

Summary Information:

Collection Title: Oakwood Cemetery Collection

Collection Number: MSS.13

Date Range: 1855-1950, 1980-2008

Size: 10 Linear Feet

Location: RR.8.3, RR.9.1, CO.OS.02, CO.OS.06

Creator: Oakwood Cemetery

Abstract: The Oakwood Cemetery Collection contains documents, records, and maps relating to the history and operation of Oakwood Cemetery. The collection contains blueprints, burial records, ledgers, survey plats, lot cards, newspaper articles, and other materials relating to the history of Oakwood Cemetery.

Acquisition Information: Majority of this collection, accession 2022.72, was donated from Joliet Township. The remaining digital burial records were donated to the museum from Dr. Robert Sterling.

Separated Materials: None

Citation: Item Description. MSS.13 Oakwood Cemetery Collection, Joliet Area Historical Museum. Box #, Folder #. Date Accessed.

Restrictions: None

Processed by: Kailee Lowry

Background Information:

History:

Oakwood Cemetery was platted in 1854 on the east side of Joliet at the intersection of East Cass Street and Walnut Street. The cemetery was incorporated on February 12, 1855 and the first internment was in April of the same year. Maj. Robert Cook was the first sexton at the cemetery. Oakwood Cemetery is the final resting place of many notable individuals from Joliet including, Revolutionary War veteran John B. Cook, more than 100 Civil War veterans, among them the first volunteers from Will County, Col. Frederick Bartleson, George Woodruff, Joel Aldrich Matteson, Adele Fay Williams, as well as Joliet mayors; J.D. Paige, George Sehring, Edwin Porter, C.C. Van Horne, and 11 others.

The land on which Oakwood Cemetery is located was once part of one of the largest villages of the Native American, Illini tribe, and a burial ground is located at the foot of the main cemetery drive.

Scope and Content Arrangement:

The Oakwood Cemetery Collection contains blueprints, burial records, ledgers, survey plats, lot cards, newspaper articles, and other materials relating to the history of Oakwood Cemetery. The materials

have been organized into 6 series, which are arranged alphabetically. The materials in each series are arranged chronologically, with the exception of the ledgers. The Lot Owners ledger contained numerous loose documents, or paper clipped documents relating to various lots. For preservation purposes these items were removed from the ledger and housed accordingly. These documents are arranged in the order they were removed from the ledger, largely they are in order by Block and then Lot number.

Series 1 contains blueprints and survey plats of Oakwood Cemetery. All of these materials are housed in oversized storage. These materials are listed under Series 1 and Series 6.

Series 1: Blueprints and Survey Plats, C. 1926, 1929

Series 2: Digital Burial Records, 1870-1909, 2008

Series 3: Documents and Printed Materials, 1855-1928, 1980-2006

Series 4: Ledgers, 1855-1958

Series 5: Lot Cards, 1890s – 1950s

Series 6: Oversized Materials

Related Materials:

Content Listing:

Series 1: Blueprints and Survey Plats, C. 1926

Location: CO.OS.02

Scope:

This series contains blueprints and survey plats of Oakwood Cemetery. The blueprints include a general arrangement of the entire cemetery, as well as individual blueprints of the different blocks in the cemetery. The survey plats are broken down in a similar fashion including block and lot numbers. The survey plats are stored in oversized hardcover folders.

Folder Title:

Blueprints, 1926, 1929

Survey Plats, Undated

Series 2 : Digital Burial Records, 1870-1909, 2008

Location: RR.8.3

Scope:

This series contains print outs of the digital burial records kept at Oakwood Cemetery. The records include the name of the deceased, residence, birth and death date, burial date, cause of death, block and lot numbers, and names of relatives. The series includes records organized by last name of the deceased as well as records organized by burial date. The materials have been kept in their original order, and organized chronologically.

Folder Title:	Folder #:	Box #:
Burial Records, 1870-1905	1	1
Burial Records by Last Name, 1870-1905	2	1
Burial Records by Burial Date, 1870-1880	3	1
Burial Records by Burial Date, 1880-1887	4	1
Burial Records by Burial Date, 1888-1892	1	2
Burial Records by Burial Date, 1893-1897	2	2
Burial Records by Burial Date, 1898-1901	3	2
Burial Records by Burial Date, 1902-1904	4	2
Burial Records by Burial Date, 1905-1906	1	3
Burial Records by Burial Date, 1907-1909	2	3
Oakwood Cemetery, Inventory of Gravestones Vol. 1, 2008	3	3
Oakwood Cemetery, Inventory of Gravestones Vol. 2, 2008	4	3

Series 3: Documents and Printed Materials, 1855-1928, 1980-2006

Location: RR.8.3

Scope:

This series contains documents relating to the history of Oakwood Cemetery, including the regulations governing Oakwood, headstone ordering forms, newspaper articles, presentation programs, and photographs. Of note is an article from the *Science News-Letter, The Weekly Summary of Current Science*, published in 1928. Inside is an article regarding the excavation of "Indian Mound" at Oakwood and the discovery of over 100 remains. The materials have been arranged chronologically.

Folder Title:	Folder #:	Box
Rules and Regulations Governing Oakwood Cemetery, 1855	5	3
John Hills & Son Headstone Ordering Form, 1923	6	3
Excavation of Native American mound in Oakwood Cemetery, 1928	7	3
Newspaper Clippings, 1980-2005	8	3
Joliet Area Historical Museum Presentation Programs, 1990-2006	9	3
Joliet Area Historical Museum Presentation Photographs, 1990-2006	10	3
Oakwood Cemetery Sketches	11	3

Series 4 : Ledgers, 1855-1958

Location: RR.8.3, RR.9.1

Scope:

This series contains Oakwood Cemetery ledgers containing records kept by the sexton and secretary from the 1850s through the 1950s. The ledgers contain information regarding perpetual care of graves, along with payment records for said care. The Lot Owners ledger includes the act to incorporate

Oakwood Cemetery; discussing the rules, regulations, and governance of the site. The Lot Owners Ledger also included numerous loose documents, or paper clipped documents, relating to various lot numbers. For preservation purposes these items have been removed from the ledger and housed in acid free folders and boxes. The separated documents are noted with the lot number they were connected to in the ledger and have been kept in their original order.

Folder Title:	Folder #:	Box #:
Lot Owners Ledger, 1855-1947	1	4
Block A, Lot 5	2	4
Block A, Lot 8	3	4
Block A, Lot 25	4	4
Block A, Lot 47	5	4
Block A, Lot 51	6	4
Block A, Lot 62	7	4
Block A, Lot 66	8	4
Block A, Lot 83	9	4
Block A, Lot 84	10	4
Block B, Lot 15	11	4
Block B, Lot 28	12	4
Block B, Lot 90	13	4
Block B, Lot 100	14	4
Block B, Lot 112	15	4
Block B, Lot 127	16	4
Block B, Lot 129	17	4
Block B, Lot 132 ; Block B, Lot 137	18	4
Block C, Lot 12	19	4
Block C, Lot 11	20	4
Block C, Lot 32	21	4
Block C, Lot 33	22	4
Block C, Lot 37	23	4
Block C, Lot 42	24	4
Block C, Lot 50	25	4
Block C, Lot 58	26	4
Block C, Lot 66	27	4
Block C, Lot 74	28	4
Block C, Lot 99	29	4
Block C, Lot 100	30	4
Block C, Lot 104	31	4
Block C, Lot 105	1	5
Block C, Lot 107	2	5
Block C, Lot 112	3	5
Block C, Lot 136	4	5
Block C, Lot 139	5	5
Block C, Lot 144	6	5

Block C, Lot 151	7	5
Block C, Lot 154	8	5
Block C, Lot 156	9	5
Block C, Lot 160	10	5
Block C, Lot 162	11	5
Block C, Lot 170	12	5
Block C, Lot 182	13	5
Block C, Lot 209	14	5
Block C, Lot 213	15	5
Block C, Lot 214	16	5
Block C, Lot 215	17	5
Block D, Lot 1	18	5
Block D, Lot 8	19	5
Block D, Lot 10	20	5
Block D, Lot 21	21	5
Block D, Lot 28	22	5
Block D, Lot 29	23	5
Block D, Lot 37	24	5
Block D, Lot 45	25	5
Block D, Lot 46	26	5
Block D, Lot 50	27	5
Block D, Lot 55	28	5
Block D, Lot 62	29	5
Block D, Lot 63	30	5
Block D, Lot 76	31	5
Block D, Lot 82	32	5
Block D, Lot 84	33	5
Block D, Lot 86	34	5
Block D, Lot 92	35	5
Block D, Lot 94	36	5
Block E, Lot 4	37	5
Block E, Lot 7	38	5
Block E, Lot 10	39	5
Block E, Lot 12	40	5
Block E, Lot 18	41	5
Block E, Lot 29	42	5
Block E, Lot 35	43	5
Block E, Lot 41	44	5
Block E, Lot 50	45	5
Block E, Lot 54	46	5
Block E, Lot 56	47	5
Block E, Lot 58	48	5
Block E, Lot 65	49	5
Block E, Lot 77 and 78	50	5

Block E, Lot 84	51	5
Block E, Lot 101	52	5
Block F, Lot 4	53	5
Block F, Lot 8	54	5
Block F, Lot 10	55	5
Block F, Lot 14	56	5
Block F, Lot 16	57	5
Block F, Lot 29	58	5
Block F, Lot 30	59	5
Block F, Lot 34 and 35	60	5
Block F, Lot 39	61	5
Block F, Lot 48	62	5
Block F, Lot 53	63	5
Block F, Lot 60	64	5
Block F, Lot 61	65	5
Block F, Lot 62	66	5
Block F, Lot 65	67	5
Block F, Lot 67	68	5
Block F, Lot 68	69	5
Block F, Lot 83	70	5
Block F, Lot 88	71	5
Block F, Lot 93	72	5
Block F, Lot 100	73	5
Block F, Lot 105	74	5
Block F, Lot 107	75	5
Block F, Lot 130	76	5
Block F, Lot 134	77	5
Block F, Lot 170	78	5
Block F, Lot 172	79	5
Block F, Lot 214	80	5
Block G, Lot 2	81	5
Block G, Lot 16	82	5
Block G, Lot 28	83	5
Block G, Lot 32	84	5
Block G, Lot 36	85	5
Block G, Lot 40	86	5
Block G, Lot 51	87	5
Block G, Lot 54	88	5
Block G, Lot 56	89	5
Block G, Lot 58	90	5
Block G, Lot 63	91	5
Block G, Lot 71	92	5
Single Grave, A337	93	5
Record of Burials G.A.R. Lot, Block C	94	5

Record of Burials J.B. McCann Lots, Block F, Lots 124-127, 141-143	95	5
Record of Spanish War Veterans	96	5
Sexton Reports, 1958	97	5
Misc. Documents	98	5
Block 3, Lot 6	1	6
Block 3, Lot 13	2	6
Block 3, Lot 17	3	6
Block 3, Lot 18	4	6
Block 3, Lot 26	5	6
Block 4, Lot 2	6	6
Block 4, Lot 9	7	6
Block 4, Lot 17	8	6
Block 4, Lot 31	9	6
Block 4, Lot 37	10	6
Block 5, Lot 10	11	6
Block 5, Lot 12	12	6
Block 5, Lot 18	13	6
Block 6, Lot 6	14	6
Block 7, Lot 1	15	6
Block 7, Lot 4	16	6
Block 7, Lot 5	17	6
Block 8, Lot 4	18	6
Block 8, Lot 10	19	6
Block 10, Lot 1 through 8	20	6
Block 11, Lot 2	21	6
Block 11, Lot 11	22	6
Block 11, Lot 17	23	6
Block 15, Lot 35	24	6
Block 16, Lot 10 and Block 18, lot 15	25	6
Block 16, Lot 12	26	6
Block 16, Lot 35	27	6
Block 16, Lot 47	28	6
Block 17, Lot 4	29	6
Block 17, Lot 11	30	6
Block 17, Lot 46	31	6
Block 17, Lot 58	32	6
Block 17, Lot 69	33	6
Block 17, Lot 74	34	6
Block 17, Lot 77	35	6
Block 17, Lot 87	36	6
Block 17, Lot 92	37	6
Block 17, Lot 97	38	6
Block 17, Lot 99	39	6
Block 17, Lot 100	40	6

Block 17, Lot 108	41	6
Block 17, Lot 109	42	6
Block 17, Lot 116	43	6
Block 17, Lot 117	44	6
Block 17, Lot 118	45	6
Block 17, Lot 119	46	6
Block 17, Lot 125	47	6
Block 17, Lot 131	48	6
Block 17, Lot 133	49	6
Block 17, Lot 138	50	6
Block 17, Lot 160	51	6
Block 17, Lot 163	52	6
Block 17, Lot 168	53	6
Block 17, Lot 177	54	6
Block 17, Lot 178	55	6
Block 18, Lot 11	56	6
Block 19, Lot 14	57	6
Block 19, Lot 16	58	6
Block 19, Lot 17	59	6
Block 19, Lot 18	60	6
Block 19, Lot 19	61	6
Block 19, Lot 21	62	6
Block 19, Lot 27	63	6
Block 19, Lot 29	64	6
Block 19, Lot 30	65	6
Block 20, Lot 8	66	6
Block 20, Lot 12	67	6
Block 20, Lot 17	68	6
Block 20, Lot 21	69	6
Block 20, Lot 29	70	6
Block 20, Lot 33	71	6
Block 20, Lot 36	72	6
Block 20, Lot 39	73	6
Block 20, Lot 40	74	6
Block 20, Lot 53	75	6
Block 20, Lot 50	76	6
Block 20, Lot 54	77	6
Block 20, Lot 62	78	6
Block 20, Lot 63	79	6
Block 21, Lot 8	80	6
Block 21, Lot 28	81	6
Block 21, Lot 33	82	6
Block 21, Lot 37	83	6
Block 21, Lot 38	84	6

Block 21, Lot 44	85	6
Block 22, Lot 3	86	6
Block 22, Lot 4	87	6
Block 22, Lot 11	88	6
Block 22, Lot 14	89	6
Block 22, Lot 28	90	6
Block 23, Lot 2	91	6
Block 23, Lot 24	92	6
Block 23, Lot 28	93	6
Block 23, Lot 34	94	6
Block 23, Lot 36	95	6
Block 23, Lot 38	96	6
Block 23, Lot 47	97	6
Block 23, Lot 50	98	6
Block 23, Lot 62	99	6
Block 23, Lot 65	100	6
Block 24, Lot 9	101	6
Block 24, Lot 19	102	6
Block 24, Lot 24	103	6
Block 24, Lot 25	104	6
Block 24, Lot 32	105	6
Block 24, Lot 35	106	6
Block 24, Lot 39	107	6
Block 24, Lot 47	108	6
Block 24, Lot 54	109	6
Block 24, Lot 60	110	6
Block 24, Lot 68	111	6
Block 24, Lot 69	112	6
Block 24, Lot 76	113	6
Block 24, Lot 84	114	6
Block 24, Lot 101	115	6
Lot Cards, Block B	116	6
Lot Cards, Block 22	117	6
Perpetual Care Ledger, Sexton's Record, 1894-1929	1	7
Perpetual Care Ledger, Sexton's Record, 1929-1974	2	7
Perpetual Care Ledger, Secretary's Record, 1929-1949	3	7
Receipts and Cash Received, 1954-1958	4	7
Block and Lot Location by Last Name	N/A	11

Series 5 : Lot Cards, 1890s – 1950s

Location: RR.9.1

Scope:

This series contains Oakwood Cemetery lot cards. The cards contain information regarding the Lot number, block, lot owner, name of deceased, date, grave number, and lot owner's relationship to the deceased. The back of each lot card also includes a drawing of the relative location of the lot, size of lot, payments made for perpetual care, and payments made for annual care. The lot cards have been kept in their original order and are organized first by block and next by lot number. For storage purposes the cards have not been divided into folders. The following list refers to the lot cards by box.

Box Title:	Box #:
Oakwood Cemetery Lot Cards, Blocks A through E	8
Oakwood Cemetery Lot Cards, Block F, Blocks 3 through 9	9
Oakwood Cemetery Lot Cards, Blocks 10 through 24	10

Series 6: Oversized Materials
Location: CO.OS.02, CO.OS.06

Folder Title:	Series #:	Box #:
Blueprints, 1926, 1926	Series 1	OS.02
Survey Plats, Undated	Series 1	OS.02
Newspaper Articles	Series 3	OS.06