



THE TRADITION



A Publication of the Riverside Cemetery Association and Foundation

ISSUE NUMBER



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2019



The Roads Around Riverside: A Story of the Construction of the Medina and Jennings Freeways

In 1963, the Cemetery received news from State Highway Department officers that areas of the cemetery might be used in the construction of a new highway system as part of the push to build a uniform nationwide road network, an effort which began in the 1920's and was rejuvenated by the Federal Aid Road Act of 1956. This information was discussed quite a bit by Riverside's board of Trustees at their annual meeting, but there was little to vote on until the...
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INSIDE:

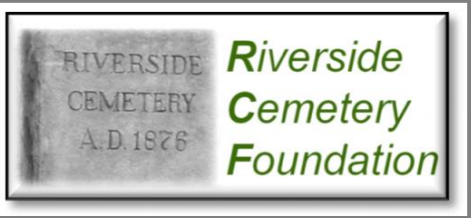
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Greetings and Introduction

The Tradition newsletter is a publication designed to introduce families new to Riverside Cemetery and to keep members informed of the current happenings around the grounds. Riverside Cemetery is a non-profit association of lot owners. Revenues from sales and services are used to fund day-to-day operations of this active and historic Cemetery. If you wish to be added or removed from the newsletter mailing or emailing list, or have any questions regarding Riverside Cemetery, please let us know. See page 4 for Contact Information and Cemetery Hours.



**HOLIDAY WREATHS
& BOUQUETS
NOW AVAILABLE
See Announcement
on Page 4**



Donations Received 2/1/2019-10/1/2019

Anonymous Easter Service Donations

Kamilia A. Abadier

Brian Applegate

In memory of Amanda Loric

Daniel Baillis

In memory of All family members at Riverside

David Bishara

Susan B. Brewer

In memory of Frederick Bellamy & Constance Berkey

Bernard & Marian Buckner

In memory of Ruth Buckner

Willie M. Coleman

In memory of Jessie Wilkins

Dennis Coughlin

Rev. Dave Enzman

In memory of Maghale Gamble

Fortuna Funeral Home

In memory of Joseph L. Fortuna

Elizabeth Vaeth & (Foster Family Foundation)

In memory of Byron T. & Suzanne S. Foster

John H. Franklin Jr.

In memory of Sessions & Lamson Families

Beatrice Glover

In memory of Bernard Glover, Catherine Goodloe & Robert Wade

Lisa & Noberto Gonzalez

In memory of Deborah Lee Gonzalez

Grace Green

In memory of Baby Boy Green

Deloris Hamilton

In memory of Tom, Danny Chappell & Joshua Borden Paulehlert

Joseph R. Haven

In memory of Thelma & William Haven

Richard & Sally Hollington Jr.

In memory of Robert & Florence Stecher & Robert Stecher Jr.

Julius G. Kanyok

In memory of Barbara, John & Mike Kanyok

Alfred C. Kellogg

In memory of Clara Kellogg

Fredrick Lambing

In memory of Ms. Barbara E. Lambing

Alexander E. Lancaster Jr.

In memory of Lancaster Family

Karen Lucas

Gail Malcom

In memory of Willie Mae Rucket

Rita J. Novak

Everett O'Dell

In memory of Oda O'Dell

Robert Oldenburg

In memory of Hohlfelder & Oldenburg Families

Steve & Debra Peters

In memory of Clarence & Mae Pollock

Robert & Teresa Polk

Marjorie A. Rahnenfuehrer

In memory of Mr. Jan Rahnenfuehrer

Rothacker Family

In memory of Shirley J. Graff

Ray Ruhlmann III

In memory of Amanda Seelbach

Dr. J. Victor Ryckman

In memory of Marie McElroy

Delores Saleem Held & Robert Saleem

In memory of Fred Saleem

Barbara Schenk

In memory of Robert & Marian Schenk

Gerald R. Sprinkle

In memory of Chas & Louisa Kubec

June Travis

In memory of John E. & Catherine A. Joplin & Oscar & Emilia Barth

Robin Weaver

In memory of Grace Dix Townes & John Dix

Raymond & Betty White

In memory of Troy Christopher White

Jean Wolske

In memory of Mike Wolske

Gail A. Wright-Fraley

In memory of Nancy Charles Wright

Your Generous Contributions Support Our Community Events, Education Programs, And Historic Preservation Efforts Thank You!

The Tradition Fall 2019

(Continued from page 1) ...State Highway Department decided exactly where the freeway would be built. The cemetery staff and board instead spent its time learning as much as they could about the project, appraising property, and considering what this would mean for the cemetery's present and future interments and visitors alike.

By the end of 1964, the new highway was already under construction. It had been determined that parts of Riverside Cemetery would indeed be taken by the right of eminent domain, which meant the State Highway Dept. could take what it needed, and would provide compensation to the cemetery for what it took. For the Medina freeway, the northern edge of the cemetery would be used, and for the Jennings Freeway, parts of the southern borders would be taken, including the area known as Granger Hill which was partly owned by Riverside and partly by the J & L Steel Co.

While the state was deciding what land they would need, Riverside's board of trustees was insisting that no graves be relocated at any point. The state decided to use the steep slope of the northern ravine on Riverside's property for the highway, making sure that no burials at Riverside would need to be moved to accommodate the construction. In addition, as Riverside requested, the state put up walls around the construction sites to keep the building process as peaceful as possible to cemetery visitors.

Besides these important requests, Riverside also pushed to keep as many trees as possible in the surrounding areas, particularly at the front entrance, which would be partially taken to make room for the highway entrance ramp. Construction caused many trees to come down, but, as seen on page one, many were also able to remain and mature. Finally, Riverside insisted that drivers heading south on Pearl Road still be able to turn left into the cemetery gates and that the entrance to the highway would not prevent this. This was also agreed upon by the state.

Riverside's trustees were happy to hear that the state was willing to accommodate the requests listed above, and to pay a fair price for the acreage to be taken, but there were still a few things that we had to give up. To put in the highway entrance ramp, the state had to remove the caretaker's residence and the service garage, and they had to move the actual entrance drive into the cemetery further south. In addition to paying for the land taken, the state also repaid the expense of replacing these buildings in time for the old ones to be torn down. Also, the state's use of the cemetery border along Jennings road would mean more acreage taken and the loss of a service entrance on the southeast corner of the cemetery. This made the easier access to the cemetery from Pearl Road that much more important.

The highway projects extended well into the 1970's as the cemetery adjusted to the new traffic, replaced drainage and landscaping, and finished other projects left after the state's work on the highway was complete. In all, Riverside lost around fourteen acres, as well as some of its historically scenic surroundings. However, fifty years later Riverside still has ample room for future burials. Plus with the addition of a new highway so close, Riverside is easily accessed by families all over Northeast Ohio area, and greets travelers commuting to and from downtown as a landmark, connecting Cleveland's natural landscape to its industry, and its history to today.



Left: I-71, also known as the Medina Freeway, during its early construction days. A portion of this highway now runs directly to the north of Riverside Cemetery.



The picture above was the Service Garage and the picture to the right was caretaker's residence, both of which were torn down to make room for the I-71 entrance ramp.



Riverside Cemetery Association
invites you to attend our
**EASTER SUNRISE
SERVICE**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2020
6:30 a.m.**
In the
William R. Halley Chapel
at
Riverside Cemetery

**RIVERSIDE CEMETERY
HOURS OF OPERATION
& CONTACT INFORMATION**

Cemetery Gates

October – March 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
April – September 7:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Office Hours

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday – Saturday
(Closed Holidays)

Grave Clean-off Dates

(Weather permitting) March 1st & October 15th

3607 Pearl Road
Cleveland, OH 44109
216-351-4800

Email: riverside.cemetery@att.net
Website: www.riversidecemeterycleveland.org

To be added or removed from our Newsletter mailing list or email list, please call or email the office.



HOLIDAY WREATHS & BOUQUETS

NOW AVAILABLE

Wreaths – \$42

5 styles available. Price includes tax, easel-stand & installation

Poinsettia Bouquet – \$30

Price includes tax, cone-shaped vase & installation

Placement in early December. Items will remain on graves until the spring clean-off which starts March 2nd.

WHILE THEY LAST!

SEE ORDER FORM FOR SELECTION AND DETAILS

Dates to Remember

GATES OPEN 7:30 AM – 5 PM, INCLUDING HOLIDAYS

11/28/19 THANKSGIVING	OFFICE CLOSED
12/24/19 CHRISTMAS EVE	OFFICE HOURS 8AM-12 PM
12/25/19 CHRISTMAS	OFFICE CLOSED
12/31/19 NEW YEAR'S EVE	OFFICE HOURS 8AM-12 PM
1/1/20 NEW YEAR'S DAY	OFFICE CLOSED
3/2/20 DECORATION CLEAN-OFF (WEATHER PERMITTING)	
4/12/20 EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE	6:30 AM

Serving all Faiths since 1876

RIVERSIDE CEMETERY

*Personal Concern & Compassion,
Our Signature Tradition*



- Family and Single Accommodations
- Upright Headstones/ Monuments Permitted
- Urn Garden & Columbarium Niches
- Babyland
- Semi-annual clearing of decorations

**Administrative Staff
& Grounds Keepers**

Mark Craig
General Manager

Scott Halley
President

Shirley Bill
General Foreman

Brianna Owens
Administrative Assistant

Bill Halley
*Retired General Manager
Secretary/Treasurer*

Kenneth Langley
Assistant General Foreman