



SINCE

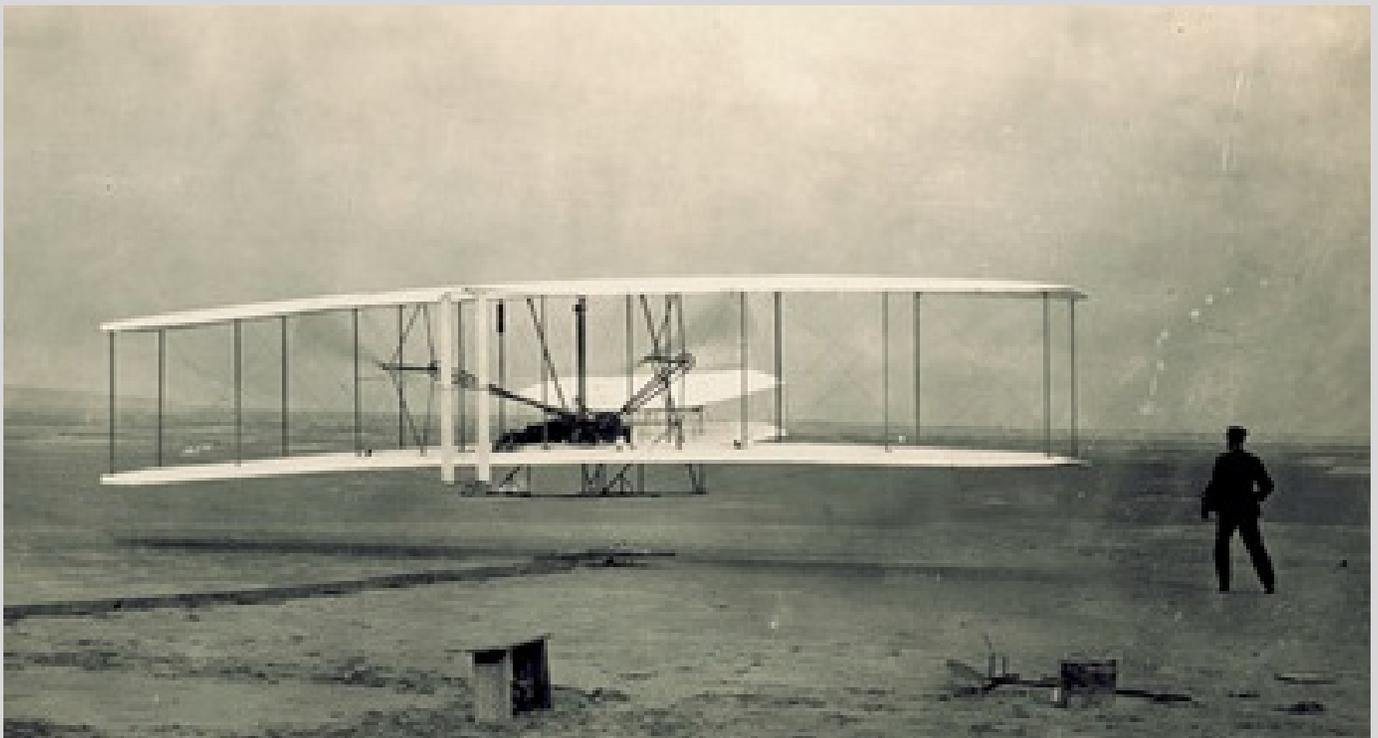
1841

WOODLAND

HISTORIC CEMETERY & ARBORETUM



Wright Brothers' Day is December 17th



Wright Brothers Day commemorates the first successful flights in a heavier-than-air, mechanically propelled airplane (the Wright Flyer), that were made by Orville and Wilbur Wright 121 years ago on December 17th 1903, near Kitty Hawk, in North Carolina.

Photos courtesy Wright State Special Collections & Archives:

Above: 'First Flight' by John T. Daniels. Orville is piloting the Flyer while Wilbur runs alongside. Taken December 17, 1903.

Right: Orville Wright's funeral in February, 1948 at Woodland Cemetery. Photographed for the Dayton Daily News.

Below: Orville's funeral as photographed from the air by the Dayton Daily News. The black arrow indicates the Wright family's monument, the white arrow points to Orville's gravesite.





Happy Birthday!



MRS. MELISSA BESS WITH URSULA AUBREY
Party Brings Smiles.—Photo by Tamaska

Jeraldyn Blunden

Born 12/10/1940

Jeraldyn Blunden began her dance training at the age of eight under the guidance of Josephine and Hermene Schwarz; founders of The Dayton Ballet.

Perhaps best remembered as the founder of the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company, Mrs. Blunden leaves a living legacy in the hundreds of lives she touched through her vision and dreams.

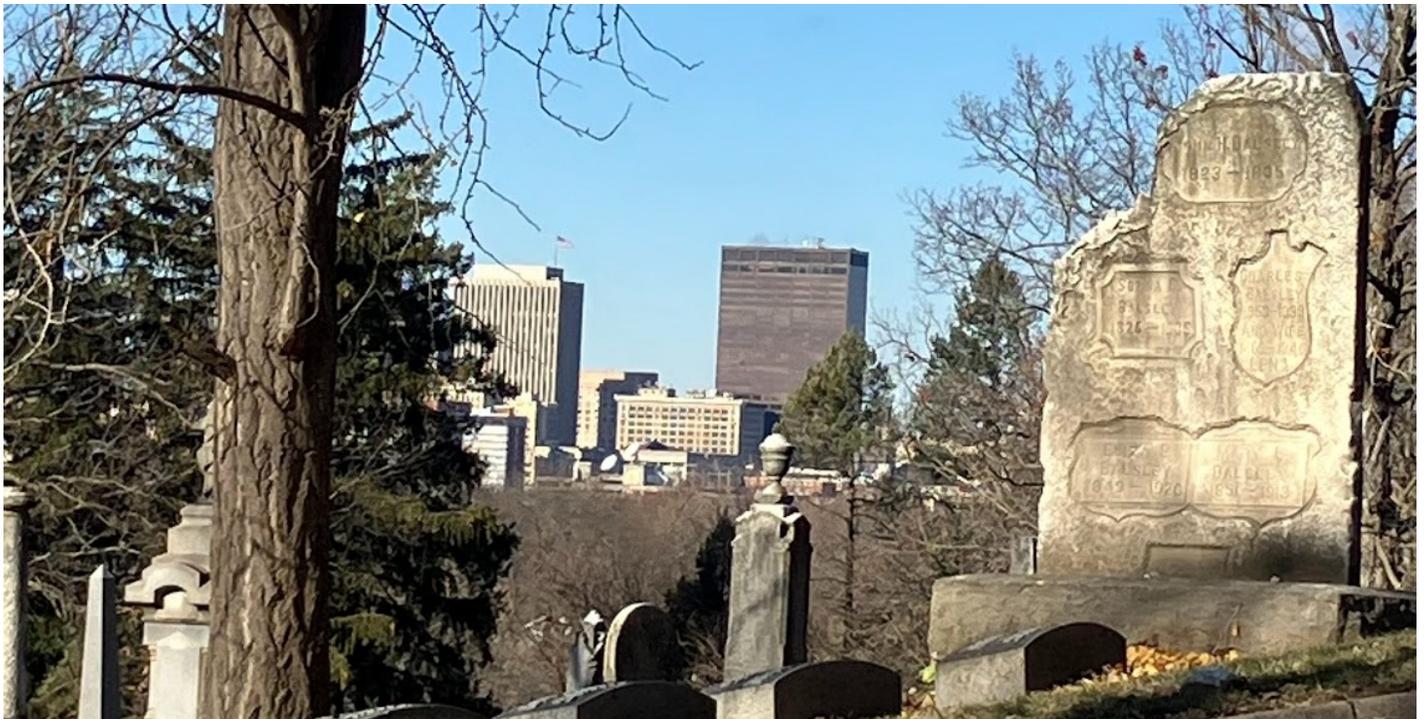
Want to learn more? Register for a [tour!](#)

Melissa Bess

Born 12/14/1886

Melissa Bess was the longtime superintendent and namesake of the Melissa Bess Day Care Center, (originally the West Side Day Nursery). Mrs. Bess became known as “Mama Bess” to hundreds of Daytonians who spent their pre-school days at the nursery.

“We take children whose mothers need to work,” said Mrs. Bess in 1962, “[...] All get a big noon meal. None get spanked.”



Spanish-American War: 1898

SGT. Harry C. Beaver

(10/25/1869 - 2/04/1931)

“Harry C. Beaver, 61, known to many friends as “Pop” Beaver, died Wednesday at 12 o’clock noon at his residence, 2022 S. Wayne Ave., where he was proprietor of a confectionery.

He was of a deeply patriotic nature and served his country long after he passed beyond the age when men are subject to military duty. He served as sergeant of the Third Ohio regiment on the Mexican border before the United States entered the World War, as sergeant in Battery D., 134th regiment and with the A.E.F. in France.



He was a member of the Sons of Veterans and one of the American Legion and was one of the organizers of the 100-piece American Legion drum corps. He also belonged to the Mystic lodge, F. and A.M.

He leaves his wife; his son, Eugene Beaver; his daughters Anne Josephine and Ida E. Beaver; four grandchildren; his mother Mrs. Mary Agnes Beaver; his brother, E.C. Beaver, and his sisters, Mrs. Fred Baird, Mrs. Bessie Lloyd and Mrs. A.E. Schaeffer, all of this city. Military funeral services will be conducted at Berk’s funeral parlors, 42 Linden Ave., at 2 p.m. Saturday.”

—Dayton Daily News, 2/5/1931 pg. 3

Sergeant Harry C. Beaver died February 4th, 1931 at the age of 61. He is buried in section 122, lot 130 at Woodland Cemetery.

Upcoming Events!



New Year's Bird Walk:

Bundle up, bring your binoculars, and come enjoy some nature! We'll be looking for our year-round residents and winter visitors like Golden-crowned Kinglets and Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers.

The walk is slow-paced, and mostly stays on the road surface, but sometimes does venture "off-trail" into the grass.

All ages welcome. The tour will meet at the Eichelberger Plaza at the main gates of the cemetery.

Your nature guide will be Amanda Lawson, an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist.

Upcoming Tours:

1/4 @ 9 am

Click [here](#) to register!

Black History Mausoleum Tour:

Join us for Black History month to celebrate the lives of individuals who are resting peacefully in our mausoleum. We are offering this special tour in the indoor mausoleum, featuring beautiful stained glass windows and telling the stories of George C. Cooper, James Parsons, W. S. McIntosh, Bob and Norma Ross and many others.

The tour will be offered on two Saturdays, February 8th and 22nd at 2:00 pm. The tour will last two hours and if weather permits, will include a walk to James H McGhee, Jordan Anderson, Paul Laurence Dunbar and other gravesites.

Meet at the main entrance to the Mausoleum. Parking is available in front of the building. The building is climate controlled and handicap accessible. Visitors will be walking on both carpet and marble floors.

Upcoming Tours:

2/8 @ 2 pm

Click [here](#) to register!



Support Woodland:

Woodland is proud to remain an active part of the Dayton community as a popular place to walk, relax and enjoy.

We invite you to contribute to the Woodland Arboretum Foundation to ensure that what's meaningful to you today, continues tomorrow! Your gift makes an immediate impact on the horticulture, arboriculture, and restoration efforts needed to maintain one of Dayton's most historic and beautiful outdoor museums.

Thank you for your generous support of Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum.

DONATE ONLINE!

Come Visit Us!



Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
8am-5pm

If you need help finding where someone is buried, need directions to a particular area, or have questions about pre-planning or funeral services, Woodland's Staff is here to assist you!

Volunteer opportunities
Woodland is seeking volunteers to give

presentations to community groups on subjects such as local history, notable biographies, and trees.

Not into public speaking? Consider getting involved with our horticulture team, or assisting with special events & research projects.

*If there is something you'd like to see here at Woodland please reach out to us & suggest it!

Tours & More:

We welcome walkers, runners, and wanderers -- leashed dogs & school groups.

Register for a guided tour: visit the Woodland Cemetery website! Learn about fascinating Daytonians resting peacefully in one of America's oldest rural garden cemeteries! Or check out our [virtual tours](#)! (if you really don't want to go outside)



SINCE 1841

WOODLAND

HISTORIC CEMETERY & ARBORETUM

Committed to providing dignified and caring funeral services and burial options to families of all faiths since 1841.

Woodland Cemetery and Arboretum
118 Woodland Ave.
Dayton, OH 45409
woodlandcemetery.org

Beautiful. Timeless. Still Available...

Discover the men and women who made it great in Dayton on a guided walking or bus tour. Self-guided tours are available on our mobile app.

For information call 937-228-3221 or e-mail info@woodlandcemetery.org

Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum | [Visit our website!](#)

Woodland Cemetery & Arboretum | 118 Woodland Ave., Dayton, OH 45409