

④ **Burial Place Hill, Rehoboth**



Presumed to be the first of the 53 cemeteries in Rehoboth, Burial Place Hill (cemetery #33) is located at the corner of Providence and

Peckham Streets.

It is speculated thst the oldest known burial is that of Richard Bowen who died at tje age pf 81 just before the King Philip War began in 1675. This has not been confirmed, but this was the only burying place at that time that he died.

The second oldest burial is that of Robert Wheaton who died in 1696. He arrived from England, coming to Salem circa 1636/7. He removed to Weymouth,MA circa 1642, and was among those who, in 1644, founded the Ring of the Green settlement at present day East Providence along with Elder Samuel Newman.

⑤ **Little Neck Cemetery, East Providence**



Little Neck Cemetery at the south end of Read Street below Allen Avenue in Riverside contains the graves of John Brown, Jr. who purchased Wannoissett from Massasoit in 1643;

Elizabeth Tilley, a passenger on the 1620 Mayflower voyage to Plymouth; and Captain Thomas Willett, who settled in Rehoboth in 1643 and later served as the mayor of New York City in 1665 and 1667.

Elizabeth Tilley Howland (c. Aug 1607 – December 21, 1687) participated in the first Thanksgiving in Plymouth and was present at the first meeting between the Pilgrims and the Pokanoket Trive, later known as the First Encounter. She was one of the few original Pilgrims to live to see King Philip’s War. She died in Swansea.

⑥ **Tyler Point Cemetery, Barrington**



In 1680, following the King Philip War, a meetinghouse’s location was changed from Nockum Hill to what was then called “a place of trade” and is today

called Tyler Point on New Meadow Neck.

A cemetery, now at the end of Tyler Point Road, was established in 1702 adjacent to this second Baptist meetinghouse, led by Rev. John Myles. The center of settlement shifted easterly to Brooks Pasture, platted in 1682, that became the Town of Warren in 1747. Moses Tyler, a Boston shipbuilder, inherited the eastern shore of the point from his father-in-law, Edward Luther, in the 1750s and developed a shipyard, giving Tyler Point its name.

The cemetery is located at the southern end of Tyler Point Road off of County Road, Route 103, in Barrington between the Warren and Barrington bridges.

⑦ **Burr’s Hill Burial Ground, Warren**



Burr’s Hill, on the Bike Path across from the Town Beach in Warren, was an aboriginal burial ground that once contained dozens of grave sites of the people who

occupied the area in the 1600s.

Used as a sand and gravel source for a railroad that was constructed next to the site in 1853, many graves were looted. In an effort to protect the artifacts in the remaining 42 graves, librarian and amateur archaeologist Charles Carr exhumed the contents and donated them to museums in Providence, New York City, and Warren.

Following the passage of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act in 1990, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribal Council retrieved the artifacts and reburied them at the site in Burr’s Hill Park in May, 2017.

⑧ **Obadiah Bowen Cemetery, Warren**



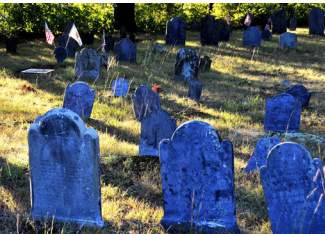
A manuscript from the Rhode Island Historical Society reads “There is a deed on record in Town Clerk’s office at Warren, under date of Dec. 1783, from Na-

thaniel Bowen to his son James Bowen describing the farm on which this burial lot is located and which states that it was laid out by ‘my grandfather, Obadiah Bowen.’ [1627-1710].”

Mary Clifton Bowen, whose tombstone is shown in the picture to the right, was the daughter of Thomas Clifton. She married Obadiah Bowen in 1648/9 in Rehoboth, MA, and was buried in 1697 with her husband.

The cemetery is located behind the East Bay Collaborative building on the southeast corner of School House Road and and Market Street (Route 136) in Warren.

⑨ **Kickemuit Cemetery, Warren**



The Kickemuit Cemetery, the oldest one in town, sits at the northern end of Serpentine Road between Child Street and School-

house Road in the center of Warren.

Also known as Rhode Island Historical Cemetery Warren #3, the cemetery has had over 400 burials, the oldest of which is John Luther in 1697. Graves include some of the soldiers who fought in the King Philip War, 1675-1676. Many are members of the Cole family, including Benjamin Cole whose 1701 house sits at 412 Old Warren Avenue nearby in Swansea.

Rhode Island Governor Josiah Lyndon, appointed the State of Rhode Island’s last Colonial Governor from 1768-1769, is also buried there.



*Visit 17th Century  
Burial Grounds  
in the Sowams  
Heritage Area*

- Including:
- North Burial Ground and Rev. Chad Brown
  - Newman Church Burial Ground
  - Palmer’s River Cemetery, Rehoboth
  - Burial Place Hill, Rehoboth
  - Little Neck Cemetery, East Providence
  - Tyler Point Cemetery, Barrington
  - Burr’s Hill Burial Ground, Warren
  - Obadiah Bowen Cemetery, Warren
  - Kickemuit Cemetery, Warren

Visit nine unique burial grounds in East Bay Rhode Island and nearby Massachusetts that contain graves from the 17th century.

Learn about dozens of other places from the 17th century in the East Bay and nearby Massachusetts on the Sowams Heritage Area website:



**SowamsHeritageArea.org**



Many people think that the 17th century is gone in East Bay Rhode Island and nearby Massachusetts. No buildings from that time survive undisturbed, and much that was here has been transformed or covered over with new buildings.

If you know where to look, however, you'll find evidence of that important time when this area was being settled by English colonists.

Locate nine burial grounds on the map in this brochure, and then travel to each one to learn about the people from Europe who settled there.

Visit the [www.SowamsHeritageArea.org](http://www.SowamsHeritageArea.org) website and find over fifty locations on-line that are part of the story of what happened in East Bay RI and nearby Massachusetts in the 17th century.

Support for this project was provided by the Rhode Island Council for the Humanities, an independent state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities.



① North Burial Ground & Rev. Chad Brown



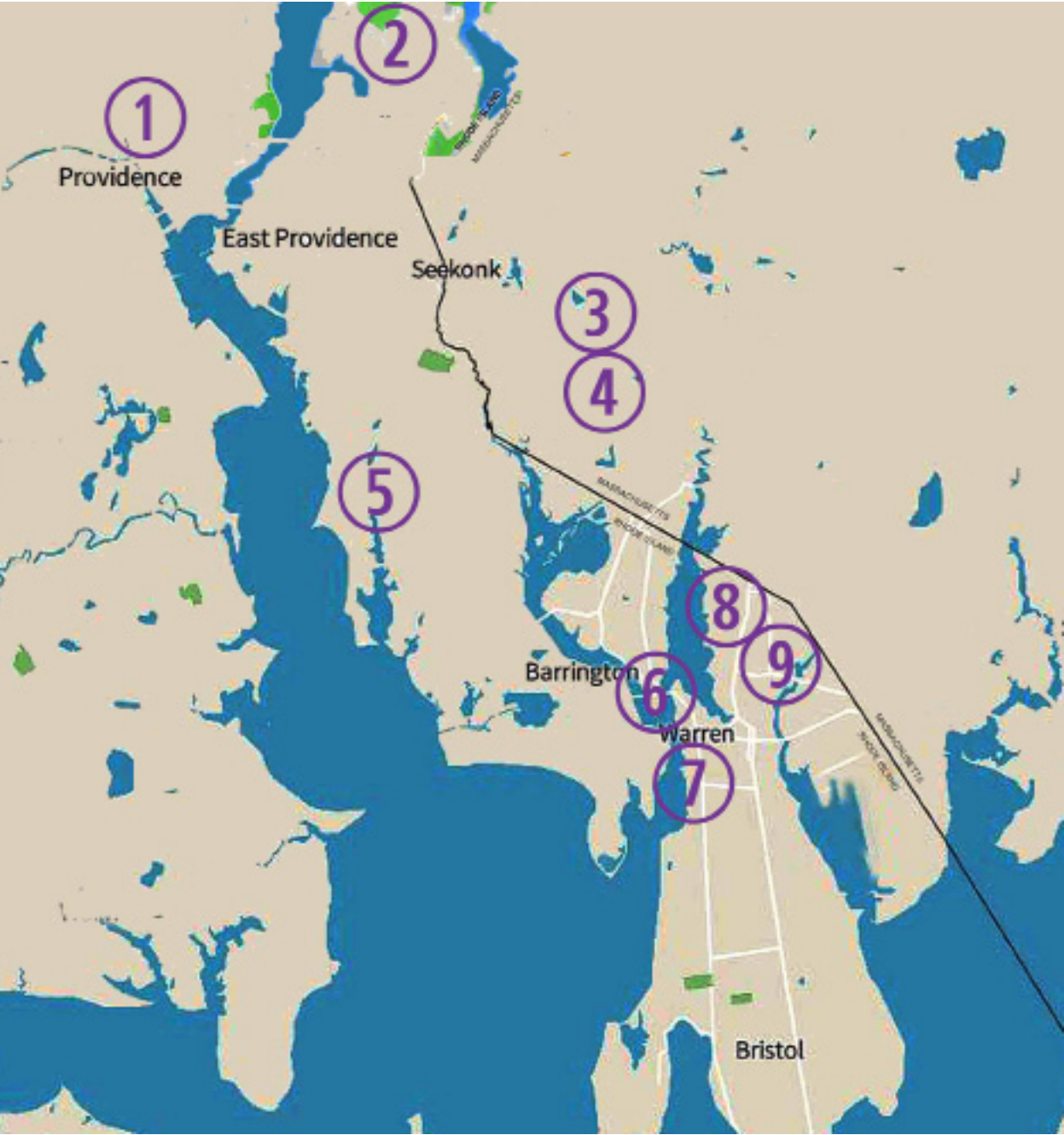
Prior to 1700, colonists buried their dead in family graveyards that haphazardly peppered the Providence landscape. As Providence's townspeople sought more efficient

use of land, the tradition of family graveyards declined and a burial ground was set aside.

Though the first burial didn't take place until 1711, the North Burial Ground is the location where early Providence settler Chad Brown was reburied sometime following his death in 1650.

In 1639, Rev. Chad Brown assumed the leadership of the First Baptist Church in America which had been briefly pastored by Roger Williams. The church members worshipped in a grove or orchard and in the houses of its members, and Brown remained pastor until his death sometime before 1650.

- ④Burial Place Hill, Rehoboth ⑤Little Neck Cemetery, East Providence ⑥Tyler Point Cemetery, Barrington



- ⑦Burr's Hill Burial Ground, Warren ⑧Obediah Bowen Cemetery, Warren ⑨Kickemuit Cemetery, Warren

② Newman Church Burial Ground



While court records show that the original Rehoboth area was settled as early as 1625, the Newman Church congregation was organized in 1643 by the

Reverend Samuel Newman of Weymouth, MA.

The first Newman Meeting House, which also served as a meeting hall for village business, was built across from today's church at 100 Newman Avenue in the center of what was called the "Ring of the Green." When King Philip burned the first meeting house in 1676, a second and later a third were built.

The burial ground for the community, located across the street from the Church, has gravestones dating back to 1658. The oldest one, that of William Carpenter, is simply marked with his initials and the year of his death. A bronze plaque sits in front of the cemetery next to a parking area on Newman Avenue.

③ Palmer's River Cemetery, Rehoboth



The Palmer's River Cemetery in Rehoboth is the burial site of William Cahoon who was appointed in 1673 as the brickmaker for the

Town of Swansea.

On June 24, 1675, he volunteered to go and get a physician to treat several settlers who had been ambushed by the Pokanokets while returning from a First Baptist Sunday morning service during King Philip's War. He was ambushed and stabbed to death. The parts of him that were later found were quickly buried a short time later, but there was no formal burial service due to the threat of attack.

However, on June 25, 2000, the Cahoon's descendants held a formal Christian burial service in his honor here. The cemetery is on Lake Street just north of Palmer Meadow Lane.