

**Finding Aid to the
Research Records for Wrought Iron Cross Cemeteries in
North Dakota—Continuing Survey, 1998-99**

Isern, Thomas D.

Research Records for *Wrought Iron Cross Cemeteries in North Dakota—Continuing Survey, 1998-99*

1 linear ft.

Collection number: Mss 298

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OVERVIEW

Links: Finding Aid to the [Research Records for Historical Architectural Survey of Bowman County, N.D., 1998](#)
Finding Aid to the [Near South Side Residential Area, Grand Forks, North Dakota: An Update Survey research records, 2001-2002](#)

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HISTORY

The continuing survey of wrought iron cross cemeteries in North Dakota was led by Thomas D. Isern, professor of history at North Dakota State University; and Kevin Nesemeier, a history master's degree student at NDSU. The abstract of the bound publication, *Wrought Iron Cross Cemeteries in North Dakota—Continuing Survey, 1998-99* states the following:

“This survey deals with wrought iron cross grave markers in cemeteries in North Dakota. (Some attention is given cast iron markers, but these are not the focus.) It resumes a line of work commenced in 1988 with a survey of 21 cemeteries, all associated with the Germans from Russia and all located east of the Missouri River. The current study emphasizes West River North Dakota and includes ethnic cultures other than the Germans from Russia, including Germans from Hungary, Germans from Germany, Ukrainians, Czechs from Russia, Turtle Mountain Métis, and the Three Affiliated Tribes. The survey comprises 72 cemeteries in 24 counties. It documents 808 wrought iron crosses, along with other associated elements and features.”

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The research records of Thomas Isern consist of analyses of wrought iron crosses in North Dakota cemeteries in an effort to document all such crosses in the state. Each analysis consists of photos, maps, and reports. There are two series in the collection: Background and Survey Files.

The **Background** series consists of two publications of *Wrought Iron Cross Cemeteries in North Dakota—Continuing Survey, 1998-99*. One is a public report, while the other is a more detailed private report.

The **Survey Files** series includes the analyses of wrought iron crosses in North Dakota. The analyses are comprised of photos, maps, and survey reports.

BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

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	Background Series
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2/3	<i>Wrought Iron Cross Cemeteries in North Dakota—Continuing Survey, 1998-99</i> (Public Report)
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Survey Files Series

1 Files SU 2-72, Bismarck, Emmons, McHenry, McLean, Pierce, Ramsey, Benson