

Auburn Heritage Association

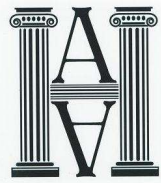
Pine Hill Cemetery Lantern Tour

Pine Hill Cemetery dates to **1837** and is the **oldest of Auburn's five municipal burial grounds**. The tract of land, originally a forest of pine trees, was given to the town by Judge John Harper, the founder of Auburn, who we will visit tonight. *The Harper lot in the north end of the cemetery is the oldest family plot in Pine Hill, and the oldest marked grave is that of William Harper, 1838, one of Judge Harper's sons.*

Cemetery records and plot maps are kept at the **City Parks and Recreation Department**. A complete list of marked graves was not compiled by the City until 1952. Many of the older graves were no longer marked by the time of the survey, and some were never marked or identified. *Consequently, many graves in Pine Hill are not accounted for.*

Pine Hill is still in use, but all the lots were sold years ago, hence the opening of **Memorial Park** in 1948, **Westview** in 1955, and **Town Creek** in 2005.

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At least 1,600 identified graves are in the 6.2 acre tract of Pine Hill. The empty space to the north contains unmarked graves of slaves who were buried in that end of the old cemetery before the War Between the States and the establishment of Baptist Hill. Only one marked Black grave remains against the fence that runs along Hare Avenue, and we hope to meet its occupant tonight.

Pine Hill's **permanent residents** include

- the founder, Judge John J. Harper
- members of the village settlement party, notably the Wynns, Scotts, Perrys, Dowdells, Eadys and Flanagans.