☐ ***For her grave she's now well known***
she rests beneath the oldest stone.
Ancient Cemetery's oldest surviving marker is for Margaret Miller who died in 1698.

☐ ***A cenotaph is what you see;***
his mortal flesh was "lost at sea."
There are more than 30 gravestones in Ancient Cemetery for men or boys who were Lost at Sea. Can you find one of these cenotaphs? A cenotaph is a gravestone or memorial for a person who is buried somewhere else, maybe on a battlefield, at sea, or far away from Cape Cod.

☐ ***Can you find the grave marker with two carved lambs?***
Two lambs mark the graves of little Malcolm & Alice Nickerson, children of the local gravestone carver, David Nickerson, whose shop was nearby on Pine Street. Why do you think lambs might be especially appropriate for children's graves?

☐ ***Marbled roses wreathed above,***
carved by sculptor much beloved.
Look for a wreath of flowers on a white marble stone that faces the cemetery road. It was carved by a famous sculptor. Can you read his signature at the bottom of the stone? Who was he?

☐ ***Veterans from seven wars are buried in Ancient Cemetery. Find a gravestone for someone who participated in one of these wars.***
Groups such as the Sons or Daughters of the American Revolution (S.A.R. or D.A.R.), or Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.), often place special flag holders next to veterans' graves. Look for one of these standards or for a stone that mentions a veteran's military involvement.

☐ **This landmark rock stands near the place**
where once a church now leaves no trace.
The earliest meeting house once stood near the big rock.



About us:

The Friends of Ancient Cemetery is a community volunteer 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to the preservation, protection and promotion of Yarmouth's oldest burying ground. The Friends organization grew out of concern for the deteriorating state of Ancient Cemetery's oldest gravestones, which were rendered illegible under a covering of lichen and dirt. A handful of volunteers began to clean stones in the summer of 2018 and the work continues.

Your donation will help fund our important work. Thank you!

Learn more:

friendsofancientcemetery.org

friendsofancientcemetery@gmail.com

Leave feedback
bit.ly/foacFeedback

YARMOUTH'S ANCIENT CEMETERY SCAVENGER HUNT

Follow the clues -
How many can you find?



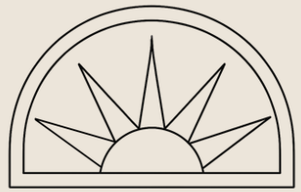
Please note:
Ancient Cemetery is consecrated to the memory of those who are buried within. Dignified and respectful behavior is expected of all visitors. Please use care when walking and be aware of the many small footstones and uneven ground. Never lean against or place objects on grave markers. Gravestone rubbings are prohibited.

The stones you are looking for with these clues are in the oldest/front part of the cemetery.

FRIENDS OF ANCIENT CEMETERY

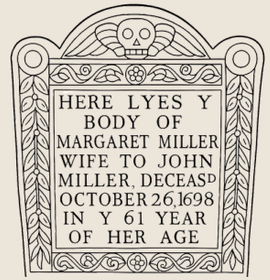
☐ ***A life departs, a soul takes flight;***
without this symbol, all is night.
Do you think the sun is rising or setting? Did you find a sun that has eyes? What might the sun represent?





☐ ***Can you find a Prince? A White? A Gray?***
A Thacher, Hallet, OR a Bray?
Did you find any stones with your first or last name?
What unusual names or words did you see?

☐ ***This hillside tomb with padlocked door***
serves no need now ~ 'receives' no more.
Ancient Cemetery has a large 'receiving tomb' – a special room built into the side of a large, man-made mound. At one time, receiving tombs were necessary to keep bodies until it was convenient to bury them. Why do you suppose such storage tombs are no longer necessary?





☐ ***Find a footstone and its mate***
in fenced-in lot with missing gate.
The many small stones with just initials and/or date are called footstones. Early graves were often marked with a headstone and smaller footstone, as if to mark the head and foot of a bed.

☐ ***A smiling face with saw-toothed wings,***
beneath a curtain draped through rings.
A local carver, Nathaniel Holmes, produced angelic faces with jagged wings. The stone for William Bray (1805) is an excellent example.



☐ ***Life departed with my breath;***
a wing-ed skull now marks my death.
Find one of the many stones decorated with a skull and wings. These mostly 18th -century stones were carved in Boston.

☐ ***Find a 'consort' or 'relict' – one minus a mate,***
To be one of these was a widow's sad fate.
A consort is a wife, a husband, or companion;
a relict is another word for widow.

