

OAKES LANE PIONEER CEMETERY



Howard Brown, John Warford, Colleen Reid, Woodrow French

A small pioneer cemetery is located at the end of Oakes Lane in Foxtrap. According to research carried out by Jim Warford, there are at least four graves on the site. It is believed the graves are those of Richard Rideout (early spelling of Rideout) and either his first wife Rachel (nee Porter) or his second wife Elizabeth (nee Hiscock) and their children. The Rideouts once owned the property on which the cemetery is located.

Richard was born in Sturminster Newton, Dorset, England in the 1790s. Richard stowed away on a ship bound for Newfoundland around 1814 and settled on the land where he is now buried. He was a community leader and according to family folklore, he carried out church services, baptisms and funerals. He died in 1834. Rachel died between 1820 and 1824 and Elizabeth after that time. The deaths predate local cemeteries and these graves are no doubt some of the oldest in Conception Bay South.

There have been seven or more generations of offspring from Richard – thousands of people may trace their roots to these pioneers.