Cemeteries & Development Process

County Archaeologist
Prince William County Planning Office
Racial and Social Justice Commission
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I. Definitions

II. Cemeteries types

III. Development Process

   • PWC Zoning Ordinance
   • VA Code

IV. Resources
Definitions

- Cemetery/burial/grave
- Head stone / foot stone
- Inscribed stone
- Fieldstone
- Unmarked burials
- Burial shaft (soil anomaly/feature)
- Periwinkle/vinca
- Separately platted
Archaeological Delineations

- Maps extent of burials
- No exhumations
- Remote Sensing
  - Ground Penetrating Radar - GPR
  - Electrical Resistivity - ER
  - Conductivity
  - Magnetometer (magnetic fields)
- Excavation
  - Machine Trenching
  - Hand dug trenching
Examples of Cemeteries

• **Commercial**
  - Dressed stones, mausoleums, larger burial structures
  - Internal separation & well defined rows
  - Typically, good record keeping

• **Religious Affiliation**
  - Dressed stones, undressed stones (field stones), unmarked, vegetation, depressions
  - Internal separation & well defined rows
  - Record keeping inconsistent
Examples of Cemeteries – Cont.

• **Military – battlefields/federal land**
  - Dressed stones, undressed stones (field stones), unmarked, vegetation, depressions
  - Internal separation & well-defined rows
  - Record keeping inconsistent

• **Private / Community**
  - Dressed stones, undressed stones (field stones), temporary markers, unmarked, vegetation, depressions
  - Internal separation - sometimes/sometimes not
  - Well defined rows - sometimes/sometimes not
Examples - Commercial

Stonewall Memory Gardens
Examples – Religious/Private

Clem Cemetery

Old St. Mary’s Cemetery at Hylton High School
Example – Latonia Court
Details of Surface Reconnaissance in Reported Cemetery

WSSI #24000.02

1" = 20'

DUMFRIES SLAVE AND FREE AFRICAN AMERICAN CEMETERY
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32-250.110 Preservation of Existing Cemeteries

- Local Ordinance
- Process starts at site plan submission
- Archaeological delineation report
- Establishes
  - Boundary
  - Fencing
  - 25 – foot Cemetery Preservation Area
- In place preservation always recommended
- VA State Code Allows for relocation/removal
• Access
  • § 57-27.1. Access to cemeteries located on private property ...

• Relocation
  • § 57-36. Abandoned or previously unidentified graveyards may be condemned; removal of bodies
  • § 57-38.1. Proceedings by landowner for removal of remains from previously unidentified or abandoned family graveyard
  • § 57-39. Proceedings for removal of remains and sale of land vacated
Resources

- County Mapper - Cemetery Preservation Areas
  - Layers / Land Development / Cemetery Preservation Areas
- Cemetery Preservation Coordinator
- County Archaeologist
- Historical Commission
- RELIC – Ruth E. Lloyd Information Center – Central Library
- Historic Prince William
- Virginia Department of Historic Resources
THE END