

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO RELOCATE INTERMENTS, BURYING GROUND ON THE UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND CAMPUS, CITY OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

1. APPLICANT:

University of Richmond
110 UR Drive, Suite 200, Richmond, Virginia 23173

2. PROPOSED WORK AND NEED FOR RELOCATION: The University of Richmond, with the approval of and in partnership and care with the descendant community and the Burial Ground Memorialization Committee, has developed a plan for the preservation and memorialization of those interred on a parcel of land that later became part of the University's campus. As part of this process, all utilities currently in or near the Burying Ground are being relocated and a memorial garden constructed at the intersection of Richmond Way, Gateway Road, and Westhampton Way. Relocation of utilities is necessary both to protect the site from future damage and to respect the sanctity of this sacred space. All ground disturbance near the site has been and will continue to be monitored by an experienced professional archaeologist.

During excavation for utility relocation, several features that appear to be consistent with the presence of human graves were discovered. All earthmoving in the area of discovery has been halted and the area secured against further disturbance. Descendant families have been notified and consulted and have given their consent to proceed. Pursuant to the requirements of VA Code §10.1-2305, the University has applied for a permit through the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) to allow the archaeological excavation and relocation of the possible graves. A copy of the application may be requested from DHR and is available for inspection during business hours at the Office of Foundation, Corporate, and Government Relations, Fountain Hall, First Floor, 118 UR Drive, University of Richmond, Virginia 23173. The University will hold a public hearing on this proposal on April 15, 2024 from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Jepson Alumni Center, 442 Westhampton Way, Richmond, Virginia 23173. All are welcome to attend.

3. COMMENT PERIOD: Comments on this project should be made in writing, addressed to the following:

Amy Howard, Senior Administrative Officer, University of Richmond, 270 Richmond Way, University of Richmond, VA 23173 or by email at publicnotice@richmond.edu; and

Joanna Wilson Green, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, 2801 Kensington Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221 or by email at burialpermits@dhr.virginia.gov.

Written comments should be received by the close of business on April 25, 2024. A public hearing may be requested by any respondent to this notice.

4. CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions about this project, please contact Amy Howard, Senior Administrative Officer, University of Richmond, Senior Administrative Officer, University of Richmond, 270 Richmond Way, University of Richmond, VA 23173, publicnotice@richmond.edu, 804-287-6408.