

SWEET AUBURN

Magazine of the Friends of Mount Auburn | SPRING 2010



MOUNT AUBURN AS A MOSAIC OF AMERICAN CULTURE

STORIES BEHIND THE STONES

SWEET AUBURN

A publication of the
Friends of Mount Auburn Cemetery

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Cover photo: Tile from the chancel floor of Bigelow Chapel, completed by architects Allen & Collins during renovations in 1923-24; Jennifer Johnston.

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The Friends of Mount Auburn Cemetery was established in 1986 to assist in the conservation of the Cemetery's natural beauty and to promote the appreciation of its cultural, historic and natural resources. Organized in 1990 as a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable trust, the Friends seeks financial support from its members, other individuals, foundations, corporations and public agencies. It receives gifts for educational and interpretive programs and materials for the public, specific cultural projects, and operating support for horticultural rejuvenation and the preservation of the historic monuments, structures, and archival artifacts and records. The Friends has over 1,300 active members.

President's Corner

Since our founding in 1831, Mount Auburn has been a place of beauty and tranquility designed to accommodate the burial of the deceased while also providing comfort and inspiration to those left behind. During our 179-year history the Cemetery has become the final resting place of more than 97,000 people. The stories behind those interred here are fascinating and wide-ranging, as so beautifully highlighted in this issue's feature article. Mount Auburn Cemetery is indeed "A Mosaic of American Culture."



Dave Barnett

And Mount Auburn is so much more. It is a National Historic Landmark, an incredible landscape of natural features and built structures, a collection of art and architecture, an arboretum of more than 5,000 trees, a wildlife sanctuary, and above all else it is still very much an active cemetery.

We continue to develop new interment space that respects and preserves the character of the historic landscape. Every day we provide comprehensive cemetery services to families at a time of need, and have now begun to host wedding ceremonies in response to increasing demand (p. 14). At the same time, preservation of the landscape, monuments, and other structures remains central to our mission (p. 11). Mount Auburn's role as a wildlife sanctuary is colorfully depicted in the photo essay by our good friends George McLean and John Harrison (pp. 12-13), and we continue to improve the wildlife habitat value of the landscape with projects such as the Consecration Dell habitat restoration enabled by funding from the Anthony J. and Mildred D. Ruggiero Memorial Trust (p. 15). Enhancing the experience of our visitors and providing the information they desire is also a priority, as indicated by Bree Harvey's article (p. 19).

The biggest and most exciting project now underway at Mount Auburn is the new Greenhouse and Horticulture Center (p. 10). Architectural design and construction documents are nearing completion, and if fundraising efforts are successful we hope to break ground in 2011. This facility will be state-of-the-art in environmental efficiency and will greatly enhance our Horticulture staff's ability to grow a wide variety of plants for Mount Auburn's landscape. It will also provide much-improved public spaces for meeting rooms and for serving our cemetery clients purchasing floral tributes.

So while we continue to preserve this National Historic Landmark and the "stories behind the stones," we also plan for the future and look for new and improved ways to provide the highest level of service to our clients and visitors. I hope you enjoy this issue of Sweet Auburn.

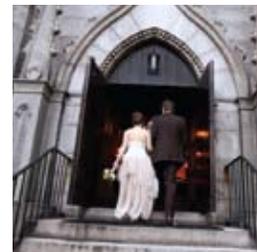
David P. Barnett, President



pg. 1



pg. 12



pg. 14

THE MUGARS AND THE KEPESES WERE IMMIGRANT FAMILIES WHO CAME TO THE UNITED STATES AT DIFFERENT TIMES FROM DIFFERENT COUNTRIES AND MADE THEIR MARK ON THE BOSTON AREA.



Members of the Mugar family in Boston, 1908. Young Stephen Mugar is second from the left in the bottom row. Photo courtesy of the Mugar family.

Dedicated to Education and Philanthropy: The Mugar Family, Founders of Star Market Watertown, Mass.

Stephen (1901-1982), Lot #10213, Almy Path; and John (1914-2007), Lot #11000, Willow Pond Knoll

The Mugar family introduced many innovations now considered essential in the American grocery shopping experience through their popular Star Markets; they have also been generous and creative philanthropists in Massachusetts and the nation for decades.

Stephen Mugar was born in Kharpert, Turkey, of Armenian descent. He came to America as a young child. In 1916, his father, Sarkis, bought a small store at 28 Mount Auburn Street in Watertown, the very first Star Market. When Sarkis died as a result of an auto accident in 1922, Stephen took over the store. His young cousin John, whose parents were born in Kharpert, started working at the store after school. Other than college at Tufts and Navy service in WWII as a Commissary Officer in Okinawa, John was with Star until his retirement as Chairman in 1978. They lived by the motto: “Take extra good care of the customer, and the customer will take care of you.” They were soon successful, opening stores in Newtonville and Wellesley in 1932 and 1937, respectively.

Star Market led the way in packaging meat in cellophane to retain its freshness; using stronger paper for grocery bags; popularizing unit pricing; and, in 1948, cooking with a “radar range,” as the first microwave ovens were called. They also brightened up their stores by decorating them with vivid colors rather than the standard white tile. They

improved the lot of their workers, providing employee benefits that included profit-sharing and time off to pursue education.

Through the decades, the Mugars also aided many Armenian causes, including the Armenian Library and Museum of America, now housed in The Mugar Building, named in recognition of the family’s generosity. Stephen Mugar’s Mugar Foundation donated funding to the Watertown Public Library for an exhibit describing the Armenian diaspora and the immigrants’ subsequent success in America. He gave generously to libraries at Boston University and Northeastern University. A building at Tufts University’s Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy is also named for him.

Stephen Mugar’s daughter, Carolyn, serves as Executive Director of Farm Aid, which raises funds to promote family-owned farms in America, and founded The Armenia Tree Project, which works on reforestation that country, with John O’Connor, her late husband, who is also buried at Mount Auburn.

John Mugar’s son, Martin Mugar of Durham, N.H., says of his childhood, “We grew up on Lovell Road, off Common Street, which is off Mount Auburn Street. My father worked nearby in the market offices, across from Mount Auburn Cemetery, where one of the first Star Markets is also located. My mother loved the Cemetery for its nature, the trees, flowers, and birds. Later, when I came back to Boston after graduating from college and living in Europe, I walked in Mount Auburn a lot.”

For the last three generations, the Mugars have been a powerful presence. Their generosity has extended worldwide, yet the roots of their family legacy are locally situated in Watertown, the final resting place of their innovative patriarchs.

Embracing Nature and Technology: Gyorgy (1906-2001) and Juliet (1919-1999) Kepes, Artists

Lot #12104, Oxalis Path

Throughout his long career, Gyorgy Kepes wrestled to reconcile the seemingly conflicting forces of nature and technology, art and science. The Hungarian-born Kepes studied painting and photography in Budapest and architecture in Berlin, with Laszlo Moholy-Nagy of the Bauhaus School. Immigrating to America in 1945, he began teaching at MIT, in its School of Architecture and Planning.

He founded MIT’s Center for Advanced Visual Studies in 1967 because he felt that “scientists and artists have lost the abil-



*Above, right: “Terra Magica” by Gyorgy Kepes circa 1969, 38”x38”, oil paint and sand.
Above: Monuments of Gyorgy and Juliet Kepes at Mount Auburn created by their grandson, sculptor Janos Stone.*



ity to communicate with each other.” The center was an environment in which artists could exchange ideas with engineers, mathematicians, physicists, and other scientists—and create new kinds of art using modern, sometimes unexpected media. Later in life, Kepes returned to

painting, and his work is included in the collections of the Brooklyn Museum, the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., and the Whitney Museum in New York.

His wife, Juliet, was a painter, sculptor, author, and graphic artist who sometimes collaborated with her husband. She illustrated her own children’s books with her Asian-influenced, color and ink-washed drawings, often depicting animals. She wrote over a dozen books, including one that was awarded a Caldecott medal.

The Kepeses have also achieved a harmony between nature and technology in death through their unique monuments. “When my grandfather was young, in his 30s or 40s, he bought burial space at Mount Auburn when he and my grandmother moved to Cambridge,” says the Kepes’ grandson, Janos Stone, an artist who lives in Queens, N.Y. “He said he wanted the grave marked with these traditional Hungarian *fejfa*, or wooden posts. They convey through carving, information about who is buried there and where the person is from and what they did.

“In the area of Hungary where my grandfather grew up, when a person is born, his family plants a fruit tree. Then, when he dies, they cut the fruit tree down and carve a monument from the wood. My grandfather’s *fejfa* has a sloped top, which indicates it marks the grave of a male of some distinction. It has nine segments on the front, each representing a decade of life, and each decade has a chip taken from it, like a half-circle, symbolizing a year. So you can read the age a person attained through the carving on their monument (*see photo opposite*).

“He knew I was going to carve the monument, but I couldn’t discuss my ideas with him because he was battling a dementia similar to Alzheimer’s in the years before he died. But he had many photographs of these monuments in Hungary that I used for inspiration.

“My grandmother, who was born in London, has a monument made of English ‘bursting stone,’ a kind of slate or shale that doesn’t readily fracture. We had the stone quarried in the south of England and shipped here. The bird carvings on the front are drawings my grandmother did over the years, from the late 1940s until she died.

“By the way, Buckminster Fuller was friendly with my grandparents. Buckminster and my grandparents worked on projects together. There was quite a community of artists in Cambridge, Boston, and Cape Cod.”

ARTHUR M. SCHLESINGER, JR. AND MARGUERITE “MISSY” LEHAND WERE BOTH POWER PLAYERS IN HIGH-PROFILE PRESIDENCIES THIRTY YEARS APART.

***JFK’s Confidante, a Son of History:* Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. (1917-2007), Historian and Pulitzer Prize-Winning Author**

Lot #385, Narcissus Path

Ohio-born Arthur Bancroft Schlesinger moved to Cambridge at age seven in 1924 when his father joined the Harvard faculty. He was raised in an intellectually stimulating environment, among family friends such as James Thurber, John Dos Passos, and Samuel Eliot Morison. When he was still young, he changed his middle name to Meier and began referring to himself as junior because he so emulated his father, a renowned historian.

Schlesinger’s poor eyesight prevented him from experiencing combat during World War II, so he instead served as a writer for the Office of War Information. Simultaneously, in his “spare time,” he was working on his first book, *The Age of Jackson*, which was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1946. Later, he was employed by the Office of Strategic Services, a “precursor” of the C.I.A., in Washington, London, and Paris. He then worked as a journalist and became a professor at Harvard.



Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr.; Photo: Ted Thai, Time & Life Pictures/Getty Images



Arthur Schlesinger’s monument at Mount Auburn

He wrote speeches for Adlai Stevenson’s run for the U.S. presidency and fulfilled the same role during John F. Kennedy’s campaign in 1960. He was appointed as Special Assistant to President Kennedy, and, after Kennedy’s death, wrote a history of the administration, *A Thousand Days: John F. Kennedy in the White House*, winning a second Pulitzer Prize. When Robert Kennedy’s widow requested he write her husband’s biography, he produced *Robert Kennedy and His Times*, which garnered a National Book Award.

Schlesinger married Marian Cannon, and they had twins, Stephen and Katharine, as well as two other children, Christina and Andrew. Following their divorce, Schlesinger married Alexandra Emmett with whom he had a son, Robert. Schlesinger also became stepfather to Peter Allan, Emmett's son from a previous marriage.

Schlesinger was one of the few historians embraced by academia and the public with equal fervor. He was a dapper presence on the American social scene, from the salons of Georgetown during the Kennedy administration to chic and brainy circles in New York and Cambridge, always ready with a pithy observation—much quoted, admired, and esteemed. His friendships included those with Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Alice Roosevelt Longworth, Henry Kissinger, Kurt Vonnegut, Norman Mailer, Marlene Dietrich, Al Gore, and President Bill Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton. He was known for his erudition, wit, and trademark bow ties.

“The bow tie inscribed on Arthur’s monument was not planned before his death,” says Peter Allan, of New York, Schlesinger’s stepson. “Arthur was not a religious man, so putting a cross or other religious symbol on his stone would not have reflected his beliefs. However, our family did not want the stone to be completely unadorned, and since Arthur wore bow ties ‘religiously,’ we thought it would be a nice touch to include one with his inscription. Arthur also had a wonderful sense of style and humor, and I think the bow tie reflects that.”

“As a historian and a man raised in Cambridge, he liked the idea of being buried in the Emmett family lot, which is more than 150 years old,” says Schlesinger’s son, Andrew Schlesinger, of Cambridge, Mass. “He obviously knew the distinguished history of Mount Auburn, and, having grown up on nearby Grey Gardens East, not far from the Cemetery, perhaps he thought he was ‘coming home.’”

FDR’s Right Hand: Marguerite “Missy” LeHand (1896-1944), Presidential Secretary

Lot #7136, Central Ave

Marguerite Alice LeHand grew up in Somerville, Mass. Daniel LeHand, her father, made his living as a gardener while her mother, a seamstress, boarded Harvard students to earn extra money. In 1920, LeHand began what became a lengthy association with Franklin Delano Roosevelt, working for his campaign for the vice presidency. Although Roosevelt was defeated, she was given a permanent place on his staff; indeed, she was treated like a member of the family and nicknamed “Missy” by Roosevelt’s fifteen-year-

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Missy, and Eleanor Roosevelt in 1929, Courtesy of the FDR Library



old daughter, Anna. LeHand’s encouragement helped bolster Roosevelt’s morale in the wake of the polio that left him confined to a wheelchair.

When Roosevelt became President in 1932, LeHand moved into the White House, charged with handling his personal correspondence. She knew him so well that she was

able to write using Roosevelt’s “voice” when doing this. LeHand always critiqued Roosevelt’s fireside chats before he broadcasted them to the nation. Though career-oriented and bound to FDR by unswerving loyalty, her personal life suffered because of her devotion; in fact, she refused a number of marriage proposals.

A June 1941 stroke left LeHand paralyzed and unable to speak. She died in Somerville of a second stroke in 1944 at age 48. Her grave is marked with a pink quartz boulder and plaque quoting Roosevelt: “She was utterly selfless in her devotion to duty.”

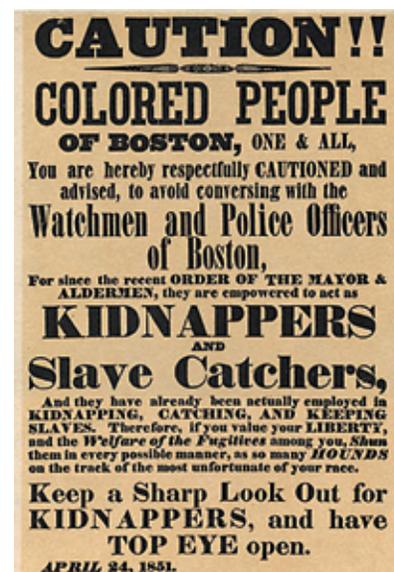
MARY E. WALKER AND CLEMENT G. MORGAN FOUGHT AGAINST RACIAL BIAS IN THE U.S. DURING DIFFERENT CENTURIES.

In Search of a Liberated Life: Mary E. Walker (1818-1872), Freedom-seeker

Lot #4312, Kalmia Path

Mary Walker was born on what became one of the largest plantations in the antebellum South, the Cameron plantation, which grew to 30,000 acres worked by 1,000 slaves by the time of the Battle of Fort Sumter in 1861. Walker and her mother waited on the Cameron women. In 1848, she fled the Camerons’ boarding house on a trip the family made to Philadelphia, beginning a long odyssey—geographical, legal, and psychological—to retain her freedom.

Walker escaped to Massachusetts to elude capture after Congress passed the Fugitive Slave Law in 1850. She lived



This 1851 poster warned African Americans to be on the lookout for slave catchers.

with the white Lesley family in Boston, and later, with Anne Jean Lyman in Northampton, in western Massachusetts. After the Civil War, she learned that two of her children, Agnes and Bryant, were alive and enlisted the help of Frederick Douglass, Lewis Hayden, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Henry Ward Beecher, and others to bring them north to settle near her.

In 1870, Walker and her now-married children moved together into the Dexter Pratt house at 54 Brattle Street in Cambridge. Ironically, this was the very house celebrated by the abolitionist and poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in "The Village Blacksmith." During her years in Cambridge, she was also friends and neighbors with a woman who shared a story similar to her own, author and abolitionist, Harriet Jacobs (*Lot #4389, Clethra Path*). Walker's monument at Mount Auburn, not far from Jacobs', is adorned with a bird in flight, evocative of her long and lengthy journey to escape to freedom.

African American Activist: Clement G. Morgan (1859-1929), A Founder of the NAACP

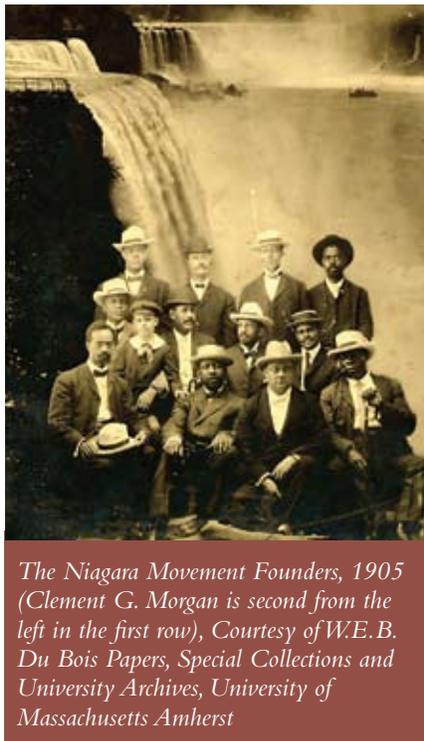
Lot #7503, Mound Ave

Clement Garnett Morgan was born in Virginia to slave parents. After the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, he moved with his family to Washington, D.C., and attended Preparatory High School for Colored Youth. Able only to find work as a barber, he relocated to Boston, where he graduated from Boston Latin School and Harvard College. At Harvard, Morgan formed a lasting friendship with classmate, W.E.B. Du Bois.

When he received his L.L.B. from Harvard Law School in 1893, he became the first African American to obtain degrees from both Harvard College and Harvard Law School. Four years later, he married Gertrude Wright.

Morgan vociferously maintained that every person, regardless of race, should have the opportunity develop to his or her fullest potential. Through the Niagara Movement, founded by Du Bois

and William Monroe Trotter in 1905, he contested Booker T. Washington's acceptance of segregation and stance that



The Niagara Movement Founders, 1905 (Clement G. Morgan is second from the left in the first row), Courtesy of W.E.B. Du Bois Papers, Special Collections and University Archives, University of Massachusetts Amherst

African Americans should pursue vocational training rather than college. In 1909, Morgan joined with Du Bois and others to form the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He was one of the few black members on the Boston branch's executive committee of the NAACP. He was the first African American elected to the Cambridge Board of Aldermen.

Clement Morgan did not have a monument marking his grave until 2005 when the Cambridge African American Heritage Trail Committee dedicated one to him.

THE UNIQUE STORIES OF PHOEBE JACKSON AND THE SIGOURNEY FAMILY ARE EXAMPLES OF HOW OUR STAFF IS CONSTANTLY DISCOVERING NEW STORIES BEHIND THE STONES.

A Servant's Devotion, a Family's Gratitude: Phoebe Jackson (1798-1858) Household Servant

Lot #1643, Hibiscus Path

Phoebe Jackson was an African American servant in the Boston household of Reverend Frederick Turell Gray and his family. Gray was minister-at-large to the poor and Minister of the Bulfinch Street Church. Unusual for the time, Jackson was interred with the Grays in their lot at Mount Auburn.

In 1925, sixty-seven years after Jackson's death, a letter arrived at the Cemetery from a Mrs. P.T. Jackson, one of the Gray daughters. She was writing to ensure that the inscription "Our Faithful Phoebe" was still visible on Jackson's flat, marble marker.

That Jackson was so beloved and thoughtfully remembered in the hearts of the Grays, more than half a century after her death, is a touching example of a family's devotion to an employee.

A Tragedy at Sea: The Sigourney Family (1873)

Lot #1729, Fir Ave

A cenotaph at Mount Auburn honors Boston manufacturer Henry Sigourney, his wife, Amelie Louise Rives, and their children, Alfred, William, and Amelie—all lost in the sinking of the *Ville du Havre* in the Atlantic Ocean on November 22,

1873. One son, young Henry, a Harvard freshman, was the sole survivor of the family. He married, had several children, and has descendants living in Massachusetts today. The fact that the family decided to erect a cenotaph, a monument commemorating the family even though their remains are not



The sinking of the Steamship Ville du Havre, circa 1873

interred at Mount Auburn, is a testament to many people's desire to honor loved ones in a place of beauty and inspiration. We are currently learning about many people not buried at Mount Auburn but commemorated here through our annual spring Monument Inscription Workshops.

CAROLINE FRANCES ORNE AND CLARA ENDICOTT SEARS BOTH HAD A TALENT FOR WRITING AND SAFEGUARDED THE HISTORY OF DIFFERENT PERIODS FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

Immortalizing Mount Auburn: Caroline Frances Orne (1821-1905), Librarian and Poet

Lot #2422, Mountain Ave



*Cambridge Public Library
Photo: Bob Coe*

Caroline Frances Orne grew up in Cambridge. She and the poet James Russell Lowell (*Lot #323, Fountain Ave*) were childhood playmates. As a little girl, she explored the hills, ponds, and woods of the land that eventually became the Cemetery. She later wrote a poem, nearly 100 pages long, "Sweet Auburn and Mount Auburn," celebrating the site before and after its consecration.

In 1858, Caroline Orne became the first librarian of Cambridge's

first public library. She expanded its collection from 1,400 books to 7,000 and increased the hours of operation.

Following her death in 1905, Orne was buried in her family's lot at Mount Auburn. The Orne lot, situated on the Cemetery's highest hill, is one of the spots she had recalled in her poem:

*"Where the green hills, rising abrupt and steep,
Guard that calm dell where peaceful waters sleep..."*

Ahead of Her Time: Clara Endicott Sears (1863-1960), Early Preservationist

Lot #1847, Lupine Path

Clara Endicott Sears—the descendant of two colonial governors, John Endicott and John Winthrop—was renowned for her beauty and intelligence throughout upper-crust Boston. She made a pact with her cousins Mary Endicott and Fanny Mason (*Lot #3844, Fountain Ave*) to remain single, fearful of the restrictions of Victorian marriage.

In 1910 she bought land in Harvard, Mass., and designed a spacious home she called "Pergolas," after the Italian columns she imported for its lush, extensive gardens. Discovering that the adjoining property was the site of educator/essayist Bronson Alcott's failed mid-19th century commune, she bought the land, founded the Fruitlands



*Clara Endicott Sears, Published courtesy
of the Fruitlands Museum, Harvard, MA*

stone, a more contemporary celebration of the headstones prevalent in historic graveyards.

SARAH WYMAN WHITMAN AND CHARLES DANA GIBSON WERE MORE THAN ARTISTS, BUT THOUGHTFUL CREATORS WHOSE AESTHETIC VALUES STILL LIVE ON.

A Renaissance Woman: Sarah Wyman Whitman (1842-1904), Artist, Teacher, and Educational Philanthropist

Lot #6084, Indian Ridge Path

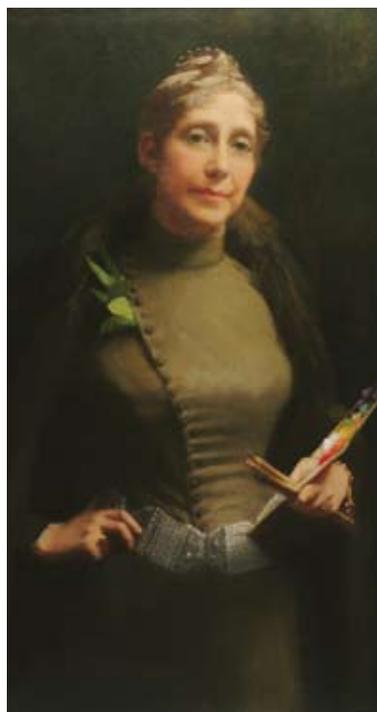
Sarah Wyman Whitman was a Renaissance woman in the 19th century: a painter, author, teacher, poet, and the designer of everything from book covers to interiors to stained glass windows. She persistently advocated that art was an essential, not expendable, component of all of our lives. In fact, Whitman made herself into a work of art, dressing in vibrant, unconventional colors and adding feathers and unique gemstones to accentuate her wardrobe.

She married Henry Whitman, a wool merchant, in 1886. Two years later, she began studying in the Boston studio of the famous artist, William Morris Hunt. She soon became the first female artist to design book covers for the Boston

Museum, and wrote *Bronson Alcott's Fruitlands*, published in 1915.

She later grew intrigued by a nearby Shaker village, wrote a book on its history, and moved its most important building to Fruitlands, thus creating the first Shaker museum in the world. Later, she helped establish the American Indian Museum in New York.

Appropriate given her interest in history, Sears' monument on Lupine Path is a slate Neo-colonial head-





Book cover illustrations by Sarah Wyman Whitman, Courtesy of the Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, University of Rochester Library

publisher Houghton Mifflin. She began designing stained glass and was asked by one of the premier stained glass designers, John La Farge, to design carpets and stained glass windows for H.H. Richardson's Trinity Church in Copley Square. Her windows in Harvard's Memorial Hall are particularly celebrated. Art historian Virginia Raguin, quoted from the Harvard Library Bulletin in the January-February 2010 *Harvard Magazine*, calls her "Peace and Honor" window, which commemorates soldiers who served in the Civil War, "one of the most successful opalescent designs of its time" and "legendary for its brilliance."

She gave time and funding to diverse educational institutions serving groups largely disenfranchised by American society: Tuskegee Institute (for African Americans), Berea College (for the Appalachian poor), and the Harvard Annex (women), which eventually became Radcliffe. Said William James of her death: "She leaves a dreadful vacuum in Boston...and the same world is here—but without her to bear witness." She designed a number of monuments at Mount Auburn, including her own.

Creator of an American Icon: Charles Dana Gibson (1867-1944), Illustrator and Cartoonist

Lot #3629, Halcyon Ave

Charles Dana Gibson was born in Roxbury, Mass. Even as a young man, he was artistically precocious, skilled at fashioning silhouettes of family, friends, and animals. At 13 he became an apprentice to Augustus Saint-Gaudens, but didn't take to sculpture. Instead he enrolled in the Art Students League in New York, and, in 1885, had a drawing accepted by the humor magazine, *Life*. On a journey to London, he met George du Maurier, the *Punch* cartoonist famous for his depictions of tall, stately women. Du Maurier was a major influence on the younger artist's style.

Left, opposite: Sarah Wyman Whitman (1842-1904) by Helen Bigelow Merriman, Oil on canvas, 39.5x28", Courtesy of Harvard Art Museum, Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University Portrait Collection, Gift of Helen Merriman to the Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, 1909-10, H770 Photo: Katya Kallsen © President and Fellows of Harvard College

Soon, Gibson's illustrations were being published in *Harper's*, *Scribner's*, and *The Century*. He developed the "Gibson Girl," partially inspired by Irene Langhorne, the aristocratic Virginian he eventually married.

The Gibson Girl was no passive society belle or frail neurasthenic but elegant, confident, athletic, and assertive—depicted as swimming, playing tennis, and even at the wheel of the new "horseless carriages" or automobiles. More than a century later, she endures as a symbol of the early 20th century.

"My mother was Charles Dana Gibson's daughter," says Irene Goodale of Atlanta. "I was about fourteen when my grandfather died, and I knew him well. We used to visit him summers at his house on 700 Acre Island in Maine. I can still see him in his white Adirondack chair under the big copper beech on the lawn.



Charles Dana Gibson, Courtesy of the Library of Congress, Grantham Bain Collection



Charles Dana Gibson's iconic Gibson Girl

"When we were small, he used to scratch our backs while my grandmother played the piano and sang. Whenever we grandchildren wore something he liked, he'd ask us to sit in his studio while he sketched us. So we'd be inside for a couple of hours while everyone else was

outside, playing. We soon learned not to wear anything he liked so we wouldn't get stuck indoors, posing.

"My grandfather taught all of us to sail, and while we were sailing he'd drop his hat or something else into the drink so we had to change course and go back to get it. Eventually we realized he was doing this on purpose so we would learn how to turn a sailboat. He also loved working with his hands; he built his grandchildren a playhouse and a little sort of castle out of bricks and stone at the house in Maine."

Mrs. Goodale's son, Peter Perkins Goodale, who died of cancer at age 46, is buried at Mount Auburn, and her daughter, Kate Goodale, of Cambridge, also owns space here. When asked if her grandfather, the creator of so many nationally known images, would wish for a grander monument in lieu of his very plain one at Mount Auburn, Mrs. Goodale observes, "He wouldn't be impressed by a grand monument at all. He was a thoughtful, quiet man, very deep. He was not at all status conscious. He poked fun at the foibles of the rich all his life."

R. BUCKMINSTER FULLER AND BENJAMIN C. THOMPSON WERE MEN OF FAR-REACHING VISION AND IMAGINATION. FULLER DESIGNED INGENUOUS STRUCTURES FOR A MORE SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE ACCESSIBLE TO EVERYONE; THOMPSON ADVOCATED DESIGN THAT WAS VISUALLY APPEALING AND THAT ENCOURAGED HUMAN INTERACTION.

Doing More with Less: R. Buckminster Fuller, Jr. (1895-1983), Visionary Architect

Lot #2669, Bellwort Path

Richard Buckminster Fuller, Jr. was born in Milton, Mass., into a family with deep New England roots, whose ancestors came to the region during the 1630s. The feminist, transcendentalist, and author Margaret Fuller Ossoli (*Lot #2250, Pyrola Path*) was Fuller's great-aunt.

Chafing under the confines of academic life, Fuller exited Harvard, forsaking a degree to work as a laborer, cashier, and export manager. Then, in 1917, he served in the Navy during World War I, and, that same year, wed Anne Hewlett, beginning a marriage that would endure for 66 years.

In 1922, Fuller was crushed by the death of his four-year-old daughter, Alexandra. On the verge of suicide, he had an epiphany that humanity could be improved through innovations in mankind's environment. He vowed to make this his life's work.

He began designing structures he later called "dymaxion," a new term combining "dynamic," "maximum," and "tension": his goal was always "doing more with less." Fuller coined the phrase "spaceship earth" and was an early advocate for the conservation of resources and protection of the environment. He was celebrated for his invention of the geodesic dome, a shape using a pattern of self-bracing triangles that provide maximum structural

advantage while utilizing the least material possible. By the 1960s he was lecturing to audiences around the world who saw him as "the Leonardo da Vinci of our time."

His monument at Mount Auburn is carved with the words "Call me Trintab," referring to the miniscule rudder attached to the larger rudder on ships and planes, which with minimum effort, can change a massive vessel's course. Fuller believed the role of the inventor in society to be analogous to that of the trimtab, producing big change while expending little energy.

Fuller suffered a heart attack while keeping a vigil at the bedside of his comatose wife; the couple died within 36 hours of each other.

Fuller's daughter, Allegra Fuller Snyder, of Pacific Palisades, Calif., is very attached to Mount Auburn: "I think Mount Auburn was like an old family home for my father and his father. It held an important and tangible place in his sense of family. My father was a real student of history because he felt that in order to understand the future, one must understand the past." For her 16th birthday, Buckminster Fuller gave his daughter a genealogical history of the Fuller family, tracing their roots back 30 generations to Sir John Fuller, born in England in 1042. The Fullers' Cambridge roots are equally deep, with seven generations attending Harvard.

"I visited Mount Auburn with my father on quite a few other occasions. I brought my daughter and first grandchild to Mount Auburn when she was about three (she is now 19). I plan to have my ashes, and those of my husband, placed in the family lot. Mount Auburn remains an important center for all of us in the family, in our hearts and minds, even though we are dispersed throughout the country and the world.

"My son, daughter, and I designed my father's very humble gravestone but he specifically requested that the words 'Call Me Trintab' be on any monument."

A Powerful Imagination: Benjamin C. Thompson (1918-2002), Designer and Architect

Lot #10762, Halcyon Garden

Minnesota-born AIA Gold Medal architect Ben Thompson came to Cambridge in 1946 to work with Bauhaus Architect Walter Gropius as a founding partner of The Architects Collaborative. He was one of a handful of mid-20th century modernists who recognized the value of historic buildings in the face of the ravages of urban renewal. Beginning with his saving of Boylston



Buckminster Fuller lecturing at Carbondale, IL, circa the late 1970s. Courtesy of the Estate of R. Buckminster Fuller

Hall in Harvard Yard, he led the way in adaptive reuse in architecture.

Thompson founded Design Research, known as D|R, in 1953. Within a decade, D|R had become the most important source of modern interior design products in America. D|R introduced this country to the work of Marimekko, the Finnish firm known for bold, colorful fabric design. Ben taught at Harvard and became Department Chairman of the Graduate School of Design when Walter Gropius retired.

Founding Benjamin Thompson & Associates (BTA) in 1966, he championed an architecture of “joy and sensibility” in an urban environment he called “The City of Man,” a place that has a human scale, is sensitive to nature, and encourages social activity. In 1986, BTA won the AIA Firm of the Year Award. In 1992, he received the AIA Gold Medal, the profession’s highest award, and he was Knighted by the President of Finland.

Thompson’s wife, Jane, was a vital partner, personal and professional, in all of these accomplishments, and an in-



Jane and Ben Thompson in 1986

novative designer as well. The Thompsons were the “parents” of one of the country’s first and most successful adaptive reuse projects, the restoration of Boston’s Faneuil Hall Marketplace, opened in 1976. Faneuil Hall Market-

place is widely credited with saving downtown Boston and became the model for regenerating urban centers. He brought this model to many other successful revitalization projects such as Baltimore’s Inner Harbor, South Street Seaport, and Miami Bayside.

This year marks the 40th Anniversary of the D|R Headquarters building at 48 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass. It pioneered a unique design of frameless glass panels, allowing people outside an unimpeded view of its merchandise and interior. This landmark building was the first butt-glazed building in the country. It recently received the AIA 25 Year Award. A recently concluded D|R retrospective, housed in the building since autumn 2009, had been displaying vintage D|R furnishings and Marimekko dresses from 1950s and 1960s, stirring Cambridgian memories.

“During the last ten years of his life, Ben was paralyzed and in bed, so he couldn’t accompany me when I made an appointment with Meg Winslow [Curator of Historical Collections] to look at space at Mount Auburn,” recalls Jane Thompson. “Earlier, while driving through the Cemetery,



The “Finland Designs” 50th Anniversary display (2010) in the D|R building at 48 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA. Photo: Peter Vanderwarker (Newton, MA)

I’d discovered a huge monument with my family name, Fiske, on it, marking the lot of those I eventually learned were my relatives. Through friends, we learned Mount Auburn is an absolute treasure—trove of architects, not to mention poets and other people, so we were very affectionate about Mount Auburn.

“Then Jim Holman [Director of Cemetery Services Administration] showed me the new space being developed, Halcyon Garden, and I thought it was a grand site. I said, ‘Put me on the list.’ Then I went home and told Ben, and he was delighted.

“When Ben died, landscape architect Gary Hilderbrand had completed the design of Halcyon Garden. It was overlooking Mary Baker Eddy’s monument, had birch trees, and was absolutely amazing.

“I wanted to do something really special for Ben. I asked sculptor Anne Lilly to design a mobile sculpture. I wasn’t sure the Cemetery would allow that type of monument, but the Trustees gave their approval and we went ahead to create an ever-moving piece in a garden with a bench overlooking the monument and Halcyon Lake.

“We studied the site and took pictures. We had Ms. Lilly design something that would meet all of the conditions, which were very tough: the sculpture had to be durable, wind-activated, and in perpetual motion. We worked six or eight months to resolve the formal and technical problems, and then, suddenly, there it was!

“I think of it as Perpetual Motion or Perpetual Emotion. It’s always throbbing, pulsing, like a living thing!”



Wind-activated sculpture near Ben Thompson’s monument, designed by A.M. Lilly

Connected to Her Community

Profile of a Trustee: Clemmie L. Cash

CLEMMIE L. CASH EXUDES A SINCERE PASSION AND enthusiasm for the Cemetery. Her thoughtful words about volunteerism prove her to be as giving as she is upbeat. Clemmie serves as Secretary of the Mount Auburn Board of Trustees, which she first joined in 1996. She has also chaired the Friends of Mount Auburn Trustees since 2007. She attributes her continued support of Mount Auburn to its cultural relevance in the community and the fact that it is a “horticultural, beautiful, and enriched space.” Regarding the Cemetery’s future plans for expansion, including the construction of much-needed new greenhouses,



Mount Auburn Trustee
Clemmie L. Cash

she states, “We want to do everything we can as a Board to make sure this resource can survive for a century or more. I like that we are not just accepting things as they currently are, but that we’re looking towards the future.”

A native Texan, Clemmie is married to James I. Cash, Professor Emeritus at Harvard Business School. Though

they grew up in the same town, they first met at a college party thanks to a mutual friend. Currently, Jim serves on several boards, conducts meetings for business executives, and teaches a leadership development course for managers. Jim and Clemmie’s daughter, Tari, earned an M.B.A. from Harvard and is the Regional Sales Manager of the Washington, D.C., territory for Tesla Motors (Electric Car). Their son, 1st Lieutenant Derek Cash, served with the Marines in Iraq for seven months, and now lives in Manhattan and is applying to law school.

Clemmie has served on the boards of Noble & Greenough School and Wellesley’s A Better Chance Program, where she first volunteered when she moved to Wellesley in 1976. Today, she devotes her time to the Home for Little Wanderers in addition to Mount Auburn. Clemmie feels honored to be on the Mount Auburn Board and is inspired by the dedication of her fellow Trustees. For her, giving of her time is not merely fulfilling a charitable duty – it’s personal. She says, “I think that philanthropy connects us to our community. It is a focused and concrete way to be a part of something larger than I am.”



Clemmie Cash (center) chats with fellow Trustee Kimberly D. Gluck and former Mount Auburn Cemetery President Bill Clendaniel at the Visitors Center Preview Party in 2008.



Plans for the new Greenhouses and Horticulture Center Progress

MOUNT AUBURN CEMETERY’S INITIATIVE TO CONSTRUCT new Greenhouses and to plan for future expansion is progressing. Design documents are completed and construction documents are in development for the Greenhouse and Horticulture Center to be put out for bid in fall of 2010. **A decision to go forward with the Greenhouses in January 2011 is contingent upon concentrated fundraising results.** With our project architect, William Rawn Associates of Boston, one of the nation’s premier architectural firms, we have created a design and a vision for one of the last undeveloped areas in the Cemetery in the northwest section off Grove Street.

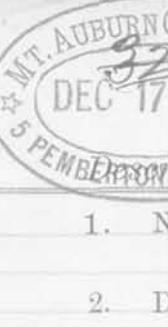
This project entails the construction of new Greenhouses, which will replace the outdated structure that was erected in 1971, and a Horticulture Center that will include new work

areas, retail floral space, a public classroom, and meeting rooms. The Greenhouses of this LEED certified facility will have a new irrigation system, including a misting system for newly propagated woody plant seedlings, and will use water captured from the building roofs and

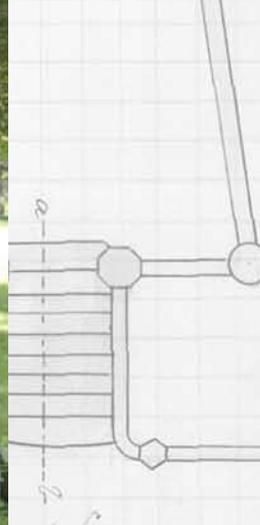
stored in a 30,000 gallon cistern below the ground. Shade cloths that serve as insulated blankets will keep the greenhouses warmer in the winter thereby reducing fuel costs, and venting roofs can be easily operated to cool off the houses on sunny days, when cooling is necessary. Our composting operations, already state-of-the-art, will now allow us to mix compost with interment fill to create potting soil for the greenhouse and top soil for the grounds.



Above: The design for the new Greenhouses and Horticulture Center.
Above, left: The model which shows the plan for the ultimate total expansion (including a proposed Family Center). Model courtesy of William Rawn Associates.



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Preserving Mount Auburn

PRESERVING MOUNT AUBURN IS CENTRAL TO OUR MISSION and enduring commitment to maintain this place of natural beauty for the commemoration of the dead and inspiration of the living. Our integrated landscape of magnificent horticulture and historic structures presents a complex challenge that we meet daily with an array of talent including curatorial expertise in historic collections and horticulture, professional conservation and maintenance, methodical planning, and advocacy through education and outreach. Our resources are limited, but our staff is passionate, dedicated, and guided by a clear set of priorities focused on maintaining the quality of our work. We seek sustainable practices which maximize longevity for modest renewable effort over time. While we are not shy about contemporary technologies, we often find our successes rooted in traditional techniques. Sharing what we learn with others outside our gates provides invaluable support to institutions grappling with similar issues. Through public programs, we share our passion to increase awareness, build financial support, and hopefully capture the interest of the next generation.

lot in



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Daphne Pithy
script spurs a bad
the fence around this lot
at spurs a bad in spurs letter
of June 7
Signed H. S. Stewart
1878





GREAT BLUE HERON (GEORGE MCLEAN)



YELLOW SPOTTED SALAMANDER (JOHN HARRISON)

CYCLES OF LIFE: *Spring at Mount Auburn*



CHIPMUNK ON A SARGENT CRABAPPLE (JOHN HARRISON)

“The hum of happy life is heard from myriads of little creatures, who, born in the morning, will die ere night. In that short term, however, they will have accomplished the purpose of their living; and if brought to this test, there are many human lives which are shorter and vainer than theirs; and what is any life, when past, but a day?”

—FRANCIS WILLIAM PITT GREENWOOD
(Lot #2471, Elm Ave), The Miscellaneous Writings



SNAIL (GEORGE MCLEAN)



FOX KIT (JOHN HARRISON, 2003)



BABY RACCOONS (GEORGE MCLEAN)



*A Photo Essay by
George McLean and John Harrison*



SPIDER (JOHN HARRISON)



HOODED MERGANSER (GEORGE MCLEAN)

GREAT HORNED OWL (JOHN HARRISON)



BABY POSSUM (JOHN HARRISON)



RED WING BLACKBIRD (GEORGE MCLEAN)

COYOTE PUPS (JOHN HARRISON)



TIGER SWALLOWTAIL BUTTERFLY (GEORGE MCLEAN)



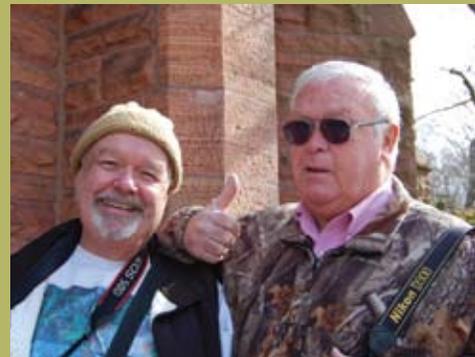
RED-TAIL HAWK (JOHN HARRISON)



WOOD DUCK (GEORGE MCLEAN)



GOSLINGS (GEORGE MCLEAN)



JOHN HARRISON (LEFT) AND GEORGE MCLEAN, BOTH OF MEDFORD, MA, FREQUENT WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHERS AT MOUNT AUBURN



"We knew that Bigelow Chapel had historically been used to celebrate life after the fact, so to speak, but we thought the beauty of the chapel and the grounds of the Cemetery could be put to better use if everybody was still around to enjoy it."

— Richard and Eve (Lambert) Griffin (below),
Bigelow Chapel, October 2009

Expanded Cemetery Services... Including Weddings

MOUNT AUBURN IS CONSTANTLY SEEKING WAYS TO ENHANCE, IMPROVE, and provide a high level of service excellence to our clients and visitors. This year we instituted two significant changes as part of our service evolution. First, we formalized the role of Family Services Coordinator, filled by Tom Johnson, to provide families at need with a liaison who can compassionately guide them through the difficult decision process of a funeral, memorial service, memorial reception, or cremation while providing the option of a customized and personal service. To date, Tom has arranged for 66 memorial services in our chapels and 7 memorial receptions. The Cemetery Services and Operations team will coordinate and fulfill over 500 service requests this year.

In addition, 2009 marked the first time that Mount Auburn has opened its chapels and spectacular grounds for wedding ceremonies. Great care was taken to minimize – if not, eliminate – any potential conflict between memorial and wedding services. We have successfully hosted four weddings and have two more scheduled this spring.



PHOTOS BY JOSHUA LAMBERT



"We wanted to have our wedding in Cambridge and looked at many 'conventional' locations, but none offered as much beauty and diversity of setting as Mount Auburn Cemetery."

— Wayne and Melissa (Mortensen) Jenski (right),
Bigelow Chapel, September 2009

PHOTO BELOW AND ABOVE LEFT BY REBECCA HANSEN PHOTOGRAPHY



PHOTO BY LISA RIGBY PHOTOGRAPHY



"Having our wedding here just felt right – it's not only our favorite place in our adopted town, but it also seemed fitting to hold our wedding in a venue that celebrates the lives and relationships that made this community what it is."

— Kate and Daniel (Cleary) Manne (left),
Auburn Lake, August 2009



CAMBRIDGE SAVINGS 1ST TO MATCH GIFT FOR STORY CHAPEL ENTRANCE

Cambridge Savings Bank has been the first institution to help match the gift of \$132,000 awarded to Mount Auburn last year by MassDevelopment through their Massachusetts Cultural Facilities Fund (MCFF), donating \$30,000 for a proposed new entry into Story Chapel. The new entry is designed for increased energy efficiency and visitor accessibility and reflects the original (19th century) porte-cochere at the Story Chapel entrance.



Cambridge Savings Bank President Bob Wilson (center) and Bank officers Susan LaPierre, Senior VP for Community Relations (far left), and Barbara Crystal, VP Corporate Loans (far right), present a check to Mount Auburn President Dave Barnett (center, left) and Senior VP of Development Piper Morris

“Cambridge Savings is pleased to make this donation to support Mount Auburn Cemetery,” says Robert M. Wilson, President and Chief Executive Officer. “Mount Auburn Cemetery is an important historical landmark and an integral part of the Cambridge community. The new chapel entrance will make the building more inviting and accessible to visitors, and provide a focal point for the entrance. We are proud to support Mount Auburn’s mission to educate visitors, preserve historic monuments, and offer a first-class horticultural experience.”



LEAD POINTING INITIATIVE

The Ruth and Henry Walter Fund has donated \$4,000 for a new initiative involving the on-going care and conservation of stone monuments throughout the Cemetery. The

Preservation staff at Mount Auburn has discovered that the most durable joints are those filled by lead pointing, a traditional practice that has been used on some of our older monuments. Pointing stone joints with lead is a truly sustainable practice and the maintenance of lead joints over many years requires only occasional and localized resetting of the material into the joint by hammer and tool. Thanks to the generosity of the Ruth and Henry Walter Fund, we can now take steps towards revitalizing the lost technique of pouring and setting lead joinery for use on our site, and share our findings with other cemeteries, parks, and historic sites. In response to why he was interested in funding these efforts, Matthew Walter replied, “I’m very interested in historic preservation and I know Mount Auburn Cemetery has a substantial agenda. I was interested in helping Mount Auburn stay on the cutting edge.”

RUGGIERO GRANT AWARDED FOR CONSECRATION DELL HABITAT RESTORATION

The Anthony J. & Mildred D. Ruggiero Memorial Trust has granted Mount Auburn \$117,180 for the funding of the Consecration Dell Habitat Restoration, which continues a multi-year initiative that the Fund supported in its earlier stages. This ambitious effort will introduce native New England woodland plant species into a previously degraded forest and will prepare a site for the reintroduction of four amphibian species into a wetland area. The restoration makes a major improvement in Mount Auburn’s wildlife biodiversity and the quality of habitat serving a variety of different animal species.



Consecration Dell (photo above), which represents both the geographic and historic core of the Cemetery, is already home to one of the few populations of the rare spotted salamander remaining in eastern Massachusetts, which is greatly dependent on the vegetation and vernal pool habitats for its unique life-cycle needs. Part of the habitat restoration efforts include the introduction of four new species of amphibians: *Bufo americanus* (American Toad), *Rana sylvatica* (Wood Frog), *Hyla versicolor* (Gray Treefrog), and *Pseudacris crucifer* (Spring Peeper), all of which are not known to have been at this site recently, but are likely to have been here in the past.

CONCORD ACADEMY ALUMNI VISIT MOUNT AUBURN

Mount Auburn Cemetery’s **Curator of Historical Collections** and Concord Academy alumna Meg L. Winslow gave a special tour of the grounds with **Cemetery Archivist Brian A. Sullivan** for Concord Academy alumni on October 4. After the tour, a catered wine and cheese reception was held in historic Bigelow Chapel. School friends were reunited and many New England family connections were made with Mount Auburn Cemetery.



Concord Academy alumnae discover family ties at Mount Auburn

MARGARET FULLER BICENTENNIAL RECOGNIZED AT MOUNT AUBURN

MARGARET FULLER, ONE OF THE 19TH CENTURY'S most significant figures, was born on May 23, 1810, in Cambridgeport, Mass., and made her mark on American culture as an author, journalist, editor, literary critic, feminist, and Transcendentalist. This year, the 200th anniversary of her birth, the Friends celebrates her life and accomplishments.

Brilliant and well-educated, Fuller became a well-respected and active member of the Transcendentalist community during the 1830s. In 1839 she combined her feminist principles with the spirit of Transcendentalism to establish a series of "Conversations," or seminars for women, providing intellectual stimulation for like-minded women and social reformers including Mrs. Ralph Waldo Emerson, Lydia Maria Child, Maria White Lowell, and Elizabeth and Sophia Peabody among others. Fuller published her feminist masterpiece *Women in the Nineteenth*



Historic view of Margaret Fuller Ossoli's cenotaph, circa 1900.

Century, a work largely inspired by the idea that women could hold opinions on matters beyond the domestic sphere, in 1845.

Not long after that, she found herself in Europe as the *New York Tribune's* foreign correspondent. In 1847, while covering the Revolution in Rome, she met Marquis Giovanni Angelo Ossoli, who became her husband and with whom she had a son, Angelo Phillip. As the Revolution was crushed, she and Ossoli planned to return to the United States. On May 17, 1850, they sailed from Livorno on the *Elizabeth*. Just outside New York harbor, the ship hit a sandbar and sank, cutting Fuller's life tragically short. The memorial to Fuller, her husband, and son, erected in the Fuller family lot on Pyrola Path, became a place of pilgrimage in the mid-19th century and continues to attract visitors today.

To learn more about Fuller and her lasting legacy, visit the Margaret Fuller Bicentennial website, www.margaretfuller.org, for a complete list of upcoming programs. And, join us here at the Cemetery in July, on the anniversary of her death, for a special wreath-laying ceremony at Fuller's memorial.

VOLUNTEER PROFILE: Jennifer LoSciuto

Sharing Her Love of History

LAST AUGUST, JENNIFER LOSCIUTO WAS ONLY PLANNING a simple day trip to Mount Auburn when she discovered the opportunity she'd been looking for. "I had a friend visiting from out of town and wanted to bring her for a visit. I decided to look on the website to see what tours were happening and I noticed the listing for the Docent Training class. It was the last week to register for the training so I immediately emailed the Friends to sign up!"

Jennifer, a native of Medford, Mass., has had a long interest in the Civil War, which was further fueled during her studies as a History major at UMass Boston. Although Jennifer took a job with a fashion design company upon graduation and remained there for 15 years, she still harbored a passion for history that led her on pilgrimages to Mount Auburn where the memorial of Col. Robert Gould Shaw of the Massachusetts 54th Regiment stands in his family lot. This past summer she decided it was time to once again focus her attentions on something she truly loves.

Since completing the Docent Training class—which met one day per week for five weeks—Jennifer has become a part of our growing group of dedicated volunteers. She regularly takes shifts at our Visitors Center, answering questions, renting audio tours, selling publications, and most importantly, sharing her own love of both Mount Auburn and history with

others. She also spends time researching the Cemetery's ties to the Civil War, which will be quite valuable as we prepare to commemorate the War's 150th anniversary.

If volunteering as a docent were not enough, Jennifer also assists our Preservation & Facilities Department in their efforts to capture inscriptions on our oldest, most weathered monuments. After spending the fall outdoors deciphering the fading inscriptions in the field, she has spent the winter entering them into a database. Through her work on this project, Jennifer has discovered a few more Civil War veterans previously unknown to us.

"I am so happy being at Mount Auburn. It's a dream come true... I'm now getting to do what I've always wanted to do."

As of January 2010 Mount Auburn has 50 active volunteers generously giving their time. These volunteers work in departments throughout the Cemetery including Education & Visitor Services, Preservation, Historical Collections, and the Greenhouse.



Jennifer LoSciuto

Buckminster Fuller Documentary Filmed at Mount Auburn

A PORTION OF THE DOCUMENTARY *The Last Dymaxion: Buckminster Fuller's Dream Restored*, was filmed in November at the monument of architect R. Buckminster Fuller, Jr. (1895–1983) on Bellwort Path (for more information see Fuller profile on pg. 8), and directed by filmmaker Noel B. Murphy. Murphy, a native of Bedford, Mass., developed a curiosity about the visionary architect as he learned more about his own mentor, renowned storyteller of Boston and Cambridge, the late Dr. Hugh Morgan Hill, (known as Brother Blue), who had been taught by Fuller. The documentary premieres on April 19, 2010, in Carbondale, Ill., and spotlights Fuller's dymaxion inventions, designed to provide maximum efficiency while using the least materials possible, in order to reestablish his place in design history with a new generation.

Filming has taken Murphy and his crew from Illinois to England, and deep into the Stanford University archives, where Murphy spent hours reading Fuller's personal papers and discovering the poetry and passion behind the man. As an example, Murphy describes Fuller's initiation into the Naval Reserves: in 1916, Fuller took his personal yacht from Bear Island off the coast of Maine and sailed to various East Coast ports until he found a Naval Recruitment Officer who would sign him on as commander of his own boat. He was seemingly a man who did nothing by halves.

"Sometimes I feel sad while standing at a person's grave if I know that person didn't do all he or she wanted in life," said Murphy, "but standing at Bucky's grave and knowing that he was a completely self-actualized person had me think, yes, 'This is really a life to celebrate.'"

Noel B. Murphy filming at Fuller's grave with a friend's parrot.



HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS HOSTS COMMUNITY GROUPS

Curator of Historical Collections Meg L. Winslow and **Archivist Brian A. Sullivan** have hosted several community groups over the last months ranging from Harvard Loeb Fellows to Haggerty Elementary School 4th graders.

Historical Collections hosted staff from Harvard University's Schlesinger Library including the

Archivist, Manuscript Cataloger, Curator of Books, Photo Archivist, Financial Associate, Reference Librarian, and others on September 28, for a tour of the grounds focusing on the many Cemetery connections with the Schlesinger Library and notable women.

In collaboration with **Preservation and Facilities Planner Natalie Wampler** and **Chief of Conservation Dave Gallagher**, Meg Winslow met with nearby Haggerty School 4th graders for a visit to the Cemetery to study erosion, glacial features, and stone types on October 23. Three days later, Historical Collections hosted interested parents of the Haggerty School students for a tour of the grounds and an introduction to the preservation needs of the Cemetery.

November brought a visit from Harvard University's Loeb and Neiman Fellows. Topics covered included land use, green burials, and integration of old and new design. A second tour is planned for the spring. **Vice President of Preservation and Facilities Bill Barry** met the group to speak about the complex preservation challenges at Mount Auburn.



Curator of Historical Collections Meg L. Winslow (second from left) with Cambridge's Haggerty School parents

SUSTAINABILITY AT MOUNT AUBURN

Mount Auburn is committed to environmental responsibility and awareness, and the manner in which we recycle any hazardous materials allows for as little negative impact to the earth's environment as possible. Mount Auburn registered with the Watertown Board of Health to utilize the Minuteman Hazardous Products Regional Facility in Lexington, Mass., that is used by many surrounding towns. Safety Coordinators Joe Bancewicz (of Billerica, Mass.) and Paul Giesta (of Medford, Mass.) collaborate to ensure the success of this program, which not only guarantees the



Safety Coordinators Joe Bancewicz (left) and Paul Giesta

proper disposal of the Cemetery's hazardous materials, but also advises employees about proper disposal of hazardous materials that are found in their homes. Sustainable culture is not only part of Mount Auburn's mission, but is a lifestyle choice being adopted by members of our staff—a sustainable approach to living.

MOUNT AUBURN WELCOMES TWO NEW STAFF MEMBERS

This past summer Mount Auburn welcomed two new additions to the staff.

Regina Harrison, Executive Assistant to President Dave Barnett, came to Mount Auburn following several years as an Administrative Assistant in the Office of Chancellor/President Emeritus John Silber at Boston University. This experience combined with her background in anthropology and a stint in the U.S. Forest Service made Mount Auburn a natural fit. Regina has an A.B. from the University of

Chicago and an M.A. from McGill University. She lives in Arlington, Mass., with her husband, Mathew Fuller, and she enjoys dance and music.

Lauren Marsh joined Mount Auburn as the Development Associate and Communications Coordinator. For the previous five years, Lauren taught high school English in her hometown of Wakefield, Mass. Prior to that, she worked as Marketing Associate for the

North Shore Music Theatre. She has a B.A. in English from Merrimack College and an M.A. in Writing and Publishing from Emerson College. She lives in Cambridge with her husband, Paul, and writes fiction in her spare time.



Regina Harrison (left) and Lauren Marsh

STAFF NEWS AND TRAVEL

President Dave Barnett attended several events throughout the fall of 2009 including the Massachusetts Horticultural Society Honorary Medals Awards Dinner in Wellesley, Mass., and the Watertown/Belmont Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner in Watertown, Mass., in October. On January 5, 2010, he began the new year by speaking about Mount Auburn Cemetery at the Northeastern Weed Science Society's Annual Meeting in Cambridge. Also in late January, he attended the Annual Meeting of Directors of Large Gardens in Santa Barbara, Calif.

In June 2010, he plans to attend the Annual Conference of the American Public Gardens Association in Atlanta, Ga., where he is scheduled to speak on a panel.

Family Services Coordinator Tom Johnson and **Senior Custodian Jose Rivera** completed Cremation Association of North America (CANA) Cremation Certification last September.

Chief of Conservation Dave Gallagher will attend the Annual Meeting of the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC) May 11-14 in Milwaukee, Wis. He will also complete a course on masonry conservation in New York City through RESTORE, a nonprofit educational corporation that offers a range of programs and services related to the technology of building conservation.

Members of our Horticulture staff attended the New England Grows conference in Boston in February.

Seven staff members also attended the Ecological Landscaping Association Annual Conference on February 25 in Springfield, Mass.

Horticultural Curator Dennis Collins taught a class on conifers at the Arnold Arboretum on November 7, 2009. In addition, he spoke at the Trees in the Urban Landscape Symposium at the Tower Hill Botanic Garden in Boylston, Mass., on November 13, and he appeared as a panelist at Northeastern University on February 22, for a screening of bestselling author, journalist, speaker, and environmentalist Paul Tukey's new documentary film, *A Chemical Reaction*, which is about the organic lawn care movement.

Superintendent of Grounds Paul Walker and Dennis Collins arranged a trip to New York for gardening, arboriculture, and greenhouse staff in October 2009. The group visited Battery Park City, Brooklyn Botanic Garden and Green-Wood Cemetery (Brooklyn) to look at materials recycling, composting techniques, and the application of compost and compost teas in the landscape. The information obtained will be extremely helpful in clarifying our goals and strategies as we move toward making all of our maintenance practices more environmentally sensitive and sustainable.

A Milestone!

Volunteer Frances G. Pratt of Cambridge, who has been working with Historical Collections since 2004, processed her 10,000th folder on December 22, 2009, while pulling work order cards as part of a major lot correspondence processing project.



INTERMENTS AND MEMORIAL SERVICES OF NOTE IN 2009-10

- **Surendra Dangol** (1970–2009), of Somerville, Mass. and Nepal, age 39, a convenience store clerk, died during a robbery of the store where he worked in Jamaica Plain, Mass. A large public memorial service and a private Hindu funeral service were held at Mount Auburn on Monday, January 4, 2010.
- **Peter P. Gil, Ph.D.** (1922–2010), of Newcastle, N.H., age 87, Associate Dean of the Sloan School of Management at MIT
- **Dr. Malcolm Hayden Hebb** (1910–2009) of Eustis, Fla., age 99, a renowned physicist
- **Howard W. Johnson** (1922–2009) of Lexington, Mass., age 87, former president of MIT

- **Dr. Carl Kaysen** (1920–2010) of Cambridge, age 89, an economist, MIT Professor Emeritus, and member of the Kennedy administration
- **Leon Kirchner** (1919–2009) of New York, N.Y., age 90, a composer, teacher, and Pulitzer Prize winner
- **Dr. Michael E. Moody** (1952–2010) of Needham, Mass., age 57, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty at Olin College
- **Paul A. Samuelson, Ph.D.** (1915–2009) of Belmont, Mass., age 94, 1st American Nobel laureate in economics and uncle of Lawrence H. Summers, former president of Harvard
- **Ihor Sevcenko** (1922–2009) of Cambridge, age 87, Harvard professor of Byzantine history and literature, wrote a Ukrainian translation of George Orwell’s *Animal Farm*
- **Dr. Paul C. Zamecnik** (1912–2009) of Boston, age 96, a molecular biologist who co-discovered RNA

The Results Are In...

MOUNT AUBURN VISITORS SURVEY UPDATE

BY BREE D. HARVEY *Director of Education & Visitor Services*

“I WAS ALWAYS TOLD MOUNT AUBURN WAS WONDERFUL, but I am AMAZED. I definitely want to come here more frequently.” So wrote one participant in our recent Visitors Survey when asked about her visit to the Cemetery. In order to better understand the needs and wants of our visitors, the Cemetery recently took part in “Visitors Count!,” a survey and data analysis program sponsored by the American Association for State and Local History. During the spring and summer of 2009, staff and volunteers stationed at key Cemetery landmarks—the Visitors Center, the Tower, and others—distributed a 36-question survey to visitors willing to provide us with their feedback. Visitors completing the survey ranked the Cemetery’s performance in a number of areas including customer service, ties to the community, facilities, exhibits, and the overall visitor experience. In November, the Cemetery received a report of our survey results from the Center for Nonprofit Management in Nashville, Tenn.

“A positive experience...”

Overall, our visitors reported a positive experience. The Cemetery received top ratings in half of the areas questioned and received “good” ratings in most other areas. But, as always, there are opportunities for improvement. While our visitors are clearly impressed with the beauty of the Cemetery and the fact that it is so meticulously well-kept, we also learned that they would like to see more frequently held concerts and family-friendly events. Making accessible the information about the Cemetery’s notable people,



PHOTO BY LOGAN WANGSGARD

its art and architecture, its horticulture, and its history is another area that warrants attention. An electronic kiosk, to be installed at Mount Auburn’s Egyptian Revival Gatehouse this spring, is one of the first steps in improving visitor amenities and making information more readily available.

Improvements to come

As we continue to sift through the survey results, we will begin focusing our attentions on the areas highlighted for improvement while still striving to maintain the high standards in the areas where we are already receiving top marks. Maintaining and enhancing the experience of our visitors has always been one of our top priorities.



DID YOU KNOW...?

Did you know...?

- the lifetime of at least one person buried at Mount Auburn spanned *three centuries*—Emily Everett (1799–1904), Lot #3705, *Fuchsia Path*;
- there is a Confederate soldier buried here —William Baynard Whaley (1845–1921), Lot #1000, *Eglantine Path*;
- the first burial at Mount Auburn was of a two-month old infant, Charles Boyd, on November 25, 1832, Lot #328, *Mountain Ave.*

...Mount Auburn has

- over 2,000 linear feet of historical records, including business, legal, interment, financial, photographic, operations and engineering records;
- catalogued 2,772 books, 5,236 photographs, 135 objects, and 2,181 archival records in the Historical Collections.

...in Historical Collections

- the staff answered over 350 requests for genealogical information in 2009; and
- six volunteers contributed more than 720 hours of research and archival work.



PHOTO BY KATE WANGSGARD



...Preservation/Conservation staff

- repaired 129 monuments between spring and fall 2009 (a crew of three); and
- washed approximately 8,450 monuments this season (crew of two).

...and that

- there are three different plants at Mount Auburn with the word ‘Sweet’ in their name: *Coreopsis verticillata* ‘Sweet Dreams’, Rhododendron ‘Sweet Sue’ and Hosta ‘So Sweet’;
- the longest name in our list of species is *Viburnum plicatum* var. *tomentosum* ‘Summer Snowflake’, a cultivar of Doublefile Viburnum (see photo at top of page).

...in the last four fiscal years (2006–2010)

- outside of Massachusetts, Mount Auburn Cemetery has received gifts from 33 other states, plus England, Russia and Canada, totaling 20% of the \$1.375 million raised in FY2010.
- over **\$3,504,790** in contributions have been given to the Cemetery, including \$779,684 in foundation grants to support projects for Preservation & Historical Collections, Public Programs, and Horticulture.

...there is

- **still space available** for purchase at Mount Auburn (call 617-547-7105).

What will be your legacy?

If you'd like to preserve Mount Auburn Cemetery for future generations, please consider a bequest.

Bequests offer you maximum flexibility when making a legacy gift to Mount Auburn Cemetery. You may leave a specific dollar amount; a percentage of your estate; a residual, which provides for Mount Auburn after other beneficiaries have been provided for; or other property.

If you are interested in making a bequest, you may use the following language to include Mount Auburn in your estate plans:

“I give the sum of _____ dollars (\$_____) [or _____% of my estate] [or description of other property] to the Friends of Mount Auburn Cemetery, a federally tax-exempt charitable trust with offices at 580 Mount Auburn Street, Cambridge, MA 02138”

To learn how a bequest to Mount Auburn can help you meet your philanthropic and financial goals, please contact Piper Morris, Senior Vice President of Development, at 617-607-1919 or pmorris@mountauburn.org.



Upcoming Events

For a complete listing of walks, talks, and special events, please visit our website at www.mountauburn.org.

* Early Risers Horticulture Club

Fridays, April 2, 16 & 30, May 7 & 21, June 4, 7 AM

For those who appreciate the early morning or who are looking for a quick walk before work, these brief excursions will highlight what's in bloom and other points of horticultural interest throughout spring. From early bulbs to magnificent flowering trees, we will try to catch them all. Walks begin promptly at 7 AM and last approximately one hour.

No preregistration. FREE.

* May Concert:

Tones of Romance – The Music of early Mount Auburn
Sunday, May 16, 5 PM

In the 19th century, music was transformed into a “fine art” by Beethoven, Brahms, Wagner, Mendelssohn, and Schumann. Through the compositions of Beethoven music bloomed into a Romantic art form, while works like Wagner’s *Ring Cycle* were considered a transformative experience. Mount Auburn was founded on these same Romantic ideas – as a place of art, beauty, contemplation, and transformation. This concert, in **Story Chapel**, will showcase the music of early Mount Auburn and feature New England Conservatory graduates **Raymond Lam**, clarinet, and **Amie Chen**, piano, with special guest **Jennifer Tietze**, clarinet. A reception will follow the hour-long program. *Seating is limited. Preregistration is required.* \$10 members; \$15 non-members.

* Service of Commemoration

Saturday, May 29, 1:30 PM

Join us on **Bigelow Chapel Lawn** for our annual Memorial Day service. We set aside this time to celebrate the lives of those who have gone before us and to experience the uniqueness of Mount Auburn as a memorial of living beauty and peace. Refreshments will be served following the service. *In the case of rain, the service will be held inside Bigelow Chapel.* **FREE.**

PHOTO BY JENNIFER JOHNSTON



* June Concert:

An Artful Collaboration: Music and Poetry
Saturday, June 12, 3 PM

Through the years both poets and composers have called Boston home, sharing the same intellectual and social circles. Perhaps less well-known is that these artists from the music and literary worlds also collaborated on song composition. The poems of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Julia Ward Howe, and Amy Lowell are among those that have been turned into song through the years. Visit **Bigelow Chapel** for an hour-long concert, featuring **soprano Jean Danton** and **pianist Thomas Stumpf**, that celebrates the collaboration between poets and composers now buried at Mount Auburn. A reception will follow. *Seating is limited. Preregistration is required.* \$10 members; \$15 non-members.

* SAVE THE DATE!

Special Event: An Evening with Douglas Tallamy
Thursday, June 10, 6:30 PM

Come to the Cambridge Public Library for a special community event with entomologist, native plants expert, and *Bringing Nature Home* author Douglas Tallamy. For complete event details, please visit www.grownativecambridge.org/programs/annualceleb

This event is being co-sponsored with Grow Native Cambridge, Cambridge Plant and Garden Club, Ecological Landscaping Association, Friends of the Cambridge Public Library, Friends of Fresh Pond Reservation, and Somerville Garden Club.