

## Riverview Cemetery Walking Tour (courtesy of Richard Snow)

**1. Paul Hazelton (1819-1996). Bowdoin 1942; taught at Staunton Military Academy, Va. & Loomis School in Windsor, CT. Asst. Director of Admissions & Instructor in English at Bowdoin in 1948. Asst. Professor of Education in 1957 & Full Professor in 1966. M.Ed Harvard in 1958; Topsham Town Meeting Moderator for many years.**

**2. Rev. Benjamin Jaques (1790-1878). He and his wife lived in the toll house and took tolls for the Androscoggin Bridge.**

**3. Moses Shaw (1800-1873) b. Salisbury, NH. Lived in Monmouth, Me and moved to Topsham. Had a son Benjamin Franklin Shaw (1832-1890) who went to Topsham Academy. Invented and patented, in 1867, a seamless stocking and automatic loom. It was called the "Shawknit Stocking". Incorporated a company and amassed a fortune. Purchased a 500 acre estate in NH where John Greenleaf Whittier and others visited.**

**4. Josephine P. Work Dennett (1840-1903) Divorced wife of Alfred W. Dennett (1832-1908). He was a retired Topsham grocer that started in 1870 a chain of lunch rooms across the country known as "Dennett's". They had bible verses on all the walls and he amassed a fortune. He purchased an Illinois Park called "Lincoln Park" and "Lincoln's Birthplace" in 1894. He lost his fortune because of bad religious based investments in Mexico and died poor and mentally ill after a stay in an asylum in California.**

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**5. Abraham Howland (1762-1853). Father of Stockbridge Howland who lived on Elm Street and in whose home Ellen White conducted the "Miracle in Topsham" where she cured Abraham's granddaughter Frances. Ellen White became the inspiration for the rebirth of the Seventh Day Adventist movement and the home a shrine of sorts.**

**6. Arthur B. Johnson (1876-1942). B. in NY and moved to Topsham in 1918. First a stenographer for Pejepscot Paper Company and then purchasing agent. Had other business investments: President of Maine Concrete Company and trustee of the Water Company. lived in the Sam Melcher built house of Jabez and Nahum Perkins at 16 Elm Street.**

**7. Brig. Gen. Samuel Thompson (1735-1798). Topsham businessman and ferry owner. Led an army of men to Portland and captured and held several British officers from their ship. Falmouth (Portland) was destroyed in retaliation for that action. A delegate to the 1788 Constitutional Ratification Convention in Boston. He opposed the ratification because it did not have a bill of rights and campaigned against it in Maine and NH. Lived on Elm Street.**

**8. Nathaniel Walker (1781-1851). Town Clerk and Postmaster. Lumber Surveyor and businessman. Built the Walker Homestead in 1809 and father of Wildes Walker.**



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**9. Maj. William Frost (1781-1857). President of Union Bank. Owned and built several ships. Lumbering and shipping trade. lived in home on Green St. He purchased the large Holden house on Elm Street that became the Franklin Family School and now houses part of the Highlands.**

**10. Captain William Flye (1815-1898). b. Newcastle and graduated from Bowdoin College in 1835. Was a school teacher and principal at St. Albans and Eastport before joining the U.S. navy. He served as Professor of Mathematics from 1840 to 1857. In the Civil War he was eventually assigned to the Ironclad Monitor, at first as a Lt. and then as commanding officer. When he retired from the Navy he took the flag from the Monitor which was in his family until a nephew sold it to the museum at the Univ. of California.**

**11. Maj. Nahum Perkins (1787-1865). b. in Sanford he came to Topsham in 1807. Drove a stage between Portland and Augusta. Engaged in trade and lumbering. Member of the State Leg. from Topsham 1825-1829. When he lost his store and all his stock the State Legislature presented him with \$1500. He had a tannery in the gully on Winter Street. He lived at 16 Elm in the house that his father Jabez had built.**

**12. Wildes P. Walker (1814-1888). Invested in glass making in Topsham and then became a merchant in Boston by 1850. He became a prominent and successful lawyer in New York. Involved in a sensationalized divorce trial with his wife, Catherine Patten, based on his adultery.**

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**13. Lizzie A Curtis (1866-1898). Lost on the steamer Portland and never found.**

**14. Walter "Pop" Williams (1874-1959). Graduated from Brunswick High School and attended Bowdoin College for three years. Taught school and coached baseball. Joined pro baseball by playing for the Lewiston Club of the New England League and then Toronto of the Eastern League. Coached at Brunswick High School and other schools. First elected Topsham Selectman in 1912 and consecutively until 1939. Williams school is named after him.**

**15. John A. Cone (1859-1928). Supt. of Schools for Brunswick and Topsham for 17 years. Principal of High school in Honolulu, Bowdoinham and Topsham High School for 12 years**

**16. W. Elton Noyes (1888-1972) built the first wireless phone in the area on Winter Street with his friend and neighbor Roy Hennessey.**

**17. Frank Carver (1891-1980) Tarbox expressman, operated a donut shop, long term police chief and fire chief of Topsham, constable for the Fair Association for many year.**



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