

FINDING VOICES IN THE SILENCE

Nomination Form

Forest Hills Cemetery is not just a place of burial; it is a place where we remember people and tell their stories. Friends and family, notable people and inspiring leaders – the generations that shaped Boston history and our world are all represented at Forest Hills. The Forest Hills Educational Trust is organizing a research project led by Sylvia McDowell, to recover and record the stories of African Americans buried at Forest Hills during its 160-year history. Our goal is to enrich and diversify our understanding of who is buried at Forest Hills and how their lives made a difference. But the cemetery is a silent place, and much traditional history ignores the African American experience; we need your help to identify people for our project. Through you and your memories, we can “hear” the voices of African Americans buried at Forest Hills once more. Please nominate interesting individuals you know to be here – ancestors, friends, artists or community leaders – and share highlights from their life stories. We want to hear your ideas about what makes a person “prominent” – did they lead a volunteer effort, start a community organization or run a school? Have a pioneering education or career? Advocate for better conditions in their neighborhood?

We plan to use the information we collect through these nomination forms to create new educational materials and tours for visitors, and we will preserve these Nomination Forms in the Trust’s archives for future projects. You can fill out as many forms as you like, and you can continue your answers onto a second page if necessary. Thank you for your support and participation!

Name of deceased _____ If known, birth date _____ Death date _____

Your name: _____ Relationship to deceased (if any) _____

Telephone _____ Email: _____

Comments about deceased (occupation, employment history, church membership, community service, awards etc.)

Why was Forest Hills Cemetery was chosen as a final resting place?

Please return form to:
Sylvia McDowell, Project Scholar, Forest Hills Educational Trust
Mail: 95 Forest Hills Avenue, Boston, MA 02130
Email: smcdowell@foresthillstrust.org

For project staff only

ID# _____ Location _____ Section _____ Grave/Lot _____

Comments on interview or Biographical information: