

**Jin Cole**, c. 1723–1808, captured in Africa at age 12, enslaved in this house

**Cato**, c. 1737–1825, son of Jin Cole, enslaved as a child in this house

**Titus**, 1751, enslaved in this house

**Caesar**, baptized 1741, enslaved on this site

**Adam**, baptized 1735, enslaved on this site

**Peter**, baptized 1735, enslaved on this site

**Young girl**, name no longer known, 1757, enslaved in this house

### Witness Stones Memorials on Historic Deerfield Properties

October 12, 2022



Historic Deerfield  
*Opening Doorways To The Past.*

■ = Witness Stone memorial location

**Phillis**, age 9, 1741, enslaved in this house

**Humphry**, 1742, enslaved in this house

**Caesar**, baptized, 1741, enslaved on this site

**Pompey**, 1736, husband of Rebecca, enslaved on this site

**Rebecca**, wife of Pompey, enslaved on this site

Ashley House

Dickinson House

Moors House

Thomas Williams House

Deerfield Inn  
Post Office

Deerfield Academy

Creelman House

Dwight House

Wright House

Williams House

Bement School

Stebbins House

Wells-Thorn House

**Ishmael**, 1749, enslaved on this site

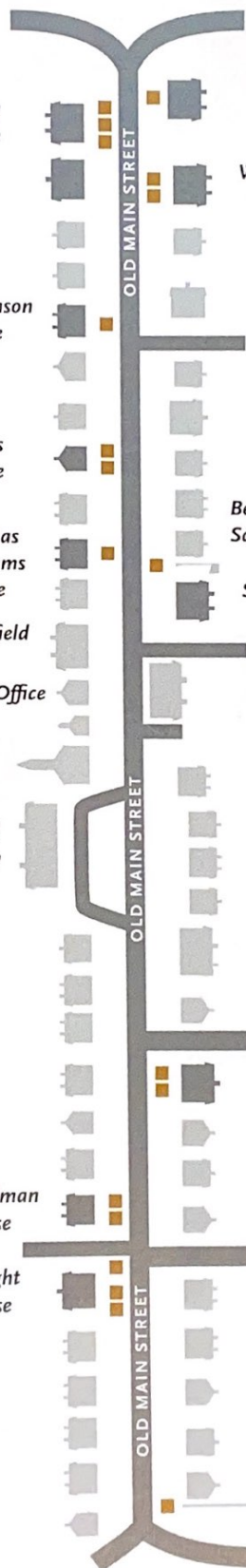
**Caesar**, 1750, enslaved on this site  
**Mesheck**, baptized 1747, enslaved on this site

**Woman**, name no longer known, 1749, enslaved on this site

**Lucy Terry Prince**, c. 1729–1821, captured in Africa as a child, enslaved in this house, died a free woman in Vermont

**Caesar**, baptized 1734, enslaved in this house

**Titus**, baptized 1762, enslaved on this site





## Witness Stones Dedication at Historic Deerfield, October 12, 2022

### PROGRAM

John Davis, Historic Deerfield President and CEO

*Welcome, introduction*

Reverend Mary Smith-Gomes, Goodwin Memorial AME Zion Church, Amherst

*Prayer and reflection*

Barbara Mathews, Historic Deerfield Public Historian and Director of Academic Programs

*Project History*

Pat Wilson Pheanious, Witness Stones Co-chair of the Board of Directors

*Memorial Unveiling at Ashley House*

### The Witness Stones Project at Historic Deerfield

As part of Historic Deerfield's ongoing commitment to broadening visitor knowledge and experience, the Museum has partnered with the Witness Stones Project, Inc. ([witnessstonesproject.org](http://witnessstonesproject.org)), a Connecticut-based organization with a unique approach to memorializing enslaved individuals. Inspired by the Stolpersteine project in Germany commemorating victims of the Holocaust, the Witness Stones Project works to restore the history and honor the humanity of the enslaved individuals who helped build our communities.

Over a third of the households on Deerfield's mile-long street included at least one enslaved person by the mid-18th century. Much of the surviving archival evidence is housed at the Memorial Libraries in Deerfield and was shared as early as 1893 in an article written by Deerfield's 19th-century town historian George Sheldon. This evidence has enabled staff of the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, Historic Deerfield, and other dedicated researchers, including Robert Romer and Gretchen Gerzina, to recover and share information about the presence and lives of Deerfield's enslaved residents.

A Witness Stones memorial is a 4" x 4" brass plaque identifying the enslaved person. The installation of Witness Stones memorials on sites currently owned by Historic Deerfield where enslaved men, women and children lived and worked is an essential element in the Museum's ongoing initiative to share this history with visitors and local residents alike. The memorials are installed close to the sidewalks, ensuring that people walking there will be able to see them and be inspired to want to learn more about the enslaved persons. Historic Deerfield will be working with other property owners in the second phase of the project to place Witness Stones Memorials at other sites of enslavement on the village street.

Information about the individuals memorialized will be available in different formats. Long-term plans include developing a mobile app and an online database. Historic Deerfield is also working with the Witness Stones Project to offer teacher professional development in addition to public programs, including a day-long conference, and museum education experiences incorporating essential themes of slavery.