

Please join the Central New York Cemetery Network on
Tuesday, February 17 at 7:30 pm
For a Presentation
By Ethan Dickerman (CNYCN)

*Looking Back 10-Years to Plan for the Future: A NYS Division of
Cemeteries Audit of a colonial to 21st century cemetery*



What is an audit by the New York State Division of Cemeteries and how can historic cemetery associations navigate this process?

In 2025, the NYS Division of Cemeteries conducted a 10-year audit of Rombout Rural Cemetery's financial, plot sale, and burial records to ensure cemetery corporations legal standards. This cemetery is a State and National Historic Register Eligible public NFP cemetery in the Brinkerhoff Hamlet of Fishkill, New York. As a public NFP cemetery, the Rombout Rural Cemetery Association (RRCA) falls under the jurisdiction of the New York

State Division of Cemeteries (NYS Cemetery Law), the NYS Attorney General Charities Bureau, and the Internal Revenue Service. Each of these entities expect specific record-keeping, annual filings, and customs for professional operation. Since 1885, the RRCA's Trustees have stewarded the existing burials, while ensuring and overseeing the sale of available plots for current and future burials. As a historic cemetery reflective of Fishkill's development, the RRCA also works to research, preserve, and educate the community about the site's unique history.

This presentation examines: the site's development from a religious churchyard to a public nonprofit cemetery; the involved local, state, and federal agencies; the 2025 DOC audit process and results; balancing preservation and cemetery operations; and how the RRCA is looking ahead.



Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4987581449?pwd=Y2RSMmlHU09XclhQazhSVUQ5RzA1UT09&omn=81262897800>