

**Indian Burial Ground - prior to 1620
Route 6A along Scargo Lake, Dennis**

The Indian Burial Ground is located above the shores of Scargo Lake. In 1829 it was enclosed with a stone and iron fence for \$160 and yet there are no headstones to define burials, which is in keeping with early Native American tradition. This area is considered a Late Woodland site by the Massachusetts Archeological Society based on the finding of a large milky quartz projectile point and other small artifacts. The nomadic Nobscussett tribe, under its Sachem Mashantampaine, spent summers here cultivating the fertile ground. The first Europeans arrived around 1639, among them John Crowe who settled the lake's northern shore on land he purchased from the tribe. A possibility exists that some early Crowe or Crowell family members may be buried in or near this burial ground. Relations between settlers and Native Americans were agreeable, routinely trading goods and information. Many Indians were converted and established homes in the town. The last known Native American living in Dennis died in 1810. A local legend portrays Scargo Lake as being dug by the Nobscussetts for Princess Scargo to keep alive a pumpkin full of fish given to her by the warrior Weaquaquet before he left on a journey. The fish lived, her lover returned and they lived happily ever after.



Indian Burial Ground marker