131st Memorial Service

PRESENTED BY THE

Charitable Association

OF THE

Boston Fire Department & Veterans Fireman's Association



Michelle Wu, Mayor

Paul F. Burke, Fire Commissioner

Firefighter's Lot at Forest Hills Cemetery

Sunday Morning, June 9, 2024

1942-02

PROGRAM

Presiding
Samuel Dillon
President of Local 718

National Anthem
Boston Fire Department Acapella Group

Amazing Grace
Boston Gaelic Fire Brigade

Invocation
Grand Rabbi Yitzahak Aharon Korff, Clergy

Greetings
Paul F. Burke
Fire Commissioner

Orator of the Day
Peter Smyth
President of the Hundred Club of Massachusetts

Vocalist
Lennie De Souza
Director of Human Resources
Boston Fire Department

Presentation of Bouquets

Decoration of Graves
Members of the Boston Fire Department

Decoration of the Monument
Trustees of the Charitable Association
Boston Firefighter's Local 718 IAFF

Remembrance of the late Firefighter Edward R. Connolly
Treasurer of the Charitable Association

Remembrance of the late Firefighter Michael R. Kennedy
Members of Engine 33 / Ladder 15

Taps

Firefighter's Prayer
Boston Fire Department Acapella Group

Photos by Bill Noonan, Fire Investigation Unit (retired)

Boston Firefighter's Local 718 IAFF Officers and Executive Board

Samuel Dillon, *President*
Leroy Heyward, *Vice President*
Sean Kelly, *Treasurer*
Peter Gailunas, *Recording Secretary*
Randy Greeley, *Legislative Representative*
Anthony McDonagh, *Legislative Representative*
Richard Berger
John Nee
Douglas Felton
Eamon Kavanaugh
James Riley
Alector Tavares
Ralph Dowling



Fireman's Lot at Forest Hills Cemetery Founded In the Year of Our Lord 1828 Instituted In the Year 1829 by James Boyd Incorporated February 13, 1830

Each year on the second Sunday in June, memorial services sponsored by the Charitable Association of the Boston Fire Department are held at the Firemen's Memorial at Forest Hills Cemetery in order to pay tribute to deceased members so they would be assured of a decent and final resting place and they would not necessarily end up in Pauper's Field.

At one time, the lot was strictly for indigent fire fighters. However, that rule has been rescinded. This Charitable Association was the first of its' kind in the country to be originated for the benefit of the fire fighters injured in the line of duty. In order to protect themselves and their families back in the 1800's in the event of illness, injury or sometimes even death, these early firefighters formed associations. This was necessary because life insurance was not available. Even today every fire department still has a relief association.

James Boyd, founder of the Charitable Association of the Boston Fire Department was the son of Hugh and Mary Patton Boyd, and was born in Newtownand, Ireland on November 11, 1793. He married Margaret Curry of Cainey Caw, Ireland in 1815 and came to Boston in 1817.

In 1820, he was a manufacturer of leather fire hoses. He also manufactured fire buckets, fireman's caps and general fireman's supplies and also military equipment, knapsacks, etc. The firm was the largest of its' kind in the United States.

James Boyd became a member of the volunteer fire department and was second foreman of Hero #6 and later fireman at Brooks H1. He first suggested and promoted the organization of the Charitable Association of the Boston Fire Department and drew up its constitution and by-laws in 1828.

James Boyd was the fifth president of the board of trustees from May 1838 to January 1839 when he retired. In 1838, the Association passed a resolution of highest esteem and appreciation of his splendid services! He died in Boston in 1855.

The cemetery committee in 1856 looked at grave lots in Mt. Auburn cemetery in Cambridge and Woodlawn cemetery in Everett before they purchased grave lots in Forest Hills cemetery in Jamaica Plain, MA. Graves were purchased from the city of Roxbury in the county of Norfolk on December 19, 1857 at a cost of $3,398.50. The Fireman's lot according to the deed contains 13,594 square feet divided into 249 grave sites. The Fireman's lot hold the remains of 152 members, 16 of which are line of duty deaths. There is also one father and son combination Jackson L. Stinson Sr. and Jr., 1 New York firefighter was also buried

The first two burials at Forest Hills cemetery were line of duty deaths; they were Francis F Cutting, age 25 and John W. Tuttle age 36, both assigned to "Tremont #12". They lost their lives on May 2, 1858 at 133 - 139 Federal Street when they were crushed by falling walls. It was a six story granite warehouse. For some unknown reason the two men were not buried until 25 days later. Elijah Smith at age 41, former Chief Engineer of the Boston Fire Department died in 1856 of typhoid fever. He was disinterred and buried in the Fireman's lot on the same day, May 27, 1858. Another firefighter killed in the line of duty and buried here was Firefighter Edward R. Connolly who was killed March 21, 1986 at box 7413 by a building collapse. Ed was the treasurer of the Charitable Association when he lost his life. The last member killed in the line of duty to be buried here was Firefighter Michael Kennedy March 26, 2014 at the 9th Alarm Box 1579. The last member to be buried here was retired Captain Richard Connelly June 26, 2018.

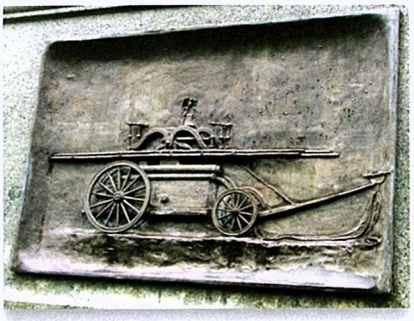
Regarding the Monument

The monument was erected in 1909 in memory of deceased firefighters of the Boston Fire Department. The monument consists of a granite base upon which stands a 9' 3" bronze statue of a firefighter wearing his firefighting apparel. The model for the statue is believed to be a firefighter named Cosgrove. The base of the monument was constructed at Quincy Granite by J.M. White and Sons. The bronze statue was cast at the Spaulding foundry in Chicopee, MA. We do not have any information concerning the mould.



The overall height of the monument is 26 feet. The bronze figure of the firefighter was designed by John Wilson of Boston. Wilson also designed the four bronze tablets which are attached to the four sides of the granite base. The tablets depict a steamer, a hook and ladder truck, a protective wagon, and an old-time hand tub. Imbedded in the front of the base are the words, "In Memory of Departed Comrades".

The cost of the monument was, base $3,800.00, bronze statue and four tablets $6,200 for a total of $10,000. The monument was the result of 25 years of unceasing labor on the part of the Charitable Association, Boston Protective Department, subscriptions from fire companies of Boston and Roxbury and friends.



Monument Dedication

The monument was dedicated on Sunday, June 13, 1909. The Boston Globe reported that the veteran and regular firemen gathered in the morning at the rooms of the Barnicoat Association hall located at 380 Tremont Street. The various organizations lined up and with several bands playing dirges the men marched to East Lenox Street where they boarded electric cars for Forest Hills Square.

At Forest Hills Square under the direction of Chief Marshall Captain Edward A. Bennett were the following aides: John A. Collicut, Henry S. Pike, Captain James F. Hutchins, Squire S. Rogers, Major George M. Quinby, George Fitzgibbons, James J. Hughes, John Durham and Lt. John P. Lane.

The line of march to the cemetery and the firemen's lot was taken up with Captain Walter McLean as adjutant. The line marched into the cemetery in following order: Boyd's Brass Band, escort of 30 men from the Protective and Fire Departments; Captain McCarthy in command; Charitable Association of Boston Fire Department; 60 men with the President Hoseman Daniel W. Mahoney Engine Company 42 in command, Chief Marshall Captain Edward A. Bennett and staff, Tenean Veteran Association; Peter J. Kelley president, Charlestown Veteran Fireman's Association, Mission Church Drum and Bugle Corps., Roxbury Veteran Association; James A. Mitchell president, Boston Veteran Association; John Taylor president, Barnicoat Association; Walter W. Delano president, Fairbank's Band, Jamaica Plain Veterans; John H. O'Brien president, Star of Jamaica Veterans Association; James E. Knight president.

At the cemetery, the marchers met the carriages which were carrying the dignitaries. In the first carriage was Chief of Department John A. Mullen, Honorable John R. Murphy the orator of the day, Fire Commissioner Samuel Parker and Captain Brown S. Flanders Superintendent of Fire Alarm. In the second carriage was ex-mayor John F. Fitzgerald, Nathanial H. Taylor, ex-commissioner Wells and Frederick J. Brand Chairman of the Board of Aldermen and acting Mayor. The following carriages carried distinguished guests, city officials and veteran firemen unable to march.

At the Firemen's lot, there was a tent for the speakers and guests and as the bands alternated playing dirges, the firemen and veterans marched within the roped-off enclosure and stood at attention when Chief Marshall Bennett opened the ceremonies. The Boston Post in their reporting of the unveiling and dedication ceremonies reported that seven hundred men formed and rode to Forest Hills Square and all marched to the cemetery. The Post further reported that the firemen's lot was surrounded by a hollow square of red shirted and blue coated figures. The Boston Herald reported that five thousand were in attendance.

The opening address was made by acting Mayor Frederick J. Brand in which he paid tribute to the bravery of the firemen of Boston, those of today as well as the noble men about whose last resting place the throng had gathered. Mr. Nathaniel Taylor of the Boston Globe remarked, "The many noble firemen who served the City of Boston efficiently and honorably did the best they could for the public good. The saving of life was their province. That they did all that was possible for human beings to do in their line of duty is the sincere belief of all our citizens".

"To the departed we say rest in peace. To their living comrades we say your life work is thoroughly appreciated by the City of Boston".

Following Mr. Taylor's remarks, the monument was unveiled by Margaret and Josephine McLean of Ashmont, the young daughters of Fire Captain Walter McLean of Engine Company 46. Fire Captain McLean served as Chairman of the monument committee.

After the Mission Church band played "Departed Comrades", the Honorable John R. Murphy of Charlestown who was the orator of the day spoke as follows. We have gathered here today to dedicate this memorial in honor of the men of the Boston Fire Department. It is fitting that it should be erected here amidst the graves where sleep so many of the dead who have served our city. It is a memorial of beautiful and simple design, yet noble in its simplicity, symbols of the brave deeds of the men in whose honor it was erected.



Members Buried at the Firemen's Lot at Forest Hills Cemetery in Jamaica Plain

LOT#	NAME	LINE OF DUTY	RANK	COMPANY	DATE	YEAR
70	Tuttle, John W.	Line of Duty	Hoseman	Tremont 12	May 2	1858
71	Cutting, Francis F.	Line of Duty	Hoseman	Tremont 12	May 2	1858
37	Smith, Elisha, Jr.		Chief Engineer		May 27	1858
39	Martin, Richard S.		Asst. Engineer	Melville 13	July 30	1885
94	Shaw, William		Hoseman	Barnicoat 11	Jan. 24	1860
84	Carter, Charles	Line of Duty	Ladderman	Ladder 1	Feb. 18	1860
95	Carroll, John W.		Hoseman	Barnicoat 11	Feb. 21	1860
85	Kilburn, George H.		Hoseman	Cataract 4	Mar. 14	1860
40	Hall, Augustus F.		Hoseman	Cataract 4	June 3	1860
87	Stinson, Jackson L.		Captain	Perkins 2	Oct. 13	1860
36	Jellison, Howard M.		Hoseman	Hose 5	Oct. 16	1861
57	Eaton, Hiram		Hoseman	Tremont 8	Oct. 20	1861
69	Hannaford, Ruben W.	Line of Duty	Hoseman	Hose 5	Feb. 24	1862
90	Sharp, George L.		Hoseman	Boston 8	June 27	1862
42	Ambercrombie, George M.	Line of Duty	Hoseman	Engine 7	July 11	1862
41	Town, Alvah S.		Hoseman	Cataract 4	July 16	1862
35	Sylvester, James H.		Hoseman	Hose 5	Dec. 10	1862
92	Morse, Charles N.		Hoseman	Engine 10	Feb. 14	1864
73	Green, Charles W.		Captain	Hose 7	June 25	1865
43	Williams, Alfred		Hoseman	Boston 8	Mar. 14	1866
53	Gowan, Benjamin		Hoseman	Boston 15	Aug. 27	1866
76	Golliff, George H.	Line of Duty	Ladderman	Ladder 1	May 15	1868
28	Hibbard, George H.		Ex-Engineer	Headquarters	June 3	1868
29	Fortune, Richard J.		Hoseman	Engine 8	July 5	1868
58	Smith, Archibald		Hoseman	Engine 8	Mar. 28	1869
49	Stimpson, Jefferson		Hoseman	Engine 14	Aug. 12	1869
59	Dutton, James F.		Hoseman	Engine 3	June 20	1870
52	Young, Robert M.		Hoseman	Hose 3	Dec. 29	1870
63	Phillips, Eugene C.		Hoseman	Engine 15	Jan. 6	1871
65	Lillie, Daniel W.			Retired	Sept. 5	1871
93	Fogg, George S.		Ladderman	Ladder 4	Oct. 16	1872
64	Sturks, James D.	Line of Duty	Hoseman	Engine 15	Feb. 27	1873
72	Clements, Jacob S.		Hoseman	Suffolk 1	Sept. 3	1873
103	Young, Joseph S.		Hoseman	Boston 8	June 4	1874
62	Gowen, Samuel S.		Hoseman	Engine 1	June 13	1875
60	Gilbert, John L.		Hoseman	Engine 23	May 14	1876
32	Brown, John H.	Active Member	Ladderman	Ladder 8	Dec. 23	1877
33	Bird, George W.		Chief Engineer	Headquarters	May 7	1879
33	Hammett William E.	Active Member	Hoseman	Hose 7	Nov. 16	1880
56	Stinson, Jackson L. Jr.		Hoseman	Engine 10	Jan. 6	1881
34	Beal, Levi		Hoseman	Hancock 10	Mar. 22	1881
74	Harding, Charles		Hoseman	Tremont 12	Dec. 14	1881
54	Norris, William		Hoseman	Engine 7	Feb. 22	1882
66	Griffin, Chandler	Active Member	Hoseman	Engine 4	Apr. 18	1882
51	Jordan, Ansel A.		Hoseman	Chemical 5	Apr. 15	1884
117	Pierce, Joseph	Line of Duty	Hoseman	Engine 4	Aug. 17	1884
75	Sweetzer, James W.	Line of Duty	Hoseman	Protective 1	July 3	1885
67	Pike, George S.		Captain	Hose 4	Sept. 18	1885
55	Chase, John F.			Retired	Oct. 13	1885
50	Young, Joseph		Hoseman	Engine 8	Dec. 25	1885
68	Reddy, Jeremiah P.		Hoseman	Tremont 8	March 6	1886
110	Smith, Zenas E.		Asst. Engineer	Headquarters	June 18	1886
77	Smith, Samuel H.		Hoseman	Engine 12	July 11	1886
81	Holmes, Albert T.		Hoseman	Engine 26/3	Jan. 25	1887
38	Harper, William E.		Hoseman	Hose 1	Apr. 22	1887
78	Dexter, Benjamin F.		Hoseman	Engine 4	Apr. 30	1887
79	Mann, William H.		Hoseman	Engine 4	Aug. 24	1887
80	Allison, Charles N.		Hoseman	Engine 10	Nov. 30	1887
44	Hines, Frederick M.		Captain	Engine 3	Dec. 24	1888
83	Whittle, James	Active Member	Hoseman	Hose 13	Jan. 8	1888
111	Edmonds, George W.		Hoseman	Hose 10	Apr. 16	1889
46	Chase, John W.		Captain	Engine 2	July 5	1889
47	Sprague, George W.		Member	Tremont 12	July 24	1889
48	Durling, John L.		Hosteler	Ladder 12	Aug. 25	1889
118	Cobb, Benjamin F.			Retired	Nov. 7	1889
88	Loker, Frank P.	Line of Duty	Ladderman	Ladder 3	Nov. 28	1889
89	Murnan, Michael	Line of Duty	Hoseman	Hose 7	Nov. 28	1889
115	Brooks, John J.	Line of Duty	Hoseman	Hose 7	Nov. 28	1889
86	Blake, Charles H.		Captain	Engine 8	Jan. 8	1890
18	Young, Alfred A.		Hoseman	Engine 4	Mar. 29	1890
116	Riley, David		Hoseman	Extinguisher 5	June 11	1890
31	Shaw, Augustus C.		Hoseman	Hose 8	June 12	1890
30	Ellison, George W.		Hoseman	Howard 7	July 23	1890
29	Nicholes, Richard A.			Retired	Apr. 18	1891
28	Moore, George J.	Active Member	Ladderman	Ladder 9	May 8	1892
27	Wilson, David B.		Ladderman	Ladder 1	May 9	1892
26	Goodwin, John D.		Hoseman	Tremont 8	May 22	1892

Members Buried at the Firemen's Lot at Forest Hills Cemetery in Jamaica Plain

LOT. #	NAME	LINE OF DUTY	RANK	COMPANY	DATE	YEAR
24	Pratt, Alonzo		Hoseman	Hose 12	May 4	1893
22	Trainer, William		Hoseman	Barnicoat 11	Nov. 28	1893
21	Heilge, Henry E.		Hoseman	Tremont 8	Jan. 25	1894
20	Chase, John H.		Ladderman	Ladder 1	Mar. 15	1894
19	Fernald, William		Hoseman	Suffolk 1	June 5	1894
17	Singleton, James C.		Hoseman	Engine 10	July 8	1894
16	King, George E.		Hoseman	Hose 2	Sept. 30	1894
15	Kendall, Henry S.		Captain	Protective 2	June 1	1895
14	Ramsdell, Charles E.		Ladderman	Ladder 7	June 8	1895
13	Landells, William		Ladderman	Ladder 7	Aug. 28	1895
12	Baldwin, Nahom J.		Hoseman	Engine 7	Mar. 29	1896
11	Mitchell, Charles H.		Hoseman		Apr. 27	1896
114	Saville, George K.		Ladderman	Franklin Ladder 3	June 13	1896
10	Ray, John	Active Member	Hoseman	Engine 2	Dec. 27	1896
9	Bense, Joseph C.		Hoseman	Protective 2	Dec. 31	1896
8	Plaisted, George O.		Ladderman	Ladder 9	Apr. 3	1897
7	Cushing, Charles H.		Hoseman	Protective 2	Apr. 12	1897
6	Tarlton, William B.		Captain	Old North 1	June 28	1897
5	Cooper, Charles C.		Hoseman	Engine 11	Aug. 17	1898
4	Hamilton, Alvan		Hoseman	Engine 17	May 18,	1899
25	Dix, Milo S.		Hoseman	Hose 8	May 19	1899
3	Reed, Francis S.		Hoseman	Hose 5	Jan. 9	1900
2	Chandler, Albert		Hoseman	Melville 13	Apr. 1	1900
1	Talbot, George W.		Hoseman	New York 7	Aug. 10	1900
23	Harris, Charles W.	Active Member	Hoseman	Engine 24	Dec. 31	1901
45	Bright, Edwin H.		Hoseman	Hose 5	Mar. 26	1902
61	Lewis, Eban A.		Hoseman	Perkins 2	May 19	1902
82	Pelton, John D.		Hoseman	Protective 2	Oct. 20	1902
109	Gardner, William H.		Hoseman	Hose 5	Feb. 18	1903
112	Ulverdahl, Richard L.		Ladderman	Ladder 24	Nov. 21	1903
98	Payrow, Rodney F.			Retired	Apr. 24	1904
108	Goodwin, Edmond O.		Hoseman	Engine 32	Jan. 21	1905
107	Wentworth, George		Hoseman	Eagle 12	Sept. 12	1905
106	Thorburn, James H.		Ladderman	Ladder 10	Mar. 19	1906
91	Shelhamer, John		Hoseman	Perkins 2	Sept. 5	1906
105	Downes, Charles H.		Ladderman	Ladder 13	Apr. 7	1907
104	Gardner, George E.		Hoseman	Engine 24	Aug. 14	1907
102	Wilson, Charles E.		Hoseman	Chemical 4	Oct. 23	1907
101	Murphy, James E.	Active Member	Hoseman	Engine 9	Jan. 9	1908
100	Foed, Peter A.	Active Member	Hoseman	Engine 29	Mar. 4	1908
97	Jennings, Isaac K.		Captain	Ladder 33	Apr. 1	1910
96	Kendall, Charles L.			Retired	June 21	1911
119	Sullivan, Michael C.		Hoseman	Engine 4	Mar. 2	1913
120	Turner, Edward E.			Retired	Jan. 31	1916
121	Murray, Charles T.			Retired	Apr. 4	1916
122	Griffin, James		Hoseman	Engine 32	Aug. 18	1921
123	Humphrey, James C.K.		Hoseman	Extinguisher 1	Oct. 13	1922
124	Smith, Charles		Captain	Engine 1	Feb. 24	1923
125	Flanagan, Thomas B.		Lieutenant	Ladder 10	Jan. 2	1927
126	Harty, Thomas J.		Hoseman	Engine 23	May 28	1928
127	Weniger, Frederick			Retired	Nov. 26	1930
30	Cobb, William H.		Hoseman	Engine 26	Oct. 22	1936
128	Gramer, Arthur D.		Hoseman	Rescue 1	Oct. 24	1940
129	Hogan, John		Lieutenant	Ladder 28	Oct. 9	1947
130	Donovan, John V.	Active Member	Fire Fighter	Engine 1	Mar. 12	1974
131	Foley, Maurice		Ladderman	Fire Prevention	May 13	1974
149	Flannery, William V. Jr.		Fire Fighter	Ladder 18	May 4	1979
148	Lewis, James		Fire Fighter	Engine 28	Mar. 2	1984
147	Connolly, Edward R.	Line of Duty	Fire Fighter	Ladder 17	Mar. 21	1986
146	Timberlake, Antonio	Active Member	Fire Fighter	Engine 10	Feb. 14	1991
97	MacDonald, John		Lieutenant	Engine 8	July 9	1991
96	Riley, James		Fire Fighter	Engine 45	July 19	1991
149	Fleming, William		Lieutenant	Engine 3	Aug. 30	1991
98	Umile, Peter A.			Retired	Apr. 6	1994
114	Doherty, Edward C. Jr.	Active Member	Fire Fighter	Ladder 26	Aug. 1	1995
115	Griffin, Paul	Active Member	Fire Fighter	Engine 3	Dec. 11,	1997
34	Mullen, John J.		Captain	Engine 37	Jan. 28	2002
130	Middleton, David	Line of Duty	Fire Fighter	Engine 51	May 29	2007
131	Payne, Warren	Line of Duty	Fire Fighter	Ladder 25	Aug. 29	2007
145	Kennedy, Michael R.	Line of Duty	Fire Fighter	Ladder 15	Mar. 26	2014
228	Stephen S. Wong		Fire Fighter	Engine 7	Oct. 7	2017
142	Richard Connelly		Captain	Engine 10	June 26	2018

Note: *These two graves adjacent to the Firemen's Lot are also decorated on Memorial Sunday by the Charitable Association*

Chief of Department John S. Damrell, President of the Charitable Association from 1877-1890

Chief of Department William T. Cheswell, Vice-President of the Charitable Association from 1885-1887 and Treasurer from 1887-1906. Chief Cheswell died in the Line of Duty on February 15, 1906