

Blackstone Engine House #3 Farnumville Firehouse South Grafton, Massachusetts

3A Main Street at the intersection of Routes 122 and 122A South Grafton

The historic Farnumville Firehouse is one of three identical one bay fire stations built in 1852 and 1853 in the three sections of Grafton - Farnumville / South, Center, and New England Village. / North Grafton. The three stations were built by a local Grafton carpenter, Calvin Clisbee, under contract to the Town of Grafton for a total of \$2,000, or \$667 for each firehouse. The South Grafton fire company was established on July 24, 1852, and held its first meeting in the new firehouse on January 7, 1854.

This is the third known location for the Firehouse. It was first moved in September of 1860, and moved to its present location in 1885. A hose drying tower was later added, as well as the brick addition on the back of the building.

Each station was equipped with a circa 1858 Howard & Davis handtub fire engine, The Blackstone in South Grafton, The Emperor in North Grafton, and The Rescue in Grafton Center. All three handtubs still exist. Two are in Grafton. The Emperor is refurbished and is used for special events in Grafton. The Rescue is here at the Farnumville Firehouse, and The Blackstone is in the Hall of Flame Fire Museum in Scottsdale, Arizona.

Of the three original one bay fire stations, two still exist. In addition to this carefully refurbished fire house in Farnumville, the original North Grafton / New England Village 1853 fire station was moved in the late 1890's and is still in North Grafton carefully disguised as a residential house.

Old Farnumville Cemetery South Grafton, Massachusetts

Providence Road, Route 122 in South Grafton

Located on 1.5 acres of land just south of Harding Street, the Historic Old Farnumville Cemetery is generally believed to be the third oldest of the eight cemeteries in Grafton.

The oldest noted burial in the cemetery is a slate marker dated 1812. Old Farnumville Cemetery was considered the principal burying ground for the southeastern section of Grafton during much of the 1800's until the larger Fairview Cemetery near the Grafton / Northbridge town Line was built.

Farnumville Cemetery is believed to have reached it's capacity around 1890.

Graves of six United States veterans, one from the American Revolutionary War, and five Union Soldiers from the American Civil War, are buried here among the estimated 200 burial marker stones.

Farnumville Fire House Committee Chairman Ralph "Skip" Michniewicz, working in cooperation with Superintendent Phil Johnson and members of the Grafton Cemetery and Parks Department, has provided a new sign, new trees and flowers which are now part of the Farnumville Cemetery.

Public Parking for tours of the historic Farnumville Firehouse is graciously provided by the officers and directors of the adjacent Polish National Home. Thank You!