

First Presbyterian Church Cemetery
Woodbridge, New Jersey
A WALKING TOUR

Welcome to one of the oldest cemeteries in the United States. There has been a place of worship on this site since 1675. The cemetery's oldest legible stone is dated February 24, 1690. It is for Elijah F. Bunn. The oldest brownstone-in good condition is that of James Greer dated 1702. You will see both on this tour.

The cemetery also contains several examples of funerary art carved by known Colonial craftsmen. It has also been referenced in several books including Old Burial Grounds of New Jersey – a Guide by Janice Kohl Sarapin and Cemeteries and Tombstones by Richard F. Veit and Mark Nonestied.

The cemetery and church are on the American Presbyterian/Reformed Historical Sites Registry. In December 2007, the church and cemetery were placed on the National Register of Historic Places as well as on the New Jersey Register of Historic Places thanks to the efforts of Mr. Robert J. McEwen, the Chairperson of the Heritage Committee at that time.

The records of the First Presbyterian Church, two books, Ancestors and Descendants of Lewis Ross Freeman by Patty Myers and Woodbridge and Vicinity by Rev. Joseph Dally and the internet provided additional information for this tour.

As you look around, notice the many brownstones. These are the oldest stones. Sadly, many are deteriorating due to age, weather and the type of stone.

We will start our tour at **Grave Site No. 1 (5-6:BC)** about 125 feet from the Sanctuary in front of the graves of Henry and Elizabeth Freeman. These stones both have cherub faces with wings. Winged Cherubs became popular in the mid-1700s replacing the stern skulls with wings (known as "death heads") of the Puritan heritage



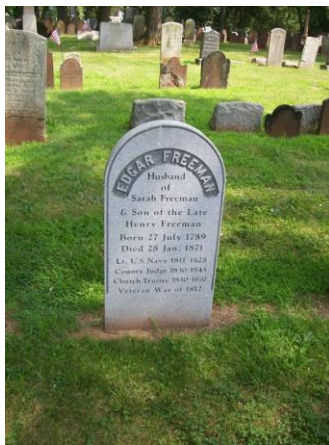
We are standing in front of the monuments for Henry Freeman and his wife, Elizabeth. The Freeman family immigrated from England in 1692. Unfortunately, John Freeman, the father, drowned just as the family reached Philadelphia. His widow, Ann Freeman, then settled in Woodbridge with her two sons and a daughter (Henry, Edward and Elizabeth). Between them, the two sons had a total of 21 children. This was the start of the extensive Freeman families in Woodbridge (note: Freeman Street opposite the church). Henry lived to be 94 and was a

prominent figure in the early days of Woodbridge. His wife, Elizabeth, lived to be 87. There are some 50 Freemans interred in our church yard and many additional people who are related.

Grave Site No. 2 (5-6:B-C)

Next is the grave of Lieutenant Edgar Freeman, great grandson of Henry (site No. 1) and Elizabeth Freeman. The original stone was replaced with the one you see here as a result of damage from Super Storm Sandy. Edgar's wife, Sarah Williams Freeman, is buried next to Edgar. She is the daughter of Dr. Melancthon/Melanthon Freeman and is also the great granddaughter of Henry. Edgar and she were first cousins. Marrying cousins was a common practice then.

Edgar was a midshipman during the War of 1812 and his naval career reads like an old Errol Flynn movie. He and Sarah married in 1818. He retired from the navy and was a Middlesex County Judge for 15 years.



Grave Site No. 3 (5-6:B-C)

The oldest brownstone that can be read is the marker for James Greer, which is dated February 6, 1702. James Greer, born 1666, left Scotland in 1685 on the infamous ship the "Henry and Francis". 27% of the passengers died aboard this ship on the passage from Scotland. He was part of a group of Presbyterian Covenanters fleeing religious persecution in Scotland. Many of the survivors ended up in Woodbridge and are buried here. Note the skull with angel wings – a common motif on tombstones in the 1600s and early 1700s. The skull of this "Death head" represents death while the wings represent hope and resurrection.



Grave Site No. 4 (3-4:A-B)

Marker No. 4 is the grave of Freeman Worth Gardner who was one of the outstanding genealogists of the country. He was a descendant of many of the old families of Woodbridge including the Freemans. Known as the town historian, he spent his free hours throughout his life researching and recording the genealogy of the old Woodbridge families. We are very grateful for the research he did and the records he left of who is buried in our cemetery and other local cemeteries. Without his records, the information would have been lost as time and weather have destroyed many stones and/or made them illegible.

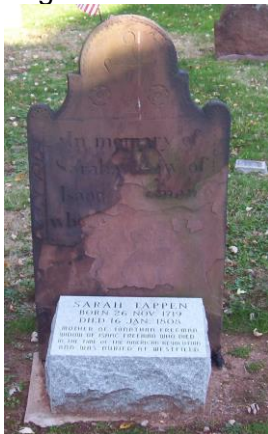
Freeman's sister-in-law (brother William's wife) Miriam Lister Gardner is buried nearby in the Gardner plot. She was a nurse during WWI.



Grave Site No. 5 (3-4:A-B)

The next grave is that of Jonathan Freeman whose marble stone is badly weathered. The grave on the left is that of his mother, Sarah Tappen Freeman (1719 – 1808). The two graves on the right are his first wife, Margaret Bloodgood (1763 – 1805), and his second wife, Phoebe Barron (1766 – 1847).

Jonathan was a grandson of Henry and Elizabeth whom we visited at Grave No. 1. Jonathan was a member of the “troop of light horse” during the Revolutionary War. His occupation was carpenter and builder. Jonathan is credited with being the architect and builder of our 1803 church, which still exists inside the brick exterior of our present church. He is closely associated with other graves to be visited.



Grave Site No. 6 (2-3:B-C)

As we pass around the back of the church we come to a section where there are many Inslees buried. The family name Islee/Isley/Inslee was found among the first group of settlers in 1682. An interesting anecdote of this plot is the two small markers next to No. 6 (granite – INSLEE). These are the graves of two young children of Rev. Elias Brown Inslee and his wife Euphemia Helen Ross Inslee. Rev. Elias Inslee and his wife went to China as Missionaries in 1856. All five of their children were born there. In 1866, Euphemia died and was buried in the Missionary Circle in Shanghai in China. Elias sailed home with the children but enroute, the youngest, Euphemia Helen Inslee, age 1 year, died. She was born in Hong Kong. Euphemia is buried in our cemetery along with her brother, Alexander Charles Inslee age 5 years. Alexander was born in Ningpon, China. Rev. Elias ultimately went to New Orleans where he remarried and departed for a second time for China with his new wife.



Grave Site No. 7 (3-4:B-C)

To the left is the Barton plot. Rev. William Barton (tall pointed monument) was minister of this church from 1822 to 1852 and died while still serving as pastor. Also buried near him are his three wives: Elizabeth Jervis Barton, Harriet B. Barton and Hannah Marie Barton.



There are six former ministers buried in the cemetery. Among them they served the First Presbyterian Church for over 160 years. The other ministers are Rev. Dr. Azel Roe (1763-1815), Rev. Dr. Joseph McNulty (1874-1906), Rev. Robert Mark (1907-1918), Rev. Earl H. Devanny (1933-1959) and Rev. Lewis Bender (1967 – 1977).

There are more than 46 Veterans of the Civil War buried in our cemetery. Next to Rev. Barton is his son, Brevet Brigadier General William Barton, who fought in the Civil War. One of the battles he fought in was the battle of the James River. He belonged to the 48th Reg't New York Volunteers. He was Commander of the 2nd Brigade, 2nd Division, 10th Army Corps of the James. To the right of his monument is that of his mother, Harriet B. Barton.



Grave Site No. 8 (3-4:B-C)

Next we come to the grave of Rev. Dr. Azel Roe, our minister from 1763 until his death in 1815. This included the period of the Revolutionary War. Like most Presbyterian ministers, he was an ardent supporter of the war. It is said that he actually took part in a skirmish at Blazing Star (Carteret). The British captured him and held him prisoner in the infamous Sugar House in New York City where many prisoners died due to poor food and mistreatment. He was released as part of a prisoner exchange. Next to Rev. Roe are his two wives, Rebecca Foot Roe and Hannah Bostwick Roe. Also buried in our cemetery are two of his six daughters, Fanny Burnet and Lucia Noble and Lucia's husband John. He also had two sons. Rev. Roe's deteriorated brownstone was replaced in 1975 with donations from our congregation and that of the Metuchen Presbyterian Church. Rev. Roe had simultaneously been the minister of the Metuchen church (originally part of Woodbridge's congregation) from 1770 to 1793. The original old Meeting House was replaced during his pastorate in 1803 (architect Jonathan Freeman, grave site number 5).



Grave Site No. 9 (3-4:B-C)

In front of Rev. Dr. Roe's stone is the grave of August F. Greiner. Mr. Greiner was Mayor of Woodbridge from 1934 to 1952, which included the time of the depression. He was the founder

and owner of the Greiner Funeral Home on Green Street, now the Costello - Greiner Funeral Home.



Grave Site No. 10 (4-5:D-E)

Dr. Moses Bloomfield is our visit. Dr. Bloomfield was a family doctor in town. In 1776 he was a Middlesex County delegate to the Convention of New Jersey that adopted the state's first constitution. During the Revolutionary War he served as a Senior Physician and Surgeon in George Washington's Continental Army. Joseph, Dr. Bloomfield's son, was the fourth Governor of the state of New Jersey. The town of Bloomfield, NJ is named after him. (Joseph is buried in the St. Mary's Episcopal Church Burial Ground, West Broad Street, Burlington, NJ.) An interesting story connected with Dr. Bloomfield: what may be the first anti-slavery meeting ever held in the United States was held in Woodbridge on the 4th of July, 1783, seven years after the Declaration of Independence and six years before George Washington was inaugurated as President of the United States. This meeting was held on Moses' farm located north of Freeman Street where Barron Ave runs through Prospect Avenue. Great preparations were made for the event, which had been freely advertised in the neighboring communities. An ox was roasted and a vast crowd assembled to listen to the orator of the day, Dr. Bloomfield. At the appointed time Dr. Bloomfield mounted the platform followed by his slaves, fourteen in number, who took their places on each side of him, while he addressed the multitude on the evils of slavery. At the close of the speech, Dr. Bloomfield turned to his slaves, stating that inasmuch as we as a nation had declared that all men had the right to freedom, he could not consistently undo the principles of the Declaration of Independence by holding slaves. He ended his speech with the announcement; "From this day they are free". Tradition has it that each of the slaves freed that day continued to labor for the venerable doctor but for adequate compensation.

To the right of Dr. Bloomfield is his wife Sarah. To the left is his brother, Jonathan. Four of Moses and Sarah's children are buried in our cemetery. There are seven generations of Bloomfields buried in our cemetery from the 1600s to the 1800s.



Grave Site No. 11 (4-5:D-E)

In front of Dr. Bloomfield’s stone we see William Stanley Osborne’s stone. Stanley, as he was called, was the first letter carrier in Woodbridge. He died February 15, 1994 at the age of 94. Stanley worked for the Village Delivery Service, the forerunner of the United States Postal Service in Woodbridge. He was also, at the time of his death, the oldest exempt fireman of the Woodbridge Fire Company No. 1.



Grave Site No. 12 (5-6:D-E)

Thomas and Jenett Knox Edgar are the next graves that we come to. There are two brass plaques one on each side of the path to honor this couple. They are described as being “The Common Ancestor of the Edgar Family of New Jersey”. Thomas (1681 – 1759) was born in Scotland and came to America in 1703. Jenett (1689 – 1767) was the daughter of William Knox and Annabel Gordon – two Covenanters from Scotland who arrived on the ill-fated ship the “Henry and Francis”. There were many Edgars in this area at one time and upper Ridgedale Ave. is still known as Edgar Hill to many. Their son, Alexander, married Mary Smith, whose family owned the land in the Sewaren section of Woodbridge. Alexander’s son James Edgar (also buried in this cemetery) served in the militia during the Revolutionary War. There are five generations of Edgars buried in our cemetery. Note the cherub faces and angel wings motif.





Grave Site No. 13 (4-5:C-D)

Three large stones (laying down) to the right of the path belong to the Heard family. Col. Nathaniel Heard, in June 1776, led a guard of 60 men to Perth Amboy and arrested British Governor William Franklin, the son of Benjamin Franklin and the last Royal Governor of New Jersey. William's crime was remaining loyal to the Crown. The next month, General George Washington sent Col. Heard to Staten Island (which had become a British stronghold) with instructions to arrest "any of the Staten Island Tories who made themselves obnoxious to the cause of Liberty." On February 1, 1777, Nathaniel Heard was appointed Brigadier General. He died on October 28, 1792. Nathaniel's son John served in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. Nathaniel Heard is on the far left. His father, John, is in the middle. His brother, William, is on the right.



Flags

As we walk through the cemetery you will notice the many American flags. These are on the graves of those who served in the American Armed Forces. This cemetery is one of the very few cemeteries that leave the flags on all year. If the flags are torn or faded they are replaced. The veterans replace these flags on Memorial Day. Our church also participates in national "Wreaths Across America" and has wreaths placed upon these graves each December.

Grave Site No. 14 (6-7:D-E)

The next site is two headstones side by side; both with interesting histories.

The one on the left is Jonathan Inslee (1716 – 1777). Recorded in Dally's book is the story about how Jonathan Inslee was captured by the Tories during the Revolutionary War (Tories were Colonists loyal to England). He was held prisoner in New Brunswick. His wife, Grace Moore Inslee, followed and begged for his release. After persistent efforts, he was released but due to cruel exposure he died on February 24th, 1777. Grace is also buried in our cemetery (1726 – 1794; 5-6: D-E).



Jonathan and Grace had three daughters: Elizabeth, Experience and Margaret. Elizabeth and Margaret married Coddington brothers Joseph and Robert. Experience married a third brother, James Coddington, after the death of her first husband, Captain Nathaniel Fitz Randolph (the grave on the right) . The three daughters and their husbands are all buried in our cemetery. At least five generations of this branch of the Inslee family are buried in our cemetery starting with Jonathan's father, Jonathan Inslee (1686 – 1744) – see below.



The grave on the right is the grave of Captain Nathaniel Fitz Randolph (1747 – 1780) – his daughter Experience's first husband. Nathaniel Fitz Randolph was a brave and daring Revolutionary War soldier. There are many stories written about him. He was a Captain in the Middlesex Militia. Among other exploits, Nathaniel would lead raiding trips against the British camps on Staten Island; stealing weapons, food, supplies and generally causing havoc. He died on January 23rd, 1780 of wounds received at or near the Battle of Springfield, NJ.. "The ball entered his left arm, below the shoulder, penetrated his body, and came out at the right breast." He was only 32 years old. The British were so angry with him that they shot his tombstone.

Notice the grave marker is damaged by what appear to be bullet holes. In 2015 this story was proven to be true. Four musket balls were found in the ground at the base of his tombstone.



Grave Site No. 15 (6-7:D-E)

The cemetery contains many examples of Puritan and Colonial funerary art. The carving in the monument at Grave site No.15 is unique. In the 1600s skulls with cross bones were used to represent death. In the 1700s, the use of cross bones was beginning to be replaced by angel wings. The skull and wings design is called “death’s head”. Still later the skull was replaced with cherub’s faces representing hope.

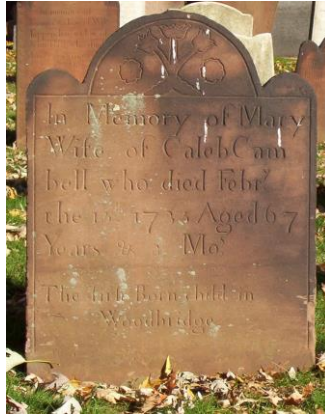
The tombstone on the left is for Leonard Harriman who died in 1726. According to “New Jersey Cemeteries and Tombstones”, “it is a good example of the work of an anonymous colonial craftsman known as the Old Elizabethtown Carver I.” Surrounding the stone are images of peacock feathers, symbolizing eternity. Also note the flames surrounding the skull and crossbones. The stone on the right is an example of “death’s head” – a skull and angel wings. John Pike’s tombstone which you will see at grave site #29 is unique in that the crossed bones are on each side of the skull.



There are other stones signed by the carver, Ebenezer Price. Mr. Price's studio was in Elizabeth. He was an active carver from 1750 until his death in 1788. There are also works signed by "H. Osborn (possibly Henry Osborn or his brother) who was active in the 1770s.

Grave Site No. 16 (5-6:E-F)

Mary Compton Campbell's grave is the next grave on our tour (1668 – 1735). She was the first non-Indian (Native American) child born in Woodbridge. The original inhabitants of this area were the Raritan-Lenape indians. Mary lived to the age of 67, dying in 1735. Some of her relatives now live in Nova Scotia. We know, because they have come to visit her grave.



Grave Site No. 17 (6-7:E-F)

Doctor Freeman's monument is noted here because from the late 1800's to the early 1900's there was always a Doctor Freeman in Woodbridge – at least six in all. The Freemans were a large family in Woodbridge at one time and other Freemans have been included on this tour. The street across from the church is called Freeman Street. There are over 75 Freemans buried in the cemetery.



Grave Site No. 18 (6-7:E-F)

Rev. Dr. Joseph McNulty, 1826-1906, and his two wives, Hannah B. and Margaret S. Prall, are at the next site. He is one of the six former pastors interred in our cemetery. Rev. McNulty served our church for 32 years - from 1874-1906. Rev. McNulty and Hannah had one son,

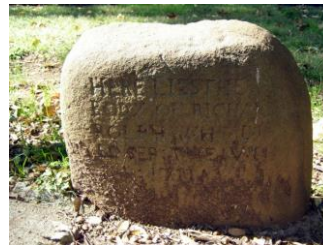
Benjamin McNulty, also buried in our cemetery. One of Benjamin’s children, Barron Lander McNulty and his wife Beatrice Jackson McNulty are also buried here.



Grave Site No. 19 (6-7:E-F)

Across the walk is the oldest legible stone in the cemetery (6-7:E-F). The inscription simply says “EFB Feb 24, 1690”. This is the grave of Elijah F. Bunn. Next to this stone is the stone of Richard Rolph (6-7:E-F) dated 1711. Both stones are rough, engraved field stones; not carved or decorated as the others.

Two other Rolphs are buried in this section; Samuel Rolph (1703 – 1733) and Benjamin (1707 – 1762). Perhaps the three are brothers.



Grave Site No. 20 (7-8:G-H)

As we continue, we come to the stone of Mary Jane Hadden Fitz Randolph. Mary Jane was the wife of Asher Fitz Randolph and mother-in-law of Dr. Samuel Freeman. She is one of the eleven people in the cemetery who lived to be over 100 years of age – the oldest 104. Mary Jane was the great granddaughter of Thomas Hadden (Revolutionary War) and Annabel Crowell Hadden – both buried here. Mary Jane’s grandparents, parents, sister, two children and two grandchildren are also buried in this cemetery.



Grave Site No. 21 (7-8:G-H)

Looking straight ahead we see the stone of Harriet C. Paton (7-8:G-H), who with sisters Sally Potter and Jane Potter Green, started the first Sabbath School at the First Presbyterian Church, Woodbridge, in June of 1818. This was one of the first Sabbath Schools in New Jersey. Jane Potter Green is also buried in this cemetery.



Grave Site No. 22 (8-9:H-J)

Looking toward the large Celtic cross we see a flag on the grave of Civil War veteran, John F. Lee. His wife, Augusta, is buried next to him. John Lee, with John Sutton (**Grave Site No. 23 (8-9:G-H)**) fought in the battle of Gettysburg in the Civil War. They were part of Company H, 5th NJ Infantry. Each gentleman received a citation for bravery on the second day of the battle. John Sutton may have been the last surviving Civil War veteran in Woodbridge. He died in 1923.



Grave Site No. 24 (8-9:G-H)

At the bend in the path is the grave of Charles J. Scott who was caretaker of this cemetery for over 25 years. He lived from 1833 to 1901. Three other caretakers are buried in this cemetery; they are John Camp (6-7:B-C), Charles Williams (L-7N-6) and Angel Santiago.



The New Section

The section looking east with many pillow type stones is our “new” section. This section is reserved for our church members. The Holden plot (L-4-9) is interesting. Lew Holden was the Art teacher at Woodbridge High School and Ruth, his wife, was the Librarian. On their stone is an artist palette for Lew and an open book for Ruth.

The Hungarian Section

Further to the east is the “Hungarian Section.” Many of the stones are inscribed in Hungarian. Many of these families worked in the clay banks or the brick factories for which Woodbridge was noted. Many of the deaths occurred during the influenza epidemic of 1917-1918. The Hungarian church did not have room for the unfortunate victims of the influenza and asked that we permit them to be buried here. There is a plaque in this section commemorating this.

Grave Sites 25 (10-11:G-H and 26 (10-11:G-H)

The Barron plot is at the large Celtic cross. Colonel John Barron (Grave site No. 25) was a Chief Surgeon in the Civil War. John and his uncle are responsible for what is now the Barron Arts Center. Colonel John Barron donated the land and his Uncle Thomas Barron (Grave Site No. 26 10-11:G-H), donated the money. The Barron Library was built in 1877 – now the Barron Arts Center. At the time, it was the only library in Woodbridge Township and one of the first in Middlesex County. The cost in 1877 was \$18,000.



Grave Site No. 27 (10-11:G-H)

Looking to our left is the grave of the oldest known individual in our churchyard who lived to be 104. Her name was Mrs. Eliza A. Jacques Barron. The Jacques name was an old Woodbridge family name. She is a good example of the intermingling of the Woodbridge families. Her maiden name was Jacques, she married a Barron and she had one daughter who married a Brewster and another who married a Cutter. All old Woodbridge families.



Grave Site No. 28 (9-20:G-H)

Walking along the roadway back towards the parking lot, we see the Prall plot. Prall is another of the old families of Woodbridge. Isaac Prall (1710 – 1774) is one of the original Freeholders in Woodbridge. The family were farmers at first and later became involved in the clay mining industry of Woodbridge. Clay mining and brick manufacturing during the 1800's and early 1900's were the main industries in Woodbridge. Woodbridge Center Mall is located on the site of one of the clay mines in Woodbridge. The original Prall Homestead is located at 205 Port Reading Ave., Port Reading, NJ.. In the Strawberry Hill section of Woodbridge is a large home once occupied by James Palmer Prall and his wife Emily Cutter Prall. Emily was the daughter of Hampton Cutter, a "clay magnate" in Woodbridge. The Italianate style home was known as the Cutter/Prall House. Today it serves as the headquarters for a nursing service directed by the "Little Servant Sisters of the Immaculate Conception". There are at least 5 generations of PRALLS in this cemetery.



Grave Site No. 29 (9-10:E-F)

As we come to the next crosswalk a short distance to our left is the Pike family plot. There are four generations of Pikes buried here beginning with Captain John Pike (1613 – 1688) one of the original founders of Woodbridge. General Zebulon Pike, who discovered Pike’s Peak in Colorado, is Capt. John Pike’s great great great grandson. He was not born in Woodbridge but is said to have spent his youth here. General Pike and his brother, Lieutenant George Pike were killed in the War of 1812 in a battle in Canada and are not buried in this cemetery.



Grave Site No. 30 (11-12:D-E)

Continuing down the roadway is one of our most interesting monuments. It is the marker for “Jack a colourd man who belonged to Jonathan Freeman”. We visited Jonathan Freeman’s grave at Site No. 5. Jack’s stone was originally a brownstone. It had deteriorated so badly that it would have disappeared. In 1998 the congregation of this church raised money for the replacement you see here. Except for the color of the stone, it is an exact replica of the original brownstone. What remains of the original stone can be seen in our Historical Room.



Grave Site No. 31 (11-12:B-C)

To our right is another former Mayor of Woodbridge, John Breckenridge. Mr. Breckenridge was mayor of Woodbridge during 1918 and 1919 – the time of the Spanish Influenza. He and his wife Amanda were active members of the church their entire lives. Amanda is the daughter of William and Amelia Edgar - both buried in this cemetery.



Grave Site No. 32 (9-10:B-C)

The next plot we come to on our right is the Boynton Family plot, which has an unusually large stone as the main monument. The Boynton family was a wealthy and prominent family in Woodbridge. There were Boynton Clay Pits, Boynton Clay and Brick Fire Company and Boynton Lumber Yard. In 1877 Casmier Boynton started a summer resort, Boynton Beach, which became one of the most popular resorts along the Middlesex County Coast. Vacationers arrived by train, trolley, bicycle, and ferry to spend a day or part of the summer.



Grave Site No. 33 (11-12:B-C)

Continuing onto our left is the grave of the Rev. Earl H. Devanny, one of the six former ministers of this church buried in our churchyard. His wife, Elsie Garvin, is buried here also. Rev. Devanny served our church from 1933 to 1959 and had the distinction of having served in both World War I and II.



Grave Site No. 34 (7-8:B-C)

Heading back up into the cemetery we see Site No. 34, the grave of Andrew Miller who died in 1809. Many of the old headstones have epitaphs consisting of Biblical quotations, dire warnings to the living or verses that extol the virtues of the person who is interred. One of the most common verses in use during colonial times was some variation of the familiar "As you are now, so once was I," which had appeared in England as early as 1376 on the tomb of Edward, the Black Prince.

The grave of Andrew Miller who died August 24, 1809 is as follows:

***"Look and see as you pass by
As you are now so once was I.
As I am now so you must be
Prepare for Death and follow me"***

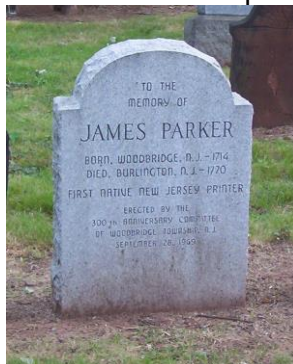
This phrase is found once in our cemetery but often in other locations. It is said that on one tombstone with this inscription, a person responded:

***"To follow you I won't consent
Until I know to where you went!"***



Grave Site No. 35 (8-9:D-E)

Looking back into the cemetery is the grave of James Parker who was born in Woodbridge in 1714. In 1751, Parker established the first printing press in New Jersey here in Woodbridge. The Parker Print shop was burned by a band of Tories during the Revolutionary War. James passed away in 1770 at the home of Mr. Hollingshead in Burlington, New Jersey. Although Episcopalian, he chose to be buried in our cemetery to be near his parents and brother. There was no headstone to mark his grave until 1969 which was the Tercentenary year of Woodbridge Township. The marker you see here was erected as part of the 300th anniversary program.



Grave Site No. 36 (8-9:A-B)

Looking out to the parking lot is the grave of Benjamin Parsons. His wife, Alice Parker Parsons, is buried beside him. Ben was a Sargent on the Woodbridge Police Force. In the 1930's he recognized a need for children to be protected on their way to and from school. This was the start of young people standing on street corners to direct children across the street on their way to school. We now have adults doing this because the traffic is much heavier.



Grave Site No. 37 (7-8:A-B)

Next we come to the grave of the Rev. Robert Mark and his wife Nellie, one of the six former ministers buried in our cemetery. Rev. Mark was the pastor here from 1907-1918



Trees in the cemetery:

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Bradford pear | 6 trees near parking lot and one at exit of lot. |
| Maples | Near Azel Roe's grave |
| Red Beech | Large tree across walk from oldest stone |
| Mulberry | Near Barron plot |
| Tulip | Trees surround new section of cemetery |
| Cherry | Near Van Wanger plot |
| Evergreen | Many throughout cemetery |
| Swamp Maple | Many throughout cemetery |

We hope you have enjoyed your tour of our Historic Cemetery. Do come back and visit us again!

*Originally written by Fred McElhenny, 1995
Revised by Robert J. McEwen, 1998
Updated: Suzanne J. Moller, March 2023*