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Subject of Square: Pine Grove Cemetery

Quilter's Name: Lori Cotter

Background on subject: The Pine Grove burial grounds dates back to circa 1654 and is one of the oldest cemeteries in New Hampshire. It was in use for 150 years and has some 257 remaining markers. Many early Hampton residents who helped build the town were buried in its first cemetery and names such as Leavitt, Gove, Palmer, Marston and Weeks can be found there. In addition to the histories behind the 257 markers, there are three distinctly different styles, from the simple stones bearing skulls and cross bones, or frowning angels, indicative of the Puritan period; more elaborate carvings from the "Great Awakening" in the 1700s; and the more modern stones from the 1800s with weeping willows and urns engraved on the stone faces.



Why you chose this subject: The Pine Grove Cemetery is a very interesting place with so much Hampton history to be found there. Finding the names of those buried there and then learning about their lives in the earliest days of our town is really fascinating.

Thoughts on your representation/design/color choices/etc.: While Pine Grove Cemetery is a really interesting place, it is at its essence a burial ground, and I wanted to capture the feeling of that with dark colors and perhaps even some ghostly figures.

What you hope this quilt will mean for the people who see it: I hope people will think about the connections to our town history when they recognize that names like that of the "Marston" School and "Leavitt" Road are rooted in our past.