

Districts that didn't survive

• by J. C. Fehr

The rural school districts of the R.M. of Rhineland have now been covered in this series of historical sketches. For this week we start taking a look at some of the original small settlements that have not survived the years.

NEUANLAGE

The photo shows a monument located about a mile northeast of Gretna to honor the pioneers. It was here that the Village of Neuanlage was located. It had a store, which was moved to Gretna when that town came into being. Neuanlage was the site of the municipal office of the R.M. of Douglas, when this part of the municipality was known by that name. It was also a famous stopping place for travellers along the Post Road.

BLUMENHOF

Heading north and west of Gretna we pass through Gruenthal and come to a place called Blumenhof. A row of trees and bush on Sec. 13-1-2W remain where the village used to be. A private school operating until 1919, later was used for community socials for a number of years. In recent times it was moved to the Mennonite Museum at Steinbach, where it has been restored.

NEUENDORF

Going west again we pass through Eigenhof, Kronstal and



The inscription on this monument erected in 1950 is as follows: This monument was erected on the seventy-fifth anniversary of the arrival of the Mennonite Pioneers West of the Red River. It commemorates the faith and sacrifices of the early settlers who braved the wild treeless plains shunned by earlier immigrants, the peace and prosperity that these pioneers and their descendants have enjoyed here and the Post Road which marked by stakes started at Emerson passed this site at that time a stopping place and ran westward through the settlement. The Bible verse both in German and English is Proverbs 3:6, "In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths."

Rosetown. Two miles west of Rosetown was an original village of the name of Neudorf. It is not known when this village disappeared. There is a sort of a legend about a certain Mr. Neudorf who lived one half mile north of the village site. As the story goes he lived in a semlin (sod house) long after other people built houses. Having an inventive mind, he

dreamed of becoming a great inventor some day. One of the things it is said he invented was the common lock washer, the patent for which he sold for five dollars.

A mile and a half north of Neudorf a small settlement was begun. The name of it is lost and also there is no trace of it ever having been there.

(To be continued).