

Memo

To: Maureen O'Meara

From: Garrett Bozek

Date: July 25, 2019

Pollack Brook North Burial Ground

Purpose

The purpose of this project is to identify a way to properly and contextually recognize the Pollack Brook North Burial Ground located in Cape Elizabeth, Maine. Burial grounds of similar circumstances have varied in respective ways of recognition towards those in the site. Ultimately, it is important to choose a physical marker that will not take away from the overall significance of the site, will harmonize with the terrain, and also provide sufficient background for visitors entering the burial ground.

History of Ownership

Investigation to search for who is buried at this cemetery was done and the results were inconclusive. However, history of ownership of this parcel of land was able to be extracted. Documents that date the farthest back illustrate that an individual named Greley Hannaford granted her land to John Hannaford on February 6, 1829. Roughly 40 years later, John sold this same land to an individual named Albert Jordan. In the deed, there is a mentioning of a burial ground within the land description. On May 13, 1882, Albert Jordan and Persis Blethen gave up this land to Mary E. Jordan.

Date	Book/Page	Owner
5-13-1882	7530/80	Persis Blethen to Mary E. Jordan
2-7-1868	360/127	John Hannaford to Albert Jordan
2-6-1829	116/251	Greley Hannaford to John Hannaford

Appropriate Physical Marker

As the cemetery holds an item of historical value to the town of Cape Elizabeth, it is important that a physical marker is established to not only remember those buried in the cemetery, but also educate recreators that are utilizing the adjacent trail. This marker is to be contextual to

the site. As previously mentioned, the marker should not take away from the overall significance of the site or seem unfit for the surrounding terrain. Examples of kinds of markers that other towns have established are put below. (Images taken from Google Images)



Unnamed Colonial Era Farm Cemetery
Owls Trap, VA



Old Burying Ground Cemetery
Cambridge, Massachusetts



Pioneer Cemetery
Cincinnati, OH



Long Cane Cemetery
Abbeville, SC



Sandwich, MA



Cove Burying Ground
Eastham, Massachusetts

With the examples above, it is clear that not all physical markers would “fit in” to the setting and context of the Pollack Brook North Burial Ground. My suggestion for an appropriate marker would be a combination of the examples 3 and 5. An entrance marker similar to that of example 3 will reveal the name of the burial ground and give important recognition to the Town

of Cape Elizabeth. A marker similar to one of example 5 should be placed adjacent or near to this other entrance marker, existing as a large rock with a plaque on it. The plaque should give a brief overview of the history of the site, as well as give recognition to the commission(s) or committee(s) that oversees the operations and maintenance of this burial ground.

Grounds Maintenance

A suggestion for grounds maintenance of the Pollack Brook North Burial Ground would be to display as little human interference as possible, while also keeping the area neat. Removing fallen vegetation will suffice as a proper way to keep the area neat, but also show little human alteration of the area.