

trip out of this walk by returning to the bay area by walking east along this north shore, then picking up the Gull Point Trail which will take you back to the Crescent Bay shoreline. The one stumbling block to this return is finding the trailhead of the Gull Point Trail, for at this writing there is no sign and it is easy to miss it and walk into the restricted nesting site zone.

TRAIL DESCRIPTION. Heading straight north on Ohio Road from Point C the level road is easy to follow to the cemetery since it is included in the motorized island tour. Still surrounded by open fields and out of sight of open water this cemetery fits in well with the serenity of the island's interior. Those familiar with island history will see many familiar family names and stories about them could fill a whole book. For brevity's sake, I will include only a few.

When walking through the gate, the row of graves immediately to the left are those of the descendants of the first German immigrant settler on the island, George Johann Hutzler. The history of this family is beautifully told in Myron Vent's book "South Manitou Island." The farthest grave on the far left of the front Hutzler row is that of John Hutzler, the second youngest son of George Johann, and the last of this branch of the Hutzler family to actively farm on the island. His house, which you may pass on the way to Popple Campground, is just a few minutes walk from here. Immediately to the right are the graves of the Burdick family who were the first to settle on the island. The second grave in from the cemetery's center path is that of Private Andrew Burdick. He was the brother of James Burdick, who served as the keeper of the Manitou Light for 27 years. When I first saw that his death date was 1918, the last year of World War One, I wondered if he had possibly been killed in the trenches in France or by the terrible flu epidemic of that year. I later found out that he had not gone to France but was with a contingent of American servicemen sent to Russia to support the White Russians during the Russian Revolution. He died of pneumonia in the north Russian port city of Archangel. One night, his mother and sisters thought they heard the schoolbell ringing, but could not find a reason why, or by whom it was sounded. The following day, they received the telegram informing them of his death the previous day. His nephew, Fred, who is the son of James Burdick the long-time lighthouse keeper, was active in promoting the island as a summer vacation area right up to the time that it became part of the National Lakeshore. Fred also plans to be buried in the cemetery, for his large double gravestone is already in place further down the lane on the left, where his first wife now rests.

The second row of graves on the left side bear the name Haas and the third row on the right side of the path holds the Becks. They were of two of the important German immigrant farming families on the island. You will pass the original sites of their farms if you take the walk that heads west from Point C.

Directly behind the Becks are three graves of a family named Furst. Oswald Furst was a retired bookbinder, who came to the island from Chicago with his wife and children sometime around the turn of the century. Their daughter died when she was in her 20s, and is thought to be the first person buried in this cemetery. Her parents lived to advanced ages, the old bookbinder living into his ninetieth year. As a young man growing up in Germany, he trained for the priesthood, but decided that the religious life was not for him, so he learned the bookbinding trade. Because of his theological background, he was often called upon to perform funeral services on the island. His son, Martin, entered the lifesaving service and served briefly as the keeper of the South Manitou Station. Unfortunately, he died of a burst



Bertha Peth. Photo taken about the time of her marriage to John Hutzler



A youthful George Grovesnor delivering mail to Bertha Peth in 1946

appendix when was still a young man, but he lived long enough to marry and have three children. They spent their early years on North Manitou Island where their stepfather, Ernest Hutzler, was lighthouse keeper. Oswald Furst's grandson, Glenn recently retired from the Coast Guard after a long and fruitful career.

To the left of the Beck row lies the only member of the other branch of the Hutzler family to be buried in this cemetery. Josie Hutzler was the wife of George C. Hutzler and mother of Louis. This father and son team brought a sizeable amount of agricultural glory to the island with their prizewinning seed crops of Rosen Rye and Michelite beans. The ribbons they won are now on display in the island museum. You will pass their former farmhouse and barns on the walk going west of Point C.

This home of the George C. Hutzler family is linked to another grave found on the right side of the path, two rows behind the Becks. It was the boyhood home of Ronald Riker, the youngest son of the last active farmer on the island. Ronald drowned while swimming at the wreck of the ship Francisco Morazon which lies on a shoal south of the island (See Shipwreck on Hikes from Point B.)

Immediately to the right of Ronald's grave there is another recent one that aroused my attention when I first saw it, but the name Wayne Shirk meant nothing to me then. Quite by accident, I later met the young man's mother on Beaver Island, where she now lives. Doris