

Creating a Spatial Database for Indiana's Cemetery and Burial Ground Registry

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ABSTRACT

This paper presents the collaborative process among several disciplines to implement the cemeteries registration law in the State of Indiana. The paper explains the collaborative process of three professionals with combined discipline of history, law, surveying, and civil engineering as well as numerous citizens to develop a spatial data base in fulfillment of requirements of the Legislature enacted Indiana Code (IC) Section 14-21-1-13.5, Survey and Register of Indiana Burial Grounds. Funding was not attached to the new law, so only one staff member has the responsibility to complete this project. Volunteers and organizational partners have been recruited to help with the complex project. Indiana has ninety-two (92) counties, and the state of data collection of cemeteries varies from county to county, often times from cemetery to cemetery. The ability and GPS equipment of the volunteers varies as well. The parameters of the project has made the project a challenge.

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