

**Halifax Explosion Dec 6, 1917** – At least 18 victims of the disaster were reportedly buried in this cemetery.

**C7. John Warner (26)** Recorded as Halifax Explosion fatality #1880. He was listed as a painter who lived on Hawthorne Street with his wife and two children.

**D9. Conrad G. Oland (67)** A son of Susannah Oland. Died in the collapse of the Oland Brewery. He was a warden at Christ Church in 1885.

**D10. Wenna Staples (2)** Lived on Jamieson St

**D11. Mary McMillan (38)**, her sons James (30 months) and John (15 months). Family lived on 55 Kenny Street in Halifax and were killed in the Halifax Explosion.

**D12. Janet M. Baxter (45)** She was single, a shop keeper and lived on Windmill Road.

**D13a. Edith L. Brown (10)** Was visiting from the United States and staying in Tufts Cove.

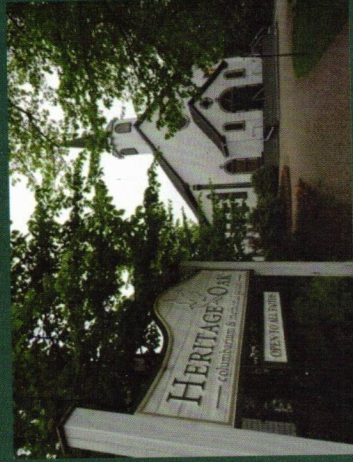
**D13b. Dumaresq (49)**, his children David (5) and Marion (3). Lived in Tufts Cove. William was killed in the collapse of Oland Brewery. The children were killed at home, his wife and another daughter were blinded by flying glass and only one son came through without injury.

**D14. Halifax Explosion Unmarked Graves** Records indicate that they may possibly be the remains of: Annie I. Barnstead Lived with husband and their five year old daughter on Pelzant St. Samuel C. Collings (52) A mechanic, who lived on George Street with his wife and 6 children. Amos Gaskin (35) Killed in the collapse of the Acadia Sugar Refinery in Halifax. Lived in Woodside with his wife and 3 children. Andrew Levy (30) Lived on Windmill Road and was a labourer killed in the collapse of the Oland Brewery. Clara E. Rice, wife of Lt. Frank Rice. Their 3 children survived, as well as 3 children from Cole Harbour who boarded with the Rice family in order to attend area schools. Charles Shrum (41) Labourer at the Oland Brewery. Lived on Dawson St. with his parents. His mother Mary, died in early 1918 from Explosion injuries as well.

**D17. Bennett Nauss (45)** Lived on Hester St. with his wife Janet, and their 5 children. Was a foreman at the Halifax Graving Dock, that later became the Halifax Shipyards.

## Quick Christ Church Facts

- **1817 July 9th** - Cornerstone laid
- **1817 September** - First Rector, Rev. Charles Ingles appointed
- **1818 May** - First Service held in church,
- **1834** - The cherished 3rd rector, Rev. Mather Desbrisay died at age 32 and buried beneath the church's altar
- **1850** - Church school built on property
- **1905/06** - Current Parish Hall was built
- **1906** - Old church school was given to the African Nova Scotian Baptist congregation and moved to its current position across from the Cemetery – Victoria Road United Baptist Church
- **1917 Dec. 6th** - Halifax Explosion partly destroyed the church and badly damaged the parish hall and rectory.
- **1945 July 18th** - Explosion of ammunition on Magazine Hill damaged four stained glass windows in the church, three beyond repair.
- **1982** - Christ Church was formally recognized as a Heritage Property
- **2005 May** – Construction of the Heritage Oak Columbarium, situated adjacent to Christ Church, was completed and is open for persons of all faiths.



## Christ Church Self-Guided Cemetery Tour

The graves noted in this brochure belong to some of Dartmouth's most famous, influential, and loved citizens, and range in notability from industrialists and mayors, to victims of the Titanic sinking and of the Halifax Explosion!

The cemetery, occupies approximately 3.85 acres, is located southeast of the Dartmouth Commons, bounded by Park Avenue, Victoria Road, and North Street/Dundas Street. It is owned by the Corporation of Christ Church, located at 50 Wentworth Street.

In the 1780s, before the lands became the Christ Church Cemetery, they were used by families of the Nantucket Whaling Company and known as the "Old Quaker Burying Ground." First recorded burial was in 1777.

September 27th 1817 was the date of the first registered Christ Church burial, that of three year old Anne Finlay. Council minutes from the Town of Dartmouth first mention the cemetery in 1882 when it was officially deeded to Christ Church. Records show that 4,072 burials were registered at Christ Church from 1817 to 1959 and burials are still carried out to this day.

## Your Tour

The map below shows the general lay-out of the cemetery. Each of the featured graves will be designated with a numbered marker and will be grouped in this brochure according to the section in which it lies.



## A Word of Caution

Be sure to watch your footing as there are some dips and hollows that may make walking difficult. Also, please don't lean on the stones as some of them are very old and unsteady. And finally, we ask that you be respectful during your exploration and not leave behind any garbage.

**We hope you enjoy your visit and thank you for spending time in this historical Dartmouth space!**

If you have questions, comments or further cemetery information you would like to share with us, please contact us at: 902.466-4270 or

[christchurch@christchurchdartmouth.com](mailto:christchurch@christchurchdartmouth.com)

**Special thanks to City Councilor, Sam Austin for his interest and support of this Christ Church Historical Committee project.**

### Section A

A1. Private John Cutler 1890-1917 Died during WW I in France. He lived on Portland Street. His remains are in France and he is memorialized on the Vimy Memorial.

A2. Miriem Meagher Died 1811. Oldest legible stone. Wife of Captain Meagher who owned 5000 acres of land in the Musquodoboit Harbour area called Meagher's Grant.

A3. George Wright 1849 – 1912 Was a passenger on the Titanic whose body was never recovered. His family placed the stone as a memorial. He left a fortune to charity and his house on Young St. in Halifax was given to the Council for Women. Wright Avenue in Burnside is named for him.

A4. Rev. Donald Fairfax 1919-2010 Victoria Road United Baptist Church pastor, award winning singer, African Nova Scotian leader and Order of Canada member.

### Section C

C5. Susannah (Culverwell) Oland 1818–1885 Immigrated from England with husband, John and seven children. In the shed behind their rented house in Dartmouth, she began brewing "Brown October Ale." In 1867, it became the basis for the founding of Canada's oldest independent brewery. For the rest of her life, she was the chief brewer and owner/operator of S. Oland & Sons Brewery that the family opened in Turtle Grove. It was destroyed by the Halifax Explosion and relocated to Halifax in 1918 and eventually to Saint John. Now known as the Moosehead Brewery, the 6th generation of the Oland family still owns and operates it. She is the only female to have been its CEO!

C6. John Culverwell Oland Jr. 1878-1904 A lieutenant of the 63rd Regiment Halifax Rifles in the Boer War, South Africa, he died of an illness contracted while serving there. His grandparents, father and other family members founded the Oland Brewery.

### Section D

D8. Sergeant Edwin W. Dorey 1894-1917 Member of the 85th Canadian Infantry Battalion. He died at Passchendale and is memorialized on the Ypres, Menin Gate Memorial, France.

D15. Walter Bayer 1893-1968 Long time member of Christ Church, who served in the Vestry and sang in the choir. Was an artist and historian, who wrote the 1959 "History of Christ Church". His descendants still attend the church.

D16. Unmarked African Nova Scotian Graves In 1977, remains of residents buried near "The Avenue" (top of Crichton Ave.) were exhumed and reburied in this cemetery when the land was expropriated to build housing near Mic Mac Mall. A plaque with the names of those known to be interred, hangs in the Victoria Road United Baptist Church.

D18. Unmarked Graves of Nova Scotia Hospital Patients It is our understanding that over a number of years, some patients that died in the Nova Scotia Hospital were buried in this cemetery. This is a topic for further research.

D19. Frederick Scarfe 1826-1906 Left a legacy sufficient to completely finish building the church hall, furnish it and also supply a grand piano. Served seven terms as mayor of Dartmouth. A window in Christ Church is dedicated to his memory.

D20 Luther Sterns 1822-1892 Built the Sterns Corner Building in downtown Dartmouth in 1894 from which he operated a general store. He also completed two terms as Mayor.

### Section B

B21. Samuel W. Albro 1779–1842 Operated a tannery and nail factory beside a brook that ran out of the two lakes named for his family. He was one of six men who petitioned Governor Sherbrooke in 1816 for government aid to erect a church in Dartmouth. Served as one of the first two Christ Church wardens.

B22. Edward H. Lowe Died 1861 Leading parishioner and church warden for 18 years. Was the first supervisor of the steamboat company that operated ferries between Halifax and Dartmouth.

B23. John P. Mott 1821-1890 Was the first person to manufacture chocolate in Canada (Mott Chocolate Factory). He also established a soap works factory and had one of the first telephones in Dartmouth. Served as church warden for five years. After his death his wealth was distributed to various Dartmouth charities.

B24. Lieutenant Christian Katzman – Died 1843 Was a German officer of His Majesty's 60th Rifles, a gentleman farmer and scholar. He had three daughters, one of whom was Mary Jane, later to become well known as Mary Jane Lawson, the author of the "History of the Townships of Dartmouth, Preston and Lawrencetown." She was baptized at Christ Church by Rev. Desbrisay on March 2nd 1828. A Dartmouth elementary school was named after her in 1960.

B25. John D. Hawthorn 1778-1831 Warden of Christ Church for 9 years and prominent business man as well as commissioner for Dartmouth roads. He was a shareholder in the Shubenacadie Canal System. Hawthorne Street was named for his family.