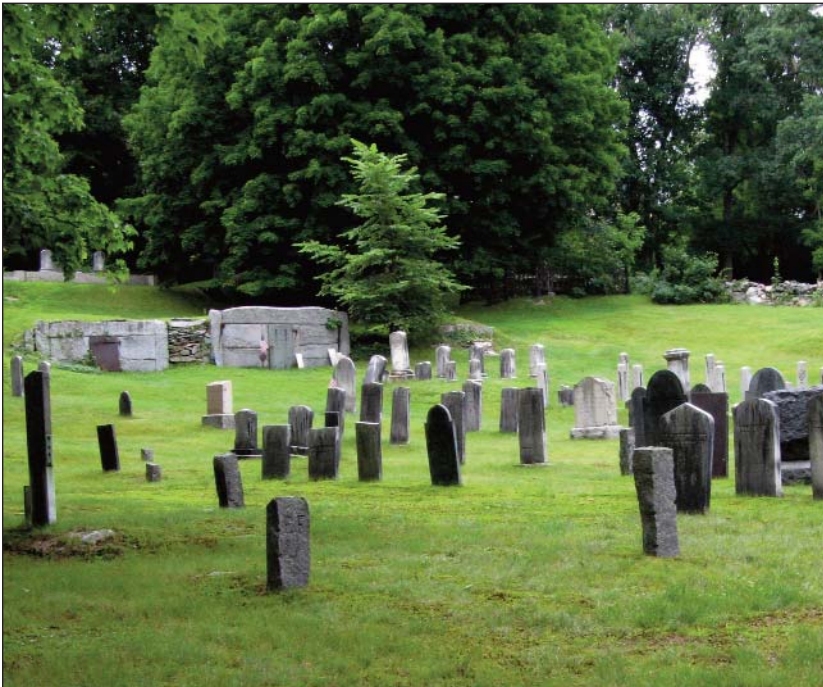


# News from the Stow Historical Society

*A newsletter for all friends of Stow history.  
Please feel free to pass it along to others who might be interested!*

May 28, 2012

## Stow History Tour: Hillside Cemetery



Hillside Cemetery was established in 1812 near the location of the town's second and third meeting houses on Pilot Grove Hill. The Whitcomb family tomb, where Crazy Ben Whitcomb slept, is at center left.

**and probably more that were not recorded.** Families with Hillside plots include the Warrens, Gates, Smiths, Stows, Hales and Whitcombs. In the mid-1800s, "Crazy Ben" Whitcomb, who terrorized the town by riding around on a big red horse screaming and waving a sword, upped his act by taking to sleeping in the family tomb at Hillside. Subsequently, he began carrying his late brother's skull around with him in a paper bag.

**For more information, call Karen Gray at 978-562-6843.** A rain date of Sunday, June 10 is planned. If the ground is saturated, the event will be postponed, as the site is sloped and could be treacherous. It is recommended that those joining the tour wear suitable footwear.

**Join Pilot Grove Farm's Skip Warren for a tour of historic Hillside Cemetery on Sunday, June 3, at 2 pm.**

**Skip knows Stow's cemeteries** – Warrens have been in Stow 1782, and he has ancestors buried in all three of them. Following up on last fall's popular Lower Village Cemetery tour, he'll provide facts and anecdotes about Hillside, the town's second-oldest burying ground.

**Skip's tours are jointly sponsored** by the Stow Historical Society and the Stow Historical Commission.

**Mike Busch will be on hand to discuss gravestone repairs** underway with Community Preservation Act funds.

**There are over 300 recorded burials here,**