Pine Grove Cemetery Walking Tour

A tour of the final resting place of many prominent members of the Brunswick community

Brief History: With the utilization of all plots in the Brunswick burying ground adjacent to the meeting house on upper Maine Street, three citizens contracted with Bowdoin College to acquire land for a new site. In 1821, a tract was obtained and subsequently – in 1886 and 1973 – two adjoining parcels were purchased and developed. As a condition of each sale, Bowdoin College was deeded a row of plots to allocate as they wished. Traditionally, they were assigned to individuals and families who had given distinguished service to the college. The remaining plots were made available to local citizens and a walk of the grounds will find numerous prominent Brunswick names, some of which are found within these pages. The accompanying map on the back of this booklet provides a guide to specific grave sites. For more information about those buried at Pine Grove Cemetery, see the survey prepared by Cheetham & Cheetham, available at Brunswick's Curtis Memorial Library, Bowdoin College Library, and the Pejepscot Historical Society. Portions of this survey are available at http://www.curtislibrary.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/06/Pine-Grove-Cemetery-searchable.pdf.

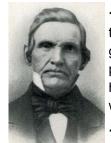
Walking Directions: From the Visitors Center/Maine Street Station, proceed to Maine Street and turn right up the hill, towards First Parish Church at the intersection of Maine Street and Bath Road. Turn left onto Bath Road, walking between the Church and the Bowdoin College campus and through the traffic light at Federal Street. The cemetery is approximately one hundred yards ahead on your right.

Driving Directions and Parking: Follow the same route as walking directions above. Limited parking is available within and along side the Bath Road outside Pine Grove Cemetery.

- 1 and 2 Joseph McKeen (1757-1807) A Congregational minister from New Hampshire, McKeen served as Bowdoin College's first president. When he was installed in 1802, there were only eight students and one professor. A strict disciplinarian, McKeen punished students for everything from lighting bonfires, playing cards, stealing and butchering geese, using firearms, and riding a horse on a Sunday. He even reprimanded future governor Robert P. Dunlap for skipping chapel. Upon his death, Bowdoin helped pay for his funeral and tombstone, which is entirely in Latin.
- **3. Rev. Jesse Appleton** (1772-1819) Like his predecessor, Appleton was an accomplished Congregational minister. He and his wife Elizabeth were both born in New Hampshire, but moved to Brunswick when Jesse accepted the position as Bowdoin College's second president in 1807. Jesse reportedly worked himself to death at Bowdoin, dying at the age of 46. His last words were, "God has taken care of the college, and God will take care of the college." Jesse and Elizabeth's daughter, Jane, later married future president Franklin Pierce in 1834, serving as First Lady from 1853-1857. Another daughter, Frances, married Bowdoin's ancient language and classical literature professor Alpheus Spring Packard.
 - **4. Alpheus Spring Packard** (1798-1884) A graduate of Bowdoin, Packard worked for his alma mater for 64 years possibly the longest of any college professor in America. His students included future president (and later his brother-in-law) Franklin Pierce, Joshua L. Chamberlain, and poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow who mentioned Packard in the poem "Morituri Salutamus." Packard was also involved in the anti-slavery and temperance movements, as well as the Maine Historical Society, First Parish Church and the local fire prevention group.
 - **5. Joshua L. Chamberlain** (1828-1914) Chamberlain was a Bowdoin College student, professor and president during his lifetime, but his most famous accomplishment was as
- a Civil War hero defending Little Round Top during the battle of Gettysburg. Chamberlain became a twostar general due to his bravery and leadership during the war, and would return home to serve as governor from 1867-1870. Chamberlain has two gravestones –the white footstone recognizes him as a recipient of the Medal of Honor. The medal, now on display at the Bowdoin College Library, was actually mailed to Chamberlain in 1893 – 30 years after the battle at Little Round Top for which he earned it.



- **6. William Smyth** (1797-1868) A Bowdoin grad and professor, Smyth is credited with introducing the blackboard to the college. He was also the father of the Brunswick public school system, an ardent antislavery advocate, temperance supporter, and worked feverishly to have both the First Parish Church and Bowdoin's Memorial Hall built. Though he was an excellent fundraiser, Smyth was also reportedly an extremely difficult person to work with, and would often get into heated debates with the architects of both buildings.
- 7. William DeWitt Hyde (1858-1917) Named Bowdoin's seventh president at the age of 26, "the boy president" was the youngest to hold the office. His tenure at the college and the great improvements he made to it notably, modernizing the curriculum were cut short when he died due to a nervous condition at the age of 58. The Walker Art Building, Sargent Gymnasium and Hubbard Hall, among others, were built during his tenure.
- **8. Parker Cleaveland** (1780-1858) A Bowdoin professor and mineralogist with his own mineral named after him, cleavelandite, he wrote the first American textbook on the subject and was crowned "the Father of American Mineralogy." However, he was a very cautious man, who was desperately afraid of lightening, modern forms of transportation like trains and stage-coaches, and even avoided crossing bridges until he had thoroughly inspected them. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, a former student, wrote a touching poem in tribute to the deceased professor and father of the Brunswick Fire Department.
- **9. Thomas and Phebe Upham** Phebe Lord (1804-1882) and Thomas Upham (1799-1867) were two of Brunswick's most prominent citizens. Phebe was a passionate about women's rights and along with her husband, was an ardent antislavery supporter. Both were friends with Harriet Beecher Stowe and her husband Calvin, who like Thomas, was a Bowdoin professor. Thomas became a renowned philosophy writer and leader in the Holiness Movement. Together, the couple raised six adopted children.
- **10. Thomas H. Riley** (1857-1937) Coming to Brunswick to attend Bowdoin College, Riley made the town his permanent home and served as both president and director of the public library association. He was president of the Brunswick Savings Institution, but most famously worked at his father-in-law's insurance company on Maine Street, which now bears his name.



11. The Dennisons Col. Andrew Dennison (1786-1869) and his daughter, Matilda, (1828-1902) worked together to found the first paper box company in the country. Along with the rest of their family, they began making paper boxes for their brother in Boston at their Everett Street home. Matilda later oversaw production in the Maine Street factory until the company moved to Massachusetts. Today, the company has merged with another to become Avery-Dennison, one of the largest office supply companies in the world.

12. John C. Humphreys (1798-1865) An entrepreneur who held a variety of jobs, including part ownership of mustard, wool, cotton, matchstick factories and an insurance company, Humphreys never

seemed satisfied. He was appointed Bath's port collector in 1845, when the city was the 5th largest port on the east coast. Humphreys also ran a steam lumber mill and boat yard on the Androscoggin River and was a devoted member of the Masons.

- **13. Theodore McLellan** (1811-1904) At the time of his death at age 93, McLellan was the oldest printer in the state. Having once worked in California gold mines, McLellan returned to his home state, where he had befriended Nathaniel Hawthorne and Franklin Pierce. He was the first publisher of Longfellow's "Outre Mer: A Pilgrimage Beyond the Sea."
- **14. Phebe Jacobs** (1785-1850) Born a slave on a New Jersey plantation, Jacobs came to Brunswick as servant to the wife of Bowdoin College president William Allen. Freed in 1839, Jacobs devoted herself to Christ and attended the First Parish Church. Her piety inspired Phebe Upham to write a booklet about her. Jacobs' funeral packed the church, and one of her pallbearers was former governor Robert P. Dunlap.



- **15. Robert Pinckney Dunlap** (1794-1859) Dunlap, a native Brunswicker, was a lawyer and Maine politician. As Maine's 11th governor, Dunlap like Joshua Chamberlain served four terms, more than any other Maine governor besides Albion K. Parris. He spend the last 16 years of his life as president of the Board for his alma mater, Bowdoin College. Carved by sculptor Franklin Simmons, his monument is perhaps the most expensive in all of Pine Grove.
- **16. Narcissa Stone** (1801-1877) Stone, an accomplished businesswoman, managed not only to increase the fortune her father, Captain Daniel Stone, left her, but also raise all nine of her younger siblings when

they became orphans. Stone donated to several of the town's churches and sold land to Brunswick for \$1,000 to build the first high school. She never married and was worth more than \$1 million in today's money when she died.



- 17. Kate Furbish (1834-1931) Always a fan of wildflowers, Furbish developed a scientific interest in flowers and became a prominent American botanist who created beautiful paintings of her subjects. The wild snapdragon was named the Furbish Lousewort in her honor. When the flower, believed to be extinct, was rediscovered in the St. John River Valley in 1976, it prevented the building of a dam which would have flooded the region. When Furbish died in 1931 at the age of 97, she was the oldest resident of Brunswick.
- **18. Benjamin Greene** (1818-1904) Agent of Cabot Mill for 35 years, Greene is perhaps best known for the house he built at

the corner of Maine and Cumberland streets. Called "the finest house in Brunswick," it was purchased after his death in 1904 by the Bowdoin fraternity Delta Sigma. The fraternity decided to move it closer to the college at the top of the hill and so in 1905 the entire building began its trip up Maine Street, only to be stopped by two trains parked on the tracks. The train company was worried the weight of the house would damage



the tracks, but after negotiations the trains were moved and the house continued on its journey.



19. The Skolfield Family A prominent shipbuilding family led by patriarch Master George (1780-1866), the Skolfields were one of the wealthiest families in the state. The family's shipyard was originally in Harpswell, but was determined to be across the town line in Brunswick when Harpswell raised their taxes. Several of Master George's sons built their homes on Park Row – the three houses can be distinguished by the same cast iron fence that runs in front of them. Samuel's house is now headquarters to the Pejepscot Historical Society.

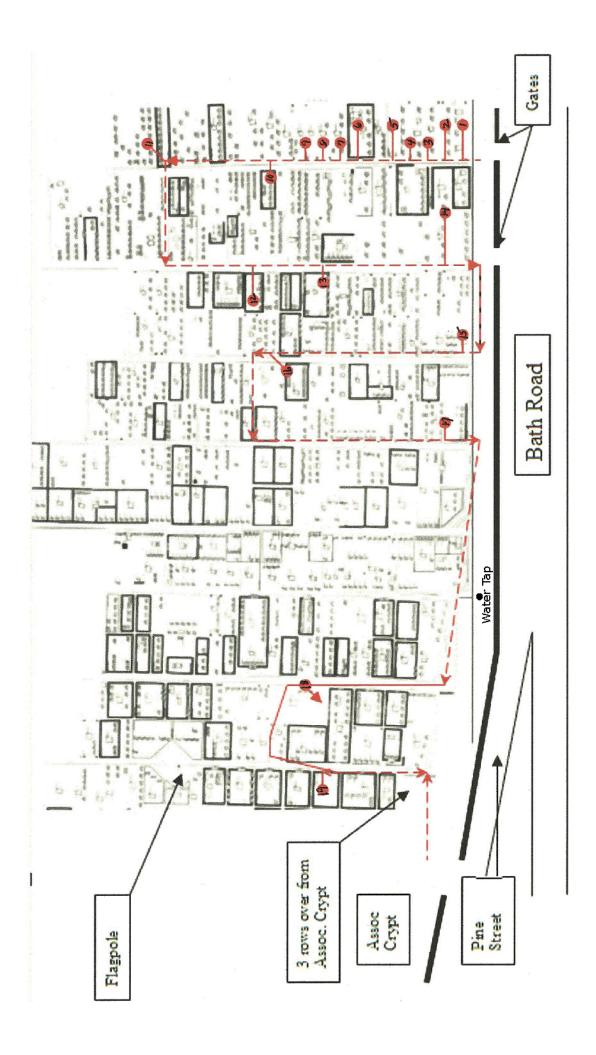


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For additional information, see the Pine Grove Cemetery of Brunswick, Maine, blog, available at http://pinegrovebrunswick.blogspot.com/.