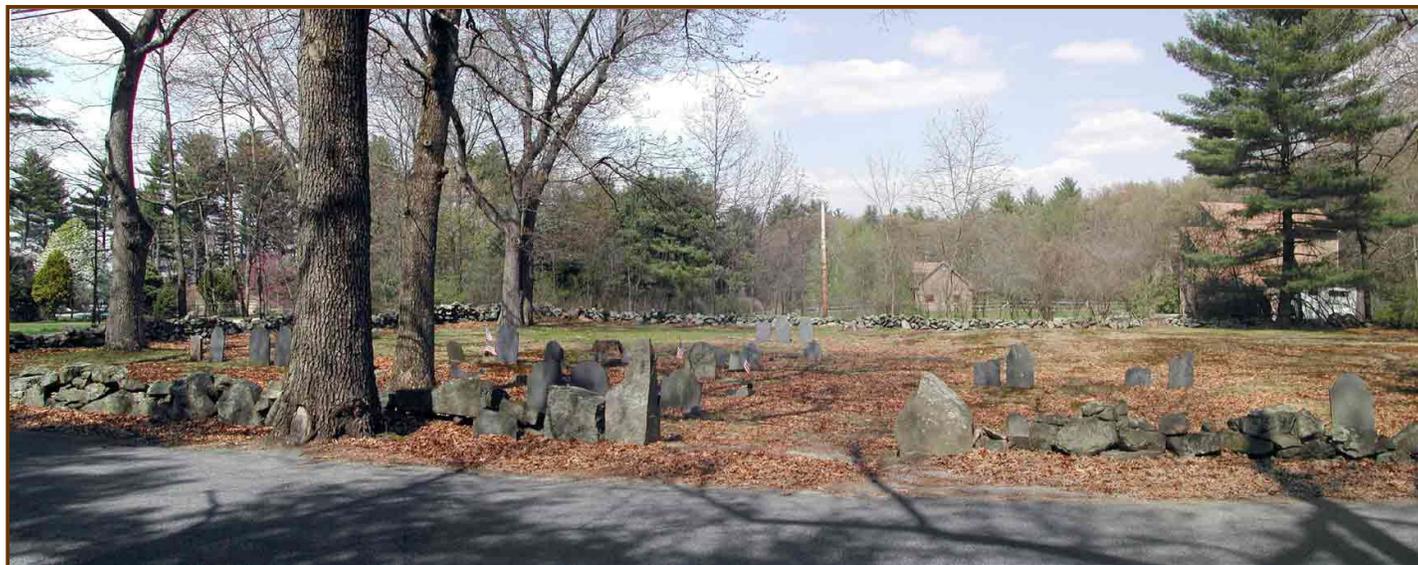


Brush Hill/Reformatory/Clara Barton Cemetery

Perry Street



Brush Hill Cemetery, May 10, 2008

Form No.	804
Town	Sherborn
Address	Perry Street
Name	Brush Hill/Reformatory/Clara Barton Cemetery
Ownership, 1981	Public
Approximate number stones	Brush Hill 30 stones Reformatory 3 " Clara Barton 6 "
Earliest death date	Brush Hill-1785/Reformatory-1930's/Clara Barton-1950
Latest death date	Brush Hill 1885, Reformatory 1930's, Clara Barton 1960's
Condition	Of the three burying grounds, the Brush Hill Cemetery is the best maintained. Many of its stones, however, are badly weathered
Recorded	July 1981

ASSESSMENT OF ART WORK

Brush Hill Cemetery: This large rectangular lot contains approximately 30 stones (many more lie in fragments on the ground), which are composed primarily of slate. Winged human heads and the willow and urn are the motifs which most frequently appear on the markers. Family names which appear most often on the stones include Cozzen, Sanger, Perry, Stratton, and Bullard. Contiguous to its southern wall is the Reformatory Cemetery which contains only a few nondescript stones bearing 1930's death dates. This burying ground's most distinctive feature is its rock faced granite entrance gates. Directly across the street is the Clara Barton Cemetery, which is entered through a stockade-like wooden gate. Its half dozen stones are slate granite slabs bearing 1950's and 1960's death dates. Low fieldstone walls surround the cemeteries.

Note. Green Lane, part of Hunting Lane and Perry Street was once the direct route from Sherborn Center to Framingham. It was discontinued because of a "snow storm lawsuit" by The Perry's against the town. The Perry's won. Their homestead was located to the south of Brush Hill Cemetery at the intersection of Hunting and Green Lanes. (no longer extant).

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Brush Hill Cemetery was a gift to the town by Joseph Perry in 1785. Luther Perry, Joseph's nephew, was the first person buried in this lot. (Luther Perry's stone is still intact near the cemetery entrance.) This burying ground's continued presence is a reminder that settlement had reached Sherborn's northwestern corner by the late 18th century (initially, late 17th century inhabitants lived in the southern portion of the town.) The Brush Hill Cemetery was used from 1785 until the 1880's (Eveline Sanger's stone is dated 1885).

The Reformatory Cemetery was apparently founded in the early 20th century. The Reformatory is presently located within Framingham's boundaries.

The Clara Barton Cemetery across the street is owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. It continues the Reformatory Cemetery's function as a place of interment for prisoners.

During the late 19th century Sherborn's Women's Reformatory was the only female reformatory in the world. The reformatory's land was part of 575 acres annexed to Framingham in 1889. The Reformatory was constructed in 1877.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and REFERENCES

- Anne C. Shaughnessy - The History of Sherborn, 1974