



Historic Randolph Cemetery

Code and Guidelines

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Historic Randolph Cemetery Codes and Guidelines

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Purpose

The following guidelines and rules are intended to: ensure the security of interments within the boundaries of Randolph Cemetery, to certify proper maintenance of the cemetery and to preserve the historic fabric of the cemetery. The rules presented in the document are intended to prevent the inconsiderate from desecrating the sanctity of all interments at the cemetery, the cemetery grounds, or violating the honesty of records and methods of operation relative to the cemetery. All owners, visitors, and contractors performing work within the cemetery are subject to these rules and guidelines.

The Committee for the Restoration and Beautification of Randolph Cemetery reserves the right to enforce these rules as they deem appropriate and using the full extent of the laws in the state of South Carolina. The Committee for the Restoration and Beautification of Randolph Cemetery also reserves the right to amend these rules as they deem necessary to ensure the sanctity of interments, for the protection of owners of interment rights, and out of respect for the greater community.

History and Background

The following historical overview of Randolph Cemetery is taken from the New South Associates report “Randolph Cemetery: Mapping and Documentation of a Historic African-American Site”, authored by Staci Richey in 2007.

Seeking to commemorate Senator Benjamin Franklin Randolph's contributions, 19 men in Columbia's African-American community created the Randolph Cemetery Association, purchasing a three-acre tract from Elmwood Cemetery by 1872 for \$900 and an additional acre in 1899, also acquired from Elmwood Cemetery. The historically European-American Elmwood Cemetery followed the “rural cemetery” trend of winding streets and picturesque landscape.¹ Although several sources date 1868 as the earliest burials in Randolph Cemetery, there are graves present that date as early as 1864, as well as burials from the periods of 1866-1868 and 1870-1871. This suggests that Elmwood

¹ Susan McGahee and Mary W. Edmonds, *South Carolina's Historic Cemeteries: A Preservation Guide*, (Columbia: South Carolina Archives and History Department, 1997) pg. 8.

Cemetery may have been allowing African-Americans to be interred in this area prior to establishment of the Randolph Cemetery Association and their purchase of the Randolph Cemetery property in 1872. Elmwood and Randolph cemeteries were technically just north of the city's limits in the 1800s, which ran to Upper Street, now Elmwood Avenue, the southern border of the cemeteries. Their placement was in keeping with nineteenth-century concepts of creating cemeteries away from the dense city center. Although Randolph Cemetery does not appear to have a formal burial or landscape arrangement, besides a few rows of cypress, a plat map from 1874 and a city map from 1895 suggest a formal grid pattern for plots, and intersecting streets meeting at the center of the cemetery around a monument, presumably Benjamin Franklin Randolph's obelisk on pedestal.²

The cemetery's namesake, Benjamin F. Randolph, held the positions of South Carolina Senator, delegate to the state's Constitutional Convention, a member of the executive committee of the state's Republican Party, a Republican presidential elector in the election of 1868, and commissioner of Orangeburg, South Carolina schools. Born a free African-American in Kentucky in the 1820s, Randolph came to the state during the Civil War as a Methodist minister and chaplain of the Twenty-Sixth U.S. Colored Troops, remaining in South Carolina after the war to found one newspaper and edit another. He also served briefly with the Freedman's Bureau, but his political prominence and ambition drew the ire of agitated whites and he lost his life to three bullets fired by a group of white assassins in Abbeville County while stepping down from a train on October 16, 1868. Randolph was buried in the Columbia vicinity after a procession from a church in downtown Columbia, although the exact location of his burial has yet to be determined. Elaine Nichol's informs us that in May of 1871, Mrs. Elise Booker wrote her daughter in North Carolina and told her that she had attended the reburial ceremony for B. F. Randolph. The Randolph Cemetery Association would be formed three months later, in August, 1871, and the cemetery lands would be purchased from Elmwood Cemetery in the following year. All of this suggests that this location had been used as a burial place for African Americans, but that B. F. Randolph's burial led to the formal acquisition and organization of the cemetery as a memorial.

² Michael Trinkley, Ph.D., Debi Hacker, *A Small Sample of Burials at Randolph Cemetery: What Their Burials Tell Us about the Cemetery and African American Life in Columbia*, (Columbia: Chicora Foundation, 2007) pg. 2, 5-7.

References

- McGahee, Susan H. and Mary W. Edmonds. *South Carolina's Historic Cemeteries: A Preservation Handbook*. Columbia, South Carolina: South Carolina Department of Archives and History, 1997.
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- Richey, Staci. *Randolph Cemetery: Mapping and Documentation of an Historic African-American Site*. Columbia, South Carolina: New South Associates, 2007.
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The Committee for the Restoration and Beautification of Randolph Cemetery

During the 1970s the cemetery was considered the property of Pearson Funeral Home located in Columbia, South Carolina. In 1983 several individuals concerned about the future of the cemetery gained trusteeship of Randolph Cemetery. These individuals organized themselves as the reformed Randolph Cemetery Association. The Association operated under that name until 1998, at which time the name was changed to the Committee for the Restoration and Beautification of Randolph Cemetery (CRBRC). Those persons who have family members buried at Randolph Cemetery are members who have a stake in the ownership. Interested individuals are also welcome to participate as associate members without ownership rights. The recent presidents of the CRBRC were Mr. Frank Washington and Mrs. Emma Kyer. The current president elect is Carlos Smith, Ph.D. (2009).

The Downtown Columbia Cemetery Task Force

Since the late 1980s there has been an effort to preserve and promote the history of Randolph Cemetery. This movement has grown out of the efforts of a few zealous individuals. One of the most passionate and committed supporters of Randolph Cemetery was Mrs. Minnie Simons Williams. She traveled around the country informing groups and individuals about the significance of the cemetery and raising funds for the upkeep of the grounds. In 1987 she invited Ms. Elaine Nichols, a curator at the South Carolina State Museum to include information about Benjamin F. Randolph and the cemetery in an exhibit that they were mounting on African American funeral and mourning customs. The museum included a diorama about the cemetery and images of the vandalism that has been ongoing since the 1950s. In 2005 Ms. Nichols along with Robin Waites, executive director of Historic Columbia Foundation (HCF) and Michael Trinkley of Chicora Foundation formed the Downtown Columbia Cemetery Task Force (DCCTF). The Task Force has become a vehicle for preservation of forgotten cemeteries in Columbia, South Carolina.

Since its inception the DCCTF has helped the cemetery gain local landmark listing and has helped to install a historic marker to designate its status as a cultural heritage resource. The DCCTF has also worked closely with the Committee for the Restoration and Beautification of Randolph Cemetery (CRBRC), assisting them with organizational development and the cemetery's maintenance. In 2009 the DCCTF hired a historic preservationist (Keilah Michal Spann) to help plan efforts to restore the cemetery. It is the intention of the DCCTF to see Historic Randolph Cemetery as a restored site that is functioning as a cultural heritage resource for the foreseeable future.

Declaration of Moratorium on Future Burials, Lot Sales and Purchase at Randolph Cemetery

Randolph Cemetery has been in formal operation for over one hundred and thirty years. There have been thousands of individuals interred at Randolph Cemetery since its inception. Time and nature have taken its toll on the landscape causing a significant number of markers which identified burials at Randolph Cemetery to deteriorate over time. Unfortunately there are few records available which document plans or plats. Both of these factors make it necessary to discontinue burials at Randolph Cemetery.

On August 20, 2009 members of the Committee for the Restoration and Beautification of Randolph Cemetery and persons with family members interred at Randolph Cemetery were called upon to vote on the future of the cemetery as an active burial site. After reviewing the results of an archeological survey conducted at the cemetery which determined that there is no room for continued burial activity at the cemetery the participants were asked to vote on the following: declaration of a moratorium on the sale of land for burial at the cemetery; and declaration of a moratorium on all future burials at the cemetery with the exception of those persons who had proof of prior purchase of land for burial, or those persons who have a family plot at the cemetery in which there is still room available for burial. A unanimous vote on both decisions is expressed in the following statements and conditions governing burial activity at Randolph Cemetery.

Statement Declaring a Moratorium on Future Sale of Land for Burial at Randolph Cemetery

The Committee for the Restoration and Beautification of Randolph Cemetery as the sole trusteeship of the property located at Elmwood Avenue Extension (Randolph Cemetery) proclaim a moratorium on the sale of all lots located within Randolph Cemetery.

Statement Declaring Moratorium on Future Burials at Randolph Cemetery; Conditions for Right to Burial within Randolph Cemetery.

The Committee for the Restoration and Beautification of Randolph Cemetery declares a moratorium on all future burials at Randolph Cemetery unless they meet the following conditions:

- The intended burial is within an existing family plot with space available for burial.
- The individual has proof of purchase of space for burial at Randolph Cemetery.

Those persons meeting either of the conditions whose intent is to be interred at Randolph Cemetery **must** fill out and submit a ***Right to Internment Form*** to the CRBRC for prior approval and record keeping purposes.

All persons meeting conditions for burial must verify that a prior burial has not occurred at the intended burial site by having a licensed professional who is qualified to conduct a probe or survey of the site. The probe or survey should be done at their earliest convenience to verify that the intended plot is available for interment. The CRBRC must receive prior notification of intent to survey or probe of areas intended for interments and must grant approval of any surveying or probing conducted at Randolph Cemetery. Survey or probing results must be reported to the CRBRC. *It is against the laws of the state of South Carolina to desecrate a burial or unlawfully disinter a burial.*

Interment/Disinterment

All interments and disinterments are subject to laws of the state of South Carolina. The CRBRC reserves the right to set guidelines governing interments and disinterments within Randolph Cemetery. These guidelines are intended to uphold the laws of the state of South Carolina and preserve the sanctity of all burials within the cemetery.

All persons who have purchased a burial plot at Randolph Cemetery are asked to fill out a **Right to Internment Form**. The Right to Internment form is provided as a means to protect the rights of those persons who have proof of purchase of a plot at Randolph Cemetery. The Right to Internment form also serves as a written record vital to documenting the history of the cemetery and any burial activity.

Interment Guidelines

- All bodies shall be interred as to lie totally within the bounds of any lot, and in no event will the body or any parts of the casket or vault extend beyond the bounds of the lot or into any walkways or driveways.
- All bodies shall be buried in graves excavated only by a licensed agency approved by the Committee for the Restoration and Beautification of Randolph Cemetery to excavate within Randolph Cemetery. All excavations shall be performed in the presence of the sexton or an agent of the Committee for the Beautification and Restoration of Randolph Cemetery.
- All bodies will be interred by excavation in the earth at no less than 6 feet below the ground surface.
- The construction of mausoleums or any building structure above ground to house an interment at Randolph Cemetery is prohibited.
- Urns containing cremated remains may be **buried** under the ground within family plots and are an appropriate alternative to casket interments.
- Any monuments or memorials intended for the cemetery must receive prior approval from the CRBRC. Monuments and memorials must not exceed the boundaries of the specific family plot or individual burial plot for which they are intended. The designated area for the monument or memorial must be surveyed to prove that no existing burials will be disturbed by their placement. Monuments and memorials must be in memory of those individuals interred within the plot or buried at Randolph Cemetery.

Disinterment

The term *disinterment* refers to *the removal of a body from a burial plot*. **It is against the laws of the state of South Carolina to disinter a body without prior permit granted by the Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC)**. Generally disinterment of a body is viewed as unfavorable unless there are compelling reasons. The CRBRC will not approve disinterment unless it has been permitted by DHEC. A Request for **Right to Disinterment Form** must be filled-out and submitted to the CRBRC along with a copy of the disinterment permit from DHEC in

order to receive approval to disinter a body in Randolph Cemetery. The person or persons requesting disinterment must be one of the following and decrease in priority starting from the top:

- The person who was designated by the deceased prior to death as the authorizing agent to control final disposition; i.e. the executor of the estate, etc.
- The surviving spouse;
- The decedent's surviving children 18 years of age or older;
- The decedent's surviving parents;
- The decedent's surviving siblings 18 years of age or older.

Permission to disinter a body must be obtained through DHEC. The CRBRC reserves the right to prosecute all illegal disinterments to the fullest extent of the law.

Conduct and Restrictions

The CRBRC exercises the right to enforce guidelines as to permissible conduct allowed at the cemetery. For the purpose of this document *conduct* shall be defined as: *manner of human behavior or activity*.

Waste Management

- Dumping trash, including unwanted floral arrangements, anywhere on the cemetery grounds is prohibited.
- All flowers (organic and inorganic), trash, and debris will be disposed of on a routine basis (monthly) by the agency authorized by the CRBRC to provide routine grounds maintenance service. This does not include grave offerings (see glossary).

- All metal plates and placards placed by funeral homes to designate recent burials must not be removed unless being replaced with a permanent marker.
- No smoking or food is permitted on the cemetery grounds.

Prohibited Acts/Activities

- The following activities are prohibited at Randolph Cemetery: building, camping, cooking, digging, drug-use, eating, engaging in lewd or illicit activity, gravestone rubbing, grilling, hazing or fraternal initiation activities, horseplay, hunting, loitering, occult ceremonies, skating, smoking, soliciting, squatting, tree climbing, unauthorized tree-cutting or planting, unauthorized construction*. Automobiles are prohibited from parking along the grass and between markers.
- The following items are prohibited within the cemetery: drug paraphernalia, explosives, firearms, fireworks, food, matches, and prohibited plantings (see section on vegetation).
- The following construction and placements are prohibited at Randolph Cemetery: chain-link fences, mausoleums, any free standing structures, unauthorized benches or signage.
- No pets are allowed in the cemetery, with the exception of Seeing Eye dogs.
- Children under 16 are not allowed in the cemetery unless under adult supervision at all times.
- **No** persons are allowed within the cemetery after 6:00p.m.

Traffic Flow

Recommended entrance to the cemetery is to enter through the second entrance at the end of Elmwood Avenue and flow through to exit out of the first entrance. Recommended speed for driving through the cemetery is less than 10 miles per hour.

Parking Recommendations

The best space for parking at Randolph Cemetery is along Elmwood Avenue Extension along the right side of the curb.

State Law Governing the Destruction or Desecration of Human Remains or Repositories Thereof: 16-17-600, S.C. Code of Laws Provides for penalties of up to \$5,000 in fines, and imprisonment for not more than ten years for the vandalism or desecration of burials or grave markers, and lesser penalties for the destruction or injury of fencing, plants, shrubs, or flowers.

Historic Preservation

The secretary of interior standards defines *Historic Preservation* as the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of a historic property. According to the secretary of interior work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction.

Randolph Cemetery is a historic property with national, state, and local significance. The cemetery's significance reaches into several areas of American history including the Reconstruction Era and the Civil Right Movement. Randolph Cemetery's materials represent an excellent example of African-American vernacular architecture and burial practices. The cemetery also houses nine African-American Reconstruction Era legislators, and may be the only cemetery in the country to hold this distinction. Randolph Cemetery is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is also listed as a local historic landmark.

Because of its rich history, Randolph Cemetery is regarded as an important cultural heritage resource and landscape. It is within this classification that the cemetery must continue to function. All maintenance and service efforts must keep this designation of the cemetery as a cultural heritage resource as the basis for which all undertakings are realized. The preservation of Randolph Cemetery as a cultural heritage landscape that maintains its historic integrity is the ultimate goal.

Routine maintenance efforts and contracted services must be carried out in such a manner that preserves the cemetery's integrity and historic accuracy. Efforts must also be in compliance with preservation standards and methods

for maintaining historic landscapes. The following chapters contain maintenance and service guidelines for all service providers, funeral home directors, families, and visitors.

In 2007 New South Associates, a cultural resource management company based in Atlanta, Georgia was contracted to conduct a formal survey and inventory of Randolph Cemetery. New South's survey report included a contour map of the cemetery and the identification and survey of each known burial present at the cemetery. The survey also recorded the physical condition of each marker and burial plot identified at Randolph Cemetery. The information from the survey has been compiled into a searchable database. Information on identified burials including the individual's name, date of birth, and marker conditions can be researched using the database. The survey also provides photographic documentation of the conditions of the materials at the cemetery and is helpful in determining evidence of current damage or vandalism. Because no past records or plats for Randolph Cemetery have yet been found the survey report provided by New South Associates has served as the main source for a viable record of the cemetery's burials and history.



In April of 2009 New South Associates was contracted to conduct a ground penetrating radar survey at Randolph Cemetery to identify the presence of unmarked burials within Randolph Cemetery. According to the survey the cemetery has a high number of unmarked burials and no available area for new interments. The information provided by the GPR survey and New South's 2007 report have led to the call for a vote to declare a moratorium on all burials in Randolph Cemetery. The 2007 report has also led to the formation of a phased preservation plan for the cemetery.

Materials Salvage Program

The secretary of interior standards defines *restoration* as 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 periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. Many of the markers at monuments have pieces that have been displaced or are missing. A materials salvage program is necessary to store displaced pieces of the cemetery's materials for future restoration efforts and historic research.

The Materials Survey Form

The initial and most important component of the material salvage program is the materials survey form. The purpose of the materials survey form is to document the conditions of materials, record any damage that may occur to materials, and to document displaced materials for future restoration purposes. The materials survey form should be filled out by all service providers and volunteers that are conducting any maintenance, preservation efforts, or activities. The materials survey form is found at the back of this booklet and should be filled out as thoroughly as possible and turned into the Committee for the Restoration and Beautification of Randolph Cemetery or the Downtown Columbia Cemetery Task Force at the contacts provided in the reference section.

Should a service contractor or any visitors observe or find damaged materials please contact the organization listed below and fill out a survey form. A materials survey form can be requested to document damage to materials. Service contractors who accidentally damage materials within the cemetery are asked to request a form to fill-out that same day. Forms should be filled out and turned in either by mail or in person within two business days to the Committee for the Restoration and Beautification of Randolph Cemetery or Historic Columbia Foundation.

Protective Railings

For markers that are damaged or in fragile conditions a protective railing may be placed around the perimeter of the marker to protect it from further damage. The railings may be constructed of metal or wood and ideally should be 2 in x 4 in. Wood railings must be treated to withstand weather conditions.

Restoration

Currently many of the cemetery's markers, monuments, and coping are in moderate to severely damaged state. Common types of damage to cemetery materials include broken or cracked markers, partially buried markers, and damaged coping. Much of this damage has been caused by human activity or is a result of poor soil conditions. Many of the more elaborate and large-scale granite or marble monuments have been shifted or knocked completely off-base by passing vehicles or large equipment. Most of the severe damage has occurred within the southern half of the cemetery. This area has many of the oldest and most historically significant burials in the cemetery.

The cemetery was established in 1871 during the Reconstruction Era and reached its pinnacle of activity in the late 1920s. It is this period between the late nineteenth and early twentieth century that can be referenced for historical interpretation. Vernacular architectural practices and cultural customs specific to African-Americans in the south must also be considered when restoring materials present in the cemetery. The landscape of Randolph Cemetery offers an example of traditional African-American burial customs most of which have their origins in Central and West African burial customs. The practice of placing white gravel and white scalloped bricks over and around a burial is one example that is common in Randolph Cemetery. White symbolizes death for West African cultures and is believed to be a color that reflects evil spirits.

Some of the most common restoration needs for Randolph Cemetery are the following:

- Repair broken markers
- Resetting of toppled or tilted gravestones
- Repair coping (brick and stone masonry) around family burial plots
- Infilling of depressed graves
- Resetting misaligned monuments
- Reset buried and partially buried markers.
- Repointing of mortar joints

Many of the markers observed throughout the cemetery are broken into pieces and left lying close to the original burial or next to the base which they may have fallen off of. A common method that is used to repair broken markers is to use cement or concrete as an adhesive. This is a bad practice that results in an unsightly look and leads to further damage of the stone surface. Broken markers may require blind pinning or adhesive repair to restore them back to their original condition. Blind pinning means to place a hidden support in a structure or monument to join sections together. Blind pinning is used during construction or as a repair technique. Pinning should be made of a non-ferrous metal or fiberglass materials. Markers missing fragments or if a clean break has occurred an epoxy may be used to repair damage. Two of the most recommended epoxies for stone repair are *Akemi Akepox 2030* and *Barre-Pak*. An important

factor in selecting an epoxy for stone repair is the working time. The working time or “pot life” is the time that it will take the epoxy to becoming hard or cure. The working time varies between epoxies and is dependent on factors such as temperature, humidity, and amount exposure to sunlight. Hotter and drier conditions will shorten the working time of the epoxy.

Over time cemetery markers may start to tilt, in this case resetting may be done to prevent damage from occurring to tilting markers. Resetting involves the excavation of the stone and resetting in a sand and peastone mixture which is carefully compacted and provides the proper support and drainage. All markers should be level and plumb after resetting.

In some cases markers that have fallen of base may be reinserted into the slots of their original bases if the slot will properly support the stone. This process is referred to as mortaring into a base. The mortar must be a soft, high lime type to permit expansion and contraction of the stone while continuing to hold it in place. In cases where a replacement base is necessary to re-erect a marker a base can be cast from concrete with a slot set into it sized to contain the stone with space around it to allow for solid packing with mortar. The new base must be of a size to support the stone.

Cleaning Markers

The cleaning of markers is a practice that should not be done often and should be to remove biological growth or excess debris, and in preparation of any restoration efforts. Stone markers and monuments should not be cleaned to achieve a desired “look” or in hopes of making the marker look like it did when it was first placed. Markers can be cleaned using distilled water or using a mild detergent suitable for cleaning stone masonry. Water should be kept at hose pressure. *Vulpex Spirit* is recommended as a mild detergent for cleaning the surface of cemetery markers. The detergent should be mixed with water and applied to stone markers using a brush. Clean water used to rinse markers after cleaning. *Kodak Photo-Flo 200* may also be used as a mild detergent. The detergent solution should be mixed by added one cap-full of Photo-Flo to one gallon of water. Brushes for cleaning should be medium size bristle; synthetic, brushes. Do not scrub stones using force or a lot of pressure, use gentle strokes. Currently there is no irrigation system present at Randolph Cemetery so for cleaning purposes a lower pressure spray bottle may be substituted in place of a

water hose. *D/2* Biological Solution by Cathedral Stone Products can be used to remove biological growth from stone masonry. *D/2* is an effective biocide for stone and masonry surfaces and can be applied directly to dry surfaces. *D/2* can also be applied by brush and should be left on the surface of the stone for 1-2 minutes to effectively kill biological growth. Once the *D/2* has killed the growth be sure to rinse the stone thoroughly with clean water. Cleaning should be required preparation for restoration efforts. **Never use bleach or any household cleaners** to clean the surface of stones. **Never sandblast stones or use a pressure washer to clean stones.** Marker cleaning is **not** recommended as part of routine maintenance and should be done by or under the supervision of a preservation professional or architectural conservator.

Landscape Management

Sodding

There are areas in the cemetery that are heavily shaded and the cemetery lacks a viable irrigation system. Irrigation for the entire cemetery landscape is dependent upon rain and any attempts to plant grass should take this into consideration. In the event that a sodding occurs service provider that plants grass should be responsible for the initial steps to ensure its growth such as watering or using a weighted drum after planting.

Mowing/Weedeating

- Lawnmowers must not come within one foot of all markers and monuments.
- No riding lawn mowers are allowed on the cemetery proper.
- **Trimmers are strongly discouraged** by preservation standards for maintaining areas around historic materials and historic landscapes. Trimmers strings striking against the bottom of markers cause the stone to whittle away over of time, this a phenomenon known as “penciling”. Hand-held tools such as garden shears are recommended for trimming within areas less than 1 foot from a marker within the cemetery. If a trimming is the final option for maintaining areas in extremely close proximity to markers it is recommended that the strings be less than 0.009 inches and trimmers should be kept at a downward angle to avoid striking the surface of materials.

Vegetation

Often members of a family will plant vegetation near the burial site as a memorial to a loved one. Although this is a thoughtful practice with the best of intentions it often results damage to any burials and markers near or around as the plantings mature and grow. Tree planting is prohibited at Randolph Cemetery unless prior approval has been granted by the CRBRC to a licensed contractor. The CRBRC reserves and will exercise the right to remove all unauthorized or prohibited plantings in Randolph Cemetery. The CRBRC reserves the right to remove any trees, shrubs, or other plantings that are deemed detrimental to any interments near or around such plantings; which may threaten a marker identifying an interment, or which are deemed hazardous to any visitors to the cemetery.

The following invasive vegetation is prohibited at Randolph Cemetery: ivy (all types), jasmine, honeysuckle, kudzu, monkey grass, reeds.

Any trees that require removal must be removed by a certified arborist with prior approval granted by the CRBRC.

Floral Arrangements

Floral arrangements may be placed on a burial plot by family members and visitors. Floral arrangements must be placed with pots or containers that stand alone unless there is a vase mounted to the marker. Floral arrangements should not exceed 2 feet in height or 2 feet in width. **Under no circumstances should unwanted or dead floral arrangements be dumped within the grounds of Randolph Cemetery.** Large floral arrangements left immediately after a funeral will be left for a time period not to exceed one week after which time the CRBRC will dispose of such arrangements.

Pesticide

All pesticide applicators **must** have a current pesticide applicators license for the state of South Carolina. The common pests to the cemetery are fire ants. Baits are recommended as treatment for fire ants.

Reference

- McGahee, Susan H. and Mary W. Edmonds. *South Carolina's Historic Cemeteries: A Preservation Handbook*. Columbia, South Carolina: South Carolina Department of Archives and History, 1997.
- Nichols, Elaine, *The Last Miles of the Way: African-American Homegoing Traditions, 1890-Present*. Columbia, South Carolina: Commissioners of the South Carolina State Museum, 1989.
- Richey, Staci. *Randolph Cemetery: Mapping and Documentation of an Historic African-American Site*. Columbia, South Carolina: New South Associates, 2007.
- Trinkley, Micheal Ph.D. and Debi Hacker. *A Small Sample of Burials at Randolph Cemetery: What Their Burials Tell Us About the Cemetery and African American Life in Columbia*. Columbia, South Carolina: Chicora Foundation, 2007.

www.gravestonepreservation.info

Glossary of terms and definitions

Blind Pinning – To place hidden support in a structure or monument to join sections together. May be employed during construction or as a repair technique.

Comprehensive Historic Preservation Planning – the organization into a logical sequence of preservation information pertaining to identification, evaluation, registration and treatment of historic properties, and setting priorities for accomplishing preservation activities.

Coping – the coping refers to a series of stone or brick masonry that surrounds a family burial plot.

Disinterment – the removal of a corpse or burial from a burial plot.

Excavate – the process of digging out or around something.

Grave Offering – Africans sold into slavery and brought to America fought to hold on to many semblances of their culture including languages and burial customs. Grave offerings generally refer to items left on or near a burial that are intended to aid the deceased in their transition from the physical world to the afterlife. In some African cultures personal items such as dishes and jars were broken and placed on top of the burial to release the spirit of the deceased and to prevent the deceased from returning. Sea shells were often placed at a burial site. Their white color represents death and the afterlife. In many African cultures the world of the dead is believed to be connected to the world of the living by water or the ocean. The sea shells represent the world of the dead which is white. Despite conversion to Christianity, many African-Americans continued these and other African burial practices.

Historic Property – a district, site, landscape, building, structure or object significant in American history, architecture, engineering, archeology or culture at the national, State, or local level.

Integrity – the authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property's historic or prehistoric period.

Internment – the burial of a corpse or any human remains.

Marker – a marker refers to any material that denotes a burial. Markers can be footstones, tombstones, gravestones, plaques, vaults, mausoleums.

Mausoleum – a mausoleum is a free-standing building or tomb constructed to enclose an internment. Mausoleum can range from simple brick buildings to elaborate structures which contain chapels. Examples of grand-scale mausoleums include the Great Pyramid and the Taj Mahal.

National Register of Historic Places – America's official list of buildings, sites and districts which includes some cemeteries. It was founded by Congress in 1966, but is administered by the states.

Preservation – defined as the act or process of applying measures necessary to *sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property*. Work, including *preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property*, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction.

Reset – the reinstallation of a titled, fallen, or damaged marker

Secretary of Interior Standards – The Standards that follow were originally published in 1977 and revised in 1990 as part of Department of the Interior regulations (36 CFR Part 67, Historic Preservation Certifications). They pertain to historic buildings of all materials, construction types, sizes, and occupancy and encompass the exterior and the interior of historic buildings. The Standards also encompass related landscape features and the building's site and environment as well as attached adjacent or related new construction.

Tomb – a burial, vault, or a monument

Vault – a concrete or metal box designed to contain a coffin. Burial vaults are used to protect the coffin from the weight of the ground above and other elements such as water. Vaults also prevent the ground above the burial from sinking in.

Contacts

Primary

Committee for the Restoration and Beautification of Randolph Cemetery
Attn: Carlos L. Smith, President
P.O. Box 7074
Columbia, South Carolina 29202-7074

Secondary

Downtown Columbia Cemetery Task Force
Keilah Michal Spann, historic preservationist
1601 Richland Street
Columbia, SC 29201
kspann@historiccolumbia.org

Historic Columbia Foundation

Robin Waites, executive director/ Task Force member
1601 Richland Street
Columbia, SC 29201

City of Columbia

Amy Moore, City Preservation Planner
Staci Richey, Preservationist
P.O. Box 147
Columbia, SC 29217

Appendix

Form Samples

Right to Interment

Right to Disinterment

Materials Survey Form