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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Auburn Community Mausoleum

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 1431 Center Street, Roselawn Cemetery

<input type="checkbox"/>	not for publication
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	vicinity

city or town Auburn

state Indiana code IN county DeKalb code 033 zip code 46706

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this x nomination     request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets     does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

    national     statewide   x   local

[Signature] 1-29-14  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
Indiana DNR - Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property     meets     does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government \_\_\_\_\_

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:  
 entered in the National Register     determined eligible for the National Register  
    determined not eligible for the National Register     removed from the National Register

other (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_  
Patrick Andrews 3/25/2014  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Auburn Community Mausoleum  
 Name of Property

DeKalb County, IN  
 County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

**Category of Property**  
 (Check only one box.)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

**Number of Resources within Property**  
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	district
0	0	site
0	0	structure
0	0	object
1	0	<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
 (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

The Early Community Mausoleum Movement in Indiana

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY: graves/burials  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Current Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY: graves/burials  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> AND 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS:  
Classical Revival  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Materials**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: STONE: Limestone  
 walls: STONE: Limestone  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 roof: SYNTHETICS: Rubber  
 other: METAL: bronze  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Auburn Community Mausoleum  
Name of Property

DeKalb County, IN  
County and State

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### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

#### Summary Paragraph

The community mausoleum in Auburn is located in Roselawn Cemetery, a public burial ground located southeast of the city limits. The mausoleum, located near the entrance to the cemetery, is a one-story monolithic limestone cube with a taller, clerestory center section that runs from the entrance to the rear of the building. The building is distinguished by simple Classical detail that contributes to its monumentality.

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### Narrative Description

The Auburn community mausoleum is prominent in the design of Roselawn Cemetery. It is located adjacent to an entrance to the cemetery on its own semicircular paved driveway (seen on left of photo 0005). The drive has concrete curbing broken where a concrete apron leads to the mausoleum entrance. A gravel drive to the north of the building gives access to large circular area and a U-shaped section beyond both platted for graves. Though generally flat, the lawn covered terrain slopes gently away from the building. The front elevation of the building which faces south is landscaped with evergreen shrubbery and perennials.

The building is basically square in plan and one story in height with the exception of the center section which projects slightly from the front and rear walls and rises two stone courses above the rest of the mausoleum. The building's walls are composed of smooth limestone blocks. A tall foundation topped by a water table forms a base. Above it, seven courses of block form the plain walls. A narrow frieze course of smooth stone is slightly recessed behind the wall plane and pierced periodically by vents with metal grills. The frieze is capped by a cyma recta molding just beneath the cornice which projects several inches in front of the wall plane. It, in turn, is capped by an ogee molding and is surmounted by a low parapet. A much shallower cornice and parapet terminate the taller central section of the building. A pair of unadorned window openings with shallow sills pierce the side elevations while a single window opening is centered in the rear elevation.

The front elevation (photo 0005) focuses around the clerestory center section and entrance. A shallow porch composed of two Roman Doric columns supporting a simply detailed entablature shelters the deeply recessed entrance. Above the porch, a circular carved design in the center section wall inscribes the date 1917. The walls inside the porch are composed of smooth stone blocks with a thin ogee molding that frames the entrance portal. The portal is composed of a pair of bronze doors and a transom with art glass. Each door has a recessed panel in its lower half and a window in the upper half protected by a metal guard. A torch design in art glass fills the transom.

The north and south elevations are identical (photos 0005 and 0006). The paired window openings on each elevation are filled with art glass as is the single opening on the rear (west) elevation. Two windows with metal frames pierce both the north and south sides of the central clerestory. The shallow cornice that caps the front and rear walls of the clerestory returns for a short distance along these elevations but does not continue along the full length of the walls.

The interior of the building has a wide central hall lighted by the clerestory windows with side halls that intersect toward the front and rear of the building to create an H-shaped space. The floor is covered with small hexagonal white ceramic tiles with a Greek key pattern border in black tile. Four rows of crypts flank each section of the north-south hallways numbering approximately two hundred twenty-nine crypts in total. Each crypt with its engraved marble face is set within a marble grid while all remaining walls are also sheathed in the same white marble with dark gray veining. The clerestory walls and the coved ceilings in the building are covered in plaster painted light yellow.

The earliest interments date to 1917 though a few deceased family members were reinterred in the crypts after the building was constructed. Most of the interments date from the 1920s through the 1980s. The latest interment occurred in 1998. Only a few crypts remain unoccupied.

Auburn Community Mausoleum  
Name of Property

DeKalb County, IN  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ARCHITECTURE

SOCIAL HISTORY

**Period of Significance**

1917

**Significant Dates**

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

Ohio Mausoleum Company

Bryan, Cecil E.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance is 1917, the year the mausoleum was constructed. Although the mausoleum continued to be used for interments into the 1960s, the areas of significance of architecture, engineering, and social history culminated with the construction of individual mausolea.



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**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

Criterion Consideration D has been checked because the mausoleum is located within a cemetery. However, the Auburn Community Mausoleum is eligible for its significance as an architectural type and as a social history artifact. Only the mausoleum, not the entire cemetery falls within the boundary of what is being nominated.

**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

The Auburn Mausoleum is eligible for the National Register under criteria A and C. It is eligible under criterion A because of the community's embrace of a burial method not previously practiced in the United States. This represents a shift in cultural and social norms and is significant under social history. The mausoleum is eligible under criterion C because of its high level of architectural craftsmanship. The mausoleum has the associative and physical qualities specified in the registration requirements of the Early Community Mausoleum Movement in Indiana Multiple Properties Documentation Form.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

**SOCIAL HISTORY**

The development of the community mausoleum was a new concept for burial in the United States when it was designed and promoted during the first years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The community mausoleum movement began in Ohio and expanded across the United States. Possibly due to the exposure they had given their proximity to the Ohio border, the community mausoleum movement's early years found a receptive audience in DeKalb County where every community of any considerable size constructed mausoleums between 1914 and 1922. Auburn was the third community in DeKalb County to construct a community mausoleum in 1917.

The construction of mausolea during this early period was more typical of small family vaults; the construction of community mausolea was infrequent and was usually reserved for larger communities or urban areas. The rural nature and subsequent size of Auburn is an unusual condition in which to find a community mausoleum constructed during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The importance of Auburn's mausoleum was evident in its position when the town's new cemetery was designed. While the city beautiful movement of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries typically had little impact on small rural communities, one location where this was concept was often implemented was the platting of town cemeteries. The concept included features like winding drives and round-a-bouts that had memorials in their centers. The Auburn Mausoleum is located in a prominent location immediately at the front of the cemetery; patterns of winding drives and round-a-bouts are located to the side and behind the mausoleum.

Community mausolea were promoted for several reasons. Mausolea were promoted as a return to a more sensitive and respective way to deal with the remains of the departed. By the placement of the remains of family members in an above ground crypt versus the placement of remains in the ground it was thought that family members could more easily deal with grief and show respect to their loved ones. The mausolea were also considered to be more enduring than the typical practice of ground burials. At the time the community mausolea movement was occurring concrete vault burials were just becoming a practice and many old cemeteries were being razed and moved due to their unsightly conditions. Mausolea were also promoted as a more sanitary method of burial due to the process through which decomposition of the body occurred in a controlled, engineered manner rather than unwanted contamination of the ground in and around the cemetery.

A DeKalb County resident by the name of Frank Emerick represented an Ohio-based mausoleum company and helped form the local ownership entities necessary to maintain the buildings by the sale of crypts in the mausolea. He had promoted the development of the community mausoleum in his hometown of Butler three years prior to his involvement with Auburn.

While the community mausoleum appealed to a broad cross-section of Auburn residents, a few of the more prominent residents that were interred in the mausoleum were Dr. Lida Powers Leasure (d. 1933); she was the first female school superintendent in Indiana and the first woman elected to a state-wide public office in Indiana. Roy Faulkner (d. 1956), who

Auburn Community Mausoleum  
Name of Property

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County and State

was the last president of the Auburn Automobile Company, was also a key figure in getting the Cord 810 into production before the company closed in 1937. Wilford Rettig is also interred in the Auburn Mausoleum; he was an early aviator, engineer, mechanic, and pilot trainer during WW I. He was killed in plane crash in 1922. The first casualty of World War I from DeKalb County, Aaron Scisinger, is also interred in the mausoleum. Scisinger was 22 years old when he succumbed to pneumonia after he enlisted in 1918 and served as a military prison guard in Boston, Massachusetts.

## ARCHITECTURE

The Auburn Mausoleum is representative of a new architectural form: the community mausoleum. This building type was developed in Ohio in the early years of the 1900s. The building's style also represents a period of architecture that reflected permanence by the adaptation of historical precedents from the Classical period. The Auburn Mausoleum is designed in the Classical Revival style.

The Auburn Mausoleum appears monolithic in its construction with massive stone block walls. It has a formal entrance portico and extensive use of marble in the interior. The interior contains marble cladding and mosaic tiled floors. The most striking architectural features of the mausoleum include the Doric columns that form the entry portico and the carved bas relief with 1917 above the portico. Other important features are the art glass windows and clerestory windows. The building was a model used by the Ohio Mausoleum Company and its design is attributed to Cecil Bryan. Similarly designed mausolea are located in Eaton Rapids, Michigan and Bloomington, Indiana.

### *Registration Requirements*

The Auburn Mausoleum meets the registration requirements of the Early Community Mausoleum Movement in Indiana Multiple Properties Documentation Form because it is an example of the early era of community mausolea and retains excellent physical integrity. The building has a high degree of integrity with little, if any, architectural changes from its original construction.

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### **Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)**

The Town of Auburn is located near the center of DeKalb County. The first settler came in 1836 and two years later the new settlement became the county seat. The town was incorporated in 1849 and Auburn was incorporated as a city in 1900. During the 1870s Auburn had a population of about 700. The population of the area was over 4,700 in 1910. The city had a strong automobile manufacturing industry which proved a boom to the economy during the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. It employed over ninety men in 1914.

Generally there was a significant priority placed on new civic improvements in Auburn during the period the mausoleum was constructed. This may have also contributed to the development of the community mausoleum. DeKalb County constructed a new county home, courthouse and jail between 1908 and 1917 in Auburn, the county seat. The latter two were designed in the Classical Revival style. Other important civic developments in Auburn during this time were the library in 1910, city hall in 1913, the YMCA in 1914, the Commercial Club in 1917, and the Masonic Temple in 1921. In 1914 Auburn had over five miles of asphalt paved streets and its own municipal water and light works.

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### **9. Major Bibliographical References**

**Bibliography** (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

History of DeKalb County, Indiana. Indianapolis: B. F. Bowen and Company, Inc., 1914.

Jenkins, W. C. "Post Cineres Gloriam Venit." *National Magazine* Volume XL April 1914-September 1914: pages 637-647.

Auburn Community Mausoleum  
Name of Property

DeKalb County, IN  
County and State

Smith, John Martin, DeKalb County 1837-1987 (Volume One A and Volume Two). Auburn: DeKalb Sesquicentennial, Inc., 1990.

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other
- Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): 033-027-50013

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** Less than one acre  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>16</u>	<u>663195</u>	<u>4580327</u>	3	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	4	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary is the footprint of the mausoleum, approximately 59'-6" wide by 58'-6" long. The front of the building is located 38' from the west edge of Center Street and approximately two-tenths of a mile south of Old Brick Street on Center Street.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Only the mausoleum building is being placed on the National Register of Historic Places, therefore the boundary is restricted to the building footprint. No other contributing resources associated with the mausoleum are located outside of the building's footprint.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Kurt West Garner

organization Indiana Landmarks/Partners in Preservation, Inc. date September 30, 2012

street & number 12954 6<sup>th</sup> Road telephone 574-936-0613

city or town Plymouth state IN zip code 46563

Auburn Community Mausoleum  
Name of Property

DeKalb County, IN  
County and State

e-mail kwgarner@kwgarner.com

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

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**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Auburn Community Mausoleum

City or Vicinity: Auburn

County: DeKalb State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 20, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0001 Interior side hallway, looking south

1 of 6.

Name of Property: Auburn Community Mausoleum

City or Vicinity: Auburn

County: DeKalb State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 20, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0002 Main interior hall, looking east toward entry

2 of 6.



Auburn Community Mausoleum

DeKalb County, IN  
County and State

Name of Property

Name of Property: Auburn Community Mausoleum

City or Vicinity: Auburn

County: DeKalb State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 20, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0003 Main interior hall, looking west

3 of 6.

Name of Property: Auburn Community Mausoleum

City or Vicinity: Auburn

County: DeKalb State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 20, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0004 Front portico, looking southwest

4 of 6.

Name of Property: Auburn Community Mausoleum

City or Vicinity: Auburn

County: DeKalb State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 20, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0005 Front of building, looking southwest

5 of 6.

Name of Property: Auburn Community Mausoleum

City or Vicinity: Auburn

County: DeKalb State: IN

Photographer: Kurt West Garner

Date Photographed: July 20, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number: 0006 Back of building, looking southeast

Auburn Community Mausoleum  
Name of Property

DeKalb County, IN  
County and State

6 of 6.

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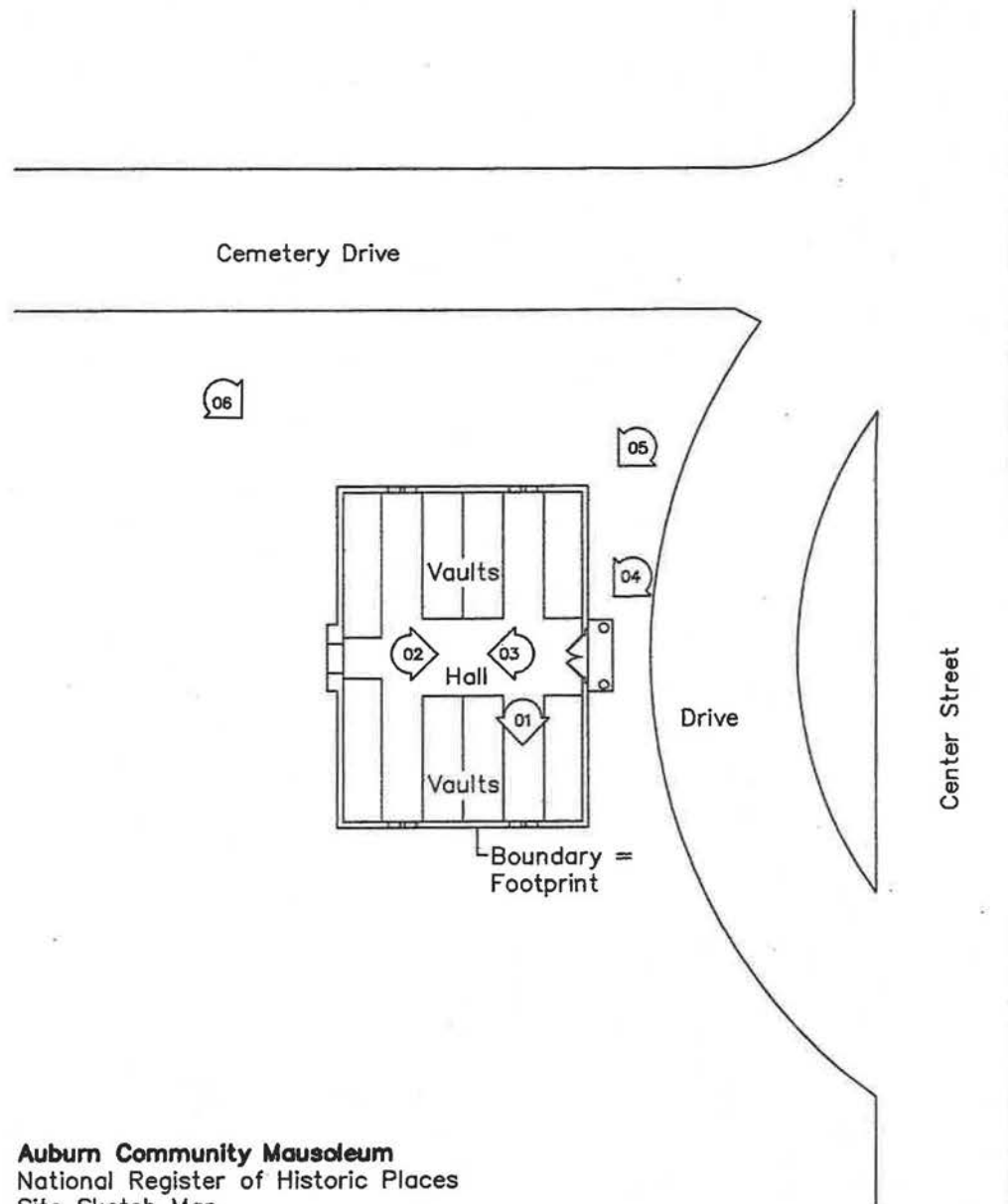
**Property Owner:**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name John Bry, Auburn Mausoleum Association  
street & number 425 South Walnut #7 telephone 260-599-0060  
city or town Muncie state IN zip code 47305

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

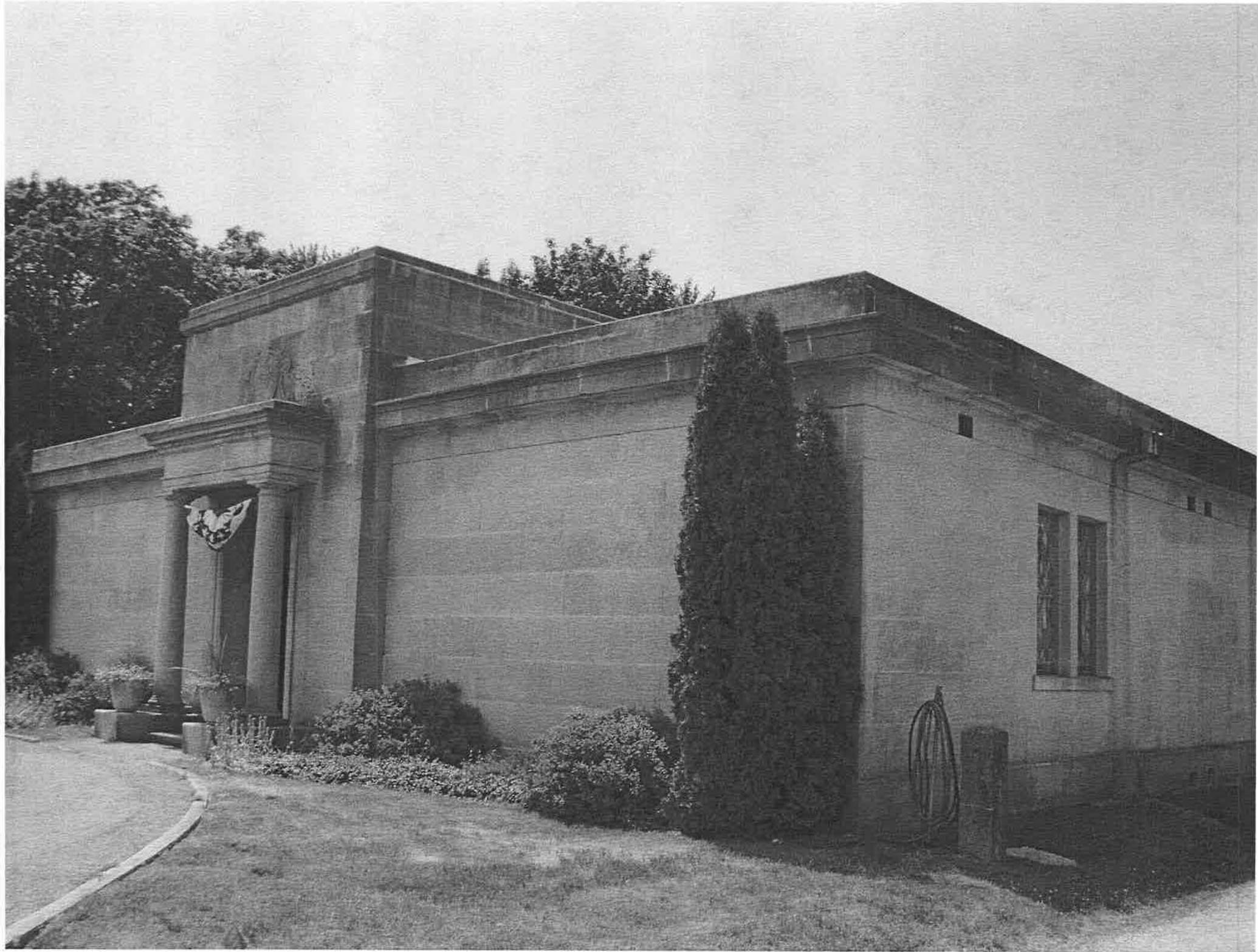
**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



**Auburn Community Mausoleum**  
 National Register of Historic Places  
 Site Sketch Map  
 DeKalb County, IN

◊02 = Photographs









ZIETEN  
OLINER  
1870 - 1932



EVALLER

HILLMAN

1880

GAFFNER

EVALLER

1880



NEZ M  
WYATT  
1854 - 1951

CATHERINE  
MADDER  
1863 - 194

GRACE O  
HUSSELMAN  
1868 - 193







GEORGE W. BLAIR  
1828 — 1899

MARION W. BLAIR  
1828 — 1899

ETHEL W. BLAIR  
1828 — 1899

BLAIR

JACK A. EVA B.  
1828 — 1899

HELEN E. STONE  
1828 — 1899

FAITH WINES STONE  
1828 — 1899





1917







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Auburn Community Mausoleum  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Early Community Mausoleum Movement in Indiana MPS  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: INDIANA, De Kalb

DATE RECEIVED: 2/07/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/27/14  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/14/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/26/14  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000069

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 3/25/2014 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Building meets the registration requirements established  
in the MPS cover form.*

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept A & C

REVIEWER Patrick Andrews

DISCIPLINE Historian

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE 3/25/2014

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



# DNR Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Michael R. Pence, Governor  
Cameron F. Clark, Director



Division of Historic Preservation & Archaeology • 402 W. Washington Street, W274 • Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739  
Phone 317-232-1646 • Fax 317-232-0693 • dhpa@dnr.IN.gov • www.IN.gov/dnr/historic



January 24, 2014

Carol D. Shull  
Interim Keeper of the National Register  
National Park Service 2280  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 "I" (Eye) Street, N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20005

Re: Auburn Community Mausoleum, DeKalb County, Indiana

Dear Ms. Shull,

Enclosed is a National Register of Historic Places nomination for Auburn Community Mausoleum, DeKalb County, Indiana. The Indiana Historic Preservation Review Board reviewed the application and voted to recommend its approval to the National Register of Historic Places.

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination for the Auburn Community Mausoleum (DeKalb County, Indiana) to the National Register of Historic Places.

Please address any questions you or your staff may have about this nomination to my National Register staff, Paul Diebold, Frank Hurdis, or Holly Tate.

Sincerely,

Cameron F. Clark  
State Historic Preservation Officer

CFC:PCD:pcd

enclosure: nomination package