

Maude LeRoy

1888-1942

Without Miss Maude LeRoy, we may not have our library! It was at her urging, after returning to Augusta from Wausau that the Augusta Library project was finally completed and the doors officially opened. She was born in the Wisconsin Dells area and moved to Augusta with her parents when she was only a few months old. After graduating from Augusta, she attended school in Appleton and Milwaukee. She worked in Washington D.C. and Chicago and for 5 years before her death she was the Librarian in Augusta. Due to her health however, she left the position. She was 54 years, 6 months, and 17 days old when she passed away, December 14, 1942.

Elmer M. Bradford

1861-1954

Elmer M. Bradford (not to be confused with Eldebridge Bradford), brother of Ira B. Bradford, was born in New Hampshire. He studied Law and was admitted to the Wisconsin Bar in the 1885. He served as mayor several times, the first of which was around 1900. He was also, at a time, Fire Chief, and a theater director.



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Photos scanned from the 1900 Augusta book by C.J. Warner or from the Augusta Area Times archive.

Augusta Public Library

East Lawn Cemetery

Walking Tour



ORGANIZED AND RESEARCHED BY:

Samma Johnson, Assistant Librarian

2016

Mrs. Frankie Elizabeth Scott Wilson

1881 - 1918

Mrs. R. B. Wilson was the first official librarian of the Augusta Public Library. She was born in Fairchild and presumably raised in the area. In 1899, she was married to a man named George Bump. They had 2 children. She then married Mr. R.B. Wilson and they had 1 child. She was only 37 years, one month, and 2 days old when she died at her home in Weyerhauser. She had apparently been quite ill for some time with "a long succession of bodily ills". She is described as "a generous hearted woman".

For information on early library history, stop in the library and ask about our 100th Anniversary binder which includes information on the formulation of the library and it's progression since 1911.

Helen Dodge

? - 1860

Ms. Dodge was the first death in the city of Augusta. The paper was not established as of that point so no obituary was ever published for her that I could find. She died as a result of her dress catching fire in a kitchen accident. Nothing else is known about her.

Mr and Mrs. John & Charlotte Hackett

?-1899 and ?-1924



Mr. and Mrs. Hackett were the first couple to be officially married in the city limits of Augusta. Unfortunately, no full obituaries were ever printed for them! John passed in January 1899 after a long illness. After his death, Charlotte moved to St. Paul, MN. She passed in November 1924. The notice of

her death states they "...were among the most prominent and active citizens of this community".

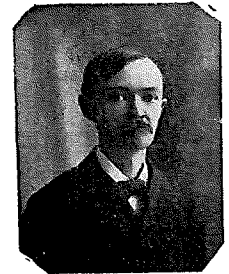


He is noted as having been well-liked and hardworking; no one had anything bad to say about him. His grave was unmarked until 1972 when the Cemetery Association took up a collection fund for a stone. He is believed to have been about 90 years old when he died.

Frank L. Clarke

1859-1917

Born in Springfield, WI (Dane Co.), his family moved a few times before coming to Augusta in 1876. For many years., he was the Editor in Chief of the Augusta Times; then known all over the state. It was said of him "Mr. Clarke was one of the ableist newspapermen in Wisconsin." In about 1906, he moved from Augusta to Madison to work in the Editorial department of the Democrat. Before working in the newspaper, he worked as a merchant. He then purchased the Augusta Times himself and turned it into "one of the best weeklies in Northwestern Wisconsin". In 1917 he died of "pernicious anemia" after being ill for nearly 8 months. A notice published originally in the Madison Democrat, then republished in the then Augusta Times says, "...during all the months since Mr. Clarke fell ill he was remembered in a graceful manner to a very unusual extent."



Anna Knuth

1878—1961

Anna was born in the town of Lincoln and lived most of her life in the Augusta area. She was known to be the city librarian or assistant for many years. She also worked at the Augusta Cannery Co. for some time. She was around 30 years of age when the library was started and was 83 at her time of passing. She died of an expected heart attack and was found in her home after a neighbor became concerned about her; she'd been having heart problems for some time.

Eldebridge Bradford

1827-1909

Born in New Hampshire, the elder Mr. Bradford came to live near his two sons, Ira and Elmer, in Augusta in 1882. He was a descendant of Gov. William Bradford of the original colony at Plymouth. He was known as being a likeable, warm-hearted, and sympathetic person. During his lifetime, he was a member of the New Hampshire Legislature and held various positions in the government. While in Augusta, he was at one point Mayor and possibly went into banking with his son; though some sources may site him as being Ira's brother instead.

William Young

1816 - 1890

Dr. William Young acted as the first doctor in the area. He is noted as having a great-hearted liberty, kindness, and sympathy for all sufferers and charity to all in want. He was born in Scotland in April 1816 and came to the US when he was 11. His parents settled in St. Lawrence, NY. He was married there but settled in Jefferson County, WI. When he passed, he had been living in Augusta only 35 years. He was "but 17 days short" of his 74th birthday when he passed due to a long illness referred to as "softening of the brain"; most likely some form of dementia.

John Draine

? — 1906

John Draine began his life as a slave. He was reported as being a veteran with the Grand Army of the Republic, Company L of Illinois during the Civil War. He and his family are the first known black settlers to the Augusta area. While in Augusta, he worked odd jobs around town and acted as a night watchman and day policeman for the city. His work included lighting the street lamps each night and putting them out each morning.

John Tebo

1828-1920

John Tebo was a notable businessman and an oldest surviving civil war veteran in 1920. During his lifetime he was also notable as Wisconsin's Oldest Living person at 92 years of age (although there are certain discrepancies about his age). He was born in Sorel, Canada before he moved to Augusta with his parents at the age of 6. He was a shipbuilder for most of his life before the war. Then he joined the 44th Wisconsin Volunteers and served for 2 years. He then returned to shipbuilding for a time but also owned a shoe and boot store in town for a time. Due to his declining health, he and several family members moved to Seattle to get out of the Wisconsin cold. An article printed in the Seattle Times (along with the photo to the left) stated "Too much snow back in Wisconsin. Last winter I was always at work shoveling off the front walk, which sometimes was covered by six feet of snow."



John. F. Stone

1814- 1889

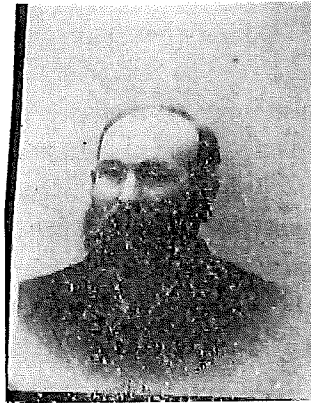
Born at Mount Holly, Vermont, John F. Stone came to Augusta in 1856. He is recorded as being our 2nd settler to arrive. News of his funeral stated "we have no particulars regarding Mr. Stone's early and later life, sufficient to enable us to write any connected account of one who certainly deserves an extended obituary as one of the first settlers of this place and who has conducted business here in various lines for many years". We do know however that he acted as the city's first postmaster and ran a sawmill in the winter of 1856-57. When he died, due to a tragic train accident, he was only a few days shy of his 75th birthday.

John. L. Ball

1834-1910

John L. Ball was born in Taunton, MA. Life brought him to Wisconsin where he enlisted for the Civil War in Eau Claire. He served from 1862 until 1865. Before leaving, he married Miss Caroline Clark, a native to Montpelier, VM. They had three children and after her death, he married Miss Charlotte Clark, who survived him. At the close of the war, he returned to Augusta and in 1866 built the planing mill and had extensive business in contracting and building. The mill progressed to lumbering and he later built a saw mill at Kempton. He established the Augusta Electric Light Plant in 1896 under a 15 yr. franchise from the city and then started the Augusta Telephone exchange.

He was considered a pioneer of Augusta and his industrial work and influence was notable in its progress. He was written to be a "man of strong personality and character...a constructive man [who] led a life of industry... Square in his business dealings and straightforward in his dealings with fellow men."



Anna Bartig

1890-1982

Miss Bartig was born and raised in Augusta. For 30 years (though some sources say 25) she was the city librarian. She is much remembered by older generations of Augusta natives, even today. She retired from the position in September of 1977 due to health concerns and later moved into the Augusta Nursing Home, where she passed away in March of 1982. Before becoming a librarian, she was a school teacher in New Glarus, WI, Iron River, MI, and then Bears Grass and Augusta High school.

Allan Randall

1852-1925

Allan Randall was the first white child born in Eau Claire County and the City of Augusta. When he passed away at the age of 73, he was the accessor for the city and had been so for 40 years. He was a farmer and loved horses and was called one of the best posted horse buyers in the country. He died in 1925 after being struck by a car, crossing an intersection during a storm. He was noted as being "a kind and loving husband and father and held in the highest esteem by all who knew him."

Hon. Ira B. Bradford

1851— 1916



Born in Fulton, WI, Bradford was actually raised in New Hampshire. He was educated in law and in the spring of 1873 he came back to Wisconsin and was admitted to the bar here. In 1873, he came to Augusta and just a few years later took up banking with Russell Hackett. He was the first mayor of the city but also served three terms as the Speaker of the Assembly in state government. He was also a member of the Masonic Fraternity. He was much beloved by all who knew him and was remembered as a man of strong moral

character, noble ideals, and had impeccable integrity. He was a loyal friend and known to have a "jovial nature and pleasing personality". He was seen as an admirable and valuable citizen.