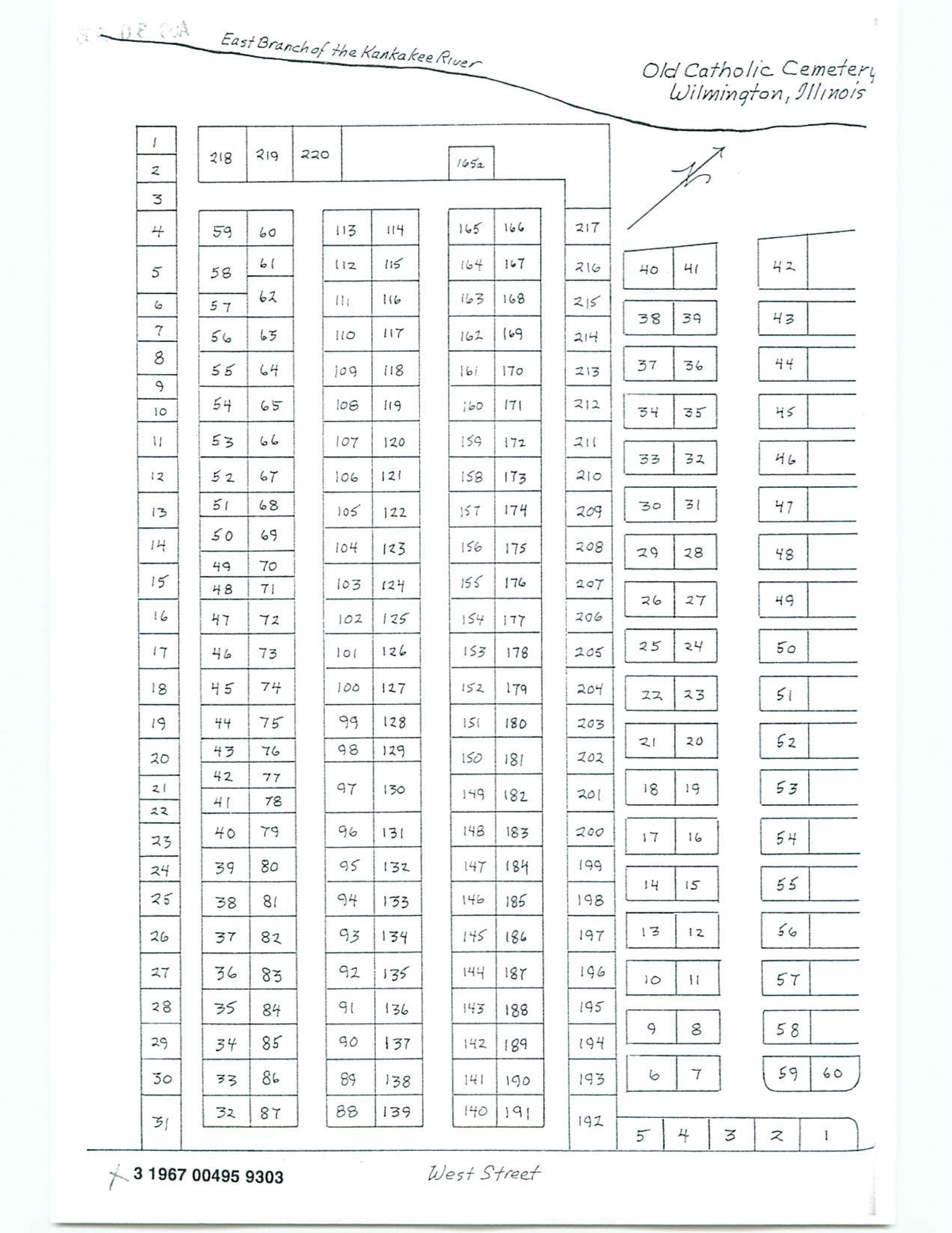
East Branch of the Kankakee River

Old Catholic Cemetery
Wilmington, Illinois



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West Street

PREFACE

The Old Catholic Cemetery in Wilmington, Illinois, now known as Section A of Mt. Olivet Cemetery, is maintained by St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church. Although St. Rose dates from 1855, the cemetery's earliest marked burial is 1848 and there is evidence that there may have been a Wilmington mission operating as early as 1838. The fifty-nine lots added to the north-east edge of the cemetery in the 1880's are now referred to as the "outlot," and are identified in the text by an "o" before the lot number.

This text does not include the relatively recent B or C sections of Mt. Olivet Cemetery. Our final proofreading of Section A took place in the summer of 1993.

Due to fires and other mishaps, no church burial records survive here prior to 1937. Cemetery ownership maps, the earliest dated 1866, have survived, and information taken from them is included after each lot number along with a breakdown as to what fraction of a lot is owned. The spelling of these names has been left as it was found on the maps.

Owing to the age of the cemetery, and the number of people who have been in charge of it over the years, inconsistencies have arisen in lot ownership and lot measurements in comparison to actual marker locations. Notations have been made in our manuscript where these problems were found. To be certain of these discrepancies, we measured the lots to accurately represent placement of markers. During these measurements, some lots were found to be smaller than shown on the maps and a few lots were found to not even exist. These problems may date to measurement inaccuracies in the earliest sales of lots.

Following the Old Catholic Cemetery text is Dwyer Cemetery. This small family plot can be found west of Wilmington. Later generations of the Dwyer family were buried in Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Many thanks for the previous cataloging efforts of M.J. Edgeworth, Harriet L. Churchill and Jane A. Barr, all of whose works contributed to this manuscript. Thanks also to Shirley Kavanaugh, Ed O'Connor and St. Rose Church.

CATALOGING METHODS

Markers were read from left to right, beginning with the front row of markers in each lot, and are numbered (1., 2., 3., etc.) in order of occurrence. Information on each marker was read from top to bottom and monuments with multiple inscriptions were read front side first, then each side in turn to the right. Data about each person, in dealing with multiple inscriptions, is separated by a slash.