A Walk Through the Rose Hill Cemetery

Historic Tour Guide No. 12



City of Bloomington, Indiana



Rose Hill's Symbols and Iconography:

Throughout modern history headstones have been decorated with symbolic images, stylistically reflecting current historical and architectural trends, along with changing tastes and trends. Rose Hill Cemetery is an excellent example of this variety, displaying stones from its pioneer beginnings to the present day.

Acorns - prosperity and fruitfulness Anchor - hope and Christianity Book - the Bible; if closed, a completed life, and if open, to register the name of the dead Broken column - life cut short Calla Lily - beauty and marriage Cross with crown - victory and Christianity Curtain or veil - passing from one existence to another Doors and gates - passage from one realm to another Dove - purity, peace and the Holy Ghost Easter Lily - purity and chastity; casting off earthly things FOE - Fraternal Order of Eagles, associated with the theater Ferns - humility. frankness and sincerity Flame - eternal life, may be within an urn Hand coming down - depiction of God's presence Hand pointing up - soul has risen to heaven Hands together - marriage, earthly farewell or welcome Hour glass - passing of time, cyclic nature of life and death **IHS or IHC -** Greek or Latin abbreviations for Jesus IOOF or three links - Odd Fellows, a social and benevolent order for the working class, the links symbolize Friendship, Love and Truth

Lamb - innocence; usually used on children's graves Laurel - usually as a wreath; victory, eternity, immortality and chastity

Morning Glory - the Resurrection, youth and love Palm frond - triumph over death

Rocks - permanence, stability, reliability, strength and God **Rose** - martyrdom and purity; usually on the grave of a woman

Ivy - immortality, fidelity, friendship and the Trinity Vines - relationship between God and man

Weeping Willow Tree - grief, sorrow, immortality and the gospel of Christ

Wings - ascension to heaven









Treestones

Popular during the Victorian era, these stones were both typically carved in limestone and could be ordered through Sears and Roebuck, making their prevalence in Rose Hill particularly significant. Some are tall and elaborate, others short and simple, and some are combined with Victorian-styled "soul houses." Often adorned with other forms of symbolism, treestones themselves when depicted as a broken stump, refer to a life cut short. Treestones often were used for members



of the Woodmen of the World, an insurance society, evidenced by the fraternal order's symbol.

In Appreciation:

Financial support for this publication was provided by the City of Bloomington Department of Housing and Neighborhood Development.

Researched and written by Danielle Bachant-Bell, with assistance provided by Dr. Della Cook, Nancy Hiestand, Richard Powell and Ron Rogers. Layout by Lauren Iannucci with technical support by Diana Hoffman, Kevin Bowlen and Ron Rogers. Historic photographs provided by the Indiana University Archives. Additional archival information was gathered at: The Indiana Room, Monroe County Public Library and the Geneaology Room, Monroe County Historical Society.

The individuals highlighted as part of this tour are but a small sampling of the hundreds of notable people and families buried within Rose Hill Cemetery. No one has been intentionally excluded.



Monroe County, named for President James Monroe, was established following the Treaty of St. Mary's Ohio, and in April 1818 the county seat of Bloomington was platted. Originally wooded hills, the centrally-located land on which the town was formed had already been converted over to farm fields by pioneers Robertson Graham and David Rogers. Along with construction of a court house, churches and similar establishments, the new town required a burial yard. In 1819 a site west of town was chosen by the County Commissioners. Called the Grave Yard, the site was so marked by a G.Y. carved into a large oak tree near the entrance. The County Board maintained the cemetery until 1868, when jurisdiction was passed to the City and it became known as City Cemetery. Now known as the 'Old Spencer Addition,' this original burial area is the most eastern section of the cemetery bordered by Fourth, Maple and Third Streets.

By the late 1800s, vandalism, recreational use and a lack of fulltime oversight had taken its toll on the cemetery. In 1892 the Ladies Cemetery Association, a civic group reporting to the City Council Cemetery Committee, formed "to improve and beautify the City Cemetery grounds." These eight women began raising funds for improvements, including expansion into what is now referred to as the 'Spencer Addition.' They also changed the cemetery's name to Rose Hill commemorating the many wild and cultivated roses growing throughout the grounds. Unfortunately at present, few rose bushes remain. By April 1893, a sexton's cottage was constructed, allowing full-time oversight of the cemetery. A fountain, made locally by Seward Foundry also was installed in the center of Evergreen Arbor, a circular planting of pine trees near the center of the new section. After years of vandalism it was relocated to Third Street Park in 1991. The mature pines were some of the 12 lost during a spring storm in 2000, but were replaced soon after that. An 1894 benefit performance by Henry B. Gentry of Bloomington's Gentry Brother's Circus, funded construction of an elaborate Fourth Street entrance gate designed by the city's first architect, John B. Nichols. Carved by James Voss using stone donated by several local quarries, the Gothic Revival-style gate had a central arch wide enough for vehicular traffic flanked on either side by smaller arched entrances for foot traffic.

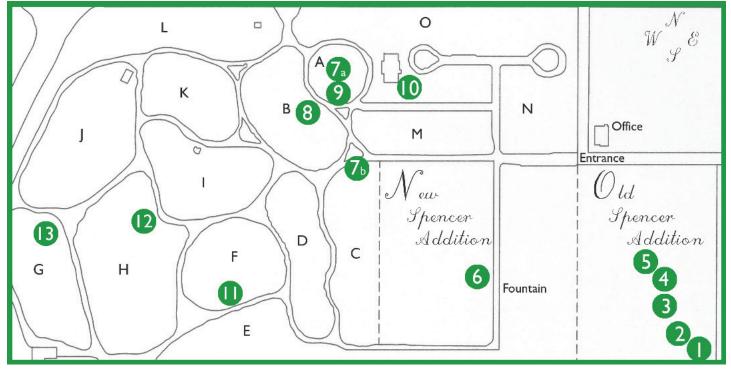
Because no burial records were kept prior to 1897, all information before this date must be derived from newspaper articles, obituaries and the headstones. On those stones that are still readable, many names of the county's earliest pioneers can be found. A few prominent figures associated with the early years of Indiana University buried in Old Spencer Addition include the Rev. Elisha Ballantine, professor of Greek; Theophilus A. Wylie, a professor of natural philosophy and chemistry; Daniel Kirkwood, professor of mathematics; and, Lewis Bollman, the first graduate of Indiana Seminary who received his degree in 1830. Five Revolutionary War soldiers are known to be buried at Rose Hill, along with many more veterans of the Civil War and all other wars fought by Americans through at least the Vietnam War. Additionally, at least 12 of Bloomington's mayors are also buried here.

Rose Hill Cemetery

The cemetery was enlarged to the north and west between 1907 and 1927. A 1929 expansion to the east prompted removal of the original stone entrance, replaced with the current poured concrete and iron gate. Rose Hill Cemetery now encompasses 28 acres. Limestone walls along the north and west sides, and ditches throughout, were installed in 1936 as a Works Progress Administration project. Buried over time, the ditches

were discovered and restored in 1993. A poured concrete wall replaced the limestone along Kirkwood Avenue in 2000. Additional interesting features in Rose Hill include the infant burial section along the western boundary, and the many family plots defined by elaborate fencing, higher retaining walls or low walls with coping stones. These have been locally referred to as "pens." Likewise, headstone placements in the newer sections do not necessarily conform to a straight grid, but instead often follow the roadways.

In 1905, the Ladies Cemetery Association along with several other women's service groups, incorporated as the Local Council of Women. Its first project was creation of Bloomington Hospital, and the group has continued to focus on health and human welfare needs since that time. In 1997 the City's Parks and Recreation Department assumed administration and maintenance of the cemetery from the Public Works Department.



1. Hon. Paris C. Dunning, 1806-1884

Old Spencer Addition Along with his wife, Sarah Alexander Dunning, Paris Dunning is buried here a short distance from their stately brick home, which still stands at Third and Jackson Streets. After practicing law and medicine, Dunning served in the Indiana House of Representatives from 1833-1838 and in the Indiana Senate from 1836-1840. He was elected lieutenant gov-



ernor on the democratic ticket on December 9, 1846, under his former Bloomington law mentor, Governor James Whitcomb. When Whitcomb was elected to the U.S. Senate in December of 1848, Dunning filled his unexpired term as governor. Dunning was again elected to the state senate in 1863. Returning to Bloomington, he became a leading criminal lawyer until his death during a courtroom speech in 1884. His wife Sarah is buried beneath a white marble headstone carved by Edwin M. Burt. Not erected until 1891, Paris's limestone marker was commissioned by the County Commissioners and donated by the Bloomington Oolitic Stone Company. Although much of the text is now eroded, it was detailed in an 1894 newspaper and recounts his illustrious career.

2. Whetstone markers **Old Spencer Addition** Just west of the Dunning markers is a collection of four whetstone (siltstone) markers for the 1830s burials of the Pauleys and Paughs. A fifth such marker, for the 1828 burial of G.A. Anderston is to the north. Quarried in Orange County,

Indiana, and most commonly



known for sharpening tools, the layers of distinctly tan-colored stone represent years of river silt deposits. Yet despite its composition, the stone is remarkably durable. Processing this stone at the mill at Hindostan Falls was formerly an important industry for the town of Hindostan in Martin County. The stone was sent overland to the East Fork of the White River or to the Lost River, and shipped to locations along the Wabash, Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, and to Asia and Europe. Use of the stone for grave markers began to fade in the late 1840s when white marble became available. Interestingly, the use of whetstone for marking graves was not identified until the 1990s, so full exploration of cemeteries outside the immediate region has not yet occured.

3. Andrew Ferguson, 1765-1856 **Old Spencer Addition**

Ferguson was a free African-American from Dinwiddie County, Virginia, who, at the age of 15, was conscripted with his father into service during the Revolutionary War. He fought in many battles under the commands of Capt. William Harris and Col. William McCormick. Ferguson was wounded in the head during the battle of Guilford Court House. Discharged in November 1781, he first returned to Virginia but was living in Bloomington by the time of the 1830 census. Ferguson applied for his military pension in 1838, and in 1855, he responded to the newly enacted bounty-land act and applied for the prescribed 160 acres of land. He died before receiving the land. Ferguson's military service was more recently recognized when the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) erected this simple, low, granite headstone in 1984.

4. Dr. David Maxwell, 1786-1854 **Old Spencer Addition**



5. Andrew Wylie, 1789-1850 **Old Spencer Addition**

A native of Fayette County, Pennsylvania, Wylie graduated from Jefferson College in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania in 1810 and became its president the following year. He was then appointed president of Washington College in nearby Washington, Pennsylvania in 1817. In October 1829, Wylie assumed the position of first



president of Indiana State Seminary, now Indiana University. In addition to this role, he was professor of Moral and Mental Philosophy, Political Economy, and Polite Literature. As IU's first published scholar, Wylie established a core curriculum of classical learning that remained virtually intact for 25 years. In 1835, Wylie constructed a brick Federal style home on what is today East Second Street. It is owned and operated by IU as the Wylie House Museum. After severely cutting his foot while chopping wood, Wylie contracted pneumonia that took his life. Along with his wife, Margaret, he is buried beneath a large limestone obelisk with an epitaph written in both Latin and English.

6. John B. Crafton, 1853-1912 aboard the Titantic **New Spencer Addition**

During his life, John Crafton was a very successful local businessman. Referred to as the "Stone King," Crafton owned many acres of limestone rich land and was involved in building the Monon Rail Line between Clear Creek and Harrodsburg. All this garnered him a sizable fortune for his day. However, Craf-



ton is now best remembered as one of many who died during the sinking of the Titantic, a voyage he took after seeking relief for his rheumatism in Europe. On its maiden voyage from England to New York City, the ship hit an iceberg and sank. Only 705 of the more than 2,000 passengers survived.

7. Civil War and WWI Monuments Section A and entrance road

Beginning in 1883, the local Women's Relief Corps (WRC), a patriotic women's group, embarked on a fund raising campaign to commission the Soldier's Monument honoring Civil War veterans. With additional City and County funds, the monument was completed and erected in 1900 in the cemetery's 'Stone Addition.' Designed by John Nichols, the Buff Oolitic limestone was



carved by Curry & Son, and the bronze pieces cast by W.H. Mullen of Salem, Ohio. It includes a Union soldier at parade rest, and a bronze plaque of a battle scene and reference to the GAR and the WRC. Most notably, the GAR formally established May 30th as Decoration Day, now known as Memorial Day. The World War I monument was erected in 1923 and was predominately paid for by donations from the families of those 34 soldiers honored. This Classically designed limestone monument features "The Spirit of the Doughboy" statue by E. M. Viquesney. The monument was dedicated on May 30, 1927.

8. Showers Family Section A and B

The site of Bloomington's City Hall was once home to the Showers Brothers Furniture Factory. At its peak in the 1920s, the Showers Brothers Company produced more than 700,000 pieces of furniture a year. This was more than half of all the furniture made in the United States, leading the company to declare itself "the world's largest

producer of bedroom and dining room furniture." The Showers Brothers Company, founded by William N. Showers (pictured), and brother James was a major employer in Bloomington, with as many as 1,200 workers. It accounted for a quarter of the City's tax revenues. For more information on Showers pick up 'A Walk Through, The Showers Brothers Furniture Factory.'

10. Rose Hill Mausoleum Section M

This was the first public mausoleum in southern Indiana. It was constructed by G. J. Westerman of Logan, Ohio, in 1917, under the direction of Bloomington Mausoleum Company. Its restrained Art Nouveau style is punctuated by stained glass windows on the north and south, and bronze entry doors on the west. The window designs and carved limestone reliefs are not only decorative, but are full of funerary symbolism. A second smaller structure, King Mausoleum, was built in Section J by Howard M. King in 1953 to help alleviate space constraints in the cemetery. Its simple lines and lack of ornamentation reflect the modern architecture of the era. There are also three private crypts bearing the names of the families who erected them--Johnson in 1927 (Section I), Grinstead in 1932 (Section F) and Holland in 1940 (Section L).

11. Eithel "Lefty" Galloway, 1919-1938 Section F

Eithel Galloway became a local legend through personal tragedy. A musician and poet, he became a star pitcher on the 1935-1937 American Legion junior baseball team. He was the 1937-1938 captain of Bloomington High School's basketball team. But his baseball skills garnered the most attention: IU baseball coach Paul "Pooch" Harrell declared Galloway a top



prospect, and professional teams reportedly also showed interest. He completed a semester at IU, then moved to Evansville for employment with plans to return to IU once he had saved enough money for tuition. Sadly, the day he began working for a trucking company the vehicle he was riding in was struck by a train. Galloway died of his injuries a few days later. His simple limestone headstone is notable for a porcelain photograph of Galloway in his team uniform. Rose Hill is also the resting place of little-known baseball player, George (Anner) Shively, 1893-1962, who played with the Negro Baseball League's Indianapolis ABCs. The team was originally organized by the American Brewing Co. and later became a charter member of the Negro National League. Born in Lebanon, Kentucky, Shively first played for the West Baden Sprudels in 1910 while working at the West Baden Springs Hotel. When their famed manager, Charles I. Taylor, purchased a half-interest in the ABCs, outfielder Shively became their left-handed lead-off hitter until 1923, all the while making his home in Bloomington. In 1918 he batted a blistering .408. He went on to play briefly with the Atlantic City Bacharachs, the Brooklyn Royal Giants and the Washington Potomacs. Back at home, Shively was known for his hunting skills, which earned him the additional nicknames of "Nimrod" and "Rabbit." Although buried in section C, there is currently no headstone for him.

12. Alfred C. Kinsey, 1894-1956 Section H

Kinsey came to Indiana University in 1920 as assistant professor of zoology. Shortly after taking over coordination of the new marriage course in 1938, he and fellow researchers began work on his famous statistical study of the sexual behavior of men and women. In 1942, he established the Institute for Sex Research at IU with staunch support from President Herman B. Wells. Through



the institute, more than 11,000 interviews were conducted, resulting in the 1948 publication of the first volume of The Kinsey Reports known as Sexual Behavior in the Human Male. An unheard of 500,000 copies were sold. Kinsey's work was both defended and attacked, but the attacks proved damaging and long lived, prompting loss of a major funder. Kinsey published his second report in 1953, Sexual Behavior in the Human Female. He died three years later. When the project was completed in 1963, the institute had conducted more than 18,000 interviews. In the early 1980s the institute's name was changed to The Kinsey Institute for Research in Sex, Gender



Born in Garrard County, Kentucky, Maxwell sought advanced education in Danville, Kentucky, and married Mary E. Dunn in 1809. They settled in the newly founded town of Madison, Indiana, where Maxwell practiced medicine for nine years. He was a convention delegate and helped frame the Indiana state constitution in 1816, and later became a leader in establishing a state university. In 1818, after his move to the fledgling town of Bloomington, he began lobbying for the school. The Indiana State Seminary was founded in 1820.

Maxwell, Bloomington's first physician, served as a trustee for more than 30 years. He was twice elected Postmaster, twice elected to the State House, and once to the Senate during the 1820s. Maxwell Hall on the Indiana University campus was named for him and his son, Dr. James Darwin Maxwell, also a local physician and trustee from 1861-1891. A small marble obelisk, a common form of Egyptian architecture found in cemeteries, marks the burial of both Maxwell and his wife. Just to the south, is the oldest known headstone in the cemetery marking the 1821 burial of Kittura Hardesty. The simple, upright limestone slab, like so many others in this section, is without ornament.

9. Margaret Hemphill McCalla, 1836-1912 Section A

Around 1835, Samuel McCalla brought his family to Monroe County's Salt Creek Township from the Chester District of upland South Carolina. Daughter Margaret Hemphill McCalla was born here in 1836, and after first attending a one-room school, she graduated from the Monroe County Female Seminary. Following service as a one-room school teacher, McCalla began instructing at the Bloomington Graded School upon its 1863 establishment. By 1873, girls were admitted to the university and closer coordination of higher grades instruc-

tion with the university entrance requirements was desired. When Bloomington High School, one of the first in the state, was founded McCalla was closely involved in the process. It is now known as Bloomington High School South. McCalla first taught mathematics and was then elected school superintendent from 1875-1877, the first woman in Indiana to hold this position. In 1908, the new Bloomington elementary school at Tenth Street and Indiana Avenue was named in her honor. Designed by John Nichols, the Classical Revival style building was closed in 1970 and now houses the Fine Arts department at Indiana University.

and Reproduction to reflect a larger mission.

13. Hoagland (Hoagy) Howard Carmichael, 1899-1981 Section G

Despite studying law at IU, Carmichael's exposure to jazz musicians and cornet player Leon "Bix" Beiderbecke lit the fire that would become his life's course. His mother, who played piano at local movie houses, was his first musical inspiration. His own college band, The Carmichael Collegians, had some early success, but the band's 1927 recording of "Stardust" garnered little early attention. After briefly practicing law in



Florida, Carmichael headed to New York City in 1929. There his 36 recordings for the Victor company included "Georgia On My Mind," "Rockin Chair" and "Lazy River." In 1936, Carmichael moved to Hollywood and became a star performing on records, radio, stage and in movies. Three of the top four songs of 1946 were written by Carmichael. Together, he and famed lyricist Johnny Mercer won a 1951 Oscar for "In the Cool, Cool, Cool of the Evening." Carmichael continued his television appearances during the 1950s, but much of his later music received little attention due to changing tastes. After his family donated Carmichael's archival collection to Indiana University, the Hoagy Carmichael Room was opened in 1986.

