



## Explorers of Time, Space, and Innovation: A Journey Through Beechwood Cemetery's Scientific Legends

History comes alive at Beechwood Cemetery through the stories of individuals who have shaped our world in profound ways. This tour serves as your guide to exploring the lives and legacies of six remarkable figures buried here, each of whom contributed significantly to science, technology, and exploration. We invite you to take a journey through time as we uncover their achievements and the impact they continue to have on our lives today.

### 1. Sir Sandford Fleming - The Master of Time - Location: Section 49, Lots 13, 14

Born in Scotland in 1827, Sir Sandford Fleming was a pioneering engineer and the father of Standard Time. His work on the Canadian Pacific Railway and his creation of the global time zone system revolutionized transportation and communication. Fleming also designed Canada's first postage stamp and was a key figure in promoting the trans-Pacific submarine telegraph cable.

**Legacy:** Fleming's innovations in timekeeping and railways continue to shape our world, ensuring coordinated time and travel across the globe.

### 2. Fredrick Newton Gisborne - The Telegraphic Trailblazer - Location: Section 41, Lot 107

Fredrick Newton Gisborne, born in England in 1824, was a key figure in early telegraphy. He laid the first ocean telegraphic cable in North America, connecting Prince Edward Island with New Brunswick, and was instrumental in promoting transatlantic communication. His inventions and work in telegraphy laid the foundation for global communication networks.

**Legacy:** Gisborne's contributions to telegraphy paved the way for the interconnected world we live in today, making distant communication possible.

### 3. Otto Julius Klotz - The Astronomer and Explorer - Location: Section 41, Lot 55 NE

Otto Julius Klotz, born in 1852 in Canada West, was an astronomer and surveyor who played a significant role in mapping Canada's remote regions. He served as director of the Dominion Astronomical Observatory and was a key figure in Canada's early astronomical research and exploration.

**Legacy:** Klotz's work in astronomy and exploration helped shape Canada's understanding of its geography and the universe, leaving a lasting scientific legacy.

### 4. Thomas Ahearn - The Electrifying Innovator - Location: Section 50, Lot 123

Thomas Ahearn, born in Ottawa in 1855, was an influential entrepreneur and inventor. He founded the Ottawa Electric Light Company, introduced electric streetcars, and invented the electric cooking range. Ahearn was also a key figure in Ottawa's infrastructure development, including the city's parkway system and Champlain Bridge.

**Legacy:** Ahearn's innovations in electricity and transportation transformed Ottawa and influenced modern urban life, making him a key figure in the city's history.

### 5. Jack Noonan - Pioneer of Microwave Cooking - Location: Section 52, Range R, Grave 12

Jack Noonan, born in 1909 in Hamilton, Ontario, was a chemist at the National Research Council who accidentally became a pioneer of microwave cooking during World War II. His work with microwave technology led to the development of the microwave oven, revolutionizing food preparation.

**Legacy:** Noonan's discovery of microwave cooking has had a lasting impact on kitchens worldwide, changing the way we prepare food.

### 6. John Emilius Fauquier - The Skies' Guardian - Location: Section 51N, Lot 15

John Emilius Fauquier, born in 1901, was a decorated pilot and military leader during World War II. He led the Dambusters squadron and played a crucial role in several key bombing missions, using advanced radar technology to achieve success.

**Legacy:** Fauquier's leadership and bravery in aviation are celebrated in military history, and his contributions to radar technology continue to be recognized.

As you walk through Beechwood Cemetery, let these stories of innovation and exploration inspire you. Each of these individuals pushed the boundaries of what was possible in their time, leaving behind legacies that continue to shape our world.

For the full biographies, please see the Beechwood Historical Profiles Book.  
- <https://www.beechwoodottawa.ca/en/foundation/history>