

It's 1989.

Do you know where your ancestors are?

Last summer (1988) Nancy (Winter Hatch) and I (Pat Winter Oakes) had the good fortune to spend several weeks with Mom and Dad (Lois and Bob Winter) traveling around Cape Cod and environs in their motor home. One of the things that we did while we were exploring was to visit several of the family cemeteries. Nancy and I thought that, since very few of us live in Massachusetts any more, it might be a good idea to write down where they are and how one gets there.

The first cemetery we visited was Mt. Pleasant Cemetery which is on Mattakesset St., north off of Mass. 27 in Bryantville, Mass. This is where the Bensons are buried. Ruby Benson Brown was the daughter of Levi (1859-1941) and Alvina (1860-1934) Benson and they are both buried here.





The next cemetery we visited was Fern Hill Cemetery in Hansen, Mass., which is directly down the hill from Mom's cousin Margie Bates' house. As you go in the main gate, turn right and then go left to find the Browns and right for the Keenes. The Brown plot is near the pond in the back of the cemetery. Buried here are Elton A. Brown (1868-1954) and Ella Florence Keene Brown (1875-1955), our great-grandparents, our grandfather Harold Brown (1890-1970), his namesake Harold Brown (1913-1922), and his son Elton Winslow Brown (1915-1981), his daughter Elsie Brown Wilson (1914-1960), and her son Gordon (1937-1950). Fred Brown (1893-1973), brother of Harold, and his wife Alice (1894-1963) and buried here, also.

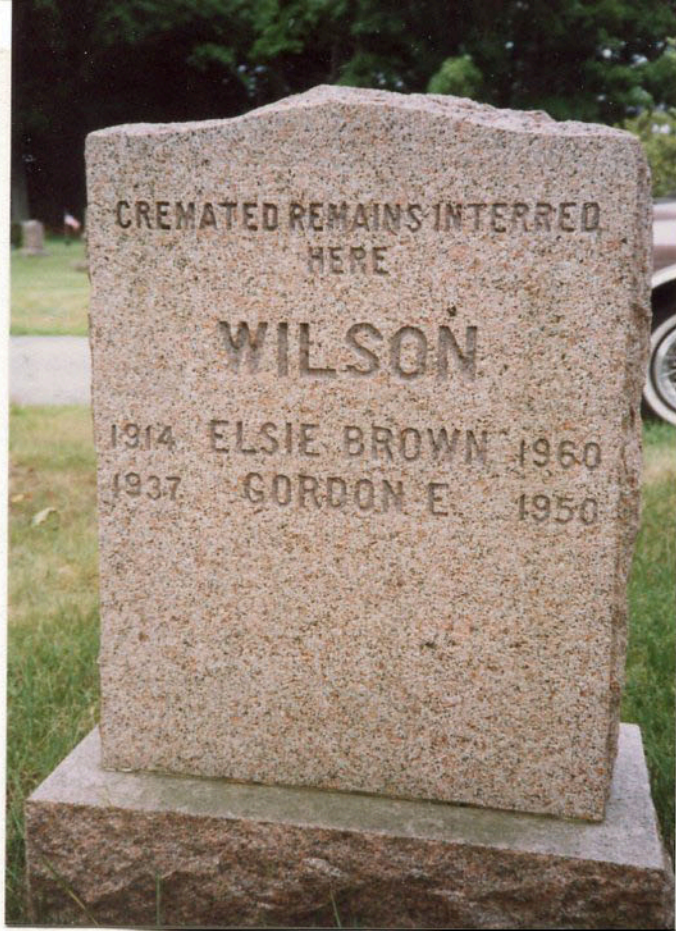
There are several other related families buried here-- the Howards, the Keenes, the Monegans and the Therrians: Fred L. Keene (1849-1924) and his wife Alice H. Keene (1858-1910), parents of Ella Florence Keene, and two of their children, Freddie (1878-1881) and Arthur (1881-1895); Fred Therrian (1898-1952) (NOTE--Lois Brown Winter read about his death in the Miami Herald--he had died of a heart attack during a parade for Rocky Marciano and it made the papers) and his wife Dorothy Brown (1902-1985)--"Aunt Dot"; George Keene (1876-1963)-- Ella Florence's brother, Mabel and Marian Brown who were the grandchildren of George Keene (his daughter married Arthur Brown, no relation); Charles E. Monegan (1904-1967) and his wife Lucy E. Brown Monegan (1903-1965). Charles' mother and stepfather are also buried there. Another sister of Harold Brown, Cora M. Brown (1900-1983) is buried with her husband T. Dean Howard (1900-1976). The stone says HOWARD and also on the stone are Warren T. Howard and his wife Bertha.





Most of us are familiar with the old cemetery behind the Original Congregational Church in Wrentham, Massachusetts. Many members of the Winter family are buried here. Robert S. Winter, Sr. (1891-1963), his wife Velma White Winter (1886-1980) and her sister Bertha Eliza White (1882-1975) are buried near the fence away from the road. The stone reads WHITE. As you face that stone, to your right and down the road a little ways you will find the stone for Patrick Murray Winter (1840-1901) and his wife Isabella Ednie (1851-1934) (NOTE--their parents are buried at two different cemeteries in Perth, Scotland). Also buried at the Wrentham cemetery is Walter George (1885-1969), husband of Elsie Winter George.





A cemetery which we did not visit, but for which Aunt Doris kindly provided information, is Green Acres Memorial Park Mortuary in Bloomington, CA. This is where Ruby Brown Jones is buried. The stone reads Mother, Ruby B. Jones, 1894-1977.





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Back another generation, on the White side of the family, Velma Frances White Winter was the daughter of Frank E. White and Abby Esther Ballou. The Ballous are buried in the cemetery next to Arnold Mills United Methodist Church on Rte. 20 in Cumberland, Rhode Island. There is a R.I. historical marker, Historical Cemetery #22. It is close to the intersection of Rt. 114 and Diamond Hill Rd. The main Ballou stone is located away from the church in about the center of the cemetery, near a very large tree.