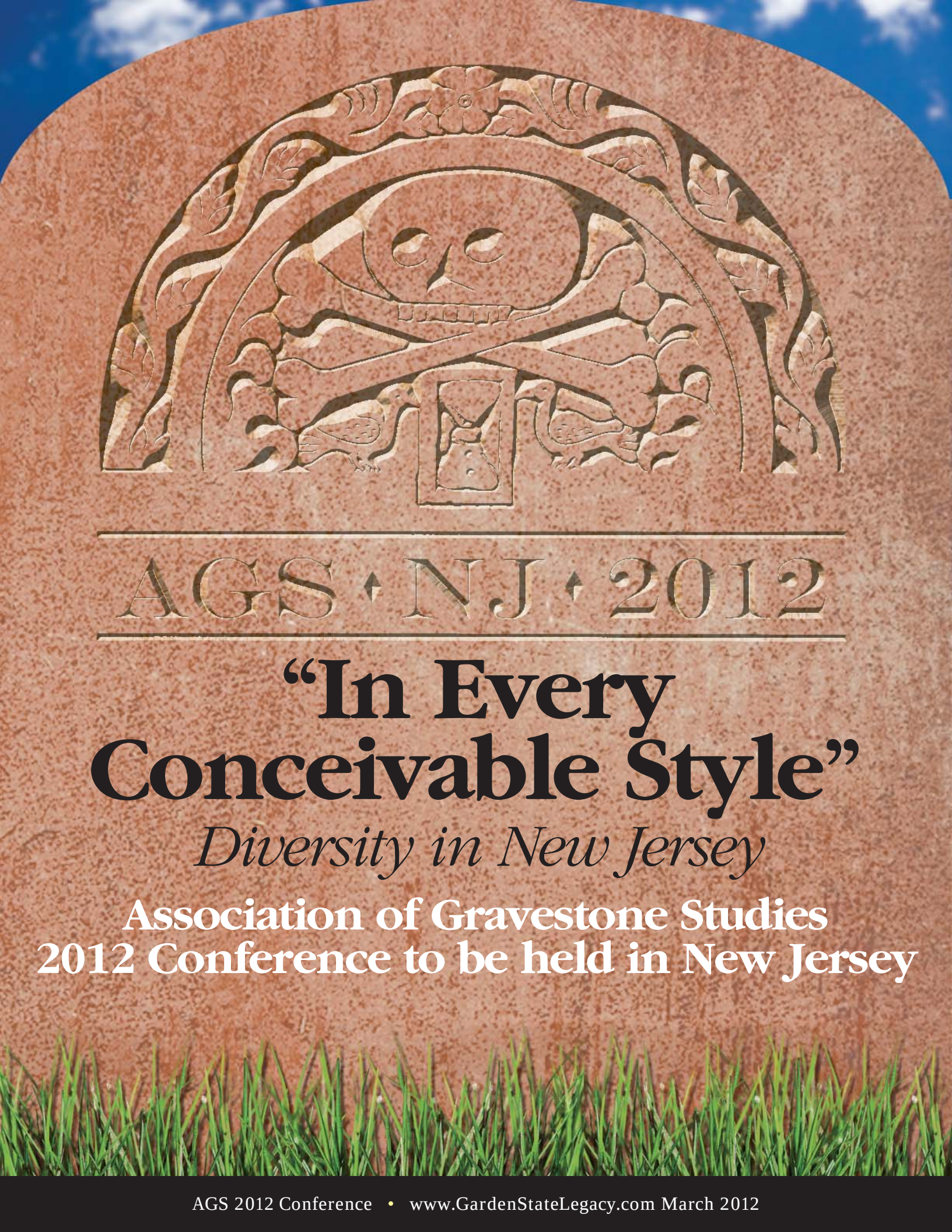


"In Every Conceivable Style"

Diversity in New Jersey

Association of Gravestone Studies 2012 Conference to be held in New Jersey

Below and on the next pages are examples of some of the gravestones and markers attendees will encounter on the cemetery tours.

The Rebecca Squier (d. 1771) marker, Presbyterian Churchyard, Westfield, NJ.

The John Craig (d. 1753) marker, Lamington Presbtyerian Churchyard. This marker is likely from the shop of John Zuricher.

Gravestone enthusiasts and researchers from around the nation and the world will be gathering at Monmouth University, West Long Branch, New Jersey for the 35th Annual Association for Gravestone Studies Conference, June 19-24.

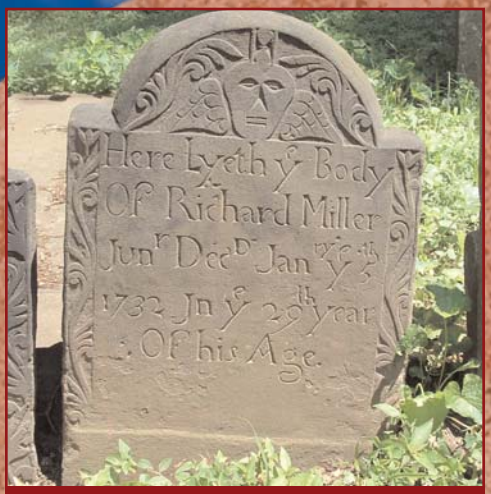
The Association for Gravestone Studies, based in Greenfield, Massachusetts, is an organization of approximately 1000 members. Its mission is to further the study and preservation of gravestones. More information about the organization is available online at www.gravestonestudies.org.

The week-long conference will feature classroom sessions on gravestone rubbing, photography, and foil impressions, and lectures from scholars from diverse backgrounds including history, art history, archaeology, and anthropology. There will also be a workshop in a historic graveyard demonstrating proper gravestone conservation techniques. Highlights of the conference will also include cemetery tours featuring New Jersey's colonial, Victorian and cultural diverse historic burial grounds.

Evening lectures will be available to the public at no charge. Presented by international researchers and scholars, the lecture topics include stone carvers, gravestone art, cemetery history, and the cultural significance of gravestones.

Members of the public and researchers in all related fields are welcome to participate in the conference by registering in advance at http://www.gravestonestudies.org/conferences.htm. Members of the public may register to attend the entire conference or certain days, only. Attendance of evening lectures is free of charge.

For further information please contact AGS at (413) 772–0836, info@gravestonestudies.org, Richard Veit rveit@monmouth.edu or Mark Nonestied mn1908@aol.com



Richard Miller (d. 1732) gravemarker, Elizabeth First Presbyterian Cemetery.

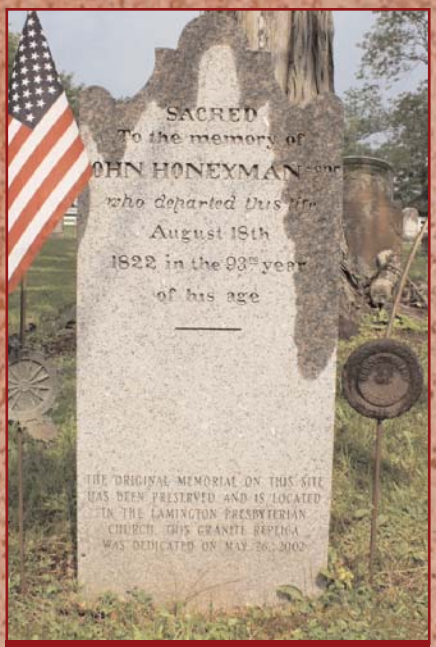
The Ray Tse memorial, Rosedale Cemetery, Linden, New Jersey.

The Doctor Ichabod Burnet marker (1756), in Elizabeth New Jersey. This is a fine signed example of Ebenezer Price's carving.

The tombstones of Samuel and Thomas Lawrance (d. 1687), reset in the rear wall of Elizabeth's First Presbyterian Church. They are the oldest surviving gravemarkers in New Jersey.

Ms. Sarah Woodruff's gravemarker in the burial ground of Elizabeth's First Presbyterian Church.

The marker of John Davis junior (d. 1760) in Westfield's First Presbyterian Churchyard.



A reproduction gravemarker for John Honeyman in the Lamington Presbtyerian churchyard. Honeyman, who died at the age of 93 in 1822 acted as a spy for the Continental Army during the Trenton campaign.

The Samuel Dennis marker (1723), at Christ Episcopal Church in Shrewsbury, New Jersey.

A well-worn marble marker set into the floor of Christ Episcopal Church in Shrewsbury, New Jersey.

This marker was created by Dominic LaPenta for his daughters—one died in a household accident, the other during the 1918 influenza epidemic. He created it from handmade forms into which were poured concrete. This is just one example of the large numbers of understudied and under appreciated folk grave markers throughout New Jersey. GSL ePublisher, Gordon Bond, and his wife, Stephanie M. Hoagland, will be conducting a tour of St. James Cemetery in Woodbridge, where they surveyed all the folk markers, on June 23rd. LaPenta's son, Frank LaPenta, will be on hand to describe how this marker was made and the story behind it. That evening, Bond and Hoagland will be giving one of the presentations about their findings.