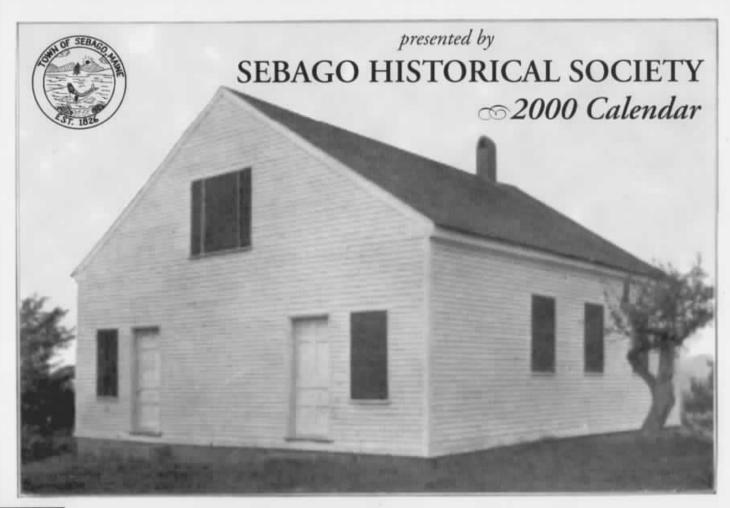
# Churches and Cemeteries of Sebago

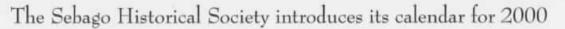
### The Free Will Baptist Church

was organized by
Elders James Fly,
Jeremiah Bullock and
John Cotton on
November 19, 1826
with eight members.
The church at its present location (now the
Sebago Historical
Society) was built in
1844 by Deacon
William Haley, John
Pugsley and William
Whitney, trustees.



### Pew Owners - July 12, 1895

12 C
rs of John
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Dike
Blake
. D. P. Stackpole
D. M. Douglas
sla O



## Churches & Cemeteries of Sebago &

Rev. Alma Fields pastored the

Convene Free Will Baptist

In July, 1941, Rev. Fields

Church with ten members

Nazarene until 1945 when

into the Church of the

she retired.

We wish to thank everyone who helped make this calendar possible. Photographs and records are as accurate as we can determine. Calendar Committee - Lucretia Douglas, June Allen, Diana Letellier and Joyce Viles

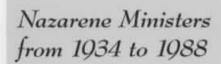


#### PHOTOS

- Rev. Alma Fields
- Rev. Delbert Wise & family
- Rev. William Cole & family
- Sunday School trip, circa 1947

The Sebago Historical Society,





Alma Fields	1934-1945
Alan Richardson	1946
William Cole	1949
Delbert Wise	1955-1957
Dale Ames	1958-1962
Pershing Parker	1963
George Pillsbury	1966
Curtis Stanley	1967
Orville Mason	1968-1970
Donald Smith	1972-1973
Francis Lyons	Interim Minister
Coleman Miller	1974
George Libby	1975-1978
Tom Scheuerman	1978-1980
Clayton Odlin	1980-1986
Donald Greene	1986-1988



POINTS TO PONDER (answers found on ad pages) Rev. & Mrs. William Cole gave their son the same name as the son of the first couple he married in the then Nazarene Church in 1947. What was his name?

Sebago has 44 burial locations which have been recorded with burial markers. These are all mentioned in this calendar. We also have records of two cemeteries which were moved to other towns. One, off the Swamp Road, in Hillside was moved to South Bridgton and another, called the Martin Yard on Long Hill Road, was moved to Steep Falls. Records tell of a cemetery at Tiger Hill where a Revolutionary soldier is buried along with eighteen of his kindred, and there is not a stone to mark even one grave. Records also tell of a cemetery on Orchard Road. There is a well-marked enclosed area, but no stones. It has been reported that there was a yard at the end of Taylor Road in

Hillside and another in East Sebago off Old Route 114.

In 1969 Beverly Harmon recorded information that was available and in 1998 and 1999 these records were updated by Joyce Viles, June Allen and Anne Brown. We believe there are many other grave sites which are unknown, so information given here is as accurate as possible.

Due to the quantity of cemeteries, it is necessary to only mention many of them along with their locations. Any information about these cemeteries may be obtained from the Sebago Historical Society on the Convene Road. Meetings are held the fourth Wednesday of each month.

#### Cemeteries

- 1. Brown Cemetery Backnippin Road
- 2. Cole Stone Hillside, Route 107
- 3. Boulter Yard Hillside, Route 107
- 4. Poor Cemetery Hillside, Route 107
- Peabody Pond Cemetery Peabody Pond Road
- 6. Blake Thorn Yard Barnes Mountain Road
- 7. Douglass Stone Peaked Mountain Road
- Convene Yard Corner of Convene Road and Hogfat Hill Road
- 9. Dyer Yard Camp Winaco Road
- 10. Brown Cemetery Hogfat Hill Road
- 11. Fogg Yard (Private) Convene Road

- 12. Winn Cemetery Tower Road
- 13. Sanborn Stone Orchard Road
- Martin Home Cemetery (Private) -Sebago Center
- McDonald-Witham Yard Mac's Corner
- 16. Martin Yard Hall Road
- 17. Davis Yard Long Hill Road
- 18. Whitten Field Long Hill Road
- Fitch Yard Long Hill Road, East Sebago
- 20. Harmon Family (Private) Route 11
- Murch Hill Yard Route 114, East Sebago

To order calendars call 207-787-2709.







Pastor Rev. Greg Young, 1999

#### Sebago Center Community Church Ten prominent local men met a Brick Schoolhouse March 31, 1

Ten prominent local men met at the Brick Schoolhouse March 31, 1856 and voted to build a Meeting House on land donated by William Fitch, Nathan S. Chadbourn, Kimball J. Dike, Oliver D. Dike, Stephen P. Douglas, John Fitch, Luther Fitch, Charles Hill, Joseph Ridlon, Reuben Sanborn and Abram Tyler. The church was completed in 1857. The Ladies' Circle was formed in 1895 and still plays a large part in the church's success. The first pastors in 1857 were Rev. Cyril Pearl and Rev. William P. Merrill. Present pastor is Rev. Greg Young. Organist is Lawrence Berry.

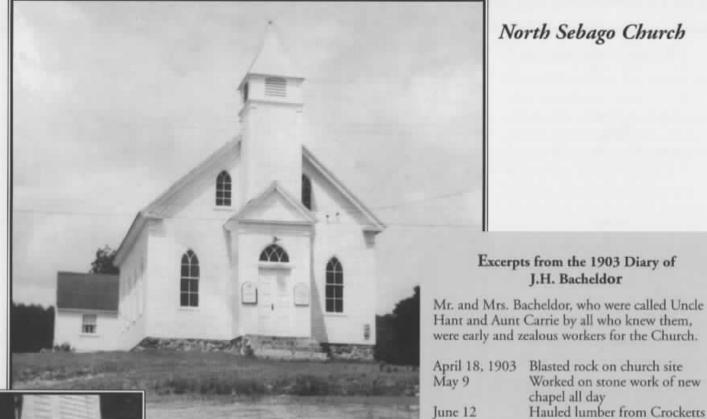


The Ladies' Circle was formed in 1895 and it continues to raise funds for the church today. Shown here at a 1958 quilting bee are (left to right) Mrs. Maurice D. Burnell, Mrs. Gordon M. Sanborn, Mrs. George K. Cobb, Mrs. Merle E. Douglass, Mrs. Dwight B. Greene, Mrs. Nina Sayward and Mrs. Joseph S. Hamlin.

#### North Sebago Church



Rev. Douglas Mays and family, 1999. Left to right: John, Susan, Rev. Mays, Matthew

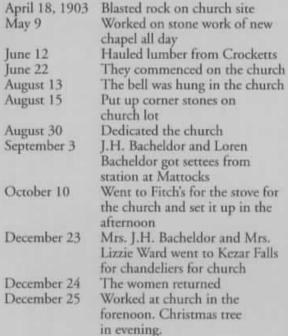


#### Shades of the Past

(Left) Members of North Sebago Church gather in front of the church building in pose reminiscent of photograph taken at church's dedication in 1903.



(Right) Building the new addition, 1998. Left to right: Chet Koceika, Larry Shaw, Don Olden, Sr.



Excerpts from the 1903 Diary of

J.H. Bacheldor



#### Our Lady of Sebago Church, East Sebago

Our Lady of Sebago, a summer chapel, was built in 1954 by the Catholic Diocese of Maine. The building, 100' x 40', designed to accommodate a capacity of 500, was built by F. W. Cunningham & Sons, a contracting firm from Portland at a cost of \$25,000.

In the early days of the church, it was affiliated with St. Hyacinth's Church in Westbrook. Since 1967 it has been placed under the guidance of St. Anne's Church in Gorham, whose pastor is Father Ernest L'Heureux. The building has not changed much in the last 45 years and is open seasonally from the latter part of April to early October. For the past four summers, the chapel has been under the direction of Father Robert Girouard.

Mass was said for the first time on the first Sunday of June 1951. The attendance was astounding. The new church was ready for use June 1, 1954.



#### Sebago Church of the Nazarene

Organized in 1942 as a Church of the Nazarene under the pastoral leadership of Rev. Alma Field, the original name was Convene Church of the Nazarene. Clearing of the land for site of the new church shown at left began in April 1989. The first service in the new sanctuary was Palm Sunday, April 8, 1990 with 75 present. Pastor from May 1988 to March 1999 was Rev. Franklin L. Lowe. Present pastor Rev. Timothy Evans was installed March 28, 1999.



Pastor Tim Evans and his wife Cheryl were installed by District Superintendent on Sunday, March 28, 1999.

Sebago Church of the Nazarene, dedicated June 10, 1990.

District Superintendent: Rev. Clarence Hildreth

Building Committee: Harry Lowe, (Chairman), Marie Crawford, Linda

Cross, Jane Lowe, Maureen McKenney (Treasurer), Clayton Odlin, Marilyn

Odlin (Secretary)

Church Board 1990-1991: Marie Crawford, Sherrill Douglass, Sylvia Douglass, Eleanor Eaton, Ralph Eaton, Linda Hartford, Harry Lowe, Jane Lowe, Maureen McKenney, Pearl McKenney, Steven McKenney, Bernard Minott, Clayton Odlin, Marilyn Odlin



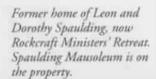
New Nazarene Church Parsonage on West Shore Road, 1999.



#### Camp O-At-Ka for Boys

Camp O-At-Ka for Boys was founded in 1906 by Rev.
Ernest J. Dennen who brought 27 boys to Sebago from St.
Stephen's Church in Lynn,
Massachusetts. His son
William I. Dennen, M.D. died in Hanover, New Hampshire on January 12, 1999 at 83 years of age. The camp is non-sectarian but was founded by Episcopalian ministers.







The epitaph of Sophia Robinson, who died in 1894, simply states NORTH SERAG LAKESIDE

#### Lakeside Cemetery

"We miss thee at home."

Lakeside Cemetery is presently the largest cemetery in Sebago. As it has been found to be true in research of other cemeteries, it was started due to the death of children. Records show the earliest burials here were children of Philip and Martha McKenney who lost a son Philip in 1827 at 6 months of age; another son, Henry, in 1832, at 1 year and 7 months; in 1834 they lost a third son, William, at the age of 1 month.

In May of 1918, interested parties met at the home of Nelson Wentworth to discuss plans for having the burial ground incorporated. The name chosen was to be North Sebago Lakeside Cemetery. Those who signed the corporation papers were Joseph H. Bacheldor, William R. Thompson, Plantville P. Larrabee, Fannie M. Wentworth, Rose E. Bacheldor, Will O. Nason and Wm. Bennett Shaw.

This became official in June 1918 and Plantville Larrabee became the first President.

In 1923 the association purchased land and in 1934 Nelson and Fannie Wentworth gave more land to enlarge the cemetery.

Caretakers over the years include many familiar Sebago names such as Will Nason, Nelson Wentworth, Lawson Rowe, Wilbur McKenney, Henry Nason, Leland McKenney and David Brown.

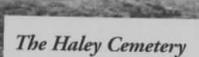
Buried in Lakeside are war veterans from the War of 1812, Civil War, Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, and Vietnam.

The present officers are Edward O'Donnell, President; Dorothy O'Donnell, Secretary; Leanne Reinhard, Treasurer; Leroy Wood, Marion Nason, E. Laurence Shaw and Brian Reinhard, Trustees.

As is found in all of the old cemeteries, Haley has many epitaphs. These two we chose to share:

Dust and ashes is my strength Our pleasures are but in vain From dust at first and dust at last We must return again.

Weeping may endure for a night But joy cometh in the morning.



The Haley Cemetery at Convene is a very old cemetery. It is also the second largest in the town of Sebago. The first recorded burial was that of Nancy Douglass, who died at the age of 1 year, in 1825. This was one year before Sebago became incorporated as a town. The next burial was that of Almeda Pugsley, daughter of John and Sally Pugsley, who died in 1830. This yard was established in two sections.

On June 27, 1925, the cemetery was incorporated under the name of The Haley Cemetery. The first officers were Charles E. Hunt as President, Fred L. Meserve as Vice President, Leon W. Dyer as Clerk and Morton Douglas as Treasurer. The above officers served as trustees along with Grover C. Douglas, Herbert Gray and Owen G. Hanson.

Here lies the remains of John Libby, a Revolutionary War soldier,

along with three soldiers from the War of 1812 and seven from the Civil War.

This cemetery also has three veterans who gave their lives in the War. The first was a Sebago native, John Gammon, who is mentioned in November. The next two men were not from Sebago, but have family here. They are PFC Eddie Verne Dauphinée who was killed in Germany during World War II. He lost his life on December 18, 1944 at the age of 20, Cpl. William E. Douglas died in Korea on May 15, 1951 at the age of 19.

The present officers are Robin Gosbee, President; Lane Gosbee, Secretary; John Douglas, Treasurer; Robert Brown, Ester Chase, Joyce Viles and Kenneth Chase, Trustees.





The picture at left shows the stone for Marion Idel Douglass who died at the age of 5 in 1886. Little Marion has two grave stones marking her burial site. These are in different locations within the cemetery. The second stone is with her parents, James and Sarah Young Douglass, who died in 1914 and 1915. There are no records to tell if Marion's remains were ever moved to her parents' burial location.

#### Babb Cemetery

The Babb Cemetery is located on the Hancock Pond Road. The first recorded burial was that of Charley Davis who died in 1857 at the age of 2. In 1859, Sarah Babb died at 1 year and 11 months old. In 1860, her brother Charlie died at 4 months followed by another brother Owen who died at 8 years in 1864. These were children of James and Sabra Babb. Sabra also died in 1860 at the age of 30.

Along with the Babb and Davis families, there are many other old-time Sebago names from the 1800's, these being: Chadbourne, Douglas, Martin, Moody, Newcomb, Nutting, Reed, Douglass, Warren and Young.

Land was added to enlarge the cemetery in 1961 and again in 1965. In 1986 the first official meeting was held for the newly formed Babb Cemetery Association. The first President was Louise Cummings. June Allen served as Secretary and Treasurer. Trustees were Edna Hale, Raymond Babb, Jr. and Grace Snow. After organization, the process of cleaning stones was started.

Katherine Babb Boynton stated that when she was buried she wanted to be carried up a walkway, so in 1988 a walkway was installed. In April of 1995 the last burial here was that of Katherine, who died at the age of 100, and her request was granted.

In 1997, a large stone which Katherine told of playing on as a child was moved in front of the cemetery. It was later engraved and now serves as a permanent sign.

The present officers are Joyce Viles, President; June Allen, Secretary and Treasurer; James Snow, James Dutton, Louise Cummings, Edith Cole and Edna Hale, Trustees.



#### **Oldest Cemeteries**

This month is dedicated to cemeteries with early recorded burials in Sebago, dating from 1819 through 1829.

 The oldest recorded burial in Sebago is located in the Fitch Yard on Route 107 by the Red Brick Schoolhouse. At age 3 years and 5 months, Jane Sanborn, daughter of Robert A. and Sarah Woodman Sanborn, died on September 18, 1819. This was seven years before Sebago was incorporated as a town. Other early burials here were in 1826, 1833, 1836 and 1839.

William Fitch Esquire, one of Sebago's earliest settlers, was buried here in 1852 at the age of 84. He made many contributions to the town serving as one of Sebago's first selectman. He previously had served Baldwin for 15 years before Sebago was incorporated. This yard is much larger than it appears from the road. There are 72 marked grave sites with field stones indicating other burials.

2. The Potter Yard on Route 107 is another old cemetery. Joseph Lakin and his first wife, the earliest permanent settlers of Schago, came here in 1790. Mrs. Lakin died at an early age and it has been said that she is buried here, but there is no marker to verify this. Joseph Fitch was the earliest death recorded and he was entombed here in 1825. In 1826, Betsey F. Potter was the next burial. She died at the age of 13. In 1829 Deborah F. Potter died at the age of 24. Recorded on one stone are the twin children of Leonard and Rohoda Martin, Mary Vildia and Nelson, both of whom died at the age of 9 years and 2 months, in April of 1863.

3. The Sanborn Cemetery, off the Sandy Beach Road, marks the location of another early burial. Louis Sanborn died in 1827 at the age of 27. The next burial was James Sanborn in 1832 at the age of 25. There are seven other marked sites here.

4. A single stone marks the graves of Daniel Hill and his wife Polly Lakin Hill. Daniel died in 1821 when Sebago

was still a part of Baldwin. Polly, the daughter of Sebago's first settlers, was eleven years old when her family came to Sebago. She was born in 1779 and died in 1840.



5. The Pike
Yard, off
Allen Road,
is the resting
place of
Oliver Pike
Esquire, who
is thought to
have been
Sebago's first
lawyer. He
was known
for his humor
and common

sense. He died in 1867 at the age of 78 and his epitaph reads "He

has gone to mansions of rest."

The first burial here was that of Oliver and Sally's daughter, Sarah Ann, who died in 1828 at the age of I year and 9 months. There are twelve marked burials, all Pikes. The story has been passed down that the first tree felled for building the farm came from this spot.

6. Daniel Haley, son of William and Polly Haley, was the first burial in the Haley yard in Convene. He died in 1829 at the age of 1 month. His brother died two years later at the age of 9 years and 10 months. Deacon William Haley was well known for his dedication to the Free Will Baptist Church of Sebago and he was also very active in town offices. He died in 1877 at the age of 81 years. His wife Polly died in 1874 at the age of 80. Other family names here are Johnson, Paine, Davis and Clark.





#### Unusuals in Sebago Cemeteries

1. In the Potter Yard on Route 107 is the tomb of Joseph Fitch (at left) who died July 7, 1825 at the age of 58. This is unusual to Sebago in two ways. Not only because it is a tomb, but also because it is one of the earliest recorded deaths.



2. One of Sebago's unusual cemeteries is the Wentworth Cemetery on Robinson Hill Road. This small yard is neatly encircled with split stone and iron rods, and all three stones are set flat on the ground. (See photo at left). The names recorded here are Samuel Wentworth, who died in 1847 and his wife Betsey, who died in 1872. The third stone is that of Samuel Wentworth, with no other visible lettering.



3. Grave markers are usually made of stone or bronze, but the one at left is quite unusual. Erected on a split stone base is the wooden marker for George Ward, an early settler of North Sebago, who died in 1866. In the late 1970s, it was repaired by members of Maple Grove Grange, and it is presently in need of more repair. This marker can be found in the Ward Cemetery off Anderson Gove Road.

4. In 1924, ninety-nine years after the first tomb in Sebago, another was built upon the death of Leon Spaulding. This is a stone structure set into the hills on the grounds of Rockcraft Lodge. (See photo at right.) His widow, Dorothy, honored his memory by having freshly cut flowers placed by his mausoleum every day while she was at her summer home. Upon her death in 1963, her body was placed beside her husband's and the door to the tomb was sealed shut, never to be opened again.



5. In today's society, dogs are commonly honored with a tombstone, however in 1900 this was rather unusual. Jeff, the inseparable companion of Levi Kenison, was tenderly placed in a grave at the side of the family lot, and this litle tombstone was erected. The cemetery in which Jeff, his

master and family were buried is known as the Kenison Yard on the Folly Road.

6. In the Old
Wentworth
Cemetery on
Decker
Mountain Road
stands this
impressive
Mausoleum.
The inscription
states:



Theodore P. Decker October 2, 1915-August 26, 1991 B.A. '52 - M.A. '58 - M.A. '70 World War II Pacific Theater 1942-1945



#### Veterans

"We must keep the flag where it ere has stood In front of the Free, the Wise and the Good! And fight and fall at the Country's call, To defend the flag of the people."

This epitaph of James L. Brown, who gave his life in the Civil War, says it best for all of Sebago's fallen war heroes who have marked grave sites in Sebago. James is buried in the Brown Cemetery on the Backnippin Road. Others from Sebago who lost their lives in the Civil War are: Charles W. Cole, who is buried in the Potter Yard; John P. Gammon, who is buried in the Haley Cemetery; Roscoe G. Dyer and Rufus Wiggin, who are buried in the Fitch Yard at Sebago Center. In the North Sebago Lakeside Cemetery are the markers of two others who lost their lives. John H. Gregory died during World War II and Harvey J. Douglas in Vietnam.













1. James L. Brown
died Nov. 5, 1861; Ae 29 yrs, 8 ms
died at Newport News, Va.
He was a member of Co. I,
Mass Battalion.
(See epitaph above.)

2. Charles W. Cole
Son of Benjamin and Nancy Cole
died Dec. 17, 1862; Ae 18 yrs, 5 ms
died at Arlington Heights, Va.
He was a member of Co. K,
25th Maine Regt,
Vet of 61-65

3. John P. Gammon died Feb. 9, 1862; Ae 26 yrs, 1 mo, 26 ds son of William and Elizabeth Pugsley Gammon Rest soldier rest - Thy country comes, With tender love and true, Freely to deck thine honored bed.

4. Roscoe G. Dyer
Was killed at the battle of Gettysburg, Penn.
died July 2, 1863, Ac 26 yrs, 8 ms
A member of Co. H, 17th Me Regt
In distant land he breathed his last
No loving wife to soothe his brow
No loving mother's eye was on him cast
But he is happy, happy now.

5. Rufus Wiggin died July 1864 at Campbell Hospital, Washington, D.C. ae 35 yrs

> 6.John H. Gregory Maine Tec 5 Field Artillery World War II July 24, 1920-Nov. 8, 1944

> 7. Harvey J. Douglas Maine EN US Navy Viet Nam PH July 31, 1946-Jan. 18, 1969

#### Sebago Cemetery

In 1990 the town of Sebago acquired land for its first town cemetery. The property, on the Hancock Pond Road, was purchased from Katherine Boynton. It is large enough to accommodate 3,000 graves. A huge stone, formerly part of the front wall, was moved to form a central area. A large bronze plaque, recognizing Mrs. Boynton's contribution, was attached and the name Sebago Cemetery added. The first burial in the new cemetery was Philip Rodney White, Jr.

Rules and regulations for the cemetery were adopted at the March 2, 1991 town meeting. It was voted that the cemetery would be administered by a board of five trustees. The first five were Beverly Cox, Ruth Douglas, June Allen, Joyce Viles and George Anderson. Each year a new member would be elected at the annual town meeting to replace the trustee whose term had expired.



Edward Fitzgerald made a major contribution with the initial planning and in surveying the lots. James Libby donated his knowledge and time with landscaping. The Lion's Club generously provided the town with a utility building.

Through the faithful dedication of George Anderson, from the early planning to the present, Sebago Cemetery is what it is in the year 2000. George has served continuously as trustee and has devoted endless hours towards its improvements and maintenance.

Trustees for the year 2000 are George Anderson, Ann Burns, Jan Wilk, Jonathan Champagne and John Lucy.





 The Ridlon Yard is located on the Sebago - West Baldwin line. The oldest recorded burial here was in 1834.
 Joshua Usher, a Civil War Veteran, is also buried here. The epitaph for Harriet Bickford who died at the age of 50 simply states "She hath done what she could".



2. On a knoll above the old Dike Homestead is the Dike Cemetery. This cemetery is the resting place of Edward Dike and his wife Susan who came to this area in 1808, and built the farm. Of sixteen marked grave sites, fifteen are named Dike. Elizabeth Andrews, a former owner of the homestead, was buried here in 1982.



 On the Kimballs Corner Road, formally known as the Larrabee District, you will find the Staples Ward Yard. Amos Ward who served Sebago as a representative in the state legislature is buried here. Mr. Ward was Sebago's first recipient of the Boston Post Cane in 1909.



4. Esquire Edwin L. Poor is buried in the Poor Cemetery at Sebago Center. He was a well-known Sebago lawyer, serving in town and state affairs for nearly fifty years. His wife Amanda and their twin daughters, Lillian Meserve and Lunetta Chessey, are also buried in this cemetery.



 The Jewell Yard, located on Hogfat Hill, has only two family names: Jewell and Douglass. The epitaph for Morrill Jewell, who died at 88 years in 1870, reads:

Farewell my wife and children-all From you a father doth call Mourn not for me, it is in vain To call me to your sight again.



6. On a hill behind the Spaulding Memorial Library is the picturesque Fitch Cemetery. The fieldstone walls are visible from Route 11. There are eight Fitch burials here, dating from 1916 to 1961. In 1976 Thomas P. Foley, Jr. was laid to rest in this yard.



 Located off the Long Hill Road, deep in the woods, is the White Cemetery.
 Peter White, one of the earlier settlers in East Sebago was buried here in 1833.
 Eight generations of his descendants have continued to live in Sebago.



8. Woodside Farm Cemetery can be found on the Allen Road across from the farmhouse. Presently there are two burials here: Neal W. Allen, who died in 1992 and Flora Marie Phillips Allen, wife of Fredrick, who died in 1998. This privately-owned yard hosts a spectacular view of the mountains.