

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!*

October 19, 2013

Upcoming Stow Historical Society Meeting



Graveyard Graphics:

Stow's First Sculptures and their Stories

Saturday, November 2

6 pm at Stow Town Hall

Pot luck Dinner

Guest Speaker: Marilyn Zavorski

Join the Stow Historical Society for a pot luck dinner and program featuring Stow's Marilyn Zavorski, who will do a presentation on Lower Village Cemetery's 1700's gravestones and their carvers.

For reservations please contact Linda Stokes at fiferlinda@gmail.com or 978-897-4322.

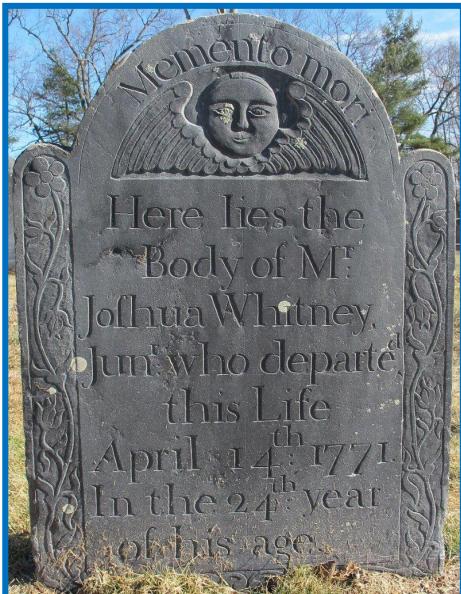
Stow's Lower Village Cemetery - A Place where Time Stands Still.

- ❖ What stories do the gravestones tell?
- ❖ Who carved Stow's stones?
- ❖ How is a carver identified?
- ❖ Where did the local carvers quarry their slabs?
- ❖ What artistic motifs decorate the stones?
- ❖ Why do the early stones face west?

Come and hear the answers to these questions and learn much more at Marilyn's talk.



Gravestone of Miriam Hunt



Gravestone of Joshua Whitney

1980s. It also supports Historical Commission chair Dot Spaulding's detailed re-documentation of the interments in Stow's three cemeteries using the resources stored in the Stow's Town Vault.

Marilyn Zavorski and family moved to Stow in 1984. She is a retired educator and former volunteer researcher for the Boston National Historic Park. Recently she served as coordinator for Teaching American History Federal Grant program for nine Central Massachusetts school districts, including Nashoba Regional. In her spare time she enjoys her grandkids, gardening and researching genealogy.

Marilyn has spent the past year researching and digitizing the gravestones in Lower Village Cemetery. Her detailed research has brought to life a fascinating story of the 18th century stonecarvers, whose art graces Stow's early interments in the cemetery. Early Middlesex County and Worcester County probate records have made possible a deeper understanding into the lives of Stow's early citizens and the stonecutters. With these records, the data from Stow's archived Town Records and the documentation and photographs of research historians, the program will explore the mesmerizing chronicle unique only to Stow.

Marilyn envisions her work with Stow's gravestones will help preserve the images of these early gravestones for future generations and make these images available for research online. Her work augments the cemetery documentation begun in Stow in the mid-



Gravestone of Mary Whitman



Photo from video produced by Lew Halprin

The Stow Historical Society would like to give a Big Thank You to everyone who visited the Stow West School Museum for the *Meet Mrs. Rowlandson* program last month. Katie Green gave a terrific performance; taking the audience back to the 17th Century and making us feel like we were really talking to Mary Rowlandson. If you missed the program, try to catch it on Stow TV.



This program was sponsored in part by a grant from the Stow Cultural Council which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.