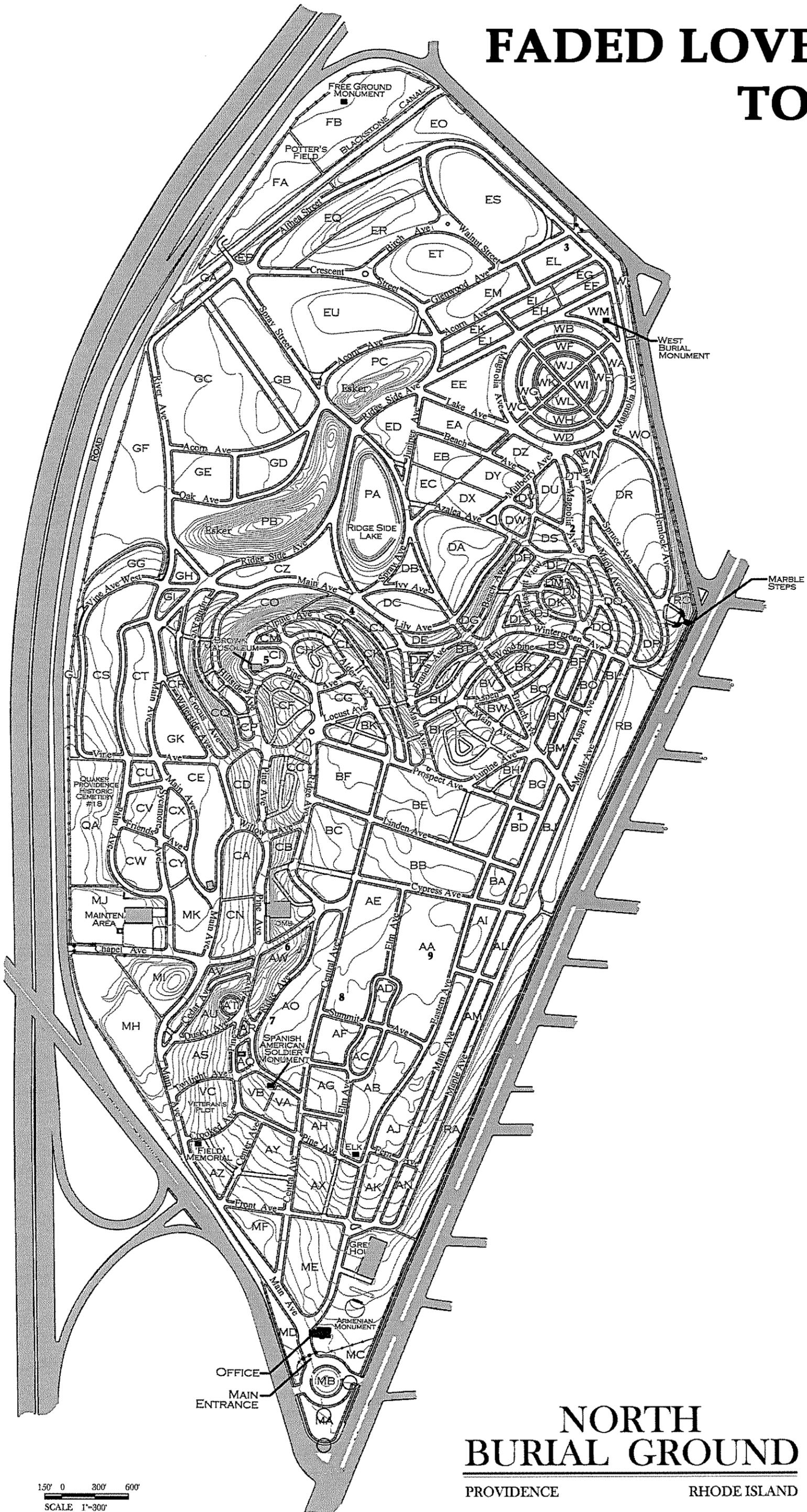


FADED LOVERS TOUR



150' 0 300' 600'
SCALE 1"=300'

NORTH BURIAL GROUND

PROVIDENCE

RHODE ISLAND

PREPARED FOR:
PROVIDENCE PARKS DEPARTMENT
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

PREPARED BY:
Bradford
23 Cowdrey Street
Providence RI 02908-1118
401.842.4442
bradford@providencepark.com

October 2004

Faded Lovers Tour

1. **Freelove Mitchell Ball (1792 – 1836) & Elijah Ball (1787 – 1849)** – Freelove was married to Elijah Ball, who was tried and convicted of her murder. On October 1, 1836 the "Norfolk Advertiser" reported that the Jury was out only ten minutes, though the "Columbia Register" says it was 20 minutes. The "Newport Mercury" reported that although Elijah Ball was sentenced to death, he petitioned for clemency and it was granted. The vote was 29 to 24 that he should be imprisoned for life, rather than executed. Elijah was indeed imprisoned for the rest of his life and died in 1849 at the age of 62 at the state prison. Elijah is interred right alongside Freelove, but his grave was left unmarked.
2. **Samuel Walter Foss (1858-1911) & Carrie Conant Foss (1854-1936)** – Samuel was born on the family farm in Candia, New Hampshire and attended school in the winter months. He attended college at Brown University, where he pursued study in literature. He then worked as a librarian in Somerville, MA, while writing a poem a day for the local newspapers. His poetry was categorized as the "common man" variety, with two of his most famous poems being *The House by the Side of the Road* and *The Coming American*. Samuel married Carrie, a minister's daughter, on July 13, 1887 in Providence. Carrie worked for 10 years in the Providence School System and was very involved in various volunteer organizations, including the Ladies' Aid Society, the YMCA Auxiliary, Visiting Nursing Association, and more.
3. **Sophia Adams (Foster) Steere (1824-1905) & Charles Henry Steere (1831-1906)** – Both Sophia and Charles were deaf, Sophia from birth and Charles at 6.5 years old from scarlet fever. They attended school in Hartford, CT, where they met. The two were married in 1853 and had one child, who was hearing. Sophia died in 1905, and Charles died less than a year later. Sophia was originally interred in the Steere lot, but when Charles died, their son, Willis, purchased two graves next to one another along Althea Ave so Sophia and Charles could be in eternal rest together.
4. **Mary Ann (Hays) Dutch (1826-1864)** – Mary married John C. Dutch on September 22, 1844. Mary and John would have three children. The first was Sarah J, who was born in 1853 and died in 1854. The second child was Annie Clark Dutch, who died at the age of 20, a few years after her mother. And lastly, John and Mary had another daughter in 1857 who they named Sarah Jane, after their 1st daughter. Sarah Jane also died at a young age. It appears that Mary and John may have split sometime around 1860, as John was found living with his mother and daughter Annie in Worcester, MA, while Sarah was living with Sarah Jane in Providence with another family. Her headstone simply reads "Broken Hearted Mary," most likely alluding to the loss of two children and a separation with her husband. She died after battling tuberculosis for a year.
5. **Mrs. Natalie Bayard Brown (1869-1950) & John Nicholas Brown (1861-1900)** – Referred to at the time as the "most eligible bachelor in the world," John Nicholas Brown met and began courting Natalie Bayard Dresser in latter half of 1896. Natalie was a descendent of the last Dutch governor of New York, and was unfortunately orphaned at a young age after the untimely passing of her parents. Natalie and John were married on September 8, 1897 at Trinity Church in Newport. They had a very happy marriage, although it was tragically cut short. On May 1, 1900, John Nicholas Brown died of typhoid fever. Their son was only three months old at the time. Natalie never remarried and remained a life-long resident of Newport. She was very involved in social and civic life in town and was a parishioner of Emmanuel Church in Newport, where she donated for a new church to be built in memory of her late husband.
6. **James & Mary Arnold (died 1797)** – James, Mary, and their son Joseph, all perished within days of one another after contracting yellow fever, as noted on their headstones. James Arnold was a custom-house officer and had been aboard a ship where it was originally suspected the fever spread from. Yet, his wife, Mary, was actually the first to contract yellow fever and spread it to her husband and son. Research conducted by Moses Knapp in the 1850's concluded that the ship James had been aboard had nothing to do with the spread of the yellow fever, but instead came from another vile source. Yet, the Arnold family was blamed, at the time, for spreading the disease that killed 45 Providencians in the 1797 epidemic.
7. **Natalie Curtis Burlin (1875 - 1921)** – Natalie was born in New York and had an interest in music from a young age. She studied at the National Conservatory of Music of America, and decided to dedicate her life to preserving Native American and African American culture through song. Natalie married Paul Burlin in 1917, a famous abstract expressionist painter whose art was heavily influenced by Native American culture that he experienced alongside his wife. The two moved to Paris in 1921, but less than a year later, Natalie was tragically killed. On October 23, 1921, Natalie stepped off a streetcar and was hit the car of a doctor who was hurrying to see a patient. Her body was cremated and sent to Providence for inurnment.
8. **Abel Holbrook (1788-1819) & Sarah Smith Hopkins Holbrook (1788-1825)** – Sarah Smith Hopkins was the daughter of Uriah Hopkins, who lived and worked on a farm along Sexton Street, which was torn down in 1882 for the expansion of the North Burial Ground. Sarah married Abel Holbrook at the First Baptist Church in Providence, which was founded by Roger Williams in 1638. The two had several children, but both Sarah and Abel died young. Abel died in 1819 of a "long and distressing illness;" Sarah would die just six years later at her father's house, and would be buried just a few hundred feet away.
9. **Sarah Helen Power Whitman (1803 – 1878)** – Sarah was born in Providence in 1803, 6 years to the day before Poe. She originally married John Winslow Whitman, a lawyer and magazine editor, who died unexpectedly just 5 years after being wed. After John's death, Sarah returned to Providence and lived the life of a socialite. She was active in the intellectual circles of Providence, and even called herself a "disciple" of Ralph Waldo Emerson. She was a proponent of both feminism and Spiritualism, as well as other liberalist ideas of the time. These virtues are what attracted Poe to her, even though their relationship was doomed from the start. Sarah's mother disapproved of their relationship and eventual engagement, and both Sarah and Poe hesitated themselves on going through with the marriage. With such indecision and counseling from family & friends, the two broke off their engagement after just a few months. After, Sarah felt remorse for the end of the relationship and continued to write poetry about him for the rest of her life.