



LAFAYETTE  
COLLEGE

“NOTABLES”  
Buried in the  
Historic Easton Cemetery

**A WALKING TOUR**



The Historic Easton Cemetery • 401 N. 7th Street  
Easton, PA • 610-252-1741



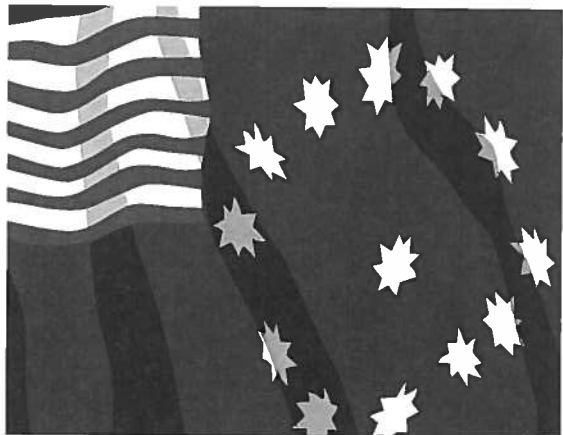
## LAFAYETTE COLLEGE



In 1824 there were 24 states in the Union and 40,000 to 50,000 immigrants from England, Ireland and Germany arriving each year. Easton, the largest town in Pennsylvania directly north of Philadelphia, was located on a major route from New York and New England to the "New West." In just one month that year, 511 covered wagons carrying more than 3000 immigrants, passed through the town. Local lawyer James Madison Porter thought that this thriving community needed to have a literary and

scientific institute to provide educational opportunities for the residents. Such a facility could also provide support and employment to the inhabitants.

A meeting was held on December 27th of that year to begin planning for a college in Easton. See the historic marker at the northeast quadrant of the Circle in downtown Easton. Porter envisioned instruction in military science and the German language – the former in support of the National Defense Act (May 8, 1792), which required the organization of local militia, and the latter because German was the language of the majority of the town. Finally, after much discussion and debate, J. Andrew Schulze, Governor of Pennsylvania, signed the bill that recognized Lafayette College as a legal entity on March 9, 1826.



The first Board of Trustees was composed of thirty-five men from Philadelphia and Bucks, Lehigh and Northampton counties. In February, 1832, George Junkin, who was appointed the first president, arrived in Easton from Philadelphia with some of his pupils from the Pennsylvania Manual Labor Academy. The first session of Lafayette College opened on May 9, 1832, with forty-three students in a farmhouse located on Easton's south side near the Lehigh Canal.

Recognizing the need for a more permanent building, land was purchased on what would become known as "College Hill," and by 1834 a structure was built on the site of what is today the central part of South College. The building contained six recitation rooms, a chapel, refectory hall, stewards' rooms, apartments for the president and other officers of the college, and forty rooms for students. By the 1850s the college was thriving and as a result could attract two professors who would bring world-renown to the college – Prof. James H. Coffin and Prof. Francis A. March.

During the Civil War era, enrollment in the college dropped as students enlisted in the war effort. The trustees wondered if the college would be able to continue and then President McPhail resigned. The Board brought Rev. William C. Cattell, a former professor at the college, back to the campus to fill the vacant post. Facing a major financial crisis, Cattell convinced Ario Pardee, of Hazleton, PA, to make a gift of \$20,000 which became the first of many he gave over the years. The generosity of Pardee and others helped the college to introduce several different scientific courses which helped to make Lafayette the unique institution it is today – a liberal arts school that has a strong engineering program.

The first attempt at writing the history of Lafayette College was started in 1836 by James Madison Porter, then President of the Board of Trustees. He stopped in the middle of the third page. We are indebted to David Bishop Skillman, who wrote a two-volume history of the college, which was published just in time for the hundredth anniversary of the first of day classes on May 9, 1932. Many years later, Albert Gendebien, completed volume three covering the years from 1927 – 1978. Should you want to explore Lafayette history in depth, the three volumes of "A Biography of a College," provide much information. A visit to the college Archives and Special Collections in Skillman Library is an excellent way to learn more as well.

## LAFAYETTE COLLEGE "NOTABLES" BURIED IN EASTON CEMETERY:

*(starred names are part of regular walking tour booklet)*

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**1** Marx, Henry Forster 1865 – 1947 (Section O, # 79) – graduated from Lafayette in 1885 and received his Master's degree in 1888. He tutored in Latin and mathematics at the college. After additional education and other careers, he returned to Easton to teach English at Easton High School from 1893 to 1902. He served as director of the Easton Public Library from 1902 – 1936. He was also instrumental in collecting information on local history. The Marx Room in the Easton Area Public Library is named in his honor. He was the first secretary of the Northampton County Historical Society and its president in 1916-17.

**2** Rodenbough, Theophilus Francis 1838 – 1912 (Section N, # 21) – was born in Easton and in 1856 and 1857 he took a course in mathematics and one in English literature at Lafayette. At the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted, serving his country with gallantry and courage in the field of battle. He has the distinction of being the only Easton native to be awarded the Medal of Honor for service in the Civil War.



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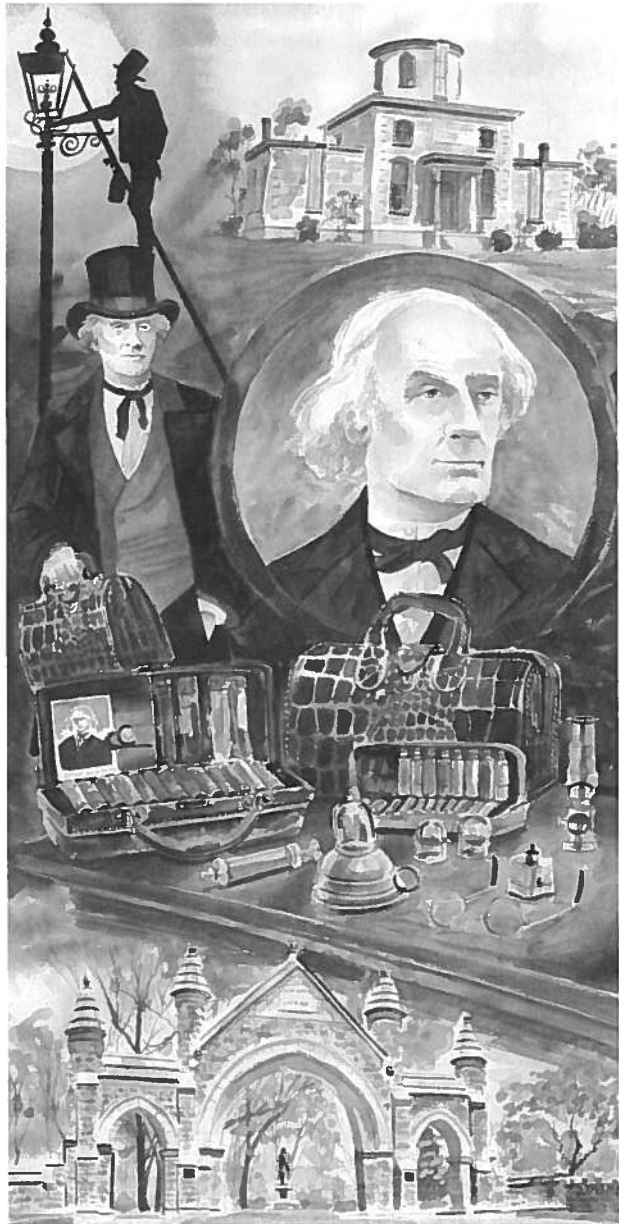
### Green, Dr. Traill 1813 – 1897

(Section N, # 37) – was a physician, educator, author, and civic-minded citizen who helped to establish the Historic Easton Cemetery. He was associated with Lafayette College for more than 50 years, serving as a professor, trustee, acting president and dean. He provided free medical services to the faculty and donated funds for an observatory on the campus. The observatory was moved to make room for Colton Chapel in 1914 and then in 1929 was torn down and the stones used to make the archway at the foot of the steps leading up to the College.

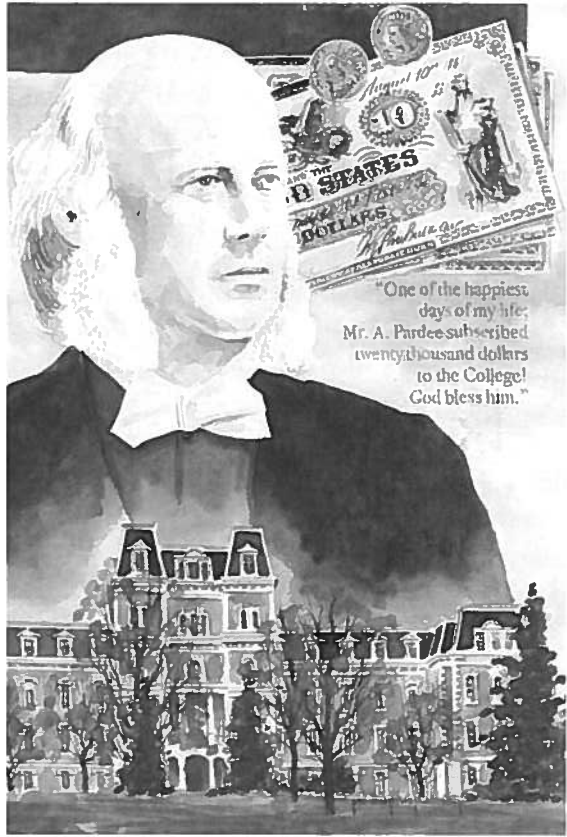
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### Cattell, William Cassady 1827 – 1898

(Section N, # 77) – became professor of ancient languages at Lafayette in 1855. He served as president of the college from 1863 – 1883, along with teaching Mental and Moral



Philosophy. One of the happiest days in his life was September 26, 1864, when a gift of twenty thousand dollars was given to the school by Ario Pardee, saving the financially-strapped college from closing. His gift was the first of many. It helped to establish the Pardee Scientific Department in 1866, making Lafayette one of the early leaders in the field of applied sciences and engineering. Cattell standardized the spelling of the college name as Lafayette and also selected the school colors of maroon and white.



**5** **Cattell, James McKeen** 1860 – 1944 (*Section N, # 334*) – son of William C. Cattell, graduated from Lafayette in 1880, received the M.A. from the college in 1883 and continued his studies in Europe. He became the first professor of psychology in the United States while teaching at the University of Pennsylvania. He left there to become professor and department chair at Columbia University. He was active in the field of scientific publishing, in particular being owner and publisher of “Science” magazine, still published today. Dr. Cattell is widely credited as being a key figure in the development of psychology as an accepted scientific discipline.

**6** **McKeen, Col. Thomas** 1763 – 1858 (*Section E, # 270 – 273*) – was twenty years old when he came to America from Ireland. He settled in Easton after military service and became a cashier for the Easton Bank. In 1827 he was elected president and served in that capacity until 1851. He presided at the December 27, 1824, meeting

during which the local citizens decided to establish a college in Easton. In 1826 he became the first treasurer of the Board of Trustees of Lafayette and continued to serve on the Board until 1852.



**7** Porter, James Madison 1793 – 1862 (Section N, # 110) – was admitted to the bar in 1813 and began to practice law in Philadelphia. In 1818 he moved to Easton, becoming Deputy Attorney General and then head of the bar of the county, with the largest law practice in the area. More than any other person he is responsible for the founding of Lafayette. As president of the Board of Trustees of Lafayette he presided at the first meeting on May 15, 1826. He served on the Board from 1826 – 1852, and was Professor of Jurisprudence and Political Economy from 1837 – 1852. He received no remuneration from either role.

**8** Porter, James Madison III 1864 – 1928 (Section N, # 104-110) – grandson of James Madison Porter, graduated from Lafayette in 1886 completing a course in civil engineering. He was a professor of civil and topographical engineering at the college from 1890 until 1917. He designed the bridge between Easton and Phillipsburg at the eastern end of Northampton Street. The iron and steel structure was built after the flood of 1895 took out the old covered bridge. It is known as the “Free Bridge” because no toll has been charged to cross it since 1922. The bridge is a National Civil Engineering Landmark.

**9** **Eyerman, John 1867 – 1945** (*Section N, # 132*) – attended Lafayette and studied engineering from 1884 – 1886. He also studied at Columbia, Harvard and Princeton. He served as an instructor at Lafayette from 1888 – 1891. He was a member of many national and international societies in geology, mineralogy, zoology and geographical organizations. He built Oakhurst in 1888 as a wedding gift for his bride, Lucy Maxwell. The granite mansion was sold to Francis G. McKelvy in 1914. The home was donated to the college and converted to an honors house in 1962.

**10** **Raul, Harry Lewis 1883 – 1960** (*Section N, # 361*) – was a member of the class of 1909 at Lafayette where he studied engineering and then went on to study sculpture under several noted artists in New York. He worked at several manufacturing companies in the area and had a studio in Easton where he created sculptures, including the one of Dr. Traill Green located at entrance to the cemetery. He left Easton to become the sculptor and museum curator at the Department of the Interior in Washington, D. C. He sculpted works in many cities, as well as for museums and private collections.

**11** **Green, Henry 1828 – 1900** (*Section N, # 168*) – born across the Delaware River in Warren County, New Jersey, he was only fifteen when he joined the Lafayette class of 1846. Green was admitted to the bar in 1849 and eventually became associated with prominent Easton attorney, Andrew Horatio Reeder. In 1879 he was appointed to fill a vacancy on the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania; he then successfully ran in the 1880 election, serving as a Justice for twenty-one years. Lafayette College awarded him an honorary Doctor of Laws degree in 1880. He became Chief Justice in 1900 but died a few months later.

**12** **Stier, Walter 1860 – 1932** (*Section N, # 202 – 204*) – graduated from Lafayette in 1884 and then went on to study music in Paris. He returned to Easton where he became a music teacher, church organist and choir master as well as director of the Lafayette Glee Club. He wrote many musical compositions and published “Songs of Lafayette.” Music was always a tradition at the college, but the class of 1897 brought it to prominence in a big way. Students would gather on the steps of Pardee Hall after supper to sing. It was this sight that inspired Stier to write what was to become the Lafayette Alma Mater.



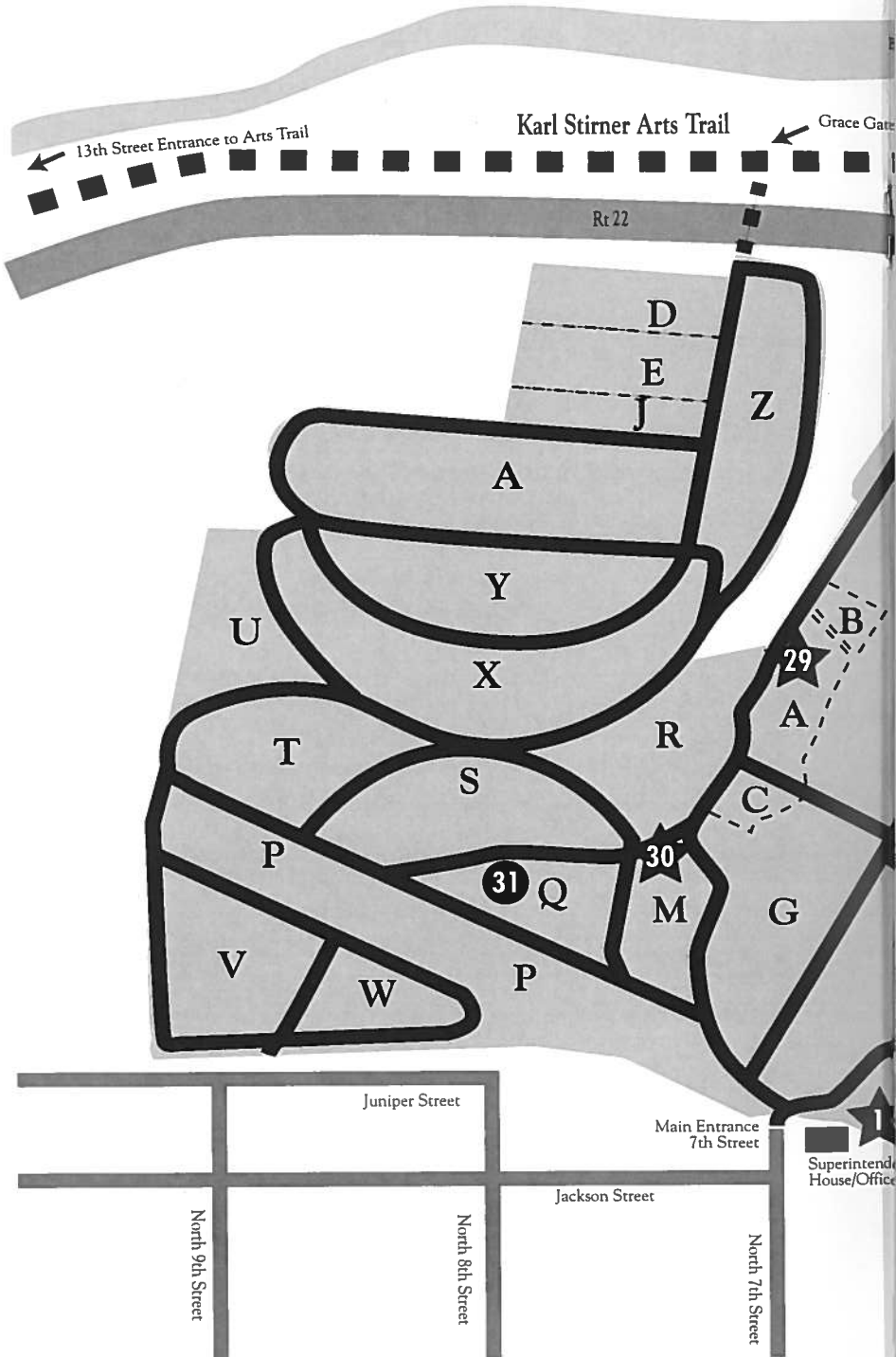
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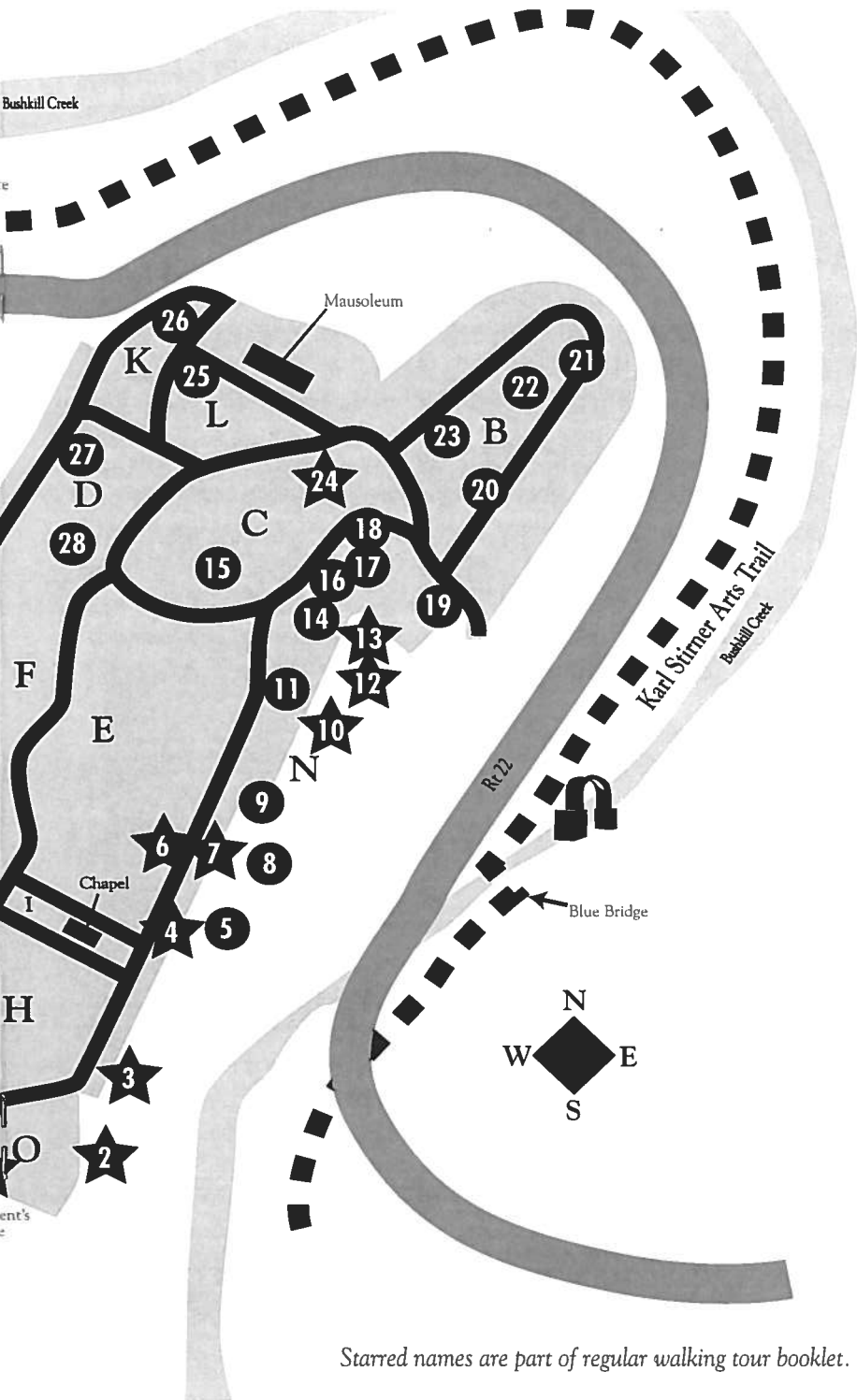
**March, Sr., Francis A.** 1825 – 1911 (Section N, # 214-216) – taught at Lafayette for more than 50 years and was the first person in this country to be designated as a professor of English. A brilliant scholar who was valedictorian of his class at Amherst, March taught English Literature, English Language, Comparative Philology, and Constitutional Law. He was Lafayette’s first librarian. An elementary school on College Hill is named in his honor as well as a street.



14

**Coleman, Rev. Lyman, D.D.** 1796 – 1882 (Section N, # 212) – was a minister, teacher, author and scholar. A graduate of Yale, he taught in various schools and travelled the world before he joined the Lafayette faculty in 1861 at the age of 65. He taught ancient languages and a wide array of biblical courses at Lafayette for the next 20 years, even giving up his salary during the Civil War years because of the college’s difficult financial times. He was Professor of Latin and Greek (1861-1868) and Professor of Latin Language and Literature (1868-1882)





*Starred names are part of regular walking tour booklet.*

**15** Hay, Thomas Abraham Horn 1855 – 1925 (Section C, # 65) – graduated from Lafayette in 1876. He was appointed by President Harrison as Postage Agent in New York in 1889. He was in charge of the distribution of all postage stamps in the U. S. and originated the idea of the commemorative stamp. During his years in Easton he was Secretary of the Board of Trade and was credited by Hugh Moore, founder of Dixie Cups, with bringing his business here. He also helped Binney and Smith find land along the Bushkill Creek to begin the manufacture of Crayola crayons. He and his brother, William O. Hay, built the Northampton Transit Company (known as “the Hay Line”) which was an electric railway which ran for thirty-three years.

**16** Reeder, Frank Jr. 1880 – 1967 (Section N, # 220) – was the son of General Frank Reeder, whose three sons all attended Lafayette. Frank, Jr. graduated from the college in 1901 and then studied law at his father’s firm, Reeder and Reeder, in Easton. He was admitted to the bar in 1905 and was active in the Northampton County Bar Association. He was Assistant District Attorney for Northampton County from 1906 – 1908. He served as a U. S. Commissioner for more than 25 years.

**17** Reeder, Frank 1845 – 1912 (Section N, # 220-226) – was the son of Andrew Reeder, governor of the Territory of Kansas. Frank enlisted in the Union Army at age 17. His brilliant military service made him a Colonel before age 21 and led to his being appointed brigadier general of the PA National Guard in 1874. He entered Lafayette in 1859, but graduated from Princeton College and Albany Law School. He was a prominent attorney in Easton and was active in the Easton community. He was state chairman of the Republican Party for three years.



**18** Moore, James W. 1844 – 1909 (Section N, # 285) – was born in Easton and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania. He came

to Lafayette as a tutor in mathematics and engineering in 1866, just as the Pardee Scientific Program was getting started. In 1868 he was appointed Professor of Mechanical and Experimental Philosophy, a position he held until his death in 1909. He organized the departments of Physics and Electrical Engineering at the college and became Dean of the Pardee School of Science, following the death of Thomas Porter. He authored numerous works and papers on physics and medical subjects. He also served as the College's building inspector.

**19** **Coddington, Edwin 1905 – 1967 and Caroline 1904 – 1989** (*Section N, # 372*) – came to Lafayette in 1946 as an Associate Professor and head of Lafayette's small history department, and stayed for the rest of his life. Dr. Coddington and W. W. Eddy were Lafayette's entire full-time history department. (When Eddy died in 1948, # 23, Albert Gendebien was hired to take his place.) Over the years the history department grew in size and diversity. His personal interest was the Civil War. Beginning in the 1960s, aided by his wife Caroline, a Byrn Mawr College honors graduate, Coddington did extensive research resulting in the discovery of the long-forgotten Bachelder papers. His book, "The Gettysburg Campaign: A Study in Command" was released in 1968 to much acclaim.

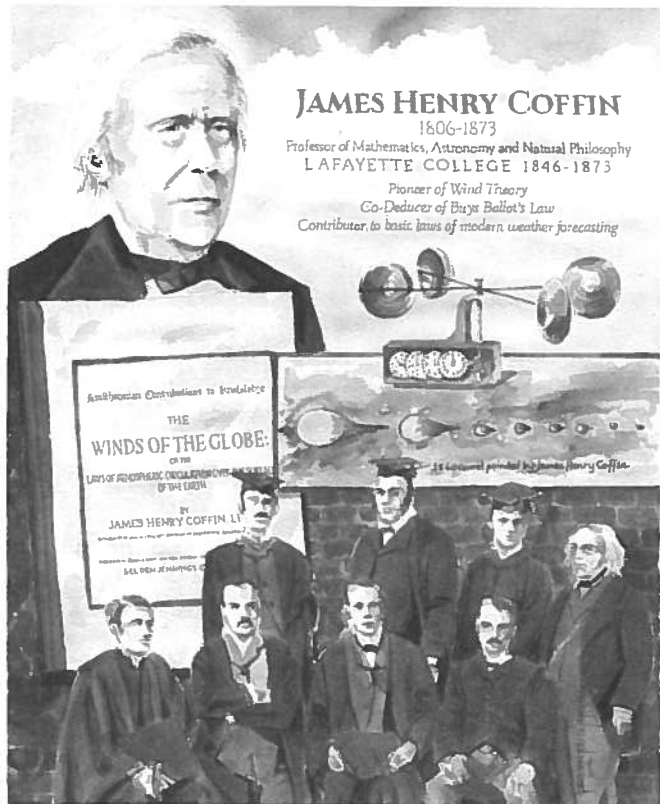
**20** **Lusardi, James 1931 – 2002** (*Section B, # 208*) – was from Morristown, N. J. and graduated from Lafayette in 1955. He continued his education earning a master's degree and doctorate from Yale. In 1966 he joined the Lafayette faculty as an Associate Professor in the English Department. As the Francis A. March Professor of English, Lusardi brought the world of Shakespeare to Lafayette students. He was an active writer and speaker for a variety of societies and seminars related to Shakespeare. Appropriately, an open book tops his headstone and drama masks are on the front. Dr. Lusardi retired from teaching in 1998.

**21** **Bergethon, K. Roald 1918 – 2004 and Kay 1917 - 2010** (*Section B, # 241*) – Dr. Bergethon was president of Lafayette from 1958 – 1978, a remarkable tenure in today's world. The college was placed on a firm financial footing and a series of fund drives resulted in a new library and the construction of a field house. The introduction of co-education proved a success in both the academic and extracurricular life on campus. His wife Kay added her own charm and inspiration as his partner in college life. She received an honorary Doctorate of Humane letters from Lafayette College in 1978.

**22** Watt, William Whyte 1912 – 1996 (Section B, # 59) – taught English at Lafayette for four decades. He became chairman of the department following the death of James Tupper. He required that all of his colleagues teach Freshman English, since a commitment to basic literacy was fundamental to his philosophy of education. He wrote “An American Rhetoric,” for its time one of the most widely-used texts for teaching language. “Bill” also wrote the lyrics for a series of side-splitting faculty shows about a fictional college called “Lackawanna.” His daughters established a reading room and a scholarship in his name at the college.

**23** Gendebien, Albert William 1913 – 2002 (Section B, # 86) – graduated from Lafayette in 1934 with a degree in English and an M.A. the following year in History. After additional education and military service in the Army Air Force, he returned to Easton as Professor of History, serving from 1948 until 1978. Gendebien was the first College Archivist and wrote the definitive history of the College for the years from 1927 – 1978. Dr. Gendebien became head of the history department in 1968 following the death of Dr. Coddington.

**★ 24** Coffin, James Henry 1806 – 1873 (Section C, # 26) – graduated from Amherst College in 1823. He opened a boarding school for young men in 1836 and while there



published a bookkeeping system used by the Massachusetts schools. In 1838 he began meteorological studies which became his life's work, specifically, the development of his theory of the winds. He came to Lafayette in 1846 helping the school to move ahead in its science curriculum. At the same time he began his collaboration with the newly established Smithsonian Institution, providing them with information on the motion of winds for more than thirty years. He is considered a major contributor to the basic laws of modern weather forecasting.

**25** **McCartney, Washington** 1812 - 1856 (*Section L, # 9*) - was a Professor of Mathematics, Natural Philosophy, and Astronomy, 1835 - 1846; Professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy, 1849 - 1852. He wrote well-regarded books on calculus and on the history of the United States. He was admitted to the bar of Northampton County in 1838 and was elected President Judge of Pennsylvania's Third Judicial District in 1852. He operated the Union Law School where Henry Green was one of his students. He married Mary Elizabeth Maxwell, an artist known for her work in watercolors. (Her paintings can be seen at the Sigal Museum.) He and Dr. Charles Innes created the plan for Easton's first public high school.

**26** **March, Jr., Francis A.** 1863 - 1928 (*Section K, # 52*) - graduated from Lafayette in 1881. Although he joined the Lafayette faculty as a mathematics tutor, he followed in his father's footsteps and became Professor of English (1882 - 1928.) His connection to athletics made him known as the "Father of Football" at the college. He led the fundraising efforts to purchase land for athletic events, known later as March Field. March Jr. wrote the "History of Athletics at Lafayette College" in 1926. He also served as Mayor of Easton from 1905 - 1908.

**27** **Hetrich, Susan Davis** ? - 1896 (*Section D, # 228*) - was born in Easton and was actively involved in many charitable endeavors in the town throughout her life. During the Civil War she was President of the Easton Ladies' Aid Society, an organization formed to help Union soldiers. Mrs. Hetrich was always interested in Lafayette College and was instrumental in organizing the Lafayette College Alumni Association dinners. The annual banquet was held at commencement each year. Graduates and dignitaries marched through the streets of Easton to one of the local churches where the ladies had

prepared dinner. In 1884 the banquet was moved to the new, but not yet equipped, gymnasium built on the campus.

**28** Barclay, George O. 1875

- 1909 (Section D, # 240) – invented the first American football helmet in 1894 while playing football at Lafayette. His special headgear used 3 heavy leather straps designed to protect his ears. National recognition came during the Lafayette game against Penn on October 24, 1896. Lafayette won and the team went on to be a contender for the mythical national championship. Following college Barclay became a dentist. He died on April 3, 1909, of appendicitis. In 1984-85 Barclay was inducted into the Lafayette College Maroon Club Hall of Fame.







★29

Hoff, Aaron O. 1810 – 1902 (*Section A, Single Grounds, Row 1, Grave 20*) – was a member of the first class at Lafayette and was also the first African-American student. On May 9, 1832, the blast from his bugle announced the first day of class for the new college. He continued this practice until the college moved to a permanent site which had a bell. His studies were interrupted by bad health but he stayed in Easton and always maintained an interest in the school. To mark the 100th anniversary of his death, Lafayette students raised money to put up a handsome monument replacing the numbered brick which had been there.

**Wikoff, Charles 1837 – 1898** (Section M, # 257) – graduated from Lafayette in 1855 with a degree in Civil Engineering. He went on to study law, but before he was admitted to the bar the Civil War started. He enlisted in April 1861 and served with distinction during the war. He lost an eye at the battle of Shiloh and wore an eye patch for the remainder of his life. He continued to serve in the Army, achieving the rank of Major, and was part of the charge up San Juan Hill during the Spanish-American War. It was during this action that he was killed. His bronzed cartridge belt is part of an elaborate monument that was erected in his honor by his fellow comrades.



**31 MacMaster, Ann Ramsay 1885 – 1965** (Section Q, # 13) – was in charge of and did the meal preparation for the Faculty Club which was used as a residence for unmarried members of the Faculty as well as a facility for social interaction. The home was purchased from the Marx family in 1926 and was located at the corner of Clinton Terrace and McCartney Street. Prior to this time, the faculty had a room in South College. Mrs. Mac retired when the clubhouse closed in 1960. Her dedication made it possible for the facility to remain open as long as it did. She was born in Scotland and came to Easton with her son Jack following the death of her husband who was an athletic trainer at the U. S. Naval Academy. Her son graduated from Lafayette in 1934.

## SPECIAL THANKS TO:

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### *PRESTON KEITH HINDMARCH*

Preston Keith Hindmarch is a lifelong resident of Easton and for many years he has done watercolor paintings depicting the lives of people who were prominent in local history. Included in his work are many people who are buried in Easton Cemetery and he did the formatting and illustrations for this and our regular self-guided walking tour booklet. Both are available on the porch of the Superintendent's house. The Board of Directors and the staff of Easton Cemetery are most grateful to Preston for sharing his time and talents.

A visit to Preston's studio at 703 Wood Avenue, close to the corner of Seventh and Northampton Streets, will give you the opportunity to see some of his other artwork. Both Lafayette notables and campus buildings are included in his volume of work. Preston's business, Aardvark Graphics, is a full-scale design firm offering logos and branding, advertising and communications, and graphic design (go to: [aardgraph.com](http://aardgraph.com).) In the same studio you can find custom framing done by Sue Hindmarch, Preston's wife, doing business as Framing By Request.

Preston is Easton's visual storyteller. Recently he has illustrated a series of books written by Jeffrey Finegan, Sr., that tell about George Washington (go to: [colonelwashingtonandme.com](http://colonelwashingtonandme.com).)

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### *LAFAYETTE COLLEGE ARCHIVES:*

Diane Shaw and her colleagues, Pam Murray and Elaine Stomber, for their help with research materials, editorial review and enthusiasm.

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### *FRIENDS OF THE SKILLMAN LIBRARY*

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### *ADDITIONAL RESEARCH:*

Betsy Walker and Rory Morgan

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### *WE'D LIKE YOUR HELP:*

No doubt there are many Lafayette "notables" that we have missed, in fact, we realize that William Michler is one of them. As you stroll the cemetery grounds look around and see if you can find others. It would be most helpful if you would then notify the cemetery office, or leave a note in the mailbox. Please include the person's name, date of birth and death, section of the cemetery in which it is located and why the person is notable (if known.) We can include him/her at another time. Thank you.

## THE HISTORIC EASTON CEMETERY

"Let no stranger who has an hour to spare, when visiting Easton, fail to see the quiet city over the Bushkill. . ." This quote is from a letter to the editor in a Chester, PA, newspaper from 1869 and the "city" referenced Easton Cemetery. We think this still applies today. In 1990 the cemetery was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in recognition of its design, architecture, landscaping and funerary art.



Dr. Traill Green recognized the need for more burial space as the population of Easton grew and more land was needed for houses and businesses. Sanitation was also a major consideration. Land was purchased outside the city to create a park-like, peaceful spot that would serve as a burial ground and also provide opportunity for recreation. When Easton Cemetery opened in 1849, it was a smaller version of what was the trend in cemetery design, much like Greenwood in Brooklyn and Laurel Hill in Philadelphia.

Visiting the cemetery became so popular that tickets were distributed by the superintendent to limit the number of people in horse and buggies who were on the property at any given time. By 1913 automobiles were allowed. Exploring the grounds even today is like viewing an outdoor sculpture garden with so many elaborately carved monuments and magnificent old trees.

This special walking tour is our tribute to the remarkable men and women who have helped make Lafayette College so special and to the College itself for being such an important part of Easton. For more information related to local history in general, pick up a copy of our regular, self-guided walking tour available on the porch of the Superintendent's house.

Unlike many older cemeteries, there are still burial plots available. We hope that you will consider helping us continue to maintain and preserve the cemetery. Contributions are most welcome and are tax deductible. Checks can be made payable to Easton Cemetery and sent to:

401 North Seventh Street  
Easton, PA 18042

*Should you have any questions, or should you wish to schedule a guided tour, please call the cemetery office at 610-252-1741. Business hours are Monday to Friday, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Easton Cemetery is open from 8:00 a.m. until dusk.*

*Thank you.*



The Historic Easton Cemetery