

A scenic view of a beach with a wooden fence in the foreground and the ocean in the background under a clear blue sky.

**Mary Lou's  
New England  
Trip to  
Hampton, NH  
And  
Nantucket Island  
May, 2014**

## Founders Park Hampton, NH

Hampton's triangular-shaped park bounded by Landing Road, Park Avenue, and Cuss Lane (across Park Ave. from the Tuck Museum complex) was dedicated as "Meeting House Green Memorial Park" on Wednesday, October 14 (Founders Day), 1925. It is commonly called "Memorial Park" or "Founders Park."

Stones representing the early families of Hampton are emplaced around the perimeter of the Park and now number 43. Generally, stones have been approved by the Hampton Historical Society for families who came to the area then constituting Hampton from 1638 to about 1695, which takes in the first four large groups to settle here.

At the three angles of the park, larger stones represent Hampton and the "Daughter Towns" of Hampton. In the center of the park, a huge 12-ton boulder with a plaque is dedicated to "a little band of pioneers under the leadership of Rev. Stephen Bachilder," who came to Hampton (then called Winnacunnet) and settled here in 1638.

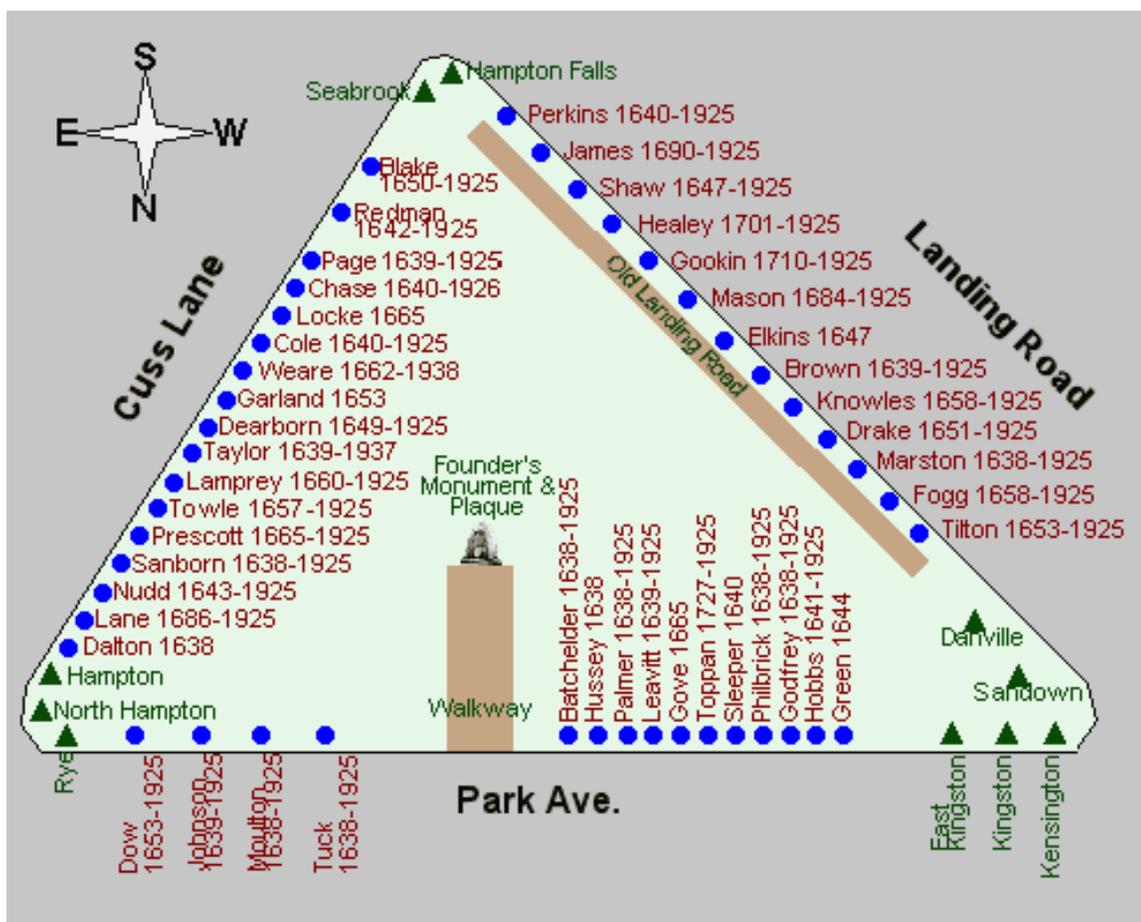
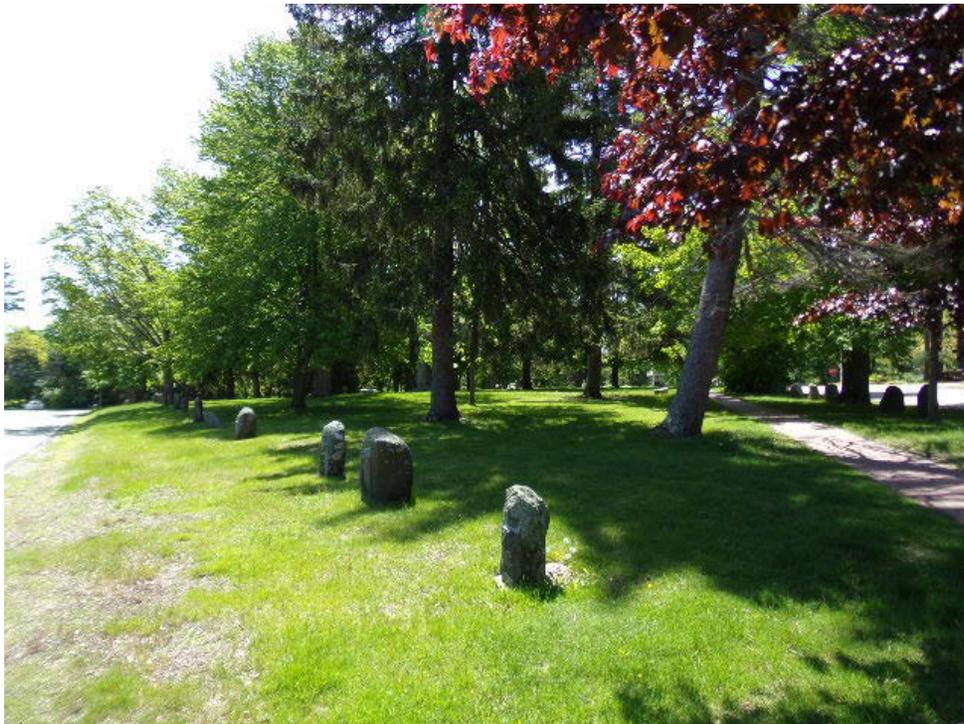
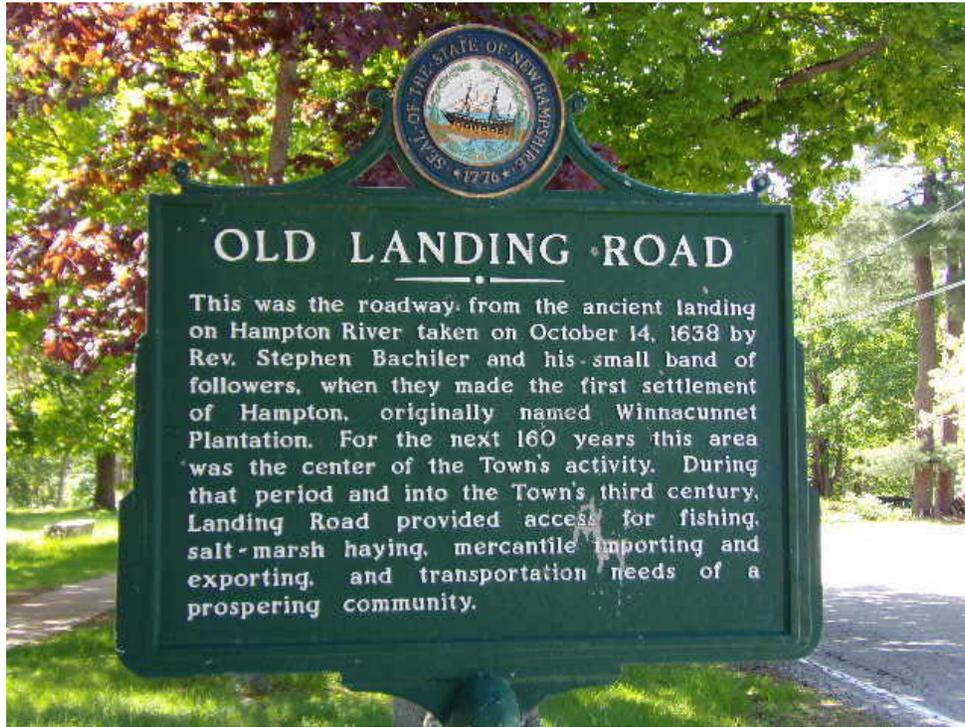


Diagram of Founders Park

Founders Park  
Hampton, NH (May, 2014)

Rev. Stephen Bachiler  
Founded the town of Hampton in 1638-9  
at the age of about 77 years.



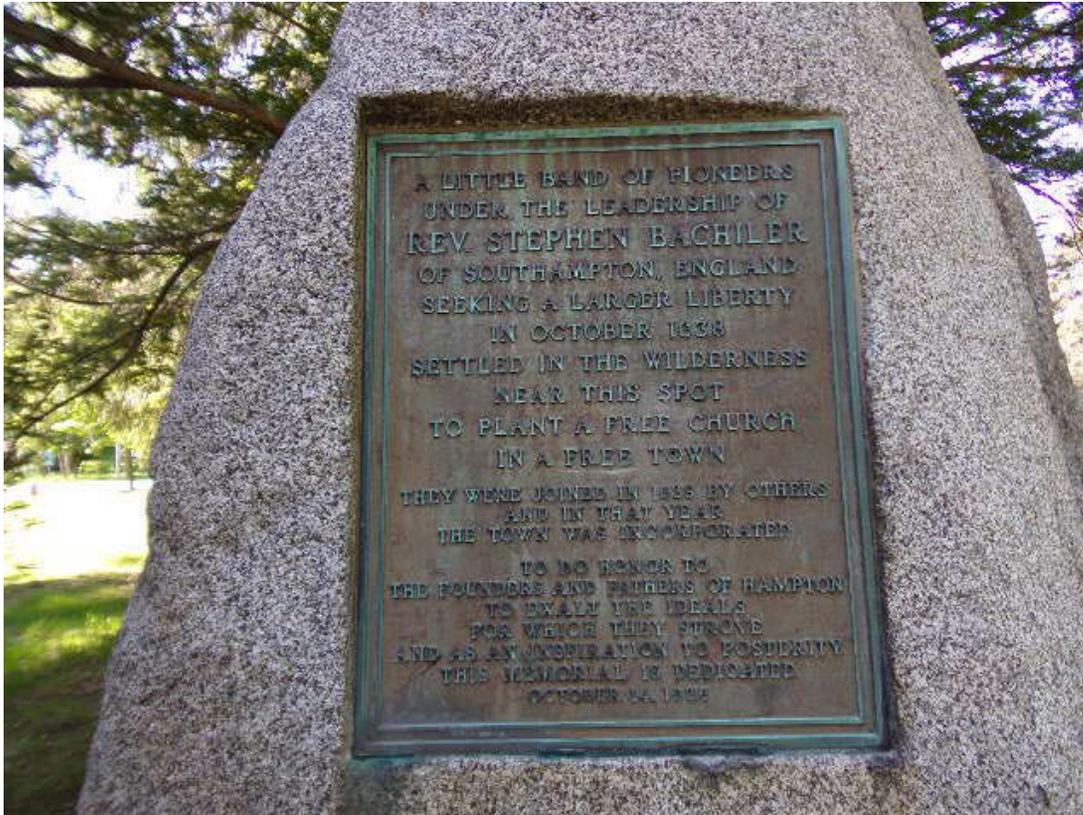


Mary Lou Hudson at the memorial rock for Rev. Stephen Bachiler in Founders Park, Hampton, NH.



Memorial rock for Christopher Hussey in Founders Park, Hampton, NH

Rev Stephen Bachiler Memorial  
Founders Park  
Hampton, NH



*The memorial reads:*

*“A little band of pioneers under the leadership of Rev. Stephen Bachiler of Southampton, England, seeking a larger liberty, in October 1638 settled in the wilderness near this spot to plant a free church in a free town.*

*They were joined in 1639 by others and in that year the town was incorporated.*

*To do honor to the founders and fathers of Hampton, to exalt the ideals for which they strove, and as an inspiration to posterity, this memorial is dedicated, October 14, 1925. “*

## Nantucket Island

The Founders Burial Ground is a small plot of land located off Cliff Road and overlooking Maxcey's Pond and contains two markers. It is unknown if more stones have been buried through time.

The main memorial, with the names of some of the island's first male European settlers, is situated on the plot. The text of this memorial reads:

ERECTED A.D. 1881. BY  
A DESCENDANT OF THE FIRST  
SETTLERS OF NANTUCKET  
IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHOSE REMAINS  
ARE BURIED ON THIS HALLOWED SPOT  
WHERE STOOD THE FIRST CHURCH  
GATHERED HERE IN 1711,  
SINCE REMOVED TO WHERE IT  
NOW STANDS AS THE VESTRY OF THE  
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY.

1609 - TRISTAM COFFIN - 1681  
1598 - THOMAS MACY - 1682.  
1604 - EDWARD STARBUCK - 1690  
1617 - PETER FOLGER - 1690.  
1624 - JOHN GARDNER - 1706  
1664 - JOHN SWAIN. JR. - 1738.  
1644 - JOHN COLEMAN - 1715.  
1626 - RICHARD GARDNER - 1688.  
1598 - CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY - 1686.  
1640 - WILLIAM BUNKER - 1712.

Reportedly, the first legal records mention of the "forefather's burial ground" date from 1838:

*"I mention that the ancient burial ground of our forefathers, the first settlers of this Island, at the eastward of Macy's Pond (So called) which is about three hundred feet square, be reserved as a sacred spot and that the same shall not be laid out by the Proprietors of the common and undivided land on the Island of Nantucket to any individual, company or individuals hereafter and that the same shall not be appropriated for any other purpose and any set of men that have mind to enclose the same with a fence be permitted so to do." (Record of the proprietors April 12, 1838. Recorded by Peter F. Ewer. Registry of Deeds, Nantucket, Mass.)*

It is uncertain how long there has been only one stone in this burying ground. In *Nantucket Scraps*, by Jane Austin, copyrighted 1882, it is noted that "the only visible proofs remaining are one stone with its legend quite obliterated [the Gardner stone], and another in tolerable preservation" (p. 43). An article in the *Weekly Mirror* (November 29, 1851) states that only a "single dilapidated monument still remains" [the Gardner stone], but notes that three others were there within memory, that of Prince Coffin, Peter Folger, and John Jepson. Whether the stones have been stolen or covered over with the buildup of time is uncertain.

The Nantucket Historical Association was made the official trustee for this cemetery by the Nantucket Board of Selectmen at the June 20th, 1973 meeting.

Nantucket Island  
Memorial for Christopher Hussey and Theodate (Bachiler)



Mary Lou Hudson at Founders Cemetery, Nantucket Island Memorial for Christopher Hussey and Theodate (Bachiler) Hussey, May, 2014

## Memorial stone for Christopher Hussey



**Memorial stone for the wives of the 10 original  
land owners of Nantucket Island  
Theodate Bachiler Hussey**



ERECTED A. D. 2009  
TO HONOR NANTUCKET'S  
WIVES, MOTHERS  
AND CHILDREN ON THE  
350TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE ENGLISH  
SETTLEMENT OF THE ISLAND

1613-DIONIS STEVENS COFFIN-1684.  
1612-SARAH HOPCOTT MACY-1706.  
1609-CATHERINE REYNOLDS STARBUCK-1658.  
1620-MARY MORRELL FOLGER-1704.  
1656-PRISCILLA GRAFTON GARDNER-1717.  
1661-EXPERIENCE FOLGER SWAIN-1739.  
1645-JOANNA FOLGER COLEMAN-1719.  
1631-SARAH SHATTUCK GARDNER-1724.  
1598-THEODATE BATCHELDER HUSSEY-1685.  
1648-MARY MACY BUNKER-1729

THESE WOMEN BORE  
A TOTAL OF EIGHTY CHILDREN.  
AMONG THE ENGLISH WOMEN  
LAID TO REST ON THIS HILLTOP  
WERE THE FOREMOTHERS  
OF MANY GENERATIONS OF OFFSPRING  
WHO HAVE PEOPLED THE ISLAND SINCE 1659.

2009

## Founders Burial Ground Nantucket Island

