

# Goals and Benefits of a Cemetery Preservation Plan

*2011*  
*SC Historic Preservation Conference*  
*SC Archives & History Center • Columbia, SC • March 31-April 1, 2011*

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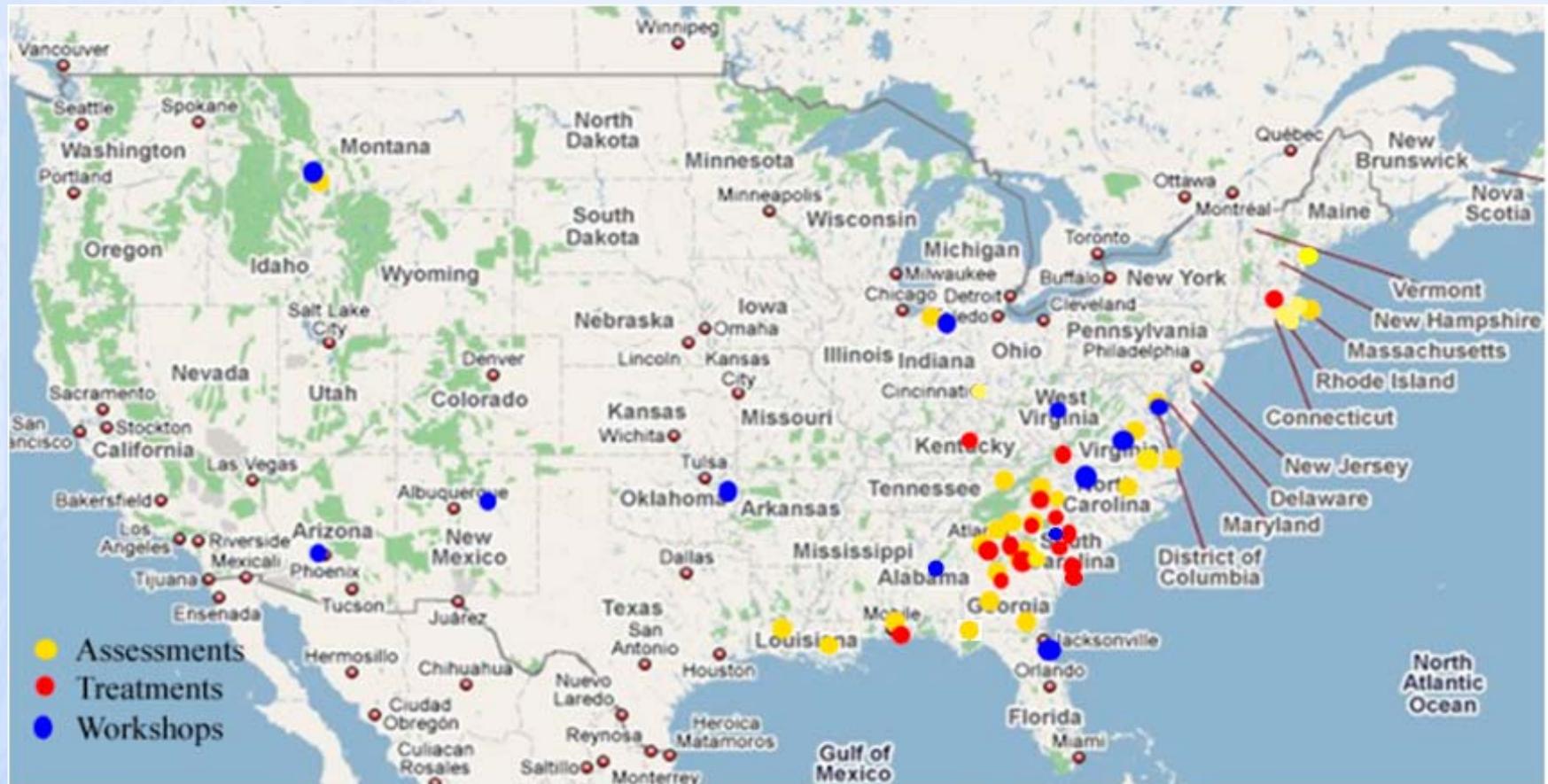
# What Chicora Does

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- ✿ Treatment of Stone and Iron
- ✿ Condition Assessments
- ✿ Preservation Plans
- ✿ Historical Research
- ✿ Identification of Graves
- ✿ Mapping Cemeteries

**Check us out at [www.chicora.org/cemetery-preservation.html](http://www.chicora.org/cemetery-preservation.html)**

# Recent Preservation Assessments



**pre·serve** verb \pri-'zerv\  
pre·served ♦ pre·serv·ing

1: to keep safe from injury, harm, or destruction : protect

2a : to keep alive, intact, or free from decay

b : maintain

3: to keep or save from decomposition

4: to keep up and reserve for personal or special use

# How do we do this?

# Secretary of Interior's Standards

**The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation - Mozilla Firefox**

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The Secretary of the Interior's Stand... +

← → [http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tps/standguide/preserve/preserve\\_standards.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tps/standguide/preserve/preserve_standards.htm) ☆ ↻ Google

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

STANDARDS FOR PRESERVATION AND GUIDELINES FOR PRESERVING HISTORIC BUILDINGS

## standards for preservation

**1. 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.**

**2. 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.**

**3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Work needed to stabilize, consolidate, and conserve existing historic materials and features will be physically and visually compatible, identifiable upon close inspection, and properly documented for future research.**

**4. Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.**

**5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.**

**6. 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.**

**7. 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.**

**8. Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.**

Guidelines for Preservation-->

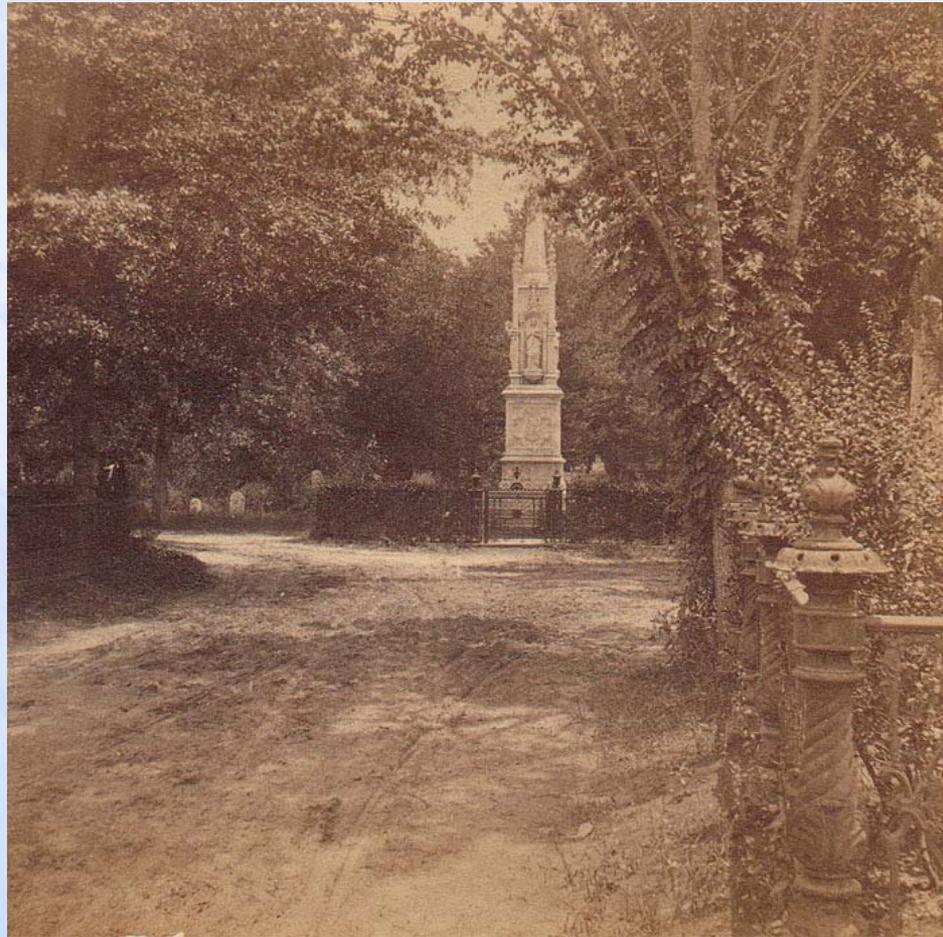
HISTORICAL OVERVIEW - **preserving** - REHABILITATING - RESTORING - RECONSTRUCTING main - credits - email

start Deleted Items - M... Microsoft Word Photoshop Eleme... Cleaning & Preser... Cemetery Rehab ... The Secretary of t... Links 3:47 PM

[http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tps/standguide/preserve/preserve\\_standards.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tps/standguide/preserve/preserve_standards.htm)

# Property Will Be Used as it Was Historically

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# Retain the Historic Character

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# Work will be Physically and Visually Compatible

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# Changes will be Retained and Preserved

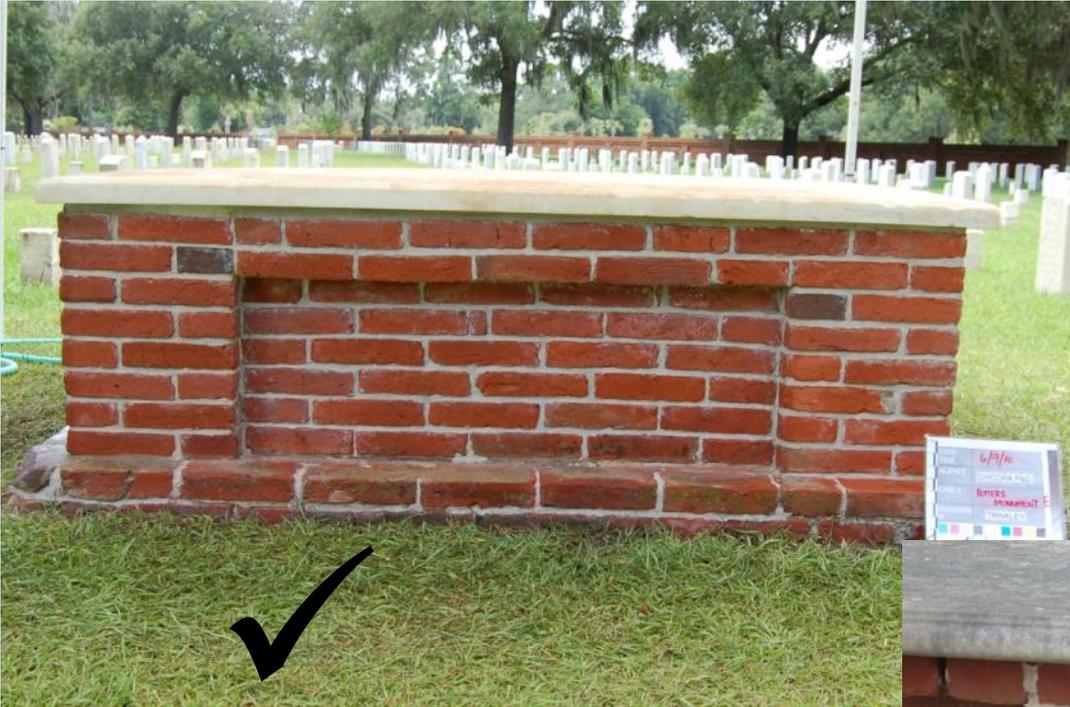
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# Distinctive Materials will be Preserved

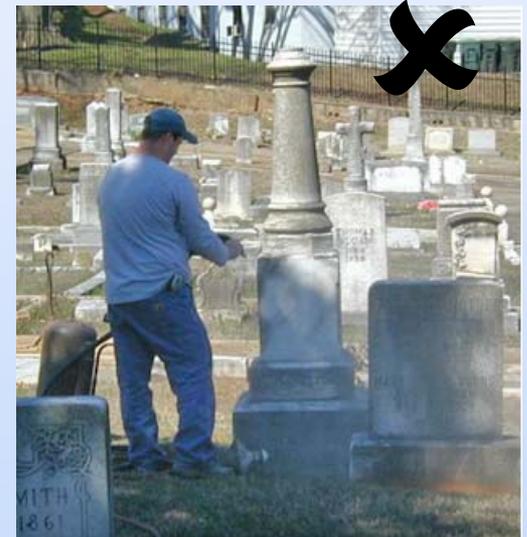


# New Material will Match the Old



# Treatments will be the Gentlest Possible

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# Archeological Resources will be Protected

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# A "Typical" Preservation Plan



- ✧ *May* include:
  - ✧ Inventory of stones
  - ✧ History
  - ✧ Mapping
- ✧ But these features are critical:
  - ✧ Current conditions & long-term needs
  - ✧ Priorities & funding

# Landscape Character

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- \* Sometimes called a “Cultural Landscape Evaluation”
  - \* Topography
  - \* Land uses
  - \* Spatial relationships
  - \* Views
  - \* Landscape Dividers
  - \* Vegetation itself

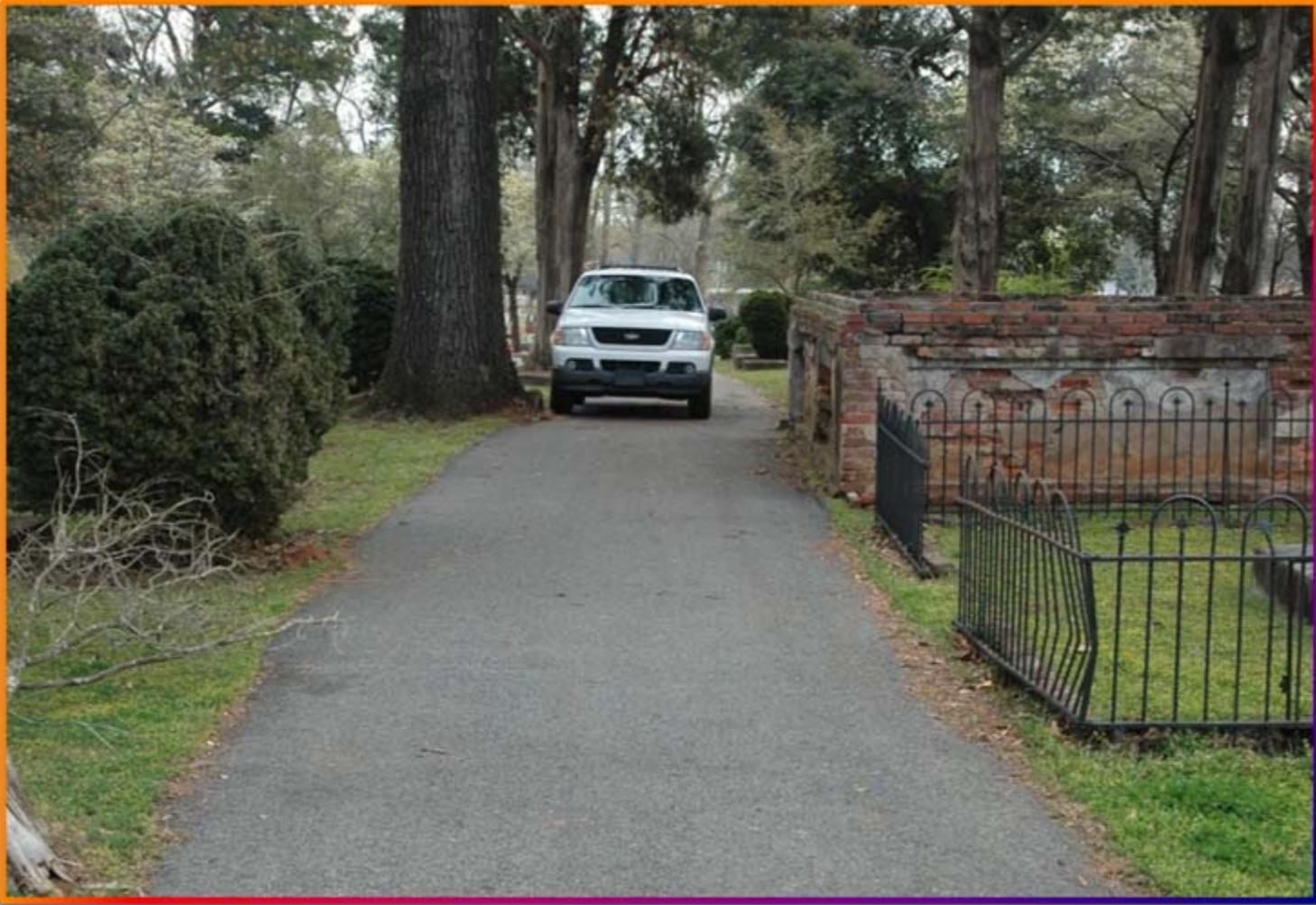
# What is the Character of the Landscape?



# Roads and Pedestrian Issues

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- ✿ Access and circulation
- ✿ Condition of historic features
- ✿ Roadways and curbs
- ✿ Drainage
- ✿ Pedestrian access, sidewalks, pathways
- ✿ Universal access



Access and Circulation



Condition of Historic Features



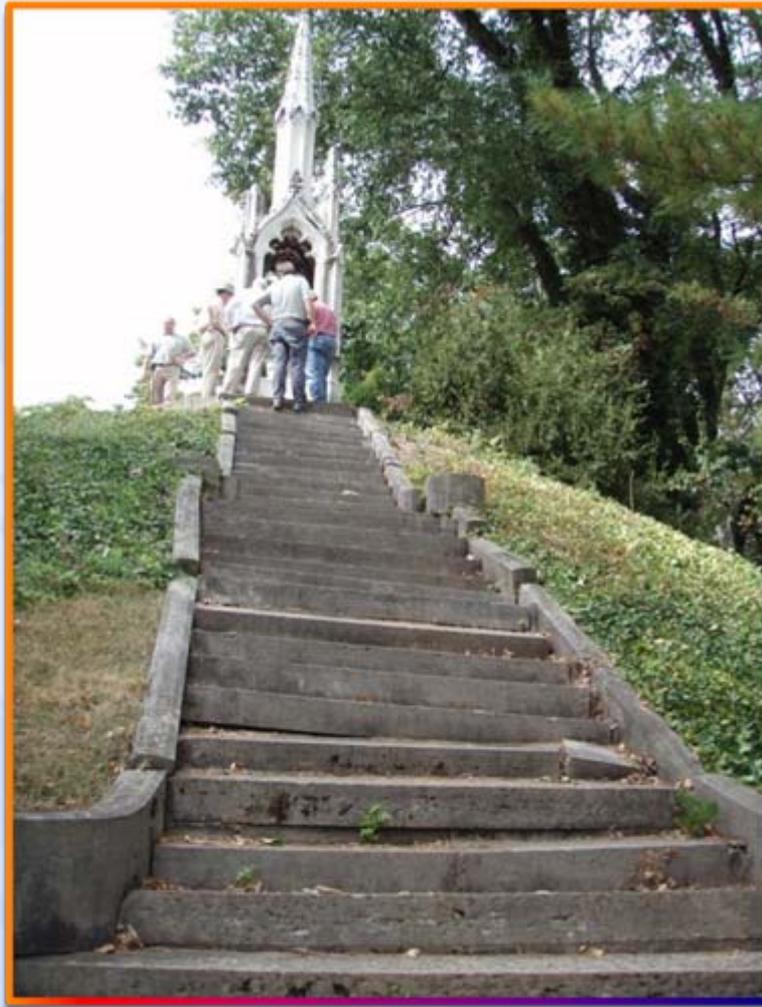
Roadways and Curbs



Drainage



Pedestrian Access, Sidewalks, Pathways



Universal Access

# ROADS AND PEDESTRIAN ISSUES

# Security Issues

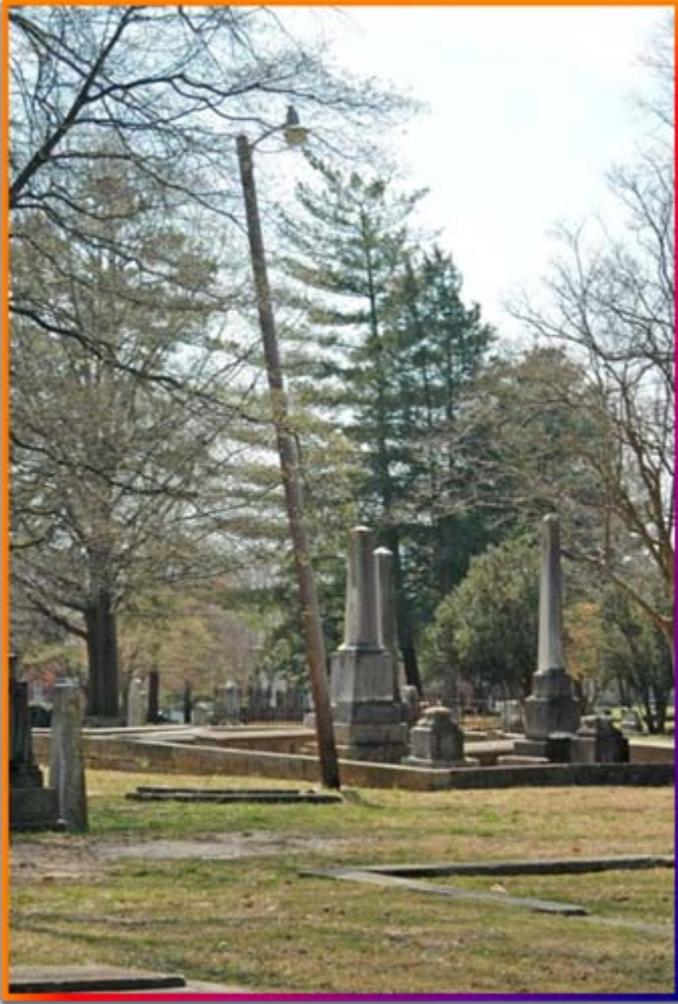
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- ✿ Vandalism
- ✿ Cemetery lighting
- ✿ Hardening targets
- ✿ Homelessness & other inappropriate uses

# SECURITY ISSUES



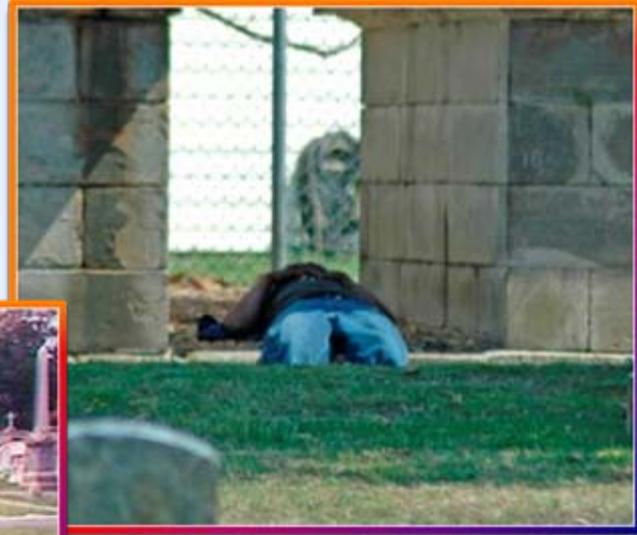
Vandalism



Lighting



Hardening Targets



Homelessness and Other Inappropriate Uses



Graffiti

# Fixtures and Furnishings

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- ✿ Cemetery buildings
- ✿ Plot fences
- ✿ Lot amenities



Cemetery Buildings



Plot Fences

# FIXTURES AND FURNISHINGS



Lot Amenities

# Landscape Issues

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- ✿ Trees
- ✿ Turfgrass
- ✿ Shrubbery
- ✿ Other landscape issues



Trees





Turfgrass

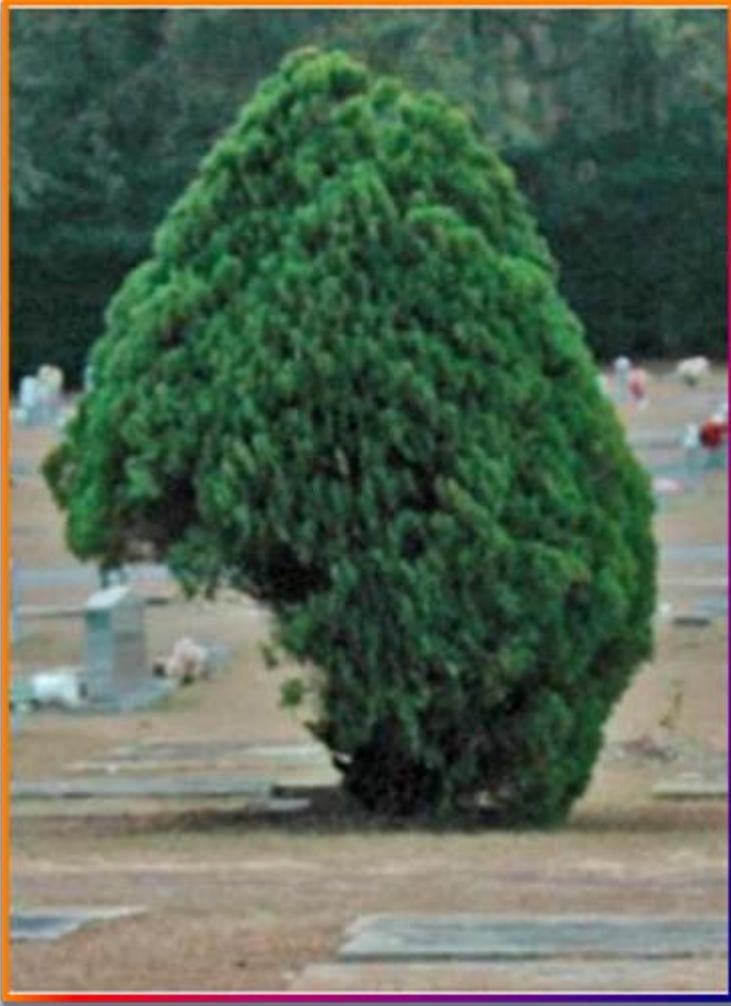
# LANDSCAPE ISSUES



Improper Mowing and Trimming



Damage to Stones



Shrubbery





Inappropriate plot coverings



Inappropriate Herbicide Use



Pest Problems

# LANDSCAPE PROBLEMS



Erosion

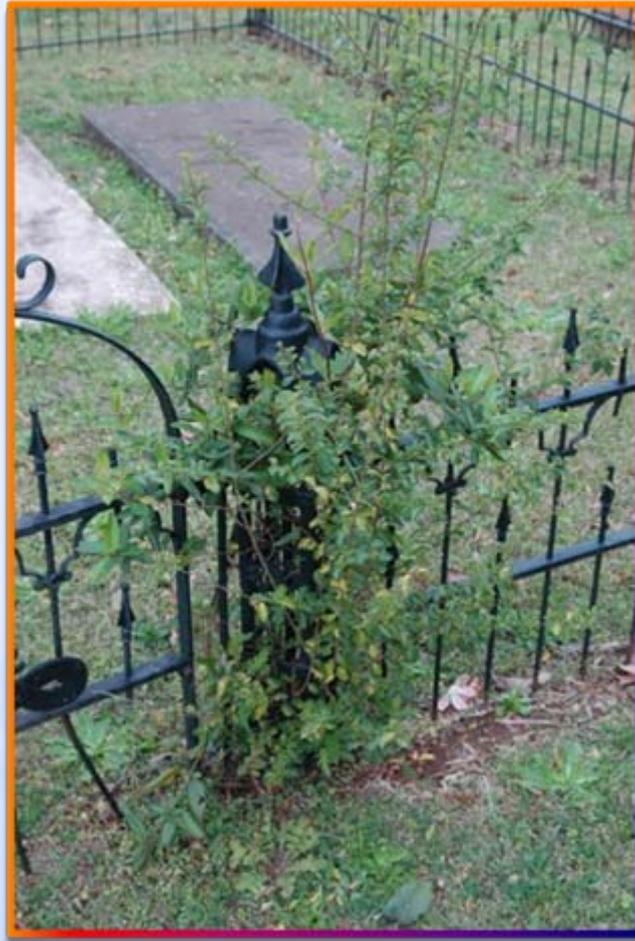


Trees in the Wrong Places

# LANDSCAPE PROBLEMS



Volunteer Growth



# Other Maintenance Issues

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- ✿ Existing rules
- ✿ Flowers and grave decorations
- ✿ Signage
- ✿ Maintenance facilities
- ✿ Lost stones
- ✿ Other issues

## \* Critical Rules

- \* Hours
- \* No gravestone rubbing
- \* Do not sit or lean on tombs or gravestones
- \* No alcoholic beverages
- \* No dogs allowed

## \* Other Rules for Consideration

- \* Jogging, athletic games
- \* Prohibition of skates, bikes, skateboards
- \* Proper conduct (no loud noise)
- \* Littering
- \* Cutting flowers/plants

Establish and Post Rules



Flowers and Grave Decorations

OTHER MAINTENANCE ISSUES



Signage



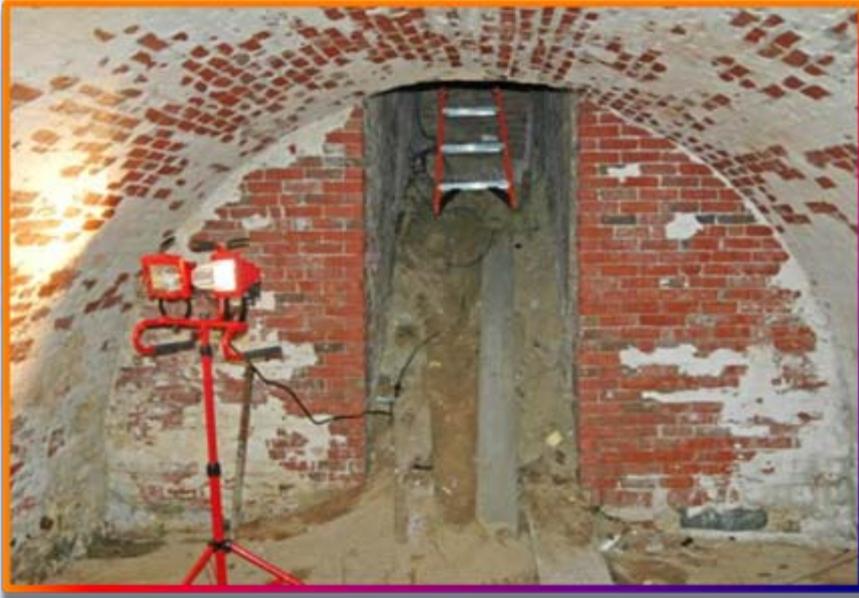
Maintenance Facilities



Lost or Orphan Stones



Boundary Fences



Vaults and Mausoleums

OTHER MAINTENANCE ISSUES



Trash

# Conservation Issues

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- \* Monuments

- \* Structures

- \* Walls

- \* Fences



- \* Condition

- \* Appropriate conservation approaches

- \* Priorities

# Understanding Deterioration

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- \* People
  - \* mower damage
  - \* vandalism
  - \* carelessness
- \* Nature
  - \* acid rain/pollutants
  - \* wetting/drying cycles
  - \* salts
  - \* freeze/thaw
  - \* inherent vice of some stone
  - \* other issues



People

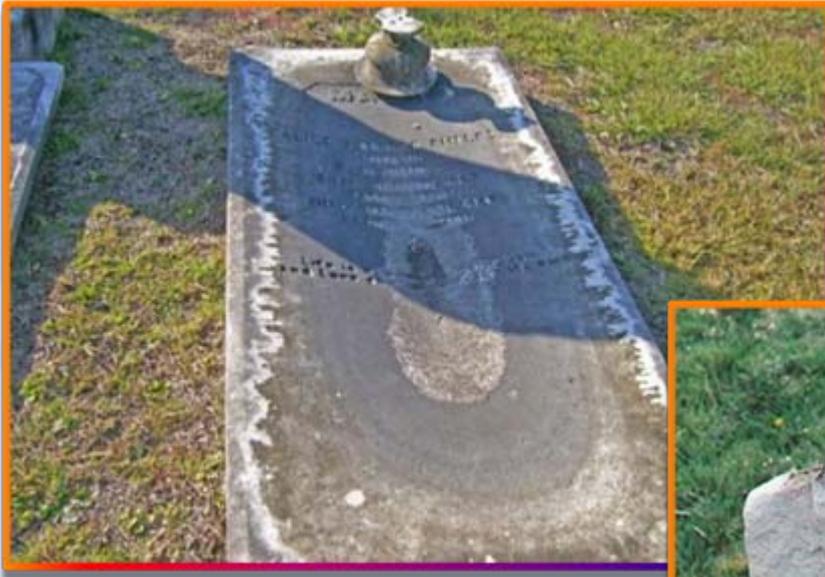


People and *bad decisions*



Nature

Does your cemetery have a disaster plan?



Inherent Vice

# Typical Stone Problems

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- ✿ Broken
- ✿ Tilted
- ✿ Loose or displaced
- ✿ Ferrous pins

# TYPICAL STONE PROBLEMS



Broken

TYPICAL STONE PROBLEMS



Tilted - endangering the stone *and visitors*



# KERRY, 9, CRUSHED TO DEATH UNDER A 5ft GRAVESTONE



Kerry... died in front of st

**A GIRL of nine died yesterday after she was crushed by a falling gravestone in front of her little sister.**

Kerry Coniah suffered horrifying head injuries when the 5ft stone, which was bigger than she was, pinned her to the ground. Police and ambulance men pulled the stone off her and rushed her to hospital. But she died soon afterwards, with her distraught father, Paul, by her side. She had been playing in a cemetery near her home in Thurston, Liverpool. She was seven-year-old Marcella Mc Coniah, 48, said. "I just cannot believe I will never see my lovely girl alive again."

"I had never cried in my life before until today. She had her whole life ahead of her. She was very, very bright."

Marcella hasn't grasped what has happened yet. But when "we're out and about, it's going to hit her very hard."

He said: "They'd asked me if they would go and see her while I was washing their clothes."

"The best thing I have Marcella, dance, book, shopping and 'drama' club, and she had been an excellent student."

Mr Coniah said his job was to look after the girls after a divorce from his mother.

He said: "I still can't understand why I happened and why they say she is the first place."

"For a gravestone to fall on a child and kill her is beyond me. If the council did her job properly this would never have happened."

Local say vandals had probably loosened the gravestone.

DAILY MAIL  
Mortlake House, London EC4Y 6AN  
SEC CIRC. 1,700,700  
ISSUE DATE 2 MAY 1995

## Girl, 9, killed by gravestone

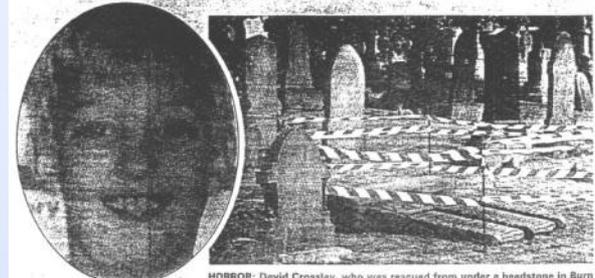
A GIRL of nine died yesterday after a gravestone fell on her. Kerry Coniah was playing with her seven-year-old sister, Marcella, in Thurston Park Cemetery, Liverpool, 200 yards from their home. She suffered severe head injuries and was dead by the time she reached hospital. A woman who lives nearby said the cemetery was popular with children who treated it "like an amusement park".

THE TIMES MONDAY MAY 22 1995

## Cemetery death

Cherry Coniah, 9, died while playing in a cemetery at Thurston Park, Liverpool, yesterday when a gravestone fell on her. She was still alive when a police officer and a paramedic removed the stone, but was dead on arrival at the city's Royal Hospital.

# BOY CRUSHED IN GRAVEYARD



HORROR: David Crossley, who was rescued from under a headstone in Burn

## Nine-year-old brought back from dead after headstone accident

A NINE-year-old boy was brought back from the dead after a horror accident in a cemetery.

David Crossley, of Cog Lane, Burnley, remains in a critical condition after being crushed under a double-sized grave headstone weighing more than a quarter of a ton.

Witnesses report that David had stopped breathing and that there was no pulse when he was eventually dragged from beneath the stone. His step-brother, Darren, desperately gave him the kiss of life. Mrs Margaret Meeks, who

By DAVID AYRTON

was attending the grave of her sister, Christine Meeks, heard only the day before after being killed in an accident with a van at her workplace, gave last message until paramedics arrived.

It was only after they had been at work on him for some time that David began to show faint signs of life. The boy, with a number of friends, had set off to collect snails.

Insp Colin Barton said: "At about 2pm on Saturday one or more of the boys were sitting on a large upright gravestone right at the bottom of the cemetery when it toppled over on top of David."

Three men visiting the cemetery, James Meeks and John Spencer of Burnley, and Michael Pugh of Bolton, used brute force to lift the stone, pushing stone flower vases underneath to try to take some of the weight off the injured boy who was lying face down.

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Fair compensation

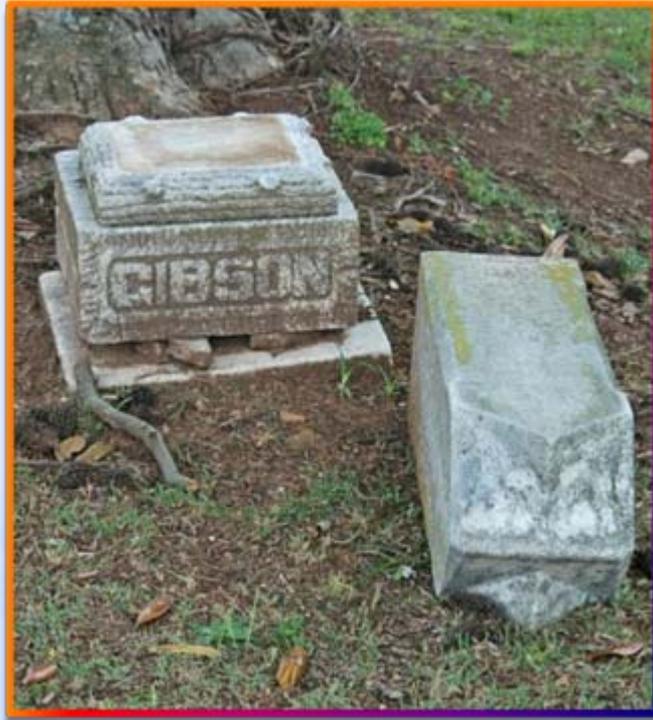
**FORBES & PARTNERS**  
SOLICITORS

Contact: ROBIN BOWER at Rutherford  
Burnley BB1 3PD Telephone: 811

TYPICAL STONE PROBLEMS



Loose or Displaced



# TYPICAL STONE PROBLEMS



Ferrous Pins



# Develop Priorities

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- ✱ Technical
  - 1 – hazardous to itself, other stones, people
  - 2 – unstable deterioration, needs immediate attention
  - 3 – ongoing deterioration, treat 2-5 years
  - 4 – reinspect in 5 years
  - 5 – not repairable using available technology
- ✱ Artistic, historic, visually prominent, important to community



Technical Priority 1 – Hazardous to itself and visitors



Technical Priority 2 – Unstable Deterioration



Technical Priority 3 – On-going Deterioration



Technical Priority 4 – Reinspect in 5-10 years



Technical Priority 5 – Not Repairable

# Assign Costs

Table 5.  
Projected Budget for the Clay Cemetery, 2011-2015

Activity	Estimated Cost	Notes
<b>Priority 1</b>		
Improving entrance	900.00	
Clean, repair, paint Clifton Street fence	100.00	supplies only
Remove 4 dead trees	4,800.00	
Signage	400.00	
	\$6,200.00	
<b>Priority 2</b>		
Conservation treatments	11,000.00	
Approx. 364 linear feet of chain link fencing	10,500.00	
Remove 4 medium size trees and 27 smaller trees	17,700.00	
ISA certified arborist inspection	900.00	yearly
Garlon 4 herbicide	380.00	
Trees for replanting	600.00	every 2-4 years
	\$41,080.00	
<b>Priority 3</b>		
Pruning approx. 10 trees	5,000.00	
Mulching mower (rental)	80.00	yearly
Historical research, approx. 60 hr.	4,500.00	
	\$9,580.00	
<b>Estimated Total Budget</b>	<b>\$56,860.00</b>	

# Seek Funding

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- \* Expect the owning group to fulfill its responsibility
- \* Think locally
  - \* Descendants
  - \* Local foundations, businesses
- \* Explore other options
  - \* NPS Survey & Planning Grants
  - \* National Trust grants

