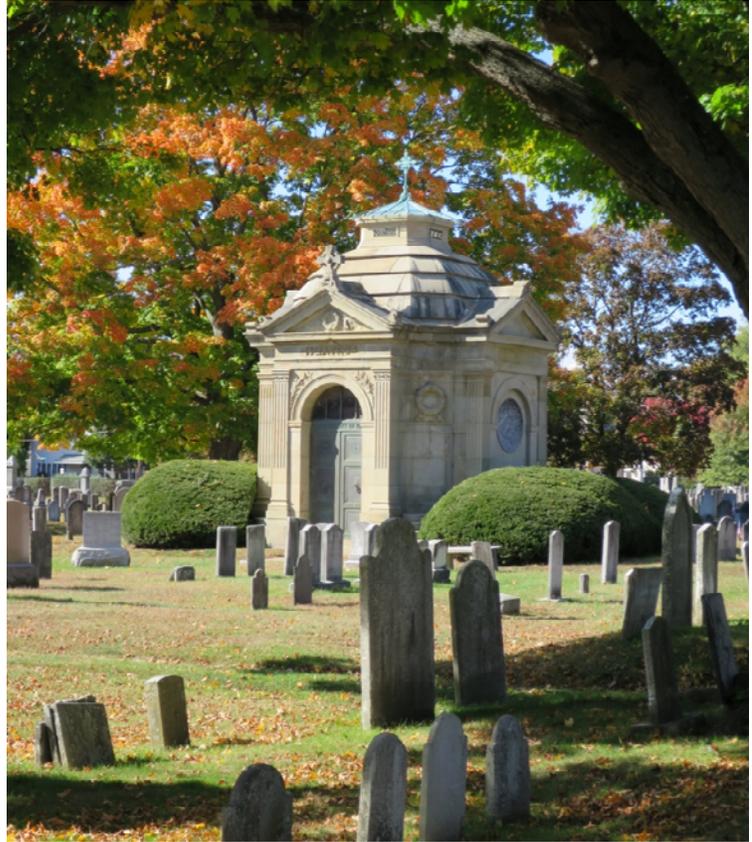


*Bridge Street Cemetery
Northampton, Massachusetts*

Preservation Master Plan



*prepared for the
City of Northampton*

by

*Martha Lyon Landscape Architecture, LLC
Monument Conservation Collaborative, LLC
CME Associates, Inc.*

2016

In memory of Edward "Ned" Huntley

Bridge Street Cemetery
Northampton, Massachusetts

Preservation Master Plan

prepared for the

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*Funding for the Bridge Street Cemetery Preservation Master Plan was provided by the
City of Northampton Community Preservation Committee*

SUMMARY

The Bridge Street Cemetery, established in ca. 1661, is the oldest known extant place of interment in Northampton, attracting visitors from around the country who stop to admire its centuries-old, artfully carved gravestones. Located along the north side of Bridge Street at the eastern edge of the city, it began on a small portion of a ten-acre parcel and served as the only place of interment until the late 1700s. Several additions of land in the 19th and early 20th centuries brought the cemetery's total acreage to 19.05, and it remains this size today. It contains the gravesites of many prominent citizens, including Northampton's early settlers, as well as individuals and families influential in the development of the city, and its landscape reflects Colonial, Victorian and Modern styles of cemetery design. Its age notwithstanding, the Bridge Street Cemetery remains an active burial place to this day.



The Bridge Street Cemetery, established ca. 1661, is the oldest known extant place of interment in Northampton, containing graves of early settlers, as well as families who built the community.

Despite ongoing efforts of city crews to maintain the cemetery's landscape, many features show signs of wear. In the early 2000s, residents of the surrounding Ward 3 neighborhood took notice of many damaged gravestones and a deteriorating perimeter fence, and in 2014, convinced the Department of Public Works to apply for Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds to complete a long-range plan for the cemetery, one that would study the existing condition and identify improvements to be made. The CPA grant, together with a Cemetery Trust Fund match, allowed the city to hire a professional consulting team to compile the *Bridge Street Cemetery Preservation Master Plan*. Northampton-based Martha Lyon Landscape Architecture, LLC led the team, with Monument Conservation Collaborative, LLC evaluating the gravestones, and CME Associates, Inc., consulting engineers, assessing the historic structures. A citizen-based advisory committee regularly met with the consulting team throughout the planning process, insuring proper representation of the city's interests. The team also conducted two public forums during the process, allowing the general public to express concerns and help set priorities for making improvements.



The Isaac Bates chapel tomb, designed by architect Richard Upjohn and constructed in 1875, is one the cemetery's most prominent historic features.

The planning process spanned approximately six months. The consulting team mapped the cemetery, and researched and documented its physical development from the time of its establishment to the present. The team also assessed all of the landscape features, including the setting, edges, entrances and circulation routes, trees, gravestones and monuments and historic structures. From the assessment, the team was able to develop a series of recommendations, or “preservation projects,” for upgrading the landscape, to be implemented incrementally over time, as follows:

- *Project #1:* replacing the cemetery fences and gates using a combination of ornamental iron (tubular steel), vinyl-coated chain link, and possibly cast iron (to be accomplished in a single phase or up to five phases)
- *Project #2:* conserving 85 priority #1 gravestones (in hazardous condition) throughout the cemetery
- *Project #3:* upgrading the roadways and paths, including establishment of a main vehicular “loop” road
- *Project #4:* developing a sign and interpretive program, including welcome sign(s), directional signs (roadways) and interpretive signs, as well as an Internet-based application allowing visitors to access historical information via mobile devices
- *Project #5:* conserving 84 priority #2 gravestones (in unstable condition) throughout the cemetery
- *Project #6:* developing a tree re-planting plan, introducing young trees to replace aging ones, and diversifying the mix of trees species
- *Project #7:* stabilizing the Ansel Wright tomb, Seth Wright tomb, town receiving tomb, and Bates chapel tomb (mausoleum)
- *Project #8:* conserving 51 priority #3 gravestones (suffering from ongoing deterioration) throughout the cemetery
- *Project #9:* developing a plan for upgrading the cemetery’s water system and making extensions, as required
- *Project #10:* upgrading and/or relocating the cemetery maintenance shed
- *Project #11:* completely restoring the Bates chapel tomb
- *Project #12:* upgrading Parsons Street and the entrance the Bridge Street School, including narrowing Parsons Street and creating a one-way route, allowing for a more generous cemetery edge

A final project, #13, was added following the second public forum, to make provisions for adding benches to the cemetery landscape, and developing a donation program for bench purchases.

The team prepared planning-level budget projections for each of the projects to assist the city with fundraising efforts. The least expensive projects included plans for tree re-planting and water line upgrades (\$5,000 - \$7,500), and the most expensive addressing full restoration of the Bates Tomb (\$500,000). The total for all preservation work was estimated to be from \$1.0 to \$2.0 million.

The plan concludes with a set of guidelines for managing the cemetery landscape on an on-going basis. It recommends that the city proceed as follows:

- Minimize the use of turf and with it, the need for mowing;
- Gradually remove existing shrubs and prohibit the planting of new shrubs;
- Introduce new tree species appropriate to the Colonial, Victorian and Modern styles of cemetery design;
- Replace turf with perennial ground cover plantings;
- Regularly inspect gravestones for signs of deterioration and/or vandalism and hire a professional conservator to treat the stones; and
- Regularly inspect fences and repair damage as required.



The brownstone façade-d town receiving tomb and adjacent Ansel Wright tomb, both constructed in the 1840s, are both in good condition with some repairs needed to their wing walls. The steel doors on the town tomb appear to be original.

The *Bridge Street Cemetery Preservation Master Plan* will serve as a guide for future restoration and management efforts and as a resource for securing financial support. More importantly, the plan will help raise public awareness about the significance of this centuries-old historic resource, its value to the City of Northampton, and the need to insure its long-term protection.

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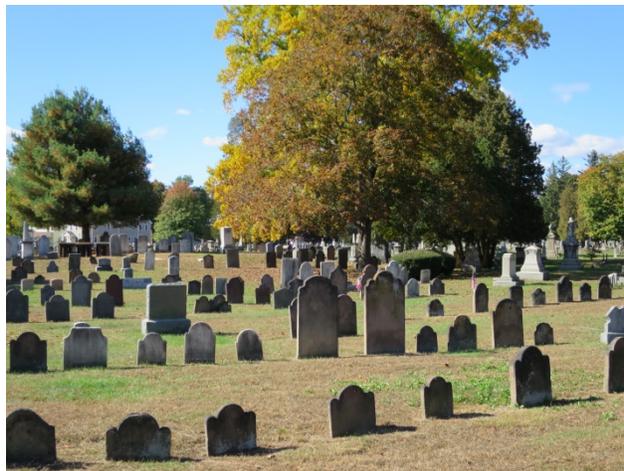
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INTRODUCTION

The Bridge Street Cemetery, established in ca. 1661, is the oldest known extant place of interment in Northampton, and visitors from around the country come to admire its centuries-old, artfully carved gravestones. Located along the north side of Bridge Street at the eastern edge of the city, it began on a small portion at the farthest corner of the “sequestered minister’s lot,” a ten-acre parcel set aside for the minister. It served as the only place of interment until the late 1700s. Several additions of land in the 19th and early 20th centuries brought the cemetery’s total acreage to 19.05, and it remains this size today. It contains the gravesites of many prominent citizens, including Northampton’s early settlers, as well as individuals and families influential in the development of the city, and its landscape reflects Colonial, Victorian and Modern styles of cemetery design. Regardless of its age, the Bridge Street Cemetery remains an active place of interment to this day.



The Bridge Street Cemetery, established ca. 1661, is the oldest known extant place of interment in Northampton, containing graves of early settlers, as well as families who built the community.

The Northampton Department of Public Works crews have regularly tended the cemetery, cutting lawns, collecting leaves, and removing dying and dead trees and fallen limbs, and in general, the landscape appears in good condition. But despite these ongoing maintenance efforts, portions of the landscape show wear. The perimeter chain link fence, erected in the 1950s, has rusted and treads of the interior roadways have settled. Many gravestones lean and some have broken, and the tombs’ wing walls are failing. The towering shade and evergreen trees add tremendous character to the landscape, but most are mature and nearing the end of their lives. Lack of a formal entrance, clear circulation route, and interior signs detracts from visitors’ experiences.

Concern over the cemetery’s condition began to emerge in the 2000s, when residents of the surrounding Ward 3 neighborhood took notice of the damaged gravestones and deteriorating fence. In 2014, the Ward 3 Neighborhood Association convinced the Department of Public Works to apply for Community Preservation Act funds to complete the foregoing *Bridge Street Cemetery Preservation Master Plan*. The CPA grant covered a portion of the plan; the Cemetery Trust Fund account provided matching funds.

Project Goal

The goal of the *Bridge Street Cemetery Preservation Master Plan*, as defined by the city-appointed Bridge Street Cemetery Advisory Committee overseeing the project, was to compile a complete inventory and

assessment of the cemetery's natural and built features, and make specific recommendations for preserving and managing these features over the long term.



The brownstone town receiving tomb is one the cemetery's most prominent features, easily viewed by passersby from Bridge Street.

Program of Improvements

At the outset of the project, the Advisory Committee defined the following program of enhancements and improvements to include in the *Preservation Master Plan*:

- A solution to enclosing the cemetery, through use of a new fence or other material, to prevent vandalism and protect stones, especially those standing close to Parsons Street
 - A better defined (easier to find) and more appealing entrance or entrances with a system for opening and closing gates
-
- A plan for replacing mature trees, including diversification of tree species
 - An approach to providing information to visitors, through signs or other means
 - An improved system for water delivery
 - A method of preventing accumulation of dog waste

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT of the BRIDGE STREET CEMETERY

Beginnings - Before 1661

The Bridge Street Cemetery dates to the mid-1600s and the founding of Northampton. In the 1650s, the area that would become Northampton was known as Nonotuck, and in 1653 a group of settlers petitioned the General Court of Massachusetts for permission to “plant, possess, and inhabit the place being on the Connecticut River above Springfield...as their own inheritance.”¹ In 1654 twenty families settled on home lots laid off of King, Pleasant, Market and Hawley Streets, and within two years they constructed a meeting house on “Meeting House Hill.” The first burial place may have stood in the meeting house yard, and between 1654 and 1661, ten individuals may have been interred at this site.²



An artist's rendering of Colonial era Northampton showed the meeting house, constructed in 1656 on “Meeting House Hill.” The first burial ground may have stood adjacent to this building and later re-located to the Bridge Street Cemetery. Image courtesy of the Hampshire Room of the Forbes Library.

Establishment - 1661-1813

In 1661, the town voted to build a new meeting house to accommodate a growing population, and in conjunction voted that no more burials should be made near the meeting house. To provide a more substantial place for interments, the town set apart land for a “minister’s lot,” located a new burying ground at the furthest corner, and in April 1662 made the first interment, Mary Jeanes (Janes).³ The ten graves placed in the first churchyard may have been disinterred and moved to the new burying ground at this time. Early records indicate that the site consisted of 10 rods square (approximately 2/3 acre) and that the town surrounded it with stone fence, a structure that was likely re-built several times.

¹ The Tercentenary History Committee, The Northampton Book, Chapters from 300 Years of Life of a New England Town, 1654-1954, 3

² Daughters of the American Revolution, Betty Allen Chapter, Early Northampton, 91

³ This early burying ground was located at the northeast corner of the older section of the Bridge Street Cemetery.

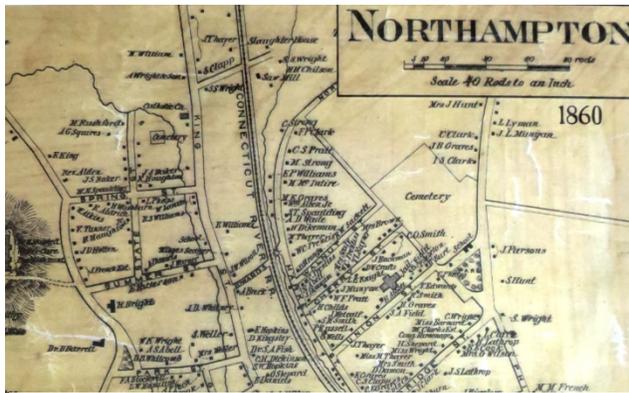


The earliest burials were marked with slate and brownstone tablets shaped like portals and carved with Puritan imagery.

In 1783, records show that adjoining property owners had “taken liberties” with the site, reinforcing the need to maintain this stone enclosure.⁴

The burying ground remained the same size until the early 1800s, serving as the only place of interment until 1788, when the West Farms Cemetery was established in “Loneville” at the western edge of the town.⁵ Graves at the Bridge Street Cemetery dating to this establishment period provide evidence that the dead were interred in individual graves marked with tablet-shaped stones made of slate and brownstone. The work of regional gravestone carvers appeared on the faces of many. Perennial plants likely covered the ground with their

growth controlled by grazing animals or cutting with a scythe.⁶ Any trees growing on the property would have been species native to New England.



The 1860 Walling map of Northampton showed the Cemetery wedged between Bridge and Pine (today's Parsons) Street. John Clarke's pasture stood to the north.

Enlargement and Embellishment - 1814-1899

The early 19th century marked the beginning of several efforts to enlarge and ornament the burying ground, gradually transforming it from a small yard into a modern cemetery. In ca. 1814, a piece of land stretching from the main avenue westward to Pine Street (today's Parsons Street) was added, and in 1833, five more acres were added to the northwesterly side.⁷ In 1864, John Clarke gave an old pasture, through which ran a brook (now covered), and upon his death in 1869, willed \$2,000 for adornment of the cemetery.

Clarke's contributions propelled the town to map the property, and lay out plats (plots) to be purchased, pre-need, by families for future interments. The town also established its first cemetery committee to “have special care of improving and adorning the cemetery.”⁸ Upon incorporation as a city in 1883, Northampton purchased more land from Samuel Wright to further enlarge the site.

⁴ Daily Hampshire Gazette, 7/2/1934

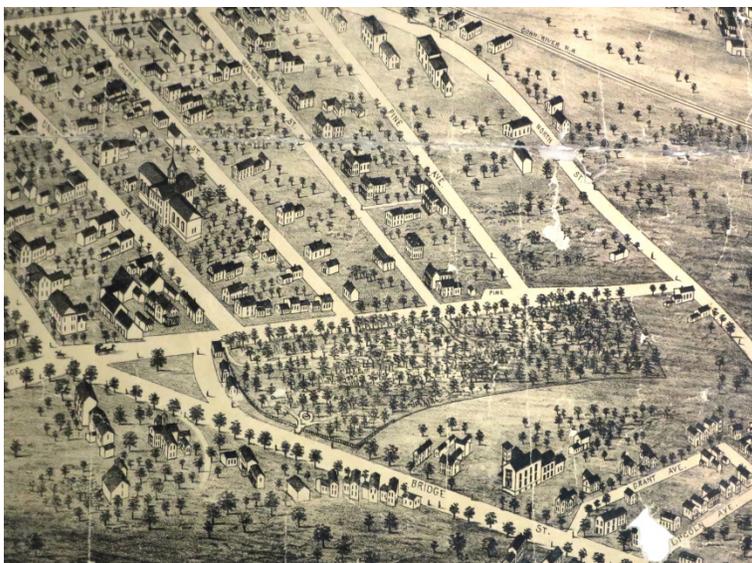
⁵ Lambert, David Allen, A Guide to Massachusetts Cemeteries, 143

⁶ No written evidence was found to document grazing of animals in the cemetery, or cutting with a scythe, however these practices were common during the Colonial period.

⁷ The Tercentenary History Committee, 91; Trumbull, James Russell, History of Northampton, Massachusetts from its Settlement in 1654, Vol I., 546

⁸ Town Annual Report, 1869, 5

Several ornamental features accompanied the expansion of the cemetery, transforming it from a Colonial style burying ground into a planned Victorian style cemetery. In 1815, the first private tomb, erected by Seth Wright, was constructed near Bridge Street, followed in 1848 by Ansel Wright's tomb, and the town receiving tomb in 1849. Before his death, John Clarke financed the planting of evergreen trees and construction of a cast iron fence around the perimeter.⁹ In 1875, Frances Atwill Bates, widow of Isaac Chapman Bates, oversaw the completion of the Bates chapel tomb, a 20-foot square limestone structure designed in the shape of a Greek cross, located near the cemetery's southwest corner.¹⁰ Designed by architect R. N. Upjohn, the structure became a lasting focal point. Other features added during this period include the many family plots, elevated above the roadways, ornamented with stone enclosures and marked by large central obelisks, as well as a fountain, donated by Charles Maynard.¹¹



The 1875 bird's eye of Northampton, published by the Daily Hampshire Gazette, reflected "Clarke's Addition," appended to the north (right in photo) side of the cemetery.

Modernization - 1900-1954

By the end of the 19th century, few available burial sites remained at the cemetery. City officials, together with the cemetery committee, deliberated over the choice to acquire more adjacent land, or to provide burial space on the outskirts of the town. The resulting decision to enlarge the in-town cemetery led to two purchases of land. In 1900, a ¾-acre strip along the west side of Orchard Street provided 150 additional lots on the east cemetery edge. In 1911, the city acquired the Hinckley lot, extending cemetery land to North

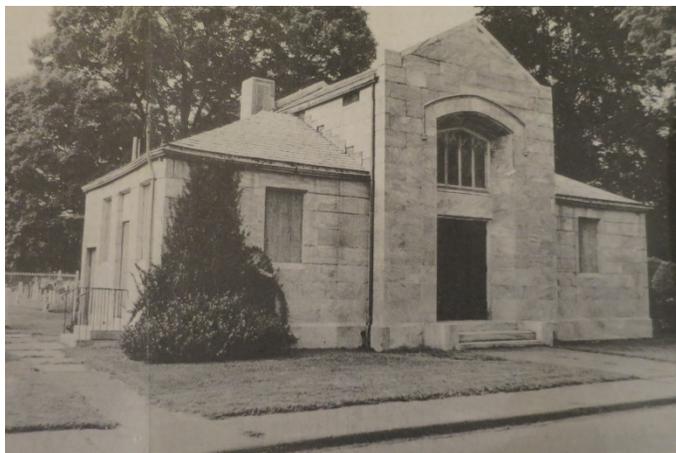


By 1902, shade trees within the cemetery had grown very tall, creating a canopy over the landscape. John Clarke's cast iron fence rimmed its outer edges. The Bates chapel tomb stands in the back ground. Photo courtesy of the Forbes Library Special Collections; from *Northampton of Today* by Warner.

⁹ Fencing continued into the 1890s, when additional iron fence was placed along Pine (Parsons) Street. CAR, 1892, 30

¹⁰ Daily Hampshire Gazette, 11/30/1875

¹¹ Town Annual Report, 1878, 75



The Luther Clark Memorial Chapel, constructed in 1934, stood for about 50 years at the cemetery's southern edge. Use of the chapel declined beginning in the 1960s, and it gradually fell into disrepair. The city demolished it in 1987. Photo courtesy of Historic Northampton.

Street and bringing the total acreage to 19.05. The property's location within a densely-populated urban neighborhood spawned criticism from abutters, fearing that a place of interment would diminish land values.

The city continued to maintain the cemetery's historic features during the first half of the 20th century, including repairing and painting the cast iron fence, pruning trees, and cleaning and painting the Bates tomb. Modern features also appeared in the cemetery during this period, including the Luther Clark Memorial Chapel, erected in 1934 at the southwest cemetery edge. This Georgian marble building contained a 96-seat chapel and vaulted basement, made

possible through a bequest of Luther Clark.¹² The city also installed the water system (though a WPA project).¹³ The most prominent of modern features - the chain link perimeter fencing - was installed beginning in 1951 to replace the deteriorating cast iron fence. The work of adding new fence proceeded gradually over the course of several years.¹⁴



Vandals overturned marble tablets at the cemetery in the 1950s. Today, some of the tablets are altogether missing. Photo courtesy of the Forbes Library Special Collections, Walter Corbin Collection.

The modern layout of the newer sections at the cemetery's north side contrasted with those in the older sections. The flat topography, and long and straight roadways reflected a contemporary approach to burial, as did the introduction of smaller plots marked with standard 30" high monuments flanked by small, often pruned, evergreen shrubs.

Decline - 1955-2006

Beginning in the mid-1950s, the cemetery landscape entered a period of slow decline. Vandals damaged the leaded glass windows of the Luther Clark Memorial Chapel, as well as the roof of the Bates tomb.¹⁵ Many

trees perished from Elm disease, leaving holes in the cemetery canopy, and 1964, city crews built a new maintenance garage along the western cemetery edge.¹⁶ Beginning the early 1960s, use of the Clark

¹²Daily Hampshire Gazette, May 1936

¹³ City Annual Report, 1936, 223

¹⁴ City Annual Report, 1951-1954

¹⁵ City Annual Report, 1955, 341

¹⁶ City Annual Report, 1964, 391

Chapel declined, and the building, suffering from neglect, decayed. In 1987, the city's Department of Public Works (established in 1961, and absorbing the work of the cemetery committee) voted to demolish the structure. A committee formed to memorialize the razed chapel and commissioned a memorial design, but budget constraints at the time prevented execution of the design.¹⁷

Revitalization - 2007 - Present

In the late 2000s, residents of Ward 3 and other concerned citizens began to publicly voice concern about the condition of the cemetery, one of the Northampton's most historic features, located at the easternmost entrance to the city. A letter to the editor of the Daily Hampshire Gazette urged the city to consider applying Community Preservation Act funds to the construction of a new perimeter fence. In 2014, with the support of Ward 3 residents, the Department of Public Works sought funding for a preservation master plan for the Bridge Street Cemetery, a document that would help guide future preservation and enhancement efforts over the long term. In 2015, the DPW received funds and matching them with Cemetery Trust Fund dollars, commissioned the foregoing *Bridge Street Cemetery Preservation Master Plan*.

Historic Landscape Styles

As summarized above, the Bridge Street Cemetery landscape evolved slowly over the course of over 350 years, and with this evolution came a change in its physical character. Americans' approaches to commemorating the dead shifted over the centuries, and subtle variations in the cemetery landscape reflect these shifts, as follows:

Colonial Burial - Approximately 2.3 Acres.

The earliest burial areas, located in the south and southeast sections of the cemetery, exhibit characteristics of 17th and 18th century American burials. Single graves dominated, marked with portal-shaped tablets made from native slate and brownstone and intricately carved by local or regional artisans. Graves were arranged in rows and often, unrelated individuals were interred adjacent to one another (the cemetery at this time was not pre-plotted and graves were not pre-sold). Typically, Colonial burying grounds did not contain roads or paths, and trees consisted of native species. Fences and/or stone walls often enclosed the site.



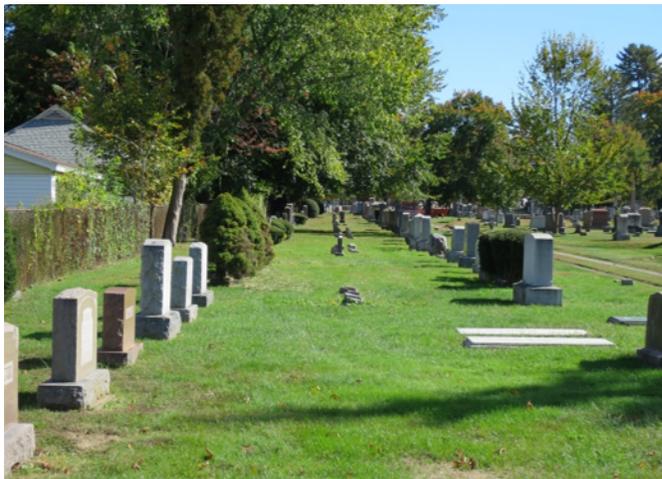
Tablet-shaped markers, made of slate and brownstone arranged in rows typify the Colonial style of burial.

Victorian Burial - Approximately 13.15 Acres. With additions of land to the west and north sides of the cemetery, the landscape began to assume the look of a more modern facility. New land was planned and plotted, and the plots sold to families. Owners outlined their plots with fencing, curbing, or coping, and placed a prominent monument at the center (often surrounded by smaller gravestones for individuals). Material shifted away from slate and brownstone and towards marble and granite, and

¹⁷ Daily Hampshire Gazette, 8/10/1987, 8/16/1989



The Victorian style featured family plots edged with copings, curbs and/or fences and marked with central obelisks. This style exists across approximately 2/3 of the cemetery landscape.



Standard 30" high granite markers dominate the Modern style of burial, as seen along the cemetery's east edge.

carvings displayed Victorian imagery. Roads and paths were introduced to provide carriage ways. New species of evergreen and deciduous trees appeared, many originating in Europe and/or Asia, reflecting the impact of the growing American nursery industry and large importation of plans from overseas.

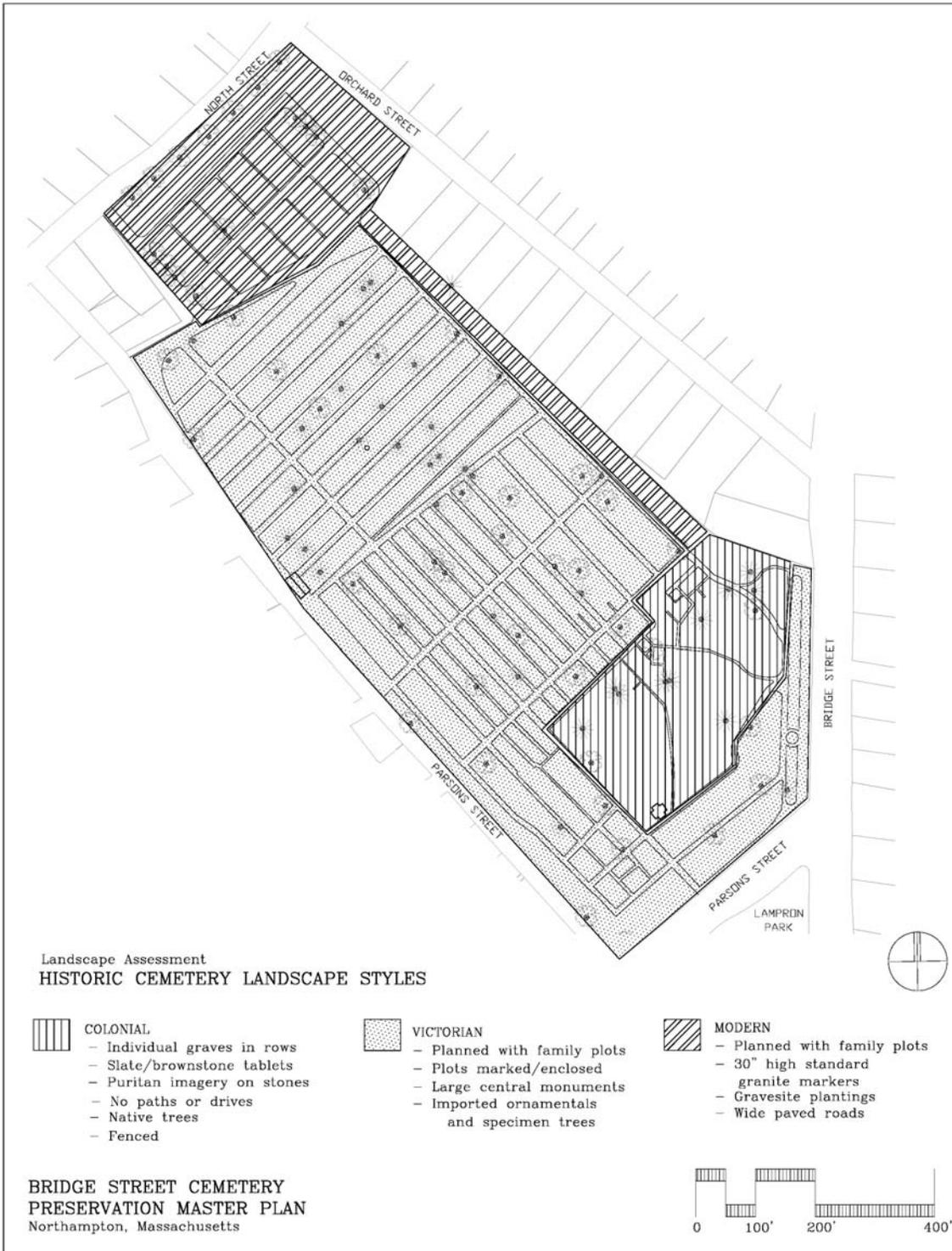
Modern Burial - Approximately 3.6 Acres. The latest additions of land came in the early 20th century, appended to the north and northeast sides. These areas reflect a modern approach to interment and commemoration. The landscape continued to be planned and plotted, with plots sold to families. However, plot embellishment in the form of large monuments and prominent enclosures was no longer in vogue. Instead, standard 30" high markers, made largely of granite, marked individual and family plots, and gravesite shrub and perennial plantings became popular. Roads were often paved and widened to accommodate motorized vehicle funeral processions.

Period of Historical Significance

The period of significance for the Bridge Street Cemetery spans the years 1661 to 1966.¹⁸ During this time, the town set off the "minister's lot" and with it, a small plot of land to use for the purposes of interring the dead. As many as ten burials from a burying yard, located near the meeting

house, may have been relocated to the new cemetery at that time. Several additions of land over in the 19th and early 20th centuries allowed the cemetery to evolve into a 19.05 acre site, exhibiting a tapestry of landscape styles from the Colonial, Victorian and Modern periods. Future efforts to preserve, alter, and expand the cemetery should meld, as closely as possible, with these distinctive historic styles. The distribution of these styles appears on the *Historic Cemetery Landscape Styles* map, shown on the next page.

¹⁸ The National Park Services defines "historic" as a resource of 50 years in age, or older, and thus the 1966 end date.



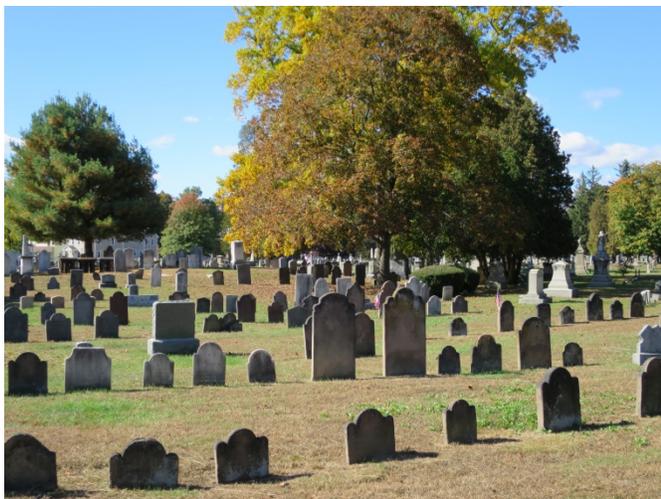
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LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT

The following section of the *Preservation Master Plan* assesses the existing natural, built, and functional features of the Bridge Street Cemetery landscape. Its purpose is to document the features; to analyze their condition; and to outline preliminary recommendations for preservation treatment.¹ Together with (1) the information compiled in the historical development section and (2) the results of Public Forum #1², the assessment provides a foundation for the over plan.

Setting

The Bridge Street Cemetery lies near the eastern entrance to the City of Northampton, between two other open spaces, the Tri-County Fairgrounds (on the south), and Lampron Park (on the west). Its approximately 19 acres fit into the rectangular block defined Bridge Street (Route 9) on the south; Parsons Street on the west; North Street on the north; and Orchard Street on the east. An asphalt sidewalk lined with shade trees stands between the cemetery and Bridge Street, and the back yards of private residences along Orchard and a portion of Parsons Street abut the cemetery's east and west sides. Along the remainder of Parsons Street and all of North Street, the street edges stand snugly against the cemetery, with only a chain link fence as separation.



The Bridge Street Cemetery sits on 19.05 acres within the city block formed by Bridge, Parsons, North and Orchard Streets, providing an ample green space with an urban neighborhood.

Edges & Views

The edges immediately surrounding the cemetery largely detract from its historic character. A five-foot-high steel chain-link fence, erected in the 1950s, encloses the property, walling it from the outside. While a barrier of this height helps separate the busy exterior landscape from the more serene interior one, the contemporary chain link material adds harshness. Much of the fencing shows its 60-year age, with rusted posts and damaged panels. Evergreen and deciduous trees stand along the rear property lines of some Orchard Street houses, helping to soften the look of the fence, but much of the remaining edges contain only the fence separating the cemetery from the adjacent roads and neighbors' back yards.

¹ Preservation, as defined by the National Park Service, includes four treatment options: stabilization, restoration, rehabilitation and reconstruction, as discussed at the end of this section of the plan.

² Public Forum #1, held on October 28, 2015 allowed citizens to voice concerns about the cemetery landscape and set priorities for improvements. A snapshot of the forum results appears in the introduction to this plan, and a complete forum summary is included in Appendix D.



Views from within the cemetery towards the adjacent residences on Orchard Street stand unobstructed, compromising the privacy of neighbors and their back yard activities.

Once inside the cemetery, visitors enjoy many spectacular views across the landscape. The most pleasing views are possible from the south edges looking northward across the “old section,” and from the summit of the old section’s knolls, looking in all directions. Standing at the northern end, visitors can scan much of the cemetery landscape, and from the northeast corner, the Holyoke Range rises in the background. Because of the mature deciduous trees growing throughout, these views change with the seasons, becoming shorter in spring and summer, color-filled in fall, and more expansive in winter after the leaves have dropped.

Less pleasing views correspond to the cemetery’s edges. In spots where the chain link divides the property from its residential neighbors, private back yard activities are on full display. In other spots, deteriorating outbuildings stand outside the fence. And along Parsons and North Streets, where the fence rims the roadway edge, passing traffic intrudes on the quiet and serenity of the cemetery grounds.



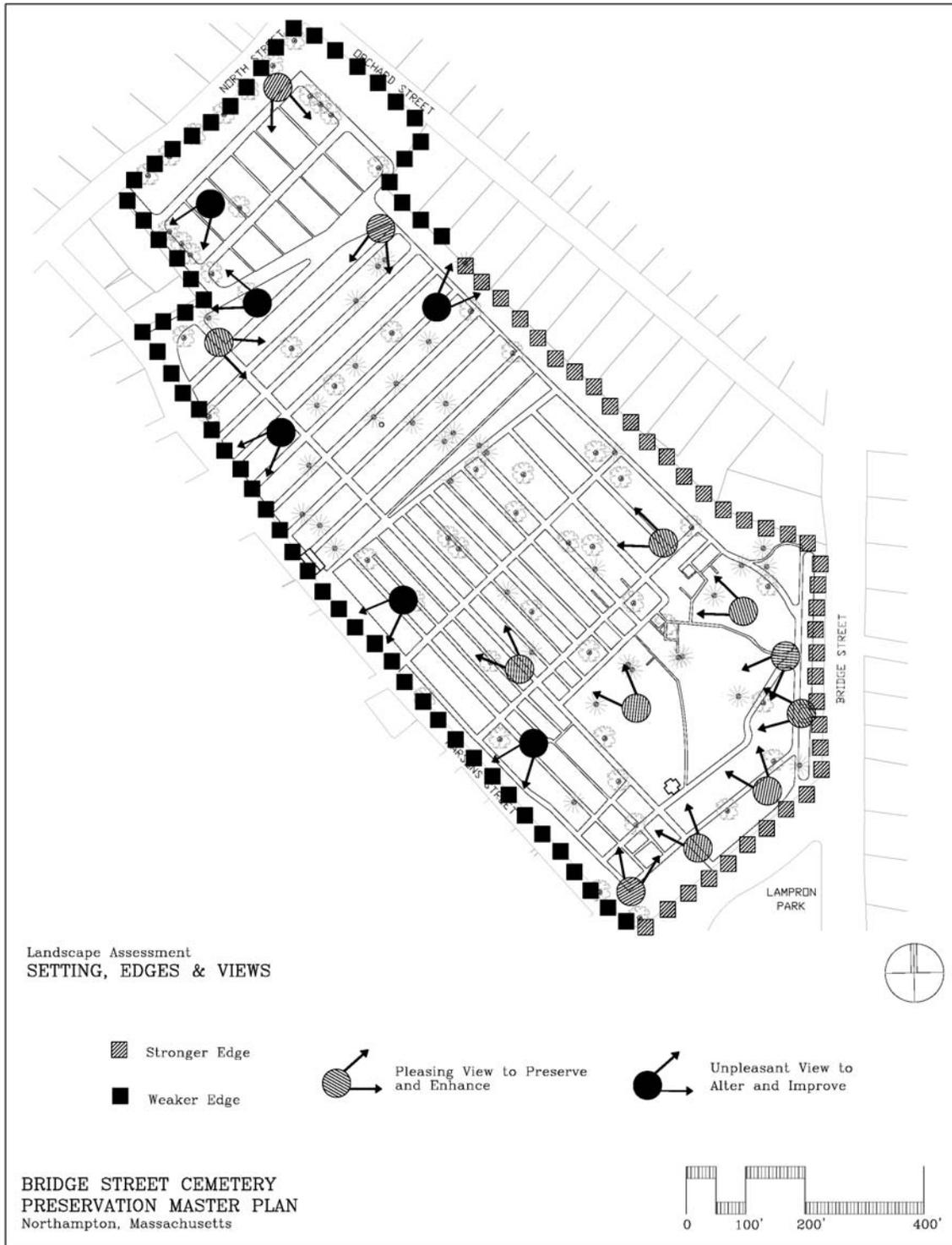
Two knolls (extending from the right of the photo) rise from the older section, providing variety to the otherwise nearly level topography.

Geology and Topography

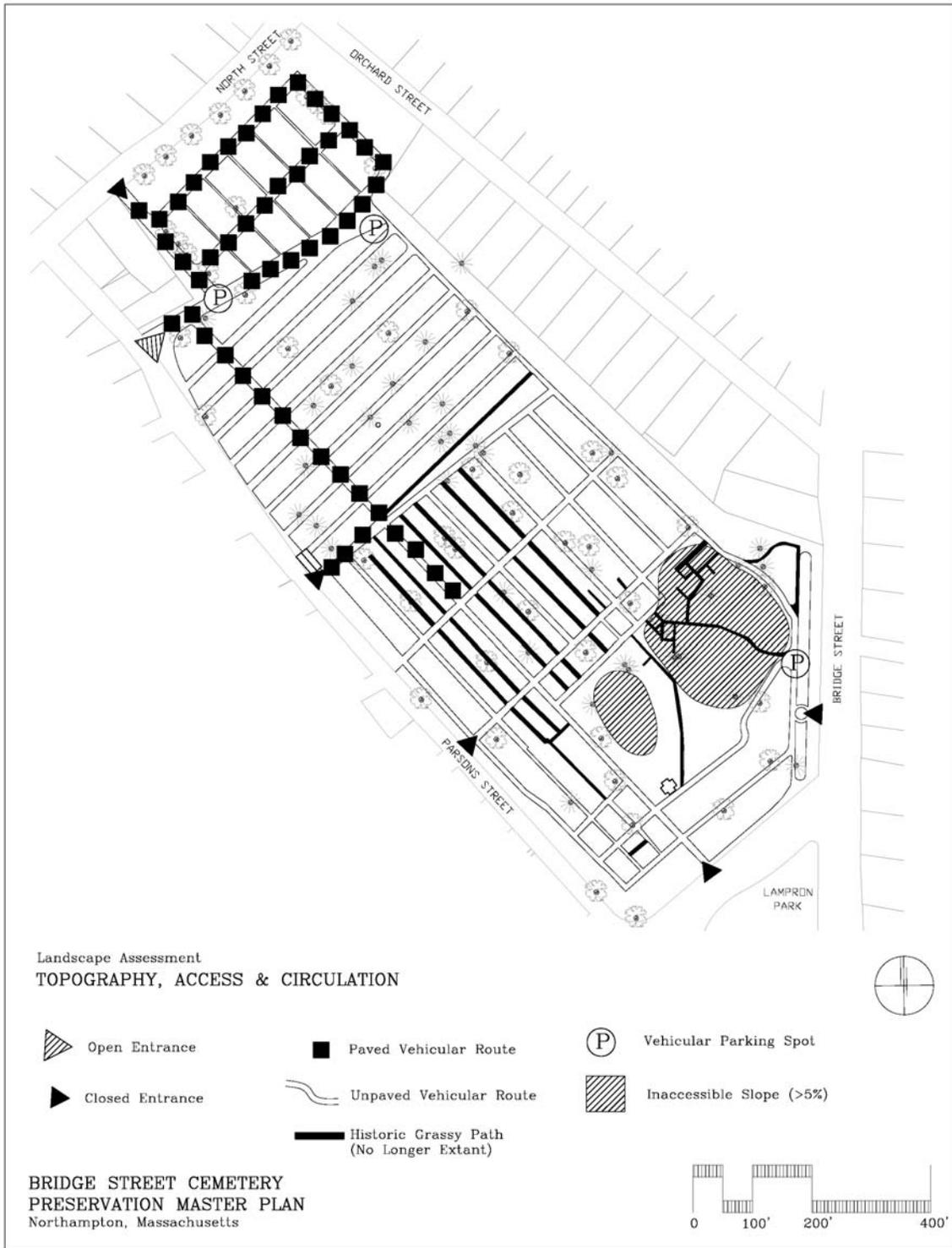
The cemetery lies at the former easternmost edge of the Barrett Street Marsh, a large wetland area that once extended from what is now Prospect Street to North Street, according to naturalist Laurie L. Sanders in *Rediscovering Northampton, The Natural History of City-Owned Conservation Areas*.³ Much this land was drained for use first as farmland and pasture, and later for commercial and industrial purposes. Any high water table areas within the cemetery may stem from this former wetland area.⁴ Underneath the cemetery surface, soils consist of Amostown-Windsor silty substratum-Urban land

³ *Rediscovering Northampton, The Natural History of City-Owned Conservation Areas* was prepared by Laurie L. Sanders for the Northampton Conservation Commission in 1999.

⁴ The planning process did not include soil borings; references to high water table areas are anecdotal.



Bridge Street Cemetery Setting, Edges and Views.



Bridge Street Cemetery Topography, Access and Circulation.

complex, 0 to 3 percent slopes, as generally classified by the National Cooperative Soil Survey. These soils are moderately well-drained with depth to restrictive features of more than 80 inches.⁵ Site investigations conducted as part of this plan did not reveal significant areas of seasonal water collection, and the absence of shifting in stones and other structures suggest that the water is not high.

Nearly level and gently rolling slopes cover the cemetery landscape, making much of it easy for users of all levels of physical ability to navigate. Flat topography appears across the northern three-fourths, broken up by dirt and grass roads recessed six to twelve inches below the burial areas. This level grade, combined with a compacted surface, has resulted in the ponding of water along some of the dirt roads during rainy periods. The wheel tracks of these roads have also sunken, resulting in a build-up of grade in the road centers. The undercarriages of low-riding vehicles can brush against these road centers.

Two prominent knolls containing some of the oldest graves, rise out of the southern end and present a contrast to the otherwise flat landscape. Grades of these landforms exceed 5% (20:1), making them inaccessible to some visitors with physical disabilities. The knolls, with their slate tablet markers and mature pine trees, add tremendous character to the cemetery.

Entrances and Circulation

When the city erected the five-foot-high chain link fence, the enclosure included six points of access ~ or gates ~ spread along Bridge, Parsons and North Street. The Orchard Street span does not contain gates. Each double-leaf gate stands at the terminus of a cemetery roadway, suggesting that the city once provided, or intended to provide multiple access points. However, today locks permanently secure all but one gate and this single entrance, located off Parsons Street near the cemetery's northwest corner, accommodates both



A rusting chain link gate and crude sign mark the main and only accessible entrance to the Bridge Street Cemetery. Visitors complain that it is hard to find.

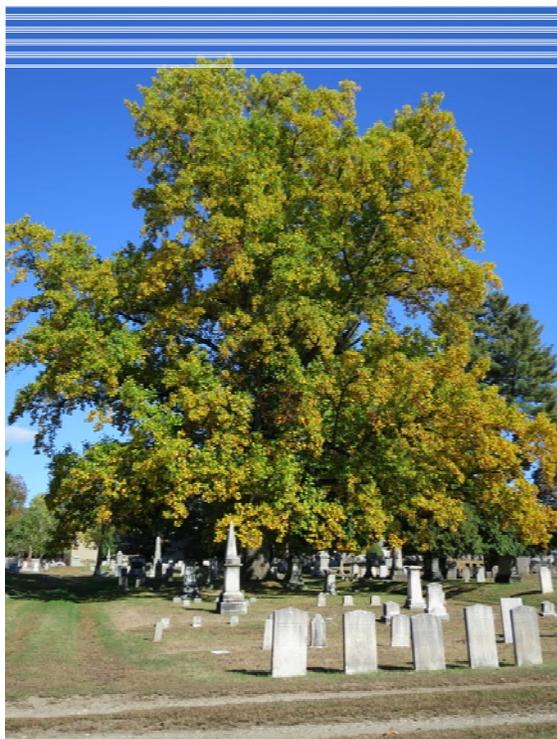
vehicles and pedestrians. A series of simple signs holding information about visitation hours and conduct stand near the gate; no ornamental features, such as gate posts or

plantings, mark the entrance. Two closed entrances, one off Parsons Street and another off Bridge, contain ornamental features, including a set of stone columns (Parsons) and remnant paved entry circle (Bridge), however the massing of abutting chain link fence deemphasizes both. A third makeshift pedestrian entrance, including a set of crudely-fabricated steps, stands in the back yard of an Orchard Street house allowing users to hop the chain link fence.

Once inside the cemetery, visitors follow a gridded set of largely unpaved roadways. In the newest section to the north of the entry drive, bituminous asphalt covers the road surface, and this pavement extends southward towards and connects to the maintenance shed. Patches have been applied to some of the pavement, likely to cover low points and cracks. Turf and compacted dirt covers the main north

⁵ Natural Resources Conservation Service, Web Soil Survey, National Cooperative Soil Survey of Hampshire County, Massachusetts, Central Part.

to south roads, and, as earlier mentioned, the tracks have sunken, leaving built-up road centers, and slowing vehicular travel. Turf fills the east-to west roads making them visually blend with the adjacent burial areas. In the oldest sections, several narrow grass paths that appear on historic cemetery maps are no longer visible. The generally level grades of all roads and paths make it easy for walkers to travel throughout the cemetery, however the uneven surfaces present some obstacles to persons with physical limitations. Sometime during the 19th century the city created names for each of the roads and paths and these appear on historic maps. Today, these routes lack signs, and as a result, orientation for visitors is poor.



A mature tulip tree, located near the geographic center of the cemetery serves as a centerpiece in the landscape.

Plant Communities

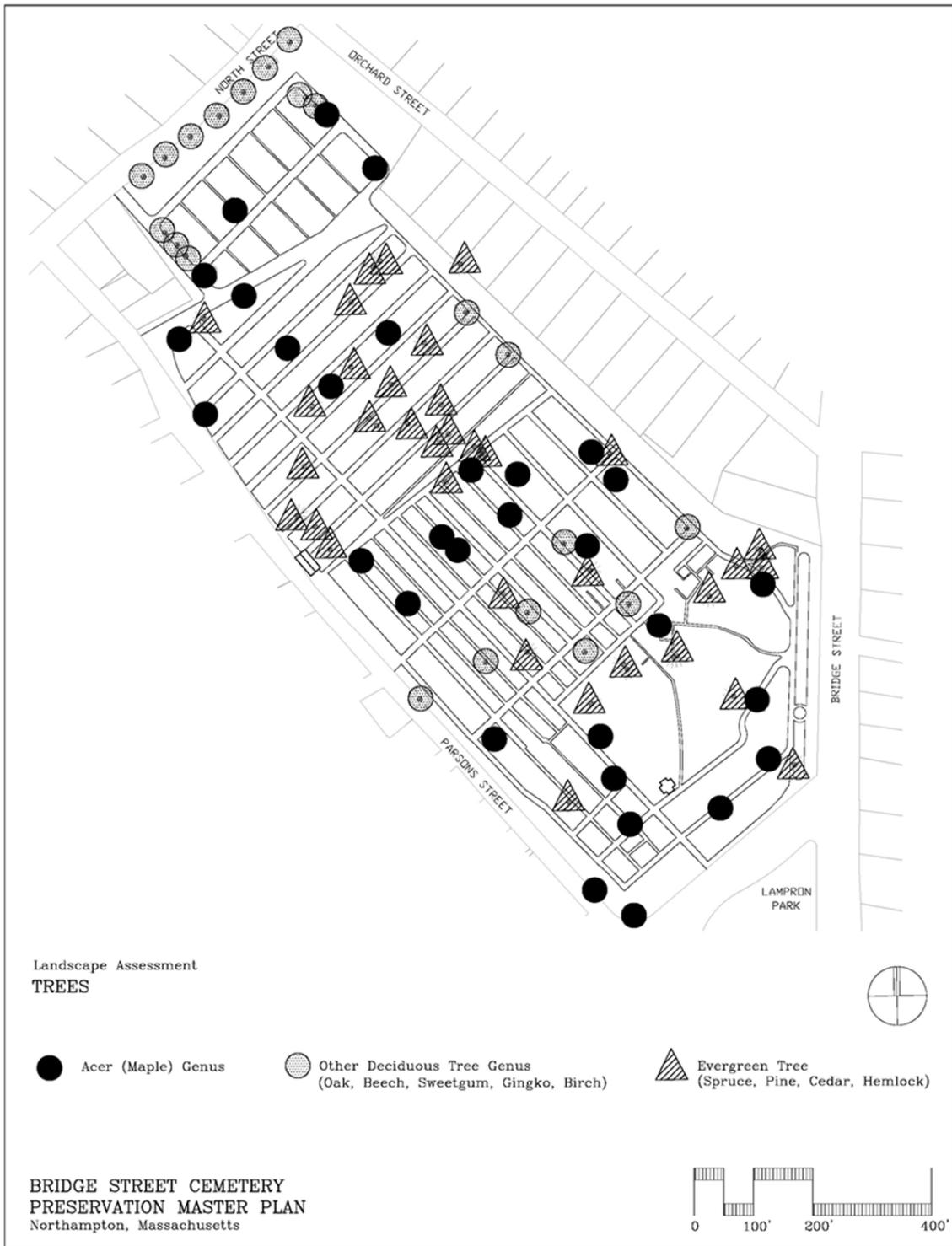
The Bridge Street Cemetery contains three general plant communities, all of which complement and contribute to the historic character, as follows:

Specimen Trees. A total of 85 deciduous and evergreen trees grow throughout the 19 acres, including 51 (60%) deciduous trees and 34 (40%) evergreens. Of this tree total, 30 (35%) are maples (genus *Acer*), and 21 (25%) consist of small numbers of deciduous trees including oak (*Quercus*), beech (*Fagus*), sweetgum (*Liquidambar*), ginkgo (*Ginkgo*), tulip tree (*Liriodendron*), and birch (*Betula*). The remaining 34 (40%) of trees are evergreens, with spruces (*Picea*) and pines (*Pinus*) the dominant genii [cedars (*Juniperus*) and hemlocks (*Tsuga*) are also present]. Many of both the deciduous and evergreen trees have reached full maturity, with several specimens measuring 48” to 60” in caliper. Some, including a tulip tree, display magnificent height and form. While all of the specimens complement the historic landscape, the predominance of one genus ~ *Acer* ~ leaves the cemetery vulnerable to significant tree loss at one time. The mature age of many exacerbates this

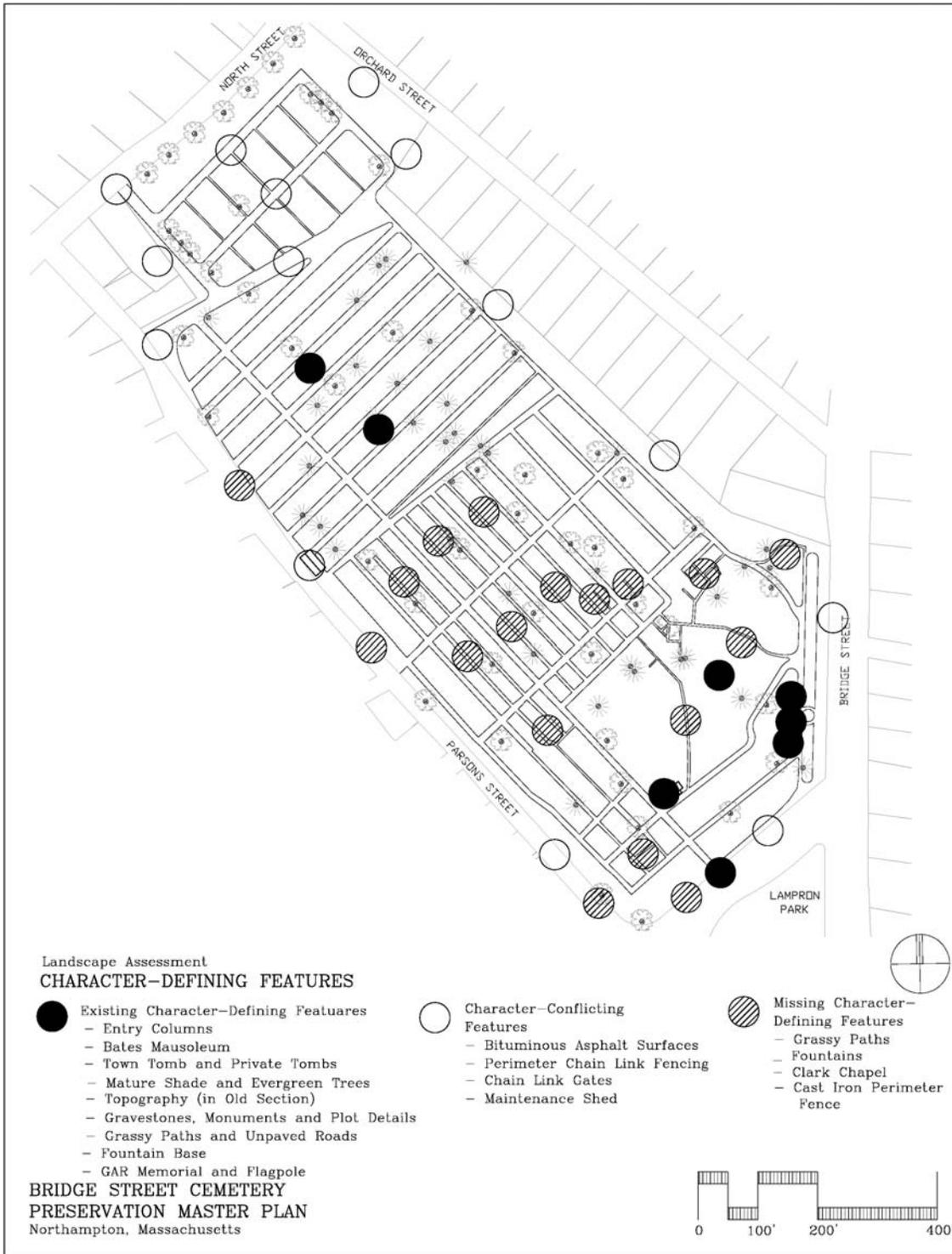
threat. Also, twelve of the maples are *Acer platanoides* (Norway maple), a species classified as invasive by the Massachusetts Department of Fisheries, Wildlife and Habitat.⁶

Gravesite Plantings. The newest sections of the cemetery, located to the north of the entry drive, contain many burial plots marked by pruned evergreen shrubs flanking gravemarkers. While these plants present long-term maintenance concerns for cemetery crews, they do typify gravesite ornamentation, a feature of the modern American cemetery style.

⁶ Refer to <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dfg/dfw/natural-heritage/land-protection-and-management/invasive-species/invasive-plants.html> for a complete listing of invasive species.



Bridge Street Cemetery Trees.



Bridge Street Cemetery Character-Defining Features.

Ground Cover and Turf. Grasses and perennial ground covers blanket the cemetery surface or “floor,” providing a lush and colorful setting for the monuments and markers, and complementing the historic character.

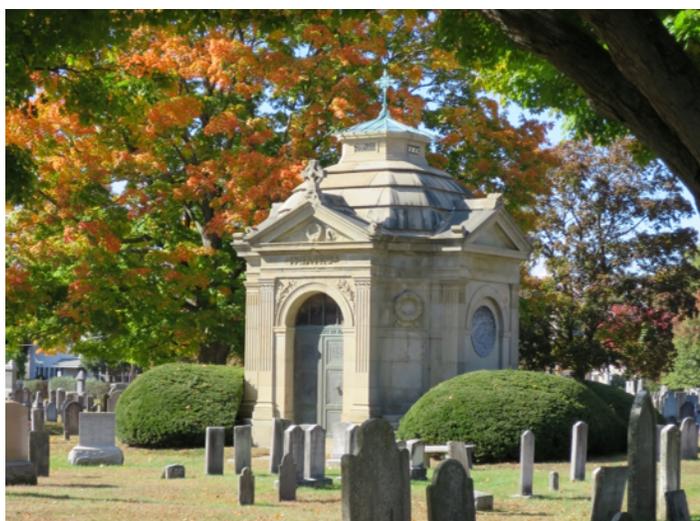
Structures

The cemetery contains several masonry structures rimming gravesites (family plot enclosures), holding interments (the Bates mausoleum and other tombs), and embellishing the landscape (entry columns at Parsons Street) and most appear to be in good condition, with only minor signs of deterioration, with the exception of the Bates mausoleum. A summary follows.

- *Family Plot Enclosures.* Granite curbing or coping has been used to outline the edges of several family plots, principally located in the center sections of the cemetery. Prominent among these is the Sylvester Graham family plot, where rounded-top copings, anchored by molded corner piers and accessed by a set of granite steps, outline the grouping of graves. Most of these enclosures stand plumb, with little sign of overturning (failure). In locations where these stones have heaved, the likely cause is either an inadequate foundation or buildup of water in soil behind the stones, or both.
- *Parsons Street Entry Posts.* This set of tiered granite posts stands at the permanently entrance off Parsons Street, on the south edge. The date of their construction is unknown. They measure approximately 8 feet in height, approximately 30” square the base, and taper to approximately 18” below large pyramidal shaped caps. The stand straight and plumb and do not appear to be shifting.
- *Bates Mausoleum.* This 1875 structure constructed on Nova Scotia limestone is one of the cemetery’s most prominent ornamental features. While the structure does not show signs of movement and is not cracked,



The Shepherd family plot features a granite coping anchored by corner piers, enclosing the group of graves. Such enclosures typified the 19th century of cemetery design. Most are in excellent condition.



The Bates mausoleum, designed by Richard Upjohn and constructed of Nova Scotia limestone, is one of the cemetery’s most prominent features. Years of unaddressed leaks have led to its deterioration.

many of the joints have opened, allowing water to infiltrate. The façade and interior have spalled and scaled, and the roof appears to be leaking. The windows have gone missing and are sealed with plywood. Short term repairs include repairing leaks and replacing windows. Long term, the structure should be rehabilitated and cleaned inside and out.

- *Town Receiving Tomb.* This 1849 structure stands inside the cemetery along Bridge Street. Constructed with a brownstone facade, granite lintels and wing walls, a brick interior with granite steps and steel door, it is in very good condition with little signs of movement. Capstones are missing from the right wing wall, both wing walls have slightly shifted, and the steel door is in need of re-painting, but no short-term repairs are needed.
- *Ansel Wright Tomb.* Constructed with a granite facade, mortared brick wing walls, and an arched mortared brick interior, this tomb also shows little sign of movement. One top stone on the façade has shifted, and the right wing wall has failed, and the original steel door is intact, inside the tomb. No short-term repairs are needed.
- *Seth Wright Tomb.* This 1815 mortared brick arch structure lies mostly underground. The grade surrounding the tomb shows no signs of sinking; the structure is likely intact. The façade, covered with an inscribed marble tablet, is failing. No short-term repairs are needed, however long term the façade should be removed and reset.

A detailed assessment of the Bates mausoleum and tombs appears in *Appendix B: Structural Assessment* of this plan.



The gravestone and monument assessment review condition of stones throughout the cemetery, finding a total of 85 in hazardous condition needing immediate conservation treatment.

Gravestones & Monuments

The cemetery contains hundreds of gravestones and monuments, dating from the 1600s through to the present day, and made from slate, brownstone, marble and granite. This assessment focused in detail on the condition of stones in the oldest section, identifying those needing treatment, and provided an overview of stone condition in the remainder of the cemetery. An assessment form was compiled for each of the 85 stones in the old section, complete with stone material, size and inscription, a photograph, and condition report. The condition of each stone was placed in one of the following treatment categories:

- *Priority 1: Hazardous*, including 22 markers that are a danger to themselves, to adjacent markers, and to passersby. These require immediate conservation treatment.

- *Priority 2: Unstable*, including 36 markers that either lack stability on their bases, have failed or failing repairs, or are extremely tilted. Conservation treatment should happen as soon as possible.
- *Priority 3: Ongoing Deterioration*, including 20 markers that show signs of deterioration and should be evaluated and treated within three to five years.

The overview of stones needing treatment in the remainder of the cemetery (new section) identified a total of 148, 63 of which are in hazardous condition. Lists of the individual stones requiring treatment in both the old and new sections appears in *Appendix C: Gravestone Assessment*.

Character-Defining Features

The Bridge Street Cemetery landscape contains many details that both add to and detract from its historic character, most of which have been described above. Features helping to define the historic character include the granite entry columns, Bates mausoleum, town receiving tomb and private mound tombs, mature shade and evergreen trees, topography (especially in the old section), gravestones, monuments, and plot details, grassy paths and unpaved roads. Features detracting from the historic character are the perimeter chain link fence, chain link gates, bituminous asphalt road surfaces, and contemporary maintenance shed. The open views to neighbors' personal, private back yard spaces add to these detracting elements. Several historic features which once stood in the cemetery have been removed. These include the historic fountains (2), perimeter cast iron fencing, Clarke Chapel, paved entry circle off Bridge Street, and many grass footpaths leading to gravesites in the old section.



The granite entry posts, located off Bridge Street are one of the many character-defining features in the cemetery. These should be preservation and better incorporated into the landscape.

Preliminary Recommendations

Future preservation efforts at the Bridge Street Cemetery will involve each of the four treatment methods outlined by the United States Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes* (1996). They include:

- *Preservation*, where existing form, integrity and materials of the landscape will be sustained;
- *Rehabilitation*, where features in the landscape will be repaired or altered to make their use compatible with the landscape's historical value;
- *Restoration*, where landscape features will be returned to their original form; and
- *Reconstruction*, where landscape features no longer extant will be restored.

Based on the preceding assessment, the following preliminary recommendations should be considered for the *Preservation Master Plan*. Note that the recommendations do not appear in order of importance or priority.

- Upgrade the Bridge Street, North Street, and a portion of the Parsons Street edge (from the existing cemetery entrance southward) by removing the chain link fencing and replacing it with an ornamental style iron fence to reflect the historic cast iron fence and also to complement the nearby Lampron Park fencing.
- Consider narrowing Parsons Street to accommodate one-way traffic, and widen the space between the cemetery and street edge, adding a curb, sidewalk and street tree plantings.
- Replace the chain link fencing around the remainder of the cemetery with black chain link, and where possible plant groupings of trees to screen and soften the fence.
- Establish a formal entrance or entrances to the cemetery, off Bridge and/or Parsons Streets, marking with gate posts and operable gates.
- Move the existing Parsons Street entrance to the north side of the cemetery (off North Street), marking it with an operable gate.
- Establish a hierarchy of vehicular routes within the cemetery, providing a stable surface on the main route (oil and stone), and turf surfaces on the secondary routes.
- Develop a sign program that includes welcome, road/pathway and interpretive signs.
- Develop interpretive program that links digital information (databases) about the cemetery to mobile devices.
- Continue to care for the mature specimen trees, removing those that begin to decline. Maintain the existing gravesite plantings and remove them as they decline.
- As Norway maples begin to decline, remove them and replace with non-invasive species.
- Develop a plan for replanting the trees, introducing a variety of species.
- Maintain 20th century gravesite plantings as pruned shrubs as long as they remain healthy. When they begin to become overgrown and/or to decline, remove them, but do not replace them.
- Begin to minimize the amount of turf in the cemetery by introducing perennial ground covers whenever grades are disturbed.
- Preserve the existing tombs according to the recommendations outlined in the Engineering Assessment.
- Stabilize the Bates mausoleum, with long term intent to restore the structure.

- Treat the hazardous stones (priority #1) in both the old and new sections of the cemetery first, followed by the priority #2 and #3 stones.
- Consider upgrading the appearance of the existing maintenance shed to better reflect the cemetery's historic character.
- Conduct a study of the existing water system that evaluates its condition and makes recommendations for upgrades.
- Re-establish the historic footpaths in the old section.
- Consider re-designing the Parsons Street corridor between the cemetery and Lampron Park, creating a more visually appealing entrance to the Bridge Street School and overall setting for the cemetery and park.
- Revisit the existing cemetery regulations and upgrade, as required, to include provisions for limiting visitor hours and controlling dog and dog owner behavior.

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RECOMMENDATIONS

Preservation Projects

The following section organizes the preliminary recommendations of the *Assessment* section into a series of thirteen “preservation projects.” To define the projects, the consultant team compiled the results of the assessment with the outcome of the October 28, 2015 public forum where participants identified the following needs:

- To **enhance the image of the cemetery** from the outside, looking in, by upgrading the existing enclosure (fence or other means) and landscaping;
- To **upgrade the existing entrance** so that it is easier to find and welcomes visitors into the cemetery;
- To **enhance the overall circulation network** by improving existing roadways and providing a clear route for vehicles to follow;
- To **upgrade the landscape to make it more park-like** through the addition of new trees and other site amenities; and
- To **attend to the gravestones and monuments** by treating those in need of conservation, developing a complete inventory of graves and gravestones, and providing an easy means for visitors to find graves.

To establish priorities for implementation, the city hosted a second public forum on February 11, 2016, where participants were able to rank the twelve projects.¹ Participants most preferred replacement of the fence (Project #1); conservation of the priority #1 gravestones (Project #2); development of a sign and interpretive program (Project #4) and development of a tree re-planting plan (Project #6). Detailed summaries of the public forums appear in *Appendix D: Public Engagement*. Note that the City may opt to re-order priorities as funding opportunities arise, and also may implement the projects (especially gravestone conservation) in phases to manage financing.

Project #1: Cemetery Fence and Gates

Project #1 addresses the “curb appeal” of the cemetery, or its appearance from the street, and the need to provide a clearly defined, well-marked, and dignified main entrance, as well as secondary entrances. The existing chain link fencing will be removed, and replaced follows as:

- 5'-high ornamental iron (tubular steel) fence along Bridge Street (and returning along the east cemetery edge for 200'), Parsons Street (to the cemetery's northwest corner), north portion of Orchard Street and North Street
- Double-leaf 5' high gates at the entrance off Parsons Street through the existing granite posts (this gate may be constructed of ornamental iron OR cast iron to replicate the original 19th century fence design)

¹ Note that Project #13 was added following the February 11, 2016 public forum.

- Double leaf 5' high gates at the entrance off North Street (northwest corner of the cemetery)
- Single-leaf 5' high gate at the entrance off Bridge Street (near the town tomb)
- 5' high black vinyl chain link fencing along the cemetery edges abutting neighbors back yards on Orchard and North Streets

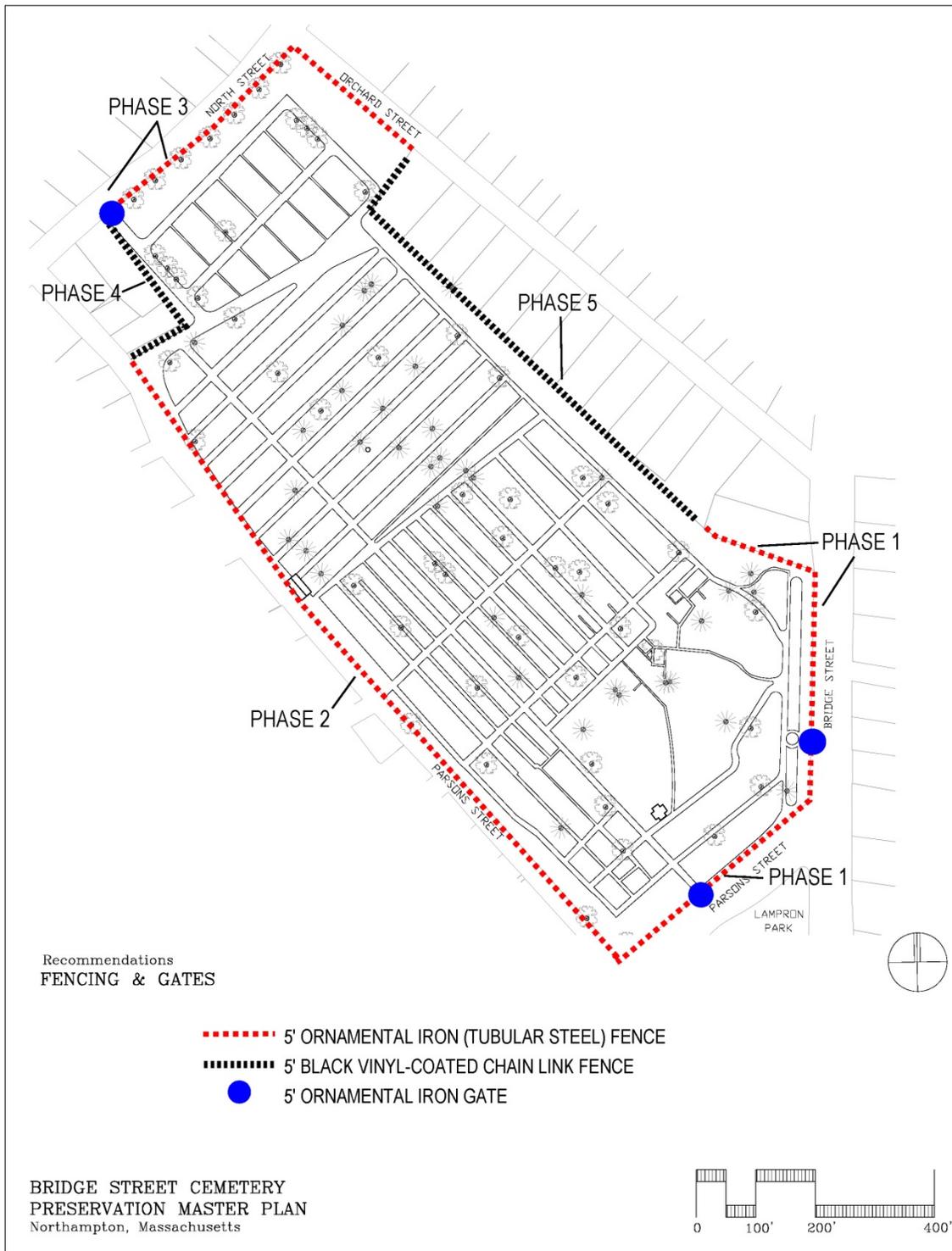
Project #1 may be implemented in phases to spread the cost over several years. The city should approach the phasing as follows to minimize the visual impact of a partially-completed enclosure:

- Remove the existing fence along Bridge Street, 200' along the east property line, and the portion of Parsons Street rimming Lampron Park (approximately 1,000'); replace the fence with ornamental iron, including one double-leaf gate at Parsons Street (ornamental iron OR cast iron), and one single-leaf gate at Bridge Street.
- Remove the existing fence along the remainder of Parsons Street (approximately 1300'); replace the fence with ornamental iron.
- Remove the existing fence along North Street and north end of Orchard Street (approximately 320'); replace the fence with ornamental iron, including one double-leaf gate at the cemetery's northwest corner.
- Remove the existing fence behind the Parsons Street homes (approximately 340'); replace the fence with black vinyl-coated chain link fence.
- Remove the existing fence behind the Orchard Street homes (approximately 900'); replace the fence with black vinyl-coated chain link fence, eliminating the existing make-shift pedestrian "stepped" entrance.

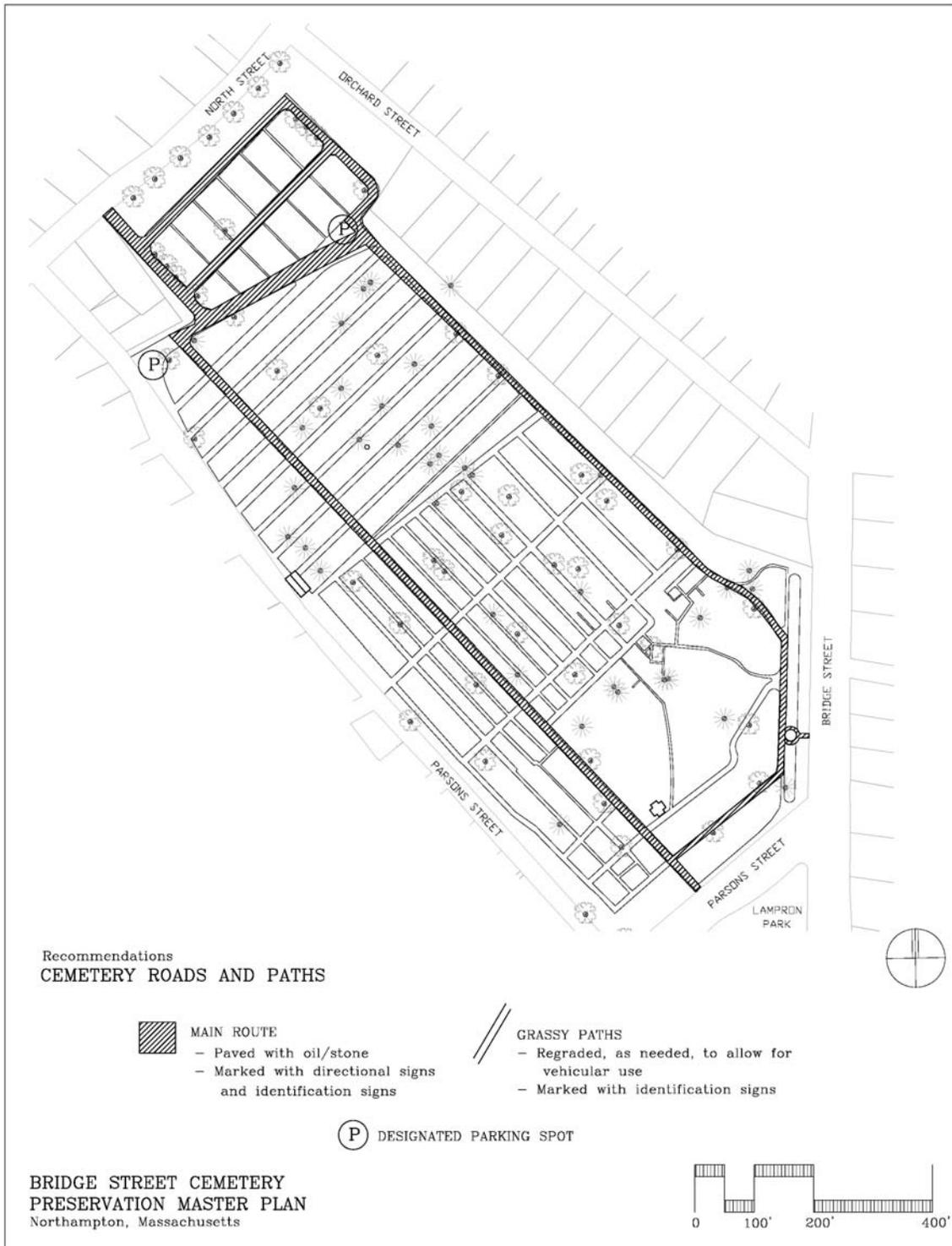
The ornamental iron (tubular steel) fence should be of a style that mimics the original cast iron fence and complements the new fence enclosing Lampron Park.



The historic cast iron fence is shown at left, contrasted with the new ornamental iron fence surrounding Lampron Park.



Project #2 involves construction of a new fence system, consisting of a combination of ornamental iron (tubular steel) and vinyl-coated chain link.



Project #3 involves creating a clearly-defined, permanently paved route to circle visitors through the cemetery. Existing grassy paths would remain and missing paths would be revived.

Project #2: Conservation of Priority #1 Gravestones (Old and New Sections)

Project #2 will involve conservation treatment of a total of 85 gravestones (22 in the old section and 63 in the new section), identified in the *Gravestone Assessment* as “hazardous.” These markers are a danger to themselves, to adjacent markers, and to passersby. Work will include photographing (before and after conservation treatment), measuring, and fully documenting each stone, in addition to conserving them according to recommendations in the *Gravestone Assessment*.

Project #3: Roadway and Paths

Project #3 will clarify circulation within the cemetery by (1) establishing a main vehicular route through the cemetery and paving/repaving the route with oil and stone (chip seal) pavement to establish a firm surface that melds with the historic character; and (2) restoring the system of grassy paths in the older section. The main route will begin at the main entrance (off Parsons Street) and proceed northward on “Main Avenue” to “Laurel Avenue,” turn east on Laurel and proceed to “Magnolia Avenue” follow Magnolia southward to “Wright Avenue” turn west on Wright, and reconnect at Main Avenue just inside the Parsons Street gate. The entry circle to the south of the city and Wright tombs will be repaved, connecting the Bridge Street gate to Wright Avenue. Strong, Barrett, and Orchard Avenues in the new section will also receive the chip seal surface. This route would be plowed in winter, but the grassy roads and paths would remain unplowed. Material excavated to create the main loop road should be used to level grassy roads and paths.

Project #4: Sign and Interpretive Program

Project #4 will involve developing a coordinated sign program to welcome visitors, to mark roads and paths, to instruct visitors where to park, and to provide interpretive information. The design of the signs should complement the cemetery’s historic character, and signs should be constructed of like materials and share a graphic style (including color, lettering, and images). The program should include:

- *A welcome sign*, listing hours of operation and hours of conduct, and the cemetery’s designation within the Pomeroy Terrace National Register Historic District (when approved by the National Park Service)
- *Road and path signs*, reviving the names used in the 19th century
- *Parking signs*, located in spots designated spots
- *Interpretive signs*, located at selected prominent sites, explaining the history of the Bridge Street Cemetery and importance of those interred within

In conjunction with the sign program, an Internet-based application should be developed that allows visitors to link with historical and interpretive information through mobile devices. The city may opt to collaborate with students at the Bridge Street School, Historic Northampton or other educational and/or historical organizations to create this interpretive tool.

Project #5: Conservation of Priority #2 Gravestones (Old and New Sections)

Project #5 will involve conservation treatment of a total of 84 gravestones (36 in the old section and 48 in the new section), identified in the *Gravestone Assessment* as “unstable.” These markers are wobbly on their bases; have failing or failed repairs; or are extremely tilted. Some have fractured. Work will include photographing (before and after conservation treatment), measuring, and fully documenting each stone, in addition to conserving them according to recommendations in the *Gravestone Assessment*.

Project #6: Tree Re-planting Plan

Project #6 will involve developing a plan for planting new trees to (1) replace desirable species that are in decline; (2) diversify the population that remains; (3) replace existing invasive species (Norway maple); (4) plant new trees appropriate for each of the three historic cemetery styles. The overall design of planting should aim to break up the cemetery into room-like spaces, and to keep the trees at the exteriors of burial areas. Examples of tree species to add include:

Colonial Style

Amelanchier canadensis	Shadblow Serviceberry
Cercis canadensis	Eastern Redbud
Franklinia alatamaha	Franklin Tree
Larix laricina	Tamarack
Liquidambar styraciflua	Sweetgum
Platanus occidentalis	American Sycamore

Victorian Style

Cercidiphyllum japonica	Katsuratree
Magnolia acuminata	Cucumber-tree Magnolia
Tilia cordata	Littleleaf Linden

Modern Style

Cedrus libani	Cedar of Lebanon
Metasequoia glyptostroboides	Dawn Redwood
Sophora japonica	Scholar-Tree
Zelkova serrata	Japanese Zelkova

For additional tree species, refer to the *Management* section of the *Preservation Master Plan*.

Project #7: Tomb Stabilization

Project #7 will stabilize the Town (City) Tomb, Ansel Wright Tomb, Seth Wright Tomb, and Bates Chapel Tomb, as follows:

- *Town Receiving Tomb*: re-setting the wing walls and replacing capstones on the right wing wall; repainting the door
- *Ansel Wright Tomb*: re-setting the façade’s top stone and right wing wall; restoring and re-hanging the original steel door
- *Seth Wright Tomb*: repairing the brick façade, cleaning the brick, and re-setting the stone door
- *Bates Tomb* (short term stabilization): removing foundation plantings (yews); repairing existing leaks; replacing missing windows

Project #8: Conservation of Priority #3 Gravestones (Old and New Sections)

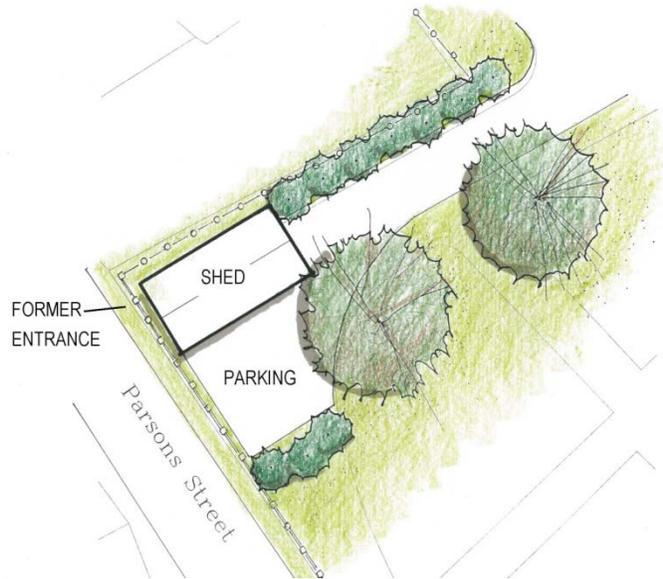
Project #8 will involve conservation treatment of a total of 51 gravestones (20 in the old section and 31 in the new section) identified in the *Gravestone Assessment* and suffering from “ongoing deterioration.” The stone conservator will evaluate the stones’ condition in the field, and proceed with treatment as necessary.

Project #9: Cemetery Water System

Project #9 will locate the existing water system, assess its condition, evaluate existing and future watering needs within the cemetery, and make recommendations for repairs, replacement and extension. Recommendations should take into account the need for water in the conservation treatment of stones, the watering of new trees, and the possible re-location of the maintenance shed (see Project #10, below).

Project #10: Cemetery Maintenance Shed

Project #10 will involve one of two options: (1) altering and repainting the existing shed; or (2) relocating the shed. Constructed by city crews in 1964 at a cost of \$5,000, this wood frame, clapboard-sided structure lies at the western end of Maple Avenue, wedged inside the cemetery fence. Its contemporary style conflicts with the Victorian character of this part of the cemetery. If it remains in the current location, the project will include raising the pitch of the roof, applying board and batten (or similar) siding, and painting the building an earth tone. If moved to the modern section, it can remain the same size, shape and color.



By closing the existing Parsons Street entrance, space becomes available for the maintenance shed and parking. Evergreen trees can be planted to screen the shed and parking from the adjacent cemetery.

Project #11: Bates Tomb Complete Restoration

Project #11 will advance the stabilization work accomplished in Project #7, and undertake several other major repairs, including patching simple spalled areas with color-matching mortars and replacing severely damaged stonework. The building will require full documentation prior to the start of restoration (scaled drawings, photographs, mortar and stone samples), and post-restoration photographs.

Project #12: Parsons Street Upgrades

Project #12, represents a long-term effort to upgrade the immediate environs of the cemetery along the Parsons Street edges and create a more prominent, visually appealing entrance to the city from the east. Parsons Street would be narrowed to one-way along the west side of the cemetery, and a curb and sidewalk would be placed between the cemetery and street. Along the south side of the cemetery, improvements would include a re-designed entrance to the Bridge Street School and with it, access to the cemetery and Lampron Park. The project would require traffic analysis and cooperation of Parsons Street neighbors.

Project #13: Cemetery Bench Program

The final project, #13 was added following the final public forum, where participants expressed interest in making the cemetery more park-like. The scope of work will include establishing a program for purchasing benches and receiving donations for benches; developing a plan for siting benches throughout the cemetery landscape; and selecting a bench style. Benches should be made of one

material (or set of materials) and be of uniform style, and placed near entrances, along circulation routes and next to interpretive signs.

Preservation Budget Projections

The following list assigns a preliminary budget to each of the preservation projects described above. Note that the figures are merely projections, intended as guidelines for the City of Northampton to use in setting fundraising goals. All figures are based on 2016 construction industry and conservation trade rates. The work involved in some of the projects may be completed by cemetery crews, depending on their capability.

Project #1: Cemetery Fence & Gates:

The costs for Project #1 divide amongst the phases outlined above, as follows:

- Bridge Street (returning 200' on the east cemetery edge) and east-west portion of Parsons Street (approximately 1,000'), one single-leaf gate and one double-leaf gate: \$50,000 - \$60,000
- The remainder of Parsons Street (approximately 1300'): \$58,500 - \$65,000
- North Street and north end of Orchard Street (approximately 320'), including one double-leaf gate: \$14,400 - \$20,000
- Chain link fence behind the Parsons Street homes (approximately 340'): \$8,500 - \$12,000
- Chain link fence behind the Orchard Street homes (approximately 900'): \$22,500 - \$27,000

Note: The budget projection includes the cost of an ornamental iron double-leaf gate at Parsons Street. The price of cast iron gates will depend on the final gate design.

Project #2: Conservation of Priority #1 Gravestones (Old and New Sections): \$41,750 - \$47,280

The budget for Project #2 includes the cost of labor and material required to treat 85 hazardous gravestones. Fees will include document the existing conditions of each stone (photographing, documenting material, size, location, inscription and; and compiling condition); providing the appropriate conservation treatment; photographing the stone after treatment is complete; compiling a treatment report.

Project #3: Roadway and Paths: \$114,000 - \$200,750

The budget for Project #3 includes the cost of labor and material required to pave the proposed main vehicular route through the cemetery with oil and stone (chip seal). In the older sections, a bituminous asphalt base will be applied first, and the stone rolled on top. In the new section, where asphalt already exists, oil and stone can be placed on top of the existing pavement. All other roads and paths should be maintained with grass surfaces.

3,825 lf 10' wide new bituminous road: \$30/lf = \$114,750

3,825 lf chip seal on new road: \$20/lf = \$76,500

475 lf chip seal only (\$20/lf, 10' wide roadway) = \$9,500

Project #4: Sign and Interpretive Program: \$7,500 - \$10,000

The budget for Project #4 includes the cost to hire a professional graphic designer and database technologist to create and detail designs for welcome, directional, and interpretive signs in the cemetery, and to create an Internet-based application that allows visitors to link with historical and interpretive information through mobile devices. *Note: costs for fabricating and installing signs have not been included in this budget.*

Project #5: Conservation of Priority #2 Gravestones (Old and New Sections): \$47,600 - \$52,200

The budget for Project #3 includes the cost of labor and material required to treat 84 unstable gravestones. Fees will include document the existing conditions of each stone (photographing, documenting material, size, location, inscription and; and compiling condition); providing the appropriate conservation treatment; photographing the stone after treatment is complete; preparing a treatment report.

Project #6: Tree Replanting Plan: \$5,000 - \$7,500

The budget for Project #6 includes the cost of hiring a preservation landscape architect or similar professional to prepare a planting plan for new trees, drawing from the list of recommended species provided in the *Management* section of this plan. *Note: costs for treating/removing trees and planting new trees have not been included in this budget.*

Project #7: Tomb Stabilization: \$145,000 - \$180,000

The budget for Project #7 includes costs to hire a structural engineer with experience in handling historic structures to develop specifications, and a restoration specialist (or team of specialists) to stabilize the Town Tomb, Ansel Wright Tomb, Seth Wright Tomb and Bates Chapel Tomb (mausoleum). Work involves cleaning stone surfaces, repointing masonry, rehabilitating doors, resetting/reconstructing wing walls, repairing windows and vents (Bates Tomb). The breakdown of this budget is as follows:

- Structural engineer (specifications): \$10,000
- Town Receiving Tomb: \$40,000
- Ansel Wright Tomb: \$25,000
- Seth Wright Tomb: \$5,000
- Bates Chapel Tomb (mausoleum): \$75,000 - \$100,000

Project #8: Conservation of Priority #3 Gravestones: \$28,300 - \$33,000

The budget for Project #8 includes the cost of labor and material required to treat 51 gravestones that show signs of ongoing deterioration, and evaluate additional markers, as required. Fees will include document the existing conditions of each stone (photographing, documenting material, size, location, inscription and; and compiling condition); providing the appropriate conservation treatment; photographing the stone after treatment is complete; preparing a treatment report.

Project #9: Cemetery Water System: \$5,000 - \$7,500

The budget for Project #9 includes the cost of hiring a plumbing engineer to locate and determine the condition of the existing water system, and design upgrades and/or extensions to the system, taking into account current and future needs. *Note that the budget does not include the cost of implementing the upgrades and extensions.*

Project #10: Cemetery Maintenance Shed: \$10,000 - \$20,000

The budget for Project #10 includes the cost of labor and materials to upgrade the existing shed and/or relocate the shed to the northwest corner of the cemetery (along Parsons Street). A more accurate budget estimate can be established after a location decision has been made.

Project #11: Bates Tomb Complete Restoration: \$300,000 - \$500,000

The budget for a complete restoration of the Bates Tomb will involve conducting a thorough existing conditions assessment (Historic Structure Report), and replacing several severely damaged stones. The cost of obtaining matching stone and the level of detail of the replaced stones can vary greatly, and a more accurate estimate can be established after the actual number of replacement stones is determined (through completion of the Historic Structure Report).

Project #12: Parsons Street Upgrades: \$50,000 - \$75,000 (Design and Engineering Fees Only)

The budget for Project #12 cannot be determined until a design has been developed for this area, a task that will require public engagement, surveying, permitting, along with design and engineering.

Project #13: Bench Program: \$2,500 - \$3,000 (Professional Fees Only)

The budget for Project #13 includes professional time to develop a bench program, preparing a site plan for bench locations, and selecting a bench style.

Preservation Resources

The following organizations can supply advice, guidance and technical assistance for preservation efforts in historic cemeteries. Those marked with an asterisk (*) provide financial assistance for preservation activities. Note that funding priorities, award levels and application requirements for the various funding organizations can frequently shift. The City of Northampton should contact each resource for up-to-date information, prior to making an application.

The Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation. The Alliance is an organization of professionals dedicated to the preservation and conservation of historic landscapes in all their variety from formal gardens to public parks to rural and natural expanses. The organization provides a forum for communication and exchange among its members.

The Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation
www.ahlp.org

American Association for State and Local History. This national organization provides leadership, service and support for preservation and interpretation of state and local history, making the past more meaningful in American society. The organization's bookstore offers dozens of titles pertaining to historic preservation.

American Society for State and Local History
1717 Church Street
Nashville, TN 37203-2991
www.aaslh.org

The Association for Gravestone Studies. AGS is a non-profit organization dedicated to the study and preservation of cemeteries and gravestones. Services include publications, a monthly newsletter, quarterly journal and annual conference.

The Association for Gravestone Studies
Greenfield Corporate Center
101 Munson Street, Suite 108
Greenfield, MA 01301
www.gravestonestudies.org

Association for Preservation Technology International. The Association for Preservation Technology International (APT) is a cross-disciplinary, membership organization dedicated to promoting the best technology for conserving historic structures and their settings.

Association for Preservation Technology International
3085 Stevenson Drive, Suite 200
Springfield, IL 62703
www.apti.org

Northeast Chapter:

northeastapt@gmail.com

Cultural Landscape Foundation. The Cultural Landscape Foundation seeks donations and gifts from corporations, individuals, private foundations and government grants to increase awareness and public benefit for cultural landscapes listed on, or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Project support emphasizes interpretation, education, outreach, and public awareness.

Cultural Landscape Foundation
1711 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Suite 200
Washington, DC 20009
www.tclf.org

Heritage Preservation. This organization works to ensure the preservation of American's cultural heritage, offering programs and publications relating to care of books, documents, architecture, sculpture and other artifacts. Its *Save Outdoor Sculpture!* program is a grass-roots effort to help local organizations preserve sculpture and monuments.

Heritage Preservation
1012 14th Street, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20005
www.heritagepreservation.org

Massachusetts Cultural Council.* As the state arts agency of Massachusetts, MCC provides grants to organizations in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences.

Massachusetts Cultural Council
10 St. James Avenue, 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
www.massculturalcouncil.org

Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities.* This state program of the National Endowment for the Humanities supports discussion groups, workshops, conferences, lecture series, radio programs, films, and video projects in the humanities.

Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities
66 Bridge Street
Northampton, MA 01060
www.mfh.org

Massachusetts Historical Commission.* MHC is Massachusetts's state historic preservation office, maintaining the State Register of Historic Places, overseeing all nominations made to the National Register of Historic Places, and providing funding for preservation activities of many types.

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc/

National Center for Preservation Technology & Training.* A program of the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, the NCPTT awards grants for information management, training and research on technical issues in preservation, with an emphasis on archaeology, historic architecture, historic landscapes, objects and materials conservation and interpretation.

National Center for Preservation Technology & Training
645 University Parkway
Natchitoches, LA 71457
www.ncptt.nps.gov

National Trust for Historic Preservation.* The trust is the leading national advocacy organization for historic preservation, providing funding for preservation-related activities through several programs.

National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036
www.nthp.org

Northampton Community Preservation Committee.* The Community Preservation Committee (CPC) is the local entity, appointed by the Mayor, to implement the Community Preservation Act (CPA) in Northampton. By adopting the CPA, Northampton was able to create a local Community Preservation Fund to raise money through a surcharge of up to three percent of the real estate tax levy on real property for open space protection, historic preservation and the provision of affordable housing. These funds are matched by the state. Many Massachusetts communities that have adopted the CPA have supported preservation efforts in their historic cemeteries and burial grounds.

Northampton Community Preservation Committee
210 Main Street
Room 11 City Hall
Northampton, MA 01060
<http://www.northamptonma.gov/1048/Community-Preservation-Committee>

Preservation Massachusetts. This state-wide non-profit organization is dedicated to preserving the state's cultural and historic resources through advocacy, education and community revitalization. In partnership with the Massachusetts Historical Commission, Preservation Massachusetts sponsors an annual meeting – a day-long gathering with symposia and workshops, and an announcement of the Commonwealth's most endangered resources.

Preservation Massachusetts
34 Main Street Extension
Suite #401
Plymouth, MA 02360
www.preservationmass.org

National Preservation Institute. This nonprofit organization provides preservation information, knowledge, and skills to train and guide the stewards of historic and cultural places through seminars in historic preservation and cultural resource management.

National Preservation Institute
P. O. Box 1702
Alexandria, VA 22313
www.npi.org

Society of Architectural Historians, Landscape History Chapter. This membership-based professional organization encourages research in landscape, gardening, and horticultural history, and promotes the dissemination of such research through publications, meetings and lectures. It also provides a forum for the exchange of ideas related to these disciplines through events and programs, and promotes conservation, preservation, and recording of significant landscapes.

Society of Architectural Historians
Landscape History Chapter
1365 North Astor Street
Chicago, IL 60610-2144
www.sahlandscape.org

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MANAGEMENT

This final section of the *Preservation Master Plan* will help the City of Northampton crews care for the landscape. It includes strategies for care of the plants (trees and ground cover) and structures, and provides a maintenance schedule. By following this guide, the city and cemetery crews will help insure the long term health of this important historic resource.

Cemetery Ordinance

In an effort to preserve the cemetery landscape in the long term, the city should regularly revisit the existing cemetery ordinance to ensure that provisions for maintaining the landscape are clearly defined and sufficient to meet existing and future management needs. Updates to the ordinance should be made as required. Included in this should be a declaration of fines to be imposed on persons violating the ordinance. Appropriate sections of the ordinance should appear on cemetery “welcome” signs.

Management Log

Before beginning to care for the landscape, the cemetery superintendent should set up a “management log,” or ongoing written record of inspections, repairs, and introduction of new features, listed by date. The log should include methods and materials employed, as well as names and contact information for any specialists employed in the cemetery’s care. The log should be stored, in both electronic and manual (hard copy) formats, in a secure location.

Plants

Existing Plants: Trees

Before the city undertakes any measure to treat the property’s trees, they should consult a tree specialist, and preferably a Massachusetts-certified and International Society of Arborists (ISA)-certified professional. This individual is trained to assess the health of aging plants and prescribe appropriate care. General guidelines for tree care are as follows:

- Once per year in late winter, consult an arborist about the general health of the trees. Ask the arborist:
 - If any of the trees or branches are dead, broken or in any way hazardous. These need to be removed as soon as possible for safety.
 - If the trees are free of disease, and if not, how the disease should be treated.
 - If the diseased branches/sections of the tree should be removed, or if the entire tree should be removed to protect the health of neighboring trees.
 - If the trees need fertilizing, and if so, what they should be fed, how they should be fed, and how often they should be fed.
 - If root suckers or other growth should be removed to ensure the health and beauty of the tree.

- Test the cemetery's soil for quality in relationship to the tree population. The test will detect any soil deficiencies, and determine a remedy for correcting them. Soil can be tested by a soils professional, or through the University of Massachusetts Extension Program, located in Amherst.
- Provide and install cables to help any weakly-joined limbs.
- Treat trees with a systemic insecticide to minimize stress caused by leaf feeding pests.
- Prune trees, removing all dead wood greater than ½" in diameter.
- Create mulch rings around the base of each tree, as wide as possible and up to the diameter of the tree crown. Shape the rings into saucers (with the low point at the center), rather than volcano-like mounds. In places where gravestones lie near or adjacent to trees, avoid accumulating mulch around the stones.
- Where soil has built up at the base of trees, remove enough to expose the root collar.
- Remove any dead or dying trees.

Existing Plants: Ground Covers & Turf

The city should make an effort to retain existing ground covers and encourage their growth, as they minimize the need for mowing, cutting down on maintenance tasks. Each should be allowed to bloom, wither, and cast their seeds before they are mown, allowing them to multiply. Weed killers and other such herbicides should not be used where there plants are growing (some species may be classified as "weeds").

To sustain healthy turf lawns, the city may use to the following mowing and fertilizing guidelines:

- Fertilize sparingly, as too much fertilized can cause grass to grow too rapidly, requiring more mowing and making the plants more susceptible to disease. Not enough fertilizer can result in weaker plants that are more susceptible to disease of stress brought on by drought.
- Apply fertilizer three times per year – around Memorial Day and Labor Day, and finally, around Halloween.
- Do NOT fertilize in mid-summer. At this time of year, roots have become dormant. Fertilizer will cause the leaves to grow, making the plants less tolerant of drought, heat and disease.
- Follow these fertilizing instructions:
 - *Memorial Day* – apply 1 pound of Nitrogen per 1,000 sf (with 50% of Nitrogen slow-release). Use an N:P:K Ratio of 14-14-14.
 - *Labor Day* - apply 2 pounds of Nitrogen per 1,000 sf (with 50% of Nitrogen slow-release). Use an N:P:K Ratio of 14-14-14.
 - *Halloween* - apply 1 pound of Nitrogen per 1,000 sf (with 75% of Nitrogen slow-release). Use an N:P:K Ratio of 28-3-9.

- When mowing, remove no more than one-third of the height of the turf at one time, always leaving twice as much leaf height as is cut.
- The best level for mown grass is 2 ½ inches, with 2 to 3 ½ inches the range.
- It is best to mow lawns on an as-needed basis, not on a regular schedule, such as once per week.

New Plants: Trees

The *Recommendations* section of this plan includes an effort to plant new trees within the cemetery. In selecting new trees to plant, the city should aim to diversify the tree species within the cemetery while, at the same time, choosing species appropriate for each historic cemetery style (refer to *Historical Development of the Bridge Street Cemetery* for a description and location of each style).

Colonial Style

Amelanchier canadensis	Shadblow Serviceberry
Cercis canadensis	Eastern Redbud
Cladrastus kentukea	Kentucky Coffeetree
Franklinia alatamaha	Franklin Tree
Larix laricina	Tamarack
Liquidambar styraciflua	Sweetgum
Nyssa sylvatica	Northern Black Tupelo
Platanus occidentalis	American Sycamore

Victorian Style

Cercidiphyllum japonica	Katsuratree
Ginkgo biloba	Gingko
Magnolia acuminata	Cucumbertree Magnolia
Tilia cordata	Littleleaf Linden
Viburnum lentago	Nannyberry Viburnum

Modern Style

Cedrus libani	Cedar of Lebanon
Metasequoia glyptostroboides	Dawn Redwood
Sophora japonica	Scholar-Tree
Zelkova serrata	Japanese Zelkova

Newly planted trees are unlikely to survive if they do not receive special care and attention, particularly in the first few years after planting. In general, adhere to the following care guidelines:

- Plant in the spring or fall, and never during the heat of summer.
- Utilize crews working under the supervision of a Massachusetts-certified arborist, or hire a landscape contracting company to plant trees. Trees that are planted correctly will be far more likely to survive and thrive, and the arborist/landscape company should exercise the best tree planting practices. Landscape contractors should guarantee all trees for one year after planting. However, *the guarantee is valid only if the plants have been properly cared for.*

- If staking new trees is necessary, be sure to remove stakes and guy-wires within one year of planting. If the trees appear to need some kind of individual protection because of their location, build a simple fence rather than leaving the guy-wires on. Wires can damage and will eventually kill the tree if left in place too long.
- Provide the trees with at least one inch of water each week. This water can be supplied by rainfall or by supplemental watering. Spreading one inch of water using a hose attached to an exterior water spigot takes approximately two-three hours. Water must soak deep into the soil to encourage good root growth and overall plant health. Adjust the flow of water so it has time to sink into the ground, reducing the pressure if small “rivers” develop. The water should sink into the ground around the tree or shrub, rather than flowing away.
- If drought dominates the fall, be sure to water trees well before the ground freezes, protecting the plants from entering winter in dry soil.
- Mulch plants to help control weeds and keep moisture in the soil (and maintain a neat appearance in the landscape). Use composted pine bark mulch that has been aged a minimum of three months. Apply the mulch to a depth no greater than three inches. Each spring, fluff the existing mulch and add more, as needed. Keep mulch away from the stems or trunks of trees and shrubs, and off shrub branches (to minimize decay and prevent insect infestations).
- Prune trees and shrubs to enhance their natural form and appearance, and to help maintain their health. Enlist the expertise of a professional or person trained in proper pruning practices. Prune only by hand (never use electric pruners). Prune broken branches immediately to prevent disease.

New Plants: Ground Covers

As previously mentioned, ground covers add beauty to the cemetery landscape and minimize the need for mowing. In shady areas, the city should select shade-tolerant species, indicated by asterisks (“*”), below.

<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	Bugleweed
<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	Bearberry
<i>Asarum canadense</i> *	Wild Ginger
<i>Cornus canadensis</i> *	Bunchberry
<i>Erythronium albidum</i> *	White Trout Lily
<i>Fern spp.</i> *	Ferns
<i>Gallium odoratum</i>	Sweet Woodruff
<i>Housatonia caerulea</i>	Bluets
<i>Lamium spp.</i>	Dead Nettle
<i>Phlox stolonifera</i>	Creeping Phlox
<i>Phlox subulata</i>	Moss Pink
<i>Sedum</i>	Stonecrop
<i>sp. reflexum, sp. caudicola,</i>	
<i>sp. anglicum, sp. brevifolium</i>	
<i>Thymus serpyllum</i>	Creeping Thyme
<i>Viola canadensis</i> *	Canadian Violet
<i>Waldsteinia ternata</i>	Barren Strawberry

No- Shrub Policy

Shrubs in the cemetery largely lie alongside individual gravesites, providing families an opportunity for individual expression and personal commemoration. Unfortunately, gravesite shrub plantings are inconsistent with the cemetery's predominantly 18th and 19th century design (a concept introduced in the 20th century). Furthermore, they present long-term maintenance problems. They quickly become overgrown, obscuring grave markers and complicating lawn mowing. For the most part, families do not maintain shrub plantings, leaving the arduous pruning, shaping, and feeding tasks to cemetery maintenance crews.

As part of the planting policy for the cemetery, the city should adopt a "no new shrub" rule. As existing shrubs mature and die, they should be removed and replaced. Instead, the city should ask families to donate trees to the cemetery allowing for the replacement of dead trees with new, needed species.

Fences

The *Recommendations* section of this plan provides long-term approaches to treating the cemetery's perimeter fences. To care for existing fences as well as newly-installed ones, the city can undertake the following methods to prevent deterioration:

- Clear volunteer tree, shrub and vine growth from around the fences. Allowing these to grow in and around these structures not only contributes to their decay, it creates an overall unkempt appearance, and detracts from the cemetery's "curb appeal."
- Inspect the fences twice yearly for deterioration, such as peeling, leaning or damage to individual sections. If deterioration is detected, consult an experienced fence contractor.

Gravestones

The city should regularly inspect the gravestones and monuments for signs of damage or decay, and if found, consult a conservation professional. Under no circumstances should untrained individuals attempt to repair grave markers, as improper treatment of stones can lead to further deterioration. Conservation professionals will employ treatments that help stabilize the stones for many, many years, however because the stones lie exposed to weather and are vulnerable to vandalism, further deterioration is always possible.

Management Schedule

January - March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ When removing snow from the cemetery's roadways, minimize (or eliminate altogether) the use of salt.
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inspect the fences and gravestones for damage that may have occurred over the winter. Consult a specialist about repairing any major damage. ▪ Remove leaves from inside the cemetery.
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inspect trees for damage that may have occurred over the winter and note any needs for pruning and removals. ▪ Begin mowing turf on an as-needed basis to a height no less than 2-1/2 inches. ▪ Around Memorial Day, fertilize turf areas (14-14-14). ▪ Plant new trees and groundcovers, as required.
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct pruning and removals of trees. ▪ Continue mowing turf on an as-needed basis to a height no less than 2-1/2 inches. ▪ Continue to plant new trees and groundcovers, and grassy areas, as required.
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue mowing turf on an as-needed basis to a height no less than 2-1/2 inches. Suspend mowing during hot, dry periods.
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue mowing turf on an as-needed basis to a height no less than 2-1/2 inches. Suspend mowing during hot, dry periods. ▪ Around Labor Day, fertilize turf areas (14-14-14).
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue mowing turf on an as-needed basis to a height no less than 2-1/2 inches. ▪ Resume planting of new trees and groundcovers, and lawns, as required ▪ Inspect fences and gravestones for damage that may have occurred over the summer. Consult a specialist about repairing any major damage.
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Around Halloween, fertilize turf areas (28-3-9).
November - December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ When removing snow from around the cemetery's roadways, minimize (or eliminate altogether) the use of salt.