

Report of the Burial Ground Liaisons
to Building & Grounds
2022 Annual Report

In 2022, the Burial Ground liaisons were involved with the following: Serving as the point person for two memorial services (one at NMM and one at George School), coordinated both their burials, and was present for all four burials. We assisted in the purchase of one foundation, one headstone was ordered and we coordinated the engraving of two headstones on pre-existing headstones. There were two inquiries - both from relatives of families who are buried here.

Additionally, we are about 95% finished with photographing every headstone; we continue to update our records on findagrave.com website – on the Newtown Friends Meeting Burial Ground page. We cleaned a few headstones with D/2 Biological Solution and continue to unearth sunken cornerstones in Section II.

Our goals for 2023 are to continue cleaning headstones; updating our records and reaching out to families affiliated with graveyard to confirm continued interest in their remaining unused plots. We'll continue digging up the sunken cornerstones and replace the ones we cannot find. We are closer to our goal of being able to update the maps of 1 West, Section II, and Section III.

Working both outside in the graveyard and inside when updating the records is hard and tedious work, but work we find enormously interesting and rewarding. We value the relationship we have with our gravedigger who has consistently mentored us on the untold complicated decisions we have to make. We participated in a zoom meeting that gathered all the folks who oversee graveyards in Bucks Quarter which gave us a chance to see how other graveyards are managed and the challenges they face. We field questions from all over from family genealogists asking for information on a relative of theirs they believe is buried here. Last summer, we assisted Darby Friends Meeting in locating the homestead of Oliver Schofield, the father of a person buried at their meeting, for the purpose of their getting a historical sign identifying him as a conductor on the Underground Railroad.

This year, we are looking forward to digging deeper (!) to identify the familial relationships among those buried in the graveyard and we will present our findings to the Adult First Day class on October 29th, 2023. Finally, we anticipate being ready to submit some of our records to the Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hulihan & Wendy Kane

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Yearly Summary
(Records reflect activity from Jan-Dec 2022)

Burials - 4

1. Elizabeth Hurst (Casket burial)
2. Almira Sharp (urn)
3. Joanne Woodman* and
4. Lew Woodman* (*Remains returned following donation to science. Interment private)

Headstone Foundation & Purchase*

1. Elizabeth Hurst (Foundation only). *Headstone ordered. Not yet received.

Headstone engraving - 2

1. Almira Sharp
2. Hazel Lovett

Inquiries - 2

1. A family member of the Johnsons buried in Section III.
2. Family on behalf of Robt Otto.

Death of Graveyard Member – 1

1. Hazel Lovett (Burial will take place in future. Body donated to science).

Deaths of Non-Graveyard Members -1

1. Robert Otto

Other Graveyard Activities

1. Cleaned headstones with D/2 Biological Solution.
2. Headstone photography 25% complete.
3. Uploaded and updated information to findagrave.com.
4. Continued unearthing sunken cornerstones in Section II.
5. Reseeded grass at burial site in Section II.
6. Served as resource to other meeting graveyards.
7. Fielded questions from families near & far regarding relatives in our graveyard.
8. Provided update to Building & Grounds committee in graveyard.

Goals for 2023:

- Continue cleaning headstones with D/2 Biological Solution.
- Continue updating findagrave.com.
- Continue reaching out to families affiliated with graveyard to confirm continued interest in remaining plots and provide them with updated Burial Ground Policies.
- Once the above tasks are completed, we will update the graveyard maps.
- Complete gridding Section II (measuring lots/plots and placing 9" nails).
- Document familial relationships among those buried in the graveyard.
- Archive NMM burial ground records with Swarthmore Friends Historical Library.
- Present at Adult First Day Class - October 29, 2023.