

CEMETERIES

**NOYAC
NORTH HAVEN
OLD BURYING GROUND
RUSSELL'S NECK**

NORTH HAVEN, L.I.

The following single stone was found concealed in a swampy briar patch while running a line for the surveyors. It is hard to get at, and was probably a small private cemetery of the Duvall family. If more are buried there, which is doubtful, no stones have been erected.

William Duvall, died of old age, November 16, 1797, aged 78 years.

RUSSELL'S NECK

A private cemetery
between
Sag Harbor & North West

1. David Russell, died October 27, 1819, aged 75 years
2. Elizabeth, wife of David Russell, died June 11, 1804, aged 60 years.
3. Elizabeth, daughter of David and Elizabeth Russell, died May 13, 1797 aged 17 years.
4. Peleg Russell, died June 30, 1795, aged 3 years.
5. John Russell (no dates)
6. Fanny Russell (no dates)

The Church Records say "A child of John Russell died January 31, 1796, and a child of John Russell died April 30, 1797".

(The above 5 and 6 may be the two children mentioned in the Church Record.

THE OLD BURYING GROUND

Arranged for Publication by G. E. LATHAM

What is now called the "Old Burying Ground", the "silent city of the dead", is situated in the center of the village of Sag Harbor, N.Y., on what is quite a hill. From all sides of the plot, as you look at from the street, the attention of the passer-by is called to it. On the north it is bounded by Union Street, on the west by Madison Street, on the south by Latham Street, and on the east by the Presbyterian Church. In it are laid at rest many of the early settlers of the village, possibly some of its founders. History says that Sag Harbor was settled about the years 1730 or 1740. The early settlers or residents of the village, were employed in the coasting trade. Sloops and schooners were largely used at this time in the West India trade. The houses, the first of them were built near the water, on the north-west part of the village, or west of the old "Hog Neck Bridge".

In looking over this "Old Burying Ground", and reading the inscriptions on the old moss-grown gravestones, we find that persons were buried in it nine years before the Revolutionary War. On these tombstones the ravages of time have made inroads. The old and familiar names we have read on the tombstones, which are especially noticeable, we have copied. They are as follows: Raymond, Clark, Hedges, Price, Crowell, L'Hommedieu, Treman, Russell, Jermain, Latham, Taylor, Hall, Cook, Goodwin, Jagger, Welden, Dennison, Sayre, Davall, Harris, Eldredge, Collins, Ripley, Corey, Chase, Harlow, Whittlesey, Hildreth, Gelston, Howell, Parker, Stuart, Woodruff and others. Many bodies were taken out from this enclosure some years ago and buried in Oakland Cemetery. In law it is said, "possession is nine points," and if such is the case, then we think these deceased who have held quiete possession

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of this spot for so long a time, ought NOT to be DISTURBED or the BURIAL PLACE EITHER. There are also other connections about this spot which make it dear to those who have friends and relatives buried there. Where the "Old Burying Ground" now is, no doubt in early settlement of the village, when this tract was laid out for burial purposes it was thickly wooded, as now is the Oakland Cemetery in the southern part of the village. We were informed a few days ago, by an old citizen, that he was told the first burial in the "Old Burying Ground" was that of a small child and the mother was heart-broken to think that her child had been buried all alone in the woods and that after dark, she went within this enclosure and stayed by the grave of the child all night long. If this is true, the first burial in it, must have been in the summer time. How true this statement is we know not, but we give it as stated to us.

Suggestions have been made from time to time in regard to these grounds being used for school purposes. We do not fall in with this idea. Let the "Old Burying Ground" remain as it is. There are other places on which to build a school building, if necessary. Don't disturb this resting place of the dead! The ladies of our Village Improvement Society have these grounds in charge. We know they will not see it disturbed. In looking over some old papers a week or two since, we found an old deed, which relates to this matter, which we have copied as follows:

Thomas Tarbell to Hubbard Latham, 10 acres, now Burying Ground, \$18.00
1772.

Lot No.1, Great Division, north by highway; east by land of Sarah Tarbell; south by land of Edward Howell; west by land of David Hand and Hubbard Latham.

1772.

Now Presbyterian Church in Lot No.1, Great Division. The above which has been written, is an outside copy of the Thomas Tarbell deed.

The following is on the inside of the Thomas Tarbell deed:

"Know all men by these Presents, that I, Thomas Tarbell, of the township of Richmond, in the county of Berkshire in Boston,

Government Physician, Do for the consideration of the sum of Eighteen pounds, York money, which being paid to my full satisfaction by Hubbard Latham, of the town of Southampton, in the county of Suffolk and province of New York, cordroinder. The Receipt of Money I do acknowledge and myself fully satisfied, contested and paid, have given, granted, and do by the Presents, Give, Grant, Bargain, Sell, Convey, Confirm unto the said Hubbard Latham and his heirs and assigns forever: One certain piece of land, lying in the Lot No.1, Great Division, and contains Ten acres, be it more or less, and is butted and bounded as follows: Beginning north by a Highway, and east by land of Sarah Tarbell, south by the upland Swamp of Edward Howell and west by David Hand and Hubbard Latham; to be unto him, the said Hubbard Latham, to have and to hold, Possess and enjoy the same as his own property and Lawful Estate of Inheritance forever; one certain piece of land lying in the Lot No.1 Great Division, and contains Ten acres, be it more or less and is butted or bounded as follows: Beginning north by a Highway and east by land of Sarah Tarbell; south by the upland Swamp of Edward Howell; west by David Hand and Hubbard Latham; to be unto him, the said Hubbard Latham, to have and to hold, Possess and enjoy the same as his own and their property and lawful estate of Inheritance forever.

And furthermore, I the said Thomas Tarbell, for me and my heirs, executors and administrators as assigns, Do Covenant; and I engage the Afore Dismissed premises to him and the said Hubbard Latham, his heirs and assigns forever, against all lawful claims or demands of any person whatsoever, to warrant, secure and defend the same, in witness whereof I have unto set my hand and seal, this twenty-sixth day of August and in the year of our Lord, 1772.

Signed, Sealed and delivered in the Presents of

Simeon Mackley
Richard Carpenter.
THOMAS TARSELL
(seal)

Among some memorandums of the late Mr. Eleazor Latham, we find the following:

Old Burying Ground at Sag Harbor, May 5, 1767

At a meeting of the trustees held by adjournment, voted and ordered by said trustees, that Mr. William Rogers and David Woodruff, shall purchase a piece of land at Sag Harbor, near Meeting House, not exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ of one acre, to be for a burial place, and that at the town's cost."

June 23rd, 1767 - The trustees being met by adjournment, voted and ordered, by said trustees, that David Hand, may, and shall have a certain piece of land, adjoining on the south side of his home lot. Bounded on the west, on the lands of Peter Hildreth, and is 5 poles, 21 feet and a half wide at the west end, and runs eastward 30 poles in length, coming to a point.

To be unto him and his forever, in consideration of a certain piece of land at or near the meeting house, as it is layed

off and staked out for a burial place to be to the trustees of Sag Harbor and their successors forever, for and in consideration of the said land adjoining Hand's lot.

A copy from the Records of the proprietors trustees. Edwin Post, Clerk.

David Hand to Hubbard Latham, north by Burying Ground, Deed 1770. This is what is now called the Old Burying Ground on Madison Street, corner of Union Street. The last interments which were made in the Old Burying Ground were in the year 1784.

Among some old papers we find the following:- "State of New York, ss;- Be it remembered that on the 28th. day of Aug. 1810, before me, Corn's Sleight, a Master in Chancery, for the State of New York, personally appeared Sophia Hand and person well known here, and who is a subscribing witness to the within, who being duly sworn, says that she saw David Hand make his mark to the within and acknowledge the same for the uses and purposes therein contained, and finding no material erasures or interliniations, do allow the same to be recorded.
Corn's Sleight.

David Hand was the person of whom Hubbard Latham purchased. Gideon Hand, has heard him make the declaration. Knows Latham the person as person who paid.

To whom it may concern, I certify, that I David Hand, have sold the whole of the northern part of my lot to Hubbard Latham, excepting 3 acres, to Ichabod Edwards and the "Burying Ground".

Bridge Hampton, 1808.

As witness, my hand, David Hand.
X, his mark.

In the presence of Sophia Hand, State of New York.

David Hand's Deed to Hubbard Latham, Near Burying Yard, 1804, 1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ acres, 1804, May 3rd. - To all people to whom these presents shall come, Greetings, know ye that I David Hand, Farmer of Southampton, County of Suffolk, State of New York, for and in consideration of six pounds current money of New York, to me in hand paid by

Hubbard Latham, the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, and myself fully satisfied and paid do discharge him, the said Hubbard Latham, by these presents and confirmed to him, the said Hubbard Latham, his heirs and assigns forever, a certain tract of land, in the town of Southampton, in Lot No. 3 Grant Division, containing one acre and one fourth of an acre, butted and bounded westerly by the land of Bradish Corey; easterly by Sag Harbor road and southerly by land of Hubbard Latham, to hold the said bargained premises with all the privileges to the same belonging to him, the said Hubbard Latham, his heirs and assigns forever and the said David Hand for me my heirs and executors do covenant and engage to him, the said Hubbard Latham, I as the true and lawful owner of the above bargained premises, and have full power to sell the same as above said, and furthermore the said David Hand for myself, my heirs and executors do covenant and engage the above bargained premises to Hubbard Latham, his heirs and assigns against the lawful claim of any person or persons whatsoever, hereafter to warrant and defend in witness hereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this Third day of May, One Thousand Eighteen Hundred and Four.

Signed, Sealed and Delivered.
David Hand.

In presence of Daniel Howell, Martha Hilditch, (mark).

As the Old "Burying Ground" seems to be a popular topic for consideration just now, made so by the preposterous suggestion of turning it into a public school site, would it not be well for some one interested and competent in ancient lore and history, to give the public the true facts and data regarding this "ancient city of the dead". An attempt was made to do this in the last issue of the "Corrector", but the effort seems to have been a failure, so far as authentic information is concerned, as the writer has evidently confused in his mind two burial plots. He quotes "May 5, 1768" At a meeting of the Trustees, held by adjournment, voted and ordered by said Trustees, that Wm. Rogers and David Woodruff shall purchase a piece of land at Sag Harbor near the Meeting House, not to exceed 3/4 of an acre to be for a burial place, and that at the town's cost. A little study of the geography of the village, and the allotments and boundaries as given in the records will show that this entry refers to the old burying ground which once occupied the site now covered by the premises of John DeCast Mrs. William Bennett, and the market of George J. Howell, and the meeting house mentioned was the Old Presbyterian Church, corners of Church & Sage Streets. There was no meeting house at that time near the present old burying ground, not until 75 years later. The piece of land quoted as being given in exchange for this "old burying ground" plot to David Hand was presumably a portion of the lot now owned and occupied by George Kiernan and the "coming to a point" now forms a part of Madison Square. The above is given by the Corrector scribe as the "Oldest Burying ground at Sag Harbor"; if so where were all the bodies buried between 1730 and 1767? The writer says, "We find that persons were buried in it nine years before the Revolutionary War." Also the last interments which were made in the Old Burying Ground were in the year 1784. This may be true, referring to the old burying ground on lower Madison Street but if the writer presumes to refer to the old Burying ground now in question, he is evidently half a century "off". It is a well known fact however that the oldest tombstone in the now old burying ground bears date July 2, 1780. Query - If the last body was buried in this old ground in 1784, where were the people buried, who died during the next fifty years, up to the time Oakland Cemetery was opened?

Again we can find no evidence either in fact or history of houses being built west of the Old Hag Neck bridge on the Cove, but authentic records of a settlement east of Main Street, near the water. Will some competent person lead us out of the dark.

(Student)