

Cedar Hill Cemetery’s Self-guide Notables Tour

Section 1

(A) Joseph Hopkins Twichell (1838-1918)

Joseph Hopkins Twichell served as the pastor of Asylum Hill Congregational Church for 47 years. He was also Samuel Clemen’s (A.K.A. Mark Twain’s) close friend and officiated at his wedding, christened his children and spoke at his funeral. In his book *A Tramp Abroad*, Mark Twain based Harris’s character on Twichell.

(B) Morgan Gardner Bulkeley (1837-1922)

While serving as the Company’s president, Morgan Gardner Bulkeley played an integral role in transforming Aetna Life Insurance into a national, multi-line insurance company. He was involved in politics and served as a senator and governor of Connecticut, during which he earned himself the nickname the “Crowbar Governor.” In addition, Bulkeley was the first president of the National Baseball League and was elected posthumously into the Baseball Hall of Fame.

(C) General Griffin A. Stedman (1838-1864)

A Hartford native and Trinity College graduate, Griffin Stedman attained the rank of General as he lay dying from a gunshot wound at the Battle of Petersburg during the Civil War. Stedman’s sober monument includes a granite rendition of his regimental cap, sword and belt laying atop the U.S. flag.

Section 2

(D) George Beach (1788-1860)

Richard Upjohn designed both the Connecticut State Capitol and the Beach monument - notice the similarity in the cupolas. The marble relief carvings on each side of the monument are scenes from the Passion. Through his business Beach & Co., George Beach manufactured dye stuffs, dyed wools, oils and chemicals.

(E) Samuel Colt (1814-1862) & Elizabeth Colt (1826-1905)

Samuel Colt was the inventor of the Colt multi-round revolver and founder of Colt’s Patent Fire-Arms Manufacturing Company in Hartford. His wife, Elizabeth, erected the stately pink granite, Egyptian-style memorial shortly after the establishment of Cedar Hill Cemetery. The angel atop the monument, Angel Gabriel, was designed by noted sculptor Randolph Rogers. Elizabeth disinterred Samuel and their four children from their private family cemetery at their Armsmead estate and had them reinterred at Cedar Hill Cemetery when their only child to live to adulthood, Caldwell, died in 1894.

(F) The Rt. Rev. Thomas C. Brownell (1799-1866)

Rt. Rev. Brownell was the Presiding Episcopal Bishop of the United States and founder of Trinity College. His monument, which neighbors the Colt’s, features a Christianized allegorical female holding a cross.

(G) Pliney Jewell (1797-1869)

Founder of the Jewell Belting Company in Hartford, Pliney Jewell manufactured leather belting and modified the way in which factories worked by using belting to transmit steam power in place of costly and cumbersome systems of gearing. Colt was one of Jewell’s early customers and effectively used the belting system to help establish the armory’s prominence. Carl Conrads, chief designer for New England Granite Works, designed this bronze figure carrying an anchor, which symbolizes hope.

Section 3

(H) Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet (1787-1851)

Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet founded the American School for the Deaf in 1817 - the first institution in North America dedicated to educating the deaf. In 1864, his son Edward established the first college for the deaf, which is now Gallaudet University in Washington, DC.

(H) William Baxter Closson (1848-1926)

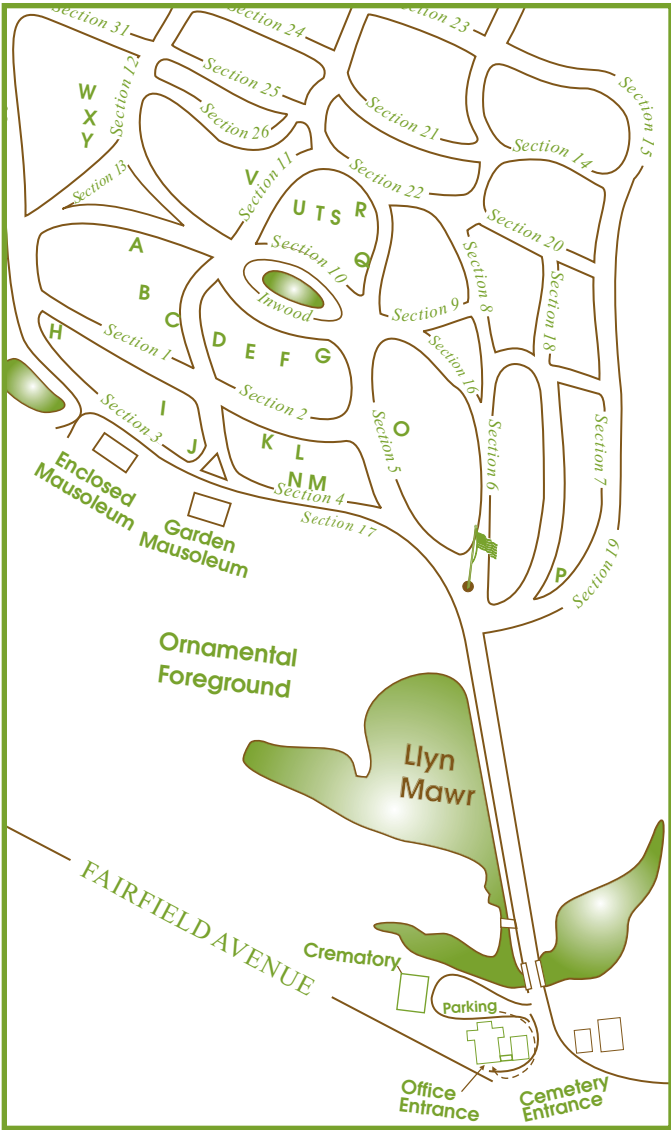
William Baxter Closson was an engraver, printmaker and oil painter. He worked with some of the leading artists of his time and received awards at the Paris Exposition of 1889, the World’s Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893, and the Graphic Arts Exposition in Vienna in 1901. Closson was a member of numerous art academies, including the Connecticut Academy of Fine Arts, where he exhibited his works. He married Grace Gallaudet of Hartford and is buried in the Gallaudet lot.

(I) George Woodward (1816-1866)

George Woodward’s brownstone memorial recognizes his importance to Cedar Hill with the inscription: “The first burial in this cemetery.” Woodward was buried on July 17, 1866.

(J) Gideon Welles (1802-1878)

Born in Glastonbury, Connecticut, Welles served as Abraham Lincoln’s Secretary of the Navy. He was with Lincoln when he died and showed his support for abolition by employing former slaves. One of these employees, Henry Green, is buried in the Welles lot.



Section 4

(K) John Hooker (1816-1901) & Isabella Beecher Hooker (1822-1907)

John Hooker was a descendant of Thomas Hooker, Hartford’s founder. His wife, Isabella Beecher, was the half-sister of Harriet Beecher Stowe and a prominent women’s rights advocate. Their colonial table-top style monument is certainly a reminder that the Hookers were an original founding family.

(L) Charles K. Hamilton (1885-1914)

Recognized as being one of the first barnstormers of his day, Charles K. Hamilton is credited with taking the first nighttime flight, taking the first arial photographs and accomplishing the first military reconnaissance mission by plane.

(M) Horace Wells (1815-1848)

A Hartford dentist, Horace Wells discovered the use of nitrous oxide as an anesthetic. Wells died at the age of 33 and was posthumously recognized for his achievement. The imagery on the family memorial, erected by his son and sculpted by Louis Potter, recognizes Wells’s achievement.

(N) James Terry (1844-1912)

James Terry, Jr. was born in Terryville, Connecticut and was the great-grandson of clockmaker Eli Terry. James Terry’s father founded the Eagle Lock Company in Terryville. After working for the Eagle Lock Company for several years, James Terry, Jr. resigned from his position to follow his dream of becoming an anthropologist. In his search to study early man, Terry travelled to each state and territory in North America at least once - many two or three times - and his wife, Elmira, was the first female tourist to Alaska.

Section 5

(O) Mark Howard (1817-1887)

Mark Howard was a prominent figure in the insurance industry. His pink-granite pyramid is one of the most impressive and photographed memorials at Cedar Hill and its extensive symbolism only adds to its impressiveness. The inverted torches flanking the doorway signify life extinguished, the three steps symbolize the Trinity, the butterflies on the steps symbolize resurrection, and the Angel at the doorway is waiting to lead the deceased through the gates of heaven.

Section 7

(P) Jacob Weidenmann (1829-1893)

Jacob Weidenmann was Cedar Hill’s landscape architect and first superintendent. His many commissions include Hartford’s Bushnell Park, the gardens at the historic Butler-McCook House, and the grounds at what is now The Institute of Living. In 2007, Cedar Hill Cemetery Foundation published a book by author Rudy Favretti about Jacob Weidenmann’s life and accomplishments.

Section 10

(Q) George Capewell (1843-1919)

George Capewell developed and perfected the means to make horseshoe nails by machine and established the Capewell Horseshoe Nail Company in Hartford. To this day, Hartford remains the *Horseshoe Nail Capital* of the world.

(R) Katharine “Kit” Houghton Hepburn (1878-1951)

Kit Hepburn was extremely active in the women’s rights movement. She actively advocated for women to have the right to vote as well as to have access to birth control. In 1916, she took an active role in the American Birth Control League, which was the forerunner of today’s Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Kit had six children the second oldest of which was famed actress Katharine Hepburn.

(R) Katharine Houghton Hepburn (1907-2003)

Katharine Hepburn made 44 feature films. She received 12 Best Actress Oscar nominations and holds the record for most wins with four. (Meryl Streep holds the record for most Best Actress nominations.) In 1991, Hepburn published her autobiography, *Me: Stories of My Life*, and in 1994 starred in her last feature film, *Love Affair*.

(S) James G. Batterson (1823-1901)

James Batterson founded Travelers Insurance Company and was president of New England Granite Works. He invented a lathe that turned out polished columns and is credited with constructing the National Monument at Gettysburg, the Alexander Hamilton statue in Central Park (New York), Hartford’s State Capitol, and the Samuel and Elizabeth Colt memorial at Cedar Hill Cemetery.

(T) Henry Keney (1806-1894) & Walter Keney (1808-1889)

Successful Hartford businessmen, the Keney brothers donated the land for Keney Park as well as erected the Keney Clock Tower. The Clock Tower is considered unique because it was built in memory of the Keney’s mother, Rebecca, whose only noted achievement was being a good mother.

(U) Reverend James Goodwin (1865-1917) & Reverend Francis Goodwin (1839-1923)

For decades, James and Francis Goodwin, brothers and ordained ministers, were active in both the spiritual and commercial life of Hartford. Francis, in particular, is remembered as Hartford’s City Parks Commissioner at the end of the 19th century and was responsible for the substantial growth of the Hartford park system.

Section 11

(V) John Pierpont Morgan (1837-1913)

J.P. Morgan was one of America’s most prominent financiers and bankers. In fact, in 1895 President Grover Cleveland contacted Morgan explaining that the Federal Treasury was nearly out of gold. In response, Morgan made an arrangement for Wall Street to supply the U.S. Treasury with \$65 million in gold. Hartford architect George Keller was commissioned to design the Morgan memorial, which was J.P. Morgan’s vision of the Ark of the Covenant. A smaller version of the memorial was erected for the Pierpont family at Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Mass.

Section 12

(W) Edwin Denison Morgan (1811-1883)

Edwin Denison Morgan was the Governor of New York (1859-1862) and a U.S. Senator (1863-1869). He was also the first and longest serving chairman of the Republican National Committee. Morgan commissioned noted 19th century sculptor Augustus Saint-Gaudens to design a sculpture to adorn the top of his mausoleum. The resulting design was three angels standing at the base of a Greek cross, which would have resulted in the mausoleum standing 40-feet tall. One night in 1883, the shed in which the marble piece was being sculpted at Cedar Hill went up in flames destroying the work. With no more funds, the project was abandoned.

(X) Gilbert F. Heublein (1849-1937)

The highly successful Heublein operation included the Heublein Hotel in Hartford, the development and distribution of bottled cocktails, and the distribution of A-1 Steak Sauce and Smirnoff Vodka to the United States. Heublein was one of the largest food and spirits providers prior to its association with R.J. Reynolds.

(Y) George A. Long (1869-1958)

George Long was president of the Gray Telephone Pay Station Company. The founder of the Gray Telephone Pay Station Company, William Gray, is credited with designing the first pay telephone, which he installed in a bank in Hartford, Connecticut in 1889.