

Allouez Cemetery History

The 65-acre cemetery Allouez Catholic Cemetery opened in 1822 as Shantytown Cemetery and is among the oldest cemeteries in Green Bay and Wisconsin.

Before that Catholics were buried at LaBaye Cemetery at the intersection of Washington and Adams streets in downtown Green Bay. When the then-Town of Astor continued to develop in 1834-1835, the graves were moved to Allouez Cemetery. The former cemetery site is now a fire station.

Site of Historic Church

The first church in the western hemisphere staffed by the Redemptorist order of priests — who arrived in Green Bay on August 31, 1832 — was built at the cemetery. Dominican Father Samuel Mazzuchelli, a prominent 19th-century missionary, started work on the church. The church was completed in 1831, making it the oldest Catholic organization in Northern Wisconsin. The church burned down on Christmas, 1847. Fr. Mazzuchelli was declared venerable in 1993. A marker designates the location.

Notable Graves

The cemetery in the Village of Allouez includes a 60,000-square-foot mausoleum and Wall of Honor for military veterans and their spouses. The 32,000 interments/entombments include:

- Curly Lambeau (1898-1965), who founded the Green Bay Packers in 1919 and in 1921 decided to join the NFL. He served as head coach 31 seasons and led the Packers to six league championships (1929-30-31, 1936, 1939, 1944) and posted a 212-106-21 NFL record (.656). He was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1963.
- Denis John Francis Murphy (1830-1901), a sergeant in Company F, 14th Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, who was awarded the Civil War Congressional Medal of Honor in 1892. He was honored for his bravery on October 3, 1862, at the Battle of Corinth, Mississippi, when he, “Although wounded three times, carried the colors throughout the conflict.”
- Anthony R. “Tony” Canadeo (1919-2003), a star halfback with the Green Bay Packers in the 1940s and 1950s. In 1949 his 1,052 rushing yards made him the third pro football player to rush for 1,000 yards in one season.
- John Austin Gronouski (1919-1996), who in 1963 became the first Polish-American to serve in the U.S. Cabinet when President John Kennedy chose him to be Postmaster General. He later was ambassador to Poland and was an educator. In 1952 he was the unsuccessful Democratic nominee for U.S. Senator against Joseph McCarthy.
- Dale Livingston (1945-2009), kicker and punter 1968-1970, played first in the American Football League with the Cincinnati Bengals, then with the Green Bay Packers in the NFL. He kicked a field goal in 1970 for the Packers on their first Monday Night Football game. He played collegiate football at Eastern Michigan and Western Michigan universities.

Special Memorial

Allouez Cemetery also includes a memorial commemorating those killed on Aug. 3, 1887, when a newly installed boiler exploded at Rahrs Brewery at 1317-1331 Main Street, Green Bay. Those killed were August Delforge, his sons Frank and Joseph, and Jean B. Haibe, Jean Baptiste Biermeret, and George Huber. It remains one of the worst industrial accidents in Green Bay history.

Wall of Honor

The Wall of Honor pays tribute to all men and women who have served in the U.S. Military during peace or conflict. Veterans and their spouses can select a customized resting place there. The memorial includes a flag from each war, a large American flag, and other military features. Allouez Cemetery's annual Memorial Day Service is conducted at the Wall of Honor.

Allouez Cemetery is open to persons of all beliefs.