

Rev. Schuh, St. John's Pastor 42 Years, Passes

Death at 70 this morning brought to a close the remarkable career of Rev. Alfred Schuh, aged 70, who for 42 years served in the pastorate of St. John's Evangelical church and whose interests during all those years extended beyond the confines of his large flock to make him a community man and one of the outstanding personalities of Monroe's history.

In declining health during recent months Rev. Schuh, with the determination to remain close to duty that had characterized his life, continued to conduct Sunday services until several weeks ago, when he agreed to have a substitute pastor. For some months he had not conducted funerals but had continued to officiate at marriage ceremonies in the parsonage.

Decline Noted Sunday

He was urged to remain as quiet as possible but until very recently he was about the home some. A decline in his strength was noted Sunday and in the last hours of his life he wavered between conscious and unconscious intervals, appearing much like himself during his conscious moments and giving no indication that he felt the end was near.

Late last week Mrs. J. A. Nashy, his daughter, arrived from Dell Rapids, S. D. Her son, James, has been here several weeks from Ferrytown, N. Y., helping his grandfather by reading to him and handling some of the duties of the pastorate under his grandfather's direction.

Pending word from the son in the west there could be no decision early this afternoon whether the funeral would be held Wednesday or Thursday. If Wednesday the body will be taken from the Shriner-Neuschwander funeral home to lie in state at the church from Tuesday morning until the time of the rites. If the funeral is Thursday the body will lie in state at the church from Wednesday morning until time of services.

Paul Alfred Schuh was born in Strassburg, Alsace, Germany, April 15, 1867, the son of Benjamin and Caroline Miller. Schuh. He came to the United States in 1887 in answer to requests made by American immigrants to European theological schools to send them more ministers. Rev. Schuh came with five other students after being graduated from Tuebingen university, Alsace-Lorraine.

After his arrival in Milwaukee he was sent at once to Elkhart Lake, Wis., where he remained as pastor eight years.

Married 50 Years

His marriage to Anna Huebner took place in St. Paul Oct. 20, 1887, the late Dr. Karl Kayser, pastor of St. John's Evangelical church there, officiating. The golden wedding anniversary of Rev. and Mrs. Schuh was quietly observed last October, which was a month of anniversaries for the pastor.

He came to Monroe Oct. 10, 1895 and on Oct. 14, 1923 helped dedicate the new St. John's church building.

Surviving Rev. Schuh are the widow, a son, Ben, Los Angeles, two daughters, Mrs. Nashy, South Dakota, and Mrs. Anna Lizar, at home; a brother, Gustav, Alsace-Lorraine, and a sister, Mrs. Carl Vogt, Freiburg, Germany, six grandchildren and two great-grandsons. One son died in infancy.

REV. SCHUH HAS SERVED IN MINISTRY 50 YEARS

Rev. Alfred Schuh, pastor of St. John's Evangelical church, has been in the ministry 50 years, he made known to the large congregation attending Easter service yesterday morning. The golden anniversary of his service was Saturday, his ordination having taken place at Elkhart Lake, Wis., March 27, 1887. Rev. and Mrs. Schuh are planning observance of their golden wedding anniversary this fall for the new minister was married eight months after his ordination. St. John's church will also have its 75th anniversary this fall. Rev. Schuh has served St. John's church here more than 41 years. More than 800 took communion at St. John's Good Friday and Sunday.

3/29/37

Topical 1937
**REV. SCHUH BECOMES
 A GREAT GRANDFATHER**
 Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Schram, Milwaukee, announce the birth of a son this morning in the Evangelical Deaconess hospital in that city. Mrs. Schram was formerly Pauline Lizar, Monroe. Rev. Alfred Schuh, Monroe, was smiling today for the event makes him a great grandfather.

Monroe Pastor Finds Movies Do Not Compete With Church

Cannot Force People to Come to Church, He Says

MONROE.—As the Rev. P. A. Schuh starts his 35th year as pastor of the St. John's Evangelical church here, he finds that his 35th class, which he is instructing for confirmation, numbers 76. That is a sign of the growth of this congregation during the 34 years under his pastorate. This church now has a membership of 500 families, or about 3,000 people in all.

The Rev. Schuh's father was also a minister. That was in Alsace-Lorraine.

"I was born in Strassburg, in Alsace, under the French flag," says the Rev. Schuh. "But most of the people in Alsace-Lorraine speak the German language, preferably. They are Germans by race and not French. Across the Rhine from Strassburg was Heidelberg, the famous university city of Germany.

"As a student, I received the call for pastors in America where the new synods were not able to supply the demand for ministers. We were six young men who came over at the same time for the same purpose. I was assigned to Elkhart Lake, where I served three congregations of the Evangelical Synod of North America."

Got \$25 Monthly

Besides preaching twice every Sunday, the Rev. Schuh taught school five days each week in his Elkhart Lake charge. For this work he received the princely salary of \$300 a year—\$25 a month for teaching and preaching, two jobs in one. But the Rev. Schuh was happy in his work and remained eight years in that parish before coming to Monroe, where he has now been for 34 years—a total of 42 years in the ministry.

There are very few gray hairs in the Rev. Schuh's otherwise coal-black mustache, and his black hair doesn't show a sign of gray. The Capital Times representative commented on his youthful appearance for a man 62 years old who has seen long, hard service as a pastor, which at times wears on a man's soul and body. The Rev. Schuh's reply was a story which throws a good deal of light on the character of the man.

"Once a candidate for congress, accompanied by a preacher, came to see



Rev. P. A. Schuh

me, as they thought I could be of service in getting votes for him among my people. I was in the church and they came to see me there.

"Why, I expected to meet a much older looking man," said the candidate.

"Yes," I said, "but I have a secret way of keeping young which I don't often tell. I never mix up in politics and never into other people's marital troubles."

"The men were very polite and left soon after without again mentioning the political campaign."

Besides the church here, the Rev. Schuh also serves a church in Darlington.

Sunday movies do not bother the Rev. Schuh or his work. He smiles at the idea of closing the movies on Sunday.

"If a man hasn't the urge to come to church, he won't come no matter how much we close up the movies," he commented. "Last Sunday, we celebrated the sixth anniversary of our new church building, but without any special program. Our church, which seats 1,000 people, was filled at the evening service at the same hour as the movies were showing. Our church is usually filled at all services. My people come to church because they want to come to church. You can't force anyone to come to church."

With 42 years in the ministry, the Rev. Schuh will soon equal the record of his father who was a missionary in Africa and Asia for 14 years and then a pastor in Strassburg for 30 years—a total of 44 years.

In his younger years, the Rev. Schuh wrote down his thoughts when he studied his sermons. His writing was the smallest imaginable. A whole sermon was written on two pages of ordinary letter paper. An illness made it necessary to give up writing. He now studies his sermons by sitting in his chair in his office, thinking it out, without putting anything down on paper.

10/20/1929 CAPT

Before returning to Monroe

An announcement, was made in the Monroe Evening Times on Monday, March 16, 1908 that Anna Schuh, 18-year-old daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Alfred Schuh, had disappeared. Pastor Schuh was the minister at St. John's Church from 1895 until his death in February, 1938. She left on Friday morning, supposedly to visit her sister, Mamie, who was a student at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. After she failed to arrive there, it was learned that she took a train from Janesville to Chicago.

Marshall Blunt and W. E. Trukenbrod went to Janesville on Saturday afternoon and then on to Chicago to follow up on that clue. The matron at the Union Depot in Chicago had remembered the missing girl who was waiting for the 10:30 night train to Michigan. Rev. Schuh left for Chicago that afternoon after receiving word from his brother-in-law who had arranged for assistance in tracing the girl out of Chicago. It was expected that she would be located within a few days. Her uncle in Menominee, Michigan, said that she had not reached there.

Miss Schuh, and her older sister, Mamie, had graduated from Monroe High School with the class of '07. She had frequently expressed a desire to go away and work on her own. Her parents discouraged this, which might be why she did not confide her plans with anyone. "Those who know her say she is a young lady of high purpose and strength of character. Those nearest the family know that she has not been well, the condition of her health having given her parents some serious concern, and to them, a plausible explanation is that because of nervousness and discontentment she was beset by a whim."

The headline the following day stated, "Sure Girl Is Safe." Rev. Schuh had reached Chicago on Monday evening to have others take up the work. Marshall Blunt had returned at noon on Tuesday. Failure to trace her out of Chicago led them to conclude that she went to Chicago to take a position and that she had reached there safely. They knew that she was alone each time they had a trace of her, so there was no fear that harm had come to her. Oh, my, some of their theory was quite wrong!

Rev. Schuh took a train to Chicago about 10

Chicago and that she had not gone to Northern Michigan. Detectives who had been at work on the case had been discharged and a plan was being considered to offer a reward sufficiently large to make certain that the girl could be found. Every clue had failed. Thoroughly discouraged and ready to give up all hope of finding her, Schuh took the train home. He dreaded his arrival at home with nothing to cheer the family.

In the meantime, it was reported on Friday, the 27th, that Miss Schuh had written her mother from the Young Ladies' Christian Hospital in Los Angeles, where Miss Schuh was ill. She wanted to remain there since she had been promised employment. A nine-page letter was handed to Rev. Schuh for him to read on the train ride to Monroe.

A portion of the letter read, "I suppose by this time you have given me up for lost or dead. Well, I am neither. I am stranded way down here in Los Angeles. Don't ask me how I got here. I don't know myself. It is all like a dream to me. I was so tired of staying in Monroe, that my only thought was to get somewhere, and I am glad it happened to be here. This is the most beautiful country, just like summer and the ocean is grand. This is the first day I have felt homesick, being Sunday, because it is so hard to be all alone in a strange city, although some of the girls are very nice. I was very tired and weak after I got here but am feeling quite well today. I suppose it was not the right thing to do, but I just got a streak. I suppose all young people feel that way some time. I had an awfully hard trip but lots of experience, enough for sometime any way. I am staying at the Y.M.C.A. so you don't have to worry about me. They help you find work any time you want it. I shall try to get work at one of the beaches as governor of something like that. But I have to get strong again. I was so thin. My heart seemed to be affected a little. Well, no more traveling for me for a long time. I like the place and am going to stay. Once in the Chicago depot Friday afternoon I thought I saw papa but I was not sure. I nearly gave up a couple of times. I hope you will forgive me for deceiving you so, but I could not help it. I



Back in the Day

By Matt Figi

SURE GIRL IS SAFE

Marial Blunt Returns From Search for Miss Schuh

This was the Monroe Evening Times headline from March 17, 1908.

needed, to get out on my own hook and I haven't regretted it so far either. To think that I was at home in church two weeks ago and am now thousands of miles away!"

On the following Thursday the newspaper reported that Anna was to arrive home on Monday with Herman L. Gloege, according to a telegram that her parents received from him. Mrs. Schuh left Sunday afternoon to meet her daughter when she arrived from Los Angeles on Monday. Nothing was printed about her arrival back in Monroe.

Anna eventually married a Mr. Lizar, had a daughter, left Monroe in 1958 to live with her daughter in Greendale, had a stroke in May 1977, and passed away in the Family Hospital Nursing Home in Milwaukee on Oct. 11. She is buried here in Greenwood Cemetery.

—Matt Figi is a Monroe resident and a local historian. His column will appear periodically on Saturdays in the Times. He can be reached at 608-782-1800 or via e-mail at mfigi@att.net or at 608-782-1800.



A LIVING CROSS—The traditional living cross yesterday was placed on the grave of the late Rev. P. A. Schull, who served St. John's Evangelical and Reformed church here for 42 years before his death Feb. 7, 1938. The floral offering which has been provided for the grave the past several years was completed at the special Easter service for children of St. John's yesterday morning. Near the end of the service which replaced Sunday school for the one day, a representative of each of the 48 classes placed a white carnation on the cross already centered with white lilies. Robert Aeschlimann, chairman of the church and ministry committee, then took the cross to Rev. Schull's grave at Greenwood cemetery. (Times Staff photo)

PASTOR COMPLETES HIS TWENTIETH YEAR WITH LOCAL MONROE CHURCH

Yes today marked the close of twenty years observations as pastor of St. John's Evangelical and Reformed church of Rev. P. A. Schull, although no special observance of the occasion was made. Following the morning service, Rev. Schull spoke briefly of the joys and sorrows which had been mingled in the twenty years of his pastorate in Monroe and that throughout all the church has steadily advanced.

Rev. Schull has been a conscientious worker in the vineyard of the Master during his score of years in Monroe, as faithful shepherd, guarding his flock and striving to be hoped he will be retained at the head of the local church for many years to come and will be able to celebrate both his silver and golden anniversaries in this city.

10-11-38 HJS

Observes 86th Birthday

March 18, 1953



MRS. P. A. SCHUH

Today is the 86th birthday of Mrs. P. A. Schuh, 1624 1/2 11th street, widow of the late Rev. P. A. Schuh, pastor of St. John's church here 42 years.

Mrs. Schuh, the former Anna Huebner, has lived in Monroe 57 years. She was born March 18, 1867, at New Ulm, Minn., and was married to Rev. Schuh in St. Paul Oct. 20, 1887. They came to Monroe Oct. 10, 1895, and Rev. Schuh died 15 years ago, on Feb. 7.

She still is highly active and does her own housework. She takes her daily strolls whenever the weather permits. Last August she attended the wedding of her grandson, Robert E. Schuh, to Miss Kathryn Woods at Lakefield, Minn. Following the wedding she visited her daughter, Mrs. Mathilda Nesby, and family at Dell Rapids, S. D.

Mrs. Schuh has two daughters, Mrs. Nesby and Mrs. Anna Lizal, Monroe, six grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. A son, Benjamin, died Dec. 27, 1946.

Mrs. Schuh remarked when asked for a picture, "Oh no one will know me," then she proudly displayed a red azalea which she had received from a niece.

She has already received some cards and plants.

Rev. Schuh's 34th Year At St. John's

Cap Times

Was Pastor at Elkhart
Lake Eight Years
First

10/3/1929

HAS COMPLETED 42
YEARS IN MINISTRY

None Remain Now of His
First Monroe Church
Board

MONROE—To be "a pastor for all" was the motto of the Rev. P. A. Schuh, when he came here 34 years ago to accept the pastorate of the St. John's Evangelical church. After 34 years in this place, he can now look back upon a work that has come as near to living up to that motto as is possible.

The Rev. Schuh came here from Elkhart Lake, where he had served a pastorate for eight years. After 42 strenuous years in the ministry visiting the sick, comforting the bereaved, instructing the young and inspiring the old, he is no longer a young man. Still, there isn't a gray hair in his head today, and the fire of ambitious youth burns in his soul as ever.

The St. John's church now numbers 500 families—a large congregation. The Rev. Schuh has baptized about 3,000, confirmed 1,500, buried 1,400, and administered Holy Communion to more than 20,000 during his 34 years here.

Of the first church board when he came, none now remain. They were Gottlieb Ott, John Kolb, Andrew Lanz, Fredolin Helty, W. F. Trukenbrod, and Fred Tschudy.

The Rev. Schuh ministered to that older generation, then to their sons and daughters, and now to their grandsons and granddaughters.

Last Thursday marked the 34th anniversary of his ministry here, and many were the members of his flock who remembered him on that happy occasion.

REV. SCHUH PASTOR IN CITY 32 YEARS

1921

TOOK ST. JOHN'S CHARGE IN
1895; IS ENTHUSIASTIC
MINISTER, STUDENT

Rev. P. A. Schuh today without ceremony observed his 32nd year as pastor of St. John's Evangelical church, Monroe. This year marks also his 40th anniversary as a minister.

Rev. Schuh came to the Monroe church Oct. 10, 1895 from Elkhart Lake, Wis., where he had served eight years. He studied in Strassburg, Alsace-Lorraine, his native state, and at the age of 20 came with a group of five young men to America. Rev. Schuh, taking up his charge at Elkhart Lake, he taught school in addition to pastoral duties.

The congregation of St. John's church was organized 45 years ago. Rev. Schuh has been pastor of the congregation almost half as many years. He is now instructing his 32nd confirmation class in Monroe. The class organized recently has 77 members. Rev. Schuh also instructs a class of 24 members in Darlington.

Although he is kept busy making visits to the sick at the hospital and invalid members of his congregation, beside his routine ministerial work, Rev. Schuh keeps abreast of the times by reading current histories and magazines. He is an enthusiastic student.

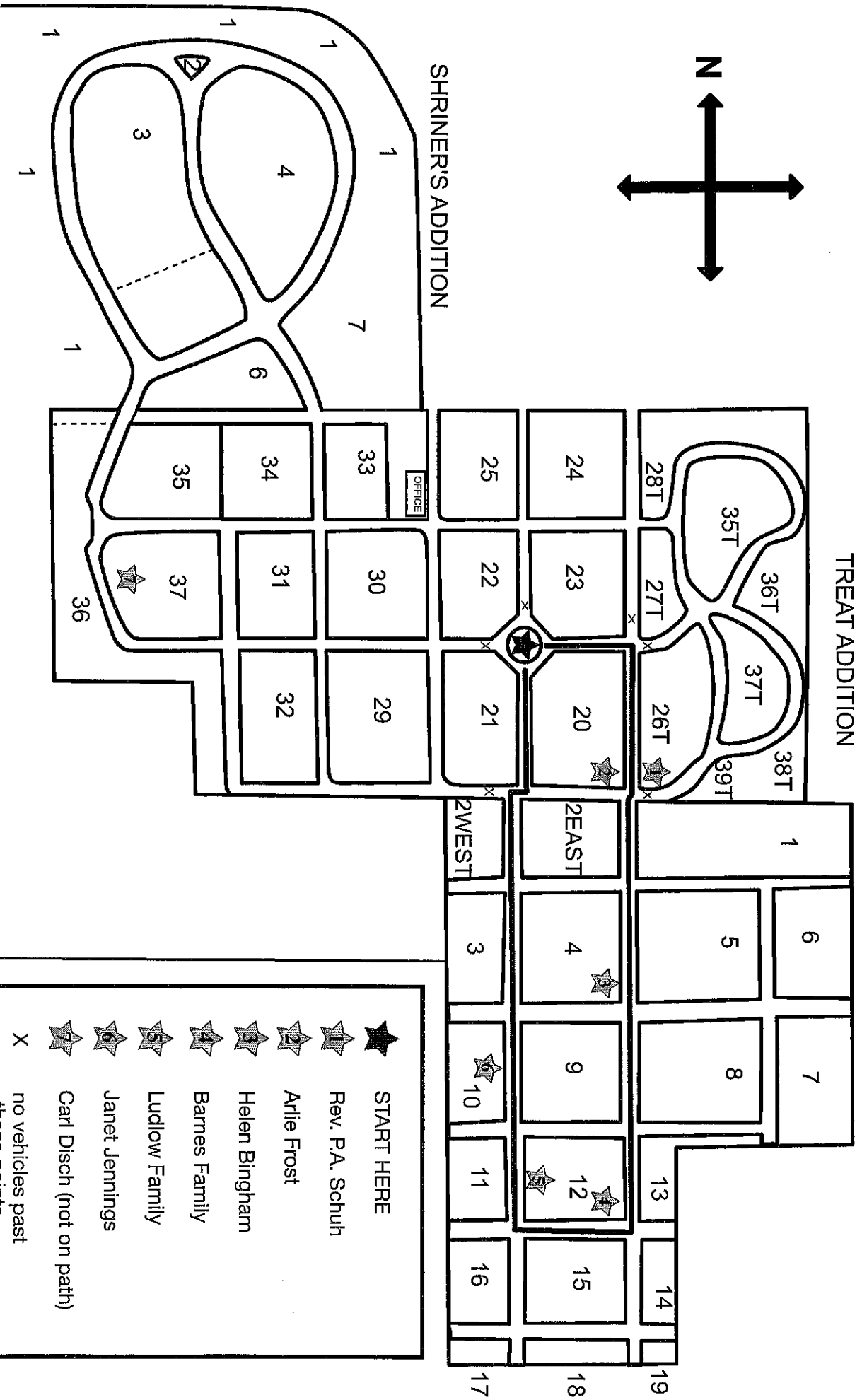
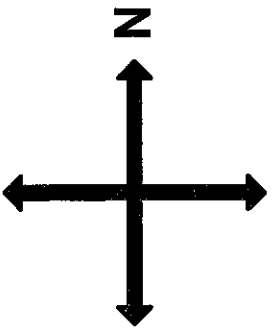
The fourth anniversary of the dedication of the new church will be celebrated Sunday, Oct. 23.

PASTOR DIES

Monroe, Wis., Feb. 8.—The Rev. Paul Alfred Schub, 70, for 42 years pastor of St. John's Evangelical church here, died at his home yesterday following a long illness. He was born in Alsace, Germany, and came to the United States in 1887 in response to requests from American immigrants for more ministers. Before coming to Monroe he served a pastorate at Elkhart Lake, Wis.

Feb 8, 1938

GREENWOOD CEMETERY MONROE, WISCONSIN



HISTORY OF GREENWOOD CEMETERY

By:

Lillian DeNure and Debra Bailey Trail

Nov. 2002

The first village cemetery was platted in 1844 on West Payne St. (now 9th Street) in Monroe. This site was originally the Green County Teacher's College and is currently the Monroe Senior Center Building.

The first grounds were donated to Green County and consisted of Lot #12 in Russell's Donation. In late 1859, the Village purchased new, larger grounds and the deceased were removed to that location.

On July 27, 1920 the Greenwood Cemetery Association of Green County was formed. All the property and effects of Greenwood Cemetery as owned by the city of Monroe was turned over to the Association on Dec. 29, 1920, including the \$1200.00 in the city treasurer's office for the cemetery fund.

The first trustees were: N.E. McLaughlin, J.D. Dunwiddie, Miss M. Alice Treat, B.G. Treat, E.H. Gloege, W.F. Trukenbold, Mrs. C.S. Dodge, Louis Kohli, and Charles E. Shriner.

The first officers were: Charles E. Shriner, president; J.D. Dunwiddie, vice-president; B.G. Treat, secretary; and W.F. Trukenbrod, treasurer.

During the fall of 1920 the Treat lot was platted and available for sale on Dec. 29, 1920. And on April 19, 1922 the Association purchased 6 (out of 11 2/3 acres) from Charles E. Shriner for \$800 per acre with option to purchase the rest in the future for no more than \$800 per acre. These two new sections were named the Treat and Shriner additions.

The Cemetery's first superintendent was Samuel Bowden in 1878 along with his son-in-law, William Drake, as asst. sexton. In 1884 Mr. Drake became the Chief Sexton and remained as such for almost 50 years. It is estimated he dug at least 5000 graves in his time. (He also did the sexton work for The Calvary and Old Catholic Cemeteries.) Mr. Drake was interred in Greenwood Cemetery when he passed away on Sept. 14, 1936.

The next sexton/superintendent was Earl Summerli who was hired on Sept. 21, 1922. In 1928, Earl's son, Herbert T. Summerli was appointed sexton and held the position until 1978 when the current Superintendent/Secretary-Treasure, Greg Olson was appointed.

Bibliography:

1. "The History of Green County, Wisconsin" published by Union Publishing Co.; Springfield, IL., 1884.
2. "Form Cemetery Association", the *Monroe Sentinel*; July 28, 1920.
3. "William Drake, 90 years in City, Dies" the *Monroe Sentinel*; Sept. 14, 1936.
4. Green County Cemetery Association notes found at the cemetery.