

ANESTHESIOLOGY REFLECTIONS FROM THE WOOD LIBRARY-MUSEUM

A Towering View of Charles T. Jackson's Grave



Washington Tower (*left*) occupies the highest point within America's premier landscaped cemetery, Mount Auburn in Cambridge, Massachusetts. As visitors climb the tower, they can peek over its side and spot a nearby pair of headstones (*center*) for Dr. Charles T. Jackson (1805–1880) and his wife, Susan Bridge Jackson (1816–1899). Recognized as the geologist-chemist-physician who suggested that W. T. G. Morton try sulphuric ether for anesthesia, Dr. Jackson suffered a cerebrovascular accident and was terminally nursed by the insane asylum to which he had provided medical consultations. Slightly shadowed by his wife's marker (*right*), Charles Jackson's tombstone reads, "Through his observations of the peculiar effects of sulphuric ether on the nerves of sensation, and his bold deduction therefrom, the benign discovery of painless surgery was made." (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists, Inc.)

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