

GERMAN UNION CEMETERY
THREE-GENERATION GENEALOGY

Created By: Ronald R. Prinzing

UPDATED: August 13, 2014

Surname: **MEYERS** Married Name: **SIEMERS (HENRY SR.)**
Name: **MARGARETHA (MARGARET)** Interred Name: **SEIMERS**
Middle Name If Any: **MARY**
Gender: **FEMALE**
Date of Birth: **JUNE 23, 1844**
Place of Birth: **GERMANY**
Date of Death: **DECEMBER 13, 1919**
Place of Death: **FOREST TOWNSHIP – RICE COUNTY – MINNESOTA**
Place of Burial: **GERMAN UNION CEMETERY – FOREST TOWNSHIP – RICE COUNTY – MINNESOTA** Plot Number: **47f**

Father:
Date of Birth:
Place of Birth:
Date of Death:
Place of Death:
Place of Burial:

Mother: **ANNA FROTHINGHAM**
Date of Birth:
Place of Birth:
Date of Death:
Place of Death:
Place of Burial:

Married Name: **MEYERS**

Marital Status: **MARRIED** Date:
1. **HENRY R. SIEMERS SR.** born: AUGUST 27, 1838 in HANOVER, GERMANY

Children:
1. **FRIEDRICH SIEMERS** born: MAY 10, 1864 in GERMANY
2. **HENRY SIEMERS** born: 1866 in GERMANY
3. **LENA S. SIEMERS** born: 1873 in GERMANY
4. **DEDERICK SIEMERS** born: DECEMBER 18, 1871 in GERMANY
5. **LOUISE CHRISTINE SEIMERS** born: DECEMBER 23, 1879
6. **WILLIAM SIEMERS** born: DECEMBER 1875
7. **JOSEPH SIEMERS** born: AUGUST 1882

NOTE: The Burial – Removal – Transit Permit shows the place of burial to be ST. JOHN'S CEMETRY which is the same as GERMAN UNION CEMETERY – FOREST TOWNSHIP – RICE COUNTY – MINNESOTA. St. John's Church, before its demise, was located nearby and the cemetery was sometimes referred to as ST. JOHN'S CEMETERY.

SIEMERS, MARGARETHA (MARGARET) MARY. NEE: MEYERS

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BIOGRAPHY

Last Name: SIEMERS

First Name: MARGARETHA

Middle Name or Initial:

News Paper:

Date:

BOOK - RICE COUNTY FAMILIES. PUB. 1981 Henry and Margaret Siemers. Heinrich R. (Henry) and Margaretha (Margaret) Mary (Meyers) Siemers, emigrated from Hanover, Germany, to Forest Township in 1872. It is said that they came from wealthy parentage and left all behind. It was the family's hopes to return to Germany in the later years and claim their rightful wealth, but all hopes and dreams were eventually put aside and never realized. Like many German emigrants, Henry supposedly left his homeland so that he would not be drafted into the Germany army. Henry and Margaret had 4 children born in Germany, who came to America with them, namely: Fred, Henry, Lena (married Favro) and Dedrick. Margaret's blind mother, Anna (Fronthingham) Meyers, also came with them. It is said that she always felt bad that she could not be of more help to her daughter, Margaret, that all she felt she could do was sit and hold a baby. (Two of her grandchildren were named after her: Mary Anna, born 1873 (did not live) and Anna Bell (Prinzing) born March 16, 1884.) Margaret's mother died November 1891 at the age of 84, she is believed to be the first burial in the German Union Cemetery in Forest Township as the original date of the cemetery is 1891. The cemetery is located on County Road 61 just a short distance from the former farmhouse of Henry Siemers and upon the boundary line of the Siemers and Evert property. The death of Margaret's mother could have been the reason for starting the German Union Cemetery on the Siemers property. It is believed that the Siemers family left Germany from the city of Bremen and they made the long, difficult voyage across the ocean by steerage, that section of the ship occupied by the passengers paying the lowest fare. Dedrick, a small infant, became very ill on the voyage and the parents worried for fear he would die and they would have to bury him at sea. His sister, Lena, about 2 years old, clutched a doll during the entire trip and still had it when they reached their destination. Upon their arrival in America, the family went directly to Bridgewater Township where they made their home for a time with Adelaide (Meyers) Albers, an aunt of Margaret's, being her father's sister. Eventually, Henry and Margaret, with their children and Margaret's mother, rented an 80-acre farm one mile east of Millersburg. In later years this farm was known as the "Henry Clute Farm." Sometime prior to 1900 Henry Siemers purchased his first farmland. It consisted of 160 acres in section 18. (The present owner of this land is Mr. Novotny.) An additional 100 acres was purchased in section 18. The 1899 Rice County Director stated that Henry Siemers owned 262 acres in section 18, valued at \$3,494. The post office address was then Lester. Between the years of 1873 and 1884, 9 more children were born to Henry and Margaret, but only 5 survived. They were named Sophia (Mrs. Joe (Fick) Lepeska), William, Louise (Mrs. Albert Dierking), Joseph and Anna (Mrs. Eng Jacob A. Prinzing.) Margaret Siemers had been a midwife in Germany and continued to be one after

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coming to America, driving a team of fast ponies with a fancy rig and going all over the countryside to help with deliveries. At one time she was baking bread when someone needed her services, so she took the bread, which was in the process of raising, with her in the buggy rig and baked it in the house while caring for the mother-to-be. Following Henry's death in 1904, Margaret remained on the farm and with her sons, built up a substantial estate. If not working in the fields herself, pitching hay and shocking grain, she would take a hot meal out to the men. Sometimes she would take out pancakes which her daughter, Anna, had made. Anna (Annie Prinzing) was famous for her delicious thin pancakes, making them so large they covered a plate. (The delicious thin pancakes are prepared to this day by granddaughters and great-granddaughters.) An amusing story is that one time Annie, just a little girl, baked some bread, and her mother, breaking off a piece, eating it, and not liking it, said to her daughter, "Awna, Awna, I'd die by this bread." The Siemers daughters had worked for the wealthy Grant family in Faribault as did their brother, Dedrick. He drove the horses and did yard work for the family. Margaret died at the home of her daughter, Anna Prinzing, on December 13, 1919. There was so much snow on the ground that it was necessary to take the casket by sled to the German Union Cemetery where she was interred next to her husband, Henry.

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PLACE OF DEATH
County..... *Rice*
Township..... *Forest*
OR
Village.....
OR
City.....

STATE OF MINNESOTA
REGISTRAR'S

No..... *313*

Permit for Burial or Removal

Date of Death..... *Dec 13* 19*19*
Full Name..... *Margaret Siemers* Age..... *76* yrs.
Sex..... *Female* Place of Birth..... *Germany*
Disease causing death.....
Medical }
attendant } *Phillipo* Proposed date of }
burial or removal } *Dec 16 1919*
Place of Burial..... *St Johns Cem*
Place of removal..... via.....
Undertaker..... *J McQuitty* Address..... *Fruitau*

A certificate of death having been filed in my office in accordance with the laws of Minnesota, I hereby authorize the..... of the body (Burial or Removal*) of said deceased person as stated above. In case of death from a dangerous communicable disease, the burial or removal must be conducted according to the rules of the State and local board of health.

Dated..... *Dec 15* 19*19*..... *J McQuitty* (Registrar of Deaths) License # *343*

Official Title
*Write "Burial" or "Removal" as the case may be. Burial permits must be delivered by the Undertaker to the Sexton. Removal permits must be given to the Agent of Transportation Company, and attached by him to box containing body. Subregistrars will write "Sub" before the words "Registrar of Deaths" and "Licensed Embalmer No....." below, always giving No. of License. Fine or imprisonment for receiving a body for burial without permit.

Received..... 19..... Sexton

Name of Cemetery..... Address.....

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SIEMERS FAMILY MARKER