

Olathe Memorial Cemetery Walking Tour



*A Walk Through
Olathe's History*

The Mission of the Olathe Memorial Cemetery is to provide the community with compassionate burial services, with dedication to maintaining accurate and lasting records in a beautifully kept setting

General Information

Gates are open for day use only.

Office Hours: Mon. - Fri., 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Full-size, Cremation, and Infant Lots available.

For information on lots, interments, or headstones, contact the Cemetery Office at:

738 N. Chestnut
Olathe, KS 66051
(913) 971-5226
bnilges@olatheks.org

Our Past

The Olathe Memorial Cemetery was founded in 1865. When the founding fathers in 1858 laid out the City of Olathe, no provision had been made for a cemetery. Since church yards were the traditional burying ground, someone suggested that burials be made in the Church Square. All burials were made there for several years. "Church Square" was bounded by Willie, Prairie, Walnut and Mulberry streets. This location was never used for church purposes, probably because it was so far from town.

In 1865, Mr. Watts Beckwith announced that with or without the support of the city, he was setting aside 10 acres of his land for cemetery purposes. This is the reason why the first burial in the present cemetery is from the Beckwith family. It wasn't until the railroad right-of-way cut through Church Square that it was necessary to move the graves to the present location. This accounts for the fact that several stones in the cemetery bear dates earlier than 1865. No trace remains today of the Church Square burial site. In 1879, the city bought the Beckwith tract and added acreage in 1889.

The Olathe Memorial Cemetery has many interesting historical features and stories. In the original section of the cemetery, you will find tombstones marking the early settlers of Olathe. Not far from the Beckwith Monument is the shaft marked Alger and Nelson, early settlers who came in 1859 by covered wagon. Nearby is the monument of Rev. I.C. Beach, Olathe's first minister, and his sons A.D. and Edward, two of Olathe's earliest physicians.

The Tour

You are about to take a step back over 150 years into Olathe's history. The citizens you'll find buried here represent all walks of life...from doctors, lawyers and politicians to Civil War soldiers, gunfighters and desperados, and early pioneers who came looking for opportunity and a better life.

We hope you enjoy your walk through Olathe history. There is much to see here, history that can be learned here, and many stories that can help bring our past back to life.

Olathe Cemetery Walking Tour



1. *Shelter House/Chapel*

The Cemetery Shelter House was originally built under the direction of Walt Huggins, Cemetery Superintendent. It was built of native limestone

from a nearby quarry in 1937 as a WPA project during the Great Depression. Fifty years later in 1984, it was restored by the Lions Club.



2. *Memory Lane*

The DAR landscaped bed and Memory Lane were dedicated on May 30, 1934 by the Daughters of the American Revolution. Forty-eight maple trees to represent each of the 48 states, a granite boulder,

and lilac bushes were placed on the site originally. It was re-dedicated in 2000 with a bench, new landscaping, and the illuminated flagpole. (Lot 2-2)



3. *The Columbarium Wall*

The Columbarium Wall honors the cremated remains of departed loved ones. It was erected in June of 2004. (Lot 2-9-1)

A Walk Through Olathe's History



4. *Harvey Livermore Mausoleum*

Harvey Livermore and his family are entombed in the Livermore Mausoleum. He was the General Manager of the Johnson County Cooperative Association.

He represented the 2nd Ward on the City Council in 1882. (Lot 2-2-252-N2)



5. *Westphall W. Frye*

Westphall W. Frye was a Johnson County banker since 1905. He was associated with the Grange movement for 27 years and managed Grange

stores in Gardner, Stanley and Olathe. From 1912-1926, he was in partnership with brother W.L. Frye in the Frye Brothers Furniture and Undertaking business. It would later become W.L. Frye & Sons Funeral Home. (Lot 2-2-179-S1)



6. *Mabel Claire Schmidt*

Mabel was born in 1888 and moved to Olathe in 1941. She was known the world over for the

raising of fine turkeys. From 1920 to 1939 she was an exhibitor and prize winner at the Kansas City American Royal. She exhibited Big Ben, a Tom turkey, in 1929 at Madison Square Garden in New York and was awarded the prize of the World Champion Turkey. She even won internationally in Rome, Italy at the World's Poultry Congress. (Lot 2-2-126-S2)



7. *Paul Hubbard*

Paul Hubbard was an instructor for 43 years at the Kansas School for the Deaf and was their first Athletic Director.

He organized the first football team at the school after he graduated from Gallaudet College (a school for the deaf) in 1899. He received his earlier education from the Colorado School of the Deaf. He was an outstanding athlete at Gallaudet, playing quarterback and devising the huddle system for calling plays. He's generally credited with being the first to use it. The Kansas School for the Deaf named their football field in his honor. (Lot 2-2-75-S1).



8. *Sarah Cole*

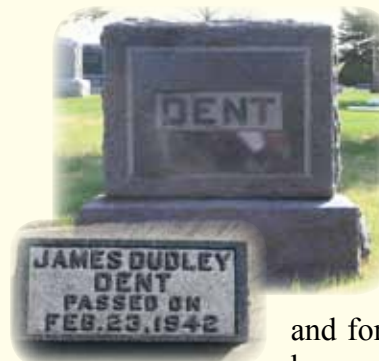
Sarah Cole was born shipboard on the Atlantic Ocean in 1855 while her parents were enroute from Ireland to America. She grew up in West Virginia,

eventually becoming a teacher. She followed her sister to Kansas where she met Dr. Anna Goff, a pioneer woman doctor who encouraged Sarah to also become a doctor. She graduated from Homeopathic School of Medicine in Lincoln County, the first school to admit women to their curriculum. Dr. Cole practiced medicine for nearly 40 years in Lincoln County, becoming a leading physician. (Lot 2-2-175-S1)



9. *Don W. Roberds*

Ensign Don W. Roberds was the first Olathe resident to die in WWII in 1942. He was 21 years old. (Lot 2-2-132-S3)



10. *James Dudley Dent*

James Dudley Dent is remembered as one of the few good men who ever lived in Johnson County to whom the title "the perfect gentleman" has been applied so aptly and so often. He was a pioneer Olathe merchant

and former County Treasurer. J.D., as he was best known, came to Olathe in 1883 and was a clothing merchant in one capacity or another for 50 years. He served as City Councilman for several years, and was an active Mason all his life. (Lot 2-2-194-S2)



11. *Charles Norris*

Charles Norris was a former Olathe newspaper editor, car agent, and world traveler. In 1898 he established the Olathe News-Herald, which later merged with the Olathe Mirror Publishing Company. In 1910 he established the Ford agency in Olathe. He made early automotive history during a road run in a Model T, covering a circuit in Kansas and Missouri and lasting 4 days. (Lot 2-2-138-S2)



12. *The Baby's Circle*

The Baby's Circle was established in the 1950's to honor the most precious inhabitants of the cemetery. (Lot 2-2-1)



13. *Marshall Ensor*

Marshall Ensor, with the help of his sister Loretta, was awarded the William S. Paley Award in 1940 for teaching radio and Morse Code from his Olathe farm station from 1920 to 1941. About 10,000 licensed radio operators were gained as a result. Marshall and Loretta ran the 120 acre dairy farm which is now operated as an Olathe Museum. Marshall, a skilled furniture maker, taught manual arts for 47 years at Olathe High School. (Lot 2-2-154-E3, 2-2-155-W1)



14. *Civil War Circle*

Located in the Civil War Circle are soldiers who fought in the War Between the States. The statue, a gift to Olathe from the Grand Army of the Republic, was dedicated in 1893. It is one of the first memorials erected to Civil War veterans in Kansas. There are more than 300 Civil War veterans buried throughout the cemetery. (Lot 2-3)



15. *Fred McIntyre*

Fred McIntyre was born in 1848 in Wisconsin, and served in the Civil War with his two brothers, George and Myron. He was known as the youngest Olathe soldier in the Civil War, joining shortly after being involved with penning up Quantrill's men as they were raiding Olathe in 1862. After joining he was one of the soldiers who pursued General Sterling Price in his retreat after the battle of Westport. As a young man traveling with his family, he met Wild Bill Hickok, who took a fancy to Fred. He let Fred ride his plow beam as he worked on a farm in Monticello. They were to meet later in life when Fred was a soldier fighting Indians and Wild Bill rode into his camp. He recognized Fred as the boy who once rode his plow beam. Fred and his younger brother Will were life-long companions, partnering in the restaurant business. (Lot 2-3-1-57)



16. *James B. and John J. Judy*

James B. and John J. Judy were brothers who enlisted in the 12th Kansas Regiment during the Civil War. The brothers were killed during Quantrill's Raid in September, 1862. They were kidnapped, robbed, and shot to death near their home in Olathe in retaliation for the involvement of their father, Reason S. Judy, in the battle of Lone Jack, Missouri. (Lot 2-3-1)



17. *Mary Crane*

Mary Crane was one of the first teachers in the Johnson County Public Schools. She began her teaching career near Lenexa and taught over 30 years. When she retired, Miss Crane and a sister opened an abstracting and insurance agency in Olathe. It was in operation until 1933. (Lot 2-3-47-W1)



18. **Katherine (Kitty) Lamasney Dutch**

Kitty is best remembered as one of the belles of Olathe in her youth. She was one of the best women horse riders in the world. In those days, ladies always rode side-saddle and Kitty usually rode in contests in a long black-velvet riding costume. At a big contest at Ft. Scott, her nearest rival was unable to handle her mount and sought to trade with Kitty. She agreed and Kitty was able to take the fight out of the horse and win the contest to her rival's dismay. Kitty's family was noted for their line of fine horses with a string of race horses known all over America. Around 1880, the Lamasney's bought 80 acres at the southwest corner of Olathe known as the old fair grounds. The finest one mile track west of the Mississippi was built there accommodating many famous race horses. (Lot 2-8-18-E3)

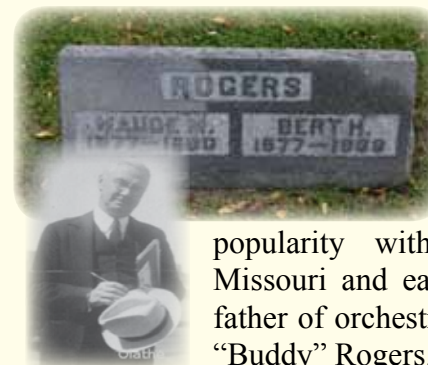


19. **Earl A. Ames**

Earl Ames was a member of the 1909 class of Olathe High School who received the Carnegie Hero Medal. While ice skating on Christmas



Day, he witnessed three deaf boys break through the ice. He was able to save one of the boys, Ernest Albright. (Lot 2-8-9-E4)



20. **Judge Bert Rogers**

Judge Rogers presided over "Cupids Parlor" at the Olathe Courthouse. It was named for its popularity with couples eloping from Missouri and eastern Kansas. He was the father of orchestra leader and actor Charles "Buddy" Rogers. (Lot 2-1-150-S1)



21. **Jonathan and Emily Millikan**

Jonathan Millikan built the first dwelling residence in Olathe on Poplar Street. He married the first white female resident of Olathe, Emily Whittier. She came to Olathe with her brother from New Hampshire by train. Jonathan also brought the first team of horses to Olathe. (Lot 2-1-60-N2, N3)



22. **Franklin Ringold Lanter**

Franklin Lanter was looking for opportunities in the West which brought him to Kansas in 1873. He was involved in the lumber business for 35 years. In 1887 he was elected Olathe's City Treasurer and later Mayor, serving two terms. He also served as Postmaster, County Treasurer, and Justice of the Peace. (Lot 2-1-147-N2)



23. *William Henry Benade*

William Henry Benade was the great-grandson of Patrick Henry and father of Mrs. C.A. Hyer. Born in Philadelphia, he married in 1869 and moved to Sabia,

Kansas, where he started a stock ranch. He opened a side line business of purchasing cattle hides and sending them to Kansas City by the train carloads. He held a variety of jobs before failing health brought him to Olathe in 1893, where he bought 160 acres of land and opened a cattle feeding business. As a hobby, William raised high-grade ponies, which developed into an outstanding herd of horses in Eastern Kansas. The business was initially started to provide his daughter with the best pony available. (Lot 2-1-106-S1)



24. *John T. Little*

John T. Little served in the Civil War with the Ohio Infantry. He came to Johnson

County in 1869 and was elected Olathe's City Attorney in 1873. He moved on to the office of Kansas Attorney Governor. He also served as Mayor of Olathe making many improvements, especially the paving of streets. He was a man of vision who fought and labored victoriously for many causes. (Lot 2-1-64-E2)



25. *Isaac Pickering*

Isaac Pickering was a Civil War veteran who later became Mayor of Olathe in 1881. He was a Law Associate of Governor John St.

John and helped erect the G.A.R. monument in the cemetery. He and his wife, Clara, built and resided at the now historic Pickering House on Park Street. (Lot 2-1-112-W1)



26. *Clara H. Weaver Pickering*

One of the grand old pioneers of Johnson County, Clara came from Kentucky with her parents. The family moved to Olathe and built a big house on the corner of Chestnut and Loula. In 1886, Clara married Major I. O.

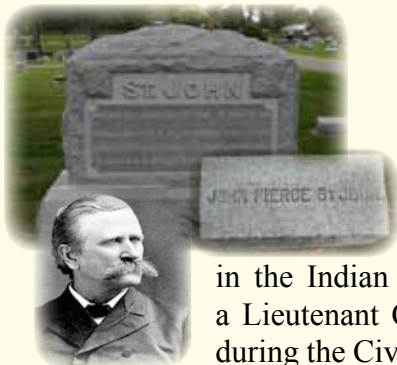
Pickering. She graduated from Baker University and for a few years practiced law with her husband. (Lot 2-1-112-E4)



27. *George and Frank Hodges*

George Hodges partnered with his brother Frank to operate Hodges Brother's Lumber Company. George was elected State

Senator and served as Governor from 1913-15. As Governor, he improved state institutions such as the tuberculosis sanitarium in Norton and the Larned Mental Hospital. Women's suffrage and improvement were also important issues to George. Frank taught in the Olathe schools and later became mayor. As mayor he paved the streets and built the first sewer infrastructure. They founded the Johnson County Democratic newspaper, now known as the Olathe News. The brothers successfully joined together good citizenship with good business. (Lot 2-1-8-W2, 2-1-7-E1)



**28. *John Pierce
St. John***

John St. John followed an adventurous career as a young man. He traveled to Mexico, Central America, and Hawaii. He fought in the Indian Wars in California and was a Lieutenant Colonel for the Union Army during the Civil War. He led a humanitarian campaign to deliver rail carloads of supplies to over 50,000 slaves who had escaped to Kansas from the South. He began his political career after the war and was elected governor in 1878 and 1880. He ran for President in 1884 on the Prohibition ticket and lost. He received enough votes that the Republican candidate, James G. Blaine, was defeated and allowed Grover Cleveland to be elected. (Lot 1-167-3-W3)



**29. *Martin Van Buren
Parker***

Martin Van Buren Parker, a Civil War veteran, came to Olathe with his wife Emma around 1868. He was one of the first lawyers in the area. He went into law practice with his brother-in-law John P. St. John. He was also involved in the insurance and farming business, owning over 700 acres of farmland. They built a prominent Victorian home which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. (Lot 1-167-4-W6)



**30. *Emma Woodward
Parker***

Emma was born in 1846 in Illinois. After marrying Martin Van Buren Parker in 1866, they moved to Olathe in the spring of 1868 and built their home. She founded the Ladies Reading Circle, the first women's club in Olathe and one of the first in the state. She was a member of the Methodist Church where she taught Sunday School for years. (Lot 1-167-4-W5)



31. *William W. Graham*

William Graham was a Civil War veteran and a Kansas pioneer. In his early life he was a strong anti-slavery man. In 1862 he enlisted in the Ohio Infantry and served for three years and four months where he saw much service and endured many hardships including being captured and held for four months in confederate prisons. After the war he settled in Johnson County since there were many Indians here and he had heard of the cruel Indian depredations in the area. He and his wife, Emma, befriended the Indians, especially Blue Jacket, the Shawnee chief. (Lot 1-153-3-E6)



32. *James Price Lesueur*

James Price Lesueur is remembered as a prominent Johnson County pioneer. He came from a respected Southern family being a cousin of General Sterling Price, Confederate general. During the Civil War, James followed his southern roots and fought on the Confederate side. He was wounded at the Battle of Vicksburg. (Lot 1-153-1-E4)



33. **Robert Wolfley**

Robert Wolfley has a recent claim to fame as the great-great-great grandfather of President Barack Obama. He married his wife Rachele in 1859 while they both were living in Ohio. Toward the end of the Civil War, he served with Company A in the 145th Ohio National Guard Infantry along with his brother Lewis Wolfley, with duties to protect Washington, D.C. In several U.S. censuses in the 1800's, his occupation was listed as a farmer. He died of typhoid fever July 17, 1895 in his Olathe home. Note the misspelling of his name on his marker. (Lot 1-147-3-W6)



34. **Jesse Cantrall**

Jesse Cantrall, father of ten, enlisted in Company C, 114th Illinois Infantry and rose to the rank of Captain during the Civil War. He and his family resided in Black Bob, Johnson County, after the war. (Lot 1-135-3-E6)



35. **Reverend I.C. Beach**

Rev. I.C. Beach was Olathe's first minister. His sons, A.D. (Lot 1-127-4-W5) and Edward (1-127-4-W1), who were early physicians, are found here also. (Lot 1-126-1-E3)



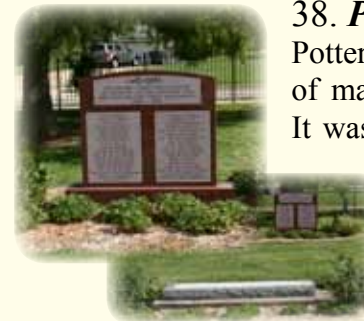
36. **Hyer Boot Factory**

Many Hyer Boot Factory employees are buried as a group in the cemetery. A monument stone and flower bed marks the names of several individuals who worked for the factory. (Lot 1-107)



37. **John Fernquist**

John Fernquist was born in 1868 in Stockholm, Sweden. He came to Olathe in 1915 to work in the C.H. Hyer & Sons Boot Factory. He was employed there until his death in 1931. Pallbearers were the shopmates of John at the Boot Factory. The entire work force attended the funeral and he is buried at the site with several other boot factory workers. (Lot 1-92-4-E6)



38. **Potter's Field**

Potter's Field is the final resting place of many burials in unmarked graves. It was originally set aside as a burial ground for those who could not afford burial plots. In 1987, several burials were relocated to Potter's Field due to the construction of Northgate. A memorial to those moved can be found at their new resting place. A memorial to those buried beyond the present cemetery boundaries can also be found in Potter's Field. It was designed with the cooperation of the City of Olathe, descendants of those being memorialized, and the NAACP. It was dedicated on April 27, 2008. (Lot 1-65)



39. *David P. Houghland*

David Houghland traveled from Ohio and settled in Cass County, Missouri in 1857. He met and married his wife Sarah J. Farmer, an early pioneer of the county, in 1859. He quickly became an involved member of the community, giving outward support for Abraham Lincoln for President, against the wishes of his friends and neighbors. Ignoring threats to be tarred, feathered and run out of town on a rail, he cast his vote while keeping one hand in his coat so he would appear to be holding a pistol. He later relocated his family from Missouri to Olathe's west side after receiving several death threats. He fought in the Missouri State Militia during the Civil War and became a main target for Quantrill during his 1862 raid on Olathe. The location of his settlement on the west side of Olathe was the only factor in sparing his family from Quantrill's onslaught as the bushwhackers were not comfortable moving that deeply into Olathe. (Lot 1-72-1-W1)



40. *Mary Adella Moore*

Mary Moore began her life's career at age 18 when she began teaching in the Olathe public schools. She taught continuously until 2½ weeks before her death, with the exception of two years. Two years were spent in a mission school for Indians in Apache, OK. While working there, a small pox epidemic broke out among the Indians. The strain of caring for those affected would take its toll on Mary in her later years. She taught in Olathe schools for 23 years and was principal of Washington School most of that time. The entire school system of Olathe of nearly 1,000 attended her funeral as testimony to her life's work as a teacher. (Lot 1-83-2-W4)



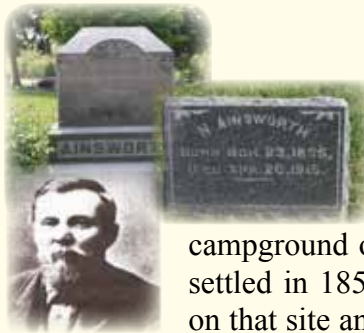
41. *William Scott Speer*

One of Johnson County's and Olathe's finest and most prominent citizens died at the age of 86. He enlisted for duty in the Civil War in 1861 and served 4 years where he engaged in several famous battles. He re-enlisted as a volunteer and was wounded twice in the Siege of Atlanta. He was with Sherman on his famous March to the Sea and after Lee surrendered, his regiment marched to Washington to participate in the Grand Review. As a citizen of Olathe, he occupied several offices of public trust including the State Legislature. He was commander of the G.A.R. He cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln. (Lot 1-73-4-W4)



42. *James Taylor Swank*

A resident of Olathe for over 56 years, James served the city well. He was born in Ohio in 1846 and at the age of 17, enlisted in the Ohio Infantry during the Civil War. He went barefoot to enlist as shoes were a luxury then and he wanted to save his. Often afterwards, when his army shoes were torn to shreds, he yearned for the pair of shoes he left at home. Wounded several times and taken prisoner, he always managed to escape. His work in Olathe was as an expert machinist and general mechanic for the Electric Light and Power Company. He installed the Olathe water works. He later served as Justice of the Peace. (Lot 1-52-4-W3)



43. *Newton Ainsworth*

Newton Ainsworth followed the call of "Go West, young man!" He drove a mule team and wagon from Ohio to the site of the Lone Elm campground on the Santa Fe Trail, where he settled in 1857. He worked 70 acres of land on that site and built the first cabin in Olathe.

This became the Lone Elm Campground, the first in this area and was the main camping stop for pioneers traveling to the west on the three trails. (Lot 1-74-3-E4)



44. *The Black Mausoleum*

The Black Mausoleum is the final resting place for George Black, son of James and Mary Eliza Ainsworth Black. She was a sister to Newton Ainsworth. George Black fought in the Civil War reaching the rank of Second Lieutenant. He moved to

Olathe in 1914 to farm. He helped organize the Grange in Johnson County and helped it prosper for 31 years. (Lot 1-81-2)



45. *David Page*

David Page, a former slave and Civil War veteran, was one of Olathe's first African-American residents. He opened a laundry as a family business. He was born in Clarksburg, West Virginia in 1840. He enlisted in the Fifth U.S. Infantry at age

20. In his lifetime he saw the hanging of John Brown at Charleston, Virginia as well as the battle between the Merrimac and Monitor in the Civil War. He was a well-known and well-liked resident of Olathe. (Lot 1-99-2-E4)



46. *William and Jessie Pellett*

William and Jessie Pellett died within 24 hours of each other. They were married over 53 years, coming to Olathe in the 1850's. He was originally from England, and served in the Civil War in 1862. After the war, he worked with Colonel J.E. Hayes as Deputy County Treasurer for 2½ years. He was the first mayor of Olathe in 1870. His wife, Jessie Sutton, was born in Canada and married William in 1869. They were companions for life and death and meant much to the making of the Olathe community. (Lot 1-97-4-E1, E2)



47. *James B. and Lucinda Mahaffie*

James Beatty and Lucinda Mahaffie

moved to Olathe in 1857 from Indiana. Purchasing land outside of Olathe in 1858, the Mahaffie's built a home there in 1863 and later he and his family operated a stagecoach stop at that location. It was the first stop for stagecoaches traveling from Westport, Missouri on the Santa Fe Trail. (Lot 1-119-1-W1, W2)



48. *Ella Mahaffie*

Ella was the last surviving child of the eight sons and daughters of James and Lucinda Mahaffie. As a girl in her teens, Ella began her teaching career in a country school about 1880. She taught in Olathe, Kansas City, KS, and was principal at Park School. She served on many educational boards on the local and state level. (Lot 1-119-1-W3)



49. *Elvira Beckwith*

Watts Beckwith saw the need for a permanent cemetery site and set aside 10 acres of his own land for the City of Olathe. Elvira Beckwith, his sister, was the first burial in the cemetery in 1865. In 1879, Olathe purchased the tract and later added acreage. Several headstones bear dates earlier than 1865 because they were relocated from “Church Square” burial site downtown. (Lot 1-118-4-E5)



50. *Mary Catherine Alger Nelson*

Mary Alger Nelson moved to Kansas in 1859 with her family in an oxen-driven covered wagon and settled two miles west of Olathe. She married and had three children. During the Civil War her three brothers George, Frank and Lewis joined the Union Army while her husband enlisted in the Confederacy. At the time of Quantrill’s raid of Olathe in 1862, a horse belonging to Mary was taken by a Quantrill band member. It was presented to Quantrill who pronounced it his best mount ever. Mary and her friend, Mrs. John L. Pettyjohn, opened the first millinery store in Olathe which operated for 48 years. In those early days, women were called upon to help care for the dead. Mrs. Nelson helped prepare the burial of Mrs. Beckwith, the first burial in the cemetery. (Lot 1-125-3-W2)



51. *George B. Alger*

George B. Alger settled in Olathe in 1859 and was the brother of Mary Catherine Alger Nelson and Frank and Lewis Alger who were killed when returning from the war. George was a member of the Olathe Militia during the Civil War, and was present when Quantrill raided Olathe in 1862. He was the first ice cream manufacturer in Olathe, operating in the summer and converting to an oyster parlor in the winter. He was the first to deliver his ice cream and ice to homes in Olathe. When he built his ice house, he also built the north pond at the City Water Works. He served on the city council and had much to do with early history in our city. His step-daughter, Julia Osgood, was the first white child born in Olathe. (Lot 1-125-3-E5)



52. *Jessie T. and Joanna J. Nichols*

Jessie T. Nichols, father of J.C. Nichols, the Kansas City developer, is buried here along with several other members of the Nichols family.

Jessie fought in the Civil War. Joanna Jackson Nichols, his wife, grew up in Georgia and survived the separation of her parents during the Civil War. Her family home was destroyed during the war and her mother was a field nurse on the battle front of the Union Army. Her parents were reunited after the Civil War and the family moved to Kansas by covered wagon. Joanna attended Baker University and taught school. She married J.T. Nichols in 1873. (Lot 1-139-2-E4, E5)



53. *Josiah Emery Hayes*

Josiah Emery Hayes lived in Olathe prior to the start of the Civil War. He erected numerous buildings in Olathe including the Kansas Institute

for the Deaf. He became Captain of the 10th Kansas Volunteers, later being promoted to Lieutenant Colonel of the 12th Kansas. Col. Hayes was severely wounded in the Battle of Jenkin's Ferry and was taken to a Confederate prison in Louisiana as a POW. His wife traveled under a flag of truce with a rebel soldier as her driver to her imprisoned husband. She remained with him until he was freed. After the war, he served as County Treasurer, a banker, and was elected State Treasurer. He died in 1881 from complications from the wound he received in the war. (Lot 1-145-1-E4)



54. *H.L. Burgess*

H.L. Burgess came to Olathe by covered wagon at the age of 17 from Illinois with his family. He enlisted in the Kansas Volunteer U.S. Cavalry in 1867 at the age of 18. His regiment guarded

wagon trains and builders of the Union Pacific Railway from hostile Indians in Western Kansas. He returned to farm in Olathe and studied law in the office of John St. John. He was admitted to the Kansas Bar in 1876 and practiced law in Olathe later joining nephew Leslie Lyons, a former U.S. District Attorney, in law practice. Mr. Burgess was a City Attorney of Olathe and Dean of the Johnson County Bar Association. He practiced law for 58 years.

(Lot 1-164-4-S1)



55. *Sylvester Fisher Garwood*

Born in 1847, Sylvester Fisher Garwood served in the Civil War as a drummer boy. He came to Kansas by covered wagon in 1868. In the early days, Mr.

Garwood had a number of horse teams that hauled freight from Kansas City to Olathe. He was remembered for his friendly jovial spirit...everything was

always alright with Fisher Garwood. In his later years, Mr. Garwood could be seen with his horse and buggy with plenty of fishing poles strapped to the side going to the creek. Mr. Garwood also enjoyed playing the drums in the old fashioned drum corps during big celebrations. (Lot 2-4-90-W1)



56. *Charles Henry Hyer*

Charles Henry Hyer and his sons A.E. and William built the C.H. Hyer and Sons Shoe Factory in 1875, which became home to the cowboy boot. Billy the Kid, Jesse James, Clark Gable, Will Rogers and

Buffalo Bill Cody were just a few of the steady customers who wore Hyer boots. Military boots were supplied for many years with shipments also going to West Point.

(Lot 2-1-243-E1)



57. William Sothern Knapp

William Knapp was born in New York and later moved to Kansas where he worked for the Santa Fe Railway shops in Topeka. He made the first railway steam engine manufactured west of the Mississippi. He later moved to Olathe and lived here 42 years. He was

foreman of the Fresco Shop & Engines Roundhouse.
(Lot 2-1-241-E4)



58. Ernest G. Carroll

Mr. Carroll held the office of Johnson County Sheriff for over 13 years. He was in service at the time of

the lynching of Bert Dudley in 1916. Dudley had been convicted of the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Muller of Stillwell. His lynching occurred after a mob of 150 masked men overpowered Sheriff Carroll and broke into the Olathe jail. Mr. Carroll went on to become a Special Agent of the Intelligence Unit of Revenue Services in Kansas. Ironically, Mr. Carroll, Dudley, and the Muller couple are all buried in the Olathe Memorial Cemetery. (Lot 2-4-23-W1)



59. Minnie Florence Banks

Mrs. Banks moved to Olathe in 1906 from Iowa. Her sister, Mrs. Ida Eisenhower, was General Dwight D. Eisenhower's mother.
(Lot 2-4-48-W3)



60. World War Memorial

The World War Memorial is the resting place for soldiers who fought for our country. The parents of Earl Collier donated money for the upkeep of the area in memory of their son who died in WWI. The memorial and lots were donated by the City of Olathe to the American Legion in 1926. (Lot 2-6)



61. "Bob" Parker Melluish

Better known by his theatrical name of Bob Parker, he distributed candy in downtown businesses to children and employees for several years. He served in WWI in the Army and in WWII. After his military service, he joined the vaudeville circuit touring the country for 15 years as a song and dance man.
(Lot 2-6-2-W30)



62. Earl Milton Collier

Earl Milton Collier was the first Olathe casualty during WWI. He had enlisted in the 84th Co., 6th Regiment of the United States Marines. He was leading a charge against the Germans when he was instantly killed from machine gun fire at Belleau Wood in 1918. (Lot 2-6-2-W1)



Memorial Day, 1933

Captain Don M. Ashlock of Battery D and Harry Stewart, commander of the Earl Collier Post of the American Legion, stand guard at the dedication of the new Olathe Cemetery gates.

Today you have walked through and visited only a few of the stories of Olathe's past. There are many other stories waiting to be told in the Olathe Memorial Cemetery, and you are invited to come back and walk along our paths and learn about them.

Olathe's history is rich in tradition and pioneer lore, and you are encouraged to learn more about our great past.

