

The Cemeteries on the East Side of
Mt. Desert Island and North of
Downtown Bar Harbor:
A Self-Guided Tour

by Joshua L. Segal

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Acadia Cemeteries – Introduction

Mt. Desert Island in general and Acadia National Park are beautiful and historical. Guide books are available for the hiking trails, the carriage roads, the mansions, etc. But as a cemetery researcher and hobbyist, Acadia's cemeteries remained inaccessible. And then I tripped on a book titled, "Cemeteries of Cranberry Isles and the Towns of Mount Desert Island", by Thomas Vining©2000.

Mr. Vining provided directions to and details about 110 cemeteries: 94 on Mount Desert Island and 16 on four of the Cranberry Isles.

Bar Harbor – 22
Cranberry Isles – 16
Mount Desert – 27
Southwest Harbor – 12
Tremont – 33

For an historical record, he did an amazing job of transcribing names and dates from these markers. The book is almost 600 pages in length. For genealogists, the book is a treasure chest of information which includes an alphabetical index by surnames. In addition, he provides an historic picture for posterity of those buried in those cemeteries, and their content, because there is a sad truth: the markers are being damaged by weather, time and acid rain. And unfortunately, there are issues of markers destroyed by vandals as well as being removed by thieves.

For those interested in every cemetery on Mount Desert Island and the Cranberry Isles, you should acquire Mr. Vining's book (or if out of print, see the copy available in the Bar Harbor Public Library.)

The author of this book is of the opinion that cemeteries are museums that include epitaphs and art as well as materials, forms, iconography and fonts that are inherently interesting,

over and above the genealogy. With a European presence dating back to the 17th century, one can expect many historic cemeteries in the area.

With that in mind, this book will provide photos of markers that are special in some way and will provide a path (vehicle required) to visit these cemeteries in some logical sequence.

Out of sensitivity to the families, photos of markers less than 25 years old, will have the names on the markers edited out.

The directions to the individual cemeteries are based on the directions given by Mr. Vining who informed me that he made the entirety of his book part of the public record and gave me permission to use it in this volume.

Warnings to Visitors

1. **Ownership:** Cemetery markers and anything associated with a burial lot are the property of the descendants of the family that placed it. Do not remove anything from a cemetery, except for obvious items that are unquestionably pieces of litter.
2. **Cleaning/Repairs:** Cleaning or making repairs to markers without permission is illegal. Permission will often be given by the cemetery owners or board of Trustees of the cemetery. That being said, there are those who have made the executive decision that a marker, by virtue of its age and condition is abandoned property and will clean or repair a marker anyway.
 - a. **Cleaning:** Tools used on a marker should be softer than the material of which the marker is made. Trowels and scrapers used around markers should be made of plastic. Brushes should be soft. Letters or indentations can be cleaned with wooden shish-kabob skewers or sharpened (wood) popsicle sticks.
 - b. **Chemicals:** Without some training, do not use anything but water on markers.
 - c. **Power washing:** Don't!
3. **Rubbings:** Many cemeteries ban rubbings for several reasons.
 - a. If the rubber is not careful, the marker can be defaced.
 - b. Certain material can delaminate by the pressure applied to the rubbed area.
4. **Photography:** If you see graveyard enthusiasts carrying tall mirrors into cemeteries, it is to refocus light on markers that they are photographing. It is quite amazing how an unreadable marker becomes completely readable with the help of a well placed mirror.

The Chapters

This volume includes 11 cemeteries along the east side of Mt. Desert Island from the causeway at the northern tip thru Hull Cove. To take this tour, leave a minimum of 2 hours and potentially much more depending on how interesting one finds each of the venues.

The text of each chapter is the author's attempt to provide a few tidbits of which cemetery viewers may not already be aware. It is not intended to be everything of interest within the cemetery. The cemeteries vary in size from tens of markers to over 1000.

It is noteworthy that inscriptions on marble markers, for the most part appeared to be readable. This is somewhat unusual for marble markers that are this old. It is possible that the markers were of a better grade of marble or the inscriptions were carved deeper, but most likely, it is because pollution and the conditions that damage marble the most are not as bad here as they are in the cities.

This is a "pilot volume". The author is looking for feedback from those using this book. If the author determines that this is filling a need for Mount Desert Island tourists, other volumes covering other cemeteries will be provided.

To help the author assess the demand, please send comments to: Joshua Segal:

SegalJL@aol.com

1. Bar Harbor – (Old) County Road Cemetery (1)

UTM: 19T 0550646, 4918510;

Lat./Long.: N 44°25'05.2" x W 68°21'49.8"

Old Country Road is on the right (east) as one crosses the causeway from the mainland to Mount Desert Island. The map on the right may help.



As the traffic pattern exists in 2015, one takes a right at the traffic light and takes another right. Where the sign says, “One way, do not enter” bear left. Immediately after passing the KOA Campground, keep looking to the right. The markers are pretty well overgrown with trees as can be seen in the photos that follow:



This is clearly in the category of “abandoned cemetery”. There are about 20 to 30 markers, mostly from the mid-19th century. The earliest appears to be 1814 and the latest. 1901. All that were visible appeared to be marble. Many of the markers were down. Perhaps 10 were in good condition. I suspect that someone using an appropriate probing device (i.e. a non-metallic pole) might well find many more markers a few inches below grade.

All of the visible markers are made of marble. Inscriptions, for the most part appeared to be readable, which is somewhat unusual for marble markers of this age. It is possible that the markers were of a better grade of marble or the inscriptions were carved deeper, but I suspect it is because pollution and the conditions that damage marble the most are not as bad here as they are in the cities.

The length of time that this cemetery has been neglected can be seen by looking at the marker of Julia T. Richardson. The marker became loose of its base and was leaning against a tree. Over the years, the tree has actually grown around the marker. Three views are shown: facing the marker, close-up from the front and looking at it from the side.



Overview



Upper corner



From the side

Many have epitaphs such as the one on the 1850 marker of Thankful Cousins shown below:



THANKFUL,
 wife of
 ELISHA COUSINS,
 died Jan. 23, 1852.
 □t. 80 y'rs.

— . —

Transcription of epitaph: Thou art gone dear mother,
 Yet we will not complain.
 For we know 'tis all right,
 We shall meet thee again.

This is a typical epitaph for the markers of this cemetery. They are for the most part generic, dealing with topics of eternal rest, the afterlife and lamenting the loss as opposed to the type of epitaph where the reader learns something unique about the deceased.

Summary

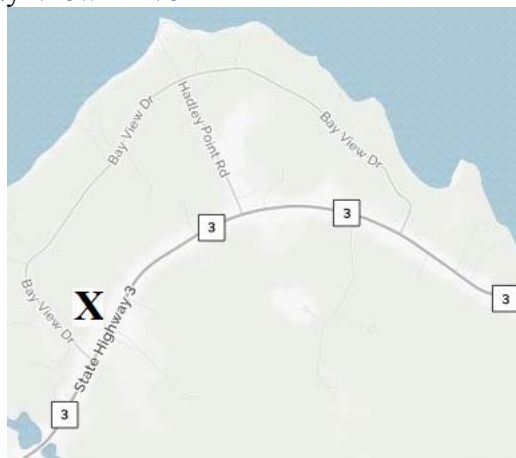
This cemetery is interesting, perhaps more due to its neglect than it having any markers that are particularly unique.

2. Bar Harbor – Thomas Cemetery (16)

UTM: 19T 0553766, 4919797;

Lat./Long.: N 44°25'46.1" x W 68°19'28.2"

GPS: 25 Bay View Drive



Location. Along northeast side of Bay View Drive. (Note: There are 2 junctions of Bay View with Rte. 3: Be sure to take the northwest one as shown in the map above.)

Directions. From the intersection of Routes 3 and 102/198 at the north end of Mount Desert Island (just after you cross the bridge from Thompson Island), bear left on Route 3. Follow Route 3 for 2.3–2.4 miles to the intersection on the left with Bay View Drive. Turn left onto Bay View Drive, and the cemetery is on the right in less than 0.1 miles.

Probably the most interesting thing about this cemetery is the change from 2000. In 2000, Thomas Vining made the statement, "... within this boundary a new natural-wood fence has been erected. A space in the fence allows for entrance/exit ... A few stones are standing, but most are propped up or laying on the ground."

It is clear that a lot of work has been done since 2000. The wood fence has been replaced by a plastic one, as shown below, and most of the markers are standing and/or repaired.

The following show overviews of the cemetery: The first, looking from the outside and the second from the inside.



Dates of the markers range from the 1830s to 1870s. The material is marble. Marble. The next photo shows the markers standing and straight with the marker in the middle-front showing a repaired break.



Repaired marker, righted markers

There are several markers with Masonic iconography. shown next is an icon with the letters: **HTWSSTKS**. This is an acronym specifically relevant to the Royal Arch Masons. The letters stand for, “**Hiram, the Widow's Son, Sent to King Solomon.**”

The epitaph at the bottom of the marker is from Revelation 2:17. And reads:

"To him that overcometh will I give
to eat of the hidden manna, and

will give to him a white stone and
in the stone a new name written
which no man knoweth, saving him
that received it."



The marker that follows is for Captain Abraham Thomas who died in 1838. The flag holder is a Civil War flag holder, but he was most likely a veteran of the War of 1812.



Moss/Lichen Covered Marker



The cemetery is so well maintained that it was surprising to see the moss covered marker shown above.

Summary

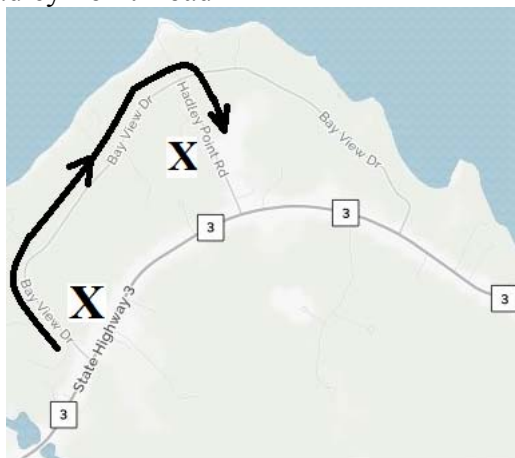
It's hard to say what this cemetery may look like in a decade. What makes it special in 2016 is how nicely maintained it appears to be.

3. Bar Harbor – Hadley Point Cemetery (2)

UTM: 19T 0554400, 4920882;

Lat./Long.: N 44°26'21.1" x W 68°18'59.1"

GPS: 68 Hadley Point Road



To get here from the Thomas Cemetery (Chapter 2) follow the map above.

Front entrance to the cemetery:

There is no sign on the gate. The cemetery is surrounded by a low chain link fence. The cemetery appears to be well cared for in recent times as shown below. Burials in the cemetery are mid-19th century to date.



This has apparently not always been the case. There are about a half dozen pedestal style markers and column style ones that had a finial on top, probably an urn, that was broken off. One such example is shown to the right. Initially, they were knocked off either as vandalism or a theft, but regardless, it is likely that these urns were ultimately stolen.



The markers are mostly marble, but there are a number of fieldstones. An example is shown below.



Also, the markers are mostly vertical, but there are a number of flush markers. The marker shown to right appears to be a World War II casualty and is in the back-center of the photo to the left.



Detail of back center of photo
to the left plus transcription:

In loving memory of our

<icon: USAF> Son

S/Sgt Gordon E. Smith

1921 – 1943

?88 BOMB SQD 9? BOMB GROUP

8TH AIR FORCE

The marker has all the information that one would normally see on a VA supplied military marker, but this one is a privately supplied one. It is uncertain what the odd stone structure in center might be, but it is visually interesting.

Another odd structure, apparently made of ceramic, is shown in the front right of the photo; a fieldstone marker is behind it to the left.



One of the most interesting and unusual markers is the small carved fieldstone shown next.



Transcription of the inscription:

William J.
Heckman
husband of
Patricia Cousins,
10/7/1954
11/26/1994
<flower>
I am not here.
Search your heart.
I am there.

4. Bar Harbor – Hamilton Station Cemetery (3)

UTM: 19T 0555118, 4920551;

Lat./Long.: N 44°26'10.2" x W 68°18'26.8"

This one is a bit hard to find.



From the Hadley Point cemetery (1 on the map above), go south and take a left at the stop sign on Rte. 3, Bar Harbor Road. The Hamilton Station Cemetery is “2” on the map, just about ½ mile after turning on Rte. 3.

On the left is “3” on the map shown below to the left and on the right is the sign for Seabury Drive (“4” on the map), shown below on the right. Not all GPSs know of Seabury Drive, which is the reason for the magnitude of detail.



There is room near Seabury Drive to park one's car on the shoulder. To get to the cemetery was a walk across the field to the spot shown as “2” on the map.

The Cemetery

The cemetery is owned by Bar Harbor and has two parts. The first part is enclosed by the fence shown below appears to be maintained and mowed. To the right and back (east) is an unmaintained portion in very bad condition.

Inside the fence



The overview shown below shows a few rows of markers in very nice condition with a combination of marble and granite tombstones. The dates of death on the markers range from the mid-19th to late 19th century.

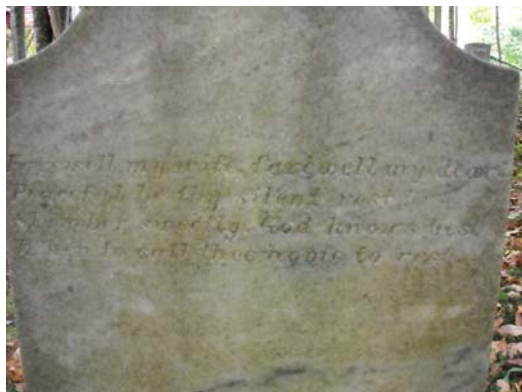


Markers are for the most part quite readable. Just below is an epitaph from the back of the marker.



Front

AGNES MABEL
Wife of
Raymond Emery.
DIED
Feb. 5, 1899.



Back

Farewell my wife, farewell my dear
Peaceful be thy silent rest:
Slumber sweetly. God knows best.
When to call thee home to rest.

□. 19 y's. 5 m's. 12 d's

The details about the age of the deceased are typical of the era, likely based on Psalm 90:12 that states, “Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom”. The epitaph on the back of the marker deals with topics of eternal rest, the afterlife and lamenting the loss as opposed to the type of epitaph where the reader learns something unique about the deceased.

Veterans starting with the Civil War were eligible for a free marker through the Veteran’s Administration (VA). Shown below is the marker of a Civil War veteran. It is lichen covered and well worn. Starting with World War I, these markers included the date of death and often, an icon pertaining to the religion of the deceased. The Civil War marker has the “great shield” of the United States and only the name and branch of the military in which the deceased served.



Transcription:
Z. H. HIGGINS
U. S. NAVY

Outside the fence

The part of the cemetery outside of the fence is, for all practical purposes, abandoned. Most of the markers are down. The 1866 marker in the lower left of the following photo is 100% readable. It is transcribed below the photo.



ALMIRA H.
Dau. of Wm. &

Lydia Leland.
 DIED
 Feb. 15, 1866.
 □. 25 yrs. 6 mos.
 She's on her Saviour's bosom laid
 and feels no sorrow there:
 Is by a heavenly parent fed
 and needs no more our care

One of the very few upright markers outside the fence is shown below,



<Icon: Lilies, often symbolic of purity>

MILFORD A.
 Son of Capt. A. D.
 & J. A. Leland.
 Died in Eden.
 Jan. 18, 1864.
 This lovely bud so young and fair,
 Called hence by early doom.
 Just came to show how sweet a flower
 In Paradise would bloom.

5. Bar Harbor – Leland Cemetery (4)

Getting there:

UTM: 19T 0555830, 4920457;

Lat./Long.: N 44°26'06.9" x W 68°17'54.6"

Starting from number “1” on the map, the Hamilton Station Cemetery, proceed southeast about ½ mile. A landmark for which to look is “The Coach Stop Inn” shown on the map below as “3”. The next left is “Fire Road 411”. It is easy to miss and is a one-lane dirt road. Follow it until the road bends to the right (not actually shown on the map). The cemetery, shown on the map as “2” is at that bend.



Background

The cemetery is owned by a non-profit group called “The Leland Cemetery Association” and is generally well maintained. There are a few markers that could use the help of a conservator. One example of a broken marker is shown next.



The fence shown below in the “overview” photo is relatively new¹. Markers range in age from the mid-19th century to date.



Overview of Fence and Gate



Overview of the Cemetery

Materials are mostly marble and granite, there is a classic slate marker from 1847 shown next. It includes the weeping willow with urn carved at the top, the tree is symbolic of mourning. The urn is symbolic of the physical remains. Slate is virtually indestructible unless it delaminates. This marker, now over 150 years old, with minimal cleaning would look like a new monument. A transcription of the epitaph is included.

¹ “Cemeteries of Cranberry Isles and the Towns of Mount Desert Island”, by Thomas Vining, ©2000, Maine; Vining’s book indicates that the fence was not there in 1999. Pg. 27



EBEN LELAND
DIED
Oct. 14, 1849.
□. 71 yrs. 6 mos.

A few notes:

1. □, is a Latin abbreviation for “aetatis”, meaning “at the age of”.
2. Markers of this era sometimes have a maker’s mark, often in the lower right corner and sometimes below grade. If you find yourself interested in such details, make sure that any digging tools or scrapers are plastic. The maker’s mark served to identify the carver, in the same way that an artist would sign a painting.

Examples of epitaphs in this cemetery:

The marker shown below is a modified short column. It has quite a lot of lichen on it, suggesting a long time since this marker was cleaned. The epitaph reads, “The faithful are certain of their reward.” The danger of using this kind of generic short quotation is how the meaning or usage changes. Some might say that it is based on the US Marine’s slogan, “semper fideles (always faithful)” and other sources suggest it as a paraphrase of one or more Biblical passages. But if one were to google on it, it appears to be one of the more popular phrases used as tattoos in the early 21st century!



Transcription of the epitaph: The faithful are certain
of their reward.

Biblical Epitaph

The slate marker from the 1830s, shown below has a lengthy epitaph that begins with Rev. 14:13. “Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord.” Biblical epitaphs are timeless, because in a short phrase, they put a thought into a much longer and greater context.

While this quote is generic, some Biblical quotes can actually give a message about whom the person was, such as Proverbs 31 which describe the perfect wife.



Slate fell out of favor by the late 19th century because it required skilled carvers rather than the mass production methods that became mainstream when marble and granite became the materials of choice for the vast majority of cemetery markers.

Civil War Vet

Civil war markers were discussed in the previous chapter. Like the one shown in that chapter, it is lichen covered but not nearly as badly worn. This photo is included because it clearly shows the “great shield” of the United States.

A transcription of the marker reads:

E. A. Leland

CO. E.

30 MASS. INF.

(i.e, he fought for Company E, 30th Massachusetts Infantry in the Civil War.)



Iconography

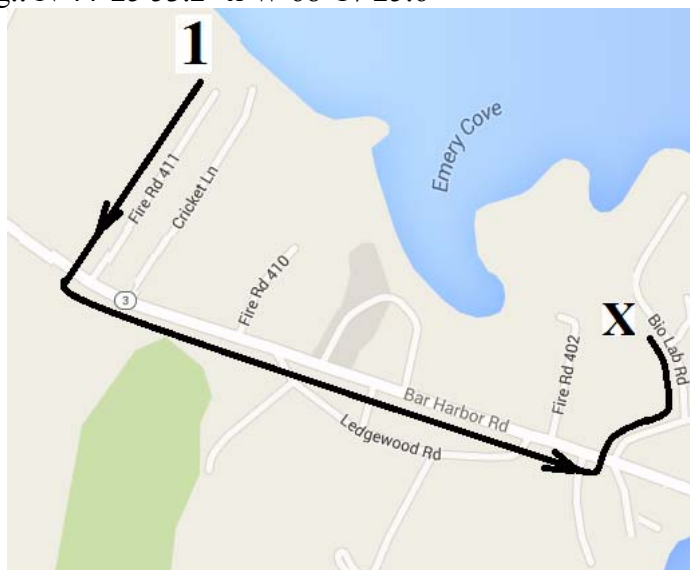
There are a number of icons on markers. Some are religious or fraternal. Shown below on the left is a cross and crown, popular with many Christian denominations as well as Freemasons. On the right is a more secular theme with a hand holding a bouquet of flowers.



6. Bar Harbor – Emery Family Burial Ground (21)

UTM: 19T 0556475, 4920038;

Long.: N 44°25'53.2" x W 68°17'25.6"



Location. On the grounds of Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory.

Directions from the intersection of Routes 3 and 102/198 at the north end of Mount Desert Island (just after you cross the bridge from Thompson Island): Bear left on Route 3. In 4.2–4.3 miles, turn left onto Old Bar Harbor Road. The entrance to MDI Biological Labs is less than 0.1 miles on the left.

Directions from Leland Cemetery (Chapter 5). Proceed south to Rte. 3 (Bar Harbor Road). Take a left at the stop sign. Bear left onto Old Bar Harbor Road (where there is a sign for MDI Lab).

Common Directions at Bio Lab Road: Bear left at parking lot toward “office”. Obelisks visible thru trees on the left just after entering the parking area. Inquire at the office for permission to enter the grounds and for directions to the cemetery.



Overview

Small cemetery with perhaps 10 markers.

Two obelisks with marble and granite.





God in His wisdom has me
called. The boon His love
has given. And though
the body moulders here.
The soul is safe in heaven.

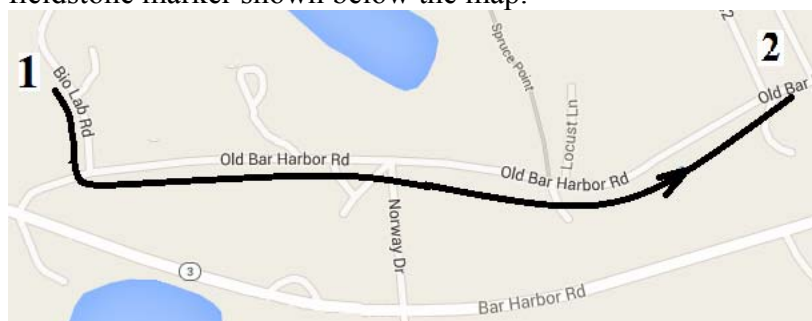
7. Bar Harbor – Salisbury Cove Cemetery (5)

Getting there:

UTM: 19T 0557290, 4920046;

Lat./Long.: N 44°25'53.2" x W 68°16'48.7"

From the Emery Family Burial Ground (Chapter 6), (“1” on the map below) return to Old Bar Harbor Road. Turn left and proceed east about ½ mile. The cemetery (“2” on the map below) is on the left. It cannot be seen from the road. It is just beyond Fire Road #342 and just before Spruce Wind Drive. There is an opening through which one can see the large fieldstone marker shown below the map.



Entrance Area

The entrance has a large fieldstone with a brass plaque commemorating the earliest pioneers in the town. The photo on the right is a blow-up of the representation of the building.



Transcription of the inscription:
IN MEMORY OF OUR PIONEERS
THIS TABLET MARKS THE
SITE OF
THE FIRST TOWN HOUSE
ERECTED IN EDEN
BUILT IN 1842
RAZED IN 1931

THIS MEMORIAL ERECTED BY
THE TOWN OF BAR HARBOR
1932

Overview

The cemetery is owned by Bar Harbor. Materials are mostly marble with some granite. There is no fence around the cemetery though there are remnants of what may have been a wood fence that has long since deteriorated. While mowed, the cemetery contains many markers in need of straightening as well as many downed markers. Some examples can be seen in the photos that follow. The markers in the cemetery are mostly between 1840 and 1900, although there are a handful of markers from the mid-20th century.



Downed Marker

The marker shown below has a “book” icon at the top. It is likely to have been down for a long time. It is in at least three pieces and would cost hundreds of dollars to restore. It is pretty much 100% readable:



<Icon: Book>

MRS. DELIA

wife of

Capt. Isaac Hopkins

DIED

August 25, 1863.

The bottom line is guessable although the break, not the weathering makes it less than 100% readable. The items between <> is a best guess at what the marker actually says:

□. 30 (or 39) <ys.> 10 <ms.>

Orthography

Sometimes, the artistry is in the lettering. Rather than an icon, the carver has chosen a very ornate “BLISS” at the top. It is likely the trademark work of a local carver, since the same thing can be seen in other cemeteries of the same time frame in this region.



Mixed Materials, Repairs to Broken Marker, Civil War Vet

Below is three very different markers all illustrating something a bit different. To the left is an obelisk. The obelisk became popular in the mid-19th century as part of Egyptian Revival architecture. It is odd that it worked its way into what is a Christian cemetery since it is pagan and represents a ray of the sun God. Ra (some say Aten). This obelisk is marble, while the pedestal (or base) is granite.

In the center is a marker that was broken and subsequently repaired. The repair is not particularly good from a conservation aspect, but it is holding and gives us a clue that at least at one time, someone was doing more with this cemetery than just mowing the lawn.

To the right is a marker of a Civil War Veteran. Unlike the other Civil War markers shown in previous chapters, this one is not a government issued one. Many Veterans are honored with flagholders supplied by fraternal organizations. This one, in the lower right, was supplied by the local GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) and the FCL on the flagholder is for “Fraternity Charity Loyalty”, the motto of the GAR. The GAR was a fraternal organization that comprised those veterans who fought for the Union in the Civil War.



8. Bar Harbor – Hillside Cemetery (6)

Getting there:

UTM: 19T 0559539, 4919103;

Lat./Long.: N 44°25'22.0" x W 68°15'07.4"

From “1”, the Salisbury Cove Cemetery, continue on “old Bar Harbor Rd. until it meets State Highway 3 (also called, Bar Harbor Road). Make the left turn at the stop sign and proceed east about half a mile. The small street sign shown below the map is a little hard to see. A GPS set to “111 State Highway 3” will help.



Overview:

This is by far the largest cemetery of the seven described in this booklet. The cemetery was founded in the late 19th century and it is still in use with about 1000 interments. It is owned by the

“Hillside Cemetery Association.”

In this chapter, a few markers and overviews are shown as examples of things in the cemetery. There are many other interesting sights and markers to be seen. So take your time to wander around.

Shown below is the entrance to the cemetery. There is no fence around the cemetery by which to demarcate its boundaries. Materials are mostly granite with some marble with a small percentage of other materials.



Parts of the cemetery are well maintained. Other parts have many downed markers with many damaged and broken monuments.

An overview of some of the better kept sections of the cemetery is shown below.



Shown next are a couple of sections of the cemetery that are in pretty bad condition that are in real need of a little love and attention:



A Selection of Markers from the Cemetery

An Older Marker

One of the older markers is shown below. It is made of marble and is similar to many that had been seen in the previous cemeteries described in other chapters. The anchor at the top has several potential meanings. In some cases it is a nautical reference, but in other cases it is a Christian reference symbolic



of faith. The epitaph is relatively common and is transcribed. Like so many epitaphs of this era, it tells us nothing unique about the deceased.

<Icon: Anchor>

CHARLES A.

Son of

Augustus & Eliza H.

HAMOR,

Died Feb. 26, 1880,

□, 24 yrs. 24 days.

A light from our household is gone

A voice we loved is stilled

A place is vacant in our hearts

That never can be filled.

Lichens

Shown next is an older marble marker covered in lichens. While some think the lichens are attractive and give an appearance of age, the lichens are breaking down the marker and causing damage. They should be removed using approved methods. Note that the urn on top has fallen and is resting on the ground adjacent to the marker. The odds that it will still be there when you visit with this guide are not good.



A Biblical Quotation

The marker to the right includes the Biblical quotation from Psalm 121:2 reading, “My help cometh from the Lord.”



A VA marker and a Fieldstone



On the left is a VA issued marker for a Korean War Veteran. In other chapters, VA markers for the Civil War were shown.

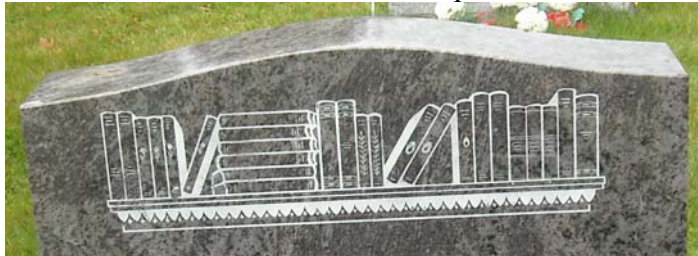
The fieldstone on the right is quite beautiful. Transcription is not included since both are very recent markers.

The fieldstone above had the inscription cut into the stone. The one shown below has a flattened section with a brass plaque attached to it. In recent years, brass plaques have become the target of thieves due to the high price of copper.



Laser Engraving

Modern laser technology has enabled complex patterns and themes at minimal extra cost. An example is shown next:



Lawn Mowing Damage

Weed whacker and mower damage is a major problem of lawn care in modern cemetery maintenance. Shown to the right is what can happen when a lawn mower blade catches the corner of a flush brass marker.



Overgrown by Shrubs

Shown below is a classic example of why many well managed cemeteries restrict shrubbery. While the footstones can be seen in the front of this burial lot, the headstone, shown to the right, has been taken over by the surrounding shrubs.

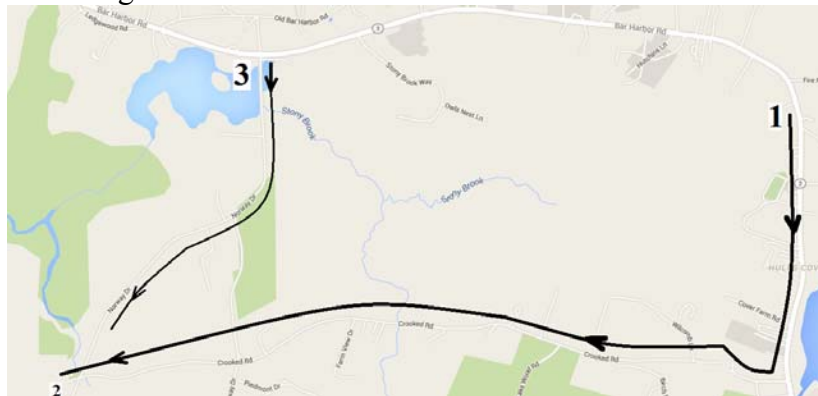


9. Bar Harbor: Emery Cemetery (7)

Getting there:

UTM: 19T 0555924, 4918018;

Lat./Long.: N 44°24'47.9" x W 68°17'51.2"



From Hillside Cemetery, “1” on the map, there are two ways to the Emery Cemetery, “2” on the map. Going there via “3” on the map, is included in a footnote². From “1”, go south on Bar Harbor Road (Rte. 3) about ½ mile. Make a right turn on Crooked Road. Follow Crooked Road west about 1.2 miles to the junction of Crooked Road and Norway Drive. Proceed west another 0.1 miles.

Look for the cow-gate on the left. There is plenty of room to park safely on the shoulder of Crooked Road. Cross the field to the copse of trees to find the cemetery.



² Proceed north and west on Bar Harbor Road (Rte. 3) about 2.6 miles first north and then east. At Norway Drive, proceed south about 1¼ miles on Norway Drive to its junction with Crooked Road. Take a right at Crooked Road and proceed west another 0.1 miles. Continue with second paragraph of instructions above.

Background Data:

- Ownership: Private
- Alternate name: Thompson Cemetery
- Maintenance: None recent although Vining³ reports a cleanup and repair of fence in 1999.
- Materials: Mostly marble
- Dates on markers: Most mid-19th century with a handful right through the mid-20th century: Earliest 1838; Latest; 1946
- Size: Under 50 grave sites.

Overview:

An overview shows the fence in good repair with a small treed area in the midst of what is otherwise an open field.



Most of the cemetery is in poor condition, but a couple of small sections of the cemetery shown next give an indication that at least a few of the markers are cared for and decorated from time-to-time.

³ Op. cit Vining, pg, 63



Many markers are down and like most marble markers in the Bar Harbor area, it is still fully readable. A transcription is provided. Notice that Cornelius Jr. died about 11½ years before his father and the epitaph tells us that he died at sea. It would appear that this is a cenotaph⁴ for the son whose body was not likely recovered. It is indicative of the desire of people to remember and have a place of memory at which to visit loved ones.



CORNELIUS
THOMPSON
died Nov. 1, 1862,
aged 74 yrs. 8 mos.
CORNELIUS
THOMPSON, Jr
died at Sea
Feb. 21, 1850,
aged 19 yrs. 9 mos.
Simply to Thy cross I cling.
(from the popular
Christian Hymn,
"Rock of Ages")

⁴ A cenotaph is a marker in a cemetery for someone who is not actually buried there.

The following photos show much of the remainder with downed markers and markers leaning on trees. The markers haven't been leaning on the trees long enough for the trees to start growing around them as we saw in the County Road Cemetery.



Downed markers



Markers leaning on trees

Summary

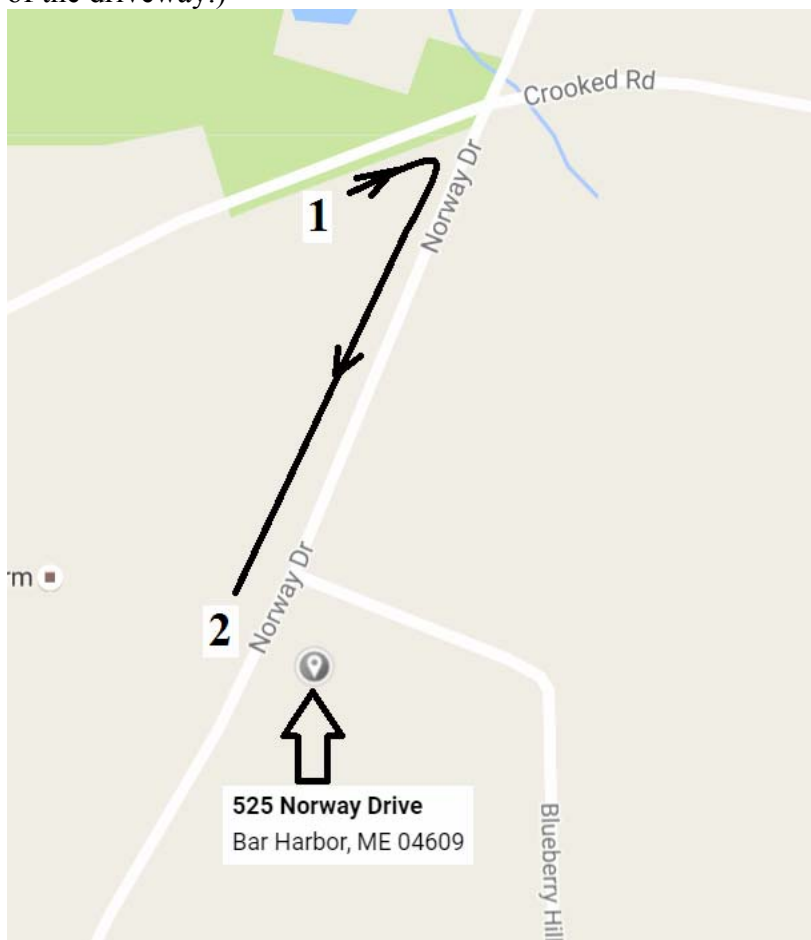
This small cemetery could use some love. That being said, finding it and exploring it is probably the most adventurous visit in this, the northeast Bar Harbor cemetery tour.

10. Bar Harbor – Paine Cemetery (18)

UTM: 19T 0556029, 4917593;

Lat./Long.: N 44°24'34.1" x W 68°17'46.7"

GPS: 525 Norway Drive (mail box on right, driveway with a small sign that reads “Blueberry Hill Farm” at the bottom-right of the driveway.)



Directions: From Emery Cemetery (Chapter 9). On the map above, “1” is the Emery Cemetery and “2” is the bottom of the driveway for the Paine. The distance is about ¼ of a mile.

The Paine Cemetery is at the edge of a field near woods, east of Norway Drive.

Directions from the intersection of Routes 3 and 102/198 at the north end of Mount Desert Island (just after crossing the bridge from Thompson Island), bear left on Route 3: Follow Route 3 for 4.6–4.7 miles to the intersection with Norway Drive. Turn right onto Norway Drive, and follow it for 1.2–1.3 miles to a stop sign at the intersection with Crooked Road. Continue straight on Norway Drive for approximately 0.2 miles to a private driveway on the left. 525 Norway Drive (mail box on right, driveway with a small sign that reads “Blueberry Hill Farm” at the bottom-right of the driveway.)

The cemetery is on private property and one should inquire with the landowners for permission to visit the cemetery. As one nears the end of the driveway, there is a 3-car garage on the left. Look 90° to the right and you should see the cemetery. There is no fence around it and it appears to be lightly maintained.

Less than 10 markers; earliest: 1880s

Latest 1980s

Material: Most marble; a few granite



Overview

Namesakes of cemetery:



Thomas Paine: Marble – 1848



Theodore 1911 & Elizabeth 1917:

Granite

Epitaph: His will.

Newest Marker: Flush granite marker – 1984



Epitaph: We love you and miss you.

Summary

There are only about a half-dozen markers in this cemetery. This cemetery is on private property and there is nothing particularly unusual about it. As such, this is one that I would skip this one, unless the adventure of seeing them all, is your ultimate goal.

11. Bar Harbor – Peach Cemetery (13)

UTM: 19T 0556191, 4916406;

Lat./Long.: N 44°23'55.6" x W 68°17'39.8"

GPS: 294 Norway Drive



The Peach Cemetery is on the west side of Norway Drive as shown in the map above.

Directions from Paine Cemetery (Chapter 10): Go south on Norway Drive about 1 mile from 525 Norway Drive (“1”) to 294 Norway Drive (“2”).

Directions from the intersection of Routes 3 and 102/198 at the north end of Mount Desert Island (just after you cross the bridge from Thompson Island): Bear left on Route 3. Follow Route 3 for 4.6–4.7 miles to the intersection with Norway Drive. Turn right onto Norway Drive and follow it for 1.2–1.3 miles to a stop sign at the intersection with Crooked Road. Continue straight on Norway Drive for another 1.2–1.3 miles to the intersection on the left with Mill Brook Road. Across the road from this intersection (i.e. west side of the street) is a one-story house (294 Norway Drive) with a two car garage with covered breezeway connecting the house to the garages. The cemetery is to the right of the house along the edge of the woods. The cemetery has a small bridge over a stream on the right just beyond the house.⁵

General:

Older markers: Marble

Newer: Granite

Oldest marker: 1845

Newest marker: 1997

The cemetery is surrounded by a chain-link fence and appears to be well cared for. An overview of the cemetery is shown next:

⁵ Note that in the years since Vining’s book a few things have changed. Old Norway Road has been renamed “Mill Brook Road” and the house at 294 Norway Road which he described as a “one story house with detached garage” has been modified to a one story house with a two car garage with covered breezeway connecting the house to the garages.



Overview of the Cemetery

The oldest marker is shown next. It is marble and a double marker for two children, Christopher and Mary, children of John and Mary Peach. Christopher died in 1845; Mary passed in 1849.



The newest marker is made of granite and dates to 1997.



Perhaps the most interesting marker is the obelisk for the Peach family for whom the cemetery was probably named and it dates to the mid-19th century



Summary

As mentioned earlier, probably the most interesting thing about this cemetery is how well cared for it appears to be. For those who may find 11 cemeteries to be a bit much for your tour, this is one that I would skip.

A Reminder

This is a “pilot volume”. The author is looking for feedback from those using this book. If the author determines that this is filling a need for Mount Desert Island tourists, other volumes covering other cemeteries will be provided.

To help the author assess the demand, please send comments to: Joshua Segal:

SegalJL@aol.com

