



1



2



3

Beyond the Death Certificate



Voice of
Rhonda R. McClure
Senior Genealogist

4

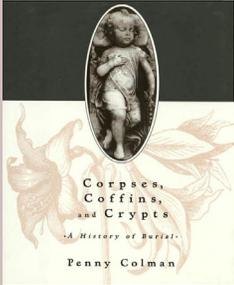
Beyond the Death Certificate

- Civil death records often more concerned with the act of dying
- Funerals allow the living to say goodbye
- Burial cemetery records may offer additional insight into:
 - Religion
 - Family members
 - Final wishes of the deceased

5

History of Death and Burial

- Penny Colman's *Corpses, Coffins, and Crypts: A History of Burials*
- Henry Holt and Company, LLC in New York
- Published 1997



6

• Contents •

[Preface](#)

[1 Dead Is Dead: Defining Death](#)

[2 Death Is Distinguishing: Understanding Death](#)

[3 What Happens to Corpses: Decomposition, Transplants, Autopsies, and Embalming](#)

[4 Bones and Ashes: Cremation and Other Ways to Dispose of Corpses](#)

[5 How to Contain the Remains: Urns, Coffins, Crypts, and Mausoleums](#)

[6 Where Corpses End Up: Cemeteries and Other Burial Sites](#)

[7 Rituals for People Who Have Died: Burial Customs, Ceremonies, and Celebrations](#)

[8 Death Is Everywhere: Images in the Arts and Everyday Life](#)

["When I Die..."](#)

[Where to Find the Remains and Burial Sites of Some Famous People](#)

[Epitaphs: Poignant, Pious, Patriotic, Historic, and Humorous](#)

[Common Carvings on Gravestones](#)

[About the Author](#)

[Chronology](#)

[Bibliography](#)

[Glossary](#)

[Index](#)

Corpses, Coffins and Crypts

7

Morley, John. *Death, Heaven and the Victorians*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1971.

Murphy, Dervla. *Muddling Through Madagascar*. New York: Overlook Press, 1989.

Nagy, Maria H. *The Meaning of Death*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1965.

Noland, Sherwin B. *How We Die*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1993.

Oxenstierna, Eric. *The Norsemen*. Greenwich, Conn.: New York Graphic Society Publishers, 1965.

Paludan, Ann. *The Imperial Ming Tombs*. New Haven: Yale University Press, 1981.

Harrinder, Geoffrey. *African Mythology*. New York: Peter Bedrick Books, 1987.

Puckle, Bertram. *Funerary Customs*. London: T. Werner Laurie, 1926.

Putnam, James. *Mummy*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1993.

Quigley, Christine. *The Corpse: A History*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland Company, 1996.

—. *Death Dictionary*. Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland Company, 1994.

Rakoff, Vivian. *Death in American Experience*. New York: Schocken Books, 1974.

Riemer, Jack, ed. *Jewish Reflections on Death*. New York: Schocken Books, 1974.

Ronan, Margaret, and Eve Ronan. *Death Around the World*. New York: Scholastic Book Services, 1978.

Saragin, Janice Kohl. *Old Burial Grounds of New Jersey*. New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1994.

Selzer, Richard. *Mortal Lessons: Notes of the Art of Surgery*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1987.

Shneidman, Edwin S. *Death: Current Perspectives*. Palo Alto, Calif.: Mayfield Publishing Co., 1978.

Southern, Eileen. *The Music of Black Americans: A History*. 3rd edition. New York: W. W. Norton, 1997.

Stannard, David E., ed. *Death in America*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1975.

Toynbee, J. M. C. *Death and Burial in the Roman World*. Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 1971.

Thompson, Robert Farris. *Flash of the Spirit: African & Afro-American Art & Philosophy*. New York: Random House, 1983.

Vigarello, Georges. *Concepts of Cleanliness*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1988.

Walker, G. A. *Gatherings from Graveyards*. New York: Arno Press, 1977.

Waugh, Evelyn. *The Loved One*. London: Chapman & Hall, 1948.

Well, Thomas. *The Cemetery Book: Graveyards, Catacombs, and Other Travel Haunts Around the World*. New York: Hippocrene Books, 1992.

Corpses, Coffins, and Crypts Bibliography

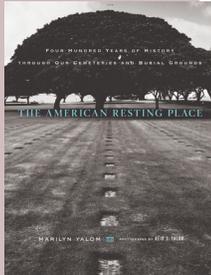
8

History of Death and Burial

Marilyn Yalom's *The American Resting Place, Four Hundred Years of History Through Our Cemeteries and Burial Grounds*

Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston

Published 2008



9

Contents

[Title Page](#)

[Contents](#)

[Copyright](#)

[Dedication](#)

[Frontispiece](#)

[Photo Portfolio](#)

[Preface](#)

[Claiming the Land](#)

[Marking the Grave](#)

[Solidarity in the Cemetery](#)

[Distancing the Dead](#)

[Death's Heads and Funeral Gloves](#)

["Gone are the Living, But the Dead Remain"](#)

[Cemeteries as Real Estate](#)

[Plain and Fancy](#)

[The Southern Way of Death](#)

[New Orleans](#)

[Rituals of Remembrance](#)

[Ethnicity, Religion, and Class in Underground Chicago](#)

[Celebrating the Dead in Polyglot Texas](#)

[California](#)

[Who Owns the Bones?](#)

[National Military Cemeteries](#)

[Old and New Fashions in Death](#)

[Notes](#)

[Acknowledgments](#)

[Selected Bibliography](#)

[Index](#)

[About the Author](#)

[Connect with HMH](#)

The American Resting Place...

10

Selected Bibliography

Benes, Peter. *The Masks of Orthodoxy: Folk Gravestone Carving in Plymouth County, Massachusetts, 1689-1805*. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1977.

Blair, William A. *Cities of the Dead: Contesting the Memory of the Civil War in the South, 1865-1914*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2004.

Bridgman, Thomas. *Memorials of the Dead in Boston: Containing Exact Transcriptions of Inscriptions on the Sepulchral Monuments in the King's Chapel Burial Ground*. Boston: Benjamin B. Mussey and Co., 1853.

Brown, John Gary. *Soul in the Stone: Cemetery Art from America's Heartland*. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1994.

Chung, Sue Fawn, and Priscilla Wegars, eds. *Chinese American Death Rituals: Respecting the Ancestors*. Lanham, MD: AltaMira Press, 2005.

Coffin, Margaret M. *Death in Early America: The History and Folklore of Customs and Superstitions of Early Medicine, Funerals, Burials, and Mourning*. New York: Thomas Nelson, Inc., 1976.

Combs, Diana Williams. *Early Gravestone Art in Georgia and South Carolina*. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1986.

Deetz, James. *In Small Things Forgotten: An Archeology of Early American Life*. New York: Anchor Books, 1996.

Earle, Alice Morse. *Colonial Days in Old New York*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1896. See especially chapter 14.

Farrell, James J. *Inventing the American Way of Death, 1830-1920*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1980.

Fischer, David Hackett. *Albion's Seed: Four British Folkways in America*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1989.

Florence, Robert, and Mason Florence. *New Orleans Cemeteries: Life in the Cities of the Dead*. New Orleans: Batture Press, 1997.

Forbes, Harriet Merrifield. *Gravestones of Early New England, and the Men Who Made Them, 1653-1800*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1927.

Galland, China. *Love Cemetery: Unburying the Secret History of Slaves*. San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 2007.

Godson, Susan H., ed. *A Guide to the Memorials of Bruton Parish Church*. Williamsburg, VA: Bruton Parish Church, 2006.

11

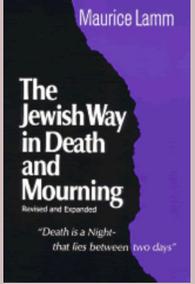
History of Death and Burial

Maurice Lamm's *The Jewish Way in Death and Mourning*

Revised edition

Jonathan David Publishers, Inc., Middle Village, N.Y.

Published 2000



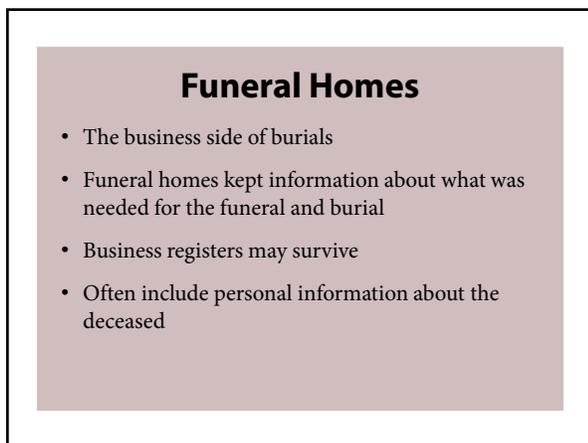
12



16



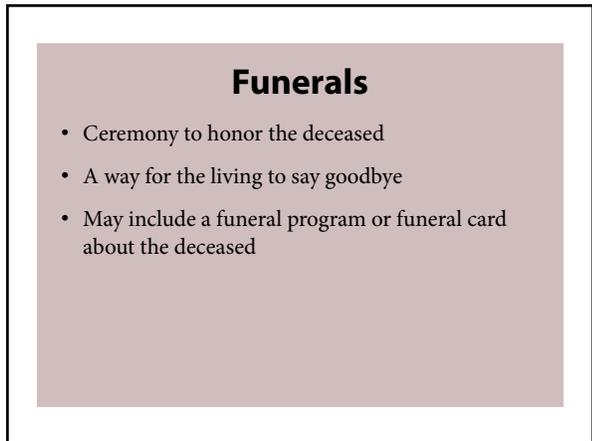
17



18



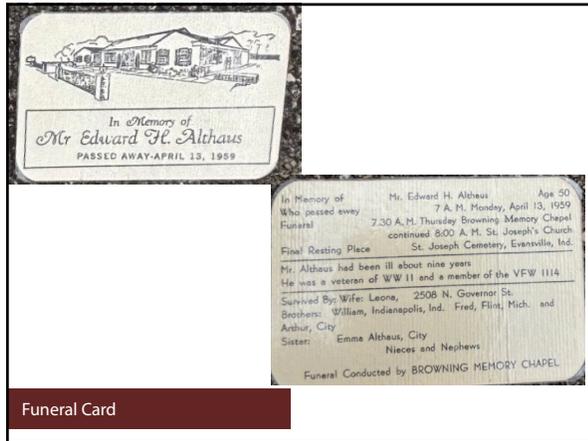
25



26



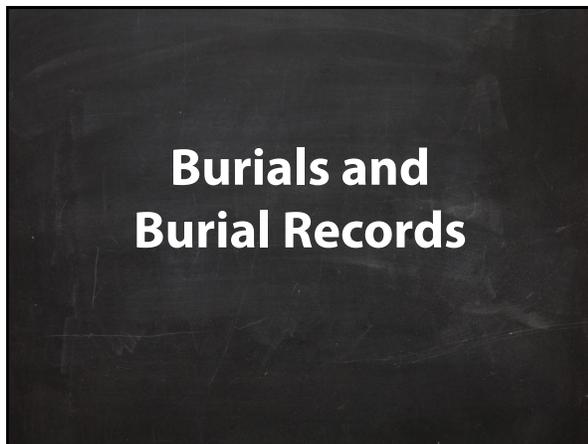
27



31



32



33

Burial Traditions

- The body is positioned with the head to the west, hands resting on thighs, and feet to the east
 - If west-east position is not possible, north-south is used instead
 - Allows the dead to rise at dawn on Judgment Day, see the sunrise, and ascend into heaven
 - Clergy are buried in the opposite orientation
- Headstone inscriptions on the side facing west
- Quakers used plain coffins, sometimes stacking them on top of each other. Nondescript headstones are used.
 - Meeting members would remove any gravestones used (exceptions: Hicksite and Gurneysite sects)

34

Burial Registers

- Details may include the following:
 - Name of deceased
 - Date died
 - Date buried
 - Burial plot details
 - Age
 - Cause of death

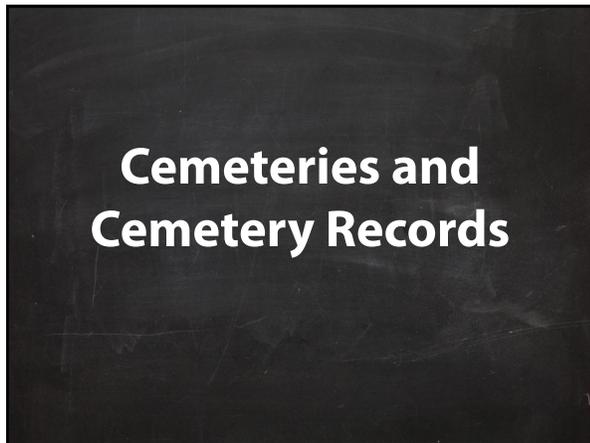
35

[Burial Register of the
Reformed Dutch Church
in the
City of New York]

Date Buried	Name	Age
1724		
January		
6 9	Class Janse Bogert	adult
7 11	Melchior Janse Buerse	adult
17 19	Willelm Jacobus Cornelius	adult
17 21	Karmanus Burger	adult
24 26	Johannes Teller	adult
February		
7 15	Parah Colwell	adult
March		
4 6	Mattheus Corbin	adult
10 13	Jannette wife of Jan Bron	adult
24 25	Jan Aarburgh	adult

1726/7 Burial Register of Reformed Dutch Church, New York City (FamilySearch)

36



52

Church Cemeteries and Graveyards

- The church may oversee their own private graveyard or private cemetery.
- Burial records can include:
 - Internment records
 - Lot sales/transfers
 - Maps of the burying ground

53

19

Date of the payment for the Burial Lots

J. W. Newman paid \$25.00 for Lot No. 12. Jan 3rd 1853.
Dr. W. B. Bower paid \$30.00 for Lot No. 6. Nov. 15 1853.
Samuel Cabot, son paid \$40.00 for Lot No. 1. Feb. 14 1854.
Thomas Bragg paid \$20.00 for Lot No. 7. May 5 1854.
John Randolph paid \$25.00 for Lot No. 11. May 8 1854.
H. W. Mangum paid \$40.00 for Lot No. 10. May 8 1854.
H. B. Hendry paid \$25.00 for Lot No. 2. April 4. 1855.

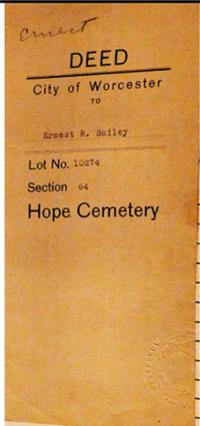
Payments for Burial Lots, Church of the Saviour, Jackson, North Carolina (FamilySearch)

54

Lot Sale/Transfers

- Deeds for plots in the cemetery
- Date of purchase often based on death of family member
- May supply:
 - Size of total plot
 - Plot number
 - Cemetery section
- May be recorded with cemetery or courthouse

55



Correct
DEED
City of Worcester
to
Ernest R. Baileys

Lot No. 10274
Section 64
Hope Cemetery

Cemetery Plot Deed

56

Know all Men by these Presents,

That the CITY OF WORCESTER, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
a municipality organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
do hereby certify that

Ernest R. Baileys

a certain parcel of land in HOPE CEMETERY, bounded 10274 on Section 64
containing 2000 square feet and containing 2000 square feet
is shown on a plan of HOPE CEMETERY on file in the office of the Treasurer of the City of Worcester
in consideration of the further sum of \$1000.00 dollars paid
to the City of Worcester to be the same parcel from the sum to maintain the cost of this lot
in PERPETUAL CARE.

Said lot to be used as a burial place for the person and such other persons as may be entitled
to the right of burial thereon, and for no other purpose, and this conveyance is made subject to such
terms, regulations and restrictions relating to said cemetery as are now or shall hereafter be established
by the Board of said Commonwealth, the Ordinance of said City or by the Commissioners of said
Cemetery.

In Witness Whereof the said City of Worcester by *H. J. Baileys*,
City Treasurer, has authorized its corporate agents and officers its corporate seal and this
deed to be signed by the City of Worcester, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and
twelve.

Ernest R. Baileys
City of Worcester

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Worcester, December 15 A.D. 1922

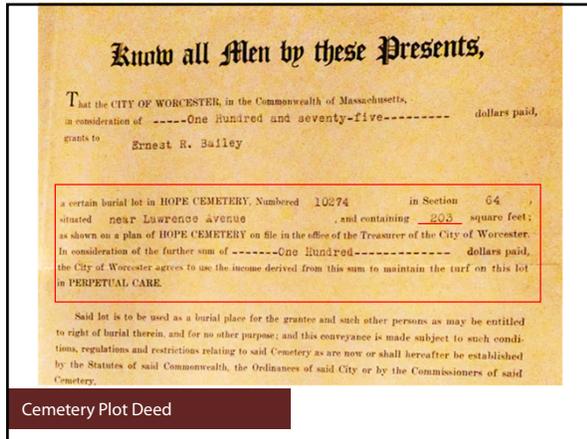
This document signed *H. J. Baileys*, Treasurer of the City of Worcester,
and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his free act and deed of said City.

Witness my hand and seal of the City of Worcester,
this 15th day of December, 1922, at 12 o'clock noon.

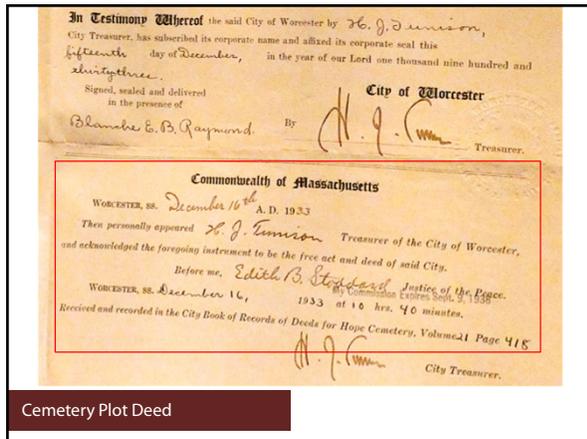
Ernest R. Baileys
City Treasurer

Cemetery Plot Deed

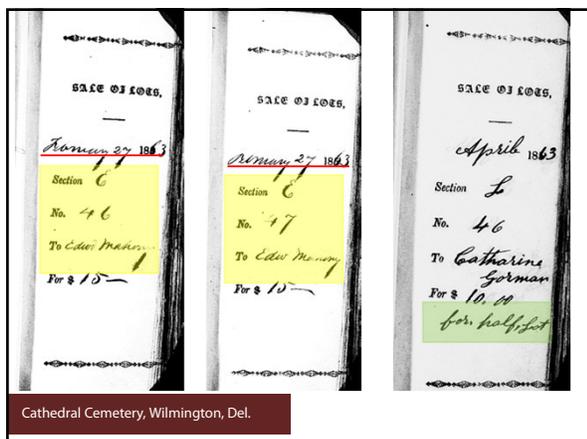
57



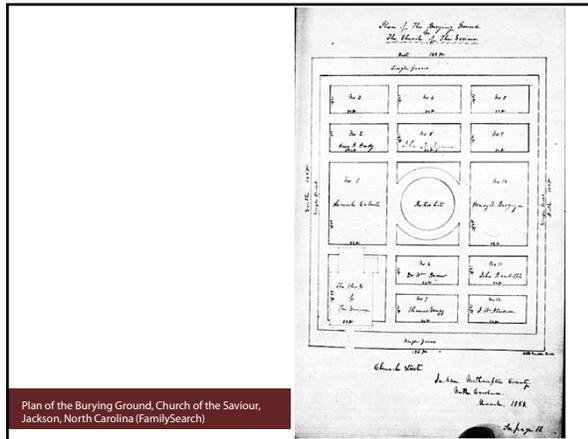
58



59

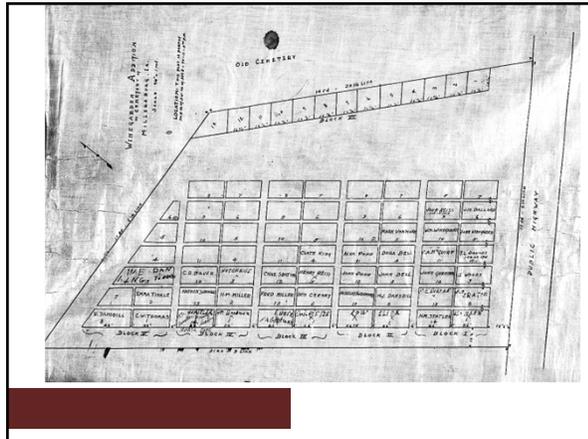


60

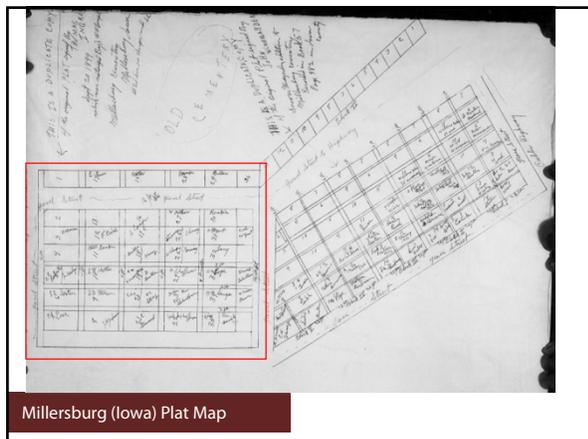


Plan of the Burying Ground, Church of the Saviour, Jackson, North Carolina (FamilySearch)

64

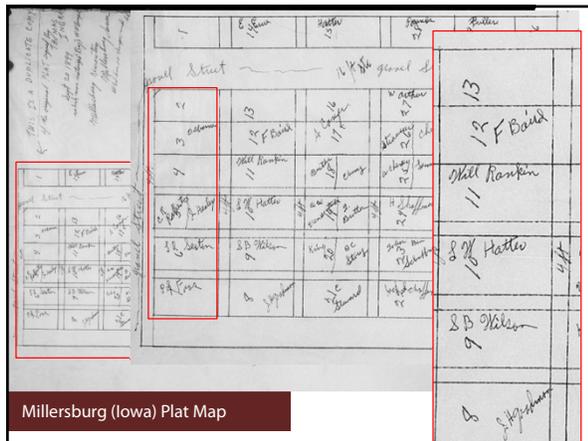


65



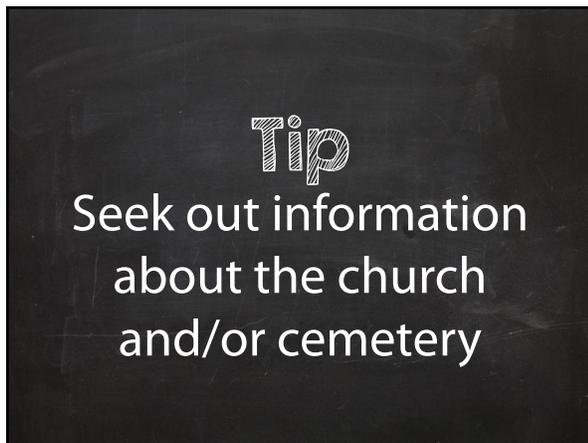
Millersburg (Iowa) Plat Map

66

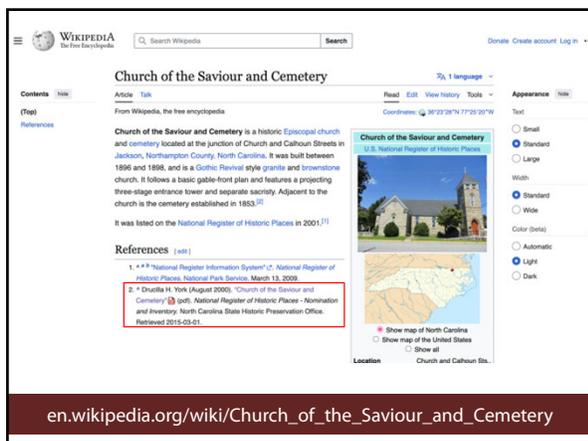


Millersburg (Iowa) Plat Map

67



68



en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church_of_the_Saviour_and_Cemetery

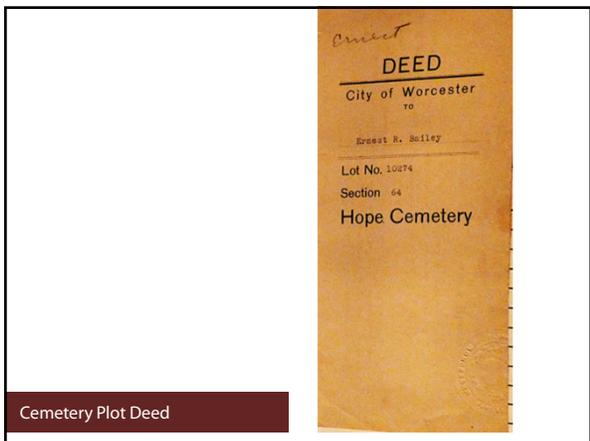
69



76



77



78



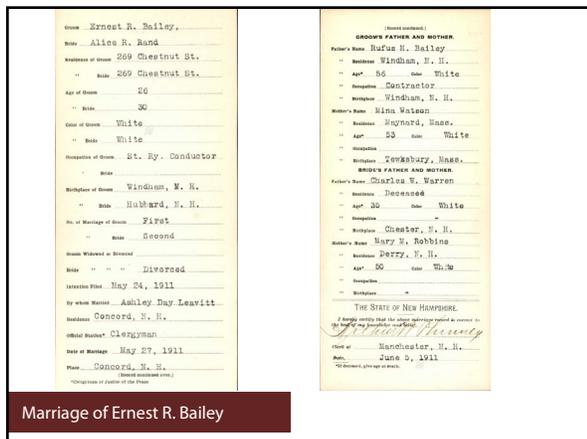
Ernest R. Bailey Tombstone

85

Putting it Together

- Ernest R. Bailey was a member of the Improved Order of Odd Fellow
- Ernest R. Bailey had a wife, Alice A. _____
- Clarence Samuel Bailey was a member of the Mason
- Clarence Samuel Bailey had a wife Henrietta F. _____
- Philip Irving Bailey served in World War I

86



Marriage of Ernest R. Bailey

87

<i>Name</i> Bailey, Clarence Samuel			
<i>Residence</i> Millbury	<i>Occupation</i> Foreman Mechanic	<i>Nativity</i> Kansas City, Mo. 1885-9-19	
<i>Lodge</i> Olive Branch	<i>Initiated</i> 1944-1-24	<i>Passed</i> 1944-2-28	<i>Raised</i> 1944-3-27
<i>Membership</i> 1944-4-10	<i>Dim. Sus. Dis.</i>	<i>Reinstated</i>	<i>Deceased</i> 1945-8-13
<i>Remarks</i>			
Clarence S. Bailey Masonic Membership Card			

88

INDEX TO DEATHS IN MASSACHUSETTS 1946-1950

NAME	TOWN	YEAR	VOL.	PAGE
Bailey				
Helen M (Peterson)	Kingston	1946	50	220
Helen V (Gay)	Newton	1947	71	127
Helen (Davis)	Boston	1947	15	189
Henrietta (Finney)	Millbury	1947	55	483
Happy G	Worcester	1949	104	380
Ogden	West Newbury	1950	96	232
Hopce	Haverhill	1950	50	425
Alderbart	Newton	1946	71	312
Ide (Kosch)	Pittsfield	1950	78	508

Massachusetts Death Index

89

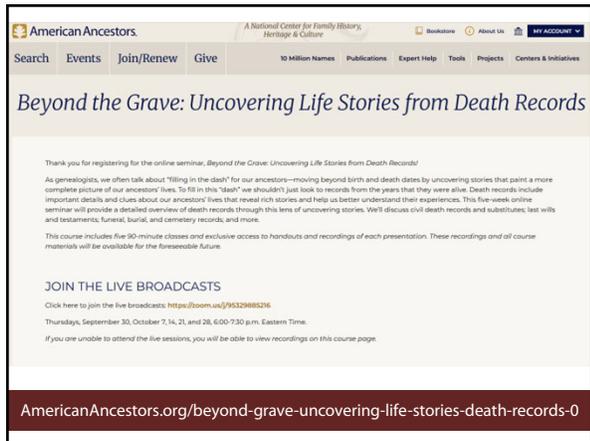
Putting it Together

- Ernest R. Bailey was a member of the Improved Order of Odd Fellow
- Ernest R. Bailey had a wife, Alice A. (Warren) Rand
- Clarence Samuel Bailey was a member of the Masons – Olive Branch Lodge (Mass.)
- Clarence Samuel Bailey had a wife Henrietta F. Finney
- Philip Irving Bailey served in World War I

90



91



92



93

