

**THE
OAK HILL CEMETERY
WALK**

• A NASHUA, IOWA SESQUICENTENNIAL EVENT •

1855 – 2005



Wednesday, June 22, 2005

6:00 - 8:30 PM

Sunday, June 26, 2005

2:00 - 4:00 PM

CEMETERY WALK GUIDES:

Charlotte Junker
Scott Cerwinske

Lori Lee
Jane Overturf

Jerry Adelmund

EARLY CITIZENS AND THEIR ACTORS:

1- Dr. B. M. Dewey, MD.	Arnie Boge
2- Russell M. Nevins	
3- Thomas S. Bradford	Doug Strike
4- Joel Parrish	
5- Sarah Carpenter	
6- Amos P. Sommars	Roy Overturf
7- John Coler (Kohler)	Stephen Lee
8- Samuel W. Byers	
9- Edward C. Hall	
10- William B. Perrin	William Kunzman
11- Joshua DeNoyelles	Dennis Litterer
12- Mrs. Frances Turner	Carol Strike
13- Mary Woodbridge	Kathy Cerwinske
14- George Carr	
15- Fred Kezar	
16- George T. Bellamy	Wayne Peterson
17- Smiley S. Sample	Jay Connor

SMILEY SAMPLE'S SALOON WORKERS:

Earlyn Adelmund	Jane Overturf
Nikki Overturf	Dave Junker
Kathy Pflibsen	Jenna Rinken

NASHUA'S SESQUICENTENNIAL BAND:

Violin:

Betrenna Jacobs: 7th grade
Hayley Jacobs: 6th grade

Rhythm and Vocals:

Jeanne Edson: 6th grade
Jan Krull: Piano music teacher

Harmonica:

Kyle Franzen: 5th grade
Betrenna Jacobs

Guitar:

Brenda Jacobs: 5th grade
Tyler Franzen: 5th grade
Tyler Klobassa: 8th grade
Marschall Meusel: 9th grade

Band Director:

Laurie Kristiansen: guitar and
harmonica teacher

EVENT VIDEOGRAPHERS:

Dylan Jans

Reed Dinsdale

***SPECIAL THANKS TO LARRY & PEGGY OLESON FOR THE
WONDERFUL JOB THEY DO MAINTAINING THE CEMETERY
GROUNDS.***

OVERVIEW:

WHAT WAS THE OAK HILL CEMETERY WALKING TOUR?

This event offered residents a tour of the past from the people who lived it. Actors performed a series of short vignettes from research done by volunteers on Nashua area residents buried in Oak Hill Cemetery. The cemetery costumed interpreters presented first-person stories about the life and times of former Nashua pioneer residents.

The guides took groups in fifteen-minute increments on a systematic route around the cemetery. Each vignette was from two to five minutes in length. Our goal was to have fun with our guests and have them leave Oak Hill Cemetery with a greater understanding of Nashua's History.

THE NASHUA SESQUICENTENNIAL BAND performed at two Cemetery Walks and also in the Sesquicentennial Parade. Participants dressed in period clothing and played an assortment of music popular from the mid-1850s to the turn-of-the century. All music selections were performed on a variety of acoustic instruments that included violins (fiddles), guitars, harmonica's and rhythm instruments.

The band proved to be a crowd-pleaser, encouraging audience members to sing along, clap their hands and tap their feet. Of note is the fact that this group of young musicians was the only live music performance during the entire celebration weekend, except for paid professional musicians at the Saturday night street dance.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF OAK HILL CEMETERY:

The Oak Hill Cemetery Association was established on February 4, 1868. A meeting was held in Nashua at Spindler's Hall, which was organized by electing Philo M. Knapp as chairman. A planning meeting later established the following officers:

R. M. Nevins - President
Henry Blake – Treasurer
H. A. Scoles – Secretary

S. W. Byers – Trustee
John Hall – Trustee
George Wood - Sexton

A constitution and by-laws were drawn up and adopted. A soliciting committee, comprised of Enoch Woodbridge, E. H. Hall and L. Scoles, was appointed to sell lots at a price of not less than \$5 per lot and all proceeds were used to buy and improve the original 8 acres that make up the east side of the cemetery. The original cemetery ground was purchased for \$25 per acre on August 3, 1868 from T. D. Coryell.

On May 10, 1869, plotting of the ground into lots was made. These were the charter members:

H. A. Scoles
E. W. Barren
J. A. Wade
S. W. Byers

George Wood
Cyrus H. Wait
Henry Baker
Z. P. Mitchell

Wm. T. Colt
John S. Hall
R. M. Nevins
T. D. Coryell

As the years passed, more land was added, trees were planted and Oak Hill Cemetery became firmly established as a fitting "City of the Dead."

The Soldier's Monument stands at almost the highest point in the cemetery and faces the north. On a foundation of cement is set a base of granite on which is a block of marble with the words, "In Memory of our Deceased Soldiers." Above this is the figure of the soldier, six feet two inches in height and cut in one piece from Bedford Granite. The figure alone weighs 1,500 pounds. It is as fine a monument to the memory of our departed soldiers as can be found in any cemetery around. It was dedicated by members of the George S. W. Dodge Post of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) and the Women's Relief Corps (W.R.C.) on Memorial Day, May 30, 1903. The dedicatory address was delivered by the Post Commander, Hon. William B. Perrin, followed by the unveiling of the monument and the flag salute given by the pupils of the intermediate department of the Nashua Public School.

Members of the local American Legion, V.F.W., and other local organizations, on the 100th Anniversary of the original dedication, rededicated the Soldier's Monument. This ceremony, which occurred on Memorial Day, May 26, 2003, honored the 75 Civil War Veterans and all other veterans buried at Oak Hill Cemetery.

The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) and local V.F.W. Post held another service of Rededication and Soldier Recognition on August 29, 2004.

BIOGRAPHICAL OUTLINES PRESENTED DURING THE CEMETERY WALK

1 - DOCTOR BERNARD MONTGOMERY DEWEY 30 JULY 1831 - 03 MARCH 1916 Burial Location: 4-6-10-4

- Born at Victor, Ontario County, New York, 30 July, 1831, and died in Detroit, Michigan, March 3, 1916.
- Dr. Dewey, Nashua's first physician and druggist, migrated from New York.
- In 1861, he was married to Miss Polina (Paulina) Robinson of Nashua. She passed to the other shore in 1891. One child was born to this union, Ida, who died in infancy. He was married to Mrs. Ann Kellogg at New Hampton on Feb. 26, 1896.
- In 1866, he left his practice to lecture about the medical field in the Midwest. He returned to Nashua each spring to work on his farm property in Richland Township east of Nashua.
- Dr. Dewey was an early editor of the Nashua Weekly Post. He purchased the paper in 1889.
- He later managed both the DeNoyelles Hotel and the Moon Hotel.
- Two years were spent in Calmar conducting a railroad hotel. In his various activities, Dr. Dewey amassed a considerable fortune.
- Their residence was a beautiful brick home located at 312 Cedar Street in Nashua.
- He was a charter member of the Big 4 Fair Association in 1900.

2 - RUSSELL M. NEVINS

Died on 16 NOVEMBER 1889 - Aged 86 Yrs, 6 Ms and 10 Ds.

Burial Location: 2-10-9-8

• R. M. Nevins was born in Canada. His parents moved when he was a small child to Vermont where he lived until 1836, when he moved to Wisconsin.

• A Veteran of the War of 1812.

• He came to Nashua in the fall of 1864 where he made his home until 1885.

• He was well known in this vicinity as one of the leading citizens, and was remembered for his uprightness of character. He talked as he meant and acted as he talked. He was a man of a very active organization.

• A charter member and 1st President of the Oak Hill Cemetery Association in 1868.

• He was a rival of Deacon Woodbridge over whether or not to license those establishments in Nashua that sold liquors (1870's.)

• He was elected the Mayor of Nashua in 1873.

• School Board Member of the Nashua Independent School District in the 1880s.

• He planted willows along the turnpike to prevent washouts. The turnpike, connecting the north end of the newly constructed wooden bridge with Greenwood Avenue, was subject to washouts and overflow. Russell Nevins set out rows of willows on either side, and in a few years the turnpike was safe. After a vigorous growth, the trees on the south side were cut to the ground to allow the sun to dry out the road.

• Many of the old-timers remembered seeing the old man, Nevins, setting out the willows and the fun made of it by the passing public, but he always had a hot retort for each one.

UNMARKED GRAVES

Unfortunately this section of the cemetery was established in a time when life was extremely tough for many pioneer citizens of Nashua, as a result there are many graves in this part of the cemetery that do not have tomb stones or markers on them. Many of these graves are of individuals, many of them children, whose families moved west, leaving behind those deceased family members who suffered from accidents, plagues, common disease or fatal childbirth. The Cemetery Association is planning to start placing markers on these graves. If you would like to make a donation to help with this project, there will be a donation box located at our last station tonight. We would greatly appreciate any donation you could make.

CIVIL WAR VETERANS

You may notice the metal star medallions on some of the graves in this part of the cemetery. These stars identify those men who were members of the G.A.R. - The Grand Army of the Republic. The Nashua G.A.R. Post, George S. W. Dodge Post No. 132, had approximately 190 local members, all Civil War Veterans. The G.A.R. became a social and political force that would control the destiny of the nation for more than six decades. We have 75 Civil War Veterans buried here in Oak Hill Cemetery, a few of who you will meet tonight.

The first Civil War Veteran we will be introduced to tonight is Nashua's first elected Mayor, Mr. Thomas S. Bradford...

3 - The Honorable THOMAS S. BRADFORD 1st Mayor of Nashua 22 JULY 1834 - 12 MARCH 1898 Burial Location: 8-13-24-4

- Thomas Seavey Bradford was born in Clinton, Kennebec County, Maine, July 22nd, 1834, and died at the home of his sister, Mrs. M. E. Dowd, on Saturday, March 12th, 1898, at the age of 63 years, 7 months and 20 days. He was the oldest of eleven children.

- He spent his early days in Maine, until the fall of 1849, when he came west with his father's family to Monroe, Wisconsin. Shortly after the death of his mother, in 1852, he went overland to the gold regions of California where he remained until the fall of 1857. He then returned to Missouri, and soon afterwards went to Pike's Peak, where he remained until the Civil War broke out, when he came home to Wisconsin. He was married, Oct. 10, 1861, to Mary J. Hudson, who died July 30, 1889.

- He enlisted at Milford, Wisconsin, in Company "F." 29th Wisconsin Infantry, and was later transferred to the 14th Wis. Regiment, from which he was discharged at the close of the war at Mobile, Alabama, in October, 1865. From there he came to Nashua, and since November of 1865, he had made Nashua his home.

- When Nashua was incorporated on June 3, 1867, he was elected as the first Mayor and he had served in the same capacity six times since, in the following years: 1877-78-81-82-83-90. His administrations were always acceptable to the people and it was mainly through his influence that the council room was erected in 1878.

- For three years, he was employed with E. P. Greeley at the Mill, three years, with Spindler & Sutherland, Hardware Dealers, and during

those years he held an interest in the Blacksmith and Wagon Shops of Bradford & Co.

- After 1872, he devoted his whole time to the increasing business of the firm which shortly afterwards became Bradford & Sutherland. The old Red Shops located on the grounds later occupied by the Methodist Episcopal Parsonage, were familiar landmarks for years, until they were destroyed by fire, June 5th, 1884. He was then out of business for a few years but in November of 1889, he bought out the furniture business of J. P. Parish, and continued the same with his son until 1893, when on account of ill health, he was forced to retire from active business.

- He was the first Secretary of the Nashua Union Agricultural Society Fair in 1874.

- He was a member of the Masonic order, the Knights of Pythias, the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) and other societies.

- Mr. Bradford served on the Chickasaw County Board of Supervisors in 1884.

- He also served on the 1884 building committee for the current Methodist Church Structure.

- For ten days prior to his death, he suffered with the hiccoughs but after those had been stopped, he seemed to get better. He ate a hearty supper that evening. Soon after he was taken with pains, and he died at eight o'clock. Medical assistance was of no avail for the heart refused to perform its natural work.

- For over thirty-two years he lived among the people of Nashua. He did as much as any one man to advance the interests of this town.

4 - JOEL PARRISH
Veteran of the War of 1812
25 MAY 1796 - 06 AUGUST 1869
Burial Location: 7-13-22-12

This grave on the left is of Joel Parrish. He is one of the five Veterans from the War of 1812 that are located here at Oak Hill Cemetery.

5 - SARAH CARPENTER
1st Person buried at Oak Hill Cemetery
Died on 17 JUNE 1869 - Aged 28 Yrs, 11 Mos.
Burial Location: 6-10-17-2

Our next grave is of Miss Sarah Carpenter. On June 19, 1869 the funeral service of Mrs. Sarah Carpenter was held at the St. Mark's

Episcopal Church. This church sat where Pat McGregor's home is now, 610 Lexington Ave. Mrs. Carpenter's funeral was the first service held in that newly constructed church. She also happens to be the first person buried in the cemetery at Nashua. Oak Hill property had recently been purchased and the road had to be cut through the brush for the funeral party.

6 - AMOS P. SOMMARS
25 SEPTEMBER 1845 - 07 OCTOBER 1930
Burial Location: 6-9-18-11

One of the darkest periods in American History was the Assassination of President Lincoln. Abraham Lincoln's funeral train left Washington on April 21, 1865. It would essentially retrace the 1,654-mile route Mr. Lincoln had traveled as President-elect in 1861. On Sunday, April 30th, the train arrived in Chicago at 11:00 A.M. Chicago's procession for Mr. Lincoln rivaled New York's in size and grandeur. The route went down Michigan Avenue, then Lake Street, then Clark to Court House Square. The coffin was opened for public viewing at the Cook County Court House on Clark Street at 6:00 P.M. and lasted through the night and all the next day. A soldier, standing at attention next to the coffin in the honor guard was Amos P. Sommars.

Throughout the day on Tuesday, May 2, 1865, at the rate of 7,000 people per hour, mourners passed by Mr. Lincoln's coffin. The body's discoloration, noticeable in New York, had reached the extent of distressing the viewers. At 8:00 P.M. the hearse carried the coffin to the depot of the St. Louis and Alton Railroad. The Lincoln Special was now destined for its final stop: Springfield, 184 miles away.

- Amos Sommars was born in the state of Ohio on September 25, 1845. At the age of six years he moved with his parents to Indiana, settling near where the city of Elkhart now stands. At the age of nine they then moved, this time to the state of Wisconsin, where he grew to manhood.

- At the outbreak of the Civil War, his three older brothers enlisted. Amos being too young, remained at home, but during the winter of 1863-64 he enlisted with Company "I" 12th Wisconsin Infantry.

- He served for three years or during the remainder of the war. While in service at Camp Douglas, near Chicago, he was assigned to guard the body of President Lincoln, while it lay in state in Chicago. At the close of the War, it having spared him, he returned to his home in Wisconsin.

- He had been a Nashua resident since 1871.

- A member of George S. W. Dodge Post of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.)

7 - JOHN COLER (Kohler)
Early Settler of Nashua
30 JUNE 1827 - 30 MARCH 1908
Burial Location: 8-6-17-2

- John Coler, Jr. was born at Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, June 30th 1827. At this place he lived until 1852, working at his trade of carpentering and farming at the same time.

- At about 25 years of age, he went to the Isthmus of Panama and assisted in the construction of a railroad across the isthmus. He then returned home and then moved to Nashua.

- Coming west in the summer of 1852, he settled in the vicinity where Nashua now stands. After living in Nashua about 8 years he built the house he and his family occupied at 1018 Main Street. In 1860 he was married.

- John Coler was one of the men who helped to layout the town of Nashua. He became one of the first settlers in the county and bought the land west of the Red Cedar River and south of Dane (Lexington Ave) in Nashua, Chickasaw County – known as the Coler Addition.

- He did considerable toward the up building of the town when it was new, donating land for the Cedar Falls & Minnesota branch of the Illinois Central Railroad and giving an extra lot to every purchaser of a lot of his, who would erect a house, thus encouraging the building of residences.

- He was a man of quiet, peaceable ways and always attended strictly to his own affairs. He was a great reader and was always well posted upon the topics of the day.

8 - SAMUEL WALLACE BYERS
20 FEBRUARY 1827 - 04 MAY 1902
Burial Location: 10-6-21-1

- Samuel Wallace Byers was born in Butler County, Pennsylvania on Feb. 20, 1827, and died May 4, 1902 at Byers Bros. Ranch in Clay County, Texas. He was the second son of Jacob and Mary Byers, and grew to manhood on a farm near Oil City, attending a school as a boy, taught by his father, and while a very young man, he himself taught district and “singing school.”

- Mr. Byers married Susan Walter in Clarion County, Pennsylvania on Jan. 28, 1847, and to this union were born three children
- He with his wife and three children migrated in 1853 to Stephenson County, Illinois, and for a few years he became a merchant in Freeport.
- From Freeport they came to Chickasaw County in 1855, and first kept the Brink House, going then to the Middle Wapsie, where he laid out the village of North Washington, opened a store and kept a hotel there on the stage route from Charles City to McGregor as well as farmed.
- In 1860, with his family, went to Pennsylvania to engage in the oil business-a newly discovered industry.
- At the beginning of the rebellion, he came back to Chickasaw County and enlisted in the 38th Iowa Infantry, and served as a volunteer until his muster out in 1865 at the close of the war.
- Three of his brothers were also Union Soldiers, namely J. L. Byers, of the 9th Iowa, Fred W., a surgeon of volunteers, and Joseph K., who was commissioned a line officer in a Pennsylvania regiment, then transferred to the regular army, and who died in 1878, a major on the retired list of the U. S. Army.
- When S. W. Byers returned to civilian life, he became a citizen of Nashua and engaged in mercantile business on Nashua's Main Street.
- He was a Charter Member and the 1st Trustee of Oak Hill Cemetery Association in 1868.
- He was responsible for the naming of Washington Township in Chickasaw County.
- A loyal member of George S. W. Dodge Post of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.)
- He was the first Nashua town recorder.
- On July 26, 1869, the Board of Directors of the Nashua Independent School District made a contract with him for the erection of a brick schoolhouse, to the amount of \$10,750.00. At the time it was built, it housed the entire school in its four rooms. This building was in use at the time the first class graduated from Nashua High School in 1885.
- S. W. Byers was also engaged in the burning of a brick kiln. He had invented a brick machine that he represented was to revolutionize the brick making business.
- Mr. Byers, although without a college or academic education, was a great reader and a thorough student. He was ever abreast of the times in politics, religion, and the topics of the day.
- He was an enthusiastic geologist.
- He cared little for general society, was retiring in manner but his attachments were close and strong in domestic and social life.

9 - THE HALL FAMILY
Burial Location: 11-8-25-1

Mr. Hall's family, buried here, built the 1st frame home west of Cedar River.

10 - SENATOR WILLIAM BURTON PERRIN
19 JANUARY 1839 - 10 MAY 1907
Burial Location: 12-9-32-12

- William Burton Perrin was born near Montpelier, Vermont, January 19, 1839, and spent his boyhood and young manhood in the Green Mountain state. He attended the public schools in his native place and, being of an ambitious temperament, he attended Dartmouth College and graduated about the commencement of the Civil War.

- At the outbreak of the war he enlisted and served for a time as a private in the First Rhode Island Cavalry. Later, on October 30, 1863, he accepted a commission as Lieutenant in the Third Vermont Light Artillery and served in the Army of the Potomac until the close of the war, being finally discharged June 15, 1865.

- After his discharge from the army he studied law, and came to the then far west. He began the practice of this profession in Nashua about 1868, being for many years associated with A. G. Lawrence, the firm name being Lawrence & Perrin.

- Mr. Perrin soon won the confidence of the people of the community, and had always had a large practice, his principle business being office work, although until age impaired his faculties to some extent, he had a successful court practice, particularly in probate business in which he was exceptionally careful, painstaking and successful.

- Coming to Nashua when this county was in its infancy, his whole life since the Civil War had been spent among the people of this county and he had been a great factor in the history of this section of the state. He was a man whose word, because of his well-known honesty of purpose and conscientiousness in whatever he did, carried great weight.

- He was an original member of the Big 4 Fair Association in 1900.

- His involvement with the George S. W. Dodge Post of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) was the center of his life. He was always deeply interested in anything relating to the comfort and welfare of his old comrades in arms. He made it his special purpose to follow the fortunes of any who had been members of the Nashua G.A.R. Post, and he never lost sight of any of them. With the members who had left the

Nashua area he kept up a regular correspondence as long as he was able to write. His post loved and honored him, and for several years past, he has been re-elected commander, and held that position at the time of his death.

- Mr. Perrin never married, and for the past thirty or more years had made his home with Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Watt in Nashua.

- He loved this town and was always a leader in all movements for its advancement giving liberally of his means for various public enterprises.

- He was a kind, generous friend, always ready with a warm hand clasp, a friendly word, a winning smile, a word of encouragement and cheer, or a bit of friendly advice, and was not lacking in more substantial aid to any who were worthy and in need.

- Wm. B. Perrin was elected to two succeeding terms of the state legislature. Modest and retiring, almost to a fault, he would never pose as a candidate, of his own volition, yet he never shirked from a public duty that he believed should be performed, and what he did would be faithfully and well done.

- He appeared to have realized his approaching death for some time and was prepared for it. At the time of the funeral of his comrade John J. Shirk, as the funeral procession passed his place of residence, he walked out to the sidewalk and stood saluting his old comrades. When asked why he did such an act, he replied: "...this is perhaps the last chance I will have to see the old boys together, and I was not going to miss it."

11 - JOSHUA DeNOYELLES
DIED 15 DECEMBER 1891 – Aged 70 Yrs, 10 Mos.
Burial Location: 10-10-26-6

- Joshua DeNoyelles was a native of Schoharie County, New York, and in 1858 he came west to Wisconsin buying land in Dane County, which he farmed for eight years before coming to Iowa.

- He first settled at Cresco, and established himself as proprietor of the DeNoyelles House, which he conducted for four years, he then sold out to Alex McClasky, and engaged in farming for several years in Howard County, and then came to Nashua.

- It was in the days of wooden sidewalks and dirt streets that Josh DeNoyelles and his wife Almirah and their son Wellington and wife came to Nashua in 1880 and bought the Central Hotel.

- The Central was the leading hotel in the city, and was the oldest established and best patronized. It afforded all the comforts and conveniences for the traveling public. Good stables were connected

with the house. Five years later they held the Grand Opening of the newly constructed DeNoyelles House on December 10, 1885.

- It was a glittering social event, with a banquet at the DeNoyelles, and a dance at the Butterfield's Opera House. The tickets were very expensive for that time at \$5 per guest. The Western Quadrille Band, who had traveled by train from Dubuque, provided the music.

- The DeNoyelles Hotel, being one of the finest hotels between Chicago and Kansas City, had the distinction for having both hot and cold running water, as well as hot water heating.

- The DeNoyelles' owned an old buckskin horse named Prince. Whenever Prince heard the whistle of the incoming trains, or in his opinion the train was due, he often started for the train without a driver. He would go to and return from the Illinois Central depot pulling the bus or trunk wagon many times unattended. This occurred for years without accident.

12 - FRANCES F. BRUCE TURNER
Widow and mourning mother
01 OCTOBER 1841 - 21 NOVEMBER 1934
Burial Location: 10-11-28-6

- Her and her husband lost three small children to the diphtheria outbreak at Nashua in 1879. The children were Frank (Frankie – Aged 1 yr and 9 mos.) on December 2nd, Robert (Robbie- Aged 3 yrs and 6 mos.) on December 5th and Albertus, Jr. (Bertie – Aged 11 yrs and 8 mos.) on December 12th.

- Her Husband, Allen Turner, Sr., was a Director of the 1874 Nashua Union Agricultural Society Fair as well as an original member of the Big 4 Fair Association in 1900.

- They owned the firm of Turner and Bellamy, a lumber company in Nashua.

- Allen was a Civil War Veteran - Company "H" - 24th Wisc. Infantry.

- Living to be 92 years at the time of her death, Frances out lived all family members, and as a result, has an unmarked grave. The funerals of both her and her husband were conducted at the home of the Bellamy family, long time friends and business partners.

13 - MARY ELIZABETH FLETCHER WOODBRIDGE
15 FEBRUARY 1859 – 18 NOVEMBER 1923
Burial Location: 11-12-30-10

- The original Nashua plat was surveyed in 1855, when there was little in the way of businesses or settlers. “Deacon” Enoch Woodbridge and Andrew Sample recommended the town be surveyed and recorded. The land belonged to Andrew Sample, but selling or trading a half interest to Enoch Woodbridge, they platted a town and first called it Bridgeport, but shortly changed it to Woodbridge. Charles A. and E. P. Greeley had in some way acquired the title to the town plat and changed the name to Nashua in honor of their hometown of Nashua, New Hampshire.

- Mary’s father-in-law, Enoch Woodbridge, came to the Nashua area in 1855 with Mary’s husband, Marshall, who was orphaned at the age of four years. Marshall made his home with his uncle, Enoch, who later adopted him.

- By an act of the Legislature of 1859, a board of supervisors in each county was created which consisted of one member being elected from each township. In Chickasaw County, with twelve townships, the board of supervisors was composed of twelve members. Enoch Woodbridge served in 1865 for Bradford Township.

- Marshall received his training in the drug business Enoch owned. This began his career, which continued for fifty-three years with his wife Mary at his side.

- The Woodbridge family had always been active in the affairs of the community, especially where moral uplifting was concerned.

- Marshall and Mary Woodbridge made their home open to the gatherings of a Christian nature.

- Enoch became a Soliciting Committee Member of Oak Hill Cemetery Association.

- Enoch was the Mayor of Nashua in 1872.

- Enoch in the 1870’s became a rival of Russell M. Nevins over the issue of whether or not to license those establishments in Nashua that sold liquors.

- Miss Maggie Nicols, an adopted daughter of Deacon Woodbridge, was the first schoolteacher in Nashua (1856.)

- Marshall and Mary Woodbridge lived in a stately home on a hill across from the Nashua Public Library at 302 Brasher Street. This is now the site of the Methodist Fellowship Hall and Educational Building that was constructed in 1994.

14 - GEORGE CARR
Founder of Carrville
15 NOVEMBER 1825 - 14 DECEMBER 1906
Burial Location: 11-13-29-7

• George Carr established the small rural community of Carrville. That village was once the location of a sawmill, general store, school, depot and grain elevator.

15 - FREDERICK H. KEZAR
Nashua Marshall & Early elected Chickasaw Co. sheriff
1863 – 29 MAY 1932
Burial Location: 12-16-32-6

Buried on our right is Marshall Fred Kezar, Nashua town Marshal and early elected Chickasaw and Black Hawk County Sheriff.

FAMILYS REUNITE

Sarah Carpenter as you may recall was the first burial here, but several had died earlier and were re-interred here. The earliest death we could find was that of John Emery Hall who died on September 9th, 1855 at the age of 11 years. [4-10-14-4]

Many families chose to have family members disinterred and reburied here from cemeteries like Pearl Rock, Liggett and Riverton (Beck) once other members of their families had died and were buried here at Oak Hill.

16 - GEORGE T. BELLAMY & Bellamy Lumber
05 JANUARY 1842 – 29 JANUARY 1903
Burial Location: 12-10-31-7

• G.T. Bellamy was the Vice President of 1874 Nashua Union Agricultural Society Fair, which is now the Big Four Fair.

• He began a successful lumber business with A. A. Turner in 1868 – Turner & Bellamy, a firm that lasted for twenty years. The Bellamy's would remain in business for over 80 years in the Nashua community, selling the company in 1951 to the Nashua Equity Co-operative Assn.

- The Bellamy family had summer cottages and owned most of the property now known as Lake Shore Drive.
- James B. Bellamy, a strong Democrat, was the Nashua Postmaster under President Franklin D. Roosevelt. In those days, the local postmaster was of the same political party as the sitting president.

17 - SMILEY S. SAMPLE
Early shop and saloon owner
23 JULY 1832 - 17 JULY 1907
Burial Location: 12-2-32-6

- Smiley S. Sample was born at Jacksonville, Illinois, July 23, 1832. He moved to Lee County, Iowa and from there to Bradford, in about 1857, where he lived for two years, after which moved to Nashua, where he resided fifty years with the exception of but three years spent in Lee County.

- Mr. Smiley Sample, the son of Andrew Sample, whose family owned all rights to the water power on the Red Cedar River. Smiley was an early merchant and saloon owner in Nashua.

- He was married to Eliza Ann Harris, an Iowa native, on Nov. 30, 1856, and three children blessed their home, Charles, William, Mrs. Nellie M. Tracy, and Frances, who preceded the father to the other shore 29 years before his death.

- He enlisted in the Civil War from Chickasaw County in the 27th Regiment Iowa Infantry in August of 1862. He was honorably discharged in August of 1865, being promoted three times, first to the office of 1st corporal, second to sergeant and third to 2nd lieutenant.

- For a number of years after returning to Nashua, he conducted a restaurant, bakery and dealership in staple and fancy groceries, cigars and tobacco but finally retired to private life. Mr. Sample has been an invalid for years, which was caused from a long and serious siege of lung fever that he had while in the army.

- In politics, he was a Democrat.

- A Civil War Veteran - Company "G" - 27th Iowa Infantry and an active member of the George S. W. Dodge Post of the Grand Army of the Republic - in the official capacity of junior vice commander.

- Acting under the same authority the organizing sheriff called an election on the 3rd day of April, 1854, at which election the following officers were elected: James Lyon, county judge; S. C. Goddard, county clerk; John Campbell, treasurer and recorder; D. A. Babcock, prosecuting attorney; Andy Sample, sheriff.

