

Evergreen Cemetery History Walking Tour–Thursday, June 19, 2014 10:00 – 11:30

Evergreen cemetery was initially organized in 1873, two years after Brainerd was founded, but was not formally incorporated at that time. It was used as a burying ground for several years but fell into disrepair. It was reorganized and incorporated in 1879 and we have been in continuous operation ever since.

(At First Avenue gate) Everything to the south, and to the west of the road that runs north from here, was part of the original cemetery grounds. In 1900, additional property was acquired lying to the northeast of this point and after clearing and surveying, burials began in 1905. This gate was not built until 1950, when the entrance at the southeast corner of the cemetery was deemed a safety hazard and was removed. The Office at its current location on 3rd Avenue was also built at this time. The railroad track you see here was originally laid down in the 1880s as a spur of the Northern Pacific Railroad serving a brickyard and a lumber mill in northeast Brainerd. The railroad was later extended into northern Minnesota over the Mississippi River bridge that is now used for Highway 3. That extension was moved and later abandoned, and this remaining short spur is all that's left of the railroad that went north out of Brainerd. Most recently it was used by the local paper mill until the mill was shuttered in the spring of 2013.

1. DuFresne, Marie – Block 12 Lot 29 – Tall monument entirely in French (SE corner of cemetery)
2. O'Neill, John "Jack" – Block 13 Lot 27 – Tall monument constructed of "White Bronze" (Zinc)
3. Old Cemetery Vault Location – Block 14 Lots 61-64 – Sai Foo Ng (Chinese) inscription in Lot 63
4. Mykkanen, Anna – Block 14 Lot 72 – Finnish Olympian drowned in Rice Lake
5. Wilson, Robert – Block 11 Lot 12 – "White Bronze" monument
6. Shupe, William – Block 7 Lot 92 – Contemporary thin slate-style marker from 1877
7. Sleeper, Chauncey – Block 8 Lot 23 – Tall monument, prominent lawyer & judge
8. Johnson, Frank – Block 8 Lot 17 – Unique rotated cube monument, prominent druggist
9. White, Lyman – Block 8 Lot 24 – "Father of Brainerd", first president of Evergreen Cem. Assoc.
10. Stitt, Robert – Block 4 Lot 68 – Log-shaped monument, prominent lumberman, Brainerd Lumber Co.
11. O'Brien, Con – Block 7 Lot 120 – Tall monument, prominent merchant
12. Williamson, Lillie – Block 7 Lot 119 – Very ornate monument and marker
13. Dullum, Jorgine – Block 7 Lot 64 – Monument in Norwegian
14. Unknown Pioneers – Block 12 Lot 86 – Reinterred remains discovered on NP Shops grounds

15. Ferris, William – Block 6 Lot 90 – Tall granite obelisk, prominent banker
16. Mills, Casper – Block 6 Lot 78 – Sons founded Mills Motors and Mills Fleet Farm
17. Tennis, Christopher – Block 6 Lot 54 – Tall monument inscribed "Killed in R.R. Collision at Muskoda"
18. Raymond, Jennie – Block 6 Lot 44 – Oldest marker in cemetery – 1871
19. Theviot, Bertha – Block 6 Lot 47 – Tall monument, prominent millinery merchant
20. Tiff, Charles "C.F." – Block 6 Lot 20 – Unique marker with name spelled out w/marbles.
21. Grant, Allison & Raymond – Block 6 Lot 19 – Unique marker with inscription spelled out w/agates.

22. Schultz, August – Block 5 Lot 73 – Carnegie Hero Award recipient (drowned while saving someone)
23. Koop, Severin – Block 5 Lot 113 – Tall granite obelisk, prominent merchant
24. Bush, Margaret – Block 17 Lot 9 – Mother of "Bullet Joe" Bush, pro baseball player 1912-1928
25. Civil War Veterans Markers in G.A.R. Lot – Block 24
26. Hemstead, Werner – Block 27, Lot 2 – Surgeon for NP Hosp, lived in what is now Fine Line Hair salon.
27. Potter's Field – Block 2 –County burials, most gravesites do not have markers.

2nd Addition: Governor C. Elmer Anderson – Block 34, Lot 21- Monument shaped as the State of Minnesota.

EVERGREEN CEMETERY ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

<http://www.brainerd.net/~evergreencem/>