

## **Williamson County Cemeteries**

Cemeteries are considered sacred spaces. And, like historic buildings, homes, and landscapes, cemeteries connect our past with our present and future. Contained within these sacred, and at times, hidden in plain sight, these spaces hold intimate family stories, abundant in Tennessee and are an important feature of our state's cultural landscape.

With beautiful architecture, cultural sites, and landscapes across the county, it can be easy to forget about some of lesser known – or acknowledged – historic spaces, including cemeteries. These places are important to the everyday life of American history and more pointedly, they are present in every community, including Williamson County.

As preservationists, concerned local citizens and cemetery preservation advocates, we all sense the urgency to reclaim and preserve our history. These places matter and merit our respect, protection, and offer an opportunity to preserve and reflect the voices once marginalized, left out of the overall narrative, or simply lost to time and widespread development. Raising awareness by advocating to save many from continued deterioration is a much-needed reality for our cemeteries. Telling stories associated through the preservation of these sacred spaces is vital to impart an authentic interpretation of all Williamson County's local communities and our collective past.