

HISTORIC ST. JAMES EVANGELICAL CEMETERY OF ST. JAMES UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



THIS PLOT OF LAND WAS ONCE FARMLAND DONATED TO ST. JAMES OR ST. JACOBUS KIRCHE {KEARSHA} (OR CHURCH) IN 1872 BY JACOB RENKERT. THE LOTS WERE SOLD FOR \$10 PER WHOLE LOT, EACH OF WHICH INCLUDED EIGHT GRAVESITES. PURCHASERS COULD ALSO BUY A HALF LOT. A WHOLE LOT MEASURED ONE ROD IN WIDTH BY A HALF ROD IN LENGTH, AS MEASURED FROM THE CENTER OF THE PATH THAT ONCE EXISTED. THE PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF LOTS WERE SAID TO HAVE GONE TOWARD THE BUILDING OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AT ST. JAMES. LOT SALES CONTINUED THROUGH 1892. MANY OF THOSE BURIED ARE GERMAN IMMIGRANTS.

FRONT OF CEMETERY



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3

THE FIRST BURIAL WAS ACTUALLY IN 1868 FOR CHRISTINE ELISABETH RENKERT (THE WIFE OF JACOB). YOU CAN SEE THE RENKERT MONUMENT IN THE CENTER OF THE PROPERTY. WE BELIEVE THERE WAS A TALL OBELISK THAT ONCE STOOD ON TOP OF THE MONUMENT, FROM WHAT WE HAVE SEEN EVIDENCED WITH SIMILAR MONUMENTS IN OTHER CEMETERIES. WE WERE RECENTLY ABLE TO LEVEL IT, AS IT WAS LEANING VERY PRECARIOUSLY.



THE FINAL BURIAL WAS IN THE WINTER OF 1988 FOR EDNA R.E. BARTEN. YOU CAN SEE THE FAMILY PLOT IN THE FAR BACK CORNER OF THE CEMETERY SURROUNDING THE T. BARTEN MONUMENT.

DEMNERLY FUNERAL HOME TOOK CARE OF THE BURIAL AND RECALLED QUITE VIVIDLY THAT IT WAS A BITTER COLD DECEMBER DAY IN HAMBURG. PRIOR TO THAT, THE LAST BURIAL HAD BEEN THAT OF HENRY L. PFEIFER IN 1946.





THERE ARE AT LEAST THREE VETERANS BURIED HERE. IF WE DISCOVER MORE, WE WILL ADORN THEIR GRAVESITES WITH FLAGS. PRIVATE THEODORE BARTEN SERVED WITH TWO NEW YORK CAVALRY D COMPANY. HE WAS PRESENT AT APPOMATTOX COURTHOUSE WHEN GENERAL LEE SURRENDERED. PRIVATE JOHN TIMM, OF C COMPANY OF THE 100TH REGIMEN OF THE NEW YORK INFANTRY, WAS WOUNDED IN COMBAT IN THE RIGHT SHOULDER AND WAS HELD PRISONER FOR THREE MONTHS. VICTOR RUDLOFF WAS A SURGEON WITH THE HOSPITAL STEWARDS REGIMENT, SERVING FOR THREE YEARS.



WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE

ELIZABETH KAST, WHO WORKED IN THE TELEPHONE OFFICE, WHO WAS THE LONGEST TENURED EMPLOYEE IN HAMBURG, FIRST WITH FEDERAL TELEPHONE COMPANY AND THEN WITH NEW YORK TELEPHONE COMPANY.



WAS IT MURDER???



DANIEL BAYER, WHO WAS A CARPENTER WORKING ON A BARN NEAR HIS HOME. HE WAS FOUND DECEASED EN ROUTE TO THE BARN WITH INJURIES INCLUDING FRACTURES TO HIS SKULL, HIS HORSE WAS STILL IN ITS HARNESS. A JURY RENDERED A DECISION THAT HE WAS MURDERED BY PERSONS UNKNOWN.



FIRE



GEORGE AND WALBURGA BAUERLE, WHO SADLY DIED IN A HOUSE FIRE, FOUND SIDE BY SIDE IN BED AFTER THE FLAMES WERE EXTINGUISHED. MR. BAURLE WAS HELPLESS FROM RHEUMATISM AND MRS. BAURLE WAS SAID TO HAVE EPILEPTIC FITS. THEY WERE KNOWN TO HAVE BURNED LOGS THAT WERE TOO BIG FOR THE STOVE, FEEDING THEM IN AS THEY BURNED. IT IS ASSUMED THAT A LOG CAUGHT THE FLOOR ON FIRE.



THOSE BURIED HERE INCLUDE TRADESMEN, FARMERS, BUTCHERS, CHEESEMAKERS, HOUSEWIVES, LABORERS, HOUSEKEEPERS, STENOGRAPHERS AND CIGAR MAKERS.



GONE TOO SOON



ALBRECHT J.F. BOCKHAHN, WHO WAS A THREE YEAR OLD WHO FELL INTO A TUB OF HOT WATER, LATER SUCCUMBING TO HIS INJURIES AT THE HOSPITAL. HE WAS DESCRIBED IN HIS INSCRIPTION AS A LOVELY CHILD IN HIS PARENT'S HOME, WHOM THE ANGELS TOOK SWIFTLY. YOU CAN SEE HIS STONE UP FRONT WITH THE LAMB ON TOP.

GEORGE P. MARTIN, NEARLY THIRTEEN YEARS OF AGE, WHO SADLY WAS KILLED AT THE RAILROAD CROSSING AT CLINTON STREET.

THE GATES HAD NOT BEEN IN OPERATION FOR SEVERAL WEEKS. GEORGE DID NOT HAVE A GOOD VIEW OF THE TRACKS DUE TO THE CARS LINED UP. HE ATTEMPTED TO CROSS AND GOT HIT BY A TRAIN THAT STARTED BACKING DOWN THE TRACKS.



SOME FAMILIES LOST MULTIPLE CHILDREN AT A YOUNG AGE WITHIN A VERY SHORT TIMEFRAME. ABOUT 1 QUARTER OF THE GRAVES HERE ARE FROM CHILDREN WHO DIED UNDER 13 YEARS OF AGE, MANY VICTIMS OF ILLNESSES THAT WERE NOT PREVENTABLE IN THOSE TIMES. ALMOST HALF OF THOSE CHILDREN WERE UNDER 1 YEARS OLD.



AROUND THE TURN OF THE CENTURY, PROSPECT LAWN CEMETERY WAS STARTED AND BURIALS AT THIS CEMETERY DWINDLED. SEVERAL OF THE PURCHASERS OF LOTS HERE ENDED UP BEING BURIED AT THAT CEMETERY.