



**Bethlehem Methodist Episcopal Cemetery
Conservation Management Plan**



Bethlehem Methodist Episcopal Cemetery Conservation Management Plan

Archer, Florida

Established ca.1875, the cemetery has eighty known burial sites, many of which belong to formerly enslaved persons freed from nearby Cottonwood and Haile Plantations, and their descendants. The Conservation Management Plan (CMP) is a critical tool for addressing the short- and long-term preservation of the cemetery, and provides:

- Narrative **context statement** of the site's history, cultural significance, and burial site summaries;
- **Documentation** of the physical (both built and natural) components of the site;
- **Philosophical approach** to guide the site's preservation; and
- **Management recommendations**, such as cyclical maintenance.

Sponsors	Florida Division of Historical Resources, \$12,500 William T. Bland Endowment for Preserving Florida's History, \$12,500
Partners	BMECR Organization, Florida Public Archaeology Network
Period	July 2020 - June 2021
Focus Area	Inclusive Heritage