

Sandy Point

Wenz Family Cemetery, Sandy Point, Alberta.

This small plot is located six and one half miles west, four miles north and one mile west of Burstall, Saskatchewan, at the junction of township road 204 and range road 13. Township road 204 is a prairie trail and therefore not recommended for use by small cars. The legal land description is NW 22-20-01-W4. The wooden fence has completely fallen down and the grass has not been cut in decades. There are only three burials here.

Wenz Jacob II born May 01, 1866, at Gueldendorf, Russia, died January 08, 1912, of Jacob Wenz and Margaretha Nesselthaler husband of Katherine Quenzer. Settled near Herreid, South Dakota in 1898, to Sandy Point in 1910.

Wenz Bertha born January 06, 1911, died December 22, 1912, of Jakob Wenz II and Katherine Quenzer.
Wolfer nee Wenz Margaret born March 08, 1895., at Gueldendorf, Russia died July 19, 1918, at Burstall, Saskatchewan, of Jakob Wenz Sr. and Katherine Quenzer, wife of Karl "Charles" Wolfer.

Wolfer Family Cemetery, Sandy Point, Alberta.

As at February 06, 2001, this small family plot is being cultivated. Until just recently the current owner farmed around the small mound that contained the remains of one and possibly two infant children of Karl Wolfer and Margaretha nee Wenz. We do know that Mabel Wolfer, daughter of the above was interred here. The plot was maintained by the father until he moved his family to Medicine Hat, Alberta, in the late forties. This grave site is in the northwest corner of NE 22-20-01- W 4 at the junction of range road 14 and township road 204.

As at May 02, 2004, we believe that Bertha nee Haas Wolfer, first wife of Fred Wolfer is interred here as well. We came to this conclusion after speaking with several family members.

Wolfer Family Cemetery, Sandy Point, Alberta

This cemetery is located five and one half miles west and four miles north of Burstall, Saskatchewan, one mile north of township road 202, on range road II. The legal land description is NW 12-20- 01-W4. This well fenced plot is in danger of being lost if the old Empress highway north, is ever widened again. This tiny plot has been unattended for the past forty years, yet the wooden fence prevails. There are only three burials here.

Wolfer Adam **III** born and died February 23, 1921, of Adam Wolfer **II** and Christina Wenz.

Wolfer Walter born April 06, 1906, died at age seven or in 1913, of Adam Wolfer **I** and Johanna Broeckel.

Wolfer Bertha born January 18, 1910, at Mound City, South Dakota, died at age two when a barn door fell on her of Adam Wolfer I and Johanna Broeckel.

Above are all children of Adam Wolfer I and Johanna Broeckel.

Cavanaugh Family Cemetery, Sandy Point, Alberta.

This plot contains the grave of Lucille Cavanaugh who died from polio in 1927 at eleven years, of Ed Cavanaugh and Stella Klevjer. The burial spot has long since been cultivated, we only know that it is located somewhere within the boundaries of east 112-20-29-W3, one mile south and one half mile east of Gnadenfeld Baptist Cemetery at Sandy Point, Alberta. Information provided by Bertha Huber Hay.

Huber Family Cemetery, Sandy Point, Alberta.

There is one Huber child interred on the south side of the highway about one quarter mile east of the Huber

homestead at Sandy Point, Alberta, or five miles west of Burstall, Saskatchewan. The grave is on the 114 section line. Legal land description is NW 36-19-01-W4. There is a metal fence around the site as at September 02, 1996. The child, an infant daughter stillborn June 27, 1915, was a twin sister to William Huber daughter of Andrew Huber and Christina Barth.

Gnadenfeld Baptist Cemetery, Sandy Point, Alberta.

The original minute book for this German Baptist Congregation was discovered at the home of Henry Winter by Harvey and Marion Schmidt in 1993. The minutes were written in an old German script and were translated over a period of several months by Hilda Mantler of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Hilda is a former resident of Maple Creek, Saskatchewan, and was at one time a member of the Rosenfeld Baptist Church near Golden Prairie, Saskatchewan, which is mentioned in the book.

December 13, 1912, was the date of the first business meeting held to found a German Baptist congregation. The meeting was held in the home of Jacob Roessler with John Renz recording the minutes. The ordination service was held February 15, 1913. Listed as founding members of this congregation were Johann and Rosina Renz, Jacob and Dorethea Roessler, Adam and Johanna Wolfer, Jacob and Katherine Wenz and Frederick and Magdalena Heinrich.

At a meeting on March 27, 1914, Jacob Renz, William Bender, August Renz, John Wohl, Josef Herz, Jacob Roessler, Wilhelm Schmidt, Magdalena Wenz, Frederick Riedlinger, Jacob Bitz, W. Wohlgemuth, M. Tippe, R. Herz, Adam Wolfer and Frederick Heinrich each donated \$10.00 towards the purchase price of \$224.00 for a house from A. J. Schulz. This small home located about thirteen miles south of Estuary, Saskatchewan, on the S.E 02-21- 28- W3 became the first church known as Berlin then Estuary.

Members of this congregation lived some distance from the church, the districts were Gnadenfeld, Liebenthal, Germantown and Josephthal. They conducted Sunday School classes in their homes, Frederick Heinrich became the first Sunday School Superintendent. This nomination took effect January 15, 1915.

Like all new congregations, they had difficulty obtaining the services of a full time pastor. The salary for the year 1915 was \$800.00, and the pastor had to provide funding for a place to live.

Some of the pastors who served this congregation were O.D. Wegener, Philipp Daum 1916, Schwendener 1917, Wolf, Litwin, Koch, Kuyjat, John Weinbender, A. Bloedow, student Dan Fuchs, Walter Stein, John Kuehn, Paul Hintze, W. Reimche, H. Poh1, and Erwin Strauss. Serving as secretary of the congregation were Johann Renz, August Renz, Jacob Weisser, Jacob J. Graf, Karl Grusie, Ed Strauss, Ed. A Krause and Henry Winter.

Much of the time spent at the congregational meetings during the early years was devoted to smoothing over differences between various members. Many folks had their memberships canceled because the congregation felt they were not leading a good Christian life. Time and time again, these members were reinstated after they presented their cases in front of the group at a business meeting.

Gnadenfeld Baptist Church was about two miles south and one mile west of the Schmidt farm, (The Schmidt family is the writers family) the family faithfully attended this church until it closed. This church was built with the help of several Schmidt family members and many of their relatives served in various capacities throughout the congregations history.

The first church meetings were held in the Sandy Point school house, just one half mile west of the present church property, S.E.-114-1S-20-01-W4. The first such service took place October 11, 1915. The first baptismal service for District Gnadenfeld on June 13, 1915, added George Haas, Katherine Haas, Karl Becker, Katharina Becker, Molly Maier, Margaretha Maier and Christina Graf to its membership list.

A building had been acquired at Estuary, Saskatchewan, and had been moved to the site. A addition was made to the west end of the building, to make it more serviceable. In the summer of 1923, services were begun in the church building with Reverend Kuyjat as pastor. It was an active church, assuming many responsibilities and in the 1930's maintained an orchestra and choir and was often overflowing with attendance. The church also served as a distribution center for relief parcels during the "Hungry 30's."

Throughout the years of service, pastors were often shared with the Hilda Baptist Church. John Schmidt was a very active man in promoting Gnadenfeld Sunday School and church programs, he also served as Lay Minister

on many occasions. He could always be depended upon to be present, no matter what the weather conditions. Due to the influence of the church, a number of local young people attended Christian training schools. Among them; Tina Schmidt became a missionary to West Africa and Bertha Seeman (Mrs. Eldon Janzen) is a pastor's wife.

When the population of the district began to decline, due to the amalgamation of farmsteads, it became necessary to discontinue the services here and the congregation began attending the Baptist Church at Burstall, Saskatchewan.

The Burstall Baptist church continued to conduct services until the regular annual meeting held February 10, 1963. A motion by Ted Scheurer that the Burstall Baptist Church Organization dissolve and turn over to Forrest Park, Illinois, all assets and church funds including Sunday school money, seconded by Henry Winter. Wilfred Jordan moved to adjourn the meeting. Henry Winter served as the last secretary.

The vacant building was deteriorating very rapidly, so, in 1965, it was sold to Henry Strauss who moved it to his farm where it now serves as a workshop.

Harvey Schmidt, grandson of Wilhelm Schmidt who was one of the founders, has been instrumental in ensuring that the final resting place for our ancestors is well maintained.

The original church property has shrunk in size due to a local farmer acquiring the southern portion of the original tract of land. There was a lot of controversy about this property a few years ago. The farmer had actually reduced the graveyard to an area just large enough to enclose the graves. Harvey Schmidt went to work and clarified the property size through land titles and returned the property to its rightful owners, the people of Sandy Point. He along with a few other kind souls fenced the property some years ago. Harvey continues to faithfully cut the grass, paint the fence posts, and has attempted to plant some trees. He deserves a great many thank yous for his generous work.

This cemetery is located six and one half miles west, and two miles north of Burstall, Saskatchewan, at the junction of township road 202 and range road 12. The legal land description is SE 15-20-01- W 4. The one acre plot is enclosed by a barb wire fence, all posts are painted white and there is a sturdy metal gate. This is one of the few rural sites that receives regular maintenance and is probably the best groomed cemetery in the M.D. excluding the major city cemeteries. As at September 02, 1996. Four rows, listed north to south starting with west row:

Row One:

Wolfer Alvin died December 20, 1919, of Karl Wolfer and Margarethea Wenz.

Deibert Alfred born September 07, 1923, died November 18, 1923, of Adam Deibert and Elizabeth Broeckel.
2 unknown and unmarked.

Huber Walter born September 15, 1927, died March 30, 1928, of Andrew Huber and Christina Barth.
4 unknown and unmarked.

As at April 02, 1999, we assume the following to be interred in the unmarked graves:

Bauer Freida daughter of George Bauer and Lydia Kruger.

Bender Harvey died September 02, 1936, son of Henry Bender.

Haas child age five years, killed by horses as related to me by Christine Wolfer January 09, 1995.

Row Two:

Bauer nee Kruger Lydia born at Rosenfeldt, Russia, died March 1924, of Michael Kruger and Frederika Weiss married to George "Shorty" Bauer March 25, 1912.

Schmidt nee Brokofsky Christina born August 15, 1865, at Neu Danzig, Russia died May 09, 1927, wife of Wilhelm Schmidt.

Schmidt Wilhelm born December 06, 1859, at Neu Danzig, Russia, died April 27, 1944, husband of Christina Brokofsky. Settled near Herreid, South Dakota, in 1901, to Sandy Point in 1913.

Huber Gotlob born 1908, died January 24, 1929, of Andrew Huber and Christina Barth.

Deibert nee Broeckel Elizabeth born July 31, 1865, at Petersthal, Russia, died August 29, 1929, of Johannes

Broeckel and Christina Schmitt wife of Adam Deibert.

Wolfer nee Haas Bertha died April 03, 1931, and interred April 08, 1931, first wife of Fred Wolfer.

Schmidt Alexander born March 13, 1898, at Neu Danzig, Russia, died February 06, 1936, of Wilhelm Schmidt and Christina Brokofsky, husband of Katherine Wolfer.

Wolfer Adam born April 30, 1870, at Gueldendorf, Russia, died May 03, 1936, of Matthias Friedrich Wolfer and Barbara Magdalena Keller husband of Johanna Broeckel, settled in South Dakota about 1892 to Sandy Point in 1910.

Bitz John born February 04, 1918, died by drowning in South Saskatchewan River July 26, 1936, of Jacob Bitz and Christina Neumiller.

Becker Christian born April 11, 1885, at Manhattan, New York, died November 16, 1938, husband of Magdalena Schauer.

Wenz nee Quenzer Katherine born June 24, 1871, at Gueldendorf, Russia, died June 29, 1940, of Johann Adam Quenzer and Elizabeth Allerdings, wife of Jakob Wenz II interred at Wenz Cemetery.

Hertz nee Bitz Annie born February 08, 1916, died from Tuberculosis at Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, March 18, 1943, of Jacob Bitz and Christina Neumiller, wife of Frank Hertz.

Row Three:

Wolfer Floyd of Fred Wolfer and Bertha Haas.

Wolfer Eddie born September 22, 1922, died June 06, 1930, of Karl Wolfer and Margaret Wenz.

Schmidt Inez born December 25, 1937, died March 01, 1943, of John Schmidt and Alvina Fischer.

Suttie Donald Emerson born July 24, 1903, at Belfast, Ireland County Antrim, died May 29, 1992, at Calgary, Alberta, husband of Helen Schmidt of Henry Schmidt and Helena Deibert. Cremation.

Deibert Adam born January 10, 1866, at Neu Freidenthal, Russia died August 25, 1942, of Jacob Deibert and Helen Barth husband of Elizabeth Broeckel, settled at Java, South Dakota, in 1892 to Sandy Point in 1910.

Schmidt Henrich William born November 15, 1888, at Neu Danzig, Russia, died October 29, 1944, of Wilhelm Schmidt and Christina Brokofsky, husband of Helena Deibert interred at Medicine Hat, Alberta.

Schmidt William Jr. born August 28, 1893, at Neu Danzig, Russia, died December 17, 1944, of Wilhelm Schmidt and Christina Brokofsky, remained single.

Huber nee Barth Christina born February 29, 1884, at Gueldendorf, Russia, died August 31, 1963, of Jacob Barth and Rosina Bier, wife of Andrew Huber.

Huber Andrew born October 07, 1881, at Gueldendorf, Russia, died January 06, 1954, husband of Christina Barth.

Wenz nee Michta Magdalena born December 20, 1896, died December 22, 1995, at Medicine Hat, Alberta, of Carl and Christina Michta, wife of John Wenz.

Wenz John born January 22, 1896, at Gueldendorf, Russia, died February 18, 1962, of Jakob Wenz Sr. and Katherine Quenzer, husband of Magdalena Michta.

Wenz Andrew born December 13, 1905, at Herreid, South Dakota, died January 09, 1970, of Jakob Wenz Sr. and Katherine Quenzer. Andrew remained single.

Row Four:

Schmidt nee Fischer Alvina born September 08, 1908, at Gueldendorf, Russia, died August 25, 1976, of Jacob Fischer and Caroline Stockburger, wife of John Schmidt.

Schmidt John born September 20, 1902, at Herreid, South Dakota, died August 02, 1954, at Empress, Alberta, of Wilhelm Schmidt and Christina Brokofsky, husband of Alvina Fischer.

Haas nee Dufloth Elizabeth born November 17, 1905, died February 23, 1990, at Calgary, Alberta, wife of Gustav Haas.

Haas Gustav born 1901, died October 10, 1979, husband of Elizabeth Dufloth.

Huber Albert born May 29, 1922, died November 19, 1980, of Andrew Huber and Christina Barth husband of (1)

Edith (2) Sophia Antosko.

Huber Fred born September 08, 1907 died 1983, at Medicine Hat, Alberta, of Andrew Huber and Christina Barth, remained single.

Huber William born June 27, 1915, at Sandy Point, Alberta, died December 03, 1993, at Medicine Hat, Alberta, of Andrew Huber and Christina Barth, remained single. .

Becker John born 1911, died 1987, of Fredrick Becker and Wilhelmina Bauer, husband of Clara Felesky lived at Eureka, South Dakota 1909 to 1911.

Becker nee Felesky Clara born 1920, died December 16, 1997, at Medicine Hat, Alberta, of Mose and Katherine Felesky, wife of John Becker.