Granite Women Portsmouth Guide

Below is a list of Portsmouth cemeteries worth visiting that feature some of the gravestones listed in my lecture, and more. For information about cemetery locations, use the Wave app on your smart phone or check online at findagrave.com. For more information on the women discussed, or about historic cemeteries in general, check out my books online.

Please show respect when visiting these sites and follow all cemetery guidelines where applicable. Some may not be accessible year-round and some are not handicapped accessible.

Remember, this is just a small sampling of what can be found here and all across New Hampshire. I hope you are inspired to do some exploring on your own.

Portsmouth has the finest collection of Colonial-era cemeteries in the state…open-air museums…with many Granite-women-themed stones to see. You can spend an hour, a day, or even a full weekend perusing all these cemeteries and still not see everything there is to see!

**North Cemetery**- Look here for the portrait stones for Elizabeth Stoodley and Mary Folsom. These are in the front of the cemetery, closer to adjacent Union Cemetery and are rare examples of this type of work. Look also for the lovely stone for “dutiful child” Elizabeth Halliburton, further towards the cemetery entrance. Further back, look for the weathered gravestone of African American Esther Whipple Mullineaux, the daughter of the famed Prince Whipple, a soldier in the American Revolution and once enslaved by Declaration of Independence signer William Whipple, both also buried here.

**Pleasant Street Cemetery**- Look for the grave of Mary Manning, known for its one-of-a-kind grim reaper (why this theme was chosen is anyone’s guess!) first and foremost. Take a look, too, at the weathered white stone at center near a brick tomb for local teacher Anne Barrell.

**Point of Graves**- Here you will find some early and outstanding Boston carvings…look for that of young Anne Jaffrey, who died two weeks after childbirth. The town of Jaffrey is named after her husband and her son, though little is known of her. Look also for the dual gravestone for Richard and Lydia Webber, he a butcher, both tavern-keepers, as well as the tiny one in the far front corner for Eleanor Lloyd (Lloid), who may have been a mid-wife like her mother. The collection here is small but important and features women from all societal levels.

**South Street Complex**- Often called South Street Cemetery, there are actually six cemeteries in this historic area where Ruth Blay was hanged in 1768. The older sections feature many of the old Colonial-era themed stones, while the newer portions, distinguished by their white, Victorian-era stones, feature many different floral and sentimental themes used on the gravestones of women. At the far back of the Harmony Grove section (near to where people are still being interred) you will find the grave for Elizabeth Ann Virgil, the first African American woman to graduate from UNH.

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