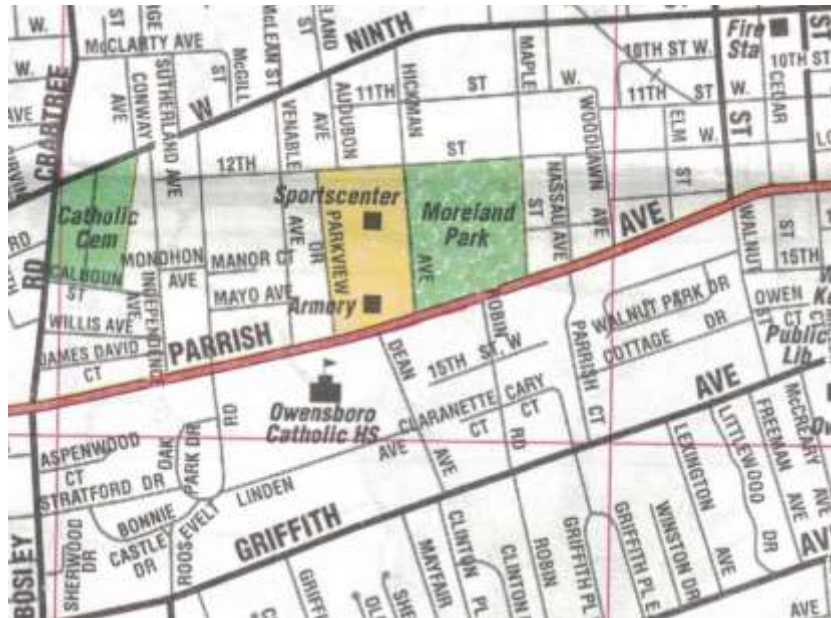


Mater Dolorosa Cemetery (Catholic Cemetery) – Owensboro, KY

By Jerry Long
c.2024





Mater Dolorosa Cemetery labeled as “Catholic Cem.” at southwest corner of West Ninth Street and Crabtree Avenue

**History of Daviess County, Kentucky,
Inter-State Publishing Co., Chicago, IL, 1883, p.407:**

CEMETERIES.

The Catholic Cemetery is located about a half mile below town, on the Henderson road. It comprises about nine acres. It was laid out in October, 1861.

Daviess County, KY Deed Book Q, pp.531-532:

This indenture made and entered into the 12th day of October 1861, between Alexander Moreland and Ann his wife of Daviess County Kentucky of the first part and Martin J. Spalding Bishop of the Diocese of Louisville and his successors in office, in trust for congregation of St. Stephens Roman Catholic Church in Owensboro of the second part. Witnesseth, That the said parties of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of Six Hundred and thirty dollars evidenced by the three notes of James Rudd, Wm. H. Clements and John R. Lancaster. L. M. Queen & H. W. Scott of even date herewith, each for two hundred and ten dollars, the 1st due and payable March 1st 1862, the 2nd due and payable March 1st 1863 and third & last due & payable

March 1st 1864, and last two bearing interest from date & to secure the payment of which a lien is retained on the property herein conveyed the receipt whereon is hereby acknowledged have this day and do by these presents grant bargain sell & convey unto the party of the second part and his successors in office in trust for congregation of St. Stephens Roman Catholic Church in Owensboro Ky. the following piece or parcel of land lying and being in Daviess County Kentucky and bounded thus, Beginning at a stone in the north margin of the Henderson Road, with a poplar pointer, thence S64 W38 poles to a stone at the turn of the road, thence S1 W34 poles to a stone, thence East 34 poles to a stone, thence N1 E50 ½ poles to the beginning, Containing eight acres three rods & fifty six poles.

To have and to hold the aforesaid described piece or parcel of land unto the said party of the second part and his successors in office in trust as aforesaid for the purposes of a Burying Ground and other religious purposes and the said parties of the first part hereby covenants and agrees to forever warrant and defend the title thereto against the claims of all persons whatever.

In Testimony whereof the said parties of the first part here unto subscribes their names on the day and year first herein written.

Interlined before being signed

A. Moreland
Ann Moreland

State of Kentucky
Daviess County

I M. L. Ogden, Clerk of the Daviess County Court do certify that the foregoing deed from A. Moreland and Ann his wife to M. J. Spalding Trustee & c, was this day before me duly acknowledged by A. Moreland to be his act and deed.

Witness my hand this 7th day of April 1862

M. L. Ogden Clk.

An on this day the same was before me duly acknowledged by Ann Moreland to be her act and deed and admitted to record.

In Witness my hand this 8th day of July 186

M. L. Ogden Clk.
by James M. Hughes, D. Clk.



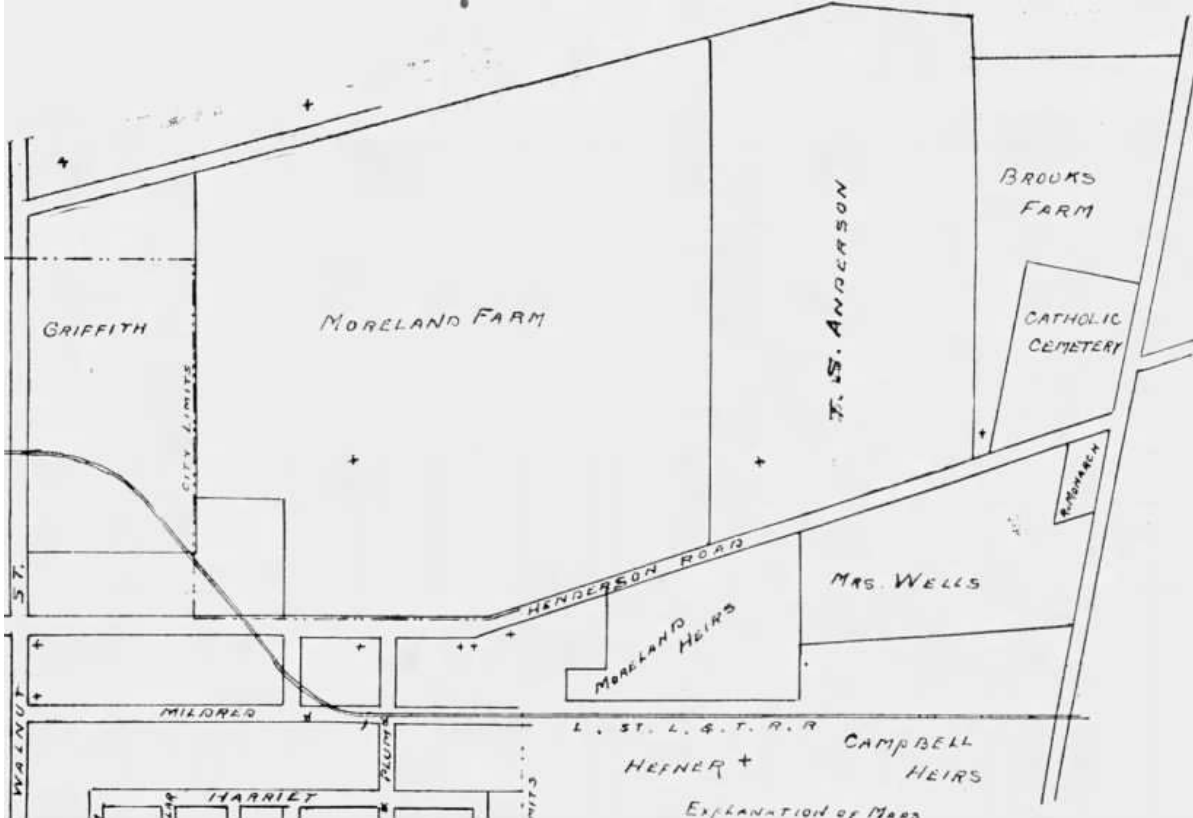
Messenger and Examiner, Owensboro, KY, Wednesday, 19 May 1880, p.3:

Remember May 29th.

The Catholic cemetery, in which so many good citizens have gone to rest, and which might be easily made a beautiful city of the dead, is greatly needing repairs. The Catholic Knights of America perceiving the need have taken the matter in hand. The co-operation of all our citizens, which they will no doubt freely have, will easily make their efforts successful. In order to raise means for this good work they will give a grand picnic at the fair ground, near Owensboro, on the 29th, inst. The Catholic Knights from all the neighboring towns and cities are invited to be present, and arrangements will be made for excursions from the various points on the river and railroad. Father Rock, the eloquent priest, will be the orator of the day. Every proper effort will be made to make the occasion attractive. Both the pleasure ahead and the purpose insure an immense attendance.



Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Sunday, 10 June 1894, p.5:



On map north is at the bottom. Catholic Cemetery is on the right. Harriet Street is now Eighth Street , Mildred Street is now Seventh Street and the Henderson Road is now Ninth Street.



Owensboro Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Sunday, 4 April 1897, p.4:

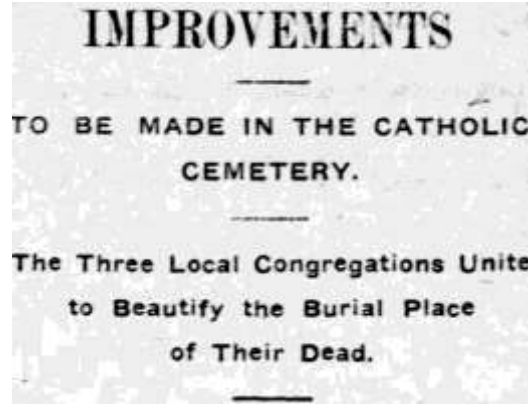
A. Killian, architect, is engaged to draw a new map of the St Stephen's Catholic cemetery, together, with number, size and price of lot and name of owner, which is of great convenience for all parties interested.

Owensboro Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Sunday, 11 April 1897, p.8:

Mr. A. Killian, the architect, has completed the new map for the St. Stephen's Catholic cemetery.



Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Friday, 14 June 1901, p.8:



The Catholic cemetery, on the Henderson road, just west of the city, has been greatly improved and beautified. For several years it had been greatly neglected, but recently the three local Catholic congregations have been aroused by their pastors to the importance of the matter and an organization was effected which has brought about good results. A committee consisting of Messrs. J. A. Lyddane, of St. Stephen's, Sam Elder, of St. Paul's, and M. Schaefer, of St. Joseph's, was appointed, and under this committee's management the improvements have been made. Mr. Schaefer is the secretary and treasurer, and to him all persons desiring a permit for burial must go.

A dwelling has been built for the sexton and Mr. L. C. Leach, who was for four years in charge of Elmwood cemetery, has been employed. The cost of improvements made has been divided between the three congregations and hereafter it is expected that the cemetery will be self-sustaining, as there are about sixty interments during a year.

The present cemetery was established in 1862 and it contains ten acres. The first and only other cemetery for Owensboro Catholics was located on the high ground east of M. V. Monarch's, on the Hardinsburg road, but this has long been abandoned and is now overgrown with brush.

[Note by Jerry Long: Martin V. Monarch (1842-1906) and his brothers built very grand homes overlooking the river in the late 1880s and early 1890s. At the time, they were just outside the eastern city limits of Owensboro on the Hardinsburg Road, or East Fourth Street. His home was razed in 1970. A short distance east of the Martin V. Monarch home the Johnson Packing Company was located on Birkhead Avenue just south of its intersection with East Sixth Street. Years ago I was informed that graves at one time were unearthed near the Johnson Packing Company. These possibly were part of Owensboro's first Catholic Cemetery.]



Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Sunday, 8 November 1903, p.7:

Cemetery Betterments

Catholic Churches Will Erect Heavy Stone Arch Over Entrance Thereto.

A fine piece of workmanship is to be erected tomorrow at the entrance to the Catholic cemetery. It is a heavy stone arch surmounted in the center by a large cross. There will be a central driveway for vehicles and side entrances for pedestrians. There will be an iron fence on either side. The whole improvement will cost \$300. An Evansville firm has the contract. The improvement is a donation. The committee from the local churches in charge of the cemetery has recently made several other notable improvements, among them being macadamizing of the main driveway.



Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Tuesday, 10 November 1903, p.4:

Erecting Massive Stone Arch.

A stone arch is being erected at the Catholic cemetery on West McFarland street. It will cost \$512 when completed. Mischel & Barkhaus, of this city, has the contract, and S. Schaffer, of Evansville, is assisting in the work.



Owensboro Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Monday, 6 May 1907, p.1:

DEATH OF MRS. AUD.

Wife of Dr. Joseph H. Aud Passes Away at Stanley.

Mrs. Aud, wife of Dr. Joseph H. Aud, died at her home at Stanley at 1 a.m. on Sunday after a brief illness of pneumonia. Before marriage Mrs. Aud was Miss Ruth Grant, daughter of Mrs. Teresa Grant, of Griffith and a sister of Mrs. Ivo Grant and Mrs. J. A. Manning of Owensboro. She was a cultivated and most estimable and amiable Christian woman and her untimely demise is greatly regretted by her many friends

The funeral will take place from St. Peter's Catholic church near Stanley, of which she was a member, on Tuesday morning, but the remains will be brought to the city for interment in Mater Dolorosa cemetery.

[Note: This was the first reference found in the Owensboro newspapers where the Catholic Cemetery was referred to by the name – “Mater Dolorosa Cemetery.” The cemetery usually had been referred to as the Catholic Cemetery or St. Stephens Cemetery. References to the cemetery as the “Mater Dolorosa Cemetery” did not become the more common usage until April 1962. After this the cemetery was less commonly referred to as the “Catholic Cemetery” .]



Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Thursday, 15 April 1915, p.4:

IMPROVEMENT
TO BE MADE AT THE CATHOLIC CEMETERY.

It Will Be Necessary to Construct 600 Feet of New Macadam Road.

Beginning with the first of next week the work of improvement at the Catholic cemetery will be started. Contracts for the work, which will consist of grading, filling up the low places and of building a series of macadam driveways through the cemetery are now being bid on by several firms, and a final contract will be closed the latter part of the week.

Owing to the fact that many persons have bought lots in the cemetery, it has become necessary to close the majority of the driveways leading from the main drive in order to convert the grounds into available lots. This has necessitated improvement of the west side of the cemetery.

At least 600 feet of macadam road will be necessary, as a survey of the new territory disclosed this fact yesterday afternoon.



Owensboro Messenger, Owensboro, KY, Wednesday, 18 November 1942, p.4A:



If a stray ghost is ever seen on the down-town streets of Owensboro, in the wee small hours of the morning, by a person who may have tipped the flowing bowl, too freely, the ghost may be real, nevertheless. I may be the spirit of an early pioneer, waiting for the resurrection morn in his resting place, Owensboro's first cemetery, which was right down-town.

It was sometime after 1810 that the first cemetery was laid out on a plot of ground which is now Third and Fourth streets from St. Ann to St. Elizabeth streets. Foundations of many buildings in that section now rest on the dust from the bones of those early men and women, for the graves were not all moved, when another cemetery was opened on the outskirts of Owensboro which was Fifth street, in the 1850's.

And if any ghosts ever flit about in the shadows of the small wooded plot on the north side of West Ninth street near the railroad crossing, they too are spirits of early pioneers who were laid to rest and are still resting there. For being a town cemetery, where its paupers were buried, the city did not bother to disturb the sleeping ones when other cemeteries were opened in later years, and those men and women still sleep on, waiting for Gabriel and that last trumpet call.

It was in 1840 when the business district of Owensboro encroached on Third street that the city decided to start a cemetery out on the Henderson road, outside of town. So a plot of ground was purchased. The Henderson road then, as now, was Ninth street, and the cemetery, which is now that shady plot, and the scene of many an ardent evangelist's exhortations, was then in the country.

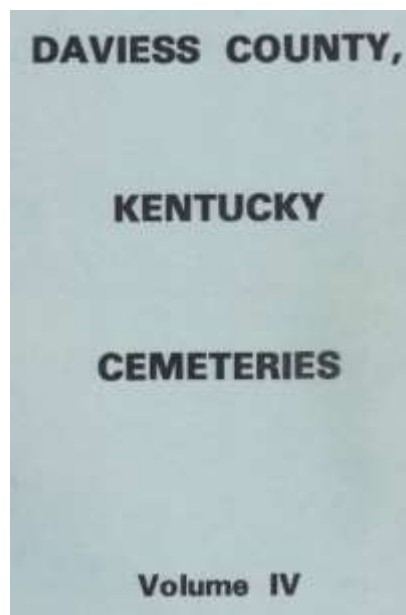
Some tombstones remained there for many years, and some of Owensboro's present residents remember that cemetery as they well remember the one in the southeast section of Owensboro covering ground between Triplett and Center streets and Fourth and Sixth streets. The latter cemetery was opened in 1852, and remnants of tombstones are still visible in lawns of some of the homes in that section. This cemetery was a part of Rural cemetery which was started in 1856, when Owensboro had grown so rapidly that it was encroaching on the cemetery at Fifth street. The Rural cemetery was merely an expansion of the one opened in 1852.

Rural cemetery was used until in 1868 when, owing to the continued growth of the city which was rapidly encroaching on the cemetery's territory, it became apparent that more spacious grounds would be necessary. In that year 40 acres of ground were purchased on the Hartford road a mile southeast of Owensboro. The company's minutes show that it offered to move all persons buried in the old Rural cemetery, providing written consent could be secured from the families. Many were moved to their new grounds, but some families refused to consent to the removal, and in other instances no families could be found to give the consent, and hence the dead remained undisturbed and still remain with inhabited homes as their monuments. That section is now a residential section, with a house on every lot and little mention is ever made of the cemetery, or the persons still buried there. In April, 1869, the name Rural Hill cemetery was changed to Elmwood which it has retained since that time.

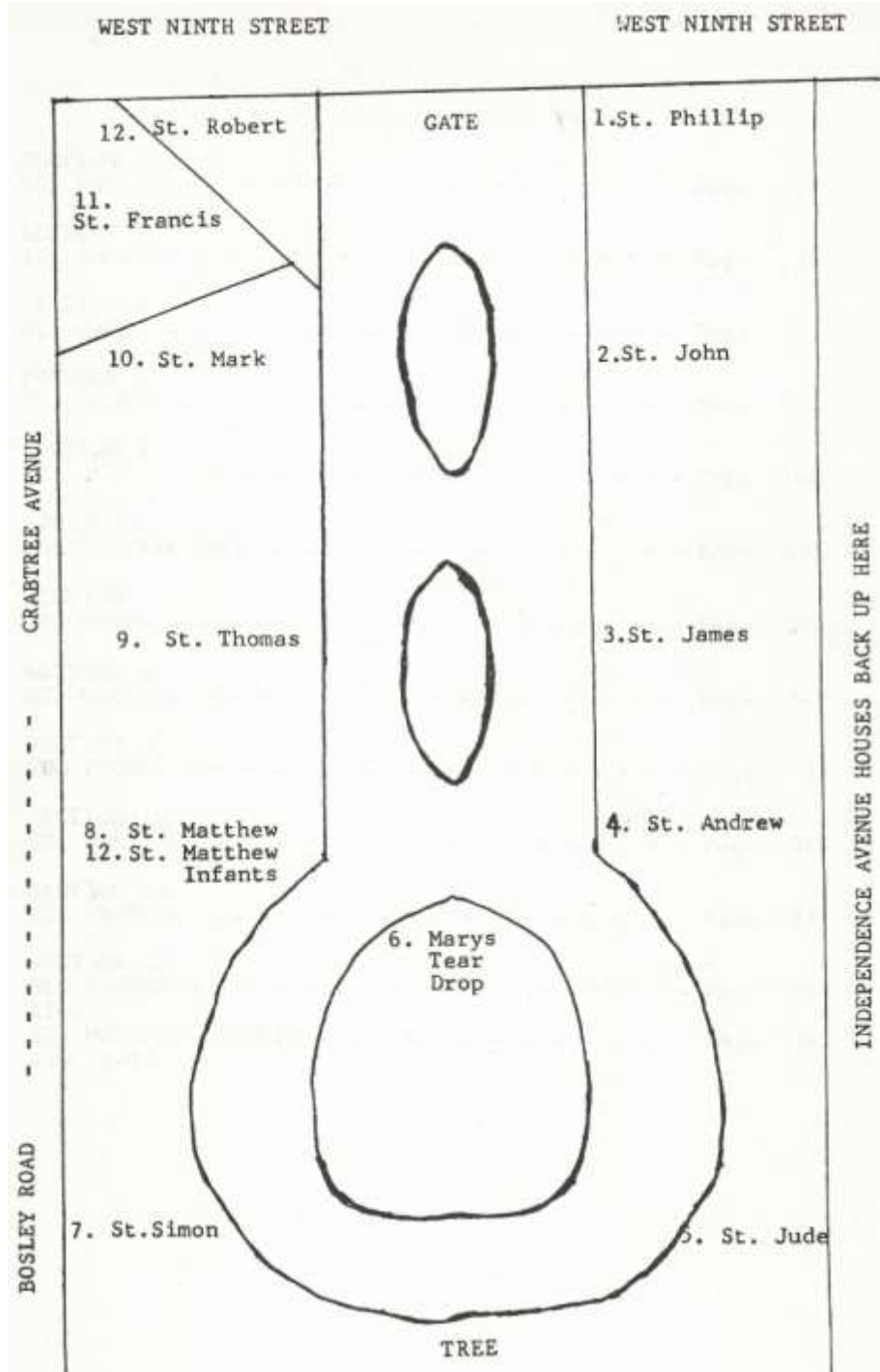
John A. Bidwell, present sexton of Elmwood holds an unique record, having served in that capacity since May 7, 1901. Mr. Bidwell is the father of Police Chief Vernie Bidwell. The pauper cemetery is next to Elmwood, and contains more than two acres purchased by the city of Owensboro in 1868 from the Rural Hill company.

In 1861 the Catholic cemetery was opened on the Henderson road. The description given of it at that time was that it was a "half mile below town." Now the town extends beyond it.

Owensboro's newest cemetery, Rose Hill was opened in 1916. Containing more than 20 acres, the first burial was made on November 21, 1916, when J. Wesley Howard was laid to rest.



On preceding page is the front cover of the book, Daviess County, Kentucky Cemeteries, Volume IV, by West-Central Kentucky Family Research Association, (McDowell Publications, Utica, KY, 1987, 382 pages). Plat of the Mater Dolorosa Cemetery and Introduction from the book follows:



Plat of the Mater Dolorosa Cemetery. On the north below the gate is drive off of West Ninth Street; the drive makes a circle on the south end

INTRODUCTION

Mater Dolorosa (Sorrowful Mother) Cemetery started in the year 1882 [**ed. note – this is an error – the cemetery was started in 1861**] and was initially known as St. Stephen's Cemetery. This was because the cemetery was located in St. Stephen's parish. Burials of one hundred plus years are to be found in this cemetery.

Records of this cemetery were lost in the usual fire. Due to demands and lack of space the walkways were converted into burial lots. Bishop Cotton came to Owensboro in 1938 and appointed a director. The director was responsible to Bishop Cotton. A new plan was initiated which made all the parishes of Owensboro, St. Stephen, St. Paul, St. Joseph accountable for the maintenance. Mr. Joseph Cooper was employed as caretaker. He remained with the cemetery in this capacity for 25 years. Shortly after the advent of Bishop Soenneker, C. 1962, a rehabilitation program was started. This enabled a chain link fence to be placed around the entire cemetery, a new road put over the old one and the caretaker's house removed to the new cemetery. The residence in Mater Dolorosa was wrecked. Burial lots now occupy the space.

Bishop Soenneker established an office for the Catholic Cemeteries of Owensboro with Mrs. Emogene Bowlds as secretary and treasurer. Mr. J. W. Bowlds was employed as superintendent. Mr. Joseph Cooper was given a well-deserved retirement.

Early in the 1980's available grave space for sale was no more. Burials are still held in the cemetery on lots previously purchased.

The cemetery remains under the jurisdiction of the office of Resurrection and Mater Dolorosa Cemeteries.

A Special Thank You To Rev. George Boemicke, Director and Mrs. Emogene Bowlds, Secretary-Treasurer



Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, 26 January 2003, p.3F:

Mater Dolorosa city's oldest active cemetery

By Keith Lawrence, Messenger-Inquirer

Mater Dolorosa Cemetery at West Ninth Street and Crabtree Avenue is Owensboro's oldest active graveyard.

But nobody today is sure exactly when the first Catholic families in Owensboro chose this site they called "Our Lady of Sorrows" for their burial ground.

"We didn't keep good records until 1936," says Art Hodde, director of interparochial Catholic cemeteries for the Diocese of Owensboro. "But the best we can tell from the tombstones is that the first burials were probably in the late 1830s or 1840s." [**ed. note – this is an error – the cemetery was started in 1861**]

That would seem logical since St. Stephen Catholic Church - now Cathedral - was founded in 1838. It was Owensboro's first Catholic church.

For some reason lost to history, the parishioners decided to build their cemetery several miles southwest of the church, which was then on Second Street.

"It was way out in the country back then," Hodde said.

The city limits in 1840 was around Fourth Street.

In fact, the city's first secular cemetery was on Fourth Street, stretching from St. Ann to St. Elizabeth. As the town grew, histories say, buildings were erected on top of the graves, and Frederica Street was built through them.

By 1840, Owensboro had two more secular cemeteries.

Rural Hill Cemetery was on the east side of town, stretching from modern Triplett to Center streets and from Fourth to Sixth. And an unnamed three-acre cemetery was located along what became West Ninth Street about where the railroad tracks are now.

Both of those were abandoned when Elmwood Cemetery – originally "Rural Cemetery" – opened in 1868.

But Mater Dolorosa continued to grow.

"There are roughly 15 acres there today," Hodde said. "But we're not sure how many people are buried there. It would be several thousand anyway."

Mater Dolorosa stopped selling gravesites years ago, he said.

"But there are families who bought 10 and 12 gravesites years ago to provide for every member of the family," Hodde said. "So, we still have 40 to 50 burials a year there now."

But the historic cemetery's days as an active graveyard are numbered.

"I would say that once the World War II generation is gone, burials in Mater Dolorosa will drop off considerably," Hodde said. "It will soon be full."



The 15-acre Mater Dolorosa Cemetery is Owensboro's oldest active graveyard. Art Hodde, director of interparochial Catholic cemeteries for the Diocese of Owensboro, says, "The best we can tell from the tombstones is that the first burials were probably in the late 1830s or 1840s."



Volume 47, issue no. 9, November 2020, pp.4-6:

Technology meets history with virtual cemetery database

Burial locations can now be found online at Resurrection, Mater Dolorosa

By Elizabeth Wong Barnstead, The Western Kentucky Catholic

For the first time ever, family members and genealogists alike will be able to digitally search for gravesite locations at Resurrection Cemetery on Highway 54 in Owensboro and Mater Dolorosa Cemetery on West 9th St. in Owensboro.

This new function is the result of several years of work by the staff at the Diocese of Owensboro's Catholic Cemeteries Office, which oversees Resurrection and Mater Dolorosa.

Cliff Russell, the director of the Catholic Cemeteries Office, and Vicki Jones, office assistant, told The Western Kentucky Catholic on Oct. 6 that prior to the digitization, records had been stored on physical cards in drawers.

"Having everything on the computer makes it more convenient and secure," said Jones, explaining that this is an added benefit of placing the information online.

Jones joined the cemetery office in June 2018. That fall, they started entering the information in the database, which was only made available to the public this year.

Jones and Russell explained that there are currently 4,986 buried at Resurrection Cemetery, all of which can be searched at <https://www.cemify.com/cem/resurrection>. The COVID-19 pandemic has put a delay on completing and proofing Mater Dolorosa's site, but the cemeteries staff continue to work on it when possible. They said it is searchable – with the caveat that it has not yet been fully proofed – at https://www.cemify.com/cem/mater_dolorosa.

The simple, user-friendly Cemify sites feature a bird's-eye map of the applicable cemetery, with a search bar on the left side into which visitors can type a name. After typing the name and hitting the "Enter" key, a list of burials with that name appears under the search bar. Digital markers also appear on the map, indicating the location of all of those names.

Visitors can click on the names to be sent to a page with the section, lot and grave number of each person.

Russell said it helps to be able to pull up the exact plot specifications online, rather than trying to describe the physical location to someone who is seeking to visit the gravesite of a loved one. The convenience helps ease the experience overall.

"I had a lady call whose grandfather was buried here, and she was able to find where he was buried" thanks to the online site, said Jones.

Additionally, "we have a lot of people doing genealogy and now we can just point them to the website," said Russell.

He added that this process has taken so long to complete because the paper-focused system did work sufficiently for many years and "it was such a daunting task to transition from the old way of doing things."

Previously, the gravesites were listed in a physical card catalogue in drawers in the cemeteries office. Jones pulled out every single card and entered the information in an Excel spreadsheet, which was then uploaded to the Cemify software. Cemify also provided the mapping based on paper maps in the cemeteries office.

“It’s been a multi-step process and will continue to be,” Russell said of the ongoing work of maintaining and proofing the databases.

He said that eventually, they’d like to offer even more information, such as obituaries, scanned and digitized for the public to view – “but that’s a long way off because of the amount of stuff that it is.”

Besides searching for gravesites, Russell said you can currently view plot availability for purchase on Resurrection’s Cemify site. Resurrection’s site also features information on the purchase of memorial markers, as well as rules and regulations for the cemetery.

“I’m excited about the fact that technology has met the history,” said Russell. “Because the technology is not going away – it’s only going to advance.”

“This is a great service for the cemeteries and for the public in general,” he said.



On Oct. 6, 2020, Cliff Russell displays a book containing the history of the founding of Mater Dolorosa Cemetery in Owensboro, formerly known as St. Stephen’s Cemetery. [Note: Mr. Russell is holding the book – [Daviness County, Kentucky Cemeteries, Volume IV](#), by West-Central Kentucky Family Research Association, 1987.]

To browse Resurrection Cemetery’s online database of gravesites, visit <https://www.cemify.com/cem/resurrection>

To browse Mater Dolorosa’s online database of gravesites, visit https://www.cemify.com/cem/mater_dolorosa

Please note that this database is still being updated and proofed.

For an interactive Google Map of all Catholic cemeteries across western Kentucky, visit <https://owensborodiocese.org/catholic-cemeteries/>



Resurrection Cemetery

Diocese of Owensboro



Established 1960

Catholic Cemetery Office

5404 Hwy. 54

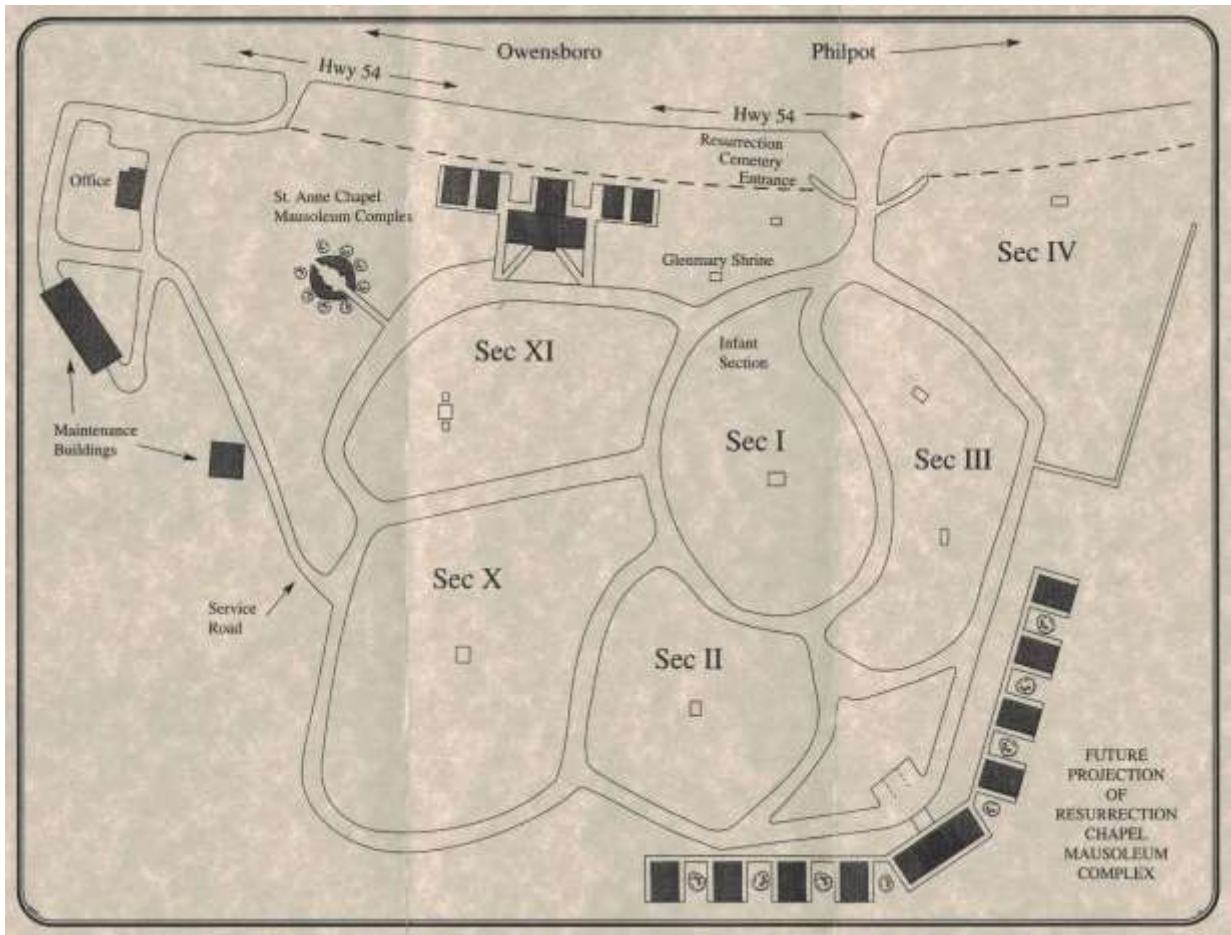
Owensboro, Kentucky 42303

(270) 926-8097

GATE HOURS

Winter 8 AM - 4 PM

Summer 8 AM - 7 PM



Francis R. Cotton, first bishop of the Diocese of Owensboro, was the first to be buried at Resurrection Cemetery on 30 September 1960.



Mater Dolorosa Cemetery & Resurrection Cemetery Burial Records

By Jerry Long

Records of interments in the Mater Dolorosa Cemetery and Resurrection Cemetery are recorded at the Diocese of Owensboro's Catholic Cemeteries Office at 5404 Highway 54, Owensboro, KY 42303 (phone 270-926-8097). The office is adjacent to the Resurrection Cemetery at Philpot five miles southeast of Owensboro. The records are stored on cards in drawers. The records are intermittent with gaps. There were period's in which the caretaker did not record burials. Many names during the 1920's and 1930's were not recorded. The burials in the Mater Dolorosa Cemetery of three siblings of my mother during this period, for example, were not entered into the records.

The records of the Mater Dolorosa Cemetery are laid out by sections and rows commencing at the northeast corner of the cemetery and working their way south. The cemetery's sections are: St. Philip, St. John, St. James, St. Andrew, St. Jude, Mary's Tear Drop, St. Simon, St. Matthew, St. Thomas, St. Mark, Sr. Francis and St. Robert.

In the Mater Dolorosa Cemetery there are several monuments that predate the establishment of the cemetery in 1861. This is also established by the records at the cemetery office. The following, for example, died prior to the beginning of the cemetery in 1861 – Barton Bryan (1792-1853), Susan M. E. Queen (1856-1856), Ann A. Mitchell (c1824-1857), James T. Hickey (1832-1858), James Shortell (c1798-1860), Mary E. Dougherty (1854-1860) and Lina Dreher Clark (1836-1860). These and possibly others apparently had been moved from another location and reinterred at Mater Dolorosa. Possibly they had been buried at the older Catholic Cemetery that was just east of Owensboro. In some instances a mistake was made in recording a burial record, for example, it was entered that Edward Hickey, who died in 1832 was buried at Mater Dolorosa. His death date had actually been misinterpreted. He had died in 1882, but the eight was entered as a three.

The Diocese of Owensboro has created an electronic database of burials at the Mater Dolorosa and Resurrection Cemeteries from their office records. In 2020 this database went online on the internet site Cemify.com. The search engine of the database shows any hits that when clicked on takes you to a map showing the location in the cemetery where that individual is buried. This is tremendously helpful, especially if one is planning a visit and search at the cemetery. The database does not include any inscriptions or dates inscribed on the monuments in the cemeteries.

In the 1980's the Diocese of Owensboro granted permission for the former Owensboro genealogy group, West-Central Kentucky Family Research Association, to come to the cemetery office and transcribe the records for publication. Several members of the organization worked on the project. In 1987 the association completed the project with the publication of the book, Daviess County, Kentucky Cemeteries, Volume IV (Utica, KY: McDowell Publications, 382 pages). The book presents the records by following the layout of the cemetery's sections and rows.

The following are some other sources that may be utilized to identify burials at the Mater Dolorosa Cemetery and Resurrection Cemetery. Any of the listings should be validated by comparison to other original sources.

- The late Albert J. Davis (1924-2002), a retired Owensboro postal worker, in his retirement devoted himself to copying data from the monuments of many cemeteries in Ballard, Daviess, McLean, Muhlenberg and Ohio Counties. These listings including his recording of the monuments in the Mater Dolorosa and Resurrection Cemeteries can be found in the Kentucky Room at the Daviess County, Public Library in Owensboro, KY. Due to the deterioration of many of the monuments there are many misinterpretations and omissions.
- The internet site, Find A Grave (<https://www.findagrave.com/>), currently has 7,648 listings for the Mater Dolorosa Cemetery and 5,268 for the Resurrection Cemetery. A high percentage of the listings on the site are accurate, however, there are errors of misinterpretation and omission. Some names for individuals that have no marked grave have been added to the site merely on guesswork. Due to this I have found individuals reported to be buried there, who are actually buried elsewhere.
- Cemetery is one of the search fields in the database, “Owensboro Area Obituary Index” on the internet site of the Kentucky Room, Daviess County Public Library, Owensboro, KY (<https://obits.dcplibrary.org/>). The site abstracts obituaries and death notices found in the Owensboro newspapers. Currently the site has about 3,200 entries for the Mater Dolorosa Cemetery and 3,600 entries for the Resurrection Cemetery. For many years entries in the Cemetery field of the database were not made.
- Copies of the original death certificates for the years of 1911-1965 can be viewed on the internet sites, Ancestry.com (<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/1222/>) and the LDS’ Family Search.org (<https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1417491>)
- The Owensboro newspapers for the years of 1862-2024 can be viewed and searched by keyword(s) on the subscription site Newspapers.com (<https://www.newspapers.com/>)



Dedication

This article is dedicated to my relatives, who are buried at Mater Dolorosa Cemetery and Resurrection Cemetery.

Mater Dolorosa Cemetery:

Ernest Peter Gratzer (1877-1954) – grandfather
 Mabel Catherine Paulin Gratzer (1900-1938) – grandmother
 Ernest Joseph Gratzer (1924-1924) – uncle
 Louise Gertrude Gratzer (1927-2015) – aunt
 Peter Matthew Gratzer (1928-1928) – uncle
 Herbert Marion Gratzer (1930-1931) – uncle
 Robert Herman Gratzer (1934-2007) – uncle
 Benedict Gratzer (1842-1917) – great-grandfather
 Josephine McCallister Gratzer (1848-1934) – great-grandmother
 Emma Gertrude Gratzer (Young) – great-aunt
 Rinehart Young – great-uncle
 Arthur Leo Gratzer (1879-1972) – great-uncle

Mary Josephine Gratzer (1886-1950) – great-aunt
Edward Fitzgerald Young (1900-1941) – first cousin once removed
Josephine Amelia Young Stull (1901-1990) – first cousin once removed
Mercedes Elizabeth Young (1904-1982) – first cousin once removed
Emma Gertrude Young (1905-1981) – first cousin once removed
Paul Isadore Young (1909-1984) – first cousin once removed
Catherine Josephine Stull Bickwermert (1927-2011) second cousin
Elmer Thomas Young (1943-1943) – second cousin
Elizabeth Ann Hamilton Clark (1939-2023) – second cousin
Earl Bartlett (1912-1947) – second cousin once removed

Resurrection Cemetery:

Mitchell C. Long (1925-1999) – father
Mabel Josephine Gratzer Long (1925-2018) – mother
Linda Jean Rivette Long (1948-1995) – sister-in-law
Bernard David Gratzer (1932-2018) – uncle
Bernard David Gratzer, Jr. (1968-1993) – first cousin
Mary Ann Young Harrington (1907-1976) – first cousin once removed
Theresa Margaret Young Hamilton (1911-1986) – first cousin once removed
Lucy Cecilia Young Crowe (1914-2011) – first cousin once removed
Josephine Ann Young Richard (1933-2011) – second cousin
James Anthony Hamilton (1936-2016) – second cousin
Edward Mac Harrington (1926-1926) – second cousin
Mary Bernadette Harrington Bickwermert (1927-2009) – second cousin
Robert Norman Harrington (1935-2017) – second cousin
Helen Louise Harrington (1941-1941) – second cousin
Charles Marvin Crowe (1943-2006) – second cousin
William Rodney Crowe (1955-2021) – second cousin
George William Bender, Jr. (1952-2001) – second cousin once removed

