skoglund, Victor E. Skoglund, Conrad Lannes, Frans A. Brundell, Erick Fritz, John O. Grubb and A. L. Grubb. The document was signed by A. G. Dahlquist on 13 March 1918.

No. 64 Rose Hill/Trinity Cemetery

State Highway 27, east of Holmes City.

Trinity Lutheran Cemetery was founded in 1889 in conjunction with the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church Lekvalten of Holmes City on land donated by the Bergstrom family.

Rose Hill Cemetery was founded in 1914. One acre of land was purchased for \$200 by the association members: Messrs. Wolf, Nelson, Johanson, Grandlund, Anderson, Hjelm, Johnson, Haglin and Hanson.

In 1964, the cemetery was expanded by an acre acquired from the Hilda Hanson estate. In 1993, Rose Hill and Trinity Cemeteries merged into one: Rose Hill/Trinity of Holmes City.

No. 65 Trysil-Bethesda Lutheran Cemetery

County Road 26.

The Trysil Lutheran Church and Cemetery was established in 1870 on a beautiful hillside which is covered with oak trees. Sadly the church was disbanded in 1962 and the building was dismantled. The church bell stands as a monument.

Some gravestones have inscriptions in Norwegian as many of the families immigrated from the Trysil, Norway area.

Interesting people buried here are: author Erling Rolfsrud, Civil War Veteran, Lars Isackson, Mr. And Mrs. Andrew Knudson who donated land for the church and cemetery. Also, Mr. and Mrs. Halvor O. Strandvold donated the new church building which cost \$600 to build.

No. 66 Oscar Lake Lutheran Church Cemetery

County Road 7 and Church Road.

A new cemetery was started when the new Oscar Lake Lutheran Church was built in 1884 one mile east and one mile south of the old location on land donated by H. I. Lewis. Since that time all burials have been in the new Parish cemetery, however, no grave recordings were made until 1907.

No. 67 Oscar Lake Lutheran Cemetery Historic Site

County Road 96 Southwest.

A monument marks the site of the original cemetery of Oscar Lake Church, the oldest in the northwest. The stone monument was erected in 1921 by surviving relatives and friends in memory of more than 200 graves. Some graves were marked with wooden crosses and have been lost to time; other grave markers which have become dislodged are placed at the foot of the monument. It has been designated a Historic Site.

The Oscar Lake Lutheran Church was organized in August 1866. The next year a 24' X 30' log church was built on property donated by O. Fahlun. The church began a cemetery on a knoll south of the church, two miles northwest of the present Oscar Lake Lutheran Church.

Many residents and travelers from a wide area were buried in the cemetery, as for a number of years it was the only cemetery in the vicinity.

The log church was torn down in 1885 and several graves moved to the new cemetery in following years, but most remain at the old location.

Solem Township

No. 68 Solem Lutheran Cemetery

County Road 1, south of State Highway 27.

The Solem congregation was formed in early 1867 as a part of the Moe congregation, with the worship occurring in homes and/or School Dist. #63. In 1873, land was purchased for a church site and cemetery and many burials took place before the church was built in 1892. The only information about pre 1907 burials comes from cemetery markers, while burials between 1907 and 1922 have very limited data. Due to declining number the congregation was disbanded in 2008. The Solem Cemetery Association maintains the cemetery through donations, gifts and memorials. A separate group maintains the church building. Six members of the Olaf Ohman family (the Kensington Runestone discoverers) are buried in Lot #1!

No. 69 Wennersborg Church Cemetery

Wennersborg Road.

The Wennersborg congregation was organized in 1871 meeting in homes of congregants until the church was constructed in 1880. In 1875, the congregation purchased the Pastor Aaron Wahlin farm and set aside 15 acres for a church and cemetery. The first burials were in 1877. The church and cemetery location are in Section 20, Solem Township. The Wennersborg Church was destroyed by fire on December 1, 1948. The church was not rebuilt due to declining membership. On Memorial Day, 1951, a large monument was dedicated set on the site of the church steps. The Wennersborg Cemetery Association was organized and maintains the historic cemetery. A cemetery directory lists all burials on engraved name plates for each lot.

No. 70 First Lutheran Cemetery

County Road 1, north of Kensington.

This cemetery was started in 1896. Anna Colmark donated land from her farm to the village. Anna's husband died in 1896 and she died in 1905. Members of the Colmark family are buried in a circular fashion in the center of the cemetery.

The village took care of the cemetery until 1948 when it was turned over to the First Lutheran Church. The church bought approximately one acre to the north to use as a parking lot.

In 2000, an arch over the east gate was erected by the Sidney Johnson Family in memory of their son, Tom.

In 2001, ash cottonwood and box elder trees were cut down. Evergreen trees have been planted around the cemetery. A future goal is to plant more spruce trees.

No. 71 Our Lady of the Runestone Catholic Church Cemetery

Kensington, off State Highway 55, south of the Our Lady of the Runestone Catholic Church.

In June 1963, the first Mass was celebrated in Kensington in the basement of the Kensington Village Hall. Land was secured and building began November 1963. The first Mass was said in the new church in the spring of 1964. The cemetery was established at that time.

Todd County

The Douglas County Cemetery Association is pleased to include the locations and histories of three cemeteries located in Todd County: Gordon Pleasant Hill, Sauk Valley and Lakeside.

Gordon Pleasant Hill (DCCA member)

County Road 37, 5 miles from Osakis, on the northeast side of Lake Osakis.

Picturesque Gordon Pleasant Hill Cemetery was established in the 1800's. Situated in Todd County, this non-denominational cemetery is a serene resting place for loved ones. In 2007, an additional parcel of almost three acres was purchased to accommodate more burial sites. Its white two rail fence and immaculately kept lawn welcomes all family and friends who come to visit.

Sauk Valley Cemetery (DCCA member)

East of County Road 51 on 150th Street, West Union Township.

Two and a half miles east of Osakis, this cemetery was established in approximately 1875. It is located near and affiliated with the Sauk Valley Lutheran Church.

Lakeside Cemetery, formerly listed #54 in Douglas County, but has been determined to be in Todd County (not a DCCA member)

Lakeside Cemetery is located on Lake Street East in Osakis, Minnesota, Todd County.

The site, overlooking Lake Osakis, was chosen by the earliest settlers for the town's first cemetery. These settlers paid \$100 for the land and named the cemetery Lakeside. The exact date is unknown as the records were destroyed in a 1940s fire. It was likely about 1865 as the oldest grave in Lakeside is that of Carolyn G. Edgar, who died in 1865. Another person of interest is Polly Judkins who lived 10 years under British rule. She was born in 1765 and died in 1867 at the age of 102 years, 11 months and 22 days.

The cemetery consists of six sections. The Cemetery Association was started 26 May 1950. In 1973 the hillside was reinforced with rocks.

Dear Ancestor

Author Unknown

Your tombstone stands among the rest;
Neglected and alone.

The name and date are chiseled out
On polished, marbled stone.

It reaches out to all who care
It is too late to mourn,
You did not know that I exist
You died and I was born.

Yet each of us are cells of you
In flesh, in blood, in bone.
Our blood contracts and beats a pulse
Entirely not our own.

Dear Ancestor, the place you filled
One hundred years ago
Spreads out around the ones you left
Who would have loved you so.

I wonder as you lived and loved,
I wonder if you knew
That someday I would find this spot,
And come and visit you.

Sites of other private burials on family farms are being identified from time to time. We continue to add to these records.

Humes Burial – Information from Alexandria Post News, 28 January 1881

Pennie/Thomas Burial - information from a letter written by Murton Pennie to the Douglas County Historical Society.

Sources:

Album of the Ages, History of the Red River Valley Conference of the Augustana Church by Edor Larson, Church History Books, the Douglas County Historical Society; printed and personal assistance, Osakis Visitor and Heritage Center, Douglas County cemetery personnel, and individual contributors



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