

Thursday, February 17, 2022
Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting

4:00 PM

Meeting may be viewed at: Live Stream on City of College Place, Washington YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbx3qrqzLDL_05NusReSI-g/featured

Zoom Attendee Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87441987596>

Or you may call this number to listen: 1-669-900-9128 ID#874 4198 7596 Phone controls: *6 - toggle mute /un-mute and *9 - raise hand

Historic Preservation

1. Opening Items

Subject :	1.01 Discussion Protocol for Virtual Meetings
Meeting :	Feb 17, 2022 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting
Category :	1. Opening Items
Access :	Public
Type :	Information

Public Content

Virtual Meeting Discussion Protocol:

- After staff presentation of an item, the Chair will request comments from each Member
- After each member has had an opportunity, the Chair will then speak if so desired and Members will use the raise hand feature to notify the Chair of their desire to speak again. However, they will not enter the conversation without first being recognized by the Chair. This should allow for a thorough discussion with everyone having opportunity to express their views while maintaining order.

Subject :	1.02 Call to Order
Meeting :	Feb 17, 2022 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting
Category :	1. Opening Items
Access :	Public
Type :	

Subject :	1.03 Roll Call
Meeting :	Feb 17, 2022 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting
Category :	1. Opening Items
Access :	Public
Type :	Information

Public Content

Position 1 - Vacant

Position 2 - Gary Petersen, Chairperson- term expires 12/31/2022

Position 3 - Mike Denny - term expires 12/31/2022

Position 4 -Edward Kontz- term expires 12/31/2023

Position 5 -Terrell Gottschall, Vice Chair- term expires 12/31/2024

Staff

Jon Rickard, Community Development Director

Kristi Scherger, Community Development Administrative Assistant

2. Consent Agenda

Subject :	2.01 Approve Agenda for February 17, 2022
Meeting :	Feb 17, 2022 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting
Category :	2. Consent Agenda
Access :	Public
Type :	Minutes
Subject :	2.02 Approve Minutes from July 15, 2021
Meeting :	Feb 17, 2022 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting
Category :	2. Consent Agenda
Access :	Public
Type :	Action (Consent)

File Attachments

[HPC MINUTES JULY 15 21.pdf \(855 KB\)](#)

Subject :	2.03 Approve Consent Agenda - Our adopted rules of Parliamentary Procedure, The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, provide for a consent agenda listing several items for approval of the Commission by a single motion. Most of the items listed under the consent agenda have gone through previous review either, at a workshop, or by subcommittee review and recommendation. Documentation concerning these items has been provided to all Commission members and the public in advance to assure an extensive and thorough review. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any Commission member.
Meeting :	Feb 17, 2022 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic

Meeting

Category :	2. Consent Agenda
Access :	Public
Type :	Action (Consent)
Recommended Action :	Motion to approve consent agenda items 2.01 through xxxx

3. Public Comment

Subject :	3.01 Public Comment Procedure for Virtual Meetings - Commission meetings are primarily structured to permit Members to arrive at the decisions necessary to advise the Commission.
Meeting :	Feb 17, 2022 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting
Category :	3. Public Comment
Access :	Public
Type :	Information

Public Content

Commission meetings are primarily structured to permit Members to arrive at the decisions necessary to advise the Commission.

COVID-19 Virtual Meeting Protocol for Public Comment:

When submitting public comments, include the following regardless of the manner you are using: - Note that there are deadlines for each method of commenting.

- Your Name
- Your Address

Public comments may be provided in writing (If typewritten, no less than 11 pt font). Submit to Clerk@cpwa.us no later than 4:30PM on the meeting date to be included in the record.

Public Comments in person may be made by telephone or virtually during the meeting:

- Telephone comment - Call 1-669-900-9128, entering the meeting ID (provided at beginning of agenda) and raising your hand (*9 to raise hand, *6 to mute/un-mute) when comments are requested.
- Virtual comment - Join using the Zoom Attendee link (provided at beginning of agenda) and raise your hand when comments are requested.

Once recognized, you will have five minutes to speak on any subject that is under the control of the Commission.

4. Regular Agenda

Subject :	4.01 Election of Officers for 2022
Meeting :	Feb 17, 2022 - Historic Preservation Commission

	Electronic Meeting
Category :	4. Regular Agenda
Access :	Public
Type :	Action
Recommended Action :	Motion to approve Commissioner XX as Committee Chair. Motion to approve Commissioner XX as Committee Vice Chair.

Public Content

Election of Officers are to be held at the first meeting of each year. Presiding officers may be nominated again. The effective date of newly elected Officers begins immediately if the candidate is present and does not decline.

Subject :	4.02 Historic Cemetery Grant 2022
Meeting :	Feb 17, 2022 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting
Category :	4. Regular Agenda
Access :	Public
Type :	Discussion

Public Content

In 2021 staff applied for a Historic Cemetery Grant to install a granite monument sign at the County Poor Farm Cemetery. At this time, the Historic Cemetery Advisory Committee is intending to fully fund the project! Contracts have not been executed but research work can begin on developing the list of people buried at the cemetery that should have their name engraved on the monument sign. Walla Walla 2020 has already done an extensive amount of research and would be a great place to start and may be willing to help out. Walla Walla County Burial Records indicate that approximately 700 people may be buried in the cemetery. My hope is that one or two the Historic Preservation Commissioners would be willing to take the lead on researching the burial records to make sure that we capture and honor all those who are buried at the cemetery, decipher name spellings, and records of birth/death if known.

Staff will contact monument companies in the region for estimates and conceptual design.

File Attachments

[Email.Historic.Cemetery.Grant.Award.2021.12.21.pdf \(358 KB\)](#)

Subject :	4.03 Ground Penetrating Radar Survey - Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery
Meeting :	Feb 17, 2022 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting
Category :	4. Regular Agenda
Access :	Public

Type :

Public Content

Attached is the final report and map of the Cemetery.

File Attachments

[Walla-Walla-County-Poor-Farm-Cemetery-GPR-Report-2022.pdf \(3.631 KB\)](#)

5. Reports

6. Closing Items

Subject :	6.01 Next regularly scheduled meeting is March 17, 2022.
Meeting :	Feb 17, 2022 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting
Category :	6. Closing Items
Access :	Public
Type :	
Subject :	6.02 Adjourn
Meeting :	Feb 17, 2022 - Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting
Category :	6. Closing Items
Access :	Public
Type :	Procedural

Historic Preservation Commission Electronic Meeting Agenda (Thursday, July 15, 2021)

Generated by Kristi Scherger on Thursday, July 15, 2021

1. Opening Items

Information: 1.01 Discussion Protocol for Virtual Meetings

1.02 Roll Call

Chair, Commissioner Gottschall called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

Present	Commissioners	Gary Petersen - Chair Terrell Gottschall - Vice Chair Mike Denny Stanley Green
	Guest Speaker	Bernard Houssen
Excused	Staff	Jon Rickard, Community Development Director Kristi Scherger, Community Development Administrative Assistant Lisa Neissl, City Clerk Edward Kontz

2. Consent Agenda

Action (Consent): 2.01 Approve Agenda for July 15, 2021

Action (Consent): Minutes: 2.02 Approve Minutes from June 17, 2021

Action (Consent): 2.03 Approve Consent Agenda - Our adopted rules of Parliamentary Procedure, The Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, provide for a consent agenda listing several items for approval of the Commission by a single motion. Most of the items listed under the consent agenda have gone through previous review either, at a workshop, or by subcommittee review and recommendation. Documentation concerning these items has been provided to all Commission members and the public in advance to assure an extensive and thorough review. Items may be removed from the consent agenda at the request of any Commission member. Recommended Action: Motion to approve consent agenda items 2.01 through 2.02

Commissioner Green made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Second by Commissioner Gottschall and the motion passed 4-0.

3. Public Comment

Information: 3.01 Public Comment Procedure for Virtual Meetings - Commission meetings are primarily structured to permit Members to arrive at the decisions necessary to advise the Commission.

No public comments.

4. Regular Agenda

Discussion: 4.01 Poor Farm Cemetery-Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) Project - 2nd Public Presentation

Mr. Houssen presented a Power Point presentation of the findings of the GPR data found.

5. Reports

Mr. Rickard discussed status of 75th Anniversary book photos.

6. Closing Items

Procedural: 6.01 Adjourn

**Commissioner Peterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:31PM.
Second by Commissioner Gotschall and the motion passed 4-0.**

Approved:

Chairman / Vice Chairman

Date

Attest:

Jon Rickard – CD Director

Date

The foregoing minutes are the official record of the Historic Preservation Commission meeting that occurred on July 15, 2021. Audio and/or Video recordings are available upon request.

From: [Jon Rickard](#)
To: ["Huy Pham"](#)
Cc: [Grants](#); [Norma Hernandez](#); [Michael Rizzitiello](#); [Brian Carleton](#); [DaShari Schmick](#)
Subject: RE: Historic Cemetery Grant - Poor Farm Cemetery
Date: Tuesday, December 21, 2021 8:38:41 AM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

Huy,

This is wonderful news! Yes, absolutely the City of College Place will be accepting the grant award with the amount and scope as presented and understand and will comply with the ground disturbance comments as they are determined. I understand that no work should begin prior to executing a grant contract with DAHP and ongoing project review by the grant administrators.

Thank you!

Jon Rickard
Community Development Director
City of College Place
509-394-8524



* * * SPECIAL PUBLIC DISCLOSURE NOTICE TO RECIPIENT(S): Information contained in any communication to or from the City of College Place, including attachments, may be subject to the disclosure requirements of Washington's Public Records Act, Ch. 42.56 RCW.

From: Huy Pham <huy@preservewa.org>
Sent: Monday, December 20, 2021 3:40 PM
To: Jon Rickard <JRickard@cpwa.us>
Cc: Grants <grants@preservewa.org>
Subject: Historic Cemetery Grant - Poor Farm Cemetery

STOP and VERIFY - This message came from outside of the City of College Place.

Dear Jon,

We are happy to share that your **Historic Cemetery Grant** application has been *forwarded* by the Advisory Committee to be considered for funding! Prior to an official award notice, followed by grant contracting, we would like to review your accepted scope of work and any potential ground disturbance in relation to the work.

At this time, the Historic Cemetery Advisory Committee is intending to fund the following project:

Cemetery Name: **Poor Farm Cemetery**

Full funding amount of **\$28,000** for the following work:

Funded by the grant: **granite monument sign**

The committee has asked that before accepting the grant, that you verify if work can be done within the next two years as both granite prices and availability, in addition to skilled labor shortages, are uncertain at this time.

At this time, the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) has provided the following preliminary review regard ground disturbance:

*The applicant recognizes the need for contacting the DAHP for a permit as some ground disturbance will be needed to complete the project. A permit is probably going to be required but that is somewhat dependent on the placement of the monument and the depth of disturbance. **Review of the recent GPR results will also be necessary.***

After reviewing the funding amount, scope of work, and ground disturbance comments, please confirm the following:

- 1) If you will be accepting the grant award with the amount and scope as presented
- 2) If you understand and will comply with the ground disturbance comments. Some projects will only require an Inadvertent Discovery Plan (IDP), others may require an Permit issued by the State Department, and a few may even require active monitoring or a report done by a hired archaeologist – each with their own respective cost, that can be included in the budget, but must be acknowledged and completed. If you have any questions about the ground disturbance comments, please do not hesitate to contact: **Guy Tasa, State Physical Anthropologist, Office: (360) 790-1633, Guy.tasa@dahp.wa.gov**

Please confirm that you understand that no work should begin prior to executing a grant contract with DAHP and ongoing project review by the grant administrators. Grant contracting will begin in January of next year, and work can begin with approval thereafter through June 30, 2023. Grants will be awarded as a reimbursement upon project review and completion by DAHP.

Best,
Huy Pham | Preservation Programs Director
he / him / his

Washington Trust for Historic Preservation
1204 Minor Avenue | Seattle, WA 98101
(206)-624-9449 (office) | (206) 462-2999 (mobile)
preservewa.org

Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) Survey of Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery site, City of College Place, WA

Bernard A Housen*, Olivia L Housen

Geology Dept, Western Washington University, 516 High St., Bellingham WA, 98225

*contact: bernich@wwu.edu, January 2022.

This project was funded through a grant to the City of College Place, WA, from the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation- Historic Cemetery Preservation Program. All conclusions and results obtained via this work are made by and are the responsibility of the report authors, and are not endorsed or otherwise approved by the granting agency.

Summary

A Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey of the site of the Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery was conducted, to determine possible locations of gravesite on the property. The Cemetery was in use from the 1870s until the late 1940s. The grave markers and other elements of the cemetery site were removed and the ground used as pasture and parkland, so little in-situ evidence for the locations of gravesites currently exists. For the survey, the site was divided into three areas, and GPR lines were spaced every 2 feet to completely cover the area. Line locations were established with both measuring tapes and GPS. A total of 124 GPR lines were collected. From these data, a large number (>3000) of subsurface targets, corresponding to discontinuous objects in the ground, were identified. Many of these targets are at depths, and have spatial characteristics, that are consistent with burials. Other targets, typically with higher contrast reflections, are attributed to possible pipes, and/or to small cylindrical grave plot markers known to be present. The large number of GPR targets confirms a large number of burials at the site. Identification of individual gravesites was difficult, due to the low reflectivity of the targets. This is consistent with most of the burials being smaller (infants), the possibility of many of the burials being cremated remains, and the age of the burials at the site. The GPR data were compiled into a 3D set of data, allowing the radar reflectivity to be examined in map view. This resulted in a number of rectilinear shapes to be resolved, which correspond to burial sites in the Poor Farm Cemetery. Using new survey data, air imagery, and the 3D-GPR data, a preliminary overlay of the original cemetery plat map is presented.

Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery

The Walla Walla County Poor Farm was established in 1891 and operated until a gradual phase-out in the late 1940s until it finally closed in 1954. County poor houses and poor farms were an important community institution in the United States, providing housing and sustenance for indigent residents of each county, many of which were elderly or infirm. These institutions served this purpose until the advent of the Social Security and other state and federal level support programs were firmly established. A component of the Walla Walla County Poor Farm was the Poor Farm Cemetery, which operated from 1891 until 1954. The cemetery is located on the corner of Mockingbird and Sandpiper Lanes in College Place,

WA. The adjoining land was developed as a mobile home park, following which the majority of the cemetery markers were removed, and the cemetery site was graded and used as a park. The City of College Place, and a local civic organization (Walla Walla 2020- see ww2020.net) worked to document the Walla Walla County Poor Farm and Cemetery as part of their historic sites and markers project (ww202.net/historic-sites/). This resulted in finding many of the burial records for the Poor Farm Cemetery, and provided information needed to erect an informational marker at the cemetery site. Copies of the Poor Farm and cemetery description are included as an appendix to this report, and copies of the photos of the Poor Farm Cemetery burial records will also be included with the data appendix. This information documented the presence of ~600 burials at the site. The locations of the cemetery plots and the spatial organization of the cemetery site are incomplete. Thus the goals of this project are to use geophysical methods (Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) and GPS-enhanced drone-based photometric surveys to locate burials at the site.

Introduction and Methods

For the GPR survey, a GSSI SIR-4000 GPR unit, with a 350 MHz antenna mounted to a wheeled cart, with a GPS unit, were used. A map of the site, with the outline of the property survey conducted for the City of College Place (2021), as well as an estimated location of the cemetery site provided by previous plats, maps, and surveys. To provide a robust link between the GPR survey and the 2021 Property Survey, the SE corner marker of the 2021 survey was used as the reference datum (see survey location map). The largest portion of the site, the elevated, open field, was designated as Area A. Two other locations were also surveyed. Area B is the portion of Sandpiper Lane immediately to the West of Area A (see survey location map). Area C is located immediately to the South of Area A, and corresponds to all or part of a former railway right-of-way (see Figure 1, survey location map).



Figure 1: Cemetery Site, with 2021 Survey boundary, and interpreted historic site boundary

For each area, a grid of GPR lines was established using measuring tapes, with the origin (0 N and 0 W) defined by the SE corner marker of the survey (see GPR area map).



Figure 2: GPR survey Areas

In areas A and B, the GPR lines were run ~ N-S. In Area C, the GPR lines were run ~E-W. The spacing between lines was 2 feet. The direction of travel for each GPR line was noted and a line number assigned.

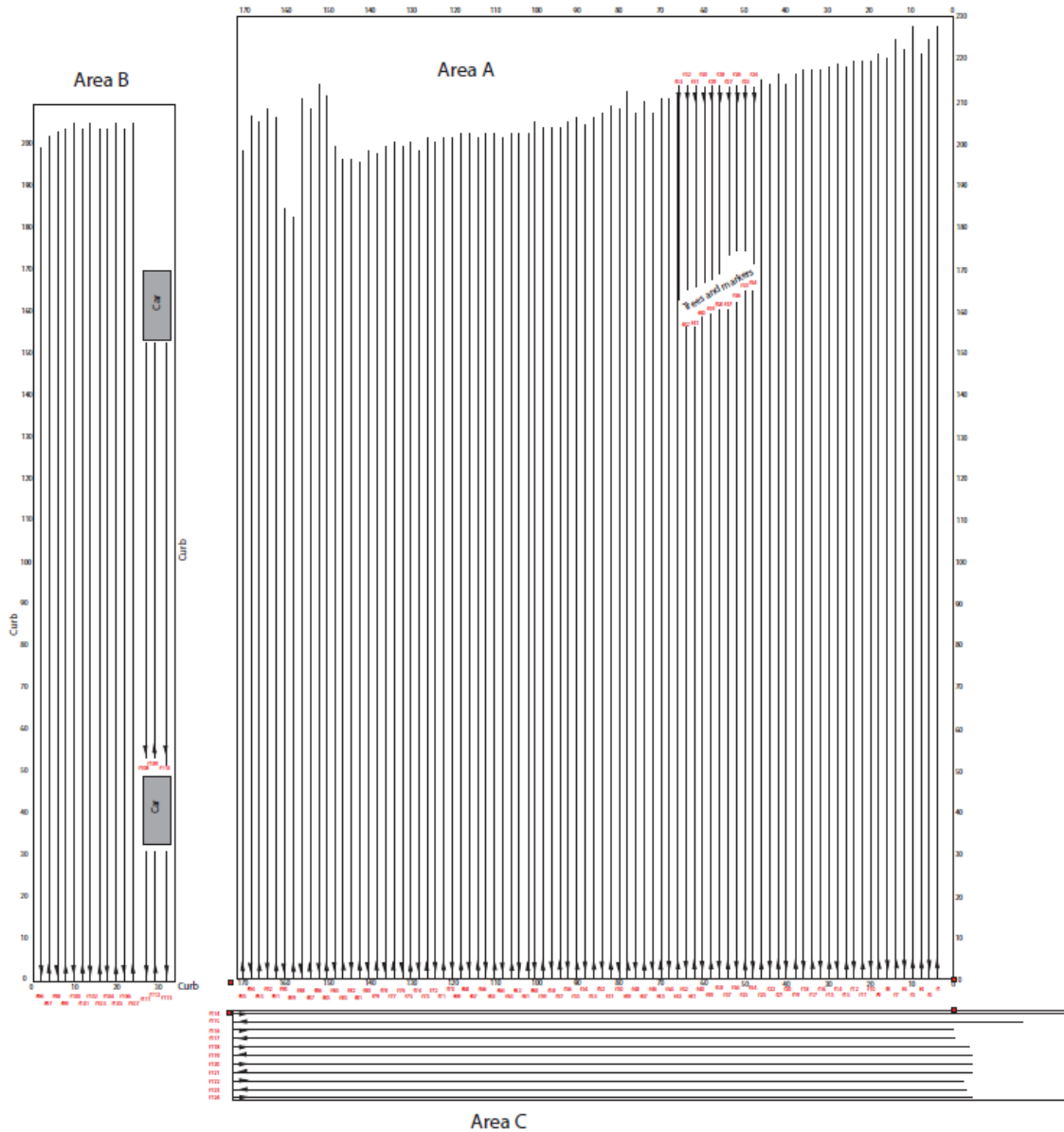


Figure 3. Map depicting GPR survey lines for Areas A-C. A larger version of this figure will be available in the appendix

An appendix listing each line number, its length, and location on an index map will be provided. For the first 12 GPR lines, the GPS data logger did not sync with the GPR unit, so those locations have been manually determined using the measured coordinates. For all of the other GPR data (Lines 13-124), GPS data was also recorded, providing this additional spatial information. The data collection was routine, and the data collected was of good quality.

The GPR data were processed and analyzed using standard methods with the GSSI RADAN-7 software package. Data filtering to remove background and high-frequency noise was applied. For each GPR line, a set of radar scatterers, hyperbola-shaped reflections, was noted. The location (depth and spatial position) of each target was picked, and these coordinates are saved and tabulated (see data appendix). Each GPR line was also used to produce a Google Earth KMZ file, and an image of the radargram for each GPR line was saved (as a .jpg file). The locations of the GPR targets were then plotted on site maps, and in GIS maps with an air photo overlay.

Results

A representative GPR radargram (line 21, Area A) is provided as an example. The uninterpreted data (Figure 4a) and the interpreted data (Figure 4b) are shown.

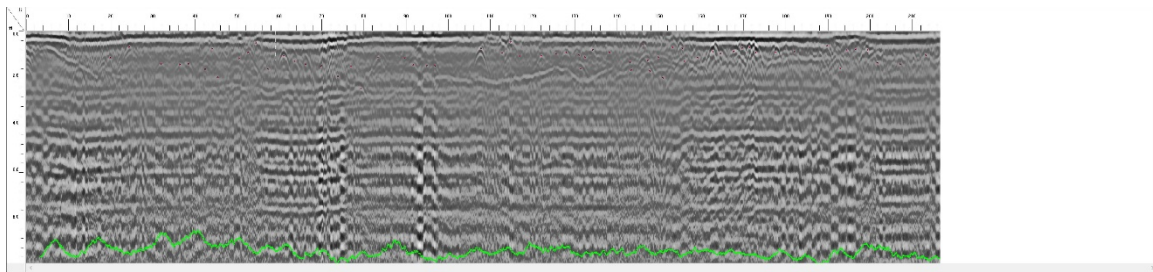


Figure 4a. Radargram for GPR line 24. Distance (ft) is provided at the top of the figure (S on left, N on right), with approximate depth below surface (ft) also provided. This depth is provisional. The greyscale provides a measure of the radar reflection amplitude (darker black/white are higher-amplitude reflections). Green line indicates estimated depth at which signal is too attenuated to provide useful information.

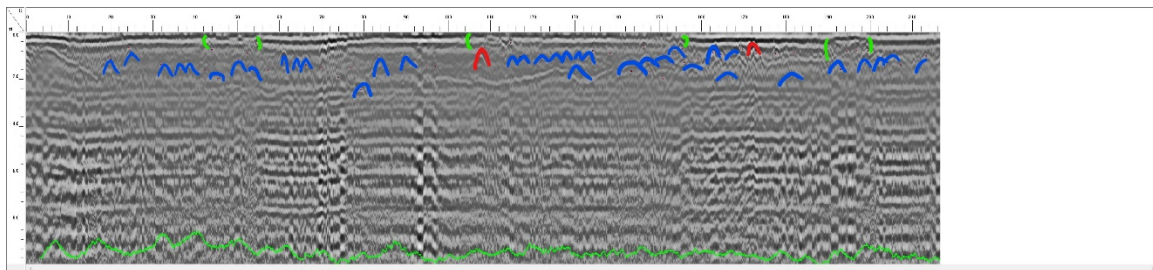


Figure 4b. Interpreted Radargram for GPR line 24. Blue lines note hyperbola-shaped reflections that are picked as GPR targets that are likely associated with burials. Red lines mark high-amplitude GPR reflectors- these can be either subsurface utilities (water pipes), or else cylindrical grave plot markers. The green lines at surface note areas of ground subsidence or disturbance.

The majority of the radar targets were found between 1 and 4 ft depth, with some targets being near the surface. In addition, areas of ground disturbance or subsidence were also noted. This analysis was applied to all 124 GPR lines, with over 3000 GPR targets identified. The locations of these GPR targets are tabulated (see data appendix).

Using the spatial coordinates of the GPR targets, their locations on the GPR lines were mapped (Figure 5). Few targets were found in either Area B or Area C.



Figure 5. GPR lines and GPR targets for Area A. Higher-amplitude targets are plotted in red. Targets that may be associated with burials are marked in blue.

From examination of the GPR target map, it is clear that there is abundant evidence of the past burials at this site. It is somewhat less clear whether sets of targets can be used to identify unique burials or burial plots. The same GPR targets were plotted on the GIS-based photo map of the site (Figure 6).



Figure 6. GPR targets plotted on air photo map in GIS database. Darker blue targets on East side were interpolated without GPS data. All other targets located using GPS coordinates from the collected GPR data.

The next stage of analysis was to create a 3D image of the GPR data. The transect line coordinates were used in Radan7 to construct the 3D radar data. These are then used to portray radar reflectivity in map view. Differing depth intervals were examined, with the best being a 0.8 ft thick average centered on 2.0 ft depth in the areas.

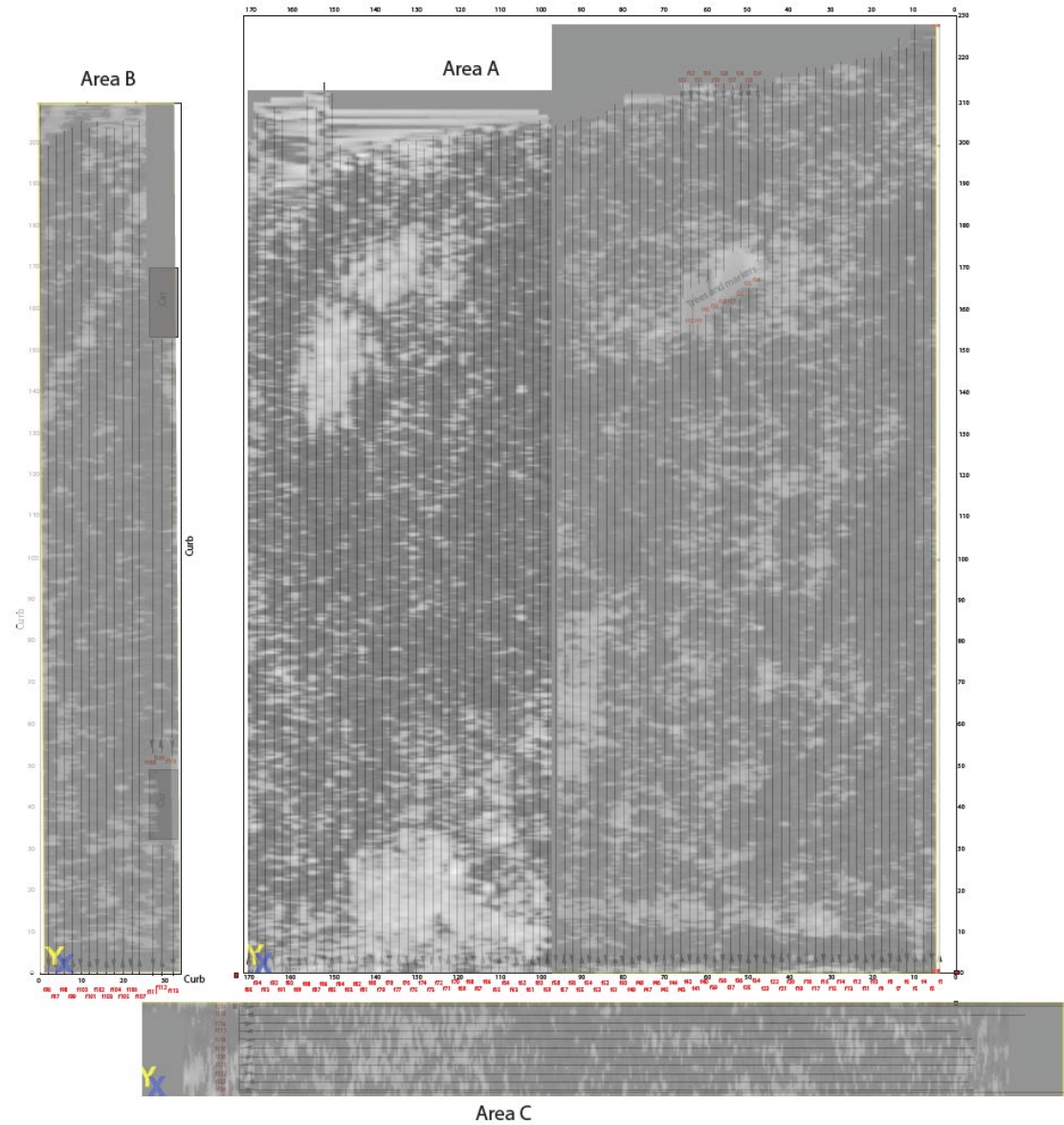


Figure 7. Map view of 3D GPR data set, centered at 2.0 ft nominal depth, for GPR Areas A, B, and C.

On the cemetery site, it is also apparent that numerous rectilinear impressions in the ground surface are present. These are clearly visible in air photos (Figure 9), and somewhat apparent in LIDAR images (from the WA DNR LIDAR portal- Figure 10).



Figure 9. Air photo (Google Earth Pro) of the Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery site. Sets of E-W oriented, rectilinear ground depressions are visible, primarily in the eastern half of the site.

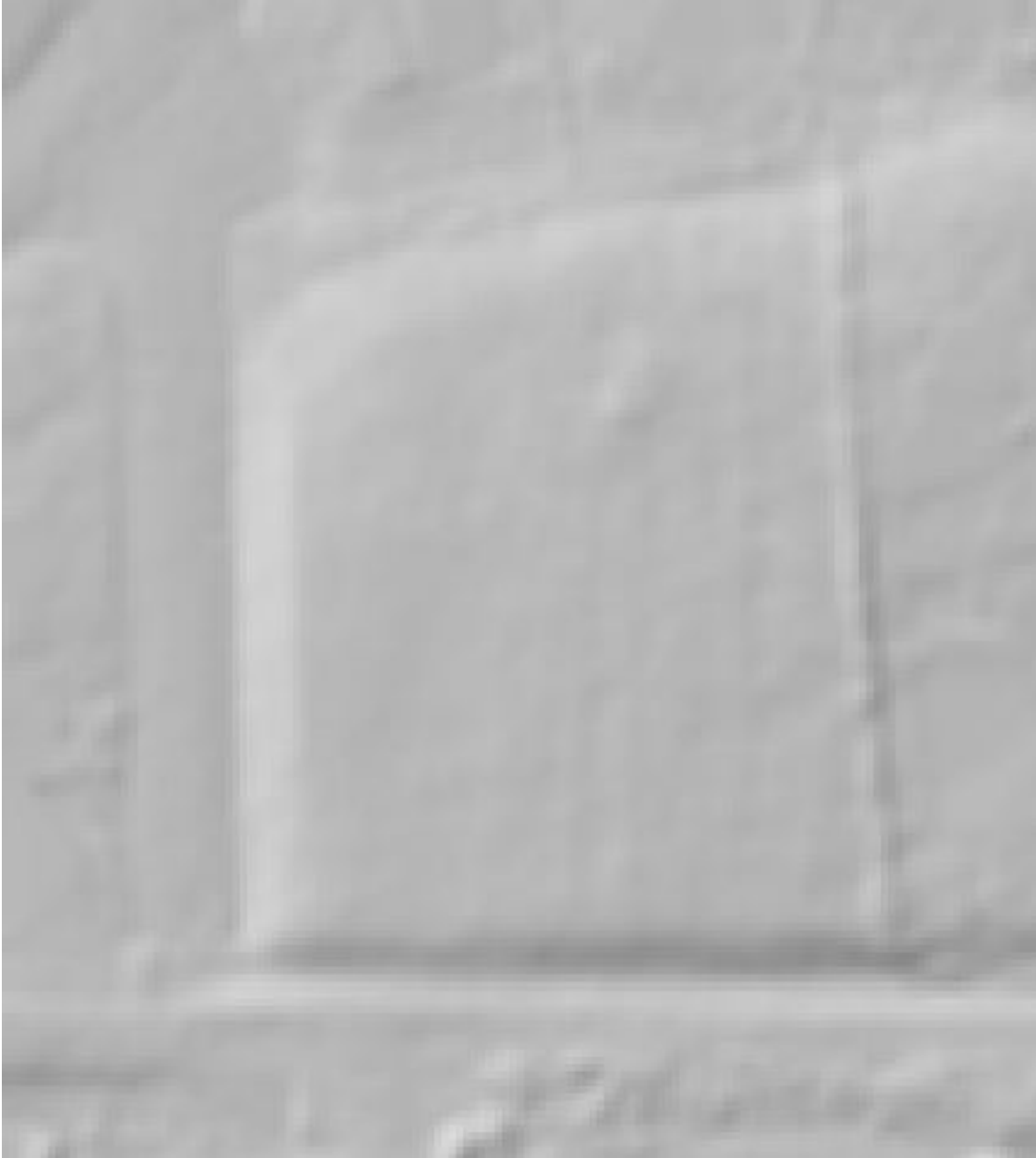


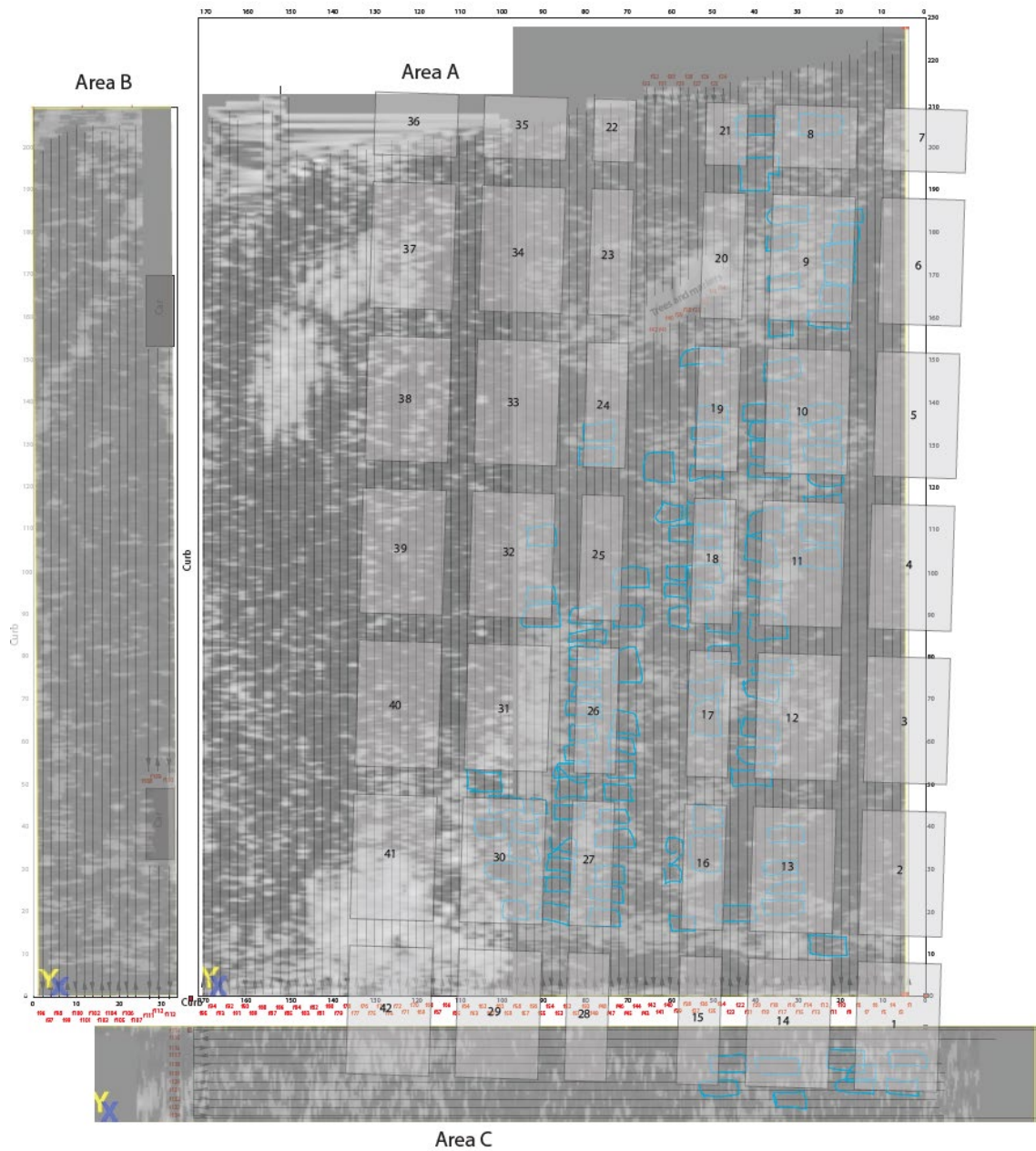
Figure 10. Shaded relief image of WA-DNR Lidar data for the Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery site. The resolution of the LIDAR data is too poor to resolve the depressions evident in Figure 9, however surface features are present, noting that a more detailed LIDAR survey of the site may provide additional information.

A comparison between the GPR map and the ground surface photos was also made (Figure 11). Examination of the GPR data that was overlain on the air photo demonstrates a very close correspondence between the location of ground surface depressions and the subsurface GPR features.



Figure 11. Comparison between surface depressions visible on air photos (A) and rectangular subsurface GPR reflections (B) for the Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery Site, There is good agreement between the locations, sizes, and shapes of these features.

GPR targets was used to attempt to constrain the location of the original 1920s plat map of the Cemetery Site (Figure 12). The dimensions of the cemetery lots, spaces between the lots, their lot numbers were drafted to scale. Using the GPR map image with interpreted burial plot locations, an attempt was made to overlay the Plat map information on the present site. Attempts to use the GPR targets to help constrain the overall location of the Poor Farm Cemetery plots from the Plat map are non-unique. The largest uncertainty is in the location of the railway right-of-way indicated on the Plat map (Figure 12), and the relationship between the more modern locations of the SE corner of the cemetery plat and this Plat map. The chosen location is favored as the density of GPR targets is somewhat less in the areas between cemetery plots, as well as the general footprint of the older Plat map, the current site, and the locations of probable burial-related GPR targets. The preferred interpretation (Figure 13) provides a good correlation between GPR-defined burial plots and the dimensions of the set of cemetery lots on the plat map. The correlation is imperfect- with many burial locations apparent in areas that are not defined as lots on the original plat map. This is likely the product of burials being made in locations that did not strictly adhere to the site plan as shown on the plat map, which is a common practice in older cemeteries in the region.



Other Locations:

This report has focused on the main area of the cemetery site (Area A in Figure 2). The results from Area B and C are described here. For area B, located on SE Sandpiper Ln, did not show any GPR evidence for burials located there. A representative radargram (Figure 14) is

provided. These do show clear evidence of the substrate for the street, and subsurface utilities can be inferred from the map-view GPR data (Figure 15).

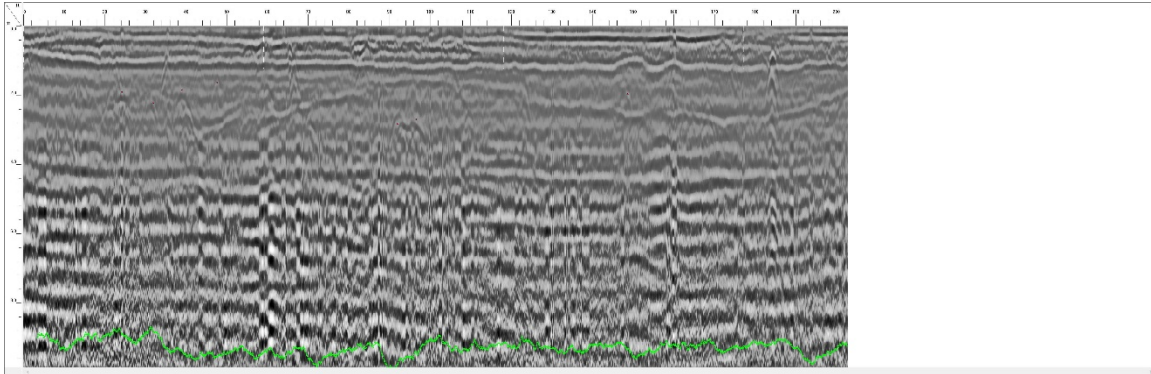


Figure 14. GPR radargram for Area B, under SE Sandpiper Ln.

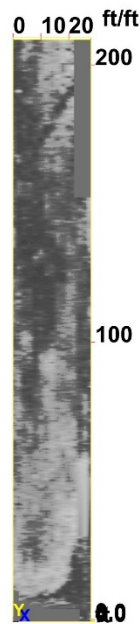


Figure 15. GPR map of Area B. Linear feature traversing north end of area is a subsurface utility.

For Area C, located along the railroad right of way on the southern portion of the study area, the GPR data revealed several interesting features. As noted above, some evidence for several burial sites may be present on the eastern portion of area C (see Figure 13). Other features include possible remnants of the railway (Figure 16). In this image, narrow GPR reflections

can be found that are oriented in an E-W direction. These two linear features are spaced 3.75 feet apart. This is narrower than standard-gauge for railroads (4.67 feet), however.

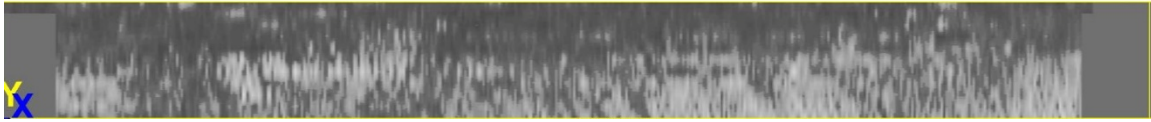


Figure 16. GPR map of Area C. Linear features running E-W are spaced 3.7 feet apart and could be associated with the former railroad trackway.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The GPR survey of the Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery site provided high-quality GPR data, which indicates a great number of subsurface radar reflections that are consistent with burials known to have been associated with this site. GPR targets confirm multiple depths of burial, likely from multiple interments within single cemetery burial locations. Many of the GPR targets were small, or difficult to discern. This is also consistent with the large number of infant burials at the location, and of the age and condition of the remains. Maps of the GPR data did indicate a large number (~118) of individual burial sites were imaged and can be located on the site. While this is far fewer than the number of known burials, these most likely represent burials associated with bodies in coffins or caskets, and are better preserved due to a combination of burial practice and possibly age of the burials. Several larger GPR anomalies are also present- these have similar characteristics to the anomalies associated with smaller burials- so these may represent mass burials, or the interment of many smaller cremated remains that may not be resolvable as well-defined individual burial sites.

Additional research, which may allow for individual burials to be identified, would be to tabulate and map burial locations for specific cemetery plots that can be obtained from burial records. A set of these records (appearing to date from the 1920s-1930s) was reviewed- knowing the number of infant versus adult burials may help refine GPR target interpretation. Finally, older air photos of the site that include the cemetery and the railroad (or the cemetery and adjacent highways or roads) may also aid a more precise location of the cemetery plots.

A data appendix, with copies of all GPR data, GPR images, original versions of figures in this report, and GIS data, will be provided electronically. All data will be preserved at Western Washington University's Geology Department.

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1: Description of Walla Walla County Poor Farm and Cemetery from Walla Walla 2020 project web materials (<http://ww2020.net/>)

Appendix 2: Copy of signage placed at the Poor Farm Cemetery site.

Electronic Appendices:

Appendix 3: GPR data

Appendix 4: AGISOFT digital photogrammetry data analysis report

Appendix 5: GIS maps and data

Appendix 6: Maps produced

Appendix 7: Images of Burial Record Books



Welcome to the Walla Walla County Poor Farm History Website

Including the Poor Farm Cemetery, the Poor Farm House, the Poor Farm Hospital, and the Poor Farm Barn

The Walla Walla County Poor Farm



*Walla Walla County Poor Farm –
Main house circa 1965. Photo
courtesy of Dell & Lenore Wagner*

The Walla Walla County Poor Farm was established in 1891, and at one point included 200 acres extending from the present 12th Street in College Place south to Taumanson Road, and from just east of Myra Road to College Avenue. The farm was owned and run by Walla Walla County as a place where indigent residents could live and work.

Poor Farm residents lived in the large house at the corner of what is now SE Scenic View and Robin Drive. The house, which is still standing, has ten bedrooms

and a large attached kitchen. There were various outbuildings on the grounds, and a separate hospital and a tuberculosis sanitarium were connected to the house by covered walkways.

Many of the residents of the farm were ultimately buried in the Poor Farm cemetery at the corner of Mockingbird and Sandpiper in College Place. You will find signage regarding the Poor Farm and the Poor Farm cemetery placed by Walla Walla 2020 at both sites. You can also read a [letter](#) from Vernon Jordan, one of the owners of the Poor Farm House who died in 2013, and view additional [photos with a narrative](#), and a [map](#) he created of the Poor Farm grounds.

The Poor Farm barn, constructed with wooden pegs in place of nails, was situated on private property on Robin Drive just north of Scenic View. In early 2017 [the barn was dismantled and sold for private use elsewhere](#).

A tuberculosis hospital building located



POOR FARM HISTORY PANELS

[Poor Farm](#)

[Poor Farm Cemetery](#)



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Burial Records:

[Record Book – 1891-1922](#)

[Record Book – 1922-1942](#)

Documents from the Vern Jordan estate:

[Letter](#)

[Map of the Grounds](#)

[Photos and Narrative](#)

Brochure:

[Poor Farm Brochure](#)

Sign Dedication

Ceremony:

[News Coverage and Event](#)

[Photos](#)

Scroll to

behind the farm house has been moved to the corner of Scenic View and Larch where it is in use as a private home. The story of the Poor Farm and the tuberculosis hospital located there is partially told in a novel titled [The Diary](#) by Francis Potts, whose mother was employed and whose father was a patient there.

The Poor Farm was closed sometime after the federal Social Security system was created and counties were no longer solely responsible for indigent welfare. The last burial and the closure of the farm took place in about 1954. While the Poor Farm barn was used for storage as part of the mobile home park, the Poor Farm house was in separate ownership and sat vacant for many years before being acquired by the mobile home park. Both of these buildings were removed in 2018.

The land, except for the cemetery, was then sold by the county and became a dairy farm for many years, before the establishment of a mobile or manufactured home community there. While the Poor Farm barn was used for storage as part of the mobile home park, the vacant Poor Farm house is in separate ownership.

The Poor Farm Cemetery

The Poor Farm Cemetery was also established about 1891. Deceased Poor Farm residents along with unclaimed remains from the Walla Walla County Coroner's office were buried there in the cemetery in rows running north to south.

Most graves were marked with small concrete cylinders bearing only a number. Upright markers were later placed on several of the graves by friends or family members.

The names and location of people buried in the cemetery could be found by consulting records maintained at the county courthouse, which until recently were thought to have been lost.

After the Poor Farm closed and as the adjoining land was being developed as a mobile or manufactured home park, all large grave markers were removed, the small concrete cylinders were covered with soil, grass was planted over them, and playground equipment, footings for which are still



The Poor Farm house and related buildings (rear). Photo courtesy of Dell & Lenore Wagner



Poor Farm Cemetery at Mockingbird & Sandpiper in College Place, WA



[top](#)

THANKS

Thanks to the many individuals and organizations who assisted with this research and effort to learn the history of the Walla Walla County Poor Farm and to honor those who lived and died there, including specifically:

Bill Brown, whose grandfather was a resident of the Poor Farm

Joe Drazan, [Photographer](#)

Vern and Velda Jordan, owners of the Poor Farm House

Karen Martin and staff, [Walla Walla County Auditor's Office](#)

Ben Case, [Pioneer Title Company](#)

Mary Meeker, [Walla Walla 2020 researcher](#)

Chris Baird, [Walla Walla 2020 webmaster](#)

Frances Potts, [Novelist](#)

Pat Reay & Jon Ricard, along with other employees of the [City of College Place](#)

Mark Spinks, [Walla Walla County Public Information Officer](#)

Angela Trimm & Kevin McMichael of the

visible, was installed on top of the graves. You can still see the graves on [Google Maps](#). 

Ownership of the cemetery was transferred by Walla Walla County to the City of College Place in 1965. This and other historic cemeteries are protected from further disturbance by the Washington Historic Cemeteries and Graves Act, adopted in 1990.

A partial list of burials is shown on a [sign](#) at the cemetery placed by Walla Walla 2020. A full list of the approximately 700 people buried in the cemetery is shown in the county records, copies of which are available via links in the right sidebar of this page. The last recorded burials in the Poor Farm cemetery took place in the early 1940s.



Several of the grave markers leaning against a tree. Photo courtesy of Joe Drazan

[Department of Corrections sign shop](#) 

Connie Vinti & Diane Harris of the [Walla Walla County Commissioners Office](#) 

Dell & Lenore Wagner, former owners of the Poor Farm property, and their daughter Gail Wagner Bobbitt

Steve & Theresa Wheeler, [Country Estates MHC](#) 

We hope you will visit these and other sites in order to learn more about the fascinating history of the Walla Walla area.

POOR FARM CEMETERY

The Walla Walla County Poor Farm Cemetery was established here in 1891. Deceased Poor Farm residents along with unclaimed remains from the Walla Walla County Coroner’s office were buried here in rows running north to south. Most graves were marked with small concrete cylinders bearing only a number. Upright markers were later placed on several of the graves by family members. Family and friends were able to find the names and location of the graves of persons buried here by consulting records maintained at the county courthouse, which have recently been discovered. After the Poor Farm closed and as the

adjoining land was being developed the larger markers were removed, the concrete cylinders were covered with soil, grass was planted over them, and playground equipment was installed on top of the graves, footings for which are still visible. The cemetery is currently owned by the City of College Place, and is protected from disturbance by Washington’s Historic Cemeteries and Graves Act. Photos of the Poor Farm house which still stands nearby on Scenic View Drive and several of the grave markers are shown below, along with names of those buried here. Additional Poor Farm information is available at www.ww2020.net.



The following are among the approximately six hundred people still buried here, many of whose names are illegible or incomplete in official records:

Abbling, Donald D.	Bugelen, C.	Davis, Jack E.	Foster, George	Hickley, B.	Kinsfather, Infant	Marton, Thomas	O'Brien, Thomas	Sandrock, John	Son, Lee Chinaman	Updike, Anna
Adams, Infant	Burr, B. F.	Davis, Len	Foster, T. R.	High, Woo	Kinsfather, Lizzie	Matson, Fred	Old, Junos	Sanos, Infant	Sperry, John	Van Buren, J. L.
Addie, Edward P.	Burten, Robert C.	Davis, Preston	Fowler, George	Highey, Infant	Kirkland, Charles E.	McBray, Infant	Olson, Ole	Schack, Emil	Srinkius, Infant	Van, Wong
Alex, James	Busveb, Wm.	Davis, W. E.	Fox, Huey	Hill, Adam Infant	Kissler, E. K.	McCary, infant	Orr, John R.	Schack, Infant	Stallard, Alfred John	Voelker, Conrad
Allan, Jennie		De Friese, Lucy	Frazier, John E.	Hill, Lizzie	Kister, Jacob	McGorm, Infant	Ortell, Infant	Schafer, Infant	Stapelton, Charles	Wagoner, A.
Amund, Sam		Delaney, Joseph	Frier, R. W.	Hill, Phillip, infant	Kittle,Willis	McGowan, L. E.	Osborn, C.	Schaffer, Alexander	Stapleton, John	Walker, Otto
Anderson,?		Delmire, Jacob	Fritzler, Infant	Hines, Veron E.	Kohl, Infant	McGriff, Archer	Osualat, Mary	Scharman, Barney	Starks, Mary	Walker, Robert Lee
Andries, E. T.		Demorest, Infant	Fry, Frank	Hines, W. H.	Kue, Yon Wing	McGuinn, James	Othh, Jacob	Schiffner, Infant	Starns, N. H.	Ward, H.
Arents, Henry		Demorist, Charles	Gammel, Robert	Hipier, R.	Lai, Moni	McKayne, W.	Palmer, Philip	Schoffer, Infant	Stearns, Mary E.	Ward, Tomas
Athison, M.		Denney, James	Garder, James	Hirst, Walter	Lang, Infant	McLaughlin, Ed	Papft, Joe	Schoonover, Samuel C.	Steinburg, W.	Weasin, Infant
Atkins, Jack		Derment, Gus	Gilasme, Infant	Hockbaum, J.	Larin, A.	McQuade, Infant	Parker, John Anderson	Schoppen, J. H.	Stevens, Ira	Weathermon, Infant
Aunniun, A. P.		Dertich, Charles	Gilligan, Frank	Hodges, Alexander	Larson, Sam	McQuary, Andy	Parr, F.	Schreiner, Infant	Stevens, James	Weber, J. W.
Autros, Infant		Dixon, J. W.	Girst, Infant	Hoffman, A. J.	Larus,Joseph	McRee, Henry	Patrick, O. Z.	Schultz, Ed	Stevens, Samuel	Webster, M.
Bacon, Jose		Doggett, Jeff	Girtizer, J.	Hoffman, Sophia	Lawton, C. B. (babe)	Meachum, E.	Patterson, Douglas	Schultz, Infant	Stinner, M.	Wells, Hanna L.
Ball, Junis		Doke, Milo	Goble, Isaac	Hood, Charles	Lewis, Herbert J.	Mellon, Andre	Pepper, James M.	Schurman, Infant	Stinnot, L.	Whering, Fred
Barner,		Douglas, William	Goble, John A.	Hoopman, Fritz	Libett, George	Memmons, T.	Perry, Freeman	Scott, Infant	Stoppard, Infant	Whicher, M. B.
Barnhart, D.		Drake, James	Gordon, Jess	Hoos, Jacob	Liebert, Emil	Meugnoit,Doris Grover	Perry, Infant	Seigfreid, Adolph F.	Storey, P.	Whitman, Floyd R.
Barson, Infant		Duncan, Frank	Gradwohl, Jack Infant	Hotstine, C.	Lietz, Infant	Merry, Infant	Peyser, Henry	Sell, William	Streeter, J.	Whitman, Martha
Barton, Robert		Durose, William	Gradwohl, K.	Howard, John	Liffler, G. W.	Metger,Infant	Phenstom, John	Set, Hoe	Stroud, William L.	Williams, J. A.
Batm, Infant		Dyke, Wm. J.	Gray, Wm. J.	Huey, Infant	Lind, Arthur E.	Miles, Edward	Piepher, Infant	Shaffer, Geo.	Struck, Infant	Wills, Infant
Baugart, Jacob		Eaton, Elmer	Grant, James	Huff, James	Lindell, Andy	Milharne, Infant	Pister, Infant	Shaffer, Leopard	Strumpf, H.P.	Wilsey, Peter B.
Beppey, F.		Ellison, Infant	Grasely, J. D.	Huis, Infant	Ling, Joe Chinaman	Millan, D. M.	Prachey, Geo.	Shant, Infant	Struth, Geo.	Wilson, Geo. M.
Berry, Edward		Englehardt, Carrie	Gratoal, Jake	Hum, Leo	Linker, H.	Miller, Frank	Preston, Infant	Shaver, Infant	Stuart, J. R.	Wilson, Peter
Bishop, M.		Engstrom, H.	Gray, Eli	Hunt, F.	Linker, Infant	Mills, Jacob	Price, William	Shead, C.	Stucknose,J.	Winn, Infant
Bitters, Martha		Erick, Wm.	Griffin,P.	Hunter, J. F.	Linn, Albert Wesley	Mitscher, Fritz	Prisegereder, Dan	Shilrith, A.	Styers, H. A.	Witz, A.
Blake, Mrs. Laura		Erickson, Infant	Grigsby, Fannie	Hutsmann, Geo.	Litchenberg, Jacob	Mohr, Edith F.	Quinlish, Samuel	Shorty,?	Suartz, John Infant	Woblitt, Infant
Blodgett, Infant		Espinoso, J.	Grun, Junios	Huxall, J. H.	Livostown, W.	Molguard, S.	Rehnstrom, John	Shrinkwiler, Infant	Sullivan, J. M.	Woddy, Mary W.
Bolon, Andrew		Exelton, August	Gryary, Infant	Isuatat, Eva E.	Lochrin, Infant	Mollard, Paul	Reihl, Infant	Sikerman, Infant	Sunde, Hans	Woodin, Hugh (Babe)
Bones,?		Famborough, Thomas	Gustavson, P. W.	Itusa, Pearl	Logan, John	Moore, Infant	Richards, T.	Sikerson, D. L.	Sweeney, Infant	Wulfve, Chas.
Boplis, Junios		Fellers, Nancy Margaret	Hall, Dan	Jackson, Infant	Long, James B.	Moorhull, John	Riggs, William	Sing, Ding	Taylor, C. W.	Yentos, W. B.
Boster, C.		Fifer, Josep V.	Hammersmith, Infant	Jackson, W. C.	Lovitt, E. S.	Morgan, C. H.	Riley, Art	Sitzman, Erm	Taylor, Infant	Yong, Charlie
Bowman, Arthur		Fincher, Infant	Hardum, Mary	Jake, Anna	Low, Loy	Morgan, Frank	Roach, James	Sitzman, H.	Taylor, W. R.	York, William
Bown, Lars		Fine, T. M.	Harling, J. G.	Jasseur, Zak	Luir, L.	Mundy, John B.	Robinett, Martha J.	Smith, Anna	Tennock, Frank	Zike, Infant
Boyd, Lee		Fitz, Infant	Harris, John Leroy	Johnson, Infant	Lunde, Hans	Munson, Charles	Ropherger, Infant	Smith, Claude	Terry, William H.	
Brewer, W. H.		Fitzler, Carl	Harrison, W. H.	Jones, G. W.	Mann, Wm.	Myers, two children	Ross, T. Infant	Smith, E. J.	Tershman, Richard	
Brinderhoff, Walter		Flood, J.	Hart, Infant	Jones, Richard	Mapes, Samuel	Neal, Infant	Rouz, H.	Smith, Frank	Thompson, A.	
Brown, Frank		Floyd, J. M.	Hasbrook, Infant	Jong, Long, Chinaman	Marley, Jack	Neal, William	Rowe, Lars L.	Smith, Herman	Thomson, J. W.	
Brown, George		Fly, Infant	Hauri, Infant	Jurseu, Infant	Marsh, Stephen W.	Neauman, John	Roye, Charles	Smith, Infant	Timman, Thomas	
Bryant, Ralph		Foltz, Infant	Haven, Ida B.	Kammersgill, Essa M.	Marsh, William	Nevine, Babe	Ryland, C. H.	Smith, Pearl	Tobin, Edward Martin	
Bryson, C.		Foree, Thomas	Henderson, J. F.	Kelly, Michael	Martin, G. W.	Nickolas, Henry E.	Ryland, O. B.	Smith, Ruth	Tong, Mark, Chinaman	
Bugbe, Patrick		Forrest, C. D.	Kennith, John	Kennith, John	Martin, Harry	Nikon, P.	Ryles,?	Snider, E.	Toy, Sam	
Burns, Wm.		Forrest, John	Hersey, W. J.	Key, Lo	Martina, Julius,	Noyes, Louis	Sanders, Joseph	Snyder, Infant	Tregay, Infant	