

WASHINGTON HERITAGE REGISTER

A) Identification

Historic Name: **Silverdale Cemetery**
Common Name: Silverdale Pioneer Cemetery
Address: 10950 Impasse PI NW
City: Silverdale Washington: Kitsap

B) Site Access (describe site access, restrictions, etc.)

The cemetery is accessed on the east side of Impasse Place NW as you head North and is directly across from the 19-acre Anderson Hill Athletic Field which sits on the west side of Impasse PI NW. It is secured with a locked gate but is passable by foot for anyone who doesn't know the combination.

C) Property owner(s), Address and Zip

Name: Silverdale Cemetery Association
Address: P.O. Box 721
City: Silverdale State Washington Zip: 98383

D) Legal boundary description and boundary justification

Tax No./Parcel: Tax # 1242668; Parcel #182501-1-008-2006
Boundary Justification: 4.86 acres in Sec. 18 of Township 25, Range 1E.

FORM PREPARED BY

Name: Cheryl Gill
Address: P.O. Box 721
City / State / Zip: Silverdale, WA 98383
Email: silverdalecemetery@gmail.com
Phone: 503-750-5456
Nomination Date: March 28, 2024

WASHINGTON HERITAGE REGISTER

E) Category of Property (Choose One)

- building structure (irrigation system, bridge, etc.) district
 object (statue, grave marker, vessel, etc.) cemetery/burial site
 historic site (site of an important event) archaeological site
 traditional cultural property (spiritual or creation site, etc.)
 cultural landscape (habitation, agricultural, industrial, recreational, etc.)

F) Area of Significance – Check as many as apply

- The property belongs to the early settlement, commercial development, or original native occupation of a community or region.
- The property is directly connected to a movement, organization, institution, religion, or club which served as a focal point for a community or group.
- The property is directly connected to specific activities or events which had a lasting impact on the community or region.
- The property is associated with legends, spiritual or religious practices, or life ways which are uniquely related to a piece of land or to a natural feature.
- The property displays strong patterns of land use or alterations of the environment which occurred during the historic period (cultivation, landscaping, industry, mining, irrigation, recreation).
- The property is directly associated with an individual who made an important contribution to a community or to a group of people.
- The property has strong artistic, architectural or engineering qualities, or displays unusual materials or craftwork belonging to a historic era.
- The property was designed or built by an influential architect, or reflects the work of an important artisan.
- Archaeological investigation of the property has or will increase our understanding of past cultures or life ways.

WASHINGTON HERITAGE REGISTER

G) Property Description

The Silverdale Cemetery is located northwest of the unincorporated community of Silverdale, west of Highway 3 and north of NW Anderson Road. The 4.87 acre parcel has been partially platted, divided into thirds with the center portion platted into smaller cemetery plots - initially in 1896, and then again in 1917.

The original access road into the cemetery was from the south, but when the adjacent land was developed in 1987, access to the cemetery was moved to the west side, coming directly off the road now known as Impasse Place NW. To the west is the 19-acre open sports park known as Anderson Hill Athletic Field.

The entrance to the cemetery off Impasse PI NW is marked with a simple, wooden post-style sign and the road is blocked by a locked cyclone-fence gate. Travel by foot is accessible to all. Once past the gate, a dirt road gently curves and travels approximately 260 feet up a slight incline through the light-filtered trees on both sides until you pass a much larger wooden sign for the cemetery, supported by two large rock columns. Beyond, you enter the somewhat secluded and peaceful open meadow where the cemetery lies.

The meadow is surrounded by a thick covering of second and third growth Douglas Fir trees, interspersed here and there with beautiful Madrones. Past the approximately fifty-eight-foot-deep buffer of trees to the north is a small community developed in 1995 called Anderson Hill Estates. It consists of nine large-lot homes. Impasse Place serves as the only ingress/egress for this community. The same type of trees can be found on the south side of the cemetery, but with visibility between them towards a new small housing development.

The initial 1896 portion of the cemetery was platted for forty-two 12' x 24' lots. The rectangular layout was divided into three rectangular blocks with two rows each running east to west, with a 12-foot-wide dirt road for vehicles in between each section. Per the original plat, the northern most block is indicated as Block 2, followed by Block 5 in the middle, and ending with Block 8 at the south.

A March 14, 1928, newspaper article noted that the cemetery "lies between two gulches", has "one of the finest views to be found anywhere" and "there is a creek close by and hence water in ample quantity". Over the years, however, the views have been lost to the harvested trees that sprouted new growth, and the creek was filled in.

Due to a lack of a water source, the landscaping remains minimal, consisting of a low-level creeping groundcover that stays green throughout the year, and bracken ferns that proliferate in the summer. Rhododendrons and other varieties of drought-resistant shrubbery dot the landscape here and there. Landscaping and other maintenance needs of the cemetery have been addressed sporadically over the years, oftentimes to the detriment of the cemetery. More recent times, however, landscape maintenance has seen improvement with the commitment of cemetery members and families volunteering for work parties, along with the assistance of Kiwanis and Boy Scout groups performing semi-annual clean-ups.

The cemetery has cyclone fencing that borders the north, west, and south borders, though it is not clear when this was installed. These fence lines indicate the correct property line for the north and south borders. However, the fencing on the west side, is approximately 240 feet inside the actual boundary of the cemetery. There is no fencing on the east side, the portion of land plotted for burials ends approximately 225 feet inside the known boundary of the cemetery property; note there is a significant slope before reaching flat land. There are no structures in the cemetery.

There are currently three-hundred and eighty-seven (387) known burials in the cemetery, with twenty-two (22) of those being veterans of various military branches and timeframes. The oldest known burial dates to 1895, one year before the cemetery was platted.

The cemetery is still active, though the sale of lots has slowed significantly in the past twenty years. With a little more than 3 ½ acres still available for use, there exists the opportunity for expansion if it is deemed viable.

H) Significance

The Silverdale Cemetery is the oldest cemetery in the community of Silverdale and has a direct connection to many of the early pioneers of the area, and to generations of their families. Some of Silverdale's most prominent contributors to its growth are laid to rest here.

The unincorporated community of Silverdale began when groups of loggers arrived in the area in 1854. After first operating on the shoreline, they moved inland, leaving the land relatively bare. While the area was filled with stumps, the soil was rich and a new set of immigrants followed, seeing the land as ideal for farming. This second wave of the Euro-American settlers arrived in the 1870s; many who were Scandinavian descent. They established farms on these cut-over lands and began pulling the stumps left by loggers. Once cleared, the farming was good, and in 1887 area farmers formed a cooperative to sell their surplus crops, eggs, chickens, and milk to markets in Bremerton and Seattle.

It was under these circumstances that the community grew, mainly around the

Silverdale wharf and dock, relying on the Puget Sound Mosquito Fleet for transportation to and from the community. The future town had been purchased by Herod Wills who bought the land from government agents in 1870. Wills never lived on the land and sold the property to Alexander A. Munson in 1874 for \$125. Munson profited by having the townsite surveyed into lots and sold the property to Selvyus A. Dickey in 1888. He recorded the official plat on April 13, 1889. By 1890 a post office was established with Dickey serving as the first postmaster. Then in 1892, a co-operative Improvement Association was formed with a capital stock of \$5,000. Soon the community began to grow. By the 1920s it featured a large wharf, its own local bank, several hotels, and a store.

Over the years, attempts to incorporate Silverdale as a city failed in 1941, 1985, and 1999, and a similar measure was rejected in 2013. Today, Silverdale serves as a commercial retail center in Kitsap County, centered around the Kitsap Mall (opened in 1985).

It was during this early settlement period that the cemetery was first established. Records show that specific land was dedicated for cemetery use by William Acker on September 21, 1896. The site was approximately 2 miles from the "downtown" area. Such distance was typical for early cemeteries when fear of disease was a perceived threat.

The formal cemetery was founded by a group of twenty local men who banded together with a common goal of finding a nearby final resting place for their loved ones. Formed on August 20, 1917, the original members of the Silverdale Cemetery Association included Edward Anderson, F.B. Bourg, James Dingman, E.H. Fellows, John Fisher, R.M. Fleming, Charles Gakin, Tom Hagener, Walter Johnson, Nels Lindfeldt, A.H. Moore, E.A. Palmeter, John Peterson, R.L. Robbins, J. Ruef, M. Thuesen, A.M. Waage, and J.L. Weir.

Bourg, Hagener, Waage, and Dingman were elected as Officers and Board of Trustees. The association became an official corporation with the filing and recording to the state on September 1, 1917. The purpose of the association was expressed in part as "to purchase or take by gift, devise, or otherwise and hold land for the sole purpose of a cemetery to be used exclusively for burial purposes, and in no wise with a view to profit of the members of such association." A loose knit group for friends, it was not until 2003 that board members wrote and passed official bylaws for the association. At that time membership was officially established for anyone who had previously purchased a lot from the association or for those who would purchase a lot in the future.

Prior to the formation of the Association, the land by then was owned by Columbus and Sophie St. Clair. While no documentation of discussions with the St. Clair family has been found, on September 1, 1917, the St. Clair's quit-claimed the cemetery to the Silverdale Cemetery Association for \$100.00.

The transfer in ownership was followed quickly by the filing of a plat to the county on November 22, 1917. At the time, the new plat was billed by the Association as an expansion of the cemetery. Titled the "First Addition," the plat had an additional sixty-six lots, measuring 24' by 12'. The layout was square and divided into Blocks with two rows each running north and south and numbered right to left. The rows started with Block 1 on the west border and continued east with Blocks 2, 3, 4, and 5. Block 1 is the only section that runs fully from north to south, due to six lots being platted on the NW border slightly above the originally platted section.

A 12-foot-wide dirt road for vehicles ran east and west on the north side to separate this new area from the original, and a 12-foot-wide dirt road for vehicles ran east and west between each grouping of rows. There was also a 16-foot-wide dirt road for vehicles running north and south in between each section.

The plat denoted a small 24-foot square section, located on the upper NW boundaries for "colored races". However, there is no known record of any burials there, and the section has long been overgrown by trees.

Sometime in the early 1960s, the cemetery was being informally referred to as the "Old Timers" cemetery. In 1976, Leslie Dingman established a maintenance fund at the local bank, calling it the "Old Timers Cemetery Scout Fund". The cemetery has also informally been referred to as the Silverdale Pioneer Cemetery, though it's unclear how that name started. Neither of these are official names, and appear to be just nicknames the community came up with.

In 2002, a cemetery member donated two of her lots to the Kitsap County Coroner's office for the burial of indigent individuals. This space is still being utilized today, and to date there are ninety-two (92) indigent community members buried here.

In 2003, then Association President Lila Riddle in cooperation with the board, decided to close off all the roads running east and west inside the plat to create more lots. This added fourteen 12' by 24' lots to the original section of Blocks A, B, and C, and twenty-two 12' by 24' lots to the First Addition. Over time, many of these additional lots have been divided in half.

Among those buried in the cemetery include many important local pioneers. Below are short biographical information of some of these individuals.

William Littlewood (1823-1895)

Born in England, Littlewood is most likely the first community member buried in the cemetery. He was a logger and is the earliest recorded settler in the Silverdale area, his name first appearing in the census of 1857. At one point Littlewood held a contract with the government to keep a trail open from Manette point to Seabeck, clearing it once a year for \$100. In 1891, he sold his homestead to a local physician, F.A. Harlow, who granted him the right to remain on the property. As far as is known, he remained there to the time of his death in 1895.

Without specific records of a burial for him, one can only assume he was buried in the grounds before the cemetery was officially platted. Community members honored him by erecting a unique headstone built of cement in the shape of a tree stump with a cross-stick supporting an ax and maul, above which a dove holds a branch in its bill. His gravesite was originally enclosed by an iron fence, but that no longer exists. In addition, vandals have unfortunately damaged some parts of his monument.

Annie “Zwaellen” Mast (1846–1894)

Born in Switzerland, Annie Mast was the mother of Sophie St. Clair. At the time of her death, she lived with her daughter and son-in-law, Columbus St. Clair. The St. Clair's have historically claimed she was the first person buried in the cemetery but, like Mr. Littlewood, there is no documentation to support that. It is known that when she died in 1894, she was initially buried in the yard of their home. Reportedly here remains were moved to the cemetery after its establishment (date unknown).

Columbus St. Clair (1856-1939)

Michigander Columbus St. Clair was one of Kitsap County's oldest pioneers, having lived in the area since 1882. He worked as a logger, and eventually raised dairy cows and chickens to trade for staples.

Christian Braendlein (1861-1932)

Christian Braendlein was an early pioneer and holds the distinct credit for naming the community of Silverdale after the first choice of “Goldendale” was already taken. In 1898 he secured a contract to be a supplier of fruit, meat, and vegetables for the U.S. Navy ships and barracks. In 1907, he completed the building of the 200-foot-long split-cedar plank Silverdale-Tracyton bridge over Clear Creek, later named the Bucklin Hill Bridge. He served on the school board, was a Road Supervisor, County Commissioner, acting coroner, and worked closely with the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. He was also involved in the establishment of the first church and Sunday school in the area.

James Dingman (1854-1922)

Canadian James Dingman settled in Silverdale in 1887. The road by his homestead was known as the Dingman Loop, though it was eventually renamed Silverdale Loop Road. He made a living from his orchard of 300 apple trees, as well as managing his cattle farm and cooking in logging camps. He was one of the founders of the Silverdale Cemetery Association and had a strong commitment to its management. His son, Leslie Dingman (1900-1987), continued that commitment for over 20 years, starting in 1965. Leslie was also known for his research on Silverdale's history. Of note, his brother, Byron, settled in Central Valley in 1892 but died just three years later. Byron Street in Silverdale is named for him.

Thomas Hagener (1856-1947)

Known as one of Kitsap County's oldest pioneers, Thomas Hagener migrated to the Washington Territory from Ohio. He was known for being the organizer of the first farmer's co-op in the state in 1887, and was the first president of that co-op. Hagener also was a founding member of the Silverdale Cemetery Association. When the Seabeck Road was created, it passed right by his homestead. As of today, his 1890

log home still sits on the property.

Abraham “Albert” Tharp (1860-1930)

Abraham Tharp ran a prosperous real estate office, assisting many of the community members in their business transactions.

Mads “Matt” Thuesen (1854-1932)

After immigrating from Denmark, Mads Thuesen and his family arrived in Silverdale at the time it was being platted. He was one of the first outsiders to buy property and build a home. Thuesen opened a store, taking in the produce of local farmers and marketing it in Seattle. He served as a postmaster for about 16 years, built some of the wharves along Dyes Inlet, and eventually began a passenger boat service, taking various salesmen to their destinations. Thuesen also served as a Justice of the Peace, was a notary public, and was active in the financial investment and establishment of the Silverdale Bank.

Edward Anderson (1861-1930)

Edward Anderson and his wife Mary “Mathsen” settled in Silverdale in 1903. They purchased an 80-acre homestead from a community member and started a poultry farm. At one time their property was called “Silverdale Heights” and/or “Teacher Hill”. Edward and Mary served as Directors of the Silverdale Bank.

Otis Bartlett (1891-1979)

Iowan Otis Bartlett originally arrived in Silverdale in 1907 as a child with his parents and siblings, who settled at the mouth of Clear Creek. His family became chicken and cow ranchers, as well as produce farmers. The family was so prominent in the community that the Clear Creek Bridge was at times referred to as the Bartlett Bridge. As an adult he continued as a poultry rancher and was one of the original farmers to organize the Bremerton Farmer’s Market.

While there are many generations of families buried in the cemetery, one notable family stands out: The Greaves Family. Patriarch **Charles E. Greaves (1866-1944)** came to Silverdale via Massachusetts and operated a successful turkey and chicken ranch. He helped organize the farmer’s co-op and started a co-op cheese factory, using his training as a veterinarian to help both animals and people. He also served several years as the local embalmer, and served two years as county commissioner helping to lay out the road systems. Greaves colorful history also included surviving an attempted murder in August of 1927; reportedly having moved just enough to avoid a double charge of shotgun shells. He also helped establish the first bank in the area (Silverdale Bank) where he served as a Director and eventually held the position of President for 18 years.

His son **William R. Greaves (1887-1965)** followed in his footsteps at the bank, serving first as a Director and then later President. William also was an active member with both state and local granges, serving as State Grange Treasurer for many years, was a member of the Kitsap County Planning Commission, was President of the Rotary Club, and was a charter member of the Kitsap County Fair Board (serving as President for three years). His grandson, **Lawrence C. (1915-2009)** also buried at the cemetery,

also held the position of Director at the bank, and was active as a teamster, farmer, and grocer, owning his own store called Greaves' Far West Market. Today the building houses the Kitsap Art Studio. He also served as manager of the Silverdale Cemetery Association for nearly 30 years. The street "Greaves Way" is named after this family.

WASHINGTON HERITAGE REGISTER

I) Documentation

Xerox and attach any information or evidence that supports the property's significance.

Written Sources (books, articles, newspapers):

Dedication and Plat Map by William Acker – September 21, 1896

Articles of Incorporation of Silverdale Cemetery Association - August 13, 1917

Signed certification of Silverdale Cemetery Association by Secretary of State -
September 1, 1917

Indenture by Columbus and Sophie St. Clair quit-claiming cemetery to the Silverdale
Cemetery Association – September 1, 1917

First Addition Dedication and Plat Map with Kitsap County Approval and Recording –
November 22, 1917

Silverdale Old Timers Cemetery plat map, redrawn by Wm. J. Greaves – Date
Unknown

“Decoration Day” articles – Kitsap County Herald - May 30, 1902 and June 6, 1902

“Attempt to Kill Commissioner Greaves” Kitsap County Herald – August 27, 1926

“The Silverdale Cemetery” The Breeze – March 14, 1928

“Tom Hynes’ Silverdale” Silverdale Breeze – October 17, 1963

“Cemetery Will be Improved Here” Silverdale Breeze – April 9, 1964

“Old Timers Cemetery Scout Fund” Silverdale Breeze - 1976

“At last A final resting place” The Sun – May 9, 2002

Kitsap County: A History - Kitsap County Historical Society:
Silverdale – Page 445
Columbus and Sophie St. Clair – Pages 464 and 465
Dickeyville? Goldendale? – Page 446

Christian and Lizzie Braendlein – Pages 459 and 460
James and Margaretta Dingman – Page 460
The Co-operative Movements – Pages 447 and 448
Thomas and Edna Hagener – Page 461
The Cheese Factory – Page 448
The Early Town – Page 448
Other Businesses – Page 448
Silverdale State Bank – Page 455 and 456
Edith and Charles Greaves – Page 460 and 461
Mads and Lena Thuesen – Pages 465 and 466

Oral History/Interviews:

None

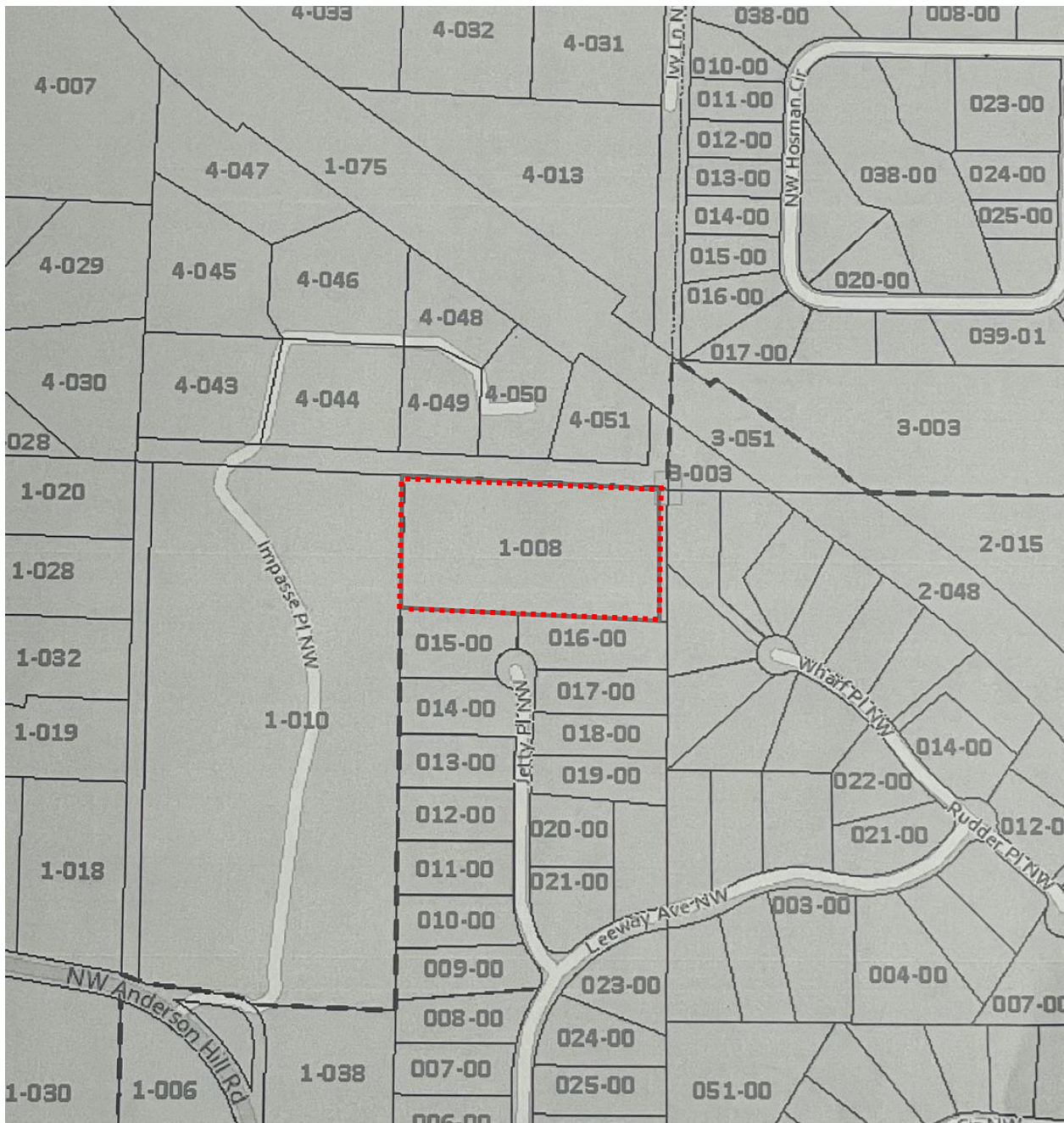
J) Map and Photographs

Attach copies of historic maps or photos if available, and current photos (min 5 x 7 digital images, 300 DPI). Include a current map – appropriate Google Earth/U.S.G.S. map and parcel map – with the location of the property and its boundaries clearly marked. (see instructions)



Google Earth
Silverdale Cemetery





Kitsap County Assessor Parcel Map
Silverdale Cemetery
 Parcel Number 182501-1-008-2006



Silverdale Cemetery

V.2 P.47

| | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 14 | 17 | 14 | 13 | 15 | 11 | 18 |
| 25 | 23 | 24 | 22 | 26 | 27 | 21 |
| 19 | 18 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 8 |
| 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 21 | 22 |
| 11 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 |
| 15 | 14 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |



North
36 ft. 6 in.

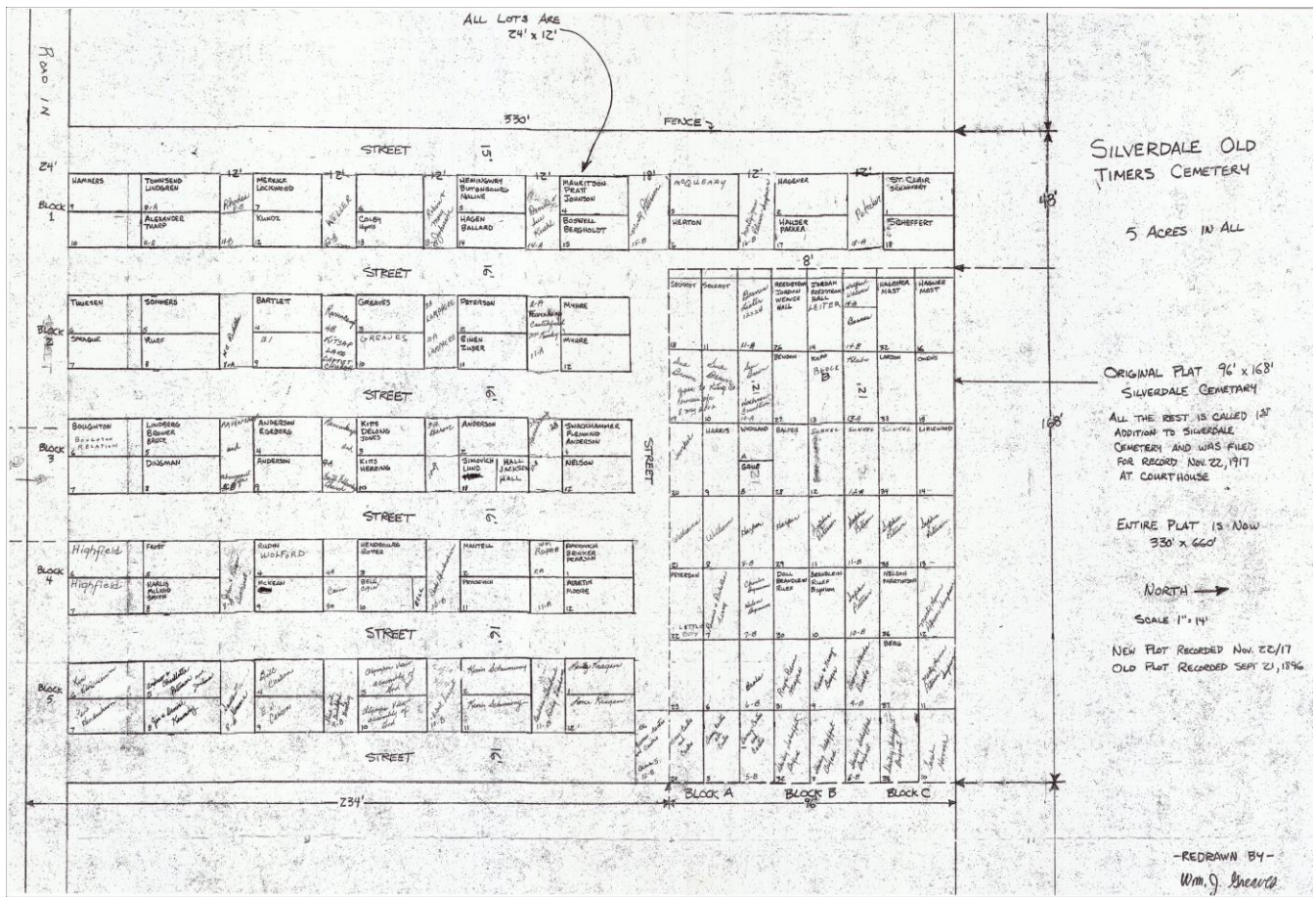
Description
This plat of Silverdale cemetery embraces the following divided lots of land commencing at a point at NW D corner of N 1/4 of N 1/2 of Section 11, T. 20. N. of R. 1. W. Thence N 66 deg 34 min South 830 feet thence East 120 feet thence North 800 feet to point of beginning. Regular lots 12 by 24 feet about 12 feet wide.

Dedication
Know all men in these presents that I, Wm. Acker owner in fee simple of the above described property do hereby declare that I do hereby give all said lots and allow to be divided thereon in such manner as they may see fit and lawful and that this 21st day of September A.D. 1896
Witness my hand and seal of office at Silverdale
Wm. Acker
Notary Public

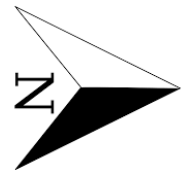
Acknowledgment
State of Washington
County of Kitsap
I, J. P. Taylor Notary Public in and for the State of Washington do hereby certify and solemnly swear that Wm. Acker owner in fee simple of the above described land and lots as stated in the within instrument and who is not a party thereto is a competent person and duly qualified to execute the same as he has and voluntarily got and did get his name and names thereof contained.
Witness my hand and official seal this day and year in this certificate and in view of the presence of
J. P. Taylor
Notary Public in and for the State of Washington
county of Kitsap
Acknowledgment of record of Wm. Acker dated 21st day of Sept 1896 at 2:10 P.M. recorded Sept 22nd 1896 at 4:15 P.M.
Frank Bell Quillen
Notary Public

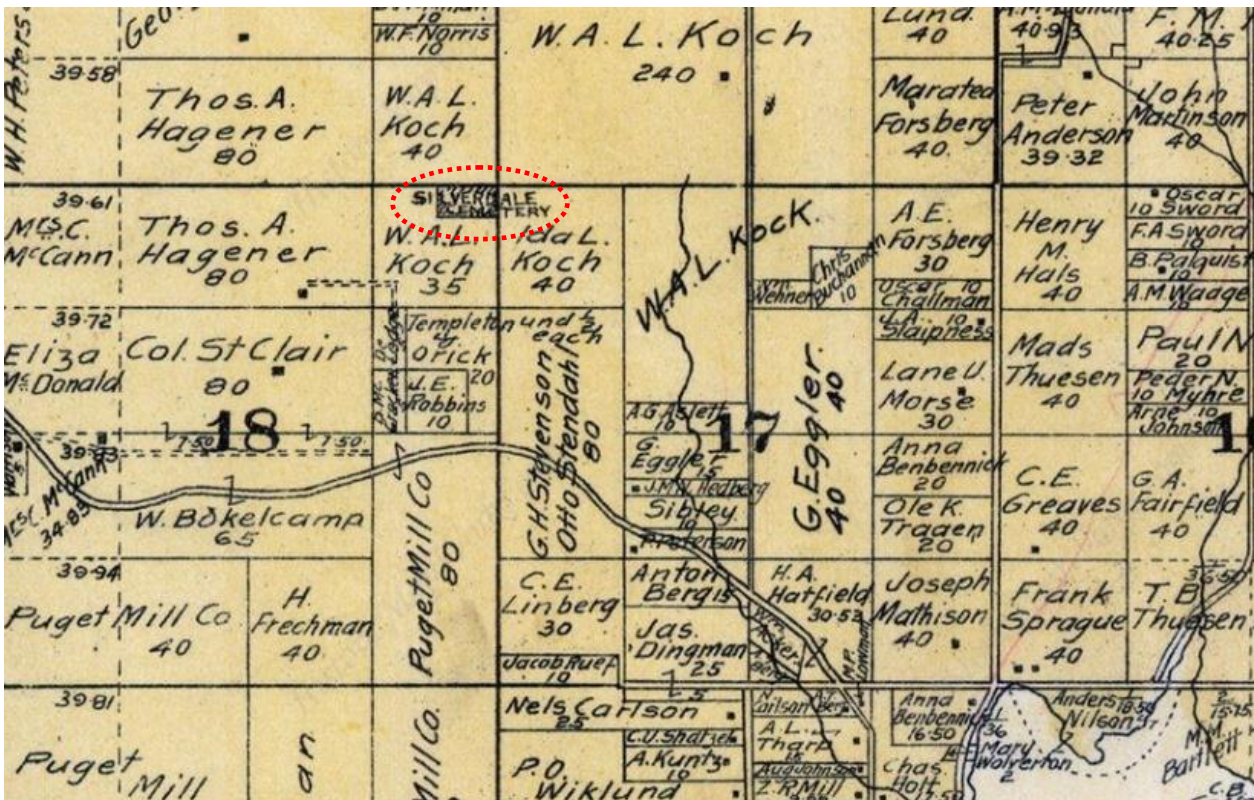
Plat Map - 1896 by William Acker with Description, Dedication, and Acknowledgment





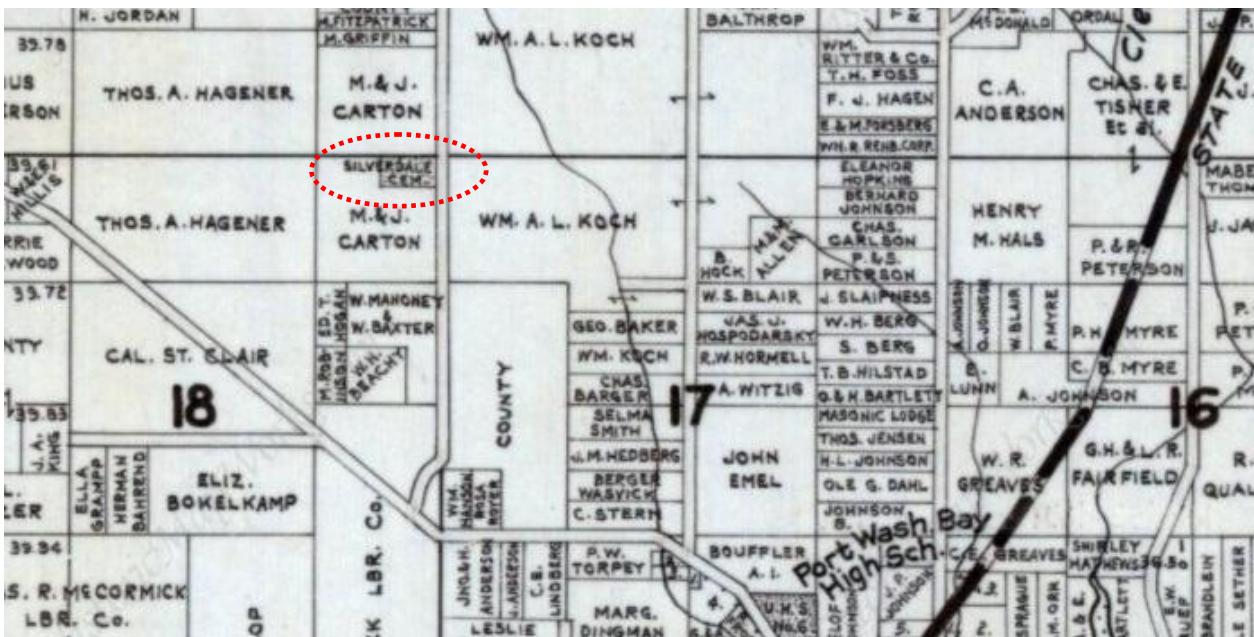
Redrawn Plat Map by William J. Greaves.
 Date unknown but newspaper article of April 9, 1964, references he was working on it at that time. The markings for the closed roads, converted to lots, would have been added in 2003.





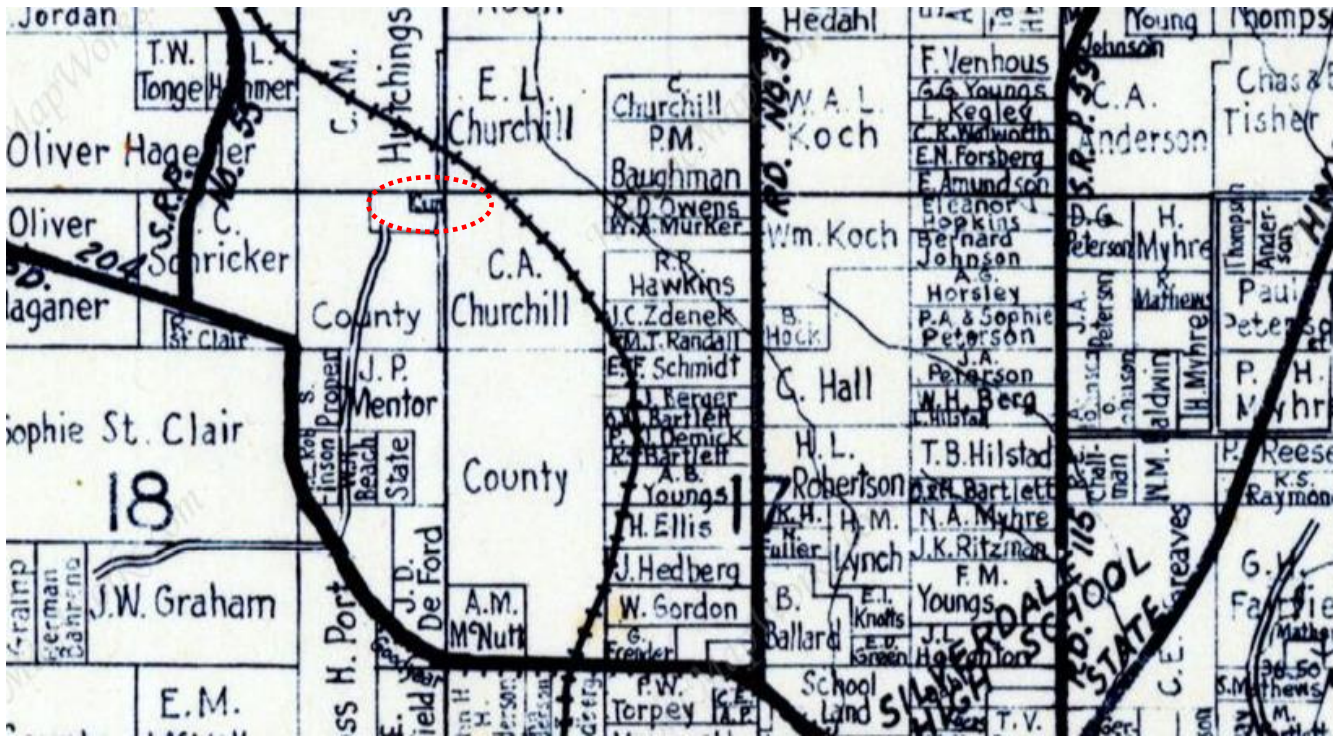
Township 25 North, Range 1 and 2 East, Tracyton, Port Orchard, Brownsville, Dye's Inlet, Chico

From **Kitsap County 1909**, Washington
 Published by Anderson Map Co., Inc in 1909



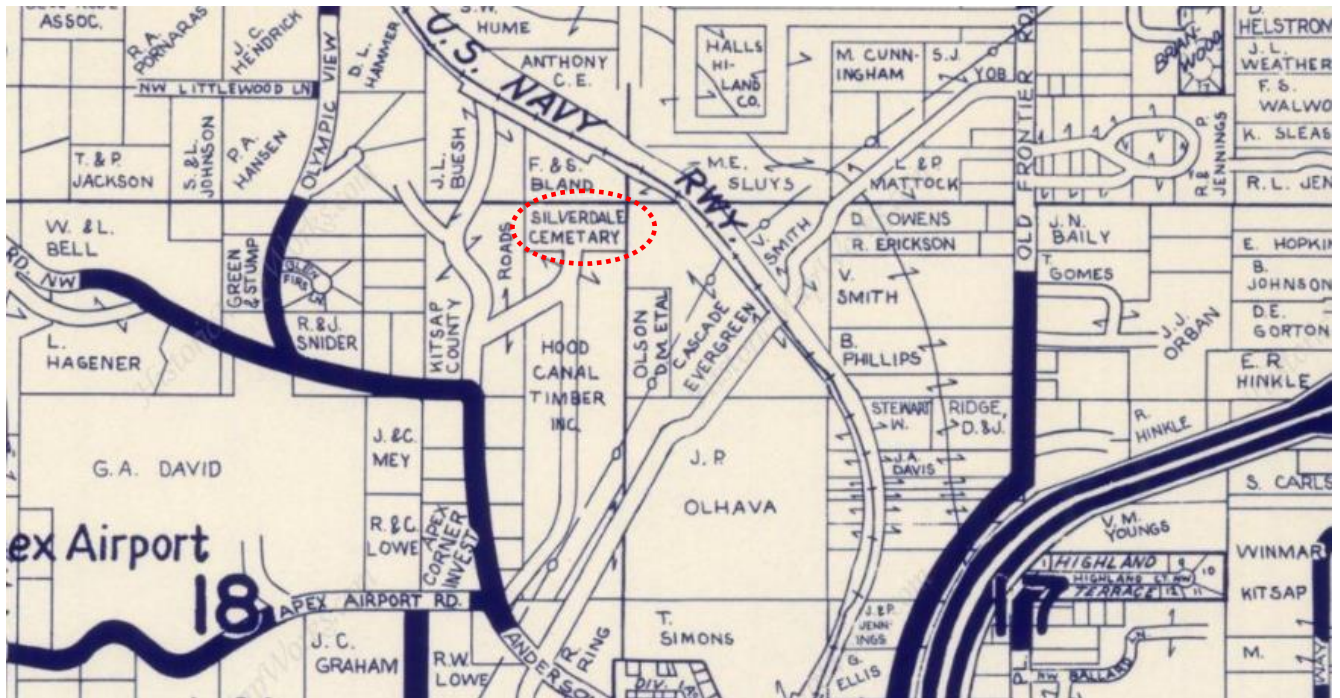
Page 012 - Township 25 N., Range 1 E., Dyes Inlet, Fairview, Tracyton

From **Kitsap County 1926**, Washington
 Published by Metsker Maps in 1926



Page 008 - Silverdale, Dye, Fairview, Tracyton, Chico, Brownsville, Bangor Naval Station, Port Orchard

From **Kitsap County 1940**, Washington
 Published by Kroll Map Company in 1940

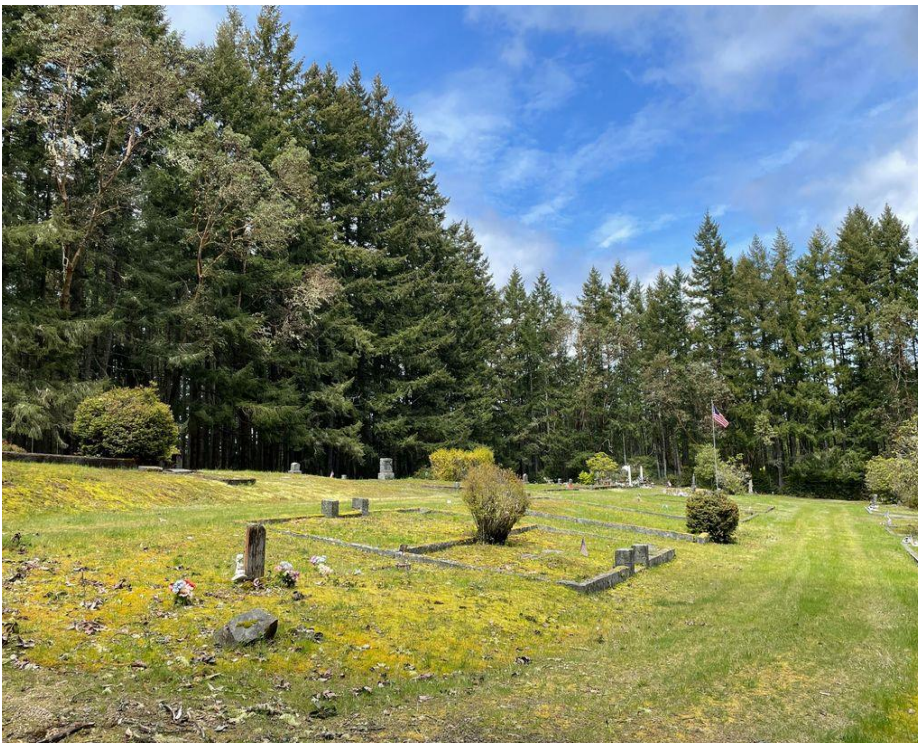


Township 25 N., Range 1 E., Bangor Naval Submarine Base

From **Kitsap County 1970c**, Washington
 Published by Thos C. Metsker in 1970



View of main entrance on Impasse Place NW with locked gate. Combination is given only to members to help deter access by potential vandals.



Looking northwest from the south and approximately center of cemetery, partially showing First Addition Section 3 to the left of the road, and Section 2 above that to the left.



Views looking east as road heads into the cemetery. Road runs up the southern border of the cemetery, bordered by private properties to the south of the cyclone fencing.



Second entrance sign located at top of road as you enter cemetery.



Looking northeast from the south. Section 2 of First Addition can be partially seen on the left (west side). Section 3 of First Addition is adjacent to the road, on the right (east side). Section 4 of First Addition is partially seen past the 2nd road east of Section 3. While not really visible in this photo, Section 5 runs adjacent to the tree line on the east. Majority of this section has no burials at this time.



View west from the east. Vehicle is on road that enters cemetery and is sitting in front of the fenced area to cul-de-sac.



This is the foot-access only entrance from the neighboring cul-de-sac on the south side. There is a small dirt path that passes through the middle of the trees which are believed to be on the properties of the homes bordering the path.



Looking south from the north boundary.
Rhododendron tree on left (east side) is sitting in Block B of the original plat.
Tree on the right (west side) is sitting in Block A of the original plat.



View north from the south showing the tree line bordering Section 5 of the First Addition along the east side.



View north from the south showing the tree line bordering Section 1 of the First Addition along the west side.



View east from west with partial view of indigent burial area and bench located in Block A of the original platted area.



View west of entrance road to cemetery (heading out toward Impasse Pl).



William Littlewood Monument - 1823-1895



Annie Mast – 1846-1894
Daughter Emma Hagener and granddaughter Amy Hagener



Braendlein, Christian 1932

Obituary, June 1932

Old-time Silverdale Resident Passes

An old-time resident of Kitsap County, Christian Braendlein of Silverdale, passed away at his home Saturday June 4. He had been ill for about two weeks with pneumonia, which with heart trouble caused his death.

Mr. Braendlein took up as a homestead his fine home site near Silverdale in 1888, thus having seen our county grow from its wilder condition of early times to its present development. He was born in Austria in 1861 and came to this country when twenty-two years of age. He was a man of sterling, dependable character and will be missed by the community.

Mr. Braendlein leaves his wife and seven children. Funeral Services were held at the Methodist church in Silverdale on Tuesday afternoon, Rev. Mary McKee having charge of the services, assisted by the K. of P. lodge, and at the grave by the Port Orchard lodge F. & A.M.



Dingman, James Henry 1922

Obituary, *Kitsap County Herald*, 10 March 1922.

In Memoriam, James Dingman

James Dingman responded to the "roll call over yonder" on January 15, 1922. He was born January 9, 1854, in Ontario, Canada. He came to this country when but a young man and lived in the vicinity of Silverdale for thirty years. He was united in marriage with Maggie Ruef and to add happiness to their home there were born unto them two children.

Brother Dingman experienced forgiveness of sin through the blood of Jesus many years ago and lived a consistent Christian life. He suffered more or less for the last few years, but it was not until about two weeks before his death that his affliction became acute. He leaves to await their happy reunion, his sorrowing wife, three children and two sisters in New York state.

Rev. H. E. Kelly took his text at the funeral service, John 4th chapter, 1st verse. It was very appropriate for a man of the life he had led and his age. Mrs. John McKean of Brownsville acted as organist and the songs that were sung by a male quartet were: "Jesus, Lover of My Soul", "Shall We Gather at the River", and "Sweet Rest". The singing was very affective. The pall bearers were Messers. Schold, Hagen, St. Clair, Fairfield, Frost and Holt.



Hagener, Thomas Anton 1947

Obituary, *Bremerton Sun*, October 1947.

Tom Hagener, Pioneer, Dies.

Tom Hagener, one of the county's earliest white settlers, and organizer and president of the state's first co-operative, died Sunday afternoon at the Silverdale residence of his son, Oliver, with whom he had made his home for many years.

Although an invalid and blind for the past nine years, he had an unconquerable courage and only in the last three weeks did his illness become serious. He died almost on the eve of his 91st birthday. With him at the time of his death were Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Hagener, and a daughter, Mrs. Ethel Larkin. The Hagener twins, Lila and Lily, who had been vacationing in Montana are now enroute home, unaware of their grandfather's death.

Mr. Hagener was born in Cincinnati, Ohio on Nov. 7, 1856, and came to Kitsap County in 1884 from Michigan. He worked for many years in the logging industry throughout the district, settling in Silverdale on the Seabeck road. The log cabin he built in the early 1890s still stands in the rear of the home now occupied by a son, Oliver.



Thuesen, Mads “Matt” 1932

Obituary, *Kitsap County Herald*, Friday, 25 March 1932.

Silverdale Pioneer Passes.

Mads Thuesen, one of the earliest settlers of Silverdale, passed away Saturday night, March 19. He was 77 years old and had been in poor health for a long time.

Mr. Thuesen was a fine man and one of those sturdy pioneers who worked hard in the upbuilding of this new country. His first trip to Washington Bay was in 1884, but he did not make his home at Silverdale until 1889. Mr. Gafner had a store and dock there at that time, and Mr. Thuesen bought out Mr. Gafner and started in business, which he carried on for a long time. Later he became the postmaster and served in that capacity for about sixteen years.

The editor of the Herald can well remember that he first had a sailing vessel to carry his goods for his store from Seattle, and later he had a motorboat.

Mr. Thuesen was born in Denmark but came here with his parents while still a boy. He leaves to mourn his loss, his wife; a son, George; one daughter, Mrs. Bob Robbins of Silverdale, and also one brother, Nils Thuesen.

Funeral services were held on Thursday afternoon from the Silverdale church, and interment was made in the Silverdale Cemetery.



Greaves, Charles Edwin August 1944

Obituary, *Bremerton Daily News Searchlight*, 12 August 1944.

Charles E. Greaves, Kitsap Leader, Dead.

Death severed a link with Kitsap Counties past yesterday when Charles E. Greaves, 78-year-old dean of one of the county's first families, died at his home in Silverdale.

As one of the early settlers of the Silverdale district, Mr. Greaves helped make county history and could recall vividly the early days when steamboats, plying the bay and inlets of the west side of Puget Sound, served as the only means of transportation for settlers and ranchers.

Born in Massachusetts in 1866, he moved to Washington as a young man in 1889. He had lived in Silverdale nearly all the 55 years since, most of them as an active civic and political leader.

Saw Development

In his lifetime, he saw the establishment of the Puget Sound Navy Yard and other naval shore station in Kitsap County, watched Bremerton grow from a tiny, sprawling village into the state's fourth largest city, and witnessed the vast logging operations that were a part of this county's colorful past.

For many years he was a prominent dairy farmer in the Silverdale area and served as a president of the Kitsap County Dairymen's Association. He also helped organize the Silverdale State Bank, of which he was president many years.

As a county commissioner for two terms, he helped lay out the county road system, while his civic interests in his younger, more active days were numerous and varied.

Many Survive

Two sons and two daughters survive him, William R. Greaves of Silverdale, Charles C. Greaves of Bremerton, Mrs. Celia Johnson of Bremerton, and Mrs. L. C. Ohman of Redmond, wash. He also leaves 14 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services, under the direction of Lewis Chapel, will be held at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon in Silverdale Methodist Church, with interment in Forest Lawn Cemetery.



Lawrence Chalmers Greaves - April 19, 1915 – June 26, 2009

Silverdale lost one of its last remaining links to the past with the passing of Lawrence C. Greaves. He was the son of William R. and Vida (Brown) Greaves, and the grandson of Silverdale pioneers, Charles E. and Edith (McCurdy) Greaves. He spent his entire life in Silverdale, graduating from Port Washington Bay High School (now Central Kitsap High School) in 1933. He earned Eagle Scout status in his youth and would travel Kitsap County teaching younger Scouts. He married Ellen Maria Niemi of Poulsbo on June 5, 1937, in Olympia, Washington. He and Ellen kept a wonderful farm where the Kitsap Mall now stands. He was a devoted father, uncle, grandfather and great-grandfather. His grandchildren, who loved him dearly, were influenced tremendously by his love and support. Lawrence was a grocer, farmer, Teamster, and served on the Board of Directors at Silverdale State Bank for many years, following in his father's and grandfather's footsteps. He was a hard-working, caring, kind man of genuine integrity. He is survived by children: Lawrence (LaVonne) Greaves of Silverdale, Carolyn Kelley of Fox Island, Linda (Bill) Philpott of Poulsbo, and Donna (Gary) Russell of Anchorage. He has eight surviving grandchildren: David Schumacher, Scott Greaves, Michele Baisler, Mark Greaves, Ann Jas, Dan Kelley, Joe Schumacher, Garrett Russell and nine great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Ellen, his youngest son, William, his sister, Marjorie, two brothers, Bill and John, and beloved grandson, Brian Russell.