

We hope you have enjoyed your tour of Belvidere's early history through the cemetery. Please keep this brochure for future reference or pass it on to a friend interested in our local history.

For More Local History Contact:

Belvidere Cemetery-815-547-7642
www.belviderecemetery.com

Ida Public Library-815-544-3838
www.idapubliclibrary.org

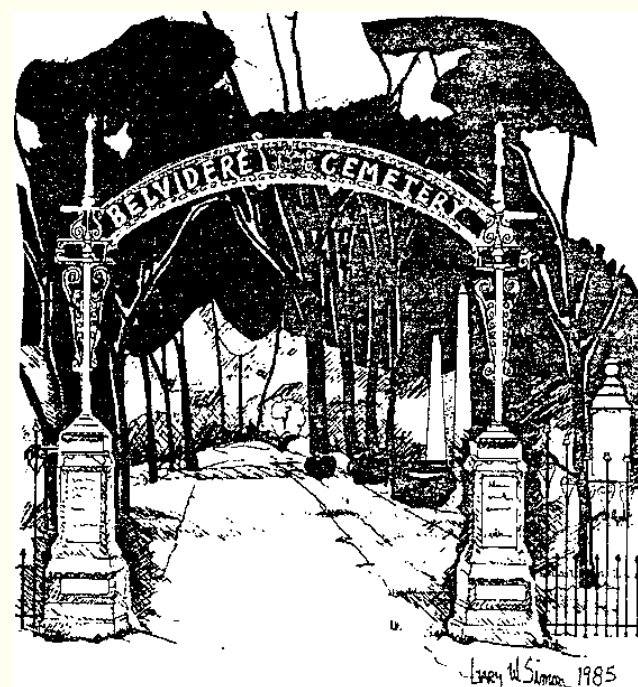
Boone County Historical Museum
815-544-8391
www.bcmuseumofhistory.org

This brochure is provided as a cooperative effort of the Belvidere Cemetery, the Boone County Historical Museum, and the Ida Public Library.

2018

*Artwork by Gary Simon

Belvidere Cemetery Historic Tour



Cemeteries traditionally are hallowed ground, containing the earthly remains of ancestors and loved ones. They are also a repository of the historic progress of a community, the state, and the nation. With its 13,000 known graves, Belvidere Cemetery contains a great deal of history. Established in 1847 on just four acres, the cemetery holds many of our historic pioneer men and women. By following this guide, you can relive some of that pioneer history.

*As you pass through the gates, look to the right at a large space empty of marker stones. This is where the old stone vault stood, which was used for storing bodies during the winter when the ground was frozen. The vault was moved to the maintenance building and now houses the Sexton's office.

*Reminder: Please be respectful of the cemetery grounds. No alcohol, pets, or firearms are allowed. Please take care of the trees, shrubs, and foliage on the property and please do not leave rubbish or trash behind. Thank You!

K. Muriel Lampert

Muriel was the daughter of Philip and Clara Lampert and was the last of her line. Muriel never married and had no children.

Muriel was known throughout the area as an authority on birds and flowers and was a member of numerous bird and wildlife associations. She was very good at bird calls and gave entertaining bird presentations.

Muriel was a lifelong member of the Boone County Historical Society and the Illinois State Historical Society and recorded many descriptions of the oldest Boone County homes.

36. Phosa McMaster Gate and Mausoleum

Phosa McMaster was the 7th child of David William McMaster, a wealthy landowner from New York. David took up a government claim of 80 acres in Bonus Township at \$1.25 per acre.

Phosa was a spinster music teacher who lived comfortably with income from the McMaster farms. She was a lover of flora and fauna both wild and domestic. Phosa was known as a colorful individual who kept pet squirrels in a cage in her back yard, owned an electric automobile, and held painting and ceramic classes in her home. She was frequently seen driving about town wearing a floppy hat with her white French Poodle in the passenger seat.

Upon her death, Phosa left money to the Belvidere Cemetery to construct a Mausoleum and new entrance gate with funds for their upkeep.

When the new Phosa gate was erected, the wrought iron ornamental gate where you began your tour was removed. A portion of the iron fence and the original gate were incorporated into both sides of the new Phosa Gate.

The whereabouts of the ornate drive-through gate remain unknown.

34. Doctor and Mrs. Pettit

Doctor William Pettit was the son of Daniel Pettit, a teacher, farmer, businessman and county official who came to Belvidere in 1845.

William and Emma were married in 1877 and moved to Belvidere, where William set up medical practice. He also set up a practice in Clinton, Iowa. The couple traveled frequently between the two towns and William practiced medicine in both.

Doctor Pettit was well liked but died at the age of 48 in 1898. His funeral was attended by residents of both cities and Emma decided to commission the Pettit Memorial Chapel in honor of her husband.

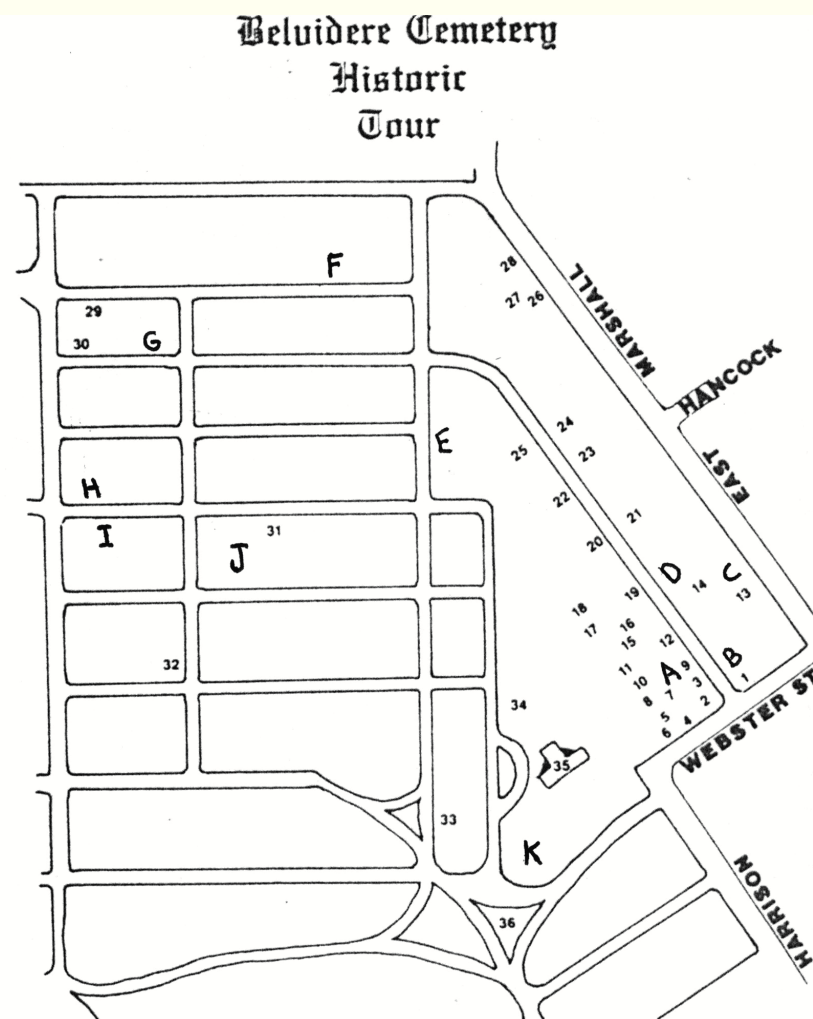


35. Pettit Memorial Chapel

Mrs. Pettit had greatly admired the work of Frank Lloyd Wright when he designed a new property for her brother. Mr. Wright took up the commission and the Chapel was completed in 1907 at a cost of \$3,000. It was originally used to hold funeral services and as shelter from the elements, but the introduction of funeral homes in the 1920s eliminated this need.

The Chapel fell into disrepair until 1977, when the Belvidere Women's Club embarked on a four year restoration project. The Women's Club members and their families spent many hours restoring the Chapel, at a final cost of \$60,000.

**Today, the Pettit Memorial Chapel is on the
National and Illinois Registries of Historic Places.**



Begin your tour at the old gate section at Webster Street. Follow the route by matching the numbered and lettered markers with the guide.

***Note: the lettered sites are new on the tour this year.**

1. Amasa Caswell

Son of early pioneer settler, Timothy Caswell, Amasa and his wife arrived here in 1835 along with his father, mother, and ten other siblings with their spouses.

The Caswell's white zinc monument is one of several which have stood the test of time. This type of monument was popular during the turn of the century and was once available through Sears/Roebuck in the early 1900s.

**Note: White zinc monuments were generally heavy with symbolism. This one is an obelisk which points the way to heaven and contains a cross (Christianity), ivy (memory, fidelity, immortality), and anchor (our hope in Christ).*

B. Doctor Daniel Foote

Daniel was born in New York to a family with four other children. Tragically, his sisters and one of his brothers passed away in childhood. His father was killed in a sawmill accident when he was a child and Daniel went to live with his grandparents.

Daniel studied at Syracuse Medical School, graduated from Buffalo Medical College, and received his diploma from the hands of President Millard Fillmore.

Daniel practiced medicine in New York for a few years, then joined the 52nd Regiment of the NY Militia. During his military service, he heard many good things about the Belvidere area from fellow surgeons. Daniel decided to take up practice in Belvidere soon after the war and lived here over 50 years.

Doctor Foote was a village board trustee, member of the Masons, alderman, and County Coroner. He was also a devout church attendee and taught Sunday school in the Presbyterian church.

32. Eldridge Mausoleum

Barnabas Eldridge was born in Ohio in 1846 and raised on the family farm until 1861 when he went to Cleveland to attend Cleveland High School. During those years, he worked as a bookkeeper in the shipyards.

In 1865, "Barney" married Marie Presley, daughter of one of the shipyard owners, and started a career in the hardware business.

He became interested in sewing machines while working in the hardware industry, eventually becoming Vice President of the June Manufacturing Company, which moved to Belvidere.

Mr. Eldridge became President of the company in 1880 after Mr. June's death and changed the name to the National Sewing Machine Factory. National could produce over 1,200 machines per day and eventually expanded to bicycles. Models produced included the Eldridge sewing machine, the Belvidere bicycle, the Happy Day washing machine, and even a few Eldridge automobiles.

The Eldridges had one son, Franklin, who passed away at the age of 43. Mr. Eldridge then contracted the mausoluem which was completed in 1911.

Today, the carriage in which Barnabus Eldridge rode to work every day is on display in the Boone County Historical Museum and the old factory still stands at Main and Meadow Strets, with Ace Hardware in the lower floor of one building.

33. John Lawson

Raised as a slave in Virginia, John joined the Union Army during the Civil War and attained the rank of Sergeant of Company G of the 16th U.S. Colored Infantry. After the war, John came to Belvidere.

John was a member of the Stephen Hurlbut GAR Post, making him one of the few black members of any GAR Post in the nation.

In later years, John became the janitor of Belvidere High School, where he was well liked. In fact, in the 1900s students raised \$500 to send John on a trip to meet his long-lost brother in Virginia. Although John died in Chicago, his family buried him in his old home of Belvidere.

J. Doctor Annie Belle Alquire

Born in Canada, Annie graduated from high school with a second grade teaching certificate but she entered medical school at age 21 and graduated in 1895 with first class honors in clinical surgery. Annie and her husband, also a doctor, moved to Belvidere in 1898, building an office at 213 South State Street. They were instrumental in getting the Belvidere Public Hospital built on Warren Avenue in 1916.

Annie was the first female physician in Belvidere, but she also invented the Big June Thimble Holder and was a noted songwriter. One of her songs, "My Old Home Town," became very popular in London during the war.

31. Memorial Cannon

This cannon was acquired and presented to the Belvidere Cemetery on May 30, 1906 by the General Hurlbut post of the GAR*, in honor of the men who served in the Civil War.

The piece is a Rodman Cannon made in Pennsylvania, constructed of cast iron and weighing 14,988 pounds.

Although it was reportedly never fired, it was capable of firing a 150 pound ball. It was possibly once mounted as part of a shore battery along the Massachusetts coast.

When these cannons were rendered obsolete, they were made available as surplus free of charge by the government to GAR posts across the nation.

The cannon is located here in the section of the Cemetery which contains the most Civil War veterans.

***Note:** GAR stands for The Grand Army of the Republic and was a fraternal organization consisting of Civil War veterans. Originally formed in Decatur, IL in 1866, the GAR grew across the nation. It was officially dissolved in 1936 upon the death of its last member.

2. Reverend Seth Whitman

Reverend Whitman was Belvidere's first Baptist minister and the first teacher at the Newton Academy, which was Boone County's first private school.

The Newton Academy stood at the intersections of Webster, Perry, Hancock, & Madison Streets and operated from 1838 to 1852.

3. Reverend Royal Nathaniel Wright

An early settlement minister born in New Hampshire, Reverend Wright was the first pastor of Belvidere's First Presbyterian Church. He served his congregation for 11 years, earning just \$400 per year.

Since the burial sites of both Reverend Wright, a Presbyterian, and Reverend Whitman, a Baptist, are near each other, it was humorously stated this was the closest the two men would ever agree on anything.

4. Wales W. Wood

Born in 1837 in New York, Mr. Wood was educated as an attorney. After graduation in 1857, he came to Belvidere, entering the law practice of Fuller and Wood.

During the Civil War, Wales enlisted and was appointed Adjutant to the 95th Regiment of the Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He later wrote a detailed history of the 95th, which was originally a Boone County regiment.

Following the war, Wales married a Pennsylvania woman and returned to Belvidere, where he served in various public offices, including a 4 year term as Boone County States Attorney.

***Note:** The 95th Regiment contained a private named Albert Cashier, who served throughout the Civil War and went on to receive a veteran's pension.

In 1913, Albert was struck by an automobile and fractured his hip. While being treated for his injury, it was discovered that Albert was actually a woman - one Jenny Hodges! History does not record why Jenny enlisted as Albert, but the military pay of \$13 a month may have been an inducement.

Jenny is buried at the Saunemin Cemetery located south of Dwight, Illinois.

5. Doctor Jonathan Stone

Arriving in Boone County prior to the 1840 census, Doctor Stone held many acres of land including the land near the old Stevenson Quarry. The quarry was situated along what is now known as River Lane Road. Doctor Stone built a mill near there using the stone from the quarry.

The Stevenson Quarry contains limestone, which is quite solid by nature and resistant to wear. Many years later, this limestone was used in the building of the Belvidere Dam.

6. William Holt Gilman

An early settler prior to the 1840 census, Mr. Gilman was a prominent landholder who owned much of the land south of the river and east of State Street. This area was known as Gilman's Woods and the old red brick Gilman house still stands on Buchanan Street.

William was also the contractor for the first covered bridge built over the Kishwaukee, which was wide enough to accommodate two lanes of traffic.

William generously donated 500 acres of his woods to the railroad to open up rail traffic for the south side of Belvidere.

7. Thomas Hart

One of two Revolutionary War soldiers buried in the cemetery, Thomas was born in March 1757 in Connecticut. He enlisted as a private in the Connecticut Troops on May 1, 1775 at the age of 18.

Thomas served at Fort George, Fort Ticonderoga, and Saint Johns. He recalled meeting Benedict Arnold and Colonel Ethan Allen.

Mr. Hart lived most of his life in New York, moving to Belvidere around 1843 to live with his son, and passed away here just short of his 90th birthday.

H. John Hugo Kaiser

John was the first soldier from Boone County to lose his life in World War I. He served in Belvidere's Company M of the National Guard in 1916 and then enlisted in the Marines in 1917.

He was killed in front line combat in 1918 on the Marne river in one of the last German drives to Paris, which was thwarted by the Marines-the Battle of Chateau Thierry.

Local VFW Post 1461 was organized in his name in 1934.

* Note: When viewing the rows of graves, a slight undulation or ripple effect in the ground can be observed. This is due to the settling of the ground on the grave sites over the passing years. The use of underground vaults in most cemeteries now eliminates the rippling.

I. James and Emily Terwilliger

James was a director of both the First National Bank and the Second National Bank and brother to Doctor Simon Terwilliger.

The two brothers opened a drug/grocery store at the corner of State and Mechanic Streets (now known as Lincoln Avenue). Both held stock in the Belvidere Park of the Lake Geneva, Wisconsin group, which was a summer co-op consisting of 16 acres of lakefront property. Many of the prominent townspeople were also members and they vacationed together annually.

Emily was a big supporter of the Women's Temperance League and held many meetings at their home on Berylan Street. She also taught Sunday school for the Free Methodist church and played the organ regularly at services.

29. Pierre LeFeure

Mr. LeFeure is the only Confederate soldier in the Belvidere Cemetery. His grave lay unmarked and unknown for many years until local historians Emmett and Bessie Sullivan located it.

Through the efforts of Mr. Frank Crawford and the members of the Civil War Round Table at Belvidere High School, the grave site is now marked with a U.S. Government marker.

30. Honorable John Johnson Foote

Born in New York in 1816, John was well educated and obtained a Master of Arts degree in 1937. He lived most of his life in New York, where he acquired wealth and served a distinguished career in public service, culminating in a U.S. Senator position.

Mr. Foote owned land in Belvidere and moved here in later years due to ill health. He had to return to New York to take temporary charge of the New York Post Office but returned here to live until his death in 1905.

G. Nellie Dunton

Most Belvidere residents have heard the tragic tale of Nellie, who drowned late one night in the Kishwaukee River behind her home. Some say she was pining for a lost love who never returned from the Civil War, but in actuality she was 68, had poor eyesight, and was prone to insomnia at the time of her death.

Nellie was the studious, cultured daughter of pioneer and bank president William Dunton. She was quiet and retiring but had many friends in Belvidere. She was fond of writing geographic essays and would present them at ladies society meetings.

8. John Quincy Adams Rollins

Arriving prior to 1840, Mr. Rollins was a well known wheeler-dealer who acquired a good deal of land in Boone County as well as hundreds of acres of timberland in Wisconsin.

His home still exists and is located at the corner of McKinley Avenue and Woodstock Road. The route was known in 1836 as the "Road from Belvidere to the mouth of the Pekatonica River." Steven Mack's trading post was located at the mouth of the river. Mr. Mack and his wife Honnenegah later purchased the home when the Rollins moved to Colorado, where Rollins discovered gold and died a millionaire.

His son, John A., remained in Boone County, fought in the Civil War, and was a well-known lawyer.

Another son, Albert, also fought in the Civil War with the 95th Illinois Regiment and died from wounds received at the Battle of Guntown, Mississippi in 1864.

A. Nathan M. Youndt

Nathan was a local photographer who operated the oldest photography establishment in Belvidere. His studio was located on South State Street and he was known for having the most updated equipment, practicing the latest photography techniques. He specialized in portraits and most of the photos in the local history book, "Belvidere Illustrated 1896," were taken by Nathan.

Nathan was a devout member of the Masons, the Odd Fellows, and record keeper for the Knights of the Maccabees for 20 years.

***Note:** The ornate wrought iron fence which forms the outside boundary of the older portion of the cemetery was once part of a complete fence and gate system which was constructed in the 1870s. A very ornate gate once stood as an archway, complete with twin arches on either side and walk-in gates between, as pictured on the front of this booklet.

9. Samuel Longcor

Born and raised in New York, Samuel spent his early years learning the blacksmith trade. Arriving in Belvidere in 1839, he set up a small foundry and wagon-making shop on the corner where the old post office sits.

Samuel was one of the first in the state to manufacture scouring plows and he soon developed a specialty plow for the hard prairie scrubble. Both his Diamond Plow and Silver Medal Stirring Plow were known throughout the state and won exhibition medals.

One of Samuel's four daughters married Nathan Yount (above).

10. Asher E. Jenner

Born in New York, Jenner came to Belvidere in 1838 at the age of 20. He walked here from Chicago and saw only 11 buildings in the town. He soon set up a watch repair business and became involved in the growing community.

Jenner served as Justice of the Peace, County Treasurer, and County Clerk. It was said he knew every man in the county.

11. Ira Haskins

An early physician, Doctor Haskins and his wife Elizabeth reportedly had the first white child born in Boone County, a son, John.

27. Timothy Lewis

Born in Massachusetts in 1764, Timothy enlisted in the American Army on April 10, 1779 (he was almost 15 years old), as a substitute for his father.

The scarcity of food and clothing during the winter caused great suffering and disease; Timothy became extremely ill and his father had to bring him home. However, in later years he could still remember meeting General Benedict Arnold at West Point and helping repair Fort Putnam.

Timothy moved to Belvidere with his son around 1855 and lived here until his death at age 94.

28. Potter's Field

As with most communities, when Belvidere residents with few means died they were buried respectfully but without a lot of fanfare in a special portion of the cemetery. The original Potter's Field was reportedly located where the Pettit Chapel now stands, but was removed to make way for the construction.

Since the markers were placed flat upon the ground, they began to sink over the years and were almost covered with grass.

In a gesture of dignity and remembrance, Mr. LaVerne Schultz (Shorty) raised the stones and set them in rows.

F. Sarah Ames

Sarah Ames was the wife of Sheriff Al Ames and served as Deputy Sheriff alongside her husband for 6 years. When Al died, Sarah took over as Sheriff in 1891. She rounded up two escaped prisoners by herself and managed to transport them back to town.

In later years, she moved to South Dakota, where she founded the town of Belvidere, South Dakota. The town currently has a population of 49 and a post office in operation since 1906. Sarah then returned to Belvidere where she opened a millinery shop.

**Note: on your way to the next site, look to the east to see the unusual monument of James F. Stoner. Mr. Stoner was a blacksmith who operated a shop here for many years, hence the anvil on top of his stone.*

25. Samuel Pepper

Born in Nottinghamshire, England in 1827, Samuel came to America in 1848 at the age of 21 and arrived in Belvidere in 1849.

He enlisted in the Civil War and fought in Company G of the 95th Regiment of the Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

Mr. Pepper was the Sexton for the Belvidere Cemetery for many years, as well as a local florist and horticulturist.

E. Mary Ellen Crary

Mary was born in New York and her family came out West when she was 10. She graduated from Rockford Seminary School with a teaching degree and taught for several years at both Belvidere High Schools.

Mary became Boone County's first female school superintendent in 1873. She married F.R. Crary, who purchased the Ames drug store and renamed it the Crary Red Front Drug Store. Mary frequently held teacher examinations in the drug store office.

Mary moved to Iowa after her husband's death to accept a principal position, but while there decided to open a millinery store, which she was operating when she died at age 42.

Mary detested cigar smoke and was known to close the doors abruptly on menfolk in the adjoining rooms.

26. John Walker

Originally from Wisconsin, John was born in 1851 and enlisted in the Union Army at Racine in 1862-just past his 11th birthday! He has the dubious distinction of being the youngest soldier in the Civil War. Although he enlisted as a musician in the 22nd Wisconsin Infantry, he soon picked up a rifle and fought in the action.

In later years, Mr. Walker lived in Chicago until his death in 1913. Why he is buried in Belvidere is presently unknown.

12. Alexander Neely

Mr. Neely owned a large amount of land in Belvidere and was the proprietor of the first general store. His holdings included buildings along State Street and he built a 3 story building at the corner of Lincoln Avenue and State Street, where he opened a bank. The bank reportedly transacted business along State Street.

**Note: take notice of the twin Catalpa trees near the Neely gravesite. These trees were of Southern origin and were planted as ornamentation many years ago. Also note that the two trees have completely consumed one of the graves.*

13. Cephas Gardner

Born in New Hampshire in 1800, Mr. Gardner was raised in the East before arriving in Boone County in 1836 when there were only a few residents.

Cephas previously spent several years in the mercantile business in Minnesota and served in the Minnesota State Legislature.

Mr. Gardner constructed a log cabin on the river side of what is now the 600 block of East Lincoln Avenue. Cephas built up a mercantile business here and served as County Treasurer and Town Supervisor for many years.

** Note: The carved limestone tree monument was ordered by Gardner's granddaughter. It symbolizes marriage with the smaller of the two trees (the wife) having a limb around the larger tree (the husband). This monument was made in Chicago.*

**Additional note: The adjacent monuments are also trees. The lower left area of the wife's stone shows an overturned book (the book of life), which has apparently fallen on the vase of flowers (purity and the crushing or breaking of marriage). The wife was only 24 at the time of her death.*

C. Mary Crandall

Mary was the first director and first librarian at Ida Public Library when it was located in the old City Hall building. She retired just before the grand opening of the State Street location and passed away just 4 years after the opening.

Mary had a meticulous attention to detail and was instrumental in the adoption of the Dewey decimal system at Ida, visiting several locations to see how it was done and passing that information on to the next librarian, Elizabeth Ballard.

Mary's mother was General Stephen Hurlbut's sister and General Hurlbut would frequently fill in for Mary at the library during her days off and for her annual two weeks vacation.

14. Sara Loop

Mrs. Loop, the widow of Peter Loop, had a lot of children and was reportedly the first white woman in Boone County. Her husband died shortly after their arrival in Belvidere. Their daughter, Hannah, married John K. Towner, Jr.

15. Daniel H. Whitney

Daniel arrived in Boone County in 1835 with Simon Doty, walking most of the way from Chicago because the roads were not suitable for carriages. Together with Doty, John Townsend, Nathaniel Crosby and 6 other men, they formed the Belvidere Company whose purpose was to construct and operate grist and saw mills for the growing population. Daniel thought the area was so beautiful that he wanted to call it "Elysian Fields" after the Greek phrase for a beautiful place.

He married Sally Caswell in the first Boone County marriage. Daniel was the first physician in the area and never turned away a patient no matter how poor. He had a winning bedside manner and his visits were described as so entertaining that people forgot how sick they were.

Daniel was also an entertaining speaker and townspeople said he never missed a chance to give a speech. Daniel also spoke vehemently against alcohol and slavery, presenting many arguments in the Illinois Legislature.

24. General Stephen Hurlbut

Born in Charleston, South Carolina in 1815, Stephen studied law there before arriving in Belvidere in 1845. He organized the Boone Rifles, a local military organization which marched in many parades. The Boone Rifles became Company B of the 15th Illinois Regiment with Hurlbut as General. He fought and guided troops throughout the Civil War, gaining recognition at the Battle of Shiloh, where he was given credit for saving the day for the Union troops.

Mustering out of service in 1865, General Hurlbut began a career in public service and became a well-liked politician. He served in the Illinois Constitutional Convention and the State Legislature.

He was assigned as U.S. Minister to Columbia and served as Congressman to the 43rd and 44th U.S. Congress.

Hurlbut was a social man who was described as adventurous, full of energy, and liked to have fun. It was said he had more friends than foes. When General Hurlbut died in 1882 in Peru, a large crowd gathered at the train station to escort his body. Over 10,000 people attended his funeral at Big Thunder Park.

A large ceremony was held at the gravesite on May 5, 1982 on the 100th anniversary of his death.

***Note:** Looking toward Marshall Street, one can notice a portion of the iron fence that has several of the top spikes missing. This is where the fence stiles (stairs) were located by which people could gain entrance to the cemetery after hours or without going around to the front gate.

Note: when viewing some of the older monuments, especially the ones made of limestone and marble, notice the various lichens which grow on them along with other forms of life which utilize the stones.

22. Colonel Joel E. Walker

A hero of the war of 1812, Colonel Walker retired to Belvidere to be near his children, arriving before the 1840 Census. He built the first brick home in the area which was finished in 1840 and still stands at the Southwest corner of North Main Street and East Lincoln Avenue.

*** Note:** The heavy symbolism is again present in the next white (zinc) monument of the Roe family. Notice the cross and crown, the figure of Christ pointing to the heavens, the dove (symbol of peace, purity, and humility), and the oak and acorn (symbolizing strength, courage, virtue, and eternity).

23. Reverend Charles Roe

Immigrating from Ireland, Reverend Roe first went to Milwaukee before coming to Belvidere as a Baptist minister. He bought the Newton Academy in 1852, remodeled it and used it for a family residence.

Reverend Roe served briefly as a chaplain in the Civil War and later collected food and clothing for the soldiers.

During a storm in 1983, a tree fell on the Roe monument, shattering it to pieces. Thanks to the efforts of Sexton LaVerne Schultz, the monument was reconstructed piece by piece and filled with concrete.

16. Simon P. Doty

Simon was born in New York in 1797 and spent his early years sailing along the East coast before arriving in Boone County in 1835.

He was known for his proprietorship of the early hotel/tavern, The Belvidere House. He was a man of large stature, unflinching boldness, a booming voice, and a flair for the dramatic. He was the subject of many tall tales, including some where he got into trouble with the Native American population.

Simon was illiterate, but had an excellent memory and could recount all of the many travelers' stories he heard in the tavern.

Simon was devoted to this area and regarded it as comparable to Heaven. He served as the first sheriff for one term and his home was used as the jail. He was also Boone County's first representative to Springfield. Doty park was named after him.

17. Nathaniel Crosby

Born in 1786, Nathaniel was one of the earliest settlers and a member of the Belvidere Company. Nathaniel was the builder of the Crosby Mills.

He constructed and lived for many years in a house on West Hurlbut Street.

18. Timothy Caswell

Timothy, his wife, Mercy, and 11 children arrived in Belvidere in late winter of 1835 when Timothy was 62 years old. He constructed a log cabin near the present site of the Pillsbury Green Giant plant.

Timothy farmed the land and was willing to put up travelers in his home for many years. Being a devout Baptist, he offered his cabin for the first church service in Boone County, given by Reverend John S. King in 1836.

19. Doctor Richard S. Moloney

An early physician, Doctor Moloney was a large landowner and holds the first entry in the Book of Deeds for Boone County. Doctor Moloney and his wife Emma Nicholas had two sons, who both served in the Civil War.

During the 1857 financial panic, banks across the country failed. Since they printed their own paper currency, it became worthless. Doctor Moloney and many other local founders became penniless.

The name Ann Nicholas on the unusual monument is purported to be Doctor Moloney's mother-in-law.

* Note: the Moloney monument is cut by hand from a single block of Bedford limestone, which was quarried in Indiana and shipped all over the Midwest for buildings and monuments. Being relatively soft in nature, the limestone lends itself well to carving. The carver and/or the city of the carving is often found at the base of the monument. This monument was carved in Belvidere. As with many early monuments, it is heavy with symbolism.

20. John K. Towner

John Towner was among the first permanent settlers in Belvidere, arriving here in 1835. The story goes that John arrived first, then returned for Mrs. Towner, who drove a covered wagon here. When she got to the Kishwaukee River she came to a stop near the present Baltic Mill and refused to go farther.

John constructed the Big Thunder Hotel at the corner of East Perry and North State Street. He also built the much larger Plantation Hotel which used to stand where the present McDonald's is on North State Street.

D. Ida Fuller Hovey

Ida was born July 8, 1859 in Belvidere. She graduated from the music department of Rockford Seminary in 1875 at the age of 16. She loved music, and her father presented her with an upright piano for her 18th birthday. Ida was very involved with the community. She hosted parties, attending functions, performing at concerts and joining the Belvidere Ladies Library Society. She married Theron Adlebert Hovey in Belvidere on July 6, 1878 at a ceremony conducted at her father's estate.

The Ladies Library Society was her most cherished cause, and she generously contributed funds to it for the benefit of the community. She also performed many eloquent piano recitals to raise funds for the society.

Unfortunately, Ida became sick with consumption (tuberculosis), and died from the disease at the age of 24.

On Oct. 5, 1883, her father, General Allen Fuller, wrote to the mayor and city council of Belvidere stating his wish to donate \$5,000 for the purpose of establishing a public library in Belvidere in Ida's memory.

Today, the Ida Public Library, which commemorates her, is located at 320 North State Street.

21. General Allen C. Fuller

Born in Connecticut in 1822, Allen Fuller studied law before he came to Belvidere in 1846. Following the establishment of his law practice, he was assigned the position of Adjutant General of Illinois. He served as General from 1861 throughout the Civil War until 1865, when he was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives.

The first bank in the area was formed by General Fuller and Enos Tomkins and was called the Boone County Bank. Later, General Fuller helped found the First National Bank and served as its first president.

General Fuller also held at one time or another the positions of County Judge, Circuit Judge, Speaker of the House, Illinois Senator, and President of the State Senate. He fought tirelessly to cap the amount of tax citizens could be charged, established a railroad commission, founded a board of public charities, and introduced legislature to control the rates railroads charged to transport passengers and freight.