

Boothe Cemetery

By Dave Hallemann



This family cemetery with its many fieldstones is located in T39 R5 S16 NW¼ of the NE ¼.

38° 6' 4" N / 90° 28' 38" W

The cemetery is named for Robert M. Boothe who first purchased the tract where the cemetery is located, from the state of Missouri, on June 1st, 1854, containing 40 acres for \$2.10 per

acre, encompassing "...Lot 1 of T39 R5 S16..." as recorded in Book U Page 46.

Ownership of this tract is shown in the 1876 Historic Atlas and the 1898 Standard Atlas as belonging to R. M. Boothe. Note that various documents list the name as both Booth and Boothe. Boothe is the correct spelling however there is a family with the name of Booth in the Hillsboro area.

The tract is shown in Book 2 of Original entries as School Lands. When the United States Government surveyed the land after Missouri became a State, section 16 of each township was set aside for the use of schools and given to the State. A school could be built within the section or the land within the section could be sold and the money use for school purposes, thus the reason it was first purchased from the State of Missouri.

Searching Probate records the following tragic episode came to light. Recorded in Probate file #3440 dated February 29th, 1912, a jury was summoned to inquire into the sanity of R. M. Boothe. The verdict was R. M. Boothe was found to be of unsound mind and incapable of managing his affairs, signed by the jury. Doctor stated that he is insane and confined in State Hospital #4 at Farmington, Mo., and was 90 years of age. His son Arthur and wife Sophie posted bond in the amount of \$9000.⁰⁰ and J. M. Fischer was appointed guardian. At a hearing on March 5th, 1912, Arthur, testifies that R. M. Boothe cannot be safely brought to court because he is dangerous and violent. R. M. Boothe died in Farmington Hospital and Land & Bro., Manufacturing and Mercantile Co., undertakers, prepared his body for shipping, and shipped to Coxwell & Sons Funeral Parlor of De Soto for burial on the Boothe Farm, April 12, 1912. Cause of death was pneumonia.

Recorded in Probate Case #3617, heirs of Robert M. Boothe are listed as Ann, Jefferson County; Arthur, St. Genevieve County; George F., Pettis County; Susan, San Francisco, California; Belle (Isabelle) Fischer, Jefferson County; Florence Reddick, Macon County; Emeline St. Clair, California; Jessie Boothe, Jefferson County. Sophia and Arthur were appointed Administrators.

At the time of Sophia's death on April 2nd, 1916, Probate Case #4165 list her heirs as the same as above with these noted exceptions; now Susan Yarrows of Los Angeles, California; Florence Reddick has now moved to St. Louis; now Jessie Bauer of Jefferson County; Robert Boothe of Jefferson County; Adie Larmore. R. Coxwell & Sons submitted a bill for \$151.05 on April 28th, 1916 for funeral services. Recording that Sophia was 73 yrs, 3 mo, 16 days, died of Chronic nephritis, and was buried on the Boothe farm in their records.

Recorded in Book 81 Page 373, dated August 28th, 1916, we find a Deed of Partition where the property was divided among the heirs of R. M. Boothe, with Robert Boothe receiving the N1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 16, the tract that the cemetery is located upon. According to the stipulations in the deed, Robert agreed to pay the Peoples Bank of De Soto \$338.85 for the land he received. Robert is also listed as the guardian of Ann Boothe.

In Book 92 at Page 597, Raymond H. Brady, Sheriff of Jefferson County, sells the N 1/2 of the NE 1/4 Section 16 for George Mahn, Trustee of the Peoples Bank of De Soto, for default of a loan by Robert Boothe, a single person, recorded in Book 52 Page 398, at the Post Office door in De Soto, Mo. on January 14, 1922. The Peoples Bank of De Soto being the highest bidder for \$600.⁰⁰.

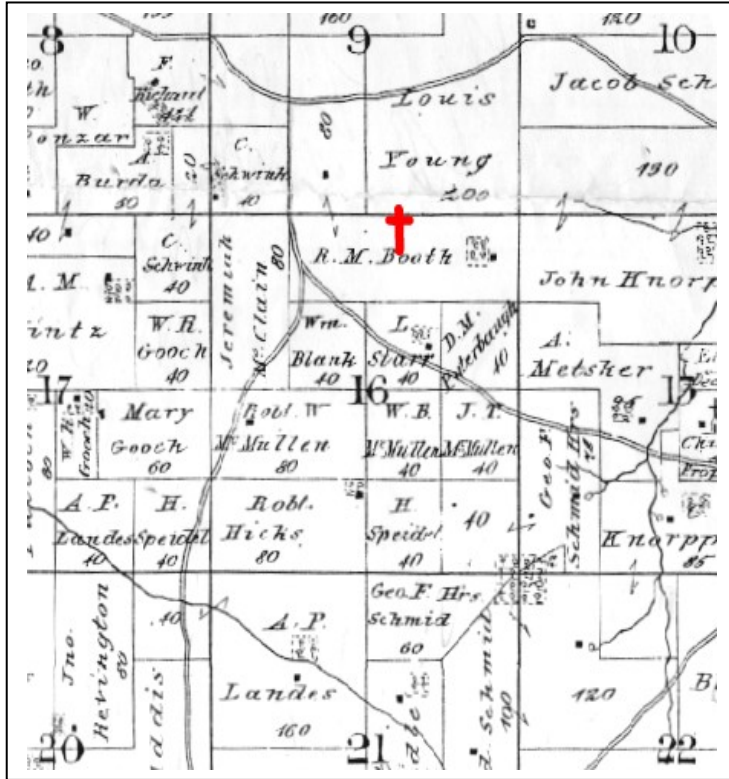
At some point in time after The Peoples Bank of De Soto became owner of the tract, the business dissolved. Frank Dietrich was appointed Special Commissioner in charge of the affairs of the defunct Peoples Bank of De Soto, and sold to Ada Boothe Larmore, for \$1600.⁰⁰ the N 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 16, on September 22nd, 1927, recorded in Book 106 at Page 531.

Here I lose track of ownership. With the death of Adaline Larmore who died in 1963, it was *probably* transferred through probate to her heirs.

In a deed recorded April 16th, 1965, W. E. Hanson and Adeline Roberta, his wife, and Edna Louisa Johnson and Robert her husband, and Virginia Ethel Larmore, a single person, sell to Alfred W. Wagner and Florence R. his wife, "...all of Lots 1, 2, 3, 4 of Section 16, Township 39 Range 5, containing 160 acres...less cemetery and 30 foot easement of roadway to cemetery, which may be used by purchasers."

I talked to Howard Wagner, son of Alfred Wagner above, Circuit Court Clerk of Jefferson County, who grew up on this farm and knew the Larmore's and the Hanson's, confirming that they were indeed related to the Boothe's.

We can thus assess the "Official" name of the cemetery as Boothe Cemetery.



As can be seen in the picture at left, in 1876 the R. M. Booth (*sic*) is in possession of the property. The cross I added to the photo to denote the location of this graveyard.

Section 16 of all townships was set aside by the State for School Lands. When parts were sold the proceeds went to the school for funds or the school could use the land to build upon.

In 1898 R. M. Boothe is owner of this tract and adjoining lands. As before I added the cross to show location of this cemetery.

Also in this photo can be seen the church and further north the cemetery in section nine. This land was donated by Robert and Sophronia Boothe to the German Evangelical Church Society and will appear in another article.



The following persons are listed on the monument in this cemetery.



Boothe

Robert M.

1822-1912

Saphronia

1842-1916



Anne Boothe

1861 - 1942



Larmore

Adeline

1884 - 1963

Grant

1887 - 1955

Hanson

Adline R.

1914 - 1969

William E.

1905 - 1971





Possible Fieldstone Marker
Against Tree



Granite Blocks
Used for Footstones

Funeral Parlor Tag



Monument Base



Coxwell Funeral Parlor Records show;
BOOTHE, Sophronia, 4-2-1916, 73 yrs, 3 mo, 16 days, Boothe; Farm Cem, Chronic nephritis
BOOTHE, R.M., 4-19-1912, 90 yrs., On Boothe farm;, Pneumonia

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