

*Review*

**A Transcription of Trenton's Cemeteries,  
So They Are Not Forgotten: Cemeteries  
and Burial Sites in Trenton, Maine**

Transcribed and edited by Patti Leland-Hanson  
Mapping and directions by Robert Leland  
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Once in a while a true labor of love succeeds in preserving our knowledge of those who preceded us, and so it is with this book. Patricia and Robert Leland have spent years locating the family cemeteries of Trenton, some easy to find, others half-buried in undergrowth, scraping the dust away, recording the GPS location of each tombstone, taking a photograph, and meticulously writing down each and every inscription. Some of the stones are indecipherable. Others have been lost in the ground or, in a few cases, moved. We have here the best possible record of what can be found.

The book is perfectly organized, by each cemetery in turn. For each, there are directions to the cemetery, comments, and a listing of the oldest grave, the oldest birth date, the oldest person and the youngest buried there. Robert Leland adds a schematic map of the gravestones, numbered, and this is followed by the transcription in order of each of the stones. Each page includes photographs, some of the stones and some of the people – Salome and Lyman Hopkins who owned the Hopkins store; Don and Maryanna Cameron who lived to age 91 and 89, respectively; young Merrill Dolliver in his WWI sailor's uniform; and many others.

At the end of the book are listed names of all persons whose stones were found, in alphabetical order, with the number where each is transcribed. That page shows the exact location of the stone (for example, on p. 69: Marshall, Phebe L., #78, row 6, in the Goose Cove Cemetery).

The oldest person and also the oldest birthdate is Ephraim Haynes, buried in the Haynes cemetery on Haynes Point (seventy people with the surname Haynes are listed). He was a veteran of the Revolutionary

War, and from the inscription on his stone (shown on page 53) may have had a rough time of it:

Haynes, Ephraim Mr.  
Born: (abt 1735)  
Died: 12/21/1837  
AE 102 years  
Spouse: Zelphia Finney  
(Revolutionary War Vet)  
*Prisoner long detained below*  
*Prisoner now with freedom blest*  
*Welcome from a world of woe*  
*In heaven their soul shall rest*

In the front of the book is an 1880 map of the towns of Trenton and Lamoine showing the location of each household. In the back are a listing of all war veterans, from the Revolutionary War to Vietnam (inexplicably, Mr. Ephraim Haynes doesn't appear), the GPS locations of all the cemeteries, and – a fascinating addition – the 1790 and 1800 Federal Census data for Trenton, Maine, showing the size of each household and the ages and gender of its inhabitants. (The 1790 census has a column for “slaves”: none are listed.) The largest household of 1790 was Solomon Jordan's, with thirteen people. In 1800 the Elkanny Young household, the largest, showed two “free white females” between the ages of 26 and 45 and nine “free white males,” of whom eight were under 26 years old and one, presumably Mr. Elkanny Young himself, was over 45.

The Lelands are continuing their work. As they write in their postscript, *Gone But Not Forgotten*, “As time goes by cemetery stones, especially the ones in the small family plots, disappear... We have knowledge of at least 5-6 more cemeteries in Trenton and will be continuing our search for them. We would love to hear from anyone that knows of any of the ‘lost’ cemeteries in Trenton...to locate [them] so that we may be able to restore and preserve them.”

Well done!

*Seth Singleton*