Among the noted persons interred here are:

- Jedediah Foster (1726-1779), Colonel of the Militia during the Revolutionary War, Representative to the Massachusetts Legislature, Justice of the Superior Court of Massachusetts, and credited with drawing up the original draft of the constitution of the new Commonwealth of Massachusetts. His grave marker contains the following sobering inscription: "The boast of Heraldry, the Pomp of Power, and all that Wisdom, all that Wealth can give, Await alike the inevitable hour. The Paths of Glory lead but to the Grave".
- Diederik Leertouwer (1760-1798), Consul from the Netherlands to the United States, and credited with being the first to introduce asparagus to this country.

Other notable persons whose grave markers are located here are Captain Philip Goss, builder of Goss’s garrison in 1704 and first town moderator in 1718, and his wife Judith Goss; Captain Loring Lincoln who fought in the Revolutionary War; Joseph Dorr, state senator from 1780-1783; Cornelius White (1710-1800), son of John White and grandson of Peregrine White, who was born on the Mayflower in 1620; and Abigail Foster (1754-1779), daughter of Jedediah Foster, and whose inscription reads: "Virtue alone assures the peace, Which Age nor Death can e’er destroy, Affords the Mind a lasting ease, And feeds us with immortal joy".

In 2004 a survey and inventory was commissioned by the West Brookfield Historical Commission, and in 2006 the Old Indian Cemetery was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Walking Tour of the
OLD INDIAN CEMETERY
Cottage Street  West Brookfield, MA

Once the site of the Wekaboag Indian village on the high ground overlooking the southern shore of Lake Wickaboag, and past which ran the Indian trail known later as the "Old Bay Path" (today's Cottage Street), the one acre burying ground known today as the "Old Indian Cemetery" in West Brookfield was used by the early settlers from about 1710 almost exclusively until the early/mid-1800s, when burials began in Pine Grove Cemetery. The lot is rectangular in shape and currently bounded on all four sides by stone walls, with one walk-in entrance from Cottage Street. Although not near either the 1715 meeting house on Foster Hill (re-built after King Philip’s War) or the subsequent meeting house on North Main Street, as would have been customary, it has been suggested that its location was chosen because of the ease of digging in its sandy soil and its close proximity to the colonial road.

Toward the back of the cemetery is the "Haymakers" monument, erected by the town in 1912 to commemorate the six men interred here who were killed by Indians in 1710 while haying in fields on the southern slope of Foster Hill—Ebeneezer Hayward, Stephen Jennings, Benjamin Jennings, Joseph Kellogg, John Grosvenor and John White. Tradition has it that the bodies were brought by boat down the Quaboag River to this site on the southern shore of Lake Wickaboag, where they were buried.

Prepared by the West Brookfield Historical Commission
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