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## Cemetery Permit Requirements

§13A-7-23.1 of the *Code of Alabama* 1975 states, “The Alabama Historical Commission, to provide for the lawful preservation, investigation, restoration, or relocation of human burial remains, human skeletal remains, or funerary objects, shall promulgate rules and regulations for the issuance of a permit and may issue a permit to persons or companies who seek to restore, preserve or relocate human burial remains, human skeletal remains, funerary objects, or otherwise disturb, a place of burial.” The AHC only issues permits for cemeteries that are at least 75 years old or older. A permit is issued in the form of a letter signed by the Executive Director of the Alabama Historical Commission.

### Permit for General Cleaning & Upkeep/Preservation

General cleaning and upkeep/preservation refers to any altering of the cemetery beyond cutting the grass and general maintenance.

#### Examples:

- Major removal or cutting of trees, shrubs, flowers, or other plants
- Movement of gravestones, monuments, markers, funerary objects, and/or installation/removal of fencing or retaining walls
- cleaning, repair, stabilizing and re-setting of grave markers
- planting or re-planting of vegetation
- adding major elements to the cemetery (fences, roads, pathways, lighting, etc.)

### Permit for Relocation

Relocation refers to the removal of human remains, their container or tomb, as well as any gravestone, marker, monument, funerary, or burial objects associated with the human remains.

Example: Situations where a single burial or whole cemetery must be moved due to construction, erosion or other factors.

For more information, please contact Leanne Waller-Trupp, Cemetery Program Coordinator, at (334) 230-2653 or [Leanne.Trupp@ahc.alabama.gov](mailto:Leanne.Trupp@ahc.alabama.gov).

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