BENI ISRAEL - JEWISH CEMETERY
EUDORA TOWNSHIP

Owner: Trustees for Beni Israel Cemetery.

Legal description: Beginning SE corner Section 7, Township 13 South, Ranges 21 East, then North 18 rods to stake, then West 18 rods to stake, then South 18 rods to stake, then East 18 rods to place of beginning, contain 2 Acres all in Douglas County, Kansas.

History: Located one mile West and one mile South of Eudora, Kansas and originally consisted of two acres, of which one half acre is now used for burial ground. The city of Eudora granted the acreage for cemetery purposes to the German Jewish community there — they were voted to have one of the ten lots destined to be used for a cemetery (from Eudora City council minutes Sept. 26, 1859).

This plot of ground was first purchased from Isidore Bernstein and wife, January 19th 1869, for the sum of ten dollars. The deed was made to Charles Levy, David Urbansky and Samuel Frischman as trustees.

According to the tombstones, the first to be buried here was a child of Mr. and Mrs. Asher L. Cohn named Isaac, in 1858. Asher L. Cohn was born in Prussia and was one of the first settlers, arriving in Eudora by covered wagon in 1854 — his wife Sarah and baby came by steamboat from St. Louis to Eudora. All three were laid to rest here. Another son, William died in 1915 at the age of 53 years and rests here with them. Asher Cohn was buried in 1890, his tombstone bears the insignia of the Masons. According to local records Mr. Cohn joined Lawrence Lodge No. 6 of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Kansas in 1885.

The cemetery is neatly fenced. The sign near the gate reads "Beni Israel" (Cemetery of the Children of Israel). "Founded 1858 restored by B'nai B'rith in 1952"

The Lawrence Jewish Community Center has been the legal owner since 1978, at that time the center's burial committee was considering policies to guide burials and govern the cemetery, and arranging for the sale of plots to Douglas County Jews who consider Kansas their home. According to records, a child, A. Raffeleck was buried here in 1928, after which there were no more burials until 1980. The last was Emmy F. Hertzfeld in 1983.

No stones found in 1987 for: A. Raffeleck

NOTE: Spelling of names will differ in translation.

Readable stones in 1987:

**HERZFELD**
Walter, June 27, 1895—June 20, 1980
Emmy F., Feb. 17, 1899—Nov. 29, 1983

**FRISCHMAN**
Samuel 1838-1872

**URBANSKY**
David 1814-1874

**FISCHBEIN**
Ludwig, Dec. 4, 1896—Feb. 22, 1881

**STIEFEL**
Fritz W. 1874-1875

**STEINBERG**
Henriette, D. Oct. 27, 1874

**EDWARDS**
Aaron S., Nov. 4, 1904—Aug. 16, 1906

**URBANSKY**
Aaron, Jan. 2, 1839—Oct. 30, 1904 age 65 years (Mason)

**MACHENSTEIN**
Elmer Ahren 1866-1867 (Name is in Hebrew)

**EDWARDS**
Ben, June 15, 1866—July 14, 1926

**URBANSKY**
Jennie wife of A., June 27, 1853—June 21, 1908

**FRISCHMAN**

HEBREW Inscription,
Translation:
Elmer Ahren Machensteina 1866-1867
(Phot: Don Vaughn)