

Maryland Inventory of Cemeteries and Burial Sites Working Group
October 23, 2025 at 11:00 AM
Virtual Meeting

Working Group Members Present: Reggie Bishop, Glenn Easton, Mark Edwards, Hope Metzler, Donna Nelson, Daniel Phelan, Deborah Rappazzo, Tina Simmons, Maya Davis. Christiana Limniatis, Corey Lewis

MHT Staff Present: Gregory Brown, Elizabeth Hughes, Matthew McKnight, Zachary Singer

OAG Staff Present: Adam Snyder

The meeting came to order at 11:04 AM

I. Meeting Minutes

Mr. Phelan made a motion to approve the October 9, 2025 meeting minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Edwards and approved unanimously.

II. Draft Report Review

Ms. Hughes reported that the draft report had been circulated to the Workgroup for review and comment in advance of the meeting. Imbedded in the draft report were comments provided by Workgroup members. The Workgroup reviewed and discussed all report comments and made changes to the draft. Key discussion points included refining the executive summary's language, clarifying cemetery and burial site definitions (including "ossuary" and the concept of multiple remains), and discussing database functionalities such as time stamps, data sourcing, and the identification of enslaved burials. The group also discussed classifying unmarked graves, incorporating existing cemetery registration numbers, defining "destroyed" and "relocated" cemeteries, and potentially changing the term "condition" to "disposition" to better reflect the state of cemeteries.

III. Review remaining tasks and timeline

Ms. Hughes indicated that she would make the final changes to the draft report as discussed at this meeting and then post it for public comment on the MHT website by October 27th. She encouraged Workgroup members to distribute information about the draft and encourage the submittal of comments through their networks.

The Workgroup will meet again to finalize the report based on comments received on November 20th.

Meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.