

Historical and Archaeological Investigations to Relocate Two Unmarked Outlier Graves
at 1323 South Franklin Street, Wake Forest, Wake County, North Carolina
Parcel Identification Number (PIN) 1840551011
to the Old Cemetery of Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
at 1321 South Franklin Street, Wake Forest, Wake County, North Carolina, PIN 1840546622

Wake County Grave Removal Petition PLG-GR-002291-2020

Prepared for

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Introduction

This report details historical and archaeological research associated with two unmarked outlier graves located on land proposed by Holding Village LLC for the extension and widening of South Franklin Street as a part of the North Lake Development. ¹ The parcel where the two outlier graves are located is at 1323 South Franklin Street, Wake Forest, Wake County, North Carolina (NC), Parcel Identification Number (PIN) 1840551011. The two unmarked outlier graves are associated with the Old Cemetery of Friendship Chapel Missionary Church located at 1321 South Franklin Street (PIN 1840546622). ²

The proposed extension and widening of South Franklin Street, which necessitates the relocation of the two outlier graves, is required by the Town of Wake Forest in order to comply with the town's Comprehensive Transportation Plan. The Town of Wake Forest Comprehensive Transportation Plan requires the extension of South Franklin Street to connect two existing sections of Franklin Street and to widen the roadway to a major collector facility with four lanes, curb and gutter, and a 10-foot wide multi-use path.

The two unmarked outlier graves are "anomalies" that were identified by ground-penetrating radar (GPR) investigations conducted by Seramur and Associates on behalf of Holding Village in 2019. GPR is a non-intrusive method to survey subsurface features by sending radar signals into the ground and imaging the reflected signals as they bounce off of underground features. This method provides archaeologists with the ability to survey without excavation, to discover the likely locations of buried evidence or artifacts, and to observe changes in soil structure. GPR will reveal where an object is likely buried.

The 2019 GPR survey focused on identifying graves along the property line between Holding Village North Lake Development land with the Old Cemetery of Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. The Old Cemetery was established as a Local Historic Landmark Property by the Town of Wake Forest Historic Preservation Commission in 2017 (Appendix A - Town of Wake Forest Ordinance 2017-35).

The boundaries of Holding Village's North Lake Development and the Old Cemetery were revised after the 2019 GPR investigation identified graves or possible graves on Holding Village's property. Land swap negotiations adjusted the shared boundary so burials on Holding Village property would be incorporated within a new boundary for the Old Cemetery. Efforts to redefine the boundaries of the Old Cemetery were unable to incorporate two unmarked outlier graves on Holding Village property because they were located within the proposed right-of-way for the extension and widening of South Franklin Street. These two outlier graves that are the focus of this investigation.

Figure 1 is an excerpt of the Recombination Map showing the land swap on file with the Wake County Register of Deeds (Book of Maps 2020, Page 345). The recombination conveyed 0.17 acres shown as Areas 1, 2, and 3 to the church and 0.02 acres identified as Areas A and B to Holding Village.

¹ Holding Village LLC is also referred to in this report as "Holding Village" and "ALF Holding Village."

² Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church is also referred to in this report as "Friendship Chapel" and "Friendship Baptist Chapel."

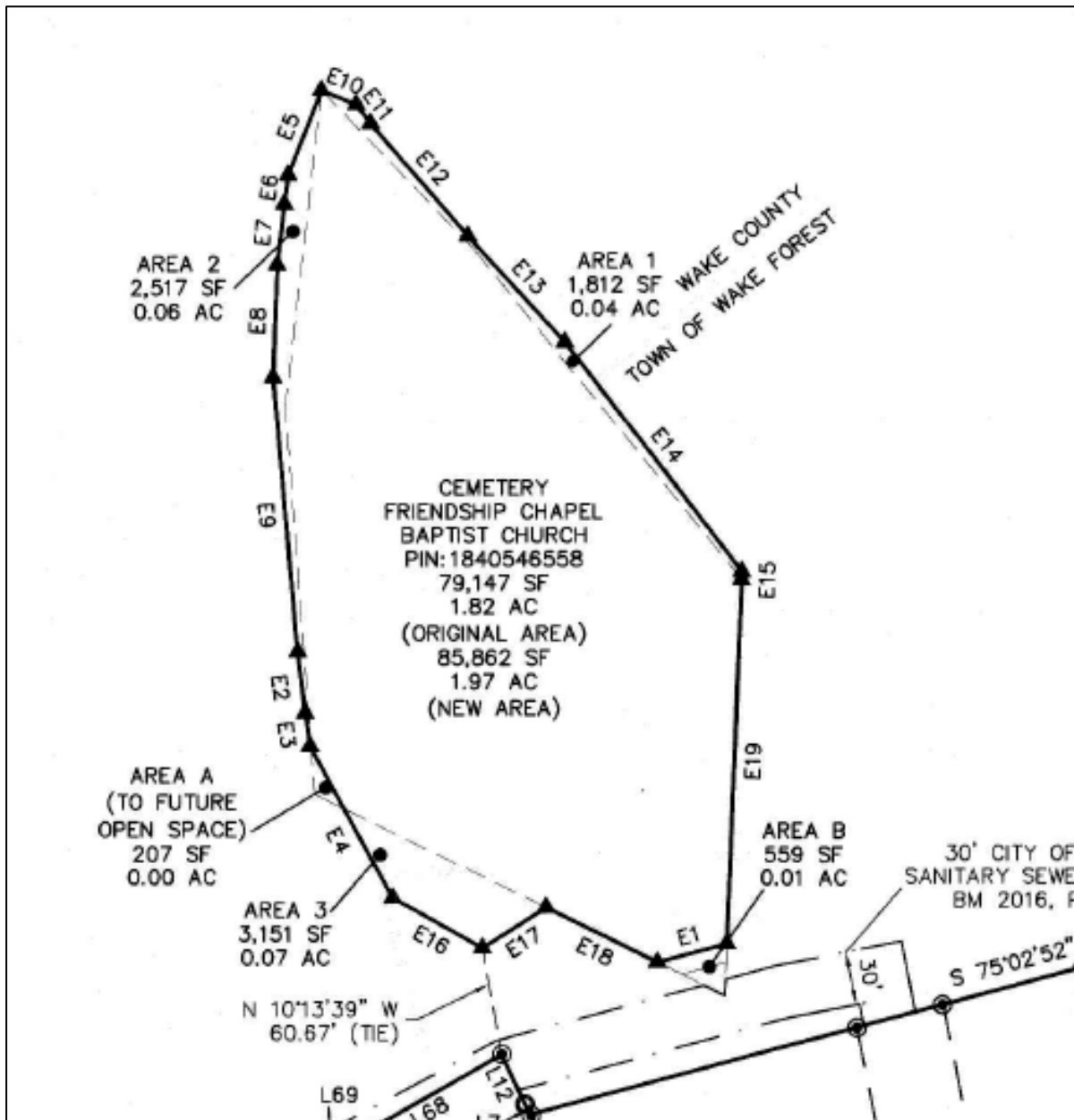


Figure 1. Excerpt of Recombination Plat showing land swaps Area A and Area B conveyed by Friendship Chapel to Holding Village and Areas 1, 2, and 3 conveyed by Holding Village to Friendship Chapel (Wake County Register of Deeds, Book of Maps 2020, Page 345).

Figure 2 shows the location and current boundaries of Holding Village's North Lake Development Property and the Old Cemetery property outlined in green and yellow, respectively.

Figure 3 shows the GPR location of the two unmarked outlier graves on Holding Village property and the reinterment location within the Old Cemetery compiled from two GPR surveys (Sarah Lowry with New South Associates 2017 and Keith Seramur with Seramur and Associates 2019). The proposed reinterment location for the two unmarked outlier graves is about 30 feet north-northeast of their current location.

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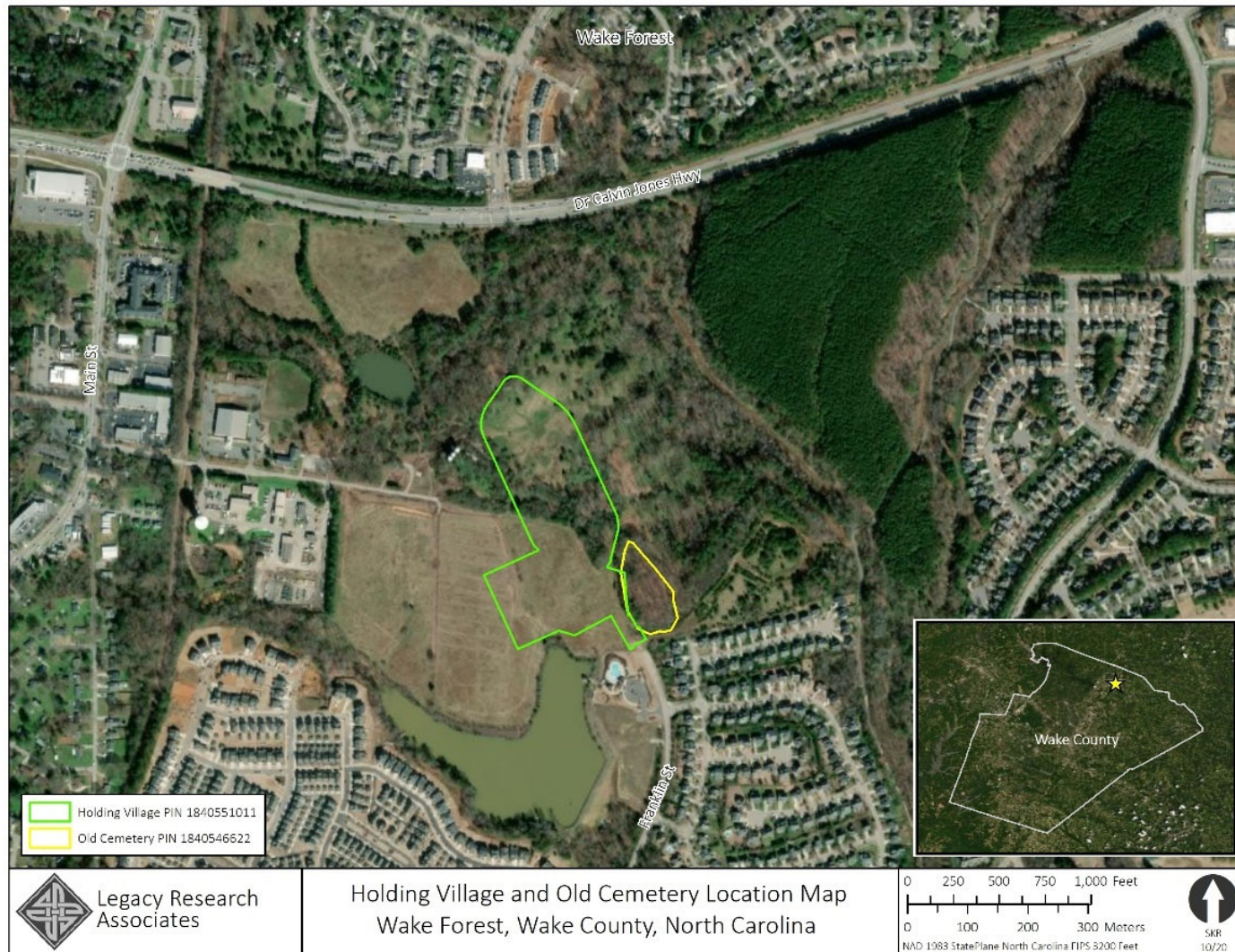


Figure 2. Map showing the location and current boundaries of Holding Village's North Lake Development property and the Old Cemetery (Base Map: USDA Aerial Image 2014).

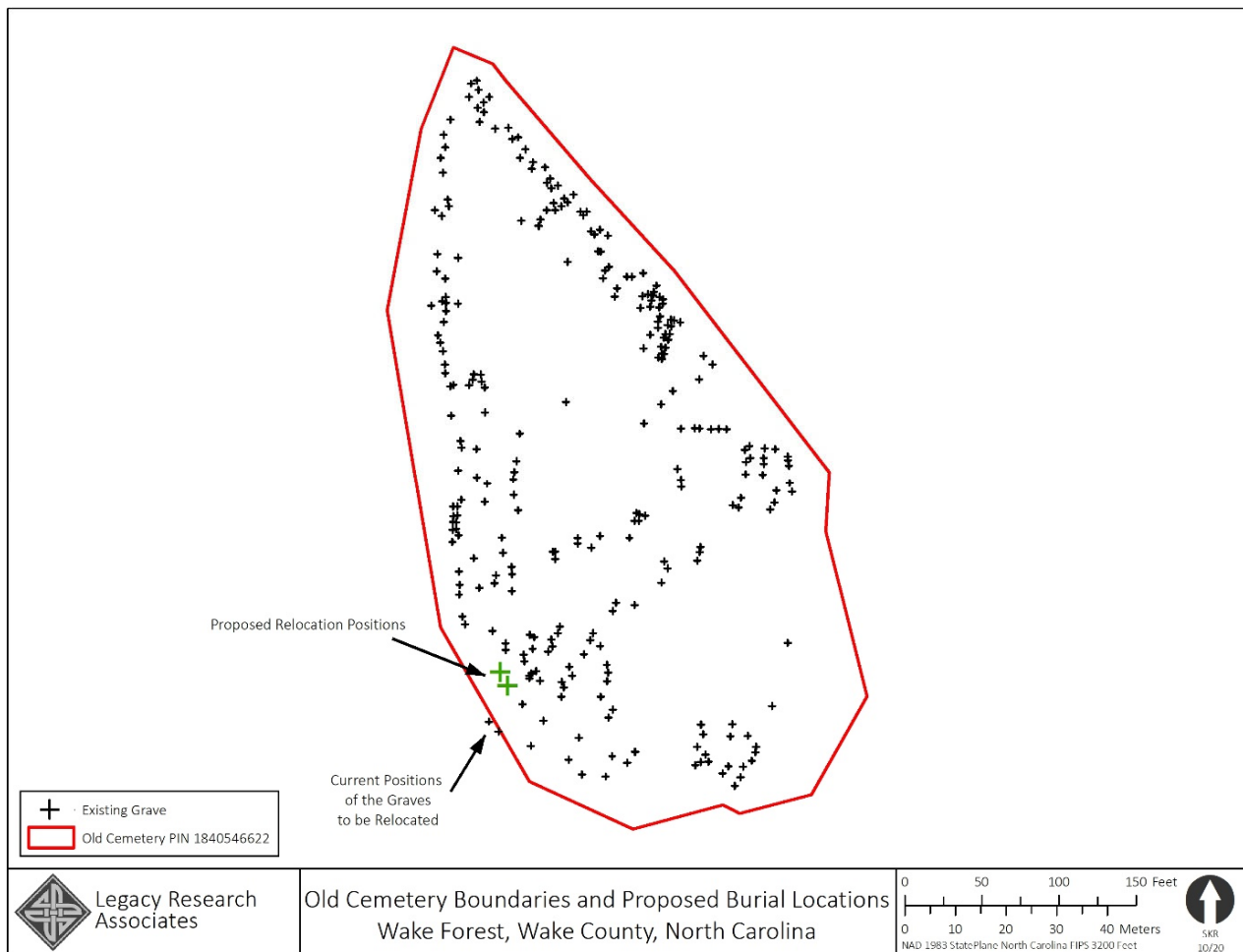


Figure 3. Map of the Old Cemetery showing the GPR location of the two unmarked outlier graves on Holding Village property and their proposed reinterment location within the Old Cemetery.

In addition to the land swap and proposed unmarked outlier grave relocation, Holding Village proposed to install protective fencing around the new boundary of the cemetery and provide gated access to the cemetery that will be marked with an information sign. The proposed actions were approved by Friendship Chapel, the Town of Wake Forest Historic Preservation Commission, and the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office. Review consultation documents are in Appendix A – [Consultation Documentation](#). A summary of the review consultation follows.

The Town of Wake Forest Historic Preservation Commission supported the proposed land swap, the proposed relocation of the two unmarked outlier graves, and the proposed fencing and gated access in the Certificate of Appropriateness dated 18 November 2019 (Appendix A – [Wake Forest Historic Preservation Commission Certificate of Appropriateness \(COA 19-12\)](#)) and in the modified certificate of Appropriateness dated 13 March 2020 (Appendix A – [Wake Forest Historic Preservation Commission Certificate of Appropriateness \(COA 20-5\)](#)). The following conditions were stipulated.

18 November 2019

1. An archaeological monitor will be on site during the road construction activities to endure proper treatment in the event of inadvertent discovery of human remains.³
2. An archaeological monitor will be on site during the site preparation and post-hole digging for the fence.
3. A sign will be placed on the gate to notify visitors of the sacred place and not to disturb it.
4. Any changes to the project will require additional review and approval.

13 March 2020

1. The fence will be 48 inches high and be an approved black metal fence.
2. An archaeological monitor must be present for all ground-disturbing activity associated with the construction of the sidewalk, digging of fence posts, fence installation, and construction of the road south of the cemetery.
3. Any change to the project will require additional review and approval.

The proposed Holding Village North Lake Residential Subdivision project was reviewed by the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office on 19 March 2020 (Appendix A – North Carolina Historic Preservation Office Holding Village North Lake Development Review). They recommended the following:

1. Implement Holding Village's proposed protection procedures (fencing and buffer zone) for the Old Cemetery.
2. Establish a 30-foot protective zone around the two GPR anomalies. Prohibit mechanized ground disturbance within the protective zone that will be marked with high-visibility fencing that will be maintained until the archaeological (burial relocation) work inclusive of the review of the resulting report is complete.

Appendix A – Consultation Documentation includes consultation documentation that begins with the 2017 Town of Wake Forest Ordinance that established the Old Cemetery as a Local Historic Landmark Property, correspondence from the Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church agreeing to the land swaps and relocation of the two outlier graves, Certificates of Appropriateness from the Wake Forest Historic Preservation Commission, and the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office North Lake Development review letter.

Appendix B – Summary of Research and Consultation presents a chronological summary of research and consultation related to the Old Cemetery and the proposed relocation of the two unmarked outlier graves beginning April 2017 with establishing the Old Cemetery as a Town of Wake Forest Local Historic Landmark and ending in March 2020 with recommendations by the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office for archaeological investigation of the two unmarked outlier graves and protection procedures for the Old Cemetery and the two unmarked outlier graves during construction activities.

The scope of work for this Project included preparing the due-diligence documentation to support a petition to the Wake County Board of Commissioners to relocate the two unmarked outlier graves on

³ Monitoring will be conducted by a professional archaeologist to observe and direct work to ensure that appropriate professional standards and practices are used throughout the work and that any items uncovered or observed are handled in a professional manner.

Holding Village land (PIN 1840551011) to the adjacent Old Cemetery (PIN 1840546622) where they will be better protected by a buffer area and a new chain-link fence.

The following report sections include (1) an historic overview of the Friendship Chapel Old Cemetery, (2) a summary of the Town of Wake Forest Local Historic Landmark Property significance evaluation of the Old Cemetery, (3) a description of GPR investigations conducted to identify graves associated with the Old Cemetery, (4) a summary of the due-diligence research conducted for the proposed relocation of the two unmarked outlier graves, (5) the proposed disinterment and reinterment procedures for the two unmarked outlier graves, (6) the proposed long-term protection of the Old Cemetery, and (7) the proposed marker for the reinterment location.

Historic Overview of the Friendship Chapel Old Cemetery

The following summary has been extracted from the Town of Wake Forest Local Historic Landmark Property Ordinance 2017-35.

The Old Cemetery of Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church (referred to as the “Old Cemetery”) is closely tied to the history of Wake Forest College, the Town of Wake Forest, and the historic Town of Forestville. Friendship Chapel is the African-American offshoot of Forestville Baptist Church, which was founded in 1859 by Washington Manley Wingate, William Tell Brooks, and William Thomas Walters.

On 16 March 1881, D. Willis Holding and wife, Nancy C. Holding, conveyed one acre of land to the Trustees of the Friendship Baptist Chapel for the church and cemetery (DB 65:592-593).⁴

After Emancipation, the congregation helped establish a separate church for its black members. This church became “Friendship Chapel.” Oral history suggests that prior to Emancipation the surrounding African-American community used the area for covert Christian worship services. The Old Cemetery is associated with the present-day church, although it is no longer used for interment. The parishioners believe the cemetery was closed around the 1950s when it was determined to be full.

In 1976, Claude Russell Trotter with the Wake Missionary Baptist Association described the Friendship Chapel and the Old Cemetery as follows:

This church came into existence under very unusual circumstances. The actual church movement had its roots in the secret midnight meeting which were held sometime between 1845 and 1865 one mile east of the present structure. On this spot, two hills met and formed a cave which secluded these worshippers from their slave masters. Here they prayed to God for deliverance. A spring branch flowed nearby. Today, this two-acre spot is the original cemetery of the church. It is overshadowed with aged pines, cedars, oaks, hollies, dogwood, and assorted evergreens. It is carpeted with ancient violets, running rose bushes, and various flowers.

Here may be found the bodies of the pioneer families, founders, and friends of the church. Many descendants of these honored dead are on the present church roll. This spot is no longer the burial ground for it is filled to capacity.

⁴ It is unknown when acquisition of the additional 0.64 acres of land that comprised the cemetery size in 2017 occurred.

In the mid-1970s, according to parishioner Graham Pope, the church sold timber rights within the cemetery to raise funds to repair the chapel. Mature trees were removed with heavy machinery and many of the existing markers were broken or displaced. By the end of the twentieth century, the site had entered a period of neglect. But members of the congregation and the descendants of its founding families have continued to keep it guarded and maintained in a limited fashion.

Some of the information presented above has been reported in *The News & Observer* article titled Wake Forest Church is Learning about its Cemetery where Former Slaves were Buried (<https://www.newsobserver.com/news/local/counties/wake-county/article143730329.html>), on the Wake Forest History Museum website in an article titled The Story Map of Friendship Chapel Church (<https://wakeforestmuseum.org/2017/05/23/the-story-map-of-friendship-chapel-cemetery/>), and in Where We Shall Meet and Part No More: The Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery developed for the Wake Forest Historical Association by Sarah Lowry and Ellen Turco with New South Associates (<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=3ef1d5a588294c619b00736526bbe510>).

Town of Wake Forest Local Historic Landmark Property Significance Evaluation of the Old Cemetery

Based on historic research conducted by New South Associates (Lowry and Turco 2017), the Old Cemetery was designated a Local Historic Landmark by the Town of Wake Forest in 2017. This designation was deemed appropriate based on its association with the Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church. Research by New South Associates found that the cemetery has “a good degree of integrity in regard to setting, location, association, design, workmanship and feeling.” The North Carolina Historic Preservation Office concurred that the Old Cemetery had the requisite special significance and integrity for landmark designation (Appendix A – North Carolina Historic Preservation Office Review on the Local Historic Landmark Designation Report for the Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery). This status was subsequently set forth in the Town of Wake Forest Ordinance 2017-35 (Appendix A – Town of Wake Forest Ordinance 2017-35).

While the Old Cemetery bears a local historic landmark designation, it has not been nominated or listed on the National Register of Historic Places (National Register).

Four general significance criteria are used to determine eligibility of a property for inclusion in the National Register. Properties may be considered eligible for inclusion if they:

- a) are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history;
- b) are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past;
- c) embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction; or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction; or
- d) have yielded or may be likely to yield information important to our understanding of prehistory or history.

Evaluation of these criteria and nomination of the Old Cemetery to the National Register is outside the scope of work for this project.

Ground-Penetrating Radar (GPR) Investigations Conducted at the Old Cemetery

Two ground-penetrating radar (GPR) surveys have been conducted at the Old Cemetery. One was conducted by New South Associates in 2017 at the request of the Wake Forest Historical Association to provide information in support of nominating the Old Cemetery as a Local Historic Landmark Property (Lowry 2017). The New South Associates' GPR survey collected sufficient data to support the Local Historic Landmark nomination but did not encompass the entire cemetery. The second GPR survey was conducted by Seramur and Associates in 2019 at the request of Holding Village to identify burials along the Old Cemetery boundary (Seramur 2019).

The 2017 New South Associates GPR survey identified 567 graves that include one mass grave, 16 formal headstones, 286 fieldstone markers, one pile of fieldstones, and 164 surface depressions. Of the 16 formal headstones identified by New South Associates, some had been manufactured using traditional tools and forms while others exhibited vernacular designs with unique hand carvings. No formal layout of burials in the Old Cemetery was discerned, and most of the graves were identified by unmarked fieldstones. The 2017 New South Associates GPR survey confirmed that graves were clustered in groups, presumably determined by family connections, and grave mounds and depressions were allowed to remain.

The 2019 Seramur and Associates GPR survey found 148 burials around the perimeter of the cemetery. Two are located on Holding Village property just a few feet outside the Old Cemetery boundary (see Figure 3). As a result of the 2019 Seramur and Associates GPR investigations, Friendship Chapel agreed to a land swap that conveyed 0.17 acres to the church (Areas 1, 2, and 3) and 0.02 acres to Holding Village for right-of-way and open space (Areas A and B). With approval from Friendship Chapel, Holding Village recorded the revised plat (see Figure 1) and the associated deeds for the land swap (Wake County DB 17980:1096-1099 and DB 17980:1100-1103), respectively.

Summary of Proposed Grave Relocation Due-Diligence Efforts

Due-diligence efforts conducted for the proposed relocation of the two unmarked outlier graves on Holding Village property consisted of a review of previous research, field investigations, publication of the Legal Notice of the proposed grave relocation, and consultation with the Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Superintendent of Cemeteries regarding burial records. A description of these efforts follows.

Background Research

Background research conducted at the North Carolina State Archives in Raleigh found that the Old Cemetery was formally recorded as an archaeological site (31WA1987) in 2017. The Archaeological Cemetery Site Form reported 570 graves with 16 marked graves and approximately 550 unmarked graves that date from the nineteenth century to the twentieth century.

Research also involved reviewing online resources that included the 1937 *Wake County Cemetery Survey* (<http://digital.ncdcr.gov/cdm/ref/collection/p15012coll1/id/23887>); *Interment Cemetery Records Online* (<http://www.interment.net/us/nc/wake.htm>); *Cemetery Census* (<http://cemeterycensus.com/nc/wake/index.htm>); and *Find A Grave* (<http://www.findagrave.com>).

This research found that the Old Cemetery was recorded in Cemetery Census for Wake County, North Carolina, cemeteries (<http://cemeterycensus.com/nc/wake/cem004.htm>) in 2006. At that time, it was described as follows.

The cemetery appears to lie directly in the path of the planned extension of Franklin Street. This part of Wake County is being heavily developed and the uniting of the two parts of Franklin

Street is inevitable. The burial ground lies within a rusting barbed wire fence enclosing 1.97 acres. It is very neglected and overgrown with at least 10 deeply sunken graves, so care must be taken when viewing the cemetery. A mat of leaves covers the ground which is irregular. A number of headstones are in good condition. Part of the graves are in an orderly row, but others are scattered randomly. It appears to be an abandoned cemetery.

In 2006, the Old Cemetery was also added to the Wake County Cemetery inventory on Interment.net (<http://www.interment.net/data/us/nc/wake/friendship/index.htm>). This source duplicated the Cemetery Census website (see above). These two sources report 10 deeply sunken graves and 20 inscribed gravemarkers. The birth years on the marked headstones range from 1854 to 1925; years of death range from 1900 to 1954.

No record of the Old Cemetery was found in the Find-A-Grave website or in the 1937 Wake County Cemetery Survey.

Chain of title and genealogical research was not conducted due to the limited information available for this case. The property was used by the church prior to the land conveyance in 1881 from D. Willis Holding and his wife, Nancy C. Holding (Wake County Deed Book 65:592-593). The property has been in the church's ownership since that time. Most of the burials in the cemetery do not have inscribed gravemarkers. The lack of inscribed tombstones for the two unmarked outlier graves and the absence of burial records at the church's office made genealogical research of the identities of the remains within the two unmarked outlier graves unfeasible.

Field Investigations

A field investigation of the two unmarked outlying graves on Holding Village property and the proposed location for their reinterment within the boundary of the Old Cemetery was conducted on 17 April 2020.

The investigation consisted of a systematic visual reconnaissance and probing to determine if other possible graves were located in the vicinity of the two unmarked outlier graves on Holding Village property. Probing was also conducted to determine if there were unmarked burials in the proposed reinterment location for the two unmarked outlier graves within the Old Cemetery. The reinterment location is about 30 feet north-northeast of the current location.

While the field methods used are a reasonable and prudent effort and meet professional standards for cemetery studies, the only method to guarantee locating every burial in a cemetery requires complete excavation, which is beyond the scope of this project.

The inspection for graves consisted of identifying grave locations based on one or more of the following.

- presence of an inscribed or uninscribed gravestone
- presence of a rectangular-shaped graveshaft depression
- detection of past ground disturbance associated with the excavation of a burial pit

The inspection found no evidence that there were additional unmarked graves near the two unmarked outlier graves on Holding Village property; however, the inspection was limited by the presence of a large downed tree that was a few feet west of the two unmarked outlier graves (Figure 4 and Figure 5).

The inspection found no evidence that there were unmarked graves at the proposed reinternment location within the Old Cemetery (Figure 6 and Figure 7).



Figure 4. Grave 1 and Grave 2 on Holding Village Property, view northwest.



Figure 5. Grave 1 on Holding Village Property, view west.



Figure 6. Grave 2 on Holding Village Property, view west.



Figure 7. Proposed Reinterment Site of Grave 1 and Grave 2 within the Old Cemetery, view north.

Publication of the Legal Notice

A Legal Notice of the proposed relocation of the two unmarked outlier graves on Holding Village property to the Old Cemetery was published in *The News & Observer* on March 27 and April 3, 10, and 17, 2020 (Figure 8).⁵ This notification was published to comply with North Carolina General Statute 65-106.⁶



Figure 8. Legal Notice for the Proposed Relocation of Two Unmarked Outlier Graves associated with the Old Cemetery (*The News & Observer*, March 27 and April 3, 10, and 17, 2020).

The purpose of the Legal Notice was to attempt to notify next-of-kin about the proposed burial relocation and locate persons with interest in, or knowledge about, the unmarked outlier graves on this property.

No response has been received to the four weekly legal advertisements seeking information related to the two unmarked outlier graves on the Holding Village property.

Consultation with the Friendship Chapel Superintendent of Cemeteries

During the 2017 GPR survey of the Old Cemetery, Michelle Michael at the Town of Wake Forest and representative from New South Associates contacted Friendship Chapel to determine if the church had any records about burials in the Old Cemetery. The church reported that they had no burial records for the cemetery.

⁵ This advertisement was printed before Wake County revised the PIN for the Old Cemetery and identifies the location by its previous PIN 1840546632.

⁶ North Carolina General Statute 65-106 - The party effecting the disinterment, removal, and reinterment of a grave containing a decedent's remains under the provisions of this Part shall, before disinterment, give 30 days' written notice of such intention to the next of kin of the decedent, if known or subject to being ascertained by reasonable search and inquiry, and shall cause notice of such disinterment, removal, and reinterment to be published at least once per week for four successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where such grave is located, and the first publication shall be not less than 30 days before disinterment. Any remains disinterred and removed hereunder shall be reinterred in a suitable cemetery.

Legacy Research Associates conducted an interview with James A. Grant, Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Superintendent of Cemeteries, on 1 May 2020 and confirmed that no new information about burials at the Old Cemetery has been found since 2017.

The lack of inscribed tombstones for the two unmarked outlier graves and the absence of burial records made genealogical research for the proposed relocation of the two unmarked outlier graves unfeasible.

Grave Disinterment and Reinterment Procedures

The two unmarked outlier graves will be investigated archaeologically and if they are identified as human burials, they will be relocated within the Old Cemetery at the location shown on Figure 3. The proposed reinterment location is about 30 feet north-northeast of the current location.

Any gravemarkers or burial items exposed during the disinterment will be relocated with each grave, respectively. Also, if other graves are identified during the exhumation of the two unmarked outlier graves, then they will be reinterred at the proposed reinterment location.

The remains within the two unmarked outlier graves, and any other graves found during the exhumation, will be moved the minimal distance necessary to relocate them within the boundaries of the Old Cemetery, while providing a sufficient buffer between the reinterment location and the proposed South Franklin Street improvements. The reinterments will maintain the same orientation and spatial relationship that presently exists.

In accordance with the approval letter from the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office dated 19 March 2020, no mechanical ground disturbance is allowed to be conducted within the area of these two isolated outlying graves and the required buffer area, or the reinterment area (Appendix A – North Carolina Historic Preservation Office Holding Village North Lake Development Review). This letter stipulates that all excavation work (including the removal of the tree) will be done with hand tools, including chainsaws; no heavy equipment will be used in the burial area; and all work will be conducted in accordance with North Carolina General Statute Chapter 70, if the two outlier graves are determined to be human burials.

Proposed Marker at the Reinterment Location

A permanent marker for the two outlier graves will be set at the reburial site. Figure 9 is the proposed wording for the marker. The marker will be revised, if necessary, to account for the actual number of graves reinterred at the proposed reinterment location in the Old Cemetery.

UNMARKED OUTLIER BURIALS

THESE BURIAL PLOTS CONTAIN THE REINTERED REMAINS OF TWO INDIVIDUALS THAT WERE RELOCATED FROM 1323 SOUTH FRANKLIN STREET, WAKE FOREST, WAKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA. THE CURRENT BURIAL LOCATION LIES APPROXIMATELY 30 FEET NORTH-NORTHEAST OF THE ORIGINAL LOCATION.

THE BURIALS WERE RELOCATED IN FEBRUARY 2021.

THE REMOVAL OF GRAVES CERTIFICATE IS ON FILE AT THE WAKE COUNTY REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE.

Figure 9. Proposed Marker for the Two Outlier Graves at the Old Cemetery.

Protection Measures for the Old Cemetery

To facilitate protection of the Old Cemetery, Holding Village has taken, and has proposed to take, the following actions in accordance with guidance from Friendship Chapel, the Town of Wake Forest, and the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office.

- Commissioned and funded the GPR survey conducted by Seramur and Associates in 2019 so there is an accurate depiction of the graves as they relate to the Old Cemetery boundary.
- Dedicated 7,480 square feet of land around the perimeter of the Old Cemetery to provide additional buffering to the existing graves.
- Will establish a public right-of-way dedicated to access the Old Cemetery. Will locate the limits of construction disturbance away from the Old Cemetery boundary for added protection.
- Will fund the installation of perimeter fencing (black aluminum matching existing approved fencing in Holding Village or chain link in non-visible areas) with an access gate for maintenance.
- Have committed to have ground-disturbance activities conducted around the Old Cemetery in the presence of an Archaeologist.
- Will relocate unmarked outlier graves that are located in the future right-of-way for the extension and widening of South Franklin Street into the Old Cemetery boundaries.

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United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)

2014 Aerial Image of the Town of Wake Forest, North Carolina.

Wake County, North Carolina, Register of Deeds

1881 Land Conveyance from D. Willis Holding and wife, Nancy C. Holding, to the Trustees of the Friendship Baptist Chapel (DB 65:592-593).
2020 Holding Village Recombination Plat (Book of Maps 2020, Page 345).
2020 North Carolina Special Warranty Deed Land Conveyance from ALF Holding Village LLC to Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church (Area 1, Area 2, and Area 3) (DB 17980:1096-1099.)
2020 North Carolina Special Warranty Deed Land Conveyance from Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church to ALF Holding Village LLC (Area A and Area B) (DB 17980:1100-1103).

Wake Forest Historic Preservation Commission

2019 ALF Holding Village LLC Certificate of Appropriateness COA 19-12.
2020 ALF Holding Village LLC Modified Certificate of Appropriateness COA 20-5.

Wake Forest History Museum

2017 *The Story Map of Friendship Chapel Cemetery*
(<https://wakeforestmuseum.org/2017/05/23/the-story-map-of-friendship-chapel-cemetery/>).

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Appendix A – Consultation Documentation

Note: references to “Reader Communities,” “ALF Holding Village LLC,” or “Holding Village North Lake Subdivision” in Appendix A documents are noted as Holding Village within this report.

Town of Wake Forest Ordinance 2017-35

ORDINANCE #2017-35

ORDINANCE DESIGNATING PROPERTY KNOWN AS THE OLD CEMETERY OF FRIENDSHIP CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH AS A LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK PROPERTY AT 0 FORESTVILLE ROAD, WAKE FOREST, NORTH CAROLINA, AND RECORDED AS WAKE COUNTY TAX PIN 1840-54-6558

WHEREAS, all of the prerequisites to the adoption of this ordinance prescribed in 160A-400.5, as amended of the General Statutes of North Carolina have been met; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Wake Forest has taken into full consideration all statements and information presented at a public hearing held on the 21st day of November, 2017, on the question of designating the property known as the Old Cemetery of Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, and the land associated therewith, as a local historic landmark property; and

WHEREAS, the Wake Forest Historic Preservation Commission held a public hearing on the 18th day of October, 2017, on the question of designating the Old Cemetery of Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, and the land associated therewith, as a local historic landmark property and, after considering all statements and information presented at that public hearing recommended approval of the designation; and

WHEREAS, the Old Cemetery of Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church is of historical significance due to its association with Friendship Chapel Missionary Church. It holds a good degree of architectural integrity in regard to setting, location, association, design, materials, workmanship, and feeling; and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office that “the Old Cemetery” has the requisite special significance and integrity for landmark designation; and

WHEREAS, the property known as the Old Cemetery is vested in fee simple to Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Wake Forest: Ordinance #2017-35

- 1) That the property known as the Old Cemetery of Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, including the land associated therewith, is hereby designated as a local historic landmark property pursuant to 160A-400.6 of the General Statutes of North Carolina. For purposes of description only, the location of said property is noted as being situated on 1.74 acres located at 0 Forestville Road, Wake Forest, North Carolina, as recorded as Wake County Tax PIN 1840-54-6558.

ORDINANCE #2017-35

- 2) That the exterior of said designated property may be materially altered, restored, moved, or demolished only following the issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) by the Wake Forest Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) and that minor changes receive a Minor Work COA from town staff, according to the procedures outlined in Section 15.11 Historic Preservation of the Wake Forest Unified Development Ordinance.
- 3) That nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to prevent or delay the ordinary maintenance or repair of any architectural feature in or on said property that does not involve a change of design, material, or outer appearance thereof, nor to prevent or delay the making of emergency repairs, nor to prevent or delay the construction, reconstruction, alteration, restoration, demolition, or removal of any such feature when a building inspector or similar official certified to the HPC that such action is required for the protection of public health and public safety because of an unsafe condition. Nothing herein shall be construed to prevent the property owner from making any use of this property not prohibited by other statutes, ordinance, or regulations.
- 4) That a suitable sign may be posted indicated that said property has been designated a local historic landmark and containing any other appropriate information. If the owner consents, the sign shall be placed on the property. If the owner objects, the sign shall be placed on a nearby public-right-of-way.
- 5) That the owners and occupants of the property known as the Old Cemetery of Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church be given the notice of this ordinance as required by applicable law and that copies of this ordinance be filed and indexed in the offices of the Wake Forest Town Clerk, Wake Forest Planning Department, Wake County Register of Deeds, and the Wake County Tax Supervisor, as required by applicable law.


ORDINANCE #2017-35

- 6) That which is designated as a local historic landmark property shall be subject to G.S. 160A-400.6, as amended, and any amendments hereafter adopted.

This the 21st day of November, 2017.

Moved by: Brian Pate

Seconded by: Jim Thompson

Mayor: 

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Eric A. Vernon

Town Attorney

ATTEST:



Town Clerk

**North Carolina Historic Preservation Office Review on the Local Historic Landmark Designation Report for
the Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery**



**North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources
State Historic Preservation Office**

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper
Secretary Susi H. Hamilton

Office of Archives and History
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

September 19, 2017

Michelle A. Michael
Town of Wake Forest
301 South Brooks Street
Wake Forest, NC 27587-2901

RE: Landmark Designation Report for **Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery, 0
Forestville Road, Wake Forest, Wake County**

Dear Ms. Michael:

Thank you for the report for the Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery located on Forestville Road in Wake Forest. We have reviewed the information in the report and offer the following comments in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 160A-400.4.

Established ca. 1867 near Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church's original church building, the congregation's 1.64-acre cemetery (now referred to as the "Old Cemetery") possesses local historic significance for its association with the first African American church in Wake Forest and its vicinity. Recent studies indicate that the cemetery contains approximately 570 graves, including one mass burial likely associated with the 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic. Many graves are unmarked; marked graves are mostly identified by fieldstones, although formal headstones, both hand-made and manufactured, mark sixteen graves. The cemetery retains historic integrity and its design, materials, and workmanship are representative of early African American cemeteries. We believe the designation reports provides the Wake Forest Historic Preservation Commission and the Wake Forest Board of Commissioners adequate information to determine that Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery (Old Cemetery) has the requisite special significance and integrity for landmark designation.

There is the potential for archaeological resources associated with the property. Care should be taken during any ground disturbing activities to avoid inadvertent damage or destruction to the cemetery. (Refer to Chapter 65 of the NC General Statutes, and GS 14-148 and GS 14-149.)

Landmark designation means the community recognizes a property as an important historic resource worthy of preservation. Any substantial design changes to a designated landmark are subject to the design review procedures of the Wake Forest Historic Preservation Commission.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on the report. Our comments are advisory only and are not binding. Once the governing board has received a recommendation from the Wake Forest Historic Preservation Commission and has proceeded in the same manner as would otherwise be required for an amendment to the zoning ordinance, the governing board may proceed with the designation decision. Once

Location: 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh NC 27601 **Mailing Address:** 4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4617 **Telephone/Fax:** (919) 807-6570/807-6599

the designation decision has been made, please return the completed designation confirmation form,
enclosed.

This letter serves as our comments on the proposed landmark designation of the Friendship Chapel
Missionary Baptist Church Cemetery. Please contact me at 919-807-6575 should you have any questions
about our comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Amber E. Kidd". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Amber E. Kidd
Local Preservation Commissions / CLG Coordinator

CC: Commission Chair

Enclosure

**Correspondence from the Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church to the Wake Forest Historic
Preservation Commission**

October 28, 2019

Town of Wake Forest
Michelle Michael, MHP
Historic Preservation
301 South Brooks Street
Wake Forest, NC 27587

Ms. Michael;

We have met with Reader Communities regarding the boundary correction for our cemetery located at the end of South Franklin Street. Please accept this letter as our support of their requests which primarily consists of the following:

- Dedication of 7,480 SF of land to the cemetery expanding its boundary to provide additional buffering to the existing graves.
- Dedication of 766 SF of land by the cemetery as public right of way to provide a street connection to the adjacent development.
- Relocation of 2 existing graves into the property boundary.
- Addition of perimeter fencing and a maintenance access gate

Reader Communities reviewed with us the process the existing boundary was evaluated and the proposed adjustments that are reflected in the McAdams Plan. We believe their thoughtful steps taken to evaluate the existing boundary, combined with the additional buffer, considerate planning of the area along with a perimeter fence will help ensure the long-term preservation of the historic cemetery.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have.


Dr. Enoch Holloway, Senior Pastor
Friendship Chapel Baptist Church


James Grant, Chairman Trustee Board
Friendship Chapel Baptist Church

Historical and Archaeological Investigations to Relocate Two Unmarked Outlier Graves
at 1323 South Franklin Street, Wake Forest, Wake County, North Carolina, Parcel Identification Number (PIN) 1840551011
to the Old Cemetery of Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
at 1321 South Franklin Street, Wake Forest, Wake County, North Carolina PIN 1840546622

Wake Forest Historic Preservation Commission Certificate of Appropriateness (COA 19-12)



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Wake Forest Town Hall – 3rd Floor
301 S Brooks Street
Wake Forest, NC 27587
P: 919-435-9510 | F: 919-435-9539
www.wakeforestnc.gov

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Project Contact - Property Owner

Scott Lay
ALF HOLDING VILLAGE LLC
1001 CHESTNUT STREET, 101
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107
P: 919-714-7279
scott@readercommunities.com

Project Contact - Applicant

Scott Lay
Reader Partners
8480 Honeycutt Road, Suite 200
Raleigh, NC 27615
P: 919-714-7279
scott@readercommunities.com

PROJECT INFORMATION:

The following statement & documents are provided for the use in the review of this application. (Attach photographs, slides, drawings, plans, renderings, materials, cut sheets, etc. to give as much information as possible to show that the proposed work complies with the standards set forth in the UDO and Historic District Design Guidelines –please attach additional sheets if needed).

Property Address/Location:

- 0 FRIENDSHIP CHAPEL RD
- 0 FORESTVILLE RD

Long Tax PIN(s):

- 1840458403
- 1840546558
- 1840643841

Zoning Classification:

- OS
- Open Space
- RMX
- Residential Mixed-Use
- NMX
- Neighborhood Mixed-Use

Land Use(s): Residential

Description of proposed work: The proposed project will erect of fence around the Friendship Chapel Church Old Cemetery, enlarge the cemetery, and construct a road at the southern end of the cemetery. We are submitting a cemetery boundary exhibit. To evaluate the cemetery boundary, we had the parcel boundary staked in the field by McAdams survey team then Spangler completed GPR testing along the entire perimeter. For each grave that were located, a white flag was placed to mark its location. We then had McAdams survey team go back to the field to pick up the field locations so we have not only accurate grave locations, but where they are as it relates to the boundary.

Note the following on the McAdams exhibit:

- Property boundary as it exists today
- Field located graves around the perimeter
- Preliminary grading and design of the surrounding planned development
- Proposed new boundary and associated land exchange where we are proposing to dedicate additional lands around much of the boundary

Historical and Archaeological Investigations to Relocate Two Unmarked Outlier Graves
at 1323 South Franklin Street, Wake Forest, Wake County, North Carolina, Parcel Identification Number (PIN) 1840551011
to the Old Cemetery of Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
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to provide additional buffer

- We have located two graves that we feel are too close to the planned extension of South Franklin Street and we recommend these be relocated into the proposed boundary

CONDITIONS:

1. An archaeological monitor will be on site during the road construction activities to ensure appropriate treatment in the event of inadvertent discovery of human remains.
2. An archaeological monitor will be on site during the site preparation and post-hole digging for the fence.
3. A sign will be placed on the gate to notify visitors of the sacred place and not to disturb it.
4. Any changes to the project will require additional review and approval.

Under 15.11.3 (K) of the Wake Forest Unified Development Ordinance the Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) is valid for 365 days from the date of approval.

Please note that per the provisions of NCGS 160A-400.9(e), an appeal from the decision of the Historic Preservation Commission regarding a Certificate of Appropriateness may be made in the nature of certiorari by an aggrieved party to the Board of Adjustment in accordance with Section 15.12 of the Wake Forest Unified Development Ordinance within 30 days of the decision of the Historic Preservation Commission.

APPROVAL:

Michelle Michael

(Staff Liaison / HPC Secretary Print Name)

Michelle Michael

(Staff Liaison / HPC Secretary Signature)

11/18/19

(Date)

Date Received: 10/8/19

HPC Meeting Date: 11/13/19

COA Number: 19-12

Historical and Archaeological Investigations to Relocate Two Unmarked Outlier Graves
at 1323 South Franklin Street, Wake Forest, Wake County, North Carolina, Parcel Identification Number (PIN) 1840551011
to the Old Cemetery of Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
at 1321 South Franklin Street, Wake Forest, Wake County, North Carolina PIN 1840546622

Wake Forest Historic Preservation Commission Certificate of Appropriateness (COA 20-5)



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

Wake Forest Town Hall – 3rd Floor
301 S Brooks Street
Wake Forest, NC 27587
P: 919-435-9510 | F: 919-435-9539
www.wakeforestnc.gov

CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Project Contact - Property Owner

SCOTT LAY
ALF HOLDING VILLAGE LLC
1001 CHESTNUT ST, 101
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107
P: 919-714-7279
scott@readercommunities.com

Project Contact - Applicant

Jeremy Finch
McAdams Company
2905 Meridian Parkway
Durham, NC 27713
P: 919-361-5000
jfinch@mcadamsco.com

PROJECT INFORMATION:

The following statement & documents are provided for the use in the review of this application. (Attach photographs, slides, drawings, plans, renderings, materials, cut sheets, etc. to give as much information as possible to show that the proposed work complies with the standards set forth in the UDO and Historic District Design Guidelines –please attach additional sheets if needed).

Property Address/Location: 0 FORESTVILLE RD, 0 FRIENDSHIP CHAPEL RD

Long Tax PIN(s):

- 1840458403
- 1840546558
- 1840643841

Zoning Classification:

- OS
- Open Space
- RMX
- Residential Mixed-Use
- NMX
- Neighborhood Mixed-Use

Land Use(s): Existing Cemetery

Description of proposed work: In November 2019 the Historic Preservation Commission approved a Certificate of Appropriateness (COA 19-12) enlarging the existing cemetery, fencing the cemetery, and constructing the road south of the cemetery with conditions. We are now requesting to add sidewalk along Franklin Street west of the cemetery and increase the fence height from 42" to 48". As was a condition of the previous COA approval an archaeological monitor will be provided during all ground disturbing activity associated with cemetery construction. An updated cemetery exhibit reflecting these proposed additional items is included with this resubmittal.

CONDITIONS:

The following conditions are in addition to the conditions set forth by the HPC in COA 19-12.

- 1) The fence will be 48" approved black metal fence.
- 2) An archaeological monitor must be present for all ground disturbing activity associated with the construction of the sidewalk, digging of fence posts, fence installation, and road to the south of the cemetery.
- 3) Any change to the proposed project will require additional review and approval.

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3/13/20

Holding Village South Lake Subdivision - Friendship Chapel Cemetery

Page 1 of 2

Historical and Archaeological Investigations to Relocate Two Unmarked Outlier Graves
at 1323 South Franklin Street, Wake Forest, Wake County, North Carolina, Parcel Identification Number (PIN) 1840551011
to the Old Cemetery of Friendship Chapel Missionary Baptist Church
at 1321 South Franklin Street, Wake Forest, Wake County, North Carolina PIN 1840546622

APPROVAL:

Michelle Michael
(Staff Liaison / HPC Secretary Print Name)

Michelle Michael
(Staff Liaison / HPC Secretary Signature)

3/13/20
(Date)

Date Received: 2/19/20

HPC Meeting Date: N/A Administrative

COA Number: 20-5

North Carolina Historic Preservation Office Holding Village North Lake Development Review



North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources State Historic Preservation Office

Ramona M. Bartos, Administrator

Governor Roy Cooper
Secretary Susi H. Hamilton

Office of Archives and History
Deputy Secretary Kevin Cherry

March 19, 2020

James Lastinger
US Army Corps of Engineers
Raleigh Regulatory Field Office
3331 Heritage Trade Drive, Suite 105
Wake Forest, NC 27587

James.C.Lastinger@usace.army.mil

Re: Holding Village North Lake Residential Subdivision, NC 98 Bypass, Wake Forest, Wake County,
ER 19-5131

This letter supplements our comments provided to the applicant for the above-referenced project in a letter dated February 12, 2020.

One cemetery (31WA1987) is in the project area. Cemeteries are protected under North Carolina General Statutes (NCGS) Chapter 14-148 and 149. They are afforded consideration under NCGS Chapter 65. Unmarked burials are afforded consideration under the provisions of NCGS Chapter 70 Article 3, the Unmarked Human Burial and Human Skeletal Remains Protection Act.

Due to the age of the cemetery, it has high potential for containing unmarked graves. A ground penetrating radar (GPR) survey has been completed to delineate the boundaries of the cemetery by identifying subsurface anomalies that may represent unmarked graves. Upon completion of the survey, stakes were placed 20 feet from the closest potential graves. We recommend that this delineated area be avoided during any construction related activities.

The applicant intends to dedicate 7,480 square feet of land to the cemetery as a buffer for the potential burials, erect new fencing, and dedicate 766 square feet of land to the cemetery. However, two anomalies that were identified as potential graves cannot be avoided. We recommend that these anomalies be investigated archaeologically and if they are identified as human burials, we recommend they be treated in accordance with NCGS Chapter 70.

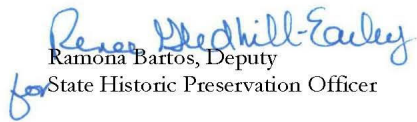
We recommend that permitted construction activities associated with the proposed project be allowed to proceed with the following conditions:

- The proposed protection procedures for cemetery 31WA1987 be implemented
- A 30-foot protective zone around the two subject GPR anomalies, within which mechanized ground disturbance is prohibited, be marked with high-visibility fencing and maintained until the recommended archaeological work, inclusive of our review of all resulting reports, is complete

Location: 109 East Jones Street, Raleigh NC 27601 Mailing Address: 4617 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-4617 Telephone/Fax: (919) 807-6570/807-6599

The above comments are made pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's Regulations for Compliance with Section 106 codified at 36 CFR Part 800.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration. If you have questions concerning the above comment, contact Renee Gledhill-Earley, environmental review coordinator, at 919-814-6579 or environmental.review@ncdcr.gov. In all future communication concerning this project, please cite the above referenced tracking number.
Sincerely,


Ramona Bartos, Deputy
for State Historic Preservation Officer

Appendix B – Summary of Research and Consultation

Below is a chronological summary of research and consultation related to the Old Cemetery and the proposed relocation of the two unmarked outlier graves beginning with the research conducted in April 2017 to establish the Old Cemetery as a Local Historic Landmark Property and ending in March 2020 with the concurrence by the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office on the proposed modifications, expansion and improvements to the Old Cemetery.

- April 2017 - Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) study and historic context research performed by New South Associates that aided in establishing the Old Cemetery as a Local Historic Landmark Property.
- September 2017 - Letter from the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office supporting the Local Historic Landmark Property designation for the Old Cemetery.
- November 2017 - Adoption of Ordinance by the Town of Wake Forest Board of Commissioners to establish the Local Historic Landmark Property designation for the Old Cemetery.
- Summer 2018 - Holding Village discussions with Pastor Dr. Enoch Holloway and the Board of Trustees of Friendship Chapel (James Grant, Chairman), and the planning staff of the Town of Wake Forest regarding potential land swaps to accommodate the proposed development and to provide better protection of the Old Cemetery.
- April 2019 - A GPR study conducted by Seramur and Associates, commissioned by Holding Village, focusing on the area around the perimeter boundary of the Old Cemetery to determine the possible presence of graves on Holding Village property. This study resulted in land swap negotiations between Holding Village and Friendship Chapel to adjust the shared boundary so burials on Holding Village property would be incorporated in the new boundary for the Old Cemetery and authorization by Friendship Chapel to relocate the two unmarked outlying graves within the Old Cemetery.
- October 2019 - Letter from the Pastor and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Friendship Chapel formally agreeing to the terms of the land swap and relocation of the two unmarked outlying graves to the Old Cemetery.
- November 2019 – Certificate of Appropriateness (COA 19-5) issued by the Town of Wake Forest Historic Preservation Commission approving the cemetery modifications, expansion, and improvements (modified March 2020 – COA 20-5).
- March 2020 – Concurrence letter from the North Carolina Historic Preservation Office regarding the proposed cemetery modifications, expansion and improvements that were negotiated with Friendship Chapel, the Town of Wake Forest, and Holding Village.