

CEMETERY DIGITIZATION PROJECT UPDATE – November 19, 2015

Last year, thanks to Canada Summer Jobs funding and in partnership with the SLRD through Select Funds, a digitization project for cemetery took the next step.

Three years ago, Briana Van Loon as a summer student organized and digitized all the cemetery information that provided to BRVCA by the Gold Bridge Community Club. You will recall that the GBCC was no longer wishing to manage the cemetery & BRVCA Took it on.

This past summer, thanks to Canada Summer Jobs funding as well as SLRD staff support (paid for out of Area A Select Funds), Leah Goldie undertook the next step in the digitization project .

Each plot in the cemetery was GPS'd (4 corners) and linked to the previously digitized information. A detailed spreadsheet was completed and provided to the SLRD staff. All of the digitized Information is kept on Google Drive and backed up so it will be very difficult to lose it going forward.

The SLRD staff is now entering this information in a GIS Mapping Program. They will also be researching the best options to display this information, there are a number of alternatives that Range from GIS Online Mapping software (dynamic, can change) to static systems (such as some kind of PDF format). Timeline to complete this aspect is sometime next year, they are doing This work during the "slow building season" over the next number of months. The interesting aspect of some of these systems will be the ability to expand to include mapping and detailed information On other heritage sites in the Valley. We will see how this progresses.

From the Heritage Committee (BRVCA) side the next step will be to research and link (or download) information for each plot. There are a number of sources for this information including BC Archives, family members and the Museum. This will make an excellent research project (or summer student) and both our grant writer and SLRD staff will hunt for sources of funding.

The staff person at the SLRD, Marie , is very very keen on this project as she can see potential expanded uses for this approach throughout the SLRD and we thank her a great deal for her assistance and expertise.

This is an update for you to keep you up to speed. If you have any questions etc. we can certainly put this on the next agenda for discussion/comments etc. There are some other items related to the cemetery that need to be planned for so at some point we need to spend some time planning/strategizing specifically for the cemetery.

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