



Welcome back to the story of Woodlands Cemetery.

The cemetery is now waking up after a winter's rest. Soon the grass will turn green and the leaves will emerge.

The CPA application that we submitted in January has been approved by the Community Preservation Committee and will be brought before the town for review and vote at the town meeting in May. We are hopeful that it will be received positively. The town, in the past, has donated some amount to the upkeep of the cemetery and we are requesting that again this year.

A lovely handwritten book, listing all the occupants of Woodlands Cemetery as of 1981-82, has been turned over to the Historical Room in the Library. It was compiled by Helena Duris. It was used as a starting point for the updated document that we have just completed which lists all of the people, their parents, and their spouses, who are buried at Woodlands. The document is available on line on the Library's Historic Image Library website. It will be expanded this summer to contain the GPS coordinates of each grave enabling families and interested persons to find any specific one. It will be kept up to date. For historical purposes, we have also put up a transcription of the minutes for Woodlands Association meetings from 1912-2017.



The focus on Timothy Mather Cooley last month brought to light some information about his brother James who is buried in a different fenced area of Woodlands Cemetery. James was an attorney and lived his entire life in Granville. He contributed not only his expertise but his time and talents in other aspects of the town. He was the town clerk for some 10 years and, like his brother Timothy, was dedicated in his documentation of on-going town happenings. Now, some 200 years later, we are grateful for that documentation. James married Almira Parsons in 1805 and together had 5

children. James built a small office that he used for a while as a residence until he built the larger house just to the west. It is the small historic building at 688 Main Road that became his Law Office. It originally had two front doors, one to the office, one to the living room and kitchen of the residence. It is still an active residence today. When James died in 1851, the little building became the Town Offices for a number of years. It was James and Almira's youngest son, James Parsons, who partnered with Silas Noble to start the Drum Shop.



Some information and images courtesy of the Granville Public Library Historical Room. And for those who are so inclined, more wonderful town information can be found on the Granville Historic Image Library via <http://granvillelib.info/index.html> and the Noble and Cooley Center for Historic Preservation, NCCHP <https://ncchpresearchlibrary.blogspot.com>. A special thanks to Dick Rowley for his enthusiasm on all of this.

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