

Update on Historic Cemeteries

June 16, 2014



City-owned Cemeteries

- Point of Graves Burial Ground at Mechanic Street;
- Cotton Cemetery at South Street;
- African Burying Ground at Chestnut Street;
- North Cemetery at Maplewood Avenue (Old North Burial Ground);
- Pleasant Street Burial Ground at Pleasant Street; and
- Union Cemetery at Maplewood Avenue.

Community Assets

- Historic resources
- Valued public places
- Art and architectural significance
- Economic resource

Tonight's Presentation

1. Capital Improvements
2. Maintenance
3. Programming

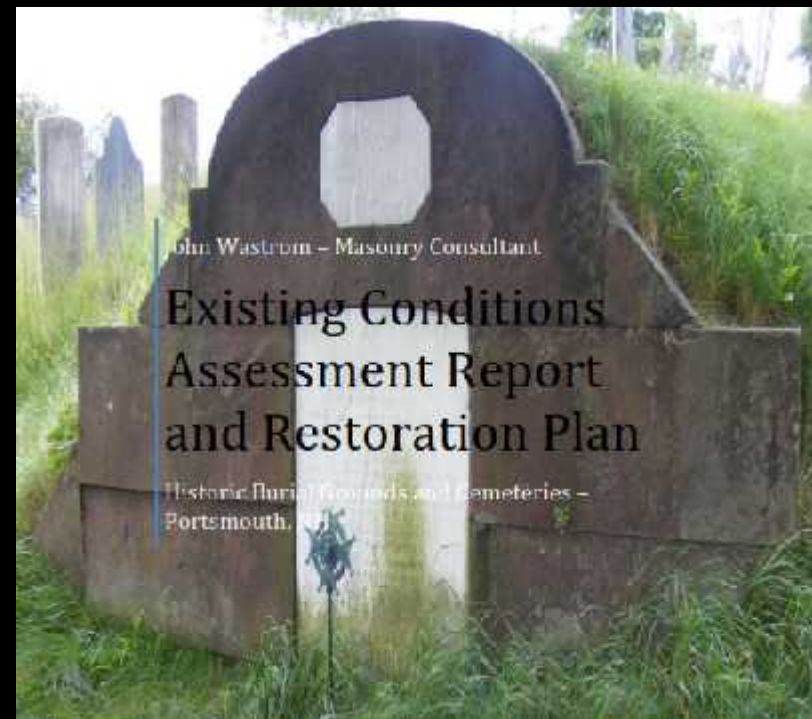


Capital Improvements

- Capital Improvement Plan
- Previous Concentration on Gravestone repairs
- 2013 Completion of Assessment and Conservation Plan
- FY 2015 – Increase in Capital Plan Investment
- Summer/Fall 2014 Project
- Coordination with State Archaeologist

Guiding Future Improvements

- Completed 2013
- In Partnership with Portsmouth Historical Society
- John B. Wastrom
- Total capital costs \$800,000
- Regular consistent investments over time



Previous Capital Improvements



Before

After



Before

After

Examples of Needs Identified

- Cemetery enclosure walls
- Fence walls
- Barrel, hill, chest, and ledger tombs
- Granite pillars and iron work



Enclosure walls



Granite pillars and iron work



Fence wall



2. Maintenance

- Ongoing mowing and trimming
- Remove trash and debris
- Routine and small repairs
- 2014 on site staff training



Partnerships for Cemetery Maintenance and Improvements

- Community volunteer work groups
- Civic groups and improvements
- Families and interested individuals
- Neighbors and adopt-a-spots
- State Archaeologist
- City of Portsmouth

3. Programming

- Historic markers
- Partners
- Public spaces



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