



Wiggin Mausoleum

History

Born in New Hampshire, Warren A. Wiggin (1843-1908), a carpenter who lives at 122 Hale Street. He marries Angie F. Walton (1842-1904), a dressmaker from Mercer, ME on September 20, 1865.

According to the 1870 U.S. census, Warren is 27 and works in the "Sash Shop" while Angie, age 28, keeps house.

Angie dies on March 20, 1904 at age 61. Her death certificate reports that her residence at death was 45 Lyndhurst St, Boston. The cause of death is acute indigestion with fatty heart contributing

Warren Wiggin, retired and living at 122 Hale Street, dies on March 11, 1908 at age 64 from myocarditis. He is buried in the family mausoleum on March 11, 1908. He bequeathed the residue of estate "including key to my mausoleum" to Francis H. Estabrook of 122 Hale St, Lowell. His will was allowed by the probate court on April 2, 1908.

The inscriptions in the mausoleum are as follows:

Angie F. wife of Warren A. Wiggin, Aug 29, 1842 to Mar 20, 1904. "Death is the spirit's better birth. The dawn of perfect day." "The Early Death," by Elizabeth Emmet Lenox-Conyngham (1800 – c. 1889)

Warren A Wiggin, Mar 30, 1843 to Mar 9, 1908. "He that believeth in me though he were dead yet shall he live." John 11:25

Art and Architecture

The mausoleum is Greek Revival. The style of the paired columns is hard to pin down. The shape is classical, but the capitals on the columns are more like a medieval interpretation of Corinthian capitals than the classical form. The walls of the mausoleum extend to the same space as the decorative columns and set the entrance deep into space. The architectural term for this is antae, meaning side walls extending to be in line with façade columns. This is the same approach used in the nearby Lawton mausoleum, which is in the Doric style.

The dramatic pediment, the crowning feature of this mausoleum, is set under an overhanging roofline. A single circular opening, called an oculus, is covered with a bronze grate and breaks the plain surface of the pediment. A large stone slab leads to the bronze door with an elaborate “W” design.

Family Obituaries

The following is Angie F. Walton’s obituary that appears in the *Lowell Sun*, March 21, 1904 - Monday - p.1 of 6 o’clock edition (p.9 online):

LIVED IN LOWELL - WOMAN DIED SUDDENLY AT HER HOME IN DORCHESTER - Angie Wiggin, formerly of this city, died suddenly at her home in Dorchester yesterday (Sunday, March 20, 1904). The deceased was well known here and was the wife of Warren A. Services will be held at the chapel in the Lowell cemetery at 2:30 o’clock Wednesday (March 23, 1904) afternoon.

NOTE: The Lowell neighborhood of Wigginville is named after another man named Wiggin. We can find no relation to Warren or Angie Wiggin.