

## Becket Cemeteries

Becket has three elected Cemetery Commissioners, who serve three-year terms. Today they maintain the [Becket Center Cemetery](#), [North Becket Cemetery](#) and [West Becket Cemetery](#), all town cemeteries. Several town reports between 1891 and 1931 state the town paid to have the grass and brush cut at the town owned, Yokum Pond Cemetery, off Tyne Road, as well. This small cemetery dates burials between 1802 and 1894. It measures about 40 x 40 feet, surrounded by a stone wall and stone stile steps on the west side. The steps were typical of the time; designed to keep out domestic animals that ran free. There are ten large marble stones, eleven small marble markers and three field stone markers. This cemetery is on private property.

Several other private, family burial grounds are spread throughout Becket. The oldest, the Harris family burying ground, was on the 140-acre Harris farm. It is in the woods off Captain Whitney Road, East Becket on land now owned by the Town of Chester. It is similar in physical size and design to the Yokum Pond Cemetery. It contains thirty-four field stone markers and four marble slab markers dating from 1777 through to 1869.

In South Becket, there are two family burial sites. In one, the last readable monument was to Selah Snow, who died in 1812. He and others were buried off the old Greenwood Road from Becket to Blandford, cut-off by the Massachusetts Turnpike. During construction, a "hard-top shop" was located near the burial site so a sturdy metal fence was constructed to protect the burial site. The second family site, is on the east side of Algeria Road to Otis. There are seven field stone markers and part of a marble monument reading "Apr. 4, 1811, ae [age] 66 yrs." A marble stone inscribed "Samantha Snow, d. 1841," was taken in 1955.

In West Becket, the old Hunt Road, now Tyringham Road, is the location of the Gibbs family burial site. Samuel Gibbs, a Revolutionary War veteran from Connecticut, was buried here in 1829 along with his second wife, Charlotte, in 1856.

There are several known Indigenous American burial grounds in Becket: one near Greenwater Pond; one off George Carter Road; one off Plumb Road and one off Tyne Road.

For further information email the Becket Historical Commission:

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