



The tunnel that carried water from behind the dam to the Water Wheel.



There is information on the back of the entry sign that explains how the Water Wheel worked. A path on the hill behind the benches leads to the remains of an earthen dam. You can see the stone tunnel that carried the water from the dam to the Wheel when the iron gate was opened. The gate is on the upstream side of the dam.

In 1854, James Terry, son of Eli Terry, Jr., formed the Eagle Lock Company. The firm became the dominant manufacturer of cabinet locks, trunk locks, padlocks, and specialty locks in the world. Many of these locks are on display in the Lock Museum of America.

Eli Terry, Jr. began making clocks here in 1824. The Water Wheel converted the energy of the Pequabuck River to power the lathes, presses, and saws in the factory. In 1832, Terry partnered with lock maker Stephen Bucknall of Watertown, CT, and began manufacturing locks here. For a while, both of 42. In 1851, the factory, then owned by the Lewis Lock Company, burned down, and was rebuilt, including the Water Wheel. It is believed that the iron hardware of the original wheel was reused.

The Water Wheel is 22' in diameter and 7' across. It is owned by the Plymouth Historical Society and was restored in 1991. The surrounding area was later renovated by the town's Historic Properties Commission.

1. Eli Terry, Jr. Water Wheel (Listed on the National Register of Historic Places)

8. Dorence Atwater Monument

The monument is on a hill on the north side of Baldwin Park Lane. Atwater has been called one of the most important enlisted men in the Civil War. Informational signs describe his remarkable life.

The Rodman cannon is named after its inventor, Thomas Jackson Rodman, a Union artilleryman. This gun came from a fort in Boston Harbor. Rodman guns could fire a cannon ball almost 3 miles, which is how the 3-mile territorial limit was established. The sockets in the back of the cannon were used to ratchet it up and down.

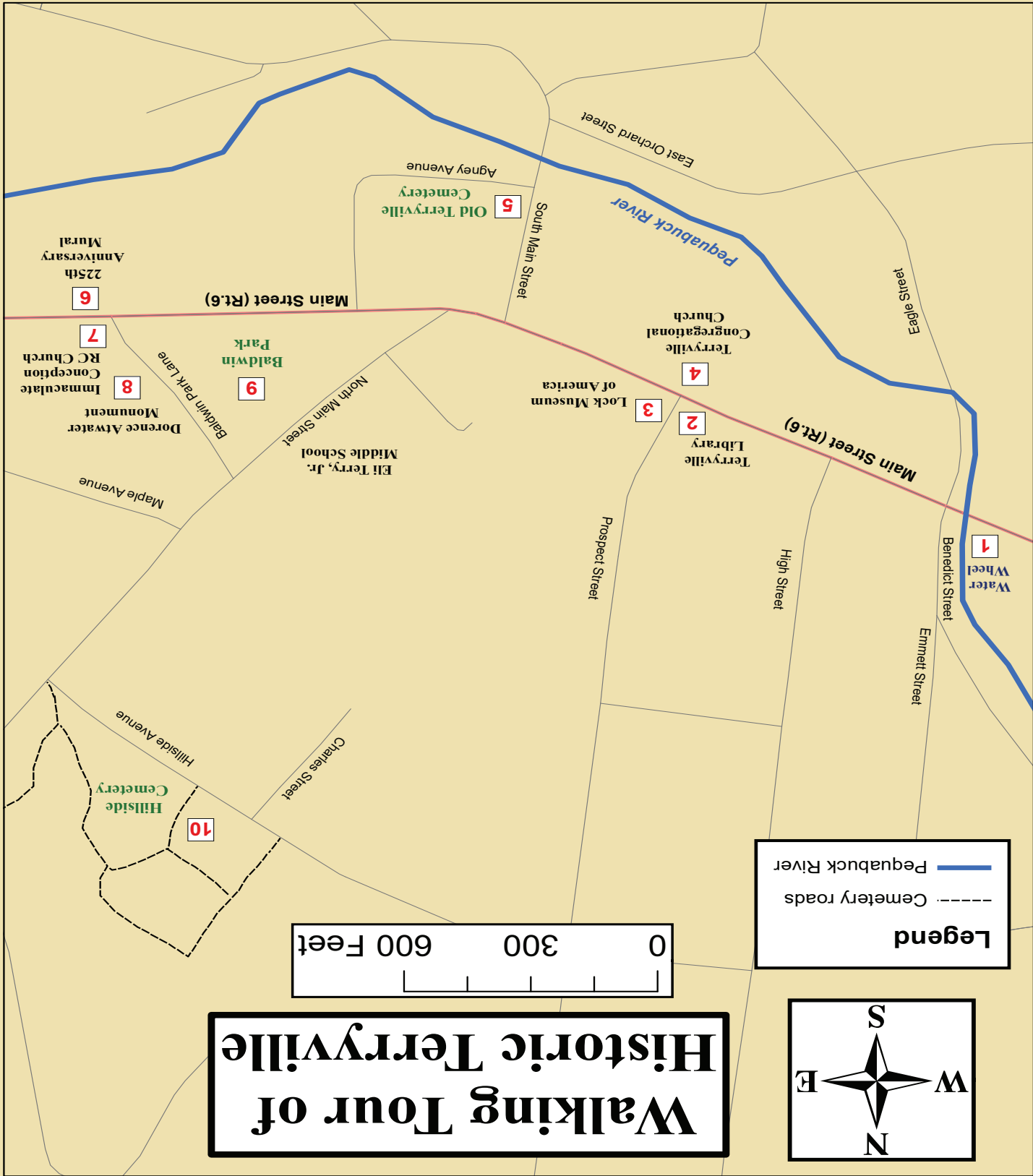
Look closely at the engravings on the end of the muzzle. They indicate the gun was cast in 1866 at Fort Pitt Foundry (FPF) in Pittsburgh, PA and that it weighs 14,985 pounds. The monument was dedicated on Memorial Day in 1907.

9. Baldwin Park

Baldwin Park was created in 1892 to honor Nathaniel Taylor Baldwin. He lived on North Main Street and married Lucinda Terry, the daughter of Eli Terry, Jr. He was an active member of the Congregational Church and often presided over town meetings. He represented Plymouth in the State Legislature for almost 20 years. Baldwin worked for the Andrew Terry & Company Malleable Iron Foundry and was a Director of the Eagle Lock Company. He died in 1889.

His children, Susan Baldwin Swett and Richard Baldwin, donated the land in his memory. The landscape designer for the park was Thomas Brown McClunie, who worked on Bushnell and Elizabeth Parks in Hartford and designed Coe Park in Torrington. The Park is privately owned and maintained by the Baldwin Park Association. It is open to the public. It is a lovely place to spread out a blanket and have a picnic.

At the west end of the Park is a huge pink granite boulder with a plaque dedicated to the veterans of WW I and II. Andrew Grannis was the Town Clerk from 1919-1937. He organized the Terryville Fire Department and was its first Fire Chief. When he died, he left \$1,000 in his will to create the monument. The boulder came from the Philip Armbruster farm and was estimated to weigh 20 tons. Les Packer built the foundation, and the stone was installed in September 1952.



10. Hillside Cemetery

Hillside Cemetery was created in 1863. Its winding, tree-lined paths were a common feature of the rural cemetery movement of the mid-1800s. There are a variety of trees found here, including Connecticut's second biggest Norway Spruce. Can you find it?

Look for the Soldiers Monument, surrounded by grave markers of many veterans. The monument lists many names of men from Plymouth who died in the Civil War.

Edward Mix drowned in Albemarle Sound in North Carolina when he was knocked off his sailing ship by the swinging of the boom.

Augustus Von Martensen (spelled as "Martinson" on the monument) was born in Denmark, came to America and worked at the Eagle Lock factory. He was the first man from Plymouth to enlist in the Union Army. He was assigned to the 2nd NY Cavalry (along with his fellow townsman, Dorence Atwater). Von Martensen was killed at Aldie, VA when the cavalry charged to take out some Rebel sharpshooters.



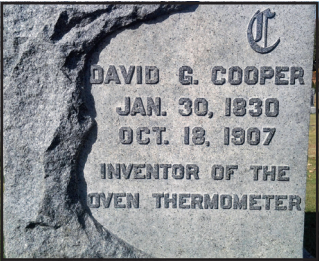
Also on the monument are the names of two young men from the Mathes family, Louis and Henry, who were killed at ages 19 and 21 respectively.

One of the more unusual gravestones is that of David Cooper. Born in Maine in 1830, he left school at the age of 15 to become a machinist. He worked in Cuba and later at a silver mine in Chile. He developed the idea of a bimetal oven thermometer. He realized the different rates of expansion of two metal alloys of a coiled spring could move the needle on the dial face of a thermometer to indicate the temperature.

He founded the Cooper Oven Thermometer Company in 1885 and began manufacturing thermometers on Canal Street in Pequabuck. Although he died in 1907, his company was very successful and still exists today, known as the Cooper-Atkins Company, headquartered in Middlefield, CT.

His monument reads "David G. Cooper, Inventor of the Oven Thermometer". It is a gray, rectangular granite stone on a slight hill near the Hillside Avenue entrance of the cemetery.

Other monuments include that of Andrew Terry, son of Eli Terry, Jr. Andrew was only 17 when his father died. Eventually he built a foundry along the Pequabuck River to manufacture malleable iron, which became the Andrew Terry & Co. At the age of 37 he enlisted in the Union army as a private in the Connecticut Heavy Artillery. He was quickly promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel. He took part in the battle of New Bern in North Carolina and was discharged shortly afterward with a severe illness.



Walking Tour of Historic Terryville, CT

Clocks, Locks, and the Civil War, The Water Wheel and so Much More!



The label from an Eli Terry, Jr. clock shows the original name of "Terryville".
Courtesy Plymouth Historical Society

A grant from the Thomaston Savings Bank foundation funded the printing of this brochure.

2. Terryville Library/Time in History Mural

The Time in History Mural offers a whimsical portrayal of Plymouth’s history. An “I Spy” Guide to the 18 symbols on the wall can be found at www.plymouthct.us. Click on “Visitors>Interesting Places” to discover their meanings. Copies of the Guide are also available in the library.



3. Lock Museum of America

This museum is one of only two in the world devoted to the craftsmanship and ingenuity of locks (the other is in Seoul, South Korea). Thousands of locks and keys line the walls. Many were made in Terryville at the Eagle Lock Company. The collection also includes beautiful ornate doorknobs and hardware made in New Britain, CT.



5. Old Terryville Cemetery

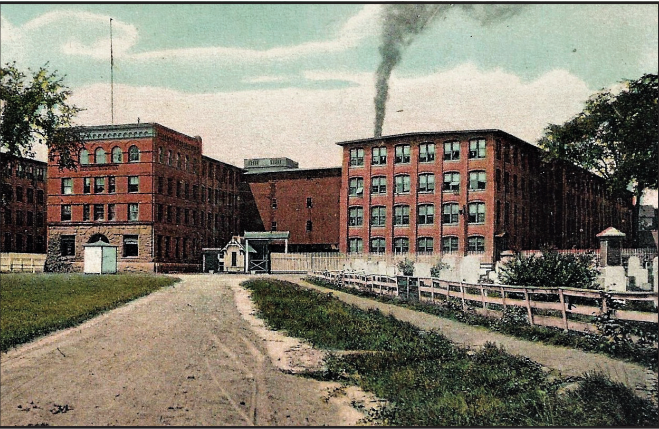
This cemetery has monuments to many of the families of clock and lock makers who founded Terryville. Eli Terry started the Industrial Revolution in America when he pioneered the concept of mass-producing interchangeable parts in his wooden-gearred clocks. He is buried next to his second wife, Harriet, whom he married at the age of 68 when his first wife, Eunice, died after 46 years of marriage. Harriet was 30 years younger than Eli. They had two children.

Eli Terry, Jr. is buried next to his wife, Semantha. When he died at the age of 42, he left her with 8 children. Look closely at the lower right corner of his gravestone, near the ground, and you will see the name of the gravestone carver, “J.G. Batterson, Litchfield”.

The family of James Terry has a tall brownstone obelisk and smaller stones arranged in a row behind it. On the lower right corner of this monument is the faintly etched name of “Batterson”. James Goodwin Batterson was the son of the aforementioned J.G. Batterson of Litchfield and followed his father into the monument business. He founded the New England Granite Works. His company did the stonework for the Connecticut State Capitol, the Library of Congress, and produced monuments at the Civil War battlefields of Gettysburg and Antietam.

Look for a row of six smaller gravestones. Each one represents a child of Hiram and Harriet Beach.

Find the gravestone of Allen T. Bunnel. His epitaph reads “Died at Sea on His Passage from California”. The date of



Eagle Lock Works, circa 1905. Looking west from Agney Avenue. Image provided by Fran Block.

This fascinating museum also has a 4,000-year old Egyptian wooden lock, treasure chests from the 1500s, and a 7,000-pound cannonball safe. You can even try on handcuffs.

The museum sits on the site of the second Plymouth Town Hall, which also had a jail. The cell door is on display, complete with a ball and chain. (www.lockmuseumofamerica.org)

The museum also has a fun escape room-type game called the “Lock Museum Adventure”. (www.lockmuseumadventure.org)



Cannonball safe built to withstand explosions, circa 1900.



26 pound cast iron lock from an English castle.

1850 indicates that he might have been returning from the California Gold Rush.

In the corner of the cemetery near the intersection of South Main Street and Agney Avenue is a pin oak tree. It was grown from an acorn from the Constitution Oak that was planted in 1902 on the Plymouth Green.

Some of the buildings formerly used by the Eagle Lock Company are near the cemetery. Look for the datestones near the top floors.

6. 225th Anniversary of Plymouth History Mural

Volunteers, led by Gina Ritchie and Diane Boylan, painted this mural in 2019 in anticipation of the Town’s 225th anniversary in 2020. Waterfalls are interwoven in the design, reflecting how water powered Plymouth’s early industry. Water also falls from the Big Dipper, as slaves used the North Star to guide them to Plymouth, a stop on the Underground Railroad. The Terryville Tunnel, Ives Trains, Silas Brooks (a pioneering hot air balloonist), the Leatherman, Dorence Atwater (Plymouth’s Civil War hero), Ted Knight (famous actor) and Betsey Johnson (well-known fashion designer) are also featured. Several churches line the top of the mural, symbolizing the many immigrants from different nations that created the town.



A composite of all the animals in the 225th Anniversary Mural. How many can you find?

4. Terryville Congregational Church

This church was dedicated on August 8, 1838. Eli Terry built the wooden gears for the tower clock. Rev. Merrill Richardson served as minister during the Civil War. He was a staunch abolitionist. More than 100 young men from this church served in the Union Army, including his son, Willis Terry Richardson, who was in Co. A, 2nd Artillery. How appropriate that U.S. Route 6, (Main Street), is called the Grand Army of the Republic Highway, honoring the American Civil War veterans association.

In 1967 the church burned down and the wooden clockworks were destroyed. But the bell from the tower was preserved and sits in its original yoke in front of the building. The engravings on the top of the bell reveal that it was cast by the Meneely Foundry in West Troy, NY in 1870, and that it weighs 716 pounds.



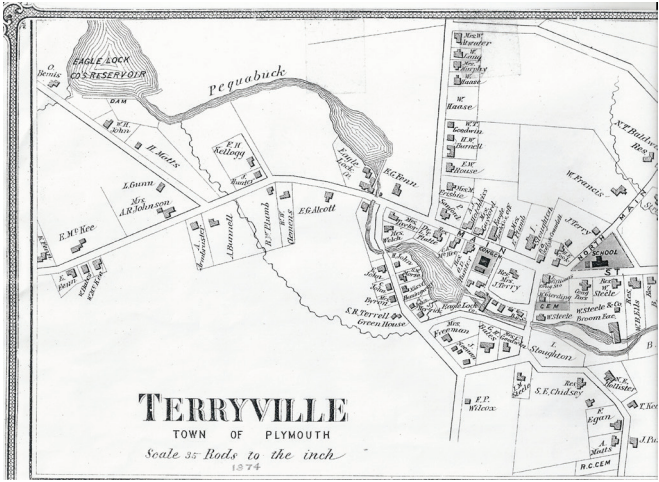
7. Immaculate Conception Church

The church was built in 1882. According to the History of Plymouth, written by Francis Atwater in 1895, “citizens, irrespective of creed, contributed generously to the building fund”.

One of the first parish priests was Rev. Michael J. McGivney, who later founded the Knights of Columbus.



This post card from 1945 shows the American elms that lined Main Street.



1874 Map of Terryville from F.W. Beers Atlas of Litchfield County.