

REPORT OF THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE



THE CEMETERY COMMITTEE was established in 1991 to advise the Town on the operation, maintenance and preservation of Jaffrey's public cemeteries: Conant, The Old Burying Ground, Cutter, Phillips-Heil and Village (inactive). It is composed of representatives of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Historical Society, Cournoyer Funeral Home, the Board of Selectmen and three appointed Members at Large. Town employees Randy Heglin, Rick Forcier and Peachie Chalke assist the Committee in its work.

CEMETERY STATISTICS FOR 2005

<u>Available Lots:</u>	<u>Conant</u>	<u>Phillips</u>	<u>Phillips-Heil</u>	<u>Cutter</u>	<u>Old Burying Ground</u>
Burial (double)	358	0	83	0	0
Cremation	23	21	30	0	0
<u>Sale of Lots:</u>					
Burial (double)	1	0	4	0	0
Burial (single)	0	0	0	0	0
Cremation	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Burials:</u>					
Full	5	1	2	0	0
Cremation	6	1	0	0	4
Disinterment	0	0	0	0	0

During 2005 the Committee met six times with Town staff to discuss operation, budget and maintenance issues. It also inspected all of Jaffrey's cemeteries. Each cemetery is overseen by a member of the Committee. This oversight involves inspecting the cemetery from time to time and reporting on conditions and problems at Committee meetings.

The Committee is pleased to report that after many months of review and revision the *Cemetery Rules and Regulations* were approved by the Selectmen early in 2005. A summary for those who own lots or might wish to purchase them is now in draft form and should be available soon.

Vandalism regrettably occurred in Conant Cemetery in May. At least six gravestones were damaged. Repairs were quickly made by the Kaufhold Family Memorials & Stone Works of Peterborough. Stone straightening was also done by volunteers in the Old Burying Ground.

A survey of the new Cutter Cemetery extension has been completed and it is expected that lot sales will start later in 2006 after access and circulation have been addressed.

On November 1st the Committee and Public Works staff visited all cemeteries and removed all unauthorized materials from gravesites. This was preceded by newspaper advertisements and signs posted at each cemetery. This will now be done annually after October 31st.

The Committee looks forward in 2006 to 1) completing the summary guide to Jaffrey's public cemeteries; 2) improving cemetery record keeping; 3) restoring the iron fencing around John Conant's grave at the cemetery named for him; 4) advising on the development of the Cutter Cemetery extension; 5) constructing a new wood gate at the Old Burying Ground; and 6) finding ways and means to remove several large pines posing a hazard in the Old Burying Ground.

For front matter of Town Report:

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Donald Cramb, Member at Large (Conant Overseer)	Term expires 2007
Cynthia Hamilton, Member at Large (Cutter Overseer)	Term expires 2007
Priscilla Palmer, Member at Large (Phillips-Heil Overseer)	Term expires 2006
Randyl Cournoyer	Cournoyer Funeral Home
John D. Field	{ American Legion Representative
	{ V.F.W. Representative
Robert B. Stephenson (Old Burying Ground Overseer)	Historical Society Representative
Jeanne LaBrie	Selectmen s Representative

NOTE: Because of space we are not including names in the main entry.