

OLD WOOLLEY CEMETERY/GRAVELLY GRAVEYARD

FAIRVIEW AVENUE (Formerly Pine Street), BRICK, NEW JERSEY

Gene Donatiello

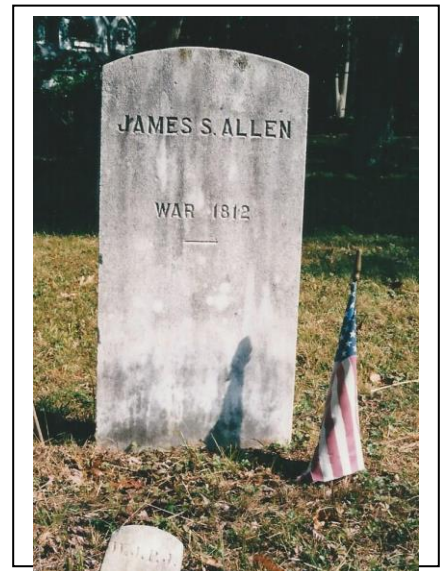
Old Woolley Cemetery, also known as Gravelly Graveyard, is the oldest burial ground within present day Brick Township. Located on a rise above the north bank of the Metedeconk River, it contains less than one hundred graves. Enoch Jones purchased about eight acres of land from the estate of Adam Woolley. Enoch in turn, deeded the land to Jessie Jones, setting aside less than one-half acre for a public cemetery.

As to the name Gravelly, according to local legend, an unidentified male body washed ashore on the Metedeconk River, the only identification found in his pocket was gravelly (gravel) the local people buried him there and somehow it became a nick name for the cemetery.

The earliest grave here is that of Rachel Wardell, born in 1782 and died in 1812. The last burial is that of Joseph Truex born 1819 and died in 1901

Among those buried here are eleven veterans of American Wars. Enoch Jones, who served with George Washington in the American Revolutionary War and who helped defend Toms River during a battle with British forces when he served with Captain Perrine's Company 33rd Militia.

Interred here are Eight Veterans of the War of 1812: William Johnson, James Allen, Cornelius Clayton, Isaac Wardell, Adam Woolley, William Woolley, John D. Clayton and James Osborn all workers at the Butcher-Burr Iron Forge on Forge Pond and all were members of Jacob Butcher's First Monmouth Brigade, a Company of Infantry. Also interred here is Isaac Elmer, a Township Overseer also a veteran of the War of 1812, Peter Layton a veteran of the War Between the States (Civil War) who died at Ward Army Hospital, Newark, New Jersey, and farmer William S. Johnson, a member of the first township committee in 1850, whose farm is now known as Windward Beach,.



Sources:

Angott, Eleanor, *The History of Brick Township*. Ocean County Historical Society, Toms River, New Jersey, 1982.

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Records of Officers and Men of New Jersey Wars 1791-1815 p.140.

Roster of Captain Butcher's Infantry, Brick Township Historical Society, Inc.