

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 88002960

Date Listed: 1/4/89

City of Miami Cemetery

Dade

FL

Property Name

County

State

Downtown Miami Multiple Resource Area

Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

Amy Schwagerl
Signature of the Keeper

1/4/89
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

There was no specific resource count in this nomination; it should read one contributing site (the cemetery), one contributing building (office and restrooms), one contributing structure (gate and fence), and one non-contributing building (shed).

Discussed and concurred in by the Florida SHPO.

DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received NOV 21 1988

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic City of Miami Cemetery

and or common City of Miami Cemetery

2. Location

street & number 1800 N. E. 2nd Avenue

not for publication

city, town Miami vicinity of

state Florida 33132 code FL county Dade code FL 025

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> educational
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: Cenetry

4. Owner of Property

name City of Miami

street & number 3500 Pan American Drive

city, town Miami vicinity of state Florida 33133

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dade County Courthouse

street & number 75 W. Flagler Street

city, town Miami state Florida 33130

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

FMSF-Miami Multiple Resource
title Historic Preservation Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date June, 1985 federal state county local

depository for survey records Bureau of Historic Preservation

city, town Tallahassee state Florida 32399-0250

7. Description

Condition

excellent

good

fair

deteriorated

ruins

unexposed

Check one

unaltered

altered

Check one

original site

moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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DESCRIPTION:

Condition: Good

The City of Miami Cemetery comprises a 10 acre tract of land that is divided into eight sections. The first sections of the cemetery were laid out in 1897, when William and Mary Brickell sold 10 acres of land to the City of Miami for \$750 to be used as a municipal cemetery.¹ The entire subdivision of plots was completed in 1909 when the Miami City Council authorized the final platting of the tract.²

The City of Miami Cemetery is enclosed by a combination masonry wall and iron fence and is entered through iron gates embellished with the words "City of Miami Cemetery." The primary entrance is located on N. E. 2nd Avenue, while a second entrance is situated on N. Miami Avenue. A drive bisects the cemetery in an east-west direction. The length of the drive is punctuated by two traffic circles on its eastern half.

The easternmost circle marks the burial place of Julia Tuttle, and honors the "Mother of Miami" with a monument. The second circle, located near the center of the cemetery, contains a monument in honor of the United Daughters of the Confederacy. The cemetery was originally divided by race and religion, with whites occupying the eastern section and blacks occupying the western section. A walled Jewish section is located in the northwest area of the cemetery.

The wide variety of headstones found in the cemetery reflects the development of funerary design from the late nineteenth century to the present. These markers range from simple inscribed stones, crosses, and obelisks to romantically-inspired angels and lambs. The cemetery also includes a number of mausoleums designed in an array of prevailing architectural styles. Although the majority are Neo-Classical in design, several display more modernistic tendencies.

The grounds of the City of Miami Cemetery are covered with lush tropical growth, and there are several rare species of tropical trees and foliage present. The cemetery has often been likened

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to a botanical garden because it once served as a "proving ground" for rare tropical plants and new botanical introductions provided by the neighboring municipal nursery.³ Many of the exotic plants were introduced into the cemetery in the 1920s, and at that time, the city desired to make the cemetery seem more like a park than a burial ground.⁴

Located in the southwest section of the cemetery is a small building which contains an office and public restrooms. This one-story Mediterranean Revival style structure is rectangular in plan and sheathed with textured stucco. The building is capped with a hipped roof covered with Mission tiles and decorated with exposed rafter under the eaves. The center portion of the building is open and supported by four Composite columns. Also located within the cemetery is a small utilitarian shed found to the west of the Jewish section.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below					
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention				

Specific dates 1897 **Builder/Architect** N/A

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

9. Major Bibliographical References

Please see Bibliography for Cover Nomination

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 10 acres

Quadrangle name Miami

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A

1	7	5	8	0	6	9	0	2	8	5	2	8	7	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

B

1	7	5	8	1	0	9	0	2	8	5	2	8	8	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

C

1	7	5	8	0	7	1	0	2	8	5	2	7	6	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

D

1	7	5	8	1	0	7	7	2	8	5	2	7	8	0
Zone			Easting				Northing							

E

Zone			Easting				Northing							

F

Zone			Easting				Northing							

G

Zone			Easting				Northing							

H

Zone			Easting				Northing							

Verbal boundary description and justification

Miami, The southerly half of the plat of THE OFFICIAL MAP OF THE CITY CEMETERY (PC 2-16) boundary follows the historic/legal boundary

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Sarah Eaton /Vicki L. Welcher, Historic Sites Specialist

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date October, 1988

street & number 500 South Bronough Street telephone (904) 487-2333

city or town Tallahassee state Florida 32399-0250

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title State Historic Preservation Officer date October 17, 1988

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date 1/4/89
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: _____ date _____
Chief of Registration

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:
Specific Date: 1897
Architect: Not Applicable

The City of Miami Cemetery derives its primary significance from the graves of Miami's most important early families, from its age in relationship to the founding of Miami, and from distinctive landscape features. The City of Miami Cemetery is also significant for its association with Miami's formative years and for its visual importance to northeast Miami.

The City of Miami Cemetery is Miami's oldest cemetery and also the first and only municipal cemetery in all of Dade County. The cemetery is the resting place for members of every important pioneer family in the city and therefore serves as a unique commemorative reminder of Miami's early days. Some of the Miami pioneers interred at the cemetery, such as Julia Tuttle, have no remaining structure or building associated with their productive lives.⁵ As a result, the intricately carved headstones and classically-styled mausoleums constitute the only physical objects associated with many of these individuals. The City of Miami Cemetery, itself, is the site that most vividly reflects the formative years of the city's development.⁶

Julia Tuttle, known as the "Mother of Miami," was the twelfth person to be buried in the cemetery.⁷ Other pioneer families include the Belchers, Burdines, Seybolds, Peacocks, and Sewells. Dr. James Jackson, Miami's pioneer physician, and John B. Reilly, first Mayor of Miami, are also buried there. War veterans, including 86 Confederate Civil War veterans and 200 Spanish-American War veterans are also interred in the cemetery.⁸ More than 8,000 people have been buried at the City of Miami Cemetery, and the cemetery is still in active use today.

The City of Miami Cemetery is an important visual feature of northeast Miami. The parklike setting, delineated by a stone wall and iron fence, provides a sharp contrast to the commercial activity in this section of the city. The presence of the many rare and exotic plans also make the cemetery grounds a highly significant component of local landscape architecture.

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NOTES

1. Dade County, Florida, County Recorder's Office, Deed Book M, p. 188.
2. City of Miami, Building and Zoning Department, Official Map of the City Cemetery of Miami, E. S. Frederick, Delineator, 1909.
3. "Pioneers of Miami Sleep Under Rare Tropical Trees," Miami News, 29 June 1941.
4. "Old Cemetery to be Beautified," Miami Herald, 20 April 1925.
5. Sarah E. Eaton, "City of Miami Cemetery Designation Report" (prepared for the City of Miami Heritage Conservation Board, 11 March 1983).
6. See note 5 above.
7. Miami Metropolis, 14 September 1898.
8. State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Archives, History and Records Management, "Florida Master Site File: Historic Site Data Sheet" for City of Miami Cemetery, "Statement of Significance."

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Photographs

1. City of Miami Cemetery
2. Miami, FL
3. Sarah Eaton
4. c. 1988
5. City of Miami Planning Department
6. Julia Tuttle gravesite facing south
7. Photo 1 of 6

Items 1-5 remain the same for all photographs

6. Grave marker for Reilly Family facing east
7. Photo 2 of 6

6. Burdine mausoleum facing west
7. Photo 3 of 6

6. Belcher Mausoleum facing east
7. Photo 4 of 6

6. Confederate soldier memorial marker facing east
7. Photo 5 of 6

6. Public Building in park, facing south
7. Photo 6 of 6

