



WYUKA  
CEMETERY:  
A DRIVING  
& WALKING  
TOUR



ED ZIMMER

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## A DRIVING & WALKING TOUR

This tour of Wyuka Cemetery is designed to be accessible from the roadways of the Cemetery, while offering additional points of interest to those willing and able to meander through various sections adjacent to the car route. All of the roadside Tour Stops are marked with numbered signs. There are additional directional arrows at the intersections to help guide you. Section Walks are supplemental to the Tour Stops and are indicated by maps inserted into the text.

Wyuka Cemetery was established by an act of the Nebraska Legislature in 1869 to provide a “Lincoln State Cemetery” for the new state’s capital city, founded just two years before. The three original trustees rejected the first site provided by the State—flood-prone ground along Salt Creek west of Lincoln, near the State Asylum (now the Lincoln Regional Center). Instead in 1869 they purchased 80 acres of rolling terrain east of the city on which to establish a “rural cemetery,” the latest trend in American burial grounds. Mount Auburn Cemetery near Boston, established in 1831, innovated this new type of large, scenic, park-like cemetery, with curving roads accentuating the lay of the land and abundant plantings of trees, shrubs and flowers. Visitors were encouraged to stroll, remember, and learn about their community’s past. Today’s visitors to Wyuka continue this tradition.

The trustees named the new cemetery after Wyuka Cemetery in Nebraska City, which was established in 1855. The name is apparently derived from the Otoe language, spelled as an English-speaker might hear the Native American phrases signifying “he lies down” or “place of reclining.” This blending of Otoe and English seems highly appropriate for the name of a cemetery embodying Nebraska history.

The cemetery expanded from those first purchases and now encompasses over 140 acres between O and Vine Streets. Wyuka Cemetery was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982 as an outstanding example of the beautiful rural cemetery form. Wyuka retains its close connection to the State of Nebraska, as the Governor appoints the board of trustees who govern the non-profit corporation.

## SECTION 1



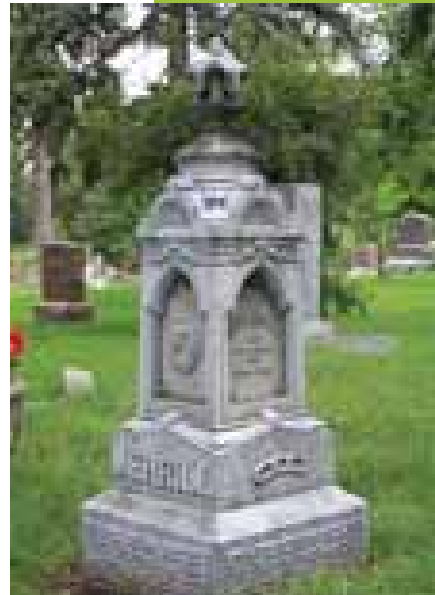
### TOUR STOP 1: RUDGE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

The main entrance to Wyuka Cemetery from O Street provides a lovely view of Rudge Memorial Chapel, built of Indiana limestone in the Gothic Revival style and completed in 1938 from designs by the Lincoln architects Davis & Wilson. The cost of the chapel—a well-spent \$30,000—was donated by the family of Charles H. Rudge, who had grown a downtown hardware store into Rudge & Guenzel Department Store at South 13th and N Streets before his death in 1921. (The Rudge Family monument in Section 13 is Tour Stop 33.) The chapel's austere interior features a lovely oak pulpit carved with acorns and oak leaves. Funerals and occasional weddings are held in the small building, which seats about 75.

## TOUR STOP 2: BEESON & MERRILL

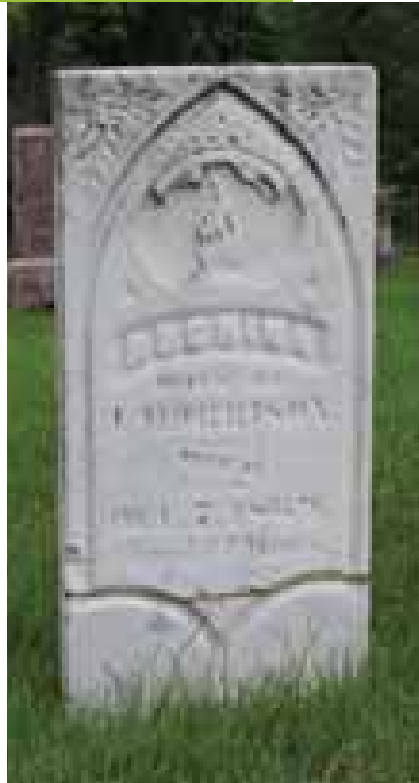


The Beeson family plot features brown granite markers for Smith H. and Mary E. Beeson. Mr. Beeson was one of nearly 1,000 Civil War veterans buried at Wyuka, achieving the rank of Second Lieutenant in the 8th Iowa Cavalry after early serving in the infantry and gunboat services. He worked as a carpenter in Lincoln before he died in the Soldiers and Sailors Home at Milford, Nebraska in 1928 at 87 years of age, 15 years after his wife's death.



A short distance east of the Beeson plot is the ornate monument of the Merrill family. Samuel Merrill was born in England in 1805 and died in Pleasant Dale, Nebraska in 1884. Also interred in the family plot were Mr. Merrill's wife Martha and their daughter-in-law Catherine. Their bluish-gray marker is not stone, but rather was cast of zinc by the Western White Bronze Company of Des Moines, Iowa. This late-nineteenth technique allowed the casting of richly detailed monuments. Wyuka has about a half-dozen "white bronze" monuments, several of which are identified on this tour. The three links of chain depicted on the Merrill monument symbolize the IOOF or International Order of Odd Fellows, a fraternal group.

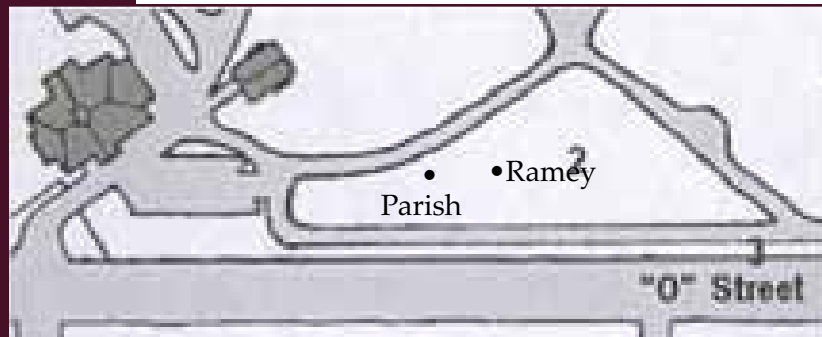
## SECTION 2



### TOUR STOP 3: HUGHINA MORRISON

Wyuka's oldest monuments were typically white marble tablets, many of which are being worn smooth by the natural forces of weather and lichens. Hughina Morrison's marker in Section 2 is the oldest known gravestone in the cemetery, commemorating her death at age 44 in 1869, the year of Wyuka's founding. A carved hand on her gravestone points skyward toward a nearly illegible inscription that originally read "Gone Home." The grave of her husband John Morrison is marked beside Mrs. Morrison's with the taller marble pier.

## WALK



Walking sections allow you to take a break from the driving tour and enjoy a turn around the park-like atmosphere of Wyuka Cemetery. Use this section map as a guide to the stops detailed on the next few pages.



## SECTION 2

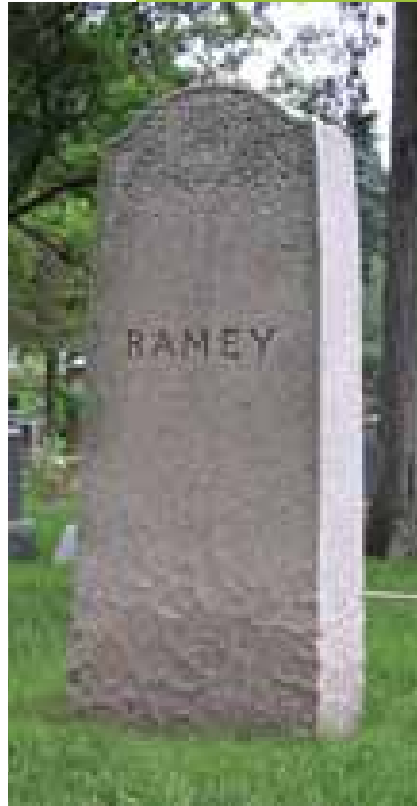


### PARISH

William M. Parish (1841-1906) served in a Wisconsin regiment in the Civil War, then settled in Nebraska in 1873, first in Wilber, then in Lincoln by 1889. He operated furnished rooms and hotels, including the building at the northeast corner of 14th and O Streets which bears his name. He was active with other Union veterans in Lincoln's Farragut G.A.R. Post 25. (The G.A.R. was a popular organization of Union veterans of the Civil War.) Nellie Parish (1849-1896) was interred a decade before her husband. Her obituary rhapsodized: "They had been companions from very early childhood, and when, on her eighteenth birthday, she gave her hand to the man of her choice, she gave her whole heart in it." Their limestone monument, in the form of a pier topped by a book and draped with a cloth, is signed by the Lincoln stonecarver Joseph Barwick.

## RAMEY

Dr. Walter W. Ramey (1866-1932) and Mary Elizabeth Ramey (1862-1945) share a family plot marked with a tall monument of pink granite, marked by the Kimball Bros. Monument Company. Both Rameys were school teachers in Unadilla, Nebraska before their marriage. He later attended medical school at Cotner College in Bethany Heights and then in Cincinnati. He practiced in Adams, Nebraska, before settling in Lincoln with his wife Mary Elizabeth in 1902. He purchased the grand McFarland mansion at North 14th and Q Streets and equipped it as a hospital called Lincoln Hospital or sometimes "Ramethenian Restorium." It was described in 1917 as offering 25 beds and being "provided with every modern appliance and equipment to aid in the successful treatment of disease, whether the treatment required is of a medical or surgical nature." He later was on staff at St. Elizabeth and Bryan Memorial Hospitals.



## SECTION 2

### TOUR STOP 4: DAMERON



A large brown granite marker on a gray granite base celebrates the life and commemorates the death of Walter Dameron (1884-1911), a young fireman who was “Killed in a wreck on Burlington Railroad near Indianola, Neb.” Two steam trains collided head-on in that grim event, killing eighteen crew members and passengers, including five railroad workers from Lincoln. On the reverse side of the stone is the monogram “B of LE” (for “Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers”) and an etching of a handsome steam locomotive.

The large and conspicuously placed monument served as a reminder of the frequent dangers of railroaders’ work. Addison Sheldon of the Nebraska State Historical Society eulogized one of the slain engineers, John Hyder, saying that “a great railroad accident in a railroad town like Lincoln brings to every home a sense of personal loss....[All people]...find themselves merged in the railroader with a sudden sense of the perils inseparable from the life of those who daily drive the great machines of steel and steam across our prairies making our cities possible and our farms worth cultivation.”

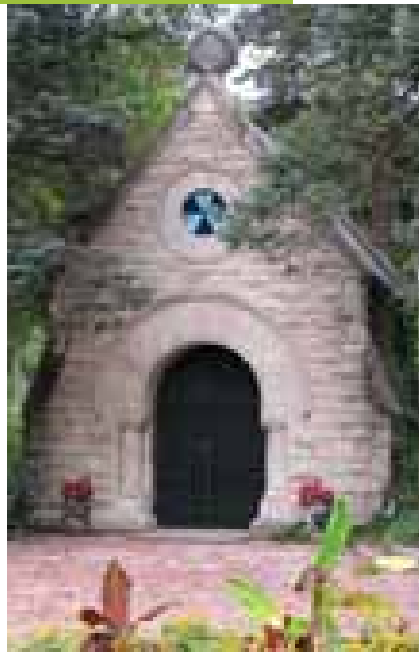


## TOUR STOP 5: MAUSOLEUMS & RECEIVING VAULT

Wyuka's early mausoleums were clustered in one area of the cemetery to maintain the open, park-like appearance of the rest of the grounds. The E. E. Brown family mausoleum of 1911 was erected three years after the death of Erastus E. Brown, an attorney, banker, and second mayor of Lincoln (in 1872-3)--the earliest of the nearly two dozen Lincoln mayors interred in the cemetery. His prominence is reflected in his list of pallbearers, which included William Jennings Bryan in the year of his third and final presidential campaign.

Mausoleums such as the Browns' were equivalent in cost to a substantial house, largely because of the massive size and weight of the stones used. The granite roof of the structure consists of just three slabs and the stones forming the walls run the length of the building. A handsome leaded-glass window lights the marble-lined interior.

## SECTION 4



### TOUR STOP 5 CONT.

The Receiving Vault on the curved driveway between the Brown and Raymond Mausoleums is the oldest building in the cemetery, constructed in 1886 from designs of John H. W. Hawkins, a Cornell graduate newly arrived in Lincoln for a brief but highly productive half-decade. (The Phillips Castle at South 19th and D Streets is Hawkins' best-known Lincoln project.) The limestone Receiving Vault was built to hold caskets of remains when the ground was too hard-frozen in the winter to open graves. It combines architecture and landscape elements to achieve the desired effect. The hillside behind the little Romanesque Revival building is banked up against it to set the structure further into the earth. An arc of four tall, bluish concolor firs accentuate the front drive, contrasting with a backdrop of darker Norway spruce behind the building.



## TOUR STOP 5 CONT.

The Raymond Mausoleum flanks the Receiving Vault and contains the remains of at least eight members of the Raymond family, who operated wholesale businesses in Haymarket supplying grocery and drug stores. Isaac M. Raymond was also a founder of banks in Hastings and Lincoln, and served in the Nebraska Senate in the 1880s. The Raymond mausoleum, like the Vault, emerges from a bank of earth. The effect is further underscored by the rough texture of the granite just above the bank, contrasting with the smooth texture of the rest of the tiny Neo-classical temple.



## SECTION 3

### TOUR STOP 6: FENCE

The cast-iron fence along the O Street frontage of Wyuka bears the trademark of John Seaton of Atchison, Kansas. It was first installed in 1891 around the original campus of the University of Nebraska, which consisted of ten acres bounded by R, T, North 10th, and North 12th Streets. The narrow gateways of the fence impeded efforts of Lincoln firefighters to combat fires on campus, including one that severely damaged the State Museum building in 1912. This helped inspire Charles Morrill to make donations that resulted in a new natural history museum. Construction of Morrill Hall began in 1925 and that same year, the campus fence was removed and reinstalled at Wyuka, with a wide front entrance.



Through the fence, another cemetery is visible on the south side of O Street. It began as St. Theresa Cemetery on a ten-acre parcel purchased by Bishop James O'Conner of Omaha in 1877, ten years before the Lincoln diocese was formed and Thomas Bonacum became Lincoln's first Catholic bishop. Lincoln's Catholic burial ground was renamed Calvary Cemetery in the early twentieth century.



## TOUR STOP 7: MACRAE

A polished monument of black granite recalls the life and work of Gordon MacRae, actor and singer. He was best-known for his role as “Curly” in the movie *Oklahoma*, singing “Oh What a Beautiful Morning,” a measure of which is inscribed across the top of the stone. His credits also included *Carousel*, *The Best Things in Life Are Free*, and *The Big Punch*. He starred five times with Doris Day. Mr. MacRae adopted Lincoln as a family-friendly place to raise his daughter. He became a Nebraska football fan and sometimes sang the National Anthem for Cornhusker football games. He died in Lincoln in 1986 at age 64. At the base of the stone is an epitaph from a less successful actor who achieved greater prominence in his second career--in politics. President Ronald Reagan said that “Gordon will always be remembered wherever beautiful music is heard.”



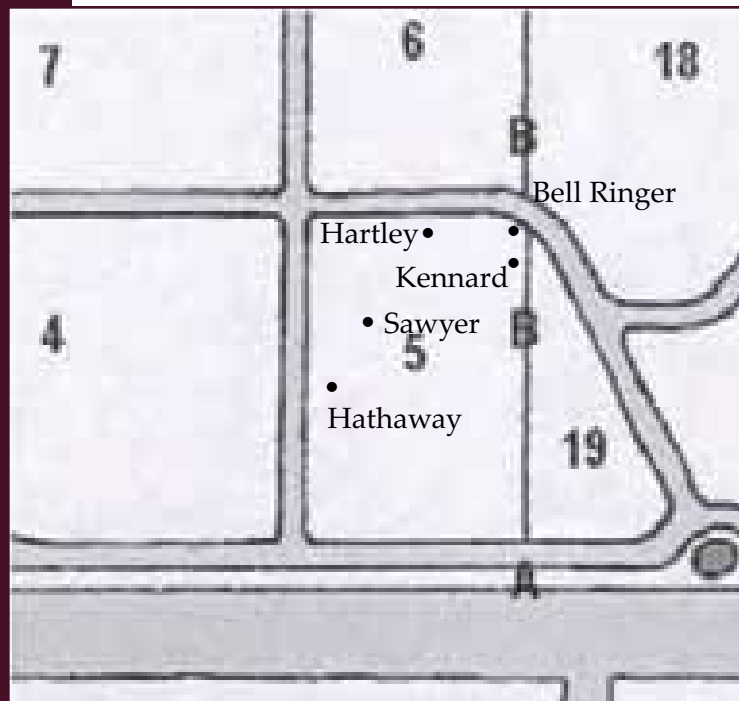
## SECTION 4



### TOUR STOP 8: WITTE

Northeast of the MacRae gravestone is an ornate early monument of limestone, marble, and granite, with two polished granite columns. Marked "Witte," it dates from a century before MacRae's, recording the death of Henry Witte (1821-1886), his wife Dora (1840-1893), and members of their family. The monument is also inscribed "Kimball Bros., Albia, Iowa." That family of monument makers relocated from Albia to Lincoln in 1887 and produced many of Wyuka's most ornate monuments from the 1880s to 1930s. Perhaps Mrs. Witte had some reason to order this gravestone from Iowa, thereby introducing the Kimballs to Lincoln. More likely they brought the monument with them from Iowa upon their move in 1887 and completed it here for the Witte family.

# WALK



## SECTION 5

The Hathaway Family gravestone is a tall granite monolith, a single stone weighing approximately three tons, carved in the form of a tree trunk. The State Granite and Marble Company of Lincoln produced the monument for \$600 around 1890. The tree motif is fairly common at Wyuka, probably symbolizing death in the branchless stump, and resurrection in the carved vine with leaves. Around the base of the family monument are eight markers including "Papa" Hiram Hathaway and "Mama" Anna. Sons Charles (b. 1861), Fred (b. 1863), and Frank (b. 1866) all died as young adults of illnesses in 1881, 1883, and 1894 respectively. Hiram Hathaway was an owner of the *Nebraska State Journal* and all three sons worked for the newspaper publisher, so their early deaths were commemorated in long obituaries.



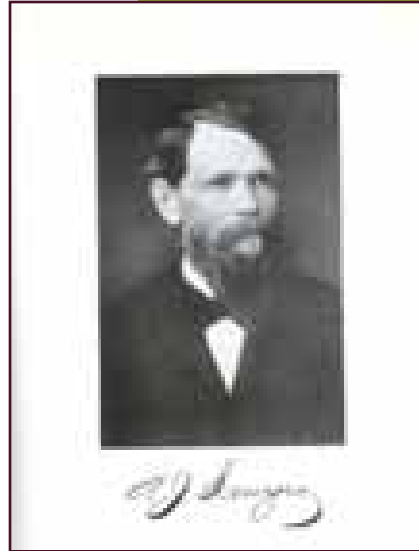
HATHAWAY



## SAWYER

The family monument of Andrew J. and Winona Sawyer is a polished granite sphere, inscribed with their surname. A. J. Sawyer (1844-1924) was an attorney, banker, and public servant, having held offices of state senator, Mayor of Lincoln, and U. S. Attorney. He also edited a highly useful history of *Lincoln and Lancaster County*, published in 1916.

Prior to settling in Lincoln in 1875 and commencing his legal career, Mr. Sawyer had been a teacher, principal, and school superintendent in Illinois. There he met and married Winona Branch, a teacher. Elected as mayor in 1887 on a reform platform, Mr. Sawyer clashed with Police Judge Albert Parsons, charging that the judge was pocketing fines levied against saloons and brothels. Mayor Sawyer and the City Council removed Parsons from office despite an injunction Parsons



obtained from a federal judge in St. Louis. The Mayor and his Council colleagues were jailed in Omaha for a week for contempt of court. Their attorney traveled to Washington, D.C. by train and obtained a writ of habeas corpus from the U. S. Supreme Court, freeing them and upholding their actions against the corrupt judge.

## SECTION 5



## HARTLEY

The natural quartzite boulder marking the Hartley family plot contrasts with the highly sculpted Hathaway and Sawyer monuments. Elias T. Hartley (1848-1914) served as the young superintendent of Lincoln Public Schools from 1883 to 1890. Lincoln's population boomed from about 13,000 to 55,000 during the decade of the 1880s. Ten elementary schools were constructed during Hartley's eight-year tenure. He later developed an orchard north of the Belmont neighborhood. Hartley Elementary School at North 33rd and Vine Streets, built in 1919, bears Mr. Hartley's name, as does the neighborhood around it, which includes Wyuka Cemetery.

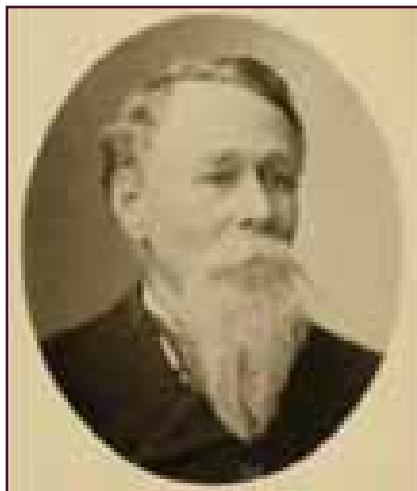
## SECTION 5

A tall granite slab east of the Hartley marker bears the melodic name “Bell Ringer,” which came about when Ortha Bell’s daughter Jane married Frank Ringer. After Mr. Ringer died in 1920, his 43-year-old widow returned to school and became a chiropractor, Dr. Jane Bell Ringer (1877-1975). She died at age 98 in California and is interred between her father and husband. All three have bronze insignias beside their individual markers. Ortha Bell, a veteran of the Union Army, has the star of the G.A.R. Jane Bell Ringer has the spinning wheel and distaff of the D.A.R. or Daughters of the American Revolution. She was a founder of Lincoln’s Deborah Avery D.A.R. Chapter. Frank Ringer’s bronze cross signifies his service in the Spanish-American War.



BELL RINGER

## SECTION 5



## KENNARD

Decades older than the granite Bell Ringer gravestone is the nearby marble marker of the Kennard Family. It was probably installed after the death of Livia Kennard in 1887. Her husband Thomas P. Kennard was Nebraska's first Secretary of State in 1867. Kennard, Governor David Butler, and Auditor John Gillespie formed the Capital Commission, tasked with selecting and developing the seat of the new state government. They were truly the "town fathers" of Lincoln. Mr. Kennard settled in Lincoln for a long business career before his death in 1920 at age 92. His Italianate-style house at 1627 H Street was built in 1868 to help jump-start the new city. It still stands, under the stewardship of the Nebraska State Historical Society, as the oldest house in the city.

## TOUR STOP 9: JOHNSON

The Territory of Nebraska raised a Union Army regiment which served with distinction in the Civil War. One of the regiment's most unique members was Harrison Johnson, a native of Arkansas (1849-1900). African Americans were not enlisted in the Union Army until President Lincoln changed the nation's policy with the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, and the First Nebraska Regiment was officially all-white. Mr. Johnson was a slave and an African American who escaped and took refuge with Nebraska's First Regiment. He was allowed to enlist as a private and served out the war with the Nebraska regiment. After the war he settled in Lincoln, joined the Farragut Post of the G.A.R. and worked as a hotel cook and janitor.



Mr. Johnson's headstone is also the sole marker of the graves of his wife Margaret (1854-1926) and their son John Johnson (1879-1953) and his wife Odessa (1891-1953). John Johnson was a talented photographer who worked in Lincoln in the 1910s and early '20s. Hundreds of his photographs were published in 2008 as *Lincoln in Black & White: 1910-1925* (by Douglas Keister and Ed Zimmer).



## SECTION 3



### TOUR STOP 10: TAYLOR

Wyuka's grounds were traditionally open for burials of persons of many religions, races, and national origins. However, reflecting the wider community, Wyuka sometimes sold plots under a policy of segregation, until the trustees disavowed this practice in the 1960s. Whether it was by choice or policy, many of the early twentieth century burials between the road and the fence, west of the Reservoir, were of African American individuals. Section 29 in the northwest quadrant of Wyuka later developed as the African American section through the middle and late years of the century.

Frances (Hill) Taylor (1904-1932) was a Lincoln High School graduate of 1924. She married in the late 1920s and moved to New York City where she soon died of "undetermined" causes—murder, according to her Lincoln friends. They brought her remains back home to Wyuka for burial.

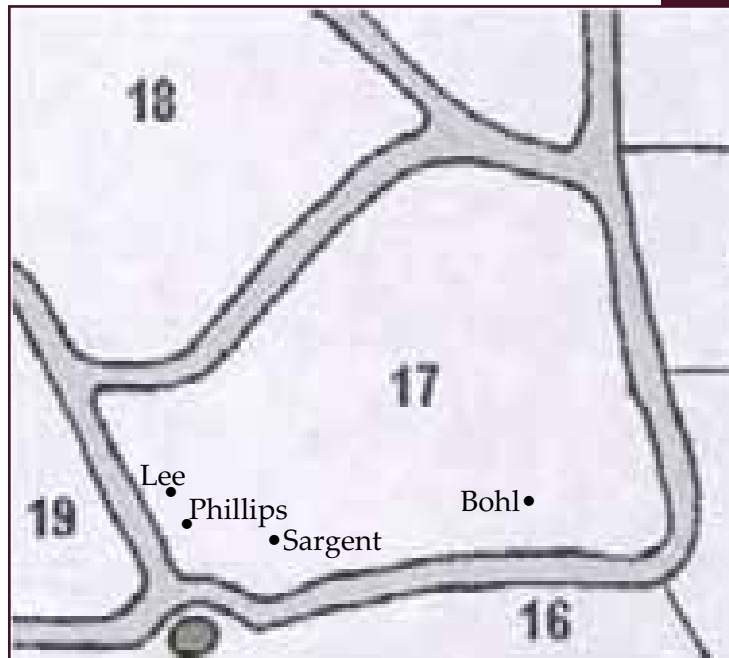


## TOUR STOP 11: WATER RESERVOIR

The concrete cylinder with the conical roof marks the highest point in the Cemetery—the logical location for a water tank. Built around 1889 to provide irrigation water for the cemetery, the reservoir is no longer used. Establishing shrubs, flowers, lawns and especially trees in the Nebraska prairie requires water. In its early years, Wyuka met the challenge with windmills, wooden water towers, and eventually this reservoir. Today the cemetery’s irrigation needs are met with private wells—hence the “Do Not Drink This Water” tags on the spigots throughout the grounds.

SECTION 17

WALK





## PHILLIPS

The battlefields of Europe may have been far distant from Lincoln, but national and international events impacted Nebraskans and their families. Section 17 includes the graves of several young men and women whose lives were cut short by the First World War.

Side-by-side, just north of the Reservoir, are the grave sites of the Phillips and Lee families. Clifford Phillips (1890-1919) was a former University of Nebraska student and a husband, father, and young attorney at Falls City in Richardson County, Nebraska at the southeast corner of the state. He served as a First Lieutenant in the American Expedi-

tionary Force, assigned to duty in Onega, Russia where American soldiers fought alongside the Czarist forces in the Russian Revolution. Lt. Phillips died there of battle wounds in 1919, long after the Armistice was signed ending combat in France. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for valor, a bronze replica of which marks his individual gravestone.

## SECTION 17



## LEE

John M. P. Lee was a 27-year-old corporal stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas when he fell ill and died in 1918, probably stricken by the influenza virus that killed tens of millions around the world during the First World War. More American military personnel died of illness than in battle in that war, as had been true of all previous American conflicts. Medical advances reversed those causes of fatality for the first time in World War II.

## SECTION 17

Charles and Helen Sargent, father and daughter, served in the Civil War and First World War, respectively. Charles Sargent (1844-1912) served a standard three month enlistment in a Massachusetts regiment, standing guard duty in Maryland. He was a civil engineer by profession and was credited in his obituary as the founder of Garrison, Nebraska. He came to Lincoln about 1899.

His daughter Helen Sargent was born in Gloucester, Massachusetts and was 38 years old when she entered Army service as a Red Cross nurse September 4, 1918. She was assigned to Fort Slocum, New York where she died of illness October 23, 1918. In 1928, the Lincoln Women's Club dedicated Memorial Drive in Antelope Park to the fallen troops of the First World War, with a monument naming all the "Lancaster County Boys Who Gave Their Lives." Two female nurses, including Helen Sargent, were listed among the "Boys."



SARGENT

## SECTION 17



### BOHL

Wyuka has only a handful of early gravestones with portrait photographs. The technique glazed the image onto a porcelain plaque, creating a photograph that was both crisp and remarkably stable. John Bohl was 25 years old when he was wounded in action in France; he died post-Armistice, on Christmas Eve, 1918.





## TOUR STOP 12: SHERWOOD

Corel Sherwood (1904-1925) was a mechanic for Lincoln Aircraft Corporation, one of two airplane manufacturers in Lincoln during the 1920s. He owned a plane and was giving brief rides when he crashed in February, 1925 near Ellis, Nebraska, killing his 50-year-old passenger, Dan Camp. Mr. Sherwood succumbed the next day.



His monument is made from a wooden airplane propeller with a copper-covered tip. His name and dates are hammered into the copper and carved onto the shaft of the wooden blade, with the added information that he was a "Young Aviator and Friend of Charles Lindbergh." The latter is documented with an aluminum replica of a letter from Charles Lindbergh to Corel Sherwood postmarked 1922, after Mr. Lindbergh had taken flight instruction at the aviation school operated by Lincoln Aircraft Corporation. The letter also mentions "Bahl," another young flyer with whom Mr. Lindbergh barnstormed around the Midwest and West in the summer of 1922, after less than three months in Lincoln. In 1927, two years after Corel Sherwood's death, Charles Lindbergh was the first person to fly solo across the Atlantic, landing in France to international acclaim and life-long fame.



## TOUR STOP 13: NAGATANI

The U. S. Census of 1920 counted only two dozen Lincoln residents of Asian ancestry. Japanese-born Muryo Nagatani died in 1927 at age 30, widowing her husband Kamematsu. The family operated Sunshine Café restaurant at 118 South 11th Street in downtown Lincoln. The west side of Mrs. Nagatani's obelisk-style monument is carved with Japanese characters, while the east side is inscribed in English.

The area from the Nagatani monument to the southeast corner of the cemetery shows few grave-stones and may look vacant, but the area is filled with individual burials including many infants. The cemetery provided several areas through the years where young families or poor individuals unable to afford a full-sized family plot could purchase an individual grave.





This tour stop is intended to encourage the driver to pause awhile and gaze up the steep brick road between Sections 17 and 21 to the beautiful Allington family monument on the eastern tip of Section 18. (Walkers are encouraged to climb the hill and visit the monument up-close.)

Dedicated in May 2005, a year following the death of Mary Lynn Allington (1931-2004), the pink granite arcade also marks the grave of her husband Robert W. Allington (1935-2006). Mr. Allington was an engineer, chemist, inventor, and entrepreneur. He entered University of Nebraska at age 16 and completed a master's degree in electrical engineering by 1961, despite having been stricken by paralyzing polio in 1955. He incorporated Isco to manufacture scientific instruments in 1958 and developed it into a global enterprise with \$60 million in annual sales by 2000.

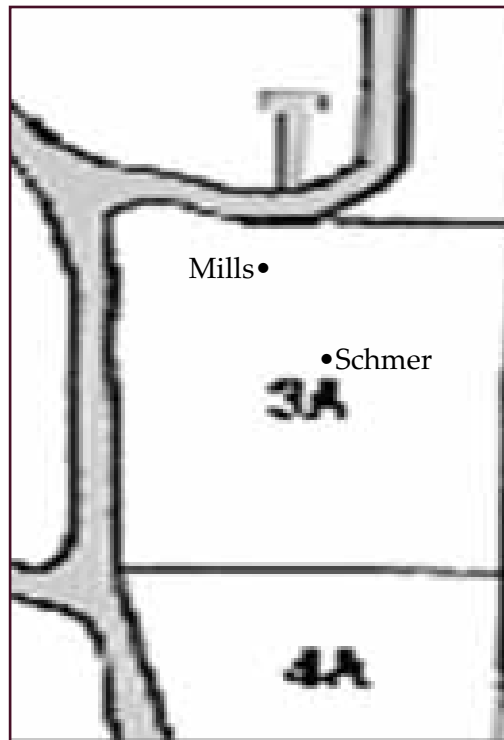
## TOUR STOP 14: ALLINGTON



The Allingtons are well-remembered in Lincoln for acquiring Maple Lodge on Euclid Street near South 20th in the early 1980s when the 1909 Shingle-style mansion was threatened with demolition. They carried out an exemplary rehabilitation of the National Register landmark and made it their family home, often opening it for special benefits. Their monument reflects their love of fine architecture, as well as Mr. Allington's triumph over polio. The monument incorporates a subtle, well-engineered ramp so that one can readily access it in a wheelchair. The inscriptions include a passage from *Little Prince* and an adaptation from the Koran: "If you have two loaves of bread, give one to the poor. Sell the other and buy hyacinths to feed your soul."

SECTION 3A

WALK





## SCHMER

The road between Sections 21 and 3A is shaded by a lovely canopy of sycamore trees.

A stroll into the gravestones of Section 3A brings a walker to the granite marker of Conrad Schmer, with another photographic portrait. Mr. Schmer was born in Russia in 1895 but as his name suggests and the German inscriptions on his monument confirm, his ethnic background was German. Hundreds of thousands of Germans colonized Russia in the eighteenth century, attracted by offers of land, autonomy, and freedom to retain their language and religion. A century later



in the last decades of the nineteenth century, the Russian government pushed to integrate the German settlers into Russian society and a massive emigration began. Tens of thousands of Germans from Russia settled in the American Midwest, and the largest urban concentration was in Lincoln.

Like many of Lincoln's immigrants, Conrad Schmer lived in the South Bottoms neighborhood and worked for Burlington Railroad repairing train cars. Demonstrating his loyalty not to his Russian birthplace or his German heritage, but rather to his new country, Mr. Schmer enlisted in the U. S. Army in April 1918. He died in action in France at the Argonne Forest November 4, 1918, seven days before the Armistice to end the fighting was signed.

## SECTION 3A



### MILLS

Near the north end of Section 3A is a simple, flush-mounted granite marker for Clara U. Mills, a music teacher at Nebraska Wesleyan University from 1912 until her death in 1940. Her training included a music degree from American Conservatory in Chicago and additional study in Paris. She was eulogized as “stout hearted, ambitious, ever in the pleasantest of moods.”

Since the 1960s, Miss Mills’ name has been associated with ghost stories from the Wesleyan campus, perhaps because she died unexpectedly in her music classroom on campus, perhaps because her appearance in youthful photos was far more ethereal than the mature images of this accomplished educator.





## TOUR STOP 15: FIREFIGHTER & 9/11 MEMORIALS

Several special sculptures and markers are located along the eastern edge of the cemetery. The most prominent of these is Nebraska Firefighters Memorial at the south end of Section 41. The centerpiece of the display is a large bronze figure of a kneeling firefighter, sculpted by S. Mariami in 2001 and dedicated in 2003. The many donors to this project are inscribed on plaques, benches, and paving blocks leading up to and surrounding the statue.

Across the road at the north end of Section 3A are two red-painted steel I-beams, symbolizing the World Trade Towers in New York City, destroyed in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. The 9/11 Memorial includes President Bush's rallying cry: "Terrorist attacks can shake the foundations of our biggest buildings, but they cannot touch the foundation of America."

## MEMORIALS



### TOUR STOP 16: DESERT STORM & DESERT SHIELD

Along the east side of the road beside Section 42 are two black granite monuments commemorating those who served in Desert Shield and Desert Storm, the U. S. military actions against Iraq in 1990 and 1991. The monuments were added to the Cemetery in 1992.

## MEMORIALS



### TOUR STOP 17: PURPLE HEART MEMORIAL

Installed on Veterans Day, 2003, this red granite monument is inscribed with a replica of the Purple Heart--America's traditional medal awarded to military personnel wounded in combat. Congress provided one of these monuments to each state in the Union and Wyuka was chosen as Nebraska's location. General George Washington instituted a "Badge of Military Merit" in 1782, stating "Let it be known that he who wears the military order of the purple heart has given of his blood in the defense of his homeland and shall forever be revered by his fellow countrymen." The award fell into disuse after the Revolutionary War but was finally re-instituted on the bicentennial of Washington's birth in 1932. Elizabeth Will in the office of the Army's Quartermaster General sketched the design and John Sinnock of the Philadelphia Mint sculpted the model for the Purple Heart metal, which bears the bust of George Washington.



## MEMORIALS



Nebraska's only Holocaust memorial was dedicated at Wyuka Cemetery in 2006, combining text, photographs, and a sculpture by Morton Katz of Ontario, Canada to remind and teach about the systematic slaying of six million European Jews and over five million others by the Nazi regime. The sculpture combines the symbolism of the triangle which Jews and other targeted persons were required to wear, and a three dimensional Star of David, the emblem of Judaism.

## TOUR STOP 18: HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL





## TOUR STOP 19: CEMETERY SERVICE BUILDINGS

The compound of gray-stuccoed, hip-roofed buildings near the northeast edge of the cemetery was built in 2000 to house the maintenance facilities. The simple, dignified buildings are similar in style to the Funeral Home at the O Street entrance. That building in turn took its cues from the Prairie School-style cemetery facilities built in 1910-11, of which the Stables is the last remaining example.

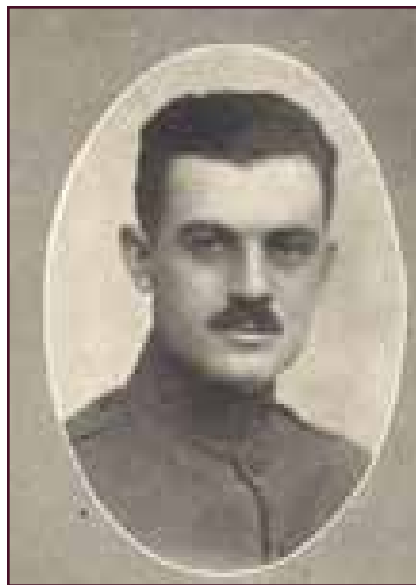
Behind the Service Buildings, the northeast corner of Wyuka is maintained as an open-space of prairie, wetlands, and a pond.

## TOUR STOP 20: MT. LEBANON

Lincoln has been home to Jews since its earliest years, and Wyuka has partnered with that ancient religious tradition for over a century. Mount Lebanon is a “cemetery within a cemetery,” reserved for members of Lincoln’s Reform synagogue, South Street Temple (also known as Temple B’nai Jeshurun). That congregation’s original home was at 12th and D Streets on land given by the Nebraska legislature in 1873. B’nai Jeshurun arranged with Wyuka to reserve “Mount Lebanon” for its members and a number of Lincoln’s most prominent citizens were interred there, such as Morris Weil (founder of National Bank of Commerce) and merchants Ben Simon and Nathan Gold. Lincoln’s Conservative Jewish synagogue, Congregation Tifereth Israel, established a free-standing cemetery--Mount Carmel on North 14th Street, south of Superior Street.



Above: Morris Weil, one of the prominent businessmen buried in this section. Below: Nathan Gold during his time as a young officer in WWI.





## GOLD

Nathan and Evelyn Gold were community leaders and philanthropists for much of the twentieth century. Mr. Gold was born in 1894 in Iowa and came to Lincoln with his parents in 1902. His father William Gold opened a small store that grew into Gold's Department Store. Nathan Gold joined the business at age 19 after graduating from Lincoln High School. He also attended University of Nebraska; he later became a major benefactor of the state university. He served in France as a 1st Lieutenant in the First World War and throughout his life was active in civic as well as business activities. He became president of Gold's in 1936, helped found Lincoln's Better Business Bureau, and was national presi-

dent of the Retail Merchant's Association in 1959. He also was a founder of the Lincoln Foundation in 1955, a board member and treasurer of the Nebraska State Historical Society, and a member of the Lincoln Planning Commission. He sold Gold's to Brandeis Department Stores in 1964 and died of a heart attack at age 75 in 1970. Evelyn Baum was born in Philadelphia in 1900 and married Nathan Gold in 1922. She shared her husband's philanthropic interests and endowed a professorship at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in his memory after his death. It was through her contribution that the Clyde Malone Center, when constructed in the early 1980s, was able to include the Nathan and Evelyn Gold Day Care Center. She died in 1985.



## SECTION 24



### TOUR STOP 21: SOLDIERS' CIRCLE

Soldiers' Circle was established in the early twentieth century for the burial of veterans of America's armed services who answered the call to duty after the Civil War. In a century's time, 1,258 veterans were interred here before the concentric circles of graves were filled. Wyuka now provides other nearby areas for the burial of veterans.

While the overall form of the marble tablets have changed very little over the years, the details of the stones are revealing. The older stones in the central circles frequently display an inset shield motif used for Spanish-American War veterans. Stones of the veterans of the World Wars and later conflicts often display a religious symbol at the top of the stone—crosses for Christians, Star of David for Jewish veterans, and at least one teepee-based symbol of the Native American Church.



## TOUR STOP 22: G.A.R. SECTION



In 1892 the Nebraska legislature required Wyuka to create a special section for the free burial of “G. A. R. Men”—members of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Union veterans’ organization. Eventually over 400 soldiers and sailors were buried in this section, and nearly 1,000 Civil War veterans were buried throughout the cemetery. The gravestones of the Civil War soldiers typically list just their name and the unit in which they served—not the dates of birth or death. Most of the regiments in which they served were raised on a state-by-state basis, which today provides a glimpse of the many states of origin of early settlers in Nebraska. The limestone figure at the center of the section honors all the Union soldiers of the Civil War. It was erected in 1902 to some controversy, with some critics contending that marble or bronze should have been used instead of limestone. The fine sculptural-grade stone has endured well for a century.

## TOUR STOP 22 CONT.: GOVERNOR THAYER

Near the west side of the G. A. R. section is the large granite and bronze monument of John M. Thayer, "Erected by a Grateful State." Mr. Thayer was an early immigrant into the Nebraska Territory from his native Massachusetts, arriving in the 1850s. He helped raise the First Nebraska Regiment when the Civil War broke out and was promoted from Colonel to Major General in the course of the conflict. He led the First Nebraska Regiment with distinction in major engagements such as the Battle of Shiloh. After the war Thayer helped secure Nebraska's admission to the Union in 1867 and was appointed as the first U. S. Senator from the new state. He served as the appointed Governor of the Wyoming Territory from 1875-79 and was elected Governor of Nebraska in 1886 and 1888. During his second term he built a large, Queen Anne-style house in Lincoln which still stands at South 19th and Prospect Streets and is recognized on the National Register of Historic Places.



Governor Thayer's second two-year term was extended by a controversy surrounding the election of 1890, in which he did not run. Mayor James E. Boyd of Omaha, a native of Ireland, was elected. Governor Thayer contended that Mr. Boyd did not meet the Nebraska constitutional requirement of being a U. S. citizen. Governor Thayer held the office an extra year until the U. S. Supreme Court ruled that Mr. Boyd had been "naturalized" as a citizen automatically upon Nebraska's admission to the Union. John Milton Thayer died in March 1906. Governor Boyd died the next month in Omaha and is interred at Omaha's scenic rural cemetery, Forest Lawn.

G.A.R. WALK





## SECTION 15



### LINDELL & HUNTER

Only a few of the many noteworthy individuals memorialized in this section can be highlighted, and their stones may not be easy to find among the uniform markers. On the outer ring, west and a bit south of Thayer's marker, is the stone of Carl Lindell, one of the few soldiers of General Thayer's First Nebraska Regiment to be buried near their commander. Also on the outer ring, the fifth stone clockwise from Lindell's, is the grave marker of Capt. William H. Hunter, who served with the "Col'd Troops." By Army regulation, all of the officers of the U. S. Colored Troops and other African American regiments were white.

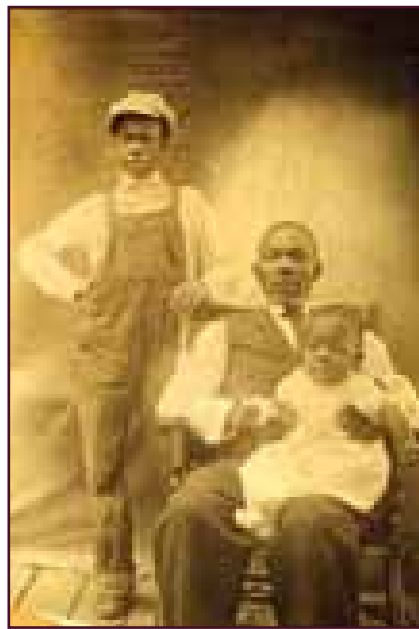
A dozen black soldiers have been identified in the G. A. R. area, most of them listed as members of "USCT." (United States Colored Troops) or similar abbreviations. In combat, the black Union soldiers were often treated with special harshness. Confederate law considered them insurrectionists and subject to execution or enslavement, and there were widely circulated reports of massacres of captured USCT soldiers.

## BUSH

Near the center of the north rows of stones (18th stone clockwise from Capt. Hunter's, in the middle row) is the marker of James W. Bush, identified as the 1st Sergeant in the Massachusetts 54th Regiment. This was one of the first and most famous of the black regiments, counting Frederick Douglass' sons among its members. The movie "Glory" focused on this unit and the horrific casualties it took in the Battle of Fort Wagner, proving the fighting mettle of the African American soldiers. As one of the highest ranking enlisted men, the first sergeant would have been a linchpin between the soldiers and their officers. Sergeant Bush, a freeman from Ohio, was 19 years old when he held this heavy responsibility. He served a military career after the Civil War before retiring to Lincoln, where he worked as a railroad porter.



## SECTION 15



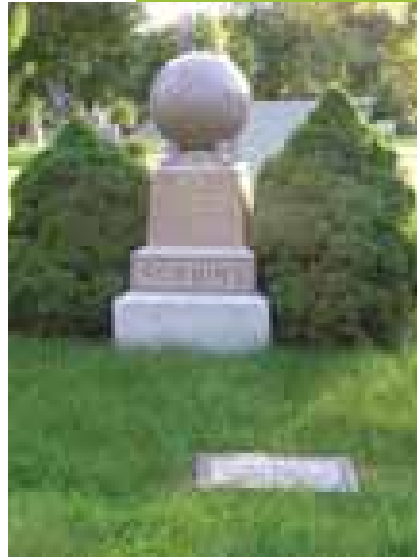
John McWilliams, ca.  
1914, with grandson John  
III and son Paul Revere  
McWilliams.

## MCWILLIAMS

Again counting stones clockwise from Sergeant Bush's, the ninth gravestone in the middle row is that of John J[efferson] McWilliams (1843-1917), who escaped slavery in Missouri and traveled to Kansas to enlist in the Second Kansas Infantry, another early black regiment. Like many born into slavery, he did not know his exact age so when the mustering sergeant said Mr. McWilliams looked too young to enlist, he asked "How old do I have to be?" Told he should be at least 17 or 18, he quickly replied "Well, that's just what I am..." and he enlisted and served for the rest of the war. Afterwards he married Sarah Jay Stanton, also a former slave, and began a family. They homesteaded in Richardson County in the early 1880s then in 1886 moved to Lincoln, where the McWilliams family can now count six generations of Lincolmites.

## SECTION 25

Ida Robbins (1869-1947) was an Iowan who came to Lincoln in 1894 and became a leader in social welfare and women's suffrage efforts. She earned a master's degree at University of Nebraska in 1901, was a founding member of both Lincoln General Hospital and Lincoln's YWCA, and was active in League of Women Voters, Red Cross, and First Plymouth Congregational Church. Upon her death she was remembered as "a woman of fine intellectual ability, active in public and world affairs to the day of her death..." and "...so much a part of life that she always seemed much younger than her years." Miss Robbins built a handsome house at 1941 B Street in 1908. Six years later her friends Elmer and Fannie Burkett constructed their home across B Street at number 1944. The Burketts are still "across the street," buried on the opposite side of the road in Section 13. Their grave site is discussed below, after some information on additional sites in the vicinity of Miss Robbins' monument.



### TOUR STOP 23: ROBBINS

SECTION 25

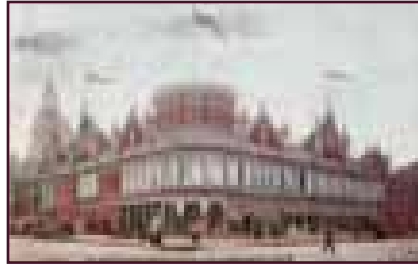
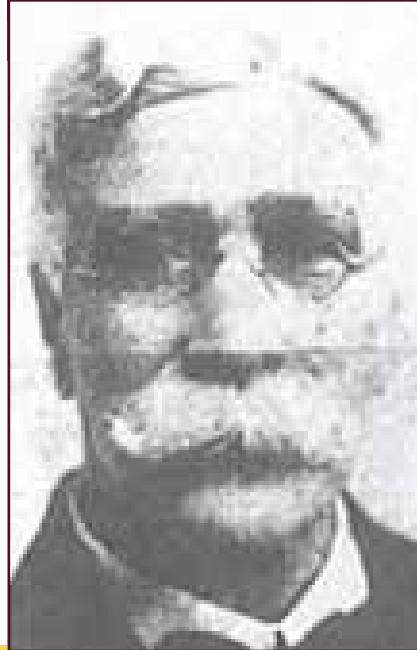
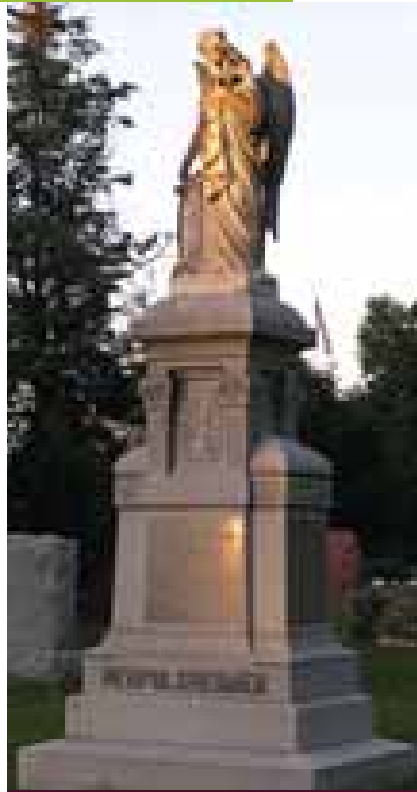
WALK





## MILLER, HALDEMAN & CAMPBELL

A tall monument north and west of the Robbins family's identifies the related families Miller, Haldeman, and Campbell. John E. Miller was a pioneer merchant in Lincoln, establishing a retail store in 1880 that became Miller and Paine when he partnered with Dr. Bartlett Paine in 1889. Mr. Miller was a leading force in the development of downtown Lincoln until his death in 1938 and the Miller and Paine department store remained Lincoln's dominant local retailer into the 1980s. The Campbell family joined the Millers by marriage and presided over the company after Mr. Miller's death.



## HERPOLSHEIMER

The Herpolsheimer Monument has a tall granite base topped with a marble angel. Henry Herpolsheimer was contemporary and competitor of John E. Miller, opening one of Lincoln's first department stores upon arriving in Lincoln in 1880. A few years later he constructed his "Daylight Store" at South 12th and N Streets which featured huge glass storefronts on the first and second stories facing both streets.

Mr. Herpolsheimer was born in Prussia in 1843 and came to America with his parents when he was six years old. He served in an Indiana cavalry regiment during the Civil War. In 1873 he married Caroline Krause in Ann Arbor, Michigan, a union that lasted 61 years. Mrs. Herpolsheimer died nine years after her husband, in 1943. Their family monument was created by the Kimball Brothers, a prominent monument company in Lincoln from the 1880s.

## LANSING

The Lansing Monument offers an unusual carving of poppies—foliage, buds, and flower. James F. Lansing (1840-1910) developed and sold real estate in Lincoln from his arrival in 1870, reputedly making “more big deals than any other man in this line.” One of his most ambitious projects was the \$90,000 Lansing Theater Building of 1891, which occupied the southwest corner of 13th and P Streets. According to his obituary, Mr. Lansing “erected a business building in every block from Ninth street to Fourteenth Street.” He also brought “omnibuses” to Lincoln—a horse-drawn precursor to the trolley, and had one of the first automobiles in the city.





## SECTION 25



### WARD

Two modest, flush-mounted gravestones mark the side-by-side burials of C. Lauer and Clara Ward. Mr. Ward was a 47-year-old executive at Capital Bridge and Steel Company. Mrs. Ward was a 40-year-old mother, community volunteer, and club woman. They were slain in their home on January 28, 1958 by Charles Starkweather. Three more of his eleven victims are buried at Wyuka. When Charles Starkweather was executed by the State of Nebraska in 1959, his family purchased a Wyuka plot and interred their son near the R Street entrance.



## SECTION 13



### TOUR STOP 24: BURKETT

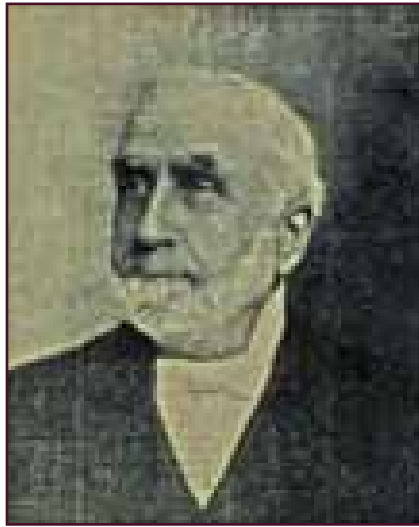
Section 13 was identified on the original plan of Wyuka as "Lawn." It was retained as open space for the enjoyment of visitors. In 1902 the cemetery trustees decided to sell plots in this high, central location and Section 13 became one of the most sought-after portions of the cemetery.

Elmer J. Burkett (1867-1935) was elected to the Nebraska legislature in 1897. After a two-year term he advanced to the U. S. House of Representatives for six years, then served six years in the U. S. Senate before returning to his law practice in Lincoln in 1911. Soon after he was elected to the Senate, the 1907 Cornhusker yearbook of the University of Nebraska proudly claimed their alumnus (LL.B. 1893, LL.M. 1895) noting that "While in Congress he has been able to secure a great many



beneficial apportionments for his constituents, among which is the new Post Office building at Lincoln." One era's "beneficial apportionment" is another time's "pork" or "earmark." Senator Burkett constructed a very substantial house at 1944 B Street in 1914, designed by Lincoln architect F. C. Fiske.

## SECTION 13



### TOUR STOP 25: HUNTINGTON

A brief resume of Rev. Dr. DeWitt Clinton Huntington (1830-1912) is provided on his substantial gravestone, but his productive life provides much more to tell. He was already 61 and a seasoned Methodist minister with decades of service in New York and Pennsylvania when he came in 1891

to the Lincoln pulpit of Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church. (While in New York State, he had been on the ballot in 1887 as a prohibition candidate for Secretary of State, garnering nearly 42,000 votes.) He designed and led the construction of their first permanent sanctuary in 1893 (the Great Hall of the present building at South 16th & A Streets). He was the second chancellor of Nebraska Wesleyan University for a decade from 1898 to 1908. In 1905 he published *Half Century Messages to Pastors and People*, combining his ministerial and educational careers in advising preachers against "Bad English in the pulpit... Worse still when a minister indulges in a wholesale berating of science and scientists, as if they were the worst enemies of God and man..." After retiring at age 78 in 1908, he had the honor of laying the cornerstone for Trinity Methodist's main building in 1910. Huntington Avenue and Huntington Elementary School, both in the University Place neighborhood, bear his name. Frances Harriett Huntington was even longer-lived than her husband, dying in 1933 at age 87.

## TOUR STOP 26: KIMBALL

This family plot might be regarded as a self-portrait in granite and bronze, because the Kimball Bros. were leading monument makers in Lincoln from the 1880s through the 1930s. William R. and Frank B. Kimball established the business in Lincoln in 1887, having relocated from Albia, Iowa. By 1890 they could boast of installing more than twenty monuments the year before, averaging \$1,500 each. Their own family plot features the pink granite seen in many of their major monuments, along with a bronze relief sculpture of two female figures, draped in a mourning cloth.

Marble cutter William H. Kimball (1832-1902) and his wife MaryAnn (1836-1934) were the parents of eight children. Their son William R. Kimball (1858-1918) was the original president of Kimball Bros. His wife Jennie (1863-1954) was only five years younger than her husband but survived as his widow for 36 years. Not buried in this family plot (but instead with his wife's family,



elsewhere in Wyuka) was another brother, Fred L. Kimball. He began as a bookkeeper with the company but became "a designer of national reputation...responsible for the special and original designs which have characterized much of the production of this Company in recent years," according to company advertisements in the 1920s. His signature as sculptor appears on their major monuments at Wyuka such as Thompson and Palm. He became manager of the company in the 1910s and president by the '20s. He continued the firm through the 1930s but it closed by the time of his death in 1945.

## SECTION 11

### TOUR STOP 27: FUNKE

Fred Funke (1841-1890) operated both a wholesale wine, liquor, and cigar business and Funke's Opera House at the southwest corner of 12th and O Streets in downtown Lincoln. He died in 1890 in Las Vegas, Nevada, where he had gone seeking a cure in the hot springs near the small farming town. His widow Rosa Funke (1840-1917) and six children survived him. The Funke monument was probably the tallest in the cemetery when it was installed on its prominent corner plot. The granite obelisk is carved as if draped with a tasseled cloth. A step and pair of gateposts form an entrance to the plot.





## TOUR STOP 28: CLARK



John Revere Clark was one of the most prominent business leaders in early Lincoln and his mansion at South 20th and F Streets was one of the largest in the city. One summer evening in 1890, he was seated on the porch of that house when he fainted to the floor. Dr. Manning, a neighbor, saw him pitch forward and rushed to his aid, but Mr. Clark was already dead of a heart attack. His obituary called his death a “calamity to the city of Lincoln” and described the banker as “one of the most enterprising capitalists of the city.” His monument consisting of a granite base and kneeling female figure in marble was produced by the State Granite & Marble Company. That enterprise, established in the early 1880s, proudly described the “very fine statuary monument for John R. Clark” as costing a staggering \$2,500.



TOUR STOP  
29: THOMPSON



Above: Thompson  
in 1893

The Thompson and Nance monuments are near the center of Section 13. Walkers are encouraged to stroll in for a closer look. Jeanette Thompson was 44 years old when she died in Mexico City, where her husband D. E. Thompson had been the U. S. Ambassador. Their monument is a tall, pink granite tablet with a life-size relief sculpture in bronze, depicting



Monument by  
Kimball Bros.

a woman holding a wreath and draped in a cloak. F. L. Kimball signed the bronze sculpture, which is also inscribed by "Jno Walters Foundry, New York." The bronze sculpture by Daniel Chester French of Abraham Lincoln at the west side of the State Capitol, installed in 1912, was cast at the same bronze foundry.

The Thompsons had been a leading couple in the capital city in the 1890s and early 1900s. Mr. Thompson was superintendent of the division of the Burl-

## SECTION 13

ington Railroad west of the Missouri River as well as president of local gas and insurance companies. He founded the *Lincoln Star* newspaper in 1902, among other ventures. The Thompsons built a spacious home at the southwest corner of South 15th and H Streets in 1892 and sold it to the state in 1899. It served as the Governor's Mansion until it was replaced by the present Mansion in 1958.

Thompson sought more direct political involvement in 1900 and 1901, when both of Nebraska's seats in the U. S. Senate were open. A protracted deadlock emerged in the Nebraska legislature between Mr. Thompson and Edward Rosewater of Omaha. At that time the state legislatures selected U. S. Senators. When it appeared the legislative session would end without filling either seat, Mr. Thompson brokered the election of Governor Dietrich to one seat and J. H. Millard of Omaha to the other. In 1902 President Theodore Roosevelt appointed Mr. Thompson as the U. S. envoy to Brazil and in 1906 appointed him to the ambassadorship of Mexico, where he served for three years. After Mrs. Thompson's death in 1911, her widower returned for a few years to Lincoln then moved to Cali-

fornia, living near San Diego for 30 years. After his death in 1944 at age 88, his cremated remains were returned to be interred at the family plot in Wyuka.



Above: Thompson in 1904



## SECTION 13

### TOUR STOP 29 CONT.: NANCE

Near the Thompson monument, at the very center of Section 13, a granite canopy shelters an over-life-size portrait bust of Albinus Nance, the “Boy Governor” of Nebraska. Mr. Nance was born in 1848 and enlisted in the Union Army when he was but 16 years old. He was elected to the Nebraska House of Representatives in 1877 and was Speaker of the House at age 29. He was elected the fifth Governor of Nebraska in 1878 and was reelected in 1880. Sarah Nance (1854-1933) was only 24 when she became First Lady of the state. Mr. Nance was later president of banks in Osceola and Stromsburg, Nebraska. He died in 1911. Nance County bears his name.

The Nance bust is signed by G[ilbert] P. Riswold. The sculptor was born in South Dakota in 1881 and began his art studies at South Dakota State University, before attending the Chicago Art Institute. He lived in the Chicago area until he moved to California in the 1930s and died in Hollywood in 1938.

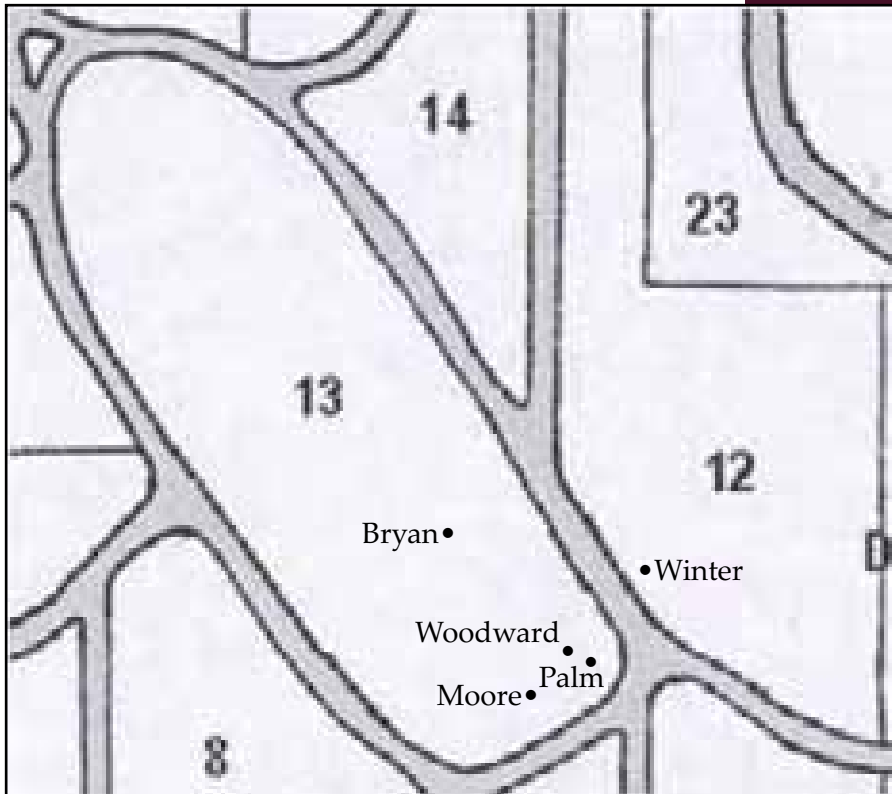




## TOUR STOP 30: MCDONALD

John and Annie McDonald and their son John Donald McDonald (1895-1977) are memorialized by a granite sarcophagus, over which leans a marble figure of a grieving woman. John W. McDonald (1855-1912) was a banker, financier, and real estate investor. The McDonalds had a spectacular summer "cottage" at Monmouth Beach, New Jersey called "Blow by the Sea." The *New York Times* reported on their summer events and guests. Soon after her husband's death, widow Annie McDonald (1863-1938) built a fanciful mansion at South 22nd and Washington Streets in Lincoln which she also called "The Blow." In one of its many meanings, that common word is synonymous with "respite" and perhaps that is how it was applied to these houses. The Lincoln house (now long-gone) was ornamented with marble statuary, perhaps like the graceful figure on their monument.

WALK





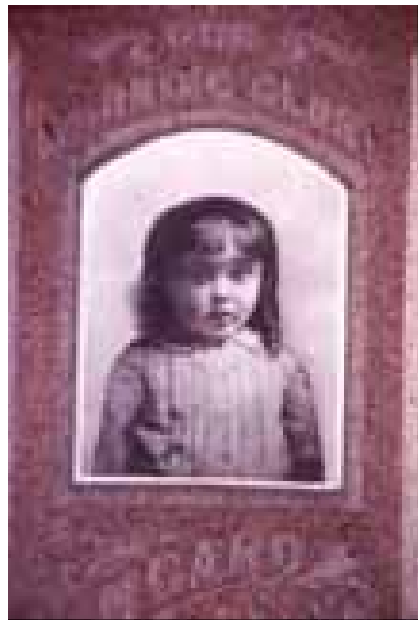
## BRYAN

Section 13 could be a tour unto itself. Southeast of Governor Nance's granite canopy is a modest headstone for Charles Wayland Bryan (1867-1945), the younger brother of William Jennings Bryan. Charles Bryan operated a coal business and was politically active. He served as Mayor of Lincoln from 1915-17, then as Governor of Nebraska from 1923-25. During that gubernatorial term he was also the Democratic nominee for U.S. Vice President in 1924, losing to the ticket of Calvin Coolidge and Charles Dawes. Mr. Bryan returned to the Governor's office from 1931 to 1935, then served again as Lincoln's Mayor from 1935-37.

## SECTION 12

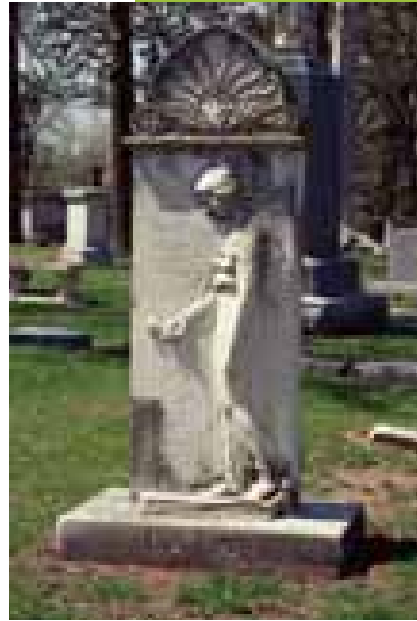
### WINTER

Just across the road east of the Bryan plot, in Section 12, is a red granite pier with a rounded top. Irmgard Christine Winter was not yet five years old when she died of diphtheria in 1891. Her parents Phillip and Alta Winter memorialized "Our Morning Glory" with the largest photographic portrait in Wyuka. Eventually Alta, Pauline, Philip and Wilhemine Winter were all interred in the family plot.



## SECTION 13

Olof and Clara Palm were Swedish immigrants who established an insurance agency in Lincoln and prospered with Mr. Palm as the president and his wife as the vice-president. He helped found the North Star Relief Society, a Swedish fraternal group. They commissioned Kimball Bros. to produce their beautiful marble monument, carved in relief with a female figure holding a rose, sculpted by F. L. Kimball. Mrs. Palm died in 1931 at 70 years of age. Her husband died eight years later at 75.



PALM

## SECTION 13

### WOODWARD

The Woodward Monument places a marble figure atop a tall granite pedestal. The Woodwards were successful in the real estate and loan businesses. Despite the height of this monument, vandals toppled and severely damaged the marble lady in 2000. A diligent volunteer restored the statue to its current beauty.





## MOORE

West of the Woodward Monument, a colonnade of eight Greek Ionic columns forms the R. E. Moore Family Monument. Robert E. Moore (1849-1921) and his wife Emily (1850-1937) had a large house and yard at the northwest corner of South 18th and E Streets, which is now the site of Hazel Abel Park. Mr. Moore was mayor of Lincoln in 1883-5 and lieutenant governor of Nebraska from 1895-7, as well as serving in the legislature. He amassed a fortune in real estate and finance in Lincoln, leaving his widow an estate valued at \$2.5 million. Their two daughters had died in infancy in the 1870's and upon her death in 1937, Mrs. Moore endowed a trust for the care of the poor at Lincoln General Hospital.





## TOUR STOP 31: MARQUETT

When he died in 1894, Turner Marquett was called the “nestor of the Nebraska Bar,” meaning the oldest and wisest lawyer in the state. He may not have literally been the oldest at 65 years of age, but his renown was reflected in his thirteen pallbearers including five judges, the Burlington Railroad superintendent, the publisher of the *Nebraska State Journal*, and two of the wealthiest men in Lincoln. One of his funeral bouquets spelled out “Gone to a Higher Court.” (Mr. Marquett’s surname was later commonly spelled “Marquette,” even by his own children, but one must presume his preference was that carved on his monument—“Marquett.”)

Mr. Marquett was born and educated in Ohio. He moved to Plattsmouth, Nebraska in 1856 and studied law, commencing a practice in 1859. He was active in territorial politics, advocating abolition of slavery in the territory and was elected to the U. S.

## SECTION 8

Congress in 1867 as the State of Nebraska's first representative. His term was uniquely brief--just the two days between the official ratification of Nebraska as a state and the end the Congressional term. He was active in major litigation in Nebraska, including defending Nebraska's first governor, David Butler, in his impeachment trial. Mr. Marquett moved to Lincoln in 1874 and became the general attorney for Burlington Railroad. Out of his early partnerships with General Amasa Cobb, Frank M. Hall, and Joel Deweese grew the modern-day Lincoln law firm of Cline Williams Wright Johnson & Oldfather.



## SECTION 8

### TOUR STOP 32: ERSKINE

In a long life of 88 years, Horatio Erskine was said to have lost two fortunes, but made three. Born in Ohio in 1818, he helped his father clear farmland from the forest. His first fortune came from investing in \$1.25 per acre government land in Illinois. He caught “gold fever” and went to California, returning safely by boat around Cape Horn of South America and up the Mississippi. He was robbed of all he had in St. Louis and went back to what he knew, investing in land in Illinois, then in Nebraska. He was said to have been a kind, lenient man, never foreclosing on anyone on whom he held a mortgage. He had fourteen children, eight of whom survived their long-lived father.



## SECTION 13



### TOUR STOP 33: RUDGE

This soaring obelisk is the second tallest monument in the cemetery, topped only by the Rogers marker nearby on Section 7. Obelisks were developed by the ancient Egyptians and traditionally the tall, tapering shaft was a monolith--formed from a single stone. Above the ornamented lower stones, the shafts of the Wyuka obelisks are monoliths--each a *tour de force* of granite quarrying and carving. Speidell Monument Co., established in the 1880s in Lincoln and still operating in the twenty-first century, produced the Rudge and Rogers monuments.

Wyuka's Rudge Memorial Chapel was completed seventeen years after the death of merchant Charles H. Rudge (1858-1921) through a bequest by his family. His wife Caroline Stewart Rudge (1855-1946) was a longtime leader in Lincoln civic activities.

## SECTION 7



### TOUR STOP 34: ROGERS

Wyuka's tallest monument marks the graves of James and Sara Hippee Rogers, their son George and his wife Margarete, and other family members. James and Sara Rogers were pioneer settlers in Lincoln, coming from Illinois. Mr. Rogers died in the 1880s and his widow managed his extensive estate until her death in 1897. Son George Rogers was an attorney who also operated real estate and bond businesses before his death in 1941. Their monolithic obelisk measures about 40 feet tall. It bears the trademark of the "Rock of Ages" quarry in Barre, Vermont, from which it would have been special-ordered, then moved to Lincoln on its own railroad car. Erecting the needle of granite required skillful engineering and considerable horse power.

## TOUR STOP 35: RICKETTS

Arnott Ricketts was one of Lincoln's leading attorneys for sixty years, from his arrival in the young city in 1872 until his death in 1932 at age 87. He was Lincoln's city attorney for three years and president of the Board of Education for five years. The Ricketts family came to Lincoln from Ohio and put down deep roots. The family stone includes Mr. Ricketts' mother Catharine (1830-1855) and brother Charles K. (1849-1864), both of whom died before Wyuka was founded. The cemetery records indicate they were not just memorialized by an inscription on stone—their remains were actually re-interred in this plot.

Arnott Ricketts and his first wife, Louisa L. Ricketts, built a large brick mansion east of Lincoln in 1890. It still stands at South 33rd and L Streets, not far from Wyuka. When Mrs. Ricketts died in 1902 her name was inscribed below Mr. Ricketts' on the face of the monument. He married Sarah Elizabeth Thompson in 1909, who had long taught in Omaha and at Fremont Normal College. They built a smaller house on B Street near 22nd, which is



also a Lincoln Landmark and part of the "Rogers House Bed & Breakfast Inn." Elizabeth Ricketts survived her husband by more than two decades and while her name is inscribed on the side of the monument, her grave is right beside his.

## SECTION 6



### TOUR STOP 36: HARRIS

George and Sarah Harris were true pioneers of Lincoln. When their sons gave 500 acres of land west of the city for a park in 1929, they asked that it be named “Pioneers Park” in honor of their parents and that whole generation.

Mr. Harris was born in New York in 1815 and began working as a clerk to a merchant before he was 20. Then a trip to Georgia changed his life. He came back preaching abolition, became editor of an abolition newspaper,

and teacher at a “Negro school.” His later employment as a land commissioner in Missouri for Burlington Railroad promoted the cause, as he settled thousands of abolition-minded New Englanders in that pivotal border state. He was still employed by the railroad when he and his wife settled in Lincoln in 1872. The next year he was shipwrecked in Long Island Sound and spent seven hours in the water before rescue. He died in Lincoln in 1874 at age 59, leaving Mrs. Harris widowed with seven children. She resolved to stay in their new community and raise her children, several of whom went on to considerable success in business in Lincoln and beyond. The Harris Upham firm of investment bankers of New York City was founded by one of the Harris sons. The sons built “Harris House” for their mother around 1902 at South 17th and K Streets. It is listed on the National Register in recognition of the family’s success in Lincoln. Harris Overpass, the viaduct lifting O Street over the rail yard from 9th to 3rd Streets, honors the family’s community contributions, especially of Pioneers Park.



## TOUR STOP 37: GANTER

Theodore S. Ganter was born in Germany in 1832 and came to America as a youth in 1851. He married Anna R. Jones in 1863 and arrived in Lincoln in 1868, already a “very wealthy man.” On his death in 1890 he left his whole estate to his wife, who did not stint on their granite and marble monument. It is among the earliest of the identified Kimball Bros. monuments and is the first to incorporate a female figure, a favorite element of their best sculptural works.



WALK

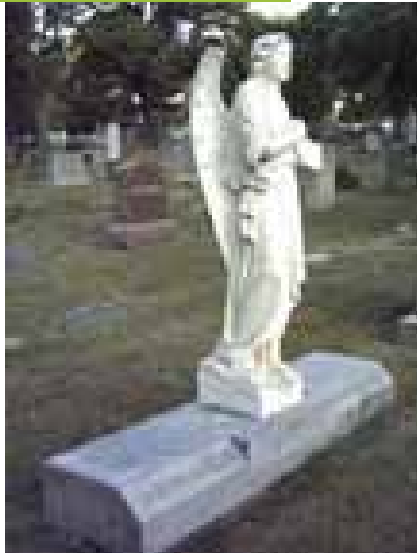


Near the Harris and Ganter monuments, but facing east rather than west, is a stout, squat granite monument for Amasa Cobb and his family. Mr. Cobb came to Lincoln around 1872 with a remarkable background. Born in Illinois in 1823, he moved to Wisconsin Territory in 1842, worked as a lead miner, served in the Mexican War (1846-8) as a private, then returned to Wisconsin and studied law. Admitted to the bar, he commenced practice and served as a district attorney as early as 1850. He was a member of the state senate, then state assembly, serving as speaker in 1861. He entered the Union Army as a colonel of a Wisconsin regiment and was promoted to brigadier general by 1865. He was elected to Congress four times (1863-71), then moved from Wisconsin to Lincoln and was selected as Lincoln's mayor by 1873. He was an early law partner of Turner Marquett until Cobb was appointed to the Nebraska State Supreme Court, where he served from 1878 to 1892, including four years as chief justice. His wife Philadelphia (Moffett) Cobb died in 1898 and Mr. Cobb died in 1905.

## COBB



## SECTION 18

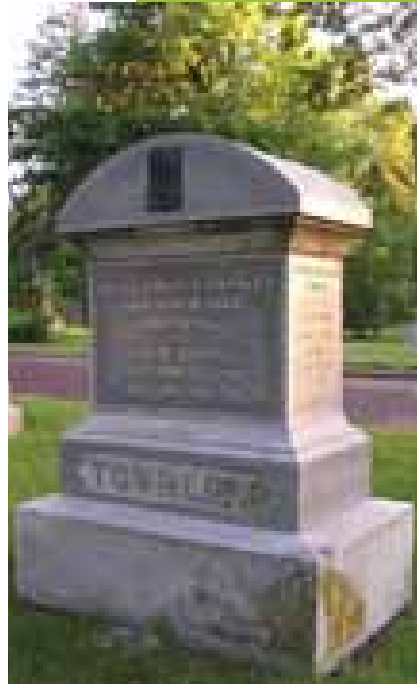


### MCKELVIE

East and a bit south of the Cobb family plot is a white marble angel marking Governor Samuel McKelvie's grave on the west edge of Section 18. Mr. McKelvie (1881-1956) was publisher of the *Nebraska Farmer* and an agricultural leader of national importance. He also served on the Lincoln City Council (1908-9), state legislature (1910-11), as Lt. Governor (1912-13), and then as Governor for two terms (1919-23). The competition to design the Nebraska State Capitol and the commencement of its construction occurred during his term, so as Governor he broke ground for the magnificent building, walking behind a horse-drawn plow. Martha McKelvie survived her husband by two decades and was interred beside him in 1976. When vandals damaged this statue in 2000, Jack Kitrell, a retired engineer, volunteered and accomplished an exemplary restoration.

## SECTION 6

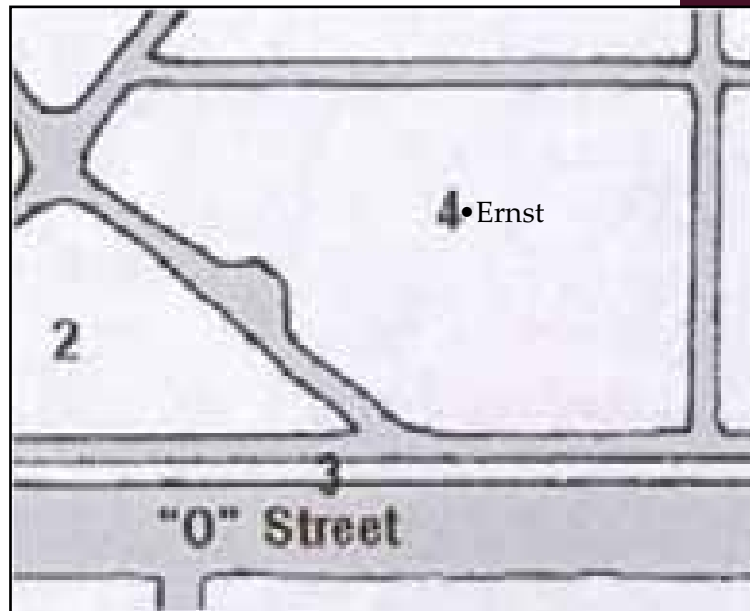
A gray granite monument inscribed "Fuller" on the west side is marked "Townley" on the east side. On the Townley side it bears a plaque reading "Real Daughter" beneath the Daughters of the American Revolution insignia. Elizabeth H. Townley (1831-1884) and her brother Captain William C. Huddleson (1833-1898, also interred in the family plot) were born in Kentucky, children of William Huddleson, a Revolutionary War patriot. Hence Mrs. Townley was a "Real Daughter" of the American Revolution, not a granddaughter or great-granddaughter. Her obituaries recount her great devotion to the Society for the Home for the Friendless orphanage in Lincoln, of which she was president for many years. Her brother Capt. Huddleson operated hotels and was in the real estate business. He earned his title as captain in the Ohio cavalry in the Civil War. Dr. F. G. Fuller was Mrs. Townley's son-in-law. He died in a buggy accident while returning from a house call south of Lincoln in 1888, when he was 47 years old.



### TOUR STOP 38: TOWNLEY, HUDDLESON & FULLER

SECTION 4

WALK





## ERNST

Near the center of Section 4 is a tall granite pedestal supporting a marble figure of a woman, holding a cross. The Ernst Monument honors the family of Carl Julius Ernst (1854-1932) and his wife Marie Wilhelmine Weber Ernst (1854-1930). Both Mr. and Mrs. Ernst were born in Prussia. According to his obituary, they were sweethearts since childhood. When he came to the U.S. in 1866 he began a correspondence with her and persuaded her to emigrate as well. In 1876 he began working for Burlington Railroad in Lincoln as a land commissioner, and less than a month later Carl and Marie Ernst married. He reportedly "...did more to settle the eastern half of Nebraska between 1876

and 1890 than any other single individual, particularly bringing German farmers from Russia to America. In Lincoln he served six years on the Board of Education and another six as a University of Nebraska regent. When Burlington promoted him to a post in Omaha in 1903, he served three years as president of the Omaha school board.

The individual gravestones of the Ernsts are inscribed with poetic epitaphs. Hers reads "When we asunder part,/It gives us inward pain,/But we shall still be joined in heart,/And hope to meet again." His is inscribed "From sorrow, toil and pain/And sin, we shall be free:/Where perfect love and friendship reign/Throughout eternity."





## TOUR STOP 39: KARBERG



Peter Karberg was born in the German province of Schleswig-Holstein adjacent to Denmark in 1840. As a teenager he immigrated to America and became a teacher in Iowa before the Civil War. He served in an Iowa regiment, then “his ambition and love of adventure prompted him to seek the most dangerous positions in the army, and accepted the work of recruiting officer to raise colored regiments where it, according to the orders of the confederate army, was sure death to be caught in that service.” His veteran’s stone reads “Capt. Peter Karburg [sic], Co. G, U.S.C.T.”

After the war he married Hermine Kiesel in 1874 and started German newspapers in Iowa before coming to Lincoln in 1880 to start *Staats Anzeiger*, “perhaps the best German paper in the state,” according to his obituary. He died at 43 years of age of pneumonia, after being bedridden with a broken leg.

The makers of “white bronze” markers could readily include far more and far finer detail in their monuments than the carvers of stone, and the Wilson monument exploits this potential to its fullest. Eliza Jane Wilson died at age 43 in 1884, on the family’s farm west of Lincoln. The monument is a tapered pier topped with an urn. Swags, tassels, fringe, moldings, and extensive inscriptions are among the crisply cast ornaments. An epitaph reads: “Dear Mother, in earth’s thorny paths/How long thy feet have trod!/To find at last this peaceful rest/Safe in the arms of God.”

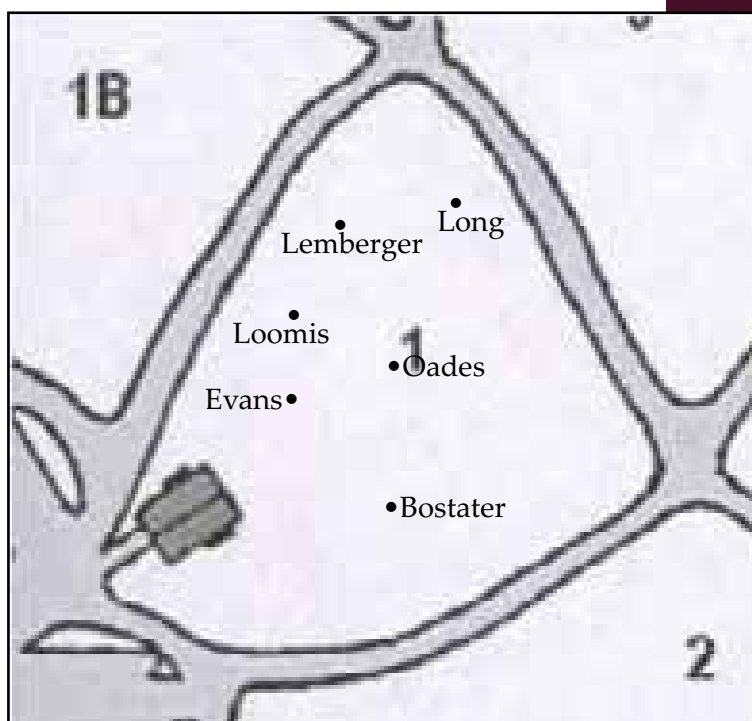
## TOUR STOP 40: WILSON





SECTION 1

WALK



## BOSTATER



A very old limestone obelisk marks the graves of the Bostater family. Lovenia Bostater died in 1876 at 38 years of age, leaving George a widower with four children. Before 1880, he remarried Essie Reese, who bore two sons. He operated a bakery and grocery store on O Street in the 1880s, was a farmer in the 1890s, and operated a hotel in the early 20th century. He died in 1923 at 84 years of age. The family stone bears the epitaph: "Weep not for Her who/now at rest in her repose/and care no more anon/Her spirit smiles from that bright home/And softly whispers/weep no more."

## SECTION 1



### OADES

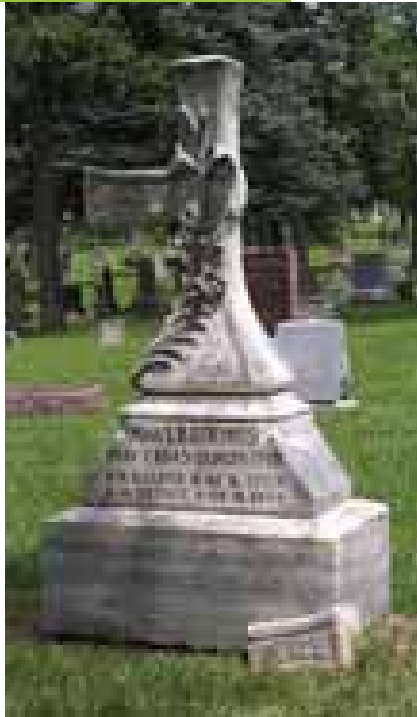
The graves of Mary Eliza Oades (1842-1871) and her husband Joseph H. Oades (1827-1885) have unique “white bronze” markers in the form of tablets. Both have a dove on the front with a scroll above their personal information, and on the back they depict a hand with a bunch of lilies of the valley. Just east of their graves is a large patch of this fragrant spring flower. The Oades were born in England and immigrated to Lancaster County through Canada. Mary Eliza was only 29 years old when she died in 1871, just two years after the founding of Wyuka. Mr. Oades was suffering from “St. Vitus’s dance,” a neurological disease that causes uncontrollable movements, when he took his own life at age 57 in 1885.



## EVANS

Barbara Evans was stricken by a cerebral hemorrhage and died at age 54 in 2000. She was a beloved second-grade teacher, mother, and wife of long-time Lincoln Public Schools board member Doug Evans. The family chose to commemorate her at Wyuka with a round granite table and four granite stools—a picnic table which all are invited to share.

## SECTION 1



## LOOMIS

The marble cross at the grave of Miss Lucinda Bills Loomis (1843-1919) is boldly carved with a lily across its face, and is inscribed "Peace Perfect Peace." Miss Loomis was a lifelong educator, beginning as a teacher by age 15 in Nebraska City. She later taught in Omaha, then started a private school in Lincoln which she operated until a week before her death at age 76. Her own higher education is recorded on her gravestone, noting her bachelor's degree at University of Nebraska at age 60, and her master's (in European history) which she earned at age 75.

## LEMBERGER

The gravestone of Cora Lemberger (1860-1901) displays a common motif, the "Gates of Heaven." Mrs. Lemberger was born in Michigan and her husband was a native of Bavaria. They were farming in Kansas at the time of the 1880 census and had moved to Lincoln by 1890, where Mr. Lemberger was a teamster.



## SECTION 1



## LONG

The gravestone of Dr. John H. Long (1854-1923) notes simply "He was good to the poor." Squirrels also find his low, desk-like stone good for savoring nuts from Wyuka's many black walnut trees.

## SECTION 9



Many of Lincoln's public schools are named for individuals interred at Wyuka. From 1918 to 1942, Clare McPhee was principal of Capitol School, located one block south of the State Capitol. She died in 1960. When the old Capitol School of the 1880s was replaced in 1964, the new facility was named Clare McPhee Elementary School. She was a native of Quebec and was recognized as a scholar and a writer.

### TOUR STOP 41: MCPHEE





## SECTION 1A



### TOUR STOP 42: ADAMS

The grave of Ruth Cox Adams was unmarked from her death in 1900 until 2008, when descendants and the Wyuka Historical Foundation erected this monument. Mrs. Adams's life provides a window on slavery, abolition, and freedom in nineteenth century America, connecting Wyuka Cemetery and Lincoln to people and events which shaped our country. She was born into slavery in Talbot County, Maryland in 1820. Her mother was a slave and her father, a freedman, traveled to work in support of his family. His free status could not prevent the sale of his wife and son when Ruth Cox was a teenager. She lived and worked in the household of Maryland congressman John Leeks Kerr as nurse to his children, from whom she learned to read and write. She escaped from slavery in 1844, fleeing on the Underground Railroad through Maryland and Delaware to Pennsylvania and freedom.

There on August 25, 1844 she met Frederick Douglass, the famous orator for the American Anti-Slavery Society. Separated from his own sister while in slavery, he invited Miss Cox to his home in Massachusetts and suggested that she take the name of his dead mother and absent sister, Harriet Bailey. Escaped slaves typically adopted a

## SECTION 1A

new name as they were subject to re-enslavement if captured. In 1846 Mr. Douglass himself went into exile to avoid capture. Ruth Cox/Harriet Bailey became his correspondent at his family's home in Massachusetts. In 1846 he wrote from overseas: *"Harriet you were always Dear to me, but never so Dear as now. Your devotion to my little boys your attention to Dear Anna [his wife], your smartness in learning to read and write and your loving letters to me has made you doubly Dear to me. I will not forget you. What you do for my Anna and my children I shall consider as done to myself, and will reward you with a brothers love, and a fathers care."*

Miss Cox married Perry Francis Adams in 1847 in the Douglass home. They established their own home in Springfield, Massachusetts from 1847 to 1861, then the Adamses joined a colony of Americans of African descent in Haiti. They returned to Springfield in 1863 for Mr. Adams's health and he died in Massachusetts in 1869. The family moved to Providence, Rhode Island in 1876, where daughter Matilda Adams married William Vanderzee. The Vanderzees and Mrs. Ruth Cox Adams moved to Omaha, Nebraska in 1884, and there Ruth Vanderzee (later McWilliams) was born in 1887. Later they farmed near Ewing

in Holt County, Nebraska and moved to Norfolk, Nebraska by 1893, where Mrs. Adams re-established contact with her adopted brother, Frederick Douglass. By 1894 the family was in Lincoln, Nebraska, where Ruth Cox (Harriet Bailey) Adams died in 1900.



## SECTION 10

The gravestone for Patricia and Harold Long records a family doubly touched by tragedy during World War II. "Our Darling" Patricia Ann lived less than three months in 1943. One wonders if her father, Sergeant Harold, W. Long, Jr., ever saw his baby daughter. Her death notice calls her father "Private" Long, but he had been promoted to sergeant before he was killed eleven months after his daughter's death in service on Leyte Island, where General Douglas McArthur led the re-conquest of the Philippines in World War II.

## TOUR STOP 43: LONG



## SECTION 1A

A wrought-iron cross marks the grave of F. G. Beuthner (1817-1896), whose information is inscribed (in German) onto a porcelain plaque affixed to the cross. This style of monument is common in Midwestern cemeteries of German background, but it is Wyuka's only example.

### TOUR STOP 44: BEUTHNER



TOUR STOP 45:  
KIMSEY



A “white bronze” monument records another railroader’s demise, but in this instance “Killed on the Railroad” can be read quite literally. “MURDER OR WHAT?” was the headline after the 32-year-old brakeman was found “stone dead” with a fractured skull atop a railcar following a routine run from Lincoln to Crete to Sutton. Overhead obstructions were also life-threatening dangers to the men who worked on the outside of moving trains. The possibility that Joseph H. Kimsey struck a bridge over the tracks near Crete was also mentioned—the “Or What?” of the headline.

## TOUR STOP 46: BARWICK

Joseph Barwick (1845-1915) was the early monument maker responsible for William Parish's gravestone in Section 2, mentioned earlier on this tour. His family monument has little elaboration, but the polished brown granite is atypical in color and veining, which perhaps caught the stonecarver's eye.



## HOF SECTION



### TOUR STOP 47: HOME OF THE FRIENDLESS

This special section is identified with a tall monument near the east end, which reads "Home of the Friendless" and is dated 1890. The pier is inscribed on three sides: "In Memory of Our Dead"; "In My Fathers House Are Many Mansions"; and "Touched by a Loving Heart/Wakened by Kindness/Chords That Are Broken Will Vibrate/Once More."

The cemetery created this section for the burial of orphans from Lincoln's orphanages including the Home for the Friendless and Whitehall. Over 450 individuals, largely children, have been interred in this section, most in graves identified only with simple numbered markers.



## TOUR STOP 48: MOORE

The monument of Rosa B. Moore (1876-1911) takes a motif often seen carved into gravestones--"Gates of Heaven"--and renders it very literally as a limestone gateway. The monument maker took care to leave one leaf of the gate ajar for easy passage by Rosa Moore to her eternal reward.





## STABLE



## TOUR STOP 49: STABLE

Wyuka made extensive improvements in the early twentieth century including the brick paving of many of the roads, a greenhouse, and a new entranceway with a caretaker's house, administration building, and gateway. The only building surviving from that construction campaign is the Stable, erected of brick covered with rough stucco in 1908-09. L. A. Lamoreau of Minneapolis was the architect for those buildings.

The Stable has a wide center entrance that accesses an inner courtyard. The north portion of the building contained stalls for the horses that provided power for groundskeeping, carting, and lifting heavy stones. Since the construction of the Service Buildings in the northeastern part of the Cemetery in 2000, the Stable has gained a new use and name—The Swan Theater—offering Shakespearean and other productions in an intimate, open-air setting. A rehabilitation of the building is planned.

## SECTION 1B

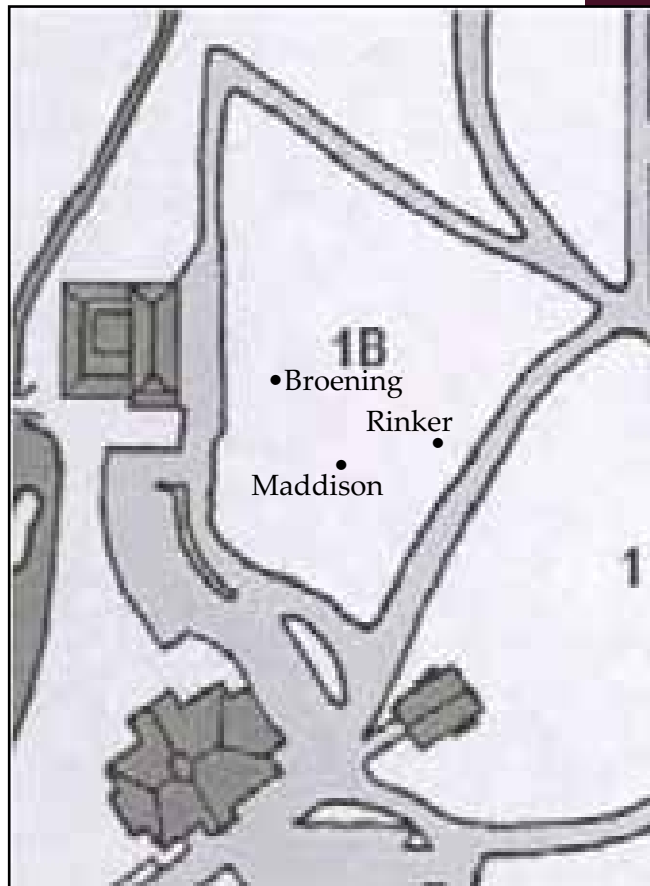
A few years ago, a “veteran’s” stone was added to Space 1 in front of the Stable, identifying a grave that had been unmarked for about a century. The *Nebraska State Journal* of March 23, 1897 made “Mere Mention” that “Auntie Williams’ died Saturday at her home in a little shack in the rear of 1728 South Fourteenth street and was buried Sunday afternoon. She was seventy-six years of age. Mrs. Williams was quite a character. She was well known as an army nurse during the civil war.” The city directory of 1896-7 adds the information that “Adaline” Williams was “col’d”—of African ancestry—and that her residence was at the rear of 1425 Poplar. Poplar was later renamed Sumner Street, and that address is just around the corner from the address mentioned in the newspaper, suggesting that Mrs. Williams’ little house was somewhere behind both of those houses.



### TOUR STOP 50: WILLIAMS

SECTION 1B

WALK



## BROENING

This area was marked on the earliest plan of Wyuka as "Potter's Field," indicating a location for the burial of indigent people. By the variety of monuments, it is clear that people of varied means were interred under the big black walnut trees over the years.

Peter Broening (1836-1917) was listed as a laborer in the city directories, but his grave has a fine monument with a deep relief carving of a figure embracing a cross, being assumed heavenward. A stone cloth with tassels drapes over the monument.



## SECTION 1B

A soft, crumbling limestone forms the gravestone of John Maddison, but it is not just the erosion of his inscriptions that makes his story unclear. His birthdate can only be estimated (ca. 1839) because he was born in slavery near Natchez, Mississippi and his early life “was spent in the cotton fields of the South, and [his] ears were familiar with abuse, and [his] back was acquainted with his master’s whip.” In Lincoln he was “long and favorably known” before he was found dead on the prairie north of town on April 5, 1876. An autopsy and inquest held the next day determined that he died of a broken neck “caused by a fall or other means unknown.” Two days later, in a column of brief notices called “Lincoln Laconics,” the *Nebraska State Journal* noted that Mr. Maddison’s friend “Andy Bayless desires us to return thanks to the citizens of Lincoln for their kindness in securing the decent interment of the remains of James Madison [sic]. Their kindness, he says, shall never be forgotten.”



MADDISON

## SECTION 1B



### RINKER

Remembering governors and mayors, generals and privates, the immigrant and the ex-slave, the tragedies and the kindness of the citizens, is the purpose of a cemetery such as Wyuka.

An overwhelming majority of the nearly 1,000 Civil War veterans interred at Wyuka served in the Union forces, but at least three Confederate soldiers were also laid to rest here. John Case of Missouri is interred in Section 12. The graves of Gabriel DeWitt of South Carolina and Fenton T. Rinker (1843-1910) of Virginia are in Space 1B in front of the Stable. Mr. Rinker served as a private in the 136th Virginia Militia and also in the 12th Virginia Cavalry. He farmed in Virginia after the war, then moved to Lincoln around 1900 and for a time operated a dairy. His widow and three of his five children lived in the Lincoln area upon his death in 1910, including Lulu Rinker, "a teacher in the city schools."

## POND



The early twentieth century improvements to Wyuka included not just buildings and brick streets, but also beautification. The project that placed a photograph of Wyuka as the title image on the 1912 publication *Beautiful Lincoln* was the bridge and pond at the southwest corner of the cemetery. The bridge incorporates a dam that checks the flow of a little stream that traverses the west edge of the cemetery. The pond was drained when the Post Office was built on the corner of the cemetery in the 1960s. It was re-instituted in the improvements of 2000 and once again swans, geese and ducks grace beautiful Lincoln. Plans for the pond include a paved walking path and other park features.



## TOUR STOP 51: POND & BRIDGE



## TOUR STOP 52: FUNERAL HOME, CHAPEL & OFFICE

Wyuka's entrance was graced from 1910 until the 1960s with a caretaker's residence and a small office, built in the style of the sturdy Stable. Those buildings were removed when the Post Office was built and the pond was drained. A small, boxy, limestone-clad office stood beside the entrance from the 1960s until 2000, when it was replaced by the present Funeral Home, Chapel and Office. The building is set to one side to allow the vista from the gateway to the Rudge Chapel, and draws its stylistic cues from the early twentieth century buildings of the Cemetery. Jim Dyck and The Architectural Partnership designed the handsome, compatible building, incorporating in the interior two lovely, century-old stained-glass windows from the original buildings.



## WYUKA NOTABLES...

- A) **Abel, Hazel Hempel**—First woman U. S. Senator from Nebraska, 1954, (Hazel Abel Park)
- B) **Anderson, Victor Immanuel**—Mayor of Lincoln 1950-53, Governor of Nebraska 1955-59, (Anderson Branch Library)
- C) **Beattie, Merle Margaret**—Lincoln Public Schools director of elementary education 1923-68, (Beattie Elementary School)
- D) **Exon, J. James**—Nebr. Governor 1971-79, U. S. Senator 1979-1997
- E) **Gere, Charles**—founder & publisher, Nebraska State Journal (Gere Branch Library)
- F) **Lefler, Millard**—Superintendent of Lincoln Public Schools (1920-48) (Lefler Middle School)
- G) **Malone, Clyde**—Executive Director, Lincoln Urban League (Clyde Malone Community Center, Malone Neighborhood)
- H) **Martin, Bennett**—Mayor of Lincoln 1956-59 (Bennett Martin City Library)
- I) **Mickle, Robin**—Longtime educator (Mickle Middle School)
- J) **Pound, Louise**—folklorist, Univ. of Nebr. English professor (Pound Middle School, with sister Olivia and brother Roscoe)
- K) **Poynter, William Amos**—Governor of Nebraska 1899-1901
- L) **Pyrtle, Ruth E.**—Lincoln Public School teacher and principal (Pyrtle Elementary School)
- M) **Roper, Hulda**—first female police officer for City of Lincoln (Roper Elementary School)
- N) **Ruff, George**—longtime superintendent of Wyuka Cemetery (1884-1925)
- O) **Scott, Hazel**—first woman principal of Lincoln High School (Scott Middle School)
- P) **Speidell, Charles E.**—early Lincoln monument maker, Speidell Monument Co.
- Q) **Walt, Bess Christine Dodson**—37 years of leadership of Lincoln Libraries (Walt Branch Library)
- R) **Young, Elder John M.**—founder of village of Lancaster, Nebraska, which became Lincoln in 1867
- S) **Zehrunge, Frank Connell**—Mayor of Lincoln 1913-15, 1921-27, 1931-33

MAP



## ...AND NOTORIOUS

T) **Rhea, William**—executed by State of Nebraska for robbery and murder, 1903

U) **Starkweather, Charles**—mass murders in 1958, executed by State of Nebraska, 1959



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HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

[www.wyukafoundation.org](http://www.wyukafoundation.org)