

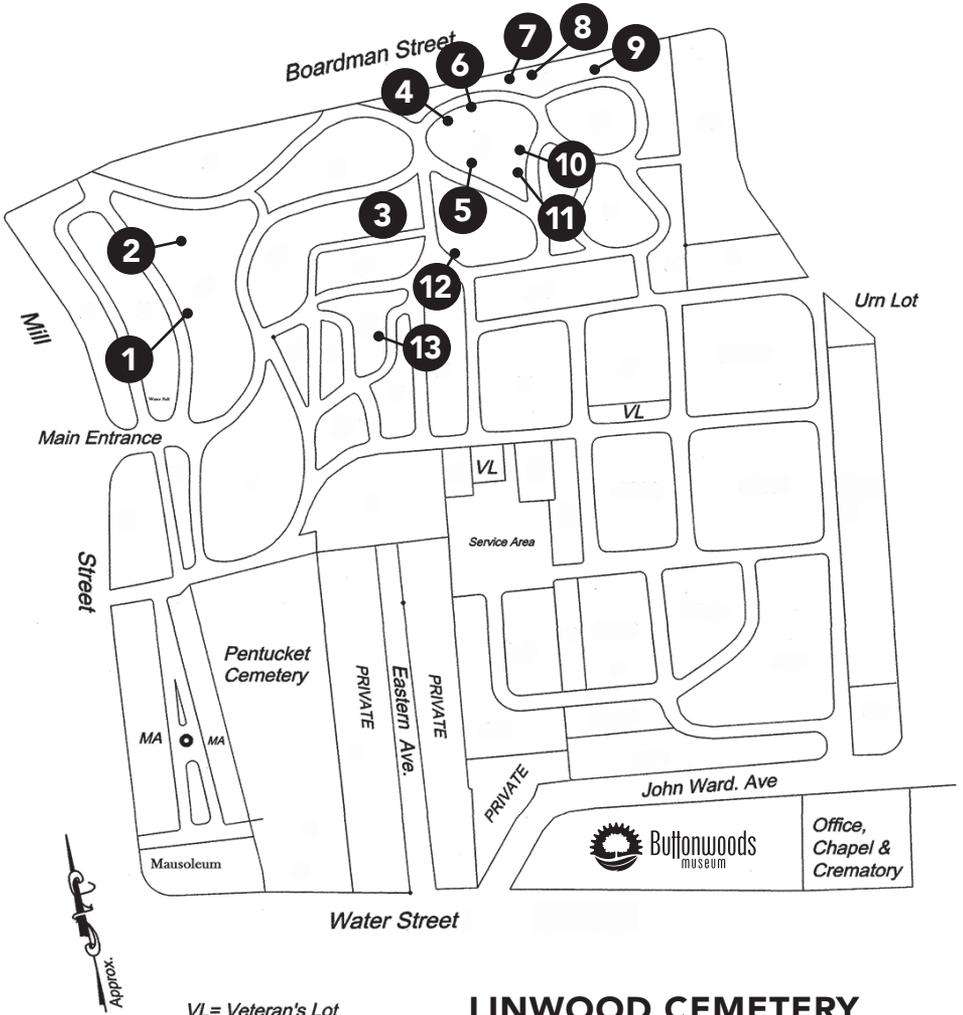
Linwood Cemetery

A Self-Guided Walking Tour

Frank R. Jewett



Buttonwoods
museum



LINWOOD CEMETERY HAVERHILL, MA

.6 mi. walking

Enter at the front gate on Mill Street, Haverhill, MA

The Linwood Chapel is located at 41 John Ward Avenue, Haverhill, MA



The proprietors of the Linwood Cemetery incorporated on August 2, 1845. Originally made up of a piece of ground just 5.75 acres, the cemetery now covers 45 acres. The front gate was donated by Kingbury Davis around 1902 or 1903.

The cemetery is surrounded by history on all four sides:

South: The original cemetery in Haverhill was the Pentucket Burial Ground, which is next to Linwood Cemetery on the southwest side. South of Linwood Cemetery stands the Buttonwoods Museum, which includes the Duncan House, the John Ward House, and the Daniel Hunkins Shoe Shop.

West: Mill Street, which runs along the northwest edge of the cemetery, was the first street in the colonial settlement of Pentucket. It got its name from the three mills that bordered a small stream that originated out of Lake Saltonstall (also called Plug Pond) just up the road. Their sluice ponds were located right where we are standing in the cemetery and were filled long ago. A historical marker on Mill Street identifies where the town's founders signed the deed with two Native Americans, purchasing the property of Haverhill Pentucket.

North: Just north of the cemetery is Lake Saltonstall (Plug Pond), named after the Saltonstall family, who lived in the 18th century on the property where the Buttonwoods Museum stands today.

East: To the east of the cemetery are two buildings that were part of Hale Hospital. Today they are a part of the AHEPA 39 Apartments. We'll begin our walking tour talking about a Hale and end it also talking about a Hale.

**1**

EZEKIEL HALE, JR. (1788 – November 5, 1868)

There were three generations of Ezekiel Hales in Haverhill, and this is the second one. He owned a lumber yard on Essex Street and a woolen mill in Lafayette Sq. that produced red woolen cloth. He was quite successful at business. Hale was also a Christian man who was excited about the Second Coming of Jesus that was predicted in the mid-1800s as part of the Millerite movement. Hale sold his mills for \$20,000 to his son, E.J.M. Hale. Ezekiel Hale, Jr., then invested much of that money in church property; a large tent in Kingston, NH; and evangelists' salaries to get the Word out. However, Jesus didn't return as had been expected. Hale lived several more decades but died quite discouraged and without much to his name.

**2**

JOHN C. TILTON (January 14, 1816 – September 22, 1897)

Tilton was one of Haverhill's largest manufacturers of shoes. He also owned a general store on Tilton's Corner. His house became the city hospital in 1887. Located on the corner of White and Winter Streets, his home is now the YWCA. Tilton built two schooners and also had a large coal business and a brickyard. He built the Tilton Tower on Silver Hill, which was a ten-story observation tower. It has since been replaced by the WHAV radio tower. The Tilton School on Grove Street is named after him.





3

GEORGE WINGATE CHASE (1826 – 1867)

Chase wrote the book *The History of Haverhill, Massachusetts, from Its First Settlement, in 1640, to the Year 1860*, published in 1861. He was also a newspaper agent and was elected to the Massachusetts legislature in 1860. Chase is buried somewhere in this general area in the family plot.



4

BENJAMIN BRICKETT (April 10, 1846 – April 19, 1897)

Brickett studied law at Dartmouth College. He began his practice here in Haverhill in 1872, practicing civil and criminal law. He was involved in city politics and was a staunch Democrat. He also served as a state senator in 1891. In 1892, Brickett was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, which nominated Grover Cleveland for President. He was elected as Haverhill's mayor in 1895 and 1896.



**5**

HELEN "GERT" SWASEY (1855–1934)

Swasey was born in Haverhill in 1855 to a wealthy family that lived on Essex Street. She practiced riding a horse in the circus ring her dad built for her in the yard. She attended Bradford Academy but wasn't happy there. Once she found out that a student would be expelled if she married, she got married. She moved to Illinois and answered an ad to join the circus, working with Barnum and Bailey Circus and other circuses riding horses. She lived her last years as an eccentric in an apartment down by the railroad tracks in Haverhill. The city paid for her funeral, burying her beside her parents here in the cemetery in 1934. A poet from Haverhill, Winfield Townley Scott, penned a poem about her entitled "Gert Swasey."

**6**

PHINEAS WEBSTER (1787– July 15, 1866)

Webster was one of the first, if not the first, to manufacture wholesale shoes as his sole business. At first, his business was in Danvers, and it later moved to Philadelphia and Baltimore. He packed his shoes in barrels, sugar boxes, tea chests, and hogsheds.



**7**

THOMAS SANDERS (1838–1911)

Sanders was the principal financial backer of Alexander Graham Bell, who had tutored Sanders's son who was deaf. Sanders served as the first treasurer of the Bell Telephone Company and made the very first

business telephone call ever. Sanders was also an innovator in the process of cutting leather soles for shoes on a large scale.

**8**

MURIEL SANDERS DRAPER (1886–1952)

Sanders Draper was the daughter of Thomas Sanders. She grew up at Birchbrow, a mansion overlooking Plug Pond. She married well, moving to Italy and later London. The Draper home in London was a gathering place for many famous musicians of the time. Parties would last into the mornings. She served raspberries and champagne to the guests for breakfast. Her marriage ended in 1916, and she moved to New York, where she continued to be known for her elaborate parties. She became one of the most well-known hostesses in the world of music, art, and literature. In 1946, she attended the National Council of American–Soviet Friendship, becoming the chair of the Council's Committee of Women. She was also an interior decorator, writer, and lecturer.



One of her sons, Paul Draper, was a famous dancer. Another, Raimond Sanders Draper, died during World War II.

**9**

SAMUEL LEONARD JEWETT (1831–1916)

Jewett was born in Rowley, MA, in 1831. He moved first to Kennebunkport, ME, then to Haverhill, where he was engaged in the leather business. In politics, he was a supporter of the Prohibition Party. He was elected as a city councilman and later as an alderman. In 1894, he was elected mayor in Haverhill. Jewett was always active in church work, serving as Deacon of the First Baptist Church of Haverhill.

**10**

JAMES H. DUNCAN (December 5, 1793–February 8, 1869)

This Duncan is the son of James Duncan, Esq., who is buried in Pentucket Cemetery. The son was a successful merchant in town and a landowner. He attended Phillips Exeter Academy and Harvard College and loved books. He studied law at Harvard and was admitted to the bar in 1815. Active in the militia, Duncan attained the rank of Colonel. He was also president of the Essex Agricultural Society. He served in the State House of Representatives in 1827, 1837, 1838, and 1857 and in the State Senate from 1828 to 1831. He served in the U.S. House of Representatives between 1849 and 1853. He also served as a delegate to the Whig National Convention in 1839. The Duncan



house was given to the Buttonwoods Museum in his name, and a plaque commemorating the gift can be seen in the Duncan house.



11

MARY WILLIS DUNCAN (1805–1888)

Willis Duncan was James H. Duncan's wife. They lived on Main Street, and their home later became the Pentucket Club. Today it's the site of the Haverhill Public Library. The 1880 Census tells us she was a housekeeper. Along with her husband, she was a member of the American Baptist Missionary Union. Born in Cumberland, ME, she was the daughter of a Boston merchant, Benjamin Willis. With James Duncan, she had 13 children.



12

JUDGE IRA A. ABBOTT (1845–1921)

Born in Barnard, VT, Abbott served in the 9th Regiment, Vermont Infantry, during the Civil War. He was on picket duty the day Richmond was evacuated. He saw President Abraham Lincoln during Lincoln's visit to Richmond after the war. Abbott graduated from Dartmouth College in 1870 and became a lawyer in 1872. He was appointed by President Theodore Roosevelt to the New Mexico Supreme Court. He served as the first president of the Haverhill Historical Society (today the Buttonwoods Museum) from 1897 to 1911 and again from 1920 to 1923.

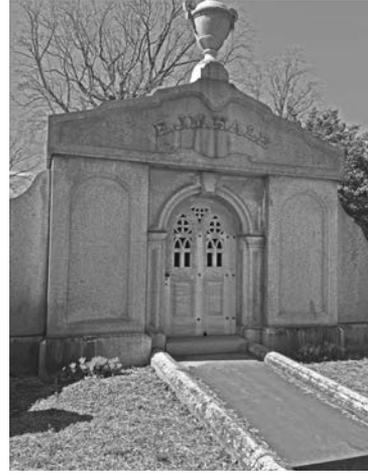




13

EZEKIEL J.M. HALE (1813–1881)

Hale is the son of Ezekiel Hale, Jr., who was our first stop. He was educated at Bradford Academy under Benjamin Greenleaf. He attended Dartmouth Law School but chose to take over his father's textile factory instead of becoming a lawyer. The factory, on Little River in Haverhill, produced red flannel. Hale also purchased a mill in South Groveland. Haverhill's most beloved philanthropist, he donated money and land for a new hospital and library in Haverhill and for the Episcopal Church in Groveland. Hale also commissioned Haverhill's bronze statue of Hannah Dustin in 1879.





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From Native American settlement to present, the Buttonwoods Museum tells the story of life in the Merrimack Valley. Visit the 1710 John Ward House, the 1814 Duncan House and the 1850 Daniel Hunkins Shoe Shop. Experience our hands-on education programs that make this unique history come alive for families, seniors, and students!

Our programs are diverse, affordable, and customizable. We use crafts, games, lectures, hearth cooking, scavenger hunts, and more to help visitors engage with the past. Topics include early American life, Native American tribes along the

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We offer programming for senior citizens, Scout groups, preschool age children (ages 2-5), and students in public, private, and home schools (both field trips and in-school visits). We also live up school vacations through our public *Past Finders* program, which includes February & April vacation workshops, plus a summer program that has been going strong for more than 21 years!

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