

OLD CEMETERY TASK FORCE REPORT

December 11, 2017

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Introduction and review:

The “Old Cemetery” is located at the southeastern corner of the four corners intersection at the center of Middletown Springs. According to the 1983 inventory by cemetery researcher Margaret “Peggy” Jenks (1982), the cemetery holds approximately 525 monuments with dates of death ranging from at least 1791 to 1938. The cemetery was originally sited on land deeded to the town by Luther Filmore in 1787 and paid for in pounds, shillings and grain. A second section of the cemetery was donated in the 1850s by Jonas Clark who lived in the brick house that still stands on the north-west corner of the town center. The Old Cemetery is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Middletown Springs Historic District.

The Old Cemetery Task Force (OCTF) was convened at a Selectboard meeting on June 8, 2017. Members included John Arsenault (Chair), David Wright (Assistant Chair) and Nora Rubinstein (Secretary). Kelly McElheny joined the committee on Sept. 6, 2017 and stepped down on November 20, 2017. The members of the committee were charged with making recommendations for a maintenance and restoration plan that will help sustain this important historical site while responsibly managing the town’s financial resources. The Selectboard asked the task force to develop a maintenance plan that would offer advice on:

- priorities for annual work on monument repair and restoration;
- special needs for monuments of military veterans;
- recommendations for non-monument maintenance (entrances, signs, grounds, trees, etc);
- recommendations for annual funding and management of the reserve fund and;
- recommendations on qualified monument-restoration contractors.

The members of the task force agreed to assess the condition of the cemetery and report back to the Selectboard by the end of October. The task force met approximately twice a month and met with experts at other times including sponsoring a demonstration project for the Selectboard on the repair and straightening of stones with the help of Tom Giffin of the Vermont Old Cemetery Association. In addition members of the task force met with cemetery experts Michael Fannin and Janet Muff to discuss the current status of the old cemetery and to determine best practices with respect to cemetery care. Progress was made on the items identified by the Selectboard but several issues remain to be resolved and the immediate priorities shifted from care of the stones to addressing two major safety concerns as follows:

Priority 1: Maintenance or removal of the white pine tree

The task force recommends that the first priority for action is care of the white pine tree in the center of the cemetery. Experts suggest that it is a substantial hazard to the grave stones and the cemetery as a whole, should tree limbs or the tree itself fall in a storm or as a result of aging or rot. The tree’s roots have already damaged some stones and others are at risk, and lifting of further sections of the tree’s roots could result in disinterments.

Two strategies have been proposed:

- pruning to remove wind-sail and dead limbs and assess the current health of the tree with a subsequent program of maintenance, and
- the removal of the tree in total or topping it off and leaving the trunk standing

Approaches:

Pruning to remove wind sail and dead limbs:

- ♦ *Mike Fallis, Limbwalkers*

Mike Fallis suggests climbing the tree and removing the wood by lowering it to the ground; protection and removal of some stones could be required. A subsequent maintenance program would ensure rechecks every few years. The quote includes all clean-up and covers the complete job, not the amount of time spent on the job. The only additional costs would result from any additional work added to the job by the town. The work would likely be done in late winter or early spring if booked now

Estimated Cost: \$2200

- ♦ *Jeffrey Spear, Vermont Arborists:*

The Vermont Arborists' estimate identifies the following scope of service: Reduce long heavy limbs for weight reduction and sail reduction; thin upper canopy to reduce wind sail and the inspection of the upper canopy for structural defects. Spear says that their chipper can handle wood up to 15" in diameter, which should be adequate for whatever they take out of the tree. Brush would be loaded and chipped into a truck and removed, but local disposal would be desirable if possible.

Spear recommends that a maintenance plan be developed that would require work every 5-7 years and would cost approximately \$1000 at each visit.

Protection of some stones would be desirable but not necessary. The work would be best done when the weather is conducive to having workers in the trees. Additional work not completed in the one day fee would have to be billed as a second full day, but might be covered in a subsequent maintenance visit. In a subsequent conversation, Jeff Spear has said that the company could put the crew up for the night down here if they didn't finish on the first day (abbreviated by the two hour travel time). They could then work for a second day as part of the \$3000 price. At this time, the OCTF has not received a revised estimate including this provision.

Estimated Cost: \$3000

Removal of the tree:

- ♦ *Vallaincourt Tree and Landscape Service*

Equipment would be brought into the cemetery from the corner requiring removal of some of the cedars and determination of ground stability in the area that currently has few standing stones. Grave stones in at least two rows leading to the tree would need to be temporarily removed. Other stones would need to be protected from falling limbs. This work might require trenching in this area and/or the use of GPR to determine the locations of unmarked graves before they are damaged by heavy equipment moved into place. Cedars would need to be cut to provide a path for the equipment to access the tree. The trunk of the tree is deemed to be the most problematic and could be left in place while upper sections of the tree would be removed.

Estimated Cost: \$15,000

- ♦ *Trees Inc.*

A crane would be parked on South St. and would bring wood pieces out over the cedars. A Trees Inc. employee would climb the tree to make the needed cuts. The wood would be chipped and disposed of with the use of a town truck to remove the debris. Traffic on South St. would need to be detoured while the work is done.

Estimated Cost: \$12,750

♦ *Doane Tree Service*

Donald Doane indicated that he would conduct a takedown and removal. No estimate was received

Timing:

Given the danger that ice and snow load will cause further damage to the tree and potential damage to the stones, the committee feels that it is important to move forward immediately with a decision on how to address the tree before we have complete information on the other issues that are not likely to be significantly changed by the coming winter weather.

Recommendation:

Limbwalkers should be retained to prune the tree to reduce windsail, remove dead limbs, and dispose of that wood as per their quote. In addition they should recommend ongoing strategies for the tree's care or removal.

Priority 2: Stabilization of the Gardner Monument

The second priority concerns the Gardner monument in the southwest corner of the cemetery. It presents a significant hazard to the public as it is leaning and the base is unstable. The task force believes that this stone should be prioritized for stabilization and/or repair given the danger to those walking through the cemetery especially given its proximity to the path taken by children from Middletown elementary school to West St. With the consultation of the town's attorney, Gary Kupferer, the Selectboard has placed signs in the cemetery to caution visitors of the risk of touching the stones in the cemetery.

Three strategies have been proposed to straighten and support the stone: 1) temporary stabilization with the use of a cable and staking system, 2) the use of a monument company to straighten the stone or lay it flat and 3) the use of a house mover to straighten the stone or lay it flat.

Approaches:

- Temporary stabilization might be achieved with the use of a cable and staking system though it is unclear whether this would be effective or for how long. The task force discussed the possible use of fire company equipment to help with stabilization of the monument but the fire company responds that they do not want equipment used "off-site". Further efforts to identify Middletown Springs businesses and residents who could provide expertise have not been fruitful.
- Use of a monument company to bring in a crane that can lift the monument to either repair its support or separate the sections as a temporary measure, and lay them on the ground so that they are no longer in a position to fall. There are significant concerns that accessing the cemetery with needed equipment may be difficult as it would require dismantling the cemetery gate or cutting trees on the south side of the cemetery.
- Use of a house mover: there has been no response from companies contacted to date

Resources:

- Gawet Marble (pending): Phil of Gawet says there is no easy way to do this. He asks whether we want to stop it from tipping or do what is needed to do it properly e.g. tear it down, put in a new foundation and reassemble it. He might have to bring in a crane on the outside to reach over the trees at the edge. We discussed the possibility of using the same crane needed to remove the tree for both jobs. He will get us an estimate for two scenarios: 1) a complete rebuild and 2) stabilization

- Bowker Memorials: Keith of Bowker Memorials submitted a quote that includes rental of a crane, disassembly of the monument, constructing a new foundation of concrete and reassembly of the monument. There would have to be minimal small tree and branch removal and regrading of the entrance from Schoolhouse Road that would be the responsibility of the town. Overall cost \$9,600.
- Peter Welch: mason in Brattleboro (no response)
- Michael Connor: House mover in Dorset (pending)
- Hicks Monuments, Granville, NY (no response)
- For smaller monuments, the State Division of Historic Preservation has volunteers who will help with straightening monuments according to Jess Robinson, State Archeologist

Timing:

Given the location of the Gardner monument along a path that is frequently used by children and others traveling between the Middletown Springs Elementary School and West St., the committee feels that repairs and/or stabilization should proceed as quickly as possible. Ideally, this work should be done at the same time as the work on the pine tree and should a crane be needed for work on the tree, it might also be effectively used to work on stabilizing the monument without incurring additional cost for rental.

Recommendation:

The task force has had difficulty finding a resource to take this on. The only current strategy has come from Bowker Monuments in West Rutland. The task force or Cemetery Commission can continue to address this with other professionals but we currently have no other commitments for the work needed.

Priority 3: Documentation \ mapping, conservation and restoration

Documentation \ mapping:

The original charge to the task force focused on documenting the existing location of graves and their condition and need for restoration or conservation of the stones. There are currently four surveys of the cemetery that provide baseline information on the location of graves and the names, birth and death dates. There is some limited information on the inscriptions on some of the stones, but there has been no condition information recorded on these stones and some stones that are recorded in these surveys are currently missing. They may be found near the base of the tree where there are many broken stones, or in overgrown areas along the southern and western edges.

Using the Herb Davison \ Lydia Powers Taylor survey of 1974, John has recorded names, locations and dates. He is categorizing women’s names by both maiden and married names where available. Spelling continues to be a challenge as there are differences between the surveys and with the stones themselves. He is including Find-a-Grave numbers for these graves as he records them. This spreadsheet can be used as a template by a group of volunteers or a Cemetery Commission to add supplementary information on condition, material and type of marker, stone cutter and other needed categories. Additional information is being entered from other surveys. This work should be continued and expanded to include:

- GIS mapping and documentation of existing stones
 - The task force has explored the possibility of working with one of the faculty members at Green Mountain College on a student work-study project to map the cemetery and the stones.
- Identification of unmarked graves using ground penetrating radar techniques or trenching. This would include locating currently unmarked gravesites that are within a family group and are candidates for placing some type of marker. That marker may be one that has been removed

from its correct location and has been misplaced elsewhere in the cemetery or it may be a generic marker that states only that someone is buried there. The scope of this search has yet to be determined.

- Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR)
 - Darryl Calkins of Catamount Subsurface Investigations, LLC has provided such services to other experts working on cemetery restoration and he estimates that this would cost around \$400 to \$500 to do a limited area of the old cemetery. We are currently awaiting a more formal estimate.
 - VTrans has acquired GPR tools but is still just learning how to use them according to Jess Robinson, Vermont State Archeologist. He will contact them to determine whether they might be available to us for use in finding unmarked graves, and as a pilot project that would be useful for other communities.
- Trenching could be used in the old cemetery as it was used in Danby's Otis cemetery. Danby's group worked with Hartgen Associates to identify areas of potential unmarked graves. They dug trenches 12 inches deep to identify changes in the underlying strata and the presence of grave shafts. Tom Jamison of Hartgen Associates would be the principal investigator on this project should we decide to move forward. We would need to identify the area for trenching, do several test hole digs to identify soils, and assemble a volunteer crew to do the needed digging under supervision of Hartgen's archeologist.
 - Jess Robinson, Vermont State Archeologist advises that rather than doing test hole digs and deeper trenching, we could scrape the topsoil off and commit to reseeded afterwards if the town has the equipment to do this. He maintains that it is clear where there are soil changes by color and an oval shape indicating location of grave shafts.
 - Such work would not be limited by the cemetery's National Historical Register status. In fact, Jess Robinson is enthusiastic about our sharing our report and work with the State and other local communities that are confronting similar issues.
- The development of an electronic catalogue of information and a cemetery map like the one developed for Maple Hill Cemetery in Dorset. The mapping and cataloguing project would be a complementary project in conjunction with the GIS mapping that could be done in the spring by Green Mountain College students under the direction of John Van Hoesen. Middletown Springs could replicate the Dorset work here, under the auspices of a Cemetery Commission, with additional volunteer labor and additional budget.

Conservation and restoration of stones

Cleaning and repair of existing stones is needed and should be done over the coming years with a volunteer group trained to do the needed work by those on the Selectboard and Task Force who were part of the October demonstration work day with VOC's Executive Director Tom Giffin. Conservation and restoration efforts should include:

- Repair of broken stones and the straightening of those that are leaning or flattened. Stones have fallen and broken or are damaged by the tree roots of the pine; others have been relocated away from the graves they originally marked. Some are hidden under brush along the edges of the Wright property and many are damaged by the decay of acid rain and fungus growth.
 - Strategies:
 - Contact with the earth is not likely to be doing further damage and there is the option of temporarily burying stones that are currently in need of care if there is no budget at this time to work on them. There is however concern about damage to these stones from

needed cemetery maintenance with the mower and trimmer. It would be better to lay stones that are leaning, flat on the ground or on a bed of gravel.

- There are new structural epoxies that are quite effective in holding pieces of broken stones together though they take longer to set up and require a return visit to shave off the excess. We have purchased 2 quarts of epoxy to be used as the weather improves.
 - The stainless steel channels used to reinforce broken stones two years ago have done well and they are simple and durable. In addition, as new techniques become available these support systems will be reversible. They should be considered as a strategy where necessary, but need to be custom fit increasing their cost.
- Cleaning of dirty or fungus encrusted stones
 - There are well respected biocide products that can safely be applied to stones to kill the organisms growing on the stones without damaging the stone further. Mike Fannin has treated one of the stones in the cemetery as a demonstration of what this product can do over time. It is not an instant "fix" but needs to be left to work over a period of weeks or months. We currently have two gallons of this product to use when the weather improves in the Spring. We should test any stones in an inconspicuous spot since it may discolor stones that contain iron.

Recommendation:

An active and ongoing program of maintenance of the stones will be needed. The task force recommends that documentation, cleaning, repair and straightening of the stones become a scheduled annual event, perhaps around Memorial Day or July 4, when the community's attention is drawn to its history. A volunteer group akin to the Friends of the Library could be formed to provide the needed work.

Priority 4: Special needs for monuments of military veterans

The task force requires additional information on this issue and is exploring the opportunities provided by veterans groups for care of gravestones in need of repair or replacement. The U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs will provide a replacement gravestone free of charge for a veteran whose original gravestone has been lost or destroyed. It may be necessary to have the application signed by next-of-kin. The Middletown Springs Historical Society has worked with the Elementary school for at least 25 years, placing flags on 25 graves of veterans of the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the Civil War. The list of veterans includes and expands on those named on the D.A.R. plaque on the Hoadley monument on the green. Further research may identify other veterans buried in the Old Cemetery.

Recommendation:

Additional work is needed here in collaboration with the Historical Society, veteran's groups, and historians of the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War.

Priority 5: Education and oral history

The task force believes that the old cemetery is an important resource to the town, and encourages the Selectboard to make it a central part of our town's history as well as a model to other towns that are confronting similar issues of upkeep and that seek to document their community history.

An oral history of those buried in the cemetery could be combined with public education programs that could be co-sponsored with the elementary school and the library. Such programs would enable people to learn more about those who are buried here, but also enable them to use genealogical tools to track their own family history and to find out more about those who built the houses that they live in.

Recommendation:

Tom Giffin is available and willing to do a community-focused presentation in the Spring as is cemetery expert Janet Muff who has volunteered to give us a flash drive with photos of the stones that she has documented. The presentations could be followed by two hands-on workshops: 1) on researching ancestry on Find-a-Grave and other electronic sites, and 2) a field workshop to clean repair and straighten cemetery stones.

Priority 6: Establishment of Cemetery Commission

In the original charge to the task force, the Selectboard noted that the Task Force was expected to complete its work, deliver its recommendations, and be disbanded by the fall of 2017. However the needed work does not end as the task force completes its duties. The task force recommends the establishment of a Cemetery Commission and the allocation of funds for work in the Old Cemetery -- separate from work currently being done in Pleasant View cemetery. Such a Commission could be elected or appointed. There is a historical record of the existence of a Cemetery Commission as far back as 1902, when the minutes of the 1902 Town Meeting read as follows: *“That the old cemetery be placed permanently in charge of the Cemetery Commissioners and to be entirely under their care from now on, and that they be authorized to remove the stone walls on the north and east sides and plant a suitable cedar hedge in place of the walls, the expense to be taken out of the moneys now in the cemetery account.”* The same minutes of a 1902 meeting (also attached) transferred control of the Old Cemetery from the Selectboard to a Cemetery Commission. Commissioners were elected at least into the 1920s. While we have not searched all the town meetings since then, we have no reason to believe that the authority was ever revoked. If it wasn't revoked then the authority of a cemetery commission is still in force. It would be appropriate to elect new cemetery commissioners. In addition, a Cemetery Commission could be tasked with caring for the Stiles cemetery which is on private land and in need of conservation and restoration if the landowner so desires.

One alternate scenario would be to appoint a Cemetery Commissioner with a stipend for his or her services. Such an official would handle grants administration, the repair and conservation of the cemetery stones and grounds, and ensure that work done was to an appropriate standard of care and completion. This Commissioner could be supported by the work of a group of volunteers under the aegis of a “Friends of the Old Cemetery” group with 501c3 status.

Restoration and conservation will require substantial on-going labor. The Task force believes that there are enough local residents who would be willing to be trained to do the needed work. In addition, a “Friends of the Old Cemetery” group similar to the Friends of the Library group would allow organization of committed residents and could encourage private contributions and generate grant funding. Such a commission could also develop relationships with local area schools and businesses to generate a labor force for cemetery work days, as has been done in other communities.

Funding and budgeting:

Funding:

The Town has budgeted \$2500 per year for mowing in the Old Cemetery, with the yearly surplus moved to the Cemetery Reserve Fund, the current balance of which is approximately \$5,900. However, while the

Selectboard has allocated funds for mowing and care of the Old Cemetery in the past years, the current status of the pine tree and the Gardner monument as well as the need for care of the existing stones necessitate additional funding. The task force recommends that the Selectboard increase its allocation to the fund for the needed maintenance and care of the Old Cemetery. Such a fund would be administered by the reestablished Cemetery Commission and would allocate funds to support ongoing care and support education programs that would serve the town.

In addition, Vermont Old Cemetery Association provides grants for abandoned and neglected cemeteries. Such grant money could be applied to work needed in the old cemetery and\ or possibly to the Stiles cemetery on private land.

Additional monies could be drawn from:

- Crowd-sourcing campaign to raise the needed funds.
- An Adopt-a-stone program could be developed to encourage support of conservation and restoration of stones of family members of those in the cemetery or those living in houses built by those interred there
- The State has grants for saving old barns, but it may be useful to discuss any resources they might be able to apply to our project.

Budgeting:

It is too early to identify detailed budgeting for this work, but categories that would require funding include:

One-time Project Expenditures:

- Care and stabilization of Gardner Monument
- Ground penetrating Radar consulting
- Trenching and support by certified archeologist ¹
- Pruning or removal of pine tree and associated costs
- Repair of Fencing around Oakman plot and other family plots

On-going Project Expenditures:

- Cleaning materials
- Epoxy and lime-based cement
- Paint for signage and materials for repair of family plots
- Documentation of existing graves
- Maintenance and removal of limbs of surrounding trees
- On-going mowing and trimming of stones
- Informational signage
- Development of video or audio tape and documentation of cemetery
- Educational programming in collaboration with school and library
- The development of an electronic catalogue of information and a cemetery map like the one developed for Maple Hill Cemetery in Dorset. The mapping and cataloguing project would be a complementary project in conjunction with the GIS mapping that could be done in the spring in collaboration with Green Mountain College

Final Recommendations (in approximate priority order)

- Address concerns re. large central white pine e.g. removal or trimming to address tree health and ensure visitor safety and monument protection
- Stabilization of the Gardner monument in the southwest corner of the cemetery

- Document existing stones with all available information and establish overlap with existing surveys.
- Identify stones that are in need of conservation or restoration
- Retrieve broken stones, the stones that are in the wall along the edge of the cemetery property in the south-east corner presumed to be in areas unrelated to the graves they once marked
- Begin cleaning process for all stones, under supervision and with training of a skilled restorer
- Set concrete bases for stones as needed
- Raise and reset stones that are currently flattened
- Cut overhanging limbs of all trees with a focus on those in the west section of the cemetery
- Repair Oakman plot pillars and metal pipe surround, and paint medallion on fence
- Re-establish Cemetery Commission with appropriate funding and budgeting
- Develop video or audio tape and photographs of stones on walk-through with John and David identifying information on Middletown history as it relates to those buried here

Bibliography: Resource Professionals, Relevant Organizations and Available Information:

Cemetery Survey Documents:

- Johnson and Johnson Survey (1936)
- Herb Davison and Lydia Powers Survey under the auspices of the Historical Society (1974)
- David Wright and Lydia Powers Survey (1974)
- Margaret “Peggy” Jenks Survey (1983)
- Sketch by David Wright of the cemetery gate constructed by David Wright and Bud Krouse using cast iron sections donated by Hazel Grover, likely made by Hazel's grandfather Eugene Gray and/or her great grandfather, Henry Gray. The standards were reclaimed from the East St. bridge near the former Post Office building. David and Bud designed and fabricated the top section and they bought the letters

Resource Groups and web sites:

- Association for Gravestone Studies; 101 Munson St # H, Greenfield, MA 01301; (413) 772-0836 <https://www.gravestonestudies.org/>
- Jess Robinson; Vermont State Archeologist, Division of Historic Preservation; 802-272-2509 jess.robinson@vermont.gov
- Rutland Regional Planning Commission; (802) 775-0871
- Vermont Old Cemetery Association: <http://www.voca58.org/> Tom Giffin, President: 61 East Washington St., Rutland, VT: 802-773-3253 tgifvt@msn.com;
- Vermont Cemetery Association: <http://www.vermontcemeteryassociation.org/>
- Vermont cemetery operation is governed by VSA Title 18 Chapters 121 and 107 (burial law). Cemetery vandalism and so on is governed by VSA Title 13, Chapter 81, Subchapter 3. Relevant statutes at <http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/>

Grave stone Conservation, Preservation and Restoration Experts:

- Michael Fannin, Tinmouth: 802-235-2412 fannin@vermontel.net
- Tom Giffin, President, Vermont Old Cemetery Association 802-773-3253
- Bowker Memorials: Keith Bowker : 802-236-9351 monumentvt@fairpoint.net

Grave Marker and Genealogy Sites:

- John Arsenault: 802-235-9338 ; jea@vermontel.net;
- Dawn Hance: 802-775-4406: d_hance@hotmail.com

- Janet Muff: janetmuff@aol.com.
 - Janet has promised to donate a thumb drive with her pictures of the stones in the old cemetery for our use. She is also willing to be part of a presentation on the cemetery that could raise interest and funds for the restoration and conservation of the old cemetery.
- Association for Gravestone Studies; 101 Munson St # H, Greenfield, MA 01301; (413) 772-0836 <https://www.gravestonestudies.org/>
- FindaGrave <https://www.findagrave.com>

History and Cemetery information:

- Janet Muff: janetmuff@aol.com
- Peggy Jenks: 518-642-1894 peggy@cemeterybooks.com; website www.cemeterybooks.com;
- Shelley Taylor: Danby cemetery board (802) 325-6300 staylor@vermontel.net
- Joyce Barbieri: Wallingford Historian: (802) 446-2614 ottercreek@vermontel.net

Historical Societies:

- **Ira:**
 - Lew Hoffman, Vice President : 802-235-2279; [lew\(hdc\)@vermontel.net](mailto:lew(hdc)@vermontel.net)
- **Middletown Springs Historical Society and Cemetery:**
 - John Arsenaault: jea@vermontel.net;
 - Janet Muff: janetmuff@aol.com
 - David P. Wright; 802-235-2376 montvert@vermontel.net;
- **Mt. Tabor-Danby Historical Society and Cemetery**
 - Shelley Taylor: Mt.Tabor-Danby Cemetery Commission 802-325-6300 staylor@vermontel.net
- **Tinmouth Historical Society and Cemetery:**
 - Michael Fannin: Tinmouth: 802-235-2412 fannin@vermontel.net
 - Grant Reynolds: 802-446-3547 grant62@vermontel.net
- **Wallingford Historical Society:**
 - Joyce Barbieri: 802-446-2414 ottercreek@vermontel.net

Archeologist re. trenching for unmarked graves:

- Hartgen Archeological Associates: <http://www.vtarchaeology.org/> Justin DiVirgilio, President; jdivirgilio@hartgen.com; hartgen.com 518.283.0534; 1744 Washington Ave Ext., Rensselaer NY 12144 ; Principal Investigator: Tom Jamison: 802.387.6020 tjamison@hartgen.com
- Jess Robinson; Vermont State Archeologist; 802-272-2509 jess.robinson@vermont.gov

Arborists and Tree Workers:

- Vallaincourt Tree Service: John Leonard: 810 US-7, Pittsford, VT 05763 (802) 773-3215
- Trees Inc. Tom Johnston: 53 Gleason Rd, Rutland, VT 05701 (800) 287-3369
- Donald Doane: 586 York St. Poultney, VT: (802) 287-1977
- Limb Walker Tree Service: Mike Fallis, Certified Arborist, 642 Monument Hill Road, Castleton, VT 05735 Mike Fallis; (800) 559-0422 limbwalking@gmail.com
- Barry Spear, Certified Arborist, Hubbardton, VT ; 802-779-1661 clamdigger06@aol.com
- Vermont Arborists, Jeffrey Spear, Certified Arborist, Waterbury Center,VT (802) 244-5100 JTSpear@hotmail.com
- D&E Tree Service: Guilford, VT (802) 257-5669 <http://www.treeservicesvt.com/>
- David S. Schneider, Forester and Arborist, City of Rutland arborist: 802-773-1800

Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR)

- Darryl Calkins, PE; Catamount Subsurface Investigations, LLC ; Civil Engineer; 334 Quechee Road; Hartland, VT 05048 802-356-0237 www.csivt.com csiradar@gmail.com

- Subterra Locating Services: Colchester, VT 802-557-8354 <http://www.subterravt.com/>
- GPR Professional Services: 781-718-0725 Marblehead, MA Email: info@GPRPS.com; <http://www.gprps.com/contact/locations/VERMONT/default.aspx>
- VTrans as per Jess Robinson, State Archeologist, Vermont Division for Historic Preservation

GIS Mapping:

- John Van Hoesen: Associate Professor, Geology and Environmental Studies, Green Mountain College: 802-287-8387 vanhoesenj@greenmtn.edu

Grants:

- Vermont Old Cemetery Association as per Vermont League of Cities and Towns Newsletter, Nov. 2017 https://www.vlct.org/sites/default/files/Newsletters/vlctnews_2017-11.pdf
- Grants for Community Development: Caitlyn Corkins; Tax Credits and Grants Coordinator; Caitlyn.Corkins@vermont.gov 802-828-3047

Materials:

- Cleaner: D/2 Biological Solution - <http://www.d2bio.com/>
Recommended by Michael Fannin. D/2 is a cleaner used on marble, stone and other surfaces and does not damage the stone while killing fungus and other growing materials that are degrading the surface of the markers. It is available through Granite Supply @ \$40 \ gallon or \$174.95 for 5 gallons. Contact information is available on the resource page. . Also available from Bonstone Materials Corp. for \$39.95/gallon plus shipping.
- Epoxy: Duropoxi (Both A & B needed); <https://bonstone.com/products/duropoxi> ; Bonstone Materials Corp; 800-425-2214; www.bonstone.com/info Cost \$34.25 for 2 quarts.
- Lime-based Cement: Bonstone Historic Restoration Mortar, contact info same as above, Cost \$30.25 for a 7 lb. pail and latex for mixing.
- Melansons Metal Fabricating: Rutland, VT: (802) 775-3572 - stainless steel brackets to support broken stones: Cost less than \$350 for 16 brackets to do 8 stones in 2015.

Signage:

- Inlaid Corian: www.performancesignage.com
- Metal flag holders for veterans' graves: <https://www.americanflags4less.com/product/metal-grave-markers/>
- Bronze plaques or stainless steel posts to identify missing graves with whatever information is available
- Plastic information plaques were made for prominent persons buried in the Ira Riverside Cemetery and mounted on metal posts next to the stone. Information available from Lew Hoffman, Vice President, Ira Historical Society. ²
- Steel crosses, approx. two feet high, as used in National Park Service sites like Jamestown, VA to mark graves without other vintage markers. These were made by a local steel worker as per David Wright. ³

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- Trutor, B. "Some Molded Metallic Material", Vermont Old Cemetery Association: http://www.voca58.org/Feature_Some_Molded_Metallic_Material.html (on the use of zinc for grave markers)
- Video from Irish television on the stone carving traditions and work done in Ireland. There is a small section on cemetery stones about half way through <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vBe1c4bGHyo>

Report submitted by Old Cemetery Task Force Members:
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NOTES

¹ Three 12 inch deep trenches @ 20, 25 and 10 feet, dug by volunteers under supervision with a report cost Danby's cemetery group \$3000

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