

**CITY OF PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE
COMMITTEE FOR CEMETERIES**



THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2026, 4 pm

City Hall Conference Room A

1 Junkins Avenue, Portsmouth NH

To participate via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81922403033>

AGENDA

1. Call to order and Roll Call
2. Approve June 4, 2026 meeting minutes
3. Point of Graves Wall Update
4. Pleasant Street Cemetery – Wendell Tomb – Corin Hallowell
5. Rack card 2026 edition – Stephanie Seacord
6. Woodbury Langdon plaque – Dee Forte
7. 250th Revolutionary War gravesite markers, website, tour
8. Other business – North Cemetery fenceline update
9. Public comment
10. Adjourn

**CITY OF PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE
CEMETERY COMMITTEE**



**MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2026, 4 pm
City Hall Conference Room A
1 Junkins Avenue, Portsmouth NH 03801**

For the Zoom recording:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/7CBD4sNhfYE?si=WpGYT-4eie1kV2ob>

Call to order and Roll Call: Chair Dee Dee Forte, Celeste Brooks, Bridget Brady, Steve Buzzell, Jennifer Merriam, Peter Splaine, Amy Dutton, Michael Griffin, Sue Polidura, Tara Rix. Excused: Amy Dutton, Michael Griffin. Staff: Peter Rice, Corin Hallowell, Stephanie Seacord. Guest, FOSE President Kyle LaChance.

1. Approve May 7 meeting minutes – On a motion by Brooks, seconded by Merriam, the committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes.
2. Point of Graves Wall – DPW Director Peter Rice presented two options for proposed designs and plans for replacing the damaged wall around the burial ground. Option B, recommended, designed by Terrence Parker, Terraforma Landscape is a buttress-shaped wall with flat stone faces and a cap, wrapping around the cemetery along the Mechanic Street and Peirce Island Road sides. The project includes a wood fence to replace the City-owned fence at the back of the property, separating the cemetery from residential property.
 - The design includes a pedestrian opening in the wall on the Mechanic Street side so visitors can transit the property and enter/exit through the iron turnstile gate which is being restored.
 - A sidewalk out-board of the wall on the Mechanic Street side and a reoriented crosswalk are planned as the Mechanic Street Pump Station project progresses.
 - None of the work impinges on the cemetery and a State archaeologist will observe the construction as required for any work within 25-feet of a cemetery.
 - Director Rice reported that because a generous donor from Friends of the South End has stepped forward to fund \$230,750 of the estimated \$430,000 project and the City has \$155,000 accrued for Historic Cemeteries in the Capital Improvement Plan, plus an additional \$50,000 in Parks & Monuments funds. The City would like to move the project from FY28 to FY 27. The replacement wall work would start in the summer of 2026, recognizing that shoreline DES permitting may delay the work until

Fall 2026. Additional costs may include flagger details for work impacting roadways, repaving, airspade and infrastructure work such as rehangng gates – much of which can be handled by DPW staff.

- Polidura and FOSE President Lachance asked if Moose Plate or LCHIP grants might be used but Director Rice explained that because the wall has failed and a donor has stepped forward, that the City prefers to move ahead with the funds in hand rather than potentially delaying the project with the time a grant process usually takes.
- Rix asked if the wall design recreates the original. Hallowell explained that as many as four different walls, including brick, existed previously. Director Rice said the City believes that originally there was no wall, just grass and a dirt path.
- Buzzell and Splaine asked if the expense will exhaust Cemetery Committee funds for repairs, cleaning etc. and Hallowell replied that those expenses are covered by his operating budget.

On a motion by Splaine, seconded by Brooks, the Committee voted to accept the proposal as presented for the City to replace the Point of Graves Burial Ground wall. Attending FOSE members expressed their thanks and appreciation.

3. American Revolution soldier gravesites – Polidura presented her list of 40 individuals listed by Sons of American Revolution (SAR) whose graves are located in North Cemetery. She has an additional list of 40 names of those with connections to the Revolution defined by SAR in the category “Patriot Service.” The highlighted names are those who participated in the raid on Ft. William and Mary. Michael Griffin The Committee discussed several ideas for sharing the information:
 - Posting the PDF with Polidura’s research on a new American Revolution webpage linked from the Historic Cemeteries page.
 - Flagging the gravesites with temporary markers using a material resembling old American flags. As this work is at the discretion of the Committee and Hallowell, Polidura and Forte will schedule a work party and invite the Committee to undertake that task and identify the gravesites with GPS and Seacord will work with Jeff Boucher and the DPW sign shop (who created the “rules and guidelines” signage in the cemeteries) to create temporary signage that explains what the markers signify, to guide the public.
 - Rix suggested creating a self-guided walking tour using the GPS coordinates. Seacord will work with DPW GIS Jamie McCarthy to identify gravesites on a Google map. A QR code on the temporary sign will direct people to the map.
 - Polidura offered to give guided tours of the sites on Saturdays in July. Forte volunteered to assist.
4. Revised Historic Cemeteries rack card – Seacord reviewed the new design elements suggested by Rix. The Committee responded favorably to the revisions, suggesting a comma between Portsmouth and NH at the top, and identifying the people in the cameos, perhaps with names under the images. Seacord will review a revised version with the Committee at their next meeting.
5. Woodbury Langdon plaque – Forte and Hallowell reported that DPW’s Boucher has affixed the plaque with epoxied studs on the back so the plaque ‘floats’ on the wall. Forte will take a photograph to send to the DAR and discuss date options for a dedication event.

6. 250th Commemorations – Forte noted that the City has created a Portsmouth 250 webpage, linked from the PortsmouthNH.gov homepage. Seacord explained that the page includes descriptions of major commemorative events in Portsmouth this summer and links to the three key calendar pages created for the 250:

- NH Commission link: [New Hampshire 250 | Join the Celebration Today](#)
- VisitNH 205 link: [Visit NH 250th Anniversary | Visit NH 250th Anniversary](#)
- Polidura discussed the idea of a reading of the Declaration, which usually takes place in Market Square on July 4, which she suggested might be scheduled this year for July 18 – the date the Declaration was actually read in 1776. The date coincides with a Pro Portsmouth Summer in the Streets concert, 5:30-8:30 pm and the Committee suggested the reading might take place right after set-up and street closure between 4:30 and 5 pm to take advantage of the gathering concert audience.
- Polidura wondered if the Portsmouth Athenaeum might be planning an event.

7. Other business

- Buzzell offered a ‘shout out’ to the Liberty Mutual work crew who worked tirelessly, in pouring rain, to clear out the corner of North Cemetery and other tasks. He wondered if funds were available to purchase small tokens of appreciation to give to them and other volunteers. The Committee discussed ideas including buttons (Brooks has a machine and would just need materials), stickers, coffee mugs, t-shirts. The Committee will research ideas for the next meeting.
- Polidura asked Hallowell if the City might purchase a “Betsy Ross” 1776-2026 250th flag to fly on the flagpole in North Cemetery in honor of William Whipple. Hallowell said a 3x5 ft. flag would be best for that flagpole and will investigate with High Flyin’ Flag in Greenland.
- Buzzell asked if anyone had attended the Langdon Cemetery site walk and Forte reported that PHA and the contractor have now extended the 50-ft radius “do not disturb” protection area from the point of gravesites identified by LIDAR outside the cemetery perimeter wall. Excavations will be observed by an authorized State supervisor.

9. Public comment -- None

10. On a motion by Brooks seconded by Splaine, the meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm.

Next meeting: July 1, 2026

GRAVESITES OF REVOLUTIONARY WAR VETERANS IN PORTSMOUTH NH

Table 1

Last Name	First Name	Cemetery Name	Bio	Service	Birth	Death	LAT,LONG	Find a Grave Memorial ID	DAR	SAR
Bickford	Henry	Cotton Graveyard		Capt. H. Jackson Co.	1751	Jan 6, 1798		7367696		
Broughton	Noah	Cotton Graveyard		Capt. T. Salter Co.	1752	Nov 18, 1814		7372358		
Cotton	William	Cotton Graveyard		Capt. Frye Company	1736	Jan 11, 1791		7369677		
Hutchins	Samuel	Cotton Graveyard		Capt. H. Jackson Co.	1744	Dec 12, 1815		152553667		
Locke	James	Cotton Graveyard		Col. Poor Regiment	1753	Dec 8, 1831		148387585		
NORRIS	Samuel	Cotton Graveyard		Gen. J. Stark Regt. Patriotic Service	1728	1821		133104158	A084431	256866
Salter	John	Cotton Graveyard		Col. J. Langdon Co.		Sep 28, 1814	43°04'41.7"N 70°45'47.9"W	8091386		
Seaward	Joseph	Cotton Graveyard			Feb 9, 1752	Dec 19, 1822	43°04'01.5"N 70°45'24.1"W	148462103		
Hodgdon	Benjamin	Gosling Road Cemetery (Private)		Capt. S. Hodgdon Co./ Pvt	1751	Mar 1, 1823				
Hall	Samuel	Hall Graveyard		Capt. J. Langdon Co.	1730	Jan 20, 1806		172012931		
MARSHALL	John	Hall Graveyard		Patriotic Service	1749	1831		172073779		241867
Colbath	George	Harmony Grove Cemetery		Fort Sullivan 1777	1759	Sep 21, 1853		149965287		
Fuller	Theodore	Harmony Grove Cemetery		Col. H. Mooney Regt.	1762	May 15, 1844		149993705		
MORTON	Isaac	Harmony Grove Cemetery		Captain	Apr 18, 1754	Sep 24, 1824		158140361	A081798	329971
LANGDON	John	Langdon Family Cemetery		Patriotic Service	May 28, 1707	Feb 27, 1780	43°02'45.5"N 70°46'02.2"W	7359793	A068921	233050
LANGDON	Samuel	Langdon Family Cemetery		Lieutenant Colonel. Fort William & Mary Raid/Bunker Hill	Jun 9, 1753	Jul 5, 1834		43232512	A200032	233078
Billings	Richard	North Cemetery	Master mariner, importer and general store owner. Clerk to John Hancock.	Clerk to John Hancock	1733	Dec 19, 1808	43°04'41.1"N 70°45'47.7"W	8091144		

Last Name	First Name	Cemetery Name	Bio	Service	Birth	Death	LAT, LONG	Find a Grave Memorial ID	DAR	SAR
Bowles	Samuel	North Cemetery	Saratoga with Langdon Light Brigade.	Col. J. Langdon Co.	1740	Nov 3, 1802	43°04'43.2"N 70°45'48.2"W	183062322		
Chadbourn	Thomas	North Cemetery		Conway Alarm List	1736	Mar 7, 1810	43°04'41.2"N 70°45'47.4"W	8091432		
Champney	Richard	North Cemetery	Merchant in Portsmouth. He took part in one of the conflicts earliest actions - the raid on Ft. William and Mary. where guarded the fort commander, Capt. John Cochran.	Col. J. Langdon Co.	1736	Sep 18, 1810	43°04'43.2"N 70°45'47.6"W	8091436		
CHASE	Stephen Jr	North Cemetery		Patriotic Service	Jun 22, 1742	Mar 31, 1805	43°04'41.6"N 70°45'48.0"W	8091442	A021223	131949
Clapp	Supply	North Cemetery	Supply was born into the prominent Clapp family of Woburn, MA. Supply was a Colonel in the local Portsmouth militia and played a significant role in the raid, entering the fort on December 14th . He was later named Commissary General of New Hampshire.		Jan 3, 1742	Mar 24, 1811	43°04'41.2"N 70°45'47.2"W	153954115		
CUTTER	Ammi R	North Cemetery	Ammi Ruhamah Cutter was an American physician He served as a surgeon during the French and Indian War of 1754–1763, and was also the Physician General of the medical department of the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War of 1775–1783.	Physician / Patriotic Service	Mar 15, 1735	Dec 8, 1820	43°04'40.9"N 70°45'47.9"W	153429044	A029192	142989
Dalling	Samuel	North Cemetery	In Oct 1755, his coasting schooner was used in the Piscataqua River for 33 days to obstruct passage into Portsmouth by the enemy.		1711	Oct 15, 1788	43°04'42.5"N 70°45'48.1"W	70077136		
FERNALD	John	North Cemetery	John was a coppersmith. He was among those who captured powder from the fort on 14 December 1774. He was a selectman in Portsmouth during 1775. During Revolutionary War, he also was an artilleryman who served in the coastal defenses of Piscataqua Harbor at Fort Sullivan and Fort Washington.	Capt. Dearing Co./Capt. E. Daniel Co	1742	Nov 23, 1792	43°04'42.4"N 70°45'48.5"W	55383776		157592
Foster	John	North Cemetery		Capt. E. Daniel Co.	1751	Mar 9, 1781	43°04'42.5"N 70°45'47.5"W	152575916		
GAINS/GAINES	George	North Cemetery	George was a cabinetmaker and built houses. During the raid, removed powder from the fort on 14 Dec 1774. He was a selectman in Portsmouth. During the RevWar, he was quartermaster and muster master in Col. Long's Regiment of artillerymen. He marched to reinforce General Ward at Fort Ticonderoga. He was also a brigade Major under BG William Whipple and marched with him to join the Continental Army at Saratoga.	Major	1736	Apr 25, 1809	43°04'42.3"N 70°45'48.1"W	152771281	A043025	163526

Last Name	First Name	Cemetery Name	Bio	Service	Birth	Death	LAT, LONG	Find a Grave Memorial ID	DAR	SAR
Hale	John	North Cemetery		Capt. Lovejoy Co./Col. J. Cilley Reg!	Nov 21, 1762	Jul 13, 1796	43°04'41.8"N 70°45'48.2"W	8091274		
HALE	Samuel	North Cemetery		Civil Service	Aug 24, 1718	Jul 10, 1807	43°04'41.8"N 70°45'48.1"W	8091276	A049298	172607
HALL	Ammi Rhuhami	North Cemetery		Soldier	Aug 27, 1758	Jun 9, 1833	43°04'40.9"N 70°45'47.6"W	8091281		172709
Ham	Benjamin	North Cemetery			1758	Feb 13, 1825	43°04'41.5"N 70°45'49.1"W	128082625		
Ham	Samuel	North Cemetery	Saratoga with Langdon Light Brigade.	Capt. J. Langdon Co.	1742	Aug 23, 1825	43°04'41.5"N 70°45'49.1"W	8091310		
Ham	William	North Cemetery		Col. T. Bartlett Regt.	1762	Apr 3, 1845	43°04'41.6"N 70°45'47.0"W	153430423		
Hart	Daniel	North Cemetery			1741	Dec 11, 1791	43°04'42.4"N 70°45'48.3"W	8091322		
Hart	Edward	North Cemetery	Edward Hart was the son of blacksmith Col. John Hart. Entered the fort during the 1774 raids and most likely assisted in the removal of the powder.		1744	Oct 18, 1825	43°04'41.7"N 70°45'48.3"W	154469635		
HART	George	North Cemetery	Saratoga with Langdon Light Brigade.	Patriotic Service	1730	1807	43°04'42.8"N 70°45'47.5"W	8091330		176400
Hart	William	North Cemetery		Capt. H. Jackson Co.		Jan 13, 1818				
HARVEY	Thomas	North Cemetery	Thomas Harvey was born in 1753 and served gallantly in the Continental Army during seven years of the Revolutionary War. He crossed the Delaware with Washington and participated in the Battle of Brandywine Creek, Sept. 11, 1777. He survived the grueling war, returning to his hometown where he lived out the remainder of his life before passing away on January 18, 1837	Soldier	1753	Jan 18, 1837	43°04'42.2"N 70°45'45.8"W	152344548		176835
Hill	James	North Cemetery	General James Hill, son of Benjamin Hill, was born in Kittery, Maine on December 20, 1734 and died August 22, 1811. He was a soldier in the French and Indian War and the American Revolution, reaching the rank of Brigadier General in the New Hampshire Militia. He was a landowner, lumberman, shipbuilder and political figure.	Col. J. Langdon Regt.	1753	Dec 29, 1811	43°04'41.0"N 70°45'47.0"W	136603909		
Hill	Samuel	North Cemetery	Samuel Holbrook of Portsmouth, NH, seaman on the Ranger, sloop of war, Sept 1777 to Oct 1778.	Capt. T. Salter Co./Col. J. Cilley Reg!	Feb 12, 1745	Mar 19, 1812	43°04'41.0"N 70°45'47.0"W	153444724		

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Holbrook	Robert	North Cemetery	Robert was the son of Elisha Holbrook and Lydia Dresser of Kittery, Maine. He married (1) in Portsmouth, New Hampshire Dec 1785 Mary "Polly" Rymes, the daughter of Christopher Rymes and Elenor Peavey. He married (2) in Portsmouth 22 Sep 1811 Abigail Marsh. Robert was a soldier during the American Revolutionary War, and his name appears on a return of Capt George Jerry Osborne's company at Portsmouth, dated 5 Nov 1775. Robert appears on the 1790 census in Portsmouth with what appear to be wife and three children. He should be the Robert Holbrook in the 1800 census of Portsmouth, but all the ages are too young, and it appears that either the census taker or the transcriber put the ages in the wrong columns. Following his death, a Robert Holbrook was the administrator of his estate, likely his son. His inventory was dated 19 Nov 1821.	Capt. J. Osborne Co.	1760	Oct 15, 1821	43°04'42.2"N 70°45'49.3"W	130927039		
Holbrook	Samuel	North Cemetery	Samuel Holbrook of Portsmouth, NH, seaman on the Ranger, sloop of war, Sept 1777 to Oct 1778.	Capt. J. P. Jones frigate Ranger	1757	Sep 15, 1836	43°04'42.2"N 70°45'49.4"W	8091790		
JACKSON	Hall ts Esquire MD	North Cemetery	Dr. Hall Jackson served as a surgeon in the New Hampshire militia and set up an inoculation hospital to fight a smallpox outbreak in 1776. He later commanded defenses on Clark's Point in New Castle.	Captain / Surgeon	Nov 11, 1739	Sep 28, 1797	43°04'42.5"N 70°45'48.1"W	8091798		223705
Jennings	Benjamin	North Cemetery		Col. Goodman Regt.		Oct 16, 1816				
KENNARD	Nathaniel	North Cemetery	Nathaniel Kennard served first in the army and then onboard the Bon Homme Richard with John Paul Jones in the famous battle of Flamborough Head in 1779. He also served on a revenue cutter and later as Inspector of Customs. He was a ship owner who operated a hat shop in Portsmouth.	Captain (Navy)	1755	Jun 24, 1823	43°04'41.4"N 70°45'46.2"W	8091811	A064657	258978
LADD	Eliphalet	North Cemetery	Captain, helped remove cannons from Fort William and Mary in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. following the raids of 14-15 December 1774	Patriotic Service	Jun 10, 1744	Feb 24, 1806	43°04'41.3"N 70°45'47.2"W	239213358	A208625	232182

Last Name	First Name	Cemetery Name	Bio	Service	Birth	Death	LAT,LONG	Find a Grave Memorial ID	DAR	SAR
LANGDON	John	North Cemetery	John was a successful merchant, shipbuilder, Revolutionary leader, and statesman. He helped organize and lead the raids on Fort William and Mary, was a delegate to the Continental Congress, and fitted out ships for the Continental Navy at his own expense. Langdon became a signer of the U.S. Constitution, served as the first NH president (governor), and as the state's U.S. senator, including a term as the Senate's first president pro tempore. He hosted George Washington during the president's 1789 tour.	Patriotic Service	Jun 26, 1741	Sep 18, 1819	43°04'40.8"N 70°45'47.1"W	4710		233058
LANGDON	William	North Cemetery		Patriotic Service	1738	Sep 30, 1820	43°04'41.3"N 70°45'47.3"W	153959589		233085
LANGDON	Woodbury	North Cemetery		Patriotic Service	1739	Jan 13, 1805	43°04'41.4"N 70°45'47.5"W	18812198	A068957	333165
March	John	North Cemetery		Capt. M. Leavitt Co.	1760	Jun 12, 1813	43°04'41.9"N 70°45'47.5"W	8092206		
MARDEN	William	North Cemetery		Soldier	1755	Mar 11, 1838	43°04'41.2"N 70°45'48.3"W	153662284	A073709	100994
Marsh	Zebulon	North Cemetery		Col. J. Stark Regt.	1730	Jun 29, 1806	43°04'42.2"N 70°45'49.3"W	152306682		
Martin	Thomas	North Cemetery		Capt. J. Haven; privateer	1732	Feb 4, 1805	43°04'41.3"N 70°45'47.4"W	153960257		
MASSEY	George	North Cemetery		Patriotic Service	1751	Aug 4, 1821	43°04'41.4"N 70°45'47.5"W	155172948		242821
McIntire	Neil	North Cemetery		Col. J. Langdon Co.	Sep 15, 1743	Apr 7, 1812	43°04'41.3"N 70°45'46.7"W	161989185		
McLoon	Enoch	North Cemetery		Col. A. Scammell Regt.		Feb 17, 1793				
MENDUM	John	North Cemetery	Captain John Mendum served on the Raleigh.	Quartermaster / Seaman	1738	Apr 3, 1806	43°04'41.6"N 70°45'48.2"W	8092237	A122813	247833
Neal	Thomas	North Cemetery	Capt. Jewell's Company	Capt. D. Jewell Co.	1763	Feb 21, 1810	43°04'41.6"N 70°45'45.9"W	97774052		
OSBORNE	George Jerry	North Cemetery	Captain of [Continental] Marines on the "Raleigh"	Captain	Mar 15, 1732	Aug 5, 1808		225358524	A084443	263655
Packer	Thomas	North Cemetery	Son of Thomas Packer who was Portsmouth High Sheriff and related by marriage to Lt. Gov John Wentworth	Capt Folsom's company	Apr 16, 1730	Dec 16, 1793	43°04'42.0"N 70°45'48.2"W	7364266		
Pickering	John	North Cemetery	Delegate to the NH convention where the first constitution was voted on in 1776		Sep 22, 1737	Apr 11, 1805	43°04'42.7"N 70°45'47.1"W	8091353		
Reding	John	North Cemetery		Capt. G. Turner Co.	1744	Nov 15, 1825	43°04'41.7"N 70°45'48.6"W	127589358		
Rowell	Nehemiah	North Cemetery	Saratoga with Langdon Light Brigade.	Col. J. Langdon Co.	1749	Sep 7, 1799	43°04'42.6"N 70°45'47.1"W	152259051		

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Russell	Eleazer	North Cemetery		Navy	May 21, 1722	Sep 18, 1798	43°04'43.2"N 70°45'47.7"W	8091378		
SALTER	Richard	North Cemetery	Richard Knight Salter was a shipping merchant captain. He owned the sloop Friends Adventure and was the commander of Swan and Scorpion .	Captain (Navy)	1744	May 2, 1812	43°04'41.7"N 70°45'47.9"W	8091386		283911
SHEAFE	Jacob	North Cemetery		Patriotic Service	06 Sept 1745	Jul 25, 1829	43°04'41.8"N 70°45'48.2"W	8091934	A102250	288221
Sherburne	John	North Cemetery	Major, Langdon Brigade	Patriotic Service	1757	Aug 2, 1830	43°04'42.3"N 70°45'44.4"W	18578380		
Stoodley	James	North Cemetery	Raid on Fort W&M was planned at in tavern.	Patriotic Service	1717	Jun 6, 1779	43°04'42.9"N 70°45'48.0"W	7364256		
Swett	Benjamin	North Cemetery		Col. A. Drake Regt.	1759	May 14, 1808	43°04'42.1"N 70°45'47.9"W	152740192		
THOMPSON	Thomas	North Cemetery	Thomas Thompson was a merchant and shipbuilder who directed the building of the first warship commissioned by the Continental Navy, the 32-gun frigate Raleigh , and was given command at the launch on May 21, 1776.	Captain Frigate Raleigh	1741	Feb 22, 1809	43°04'41.7"N 70°45'47.7"W	8092291		304415
WALDEN	Jacob	North Cemetery	Stewart on Ranger	Assistant Purser	May 8, 1751	Dec 24, 1831	43°04'40.6"N 70°45'48.9"W	152316668	A120644	311855
Walker	Joseph	North Cemetery		Massachusetts Continental Line	1734	Jun 29, 1814	43°04'41.6"N 70°45'46.2"W	70074387		
WHIPPLE	Prince	North Cemetery	Prince Whipple and his brother Cuffee were sent by their parents to study in America. During the journey, they were kidnapped by a slave trader and sent to a prison in the Caribbean. Prince, his brother, and hundreds of other enslaved Africans in the prison were transported on a slave ship owned by William Whipple who purchased them on arrival in Portsmouth. When the Revolution started, William Whipple was assigned as a captain in the Continental Army and took Prince to war with him. Initially, Prince served as a bodyguard to William because of military regulations that forbade Blacks from serving in the army or militia although they reportedly fought alongside the colonists in many battles including Lexington and Bunker Hill. In 1779 Prince joined with nineteen other freed slaves who referred themselves as the "Natives of Africa" in Portsmouth in a petition for their freedom sent to the NH Legislatire. The petition was tabled until 2013.	Slave / served as Soldier	1750	Nov 23, 1796	43°04'41.3"N 70°45'47.5"W	7142817		317749

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WHIPPLE	William	North Cemetery	BG William was a ship's captain and a successful merchant in Portsmouth, He was a leading patriot, serving on the Committee of Safety and representing NH in the Continental Congress - from 1776 to 1779 (signing the Declaration of Independence in August 1776). He commanded militia forces at the pivotal battles of Saratoga-where he helped secure the British surrender-and Rhode Island. After the war, he serviced as a state legislator (1780-1784), associate justice of the NH Superior Court (from 1782), and financial receiver for the state.	Signer Declaration of Independence	Jan 14, 1730	Nov 28, 1785	43°04'41.7"N 70°45'47.5"W	2814		317767
EVANS	John	Pleasant Street Cemetery		Soldier	1737	Dec 14, 1791	43°04'25.4"N 70°45'12.4"W	8132862		155536
Huntress	Joshua	Point of Graves	Blockmaker and mariner served in the Revolutionary War.	Capt. G. Turner Co.	Apr 29, 1753	Dec 21, 1802	43°04'31.6"N 70°45'03.0"W	8132778		
LEAR	Tobias	Point of Graves	Lear served as Washington's executive secretary from 1784 to 1799 and was present at the General's bedside when he died. After Washington's presidency, he served as a peace envoy and consul general for President Thomas Jefferson in the Mediterranean.	Captain / Patriotic Service	Aug 1, 1737	Nov 6, 1781	43°04'31.6"N 70°45'03.4"W	7348802		234351
FISHLEY	George	Proprietors Cemetery	Born June 17, 1760 during the reign of King George III, he lived through thirteen US Presidencies, just missing number 14, Franklin Peirce when he died in 1850. He joined the Continental Army at age 17, under the command of General Poor and Colonel Dearborn. Over the course of his service he fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill, survived the harsh winter at Valley Forge and fought alongside General Washington in the decisive battle at Monmouth NJ, defeating British General Clinton. After the Revolutionary War, Fishley served aboard a privateer and was captured and imprisoned in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He later commended a coaster operating between Boston and Portsmouth. He was one of the few Bunker Hill surviving veterans to attend the dedication of the Bunker Hill Monument in 1843, at age 85. Records show he also applied for an early veterans relief program in 1840. Politically, he was an ardent Whig and at first refused to shake President Polk (X)'s hand when he visited Portsmouth. Fishley died December 26, 1850 at 91, with a burial service from St. John's Church.	Soldier	Jun 17, 1760	Dec 26, 1850	43°03'57.4"N 70°45'25.9"W	7142402		158689

Last Name	First Name	Cemetery Name	Bio	Service	Birth	Death	LAT, LONG	Find a Grave Memorial ID	DAR	SAR
Haven	Nathaniel	Proprietors Cemetery	Nathaniel A. Haven was born in Portsmouth in 1762, the son of Rev. Samuel Haven the pastor of South Church for 54 years. He graduated from Harvard College in 1779, practiced medicine for several years and was then a Portsmouth merchant. He was Assistant Surgeon on a Continental Navy ship and was captured by the British and confined as a prison of war aboard the Jersey prison ship in New York City. He was exchanged at the special request of General Washington and was later elected to Congress in 1809.		Jul 19, 1762	Mar 13, 1831	43°03'59.8"N 70°45'25.0"W	19860		
HAVEN	Samuel	Proprietors Cemetery		Patriotic Service	Aug 4, 1727	Mar 3, 1806		142187135	A053264	177667
Long	Pierce	Proprietors Cemetery	Pierse Long was born in 1739 and at the age of fourteen was apprenticed as a clerk to Robert Trail, an emigrant from Scotland and distinguished Portsmouth merchant. In 1775, Long was chosen as a delegate to the Provincial Congress in Exeter NH. He participated in the raid on Fort William and Mary in December 1774 with John Langdon and forty other Seacoast Patriots. In 1775, Long was chosen as a delegate to the Provincial Congress in Exeter NH. Peirse held many different offices in the Province and town until May 1776 when the Provincial Legislature appointed him to command the first New Hampshire regiment stationed at forts around Portsmouth. In 1776 he received orders to reinforce the Continental Army at Fort Ticonderoga near Lake Champlain. There he was ordered to destroy the small Continental Navy of small boats to prevent them from being captured by the advancing army of 10,000 men under General Burgoyne. Relocating his troops to Saratoga, Long was captured by the British but managed to escape. His regiment fought under the command of Continental Army Major General Horatio Gates to defeat the British at Saratoga, a turning point of the war. When Washington was chosen as the first US President he appointed Long the Collector of Customs in Portsmouth; but he died suddenly on April 3, 1789 at the age of 50, before assuming that position.	Commander	1739	Apr 3, 1789	43°03'59.2"N 70°45'23.1"W	19868		

Last Name	First Name	Cemetery Name	Bio	Service	Birth	Death	LAT, LONG	Find a Grave Memorial ID	DAR	SAR
McClintock	John	Proprietors Cemetery	At age 16, John McClintock entered the service of the private, 20-gun ship Alexander under the command of Captain Thomas Simpson who later succeeded Captain John Paul Jones in command of the Continental Navy's ship Ranger. At age 17, McClintock was Master's Mate entrusted with delivering a prize capture to the West Indies. He remained in the Continental Navy for four years, Captain McClintock subsequently served as Naval Officer for the City of Portsmouth. Known for being faithful in the execution of his duties, remarkably punctual and attentive. He died at age 94, the oldest man in Portsmouth at his passing, though having never seen a doctor in his life.	Col. Cilley Regt.	1761	Nov 13, 1855		156621443		
Storer	Samuel	Proprietors Cemetery		Col. J. Langdon Co.	May 16, 1752	Oct 4, 1815		98821504		
Walker	Samuel	Proprietors Cemetery		Capt. J. Brown Company/Hale Regt.	1752	Nov 15, 1839		166379918		
Davenport	John	Saint Johns Churchyard Cemetery			1752	Mar 28, 1842	43°04'43.4"N 70°45'20.3"W	156597939		
Gardner	William	Saint Johns Churchyard Cemetery	William Gardner (b. 1750-d. 1834), was a major during the Revolutionary War and later, a U.S. Loan Officer.	Capt. J. Langdon Co.	1751	Apr 29, 1834		245421942		
HALL	Elijah	Saint Johns Churchyard Cemetery	Elijah Hall was a prominent Portsmouth shipwright and lieutenant in the Continental Navy who served under John Paul Jones on the Ranger. He aided in capturing the British sloop Drake in 1778 and later served as a New Hampshire State Councilor and district Naval Officer.	Naval Lieutenant / Patriotic Service	Dec 9, 1746	Jun 29, 1830		154884342		172859
Manning	Thomas	Saint Johns Churchyard Cemetery	Thomas Manning was a mariner, merchant and commander of the privateer General Sullivan.	US Navy	1747	Mar 24, 1819	43°04'43.6"N 70°45'19.6"W	154885871		
RICE	Samuel	Saint Johns Churchyard Cemetery	Samuel Rice was commander of Jonathan Hamilton's privateer Fancy. With Hamilton he also co-owned the brig Polly (built in South Berwick) and schooner Dove (built in Kittery).	Captain (Navy)	Mar 13, 1752	May 14, 1802	43°04'43.3"N 70°45'20.5"W	146473413		278149
FERNALD	Renald	Union Cemetery		Soldier	1752	1844	43°04'42.6"N 70°45'49.3"W	83495135		157597
GREEN	Mark Wentworth	Union Cemetery	Mark Green was a Portsmouth resident and one of the last surviving Revolutionary War veterans in the area. In July 1847, he was one of three local veterans who famously met with President James Polk during the President's visit to the city.	Soldier	1762	1851	43°04'43.4"N 70°45'49.2"W	119686003		169906

Last Name	First Name	Cemetery Name	Bio	Service	Birth	Death	LAT, LONG	Find a Grave Memorial ID	DAR	SAR
WHIDDEN	Joseph W	Whidden Graveyard (Lafayette near Starbucks)		Civil Service / Patriotic Service	1736	Jan 5, 1794	43°02'00.6"N 70°47'00.9"W	7359844	A124132	317654

CITY OF PORTSMOUTH, NH



July xx, 2026

City of Portsmouth, NH Historic Cemetery Committee Pays Tribute to Revolutionary War Veterans for America 250th

Portsmouth, New Hampshire – For the commemoration of America's 250th, the City of Portsmouth's Cemetery Committee has taken on the project to research and locate the gravesites of all veterans of the American Revolution who are buried in the City's historic cemeteries. Members of the Cemetery Committee have now placed red, white, and blue markers at these graves in North Cemetery, the South Street cemeteries, St. John's, Pleasant Street, and Point of Graves.

North Cemetery is one of Portsmouth's oldest burying grounds, established in 1753 on land located along Maplewood Avenue near North Mill Pond. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places for its significance to the history of Portsmouth and the American Revolution, the cemetery is the final resting place of dozens of Revolutionary War veterans.

Among the veterans are six Portsmouth men who participated in the raid on Fort William and Mary, one of the first overt acts of the American Revolution. Over the course of two days in December 1774, hundreds of men from Portsmouth and neighboring Seacoast communities converged on the fort, removing gunpowder, muskets, cannon, and other military supplies by gundalow before British forces could secure them. For these six men, the raid marked only the beginning of their service in the cause of American independence. Each went on to play additional roles during the Revolutionary War and later helped shape the young nation. They include:

Richard Champney who fought alongside John Langdon in the Saratoga campaign and later became a Portsmouth merchant.

Captain Supply Clapp who served as New Hampshire's Commissary General and was also a prominent Portsmouth merchant.

John Fernald who helped defend Portsmouth through his service at Fort Sullivan and Fort Washington.

John Gaines who served in Col. Pierce Long's 3rd New Hampshire Regiment and fought in the Saratoga campaign.

Edward Hart who returned to Portsmouth after the war, where he owned and operated several businesses.

John Langdon who became one of New Hampshire's most distinguished statesmen, serving as governor and as the state's first United States senator.

Last year, the Sons of the American Revolution placed granite markers at the graves of these six patriots to recognize their contributions to the founding of the United States and now they are flagged with the red, white and blue markers placed by the Cemetery Committee.

"We invite the public to visit these cemeteries, look for the markers that identify these gravesites and take a moment to remember the Portsmouth citizens whose service and sacrifice helped secure American independence," said Sue Polidura, member of the Portsmouth Cemetery Committee, which oversees the city's historic cemeteries who helped organize the tribute.

CAPTION: Revolutionary War veteran's gravesite in North Cemetery, identified with a red, white and blue marker placed temporarily for the America 250th.

HISTORIC CEMETERIES IN PORTSMOUTH NH

**Discover the stories of patriots,
preachers, politicians, and
philanthropists of Portsmouth's past.**



William Whipple



George Fishley



John Langdon



Esther Mullineaux



Tobias Lear



Karen & Anethe Christennsen

To learn more about Portsmouth's historic cemeteries, the restoration plan and ongoing preservation work, volunteer opportunities, and other ways to support the work of the Cemetery Committee, scan the QR code.



billy

These City cemeteries are invaluable records of the lives and final resting places of residents of the community over its 400+ year history.

Point of Graves (1671)

Cotton Cemetery (1721)

Elmwood Cemetery (1759)

Hall Cemetery (1789)

North Cemetery (1753-1926)

National Register of Historic Places

Union Cemetery (1844)

NH State Register of Historic Places

Pleasant Street Burial Ground (1754)

African Burying Ground (1705-1800)
& Memorial Park (2015)

For a full map: <https://portsnh.co/Historic-Cemeteries>

