

ROCKS OF AGES

STONE STRUCTURES IN CARROLL, IOWA

In **1935** the WPA (Works Progress Administration) replaced the FERA (Federal Emergency Relief Act) to provide jobs for unemployed people during the Depression. WPA rules mandated projects be chosen that would make a genuine contribution but would not compete with private business. By 1938, 167 persons were employed on ten WPA projects in Carroll County--146 of these on five construction jobs.

1934 - 1937 - WPA cemetery projects included grading, tree planting, seeding, and staking out lots in the new ten-acre addition between the Carroll City and Catholic Cemeteries



1935 - boulder shelter house built as a funeral chapel and tool shed/

garage; 85-ton Civil War memorial obelisk built to replace the GAR Monument, which had been blown down by strong winds early in 1935

1936 - the Civil War obelisk was dedicated on Memorial Day; **1939** - plaques on the obelisk were dedicated with the names of 68 Carroll Civil War veterans

1936 - 1937 - east and north gates, boulder wall, and stone rostrum constructed of native stones; cement curb and gutter laid

1937 - 1938 - the American Legion erected a stone cenotaph with a retaining wall as a World War I memorial; a WPA project

May 28, 1990 - five veterans monuments were dedicated. Built in a half circle around the Civil War Monument, these memorials were designed with native stone from Carroll County farms and granite salvaged from the Carroll Theater to give proper recognition to veterans of World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and Prisoners of War - Missing in Action personnel

May 27, 1991 - monuments for the Spanish-American War and the Persian Gulf War were dedicated. The American Legion, Maurice Dunn Post #7; the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 2642; the business community, and private donations contributed to the memorials.

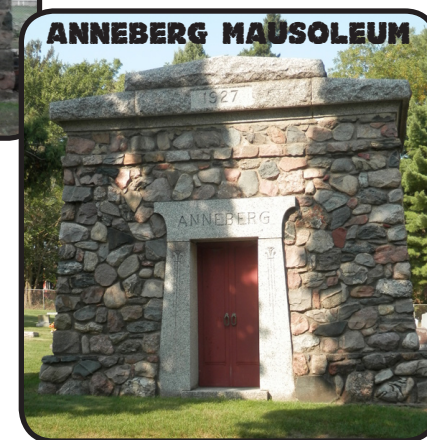


2005 - restoration of stonework on 1400 feet of wall, 89 pillars, and two entryways completed

2018 - repurposing of Cemetery Chapel as a cemetery history museum



CITY CEMETERY



**CIVIL WAR MONUMENT
AND VETERANS' MONUMENTS**



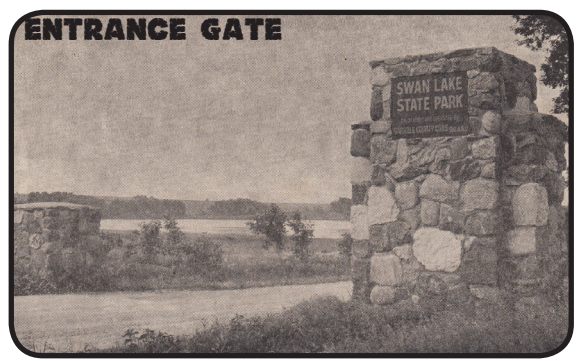
CEMETERY



**AMERICAN LEGION
MEMORIAL**



ROSTRUM



SWAN LAKE STATE PARK

- 1933 - 1934 - Swan Lake State Park was created
- 1933 - 1936 - stone shelter house, restrooms, and entrance cornerstones were built as WPA / Civil Works Administration / Civilian Conservation Corps projects
- 1937 - Swan Lake State Park opened to the public
- 1938 - one thousand 3' trees and five hundred seedlings were planted by WPA workers



RESTROOMS



SHELTER HOUSE

SHELTER HOUSES

1949



1948 - school board granted 99-year lease for the former school grounds to the city
 1949 - old Southside School razed; local firemen and city provided cement block to build an open shelter house; 1953 - native stone used to enlarge the shelter house
 1956 - historic bell from Southside School mounted on stone structure



SOUTHSIDE PARK

1957 - enclosed shelter house constructed of native stone with kitchen facilities, stone fireplace, and restrooms



MERCHANTS BASEBALL PARK

2017 - four field stone pillars were constructed and incorporated into the fence around the renovated 1949 baseball park



MAPLE PARK

1956 - three-acre tract opened as a park west of Highway 71 at Fifth and Washington Streets; shelterhouse added later



NORTHWEST PARK

1955 - Northwest Park opened
 1956 - enclosed shelter house with upper and lower verandas opened



1959

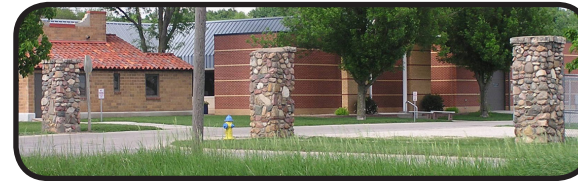


MINCHEN PARK

1887 - Minchen Ball Park west of the city used for baseball games and circuses



1930s - Minchen Park at Quint Ave. and Tenth Street named after John P. Minchen, who donated the land
 1959 - open shelter house built of Logan limestone in a rustic design



early 1950s - three field stone pillars were constructed south of the American Legion Swimming Pool (now DMACC) as an entrance to the Carroll Athletic / Football Field

GROTTO OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

1923 - 1963 - Between 1923 and 1928 the grotto was built by Fr. Paul M. Dobberstein on the southwest corner of the St. Angela Academy grounds. He used Wisconsin limestone, petrified wood, coral, and stones from the U.S., Russia, Germany, England, Ireland, Madagascar, Cuba, and Brazil. Dismantled in 1962 - 1963 for an expansion of Kuemper Catholic High School, its stones were reused at West Bend's Grotto of the Redemption.



GRAHAM PARK

1923 - the Women's Civic League urged work to begin at the park entrance on building the stone arch, large gate pillars, and a 3' high wall running from the pillars

1939 - stone entrance to Graham Park Athletic Field at Tenth and East Streets built by National Youth Administration (NYA) labor, part of the Works Progress Administration

1943 - restroom near the Ninth Street entrance built of stone and slate salvaged from the old grade school that had been razed

1944 - ornamental gateway at the south entrance and the stone pillars were finally nearing completion. The old south entrance on Highway 30 was being made into a pedestrian entrance with six pillars. Two tall granite boulder pillars six feet apart were to carry a wooden archway of logs with the name "Graham Park" facing the highway. On either side were to be four additional pillars, two to a side, also of granite boulders but smaller than the center ones. Connecting the pillars carrying the arch and the two flanking on either side were to be logs set into the masonry to close all of the entranceway except under the arch.

1950 - open shelter house with a fireplace constructed of rocks and boulders; second stone restroom built in the southwest part of the park

1953 - new stone footbridge connecting Graham Park and the American Legion swimming pool replaced the old wooden span

1954 - second stone footbridge across Storm Creek to the south entrance of Merchants Park completed with wooden planks

1954 - volunteer labor built enclosed shelter house for



\$4,000 with discarded paving bricks from Carroll streets and stone buttresses

1957 - 1960s - 25 beds of annuals and 20 beds of roses were planted in concentric circles near the fountain

1958 - lighted octagonal fountain with a four-foot pedestal in the center constructed; built of blue-gray stone with coping of buff split limestone; demolished in 1998

