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Memorandum

To: Mayor & Council

From: David Reynolds

Re: Agenda Item: Consider Historical Designation for Highland Cemetery

Date: 08/19/2025

Purpose:

The purpose of this agenda item is to consider whether Town Council sees benefit in seeking Historical Designation for the Highland Cemetery.

In recent months' New Castle's Historical Preservation Commission (HPC) has been studying the background of Highland Cemetery and considering the benefits Historical Designation for the site. As owners of the property, it would be up to Town Council to seek designation from HPC regarding Highland Cemetery. Knowing that HPC has looked at this issue, and sees value in designating the cemetery, staff seeks direction on whether Town Council would care to work toward applying to HPC for this designation.

Town staff has prepared a report that outlines the approval criteria for such designations as well as gives historical background indicating how the cemetery may qualify for designation. If Council wishes to move forward with Historical Designation, they may direct staff to complete an application and submit it to HPC for their consideration.