





Laurelwood Cemetery
Master Plan





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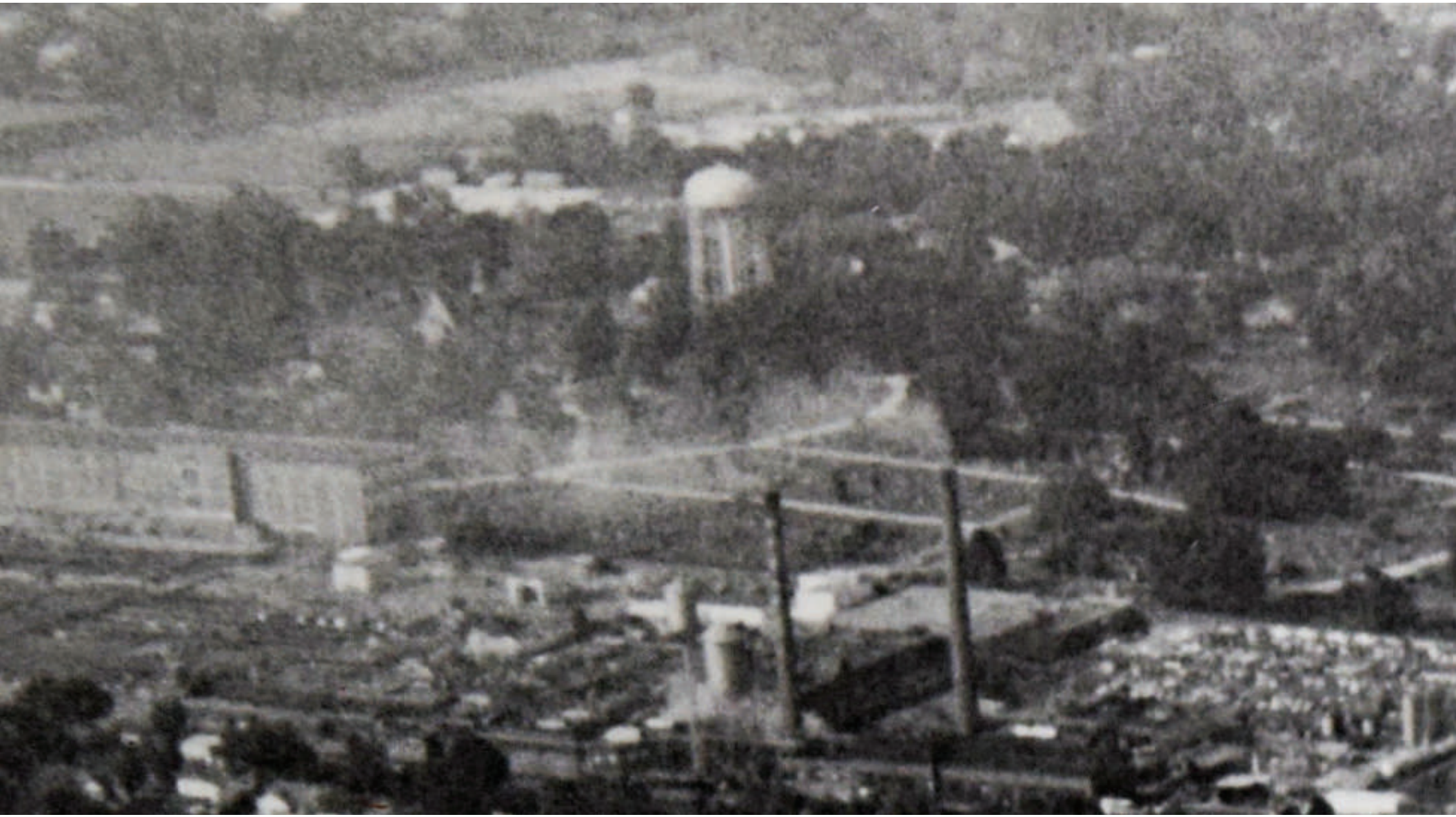
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Laurelwood Cemetery
Master Plan





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Executive Summary

Established in 1872, Laurelwood Cemetery is Rock Hill, South Carolina's oldest municipal cemetery. Since its establishment, the cemetery has expanded to include approximately 32 acres situated in proximity to downtown Rock Hill, Winthrop University, the historic Brookland neighborhood, and redevelopment of the City's former textile corridor. Although little space remains available in the oldest sections, Laurelwood remains an active burial ground. The City owns all property within the cemetery and sells burial rights for surveyed burial plots.

Laurelwood Cemetery achieves national significance as a physical representation of broad patterns of history related to the design and development of municipal cemeteries in the United States during the late nineteenth and early to mid-twentieth centuries. Additionally, the burial ground is significant for its association with a number of persons important to the early history and development of Rock Hill, for its funerary artwork, and for its association with nationally-acclaimed landscape architect and planner Earle S. Draper.

The immediate and long-term threats to Laurelwood Cemetery include deteriorating grave markers and monuments, the availability of space in burial plots reaching capacity, and the cemetery's proximity to multi-use development. In order to turn these threats into opportunities, the City of Rock Hill actively pursues preservation, planning, and public educational activities aimed at preserving the site's historic integrity while appropriately reactivating the space for future public use that complements redevelopment. A key component to these planning efforts includes placemaking efforts associated with the Knowledge Park development as well as other local community-development planning initiatives.

Supported by City Council, the Mayor, and the City Manager, the City of Rock Hill is eager to preserve and enhance Laurelwood Cemetery to honor its rich history while anticipating its future. To do so, the City of Rock Hill created an Internal Cemetery Committee and, in 2019, began to develop partnerships with local stakeholders, volunteers, and the consulting firm WLA Studio, of Athens, Georgia, to develop a master plan for Laurelwood's preservation and enhancement.

WLA Studio's involvement in the planning process began in 2019 and includes a cemetery documentation/survey-training component and development of this Master Plan. To produce this document, the firm engaged in historical background research and an extensive cultural landscape survey of Laurelwood and its surroundings. From this research and fieldwork, the firm developed an inventory of the site's historical context, existing conditions, potential threats to the site's integrity, and opportunities for site enhancement. These findings were crucial for the development of recommendations in the included educational plan component.

This Master Plan is broken into the following five sections:

Part I, Principles and Context, includes an introduction and background information describing the cemetery's management, project stakeholders, goals and objectives of the planning process, recent associated planning initiatives and placemaking efforts, the theoretical framework adopted for the site's analysis and evaluation (treatment philosophy), and a statement of historical/cultural significance.

Part II, Existing Conditions, includes narrative descriptions and visualizations of the site's local and regional geographic context and existing conditions. The existing conditions documentation is divided into the following categories: site organization; circulation, access, and parking; tree inventory; viewsheds; and utilities. This section also includes proposed boundaries for unique "character areas" within the cemetery grounds, defined by the organization, type, style, and frequency of distinctive "character-defining features" in the landscape. Findings of the research and inventory phase of the master planning process helped develop the lists of character-defining features and specific "periods of development"

for each of the proposed character areas. Each character area has specific needs regarding (1) the stabilization and conservation of historic features, (2) day-to-day maintenance, and (3) opportunities for enhancement. Understanding Laurelwood in terms of character areas therefore provides a framework to discuss the implications of specific management decisions and creates new opportunities to highlight the site's significance as an ever-evolving historic site and green-space in Rock Hill.

Part III, Strategies and Best Practices, includes narrative and visual descriptions of best practices and recommended procedures for the physical conservation, rehabilitation, enhancement, and interpretation of the cemetery's historic and modern characteristics and features. Specific topics discussed in this section include best practices for developing a protocol for site evaluation and documentation of existing conditions, understanding risk factors, ranking conservation and preservation priorities, acceptable conservation procedures, and developing proper techniques for routine maintenance and site assessment activities. Also included are descriptions of common historic cemetery treatments and specific proposals for treatment of Laurelwood Cemetery. This section is organized in terms of treatments related to (1) small-scale features, including grave markers, monuments, and other hard-scape features; (2) aspects of the landscape, including topography, vegetation, and lawn maintenance; (3) circulation, access and, parking, with proposals for alteration of existing entires, traffic flow, parking, and associated operational concerns; (4) site-enhancing features, with commentary and recommendations regarding the potential effects related to placemaking efforts and development of the site as a cemetery park, including the installation of lighting on the grounds; and (5) site security concerns.

Part IV, Education and Interpretation, constitutes the education plan for Laurelwood Cemetery. This component of the Master Plan provides guidance and reference materials to the City of Rock Hill and the Internal Cemetery Committee for the development of educational and interpretive programing to (1) educate the public about the significance and integrity of Laurelwood and (2) train municipal staff and community members to assess, preserve, learn about, and enjoy the historic features of the cemetery. The education plan includes outlines for potential cemetery conservation and documentation workshops, examples of successful educational programs established at other historic cemeteries in the U. S., and a comprehensive overview of strategies for the implementation of interpretive programing, planned public and private events, and use of interpretive media at Laurelwood. Specific recommendations include guided and unguided walking tours, lecture series, service -learning projects, oral history projects, and more.

Part V, Phased Recommendations, provides an overview of prioritized recommendations and objectives specific to the preservation and enhancement of Laurelwood Cemetery. Short- and long-term recommendations are grouped in association with specific aspects of site management, including maintenance-related tasks, preservation of small-scale and landscape features, management of circulation and parking systems, interpretation and site enhancements, and security issues.

As public awareness of Laurelwood Cemetery increases, new needs, threats, and opportunities will arise and new stakeholders will likely emerge. Accompanying these changes will be new ideas about how best to manage and use the site; therefore, this Master Plan is meant to be a living document to guide Laurelwood's caretakers and managers through the process of thoughtful decision making to help preserve, enhance, and interpret the cemetery for future generations. In that sense, the topics discussed and specific recommendations provided herein are based upon a preservation-oriented philosophy, one that is aimed at highlighting the historical assets of the cemetery while enabling its transformation into an urban multi-use green space.

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Laurelwood Cemetery
Master Plan



Part I: Principles and Context







Principles and Context

The City of Rock Hill is committed to Serving the Community, Engaging with Residents, and Growing Rock Hill.

The City is dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of Laurelwood Cemetery as a cultural landmark and respite amidst a growing community. It is a place of respect concerning the passing of life as well as its continuation.







Introduction

Established in 1872, Laurelwood Cemetery is Rock Hill's oldest municipal cemetery. Since its establishment, the cemetery has expanded to include approximately 32 acres situated in proximity to downtown Rock Hill, Winthrop University, the historic Brookland neighborhood, and redevelopment of the former textile corridor. Although little space remains available in the oldest sections, Laurelwood remains an active burial ground. The City owns all property within the cemetery and sells burial rights for surveyed burial plots. A burial permit, issued by the City, is required for all interments.

Laurelwood is listed in the National Register of Historic Places for its association with the early development and community planning of Rock Hill, its funerary art, and its association with trends in the professional field of landscape architecture.

Laurelwood contains Rock Hill's Confederate Monument and a memorial to Rock Hill's veterans of the First World War. These monuments, as well as the graves of veterans of all the twentieth century conflicts, draw veterans, their descendants, and other interested visitors to Laurelwood.

Although Laurelwood possesses overall historic integrity, many of the oldest grave markers and works of funerary art are deteriorating and are in disrepair. As redevelopment takes place around Laurelwood, the City is dedicated to the preservation of the site as a cultural landmark.

While remaining dedicated to its preservation, the City has identified the landscape of Laurelwood as an important component in an initiative to create amenities to promote the interpretation of local history and culture. This initiative involves the potential for increased visibility, visitation, and interpretation of Laurelwood. Additionally, the area surrounding the cemetery is in the process of dramatic change through redevelopment and adaptive re-use. These changes create new opportunities and needs concerning the management and preservation of the historic landscape.

Management

The City of Rock Hill's Cemetery Services Division strives to provide professional cemetery services at a cost that is reasonable to the public and responsive to customer needs. "The City of Rock Hill recognizes that its municipal cemeteries are sacred grounds reserved as a final resting place for the deceased. It is the desire of the City to operate and maintain cemeteries that are beautiful, dignified, and an appropriate final resting place for departed loved ones…[the cemetery's] rules and regulations are designed to protect and maintain the value of interment rights and the general peace and tranquility for the cemeteries owned by the City."[1]

As Laurelwood Cemetery is significant to the history of Rock Hill, the City's Historic Preservation Specialist, a member of the Planning and Development Department, is charged with providing guidance for its preservation, protection, and maintenance. Additionally, an internal cemetery committee, which meets quarterly, plays an important advisory role regarding regular cemetery operations and the development of ideas related to the preservation, conservation, and future enhancement of the site.

In the current administrative arrangement for Laurelwood, the City owns all property within the cemetery boundaries, and the rights to surveyed burial plots are sold to individuals. A burial permit, issued by the City, is required for all interments. The City is responsible for the "perpetual care" of the cemetery, which includes "the repair and maintenance of all buildings, fences, drives, walks, and other improvements belonging to the Cemetery; cutting of grass upon each plot at reasonable intervals; pruning of the shrubs and trees and such work as may be necessary, meaning and intending to continue similar work. Perpetual care does not provide for maintenance of monuments, markers or flower vases."[2]

The 2018 Rules and Regulations state that all work related to the care and improvement of cemetery plots shall be done by employees of the City or designated sub-contractor(s). Additionally, all trees and shrubs are planted and maintained by the City in accordance with the general plan for landscaping on the property. Burial permit holders are not permitted to install or perform maintenance on the cemetery's natural and/or constructed features. Temporary memorial objects or grave goods left in the cemetery must be in keeping with the site's general plan as defined in the Rules and Regulations. The City is not responsible for the loss or damage to any such memorial objects.[3]

The cemetery Rules and Regulations outline strict policies prescribing the kind, size, design, symbolism, craftsmanship, quality, and material of all memorials, inscriptions, monuments, or markers placed or to be placed in the cemetery. Areas of the cemetery have been designated for flush markers only while plot monuments are allowed in other areas. The Rules and Regulations also outline the needs related to constructing appropriate foundations for grave markers and monuments.

The City takes no responsibility for "maintenance or repair of monuments," including individual grave markers. If a plot owner wishes to perform preservation or conservation work, he/she can report the damage or need for treatment to cemetery staff. If the damage was conclusively caused by City personnel or subcontractor(s) vehicles, the City will take on the cost of repair/replacement. In all other cases, repair and/or replacement will be performed by City personnel or designated subcontractor(s) at the plot owner's expense.[4]

The current management arrangement affords the City the opportunity to maintain the overall appearance, condition, and configuration of the cemetery grounds in an economically-sustainable manner. Under the control of the City, the Cemetery Preservation Fund is used to carry out the perpetual upkeep, whether from donations or other sources, of Laurelwood. However, as the City embraces the enhancement of Laurelwood Cemetery as a park-like green space, certain new costs may be incurred. Funding will be required for the installation and management of new circulation features, signage, trash receptacles, benches, and other amenities. Additionally, there may be a

1. City of Rock Hill, South Carolina, *Cemetery Rules and Regulations: Barber Memorial Cemetery, Laurelwood Cemetery, Forest Hills Cemetery,* Revised July 1, 2018, 3.
2. *Rules and Regulations,* 2018, 3.
3. Rules and Regulations, 2018, 5.
4. Rules and Regulations, 2018, 7.

need to post full- or part-time security on site, open and close gates regularly, install new infrastructure such as electricity, lighting, water supply, parking, etc.

As part of the preservation and enhancement of Laurelwood, the cemetery's caretakers and managers may be interested in performing conservation work on grave markers, monuments, and other physical features in the landscape. Such conservation may include cleaning, repair, replacement, or even removal of specific features. Such work should only be prescribed after review of the Strategies and Best Practices outlined in Part III of this Master Plan.



1919 Laurelwood Cemetery Handbook

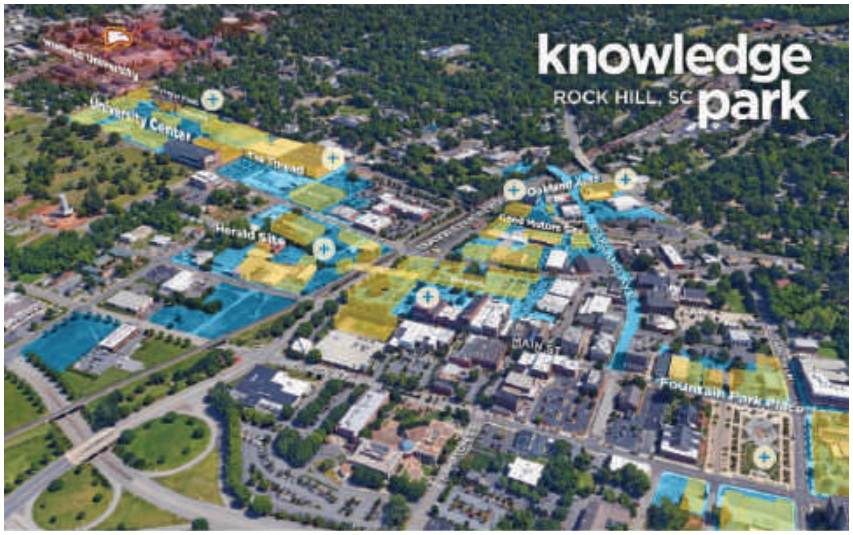
Goals and Objectives

The primary purpose of this Master Plan is to provide a written framework to guide on-going planning and maintenance to protect the historic resources of Laurelwood Cemetery. The plan has several components, which include an overview of the cemetery's history, a review of its existing conditions, an assessment of what makes the cemetery historically significant, and identification of preservation strategies to protect historic resources. These objectives can be summarized as follows:

- Assemble historical information about the cemetery and Rock Hill, SC to a level that provides context for the cemetery's establishment and evolution over time;
- Document the cemetery's cultural and natural features to better understand their role in the cemetery's historic development and current National Register status;
- Develop a methodology for inventorying the grave markers and monuments in a way that assists the City of Rock Hill's management of the cemetery;
- Provide overall preservation recommendations that will inform ongoing maintenance decisions to better protect historic resources;
- Identify opportunities to improve accessibility and interpretation of Laurelwood Cemetery that do not compromise historic integrity;
- Provide a development plan to facilitate future use and enjoyment of Laurelwood by the local community and visitors that respects and protects the historic character of the cemetery.

Recent Planning Initiatives

Each of the following planning initiatives recognize Rock Hill's historic resources as significant components in the process of developing a distinctive and interconnected urban environment for both residents and visitors. While some of the projects listed below do not specifically mention Laurelwood Cemetery, they present a range of opportunities to promote the cemetery's history, enhance its use as a public park, and better connect it to the community. Because of its location, size, and configuration, Laurelwood exhibits great potential to serve as a thriving cemetery park. When considering promotion of the site as such, whether through educational programming, physical enhancements, or other means, the cemetery's caretakers and managers should remember that, first and foremost, Laurelwood is a burial ground. It is a sacred space of rest for the dead and comfort for the bereaved. Therefore, any new use, treatment, or enhancement of the site should respect the sacred nature of the space.



Components of Rock Hill's Knowledge Park Development (https://www.knowledgeparkrocks.com/)

Knowledge Park Action Plan

The Knowledge Park Action Plan aims to attract jobs, businesses, and visitors to Rock Hill through the development of a walkable, multi-faceted district encompassing downtown Rock Hill, the City's historic textile corridor, and surrounding areas. The initiative aims to "build a modern economy and reinvent the original heart of Rock Hill" through redevelopment of under-used sites and buildings as well as through the creation of new spaces and places in the City.[5] As the largest green space in proximity to Knowledge Park's core, Laurelwood Cemetery is an important component of the Knowledge Park development.

The Knowledge Park plan includes eight Action Statements regarding the topics of Connectivity, Visitors, Development, Neighborhoods, Housing, Marketing + Communications, Talent Development + Attraction, Jobs + Business Growth, and Placemaking. A planning committee for each Action Statement is tasked with identifying specific work plans for potential projects, programs, and investments based on five-year goals.

The Connectivity Action Statement supports the design and promotion of pedestrian, bike, and transit connections throughout Knowledge Park and Rock Hill. The cemetery's internal network of roads and paths exhibit potential for creating long-term links between Winthrop University, downtown Rock Hill, nearby neighborhoods, and newly developed areas. Such connections can support community fitness, unite neighborhoods, and promote the use of Laurelwood as an important communal green space.

5. https://www.knowledgeparkrocks.com/about

The Placemaking Action Statement supports the creation of "amenities to make Knowledge Park a destination that is special, and memorable for everyone whom experiences it."[6] To achieve this goal, the Placemaking committee has considered the following specific opportunities related to Laurelwood Cemetery:

- Promoting the site as a bird sanctuary;
- Developing special amenities to support use of the cemetery as an exercise park;
- Installing lighting on cemetery grounds;
- Installing interactive and interpretive panels on cemetery grounds.

When planning, it is important that Laurelwood's caretakers and managers consider how such enhancements may affect the site's character as a burial ground. Allowing the free-flow of pedestrian traffic through the site will likely promote its use as a park-like space and historic site, but it may also negatively impact the site's quiet, contemplative character. Increased traffic can potentially lead to an increase in vandalism and unsanctioned use of the site. Part III of this Master Plan provides specific strategies and recommendations, as well as general guidelines, for preserving the cemetery's character while embracing additional uses.

University Center

University Center is a 23-acre, mixed-use development associated with the Knowledge Park Action Plan. The development occupies the site of Rock Hill's former Printing & Finishing Company property, located immediately northeast of Laurelwood Cemetery. Known locally as The Bleachery, the site was once home to the largest textile printing and finishing plant in the world. The site will soon feature indoor and outdoor facilities including commercial office space, a championship-level indoor athletic complex, a hotel, restaurants and retail establishments, student housing, apartments, outdoor festival spaces, and parking for approximately 1,160 vehicles. The development will utilize the only remaining historic building on the site, a historic power plant, as a 26,000-square-foot space for restaurants and indoor stage complex.

University Center's first major facility, the Rock Hill Sports and Events Center, is projected to open in 2019. The facility will provide weekday activities, including leagues, programs, and camps, and will be able to host concerts and sporting events. The facility is expected to bring approximately 3,000 visitors to Rock Hill each weekend.

Because of its proximity to the cemetery, the development of University Center will likely bring new attention to Laurelwood. Such attention, if properly planned for, can generate opportunities to highlight the cemetery as an important park-like historic site in Rock Hill. However, there are certainly potential negative effects, including increased unsanctioned/inappropriate use of the cemetery. Specifically, unwanted parking and pedestrian traffic during events may result in damage to cemetery grounds, grave markers, monuments, or site infrastructure. Additionally, such unwanted traffic may take away from the site's commemorative and contemplative character.



2018 Rendering of the future University Center (https://www.knowledgeparkrocks.com/universitycenter)

6. https://www.knowledgeparkrocks.com/placemaking

Knowledge Park Interpretive Planning Framework

In 2018, the City of Rock Hill commissioned consulting firm Conservation By Design Inc. to develop an interpretive planning framework and an overarching approach to historic interpretation in the Knowledge Park district. The planning process addresses efforts by three local organizations—including The Bleachery Heritage Project (at University Center), the African American Cultural Resource Center, and Historic Rock Hill. The results of the planning process include several documents with analysis and recommendations for the development of an interpretive theme structure and suggested interpretive niche ideas for defined focal points in the district. Although the planning documents do not directly address Laurelwood Cemetery, the proposed interpretive messages may overlap with important aspects of the cemetery. While planning for Laurelwood's enhancement and developing specific interpretive programing, the cemetery's managers should reference and embrace the established goals and framework.[7]

The defined interpretive goals include:

- **Interpretive Goal 1:** Foster a sense of appreciation for the industries that formed the foundation of our lives in Rock Hill today.
- **Interpretive Goal 2**: Enhance the visitor experience by inspiring a deeper sense of place.
- **Interpretive Goal 3:** Increase support for preservation of history in Rock Hill.

Proposed interpretive themes and storylines include:

- **Central Theme:** The social fabric of Rock Hill demonstrates resilience and an unbreakable spirit in times of challenge and change.
- **Sub-Theme 1:** Rock Hill history has been home to many courageous people who have worked for the betterment of their community.
- **Sub-Theme 2:** Industry in Rock Hill has shaped the community in many ways.

7. Conservation By Design, *Interpretive Planning Framework*, October 2018; Conservation By Design, *The Bleachery Heritage Project, Rock Hill, SC: Interpretive Foundations Plan*, October 2018.

Proposed Bleachery Development, 2018



A Vision for the Visitor Experience



Diagram of proposed interpretive elements of the Bleachery Heritage Project Interpretive Foundations Plan (Both graphics produced by Conservation By Design).

The Bleachery Heritage Project

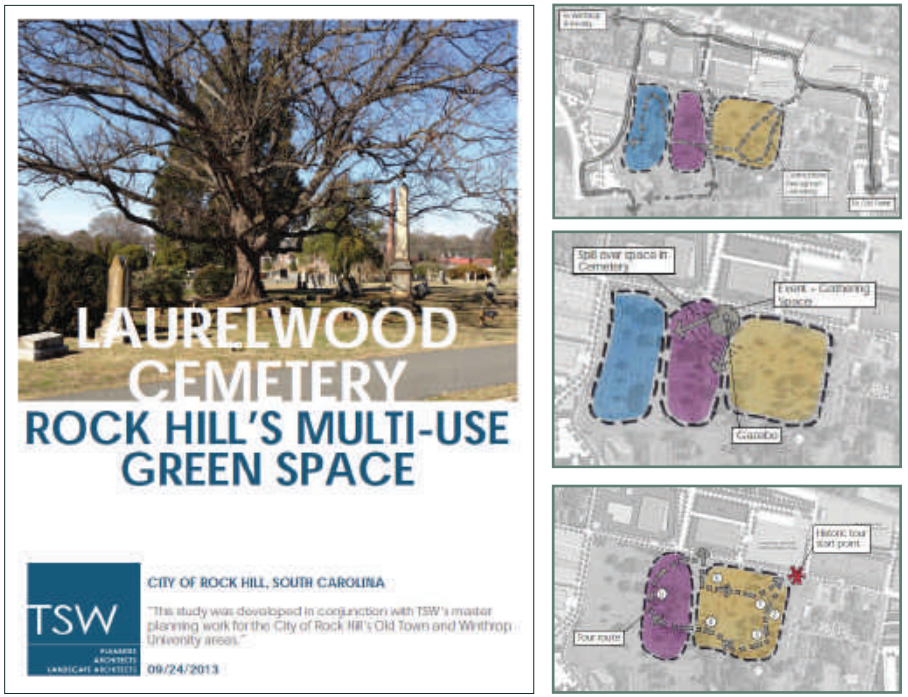
The Bleachery Heritage Project is a non-profit corporation that aims to honor Rock Hill's rich industrial history through the creation of public art, interpretive elements, and community engagement at Rock Hill's University Center development. The project's mission statement is "to honor and preserve the memory of the Rock Hill Printing & Finishing Company and Rock Hill Buggy Company and the men and women who worked for them through education and support."[8]

Although the Bleachery Heritage Project's plan does not directly mention Laurelwood Cemetery, the proposed goals and objectives exhibit great potential to overlap with educational and interpretive programing at the cemetery. The cemetery's history and the stories of those buried therein directly relate and, in some cases, overlap the themes and storylines outlined in the plan. Whenever possible, the cemetery's interpretive programing—including informational pamphlets, on-site signage, and formal tours of the grounds—should address the overlapping narratives to deepen the impact on visitors.

Laurelwood Vision Study

In 2013, the City of Rock Hill commissioned private contractor TSW to perform a visioning study of Laurelwood Cemetery as a potential multi-use green space. The study was developed in conjunction with TSW's master planning work for Old Town and Winthrop University that same year. The vision study of Laurelwood highlights the site's history and local significance and proposes enhancement of the site from a "seldom-used space into a multi-use green space" situated near the core of the Knowledge Park redevelopment.[9] The document proposes a historic tour route, with six points of interest on the grounds and highlights the site's potential to tie into Rock Hill's proposed multi-use trail. The vision study identifies the cemetery as an important physical link between Winthrop University, the Bleachery property, Old Town Rock Hill, and surrounding neighborhoods. The study also proposes an event/gathering space equipped with a gazebo that would cater to special programing, including guided tours and public events on annual or seasonal basis. Such programing could celebrate the rich history of Rock Hill, the nearby textile corridor, the cemetery itself, and those buried therein.

When considering the opportunities outlined in the 2013 vision study, the cemetery's managers and caretakers should review the strategies and best practices for preservation presented in this Master Plan. Doing so will protect the history and physical integrity of the cemetery as enhancement takes place.



8. Conservation By Design, *The Bleachery Heritage Project, Rock Hill, SC: Interpretive Foundations Plan*, October 2018, 5.
9. TSW Planners, Architects, Landscape Architects, *Laurelwood Cemetery: Rock Hill's Multi-Use Green Space,* September 2013, 1.

Rock Hill's African American Cultural Resource Center

The African American Cultural Resources Advisory Committee is an official committee of local residents that provides input regarding the preservation of Rock Hill's African American community resources and history. The group is working to establish an African American Cultural Resource Center in Rock Hill to house artifacts, images, and oral/written histories and host educational programs and events highlighting Rock Hill's African American cultural heritage.

The committee has identified the Simon Williams House (also known as the Red House) on Laurelwood Cemetery grounds as a potential location. Built by Simon Williams, an African American contractor circa 1917, the home is one of few surviving houses in the former Brookland community and is situated in proximity to many prominent places of African American heritage in Rock Hill.

Establishing the Center on cemetery property will enhance the site by providing visitors with an under-represented piece of Rock Hill's history and an understanding of the resilience of the City's African American residents. The Center will likely draw visitors to Laurelwood who otherwise may not have come. It will also deepen the site's impact as a significant place in Rock Hill.



Simon Williams House





Proposed Story Garden, 2018

Story Garden Proposal

In 2018, a mayor's committee developed a proposal for the creation of a Story Garden to be located in the open field in the southwest portion of Laurelwood Cemetery. The proposed design includes multi-use lawns, paved pedestrian walkways, a centrally-located labyrinth feature, and a buffer or "border" zone to screen the space from road noise. The border zone is described as "an impression of church or cathedral walls with stained glass windows… behind border planting beds containing cremated ashes and names with QR codes of deceased."[10] The design incorporates several buildings including a "Memory Hall", pergola, equipment storage, and stage.

The stated vision for the space is to provide a "dignified way to be remembered" and to "foster a sense of reflection and contemplation." Therefore, the proposed Story Garden would not serve as a traditional burial ground where interments are marked with grave stones. Rather, the space would include public access to QR codes, or some other digital media, to tell the "life story" of the deceased. The visioning plan for the space states that the Story Garden "provides residents a tangible connection to Rock Hill, a place they can be remembered in their own community, and a way to personally tell their story to future generations." One of the primary goals of the proposal is to enhance Laurelwood as an asset for the Knowledge Park development by creating a "conspicuous example of how knowledge and technology can improve our environment and enrich our lives."[11]

While the proposed Story Garden's embrace of contemporary burial practices may serve to enhance Laurelwood, the cemetery's caretakers and managers should remember that any new design should respect the site's historic integrity. Based on the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*, designs for new features at historic sites should be compatible with, and differentiated from, historic features so that they are not confused as historic or original construction.

10. Unknown author, *Laurelwood Cemetery* PowerPoint Presentation for the proposed Story Garden, November 12, 2018.

11. Ibid.

Internal Gateway and Connectivity Planning

In 2015, a set of four planning maps were produced as part of a gateway and connectivity Master Plan for Laurelwood Cemetery. The map entitled “Master Plan Design Phases” includes three phases of development. Phase I includes the designation of five site entry/exit points as either pedestrian-only or pedestrian/vehicular gates. Phase II highlights pedestrian paths and potential nodes for site amenities located in the Earl S. Draper-designed portion of the cemetery. Phase III identifies three specific areas that may serve as “gathering spaces.”

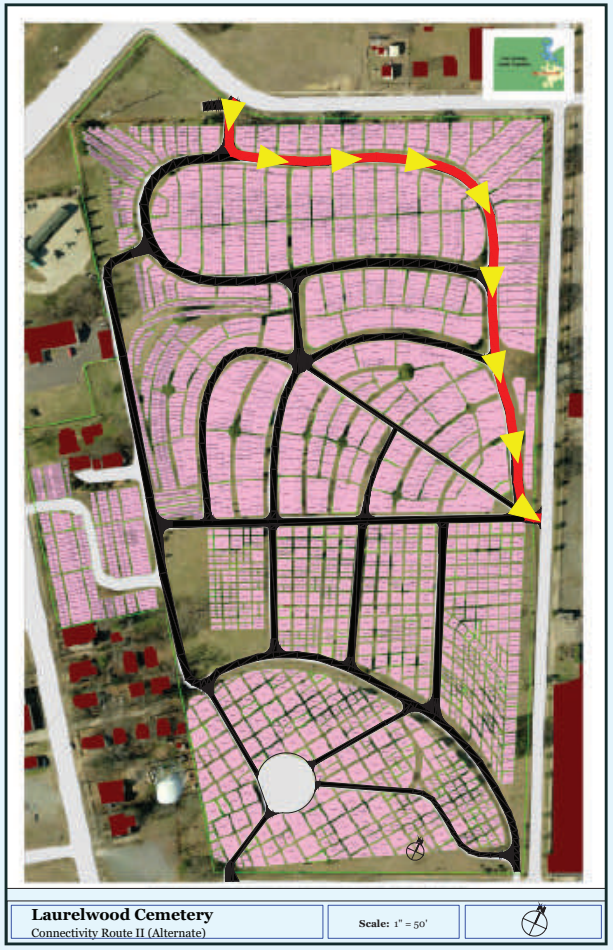
The “Access Gates” map shows the proposed location of gateways and includes construction design details for both pedestrian and typical vehicular/pedestrian access gates. Two other maps identify potential connectivity routes through Laurelwood Cemetery grounds.

Since the development of the 2015 maps, Laurelwood’s southeast pedestrian gateway was rebuilt, several houses were removed from areas adjacent to the cemetery grounds, and parking lots were constructed on the southwest edges of the site, one at a new entry driveway near the Simon Williams House and the other at the site of the City’s new water tower. This Master Plan includes an updated circulation proposal that considers the changes that have occurred on cemetery property as well as the implications of new development related to Knowledge Park.





Laurelwood Cemetery
Connectivity Route I
Scale: 1" = 50'



Laurelwood Cemetery
Connectivity Route II (Alternate)
Scale: 1" = 50'



Laurelwood Cemetery
Access Gates
Scale: 1" = 50'

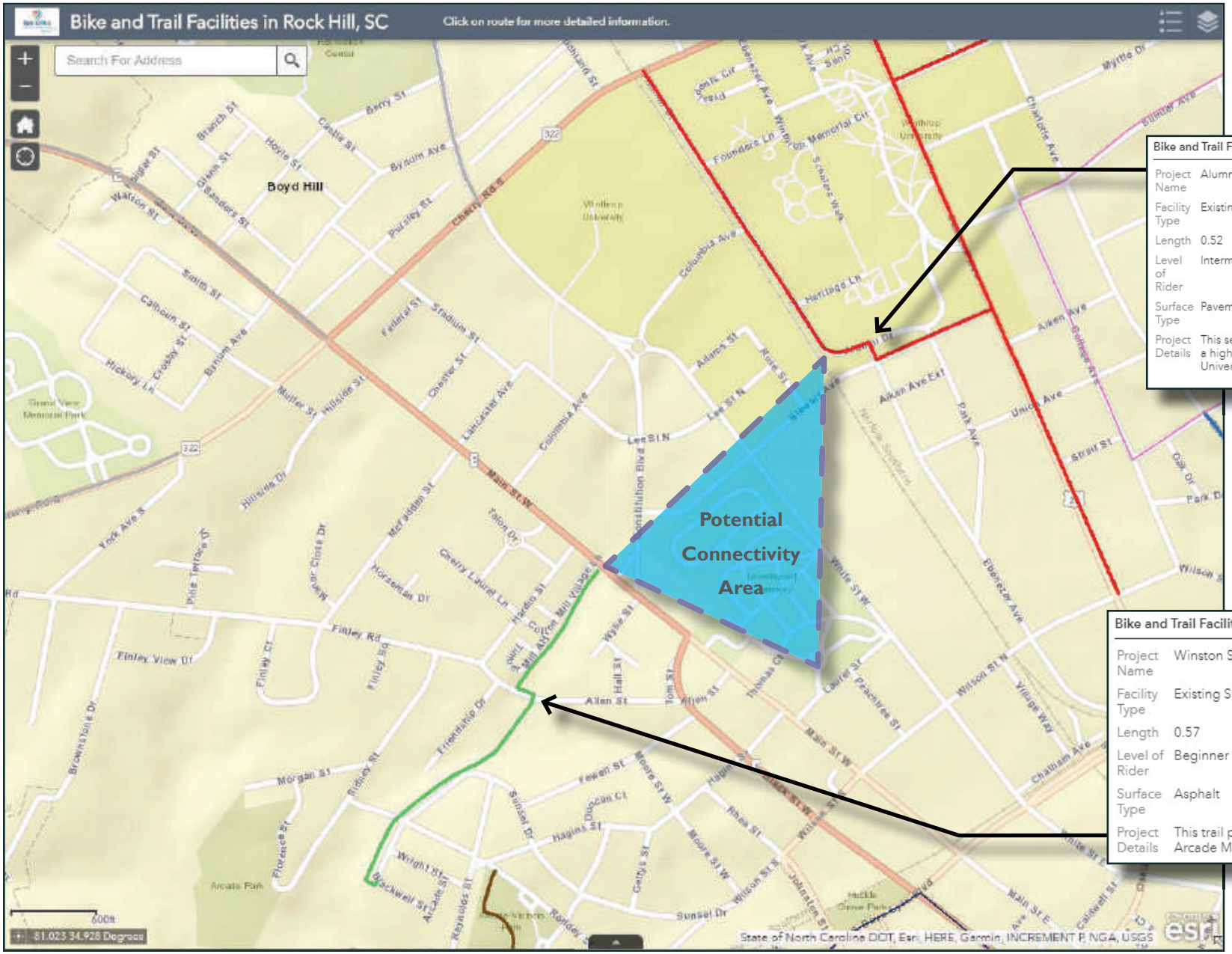
City-wide Connectivity and Recreational Route Planning

The City of Rock Hill's Planning Division strives to promote orderly, compatible, and fiscally responsible growth that protects and improves the quality of life and physical environment within Rock Hill and its urban services area. Long range planning efforts related to City-wide recreational routes and multi-use connectivity trails are part of such efforts. Specific multi-use planning efforts are described in detail on the City's website:

> *Recreational routes consist of shared use paths in more natural settings and the City's signed bike routes on low-volume streets.*
>
> *Shared use path recreational routes are located along natural features, utility corridors, or railroad corridors. Existing recreational routes include the Piedmont Medical Center Trail, the Winston Searles Trail, the completed portion of the Airport Loop, Tech Park Trail, Hood Center Trail, St. Anne's Trail, Waterford Trail, and all City park trails.*
>
> *The City also has three signed bike routes designed for leisurely, family-friendly rides between local parks: a 7.2-mile route through neighborhoods surrounding the Saluda Street corridor, a 4.2-mile route between the YMCA/Glencairn Garden and Cherry Park, and a 4-mile route from the YMCA/Glencairn Garden to Manchester Meadows.*
>
> *Funding for existing shared use path recreational routes is usually limited to Hospitality Tax Funds, private development, and grants. Because of funding limitations, proposed recreational routes are limited to the extension of the trail along the Catawba River, completion of the loop around the Airport, and extension of the Winston Searles Trail.*

Laurelwood Cemetery has been identified as a potential component of an extension of the Winston Searles Trail, which is a .57-mile-long shared-use path maintained by the City. The entire length of the existing trail is paved with either asphalt or concrete and there are access points at Blackwell Street, Hagins Street, Allen Street, Cotton Mill Village Street, and W Main Street. The trail provides views of the Old Arcade Mill and smoke stack. Laurelwood Cemetery is strategically located between the northern-most trail head of the Winston Searles Trail (at West Main Street) and an existing shared bicycle-pedestrian-vehicule route, or "Sharrow," on the campus of Winthrop University.

An interactive map of all Bike and Trail Facilities in the City of Rock Hill is available at https://crhgis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=8ce66a7114a94d3083b091debd5cb647 (a screen shot of routes referenced above is provided across).


Bike and Trail Facilities in Rock Hill, SC
Click on route for more detailed information.
Search For Address
Boyd Hill
Potential Connectivity Area
Bike and Trail Facilities
Project Name Alumni Dr/Winthrop Ebenezer Ave
Facility Type Existing Sharrows
Length 0.52
Level of Rider Intermediate
Surface Type Pavement
Project Details This segment promotes bicycling in a high-user area near Winthrop University.
Bike and Trail Facilities
Project Name Winston Searles Trail
Facility Type Existing Shared Use Path
Length 0.57
Level of Rider Beginner
Surface Type Asphalt
Project Details This trail provides views of the old Arcade Mill smoke stack.
State of North Carolina DOT, Esri, HERE, Garmin, INCREMENT P, NGA, USGS

Treatment Philosophy

Laurelwood Cemetery is a cultural landscape, one that reflects residents of Rock Hill's interaction with the natural world and reveals more general aspects of our culture's traditions. By defining Laurelwood Cemetery as a cultural landscape, this Master Plan utilizes the preservation framework developed by the National Park Service and expressed in various publications, most notably the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes*. This Master Plan provides a logic to developing preservation goals for historic properties. The term "***treatment***", used herein, describes work employed to carry out a *preservation* goal.

This Master Plan also identifies four types of treatment: preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction. Each treatment ranges by level of physical intervention and includes specific guidelines and standards.

The Master Plan utilizes these terms to describe the intent and process of future work at Laurelwood Cemetery. The overall goal is to provide the cemetery managers and caretakers with the necessary information to protect Laurelwood's historic character within the context of contemporary site management and use. This includes general strategies for protecting the entire cemetery landscape. It also includes more granular strategies on how to approach maintenance work so as to protect individual historic features.

Preservation *is the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of a historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the on-going maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction.*

Rehabilitation *is the act or process of making possible a compatible use of a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features that convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values.*

Restoration *is the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other historic periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period.*

Reconstruction *is the act or process of depicting, by means of new construction, the form, features, and details of a non-surviving site, landscape, building, or objects for the purpose of replicating its appearance at a specific period of time in its historic location.*

This Master Plan recommends ***rehabilitation*** as the overall treatment approach for Laurelwood Cemetery. Rehabilitation provides for the preservation and protection of the significant historic features that contribute to the historic integrity of the property while allowing for necessary improvements. Like preservation, rehabilitation involves identifying, retaining, and preserving character-defining features.

Additionally, when the landscape's historic character is diminished because an important landscape feature is missing, rehabilitation provides strategies to accurately and faithfully return the missing feature to the landscape. Rehabilitation also provides for the continued use of the property through alterations and additions that do not damage the character-defining features. Additions are sometimes necessary to facilitate continued use of a historic landscape, but the rehabilitation guidelines emphasize that new additions should only occur when there is no viable alternative.

It is important to emphasize that rehabilitation applies the standards of preservation to historic features. ***Preservation*** provides for the retention of the greatest amount of historic fabric, including the landscape's historic form, features, and details as they have evolved over time. Other treatment recommendations inherently allow a greater level of change to existing conditions, which may imperil historic resources. However, having preservation as the overall treatment approach would require that the cemetery's managers maintain the landscape in its existing condition, which would not allow for the removal of non-historic alterations that undermine the integrity of character-defining features. ***Restoration*** to a historic period is not appropriate because of the significant changes that occur in active cemeteries and the lack of sufficient documentation. ***Reconstruction*** is not applicable because the historic landscape remains largely intact.

Character-defining features are the visual and physical features that give a place its identity and distinctive character. They include both naturally-occurring and constructed features—such as topography, viewsheds, vegetation, roads and paths, staircases, edgings and enclosures, monuments, grave markers, buildings and structures, and other small-scale features.



As mentioned above, the standards of preservation should be the default standard when developing a work plan for individual projects. It is important for the managers of the landscape at Laurelwood Cemetery to familiarize themselves with the preservation standards and understand its thought process. The *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties* define the standards of preservation as including:

- A property will be used as it was historically, or be given a new use that maximizes the retention of distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships. Where a treatment and use have not been identified, a property will be protected and, if necessary, stabilized until additional work may be undertaken.
- The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The replacement of intact or repairable historic materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.
- Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Work needed to stabilize, consolidate, and conserve existing materials and features will be physically and visually compatible, identifiable upon close inspection, and properly documented for future research.
- Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.
- Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.
- The existing condition of historic features will be evaluated to determine the appropriate level of intervention needed. Where the severity of deterioration requires repair or limited replacement of a distinctive feature, the new material will match the old in composition, design, color, and texture.
- Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.
- Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measure will be undertaken.

Under the standards of preservation, the implementation of treatment work should use extreme care not to damage individual features or make unnecessary changes to the overall site. This Master Plan will most often describe the actual preservation work as ***conservation*** or ***stabilization***. The intent of using these terms is to emphasize the protection of historic features. But in every case, as articulated in the above-quoted preservation standards, site managers should strive for the least intrusive remedy and rely upon an understanding of the feature's historic characteristics. As the preservation planners at Chicora Foundation have observed, "less is more—think smart, not strong—caregivers have an obligation to make certain that no harm comes to the resource while under their care."[12]

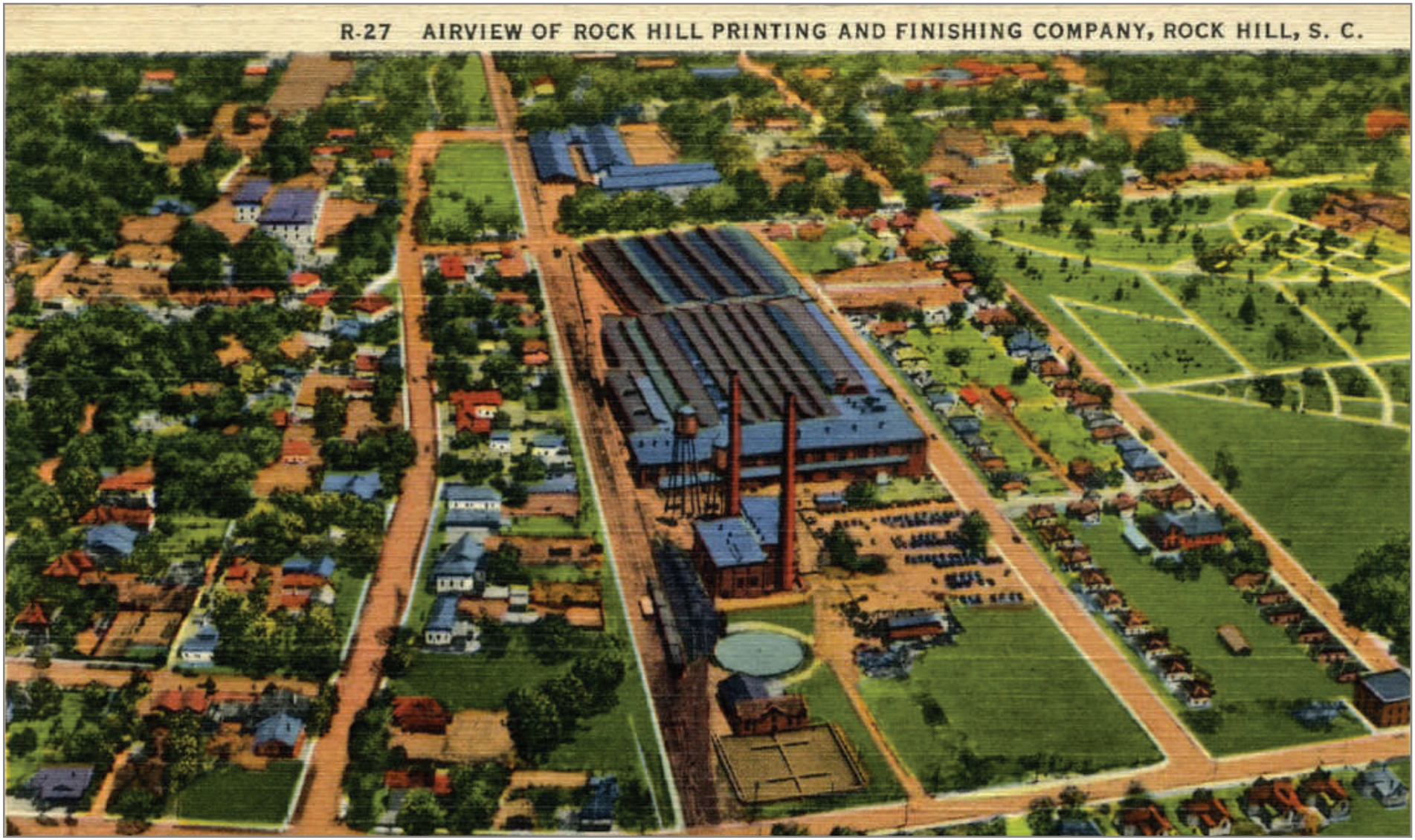
The standards for rehabilitation add the following two standards to those quoted above for preservation:

- New additions, alterations, or related new construction shall not destroy historic materials that characterize the property. The new work shall be differentiated from the old and shall be compatible with the massing, size, scale and architectural features to protect the historic integrity of the property and its environment.
- New additions and adjacent or new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

Sound preservation decision-making requires ongoing investigation, often beyond the scope of this Master Plan. As the managers of Laurelwood Cemetery confront preservation decisions, they need to review the standards of preservation/rehabilitation and seek technical assistance as necessary. Conservation work on monuments, for example, requires a level of expertise to avoid damaging the monuments. The managers of the cemetery should retain the services of trained conservators that subscribe to the *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice of the American Institute for Conservation*.

12. Michael Trinkley and Debi Hacker, "Willowbrook Cemeter Assessment, Town of Edgefield, Edgefield County, South Carolina," Chicora Foundation, Inc. Research Contribution 591, September 2018, 9.

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History and Cultural Significance

A Town is Born on the Rock

Rock Hill was established April 17, 1852 as a railroad depot along The Charlotte, Columbia and Augusta Railroad. The United States Postal Service established a Post Office in the depot the same year. The railroad workers named the depot site 'Rock Hill' in reference to the massive amount of flint rock in the area. During the 1850s, the depot attracted business from nearby rural landowners and a settlement quickly grew.

Alexander Templeton Black, born in 1798 near present-day Rock Hill, reportedly had the original vision for the development of a town at Rock Hill. Recognizing the economic opportunities associated with the railroad, Black donated four acres for the depot. In 1851, Black commissioned land surveyor Squire John Roddey to plan a town on Black's land near the future site of the depot. The plat for the town depicts the depot site and 23 lots laid out along one short street called 'Main.'[13]

In 1851, adjoining property owners included Isom Kirkpatrick and the widowed Ann Hutchison White, whose husband George had died in 1849 while supervising work on the railroad where it came through his land. Ira Ferguson purchased the first town lot for $125 on April 10, 1852. Seven months later, John Roddey purchased a lot for $250, and James Finley and J. G. Minges purchased the third the next month. Finley and Minges built the town's first tavern on their land.

Rock Hill expanded quickly during the 1850s to include several stores, two schools, two hotels, and two churches. By 1860, about 100 white people lived in and surrounding the town.[14] Despite its rapid expansion, Rock Hill had no designated cemetery during the mid-nineteenth century. Instead, the town's early residents were generally buried in church grave yards or in family burial plots on private lands.

Rock Hill's growth slowed drastically during the Civil War (1861-1865) as brothers, sons, and fathers left their homes for battle. Rock Hill's residents suffered the loss of many relatives during the war and, like much of the South, conflict continued to plague the area during Reconstruction (1865-1895).[15]

13. The earliest plat maps of Rock Hill are housed at York County Library, Rock Hill, South Carolina.

14. Douglas Summers Brown, *A City Without Cobwebs: A History of Rock Hill, South Carolina* (Spartanburg, South Carolina: The Reprint Company, 1973), 87–88, 90.

15. Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc., "City of Rock Hill: Historic Resources Survey Update" (The City of Rock Hill, South Carolina, and The South Carolina Department of Archives and History, August 2004), 10.



Development Eras

A "Rural" Cemetery for a Booming City

Despite setbacks following the Civil War, Rock Hill experienced a major expansion during the 1870s. At this time, the town attracted new residents from greater distances than ever before. In 1870, the town became a corporate entity. By this time, Rock Hill residents and the newly formed City Council had begun to recognize the need for a municipal cemetery.

Just two years later, in 1872, the City of Rock Hill purchased a six-acre tract of land from the widowed Ann Hutchison White for the purpose of creating a cemetery. The burial ground became known as Laurelwood Cemetery. Ann White and her husband, George, were instrumental figures in the early commercial and residential development of Rock Hill.[16] Prior to George's death in 1848, their estate included a significant portion of central and northern Rock Hill. The White family home, known locally as the White Home, still stands at its original location on East White Street near downtown Rock Hill. The original six-acre tract of Laurelwood constitutes an area on the western edge of the White family property during the 1870s.

> *In February of 1872, the body of Edgar McCosh, the 14-year-old son of Captain and Mrs. Reid McCosh, became Laurelwood's first interment.*[17]

Two prominent Rock Hill figures, Reverend James Spratt White and Iredell Jones, designed the cemetery's original layout. It is suspected that Reverend White, the son of George and Ann White, gave the site its current name. Iredell Jones was Rock Hill's Mayor from 1872-1874.[18]

Reverend White and Iredell Jones laid out Laurelwood with a system of straight drives radiating from a central focal point. The drives bisect square- and rectangular-shaped burial plots set in a uniform grid. In this arrangement, residents of Rock Hill could purchase individual plots within the city-owned property. Plot owners held the responsibility of maintaining and managing their family plot, and the city maintained all roads and paths. During this time, it became common for families to personalize their plots. Many families fenced their plots with masonry walls or wrought-iron panels. They lined paths with decorative edging and installed intricately-carved headstones to commemorate their loved-ones. Some plot owners commissioned locally and even nationally acclaimed sculptors to carve statues or large family monuments.

During the 1870s, Rock Hill's booming economy attracted migrant entrepreneurs to the area. One such migrant, James M. Ivy, opened new businesses selling fertilizer, purchasing cotton, and providing banking services. He is said to have boosted the local economy by consistently paying the highest price for cotton in the region. At this time, members of Rock Hill's newly-freed African American community developed a business district along Trade Street. Henry Toole became a successful African American businessman in town during the 1870s. A barber by trade, Toole also owned three buildings on Main Street, which he rented to white tenants.[19]

Economic growth continued into the 1880s, when entrepreneurs established several textile mills to the north and west of Rock Hill's corporate limits. The development of these operations made substantial impacts on the architecture, appearance, and layout of Rock Hill, especially in the areas surrounding Laurelwood Cemetery. During the 1880s and 1890s, workers constructed large brick buildings to support mill operations. To house mill workers, the businesses commissioned the construction of small groupings of frame houses. Usually constructed in successive building campaigns, these residential developments were generally situated on land adjacent to the mill complexes.

16. Paul Gettys, "Laurelwood Cemetery" (National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, June 16, 2008), 8:7.
17. Brown, *A City Without Cobwebs: A History of Rock Hill, South Carolina*, 213.; The grave of Edgar H. McCosh is in the southeast portion of Laurelwood Cemetery, Section 4, Plot 11A, Grave 2. E. McCosh lived from 11/12/1857 to 2/25/1872. City of Rock Hill Cemetery Search, http://www.rockhillgis.city ofrockhill.com/j_cemetery/.
18. Gettys, "Laurelwood Cemetery," 8:7.
19. Edwards-Pitman Environmental, Inc., "Rock Hill HRS Update," 10.

Besides mill villages and industrial complexes, the economic boom of the 1880s and 1890s resulted in private investment into new suburban housing developments surrounding Rock Hill. Targeting the growing middle- and upper-classes, investors bought and subdivided large tracts of land to develop Rock Hill's early suburbs. To encourage further development, the Rock Hill Land & Town Site Company offered substantial acreage slated to be part of the Oakland neighborhood to the administrators of Winthrop Normal and Industrial College of South Carolina. In 1895, the college established a campus (now Winthrop University) on the company's land north of Laurelwood Cemetery.

Between 1880 and 1895, the population of Rock Hill increased from 809 to about 5,500 residents.[20] It was during this period that Laurelwood Cemetery became a sylvan retreat amongst a rapidly growing and expanding city. The relatively secluded landscape of Laurelwood offered residents a place of privacy and tranquility to inter their loved-ones. During this period, space in Laurelwood was in high demand, and the city quickly sold all available burial plots within the original six-acre tract. Thus, in 1894, the city purchased an additional six acres of land for the cemetery. The second tract was also a portion of the White family property, adjoining the original tract to the north.

By 1912, the City had set aside an area in the northwest portion of the new White Tract as a "Potter's Field"—a term generally used to describe a place designated for the burial of those without families or the indigent. Burial records and archived City Council meeting minutes indicate that this area was used quite frequently during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Today, there are hundreds of graves in this area, and a large percentage of them are marked. However, burial records indicate that there are likely many unmarked graves in this area. The grave markers are generally small and unadorned compared to those in rest of the cemetery, but, despite their size and simplicity, many of the markers are inscribed with names and dates.



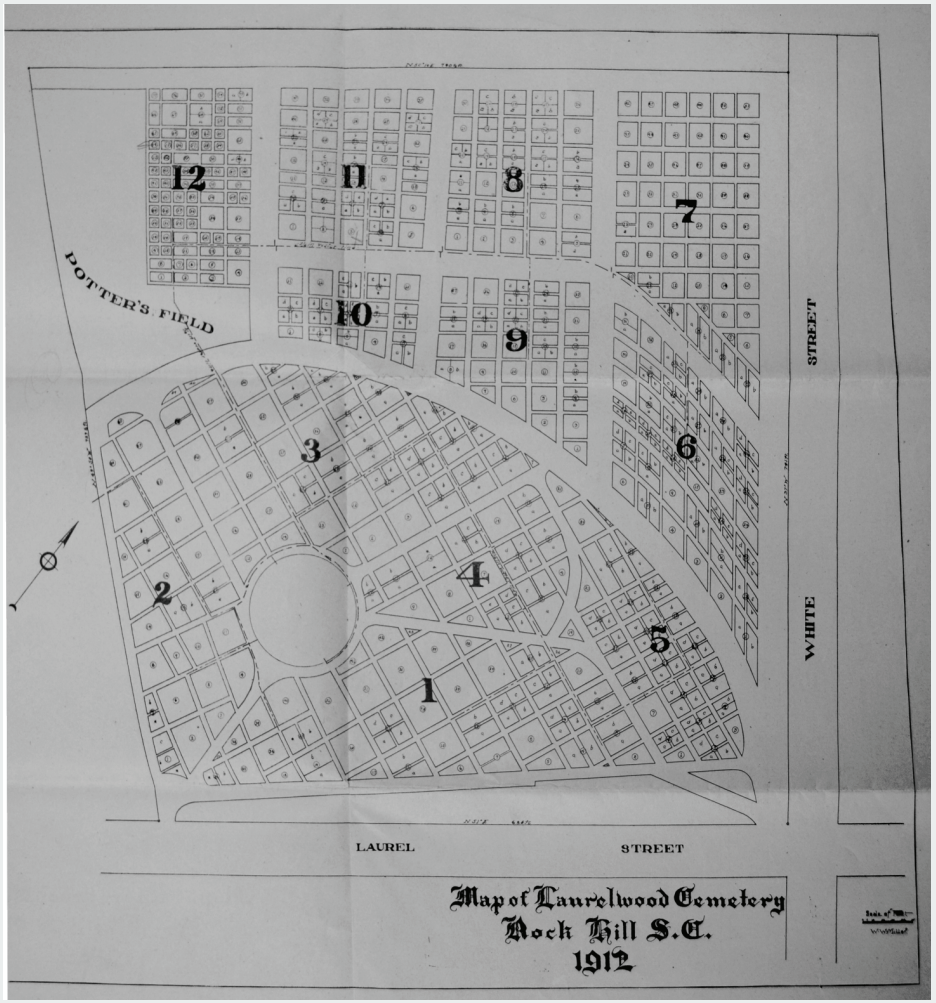
This 1940 copy of an 1891 plat shows proposed subdivision of the land to the north of downtown Rock Hill, drawn by H. H. White. The lots shown were subdivided as part of a speculative development started by the Rock Hill Land and Town Company in the 1890s. Map courtesy of York County Library, Rock Hill, SC.

20. Brown, *A City Without Cobwebs: A History of Rock Hill, SouthCarolina*, 168.

Research has not revealed who designed the layout of Laurelwood's second six-acre tract, which is composed of a grid of drives and walkways bisecting blocks of family burial plots. A long, curved drive separates the first and second tracts; however, both sections exhibit uniform design and style.

In line with popular Romantic notions of the time, by the turn of the twentieth century, Laurelwood had become a place of both commemoration and contemplation. As a green-space situated in a rapidly developing industrial and commercial city, the site was a respite where one could mourn the death of loved-ones as well as a place of inspiration, personal contemplation, and memory. In this way, Laurelwood reflects the history of the Rural Cemetery Movement that occurred widely amongst America's nineteenth-century municipal burial grounds.

Laurelwood achieved its "rural cemetery" aesthetic not only due to its setting, but also because of its highly eclectic funerary artwork. Elaborate family monuments, carved in revival architectural styles, became increasingly common in Laurelwood during the late-nineteenth century. Families erected large obelisks, pedestals, and columnar forms during this time. The use of monumental forms presents a narrative of permanence as a means of comforting those who have experienced loss. Sculptural depictions of angelic figures were also common. Often considered stewards of the deceased, such symbols further emphasized comfort. Natural imagery too, such as sculptural tree stumps and ornate depictions of flora and fauna, became increasingly common in the cemetery landscape as reminders of the beauty and brevity of life.



This map illustrates the layout of the first two sections of Laurelwood as they existed in 1912. Rendered by W.W. Miller. This map is included in a pamphlet entitled Laurelwood Cemetery published by the City of Rock Hill in 1919. Courtesy of Winthrop University, Dacus Library Archives.

Softening Laurelwood's Edges – The Earle Sumner Draper Plan

An industrial boom, which began in the 1880s, afforded continued growth and prosperity in Rock Hill into the early twentieth century. During the first third of the twentieth century, despite economic hardships associated with the two World Wars and the Great Depression, Rock Hill grew from a railroad town into a true city. During this period, residents embraced modern technologies and the latest innovations related to city planning. Their embrace of modernity lead to various improvements to the city's infrastructure and appearance. Accomplishments of the 1920s include the construction of several new downtown buildings, establishment of Rock Hill's first public park, paving of several roads and sidewalks, streetlights added alongside Oakland Avenue, and construction of the Andrew Jackson Hotel.

As the city changed, so too did the landscape of Laurelwood Cemetery. While the agreement between private plot owners and the city had afforded Laurelwood a "rural" cemetery aesthetic, by the 1910s, the management arrangement between plot owners and the City had proved inadequate. In the early 1910s, it came to the attention of the City Council that, in the original arrangement, some plots had been meticulously maintained while others had been neglected. In the opinion of several of the councilmen, the poor condition of some plots diminished the overall beauty of the cemetery. So, during the 1910s, the City Council undertook a study of other modern municipal cemeteries to decide how to best manage Laurelwood.

The study came at an opportune time as, by 1914, the City had sold all available plots in Laurelwood once again. That year, the City purchased an additional 8.5 acres on the north edge of Laurelwood from J. H. Witherspoon.

In addition to developing a plan for best management practices, the City Council's study looked to the professional field of Landscape Architecture for insight into the latest principles of cemetery and park design in America. By the 1910s, America's first generation of professional landscape architects, such as Adolph Strauch, Jacob Weidenmann, and Ossain Cole Simonds, had begun to explore new ideas concerning green spaces, parks, and cemetery design. The new aesthetic became known as the "lawn plan." It emphasized smooth edges, long natural vistas, and a cohesive formality throughout the landscape. In this new generation's view, all design aspects should complement the whole to ensure its beauty for perpetuity.[21]

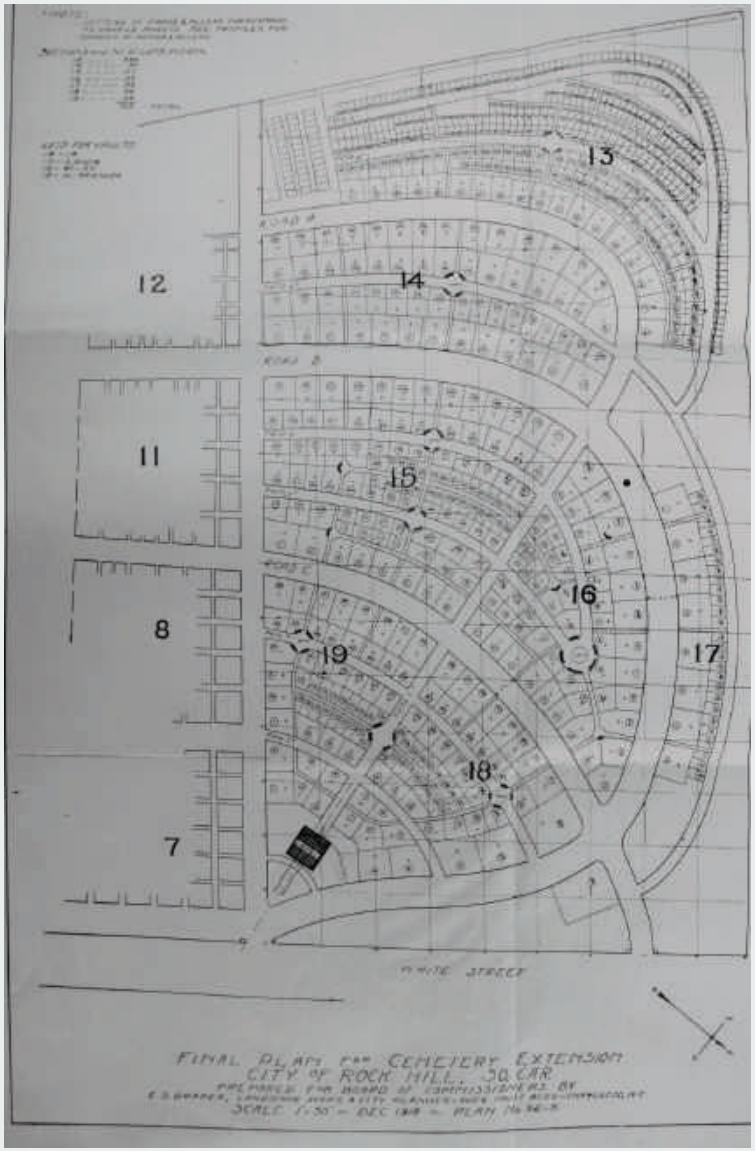
In a 1919 pamphlet entitled "Laurelwood Cemetery," the City Council published their findings and intentions for the future of the cemetery. The pamphlet states that the City Council had "employed the best expert advice" to lay out the newest section of Laurelwood "along the most modern lines of Park Cemeteries."[22] As part of the planning process for the extension, the city employed local civil engineer Walter W. Miller to produce a survey map of the original two tracts of Laurelwood. The 1919 pamphlet includes Miller's 1912 map, which remains the best-known depiction of Laurelwood's "rural cemetery" layout.

21. David Charles Sloane, *Memory and Landscape: Nature and the History of the American Cemetery,* A Journal of Place, Vol. 6, No. 1 (Fall 2010), 4. (Article is pages 3-6)
22. Rock Hill City Council, *Laurelwood Cemetery* (Rock Hill, S. C.: The London Printery, 1919), 6.

To oversee Laurelwood's expansion in a modern and professional manner, the City commissioned Earle S. Draper, an up-and-coming landscape architect and city planner from nearby Charlotte, North Carolina. Draper received a B.S. in landscape architecture from Massachusetts State College in 1915. He then spent a few years as a city planner under John Nolen of Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he played a role in the planning of several towns. In 1917, Draper started his own firm in Charlotte, establishing himself as one of the first city planners in the Southeast. Draper became known for the planning of mill towns, subdivision developments, parks, cemeteries, university campuses, golf courses, and private estates. Draper's firm designed more than 100 suburban communities and nearly 150 mill villages in the states of Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. Draper's designs for residential developments generally incorporate outdoor amenities such as tree-lined streets and sidewalks following the natural contours, green spaces, and community centers. In 1933, he left private practice and became the Director of Planning for the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA). He later became Director of Regional Planning Studies for the TVA and eventually the Assistant Director of the Federal Housing Administration.[23]

Draper's 1918 design for the extension of Laurelwood Cemetery, although one of his early works, reflects his general aesthetic and approach for residential neighborhood and park planning. The plan consists of roads and footpaths, which curve to follow the topography of the site. Draper drew a small chapel at the southeast corner of the plan, with the curved paths radiating out to the west and north from this focal point. A single, axial path runs east-west from the chapel through the center of the plan, bisecting the curved grid. To emphasize a park-like atmosphere, the paths engage small courtyards with benches and the occasional shade tree.

In Draper's plan, the burial plots are oriented to follow the curve of the roads and paths. This arrangement contrasts with the axial grid structure of Laurelwood's original two tracts. The overall scheme of Draper's plan conforms with the "lawn plan" style. Although some aspects of Draper's 1918 design were never realized, the overall scheme remains intact.

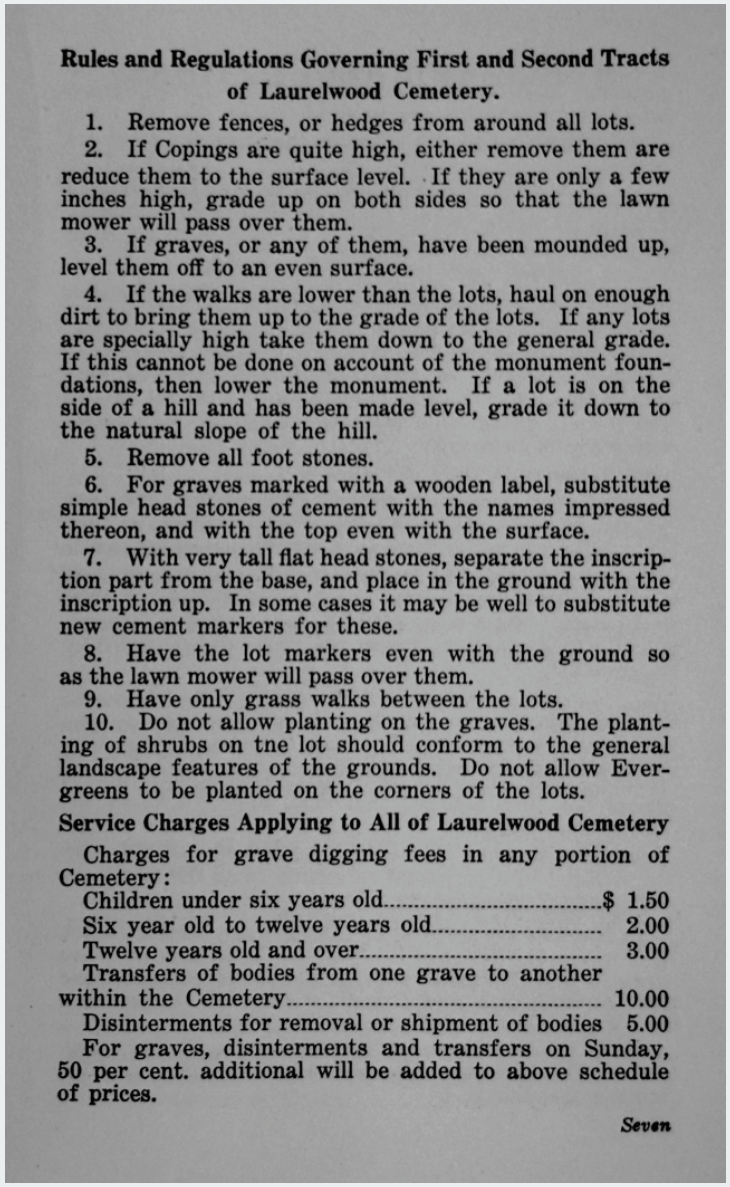


1918 Plan of Laurelwood Expansion, Earle S. Draper.

23. "Guide to the Earle Sumner Draper, Sr. Papers, 1933-1969," accessed March 28, 2019, http://rmc.library.cornell.edu/EAD/htmldocs/RMM02745.html.

In 1919, with a modern cemetery plan in hand, the City Council adopted a management plan for the "perpetual care" of Laurelwood. In the new plan, the city took responsibility for maintenance of all burial plots sold thereafter. The stated purpose of the arrangement was to maintain the overall condition and appearance of the site. Toward this purpose, the City Council desired to "improve" the original sections of Laurelwood and eventually take over their perpetual care as well.[24]

The improvements, as outlined by the City Council in the 1919 pamphlet, can be thought of as a softening of the landscape. In the new section, the softening was achieved by simply implementing Draper's design and regulating the types of grave markers and monuments plot owners could install. To achieve a cohesive aesthetic, the City Council imposed ten new Rules and Regulations for future management of the older sections. The changes included the removal of fences, hedges, and copings from burial plots, a general leveling of any areas not flat enough for maintenance with lawn mowers, removal of all footstones, replacement of any wooden grave markers with concrete markers set flush with the ground, and a lowering of large flat headstones to be flush with the ground. Additionally, all paths and walkways were to be of grass and no shrubs or trees could be planted at individual plots or graves. Under the new rules, the landscape of Laurelwood would inevitably transform from its early, "rural" cemetery aesthetic to a "lawn plan" style cemetery.



Rules and Regulations Governing First and Second Tracts of Laurelwood Cemetery.

1. Remove fences, or hedges from around all lots.
2. If Copings are quite high, either remove them are reduce them to the surface level. If they are only a few inches high, grade up on both sides so that the lawn mower will pass over them.
3. If graves, or any of them, have been mounded up, level them off to an even surface.
4. If the walks are lower than the lots, haul on enough dirt to bring them up to the grade of the lots. If any lots are specially high take them down to the general grade. If this cannot be done on account of the monument foundations, then lower the monument. If a lot is on the side of a hill and has been made level, grade it down to the natural slope of the hill.
5. Remove all foot stones.
6. For graves marked with a wooden label, substitute simple head stones of cement with the names impressed thereon, and with the top even with the surface.
7. With very tall flat head stones, separate the inscription part from the base, and place in the ground with the inscription up. In some cases it may be well to substitute new cement markers for these.
8. Have the lot markers even with the ground so as the lawn mower will pass over them.
9. Have only grass walks between the lots.
10. Do not allow planting on the graves. The planting of shrubs on tne lot should conform to the general landscape features of the grounds. Do not allow Evergreens to be planted on the corners of the lots.

Service Charges Applying to All of Laurelwood Cemetery

Charges for grave digging fees in any portion of Cemetery:

Children under six years old	$ 1.50
Six year old to twelve years old	2.00
Twelve years old and over	3.00
Transfers of bodies from one grave to another within the Cemetery	10.00
Disinterments for removal or shipment of bodies	5.00

For graves, disinterments and transfers on Sunday, 50 per cent. additional will be added to above schedule of prices.

Seven

Excerpt from the 1919 Laurelwood Cemetery Pamphlet.

24. Rock Hill City Council, *Laurelwood Cemetery*, 6–7.

Rock Hill's Confederate Monument

On May 10, 1922, the Ann White Chapter of the United Daughters' of the Confederacy (UDC) erected a monument in "memory of the heroes of the Confederacy" in Rock Hill's Confederate Park.[25] The UDC secured donations from local civic groups, individual citizens of Rock Hill, and the City Manager to fund the monument's creation. In 1936, the monument was moved to its current location on the highest point in Laurelwood Cemetery. Robert S. Seigler's *A Guide to Confederate Monuments in South Carolina: Passing the Silent Cup* describes the monument's origin and its relocation to Laurelwood:

> *The original statue of a Confederate soldier at ease was made of imported Italian marble and was six feet, six inches tall. The entire monument was eighteen feet high and held bronze light fixtures with concealed wiring. Also included in the cost were a flower vase and 1,000 postcards carrying a photograph of the monument (pictured across). J. G. Sassi designed the statue. Sassi, a native of Italy, lived in Rock Hill and was a widely recognized sculptor. He helped sculpt the Confederate monuments in Ebenezer and Lancaster much earlier in his career, and he also sculpted many other plaques and designs that mark historic spots in South Carolina. This design is unique among South Carolina Confederate monuments in that the statue rests upon a canopy effect, which is supported by four columns. Mrs. A. E. Smith penned the inscriptions.*
>
> *Vandalism in Confederate Park forced the UDC to consider moving the monument to Laurelwood Cemetery [which occurred in 1936]… The generosity of friends and J. G. Sassi made this move possible. The statue was damaged beyond repair during the move. An anonymous citizen provided $1,000 for a new statue, which was ordered from Italy. Sassi provided the cost of the freight and supervised the erection of the new statue.*[26]

Laurelwood's Confederate Monument is not only a prominent feature on the cemetery's landscape but also is representative of Confederate commemoration efforts undertaken during the early 20th century. It is important, therefore, to develop an understanding of how this monument fits into the broader context of commemoration of the Confederacy and Civil War veterans.



Undated historic photograph of Laurelwood's Confederate Monument looking north. (Photograph courtesy of Historic Rock Hill.)

25. "Rock Hill Unveils Monument to Heroes of Confederacy," *The Greenville News*, May 14, 1922.
26. Robert S. Seigler, *A Guide to Confederate Monuments in South Carolina: Passing the Silent Cup* (University of South Carolina Press, 2012), 455–56.

According to the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC), roughly 770 Confederate monuments remain in the US as of February 2019. They are located in as many as 31 states plus the District of Columbia and range in design and size. Confederate monuments were erected at various times ranging from within a few years after the Civil War up to as recently as the 2010s. There are three primary aspects that define the character of Confederate monuments— (1) their physical characteristics as works of art; (2) the time period, and subsequently, the social context in which they were erected; and (3) the aspect of the Confederacy they commemorate.

In the last few decades, scholars and historians have developed a system of typology for Confederate monuments based on where they were erected and what aspect of the Confederacy they commemorate. Historian John J. Winberry has identified the following four general types:

> *(1) Battlefield monuments commemorating individual units or the troops from a particular state; these most frequently have been erected with state-appropriated funds. (2) Cemetery monuments commemorating the dead; these were the committed responsibility of the Ladies Memorial Association, many county chapters of which were established within a year after the war. (3) Courthouse and urban monuments commemorating those from a particular county who served in the war and/or the Confederate dead from that county; these were funded by local contributions and commonly were the responsibility of the United Daughters of the Confederacy after their formation in 1895. Courthouse monuments were located on the lawn of the courthouse squares while urban monuments were erected on main streets or in public parks and dedicated to the soldiers of a particular county or some local heroes or related event during the war years. (4) Large impressive monuments raised on the grounds of state capitols across the South. These were dedicated to the soldiers of a particular state, to major war heroes native to the state, and frequently to the women of the Confederacy.*[27]

27. John J. Winberry, "Lest We Forget: The Confederate Monument and the Southern Townscape," *Southeastern Geographer* 23, no. 2 (November 1983): 108.

Commemoration of Rock Hill's War Veterans at Laurelwood

1919 – The City donates a burial plot near the south end of Laurel Street to the Frank Roach Post, No. 34, of the American Legion for the burial of Rock Hill veterans.

1936 – Rock Hill's 1922 Confederate Monument moved from Confederate Park to Laurelwood Cemetery.

Today, the graves of at least 171 Confederate veterans are marked with the Confederate Cross of Honor.

Hundreds of other graves are marked with honorary plaques, stones, and medallions, such as bronze Veterans of Foreign Wars markers.









Generally, the first two types were erected prior to about 1890 and tended to be memorials mourning the loss of loved ones who had died in the Civil War. Although there are early examples, the second two types became much more common between 1890 and 1950, corresponding to the era of Jim Crow segregation. The majority of these monuments are much larger, were erected in public spaces, and, in contrast to earlier Confederate memorials, tended to glorify leaders of the Confederacy. Many scholars have pointed out that such monuments were erected by Southern advocates of a "Lost Cause" narrative, one which holds a nostalgic vision of the pre-Civil War South and its "cause though lost still just."[28] Many advocates of the Lost Cause wished to reinforce ideals of white supremacy and principles of segregation; and, at the time they were erected, Confederate monuments served as symbolic representations of such ideals.

Nationwide reflection on past and present injustices against African Americans in the South has led to different and sometimes divergent efforts to come to terms with the role of Confederate monuments in the public landscape. One school of thought maintains the idea that, because Lost Cause sentiments—and indeed the monuments erected to reinforce them—do not reflect our core values as a diverse and inclusive nation, the monuments should be removed from public spaces and public funding should not support their preservation. On the other hand, some believe that Confederate monuments, "are historically significant and essential to understanding a critical period of our nation's history."[29] In this line of thought, these monuments may serve as tools to enable diverse communities to engage in conversations about the implications of slavery, segregation, and inequality in the South. Others advocate for preservation but do so out of their identification with Confederate heritage and history.

In June 2017, the National Trust for Historic Preservation issued an official statement concerning the preservation of Confederate monuments, stating that:

> *Ultimately, decisions about what to do with offending memorials will be made on a case by case basis at the community level. Some memorials can be moved, others altered, and others retained as seen fit. Whatever is decided, we hope that memorials that remain are appropriately and thoughtfully "re-contextualized" to provide information about the war and its causes, and that changes are done in a way that engage with, rather than silence, the past—no matter how difficult it may be.*
>
> *We should always remember the past, but we do not necessarily need to revere it. As communities work to determine the appropriate balance, we hope they move forward in a transparent, deliberative, and inclusive way that embraces the complexity here, examines many possible alternatives, and allows for a thoughtful community dialogue that gives all sides a chance to be heard.*[30]

While public conversation on the local level is critical to determine appropriate actions regarding Confederate monuments, state laws already in place may inhibit local attempts to enact significant change. In 2019, at least seven states of the former Confederacy, including Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia, have monument protection laws in place. Such laws provide a range of protective measures safeguarding historic monuments and memorials from removal or alteration, no matter what they commemorate. However, due to rising social tensions related to Confederate monuments, such laws have become highly controversial in recent years.

28. Winberry, 116.

29. The National Trust for Historic Preservation, "Statement on Confederate Memorials: Confronting Difficult History," June 19, 2017, https://savingplaces.org/press-center/media-resources/national-trust-statement-on-confederate-memorials#.XTnqDehKiUk.

30. The National Trust for Historic Preservation.

South Carolina's Heritage Act, enacted in 2000, requires a two-thirds vote by members of the Statehouse for removal of any historic monument. While this law does not prohibit local governments, civic groups, or the public from engaging in conversations about the future of specific Confederate monuments, it makes it extremely difficult for communities to successfully remove or alter them. Many communities have decided to engage in efforts to re-contextualize Confederate monuments rather than attempt to remove them. For example, the City of Atlanta, Georgia, recently installed a series of interpretive panels at the sites of four city-owned Confederate monuments. The panels discuss slavery as the cause of the Civil War, acknowledge campaigns of racial terror against African Americans after the war, and highlight African American achievement in spite of resistance and the persisting legacy of segregation.[31]

Because the Confederate monument at Laurelwood Cemetery is a particularly prominent fixture on the landscape and in the City of Rock Hill, the cemetery's managers and care takers should engage in open conversation with the local community about its future. To engage in open, inclusive, and informed conversation regarding the monument's preservation, the community should be made aware of the following aspects: (1) the history and context in which the monument was first erected; (2) the history of its relocation from a public park setting to Rock Hill's municipal cemetery; (3) the modern context of Confederate memorials as controversial public symbols; and (4) the opportunities for education and interpretation associated with the monument's preservation. It is recommended that Laurelwood's internal cemetery committee take on a leadership role in engaging in public conversation concerning the monument and its interpretation. Further recommendations regarding educational opportunities and on-site interpretation are provided in Part III of this Master Plan.

31. Rosalind Bentley, "Atlanta Erecting Markers about Slavery next to Confederate Monuments," *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, July 24, 2019.

Third Phase of Expansion – The Harold Bursley Plan

The City of Rock Hill expanded Laurelwood Cemetery again beginning in the 1930s. This third phase of expansion, unlike those before, involved the purchase of several privately-owned tracts of land and the reallocation of a city-owned tract. The third expansion phase occurred over the course of about 30 years and involved the removal of at least seven private dwellings and several barn structures owned by the city. These expansions constitute the northern-most portion of Laurelwood's current boundary.

Early in the third expansion phase, the City commissioned engineer and landscape architect Harold B. Bursley of Charlotte to develop a plan for the tract. After graduating from the University of Massachusetts in 1913, Bursley began his planning and landscape architecture career as field supervisor for the Myers Park suburb of Charlotte, a project run by Earl S. Draper. Bursley later became chief associate and eventually head of Draper and Associates, Draper's Charlotte firm. He was later called to work in partnership with Hale J. Walker, another landscape architect, on Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Resettlement Administration for Greenbelt, Maryland.[32]

Bursley's 1947 plan is reflected in the current layout of approximately 7.7 acres in the northern-most portion of Laurelwood. Bursley's plan mirrors that of Draper's in its overall "lawn plan" style. It consists of one dominant oval-shaped loop driveway that engages two of Draper's main drives. A third drive, in the northwest portion of the plan, offers access in and out of the cemetery.

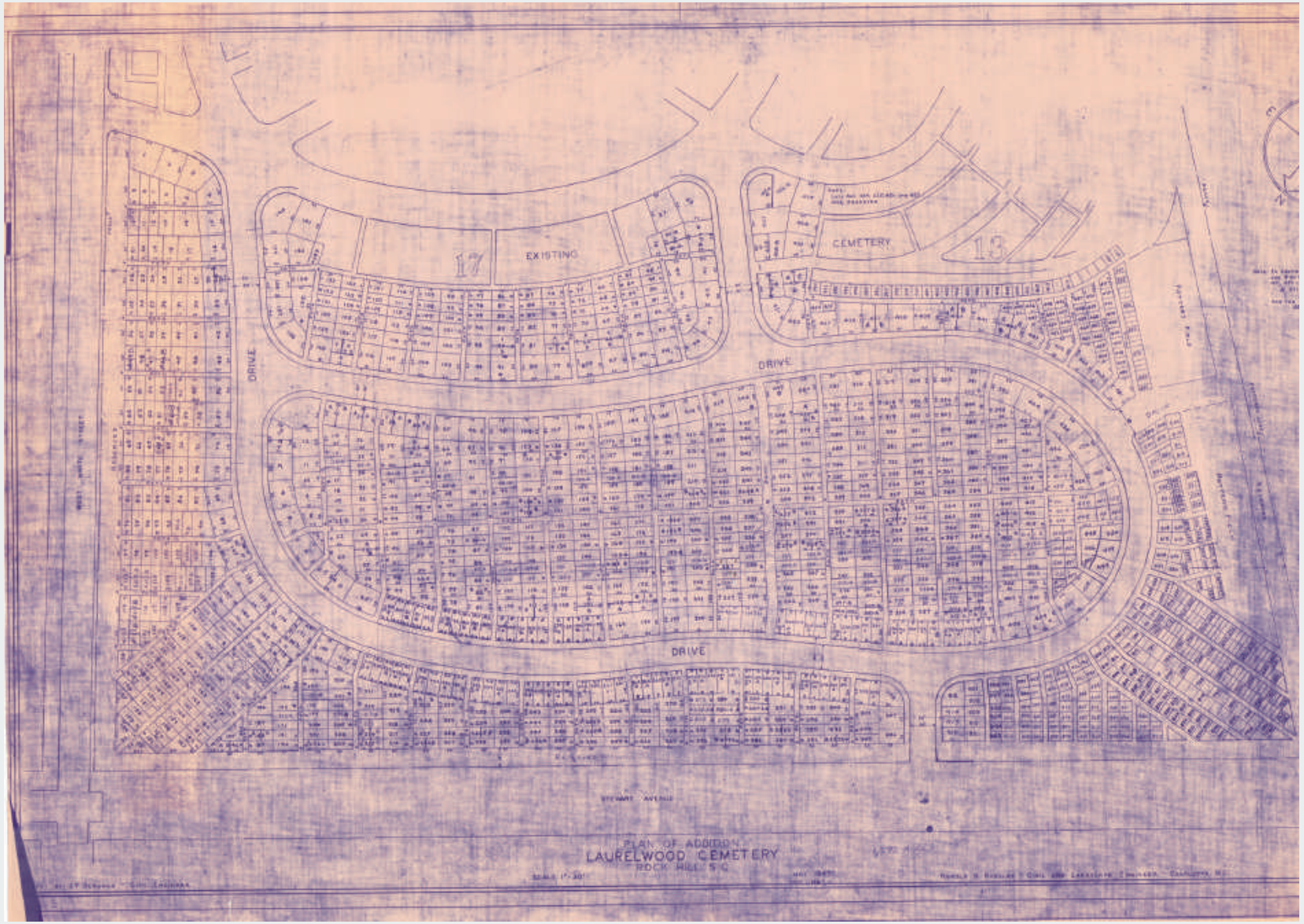
Like Draper's plan, walkways bisect the grid formed by individual burial plots. In Bursley's plan, the burial plots are mostly rectangular and form a relatively rigid and symmetrical grid pattern. This is generally the case except where they are located adjacent to the drives—where Bursley morphed their shape to allow them to curve along the contours of the land and trace the outline of the drives.

The implementation of Bursley's plan has continued with only slight variations since its production. Like the rest of the cemetery, the plots here are owned and maintained by the City.

Today, the sections planned by Bursley and Draper generally exhibit a cohesive aesthetic. Evidence suggests that this has not occurred by chance, rather, Bursley himself intended this result. In a 1946 meeting of Rock Hill's City Council, the City Manager stated that Bursley found the state of Laurelwood's appearance and condition "a credit to the City."[33] Indeed, in the Manager's words, Bursley recommended no changes to the Rules and Regulations under which Laurelwood had achieved its "lawn plan" aesthetic.

32. Norman T. Newton, *Design on the Land: The Development of Landscape Architecture* (Cambridge, Massachusetts, and London, England: The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1971), 503.

33. "Rock Hill City Council Minutes, 11-25-1946 Regular Session" (Digitized by the City of Rock Hill, November 25, 1946), 3, City Council Minutes Archive 1890-Present, https://www.cityofrockhill.com/departments/general-government/city-council/meetings/agendas-minutes.



Harold B. Bursely plan of Laurelwood expansion, 1947-1967.

Recent Expansion, Current Use, and Enhancement of Laurelwood

Expansion of Laurelwood has continued in recent years with the allocation of approximately 1.5 acres in the southwest portion of the site for burial ground. This newest expansion conforms to a style typical of contemporary American municipal burial grounds. Here, small burial plots are set in a rigid grid, most grave markers are set flush with the soil, and grass dominates the relatively flat area.

The City also owns and maintains open lawn spaces in the newest area of the cemetery. Additionally, there are four buildings in this area: three dedicated to cemetery maintenance operations and the Simon Williams House, which currently functions as the cemetery's office. The house is all that remains of a row of houses that once lined the north edge of West Main Street, between the road and Laurelwood's south boundary. These houses were part of a thriving neighborhood known as Brookland, which developed during Rock Hill's period of commercial expansion. The house exhibits Victorian-era architectural features and a style typical of other Brookland houses that once sat along West Main Street. In recent years, the city undertook a stabilization and preservation project on the house. Workers also constructed an associated parking lot and driveway.

Although little space remains available in the oldest sections, Laurelwood remains an active burial ground. The newest sections of the cemetery are the most active; however, interments still occur even in the oldest sections. In some cases, families have passed rights for burial plots through several generations.

As an active burial ground, the aesthetic of Laurelwood continues to be a product of changing burial traditions and landscape planning patterns. In recent years, it has become increasingly common for families to have the remains of their loved ones cremated prior to interment. In this practice, interments can be made much closer together than if traditional coffins are used, requiring significantly less space in the landscape. This change in practice therefore affects the frequency of grave markers and the overall aesthetic of the landscape.

Today, Laurelwood is the combination of its layout, vegetation, monuments, grave markers, the loved ones interred therein, and its overall ambiance. The cemetery is significant not only as a place of well-preserved artwork, or for its association with the citizens and history of Rock Hill, but also as an ever-evolving, complex cultural landscape. Therefore, the most recent changes at Laurelwood do not take away from its historic significance. Rather, they represent the next phase in its future.

Given Laurelwood's large size and its proximity to Old Town, Knowledge Park, Winthrop University, and the Brookland neighborhood, the site is a particularly important green space in Rock Hill. These factors, along with Laurelwood's rich history, provide tremendous opportunities to celebrate Rock Hill's past and enhance its future. In recent years, conversations concerning opportunities to enhance and activate the site have become increasingly common. Recent considerations for the future of the site include: educational programs, public events, walking tours, and promotion of Laurelwood as a cemetery park.

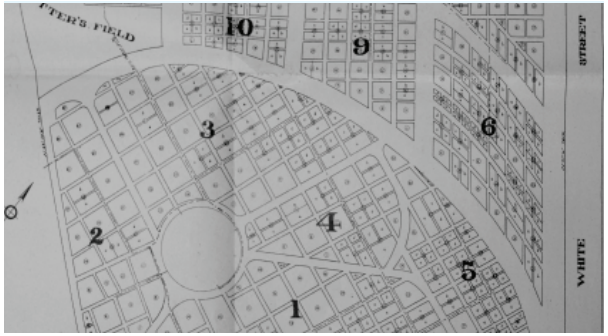
In 2008, Laurelwood was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Since then, the City has applied for and received significant grant funding to commission projects regarding the cemetery's enhancement and preservation. Laurelwood exhibits great opportunity to promote a stronger, vibrant, healthy, and interconnected community. Whether the goal is to highlight the site's rich history or enhance its public access, a proper plan for the preservation of its historic character is essential. For this reason, prior to any further restoration, preservation, or enhancement projects, the City has engaged in planning efforts regarding the site's future. This Master Plan plays an important role in this process as it aims to promote best management practices for the protection and enhancement of the unique experience of Laurelwood Cemetery.

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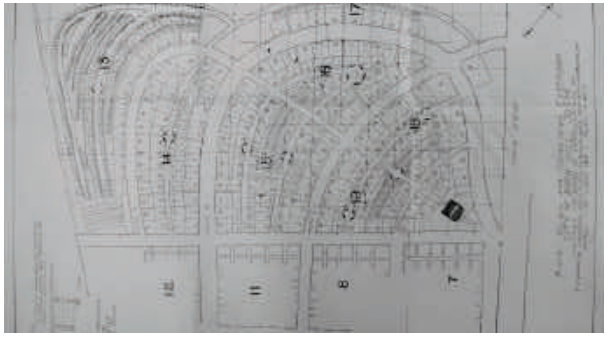


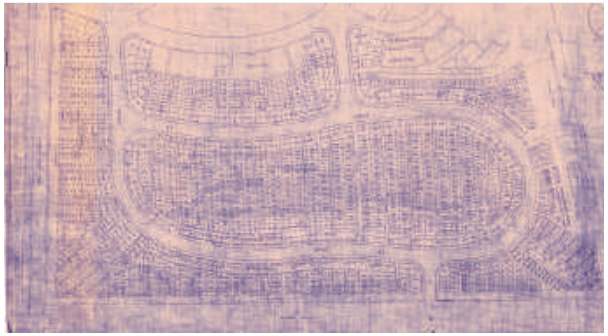
Part II: Existing Conditions

Existing Conditions



W. W. Miller, 1912


Earle S. Draper, 1918


Harold B. Bursley, 1947-1967

Laurelwood is a large, active burial ground, historic site, and green space with a definitive layout and plan. The site's current configuration is a product of four specific periods of expansion that have occurred since its establishment in 1872.

In the 1990s, a City employee digitized these plans and created base maps for a cemetery-wide Geographic Information System (GIS). These first digital base maps include scaled spatial representations of all burial plots and burial plot sections in Laurelwood. The City has since paired the base maps with data from historic, hand-written burial records, creating a database of both burial plot ownership records and all names and dates of known interments. Since its establishment, the City's cemetery GIS has functioned as the primary cemetery record. Laurelwood's GIS is available to the public through the City web site: http://rockhillgis.cityofrockhill.com/j_cemetery/.

The site maps presented in this Master Plan were produced using the existing cemetery GIS and include several new data layers. The following site maps are based on regional, local, and site-wide landscape characteristics including:

- ***Geographic context,*** defined by the natural and social geography of the region;
- ***Local context***, defined by Laurelwood Cemetery's proximity to significant places in the City of Rock Hill;
- ***Organization***, defined by the site's boundaries and the spatial organization of burial plots, buildings, maintenance areas, and open spaces, and nearby facilities;
- ***Circulation,*** including a well-defined automobile and pedestrian circulation system with designated entrances and one parking area;
- ***Viewsheds,*** both axial and panoramic;
- A recent ***tree inventory***; and
- ***Utilities***.



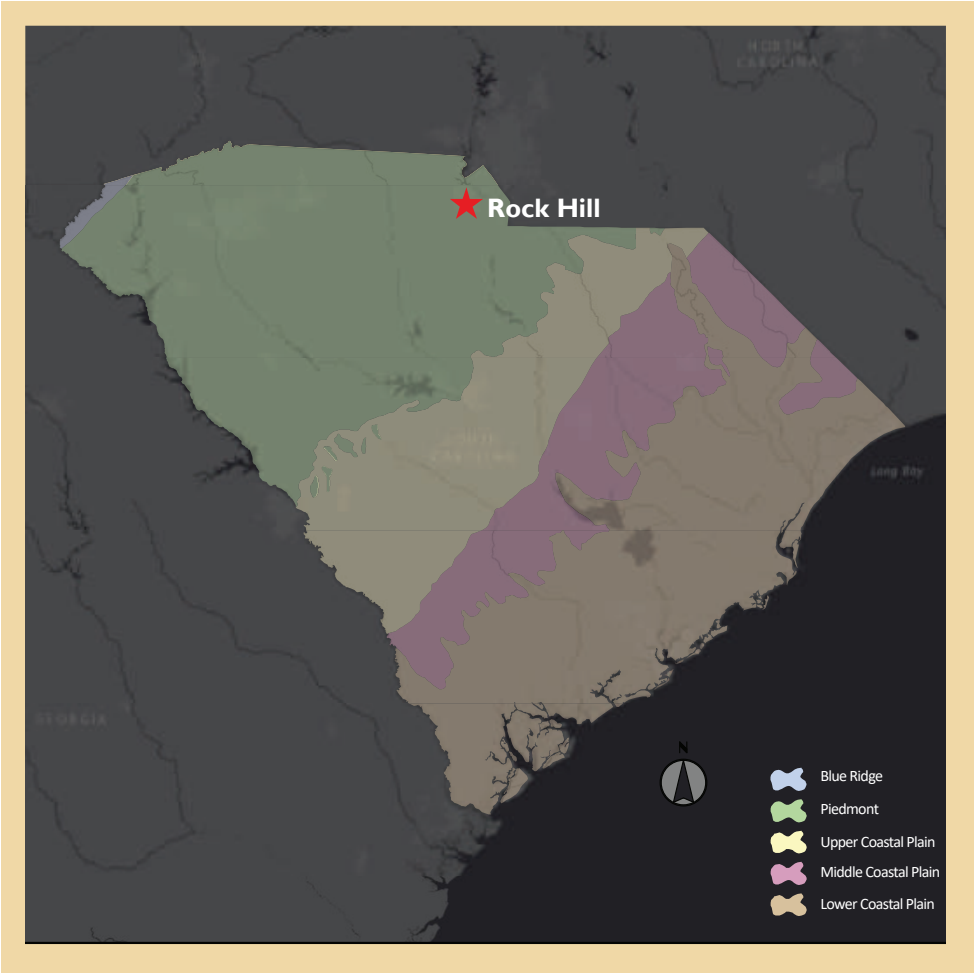
Future site mapping of existing conditions: In 2019, the City began the process of inventory and survey of existing conditions of all grave markers and monuments in Laurelwood Cemetery. The survey results, including detailed information about the type, size, material, and condition of individual constructed features in the landscape, will be added to Laurelwood's existing GIS. This data will be useful in the implementation of specific treatment options as discussed in Part 3 of this Master Plan.

Geographic Context

The City of Rock Hill is situated in the eastern portion of York County, South Carolina, approximately 27 miles south of Charlotte, North Carolina, and 64 miles east of Spartanburg, South Carolina. Rock Hill encompasses 35.98 square miles or about 5 percent of York County.

Rock Hill is part of South Carolina's Piedmont Physiographic Region, which is characterized by warm, humid summers (typically in the 90s) and mild winters (typically averaging in the 40s). The 30-year normal precipitation in Rock Hill is 48.32 inches. The City's gently rolling topography is cut by narrow stream valleys. Forests, farms, and orchards cover most of the landscape surrounding the City. Rock Hill is situated on a large belt of metamorphosed sedimentary and volcanic rock, known as The Charlotte Belt, predominately made up of gneiss, granite, and dike stone.

There are six specific soil types within Rock Hill's boundaries defined in terms of permeability, steepness, and vegetation supported. The soil in Laurelwood is a mixture of three of these types: Cecil, Appling, and Hiwassee. The cemetery's soil is deep, moderately permeable, well-drained, and experiences medium to rapid runoff. The depth to bedrock ranges from 6-10 feet. Within the region, the soil types that make up Laurelwood support loblolly pine, shortleaf pine, Virginia pine, northern red oak, southern red oak, and hickory, dogwood, eastern redbud, and sassafras.





1891



circa 1900



circa 1905

Rock Hill's many creeks and streams drain into the Catawba River Basin, part of the Santee River Basin to the southeast. The abundance of natural resources in the area provide excellent habitat for wildlife and has proven a major factor in the economic vitality and growth in and around Rock Hill.

Several historic maps of the area now occupied by Laurelwood Cemetery indicate that a stream once flowed from northeast to southwest through the northern portion of the site. An 1891 map depicts two tributaries running generally south-to-north through the site. Although these creeks no longer exist as above-ground natural features, the area remains low and wet. The soil here is predominately a grey clay which retains moisture. Runoff from storm-water and excessive subsurface moisture drains to this area from the cemetery's higher elevations. A dug retaining basin in the northwest corner of the cemetery grounds is designed to help collect excessive moisture; however, during rainy periods, sometimes lasting months, the northern portion of the cemetery remains wet. It is common for water to collect on the surface of roads and paths in this portion of the cemetery. These conditions are problematic concerning regular maintenance of roads, drainage ditches, culverts, and drain heads.



Local Context

Laurelwood Cemetery encompasses approximately 32.63 acres in proximity to Old Town Rock Hill, Rock Hill's former African American Business District, Winthrop University, the former eclectic community of Brookland, and redevelopment of Rock Hill's former textile corridor associated with Knowledge Park. Laurelwood Cemetery is currently an active burial ground; however, the burial plots are reaching capacity. Due to its extensive historical collection and wide cross section of interments, Laurelwood Cemetery is a source for historical, genealogical, and other types of research for the general public as well as trained researchers and students of diverse fields. The cemetery is used for educational purposes by local schools and groups interested in history. In addition to research, many visitors enjoy the leisure and intrigue of walking the historic pathways and examining the gravestones and monuments that reflect much of Rock Hill's history. As economic redevelopment results in construction of new buildings around Laurelwood, the City wants to ensure preservation of the cemetery's rich history.

Site Organization

Boundaries

Laurelwood Cemetery is bound by Laurel Street, West White Street, Stewart Street, and West Main Street. An approximately six-foot-tall fence surrounds nearly the entire site. Stone columns support the fence's corners and gates. The only portion of the site's boundary that is not fenced is an approximately 200-foot-long edge on the southeast side of a clearing in the south portion of the site (near the City water tower).

Land Use

The primary use of the site is for the burial and commemoration of Rock Hill residents and their family members. The City of Rock Hill owns all areas designated as burial grounds. Although the City has sold the rights to nearly all burial plots, space remains available for interment. Therefore, Laurelwood Cemetery will remain an active burial ground for the near future.

The following Rules and Regulations dictate the future sale of burial rights and interments:

Persons desiring to purchase a burial lot are invited to visit the Cemetery. The Supervisor will aid in the selection of a plot. The official cemetery records are kept and maintained by the City of Rock Hill.

The number of interments that can be made in any plot is definitely determined at the time of purchase. Therefore, it is advisable that a lot of adequate size be purchased. Adjoining ground may not be available later.

No permit is sold until lots have been surveyed and platted, and the plat(s) duly recorded in the office of the City. The grade and diagram of all plots is established by the City and no change will be permitted. The lots shall be permanently marked, without additional expense to the purchaser, with lot/corner markers buried level with the ground. Excluding temporary lot markers installed for location purposes by a funeral home, no other lot/corner markers are permitted.

No person will be recognized as burial permit holder unless their name appears upon the records as holder. The possession of a permit is NOT sufficient evidence of the transfer of a permit from the original owner.

No sale, transfer, or assignment of any permit or interest shall be valid without the written consent of the City for such transfer or assignment. The charge for approval of a transfer and recording of transfer will be at the current rate, payable when application for such transfer is filed. The City reserves the right to refuse approval of any transfer which is considered prejudicial to the best interests of the Cemetery and to the other permit holders.

Burial permits, as sold, will not be divided unless approved by the City. A plot is intended as a family burial place for the permit holder and his family.

Each permit holder shall notify the City at once of any change of address. The purchase price of grave plots includes a two tiered price list. The purchase price is dependent upon the actual physical residence of the buyer. Persons physically residing within the city limits of Rock Hill may purchase plot(s) at the current resident rate. Ownership of property and or paying city taxes or fees shall not be considered as proof of residency. All others shall pay the non-resident rates. The city does not buy back lots once purchased. The city will not refund down payments on plots, nor will the city credit purchased plots towards larger plots.

Existing Conditions



Site Organization



Simon Williams House Site



Cemetery Services Maintenance Site



Storm-water Collection Area

In 2019, Laurelwood includes 4,250 burial plots organized in 24 sections. Estimates based on historical research and existing Cemetery Services records suggest that there are at least 11,500 marked graves in the cemetery. The ongoing Marker/Monument Survey will help determine the exact figure.

Other land use occurring within Laurelwood is associated with cemetery administration and maintenance, site runoff, and recreation/commemoration. These uses define the following areas of the site:

- ***Simon Williams House***, currently Cemetery Services Headquarters, but slated to be used as Rock Hill's African American Cultural Resource Center;
- ***Cemetery Services Maintenance Buildings;***
- ***Turf-covered storm water collection area;*** and
- ***Two open lawn areas,*** identified as an ideal location for a 'Story' or 'Memory' garden (see p. 11).

The City also owns a .62-acre parcel just outside of Laurelwood's boundaries to the south—the site of a City-owned water tower and paved parking lot.





Signs marking each of Laurelwood's 24 burial plot sections, numbered 1 through 23 and 991, are located strategically in the cemetery grounds. The plot sections are distinguished logically based on the location of roadways, paths, and site boundaries.

Existing Conditions



Circulation

Circulation, Access, and Parking

Laurelwood's circulation systems—its access points, drives, parking areas, and pedestrian paths/walkways—play a major role in the site's overall organization and functionality. While the site's paved driveways clearly define available automobile routes through the landscape, access, circulation, and parking are informal.





Laurelwood is open to the public 24 hours per day, seven days per week. The following General Rules and Regulations are posted on a large sign at the site's northeast entrance:

Visitors and family members are welcome to visit the graves of loved ones, keeping in mind the purpose of the area. Visitors are reminded that these grounds are sacredly devoted to the interment of the human dead and that strict observance of the decorum due such a place will be required by all.

- *Conduct in Cemeteries. No person shall: Revised 7/01/18*
- *Enter or leave the Cemetery except through an established gate or entranceway*
- *Allow any dogs and other domestic animals except those animals utilized as service animals*
- *Allow a child under the age of fourteen (14) years of age in any cemetery unless accompanied by an adult*
- *Allow refreshments or consumption of alcoholic beverages*
- *Hunt on cemetery property*
- *Feed or disturb the birds or other animal life on cemetery property*
- *Treasure hunt or use metal detectors on cemetery property*
- *Sit, lean or lounge on monuments, memorials, markers or statues or in any way injure or deface any monument, stone or other structure, or property within any cemetery*
- *Climb fences, damage or remove fences, trees or markers on cemetery property*
- *Skate, skateboard, dirt bike on cemetery property*
- *Ride a horse except in funeral processions*
- *Advertise or solicit on cemetery property*
- *Discharge firearms in any cemetery. This prohibition shall not apply to burial services conducted by recognized military organizations or associations of the United States.*
- *Pick or mutilate any flower, either wild or domestic, or disturb any tree, shrubs, or other planted material without permission of the Cemetery Supervisor*

Entrances

There are five primary entrance/exit points: three are available for both automobile and pedestrian use and two are for pedestrian use only. Two additional gates (one for automobile or pedestrian and the other for pedestrian only) currently remain locked.











Pedestrian paths

Pedestrian circulation in Laurelwood is highly informal. The primary pedestrian paths occupy the cemetery drives or the space between burial plots. Like automobile traffic, pedestrian circulation occurs along historic routes. In the oldest sections of the cemetery, the paths and walkways emphasize a strict grid pattern, but those of the newer areas generally follow the natural topography, resulting in a more curvilinear layout.











Driveways and Parking

Automobile circulation in Laurelwood is allowed along asphalt, concrete, and gravel driveways. Although the driveways have been covered in non-historic materials, they generally occupy prominent historic circulation routes. Therefore, their layout contributes to the legibility of Laurelwood's historic character and demonstrates subsequent phases of the site's expansion over time. In at least one case, the City chose to convert space originally designated as a principal driveway into burial plots.

In most cases, the driveways occupy almost the entire space available between burial plots. Their widths vary from about 8' to 16', with most only wide enough to allow passage of one car. There are no directional signs or formally-designated routes through the site; rather, visitors can travel freely and park wherever they choose. A sign located at the site's primary automobile entrance (at West White Street) includes the following rules regarding automobile circulation in Laurelwood:

1. Speed limit is 10 miles per hour.
2. Sounding of horns or other warning signals is prohibited.
3. Vehicles shall not make "U" turns on any drive.
4. Passing a funeral procession is prohibited.
5. Vehicles shall drive on established drives only.
6. Persons driving in the Cemetery shall be responsible for any damage done by and to their vehicle.

The site's only designated parking area is available at the site of the Simon Williams House in the southwest portion of the cemetery. The asphalt parking lot includes 12 perpendicular parking spots, one of which is reserved for wheelchair-access only. An additional public parking lot, equipped with 27 parking spots, two of which are reserved for wheelchair-access only, is available at the northeast corner of the intersection of West Main and Laurel Streets (the site of the City's water tower). There is no formal signage indicating that either parking lot is designated for cemetery visitor use.

Significant issues associated with the informality of automobile circulation and parking in Laurelwood include:

- The narrowness of many of the roadways prevents the passing of opposing vehicular traffic;
- Meandering drives without way-finding signage can be disorienting;
- Parked cars often block traffic through the site;
- Inadequate signage will lead to parking in inappropriate places, which may lead to damage of the cemeteries features and/or infrastructure;
- Vehicles parked on narrow roads may block regular flow of traffic;
- Due to its proximity, unsanctioned parking on cemetery grounds may occur as a result of overflow from events planned at University Center;
- If fees are required to park in nearby areas, the cemetery grounds may become a target destination for unsanctioned "free parking."



Perimeter Fence

Existing Tree

Laurelwood Tree Inventory Count

428 Trees within Site Boundary

Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) Total Count	
Less than 5"	*275*
5"-27"	*95*
Greater than 27"	*58*

Tree Inventory



Tree Inventory

Trees are important resources in the City of Rock Hill. The City is dedicated to the preservation of the existing tree canopy and, since 2015, has engaged in reforestation and tree planting efforts to increase the City's overall canopy from 25% to 45%.

The landscape of Laurelwood has been identified as an important site for maintaining Rock Hill's tree canopy. Since the cemetery's establishment, many trees have been lost due to damage from storms, insects, and diseases. Therefore, beginning in 2015, the City initiated a reforestation project that aims to restore and enhance the site's tree canopy. The City has received funding from the Palmetto Pride grant, the A. W. Huckle grant, and the TD Green Streets grant as part of the efforts at Laurelwood.

The first component of the reforestation project was an assessment and inventory of all trees in Laurelwood. The resulting dataset includes the location, condition, species, and diameter at breast height (DBH) of 428 trees within the cemetery's boundaries. The data enables the cemetery's managers to oversee the maintenance of existing trees and target potential locations for new trees. Care was taken to avoid planting trees in designated pedestrian paths. The second component of the project involved the planting of 165 new canopy and understory trees within the cemetery grounds.

Fieldwork conducted for this Master Plan reveals that the current inventory is incomplete and requires some fine-tuning; however, the dataset is very useful for the analysis and evaluation of Laurelwood and for the continued maintenance of its significant historic trees. Although the age of each of Laurelwood's trees is not part of the dataset, their sizes, recorded as DBH, and species can be used to analyze existing conditions.



Axial View

Panoramic View

Viewsheds







Viewsheds

Viewsheds are a significant aspect of both the historic and current character of Laurelwood Cemetery. Whether axial or panoramic, these important features have changed over time along with the expansion of the cemetery and the growth of Rock Hill. Many of the existing viewsheds were first made available when the cemetery transitioned from a “rural” to a “lawn” style. Each of the cemetery’s character areas has its own unique viewsheds (see Character Areas below).









Utilities

Utilities in Laurelwood Cemetery include underground electrical service, lighting, a water-supply system with underground pipes and aboveground spigots, and features associated with storm-water runoff.

Underground electrical wiring runs along most of the cemetery's boundaries; however, these lines are located outside of the site's boundary fence. There are only two locations on cemetery grounds where underground electrical supply is available—near the Simon Williams House and the Maintenance Area. Any site enhancement requiring electricity will need to draw power from these locations or from the site's perimeter. Doing so may require boring under or cutting and replacing established sidewalks and/or roads. Adequate overhead street lighting exists on all sidewalks and roads surrounding Laurelwood. Additionally, the parking area at the Simon Williams House and the water tower parking lot are adequately lit. If it is determined that lighting within cemetery grounds is necessary, review the recommendations in Part III of this Master Plan prior to considering their design and installation.

A defunct underground water supply system and associated above-ground spigots exist in portions of Laurelwood. The system once enabled washing of headstones and watering of vegetation. In some instances, small masonry features, not associated with interments, are located at spigot locations.

Storm-water runoff infrastructure in Laurelwood includes drainage ditches, underground culvert pipes, and iron drain heads. These features are interconnected and service the transfer of above-ground and subsurface water through the site. The drainage system terminates in a large drainage basin in the northwest portion of the site. The ditches, culverts, and drain heads are generally located along or nearby the cemetery's roads. Many are exposed to potential damage by large equipment when digging graves, setting markers/monuments, and maintaining cemetery grounds. Even regular automobile traffic, including driving through and parking alongside the roads, can lead to damage of such resources.

Although they are primarily utilitarian landscape features, understanding these elements is vital to the continued preservation of the site. Many are both historic and remain essential for everyday use and maintenance of the cemetery grounds. Therefore, they require special prescriptive treatments for their preservation and conservation. In addition to being significant historic features themselves, some utilities may be helpful for the preservation and conservation of other significant features in the cemetery. For example, a working water supply system with spigots throughout the site will provide easier access to water for cleaning grave stones and monuments and/or watering significant plants and trees.

Any repair and/or replacement of utility features should respect the historic materials and design. Likewise, new designs for infrastructure should respect the site's historic character and attempt to highlight its historic significance when possible. The materials of construction and overall designs should never take away from the aesthetic appeal of existing materials and features, even when considered utilitarian.















Character Areas



Character Areas

Laurelwood Cemetery's physical appearance and configuration are a product of its gradual growth over time. Since the cemetery's establishment in 1872, burial and landscape management practices have changed several times. Each stage of change has resulted in the development of unique spaces, or *character areas,* within Laurelwood's broader historical context. These areas are made distinct by the organization, type, style, and frequency of physical features—or the *character-defining features.* In addition to observations of the landscape's physical characteristics, findings gleaned from historical and archival research help delineate the character areas. Each character area offers unique opportunities to learn about the development of Laurelwood, the people buried therein, and the history of Rock Hill.

This portion of the Master Plan considers each character area as a product of a *Period of Development* (POD). This section provides a narrative description of the area's development and includes a list of the area's unique character-defining features. Because Laurelwood is an active burial ground, all natural and constructed features, regardless of their age, are character-defining. The features that were a part of the character area during the POD are considered historic.

> *Character-defining features are the visual and physical features that give a place its identity and distinctive character. They include both naturally-occurring and constructed features—such as topography, views and vistas, vegetation, roads and paths, staircases, edgings and enclosures, monuments, grave markers, buildings and structures, and other small-scale features.*

Each character area has specific needs regarding (1) the stabilization and conservation of historic features, (2) day-to-day maintenance, and (3) opportunities for enhancement. Understanding Laurelwood in terms of character areas provides a framework to discuss the implications of specific management decisions and creates new opportunities to highlight the site's significance as an ever-evolving historic site and green space in Rock Hill.



The unique funerary artwork of Laurelwood defines its historic and contemporary character.









Rural Cemetery Character Area

Period of Development: 1872-1919. Begins with the City's purchase of the first tract of land for Laurelwood and ends with the publishing of new Rules and Regulations concerning the perpetual care and overall aesthetic of Laurelwood in 1919.

The visual and physical features that make up the Rural Cemetery Character Area (Rural Cemetery) occupy the original two six-acre tracts of Laurelwood. The area is bound on the northeast, southeast, and southwest by the cemetery's perimeter fence. An asphalt drive, running southwest-northeast through Laurelwood, defines the northwest extent of the area.

The Rural Cemetery has two distinct zones separated by a curving drive that runs east-west through the site. While the zones exhibit a uniform aesthetic overall, slight differences in their layout reflect the evolution of the Rural Cemetery that occurred during the first stage of Laurelwood's expansion.

The south zone is the oldest section and is situated on land purchased from Ann H. White in 1872. This section consists of four straight drives radiating away from a central focal point—the highest point in Laurelwood and the location of Rock Hill's Confederate Monument. The topography slopes gradually down to the northwest and southeast from this high point. The plan of the south zone features a strict grid pattern, formed by its rectangular-shaped burial plots and emphasized by grass paths that run east-west and north-south between them. Where the drives bisect the grid, plots are triangular shaped or have curved edges along the adjacent roadway. Laurelwood's largest burial plots and most intricate funerary artworks are located in this southern-most zone of the Rural Cemetery.

The north zone of the Rural Cemetery is also laid out in a grid of rectangular-shaped burial plots. Here, the straight asphalt drives emphasize the grid. Laurelwood's first Potter's Field is in the southwest portion of the north zone. Early in Rock Hill's development, this .82-acre burial plot was set aside as a burial place for those without the means to purchase a burial plot.

The Rural Cemetery's arrangement reflects trends common amongst municipal cemeteries in America during the mid- and late-nineteenth century. As commemorative and contemplative landscapes, cemeteries like Laurelwood took on a unique aesthetic that became known as the "rural" cemetery style—developed as part of the Rural Cemetery Movement. Generally, such cemeteries consisted of highly personalized family burial plots enveloped in a protected green space. In line with popular Romantic sentiments of the time, the abstract concept of nature took on an active role in defining the character of the landscape. At this time, it became common for people to visit cemeteries not only to mourn death and loss but also to experience a place of inspiration, personal contemplation, and memory. By

the 1870s, virtually every American city and town advertised its own rural cemetery.[34]

Although much less vegetated today than during the POD, the Rural Cemetery currently has irregular plantings of both historic and new trees and shrubs. Older, mature trees include southern magnolias, crepe myrtles, dogwoods, oaks, and various evergreen species. Some burial plots retain ornamental shrubs such as boxwoods, hollies, and camellias. There are more mature trees and shrubs in the Rural Cemetery area than anywhere else in Laurelwood. Grass is the dominant ground cover. The condition of historic vegetation varies greatly throughout the Rural Cemetery and erosion is actively occurring in places. Since the cemetery's establishment, many trees have been lost due to damage from storms, insects, and diseases. Therefore, beginning in 2015, the City initiated a reforestation effort to restore and enhance the site's tree canopy. As part of this effort, volunteers assisted with the planting of 165 new canopy and understory trees in Laurelwood. As space is limited in the Rural Cemetery, these new trees are generally located in the margins of burial plots, paths, and roadways.

In addition to layout and vegetation, the Romanticism that inspired the Rural Cemetery Movement resulted in the incorporation of a wide variety of new imagery and symbolism in American cemeteries. Natural imagery, such as ornate depictions of flora and fauna, became increasingly common on headstones and monuments. Additionally, elaborate sculptural depictions of angelic, female, and child forms became commonplace. As such figures are often envisioned as stewards of the dead, they served to console the living and displayed the desire of loved ones to honor the dead.

Alongside the increasing use of natural symbolism came the incorporation of revival architectural and artistic motifs. Classical, Egyptian, and Gothic Revival styles, often associated with a sense of permanence and perseverance, were ideally suited for the architecture of America's rural cemeteries. The striking composition and verticality of these forms express the wealth and prestige







34. David Charles Sloane, Memory and Landscape: Nature and the History of the American Cemetery, A Journal of Place, Vol. 6, No. 1 (Fall 2010), 4. (Article is pages 3-6); Thomas Bender, *The "Rural" Cemetery Movement: Urban Travail and the Appeal of Nature,* The New England Quarterly, Vol. 47, No. 2 (Jun., 1974), 203-204 (article is pages 196-211).

of the deceased. The use of such monumental imagery and architectural forms served to console the bereaved "by crafting a comforting narrative of permanence in the face of human mortality."[35]

The Rural Cemetery area includes an eclectic collection of funerary artworks. Large monuments such as obelisks, urn-topped pedestals, sculptures, table markers, and spheres dot the landscape. Symbolic imagery is also very common, including intricately-carved depictions of wreaths, tree stumps, angels, child figures, urns, willow trees, hands, books, and flora and fauna. In many cases, family members commissioned local or regional tombstone carvers to create unique monuments and grave markers for their loved ones. Many such examples exist in the Rural Cemetery area. Contrasting dramatically with the monumental character of the rest of the Rural Cemetery, most of the grave markers in the Potter's Field are small and unadorned.





35. "Gravestones and Symbolism · The Oconee Hill Cemetery Project · Death and Human History in Athens," accessed March 26, 2019, https://digilab.libs.uga.edu/cemetery/exhibits/show/history/symbols; James A. Hiya, "American Gravestones and Attitudes toward Death: A Brief History," *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society* 127, no. 5 (1983): 355.

In addition to monuments and grave markers, many plots include granite or marble curbing and/or carved stone corner markers. Some plots also include other objects and structures such as sets of stairs and family plot markers. Some of these features are carved with family names or symbolic imagery. Two family plots in the Rural Cemetery are partially fenced with sections of wrought-iron fence panels. Such features were very common in the landscape during the POD, but most were either lowered or removed totally during the early-twentieth century.

Laurelwood's Rural Cemetery has changed drastically since its establishment. As mentioned in Part 1 of this Master Plan, the alteration of Laurelwood's rural cemetery aesthetic occurred alongside changes to the cemetery Rules and Regulations set forth in 1919. The scope of the changes included the removal of fences, hedges, and copings from burial plots, a general leveling of any areas not flat enough for maintenance with lawn mowers, removal of all footstones, replacement of any wooden grave markers with concrete markers set flush with the ground, and a lowering of large flat headstones to be flush with the ground. Additionally, many paths and walkways were converted to grass and edgings, trees, and shrubs were removed. There is little evidence to suggest that these changes occurred quickly; rather, they likely occurred over an extended period of time.

Despite these changes, Laurelwood retains many natural and built features associated with its Rural Cemetery aesthetic. Therefore, the hardscape features remaining from the historic period of development help a modern visitor appreciate the historic character of the Rural Cemetery. As these features embody a significant part of the history of Laurelwood and Rock Hill, their preservation is of utmost importance. The following *character-defining features* are identified as contributing to the historic integrity of the Rural Cemetery.

Character-Defining Features: Rural Cemetery

Small-Scale Features and Structures

- Iron perimeter fence with stone corner and gate posts surrounding southwest, southeast, and northeast edges;
- Gates in perimeter fence;
- Corner markers at burial plots;
- Curbing enclosing burial plots;
- Iron fencing at two burial plots;
- Family plot monuments;
- Individual grave markers;
- Unidentified stone or masonry fragments;
- Rock Hill's Confederate Monument;
- Retaining walls in south portion of the area.

Landscape

- Highest point in Laurelwood; a focal point in the landscape and site of Laurelwood's Confederate Monument;
- Gentle slope of the land down from the high point to the southeast and northwest;
- Drainage ditches along drives and paths;
- Historic layout of drives, paths, and family burial plots;
- Organization of burial plot sections and the Potter's Field.
- Mature trees and shrubs planted during the historic period;
- Grave-side and plot-side plantings from the historic period;
- Remnants of historic plantings;
- Grass lawn.

Circulation

- Original cemetery drives designated for vehicular circulation;
- Grass pedestrian paths running between family burial plots—once covered in other material but have not moved since the historic period;
- Stair sets of varying materials;
- Pedestrian entrances at south corner, southeast edge, and northeast corner;
- Vehicular entrance at north corner.

Viewsheds

- Panoramic views to the northwest of the lower portions of the cemetery;
- Panoramic views of the city to the southeast;
- Panoramic views of newly-developing areas to the north;
- Views of Rock Hill's Confederate Monument from nearly all locations.

Utilities

- Drainage ditches;
- Drain inlets/grates;
- Culverts;
- Water spigots.







Earle Sumner Draper Character Area

Period of Development: 1918-1947. Begins with Earle S. Draper's first design for the area. Ends when Harold B. Bursley creates plan for further expansion of Laurelwood. The end date reflects the fact that all existing aspects of Draper's 1918 plan were established on the site by the time Bursley began planning the 1940s expansion. This claim is based on existing conditions of Draper Area as rendered by Bursley in 1947.

The Earle Sumner Draper Character Area (Draper Area) constitutes approximately 7.6 acres in the central portion of Laurelwood. The topography in this portion of the cemetery slopes gently from southeast to northwest. This area includes the better part of the J. H. Witherspoon Tract, which the City purchased in 1914 for Laurelwood's second expansion. Along with the purchase, the City commissioned landscape architect, Earl Sumner Draper of Charlotte, North Carolina, to layout the new section. Draper's plan for the expansion accompanied changes to Laurelwood's Rules and Regulations regarding the frequency, type, and height of new monuments and grave markers allowed at family burial plots. The new Rules and Regulations also banned the planting of shrubbery and trees at family plots. Under the new rules, all burial plots and the paths that bisected them were to be maintained as grass lawn. Along with the new rules, the City adopted a management system termed "perpetual care." Still in place today, the system of perpetual care places responsibility for maintenance of all roads, paths, and burial plots on the City.

By the 1910s, America's first generation of professional landscape architects, such as Adolph Strauch, Jacob Weidenmann, and Ossain Cole Simonds, had begun to explore new ideas concerning green spaces, parks, and cemetery design. The new aesthetic became known as the "lawn plan" style. In contrast with earlier Rural Cemetery characteristics, those of the new movement emphasized smooth edges, long natural viewsheds, and a cohesive formality throughout the landscape. In this new generation's view, all design aspects should complement the whole to ensure its beauty for perpetuity.[36] To accomplish a bucolic and cohesive aesthetic, landscape architects discouraged the installment of fencing and hedge barriers at family plots. Instead of monumental markers at individual burials, they preferred single monuments as centerpieces within family plots and flush-mounted, matching footstones to mark individual interments.

36. David Charles Sloane, *Memory and Landscape: Nature and the History of the American Cemetery,* A Journal of Place, Vol. 6, No. 1 (Fall 2010), 4. (Article is pages 3-6)

Draper was among those who considered the lawn plan aesthetic appropriate for modern municipal burial grounds. Therefore, in line with the principles of the lawn plan style, his 1918 plan for Laurelwood's extension includes drives and paths that curve with the natural contours of the site. The roughly rectangular-shaped burial plots curve with the drives and paths. In 13 cases, there are small, circular nodes set aside as public seating areas at the convergence of roads and paths. The plan incorporates a single straight path running east-west from the east corner of the site. While this dominant path exhibits axial symmetry with the cardinal directions, Draper's plan does not adhere to a strict grid like the earlier sections. Draper's plan designates a small area at the east extent of the axial path for a chapel. There is no evidence to suggest that a chapel was ever constructed. Draper's plan does not incorporate formal plantings of trees or shrubs; however, his seating nodes may have been designed to incorporate existing vegetation, such as large evergreen trees that are visible in historic images of the cemetery.

The City implemented Draper's plan beginning in 1919 and has since maintained the area, for the most part, in accordance with the principles of the lawn plan style. Today, Draper's plan remains legible nearly to its full extent. The plan is especially clear in the spatial organization of drives, paths, and family plots. One significant missing component of Draper's plan is the configuration of the public seating areas. Seating, such as benches, exist at only one of these locations today, but the seating nodes are still apparent in plan. Research has not revealed whether seating was ever installed at other planned locations. Although evident to some extent, the nodes that Draper designated for "seats" are the least legible component of his plan in the landscape today.

Existing vegetation in the Draper Area also exhibits deviation from Draper's 1919 plan as well as from the general principles of the lawn plan style. While both Draper's plan and the 1919 Rules and Regulations call for grass as the only vegetation, mature trees and shrubs are scattered throughout the Draper Area. Perhaps the most notable vegetation are mature oaks and magnolias, likely growing prior to or planted during the period of development. These are located at almost every seating node. Additionally, ornamental shrubs exist at numerous family plots. The condition of historic vegetation varies greatly throughout the Draper Area and erosion is actively occurring in places.



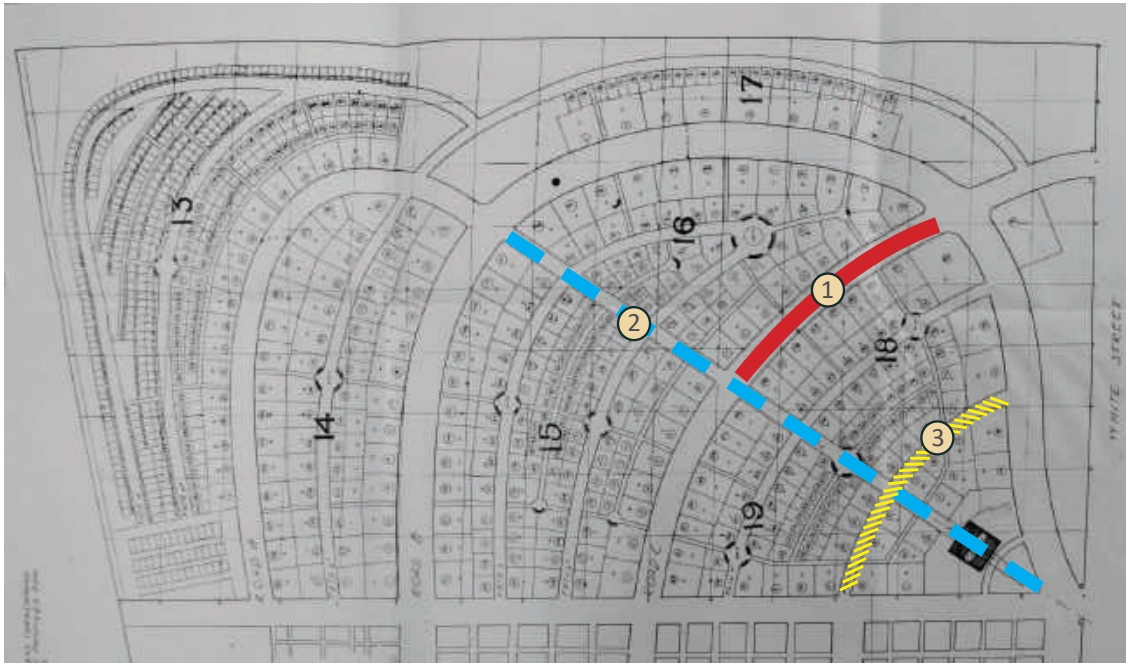




Three specific features of the Draper Area exhibit alteration since the period of development:

1. North end of "Road C" on Draper's plan – Converted from a driveway to burial plots in the 1970s;
2. Axial "path" running east-west on Draper's plan – Now an asphalt and gravel driveway, vehicular traffic is frequent along this feature;
3. Eastern-most curved "path" on Draper's plan – In a recent effort to explore options regarding potential enhancements to Laurelwood's paths, workers installed a soil stabilizer to create a relatively hard surface along its length. The soil stabilization effort was successful in creating a semi-solid path; however, it is unclear whether the City or Draper *historically* considered the installation of semi-solid surfaces for paths within the Draper Area.

As the City has, for the most part, maintained the Draper Area according to the principles established during the early twentieth century, the monuments, grave markers, and other small-scale features contribute to Laurelwood's lawn plan appearance. Most of these features are in good to excellent condition, they contribute to the historic significance of Laurelwood as a cultural landscape, and they should be preserved according the strategies and best practices outlined in Part III of this Master Plan. The following *character-defining features* are identified as contributing to the historic integrity of the Draper Area.



Character-Defining features: Draper Area

Small-Scale Features and Structures

- Iron perimeter fence with stone gate posts along northeast edge;
- Gate in perimeter fence;
- Family plot monuments;
- Individual grave markers;
- Unidentified stone or masonry fragments.

Landscape

- Gently-sloping terrain;
- Drainage ditches along drives and paths;
- Historic layout of drives, paths, and family burial plots;
- Organization of burial plot sections;
- Location of nodes for seating at converging paths;
- Organization of family monuments and grave markers within burial plots;
- Mature trees and shrubs planted during the POD;
- Grave-side and plot-side plantings;
- Trees at Draper-designated seating nodes;
- Remnants of historic plantings;
- Grass lawn.

Circulation

- Asphalt and gravel drives designated for vehicular circulation;
- Grass pedestrian paths running between family burial plots;
- Stair sets of varying materials;
- Vehicular entrances at southeast and southwest corners.

Viewsheds

- Panoramic views to the southeast of the upper (older) portions of the cemetery;
- Panoramic views of newly-developing areas to the northeast.

Utilities

- Drainage ditches;
- Drain heads;
- Culverts;
- Water spigots.

Harold B. Bursley Character Area (1947-1967)

Period of Development: 1947-1967. Dates based on the period that Harold B. Bursley engaged in active design of the 9.6 acres that make up the character area.

The Harold B. Bursley Character Area (Bursley Area) constitutes approximately 9.6 acres in the north portion of Laurelwood. The topography in this portion of the cemetery slopes gently from southeast to northwest. This area is the lowest and flattest portion of the cemetery. The Bursley Area became part of Laurelwood in the 1940s when the City of Rock Hill expanded the cemetery a third time. This third phase of expansion, unlike those before, involved the purchase of several privately-owned tracts of land and the reallocation of a city-owned tract for burial ground. The third expansion phase occurred over the course of about thirty years. During this time, the City removed at least seven private dwellings and several City barn structures.

Early in the third expansion phase, the City commissioned engineer and landscape architect Harold B. Bursley of Charlotte, North Carolina, to develop a plan for the tract. The current layout of the Bursley Area reflects his 1947 plan. Bursley's plan mirrors that of Draper's in its overall "lawn plan" style. It consists of one dominant oval-shaped loop driveway that engages two of Draper's main drives. A third drive, in the northwest portion of the plan, offers access in and out of the cemetery. In Bursley's plan, the burial plots are mostly rectangular-shaped and form a relatively rigid and symmetrical grid pattern. This is generally the case except where plots are located adjacent to the drives. Here, Bursley morphed the plot's shape to allow them to curve along the contours of the land and trace the outline of the drives. Like Draper's plan, grass paths bisect the grid of burial plots.

The implementation of Bursley's plan has continued with only slight variation. Like the rest of the cemetery, the plots here are owned and maintained by the city and burial rights are sold to individuals. Although the Bursley and Draper Areas exhibit an overall cohesive appearance, the Bursley Area is set apart from the rest of Laurelwood by the overall consistency of type, style, and organization of grave marker and monuments, dictated by the current Rules and Regulations. Generally, each family plot includes: (1) a large family monument, located at the head of two or more graves, and (2) footstones at the foot of each individual interment. Most of the family plot monuments in the Bursley Area are vertically-oriented granite slabs on long bases; however, there are other variations of the die-on-base type, obelisks, and sculptural figures in the character area. Although most of the individual grave markers are stone or concrete tablets set flush with the ground, some are plaque or block markers.

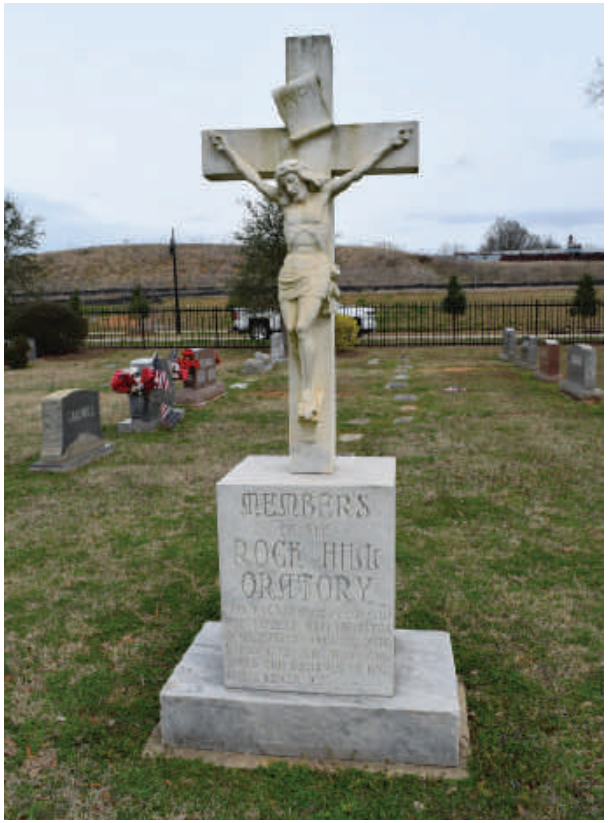
While the configuration of monuments and grave markers in the Bursley Area help create a cohesive aesthetic overall, each stone is itself unique. While most are of a similar size and type, some have creative shapes and varying colors of stone. These contemporary designs express the individuality of those interred in the cemetery. Thanks to recent advances in stone-working technology, elaborately-carved or etched granite monuments have become increasingly popular. Some are even painted with symbolic and/or literal phrases, quotes, and imagery. Some stones feature high-gloss finishes while others are intentionally left rough or rusticated. Many grave markers in the Bursley Area include bases set in the ground for mounting vases or urns. There are no copings or edgings in this section and mature vegetation, such as trees and ornamental shrubs, are less frequent than in the older sections.




LONG


PUCKETT




MEMBERS
ROCK HILL
ORATORY



Other distinguishing aspects of the Bursley Area include the size and density of the burial. The burial plots in the Bursley Area are generally smaller and more-tightly spaced than those of the Draper and Rural Cemetery Areas. This configuration affords a higher density of monuments and grave markers. In recent years, the practice of interring cremated remains has become increasingly popular in this area. This practice requires less physical space within specific burial plots.

As the City sold plots in the Bursley Area more recently than those in the earlier sections, more space remains available. Although the earlier sections of Laurelwood are also active burial grounds, interments are more frequent in the Bursley Area.

The Bursley Area is a unique space that encompasses both historic and contemporary features. Its layout, funerary artwork, the frequency of interments, and its relationship with other sections of the cemetery reflect patterns of change that have occurred at Laurelwood since the 1940s. Therefore, the area's character-defining features, whether historic or contemporary, are significant components of the continuing narrative of Laurelwood and the City of Rock Hill. The preservation and conservation of these features is, therefore, important for the overall integrity of Laurelwood as a public green space and historic site.













Character-Defining Features: Bursley Area

Small-Scale Features and Structures

- Iron perimeter fence with stone gate posts along southwest, northwest, and northeast boundaries;
- Gate in perimeter fence in northwest boundary;
- Family plot monuments;
- Individual grave markers;
- Unidentified stone or masonry fragments.

Landscape

- Gently-sloping terrain;
- Drainage ditches along drives and paths;
- Lowest area in cemetery;
- Historic layout of drives, paths, and family burial plots;
- Size of burial plots;
- Organization of burial plot sections;
- Organization of family monuments and grave markers within burial plots;
- High density of historic, recent, and future interments;
- Mature trees and shrubs planted during the historic period;
- Remnants of historic plantings;
- Existing tree canopy;
- Grass lawn;
- Newly planted vegetation.

Circulation

- Asphalt and gravel drives designated for vehicular circulation;
- Grass pedestrian paths running between family burial plots;
- Vehicular entrance in northwest boundary.

Viewsheds

- Panoramic views to the southeast of the upper (older) portions of the cemetery;
- Panoramic views of newly-developing areas to the north and northeast.

Utilities

- Drainage ditches;
- Drain heads;
- Culverts;
- Water spigots.

New Cemetery Grounds:

The New Cemetery Grounds Character Area (New Cemetery) includes approximately four acres in the southwest portion of Laurelwood. The area's northeast extent is defined by a drive running along the southwest edge of the Rural Cemetery and the Draper Area. Laurelwood's perimeter fence marks the northwest and southwest boundaries of the New Cemetery. The site of a City water tower marks the southeast boundary.

There are three functional sections of the New Cemetery, each with its own character-defining features and unique circumstances concerning historic, current, and future use. The sections are defined by their spatial organization as well as their current use (see illustration across).

South Green Space, 1.2 acres:

This open lawn in the south portion of the New Cemetery makes up the largest remaining open space available in Laurelwood. The area is relatively flat compared to the rest of Laurelwood.

New Burial Grounds, 1.5 acres:

The City has designated the central portion of the New Cemetery as burial grounds. The topography in this section slopes gently from south to north. There are a few mature trees and shrubs in this section, including sugar maples, a large red oak, and a row of crape myrtles; however, grass lawn dominates the area. An S-shaped drive, running east-west through the center of the New Cemetery, separates the section into three distinct sub-sections.

The burial plots in the southern-most sub-section exhibit an appearance nearly identical to that of the Bursley Area. Here, many of the burial plots include die-on-base-type family monuments and associated ground tablet footstones marking individual interments. In the other two sub-sections there are no vertical monuments. Instead, all family monuments and grave markers are set flush with the ground. Vases and urns, set in designated bases, mark nearly all graves in the New Cemetery.

The central section of the New Cemetery makes up Laurelwood's newest designated burial grounds.

North Green Space, .5 acres:

This green space makes up the north portion of the New Cemetery. It is relatively flat and primarily a grass lawn. Six mature trees provide shade for portions of this otherwise open green space.

In addition to the two open green spaces and the burial grounds, the New Cemetery includes two administrative areas—a Cemetery Maintenance Site and the Simon Williams House. There are three buildings and a gravel parking lot at the Cemetery Maintenance Site, used by cemetery staff for storage and maintenance-related tasks. A 2015 Master Planning map proposes a new pedestrian/vehicular gate in the northwest corner of the north green space. As a primary site entry drive and parking lot have since been constructed southwest of the Simon Williams House, it is no longer necessary to create an entry/exit feature in the formerly-proposed location.

Cemetery managers and caretakers have considered relocating the constructed features at the Cemetery Maintenance Site as part of a potential rehabilitation of the west portion of the New Cemetery. Several locations for the maintenance resources have been considered, most of which are outside of the current cemetery boundaries. Additionally, considerations regarding a potential land swap for property adjacent and connected to the existing cemetery grounds have been considered. If such property is acquired, a planning process should be initiated to determine the appropriate use of available land so as to ensure the preservation of significant historic resources.



New Cemetery Zones of Use

Perimeter Fence







Existing Conditions

The Simon Williams House is a two-story, brick building constructed circa 1917 by an African American contractor. The house is all that remains of a row of houses that once lined the north edge of West Main Street, between the road and Laurelwood's southwest boundary. The houses that once lined the southwest edge of West Main Street were part of an eclectic neighborhood known as Brookland, which developed during Rock Hill's period of commercial expansion. The house exhibits Victorian-era architectural features and is of a style typical of other Brookland houses along West Main Street. In recent years, the City undertook a stabilization and preservation project at the house, which included the construction of an associated parking lot and driveway. The house currently functions as headquarters for Rock Hill Cemetery Services.

Important sites adjacent to the New Cemetery include the City's water tower site and a small Jewish cemetery. These sites are located outside of Laurelwood's boundaries but are important resources. The water tower site includes public parking and an interpretive panel highlighting the history of Rock Hill. The Jewish cemetery exhibits a cohesive aesthetic with Laurelwood, and several important figures in the City's development are interred therein. The site exhibits great potential for interpretation and incorporation into historic walking tours of Laurelwood.

Each section of the New Cemetery possesses unique character-defining features and offers unique opportunities for the future preservation and enhancement of Laurelwood as a whole. Therefore, there are specific concerns regarding the future treatment of these spaces. The two open green spaces in the New Cemetery are of particular interest because of the scarcity of available open space in Laurelwood.

As Rock Hill continues to grow and infill projects progress near Laurelwood, issues concerning the use of space in the New Cemetery are of utmost importance. In 2018, the mayor of Rock Hill assembled a committee to begin discussions regarding the future use, enhancement, and activation of Laurelwood. One recent proposal involves the construction of a Life Story Garden in the New Cemetery's south open lawn. Meant to foster a sense of reflection and contemplation, the Story Garden would provide an alternative to traditional burial for those who want to be cremated by adding instant on-site access to the deceased's life story available through a QR code. The proposed Story Garden would also include a section for more traditional burials with an associated low-tech version of "story stones."

Another proposal, established by Rock Hill's African American Cultural Resources Advisory Committee, involves turning the Simon Williams House into an African American Cultural Resource Center. The proposed center would become a space to house artifacts and programing to enrich educational efforts by highlighting significant events, people, and places associated with Rock Hill's African American history and culture.



Simon Williams House and vehicular site entrance.

1949 Update to 1926 Sanborn Fire Insurance Map

Character-Defining Features: New Cemetery

Small-Scale Features and Structures

- Iron perimeter fence with stone gate posts along northwest and southwest boundary;
- Gate in perimeter fence;
- Family plot monuments;
- Individual grave markers;
- Unidentified stone or masonry fragments;
- Three buildings at cemetery maintenance site;
- Simon Williams House.

Landscape

- Gently-sloping terrain;
- Drainage ditches along drives and paths;
- Layout of drives, paths, and parking areas;
- Layout of maintenance and Simon Williams House sites;
- Organization of burial plot sections;
- Organization of family monuments and grave markers within burial plots;
- Mature trees and shrubs;
- Existing tree canopy;
- Grass lawn;
- Newly planted vegetation.

Circulation

- Asphalt and gravel drives designated for vehicular circulation;
- Grass pedestrian paths running between family burial plots;
- Vehicular entrances from W Main Street along the southwest boundary.

Viewsheds

- Panoramic views to the northeast of the upper (older) portions of the cemetery;
- Panoramic views of newly-developing areas to the north.

Utilities

- Drainage ditches;
- Drain heads;
- Culverts;
- Water spigots.







The American Legion Plot

Period of Development: 1919-1939. Begins when the City grants the plot to the local American Legion Post. Ends when the plot was expanded to its current full extent.

In 1919, the City of Rock Hill set aside a small plot of land in Laurelwood for the burial and commemoration of Rock Hill's war veterans. Although research has not revealed the exact date of the transaction, archived minutes from City Council meetings indicate that during the 1920s the plot came to be owned by the Frank Roach Post, No. 34 of the American Legion. Known as the American Legion Plot, it was expanded at least two times—first in 1935 and again in 1939.[37]

In 1923, despite the 1919 rules banning the installation of fencing, the City Council granted permission for the fencing of the American Legion Plot.[38] While the fencing is no longer in place, two runs of approximately two-foot-tall granite posts with pyramidal tops line the northwest and northeast extents of the plot. Iron hooks embedded in the posts once held iron chains that hung between them to mark the plot's boundaries. The southeast edge of the plot is defined by Laurelwood's iron perimeter fence. There is a gate with two stone posts near the center of the southeast boundary fence.

The American Legion Plot consists of a thin strip of approximately .17 acres running along the south end of the Laurel Street frontage of Laurelwood. The narrow plot is the resting place of approximately 55 of Rock Hill's war veterans.

For its entire length, the plot slopes from northwest to southeast. The slope is especially steep along the southeast edge where five newly-planted trees line the perimeter fence.

The American Legion Plot possesses a coherence and uniformity typical of America's national cemeteries. The burials are uniformly spaced and are oriented to the southeast. Grave markers within the plot are government issue. All but two are of the "General" type: marble or granite slabs, slightly rounded at the top, 42" long, 13" wide, and 4" thick. Their inscriptions include the soldier's name, state of origin, rank, organization, and dates of birth and death. A Latin Cross or Star of David is carved at the top of the front face of each headstone. A monument located near the northeast end of the plot includes a large bronze eagle standing atop an approximately 12-foot-tall stone pedestal on rusticated bases. A 10' x 10', three-walled brick structure stands near the center of the plot. Research has not revealed the purpose of this structure; however, it is likely a platform used during commemorative ceremonies.

37. "Rock Hill City Council Minutes" 1-3-1938 Regular Session, 11-8-1935 Special Session, 11-1-1939 Special Session (Digitized by the City of Rock Hill, January 3, 1938), City Council Minutes Archive 1890-Present, https://www.cityofrockhill.com/departments/general-government/city-council/meetings/agendas-minutes.
38. "Rock Hill City Council Minutes" 1-30-1923 Regular Session.

Character-defining features: American Legion Plot

Small-Scale Feature and Structures

- Granite posts associated with plot boundary fencing;
- World War I monument;
- Grave markers.
- Centrally-located brick and concrete platform.

Landscape

- Central location of World War I monument;
- Strict organization of grave markers;
- Once included border fencing;
- Central location of entry gate;
- Grass lawn;
- Newly-planted trees along southeast edge.

Circulation

- Formal pedestrian entry gate in southeast fence;
- Informal pedestrian circulation throughout.

Viewsheds

- Panoramic views to the north and northwest of Rural Cemetery character area;
- Panoramic view of Rock Hill to the southeast;
- Views of newly-developing areas to the north;
- Vista through tree canopy of Rock Hill's Confederate Monument.



Potter's Fields:

Period of Development: 1812-1947. Begins with the establishment of the first Potter's Field in Laurelwood. End date is when the north Potter's Fields were first laid out on the 1947 cemetery rendering by Harold B. Bursley.

There are three burial plots known as "Potter's Fields" within Laurelwood Cemetery. Together, they include approximately .85 acres. The oldest of the three is in the northwest portion of the Rural Cemetery. The other two are located along the southwest edge of the Bursley Area.

The term "potter's field" is generally used to describe a place that has traditionally been used for the burial of those without families or the indigent. The W. W. Miller rendering of Laurelwood indicates that by 1912 the City had designated approximately .58 acres of the cemetery as a Potter's Field. This area occupies the northwest portion of the Rural Cemetery. Today, there are hundreds of graves in this area, a large percentage of which are marked. However, burial records indicate that there are likely unmarked graves in this area. The grave markers are generally small, unadorned, and in relatively poor condition compared to those in rest of the Rural Cemetery. Despite their size and simplicity, many of the markers are inscribed with names and dates. In many instances, there are depressions in the soil that are likely associated with burials, some of which are marked and others not.

Later, the City set aside two other areas in the Bursley Area as Potter's Fields. Research has not revealed when the City first designated these areas as public burial grounds, however, they are included on Harold B. Bursley's 1947-1967 plan for Laurelwood's third expansion.

Although Potter's Fields have existed in Laurelwood since at least 1912, the areas are not mentioned in cemetery Rules and Regulations until 1997. Since then, the rules governing these areas have remained much the same. Per the 2018 Rules and Regulations, families can receive rights to burial plots within these areas at no charge; however, the City charges the current cemetery fee for the opening and closing of graves. Only flat markers less than 32" x 20" are allowed in these sections. The Rules and Regulations state that all lots "shall be permanently marked by the City, without additional expense to the purchaser, with a lot marker buried level with the ground even if a flat marker has not been purchased or installed." Temporary lot markers installed for location purposes by a funeral home are allowed, but no other lot/corner markers are permitted in the Potter's Fields.[39]

The contrast in type, style, frequency, size, and detail between the grave markers of the Potter's Field and the rest of Laurelwood can tell an interesting story about the cemetery's history. It is likely that, in many cases, the physical features in the Potter's Fields are the last remaining artifacts associated with those buried therein.

39. Rules and Regulations, 2018, 7.









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Part III: Strategies and Best Practices







Site Evaluation

The evaluation of Laurelwood Cemetery's history, significance, and existing conditions, as presented in Parts I and II of this Master Plan, informs the Strategies and Best Practices for the site's preservation. Thoughtful planning is required *prior* to the implementation of any of the strategies or recommendations presented in Part III and IV. Stabilization, conservation, and enhancement efforts should always aim at protecting the integrity of the cemetery's unique character—as defined by its organization, appearance, and physical features—and protecting individual historic features. Doing so will enhance visitor experience and help protect Laurelwood as a place of respect and honor for those lost.

A variety of published documents, produced by national, state, and private organizations, inform the Strategies and Best Practices presented below. Laurelwood's managers and caretakers, including the members of the internal cemetery committee and those involved in day-to-day maintenance and conservation efforts, should become familiar with these resources. At a minimum, the cemetery manager should be aware of the framework and guidelines in the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings* (referred to as *Standards* hereafter).

Utilizing the evaluation of Laurelwood provided in Part II, this section establishes goals to prioritize regular maintenance, stabilization, and conservation efforts. Keep in mind the following principles when determining the appropriate action:

- All aspects and features of the cemetery are significant, including the overall appearance and spatial organization;
- Respect the historic material present, no matter its condition;
- No treatment that protects one feature to the detriment of another is acceptable;
- Use reversible techniques whenever possible – detrimental actions are usually impossible to reverse;
- Use the gentlest means possible when performing any prescribed treatment;
- Always assess and document existing conditions prior to treatment;
- Document the nature of all treatments and changes to the landscape;
- When in doubt, consult a professional conservator.

Understanding Risk Factors:

Because Laurelwood is an active burial ground and a public green space situated in a natural environment, it is inevitably susceptible to both natural and human-related risk factors.

Natural Risk Factors:

- Climate
- Biogrowth
- Vegetation
- Natural disasters, such as fire, floods, and wind

Human-related Risk Factors:

- Pollution
- Failed maintenance
- Inappropriate repairs
- Vandalism
- Arson

It is often difficult to separate natural and human-related risk factors; however, in almost all cases, the most efficient means of managing risk is a well-informed and well-implemented maintenance program. When negative conditions persist despite regular maintenance, further protective measures should be considered. Some risks are best managed on the organizational level by making changes to cemetery policy, rules and regulations, or maintenance protocol. Other risks are more efficiently dealt with on a case-by-case basis, often calling for the initiation of specific undertakings, such as monument repair projects or updates to utilities.

Primary risk factors affecting Laurelwood Cemetery today:

- Continued deterioration of historic small-scale features (due to both natural and human-related factors)
- Encroaching vegetation
- Erosion
- Changing attitudes about historic sites/public green space
- Nearby development



Ranking Conditions and Understanding Priorities:

With limited funding available, it is critical that Laurelwood's managers establish priorities for the conservation and preservation of Laurelwood's character-defining features. To ensure that the most critical issues are dealt with first, the following questions should be asked:

Is the feature a threat to those visiting the site? If so, the feature's condition is a **first-tier priority** and should be addressed immediately. Examples include:

- Tall monuments that are loose, cracked, or unstable. Such features are at risk of falling and harming visitors and/or nearby historic features;
- Dead or dying trees that may fall or drop limbs.

Is the feature a threat to itself or other features in the cemetery? If a feature is actively deteriorating and, if left untreated, will require more severe conservation efforts in the future, its condition should be considered a **second-tier priority**. Examples include:

- Broken and fragmented grave stones in danger of further damage or loss;
- Headstones with nearly illegible inscriptions that are experiencing active weathering;
- Corroding ironwork;
- Places where gravel road material has unintentionally spread into the boundaries of burial plots;
- Trees that are uprooting gravestones or other features;
- Areas of active erosion in burial plots.

While both first-tier and second-tier issues affect the immediate overall condition of the cemetery, first-tier issues are of top priority due to concerns for visitor safety. Although second-tier issues do not threaten human life, they are nearly as important as those in the first-tier, because the longer they are left unaddressed, the higher total cost incurred. For this reason, managers should address second-tier issues in the immediate maintenance plan for the cemetery.

Most other issues are primarily cosmetic, and cemetery managers should consider them as third-tier priorities. Examples include the need to infill sunken burials or clean headstones and the need for way-finding signage, interpretive panels, or decorative plantings. Although such site enhancements are important for visitor experience, they should not take precedence over the stability and conservation of features that threaten human safety or the cemetery's overall historic integrity.

First-tier Priorities in Laurelwood

Any specific feature in the cemetery that threatens public safety should be considered a first-tier priority for immediate stabilization, repair, or removal. In large part due to the City's policy of "perpetual care," there are very few first-tier issues in Laurelwood; however, during the fieldwork component of this Master Plan, a few large monuments and at least one specific tree branch were noted as exhibiting potential first-tier status.

The survey fields within the "Description" and "Condition" portion of the *Marker/Monument Survey* of Laurelwood will help identify specific features in this category. As a general rule, *any feature that is taller than 4' AND is given a 3 or 4 on the Overall Condition Assessment should be inspected immediately by cemetery staff.*

When a first-tier priority issue is identified, cemetery managers should take the following steps:

- Limit public access to the area surrounding the feature by posting temporary warning signs, caution tape, and/or temporary barricades;
- Document the existing conditions in writing and with photography;
- Consider temporary stabilization or repair of the feature based on the recommendations in this Master Plan and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards;
- Consult the appropriate professional and consider long-term treatment options.



The cemetery manager should inspect this leaning monument immediately. If found unstable, this feature is a risk to public safety.



This roughly four-foot-tall monument may appear stable from a distance, however, it has become disassembled at its joinery and is at risk of falling.



Dead and/or dying branches are considered a risk to public safety and can cause damage to nearby historic markers/ monuments.

Second-tier Priorities in Laurelwood

During the field inspections conducted for this Master Plan, it became apparent that many of Laurelwood's oldest headstones and monuments have become loose, separated at their joinery, fragmented, or are in danger of total loss. Additionally, the inscriptions on many stones have become nearly or totally illegible. In some cases, encroaching vegetation, biogrowth, and soiling exacerbate adverse conditions. If left untreated, many such features may be subject to futher damage, deterioration, or even total loss. The stabilization and conservation of such features is a second-tier priority.

The survey fields within the "Description" and "Condition" portions of the *Marker/Monument Survey* of Laurelwood will help identify specific features in this category. As a general rule, *any feature that is taller than 4' AND is given a 3 or 4 on the Overall Condition Assessment should be inspected immediately by cemetery staff.*

Once identified, each individual feature in this category should be assessed in terms of the appropriate treatment option. The cemetery's managers should use the guidelines and recommendations in both this Master Plan and the S*ecretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation* to determine the appropriate initial stabilization measures and long-term treatment.

Acceptable Conservation and Preservation Procedures:

In some cases, such as the cleaning of monuments and grave markers, trained volunteers may be able to assist with treatment efforts. However, for certain efforts, most particularly for the conservation of stone, it is strongly advised that cemetery staff or even outside professionals trained in the field of materials conservation undertake the work. If the City utilizes cemetery staff or other City maintenance workers, it is vital that each worker receive proper training for the conservation of historic materials. Often handymen and masons qualified to work with modern materials and techniques lack the experience and expertise necessary to undertake conservation and/or preservation projects. Therefore, the City should consult and hire only contractors with demonstrated knowledge of requirements specific to the prescribed treatment. Prior to any cleaning, repair, replacement, removal, or addition to the landscape, cemetery managers should review the *Standards* and seek the appropriate level of professional guidance.





Maintenance and Regular Conditions Assessments

Regular maintenance is essential to the long-term preservation of Laurelwood. Therefore, the cemetery's maintenance program should include (1) regularly-scheduled conditions assessments, (2) cyclical and prioritized maintenance projects, and (3) regular reporting and budgeting. An important aspect of maintenance is the development of a team of professional staff, which should include skilled conservators, engineers, masons, and a cemetery manager.

The cemetery manager should establish and manage a list of cyclical maintenance projects, such as cleaning of small-scale features and applying/reapplying appropriate protective coatings. In addition to these regularly-occurring projects, the reports generated from the conditions assessments should inform the cemetery manager of the need for specific maintenance tasks, such as the removal of graffiti, repointing or replacement of mortar, and repair of specific small-scale features. In some cases, in-house cemetery staff or even trained volunteers can perform some of the typical maintenance work; however, in other cases, specialists should be utilized.





Regularly-scheduled conditions assessments are vital to identify maintenance-related issues before they escalate. Trained volunteers or cemetery staff can perform such assessments rapidly by simply walking the cemetery grounds and looking out for specific negative conditions. For example, the surveyor may note a headstone recently broken by mechanical damage from lawn equipment or active soiling of a headstone occurring as a result of muddy splash-back during rain events. If reported immediately to the cemetery manager, these issues can often be addressed by simply altering regular maintenance protocol. In the first example, future mechanical damage can be avoided by adding protective bumpers to lawn mowers or by addressing the issue with the lawn-maintenance contractor. In the second example, soiling from splash-back can often be avoided by maintaining appropriate ground cover, such as grass or gravel, surrounding small-scale features.

- Required Skill Level: Minimal training required; Trained volunteers/in-house staff;
- Frequency: Annually throughout the site, can be performed in a different burial plot section each week or month to ensure all areas are assessed each fiscal year.

Infilling sunken graves for aesthetic purposes is only recommended for Laurelwood if the graves to be filled are adequately and permanently marked. Infilling graves is a third-tier priority. While this treatment may help provide a cohesive appearance in the cemetery and may even prevent erosion, it is imperative that graves are adequately marked and recorded prior to infilling. Some of Laurelwood's unmarked or inadequately-marked graves are only visible as slight depressions on the ground. Walking the cemetery in the early morning hours, when dew is settling on the ground, can make spotting such depressions easier. The surveyor can then mark depressions with temporary survey flags. The location and condition of such sunken graves should be recorded formally on maps and in the cemetery's GIS database prior to any infilling. Include references to any existing grave marker(s) or fragment(s) with such data. Trained volunteers and cemetery staff can locate and temporarily mark depressions and known sunken graves; however, all suspected graves should be checked by a trained staff member and/or the cemetery manager. Infilling should be performed by trained cemetery staff only. When infilling, workers should take great care to protect other features in the cemetery including marked and unmarked graves, nearby grave markers and monuments, and fragments .

Regular cleaning of monuments and grave markers is an important component of any cemetery maintenance plan; however, cleaning surfaces when they are not heavily soiled to create a "like-new" appearance is not recommended. Needless cleaning with chemicals or even gentler techniques can introduce unwanted moisture into historic materials. This is particularly true for porous stone and masonry features. **The use of abrasive cleaning techniques is not acceptable.** This includes the use of high-power pressure washers and sand blasters. The frequency in which cleaning is required depends on the environmental conditions present at each individual feature in the landscape; therefore, in a given area of Laurelwood, some features may require more frequent cleaning than others. The regular maintenance plan should allow for cyclical assessments to prioritize cleaning efforts and avoid unnecessary cleaning.

> *"To avoid a heavy build-up of soiling that might require aggressive cleaning procedures, regularly scheduled cleaning should be carried out by cemetery staff" (Preservation Brief 48: Preserving Grave Markers in Historic Cemeteries).*

Regular reapplication of protective coatings—such as paint, stain, epoxy, lacquer, wax—is essential for the preservation of some of Laurelwood's small-scale features, including historic fencing. The frequency of such treatment will depend on the environmental conditions present, the material(s) being treated, and the protective coating to be used. Although reapplying protective coatings should occur regularly, the condition of earlier application(s) should be assessed prior to beginning further treatment. Good record keeping is essential to establish a regular schedule for reapplication of protective coatings.

- Required Skill Level: Specific training required; In-house staff or outside professionals;
- Frequency: Should be determined according to condition, material, and coating.

Repointing of missing or deteriorated mortar is an essential treatment to prevent water infiltration and potential damage. The selection of appropriate replacement mortar is essential. Application of an inappropriate mortar can result in not only unattractive work but also can dramatically accelerate the deterioration of the historic material. Prior to repointing, any loose and deteriorated mortar needs to be removed and all surfaces cleaned. The repointed mortar-joint should replicate the historic joint in color, texture, strength, and profile. In almost all cases, Portland-rich mortars should not be used with historic masonry.

- Required Skill Level: Specific training required: In-house staff or outside professional(s) with demonstrated historic masonry skills;
- Frequency: As needed based on conditions assessments.







Small-Scale Features

Laurelwood's most prominent small-scale features are its monuments and grave markers, but other features such as copings, plot boundary walls, plot corner markers, curbs, fences, fence posts, and benches are also important and contribute to its historic and cultural significance. In some cases, these features represent the only remaining record of someone's life, their relationships, and their impact on the City of Rock Hill. Proper planning for the conservation and preservation of these features is, therefore, an important step in the process of protecting and enhancing the site.

Rock Hill's Cemetery Services is responsible for the preservation of Laurelwood through a system of "perpetual care." As defined in the 2018 Cemetery Rules and Regulations, perpetual care includes "the repair and maintenance of all buildings, fences, drives, walks, and other improvements to the Cemetery." The maintenance of all monuments and grave markers are the responsibility of the plot owner(s).

There are thousands of small-scale features in Laurelwood, each possessing unique characteristics. They vary greatly in material, size, type, style, and functionality. Some are strictly utilitarian, such as concrete posts marking the corner of burial plots, while others are more abstractly functional, such as the site's many highly-ornamental funerary artworks.

The organization of these features in the landscape is an important aspect of the cemetery. This concept is easy to grasp when considering grave markers, as their location marks the place of interments; but, the layout of other features is also important. For example, the organization of walls, fences, and benches can reveal clues about significant changes that have occurred since the establishment of the cemetery.

Laurelwood's small-scale features also vary in condition. Some remain in excellent condition and require only consistent maintenance for their preservation, while other features, such as some of Laurelwood's historic monuments and grave markers, have begun to deteriorate rapidly, have become fragmented, or have been moved.

Prior to undertaking any treatment(s), the cemetery's manager should take the following steps:

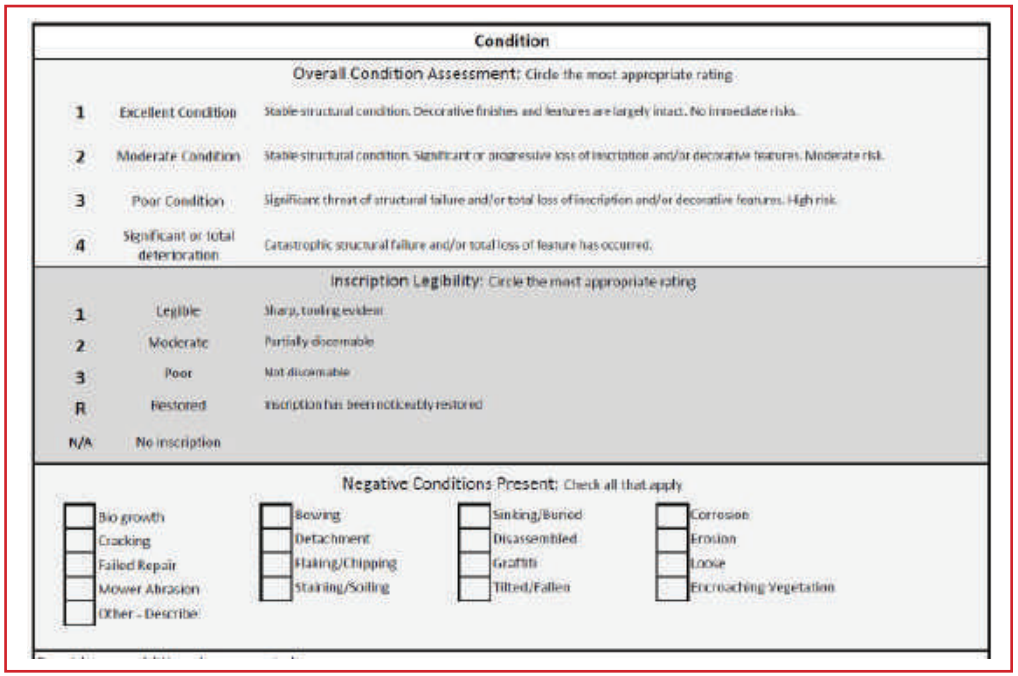
- Assess and document the existing condition of the feature (see recommendations in the Introduction of Part II of this Master Plan);
- Determine the priority for treatment (first-tier, second-tier, or third-tier priority);
- Review the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and determine the appropriate treatment;
- Utilize the appropriate in-house staff or outside professional(s) required to perform the activity.

As every element of the cemetery, from the largest monument to the smallest fragment, is significant, take great care when working with small-scale features.

Under the current arrangement dictating "Monument Work" (2018 Rules and Regulations) individuals possessing burial plot rights are responsible for upkeep of individual grave markers and monuments on burial plots. In this arrangement, the City does not provide funding for repair or replacement of such features unless damage is definitively caused by City personnel or City-hired subcontractor(s). However, many of Laurelwood's oldest features are in disrepair or are fragmented. As many such features contribute to the site's significance, their condition impacts the overall integrity and character of the landscape. Those in poor condition, if not treated soon, may be lost completely. In some cases, those who own burial rights may not be able (or willing) to invest in preservation/conservation efforts. Furthermore, the cemetery's Rules and Regulations do not describe specific standards regarding requirements for the upkeep of grave markers and monuments. With no minimum standards in place, it may be difficult to place a lien or use other legal means to require owners to pay for repair/replacement.

To best provide for the protection and preservation of the cemetery, it is recommended that the cemetery's caretakers, managers, and the internal committee consider allocating funding for the preservation and conservation of specific features—especially those deemed particularly significant and/or those that may be totally lost. The City can consider offering to split the cost of treatment with owners or, in particularly extreme cases, fund treatment in total.





Excerpt from the Conditions Assessment portion of Laurelwood's Individual Marker/Monument Survey (WLA Studio, 2019).

Treatment Options

The treatment options and recommendations in this section of the Master Plan should not serve as a cemetery repair manual. Rather, they are meant to guide Laurelwood's caretakers through the process of preserving the site's small-scale features in a sensitive and efficient manner. Whether the intent is to preserve, rehabilitate, or restore the site, protecting the existing features is of utmost importance.

Protective Measures – Preservation of Historic Features

As previously mentioned, a well-designed and implemented maintenance plan is crucial for the protection and enhancement of Laurelwood's small-scale features. However, beyond regularly-scheduled maintenance, cemetery managers may need to implement protective measures to stabilize the structural and/or ornamental integrity of individual features. When deciding to undertake a protective measure, managers should be mindful of how the activity will affect other features and aspects of the cemetery.

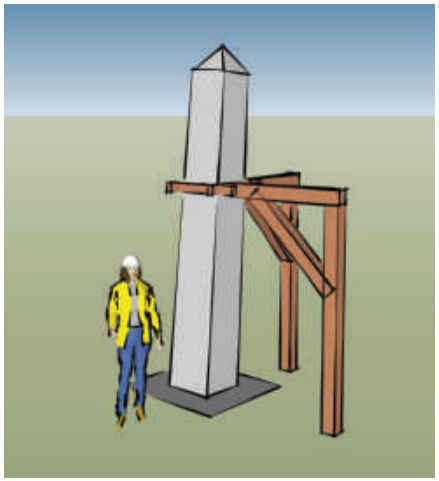
Remember:

- No treatment that protects one feature to the detriment of another is acceptable;
- The cemetery's layout is a significant aspect of its overall aesthetic; therefore, protective measures should never adversely affect circulation systems or organization of the site;
- Always consult a professional conservator when in doubt.

Temporary vs. Long-Term Protection

Some protective measures are temporary, the primary goal being to stabilize the feature until it can be properly repaired and/or reset. Other protective measures will be more permanent and may even initiate their own specific maintenance protocol. Often, such protections are meant to slow the processes of weathering or prevent future mechanical damage.

Temporary bracing using wood or metal is recommended for the stabilization of loose or tilted features. This is the preferred method of immediate treatment for first-tier priority monuments in danger of falling or collapsing. As soon as the monument is stabilized, cemetery managers should consult an engineer or conservator regarding resetting or other treatment options.





Temporary blocking or bracing is an acceptable treatment when awaiting consult with a trained conservator regarding the need for long-term treatment.

Longer-term bracing, often called ***girdling***, has been widely used by conservators to physically stabilize cracked and delaminating stones. The process involves installing a metal clamp or channel bracket along the outside edges of the stone. The stabilizing structure is usually set in concrete to prevent theft, tilting, or mechanical damage. This is not a preferred treatment for Laurelwood's historic features; however, an expert conservator may recommend such action for certain markers or monuments. Be aware that iron and steel can permanently stain or even cause accelerated weathering of stone or other masonry, stainless steel is the only option for long-term banding or bracing.



http://www.stonepics.com/newfoundland_cemeteries/repair.htm







Protecting Broken and Fragmented Features:

Due to its age, Laurelwood Cemetery contains thousands of loose and fragmented gravestones and monuments. This is especially the case in the Rural Cemetery, where many of the site's most fragile and historically/artistically significant stones are located. ***Temporary removal and storage*** of such features may be necessary to prevent accelerated damage or loss; however, such an undertaking should be considered a serious action and the following guidelines considered:

- No feature should be removed prior to establishment of an appropriate documentation, removal, and storage protocol;
- An appropriate storage facility should be acquired prior to any removal. It is best if the facility is located on cemetery property;
- Features should be stored indoors with good, dry ventilation. Resting stones in protective wooden boxes with open tops is preferred. Boxes can be stacked, but take care to allow the free passage of air;
- No feature should be removed without first ensuring that adequate space is available in the designated storage facility;
- Prior to removal, the feature's location, condition, and orientation should be documented in writing and with photographs. These records should be duplicated and stored with the feature as well as in a secondary location;
- While long-term storage may be necessary, permanent removal is not recommended. The intent should be to eventually repair and replace features in their original location and configuration.

The logistical difficulties and costs associated with removal and storage of historic features will likely mean that many of Laurelwood's fragile and significant features will remain in the cemetery. Cemetery managers should consider the following options and guidelines for protecting such features:

- Stones are generally safer when standing up versus lying on the ground; therefore, treatment of broken, dislodged, and fragmented stones is critical. Such features should be considered second-tier priority;
- Leaning a fragment up against a stable portion of the same marker is acceptable only if the fragment will not harm any other portion of the feature;
- Lying broken markers and fragments on the ground within the grave space is acceptable, but this practice may leaves the feature(s) subject to theft, damage from mowers, and accelerated weathering;
- Temporarily burying a fragment(s) for safekeeping is acceptable. Always bury the fragment where it was found. *Prior to burial, the feature's location and condition must be adequately documented so that it may be replaced.*[40]

40. Gregg G. King et al., *Michigan Historic Cemeteries Preservation Guide* (Charter Township of Canton, 2004), 124.

Trees vs. Stones

As with many historic cemeteries, some grave stones at Laurelwood exhibit damage due to their proximity to historic trees. Tree roots have blemished or dislodged several historic grave stones, and it is likely that over time, tree roots have enveloped smaller markers or fragments.

When a young tree, shrub, or vine threatens the condition of a constructed stone feature, the best practice is to remove or cut the vegetation back before it becomes a problem. Regular maintenance can prevent future damage in this case.

When the vegetation is itself a significant historic feature in the cemetery, as are many of Laurelwood's trees and shrubs, the situation is more complicated. In such cases, the cemetery managers should consider the importance of both the tree and the stone. It may be necessary to move a stone rather than taking down a nearly 150-year-old tree or graveside-shrub planting. As is the case with any fragmented stone, features uprooted by vegetation should not be moved or removed without considering alternatives. The initial treatment may be to simply lean the stone against the tree, but, as loose stones are inherently at risk of further damage or loss, documentation and further treatment should be considered a top priority. It is acceptable to retain the historic tree and reset the stone as close to the original location as possible. If there is no room for the stone to be reset nearby, it may be necessary to remove it and place it in storage. Keep in mind that once a grave marker has been moved it no longer marks a burial; rather, it is a memorial to someone interred elsewhere. Therefore, when a stone must be moved, even only a few inches or feet, it should be documented and photographed in its original location, as well as its new one.





Applying protective coatings

Applying protective coatings to metal, stone, and other masonry can stabilize corrosion and protect features from rainwater, pollutants, and other contaminants. In recent years, great advances have been made in the field of materials conservation resulting in the availability of a vast array of protective coatings on the open market. That said, the cemetery's managers should take great care in determining if and when to apply such products. Many products meant to be protective can easily cause more damage than benefit. This is especially the case with coatings applied to historic stone features. Therefore, the following guidelines should be considered prior to the application of any protective coating(s):

- Application of protective coatings is not recommended for Laurelwood's stone features, including grave markers, monuments, copings, and retaining walls, unless a conservator with demonstrated experience with historic stone conservation recommends otherwise;
- Many protective coatings are irreversible—once applied, any negative effects may be impossible to remove;
- Regular reapplication of protective coating(s), such as limewash, paint, or clear coats is appropriate for wood and metal features; however, if the existing coating appears to be causing harm, a conservator should be consulted prior to reapplication;
- Use the appropriate protective coating for the job. This may involve doing some research or consulting a conservator;
- Regular recoating of wrought iron and cast iron with paint or an appropriate clear coat is important for preservation;
- Always gently clean the feature prior to applying protective coatings;
- Wax is an appropriate coating for bronze elements and can be applied by trained in-house staff or supervised volunteers (see Preservation Brief 48 for details about applying wax to bronze features).
-

Guidelines for protective coatings on wrought iron and cast iron:

- A good coat of paint is the best protection for iron, whether wrought or cast;
- Assess and document conditions of iron features annually;
- Clean, stabilize, repair, caulk, and repaint iron features every five to seven years depending on documented rate of corrosion;
- Take care to assess joinery as these areas are especially vulnerable to water infiltration, which will speed the process of corrosion;
- Always follow proper procedures, as outlined in the *Standards* and technical resources provided by the NCPTT (https://www.ncptt.nps.gov/blog/iron-fence-repair-video-2007-03/).





Using powered drills or grinders with wire brushes to prepare historic metal or stone for reapplication of protective coatings is inappropriate in all circumstances. Always use the gentlest technique possible.



Applying wax to Red Jacket bronze statuary (National Center for Preservation Technology and Training).

Cleaning Monuments and Grave Markers

The cleaning of monuments and grave markers is important for their conservation; however, the process itself can be harmful. Therefore, it is important to determine the proper technique and required frequency of cleaning effort prior to beginning the treatment process. The following guidelines are meant to help the City and the cemetery manager in determining what can and should be done regarding cleaning efforts.

Why Clean Monuments and Grave Markers?

- Cleaning can vastly improve the visual appearance of significant features in Laurelwood;
- Cleaning efforts may make epitaphs and other symbolic artistry on headstones visible for the first time in decades;
- If performed with extreme care, cleaning of biogrowth or soiling can reveal otherwise unnoticed cracks or erosion, triggering more advanced treatment projects;
- Cleaning is almost always necessary prior to applying or reapplying protective coatings.

Before Cleaning:

- Check the weather. Never begin cleaning if there is a possibility of freezing temperatures within the next 48 hours;
- Ensure access to a reliable water source prior to beginning any cleaning. Chemical cleaning agents should never be allowed to dry on a feature;
- Inspect the feature for stability and chemical or mechanical damage. Do not clean a monument that is structurally unstable, sounds hollow when lightly tapped, or is cracked, flaking, or exhibits an advanced state of erosion. Consult a professional conservator if these conditions are present;
- Record the condition of the feature prior to cleaning. Take a photograph of the feature before starting and again when cleaning is complete;
- Keep a record of the date, cleaning method(s) used, and any observations during the process.

Best Practices for Cleaning:

- Limit cleaning, even if part of a regularly-scheduled maintenance program, to no more than once every four to five years for a specific feature;
- Do not attempt to return the feature to its original condition, rather preserve its patina. This is especially the case for historic features;
- Always use the least-impactful method necessary for cleaning. Often water and a natural-bristled brush is all that is required;
- **Pressure washing and sandblasting are NOT ACCEPTABLE cleaning methods for cemetery features;**
- Test the cleaning method in a small and inconspicuous area on the feature before continuing to the rest of the surfaces.

Case Study: Comparative Study of Commercially Available Cleaners for use on Federally-issued Headstones

In 2004, the Department of Veteran Affairs National Cemetery Administration turned to NCPTT for advice on chemical cleaners for marble headstones. This began a partnership and extensive research on the subject of commercially available cleaners for removing biological growth and general soiling from marble headstones.

NCPTT researchers studied five different cleaners which can be easily applied in the field. The cleaners needed to be effective in improving the appearance of the headstone and do no harm to the marble. The study evaluated cleaners on stones located at five different climates and in both sunny and shady environments.

Based on the research, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has implemented policies banning bleach-containing cleaners and encouraging the use of gentle biocidal cleaners for regular maintenance. The results of the study led NCPTT to develop a document on the best practice for cleaning government-issued marble headstones: Best Practice Recommendations for Cleaning Government Issued Headstones, *which provides detailed guideance of great value to Laurelwood's caretakers and managers. The guide is available online through the NCPTT's website.*

The main recommendations include:

1. *Cleaning should be undertaken with the mildest, least-abrasive method.*
2. *A biocidal cleaner performed the best in this study.*
3. ***Recommended biocidal cleaners include: D/2 Biological Solution manufactured by Sunshine Makers, Enviro Klean® BioWash®, or other cleaners that contain quaternary ammonium compounds.***
4. *Soak the stone liberally with water before applying the cleaner with a hand or backpack sprayer or garden hose.*
5. *Always keep the stone wet during cleaning and thoroughly rinse afterwards.*
6. *Agitate the surface gently in a circular motion using a soft bristle brush. Clean small areas from the bottom up.*
7. *Remember to rinse after cleaning each area and to thoroughly rinse the stone at the end to make sure that no cleaner is left behind.*

Summary and full report of the study is available here: https://www.ncptt.nps.gov/blog/best-practice-recommendations-for-cleaning-government-issued-marble-headstones/

Resetting and Repairing Grave Markers and Monuments

A significant number of Laurelwood's small-scale features require repair, resetting, or rejoining. The condition of some features should be considered first-tier or second-tier priority. In general, the features in the worst condition tend to be the oldest portions in the cemetery. As these features are integral to the historic character of the cemetery, their conservation and preservation is of utmost importance.

Whether repairing historic or modern features, the City and the cemetery manager should consult or hire professionals with the appropriate training to perform the prescribed treatment. In some cases, properly-trained in-house staff, such as engineers, skilled conservators, and masons can be utilized. In other cases, outside professionals should be consulted.

The following topics are primarily related to the conservation and preservation of Laurelwood's *historic grave markers/monuments,* which are mostly stone; however, they are generally compatible with *all small-scale features* in the cemetery, including modern features of many materials.











Laurelwood Cemetery's historic monuments and gravemarkers are in overall good condition; however, some require immediate attention concerning their stabilization and conservation.

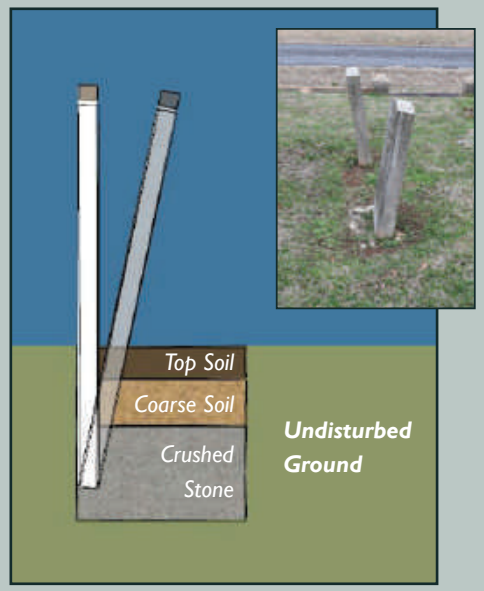
Resetting is recommended for grave markers and monuments that are out of plumb, unstable, or have been removed from their foundation. The resetting refers to the correcting of tilted or fallen stones in their original foundation or base. For tilted or loose stones supported only by the ground, resetting requires straightening and re-stabilizing the soil. *Resetting* markers and monuments with bases may require the removal of portions of the feature to stabilize the base or foundation (see the Rejoining topic below for information regarding the reattachment of pieces of a feature).

Guidelines for resetting markers and monuments:

- Resetting of large monuments with highly-unstable foundations should be considered a first-tier priority and should be performed by professional conservators or engineers with appropriate experience with historic preservation;
- Upright tablet markers and other flat stones that have been removed from their foundation and are lying directly on the ground should be reset as soon as possible;
- Do not reset a feature if there is any danger of causing damage during the treatment process;
- Grave markers and monuments should not be relocated or rearranged except in exceptional circumstances;
- For stones that are tilted but remain relatively stable, resetting is generally a preventative or aesthetic treatment option and should be considered a third-tier priority. Resetting is generally unnecessary if a marker is leaning less than 15 degrees from vertical;
- Cemetery staff, with proper training and tools, can perform all but the most-difficult resetting efforts; however, the workers should take the utmost care when performing treatment. Often even the smaller features in the cemetery are extremely heavy and fragile. Consult a professional conservator or engineer whenever in doubt;
- In some cases, supervised volunteers can be utilized to perform resetting projects; however, a professional conservator or expert cemetery staff member should always be present when utilizing volunteers.

Straightening a ground-supported flat marker is a common task for historic cemetery maintenance personnel. This treatment should be considered for any marker leaning more than 15 degrees out of plumb.

- Start by carefully excavating the area immediately in front of the leaning marker (remove only as much existing soil as necessary);
- Gently straighten the marker (too much force can easily snap a flat headstone);
- While supporting the plumb marker, fill the hole approximately one-third with crushed aggregate and tamp;
- Add a layer of coarse gravel and sand, leaving the top 2”-3” of the hole for original topsoil and/or sod, and tamp;
- Replace original topsoil and/or sod layer, tamp lightly.





The process for resetting larger markers and monuments may be similar to that described above; however, great care must be taken in handling large stones situated on bases. The use of specialized heavy equipment such as tripods and hoists requires consultation with an experienced monument conservator and trained personnel. Photo from AtlasPreservation.com





Rejoining of components is the recommended treatment for markers and monuments that have become disassembled at their joinery. A variety of joinery systems exist in Laurelwood's multi-part features, and each type requires a specific set of treatment protocol and personnel expertise for their conservation and preservation.

Common Joinery in Laurelwood:

- Slot-style or mortise-and-tenon;
- Flat-stacked – adhered with or without a mortar bed or epoxy;
- Pinned – with iron, copper, or bronze.
-

Guidelines for Rejoining:

- Rejoining disassembled components of markers and monuments will help ensure their long-term stability and preservation;
- It is important to check the integrity of joinery when performing regular condition assessments. It is common for loose components to appear secure despite failures in joinery, such as broken pin or failed adhesives;
- Ensure the stability of the foundation and base(s) prior to beginning rejoining process;
- Clean and repair each component of the feature prior to rejoining;
- Use epoxy or lime-rich mortar to fill gaps at joints of reset slot-style markers;
- For repinning, replacement pins should be stainless steel and sized slightly shorter and smaller than the existing hole. Replacement pins can be set with epoxy, lime-rich mortar, or packed with lead;
- All gaps and seams in joinery should be pointed with a setting compound or appropriate mortar to prevent water intrusion;
- Assessment of joinery and cyclical repointing efforts are essential for the long-term preservation of all multi-part features in the cemetery.







Prior to installation of new stainless steel pins, an experienced conservator lifts and stabilizes the monument, removes the failed pins, re-drills holes, and prepares the repair surfaces. Prior to rejoining, a flexible settling compound, lime putty, and/or epoxy resin is applied. Pointing the finished joint will prevent moisture intrusion. (Images courtesy of NCPTT videos entitled "Resetting a Stone Gravemarker" and "Lifting and Hoisting Stone Grave Markers.")

Repairing Cracked, Hollow, Fragmented, or Eroded Features:

In addition to failed joinery, many of Laurelwood's significant grave markers and monuments have become weak, cracked, hollow, or even fragmented. Repairing such negative conditions is vital for the preservation of these features; however, Laurelwood's historic gravestones and monuments are often extremely fragile. Any repair effort should be carefully thought-out and delicately performed. Thus, experienced stone conservators should be consulted and present during any undertaking of the listed treatment options.

Guidelines to consider prior to initiating any repair efforts:

- Assess, monitor, and document before acting;
- Active cracks and erosion often require further investigation to determine underlying cause of continued damage;
- Assess and monitor conditions of significant features on a regular basis;
- Use a crack gauge or chemical weathering gauge to monitor the rate of active damage;
- Some cracking, although seemingly drastic, may be the result of natural weathering and may not require immediate treatment;
- Evaluate the surroundings and treat underlying issues first. Common underlying causes may include encroaching vegetation, improper draining, and/or improper maintenance/visitor activities;
- Damaged gravestones and monuments should be repaired rather than replaced;
- Re-inscription of gravestones or monuments is strongly discouraged;
- Only qualified conservators or masonry artists should repair historic markers;
- Detached fragments should be collected, documented, and stored in a suitable facility.







After assessing the topics mentioned above, the City and the cemetery manager should consult professional conservators regarding specific treatment needs associated with damaged features. A plan for action should be drafted prior to performing one of the following common treatments for ***cracked, hollow, fragmented, or eroded features:***

- ***Filling*** involves the use of grout, epoxy, or appropriate patching mortar to fill voids caused by cracking or mechanical damage. Filling voids and cracks is essential to eliminate infiltration of water and debris;
- ***Patching*** can be performed in places that have received severe damage or where pieces are missing. Patching efforts are very similar to repointing, and the material used for patching must be appropriate for the patch job;
- ***Reassembling*** fragmented portions of a feature is an extremely delicate job. It often involves fully separating, cleaning, cutting, drilling, pinning, and reattaching components of the feature. This treatment requires the use of specialized tools, durable materials, and appropriate adhesives. Expert conservators should be consulted prior to undertaking such an endeavor.

Landscape

In this report, the term landscape is used to include natural features of the site, like topography and vegetation, including trees, shrubs, and lawns. There are two important aspects related to protecting the historic character of the landscape. First is making decisions regarding how to preserve historic landscape patterns, which may include removing non-historic landscape features or replacing missing historic landscape features. The second issue concerns ongoing maintenance of landscape features, which has a direct impact on the landscape's appearance and is a critical factor in perpetuating the historic character of the cemetery's landscape.

As discussed above, Laurelwood Cemetery has distinct character areas. The vegetation contributed to the unique appearance of these character areas during their periods of development. For example, the oldest section of the cemetery, the Rural Cemetery, had many more trees and a denser tree canopy during its period of development than the later sections. The later sections, the Draper and Bursley Areas, subscribed to a different cemetery aesthetic, known as the lawn cemetery style that emphasized open lawn with fewer planted trees. Similarly, over the entire cemetery, the change from family-maintained plots to municipal perpetual care resulted in an evolution in the appearance of the cemetery.

> *Per the Standards for preservation, it is appropriate for Laurelwood's grounds to have a maintained appearance in-keeping with its commemorative use as a burial ground. As an effort to enhance the historical site, this Master Plan recommends that the treatment of the cemetery's unique character areas allows for the aesthetics that contribute to the historic uniqueness of the different periods of development.*

Topography

The existing topography reflects the topography of the cemetery through its history. The site generally slopes from the southeast to the northwest. There are distinct terraces visible in every section of the cemetery, the result of families leveling their own plots or the City terracing during subsequent expansions. The roads inhabit level areas, often raised or depressed from the surrounding ground, a result of grading during construction. These topographic features, because they are part of the historic development of the cemetery should be retained.

Vegetation

Vegetation, in particular the large trees and lawn areas, is important to creating the current setting at the cemetery. The vegetation is also important as a historic resource. Because cemetery rules and regulations went into effect to limit the amount of planting during the historic periods, a general rule of thumb is to limit the number of trees and shrubs planted in the cemetery. Trees and shrubs should not be planted in areas in close proximity to grave markers, monuments, and other features. Trees and shrubs that obscure eye level should be limited for safety reasons.

Trees

There are numerous "historic trees" in the cemetery today. For the purpose of this Master Plan, historic trees are those known to be 50 years or older or are greater than 20 inches in diameter. Many of the trees growing in the Rural Cemetery were likely planted by residents of Rock Hill during the first decades of the cemetery's existence. It also appears that Draper and Bursley incorporated trees growing at the time into their own designs for the cemetery.

Planting of additional trees is not recommended; in fact, there are more trees currently growing in the cemetery than appear in historic photographs. The only exception to this general recommendation is the Rural Cemetery, where it is advisable to maintain the current canopy density by replanting historic trees as they die or are removed, unless they cannot be replanted because of historic resources. Historic trees in the entire cemetery should be replaced in kind after considering proximity of historic resources.



Trees are perishable resources susceptible to environmental conditions like drought and disease. Trees also die or decline in health because of age. Preservation, care, and ongoing maintenance are essential for the survival of the historic trees of the cemetery. Over the past several years, the City of Rock Hill has also planted many new trees in the cemetery.

- Continue to consult a Certified Arborist and/or qualified City personnel in the consistent evaluation of the health of Laurelwood's trees. These professionals can identify potential safety risks and determine the best course of action;
- Upon consultation with the City's arborist, it may be necessary to aerate and fertilize historic trees if they exhibit symptoms of decline;
- Maintain historic trees unless they are dead, dying, or exhibiting conditions that pose a risk to people or historic features. Attempt to correct an issue and stabilize a tree prior to removing the entire tree, realizing that historic trees are significant in their own right. Examples of stabilization efforts include removing damaged limbs or cabling limbs to prevent breakage. The City's arborist can assess the risk and reward of corrective actions;
- Pruning of trees is an important maintenance activity. Hazardous branches, limbs, and dead wood should be removed as soon as identified. Corrective pruning of mature trees should occur every five years to address structural or safety issues, including the removal of dead, broken, or diseased branches. The City's arborist should be consulted to evaluate the risk pruning may pose to a mature tree;
- Protect critical root zones of existing trees from compaction, trenching, or excavation. When a burial requires the excavation within the root zone of a tree, hand prune the roots to minimize adverse effects and promote regrowth. During excavations, tree pruning, or other construction work, protect root zones with fencing to avoid compacting trees with heavy equipment;
- If it is necessary to install or replace underground utilities in the cemetery, use boring under historic trees rather than trenching;
- Maintain the existing annual maintenance program that provides for the inspection of all trees. Annual inspections should look for evidence of decline, damage, and disease. Additional inspections should occur after severe storm events.
- Continue to document tree health on an annual basis (at minimum, more frequently if possible) and record all maintenance activities.

Removing Historic Trees

Only remove historic trees if they pose a risk to people or other historic features and when no other solution is possible. Other factors to consider include:

- Document the tree to be removed. Include its condition and reason for removal. Record the location of the historic tree in the cemetery GIS database;
- Remove the tree in careful manner. Cut the trunk flush to the ground and do not use heavy equipment to extract the roots. If it is necessary to remove roots, utilize an air-spade or hand dig the roots. Generally, it is preferable to allow the roots to decay and repairing the turf, which may slump over time, by filling depressions and resodding.

Planting Trees

When planting trees, it is important to locate the trees where they will not pose future risk to below ground resources and above ground resources. It is also acceptable to modify general horticultural practices when planting a tree to protect underground resources. Only plant tree species that can be documented as historically-used in the cemetery, were commercially available in Rock Hill during the period of development, or are native. It is not appropriate to plant recently introduced species or cultivars. It is also preferable to use plants with deep root systems rather than aggressive, shallow root systems.

Consult the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT) for additional information on tree planting in cemeteries: https://www.ncptt.nps.gov/blog/tree-replacement/. In general, follow these recommendations:

- Replace removed historic trees by planting the same species in the same location, when possible, or as close to the original location as is possible. Below ground resources should be considered when locating any new planting and an archeologist familiar with cemeteries should be consulted prior to any excavation project;
- Do not plant trees in burial areas to avoid damage to burials, markers, monuments, and other historic resources;
- Consider planting replacement trees in the stumps of removed trees. Consult the NCPTT tree replacement guide for suggested techniques;
- Consider planting smaller trees with smaller root balls, which require a smaller planting hole.

Shrubs

Like trees, Laurelwood Cemetery's historic Rules and Regulations prohibited the planting of shrubs within individual burial plots. As previously noted, there are large shrubs growing in the cemetery today. The planting of additional shrubs is not recommended; however, it is appropriate to replace historic shrubs in-kind, unless they are known invasive species. No shrubs proven to be invasive (e.g. privet or nandina) should be planted in the cemetery, even to replace a historic shrub. The same maintenance issues described in the above section on trees apply to shrubs. Additionally, many evergreen shrubs are growing in proximity to historic grave markers and monuments. These should be pruned to allow sunlight and air to prevent accelerated deterioration of stone features.

Lawn Maintenance

Mowing extensive expanses of turf is both expensive and potentially damaging to historic resources. Indeed, grounds maintenance is the largest expense for Laurelwood Cemetery today. Historically, the cemetery was planted in turf, so that is an appropriate ground cover moving forward. Maintaining a healthy stand of turf requires maintenance. Poor soil conditions, including low nutrient levels, pH imbalances, and compaction, can lead to many problems with the cemetery lawn. Addressing these issues can often improve negative turf conditions like bare spots and weeds. In general, the following outlines an appropriate maintenance regimen for Laurelwood Cemetery:

- Conduct soil test on regular schedule, every one to three years, to monitor soil fertility and pH. Soil tests will provide soil amendment recommendations to address nutrient deficiencies and recommendations to adjust pH for improved lawn health;
- Follow the recommendations provided in the soil tests. Avoid using chemical fertilizers, which often contain chemicals that can damage stone markers; rather use slow-release, organic fertilizers. Use care not to deposit fertilizer on the surfaces of grave markers. Consult Clemson University's Extension website for additional information on fertilizer use: https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/fertilizing-lawns/;
- Aerate compacted soil in spring or fall to improve root development. Soil compaction is potentially a problem in areas of high pedestrian traffic or along frequently-used routes of service vehicles. Use core aerifer to pull plugs of soil, allowing water and air into the root zone. Consult Clemson University's Extension website for additional information on lawn aerification: https://hgic.clemson.edu/factsheet/turfgrass-cultivation/;
- According to the Chicora Foundation, "The single most damaging lawn maintenance activity (to stones) is mowing." Avoid mowing closer to 12" of grave markers, monuments, and other features. Use weed trimmers around these features. Refer to Chicora's "Best Practices for Cemetery Lawn Maintenance" for additional information: https://chicora.org/pdfs/Lawn%20Maintenance.pdf;
- Referencing Chicora Foundation's "Best Practices", follow these four precautions when maintaining turf:
  - *Carefully train maintenance staff to recognize the fragility of historic markers, monuments, and other historic features;*
  - *Use walk behind mowers in the vicinity of markers, monuments, and other historic features. Mowers should never touch grave markers, monuments, or other historic features;*
  - *Install "bumper guards" and blade guards on mowing decks to protect features from accidental damage caused by "bumping" or thrown rocks;*
  - *Use lightest gauge nylon string in trimmers (no larger than 0.09") to reduce chipping or scratching of stone features.*







Steel mower guards can protect delicate landscape features while remaining relatively unobtrusive to the overall landscape aesthetic (images from Old Athens Cemetery, Athens, GA, taken by WLA Studio, 2018).



Although string trimmers and walk behind mowers are the preferred equipment for managing sod close to headstones, installing simple foam "bumper guards" will help protect features from abrasion by larger equipment (Image courtesy of the NPS, Preservation Brief 48).







Circulation, Access, and Parking

Laurelwood Cemetery's circulation system includes the entrance gates, vehicular drives, parking areas, and pedestrian paths/walkways. The existing circulation system remains largely in place since the end of the historic periods of development. There have been minor changes to the entrances and vehicular drives, including widening of entrances and drives and introduction of new pavements. Otherwise, the entrances and vehicular drives remain in the same location and remain important organizing features of the overall design of the cemetery. Parking areas do not appear on historic drawings of the cemetery.

The pedestrian paths and walkways developed during the historic periods are less legible in the cemetery today but are important design features. The walkways in the Rural Cemetery are informal, occupying open spaces between burial plots. The walkways in the Draper Area include both formal and informal spaces between burial plots, but they also include designed paths shown on his plan for this section of the cemetery. The Bursley Area and the New Cemetery have informal paths between burials.

The following principles should guide future planning concerning improvements to the circulation system in the cemetery:

Entrances

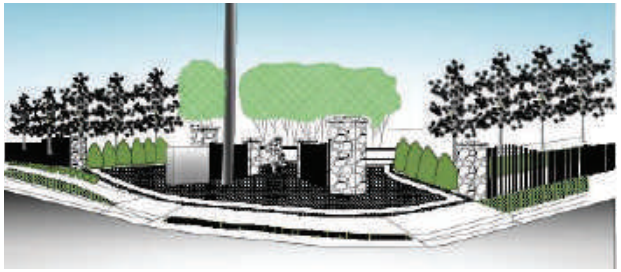
The entrances into Laurelwood Cemetery remain at their original locations. The City apparently formalized the entrances by the mid-1900s by adding stone columns flanking the primary entrances. This may have occurred when the City also added the existing iron fence around the cemetery. A fence does not appear of Draper's 1919 plan, but he does show columns at the entrances. A 1932 photograph of the cemetery, after the installation of the extension based on Draper's design, does not show a fence around the cemetery. A fence is visible in a 1948 photograph, suggesting the City installed the fence during this interim. The existing fence is historic and provides site security by restricting site access to designated entry/exit points. The columns at site entry-points have gates or hardware related to gates, suggesting that, in the past, the cemetery could be completely gated/secured. The gates provide an important commemorative purpose by providing visitors with a visible threshold demarking the entrance into the space.

Consider the following recommendations regarding cemetery entrances:

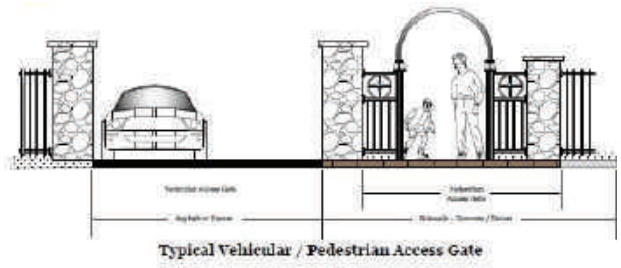
- Restricting vehicular access to the West Main Street side of the cemetery, providing an entrance and exit on either side of the Simon Williams House. This will improve security for the site and reduce non-cemetery vehicular traffic and parking;
- One of the West Main Street entrances has an existing gate. Install a gate on the second entrance, northeast of the existing parking area, to secure the cemetery after hours;

- Convert other entrances—two on West White Street, two on Laurel Street, and one on Stewart Avenue—to pedestrian access only by installing removable bollards. These can be removed to facilitate ingress and egress during internments or special events;
- The addition of non-historic stone columns at the entrance at the intersection of West White Street and Laurel Street is a reasonable safety feature that prevents automobiles from inadvertently entering the cemetery;
- Maintain and repair stone columns when necessary. Use in-kind materials and similar craftsmanship, recreating similar joints and tool-work when doing repairs.

A 2015 Master Planning map proposes a new pedestrian/vehicular gate in the northwest corner of the New Cemetery, near the northern-most green space (see Circulation Rehabilitation Proposal below). As a primary site entry drive and parking lot have since been constructed southwest of the Simon Williams House, it is no longer necessary to create an entry/exit feature in the formerly-proposed location.



Rendering of the pedestrian-only entry constructed in 2016 at the southeast corner of the cemetery grounds (2015 gateway Master Plan).



Rendering of proposed vehicular/ pedestrian access features. This gate has not been constructed on cemetery grounds (2015 gateway Master Plan).

Pedestrian Paths/Walkways

Most existing paths and walkways are grass paths occupying open areas between burial plots. The former vehicular drive connecting Laurel Street to the circle drive around the Confederate Monument is now a pedestrian walkway. The cemetery is relatively accessible. There are areas where slopes and steps may make access more difficult for some visitors, especially those with mobility or sight disabilities.

- Maintain existing paths as turf, repairing turf and filling sunken areas as necessary;
- If there is excessive wear or erosion, consider installing a stabilized turf path in those areas;
- Maintain existing paths and walkways in the Draper Area by not planting trees, which will interfere with their legibility as a design feature;
- Universal access should be the goal and future projects should consider strategies to improve access when possible.



Many of the pedestrian paths in the Rural Cemetery are clearly defined by low walls or copings associated with family burial plots.



This curving turf path offers pedestrian access through the grid of family burial plots. The path exists as designed by Earl S. Draper.

Vehicular Drives

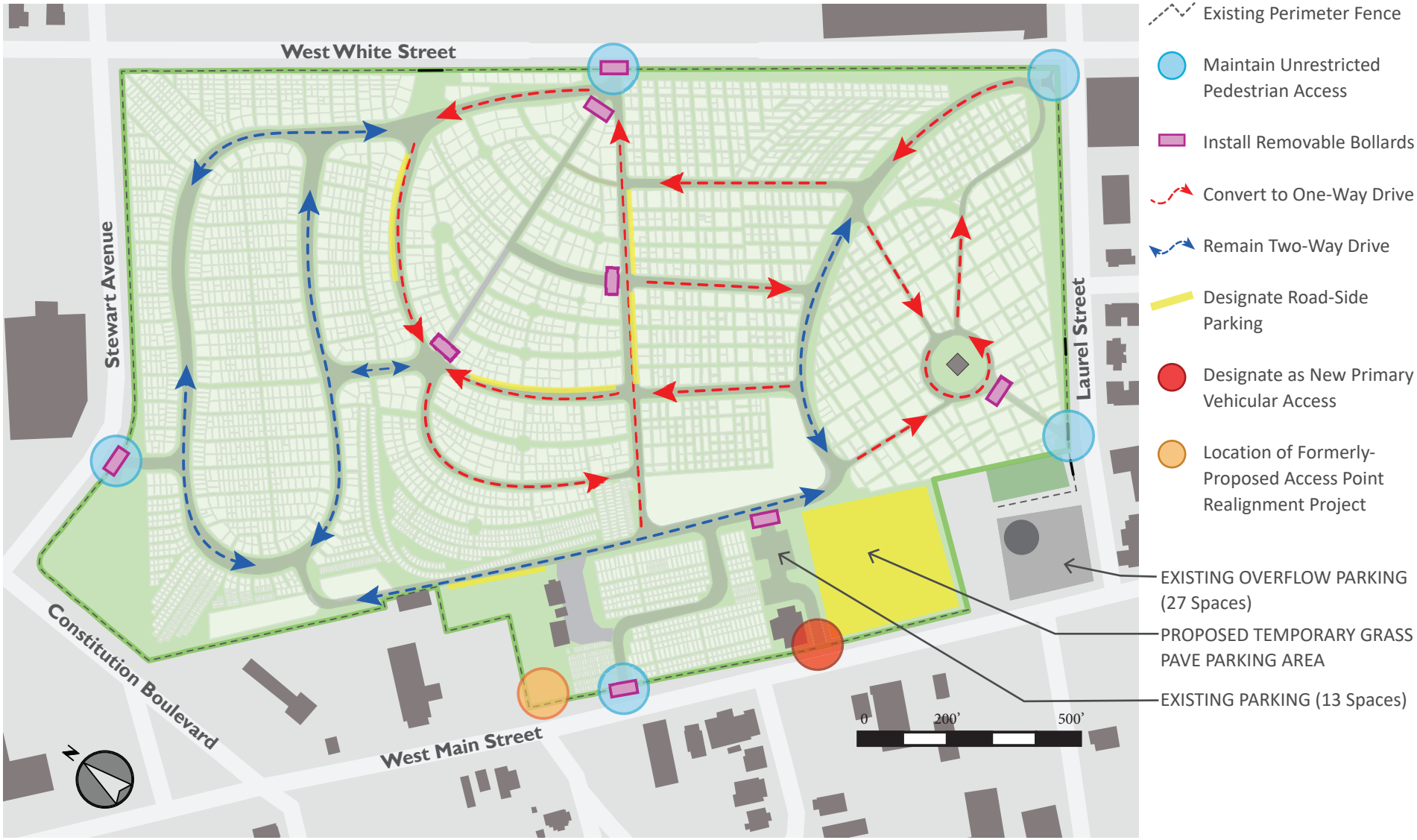
Given that Laurelwood is still an active cemetery, automobile access will remain necessary in the cemetery but can be restricted to protect historic resources. Drives are predominantly asphalt; there is a section of concrete drive, presumably the oldest drive material in the cemetery, near the Confederate Monument and a section of gravel in the Draper Area. As mentioned in the existing conditions section, most of the asphalt drives are in good condition; however, there are areas where the edges of the pavement is failing. The most significant issue with the drives is traffic management. Cars parked on narrow sections of the drives block other vehicles, and two-way traffic on the narrow roads results in cars driving on the grass shoulder, threatening historic resources.

- Management of park drives should prioritize visitor safety and protection of historic resources;
- Maintain historic widths and alignment of drives to maintain historic character;
- Preserve the concrete section at the Confederate Monument as a contributing historic resource;
- To reduce non-cemetery vehicular traffic, consider restricting access to the cemetery during operating hours or during daylight hours;
- Consider converting the narrow cemetery drives, those less than 20 feet in width, to one-way traffic;
- When replacing or repairing asphalt, mill existing asphalt prior to adding another layer. Adding on top of existing pavement will continue to increase the height of the drives' profile, creating a safety hazard;
- Maintain a clean edge along the edges of the roads. Grass growing into the edge of the pavement weakens the asphalt leading to increase instances of failure. Use a walk-behind edger to maintain the edge.

Parking

The availability of public parking is essential to accommodate visitors; however, it may be beneficial to restrict parking along cemetery drives to protect historic resources. Unrestricted parking creates traffic issues and threatens historic resources, especially those which are close to the edge of the drives.

- Parking should be limited within the cemetery and located in designated areas that can be developed to accommodate vehicles without damaging historic resources. Parking can be accommodated along the cemetery drives where the topography and space between historic burials will allow for improved pull-off parking areas. These should be developed using Grass Pave (TM) or another reinforced turf system to maintain the existing visual character of the site. These should be discretely marked for visitors without creating excessive visual clutter;
- The primary parking areas should be outside of areas designated for burials. The recommended area for expanded parking during events is adjacent to the existing parking lot off West Main Street. The existing parking lot can be enlarged, or an overflow parking lot, constructed from a pervious material like Grass Pave (TM), can be added in the undeveloped open space next to the existing parking lot;
- An additional public parking lot, equipped with 25 standard parking spots and 2 additional spots reserved for universal access only, is available for overflow parking at the northeast corner of the intersection of West Main and Laurel Streets (the site of the City's water tower). Signs can be installed to direct cemetery visitors to use this lot and to provide way-finding along Laurel Street from the lot to the cemetery's southwest pedestrian entry;
- Roads can be converted to "stacked" parking areas during internments or special events;
- Signs should be installed at the entrance clearly stating vehicular access hours and parking locations.



Circulation Rehabilitation Proposal

Site-Enhancing Features

Given Laurelwood Cemetery's location, size, and configuration, the site has great potential to serve as a thriving cemetery park and historic site. When considering specific site enhancements that will promote the cemetery as a public park, the cemetery's caretakers and managers should remember that, first and foremost, Laurelwood is a burial ground. It is a sacred space of rest for the dead and comfort for the bereaved. Therefore, any new use, treatment, or enhancement of the site should respect the sacred nature of the space.

Each of the following subheadings describes potential site enhancements and associated issues for the continued preservation of Laurelwood. These sections are meant to provide insight into how such enhancements may affect the overall character of the site. The following recommendations should not be taken as prescriptive measures, but rather as general guidelines concerning the importance of maintaining a contemplative and respectful environment that highlights the site's unique history and character.

Laurelwood as a Destination and Thoroughfare

Knowledge Park's Placemaking committee identifies Laurelwood Cemetery as an important component in an effort "to make Knowledge Park a destination that is special, and memorable for everyone whom experiences it."[41] To achieve this goal, the committee has considered promoting the site as a bird sanctuary and exercise park. Additionally, other opportunities for enhancement include developing event/gathering spaces on cemetery grounds, making Laurelwood a component of Rock Hill's planned multi-use trail system, and promoting educational and recreational programing.

Bird Sanctuary



Indeed, the diversity of habitat in Laurelwood, including its open lawn areas, nutritious flowering shrubs, and mature trees, make it a hot spot for migrant and resident bird populations. As a safe, public space located in proximity to public transportation, Laurelwood is an ideal destination for urban birders. To promote Laurelwood as a bird sanctuary, the City should consider partnerships with local, regional, and national birding clubs and/or nonprofits.

When promoting birding on cemetery property, it may be necessary to establish specific rules regarding birder etiquette. Such rules should be clearly posted at all site entries and on any promotional materials. While many rules regarding birding will overlap those of general visitor etiquette, birders should be informed to provide mourners ample space, keep their voices low, avoid photographing other visitors, and never lean or sit on monuments, grave markers, or vegetation.

Exercise Park



The existing roads and paths in Laurelwood can support jogging, running, walking, and even cycling. To enhance visitor experience, suggested routes can be provided to visitors in paper pamphlets or on signs. Additionally, discrete distance markers and directional indicators can be painted on paths along the route(s). Remember, however, that any object installed in the cemetery will affect the overall appearance of the site. Be careful to respect the contemplative

41. https://www.knowledgeparkrocks.com/placemaking

character of the site when considering potential installations. Best preservation practices call for providing only minimal signage strategically located near designated entry points. Outdoor exercise and playground equipment is considered obtrusive and should not be installed on cemetery grounds.

Prior to promoting Laurelwood as an exercise park, consider how such use will affect the experience of typical visitors. Individuals and small groups engaged in jogging, running, and walking generally go unnoticed by most visitors; therefore, these activities may be appropriate. On the other hand, faster-paced activities such as cycling may pose a threat to the safety of those walking about the site. Consider requiring cyclists to walk bicycles when traveling through cemetery grounds. Bicycle parking can be provided for cyclists who want to enjoy the site on foot.

Consider also: those who frequent exercise-oriented parks often enjoy dog-walking. Per the current Rules and Regulations, dog-walking is not permitted in Laurelwood. If this rule is to change, special regulations and specific amenities are required—including signage about dog-walking etiquette, a ready supply of disposable bags for litter clean up, and trash receptacles.

Multi-use Trails



Laurelwood Cemetery is strategically located between the northern-most trail head of the Winston Searles Trail (at West Main Street) and an existing shared bicycle-pedestrian-vehicule route, or "Sharrow," on the campus of Winthrop University; therefore, the cemetery may become a component of an extension of the Winston Searles Trail.

If Laurelwood becomes a component of an interconnected multi-use trail system in Rock Hill, it may be necessary to consider the implications associated with non-traditional use of the burial ground. Promotion of the site as a thoroughfare for pedestrian and bicycle traffic will require special rules and regulations concerning site etiquette and public safety. The cemetery's internal network of roads and paths exhibits potential for creating long-term links between Winthrop University, downtown Rock Hill, nearby neighborhoods, and newly developed areas. Such connections can support community fitness, unite neighborhoods, and promote the use of Laurelwood as an important communal green space. However, allowing the free-flow of pedestrian traffic through the site may negatively impact the site's quiet, contemplative character. Increased traffic can potentially lead to an increase in vandalism and unsanctioned use of the site. As mentioned above, bicycle traffic may not be appropriate. If bicycles are allowed on cemetery property, consider designating specific bicycle routes.

Event/Gathering Space



Laurelwood's open green spaces, existing tree canopy, and historic and modern facilities make it a beautiful and functional space for housing public and private events. Events can be small, such as private birthday parties and local charity events, or large, drawing crowds with live music, food, and drink. They may be primarily educational, highlighting the site's history and the significance of the people buried there, or they may be more recreational, such as fun-runs and 5K's. No matter the type, size, or frequency of events, programming is an effective way of increasing public awareness of Laurelwood Cemetery and its significance.

Remember, however, that inviting groups of visitors to gather on cemetery grounds is inviting risk of damage to significant physical features. To promote proper site etiquette, begin events with a short talk about the importance of protecting the cemetery's grave stones and monuments. Mention that visitors should not sit or lean on grave markers or monuments. Additionally, non-traditional use of the cemetery may affect the experience of typical cemetery visitors. Limit the impact on regular cemetery functions by hosting

events in designated areas separated from burial grounds. The addition of new infrastructure or physical improvement meant to support events, such as electricity, shelter, seating, restrooms, etc., may affect the site's character. Limiting such improvements to specific areas will provide efficient use of the cemetery's limited space and will make logistical sense regarding parking, way-finding, and event promotion.

For small-scale public or private events, targeting less than 30 visitors for instance, the existing facilities at the site of the Simon Williams House may be adequate, including the paved parking lot, interior rooms currently unused, the restroom inside the home, electricity and water supply on the exterior of the building, and nearby lawn space. For larger gatherings, the open lawn spaces in the New Cemetery are ideal. They can serve as both overflow parking areas and as green space to hold concerts and other events. Visitors can sit on personal blankets, or temporary seating can be provided; if necessary, temporary stage equipment can be set up near the existing power supply at the Maintenance Building or the Simon Williams House. For large events, portable restroom facilities can be set up in the lawn space near the existing parking lot.

Consider the following when planning for events at Laurelwood:

- Event planning is crucial, think ahead regarding the timing, size, and cost of events;
- Consider how events may impact the experience of normal cemetery visitors, the sights and sounds associated with public events will impact the ambiance of the cemetery;
- Hold events in designated areas on the site's margins, such as the open lawns in the New Cemetery, to avoid conflict with normal visitors;
- Start small by hosting events that do not require specific amenities, major planning, and high costs—such as walking tours, short courses on gravestone conservation, community cemetery clean-ups, and art shows;
- Work up to larger events, such as festivals, fun-runs, and concert series;
- Limited parking is available, consider directing traffic to overflow parking areas during events, such as the water tower lot;
- Consider renting the interior spaces of the Simon Williams House for small private events.

Amenities, Public Services, and Utilities

An important aspect of maintaining a historic cemetery, especially one that serves as a public green space and historic site, is providing both visitors and cemetery staff the proper amenities, public services, and utilities. Such features fall into two categories: (1) amenities and services available for visitors and staff use, including wayfinding and interpretive signage, posted rules and regulations, waste receptacles, benches, comfort stations/restrooms, site lighting, spigots, outlets, and maintenance/storage buildings; and (2) the utilities that support those features, such as supply of electricity and water, and waste-water infrastructure. Features in both categories provide convenience and may support active preservation of the site, however, they are considered non-historic enhancements. Such features alter the cemetery's appearance and character; therefore, their design, style, and material makeup should respect existing historic features. Additionally, the cemetery's managers and caretakers should consider the cost and maintenance requirements prior to installing or implementing any such enhancements.

Signage

Good signage is an important aspect of any public space. An effective signage system can provide way-finding information, communicate rules, encourage learning experiences, and help heighten the sense of place. Signage can literally identify and even characterize a public space; therefore, it is important that signage respect the historic integrity of Laurelwood. Because signage was limited during the period of development, signage should be kept to a minimum to prevent interference with visitor experience. Consider the aesthetic appeal and appropriateness of decorative/interpretive signage prior to installation. The following recommendations for signage may be appropriate site enhancement efforts but keep in mind that even good signage alters the site.

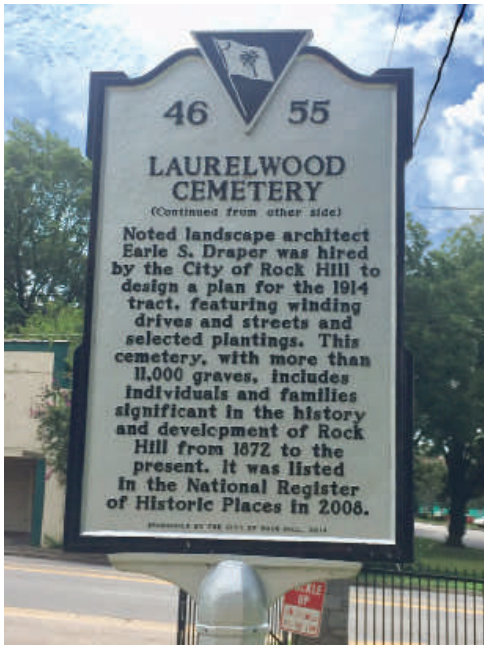
- ***Retain, update, and maintain the current signage*** including: Plaques on entry gate posts, cemetery Rules and Regulations, burial plot sections, and historic site markers;
- ***Consider adding warnings of potential danger*** to visitors and to grave markers. It is important that visitors understand that gravestones and trees within the

cemetery cannot support climbing, jumping, or swinging. Even attempting to lift oneself up from the ground using a gravestone or monument can result in dislodging or breaking the stone and/or serious injury;

- ***Interpretive signage,*** including brief histories and historic photographs and maps, can greatly enhance the historic cemetery. Such signage can highlight the significance of specific burials, funerary artwork, the developmental history of the site, and Laurelwood's character areas. While such interpretive signage can enhance visitor experience, it is not itself historic; therefore, keep it to a minimum and consider placing such signs near the entries or designated areas dedicated to site interpretation;
- If vehicular circulation is formalized within the cemetery, ***adequate yet minimal way-finding signage*** will be required to direct vehicular traffic along cemetery routes and to designated parking areas;
- Other informative signage may be appropriate, such as information about the site's ongoing preservation and enhancement, event scheduling, related City projects, and the website(s) of the cemetery and its stakeholder groups.







Consider the size, style, and frequency of Laurelwood's existing signs when designing new sign features.

Seating Areas and Benches

Benches are the preferred seating feature for Laurelwood Cemetery. They offer visitors an alternative to resting on stones and other historic features in the cemetery. Like other physical features intended to enhance the site, benches may alter the site's historic aesthetic. Choosing the appropriate material, type, and size of bench(s) is as important as deciding their location. If the cemetery remains open 24-hours per day, it may be necessary to install benches that discourage sleeping—such as those with a vertical frame/arm rest in the center of the seat.



Simple iron benches are discrete and ideal for historic cemeteries; however, precast concrete benches can be custom designed to fit the desired aesthetic and are relatively affordable.

Benches should be located strategically to support other site enhancement efforts. For example, installing benches at the site of interpretive panels and other points of interest in the landscape will enhance their functionality. Shade is also an important factor, and benches should be located under the cover of the existing tree canopy when possible. Especially interesting is the fact that Earle S. Draper designed "seating" nodes that were never fully realized. This offers the cemetery's managers a unique opportunity to implement a historic design for the first time. Great consideration should be made to the implication of such treatment and further research should be conducted considering the configuration and location of benches or other seating features. As no historic seating plan exists, any features added will be of modern design and should respect the cemetery's appearance.



Doty & Son's Concrete, Inc., Sycamore, IL.

Waste Receptacles

Supplying waste receptacles will aid in maintaining a clean and litter-free cemetery. This is especially true as Laurelwood becomes more active as a public green space. If dog-walking is permitted in the cemetery, small, unobtrusive receptacles for pet waste bags can be installed. Consider the following issue prior to installing:

- Not all waste receptacles are created equal—choose a well-designed, high quality receptacle that does not take away from the site's aesthetic;
- Custom designs for receptacles can provide aesthetic appeal, but may also take away from historic features;
- Only install stationary receptacles;
- Install waste receptacles in strategic locations, such as site entry/exit points, near parking, and specific points of interest (including the site of interpretive panels and the Confederate Monument);
- Consider the need to regularly empty and clean waste receptacles.



Comfort Stations, Restrooms, and Event Support Structures

Comfort stations, with water fountains and restroom facilities, are essential for active public spaces. Additionally, band-stands, gazebos, and stages, can serve as supporting structures for typical cemetery visitors, as well as for planned gatherings and events. While such features may provide important conveniences, they can drastically impact the historic layout and appearance of the cemetery. If newly constructed, the design, location, and configuration of such features must not take away from the historic, contemplative, and sacred character of the site. A thorough evaluation of the Standards for Rehabilitation is required prior to designing and building any such feature(s).

It is recommended that any such enhancement be limited to non-historic areas of the cemetery. A prime location for such facilities is the site of Laurelwood's Simon Williams House. Here, several resources already exist including the home itself, area lighting, designated parking, and open lawn space to the south. Indeed, the Simon Williams House already includes restrooms and can likely be rehabilitated to include a visitor/interpretive center as part of the recent proposal to invest in the African American Cultural Resource Center.

The site of the cemetery maintenance and storage buildings, to the north of the Simon Williams House, is also a potential area to consider for future site enhancement. However, the cemetery's managers and stakeholders should consider the following prior to rehabilitation of this site:

- The current location and configuration of the maintenance site does not impact the historic integrity of the cemetery;
- If rehabilitation is desired, the City should secure alternate facilities to house such essential services prior to relocating them;
- There are benefits associated with housing such facilities on-site: the consistent presence of cemetery staff may reduce potential vandalism, and readily-available staff may provide immediate assistance to visitors in routine and even emergency situations.



View of the rear of the Simon Williams House. Note that the facility is wheelchair accessible and the site is adequately lit with overhead lighting.



Large memorial chapels and bandstand structures, while often visually pleasing and useful, can impact the historic character of the cemetery. This memorial chapel in Oconee Hill Cemetery (Athens, Georgia) is strategically located on an isolated hilltop between the cemetery's oldest and newest areas.



Site Enhancement Proposal Map 1:
Signage and Seating Areas

Lighting

Most cemeteries, Laurelwood included, were not historically designed to have lighting; however, providing well-designed lighting may decrease unsanctioned activities and may enhance visitor experience. Generally, lighting should be kept to a minimum and, if possible, reserved to the outside edges of the site. However, if Laurelwood is used consistently as a thoroughfare during non-daylight hours, lighting may be necessary for safety. A reasonable alternative to providing lighting throughout the cemetery is to restrict public access to daylight hours only. If the site is closed from dusk to dawn, pedestrian traffic can be redirected to the adequately-lit sidewalks already established along the boundaries of the site. Laurelwood's dedicated parking area and a nearby parking lot at the City's water tower site are equipped with adequate overhead street lighting as well. If it is determined that lighting inside the cemetery is necessary, consider the following:

- Installing new lighting in a historic cemetery is a significant challenge, both in terms of providing adequate yet unobtrusive light and in protecting existing resources. The best lighting designs are discrete and aesthetically pleasing. Remember, light fixtures are landscape features that contribute to the overall appearance of the grounds, and their style and configuration is significant.
- Generally, less is more in terms of light fixtures in the historic cemetery.
- Supplying electricity is perhaps the biggest issue concerning lighting. Overhead electrical lines are generally obtrusive and unpleasing, and burying lines in a cemetery can be extremely difficult and expensive. The equipment necessary to run underground electrical service can cause damage to the cemetery's roads and paths, grave markers and monuments, and vegetation.
- For these reasons, it is generally best to locate lighting along site boundaries, the sides of existing roads and paths, and at particular points of interest.
- One benefit when considering adding lighting within Laurelwood is that the additional power supply would support other activities such as social functions and events. When deciding where to install lighting, consider this dual purpose and the proximity of Laurelwood's historic features to areas that may later be designated for events.
- For ***pathway lighting***, consider low, down-pointing spreader lights and bollard lighting. These fixtures provide adequate lighting on the ground without obscuring eye-level view. As visitors tend to stay on adequately-lit paths, these fixtures can serve as informal way-finding features.
- Lighting can be strategically designed to enhance the aesthetic appeal of certain ***points of interest***, such as the site of an important monument, designated seating areas, or designated event spaces.
- Whenever possible, the primary ***entry/exit points***, parking areas, and cemetery signage should be adequately lit. The lighting of signs that indicate site rules and hours of operation is especially important. As these signs are generally located near entry/exist points, lighting systems can be connected to the existing power lines running along the cemetery's boundary.
- If Laurelwood is closed to vehicular traffic during the night, it is not necessary to light vehicular way-finding signage.
- Interpretive signs can be lit with small, battery-powered lights, avoiding issues associated with running expensive wiring.





High quality outdoor light fixtures can be purchased in a variety of styles, from accurate historic recreations to sleek modern designs. Remember, light fixtures will impact the cemetery's appearance both day and night. While historic designs may be appropriate, consider that the cemetery has not been lit with such features. Therefore, the best lighting design for Laurelwood will likely incorporate unobtrusive, simple, or even completely recessed fixtures.







Site Enhancement Proposal Map II: Lighting

Security

The topic of security is a major concern for many historic cemetery managers, as it should be. It is often difficult to find a balanced strategy that limits access in order to safeguard the grounds while encouraging public use of the site. Deciding how to provide adequate yet unobtrusive security measures is therefore difficult and should involve thoughtful planning prior to the implementation of any specific site or policy alterations.

The first step in determining the appropriate security measures is to determine the adequacy of the current policies and procedures. Are there problems with regulating visitors or with vandalism? If not, it is recommended that no changes be made. Sometimes changes may lead to unforeseen problems.

Keep in mind that security can be provided in many ways. Often the mere presence of cemetery staff on the grounds will deter a significant amount of vandalism. While fences and other barriers may deter some intruders, nearly anyone with adequate will and/or reason can scale such a physical barrier. Additionally, the presence of physical barriers may allow intruders to go unnoticed. Limiting access to specific hours of operation can be beneficial; however, while it is generally a good idea to protect open space at night by restricting public access and providing adequate lighting, locking up the cemetery may discourage consistent use of the site. Limiting vehicular access to specific entrance/exit points can help prevent unwanted traffic and unauthorized parking associated with non-cemetery events.

The following minimal security measures are recommended:

- Post clear Rules and Regulations regarding public access. Such signage should be located strategically at entrances/exits to maximize visibility and minimize visual obtrusion;
- Engage in a dialogue with local law enforcement concerning incident reporting and general security measures;
- The cemetery manager should keep record of all security-related observations and detailed incident reports;
- Keeping the cemetery well maintained will help create a friendly, park-like atmosphere that encourages active and safe use of the site.
-

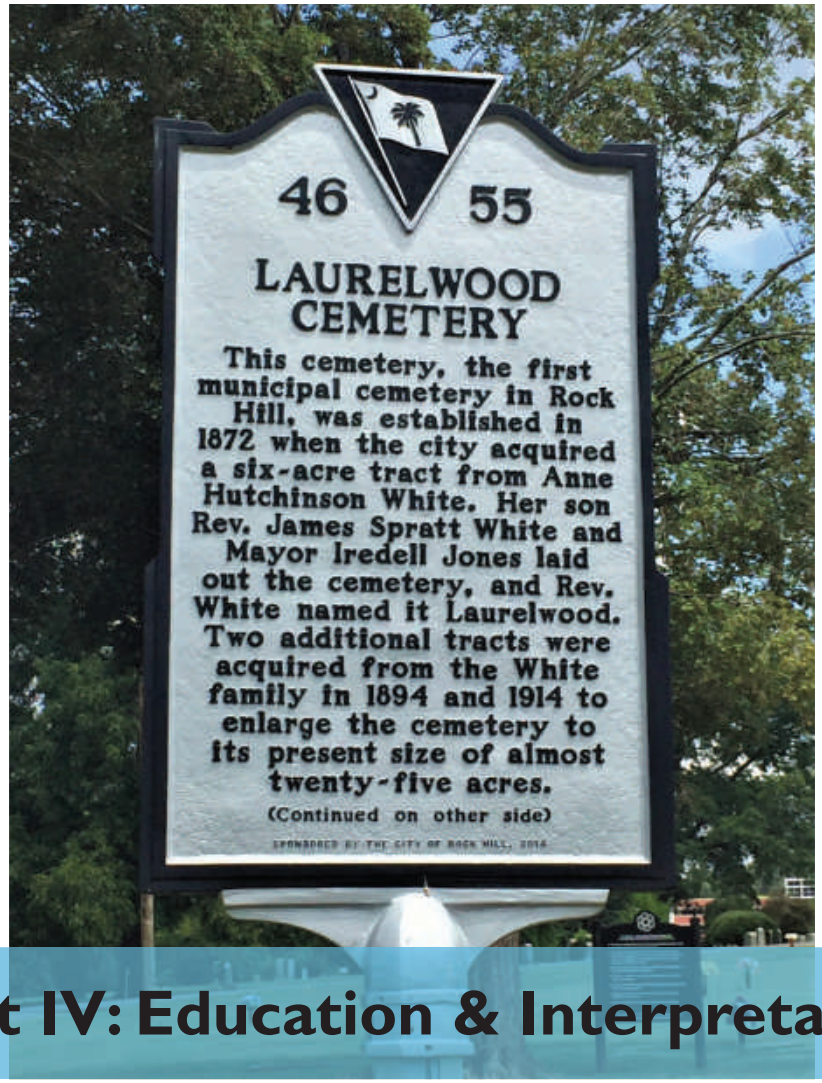


At a minimum, maintain the parking lot and area surrounding the Simon Williams House as a well-lit, open access point. Bollards equipped with lighting, and well-lit signage posting the cemetery's hours of operation and Rules and Regulations will help reduce unsanctioned use of the site.

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Laurelwood Cemetery
Master Plan







Part IV: Education & Interpretation

Cemetery Preservation Training

Hosting professional training seminars in historic preservation and cultural resource management at Laurelwood Cemetery will build a foundation of support for the site's preservation and enhancement by:

- Increasing public interest in Laurelwood through engagement with local and regional volunteers, municipal staff, and cemetery management personnel;
- Enhancing the knowledge base of Laurelwood's managers and stakeholders regarding the significance and preservation of the site;
- Improving the hands-on skills of Rock Hill maintenance staff engaged in conservation and maintenance of the cemetery.

Such events can be held annually, sub-annually, or on an as-needed basis depending on funding and public interest.

Laurelwood Cemetery Preservation Workshop

The City of Rock Hill will host a two-day workshop with instruction by a field expert from the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT) during the Spring of 2020.

Workshop format:

- Classroom-style informational session;
- In-the-field demonstration and hands-on opportunities.

Workshop topics:

- Do's and Don'ts of monument restoration;
- Basics for stone cleaning, repair, and resetting;
- General historic cemetery landscape management.

Audience to include approximately 30 attendees including:

- Members of Rock Hill Cemetery Services management and Laurelwood's Internal Cemetery Committee;
- Municipal maintenance staff that may be utilized for future cemetery preservation projects;
- Volunteers from the local community.

Partnerships for Preservation Training

Laurelwood's stakeholders should continue to partner with outside agencies and organizations engaged in technical training for cemetery conservation and preservation. The following professional organizations and seminars are of interest:

National Preservation Institute, Alexandria, Virginia.

The mission of the National Preservation Institute (NPI) is to educate those involved in the management, preservation, and stewardship of cultural heritage. NPI was founded in 1980 as a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization.

The organization serves a broad spectrum of individuals and groups from the government and private sectors by providing professional training seminars in historic preservation and cultural resource management. A list of currently-scheduled seminars is available at https://www.npi.org/.

NPI also offers customized on-site training to meet specific organizational needs. Seminars may be tailored to create single- or multiple-day workshops at a location and time convenient to the sponsor. NPI also can develop other preservation-related training seminars. NPI has worked with many organizations to develop and provide customized training and/or related conference services.

Descriptions of annual NPI seminars of interest follow.

National Preservation Institute

P.O. Box 1702 Alexandria, VA 22313-1702 703.765.0100 info@npi.org www.npi.org

Cemetery Preservation

Seminar Overview

Learn how to begin a cemetery preservation or restoration project and how to help ensure that sound choices are made to avoid harming what you seek to protect. Discussions focus on current issues in cemetery preservation, such as recording and documenting cemeteries and graveyards, undertaking preservation efforts, and exploring conservation techniques and issues.

Agenda

Day One

- Introduction
- Nature of cemeteries
- Overview of preservation planning
- Major stone types
- Major types of markers
- Transcription and recordation issues
- Symbolism
- How use make recordation projects functional
- Landscape, planting, and maintenance issues
- Access, circulation, pavements, and pathways
- Lighting, security, and amenities
- Signage and administrative issues
- Problems of specific stone types
- Conservation issues
- Resetting
- Cleaning
- Ironwork

Day Two

- Sugaring and consolidants
- Stone repair issues
- Concrete repair issues
- Understanding mortars and specifications
- Repointing, with special emphasis on box tombs and cemetery brickwork
- Stucco and whitewashing
- On-site examination of repair issues
- On-site examination of landscape issues

National Preservation Institute
P.O. Box 1702 Alexandria, VA 22313-1702 703.765.0100 info@npi.org www.npi.org

Cemetery Landscapes: A Practical Guide to Care and Maintenance

Seminar Overview

Learn how to protect historic cemetery landscapes, preserve integrity of design, and safeguard tombstones and monuments while pursuing a practical outlook on maintenance and budget concerns. Explore approaches to caring for softscapes, or plantings, and hardscapes, including roads, pathways, and benches. Discuss effective pruning and cutting techniques, and when chemicals and heavy equipment can be safely and productively used. Review the basics of short- and long-term preservation plans.

Agenda

- Nature of Cemeteries
- Typical Historic Plants and Maintenance
- Softscapes
  - Discussion of plantings: pros and cons; costs; short term vs. long term; care issues; historically appropriate:
    - Ground covers
    - Annuals and perennials
    - Shrubs
    - Trees
  - Documentation:
    - Historic
    - Current
  - Replacing Plants:
    - Should you or shouldn't you?
    - When, where, why, how
  - Use of Chemicals:
    - Fertilizers
    - Herbicides
    - Pesticides
- 21st-Century Maintenance
  - Equipment
  - Trimming, pruning, and cutting
  - Soil testing
  - Timing (annual maintenance plan)
  - Budget
- Hardscapes:
  - Irrigation
  - Drainage
  - Lighting
  - Roads and pathways
  - Benches and site features
- Long-Term Planning
  - Budgets
  - Worksheets
  - Resources available

National Preservation Institute
P.O. Box 1702 Alexandria, VA 22313-1702 703.765.0100 info@npi.org www.npi.org

Sustainable Preservation: Process and Practice

Seminar Overview

Discuss the process and pratice of using sustainable preservation strategies for historic structures. The environmental goal of "reduce, reuse, recycle" can enhance the capital cost competitiveness of preservation projects. Review the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) standards used to assess building performance. Focus on preservation challenges relating to energy efficiency, windows, lighting, indoor air quality, HVAC, and local and national codes and regulations.

Agenda

- **Overview of Sustainable Preservation**
  Strategies appropriate to historic buildings, identified by LEED category
- **Products**
  Navigating the Maze
- **Lighting**
  Past, Present, and Future working together
- **Energy Sources and Systems**
  Fuel Cells, wind, micro turbines, cogeneration, geothermal, photovoltaic, and system choices for HVAC
- **Building Envelope**
  ASHRAE 90.1, Energy Modeling and Insulation (or not)
- **Windows**
  Myth and Reality

Case Study Summary
Comparative analysis of historic buildings showing sustainable preservation achievements by category

Protecting historic buildings should align with the protection of our natural world. Greater visibility of the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED™ rating system, as well as an increase in mandates from building owners, are challenging the caretakers of historic buildings to do more than merely protect, restore, and renovate landmark structures.

This seminar offers an overview of the LEED rating system and its application to historic buildings with descriptions of environmentally responsible choices for historic buildings, including energy sources, materials selections, and facility management.

Conflicts or tensions exist among environmental goals, rating systems, code requirements, and historic buildings. Learn about historic exterior envelope and energy codes, historic materials and replacement or maintenance materials, and the evaluation of historic materials using life-cycle/cost-benefit analysis tools.

Case histories of building renovations and operations are reviewed that incorporate both sustainable design principles and *The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*.

National Preservation Institute

P.O. Box 1702 Alexandria, VA 22313-1702 703.765.0100 info@npi.org www.npi.org

Preservation Planning for Campuses, Complexes, and Installations

Seminar Overview

Understand how buildings and landscapes contribute to the institutional identity of campuses, complexes, and installations. Discuss how to integrate historic preservation considerations into the master planning process when faced with development pressures and the need to expand boundaries and reconfigure facilities. By analyzing campus evolution and history and identifying significant elements, learn how to use critical thinking in developing a plan that meets client needs and preserves cultural resources.

Agenda

Day 1: The Campus and Sense of Place

Course Objectives
- Understanding campus types and how they develop
- Analyzing the campus environment
- Developing a campus preservation plan
- Providing a toolbox for successfully completing a plan

Introduction to Campuses and Preservation
- Defining campus (educational, military, corporate, etc.)
- Defining landscapes
- Understanding how buildings and landscapes contribute to institutional identity
- Using National Register criteria
- Incorporating other heritage concepts
- Exploring preservation planning: tools to aid in future campus development

History and Typology of Campuses
- History of campus spatial patterning
- Integration of landscape and architecture
- Use of landscaping and architecture to define identity

Planning and How Campuses Evolve
- Introducing planning concepts
- Places that endure (planned and unplanned)
- Examples of design evolution (architecture and landscape)

Analyzing the Campus Environment
- Campus development: how it illustrates the values of the institution
- Research and analysis illustrate the importance of spaces and architecture

Case Study

Continued . . .

Day 2: Development of a Plan

Define Client Goals
- Why are they implementing a plan?
- What do they want to accomplish?
- How does it fit in the planning continuum?

Working with Campus Groups
- Identify stakeholders based on the client's input and your experience
- Develop a plan to work with groups
- Build in flexibility to accommodate additional groups during the process

Timing and Planning Documents
- Ideally, the preservation plan is part of the campus planning process
- Integrate existing plans or maintenance documents into your plan
- Integrate the preservation plan with a campus master plan

Defining the Study Area
- Client-defined: review and provide input if necessary
- Set a boundary to ensure focus (helps to avoid 'scope creep')
- Determine existing historic districts and other National Register properties

Historical Research
- Identify archives and other sources of historical information
- Understand the history of the institution
- Determine whether institutional values have changed over time
- Analyze how the values of the institution are manifested in the material culture
- Analyze historical data in order to define campus "periods of significance"

Survey of the Study Area
- Survey data limits: landscapes, heritage properties, age of property included
- Develop a research design and survey form that meets client needs
- Schedule regularly timed feedback from the client about survey results
- Using an existing survey: review and be certain it has all the data needed to complete a plan
- Plan for additional research

Organizing and Designing a Report for Your Audience
- Define your audience: client, owner, preservationists, design professionals, public audience
- Keep in mind the needs of the client as the report is organized and developed
- Be flexible in report format to develop the best presentation of data

Case Study

Summary

CHICORA Foundation, Inc., Columbia, South Carolina.

The following is compiled from https://www.chicora.org/index.htm:

Chicora Foundation is a non-profit heritage preservation organization focused on archaeological and historical research, public education, and work in conservation and preservation with museums, libraries, archives, historic organizations, and private citizens in the Southeastern United States. The organization provides a broad range of in-class programs on archaeology and history for grades three through twelve utilizing a defined curriculum of materials to help teachers make the past come alive. The organization provides teacher workshops related to the curriculum. Chicora also publishes a range of public booklets on the archaeology and history of various South Carolina sites.

Chicora Foundation has the most active program in cemetery preservation in the Southeast—working to preserve cemeteries through recordation and research. The organization holds public workshops on the care and maintenance of cemeteries and their landscapes and provides conservation treatment and consultation services for repair of cemetery monuments and ironwork.

Descriptions of CHICORA cemetery preservation seminars of interest follow.

CHICORA FOUNDATION, INC.

PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE

P.O. BOX 8664
861 ARBUTUS DRIVE
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29202
803-787-6910
WWW.CHICORA.ORG

Cemetery Preservation: Making Good Choices (2-Day Workshop)

Seminar Overview

The preservation of cemeteries is like any other historic preservation project: you are confronted with a variety of choices and success depends on wise decisions. This workshop provides a general introduction to the issues involved in cemetery preservation, ranging from proper recordation to identification of cemetery to sound conservation concepts. Included is information on treatments that volunteers can accomplish, such as resetting stones and simple care of ironwork. The workshop is designed for those responsible for cemetery maintenance and preservation, ranging from grounds keepers to administrators.

Agenda

The first day of this work provides a foundation and acquaints participants with critical preservation issues. Included are discussions of the changing character of cemetery landscapes in America, help in the identification of different monument types, learning to recognize the stones used in cemeteries, and critical recordation issues. The afternoon reviews the development of a cemetery preservation plan, looking at the broad range of issues that need to be considered and providing guidance on making wise choices.

The second day focuses exclusively on conservation issues, beginning with a discussion of conservation ethics that includes the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Preservation. Participants also learn about conservation standards and ethics. There are discussions on cleaning, resetting, and other simple repairs. Current information on consolidation of stone, as well as complex treatments is also provided. The workshop provides a background in mortars, including various restoration mortars as well as lime and NHL mortars.

Topics Covered Include:

- Types of cemeteries and their landscapes
- Stone types
- Monument types
- Assessment and recordation
- Measuring and Transcribing
- Symbolism
- Preservation and Planning
- Simple Treatments
- Conservation ethics & principals, safety
- Cleaning
- Complex treatments
- Consolidation
- Mortars, limes, sands, stucco, and whitewash
- Metals

Resources

The workshop will provide copies of the PowerPoint slides used, as well as a binder of additional information

Length

Two days (13 contact hours)

CHICORA FOUNDATION, INC.

PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE

P.O. BOX 8664
861 ARBUTUS DRIVE
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29202
803-787-6910
WWW.CHICORA.ORG

Care and Maintenance of Cemetery Workshops

Seminar Overview

Learn how to protect historic cemetery landscapes, preserve integrity of design, and safeguard tombstones and monuments while pursuing a practical outlook on maintenance and budget concerns. Explore approaches to caring for softscapes, or plantings, and hardscapes, including roads, pathways, and benches. Discuss effective pruning and cutting techniques, and when chemicals and heavy equipment can be safely and productively used. Review the basics of short- and long-term preservation plans.

Agenda

- Nature of Cemeteries
- Typical Historic Plants and Maintenance
- Softscapes
  - Discussion of plantings: pros and cons; costs; short term vs. long term; care issues; and historically appropriate:
    - Ground covers
    - Annuals and perennials
    - Shrubs
    - Trees
  - Documentation
    - Historic
    - Current
  - Replacing Plants
    - Should you or shouldn't you?
    - When, where, why, how
- Use of Chemicals
  - Fertilizers
  - Herbicides
  - Pesticides
- 21st-Century Maintenance
  - Equipment
  - Trimming, pruning, and cutting
  - Soil testing
  - Timing (annual maintenance plan)
  - Budget
- Hardscapes
  - Irrigation
  - Drainage
  - Lighting
  - Roads and pathways
  - Benches and site features
- Long-Term Planning
- Budgets
- Worksheets
- Resources available

Resources

The workshop will provide copies of the PowerPoint slides used, as well as a binder of additional information

Length

One day (6.5 contact hours)

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Surviving the Big One: Hurricane Disaster Planning

Seminar Overview

This program explains the newest technologies to help make your institution more hurricane proof. It will also guide you through step-by-step preparations for the next hurricane and will explore your recovery options should the worst happen. This is not your common, fill-in-the-blank workshop, but is designed to give you the knowledge and confidence necessary to make a real difference in protecting your institution, your collections, and your staff.

Agenda

This workshop offers an overview of hurricane characteristics, past hurricane events, and past losses. It reviews basic disaster planning, outlining techniques that are critical to the development of a successful plan. The workshop reviews damages from recent hurricanes, looking at different building types in order to help you determine if your facility is likely to survive a significant hurricane. If building survival is unlikely, this session then outlines issues to consider in terms of emergency off-site storage. Suggestions are offered for specific hurricane plan provisions. In particular the class helps you determine if you will be able to recover using your own staff, or if you should consider an out-side contractor. Issues to consider in terms of contracting are also discussed. Issues of OSHA compliance and mold are briefly discussed (Chicora offers another full-day workshop dealing specifically with mold remediation). The workshop will also briefly cover insurance issues you should be aware of prior to the coming hurricane season.

Topics Covered Include:

- What a hurricane can do to your institution
- What you should be planning for
- Will your building survive?
- Evaluating your institution's ability to survive
- What is your single best investment in hurricane planning?
- How to develop a disaster plan successfully
- What are the critical pre-hurricane, hurricane, and post-hurricane issues you need to consider
- What role will insurance and outside agencies play in your recovery

Resources

The workshop will provide copies of the PowerPoint slides used, as well as additional resource and recovery materials.

Length

Full day (6.5 contact hours)

Beyond Technical Preservation Training – CASE STUDY: Woodlawn Cemetery, Bronx, New York.

The following is compiled from https://www.thewoodlawncemetery.org/:

Woodlawn…More Than a Cemetery

Established in 1863, Woodlawn Cemetery is an active, 400-acre burial ground in an urban setting. There are more than 310,000 individuals interred on its grounds and it attracts over 100,000 visitors from around the world each year. Visitors come to Woodlawn Cemetery each year to see the monuments and mausoleums designed by the nation's most accomplished architects, landscape designers, and sculptors.



Woodlawn Partners with the Community

While Woodlawn is first and foremost a cemetery, it is also an important educational resource for the local community. Educational initiatives and programs offered by the Woodlawn Conservancy (the non-profit agency that manages Woodlawn's educational and interpretive programing) provide workforce readiness training to local young people through the Preservation Training Program and internship program. Adult educational programming, such as tours, concerts, book talks, and nature walks, are offered throughout the year. People of all ages stroll the grounds of Woodlawn to view our more than 140 varieties of trees in our Arboretum and enjoy the green space offered in the middle of the city. Self-guided tree tours allow visitors to learn about each of the trees. School-aged children participate in summer camps, field trips and leadership training programs all facilitated by the Conservancy to invest in the future of the local community.

Woodlawn's Preservation Training Program

The program offers career and workforce development for local (Bronx) students through hands-on cemetery conservation training. In partnership with the International Masonry Institute and World Monuments Fund, the program trains young people to take care of historic structures and transitions them into the work force. For ten weeks, Interns selected for the Preservation Training Program learn how to care for monuments and buildings made of marble, granite and limestone. The mission of the program is to prepare participants for entry level positions in the masonry trade.

Through classroom and hands on sessions, interns learn about best safety practices, cemetery material identification, use and types of cleaning products for grave markers, scrubbing and power washing techniques, removal and replacement of mortar, application of caulking, resume



Trainees in Woodlawn Cemetery's Preservation Training Program learn hands-on skills useful for advanced careers in preservation and conservation (https://www.thewoodlawncemetery.org/preservation-training-program/).

development, interviewing skills, financial management, OSHA training, one on one counseling, and job placement assistance.

Held each spring on the grounds of The Woodlawn Cemetery, the Preservation Training Program employs an enthusiastic group of high school graduates ages 18-24 under the supervision of a Resident Craftsman and Architectural Conservator. A goal of the Preservation Training Program is to assist participants in applying for jobs and to help them to meet the challenges that face young people when they work to sustain a career.

The Door, an agency dedicated to providing support services for New York City youth, assists Interns with resume preparation, job interviews and placement and offers counseling services to help with issues such as housing, child care and financial management.

Woodlawn Internship Program

Woodlawn Cemetery partners with the New York City Department of Education to offer a six-week, work-based learning program for high school-, college-, and graduate-level students seeking academic credit, community service hours, and/or paid internships. The program introduces the students to careers in history and historic preservation through hands-on training at Woodlawn Cemetery. Over the course of the internship, students have the opportunity to meet professionals in the fields of public history and preservation. Upon completion of the internship, some student interns chose to apply to Woodlawn's Preservation Training Program.

Through the research of the interns, thousands of detailed records have been entered into Woodlawn's GIS mapping system, allowing for a systematic approach to caring for memorials and monuments throughout the cemetery.

Camp Woodlawn

Camp Woodlawn is a four-week day-camp held during the summer on the historic grounds of Woodlawn Cemetery. The camp seeks to connect youth (students grades 1-7) with the past in an unforgettable way through outdoor time, scavenger hunts, map reading activities, arts and crafts, reading workshops, tree identification walks, and more. Activities include the making of music and art, learning about the natural world, and exploring local history. Camp Woodlawn seeks to bring alive the history of the local neighborhood and spark curiosity and passion in the leaders of tomorrow by celebrating the lives and achievements of those who came before us.



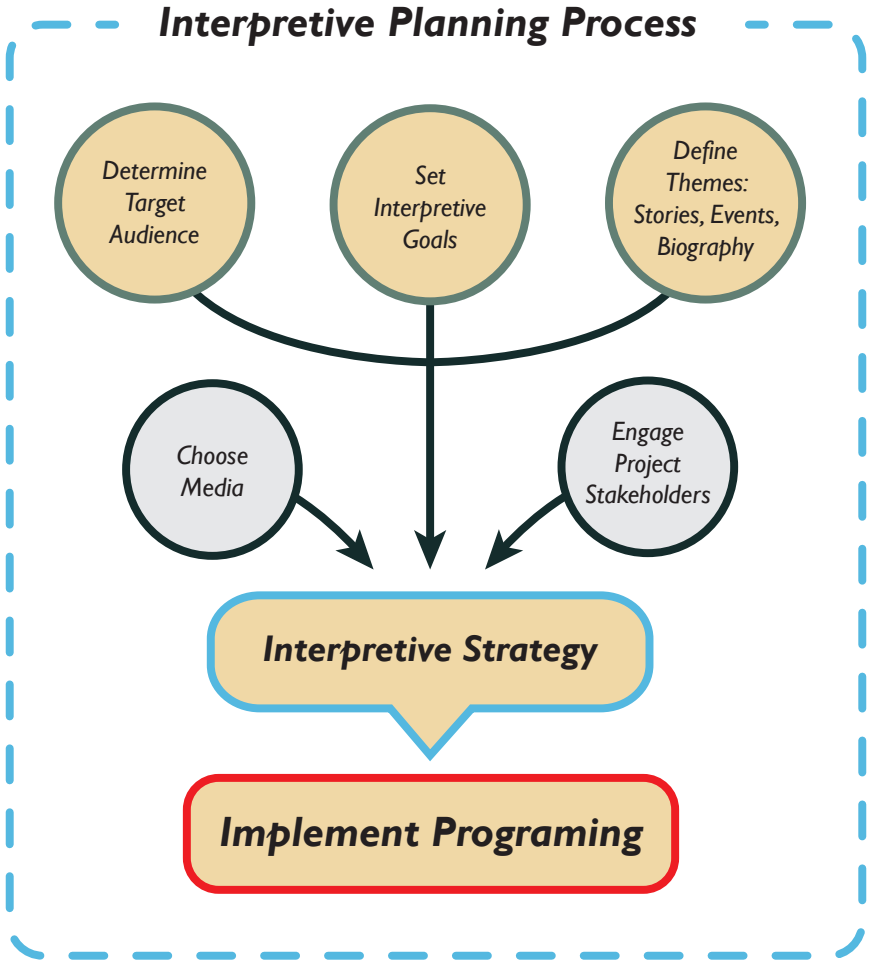
Woodlawn Cemetery Service-Learning Program Interns (https://www.thewoodlawncemetery.org/internship-program/).



At Woodlawn Summer Camp students explore the 400-acrea green space and learn about local history (https://www.thewoodlawncemetery.org/summer-camp/).

Educational and Interpretive Opportunities

Laurelwood, created in 1872, is the oldest municipal cemetery in Rock Hill and was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2008. Because it is the burial location of many important people in Rock Hill's history, and because of its outstanding funerary artwork, the City should provide interpretation on the cemetery's development, people buried therein, and demonstrate its connection with Rock Hill's history.



Comprehensive Interpretive Planning

The National Park Service (NPS) is a leading organization in interpretive programing at historic and natural sites in the United States and beyond. Since its founding in 1916, the organization has engaged with park visitors through interpretive media and educational activities to enliven visitor experience. Over the years, the NPS has honed the effectiveness of interpretive programing and media through trial and error and academic scholarship. The result of this work is a set of organization-wide guidelines for Comprehensive Interpretive Planning at individual parks.

Managers, stakeholder groups, and individuals interested in developing interpretive programing and media for Laurelwood Cemetery will benefit greatly from a review and understanding of how the NPS implements interpretive planning. In 1995, the organization adopted a unified planning system for interpretation and education. It is recommended that planners adopt a similar system for Laurelwood. When determining what stories to tell, how to tell them, and what audiences to engage, consider the following principles—the list has been tailored to fit interpretive planning initiatives for Laurelwood Cemetery based on guidelines outlined by the NPS in *Comprehensive Interpretive Planning: Interpretation and Education Guideline,* Fall 2000:

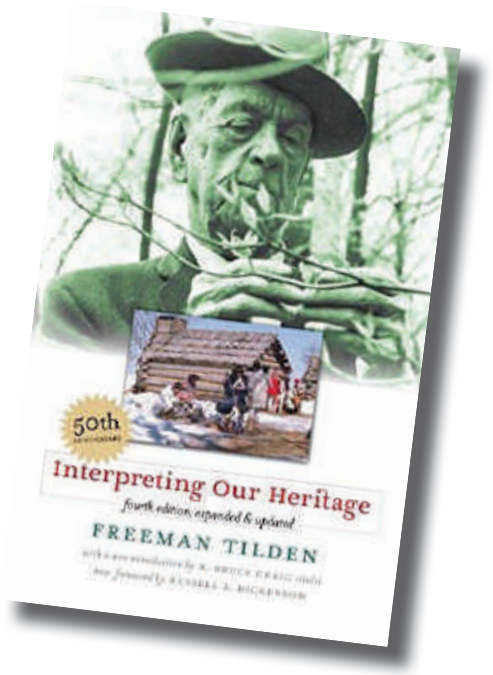
Basic Principles of Interpretive Planning

- The interpretive planning process should be goal-driven. Goals, which direct the planning process, should be rooted in a clear identification of the purpose and significance of the cemetery. Significance statements, like those provided in Part I of this Master Plan and in Laurelwood's National Register Nomination, describe the importance or distinctiveness of the site and its resources.
- Interpretive planning defines a variety of visitor experience opportunities for audiences, both inside and outside the cemetery. Visitor experience is everything that visitors do, sense, and learn; it includes knowledge, attitudes, behaviors, and values; it is affected by experiences prior to the visit and affects behavior after the visit.

- Interpretive planning determines appropriate interpretive services, facilities, programs, and media to communicate in the most effective way the cemetery's purpose, significance, compelling stories, themes and values, while protecting and preserving its historic resources. Sound interpretive planning defines desirable and diverse experiences, recommends ways to facilitate those experiences, and assures they are accessible. The outcome of interpretive planning is effectiveness in communicating the cemetery's story in a larger context, ideas, meanings, and the values associated with the site, and achieving the balance between resource protection and visitor use and enjoyment. A person who has demonstrated competencies in interpretive planning will facilitate interpretive planning. Portions of the planning process can be developed by cemetery staff guided by interpretive planners using interpretive planning principles and standards.
- Interpretive planning is flexible, ongoing, interdisciplinary, responsive to client needs, and management-oriented, rather than development or issue-driven. Planning establishes a foundation for long-term direction-setting, short-term problem solving, and annual program analysis.
- The interpretive planning process extends beyond Laurelwood's boundaries. Planning incorporates concessions and cooperating associations as well as the local communities, regional partnerships, subject matter experts, and subscribes to the principles of sustainability.
- Interpretive planning decisions are based on current research. Decisions regarding personal and non-personal services are rooted in solid subject-matter expertise, and reflect knowledge of visitor expectations, demographics, changing social trends and needs.
- Interpretive planning is based on a thorough understanding of the most current and appropriate interpretive techniques and services, and draws upon current research and educational philosophy in program planning. Interpretive planning includes practical strategies for implementation including funding and management alternatives.

NPS guidance for developing innovative educational programing and interpretive media/resources, such as visitor centers, museums, exhibits, films, audio programs, wayside exhibits, historically furnished areas, and publications is available through the Harpers Ferry Center. Their website is https://www.nps.gov/subjects/hfc/index.htm.

To develop a philosophy for interpretation and educational planning, Laurelwood's managers and the Internal Cemetery Committee should refer to *Interpreting Our Heritage,* by Freeman Tilden. The fourth edition was published in 2007 by The University of North Carolina Press.



Selecting Interpretive Media

Selecting appropriate and effective interpretive media is as much art as it is science. As discussed earlier in the **Educational and Interpretive Opportunities** section of this Master Plan, the process of interpretive planning will help determine the appropriate services, facilities, programs, and media to most effectively communicate the significance, stories, themes, and values of Laurelwood Cemetery. There is rarely only one way to achieve a defined programing goal; therefore, desired interpretive goals will help determine appropriate media and vice versa. Once the desired media is selected, the City can consult specialists to develop specific implementation plans.

The Harpers Ferry Center of the National Park Service publishes the following guidance for selecting appropriate media (https://www.nps.gov/subjects/hfc/interpretive-media-selection.htm):

Message

What is to be communicated affects the method of communication, and vice versa. Is the message simple or complex? Is it an abstract concept that can only be presented verbally or are there graphic components? Does the concept require a specific sequence or chronology to be understood? Is it helpful or necessary to involve many senses? How can we make the messages attractive, compelling, and relevant? What priority does this information have in relation to the overall interpretive program? Should the message be experienced in addition to – or rather than – learned didactically? What are the desired outcomes of this communication?

Audience

The audience must be able to access and comprehend the information. What knowledge and expectations are they likely to have when they arrive at the site? How much time do they have? When would this information be most useful: before, during, or after experiencing the resource? What primary languages, literacy patterns, ages, and group types? What are their motivations for coming to the site? Are there cultural differences to take into account? What physical abilities do they have? The more detailed the audience profile, the easier it is to select appropriate media.

Resources

The quality and quantity of resources available to support media development will not only affect the kind of media selected, but may determine the feasibility and cost of production. Are there landscape elements to support the message? Are they accessible? How much information is available on the selected subject? Has the accuracy of the information been certified? Are there additional perspectives that should be interpreted? Are quality photographs and other graphic elements available and can the proper use rights be obtained? Does the message rely heavily on the use of artifacts and are these artifacts extant and available? Can the artifacts be adequately protected while on display? What kind of budget can be projected?

Common types of media used to deliver interpretive messages include **audiovisual products**, **museum exhibits**, **wayside exhibits**, **publications**, and **personal services**. Each has qualities which make it more or less suitable for a given application. Some of the recognized strengths and limitations of each medium are listed below. Note that these are generalizations; exceptions can usually be found.

Audiovisual Media

Advantages

- Well suited to the presentation of chronological and sequential material;
- Can capture realism and provide emotional impact;
- Provide opportunities for dramatization;
- Can be portable for off-site use;
- Provide views of places, animals, plants, and seasons otherwise unavailable or inaccessible;
- Can create a mood or atmosphere;
- Can reach many visitors at one time;
- Can be adapted to serve physically impaired visitors;
- Can illustrate before and after effects;
- Can be produced in different languages.

Limitations

- Cannot be used everywhere;
- Require back-up equipment, periodic maintenance, and regular monitoring;
- May be perceived as sterile or impersonal;
- May offer little opportunity for visitors to browse or study an item in depth or at their own pace;
- Repetitious sound tracks can annoy visitor center staff;
- May be a visual or auditory intrusion;
- Production and maintenance costs can be expensive;
- People usually have high expectations of audiovisual media; low-budget products can fall short of expectations.

Historic Furnishings

Advantages

- Offers visitors a special interpretive experience by allowing them to go inside historic spaces;
- Being surrounded by historic artifacts helps visitors feel that places "come alive," and relate more directly to the historic events and personalities commemorated by parks;
- Frequently historic furnishings researchers unearth new archival resources, make new contacts, or discover previously unknown artifacts that add to the site's interpretation;
- Experiencing an accurately reproduced historically furnished place helps visitors develop a visual vocabulary of material culture and decorative arts.

Limitations

- Expensive to maintain due to security, maintenance, and conservation costs;
- Accessibility can be a problem;
- Historically furnished spaces usually cannot "stand alone," but require some kind of additional interpretation (e.g. tour guides, interpretive panels, audio stations, etc.).

Museum Exhibits

Advantages

- Can be viewed at visitors' own paces;
- Can be designed in all shapes, sizes, colors, and textures;
- Can display objects associated with the site;
- Can incorporate artifacts, artwork, or mixed media to produce desired atmosphere and effects;
- Can transcend language and cultural barriers;
- Can promote the use of the senses to aid the perception of the able-bodied and handicapped visitor alike;
- Can promote visitor participation;
- Can be designed for both indoor and outdoor use;
- Are well suited for ideas which can be illustrated graphically;
- Permanent exhibits can be grouped with rotating, seasonal, or temporary displays to provide a sense of change;
- Can provide experiences of varying complexity, allowing visitors to select the depth they choose.

Limitations

- Are sensitive to agents of deterioration;
- Require security and maintenance;
- Must be housed in adequate facilities;
- Do not work well to tell largely verbal, complex, or sequential stories;
- Exhibit materials may have high commercial value, making them targets for theft;
- Can be very expensive;
- Inexpensive exhibits may look amateurish, and are usually less effective than higher quality (and more expensive) productions;
- Technology and materials can overwhelm the message.

Personal Services

Advantages

- Direct human to human communication is often more enjoyable to visitors than communication by impersonal media;
- Can easily be customized to meet visitor needs or changing conditions;
- Can use group/visitor reactions to stimulate interest;
- Can be interactive;
- May be monitored and changed accordingly;
- Tap diverse skills of interpreters;
- Versatile, effective, and relatively easy to implement;
- Can be cost effective, especially in the short term;
- Can convey complex messages, and help visitors connect tangibles and intangibles to universal concepts.

Limitations

- Require well-trained interpreters;
- May not give consistent messages;
- Require close supervision and management;
- Can be difficult and expensive to maintain year-round;
- High recurring costs;
- Can be difficult to critique properly.

Publications

Advantages

- Are portable;
- Can treat a subject in-depth;
- Provide a source of detailed reference information;
- Can be produced in different languages;
- Suited to presenting sequential or complex material;
- Can be read at visitors' own pace;
- Can produce income;
- Can often be revised at a reasonable cost;
- Can be produced at various levels of detail;
- Have value as a souvenir, something to take home;
- Can be used before going to a site, during the visit, or after returning home;
- Can be produced to treat the same subject for different audiences;
- May be appropriate for stories lacking in artifacts or photographs.

Limitations

- Can discourage potential readers with lengthy and/or complex texts;
- Can be a source of litter;
- Require periodic revision to remain current and accurate;
- May require facilities and maintenance (such as brochure dispensers).

Wayside Exhibits & Interpretive Panels

Advantages

- Can be available 24 hours a day;
- Use real objects and features in their own setting as objects of interpretation;
- Are relatively inexpensive;
- Can be designed to blend with site environment;
- Provide onsite interpretation of specific sites and stories;
- Can depict a place as it appeared many years before;
- Can show a feature from a view unattainable by visitors;
- Can illustrate phenomena that are invisibly affecting a resource;
- Establish a park identity at remote, unstaffed locations;
- Alert visitors to safety or resource management issues at the point of danger, decision, or environmental impact;
- Can be replaced relatively quickly and inexpensively.

Limitations

- Limited amount of text and graphics per panel;
- Don't work well for complicated subject matter;
- Focus attention on tangible resources; less effective with intangibles and universal concepts;
- May intrude on a park's visual landscape;
- May not be practical at sites with climatic or environmental extremes;
- Susceptible to vandalism.

Site-wide Digital Media

As public interest in and use of Laurelwood Cemetery grows, it may be necessary to develop a dedicated web and social media presence for the site. Other digital media may enhance visitor experience both on-site and online. Currently, the City's Cemetery Services webpage provides information about grave ownership, burial rights, rules and regulations, costs, property management, hours of operation, and more. Additionally, the City hosts an online Geographic Information System (GIS) for Laurelwood Cemetery. The supporting database of the GIS includes the names, dates, and location within cemetery grounds of nearly all burials. Access to the GIS is free to the public and searchable online. The data collected as part of the Marker/Monument Survey and documentation project that began in Spring 2019 will be joined with the GIS.

Embracing digital media as part of the interpretive and educational planning for Laurelwood is recommended. Specific media may include:

- Dedicated cemetery website to provide information regarding history, character areas, landmark monuments, famous residents, burial records, FAQs, maps, events and tour information, educational opportunities, highlight preservation projects, and more; Great examples include:
    - https://oaklandcemetery.com/
    - https://www.thewoodlawncemetery.org/
- Interactive Story Maps – consider adding interpretive and educational information to the cemetery's GIS to create online interpretive programing utilizing interactive maps.
- Mobile App – consider developing a mobile app to provide operational, educational, and interpretive information to potential visitors. Operational content may include site rules and regulations, burial rights, hours of operation, administrative information, and event/programing scheduling. Individuals interested in guided tours and workshops could sign up through the app. Educational and interpretive information may include defined points of interest, such as monuments, character areas, seating areas, and panels, historic photos, historic maps, descriptions and locations of famous residents, proposed unguided walking tours, audio guide tours, and more.
- Quick Response (QR) codes for interpretive panels and points of interest. A system of QR codes, linked to educational information (like that described for the Mobile App above) hosted online, can be utilized by those experiencing the cemetery in person. QR codes can be unobtrusively displayed on panels and other physical features such as wayfinding signs and benches.
- Social media – Laurelwood Cemetery has a social media presence; however, the site may benefit from development of a social media plan and a dedicated social media manager. There is a wealth of information available online related to story telling and historic site promotion through social media. The National Trust for Historic Preservation has a dedicated webpage for guidance (https://savingplaces.org/story-categories/social-media-stories#.XV6oOehKiUl).



Marietta Cemetery: Places of Grave Interest is an interactive map available online presenting public history, biographies, and stories of the cemetery (http://cityofmarietta.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=2b92c3974bbb4c44a896c20231a306e5).

Interpretive Themes

Laurelwood Cemetery's history and the stories of those buried therein directly relate to and, in some cases, overlap themes and storylines in existing interpretive planning frameworks developed by private contractors and the City. Whenever possible, the cemetery's interpretive programing, including informational pamphlets, on-site signage, and/or formal tours of the grounds, should address overlapping narratives to deepen the impact on visitors.

Review the Recent Planning Initiatives in Part I of this Master Plan for a summary of the City's interpretive planning efforts. Of particular interest for interpretation of Laurelwood's history and significance are (1) the existing interpretive panel located at the City's water tower site, (2) interpretive programing associated with the Bleachery Heritage Project, (3) future development of programing associated with the African American Cultural Resource Center, and (4) opportunities associated with interpretation at the site of the Confederate Monument.



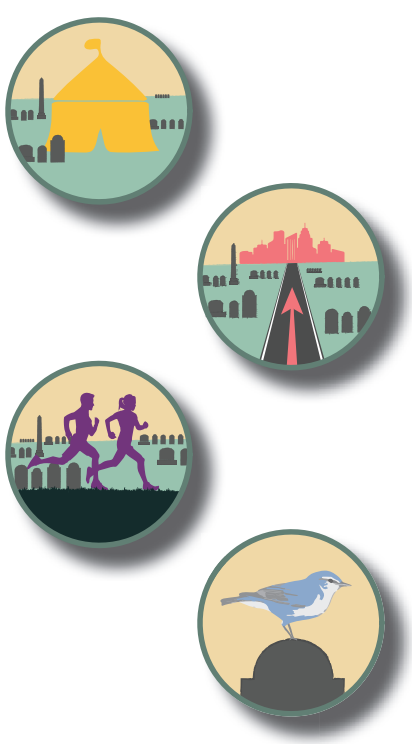
Interpretive Panels

Consider providing interpretive panels in multiple areas in the cemetery, focusing on different aspects of Laurelwood's significance as both a historic and modern landscape. Potential locations and themes include the following (numbers correspond with those on the provided map):

1. Panel discussing the general history of the cemetery, its development, and significance as Rock Hill's first municipal burial ground; include information about guided and/or unguided walking tours if applicable;
2. Panel describing the Potter's Fields, their orientation, use, and need for future research;
3. Panel(s) located near the Confederate Monument discussing the early history of the cemetery, significant funerary artworks in the Rural Cemetery, and topics regarding the history of the monument, slavery, segregation, and the Civil War in the South; specifically, Laurelwood Cemetery is a present-day physical reminder of how segregation, even in death, was law and custom;
4. Panel at the southern-most pedestrian entrance discussing the Jewish Cemetery grounds and the significance of those buried therein;
5. Panel at north end of American Legion Plot discussing Rock Hill's war veterans buried in Laurelwood;
6. Panel at the pedestrian entrance at the intersection of White Street and Laurel Street discussing the overall history of the cemetery;
7. Panel along the road near the grave of J. A. Sassi, local sculptor/tombstone carver, describing the significance of Sassi's work, as well as the work of other regional tombstone carvers;
8. Panel near the center of the south end of the Draper Area discussing the significance of the Lawn Plan Aesthetic in American cemetery design, Draper's development of the landscape plan for Laurelwood's extension, and Earl S. Draper himself as America's first landscape architect;
9. Panel near the cemetery's north end describing the landscape plan for the Bursley Area, the changes in modern American burial practices in the last 50 years (resulting in new cemetery landscape aesthetics), and the continued use and preservation of Laurelwood.

Unguided Walking Tour

A free, unguided walking tour can be offered to Laurelwood visitors via a combination of printed guides, digital interfaces (app-based), and/or on-site way-finding signage. The proposed walking tour includes suggested stops at the location of each of the six interpretive panels discussed above. Additionally, short sub-routes from the primary tour offer optional experiences. Where possible, the suggested stops are located at proposed seating nodes and/or in existing shaded areas. To enhance unguided visitor experience, the walking tour's interpretive content should align with the narratives and points of interest discussed next, in the Guided Historic Walking Tour section of this Master Plan.





Opportunities for Interpretation at the Confederate Monument Site

Laurelwood's Confederate Monument is an important feature on the cemetery landscape. It achieves prominence and significance due to (1) its central location; (2) its composition as a significant artwork designed by a local sculptor; (3) the narrative of its origin, relocation to the cemetery, and symbolic character; and (4) the social context in which it exists today.

As the City continues to promote Laurelwood as a public, park-like space it will be important to provide interpretation of the monument. Prior to developing interpretive panels for the monument site, the internal cemetery committee should initiate a study focused on the monument's historical context, continued preservation, and future interpretation. It is recommended that a special committee be selected to guide the study/planning process. The study should include the following components:

- Historical research related to the monument's context on the national and local level;
- Public input from a diverse cross-section of the City's population including the African American community;
- Exploration of opportunities for the monument's interpretation addressing interpretive planning at other important sites in the City;
- Evaluation of how the monument's interpretation may align with recent efforts to establish Rock Hill's African American Cultural Resource Center on cemetery grounds;
- Analysis of how the monument's preservation and interpretation may affect the promotion of Laurelwood as a park-like green-space;
- Stated goals for the future preservation, use, and interpretation of the monument and its immediate surrounding, including landscaping, hardscaping, installation of benches and/or lighting.



Site Enhancement Proposal Map III:
Interpretive Panels and Unguided Walking Tour

Educational Programing

Hosting educational programs will increase public awareness of Laurelwood's historic and cultural significance. When developing educational programing, start simple by hosting one-off events that emphasize the significance of the cemetery. Such programing might include group cemetery clean-up events, lectures, hands-on preservation demonstrations, historic cemetery tours, local oral history workshops, and more. If planned well, such events do not require major improvements to infrastructure and can be held at a relatively low cost.

The Internal Cemetery Committee should seek partnerships with local and regional organizations, businesses, and volunteers to sponsor and manage educational events and longer-term programing. Doing so will foster positive community involvement in Laurelwood's preservation in the years to come.

As the public becomes more aware of Laurelwood and visitation increases, it may be beneficial to host events on a regular schedule—annually, seasonally, or even monthly depending on available budget and public interest.

Proper planning is an essential first step in the process of developing programing and events. Consider the following educational opportunities for Laurelwood:



A group of Winthrop University students learn about photographic documentation of historic cemeteries as part of Laurelwood's Marker/Monument Survey, Laurelwood Cemetery, Rock Hill, 2019 (WLA Studio).

Guided Cemetery Tours

Providing guided tours of the cemetery grounds is a great way to entice a diverse cross-section of visitors to Laurelwood, from grade-school students to adults, local citizens to international visitors. To attract such audiences, tours can be focused on Laurelwood's significance regarding a range of topics as discussed below. Guided tours can serve as stand-alone programing, but they may also be components of other educational programing related to Laurelwood, such as preservation workshops, lectures, summer camps, and special events. Additionally, tours of Laurelwood can be offered in conjunction with City-wide tours associated with Old Town, the Bleachery, and Winthrop University.

To capitalize on the vast array of opportunities, the Internal Cemetery Committee should start by reviewing the lists for target audiences and potential themes provided below. These lists can then be used to develop specific tours. Each tour should have a formal curriculum that can be advertised and promoted. When possible engage in partnerships with interested groups and individuals to develop tours. Remember to embrace thematic overlap with existing tours and interpretive programing in Rock Hill when developing tour curricula. Once a curriculum is defined for each potential tour, the Internal Cemetery Committee can seek volunteers or paid docents to guide visitors.

Potential target audience for guided tour programing:

- Grade-school students (elementary to high school);
- Undergraduate- and graduate-level college students;
- Local citizens of Rock Hill, including those from diverse cultural backgrounds including local African American, Jewish, and other communities;
- Local special-interest groups;
- Regional public as heritage tourists, especially citizens of nearby Charlotte, NC;
- Regional groups and/or individuals interested in cemetery preservation practices.

Guided cemetery tour topics:

- General history of Laurelwood Cemetery and its role in the development of Rock Hill;
- Cemetery artwork and architecture;
- Symbolism in gravestone/monument artwork;
- Historical patterns of cemetery and public park design;
- The use of symbolic vegetation;
- Sustainable landscape design;
- The history of American burial practices;
- Biographies of significant persons buried in the cemetery;
- Sculptors of Rock Hill and surrounding region;
- Commemoration of veterans at Laurelwood;
- Confederate memorials, Civil Rights, and slavery in America;
- Historic Cemetery Preservation, Restoration, and Conservation;
- Plant identification;
- Cemetery ecosystems;
- Animals in the cemetery.

Previously Identified Tour Opportunities

The 2013 Laurelwood Cemetery Vision Study identifies the following specific tour opportunities:

The Story of Laurelwood (to be offered year-round) – The history of Laurelwood Cemetery is the history of Rock Hill. Many of the city's most famous residents have been laid to rest on the grounds, dating as far back as 1872. Visit these notable citizens, including members of the White family and the first mayor of Rock Hill. Explore the Jewish grounds and the Civil War section, a burial site for at least 171 Confederate veterans. Walk through the design and development of the site through the vision of famed landscape architect Earle S. Draper.

Landscape Architecture (to be offered year-round) - This tour includes a narrative of Laurelwood told through the lens of landscape and design. Visitors will learn about the oldest portions of the cemetery and how it grew over the years from the first acquisition of the Witherspoon parcel to the influence of famed landscape architect Earle S. Draper. This tour could include a close look at the design methodology and intent of Draper who favored grand curves and ideals of the early suburban development movement.

Night Walk (Seasonal) - A self guided stroll through an illuminated Laurelwood Cemetery. Lanterns and lights guide the visitors' way throughout the grounds highlighting important works of art and notable citizens of Rock Hill.

Funerary Art (Seasonal) - The evolution of funerary art within Laurelwood is told through the stories behind the many sculptures, obelisks and marble grave markers present on its grounds including the Confederate Monument sited here in the 1930s.

Halloween Tours (Seasonal) - Walking/biking tours focusing on the folktales around the cemetery and notable citizens buried at Laurelwood.

Education & Interpretation

Consider offering a range of services related to guided tours, such as:

Regularly-scheduled Tours:

- Best suited for topics related to general site history, significance, and preservation;
- Open to the public;
- Generally limited to about 12 guests;
- Frequency will depend on public interest and budgeting;
- Requires only one docent;
- Can charge small fee or suggest donation.

Private Tours:

- Well-suited for the full range of potential educational topics;
- Can support small or large groups (groups of more than about 20 guests should be split into multiple groups);
- Should be scheduled 30-45 days ahead;
- Recommended fee for private tours is $12-$15 for adults, $6-$10 for students and seniors; recommend requiring deposit of at least $50 with reservation.

Golf Cart Tours:

- Well-suited for the full range of potential educational topics;
- Geared toward small groups of generally less than five people;
- Should be scheduled 30-45 days ahead;
- Requires staff support prior to, during, and after tour;
- Requires purchase and maintenance of golf carts;
- Recommend requiring $50 minimum fee to be collected with reservation.

Cemetery Field-Trips

- Well-suited for the full range of potential educational topics;
- Geared toward student groups;
- May require multiple docents depending upon class size and teacher involvement;
- Recommend developing partnerships with local special-interest groups to sponsor such programming;
- Local, state, and national grant funding may be available to support such programing.

Special Event Tours

- Well-suited for the full range of potential educational topics;
- Shorter than the typical, regularly-scheduled tours, special events tours can be provided as components of lecture series, hands-on workshops, and even recreational events;
- Can support small or large groups;
- Staff support likely required prior to, during, and after event;
- Funding may be available through associated educational programing.

Recommended Tours

Then and Now:The Story of Laurelwood

Offered weekly or monthly year-round, this tour is considered the basic, all-around educational tour for Laurelwood. It is suitable for all ages and target audiences. Topics include Laurelwood's historical development, description of the site's character areas, the art and architecture of the site, cemetery landscape design, stories of those buried therein, and more. This tour emphasizes the fact that Laurelwood is not only a historic site but also an open-air museum capable of telling a wealth of stories to diverse audiences. ***See the description of Paul Gettys' Established Interpretive Walking Tour of Laurelwood below for suggested curriculum.***

Symbols of Life and Death

Recommended as a seasonal offering, this tour focusses on Laurelwood's symbolic funerary artwork as well as the symbolic character of the site's design and landscaping. Symbolism is apparent in nearly every character-defining aspect of the cemetery. Even the name "Laurelwood" is itself symbolic, drawing associations with Romantic notions of victory, immortality, ritual purification, prosperity, and health.

Resources to help develop curriculum for this tour include:

- *Stories in Stone: A Field Guide to Cemetery Symbolism and Iconography,* by Douglas Keister (Gibbs Smith Publishing) April, 2004. Available on amazon.com
- *Symbolism in the Cemetery, Teaching with Oak Hill Cemetery* (National Park Service and Kansas Historic Society) – specifically "Oak Hill Cemetery: Symbols on headstones and their meaning". https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/DownloadFile/565029
- *A Cemetery Reference Guide to Understanding Terminologies, Gravestone Art, Monuments & Abbreviations (Voices from the Cities of the Dead, Part One),* by Dusty Smith, photographs by Kourtnie Nandial (Raven's Loch Publishing House), 2008. Available on amazon.com
- The Association for Gravestone Studies: Symbolism on Gravestones, by Jessie Lie Farber. https://www.gravestonestudies.org/knowledge-center/symbolism

The Landscape of Death

Recommended as a seasonal offering, this tour focusses on the significance of Laurelwood as a designed landscape in Rock Hill. The site's preserved historic character areas serve as excellent examples of historical trends in American landscape planning and design, including the Rural Cemetery Movement and the Lawn Plan Style. Specific topics that may be addressed during this tour include significance of Earle Sumner Draper and Harold B. Bursley, historical patterns of cemetery and public park design, symbolic vegetation in cemeteries, sustainable landscape design, the history of American burial practices, plant identification, cemetery ecosystems, and animals in the cemetery. This tour is also well-suited for cross-promotion with hands-on cemetery preservation workshops related to routine maintenance and landscaping.

Resources to help develop curriculum for this tour include:

- *Design on the Land: The Development of Landscape Architecture,* by Norman T. Newton (The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press) 1971. Available on amazon.com
- *Memory and Landscape: Nature and the History of the American Cemetery*, by David Charles Sloane (A Journal of Place, Vol. 6, No. 1) Fall 2010, pp. 3-6. https://www.jstor.org/stable/10.2307/24884162
- *Guidelines for Evaluating and registering Cemeteries and Burial Places, National Register Bulletin 41* (National Park Service). https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/pdfs/nrb41.pdf

Recommended Tours (cont.)

Brookland and Beyond

This tour focusses on the success of Rock Hill's local African American community. Laurelwood is an ideal venue for such a tour due to the proximity of the remaining resources of the historic Brookland community. Further research is necessary to determine specific content and potential tour stops on cemetery grounds.

The Internal Cemetery Committee should consult with local special-interest groups and knowledgeable citizens to develop curriculum for this tour. Important groups include any engaged in planning for Rock Hill's African American Cultural Resources Center and special committees addressing cultural heritage tourism within the City's government.

Look to the Historic Oakland Foundation, headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia's Oakland Cemetery, for examples of accepted interpretive programing related to topics such as slavery, the Civil War, Civil Rights, and local African American heritage. Of note are tours offered at Oakland Cemetery entitled "Black Magnolias," "Pioneers of Atlanta," and "We Shall Overcome: African American Stories from Civil War to Civil Rights." See https://oaklandcemetery.com/tours/.

An important component of developing this tour will be local oral histories. See the guidance for recording local histories below for further information. This tour, and indeed any that focus on such topics, will enhance visitor experience at Laurelwood by increasing diversity of interpretive content.

Sculpting Rock Hill and Laurelwood Cemetery

A short tour of Laurelwood highlighting known works of locally-, regionally-, and nationally-renowned sculptors and monument artists. Paul Gettys and an associate are in the process of writing a book related to this topic, and these individuals should be consulted during the process of developing a tour curriculum.

Rock Hill's Jewish Cemetery

A tour of the Jewish Cemetery grounds near the southeast corner of Laurelwood. Many important figures associated with the development of Rock Hill are buried here. Further research is required and consultation should be made with knowledgeable local citizens and/or special-interest groups.

Laurelwood's War Veterans

This tour focusses on the commemorative markers and monuments of Rock Hill's war veterans in Laurelwood. In addition to the Confederate Monument, the graves of at least 171 Confederate veterans are marked with the Confederate Cross of Honor in Laurelwood today. Hundreds of other graves of veterans from other conflicts are marked with honorary plaques, stones, and medallions, such as bronze Veterans of Foreign Wars markers. The American Legion Plot is an important aspect of the narrative of veteran commemoration in Rock Hill.

Historical and archival research is required to develop curriculum for this tour. Materials such as newspapers, City Council meeting minutes, historic photographs, local histories, and deed records should be referenced.

Established Interpretive Walking Tour of Laurelwood

Paul Gettys, a resident of Rock Hill who prepared the National Register Nomination for Laurelwood Cemetery, developed an in-depth curriculum for an ***interpretive walking tour of Laurelwood***. The information, summarized below, provides an overview of Rock Hill's and Laurelwood Cemetery's development. It also includes stops at multiple grave plots, where the tour discusses local history and funereal art.

The tour begins at the Confederate Monument, winds its way toward the middle of the cemetery, and finally proceeds back up the hill ending at the Confederate Monument.

Stop One: Rock Hill's Confederate Monument (Overview and Confederate Monument)

After the Civil War, as Rock Hill began to grow rapidly, it attracted families from other areas to take advantage of the economic opportunities offered in the growing city. Families from western York County, Chester County, Lancaster County, and North Carolina made Rock Hill home, and they did not have a connection to the local church cemeteries, so there arose a need for a city cemetery.

One day in late 1872 or early 1873, Rev. James Spratt White, representing the White family, and Iredell Jones, Mayor of Rock Hill, stood, probably on the high point where the Confederate Monument is today, and began laying out a cemetery. The City had purchased five acres from Mrs. Ann H. White on December 13, 1872. This was the western section of the White family land.



We do not know the origin of the name Laurelwood, though it is a common name for cemeteries in the United States during this period. The earliest sections contain large family plots, which were maintained by the families, with the City maintaining the drives.

Additional sections were added to Laurelwood as more space was needed. In 1894, a six-acre parcel was secured from the estate of Mrs. White, who had died in 1880. In 1914, another 8.5 acres was purchased from A.H. Witherspoon, Mrs. White's son-in-law.

Laurelwood was placed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2008. There are several reasons for its importance:

- The cemetery tells us a great deal about the growth and development of Rock Hill as an important Piedmont city in South Carolina.
- It tells us about the individuals and families who were important to the early history of the city.
- It provides wonderful examples of "funerary art" through the tombstones and statuary, and it shows us how these styles have changed over the years.
- The development and growth of Laurelwood shows how the city was planning for the future.
- Laurelwood provides a beautiful and needed open space in the middle of the city.
- The tombstone inscriptions tell us about the human nature of those who have passed away, their religious beliefs, and their pain for lost children, spouses, and parents.

The Confederate Monument occupies the highest point in the cemetery. Rock Hill's first Confederate monument was erected in Confederate Park in 1922 by the Ann White Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC). This statue was designed and carved by Rock Hill artisan John G. Sassi, an Italian immigrant who lived and operated a monument works just down the hill on the comer of West White Street and Laurel Street. Unfortunately, the monument was subjected to vandalism while in its original location across town. In 1936, the base of the monument was moved to this site, and a new soldier statue was ordered from Italy.

Stop Two: White Family Plot

The family of George P. White and Ann Hutchison White was very important to the early history of Rock Hill. The family provided a right-of-way for the railroad which led to the creation of Rock Hill, and much of the city was developed on their farm. Their house, the White Home, is preserved today. It is open to the public and serves as the headquarters of Historic Rock Hill. Buried in the family plot are Ann H. White, who helped found First Presbyterian Church and many of Rock Hill's earliest institutions; her son Rev. James Spratt White, who led in creating the library and public schools; Mary E. White, Ann's daughter who lived in the White Home for her entire life; and Adeline Caldwell, Ann's sister. Ann's husband, George White, died at an early age and is buried at Ebenezer ARP Church.



1896 view of the White family plot in Laurelwood's Rural Cemetery looking south. (J. S. White Collection, Ida Jane Dacus Library, Winthrop University Archives)

Stop Three: Hutchison Family Plot

Among those buried here is Capt. A. E. Hutchison, brother of Ann White and a merchant and investor in the Rock Hill Cotton Factory, the first textile mill in the city. To the west of this area are two interesting graves: Judge James Marr Rutland is buried in the only sarcophagus in the cemetery. He was an outstanding judge, but during the Reconstruction period, he sided with the Federal forces and suffered politically. Also in the area is the grave of Dr. J. W. Fewell, one of Rock Hill's early Mayors. His grave is marked by an unusual orb.



Southwest of here and outside the boundaries of the municipal cemetery is the historic Jewish Cemetery. Shortly after the Civil War, four brothers of the Friedheim family came to Rock Hill: August, Julius, Samuel, and Arnold. This plot was purchased by the family for the use of their family and other Jewish families. Julius, August, and Arnold Friedheim were merchants. Friedheim's store on Main Street, rebuilt in 1898 after a fire, was the largest mercantile in Rock Hill. It is now the Wells Fargo Center.



Stop Four: Roddy/Reid Family Plot

Capt. William Lyle Roddey was born in eastern York County and served in a Chester County unit during the Civil War. After the war, he became a leading merchant, banker, textile investor, and entrepreneur in Rock Hill. He owned the Roddey Building on Main Street, which housed a hotel, bank, and opera house. He was also one of those instrumental in bringing Winthrop University to Rock Hill. Samuel L. Reid, related to Roddey by marriage, moved to Rock Hill in 1873. He later became a partner.

Reid brought the first telephone system to the area, creating a line from the store on Main Street to the store at Roddey Station, some seven miles away.



Stop Five: Dr. Thomas Lynn Johnson Gravesite

Dr. Thomas Lynn Johnston was a surgeon during the Civil War. He came to Rock Hill following the war and developed a large medical practice. He died at a relatively early age, and his wife Dorcas later divided the family farm into lots, creating Johnston Street and Hampton Street.

Stop Six: Smith-Workman Plot

Andrew Rhett Smith was one of the founders of the Rock Hill Telephone Company (now Comporium) and President of the Rock Hill Buggy Company. He died at the age of 48 in 1898 during a worship service at First Presbyterian Church. The distraught family arranged for a spectacular statue of an angel to be placed on his grave. Imported from Italy, it stood there for many years. One of the family members later wanted to place footstones on all the graves in the family plot. He arranged for Mr. Sassi, the Rock Hill monument carver, to do so, and paid him by trading the statue of the angel. It stood in Mr. Sassi's studio for years. When the DAR was planning a memorial to Elizabeth Jackson, mother of President Andrew Jackson at Waxhaw Presbyterian Church in Lancaster County, they discovered the angel in Mr. Sassi's studio, and it was purchased for reuse. It still graces the memorial to Mrs. Jackson.



This large granite monument, in the Rural Cemetery, marks the graves of J. G. Sassi and his wife Livia Capponi. A citizen of Rock Hill himself, Sassi designed and carved many of Rock Hill's historic headstones and family plot monuments at his local studio.

Stop Seven: London Family Plot

John Rutherford London was a Major in the Civil War. He moved to Rock Hill shortly after the war and became a brilliant merchant. He studied the "Blackjacks" area south of Rock Hill in York and Chester Counties. This soil was considered a wasteland. He determined that the addition of potash to the soil would allow it to be used for agriculture. Even today, the Blackjacks is one of the best agricultural areas of the county. Mr. London sold thousands of carloads of potash to landowners. He was Mayor of Rock Hill for three terms, and he invested in several textile mills and was a successful banker. He and his wife were leaders in organizing the Episcopal Church of Our Saviour.

Stop Eight: Springs Family Plot

One of the members of Fort Mill's well-known Springs family was Richard Austin Springs. He owned Springsteen Plantation, located on the Rock Hill side of the Catawba River near today's Galleria Mall. The plantation spanned over 1,600 acres. Mrs. Springs was instrumental in founding St. Johns United Methodist Church. Mr. Springs was a classmate of Edgar Allen Poe at the University of Virginia, and they remained lifelong friends. He was known for owning some of the finest race horses in the state.

Stop Nine: Holler Family Plot

Capt A. D. Holler was a contractor who shaped the physical layout of Rock Hill through his career. He was a veteran of a Chester County unit in the Civil War and moved to Rock Hill in 1872. His daughter married John Gary Anderson, who controlled the Rock Hill Buggy Company and later the Anderson Motor Company. Holler built a number of textile mills, including the Rock Hill Cotton Factory, the Highland Park, Arcade, Victoria, and Manchester textile mills, schools, stores, and numerous fine houses in Rock Hill and Chester. He gave the land for Friendship College and owned a brickworks, which made over one million bricks for the original buildings on the Winthrop campus. Jimmy Holler is interred behind A. D. Holler. His was the second interment in Laurelwood.



Historic view looking north at mill housing (no longer extant) from near the Ratterree Family Plot. Date and precise location unknown. Photo courtesy of Historic Rock Hill.

Stop Ten: Ferguson H. Barber Plot

Like so many other early leaders, Mr. Barber moved to Rock Hill from Chester County following the Civil War. He was a lifelong member and contributor of St. Johns United Methodist Church, along with Mrs. Springs. He was partner in the mercantile firm Allen and Barber. He also owned extensive farm interests.

Stop Eleven: McCosh Family Plot

Capt. Reid H. McCosh was a Civil War veteran from Chester County who moved to Rock Hill in 1870. In 1872, he and his wife built a brick cottage on Black Street. It is still there, the oldest brick house in Rock Hill (at the intersection of Black and Oakland Avenue). McCosh was a clerk in mercantile stores. He was an active Presbyterian, but his wife (the former Jane McFadden) was an ardent Baptist. She began gathering together Baptists in the new village and helped to organize First Baptist Church in 1878. Their son Edgar Holden McCosh died at the age of 14 and became the first person to be buried in Laurelwood Cemetery in 1872.

Stop Twelve:Wood-Creed-Kerr Plot

Members of this family lived on West Main Street. Thomas Wood was an early brick mason and built the Ebenezer Academy building in 1860. Wallace Kerr was Postmaster of Rock Hill (1870-1873), appointed by President U.S. Grant. He was the third person buried at Laurelwood. Buena Vista Wood was Postmistress of Rock Hill from 1873- 1892.

Stop Thirteen: Ratterree Family Plot

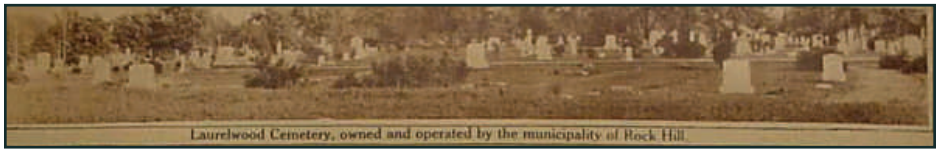
John Ratterree and his wife, the former Martha Elizabeth Workman, came to Rock Hill from Chester County. John became a successful merchant and a large-scale dealer in horses and mules. He became a major political figure in the town.

From this spot, one has a good view to the north across West White Street and to the former site of the Rock Hill Printing and Finishing Company factory, known locally as the Bleachery. Now being redeveloped, this site has housed the Rock Hill Buggy Company, the Anderson Motor Company, and an extensive mill housing area. At one point, the Bleachery was one of the largest textile operations in the world.

Stop Fourteen: Draper and Bursley Extension of Cemetery

In the 1910s, the City had sold all available lots in Laurelwood Cemetery. The City also wanted a study made of best practices in municipal cemeteries because of complaints about the overall appearance of the cemetery. In 1914, the City purchased an additional 8.5 acres on the north edge of the existing cemetery. They hired Earl S. Draper, a well known landscape architect and city planner in Charlotte to oversee the expansion of the cemetery. In 1918, Draper presented his design, which included sweeping curvilinear drives that followed the topography of the site. He included several secondary paths, which connect to the interior of the grid from the drives; these featured occasional seating areas.

In the 1930s, the City began to plan again for another expansion. They hired Harold Bursley, a landscape architect and engineer from Charlotte, to design the 7.7-acre expansion. It includes one oval loop drive that mimics elements of Draper's curvilinear geometry.



Undated historic image looking south from the north end of Laurelwood's Draper Area. (Photograph courtesy of Historic Rock Hill.)



Current view of a northern portion of the Bursley Area.

Stop Fifteen: J.M. Ivy Plot

James Morrow Ivy came to Rock Hill from the Indian Land area of Lancaster County. His father was Rev. Adam Ivy, whose home still stands in the Indian Land area was the founder of several Methodist churches and farmed a 1,500-acre plantation. James Ivy came to Rock Hill as a boy to study at the Rock Hill Academy and later Ebenezer Academy. He went to South Carolina College (now USC) and served in the Civil War, where he was badly wounded. He returned to Rock Hill in 1869 and started the J. M. Ivy Company. He became one of the largest cotton buyers in upper South Carolina. He is credited with inventing the cotton futures market as early as 1872. Because of his volume of trading, he could offer better prices for cotton than any other dealer. This brought farmers to Rock Hill from a wide area. The town's business in cotton went from 2,000 bales to well over 12,000 bales in just a few years. This level of trading helped many other businesses, as farmers were in town with money in their hands. Ivy invested in a number of other businesses, including a drug store, and the creation of the Lantern newspaper, which eventually became the Herald. With A. E. Hutchison, he helped create the first textile mill, the Rock Hill Cotton Factory. Ivy served as Mayor for two terms. Many consider him the "Father of Rock Hill" because of the great progress the city made under his leadership. Two of the Ivy children are buried next to Mr. and Mrs. Ivy.



Photos of the Ivy children were sent to Italy where their likenesses were carved into statues that mark their graves today.

Stop Sixteen: Hope Plot

Dr. Robert Hervey Hope was the first doctor in Rock Hill. He came to the City in 1859 and practiced for 39 years. He was from Mecklenburg County and attended medical school at Charleston. He married Amelia Jane McFadden of Chester County. Shortly after his death, the women of Rock Hill and surrounding areas began to collect money for his monument. They erected the impressive obelisk in appreciation for his long service, especially during the Civil War, when most of the men were in service and Dr. Hope provided faithful care and protection.

Additional Stop: Potter's Field

By 1912, the City had set aside an this area as a "Potter's Field"—a term generally used to describe a place designated for the burial of those without families or the indigent. Burial records and archived City Council meeting minutes indicate that this area was used quite frequently during the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. Today, there are hundreds of graves in this area, and a large percentage of them are marked. However, burial records indicate that there are likely many unmarked graves in this area. The grave markers are generally small and unadorned compared to those in rest of the cemetery, but, despite their size and simplicity, many of the markers are inscribed with names and dates.





Although there are unmarked graves in Laurelwood's Potter's Fields, many are marked with small headstones inscribed with names and birth/death dates. Especially concerning the oldest Potter's Field, historical and on-site research may reveal more information regarding the relationship between those buried here and Rock Hill's 19th century citizens.

Lecture Series

Laurelwood Cemetery is an appropriate place to hosting lectures and other academic gatherings such as small conferences. The Simon Williams House and the cemetery grounds are ideal facilities to host such events as long as attendance is limited to no more than about 20-30 visitors. If such events are successful and public interest grows, new, larger facilities can be developed.

Like guided tours, formal academic programing is a great way to increase local and regional public interest in the cemetery's preservation, interpretation, and enhancement. A first step in developing such programing will involve developing and fostering relationships with local organizations, schools, special-interest groups, and committees engaged in local planning and interpretation initiatives—of note are the following:

- ***Winthrop University History Department***. An internship program began in 2019 as a partnership between Rock Hill's Cemetery Services and Winthrop University. The initial survey and conditions assessments of Laurelwood, begun that year, is supported by this internship program.
- ***Winthrop University Archives: Louise Pettus Archives and the Dacus Library.*** Consider developing a relationship with departments of the Winthrop Universities archives to cross-promote lecture series, archival studies, and other academic pursuits.
- ***York County Library;*** especially the ***Genealogy and Local History*** component.
- ***Rock Hill Parks, Recreation, and Tourism;***
- ***Rock Hill Schools Board;*** it will be important to develop relationships and partnerships with board members, administrators, teachers, and staff of local schools to develop programing for grade-school-age children.
- ***Knowledge Park Action Plan;***
- ***The Bleachery Heritage Project;***
- ***Those involved in development of Rock Hill's African American Cultural Resources Center and the Friendship College project;***
- ***City Council;***
- ***Internal committees with the City government;***

As is the case for guided tour programing, specific lectures and associated programing can be developed to target a wide range of audiences and can be associated with many topics.

Suggested Two-hour Lecture Series:

Consider developing short courses related to academic and technical topics such as:

- The Origin and Development of Rock Hill;
- Rock Hill's Founders, Entrepreneurs, and Elites;
- The Simon Williams House and the Historic Brookland Community;
- Rock Hill's Historic African American Business District;
- Development of Rock Hill's Textile Industry;
- Historic Preservation of Laurelwood Cemetery;
- Gravestone Typology, Materials, and Design;
- Stone Carving and Sculpture;
- Documenting Cultural Landscapes: Photography, Survey, Assessment, and Recordation;
- Symbolism in the Cemetery;
- Funding Preservation and Conservation Planning;
- Transformation of the Landscape of Death: Rehabilitation of Laurelwood as a Modern Greenspace;
- The evolution of American Burial Practices;
- Conducting Historical and Archival Research;
- Curating Heritage Resources;
- Historic Site Interpretation;
- Collecting and Honoring Local Oral Histories;
- Cemetery Landscape Maintenance;

The list of potential topics will grow as the Internal Cemetery Committee pursues partnerships with appropriate organizations and qualified academic professionals in related fields. City staff and administrators, local historians, community leaders, Winthrop University professors, local education professionals, and regional academic professionals and consultants will likely be instrumental partners in developing short courses.

Suggested Full- or Half-day Lecture and Walking Tour Series:

"Funerary Artworks of Historic Laurelwood Cemetery"

Hold a one-day workshop highlighting the significance of Laurelwood's historic funerary artwork.

Workshop format:

- Classroom-style informational session
- Historic cemetery walking tour

Workshop topics:

- Local and regional monument carvers
- Historic development and expansion of Laurelwood Cemetery
- Grave marker/monument typology
- Materials of commemorative markers

Target audience:

- Undergraduate- and graduate-level college students;
- Local citizens of Rock Hill;
- Local special-interest groups;
- Regional public as heritage tourists;
- Regional groups and/or individuals interested in cemetery preservation practices

Partner agencies:

- Winthrop University
- Rock Hill Parks, Recreation, and Tourism

"The Landscape of Commemoration"

Abstract: Laurelwood Cemetery's physical appearance and configuration are a product of its gradual growth over time. Since the cemetery's establishment in 1872, burial practices, cemetery design, and landscape management practices have changed several times. Each stage of change has resulted in the development of unique spaces, or character areas, within Laurelwood. These areas are made distinct by the organization, type, style, and frequency of preserved physical features. The cemetery's development reflects national patterns of history related to the academic field of Landscape Architecture, and two of Laurelwood's character areas were designed by noteworthy American landscape architects.

Hold a one-day workshop highlighting the significance of Laurelwood as a designed landscape in Rock Hill.

Workshop format:

- Classroom-style informational session
- Historic cemetery walking tour

Workshop Topics:

- Historic development of Laurelwood Cemetery
- The Rural Cemetery Movement
- The Lawn Plan Style and American cemeteries
- Laurelwood's Landscape Architects, Earl Sumner Draper and Harold B. Bursley

Target audience:

- Undergraduate- and graduate-level college students;
- Local citizens of Rock Hill;
- Local special-interest groups;
- Regional public as heritage tourists;
- Regional groups and/or individuals interested in cemetery preservation practices

Partner agencies:

- Winthrop University
- Rock Hill Parks, Recreation, and Tourism

Teaching with Historic Places: Developing Lesson Plans for Education at Laurelwood

Many of the educational topics discussed above can also be included in curricula geared toward a younger audience, specifically grade-school-aged children. Most adults can recall moments in their lives when they learned something important while standing on a significant historic site. The site may have been one associated with a famous person(s) in history, an important event, or one recalling the lives of those past. Teachers, preservationists, and historic site specialist have long understood that historic sites offer unique opportunities to capture the interest of students in a way that textbooks may not. Historic sites, like Laurelwood Cemetery, can serve as resources for comprehensive educational programing to enliven history, social studies, geography, civics, botany, ecology, and other subjects.



The following resources will provide context and serve as a starting point in the process of developing educational programing for grade-school students related to Laurelwood Cemetery:

Teaching with Historic Places

Teaching with Historic Places (TwHP) is an organization within the National Park Service that focusses on using historic places in National Parks and sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places as teaching tools. TwHP has created a variety of products and activities to help educators develop lesson plans for programming at historic sites. A series of professional development materials are provided on TwHP's website at: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/teachingwithhistoricplaces/professional-development.htm

Excerpt from "Teaching with Historic Places and the 'Power of Place': Using Places to Teach":

> ***Historic places have powerful & provocative stories to tell…***
>
> *As witnesses to the past, they recall the events that shaped history and the people who faced those situations and issues. Places make connections across time that give them a special ability to create an empathetic understanding of what happened and why.*
>
> ***Why Places***
>
> *Real historic places generate excitement and curiosity about the people who lived there and the events that occurred there. From ancient ruins, homes of presidents and poets, and battlefields that comprise national parks, to the main streets, factories, and farms listed in the National Register of Historic Places because they make a state or community special, places grab our attention. They offer experiences and information that help make the past real for anyone who visits or studies them. Rooted in this certainty, Teaching with Historic Places promotes places as effective tools for enlivening traditional classroom instruction.*
>
> ***Students As Historians***
>
> *Teaching with Historic Places lesson plans turn students into*

historians as they study primary sources, historical and contemporary photographs and maps, and other documents, and then search for the history around them in their own communities. They enjoy a historian's sense of discovery as they learn about the past by actively examining places to gather information, form and test hypotheses, piece together "the big picture," and bridge the past to the present. By seeking out nearby historic places, students explore the relationship of their own community's history to the broader themes that have shaped this country.

Places help students develop skills as well as knowledge. Students learn to observe, gather facts, compare and contrast, synthesize and analyze, evaluate sources of evidence, develop and test hypotheses, and draw conclusions. Places are therefore well-suited to help teachers meet both state and national curriculum standards in social studies, history, geography, and other subjects. One of the ten themes in the Curriculum Standards for Social Studies, for example, is "People, Places, and Environments." The National Geography Standards use an understanding of the characteristics of and relationships among people, places, and environments as one of the marks of student achievement.

Teaching and Learning

By using places listed in the National Register to "bring history to life," educators can help students connect social studies, history, geography, and other subjects to their own lives. Students not only learn better, but also come to appreciate the value of the nation's cultural resources. TwHP materials guide teachers, historians, historic site specialists, and others through this process.

It is not necessary, though, to visit a place to feel its connections to history. Through a variety of materials and activities, Teaching with Historic Places (TwHP) enables teachers and students to learn from places without leaving the classroom. By examining and questioning readings, documents, maps, photographs, and by engaging in activities, students connect these locations to the broad themes of American history.

Places can help students connect the history all around them with national events and themes. A TwHP lesson based on the courthouse in St. Louis, for example, shows how people there debated a railroad route that would have national impact and how the Dred Scott Supreme Court decision started with a local case. Studying this building will help students understand the importance of their local and state courthouses, as well helping them grasp the significance of historic places generally. Local sites often make a stronger impression on students than those more famous but farther away, thereby sparking their desire to learn more.

Ultimately, teaching with and about historic places benefits everyone. Educators have one more means with which to engage and excite students, students acquire knowledge from and an appreciation for cultural resources, and society gains a better-educated citizenry.

Example lesson plans for programing at historic cemeteries are available online. The following are of particular interest:

Mount Auburn Cemetery: A New American Landscape

The following is an excerpt from the lesson plan, which was developed by TwHP. The entire plan is available at https://www.nps.gov/nr/twhp/wwwlps/lessons/84mountauburn/84mountauburn.htm.

About This Lesson

This lesson plan is based on the National Register of Historic Places registration file, "Mount Auburn Cemetery" (photographs), and other documents related to the cemetery. It was produced in collaboration with the National Park Service Historic Landscape Initiative. Janet Heywood, Director of Interpretive Programs at Mount Auburn Cemetery, and Cathleen Lambert Breitkreutz, formerly Assistant Director of Interpretive Programs, wrote Mount Auburn Cemetery: A New American Landscape. Jean West, education consultant, and the Teaching with Historic Places staff edited the lesson. TwHP is sponsored, in part, by the Cultural Resources Training Initiative and Parks as Classrooms programs of the National Park Service. This lesson is one in a series that brings the important stories of historic places into classrooms across the country.

This lesson looks at cemeteries and attitudes towards death and burial. Teachers are advised to judge the emotional state and maturity level of their students before using these materials.

Where it fits into the curriculum

Topics: This lesson plan focuses on the development of new attitudes toward death, nature, and family life in the early 19th century, a time of rapidly growing urban centers and changing ideals. It can be used in U.S. history, social studies, and geography courses in units on urbanization and reform movements.

Time period: Early to mid 19th century

Relevant United States History Standards for Grades 5-12

Relevant Curriculum Standards for Social Studies

Find your state's social studies and history standards for grades Pre-K-12

Objectives for students

1) To examine the historical causes that led to the founding of Mount Auburn Cemetery.

2) To describe the role that Mount Auburn cemetery played in early 19th-century leisure activities and the development of other rural cemeteries.

3) To analyze the landscape character of Mount Auburn Cemetery and explain how landscape qualities can affect visitors' emotions and feelings.

4) To compare the origin, design, and use of a cemetery or park in their own community with Mount Auburn Cemetery.

Materials for students

The materials listed below either can be used directly on the computer or can be printed out, photocopied, and distributed to students. The maps and images appear twice: in a smaller, low-resolution version with associated questions and alone in a larger version.

1) two maps of the site and surrounding region;

2) three readings about Mount Auburn's history and landscape design;

3) six drawings of Mount Auburn;

4) one photo of Mount Auburn.

Visiting the site

Mount Auburn Cemetery is located at the Watertown-Cambridge border, about 4 miles from downtown Boston and about one mile west of Harvard Square. The grounds are open every day of the year from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with extended hours to 7:00 p.m. in the summer. The office is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday

through Friday; and 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturdays. Mount Auburn remains an active cemetery and also offers a wide variety of tours and lectures throughout the year. For more information, contact the Mount Auburn Cemetery, 580 Mount Auburn Street, Cambridge, MA 02138 or visit their website.

Teaching with Oak Hill Cemetery

The following was compiled from the City of Lawrence, Kansas, website at https://lawrenceks.org/lprd/parks/oakhillcemetery/.

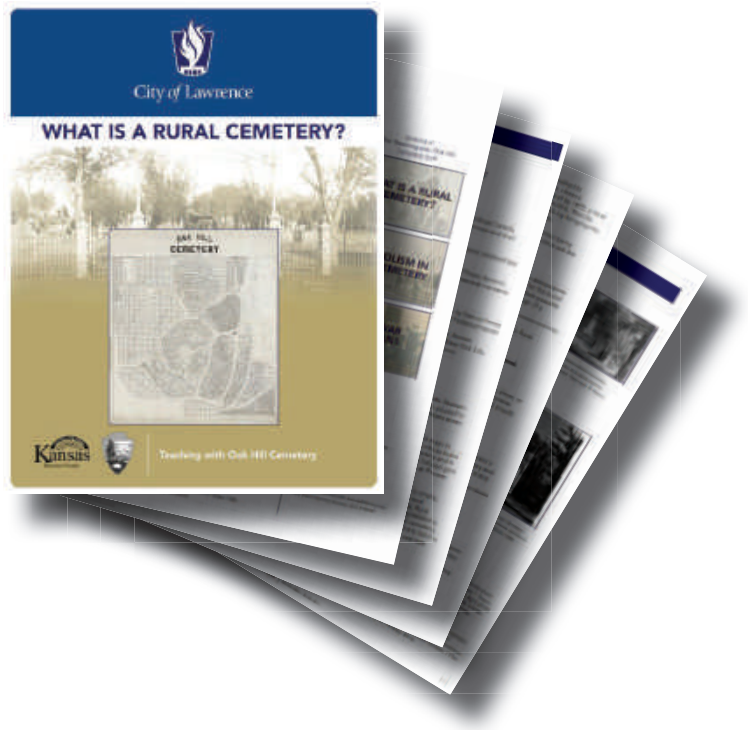
Teaching with Oak Hill Cemetery is a four-part series which is part of Kansas standards–based lessons developed to enable students to understand, summarize, and evaluate materials provided related to the history, design and development of Oak Hill Cemetery. Each lesson was designed to stand-alone, but they may be used in multiple combinations to suit the needs of the educator. Taken together they tell a rich history of Kansas and Oak Hill Cemetery. This series is inspired by the National Park Service Teaching with Historic Places standards.

In the "What is a Rural Cemetery?" lesson students will be asked to analyze and evaluate the similarities and differences between Oak Hill, Greenwood, and Mount Auburn Cemeteries. Using a step-by-step process, students will acquire historical thinking skills and learn to analyze and assess primary and secondary source materials. Through close reading and comparative analysis students will make logical inferences building on the central question "What is a Rural Cemetery?"

In the "Symbolism in the Cemetery" lesson students will analyze the symbology utilized on grave markers in Oak Hill Cemetery. Using a step-by-step process they will acquire historical thinking skills and learn to read the meaning of these commemorative graphical depictions.

In the "Civil War Veterans" lesson students will investigate the histories of Civil War Veterans buried at Oak Hill Cemetery. Using a step-by-step process, students will acquire historical thinking skills, work with and organize data, and learn to analyze and assess primary and secondary source materials. Lastly, students will research and produce a story covering a Civil War Veteran's history.

In the "People of Oak Hill" lesson students will explore the lives of notable Kansans buried at Oak Hill Cemetery. Using a step-by-step process, students will acquire historical thinking skills and will organize and analyze data. Lastly, students will develop and defend position statements and opinions about the importance of the contributions these Kansans have made to our society.



Service-Learning Projects

Service-learning projects can involve a combination of classroom instruction, experiential learning, civic engagement, and reflection that will benefit both students and the community. Laurelwood Cemetery is an ideal place to host service-learning projects associated with cemetery clean-up and maintenance activities, preservation projects, and site enhancements.

Ideas for Service-Learning Projects at Laurelwood

- Cemetery clean-up: full- and half-day projects for groups up to about 25 participants;
- Develop a "Junior Docent" program for local youth to engage in leading tours and other educational programing;
- Preservation projects such as painting and minor repair of the Simon Williams House;
- Continued cemetery survey, assessment, and documentation projects;
- Constructing and installing new, site-enhancing features on site;
- Constructing exhibits and interpretive media on site;
- Design, create, and maintain a website focused on the local history and context of Laurelwood;
- Historical research projects;
- Help with oral history projects: collect, and/or transcribe oral histories;

Support for Developing Service-Learning Programs

The National Youth Leadership Council (NYLC) provides support to educators and administrators involved in the process of helping students advance through service-learning projects. The organization partners with municipalities and special-interest groups to create customized trainings at the school, district, community, after-school, or state level; provide ongoing coaching and planning support; and/or develop curriculum rooted in service-learning. NYLC offers the following training workshops that may benefit the educational programing for Laurelwood Cemetery:

Introduction to Service-Learning

Discover how service-learning can help you meet your academic goals, improve classroom culture, and ignite student passion for their own education.

Climbing the Ladder to Meaningful Youth-Adult Partnerships

This interactive workshop proposes Roger Hart's Ladder of participation as an evaluation and planning tool for youth workers and educators. The Ladder of Participation details levels of youth involvement in classrooms and youth programs, from the lowest level of Manipulation to the highest level of Youth Initiated Shared Decisions with Adults.

At the end of this training, participants will be able to assess the role of youth voice in their current programs or classrooms; Collaborate in teams; Develop action steps towards creating more meaningful youth-adult partnerships in their work.

Intermediate-Level One-Day Introduction to Service-Learning Curriculum Planning

Discover how to plan an academically aligned service-learning unit plan, including rigorous assessment.

Participants will: Experience activities that are replicable in or out of the classroom; Receive tools and templates to use during the training and in practice; Work with experts on how to create structures for educators and students to be successful in incorporating service-learning; Receive one print copy of Service-Learning by Design.

Advanced-Level Two-Day Educator Institute
This advanced service-learning training is designed to meet the needs of your school or after-school program. We work with school and organization leadership and educators to create a training just right for you.

Participants will: Develop an academically-aligned service-learning unit plan that includes rigorous assessments; Experience activities that are replicable in or out of the classroom; Understand how to incorporate students into the development and implementation of a service-learning unit; Receive tools and templates to use during the training and in their own practice; Work with experts on how to create structures for educators and students to be successful in incorporating service-learning; Receive 20 hours of technical support following the training; Receive one print copy of Service-Learning by Design; Receive 40 digital copies of Service-Learning by Design.

Customized Trainings

NYLC will work with you to create a customized training that meets your needs so that you can expand the possibilities for all students.

nylc
national youth leadership council



Contact NYLC here: https://www.nylc.org/

Oral History Projects

An oral history project focused on Laurelwood Cemetery will not only increase public awareness of and interest in the cemetery but will also result in discovery of important information about local people and events. An oral history project for Laurelwood will provide a fuller, more accurate picture of the site's history and may even result in collection of historic documents otherwise unattainable, such as public records, statistical data, photographs, maps, letters, diaries, and more.

To begin planning for Laurelwood's Oral History Project, it is recommended that the Internal Cemetery Committee host a half- or full-day workshop. The goal of the workshop would be to develop the skills necessary to undertake an oral history project.



Oral history projects often generate renewed public enthusiasm for the preservation of special places in a community, which sometimes lead to discovery of previously undocumented historic photographs and more. Above are Images of Rock Hill, SC, during the 1890s from the White family collection (Dacus Archives, Winthrop University).

Proposed Laurelwood Cemetery Oral History Workshop

Workshop format:

- Classroom-style informational session

Workshop topics:

- Why collect oral history
- General principles for oral history
- Techniques for recording oral history
- Permissions
- Recording equipment
- Transcribing oral history
- Interpreting oral history

Target Audience:

- City staff interested in learning the ins and outs of conducting oral histories to better develop historic site interpretation
- Members of the public including educational professionals, historians, and others interested in conducting oral history interviews

Recommended partner agencies/consulting opportunities:

- Department of Oral History, University of South Carolina; https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/university_libraries/browse/oral_history/index.php
- Southern Oral History Program, Center for the Study of the American South, University of North Carolina; https://sohp.org/
- Department of History, Winthrop University; https://www.winthrop.edu/cas/history/#
- Genealogy and Local History Department, York County Library, SC; https://www.yclibrary.org/genealogy-local-history

Principles for Oral History and Best Practices for Oral History

The following discussion of oral history was produced by the Oral History Association (OAH), the leading organization that sets professional standards for oral history practitioners in the United States. This document provides important foundational information that should be understood prior to developing programing for Laurelwood's oral history project. The document is available at https://www.oralhistory.org/about/principles-and-practices-revised-2009/.

Introduction

Oral history refers both to a method of recording and preserving oral testimony and to the product of that process. It begins with an audio or video recording of a first-person account made by an interviewer with an interviewee (also referred to as narrator), both of whom have the conscious intention of creating a permanent record to contribute to an understanding of the past. A verbal document, the oral history, results from this process and is preserved and made available in different forms to other users, researchers, and the public. A critical approach to the oral testimony and interpretations are necessary in the use of oral history.

The Oral History Association encourages individuals and institutions involved with the creation and preservation of oral histories to uphold certain principles, professional and technical standards, and obligations. These include commitments to the narrators, to standards of scholarship for history and related disciplines, and to the preservation of the interviews and related materials for current and future users.

Recognizing that clear and concise guide can be useful to all practitioners of oral history, the Oral History Association has since 1968 published a series of statements aimed at outlining a set of principles and obligations for all those who use this methodology. A history of these earlier statements, and a record of the individuals involved in producing them, is available on the Oral History Association webpage at http://www.oralhistory.org/. Building on those earlier documents, but representing changes in an evolving field, the OHA now offers General Principles for Oral History and Best Practices for Oral History as summaries of the organization's most important principles and best practices for the pre-interview preparation, the conduct of the interview, and the preservation and use of oral histories. These documents are not intended to be an inclusive primer on oral history; for that there are numerous manuals, guidebooks, and theoretical discussions. For the readers' convenience, a bibliography of resources is provided online at the Oral History Association website.

General Principles for Oral History

- **Oral history is distinguished from other forms of interviews by its content and extent.** Oral history interviews seek an in-depth account of personal experience and reflections, with sufficient time allowed for the narrators to give their story the fullness they desire. The content of oral history interviews is grounded in reflections on the past as opposed to commentary on purely contemporary events.
- **Oral historians inform narrators about the nature and purpose of oral history interviewing in general and of their interview specifically.** Oral historians insure that narrators voluntarily give their consent to be interviewed and understand that they can withdraw from the interview or refuse to answer a question at any time. Narrators may give this consent by signing a consent form or by recording an oral statement of consent prior to the interview. All interviews are conducted in accord with the stated aims and within the parameters of the consent.
- **Interviewees hold the copyright to their interviews until and unless they transfer those rights to an individual or institution. This is done by the interviewee signing a release form or in exceptional circumstances recording an oral statement to the same effect.** Interviewers must insure that narrators understand the extent of their rights to the interview and the request that those rights be yielded to a repository or other party, as well as their right to put restrictions on the use of the material. All use and dissemination of the interview content must follow any restrictions the narrator places upon it.
- **Oral historians respect the narrators as well as the integrity of the research.** Interviewers are obliged to ask historically significant questions, reflecting careful preparation for the interview and understanding of the issues to be

addressed. Interviewers must also respect the narrators' equal authority in the interviews and honor their right to respond to questions in their own style and language. In the use of interviews, oral historians strive for intellectual honesty and the best application of the skills of their discipline, while avoiding stereotypes, misrepresentations, or manipulations of the narrators' words.

- **Because of the importance of context and identity in shaping the content of an oral history narrative, it is the practice in oral history for narrators to be identified by name.** There may be some exceptional circumstances when anonymity is appropriate, and this should be negotiated in advance with the narrator as part of the informed consent process.
- **Oral history interviews are historical documents that are preserved and made accessible to future researchers and members of the public.** This preservation and access may take a variety of forms, reflecting changes in technology. But, in choosing a repository or form, oral historians consider how best to preserve the original recording and any transcripts made of it and to protect the accessibility and usability of the interview. The plan for preservation and access, including any possible dissemination through the web or other media, is stated in the informed consent process and on release forms.
- **In keeping with the goal of long-term preservation and access, oral historians should use the best recording equipment available within the limits of their financial resources.**
- **Interviewers must take care to avoid making promises that cannot be met**, such as guarantees of control over interpretation and presentation of the interviews beyond the scope of restrictions stated in informed consent/release forms, suggestions of material benefit outside the control of the interviewer, or assurances of an open ended relationship between the narrator and oral historian.

Best Practices for Oral History

Pre-Interview

1. Whether conducting their own research or developing an institutional project, first time interviewers and others involved in oral history projects should seek training to prepare themselves for all stages of the oral history process.
2. In the early stages of preparation, interviewers should make contact with an appropriate repository that has the capacity to preserve the oral histories and make them accessible to the public.
3. Oral historians or others responsible for planning the oral history project should choose potential narrators based on the relevance of their experiences to the subject at hand.
4. To prepare to ask informed questions, interviewers should conduct background research on the person, topic, and larger context in both primary and secondary sources
5. When ready to contact a possible narrator, oral historians should send via regular mail or email an introductory letter outlining the general focus and purpose of the interview, and then follow up with either a phone call or a return email. In projects involving groups in which literacy is not the norm, or when other conditions make it appropriate, participation may be solicited via face to face meetings.
6. After securing the narrator's agreement to be interviewed, the interviewer should schedule a non-recorded meeting. This pre-interview session will allow an exchange of information between interviewer and narrator on possible questions/topics, reasons for conducting the interview, the process that will be involved, and the need for informed consent and legal release forms. During pre-interview discussion the interviewer should make sure that the narrator understands:
    a. Oral history's purposes and procedures in general and of the proposed interview's aims and anticipated uses.
    b. His or her rights to the interviews including editing, access restrictions, copyrights, prior use, royalties, and the expected

disposition and dissemination of all forms of the record, including the potential distribution electronically or on-line.

c. That his or her recording(s) will remain confidential until he or she has given permission via a signed legal release.

7. Oral historians should use the best digital recording equipment within their means to reproduce the narrator's voice accurately and, if appropriate, other sounds as well as visual images. Before the interview, interviewers should become familiar with the equipment and be knowledgeable about its function.

8. Interviewers should prepare an outline of interview topics and questions to use as a guide to the recorded dialogue.

Interview

1. Unless part of the oral history process includes gathering soundscapes, historically significant sound events, or ambient noise, the interview should be conducted in a quiet room with minimal background noises and possible distractions.

2. The interviewer should record a "lead" at the beginning of each session to help focus his or her and the narrator's thoughts to each session's goals. The "lead" should consist of, at least, the names of narrator and interviewer, day and year of session, interview's location, and proposed subject of the recording.

3. Both parties should agree to the approximate length of the interview in advance. The interviewer is responsible for assessing whether the narrator is becoming tired and at that point should ask if the latter wishes to continue. Although most interviews last about two hours, if the narrator wishes to continue those wishes should be honored, if possible.

4. Along with asking creative and probing questions and listening to the answers to ask better follow-up questions, the interviewer should keep the following items in mind:

    a. Interviews should be conducted in accord with any prior agreements made with narrator, which should be documented for the record.

    b. Interviewers should work to achieve a balance between the objectives of the project and the perspectives of the interviewees. Interviewers should fully explore all appropriate areas of inquiry with interviewees and not be satisfied with superficial responses. At the same time, they should encourage narrators to respond to questions in their own style and language and to address issues that reflect their concerns.

    c. Interviewers must respect the rights of interviewees to refuse to discuss certain subjects, to restrict access to the interview, or, under certain circumstances, to choose anonymity. Interviewers should clearly explain these options to all interviewees.

    d. Interviewers should attempt to extend the inquiry beyond the specific focus of the project to create as complete a record as possible for the benefit of others.

    e. In recognition of the importance of oral history to an understanding of the past and of the cost and effort involved, interviewers and interviewees should mutually strive to record candid information of lasting value.

5. The interviewer should secure a release form, by which the narrator transfers his or her rights to the interview to the repository or designated body, signed after each recording session or at the end of the last interview with the narrator.

Post Interview

- Interviewers, sponsoring institutions, and institutions charged with the preservation of oral history interviews should understand that appropriate care and storage of original recordings begins immediately after their creation.
- Interviewers should document their preparation and methods, including the circumstances of the interviews and provide that information to whatever repository will be preserving and providing access to the interview.
- Information deemed relevant for the interpretation of the oral history by future users, such as photographs, documents, or other records should be collected, and archivists should make clear to users the availability and connection of these materials to the recorded interview.

- The recordings of the interviews should be stored, processed, refreshed and accessed according to established archival standards designated for the media format used. Whenever possible, all efforts should be made to preserve electronic files in formats that are cross platform and nonproprietary. Finally, the obsolescence of all media formats should be assumed and planned for.
- In order to augment the accessibility of the interview, repositories should make transcriptions, indexes, time tags, detailed descriptions or other written guides to the contents.
- Institutions charged with the preservation and access of oral history interviews should honor the stipulations of prior agreements made with the interviewers or sponsoring institutions including restrictions on access and methods of distribution.
- The repository should comply to the extent to which it is aware with the letter and spirit of the interviewee's agreement with the interviewer and sponsoring institution. If written documentation such as consent and release forms does not exist then the institution should make a good faith effort to contact interviewees regarding their intent. When media become available that did not exist at the time of the interview, those working with oral history should carefully assess the applicability of the release to the new formats and proceed—or not—accordingly.
- All those who use oral history interviews should strive for intellectual honesty and the best application of the skills of their discipline. They should avoid stereotypes, misrepresentations, and manipulations of the narrator's words. This includes foremost striving to retain the integrity of the narrator's perspective, recognizing the subjectivity of the interview, and interpreting and contextualizing the narrative according to the professional standards of the applicable scholarly disciplines. Finally, if a project deals with community history, the interviewer should be sensitive to the community, taking care not to reinforce thoughtless stereotypes. Interviewers should strive to make the interviews accessible to the community and where appropriate to include representatives of the community in public programs or presentations of the oral history material.

Resources for Developing the Laurelwood Oral History Project

The National Park Service places oral histories among the most valuable of resources available to protect and preserve our nation's heritage. In an effort to offer guidance to those interested in developing oral history projects, the organization provides a "Getting Started" resources list, available at https://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/oralhistory/resources.htm. A summary of the guidance follows:

- The Oral History Association (OHA) sets the professional standards for oral history practitioners in the United States.
- One of the best oral history how-to guides is "Introduction to Oral History" published by the Baylor University Institute for Oral History. This guide and other resources are available online at https://www.baylor.edu/oralhistory
- "Oral History in the Digital Age" (Institute of Museum and Library Services, Michigan State University) offers up-to-date information about getting started, project planning, choosing digital audio and video equipment, and many other aspects of oral history practice: http://ohda.matrix.msu.edu/
- The American Folklife Center, a subsidiary of the Library of Congress, publishes several great resources for developing oral history projects: https://www.loc.gov/folklife/index.html
- The latest (as of fall 2019) directory of oral histories produced by the National Park Service is available in PDF format at https://www.nps.gov/parkhistory/oralhistory/directory.pdf

Legal Release Form

It is recommended that project stakeholders develop an Oral History Legal Release Form prior to initiating the Laurelwood Oral History Project. The National Park Service's form can be altered to fit project needs.

Digital Audio Recorders

Digital audio is the recommended media for the Laurelwood Oral History Project. Because digital audio recording technologies are constantly changing, the project stakeholders should consider the following recommendations prior to investing in audio recording equipment:

- Read “Digital Audio Recording: The Basics” by Doug Boyd, available at http://ohda.matrix.msu.edu/2012/06/digital-audio-recording/, for a comprehensive overview of available equipment;
- Consider the following before choosing any piece of equipment:
    - What is my budget?
    - Who will be using the equipment?
    - In what context and environment will the equipment be used?
    - What specific technical features do I need?
    - How will recorded information be archived?
    - What is more important: ease of use or special features?
    - Will equipment make interviewers or narrators confused or uncomfortable?
- Equipment should not intimidate those being interviewed;
- Develop a plan for how collected recordings will be backed up and archived prior to determining the appropriate equipment to purchase—this will help determine the desired form of memory recordation (solid-state, hard-disc, etc.);
- Determine the specific archival standards for the oral history project prior to purchasing recording equipment.

In 2019, the contractor consulted the Southeast Regional Office of the National Historic Landmarks Program regarding recommended audio recording devices and archival standards. At that time, office staff used the Zoom H6 Six-Track Portable Recorder. The device meets National Park Service archival standards, it directly records to SD cards with up to 128GB of memory, and is small, portable, and easy to monitor during interviews. The device is equipped to receive a number of interchangeable microphones to suit specific environmental demands. Zoom H6 products are available on Amazon.com and more information is available on Zoom’s website at https://www.zoom-na.com/products/field-video-recording/field-recording/h6-handy-recorder/capsules.



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Part V: Phased Recommendations

PHASE I PRIORITIES: 1-3 yrs (2020-2022)

	Review and Plan	*Identify and Document*	*Stabilize*	*Enhance*
Maintenance	• Review existing maintenance protocol. • Develop cyclical conditions assessment program. • Update record keeping protocol. • Create a system to ensure that all treatment is performed by qualified personnel based on the three-tier priority system (described in Part III).	• Identify and document specific maintenance issues based on the three-tier priority system (described in Part III). • Identify City personnel with proper qualification for specific treatment projects. • Develop a list of local/regional conservation professionals trained in methods expected to be needed at Laurelwood. • Establish contact with local/regional archaeological firm experienced in cemetery preservation to familiarize them with potential issues at Laurelwood and to have a relationship when consultation is required.	• Continue perpetual care of Laurelwood.	• Provide training sessions for maintenance staff and administrators focusing on the *Standards* and general guidelines in this Master Plan. • Consider including the regular maintenance of specific grave markers/monuments as part of the City's perpetual care program - specifically those identified as significant contributions to educational/interpretive programing related to the history of Rock Hill and Laurelwood Cemetery.
Small-Scale Features	• Consider development of protocol for the future treatment of specific protective measures for historic and new grave markers, monuments, and other small-scale features.	• Complete marker/monument survey. • Locate and document specific features in poor to moderate condition; Rate as first-, second-, or third-tier priority. • Identify specific gravemarkers and monuments of particular significance regarding educational/interpretive programing goals.	• Temporarily stabilize all features identified as first-tier priority (those that threaten public safety). • Consider temporary storage and/or stabilization measures for features identified as second-tier priority (those in danger of damaging other features or exhibiting potential for further damage or loss).	• Host a gravestone/monument cleaning workshop utilizing the NCPTT.
Landscape	• Review current protocol regarding regular pruning and mowing, planting of new vegetation, and maintenance of storm-water runoff.	• Identify vegetation (turf, shrubs, trees) in poor condition. • Identify specific trees that require immediate consultation with the City's arborist (considered a first-tier priority). • Identify specific vegetation in danger of harming other features in the landscape (second-tier priority). • Locate and document areas of erosion and/or failing storm-water infrastructure.	• Consult the City's arborist regarding first-tier priority issues related to damaged/dying trees. • Stabilize areas of ongoing erosion. • Consider improvements to specific storm-water infrastructure.	
Circulation, Access, and Parking	• Review existing vehicular circulation systems and consider options for changes, such as limiting vehicular access points, conversion of select drives to one-way, designating parking areas along edges of roads, allocating open spaces for overflow/event parking, etc	• Review and document the feasibility of developing desired site lighting for entry/exits, pathways, and points of interest.		
Interpretation and Enhancement	• Consider establishment of a cemetery friend's group or other non-profit dedicated to preservation of Laurelwood • Conduct archival and historical research related to the Potter's Fields and significant burials in Laurelwood	• Identify specific opportunities to enhance visitor experience based on the interpretation of Laurelwood's Character Areas. • Conduct study related to Confederate Monument incorporating public input.	• Maintain the Simon Williams House as the Cemetery's office until the building is converted for use as the African American Cultural Resource Center or for another use.	• Provide training sessions for volunteers, staff, and administrator regarding cemetery preservation planning and conservation. • Seek partnerships with non-profit organizations and clubs regarding the enhancement of Laurelwood as a bird sanctuary and exercise park. • Promote historic guided and unguided walking tours of cemetery grounds.
Security	• Review Cemetery Rules and Regulations regarding hours of operation and site access • Establish a dialogue with local law enforcement and engage in conversation concerning cemetery security	• Identify specific issues related to security.	• Continue to maintain the site's perimeter fence and consider installing removable bollards to limit vehicular access.	• Develop a system to formally document security related issues and specific incidents. • Consider closing the cemetery at night to limit unsanctioned access and use.

PHASE II PRIORITIES: 4-8 yrs (2023-2026)

	Review and Plan	*Identify and Document*	*Stabilize*	*Enhance*
Maintenance	• Continue to perform an annual review of maintenance protocol and planning.	• Continue annual condition assessment inspections and note changes in any feature's condition that may warrant a first-tier response. • Inspect drains to identify any issues of blockage that may result in storm water overflowing drainage ditches.	• Treat ant mounds with Andro or similar insecticide, following manufacturer's recommendations. • Prune existing shrubs and trees that are encroaching upon markers and stones.	
Small-Scale Features		• Continue to identify and document the condition of small-scale features on a cyclical basis.	• Consult experienced conservator(s) and complete long-term preservation treatment of grave markers and monuments in first-tier condition. • Make necessary repairs/conservation to address second-tier condition issues. • Protect historic fences around cemetery and at individual plots. Scrape loose paint, prime, and coat with an exterior alkyd flat black paint.	• Consider hosting annual grave marker/ monument cleaning events for volunteers - utilize properly trained City personnel when hosting such events. • Install waste receptacle in strategic locations in the cemetery.
Landscape	• Continue to consult the City's arborist to perform annual inspections of trees to identify potential issues.	• Determine necessary landscape maintenance activities, including soil testing, tree and shrub pruning, patching of bare and eroded turf, and filling of sunken root coverage. • Consider the implications of altering the open lawn areas in the New Cemetery prior to developing site enhancements. Maintaining these areas as open lawn may or may not be the end goal based on overall site planning goals.	• Spray Round-Up or similar herbicide to kill grass and other weeds encroaching onto the edges of the cemetery drives, following manufacturer's recommendations. Do not use commercial herbicide near stone markers, monuments, or other historic masonry features. • Maintain open lawn areas in the New Cemetery for hosting large events and overflow parking.	• Plant historically-appropriate, non-invasive evergreen plants to screen utility boxes associated with traffic signal at main pedestrian entrance at corner of White Street and Laurel Street.
Circulation, Access, and Parking	• Consider adding fence to sections where perimeter fence now missing.		• Develop overflow parking area adjacent to existing parking area to accommodate most public parking. • Repair existing gates and install additional gates as necessary to control access to cemetery.	• Identify location for potential parking areas along cemetery roadways. Perform necessary investigations to confirm lack of underground resources. Install reinforced turf and mark as designated parking area. • Convert narrow drives to one way, install signs at appropriate locations.
Interpretation and Enhancement	• Review the topics discussed in the Site-Enhancing Features portion of this Master Plan. • Determine which programing and enhancement opportunities to pursue. • Develop specific language for interpretive panels for display at points of interest.	• Identify and document specific existing resources, including the availability of personnel, infrastructure, and budget, available to support identified programing/ enhancement opportunities. • Identify and document what site improvements/amenities will be necessary to reach stated interpretation/enhancement goals.	• Continue to embrace local, regional, and national non-profits and other special interest groups involved in cross-promotion of Laurelwood as a historic, educational, and recreational site.	• Start with simple events and site enhancements that draw attention to Laurelwood's historic character. Such events will not require major improvements to infrastructure and/ or amenities, but will highlight the site's significance. • Install interpretive panels at points of interest (locations to be determined). • Promote Laurelwood as a bird sanctuary and exercise park.
Security	• Perform annual review of safety protocol. • Engage local law enforcement personnel regarding cemetery security.	• Continue to formally document security related incidents.	• Install uplighting to illuminate existing signage and gateways.	• Consider installing bollards with internal lights at gateways.

PHASE III PRIORITIES: 9-20 yrs (2027-2039)

	Review and Plan	*Identify and Document*	*Stabilize*	*Enhance*
Maintenance	• Continue to perform an annual review of maintenance protocol and planning.		• Develop a maintenance schedule to ensure waste receptacles are regularly emptied.	
Small-Scale Features		• Continue to identify and document the condition of small-scale features on a cyclical basis.		
Landscape	• Continue to consult the City's arborist to perform annual inspections of trees to identify potential issues.			
Circulation, Access, and Parking	• Plan and budget for site lighting enhancements.	• Complete condition assessment of drives and shoulders. Identify sections in need of replacement and develop schedule for repair or resurfacing. • Install expansion joint, separating newer asphalt from historic concrete located near the Confederate Monument.		• If the cemetery becomes part of Rock Hill's multi-use trail system, install pathway lighting along designated pedestrian routes. • Install bicycle parking areas and associated amenities in appropriate locations near the cemetery's borders or in designated parking areas.
Interpretation and Enhancement	• Perform an assessment and review regarding the value and progress related to established event programing and interpretive amenities to create a detailed list of achievements and future goals. • Plan for continued interpretive programing based on referenced review.		• Maintain the established event programing, interpretive signage, and historic walking tours (guided and unguided).	• Install benches at designated seating nodes and points of interest. • Develop a formal cemetery event schedule and hold seasonal and annual events on site. • Develop digital interpretive programing to be made publicly available through apps and other multimedia. • Develop rental facilities to host small public and private events.
Security	• Continue to perform annual review of safety protocol. • Continue to engage local law enforcement personnel regarding cemetery security.	• Continue to formally document security related incidents.	• Maintain perimeter fence, site lighting features, and signage related to security.	

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Appendix A: National Park Service Preservation Brief 48

48 PRESERVATION BRIEFS



Preserving Grave Markers in Historic Cemeteries

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National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Technical Preservation Services

Cemeteries found across the country are not only places of burial, but they also provide a vivid record of community history. Whether large or small, well maintained or neglected, historic cemeteries are an important part of our cultural landscape. The vast richness of expression through form, decoration and materials informs our understanding of the individuals buried in historic cemeteries and their cultural significance.

While cemeteries are often considered to be perpetual, their most prominent feature—the grave markers—are not. They weather, naturally decay, often are poorly maintained and repaired and, on occasion, are vandalized (Fig. 1). Grave markers are usually noteworthy not only for their inscriptions but also for their craftsmanship. Exceptional markers are considered works of art.

This Preservation Brief focuses on a single aspect of historic cemetery preservation—providing guidance for owners, property managers, administrators, in-house maintenance staff, volunteers, and others who are responsible for or are interested in preserving and protecting grave markers. Besides describing grave marker materials and the risk factors that contribute to their decay, the Brief provides guidance for assessing their conditions and discusses maintenance programs and various preservation treatments.



Figure 1. Sandstone and slate grave markers in the Ancient Burying Ground in New London, CT, display a variety of weathering conditions. Markers in the cemetery date from the mid-17th to the early 19th centuries. Photo: Jason Church.

Also identified are a number of excellent references that address materials used in all grave markers, including several other Preservation Briefs (listed in Additional Reading). This Brief highlights particular issues that should be considered with historic grave markers.

Types of Traditional Grave Markers

The great variety in the types of grave markers is a fascinating aspect of the study and appreciation of historic cemeteries. Three broad categories can be used to describe grave markers—(1) single-element, (2) multiple-element, and (3) structures. Single-element grave markers are stone, cast iron, or wood elements that are set in a vertical position or placed as a horizontal slab on the ground (Fig. 2). Early examples of this simplest type of grave markers are field stone and basic wooden or wrought iron crosses, with the name of the deceased person scratched into or engraved on the marker. Often, these rudimentary grave markers are overlooked, significantly deteriorated, or lost. Vertical stone slabs and large stone ledgers laid horizontally over the gravesite are more sophisticated examples of this type.

Multiple-element grave markers are found in a number of different forms. In the most typical form, a grave marker would consist of two stones—an upper headstone placed on top of a base stone. The upper headstone may be secured in a number of different ways to the base. In the simplest of forms, the upper stone was placed on the base, set in a bed of mortar on top of the base, or joined with pins and mortar. With a "tab-and-slot" grave marker, the tabbed upper stone was set in a slotted base (Fig. 3). More common today, the upper headstone is secured with a technique that uses small spacers set on the base and a setting compound. This technique or one that uses an epoxy adhesive may be found on older markers where the stones have been reset.



Figure 2. These mid-19th century, single-element stone grave markers in the Grove Cemetery in Bath, NY, are set in a vertical position. Photo: Jason Church.





Figure 3. A multi-element grave marker from the early 19th century in the St. Michael's Cemetery, Pensacola, FL, consists of a vertical element with tabs (left image) into a slotted base (right image). Photo: Fran Gale.

Stacked-base grave markers use multiple bases to increase the height of the monument and provide a stable foundation for upper elements. Tall, four-sided tapered monuments, known as obelisks, are typically placed on stacked bases. Columns or upright pillars have three main parts – a base, shaft, and capital. Multiple-element grave markers may also include figurative or sculptural components. Traditionally, stacked base grave markers were set on lead shims with mortar joints or with lead ribbon along the outer edges.

Grave markers can also be engineered structures. Examples of grave marker structures include masonry arches, box tombs, table tombs, grave shelters, and mausoleums (Fig. 4). The box tomb is a rectangular structure built over the gravesite. The human remains are not located in the box itself as some believe, but rather in the ground beneath the box structure. The table tomb is constructed of a horizontal stone tablet supported by small corner supports or columns. Grave shelters, also called grave houses, can be simple or elaborate wooden structures built over the gravesite. Mausoleums are above-ground buildings with compartments for multiple burials. Engineered structures also include hillside and underground tombs.



Figure 4. This sandstone table tomb, located in Cedar Grove Cemetery, New London, CT, is an engineered grave marker structure consisting of a horizontal stone tablet supported by four vertical table "legs" with and a central column,. Photo: Jason Church.

Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places, National Register Bulletin 41, provides a concise review of grave marker types.

Materials

Stone, brick, concrete, metal, and wood are the most common materials used for grave markers and for fences and gravesite enclosures in historic cemeteries. This section briefly describes the composition and properties of these diverse materials

Masonry materials

There is a wide variety of masonry materials used in historic cemeteries; some are naturally occurring and others man-made. Although there are notable exceptions, most masonry materials are durable, have high compressive strength, and are resistant to weathering. As grave markers, they typically represent the work of masons and stone carvers.

Stone is a naturally occurring material with a wide range of properties and is available in a variety of colors (Fig. 5). Geologists classify stone according to the way in which it was formed with the three categories being igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rock. Stone found in cemeteries is predominantly quarried, though the use of field stones is not uncommon. The mineralogy and chemical composition of stones vary. Some are composed primarily of silicate minerals; granites, sandstones, slate, and schist are examples. Other stones contain calcium carbonate with marble and limestone in this group. Mineralogy, chemical composition, and



Figure 5. A variety of colors of natural stone are found in historic cemeteries, such as this pink granite marker in the Cedar Grove Cemetery, New London, CT. Photo: Jason Church.

physical structure of the stone influence weathering and the selection of materials and procedures for its cleaning and protection.

Man-made masonry materials are manufactured from naturally occurring raw materials. For example, the raw materials used to make brick include clay, sand, and shale. During firing, clay minerals and sand melt and come together forming silicates, aluminates, and metallic oxides. The resulting brick material has a hard-fired outer surface with a softer interior.

Concrete is a man-made material composed of cement, sand, gravel, and water. Most concrete produced after 1870 contains Portland cement, another manufactured product. In its plastic or wet state, concrete can be cast or poured. It hardens by hydration, a chemical-curing process. The resulting product has excellent compressive strength, but much lower tensile strength. Reinforcing concrete with steel helps compensate for this limitation.

All masonry materials are porous with an interior network of pores. The porosity of sedimentary rocks such as limestone and sandstone can be as high as 20 percent while the pore volume of granite is very low. Because moisture is a key factor in many deterioration processes, porous masonry materials are more vulnerable to weathering.

Metals

Metals are solid materials that are typically hard, malleable, fusible, ductile, and often shiny when new (Fig. 6). A metal alloy is a mixture or solid solution of two or more metals. Metals are easily worked and can be melted or fused, hammered into thin sheets, or



Figure 6. Decorative cast-iron grave markers like this late-19th century one in Oakland Cemetery in Shreveport, LA, are produced by heating the iron alloy and casting the liquid metal into a mold. Photo: Jason Church.

drawn into wires. Different metals have varying physical and mechanical properties, aesthetics, and weathering characteristics.

Ferrous metals and alloys, including cast iron, wrought iron, and steel, all contain iron. Cast iron also contains carbon and silicon and has a relatively low melting point. When heated to a liquid state, it can be molded into a variety of shapes. Wrought iron is an alloy with low carbon content. Its fibrous inclusions (called slag) are sometimes visible to the naked eye. Unlike cast iron, wrought iron is heated to the point where it becomes soft and then is hammered or "worked" into desired shapes. Most of the wrought and cast iron in historic cemeteries is ornamental rather than structural. While cast iron, steel, and wrought iron all contain iron, steel and wrought iron are more resistant to corrosion. Paint was often applied to ferrous metals to help protect them from corrosion and for decorative purposes. Metal elements were painted in a variety of colors including black, white, and green, among others.

Nonferrous metals and alloys, such as bronze, zinc, and lead, do not contain iron. Bronze contains about 85% copper, 10-15% tin, and sometimes lead. Historic bronze cemetery markers were created by casting processes that involves pouring liquid bronze into a mold. The completed casting is hollow. Bronze work may comprise a single molded component, such as a plaque, or multiple molded components welded or fitted together as with large statuary. Chemical patinas were applied to enhance color, and clear coatings for protection. Cast zinc monuments were popular from 1870 through the early 20th century. Most cast zinc is bluish-gray in color. Although cast zinc is resistant to corrosion, it is a brittle material with a tendency to "creep" or deform, especially when exposed to high outdoor temperatures.

Wood

Wood is a porous organic material composed of tubular cells in a parallel arrangement. The structure



Figure 7. As shown by this 1877 marker in Silver Terrace Cemetery, Virginia City, NV, exposure to sunlight can damage wood grave markers, making the wood more susceptible to water damage and cracking. Photo: Jason Church.

and characteristics of these cells determine the wood's appearance and influence wood properties. Wood-cell walls and cavities contain moisture. Oven drying reduces the moisture content of wood. After the drying process, the wood continues to expand and contract with changes in moisture content. The loss of water from cell walls causes wood to shrink, sometimes distorting its original shape (Fig. 7).

Hardwoods come from deciduous trees such as oak, maple, and walnut; softwoods from conifers such as pine, cedar, and fir. In general, hardwoods have higher density than softwoods, which makes them more durable materials, and are darker in color. Wood cut at different orientations affects its strength and weathering. As an organic material, wood is also particularly vulnerable to termites, carpenter ants, and other wood-destroying insects and fungi. Paints, coatings, and fungicides such as borates are used to help protect wood from various insect damage and fungal rot.

Other materials

Old cemeteries often include a wide variety of other materials not normally associated with contemporary grave markers, such as ceramics, stained glass, shells, and plastics (Fig. 8). As with masonry, metals, and wood, each has its own chemical and physical properties



Figure 8. A fired ceramic, this cameo is set in a marble grave marker, located in Elmwood Cemetery, Memphis, TN. Different materials may require different conservation approaches. Photo: Mary Striegel.

which affect durability and weathering. These materials present unique challenges and their properties must be understood before establishing appropriate maintenance and repair. Documentation of unusual materials is critical when repair is not possible.

Weathering

All grave marker materials deteriorate when they are exposed to weathering such as sunlight, wind, rain, high and low temperatures, and atmospheric pollutants (Fig. 9). If a marker is composed of several materials, each may have a different weathering rate. Some weathering processes occur very quickly, and others gradually affect the condition of materials. Weathering results in deterioration in a variety of ways. For example, when exposed to rainwater some stones lose surface material while others form harder outer crusts that may detach from the surface.



Figure 9. The limestone and sandstone grave markers in this historic cemetery have different weathering processes. On the left, the limestone shows surface loss in areas exposed to rainwater and gypsum crust formation below. The sandstone marker on the right displays uniform soiling, but surface hardening may be occurring. Photo: Fran Gale.

Granite is a durable grave marker material considered resistant to weathering. It is a compact, hard rock with low porosity, and granite deterioration can be imperceptible for many years. Slate also has low porosity, but its layered structure can result in delamination. Some stones used to make grave markers, like sandstone, limestone and marble, are softer than granite and more porous. These materials are more vulnerable to weathering with deterioration noticeable during the initial years of exposure. With slate and other stones with layered structures, weathering sometimes results in delamination, defined as the separation of layers along bedding planes. Different rates of weathering are related to the chemical composition and physical structure of the material.

Deterioration affects other grave marker materials in different ways. With brick, durability is related to its firing temperature, which influences the brick's compressive strength and absorption. Brick fired at high temperatures has a protective fire skin. The weathering of concrete also is variable, and largely depends on the materials used in its manufacture. For example, Portland cement concrete is generally more resistant to weathering than lime concrete. With wood, grave markers fashioned from heartwood (the dead inner wood) are more durable than those of sapwood (the living exterior wood), and some wood species such as cedar, Osage orange and black locust contain extractives that provide decay resistance.

The term "inherent vice" is used to describe a material with a naturally occurring problem that leads to premature deterioration (Fig. 10). An example of this problem is marble that has cracked due to natural locked-in stresses. Inherent vice also describes grave markers that are composed of incompatible materials, where decay is accelerated in one or both materials because of chemical interactions caused by their close proximity. An example is the galvanic corrosion that occurs when dissimilar metals, such as copper and iron, are in contact and exposed to moisture.

Risk Factors

There are two major categories of risk factors that can impact historic grave markers. The first comprises naturally-occurring deterioration phenomena known as the forces of nature, including weathering. The list of natural risk factors includes climate, biological issues, and natural hazards such as fire and floods. The other category includes the many degradation phenomena that are related to human activities. The results of humans and their actions include pollution, lack of maintenance, inappropriate repairs, arson, and vandalism. While some of the factors related to human activities, such as improper repair, may not be intentional, the results can be just as damaging to grave markers.



Figure 10. The sandstone cross (carved to look like wood) in this grave marker in St. Michael's Cemetery in Pensacola, FL, provides an example of inherent vice – the severe delamination affecting the sandstone has occurred along its natural bedding planes. Photo: Fran Gale.

Often, it is not possible to separate natural risk factors from those related to human activities. For example, pollution is deposited on grave markers by rain and other forms of precipitation, resulting in discoloration and often material degradation. Whether due to natural risk factors, human activities or both, "synergism" occurs when the result of two or more risk factors is greater than the sum of the individual effects. An example is the damage that occurs to salt-laden masonry materials during freeze/thaw cycles. The combined effect of these two deterioration factors is severe.

Natural Risk Factors

Climate plays an important role in weathering processes. Depending upon the climate, cemetery grave markers are exposed to rain, snow, sleet, ultraviolet (UV) light, humidity, high and low temperatures, and wind. All of these forces can damage masonry, metals, and wood. For example, with wood, the UV rays present in sunlight accelerate the weathering process.

Exposure to repeated changes in temperature can have an adverse effect on materials such as stone and other porous masonry. High temperatures deteriorate and weaken many materials while low temperatures cause materials to become brittle. In some climates there are rapid changes during spring and fall that



Figure A. Cemeteries are cultural landscapes made up of a variety of features. Grave markers are but one component of cemeteries that also include walkways, drives, fences, coping, trees, shrubs, and other vegetation. Each component adds to the understanding of the cemetery landscape. Photo: Debbie Dietrich Smith.

Vegetation Management

Carefully monitoring and managing of trees and other vegetation is an integral part of a cemetery preventive conservation program. Mature trees and ornamental shrubs can add character, shade, and seasonal color to historic cemeteries (Fig. A). However, if not properly maintained, they can damage grave markers, fencing, and other historic features. Mature trees may fall during storms and drop large limbs that topple grave markers and mangle fencing. Overgrown vegetation creates wet, shaded areas and fosters biological growth than can accelerate deterioration of stone, iron, and wood objects.

A treatment plan for cemetery vegetation should address trees, shrubs, vines, and "volunteer" growth. For the assessment and treatment of trees that pose hazards, consult an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) certified arborist. Prune trees and shrubs adjacent to grave markers to allow air circulation and light penetration. Certified arborists and master gardeners should carry out this work or direct others in pruning trees and shrubs, as many may be historic features integral to the cultural landscape and worthy of preservation.

Regarding lawn care, historic cemeteries were not designed for today's large riding lawnmowers, yet this is the mower of choice for many cemeteries, as mowing is one of the most time-consuming and costly maintenance tasks generally undertaken. Mowing between tight spots with a large riding mower deck is destined to cause damage. Best practices include using a smaller, push mower between particularly sensitive features, and outfitting riding mower decks with protective bumpers. Low-cost options include using fire hose padding or a foam swimming 'noodle' (Fig. B). Additional damage is caused by riding over low stones or coping, especially when the blade height is set low. If rolling over these features is unavoidable, many riding mowers have a hand-control adjustment to temporarily raise and lower the blade height.

Improper use of a string-trimmer is also potentially destructive, especially when it comes into contact with soft materials such as marble, limestone, and wood. Using the lightest trim line and angling the trimmer head towards the ground will help reduce damage if the trimmer hits unintended targets. Consider hand trimming around the most significant, fragile features.

As a time-saving measure, herbicides are sometimes used around the base of features to remove unwanted grass and weeds. In most cases, use of herbicides for this purpose is not recommended, as salts within the herbicide can wick into the stone (especially soft stones) and cause spalling and deterioration. The removal of vegetation also exposes soil around the base of the grave marker, which, in a heavy rain, can cause soil splashing that may result in staining.

If fertilizer is applied, choose a natural organic fertilizer to minimize salt content for the reasons stated above. For any chemical application, be sure to rinse away residue from grave markers, etc., with water using a low pressure hose or spray bottle, to minimize continued contact.

Ongoing maintenance of cemetery vegetation is essential to conserve grave markers and fencing. Periodic inspections may warrant removing trees; trimming tree limbs, shrubs, and vines; and removing volunteer vegetation. All trees should be inspected at least every five years. Annual inspections are necessary to assess the condition of shrubs and vines, and to identify volunteer growth for removal. Mowing and trimming around the hundreds of stone, brick, iron, and wood features found in many cemeteries is a weekly or bi-weekly chore. Lawn care is the most time-consuming, and, if not done carefully, potentially destructive maintenance activity in historic cemeteries.



Figure B. A pool 'noodle' can be fitted to the deck of a lawnmower to prevent damage to grave markers. Photo: Debbie Dietrich Smith.

cause damaging cycles of expansion and contraction. Adjacent dissimilar materials may respond differently to temperature changes, resulting in distortion. High winds can carry water and abrasive particles causing abrasion and erosion, especially to soft materials. Wind may also drive rain water into masonry joints and permeable elements and materials.

Water, in liquid, solid or vapor form, plays a critical role in the deterioration process. Most grave marker materials are porous, and moisture from precipitation, ground water, or frequent landscape watering can enter the pore system. If temperatures drop below the freezing point, water in interior pores, joints and cracks freezes, and its increased volume often applies internal pressure, resulting in damage to the grave marker such as cracks or spalling.

Ferrous metals are particularly vulnerable to water-related deterioration. Iron increases in size when it corrodes, sometimes as much as 20 percent. As the corrosion process proceeds, the ferrous metal eventually weakens. When embedded within concrete or masonry materials, the corroding iron often causes cracks and spalls in the masonry.

Woody vegetation can damage grave markers in a variety of ways (Fig. 11). Trees, bushes, and vines can shade grave markers, extending the time that the markers are exposed to moisture. Tendrils and roots may burrow into mortar joints and openings, causing mechanical damage and large plants may lift up or shift markers. Even leaves and twigs, when allowed to collect on the ground near grave markers, can affect water drainage and evaporation (Fig. 12).

Microorganisms such as algae, fungi, and lichens may affect grave markers. Microorganisms hold in moisture and some produce acids. With acid-sensitive materials such as limestone and marble, the result is surface erosion. Sometimes the organisms use the material as a food source, dissolving minerals in the stone and attacking the cellular structure of wood. Wood is especially vulnerable to fungi, algae, and other microorganisms when its moisture content is above 25%.

Infestation by termites, carpenter bees and ants, and other insects can affect the appearance and structural integrity of wood. Unsightly bird droppings can also affect paint and other surface finishes.

Human Activities

Aside from vandalism and purposeful neglect, most risk factors attributable to human activity are unintentional. Sometimes damage to grave markers is the result of cleaning or repair done with the best of intentions. These unfortunate mistakes can be the result of insufficient training and funding, misuse of tools and equipment, and poor planning. With proper training and supervision, human risk factors can be lessened.



Figure 11. Woody vegetation can damage grave markers and pose a risk to visitors unless well managed and maintained. Photo: Jason Church.

Deferred maintenance usually accelerates the deterioration of grave markers and can be a safety hazard. All materials have a service life with mortar, paints, and other coatings requiring periodic upkeep to be effective. For example, unless ferrous metal has a sound protective coating, exposure to weathering can result in corrosion. Loose, misaligned or detached grave markers may lead to further damage or deterioration if not corrected in a timely manner. When nearby trees and shrubs are overgrown and invasive vegetation is present, needless risks to historic grave markers may also occur.

Inappropriate maintenance activities can be devastating. One of the most common threats stems from improper lawn care, particularly the misuse of mowing equipment and string trimmers (weed whackers). The use of large mowers or mishandling them can lead to displacement of markers. Scrapes, gouges and even breakage also can occur. Improper use of string trimmers in areas immediately adjacent to grave markers can result in



Figure 12. A cemetery professional undertakes a tree inventory in American Cemetery, Natchitoches, LA, to determine the health of trees in the cemetery. Management decisions for trimming or removal are based on the inventory. Photo: Debbie Dietrich Smith.

Avoiding 10 Common Maintenance Mistakes

1. Maintain records on conditions and treatments of historic markers

2. Seek advice from persons experienced with preserving historic markers when initiating a major maintenance or repair program.

3. Discourage visitor use of chalk, shaving cream, and other materials to highlight carvings and lettering.

4. Train grounds crews in methods to avoid damage to historic markers, including flat grave markers which can be easily damaged by machinery, fertilizers and weed killers.

5. Remove graffiti as quickly as possible, using appropriate methods, so as not to encourage further marker disfiguration and vandalism.

6. Maintain ground cover around cemetery markers to avoid surrounding dirt from splashing back and staining grave markers.

7. Never use rotary grinders to resurface or "clean" historic markers.

8. Avoid the use of coatings on masonry without proper investigation.

9. Avoid high pressure water washing to clean historic markers.

10. Repair rather than replace damaged and deteriorated grave markers. For markers encased in cement, leave any repair work to trained conservators.

scratching and even cutting into softer stone and wood. Generally, the use of chemical weed killers at the base of grave markers should be avoided, especially if there is a risk that the marker would absorb the chemicals.

Repointing masonry grave markers using Portland cement mortars that are harder than historic mortars often results in accelerated deterioration of the masonry material. Mortar should be softer than the adjacent masonry, enabling trapped moisture to migrate out, and serve as the sacrificial material when cracking occurs to relieve excessive stress. Problems also result when using impervious "protective" coatings that can trap moisture within the masonry, resulting in damage during wet/dry and freeze/thaw cycles (Fig. 13).

Figure 13. The impervious coating used to "protect" this sandstone grave marker trapped moisture within the stone, eventually resulting in deterioration and surface loss. Photo: Fran Gale.



Figure 14. High-pressure water washing can damage grave markers. The photograph shows "wand marks" on the headstones produced by inappropriate pressure washing. Photo: Jason Church.



Harsh cleaning products and techniques can have a detrimental effect on grave markers. Acidic cleaners such as muriatic acid can dissolve minerals in many masonry materials and can attack metals. Alkaline cleaners, such as bleach, are notorious for leaving residual salts that are deposited on the surface (a process called efflorescence). Both acidic and alkaline cleaning can result in staining, especially if rinsing is inadequate. Using high-pressure water, above 500 to 1,000 psi, can needlessly damage materials as well, increasing their vulnerability to weathering (Fig. 14). If the marker is fragile, even low pressure water can be damaging. Techniques to avoid include aggregate blasting with sand or other harsh media and the use of power tools with abrasive wire or NyloxTM brushes.

Pollution

Grave markers can be both visually and materially affected by pollution. Most readily apparent is the discoloration that takes place when airborne pollutants are deposited on markers. Depending on the exposure, how water is shed, and the marker material and intricacies, discoloration on markers will usually appear uneven and in streaks.

While the visual effect of pollution is often discoloration, less apparent is the potential damage caused by pollution to the grave marker materials themselves. Most rain is slightly acidic, and its pH (a measurement of acidity) becomes more acidic when pollutant gases, such as sulfur dioxide and nitrous oxides, are present. Acid rain damages materials containing calcium carbonate, such as limestone and marble, resulting in surface loss or erosion. When erosion is severe, the grave marker inscription, carvings and sculptural elements may become discernable. Recarving the inscription is not recommended. Instead, a small stand-alone interpretative sign could be placed nearby.

Acid rain also damages bronze grave markers. Pollutant gases alter the composition of exposed bronze, often producing water-soluble minerals. These minerals are washed away during subsequent rains, resulting in surface erosion. If the bronze element is positioned on a masonry pedestal or plinth, the minerals are deposited on the masonry below. These effects of acid rain are disfiguring to the bronze element and associated masonry.

Condition Assessments

Condition assessments help identify potential safety hazards, required preservation work, and any additional conservation that is needed for stabilization and protection of grave markers. Assessments also provide important baseline information about deterioration affecting grave markers. The collected information is helpful in determining and prioritizing maintenance tasks, identifying unstable conditions that pose an immediate threat, and for developing a plan for any needed repair or conservation work. Assessments should be recurring, preferably every spring. Condition assessments also help determine the extent and severity of damage following a disaster.

Depending upon the size of the cemetery and funding available, the initial assessment may be carried out by a team consisting of cemetery staff, a materials conservator, and, where necessary, an architect or structural engineer for cases involving large monuments and mausoleums (Figs. 15a and 15b). For smaller cemeteries without large monuments and mausoleums, and where funding is problematic, volunteers can be trained to prepare a condition assessment under the guidance of an experienced individual.

The first step in any condition assessment is to gather background information, including cemetery records and documents, historical photographs, records of previous repair and maintenance work, and current practices. The next step is to conduct an on-site survey. Following the survey, recommended maintenance procedures should be provided. If the team or individual conducting the survey is experienced in repairing historic grave markers, their assessment should include information about appropriate materials and techniques for restoration and stabilization.

Survey forms facilitate both recording of field conditions and needed maintenance or repair work. Most forms include sections for marker type (headstone, obelisk, etc.), construction materials, orientation, dimensions, soil type, and grave marker deterioration. There are a number of excellent examples of survey forms available for download, including the National Park Service Condition Survey Form at www.ncptt.nps.gov However, because each cemetery is unique, it may be necessary to modify an existing form.

A tool kit for the condition assessment may include binoculars, digital camera, magnifying glass, measuring tape, clipboard, carpenter's rule, level, magnet, and flashlight. For large monuments, a ladder or aerial lift may be required. Photographs of each marker, including overall shots and close-up details, are an essential part of the documentation process. Photo logs are helpful for recording the date, direction, and photographer. Digital photographs should be captured in a standardized size and format (.tif, .jpg, .raw).



Figure 15a. Condition surveys are undertaken to document current conditions, determine safety issues, and plan both emergency stabilization and future treatment plans. There are a variety of survey forms available that can be tailored to the specific cemetery. Photo: Mary Striegel.



Figure 15b. Photographs are used to document the condition of the grave marker as part of a condition assessment. Photo: Fran Gale.

Defining conditions can be challenging, especially for cemetery staff and volunteers who are new to the process. There are a number of illustrated glossaries that can assist with determining accurate terminology for describing conditions. The ICOMOS Illustrated Glossary on Stone Deterioration Patterns http://www.international.icomos.org/ and the NACE International Resource Center Corrosion 101 http://nace.org/ are excellent resources.

Where deterioration is apparent, the assessment should address questions such as:

- What are the physical characteristics of the defects? Has deterioration obscured ornamental work or made the inscription difficult to read?
- What is the extent of the affected area? Are all areas of the marker affected by deterioration or is there a pattern?
- Do the conditions appear to be stable or getting worse.
- Are the defects affecting other materials or impacting the safety of visitors?
- Is deterioration contributing to loss or theft?
- Is further investigation required?

Maintenance

The old axiom that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure certainly applies to the preservation of historic cemeteries. Maintenance is essential to the long-term preservation of historic grave markers. The principal components of a maintenance program include regular inspections, cyclical and prioritized maintenance work, and annual reports and budgeting. An important first step is the development of a support team, including staff, conservators, engineers, skilled masons, and other professionals. In most cases, the cemetery manager should initiate this process.

The cemetery manager can use the information from the condition assessment report to develop a maintenance plan with a list of cyclical maintenance work. Many tasks can be carried out by in-house staff. For example, maintenance cleaning of metal and stonework can often be accomplished by rinsing with a garden hose. Applications of wax coatings can be used to protect bronze elements. Trained staff can undertake these tasks. Teaching graffiti removal techniques to cemetery staff may also be necessary if vandalism is an on-going problem. Staff should have access to written procedures that include lists of appropriate materials and forms for recording the work completed.



Figure 16. A professional mason works to insert a new piece of stone. Often referred to as a "dutchman", this repair technique requires replacing the deteriorated stone section with a new finished piece of the same size and material. Photo: Jason Church.

Some work is best done by specialists (Fig. 16). For example, unless there is a trained mason on staff, replacing deteriorated or missing mortar will require a skilled masonry contractor. Services of a conservator or trained cemetery specialist should be used for removing severe soiling and staining from grave markers and for carrying out adhesive repair work such as selectively replacing a piece of stone when a marker is damaged by mechanical equipment. Care should be taken to clearly define the scope of work when hiring a contractor. It is useful to reference guidelines and preservation standards, such as those provided by the Secretary of the Interior or the American Institute for Conservation, whenever possible.

Treatments

In historic cemeteries, preservation treatments are used to preserve grave markers and protect them from future deterioration. Tasks such as cleaning, where appropriate, painting, or lime washing may be undertaken both as an initial treatment and on a cyclical basis as part of the maintenance program for the site. Other treatments, including repointing, patching and filling, and resetting, should be undertaken on an as-needed basis.

It is important to note that the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties provide concepts and guidelines for maintaining, repairing, and replacing historic materials. The Standards promote best practices that will help to protect grave markers in historic cemeteries and other irreplaceable cultural resources. If replacement is required, the new material should match the old in composition, design, color, and texture. With chemical and physical treatments, the Standards recommend using the gentlest means possible.

Cleaning

Cleaning is carried out to remove soiling, staining, and contamination from grave markers (Fig. 17). Cleaning improves the visual appearance of the marker and sometimes reveals existing problems such as erosion and cracks. For various protective treatments, cleaning may be a necessary step in surface preparation. Although cleaning often is desirable and beneficial, the use of improper materials and techniques can cause great damage; when cleaning historic grave markers is undertaken, one should keep in mind the principle, "first do no harm."

To avoid a heavy build-up of soiling that might require aggressive cleaning procedures, regularly scheduled cleaning should be carried out by cemetery staff. The frequency of cleaning depends on a number of factors, including climate, location and vegetation. Before cleaning, an on-site inspection should be conducted to identify monument materials, including those not designated for cleaning since they may inadvertently come in contact with cleaning products and could be harmed. Temporary protective measure may be needed to safeguard nearby grave markers. Identifying the types of soiling present, including pollutants and contaminants, is important in deciding what cleaning procedures to use.

For some monuments, existing conditions may preclude cleaning. Even gentle cleaning may not be recommended for conditions such as severe erosion, advanced deterioration, or fragile areas. Additionally, open joints, unstable repairs, and large cracks may require alternate cleaning procedures.

General maintenance may involve low-pressure water washing. In most cases, surface soiling can be removed with a garden hose using municipal water or domestic



Figure 17. Volunteers can undertake cleaning of grave markers once they have received initial training. Cleaning methods may include wetting the stone, using a mild chemical cleaner, gently agitating the surface with a soft bristle brush, and thoroughly rinsing the marker with clean water. Photo: Jason Church.

Selecting A Conservator or Preservation Professional

A conservator or preservation professional can provide valuable assistance in preserving historic cemeteries by documenting and surveying cemetery conditions, assisting with work plans and prioritizing work, and recommending specific maintenance and repair procedures. More commonly, they recommend more specialized preservation treatments for historic markers and carry out the actual work.

Specialized skills are required for undertaking certain treatments on historic grave markers or where markers are highly significant or are in more advanced states of disrepair. When contracting for grave marker conservation, it is important to interview conservators who have worked in cemeteries. They should be experienced with the historic materials and nature of the conditions where the work is to be undertaken. Prior to selecting a conservator, details about their previous work and training should be obtained and confirmed. Most conservators will provide sample reports and photographs of previous work.

The American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC) offers information about selecting a conservator and what to expect once you have contracted with a conservator. Searching the "Find a Conservator" database provides a list of local and regional AIC members who have attained Professional Associate or Fellow status in the organization. More information can be found on the AIC website at http://www.conservation-us.org/

A conservator will inspect grave markers before designing appropriate treatments and submit a written plan for their proposed conservation work that includes materials to be used, a cost estimate, and a schedule for the project. As part of the contract, the conservator should be required to submit a written completion report that clearly describes their treatment of the marker/s and includes maintenance and care recommendations.

water supply from a well. To avoid risks due to freezing, air temperature above 40° F is recommended for the time of treatment and subsequent 24 hours. To help remove stubborn soiling and dirt, soft, natural bristle scrub brushes are best. Avoid metal bristle brushes or firm nylon brushes and wrap metal elements with masking tape to avoid scratching grave markers.

Soaking and/or spraying water in a fine mist are effective methods to remove natural growth. Water also has a "swelling action" for some soiling, making it easier to remove with gentle scrubbing. With cyclic spraying, a fine mist of water is directed at the targeted area for a short time (e.g., 20 minutes or less), followed by a short "off" period. This on/off process is repeated several times. Because high-pressure water can abrade the surface, this treatment is not recommended for masonry monuments.

For stains that are not water soluble or where organic solvents are ineffective, it is sometimes necessary to use chemical cleaning. Chemical cleaners include acids, alkalis, detergents and organic solvents. Each has advantages and disadvantages. Acids dissolve the interface between the stain and substrate while alkalis allow for longer dwell periods but must be neutralized. Some detergents are near-neutral in pH (neither acidic nor alkaline) and easier to rinse.

Before selecting or using a chemical cleaning agent, the manufacturer's Safety Data Sheet (SDS), available with the product and online, should be reviewed. The SDS provides information about the product's composition, including identified hazards, proper handling and storage, disposal, and required personal protective equipment. Once a chemical cleaning product has been selected, the manufacturer's instructions should be followed. Before undertaking large-scale cleaning, it is always advisable to undertake small-scale tests (approximately 6" x 6"areas in discrete locations), and then waiting several days before assessing the results.

Chemical cleaning is used to remove metallic stains and other contaminants such as old coatings and graffiti. For severe staining, poultice cleaning is useful as it extends contact time with the cleaner. A poultice is a mixture of clay or other inert material, such as paper pulp, and a cleaning agent. The mixture is applied to the surface and allowed an extended dwell period. The chemical cleaner dissolves the stain and the clay draws the stain out to the surface. When using a poultice, it should be applied just beyond the stained area and covered with polyethylene. The best practice is to leave the treatment on the surface for 24 hours and then remove the polyethylene cover and allow the poultice to continue drying. Once the poultice is dry, the mixture is then collected and the surface is thoroughly rinsed. For some stubborn stains, the application may need to be repeated.

Chemical cleaning also may be required if biological growth (algae, fungi and lichen) is severe. A study conducted by the National Park Service provides guidelines for cleaning government-issued marble headstones and recommends biocidal cleaners that contain quaternary ammonium compounds. Like all cleaning methods, chemical cleaning can accelerate deterioration. Adverse effects include efflorescence, stains, and etching.

Graffiti Removal

Markers with graffiti tend to be targets for further vandalism (Fig. 18). Timely removal helps deter future vandalism and improves the marker's appearance.

If the graffiti is water soluble, it can be removed using water and a soft cloth or towel. Rinsing the cloth frequently helps to avoid smearing graffiti on unaffected areas. If the graffiti is not water soluble, organic solvents or commercial graffiti removal products suitable for the grave marker material are recommended. Products should be tested prior to use. General cleaning of the entire marker is a good follow-up for a more even appearance. For deep-seated graffiti, poultice cleaning (previously described) may be required to extract staining materials.



Figure 18. Graffiti is carefully removed using a low-pressure dry-ice misting instrument. Photo: Jason Church.

Repointing

Missing and deteriorated mortar in old cemetery grave markers is a common condition, and the mortar should be replaced to prevent water intrusion and potential damage (Fig. 19). Several questions should be considered when selecting materials for repointing. Most importantly, what is the masonry substrate that



Figure 19. Masonry markers like this box tomb may require the repointing of mortar joints. It is important to use a mortar that is softer than the historic brick. In this case a conservator uses a lime putty-based mortar to repoint. Photo: Jason Church.

requires repointing? What mortar mix is suitable for the historic masonry? How quickly will mortar need to cure? Soft mortars contain traditional lime putty or modern hydrated lime. Harder mortars contain natural or Portland cement. If necessary, mortars can be tinted with alkali-stable pigments to match historic mortar colors. The selection of the mortar to be used is critically important to the success of the project. An inappropriate mortar can result in unattractive work and accelerate the deterioration of the historic grave marker. Always avoid the use of bathtub caulk and silicone sealants for repointing mortar joints.

Prior to repointing, any loose and deteriorated mortar needs to be removed from the joint, preferably using hand tools. Following joint preparation, the mortar materials (lime, cement, and sand) are mixed, and then water added to form a stiff paste. The repointing mortar is applied using a tuck pointing trowel, typically with a narrow 1/8"- 1/2" flat blade. Mortar is compacted into the joint, and then excess mortar is removed and the original joint profile replicated. Good repointing requires skill. Generally, a mason or person with masonry training should repoint mortar joints.

Resetting

Resetting is recommended for grave markers when their foundations are unstable or out of plumb (Figs. 20a through 20c). This often complex activity involves lifting the grave marker, leveling its foundation, and returning the marker to its original upright position. Workers can be injured and the grave marker damaged if resetting is not carried out properly and safely.

Inexperienced staff or volunteers should not attempt resetting without training from a conservator, engineer, or other preservation professional. When dealing with fragile or significant grave markers, or those with large



Figure 20a. This slate grave marker in the Ancient Burying Ground in Hartford, CT, is a ground-support stone. Resetting requires digging a hole that will hold the base of the stone and then compacting the soil at the bottom of the hole by hand. Photo: Fran Gale.



Figure 20b. To facilitate drainage, crushed stone, gravel, and sharp sand line the hole and are hand-tamped around the stone after placement. Photo: Fran Gale.



Figure 20c. The reset ground-supported grave marker should be level and plumb. Photo: Fran Gale.

Safety

Encouraging the public to visit and explore public burial grounds and cemeteries increases awareness of the value of these sacred sites. If visitation is promoted, owners and property managers must be responsible for ensuring that their sites are safe for staff and visitors. This responsibility includes monitoring the condition of grave markers.

Historic cemeteries can be hazardous workplaces for staff members, consultants, contractors, and volunteers. Awareness of potential hazards in a historic cemetery and careful planning are essential to avoiding injury. Maintain an appropriate first aid kit on site for minor injuries and have an emergency plan in place that includes contact information for medical assistance.

Creating a safe work environment in historic cemeteries requires appropriate planning for each project, starting with personal protective equipment. Suitable clothing and personal protective equipment should be fundamental safety requirements. Supportive shoes such as steel toe work boots or sturdy lace-up shoes help protect ankles and feet from injury, just as good work gloves help protect hands from cuts, scrapes, and splinters. Whether using a chipper, drill and other power tools or equipment, safety glasses or goggles are essential. A back brace often is recommended for heavier lifting tasks. Do not work alone or, if you must, tell someone where you are and when you expect to return.

During hot weather, heat stress is a present risk. Besides knowing the signs of heat stress, preventive measures should be taken by each worker:

- Wear light, loose-fitting, breathable clothing and a broad-brimmed hat.
- Use sunscreen, reapplying as needed.
- Take frequent breaks in the shade.
- Make sure fresh water is available and drink to stay hydrated.
- Eat small meals before and during work.
- Avoid caffeine, alcohol, and large amounts of sugar.

Trip and falling hazards include uneven ground, holes, open graves, toppled grave markers, fallen tree limbs, and other debris (Fig. C). Sitting, climbing, or standing on a grave marker should be avoided since the additional weight may cause



Figure C. Gophers and other burrowing animals produce uneven ground and holes that are trip and falling hazards to visitors and staff of historic cemeteries. Photo: Jason Church.

deteriorated and structurally unstable monuments to break or collapse with serious injury potentially occurring to the worker and damage to the marker. To help prevent injuries that can result from unstable grave markers, it is important to routinely identify and flag severely damaged and unstable grave markers for corrective work and to rope off any marker considered to be in immediate danger of collapse. Prior to beginning work, the immediate area around the job site should be rechecked for safety hazards.

Snakes, wasps, and burrowing animals inhabit historic cemeteries (Fig. D). Snakes sun on warm stones and hide in holes and ledges, so it is important to be able to identify local venomous snakes. An appropriate venomous snake management plan should be in place, and



Figure D. Yellow jackets that are nesting below the projecting molding of this grave marker pose a hazard to visitors and staff because, if disturbed, they will vigorously defend their nest. Yellow jacket, paper wasp and hornet nests should be removed from grave markers by trained staff or specialists. Photo: Jason Church.

all workers should be familiar with it. Workers and volunteers should be instructed as to safety measures to be taken in regards to snakes, including proper clothing where there is an identified risk.

The imported red fire ant is an invasive pest, prevalent in the southern United States. They attack en masse, resulting in painful bites that can be potentially life threatening to people with allergic reactions. It is important to be able to identify the presence of red imported fire ants; be informed as to safety measures to take when working in areas known to be infested with them; and take steps to control them as necessary. A rescue medicine is available for those with serious allergic reactions.

Paper wasps, yellow jackets, and hornets are another concern, building nests around and on ledges and lips of box tombs, mausoleums, and other grave markers. They are very territorial around their nests and will vigorously defend them. There are non-toxic sprays that can be used in and around the work area. Nests should be safely removed.

Burrowing animals like armadillos, groundhogs, gophers, and moles disrupt the ground with their digging and tunnels and can create tripping hazards or undermine grave markers. Prairie dogs have been known to dig up bones and destroy gravesites. Sinkholes created by these animals can also be perfect places for other creatures like snakes to inhabit.

Proper work practices and lifting techniques need to be used whenever lifting or resetting grave markers. Many markers are surprisingly heavy. For example, a common upright marble headstone measuring 42" long, 13" wide, and 4" deep weighs over 200 pounds. Volunteers and workers should work in pairs, be able bodied, and have training in safe lifting techniques. Lift equipment and ergonomically correct tools should be routinely used to lift heavy markers (for most people this includes markers that weight more than 50 pounds). For smaller grave markers, a simple wooden clamp system can be constructed for a two-person lift (Figs. E1 and E2).



Figure E1. The simple wooden clamp system allows two people to safety lift a marble grave marker. Photo: Sarah Jackson.



Figure E2. The clamp system is constructed from off-the-shelf wooden boards. Photo: Sarah Jackson.

stacked bases, a specialist should be contracted for resetting.

It is important to check state and local regulations to make sure that digging around the grave marker is authorized before starting any resetting effort. Also, grave markers should be documented and cleaned before resetting. It is also a good time to measure and record the overall size of the marker and note any stone carver's marks or inscription of the company that made the marker. The company name is often found on buried portions of the base and revealed during the resetting process.

Typical materials required for resetting include a hoist, shovels, plumb lines, levels, tamping devices, wooden stakes, and boards. To improve drainage, sand and small gravel or small stones are commonly used when resetting.

Prior to resetting, it is important to establish the type of base. Most grave markers have one of three main base types: (1) ground supported, (2) slotted base, or (3) stacked base. Similar tasks are undertaken for each base type.

Ground-supported stones are a common type of historic grave marker. This type includes the traditional New England slate and brownstone markers and government-issued marble headstones. The primary goal with any ground-supported marker is to have it level and plumb. To reset the marker, a few inches or more of soil is first removed from around the stone. This is usually sufficient to enable a stone marker to be straightened.

The enlarged hole is then filled and compacted around the marker.

If a grave marker has fallen over and has been covered with soil or turf, it must first be inspected for attached concrete or other anchoring system. If this system is still attached, the grave marker may break during lifting. After removing the stone, it can be cleaned and then temporarily set on wood supports.

The hole left from removal of the marker will need to be enlarged to hold the base of the stone. Soil at the bottom of the hole should be compacted by hand, not with a power tamper. In most cemeteries, crushed stone or sharp pea-size gravel mixed with angular sand can be used to line the hole and then hand-tamped around the stone after it is placed in the hole. The gravel helps facilitate drainage and keeps the stone from settling. A bubble level can be used to ensure that the stone is plumb. Markers should not be set in concrete.

The second type of monument base is the slotted base where the upright element is secured to the base using mortise-and-tenon style construction. The upright element in the slotted base may be leaning or loose. In any case, the upright element should be removed from the base, the base leveled, then the element returned to the base. It is important to keep in mind the depth that the base was intended to be set into the ground. This may be indicated by the style of the base or the observed soil- line staining. Many bases were intended to sit flush on grade while some were set a few inches below ground.

Prior to resetting, the upright element should be disengaged from the base and carefully set aside. In most cases, the base will need to be removed to properly prepare the hole before resetting the grave marker. After doing so, four to six inches of soil should be removed from the hole and the soil then tamped by hand to make a proper bed or foundation. The foundation area can be filled with crushed stone or sharp pea-sized gravel and sand, checking to make sure that the base is plumb and level as resetting proceeds. Clean the headstone prior to resetting. Old mortar, concrete or epoxy should be removed from the slot and the bottom of the upright element using a hammer and small chisel. Once the stone elements are cleaned and the base is level and plumb, the next step is placing the upright element into the slot. A lime mortar can be used to fill any gaps in the slot. This prevents water intrusion that may cause marker movement related to freeze-thaw cycles.

A third common base type is the stacked base. This style includes at least one element placed on a base or a series of bases of varying sizes. Resetting a stacked-base grave marker usually requires special skills and lifting equipment. Depending upon the complexity of the marker, a conservator, experienced masonry contractor, or preservation professional with engineering skills is usually needed.

The sections of a stacked-base grave marker often are pinned together for support. If deteriorated, the pins should be replaced. Using a hammer and chisel, a conservator or person experienced in working with historic grave markers should remove any corroded iron, copper, or bronze pins, as well as the old mortar or adhesive adhered to each section. Replacement pins should be stainless steel all-thread, and sized slightly shorter and smaller than the existing hole. The replacement pins then can be set with epoxy, lime mortar, or packed in lead. Once the pins are in place, the sections of the stacked base can be individually reset using traditional or contemporary materials. These include lead, shims, mortars, and setting compounds. Finally, each gap or seam between sections should be pointed with a setting compound or appropriate mortar to prevent water intrusion.

Filling and Patching

Hairline masonry cracks may be the result of natural weathering and require no immediate treatment except to be photographed and recorded. However, larger cracks often merit further attention. Repairing masonry cracks involves several steps and typically a skilled hand (Fig. 21). The repair begins with the removal of loose material and cleaning. Materials that are used for crack repair include grouts for small cracks and epoxy for large cracks affecting the structural integrity of the monument. Gravity or pressure injection is used to apply grout or epoxy. Crack repair can be messy, so careful planning and experience are helpful. If the crack is active, a change in size of the crack will be noted over time. Active cracks require further investigation to ascertain the cause of the changes, such as differential settlement, and to correct, if possible, the cause prior to repairing the crack.



Figure 21. Cracks in a stone marker should be filled to keep water and debris out and prevent the crack from becoming larger. A patching mortar is designed to be used, in this case, with historic marble. Photo: Mary Striegel.

Repairing masonry markers with severely damaged or missing pieces requires a skilled mason or conservator. The materials used for patching are similar to those used for repointing mortar joints. With patching, it is critical that the physical and mechanical properties of the patching material be appropriate for the masonry material. Work includes designing a durable patch compatible with the substrate. Proper curing is especially critical for large patches and often involves procedures to protect the patch from premature drying. Repairs to stucco-covered surface should be carried out by a skilled plasterer using a stucco mix that is compatible with the original material.

Repairing delaminated slate and brownstone grave markers also requires a skilled mason or conservator. With this condition, there are openings along bedding planes which expose the stone grave marker to moisture intrusion. Treatments are design to eliminate or reduce moisture intrusion that would accelerate deterioration. The selection of appropriate repair materials and procedures depends on the severity of the condition. Traditionally, delaminated slate or brownstone grave markers were "capped" with a strip of lead or other metal. Today, this repair technique is seldom used, in part because the drilling procedure used to attach the cap can be damaging, if the stone is brittle. Also, there are toxicity issues associated with the use of lead. An alternative approach is to fill the openings exposed by delamination with grout or patching material that is compatible with the stone. Adhesion of the repair material to the delaminated surfaces is particularly important.

The decision whether to use patching material or undertake a dutchman repair with matching materialdepends on the grave marker material, location of the damaged area, size, and other factors. A successfully executed dutchman usually results in a repair that has long durability and maintains a similar weathering pattern to the adjacent historic material. When working with stone grave markers, repairs using dutchman techniques are best done by a skilled stone craftsman.

Detached fragments should be collected, documented and stored in a suitable facility. Reattachment of these fragments should be undertaken by a conservator or mason. This work often requires pins to reinforce the joints and patching to compensate for losses.

Protective treatments

Protective treatments for metal, stone, and wood grave markers stabilize corrosion and protect the monument from rainwater, pollutants, and other contaminants. Treatments may vary not only due to material differences, but also to specific site conditions.

Wax coatings are often used for bronze markers (Fig. 22). Wax provides a protective barrier against moisture, soiling, and graffiti. There are several steps in the wax application process. Where there is little corrosion, gentle cleaning of the marker is undertaken prior to applying the wax coating. Apply a thin layer of wax to the marker using a stencil brush or chip brush.



Figure 22. A protective coating must be maintained on metal elements. Wax or lacquer coatings help preserve the bronze patina and slow corrosion. Conservators apply a microcrystalline wax to this bust at St. Mark's Church in-the-Bowery, New York, NY. Photo: John Scott.

Mineral spirits can be added to the wax to facilitate brush application. A soft, clean cloth is used to remove excess wax and buff the surface. A second coat of wax is sometimes needed.

In most climates, iron objects require coatings to protect them from corrosion. Clear coatings are sometimes used to protect wrought iron objects. A corrosion inhibitive primer and topcoat are used for cast iron and steel objects. Direct-to-Metal (DTM) coatings combine the two. Because of their durability, acrylic enamels, urethane, and fluoropolymer coatings are preferred. Proper surface preparation is important, including the removal of surface soiling, flaking paint, and loose rust. This can be accomplished with compressed air, wire brushing, solvent rinsing, or other cleaning method. Next the surface is cleaned with a damp cloth, repeatedly rinsing the cloth as needed. While the surface needs to be thoroughly dried before painting, it is important to repaint as soon as possible since even overnight condensation deposits are not desirable.

Another approach for iron objects is using a rust converter to stabilize corrosion that involves less surface preparation. Commercially available rust converters contain tannin or phosphoric acid and react with rust to form more stable iron compounds. The surface must be painted following surface preparation with the rust converter.

Limewash is a traditional coating that brightens stucco-covered grave markers (Fig. 23). Like paint coatings, it needs to be periodically applied. Limewash is prepared with lime putty or hydrated lime and water. Curing begins following application. The lime putty or hydrated lime reacts with carbon dioxide in the air in a process called carbonation. This reaction eventually forms calcium carbonate, a stable hard coating. Limewash is a "green" coating with no volatile organic compound content and is "breathable," i.e., it allows for water vapor transmission. Although commonly white, limewash can be colored or tinted with alkali-stable pigments such as iron oxide.



Figure 23. Limewash is a breathable coating sometimes used to protect the surface of the grave marker and provide a decorative finish. Limewash is applied by brush in five to eight thin coats (with each coat about the consistency of skim milk). The surface is allowed to slowly dry between coats. Sometimes the surface is covered by damp burlap to slow the drying process. Photo: Sarah Jackson.

Before applying the limewash, the masonry surfaces should be inspected for coating residues that need to be removed and any required repair work undertaken. Stucco-covered surfaces should be repaired and allowed to fully cure before applying limewash. If the original color has been determined, the renewal coating can be formulated to match. In preparing the wash, enough water is added to lime putty or hydrated lime to produce slurry with the consistency of skim milk. A mixture of four parts water and one part lime usually works well. A Zahn or Ford cup can be found at a hardware store and used to measure the thickness of the limewash and ensure consistency with each batch. Although many traditional recipes include additives, a simple mixture of lime and water performs best. Using a power drill with a paddle attachment to stir the limewash will help ensure that the lime particles are fully suspended in the mixture. Any pigment for coloration is added during the final mixing.

The surface must be cleaned of old coating residues, soiling, and other contaminants. After dampening the surface, the limewash is applied in 5-8 thin coats, allowing each coat to dry between applications. Limewash is translucent immediately after application and then becomes opaque when dry.

Proper curing of limewash is critical to its durability. To prevent premature drying, the treated surface may need to be covered with damp burlap. Limewash must not be applied when frost or freeze conditions are predicted or in temperatures above 90° F. Ideally, limewash should be applied during spring or fall when temperatures are around 70° F, avoiding direct sunlight where possible.

Clear water repellents and consolidation treatments are sometimes considered for severely deteriorated grave markers, including unpainted wood markers and masonry. For wood markers, epoxy consolidants are used to patch and repair. For masonry materials, it is important to remember that they are porous, and water vapor and liquid water can travel through their internal network. Protective treatments must allow for water vapor transmission to prevent trapping moisture inside the marker. Although a wide variety of water repellents have been employed on masonry (wax, acrylic, epoxy resins, etc.), silane and siloxane treatments have been the most successful. These organosilicon compounds are "breathable," penetrate below the surface, and form chemical bonds with silicate minerals.

When erosion is severe, consolidation treatments (e.g., ethyl silicate) have been used to replace mineral binders lost to weathering (Fig. 24). Because these treatments are not reversible, laboratory and on-site testing are essential. Application by a conservator or other experienced preservation professional is advised.



Figure 24. A severely deteriorating monument or grave marker can be treated with a stone consolidant. The treatment is usually applied using a spray system. The consolidant soaks into the stone and replaces mineral binders that hold the stone together. On-site and laboratory testing and evaluation are performed prior to using this non-reversible type of treatment. Photo: Lucas Flickinger.

Conclusion

Maintenance is the key to extending the life of historic cemetery grave markers. From ensuring that markers are not damaged by mowing equipment and excessive lawn watering, to proper cleaning and resetting, good cemetery maintenance is the key to extending the life of grave markers. Whether rescuing a long-neglected small cemetery using volunteers or operating a large active cemetery with paid staff, the cemetery's documentation, maintenance and treatment plans should include periodic inspections. Only appropriate repair materials and techniques that do not damage historic markers should be used and records should be kept on specific repair materials used on individual grave markers. A well-maintained cemetery provides an attractive setting that can be appreciated by visitors, serves as a deterrent to vandalism, and provides a respectful place for the dead. A community history recorded in stone, wood and metal markers, cemeteries are an important part of our heritage, and are deserving of preservation efforts (Fig. 25).



Figure 25. Involving the community in activities helps to develop an appreciation for the cemetery and serves to deter vandalism. Events may include children through school or scouting organizations and can help teach across the curriculum. Photo: Debbie Dietrich Smith.

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Whether large or small, well maintained or neglected, historic cemeteries are an important part of our cultural landscape. This historic cemetery at Cape Lookout National Seashore, NC, provides a record of the families who lived in Portsmouth Village during the 19th and early 20th centuries. Photo: Fran Gale.

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