

Edinburg Ohio Historical
Society
Cemetery Committee Proposal

10 October 2024

EOHS proposed to adhere additionally to the following guidelines:

- No stone will be removed from the area it was originally placed.
- All work on a stone will be done in a timely manner.
- Stones being worked on will be staked with wooden stakes. Stakes will be removed when work on the stone has been completed. Wire flags that can damage lawn mowers will not be used.
- Restoration Process
 - Each stone to be restored will be assessed by trained conservators.
 - The plan for restoration will be kept in the database shared with the Sexton and Trustees.
 - Photos of all work before, during and after will be kept in the shared database.
 - Details of repairs and materials used will be recorded in the database for future reference.
- All stones repaired will be monitored by conservators for a minimum of one year.

The EOHS proposes to coordinate the data from past cemetery walk throughs (currently 5 in number) to provide a comprehensive map of the old section and north section of the cemetery to assist in compliance of Ohio Revised Code. This data will be in the shared database and a copy will be stored in an offsite location (Portage County Historical Society).

- *All graves or lots should be identified by a map that is stored in the office of the cemetery per ORC Section 1721.09.*

The EOHS proposes to obtain and post agreed upon signage to comply with Ohio Department of Commerce minimum standards for cemetery maintenance.

- *Rules regarding flowers and decorations should be posted at the cemetery.*
- *Cemetery management contact information should be posted at the main public entrance of the cemetery and at the onsite office, if one exists.*

The EOHS proposes to have the restoration of the old section and north section of the cemetery completed in preparation for the Semisecular Celebration of the United States of America (American 250) in 2026.

The EOHS proposes to obtain and install flag tubes that will put all honorary decorations to graves in a uniform place, ensuring that each Veteran's flag stands with its honorary marker. This will also make it easier to maintain the area around the marker/stone. The location of the tubes will be agreed upon unless the "displaying etiquette" of the American Flag dictates otherwise.

Finances

The EOHS proposes to underwrite any and all expenses involved with the restoration and improvement of the cemetery through donation from the community, grant writing and fund raising.

Accounting of donations to date

Donation of Gravel	T	325.00
Donation of Sand	T	250.00
Donation of D2, buckets, scrapers, brushes.	T	400.00
Donation of Chromagraphic Paint for Cemetery Sign	T	75.00
Donation of Barrel of D2 and supplies	T	2,300.00
Donation of Tri Pod	H	2,500.00
Donations Historic Mortar	H	200.00
Donations Pry Bars, water hose, buckets, forms, trowels, towels, Brushes, D2 spray bottles, historic sand, paint, primer, drill, brooms, construction trash bags, drills, paint, primer...	H	4,000.00
Granite base for Bronze Marker	H	300.00
Donation of Bronze marker	H	<u>1,000.00</u>
		\$ 11,575.00

Residents have contacted me and have committed to providing for the needs of this project, many insist on privacy, or at the time of the donation will indicate if it is ok to share their donations and I call these people patrons. Currently they include 4 local businesses who have made it known to me when we need something to contact them first and they will provide. Private patrons also have extended such offers. Currently they have provided for our every need: example; giving their time to create historically designed slotted bases for broken ones.

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**James Chapman/Albert Grove Shewell Descendants Donation Project
Item #1**

Approval from Trustees to make a map, identify sunken stones, clean stones that are not readable., uncover unreadable tombstones. Approval from the sexton to trim, and clean up flowers, bushes around the stones. to clean all stones.

1. Use the sexton book of 1905 to plot out a square burial/stone location map,
2. Recheck the locations on the draft map (at cem)
3. Add any unknown stones after 1905 that were not on the sexton book plots
4. Add any unknown burials from research to the map for township records with documerntation
5. Approval from sexton to stake, string rows and also spray paint grass to id line of rows
6. Correct the locations of the stones found, gps all order of stones in family plot
7. Count the # of sunken or fallen stones to be unearthed to identify; repaired & flag them
8. Give report to the sexton to discuss with the Trustees how to handle it
9. Note any missing pieces from standing stones catalog them, gps, and find out what stones/monuments they need returned to and repaired.
10. Identify the buried, sunken missing stones in each row of 50per rows (cem) x ca 40 rows 2000 possible tombstones
11. Unearth the face of them to id who the stone is for location on map,, gps, flag for later ground work/ map and reports to sexton.
12. Clean the stones in a row by row order, as we map (2000 tombstones)
13. Locate the lot pin at each corners of lot, catalog how many remain from 1850
14. Test each stone for stability and safety for volunteers and curious visitors
15. flag/notify the sexton of urgent unsafe stones not visible to the average eye, for safety
16. Old stones have missing decayed pins, that means they are free standing and can fall
17. Report to the sexton any stones of immediate danger
18. Clean the old unreadable stones (cem)
19. Landscape, clean over grown flowers, trim back trees hanging on the monuments
20. Prepare a map with names and dates
21. Locate a place to place the map for the public, next year with Trustees' approval
22. Prepare the draft map and post the map (after Trustee Approval)
23. Tell a little history on each family in the older section to give to the township
24. When have some data, invite the Portager to do some stories, ask for donations
25. Donations to repair the stones in need the most Veterans Assoc, Builders, Churches, Businesses, Family, Genealogist, Historians; local concerned citizens
26. Identify and find stones not in rows, stones at the cem shed, id and collect to use later
27. Notify sexton where they belong on the map. So he can move them to the proper locations
28. Probe lots from map that are not visible anymore, look for original foundations for resetting and repair at a later date
29. Mapping will take place now/ over the winter with pictures taken over the summer, after checking all families burial of kids and grandkids thru research, and news articles and

PERMISSION to Clean AND PRESERVE CEMETERY Item #1 Addendum Attached

The undersigned Township Trustee hereby grants permission to the Volunteer named below and persons acting in a volunteer capacity under the supervision of said Volunteer to clean and attempt to preserve **EDINBURG CEMETERY**, located in **Edinburg Township, Portage County, Ohio**. With the understanding that such efforts may include (but not be limited to) removing all noxious and detrimental vegetation,; probing for buried gravestones and markers, repairing stones and markers, and straightening and resetting gravestones. Preparing a location map, beautification of the Cemetery .Use of an approved stone mason, bonded, insured. While funds are available. 2024 thru 2026

The undersigned Township Trustee affirms that the above-names cemetery is NOT in private ownership. Making responsibility for the care and maintenance of said cemetery that of the undersigned Township Trustee.

Signature of Township Trustee Special Instructions

Date signed: _____

Printed name of Trustee: _____

Township of: _____ EDINBURG OH _____

County of PORTAGE _____

Address of Township _____ Phone Number of Trustee _____

Volunteer below represents: James Chaqpmann/Albert Shewell Descendants Evelyn Shewell, Sponsor Donation offer \$ 5,000 in 2024, \$5,000 offer in 2025 Provision: Sandra Paris, Project Mgr

The volunteer named below agrees to perform the tasks set out herein to the best of his/her ability, promising to act in good faith to clean the above-named cemetery, to be responsible for the acts for any persons working under the volunteer's supervision, to be responsible for any damage sustained at the site and to exercise due and diligent care to prevent injury to the site or any persons.

The Volunteer named below certifies that neither he/she nor any persons operating under the volunteer's supervision shall remove from the above location any stone, monuments, marker, artifact, ornamentation, enclosure or other object without the express permission of the Township Trustee named above.

The volunteer named below further agrees that his/her efforts shall comply with generally accepted cemetery conservation and restoration techniques, as promulgated yby the Association for Gravestone studies,

Signature of volunteer Date signed _____

Printed Name of Volunteer: _____, Historian Chapman-Shewell Descendants
Address of Volunteer: 143 Watson Road, N Benton, Ohio 44449 Tele Cell 330 671 2253ail Address
e mail of Volunteer: sandykp@aol.com FriendsofEdinburgOHCemetery@gmail.com