

COUNTY HOME CEMETERY

Missing Graves

About 8 miles West of Marshalltown on highway #30 near the site of the Marshall County Sheriff's Office/Jail property is the old Marshall County Home Cemetery about ½ mile west of the existing building in an area that is mowed & fenced in. There may be about a dozen or so headstones in this fenced in area. Very few, one can even read the inscriptions.

Many have copied the cemetery over the years ranging from 51-61 names on the markers & records found. We thank them for their time on this project. Some people said there were burials other places on the property which some were discovered when an excavation for a new building was done. Was there another cemetery closer to the buildings? The MC Home was built in 1870* and the earliest record for burials was 1896.

Traditions tell us there were many railroad workers & hobos buried here due to accidents and so forth where the County did the burial plus people from the MC Home. Most of these people probably had no money or relatives in the area so the County buried them.

In 1998, the Central Iowa Genealogical Society, knowing the existence of the Marshall County Home was in jeopardy, hand copied from the original books all the names and information they could find on the graves. They found a list of 51 names of people who were supposed to be buried there. The Marshalltown Library had a list of 61 names for the Marshall County Home that several people had done. With the two lists this would make a total 112 burials. The area was too small for this many graves so where were they all buried?

In October of 2000, in preparation for a new highway, the Iowa Department of Transportation hired Louis Berger & Associates of Marion, Iowa, a cultural resource group, to do an archaeological study of the ground lying south of the existing cemetery fence. The study findings were finding of more than 64 graves that had been long forgotten. They hope this is a mystery solved on the missing graves. The excavation site has been filled in and the new found graves have been recorded using GPS (Global Positioning Satellites). A new fence was installed marking the boundaries of the cemetery.

*Conflicting dates. Per Sigmond's Marshall County Atlas 1947, opened 1868 with 140 patients, 12 employees, and two doctors.

Names with ** were taken from the County Home records that were marked "buried in the County Home Cemetery". These are burials on the MCH grounds according to the infirmary Book #1 & #3.

In the Southwest corner of the Elmwood Cemetery, La Moille Iowa were eighteen (18) cement markers with no information. Tradition says these people were paupers from the Marshall County "Poor Farm" That leaves another mystery Were they or were they not paupers and why buried at the Elmwood Cemetery?

Last Name	First Name	Birth Date	Death Date	Age	Location	Other
Abelson	Nicholas		21 Nov 1899	60y	**	Pg 26
Alden	Charles H.		25 Jan 1924	75y		
Alman	Anastice R.		11 Jun 1914			
Anderson	Andrew		07 Aug 1915		**	Pg 64
Anderson	Mrs. Carl		14 Oct 1940		EXL	From Clemons
Andreasinic	Jonko		14 Jul 1915	abt 40y		
Benge	Yvonne M	30 Jun 1938	30 Jun 1938			D of Harry Benge & Blanche Stonestreet
Bergstrom	A.C.		22 Apr 1914	abt 50y		
Bittner	Alvin Leroy	18 Aug 1933	04 Sept 1933	abt 20 days	EXL	S/ Mrs. David Bittner, Albion Iowa
Bowles	Sarah		14 Jan 1901	51y	**	Pg 32
Broadhead	Billy		06 Jun 1888	93y		
Bruce	Infant	12 Jan 1913	12 Jan 1913	Still Born		C/ L.D. Bruce & L. Quick
Busby	Jane Ann		01 Nov 1898			Pg 15
Campbell	Jeannette	1827	15 Jan 1917	90y		
Clark	Virginia (see LaDaire)	1904	19 May 1932			
Clark	Frank	27 Mar 1862	30 Jun 1934		EXL **	
Clemens	Infant	23 Jan 1909	23 Jan 1909	Still Born		C/ Thomas C. Clemens & Rosie Boughman
Cordes	Infant	17 Jul 1880	17 Jul 1880	Still Born		c/C.Cordes & Jesse _____
Cousins	William E.		03 Sept 1897		TO	
Cowan	Marcus Andrew "Babe"	07 Mar 1880	02 Aug 1932		TO - FAM EXL	m. to Minnie Bishop - P/ Grace. Mabel. Louis. Edith. Jessie. Wallace. Bertha.

						Wife Minnie Bishop Cowan buried in Eden Cemetery, Marshall Co. IA
Cox	Nancy		22 Aug 1899	83y	MCDR	
Darnell	Jeanette A.	03 Jun 1939				
Dammom	Martin		17 Jun 1900	77y-7m		
Last Name	First Name	Birth Date	Death Date	Age	Location	Other
Dean	W.A		18 Apr 1912		**	Pg 57
Dilley	Emmett	21 Mar 1907	27 Mar 1907			
Famberg	William		10 Nov 1913		**	Pg 61
Fisher	Gurena	Jan 1850	09 Jul 1930		** EXL	Born in Norway, came to USA in 1919. She was not a citizen. Buried by relatives at the MCH Cemetery
Fitzgerald	Infant	24 Jun 1937	24 Jun 1937			Still born
Franklin	David		01 Mar 1915	abt 60y		
Frazer	Henry		30 Dec 1900		**	pg 30
Gafney	John		28 Sep 1902		**	pg 37
Gandy	George	16 Apr 1935	05 Jul 1935	2m -19 d		S/ Mabel Gandy
Glass	Bert L.		22 Apr 1936			
Grady	Infant	27 Aug 1933	27 Aug 1933	Still Born		S/ Frank Jesten & Helen Grandy
Grant	George		23 May 1914	25y		RR Accident
Haines	Delilah					No Info
Haines	Nora					N Info
Hall	William K.		08 Aug 1913			
Hatch	Henry		06 Dec 1897	36 y	MCDR	
Haverloe	Clifford	21 Nov 1903	01 May 1935			
Haverloe	F.M.		17 Mar 1921		** MCHR	
Haverloe	Raymond	11 Sept 1874	13 Nov 1934 Died in Marshalltown IA		** EXL	Relative of Ann Haverloe
Higinbotham	Sarah		14 Jan 1916		**	
Hill	John W.	12 Apr 1857	04 Jul 1934			
Irving	Rose (Rosa)		06 Nov 1919		**	Admitted 20 Nov 1907
Jansen	Jacob O	02 May 1857	22 May 1933		**	

Johnson	George W.		14 May 1918		**	Admitted 20 Nov 1897
					EXL	
Johnson	John	13 May 1827	16 May 1927		** EXL	Widower, born in Sweden – admitted 01 Mar 1902
Jones	Claude S.		21 Jan 1910	54 y	**	Pg 58
Keefe	Daniel		07 Jan 1882	18 y 11m 1d		
Kellogg	Unknown		30 Jul 1905			
Last Name	First Name	Birth Date	Death Date	Age	Location	Other
Kelsey	Sarah		30 Jul 1905		**	pg 58
Lacey	Sarah		27 Jul 1908	86y	**	pg 58
LaDaire/Clark	Virginia	1904	19 May 1932			
Lane	S. (Solomon) M.	abt 1836	24 Jan 1911	75y	** FAM	S/ Abraham Lane & Anne Cross
Larson	Peter L.	Dec 1897	25 Feb 1917	63y	EXL	Born Denmark
Larson	John	27 Jan 1884	11 Sep 1916	73y	** Obit	m. Aug 1891 to Bertha Henderson
Lee	Infant girl	05 Jan 1936	05 Jan 1936			
Lockers	Isabella		31 Jan 1899			
Lodge	Albert		24 Jun 1910		**	pg 59
Lodge	J.		21 Feb 189?			
Mack	Mrs. Josie		01 Jun 1899		**	pg 33
McCartney	Michael		22 Feb 1916		EXL	Admitted Jan 25 1916 – Died of injuries suffered in Aug 1915 while working as a flagman at a RR Crossing
McCord	George B.		27 Nov 1880		5 y 2m	
McCoy	Sadie		08 Aug 1921		** EXL	Admitted 1896
McKann	Elvin	10 Feb 1883	22 Feb 1883	12d		
McRill	Sallie		28 Dec 1902		**	pg 38
Mecum	James		13 Feb 1904		**	pg 43
Meyer	Charles		24 Oct 1915			
Misho	Mary		22 Apr 1896		**	pg 25
Moore	John	28 Feb 1873	18 Mar 1907			
Oviatt	Frank	26 Jun 1871	28 Aug 1945		**	
Parker	James		22 Jul 1921	32y	** EXL	S/ Col Parker of Marshalltown
Peterson	Kate		20 Mar 1916		** EXL	Admitted 27 July 1909
Peterson	Mary		28 Mar 1896		**	
Powell	Joseph	24 Dec 1846	25 Sept 1911			
Pyle	Anna		29 Nov 1898		**	pg 31

Rand	George		10 Jul 1906		**	pg 57
Rand	S.	No Dates	No Dates		TO **	
Rickord	Ira		12 Sept 1924	77y	**	
Rohig	Ernest		20 Aug 1906		**	
Ronernus	Susan		08 Dec 1923	74y	**	
Roth	Louis (Lewis)		03 Sept 1920		**	Admitted 3 Sept 1894
Last Name	First Name	Birth Date	Death Date	Age	Location	Other
Schmidt	Frank	1846	16 Dec 1928		**EXL	Admitted 2 Nov 1928
Sharp	Infant Female	18 Jul 1935	18 Jul 1935	Still Born		
Sharp	Martha J.	10 May 1932	13 May 1932			
Smith	Francis "Frank"		1930		FAM	
Solomone	Infant	08 Feb 1913	08 Feb 1913	Still Born		Charley Solomone & ??
Stevens	James		28 Dec 1932		EXL **	Admitted 11 Oct 1928 Re-admitted 18 Jun 1929
Sullivan	Alfred	11 Oct 1875	08 Mar 1937			
Swanson	Swan		19 Jul 1920	69y	**	Admitted 4 Dec 1912
Tailor	A. Mary		10 Mar 1901		**	
Torson	Lars		01 Jul 1923		**	
Unknown	Infant		10 May 1920			
	Infant		04 Jun 1883	9m		
	Male		05 Jun 1911	abt 50y		Hobo – Railroad accident
	Male		24 Sept 1914	abt 30-35y		RR accident
	Male		23 May 1915			
	Male		21 Oct 1917			
	Male		01 June 1928			
	Male		03 Jul 1928			
	Male		11 Oct 1936	65y		
	Male		03 Jun 1938	50y		
Updegraff	Albert		21 Apr 1917	abt 45y		
Varnum	Martha		30 Nov 1921		**	
Waldo	Kate		10 Jan 1914	65y		
Walters	Elijah/Elizah		12 July 1925	66y	TO **	
Waltz	Samuel	24 Nov 1906	11 Dec 1906			S/John Waltz & ??
Ward	Jack		7 Nov 1941			Admitted 15 May 1940
Watson	George		10 Jun 1911	28y		RR Accident
Last Name	First Name	Birth Date	Death Date	Age	Location	Other

Welsh	Carrie		13 Jun 1939			Admitted 10 Jun 1939
Whaley	Kenneth		07 Apr 1915			
Wilson	Charles		26 Jul 1921	63y	** EXL	Admitted 03 Nov 1911
Wood	Mrs. W.P.		03 Mar 1896		**	pg 25
Zandt	Mrs. John		20 Nov 1915			
Zuber	Joe		1970's		FR	

Key: ** = Buried in County Home Cemetery according to County Home Records

MCDR = Marshall County Death Records

P/ = Parent of

FAM = Family Information

m. = Married

RHS = Marshall County Historical Society

C/ = Child of

TO = Tombstone

S/ = Son of

abt = About

D = Daughter of

EXL = List copied by Linda Leach - 1976

Copied from the Marshall County Home Records many of the graves are unmarked and the stones that are there are cast of concrete and unreadable.

This cemetery is no longer used.

Taken from many resources: at the Marshall County Historical Society Library, Central Iowa Genealogical Library and personal library of Merrill & Shirley Price.

Resource: iagenweb.org

New sign at Marshalltown cemetery honors area's poor

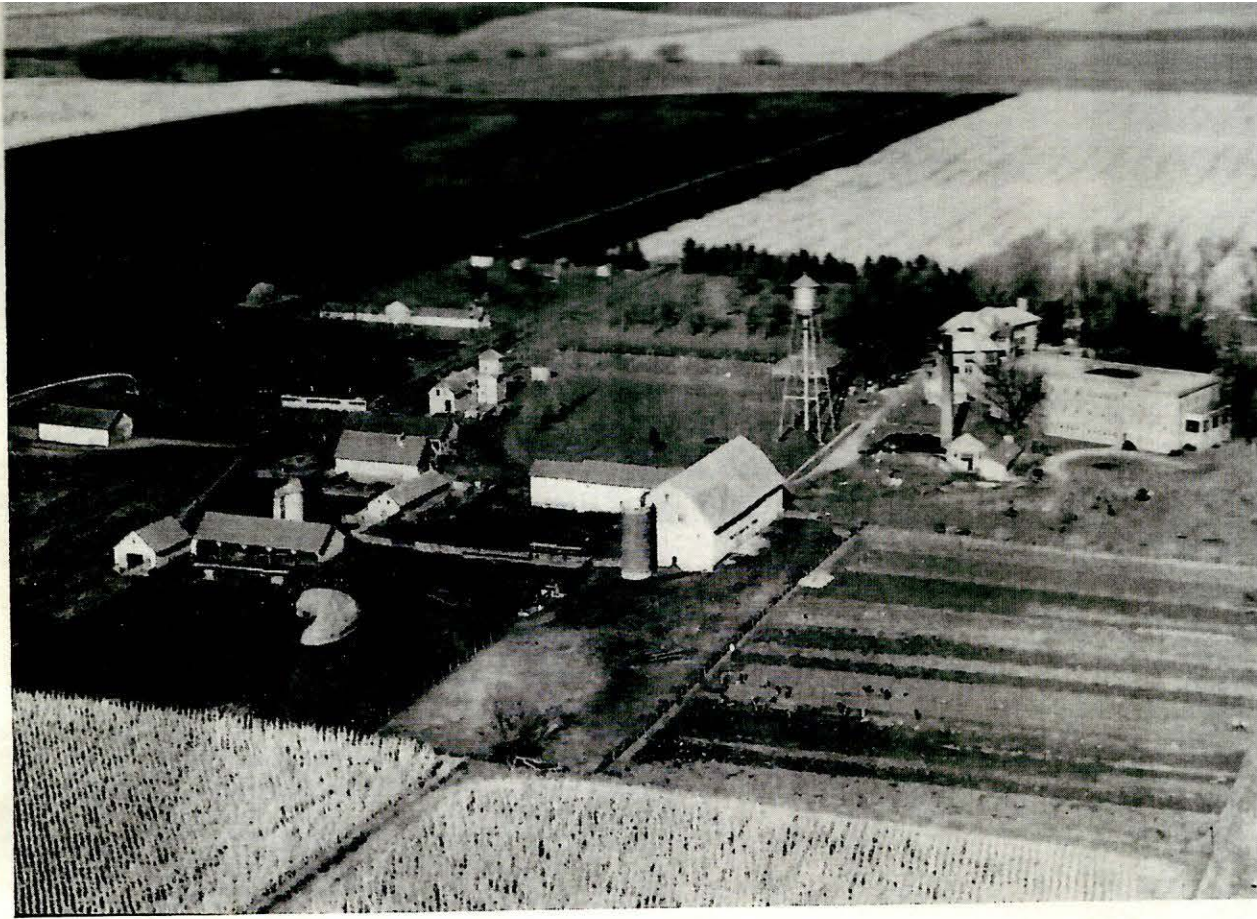
Associated Press 10/11/2014

MARSHALLTOWN, Ia. – A group installed a sign last week at a long-forgotten cemetery in Marshalltown in an effort to increase awareness of the grave sites, many for poor people who lived in the area during the late 1800s and early 1900s.

More than 160 people are buried at Marshall County Home Cemetery along U.S. Highway 30 near the county jail. Most of the grave sites were for people who lived in the county home for the poor.

The Marietta Club raised money to buy the new aluminum sign that was put up Thursday. Member Mary Lou Tappe said the group hopes to put a sign with all known names of people buried there.

Parts of the cemetery were overlooked for decades until crews looked into widening the highway in 2000, she said. "You've probably driven by it not knowing what it was. Now, you will know what it is," Tappe said.



MARSHALL COUNTY FARM

Established—June 18, 1868

Capacity of Farm—140 Patients

Present Number—106 Patients

Mr. and Mrs. N. D. Riemenschneider, Supt. and Matron

12 Employees

2 Doctors:

Dr. B. M. Biersborn, State Center, Iowa

Dr. Sokol, State Center, Iowa

Sigma's Marshall County Atlas 1946-1947

to be safe, it took three aides to take someone down in a wheel chair. These people were ambulatory, but some of them could not make three ramps and long walk to the dining room. Some of them should have been transferred to the Nursing Home, but we didn't have enough room for them there. You can guess they didn't get off third floor very often.

The demand in Marshall County was for space for nursing home patients. In 1970 we moved into the 104-bed Nursing Home. This was a traumatic experience for the residents. We went from a home-like atmosphere to one of an institution,

Laundry was a major problem because the laundry building was separate and to the rear of other buildings. There were no clothes dryers, residents hung clothes on lines. Because there was only a family sized mangle, sheets were not ironed. This was before permanent press materials. Can you imagine the ironing for 120 people? There were five ironing boards and five ladies ironed all day. They did have electric irons. When the clothing and

and when they felt really needed. To them it was a real disaster if their duties were given to someone else, serious enough that it was occasionally used as a disciplinary measure.

One little lady was ambitious and kept herself busy all day scouring and cleaning. She often became jealous and irritable and complained because things didn't go the way she wanted. The fault was always someone else's. We would say, "Ellen, until you get to feeling better, you won't need to do any cleaning or help with the dishes." Before long she would be begging to go back to work and when permitted, would go back with harmony and friendliness. No one expected or received pay for this work, they considered it a privilege to do it.

When we came, there were five dining areas. Everyone ate in their own department, because men and women were not permitted to mingle. The food was dipped into pans and rolled on an unheated open cart from the 1910 building to the 1938 building. Here the men sat down to the table and their food was served to them



The appearance of the Marshall County Care Facility in 1996.

Marshall County Home

Marshall County Board of Supervisors recognized the need of a "poor house" and erected the first building January 1870* (still in use as of 1997 as a storage shed). The first two residents were received November 16, 1879, admitted because they were considered "silly". Other reasons for recorded admissions were consumption, crazy, side hurt, frozen feet, sickness, old age, poverty brought on by drunkenness and many unwed mothers were admitted to give birth. Complete pauper families made their home there.

New County Infirmary was built in 1881.

The County Board of Sanity was allowed to commit mental patients with the approval of the Supervisors. No tranquilizers were used prior to 1960.

The County Home was comprised of 400 total acres south of Hwy. 30 about 11 miles west of Marshalltown.

Residents farmed, raised livestock and garden. They canned much of their food, churned butter, baked bread, housecleaned and did laundry. All residents were given small routine tasks. The laundry building was separate, with no clothes dryers. Five ladies ironed all day.

The middle building was erected in 1910. This building had 15 cells with iron bars on windows and doors.

1938 another building was added. This was the first-time bed patients were admitted.

In 1955, there were 5 dining rooms. Food was carted in from the 1910 to the 1938 building. Men and women were not permitted to mingle.

1957, the milking herd ended.

February 1, 1968, the farming operation was discontinued.

In 1970, the move into the 104-bed Nursing Home building was traumatic for residents that were used to home-like atmosphere. This was institutional.

Different types of patients that are handicapped in one way or another were rehabilitated and trained to be independent in shelter type situations.

By 1997, the change in attitude of the public was noticeable. The old stigma of the "poor farm" was almost worn out. The name changed to Marshall County Care Facility.

*Conflicting dates; Per Sigmond's Marshall County Atlas 1947, as of 1868 there were 140 patients, 12 employees and two doctors.

Finally, there were services of the Mental Health Center available. This did a lot for community; by getting psychiatric help, many people have been able to maintain their own home and job.

Still others had psychiatric evaluations and prescribed drugs, enabling them to enter the Marshall County Home rather than going into a mental health institution.

The facility had a resident that had been there for 63 years. Another two had been there 53 years. There were 9 that had made their home there for 30-40 years, six for 25-30 years. If they had received a psychiatric evaluation, they may have not been institutionalized.

Doctors from State Center provided timely and professional medical care.

See picture of the Marshall County Care Facility date 1996, attached.

The Marshall County Care Facility closed its doors October 15, 1997 due to lack of funds. Residents were transferred to local nursing homes.

Half mile from the existing building is the County Home Cemetery in an area fenced in and mowed. There may be about a dozen or so headstones on this site. The earliest record for burials is 1896. It is unknown where all graves are located as this cemetery cannot be the only site. Several ideas have been floated; additional graves may be located closer to the buildings and/or in the southwest corner of the Elmwood Cemetery, La Moille, Iowa (aka La Moille Cemetery) there are 18 cement markers with no information (tradition says these people were paupers from the Marshall County "Poor Farm"). Please see document titled 'County Home Cemetery' and *Des Moines Register* article dated 10/11/2014 attached for additional information.

Currently, Marshall County Sheriff's office utilizes this site.

Resources: *The Continuing History of Marshall County, Iowa 1997*. Pgs. 272-274
 iagenweb.org
 Des Moines Register.com