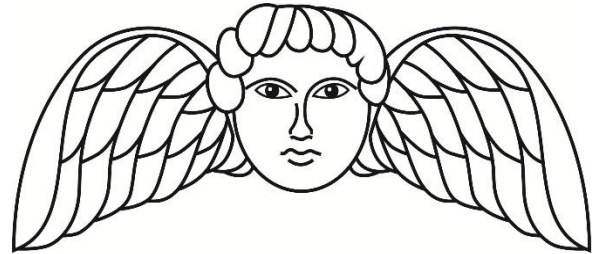


## Historic Cemetery Advisory Commission 2019 Annual Report



The commission met eleven (12) times during the year.

### Activities/accomplishments

1. **Stonework completed included 59 stones:** slates- 25 (20 National Trust grant funded, 1 private donor); marble/granite- 34 (1 private donor).
2. A \$50,000 grant was awarded from the National Trust for Historic Preservation and an additional \$5387.50 was raised locally. The funds will be used for stonework in God's Little Acre. The Preservation Society of Newport County submitted the grant on our behalf. Their staff did an outstanding job and their efforts are greatly appreciated.
3. Paul Edmonson, CEO and President and Katherine Malone-France, Chief Preservation Officer of the National Trust for Historic Preservation toured God's Little Acre (August).
4. Policies and guidelines were created and adopted for stonework selection and signage on sites.
5. Presentations by the commission included "Gravestone Iconography" at the Newport Library and "Stone Cold History: Newport's historic burial sites and the effort to save them" at the Redwood Library.
6. Clean-up at Braman Cemetery on April 13<sup>th</sup> took place as part of the statewide initiative.
7. Nine stone cleaning sessions were conducted; pre-Memorial Day military stones, community service group from Embrace Home Loans, volunteers- 7 days (June, September). All cleaning took place in the Common Burying Ground.
8. Privately funded stone work was completed on stones for Benjamin Fry and Christopher Ellery.
9. More than 2,400 graves have been documented in Braman Cemetery.
10. Braman Cemetery gravestone work is planned for spring 2020 using funds from the Braman Trust.
11. Roger Williams University Community Service students painted fencing at the Common Burying Ground and Liberty Park.
12. Roger Williams University students researched people buried in God's Little Acre.
13. A team from Brown University made plans to digitally map God's Little Acre to be used in creating other elements for site management and interpretation.
14. Replacement signage from the state designating historic cemeteries were obtained for installation at selected sites and is expected in 2020.
15. We met with local Girl Scout leaders met to discuss involvement of the scouts in our historic cemeteries.

We continue to be very appreciative of the support of the City Council and staff.

Abigail Shearman (1735c-1751)  
d/o Benjamin and Rebecca  
stone BH616  
carved by John Bull (backdated)



## Turner Plot

