Deutsche Bisch Methodist Kirche Cemetery
(From Folder # R-29)
Entered on computer by S. Connie Halbur, February 17, 2005

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[The note at the end of this data states, "Copied by Jean R. and Burt Rentmeister, Ruth Worthing. German transcribed by Nicholas J. Kuiper on Oct. 28, 1978."]

Translation of the German was done by S. Connie Halbur. The following is a translation of the German terms which are used frequently in the data:
geb = short for geboren, meaning born
gest = short for gestorben, meaning died
alter = age
Gattin = wife of
Sohn = son; Sohn von = son of
Tochter = daughter; Tochter von = daughter of
Mo. = Monate = months
T. = abbreviation for "Tage", i.e., "days"
Occasionally there are other terms. I will put the translation in brackets and italics after these terms. However, I have not included translations of poetry found on the headstones.
*The term "**Sic**" means copied as it was on the headstones or the document, even though it appears to be wrong.]*

Located in the Town of Ashford, Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin, in Section 27. Reached by taking the grassy lane (old County W) north of County Road W between County BB north and County BB south. The cemetery has recently been cleaned by the Wisconsin State Old Cemetery Society (done 28 Oct., 1978) so all stones remaining have been copied.

History: The church was built in 1866, but the land was not transferred until 1871 when Christian and Elsbetha Senn sold it to the trustees of the German Methodist Episcopal Church Farmington and Rock River Mission. The stone arch over the doorway reads: DEUTSCHE BISCH METHODIST KIRCHE ERBAUT 1866 *[German Bisch Methodist Church built 1866].* The first minister was Heinrich Senn who was sent as a missionary to the Indians by the rock River Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church (the present name is United Methodist Church). The settlement was composed of a group that came from Buchs in the Canton of St. Gallen, Switzerland, around 1848. The stones are not in rows.
Copied June 20, 1976

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Guntley, Ulrich, geb 24 Dec. 1809 – gest 24 Jan. 1895
Guntley, Ursula, Gattin von U. *[Ulrich]*, geb 29 August 1816 – gest 7 Dec. 1896
Senn, Anna, Nov. 13, 1843 – May 30, 1928
Senn, John, March 9, 1825 – July 28, 1885

(large granite monument on west edge of cemetery)

Klund, Wilhelm W. *[Wilhelm is German for William.]* sohn von C. & K.,
        geb 19 Juni, 1857 – gest 1 Marz *[March]*, 1893   Footstone: Wilhelm

Klund, Christoph, geb 6, July, 1831 – gest 1 July, 1912

Klund, Chatharena *[Sic]* geb Senn, geb 30 August, 1829 – gest 19 Juni *[June]*, 1891

Senn, Barbara, tochter von W. & B., gestorben Dec. 18, 1875, alter 26

Senn, Wolfgang, 1801 – 1880

Senn, Barbara, 1812 – 1894

Lay, Edwin A., sohn von J. & A. Ch. Lay (stone broken here); geb 25 April, 1877 –
        gest 27 Aug., 1878

----- Foot stones: C.W.K. and J.K.

Senn, A. (no dates)

Sum (Zunn), Stone reads: Andenken an Rev. Heinrich Senn mitglied den Deutschen
        N.W. Conf. Der bisch Methodisten Kirche geb 15 Sept., 1819 zu Altendorf,
        Schweitz,- gest 21 Sept., 1866, in town Ashford, Wisc. Im 14 ten Jahr Zernes
        Predigamts

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        von seinen Brüdern im Amt. ausinniger Liebe gewidmet

        Die Lehrer aber werden leuchten
        Wie es des Himmels glanz u;die so
        Viele zur Gerechtigkeit wiesen,
        Wie die Sterne immer u. Ewiglich
                Daniel 12,4

        This translates as "In memory of Rev. Henry Senn, member of the
        German N.W. Conference of the _____ Methodist Church, born 15 Sept., 1819
        in Altendorf, Switzerland. Died 21 Sept., 1866, in town Ashford, Wisconsin. In his
        14th year as pastor." The latter phrase posed a slight translation problem; the
        word "Zernes" probably should be "seines", meaning "his". I do not know the
        translation of "bisch" (above, before the word Methodist).   After the dividing
        line: "Inscribed by his brothers in [ministry?], with heartfelt love" [Poem
        follows]

Senn, Elsbet, (Gewidmet von) *[Possibly this person wrote the inscription, i.e. in this*
        case, the poem.]

Senn, Anna, geb 1 Sept. 1793 – gest 4 Mai *[May]*, 1869

Senn, Johannes, geb 24 Mai, 1796 – gest 31 Oct., 1876

Senn, Christian, geb 1 April, 1820 – gest 9th Aug., 1894
        Inscription on other side as follows:
        Er schied hinüber/ in das ew'ge Licht/ Sein Wirken Blutt/ Erinnerüng schwindet
            nicht.

Senn, Andreas, geb den 28 Aug., 1827 – gest den 7 Maertz *[the 7th of March],* 1879

Flater, Jacob, geb 28 Juni, 1843 – gest 9 Juni, 1895

Flater, Magdalena, geb 22 Feb., 1848 – gest 25 Juni, 1900

Senn, Johann, geb in St. Gallen Schweiz *[Switzerland]*, 9 Mai, 1825 – gest 28 Juli, 1885
        Note *[written by Rentmeister & Worthing]: This stone is laying along the west*
        wall of the church.

Lay, Sophia K., Tochter von Jakob & A. Christina Lay, geb 4 Feb., 1869 – gest 24 Feb.,
        1886
Lay, Marie C., Tochter von Jakob & A. Christina, geb 19 juni, 1873 – gest 17 April, 1874
Senn, *Stone broken and begins: C. & E. Senn – geb den 2 April, 1854 – gest den 14*
        Oct.1875. (laying flat on ground at base of tree near west edge of cemetery near
        farmer's field)
__nn, Tochter von *[stone broken here and part missing]* 20 Jahre 9 Mon 11 Tage *[This*
        stone is beside the one above lying flat on the ground, top and bottom section
        together, with center missing.]
Mintener, Anna, geboren SCHWENDENER, geb 2 Jan., 1810 – gest 8 April, 1856
Mintener, Joh. *[Short for Jahannes, or simply Johann]* geb 19 Okt. 1813 –
        gest 20 Dec., 1891
Pulaske, Kate (mother), 1849-1891
Schmitt, Thomas A., geb 21 Dec., 1859 – gest 30 Feb. (sic), 1883
Muehlius, Franz F. geb 17 Mai, 1820 – gest 17 April, 1888
Senn, Louisa, tochter von C. & E., gestorben Juli 4, 1863, alter 11 mo. 26 T. *[Tage]*

German inscription at the base of one stone with the name gone:
        Der Tod Zerrisz Dein Areures Leben
        Und underbrach Dein zastlos Streben
        Für all' der DeinenWohlergeh'n
        Du wirst beweint von Gatte, Kindern
        Nur das kann unsern Schmerz
        Hier ändern.

All that remains of the church at the present time *[1978]* is the outside shell which is built
of field stone.

Copied by Jean R. and Burt Rentmeister
                Ruth Worthing
German transcribed *[from headstones]* by Nicholas J. Kuiper on Oct. 28, 1978