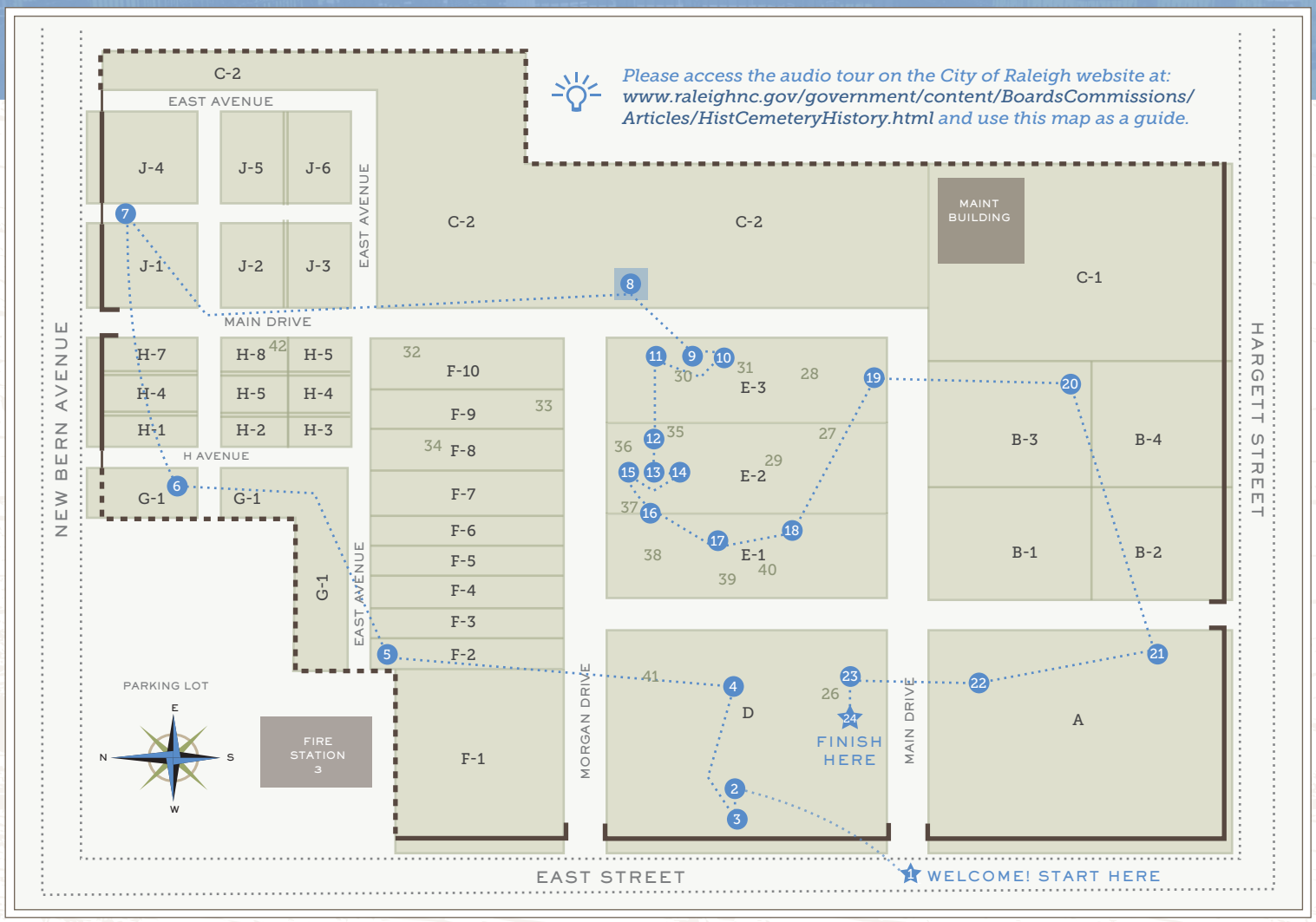
A Walking Tour of City Cemetery

17 EAST STREET • RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA



1 WALKING TOUR - WELCOME!

2 Jacob Johnson (d. 1812) Father of Andrew Johnson, 17th President of the United States. A respected citizen, Johnson was city constable, sexton and porter at the State Bank and hostler at Casso's Tavern. His collapse while tolling the Capitol bell for a funeral, and subsequent death were supposedly related to his never having recovered fully from the effects of exposure and exertion while rescuing three prominent, local men from drowning when their boat overturned on Hunter's Mill Pond. The sandstone monument was erected by Raleigh citizens in 1867. President Johnson attended the dedication.

3 Thomas Sambourne. Thomas Sambourne came to Raleigh from England in 1807. He initially taught at the Raleigh Academy and died within three months. Sambourne's family remained in Raleigh until the War of 1812, when they returned to England. Today his descendants include Viscount David Linley Armstrong-Jones, who is in line to the British throne.

4 John Rex (d. 1839). Landowner and tanner. Rex, a bachelor, provided in his will for the manumission of his slaves. He stipulated that they were to be free if they migrated to Liberia. Funds were provided to transport and set them up in business when they arrived. The residue of his estate was left "for the erection of an infirmary for the benefit of the 'sick and afflicted' poor of the City."

5 Joel Lane (d. 1795). Surveyor. One of Wake County's earliest settlers, Lane was a judge, Lieutenant Colonel of the Wake Regiment; member of the Provincial Congress in Halifax in April 1776; state senator; and trustee of the University of North Carolina. In 1792, the state of North Carolina, seeking a permanent capital, purchased 1,000 acres from Lane for £1,378 on which to lay out Raleigh. Two of Lane's daughters are also buried in this cemetery (no. 39): Martha Brickell (1776-1852) and Grizelle Ryan (1793-1868). When a lot in the vicinity of the Joel Lane House was paved for a parking lot, graves were uncovered. Speculation that the remains were those of the Lane family resulted in the removal and preservation of the bones in the state archives. The local chapter of the Colonial Dames reinterred these relics here with a ceremony in 1973.

6 Flossie Jane, Minnie Lee, and Myrtle Cole. J. T. Cole, a spinner at Caraleigh Mills, and his wife, S. A. Cole had four children, son Gowan, 14; daughters, Flossie Jane,5; Myrtle, 8; and Minnie Lee, 10. After the family attended the 4th of July fireworks in 1904 at Cameron's Field, they returned to their Caraleigh Mill Village home. The parents were awakened by fire in the early morning. The hallway to the children's bedroom was impassable. Gowan leaped out the upstairs window, badly burned and injured by the fall. The three girls were trapped inside and died from the fire. Buried in one coffin, their tombstone has the legend: "God Gave, He Took. He Will Restore. He Doeth All Things Well."

7 Historic Fence The exterior fence was made at the local foundry of Silas Burns (#40 on this map) and surrounded Union Square, protecting the State Capitol building grounds from straying livestock until it was moved to City Cemetery in 1898. The historic fence surrounds the cemetery on three sides.

8 The Watson Vault, Josiah Ogden Watson (1774-1852). Landowner, Watson was active in Raleigh civic life, donating money for the Christ Church bell tower. The architecture and details of his neoclassical mausoleum, built with local granite, make it a contributing structure to the cemetery's place on the National Register of Historic Places.
The Saunders Vault, Romulus Mitchell Saunders (1791- 1867). Lawyer and statesman. Saunders was a Congressman, member of the General Assembly, North Carolina Attorney General and Superior Court Judge. He ran unsuccessfully against John Motley Morehead for governor in 1840. Saunders served as Minister to Spain (1846-1849) under President Polk. He was a trustee of the University of North Carolina for 45 years.

9 Haywood-Manly Plot Many members of a branch of the prominent Haywood family lie here. The box tombstones of Wm. Henry Haywood, Sr. (1770-1857), banker and planter; and his wife Ann (1776-1866) are typical of early monuments. Two of their daughters were first ladies of North Carolina: Eliza (1796-1840) married Edward B. Dudley (Gov. 1836-1841) and Charity (1799-1880) married Charles S. Manly (Gov.

1849-1851). Manly (1795-1871) was a graduate of the University of North Carolina. A lawyer, he served as chief clerk of the House of Commons for 17 years before being elected governor. Family tradition has it that William Henry Haywood, Jr.(1801-1852) is buried near his sons, Duncan Cameron and William Henry, both killed in the Civil War. His tombstone is gone. Haywood was a state legislator and U. S. Senator (1842-1846).

10 **Col. J.C.S. McDowell (1831-1863).** McDowell married Julia Manly. He was killed at Fredericksburg and his body laid in state in Richmond in 1863 beside that of Gen. Stonewall Jackson.

11 **Shepard/Pettigrew** Gen. James Johnston Pettigrew was killed in the Battle of Bunker Hill, West Virginia on July 17, 1863, while retreating from Gettysburg. He died there, and his body was brought to Raleigh and buried temporarily with his uncle's (James B. Shepard) family in City Cemetery. He was moved in 1865 after the Civil War, and was buried in his family's cemetery, now a part of the Pettigrew State Park.

12 **Thomas Meredith (1796-1850).** Baptist minister. Founder and first editor of the ***Biblical Recorder***. Meredith was also one of the founders of the Baptist State Convention. He was an advocate of a Baptist women's college as early as 1838. Meredith College was named in his honor.

13 **Polk Plot William Polk (1758-1834).** Born in Mecklenburg County, Polk attended the Mecklenburg Convention proceedings on May 20, 1775. At the age of 18, he was a major in a North Carolina regiment of the Continental Line, serving under General George Washington at Brandywine, Germantown and Valley Forge. Ordered South, Polk was with Gates at the Battle of Camden and with Green at Guilford Courthouse. At the hard-fought battle of Eutaw Springs, his horse was killed under him, and he was severely wounded. A man of many facets, Polk was a legislator, president of the State Bank, trustee of the University of North Carolina, a mason (Grandmaster of the Grand Lodge of N.C.). He was a cousin of President James K. Polk and father of General Leonidas Polk, the Bishop-General. At his death, he was the last surviving field officer of the North Carolina Continental Line.
Sarah Hawkins Polk (1794-1843). Wife of Colonel William Polk and sister of Governor William Hawkins. At Mrs. Polk's suggestion, the Raleigh Experimental Railway was established. Finished in January 1833, it was considered the first attempt at a railroad in North Carolina. The railroad carried quarried stone in wooden carts drawn by horses over the rails to the new Capitol being built. Tracks ran from the east portico of the Capitol to the rock quarry in the eastern portion of the city. On Sundays, local citizens could ride in passenger cars on this horsedrawn railroad.

14 **Kenneth Rayner (1808-1884).** Lawyer and Congressman. In 1848, Rayner ran against Millard Fillmore for the Whig party nomination as vice-president. He lost the nomination by one vote. Had he won, he would have become President of the United States upon the death of Zachary Taylor. Rayner was one of a group of local citizens who surrendered Raleigh to the Federal forces on April 13, 1865. From 1877-1884 he was Solicitor of the Treasury. Rayner married Susan Polk, daughter of William Polk. It was under an oak tree at their home on E. North Street on April 17, 1844, where Henry Clay wrote his famous "Raleigh Letter" against the annexation of Texas to the ***National Intelligencer*** that many believe cost him the presidency of the United States.

15 **William White (1762-1811).** Secretary of State (1798-1811). White married Anna Caswell (1766-1859) daughter of Governor Richard Caswell. He was the first Intendant of Police (mayor) elected by the people. The Whites had ten children, one of whom, Eleanor, married Governor David L. Swain. Their son, John Haywood (1793-1800) was the first known burial in City Cemetery.

16 **Lawrence O'Bryan Branch (1820-1862).** Lawyer and soldier. Orphaned at an early age, Branch was raised by his uncle, John Branch (Gov. 1817-1820). He graduated head of his class from Princeton University in 1838. Moving to Florida in 1840, Branch practiced law in Tallahassee and fought in the Seminole Indian War in 1841. Returning to North Carolina, he became president of the Raleigh and Gaston Railroad in 1853 and was elected to Congress in 1855. While serving as a brigadier general in the Confederate Army, Branch was killed in 1862 in the Battle of Antietam.

17 **Jacob Marling (d. 1833).** Artist. Marling painted portraits in watercolor and oil of numerous members of the General Assembly and other well-known personages. Marling's oil painting of the first State House hangs in the North Carolina Museum of History.

18 **Peace Plot.** The stone wall around this plot was supposedly designed with a unique drainage system which prevents standing water. William Peace (1773-1865) and his brother Joseph (1766-1842) operated a store (J&W Peace) on Fayetteville Street. The brothers were large landowners in Wake and Granville counties. William Peace was treasurer of the Raleigh Academy; a city commissioner; chief trustee of Rex Hospital; city treasurer; and a director of the State Bank. A religious man, Peace was one of the original four ruling elders of the First Presbyterian Church. In 1857, he donated $10,000 and 8 acres of land to establish a Presbyterian school for women—Peace College. The plot includes Joseph's family- his daughter Ann Peace Young (1794-1822) and her six-year-old son Joseph William Young (1816-1822) and his granddaughter, Ann Augusta Young Holden (1819- 1852), the first wife of Governor William Holden.

19 **Pollok-Devereux Plot.** Frances Pollok (1771-1849) was a descendant of Thomas Pollok, colonial governor and a granddaughter of renowned New England minister, Jonathan Edwards. She was one of the largest landowners in eastern N.C. In 1790, Frances married John Devereux (1761-1844). A native of County Wexford, Ireland, John trained for the priesthood. When he refused to take his vows, he became estranged from his family. As Lieutenant in the British Navy, he served off Wilmington during the Revolutionary War. After the war, he settled in New Bern and became a wealthy merchant. Two Devereux sons, George and Thomas, both attorneys, are buried here. Thomas served as Reporter of the N.C. Supreme Court (1826-1840).

20 **African American Section.** The one-acre African- American section was reserved for "Negroes and persons of color." No burial post-dates 1872, when the municipal Mt. Hope Cemetery was established for African-Americans.

21 **Anna Julia Haywood Cooper (1859-1964).** Educator. Her book, ***A Voice from the South by a Black Woman of the South*** (1892), established her as an early advocate of black feminism and human rights. Born into slavery in Raleigh to Hannah Stanley Haywood, she entered St. Augustine's Normal School at an early age, among the first boarding pupils. She married Rev. George A. C. Cooper, a teacher at the school in 1877. Widowed at the age of 21, Cooper devoted her life to education. She received an A.B. (1884) and an A.M. (1887) from Oberlin College in Ohio and a Ph.D. (1925) from the Sorbonne in Paris. She was one of the first black women to achieve a Ph.D. Cooper taught at both St. Augustine's and Oberlin. She was principal of the prestigious M Street High School (now Dunbar High School) in Washington, D.C.; Professor of Languages, Lincoln University and president of Frelinghuysen University. Her speech at the Women's Congress in Chicago in 1894 was highly praised by Frederick Douglass. Cooper was the only woman elected to membership in the American Negro Academy, founded 1897. In June 2009, the U.S. Postal Service issued a stamp in her honor. U.S. passports carry this quote: "The cause of freedom is not the cause of a race or a sect, a party or a class—it is the cause of humankind, the very birthright of humanity." –Anna Julia Haywood Cooper.

22 **The Stonemasons.** The graves clustered here are those of stonemasons who emigrated to the U.S. from Scotland, Ireland, and England. They cut the stones for the present Capitol following the destruction by fire of the original State House in 1831.

23 **Gales Plot. Joseph Gales (1761-1841).** Editor and publisher. A native of Sheffield, England, Gales, his wife, Winifred and their young family fled their native land in 1795 for the U.S., based on their political principles. Settling first in Philadelphia, Gales printed the ***Independent Gazetteer***. He soon came to the attention of North Carolina congressmen seeking to establish an anti-Federalist newspaper in the state's new capital. ***The Raleigh Register***, first published October 22, 1799, became one of the most influential newspapers in the state prior to the Civil War. The paper remained in the Gales family until 1856. In 1833, Gales turned the ***Register*** over to son Weston, and moved with his wife, Winifred, to Washington, D.C., where another son, Joseph, Jr. published the National Intelligencer. After his wife's death in 1839, Gales returned to Raleigh. Gales was twice elected mayor. Francis Asbury Lumsden, co-founder of the ***New Orleans Picayune*** in 1836, was an apprentice at the ***Raleigh Register*** under Gales. **Weston Raleigh Gales (1802-1848).** Editor and publisher. Highly esteemed in the community and the American press, Weston, youngest son of Joseph Gales, was editor of the ***Raleigh Register*** from 1833-1848. He was a mayor of the city and the only Whig elected to the legislature from Wake County prior to 1848.

24 **William McPheeters (1778-1842).** Clergyman and educator. McPheeters came to Raleigh in 1810 to become headmaster of the Raleigh Academy. He also became "Pastor of the City," at an annual salary of $500. In 1816, when the First Presbyterian Church was organized, he became the first minister. At one time, he was offered the presidency of Davidson College, but declined because of poor health. McPheeters was twice a widower before marrying Margaret Ann McDaniel (1794-1862) in 1812.

RCCP
Raleigh City Cemeteries Preservation, Inc.

Raleigh City Cemeteries Preservation (RCCP) is a 501C3 organization and is incorporated as a non-profit in the State of North Carolina. Established in 2006, RCCP is a partner with the City of Raleigh and others to promote and provide preservation and restoration of the three city-owned cemeteries, City Cemetery, O'Rorke -Catholic Cemetery and Mount Hope Cemetery.

www.rccpreservation.org Post Office Box 33012 | Raleigh, NC 27636

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO HISTORIAN BETSY SHAW FOR HER PARTICIPATION AS OUR AUDIO TOUR GUIDE, AND HER INITIAL WORK IN COMPILING MUCH OF THIS INFORMATION.