

Walk & Talk Self-Guided Tours

Lakewood Cemetery

Difficulty: Easy, 2 miles, mostly paved trails with some gradual incline.

Founded in 1871, Minnesota's Lakewood Cemetery is recognized as a local treasure and industry pioneer, serving families and the community as an independent non-profit organization. On this historic journey, you'll learn about the lives of many notable park-advocates and supporters who laid the foundation for the parks and green spaces we love and cherish today.

★ WELCOME CENTER

Opened in 2024, the Welcome Center is a stunning, state of the art space where families can make plans for memorialization. The building is one of the first net-zero, energy ready buildings in Minneapolis.

1. WIRTH MEMORIAL *(56)

Theodore Wirth (1863-1949), a horticulturist and park developer, came to the U.S. in the late 1880s from Switzerland. He became known as one of the most influential leaders of the local parks movement in America. He was the second Superintendent of MPRB and longest serving - from 1906 to 1935. His son Conrad Wirth (1899-1993) directed the National Park System.

2. FRANCES ANDREWS *(53)

Conservation advocate Frances Andrews (1884-1961) grew up in Minneapolis and spent summers in a rustic cabin on Lake Superior's Isle Royale. In the 1920s, Andrews partnered with other prominent Minnesota environmentalists to fight for the protection of the land that would become the Boundary Waters. In 1930, President Hoover signed a law that helped safeguard land that became part of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

3. JAKOB FJELDE AND PAULINE FJELDE *(49)

Siblings Jakob Fjelde (1859-1896) and Pauline (1861-1923) were born in Norway. After immigrating to Minnesota Jakob, a sculptor, created numerous bronze monuments, including Minnehaha Park's Hiawatha and Minnehaha from Longfellow's 1855 poem and Loring Park's Ole Bull, a Norwegian violin virtuoso; Pauline, a highly skilled textile artist, was commissioned with her sister to embroider the first state flag. Her work has been displayed at Mia and the Walker.



4. CLEVELAND MEMORIAL *(38)

One of the most famous landscape architects in the history of the United States, Horace Cleveland's (1814-1900) most significant accomplishment may be his role as primary architect of the Minneapolis Park's city-wide Grand Rounds system. He wrote, "to be successful in the landscape architecture field, one must look forward a century, to the time when the city has a population of a million and think what will be their wants."

5. MAUDE ARMATAGE *(23)

Maude Armatage (1873-1965) In 1921, after women won the right to vote, Armatage was one of the first women to run for public office in Minnesota and the first woman to serve on the Minneapolis Park Board. During her 28-year tenure, she led a movement pushing for more playgrounds and recreational programs.

tour continues on back of page....



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6. BRACKETT MEMORIAL *[21]

George A. Brackett (1836-1921), a Lakewood founder, moved to Minnesota from Maine in the 1850s. He helped organize the Northern Pacific Railroad and establish the Minneapolis Free Dispensary, which later became the University of Minnesota Medical School.

7. CHARLES M. LORING *[20]

Originally from Maine, Charles M. Loring (1832-1922), one of Lakewood's founders, spent 35 years developing the Minneapolis Park System. In 1890, the city's Central Park was renamed Loring Park in his honor. Loring's efforts to bring the beauty of nature to all citizens of Minneapolis led to what has been called the best-located, financed, designed and maintained public open space in America, earning Loring the title, "Father of the Parks."

8. STEVENS MEMORIAL *[19]

Colonel John Stevens (1820-1900), the first authorized colonial resident on the west bank of the Mississippi River, was granted permission to occupy the site, in exchange, Stevens provided ferry service across the river to St. Anthony. His house, the first permanent dwelling in Minneapolis, now stands at Minnehaha Falls.

9. KING MEMORIAL *[13]

Colonel William S. King (1828- 1900), among many pursuits, a Lakewood founder and helped found and fund both the Minneapolis Tribune and the Pioneer Press.



All information is credited to Lakewood Cemetery. Our guide highlights nine stops that are included in the Lakewood Cemetery's full 66 stop self-guide. *Numbers in parentheses correspond to their self-guide, available at LakewoodCemetery.org along with hours and programming.



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