



2020 Hampton Street • Room 3063A
Columbia, SC 29204
(803) 576-2083

RCCC Grants Program Quarterly Report

October 10, 2025 January 09, 2026 April 10, 2025

Grant Number: 135900-26-71390

Organization: University of South Carolina, Dept. of Anthropology, Dr. Terrance Weik

Project Name: Cedar Creek Cemetery Preservation Project

1. Description of work accomplished: (Include brief narrative description of project activities, % activities complete); *Submit photos electronically.*

It is estimated that we completed about 15% of grant activities.

Planning Meetings:

We accomplished some planning during this second quarter of our project. Weik consulted with Drs. Robinson regarding data collection processes (e.g. creating data archives), revised work schedules, and IRB (exemption) protocols for oral history and ethnographic interviews.

Public Engagement:

Dr. Weik prepared a conference paper (for the January 9th presentation at the Society for Historical Archaeology national conference in Detroit) on the challenges of preservation, descendent community access to cemeteries, and the politics of heritage. He met with archaeologists from around the country to get advice on documenting and interpreting cemeteries such as CCC. Weik also obtained guidance from Dr. Karen Smith and Dr. Jodi Barnes on a new cemetery database and documentation system in SC. Weik also created a press release for Bryan Gentry, Director of Communications, McCausland College of Arts and Sciences, at the University of South Carolina.

Community Knowledge/Data Gathering

Dr. Weik's January conference paper involved an excerpt from an interview he did this winter with Mr. Darrell Barnes, landowner for our cemetery project. Weik also collected a list of elders and local descendants from the Kinsler descendants, some of which can serve as consultants or interviewees for Dr. Robinson' and Jackson's ethnographic and oral history interviews.

Research at the University & Student Activities

Dr. Weik assigned students in his undergraduate class, entitled Modernity Archaeology and the Recent Past, a project which collected data for the CCC project. Students learned about heritage documentation practices, online databases (e.g. Archsite and Richland county GIS), and the spatial aspects and material culture of historic cemeteries, as well as archival map analysis. Dr. Weik used Richland county cemeteries data from Cultural Resource Management datasets (e.g. Archsite and archaeological site reports from Chicora Foundation and the SC Site Files), map data (e.g. USGS and SC State Archives historical maps), and Richland county GIS data to explore the types of cemetery characteristics (e.g. size, shape), environmental features (e.g. elevation or hydrology), landscape features (e.g. built environment such as roads or historical buildings), material culture (artifacts, grave markers etc.) in order to develop a model of the types of factors that will help analysis and interpretation of the configuration, dimensions, place-making activities, and culturally meaningful spaces at CCC. Using Topo view, 19 USGS topographic maps were analyzed for evidence of 20th-21st century area habitation and cemeteries, but few were visible (1904-2024). Other maps (including an 1812 land platt related to Harmon Kinsler) have proven more useful. This analysis will help us create a historical narrative for the CCC but also develop models of different racial, ethnic or other identities which may be represented at the CCC, based on burial practices (e.g. types of gravemarkers or orientation of graves). The land records (e.g. attached deeds and mortgage documents) will also contribute to this query into the identity of the interred people at CCC, and their relation to area populations, cemeteries, and historical sites.

2. What problems have you encountered?

No problems have been encountered.

3. County expenditures to date; match documented to date

No expenditures were made. Dr. Weik logged 51.5 hours (6.5 days) of research and labwork that can be applied toward his promised 20% match (~ 15 days of labor, or 1/2 month of work). This match work involved the following: performed communications (with elders and landowners), student data collection, planning, map analysis, CRM report analysis, archival research (Richland County Probate office), student volunteer information processing (interviews, screenings), and landowner interviews and analysis.

4. Timeline for remainder of work

January

Cemetery Archaeology Fieldwork (Weik)
Workshop Planning: Dr. Jackson
Oral history: Dr.s Weik and Robinson and area descendents, elders, students, residents

February

Oral history: Dr. Weik/Robinson area descendents, elders, students, residents
Workshop Planning Dr. Jackson (re: cemetery preservation, ethnographic interivews, oral history)
Archaeological Fieldwork (Weik)

March

SC State Archives research: Drs. Weik and Robinson
Oral history: Dr. Weik/Robinson area descendents, elders, students, residents
Ethnographic Interviews: Drs. Jackson and Robinson
Archaeological Fieldwork (Weik)

April

Preservation/Interview Workshop: Dr. Jackson, Robinson, Weik:
Discuss preservation cemetery preservation, ethnographic interivews, oral history
with descendents, landowners, area residents

May

USC labwork, GIS spatial-data analysis (Weik)
oral history, ethnographic Interviews (Robinson)
Archaeological Fieldwork (Weik)
Conference at USF to disuss results and meet national cemetery preservation professionals

June

Virtual Meeting Project Results/Discussion: Dr.Jackson,Weik,Robinson
Final Report Preparation & Submission
Data synthesis and analyses, narrative interpretation of results.

Submitted by: Terrance Weik



Date: January 25, 2026