

The South River Historical & Preservation Society needs your help to preserve the Old School Baptist Church Cemetery!

The Old School Baptist Church Cemetery, located behind the South River Museum, is in need of conservation. In the almost 200 years since the earliest known burial in 1813, the stones have seriously deteriorated. Many have disappeared completely, while others are in serious disrepair.

Thanks to two generous donors, the Society was able to have conservation work done on 11 stones in the fall of 2007. Many more stones still need work.



The gravestone of Amelia Ricketts, pictured at left, is one of the most obvious examples of the need for conservation. The stone was broken off and the largest piece of it now stands upside down. The stone is in memory of Amelia Ricketts, who died August 6, 1854 at the age of 19 years, 7 months, and 16 days. The verse on the base of stone is only partially legible, but reads:

*Dearest Mother thou has left us
And thy loss we deeply feel
But 'tis God that has bereft us
He can all our sorrows heal*

Please help us in our efforts to preserve this and other valuable pieces of South River history. If you would like to contribute to the conservation effort for this stone, or for other stones in the cemetery, please complete the form below and mail it with your check payable to the South River Historical & Preservation Society, Inc. All donations are tax deductible.

Old School Baptist Church Cemetery Conservation Program Donation Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, ZIP Code: _____

Phone (Optional): _____

Email (Optional): _____

Amount of donation: _____

Please make checks payable to the South River Historical & Preservation Society, Inc. and send them with the form to: SRH&PS, Inc.

P.O. Box 446
South River, NJ 08882

(If you would like to make a memorial donation, please add the information to the back of the form.)