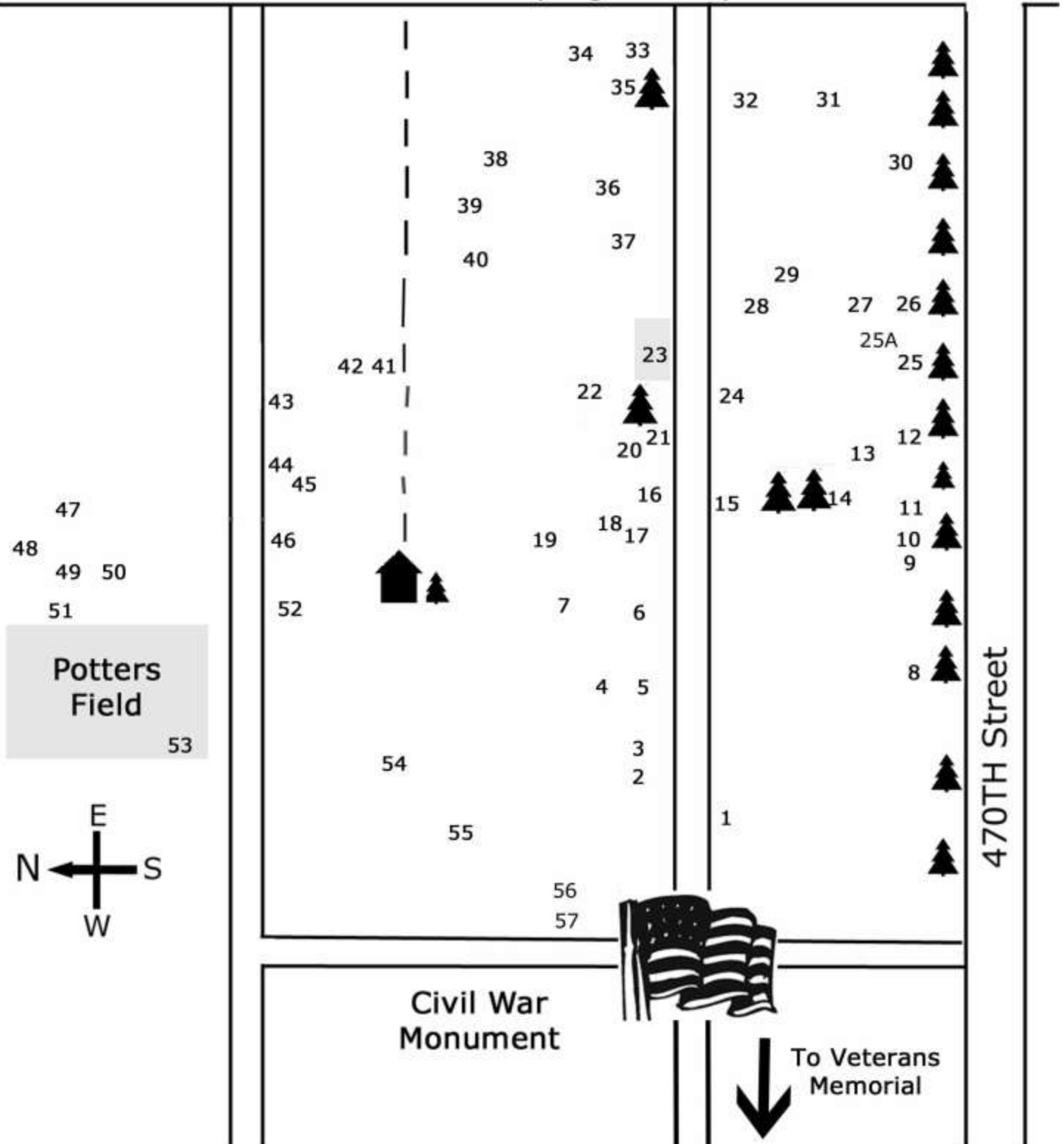


Pleasant Hill Cemetery

Ireton, Iowa

K-30 (Eagle Ave.)



The vertical dashed line is the imaginary dividing line between the "American" portion of the cemetery (always called Pleasant Hill) and the German Lutheran portion. At one time there was a fence separating the two cemeteries. Both have been administered and maintained by the City of Ireton since 1960. The small white building is for maintenance. There is an old-fashioned water pump next to it.

Some of the gravestones noted on the map are there because of something interesting about the person or his or her death. Others are noted just to give a cross-section of the shapes, sizes and colors of the monuments.



1 - Edgar & Nellie Swift

ornate style



2 - Riley

unique color depending on time of day



3 - Fred Hatton

small size, book (Bible) on top of stone



4- Pearl Bartlett

square block style of monument



5 - James & Jennie Day

scroll-like border on edge



6 - Charles Sprague & his children, Charles F, Nicholas & Sophie

The Sprague family was the first family stricken with smallpox in the epidemic of 1881-1882. Mr. Sprague was stricken first but made a brief recovery. According to a "History of Reading Township", 3 of the Sprague's children died. The author referred to them as girls but it is more likely that it was Charles F., Nicholas & Sophie. Mr. Sprague died a short time after the children. Mrs. Sprague moved to LeMars but we have been unable to discover what happened to her or if there were other children.



7-Charlie Hatfield
Almost 8 years old at death

unique tree-stump like monument



8-Edwards & Babies

Unique white monument

Cherub stones for baby boys
Parents, Russell & Ina do not appear to be buried in Pleasant Hill



9 - Lyman Bailey (An Ireton Mystery)

Lyman Bailey came to Sioux County from Illinois about 1881. He passed away in the fall of 1882. His grave was always decorated by the GAR as a Civil War veteran. The Ireton Civil War monument gives his name as Lyman B. Bailey (this is consistent with his name in the Illinois census records); however, there is no record of a Civil War soldier named Lyman B. Bailey. In 1927, Fannie (Black) Kluter, daughter of GAR member L. M. Black applied for a government headstone for his grave. The one sent was for Lyman S. C. Bailey but that Lyman Bailey lived & died in the Newton, Iowa area. So we have no way of knowing if Lyman B. Bailey ever served in the Civil War or why his grave was always decorated by the GAR.



10-Elisabeth (Moore) Kellogg

Mrs. Kellogg was one of the neighbors who tended to the sick in the Sprague household. She later succumbed to smallpox herself. Her husband, Edwin, was unable to stand the strain of her death. He thought that everyone blamed him for his wife's death. He lived out the rest of his life in a sanitarium in his native New York state and died in 1930.



11-Mary Corbin

unique shape and design



12-Albert Persy, son of Rosina & Solomon Persy (or Percy)

According to the obituary of the Persy's neighbor, Henry Jones, this was the first burial in the Ireton cemetery. The IAHS erected the stone but did not know the child's name. Recent contact with a Persy family descendant says her ancestor describes him as "Albert, my little brother who died". Death in the late 1870's at about age 2. Burial first in a plot in Corn Valley (southwest of Highway 10 & Dogwood) and moved to the Ireton Cemetery -- probably about 1880.

13-Elvira Ferris



A sweet little lamb
May 2, 1881-
October 26, 1887



14-Charles Tarbox, Willie & Carrie Belle

Another neighbor who assisted the Sprague family and later succumbed to smallpox himself (March 1882). Early homesteader in eastern Washington Township. Born in Wisconsin, served in the Wisconsin Cavalry during the Civil War. Served as township assessor, clerk and school treasurer. Survived by wife & 3 small children; however, Willie & Carrie Belle died of diphtheria in the fall of 1882.

15-L.D. Sherman (Lorenzo)



tall, imposing monument
Masonic symbol
Representative in Iowa legislature



16-Henry Harrison Lantz (Launtz)

Very early homesteader in eastern Washington township. Civil War veteran. Married Eliza Root. Daughter, Effie Maud Lantz, was the first white child born in Sioux County (in Calliope, August 31, 1869). Father of four other children. First death of a Civil War veteran. GAR brethren named their post after him: Launtz Post was formed in Ireton in 1883.

17-Sherman (James Sherman)



ornate monument of a prominent pioneer settler



18-Fordney very small with unique use of initials



Alanson Fordney family

19-B.R. Bennett



Possibly the tallest monument in the cemetery

20-Hanford Shimer



Unique striations in the marble

First husband of Flossie (Thomas) (Shimer) Houlton. Died a week after the wedding (had injured himself several days before the wedding).

21 - Fosburg



Large, imposing monument
Porter Fosburg & wife Ella (Miller)

prominent early homesteaders

Served with the Pennsylvania infantry during the Civil War



22-Emma Niehaus
cylinder-style gravestone

23-Likely site of former Pleasant Hill Church

Size of tract (and multiple owners on cemetery records) make it likely this was the site of the 1st church in Reading Township built in 1879. Methodist, 27' x 36' with 12' tall posts. Moved to the new town of Ireton in 1883 & a year later moved to Elm Street & converted to residence.



24-Marshall & Polly Elder
Pioneer settlers whose daughter's "History of Reading Township" gives us an idea of what pioneer life was like and provides us with much of our information about the history of the Ireton area

25-Folken

Stone listing many members of the Folken family - likely placed by a descendant. John Folken was a resident of Ireton before 1900 & constructed a number of residences.



25A-Mary Johnston
Unique Heart-Shaped



26-Milton Miller
unique shape
early Ireton carpenter -died 1891 at age 32



27-Sarah Briggie
unique ornate style
widow who came to Ireton area from Benton Co., Iowa in early 1880's (sons were farmers)



28-Frances (Merritt) & David E. Wing
Pioneer Ireton businessman (Fall, 1882); opened drugstore and offered community meeting rooms above; substantial landowner; unofficial "town manager"; Civil War Veteran



29-Rev. T. H. Pryor
Early Methodist Minister (see medal) in the Calliope-Ireton area
Invested in land & farmed in eastern Washington Twp; Ireton city councilman; 2nd wife was widow of Charles Tarbox; died 1909



30-Edna, Edith & Elsie Albright
One of 2 known sets of Triplets buried in Pleasant Hill; born February 18, 1897; had 18-month-older twin brother & sister and 8 other older siblings; Edna died August 30; Elsie died September 9; Edith died September 14, 1897; daughters of Catherine & John Albright



31-Levi M. Black
Civil War Veteran; early homesteader in eastern Washington Twp.; early Sioux Co. auditor; first Ireton post-master



32-Williams Headstone
Simple but elegant with the cylinder at the top



33-Mary Woodall
Example of a monument with a draping effect at the top
Used primarily on women's graves



34-Noble Headstone
Tall, thin Rectangle
unique in relation of dimensions



35- Jesse Cole & son Clark

Jesse was a Chaplain in the Civil War and a Methodist minister; Clark served during Spanish American War (cross-shaped medal)



36- Hilton Family

Edgar Hilton farmed northwest of Ireton & was an heir to the Hilton fortune but he also buried two wives (Mary Ann at age 23 probably in childbirth; Julia after only 13 years of marriage) and buried both of his children, Lee as an infant & Everett at age 34. His 3rd wife survived him.



37-Sadie Everhart
Touching Tribute to the 17-year-old daughter of Sarah (Turnbull) & James Everhart

Most unusual stone in cemetery. Ship's anchor to honor the 7-year-old son of Mr. & Mrs. A. A. Harriman. Died of consumption.



38- Harold Harriman



39-Cobb
A square made interesting by rotating 45 degrees



40-Christopher Kollman
One of several cast metal monuments in the cemetery. Used during prohibition to transfer liquor for pick-up. Side plates had removable screws.



41-Elnora Lendt Alvine

Unusual planter and plot construction

42-Gerhard Schmidt



Son of Rev. & Mrs. J.E. (Rich) Schmidt

Was open space for planting flowers?

43-Edward Bertram



Died of Spanish Influenza at Camp Dix just before he was due to be shipped to France. 1st Ireton son to die in WW1. Son of Louisa (Kluter) and Charles Bertram.

44-Charles Hennrich



Civil War Veteran; one of two 1870-1871 homesteaders of German heritage

45-Esther, Viola & Emma Schuette



Daughters of Lena (Eilers) & Edward Schuette

46-Willy Witt



Tallest Monument in the "Lutheran" Portion of the Cemetery

47-William Pereboom

Elaborately carved monument



48-Fred Crist Dannenbring



Killed in action in France WWI

Son of Dorothea & August Dannenbring

49-Herman Heeren

Simple Monument with Closed Bible on top





50-John Husman

Believed to be the oldest burial in the Lutheran portion of the cemetery



51-Mathilda (Twillman) & Henry Kluter

1870-1871 homesteaders of German origin



52- Braaks

Simple Monument with Open Bible on top

Potters Field

Plots set aside for burial of unknown or indigent persons. There are believed to be 5 or 6 burials here but only 2 have been identified.



53-Samuel Crofton

Samuel Crofton was a blind, itinerant, evangelic, African-American minister who had taken part in tent meetings in Hawarden. His body was discovered just southwest of Ireton during corn picking in 1901. It is believed that he was murdered in early August.

A traveling salesman from Sioux Falls was tried for the murder; however, he was acquitted. His claim that he had left Rev. Crofton in the company of a white man and woman and a second African-American was supported by others in town who had claimed to see that group.

Although Rev. Crofton's widow Bessie testified during the trial of the salesman, his body remains buried in the Potters Field at Pleasant Hill. The Methodist Church has placed a gravestone to mark his burial. It is decorated with a medal depicting a minister.



**54-Wilcoxson Triplets
Harold, Harry & Howard**

The second known set of triplets to be buried in Pleasant Hill. Each weighed over 5 pounds at birth. They were the sons of Farmers Co-op manager Burtt Wilcoxson & wife Josie. Born September 4, 1912. Harold died December 31, 1912, Harry on January 3, 1913 and Howard on January 6, 1913. They were reportedly doing well until they became ill in early December but no cause of death was ever mentioned in the newspaper. Parents remained in Ireton until about 1915 before moving to South Dakota then to Omaha and later to Missouri. Died in Missouri but returned to Iowa for burial.



55-Lizzie (Benton) Hammond

Ornate 1887 gravestone for the wife of pioneer settler David Hammond



56-Jake Levering

Maurice resident who was the first Sioux County soldier killed in action in WW1

Son of Johanna (Vogel) & John Levering



57-Satterlee

Monument in the shape of a tall urn