

## Protestant Churchyards and Cemeteries

The four earliest Protestant burial grounds in St. Louis city and county are Baptist, Methodist, and (Southern) Presbyterian. Germans arriving in the late 1830s expanded upon this number with the proliferation of German Evangelical, Evangelical Lutheran, and Lutheran congregations.

### Protestant Churchyards

The oldest protestant churchyard in St. Louis County was established by Fee Fee Baptist Church in 1814. Protestant Churchyards were common in both St. Louis City and County. Many congregations established a churchyard on the land neighboring the church building. The churchyard belonged to and was maintained by the congregation. Protestant Churchyards followed a formal, geometric pattern in landscaping and in their burials. Headstones were placed in straight north - south rows with text facing east. Any roads were straight and entered to the center and around the exterior of the yard. Churchyards did not contain family plots. Typically burials occurred one right after another - with the exception of the occasional spouse buried next to one another. Landscaping followed the simple pattern with trees specifically selected for their simplicity (mostly Oaks and Cedars). A sexton maintains the churchyard.

### Rural Protestant Cemeteries

Following the St. Louis cholera epidemic of 1849, Protestant Churches adopted the practices of the rural cemetery movement when designing their burial grounds. In 1855, German Evangelicals designed the first Rural Protestant Cemetery in St. Louis County - St. Peter's Cemetery on Lucas & Hunt Rd. While established and maintained by congregations, these rural cemeteries were built in the county and abandoned the geometric simplicity of the churchyard design. The Rural Protestant Cemeteries were often designed by civil or landscape engineers and featured rolling hills, trees, and family monuments. Burial plots were sold in family lots, similar to their rural cemetery counterparts. Many of these cemeteries later established an endowment for perpetual care - and have been well maintained due to this reason.

### Lutheran

- Bethlehem (New) 9650 Bellefontaine Rd. Bellefontaine Neighbors.
- Bethlehem (Old) 1093 Switzer Ave., Baden.
- Concordia 4209 Bates Ave. St. Louis
- Holy Cross 2650 Miami St (at Ohio), St Louis City
- Immanuel 646 North Watson Rd. Crestwood
- Our Redeemer 8551 Brinker Ave. Affton
- Salem Evangelical Lutheran 5825 Parker Rd, Black Jack
- St. John 255 Reinke Rd, Ballwin
- St. John, New 500 Carmel Woods Dr., Ballwin
- St. John, Old Reinke Rd, Ellisville
- St. Paul 921 North Ballas Road, Des Peres
- St. Paul Old Eatherton Rd, Wildwood
- St. Trinity 2160 Lemay Ferry Rd., Affton.
- Trinity Ohio and Miami St, St Louis City
- Trinity 14088 Clayton Road, Town & Country
- Western Evangelical Lutheran Marcus and Lexington Streets.
- Will 4209 Bates Ave. St. Louis
- Zion Lutheran 12075 Dorsett Rd., Maryland Heights