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URGENT REQUEST for PRESERVATION FUNDS

to

Recover, conserve, and preserve human remains
in Historic Olivewood Cemetery

On November 24, 2008 in Judge Mark Davidson's 11th District Court in Harris County, the 501(c)3 non-profit organization known as 'Descendants of Olivewood, Inc.' was awarded guardianship of the historic cemetery 'Olivewood', Houston's first incorporated African-American cemetery. However, the work to preserve and maintain this historic cemetery began many, many years earlier. An amazingly dedicated group of individuals have been preserving both the history and physical integrity of Olivewood Cemetery for more than ten years, contributing their time, effort, and money to its preservation.

By virtue of its conservatorship, Descendants of Olivewood is now responsible for obtaining partners to preserve and maintain historic Olivewood Cemetery. The Court's judgment requires the Descendants of Olivewood to restore, preserve, operate, and maintain the cemetery.

URGENT NEED: At this time, the human remains in 2 to 5 graves have been partially exposed from erosion and flooding. **Therefore we are requesting funds to conduct an emergency archaeological project to recover, conserve and preserve these remains, in preparation for reburial.** We expect it to take several weeks to do this work. The total cost for this emergency project will be \$7,000. If we can raise this amount soon, work can begin in early summer, 2010.

This work will be done by the Community Archaeology Research Institute, Inc. (CARI), a 501(c)3 organization, in collaboration with Descendants of Olivewood, Inc. If you can help, please send your donation to CARI at this address, and indicate that it is designated for this emergency project. Detailed budgets and the CARI EIN# can be provided upon request.

CARI, Inc.
Olivewood Emergency Archaeology Project
P.O. Box 131261
Houston, Texas 77219 - 1261

Olivewood Cemetery Preservation Contributors

Community Archaeology Research Institute, Inc. (Archaeological planning & implementation)
Robert T. Marcom, M.A., R.P.A. (Principal Investigator for this project)
Carol McDavid, Ph.D.

Rice University, Department of Anthropology (Donation of archaeology laboratory facilities)
Susan McIntosh, Ph.D.
Jeffrey Fleisher, Ph.D.

The law firm of Crinion, Davis and Richardson, LLP (Legal services)
Gregory P. Crinion
Isaac Villarreal

Kim Mickelson, PC, Law Office of Kimberley Mickelson, PC (Legal services)

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee (Ongoing support)

Special thanks go to Former Mayor Bill White and the City of Houston Parks Department, who worked so hard to get the cemetery cleaned up after the devastation from Hurricane Ike.

About Descendants of Olivewood, Inc.

Mission:

To restore, preserve, operate and maintain Olivewood Cemetery:
Houston's oldest incorporated African American cemetery.

Descendants of Olivewood, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt charitable organization.

For information, contact:

Ms. Margott Williams

P.O. Box 70644

Houston, Texas 77270

Ph: 713-682-3338

<http://www.DescendantsofOlivewood.org>

info@DescendantsofOlivewood.org

Other Contributors to Descendants of Olivewood, Inc.:

Yes! Preparatory school
Boy Scouts of America, Troop #604
Super Neighborhood 22
Project R.E.S.P.E.C.T.
New Hope Church in Manvel, TX
Abel Masonic Lodge #2
Houston Arts and Media
Odd Fellows
University of Houston

Rice University
Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints of Humble,
The Woodlands, Atascocita, Montgomery,
Tomball, and Willis
AT&T Pioneers
White Oak Bayou Association
Rice Military Civic Club
Galveston-Houston Catholic Archdiocese
The Obama Volunteer Corp

Future Needs of Descendants of Olivewood, Inc.:

Descendants of Olivewood will also need partners in their full scope of work at Olivewood.

- Reburial of the remains saved by the emergency archaeology project discussed here
- Boundary Survey (Completed)
- Full archaeological survey (Non-intrusive mapping and analysis of graves, markers, etc.)
- Establishment of historical designation (Completed)
- Fencing and lighting for security
- Erosion remediation
- Monument restoration
- Development of educational activities
- Fund operation and maintenance of the cemetery

Fortunately for Descendants of Olivewood, their passionate dedication has attracted professionals to their cause. Lawyers, archaeologists, surveyors, engineers, landscapers and media have been contributing their services to investigate and resolve problems and to design activities and processes that will insure successful maintenance in the future.

About the Community Archaeology Research Institute, Inc. (CARI)

Mission:

To conduct research in the field of community based archaeology; to develop education and public outreach materials related to that research; to provide training for teachers and other archaeologists; and to further the public knowledge and use of archaeology and history.

Partners and Collaborators in CARI projects:

The Texas Historical Commission
The National Trust for Historic Preservation
The Rutherford B. H. Yates Museum, Inc.
College Park Memorial Cemetery
Descendants of Olivewood, Inc.
The Levi Jordan Plantation Historical Society, Inc.
The Bernardo Plantation Archaeology Project
Rice University

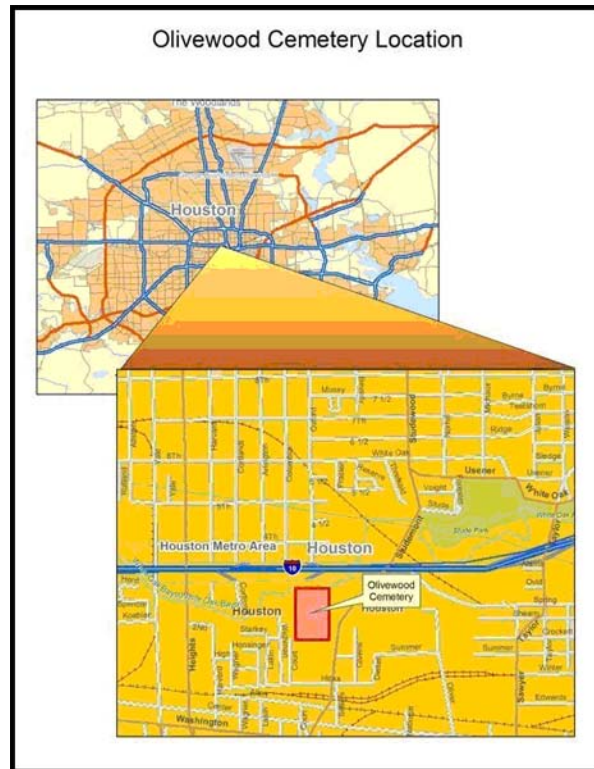
For information about this and other CARI projects, contact:

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Dedication of Olivewood Cemetery as a Texas Historical Site (April 3, 2009). Mayor Bill White and Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee are in attendance.



Olivewood Cemetery is located just west of downtown Houston and south of IH-10.