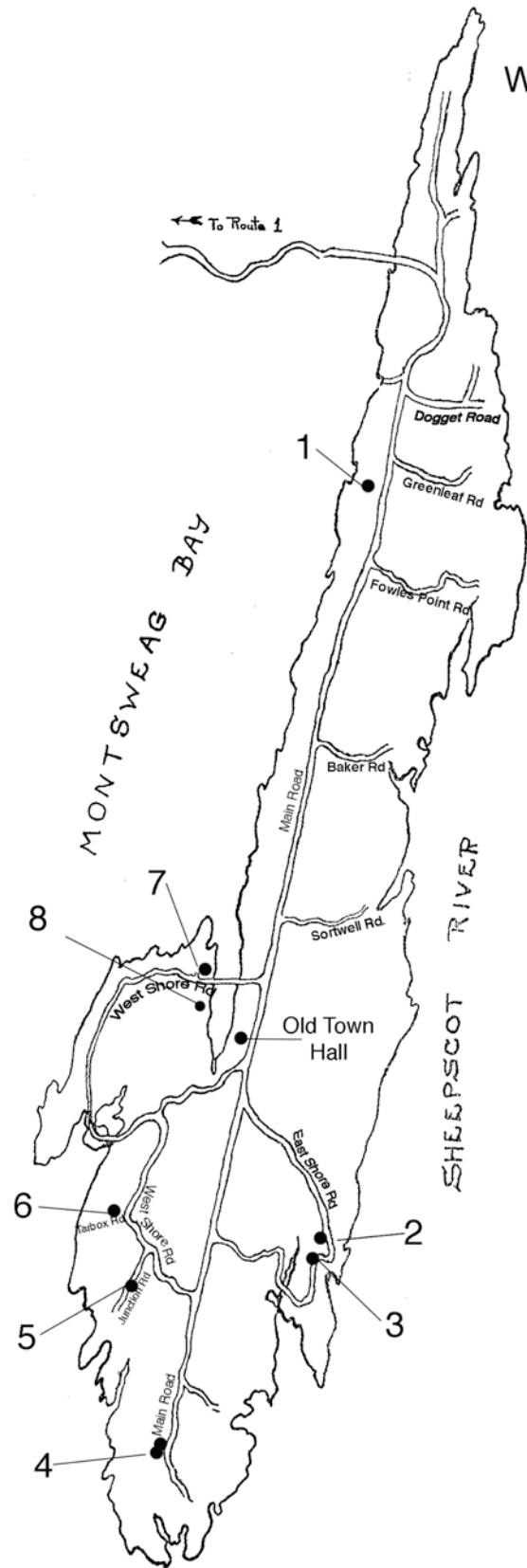
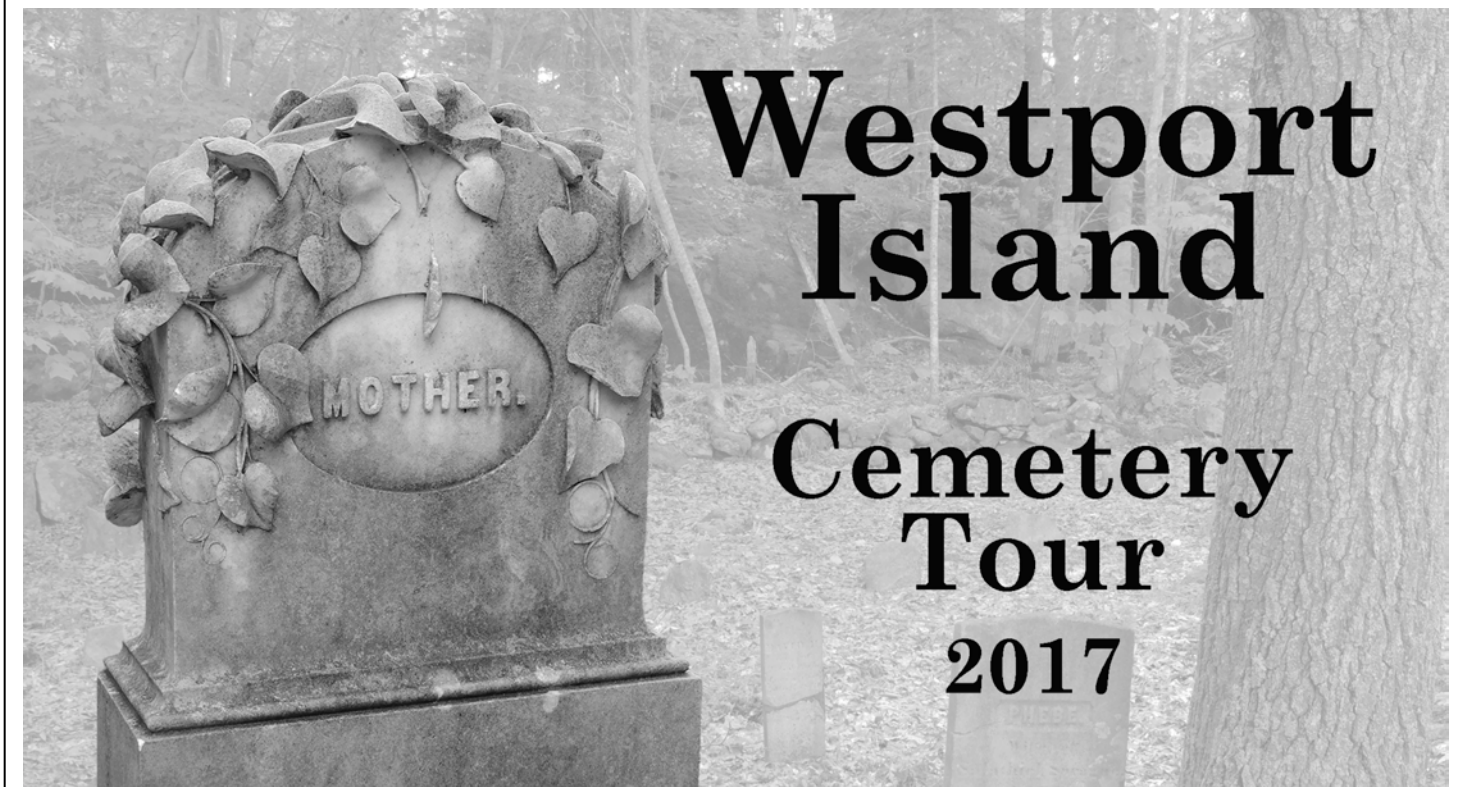


Westport Island Cemetery Tour Map
September 23, 2017



1. McKinney / Old Woods Road #13
2. East Side / East Shore Road #62
3. Ezekiel Tarbox / East Shore Road #64
4. Stephen Jewett / Junction Road #36
5. Brooks/Harriman/ Main Road #25/
6. Tarbox/Bailey / Tarbox Road #47
7. Frois / West Shore Road #39

- BONUS Cemetery (if there's time)**
8. Capt. Stephen Dunton/West Shore #40



Westport Island

Cemetery Tour 2017

Welcome to Westport Island's Driving Cemetery Tour!



Presented by

Westport Island Cemetery Committee
townclerk@westportisland.us

Westport Island History Committee
wihistorycommittee@gmail.com

Westport Community Association
westportcommunityassociation@gmail.com

Event Sponsored by Jeff Tarbox

The list of cemeteries on today's tour can be found inside this brochure.
A map of Westport Island with the cemetery locations is on the back.

****All cemeteries are located on private land, Thank you for your politeness****

10am Start at Old Town Hall

Please Carpool. Tours are limited to 5-6 cars in a caravan.

Refreshments served at Old Town Hall

Bathrooms located at Old Town Hall

Cemetery Books & books about Westport Island sold during event at Old Town Hall

Thank you for joining us!



1. McKinney Cemetery

Located on Old Woods Road (#13 in Westport Island, Maine Cemetery Book)

In this modest cemetery rests a very important person to Westport Island and to the United States. William "Bill" McKinney was the 9th postmaster on Westport in 1889, however he was the first man on Westport to enlist in the infantry in 1862 for the Union. After being wounded in the Civil War, he became the body Guard for President Lincoln.

The inscription on the back of his head stone reads:

" William McKinney was the first man to enlist at Westport Me. for the 19th Regt. Me. Volnt. Infantry. Mustered into Co. K. Aug2, 1862 at Bath to serve 3 years or the War. Wounded at Gettysburg, Pa. Jul 2, 1863. Transferred to Co. E 24th Reg. Vol. Reserve Corps under General Orders 93 dated mar 7, 1864 and served with 1st-Brigade Veterans Reserve Dept. of Washington 22nd Corp from Mar 1864. Defense of the Capital during Early Campaign in the Shenandoah Valley from Jul to Nov 1864. Battle near Fort Stevens and repulse of early attack on Washington D.C. July 11 through 12. Detailed to service to guard President Lincoln during his 2nd inauguration Mar 4, 1865 and to search for J. Wilkes booth and other conspirators Apr 22, 1865. Honorably discharged Jun 28, 1865."

All buried in the fenced in section of this cemetery are the children of Daniel and Lucy McKinney. The graves and markers outside of the fenced in area are part of the Colby Cemetery.



2. East Side Cemetery

Located on East Shore Road (#62 in Westport Island, Maine Cemetery Book)

This fairly large cemetery overlooking Tarbox cove is the closest to a "community" cemetery as it gets on Westport Island, with a mix of last names, although many buried here did live in the area. When facing the cemetery, the long white house to the left was originally built by Captain Jonathan Pinkham, later owned by two Hodgdon brothers, then owned by Andrew McCullan (or McCullum) before being acquired by the Swanton family. Silas Bailey lived just a ¼ mile south on East Shore. The three children who are buried here with no name connection could have been related to visiting families, one poor soul had drowned. There are many graves only marked with field stones, and many suspected unmarked graves.

Find these symbols on the tour!

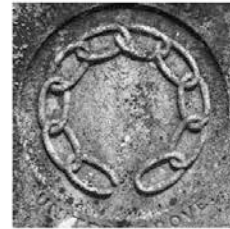


Oak Leaves: Power, Strength, Endurance, Longevity



Scoll: The Scriptures

Rose in full bloom: Died in the prime of life



Broken Chain: Symbolizes a loss in the family



Lamb: Innocence, child



Finger Pointed upwards: Soul ascending towards God

Ivy: Faithfulness, memory and undying friendship or affection



Urn draped: means death of an older person

Wreath of Wheat: Someone dying late in life, victory over death, passed on to eternal life and harvested into a new life.



Brief Historical Facts of Westport Island, Maine

- First known as "Jeremysquam" in 1605 and considered part of Edgecomb, Maine, Westport became its own town in 1828.
- There are 71 documented cemeteries on Westport Island, with no official town cemetery
- Abnaki Native Americans did hunt and fish on Westport Island, as arrowheads, tools, and shell middens have been found, however it is believed that they did not live on the island and no burial grounds have been found or documented.
- The "center" of town is the area where the Old Town Hall and Community Church still stand. There used to be a school, post office and store in the area too.
- The current bridge to the island was built in 1972. Before the current bridge, a causeway was built near the same area in 1950. Before the causeway, the Westport-Wiscasset Ferry was established in 1899. The very first bridge was out of wood near West Shore Road, but winter ice caused major damage and it was abandoned in 1893.
- The island used to be mostly farmlands after all the trees were cut down for wood. Now, the forests have grown back.
- How islanders made money: fishing, farming, Ice houses, saw mills, grist mills, housing summer boarders
- In 1843, the island had four schools and in 1898, there were 113 school children on Westport.
- In 1918, a huge fire swept through the island destroying 20 buildings and homes, including the South School just north on Main Rd from the Brooks/Harriman cemeteries.

Common Surnames on Westport Island Head Stones

Bailey	Greenleaf	Knight	Shattuck
Bartlett	Harriman	McCarty	Tarbox
Brooks	Harrison	McKinney	Thomas
Colby	Heal	Moore	Tyler
Cromwell	Hodgdon	Parsons,	Webber
Dickson	Jewett	Pierce,	Whitten
Dunton	Kehail	Pinkham	Willis
Fowle		Sewall	

Facts about Cemeteries and Gravestones

Most early graves face east. People were buried so they could sit up during the resurrection and see the sun rise. It appears that the graves in the cemeteries on this tour follow this notion. Check it out on the tour and correct us if we're wrong.

Early headstones in New England were made out of slate. In the early 19th century, marble became the preferred stone because of its beauty, but the carvings deteriorate faster with marble. By the late 19th century and continued through today, granite is the preferred headstone material.

Carved gravestones of any material are a luxury. Finding a professional gravestone carver in the early days meant you had to go to Boston and have the headstone shipped back home. Many families had to mark their deceased's graves with local fieldstones or wooden grave markers.

The carvings on the headstones in the 17th and 18th centuries were rather macabre in feeling using images of skulls and crossbones to instill the fear of death and the afterlife to those still living. However, the 19th century brought in a new trend of hope with cherubs, angels, lambs and symbols of the deceased being led upwards towards God and the heavens.

Gravestone Symbols and Meaning

Cemeteries are the resting place and the gravestones tell a person's story. Beginning in the late 17th Century and really gaining ground in the 18th century, gravestone carvings became more ornate and filled with symbolism. Most of the cemeteries on this tour have graves that are fairly straightforward with name and dates, some have little sentiments or biblical quotes, and some of the monuments help us relate to the lives these souls had with elaborate details. Most of these stones were carved by hand, not with modern machinery like we have today. One the next page you'll find a few photos of the more elaborate carvings and their meanings. Luckily for us, the symbols and their meanings are easily researched as many before us have already studied these eternal works of art. If you discover symbols that are not in photos on the next page, let us know about them!

3. Ezekiel Tarbox Cemetery

Located on East Shore Road (#64 in Westport Island, Maine Cemetery Book)

This impressive, yet small cemetery is home to some Tarbox and Sewall families, with the largest monument on the island. The cemetery went through many years of neglect and large trees had upended most of stones and underbrush covered it all. Wonderful restoration work has been done and even the beautiful iron fence is in process of being replaced/restored.

Many of the graves are of the children who died young. The "Mother" and "Father" headstones belong to Sophrona and Ezekiel Tarbox. Mary Jane Tarbox Sewall died on pneumonia, outliving her children by close to 30 years.

Ezekiel Tarbox was at one time the wealthiest man on Westport. With a huge fishing fleet, he employed many families on the island. His property included this area of Westport and Sandy Cove (on the shore in line with the cemetery) where he set up business.



4. Thomas Brooks/Phillip Harriman Cemeteries

Side by side, both are located on South end of Main Road (#25/26 in Westport Island, Maine Cemetery Book)

These cemeteries are full of souls that help found Westport and keep it prosperous. The Thomas Brooks cemetery has names of 3-4 early Westport families. Interesting facts: Thomas Brooks, Charles Brooks, and James Brooks were signers of a petition to Maine's Senate and House of Representatives to separate "Jeremysquam" from Edgecomb, and in January 1828 the Legislature Incorporated "Jeremysquam" as the Town of Westport. Melville Brooks was a selectman for 22 years. Daniel Brook's wife, Clarissa, died of pneumonia at 86 years old. Andrus Pierce was the husband of Ruth Ann McKinney and was a ships carpenter. He died of Valvular disease of the heart and dropsy (what we now call edema.)

Phillip Harriman cemetery is a little newer in age and Beatrice Harriman spent over 30 years compiling records on the early families of Westport Island. You can view that list on the following pages. This area of Westport Island was busy with summer boarders, icehouses, grist mills and saw mills, fishing, and farming. The south school was located up north a little ways from this area, however was burned down in the fire of 1918.



5. Steven Jewett Cemetery

Located on Junction Road (#36 in Westport Island, Maine Cemetery Book)

Very little is known about this exceptionally peaceful cemetery surrounded by pines and a backdrop of a seasonal waterfall. We do know that Steven Jewett is the son of James Jewett, who came from Rowley, MA to the Westport area in 1777. What is not known is why the Davis babies died so young.



6. Cornelius Tarbox-Bailey Cemetery

Located on Tarbox Road, left turn off of West Shore Road (#47 in Westport Island, Maine Cemetery Book)

The Tarbox Family is well known on Westport Island. Cornelius Tarbox and his wife Bethiah were one of the first couples of the Tarbox families to come to Westport from Saco, Maine. Miss Dorothy May Tarbox attended Morse High School in Bath. She graduated from the Mass. General Hospital's school of nursing in 1915, and retired from nursing 40 years later in 1955. Jane Jewett Bailey died of Arterio Sclerosis. Alfred Tarbox and Steven Webber Tarbox were both mariners and Steven died from dropsy of the lower limbs.

Ronald Tarbox Jr. (and his wife Cora) was very active with the Westport Comm. Assoc. and initiated a survey of the condition of all of the cemeteries on Westport Island. In 1994 they visited and recorded the condition of each of the 71 cemeteries.



7. Bartlett-Webber-Frois Cemetery

Located on Squam Creek Farm, off of Northern end of West Shore Road. (#39 in Westport Island, Maine Cemetery Book)

1864 was a terrible year for Joel and Mary Bartlett. They lost 3 of their 4 young adult sons within months of each other. Andrew and Joel W. were both lost at sea on March 23, 1864 in Georges Bank out in the Gulf of Maine while on the schooner "John G. Dennis" A few months later, their brother Jason died in the hands of the Confederates at Camp Sumter prison in Andersonville, GA. Four years later, the youngest son, W. Scott died in Cape Elizabeth for reasons unknown.

Major Theodore Charles Frois was born in New Orleans in 1918, but went missing in action in Korea on December 6, 1950. Stephen Webber died at the age of 70 in 1897 from Uremia.



BONUS CEMETERY (if there's time...)

8. Capt. Stephen Dunton Cemetery

Located on the Segerstrom Preserve at Squam Creek, off of Northern end of West Shore Road. (#40 in Westport Island, Maine Cemetery Book)

This is definitely a single family cemetery (Dunton) with only one extra name—Welch. Park in the Preserves parking lot, follow the trail into the preserve, just at the edge of the woods follow the trail east towards Squam Creek. There are many grave depressions (unmarked) and several graves with just fieldstones, which may be the graves of Stephen Dunton's many children. Two children drowned in Squam Creek, then known as Dyke Creek. Stephen Dunton Jr. was killed by an Osprey attack.

We highly recommend planning a day in the future on this preserve. Walk the Jeremy's Ramble trail and see old home sites and the Hodgdon Cemetery.