

DEERFIELD CEMETERY

Guide and Map

Deerfield, IL

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The Deerfield Historical Cemetery, located at the northwest corner of Waukegan Road and Central Avenue, is one of the oldest cemeteries in the area and contains the graves of many early settlers. It is also fairly unique because it is one of only a few cemeteries in the United States to be protected under a perpetual charter.

The land for the cemetery was purchased from Philemon Cadwell in April 1858 for about \$44, and lots were originally sold for \$5. In 1916, Mr. William M. Hoyt, a successful businessman in the area, donated an ornamental iron gate and fence. Today, the sign portion of the gate, reading "DEERFIELD – PEACE – LOVE – CHARITY," remains over the entrance on Waukegan Road. Over the years, many other additions have been made to the cemetery, including a plaque listing the war dead of Deerfield donated by American Legion Post 738, stone-capped brick piers donated by Lucile Loarie and the Deerfield Lions in honor of America's bicentennial celebration, and a new 48-inch high wrought iron fence and gate along Waukegan Road in 1992.

In 1988, the upkeep of the cemetery passed to the Village of Deerfield and into the hands of the Deerfield Cemetery Commission. The Cemetery Commission oversees all issues related to the cemetery grounds, including maintenance, restoration, and care. They also maintain records of plot ownership, burial sites, and oversee the Deerfield Cemetery website.

The cemetery contains the graves of approximately 15 Civil War veterans, as well as the graves of veterans of the War of 1812, the Black Hawk War, the Spanish-American War, and both World War conflicts.



1 James M. Galloway (1846-1927)

James Millen Galloway was the son of Job and Emma Galloway, who were among the first settlers in the Deerfield area. Galloway was one of the last volunteers from the Deerfield area to join the Army during the Civil War. He served with Company G of the Illinois 15th Infantry. After marching through the swamps, Galloway became ill and spent most of the war in sickbay. Perhaps because of this he was able to survive the war, and he lived the rest of his life in excellent health after returning home. After the war, he first moved back to Chicago where he met his wife, Mary. They were married on October 22nd, 1877. He moved back to the Deerfield area after his father was stung by a bee and died. He spent the rest of his life living on a farm which was located on the site of what is now Northbrook Court.



2 Willamina Lange (1845-1929?)

Willamina Drawz Lange was married to Henry Lange. They were both born in Germany. They were married in 1857 when she was only 12 years old. In addition to her chest of linen, her father gave her a dowry that was the equivalent of \$100. Mr. and Mrs. Lange left from Bremen, Germany on April 6, 1872 to come to America. They were booked to travel on a boat called the Leipzig, but they missed it. The Leipzig sank with 800 people on board. They landed in Baltimore and soon made their way to Chicago. In 1876 they moved to Deerfield and lived on West Railway Avenue. Mr. Lange was a farmer and Mrs. Lange was known in Deerfield as a midwife. She helped deliver many babies in the late 1800s. She was also known for her skill at spinning wool and knitting. Her knit stockings and mittens were famous for being warm, comfortable, and lasting for years. Her date of death is not known but she was still alive in 1928 for the publication of the "History of Deerfield Illinois" book written by Marie Ward Reichelt. According to Reichelt, in 1928 as the book went to press Mrs. Lange was lying in bed with a broken arm and a broken leg. She would have been 83 years old at the time.



3 Michael Kittell (1805 – 1890)

Born in Germany's Kingdom of Hessen in 1805, Michael Kittell came to America around 1840. In 1841 he met and married Selma Meyer in Rochester, New York. After a few years and the birth of their eldest daughter, the Kittells moved to Chicago, where Michael Kittell worked as a cooper. In 1844, he bought 120 acres one mile north of Deerfield and began farming it while also continuing to work as a cooper. When the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad was built, it ran right across the farm; at that time, the Kittells sold the land, bought three acres in town, and built a home. Michael Kittell lived in that home until he died on July 3, 1890 at the age of 85.



4 Lydia Phelps Hoyt (1820-1916)

Lydia Phelps Hoyt was born in Vermont in 1820. She married Carlos Hoyt in 1866 when she was 45 years old and he was 53. Carlos Hoyt's parents, Seth and Sally Hoyt, owned a general store at the Southeast corner of Deerfield & Telegraph Roads. Today Telegraph Road is called Waukegan Road. Shortly after getting married to Carlos Hoyt they decided to move from Vermont to Deerfield to join the rest of the Hoyt family. Carlos and Lydia lived in a house that was



next to the First Presbyterian Church of Deerfield. Lydia lived a long life and passed away at the age of 96. She would tell people that she was born in the age of Napoleon and lived until the Great War. During her lifetime she had seen the invention of the train, the automobile, and finally airplanes. Everyone in Deerfield knew and loved Lydia Phelps Hoyt. For her 96th birthday the Parent-Teachers Association held a big party and all of the children of Deerfield presented her with different colored carnations. Mrs. Hoyt attended the party in a handmade silk hoopskirt.

About the authors

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5 Jacob Cadwell (1770 or 71 - 1848)



Jacob Cadwell is credited, along with Horace Lamb, as being the first settlers in what is now called Deerfield. He came in 1835 with his sons Philemon, Caleb, Hiram, and Edwin. His wife, Rubie Rich Cadwell, soon followed with two more daughters, Rubie and Jerusha. Jacob built his home on the southeast corner of the intersections of what are now Waukegan and Deerfield Roads. He eventually opened a general store on his property that was used by everyone in Deerfield for decades.

Cadwell's sons built their own houses around the Deerfield area as well. One of his sons built his home across the street on the west side of Waukegan Road. For about 50 years the intersection of Deerfield and Waukegan Roads was known as Cadwell's Corners because of the Cadwells who lived there. In fact Cadwell's Corners was the first name of the village that became Deerfield.

6 Philip Gutzler (1830-1882)



Born in Gertsheim, Germany in 1830, Philip Gutzler came to America with his parents in 1841. His parents settled the family near the Lake-Cook county border and began to farm. In 1851, lured by the promise of gold found in California, Philip and seven others from the Deerfield area made their way west. He would spend the next five years in San Francisco, Monterey, Sacramento, and Santa Cruz, first as a miner, then as a wheat farmer. After news of his father's death, Philip returned to Deerfield to take over the family farm and to help raise his younger siblings. In 1857 he married Adelia Wilmot, the daughter of one of his neighbors, and they had seven children, five of whom made it to adulthood. He died in 1883 at the age of 52 after six years of failing health.

7 Lymon Wilmot (1806 - 1896)

The Wilmot family name is one of the more famous ones in Deerfield, with a street and a school named Wilmot. Lymon Wilmot was born in 1806 in Colesville, New York. He lost his father at the age of four and his mother was in poor health, so he started working as a farmhand at an early age. He married his wife Clarissa in 1831. His younger brother Jesse had moved to the Lake County area, and in 1837 Lymon came to the area on a prospecting tour.



In the fall of 1840, Wilmot and his family took the steamer from Buffalo to Chicago and then drove their team up to Deerfield. He soon had a huge farm of 240 acres. He was known as one of the most successful farmers in Deerfield. He was also one of the first prominent Republicans in the area, and he held strong Abolitionist views.

He was one of the founding members of the Republican party in Illinois. During the Civil War he accepted the very unpopular job of enrolling officer for Deerfield. For this he made ene-

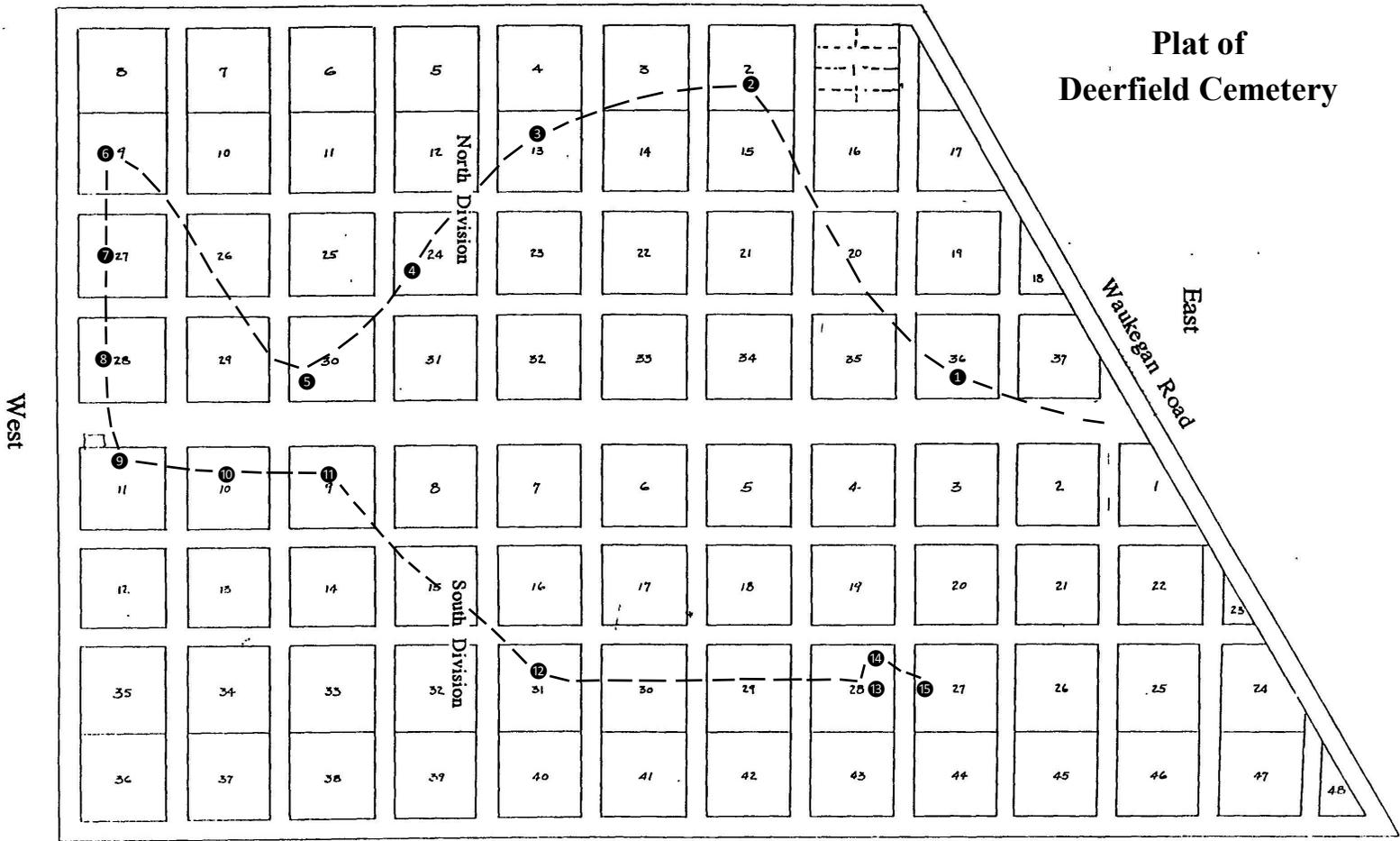
8 Cassius B. Easton (1846 – 1917)



Born at Half Day Road in 1846, Cassius B. Easton was educated at Northwestern University and a public school in Poughkeepsie, New York. When he returned to the Deerfield area, he began as a sheep farmer, then, in 1874 began boarding horses from Chicago. He began Easton's Model Stock Farm, which was known as one of the most complete and best equipped stock farms in the county. He ran for Supervisor of Lake County as a Republican in 1894 and was elected without opposition, and was also the first person in Lake County to be elected Chairman of the Board by acclamation in 1898. He married Ellen Parsons around 1866; they had five children.

North

Plat of Deerfield Cemetery



Central Avenue

South

Map from "Historic Deerfield Cemetery" a guide prepared by the Deerfield Area Historical Society in the summer of 1996.

9 Silas Hawley Sherman (1846-1902)

Born in 1846 in East Northfield, Silas Sherman was friends with James Galloway and served in the Civil War with him. They were among the last of the recruits from Illinois, and they helped to make Deerfield's quota of men simply by saying they were from Deerfield – nobody asked them for any verification! They were mustered in at Chicago on March 21, 1865. By the time they caught up with their regiment in North Carolina, the war was almost over. After the Confederate armies surrendered on April 9, the regiment was sent all over America – they took part in the Grand Review in Washington D.C., went to Louisville, St. Louis, and finally ended up in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas to join the army serving on the plains. On September 1, 1865 the regiment was mustered out of service and placed en-route for Springfield, where they were discharged on September 15. Silas returned to Deerfield, married Ann Hook in 1874, and farmed rented land. He eventually moved the family to Nebraska, where four of their six children were born, and where they lived until about 1898 when Silas's failing health prompted the decision to move back to the Deerfield area. He died in 1902 at the age of 56 during a raging snowstorm.



For many years Clark was the only white trapper and trader allowed in the area by the Indians and first visited what is now Deerfield in 1818. In 1824 he moved to Chicago and became a Pony Express rider and rode between Chicago and Milwaukee. In 1832 he served with American forces in the Blackhawk War. His first wife was an Indian woman in Wisconsin, and he had several children with her. He left her for a white wife who is buried next to him in the cemetery. He had several children with her as well. He tried farming but was a failure at it. He was a natural hunter and trapper. He passed away in Deerfield in 1865. He was 81 years old.

13 Loretta Willman (1895-1987)

Loretta Willman was born in Minneapolis in 1895. Her father worked for the railroad and they eventually settled in Deerfield in 1906. When she arrived, Deerfield was a small country village. Over her lifetime she saw Deerfield grow into the town it is now. She was here in 1909 when gas and electricity became available for the first time. She was here in 1910 when cement roads were first put in. She went to high school in Highland Park and had to go there in a horse drawn school bus. She lived until 1987 and was always amazed by how much Deerfield grew while she lived here.



10 Joel S. Sherman (1818-1900)

The Sherman family were among the original settlers in the Chicago area. They were relatives of General William Tecumseh Sherman, and Joel was said to resemble him. The Shermans were originally from Connecticut and they arrived in the Chicago area starting in 1833. Joel Sherman and his wife initially lived in the city of Chicago and owned land where the Palmer House sits today. They sold the land because it was too swampy and moved to an area that is now in Northbrook.



14 John Kress Willman (1923-2010)

John Kress Willman was a lifelong resident of Deerfield. He was born in 1923 in the Josie Woodman Maternity Home, which was located across the street from the Village Hall on Waukegan Road. His grandfather was a conductor on the railroad and built a house on Hazel Avenue in the early 1900s. He is a distant relative of the Ott family, who were among the first settlers in Deerfield.



Soon, other members of the family were living in Northfield and Northbrook as well. At one point, members of the Sherman family owned about half of the land that makes up Northbrook today. In fact, there were so many of the Shermans living in the Northbrook area in the 1800's that it was known as Shermerville until it was changed to Northbrook in 1922.

He served in the Navy during WWII, and when he came back he built a home next to his grandfather's home on Hazel. These homes were located in what is now Jewett Park. He was deeply interested in preserving Deerfield's past and became one of the first members of the Cemetery Commission when it was created in the 1970s. For years he was considered to be Deerfield's unofficial historian.

11 Joseph Hyde Fisher (1828 - 1894)

Joseph Fisher was born in Bennington, Vermont in 1828. When he was a small boy he moved to Chicago and started working in a butcher shop. When he turned twenty one years old the gold rush hit and he traveled west over the plains, killing buffalo on the way to California. He was one of the original '49ers.



He moved back to Chicago and married his wife Phebe in 1866. They were living in the city during the Great Chicago Fire of 1871. He became an inventor and won a medal in 1876 for the best refrigerator. He and his wife built a home in Deerfield in 1879 and they lived there until his death in 1894.

15 Marie Ward Reichelt (1873-1938)

Without Marie Ward Reichelt, we probably wouldn't have been able to complete this guide. Marie Ward Reichelt was born in Mississippi in 1873. She eventually married John Augustus Reichelt, Jr., and the two of them made their home in Chicago. In 1909 they moved to Deerfield where they would live for the rest of their lives.



Marie Ward Reichelt had a keen interest in genealogy and she ended up researching and writing family histories for a number of the residents of Deerfield. This hobby turned into the eventual writing of her "History of Deerfield" in 1928. Without this book we would have never been able to complete the research for this tour. We are forever indebted to Mrs. Reichelt for keeping Deerfield's past alive.

12 John Kinzie Clark (1784-1865)

John Kinzie "Indian" Clark is one of the more interesting and colorful characters buried in Deerfield Cemetery. His mother was captured by Indians in Virginia and brought to Fort Wayne, Indiana. She met an English officer there and they were married. John Kinzie Clark was born in 1784 in an Indian wigwam.



Sources:

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