

TRAGIC MEMORY — Memory of a tragic accident which occurred 206 years ago is recorded on this old slate by an unknown artisan. It can be found in Fairview Cemetery on Main Street.

The stone recalls the fate of John Parker, "Serjeant major, who was killed by a fall on ye ice with a flick of timber on his shoulder on February 5, 1778." A "flick" was a stick, in Old English meaning a large timber similar to one used for sailing ship masts. Only 22½ years old at the time of his death, he was the seventh son of Lt. Moses and Mrs. Bridget Parker.

(Gordon B. Seavey photo)