

September 10, 2020

Historical Commission Members,

I am forming a committee to replace the ugly chain link fencing in front of the Belleville Cemetery on Storey Avenue. We are considering cast iron, replicating the existing 1873 portions. If you are interested in helping please email Laurie Evans-Daly at [dicklaurie@gmail.com](mailto:dicklaurie@gmail.com).

The historic Belleville Cemetery was originally established next to the Queen Anne's Chapel which was erected in 1711. The oldest remaining gravestone is Sarah Bartlett's, 1727. The cemetery was enlarged over the years and in 1873 a decorative iron gate and fencing were erected. The gate and fencing were cast at the Albert Russell and Sons Foundry in Newburyport.

Only six sections of the original 1873 fence remain standing. The 1873 gate was recently discovered behind a building near the entrance. What happened to the rest of the decorative iron fencing is unknown at this time, although the granite blocks to which it was fastened remain.

I am very excited about this project and believe it will not only replicate the way the historic cemetery looked in 1873 but also beautify a much traveled highway into our historic city.

Laurie Evans-Daly

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