



GEORGE GARIG

This was in 1794-1825 the 800 acre plantation of George Garig, a German settler from Maryland, "a resident of well known honesty and one of the most skillful builders of cotton gins and presses in this territory." Because families had been burying on this high spot for years, in 1819 he donated the one acre graveyard under lease to the Catholic congregation. He was buried here himself in 1825. Cemetery was enlarged by later plantation owners, last burial in 1939. Restored 1976

Increasing Awareness and Promoting Preservation of Baton Rouge's Oldest Cemetery

OUR MISSION

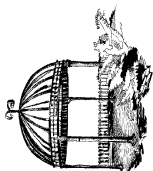
The Friends of Historic Highland Cemetery, Inc. ("The Friends") is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to increasing awareness and promoting preservation of Baton Rouge's oldest surviving cemetery.

ABOUT HIGHLAND CEMETERY

HIGHLAND CEMETERY was founded in 1813 by Gartness Plantation owner George Garig. A leader of "The Highlands" community, Mr. Garig soon expanded his small family graveyard to include burials from many of the early families along this river bluff. By 1819, Garig donated the cemetery to the Catholic congregation of Baton Rouge and today the cemetery is owned by St. Joseph Cathedral Parish.

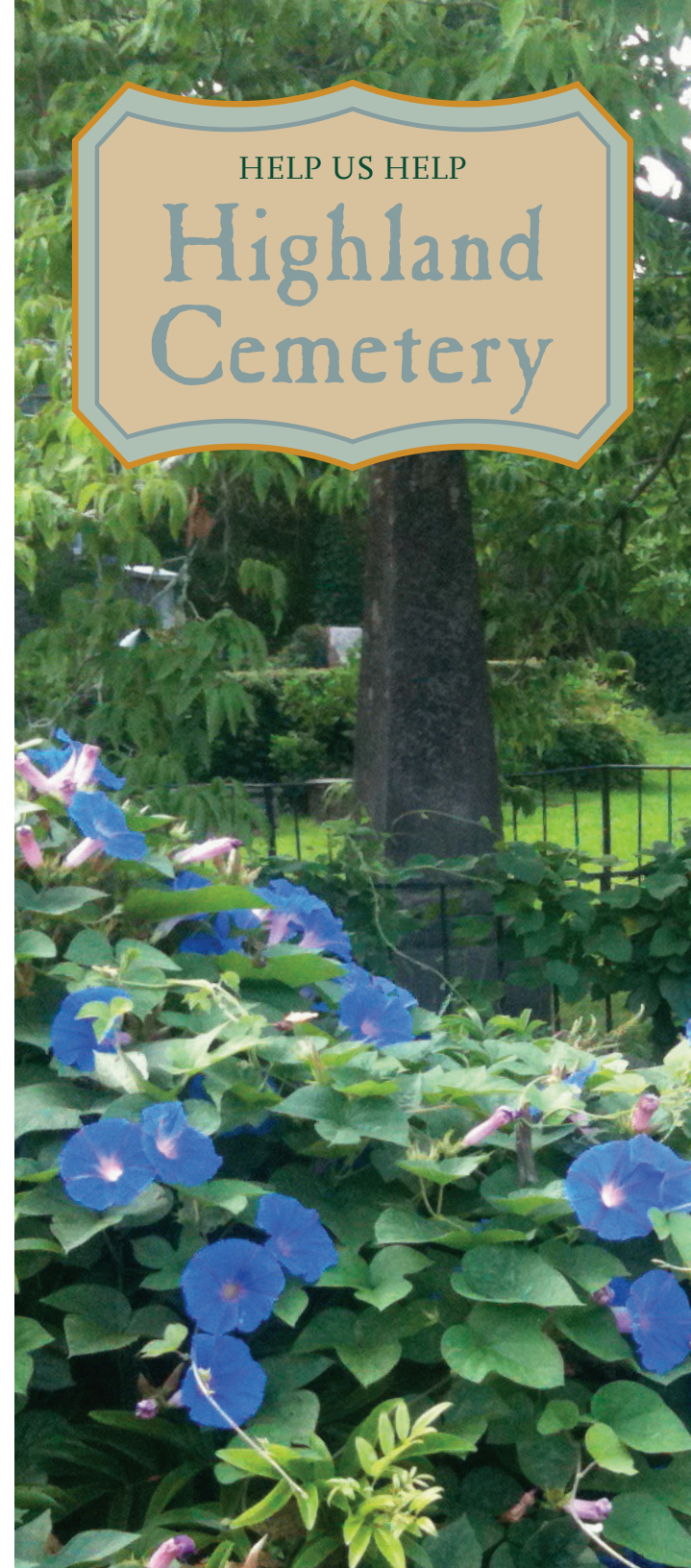
Many of our earliest plantation families found their final resting place at Highland, including Armand Duplantier of Magnolia Mound, Pierre Joseph Favrot of Monte Vista, and Johann Baptiste Kleinpeter of Hard Times.

Highland is actually composed of several distinct cemeteries, including family-owned Favrot Cemetery and a Protestant section often called Penny Graveyard. Currently lost to surrounding development is a large Daigre family section that includes Huguet and Duplantier family plots.



FRIENDS OF
HISTORIC HIGHLAND
CEMETERY, INC.

4 Rue Toulouise
Baton Rouge LA 70808-4681



HELP US HELP

Highland Cemetery



HIGHLAND CEMETERY boasts two Revolutionary War veterans – *Armand Duplantier*, aide-de-camp to General Lafayette and *Pierre Joseph de Favrot*, commandant of the Baton Rouge fort under Governor de Galvez. Numerous veterans of the War of 1812 and the Civil War also rest here.

Highland Cemetery was virtually abandoned after the Civil War as families preferred the new, larger cemeteries nearer to Baton Rouge. For nearly 100 years, Highland Cemetery was completely overgrown until the 1970s when Evelyn Thom spearheaded a massive clean up and restoration that continues to this day. With these efforts, Mrs. Thom founded the Friends of Historic Highland Cemetery.

Currently, the board is working closely with archeologists to recover broken and buried markers to be repaired and restored to their original locations.

PROMOTING AWARENESS

The Friends of Historic Highland Cemetery is dedicated to promoting awareness and education of the historical and cultural value of Highland Cemetery through its website and printed material. Board members are always available to speak to any group about the history and significance of Highland Cemetery.

ARCHAEOLOGY

With permissions from descendants and the cemetery owner, St. Joseph Cathedral, as well as under a permit from the La. Division of Archaeology, archeologists have been collecting data on Highland for many years. Over 180 probable burial shafts have been located within the current boundary where only 20 markers survive. A systematic probe of the cemetery has revealed hundreds of brick and marble fragments just below the surface. The recovery, repair, rebuilding, or resetting of

these fragments is critical to the accurate restoration of the cemetery. A particular goal is the reconstruction of the six-vault Duplantier mausoleum that collapsed over a hundred years ago. Photographs of its debris pile have allowed the identification of specific fragments now used as benches, walkways, or coping. “Undoing” many of these later modifications in order to rebuild original features is key to our ultimate goal of inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Our immediate and most important goal however, is the grave marker recovery project. The names and other data on these markers may be the only record of some of these early settlers. Broken markers do not move far and we can match them to the bases still in original locations. Once we identify individuals, we can then make informed assumptions about relatives buried nearby. Archaeology and genealogy combine to solve much of the puzzle of Highland Cemetery.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

The Friends of Historic Highland Cemetery group represents a broad spectrum of disciplines including archaeology, landscaping, genealogy, and local history. We also include descendants, neighbors, and dedicated preservationists. We are volunteer-run and supported through donations and membership fees.

As a member-based, non-profit organization, our activities are primarily supported through generous individual donations of time and money. Please use this membership form to get involved!



Help us help Highland Cemetery

MEMBERSHIP

Your donation to Friends of Historic Highland Cemetery helps promote awareness and preservation of Baton Rouge’s oldest cemetery.

I would like to join the Friends at the following level:

- Individual \$25 Family \$40
 Nonprofit \$50.00 Company \$100.00

DONATION

Please accept my donation of \$ _____ .

VOLUNTEER

Please contact me with volunteer opportunities in:

- Special Events Education/Outreach
 Landscaping Archaeology

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____

Address: _____

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State _____ Zip _____

Phone: () _____

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Please enclose check for “Highland Cemetery” and send to:

4 Rue Toulouse

Baton Rouge LA 70808

The Friends of Historic Highland Cemetery is a 501(c)(3) non-profit company. Your donation may be tax deductible, please contact your tax professional for more information.

For more information visit
historichighlandcemetery.org.