48STATETOUR
SAVING AMERICA’S
GRAVEYARDS

ALL 56 EVENTS IN 2024 ARE:
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED
9AM - 3PM LOCAL TIME

Morning (9–10am): Introductions + Walk & Talk Tour
Interactive tour w/ questions and discussion encouraged.
Overview of historic preservation, cemetery safety, stone
identification, carvings, and damage present

Late Morning (10am–12pm): Gravestone Cleaning
Safe & effective techniques for cleaning gravestones. A
demonstration is followed by a hands-on session where
you can pick a stone to clean!

Lunch Break (around noon)

Afternoon (12–3pm): Monument Repair Work
Common gravestone & monument repairs will be
discussed and demonstrated. Attendees are encouraged
to participate! Types of repairs may include joining a
fractured tablet, resetting a multi-piece monument,
raising and re-leveling a leaning monument & more.

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A TYPICAL WORKSHOP

Overview + Discussion
Discussion on historic preservation with a focus on masonry, cemeteries, and gravestones.

A short walk and talk tour, visually surveying the existing conditions of the terrain and some of the most grave stone, and monuments on site. This is an interactive tour in which questions and discussion is encouraged.

Gravestone Cleaning Demonstration
Cleaning demonstrations will include:
- Safe and effective removal of biological activity with approved stone cleaners is discussed, demonstrated, and performed. Grave stones can be fragile and easily damaged when cleaned with the wrong chemicals, aggressively brushed, and/or pressure washed. Safe cleaning techniques are explained with options outlined for product selection.
- Graffiti removal and graffiti prevention discussion (if time allows)
- Overview for rust and lime / calcium removal from irrigation staining (if time allows)

Hands On!
After the cleaning demonstration, workshop participants are encouraged to adopt a gravestone and perform the cleaning process. Materials are supplied and available for use.

Veteran stones are a priority & will be cleaned at each event!

Repair Work
Some of the most common repairs will be discussed and demonstrated.
Participants are encouraged to join in & help!
- Join a fractured tablet
- Raise and/or level a badly leaning, sunken or fallen tablet stone
- Reset and join elements of a multiple piece monument
- Problems associated with Portland cement
- Historic pointing mortars, formulations, applications, curing
- "If time allows" A lifting tripod will be constructed and demonstrated

What to Bring
We recommend bringing some essentials to make the day comfortable: chair, cooler, water, snacks, etc.

We recommend wearing old clothing and closed toe footwear that you do not mind getting dirty, especially if you will be participating in the hands on segments. Depending on weather, you may also want to bring a hat and sunscreen.

There will be a brief pause during the day for lunch! (lunch is not typically provided)

Most Importantly - Enjoy & Have Fun!