

## Howes Family Cemetery – R. 1650 Bramble Lane, Dennis

In 1639, four settlers were given permission to settle land in Mattacheese that would soon become known as Yarmouth. One settler was Thomas Howes. His land grant consisted of 100 upland acres plus 26 more of meadow in Nobscussett, now known as Dennis. The cemetery, lying in the Old Kings Highway Historic District surrounded by conservation land, is situated on part of the original farm and accessible via a short footpath from Bramble Lane. The cemetery is enclosed on 3 sides by a beautiful stone wall hand crafted by David Howes in 1879 from varied-sizes of rough granite ashlar.

Thomas Howes and many of his descendants rest here. In colonial times, more residents of the town had the Howes surname than all other surnames combined. Many family members took part in the American Revolution. Others were involved in local government, were masters of sailing vessels and captains of industry. The Howes family owned and maintained the cemetery until 1917 when the Howes Cemetery Association was formed, continuing care until 1961, when it was deeded to the Town of Dennis.

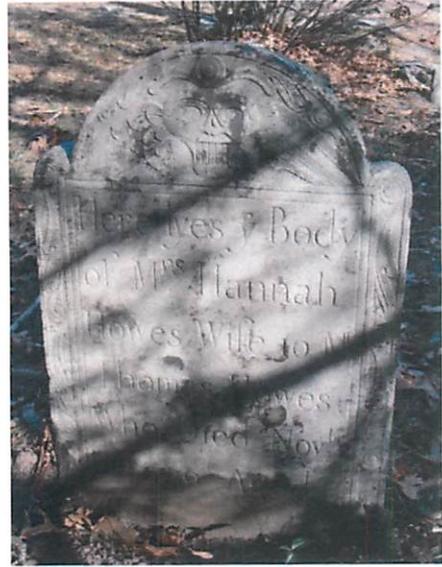
A monument in honor of Thomas Howes and his wife Mary (Burr) was erected here by their descendants as the original burials lie unmarked. The earliest recorded burial is that of Sarah Howes (died 9 Sep 1705); it is a slate adorned by a winged skull with wrinkled brow in the style of Mumford or Emmes of Boston. Standing together are three vivid slates whose winged skulls are carved in the Lamson style, each with a pronounced grain going in a different direction: Mary Howes (d. March 14, 1712), Isaac Howes (d. September 20, 1728) and Joseph Howes (d. December 24, 1743). The burial marker of Sarah Howes notes that she died March 1776 in the 100<sup>th</sup> year of her age, a rare accomplishment of longevity.



Howes Family Cemetery



Jane Chase died May 3, 1986  
Daniel Chase died December 7, 1971



Hannah Howes  
died November 7, 1739