

CEMETERY RECORDS

1. What can I expect to find at a cemetery
 - a. Dates
 - i. Birth
 - ii. Death
 - iii. Marriage
 - b. Places
 - i. Birth
 - ii. Death
 - c. Relatives
 - i. Parents
 - ii. Children
 - iii. Siblings
 - iv. Spouse
 - d. Miscellaneous
 - i. Occupation
 - ii. Military Service
 - iii. Fraternal Orders
 - iv. Religious Affiliation
 - v. Wealth Indicator

2. Types of Cemeteries
 - a. Churchyard
 - i. Near an existing or previous church
 - ii. Records usually at church
 - b. Government Owned
 - i. Town – Records on site – usually
 - ii. County
 1. Records onsite
 2. Records at courthouse
 3. Records non-existent
 - iii. State or National
 1. Records usually on-site
 2. National Cemetery records are usually very good
 - iv. Privately Owned
 1. Usually well maintained
 2. Records almost always on-site
 - v. Family
 - a. Small Plots
 - b. Sometimes very remote
 - c. Records may be non-existent

3. Finding Cemeteries

- a. Local Inquiry
 - i. Courthouse
 - ii. Local residents
 - iii. Fire & police stations
 - iv. Local funeral homes
- b. Maps
 - i. County & city maps
 - ii. Topographic maps
- c. Computer programs
 - i. <https://www.findagrave.com/>
 - ii. <https://billiongraves.com/>
 - iii. <https://www.abmc.gov/>

4. Plan Your Visit

- i. Dress appropriately
 1. City cemetery – casual clothing is okay
 2. Remote cemetery
 - a. Boots
 - b. Jeans – no shorts
 - c. Long sleeves
 3. Take “Cemetery Kit”

5. Follow-Up

- a. Transfer information to appropriate files
- b. Save & back-up or up-load photographs
- c. Investigate other sources

