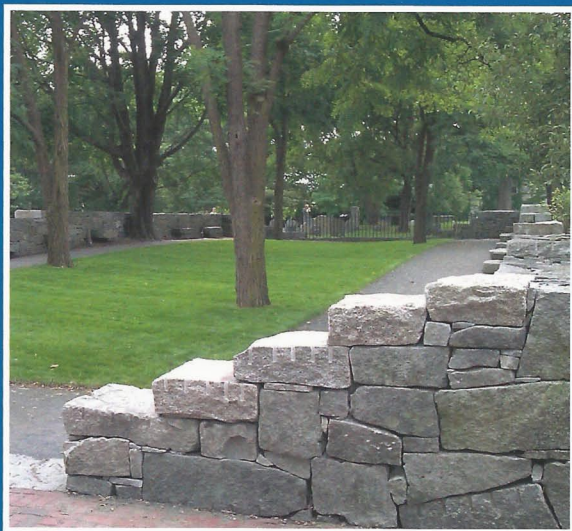


The Salem Witch Trials Memorial

Salem, Massachusetts



In 1692, in Salem, Massachusetts, nearly 200 people were accused of practicing witchcraft. Nineteen were hanged and one man was crushed to death. These individuals were victims of fear, superstition, and a court system that failed to protect them.

*“Only if we remember will we be
worthy of redemption.”*

—Elie Weisel

Intolerance and social injustice persist today. It is the mission of the Salem Award Foundation, through education and awareness, to ensure that the lessons of 1692 are not forgotten and to demonstrate their relevance today.

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FOR HUMAN RIGHTS & SOCIAL JUSTICE

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Translating stone into lessons for today

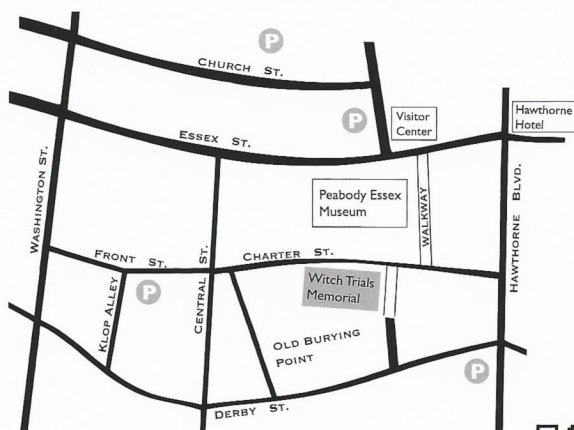
The memorial incorporates multiple elements of stone and plantings to represent the social indifference to the persecutions that took place here.

Striking in its simplicity, the memorial is surrounded on three sides by a handcrafted granite wall. Inscribed in the stone threshold entering the memorial are the victims' protests of innocence. These protests are interrupted mid-sentence by the wall, symbolizing society's indifference to oppression. Six locust trees, the last to flower and the first to lose their leaves, represent the injustice of the trials.

At the rear of the memorial, visitors view the tombstones of the adjacent 17th-century Charter Street Burying Point, a reminder of all who stood in mute witness to the events.



Benches within the memorial perimeter bear the names and the execution dates of each of the 20 victims, creating a quiet, contemplative environment in which to evoke the spirit and strength of those people who chose to die rather than compromise their personal truths.



Please support the Salem Award Foundation with an online donation. www.salemaward.org

