

St. Onge

In reading a history of St. Onge either in an article from the Whitewood Centennial July 1976 or the on line version at <http://www.st-onge.us/town.hum> , we learn that St Onge was settled as a French colony in the 1870's with pioneers coming mostly from Canada, Massachusetts and Iowa. These settlers were farmers who supplied the mining towns in the hills with their produce. A wagon trail followed the ridge west of False Bottom. The area was known as False Bottom until, in 1881, one member of the group, Pitoche St. Onge started a trading post and post office at his ranch on the west side of False Bottom Creek. Mail was delivered to the St. Onge ranch by people coming past from Deadwood on the old Minnesela Trail. Because of this the community became known as St. Onge.

A life long resident and local historian told me that the first cemetery was started by the Catholic Church, as most of those early settlers were Catholic. The cemetery was named "Gates of Heaven". Later the Catholic Church sold a portion of the cemetery to the Protestant portion of the community and this part became known as "Sunset Cemetery". Today both parts are known as St. Onge Cemetery. Only recently has Find a Grave combined the listings. Here are some early burials in the "Gates of Heaven" portion of the cemetery. For a more complete listing of these and other burials in the St. Onge Cemetery visit "www.findagrave.com ". This list was put on the internet by Maggie Rail

Carrieres, Alex E. b. 1871, d. 1954, s/w Emelda A.
Carrieres, Emelda A., b. 1887, d. 1983, s/w Alex E.
Carrieres, Roderick, b. 1904, d. 1969
Colpron, August, b. 1881, d. 1958
Colpron, Clara, b. 1878, d. 1916
Crowley, Arthur E., b. Aug 26, 1917, d. Feb 20, 1999, s/w Helen V. Horseman
Crowley, Helen V, b. Nov 26, 1916 d. no date, s/w Arthur
Deault, Wilfred, b. 1865, d. 1943
Derosier, Celeste, b. 1910, d. 1993, s/2 Floyd
Derosier, Elmena M. b. 1884, d. 1958, s/w George D.
Derosier, Floyd, b. 1907, d. 1991, s/w Celeste
Derosier, George D. B. 1881, d. 1955, Father, s.2 Elmena M.
Devolder, Raymond C. B. Nov 19 1940, d. Sep 15, 1999
Johnson, Marie Lucy, b. 1911, d. 2001, Mother
Kinsley, John F. b. Dec 4, 1880, d. Jan 13, 1942
Larive, Colleen Rose, b. Dec 29, 1931, d. Sep 26, 1995
McNeill, Frances J. b. 1902, d. 1986
McNeill, James, b. 1903, d. 1970, s/w Mary A.
McNeill, Laura M. B. 1908, d. 1981
McNeill, Mary A. B. 1910, d. 1992, s/w James
Rail, Edward Alphonse, b. 1868, d. 1951, Father
Rail, Mary Alma, b. 1876, d. 1934, Mother
Redmond, Alice F. b. 1885, d. 1975, s/w John J.
Redmond, John J. b. 1897, d. 1950, s/w Alice F.
Redmond, Nichlos M. B. 1904, d. 1995
Rolando, Dominick, b. 1879, d. 1958,
Rolando, Margherita, b. 1882, d. 1957, 2 markers
Rolando, Valentino A. B. Mar 10, 1920, d. Mar 22, 1997
Wendt, Elizabeth, b. 1886, d. 1971, s/w & w/o Gustave
Wendt, Gustave, b. 1880, d. 1963, s/w & h/o Elizabeth