

Welcome to the Second Burial Ground of North Andover which was in use in the North Parish between the years 1817 - 1850. There are over 700 people laid to rest here, although there are only markers for less than half of them, as many stones have been lost over time. Some families had whole plots for interment, most had an individual gravestone. This leaflet highlights a few stones marking past citizens. This cemetery is currently undergoing preservation supported by a generous grant under North Andover's Community Preservation Act.

Jonathan Stevens (1747-1834)

A descendant of town founder John Stevens, Jonathan was a farmer and a currier of leather. He was a veteran of the Revolutionary War and fathered 14 children including Nathaniel born in 1786. It was this Jonathan who sold the land to the church for the purpose of laying out the burying ground.

Nathaniel Stevens (1786 – 1865)

Nathaniel's beautiful monument is a testament to his full and productive life. Known as "Capt. Nat", Stevens founded a textile business which continued to flourish under his sons and grandsons. He and his wife Harriet had 9 children. His house is still visible next door to the graveyard on Academy Road.

Cato Freeman (1768-1853)

Cato was the son of slaves held by Samuel Phillips of Andover. To all accounts his upbringing was not harsh, and we have a copy of a letter which indicates not only was he able to read and write, he was polished in his speech. He was born at a time in Massachusetts when slavery was on the decline. Although never formally abolished until 1865, legislature from 1780 onwards lead to successful court cases for African Americans. Cato was released from the Phillips household in 1789, and he took the name Freeman. He was a steadfast member of the North Parish Church since the time of the Rev. Symmes. He leased a modest property situated about where the Lawrence Airport is today. He married Lydia Bristow on Christmas Eve in 1789 and they raised four children, James, Dorcas, Zadok and Mahala. His obituary noted that he was working up until an hour of his death in his 80s. As part of his legacy, the area in North Andover around the corner of Osgood Street and Sutton Street was called "Cato's Corner" for years. In 1848 Simon Flanders deeded property on Pleasant Street, by Stevens Pond, to Cato Freeman.

Amos Carleton (1802 – 1837)

Amos was a direct descant of Edward Carleton, a founder of the town of Andover. Born and raised here he married Abiah Towne in 1828. Abiah's family had tragically been afflicted with smallpox. They had four children, the youngest, Osgood Loring, was only a year old when his father drowned while a company agent for the Stevens family at their shipping company in Cutler, Maine.

Amos's first home, which he built, can still be seen at 44 Andover Street.

Captain Joshua Johnson (1756 – 1842)

Joshua was the son of Col Samuel Johnson who participated at the battle of Bunker Hill. Joshua was a veteran of the war as well, he moved up from Ensign through Lieutenant to Captain. He was involved in the little known encounter between Hog and Noodle's Islands in what is now East Boston. Captain Thomas Poor's Company of Andover successfully captured and destroyed a schooner. It was hailed as the first capture of an enemy war vessel by the Americans. He is one of many veterans buried here.

Lucy Frye (1803 – 1879)

Lucy was born at the turn of the nineteenth century to Philip and Sarah Frye. She was the third of seven children. Family tradition holds her father was a teacher with a quick temper; "once he threw a bible at a pupil's head for want of some more handy weapon." Lucy, like most women of her age, had an unremarked life, which passed undoubtedly with duties to her family. Unmarried, and childless, she must have been well loved by her family to have such a charming, thoughtful and expensive stone erected in her memory. Her life is a mystery, but in death she has a long standing testament as a woman held in regard and affection.

Did you find this helpful or of interest? The North Andover Historical Society works to bring local history to life, and to preserve information and historic objects for future generations.