

The Cemetery Movement in Washington State

Cemetery is spelled with three 'e'

C E M E T ~~A~~ R Y
e

Definitions

- **Cemetery Authority**
 - a person or group of people who own or manage a cemetery
- **Abandoned Cemetery**
 - the cemetery authority is deceased or has disbanded
- **Active Cemetery**
 - a cemetery which has \$25,000 in a special account and registered with the Cemetery Board
- **Inactive Cemetery**
 - all other cemeteries including abandoned

On the Internet

- Web Site

- <http://www.rootsweb.com/~wapsgs>

- Maillist

- wa-cemeteries-l@rootsweb.com

- Transcription sites

- <http://www.interment.net>
- <http://www.rootsweb.com/~cemetery/>

Lost or Forgotten Transcriptions

- Records for many cemeteries are lost
- Transcripts for many cemeteries are hidden away in various repositories or people's homes

What you can do

- Locate the legal descriptions for each of the cemeteries in your county
- Locate the owner for each cemetery (legal owner--not taxpayer)
- Provide a list to the county auditor
- Provide a copy of SHB 1951 to the county auditor and ask them to rectify their records to show each property as a cemetery

OR.....

- Go to cemeteries and transcribe headstones
- Go to cemeteries and transcribe burial records
- Go to funeral homes and transcribe records
- Pull all names associated with cemeteries or funeral homes from the Washington State Death Index

Personal Health Toolbox

- First-Aid kit
- Lots of drinking water
 - (DO NOT DRINK WATER FROM THE CEMETERY!)
- Good leather gloves
- Rubber boots and rain gear
- Insect repellent
- Bee/Wasp spray (Snake bite kit?)
- Hand sanitizer
- IvyBlock
- Hat
- Sunscreen

Cleaning Toolbox

- Grass clippers
- Lots of water--Preferably running
- Soft-bristled plastic brushes with WHITE nylon bristles and handles
- Hard toothbrushes with WHITE bristles and handles
- Non-ionic detergent (Photo-Flo or Orvus)
- Q-tips, wood skewers
- Playtex gloves to protect hands
- Buckets--2 to 5 gallon each

Photography Toolbox

- Camera--35mm or digital
- Extra film or cartridge
- Yardstick
- Small white board with markers and cleaner
- Strong flashlight
- Long mirror--such as a long door mirror purchased for about \$5 at WalMart
- Easel or other device for holding mirror (if alone)

Rubbings Toolbox

■ Newsprint Rubbings

- Blank newsprint
- Charcoal sticks
- Sealer
- Artist's or drafting tape (never use other tapes)

■ Crayon and Pellon

- Lightweight pellon without iron-on adhesive
- Homemade crayon muffin
- Artist's or drafting tape (never use other tapes)

Transcriptions

- What is a transcription?
- Steps to transcribing a cemetery
 - Make a map of the cemetery showing placement of headstones, note compass north, number each stone
 - Starting in one corner, work your way through your map using the same number on your map for each stone
 - Number each page of your notes

Transcriptions, cont'd

- Make one copy of your transcription for storing (in case something happens to original)
- Make one copy for the local library, local genealogical or historical society, and mail one to WSCA (we do not publish transcriptions!)
- Type your information into a database and submit the by-name listing to online transcription sites