

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH
AND CEMETARY
1872 TO 1997



COMPILED BY

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PLEASE NOTE

A portion of the accompanying history of Guardian Angel Church is based on information gathered during genealogical research by the author. Thomas Andrew Easley (formerly of New Braunfels , Texas and recently living in Kansas) provided further background information. A few years ago , a Marie Wilson of Slate Lick provided the author a preliminary write-up on Guardian Angel Church which spurred the author's interest in an expanded version.

Primary sources of information on Guardian Angel Church are very sparse. Thus, much of the information is from secondary sources. Such sources include County Histories as those of Smith, Beers and Wiley for Armstrong County. The History of the Diocese of Pittsburgh by Rev Andrew Arnold Lambing is very informative. An 1888 publication commemorating the centennial of Slate Lick, Pa is especially informative on the first 15 years of Guardian Angel Church. Court House records provided information on land deeds, probated wills, and marriage licenses. Family bibles, personal ledgers and oral history provided other information. And the local Kittanning newspaper files offer information on weddings and funerals.

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

FOREWARD

The layman initiator for establishing the Guardian Angel Church and Cemetary at Slate Lick, Armstrong County, Pennsylvania was Casper W Easley, Sr who homesteaded on the surrounding land about the year 1800 - the year Armstrong County was established from parts of Westmoreland County, Allegheny County and other lands North and West, with Kittanning as County Seat.

Casper was born in York County in 1760 when Pennsylvania was a Colony of England. A few priests of the then disbanded Order of Jesuits had established primitive living quarters and a place for worship in the York area known as Conewago Chapel. Under English law at the time, no Catholic Church could be erected in the Pennsylvania Colony; however, Catholic meeting houses and Catholic Chapels were allowed. On the site of Conewago Chapel, Sacred Heart Basilica, erected in 1787, stands today in the vicinity of Abbotstown, Hanover and McSherrystown. It is west of Interstate I-83 and east of U S Route 15 and only a few miles north of the Maryland/Pennsylvania border. The Basilica is a massive stone structure. It probably seats over 1000 worshippers, with a large cemetary adjoining. It is otherwise surrounded by rural farm land.

Casper was the oldest son of immigrants Magdalen Rooker and Blassius Isele who landed at the port of Philadelphia in 1751. The Continental pronounciation of "Isele" closely approximates the English pronounciation of "Easley". Accordingly, the latter spelling appeared most often on official documents prepared by English-speaking officials.

Blassius and Magdalen had three sons; Casper, above, Andrew, born 1762, and Ferdinand, born 1768. They had five daughters; Mary, born 1752 (married John Shields), Barbara (married John Black), Christina (married James Murphy), Magdalen (married Christian Ruffner), and Rebecca (married John Kelly). Mary Easley Shields was the great-grandmother of Rev. Andrew Arnold Lambing, who was pastor of St Marys Parish in Kittanning, PA during the initial construction of Guardian Angel Church in 1872.

Casper Easley saw active military service with the Cumberland County militia at Sunbury, PA, (Fort Augusta) in September 1779, during the American Revolution. Due to this service, Casper became entitled to lands in Western Pennsylvania, and a part of this land was eventually donated for the use of Guardian Angel Church and Cemetary.

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

IMMIGRANTS GETTING ACCLIMATED

Catholics living in English Colonial Pennsylvania enjoyed some privileges as guests of Quaker William Penn and his descendants. The Quakers accepted people of all religious beliefs and seemed to impose no restrictions on a person's means of earning a living. Politically, however, some restrictions existed for Catholic inhabitants. The only citizenship available was that of England. Without citizenship, one could not vote, hold public office, or own property. One of the requirements for English citizenship was a verified and witnessed reception of the Lord's Supper in a Protestant Church. Blassius and Magdalen were listed among immigrants from Germany, Switzerland, Holland, France and other countries when they landed at Philadelphia in 1751. Since Blassius's signature was in old German Script it is likely that he and Magdalen retained some German culture and a practice then among German Settlers was to become squatters on frontier strips of land. This would avoid the problem of land ownership for Catholics.

After the Declaration of Independence, many of the restrictive practices were eased and Blassius soon appeared on tax lists paying taxes on land as well as on cattle. Blassius, however, did not live many months after the Treaty of Paris was signed on September 3, 1783 to end the American Revolution. Since Blassius died without a will, Intestate, early in 1784; Casper, as oldest son, and Magdalen, his widowed mother became Coadministrators of the property in Cumberland County on May 18, 1784. Approximately six years was required in getting letters Patent granted on the property in the name of Casper and Magdalen Easley and another two years was required to sell the property to a Joseph Kelly and recover the costs involved in settling the estate.

With the family homestead disposed of in Cumberland County, Casper and his brothers Andrew and Ferdinand and their mother Magdalen needed to find a new place to live. Conewago Chapel in neighboring York County had likely been serving their religious needs up to this time; and with the construction of Sacred Heart Basilica in 1787 it was probably a hard decision to pull up stakes and move westward. In perspective the United States population at the time of the Treaty of Paris, September 3, 1783, was about 4,000,000. Of these only about 25,000 were Roman Catholic - less than one percent. About 16,000 of these Catholics lived in Maryland and about 7,000 lived in Pennsylvania. Serving them were 19 priests in Maryland and 5 priests in Pennsylvania. In those days, priests were very mobile and needed to travel great distances to visit Catholics in isolated settlements in the mountainous and western part of the state. But it appears that connections with Conewago Chapel provided Casper, his brothers and his mother the inducement to move about 200 miles west about 1792.

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

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MOVING WESTWARD

About four years before the sale of the homestead in Cumberland County, 6 Catholic families left a Catholic settlement in Berks County to travel 250 miles west to Westmoreland County to start a settlement near Greensburg, PA. The family heads were; John Probst, John Young, Patrick Archibald, Simon Ruffner, Christian Ruffner and George Ruffner. The Catholic Settlement that they left was known as Goshenhoppen (now Bally, PA). It had been founded by a Father Schneider, a German Jesuit, and its location is about 15 miles south of Allentown, PA.

The six families acquired land in Greensburg and began to build a log church there. The church was not completed. However, a Father Theodoras Browsers, a native of Holland and a missionary priest in the West Indies, had requested a transfer to western Pennsylvania. He arrived in the Greensburg area about December 1789 with appreciable baggage and personal resources sufficient to buy property and erect a house of worship. Father Browsers stayed with Christian Ruffner during 1789-1790 winter.

In the Spring, a Mr Henry Kuhn - a later arrival from the Goshenhoppen Settlement - urged Father Browsers to purchase Sportsman's Hall and surrounding property from a Joseph Hunter of Harrisburg, for 475 pounds. This is the present site of St. Vincent's College. The land area consisted of 313 acres with soil of high quality. The area was about seven miles East of Greensburg, PA. Here Father Browsers hired a carpenter to construct a building 17 feet square and one and a half stories high. The property purchase date was April 16, 1790. Even after the house was built, Father Browsers continued to travel to offer mass at Christian Ruffner's house on Sundays. Unfortunately, Father Browsers health failed him and he died before the end of the year. His will had been somewhat hastily written and possibly influenced by the priest who hoped to succeed him.

Much dissention arose at the Sportsman's Hall settlement over the next eight years as a result of the Father Brower's Will. Casper Easley and Magdalen Easley, his widowed mother, appear in hindsight, to have been deeply involved in the wrong side of the dissention. From a copy of Father Fromm's will it appears that Casper Easley contracted with Father Fromm on August 15, 1793 to work the farm for seven years on a share-crop basis of one third to the priest and two thirds to Casper. From the same will it appears that Father Fromm had hired the widow Magdalen, Casper's mother, as his housekeeper. Whatever Father Fromm did at Sportsman's Hall settlement, does not seem to include much permanent record keeping.

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

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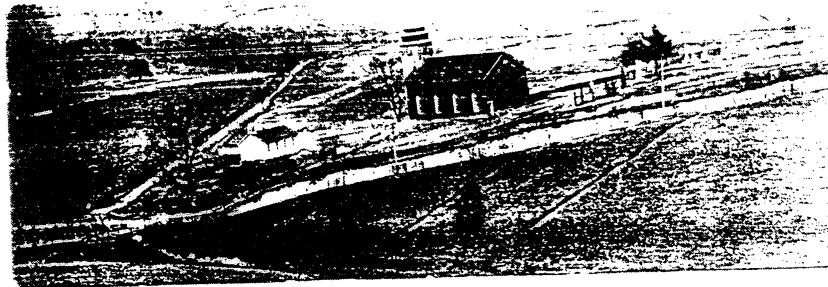
MOVING WESTWARD (CONT)

According to a write-up in the Nov 16, 1894 issue of the Johnstown Tribune, Casper Easley was said to have married Elizabeth Ruffner at St Vincents (Latrobe PA). This could have been anytime between 1793 and 1799. The Church records of St Vincents are rather complete beginning with 1800. A note on Father Brower's Will stated that the case was at Dec term 1798 Common Pleas . It was captioned "The Lessee of the Executors etc of Theodore Browers, Dec'd vs Franciscus Fromm, Tenant" John Tracy Ellis's book "The English Missions" states that Father Francis Fromm left Greensburg area for Philadelphia in 1798 and died in Philadelphia during a Yellow Fever Epidemic. The 1800 U S Census for Philadelphia County lists a "Widow Easley" who might be Mary Magdalen Easley.

Casper Easley might have left the Greensburg area as early as 1798 when Father Fromm departed. Casper is listed as a Warrantee of land in Armstrong County of 400 acres surveyed June 29, 1801. Casper is also listed in the 1800 U S Census as living in Armstrong County, Buffalo Twp. The family consisted of; one male under 10, one male between 16 and 26, and one male between 26 and 45, plus one female under 10 and one female between 16 and 26. At this time, Casper was 40 and Elizabeth his wife was about 19.

Casper's travel from Greensburg to the Kittanning area of Pennsylvania was probably more strenuous than the longer trip from Cumberland County to Greensburg. The earlier voyage mostly followed "Forbes Road" (U S 30) which was built during the Revolutionary War for horse-drawn wagon traffic to go as far as Fort Duquesne (Pittsburgh). From Greensburg To Kittanning, the easiest route might have been by way of Pittsburgh and up the Allegheny by boat. In 1800, Armstrong County was newly established with few resources for public works such as roadways and bridges over rivers. Most of the land was heavily forested and most crosscountry roads were but Indian trails, not always straight, and likely cleared only sufficiently for riders on horseback to proceed in single file (Indian Style). Despite this, it appears that Casper and family did travel back to St. Vincents a time or two to have children baptized.

The alternative to such trips was for an itinerant priest to visit the families. Father Lambing described such a priest traveling alone on horseback, eating cold boiled potatoes while sitting under a tree in a forest, sleeping on the ground and carrying all his belongings; including eucharistic bread and wine, vestments and other clothing in two saddle bags attached to the horse's saddle.



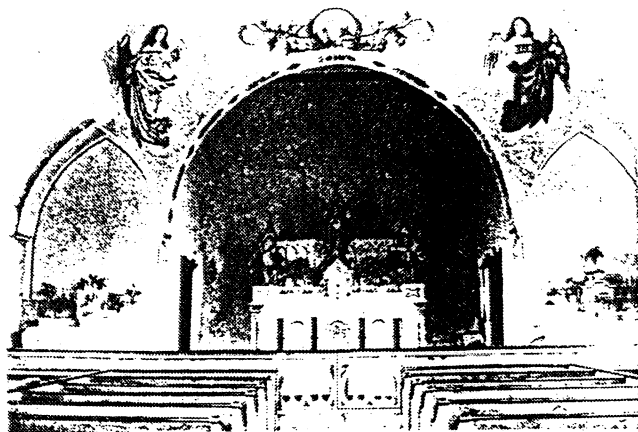
AERIAL VIEW OF GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH



FATHER BENNO PHOTOGRAPHER



FATHER BENNO ASTRONOMER



**GUARDIAN ANGEL MURALS
FLANKING MAIN ALTAR
LIKELY PAINTED BY
FATHER BENNO**

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUANDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

HOMESTEADING IN THE WILDERNESS

Once settled in Armstrong County, Casper faced the tasks of clearing land for crops, erecting housing for a growing family providing shelter for farm animals and for their food and otherwise providing for his family. Several clues indicate that Casper was a competent carpenter along with other skills. Beer's History of Armstrong County, page 293, states that the first sawmill constructed in the North Buffalo Township area was that of Casper Easley on Nicholson's Run, just north of the present village of Slate Lick and near the line of South Buffalo Township. As the circular saw had not been invented at that time, Casper's mill must have used a vertically mounted straight blade mounted in a wooden frame that moved up and down in a window sash arrangement operated by water power. Another clue is that two of Casper's sons, George W. and Samuel Sylvester served apprenticeships and got involved in contracting - George in the Johnstown area and Samuel in the Pittsburgh area. Another clue is that The Vandue List for Casper's Estate included such carpenter tools as: "cumpus", "frow", broad ax, crosscut saw, barrel hoop clamp, gimlet (and several barrels). Finally, Casper's nephew, William Easley (son of Andrew) died from a fall from a barn roof according to family tradition. Having learned to build barns and timber framed houses might have induced Casper Sr. to seek property with water power potential and build a mill to provide the raw materials for his own trade.

In 1801, a Father Lanigen visited a colony of Catholics who had settled in the Butler County area about five years previously and he performed baptisms. Rev Peter Helbron, pastor at Sportsman's Hall, Greensburg visited the area in 1803 and performed baptisms. In the same year, a Mr. Conrad Rogers sent a petition to Rt. Rev Bishop Carrol from Catholics of Butler and Armstrong County requesting that a priest be sent to serve them. He listed as heads of families to help support such a priest: Thomas Dugan, John Forquer, John Dugan, John Gillespie, Charles Duffy, Robert Harkins, Neal Dugan, Patrick McLaughlin, Michael Dugan, Dennis Donnel, Patrick Doyle, Owen Quinn, Michael Read, Encar McBride, Gasper Easly, Andrew Easly, Patrick McCue, Columbus McGinnlly, William Shields, John Coyle, John Gallagher, John McGinley, A. Christy, Patrick McBride, Jr., George Dogherty, Francis Duff, Neal Sweeney, Michael Price, Hugh McElroy, Bernard Kelly, Bernard Kelly, Archibald Black, Patrick Haggerty, Patrick Farres, Patrick Lafferty, Dennis McFadden, John Bonce, Daniel Reed,

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HOMESTEADING IN THE WILDERNESS (Cont)

Neal Dougherty, Andrew Dugan, John Magee, Dennis Dugan, Arthur Donnell, Peter Gallagher, Patrick McBride, Sr, Edwin Ferry, Daniel McCue, Matthias Syphers, Charles Sweeney, Bernard Higgins, Neal McClafferty, Joseph Henderson, John Durning, John Duffy, Sr, James Daugherty, John Duffy, Jr, James Sheridan, Jacob McGinnlly, Michael Kerivan, Peter Walhey, Connell Rogers, Edward McFadden, Major John Walsh, Michael Lynch, John Smith, Edward Cole, Patrick McNulty, Patrick Behan, Hugh Moran, Michael Kelly, Andrew Haggins, Peter Truxler, Hugh Sharkey, Wm McLaughlin, Charles Meloy. John Gillespie, Joseph Bleckley, Peter Cole, Edward McFadden, Jr, Joseph Green, Philip Mckray, John Rogers, Philip Hartman, John Griffin, Hugh Gillespie, John McLaughlin, John Collins, John McCafferty, Neal McFadden, Marty O'Bryan, James Benson, Nicholas Walhey, Thomas Conner, Charles McCue.

About 1805, Rev Father Phelan visited the area and selected a site for a church. To provide a home for the priest and to build a church, Catholics within a fifteen mile square were canvassed for contributions. Four canvassers were: Casper W. Easley for the southern district near Slate Lick, James Sheridan for the southwestern district Clearfield Twp., Neil Sweeney for Butler and Vicinity and Conrad Rodgers the north and northwest district - Donegal township.

No donation was over two dollars, but the canvassers collected sufficient money to purchase a 200 acre farm and build a small cabin for the priest. Each canvasser, further agreed to meet on the farm on a specific date with enough men to cut trees and hew logs sufficient to erecting one side of the church building- about 22 feet by 35 feet. The walls were completed in the fall of 1806 and the roof completed in the following spring. Thus Father Phelan became the first resident pastor at St. Patricks early in 1807. He remained until 1811. During the following ten years, the Catholic settlers had occasional services at the church with visits by Father William O'Brien and Father Charles B. McGuire from Pittsburgh and by Father McGirr from Greensburg. Rev Charles Ferry served at St. Patricks from 1821 to 1826. In 1826, Father Patrick O'Neil became first resident priest at Freeport He was followed by Father Patrick Rafferty and Father Joseph Cody. These priests traveled to St. Patricks as their schedule would allow and maintained contact with the congregation there between the years of 1826 and 1865. Father Patrick O'Neil was Witness to Casper Easley Sr.'s will.

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HOMESTEADING IN THE WILDERNESS (Cont)

Casper W Easley Sr and Elizabeth Ruffner Easley had the following children: John Christian b. 30 Oct 1799, Casper W Jr b. 16 Feb 1804, Elizabeth b. c1805, Rachael b. c 1807, George W b. 24 Aug 1810, Andrew b. c 1815 and Samuel Sylvester b. c 1823.

Casper W Sr died on 16 Apr 1829, aged 69 years. He left a widow aged about 49 years with two sons and two daughters in their twenties and three sons aged between 6 and 19 years. As the eldest son was in poor health, Casper W Jr was willed the 200 acre farm with the charge of caring for his mother and all his brothers and sisters. On the 17 Jan 1830, Casper W Easley Jr married Eleanor Black, daughter of Archie Black. Casper Junior and his wife had three daughters, Mary, Alice and Margaret, and five sons; James A., William Casper, Archibald W., John B. and George Frank.

The 1830 U S Census for Buffalo Township, Armstrong County lists Casper Sr's widow Elizabeth as Head of Family with 1 male under 10, 1 male between 15 and 20, 2 males between 25 and 30, 2 females between 20 and 25 and 1 female between 50 and 60.

The 1840 Census lists Casper W Easley Jr as Head of Family with two sons and two daughters under 10, Casper and his wife are in their 30s and his mother is listed at 60.

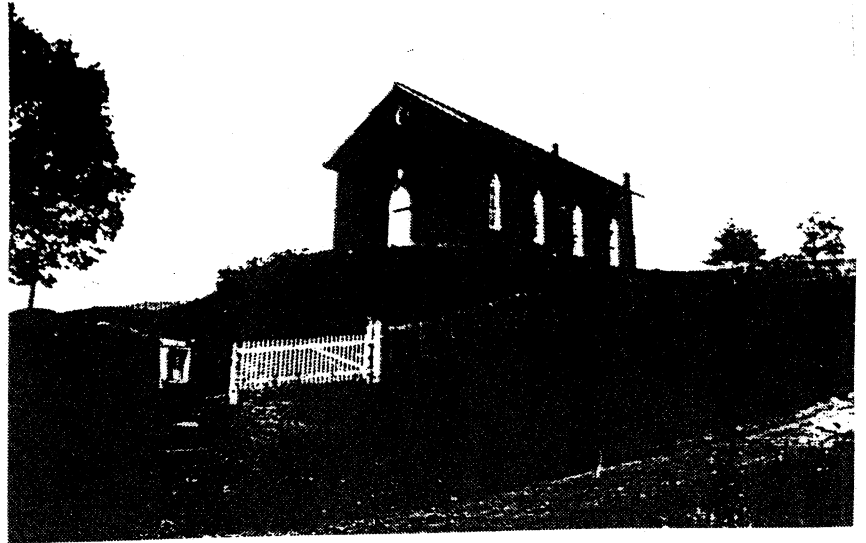
For the 1850 Census, there are two sons and one daughter under 10, two sons and two daughters between 10 and 20, and Casper and Eleanor are in their 40s. Real Estate is valued at #2000.00.

In the 1860 Census there is one son under 10, two sons and two daughters between 10 and 20, and one son over 20 at home with Casper and Eleanor in their 50s. The oldest daughter had married and the oldest son had died at age 23. Real Estate was valued at \$5000.00 and Personal Estate was valued at \$1200.00.

The 1870 U S Census indicates Casper Jr's condition just prior to donating the land for erecting Guardian Angel Church. Casper and Eleanor are in their 60s with one son under 20, one son over 20 and one daughter at 30 still at home. William Casper had married in 1861, Margaret had married about 1865, and Archibald had married about 1866. Casper's Real Estate was valued at \$9000.00 and his Personal Property is valued at \$15,000.00; however this figure is questionable in view of the previous value of \$1200.00.

1876

CHURCH BEFORE STEEPLE



1918

CHURCH WITH HIGH STEEPLE



1960

CHURCH WITH SHORT STEEPLE



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CHURCH ERECTION

While Casper Easley Jr's listing in the 1870 U S Census gave a family with five members, this changed drastically in the following ten years. Alice Easley married within a year. John B. Easley married within five years and Casper Jr's wife Eleanor died in 1878. The family of five was thus reduced to a family of two. During these crucial years, Guardian Angel Church was built. The church lies along the road between Slate Lick and Cadogan at the intersection with Nicholson Run Road and in close proximity of the limited access expressway, Route 28 between Kittanning and Pittsburgh.

The Church had its beginnings in the wishes of Casper W. Easley Sr who had set aside a lot for construction of a church when the circumstances would permit. Casper Sr was interested in having other Catholic farmers like himself attracted to the area. To some extent, he was successful in this. His brother Andrew Easley aquired a farm about three miles distant from Casper's. Several Irish Catholic families located in the Township, such as : McGinleys, Duffs, Reilleys, Shields, and others. These families began attending services at St Patrick's in Sugar Creek Township about 1806. Later St Mary's at Freeport was available in 1826 and St Mary's at Kittanning was availbale in 1852. On rare occassions, a visiting priest would say Mass at one of the houses in the Settlement, but otherwise the settlers had to travel extensive distances to attend services.

Casper Easley Sr's and Casper Easley Jr's dream of having a church erected on a portion of their farm land was considerably helped when a great grandnephew of Casper Sr was appointed pastor of St Mary's Church at Kittanning. He was Father Andrew Arnold Lambing, the son of Michael Anthony and Anne Shields Lambing, a great great grandson of Blassius Easley. Father Lambing was born 1 February 1842 in Manorville, PA. He studied at St Michael Preparatory and Theological Seminary in the Pittsburgh area between February 1863 and August 4, 1869 when he was ordained a priest following an accellerated course. His third assignment as a priest was the pastorate of St. Mary , Kittanning; this included five monthly out-missions , of which the Easley Settlement was one. He arrived in Kittanning in April 1870 and the cornerstone for Guardian Angel Church was laid in the spring of 1872.

The church dimensions are given as 32 feet wide and 57 feet long and seating capacity is given as 200. The architectural style is Gothic and building construction is brick.

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CHURCH ERECTION (Cont)

Many details of the original construction work are missing. We do not know for example, who served as architect, who surveyed and staked out the foundation for the building, who served as general contractor and who did the brick laying. Casper Jr's property included a stone quarry at one time, which may have supplied the cut stone for the foundation.

In 1983, Mark S Kolack prepared a Preliminary Research Report proposing Guardian Angel Church as a listing in the National Register of Historic Places. This report describes the church style as Vernacular Gothic Revival. Referring to the Deed of 29 June 1876 and converting survey measurements from perches to feet indicates the ground plot as being about 150 feet wide and 500 feet long on the North side and about 300 feet long on the South edge with the Cadogan road cutting an arc about 260 feet in length from the southeast corner of the property. The western boundary is given as Nicholson Run - a water stream at the bottom of the hill on which the church is located. Since the Church building aligns closely with the North boundary of the original plot, the front entrance faces almost due West, orienting the congregation in the pews to face due East during services.

Mr. Koleck notes that the main features of the sides of the building are four Gothic pointed arched windows fitted with 12 over 12 sash design with intersecting muntin point transoms and projecting 2 tiered brick lintels. The original building featured a simple front entrance consisting of double paneled wood doors surmounted with a pointed arch transom and a plain wooden cross was mounted on the roof peak near the front. The rear entrance consisted of a paneled wood door with deep reveals, a wood lintel and a small stoop. The original roof covering was very likely slate. The construction schedule was somewhat drawnout. If the bricks were molded and fired at the construction site, this might be expected. Also, if members of the church volunteered a substantial part of the construction labor, this also would affect the schedule as such workers would need to give priority to their farming duties. And if the church was built on a pay-as-you-go basis, the collecting of funds could also affect the construction schedule. In any event, the project did reach completion during 1878 and the church was dedicated on October 2, the feast of the Guardian Angels.

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CHURCH ERECTION (Cont)

However, as described in the Slate Lick Centennial Book as published in 1888, the outer shell of the building was completed rather quickly and the congregation was using the building in its unfinished form for several of these years between the cornerstone laying and the official dedication. This involved using a temporary Altar and probably improvised seating.

When completed, the church contained three altars, regular pews for seating, and a nicely finished gallery or choir loft. Father Lambing was reassigned from the Kittanning parish to a church in Freeport in May 1873. Father E J Dignam succeeded him as pastor at Kittanning with the attendant out-missions which he served for the next five years. The total cost of the church building was about \$3,500.00.

At the time of dedication of the church building, the congregation consisted of descendants of the early settlers as William C Shields, Casper W Easley Sr, Andrew Easley Sr, Vandal Stoup, Enos McBride, and James Hartman as well as descendants of later settlers as Frances Duff, Hugh Doran, David Griffin, Patrick Black, John McCue, Michael McCue, Hugh Harkins, James Dimond and James McCartney. As reported in the Pittsburgh Catholic, diocesan newspaper, the dedication occurred on October 2, 1878. Feast Day of the Guardian Angels - coinciding with the church being named "Church of the Holy Guardian Angels". The Bishop of the Pittsburgh Diocese between 1876 and 1889 was the Rt Rev John Tuigg D D . Quoting the Pittsburgh Catholic:

"On that day a church was dedicated in the Easley settlement, eight miles south west of Kittanning under the invocation of the Holy Guardian Angels by the Right Rev. Bishop of Pittsburgh. The ceremony commenced at ten o'clock and was followed by a solemn High Mass, celebrated by Rev. A. A. Lambing, assisted by Rev. P. Quilter as Deacon, and Rev. Jas. Tobin as Subdeacon, Rev Jas. Canovan being Master of Ceremonies. An appropriate sermon was preached by Rev Joseph Suhr. At the conclusion of the Mass the Rt Rev. Bishop also delivered a discourse after which he confirmed about forty persons. In the Sanctuary were Revs. P. Brown, J. Stillerich, J. Ruttiger, T. Daven, P. May, M. Shede, E. J. Dignam, pastor of the church, and Revs. P. Smith and J. Link of the Diocese of Erie"

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

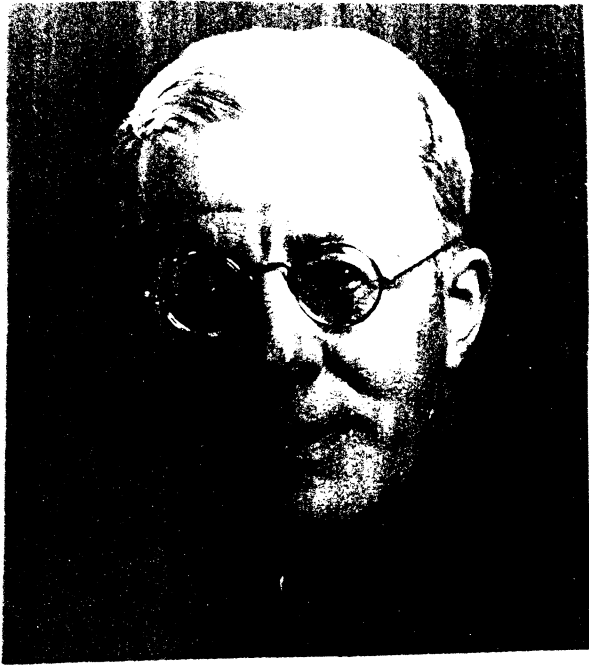
ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

CHURCH ERECTION (Cont)

The formal dedication on October 2, 1878 did not completely end the church construction. Some thirty years later the church members saw fit to erect a bell tower including an entrance room 10 feet by 11 feet in floor size. The tower height was 32 feet. Much of the work was performed by church member volunteers. It included such tasks as hawling bricks and lumber and slate and hoisting such materials to the working levels on the various scaffolds. One popular song at the time used by the crew hoisting bricks for the brick layer was "Come Josephine in my Flying Machine - Going Up - All Up - She Goes". John C Easley of Center Hill noted dates for such volunteer labor in his Ledger during the years 1912, 1913 and 1914. A Bell was eventually hung in the tower but the actual completion date for the project is not known. Mark S Koleck's description of this addition is; "A facade tower dominates the building . . . Open arches on each side of the tower beneath the roof are encased in the double segmented brick arches and sills." Historic photos of the church show a rather artistic treatment of the tower roof with three layers of inward corbelling supporting a rather small square pyramidal roof cap surmounted by a cross. A Key stone above the main entrance contains the words "Holy Guardian Angel church 1872." Mark Koleck describes the main entrance as: "Double paneled wood doors provide access and feature a trim of two tier brick arches with brick shoulders, deep wood reveals, arched transom light with replacement glass and painted tracery".

Perhaps thirty or more years ago, the artistic tower capping suffered weather damage and needed to be removed. In its place a simple square pyramidal roof structure now covers the 10 foot by 11 foot opening. It is of asphalt shingle covered wood construction. Some interior modifications are planned for the structure, as befits a house of worship on-call for occasional religious celebrations.

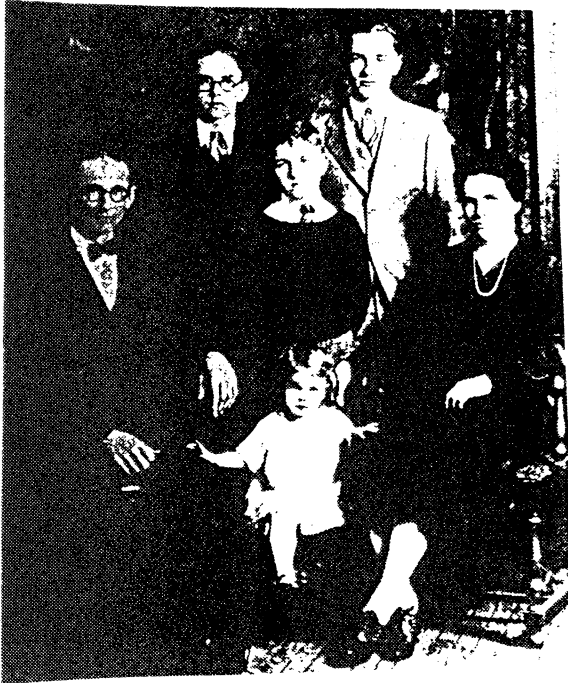
Within ten years of the dedication of the Church, the membership was close to 200 of which 100 were adults. American lifestyles were to change considerably over the following forty years with a significant decrease in the farm population in the vicinity of the church. Nevertheless by making various adjustments, the church continued to serve in one way or another, the people living in the surrounding area. But the Church never became a parish with a pastor living on the site. Some of the adjustments made are recounted below.



FATHER BENNO



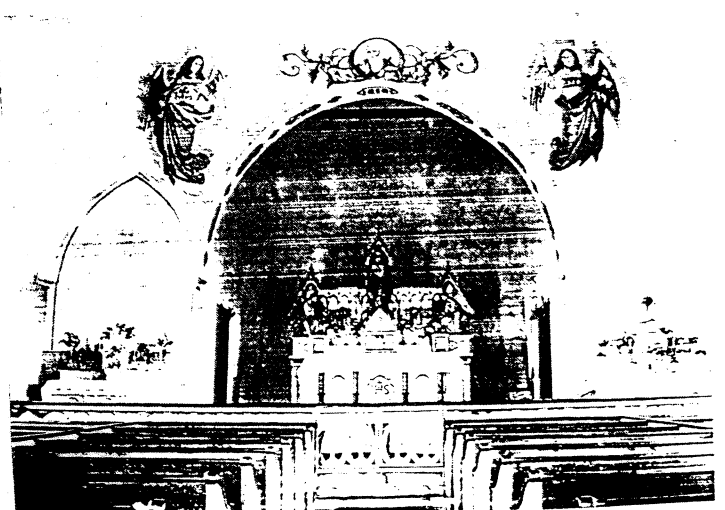
FATHER A A LAMBING



PHILIP EASLEY FAMILY



W C EASLEY DESCENDANTS



GUARDIAN ANGEL MURALS

FLANKING MAIN ALTAR

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

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PASTORS WHO SERVED (Cont)

Without a pastor living on the church site, the religious services conducted at Guardian Angel Church have varied greatly. The most frequently that services were scheduled was probably two Sundays per month. For many years the schedule was one week day per month such as a First Friday. For other long periods the church building was used only for pre-arranged special occasions as a baptism, a wedding, a funeral, an anniversary or some similar gathering. However, the building has been sufficiently maintained over these years that it could be put to use almost on any day desired.

The following is an approximate listing of the priests assigned to serve the church for such scheduled or requested gatherings. From the time of the erection of the building until late in 1908 Guardian Angel Church was a mission of St Mary's in Kittanning and the Church was served by the Kittanning diocesan priest. As well as we can determine these were:

Rev Andrew A Lambing	Apr 1871 to May 1873
Rev E J Dignam	May 1873 to Mar 1878
Rev Thomas Howley	Mar 1878 to Feb 1883
Rev Philip Brady	Feb 1883 to 1888
Rev John Conway	1888 to 1889
Rev F P Kettle	1889 to 1891
Rev J A Nash	1891 to 1892
Rev F J McCabe	1892 to 1893
Rev L P McEvoy	1893 to 1895
Rev R J Maloney	1895 to 1899
Rev Patrick O'Neil	1899 to 1903
Rev L A Carroll	1903 to 1913

In the Fall of 1908 the Pittsburgh Diocese assigned Guardian Angel Church to the charge of the Capuchin Monastery at Herman, Pa - about 5 miles east of Butler, Pa. Although other priests probably filled in at times, this assignment of offering Mass on alternate Sundays was fulfilled mostly by one priest. He was Father Benno Haggermiller, O F M Cap. While assigned to Guardian Angel Church, Father Benno detected the need for and instigated the construction of a Catholic Church at Cadogan - a mining town three miles distant from Guardian Angel Church. This Church - named St Lawrence - was completed in 1918. By 1920, the Pittsburgh Diocese accepted both churches under their care, assigned a resident priest to Cadogan and had the priest from Cadogan also serve Guardian Angel.

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

PASTORS WHO SERVED (Cont)

The Cadogan Pastors who would have served Guardian Angel Church under this arrangement were;

Father Walsh		1920
Father DeJon	1920 to	1923
Father Leo Chrzanowski	1923 to	1925
Father Kushner	1925 to	1927
Father Goncar	1927 to	1928
Father John Kovalsky	1928 to	1930

In 1930, Guardian Angel Church was reassigned to St Mary's Kittanning as a mission. Father Charles F Sullivan was a long term pastor there. Tom and Martin McGinley, who had lived within walking distance of Guardian Angel before the family moved to Kittanning, had the honor of accompanying Father Sullivan once a month to serve at the Guardian Angel Mass.

In 1940, Guardian Angel Church was returned to the charge of the pastor at St Lawrence church in Cadogan. Father Theodore J Raab held this pastorate from 1940 to 1950. According to some parishioners this visit was on a once a month basis the last Sunday of the month usually only in the summer months starting with Memorial Day. The Cadogan priests who succeeded Father Raab were:

Father Aloysius Borkowski	1950 - 1953
Father C. Trzeciakowski	1953 - 1957
Father Gregory Rokosz	1957 - 1958
Father Edward J Boley	1958 - 1959
Father John R Casaliggi	1959 - 1964

In 1964, the Pauline Fathers from the Monastery near Ford City were assigned both the Guardian Angel Church and St Lawrence Church in Cadogan. These priests have been:

Father Mark Wlazlo, O S P	1964 - 1969
Father Stanley Nowak O S P	1964 - 1974
Father Lucius Tyrasinski OSP	1969 - 1975
Father Joseph Olczak O S P	1975 - 1984
Father Stephen Z Wozniczka OSP	1984 - 1990
Father Edward R Volz O S P	1990 -

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

PASTORS WHO SERVED (Cont)

For many of the above Pastors we know very little about their life achievements beyond the consideration that they performed their assigned duties as well as they were able and the church congregation benefitted and survived and appreciated the sacrifices these priest have made.

However, we do have considerable information on two of these priests who were exceptional inspirations to the laity of this small church. The first was Father Andrew Arnold Lambing who as a recently ordained priest motivated and aided the erection of Guardian Angel Church. The other was a Capuchin monk, Father Benno Haggemiller, under whose guidance the Bell Tower was added to Guardian Angel Church and the neighboring church of St Lawrence at Cadogan was organized, approved and a useable building was quickly constructed.

Andrew Arnold Lambing was born Feb 1, 1842 in Manorville, Pa. His father was Michael Anthony Lambing (1806-1886). His mother was Anne Shields (Nancy) Lambing (1814 - 1880). His paternal grandparents were Matthew Lambing (1776 - 1851) and Mary Magdalen Kohl (? -1851) His maternal grandparents were William Casper Shields (1772 - 1844) and Anna Mary (Polly) Ruffner (1779 - 1845). Andrew Arnold's father was a shoemaker by trade Michael and Nancy had nine children of which two became priests, a daughter became a nun, and three were soldiers in the Civil War. As an older son in a large family, Andrew Arnold was called to provide financial support for the family, this limited his early access to schooling to about four months per year. However, it gave him a broad exposure to many types of physical work.

By the time Andrew Arnold was 21 years old, he had managed to complete one term at Kittanning Academy and to self educate himself by much private reading and private study to qualify for admittance to St Michael's Preparatory and Theological Seminary at Pittsburgh, Pa on Feb 2, 1863. After completing six years of intense accelerated study, interspersed with four working vacations to earn expenses, Andrew Arnold was ordained by Bishop Domenec on August 4, 1869. Following a four month College teaching assignment and a four month pastorate in a rural church, Father Lambing was assigned as pastor of Saint Mary's Church at Kittanning with its five monthly out-missions. This newly ordained priest, with a multitude of assignments was willing to build a church for Casper Easley.

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

PASTORS WHO SERVED (Cont)

In addition to his many clerical duties, Father Lambing did extensive historical research, he published several books of a historical nature, contributed widely to County Histories and monthly publications and helped organize Historical organizations. The University of Notre Dame, in 1883, conferred on him the honorary degree of Master of Arts and in 1886 it conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. Andrew Carnegie made him a trustee of Carnegie Institute and of Carnegie School of Technology.

Father Lambing died on Dec 24, 1918. He has been widely remembered for all his priestly services and he will continue to be remembered and appreciated by all those who refer to and make use of his compilations of all his historical research particularly of the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

A similarly talented and multi-faceted priest who gave much to Guardian Angel Church and its people was Father Benno Haggemiller. He was a member of the Capuchin Order of Franciscans. He was born at Bobbingen, Bavaria on April 30, 1879. His family was also deeply religious: three sons and two daughters gave their lives to God as priests or religious. Benno (John) came to St Fidelis Minor Seminary at Herman, Pa. at the age of 17 following a brief career as a dental technician in the fall of 1896. He graduated with honors in 1902 and entered the novitiate from which he was professed a year later. He completed the advanced studies in the Province and at Georgetown University and was ordained by Cardinal Gibbons at Baltimore, MD on June 21, 1909.

Most of Father Benno's assignments centered about his longtime residence at St Fidelis, with such job classifications as: teacher, astronomer, physicist, chemist, linguist, surveyor, mathematician, poet, writer, playwright, builder, photographer, priest and pastor. Father Benno founded the Astronomy Department at St. Fidelis. He was probably the sole teacher of Astronomy and the principal teacher of Physics and Chemistry. He was also qualified in languages: German, Greek and French. His surveying skills were useful both at the Monastery and for siting new churches.

Like Father Lambing, Father Benno was assigned to Guardian Angel Church as a newly ordained priest. Also like Father Lambing, Father Benno soon got involved with Church construction in erecting the Bell tower at the church entrance. With this project likely completed about 1915, Father Benno saw a great need for another mission church in the newly-forming mining company town of Cadogan about three miles east of Guardian Angel Church.

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

PASTORS WHO SERVED (Cont)

Initially, Father Benno began offering Mass in Cadogan in a home or a school on the last Sunday of each month, starting on Dec 31, 1916. By Easter 1917, Father Benno had started a building fund and shortly had a donated building lot along with donated architectural plans and 33 very interested and willing future supporting Catholic families. Father Benno's petition to the Bishop of Pittsburgh was approved and construction began on October 4, 1917 with the target completion date of Easter Sunday 1918. James Easley, son of William C Easley, supervised the construction and many of the mine workers volunteered their help after working their shift in the mine. Thus, St Lawrence Church in Cadogan was dedicated on June 23, 1918.

Father Benno was innovative in other ways in pursuing his mission of spreading the gospel. Before automobiles were affordable and common and when horses and carriages were rather expensive to lease, Father Benno procured a bicycle to make his travels quicker and less expensive. During his years at St Fidelis, Father Benno built two astronomical observatories. The first was equipped with a 4 inch refracting telescope; the later one was fitted with a 10 inch reflecting telescope. Father Benno seemed to live four lives simultaneously; as a priest full time, a third of his time teaching, a third of his time serving outlying missions, and a third of his time pursuing intellectual hobbies as astronomy, other sciences, and church building. Father Benno had a distinct German accent; the second planet from the sun was "Weenus". None-the-less, he had great knowledge to impart and he did.

The angel mural paintings that once embellished the front interior wall of Guardian Angel Church were very likely the work of Father Benno. These appear on some few remaining photos taken of the church during the years 1910 to 1915. The painting theme seemed so appropriate to a church dedicated to the Guardian Angels.

St Vincent College at Latrobe, PA, conferred the honorary degree of LL.D on Father Benno in May of 1949. Many might say that he was more than worthy of such a degree in several subjects but particularly in Astronomy. Father Benno belonged to the Order of Friars Minor Capuchin abbreviated as O.F.M. Cap. The Capuchin Order formed in 1525. Their aim was a stricter observance of the Rule of St Francis. Their General Motherhouse is in Rome, Italy. In 1962 there were four Provinces and two Custodies in the United States. For their parochial and missionary work, there were then 665 priests and 133 brothers. St Fidelis at Herman, Pa, started as a Seminary in 1877.

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

PASTORS WHO SERVED (Cont)

Shortly after the end of Father Raab's tenure at St Lawrence and Guardian Angel combined, the Diocese of Greensburg was formed out of the Pittsburgh Diocese in 1951. By this time, St Lawrence had paid off a mortgage and was beginning to make improvements to the rectory and the church building. The new Diocese also had need to raise funds. One would not expect much money being spent on Guardian Angel Church at this time.

When the Second Bishop of Greensburg, Rt Rev William Connare, invited the Pauline Fathers to administrate St Lawrence Parish along with its mission, Guardian Angel, it seems in hindsight that Guardian Angel Church would be especially blessed.

The Pauline Fathers are officially the Order of St Paul the first Hermit abbreviated as O.S.P. The Order was founded in 1215. The General Motherhouse is at Czestochowa, Poland. The Order was established in the United States in 1955 with a small church on a small tract of land near Doylestown, Pa. That small church is now referred to as the "original barn Chapel" and it is still standing. The objective of the Pauline Fathers at Doylestown was to construct a cathedral-sized Shrine to Our Lady of Czestochowa in memory of a thousand years of Christianity in Poland 966 to 1966. Accordingly they strove to dedicate the Shrine in 1966. By October 1966, sufficient basics were in place and the dedication was carried out. The Church sits on 170 acres of land. The church is 220 feet long 130 feet wide and 70 feet high. it can seat 1800. Mailing address is: Pauline Fathers, P O Box 2049, Ferry Road Doylestown, PA 18901 .

Bishop Connare's invitation was in 1964. In the succeeding 32 years, six Pauline priests have served as pastors of St Lawrence Church. As early as 1976 these priests began to make improvements to Guardian Angel Church by doing extensive work to re-hang the church bell and make it fully functional .



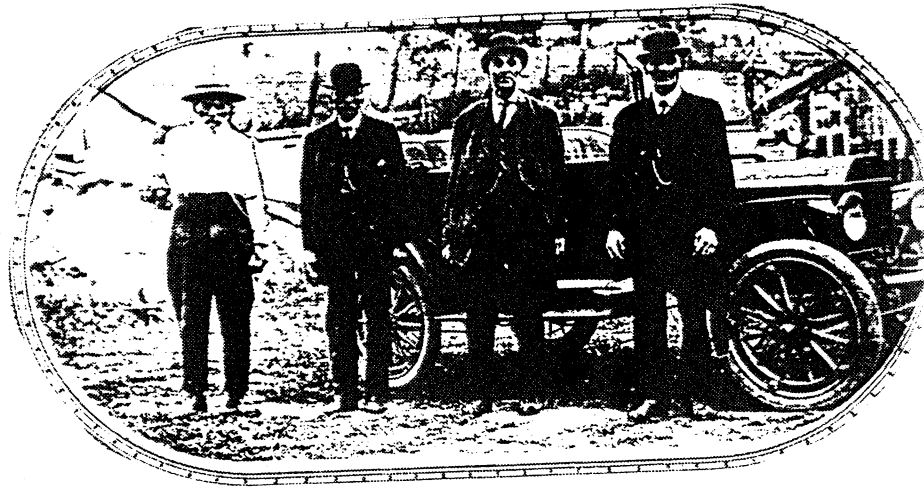
W C EASLEY'S FIRST HOUSE



W C EASLEY'S SECOND HOUSE



W C EASLEY AND DAUGHTERS



W C EASLEY AND SONS



ARCHIBALD EASLEY FAMILY



ARCHIE EASLEY AND WAGON

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

SOME LAITY REMEMBRANCES

Primary sources are much preferred when writing any type of history. However, primary sources for the history of Guardian Angel Church in the earlier years are practically non-existent. About ten years ago, a Mrs Marie J. Wilson of Worthington, PA requested such information from Bishop Donald Wuerl of Pittsburgh. Rev Edward F McSweeney, Archivist for the Bishop replied. "I regret to say that I have not been able to discover any additional information about the Guardian Angels Church in Slate Lick for the years beyond 1880." Sometime between 1918 and 1930, a fire in the Cadogan rectory caused severe water damage to the records for Guardian Angel Church as well as the records for Cadogan's St Lawrence Church. These damaged records supposedly were sent to the Pittsburgh Diocesan Archives but were not or could not be reconditioned for the retrieval of the information contained in them.

Court House records, newspaper writeups and remembrances of the lay members of the Congregation are suitable secondary sources of information about the Parish.

Easley family tradition is that the first wedding celebrated at Guardian Angel Church was that of James Vincent Easley and Mary Belle Burns in the early 1880s. The ceremony was likely performed by either Father Howley or Father Brady, pastors at St Marys Kittanning at that time. Vincent and Mary Belle became parents of Philip Easley and Anna Mae Easley McCarren among others who were long time attendees at Guardian Angel Church.

There is a newspaper clipping that describes a church choir picnic that was held on June 1, 1913 at Guardian Angel Church. Father Bonaventure, a Capuchin priest, celebrated the high mass in which the choir participated. The picnic activities filled the afternoon. Father Bonaventure assisted by Father Benno celebrated Solemn Benediction at 7 PM. During this ceremony, members of the monastery at Herman presented to Father Benno a Statue of the Sacred Heart for installation in the church. Those present at the services and at the picnic were; Clara Easley, Anna Easley, James Easley, Elizabeth Lynch, Leo Duff, Aman Henry, Francis McGinley, Katie Kunkle, Bessie Morrison, Anna Ortmann, Lawrence Easley and Frank Duff.

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

SOME LAITY REMEMBRANCES (Cont)

Father Benno performed a number of wedding ceremonies at Guardian Angel Church during the years that he was pastor. Father Benno was attendant priest for the wedding of Sarah Elizabeth Easley to James Albert Gray on November 21, 1910. He performed the marriage of Clara Irene Easley and John Francis (Frank) Duff on November 3, 1915 and that of Anna Margaret Easley and Francis Augustine McGinley on November 14, 1917. Pictures of the McGinley wedding show three hitched buggies in the background. Another wedding picture, probably that of the Duffs, shows the former front road up to the church, a fence along the road and the lower part of the church steeple.

Thomas Easley, a son of Joseph Alfonse Easley and Elizabeth M Conley, related that he attended a First Communion class at Guardian Anger Church about 1918. He did not recall many of the class members names. While the Diocesan priests were serving Guardian Church, a Father Goncar organized a First Communion class in the Spring of 1927. The reception date was June 26, 1927. As reported in a brief writeup in the local newspaper, the nine recipients were; Andrew Magurski, Joseph Magurski, Joseph Andrews, Andrew Czapor, John Easley, Denny Easley, Edwin Easley, Mary Andrews, and Edna Czapor. Jacob Ortmann, organist of St Marys Church of Ford City brought a youth choir consisting of : Frederick Ortmann, Jacob Ortmann Jr, William Stollenwerk, Raymond Blondeaux, Leo Karl and Joseph Vent to provide organ music and singing for the First Communion Mass. Kate and Molly Easley, who lived on the neighboring farm to the church, brought a bucket of cold spring water and a dipper to quench the thirst of the these First Communicants after Mass was ended.

Josephine Kunkle and her brother Paul who continued to live along Nicholson Run Road well into the late 1980s had memories of attending church services when the church had no lights and when the only heat was pot belly stoves.

John Reale of Cadogan , remembered accompanying Father Raab to Gardian Angel to serve as altar boy during the 1940s , when services were on the last Sunday of the month during the warm weather only. Mary Ann (Frieri) Reale, who moved to the neighboring Easley farm in March of 1946, began playing the old ornate pump organ at the age of 14 and continued until 1961, when scheduled services were discontinued.

Likely other families have traditions and memories about Guardian Angel Church, which could add to the few mentioned above. Kindly commit such memories to writing and forward a copy to the pastor of St Lawrence for future reference.

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

THE CEMETARY

The plot of land conveyed to Guardian Angel Church by Casper Easley Jr on June 29, 1876 is an approximate rectangle about 150 feet wide and 500 feet long lying almost due East - West. However, the South East corner is cut off by the Cadogan road in an approximate arc about 270 feet long so that the South boundary has a straight side of about 300 feet instead of the 500 feet of the North boundary.

The length and width of the church building is given as 57 feet long by 32 feet wide. As the ground sloped down rather steeply from the front of the church building, the survey point in the Nicholson Run might be about 80 feet in front of the church. This would place the back of the church about 140 feet Eastward from this point and reduce the East-West running North boundary of the original cemetery to about 360 feet, and the South boundary would be reduced to about 160 feet on the straight section before the roadway cut-off to the arc curve of the property. The total plot of 1 acre and 89 perches is equivalent to about one and a half acres. Deducting the portion that the church is on and the slope in front and some slope along the South edge, the ground available for the original cemetery would be about three quarters of an acre, or about 32,000 square feet. At 80 to 100 square feet each this would approximate 320 to 400 potential graves. In an unofficial count of readable markers in 1990, less than 200 were found.

The survey for the new section of the cemetery indicates as many as 368 graves in an area measuring 234 feet in the East-West direction on the Southern border and 234 feet on the Northern border. However, the Northern border is in three 78 foot long steps, the center step about 176 feet distance from the Southern border and each end step is about 126 feet from the Southern border. This calculates to a total area of about 34,000 square feet or again three quarters of an acre. The allotted square footage per grave is about 92 square feet.

The cemetery survey for the old section has been lost for several years. There are known cases of burials in unmarked graves. There is also the chance that some burials may have been made with wooden markers which are less permanent than stone. Thus, the old section of the cemetery is generally unavailable for future use.

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

THE CEMETARY (Cont)

During the early 1990s, considerable work was done on the old section of the cemetery to provide for regular mechanized maintenance of the grounds and to repair a number of damaged grave markers. Trees and large shrubs were removed, and an endowment was initiated to accumulate funds earmarked specifically for on-going care of the grave sites.

Until some volunteer genealogical group undertakes the mapping of the old section of the cemetery, it is difficult to accurately catalogue the sites of the graves therein. But the new section has an available survey made and plotted about 1980. The overall area, including portions not available for grave sites is 176 feet wide by 234 feet long. The overall plot is based on a 7 by 9 grid of 20 foot by 20 foot squares. The Northwest corner of this imaginary overall plot would contain grave Lot "1A". The Southwest corner would contain grave Lot "7A". The Northeast corner would be grave Lot "1I". The Southeast corner would contain grave Lot "7I". Thus the South-direction axis is labeled: 1,2,3,4,5,6,7. and the East-direction axis is labeled; A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H,I, .

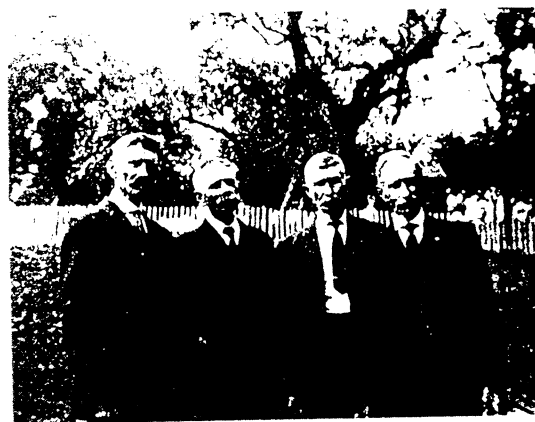
The imaginary plot above would provide 7 times 9 or 63 grave Lots of 8 graves each or 504 graves as opposed to the 368 graves noted above for the new section. The configuration of the land is such that Lots 1A,2A,3A, 1B,2B,1C,2C, 1G,2G,3G, 1H,2H,4H, 1I,2I,3I,4I must be excluded from use for burials.

This somewhat detailed description of the cemetery survey is included as an explanation of the mapping code and as a precaution for future generations in case the new sector survey might get misplaced. To reconstruct the plot from the description, note that each 20 by 20 foot Lot is separated from adjoining Lots by either 4 foot wide or 6 foot wide pathways.

One family reference source - not an official church record - lists the sale of 22 "Grave Lots at Guardian Angels, May 28, 1919" at \$10.00 per Lot with the names of purchasers as follows: Lee Duff, M S Easley, J C Easley, Mrs McGinley, J V Easley, L E Shields, J B Easley, John Morrison, Jas Easley, Henry Easley, Mrs Kunkle, Mrs Gray, Simon Hawley, Wm McCartney, Simon Shields, Manuel Helsel, John Kemper, Archie Easley, Ed Eadgmatson, Wm Cypher, Chas Edginton, John Ruffaner. Unfortunately, this listing did not include any grave coordinates or Lot numbers which would be helpful in an attempt to reconstruct the original plot plan of the older section of the cemetery.



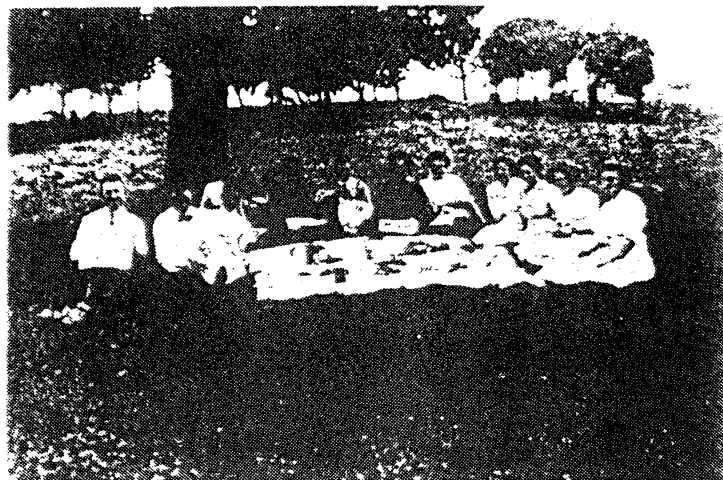
JOHN C EASLEY FARMHOUSE



JAMES EASLEY'S FOUR SONS



J VINCENT EASLEY FAMILY



CHOIR PICNIC



FRANCIS MCGINLEY WEDDING



ANNIE MCGINLEY - LIZIE LYNCH

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

THE CEMETARY (Cont)

ALPHABETIZED LISTING OF MARKED BURIALS AS OF 1990

Easley, Alphonsus J (1954)	Easley, Andrew (1904)
Easley, Andrew M (1953)	Easley, Anna A (1943)
Easley, Anna M (1979)	Easley, Anna R (1969)
Easley, Annie Sweeney (1901)	Easley, Archibald (1933)
Easley, Augustine J (1955)	Easley, Charles E (1886)
Easley, Casper W (1896)	Easley, Catherine (1952)
Easley, Clement (1930)	Easley, D Frank (1969)
Easley, dau of J B (1921)	Easley, Edwin C (1918)
Easley, Elizabeth (1906)	Easley, Elizabeth A (1963)
Easley, Elizabeth H (1901)	Easley, Ellen (1889)
Easley, Ellen (1878)	Easley, Ellen A (1937)
Easley, Elvira A (1913)	Easley, Frances E (1889)
Easley, George (1880)	Easley, Gertrude (1936)
Easley, Hubert A (1911)	Easley, Infant ()
Easley, Infant dau J & A ()	Easley, Infant son J & A ()
Easley, Isabelle D (1898)	Easley, J G (1929)
Easley, J V (1924)	Easley, James (1894)
Easley, James S (1964)	Easley, John B (1931)
Easley, John C (1936)	Easley, John S (1901)
Easley, Joseph ()	Easley, Joseph A (1864)
Easley, Joseph A (1955)	Easley, Julie (1900)
Easley, Laurence (1914)	Easley, Lydia G (1913)
Easley, Margaret (1878)	Easley, Mary ()
Easley, Mary A (1899)	Easley, Mary B (1950)
Easley, Mary M (1953)	Easley, Maurice (1899)
Easley, Michael S (1922)	Easley, Nancy J (1904)
Easley, Paul S (1902)	Easley, Robert J (1902)
Easley, Sarah ()	Easley, Stanley S (1888)
Easley, Susanah (1888)	Easley, W C (1915)
Easley, Walter L (1966)	Easley, - - nger (1900)
Billock, Michael (1919)	Cesare, Anthony A (1984)
Cesarini, Dominic (1974)	Cesarini, Elisa (1990)
Chvala, Joseph J (1978)	Conley, Ellen G (1919)
Dipre, Arthur S (1919)	Doran, Hugh (1976)
Doran, Isabella (1915)	Duff, Clara (1964)
Duff, Frank (1958)	Duff, Jane Louise (1919)
Duff, Jean Marie (1919)	Duff, Jerome (1914)
Duff, Rose (1921)	Duffy, Lawrence (1912)

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

THE CEMETARY (Cont)

ALPHABETIZED LISTING OF MARKED BURIALS AS OF 1990

Edgington, Agnes E (1982)	Edgington, Bernard (1941)
Edgington, Edward F (1943)	Edgington, James P (1935)
Edgington, Sarah A (1944)	Elwood, Chester F (1963)
Elwood, Mary C (1984)	
Finn, Michael P (1956)	Finn, Michael P (1956)
Finn, Peter J (1974)	Finn, Ruth I (1984)
Frieri, Joan Fenn (1953)	Frieri, Leopolda A (1985)
Frieri, Silver L (1969)	
Gariglio, Henry (1954)	Gariglio, Isabelle (1930)
Gariglio, Ottavia (1937)	Greenwood, Arthur O (1982)
Greenwood, Mary A ()	Griffin, J S ()
Harkins, Mary (1906)	Hartman, Margery (1897)
Hawley, Simon F (1925)	Helsel, Annie (1951)
Helsel, Emanuel (1931)	Helsel, Francis A ()
Hewitt, Martha T (1989)	Husarik, Maria (1924)
Kreutle, Elizabeth (1924)	Kunkle, Alice L ()
Kunkle, Eva L (1918)	Kunkle, Francis (1989)
Kunkle, Francis E (1970)	Kunkle, John A (1924)
Kunkle, Josephine F (1953)	Kurzinger, George E (1917)
Leeble, Agnes M (1923)	Leister, Catherine (1888)
Leister, John (1891)	Lohr, Leroy (1976)
Lohr, Marie (1982)	Luchesa, Adele (1966)
Luchesa, Cesare (1925)	
McBride, Jas G (1900)	McCue, John (1876)
McCue, Margaret (1883)	McCartney, Henry (1898)
McCartney, James (1891)	McCartney, Mary Louise (1931)
McCartney, William (1936)	McFadden, Helen (1917)
McFadden, Joseph (1921)	McGinley, Mary Ann (1935)
McGinley, Thomas J (1912)	McMillen, Eunice (1893)
McNamara, Earl D (1966)	McNamara, John W (1960)
Millemann, Dolores Ann (1983)	Millemann, Frederick J (1976)
Miloser, Annie (1921)	Miloser, Pauline (1918)
Mitchell, Patrick (1901)	Morrison, Almara (1920)
Morrison, Bessie (1983)	Morrison, John (1941)
Morrison, Lawrence (1897)	Morrison, Luella (1972)
Niaminomoffezoli, Eurica (1919)	
Offredi, N L (1949)	Olesnanik, George (1960)
Olesnanik, Sophie (1959)	Ortmann, Elizabeth F (1961)
Ortmann, John J (1977)	

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

THE CEMETARY (Cont)

ALPHABETIZED LISTING OF MARKED BURIALS AS OF 1990 (Cont)

Puhl, Louise M ()	Puhl, Robert C (1986)
Puhl, Robert C (1959)	
Reilly, Anna (1921)	Reilly, Annie E (1894)
Reilly, Arthur W (1894)	Reilley, Florence B (1897)
Reilly, James (1913)	Reilley, James J (1898)
Reilly, John F (1918)	Reilly, Leo Clair (1918)
Reilly, Margaret J (1896)	Reilly, Mary E (1951)
Rohrer, Richard (1920)	Rohrer, Russel (1920)
Ruffaner, Alexander M (1890)	Ruffner, Angeline (1881)
Segrillo, Ezio (1929)	Shearer, Fannie (1884)
Shields, A C S ()	Shields, Agnes C (1900)
Shields, Catherine (1896)	Shields, Charlie (1888)
Shields, Frankie ()	Shields - - - ()
Shoup, Christina (1872)	Skalko, Andre (1918)
Slivensky, Mary (1918)	
Thompson, Charles D (1923)	Thompson, James K (1917)
Thompson, Martha Duff (1975)	Thompson, Marvene K (1949)
Vargo, Anna (1961)	Vargo, Joseph (1926)
Whiteman, Charles (1954)	Whiteman, Richard (1955)
Yodushock, John (1940)	Zambotti, Constante (1940)
Zambotti, Joseph (1929)	Zanetti, John P (1952)

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

THE CEMETARY (Cont)

WALKING TOUR OF GRAVE SITES

On July 14 to 17, 1990, John F Easley of 15 Raymond Terrace, Norwalk, CT made a walking tour and a compilation of the readable grave markers at Guardian Angel Cemetery.

The front entrance to Guardian Angel Church building faces the West. The rear entrance faces the East and the cemetery rises uphill away from the rear of the church in an Easterly direction. Thus, when facing the cemetery from the rear of the church, North is to the left and South is to the right.

Aside from the Vargo graves which are south of the church, the list begins at the Reilly graves moving south to north to the grave of Andrew M Easley. The next pass is north to south, followed by a pass south to north again. In this manner, the list moves through to the upper Eastern edge in a serpentine manner. Note that the list does not indicate junctures for change of direction and does not note unmarked graves.

This listing is surname first rather than the actual inscription which is often given name first. The attempt of the list is to provide an approximate mapping as an aid in locating grave markers. As some stones are only barely decipherable, check all names and dates against other sources for genealogical purposes.

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

THE CEMETARY (Cont)

WALKING TOUR OF GRAVE SITES READ IN JULY 1990

Vargo, Joseph	1870 - 1926	
Vargo, Anna	1874 - 1961	
Reilly, John F	Aug 20, 1873	Oct 22, 1918
Reilly, Mary E	Sept 21, 1875	Oct 7, 1951
Reilly, Leo Clair	Feb 15, 1911	Oct 24, 1918
Duff, Rose	Nov 2, 1920	Sept 17, 1921
Duff, Clara	1883 - 1964	
Duff, Frank	1888 - 1958	
Easley, Walter L	1891 - 1966	Flag WWI
Easley, Gertrude	1891 - 1936	
Easley, Anna R	1893 - 1969	
Easley, Andrew M	1879 - 1953	
Easley, Mary M	1869 - 1953	
Conley, Ellen G	1853 - 1919	
Easley, Joseph A	1871 - 1955	
Easley, Elizabeth A	1872 - 1963	
Easley, J V	1860 - 1924	
Easley, Mary B	1865 - 1950	
Easley, Edwin C	1895 - 1918	Flag WWI
McFadden, Joseph	1909 - 1921	
McFadden, Helen	July 3, 1917	Aug 31, 1917
McGinley, Thomas J	Sep 23, 1889	Mar 1, 1912
McGinley, Mary Ann	Aug 4, 1856	Feb 13, 1935
Thompson, James K	1916 - 1917	
Thompson, Charles D	1912 - 1923	
Thompson, Marvene K	1879 - 1949	
Thompson, Martha Duff	1881 - 1975	
Duff, Jean Marie	Feb 18 - Mar 3, 1919	
Duff, Jane Louise	Feb 18 - Mar 6, 1919	
Easley, Infant Son of James and Anna		
Easley, Infant Daughter of James and Anna		
Easley, James S	1886 - 1964	
Easley, Anna M	1890 - 1979	
McCartney, William	Dec 23, 1844	July 20, 1936
Edgington, Bernard	1927 - 1941	
Edgington, James P	1891 - 1935	Flag WWI
Edgington, Agnes E	1899 - 1982	
Edgington, Edward F	1856 - 1943	
Edgington, Sarah A	1867 - 1944	
Shields, Catherine	- - - 1896	
Shields, - - -	- - -	
Shields, Agnes C	June 16, 1881	Jan 13, 1900
Easley, John C	Oct 14, 1852	Jan 19, 1936
Easley, Elvira A	Apr 8, 1855	Jan 31, 1913
Easley, Laurence	1892 - 1914	
Easley, Alphonsus J	May 10, 1879	Jan 3, 1954

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

THE CEMETARY (Cont)

WALKING TOUR OF GRAVE SITES READ IN JULY 1990

Easley, Frances E	1889 - 1889	
Easley, Isabelle D	1895 - 1898	
Easley, Mary A	1880 - 1899	
Easley, Elizabeth H	1858 - 1901	
Easley, Michael S	1855 - 1922	
Duff, Jerome	1844 - 1914	
Lohr, Leroy	1900 - 1976	
Lohr, Marie	1900 - 1982	
Easley, Augustine J	1878 - 1955	
Easley, Ellen A	1861 - 1937	
Easley, Clement	1896 - 1930	
Easley, Hubert A	1887 - 1911	
Easley, Paul S	1893 - 1904	
Easley, Robert J	1883 - 1902	
McCartney, Henry	Feb 1, 1804	Apr 21, 1898
McCartney, James	Nov 18, 1891	Aged 63 Yr 26 D
Shields, A G S		Flag GAR
Easley, Lydia G	1854 - 1913	
Easley, J G	1862 - 1929	
Easley, Anna A	1876 - 1943	
Easley, Catherine	1882 - 1952	
Mitchell, Patrick	Oct 5, 1901	Aged 80 Yr
Harkins, Mary	1818 - 1906	
Easley, Ellen	May 1, 1878	Aged 71 Y 2 M
Easley, Casper W	Feb 16, 1804	Oct 27, 1896
Easley John S	Aug 25, 1875	Apr 30, 1901
Easley, George	Nov 10, 1879	Mar 15, 1880
Easley, Nancy J	Nov 14, 1839	Jan 14, 1904
Easley, W C	May 28, 1837	Aug 23, 1915
Easley, Ellen	1846 - 1889	
Easley, Maurice	1873 - 1899	
Easley, Archibald	1844 - 1933	Flag GAR
Easley, D Frank	Aug 23, 1876	Jan 9, 1969
Easley, Annie Sweeney	1850 - 1901	
Easley, John B	1848 - 1931	
Easley, dau of J B	1884 - 1921	
Leebel, Agnes M	1886 - 1923	
Easley, Infant		
Easley, Stanley S	1888	--
Easley, Charles E	1886	
Ruffaner, Alexander M	1816 - 1890	
Griffin, J S		Flag GAR
Ruffner, Angeline	Nov 1, 1881	Age 29 Y 11 M
Doran, Isabella	May 10, 1831	Nov 25, 1915
Doran, Hugh	Dec 25, 1826	Oct 26, 1876
Easley, Susanah (Wife, John)	1806 - May 1888	
Easley, Margaret	1831 - Sep 1878	

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

THE CEMETARY (Cont)

WALKING TOUR OF GRAVE SITES READ IN JULY 1990

Easley, Andrew	Feb 17, 1904	Aged 73 yr
Easley, Julie	1831 - Dec 19, 1900	
Hawley, Simon F	1843 - 1925	Flag GAR
Morrison, Luella	1892 - 1972	
Morrison, Bessie	1894 - 1983	
Morrison, John	1861 - 1941	
Morrison, Almira	1862 - 1920	
Duffy, Lawrence	July 25, 1828	Mar 20, 1912
Morrison, Lawrence	Feb 19, 1897	
Reilly, James	1826 - 1913	
Reilly, Anna	1834 - 1921	
Reilly, Margaret J	May 29, 1876	Nov 7, 1896
Reilly, Annie E	Nov 24, 1871	Mar 12, 1894
McMillen, Eunice	Apr 21, 1893	Aged 73 Yr
McCue, John	1784 - Jan 11, 1876	
McCue, Margaret	1793 - Mar 29, 1883	
Olesnanik, George	1879 - 1960	
Olesnanik, Sophie	1889 - 1959	
Kunkle, Eva L (Wife W Schall)	1887 - 1918	
Kunkle, Josephine F	1870 - 1953	
Kunkle, John A	1855 - 1924	
Helsel, Francis M	1893 - 1967	
Helsel, Lenora	1893 - 19	
Helsel, Emanuel	1858 - 1931	
Helsel, Annie	1869 - 1951	
Kunkle, Alice L	1909 -	
Kunkle, Francis E	1902 - 1970	
Millemann, Frederick J	1909 - 1976	Flag WWII
Millemann, Dolores Ann	1915 - 1983	
Reilly, James J	Nov 7, 1868	Feb 1, 1898
Reilly, Arthur W	July 17, 1893	Sep 30, 1894
Reilly, Florence B	May 2, 1895	Mar 4, 1897
Easley, Joseph A	Nov 24, 1864	Aged 22 Y 6 M 6
Easley, Mary	- - - -	
Easley, Sarah	- - - -	
Easley, Joseph	- - - -	
Easley, James	May 1, 1815	Dec 8, 1894
Easley, Elizabeth	Nov 18, 1817	Jan 31, 1906
Easley, _ _ nger	Mar 27, 1855	Mar 23, 1900
McCartney, Mary Louise	Sep 17, 1885	Nov 30, 1931
Frieri, Joan Fenn	July 11, 1929	Mar 20, 1953
Frieri, Leopolda A	Apr 27, 1902	Mar 14, 1985
Frieri, Silver L	Jul 12, 1889	Apr 13, 1969
Puhl, Robert C	1906 - 1986	
Puhl, Louise M	1915 -	
Puhl, Robert C	1938 - 1959	

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

THE CEMETARY (Cont)

WALKING TOUR OF GRAVE SITES READ IN JULY 1990

Ortmann, John J	Sep 28, 1894	Dec 13, 1977	
Ortmann, Elizabeth F	Dec 5, 1896	Sep 12, 1961	
Whiteman, Charles	Apr 9, 1878	Mar 4, 1954	Flag WWI
Whiteman, Richard	Mar 6, 1915	Mar 24, 1955	Flag WWII
Finn, Michael P	1926 - 1956		
Finn, Michael P	1927 - 1956		
Elwood, Chester F	1916 - 1963		
Elwood, Mary C	1917 - 1984		
McNamara, Earl D	Aug 22, 1895	Feb 4, 1966	Flag WWI
McNamara, John W	1905 - 1960		
Finn, Peter J	Jan 21, 1895	Mar 26, 1974	
Finn, Ruth I	Oct 24, 1893	Jan 10, 1984	
Leister, John	1803 - 1891		
Leister, Catherine	1806 - 1888		
Shearer, Fannie	Nov 21, 1866	Sep 26, 1884	
Shoup, Christina	Jan 6, 1790	Aug 22, 1872	
Hartman, Margery	Apr 25, 1827	July 2, 1897	
Shields, Frankie			
Shields, Charlie	Apr 14, 1888	Aged ? Y 9 M 8 D	
Kreutle, Elizabeth	Jul 28, 1876	May 14, 1924	
Cesare, Anthony A	Nov 11, 1925	Aug 17, 1984	
Offredi, N L	Dec 25, 1949		
Kurzinger, George E	Oct 26, 1917	Nov 6, 1917	
Sagrillo, Ezio	1898 - 1929		
Zambotti, Joseph	Aug 12, 1859	Nov 9, 1929	
Zambotti, Constante	May 3, 1863	Jun 18, 1940	
Luchesa, Adele	1882 - 1966		
Luchesa, Cesare	1880 - 1925		
Husarik, Maria	1884 - 1924		
Miloser, Annie	1869 - 1921		
Miloser, Pauline	Feb 8, 1918	July 26, 1918	
Dipre, Arthur S	Oct 30, 1919	Age 26 Yr	
Niaminoffezzoli, Eurica	Mar 30, 1919		
Skalko, Andre	1888 - 1918	Flag WWI	
Billock, Michael	Feb 2, 1919	Feb 12, 1919	
McBride, Jas G	Jan 7, 1852	Oct 22, 1900	
Slivensky, Mary	1883 - 1918		
Gariglio, Henry	1884 - 1954		
Gariglio, Ottavia	1871 - 1937		
Zanetti, John P	1927 - 1952		
Gariglio, Isabelle	Feb 13, 1930	May 3, 1930	
Yodushock, John	1925 - 1925	2 Mos	
Rohrer, Richard	Aug 6, 1920	Aug 27, 1920	
Rohrer, Russel	Aug 6, 1920	Aug 6, 1920	
Cesarini, Dominic	1894 - 1974		
Cesarini, Elisa	1900 - 1990		
Chvala, Joseph J	1920 - 1978	Flag WWII	

GUARDIAN ANGEL CHURCH AND CEMETARY

ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE YEARS OLD

THE CEMETARY (Cont)

FAMILY GROUP SHEETS AVAILABLE - BURIAL REFERENCES

O-1 Blasius Easley (1730)	C-1 Casper Easley Sr (1760)
C-2 Casper Easley Jr (1804)	C-3 William Casper Easley (1837)
C-4 Archibald Easley (1844)	C-5 John B Easley (1848)
C-6 James F. Easley (1872)	C-7 Andrew M Easley (1879)
C-8 Casper W. Easley (1869)	C-9 Joseph Alfonse Easley (1871)
C-10 Albert Leo Easley (1877)	C-11 Charles James Easley (1903)
C-12 Thomas Andrew Easley(1908)	C-13 Maurice James Easley (1916)
A-1 Andrew Easley (1762)	A-2 John Henry Easley (1799)
A-3 Andrew Joseph Easley (1803)	A-4 James Easley (1815)
A-5 Joseph V. Easley (1820)	A-6 Andrew Easley (1830)
A-7 Charles B. Easley (1829)	A-8 Gabriel F. Easley (1848)
A-9 John C. Easley (1852)	A-10 Michael S. Easley (1855)
A-11 James V. Easley (1859)	A-12 James S. Easley (1886)
A-13 Philip J. Easley (1887)	A-14 Walter Leo Easley (1891)
A-15 John F. Easley (1919)	
x-1 Archibald Black Sr (1766)	X-2 John Black Sr (1802)
X-3 Archibald Black Jr (1820)	X-4 William E. Brown (1885)
X-5 Daniel Denny (1818)	X-6 Frank Duff (1888)
X-7 Dennis Leo Duff (1890)	X-8 Jerome Duff (1844)
X-9 James P. Edgington (1890)	X-10 James Albert Gray (1884)
X-11 Robert H Hagerty (1805)	X-12 Henry S. Kuhn (1751)
X-13 Peter J Le Strange (1863)	X-14 Leroy C. Lohr (1900)
X-15 Stephen A. McCarren Sr(1901)	X-16 Daniel C. McFadden (1881)
X-17 Francis A. McGinley (1895)	X-18 John N. Minter (c1910)
X-19 James Reilly (c1827)	X-20 John Francis Reilly (1873)
X-21 John A. Sellner (1928)	X-22 John A. Shields (180&)
X-23 Marvenous K Thompson (1879)	

The above is a listing of a special selection of Family Group Sheets with relevance to burials in Guardian Angel Cemetery. The name listed is the head of the family and the numbers in parentheses indicates the birth year of that family head. Generally the sheet contains the names of the parents of the family head and of his spouse, plus the names and birthdates of all children and the names of the children's spouses. In some cases, all members of the family are buried at Guardian Angel Cemetery.

Copies of any of the above Group Sheets are available from the compiler at 10 cents per sheet plus postage:
John F Easley, 15 Raymond Terr Norwalk, CT, 06855.
St Lawrence Rectory has a complete set of these Sheets.
Copies may be obtained from that source at the discretion of the Pastor.