

Martinville, Sainte-Edwidge, Saint-Herménégilde and Dixville



Andy Déraspe, 2015

Eight cemeteries to discover!

This circuit has you weave your way through our lovely village landscape from north to south with different vistas and historic cemeteries to visit along the way.

The first stop, at the centre of Martinville, features a cemetery dating back to 1842 and containing some 243 graves. The gate is something to behold.

Set back from the urban perimeter, the second cemetery is now legally compliant but its managers had to choose a second location after the first one was hit with an order of closure from the provincial board of health in 1908.

The third stop introduces you to Sainte-Edwidge and the only cemetery in the area. The Catholic cemetery located just behind the Catholic church impresses visitors with its imposing calvary and the mausoleum of Father Morache, a character from the Pioneer Trail (<https://www.culturecoaticook.com/circuits/la-voie-des-pionniers/morache/>). His first grave dates to 1885. In 1919, Philius Gagnon, a master mason from Coaticook, was commissioned to build a stone charnel house with an eight-foot-wide, 10-foot-deep and 8-foot-high interior, for all of \$80.

The fourth stop provides an opportunity to stop by the cemetery of St-Herménégilde. Take in the splendid sights, including cast iron crosses (the oldest one in the area can be found here) near the wall of the church by the same name.

Next up on the circuit, Dixville reveals its historical charms with 4 cemeteries totalling 1,141 deceased who are peacefully reposing here. Today, the municipality counts nearly 800 vibrant citizens.

Also in this municipality, at point 6 of the circuit, you will find the area's only institutional cemetery, which is the resting place of many people served by the Dixville Home—an important institution in Dixville history. The centre, founded on April 7, 1958, originally welcomed young people with intellectual disabilities.