

# THE ANAHEIM CEMETERY



PRESENTED BY  
THE ANAHEIM HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

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Produced by  
Richard and Cynthia Ward  
Publications Board

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# WELCOME TO THE ANAHEIM CEMETERY

The Anaheim Cemetery is the oldest public cemetery in all of what is now Orange County. The original Anaheim settlers established it in 1866, and many of them and their descendents are buried here. The cemetery's considerable importance to the appreciation of local history was formally recognized by the Orange County Historical Commission on May 3, 2002, and it was declared Orange County Historic Site No. 49.

## **ANAHEIM CEMETERY**

In 1866, German Colonists established the Anaheim Cemetery as the first public cemetery in Orange County. Many of the early leaders of Anaheim and Orange County are interred here. The Community Mausoleum was built in 1914 as the first mausoleum on the West Coast. The Pioneer Memorial Archway donated by F.A. Hartman, was erected in 1917.



*Historical Site No. 49*  
Orange County Board of Supervisors  
Orange County Historical Commission  
Orange County Cemetery District  
Placed 2002

The Anaheim Cemetery is a marvelous glimpse into our past. There are monuments marking the early pioneers. There are famous names of our Orange County past, names familiar in our histories and in the names of the streets we drive daily. And, for those who care to linger among the stones, reading between the lines of births and deaths, there are poignant, touching stories of people otherwise forgotten.

A cemetery is the final resting place of loved ones and, as an active cemetery to this day, the Anaheim

Cemetery continues to fulfill this role. You will see various kinds of decorations throughout the grounds that celebrate the memory of people dear to those who still live in our neighborhoods. We encourage you to explore and enjoy the grounds with sensitivity to those who come to remember.

This booklet, published by the **Anaheim Historical Society, Inc.** is intended to serve as an introduction to the Anaheim Cemetery and to promote an appreciation for the rich history that Anaheim possesses. To learn more, please see the brief overview of Anaheim's early history at the back of this booklet.

#### SPECIAL THANKS

The Anaheim Historical Society, Inc. would like to thank the History Room of the Anaheim Public Library. Without the inestimable assistance of Ms. Jane Newell, Curator, and Mr. Sal Adotta, this publication would not have been possible.

## HISTORY OF THE ANAHEIM CEMETERY

Although the simple burial grounds at the Mission San Juan Capistrano and the Yorba family cemetery had served the needs of the pastoral life of the Ranchos, many of Anaheim's earliest settlers, the mostly German founders of the **Los Angeles Vineyard Society** were not members of local Catholic parishes. The new arrivals, therefore, initially buried their dearly departed in corners of their vineyard lots, developing small family burial grounds on their own property. The need for a public cemetery soon became apparent, and the **Anaheim Cemetery Association** was formed in 1866, with the following as Trustees:

Henry E. Boldt	Henry Kroeger
Frederick W. Kuelp	Theodore Schmidt
Charles Rehm	John Peter Zeyn
John August Heyermann	

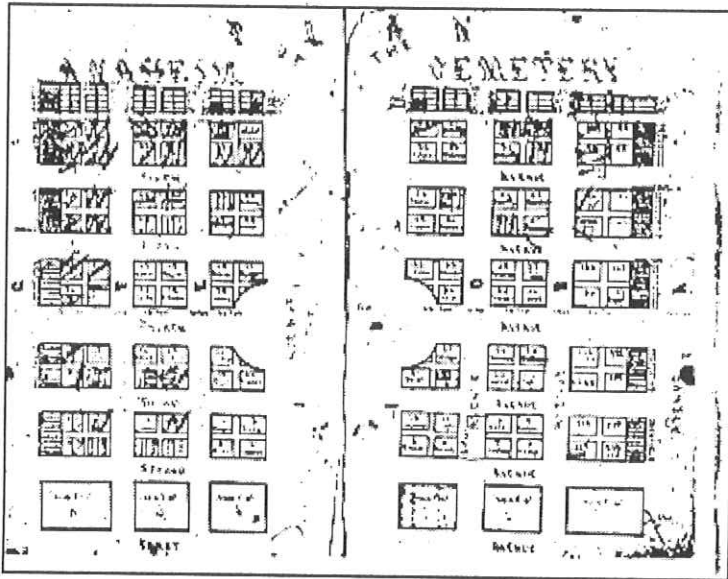
Of these original seven trustees, all but Theodore Schmidt<sup>1</sup> are buried at the cemetery.

The Association purchased several acres of farmland just east of the town site from **Philip Sichel** for the sum of \$100.00. Over the years the Anaheim Cemetery expanded several times to meet the changing needs of the community. In 1893, **Captain Erwin Barr** sold a portion of his ranch to the Cemetery Association for \$1.00, with the understanding that he would receive one half of the profits from future plots sold. His niece, Miss Bardill, quitclaimed the land back to the cemetery after the Captain's death in 1915. The cemetery also expanded in 1914 with three additional acres purchased from **George W. Terry**. Some expansion also took place as roadways

<sup>1</sup> Early plot maps of the cemetery show the Schmidt plot to be located directly south of the Langenberger burials. Although Theodore Schmidt died in Anaheim, he was buried in Los Angeles. One could speculate that **Theodore Schmidt**, first husband of Clementine Langenberger, may not have wanted to be buried here because of the plot's proximity to the grave of his former wife. It remains one of the interesting stories found here.

that crossed the grounds were closed to make room for more gravesites. In total, the cemetery grounds now encompass some 14 acres.

The earliest markers of graves in the Anaheim Cemetery were made of wood. None of these original markers remain, having been replaced by stone monuments and mausoleums, although two or three are in the archives of the Anaheim Library. Most of the wood markers were lost to fires intentionally set to burn off weeds when the cemetery was just dirt and not the irrigated grass we see today.



*Original Plot Map from the Anaheim Cemetery Association*

## ANAHEIM CEMETERY TOUR

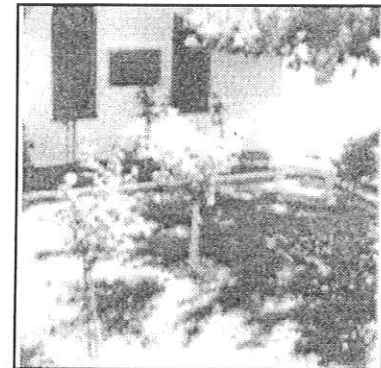
The tour of the cemetery grounds follows a counter-clockwise path from the northwest gate. Refer to the map at the center of this booklet as a reference to landmarks.

### 1 ENTRANCE

The modern gates at the north end of the cemetery are, perhaps surprisingly, not the original entryway. The large archway visible at the south end marks the original entrance to the grounds and was reached off Center Street. As the city grew and changed over the years, the entrance was moved and the Hartmann archway has become a backdrop to history.

### 2 ROSE GARDENS AND CEMETERY OFFICE

The rose gardens immediately to the North of the office are a recent addition by the Orange County Cemetery District. The "Back to Nature Garden" is often chosen as the final resting place of those who prefer to remain in the sunshine, with the loved one's name commemorated on the memorial wall of the office.



Notice the beautiful stained glass work of the windows on either side of the memorial. The congregation at **St. Boniface Catholic Church** generously donated the windows to the Anaheim Cemetery. These windows were original fixtures in their old 1902 church. The **Samuel Kraemer** family had donated the right hand window to the church sanctuary, and the **Joseph Backs** family had donated the left. Both were very prominent families in the community. There is more to learn here in

the cemetery about these families and their involvement in the development of the area.

There are several memorials from community service organizations in this area. In 1976, the **Mother Colony Household, Inc.**<sup>2</sup> dedicated the stone tablet at the southeast corner of the office, in memory of the original cemetery trustees. In 1990, the organization returned to dedicate a flagpole to the northeast of the office.

On June 14, 1990, the **Native Daughters of the Golden West**, Santa Ana Parlor 235, declared the Anaheim Cemetery a site of historic significance.

Now move south and to your left on the road.

### 3 HEYERMANN

The final resting place of one of Anaheim's early civic leaders and physicians, **Dr. John August F. Heyermann** (1818-1888) and his wife, **Sophie** (1828-1885) is located here.

Dr. Heyermann moved to California in 1848 and, after trying his hand at mining, he opened a drug store in San Francisco. In 1851 he married Sophie Dorothea Smeidel. Shortly after their marriage, the couple traveled to Mexico where their daughter Catherine was born (she would later marry Anaheim entrepreneur Joseph Backs, and is buried with her husband here in the cemetery).

In 1862, the doctor decided to return with his family to California, but his wagon train was attacked and looted. Arriving in Anaheim, the family was encouraged to find a community of fellow Germans, and decided to stay. Among his contributions, as mentioned earlier, was his participation as an original trustee for the Anaheim Cemetery Association.

In 1870, the Heyermanns moved back to San Francisco. Both Sophie and John passed away in San Francisco,

<sup>2</sup> The Mother Colony Household, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and appreciation of Anaheim's long history. Among their contributions each year is providing funding so each Anaheim Third Grade student can visit the Mother Colony House and the Anaheim Museum.

but their remains were returned to the Anaheim Cemetery in 1973.

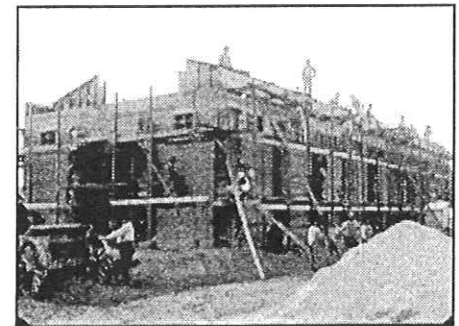
### 4 COMMUNITY MAUSOLEUM

Continue south down the roadway to the Community Mausoleum on the right. *This structure is the first public mausoleum on the West Coast.*



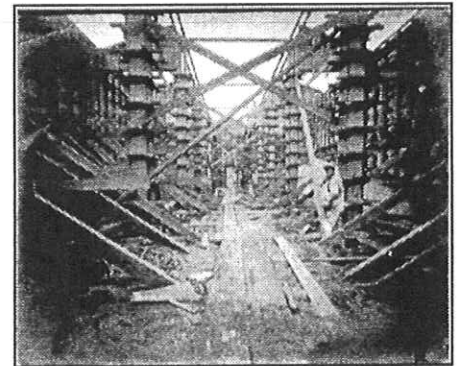
A group of Anaheim citizens formed the **Pacific Mausoleum Company** in 1914 and set out to undertake an ambitious improvement project for the Anaheim Cemetery. It was built for what was then the staggering sum of \$50,000.00, worth nearly \$900,000 in today's dollars.

Designed to hold 300 vaults, the mausoleum encompasses a large central hall that was made spacious enough to accommodate funeral services in inclement weather. It is lined entirely in marble.



*The construction of the Community Mausoleum in 1914.*

*Photographs from the collection of Ed Flores, Anaheim Cemetery Manager.*



From here to the northern boundary of the cemetery is the plot of land purchased from George W. Terry. The remaining property not used for the mausoleum building is a "memorial park," with markers flush to the ground, creating the illusion of a large swath of lush lawn. This style, bold and new for its time, remains the most popular for modern cemetery design.

To your right, many flags and crosses are placed during Memorial Day ceremonies by the **American Legion's Women's Auxiliary** because of the number of veterans buried in this area.

To your left is a smaller portion of the Terry addition, which eventually blends to join the older section, representing Captain Barr's land. It is here that we begin to travel back in time, and visit some of the historical figures that influenced early Anaheim.

## **5** DONA VICENTE Y SERRANO SEPULVEDA YORBA CARRILLO

Opposite the Community Mausoleum, to your left, is the burial site of **Vicente y Serrano Sepulveda Yorba Carrillo**, a member of one of Southern California's true pioneer families.

Born to the Spanish Rancho Sepulveda family, and sister to Jose Andres Sepulveda, Vicente married Tomas Yorba in 1834. After Yorba's brutal murder by gunshot, in 1845, the young widow ran her husband's cattle ranch, on Burruel Hill, (now Olive) alone for a number of years. In 1847, she married Jose Ramon Carrillo. A veteran of the Mexican War, he was a man known for his wild ways – and his love for his wife. In 1864, Carrillo was murdered by an unknown gunman on the road from Cucamonga. Dona Vicente was once again left a widow. Mysteriously, her son also fell to the gunshot of an unknown assailant.

In 1872, Dona Vicente purchased what is now known as the Mother Colony House from August Langenberger. Dona Vicente lived out the rest of her years in Anaheim, close to her daughter, Natalia, who had married Anaheim pioneer Theodore Rimpau. In time, Vicente's

unmarked grave was lost to the elements, and only recently has her gravesite been verified, through the research of the "**Cemetery Angels**"<sup>3</sup> and local historian **Opal Kissinger**. Vicente's family is planning to have her grave appropriately marked as soon as possible. The mystery of Dona Vicente's final resting place has been solved, but the mysterious loss of her family to violence has never been answered.

## **6** ORIGINAL CEMETERY PLOT – WEST END

Continuing along the cemetery road, we are now within the bounds of the original cemetery. Notice the increase in upright headstones. These were customary until the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Many cultures and nationalities are represented in the Anaheim Cemetery. Please feel free to explore the lawns to either side of the road, and make note of the diversity of markers. Epitaphs here can be found in many languages representing the diversity of people who came to Anaheim looking for a new life, including the German of the early settlers, the Spanish of the first European inhabitants, and others.

This area of the cemetery is the primary focus of a preservation movement currently underway by the "Cemetery Angels," with the permission of the **Orange County Cemetery District**, as an outreach of the **Anaheim Historical Society, Inc.** Numerous headstones have been reset to their original positions. A cleaning effort is underway to eradicate a century's worth of lime deposits left on the stones from Anaheim's mineral-rich water. More information on the Cemetery Angels is found at the back of this booklet.

Some family names to look for in this section are:

### WISSER

The Wisser family owned the local saloon in Anaheim's early years, and later owned Wisser Sporting Goods on

<sup>3</sup> For more information on the "Cemetery Angels," please see the inside back cover of this booklet.

Center Street. Lucian Wisser was one of the city's early councilmen. Members of the family still live in town.<sup>4</sup>

## PRESSEL

The Pressel men were for years Anaheim's blacksmiths<sup>5</sup>. The Pressel family still lives in Anaheim, owning the last remaining orange orchard in Anaheim, off Harbor Boulevard, on a plot of land once owned by George Hansen.

## RENNER

This long-time Anaheim family is best remembered for their co-ownership of the well-known S-Q-R department store in the old downtown district, now lost to the redevelopment efforts of the 1980s. All three department store families, **Schumacher**, **Quarton**, and **Renner**, are represented here in the cemetery. The Renners are still a part of the community – the fifth generation of the family continues to live in Anaheim.

## 7 BACKS/ STOCK

The large monument close to the road is marked with the name **Stock** on the east face and **Backs** on the west face. This family stone marks the plot of one of Anaheim's first families.



Joseph Backs and his brother, Ferdinand, arrived in Anaheim in 1870 from San Francisco. Using the carpentry skills they had learned in their home of Herestelle, Germany, from their cabinetmaking father, they opened Anaheim's first furniture store. Their reputation for fine

<sup>4</sup> The Wisser legacy continues in the person of Marion Wisser Harvey, a dedicated philanthropist who has been very supportive of efforts to restore and preserve this historic landmark.

<sup>5</sup> Fred Pressel continues the tradition here in Anaheim, maintaining an impressive collection of smithing tools.

woodworking grew, and soon they were asked to ply their carpentry skills for a new cause – coffins. Eventually the brothers learned embalming, and the Backs Brothers ran Anaheim's first mortuary.

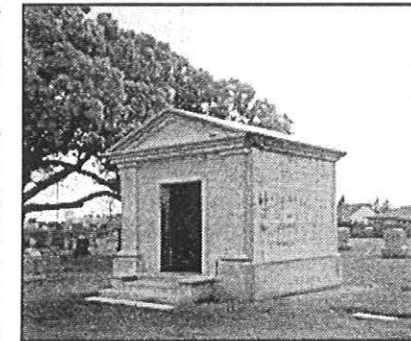


Joseph Backs had followed the Heyermanns to San Francisco in 1871, where he married young Catherine. Joseph and Catherine are laid to rest in a plot with their daughter, **Sophie** and her husband, **Herman Stock**.

*Joseph and Catherine Backs  
Wedding Photo courtesy of  
Anaheim Public Library*

## 8 SCHUMACHER MAUSOLEUM

The Schumacher family mausoleum is a Greek Revival structure, constructed of cement over brick. The exact date of construction has been lost to time and a lack of accurate record keeping, but the earliest known burial was that of



**Ethel May Schumacher** on December 19, 1917.

The Schumachers have been prominent members of the Anaheim community since its founding. Among other achievements, the family was the "S" of the S-Q-R department store.

# MAP OF THE ANAHEIM CEMETERY

## 9 CHARLES LEHMAN

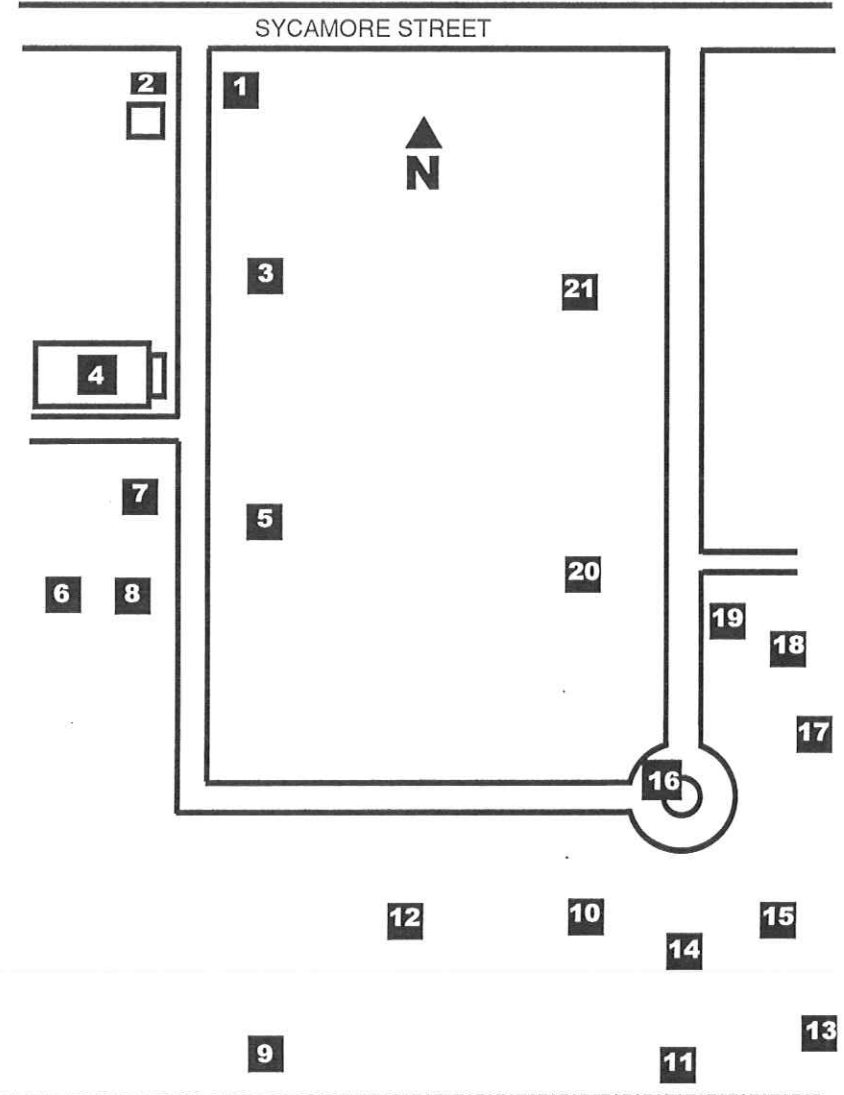
The gravesite of the first Anaheim peace officer killed in the line of duty, **Charles Lehman**, is marked with a flat stone near the wall.<sup>6</sup>

"A dark and bloody tragedy has stained the fair name of our usually quiet town," reported the Anaheim Gazette on July 27, 1872. While Anaheim was not known for wild-west shootouts, this incident made history.

Former constable David Davies (having recently lost the election to Lehman) was at a local saloon, the Anaheim Brewery, playing cards with a drifter named Horton. They began quarreling, and Lehman was called in to restore the peace. As events unfolded, a gunshot rang out and Lehman was mortally wounded. Horton, pursued by an angry mob, escaped on horseback. Before dying, Lehman named the killer as Davies. Davies was later acquitted and was elected Town Marshall shortly thereafter.

## CIVIL WAR GRAVES

In this area, you will also find a group of stones marking the final resting place of several Confederate soldiers. The Anaheim Cemetery has at least 48 graves of Civil War veterans. Veterans from the northern side are to be found in many places throughout the cemetery. One such veteran, General Schill, was not, as people are tempted to believe, a general in the Civil War. His first name was actually "General."



<sup>6</sup> For years, Charles Lehman's grave lacked a proper marker. In 1996, the **Anaheim Police Department** raised funds for a memorial plaque through the sale of commemorative police badges.



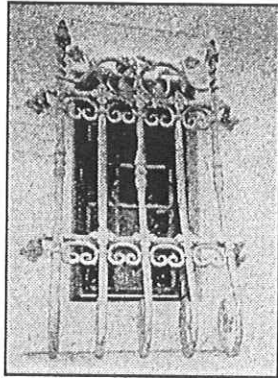
## DANIEL KRAEMER

A founder of Placentia, a city to the northwest of Anaheim, Daniel Kraemer is buried in this same part of the cemetery. His son Samuel became one of Anaheim's wealthiest businessmen in the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. See information about Samuel Kraemer later in this publication.

## 10 LANGENBERGER MAUSOLEUM

As the cemetery road curves to the east, notice the Mission Revival styled Langenberger Mausoleum. The Langenberger family could justifiably be considered the **original pioneer family of Anaheim.**

**John August Langenberger**, a German, came to America via New Orleans, and then through San Francisco. He arrived in Southern California in 1848, where he was employed by landowner **Juan Pacifico Ontiveros** as a tutor for his many children on the **Rancho San Juan Cajon de Santa Ana**. In 1850, August Langenberger married the second oldest daughter of Juan Pacifico, **Maria Petra de Jesus Ontiveros**, in a ceremony at the Mission San Gabriel. The young couple set up house-keeping on the Ontiveros' Rancho.



When the German representatives from the Los Angeles Vineyard Society arrived from San Francisco in search of land for their new venture, the Langenbergers were already firmly established as merchants in the area. Over the years, some have speculated that August convinced his father-in-law to sell the land at a good price to his German kinsmen. In reality, Juan Pacifico had already purchased more favorable land further north in Santa Maria, California, and was ready to sell, since he would no longer be living in the area. However, one can imagine August's enthusiasm at having neighbors from his homeland, not to mention the financial advantage of

being the only merchant for miles, in a newly developing city. August made his fortune with the German settlers.

Sadly, his beloved wife did not live long to share in the luxury he enjoyed later in life. Shortly after the formation of the Anaheim Cemetery, its first burial was in 1867... the stillborn son of August and Petra Langenberger. Several months later Petra herself joined her baby in the family plot, having never recovered from childbirth.

Several years later, August married the newly divorced wife of his former best friend. The union of **August Langenberger** to **Clementine Schmidt**, former wife of **Theodore Schmidt**, has caused speculation to this day of a scandal concerning the passions that initiated the Schmidt divorce. No evidence exists to indicate an affair occurred between the two, whose families had been friends since their passage to America. However, the scandalmongers must have their say. Clementine Street, one of the more beautiful residential streets in the Colony, was named for her by her husband August.

When August died in 1895, he was laid to rest in the family plot beside the remains of Petra and their baby boy. When Clementine passed away in 1913, she was buried beside August.

Their son, **Amadeus "Gus" Langenberger**, later built this mausoleum in their honor. It is modeled after the architecture of the Mission Dolores, as a tribute to the San Francisco heritage of the families.

The plaque on the front of the tomb reflects significant dates for the family: 1848 the year August first came to California, and 1915 when the family vault was constructed.



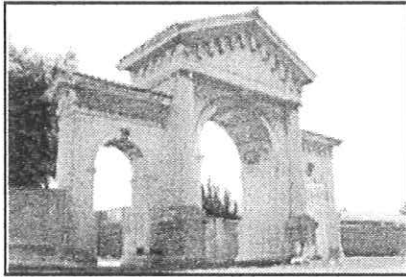
*Notice the mausoleum's resemblance to the Mission San Francisco de Asis (Mission Dolores) above. California State Historic Landmark 327*

Note the marker in front of the Langenberger Mausoleum. In 1976, the **Mother Colony Household, Inc.** do-

nated this marker to commemorate the life of Petra Ontiveros Langenberger, as her original wooden grave marker had been lost to fire, a result of a "burning off" campaign to eradicate weeds from the cemetery.

## **11** PIONEER MEMORIAL ARCHWAY

Between 1914 and 1917, a massive beautification effort was undertaken to breathe new life into the cemetery. During this time, most of the family tombs as well as the Community Mausoleum were



constructed, the roads were graded, and the lawns were seeded. Central to this movement was the donation of an archway to grace the Center Street entrance to the cemetery. The Pioneer's Arch was constructed in 1917, of plaster over brick, in a Spanish style of architecture. The cost of the arch, donated by **F. A. Hartmann**, was reported to be \$5,000.00 at the time, the equivalent of more than \$70,000 today.

Funerary art and symbolism abound in the structure, as three arches are typically symbolic of crossing over from this world to the next. The plaster urns mounted on the walls are symbolic of hope in the afterlife.

## **12** ORIGINAL CEMETERY PLOT - EAST END

Please feel free to explore this outdoor museum where Anaheim's founding fathers (and mothers) rest peacefully in the California soil they fought so hard to reclaim from the desert.

In particular, you may want to look for:

## CHRISTIAN KROEGER

**Christian Kroeger** was **Henry Kroeger's** brother and his death is a poignant story of sacrifice in the community. As a soldier in the German army, he had been exposed to but had not contracted smallpox. When smallpox broke out in Anaheim, he believed himself immune and set out to help his neighbors. Unfortunately, he was not immune... and fell victim to the deadly disease as he tried to help others.

## F. W. KUELP

Anaheim's first schoolmaster, and original trustee of the Anaheim Cemetery Association. Records reveal that **Frederick Kuelp** was so poorly paid as schoolmaster that his wife took in sewing and fancy work, while also teaching German, music, and hair work. Kuelp, too, was forced to shoulder the additional responsibilities, working as Notary Public and Justice of the Peace. At times, Kuelp's students were given rather long study periods to allow him to mete out justice, as the same room was used for the school, the city court, and Water Company meetings! Frederick Kuelp finally succumbed to "softening of the brain" and was laid to rest in the cemetery he helped to found.

## RUDOLPH LUEDKE

A jeweler by trade, **Rudolph Luedke** had gardens so beautiful that when his land was purchased for the Hotel Del Campo, the workers were ordered to build the magnificent hotel *around* his flowers!

Here we also find early colonists **Charles Boege**, **John Fischer**, and original cemetery trustee **Henry Boldt**.

## **13** CHINESE CEMETERY

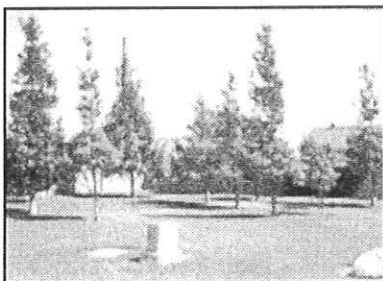
Early Anaheim had a significant Chinese population, along with our own "China Town" on Chartres Street in what is now the Colony District. Roughly 700 Chinese immigrants were brought to the area as an inexpensive labor force in the vineyards. As the Chinese passed away, the families chose to set aside a section of the

cemetery strictly for their own use. The southwest corner of the cemetery is that very section.

Culturally, the Chinese believed that it was shameful for a family to leave their departed in American soil, and these graves were considered temporary, until the family could save enough money to ship their loved ones home for burial in China. According to Mary Lou Begert in *The Chinese in Anaheim*, most grave markers in this section were "a wooden slab measuring 4 feet long by 1 inch thick and one foot wide on which Chinese characters designated the information on the interred." Unfortunately, these wooden markers were lost during the "burning off" weed eradication.

While cemetery records for the years 1867-1927 show 33 Chinese burials, the lack of markers, combined with the practice of removing burials for China, prevents us from knowing precisely how many Chinese burials remain.

In September 1989, the Orange County Cemetery District memorialized these nearly forgotten pioneers of Anaheim by planting the grove of Dawn Redwood trees. These trees were believed to be extinct, until 1948 when they were rediscovered in Szechwan China. It is believed that this is the only grove of this species in California.

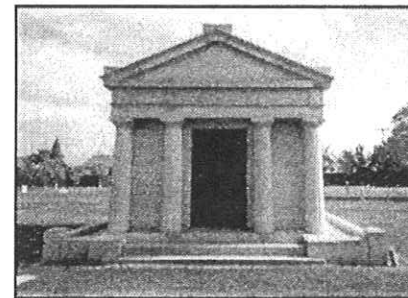


#### 14 KRAEMER MONUMENT

The burial place of **Samuel** and **Angelina Yorba Kraemer**. Kraemer was a prominent businessman in Anaheim. His father, Daniel, is buried in another section to the west. In the 1920s Kraemer built the tallest building in northern Orange County. The Kraemer Building on Center Street near Anaheim Boulevard is the only large structure left of the original downtown. It is currently being restored and reused.

#### 15 HARTMANN MAUSOLEUM

The **Hartmann** family mausoleum, built in a classic Greek Revival style, was constructed in 1915 by F.A. Hartmann. The structure, made of granite and marble, was built at a cost of \$9,000 (more than \$150,000 in today's dollars), is the most expensive privately owned structure in the cemetery. In addition to Hartmann and his immediate family, here also lie the remains of F.A. Hartmann's parents, Jacob and Bertha, original L..A..V.S. pioneers.



Also in this tomb is Theodore Reiser, Hartmann's brother-in-law. Reiser was an Anaheim Mayor, owner of Reiser's Opera House, and the first President of the Anaheim Improvement and Building Association, an early forerunner of the Chamber of Commerce.

The Hartmann mausoleum is another site of restoration by the Cemetery Angels. Plans are in place for duplicating the original windows. The marble ceiling is also in need of extensive restoration work, in the planning and funding stages as of this publication's date.

#### 16 DWYER PIONEER MONUMENT

In the center of the circle in the roadway here, note the magnificent obelisk monument. This memorial was erected in 1930 by **Marie Horstmann Dwyer**, daughter of an original Los Angeles Vineyard Society pioneer, Fredrick Horstmann. Mrs. Dwyer was a well-known philanthropist for many years, dedicating herself to the betterment of Anaheim. Sadly, she was killed in an automobile crash in 1933 and she rests nearby in the Horstmann family plot. Her widower, local banker J.J. Dwyer, continued his wife's vision for preserving Anaheim's heritage. The Dwyer family donated the Stoeffell

House<sup>7</sup>, and contributed a substantial collection of Anaheim artifacts to the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana.

## 17 WILLIAM KOENIG'S ANGEL

Traveling north on the cemetery road, back toward the gates on Sycamore Street, you will notice to your right an impressive grave marker capped by an angel. This marks the final resting place of **William Koenig**.

William Koenig was the "Boss of the Cellars." He was John Frohling's right-hand man in the wine firm of Kohler and Frohling, the business that originally fired up the German immigrants in San Francisco to come to this area and begin life anew. Surprisingly, of the original colonists, only William Koenig was an experienced vintner! It may be safe to say that without the guidance of William Koenig, the fledgling vines of Anaheim may never have succeeded!

Sadly, Mr. Koenig's angel has seen the ravages of time and vandalism. Extensive research is underway to determine a historically sensitive method of restoration that might return her to her former glory, wings outstretched, arm held high in a symbol of the immortal soul's victory over death.

Here, still within the original cemetery grounds, you can find many of Anaheim's pioneers. Look for these names:

### ZEYN

**John P. Zeyn**, an original vineyardist and also one of the original cemetery trustees. When Zeyn retired from farming and subdivided his land, Anaheim gained much of its "Northpark District," the area north of Pearson Park, marked by Zeyn Street and Wilhelmina, which was named for his daughter "Winnie." Chester Holcomb, a prominent Fullerton banker, was Winnie's husband and is buried with her in this plot.

<sup>7</sup> This Victorian landmark, now owned by the Red Cross, is on West Street, north of Lincoln, next to the Mother Colony House. It is used for a variety of functions and is opened by the Red Cross regularly for tours.

## HENRY KROEGER

Another impressive monument in this section is that of **Henry Kroeger**, Anaheim's second mayor, and another of the original cemetery trustees. Despite arriving in the United States from native Germany with barely a cent in his pocket, Kroeger found success in the Mother Colony. In time, he was able to send for the fiancée he had left behind in Germany, his beloved Sophie. Eventually, Kroeger amassed enough wealth to bring over his entire family, as well as Sophie's, and even was able to establish a fund for anyone in his hometown who wanted to come to Anaheim!

But all was not as idyllic as it appeared. Even Kroeger's great wealth could not keep tragedy from his elegant home. Please take the time to examine the east face of the Kroeger monument, which bears testimony to the deaths of many of their children, all at very tender ages.

## 18 RIMPAU MAUSOLEUM

Continuing north, we encounter the **Rimpau** family mausoleum. Constructed of plaster over brick, this Spanish style mausoleum bears a resemblance to an old Spanish mission church. This is no coincidence, for **Theodore Rimpau**, married **Natalia Carrillo**, daughter of an old California family and a devout Catholic. For years, Anaheim did not have a church building to meet in. When word arrived that a Catholic padre would be visiting, Natalia Rimpau would send her many sons running into the streets, calling the faithful to worship in her front parlor. Mrs. Rimpau continued to house visiting priests for a number of years, and was the driving force behind establishing the St. Boniface Catholic Church in Anaheim. The graceful Rimpau mansion, now torn down, was at the location now home to the Anaheim Central Library.



## CHARLES REHM

Also in this area is the final resting place of **Charles Rehm**, another of the Anaheim Cemetery's original trustees.

## 19 BENNERSCHIEDT

Near the corner of the road leading to the grounds-keeper's shed you will find the **Bennerscheidt** family plot. Joseph Bennerscheidt, an original settler in the colony, was an Anaheim city councilman. He was an expert tinsmith, and he founded a metal working company in 1870 that is still family-owned and operating as Benner Sheet Metal Company.

## 20 OLD CEMETERY - CENTRAL AREA

Crossing to the central part of the cemetery, you will find many more prominent names represented, and several impressive monuments.

## GRIMSHAW

The **Grimshaw** family was active in Anaheim and Fullerton. The large Grimshaw house has been newly restored and sits prominently overlooking the west corner of Lincoln and Rose in the Colony District.

## KRAEMER

Members of the **Kraemer** family are also interred here.

## 21 CARROLL

Further north, beneath a canopy of a large tree is the Carroll family plot. **Timothy Carroll** was a prolific inventor, who among his projects created a sugar beet dump that was very useful in the agricultural community. He also ran one of the largest exotic plant nurseries in the area. His mansion still stands as part of the campus of the Fairmont Private School on Mable Street. The tree that he most likely planted to shade his family's resting place is, unfortunately, slowly uprooting the plot.

## NOT THE END

These are some highlights of the Anaheim Cemetery, but only some. As the Cemetery Angels can tell you, each stone, or group of stones, has a special story to tell. Stories in German, in Spanish, in English, and in Chinese.

If you take the time to walk thoughtfully through the rows, you will find uplifting stories. Stories of full lives remembered gratefully by those who were immeasurably enriched by them. Stories of courageous lives brought short in the defense of our freedoms. Bittersweet stories of families tragically ravaged by diseases we no longer fear.

Its been said that history is not about events but about the people who lived through them. We hope that your visit to this historic landmark has given you some sense of the people who are so much the story of Anaheim.

Thank you for coming!

## ANAHEIM'S BEGINNINGS

The Anaheim story begins, oddly enough, not here, but in Northern California. During the Gold Rush in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, San Francisco became a magnet for travelers from all over the globe, and every walk of life. Newspaper accounts promised rivers lined with gold, where one need only to scoop handfuls of nuggets from the California soil to become fabulously wealthy. For most, this dream never came true.

By the mid-1850's, San Francisco was filled with immigrants, many out of work, disheartened by their failure to "get rich quick," but unwilling to return to lives they had left back home. Tired of the immorality and degradation of life in San Francisco, a group of primarily German immigrants, but also men and women of Polish and Russian descent, banded together in an effort to build a new life. In 1857, these hardy pioneers formed the **Los Angeles Vineyard Society**. The Society planned to find and purchase a plot of land to found a new city and new lives, by joining in the production of wines, a business thriving then, as today, in California.

The Society hired **George Hansen**, a Los Angeles County land surveyor, as their Superintendent, to buy 1165 acres from **Juan Pacifico Ontiveros**, a Mexican land grant holder. The Ontiveros' Rancho, the San Juan Cajon de Santa Ana, encompassed much of what we now know as Orange County.

Hansen lived in a quickly built house now known as the Mother Colony House, the first wooden residence in the area. Under Hansen's able hand, land that Ontiveros had once claimed "could not support a goat" was soon thriving in vineyards, and ready for the colonists to begin their work, and they began arriving in 1860.

Although the colonists faced many hazards, the vineyards flourished... until 1886. A flood was followed by severe blight that wiped out the vineyards completely. Oranges and other citrus became king for decades. Finally, of course, they too gave way, as Anaheim became the residential community, business hub, and world-famous resort destination we know today.

## MORE ABOUT THE "CEMETERY ANGELS"

The Anaheim Historical Society has proudly partnered with the "Cemetery Angels," an organized group of preservation-minded volunteers working to document, repair, and preserve this important piece of Anaheim's past. They work under the approval of the Orange County Cemetery District and in compliance with the Department of Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation. Because of the painstaking attention to detail, the cemetery is being brought back to life in a manner that does not alter its historic significance.

Tax-deductible donations for the ongoing work of the Cemetery Angels can be made to:

Anaheim Historical Society, Inc.  
Anaheim Cemetery Preservation  
P.O. Box 927  
Anaheim CA 92815

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