

Grove Street Cemetery New Haven, Connecticut

Located among the buildings of the Yale University campus in New Haven, Connecticut, the Grove Street Cemetery, also known as the New Haven City Burial Ground, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a National Historic Landmark. Dating from 1796, the cemetery is 18 acres in size and was actively used until 1920. Originally conceived as a "a sacred and inviolable burial place," the cemetery is comprised of a number of exceptional attributes, including a large brownstone gateway dating from the 1840s designed by influential architect Henry Austin. The monument, which is regarded one



of the country's leading examples of the Egyptian Revival style, has elaborate columns, a carved feroher (a symbol of the solar deity) with a globe, wings, and a pair of cobras. Centered above the frieze are the words "The Dead Shall Be Raised." The front of cemetery along Grove Street is enclosed by a cast-iron picket fence with coved cornices bearing winged-disk ornaments and large urn finials, while the remainder of the cemetery perimeter is bounded by 8-foot-high walls built of brownstone rubble masonry with a wide joint of pink-colored mortar. Also part of the landscape is a one-story brick Gothic Revival chapel built in 1872 to accommodate burials during inclement weather, and numerous ornamental plantings, now mostly consisting of elms. There are a wide variety of monuments in the cemetery dating



from the early colonial period to the present, though most are 19th-century, taking many forms, including tablets, obelisks, and pedestals. There are also many large four-sided obelisks with Egyptian, Classical and Gothic-Revival shafts. Within the cemetery are numerous family-owned and institutional plots, many with cast-iron plot enclosures. Among the interred are important historical figures, including lexicographer Noah Webster, geographer Jedediah Morse, inventors Eli Whitney and Charles Goodyear, and founding father Roger Sherman, among others. The Grove Street Cemetery is

considered landscape architecture as it illustrates the evolution of the cemetery as a distinct landscape and a milestone in the historical development of the cemetery as a distinct institution. The nomination forms were compiled by AHS historian Bruce Clouette.