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## Abandoned Cemeteries

Many abandoned cemeteries in Minnehaha County have been restored during the last thirty years through volunteer efforts led by the late Ray E. Novak. The Minnehaha County Commissioners have been very supportive of this work. It is hoped that citizens and neighbors living near these burial grounds would continue to care for them, thus showing respect to the ancestors of the area.

Dennis Griffith, member of SVGS, is interested in a cemetery located in the southeast quarter of Section 17 in Highland Township. He has ancestors buried in the area. This particular cemetery has been referred to as Old Highland. The quarter was homesteaded by Erick Elveson/Elverson who came to the United States in 1874. According to a History of Minnehaha County by Dana R. Bailey, "A Norwegian Lutheran Church building was erected in 1884 on the SE corner of Section 17, but on the 21st day of July 1884, after having been enclosed, and three services held therein, the building was blown down during a heavy wind." It is assumed that the cemetery was an extension of this church body.

Today this small cemetery is again overgrown with plum and lilac bushes after being restored in the summer of 1984. No road leads directly to the cemetery that is located in the middle of a field owned by Roger Elverson and farmed by his family. Grave markers found in this cemetery contain the following information:

- \*Ole Thorson Bolstad born in Sagen, Norway 20 Dec. 1835 and died 4 Sept. 1899
- \*Marit Bolstad, wife of Elias Bolstad, born 1831 and died 1884
- \*Thor E., son of E. T. Bolstad, born 17 Feb. 1861 and died 14 Mar. 1876
- \*Elias Thorson Bolstad born in Sagen, Norway 22 Dec. 1820 and died 8 Nov. 1887
- \*Oline Benson born 10 July 1862 and died 25 Mar. 1877
- \*Ellen Ellingson born 29 April 1854 and died 30 June 1886
- \*Inga Ellingson born 27 Dec. 1858 and died 29 June 1886

Will this cemetery be preserved and how much longer will the headstones be there? Are there more headstones buried under the twisted roots and trees? Dennis is wondering if his great grandmother, Anna Amundson Oihus, first wife of Ole Oihus, was buried here when she died in 1885. Ole Oihus was listed as a founding member of North Highland Church in 1890.

The families of Elverson and Oihus were from the Valdres region of Norway; there is a Bolstad farm there and perhaps that is why these families stayed together when they came to the United States. If anyone has information related to the people named in this article, please contact Dennis at 605-338-1560 or DGriff1688@aol.com

## LANGFORD CEMETERY

Langford is a small town in southwest Marshall County, South Dakota with a population of about 300. Four miles northeast of this town is an old cemetery; at one time a fence divided the Protestant burials from the Catholic.

The dividing fence is now gone. In the older part of the Catholic side some stones were discovered in a thicket while hunting. LeRoy Robinson, an employee of Graham Automotive in Sioux Falls, followed his dog and made the discovery. His wife is a native of the Langford area. Inquiries were made of long-time residents and no one had any recollection of any of the family names on the two stones which are well preserved in the dense brush.

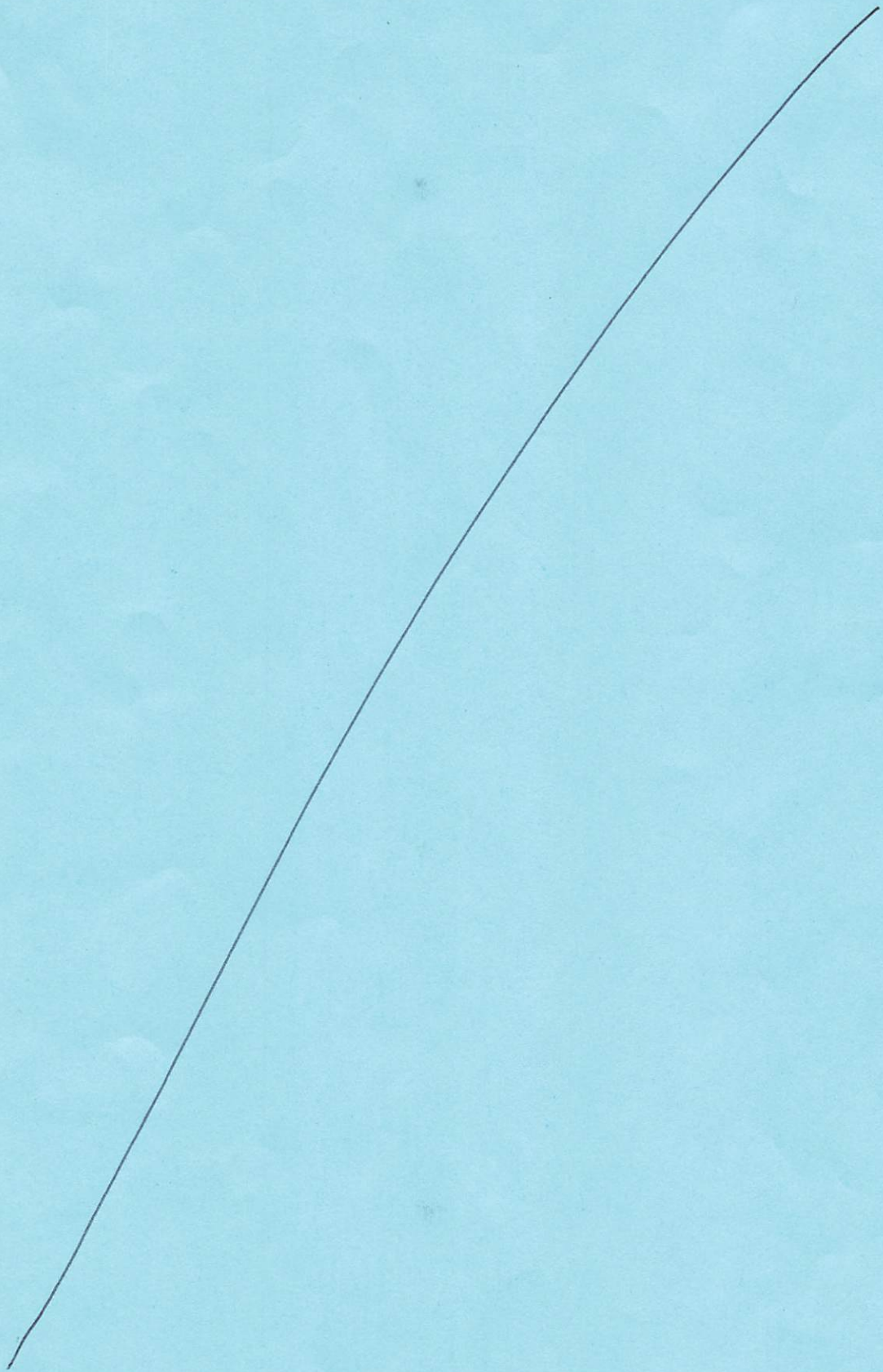
- Inscriptions
- \* Charles died 7 May 1891, aged 2 months & 1 day;  
Johnie died 17 Mar. 1888, aged 2 days...Children of Charles & Mary E. Mears  
(On the narrow side of the stone is inscribed Charles Mears)
  - \* Mary Ellen Mears Barrett, 1895-1918

Is anyone doing genealogical research and looking for these names?  
Perhaps other stones are resting in the soil and brush.

Above articles were written by Margaret Novak







## OCCGS REFERENCE ONLY

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St. Jacob's Cemetery, Buffalo Twp., Minnehaha Co., SD (Lutheran)

Sec. 15, Twp No. 104, Range 52.

	Name	Birth Date	Death Date	Age	Veteran
1.	Arneson, Albert	1870	1932		
2.	" Alfred	1877	1945		
3.	" Belle	1891	1946		
4.	" Bernt	1-4-1835	8-22-1924		
5.	" Gertrude	1878	1951		
6.	" Gilbert	12-4-1888	3-16-1889		
7.	" Hans	1874	1947		
8.	" John	1849	1937		
9.	" Julia	1851	1919		
10.	" Karen	3-28-1846	2-7-1925		
11.	" Nettie	1887	1945		
12.	" Ole	1877	1943		
13.	" Orville A.	1916	1957		
14.	" Theodor Edwin	6-22-1883	8-23-1906		
15.	Augustad, Clifford John	6-14-1958	6-26-1959		
16.	Berry, Beulah G.	2-21-1903	7-30-1904		
17.	Bleie, Jacob T.	12-13-1836	11-17-1913		
18.	" Sigrid	1-13-1837	6-9-1918		
19.	Bohlen, Joe J.	1894			
20.	" Olive C.	1897			
21.	Bordson, John	7-9-1852	5-24-1921		
22.	Brady, Carol Ann	6-4-1943	6-6-1943		
23.	" Dorothy E.	1918			
24.	" Lawrence A.	1914	1977		
25.	Campbell, Lilly Marie	11-20-1896	12-3-1975		
26.	Crittenden, Ida M.	1899	1962		
27.	" Valdie H.	1892			
28.	Ellergodt, Christian	1812	1900		
29.	Emery, David Dean	7-13-1942	7-15-1942		
30.	Erickstad, Andrea (Nelson)	1886	1936		
31.	Fods, Almina	1912			
32.	" Andrew	1866	1931		
33.	" Clifford	1907	1958		
34.	" Emelia	1873	1961		
35.	" Hazel N.	1916	1944		
36.	" LeAnn E.	B & D 1942			
37.	" Peter Melvin	6-30-1901	8-1-1904		

St. Jacob's Cemetery, Buffalo Twp., Minnehaha Co., SD (Lutheran)

38.	Gilbertson, Anne	1860	1953	
39.	Heng, Alfred Henry	7-14-1896	1-24-1970	WW I
40.	" Edith M.	5-17-1918	6-1-1976	
41.	" John S.	1866	1949	
42.	" Mary	1875	1954	
43.	Hess, Martha M.	1888	1920	
44.	Hoff, John	1874	1956	
45.	" Ragna	1885	1971	
46.	Huse, Carl T.	2-14-1839	8-31-1909	
47.	" Mother	1850	1918	
48.	" Theodore	1884	1945	
49.	" Turina	1877	1918	
50.	Husman, Antje	1879	1960	
51.	" Herman	1880	1953	
52.	Jacobson, Henry	1872	1953	
53.	Johnson, Gladys V.	11-2-1905	7-25-1908	
54.	Johnson, Martha		9-22-1888	lyr, 20 da.
55.	" Maurice W.	5-23-1904	7-25-1908	
56.	Kluksdahl, Ingeborg	1831	1924	
57.	Langesater, Amund	1865	1950	
58.	" Anna Jostad	1872	1955	
59.	" Julia	1904	1923	
60.	Loftaas, Bertha O.	1874	1948	
61.	" Knut T.	2-2-1866	1-3-1925	
62.	Lunt, Herlow M.	11-13-1918	4-29-1967	WW II
63.	" Helen L.	6-26-1916		
64.	Myhre, Bertha P.	1858	1910	
65.	" Gerald C.	1924	1946	
66.	" Minda J.	1887		
67.	" Nels A.	1882	1960	
68.	" Noel A.	1915	1942	
69.	Nakling, Olga	1878	1928	
70.	" Nils	1876	1948	
71.	Nelson, Andrea ne Erickstad	1886	1936	
72.	" Clara J.	1896	1971	
73.	" Clarence O.	1892	1937	
74.	" Oscar L.	1885	1949	
75.	Nerdahl, Anna J.		7-10-1900	52yr, 5mo, 22da

St. Jacob's Luth. Cemetery, Buffalo Twp., Minnehaha Co., SD.

76.	Olson, Arlie S.	1900	1961	
77.	" Arthur	1894	1975	
78.	" Eva		7-10-1884	10 mo., 10 da.
79.	" Gunhel	8-17-1858	6-18-1914	
80.	" Gustav		6-3-1890	7 mo., 2 da.
81.	" Jacobine	10-24-1835	8-14-1918	
82.	" Rognald		8-8-1904	
83.	" Selmer		2-3-1890	8 mo., 21 da.
84.	" Sigrí		8-8-1904	
85.	Ordal, Alvin B.	1908	1962	
86.	" Andria K.	1866	1948	
87.	" Clara J.	1921		
88.	" George J.	3-13-1900	7-6-1901	
89..	" Harriet A.	1914		
90.	" Herbert O.	1913	1961	
91.	" John B.	1862	1942	
92.	" Johanna	1879	1970	
93.	" Joseph M.	10-18-1894	10-13-1912	
94.	" Lester J.	1920	1958	
95.	" Lily May	5-23-1927	3-4-1968	
96.	" Martin S.	1889	1950	
97.	" Manford	1912	1914	
98.	" Menford N.	11-5-1915	4-20-1973	WW I
99.	" Moses A.	1880	1949	
100.	" Nora H.	1881	1929	
101.	Peterson, Albert		1932	62
102.	" Josephine	1883	1933	
103.	" Peter F.	1872	1940	
104.	Rivenes, Clarence Melvin	9-5-1902	11-26-1910	
105.	" Johannes		1886	5 yr.
106.	" Martha	6-21-1845	8-9-1902	
107.	" Sjur	4-20-1846	1-18-1911	
108.	Ronholm, A. C.	1856	1942	
109.	" Carrie Walters	1893	1934	
110.	" Hannah	8-30-1876	5-20-1918	
111.	" Infant daughter		1940	
112.	" Inger J.	4-4-1873	3-9-1893	
113.	Severson, Andrea	9-19-1864	8-6-1922	

St. Jacob's Lutheran Cemetery, Buffalo Twp., Minnehaha Co., SD

114.	Severson, Edwin G.	1885	9-30-1926	Veteran
115.	" Gina J.	1890	1966	
116.	" Hans	4-12-1858	3-17-1952	
117.	" Sivert J.	1886		
118.	Sivertson, Marie		1894	36 yr.
119.	" Marie J.		1894	2 mo.
120.	Storevik, Amund O.	1871	1936	
121.	" Bertha	1874	1941	
122.	" Helen E.	1914		
123.	" Marie	11-6-1901	5-3-1904	
124.	" Martin	1910	1968	
125.	" Wilfred Ray	2-3-1943	2-27-1943	
126.	Stofferahn, Cynthia Kay	8-29-1953	8-31-1953	
127.	Tollefson, Anna B.	5-4-1884	9-14-1897	
128.	" Belvena C.	6-4-1901	6-20-1960	
129.	" Edward	B & D: 1918		
130.	" Edward & Edwin were twins.	B & D. 1918		
131.	" Hans	1817	1911	
132.	" Henry C.	3-20-1892	6-20-1960	Veteran
133.	" Henry G.	11-10-1890	11-17-1891	
134.	" John J.	1864	1927	
135.	" Maria	1855	1934	
136.	" Mary	1894	1904	
137.	" Olena	1824	1907	
138.	" Sadie	1907	1910	
139.	" Sarah	1879	1941	
140.	" Tom	1855	1932	
141.	Tvedt, A. Marie	1878	1950	
142.	" Mary J.	1872	1959	
143.	" Ole	1888	1939	
144.	Vestbostad, Clarence	4-26-1898	12-23-1898	
145.	" Hannah	3-26-1877	1-30-1899	
146.	" Johannes Ola	4-18-1881	10-13-1886	
147.	Wicks, Alvin J.	1906	1928	
148.	" Freda A.	1883	1946	
149.	" Mike	1874	1966	
150.	" Peter B.	1917	1970	
151.	" Ruth E.	1916	1957	

WPA record included 50 graves "Occupants unknown."



