

INTRODUCTION

This document contains a collection of maps showing the block and lot layout for Forest Home Cemetery. It also contains the burial records maintained by the cemetery.

CEMETERY MAPS

The cemetery maps were drawn in December 2014 by Paul French from the original cemetery plat maps. They begin with an overall map showing the locations of the Blocks (major divisions) in the cemetery followed by a series of maps showing the lot layouts within each block.

The southern half of the current cemetery was the original cemetery. The blocks and lots were laid out in a very regular pattern and gaps were left between lots for intended roads. There are gaps where no current roads exist, and a current road that appears to be built over the top of cemetery lots.

The northern half of the cemetery was added about 1914. Some block numbers were repeated when the new addition was developed, sometimes confusing the location of burials. Some of the blocks in the new addition were subsequently partially or totally replatted and reflect a mix of older, large lots, and newer, smaller lots. There are some lot numbers that repeat within some blocks.

There was a mausoleum that once stood about where the chapel now stands. When it was torn down individuals were removed for burial in other locations in the cemetery, some in the southwest corner of the cemetery.

There are burials recorded as being in Potters Field, but no single location in the cemetery is identified as Potters Field.

BURIAL RECORDS

The burial records are printed twice, first with names in alphabetical order to make finding an individual easier, then in location order to help find individuals buried near each other.

These records were taken directly from the database maintained by the Mt. Pleasant City Works Department and reflect burials through the fall of 2014. They were compiled by city staff from a burial book that dates back to the mid-1850's, and from a card file of burials that was maintained by cemetery staff. Because they come from two different sources, there are duplicate entries for some individuals.

These are burial records, not a list of grave markers. There are many burials without markers. There are probably also markers in the cemetery without burials.

This is a work in progress. These records are known to be incomplete. They are known to contain spelling, location, and date errors.

While efforts have been made to correct obvious errors, there are other issues that will require walking the cemetery to clear up. Some can never be clarified.

Specific errors you may encounter:

The column indicating whether burials are in the old or new section of the cemetery was my addition and not part of the original records. Some burial records had a note indicating "New Addition" (northern half of the cemetery), but many had no indication. I assigned records to

the old or new section based on date of death, lot owners, whether a lot existed in the specified block exclusively in the old or new section, and the 1988 gravestone survey completed by the Henry Co. Genealogical Society. The ones in gray are most in question, but I may have gotten others wrong as well.

There are three block 3s in the cemetery: Old Block 3 in the original part of the cemetery, Block 3 East (previously simply Block 3) in the new section, and Block 3 West (previously Block 3A) in the new section. Nearly all of the lots in Old Block 3 have identically numbered lots in Block 3 East with which they might be confused. Many of the lots in Blocks 3 East have identically numbered lots in Block 3 West. There appears to have been a period of time when burials in Block 3 in the new section were recorded in the records as Block 3A. This is an area ripe for confusion and mistakes.

A number of errors were found and corrected where Block and Lot numbers were reversed. These were obvious errors where the listed Block number was well outside the range of Block numbers used in the cemetery and the lot number was within the range of numbers used for blocks. Similar errors may remain that aren't obvious, for example where the lot and block numbers are both within the range of numbers used for blocks.

Date of interment was sometimes recorded in the space for date of death.

Despite the issues with this list, it is the best current resource for finding burials in Forest Home Cemetery.

Information in square brackets reflects corrections/changes I made and is not part of the original database.

There is a row of military gravestones for Civil War soldiers in the space between the chapel and Babyland Addition. This is not the burial location for these individuals. If not found in the burial records, actual burial locations are unknown.

For a more complete picture of burials in Forest Home, also consult the 1988 gravestone survey by the Henry County Genealogical Society. Copies may be found in the genealogy sections of the Mt. Pleasant Public Library and the Burlington Public Library. Those doing the survey devised their own system for identifying gravestone locations. See the map accompanying that survey for more information.

Forest Home burials on www.findagrave.com may employ the Block/Lot location system from the cemetery records or the Section/Row system used in the 1988 gravestone survey. Although very useful, information found on findagrave should be verified from other sources.

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