

McLean County Museum of History

Evergreen Cemetery Walk—Amy Miller Collection

Processed by
Amy Miller
Winter 2024

Collection Information

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 Box
COLLECTION DATES:	1995-2024.
RESTRICTIONS:	None
PROVENANCE:	As collected by volunteer/donor
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the McLean County Museum of History
ALTERNATIVE FORMATS:	None
OTHER FINDING AIDS:	None
LOCATION:	Archives

Brief History

In the 1990s, Amy Miller was a member of the Bloomington-Normal Junior Women's Club, a service organization that works towards completing community projects each year. Miller signed up to assist on a McLean County Museum of History textile project and to be a tour guide for the Museum's newly created "Voices from the Past: Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk." Always interested in local history, she soon became a volunteer and member of the McLean County Museum of History.

Amy Miller has served as researcher for the following Cemetery Walk characters: George and Harriet Ela, David Haggard, Effie Henderson, Simon Malone, Christian Mandler, and Asa Moore.

Scope

The collection includes the volunteer/donor's ephemera collected from the first year of the Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk in 1995 until the final season of 2024. Included are autographed programs, autographed newspaper clippings, unautographed newspaper clippings, correspondence, miscellaneous Evergreen Memorial Cemetery information, the first training guide, and the final tour guide.

Box and Folder Inventory

Folder 1: Programs 1996-2003

- 1.1 Voices from the Past: Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk, Oct. 21, 1995, 6 pp.
- 1.2 Sept. 28 and Sept. 29, 1996, 6 pp.
- 1.3 Oct. 4 & 5, 1997, 12 pp.
- 1.4 Public Tours, Oct. 3, 4, 10, 11, 1998; Student Tours Oct. 5-8, 1998, 20 pp.
- 1.5 Public Tours, Oct. 2, 3, 9, 10, 1999; Student Tours Oct. 4-7, 1999, 20 pp.
- 1.6 Public Tours, Sept. 30, Oct. 1, 7, 8, 2000; Student Tours Oct. 2-5, 2000, 24 pp.
- 1.7 Voices from the Past: Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk VII, Public Tours Oct. 6, 7, 13, 14; Student Tours Oct. 8-11, 2001, 20 pp.
- 1.8 Voices from the Past: Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk IX, Public Tours Oct. 4, 5, 11 and 12; Student Tours Oct. 6-9, 2003, 20 pp.

Folder 2: Programs 2006-2015

- 2.1 Voices from the Past: Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk 2006, Sept. 30, Oct. 1, 7 & 8, 24 pp.
- 2.2 Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk 2010, Oct. 2, 3, 9 and 10, 2010, 28 pp.
- 2.3 Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk 2012, Sept. 29 and 30, and Oct. 6 and 7, 28 pp.
- 2.4 Evergreen Cemetery Walk, Oct. 3-4 and 10-11, 2015, 24 pp.

Folder 3: Programs 2016-2019

- 3.1 Evergreen Cemetery Walk, Oct. 1, 2, 8, & 9, 2016, 24 pp.
- 3.2 Evergreen Cemetery Walk: Commemorating the Centennial of World War I, 2017, Sept. 30, Oct. 1, 7, 8, 24 pp.

- 3.3 Evergreen Cemetery Walk: Celebrating the Bicentennial of Illinois, 2018, Sept. 29 & 30, Oct. 6 & 7, 24 pp.
- 3.4 Evergreen Cemetery Walk 25th Anniversary, Oct. 5-6, 2019, Oct. 12-3, 2019, 24 pp.

Folder 4: Programs 2021-2024

- 4.1 Evergreen Cemetery Walk, Sept. 25-26 and Oct. 2-3, 2021, pp. 24.
- 4.2 Evergreen Cemetery Walk, Saturdays and Sundays, Sept. 24-25 and Oct. 1-2, 2022, pp. 28.
- 4.3 Evergreen Cemetery Walk: Bringing Local History to Life, Saturdays and Sundays, Sept. 30 & Oct. 1, 7, 8, 2023, pp. 36.
- 4.4 Evergreen Cemetery Walk: The Grand Finale, Celebrating 30 Years, Oct. 5-6 & 12-13, 2024, pp. 40.

Folder 5: Newspaper Articles with autographs (*Pantagraph*, unless noted)

- 5.1 "Writers giving fresh voices to dead for Cemetery Walk," 2002 (signed by Peter Schuetz as judge John M. Scott).
- 5.2 "Discovery Walk offers peek into past," 2002 (signed by James Marlott as Napoleon B. Heafer).
- 5.3 "Bringing history to life," Oct. 2, 2003 (signed by Kay Lynn Perry as Beulah Baker Locher).
- 5.4 "Voices of the Past," Oct. 5, 2003 (signed by Yetide Badaki as Belle Blue Claxton; Rhys Lovell as Samuel Hawks; Todd Wineburner as Judge David Davis; and James Marlott as Leonard Seibert).
- 5.5 "Cemetery walk focuses on sesquicentennial," Sept. 21, 2007 (signed by Peg Kirk as June Rose Colby; Todd Wineburner as Jesse Fell; and John Kirk as Edwin R. Bakewell).

Folder 6: Newspaper Articles without autographs (*Pantagraph*, unless noted)

- 6.1 "Voices from the past" Oct. 3, 1997, Wilma Brown as Julia Duff; Sarah Ginzkey as Dorothy Gage; Todd Wineburner as Jesse Fell; and Kathy Shandrow as Emily Noble.
- 6.2 "Day of the living dead," Oct. 2, 1998, Sarah Ginzkey as Dorothy Gag; Don Shandrow as Asahel Gridley; and director Judy Brown.
- 6.3 "The Voices Behind the Voices . . ." *Twin City Community News*, Oct. 14, 1998, Peg Kirk as Luella Kimball.
- 6.4 "The voices behind the voices from the past," *Twin City Community News*, Oct. 14, 1998, Hosaia Brown as George Washington Thomas.
- 6.5 "Evergreen Cemetery Walk celebrates 25 years," Oct. 9, 2019, Demetri Corbin and Jennifer Rusk as Napoleon and Louise Calimese.
- 6.6 "Cemetery Discovery Walk begins Oct. 5," 2002.
- 6.7 "Evergreen Cemetery Walk Preview," Oct. 5, 2024.
- 6.8 "The Cemetery Walk," *The Pantagraph-Get Out* section, Sept. 28, 2000.
- 6.9 "The Evergreen Cemetery Walk Celebrates Their 25th Anniversary," *50 Plus News & Views*, Sept., 2019.

Folder 7: Volunteer Training - 1995

- 7.1 “Walk through Evergreen Cemetery,” Thursday Oct. 19 through Saturday Oct. 21, Volunteer Positions listed and availability, B-N Junior Woman’s Club, October, 1995 schedule.
- 7.2 Volunteer Information packet of job description; maps; information for teachers; information for students; pre- and post-visit sheet; Worksheet #1 Biographies; Worksheet #2 A Brief History of Cemeteries; Worksheet #3 Famous Persons Buried in McLean County; Worksheet #4 The Dry Method of Rubbing; and Worksheet #5 Tombstones as Textbooks.
- 7.3 Volunteer Information packet duplicate of 8.2, including handwritten notes by volunteer/donor.
- 7.4 “Civil War to Harriet Ela” route sheet for volunteer guide. In the Walk’s first year, the tour guide only moved groups from point A (Civil War-special burial section/The 33rd Illinois Volunteer Regiment) to point B (character of Harriet Ela). This was the volunteer/donor’s route.
- 7.5 Symbolism: Mortality and information discussed between Civil War/Ela route.
- 7.6 Marie Litta biography.

Folder 8: Information for Guides

- 8.1 2024 Information for Guides, 27 pp., including Evergreen Cemetery map with volunteer/donor notes.
- 8.2 2024 Volunteer shift confirmation mailer.
- 8.3 Certificate of Diamond Status for 30 years of dedication and volunteerism to the Evergreen Cemetery Walk.
- 8.4 2016 Alternate Tour Guide Info for Rain Days.

Folder 9: Miscellaneous

- 9.1 1st Annual Memorial Day Event, 2007.
- 9.2 Walking Tour & Map.
- 9.3 Business card, Terry Hansen, Cemetery Manager, 2019.
- 9.4 Evergreen Memorial Cemetery brochure, undated.
- 9.5 Evergreen Memorial Cemetery brochure, 2019, “Dorothy Gale” on cover.

Folder 10: Correspondence

- 10.1 “Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk 2006” by Amy Miller (a memorable year that the volunteer/donor felt important to document), 4 pp.
- 10.2 Email from Mary Anne Schierman, MCMH director of volunteers, regarding how a particular volunteer project impacted you, Mar. 11, 2013.
- 10.3 Email from Deborah VanAntwerp, MCMH director of volunteers, volunteer spotlight article for “On the Square” newsletter, Jan. 18, 2016.
- 10.4 “Sixteen Times,” The Weekday Cemetery Walk Experience, to the tune of “Sixteen Tons,” penned by Illinois Voices Theatre actress Char Peine-Fesler, Oct. 2007, 1 pp.