

Almy, Thomas

b. 1819 d. 1882, co-founder of The Herald News.
Lot #1421 Mapleleaf Avenue

Borden, Abby Durfee

b. January 21, 1828 d. August 4, 1892, second wife of Andrew Jackson Borden and murder victim. The step-mother of Lizzie Borden, she was murdered along with her husband Andrew, in a case that has become one of the most famous in American history. Lot #174 Linden Path

Borden, Andrew Jackson

b. September 13, 1822 d. August 4, 1892, business man and murder victim. The father of Lizzie Borden, he was murdered, along with his wife Abby, in a case that has become one of the most famous in American history.

Borden, Lizzie

b. July 19, 1860 d. June 1, 1927. Alleged Murderess (acquitted). At the age of 32 she was accused of the double homicide of her father and stepmother. On August 4, 1892, Andrew Borden and his second wife Abby (Durfee) Borden were killed in their family home at 92 Second Street in Fall River, Massachusetts. Although it was Mr. Borden that was the initial victim discovered...Cause of death: Complications following gall bladder surgery.

Borden, Nathaniel Briggs

b. April 15, 1801 d. April 10, 1865. US Congressman. Born in Freetown (now Fall River), Massachusetts into the Mill-owning Borden family, he founded the Pocasset Mill, located near the present day City Hall. He served two terms in the Massachusetts State Legislature before being elected to represent Massachusetts's 10th District in the United States House of Representatives, serving two terms from March 4, 1835 to March 3, 1839. He was defeated in an attempt to be elected to a third term by Congressman Henry.

Brayton, John S. & David

(Bankers that started mills) . Lot #732 -736 Walnut Avenue

Buffinton, Charles G. 'Charlie'

b. January 14, 1861 d. September 23, 1907 Major League Baseball Player. Played in the Major Leagues as a right-handed pitcher for 11 seasons (1882 to 1892), winning over 20 games in 7 of them. Began with the National League's Boston Red Stockings (which would eventually become the Braves), winning an astounding 48 games for them in 1884 (and striking out 417 batters). He would have lead the league that year if Charlie Radbourn had not won a still-standing record 60 wins. On September 2, 1884, in a game against the Cleveland Spiders.

Borden, Colonel Richard

b. April 12, 1795 d. February 25, 1874, industrial pioneer, businessman. Colonel Richard Borden is widely considered the single most influential person in the early history of Fall River. Co-Founding the Fall River Iron Works in 1821, Borden continued his entrepreneurial enterprises by building several cotton mills, the Fall River Line, the Fall River Gas Company, railroads, banks, and several other businesses. The Fall River Iron Works would, under the direction of Col. Borden, branch off into the American Printing Company which would become the largest producer of printed cotton cloth in the world by the early 20th Century. The Fall River Line was a passenger route from Boston to New York with a stopover in Fall River. Borden built his industrial empire on the power of the Quequechan River, whose land his family had owned since 1714. Col. Borden was the patriarch of the Borden family, whose descendants would dominate Fall River's political, economic, and civic life in Fall River. Lot #245 Walnut Ave.

Buffinton, James

b. March 16, 1817 d. March 7, 1875 US Civil War Congressman. He first served the first Mayor of Fall River, Massachusetts from 1854 to 1855, the was elected as a member of the "Know-Nothing" party to represent Massachusetts in the United States House of Representatives, serving from 1855 to 1863 and from 1869 to 1875. Lot#50 Oak Avenue

Charlton, Earle Perry

b. 1863 d. November 20, 1930, considered one of the fathers of the chain-retail business. Founder of E. P. Charlton & Co. 5 & 10 stores chain which expanded to 53 stores throughout the US and Canada. Through mergers, he became a co-founder of the F. W. Woolworth Company. Lot# 1895 Willow Avenue

Cherry, Oliver

(Cherry & Webb). Lot # 5002 Chestnut Avenue

Cook, Benjamin,

District Court judge. Lot #5088 Linden Avenue

Cornell, Sarah M.

b. 1803 d. December 30, 1832, found murdered on the John Durfee Farm in nearby Tiverton, Newport County, RI. moved to Fall River to work in a factory. She attended church every Sunday and was impregnated by her minister, Ephraim K. Avery of Bristol, RI, a Methodist Minister who had a wife and seven children of his own. John Durfee found Cornell in nearby Tiverton, RI impregnated and dead. Upon a quick search of her belongings they quickly linked Rev. Avery with her murder. After a trial in Bristol, RI Rev. Avery was found not guilty of his charges, but fled to New Hampshire fearing for his life due to the outraged citizens of Fall River. A group of prominent Fall Riverites began to find new evidence against Avery and acquired a second warrant for his arrest. Avery was arrested and a new trial took place in 1883. Again found not guilty and died in 1869, now a farmer in Ohio. Lot #2733 Whitehorn Path

Davis, Robert T.

b. August 28, 1823 d. October 29, 1906. US Congressman. He was a doctor practicing medicine in Maine when he moved to Fall River, Massachusetts in 1850. He was a member of the State Constitutional Convention in 1853, served in the State Senate from 1859 to 1861, and was elected Mayor of Fall River in 1873. In 1883 he was elected as a Republican to the Forty-eighth, Forty-ninth, and Fiftieth Congresses, serving until 1889. Not a candidate for re-nomination, he resumed his medical practice and was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1900.

Chaloner Durfee, Bradford Matthew

b. 1843 d. 1872, born into a wealthy and influential Fall River family, he was a philanthropist who died in his prime. As a memorial, his mother had the local school board erect the B. M. C Durfee High School. Lot #745-747 Walnut Street

Durfee, Dr. Nathan

b. 1799 d. 1876, early industrialist and deacon of Central Congregational Church.

Grant, William Thomas

b. June 27, 1876 d. August 6, 1972 Businessman. He founded the W.T. Grant Department Store chain, which at its height included over 1,200 locations. Started in 1906 in Lynn, Massachusetts with a 25 cent ceiling on prices, it grew to a business empire after World War I. After his death, though, the empire collapse in what is to date the largest retail store bankruptcy case. William T. Grant was also an ardent philanthropist, and established the "William T. Grant Foundation", which still exists today as a philanthropic. Lot #2344 Laurus Path

Greene, William Stedman

b. April 28, 1841 d. September 22, 1924. US Congressman. He engaged in real estate and the insurance business in Fall River, Massachusetts and was mayor of Fall River in 1880 to 1881, 1886, and 1895 to 1897. In 1898, he was elected to Congress as a Republican to fill the vacancy caused by the death of John Simpkins. Reelected thirteen times, he served from 1898 until his death in Fall River in 1924.

Hargraves, Cornelius

b. 1809 d. 1874, an immigrant from England who in 1851 founded Hargraves Manufacturing Company, a soap and glue substitute manufacturing operation.

Hargraves, Reuben

b. 1834 d. 1905) and Thomas Hargraves (1836-1904), sons of Cornelius Hargraves are buried in the Hargraves Mausoleum.

Howe, Grace Hartley

b. 1874 d.1955, wife of Louie Howe and delegate to the 1936 Democratic National Convention.

Holehouse, James



b. December 25, 1839 d. May 20, 1915. Civil War Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient. He served as a Private in Company B, 7th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. He was awarded the Medal of Honor for his bravery at Marye's Heights, Virginia at the May 3, 1863 Battle of Chancellorsville. His citation reads "With one companion voluntarily and with conspicuous daring advanced beyond his regiment, which had been broken in the assault, and halted beneath the crest. Lot # 3308 White Oak Avenue

Howe, Louis McHenry ("Louie")



b. January 14, 1871 d. April 18, 1936. Political strategist who masterminded Franklin D. Roosevelt's 1932 presidential election. They met in 1920, the beginning of a lifelong friendship. Louie Howe was the only person FDR and Eleanor shared as an intimate friend. The highly visible Howe was at the president's side for over fifteen years acting as his campaign manager, speech writer and advisor.

After a polio attack at age thirty three, Louie Howe is credited with persuading FDR to continue in politics. He was portrayed in the 1960 movie, "Sunrise at Campobello". His small private graveside service at Oak Grove was attended by both Eleanor and FDR. Lot #1317 Salvia Path (Cook Borden Lot near Charlton Tomb)

R.A. McWhirr family

In 1877 the first McWhirr store opened near Charity Lane. In 1886 the store moved to South Main Street and after the 1916 fire was rebuilt with 20 times more floor space. It was Fall River's iconic department store that closed in 1975 that had been opened for 98 years and considered the anchor store for downtown. Lot #2775 Poplar Avenue

Jennings, Andrew Jackson

b. 1849 d. 1923, noted local attorney, now best remembered for successfully defending Lizzie Borden.

Latimer, Lewis Howard



b. September 4, 1848 d. December 11, 1928. Engineer, Inventor. Highly accomplished African-American pioneering engineer in the field of electricity. Dr. Lewis Howard Latimer collaborated with inventors Alexander Graham Bell and Thomas Edison to help bring about the 20th century's technological revolution. Born Chelsea, Massachusetts near Boston, Latimer was the son of fugitive slaves George and Rebecca Latimer. Latimer would later fight for freedom during the Civil War, concealing the fact that he was under age so he could serve on a Union gunboat. Latimer's first major contribution to science took place when he drew the patent plans for the telephone, making the production of Bell's invention possible. Next, he revolutionized incandescent lighting-by

Montreal, and London. His keen understanding of the electric light and power industries eventually earned him an important position on Edison's staff. Because achievements by African-Americans were seldom publicized in his day, Latimer never saw his name earn its proper place in history. Yet he refused to let "unnumbered wrongs" break his spirit.

Milne, John O.

Co-founder of The Herald News. Lot # 659 Walnut Avenue

Morton, James Madison

b.1837 d.1923, an Associate Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts. Lot #2542 Chestnut Avenue

Morton, Jr. James

b. 1869 d.1940, a Federal judge. Lot # 774 Chelone Path

Parlin, Maude Frances Darling

b. 1885 d. 1979, pioneer female architect and 1907 M. I. T. graduate who designed many Fall River buildings and homes. Lot # 1735 Atlanthus Path

Sears, Richard

b. 1853 d.1925, owner of the Sears Mill.

Simmons, Abram G.

(Captain of Fall River Line). Lot #850 Moss Avenue

Skinner, Blodget Cornelia Otis



b. May 30, 1899 d. July 9, 1979. Actress, Screenwriter, biographer, dramatist, essayists, and novels. She appeared in the films, "The Swimmer (1968)", "The Girl In The Red Velvet Swing" (1955), "The Uninvited" (1944), "Stage Door Canteen" (1943) and "Kismet" (1920). She wrote, "The Pleasure of His Company" (1961) and "Our Hearts Were Young And Gay" (1944). She appeared on television in "The Alcoa Hour" (1955 to 1957) and "The General Electric Guest House" (1951) and in a play, "Lady Windermere's Fan" (1946). She was the daughter of actor Otis Skinner and actress Maud Durbin. Lot #817 Walnut Avenue

There are 511 Civil War Union Soldiers buried throughout Oak Grove and 1 Confederate Solider.

The Graves

The total number of burials at Oak Grove Cemetery, including unmarked graves, appears to include approximately 100,000 persons. Grave markers are present, several of them inscribed with the names of more than one person. While the majority of the gravestones are granite, a much smaller number of marble, sandstone and metal markers are also found on the site. Some of the graves include footstones, typically of marble inscribed with the deceased's initials. Other footstones are made of granite or concrete. The earliest burial was that of 1882.



Oak Grove Cemetery History

Oak Grove Cemetery was established in 1855 and designed by Josiah Brown, who is also known for his designs of early city mills including the Union, Borden City, and the now demolished Montaup Mill. It features Gothic Revival elements, including an elaborate entrance arch constructed of locally-quarried Fall River granite.

Originally 47 acres and now over 100 acres, Oak Grove was inspired by Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The original 47 acres of land was purchased by the city from Dr. Nathan Durfee at the high price of \$200 an acre. The elevated site was chosen over less expensive parcels because of its central location and natural appropriateness for cemetery use and perhaps because of the importance of the owner. In return for the purchase of his land, Durfee agreed to buy a parcel between North Main St. and Highland Ave. which the city had originally acquired for a park. The new cemetery was located in the relatively undeveloped northeast section of the city.

Oak Grove, Fall River's largest city-owned cemetery, was developed in the mid-19th century as a rural garden cemetery, and its natural beauties and imposing monuments reflect the wealth and pride of the mill owners and the city's elite buried here.

The city's principle families are buried here, the Bordens, Durfees, Braytons, Davols, Chaces, and other founding fathers who shaped Fall River's industrial and civic growth. In 1866 Oak Grove became the final resting place for over 255 children in just one year.

Oak Grove was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1983. The Massachusetts Historical Commission refers to this cemetery in MACRIS as FLR801