

## General Information - Lancaster Cemeteries

1st - Old Settlers' Burial Field - approximately number of gravestones 207, Earliest Death Date: 1684, Most Recent Death Date 2006 in only lot with spaces left Duncan Thayer Family, Three Revolutionary War Soldiers are buried here. Located off Main Street, behind Middle Cemetery, across the railroad tracks South Lancaster - permission needed from the DPW or Police Department to enter this cemetery.

2nd - Old Common Cemetery approximately 320 gravestones, Earliest death date 1716, most recent death date 1874. Six Revolutionary War Soldiers are buried here. Located on Old Common Road opposite site of the 3rd Meeting House marker.

3rd - North Burial Ground approximately 212 gravestones, Earliest death date 1790, most recent Death Date 1969. Three Revolutionary War Soldiers are buried here. Located east of the intersection of Shirley Road and the old Union Turnpike abutting Devens fencing.

4th - Shaker Burial Field - one large gravestone - not sure of exact number but some names are recorded and the dates were all before 1850. Located just north of Rt. 2 and parallel to Rt. 2 - it can be found on the private road into the MCI facility Lancaster/Shirley and which road being east off the Shirley Road

5th Middle Cemetery - established by the Town in 1798 and enlarged in 1843. Approximately 500 gravestones, earliest death date 1798, most recent death date 1969. Thirty Revolutionary War soldiers are buried here. Located on east side of Maine Street (Rt. 70) and south the Nashua River. Permission to go into the cemetery must be obtained by the DPW or Police Dept.

6th - North Village Cemetery, approximately 594 gravestones, earliest death date 1807, still used. Opened for public use in 1855. Located on Otis Street in the North Village.

7th - Eastwood Cemetery - over 1800 gravestones, earliest death date 1868 and still used. Dedicated in 1876 and located on Old Common Road near the town line in Bolton, the greater part being in Bolton. The plan for the cemetery was made by Mr. Horace William Shaler Cleveland of Chicago, native of Lancaster, a landscape gardener of high reputation. The Cemetery Building is located at the west side of the entrance to the cemetery.

### Private Cemeteries:

St. John Cemetery located on Parker Road almost to the Clinton line. This cemetery was relocated to the present site when the Wachusett Dam was constructed in the early 1900s and the town was forced to move the graves to the present location. Still in use.

Thayer Family Cemetery - located off Bull Hill Road (off George Hill Road) in the New England Forest area - owned by the Bayard Thayer Family.

Industrial School for Girls closed in the 1960s - Now MCI Lancaster property, located off Old Common Road in the complex behind the R.F.K Action Corps that serves troubled children. Four headstones with dates 1858 and 1859 - illegible names but one states age 15 years, five months.

*Information provided by Joan Richards, Associate Member, Lancaster Historical Commission*