

1800s



“Anne Whitney (September 2, 1821 – January 23, 1915) was an American sculptor and poet. She made full-length and bust sculptures of prominent political and historical figures, and her works are in major museums in the United States...

She made works that explored her liberal views regarding abolition, women's rights, and other social issues. Many prominent and historical men and women are depicted in her sculptures, like Harriet Beecher Stowe. She portrayed women who lived ground-breaking lives as suffragists, professional artists, and non-traditional positions for women at the time, like noted economist and Wellesley College president Alice Freeman Palmer. Throughout her adult life, she lived an unconventional, independent life and had a lifelong relationship with fellow artist, Abby Adeline Manning, with whom she lived and traveled to Europe... They had what was called a ‘Boston marriage,’ a term for a long-term relationship between upper-class, educated women, which was generally accepted within the community... Whitney died on January 23, 1915, in Boston, Massachusetts[8] of cancer and was buried in Cambridge at Mount Auburn Cemetery alongside Abby Adeline Manning.”

Credits

Image: Mary Leno, 2021.

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