

Weicht Funeral Home

Founded: [1854]

Location: Original location unknown; 207 North West Street, Angola (1993)

Born in Baden, Germany, Leopold Edward Weicht immigrated to the United States and in 1854 founded an undertaking business in Angola. Weicht was a skilled cabinetmaker and taught the trade to his son, Henry B., who eventually joined him in the business. They operated the firm of L. E. Weicht & Son, which may also have been known as Weichts' Undertaking Establishment. They also operated a planing mill, at least in the 1880s and 1890s. By the end of the nineteenth century Henry Weicht was in business on his own. Henry also ran a casket company, producing cloth-covered, wood, and metal caskets as well as robes and linings. Henry died in 1923 and was followed in the family business by his son Paul J. By the early 1930s both Paul and his son Joseph Henry were involved in the undertaking and casket business. The casket-making company was known as the Angola Casket Factory. By the 1990s the family no longer made caskets; Weicht Funeral Home was run by Paul E. (Gene) Weicht, representing the sixth generation of the family in the undertaking business, and Susan Weicht.