

Welcome to Silver Brook Cemetery

In the late 1800's the Mayor and Council of the City of Anderson recognized the need for quality cemeteries and interment facilities within the Anderson area and took steps to establish Silver Brook Cemetery.

Interment books kept in the office here contain the name, location, and interment date of every person buried here. The first entry was made in 1879 when Ross H. Crayton died as a baby. He was born in 1878.

Lots of babies, many whom lived only days, are laid to rest here. Many tombstones don't even give names to the babies buried beneath such as the one that reads "Infant of J. C. Templeton Aug 14, 1900.

Mr. Rufus Fant is nestled in a brick bordered grave that faces a forest of bamboo. He and his wife were the first to introduce the green, stalky plant to this community. Mr. Fant grew the only grove of edible bamboo in the United States. Mr. Fant also was largely instrumental in introducing a street car system in Anderson.

Then there is William Jackson Ligon, a man who took his learning from Southern California College and passed it on to children in Anderson for 41 years. He died in 1891 and was a "faithful and successful teacher", according to his stone.

The body of Mrs. Jennie Gilmer, founder of what is now AnMed Health, rests here. It was 1904 when the young wife and mother had a dream of giving Anderson's sick and wounded a place to rest and heal.

Miss Janie Chapman who was the first President of the WMU and served from 1903-1907 and 1913-1930 was laid to rest here 12/03/1948.

During a show in Buena Vista Park in 1905, Mrs. Maude Broadwick's hands slipped from the ropes of a hot air balloon and she fell to her death. She was laid to rest here on 11/03/1905.

Col. John Verner Stribling created the nation's first "horseless carriage" in 1881. After he fought in the Civil War, he moved from Westminster to Anderson. When he died in 1930, at the age of 82, his body was brought here to its final resting place in Silver Brook Cemetery.

The Catlett family also rests here. Only a few miles away, along south Main Street, is a side street bearing their name.

Hundreds more are here. Some of their stories are significant. Some are not. Engraved in some stones are grand poems, notes of love. Many of the people who built Anderson and gave the community a history were laid to rest here.

At the back entrance to Silver Brook is the resting place for the bodies of those who have no means to purchase a grave and in many cases, no family. Potters Field opened in 1896. Many graves in this section are unmarked; however, each and every interment is recorded ...for example September 21, 1923 the Infant of Bessie Ayers was interred in Potters Field in Row 2 Grave 37.

This information includes excerpts taken from an article in the Anderson-Independent Mail written by Charmaine Smith.