

Historic Cemetery Advisory Commission  
Annual Report  
2018



The HCAC is pleased to share our accomplishments for 2018 with you. Thank you for your support. Our next event will be a presentation in the Newport Library February 13, 2019. Best wishes for the new year

Activities/accomplishments:

1. **Eighty-two (82) stones were conserved or reset.** In addition, about fifty military stones were cleaned before Memorial Day.
2. Funds were raised, in conjunction with the City and the Rhode Island Black Heritage Society, for the reinstallation of the sign designating God's Little Acre.
3. Funds were raised/collected for grave stone conservation from individuals and the Rhode Island Society of the Sons of the Revolution. In total, more than \$7500 was collected.
4. The commission designed signage for the Common Burying Ground that was installed in the spring of 2018
5. The commission continued to promote the Common Burying Ground with a self-guided tour that was available most of the year. More than five hundred tour brochures were used this season.
6. The commission conducted six guided walking tours that were attended by more than seventy people.
7. The commission made presentations to the public about our historic burying grounds at the Newport Public Library (February), the Middletown Rotary (October), and Salve Regina University.
8. Participation in Rhode Island Historic Cemetery Day resulted in the clean-up of the Coggeshall Burial Ground. Volunteers and commission members were joined by the Preservation Society of Newport County in this effort.
9. Policies were crafted and adopted to guide stone work in the cemeteries and to raise funds to conserve grave stones.
10. Students from Roger Williams University painted part of the fencing along Farewell St.
11. Plans were made for academic research by students at Roger William University in 2019.

The Commission would like to extend *special thanks* to the City Council for their continued support of our efforts and Scott Wheeler for his valuable contributions. Carol Bowman, Department of Public Services continues to be extremely helpful. A special thank you to the city workers who helped create the new sign for God's Little Acre, helped move six grave stones from Coggeshall to the Common Burying Ground, assisted Roger Williams Students who painted part of our fence along Farewell St., and dropped materials for the cleaning of military head stones.



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