
IVY HILL CEMETERY

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Dedicated to the preservation of monuments, promotion of history, and protection of flora and fauna of Ivy Hill Cemetery

www.ihchps.org
www.ivyhillcemetery.net

2823 King Street
Alexandria, Va 22302

NEWSLETTER

September 2018

Ivy Hill Staff has been checking each section of the cemetery for repair needs, including raising bronzes that had been covered in dirt. We welcome any feedback you may have to help us keep your cemetery safe and beautiful.



This summer Ivy Hill participated in the **Friendship Firehouse Museum Festival**. The Alfred Street block between Prince and King was closed between 9am and 2pm. The festival took place Saturday, August 4 and brought awareness to the oldest volunteer company in Alexandria. Friendship formed in 1774 and now serves as a museum to tell of firefighting up to the late 1880s. It was a perfect fit as the cemetery opened in June 1856 and laid the cornerstone for the firefighters' monument that November, a year later when seven firemen lost their lives in a conflagration on King Street. The monument serves as the centerpiece today for our beautiful ceremony in October that takes place during Fire Safety Prevention Week (see events).



VAULT

When the cemetery was built in 1856, a vault and lodge were commissioned to be built as well. Two years later the vault was completed with dirt floor and had shelves built into the brick for storing the coffins and bodies. "This Company having constructed a large and handsome brown stone RECEIVING VAULT, is now prepared for the reception of bodies at the usual charges, but will receive, free of charge, for one month, any corpse that is to be deposited in their grounds, where a lot has not been previously purchased."

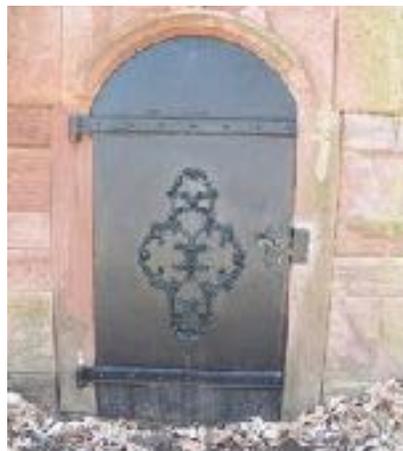
The vault served for transitional keeping throughout winters with frozen grounds or muddy and rainy springs. During the 19th century, it was up to the families to bury the family member and maintain the plot, not the cemetery. Corpses could also be temporarily stored in the vault until transferred to relatives in other cities. "The funeral of Mrs. Ellen Francis Martin took place yesterday evening from her late residence on upper Prince street. The services were conducted by Rev. H. Super, of Christ church, and the pallbearers were Dr. Wheat, of Richmond, Mr. Ghequier, of Baltimore, and Messers. L. Stabler, P.T. Yeatman, R.F. Knox and J.B. Waller of this city. The remains were temporarily placed in the receiving vault in Ivy Hill cemetery and will be subsequently removed to Easton, Md."

Fifty years later in 1908, the vault needed repair, "Notice is hereby given to legal

representatives of those whose remains have been deposited temporarily in the vault at Ivy Hill cemetery, near Alexandria, Va., that owing to the necessity of remodeling the vault it will be necessary for said remains to be removed within thirty days from this date; otherwise they will be interred by the Cemetery Company and all costs will be charged against the estates of the deceased. ---IVY HILL CEMETERY CO., C.C. LEADBEATER, SECRETARY, jy22 3t"



After several years of negligence and inattention, the vault was found to be somewhat in disrepair and by 2009 the door was unhinged. At this time, the Preservation Society had a vision to bring it back to its original appearance with one modification to allow for its new use of holding events. By February of 2012 the door was restored and in April of that year, inmates dug out the dirt floor eight inches. In October concrete was poured.



In May of 2013 the gates were restored and placed above the vault. By June the stone was repaired. The kickoff event, a dinner party, was held August of 2014. Other experiences have been widely received and have included group meetings, history lectures, literature readings and theatrical performances. The vault has weathered changes over the last 162 years and we look forward to what the future holds.

COMING TO IVY HILL

Unless otherwise specified, RSVP for all events to info@IHCHPS.org or 703-549-7413

September 20th, 2018 4:00pm – 8:00pm Montgomery Park, 901 N. Royal St.

Ivy Hill Cemetery Historical Preservation Society is sponsoring a booth at **The Taste of Old Town North**

Come join the fun with tastings from many of the neighborhood's favorite restaurants, fitness and wellness demonstrations with several of the community's premiere wellness providers, and music with solo artist Cat R Need, and the jazz Blues trio! Open to the public, Free event

September 23, 2018 3:00-5:00 COURTIER EUROPEAN WINE SOURCE & EVENTS by Rick & Barbara Raunswinder invites you to a **French Fall Wine Fete** to benefit the IVY HILL CEMETERY HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY. Join us at the historic Ivy Hill Vault to welcome the arrival of Autumn, enjoy a selection of fine French Wines, Cheeses & Charcuterie & explore the storied history & serene beauty of Alexandria's Ivy Hill Cemetery.

\$45, RSVP to Rick or Barbara 571.259.7598, or <mailto:r&br@vacoxmail.com> or br@vacoxmail.com

October 12, 2018 11:00 AM Alexandria Fire Department Memorial Service.

Please join us in honoring the men and women of the Alexandria Fire Department who have served our community with great dedication. Open to the public, Free event

October 20, 2018 6:30pm and 8:00pm Tales from the Vault with Terry and Wayne!

This lecture features Haunted Virginia by Historians and Storytellers Terry Gish and Wayne Kehoe. Hear true stories of horror from around the Commonwealth of Virginia. Two programs: 6:30pm and 8:00pm., each program about 75 minutes. Admission is \$20 and SPACE IS LIMITED. Not recommended for children under 12 years of age.

October 21, 2018 2:00pm Tombstone Art Tour

Come learn the meanings behind the symbols on our tombstones, from historic to modern day, and what messages the dead would like to convey!

Admission \$15

October 27, 2018 7:00pm Readings from the works of Edgar Allan Poe

The Guillotine Theater presents "Poe in the Vault" at Ivy Hill Cemetery! This is a sell-out event in a most suitable environment. Admission is \$20 and SPACE IS LIMITED.

October 30, 2018 6:00pm VolAlex Costume Party

Once again VolAlex hosts its' October event at Ivy Hill!! Historical tour included. Prizes for best costume.

Admission is \$20.00 and SPACE IS LIMITED. [Purchase your TICKET](#) on line or call 703-836-2176

November 4, 2018 1:00pm Placing Flags for our Veterans.

Come join us in placing flags on our veterans' graves as a small token of thanks for their service to our country! BBQ Lunch provided, Open to the public, Free event

November 11, 2018 2:00-5:00 Learn to Edit Wikipedia: Historic Ivy Hill Cemetery Wikipedia Editing Workshop

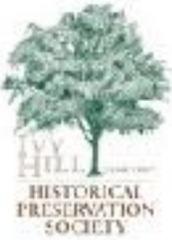
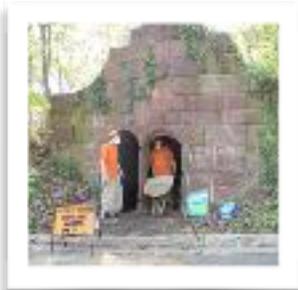
Always wondered how editing Wikipedia works? Would you like to learn to edit and monitor Wikipedia? Join us for this FREE workshop and learn to edit, improve or create Wikipedia articles about Alexandria's Historic Ivy Hill Cemetery and notable individuals interred here. Training will be provided for new editors. No experience necessary. Sign up on Wikimedia's event page.

Laptops are required. Please bring your own. Wikimedia has two laptops to loan. Reserve one by emailing info@wikimediadc.org.

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EVENTS

The Ivy Hill Cemetery Historical Preservation Society was formed in 2006 to ensure a future of maintenance and care of this historic treasure. The Preservation Society offers tours, events and volunteer opportunities in order to preserve, protect and promote Ivy Hill Cemetery's monuments, history and flora/fauna. Our events also lead to public awareness of Ivy Hill maintenance, enjoyment and interest of the Cemetery now and in the future. We cannot thank you enough for your support.



info@ihchps.org

www.IHCHPS.org 703-549-7413 ext 112

2823 King Street, Alexandria, Va 22302

FaceBook: Ivy Hill Cemetery Historical Preservation Society

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