

FORTY FORT CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

The following gravestone markers were found during the construction on Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority's Abrahams Creek restoration project in Forty Fort on in the Fall of 2024. WVSA contractor Rutledge Construction uncovered the headstones buried near the creek roughly 300 feet from the Forty Fort Cemetery. The Abrahams Creek project is a mile-long stream-bank restoration and walking trail initiative, part of WVSA's Regional Pollutant Reduction Plan designed to enhance water quality and community spaces.

We are deeply grateful to the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority, Rutledge Construction, and Forty Fort Borough for their efforts in discovering and returning these headstones to Forty Fort Cemetery.

Approximately 64 names on 36 stones as of December 2024

*Please excuse any spelling errors, as the stones were difficult to read.

1. Lizzie Evans 1872 -1908
2. James W. Bustford 1869 – 1935
 - a. Bessie (his wife) 1871 – 1934
3. Harper
4. Martha Ming 1855 – 1940
5. G. Perry Sweet Aged 7 mos.
6. Maude Lewis Harrell June 18 1876 - March 19, 1966?
 - a. daughter of Carolina Virginia Lewis and Hiram Powell Hanell
 - b. (Backside of stone) Fannie Sharp Harrell Nov 30, 1873 - Mach 1, 1917
7. Y.? 5.
8. Edwards (base only)
9. Young Calkins Smith D. D. Feb. 14, 1820 - Oct. 19, 1902
 - a. His wife Mary Elizabeth Wood Dec 4, 1827 - Sept 5,1890
10. John McNeish 1810 – 1882
 - a. Mary H. McNeish 1810 – 1887
11. Albert Perry Barber March 24, 1842 - Dec 26, 1888
 - a. (His wife) Helen Frances Barber Nov 21, 1845 - Nov 23, 1904
12. Abralom Cooper- 1888 - aged 26, YRS.
13. McNeish (a base)
14. Russell H. Ellsworth 1891-1892
 - a. Elizabeth A. Ellsworth 1899 – 1919
15. Elisha B. Ellsworth March 5,1836 - Feb. 22, 1907
 - a. Elizabeth Switzer (his wife) Aug. 21, 1843 - Feb 20, 1932
16. Smith (base only)
17. F.B.K - "Mother" on top of Stone
18. Edw. Wilson 1863 – 1931

- a. Ann (his wife) 1867 – 1926
19. Stella Grace 1879 – 1903
 - a. On one side of the stone
 - i. Arthur C. Brown 1883 - 1911
 - ii. P.L. Freeman 1891 – 1905
 - b. On the other side of the stone
 - i. Nellie, Mamie, Cosamale (date unable to be read)
20. Thomas Atherton Dec 8, 1810 - April 27, 1870
 - a. Sarah E. Atherton Oct 19, 1822 - Nov 30, 1826
21. Levi Sprague D.D. LLD LHD Dec 23, 1844-March 6, 1936, President of Wyoming Seminary 51 years.
 - a. Jennie Russell Sprague - Jan 18, 1842 - Sept 6, 1921
 - b. Louise Russell Sprague - Dec. 11, 1872 - Aug, 24, 1888
 - c. Laura Jennie Sprague - April 10, 1875 - Aug 1, 1905
 - d. Emory Russell Sprague M.D - April 1, 1878 - July 4, 1953
22. William Mercy Shoemaker - June 20, 1840 - Nov 5, 1911
 - a. Ella Schanck Hunt (wife of William M Shoemaker) Nov, 4, 1841 - Jan 12, 1895
 - b. Amelia Wright (wife of William M. Shoemaker) April 4, 1858 - May 8, 1826
23. 1906 Amos name on top of stone.
 - a. Henry Amos - Dec 12, 1873 - Aug 27,
 - b. Margaret Amos Delaif - June 12, 1870 - Jan, 14, 1941
24. Edwards
25. Williams
26. Devv E. Jones 1885 - 1913
27. Freeman Breesen 1814 - 1851
 - a. Margaret A. (his wife) 1817 – 1901
 - b. Backside of stone
 - i. Mary M. Breese 1846 – 1847
 - ii. Sarah A. Breese 1848 – 1896
 - iii. Martha E. Breese 1841 - 1908
28. Mother, Martha Williams 1841 – 1897
 - a. Brother, David G. Williams 1882 – 1907
 - b. Uncle, Gwilym Matthews 1833 – 1888
29. Grace A. Fowler June 8, 1898
30. Thomas Huddy 1856 – 1887
 - a. Frank L. Scott 1884 - 1927
31. Floyd Lu Kingsbury June 21, 1893 - March 15, 1970
32. Carl M. Givens
 - a. Unable to read dates, appears to have a U.S. Army WW marker
33. Bowman - base only
34. Joseph (Unable to read last name) 1845 - 1915
 - a. William H. Bradbury 1866 - 1883
35. Mother

36. Lizzie Evans - 1872-1908