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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

FEB - 5 2016

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Richmond Terrace Cemeteries

other names/site number Fountain Cemetery - Staten Island Cemetery - Trinity Chapel Cemetery - Factoryville Cemeteries

2. Location

street & number 1562 Richmond Terrace and 25 Van Street [] not for publication

city or town Staten Island [] vicinity

state New York code NY county Richmond code 085 zip code 10310

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this [X] nomination [] request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements as set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property [X] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [] nationally [] statewide [X] locally. ([] see continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Russell Purpant DBHPO
Signature of certifying official/Title

12/30/15
Date

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [] meets [] does not meet the National Register criteria. ([] see continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register
[] see continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register
[] see continuation sheet
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain) _____

Signature of the Keeper

date of action

Edson K. Beall

3-22-16

Richmond Terrace Cemeteries

Richmond County, New York

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
_____	_____	buildings
3	_____	sites
_____	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
3	_____	TOTAL

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY/ cemetery

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY/ cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____

walls _____

roof _____

other Granite – Marble – Sandstone – Brownstone
- Limestone

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Richmond Terrace Cemeteries

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or that represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all boxes that apply.)

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location
- C** a birthplace or grave
- D** a cemetery
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F** a commemorative property
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by historic American Building Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal Agency
- Local Government
- University
- Other repository: _____

Areas of Significance:

(Enter categories from instructions)

Settlement _____

Funerary Art _____

Period of Significance:

1829-1969

Significant Dates:

1829, 1847, 1851, 1866, 1870/1871

1903, 1954

Significant Person:

N/A

Cultural Affiliation:

N/A

Architect/Builder:

N/A

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10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property 3.32 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 18 574380 4499031
Zone Easting Northing

3 18
Zone Easting Northing

2 18

4 18

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Patricia M. Salmon

organization Staten Island Museum (retired)/Wagner College date June 24, 2015

street & number 232 North Baldwin Street telephone 917-608-6437

city or town Johnson City state NY zip code 13790

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO)

name NYC Dept. of Parks and Recreations, Staten Island Cemetery Assoc. Inc. & Fountain Cemetery Assoc. Inc.

street & number 158 Myrtle Avenue telephone 917-545-3309

city or town Staten Island state NY zip code 10310

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*)

Estimated Burden Statement: public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20503

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Richmond Terrace Cemeteries

Name of Property

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Description: The Richmond Terrace Cemeteries

The Richmond Terrace Cemeteries is composed of three small contiguous historic cemeteries - Fountain, Staten Island, and Trinity Chapel Cemeteries – and is located in West New Brighton, Staten Island, Richmond County, New York. The three cemeteries together are roughly in the shape of an “L” and have since the later 20th century evolved into one larger burial site – their boundaries now only loosely demarcated. The boundaries that enclose the three sites are Richmond Terrace on the north, a commercial parcel at the north and east, the rear of residential parcels that face Alaska Street to the west, Corporal Thompson Park on the south, and Tompkins Court & Van Street at the southeast. Combined, the cemeteries equal approximately seven acres. The main entrances are located at Staten Island Cemetery on Richmond Terrace east of Alaska Street. A secondary entrance is located at the rear southeast section of Fountain Cemetery at Tompkins Court. Both locations are gated and locked.

The evolving types of material, text, ornamentation, size, and placement of the grave markers at the Richmond Terrace Cemeteries are reflective of the evolving attitudes towards religion, taste, and community customs. All three cemeteries are examples of evolving burial grounds that have not only retained, but also exhibit historical significance and integrity from the nineteenth and twentieth century’s.

There are approximately thirteen hundred local headstones & footstones in the Richmond Terrace Cemeteries, all in nearly excellent condition. The majority of markers are in granite due to the historic proximity to a quarry. Sandstone, limestone, and marble are additionally observable. In terms of materials, the cemeteries include two large pink granite monuments, which were quarried in New Mexico and shipped in the 1860s for installation in the Staten Island Cemetery portion. There is only one other pink granite monument on Staten Island.

Irregular and organized paths are present throughout the burial grounds and the markers are generally laid out in grid patterns. Numerous family burial plots exist with many still surrounded by original piping to denote plot boundaries. The grounds are heavily wooded with a variety of deciduous trees.

Staten Island Cemetery

Staten Island Cemetery is approximately two acres and is located along the eastern portion of the burial grounds. It was officially established in 1847 and incorporated on December 4th. The main entrance is on the south side of Richmond Terrace, between Alaska Street and Tompkins Court. A landscape architect known as Mr. Charlton designed the cemetery. The last recorded burial at Staten Island Cemetery occurred in 1969.

An historic stone wall fronts Staten Island Cemetery on Richmond Terrace as does an entrance gate. A small rise from Richmond Terrace heads south into Staten Island Cemetery. Walkways extend from Staten Island Cemetery into Fountain Cemetery and the Trinity Chapel burial ground. A bucolic setting, the nominated area holds native species and horticultural varieties that are interspersed throughout the properties. Mature oaks and maples tower over the old burial grounds. Some specimens of American Chestnut, *Castanea dentata* survive to the early flowering stage against the onslaught of the Chestnut Blight (*Cryphonectria parasitica*) that reached Staten Island in 1908. The devastation wrought by this fungus left few representatives to reach maturity in the United States.

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A Children's Potter's Fields officially named "Childs Lot" is present on the northern edge of Staten Island Cemetery. The Staten Island Cemetery Association offered free burials for children under the age of two in the nineteenth century. Grave markers were never installed.

Upon entering Staten Island Cemetery statues of Our Lady of Lourdes (the Virgin Mary) and the child Bernadette are on the eastern side of the cemetery. Originally the statues were in a Grotto on the grounds of Saint Vincent's Hospital in West New Brighton. In 2007, the Sisters of Charity, who were the governing body of the hospital at that time, donated the marble statues to the Staten Island Cemetery Association in memory of the unknown/unnamed children buried in the nineteenth century Childs Lot. The sisters believed the statues dated to the late 1890s.

A flag pole stands near the statues as does a plaque in honor of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR). The original was installed in 1866, by GAR Post #524. The replacement plaque reads "Dedicated to the gallant Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865." It was installed on a fieldstone by the Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries of Staten Island in 2004 to replace another plaque that was dedicated in 1931. Two standard United States Government issued marble Civil War markers are behind the stone, as is a well-preserved iron Grand Army of the Republic star-shaped flag holder. This is the only original GAR monument in existence on Staten Island.

There are approximately six hundred marble, brownstone and granite headstones in Staten Island Cemetery. Standing headstones do not face in any established direction, although many face west. Some stones are illegible due to a combination of damage from pollution, neglect, and vandalism. Other stones are remarkably clear and easily read. Intergenerational family plots were established at Staten Island Cemetery. Some are surrounded or partially surrounded by small stone pillar posts and round metal rails. The size and design of headstones denote the financial and social standing of the interred.

Numerous soaring obelisks are present at Staten Island Cemetery. A massive standard obelisk hovers over the Barrett plot with the Barrett name prominently inscribed in raised letters. The parcel holds five locally quarried granite markers capped with a crowning floral pattern. At the Van Pelt plot an elaborate draped urn is atop a granite monument. It is surrounded by several of the previously mentioned locally quarried stones with crowned floral patterns.

Stone carver Orlando W. Buel (1818-1894) was a well regarded gravestone dealer from Connecticut who relocated his stone yard to Staten Island. Prolific, Buel's name appears on many Staten Island headstones, including the Barrett monument and its surrounding headstones. Mr. Buel is buried at Fountain Cemetery.

A standing shouldered brownstone with a decorative star and a simple urn cut into the stone is located at Staten Island Cemetery. The headstone is to the memory of Hannah Johnson who died in 1821. A top portion of the stone and one of the shoulders is missing. An intact shouldered brownstone marker to the memory of John Merrell also stands at Staten Island Cemetery. A flourishing engraved scripted "J.M" is inscribed at the top of

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the stone. It is adorned with two flowers and a decorative scalloped design near its top. Mr. Merrell passed in 1826.

Two sturdy pink granite obelisks in the rectangular style are located in Staten Island Cemetery. One is in memory of the Butler family, while the second represents the Van Name family. The pink granite for the monuments was shipped from New Mexico. Both families were prominent in Staten Island history. Urns are atop each obelisk and the family names are inscribed with raised letters. These separate plots are demarcated by standing granite pillars that hold metal railings. The plots are side by side.

Several unusual symbols are visible at Staten Island Cemetery. The traditional “finger pointing upward” on Edwin Star Belknap’s granite headstone indicates that Mr. Belknap has gone to heaven. The Bush family has a crowned cross vaulted marble obelisk. A “B” surrounded by a floral and berry pattern is etched into the obelisk. Masonic symbols are abundant at Staten Island Cemetery. One such example is found on the monument of William H. Lisk, who died on December 1, 1887. There are many burials/gravestones that predate the official opening of Staten Island Cemetery in 1847. The oldest standing headstone in is in Lot 142; it is to the memory of Joshua W. Bird, who died January 27, 1832.

Trinity Chapel Cemetery

Originally fronting on Richmond Terrace along the eastern edge of Staten Island Cemetery, Trinity Chapel opened in 1802. Today, Trinity Chapel Cemetery is a small oblong plot nestled on the west by Staten Island Cemetery, on the north by Rogers Surveyor, on the east by Tompkins Court and on the south by Fountain and Staten Island Cemeteries. Originally less than one acre, today it is approximately thirty feet wide by sixty feet long.

There are approximately fifty headstones standing in Trinity Chapel Cemetery. Most are illegible as they are marble and the epitaphs have been worn off by environmental conditions, neglect, and vandalism. The oldest known standing gravestone is to the memory of Anne Cubberly, who died on June 18, 1806.

Many of the Trinity Chapel Cemetery interments were relocated in 1870, when construction began on the Church of the Ascension, which replaces the Trinity Chapel. These burials were reinterred elsewhere on the three cemetery properties. The last burial at Trinity Chapel Cemetery took place in 1963, when a woman was interred alongside her husband. In 2000, Trinity Chapel Cemetery was placed under the care of the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation.

Fountain Cemetery

Fountain Cemetery borders the eastern edge of Staten Island Cemetery and extends eastward to Tompkins Court and Van Street. Corporal Thompson Park is on the southern border, while the northern portion of the cemetery lies next to Rogers Surveyor and the Trinity Chapel Cemetery. The land is flat. Towering trees stand in the burial ground as do ornamental specimens.

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Fountain Cemetery was established on January 1, 1866, although burials took place before this date, including that of Henry Fountain who was interred in 1863. Mr. Fountain had previously purchased a three and one-tenth acre tract in 1827. Around 1865, the land was divided into grave plots. Incorporation took place on June 25, 1874. Fountain Cemetery is now approximately four and one-half acres. The last burial is believed to have occurred in the 1950s.

There are approximately seven hundred headstones & footstones in Fountain Cemetery. Marble and granite headstones are regularly placed throughout Fountain Cemetery. Many obelisks are present at Fountain Cemetery including the crowned solid granite monument to the Buhl family (not to be confused with the Buel family). The plot is surrounded by small granite pillars and round metal rails. Seven footstones surround the obelisk.

The Gothic tablet headstone of Alida Ellison and her infant son James is present at Fountain Cemetery. On either side of the marble stone are ornate pilasters. The grave of industrialist John Crabtree supports a Gothic cap on a towering granite obelisk. Several granite footstones are in this family plot. Two substantial granite entrance posts stand. They once held a metal access gate. Separate soaring granite obelisks in the Egyptian style stand in memory of Brigade General Alfred Duffie and Daniel Pelton at Fountain Cemetery. Each is located on a family plot that also holds several granite footstones.

The oldest standing headstone at Fountain Cemetery is located in Lot 12. It is in memory of John Meek who died on October 21, 1840.

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Statement of Significance:

The Richmond Terrace Cemeteries are eligible under Criterion A in the areas of settlement and social history for their ability to provide information about the settlement and nineteenth-century history of the New Brighton area of Staten Island. The nomination comprises three contiguous burial grounds - Trinity Chapel, Staten Island, and Fountain Cemeteries – with intermingled histories and permeable boundaries. The cemeteries, which developed generally during the same time period, served a mix of cultural and ethnic groups who helped to found the Factoryville/West New Brighton area, an industrial and commercial location that was established around Barrett, Tileston and Company, a concern that opened around 1820. Factoryville was the first industrial neighborhood on the island. Trinity Chapel Cemetery, the earliest of the three cemeteries, developed prior to the industrial era and was the burial ground for an early Episcopal church, Trinity Chapel, built in 1802 (no longer extant); when the church was demolished, some of its interments were moved into the Staten Island Cemetery. Staten Island Cemetery, officially established in 1851, contains interments related to several different groups. In the 1840s West New Brighton saw an influx of Irish immigrants who sought employment in the neighborhood's prospering factories; many lived nearby and are buried in State Island Cemetery. A Public Poor Ground was also developed to the far rear of Staten Island Cemetery to serve children, all under the age of two, beginning in the 1850s. However, Staten Island Cemetery also incorporates an earlier African American cemetery founded by Joseph Ryerss, who established a family burial ground, or a Homestead Graveyard, on his property in 1829. African Americans were buried in the Staten Island Cemetery until 1847. No headstones from this early cemetery survive, but its location was documented by Staten Island historians in the 1920s. Staten Island Cemetery also retains evidence of its 1851 design by a "Mr. Charlton." The natural topography and vegetation of the property was preserved and it retains a parklike setting. As a non-sectarian neighborhood cemetery established during the nineteenth century, Fountain Cemetery was a choice burial ground for the ordinary resident. People from all nationalities, races, and religions are buried within the cemetery. Together, these three cemeteries document all aspects of nineteenth and early twentieth century settlement in this neighborhood.

These three burial sites are additionally significant under Criterion C in the area of funerary art, as they reflect the evolution of the practice in the northeastern United States from the early nineteenth century to the mid twentieth century. Markers denote the change in both material and design that occurred during these time periods and examples of many differ popular motifs survive. A period of significance has been established at 1802, the date of the establishment of Trinity Cemetery, to 1969, the date of the last interment at Staten Island Cemetery. Documentation suggests that the site also has the potential for significance under Criterion D in the area Archeology because of Trinity Cemetery's possible significance as a site of Native American burials. Although the site has been documented in literature, at this time the requisite level of testing has not been completed to support an archeological nomination.^[1]

^[1] The Trinity burying was documented by historians William T. Davis and Charles W. Leng in 1923. The historians wrote that "skeletons flexed in Indian fashion" along with some Native American implements were discovered when a parish house for the Church of the Ascension was built in 1903.^[1] ("Indian Fashion" refers to the customs of placing bodies on their sides, with knees up, sometimes with the hands of the deceased covering their faces. This body position has been found in a half dozen locations on the island.) The waterfront directly in front of these burial grounds was also a documented Native American fishing village. There has been no further testing at this site to verify the 1923 claim.

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Factoryville/ West New Brighton

Historically, Fountain, Staten Island and Trinity Chapel Cemeteries as a group were often referred to as the Factoryville Cemeteries, since the surrounding area was known as Factoryville from around 1836 through the 1860s. It was an industrial and commercial location that was established around Barrett, Tileston and Company, a concern that opened around 1820. This business dyed and cleaned various types of material during its long history. In 1871, the community was officially renamed West New Brighton. During the nineteenth century West New Brighton was a bustling location with a ferry landing on the Kill Van Kull (a river that runs between Staten Island and New Jersey, it is approximately 1000 feet from the nominated properties). Numerous successful nineteenth century manufactories were established in the community, while transportation along the Shore Road (now Richmond Terrace) in front of the cemeteries was evolving from horse car to rapid transit trains and trolley cars. Prominent citizens, including industrialists and sea captains, resided in mansions along the nearby shorefront, while laborers and maritime workers lived in modest housing in the area.

Staten Island Settlement and Early Burial Practices

The first Europeans came to Staten Island in 1639, but this and subsequent attempts at establishing a permanent residence were thwarted by conflict with the Native Americans who lived on the island. The Lenape, meaning "Original People," were of the Algonkin tribe. Early burial practices after permanent settlement by the Europeans in 1661 initially consisted of burial on lands that were granted to individuals by the Dutch governing authorities. In 1664, the English took over what would eventually become New York City (including Staten Island), with the result that additional land grants were distributed on the island. The cemeteries established on some of the grants and other large properties were called Homestead Graveyards. No known seventeenth century Homestead Graveyard markers exist on Staten Island today, but several Homestead Graveyards have survived.

During the seventeenth century graveyards were established at religious institutions on Staten Island. These included "The French Church" at what is now Green Ridge and the "Burial Place" at what is now Port Richmond. In 1716, the Dutch Reformed Church officially opened a place of worship at this location. The congregation actually dates to at least 1696.¹ The burial ground may have commenced as a Homestead Graveyard for the Corson family. In 1712, the Church of Saint Andrew and its cemetery officially opened for the Episcopalians of Staten Island. The formal organization of the parish dates to 1708.² A burial ground was established on Staten Island by the United Brethren's Church in 1763. It began on land where burials were occurring as early as 1740.³ Around 1787, Methodists built the first Woodrow United Methodist Church and Cemetery. Roman Catholic and Baptist burial grounds were established in the mid-nineteenth century.

Burial of the deceased continued at the previously mentioned cemeteries and in the already established homestead graveyards during the nineteenth century. Early institutional facilities and affiliated cemeteries were

¹ Leng and Davis, *Staten Island and Its People*, Volume 1, 437.

² *Ibid.*, 434.

³ *Ibid.*, Volume 2, 984 and 986.

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also established on the island. These included the Quarantine Station (opened 1799), the Seaman's Retreat (opened 1831), Sailors' Snug Harbor (opened 1833), the Mission of the Immaculate Virgin for the Protection of Homeless and Destitute Children (cemetery established 1885) and others provided important burial areas for residents and employees. In response to a law forbidding burial in Manhattan after 1851, cemeteries on Staten Island saw a significant increase in the interment of off-island individuals. This generally affected Jewish burials and was also a response to the belief that all were entitled to the blessing of a burial. For this reason Silver Lake Cemetery was established in that community on Staten Island by the Hebrew Free Burial Association in 1892.

Staten Island Cemetery (1829, 1847-1969)

Staten Island Cemetery was officially established in 1847, by the prominent Staten Island attorney Lot C. Clarke. It was incorporated on December 4, 1851. A landscape architect known as Mr. Charlton designed the graveyard. However, interments took place on the land that would become Staten Island Cemetery as far back as at least 1829.

The Staten Island Cemetery was the first inter-racial cemetery on Staten Island. *OK*. It was founded by African American Joseph Ryerss when he established a family burial ground, or a Homestead Graveyard, on his property. This is the first known African-American Homestead Graveyard on Staten Island. The earliest known burial occurred in 1829, when another Joseph Ryerss was interred. No headstones exist for the Ryerss Homestead Graveyard owing to atmospheric or environmental conditions or perhaps to vandalism. Early grave markers were made of wood, which disintegrates, or fieldstones, which were often moved or removed. Only more expensive markers exist owing to the improved material used for such purposes. Strong documentation of the existence of the graveyard is extant from a study and report by Staten Island's *most reliable* historians, William T. Davis, Charles W. Leng, and Royden W. Vosburgh. In 1923, they undertook a thorough review of Staten Island, Fountain and Trinity Chapel cemeteries. The report from this study was published in 1924. They verified that the earliest recorded burial at what would become Staten Island Cemetery occurred in 1829, after the first Joseph Ryerss died on April 10.⁴ Ryerss family members Margaret, who died on May 2, 1835, and Samuel, who died on March 20, 1837, were later interred.⁵

On April 24, 1811, the second Joseph Ryerss, who was a slave, went before Judge David Mersereau of Richmond County.⁶ Ryerss presented the last Will and Testament of his owner Judge Gozen Ryerss, who was dead. This document stated that upon the judge's death Joseph would be set free and he was. This Joseph Ryerss owned and farmed the land that is now Staten Island Cemetery until his death around 1845. He was eighty-two years old and was buried in the already established Homestead Graveyard. His property was originally owned by relative Henry Ryerss, who had bought one-and-one half acres from James and Mary Barton in 1811. Again in 1815, Henry bought three-tenths of an acre behind Trinity Chapel from Benajah Leffingwell.

African-American Nicholas "Klaus" De Hart was born a slave on May 8, 1800. He died on November 29, 1885, at the age of eighty-five and was buried at Staten Island Cemetery as were other members of his family. Mr. De

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Morris, *Memorial History of Staten Island*, Volume 2, 39.

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Hart's funeral was attended by many of the most well respected individuals on the north shore of Staten Island. Among other jobs, Mr. De Hart was a cook on the steamboat *Bolona*, a vessel piloted by Cornelius Vanderbilt.

As part of the New York State Rural Cemetery Act of 1847, Attorney Lot C. Clark purchased land from the estate of African-American Joseph Ryerss for the purpose of creating a cemetery. While no formal plan for the cemetery exists, the natural topography and vegetation of the property was preserved during the nineteenth century to provide a park-like setting.

Burials continued at Staten Island Cemetery while the industrial revolution was flourishing on Staten Island and throughout the United States. Factoryville was the first industrial neighborhood on the island. In the 1840s West New Brighton saw an influx of Irish immigrants who sought employment in the prospering factories. Many lived in a shanty town at the corner of what is now Broadway and Richmond Terrace—less than a thousand feet from the entrance to Staten Island Cemetery. Their presence created the need for a unique immigrant burial ground for the babies and the mothers who perished in the community. For this reason the Staten Island Cemetery Association felt compelled to allocate land for their interment so a Childs Lot/Cemetery was created by the Staten Island Cemetery Association on the cemetery grounds. A Public Poor Ground was also developed in rows/single graves to the far rear of Staten Island Cemetery. The children, all under the age of two, were buried in the back of the cemetery beginning in the 1850s. By the 1890s the Childs Lot had expanded into a former factory pond that had been used by Barrett, Tileston and Company and then land-filled.⁷ For this reason the nominated cemeteries have a direct connection to the massive nineteenth century immigration of Irish residents who were fleeing Ireland owing to starvation during the Potato Famine(s) of the 1840s. In addition, babies who died at the Nursery and Child's Hospital, once located at Castleton Corners, Staten Island from the late 1860s through 1905 were also interred at Staten Island Cemetery.⁸ This hospital is representative of the fact that Staten Island was a long time location for health facilities affiliated with Manhattan institutions whose residents did not want this "type" of individual (unwed mothers, immigrants, or patients with infectious diseases) in their "backyards." Staten Island Cemetery is also the final resting place for several deceased tuberculosis patients who died at Sea View Hospital, the tuberculosis sanitarium opened on Staten Island in 1913. These burials were at the expense of the families.⁹

Staten Island Cemetery holds a number of headstones that were originally placed in Homestead Graveyards. Re-erected in a haphazard manner in Lot 102, individuals with the surnames of LaForge, Johnson, Barnet, Decker and others are represented. It is not known which Homestead Graveyard once held these stones or if the bodies were reinterred.¹⁰

Already accommodating soldiers who participated in the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, Staten Island, Trinity Chapel, and Fountain Cemeteries became the final resting place for at least one hundred and twenty

⁷ Rogers, *Staten Island Cemetery*, 3 and Rogers, emails, February 10, 2015 and June 25, 2015.

⁸ Ibid., February 10, 2015.

⁹ Rogers, email, March 12, 2015.

¹⁰ Ibid., Davis, Leng and Vosburgh, 100-102.

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known Civil War veterans, and for men who fought in the First World War. A burial area to accommodate indigent veterans was also created at Staten Island Cemetery.¹¹

Twelve Civil War United States Government issued markers were retrieved from abandonment within Staten Island and Fountain Cemeteries. They have been professionally and accurately reinstalled. A Grand Army of the Republic monument was installed in 1866, by GAR Post #524. It was located at the entrance of Staten Island Cemetery. The plaque was replaced on Memorial Day, May 27, 1934, when the Mary Todd Lincoln Tent #42 of the Daughters of the Union Veterans of the Civil War presented a new bronze plaque to Mr. John R. Holland, one of three surviving Staten Island Civil War veterans. In 2003, a replacement plaque was installed by the Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries of Staten Island. It is the only Civil War monument on Staten Island.

Post #524 of the Grand Army of the Republic also purchased four plots for indigent Veterans at Staten Island Cemetery. For more than fifty years Staten Island Cemetery was the final destination of many Staten Island Memorial Day Parades. The Grand Army of the Republic, Port Richmond Post, would proudly parade down the terrace to highlight the contribution of war dead and living veterans.

Architect Edward Sargent, who married Thomas Doubleday's daughter Mary, was one of Staten Island's most well respected architects. It was General Abner Doubleday, once credited as the founder of baseball, and a career military man in the United States Artillery, who actually walked his niece Mary down the aisle of Trinity Church in Manhattan in 1870, when she married Edward Sargent. The ceremony was held in Manhattan since the Church of the Ascension (on the site of the former Trinity Chapel) on Staten Island was being constructed. Born in England in 1842, Edward Sargent is known for the unique Staten Island houses he designed in the Queen Anne style and for the public school buildings he planned for the City of New York. Edward Sargent died on February 25, 1914, and was buried at Staten Island Cemetery.

The unsurpassed success of the Barrett, Tileston and Company, which opened around 1820, caused the owners to import individuals with a specialized knowledge of textile printing. For this reason British trade men such as silk printer John Crabtree arrived in 1839. He was to oversee all silk printing at the plant. Around 1843 or 1844 Crabtree opened his own silk printing business. After 1848, it was called Crabtree and Wilkinson. A commercial success. the company specialized in the manufacture of silk handkerchiefs and bandannas. By 1855, 183 individuals labored at the factory. Crabtree died in 1863, but the company continued into the early 1870s, first under Wilkinson's supervision and then under other members of the Crabtree family.¹² Both industrialists, John Crabtree and James Wilkinson, are buried in Staten Island Cemetery, as are members of their immediate families.

A prominent marker in Staten Island Cemetery commemorates the life and death of Colonel Nathan Barrett, War of 1812, whose ancestors began Barrett, Tileston and Company. Barrett worked for the original West New Brighton firm, but became disenchanted with its management. In response he established Barrett, Nephews &

¹¹ Ibid., Rogers, *Staten Island Cemetery*, 4.

¹² Sachs, *Made on Staten Island*, 38.

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Company's Staten Island Fancy Dyeing Establishment in 1851, at what is now Forest and Barrett Avenues in Port Richmond. His plant was in direct competition with the works in West New Brighton (by now the company was referred to as the New York Dyeing and Printing Establishment). This modern facility was an immediate success. By the 1880s the original Factoryville concern began to fail and during the early 1890s it was bought by outside investors who merged it with Colonel Nathan Barrett's factory. Making the historical location the site of their new enterprise in 1895, they dubbed the factory "Barrett, Nephews & Company, Old Staten Island Dyeing Establishment Inc." At the turn of the twentieth century five hundred individuals worked at the factory. The company thrived until the arrival of the Great Depression when it was forced to close.

By the 1920s Staten Island Cemetery was mostly filled. During the Great Depression families stopped paying assessment charges, thus the association had little income. The cemetery lingered during the 1940s and was officially abandoned to the City of New York in 1954. The last recorded burial took place at Staten Island Cemetery in 1969.

Fountain Cemetery (1866-1950s)

As a non-sectarian neighborhood cemetery during the nineteenth century, Fountain Cemetery was a choice burial ground for the ordinary resident. People from all nationalities, races, and religions are buried within the cemetery. The cemetery was named after Henry Fountain, whose ancestor Ester Delhail Luten/Martineau was the wife of Walraven Luten. This individual was among the nineteen settlers who received permission from Peter Stuyvesant to organize what became the first permanent settlement on Staten Island in 1661.¹³ Henry's ancestors were part of the seventeenth century Huguenot settlement on Staten Island. A veteran, Henry Fountain served during the War of 1812. Fountain's twenty-four-year-old son Edwin died from injuries and disease sustained in the Civil War. Both men are buried at Fountain Cemetery. Among the notable individuals interred in Fountain Cemetery is Brigadier General Alfred Duffie, a native of France who married into the Pelton family of Staten Island. Before his immigration to America, Duffie served in the French armed forces during the Crimean War. After arriving in the United States, he joined the Union Army at the commencement of the Civil War and eventually rose through the ranks to Brigadier General. After the war he was appointed United States Consul to Cadiz, Spain. Duffie died in Spain from tuberculosis on November 8, 1880, and was returned to Staten Island for burial at Fountain Cemetery.¹⁴

Staten Island's connection to both the military and to maritime activities is well represented at the burial ground as symbolized by the headstone of Captain Peter Burbank in Lot #127 in Fountain Cemetery which reads:

"In memory of a veteran of 1812, Captain Peter Burbank died March 7 1873, aged 78 years 7 months and 15 days. 'Rest Dear Husband, Father rest, Thy toilsome Voyage of life is o'er, Storms are past, thy Anchor's cast, Where winds and storms shall blow no more.'"¹⁵ The last burial to take place at Fountain Cemetery occurred in the 1950s.

¹³ Rogers, *Fountain Cemetery*, 2.

¹⁴ Morris, Volume 2, 213.

¹⁵ Rogers, email, March 9, 2015.

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Trinity Chapel Cemetery (1802-1963)

Trinity Chapel Church and Cemetery was established by the Church of Saint Andrew's, the first Episcopalian Church on Staten Island. As the population of Staten Island grew, it was determined that the north shore of the island needed an Episcopalian presence. Trinity Chapel was planned and then opened in 1802. In 1870/1871, the wooden Trinity Chapel was demolished to build the Church of the Ascension. This required a section of burial grounds be removed, with most reinterred at Staten Island Cemetery. Relocation of interments took place again in 1903, when a parish house was built.¹⁶ The Church of the Ascension relocated to central Staten Island in 1929. This led to the permanent abandonment of the church and its cemetery. A fire in 1954 destroyed the 1870s church and parish house, wreaking havoc on the burial ground when firefighters drove their trucks through the cemetery and destroying many of the headstones. The last burial at Trinity Chapel Cemetery took place in 1963, when a wife was interred with her husband per her living request.¹⁷

Funerary Art

The nominated properties should be considered under Criteria C as they embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction with high artistic values. Within the cemeteries the evolution of funerary art in the nineteenth and twentieth century's is visible. Sandstone markers replaced the field stones and boards that are no longer present while marble replaced sandstone for longevity. Originally marble stones were upright slabs. Bases were soon utilized for added strength. Granite was the final stone selected for lasting monuments.

Early headstones were generally plain, simple rectangular tablets. In Fountain Cemetery and the southern half of Staten Island Cemetery graves are placed close together.

As the nineteenth century progressed, funerary art evolved from simple engravings and epitaphs to various shapes with meanings. For this reason lambs sometimes mark the graves of children, obelisks mark the graves of the prominent, while urns, some draped, are believed to note the death of the body and the dust to which it returns. To some, the neoclassical urn means the immortality of the afterlife. At Staten Island and Fountain Cemeteries it is the powerful whose tombstones bear urns. These include members of the Van Pelt, Butler and Van Name families. All are made of granite with the Butler and Van Name memorials made from the unique pink granite that was specifically shipped from New Mexico. All three have urns are placed atop obelisks.

The Van Name and Butler plots are demarcated by decorative, standing granite pillars that hold metal railings. They form fences to disassociate the interred from neighboring graves. The plots are side by side. The family names on each of the monuments are presented in raised upper case letters. This is the case with most large monuments in the burial ground although the main obelisk in the Crabtree plot has a deeply engraved, unique family name at its base.

¹⁶ Ibid., Rogers, email, March 9, 2015.

¹⁷ Trinity Chapel is the site of the reported Native American burial ground. See footnote 1.

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Richmond Terrace Cemeteries

Name of Property

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The floral encrusted crowned tablets of the Barrett and Van Pelt plots are specialized examples of funerary art found from the 1850s to the 1870s. Masonic symbols are also common at Staten Island Cemetery while burial markers of the American Legion and Veteran's of Foreign Wars are placed graveside.

Headstones at the graveyards display a disparity in size thus noting the differing economic groups present in the area. There are twelve standard United States Government marble headstones placed at the graves of Civil War Veterans. These tablets were installed for Union soldiers per an 1879 law passed by Congress which stated that veterans interred in private cemeteries were entitled to the same stones provided in national cemeteries. These headstones were mounted between 1879 and 1903. The markers indicate the name of the deceased, as well as his rank, company and regiment. This information is placed in a depressed shield shape on the headstone. More than two dozen iron star shaped Grand Army of the Republic flag holders were unearthed at the cemetery. One stands at the front entrance of Staten Island Cemetery. The remainder are stored.

Headstone orientation at the cemeteries is generally facing west but there are numerous stones that face south and east. This orientation likely has more to do with the graves facing the Tompkins Court entrance and the move towards clustering burials around a prominent family marker in a demarcated family plot. The layout may have occurred because the cemeteries had nowhere to expand as the area became more industrialized and residential. Many interments were moved into Fountain and Staten Island Cemeteries from the Trinity Chapel Cemetery while others were relocated from other Staten Island burial grounds. They may have been placed at any open space that was available.

Conclusion

With the last burials occurring in 1969 for Staten Island Cemetery; in the 1950s at Fountain Cemetery; and in 1963 at the Trinity Chapel Cemetery, the three cemeteries were abandoned for at least forty-six years. In 1980 the Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries of Staten Island (FACSI) was formed to oversee the rehabilitation of the burial grounds. Major milestones were reached in 2003, with the help of the Richmond County Savings Foundation and other funders who granted FACSI close to \$800,000 over the next twelve years. This money allowed FACSI to purchase sturdy metal fencing, upright several hundred stones/monuments, remove over one hundred invasive trees, repave the entrance to Staten Island Cemetery, hire the necessary heavy equipment to re-establish original pathways and remove tons of natural and unnatural debris. Much has been accomplished over the past thirty five years by the not-for-profit, Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries of Staten Island, Inc.

Trinity Chapel, Staten Island and Fountain Cemeteries provide a primary source of genealogical and biographical data through tombstone epitaphs, and because the original cemetery burial logs, cemetery association minute notes, and correspondence records have been preserved and are accessible through the Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries of Staten Island. Corroborating and additional information is also available in the records of Staten Island coroners and funeral homes that are in the care of the Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries of Staten Island (FACSI). Many of these records have been microfilmed and are archived at the Staten Island Museum. Digitized and transcribed information is available free of charge online at rootsweb.com.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The three cemeteries together are roughly in the shape of an “L” and have since the later 20th century evolved into one larger burial site – their boundaries now only loosely demarcated. The boundaries that enclose the three sites are Richmond Terrace on the north, a commercial parcel at the north and east, the rear of residential parcels that face Alaska Street to the west, Corporal Thompson Park on the south, and Tompkins Court & Van Street at the southeast. Combined, the cemeteries equal approximately seven acres.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes that lands associated with the establishment of the three sites. The boundary is indicated by the heavy black line on the enclosed mapping.

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Richmond Terrace Cemeteries

Name of Property

Richmond County, New York

County and State

Richmond Terrace Cemeteries
Staten Island, Richmond Co., NY

1562 Richmond Terrace
Staten Island, NY 10310



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: North American 1983
Units: Meter



Richmond Terr.



Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation

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Richmond Terrace Cemeteries

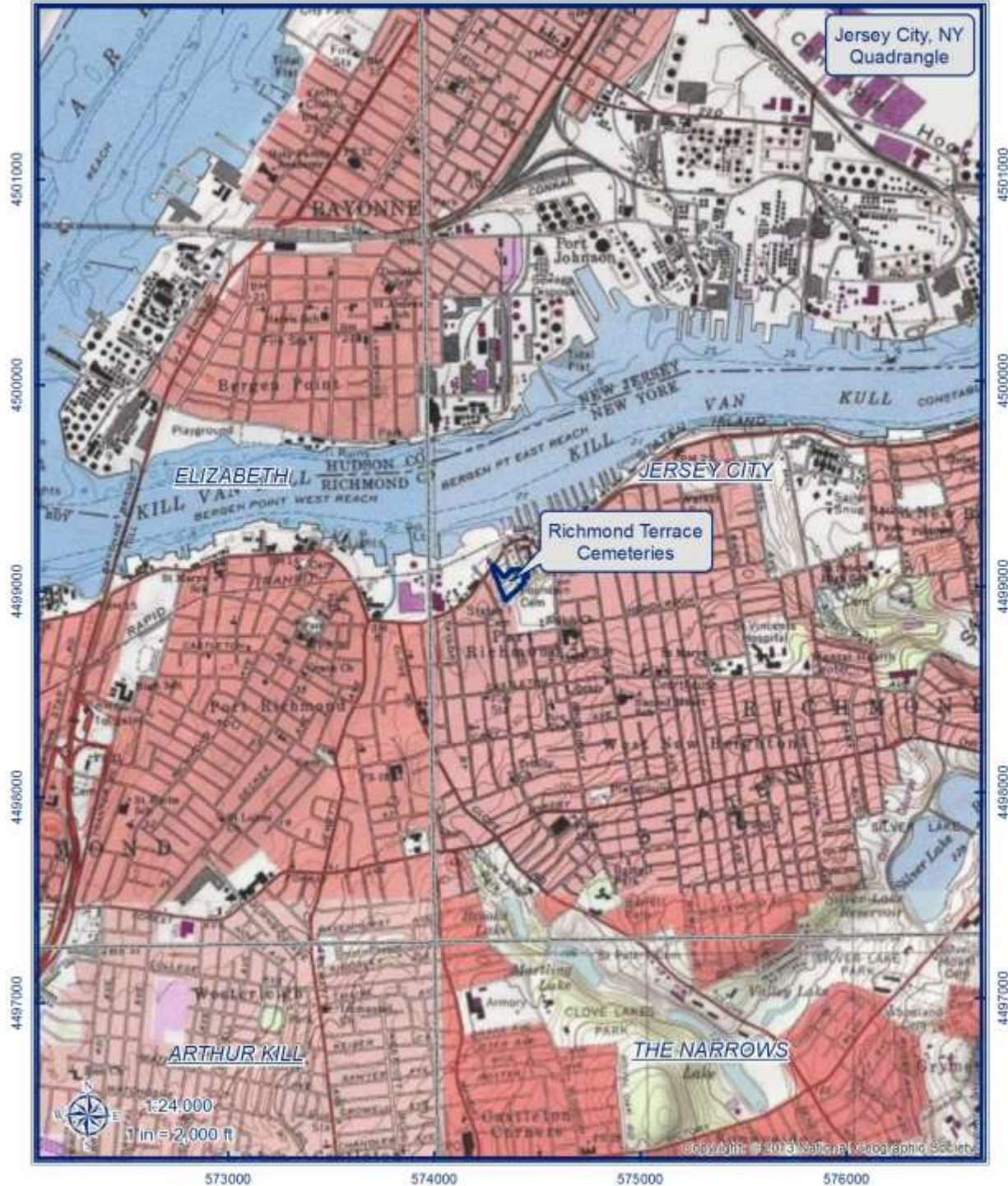
Name of Property

Richmond County, New York

County and State

Richmond Terrace Cemeteries
Staten Island, Richmond Co., NY

1562 Richmond Terrace
Staten Island, NY 10310



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N
Projection: Transverse Mercator
Datum: North American 1983
Units: Meter

0 650 1,300 2,600 Feet



Richmond Terr.



Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation

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Richmond Terrace Cemeteries

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Additional Information

Photos List

- 1: Front of Fountain Cemetery
- 2: 27: Front of Fountain Cemetery, Brigadier General Alfred Duffie
- 3: 32: Middle of Fountain Cemetery, Bement family
- 4: 33: Front - side of Fountain Cemetery, Barrett
- 5: 39: Middle of Staten Island Cemetery
- 6: 42: Front off main pathway-Staten Island Cemetery, pink granite
- 7: 44: Front General area of the Staten Island Cemetery
- 8: 46: Mid Front General Area of the Staten Island Cemetery
- 9: 03: Front Staten Island Cemetery and end of Trinity Cemetery
- 10: 06: Middle General Area Staten Island Cemetery
- 11: 08: Back of Staten Island cemetery
- 12: 10: Back of Staten Island Cemetery
- 13: 11: Middle of Staten Island Cemetery
- 14: 12: West side of Staten Island Cemetery
- 15: 21: Front of Fountain Cemetery

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Appendix A – Time Line for Staten Island, Trinity Chapel and Fountain Cemeteries

1802 - Trinity Chapel Cemetery (first known burial takes place).

1829 - Ryerss Family homestead cemetery (first known burial) at Staten Island Cemetery.

1847 - Staten Island Cemetery is officially established.

1850 - Free Childs burial ground established at Staten Island Cemetery (children under two years of age).

1870/1871- Demolition of Trinity Chapel & Construction of the Church of the Ascension. Interments at Trinity relocated to Staten Island Cemetery.

1863 - First known burial takes place at what would become Fountain Cemetery.

1866 - Fountain Cemetery is officially established.

1889 - Van Street cemetery is established, later purchased by the Fountain family for one dollar.

1903 - Parish House constructed. Interments at Trinity relocated to Staten Island Cemetery.

1923 - William T. Davis, Charles W. Leng, and Royden W. Vosburgh report on the three cemeteries published.

1929 - Church of the Ascension relocates.

1950s - Last burial at Fountain Cemetery.

1954- Abandoned Church of the Ascension & Parish house destroyed by fire.

1963 - Last burial at Trinity Chapel Cemetery.

1969 - Last burial at the three cemeteries occurs at Staten Island Cemetery.

Appendix B - Current ownership:

Trinity Chapel Cemetery – New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, Staten Island Cemetery - Staten Island Cemetery Association, Fountain Cemetery - Fountain Cemetery Association

All three burial grounds are maintained by the Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries of Staten Island

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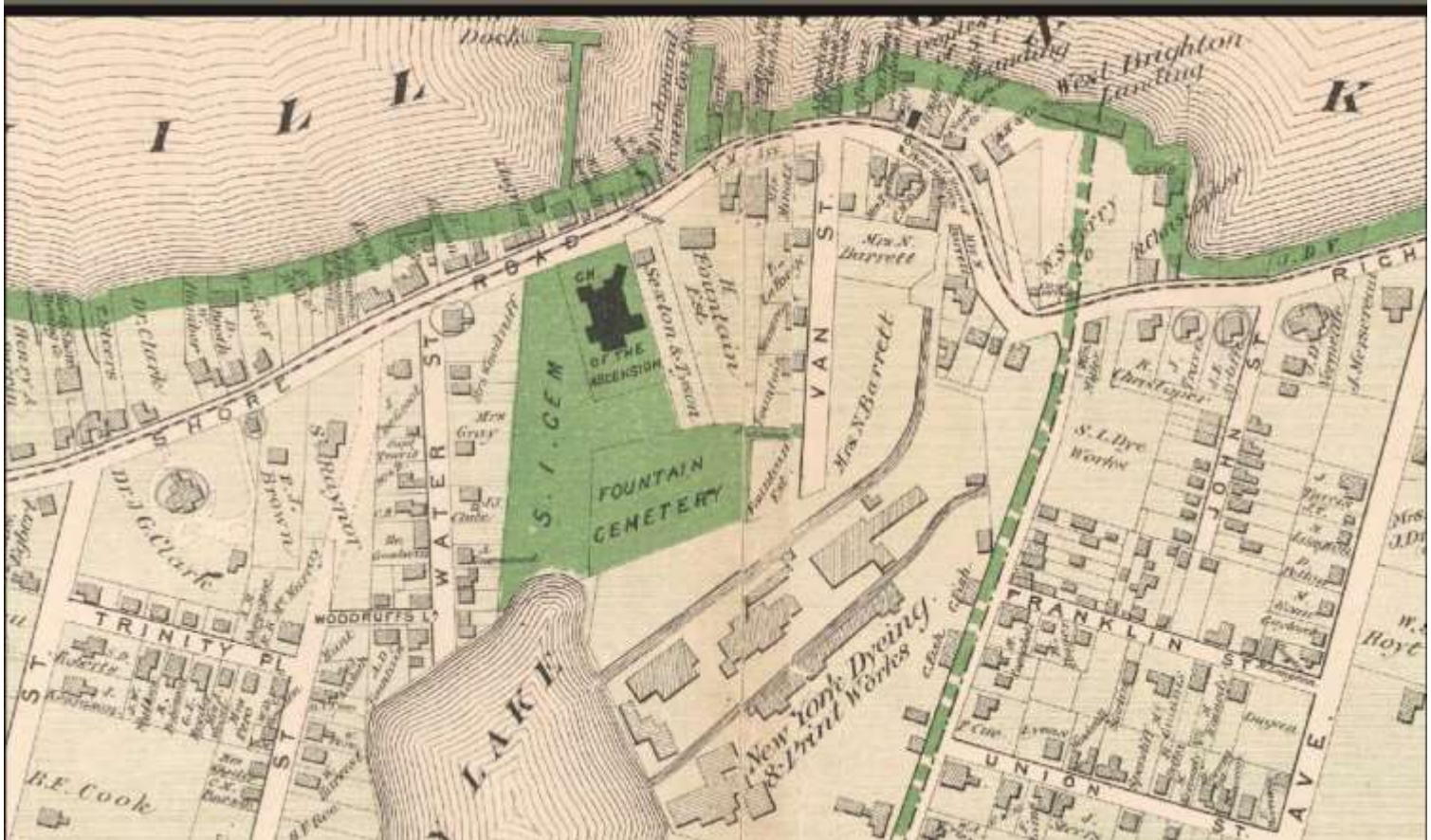
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Richmond Terrace Cemeteries

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Richmond County, New York

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1874 Beers

<http://digitalcollections.nysl.org/items/510d47e2-0b97-a3d9-e040-e00a18064a99>



1907 Robinson

<http://digitalcollections.nysl.org/items/510d47e4-733f-a3d9-e040-e00a18064a99>

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Richmond Terrace Cemeteries

Name of Property

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1871 Church of the Ascension, which replaced the Trinity Chapel. Destroyed by fire, 1954

SUSAN E
FOUNTAIN
DIED JULY 25, 1896
AGED 55 YEARS.

JOHN A FOUNTAIN
1853 — 1909



FOUNTAIN
LOT 173

FOUNTAIN
VINCENT
1806 — 1877
ELEANOR DEGROOT
1809 — 1878
EDWIN
1841 — 1864
VET. 61-64. CO. C. 12 REGT. NYV
ETHEL
1855 — 1886
IN MEMORIAM

FOUNTAIN
WILLIAM HENRY
1834 — 1897
SUSAN EMMA
1844 — 1899
JOHN AUGUSTUS
1853 — 1909
MILBURN
1851 — 1918
IN MEMORIAM



GENERAL ALFRED DUFFIE
 BORN
 MAY 1ST 1835
 DIED NOV. 6TH 1880
 MARY A.
 HIS WIFE
 BORN DEC. 3RD 1826
 DIED DEC. 2ND 1879



STELLA JENKINS BEMENT
WIFE OF
EDWARD BEMENT
BORN IN NEW YORK CITY
MARCH 4, 1812
DIED ON
STATEN ISLAND
DECEMBER 30, 1882

EDWARD BEMENT
BORN IN
SALISBURY COUNTY
APRIL 5, 1795
DIED ON
STATEN ISLAND
APRIL 27, 1866

ELEFAL MARSHALL
BEMENT,
JUNE 14, 1800.
JUNE 5, 1843.

EDWARD BEMENT,
SEPT. 6, 1836.
MAY 4, 1838.





IN
MEMORY OF
RICHARD CRABTREE
BORN
JULY 28, 1811
DIED MAY 19, 1874
AND HIS WIFE
JANE
BORN SEPT. 1, 1811
DIED JAN. 1, 1883
CRABTREE

SUTCLIFFE
GEORGE SUTCLIFFE
1826 - 1894
MARTHA HIS WIFE
1823 - 1907
LAWRENCE THEIR SON
1858 - 1877

JOHN CRABTREE
BORN MAY 13, 1823
DIED MARCH 17, 1883
ALICE CRABTREE
BORN 1828
DIED 1883
CRABTREE

JAMES HUDSON CRABTREE
JAN. 8, 1838
FEB. 20, 1895
HIS WIFE
ANNE AUGUSTA
JAN. 29, 1838
JAN. 14, 1902

1861
1861

1861
1859

1861

1861

ANNIE

1861



LE GRAY BUTLER

DIED FEBRUARY 20 1866

AGED 47 YEARS

MARIA WIFE OF

ABRAHAM BUTLER

BORN SEPTEMBER 12 1822

DIED OCTOBER 11 1873

BUTLER



DANIEL DECKER
BORN 1838
DIED 1912
DECKER







BRAISTED



U. S. M.

U. S.

JOHN F. MOZEF

BORN

OCTOBER 5 1835

DIED

JUNE 3 1866



LEGACY
BY
JAMES
M...

SPEER

FATHER

MOTHER

HARMAN SPEER

SARAH A. SPEER

SEPT. 28, 1812.

FEB. 2, 1814.

JUNE 13, 1867.

MARCH 30, 1865.

THE LORD IS MY SHEPARD

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Richmond Terrace Cemeteries

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Richmond

DATE RECEIVED: 2/05/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 3/15/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/30/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/22/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000112

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 3-22-16 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

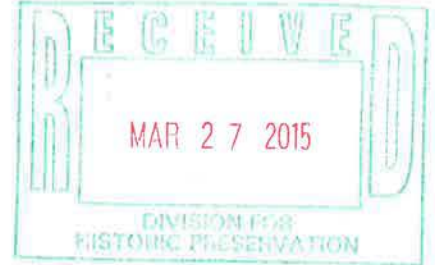
If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

Staten Island/Fountain Cemetery Association

158 Myrtle Avenue

Staten Island, New York 10310

917-545-3309 or SIcemetery@gmail.com



March 19, 2015

Mr. Daniel McEneny

Community Preservation Services Bureau

National Register & Outreach

New York State Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation

Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, NY 12188-0189

RE: Staten Island and Fountain Cemetery
Block 187 Lots 87 & 40 Richmond County, New York
National Register of Historic Places

Dear Mr. McEneny,

The Staten Island/Fountain Cemetery Association is in support of the nomination for the inclusion of Staten Island and Fountain Cemeteries in the National Register of Historic Places.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me directly 917-545-3309 or SIcemetery@gmail.com .

Sincerely,

Lynn A. Rogers

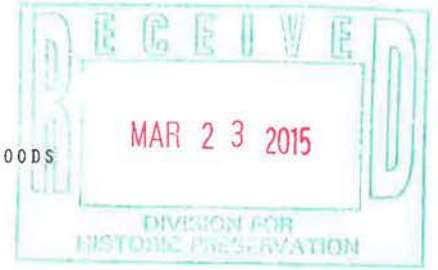
President



HISTORIC DISTRICTS COUNCIL

THE ADVOCATE FOR NEW YORK CITY'S HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOODS

232 East 11th Street New York NY 10003
tel 212-614-9107 fax 212-614-9127 e-mail hdc@hdc.org



March 19, 2015

Daniel McEneny, Community Preservation Services Bureau – National Register & Outreach
NYS Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation
Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, NY 12188-0189

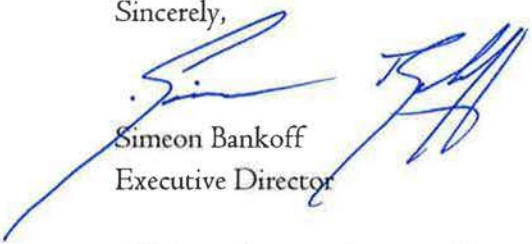
Dear Dan:

The Historic Districts Council is thrilled to support the Richmond Terrace Cemeteries' (Fountain, Staten Island, and Trinity Cemeteries) nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. This proposed nomination is the result of Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries of Staten Island's (FACSI) dedication to the forgotten grave yards that dot Staten Island. These cemeteries and those who are buried there are as old as New York City itself. The interments—from Native Americans and slaves to old Staten Island family stock—are reflective of the dynamic history and settlement patterns of Staten Island and our great City, and merit official recognition by the State and National Registers.

This National Register nomination form is a continued phase of HDC's work with FACSI as one of our priority community groups. In 2014, HDC chose historic Staten Island cemeteries as one of our Six to Celebrate, an initiative that guides communities in New York City to achieve successful neighborhood and community-based preservation campaigns. HDC continues to work with FACSI, as there are eight more historic cemeteries in its care which lack National Register status.

Thank you for all of your guidance through this process.

Sincerely,



Simeon Bankoff
Executive Director

CC: Lynn Rogers, Executive Director, Friends of Abandoned Cemeteries of Staten Island



NYC
Landmarks Preservation
Commission

Meenakshi Srinivasan
Chair

November 4, 2015

Sarah Carroll
Executive Director
SCarroll@lpc.nyc.gov

Ruth Pierpont, Deputy Commissioner
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation
P.O. Box 189
Peebles Island
Waterford, NY 12188-0189

1 Centre Street
9th Floor North
New York, NY 10007

212 669 7902 tel
212 669 7797 fax

Re: *The Richmond Terrace Cemeteries, Staten Island*

Dear Deputy Commissioner Pierpont:

I write on behalf of Chair Meenakshi Srinivasan in response to your request for comment on the eligibility of The Richmond Terrace Cemeteries, located at 1562 Richmond Terrace and 25 Van Street in Staten Island, for the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

The New York Landmarks Preservation Commission's Director of Research Mary Beth Betts has reviewed the materials submitted by the Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau and has determined that The Richmond Terrace Cemeteries appear to meet the criteria for inclusion on the State and National Registers of Historic Places. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sarah Carroll

cc: Meenakshi Srinivasan, Chair
Mary Beth Betts, Director of Research



**Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation**

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

ROSE HARVEY
Commissioner

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FEB - 5 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

27 January 2016

Alexis Abernathy
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: National Register Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to submit the following six nominations, all on disc, to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register:

Elmwood Historic District (East), Erie County
Richmond Terrace Cemeteries, Richmond County
Public Square Historic District (Boundary Expansion), Jefferson County
Persons of Color Cemetery, Columbia County
Crown Height Historic District (Boundary Increase), Kings County
The Uplands, Essex County

Please feel free to call me at 518.268.2165 if you have any questions.

Sincerely:

Kathleen LaFrank
National Register Coordinator
New York State Historic Preservation Office