Creating a Spatial Database for Indiana’s Cemetery and Burial Ground Registry

Jeannie REGAN-DINIUS, Dr. Hadi YAMIN and R. Stephen HANSELL, USA

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ABSTRACT

This paper presents the collaborative process among several disciplines to implement the cemeteries registration law in the State of Indiana. The paper explains the collaborative process of three professionals with combined discipline of history, law, surveying, and civil engineering as well as numerous citizens to develop a spatial data base in fulfillment of requirements of the Legislature enacted Indiana Code (IC) Section 14-21-1-13.5, Survey and Register of Indiana Burial Grounds. Funding was not attached to the new law, so only one staff meember has the resposibiiltiy to complete this project. Volunteerees and organizational partners have been recruited to help with the complex project. Indiana has ninety-two (92) counties, and the state of data collection of cemeteries varies from county to county, often times from cemetery to cemetery. The abiality and GPS equipment of the volunteers varies as well. The parameters of the project has made the project a challenge.

CONTACT

Jeannie Regan-Dinius, Cemetery Registry Coordinator
Department of Natural Resources- Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology
402 W. Washington Street, W 274
Indianapolis, IN 46204
USA
Tel. +1 317 232 1646
Fax +1 317 232 0693
E-mail: jrdinius@dnr.state.in.us

Dr. Hadi Yamin, P.E., PhD
Highway Engineer
Indiana Department of Transportation
Indianapolis, IN 46204
USA
Tel. +1 317 233 2066
E-mail: hyamin@iupui.edu

(Admitted In Indiana & Kentucky, NOT in Montana)
THE STEVENS LAW OFFICE
PO BOX 999
Lolo, MT 59847-0999
USA
Tel. +1 406 273 7301
Fax +1 406 273 6626
E-mail: ronhansell@iquest.net