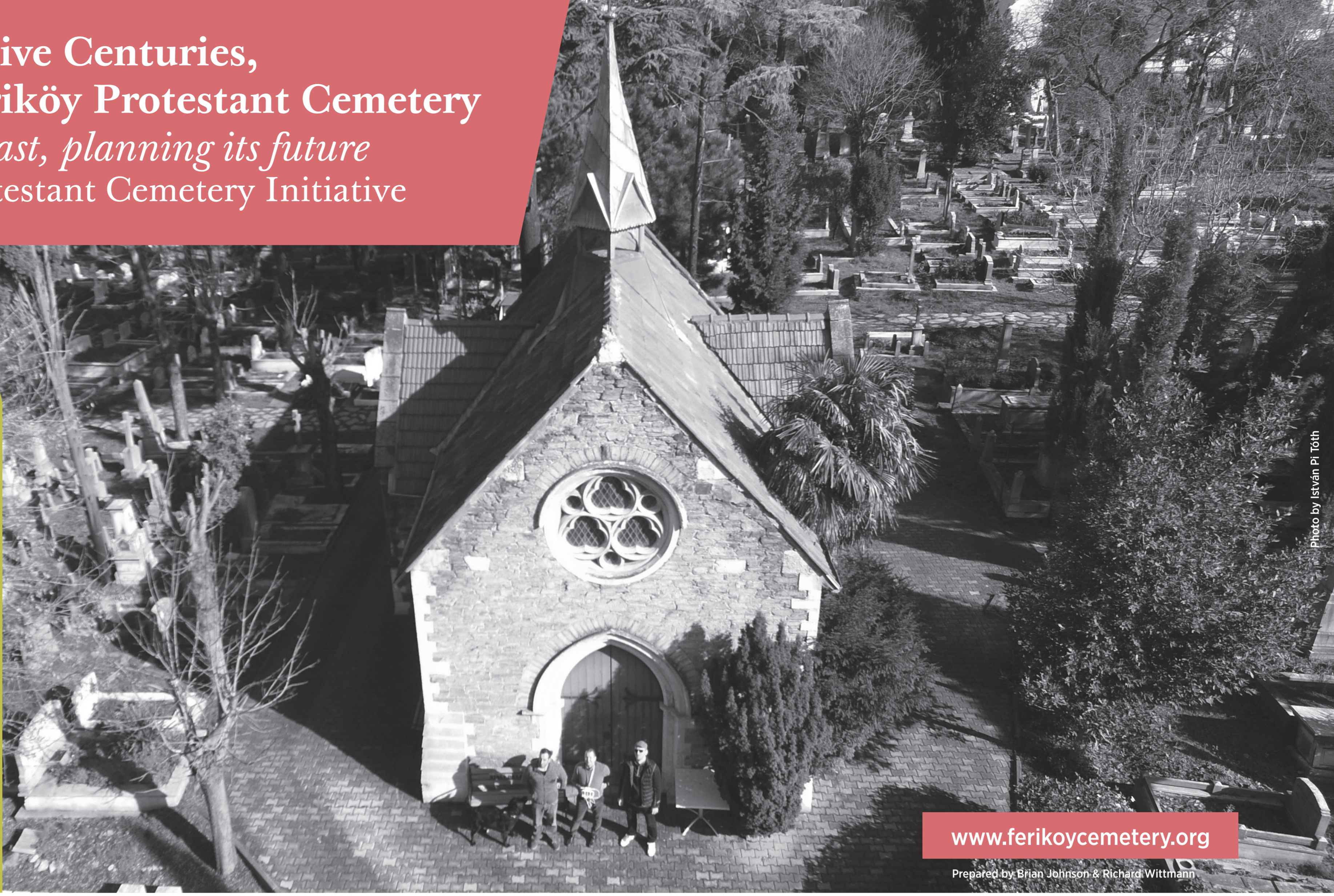


# A Legacy of Five Centuries, Istanbul's Feriköy Protestant Cemetery

*Preserving its past, planning its future*

The Feriköy Protestant Cemetery Initiative

The Feriköy Protestant Cemetery opened in 1859 on land granted by the Ottoman government to several contemporary leading Protestant nations as a replacement for a previous graveyard that had been in use since the sixteenth century. On the European side of the Bosphorus and distant from urbanized areas, Istanbul's Feriköy district was ideal for a burial ground. Since its opening, the cemetery has served as the main burial place for the city's Protestant (and otherwise non-Catholic or Orthodox) foreign dead and recorded nearly 5,000 interments. It is managed today by a governing board comprised of the consuls general of Germany, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Sweden, Hungary, Switzerland, and the USA.



[www.ferikoycemetery.org](http://www.ferikoycemetery.org)

Prepared by Brian Johnson & Richard Wittmann



Before Feriköy's establishment, Protestants were buried in the Graveyard of the Franks, a cemetery for Europeans on a hill over the Bosphorus, in Istanbul's Beyoğlu quarter (left), which had originated around 1560 during a plague epidemic. In the 1860s, both remains and grave markers (including the sarcophagus

tomb above) were moved from this ancient burial ground to the new cemetery at Feriköy (right). The monuments from the Frankish graveyard physically link Feriköy to the earlier site and, along with the cemetery's own, post-1859 tombs, make it the sole bearer of a legacy of almost five centuries.



Besides being a historic landmark, the Feriköy Protestant Cemetery still serves as an active burial ground. It is also one of the last green spots in the city's center, a sanctuary of local plant and animal life and a habitat for

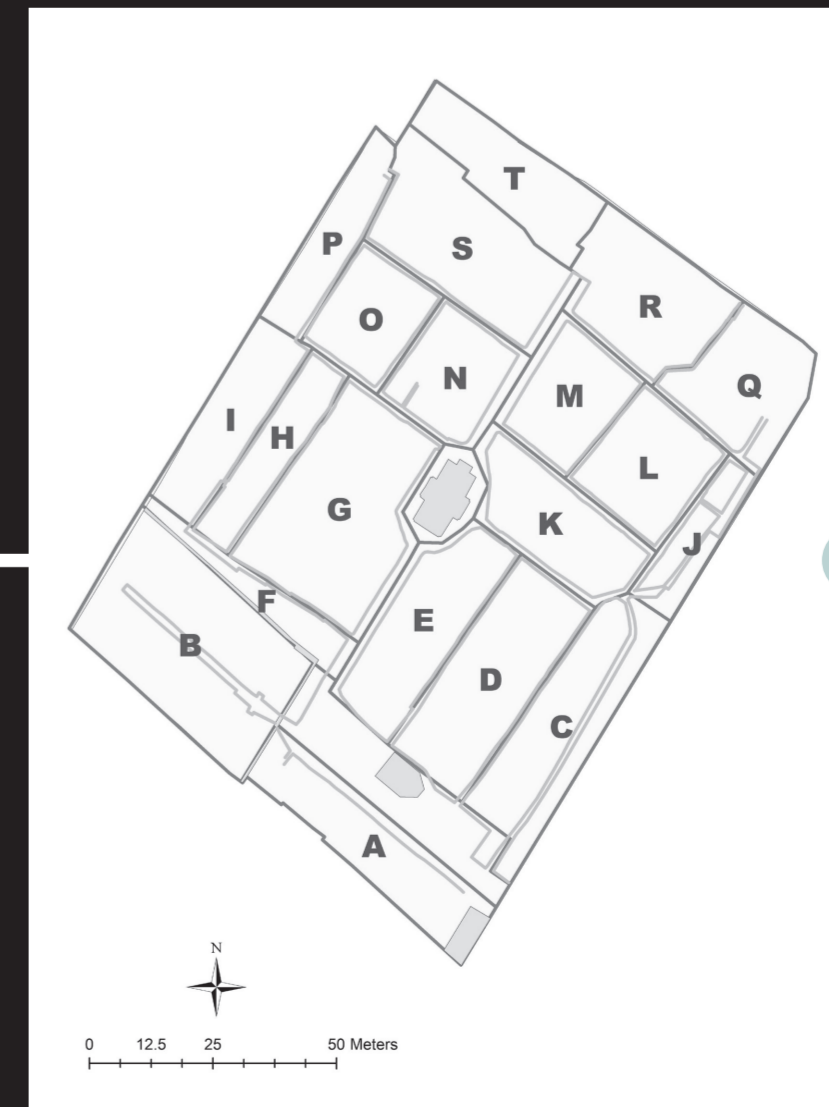
birds migrating between Europe and Africa. Passing through the cemetery's gate, one enters a realm of nature, solitude, and calm, removed from the urban intensity outside. It is a place remote, both in time and space.

The Feriköy Protestant Cemetery Initiative was formed in 2018 to document, study, and preserve the cemetery in all its aspects. It currently unites scholars affiliated with five Istanbul-based research centers (the Netherlands Institute in Turkey, NIT; the Orient-Institut Istanbul; the American Research Institute in Turkey, ARIT; the Hungarian Cultural Center; and the Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul, SRII) and seeks to include other institutions and individuals interested in the site. Protection from vandalism, restoration of tombs, caring for natural features, and developing a master plan for the cemetery's optimal use as a burial place, historical landmark, and public space are high on the Initiative's agenda.

In the summer of 2019, as a first step towards Feriköy's long-term preservation, the Initiative began to record its monuments, using student interns from the Netherlands, Germany, Turkey, Hungary, and the USA (1). The data gathered will eventually be linked with information from funerary records (2) already digitized by the Orient-Institut Istanbul and a digital site map (3) produced by the Netherlands Institute, to create an interactive database combining multiple details about the cemetery (4), which is being financed by the German Foreign Ministry.



ID	Monument	Material	Height	Width	Depth	Notes
1	Large sarcophagus	Marble	1.2	1.5	0.8	Original location: Graveyard of the Franks
2	Small cross	Stone	0.5	0.4	0.3	
3	Large cross	Stone	1.5	0.8	0.4	
4	Small cross	Stone	0.4	0.3	0.2	



Edit Entry	
Plot ID Number	C036
Funerary Record Number	4201
Surname / First & Middle Name	Wade, Harold Martin
Name	Southampton
Provenance / Status	Anglais
Country License plate	GB
Country of Origin Other	aufgeschlüsselt
Date of Burial	
Observations	
Child death	
Date of Birth	1888
Year of Burial	1980
Death Date	5 June 1980
Photo	
<input type="button" value="CHANGE"/> <input type="button" value="REMOVE"/>	