

Cemetery Preservation Resources

Resources:

Association for Gravestone Studies

<http://www.gravestonestudies.org/>

278 Main Street, Suite 207

Greenfield, MA 01301

Phone: 413-772-0836

A resource for the study of the history of cemeteries and gravestones and their preservation. The AGS annual meeting includes a conservation/treatment workshop.

South Carolina Department of Archives and History

<http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/cemetery.htm> (cemetery preservation)

<http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/hstcm.pdf> (preservation handbook)

Archives & History Center

8301 Parklane Road

Columbia, SC 29223

Phone: 803-896-6100

Fax: 803-896-6167

Texas Historical Commission

<http://www.thc.state.tx.us/>

P.O. Box 12276

Austin, TX 78711-2276

Phone: 512/463-6100

Home of the Texas cemetery preservation program. The website contains information on the preservation of threatened cemeteries and a printable booklet on cemetery preservation guidelines. Click on "cemeteries" and "preserving cemeteries."

Chicora Foundation

<http://www.chicora.org>

P.O. Box 8664

Columbia, SC 29202-8664

Phone: 803-787-6910

Chicora is a Columbia, South Carolina public, non-profit heritage preservation organization. Their work includes archaeological and historical research (throughout the Southeastern United States), public education (primarily in South Carolina), and work in conservation and preservation with museums, libraries, archives, historic organizations, and private citizens. Chicora offers preservation planning, documentation (grave location and mapping), inventory and assessment, research, treatment and educational services (workshops) for cemeteries.

Coalition to Protect Maryland Burial Sites:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mdcpmb/coalition01.htm>

P.O. Box 1533

Ellicott City, MD 21041

The Coalition was formed in 1991 as a non-profit organization and is committed to the protection of human burial sites from unauthorized and unwarranted disturbance, by man or nature. The membership includes historians, genealogists, archaeologists, cultural preservationists, Native Americans, legislative members, and citizens of Maryland who care about their heritage and ancestors.

The Neighborhood Design Center

Baltimore Office:

2645 N. Howard St.

Baltimore, MD 21218

(410) 366-3223

Prince George's County Office:

3718 Rhode Island Ave., Suite 201

Mt. Rainier, MD 20712

(301) 779-6010

This group offers pro bono design services to community groups and non-profit organizations. For a small fee, a historic landscape architect can give on-site assistance in identification of plants in an overgrown cemetery so historic plantings may be retained and nourished while invasives and weeds may be eliminated. Design assistance may also be obtained in the planning of appropriate embellishments to the cemetery.

Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation

<http://www.nps.gov/frla/oclp.htm>

National Park Service

99 Warren St.

Brookline, MA 021467

Phone: 617-566-1689

Promotes the stewardship of significant landscapes through research, planning, and sustainable preservation maintenance.

The American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works

<http://aic.stanford.edu/>

1717 K Street NW, Suite 200

Washington, D.C. 20006

Phone: 202-452-9545

Maintains a referral list of professional conservators for treatment of monuments and sculpture.

www.potifos.com/cemeteries.html A site with links to resources on cemetery history and preservation organizations, publications, educational programs, discussion groups, and cemeteries.

Bibliography:

Anson-Cartwright, Tamara. *Landscapes of Memories: A Guide for Conserving Historic Cemeteries, Repairing Tombstones*. Queen's Printer for Ontario, 1997.

The Boston Experience: A Manual for Historic Burying Grounds Preservation. Boston Parks and Recreation Department, City of Boston, 1989.

Gayle, Margo and David W. Look, AIA. *Metals in America's Historic Buildings: Uses and Preservation Treatments*. Washington D.C.: U. S. Department of the Interior. 1980; Revised reprint 1992. To order a copy, write: Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402-9325. 202-783-3238.
<http://bookstore.gpo.gov/index.html>.

Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places. National Register Bulletin #41. U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, 1992.
<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/cem.htm>

Little, M. Ruth. *Sticks and Stones: Three Centuries of North Carolina Gravemarkers*. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1998.

London, Mark. *Masonry, How to Care for Old and Historic Brick and Stone*. Washington D.C.: The Preservation Press, 1986.

McGahee, Susan H. and Mary W. Edmonds. *South Carolina's Historic Cemeteries: A Preservation Handbook*. Columbia: S.C. Department of Archives and History, 1997.

Preservation of Historic Burial Grounds. Information Series No. 76, 1993. National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1995. This booklet authored by Lynette Strangstad is a good overview of methods for preservation of historic graveyards, including care of landscape, tombstones and other features and techniques for recording/documenting sites. Contains a sample survey form. Available through the National Trust for Historic Preservation website and Association for Gravestone Studies website.

Sloane, David Charles. *The Last Great Necessity: Cemeteries in American History*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1991.

Strangstad, Lynette. *A Graveyard Preservation Primer*. Nashville: The American Association for State and Local History. 1988. A comprehensive book on the preservation of graveyards, featuring topics found in the booklet above, plus information on cemetery documentation and instructions on the resetting of stones. Available through the Association for Gravestone Studies website.

Thompson, Sharyn and Lynette Strangstad. *Florida's Historic Cemeteries, A Preservation Handbook*. Tallahassee: Historic Tallahassee Preservation Board. 1989.

Wright, Robert Hughes and Wilber B. Hughes III. *Lay Down Body: Living History in African American Cemeteries*. Detroit: Visible Ink Press, 1996.