BURYING GROUNDS, GRAVEYARDS AND CEMETERIES

LAURENS COUNTY, S.C.

Volume Two



Compiled by

Laurens District Chapter South Carolina Genealogicsl Society 1998

1.) Locating the Grave Yard and Patriot Graves Each County in SC has a Genealogical Society which locates and records grave stones This is the best place to begin





2.) Contacting local SAR or DAR. Check Web-sites <u>www.scssar.org</u> and <u>www.scdar.org</u> then follow links to *Chapters* which are listed by county and chapter name.

2500 Daniels Bridge Road Suite 2A, Building 200 Athens, GA 30606 706-583-6700



January 3, 2007

Mr. Joe Goldsmith 202 Elm Street Clinton, SC 29325

Dear Mr. Goldsmith:

I have enclosed a release for your signature that allows you and other Sons of the American Revolution Society members access to our tract GWe-205 in the northern portion of Laurens County. Please keep in mind that our tracts are all leased to hunting clubs and their may be hunters present on the property during the times you visit the site, but especially during the fall and spring hunting seasons. This letter will serve as Plum Creek's permission for you to visit the cemetery.

When you have settled on a date for your ceremony, please contact me and let me know. I would like to be present for ceremony or at least have one of our local foresters attend. Thank you for your concern over the condition of the graves and their identifying headstones.

If I can be of further help to you and your organization, please don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you when you obtain the new headstones and have set a date for your ceremony.

Sincerely,

Drew Marczak Senior Forester

cc: Mr. Charlie Reece Mr. Jon Welch

Drew Marczak
Senior Resource Forester

Southern Environmental Group
2500 Daniels Bridge Road
Suite ZA, Building 200
Athens, GA 30606

TEL 706-583-6718
CELI 706-583-6718
FAX 706-583-6725

Drew.Marcza

3.) How to get Permission and Help. Find the owner(s) in the County Court House tax office.Most land owners are glad to give permission with some limits: i.e. Cannot work during hunting season or remove Timber. Local SAR and DAR chapters have Patriot Graves as one of their Missions.





4.) Reading/Transcribing Tomb Stones. Cheap Shaving Foam rubbed onto the text then scraped off with the side of the hand is good for those that are hard to read. Do NOT use abrasives or chemicals. Write down everything you can read and then convert to an MS Word document ... the local genealogical Society will be thrilled to get these.

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5.) Ordering New Stones if needed. This is *Veterans Administration* form number 40-1330, available at you County Courthouse in the Office of Veteran's Affairs. You must locate a business (farm? State Park?) willing and able to receive, and unload, these stones (230 lbs each) from a commercial eighteen-wheeler during normal business hours and then store them until the work day. You need their signature as well as the land owners and an adult willing to take responsibility to see that they are installed. The government will pay for the stone and the freight. You must attach a photo of the broken or illegible stone and proof that this person is a U.S. Veteran. Fill in all blanks other than the bottom two rows.





6.) Tools needed to install a grave stone. Not shown is a *Pickup Truck* to carry the stones from the receiving business to the grave yard. Left to Right: An old axe (for roots in the ground) a 5 inch wide irrigation shovel, a carpenter's level, a wide flat shovel, a single person bow saw, a pair of heavy Loping Shears, and a stout two-wheel dolly.



7.) How to install the grave stone. Dig a rectangular hole slightly larger than 4 inches wide, 12 inches long and 12 inches deep in line with the rest of the row it will be adjacent to. Place the stone in the hole and make sure it is plumb "Fore n' Aft" then Port n' Starboard. Holding it in place, pack dirt on each side to make sure it stays like you want it. Finally smile and tak a picture to send to the local paper or the Eagle Scout Board of review. (This one was an Eagle Scout Project for the boy with the yellow gloves!)



8.) What to remove ... what to Leave. *Do NOT* remove Timber, leaves or ground-cover such as Ivy or Periwinkle (Vinca Minor). *Do* remove grape vines, briars, blackberries, saplings, deadfall and brush. If stones cannot be straightened or are on the ground, turn them over (face down) so that water does not collect in the engraving and freeze which would make them illegible.



9.) Brief Grave Dedication Service. See the other adobe for suggested Service.

~Nothing Follows~