

**SPRINGFIELD COMMUNITY PRESERVATION  
FULL APPLICATION COVER SHEET**

**I. PROJECT INFORMATION**

CPA program area - check all that apply:

☐ community housing      ☒ historic preservation      ☒ open space      ☐ recreation

Project/Program Title: **Bay Path Cemetery**

Brief Project/Program Summary:

The Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management is seeking CPA funding to make improvements at Bay Path Cemetery, one of the city's three municipally owned cemeteries. The project scope includes historic inventory and documentation, improved fencing, signage and landscaping. The Bay Path Cemetery is located in Blunt Park.

estimated start date: November 2022

estimated completion date: November 2023

**II. APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Type of Applicant - check one:

☒ City of Springfield      ☐ Non-Profit Organization      ☐ For-Profit Business      ☐ Individual

Name of Organization: **Department of Parks, Buildings and Recreation Management**

Name of Contact Person: **Patrick Sullivan**

Mailing Address: **200 Trafton Road**

Mailing City/State/Zip: **Springfield, MA 01108**

Phone: **(413) 787-7770**

Fax: **(413) 787-6439**

Email: **PSullivan@springfieldcityhall.com**

Website: **https://www.springfield-ma.gov/park/**

**III. BUDGET SUMMARY**

Estimated Project Budget: **\$182,000**

CPA Funding Request: **\$182,000**

Will you be seeking multi-year funding      ☐ Yes      ☒ No

CPA Request as Percentage of Total Project/Program Budget: **100%**

List Other Secured Funding Sources:

**There are no other funding sources secured for the Bay Path Cemetery project.**

List Other Prospective Funding Sources:

There are no other prospective funds for the Bay Path Cemetery project. However, the City of Springfield has secured funding for the renovation of Blunt Park, including a PARC grant (\$400,000), CDBG grant (\$350,000), CPA 2021 funds for tennis and garden, and \$5,700,000 municipal funding to complete renovation of recreational areas in Blunt Park.

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Submitted: 3/31/22

## **I. GENERAL INFORMATION - Bay Path Cemetery**

### **A. All Categories that involve property (land and/or buildings)**

1. Provide the parcel ID number(s) for property included in the project
  - Parcel Id: 01085-0325
2. Does the applicant own the property?
  - Yes, the property is owned by the City of Springfield and operated by the Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management (PBRM).
3. If the applicant does not own the property, attach a purchase & sale agreement for the property.
  - Not applicable

### **B. Community Housing Questions - Not applicable**

### **C. Historic Preservation Questions**

1. Will the owner agree to a preservation restriction or local historic district designation?
  - Bay Path Cemetery is one of three municipally owned cemeteries. The City is open to a historic determination for the property due to its significance to the social history of Springfield.
2. What steps will be taken to ensure the work complies with the Secretary's Standards?

(Note: The SCPC retains a preservation consultant who will review the scope of the work before a contract is initiated).

- Bay Path Cemetery improvements will adhere to the Secretary of the Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties in all design and construction phases for this restoration project. PBRM will engage design services of both a landscape architect familiar with the treatment of historic properties and a historic preservation consultant to prepare historic documentation and guide the development of a masterplan for restoration of Bay Path Cemetery.

The design and improvements at Bay Path Cemetery will be guided by the "Protection Cultural Landscapes: Planning, Treatment and Management of Historic Landscapes" Preservation Brief by the U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service Cultural Resources. The intent of the project is to perform archaeological survey and documentation task, and to make improvements to the condition of Bay Path Cemetery. Proposed improvements include fencing, lighting, flagpole, signage and landscaping.

PBRM will engage the services of a historic preservation consultant to develop a historical narrative of the property, review the intended plans to ensure historic standards are met. Additionally, the project will be reviewed by the Springfield Community Preservation Committee's historic preservation consultant to ensure adherence to preservation guidelines.

3. What is the age of the property?
  - Bay Path Cemetery was in operation as an active burial site for the City of Springfield since 1879 to 1951. The cemetery is 143 years old.

D. Open Space & Recreation Questions.

1. Is this project in a wetland or does it abut a wetland?
  - Yes, Bay Path Cemetery is adjacent to a wetland area in Blunt Park.
2. If so, has the Conservation Commission been informed?
  - Yes the Conservation Commission has been informed of this project.
3. If the project is on municipal park or conservation land, attach a letter of support from the Park Commission or Conservation Commission.
  - The Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management, in collaboration with the Bay Area neighborhood, is the main applicant for this project and is in full support of this application. Please see attached letter of support from the Board of Park Commissioners.

- E. For grant requests over \$50,000 involving construction activity, the grantee must include a signed certification with the application that they have not been found guilty of Wage Theft; and will not use contractors/subcontractors found guilty of Wage Theft. [See certificate included in the application materials]. Applies only to non-municipal projects.
- Not applicable. Restoration of Bay Path Cemetery is a municipal project.

City of Springfield – Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management  
Bay Path Cemetery – CPA 2022 Application

**II. NARRATIVE**

**A. Project Summary**

**Introduce the project with a summary which notes the CPA category, goals, project scope, and budget. (200 words or less)**

The Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management (PBRM), in cooperation with the Bay Area Neighborhood Council, is requesting CPA Historic Preservation funding to restore Bay Path Cemetery. The project aims to revitalize a historically significant asset to honor its role in the social and archaeological history of Springfield and ensure its preservation for future generations. Bay Path Cemetery is located in Blunt Park, at the Blunt Park Road & Roosevelt Avenue entrance.

Project scope includes design and services to perform archaeological and historic survey with documentation; and site improvements.

PBRM will engage services of a historic preservation consultant and landscape architect to advance the Bay Path Cemetery conceptual plan into design development to reflect and honor the history of the site. The historic consultant will perform an archeological survey utilizing ground penetrating radar to complete a Massachusetts Historic Commission Form E-Burial Ground inventory. The project budget and scope also includes construction costs to install new fencing, flagpole, signage and landscaping.

Project costs, including all design, survey, materials and construction costs, are anticipated at \$182,000 for restoration of Bay Path Cemetery. PBRM is requesting full project funding of \$182,000, through this CPA application, to improve Bay Path Cemetery.

**B. Proposal Description**

**1. Describe the proposal and how it will benefit Springfield. (200 words or less)**

Bay Path Cemetery was a Potter's Field and has been reported as the burial place for local indigent residents from 1873 to 1951. The site has approximately 896 gravesites including underground crypts used as a burial place for infants. The first internment occurred December 12, 1873 and the last on April 7, 1951.

This project scope components include site assessment, historical background research and documentation, design development, and installation of site improvements, such as site signage, improved fencing, flagpole/monument and landscaping.

Springfield residents will benefit from the proposal as the local historical significance of the site will be acknowledged and displayed for the awareness of City residents. Additionally, many residents walk, run and bike past this site to access Blunt Park. The location will be identified in a dignified and attractive way to illustrate the significant role Bay Path Cemetery plays in Springfield's social history.

**2. Identify what CPA criteria this proposal achieves and how they are accomplished.**

The Bay Path Cemetery project addresses the rehabilitation and restoration of a historic open space and recreation amenity as outlined in the Springfield Community Preservation Plan. The improvements aim to restore the existing conditions at Bay Path Cemetery to increase functionality and restore the historic character of the site.



City of Springfield – Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management  
Bay Path Cemetery – CPA 2022 Application

The Project is consistent with the priorities identified in the Community Preservation Plan. The rehabilitation of the Bay Path Cemetery addresses the following plan criteria: to preserve and enhance the essential character of Springfield; to protect open space and recreational resources that may otherwise be threatened; serves more than one CPA purpose; to demonstrate a practical and feasible project that can be implemented within its proposed budget and schedule; to leverage public and/or private funds or voluntary contributions of goods and services; and to utilize Springfield based resources. The project has received endorsements from municipal boards and neighborhood support.

**3. Describe the need that this proposal will address.**

PBRM has identified the restoration of city-owned cemeteries, including Bay Path Cemetery, as goals of its Open Space and Recreation Plan (2017). Rehabilitation of Bay Path Cemetery will address this goal specifically. The Open Space Plan is developed with community and resident input and PBRM continually strives to address the recreational needs of the city when completing open space renovation projects.

There is community and neighborhood support and interest in restoring Bay Path Cemetery, which has been delayed due to lack of funding. Please see attached letters of support from the Bay Area Neighborhood Council.

**4. What is the expected outcome of this proposal?**

Through implementation of this project, the Bay Path Cemetery will be properly documented and enhanced for future generations. The Bay Path Cemetery project consists of three major tasks: historic assessment and documentation (Task 1), archaeological survey (Task 2) and site improvements (Task 3).

Historic preservation tasks include preparation of a Massachusetts Historical Commission Burial Form E (Task 1), plus a Ground Penetrating Radar survey (Task 2), with a particular focus on crypts, as the archaeological portion of the study of the roughly ½-acre cemetery.

**Task 1. Preparation of Burial Form E. This task includes multiple steps, as outlined below, to be performed by a qualified historic preservation consultant:**

1. Review of available MassDOT and MACRIS data;
2. Desktop research in online resources, including historical maps and photographs;
3. Research at the Springfield Museum & Library Archives and other local repositories as available;
4. Site visit and photography of cemetery resources;
5. Prepare photograph pages with captions;
6. Prepare locus map;
7. Prepare cemetery site plan (based on existing conditions drawings or aerial photography), locating significant historic features of the original design as well as major alterations;
8. Write narrative of data gathered, suitable for inclusion in descriptive and historical portions of Form E;
9. Write NRHP criteria statement if this cemetery appears to meet NRHP standards;

City of Springfield – Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management  
Bay Path Cemetery – CPA 2022 Application

10. Coordination with Springfield Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management for property access;
11. Submit draft form for review;
12. Respond to comments by Springfield Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management;
13. Submit finalized form for submission to MHC, with digital files and hard copies with printed photographs.

Task 2. Ground Penetrating Radar Survey (to be performed by a qualified historic preservation consultant):

A Ground Penetrating Radar survey (GPR) is recommended to determine where unmarked burials and crypts are. This non-invasive remote-sensing effort will not disturb any graves yet will provide information for planning purposes. Because there are no marked graves from which to source a “typical” grave shaft, we propose to conduct the GPR bi-directionally for maximum delineation of subsurface burials and crypts.

Task 3: Site Improvements (to be performed by PBRM and City Vendors):

Proposed site improvements include new fencing, signage, flagpole, and landscaping.

The project scope and budget includes all design and construction tasks to complete this project in one phase. Renovation of Bay Path Cemetery will have an immediate and highly visible impact on the Blunt Park and acknowledge the historical significance of this city-owned cemetery.

C. Feasibility & Sustainability

**1. What other funding sources have been secured or are being pursued?**

- At this time there are no additional funding sources identified for the renovation of Bay Path Cemetery. The funding for all projects costs is requested from the Community Preservation Act, with a total budget of \$182,000, through this grant application.

**2. Once the project is complete how will it be sustained or maintained? The application for funding should include a maintenance schedule (if applicable). For city department applications, please also include how the CPA investment will be maintained in future municipal budgets.**

- Bay Path Cemetery will continue to be maintained and operated by the Department of Parks, Buildings and Recreation Management under the direction of Board of Park Commissioners.

D. Applicant Experience

**1. What similar projects/programs has the applicant successfully completed?**

The Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management will coordinate and oversee all aspects of the Bay Path Cemetery renovation project. PBRM has a long history of successfully completing park improvements and renovation projects.

Furthermore, PBRM plans to engage the services of a qualified historic preservation firm with experience in assessment and documentation of burial sites to perform the archaeological site survey and documentation. Additionally, PBRM will utilize its on-call design firms to prepare site and landscaping plans for enhancement of the site. A conceptual master plan and anticipated project budget have been developed for purposes of grant preparations.

City of Springfield – Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management  
Bay Path Cemetery – CPA 2022 Application

Should the project receive funding, the construction work to furnish and install the fencing, flagpole and landscaping may be subject to a public bid process to select a construction vendor. PBRM has a successful history of implementing project of this type, and most recently completed the renovation of Forest Park's Swan Pond culvert, with a project budget of \$3.5 million, and Walsh Park, with a project budget of \$1.7 million.

**2. Describe the professional experience of the applicant/project team.**

All projects of PBRM are overseen by its Executive Director, Patrick Sullivan, who has more than 30 years of experience in open space renovations and improvements. The Department will work with the Office of Procurement to issue a request for qualifications to complete the necessary designs, permits and construction documents. In the past five years, PBRM has completed twenty similar projects, resulting in approximately \$15,000,000 in park improvements.

The PBRM will collaborate with the City's Office of Procurement to issue a request for qualifications and proposals to hire a design and engineer firm to complete construction documents for the rehabilitation of Bay Path Cemetery. Upon completion of design, PBRM will follow all City procurement regulations to issue a public construction bid, or quote requests from on-call site contractors, for the renovation of the Bay Path Cemetery renovation by a qualified vendor.

### **III. TIMELINE**

PBRM can commence project as soon as an interdepartmental contract is executed for the project. Over the past years, the Department has received its contract (notice to proceed) in January after the City Council Vote in the fall. The timeline below assumes a similar schedule for the contract but can be adjusted should the contract be received sooner than anticipated.

- Spring 2022 – April - June
  - CPA grant application due
  - CPC Presentations
- Summer 2022 – July-August
  - CPC Deliberations and & recommendations
- Fall 2022 – September - October
  - City Council Recommendation & Approval
- Fall 2022 – November-December
  - Project Contract Drafted between CPC and DPBRM
- Winter 2023 – January - February
  - Project Contract Executed between CPC and DPBRM, project can begin
  - Request for Qualifications/Proposal for Historic Preservation Consultant (Tasks 1 & 2), and Landscape Architect (Task 3)
  - Firms interviewed and selected
  - Contracts with selected preservation consultant and landscape designer awarded through City's Procurement Procedures
- Spring 2023 – March - May
  - Implementation of Historic Preservation Documentation and Research (Tasks 1 & 2)
  - Development of landscape plans and specifications
- Summer 2023 – June - August
  - Bay Path Cemetery renovations begin on site (Task 3)

City of Springfield – Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management  
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- Fall 2023 – September - November
  - Renovations Completed

#### **IV. BUDGET**

CPA funds will support the following applicable categories:

- Consultant Services (Historic Preservation Consultant)
- Design and Engineering Services (Landscape Architect)
- Construction (itemized)

The Bay Path Cemetery renovation budget includes historic preservation assessment/documentation, design and engineering services, material and construction costs. Please see the attached Engineer's estimate of probable costs for this project, with a total project budget of \$182,000. The proposal is for budgeting purposes only and will be finalized prior to project implementation as some components may be subject to a public bid.

At this time, PBRM is requesting funding of \$182,000 for assessment of, and improvements to, Bay Path Cemetery from the Community Preservation Committee. The total budget of \$182,000 includes historic assessment, site design and engineering, materials, prevailing wages for construction, landscaping and contingency costs to ensure a fair and accurate budget to support this project.

City of Springfield – Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management  
Bay Path Cemetery – CPA 2022 Application

**V. ATTACHMENTS**

- I. Fair Wage Compliance Certificate [for non-municipal grant requests over \$50,000]
- i. Not applicable.

**For all proposals**

- A. Commitment letters for revenue sources identified in the budget
- Not applicable, no other funding available.
- B. Letters of Support
- Board of Park Commissioners
  - Springfield Historic Commission

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**For projects that involve property (land/buildings)**

- C. Provide a letter of support or verification that the neighborhood organization or civic group where the project is located has been notified.
- Bay Area Neighborhood Council Letter of Support
- D. Maps
1. Project location on citywide map.
    - City of Springfield Open Space Map with Bay Path Cemetery location
  2. Plot map (from City GIS) with the project parcel outlined and showing all abutting property parcels and the closest major intersection with streets labeled. GIS interactive map:
    - Bay Path Cemetery Property Map – GIS Plot Map
- E. Architectural/Engineer Plans/Elevations/Site Plans
- Proposed Bay Path Cemetery Conceptual Plan
    - *Detailed design, engineering and construction documents will be produced through this grant opportunity. All plans will be reviewed by the SCPC historic preservation consultant.*
  - Engineer's estimate of probable costs
- F. Photographs & Other
- Site Photos
  - Archived newspaper reports 1930-1984
  - 1932 Inventory of Interred
- G. Proof of ownership/control of property such as deed(s), executed purchase & sale agreement, option, lease agreement, etc.
- 2022 - Bay Path Cemetery GIS Property Information



City of Springfield  
***Parks, Buildings, and Recreation Management***

March 7, 2022

Community Preservation Committee  
36 Court Street  
Springfield, MA 01103

Dear Committee Members,

The Board of Park Commissioners convened a meeting on March 3, 2022 to hear requests from citizens and community organizations relating to Community Preservation Act grant 2022 applications.

The Springfield Park Commission enthusiastically supports the request from Bay Neighborhood residents for the Department of Parks, Buildings, and Recreation Management to prepare a historic open space application for improvements to Bay Path Cemetery in Blunt Park.

The Park Commission feels this project is aligned not only with the city's priorities and needs for enhanced recreational offerings city-wide, but with the Community Preservation Act historic preservation priorities of preserving open spaces that have significant historic or civic importance.

We are available to answer any questions and look forward to working with the Community Preservation Committee and the Bay Area Neighborhood to implement this project.

Sincerely,

Milagros Terry Rodriguez,  
Board of Park Commissioners, Chairwoman

cc: Patrick Sullivan, Executive Director of PBRM  
Gwendolyn Smith, Bay Area Neighborhood Council



70 TAPLEY STREET  
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01104  
413.787.6020  
[www.springfield-ma.gov](http://www.springfield-ma.gov)

March 29, 2022

Community Preservation Committee  
City Hall, 36 Court Street  
Springfield, MA, 01103

Re: Application for Community Preservation Act Grant  
City of Springfield, Dept. of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management –  
Bay Path Cemetery

Dear Community Preservation Committee:

I am writing to you to express the support from the Springfield Historical Commission for the City of Springfield Department of Parks, Buildings and Recreation Management's application for Community Preservation Act funds to make improvements to Bay Path Cemetery.

Bay Path Cemetery, located within the boundary of Blunt Park, at the Blunt Park Road & Roosevelt Avenue entrance, was a Potter's Field and has been reported as the burial place for local indigent residents from 1873 to 1951. The site has approximately 896 gravesites including underground crypts used as a burial place for infants. The first internment occurred December 12, 1873 and the last on April 7, 1951. The project scope components include site assessment, historical background research, archaeological survey with ground penetrating radar, design development, and installation of site improvements, such as site signage, improved fencing, flagpole/monument and landscaping.

Community Preservation Act funds are integral to projects of this scope and will ensure that restoration of Merrick Park preserves the historic character of this open space. The results of this project will restore a significant historic landscape for all to enjoy. Support of the Community Preservation Committee is appreciated.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Vincent Walsh  
Chairman, Springfield Historical Commission

Cc: Patrick J. Sullivan, Department of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management



70 Tapley Street  
Springfield, MA 01104

## **Eligibility Determination for** **Community Preservation Act**

**THE SPRINGFIELD HISTORICAL COMMISSION has determined at its  
meeting of March 28, 2022 that the following property:**

Located within the boundary of Blunt Park  
across from the Raymond A. Jordan Senior Center

**Property**

City of Springfield

**Owner**

36 Court Street  
Springfield, MA 01103

\_\_\_ is listed individually on the State Register of Historic Places, or

\_\_\_ contributes to the Historic District, which is listed on the State Register of Historic Places, or

☒ is not listed individually or as a contributing part of a district but is significant in the history, archeology, architecture, or culture of Springfield because: *Location was a Potter's Field and has been reported as the burial place for local indigent residents from 1873 to 1951. The site has approximately 896 gravesites including underground crypts used as a burial place for infants.*

\_\_\_ is NOT significant in the history, archeology, architecture, or culture of Springfield.

  
Chairman or Authorized Signature





## Bay Area Neighborhood Council

*"Invest in BANC, and gain interest in our community"*

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Bay Area Neighborhood Council

[bayareaneighborhoodcouncil1@gmail.com](mailto:bayareaneighborhoodcouncil1@gmail.com)

Patrick Sullivan

Executive Director

Department of Parks, Buildings and Recreation Management

200 Trafton Road

Springfield, MA 01108

March 18, 2022

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

It is our pleasure to write this letter of support for the Community Preservation Act (CPA) grant application to improve the conditions of the Bay Path Cemetery in Blunt Parks.

As the neighborhood council that represents Blunt Park we appreciate and support your efforts to commemorate the importance of the Bay Path Cemetery site in Springfield's history. Improvements to the site, including new fencing, flagpole, landscaping and signage, will help ensure that the history of the cemetery is not forgotten.

We welcome the opportunity to partner with the City on this project and we appreciate your efforts to enhance the Bay Path Cemetery and honor its important role in Springfield's history.

Sincerely,

Gwendolyn Smith,

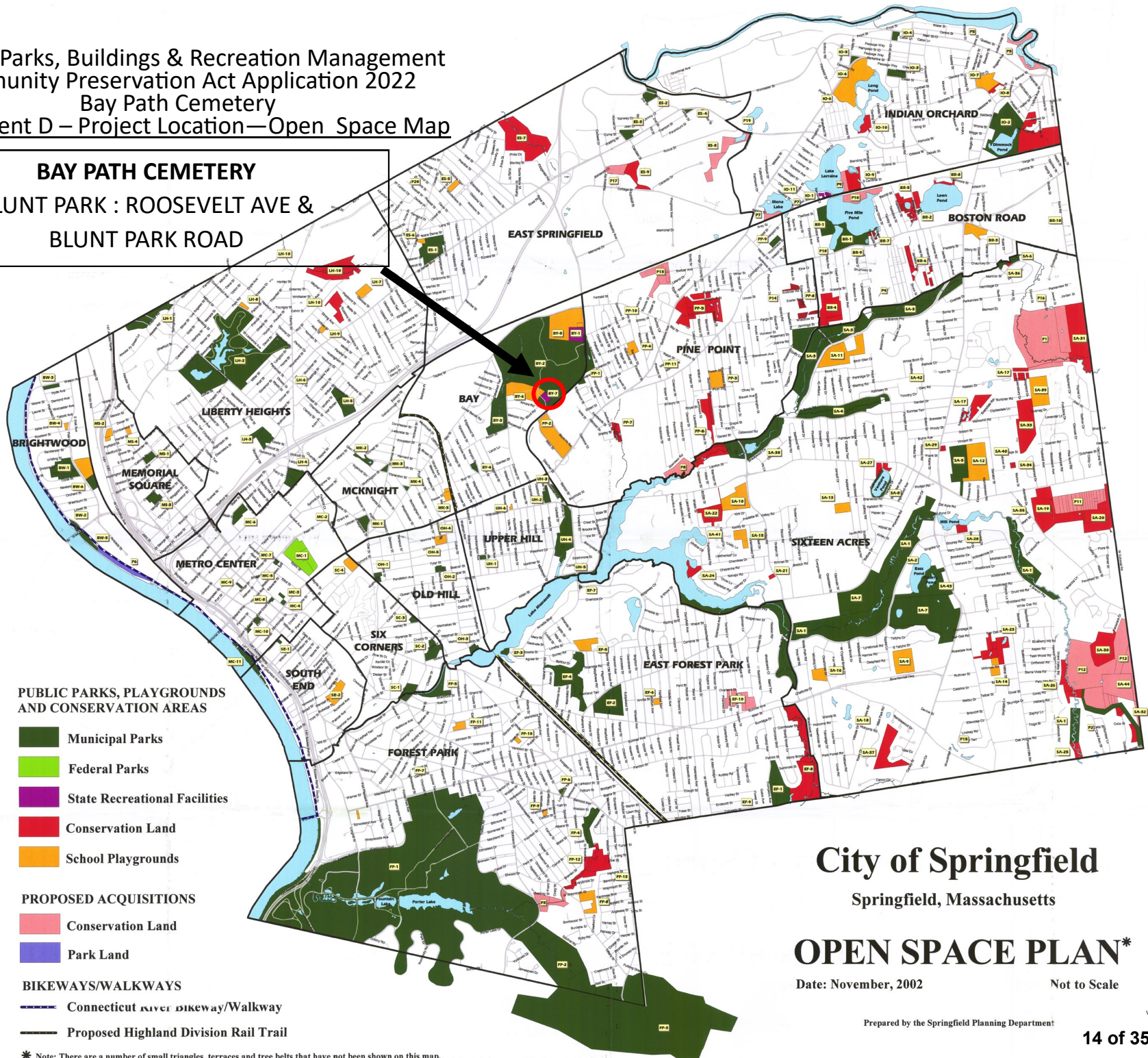
Bay Area Neighborhood Council, President

413.209.2014

[gwendolynsmith5074@gmail.com](mailto:gwendolynsmith5074@gmail.com)

Dept. of Parks, Buildings & Recreation Management  
Community Preservation Act Application 2022  
Bay Path Cemetery  
Attachment D – Project Location—Open Space Map

**BAY PATH CEMETERY**  
BLUNT PARK : ROOSEVELT AVE &  
BLUNT PARK ROAD







## SS BAY ST

3/21/2022 10:33:09

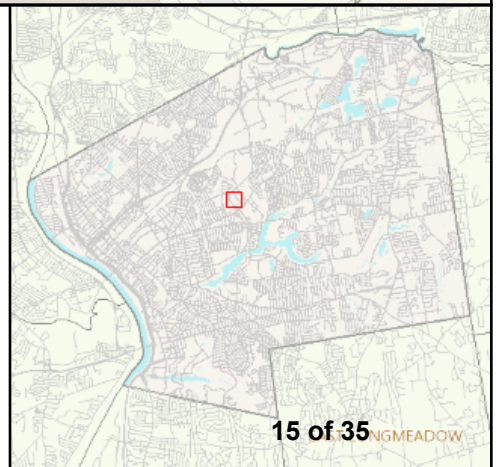
1"=188'

### Property Information

Parcel ID	01085-0325
Owner Name	SPRINGFIELD CITY OF
Owner Address1	36 COURT ST
Owner Address2	SPRINGFIELD, MA
Land Area In Square Feet	47,278
Assessed Value	35,500
Historic	
Zoning Name	Open Space



GIS information is provided on these Web Pages as a public resource for general information purposes only. It is used to locate, identify and inventory parcels of land in the City of Springfield for general purposes only and is NOT to be construed or used as a "legal description." Map and parcel information is believed to be accurate but accuracy is not guaranteed. No portion of the information should be considered to be, or used as, a legal document. The information is provided subject to the express condition that the user knowingly waives any and all claims for damages against the City of Springfield that may arise from the use of this data. Information provided on these Web Pages should be verified with the appropriate City department, and reviewed and approved by an attorney or other qualified professional prior to its use for any purpose with potential legal consequences.









**OPINION OF PROBABLE PROJECT COSTS  
BASED ON  
"IMPROVEMENTS TO BAY PATH CEMETERY - CONCEPTUAL MASTER PLAN"  
(MARCH 2022)**

DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	EXTENSION	TASK TOTAL
<b>MOBILIZATION / DEMOBILIZATION / ENG. LAYOUT</b>					<b>\$10,000</b>
MOBILIZATION / DEMOBILIZATION / ENG. LAYOUT	1	LS	\$10,000	\$10,000	
<b>SITE PREPARATION &amp; SITE DEMOLITION</b>					<b>\$6,950</b>
SED. & EROSION CONTROL ALLOWANCE	1	LS	\$1,000	\$1,000	
R&D CHAIN LINK FENCE	1,100	LF	\$2	\$2,200	
R&D FLAG POLE	1	EA	\$750	\$750	
PRUNE CEDARS	1	LS	\$1,500	\$1,500	
TREE PROTECTION ALLOWANCE	1	LS	\$1,500	\$1,500	
<b>SITE AMENITIES</b>					<b>\$85,000</b>
NEW 4FT HT BLACK VINYL CHAIN LINK FENCE	1,100	LF	\$40	\$44,000	
EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE	1	EA	\$5,000	\$5,000	
BAY PATH CEMETERY SIGN (TWO-SIDED)	1	EA	\$5,000	\$5,000	
F&I 25' HT. FLAG POLE	1	EA	\$6,000	\$6,000	
MEMORIAL ALLOWANCE	1	LS	\$25,000	\$25,000	
<b>LANDSCAPE WORK</b>					<b>\$16,250</b>
REFURBISH LAWN AREAS	25,000	SF	\$0.25	\$6,250	
PLANTING BED ALLOWANCE	1	LS	\$10,000	\$10,000	
<b>SUB-TOTAL =</b>				<b>\$118,200</b>	
<b>DESIGN CONTINGENCY** &amp; CONSTRUCTION CONTINGENCY (20%±)</b>				<b>\$24,000</b>	
<b>TOTAL CONSTRUCTION=</b>				<b>\$142,200</b>	
<b>SURVEY, DESIGN, ENGINEERING &amp; CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES</b>				<b>\$15,000</b>	
<b>HISTORIC &amp; ARCHEOLOGICAL SURVEY</b>				<b>\$25,000</b>	
<b>SUB TOTAL =</b>				<b>\$182,200</b>	
<b>TOTAL (2022 DOLLARS), SAY</b>				<b>\$182,000</b>	

1. All construction costs include labor at prevailing wage rates, overhead, & profit.

2. The Design Contingency is intended to provide for minor Project elements that are undefined at the current level of design concept yet which typically become evident as the design progresses and that may be recommended by the design team and agreed upon by the Owner during subsequent phases of design. Notwithstanding, robust design processes and firm decision-making are recommended to reduce scope creep.

3. GZA's Opinion of Probable Project Costs is subject to the assumptions and limitations stated in our correspondence to the City of Springfield accompanying this cost opinion.



# Site Photos – Bay Path Cemetery (CPA 2022)



Site Photos of Bay Path Cemetery

This proposal aims to improve the site conditions with installation of new fencing, signage, memorial, flag pole and landscaping.



UNION, SPRINGFIELD, MASS.: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1932

## POTTER'S FIELD BEING BEAUTIFIED; WILL NOW BE "BAY PATH CEMETERY" *Cemetery*



[Springfield Union Photo.]

improvements under way to dignify  
beautify Potter's Field, to be  
known hereafter as Bay Path Ceme-  
tery, that any stigma of pauperism  
be removed in line with policy  
of the Department of Public Welfare.  
Useless trees are being cut down,  
top soil is being removed and

transferred to low sections, the whole  
later to be covered with rich loam  
from Breckwood Park. In the spring  
the entire tract will be seeded to  
grass. All the old markers will be  
replaced with new terra cotta blocks  
set flush with the ground, each with  
its number to designate who is buried  
there.

Clumps of evergreens and hardy  
flowering shrubs such as rhododen-  
dron and laurel will be set out along  
the southeast, southwest and north-  
west corners as well as in the middle  
to further enhance its park-like ap-  
pearance.

The chain-link fence will remain  
as it is except that it will be raised  
to meet the new level.





(Photo by The Republican Staff Photographer)

6/8/33

## City Cemetery Is Dedicated Following Restoration Work

Mayor Dwight R. Winter and Officials of Welfare Department Commend Dr John F. Streeter Who Directed Bay Path Cemetery Task—Exercises Are Brief But Impressive

SPRINGFIELD

VERTICAL FILE

Formal dedication ceremonies were held last night following months of restoration work at the Bay Path cemetery, in which members of the city government, Mayor Dwight W. Winter and officers of the welfare department took part.

The services were brief, but impressive. A procession headed by Maj Milford D. Harder as marshal accompanied by a detail of motorcycle police and the Technical high school band, with members of the Springfield cadets as color guard, formed at the City home and marched to the entrance of the cemetery, where a stand had been erected for the official party.

Dr John F. Streeter who directed the project on behalf of the welfare board, introduced the speakers and gave a short outline of the history of the cemetery.

### Dr Streeter Commended

Rev John H. Nolan, chaplain of the City home, gave the invocation and benediction at the opening and closing of the exercises.

Agent John F. Madden of the department of public welfare followed Dr Streeter on the program. Mr Madden gave a brief outline of the work and expressed his appreciation

to the various city departments which cooperated in making the enterprise a success.

The dedicatory address was made by Rabbi Samuel Price, who spoke on "The Unknown Dead." Rabbi Price paid high tribute to those responsible for the restoration of the cemetery, and dedicated the cemetery to the friendless, saying that no individual in this world lives alone and that by establishing this cemetery the city is providing an eternal home to the friendless.

Rabbi Price was followed by Arthur M. Carroll, who sang an anthem. The next speaker on the program was R. DeWitt Mallary, chairman of the welfare board, who outlined the history of the welfare department and its work in securing a fitting place for the dead.

Mayor Winter then addressed the gathering. He paid tribute to Dr Streeter for his untiring efforts in having the plot restored. The project has been well worth while, Mayor Winter said, and the citizens of Springfield can be proud of the work done here and the attention shown the friendless. He also expressed his appreciation to the Technical high school band for its cooperation and

closed his remarks by thanking Dr Streeter on behalf of the citizens of this city for his work.

### Established in 1874

The ceremonies closed with the playing of "America" by the band following which the participants marched back to the City home where the parade disbanded. The band then gave a concert at the home.

The Bay Path cemetery was established by the city council in 1874, and since that time has been known variously as potter's field, City Farm cemetery, and Almhouse cemetery. It was enlarged in 1885 and, in 1926, the name was changed by the board of public welfare to Bay Path cemetery.

The condition of the burial ground had become so deplorable that Dr Streeter, who was successful in restoring the old Cherry Lane cemetery, was asked to take charge, and during the past six months park department workers have been employed.

New crypts for infants were constructed as well as new markers at a record compiled of those buried there.

Through the cooperation of funeral directors of this city all welfare department dependents who die are assured of regular burial services.



# POTTER'S FIELD BLAME PUT ON FINANCE BOARD

Am 8-13-48 Cemetery  
Lack of Funds Responsible  
for Condition, Green-  
berg Says

Herman Greenberg, a member of the Springfield Welfare Board, feels that in the current discussion of "disgraceful conditions" at Bay Path Cemetery, the city's Potter's Field, an fair criticism is being directed at the Welfare Board.

## More Employees Sought

The Finance Committee of the City Council is responsible for the present unkempt appearance of the cemetery by having failed to approve requests for additional personnel made by the Welfare Board, according to Greenberg. He pointed out last night that in submitting recommendations for the 1948 budget, the Welfare Board sought funds to hire four additional men to help the two employees who at present are kept busy with other duties at the Springfield Infirmary—including duties on the farm where all of the vegetables used at the Infirmary are raised.

The Finance Committee did not allocate extra funds, despite a special plea by Major William J. McCann, superintendent of the Infirmary, at the budget hearings. For this reason the Welfare Board has been unable to discharge its responsibility because labor just hasn't been available to care properly for the cemetery. Greenberg also cited the greenhouse at the Infirmary, which is in complete disuse because of lack of adequate personnel.

Thorough agreement with those who condemn the neglect of the Bay Path Cemetery was expressed by the Welfare Board member. But he emphasized that the Welfare Board is powerless to maintain the plot of ground as it should be maintained until the Finance Committee acts favorably on the request for more funds submitted by the Welfare Board.

Greenberg said that the Welfare Board is ready to fulfill its responsibility in caring for the cemetery just as soon as the necessary personnel is authorized. And the responsibility for this, he asserted, rests with the Finance Committee of the City Council.

Attachment F -  
Archived News  
Articles

# No Help to Take Care of Potter's Field, Says McCann

Am 8-6-48 Cemetery  
Infirmary Says Request for More Workers Cut Out of  
Budget; Two Employees Busy as Bees

Bay Path cemetery, the Potter's Field of Springfield, has become overrun with weeds and grass because of lack of help at the City Infirmary, said William J. McCann, superintendent of the infirmary, last night. He added that there are more immediate things for the two men who work around the grounds of the infirmary to do than "to keep the cemetery looking pretty."

"I know that it is in poor condition," said Mr. McCann, "but we haven't the help to keep it up as it should be. We have two men who take care of 1500 chickens and care for the vegetable garden here, as well as doing many other things around the grounds. They work hard and have had no time to devote to the cemetery."

Mr. McCann said that the inmates of the infirmary are having wax beans, lettuce, carrots and corn from the garden now and that many more vegetables will be coming along soon. It is a more immediate need he said that the vegetable garden and the chickens

be cared for than the cemetery he kept spic and span.

"We used to keep that place in A1 condition," he said, "and I am sorry that we have had to let it go. We asked for more help when we submitted our budget and the request was cut out. We can't do everything."

Those who are laid to rest in Bay Path cemetery, he said, are persons who have no known relatives or friends and who are Protestant in religion. Frequently men who are found dead by the police and who have no connections here are buried there.

There is a crypt in the cemetery in which stillborn babies, found by police in woods, sewers and many other places are placed after first being put in small caskets. Rev. J. W. Sloan, who is the Protestant chaplain at the Infirmary, often officiates at the burial services. All who are buried there have caskets and are not laid to rest without a religious service.

# Potter's Field Overrun by Weeds; Rusted Fence Sags

Am 8-5-48 Cemetery  
Put in Order in 1932 but Apparently Neglected by Wel-  
fare Department Since That Time

Bay Path Cemetery in State St. Ave. which is the last resting place of hundreds of the city's poor and unfortunate, again has been allowed to go to rack and ruin by the city's Welfare Department, a visit to the cemetery yesterday revealed. The cemetery which was landscaped and put in first class condition in 1932, now is overrun with grass and weeds and the metal fence which was put around it at that time, is rusting and sagging. The shrubs which once made the city's Potter's Field, a dignified and attractive place now are overgrown and untrimmed.

Bay Path Cemetery, first established as a cemetery in 1874, in which about 1000 are buried was put in order in 1932 under the direction of Dr. John

F. Streeter. The iron markers on the graves were replaced with terra cotta markers and flowers beds were laid out and shrubs were planted. For several years it presented an attractive appearance. It is under the jurisdiction of the Welfare Department and there many are buried who die while at the City Infirmary and who are without friends or relatives.

Another burying ground, which has been allowed to become overgrown with weeds is Wachogue Cemetery in Allen St. A person who lives near the cemetery said yesterday that no one has been near it in years. The older section of Calvary Cemetery in Springfield St. is another cemetery in which the grass is overgrown and weeds are rampant.



VERTICAL FILE

Spfd. Cemeteries

Spfd

+710

5/6/94

THE SPRINGFIELD UNION, SPRINGFIELD

## Potter's Field Slips Into Legendary Status

~~MEMORIAL SQ. PR.~~

**Indigent Dead Now Buried in Regular Cemeteries;  
Old Bay Path Burying Ground, Used From 1873  
To 1951, Kept in Excellent State**

Springfield no longer has a Potter's Field.

The indigent dead now are buried in the city's regular cemeteries by the Department of Public Welfare.

"The days of Potter's Field are gone," commented Thomas A. McElhone, executive secretary of the Welfare Department.

The old Bay Path Cemetery, where the city's pauper dead were buried for many years now is under the care of the Park Department. It is located in a corner of Blunt Park.

### Upkeep at High Standard

The cemetery is kept in splendid condition. The grass is mowed regularly and the fence around the plot is being repaired. G. Allison Wells of the Park Department, who has charge of the plot, feels that it should be maintained in the best possible condition. Previously it was overgrown with grass and weeds.

The Park Department also has charge of two other old city cemeteries Wachogue on Allen St. and the old Cherry Lane Cemetery. Both are excellently kept.

The first burial in the city's Bay Path Cemetery was on Dec. 12, 1873, when an inmate of what was then known as the city's almshouse died, a victim of paralysis. The last interment took place there on April 7, 1951.

There are 896 graves in the cemetery and all plots are filled. The graves are nameless but are numbered. Records at the City Hospital show the names and the numbers.

To Dr. John F. Streeter of Kenwood Ter. goes much of the credit for public interest being aroused in the old cemeteries. He did much research work and was responsible for having the city's Potter's Field cleaned up and renamed as Bay Path Cemetery. Dr. Streeter has the title of commissioner of abandoned cemeteries.

Since the plots in Bay Path Cemetery were exhausted, the Department of Public Welfare began the practice of burying those who have no families or funds to meet funeral expenses in the city's regular cemeteries. The burials are made in keeping with the religious

faith of the deceased.

Several unknown persons are buried in the old Bay Path Cemetery. Some were tramps who were found dead on the streets or on railroad tracks and one unidentified man buried there was found a victim of hanging.

Annually when Memorial Day approaches, Maj. William McCann, superintendent of the City Hospital, will have one or more calls from families of persons who are buried in Bay Path Cemetery asking the number of the grave in which a member of their family lies buried. Almost every year a few of the graves are decorated with Memorial Day flowers.

Because of scandals regarding the burial of pauper dead which arose in other communities, the state passed a law in 1938 which provides that the indigent must have a decent burial. There must be a coffin and a clergyman must conduct services.

In the olden days here funerals of those who died at the City Infirmary — it was the almshouse then — were conducted in the old boiler house on the property and the simple pine coffin of the deceased was placed on a farm wagon and taken by farm helpers to Potter's Field which was then at the northeast corner of the almshouse property.

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## HEIDEN TO HEAD STATE TRACTOR CONTEST TEAM

### West Side Future Farmers Stage Competition In Wilbraham

Paul Heiden of Wilbraham won first place in the tractor-driving contest yesterday at the Heiden farm in Wilbraham among members of West Springfield chapter of Future Farmers of America to choose a three-man team to compete in the state contest May 14 at Norfolk County Agricultural School in Walpole.

With Heiden on the team will be Herman Knodler of Springfield and Gilbert Porter of West Springfield, who placed second and third.

The West Springfield chapter has placed second in team standings the last two years. Last year one of its members, Arthur Knodler of Springfield, was state champion. He was on hand at the Heiden farm in Wilbraham yesterday to help Ed Fife, vocational agriculture instructor at West Springfield High School, do the judging.

The contest had four phases, judged on speed, accuracy and



Delightful sketches of Heiden at the am



SPD- DAY, NWS 6/20/25

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CEMETERIES

# Cemetery Conditions Remedied

By WAYNE PHANEUF  
Once again, the weeds and trees that turned Potter's Field into a bramble patch have been cut back to respectful length.

Respect for the indigent dead who were buried at the cemetery near Blunt Park from 1873 to 1954.

City Councilor Daniel M. Walsh 3rd said today he had received a complaint last week about the condition of the cemetery, officially called Bay Path Cemetery.

**Contacted Officials**  
Walsh contacted Park Department officials and Mayor William C. Sullivan to

determine who was responsible for the upkeep of the cemetery.

Acting on a complaint from Robert McBride, Walsh inspected the cemetery, located near Blunt Park Road and Roosevelt Avenue, and found it littered and overgrown.

"The mayor and Park Department went right to work on the problem, and the grass and weeds were cut and fence repaired," Walsh said.

He said Henry Mathieu, city forester, sent a crew to clean up the area.

**Following another in-**

section, Walsh said the crew did a good job. He added that a sign should be placed near the cemetery to identify its location.

The first burial at the old Bay Path Cemetery took place in the winter of 1873, when a resident of the city's almshouse died of paralysis. The almshouse was located near the present Municipal Hospital.

There are 896 graves in the cemetery, and all the plots are filled.

Many of the dead laid to rest at Bay Path Cemetery were transients, found dead in the

street or on railroad tracks, who went namelessly to their graves.

In 1954, the Department of Public Welfare took over the responsibility for burying the indigent, who are now interred in the city's major cemeteries.

Under state law, indigents are now buried with benefit of clergy and in strong coffins, but many of those buried at Bay Path Cemetery were placed there with little ceremony.

Funerals of the indigent were held at the almshouse; the body loaded in an old farm wagon, and carted site.

across the street to the cemetery.

Walsh's latest push to clean up the cemetery does not mark the first effort.

Ever since the Park Department was given the duty to care for Bay Path, Cherry Street and Allen Street Cemeteries, in the early 1950's, the plots have suffered from neglect.

Walsh said this era of neglect may be turning around. He explained the Springfield Bicentennial

Committee may place a granite marker at Bay Path Cemetery, designating the

M. Walsh 3rd, inspects recently spruced up Walsh.



# Forgotten cemetery to be ren

By RUTH DANCKERT  
Union Staff

Baypath Cemetery is quiet, the traffic from Bay Street and Roosevelt Avenue only a distant rumble. A rusty chain hangs across the entrance to keep drivers from using the grassy area as a turn-around. And what was once lawn is now choked with weeds.

But this final resting place for Springfield's poor has not been forgotten.

A crew of volunteers plan to spend most of this Saturday cleaning up the acre—and a—half lot in time for a rededication ceremony on Monday, Memorial Day.

A three-foot granite monument will be installed for the 10 a.m. ceremony.

The monument is engraved with the verse, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven," and the dates 1874 to 1951 when the cemetery was used as burial ground for the city's indigent.

Mark Contois came across records referring to the cemetery when he was doing a college internship in the local history room of the Springfield City Library last year. He eventually located the lot in Blunt Park and in April appealed to the Springfield Historical Society to do something about the cemetery's condition.

"It was really in deplorable condition," Contois said. "There are only small round numbered discs to indicate location of graves, most of which hold more than one body. In the rear there are long mounds where bodies disinterred in an attempt to restore the cemetery in the '30s were reburied in trenches."

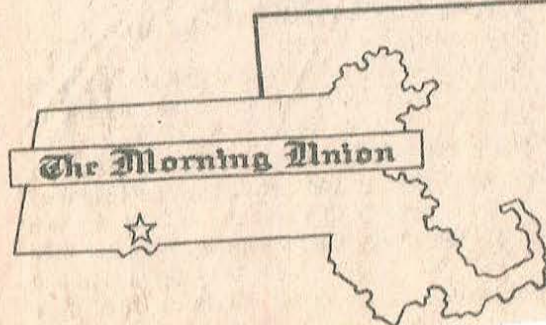
The first burial at the cemetery was on Dec. 12, 1873 when an inmate of what was then the city's almshouse (near the present Municipal Hospital) died of paralysis. There are 896 graves in the cemetery, but records, which were incomplete to begin with, stop at the grave numbered 666, Contois said.

Those records, now in the city history room, tell a grim story. They found dead on the street, a man who was a victim of a robbery, grants who arrived in the city with no money and their possessions, and of paupers who died.

The cemetery also served as the burying place for stillborn and abandoned babies. The only marker for these children were sheets covering a grave, measuring about three feet by three feet.

Funerals of people who died in the city house were conducted in the city hall on the property and the bodies were placed on a farm wagon and taken to Potter's Field, east corner of the almshouse.

Contois noted that the cemetery dates back to the time of the city when Judas repented.



# Cities

THU



# *e remembered on Memorial Day*

Those records, now in the library's local story room, tell a grisly tale of tramps and dead on the streets, of an unidentified man who was a victim of hanging, of immigrants who arrived in this country with no money and their possessions in backpacks, and of paupers who died in the almshouse.

The cemetery also contains a crypt which was the burying place for a multitude of stillborn and abandoned babies, Contois said. The only marker for this is rotting metal sheets covering a ground-level protrusion measuring about three-feet square.

Funerals of people who died in the almshouse were conducted in the old boiler house on the property and the pine coffin was placed on a farm wagon and taken by farm helpers to Potter's Field, then at the northeast corner of the almshouse property.

Contois noted that the term Potter's Field dates back to the betrayal of Jesus Christ when Judas repented and returned the 30

pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders. According to Matthew 27, 7 the chief priests and elders "took counsel and bought with them (the silver) the potter's field, to bury strangers in."

Scandals about the burial of pauper dead in the '30s gave rise to a law in 1938 which provided indigent dead with a coffin and a clergyman to conduct services. Since 1951 the poor have been buried in the city's regular cemeteries.

For his efforts, Contois has been named commissioner of abandoned and neglected burying grounds in the city. The post was created in 1931 but has been vacant for the past nine years.

He pointed out that the effort to restore dignity to the cemetery is not the first in the cemetery's history. A major restoration project took place in 1933 and newspaper clippings over the intervening 50 years make note of several efforts to clean it up.

The latest restoration effort has been purely a volunteer one, Contois said.

The monument was donated by Venezian Monuments and Associated Wreckers and Sixteen Acres Gardens has donated two flowering Kwanzan cherry trees to be located on either side of a new entry gate. Students at Roger L. Putnam Vocational and Technical High School made a mahogany sign for the gate. Persons wishing to participate in the cleanup Saturday are welcome to stop by anytime after 9:30 a.m. "for as long as they can spare."

The Rev. Gerard LaFleur of St. Joseph's Church and the Rev. Willie Pearson will officiate at the rededication ceremony.

Frances Gagnon, president of the historical society, noted that "many of the people who are buried there probably still have descendants in this area who should be able to go to the cemetery to leave flowers or a plant on the graves."

# ies & Towns

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 1981

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Editorial  
Perspective  
Obituaries  
Business



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OCTOBER 15, 1980

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## City fills burial grounds post

By GEORGE LATANZIO  
Union Staff

For the first time in eight years, Springfield has a commissioner of abandoned or neglected burial grounds.

Mark Contois, 22, of Longhill Street, who recently brought the debilitated condition of Cherry Lane Cemetery to the attention of the city, was sworn in Tuesday by City Clerk Rose Pollard.

Contois, whose term expires in April, 1985, said he wants to stress neighborhood involvement in the restoration of Cherry Lane Cemetery on Cherry Street.

"I also hope to get the cooperation of the Parks Department and its Forestry Division in providing help to restore the cemetery," he said. The commissioner said he also plans to contact the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Springfield Historical Society and other organizations to see if they would lend assistance to the restoration.

The cemetery is the resting place for at least two Springfield residents, Levi Dart and Samuel Pomery, who fought for the city in the Revolutionary War.

Contois will also be in charge of overseeing Bay Path Cemetery in Blunt Park and Wachogue Cemetery on Allen Street near Bicentennial Highway.

"Bay Path Cemetery is a potter's field containing 985 graves. It was founded in 1873 and was used until 1954. The graveyard came under the jurisdiction of the commissioner in 1933," Contois said.

If Bay Path Cemetery is hard to find, it's be-

cause the gravemarkers are three-inch squares that lie level with the ground. Contois said a good raking should be all that's needed to clean up the area.

Wachogue Cemetery, which has been kept up by the Parks Department, is in good condition, said Contois.

The young commissioner became concerned about the condition of Cherry Lane Cemetery when he chose the graveyard as the subject for his senior history internship at Westfield State College.

Visiting the graveyard, which was started by the First Baptist Church, he found overturned gravemarkers almost covered with grass and dirt, a rusty chain link fence and rampaging weeds.

In the first week in October, Contois, Mayoral Aide Stuart Weissman and Anthony Marucca, superintendent of St. Michael's Cemetery, toured Cherry Lane. Contois said he agreed with Marucca's suggestion to keep the gravemarkers flat on the ground "for maintenance purposes. Other than that, the cemetery should be restored to its 1940s condition when it was in its prime.

"Councilor Robert Markel gave invaluable assistance in bringing the condition of the cemetery to the city's attention," Contois said. "He's been a great help."

Contois is married to the former Linda Scarmadella and was graduated from Cathedral High School in 1976. He is a member of the Springfield Historical Society and the Friends of the Quadrangle.

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# imple rite ays honor paupers

By WILLIAM M. SCAIFE  
Union Staff

They may have been forgotten in life, but they were remembered in death Monday at a simple Memorial Day ceremony at Baypath Cemetery.

The Springfield Historical Society took a red, white and blue ribbon and a fresh wreath to Baypath Cemetery off Roosevelt Avenue in Blunt, the final resting place for some 3,000 of the nameless, poor, insane and long-forgotten. The plain field served this strata of society for 81 years from 1873 until 1954.

Gravestones, but fist-sized cement markers marked with numbers, mark the burial spots.

The Historical Society, in rededicating the burial ground, last year, wrote an epitaph for them all and had it engraved on a slab of granite that sits on one side of the field. The words are from a Sermon on the Mount: "Blessed are the meek in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

The next two verses from the Gospel of Matthew could have served as well. They say: "Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted."

"Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth."

These figures in the cemetery in another way.

Until 1933, it was called Potter's Field, a traditional name for a burial ground for the poor or unknown.

Matthew, in Chapter 27, recounts how the chief priests took the 30 pieces of silver back from Judas and "bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in."

The name was changed in 1933 to Baypath Cemetery, to lend more dignity to it. But most of those buried there remained strangers, to society at least.



Union Photo by Nancy Palmer

**Frances Gagnon places wreath on grave as Rev. E. Gage Hotaling reads prayers and Commissioner of Abandoned Burying Grounds Mark Contois holds umbrella.**

The Rev. E. Gage Hotaling of the Church in the Acres on Wilbraham Road took note of this in Monday's ceremony.

Recalling that recently he had visited the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Hotaling told the 20 or so people who attended the memorial that "undoubtedly many of the people buried here are unknown."

But, he said, they deserve just as much recognition on Memorial Day as those who died in wars.

"Memorial Day is a day for rededication, when we dedicate our lives to follow in the footsteps of those who have gone before us," he said. "We should do all on our part to make this a better world."

Baypath Cemetery, itself, had been forgotten for many years, after it ceased to be used in 1954. That changed last year.

In 1980, Mark Contois of Longhill Street was appointed to the vacant position of commissioner of Neglected and Abandoned Cemeteries. He got together a team from the Historical Society, the Bay Area Council and McKnight and Pine Point neighborhood councils to clear the accumulated debris and brush, making the cemetery ready for Memorial Day 1981. The finishing touches were a wooden sign and the granite monument.

He said the people buried in the cemetery included patients from the former Springfield Almshouse, which once occupied the nearby site where Springfield's Municipal Hospital now stands.

A section of the Almshouse kept people classified as insane. The cemetery was for them and people found dead alongside the city's streets and railroad tracks, Springfield's unknown.



# Forgotten dead remembered at graveside rites

*BAY PATH CEMETERY SP7 X710*

By SUSANNAH PUGH RUSSELL  
Union staff 5/31/83

No headstones mark the graves nor tell the names of the 3,000 people buried in a hidden corner of Blunt Park.

But these forgotten dead were remembered Monday.

The Springfield Historical Commission held its annual memorial service at the quiet tract tucked in the park off Roosevelt Avenue, the final resting place for Springfield's unknown from 1873-1954.

When they died destitute, insane, or broke, their stories were buried with them in what is now known as Bay Path Cemetery.

Until 1933, it was just called the Potter's Field, the traditional term for a burial ground for the unknown.

Those paupers or the insane who died in the old Springfield Almshouse, which was located where the Springfield Municipal Hospital now stands, were buried here. The cemetery also served as a burying site for the dead found along railroad tracks or city streets.

The graveyard holds 896 graves, many containing three or four bodies. Some were buried with coffins and some without.

As many as 1,500 infants and still-born babies also lie there.

A few, numbered metal discs mark some graves, but that is all.

One granite slab, given by the historical society, bears the epitaph for them all:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

Rev. Robert J. Morrissey, a deacon at St. Paul's Church, said, "Part of the fear of death is our fear of being forgotten. Only a shallow and thankless people forget their holy dead."

Until 1981, the cemetery had been abandoned and neglected, according to Mark Contois, commissioner of cemeteries.

Donald J. D'Amato, president of the historical society, said, "Kids used to play baseball or football here without knowing it was a potter's field."

□ □ □

The society, along with Contois and the Bay Area Council, the McKnight and Pine Point neighborhood councils, cleaned the field of undergrowth and debris in 1981.

It was one of the first projects Contois undertook after accepting his unpaid post in 1980.

They had a simple sign made, saying, Bay Path Cemetery, to mark the entrance. Flowers and shrubs were planted.

D'Amato said one of those workers who helped clean the grounds believed his grandfather had been buried there. Since city record-keeping of interments had been sketchy at best, there would be almost no way of knowing.

Now that the cemetery has been reclaimed from obscurity, D'Amato said, "The neighborhood kind of watches over it."

"It's a sad place; I think we've cheered it up," he said.

## 10 Trees Planted at Cemetery

*D.M.W.S. 11/13/81 P.17 X210*

Ten trees have been donated by the Park Department to aid the restoration efforts at Bay Path Cemetery, Mark J. Contois, commissioner of abandoned or neglected burial grounds, said today.

The trees are being planted along the cemetery's fence and will enhance the general appearance of the area, Contois said.

The cemetery at Blunt Park, also known as Potter's Field, was once a burial ground for the city's paupers. It became overgrown over the years, but was cleaned up and rededicated last Memorial Day.

Contois said improvements have been continuing ever since.

The trees were planted by the Hampden County Chapter of the Massachusetts Society of Genealogists.

## Gates Donated To Cemetery

*D.M.W.S. 5/14/81 P.13*

Restoration efforts are continuing at Bay Path Cemetery, Commissioner of Abandoned Burial Grounds Mark Contois announced today.

He said two gates have been donated by the Brodeur-Campbell Fence Co. One will be for the use of those entering the cemetery and the other for maintenance vehicles.

The cemetery at Blunt Park, known as Potter's Field, was cleaned up in dedication ceremonies Memorial Day. SP7DX 710





BOARD OF PUBLIC WELFARE

**ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

68 COURT STREET

To the Board of Health of the City of Springfield:

I hereby make application for permission to remove any, or all, of the following bodies from the Bay Path Cemetery in Springfield, Massachusetts, for reinterment in the same cemetery, the number of the grave, name of the deceased, date of death or burial, age at death and cause of death being given in each instance, as far as they have been recorded in the record of deaths at the City Home:

- 550 John Myers, d. Oct. 16, 1917, ae. 38 yrs., Tuberculosis  
551  
552 Pauline Cinga, d. Jan. 17, 1918, Stillborn  
Henry L. Thompson, d. Jan. 20, 1918, ae. 64 yrs.  
553 John Richmond Wright, d. Feb. 6, 1918, ae. 8 dys., (Colored)  
554 Charles Andrews, d. Feb. 19, 1918, ae. 40 yrs., (Colored)  
Baby Sanford, d. Mar. 5, 1918, ae. 5 dys.  
✓ 555 Charles A. Carlson, d. Apr. 8, 1918, ae. 55 yrs.  
✓ 556 (Infant)  
✓ 557 Pearl Austin, d. Apr. 29, 1918, ae. 6 yrs. 8 mos., Acute Bronchitis  
✓ 558 (Adult male and infant)  
559 Phoebe L. Irving, d. June 2, 1918, ae. 47 yrs., Chronic Heart Trouble  
Framer Thomas, d. June 5, 1918, ae. --- , Premature Birth  
560 Pauline Hasolwitz, d. Aug. 24, 1918, ae. 7 mos., Cholera Infantum  
Baby Ochardowski, d. Feb. 16, 1919, Stillborn  
Alice Somers, d. Oct. 9, 1918, ae. 5 wks.  
561 Asa Wilson, d. Aug. 21, 1918, ae. 22 yrs., Acute Gastro Enteritis  
562 Albert A. Warren, d. Oct. 23, 1918, ae. 65 yrs., Alcoholism  
563 Bertha Albreicht, d. , ae. 56 yrs. 5 mos., Myocarditis  
564 Richard Horton, d. Dec. 14, 1918, ae. 55 yrs., Accidental Asphyxia-  
tion  
✓ 565 Katie Panteri, d. Jan. 24, 1919, ae. 40 yrs.  
✓ 566 Lucy Grant, d. Jan. 19, 1919, ae. 32 yrs.  
✓ 567 Unknown Baby, d. Nov. 21, 1918, Stillborn  
✓ 568 Anna Kolinko, d. Mar. 12, 1919, ae. 6½ mos.  
569 Samuel Borzebs, d. Apr. 17, 1919, ae. 56 yrs., Erysipelas  
✓ 570 Charles Tyler, d. Apr. 17, 1919, ae. 44 yrs., Chronic Nephritis  
✓ 571 Oliver W. Holmes, d. May 18, 1919, ae. 45 yrs. 8 mos. 19 dys., Acute  
Cardiac Dilatation  
✓ 572 Elizabeth Weston, d. May 29, 1919, ae. 19 yrs. 10 mos., Pulmonary  
Tuberculosis  
573 Julia Weston Black, d. June 30, 1919, ae. 2 mos. 15 dys., Acute  
Gastro Enteritis  
574 Unknown Baby, buried July 23, 1919, Stillborn, (Box of bones)  
" " " " " "  
575 James Phillips, d. July 26, 1919, ae. 73 yrs.  
576 Albert Taylor, d. Aug. 5, 1919, ae. 73 yrs.  
Baby Taggie, buried Aug. 6, 1919, Stillborn



## BOARD OF PUBLIC WELFARE

**68 COURT STREET**

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# CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

## BOARD OF PUBLIC WELFARE

JOHN F. MADDEN, AGENT

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- 614
- ✓ 615 Gertrude Anthony, d. Feb. 19, 1923, Stillborn
- ✓ 616 Wm. H. Hartman, d. Mar. 5, 1923, Stillborn
- ✓ Henry M. Baldwin, d. July 17, 1923, ae. 73 yrs., Cancer of Pancreas
- ✓ 617 Jenny Kay, d. July 24, 1923, Chronic Myocarditis
- ✓ 618 Baby Gaudette, d. Aug. 12, 1923, Premature Birth
- ✓ 619 Baby Benoit, d. Dec. 10, 1923, Stillborn
- ✓ 620 Baby Brusie, d. Dec. 30, 1923, Stillborn
- ✓ 621 Chas. C. Johnson, d. Jan. 20, 1924, Pneumonia
- ✓ 622 Baby Albreicht, d. Feb. 1, 1924, Stillborn
- ✓ 623 Willie Bronson, d. Feb. 27, 1924, ae. 67 yrs., Chronic Myocarditis
- 624 Unknown Baby, Stillborn
- ✓ 625 Elizabeth M. Couture, d. May 13, 1924, Stillborn
- ✓ 626 Harlow Tread, d. June 9, 1924, ae. 93 yrs., Cardio-Vascular
- ✓ 627 Unknown Man, d. July 13, 1924, Exposure and Shock
- ✓ Baby Holmes, d. Mar. 26, 1927, ae. 1 dy.
- ✓ 628 Unknown Child, d. July 6, 1924, Asphyxia by Strangulation
- ✓ 629 Thomas Lucia, d. Dec. 17, 1926, ae. 60 yrs., Pernicious Anaemia
- ✓ 630 Baby Peterson, d. Apr. 19, 1927, Stillborn
- ✓ 631 Fillarde Luigi, d. Apr. 29, 1927, ae. 49 yrs., Myocarditis
- ✓ 632 Antonio Lacopo, d. June 29, 1927, ae. 36 yrs., Multiple Injuries and Shock
- ✓ 633 Geo. Warren, d. Sept. 19, 1927, ae. 58 yrs., Acute Alcoholism
- ✓ 634 John S. Shays, d. Oct. 11, 1927, ae. 89 yrs., Chronic Nephritis
- ✓ 635 Unknown Man, d. Nov. 8, 1927, ae. 60 yrs., Asphyxia
- ✓ 636 Geo. E. Lewis, d. Dec. 3, 1927, ae. 77 yrs., Cardio-Vascular
- ✓ 637 Ella Manchester, d. Dec. 8, 1927, Cardio-Vascular
- ✓ 638 Tony Belec, d. Dec. 21, 1927, ae. 58 yrs.
- ✓ 639 Michael Balchewk, d. Jan. 7, 1928, ae. 46 yrs., Asphyxia by Strangulation
- ✓ 640 Silas P. Kelley, d. Jan. 7, 1928, Angina Pectoris
- ✓ 641 Michael D. Maleosian, d. Jan. 23, 1928, ae. 45 yrs., Pulmonary Tuberculosis
- 642 Mary Lavina, d. Feb. 25, 1928, Arterio Sclerosis
- Baby, d. Mar. 14, 1928, Stillborn (No number given.)
- ✓ 643 Chas. Lewis, d. Mar. 6, 1928, ae. 54 yrs., Cardio-Vascular
- ✓ 644 Byron Irning Banks, d. May 10, 1928, ae. 55 yrs., Asphyxia by Drowning, Accidental
- ✓ 645 Mary Burghardt, d. May 22, 1928, ae. 76 yrs., Cardio-Vascular
- ✓ 646 Edward Theroux, d. June 11, 1928, ae. 69 yrs., Arterio Sclerosis
- ✓ 647 George Clay, d. July 12, 1928, ae. 64 yrs., General Peritonitis
- ✓ Alfred McCray, d. July 14, 1928, ae. 6 mos. 22 dys., Broncho Pneumonia
- 648 Helen Gabrowski, d. Aug. 2, 1928, ae. 31 yrs., Cirrhosis of Liver
- 649 Unknown Man, d. Aug. 17, 1928, ae. about 35 yrs., Decapitation
- 650 Alfred Bady, d. Sept. 26, 1928, ae. 54 yrs.
- Baby Asquith, d. Oct. 11, 1928, Stillborn
- 651 Chas. P. Catskill, d. Nov. 1, 1928, ae. 45 yrs., Chronic Myocarditis
- ✓ 652 (Boy aged about 10 - 12 years)



# CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

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- ✓ 653 Chas. Castor, alias Curtis, d. Jan. 23, 1929, ae. 77 yrs., Pres.  
Coronary Sclerosis
- ✓ 654 Baby Maso, d. Feb. 27, 1929
- ✓ Baby Kaminsky, d. Feb. 1, 1929, Premature Birth
- ✓ 655 Baby Heski, d. Mar. 17, 1929, Premature Birth
- ✓ 656 James Carnathan, d. Mar. 20, 1929, ae. 66 yrs., Coronary Thrombosis
- ✓ 657 Unknown Child, d. Mar. 30, 1929, ae. unknown, Pres. Hemorrhage
- ✓ 658 Dorothy Markins, d. Apr. 24, 1929, ae. 40 yrs., Acute Cardiac Insufficiency
- ✓ 659 Mary Maso, d. May 29, 1929, ae. 6 yrs., Lobar Pneumonia
- ✓ 660 William Ellis, d. June 11, 1929, ae. 62 yrs., Heart Trouble
- ✓ 661 Baby Warner, d. July 16, 1929, ae. 1 dy., Inanition
- ✓ 662 Baby Proctor, d. July 29, 1929, ae. 3 dys.
- ✓ 663 Unknown Male Child, d. Aug. 19, 1929, Premature Birth - Abandoned
- ✓ 664 Michael Kozils, d. Sept. 22, 1929, ae. 43 yrs., Acute Alcoholism
- ✓ 665 William Green, d. Nov. 14, 1929, ae. 61 yrs., Suicide by Poison
- ✓ 666 Unknown Infant, d. Nov. 27, 1929, ae. 10 dys., Presumably Status Lymphaticus
- ✓ 667 Baby Moultrie, d. Jan. 2, 1930, ae. 2 dys., Presumably Hemorrhagic Disease of the New Born
- ✓ 668 Baby Rock, d. Feb. 25, 1930, Stillborn
- ✓ 669 Unknown Child, d. May 2, 1930
- ✓ 670 Baby Platt, d. Oct. 5, 1930, Stillborn
- ✓ 671 Baby Crosier, d. Oct. --, 1930, Stillborn
- 386 (No record found)
- 387 " " "
- 388 " " "
- 389 " " "
- 390 " " "
- 391 " " "
- 392 " " "
- 393 " " "
- 394 " " "
- 395 " " "
- 396 " " "

And any other body, or bodies, in the easterly section of said cemetery, whose record does not appear in the record of deaths at the City Home, or whose grave is not marked at the present time.

Dated at Springfield, this nineteenth day of November 1932.

WILLIAM J. MCCANN, Superintendent.

By

*John F. Madden*



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# CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

## BOARD OF PUBLIC WELFARE

JOHN F. MADDEN, AGENT

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68 COURT STREET

### COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

#### Board of Health of the City of Springfield

To William J. McCann, Superintendent,  
Bay Path Cemetery,  
Springfield, Massachusetts:

The accompanying application is approved and permit granted.

November 19, 1932.

Agent, Board of Health.

To the Board of Health of the City of Springfield:

I hereby certify that the remains of the persons whose names are checked on the accompanying application were removed and suitably re-interred in the Bay Path Cemetery in Springfield, Massachusetts, in accordance with the General Laws of Massachusetts and the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Health.

Dated at Springfield, this 20 day of November, 1932

Superintendent.



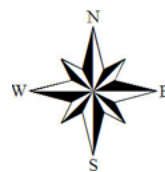


## Bay Path Cemetery

3/21/2022 10:34:18 AM

Scale: 1"=188'

Scale is approximate



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