

ADAMS

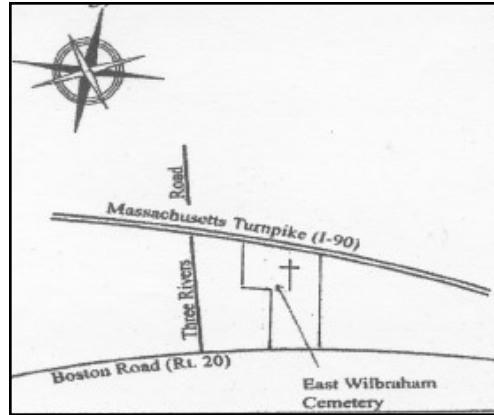
Lot Size 42" x 10'

Commissioner: George Gordon
Phone: 433-0551

Adams

In 1748, when the landed properties of Springfield conveyed the over plus of land of the middle division of the Outward Commons "to the first orthodox minister of the Gospel to be located therein," they reserved land for a highway and for a burying ground. That highway is Tinkham Road. In early Town records the cemetery had no name, and referenced it as being merely "near the residence of Deacon Adams," hence its "the old burying ground" is now known as Adams Cemetery. It was considered the Church graveyard.

The first burial was of Elizabeth Cockril, a Boston resident, who was visiting here when she died in 1741. With most of the early families represented, it was enlarged several times over the years until it reached its current size of five acres. A hearse house that once stood on the southwest corner was removed in 1871 and now stands on Main Street at the Old Meeting House. A cement block building was erected about 1910 by two generations of the Merrick family—Charles F. Merrick, who was the father of Charles L. Merrick. The building which was built to store bodies during winter months is now used as an equipment shed.



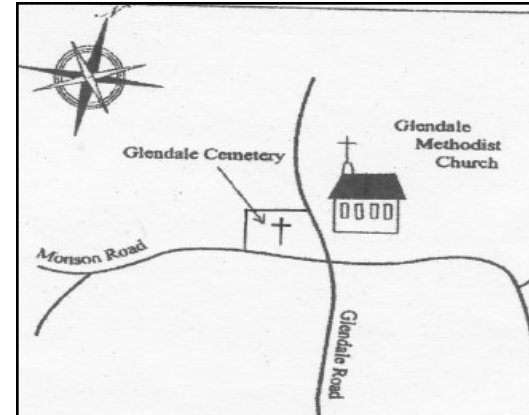
EAST WILBRAHAM

Lot Size: 48" x 10'

Commissioner: Wilfred R. Renaud
Phone: 596-9287

East Wilbraham

Located on high ground between Boston Road and the Massachusetts Turnpike a short distance east of Three Rivers Road, this cemetery's early history is not well documented in Town records. A town meeting vote taken August 10, 1829, referred to "the burying ground on the First Baptist Society in Wilbraham." The oldest legible date on a headstone is 1779, the year the Society erected a meetinghouse. The earliest recorded burial was in 1779 of Elisha Burr, age 3. He was the son of Deacon Timothy and Naomi (Walden) Burr. Evidently this was the second cemetery located in Wilbraham. The Town took over the cemeteries in the 1870's. After small purchases over the years, the total area of the cemetery grew to 3.38 acres. In 1997, Town Meeting transferred almost 7 acres adjacent to the cemetery that was given to the Town by the Blake family. Total cemetery land is now 10.4 acres. In 1998, a new access road was installed. Land along the new entrance is reserved for cremation burials with flat markers. A white old-style picket fence along the entrance as well as at the top of the hill was installed in 2009.



GLENDALE

Lot Size: 48" x 10'

Commissioner: Donald R. Bourcier
Phone: 596-2404

Glendale

This cemetery, on the northwest corner of Monson and Glendale Roads, has an almost mysterious early history. It, too, is said to have been a Baptist burying ground (there was once a Baptist church on Monson Road farther toward Monson). The earliest recorded burial here was that of a local resident, Caleb Stebbins, Jr., in 1787. However, there were already several unidentified graves in the southeast corner of the oldest part of the cemetery.

Supervision was taken by various agencies; in 1805, the parish (being the governing of "the church" voted to "fence burying ground over the mountain." In 1857, the Burying Ground Society of School District No. 7 in the Town of Wilbraham was formed "to take charge of the affairs of the burying ground." In 1876, the Town took over control. Enlargements to the cemetery were made in that year and again in 1963 and 2000. Today the cemetery consists of approximately 3 acres. In 2004 the Town Meeting approved the commission's plan to rebuild the 1830's stone wall along Monson Road. A new lawn was installed and flowers were also planted along the outside of the wall. In 2006 a well was dug to provide for watering of flowers on the graves. In 2007 a granite cap was installed on the stone wall.

A CEMETERY IS . . .

- A PLACE WHERE LIVES ARE HONORED, WHERE RECORDS ARE KEPT OF THOSE RESTING THEREIN
- A PLACE WHERE FAMILIES CAN GO TO REVERE THEIR LOVED ONES; WHERE FRIENDS CAN REMEMBER THOSE WHO THEY HAVE KNOWN
- WHERE MEMORIES CAN BE RECALLED, WHERE LOVE CAN BE SHARED
- A PLACE WHERE THE COMMUNITY CAN ACCORD RESPECT TO THOSE WHO HAVE DIED
- A PLACE WHERE INDIVIDUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND FAMILY HERITAGE CAN BE RECALLED
- A PLACE OF HONOR AND RESPECT OF THOSE WHO REST HERE WHO HAVE BUILT THE COMMUNITIES AND FAMILIES THAT FOLLOW
- A PLACE THAT IS A GREAT SOURCE OF COMFORT TO THE LIVING AND A HISTORY OF ITS PEOPLE
- A PLACE THAT PROVIDES A PERPETUAL RECORD OF YESTERDAY
- A PLACE OF SANCTUARY, OF PEACE, AND OF QUIET TO ALL WHO VISIT

**A CEMETERY IS
THE MEMORIAL
TO THOSE WHO HAVE DIED,
*FOR ETERNITY***