

NEWSLETTER

P. O. Box 1031

Norfolk, NE 68701

VOLUME 10 - NUMBER 38

JANUARY, 1989

2ND QUARTER

Dear Members: I hope each of you had a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Now is a good time to work on your genealogy. When the snows begin it's a good time to write letters.

Note below the workshop in March. It should be a good one to attend.

Joyce Barlow, President

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GENEALOGICAL WORKSHOP MARCH 3-4 IN LINCOLN

The Nebraska State Historical Society and the Nebraska State Genealogical Society will co-host a March 3-4 workshop which will feature sessions at the University of Nebraska's Love Library, the archives of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia, and the reference department of the Nebraska State Historical Society. There will be a Friday evening reception at the Nebraska State Historical Society.

Sessions will include presentations on land records, dating photographs from clothing styles, preparing for a genealogical research trip, the Nebraska State Newspaper Project, military records, care and organization of family papers, and oral history. The cost of the workshop, including a cold plate lunch, is \$7.00 before February 15. Late registrations are \$9. Lodging is available at the Best Western Airport Inn in Lincoln at \$29 single, \$31 double occupancy. When making room reservations, mention the workshop to get the guaranteed room rate.

NSHS/ NSGS GENEALOGY WORKSHOP, MARCH 3-4, 1989**PRE-REGISTRATION**

I plan to attend the workshop for the following events:

Friday

- Tours
 "Hidden Sources at NSHS..."
 Informal Reception & Orientation
to NSHS Reference Department

Saturday

- Programs
 Cold-Plate Lunch

Name _____

Address _____

For more information contact:
Cindy S. Drake
(402) 471-4785

Reminder: Send no money. Return this form by February 15, 1989, to Georgene Sones, 12224 Franklin Circle, Omaha, 68154. Conference fee is \$9 for those who do not pre-register by February 15.

HOW TO OBTAIN HOMESTEAD PAPERS

The legal description of the land which includes the township, range, section and legal subdivision must be provided when requesting copies of papers in the patent case files of the National Archives. This can be acquired from the recorder of the county in which the county is located.

There may be a fee for this service. Send this legal description to the Bureau of Land Management for copies of the patent. There is a small charge. Addresses of various district offices of the Bureau and the States they handle are listed below.

Box 13, 701 C. St. Anchorage, AK. 99513
(covers Alaska)

350 South Pickett St. Alexandria, VA. 22304
(covers Ala., Ark., Fla., Ill., Ind., Ia., La.,
Mich., Minn., Mo., Oh., & Wisc.)

Federal Building, Room E-2841
2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA. 95825
(covers Calif.)

1037 Twentieth St., Denver, CO. 80202
(covers Colo.)

Federal Building, 550 W. Fort St., Boise, ID. 83724
(covers Idaho)

P.O. Box 30157, Billings, MT.
(covers Mont., N.Dak. and S.Dak.)

Federal Building, Room 3008, 300 Booth St., Reno, NV. 89520
(covers Nevada)

P.O. Box 1449, Santa Fe, N.M. 87501
(covers N. Mex., Okla., and Texas)

P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR. 97208
(covers Ore. and Wash.)

University Club Building, 136 East S. Temple, Salt Lake City, UT.
(covers Utah)

P.O. Box 1828, Cheyenne, WY. 82001
(covers Wyo., Kan. and Nebr.)

CEMETERIES IN GROVE AND HIGHLAND TOWNSHIPGROVE TOWNSHIP

Pleasant Valley Cemetery - W 1/2 18-23-4 So. of Tilden on Co. Line
St Paul's Lutheran - Buffalo Creek NE 1/4 28-23-4

HIGHLAND TOWNSHIP

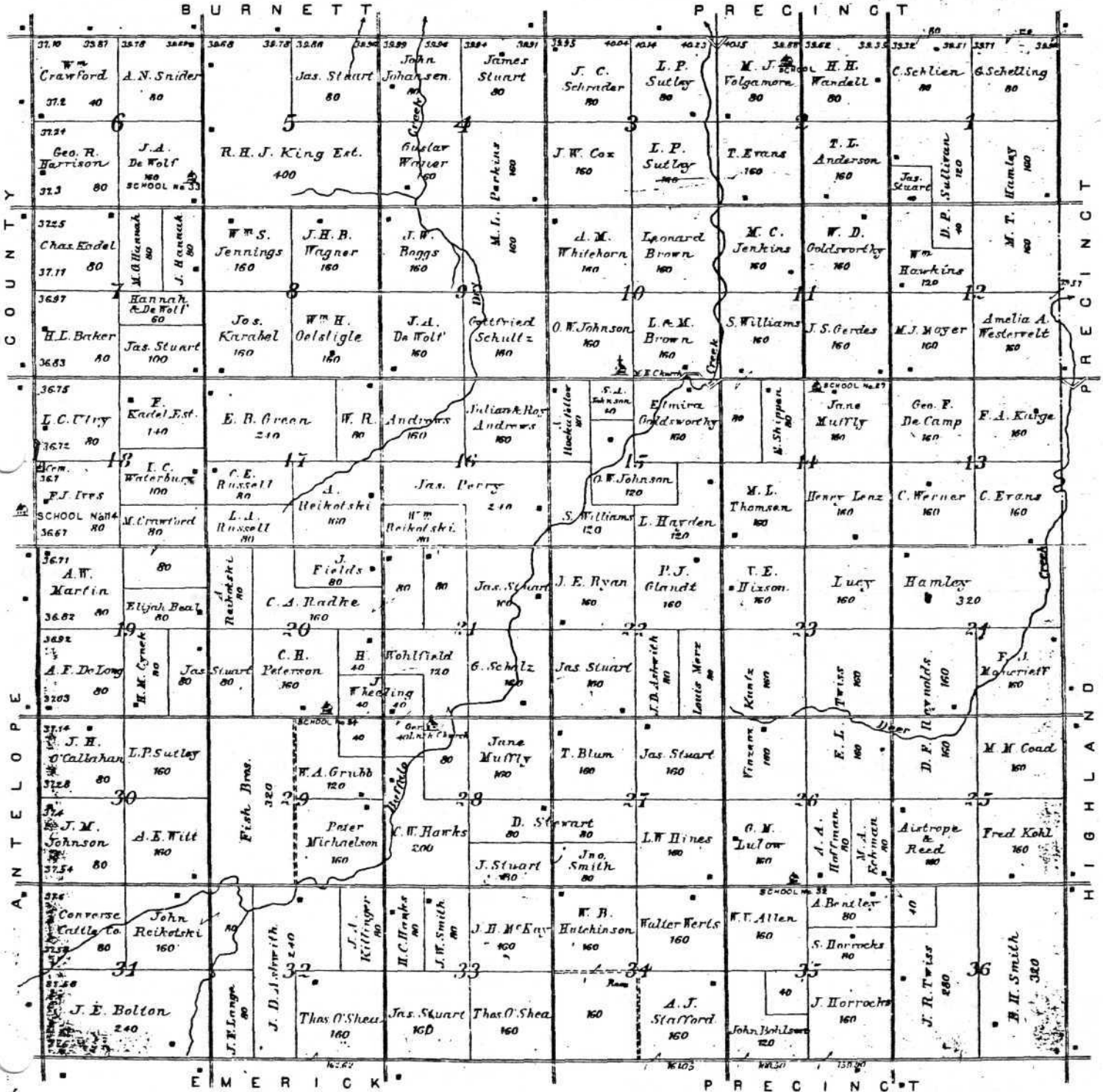
Deer Creek Cemetery - NE 1/4 6-23-3
Hutchins Cemetery - SW 1/4 7-23-3
St. John's Lutheran - NE 1/4 12-23-3 South of Battle Creek
Union Cemetery - NE 1/4 12-23-3 South of Battle Creek
St. John's Lutheran - NW 1/4 14-23-3 Ground for this location was
purchased July 5, 1874

PLAT OF GROVE

Scale 2 Inches to the Mile.

Township 23 North. Range 4 West.

of the 6th Principal Meridian.



- Section 1-SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - J. W. Risk, later to Hamley; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - John Brace, later owned by Gottlieb Schilling and Herman Hoffman; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - J. W. Risk, owned by H. Preuss later; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Louis Parrott and also D. P. Sullivan.
- Section 2-SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Melvos Killinger, also George Morley, E. L. McIntosh and W. S. Crook; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Mackingen, later owned by M. J. Volgemore; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - John R. Hale.
- Section 11-SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - August Eyle; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Bernhart Stolle and W. D. Goldsworthy; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Francis Rhynn, M. C. Jenkins and Burtis Johnson; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Herman Eyle and also A. C. Williams.
- Section 12-SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - John Tiedgen; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - John Lucht, later M. T. Hamley; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Henry Worth, William Hawkins and George DeCamp.
- Section 13-SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Railroad land. C. Evans and also Gustav Radke; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Railroad land. Herbert Boss and later the Judson B. Fichter farm; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - John C. Church, later by George DeCamp; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - F. A. Karge, later owned by George DeCamp.
- Section 14-SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Chas. Deery and Henry Lenz; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - George Hastings and Jane Muffly; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Val Barnes; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Z. Jones.
- Section 15-South part - L. Hayden, O. W. Johnson, S. Williams; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Elmira Goldsworthy, then Charles Filmer; West part - A. Rockefeller and S. A. Johnson.
- Section 22-SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Moses Campbell; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Daniel Wells; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Micheal Bark and J. E. Ryan; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Moses Carroll and also P. S. Glandt.
- Section 23-Railroad land. NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - V. E. Hixon and was known as the John Fredrick farm later on; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Lucy Hamley; SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Edward Twiss, later owned by E. T. and R. E. Collins; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Vinzentz Kunz and Herman Kunz.
- Section 24-SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - George B. Rouse; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - William Blake and J. D. Hogsett; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Montague Hamley, later Chittenton and Kuchar; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - David Reynolds, now Willis Kuchar.
- Section 25-NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - M. M. Coad, later John Brosh; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - D. F. Reynolds, then J. J. Brosh; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Aistrop Reed; SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Albert Kohl.
- Section 26-NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Edward L. Twiss, later to Collins; south part, M. A. Eckmann and A. A. Hoffman; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - James Hunter and J. M. Lulow. NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Vinzentz Kunz.
- Section 35-Railroad land. SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - John Horrocks; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - A. Bentley and S. Horrocks; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - John Bohlon and J. C. Kleider; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - W. V. Allen.
- Section 36-West half, J. R. Twiss; east half, E. H. Smith, later to J. Novotney.

St. Matthew and St. Paul Completing Many Projects

St. Paul Lutheran and St. Matthew Lutheran have undertaken many building related projects to improve their facilities in 1986.

At St. Matthew, one such project was made necessary by a recent church fire. The steeple, which was the only portion damaged in the fire, has now been restored. Some changes were made in the process. The cross was gold-leaved to give it a brighter appearance and darker asphalt shingles were used so that the steeple would more closely match the wood shingles on the rest of the church. Many have commented on how good it felt to approach Meadow Grove on Highway 275 and once again to be able to see the cross lit up at night on top of St. Matthew. It is another Meadow Grove landmark reminding us of the 100 years of blessings God has given to our community. Other projects being undertaken at St. Matthew include the remodeling of the secretary's office in the back of the church, being done by Roger Stuckwisch with help from Alvin Meyer and Rory Stuckwisch. A new closet is being built in which the Pastor's worship robes and the acolytes robes will be stored. A new brick bulletin board was installed on the east side of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in April of 1986.

St. Paul Lutheran Church, near Buffalo Creek, has also just completed a major project. In order to conserve fuel the congregation has this winter completely insulated the church and put storm windows on all the church windows. Other projects include the clearing out of many trees behind the church and the possibility of painting the outside of the church. Why give so much care to a church building? So that we might give a witness to our neighbors of the importance and worth of the God that we worship.

The Lutheran Youth of St. Matthew and St. Paul Lutheran Churches are planning an auction and a dinner on June 8, 1986. The proceeds will help finance a trip to the Missouri Synod Lutheran Youth gathering at Washington, D.C., on August 2 to 6. The gathering will be attended by 15,000 Lutheran youth and adults from all over the United States and foreign countries. It will be an exciting experience for the youth group as it grows in its Christian faith. The youth group from Meadow Grove have had various money making activities for the past year. Coffee and doughnut fellowship hours were held following church services. An aluminum can drive was held. The youth painted the fence at the Lutheran Cemetery. The Fraternal Friends Lutheran Brotherhood Branch No. 8708 matched funds raised by the youth in their aluminum can drive and coffee hour after church. The branch will match up to \$250. The youth hope reach their goal of raising \$3,000 for their trip.

Pastors of St. Matthew Lutheran Church

First Resident Pastors

Rev. A. H. Guettler	1917 - 1928
Rev. John Harms	1928 - 1930
Rev. H. K. Nierman	1930 - 1945
Rev. F. C. Schmidt	1946 - 1951
Rev. A. J. Buehner	1951 - 1957
Rev. K. F. Wentzel	1958 - 1967
Rev. Walter Johannes Jr.	1967 - 1973
Rev. Keith Knippenberg	1973 - 1978
Rev. Mark D. Peters	1980 - 1984
Rev. Wayne M. Braun	1984 -

St. Matthew Lutheran Cemetery

The St. Matthew Lutheran Cemetery, located one and a half miles south of town, is a two-acre plot purchased from W. R. Bohlson in 1928. By 1937 there were ten graves. There are two World War I veterans and four World War II veterans buried there.

In 1930 the area was bordered on three sides with the plantings of 100 seedling Chinese elm trees. "Everyone worked to help plant those trees," Herman Weerts commented.

About 1937 two brick corner pillars with connecting chain link fence to like pillars at the entrance were added to beautify the area. The mason work was done by Gordon Quiller, the high school science teacher in the local school.

By 1972 some of the bordering elm trees were dead so the trees were replaced with 39 evergreens bordering the three sides.

The 1985 cemetery board consists of Arnold Werner, Don Warnke, Herman Weerts, Larry Tegeler, Charles Dolesh, and Burt Berg.

St. Matthew's Ladies Aid

The St. Matthew's Ladies Aid was organized on March 12, 1920, at the home of Mrs. Guettler with ten ladies present. The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Guettler. Mrs. J. A. Schinck was elected president, Mrs. M. K. Hicks, vice president; Mrs. A. H. Guettler, secretary; and Mrs. C. Werner, treasurer. The ten ladies present were Mrs. John Schinck, Miss Hannah Werner, Mrs. Anna Stolle, Mrs. Bertha Werner, Miss Anna Seckel, Mrs. John Seckel, Mrs. J. W. Huelle, Mrs. M. K. Hicks, Mrs. L. C. Ruegge, and Mrs. A. H. Guettler. Later that year, Mrs. Frank Wisch, Anna Mueller, Elizabeth Mueller, Martha Mueller Hamen, Alice Ruegge, Mrs. Hattie Finkhouse, Mrs. Jacob Mueller, Mrs. F. C. Werner joined the Ladies Aid. In 1921 Miss Margaret Mueller joined, and Mrs. Faye Werner became a member in 1922. Mrs. M. K. Hicks is the only charter member still living.

The Ladies Aid meets the first Friday of each month. They have various projects such as sending cards to the sick, assisting in the upkeep of the church property, and contributing to a number of charitable organizations. What was said about the Ladies Aid in the Church's twenty-fifth anniversary booklet still applies today:

"The Dorcas spirit is still present with us in this organization of today. Here, in an organized manner, lovers of Jesus and His humanitarian cause, may practice works of love and charity."

Presently there are twenty members. Mrs. Vera Smith serves as the president of the organization.

St. Matthew Lutheran Church owns a beautiful cemetery plot one and one-half miles south of Meadow Grove which was bought about 1930. Spruce trees have been planted around three sides of the cemetery and the grounds are very well kept.

The St. Matthew Lutheran Church steeple received considerable damage March 6, 1986, when a fire was discovered near the lighted cross at the top of the church.

Lenten services were in progress at the time. Ken and Mychelle Halsey who live across the street from the church alerted the church members and the fire department. The Meadow Grove fire department responded immediately and prevented the fire from spreading.

St. Matthew's held a service of Thanksgiving, Sunday, March 16 at 9 a.m. The Meadow Grove firemen were invited to attend.

Pastor Braun and everyone is thankful that no one was hurt and the church wasn't damaged more.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Buffalo Creek

The church celebrated its fifty anniversary in 1943. The following history was given at this event:

"The number of Lutheran Christians living in this vicinity was small, but their longing for the pure Word and sacraments was greater. They yearningly looked forward to the day when they would have their own church where they could feed their souls on the Bread of Life, where their little ones could be brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. They set to work to have what they so sorely needed, a church of their own. It was in the year of 1892, in the month of June, when seven Lutheran Christians met with Pastor J. Hoffman of Battle Creek, Nebraska, for the express purpose of establishing a Christian congregation. John Lulow, Sr., was one of the organizers. That day, the organization of St. Paul's, Tilden, was affected. Pastor Hoffman served the little flock for nearly a year. From 1893 to 1896 Reverend H. Schultze of Tilden was pastor. He was followed by Reverend F. Koester of Tilden until 1908. In 1908 the congregation decided to call a resident pastor. Reverend T. J. Vogel was called and ordained the same year. Reverend Vogel served the congregation during his vicarage year both in the school and in the church from 1906-1907. He must have proved very satisfactory, for when the congregation decided to call a resident pastor they called candidate Vogel. Pastor T. J. Vogel served the church from 1908 to 1913 when he accepted a call to the congregation in Kansas. During his pastorate the congregation made great strides forward. In 1909 a parsonage was built and dedicated.

When the cornerstone of the new church was laid April 16, 1911, the number of voting members had increased to thirty-two. August 13, 1911, the new church was dedicated to the service of the Triune God. The congregation next extended a call to Reverend H. J. W. Schultz of Papillion, Nebraska. He accepted the call and was installed in June 1913. Reverend Schultz, like his successor, served the congregation in the dual capacity of pastor and teacher of the congregation's Christian school. Reverend Schultz served St. Paul's from 1913 to 1929. It was only during the later part of his pastorate that he was supplied with student teachers for the day-school. The following served: Edwin Robek, one term; Theodore Beckmann, two terms; and

Miss Marie Blume, one term. In 1929 Reverend Schultz accepted a call to Gering, Nebraska. Reverend E. Neumann accepted the call to St. Paul's and served for two years. Reverend O. E. Schlecht came in 1932 followed by several others, including Reverend M. T. Duchow, G. E. Walter, Leo Wehrspann, Reverend Blessin and Reverend K. F. Wentzel and Reverend Keith Knippenberg.

During Reverend T. J. Vogel's pastorate Buffalo Creek enjoyed the service of a good band. This band served the home church and many surrounding congregations on special occasions such as mission festivals and other events.

The day school must have been discontinued in the late 20s. At present a Sunday School, Saturday School and confirmation instruction provide for the spiritual needs of the children.

On November 10, 1929, the Ladies Aid was reorganized with fifteen members. The first officers were: president, Mrs. O. H. Wohlfeil; vice president, Mrs. Fred Hiebult; secretary, Mrs. William Scheer; and treasurer, Mrs. Henry Stoltenberg. The Ladies Aid had a membership of twenty-nine in 1942. A young people's society was organized in 1928. The first officers were: president, Walbrich Weerts, vice president, Arthur Lind; secretary, Irma Scheer, and treasurer, Arnold Roewert.

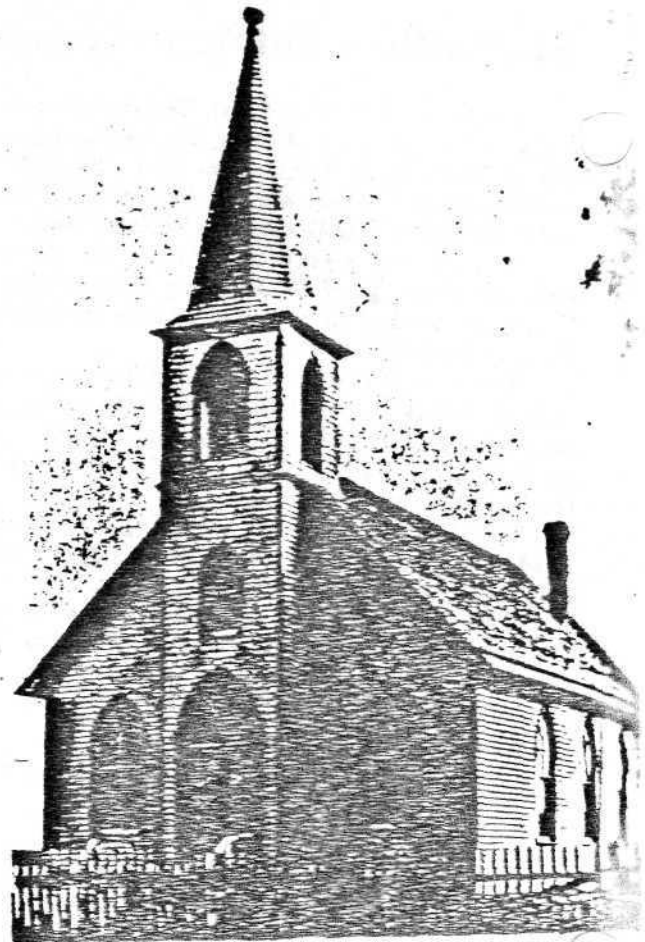
Mission Festivals were held under large tents or in a grove north of the church. Often 400 people attended. At noon, dinner was served for fifteen cents and twenty cents per plate.

On August 5, 1948, the church was remodeled. A new basement was installed measuring sixty-four feet by thirty feet with a kitchen on the south end, restrooms, a furnace room, and auditorium thirty-nine feet by thirty feet. A four foot addition was made to the north end of the church to make an inside entrance to the basement, with a cloak room on the west side. The basement is used for Sunday School, Ladies Aid, etc. The cost of remodeling was \$10,000. The carpenters were George Mills, Guy Alderson, Alvin Wesche; and masons were Carl Anderson and Ole Nelson; plasterer was Max Schmidt, and the electric work was done by Reverend G. E. Walter. A. E. Berg contributed many hours of plumbing. The members furnished labor, and also put in a deep well pressure water system.

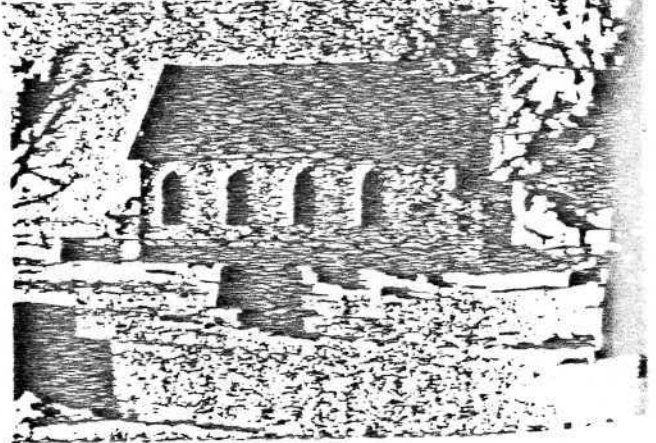
St. Paul's Lutheran Church observed its seventy-fifth anniversary on June 4, 1967, with two services. Pastor Leo Wehrspann, who was pastor at Buffalo Creek from 1961 to 1963, was the morning speaker, and Pastor M. T. Duchow, who served St. Paul's from 1953 to 1960, had charge of the afternoon service. Attendance for the two services was over 500. Mrs. Kenneth Berg had baked a cake forming a replica of the present church building.

Three charter members were present for the day: Mrs. Herman Pittack, Mrs. Julius Molhoff, and Ben Lulow. At present Reverend Dubs of Tilden is serving as vacancy pastor at Buffalo Creek.

Left to right, first row, Fritz Budde, Herman Pittack, Frank Meyer, Reverend Vogel, Jullus Molhoff, Paul Rudnick, Bill Rudnick. Second row, Ed Wells, Carl Wietling, Jullus Meyer, Theo. Budde, Enno Budde, Frank Weerts, Fred Wells, Henry Stoltenberg.

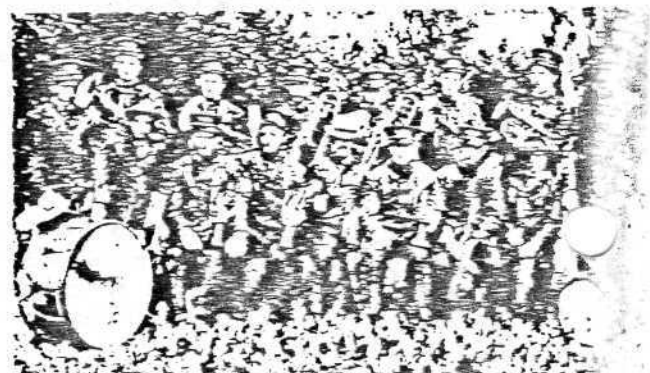


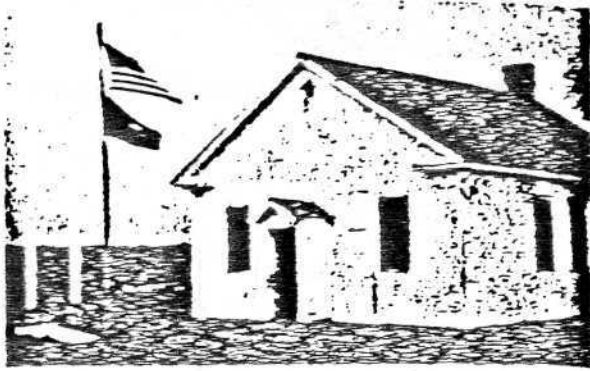
Second Church of St. Paul's Lutheran Church - 1.



Present St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Cemetery.

Buffalo Creek Band





School District #34, Madison County, founded in 1874.

HISTORY OF SCHOOL DISTRICT #34 MADISON COUNTY

In the year 1868 many people were living in sod houses. It was a struggle to stay alive. It was during this year (1868) that Madison County was organized. The Burlington and Missouri Railroad owned much of the land 20 miles north and 20 miles south of the Elkhorn River. People were so poor that educating their children was the least of their worries. But in the year of 1868, H. A. Barnes was the Madison County superintendent of schools and he said, "We must start educating our children. Our children are the future of America." So, with the help of Mr. Barnes and L. F. Taylor, who followed him in the year 1873, many school houses were built. It was on October 22, 1873, that District #34, Madison County, or the Buffalo Creek School, was organized. A short time later, the school house was built. Of course, it was a sod house and it was built about 1/2 mile southwest of our present school house. So in 1874, the school doors opened and school began for the first time.

Our first teacher was John Smyth. He taught for three months and his salary was \$25 a month. For many years school was held for three months only and sometimes less in a year. If Dad would say, "I need help picking corn," or if a winter storm darkened the sky and the roads would be blocked for several weeks, the school would close until a better time would suit everyone. Teachers were lucky if they received \$1 a day. Two boys and four girls were the pupils that first year of school and George Peck was the school director, followed by John Wheeling. The annual school meeting was in April of 1874 and the State apportionment was \$27.79.

In 1881 a frame school house was built. The value of this school was \$35. There were 24 children going to school and the teacher was Mattie Harvey. In his first report, he stated that the children were doing fairly well.

There were no grades in those days. The children came to learn to read, to write, and learn arithmetic on their own progress.

In the 1890's the school house was moved to the present grounds with several head of horses as the power. Some have told that the school house was moved at night because of the heat of the day or maybe some "confusion" in the district!

In 1916 this frame school house was moved to the John Reikofski farm or the John Klamert farm as it is known today, and the present school house was built. The first teacher in the new school was Gertrude Beal (Switzer). In 1919-1920, the teacher was Bernice Kinne. Education was improving, as there were more subjects and more school days. Even in the 1930's when farmers were hit with drouth and grasshoppers and teachers were getting only \$25 a month again, education was on the move, and it has been improving every year since that time.

In 1974, the school celebrated their 100th birthday.

In 1980, the school continues to be open with two pupils attending. They are Carla Bennett and Sandra Stewart. The teacher is Mrs. Evelyn Mock, who receives a salary of \$6,750 for nine months. The present school board members are: Donald Kossman, president; Joyce Roewert, treasurer; and Darlene Kossman, secretary.

Submitted by Joyce Roewert

RAILROAD LAND GRANTS

Continued from page 8.

Chicago and Northwestern (Includes Minneapolis & St. Paul and The Chicago Great Western lines)

Chicago and Northwestern Hist. Soc.
1812 Hood Avenue
Chicago, IL 60660

Master files for retired railroad workers, give name, road worked for, position, place and date.

Railroad Retirement Board
844 Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611

From Handout by Arlene H. Eakle at NSGS
May 1988 Annual Workshop.

PLAT OF HIGHLAND

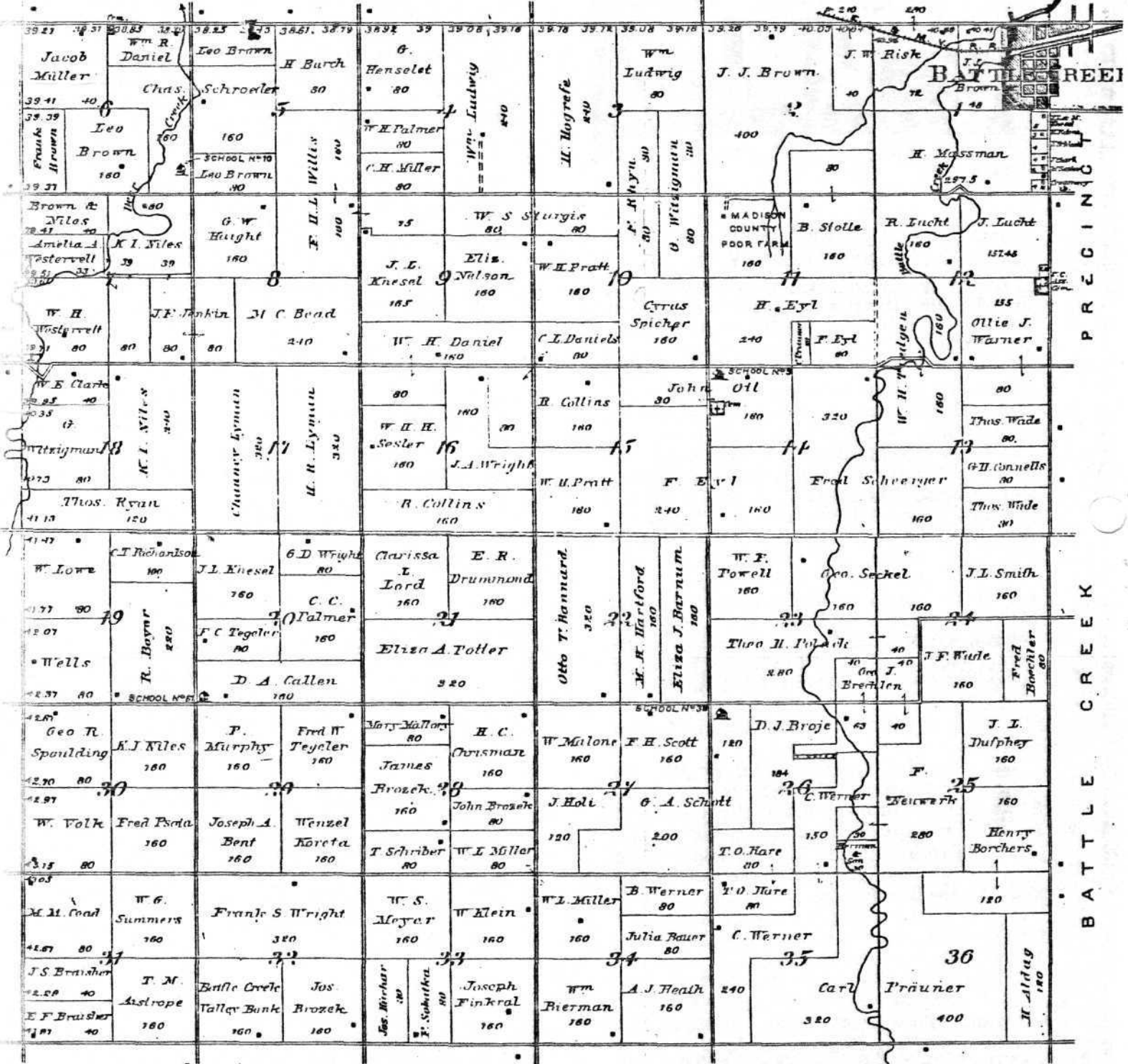
Scale 2 Inches to the Mile.

Township 23 North. Range 3 West.

of the 6th Principal Meridian.

DEER CREEK

PRECINCT



SCHOOL CRAFT

PRECINCT

BATTLE CREEK

Early settlers in Highland Precinct were:

In Section 1, John Kost, J. W. Risk, Lewis Parrott, and Herman Hogrefe. The Hogrefes took the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 1, so that is would include the area west of Depot Street. George Morley, John McKenigan, Melrose Killinger, and John B. Hale, Section 2; R. M. Webster, and James R. Peters, William Webster, and Henry Hogrefe, Section 3. Francis Rhyn also had an 80 acre piece out of Section 3 and other land to the south. Andrew Borchers, Jacob H. Palmer, Franklin J. Cochran, and S. K. Valentine in Section 4; Rachael M. Hutchins, Adam Kost, George W. Haight in Section 5; W. H. Bradshaw, W. C. Warner, Section 6; Charles Hutchins, Section 7; F. H. L. Willis, George W. Haight (Mr. Haight came in 1877, walking out from Wisner), Thomas Beed, and Dennis Murphy in Section 8; John Nelson in Section 9; Allan Barton, John Piper, W. S. Sturgis, and Nicholas Rhynn. Henry Rhynn and Thomas L. Daniels, in Section 10; August Eyl, Francis Rhynn, Herman Eyl and Bernard Stolle in Section 11; John F. Tiedgen, Henry Woste and John Lucht in Section 12. Since this is close to town, we should add that the John Tiedgen farm, was the south half of Section 12 where Clarence Bierman now lives. Also included is the quarter section to the west where the buildings have been removed and which was the location of the John F. Tiedgen homestead. John Lucht had the northeast quarter of this section which would be the one in which the cemetery is located. Henry Woste had the quarter to the west which was later acquired by Mr. Lucht, which we know as the Lucht farm. Claus Gardels, Section 13; L. D. Barnes, Nicholas Gunkle, Theodore Eyl, R. B. Robes in Section 14; Ed E. Hudson, Joseph Hutching, Kenyon Niles in Section 18; Benjamin Snow in Section 19; Charles C. Palmer, Daniel S. Callen, Jacob L. Knesel, Robert Ross, Dennis Wright and Frank Wright in Section 20; William B. Russell, Alice E. Hetter, and Myron H. Harper in Section 22; Jacob Cleveland, George Seckel, W. A. Barnes in Section 23; William Ckerman, Calvin L. Smith, and Fred Williams in Section 24; Antone Young, Detlof Borchers in Section 25; Thomas O'Hare, George A. Schott, Conrad Werner, Sr., and the famous "Ponca" George St. Claire, the very first settler on Battle Creek in Section 26. The St. Claire homestead being the S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and E $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 26. John H. Flower, Section 28. J. S. Knesel (later the Fred W. Tegeler farm and now the Loren Unkel farm), the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 28; Patrick and Charles Gray and T. G. Cannon in Section 29; John W. Spaulding, Milton Cambell and Thomas B. England in Section 30; George Pratt, Margaret Owen, George Bauer, and William A. Miller in Section 34. Mr. Miller is the father of Hayes Miller of Battle Creek. John McCollough, Amos T. Riegle in Section 35. (Mr. Riegle platted forty acres of his land as "Central City" in the early 80's hoping that the county seat would be located here. This is the land where Norman Praeuner now lives). Section 36 was state school land and was bought mostly in the early day by Carl Praeuner. Henry Aldag acquired 120 acres of it and Henry Borchers acquired an 80 acre tract which was later bought by Fred Praeuner. Carl Praeuner sold his original homestead to his brother John and bought the larger tract of the school land in Section 36 and later acquired the Riegel farm in Section 35.

Blakely. Post office established February 25, 1880, discontinued June 21, 1899. Named to honor a Mr. Blakely, first settler and blacksmith shop owner.

Blakely Post Office is situated on mostly level prairie. It was established in 1880, George B. Rouse being appointed first Postmaster. Mr. Blake was the first settler, in 1871; others were Messrs. Hutchins, Reynolds, Snow and Derry. The first birth was that of Mary Hamley, in August, 1871. E. Rouse taught the first school. Except the post office, there is only a blacksmith shop here.

The Deer Creek Cemetery, located two miles south and one-half miles east of Meadow Grove, is on a plot of ground owned by W. R. Daniel who donated the and and in exchange was given one lot. Mr. Daniel was the grandfather of Darrell Braun.

The first grave marked is 1870 and there was a total of 50 by 1900. Markers made only of 2 x 6 stakes with no names or dates mark the graves of five children who died from diphtheria when the family was traveling through the area in a covered wagon. There are five Civil War veterans' graves.

The cemetery is bordered on three sides with a line of trees. In 1940 four evergreen trees, including the two by the entrance were donated by Mrs. Ernie (Daisy) Jockheck, daughter of W. R. Daniel.

A galvanized, steel-wire fencing lines the north side. In 1920, according to Mrs. Elmer Hannen, a chicken pot-pie dinner was served at Beech's Hall to finance buying the fence. Mrs. Jake White and Mrs. Fred Yoeman made the biscuits, using 48 pounds of flour.

There are no records available before 1948 when the late Mrs. John Wieting started. Mrs. Hannen was kept them since 1975.

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HUTCHINS owned the cemetery on HALSEY'S. Hutchins and their families were the only ones buried there, so they made it into a private cemetery. HOYT owned the DEER CREEK Cemetery. For awhile it was called Hoyt Cemetery, but later it was changed to DEER CREEK. It was not a private cemetery. On the county line is the WILLIAMS Cemetery which is private also. The MOODY cemetery is one of the oldest cemeteries around here. The first man buried there was drowned and the second shot. That was about 80-85 yrs ago.

HIGHLAND PRECINCT TOWNSHIP 23
NORTH RANGE 3 WEST

- Section 5-80 acres in SW part - William Hutchins and Leo Braun; NW part - Charles Schroeder; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Hoyt; SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - F. H. L. Willis.
- Section 6-NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Joseph Hurd, also Jacob Mueller; NE part - William R. Daniel; East part - Charles Schroeder; others in southwest part - Frank Braun and Leo Braun.
- Section 7-NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - K. I. Niles and C. H. Hutchins; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Braun and Niles, W. H. Westervelt; SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - J. F. Jenkins.
- Section 8-NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - George Haight; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - F. H. L. Willis; SE 240 acres - M. C. Beed; West 80 acres - J. F. Jenkins.
- Section 18-NE 240 acres - K. I. Niles, South part - Thomas Ryan; West part - W. E. Clark and G. Witzigman.
- Section 19-East part - R. Boyer and C. H. Richardson; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Wells and Carl Daniel; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - W. Lowe, later B. F. Schlect.
- Section 20-North part - G. D. Wright, J. L. Knesel. C. C. Wright owned some land in the west part in later years. The east part was settled by C. C. Palmer; South - D. A. Callen. This was owned by H. Kaufmann in later years. West part was owned by F. C. Tegeler at one time.
- Section 29-SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Wentzel Koreta and Edwin Tegeler; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Fred Tegeler; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - P. Murphy; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - J. Bent.
- Section 30-SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Fred Psota and Walter Tegeler; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Ed Hudson and Carl Daniel; NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - George Spaulding and Elisa Kahler; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - William Volk.
- Section 31-SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - T. M. Aistrop and Alice Reed; NE $\frac{1}{4}$ - W. G. Summers and Kate Lewis; West part - M. M. Coad, J. C. Braiser, E. T. Braiser; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Mary Dubachek and NW $\frac{1}{4}$ - Kate Kaul.
- Section 32-North 320 acres - Frank Wright; SW $\frac{1}{4}$ - F. J. Osborn; SE $\frac{1}{4}$ - Joe Brozek.

Damon's Chapel or Hillsdale

A minister by the name of Reverend G. W. Damon started revival meetings in the new Deer Creek schoolhouse. G. W. Haight related that it was during these meetings that my wife and I embraced religion and were immersed in the Elkhorn River.

In 1901 Reverend Damon decided to build a church on the Dennis Wright farm located five miles south and two miles east of Meadow Grove (Section 20, Township 23, Range 3). Mr. Haight told how he helped lay the cornerstone. There was a large crowd present. In the northeast corner of Damon's Chapel a box was placed about the size of a brick with the names of all who contributed money.

Too much praise couldn't be given to Brother Damon for his untiring efforts to establish a house of worship in the community. He solicited from house to house

and in his zeal for the Lord's cause counted no sacrifice too great in order that he might see the desire of his heart. Among those he won to the cause with himself, and in whose hearts he had a warm place were Warner Daniel, G. Dennis Wright, William Sesler, Ira Jenkins, and D. A. Callen, who became the first trustees.

Other members of the new church were Lawrence Wells, whose daughter Minnie married Otto Hoffman, son of the Lutheran Reverend Hoffmann at Battle Creek; Letcher Daniel, Crochet Chrisman, Will Palmer, Frank Jenkins, Frank Wright, Henry Kaufman, and Grant Beed.

In the fall of 1904 the church was ceded to the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. After the United Brethren took charge of the field, the church was known as the Hillsdale Church and was served by the following pastors: J. M. Folden, Z. White, W. C. Clifton, and W. D. Bradley. The presiding elders during these years were A. A. Garner, E. Harper, and W. C. Clifton. In 1911 the church membership was seventy-one with a good Sunday School and an active Young People's Christian Endeavor Society which had a membership of thirty-five. The officers of the young people's group that year of 1911 were Mrs. Lewis Braun, president; Laura Wright, vice-president; Gertrude Wright, secretary; Mrs. Frank Braun, treasurer.

Sometime prior to 1920 the church split up and another new church was built one mile north and one mile east of this one. It was on the corner of the intersection southwest of the Paul Sesler farm. This was the Christian Church. Its principal members included R. F. Tiedgen, Eddie Daniel, Crochet Chrisman, and others. The congregation did not survive, and the building was sold and moved to Madison where it is still used as a church building.

The congregation was also dissolved at the Damon Chapel around 1920, due to declining membership when many members were retiring to town. This was the end of the horse and buggy era and the beginning of auto travel.

Primitive Baptist Church

The church was established June 25, 1892, as the Deer Creek Regular Predestinarian Baptist Church, and was located southwest of Battle Creek on the present Allen Knapp farm.

The congregation consisted mostly of Grayson County, Virginia, settlers who held letters of memberships with the Rock Creek and Cross Roads churches there, according to church histories.

Desiring a church of their own, the five charter members called Elder William Hawkins, Mt. Airy, North Carolina, as moderator, and Elder S. R. McFarland, Missouri Valley, Iowa, as clerk. As the Primitive Baptist Church was separate from any synod, Elders Hawkins and McFarland wrote the Articles of Faith, Church Constitution, and Rules of the Decorum.

Soon the congregation grew to sixty persons. There were many Virginians in and around Battle Creek and Meadow Grove that attended. Walter Black, Z. I. Jones, Collins, and Daniels' families were some of the members.

In 1920 the country church was moved into Battle Creek, and services were held once a month. Membership gradually dwindled and by 1976 only four members held letters to the church. For seventeen years Elder Berkeypile

of Minden traveled once a month to conduct services. He also came to the Meadow Grove Community Building to conduct services. Mrs. Myrtle Black and her daughter, Lou Cloud, are the two sole area members left in the community.

The church has been sold to next door neighbors in Battle Creek.

Leedom Church

The Leedom Church was located four miles south and one and one-half miles west of Meadow Grove on the north side of the road. A rather large number of people attended this Methodist Church. The minister came from the Methodist Church of Emerick and preached in the afternoons.

There was a large Ladies Aid which met once a month in the homes. The ladies were accompanied by their husbands and the day began with a big noon meal. The meal consisted of potatoes, meat, perhaps string beans and a big crock of cabbage slaw. Jello had just come out then, and Mrs. Filmer bought some and served it to the ladies. Oranges and bananas were about the only fruits available to mix in the jello. The ladies thought the jello was the most wonderful thing they had ever tasted.

The Ladies Aid had box socials and suppers, too. One time they gave each member a quarter, and each was to see how much she could make from the quarter. Some set hens and sold the chickens. Mrs. Charles Filmer was the winner. She bought hand lotion. It was a twenty-five cent bottle consisting of bay rum, glycerine, and five or six drops of carbolic acid. It was really great for healing the hands. Mr. Evans always made it in his drug store. She bought a bottle, resold it, used the money from that, buying more and reselling it.

A young people's organization, the Epworth League met every Sunday evening at the church. They sang, prayed, and had a lesson. Around thirty-five belonged to the organization. About once a month they would meet in some member's home for a party. One time they had a contest to see how many words could be made out of the words, Epworth League. They worked diligently every evening looking up words in the dictionary and encyclopedia. The losers had to treat the winners to an oyster supper.

Revival meetings were also held at the Leedom Church which drew large crowds. There would be an evangelist preaching, and there would be singing, praying, and crying. Some would go forward to repent of their sins. Evangelists would go through the country conducting these meetings. One lady stayed in the Filmer home for two weeks while she held the meetings in the Leedom Church.

After church services on Sunday, people would stand in groups around the church visiting. Usually someone would ask another family to come to their home to share their meal with them. They ate whatever was on the table and were satisfied. People didn't make big preparations ahead of company. On Saturday they usually baked a couple of pies in case they invited someone over for a meal after church.

The Leedom Church was sold at public auction October 1922. R. D. Horrocks bought it for \$70.

Fragile Family Treasures

SUNDAY WORLD-HERALD October 16, 1968

5-E

Tintypes Require Careful

Handling

Dear Mrs. Westmore: I have a number of tintypes. Can copies be made?

I tried using a copy machine, but I wasn't happy with the results.

Ruth P. Gray
10526 Read Plaza
Omaha 68142

Larry Ferguson was helpful in answering your question. He owns and operates Ferguson's Photography Studio in Omaha and teaches photography classes at Bellevue College and the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

He said that anyone who has such a photograph of his family is fortunate because it is one-of-a-kind.

Tintypes are not made of tin, but are an albumen (egg-white) image on black-lacquered steel. Tintypes are the negative image of the in-camera original and they are easily damaged.

Fingerprints are one way of harming the albumen coating. The steel backing is subject to rust, especially if the metal has been bent. Allowing the image to rub against another surface can be harmful.

Proper care is essential for all old photographs, but tintypes are especially fragile. They should be stored in polyethylene or other acid-free bags and protected from extremes in temperature. Placing them on magnetic sheets is almost certain to cause irreparable damage.

Many genealogists have found photocopying to be an inexpensive and successful way of distributing family pictures to relatives. The photocopies may be used for identification purposes or as a way of sharing family memorabilia. Photocopies also will save wear and tear on original prints when used as a file copy or carried when traveling. Photocopies can be used successfully in conjunction with typed or handwritten family histories.

The quality of the photocopy will be determined by the quality of the original photograph as well as the quality of the photocopy machine. The staff at a photocopy center can advise you about the most effective machines and settings. However, a photocopy is never of the same quality as the original.

Tintypes seldom photocopy well because they have a low-contrast image. Because of the combined components

Family Trails

By Lesta Westmore

of fragility, rarity and difficulty in photocopying, anyone who has family tintypes should consider having a photograph made by a professional photographer. Be sure to select a shop where your originals will not be shipped through the mail or damaged by improper handling.

Ferguson said that a good-quality copy of a tintype often is better than the original. You can then photocopy this image.

Photographs need not be old to be preserved. Color photographs that are beginning to fade can be copied in black and white. Transferring home movies to videotape is another popular way of preserving family memories.

Videotape, Ferguson said, will stretch over time and also is of somewhat lower quality than other types of copies. Negatives for still photographs made from movie film will last longer.

If you plan to have some of your photographs copied, be sure to save and properly store the originals. Copies

should be placed with a responsible relative to help insure that your family images will be available for future generations.

Family Trails is a how-to column intended to assist researchers who are tracing their personal family history. Letters should be sent to Lesta Westmore at P.O. Box 4244, Omaha, Neb. 68104. Queries are selected for publication, and there may be a delay of several weeks before they appear in print.

Articles for this newsletter were taken from "They Call it Meadow Grove, Meadow Grove Centennial Book and The Tilden Centennial Book.

We want to thank PAT NYGREN for the list of National Archives Census Data on Microfilm at the Sioux City Library.

PLEASE NOTE OUR CHANGE
OF BOX NUMBER TO
1031

DUES ARE DUE
Individual - 6.00
Family - 8.00

We meet at 7:30 p.m. at the third Tuesday of each month at Logan's Antana Service, 2nd and Braasch, Norfolk, NE. Guests are welcome.

This will be your last issue unless dues are paid now. Mail them to Lottie Klein, 1105 South 10th, Norfolk, NE 68701.

The Nebraska State Genealogical Society Annual Meeting and Workshop will be held May 5 & 6, 1989, in Grand Island, NE at the Ramada Inn. Dr. Schweitzer will present the programs about research in Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, the Revolutionary War, and the War of 1812.

The Nebraska State Genealogical Society Fall Workshop will be hosted by the Greater York Area Genealogical Society on October 14, 1989. more information will be available this summer.

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* MADISON COUNTY GENEALOGY SOCIETY
* P. O. Box 1031
* Norfolk, Nebraska 68701
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