

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO RELOCATE INTERMENTS WITHIN THE ADAMS-WILSON AND HAIRSTON II CEMETERIES, PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY

1. APPLICANT:

Matthew D. Rowe
Danville-Pittsylvania Regional Industrial Facility Authority (RIFA)
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2. PROPOSED WORK AND NEED FOR RELOCATION: In order to facilitate future economic development, the Danville-Pittsylvania Regional Industrial Facility Authority (RIFA) proposes to relocate two cemeteries from one part of the Southern Virginia Megasite to another location within the same property.

The Adams-Wilson cemetery contains two headstone markers with the following inscriptions:

Lucinda Wife of Peyton Wilson
1876-1924

Mack Adams
1901-1921

More than one hundred unmarked graves also exist within the cemeteries. The property was once part of Oak Hill/Berry Hill Plantation, and the people interred in the cemeteries were likely tenants of those plantations in the 1870 to 1950 period. Documentary research indicates that the cemeteries contain members of the Hairston, Wilson, and Adams families.

RIFA has determined that disturbance of the cemetery cannot be avoided since they are in the center of key development areas. Pursuant to the requirements of VA Code §10.1-2305, the application has applied for a burial permit through the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) to allow the archaeological excavation and relocation of the aforementioned cemeteries. A copy of the application may be requested from DHR.

The exhumed human remains and funerary objects will be temporarily curated at the Fisher & Watkins Funeral Home, and will be respectfully reburied adjacent to an existing cemetery near the Oak Hill Plantation House, unless otherwise requested by interested parties.

3. COMMENT PERIOD: Comments on this project should be made in writing, addressed to

the following:

Matthew Rowe, RIFA, 427 Patton Street, Danville, VA 24541, 434-432-1669,
matthew.rowe@pittgov.org

and

Joanna Wilson Green, Virginia Department of Historic Resources, 2801
Kensington Avenue, Richmond, VA 23221 or by email at
burialpermits@dhr.virginia.gov.

Written comments should be received by the close of business on October 16, 2024.

A public meeting for this project will be held at the Pittsylvania County Community Center located at 115 S. Main Street, Chatham, Virginia on October 9th at 6:00 P.M.

4. CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions about this project, please contact

Matthew Rowe, 434-432-1669, matthew.rowe@pittgov.org