

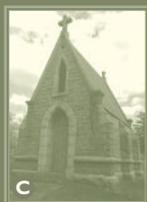
NOTABLE MONUMENTS & MAUSOLEUMS



A
Palmer Mausoleum



B
Billings Mausoleum



C
Receiving Vault



D
C.P. Williams Memorial



E
Phelps Mausoleum



F
Atwood Colonnade

Photos by Anna Sawin Photography: Palmer, Billings, and Phelps Mausoleums, Atwood Colonnade, C.P. Williams Memorial

A FEW NOTABLE BURIALS

- 1 **Samuel Fish Denison (1782–1855)**
First family of Stonington. Stonington Pie
- 2 **Thomas Chesebrough (1720–1754)**
First burial
- 3 **Nathaniel Palmer (1799–1877)**
First to sight Antarctica
- 4 **Thomas Barrett Powers (d. 31 Jul 1814)**
English casualty of the Battle of Stonington
- 5 **George Washington Whistler (1800–1849)**
Railroad designer & inventor
- 6 **Stephen Vincent Benet (1898–1943)**
Author and poet. Pulitzer Prize winner
- 7 **Griffith Bailey Coale (1890–1950)**
Military painter
- 8 **James Ingram Merrill (1926–1995)**
Poet and Pulitzer Prize winner
- 9 **Rosalie “Rollie” McKenna (1918–2003)**
Photographer

The **Stonington Cemetery Association** is a 501(c)13 non-profit organization. The cemetery is operated by a Board of Directors elected and acting in accordance with Association By-Laws. The grounds are maintained through volunteer efforts, with funds provided through the generosity of the community, by a small endowment, and from burial services.

Interment locations are available in our historic grounds for both full interment and the burial of cremated remains. If you are considering the purchase of a burial plot, please consult our website for current pricing and for contact information to arrange a tour of available sites. We look forward to assisting you.

Grave finding assistance is available. We are often able to offer help locating graves. Please contact us through our website or via phone at 860-535-1706. Allow time for a board member or cemetery employee to return your call.

Visitors are welcome. You'll find driving directions on our website. We encourage you to stroll our grounds during daylight hours. Out of respect for those who are buried in the cemetery and for their families and loved ones, we ask that you not walk dogs or horses within the old grounds. Please feel free to stroll the West Grounds and enjoy the trail to the cove. Leashed dogs are welcome on this land for the present.



Stonington
Cemetery



345 North Main Street | P.O. Box 345
Stonington, CT 06378

860.535.1706 | www.stoningtoncemetery.org



The Stonington Cemetery incorporates three important cemetery styles – the family burial ground, the rural or garden style, and the memorial park style. In 1849, a group of wealthy Stonington citizens who were influenced by new ideas from Europe formed a corporation to found a public non-sectarian cemetery. They purchased land that included the small 18th century Chesebrough-Phelps family plot where the oldest burial is located. The new cemetery represented a Victorian approach to death and mourning that is reflected in the organized lay out of family plots and the personal style of their

monuments. By the end of the 19th century, the cemetery had expanded beyond its original walls while still keeping the Victorian style. During the 20th century, fenced and curbed family plots gave way to the modern memorial park style arrangement represented in the eastern portions of the grounds by gridded plot organization and less ornamented headstones.

Two notable monuments located near the front gates are the neo-Gothic Coddington Billings mausoleum and the Albert G. Palmer mausoleum. The Receiving Vault to the right of the center road held bodies when winter conditions prevented burials. The Atwood Colonnade and Phelps mausoleum are located to the rear of the cemetery. “Poets’ Corner” encompasses the burial locations of some writers and artists who during recent decades made Stonington their home and Stonington Cemetery their final resting place. The West

Grounds, located across North Main Street from the original grounds, was purchased in 2001. This land, once part of the Phelps family farm, is reserved for future burials.

We invite you to stroll the grounds and reflect upon the lives of the many people buried there. They were farmers, businessmen, explorers, soldiers, clergymen, workers, trades people, fisherman, artists, and writers. Their lives shaped the history of our region. In 2018, the Stonington Cemetery was awarded a listing on the National Register of Historic Places.