

a graveyard preservation primer lynette strangstad

****A Graveyard Preservation Primer Lynette Strangstad****

a graveyard preservation primer lynette strangstad serves as an essential guide for anyone interested in maintaining and restoring historic cemeteries with care and respect. Lynette Strangstad's expertise in graveyard preservation has helped countless communities and individuals understand the delicate balance between conservation and honoring the memories of those who came before us. Whether you're a volunteer, genealogist, historian, or simply curious about cemetery care, this primer offers practical insights into preserving these sacred spaces for future generations.

Understanding the Importance of Graveyard Preservation

Graveyards are more than just resting places; they are tangible links to our past. They tell stories of local history, culture, and genealogy that are invaluable to researchers and families alike. Lynette Strangstad's work emphasizes how preserving graveyards safeguards these stories and ensures that the historical significance of the site is not lost over time.

In many cases, graveyards face threats from natural decay, vandalism, neglect, and urban development. Without proper care, gravestones can become illegible, topple over, or suffer irreversible damage. Graveyard preservation is about preventing these losses through informed and respectful methods.

The Historical and Cultural Value of Cemeteries

Cemeteries often reflect the art, beliefs, and social norms of their era, making them outdoor museums of sorts. The gravestone engravings, symbols, and materials can reveal much about a community's heritage. Lynette Strangstad's primer stresses the importance of understanding this context before beginning any preservation work to avoid damaging historically significant features.

Essential Principles in Lynette Strangstad's Graveyard Preservation Primer

One of the key takeaways from Strangstad's primer is the importance of education and preparation. Graveyard preservation isn't just about cleaning

stones or landscaping; it involves understanding the materials, history, and techniques that ensure long-term conservation.

Assessment Before Action

Before any preservation work begins, a thorough assessment of the site is crucial. This includes documenting the condition of each grave marker, identifying types of stone and materials used, and noting any signs of damage or instability. Strangstad encourages using photographs, sketches, and written records to establish a baseline that can guide restoration efforts.

Non-Invasive Cleaning Techniques

Cleaning gravestones is one of the most common preservation tasks, but it must be done carefully. Lynette Strangstad's primer advises using gentle methods to avoid scratching or eroding the stone. For example, using soft brushes, mild water sprays, and non-ionic detergents can remove biological growth like moss and lichen without harming the surface.

Repair and Stabilization

When gravestones are cracked, broken, or leaning, stabilizing them is vital to prevent further damage. Strangstad outlines techniques such as resetting stones on proper foundations, using lime-based mortars for repairs, and avoiding modern cement that can trap moisture and cause deterioration.

Practical Tips for Volunteers and Caretakers

Many graveyard preservation projects rely on community volunteers who may not have formal training. Lynette Strangstad's primer offers accessible advice that empowers these caretakers to make meaningful contributions without causing harm.

- **Wear protective gear:** Gloves, masks, and eye protection help guard against dust, mold, and sharp edges.
- **Use appropriate tools:** Avoid metal tools that can chip stone; wooden or plastic tools are safer for delicate work.
- **Document everything:** Keeping detailed records helps track progress and provides valuable information for future preservationists.

- **Respect the site:** Avoid disturbing graves or removing any artifacts without proper authorization.

Engaging with Local Authorities and Historians

Successful graveyard preservation often involves collaboration. Lynette Strangstad highlights the importance of working with local historical societies, cemetery boards, and municipal authorities. These partnerships can provide access to resources, expert advice, and sometimes funding that is crucial for large-scale projects.

Challenges in Cemetery Conservation and How to Overcome Them

Preserving graveyards is not without its obstacles. Environmental factors like acid rain, freeze-thaw cycles, and invasive vegetation can accelerate deterioration. Additionally, limited funding and volunteer burnout are common challenges.

Addressing Environmental Threats

Strangstad's primer suggests several ways to mitigate environmental damage:

- Planting native vegetation to prevent soil erosion around gravestones.
- Installing drainage solutions to reduce water pooling.
- Using protective covers or barriers for especially fragile monuments during harsh weather.

Fundraising and Community Engagement

Building community interest is essential for sustainable preservation efforts. Hosting educational workshops, cemetery tours, and cleanup days can raise awareness and attract donations. According to Lynette Strangstad, involving local schools and historical groups can foster a sense of stewardship among younger generations.

Preservation Ethics: Balancing Respect and Restoration

One of the most important aspects of Lynette Strangstad's graveyard preservation primer is the ethical consideration behind every action taken. Preservationists must strike a balance between restoring the physical appearance of a graveyard and maintaining its authenticity.

Minimal Intervention

Strangstad advocates for minimal intervention, meaning only perform necessary repairs that prevent further damage without altering original materials or inscriptions. Over-restoration can erase historical evidence and alter the cemetery's character.

Respect for the Deceased and Descendants

Preservationists should always keep in mind the families and cultural traditions connected to the graveyard. Consulting with descendant communities and respecting religious practices helps ensure that preservation efforts honor the memory of those buried.

Resources and Further Reading

For those inspired by Lynette Strangstad's primer, numerous resources are available to deepen knowledge and skills in graveyard preservation:

- **The Association for Gravestone Studies:** Offers publications and conferences focused on cemetery conservation.
- **National Center for Preservation Technology and Training:** Provides technical resources and training on materials preservation.
- **Local historical societies:** Often have archives and expertise specific to regional cemeteries.

Incorporating these resources with the foundational principles from a graveyard preservation primer lynette strangstad ensures that anyone can approach cemetery care thoughtfully and effectively.

Exploring the world of graveyard preservation through Lynette Strangstad's primer not only equips individuals with practical techniques but also fosters a deeper appreciation for the stories etched in stone. As these resting places face ongoing threats, informed and respectful stewardship becomes ever more important. Whether you're starting a community project or simply want to care for a family plot, the knowledge shared in this primer can guide you with confidence and reverence.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'A Graveyard Preservation Primer' by Lynette Strangstad?

'A Graveyard Preservation Primer' by Lynette Strangstad is a comprehensive guide that provides practical advice and techniques for preserving historic cemeteries and graveyards.

Who is Lynette Strangstad?

Lynette Strangstad is an author and expert in historic preservation, particularly known for her work on cemetery preservation and conservation.

Why is 'A Graveyard Preservation Primer' important for historic preservation?

'A Graveyard Preservation Primer' is important because it offers detailed, accessible information to help communities maintain and protect historic graveyards, ensuring their cultural and historical significance is preserved for future generations.

What topics are covered in 'A Graveyard Preservation Primer'?

The primer covers topics such as cemetery documentation, gravestone cleaning, repair techniques, landscaping, dealing with vandalism, and legal considerations in graveyard preservation.

Who can benefit from reading 'A Graveyard Preservation Primer'?

Historians, preservationists, genealogists, cemetery caretakers, and community volunteers can all benefit from the practical guidance provided in the primer.

Does 'A Graveyard Preservation Primer' include instructions for gravestone cleaning?

Yes, the book provides step-by-step instructions for safely cleaning gravestones to avoid damage while preserving their inscriptions and appearance.

Is 'A Graveyard Preservation Primer' suitable for beginners in cemetery preservation?

Yes, the primer is designed to be accessible to beginners, offering clear explanations and practical advice to help those new to cemetery preservation get started effectively.

Where can I purchase or access 'A Graveyard Preservation Primer' by Lynette Strangstad?

'A Graveyard Preservation Primer' can be purchased through major book retailers, specialty historic preservation stores, or accessed via certain libraries and historic preservation organizations.

Additional Resources

A Graveyard Preservation Primer Lynette Strangstad: An In-Depth Review

a graveyard preservation primer lynette strangstad stands as a cornerstone resource for those interested in the meticulous and respectful care of historic cemeteries. This comprehensive guide offers an essential foundation not only for preservation professionals but also for community volunteers, genealogists, and local historians dedicated to maintaining the integrity of these culturally significant sites. Lynette Strangstad, an esteemed expert in historic preservation, brings a wealth of knowledge and practical insight to this specialized field.

The preservation of graveyards addresses unique challenges compared to other historic sites. Unlike buildings or monuments, cemeteries are outdoor spaces subject to continuous environmental wear and human interaction. This primer serves as a methodical roadmap, highlighting both the technical and ethical dimensions critical to sustaining these sacred grounds.

Understanding the Importance of Graveyard Preservation

Preservation efforts often begin with an appreciation of the historical and genealogical value embedded in graveyards. Strangstad's primer emphasizes how these sites offer irreplaceable connections to the past, providing insight into community heritage, demographic shifts, and artistic trends in funerary art. By documenting and maintaining graveyards, preservationists safeguard a tangible record of local narratives and family lineages.

Moreover, the primer underlines the role graveyards play in cultural tourism and education. Well-maintained cemeteries attract historians, genealogists, and visitors, fostering a broader public interest in historical conservation. In this context, Strangstad's work advocates for a preservation approach that balances respect for the deceased with accessibility for the living.

Key Principles Outlined in the Primer

Lynette Strangstad's primer meticulously outlines foundational principles that guide effective graveyard preservation:

- **Documentation:** Accurate recording of headstone inscriptions, cemetery layouts, and landscape features is critical before any conservation work begins.
- **Assessment:** Evaluating the condition of monuments and grounds to prioritize interventions based on urgency and significance.
- **Respect for Original Materials:** Maintaining the authenticity of gravestones and markers by avoiding harsh cleaning methods or inappropriate repairs.
- **Landscape Management:** Controlling vegetation and drainage to prevent damage while preserving the site's historic character.
- **Community Engagement:** Encouraging local involvement to foster stewardship and sustainable upkeep.

These principles reflect an integrated approach that combines technical conservation methods with community-based strategies, which is a recurring theme throughout the primer.

Technical Aspects and Best Practices

One of the standout features of “A Graveyard Preservation Primer Lynette Strangstad” is its detailed exploration of technical conservation techniques. The primer offers guidance on the appropriate cleaning of various stone types, such as marble, granite, and sandstone, stressing the risks of abrasive treatments and chemical cleaners that can accelerate deterioration.

Strangstad also discusses the challenges of repairing fractured or leaning headstones. The primer recommends reversible methods that do not compromise the original fabric of the monument, such as using stainless steel pins or lime-based mortars instead of Portland cement, which can be too rigid and damaging over time.

Environmental and Biological Factors

Environmental conditions, including weathering, pollution, and biological growth, pose ongoing threats to graveyard preservation. The primer dedicates significant attention to managing moss, lichen, and algae, which, while sometimes aesthetically pleasing, can accelerate stone decay if left unchecked. Strangstad advocates for gentle removal techniques and preventive maintenance that reduce biological colonization without harming the stone surface.

Drainage is another critical concern addressed in the primer. Poor water runoff can erode grave markers and destabilize foundations. The guide advises on grading and vegetation management strategies to ensure water disperses properly, thereby protecting the structural integrity of the site.

Community Involvement and Legal Considerations

The primer does not overlook the social context of graveyard preservation. Lynette Strangstad highlights the importance of community-based initiatives, such as “Adopt-a-Cemetery” programs and volunteer clean-up days, which have proven effective in many regions. These efforts not only supplement limited municipal resources but also deepen public appreciation for local heritage.

Furthermore, the primer touches on legal frameworks governing cemetery care. It outlines relevant regulations related to ownership, maintenance responsibilities, and the protection of human remains. Understanding these legalities is essential for anyone involved in preservation projects to avoid inadvertent violations and ensure ethical stewardship.

Comparisons to Other Preservation Guides

Compared to other resources on cemetery conservation, Strangstad's primer distinguishes itself through its balance of accessible language and technical depth. While many manuals focus narrowly on either the historical context or the practical conservation techniques, this primer integrates both aspects fluidly.

For instance, where some guides may prioritize monumental restoration alone, Strangstad's work acknowledges the broader landscape and cultural environment. This holistic approach aligns with contemporary preservation philosophies that advocate for maintaining the entire historic setting rather than isolated elements.

Pros and Cons of the Primer

Evaluating "A Graveyard Preservation Primer Lynette Strangstad" reveals several strengths and potential limitations:

- **Pros:**

- Comprehensive coverage of both technical and social aspects of preservation.
- Clear guidelines grounded in best practices and current conservation standards.
- Useful for a diverse audience, from professionals to community volunteers.
- Emphasis on ethical considerations and respect for cultural sensitivities.

- **Cons:**

- Some sections may require supplementary specialized texts for advanced conservation techniques.
- Limited focus on digital tools or modern technology applications in documentation and preservation.
- Primarily oriented toward North American cemeteries, which may limit applicability in differing legal or climatic contexts.

Despite these minor drawbacks, the primer remains a highly valuable resource in the field of graveyard preservation.

Integrating “A Graveyard Preservation Primer Lynette Strangstad” into Preservation Projects

For organizations and individuals embarking on cemetery preservation, this primer serves as a foundational reference. It encourages a methodical approach beginning with detailed site surveys and condition assessments, followed by carefully planned interventions that avoid irreversible damage.

The primer’s guidelines on community engagement can enhance project sustainability, ensuring that preservation efforts continue beyond initial restoration phases. By promoting education and volunteerism, the primer fosters a culture of respect and care for these historic landscapes.

In summary, Lynette Strangstad’s “A Graveyard Preservation Primer” offers a well-rounded, authoritative guide that remains relevant for anyone committed to the stewardship of graveyards. Its blend of historical context, practical advice, and ethical guidance makes it an indispensable tool in the ongoing effort to protect these vital links to our collective past.

[A Graveyard Preservation Primer Lynette Strangstad](#)

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a graveyard preservation primer lynette strangstad: A Graveyard Preservation Primer
Lynette Strangstad, 2013-08-28 A Graveyard Preservation Primer has proven itself to be a time-tested resource for those who are seeking information regarding the protection and preservation of historic graveyards. It was first written to help stewards of early burial grounds responsibly and effectively preserve their graveyards. Much information found in the first edition of the book remains valid today. Still, much has changed in the twenty-five years since its first publication, and the new edition reflects these changes. Attitudes and the understanding of historic graveyards as an important cultural resource have grown and developed over the years. Likewise, changes in treatments have also taken place. Perhaps the most dramatic change in burial ground preservation is in the world of technology. Changes in computers and the way we use them have also changed preservation practices in historic graveyards. Discussion of technological changes in the new edition includes those in mapping, surveying, photography, archaeology, and other areas of

evaluation and planning. Consideration is given, too, to maintenance and conservation treatments, including both traditional and newer treatments for stone, concrete, and metals. Metals were not discussed in the earlier editions, and protection and preservation of the landscape as it relates to graveyards is an expanded focus of this book. The historic preservation of cemeteries and burial grounds is an aspect within the discipline of historic preservation that is unknown to many. Those whose responsibility is the care of these historic sites may be unfamiliar with appropriate approaches to such areas as documentation, planning, maintenance, and conservation. Unwitting personnel can do irreparable harm to these important cultural resources. The Primer is an effort to protect historic cultural resources by breaching the gap between maintenance staff, cemetery boards, friends' groups, and graveyard preservation professionals by offering readily available, responsible information regarding graveyard protection and preservation. It is also designed to assist those who would undertake a preservation project in the reclaiming of a neglected or abandoned historic cemetery. The book is generously illustrated with diagrams and photos illustrating procedures and gravemarker and graveyard forms, styles, and materials. The appendix section is completely updated and expanded, offering a worthwhile resource in itself.

a graveyard preservation primer lynette strangstad: Reading Rural Landscapes Robert Stanford, 2015-09-15 Everywhere we go in rural New England, the past surrounds us. In the woods and fields and along country roads, the traces are everywhere if we know what to look for and how to interpret what we see. A patch of neglected daylilies marks a long-abandoned homestead. A grown-over cellar hole with nearby stumps and remnants of stone wall and orchard shows us where a farm has been reclaimed by forest. And a piece of a stone dam and wooden sluice mark the site of a long-gone mill. Although slumping back into the landscape, these features speak to us if we can hear them and they can guide us to ancestral homesteads and famous sites. Lavishly illustrated with drawings and color photos. Provides the keys to interpret human artifacts in fields, woods, and roadsides and to reconstruct the past from surviving clues. Perfect to carry in a backpack or glove box. A unique and valuable resource for road trips, genealogical research, naturalists, and historians.

a graveyard preservation primer lynette strangstad: Historic Gravestone Art of Charleston, South Carolina, 1695-1802 David R. Mould, Missy Loewe, 2015-02-18 Here lies Buried the Body of MARTHA PERONNEAU...Departed This Life December Ye 14th 1746 Aged 13 Years. Such an inscription was typical of 18th century grave markers in Charleston, South Carolina. Many epitaphs went on to reveal much more about the deceased: personality, religious beliefs, career accomplishments and social position. Attention to social matters was a natural part of life in Charleston, where descendants of the city's 17th century British founders sought to recreate the class-conscious culture of aristocratic England. The merging of this culture with influences from French Huguenots, German Lutherans, Scottish Presbyterians and Spanish Jews led to funeral practices unique in the American colonies. Focusing on pieces created between 1695 and 1802, this volume offers a detailed examination of the tombstones and grave markers from 18th century Charleston. It discusses not only the general trends and the symbolism of the period's gravestone art--such as skulls, portraits, ascending souls and stylized vegetation--but also examines specific instances of these popular motifs. Tombstones from Charleston's oldest and most significant churches, including the Circular Congregational Church, St. Philip's Anglican Church, the French Huguenot Church and the First (Scots) Presbyterian Church, are explored in detail. The work looks at how Charleston gravestones differed from funerary art elsewhere in the American colonies and reveals them to be some of the earliest examples of American sculpture. A guide to colonial gravestone symbols and a glossary of relevant Latin terms are also included.

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professional renovating a historic property must be familiar with the historic structure report (HSR)—a document that evaluates all aspects of a property to minimize damage during restoration. The only book of its kind, this practical guide walks readers through the process of compiling an HSR. From gathering historical and archival data about the property to analyzing its structural, mechanical, and electrical components to assessing the state of its interior finish, including wood, masonry, and metals, this book covers all the nuts and bolts of an expertly written, informative HSR. Explaining what information should be included in each section and how investigators can work together effectively as a team to produce a comprehensive, coherent report, this handbook is one no professional should be without.

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a graveyard preservation primer lynette strangstad: *The American Resting Place* Marilyn Yalom, 2021-05-12 An illustrated cultural history of America through the lens of its gravestones and burial practices—featuring eighty black-and-white photographs. In *The American Resting Place*, cultural historian Marilyn Yalom and her son, photographer Reid Yalom, visit more than 250 cemeteries across the United States. Following a coast-to-coast trajectory that mirrors the historical pattern of American migration, their destinations highlight America's cultural and ethnic diversity as well as the evolution of burials rites over the centuries. Yalom's incisive reading of gravestone inscriptions reveals changing ideas about death and personal identity, as well as how class and gender play out in stone. Rich particulars include the story of one seventeenth-century Bostonian who amassed a thousand pairs of gloves in his funeral-going lifetime, the unique burial rites and funerary symbols found in today's Native American cultures, and a lost Czech community brought uncannily to life in Chicago's Bohemian National Columbarium. From fascinating past to startling future—DVDs embedded in tombstones, green burials, and the new aesthetic of death— *The American Resting Place* is the definitive history of the American cemetery.

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culture. To tell their story the authors visited more than 1,000 burial grounds and interviewed numerous monument dealers and cemeterians. This richly illustrated book is essential reading for history buffs and indeed anyone who has ever wandered inquisitively through their local cemeteries.

a graveyard preservation primer lynette strangstad: The Source Loretto Dennis Szucs, Sandra Hargreaves Luebking, 2006 Genealogists and other historical researchers have valued the first two editions of this work, often referred to as the genealogist's bible. The new edition continues that tradition. Intended as a handbook and a guide to selecting, locating, and using appropriate primary and secondary resources, The Source also functions as an instructional tool for novice genealogists and a refresher course for experienced researchers. More than 30 experts in this field--genealogists, historians, librarians, and archivists--prepared the 20 signed chapters, which are well written, easy to read, and include many helpful hints for getting the most out of whatever information is acquired. Each chapter ends with an extensive bibliography and is further enriched by tables, black-and-white illustrations, and examples of documents. Eight appendixes include the expected contact information for groups and institutions that persons studying genealogy and history need to find.

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a graveyard preservation primer lynette strangstad: Death and Rebirth in a Southern City Ryan K. Smith, 2020-11-17 This exploration of Richmond's burial landscape over the past 300 years reveals in illuminating detail how racism and the color line have consistently shaped death, burial, and remembrance in this storied Southern capital. Richmond, Virginia, the former capital of the Confederacy, holds one of the most dramatic landscapes of death in the nation. Its burial grounds show the sweep of Southern history on an epic scale, from the earliest English encounters with the Powhatan at the falls of the James River through slavery, the Civil War, and the long reckoning that followed. And while the region's deathways and burial practices have developed in surprising directions over these centuries, one element has remained stubbornly the same: the color line. But something different is happening now. The latest phase of this history points to a quiet revolution taking place in Virginia and beyond. Where white leaders long bolstered their heritage and authority with a disregard for the graves of the disenfranchised, today activist groups have stepped forward to reorganize and reclaim the commemorative landscape for the remains of people of color and religious minorities. In Death and Rebirth in a Southern City, Ryan K. Smith explores

more than a dozen of Richmond's most historically and culturally significant cemeteries. He traces the disparities between those grounds which have been well-maintained, preserving the legacies of privileged whites, and those that have been worn away, dug up, and built over, erasing the memories of African Americans and indigenous tribes. Drawing on extensive oral histories and archival research, Smith unearths the heritage of these marginalized communities and explains what the city must do to conserve these gravesites and bring racial equity to these arenas for public memory. He also shows how the ongoing recovery efforts point to a redefinition of Confederate memory and the possibility of a rebirthed community in the symbolic center of the South. The book encompasses, among others, St. John's colonial churchyard; African burial grounds in Shockoe Bottom and on Shockoe Hill; Hebrew Cemetery; Hollywood Cemetery, with its 18,000 Confederate dead; Richmond National Cemetery; and Evergreen Cemetery, home to tens of thousands of black burials from the Jim Crow era. Smith's rich analysis of the surviving grounds documents many of these sites for the first time and is enhanced by an accompanying website, www.richmondcemeteries.org. A brilliant example of public history, *Death and Rebirth in a Southern City* reveals how cemeteries can frame changes in politics and society across time.

a graveyard preservation primer lynette strangstad: Landscape Architectural Graphic Standards Leonard J. Hopper, 2006-10-13 *Landscape Architectural Graphic Standards* is an entirely new, definitive reference work for everyone involved with landscape architecture, design, and construction. Based on the 70-year success of *Architectural Graphic Standards*, this new book is destined to become the bible for the landscape field. Edited by an educator and former president of the American Society of Landscape Architects, it provides immediate access to rules-of-thumb and standards used throughout the planning, design, construction and management of landscapes. View sample pages from *Landscape Architectural Graphic Standards*.

a graveyard preservation primer lynette strangstad: In Reverence: A Plan for the Preservation of Tolomato Cemetery, St. Augustine, Florida Matthew Kear, 2010-11-20 *Tolomato Cemetery* is the oldest remaining cemetery in St. Augustine, Florida. It was founded in an era when the grim and grey church graveyard was the cultural norm in the North American colonies. In an act of compassion for a group of unfortunate Catholic refugees in British East Florida, the cemetery was established on the site of an abandoned Franciscan mission, where it remained active through the end of the 19th century. After a century of neglect, it now faces complex material conservation issues and a lack of public involvement in its care and interpretation. It sits silently locked within its gates, unable to share its own stories of St. Augustine's rich history. This book explores how the site evolved over the centuries into its present state and what can be done to ensure its survival and return to a place of prominence among the cultural resources of one of America's oldest cities. *In Reverence* was written as a graduate thesis at Cornell University in 2009 and has been revised for publication.

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Katy Perry | Songs, Husband, Space, Age, & Facts | Britannica Katy Perry is an American pop singer who gained fame for a string of anthemic and often sexually suggestive hit songs, as well as for a playfully cartoonish sense of style. Her

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Katy Perry Says She's 'Continuing to Move Forward' in Letter to Katy Perry is reflecting on her past year. In a letter to her fans posted to Instagram on Monday, Sept. 22, Perry, 40, got personal while marking the anniversary of her 2024 album

Katy Perry Tells Fans She's 'Continuing to Move Forward' Katy Perry is marking the one-year

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