

**PLYMOUTH, 1840  
BOOK 195, PAGE 209**

**NEW GUINEA SETTLEMENT AT PARTING WAYS  
PARTING WAYS CEMETERY**

**“ONE OF AMERICA’S EARLIEST FREE BLACK SETTLEMENTS”**

An important site in Plymouth County’s African-American heritage is the Parting Ways Cemetery located on the former location of the New Guinea Settlement at Parting Ways.

In 1792, the Town of Plymouth granted the use of 94 acres of land on the Plymouth/Kingston town line to four black Revolutionary War veteran’s. Cato Howe, Quamony Quash, Plato Turner and Prince Goodwin established a settlement which remained occupied by their descendants until 1908. It is believed that all four soldiers were transported to the United States from Guinea, Africa via Cape Verde.

The site located on Route 80 in West Plymouth, currently includes a marble tablet memorializing the settlement, the graves of these four African- American veterans and the foundations of former buildings. The property is listed on the National Register of Historical Places and protected by Federal and State laws.

Compliments of Register of Deeds John R. Buckley, Jr.  
and Marilyn M. Dupuis

From the “Plymouth County Registry of Deeds Notable Land Records Collection”