

## WALKING TOUR the CEMETERY

map denote important trees and shrubs in this unique arboretum. If you would like further information on the lives of these people, an Anthology of Biographies is located in the cemetery office. The office is open from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

A final resting place for many citizens from Ottumwa's past - -a magnificent arboretum housing trees and shrubs planted through the city's history -- Ottumwa Cemetery is itself an important piece of Ottumwa's story.

Established in 1857 after the town's original cemetery proved too small and too close to the center of the growing community, Ottumwa Cemetery was part of the rural cemetery movement begun in the 1830s.

In contrast to traditional church or family cemeteries, the rural cemetery was placed in the outskirts of town on a hillside or hilltop with a view of the town. It was planned to be more than a burial space; it was to be a romantic landscape of hills and valleys, trees and winding roads that satisfied the public's need for green and open space.

Ottumwa Cemetery's original 10 acres was plotted in grids of lots among the meandering hillside roads. Although individual or paired lots were the custom, several large family plots -- decorated with marble monuments and fencing -- developed. Throughout the early years of the cemetery, however, very few beautification projects to create the desired parklike setting were completed.

Toward the end of the century, as Ottumwa Cemetery grew in size and importance to the community, its Board of Trustees began a series of projects that changed the face of the cemetery.

In 1887, a receiving vault "of such ornamental and substantial character as to be a credit to the cemetery" was erected. The receiving vault, built of deep red brick and terra cotta panels in a High Victorian Gothic design, was needed because the severe Iowa winters would often prevent the digging of graves for several months.

Next, a romantic design wrought iron fence was built along Court Street, the main thoroughfare leading up the hill from Ottumwa's business district, so that Ottumwa Cemetery could present a formal front to the town.

The keystone to the cemetery's entrance, Edgerly Gateway, was the next improvement. The fund to build the gateway and its adjacent office/chapel was begun with a bequest by Ottumwa businessman John W. Edgerly upon his death in 1894. Over the next 10 years, the projects -- designed by local architect George Kerns and built of Bedford limestone -- were constructed at the southwest corner of the cemetery.

The gateway, in the classical form of a Roman triumphal arch and reflective of the City Beautiful movement -- was completed in 1904. The office/chapel -- completed in 1905 -1906 -- is in a more romantic Gothic style with arched windows and a crenelated roofline. It is dedicated to the Union soldiers and sailors of the Civil War.

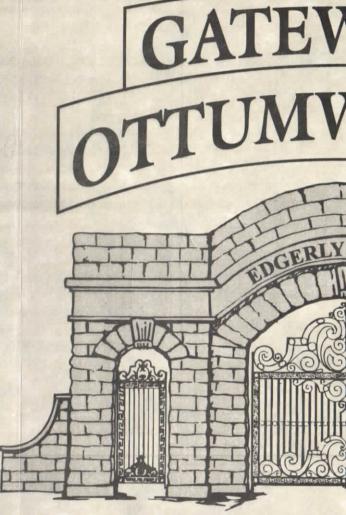
Ottumwa Cemetery's original 10 acre plot and the four key structures that create its stately entrance -- the receiving vault, the wrought iron fence, the Edgerly Gateway, and office/chapel -- have been nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

## This brochure made possible by the following organizations:

- Wapello County Sesquicentennial
  Commission
- Ottumwa Area Chamber of Commerce
- Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Ottumwa Historic Preservation Commission
- Ottumwa Board of Cemetery Trustees
- Iowa Sesquicentennial Commision
- Central Iowa Tourism Region

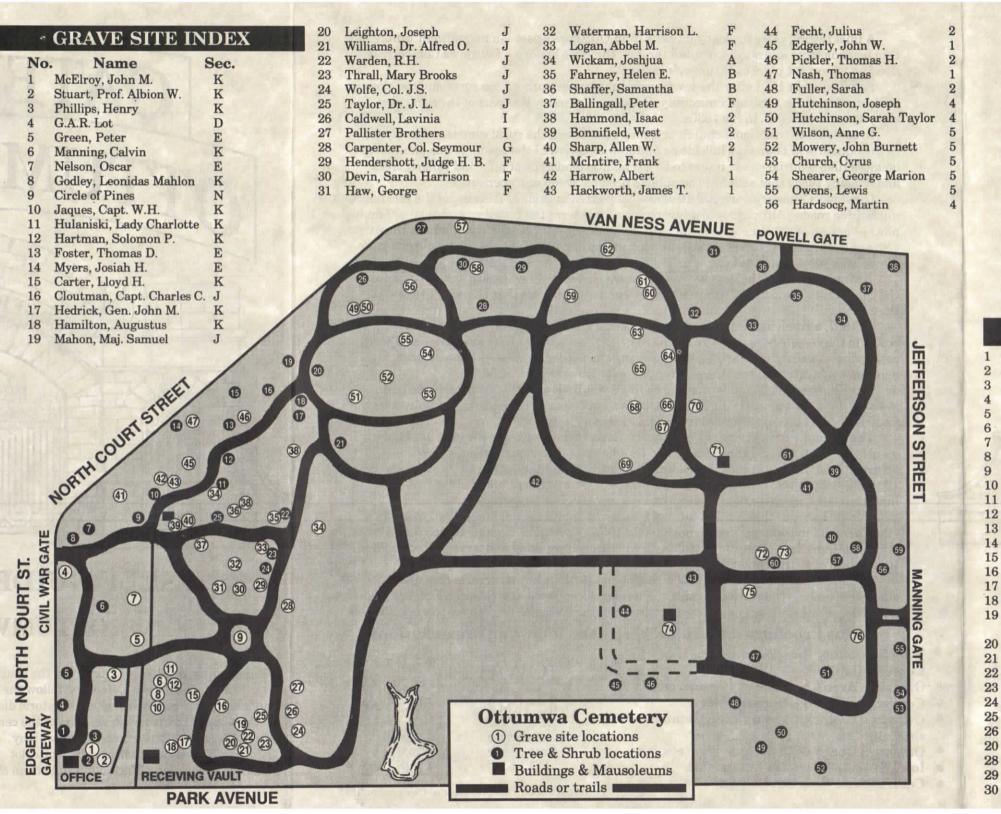






## A SELF GUIDED of OTTUMWA

Beginning at Edgerly Gateway in the southwest corner of Ottumwa Cemetery, follow the winding hillside roads through the historic district and passing in to the newer sections of the cemetery. The sites of the graves of noteworthy Ottumwa citizens are indicated by white dot numbers in the map. Black dot numbers on the



57	Thompson, John Quigley	3
58	Ferguson, George W.	7
59	Work, William Alexander	11
60	Searle, Dr. Benjamin	11
61	Guyselman, Mary Jane	11
62	Schwabkey, Prof. Carl F. T.	10
63	Johnston, Allen	12
64	La Force, Dr. D. A.	12
65	Schaefer, Walter B.	12
66	Morrell, John Edgerly	12
67	Sax, J.B.	12
68	Phillips, Thomas J.	12
69	Smith, Rev. Uriah B.	12
70	Lowenberg, Anton	Summitt
71	Hall, Walter T.	Summitt
72	James, Glenn J.	Oak Hill
73	Douma, Frank W.	Oak Hill
74	Birchmier, Lloyd	Col Garden
75	Troeger, Paul A.	Parkview
76	Loveless, Herschel C.	Parkview
7		The Part of the Pa

## ARBORETUM LIST

	ARBURET	u
	Mugo Pine	31
	Austrian Pine	32
	Burr Oak	3
	White Oak	34
	Smooth-leaved Elm	3
1	Norway Spruce	36
14	Eastern Red Cedar	3
	Scotch Pine	38
	Pin Oak	39
0	American Sycamore	40
1	White Ash	4
2	Sweet Gum	45
3	Ginkgo	4:
4	Colorado Spruce	4
5	Sugar Maple	4
6	Flowering Pear	40
7	Red Oak	4'
8	White Mulberry	48
9	Thornless Honey	49
	Locust	50
0	Norway Maple	5
1	White Pine	55
2	Saucer Magnolia	5
3	Flowering Dogwood	5
4	Grey Birch	5
		~

Northern Catalpa

American Elm

Japanese Tree Lilac

Fraser Fir Sassafras Red Maple Little Leaf Linden American Linden American Arborvitae Fringe Tree **Bald Cypress** Green Ash Common Witch-hazel Hazelnut Black Hill's Spruce Cockspur Hawthorne Black Oak Staghorn Sumac River Birch Common Hackberry American Hornbeam Ohio Buckeye Black Walnut Japanese Zelkova **Black Willow** Red Pine Jack Pine

Shadblow

Serviceberry

56 American Plum

- Black Maple 57 Scarlet Oak Shagbark Hickory
- Shingle Oak Black Cherry 59 White Fir