



BOSTON TEA PARTY MEMORIAL PROPOSAL

In 2023, The Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum was honored to lead the commemorative efforts associated with the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party. This multi-year initiative included special events in 9 U.S. states, 3 European nations, and a grand-scale reenactment of the Boston Tea Party attended by over 20,000 spectators along Boston's waterfront. These efforts led to over 1.3 billion media impressions worldwide, as well as partnerships, collaborations, and public engagement in communities across the nation and around the world.

One of the signature programs in the years leading up to this historic anniversary, was a commemorative grave marker program where our organization, in partnership with *Revolution 250*, travelled across the United States, and to France, and Ireland, placing markers at the graves of Boston Tea Party Participants and “Eyewitnesses to History” in recognition of their efforts and sacrifice during the formative years of our nation. With well over 130 markers placed since 2018, this project has become one of our most successful and impactful programs.



The Boston Tea Party Grave Marker

A HISTORIC PARTNERSHIP WITH AMERICAN ANCESTORS

In the years since the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea Party, we have formed an incredible partnership with *American Ancestors*, one of the foremost genealogical organizations in the world. With their help, we proudly created the *Boston Tea Party Descendants Program*, and released the first fully-researched list of “**Boston Tea Party Participants**” (*those we believe were onboard the ships destroying tea in 1773*) and “**Eyewitnesses to History**” (*those we cannot prove were onboard the ships in 1773, but have family lore connecting them to the event*).



Together, we have designated approximately 168 names of individuals with Boston Tea Party connections and have placed grave markers at the final resting places of the majority of those names. However, our research has continued over the subsequent years, and we have discovered the location of several more final resting places of Boston Tea Party Participants and Eyewitnesses to History. One of these graves is located in your community.

We are excited to inform you that Western Cemetery in Portland, Maine is believed to be the final resting place of Richard Hunnewell, Jr. (1757-1823)

We are writing to request permission to place one of these commemorative markers in Western Cemetery and invite members of the community, affiliated historical societies, associations, community groups, and dignitaries to participate in a special commemorative ceremony in honor of the community's connection to the Boston Tea Party.

COMMEMORATIVE MARKER DESIGN

The commemorative markers are brass with a diameter of 6in. Each marker is attached to a metal stake and features a cast relief inspired by Nathaniel Currier's 1846 *The Destruction of the Tea at Boston Harbor* lithograph, a well-known and often used representation of the Boston Tea Party.



PREVIOUS INSTALLATIONS AND CEREMONIES

To date, commemorative markers have been placed in the following U.S. States:

Massachusetts:

Blandford, MA
Boston, MA
Brewster, MA
Cambridge, MA
Charlestown, MA
Cohasset, MA
Colrain, MA
Gardner, MA
Hampden, MA
Harvard, MA
Hopkinton, MA
Ludlow, MA
Lynn, MA
Marblehead, MA
Medford, MA
Newton, MA
Salem, MA
Sturbridge, MA
Watertown, MA
Westford, MA
Worcester, MA
Yarmouth, MA

Vermont:

St. Albans, VT
Wardsboro, VT
West Fairlee, VT

Rhode Island:

Providence, RI
Warren, RI

Connecticut:

Bantam, CT

New York:

Brooklyn, NY
New Hartford, NY
Richfield Springs, NY
Sweden, NY
Utica, NY

Michigan:

Dearborn Heights, MI

Ohio:

Bainbridge, OH



Several generations of descendants of Participant Joseph Ludden in Turner, ME



Members of Historic Newton and Mayor of City of Newton marking the grave of Obadiah Curtis in Newton, MA



Reenactors and invited guests at the grave of Joseph Read in Westford, MA

Maine:

Belfast, ME
Bethel, ME
Gorham, ME
Jay, ME
Moscow, ME
Northport, ME
Turner, ME
Warren, ME
Whiting, ME

New Hampshire:

Haverhill, NH
Wolfeboro, NH



Members of the Henry Knox Color Guard fire a ceremonial salute in the Granary Burying Ground in 2023



Marker placed at the grave of John Cochran in 2022



BTPSM Creative Manager Evan O'Brien gifts a marker to the community of Kilkenny, Ireland in honor of "Eyewitness to History" Thomas White in 2023



Marker placed at the grave of Edmund Sears in 2022



A descendant of Sarah Bradlee Fulton joins the Mayor of Medford, MA at the grave of Sarah Bradlee Fulton, 2021



Marker placed at the grave of John Dickman in Hopkinton, MA in 2023



Marker placed at the grave of Ephraim Smith in Gorham, ME in 2022



Marker placed at the grave of Thompson Maxwell in Dearborn Heights, MI in 2023



Marker placed at the grave of David Lyons in Colrain, MA in 2022



Marker placed at the grave of Nathaniel Willis in Bainbridge, OH in 2023



Marker placed at the grave of Joseph Basset in Yarmouth, MA in 2022

Below you will find links to a selections of videos/news broadcasts that aired following these some of these commemorations. Additional press clippings are available upon request.

Ludlow, MA: [CLICK HERE](#) Bristol, IN: [CLICK HERE](#) Cohasset, MA: [CLICK HERE](#)

Worcester, MA: [CLICK HERE](#) Bantam, CT: [CLICK HERE](#)

We hope to work with you on this exciting project. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



EVAN O'BRIEN
CREATIVE MANAGER
BOSTON TEA PARTY SHIPS & MUSEUM
EOBRIEN@BOSTONTEAPARTYSHIPS.COM
617-531-6203



KRISTIN HARRIS
RESEARCH COORDINATOR
BOSTON TEA PARTY SHIPS & MUSEUM
KRISTIN.HARRIS@BOSTONTEAPARTYSHIPS.COM
857-353-6317 EXT. 529

