



Crystal Lake Historic Preservation Commission

Crystal Lake Cemetery

Lake Avenue

Consecrated 1840

The Crystal Lake Cemetery is the oldest public burying ground in Crystal Lake and Algonquin Township. The cemetery was consecrated in 1840. According to the book, “The History of McHenry County, Illinois,” which was published in 1885, the first person buried there was Ella King, daughter of Isaac and Almira King.



Since 1840, nearly 1,200 people have been buried in this two-acre plot of land. Many of Crystal Lake’s earliest settlers are buried there. Additionally, 54 veterans are buried at the Crystal Lake Cemetery, broken down as follows: 1-Patriot’s War, 6-War of 1812, 45-Civil War, 2-WW1.

The Crystal Lake Cemetery is owned and maintained by Algonquin Township. On August 15, 2000, the Crystal Lake City Council voted unanimously to approve Algonquin Township’s application for Landmark Designation of the cemetery. The Landmark Designation bestows legal protection to the property for the purpose of preserving its public character and history. The City’s Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) provides the necessary oversight.

In July 2022, Algonquin Township completed a beautiful facelift to the cemetery’s front entrance. The pillars flanking the main gate and marking the front boundaries of the cemetery have been repaired and re-faced with cut stone.

Also in 2022, the HPC published a book, “Remembering Those Who Served – Veterans of the Crystal Lake Cemetery,” with biographies of the 54 veterans buried in the Crystal Lake Cemetery. Books are available at City Hall. Proceeds from the book will be pooled with funds from the Crystal Lake Historical Society and Algonquin Township to repair broken headstones.