

The Cemeterian

Spring 2016

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Good Day Cemeterian,

Hopefully when you get this notice, Spring will be here for good. We have an interesting meeting agenda. Howard Coffin will be discussing Civil War and Cemeteries. The Peacham Historical Society will be conducting a shorten version of their fund raising Ghost Walk and as usual we will have time to discuss cemetery issues. Bring your questions, suggestions and advice to share. Hope to see you there,

Patrick Healy

Here is the Spring Meeting Notice JUNE 15 IN PEACHAM, VT

8:30-9:00 Breakfast/ Socializing

9:00-9:45 Business Meeting, Questions and Answer Session

10:00-11:10 Howard Coffin Civil War and Cemeteries

Break away to go to the cemetery

11:30 Ghost Walk and time to look around cemetery - Historical Society.

12:30 Lunch at school

Lunch will be Lasagna, salad, bread, drinks and dessert put on by PTF. Let us know if you want vegetarian.

Breakfast will consist of coffee and homemade muffins, etc.



Peacham Cemetery and Common

The Peacham Cemetery sits above the village with a commanding view of the countryside. It's orderly paths and gravestones are shaded by lovely old trees.

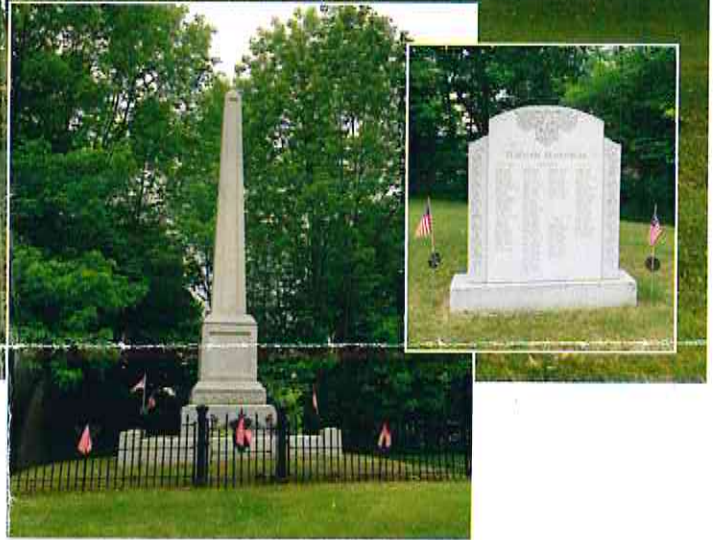
The property originally belonged to the Peacham Academy, but the town purchased it in 1869 when the Academy moved to another site. The purchase also included land to be used for a town common.

The town voted to spend \$100 in 1893 to introduce water to the cemetery but rescinded the vote after three years when nothing was done. A cemetery commission was also established, but it was ineffective.

A proposition to remove all the trees in the cemetery was considered in 1926 but was fortunately defeated by a vote of 60 to 11.

In 1944, the cemetery received an endowment of \$18,000 and became self-supporting by offering Perpetual Care for grave sites for \$100.

Due to continuing dedication by Peacham residents, the cemetery remains one of the most beautiful and well-kept in Vermont.



Within a year after the Civil War, a committee was established "to inquire into the cost of a soldier's monument and also a memorial hall in lieu of a monument." The Town elected to build a monument.

A Monument Association was formed and given permission to erect a monument on the common dedicated to Peacham's Civil War veterans. The Association raised \$3000 from private donations and erected a granite monument on which the names of Peacham volunteers were inscribed .

In 1871, the Association was allowed to erect a fence to enclose a four-rods-square space around the monument. The fence was supported by most of the voters but was torn down one night by non-supporters and never replaced.

A second monument was added to the common in 2009 to commemorate Peacham veterans from World Wars I & II and the Korean and Vietnam Wars.