

Hope Cemetery



Rivers and villages intertwined.

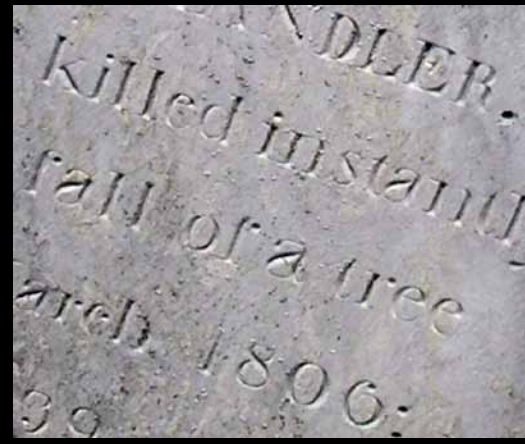
“The first settler of Waterbury was James Marsh . . . [He] had been a soldier in the French War. In the early part of the Revolutionary War . . . he was drafted . . . Having a large family of small children . . . he hired a young man as a substitute, paying him \$100. To pay this sum . . . he sold his place in [Connecticut] and bought a right of land in . . . Waterbury. . . . In the spring of 1783, he came on, selected his right, . . . cleared a small piece of land between the Grave Yard and the river, and . . . planted it to corn.

During the first summer, this family with eight children, lived many weeks on wild onions, cooked in the milk of their one cow . . . That summer Mr. Marsh built his log-house on his clearing, a little to the west of the Grave Yard hill, and moved into it. His crop of corn raised near the river, was fine - but after he had secured some twenty bushels of it, a flood came and destroyed the remainder. So that for nearly two years they lived much of the time, on the flesh of the moose, deer and bear.”


- from: The Early History of Waterbury, A Discourse. Delivered Feb 10, 1867 by Rev. C. C. Parker, Pastor of Congregational Church.

Here on “Grave Yard hill”
is a glimpse into the origin of a centuries old landscape
- rivers and villages in close relationship - which you see all along the Cross Vt Trail.

How old? What’s the earliest headstone you can find? These two get close, but are not the oldest!



“Sacred to the memory of Seth Chandler who was killed instantly by the fall of a tree 31st March 1806 in the 39th year of his age.”



“Amos Demmon died Sept 23 1801 in his 47th year. Enlisted under Capt. Hayward May 10, 1775. Later joined 2nd Mass Regt. Discharged June 10 1783.”