

1812 Tomb Opened for Burial in West Cemetery

By Gordon B. Seavey

WESTFORD — The Isaac Patten family tomb in old West Cemetery on Concord Road was opened to receive the burial of a 94-year-old former resident, Cora B Conant

Although born in St Louis, Mo., on New Year's Day in 1883, it was her wish that she be buried in Westford alongside her husband, Goldsmith H Conant They had made their home in the sturdy brick house at the junction of Old Lowell and Concord Roads in the Parkerville section for many years

Academy students

remember her as being brilliant in mathematics as she helped them along with their studies She was a graduate of Wellesley in 1904 and had a master's degree in math from Columbia two years later

The family moved to Cambridge and she taught

for many years at Brimmer & May School She was a member of the Cambridge School Committee at one time The family moved to Carlisle on retirement Mr Conant's grandmother was Sarah Jane Patten from an old Westford family A son lives in Wilbraham

West Cemetery has had few recent burials and contains the graves of Col John Robinson, the town's outstanding Revolutionary hero, and his family There is no more room in the old Patten vault, constructed in 1812, and it has been sealed for the last time



WESTFORD'S TROLLY LINE was not only beset from its 1908 beginning by financial woes but now and then the little trolley would jump the track This accident occurred in front of the old Tower homestead at 46 Lowell Road near that time as four years later a larger unit (No 6) replaced No 40 Operated by the Lowell & Fitchburg Street Railway, the fare from the Center to Brookside (3 miles) was 7 cents By 1921 the townspeople refused to underwrite the operation and so the line was abandoned The Model T had arrived!
(G B Seavey)