



# Maplewood Cemetery Walk

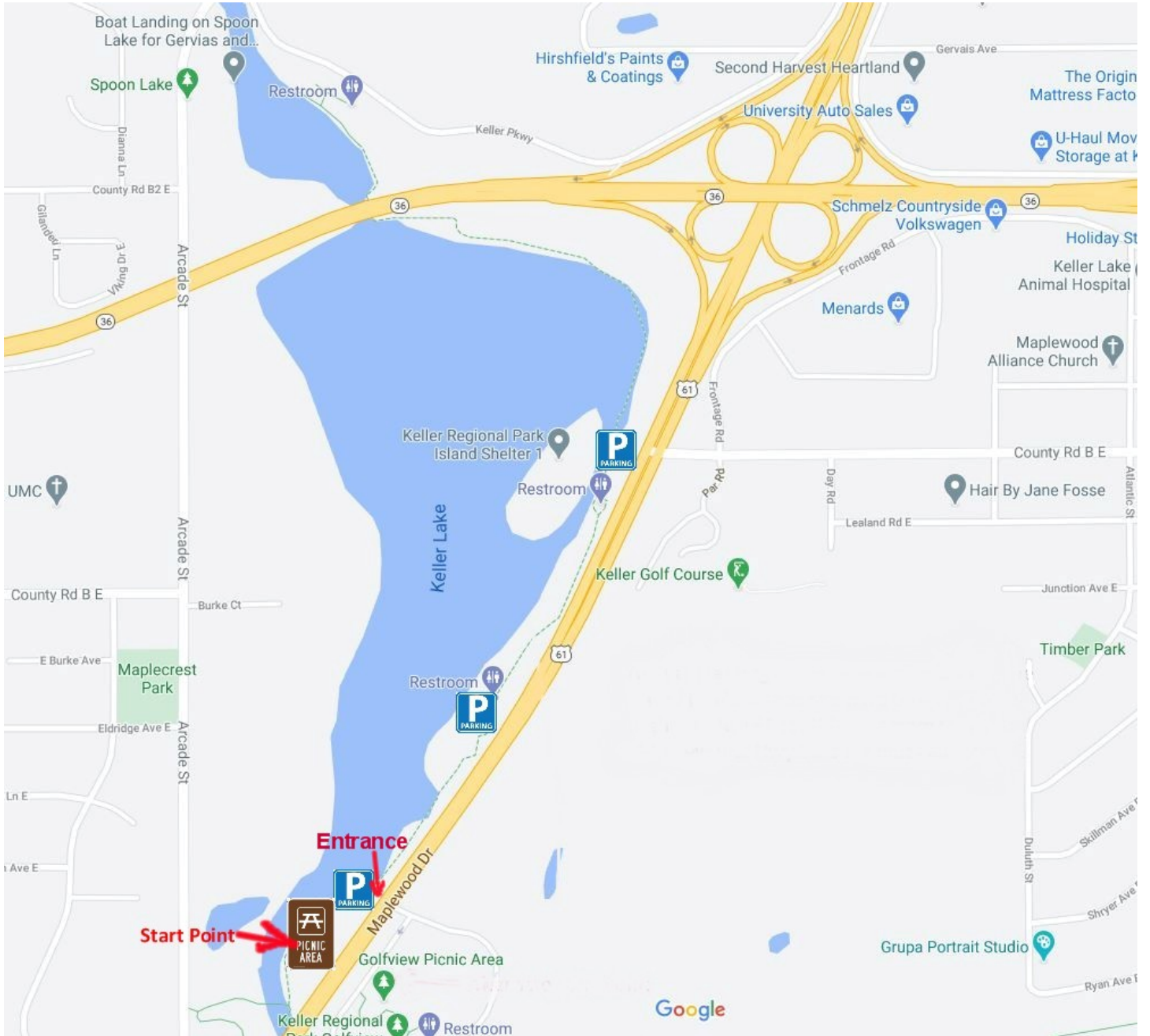
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<b>Dates:</b>	1/1/2023 - 12/31/2023
<b>City / State:</b>	Maplewood, MN
<b>Event Name:</b>	Maplewood MN Cemetery Walk
<b>Event Type:</b>	Seasonal Walk
<b>119781</b>	121981 2023/Y2823
<b>Distance - Trail Ratings:</b>	1A
<b>Description:</b>	Walk lakeside parks, trails, and three local cemeteries.
<b>Amenities:</b>	<b>Strollers:</b> medium   <b>Wheelchairs:</b> hard   <b>Pets:</b> Yes   <b>Restrooms:</b> Yes
<b>Special Programs:</b>	This event doesn't have any special Programs assigned.
<b>Start Times:</b>	Dawn to dusk
<b>Location:</b>	Keller Regional Park picnic shelter and parking lot #3. 2100 Maplewood Dr/Hwy 61 is an approximate street address for the parking lot entrance. GPS coordinates 44.999115962831546, -93.06222731536239. Google Map Services location is <a href="https://goo.gl/maps/xweyAs3FV1JsL6Uf9">https://goo.gl/maps/xweyAs3FV1JsL6Uf9</a> . Map included in OSB download.
<b>Start Point / Driving Directions:</b>	Highway 36 in Maplewood to southbound Highway 61. The picnic shelter #3 is at the third turnoff on the right. Parking available at start point.
<b>Awards &amp; Fees:</b>	IVV Credit Only
<b>Comments:</b>	Restrooms located at start point and along the trail at cemeteries and in parks. OSB download includes a guide to prominent interments.
<b>Host Club:</b>	Twin Cities Volkssport
<b>Contact:</b>	Ken Johnson (See the <a href="http://my.ava.org">my.ava.org</a> Event Listing for further contact information.)
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/groups/2039870106313616">www.facebook.com/groups/2039870106313616</a>

**WALK COMPLETION AND CREDIT:** Be sure to log back into the OSB system to finish/complete your online registration after doing the event. The OSB system does not deduct any event fee from a participant's Event Bank until they have submitted event completion info including the date the event was walked, the distance walked, and the selection of applicable special programs that person is participating in. Nevertheless, a fee of \$2 for a downloaded PDF is deducted from the Event Bank when the PDF is downloaded. Later, any PDF fees are credited back to a user's Event Bank when they submit the event completion info as a paying for credit participant. Note however that the \$2 coupon for the downloaded PDF expires in 60 days. Also note that an event registration expires after 30 days, but if your registrations lapses, you may re-register without cost.



## Forest Lawn Memorial Park Historical Notes

The Forest Lawn Cemetery Association was created in 1893 by stonemason Anthony Ambrosini and originally named the St. Paul Cemetery. Later it was renamed Forest Cemetery before it finally became Forest Lawn Cemetery and Mausoleum. The community mausoleum was completed in 1919, making it the first mausoleum in the state and the first community mausoleum west of Milwaukee. An article from the Daily Oklahoman Newspaper of January 27, 1918 called it the largest in the world. It is also home to the 11th oldest crematory in operation in the United States and the only cemetery in Ramsey County allowing ash scattering. The first on record took place in 1903 when Mathilde Dike made her last request. At the time, Forest Lawn was performing about 10 or 12 cremations a year. Forest Lawn now performs about 2,100 cremations a year. There are more than 1,400 crypts and more than 650 niches in the building. The entire cemetery is approximately 44 acres with an estimated 15,000 individuals buried there.



Anthony Ambrosini's niche is in the left wall opposite the mausoleum main entrance. He was born in Cercino, Italy, famous for stone cutting since ancient times. It is reasonable to assume he grew up in the trade. He turns up in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1883 working as a stone cutter. Earlier he had found similar employ in Chicago. He spent a few years working in partnership with a man named Peterson, but most of the 1880s he worked for others, probably more on building projects than on artistic concerns. In 1890 he struck out on his own, his new location at 941 Jackson Street being on the grounds of Oakland Cemetery it is reasonable to assume that monuments and headstones were now his main product line. An ad from this era runs:

**ANTHONY AMBROSINI**  
**Granite and Marble Worker**  
**dealer in**  
**FLOWER VASES**  
**HEADSTONES**  
**of all descriptions**  
**MONUMENTS**  
**Delivered to any cemetery in the Northwest**



The ad also mentions that he has a branch office "Opposite Calvary Cemetery on Front Street".

Anthony handed the business down to his son John before moving to California, probably after his wife Augusta passed away in 1917.

Ms. Janice Quick of the Maplewood Area Historical Society has researched the headstones and the lives of citizens buried at the Forest Lawn Cemetery. For her, each headstone is imbedded with years of rich history. Each monument to the deceased tells a tale. Impressed by numerous ornately carved headstones in the shape of tree trunks, Quick took it upon herself to delve into the history of these carvings. It was common for tombstones to include symbols reflecting images of the person's life, beliefs, and career activities. This was facilitated by the soft limestone readily available in the area. Symbols were also often added to indicate membership in groups like the Masons, Oddfellows, or other civic organizations.

## Forest Lawn Memorial Park Historical Notes

Aside from the unique headstones, one will find many gravesites of veterans who have honorably served our county including Congressman Bruce Vento. Congressman Vento was the co-author of legislation that established the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in northern Minnesota.



Within the last thirty-five years, the American Hmong community has honored Forest Lawn as a final resting place for family members. Their black marble monuments bring a rich and interesting addition to the Cemetery. Their traditional burial site is on a slope. Hmong people believe that west is the direction of death and if the head is facing the east it will be blinded by the sun. The placement of the grave is determined by older members of the community and depends on age, sex, and status.

### Symbols

Ferns are a symbol of grief. Calla Lilly symbolizes the restored innocence of the soul upon death. The Beznoska monument has examples of both.

Wheat or corn often symbolized a long life and the person being ready for the Divine harvest.



A linked chain symbol with letters "FLT" represents the Oddfellows. FLT stands for its motto: Friendship Love Truth. The crossed mallet and axe symbolize the Modern Woodmen of America. See the Roberge monument for an example of both.

An anchor refers to Pope Clement the First of the first century AD. Clement was martyred by being tied to an anchor and thrown into the sea. It has since become a representation of being "anchored" in faith and is referred to variously as the Anchored Cross, the Mariner's Cross or St Clement's cross. A fowled anchor is the US Navy symbol for Chief Petty Officer. Note the anchor on the Lawrence Plough monument. Personal effects such as a hat, shoe, pillow, or umbrella represent the laying down of life's possessions.

A scroll represents the unfolding of life as seen on the two adjacent Beznoska monuments.

Morning Glories were a Victorian symbol of the brevity of life due to the flowers morning bloom which quickly fades.

Ivy carved into a tombstone is said to represent friendship, fidelity and immortality. The hardy, evergreen leaf denotes immortality and rebirth or regeneration. The Neuhart monument is a good example.

From approximately 1890 through 1910, many gravestone carvers created tombstones with images of tree trunks in them. Tree trunks represents a life cut short. Each branch represented family members who predeceased the individual. There are numerous examples of these among the Ambrosini creations throughout the cemetery.

# Forest Lawn Memorial Park Historical Notes

## Notable Monuments

### Joseph Tryder

While doing her research, Janice Quick overheard one of the cemetery workers say "I hope Tryder doesn't go for a walk again". Because Tryder's headstone was on a steep hill, it was prone to slide down the hill on occasion. The problem was remedied by remounting the monument on top of the boulder visible underneath the chair.



### Lawrence Plough



Plough emigrated from Denmark in 1873, and suffered an untimely death in 1905. "He moved his house (from one place to another in St. Paul) and he and his new neighbor were standing in the backyard talking. While they were standing there Plough looked up and asked "does my chimney look crooked to you?" The neighbor replied "maybe," and left it at that. The next day Plough was found buried under a pile of bricks in his backyard. Apparently, according to a news report, the man had been in his backyard staring up at the chimney and contemplating how he was going to fix it when it fell on him. Records from Forest Lawn show the cause of death as "multiple injuries to the head."

### Seth Isham

Seth Isham was a foreman at the Scheffer-Rossum firm in downtown St Paul from 1896-1906. Scheffer-Rossum manufactured and marketed saddles, bridles, boots and shoes. Note the hat resting at the base of the monument.



### Hilda Walton

Died at two years of age. Her tombstone bids a German farewell: Auf Wiedersehn



## Forest Lawn Memorial Park Historical Notes

### Alexander Roberge

Was very active in both the Oddfellows and Modern Woodmen of America. At the time, each of these two organizations provided a \$100 benefit for a member's tombstone allowing for this elaborate memorial. Alexander was survived by his wife and seven children. One daughter moved on, but the six boys never left home and never held any long-term employment.

### Addie Anderson

Died of meningitis at age four. Addie's brother Nels was a professional printer and died of tuberculosis at age 25.

### Poschel, Joseph Sr and Jr

Second tombstone for father and son Austrian immigrant carpenters. The first was carved with incorrect dates and replaced. Janice Quick believes the original was used as riprap along Lake Phalen.

### David Neuhart Jr.

In 1888, Neuhart was a brakeman for the St. Paul cable railway - a rail line on which rail cars were pulled by a moving cable under the road, from Selby Avenue to Third Street in downtown St. Paul, according to Quick's research. He was seriously injured on the job, when an improperly installed chain prevented him from applying a rail car's brake. He threw the full force of his body weight into the brake in an attempt to make the car stop. The jerking and jolting of the lever caused Neuhart to suffer severe chest injuries, including a hemorrhage of the lungs. Neuhart and his wife sued the rail company for \$25,000, which is about the equivalent of \$500,000 in today's economy.

The rail company was quick to recuse itself of any wrongdoing. It went to court and the owner of the company refused to admit that this person worked for him; if he did, he wasn't working that day; if he was working that day, he didn't get hurt; if he did get hurt, it wasn't the company's fault.



### John Beznoska

Died in his tailor shop while making his specialty parade costumes for a local grade school. The shop was filled with bolts of red, white, and blue fabric for a Memorial Day event in which the children were to create a living US flag using their appropriately colored dress.



# Forest Lawn Memorial Park Historical Notes

## Sources

Maplewood MN web page “60 Stories for 60 Years”. article about Forest Lawn Memorial Park:  
<https://maplewoodmn.gov/1513/60-Stories>

Monuments and symbols information provided by Ms. Janice Quick via: the Ramsey County Historical Society Program *History Revealed: Stories in Stone*

Notes taken while touring the Forest Lawn Memorial Park with Ms. Quick

The Maplewood Area Historical Society presentation *Victorian Headstones; Symbols and Superstitions*, Lillie You can watch an online video of the talk using this link:  
<https://vimeo.com/38379253>

Suburban Newspaper article *Stories in Stone* from June 1<sup>st</sup> 2009

Lillie Suburban Newspaper article *In Pursuit of the Past* from April 18<sup>th</sup> 2018.

Wikipedia

<https://detritusofempire.blogspot.com/2014/04/tree-shaped-tombstones-ambrosini.html>

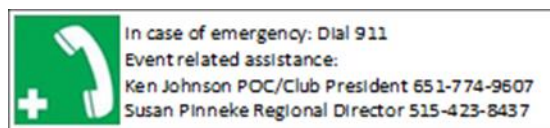


## Maplewood Cemetery 10 or 11 km Walk

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1. Leave start point following trail with the creek on your right (south) crossing the Gateway trail and passing under the Frost Ave bridge
2. **Right** crossing pedestrian bridge and continue straight past the parking lot on your right
3. **Right** at intersection circling Round Lake on your left staying on walking path
4. **Left** crossing concrete arch bridge
5. **Veer Right**
6. **Left** on walking path continuing straight following creek on your left
7. **Left** across pedestrian bridge (adjacent to start point)
8. **Left** before road staying on trail to intersection of Arcade St and Roselawn Ave
9. **Cross** Arcade St and Roselawn Ave
10. Facing traffic, walk (west) on Roselawn Ave to Edgerton St
11. **Left** on Edgerton St
12. **Left** into cemetery
13. **First Left**
14. **First Right**
15. **Second Right** on road to loop the small pond counter-clockwise keeping the pond on your left and return to the road you previously entered the pond loop  
*10 km shortcut: continue Straight*
16. **Right** turn
17. **Right** turn to top of hill and back  
*10 km shortcut: continue straight to direction #18*
18. **Straight** to T-intersection
19. **Right** turn
20. **Left** turn passing in front of mausoleum and exiting cemetery
21. **Left** on Edgerton St shoulder facing traffic
22. **Left** on Kingston Ave
23. **Right** on Payne Ave
24. **Left** into Mt Zion Cemetery  
*10 km shortcut: continue straight and go to direction #33*
25. **Left** inside cemetery
26. **Third Right**
27. **Right**
28. **Right**
29. **Left**
30. **Right**
31. **Left** exiting cemetery
32. **Left** on Payne Ave crossing Larpenteur
33. **Left** on California Ave continuing straight, crossing Parkway Dr and entering Sons of Jacob Cemetery
34. **Circle** cemetery and return to Payne Ave
35. **Right** on Payne Ave
36. **Left** on Kingston
37. **Right** on Edgerton St
38. **Right** onto Gateway Trail with cemetery on your left. Continue under Highway 61/Arcade St bridge and across trail bridge over creek
39. **Left** following trail with the creek on your left continuing straight ahead to start point







## 2021 Maplewood Cemetery 5--6 km Walk

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1. Leave start point following trail with the creek on your right
2. **Right** across pedestrian bridge
3. **Left** before road staying on trail to intersection of Arcade St and Roselawn Ave
4. **Cross** Arcade St and Roselawn Ave
5. Facing traffic, walk (west) on Roselawn Ave to Edgerton St
6. **Left** on Edgerton St
7. **Left** into cemetery
8. **First Left**
9. **First Right**
10. **Second Right** on road to loop the small pond counterclockwise keeping the pond on your left and return to the road you previously entered the pond loop
11. **Right** turn
12. **Straight** to T-intersection
13. **Right** turn
14. **Left** turn passing in front of mausoleum and exiting cemetery
15. **Left** on Edgerton St shoulder facing traffic  
**5 km route: Left onto Gateway Trail with cemetery on your left. Continue under Highway 61/Arcade St bridge and across trail bridge over creek and then go to direction #25**
16. **Left** on Kingston Ave
17. **Right** on Payne Ave
18. **Left** into Mt Zion Cemetery
19. **Left** inside cemetery
20. **Loop** perimeter of cemetery and return to entrance
21. **Right** on Payne Ave
22. **Left** on Kingston
23. **Right** on Edgerton St
24. **Right** onto Gateway Trail with cemetery on your left. Continue under Highway 61/Arcade St bridge and across trail bridge over creek
25. **Left** following trail with the creek on your left continuing straight ahead to start point



These walk directions and maps may only be used in conjunction with a signed American Volkssport Association athletic waiver. All other uses prohibited.

**Club point of contact:**

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