

HISTORICAL TOUR OUTLINE OF CALVARY CEMETERY

5239 West Florissant Avenue, at Union Avenue

St. Louis MO 63115 314-381-1313

Calvary Cemetery, established in 1857, contains the graves of many noted persons who were identified with the very beginning of St. Louis, others were conspicuous in its later development and in national affairs. Some of the old burials and tombstones were moved to Calvary from much older Catholic Cemeteries originally existing in the present downtown area. Many of the cemetery memorials and lot designs are of architectural interest. In addition to those listed here other well-known St. Louis family names will be noticed on monuments along this tour, which begins at the Main entrance of Calvary Cemetery, West Florissant at Union Avenue.

1. Upon entering the cemetery through the main gate, at the first intersection on the right side of the road in Section 18, is the cross-monument and grave of Robert E. Hannegan, former Postmaster General of the United States.
2. Continue on the main road to visit the beautiful All Saints Outdoor Mausoleum and Chapel on the left. Art glass from the private chapel of Samuel L. Clemens (Mark Twain's cousin) has been installed in the entrance door.
3. Proceed, turn to the right on the first road, and stop at the next intersection. On the left corner is the lot of General Daniel M. Frost, who served in the Confederate Army, although a man of Northern birth and a graduate of West Point. The name of his wife, Harriet M., is inscribed on the monument.
4. Turn right (toward Calvary Avenue), following the outer road along the Calvary Avenue fence to the island where Sections 1 and 3 meet. Stop to the left of the island; near the fence on the east side of the road you can walk to the graves of Bernard Pratte, merchant, and his family; Lewis Bogy, former U.S. Senator from Missouri; and various members of the Nidelet, Michel and Noonan families. Down further in the same area is the tomb of Thomas C. Reynolds, Confederate governor-in-exile.
5. Across the road in Section 3 is the large cross-monument of Henry von Phul, prominent St. Louis merchant of more than 100 years ago.
6. Just beyond von Phul is the ledger and grave of Antoine Soulard, last Surveyor-General of Upper Louisiana under the Spanish Regime.
7. Further back in the same section is the family of Alexander J. P. Garesche, St. Louis attorney and triumphant foe of the Drake Constitution for Missouri.
8. Drive to the left, to see in Section 2 on the right, the elaborately carved soft-stoned monument of Gabriel P. Paul, pioneer architect of St. Louis.
9. Continue. Turn right on the first road. On the left (in Section 3) is the quaint old Gothic enclosure of brown sandstone, marking the lot of John Withnell, a member of the Calvary Cemetery First Board of Incorporators.
10. Immediately ahead at the top of the hill is the original Priests' Lot, on which are the tombstones marking the graves of Archbishop Kenrick, the founder of Calvary Cemetery; his successor, Archbishop Kain; and, at the foot of their tombstones, crosswise, the grave of the Negro, Thomas Franklin, who served these two Bishops and their successor, Cardinal Glennon.
11. Continue to see (in Section 3 on the left) the grey granite monument on the lot of the Charles Sanguinet family, early settlers from Quebec. Adjoining is the lot of James Clemens, Jr. for fifty years the owner of the Old Rock House on the river front. He was a cousin of Samuel L. Clemens (Mark Twain). Art glass from the private chapel in his home has been installed in the Chapel of St. Vincent de Paul at Resurrection Cemetery as well as in the Calvary All Saints Mausoleum.
12. Across the road on the right in Section 2 is the tablet-monument of Auguste Chouteau, co-founder of the City of St. Louis, and his wife Therese Cerre.
13. Further along, on the same side, are the twin-stone graves of Honore Picotte, early fur trader, and his wife Therese.
14. Directly across the road from Picotte (in Section 3) is the many-stated memorial of Edward Walsh, banker and railroad director.

15. Next to Picotte are the Ewing family burials: William L. Ewing, Sr., an Indian agent in the early 1800's; and various members of the Ewing family prominent in St. Louis life and in Missouri politics.
16. Next to Ewing (continuing along the road) is the tall elaborately carved Gothic monument bearing the name of Berthelemie Berthold, partner of John Jacob Astor and the Chouteau brothers in the American Fur Company.
17. Ahead on the left (Section 3) is the well-known Hunt Family Mausoleum and lot overlooking the Mississippi River. Descend the stairs. Entombed are Ann Lucas Hunt, her first husband Theodore Hunt, and her second husband, Wilson P. Hunt, partner of the American Fur Company.
18. On the opposite side (again in Section 2) further along at roadside is the bronze-plaque monument of Sylvestre V. Papin, and his wife, Emeline. Immediately behind are the steamboat pilot-wheel monuments of Captains John B. and Joseph LaBarge, pioneer navigators and Indian Fur Traders on the Missouri River.
19. Immediately across the road (on the left in Section 3) is the tall-spired stone on the Mullanphy lot, wherein are buried John Mullanphy, early philanthropist, and his son, Bryan Mullanphy, Mayor of St. Louis in 1847.
20. Turn left. In Section 1 on the right is the unique arch top monument on the lot of Jean Pierre Cabanne, intrepid fur trader and progenitor of numerous St. Louisans of the present day.
21. Continue. On the right is the Missouri red granite memorial on the lot of Alexander McNair, first Governor of the State of Missouri after its admission to Statehood. The plaque commemorated the admission of Missouri to the Union. Also nearby are the Danjen and Tesson family graves.
22. Proceed around the section. Turn right on the first road on the right, then left on the first road. Down the road on the left, the roadside marker of the Negro slave, Dred Scott, whose lawsuit for freedom made his name a household word in 1857, may be seen.
23. From here (across the valley) can be seen the lots of several religious orders, the Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul (with a statue), and the Visitation Sisters Lot. Follow this road around the section, turn left, and turn left up the middle road which separates Section 11 to view these lots, the Sisters of the Good Shepherd and other religious orders.
24. Turn right, go past the Sisters of Mercy and turn right on the second road which separates Section 12. Ahead on the right is the distinctive Kern Mausoleum, prominent railroad builders.
25. Turn left. On the right is the yellowed tomb of Major Thomas Biddle and his wife, Ann Mullanphy Biddle. Across the street are the distinctive black iron crosses of the Religious of the Sacred Heart Nuns. This lot was moved in 1881 from the old Orphan Asylum at Tenth and Biddle Streets.
26. Proceed, staying to the right of the Section 12 island, where the Vincentian Order lot is on the left. Turn right, at the intersection ahead, is the lot of General William Tecumseh Sherman, whose grave is marked by a modest flag-draped style monument. Near him rests his wife (a member of the Blow family), his two sons and Sherman family descendants.
27. Continue to the left of Section 13, turning on the first road on the right. Buried on the left behind the Soulard-Turner monument is John Wesley Turner, a Civil War general and later a prominent St. Louis businessman.
28. Nearby, overlooking the valley, is the circular Pierre Chouteau family lot. It is reached by a flight of balconied marble steps, an example of good taste in the old time design of a large family lot. Buried here are Charles Gratiot Sr., brother-in-law of Auguste Chouteau, and his son General Charles Gratiot Jr. Adjacent is the Werner family lot.
29. Around the bend is the Lucas family lot, with an imposing but simple, spired monument. Here are buried J.B.C. Lucas and his numerous descendants, including his son, Charles, who was killed in a duel with Thomas H. Benton.
30. Continue to the right past the Handlan private mausoleum with its unique floral stained glass side windows. Turn left on the second road as you pass the Taylor monument. Around the bend on the left view the Morrison/Sarpy family baby crib monuments.

31. Next is the large circular lot of the Louis A. Benoist family, early St. Louis bankers.
32. Veer to the right. On the left prior to the circular Cummings lot, Kate Chopin, author, is buried with other Chopin, Wood and Weston burials. She was married to the nephew of Louis A. Benoist.
33. Turn left to view, on the right, the quaint enclosure of the Joseph O'Neil family lot in Section 19. There is an atmosphere of an original Irish-style burial plot with the high stone wall enclosure around the entire lot.
34. Proceed past the island and turn right. On the left in Section 18, behind the Charles Stanley monument, is the monument of A.J. Cervantes, Mayor of St. Louis from 1965-1973.
35. Just beyond is the family lot and inspiring monument of the Viviano family, whose pasta empire boomed after the purchase of equipment at the Italian Pavilion at the St. Louis 1904 World's Fair. The four columns represent the four brothers who founded the company and also selected this site.
36. Continue to the right to the columned portico main entrance of the Calvary Shrine Mausoleum. In the vestibule is the statue of St. Ann, which was obtained when the parish closed. Visit the chapel with its beautiful stained glass windows. At the end of the right corridor is a marble group, "The Death of St. Joseph," from St. Liborius parish. You may then walk to the new Priests' Lot across from the mausoleum main entrance, where Archdiocesan priests are interred.
37. Turn right at the bottom of the hill. Just before the intersection on your right (roadside in Section 19) is the Dooley family lot, on which is the grave and stone ledger of Dr. Thomas A. Dooley, III, founder of Medico, who died on January 18, 1961.
38. To view the latest trends in cemetery developments, proceed left along the outer road (paralleling West Florissant Avenue about 3/4 of a mile) to Sections 29, 30, 31. The stainless steel cross identifies Section 33 which contains many St. Louis area religious orders, as does Section 34.
39. Turn right between Section 30 and Section 31. Turn right again. Continue and make a left turn at the last road on the left. Follow this to view at the bottom of the hill on the left in Section 5D the graves of thousands of the early settlers of St. Louis, French, Indian and Afro-Americans originally buried at the site of the Old Cathedral and buried here in 1950. On the right side in Section 23A view the latest designs for monument memorialization, the Shared Family Monument lots.
40. Continue to the Lawn Crypt area on the right (pre-set concrete vaults set on a drain tile bed), with bronze marker memorialization on the wall.
41. Drive ahead past the Sisters of the Good Shepherd lot, turn right, turn right again, going up the hill to see the historic Bell Tower.
42. Drive past the tower, turn right going down the hill, veer left, to view on the right in Section 23 the grave of Charles Eames, internationally known designer, film-maker and architect. His wife Ray is also buried there.
43. Continue around the bend to view on the left hillside the lot of Edwina Dakin Williams and her son, Tennessee Williams, famous playwright.
44. Turn right at the next intersection, bear to the left, and then right, up the center road. Past the Shrine Mausoleum on the left is the Paletta private mausoleum, prominent St. Louis physicians. This mausoleum is constructed of Rainbow granite, one of the oldest building materials in existence.

Continue past the lake to the main entrance road. Turn right to exit past the office.

Office hours are weekdays from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Saturdays until 12:30 p.m. The office is closed on Sunday, Holy Days and Holidays.

We welcome requests on securing your family burial space and memorial, pre-payment of opening, foundation and inscription charges, or to satisfy the Endowed Care obligation on a family lot. Genealogy inquiries through the mail are welcome.

Also offered is a memorial/tree planting program, and for those loved ones whose burial place is unknown or far away, they may be memorialized on the large granite monument near the east entrance to the Shrine Mausoleum.

CALVARY CEMETERY 1996 AREA MAP

1. R.E. Hannegan
2. All Saints Mausoleum
3. General D.M. Frost
4. B. Pratte / L. Bogy / T. Reynolds
5. H. von Phul
6. A. Soulard
7. A.J.P. Garesche
8. G.P. Paul
9. J. Whithnell
10. Original Priest Lot
Archbishops Kenrick and Kain
11. C. Sanguinet / J. Clemens Jr.
12. A. Chouteau
13. H. Picotte
14. E. Walsh
15. W. Ewing
16. B. Berthold
17. Hunt Mausoleum
18. S.V. Papin / LaBarge
19. J. Mullanphy
20. J.P. Cabanne
21. A. McNair / Danjen / Tesson
22. Dred Scott
23. Religious Orders
24. Kern Mausoleum
25. Major Thomas Biddle / Religious Order
26. General William T. Sherman
27. General John W. Turner
28. P. Chouteau, C. Gratiot Jr. and Sr.
29. Lucas Family
30. Morrison / Sarpy cribs
31. L.A. Benoist
32. Kate Chopin
33. J. O'Neil
34. A.J. Cervantes
35. Viviano Family
36. Shrine Mausoleum / New Priest Lot
37. Dr. Thomas A. Dooley, III
38. Religious Orders / Newest Sections
39. Shared Family Monuments
40. Lawn Crypts
41. Historic Bell Tower
42. Charles Eames
43. Tennessee Williams
44. Paletta Mausoleum

