

She called Coroner Hirscher, and Dr. Gustave Herman Seidler, in pieces, was brought to the office, and eventually to Valley Cemetery in Shakopee.

Dr. Gustave was buried at the Valley Cemetery in Shakopee.

He was survived by his second wife, Minnie Finsch Seidler and his two children, Bertha Ida (1897-1994) and Helene (1898-1948.). Gustave's second wife died in 1931, and is buried at Valley Cemetery near her husband.

As for the Mudcura Sanitarium, it closed down in 1951. The sanatorium was sold to the Black Franciscans, Order of Friars Minor Conventual, from Louisville, Kentucky. They named it Assumption Seminary. It remained in operation until 1970.

After 1970, the property changed hands many times, but remained abandoned. On November 8, 1997, a fire destroyed the building, a sad ending for Mudcura Sanitarium, a landmark that was known internationally for good health.



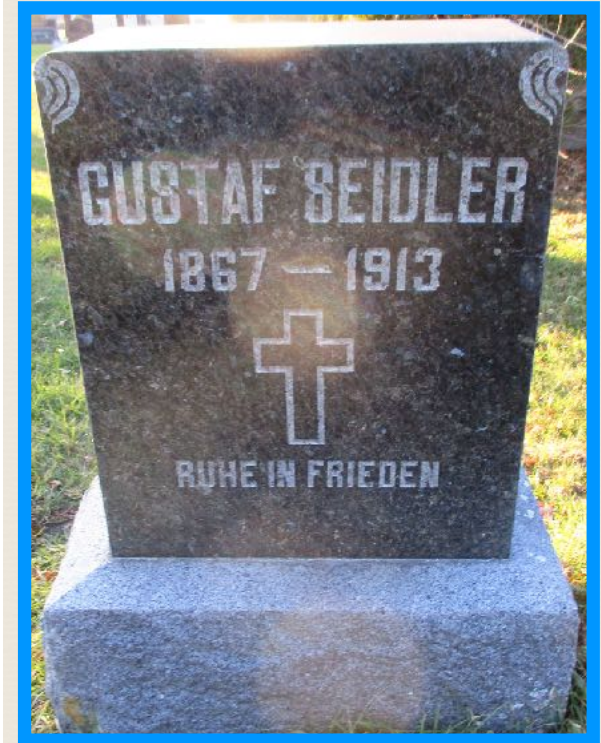
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Dr. Gustave Herman Seidler 1867-1913



Mudcura Sanitarium (1908–1951), later known as the Assumption Seminary (until 1970), was located on Highway 212 just west of Highway 169, near the Seminary Fen.

The sulfur springs, mud and plants from this area had been used by Dakota medicine men for many years before the settlers-colonists discovered their healing attributes.

The treatments at Mudcura used these plants and mineral-rich mud when treating people for medical ailments, including for arthritis, asthma, nervous disorders and even alcoholism.

Mudcura Sanitarium was not located in Shakopee, though it was close by. It is actually located between the cities of Chaska and Chanhassen, and just across the river from Shakopee. Though located in Chanhassen, many of the postcards named the place as in Shakopee.

One of the masseurs at the place was Dr. Gustave Herman Seidler. Dr. Gustave Seidler was born in Gerbstadt, Germersheim, Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany on December 9, 1867. He married twice. The first woman died in Germany, and Dr. Seidler was left with two daughters, Bertha and Helene, according to an article in the **Shakopee Tribune**, *Instantly Killed* on November 21, 1913, p.1.



A detailed history of Mudcura Sanitarium written by Joseph Huber, Michael Huber and Patricia Huber noted that the grounds were situated on 120 acres, half of them mud, that construction on the main building began in 1908, and that by December of that year, “with only the foundation completed, they were calling the facility the Swastika Sulphur Springs Sanitorium. ... When finished it was called Mudcura, even though they still had a decorative Swastika in the main office.” In fairness, it should be noted that the swastika symbol did not come to have negative connotations until it was adopted by the Nazi party in Germany in the 1920s and incorporated into the state flag of Germany after Adolf Hitler’s Nazi party gained power in 1933.

He married for a second time in Germany, and moved the family to America in 1904, and to Shakopee in 1908.

The Seidler’s lived near the train tracks in Shakopee on November 11, 1913. Dr. Seidler’s daughter, Helene, ran in front of the Omaha #11 Passenger Train, which was speeding to town at 9:45 pm.

Gustave ran to get her, but he stumbled and fell. The wheels passed over the body and completely severed both legs above the ankles, according to the **Scott County Argus**, November 21, 1913, Vol. 52, p. 1 called *Shocking Accident Horrifies Community*.



Above is some of the workers, possibly including Dr. Gustave Fischer. Below is the sanitarium founder Dr. Henry P. Fischer, along with his family.

