

**DATE:** January 12, 2004

**TO:** Tom Brymer, City Manager  
Glenn Brown, Assistant City Manager

**FROM:** Courtney Curtis, Assistant to the City Manager

**RE:** Aggie Field of Honor

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**CEMETERIES ASSOCIATED WITH UNIVERSITIES**

The following (provided by the ad-hoc committee promoting an Aggie Field of Honor) is a list of cemeteries and columbarium's associated with Universities:

<b>CEMETERY/COLUMBARIUM</b>	<b>UNIVERSITY</b>
Iowa State University Cemetery	Iowa State University
Niles Farmstead Cemetery	University of Rhode Island
Oakwood Cemetery	Syracuse University
Santa Clara Mission Cemetery	Santa Clara University
University of Richmond's Columbarium & Memorial Gardens	University of Richmond
Cedar Grove Cemetery	Princeton University
Centre Columbarium	Centre College
St. John Chysostom Episcopal Church and Cemetery	St. John's Northwest Military Academy
Mount Saint Mary's Cemetery	Mount Saint Mary's College
Maplewood and Oakwood Cemeteries	University of Virginia
Bucknell	University of Bucknell
LeTourneau	LeTourneau University
Hampton	Hampton University

**Iowa State University Cemetery, Ames, Iowa**

Iowa State University has maintained a university cemetery since 1876. The cemetery is located on approximately 2 acres of land in a corner of the campus. The University provides this small cemetery to "honor those of its family who wish to be interred near the campus." Currently, there are over 700 graves. Those who have served Iowa State University continuously for a minimum of 20 years and have attained the rank of tenured assistant professor or higher are eligible for burial in the cemetery, along with their spouse and any unmarried children who have not established a home of their own. The termination of employment with the University must have been incurred through retirement or death. Those not meeting these requirements, shall apply for admission through applications reviewed by members of the University Cemetery Committee. Single burial costs can be purchased for \$300, and cremation lots can be purchased for \$200. Upkeep of the cemetery is provided by the University. No funding, land or maintenance has been provided by the City of Ames.



### Niles Farmstead Cemetery, Kingston, Rhode Island



The University of Rhode Island was submitted by the ad-hoc committee, as a University that has a cemetery that honors its affiliates. The only cemetery associated with the University of Rhode Island is the Niles Farmstead Cemetery. This cemetery is the burial ground of slaves of the Nile family, and is recognized for its historic value. There are no available grave sites for alumni or those affiliated with the University. The University has simply enclosed the ¼ acre site. There is no charge per lot because this is a closed cemetery. No funding, land, or maintenance has been provided by the City of Kingston.

### Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse, New York

In the mid nineteenth century, citizens of Syracuse began looking for a new burial ground. The chosen site encompassed a hill where springs carved valleys around steep slopes forested with massive oaks. Oakwood Cemetery was dedicated on November 3, 1859. The cemetery has been described as “one of the most peaceful places to walk in the University neighborhood.” Oakwood contains monuments and mausoleums of many notable Syracuse University figures. No information about lot rates was obtained. No funding, land, or maintenance has been provided by the City of Syracuse.



### Santa Clara Mission Cemetery, Santa Clara, California



The Santa Clara Mission Cemetery is indeed located on the Santa Clara University campus. It is not, however, an honorary cemetery for the purposes that the Aggie Field of Honor intends to become. The first cemetery in the Santa Clara Valley was founded in 1777, and as the population grew, the cemetery was filled. Within the span of fifty years, the church of Mission Santa Clara changed locations 4 times. With each church, there came a new cemetery, ending with the cemetery at today's campus of Santa Clara University. Plots and cremation niches are available to the general public. No information about lot rates was

obtained. This cemetery should not be confused with the City of Santa Clara's cemetery. Santa Clara's Mission City Memorial Park is a 30-acre all-faith cemetery owned and operated municipally.

**University of Richmond's Columbarium and Memorial Gardens, Richmond, Virginia**

The University of Richmond's Columbarium and Memorial Gardens was completed in the Spring of 2002. Niches are available for members of the University family (includes: alumni, degree-seeking students, faculty, staff, trustees and their immediate family). Niches, which will accommodate one or two urns, can be purchased at any time and can be purchased currently for \$3,000. Ashes can also be scattered in a special area within the Memorial Garden for \$350. The University maintains the grounds. The City of Richmond has not provided any funding, land, or maintenance for these grounds.



**Cedar Grove Cemetery, Notre Dame, Indiana**



The Cedar Grove Cemetery was founded in 1843, a year after the University of Notre Dame. Cedar Grove is private, open only to Notre Dame faculty and staff members. Persons eligible to purchase grave spaces include: (1) full-time University of Notre Dame faculty or staff (2) faculty or staff retired from Notre Dame, at age 55 with at least 15 years of service, age 62 with at least 10 years of service or age 65 with at least 5 years of service to the University. There is a limit of six spaces total allowed for purchase by each eligible applicant. No information about lot rates was obtained. The University maintains the grounds.

**Princeton Cemetery, Princeton, New Jersey**

Owned by the Nassau Presbyterian Church, this cemetery was founded in 1757. From the start, Nassau Presbyterian has made cemetery plots available for purchase by anyone, no matter what their religion, race or nationality. The development of the Cemetery is deeply rooted in the Church, the University, and the larger community which had been settled as Stony Brook in 1681, renamed Princeton in 1724, and incorporated by the state in 1813. No information about lot rates was obtained. No funding, land or maintenance has been provided by the City of Princeton.



**Center Columbarium, Danville, Kentucky**



Centre College was one of the institutions featured in a story about on-campus burial plots in the July 10, 2002 edition of The Wall Street Journal. Centre built its columbarium, a vault with individual niches for cremated remains, on campus in 2001. The columbarium was constructed at the urging of alumni. There are 84 spaces at the columbarium. No information about lot rates was obtained. The University maintains the columbarium.

**St. John Chrysostom Episcopal Church and Cemetery, Delafield, Wisconsin**

The cemetery site at St. John's Northwest Military Academy is located on the northeast side of the institute. It is located next to the Chapel. No information about lot rates was obtained. No funding, land or other associated costs are provided by the City of Delafield.

**Mount Saint Mary's Cemetery, Maryland**

Several years ago Mount Saint Mary's College in Maryland polled 300 of its alumni and 70 percent said they would be interested in new burial grounds on campus. The school made room for hundreds of new plots and have nearly sold out. The school is discussing making room for more plots. No information about lot rates, funding, or maintenance was obtained.

**Maplewood and Oakwood Cemeteries, Charlottesville, Virginia**

These are privately owned cemeteries that have no relationship with the University or its alumni. These cemeteries are independently owned. No information about lot rates was obtained.

**University of Bucknell, Lewisville, Pennsylvania**

No information was found on a cemetery associated with Bucknell, other than a statement in The Wall Street Journal (July 10, 2002), "The University of Virginia, University of Richmond and Bucknell University looked at the growing trend of selling plot space on campuses throughout the country."

**LeTourneau University, Longview, Texas**

The founder of LeTourneau University and his wife are buried at the front of the campus in Longview. This is the only cemetery associated with the University, according to LeTourneau staff. No students, staff, alumni or affiliates are buried on these grounds. There is no charge for each lot because this is a closed cemetery. The University maintains the two graves.

**Hampton University, Hampton, Virginia**

The Cemetery's location marks the outskirts of the original campus and is the final resting place of the University's founder, as well as a number of former Hampton students, faculty and staff. No information was obtained regarding lot rates, funding and maintenance of this University cemetery.