

GR-02-19

Harris Family Grave Removal Petition

2937 Mt. Vernon Church Road (Falls Lake Area)

February 3, 2020



@wakegov



wakegov.com

Purpose of Grave Removal

To accommodate the sale of the property and its subsequent residential development by others and to provide better protection of the burials by relocating them to a perpetual care cemetery.

Petitioner:	Deborah Joy, Legacy Research Associates
On Behalf of:	Current property owner, E. Ace Robbins, and Tom Hankins of Marquis Homes.
Location:	2937 Mt. Vernon Church Road (PIN 0891009949)
Zoning:	Residential-40 Watershed (Falls Lake Area)
Number of Graves in Petition:	Approximately 7—Actual number cannot be determined with certainty until the site is fully excavated.

Cemetery Location

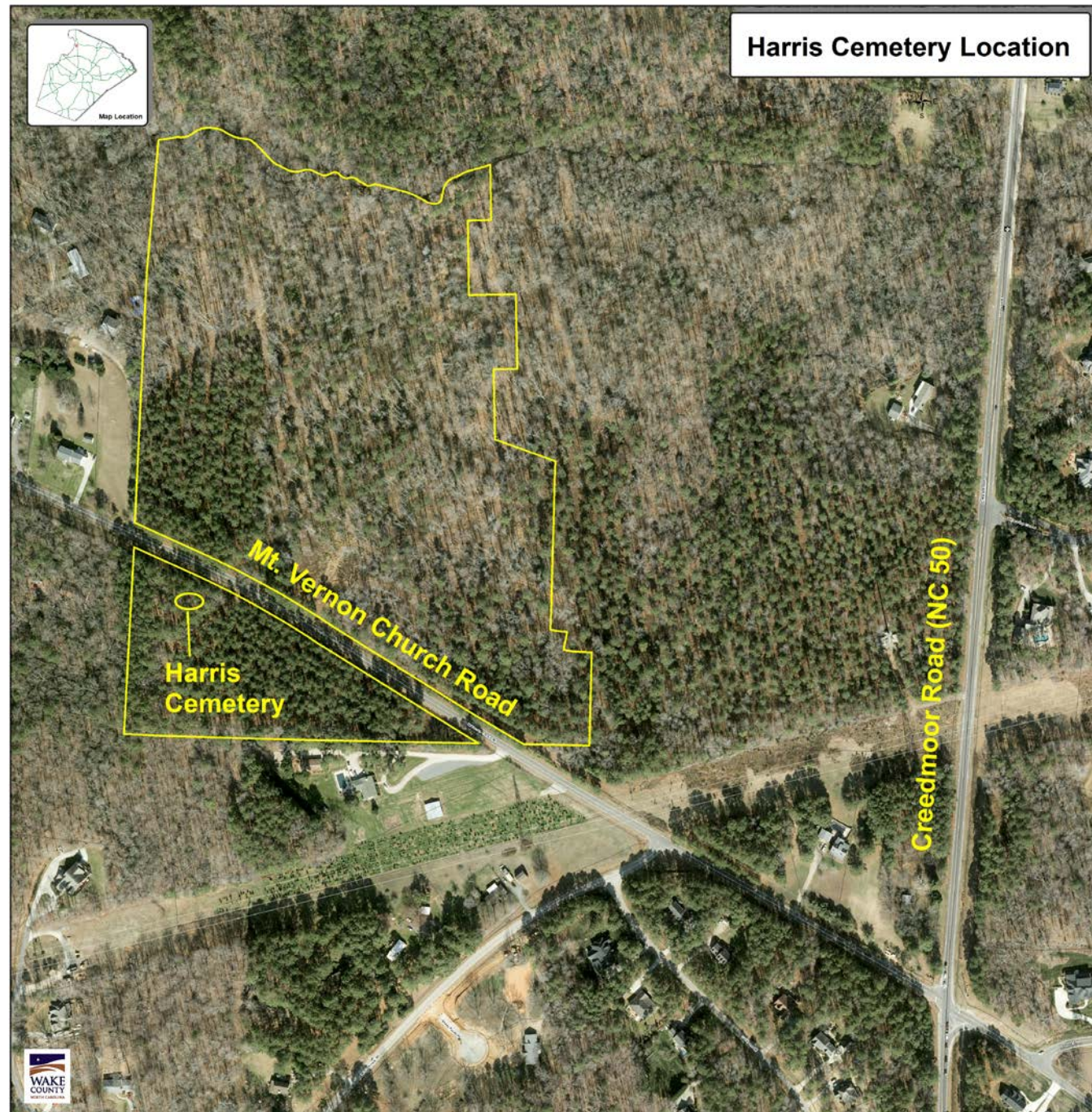




Figure 18. Harris Cemetery, view west showing Graves 5, 6, and 7 (pin flags: head pink and foot blue) and Grave 4 (Tessie Harris Evans).

Cemetery Summary

- There is one grave marked by an inscribed tombstone (Tessie Harris Evans, 1904-1927) and one marked by a temporary funeral home marker (Forrest Parker, Jr. 1960-1961).
- 5 other possible graves identified.
- The petitioner conducted extensive genealogical research of the Harris family in an effort to identify who may be buried in this cemetery.
- The petitioner confirmed the name of another family member (Ida Harris) that is buried, somewhere, in this cemetery based upon her death certificate.

Cemetery History

- No records of historical significance were found.
- Resources Consulted
 - Wake County Cemetery Census
 - Wake County GIS/Revenue Database
 - Capital Area Preservation
 - Irene Kittinger, Wake County Cemetery Survey Group

Reinterment Site

Oakwood Cemetery



Staff Findings

1. The petitioner has fulfilled all of the requirements as outlined by the North Carolina General Statutes.
2. Removal is necessary to accommodate the sale of the property and the subsequent residential development by others and to provide better protection of the burials by relocating them to a perpetual care cemetery.
3. The remains will be reinterred at Oakwood Cemetery, where they will receive perpetual care.

Staff Findings

4. All required public notifications were complied with by the petitioner and Wake County planning staff (i.e.-legal ads in the newspaper and public hearing sign posted at the site).
5. No opposition to the removal and relocation of the cemetery.
6. No evidence of any historical significance and its removal and relocation would not be detrimental to the general welfare of the County.

Public Hearing



@wakegov



wakegov.com

Planning Staff Recommendation

That the Board of Commissioners APPROVE the disinterment, relocation, and reinterment of the cemetery as requested.

GR-02-19

Harris Family Grave Removal Petition

2937 Mt. Vernon Church Road (Falls Lake Area)

February 3, 2020



@wakegov    

wakegov.com