The plot locations refer to two projects, the Eagle Scout documentation project (2002 Location) and the book “The Old Burying Ground of Fairfield, Conn.” by Kate E. Perry, 1882. Both sources are in the Fairfield Museum and History Center library collections.

A map with a key is at the end of this document.

**Caleb Brewster:** Spy for General George Washington’s Culper Spy Ring
2002 Location: grid 90/row 20 (CB on map)
KP 63 (LXIII)
*** Please note, this stone is not legible. To find the correct stone, there is another stone to the right for Jeremiah Osborn, departed this Life October 8, 1757.
Caleb Brewster was born in Setauket (near present-day Port Jefferson), Long Island, in 1747. Caleb was an active boy and was anxious to explore the world beyond his native village, so at the age of 19 went on a whaling ship bound for the coast of Greenland.

On return from London in a merchant ship, he arrived to find the country engaged in the Revolutionary War. He immediately volunteered and soon was made a lieutenant of artillery. He was held in high esteem by his officers and the commander in chief for his integrity, courage and patriotism and became an important member of the Culper Spy Ring. Under the direction of Major Benjamin Tallmadge, Brewster provided important information relative to the movements of the British Army in New York and on Long Island. In one of their most extraordinary missions, their intelligence information helped uncover Benedict Arnold’s infamous role in betraying West Point to the British. Throughout the war, Caleb risked his life carrying information back and forth across the Sound. He was the only member of the Spy Ring identified by the British, who offered a large reward for his capture. After the war he married Anne Lewis of Fairfield and settled in Black Rock where he lived until his death in 1827.

**BURR FAMILY**

**Judge Peter Burr**

2002 Location grid 10/row 20  
KP 74 (LXXIV), page 30 (PB on map)

“Judge Peter Burr was of the first generation of Burrs born in this Country, his Father and Grandfather being natives of England. He was an important personage who assisted in making the Burr name illustrious. A graduate from Harvard in 1690, he commenced his career as a teacher in Boston; subsequently he studied law, and settled in Fairfield in the practice of his profession. In 1700 he was Auditor of the Colony; also, Debyty for Fairfield; in 1702 Speaker of the House; in 1703 Assistant in the Government; Councilor on the French and Indian War, and was Justice of Peace, Judge of Probate for Fairfield; Judge of County Court; Judge of Superior Court, and Chief Judge of the Superior Court. In 1724, the year of his death, he held the three last offices named, besides being Auditor and Assistant. His influence for god in the Colony was not exceeded, and rarely equaled by any of the leaders in the Commonwealth, and in ability, attainments and public service he was not eclipsed[...] Judge Peter Burr has many descendents residing in Fairfield, highly respected Citizens, under the name of Burr, Lyon, Jennings, and Morehouse.”

~ Kate Perry
“Here Lyes Inter’d
Ye body of the Honoble
Peter Burr Esq
Aged 56 Years
And 9 months who
Departed this Life
December the 25th
Anno 1 7 2 4”
**Burr – Tablestones**
These stones are for the parents of Eunice Dennie Burr.
James Dennie: 2002 location grid 20/row 20 / KP 76 (LXXVI)  (JED on map)
Eunice Dennie: 2002 Location grid 20/row 20 / KP 75 (LXXV)  (JED on map)

```
“Here lies Interred ye Body
  Of Mr. James Dennie
  Husband of Mrs. Eunice Dennie
  And Father of
  Mrs. Eunice Dennie burr
  Who Dec’d about 1784”

“Here lies inter’d ye body
  Of Mrs. Eunice Dennie wife of
  Mr. James Dennie who dec’d
  Oct’r ye 6th, 1740 in
  The 32 year of her age.”
```
“In Memory of
Thaddeus Burr
Esquire
who died Feby. 19th
1801
aged 65 years.
Thaddeus Burr married Eunice Dennie
22 Mar 1759”

“In Memory of
Mrs. EUNICE BURR
Relict of
THADEUS BURR ESQ.
who died August 14th
1805
in the 76th year
of her age.”

**Lydia Hancock**

2002 Location grid 10/row 10 KP 51 (LH on map)

Lydia, an aunt of John Hancock, lived for a time with the Burr family, as the chaperone for Dorothy Quincy. In 1775, the Burr Homestead sheltered Dorothy Quincy, fiancé of patriot leader John Hancock, after she fled from the Battle of Lexington, where on April 19th the “shot heard ‘round the world” was fired. She remained in town until Hancock, president of the Continental Congress, joined her. On August 23, 1775, Reverend Andrew Elliot of First Congregational Church married the Boston couple at the Burr residence. Local lore tells that, before the wedding, a young Aaron Burr came to visit his second cousin Thaddeus and pay his respects to Miss Quincy.

The headstone of Lydia Hancock gives testimony to her piety and benevolence and mentions her move to Fairfield after the “Calamities of War.” Note the angle at the top of the stone.
“This Stone
Erected
By Thaddeus Burr
& Eunice Burr
to the memory of their dear friend,
Mrs. Lydia Hancock;
Relict of the Honble Thomas Hancock, Efqr;
of Boston
Whose remains lie here Interred,
Having retired to this Town from
the calamities of War, during the
Blockade of her native City in 1775
Just on her return to the reenjoyment
of an ample fortune
On April 15 A.D. 1776”

Reverend Andrew Eliot & Family
2002 Location grid 80/row 30 KP 87 (LXXXVII) (AE on map)
The Eliot family is a very prominent one, stemming originally from Rev. Andrew Eliot (1718-1778) who was a minister in Boston and remained there throughout the American Revolution. The Eliots have gone on to be university presidents, lawyers, and promoters of the arts and education.

“In Memory of
The Rev’d. Andrew Eliot
A.M.
Born at Boston, Mass.
Jan’y. 11th. 1743;
Ordained Pastor of the first
Church of Christ in
Fairfield. June 22’d. 1774,
in which station, he served
God with fidelity until
Sept 26th. 1805;
when he rested from his labors
in the 63rd. year of his age,
and 32d. of his ministry.
They that be wise shall shine as
the brightness of the firmament: and
they that turn many to righteousness
as the stars forever and ever.
(F.S.)”

Reverend Eliot was pastor of the First Church when the British burned Fairfield in July, 1779. His support of the patriot cause during the Revolution led to some controversy over this appointment. Rev. Mr. Eliot suffered in common with the citizens of Fairfield, during the
Conflagration of 1779…He was a ripe scholar, a prudent, faithful and beloved pastor. When the Congregation advised him to seek more prosperous fields of labor, this one being crippled in its finances and demoralized through its great losses, he showed himself in all the nobleness of a man saying: “I’ve been with you in your prosperity, and I’ll stay by you in your adversity.” (Perry)

Rev. Andrew Eliot was buried in the same row as his daughter and wife, Sarah and Mary. Sarah’s gravestone, on the left, reads

“Sarah Eliot
Daughter of
Andrew and Mary
Eliot.
Died May 28th 1794
in her 12th year.
Our God! How faithful are his Ways.
His Love endures the Same.
Nor from the promise of his Grace
Blots out our Children’s name.”

Mary’s stone is on the right:

“In Memory of
Mary Eliot
relict of the late
Revd. Andrew Eliot
and Daughter of the
Honble. Joseph Pynchon
of Boston
and Mary his Wife.
She was born at
Brokfield, Mass.,
was married July 19th
1774,
and died Decemr. 10th
1810
in the 62d. year of her age.”
**Nathan Gold**  
2002 Location grid 100/row 120   KP 345 (CCCXLV)   (NG on map)

This Nathan Gold was son of Major Nathan Gold; who was a wealthy and educated gentleman, a landholder in Fairfield 1649, and in 1653 a purchaser of property, some of which is possessed at present by some of his descendants. Major Nathan Gold was one of the nineteen petitioners named in the Charter of Connecticut, and member of the Council from 1657-1694. Nathan Gold Jr. served as town clerk from 1684-1706. He was also a deputy governor, with Peter Burr for assistant, from 1706-1724. In 1712 he was chief justice of the Supreme Court.

"Here lyes ye body of  
The Honoble Nathan Gold  
Esqr Leivt Governour of  
His majesties colony of  
Connecticut Deed Octr  
The 3d 1 7 2 3  
At the age of 60 years"

---

**Gould Family**  
2002 Location grid 110 / Row 80   KP 317 (CCCXVII)   (GF on map)

“This stone is erected by 
Jason Gould in memory of his honored Father  
Col. Abraham Gould  
who fell in defense of his Country  
at Ridgefield April 27, 1777 aged 44 years,  
and of his deceased Brothers,  
John Burr Gould  
died at sea June 2nd, 1781  
aged 20 years,  
Hezekiah Gould was drowned at New York  
October 30th, 1789 aged 30 years  
and Daniel Gould  
was drowned on the coast of  
France December 28th, 1796  
aged 20 years.”
The silhouette portrait of Lt. Colonel Abraham Gould was made just seventeen days before his death on April 27, 1777 at the Battle of Ridgefield.

“Col. Abraham Gould[…] was killed on his horse, and his body was brought home on horse back for burial. His sword which was a straight silver mounted and three cornered one, was found stained with the enemy’s blood. It is now in possession of a great grandson, Abraham Gould Jennings, of Brooklyn, N.Y. His sash and coat were deposited in the Trumbull Gallery, at New Haven. Hezekiah Gould was walking on a plank from the wharf to the vessel in N.Y., when the end resting on the vessel fell, and he struck on his breast and was drowned.” (Perry)

Captain Isaac Jarvis
2002 Location grid 20/row 280 KP 551 (DLI) (IJ on map)

In Memory of
Isaac Jarvis
who departed this Life
20th June A.D. 1788,
Aged 32 Years & 5 Months.
Let frantic Mirth be penive here
Let mortals mourn their final doom
Let friendship pay the tribute’s tear
For Isaac moulders in the Tomb.
When the British attacked on July 7, 1779, they came within range of cannons at Black Rock Fort (present-day St. Mary’s by the Sea in Bridgeport). Isaac Jarvis, the fort’s commander, ordered his men to fire on the troops, also warning the townspeople of the coming invasion. Local militia near the town center opened fire with muskets.

**Rev. John Jones**
2002 Location grid 150/row 170  
KP n/a  
(JJ on map)

“The Rev’d.  
John Jones  
was born in  
Northern Hampton England  
in 1593 and was a graduate of  
Queens College Cambridge.  
A Puritan divine of the  
Church of England he was  
the first pastor of the  
First Church of Christ  
in Fairfield  
which he faithfully served  
from 1644 until his death  
in 1664.  
‘A valiant leader  
of Christ’s soldiers.  
A Holy Man of God.’  
Erected by a descendent.”

**Samuel Morehouse**
2002 Location grid 60/row 270  
KP 546 (DXLVI)  
(SM on map)

The oldest stone in the cemetery. Samuel was the Lieutenant and County Marshall from 1675 to 1687. He was ancestor to the Morehouses in Fairfield and Litchfield Counties and other families of the name scattered westward.

“1687  
SM”
Elizabeth Rowland

“Elizabeth Rowland
the widow of
Andrew Rowland, Esq,
and daughter of the
late Governor Fitch of this State:
died March 29, 1825,
in her 87 year.”

“Elizabeth Rowland was a heroine of Fairfield. When the British entered the town to devastate and despoil it, she held her post, but the other inmates fled; when the British Officer with his men to ‘touch the match’ to their dwelling approached, she had full presence of mind, and by it her dwelling still stands. She told the officer of a favor she had given three years before to one of his countrymen, and her house was spared. Her father Thomas Fitch was Governor of the Colony of Conn. He was a man of ability and excellent character. His daughter did honor to her ancestor.” (Perry)

Reverend James Sayre

Location grin 30/row 40 (RS on map)
Reverend Sayre was pastor of the Trinity Church during the burning of Fairfield. He was a loyalist, which angered many of the predominantly patriot citizens of Fairfield. Because of his loyalism to the king, he was exiled from Fairfield. The Fairfield Country Court declared him “a person inimical and dangerous to the interest of the United States.” From Fairfield, he went to Farmington for seven months. He was only allowed to come back after Peter Bulkley, Jonathan Sturges, and Thaddeus Burr interceded on his behalf, and on the condition that for 18 months he could not go four miles beyond the parish limits. Once he returned to Fairfield he no longer voiced his loyalist views, instead preaching for peace. When the British came to Fairfield, he pleaded with the British general to spare Fairfield. The general would not agree to that, so instead Sayre gained protection of several homes, including his own, as well as two houses of worship. However, the general did not keep his word, and Sayre’s house was burned down. After his home was burned, he fled with the British to New York, never returning to Fairfield.

“Rev’d James Sayre
Departed this Life
Feb 18th 1789
ÆT 53”
### Thomas Sherwood
Location grid 160/row 160  
(TS on map)

“In memory of Thomas Sherwood 1586-1655  
Puritan pioneer ancestor  
Founder of New England  
First settler of Fairfield  
Deputy to the general court  
Soldier of the Pequot War.  
And his wives Alice Seabrook 1587-1639 and  
Marry Fiten 1619-1693  
Erected by Sherwood kindred of America 1950  
(MCML)"

### General Gold Selleck Silliman
2002 Location grid 0/row 140  
KP 371 (CCCVXXI)  
(GSS on map)

“Gen. Silliman had charge of an important post; the southwestern frontier of Connecticut, which, on account of the long occupation of the City of New York, Westchester County, and Long Island, by the British, required great vigilance and efficiency. He took part in the battle of Long Island, and bore a perilous and honorable part in the battle of White Plains, N.Y., and on this, as on several other occasions narrowly escaped the enemy’s balls. Gen. Silliman enjoyed Washington’s confidence. He was so obnoxious to the British that they sought to take him prisoner, which they succeeded in doing. His son William, although sick with fever and ague, was also captured, and the two were borne to Long Island, where they were retained as prisoners some months before they were discharged […] Gen. Silliman was a pillar in the Congregational Church and a conscientious lawyer. He was a scholar, patriot and Christian. He graduated from Yale in 1752.” (Perry)
Gold Selleck Silliman
Martha Silliman (first wife)
Priscilla Silliman
Anna Silliman
Benjamin Gold Silliman

“Here lies buried the Body of Mrs Martha Silliman, wife of G. Selleck Silliman, Esqr. who died August first, 1774 aged 41 Years. 1 Mon & 23 D
Sweet Soul, we leave thee to thy Rest: Enjoy thy Jesus and thy God.
Till we from Bands of Clay releast.
Spring out & Climb the Shining Road

“Here lies buried the Body of Mis Priscilla Silliman only daughter of Gold Sell- eck Silliman Esqr and Mrs Martha Silliman his Wife, who was born June 22 1772 and died Nov 23d. 1773 aged one Year, five Months & 1 day. Happy the Babe,
While the dear Dust she leaves behind  
Sleeps in thy Bosom, Sacred Grave  
Or does she seek, or has she found her Babe  
Amongst the Infant Nation of the blest  
And claspt it to her Soool to Satiate there.  
The Young maternal Love. Thrice happy Child  
That saw the Light & turned its Eyes aside  
From our dim Regions to the Eternal Sun  
And led the Parents Way to Glory.”

who, privileg’d by Fate,  
To shorter Labour,  
and a lighter Weight,  
Receiv’d but Yesterday  
the Gift of Breath,  
Order’d To-morrow  
to return to Death”

“In memory of  
Gold Selleck Silliman Esq.  
who died in Brooklyn. New York.  
June 3, 1868.  
in the 91st. year of his age.  
And of  
Benjamin Silliman L.L.D.  
More than fifty years Professor of  
Natural Science in Yale College,  
who died in New Haven, Connecticut.  
Nov 24, 1861.  
in the 86th year of his age,  
Their remains are interred in the places  
of their decease.  
Eminent for Honor, Generosity, Affection,  
Patriotism, Intellectual Culture, and Christian Principle. They were bound together through life by the strongest fraternal ties,  
They were sons of  
General Gold S. Silliman,  
who died A.D. 1790. And grandsons of  
Honorable Ebenezer Silliman, deceased A.D. 1775; who was the son of  
Robert Silliman deceased A.D. 1718, and grandson of  
Daniel Silliman deceased A.D. 1690,  
All of Fairfield.  
Their children add this to the  
record of their ancestors A.D. 1877.”
Captain Christopher Smith  
2002 Location grid 120/row 200  
KP 472 (DLXXII)  
(CS on map)

In memory of 
CAPT. 
CHRISTOPHER SMITH, 
aged 40 years; 
a native of Hanson, 
Massachusetts, who was 
lost from on board the 
Sloop Eliza Nichols, on her 
passage from New Bedford 
to New York 
the 4, of Jan. 
A. D. 1823. 
(W. M.)

Captain Samuel Smedley  
2002 Location grid 50/row 170 
KP 432 (CCCCXXXII)  
(SS on map)

SAMUEL SMEDLEY Esq.  
late Collector of Customs 
for the District of Fairfield 
died June 13, 1812. 
Aged 59. 
(W. M.)

SAMUEL SMEDLEY 
By Jackson Kuhl, author of Samuel Smedley, Connecticut Privateer

“During the American Revolution, Connecticut had its own state navy. Fairfield-born Samuel Smedley joined the state ship Defence as the lieutenant of marines but through a series of promotions became its captain at the age of 23. Under his command, Defence captured seven vessels. After the ship wrecked on a shoal near New London in 1779, Smedley returned to Fairfield, where he helped repulse the British attack in July. Smedley then captured two privateers; the second time, Smedley was captured by the British and imprisoned in Plymouth, England. He promptly escaped into France, where Benjamin Franklin commissioned him to sail several ships full of supplies from Amsterdam to Philadelphia. After the war, Smedley returned to the merchant service, sailing to and from the Caribbean. Later, after the adoption of the
Constitution and the election of our first president, Smedley was appointed by George
Washington as the collector of customs for southwest Connecticut. As the federal government's
primary source of revenue was customs duties, this made Smedley the most prestigious
representative of the new government in the area. Smedley held the post until his death.

Next to Samuel lies his father James, a lieutenant colonel who served in the French and Indian
War. After the war, James invested in real estate. He owned land along Black Rock Harbor,
which at the time was the commercial heart of Fairfield.”

**Hezekiah Sturges:**
2002 Location grid 40/row 130 KP 378 (CCCLXXVIII) (HS on map)

Capt. Hezekiah Sturges was the son of Solomon Sturges, who was killed in cold blood by the
British, July 9, 1779, and whose body probably lies in these grounds. When Solomon heard the
British had landed, he called for his horse, which, being brought, he mounted and started for his
cattle, which were near the beach, with the hope of rescuing them from plunder. When the
British saw him, a soldier fired and wounded him so that he was unable to retain his hold on the
horse. After, he crawled under a tree, another British soldier ran him through with a bayonet,
thus terminating his existence. Solomon left three sons […] Hezekiah was a farmer of goodly
estate, his residence was in the rear of the spreading elm on Miss Mary Nichols’ premises. The
enemy met here and had a bountiful repast after the inmates fled for safety. After gratifying their
appetites they burnt to the ground all that was left. During the following winter Hezekiah
Sturges drew timber from the distant woods and built anew. In this house space was devised and
employed for religious purposes, the Episcopalians being permitted to hold their services here
until they could erect a church edifice, which was located a few rods distant. He was a man loyal to his country and to his church.

**Jonathan Sturges**

2002 Location grid 100/row 100  
KP 283 (CCLXXXIII)  
(JS on map)

In memory of the  
Hon. Jonathan Sturgess, L.L.D.  
Who was born Aug. 23, 1740  
And died Oct. 4, 1819.  
Aged 79 years  
He sustained with high reputation from an early period a number of the most important offices in the gift of his native State and was an efficient member of Congress under the Confederation which vindicated the rights and obtained the Independence of the United States, Wise and prudent as a Statesman inflexibly upright as a Judge, a faithful friend, an affectionate parent and above all an exemplary Christian.  
His friends have an assured hope that in his sudden death he passed into glory and received the welcome of his Divine Master.

History speaks of Judge Jonathan Sturges as a noble gentleman, an ornament to the town, a scholar, a graduate from Yale in 1759; later a member of the House of Representatives, after which he was Judge of the Supreme Court of Conn. He was a sufferer in the British invasion of 1779. His home was that which J. Toomey occupies. His grandson, the late Jonathan Sturges, the Christian citizen and millionaire lies in the East Burying Ground.

**Andrew Ward**

Location grid 120/row 190  
(AW on map)

“In memory of Andrew Ward  
Born in England 1597  
one of the founders of Weathersfield and Stamford  
An honored citizen of Fairfield Conn.  
Where he died in 1659  
Member of a commission granted to several persons to govern the people at Connecticut by the general court of Massachusetts Bay under John Winthrop Jr. governor 1635-1636  
Erected by the Association of Descendants of Andrew Ward 1907”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Peter Whitney</th>
<th>2002 Location grid 120/row 170</th>
<th>KP 454 (CCCCLIV)</th>
<th>(PW on map)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

“In memory of
Capt. Peter Whitney
Who died Nov. 7. 1790.
In his 46 Year
and
Mrs. Grace Robbins
Wife of Ephraim Robbins
and formerly the wife of
Capt. Peter Whitney
died Oct. 7. 1820.
in her 51 year.
Peter. Son of Peter
& Grace Whitney
was lost at sea as is supposed
Aug. 1806.
in his 16 year.”
Common Surnames in the Old Burying Ground
Burr: 57
Sturges: 42
Osborn: 39
Bulkley [or Buckley]: 33
Perry: 26
Jennings: 24
Silliman: 12

Revolutionary War Soldiers Buried in Old Burying Ground: 57 or 58

Old Burying Ground Grid Key (grid/row)
IJ: Isaac Jarvis (20/280)
SM: Samuel Morehouse (60/270)
CS: Captain Christopher Smith (120/200)
AW: Andrew Ward (120/190)
TS: Thomas Sherwood (160/160)
JJ: Reverend John Jones (150/170)
PW: Captain Peter Whitney (120/170)
SS: Captain Samuel Smedley (50/170)
GSS: Gold Selleck Silliman (0/140)
PB: Peter Burr (10/120)
HS: Hezekiah Sturges (40/130)
ES: Esther Smedley (60/110)
GF: Col. Abraham Gould (110/80)
GF: Gould Family (110/80)
NG: Nathan Gold (100/120)
JS: Jonathan Sturges (100/100)
SB: Sarah Burr (60/60)
AE: Reverend Andrew Eliot (80/30)
CB: Caleb Brewster (90/20)
JED: James Dennie (20/20)
JED: Eunice Dennie (20/20)
LH: Lydia Hancock (10/10)
RS: Reverend James Sayre (30/40)