

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, COUNTY OF UPSHUR, CITY OF BUCKHANNON, TO WIT:

A working session of the Historic Landmarks Commission was held August 24, 2016 at 6:00 pm.
The following persons were present:

Vincent Smith, Chairman	Building Code Zoning Officer	Present
Jeannie Rylands	Member	Present
Erika Klie Kolenich	Member	Present
Jeannie Hyre	Member	Absent
Christina Rieth	Ameri-Corp Volunteer	Present
Noel Tenney	Upshur Historical Society	Present
Amberle Jenkins	Assistant Recorder	Present

Meeting Agenda Posted 08-17-16

Notice of Meeting and Work Session
Buckhannon Historic Landmarks Commission
August 24, 2016, 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers
City Hall - 70 E Main Street
Buckhannon WV 26201

- a. Discussion on new possible NRHP nominations
- b. Discussion on new BHLC member
- c. Discussion on Central Residential Historic District street signs
- d. All other business that may come before the BHLC
- e. Adjournment

POSTED 08-17-16

Designation of Historic Districts:

The Commission Members discussed possible nominations not currently registered. Areas such as South Buckhannon; Island Avenue; West Main from Courthouse west; side streets in Central Historic District. An order/ plan needs developed. The Commission should decide if more districts need added or if portions of property touch another district, those can be expanded. South Buckhannon may need to be its' own district. SHPO could help in these decisions.

The Commission must have quarterly meetings in order to continue certification and must continue to discuss possibilities.

Mr. Smith commented that since there is no design committee to designate historic areas with criteria, what is the purpose of designating them.

Mr. Tenney explained this qualifies property owners for possible development funding thru grants. Criteria must be followed according to the grant. There may also be some tax variances.

A bigger picture in designating historic districts is preservation that may reflect in tourism.

City Council, in the past, has never been receptive of a design committee for historic districts in Buckhannon. They felt this may be too controlling.

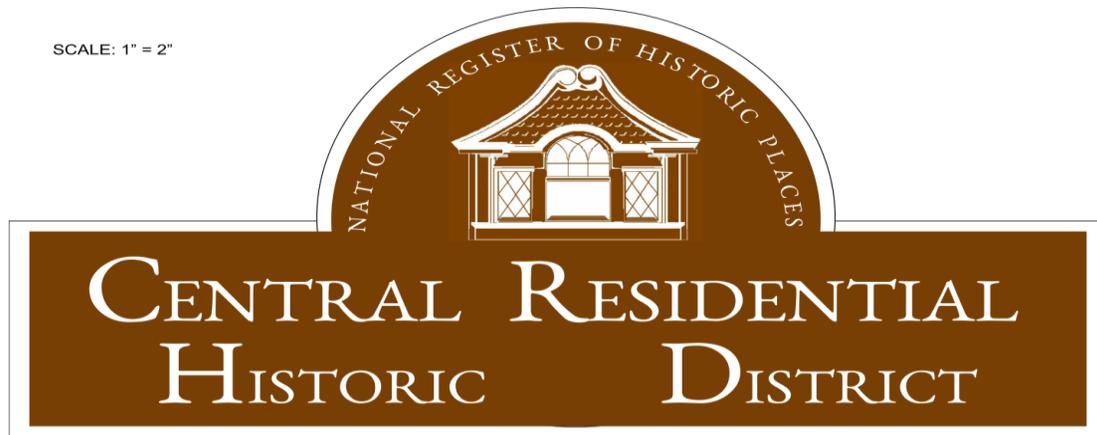
Advising or recommending property owners that own property in historic districts is more the role that City Council wants the HLMC to provide.

Commission Member Appointments discussed:

Council has not appointed a Council Member to serve on the HLMC. The Commission members briefly discussed the structure of the group. Some commission members suggested Robbie Skinner.

Historic District Signs:

Ms. Rieth presented a draft design of historic signage. It was brown with the HLMC bay window on a dormer of the sign. Note the scale attached; it is the appropriate measurements according to the DOT, and the design accommodates the U-channel that attaches the sign to the post.



The Commission discussed wording on signs and color of signs. Brown is the nationally recognized color for historic districts. There were suggestions to have an example printed for Council to review. Mr. Tenney commented that areas, which were designated as “National Register of Historic Places” should have that wording on them.

Mrs. Jenkins asked if they have talked with Mr. Arnold about this. The City has been looking at replacing street signs.

WV Inventory Cemetery Form for Heavner Cemetery (sent to WV SHPO August 2016)

The Heavner Cemetery in Buckhannon, West Virginia, achieves its historical significance from the exemplary characteristics of an organic rural cemetery, the land's notable contributions to early history of Upshur County and West Virginia, and the individuals buried there who have influenced county and state history.

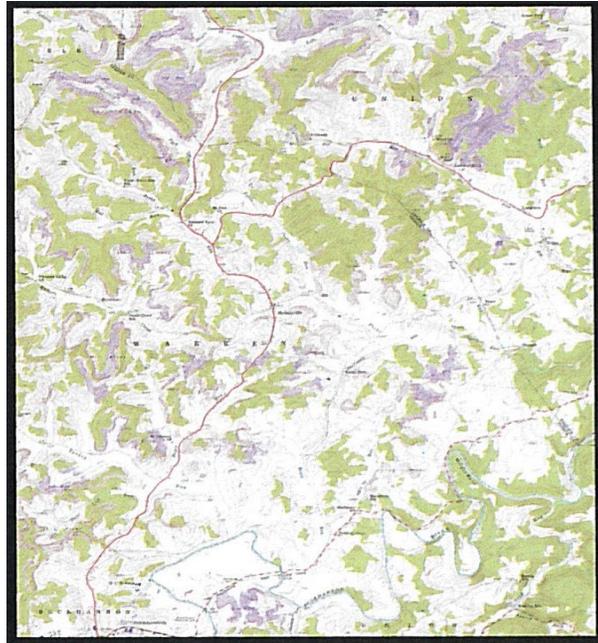
The cemetery was formally established in 1909 by Major Jacob W. Heavner and his wife Lee Annie Reger Heavner. The land that the cemetery sits on, however, along with those interred, reflect the region's rich history spanning over two centuries. In 1768, John Hacker was brought to settle along the Buckhannon River, where the cemetery now stands, by Samuel Pringle, the first European settler in Upshur County. Hacker went on to become the first European settler in Lewis County. In 1773, as protection from the Native Americans, John Bush built a two-story fort near Hacker's settlement. Several residents in Bush's Fort were killed in 1782 and are the cemetery's first known burials.

Many West Virginians, that have significantly influenced the state's history, are interred in the cemetery, which include: Jacob Brake, early explorer; Daniel D.T. Farnsworth, Wheeling Convention delegate and second governor of West Virginia; Laura Jackson Arnold, Civil War hero and sister of Confederate general Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson; Colonel George R. Latham, Civil War hero and supervisor for West Virginia's first census division; Dr. John T. Huff, physician who performed the first Confederate amputation during the Civil War; Brigadier General Henry F. Westfall; Arthur Winchester, notable lumber baron; Reverend John D. Reger, founder of West Virginia Wesleyan College; Pare Lorentz Jr., renowned New Deal Era filmmaker, and many other prominent lawyers, businessmen, senators, and bankers from Upshur County that contributed substantially to the state's economic and cultural wealth.

The Heavner Cemetery is divided into four sections: Old Heavner, Second Addition, Buckhannon Memorial Park, and Baptist Cemetery. The burials contour the rolling hills, and its winding paths and abundance of large trees create an atmosphere featured in many rural cemeteries. Dogwoods and other regional species create a divide between the Heavner Cemetery and the railroad tracks adjacent to the Buckhannon River, the Old Heavner section features old sugar maple trees that create an arch over the walkways, and its west side features a ornamental catalpa tree that has stood in the Old Heavner section for well over 100 years. The Second Addition achieves its own historical significance as a WPA project; in 1943, the city of Buckhannon received approval from the WPA district manager to begin employing workers to lay out the cemetery plots in what is now known as the Second Addition. The Baptist Cemetery was relocated to the Heavner property in 1979 from what is now Route 33 and is known for its significant African-American burial population.

The cemetery's decorative features include a stone gate at the Old Heavner entrance erected in 1943, a bronze plaque from 1922 that commemorates Bush's Fort at its location, and a private mausoleum at Buckhannon Memorial Park built in 1959. Large monuments erected for John Fink (the

cemetery's first known burial), Henry Westfall, and influential Upshur County families, such as the Neal, Stockert, Kellar, Leonard, and Heavner families, stand tall in the cemetery. Many of the headstones are exemplary of high craftsmanship; Nicholas Heavner carved some of the earliest flagstone headstones in the cemetery, and the cemetery features works by Buckhannon's F.G. Smith stone company and the F.C. McColm Granite Company.



West Virginia Cemetery Inventory Form NR rating: _____

(Revised 26 September 2014)

1. Trinomial Number (OFFICE USE ONLY): _____
2. Cemetery Name, Historic: Heavner Cemetery Cemetery Name, Common: Heavner Cemetery
3. County: Upshur 4. 7.5' Quadrangle Name: Century
5. UTM Zone: _____ NAD: _____
Easting: _____ Northing: _____
Easting: _____ Northing: _____
6. Location: There is no formal address for the cemetery; the cemetery begins at the intersection of Hall Rd. & Post Rd. and ends at the intersection of Hall Rd. and Weatherford Blvd.
7. Ownership: Public: Municipal County _____ State _____ Federal _____
Private: Family _____ Church _____ Denomination _____
Fraternal _____ Other _____
8. Burial Population: The majority of Upshur County residents are buried in the Heavner Cemetery. The ethnic population reflects the demographics of the county: German, Scots-Irish descent, while the Baptist section of the Heavner Cemetery has a distinct African-American population.
9. Predominant Surnames: Carper, Farnsworth, Heavner, Hinkle, Hyre, Kellar, McWhorter, Reger, Stockert
10. Mass Grave: Yes _____ No Explain: 1397 unknown burials at the Baptist section
11. Public Accessibility: Unrestricted
Restricted _____
For permission to visit, contact _____
12. Access into cemetery: By foot _____ By car
13. Terrain: Hillside; rolling foothills of the Allegheny Mountains
14. Bounded by: Fence _____ Wall _____ Hedge _____ Other Open, bounded by trees
15. Condition: Well-maintained Poorly maintained _____ Overgrown, easily identifiable _____
Overgrown, unidentifiable _____ Unidentifiable, but known to exist through tradition or other means (identify source) _____
16. Disturbances: Derecho on June 29, 2012; several cases of vandalism in the cemetery, including October 12, 2013
17. Cemetery Size and Orientation (please give dimensions in feet, and indicate compass direction for long and short axis): 35.2 acre property (1,533,312 sq. ft.), North-South long axis, East-West short axis

West Virginia Cemetery Inventory Form NR rating: _____

Trinomial Number: _____ Cemetery Name: Heavner Cemetery

18. Historical Background (use continuation sheet if necessary): See attached sheets

19. Gravestones (Please list the number of gravestones that fit in the categories below. If this is guess or an approximation, put "circa" before the number. Include photographs and/or sketches of representative decorative carvings.):

Number of headstones c. 3422 Number of burials c. 9125 Footstones? Yes No _____

Number of gravestones with burial dates from the 18th century c. 2 19th century c. 238
20th century c. 2776 21th century c. 200

Please list the earliest headstone date 2-1782 Most recent date 8-2016

Number of gravestones of each material: Slate 0 Marble c. 185 Granite c. 3213
Sandstone c. 4 Fieldstone c. 20
Other Bronze plaques on granite footstones,
wood, plastic

Number of gravestones that are: Readable c. 3139 Eroded c. 206 Badly Tilted c. 12
Cracked/Broken c. 36 Broken but standing c. 2 Broken, no longer standing c. 34
Location of stones no longer standing At initial location in cemetery

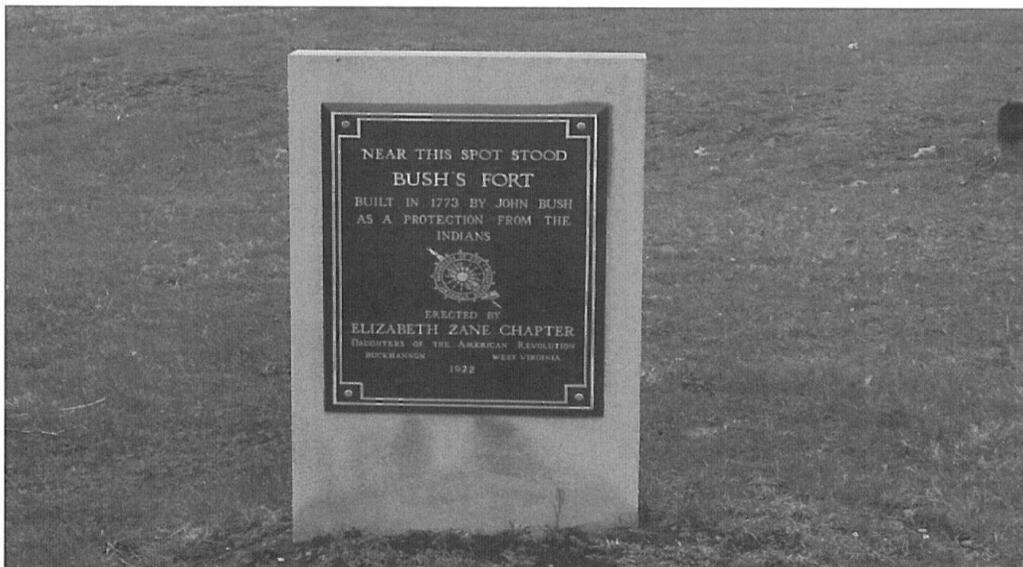
Restoration efforts, if any: 3-16-1976: remortaring, winching, repouring of footers at stone gate; 5-28-2009: resetting graves following storm damages; 10-22-1998: repair bronze marker damaged by mower

20. Attachments: 1) a copy of the topographic quadrangle map indicating the cemetery's location, 2) general photograph(s) of the cemetery showing its setting and/or location, and 3) a list or copies of any reference information about the cemetery (books, personal communication, etc.).

21. Recorder: Buckhannon Historic Landmarks Commission Date: August 18 2016

Address: Buckhannon City Hall Telephone Number: (304) 472-1651
70 E Main Street
Buckhannon WV
26201

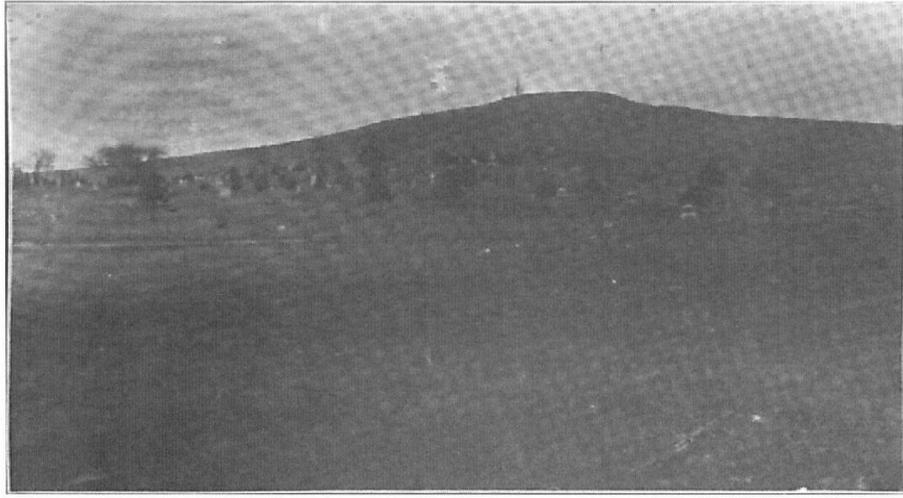
Please return form to:
WV State Historic Preservation Office
The Cultural Center
1900 Kanawha Boulevard, East
Charleston, West Virginia 25305-0300



Bronze plaque near the Heavner Cemetery's south entrance, commemorating the site of Bush's Fort (Photo courtesy of Christina Rieth)



Remnants of Bush's Fort, taken in 1909 (Photo courtesy of Josephine MacAvoy)



Big Indian Knob and the Heavner Cemetery, taken in 1909 (Photo courtesy of Josephine MacAvoy)



Buckhannon Memorial Park Mausoleum, the only property within the cemetery not owned by the City of Buckhannon (Photo courtesy of Christina Rieth)



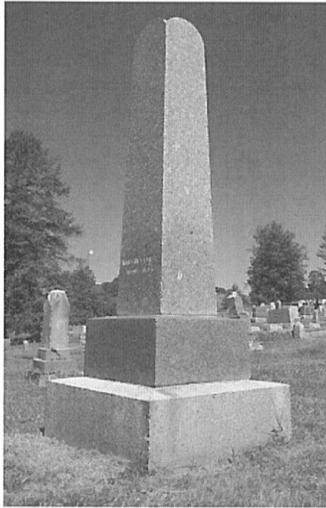
Old Heavner section of the cemetery, featuring (l-r) two 19th century marble, sandstone, and fieldstone headstones. (Photo courtesy of Christina Rieth)



(6) Stone gate, erected in 1943, located at the cemetery's south (Old Heavner) entrance (Photo courtesy of Christina Rieth)



(7) Stockert monument with Neal obelisk in the background (Photo courtesy of Christina Rieth)



(8) Westfall obelisk, erected for Henry F. and Mary Westfall (Photo courtesy of Christina Rieth)



(9) Daniel D.T. Farnsworth obelisk (Photo courtesy of Christina Rieth)



(10) Iron gate designed by Stewart Iron Works (Photo courtesy of Christina Rieth)



(11) Grave site of Dr. John T. Huff (Photo courtesy of Christina Rieth)



(12) Grave site of Laura Jackson Arnold (Photo courtesy of Christina Rieth)

“Cemetery Trees”, compiled by Ben Rhodes and Briana Snyder, *The Nature Conservancy*



(11) Aerial map of the identified trees in the Old Heavner section of the Heavner Cemetery (Photo and information courtesy of Ben Rhodes and Briana Snyder)



Aerial map of the identified trees Heavner Cemetery's Second Addition (Photo and information courtesy of Ben Rhodes and Briana Snyder)



Aerial view of the identified trees at the Heavner Cemetery's Buckhannon Memorial Park and Baptist Cemetery sections. (Photo and information courtesy of Ben Rhodes and Briana Snyder)

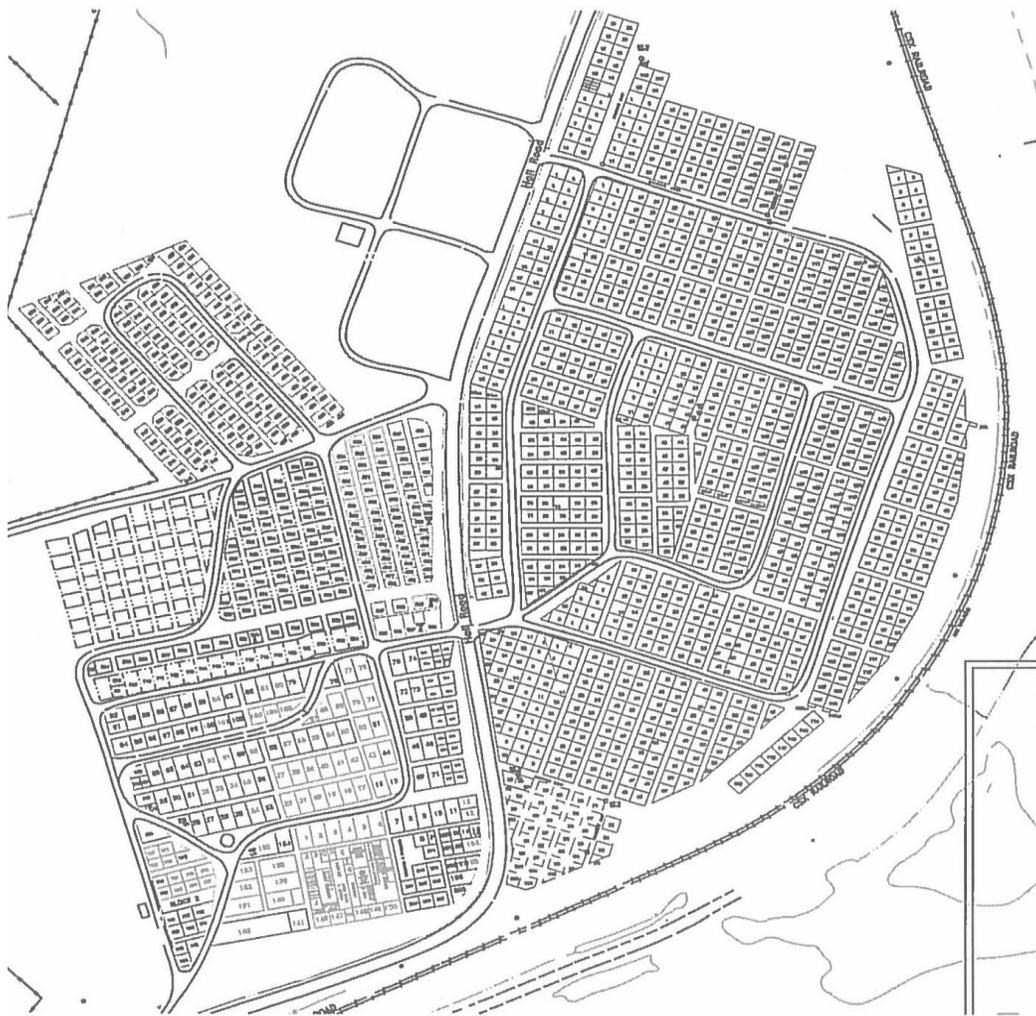
Identified trees in the Heavner Cemetery (courtesy of Ben Rhodes and Briana Snyder, The Nature Conservancy)

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|---|-------------------|
| 1. Pin Oak | 2. White Cedar | 3. American Holly | 4. American Holly |
| 5. Catalpa | 6. American Holly | 7. Hemlock | 8. American Holly |
| 9. American Holly | 10. White Cedar | 11. Cherry tree and Yew tree growing in the same spot | |
| 12. White Cedar | 13. Norway Spruce | 14. Red Spruce | 15. Red Maple |
| 16. American Holly | 17. Sugar Maple | 18. Sugar Maple | 19. Sugar Maple |

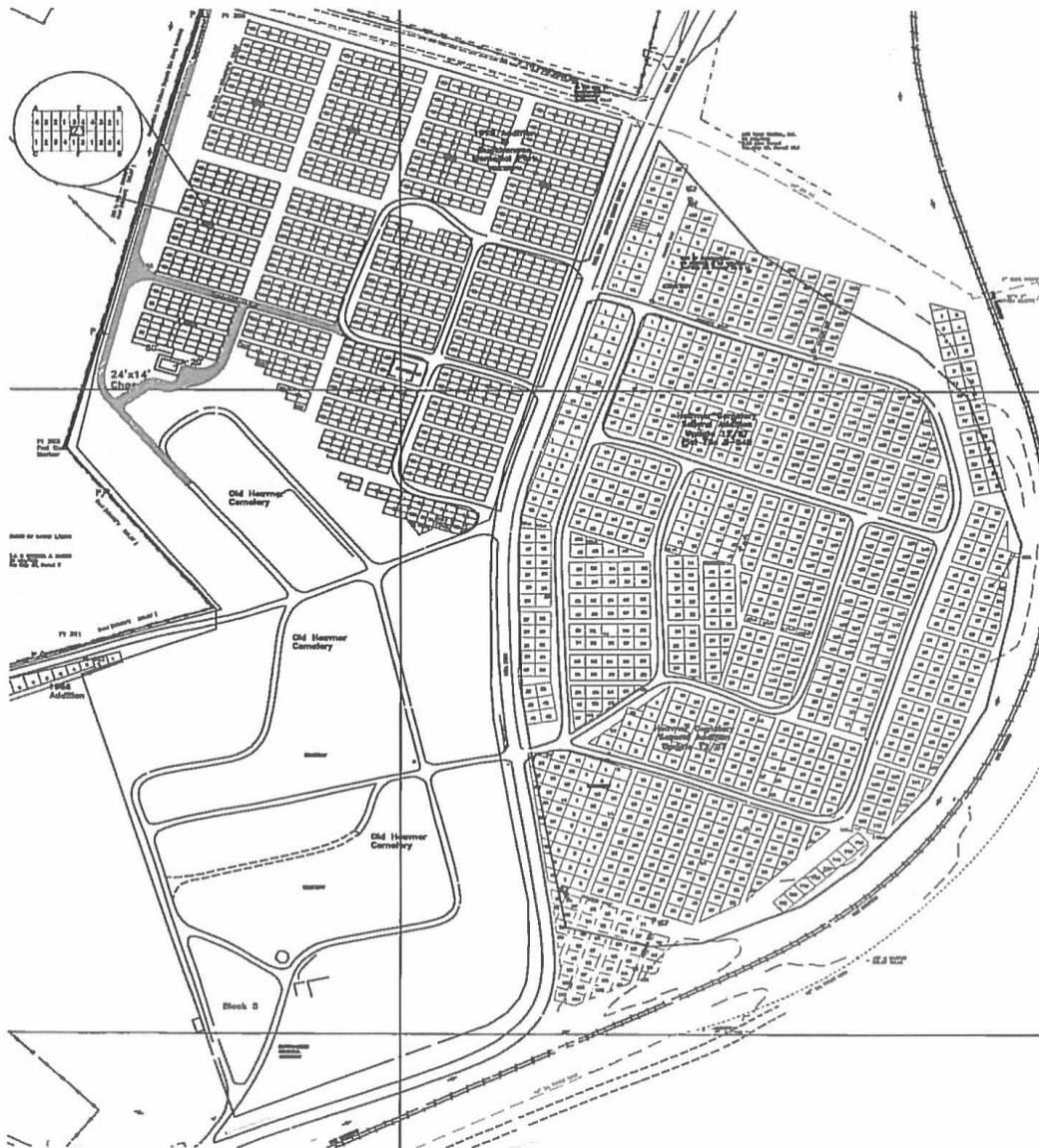
- | | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 20. Sugar Maple | 21. American Holly | 22. Sugar Maple | 23. Oak |
| 24. Sugar Maple | 25. Sugar Maple | 26. Sugar Maple | 27. Sugar Maple |
| 28. White Cedar | 29. Sugar Maple | 30. Unknown | 31. Norway Spruce |
| 32. Norway Spruce | 33. Norway Spruce | 34. Norway Spruce | 35. Non-native Maple |
| 36. Non-native Maple | 37. Non-native Maple | 38. River Birch | 39. Black Locust |
| 40. Black Locust | 41. American Holly | 42. Red Maple | 43. Red Maple |
| 44. Unknown Shrub | 45. Hemlock | 46. Hemlock | 47. Blue Spruce |
| 48. Ornamental Plum | 49. Oak | 50. Oak | 51. Oak |
| 52. Oak | 53. Oak | 54. Unknown Shrub | 55. Oak and an unknown shrub |
| 56. Norway Spruce | 57. Norway Spruce | 58. Norway Spruce | 59. Oak |
| 60. Oak | 61. Oak | 62. Oak | 63. Oak |
| 64. Oak | 65. Oak | 66. White Cedar | 67. Norway Spruce |
| 68. Norway Spruce | 69. Norway Spruce | 70. Norway Spruce | 71. Norway Spruce |
| 72. Norway Spruce | 73. Norway Spruce | 74. Norway Spruce | 75. Oak |
| 76. Oak | 77. Black Locust | 78. Unknown | 79. Unknown Shrub |
| 80. Sugar Maple | | | |

"Trees 5-7 are the oldest in the cemetery. The catalpa and American holly, known as popular ornamentals, probably date back to the early 1900's. The hemlock is most likely the same age as the first two. The sugar maples 17, 18, and 24-27 also appear close in age to the catalpa. Trees 2-4, 9, 10, 12, and 13 are older trees, possibly nearing 100 years. The trees get younger spreading out from this area. The next oldest stand of trees appears to be 66-71. The cedar and Norway spruce are approximately 60-70 years old. The row of oaks, 60-65, are also around this age."

CITY OF BUCKHANNON
 OLD HEAVNER AND SECOND ADDITION
 SCALE: 1" = 150 UNITS



CITY OF BUCKHANNON
SECOND ADDITION, BUCKHANNON MEMORIAL PARK, BAPTIST CEMETERY
SCALE: 1" = 200 UNITS



Ms. Rieth reported that Jeff Smith got back with her regarding what criteria were being used for designation of the cemetery. Certain criteria needs met according to why there is a request to designate a historic area.

For instance (A) is for outstanding architectural features, (B) is for persons relate to the site of most importance, and (D) contains information regarding history. She used (B) for persons buried there including Baptist cemetery and (D) for historic information regarding Bush's Fort.

Mr. Jeff Smith is to get back with the HLMC within 30 days. If he believes it is worth pursuing then Ms. Rieth recommended that, during the next meeting, the Commission should talk about possible state funds available; letters of support from other groups; check on a contract with Michael Geolus and to fill out the application.

The Commission revisited the topic of design review. The minimum is criteria set by the Secretary of Interior and quite lengthy. The HLMC is not sure if this is needed at this point.

The Commission talked about the review and update of properties designated as historic districts. There was some conflict as to what needs updated. The Commission would like to speak with Mr. Jeff Smith when he visits Buckhannon regarding the cemetery. Perhaps a meeting could be scheduled at that time.

Properties/Districts in Buckhannon City Limits designated by the BHLC: (Website)

- Central Residential Historic District: <http://www.wvculture.org/shpo/nr/pdf/upshur/12000225.pdf>
 - Downtown Historic District: <http://www.wvculture.org/shpo/nr/pdf/upshur/09001196.pdf>
 - William Post Mansion: <http://www.wvculture.org/shpo/nr/pdf/upshur/93000619.pdf>
- (This form was not prepared by the BHLC)

There being no further information to be transacted meeting, adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Chairman Vincent Smith

Assistant City Recorder Amberle Jenkins