

SOUTH CANAAN CEMETERY

The SOUTH CANAAN CEMETERY is located on the easterly side of VT Route 102 about three-tenths mile northerly from the Todd Hill Road and former South Canaan School House. This was across the road from the former South Canaan Meeting House, now gone. The cemetery seems to straddle the Lot 8 and 9 Division 1 line with more in Lot 8 than in Lot 9. As fenced in, it fronts on the highway for about 318 feet and has a depth of about 200 feet, giving it an area of about 1.44 acres.

As in the case of most of the Canaan Cemeteries, the source of the original parcel and if it was ever formally conveyed to the Town has not been determined, inspite of a fairly complete search. The only actual conveyance found was a Quit Claim deed recorded in Book V, page 55F and dated June 28, 1966 from the Heirs of Job Cross (Florence Cleaveland) to the "Trustees of Public Funds of Canaan, VT." which described: "a certain parcel of land located on the Southerly side of the South Canaan Cemetery" which was a parcel deeded to the Town by Job Cross "about 60 years ago".

We have been unable to find any such deed from Job Cross himself in the land records. However, the Cross burial plot and monument is at the southwesterly corner of the cemetery as now fenced in.

However, this cemetery is mentioned in Land Record Book 5, page 70 (23 March, 1855) in a deed from Charles Nichols to Benjamin R. Cree, which conveys Lot 8 of the First Division: "Excepting and reserving one half acre on the east side of the highway, which was deeded from said farm by Calvin Hughs and is now occupied in part as burying ground".

A similar exception was made in a deed from Cree to Joseph W. Cooper in 1856 (see Bk.5, pg.131); also in deed of Cooper to Albert M. Frizzell on May 10, 1865 (see Bk.6, pg.307).

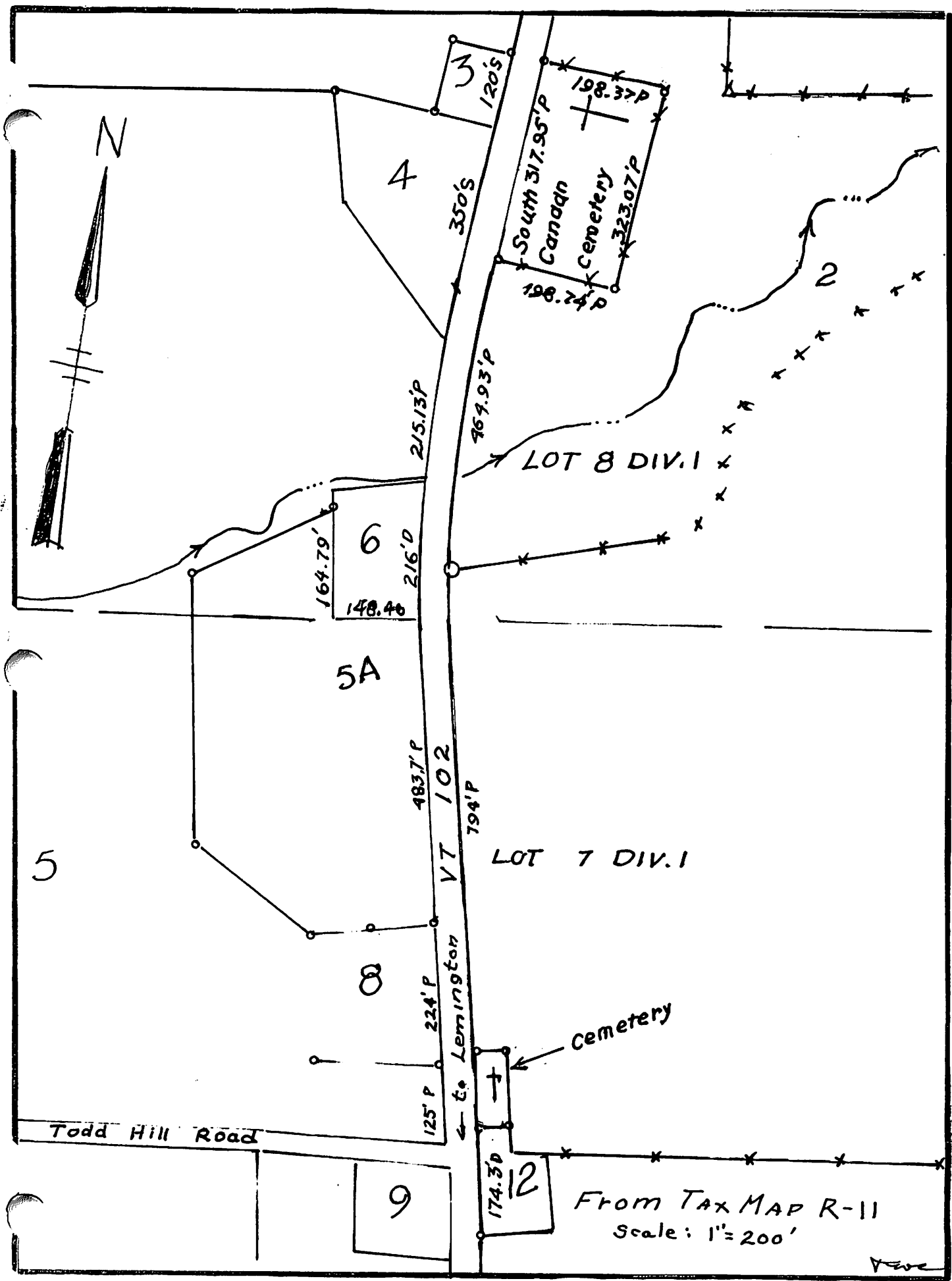
The earliest grave, as recorded on stones in this cemetery, was of Nathaniel Beach who died in 1812 at age 72. However, there a number of unmarked graves. There were also several generations of Nathaniel Beach in Canaan.

The fences were in good shape and the cemetery is well mowed. Some stones need work, but generally the premises are in good condition. There are a number of unsold plots along the back of the cemetery.

The cemetery has been roughly surveyed and a copy of that plan is attached. The location of the cemetery is fairly well shown on the Beer's Atlas Map of 1876. It is also shown on the Tax Map, a part of which is attached herewith.



CEMETERIES IN CANAAN - 1876



N

4

3
120's

350's

South 317.95' P
Cemetery
198.37' P
198.74' P
323.07' P

215.13' P

769.93' P

LOT 8 DIV. 1

6
164.79'
148.46
216' D

5A

483.7' P

VT 102

794' P

LOT 7 DIV. 1

5

8

224' P

125' P

← to Lemington

Cemetery

Todd Hill Road

9

174.50'
12

FROM TAX MAP R-11
Scale: 1" = 200'

Five