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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 Woodlawn Cemetery  
other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 130 North Pearl Street

N/A	not for publication
N/A	vicinity

  
city or town Canandaigua  
state New York code NY county Ontario code 069 zip code 14424

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this  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  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  local

Ruth A. Pappert DSHPO 9/17/14  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

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:)

Jon Edson H. Beall 11.12.14  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**5. Classification**

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

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

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

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	private
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
3	2	buildings
1	0	sites
4	0	structures
2	3	objects
10	6	<b>Total</b>

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

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

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use**

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

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

Funerary/cemetery  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Funerary/cemetery  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

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

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

Early 20<sup>th</sup> C:Gothic Revival (Chapel)  
Late 19<sup>th</sup> C: Shingle (Superintendent's house)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

foundation: stone, concrete  
walls: masonry, wood  
roof: slate, asphalt  
other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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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**

Established in 1884, Woodlawn Cemetery encompasses roughly 73 acres of land on the northwest edge of the city of Canandaigua (Ontario County), New York. The property consists of a hilly, lower section with wooded lands on the edges and an upper section of largely, flat, open land. The entire property is bisected by a brook and gully that essentially separates the older sections on the southside from the more recent sections on the north. The cemetery was designed by well-known landscape engineer Joseph Earnshaw and follows the landscape lawn plan, which combined a practice of the earlier Rural Cemetery Movement of emphasizing the features of the existing landscape with a newer approach of focusing on smaller lots free of plantings, where monuments and markers were more visible. The entire cemetery has curved roadways allowing access to the various sections. The south portion of the cemetery features a variety of popular late nineteenth and early twentieth century marker styles and monuments, mostly of granite and a few of marble and white bronze. Many of the burials feature a prominent family monument with accompanying smaller foot and/or headstones. Several feature period statues and iconography, including full-size figures and angels, large obelisks, columns, carved wreaths and classical symbols. The north portion of the cemetery is more reflective of the twentieth-century cemetery philosophy of the memorial park with low granite markers in rows, but some sections closer to the ravine follow the earlier design philosophy, indicating that this was part of Earnshaw's plan. These feature some of the more prominent members of Canandaigua and Ontario County's past and includes the gravesites of Governor Myron Holley Clark and New York State Senator John Raines. The burial site of Clark's daughter, Mary Clark Thompson, and her husband, Frederick Ferris Thompson, are prominently featured in this section as well. Mrs. Thompson was a much beloved benefactor for the community who also donated funds for the construction of the stone Gothic Revival cemetery chapel (1909), which is contributing to this nomination. Other contributing buildings are a ca. 1892 superintendent's office and a ca. 1929 freestanding mausoleum for the Moore-Fay family (the only one in Woodlawn). Non-contributing buildings include a garage and tool shed built after the period of significance (1884-1930). Other contributing features include four early nineteenth century arched bridges and a large stone wall with an entry arch and iron gates. Woodlawn Cemetery is still an active cemetery and currently contains approximately 14,000 burials and retains a high degree of integrity to its period of significance.

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Woodlawn Cemetery is located on North Pearl Street on the west side section of the city of Canandaigua, a small city with a population of approximately 11,000, in Ontario County in the Finger Lakes Region of New York State. Ontario County encompasses the west, north and northeast sides of Canandaigua Lake and extends east to the city of Geneva and Seneca Lake. Ontario County's geography is diverse, with the northern part of the county on the plain of Lake Ontario (one of the Great Lakes), the central portion in the heart of the Finger Lakes, and the southern part of the county in the Appalachian foothills. When the land was chosen for Woodlawn Cemetery in 1884, the founders took advantage of the landscape to provide scenic vistas and to create a picturesque setting, inspired by the philosophy of nineteenth-century rural cemeteries.

Woodlawn originally began with 28 acres of land and quickly expanded to contain 73 acres in the city of Canandaigua. The cemetery is bordered on the west by the town of Canandaigua, and on the east by North Pearl Street with residential areas along the north, east and south edges of the property. Sucker Brook, a tributary to Canandaigua Lake, runs diagonally through the middle of the cemetery from the northwest to the southeast. Woodlawn Cemetery is owned and maintained by the Canandaigua Cemetery Association, a not-for-profit corporation that is administered by a twelve member Board of Trustees along with three advisory members. The cemetery contains approximately 14,000 burials and is still active with an average of 125 interments each year.

Established in 1884, the original portion of Woodlawn Cemetery was designed by prominent landscape engineer Joseph Earnshaw (1831-1906), who worked with Adolph Strauch at Spring Grove Cemetery in Cincinnati, Ohio before establishing his own firm of Earnshaw and Punshon. Earnshaw's plan contained wide curving roadways that followed the contours of the landscape and were gravel paved. The main roads are now paved with macadam but roadways near the chapel are still paved with gravel. Currently there are nearly three miles of roadways that allow access to the numerous sections. The roads were originally named after tree species such as Linden, Oak, Maple, Beech, etc. Plantings are kept to a minimum and Earnshaw left forested sections untouched along the edges of the property and the brook. Several large mature trees, some being rare species, are scattered throughout the various sections of the cemetery. Earnshaw also capitalized on a ridge along the north portion to offer a scenic overlook to the gully containing Sucker Brook.

Earnshaw's plan for the south portion of the cemetery centers on a small circular section (section 9) with four large heart and oval shaped sections surrounding it and three triangular portions on the north, south and west edges. Two more large sections (5 & 13) are along the south side of a road that descends into the gully. Section 17 is along the other side of the road and is long and narrow with the brook forming its northern edge. The road divides on the east end to curve north and east toward the chapel in section 5, or south and east along the same section. Sucker Brook runs through the lower portion of section 5 before it turns toward North



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Pearl Street just before the chapel. All roads curve around each section to connect with the main road on the south side of sections 4 and 5, which leads to and from the entrance gate on North Pearl Street. This road gives the impression of a park, as it is tree lined and features one of three stone arched bridges that were built in 1910. The cemetery currently has only one entrance located on North Pearl Street near West Gibson Street that is highlighted by an iron arch with the cemetery name and decorative iron gates set into a long stone wall.

From the entrance, visitors are faced with a fork in the road, with the left heading toward the older portion of the cemetery and the right ascending a grade toward the ridge and the newer sections. The newer part of the cemetery has a more, modern open-layout reflecting the characteristics of the memorial park that became popular in the twentieth century. These cemetery sections are organized in rows for ease of maintenance and the majority of the markers are low granite headstones with single or double inscriptions. Plantings and landscaping are kept to a minimum and pushed to the edge of the roadways. Three cremation niches are located in the newer sections but are considered non-contributing since they date from after the period of significance. Roadways curve around the perimeter of the sections, complementing Earnshaw's design for the older portion of the cemetery. Earnshaw also designed section 15 to take advantage of the ridge; this is a place where visitors can literally look down on the chapel and the older portion of the cemetery.

Most of the sections throughout the cemetery contain monuments and markers of granite, although the older portions contain some marble markers and few of white bronze. There are approximately five natural, large, smooth washed boulders that were used for monuments, including a rather large one for Dwight Burrell in section 5. The newer section of the cemetery has a handful of tall markers or monuments scattered throughout the grounds and very few statues. One notable exception is the Mirras marker (section 24), with its statue of the Virgin Mary on a prominent pedestal and flanked by granite urns. The older portion of the cemetery contains an abundance of statuary, tall obelisks and columns. The Sutherland family plot in section 5 features a large granite monument with ornate lettering and four corner columns topped with a full-size female figure in classical mourning dress, holding a wreath.

Sections designated by a number are multiple grave lots and sections designated with a letter are graves sold as singles. The multiple grave lots are mainly located in the interior regions of the cemetery with the singles mainly around the perimeter. There are also two "infant burial only" sections (sections I and L) and two "veterans only" sections in the cemetery (section 5 and opposite section 26). When it was designed, a section consisting of 2,600 square feet was set apart and donated to the Grand Army of the Republic for the burial of approximately 70 deceased soldiers. These burials are marked with matching black granite monuments (section 5). A more recent veterans' section has since been opened, containing approximately 160 interments to date. Although this section has two rows of above ground matching granite monuments, current regulations

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state that markers in the veterans' section are to be flush with the ground. The cemetery is counted as one contributing site. Individually counted features include:

**MARY CLARK THOMPSON CHAPEL, 1909. Contributing.  
Francis R. Allen, architect.**

Gothic Revival style chapel, cruciform shape with large *porte cochere* on the east side. Building is of locally quarried limestone with Medina sandstone trim (quoining, window and door arches, cornerstone, buttress caps, etc.). Large set of wooden double entry doors are off of the *porte cochere*. Interior has a vestibule, an open area for services, a receiving vault, bathroom and a utility room. The chapel also features stained glass windows imported from England and a pipe organ, specifically made for the Woodlawn Cemetery chapel and was a gift of Matilda Burgher of Canandaigua. It is a manual, 8-register organ and one of 30 organs built by the Hook & Hastings Co. in 1910. It has lights that contain the signature "S," similar to those seen on the gates of Sonnenberg Gardens, which was the former summer home of Frederick F. and Mary Clark Thompson. The chapel itself was a donation, funded by the generosity of Mary Clark Thompson. Currently shuttered, the chapel's interior is intact, including the tile flooring and the marble stage area, hand-carved eagle podium and wooden pews and seats, all in remarkable condition. Deferred maintenance has led to moisture damage to the wall surfaces, seen in the plaster and woodwork. There is also a drainage issue causing damage to the two wing walls that flank both sides to the rear of the chapel. The chapel has limited electric service. The only major change to the building was to replace the slate shingles with newer architectural shingles after a fallen tree damaged the roof. Plans are underway to restore the chapel to be functional for services and special events.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S COTTAGE (Cemetery offices), ca. 1892. Contributing.**

T-shaped, Shingle style former residence; two stories of wood shingle clad framing and fieldstone clad projecting wing and foundation. Building features a cross-gabled, gambrel style roof with sweeping flared eaves and plain cornice at the façade. Roof has small dormers with decorative lunette windows. Other windows tend to be paired or single bay projections with flared shed style roofs. Several windows seem to be double-hung replacements. Interior floor plan and fabric are generally intact.

**OFFICE GARAGE, 2001. Non-contributing due to age.**

Two-story, three-bay garage, designed to complement the architecture of the superintendent's cottage and reflect the style of the historic carriage house that it replaced. Building has a gambrel roof with flared eaves and two large dormers with flared eaves. Building has a concrete foundation and wood-frame construction with stained cedar wood siding. Building is non-contributing since it was built after the period of significance.

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**SHOP/MAINTENANCE SHED, 2013. Non-contributing due to age.**

Located in section 5, the shed is a long, rectangular building in two sections with side gabled roof and shed at west end. Building is constructed of non-historic durable material with three large barn-style garage doors. Building sits on a concrete pad and is partially obscured by mature trees. Building is non-contributing since it was built after the period of significance.

**THREE FIELDSTONE BRIDGES, 1910. Contributing.**

**John J. Handrahan, landscape engineer & J. Donovan, builder.**

Built in 1910 under Handrahan's direction, the three stone-arched bridges allow the road to cross Sucker Brook at three areas in the cemetery. The bridges consist of large, smooth-washed fieldstones set into concrete and mortar. Concrete is evident in the wide arches that span the brook. Bridge walls are low in height to allow for views of the cemetery and end in boulder embankment supports. One bridge is located near the entrance to the cemetery while the others cross the brook at either end of section 17.

**LIMESTONE BRIDGE, 1915. Contributing.**

**John J. Handrahan, landscape engineer & J. Donovan, builder.**

Being near the chapel, this single arched bridge is constructed of locally quarried limestone with sandstone trim to reflect the chapel's design. Like the other bridges, the stones are set into concrete and mortar, have low walls or sides and end supports of limestone and concrete.

**ENTRANCE ARCH-GATES AND WALL, early twentieth century. Contributing.**

**John J. Handrahan, engineer/architect.**

High stone wall of similar construction and vintage as the stone bridges in the cemetery. This wall is higher than the walls of the bridges to provide security for the site. Wall is limited to North Pearl side of the cemetery since it contains the entrance and faces residential neighborhoods. Metal arch has large letters with the name of the cemetery. Below this are decorative iron gates that were a gift from Misses Jean R. and Anna C. Pratt in the 1920s.

**MOORE-FAY MAUSOLEUM, ca. 1929. Contributing.**

Located in section 7, this freestanding mausoleum is constructed of granite with decorative metal and glass gates at the entrance. The front is smooth granite while the sides and low front gabled roof are rusticated granite. The interior holds multiple interments, and this is the only family mausoleum in the cemetery. One other mausoleum exists, but it is of recent construction and is of low, table design for a single interment.

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**GRANITE COLUMBARIA, 1997-2012. Non-contributing due to age.**

Three granite columbaria are located in the newer portion of the cemetery. The first was installed in 1997 and is a double-sided 48 niche unit with 24 units on each side. A second, taller, four-sided unit was installed in 2005 containing 104 niche units, capable of holding a total of 208 cremations. The third and most recent columbarium is a tall octagonal shape and was installed in 2012. It contains 128 niche units. All columbaria are constructed of polished light gray granite with polished black doors held on by bronze rosettes. All are non-contributing as they were constructed after the period of significance.

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### 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.

#### 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 begins in 1884, when it was established, and ends in ca. 1930, after the arch/gates were installed and the Moore-Fay mausoleum was completed.

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

Woodlawn is significant for Criterion Consideration D for its distinctive intact design as a late nineteenth century "landscape lawn plan" cemetery designed by well-known cemetery engineer Joseph Earnshaw.

#### Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Community planning

Landscape architecture

Architecture

#### Period of Significance

1884-ca.1930

#### Significant Dates

1884, 1892, 1901, 1909, 1910, 1930

#### Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

#### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

#### Architect/Builder

Francis R. Allen (chapel)

John J. Handrahan & J. Donovan(bridges & stone fence); Joseph Earnshaw (grounds)

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

Woodlawn Cemetery is significant under Criterion A in the area of community planning as the third purposely planned cemetery established for burials in the nineteenth century for the village (now city) of Canandaigua. Canandaigua was incorporated as a village in 1815 and grew quickly throughout the nineteenth century as a center of government and transportation, being the county seat and part of a roadway and railroad transportation network. By the 1880s, the two settlement era burial grounds, one being part of Oliver Phelps's plan for the village, were at capacity and a group of citizens, led by undertaker Oscar Crane, formed the Canandaigua Cemetery Association to create a new, state-of-the-art cemetery that would reflect the beauty and prominence of the village. Woodlawn Cemetery became a physical document of how village officials and the community responded to meet the final needs of its citizens and how the local geography was used to enhance the design and subsequent expansion. It was considered important to locate the new cemetery in a secluded location where there was sufficient land to justify the expenditure of resources that would make it a legacy for future generations. The founders located the cemetery in a setting that provided a proper, respectful place for the deceased as well as a picturesque, park-like atmosphere for the living. The cemetery is also significant under Criterion C and Criterion Consideration D as an illustration of contemporary cemetery design and the work of well-known cemetery designer Joseph Earnshaw of Cincinnati, Ohio. After the cemetery association was established in 1884, they hired Earnshaw to develop a rural cemetery that would be a showcase for the village as being park-like and as a place for families to display tasteful monuments, statuary and other stylish funerary art. Earnshaw began his career by working with Adolph Strauch in Cincinnati, who was at the forefront of developing the next generation of rural and park cemeteries, known as landscape-lawn cemeteries. Like earlier rural cemeteries, they were located on the outskirts of the municipality and used a system of curved roadways to allow for traffic through the various sections. Earnshaw also added two long sections along the creek and ravine, one of which created a high overlook that became a preferred burial section for Canandaigua's more prominent citizens. Both the association and Earnshaw allowed for future expansion of the cemetery by keeping the northern, more flat section, open and free from immediate development. In 1909, the association further enhanced the ground by selecting a somewhat secluded area near the brook that would be appropriate for a chapel. A stone Gothic Revival style chapel was designed by Boston architect Francis R. Allen and is significant under Criterion C for its architecture. The chapel was a gift from Mary Clark Thompson who was well known in the community for her charitable gifts, including the local hospital, a children's park, a Y.M.C.A and a home for the aged. Mrs. Thompson was buried on the upper ridge, as were her husband, banker Frederick Ferris Thompson, and father Governor Myron Holley Clark. Still an active cemetery, Woodlawn retains a high degree of integrity to its period of significance (1884-ca. 1930).

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**Developmental history/additional historic context information** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

### Criterion A: Community Planning

According to the 1860 *Gazetteer of New York State*, Canandaigua was a village incorporated in 1815, located on the outlet of Canandaigua Lake that was an important station for three railroads and lake steamer traffic. The village was initially established in the late eighteenth century as the premier settlement of Oliver Phelps and Nathaniel Gorham after they purchased the rights to lands in western New York State held by Massachusetts. This was during the post-Revolutionary era when states were settling land claims and various land companies acquired rights to sell the lands to prospective settlers willing to travel west and establish new communities. Oliver Phelps opened a land office in Canandaigua in 1789, the same year that Ontario County was created, and Canandaigua subsequently became its county seat. The *Gazetteer* reported that:

The geographical and geological features of the county render it eminently adapted to the various branches of agriculture; and few counties in the State excel this in the progress of scientific improvement as applied to agricultural operations. Wheat was for many years the staple crop; but of late, more attention has been given to the production of the coarser grains, to stock growing, and the cultivation of fruits. Wool growing has also received considerable attention, and the fine Merino sheep were introduced at an early period...A courthouse, jail, and county clerk's office were erected here in 1793, soon after the organization of the county. In 1825 a new courthouse was built; and in 1858 a splendid edifice was erected at the expense of the county and of the U. S. Government, containing a U.S. and county courtroom, jury and supervisors' rooms, U.S. district clerk's and county clerk's offices, surrogate's office and post office.<sup>1</sup>

Phelps made certain that the main east to west road through the region went through Canandaigua. The road was later improved by Charles Williamson, a land agent working for another land company known as the Pulteney Associates. The lower end of Main Street developed as a commercial district, being closer to the lake, and the upper (north) end of the street became the location of churches, schools and residences. Phelps also donated land for a public square, located in the area where North Main Street connected to South Main Street. With the village being the county seat, the square was purposely located at a high point along Main Street that commanded a clear view of its immediate surroundings and a scenic view toward the lake. Over the years, a courthouse, municipal buildings and a park were located at the square, which still functions as the governmental and geographic center of Canandaigua. Main Street was purposely designed to be wider than other village streets, which was enhanced by generous set-backs with lawns and trees. In 1893, an observer stated that the original appearance of the village and many of the historic buildings were "preserved by the



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later generations of villagers... This is not an evidence of what is vulgarly called 'old fogyism,' but indicates to the observer that the people who first settled here are still represented in present occupants of the place, and that the ancestors are still remembered with feelings of the highest respect and esteem."<sup>2</sup>

Canandaigua retained its reputation as a place of wide tree-lined streets and old stately homes as the economy diversified throughout the nineteenth century. A resort trade developed along the lake, and industry located around the outskirts of the village, much of it promoted by the Canandaigua Board of Trade. In 1892, the Lisk Manufacturing Company of Clifton Springs opened a new plant on Gorham Street in the village to produce enameled tin-wares. It quickly became one of the largest employers in the village, along with other established industries such as the McKechnie Brewery and the Canandaigua Brick Works. As industry increased, so did the population, allowing the village to reincorporate as a city in 1913.

Along with increased manufacturing and real estate development, the city went through a number of civic improvements. Streets were paved between 1903 and 1906, storm sewers added, much of it funded by the city, local industries and Mary Clark Thompson. Thompson (1835-1923) grew up in Canandaigua, was the daughter of Governor Myron Holley Clark and the wife of a wealthy banker from New York City. Throughout her lifetime, Mrs. Thompson maintained a summer residence in the village, known as Sonnenberg (NR listed 1973). After the death of her husband, she established a local hospital for the community in his memory along with an associated nursing school and a bacteriological laboratory. She served as first vice-president of the Village Improvement Society and provided half of the funds for surveying and mapping the streets. The society also brought in landscaping expert Warren H. Manning of Boston to develop a plan for the planting and maintaining of trees and shrubs in the village parks and along the streets.

In 1909, Mrs. Thompson donated a chapel to the relatively new Woodlawn Cemetery. Established in 1884, the cemetery was another improvement for the village that was the result of the efforts of a group of citizens. Canandaigua had two older burial grounds, both located on West Avenue on the west side of the village behind the public square. The oldest was the Pioneer Cemetery, directly west of the town and village hall on a one-acre plot that was set aside by Oliver Phelps for the purpose of burials, with the first being in 1790. In 1826, a section of the burial ground was reserved for the more prominent members of the community. By 1841, Pioneer Cemetery was at capacity, so the village trustees acquired three acres across the street for

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<sup>1</sup> J. H. French, *Gazetteer of the State of New York* (Syracuse, NY: R. Pearsall Smith, 1860), 492.

<sup>2</sup> Lewis Aldrich Cass, *History of Ontario County* (Syracuse, NY: D. Mason, 1893), 216.

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another cemetery, which became known as the West Avenue cemetery. This new burial ground was arranged in a grid pattern for family plots; it was expanded in 1860 and again in 1871. When the monuments and markers in the West Avenue cemetery desperately needed repairs, Mrs. Thompson supplied half of the funds. Burials in both the Pioneer and West Avenue grounds were largely for Protestant members of the village, resulting in the founding of a Roman Catholic cemetery known as Calvary on the southwest side of the village in 1850.

In spite of the expansion of West Avenue Cemetery, by 1880 it was near capacity. At a regular meeting of the board of trustees of the village on May 16, 1884, prominent funeral director Oscar N. Crane urged that immediate action be taken to establish a modern cemetery. On May 22, 1884, a meeting of citizens was held and a committee was formed to search for grounds suitable for burial purposes. After examining several sites, the committee reported that the unanimous choice as twenty-eight acres of land situated on the west side of Pearl Street in Canandaigua. At a meeting held on May 30, 1884, twenty-nine citizens formed the Canandaigua Cemetery Association, and, over the next few weeks, a board of trustees and officers were selected. At another meeting on June 17, 1884, the proposed land was purchased and the name Woodlawn was selected for the new cemetery.<sup>7</sup>

In the early 1890's, the association authorized the expenditure of \$3,500 for the construction of a superintendent's cottage in order to ensure that the grounds would be protected and that lot owners received the attention due to them at all times. Around the same time, a barn was erected at a cost of \$700 and a tool and store house for the cost of \$500 (none of them being extant). A receiving vault was also constructed at this time at an estimated cost of \$2,000. Built into the hillside, it was both plain and substantial, able to shelter sixty-four bodies at one time. It was this receiving vault that was replaced by the chapel, donated by Mrs. Thompson in 1909.

Interments in Woodlawn began in November 1884, once the grounds had been laid out and sales of lots began; the first was deeded in October. The first interments took place on November 12, 1884, when the remains of veteran William Ryan were received from the Soldiers Home in Dayton, Ohio and reburied in the newly established veterans section. The remains of two others were disinterred from the West Avenue Cemetery and reburied in Woodlawn on the same day. As more lots were sold and burials took place, the sections in the southwest corner of the grounds became a varied collection of obelisks, footstones, and square monuments of marble, granite and a few of metal. Many markers displayed classical funerary symbols such as urns, drapery, columns, crosses and arches. A handful had statues of mourning figures, such as the life-sized

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female figure on the Sutherland family marker or the seated female figure on the Coyle monument. Types and sizes of monuments and markers were varied, ranging from large, unadorned boulders (Burrell lot) to elaborate depictions of Victorian symbolism, such as carved tree trunks, sarcophagus style markers and rusticated stonework. Only one family mausoleum was built in the older section. One of the last monuments to be constructed, it was completed around 1929 for the Moore-Fay families. It was a freestanding structure with a smooth granite façade and metal and glass doors, accented by matching granite planters. The sides and shallow pitched roof were rusticated granite.

The cemetery association began with 28 acres but quickly expanded it to roughly 70 acres in the early twentieth century. The additional acres were mostly on high ground in the northeast quadrant, acquired with future expansion in mind. The expansion and subsequent development of Woodlawn Cemetery coincided with the growing professional mortuary movement of the late nineteenth century, which resulted in a gradual redefinition of the cemetery that emerged in the early twentieth century. The end result was that Woodlawn was a cemetery with two visibly distinct areas, one indicative of a late-nineteenth century rural cemetery and the other reflecting the memorial park philosophy of the early twentieth century. As burials took place in these newer sections, roadways were added that curved around large lawn sections to reflect the pattern laid out by Earnshaw in the older portion of the cemetery. The newer sections had burials more densely arranged in rows, rather than being grouped around family markers, giving it the appearance of being less crowded. Stones were also lower, mostly granite and with little decoration, following the twentieth-century practice of the memorial park cemetery. Woodlawn was clearly designed by professionals and maintained by superintendents and trustees who were well versed in design trends, which became standard practice in all aspects of cemetery management. As an active city cemetery, Woodlawn continues to follow established standards while preserving and maintaining the historic character of its older sections, chapel, bridges, stone fence and offices.

## **CRITERION C/CRITERION CONSIDERATION D: LANDSCAPE DESIGN & ARCHITECTURE**

Once the land was acquired, the cemetery association's next step was to hire first class landscape architect Joseph Earnshaw of Cincinnati, Ohio, to prepare and develop a design for the cemetery to include avenues, lots and planting of ornamental trees and shrubs. As part of the plan, several unique and unusual species, such as Dutch cut-leaf linden were included as part of the landscape plan. Other trees planted in Woodlawn

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considered to be rare species included a white fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus* --section 19) and a shining willow (*Salix lucida*) located near the entrance of the cemetery.<sup>3</sup>

Joseph Earnshaw (1831-1906) was a well-known landscape engineer who designed several cemeteries in the United States and Canada throughout his long career. Born in Nottingham, England, he immigrated to America in 1854 where he settled in Cincinnati. Trained as a surveyor, he was appointed city surveyor in 1856. He later established a civil engineering practice and worked with Adolph Strauch (1822-1883) on redesigning Spring Grove Cemetery, the city's old Rural Cemetery that was in need of expansion. Strauch was a German trained landscape designer who redesigned the cemetery with wider roads and larger plot sizes that were similar in size and shape. Plantings were carefully managed to open the view and emphasize approaches into the grounds. Strauch convinced plot owners that smaller individual markers would allow for larger family markers that could be seen from greater distances as reasons for eliminating the need for trees and shrubs. These innovations opened the view of the cemetery and put greater control of the landscape into the hands of the superintendent. Strauch's ideas became known as the landscape-lawn or lawn-park cemetery, were widely published in the press and, by the 1880s, became the accepted pattern for cemetery landscape design.

Earnshaw used Strauch's concepts to their full extent for Woodlawn. He created a long drive that approached the burial portion of the cemetery that was purposely landscaped and left without monuments or interments. Both he and Strauch kept the use of curving, winding roadways, but the roads went around sections, rather than through them, allowing for grand vistas of each section from the roadway. Earnshaw also capitalized on a ravine and brook that ran diagonally through the property to offer more seclusion and left the landscape edges naturally wooded to enhance it. He also added a long section along the upper portion of the ravine that became a preferred area for the more prominent members of society, allowing them to eternally look down on the rest of the cemetery. To cross the ravine and Sucker Brook, he had wood bridges built in three spots. In the early 1900's, the bridges were replaced by sturdier stone-arched bridges constructed of cement and large fieldstones, built by local mason John Donovan and supervised by engineer John Handrahan., A fourth bridge, built of limestone and Medina sandstone, was erected near the chapel.

The bridges were attributed to another landscape engineer, John J. Handrahan (1871-1968), who learned the landscaping trade from working with Ernest W. Bowditch in Boston, Massachusetts. Bowditch brought him to Canandaigua to work on ornamental gardens at Sonnenberg, the summer estate of Mary Clark Thompson,

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<sup>3</sup>The cemetery currently has two tree species that are recognized on New York State's Champion Big Tree Registry as being known as the largest of its species in New York.

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where he supervised the construction of four gardens on the estate designed by the Bowditch firm. He later designed four additional gardens for Mrs. Thompson, as well as a Roman bath/swimming pool. Handrahan remained in Canandaigua, working on additional landscaping projects that Mrs. Thompson commissioned for the village, which included the grounds of the memorial hospital, and the county courthouse, the Howell Street Playground and repairs to the old Pioneer Cemetery. She also had Handrahan design the cemetery entrance for Woodlawn Cemetery and supervise construction of the cemetery chapel. In addition to working for Mrs. Thompson, Handrahan designed landscapes for several summer properties around Canandaigua Lake and later became the Canandaigua city engineer. He was also credited with coordinating the transfer of the Sonnenberg property to the Veterans Administration when it was offered as the site for a new neuro-psychiatric hospital.<sup>4</sup>

Mrs. Thompson's chapel for Woodlawn was a Gothic Revival stone building constructed from locally quarried stone. She hired Boston born architect Francis R. Allen (1843-1931), who was also the architect of the Frederick F. Thompson Memorial Hospital, which she donated to Canandaigua in memory of her husband. Allen studied architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1876) and the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris (1878). He began practicing architecture in Boston in 1879 and later moved to New York City, where he entered into partnership and remained a principal in the firm until he retired in 1925. In addition to the Woodlawn Chapel and the Thompson Memorial Hospital, he also designed the Thompson Memorial Library at Vassar, the Andover Theological Seminary in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and the Park Avenue Baptist Church in New York City (NR listed 1984).

The chapel strictly adhered to the Gothic form. It was a compact cruciform shape of rusticated quarried limestone with sandstone trim. Doors and windows were set into sandstone arches and the doors were wood batten with wrought iron hardware. The building was well suited to the site, being lower than its surroundings in the ravine and without a steeple or tall bell-tower, blending in well with the rest of the cemetery. It was also sited along the roadway that connected to the main road near section five, which allowed for clear access by carriages and hearses. To accommodate the discharge of passengers, Allen added a broad *porte cochere* to one end of the chapel with large, wood double doors to accommodate pall bearers. Mrs. Thompson also had John Handrahan landscape the area and had a matching limestone bridge built over the brook to accommodate traffic.

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<sup>4</sup> Both Sonnenberg and the VA Hospital (now separate entities) are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

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The cemetery association also added a superintendent's residence and carriage house in 1892 at the entrance and a barn/tool shed near section 5. Due to deferred maintenance, the carriage house and shed were recently replaced by non-historic buildings, but the carriage house was designed to complement the late Victorian, Shingle style design of the superintendent's house. The house was renovated into cemetery offices, but still retains much of its historic fabric and floor plan. The chapel has been shuttered for many years and the cemetery has plans to restore the building to once again be used for burial services and also for special events.

As previously mentioned, some of Canandaigua's most prestigious residents bought plots in the section overlooking the ravine, including Mrs. Thompson, who paid just under \$6,700 dollars for a large plot in section 15 where the road ended its gradual ascent and began a graceful curve to the north. After the death of her husband, a large curved wall marker was added which featured a large bas relief of the risen Christ with his hand over his heart in sorrow and extending his right hand toward Frederick's headstone. The two end panels of the monument contain inscriptions for Frederick and Mary Thompson. Also near the monument are the graves of Mary's parents, Myron Holley and Charlotte Clark, marked by a large rectangular granite marker with rusticated sides and base. Myron Holley Clark (1806–1892) was president of the village of Canandaigua before becoming sheriff of Ontario County and then a member of the New York State Senate from 1852 to 1854. At the state election in 1854, he was elected governor of New York in the closest gubernatorial election in New York State history. He was in office from 1855 to 1856. In 1915, his daughter, Mary Clark Thompson, as a memorial to her father, presented a significant scenic tract of land to New York State that is now part of Clark Reservation State Park. Other family members interred near the Thompson plot are her niece, Mary Williams, and her husband, well-known travel author Stanton Kirkland. The graves are marked by an ornate Celtic cross set off to the left of the Thompson marker. Kirkland died in 1944 after contracting an illness during his travels in South America.

Other Notable burials in Woodlawn:

- Ball Family (Section 13): Lucius & Maria Ball had six boys and two girls. One boy died at infancy and the other five started the family business of Ball Containers. Moving their business from New York to Indiana where many contributions were made to the city of Muncie, including Ball State University. Their uncle, George Harvey Ball, lent \$200 to start the business and made more than his share back, which led to the founding of Keuka College in the Finger Lakes. Lucius, Maria, daughter Lucina, and infant son Clinton are all buried in Woodlawn.
- Raymond Hitchcock (1865–1929) (Section 10): A silent film actor, stage actor, and stage producer, who appeared in, or produced 30 plays on Broadway from 1898 to 1928. He also appeared in nine silent films

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from 1915 to 1927, along with several short films and stage appearances. He was best remembered as producer of the musical comedy "Hitchy Koo" (1919).

- Frank T. Hutchens (1869–1937) (Section 5): Frank was born in Canandaigua and studied art in New York City, Paris, Italy and Holland. He attained a worldwide reputation for his watercolor and crayon landscapes and portraitures. He traveled and painted extensively in Europe, Africa and the United States with his works exhibited at the Paris Salon, New York's National Academy of Design, the Royal Academy of Arts, and the London and Amsterdam International Exhibitions. Many more of his works are in museums and major private collections.
- Elbridge G. Lapham (1814–1890) (Section 5): Elbridge was a lawyer and politician who served in the U.S. Congress and the U.S. Senate. He was a member of the U.S. Committee on Foreign Affairs, where he was influential in the American National Red Cross and the relief of wounded in war in recognition of the Geneva Convention.
- General Edward Francis Winslow (1837-1914) (Section 15): A distinguished veteran of the Civil War, he died at Sonnenberg, where he and his wife were guests of Mrs. Thompson. General Winslow fought on every battlefield from Missouri and Kansas to Mississippi and Tennessee. After the war he became a distinguished railroad builder and accumulated a large fortune.<sup>14</sup>
- John Raines (1840-1909) (Section 15): Served in the Union Army and later was a member of NY state assembly and senate. In 1889, he was elected as a U.S. Congressional representative from NY. He was the author of election and liquor tax laws and a factor in important state legislation for 15 Years. He wrote the 1896 Raines Law, which prohibited liquor sales on Sundays, except in hotels, which had the unintended consequence of fostering prostitution.
- Oscar N. Crane (1836-1910) (Section 5): A prominent undertaker in the area and the driving force in the village of Canandaigua for establishing Woodlawn Cemetery. He also served as president of the National Funeral Directors Association from 1884-1885.
- Willys Family (Section 10): David & Linda Willys and their children Emily, Mary and John North Willys. John was a successful automotive dealer and owner of Willys Overland Motors Jeep Company that was best known for its military Jeeps. John Willys began in the business by repairing and selling bicycles in Canandaigua before buying the company in 1908.
- Dr. George Cook (1824–1876) (Section 9): Dr. Cook was a prominent professor and physician at the Utica State Hospital/Asylum in Utica, NY. He later would work in asylums in England and France. Upon returning to the area, he was encouraged to open a small asylum in Canandaigua known as Brigham Hall. He was also instrumental at the creation of the Willard State Hospital.
- Barney Kessel (1923–2004) (Section 27): An American jazz guitarist born in Muskogee, Oklahoma. Noted in particular for his knowledge of chords and inversions and chord-based melodies, he was a member of many prominent jazz groups as well as a "first call" guitarist for studio, film, and television recording sessions. As a world famous jazz guitarist, he played with Benny Goodman, Billie Holiday, Charlie Parker and countless others. Kessel was a member of the Jazz Hall of Fame and owned Barney Kessel's Music World in Hollywood from 1967 to 1970, employing some of the first guitar technicians and attracting John Lennon, George Harrison and Eric Clapton as customers.



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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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

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*Woodlawn Cemetery Report*. Canandaigua Cemetery Association. 1933.

Woodlawn Cemetery  
Name of Property

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**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: Canandaigua Cemetery Association

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** ±73.47

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>312438</u> Easting	<u>4751332</u> Northing	3	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>312787</u> Easting	<u>4750980</u> Northing
2	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>312618</u> Easting	<u>4751351</u> Northing	4	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>312485</u> Easting	<u>4750684</u> Northing
5	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>312446</u> Easting	<u>4750667</u> Northing	6	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>312252</u> Easting	<u>4750595</u> Northing
7	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>311977</u> Easting	<u>4751116</u> Northing		<u>          </u> Zone	<u>          </u> Easting	<u>          </u> Northing

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

The boundary is indicated by a heavy line on the enclosed map with scale.

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

The boundary is the same as for the period of significance.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Douglas Stone, Woodlawn Cemetery, Superintendent, and Virginia L. Bartos, Ph. D. (NYS OPRHP)  
organization Canandaigua Cemetery Association date September 2014  
street & number 130 North Pearl St telephone 585-394-0840  
city or town Canandaigua state NY zip code 14424  
e-mail woodlawn@rochester.rr.com

Woodlawn Cemetery  
Name of Property

**DRAFT**

Ontario County, NY  
County and State

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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.)

---

### 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: Woodland Cemetery

City or Vicinity: Canandaigua

County: Ontario State: New York

Photographer: Virginia L. Bartos

Date Photographed: 21 May 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 0001 of 0028. Entrance to Woodlawn showing fencing and arch with office to the right, view looking south.
- 0002 of 0028. Superintendent's cottage, west of entrance, view looking southwest.
- 0003 of 0028. Earnshaw's approach/roadway toward older section of Woodlawn, view looking south.
- 0004 of 0028. Looking northwest at section 4 from roadway.
- 0005 of 0028. Memorial marker for Gideon Granger, section 4.
- 0006 of 0028. East elevation of chapel.
- 0007 of 0028. Chapel *porte cochere*, view looking west.
- 0008 of 0028. West and north elevations of chapel, view looking southeast.
- 0009 of 0028. Limestone bridge, west of chapel, view looking east.
- 0010 of 0028. Section 8, view looking southwest.
- 0011 of 0028. Section 7, view looking west.
- 0012 of 0028. Sutherland monument, section 5, south of Chapel, view looking north.
- 0013 of 0028. General view of section 7 with Bradburn monument in center.
- 0014 of 0028. General view of section 18 (southeast edge of cemetery).
- 0015 of 0028. View from Section 8 toward section 7, Moore-Fay mausoleum on left.
- 0016 of 0028. Howell monument, section 17, view looking west.
- 0017 of 0028. Southwest end of section 5 with Burrell marker on left.
- 0018 of 0028. Looking north along road between section 17 and section 5.
- 0019 of 0028. View of section 15 looking west along ridge. Raines family marker on left.
- 0020 of 0028. View of section 15 looking east.

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- 0021 of 0028. Kershaw family plot along ridge in section 15.
  - 0022 of 0028. Marker for Myron Holley Clark (section 15).
  - 0023 of 0028. Marker for Mary Clark and Frederick Ferris Thompson (section 15).
  - 0024 of 0028. Marker for Stanton Kirkland & Mary Clark Williams, just east of the Thompson monument.
  - 0025 of 0028. View looking northeast along road between section 15 and section 20.
  - 0026 of 0028. New sections of cemetery (sections 20 & 26) looking northeast.
  - 0027 of 0028. Roadway along section 15 heading toward section 5 (southwest).
  - 0028 of 0058. Mirras marker, section 24, looking south.

---

**Property Owner:**

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

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name Canandaigua Cemetery Association  
street & number 130 North Pearl St. telephone 585-394-0840  
city or town Canandaigua state NY zip code 14424

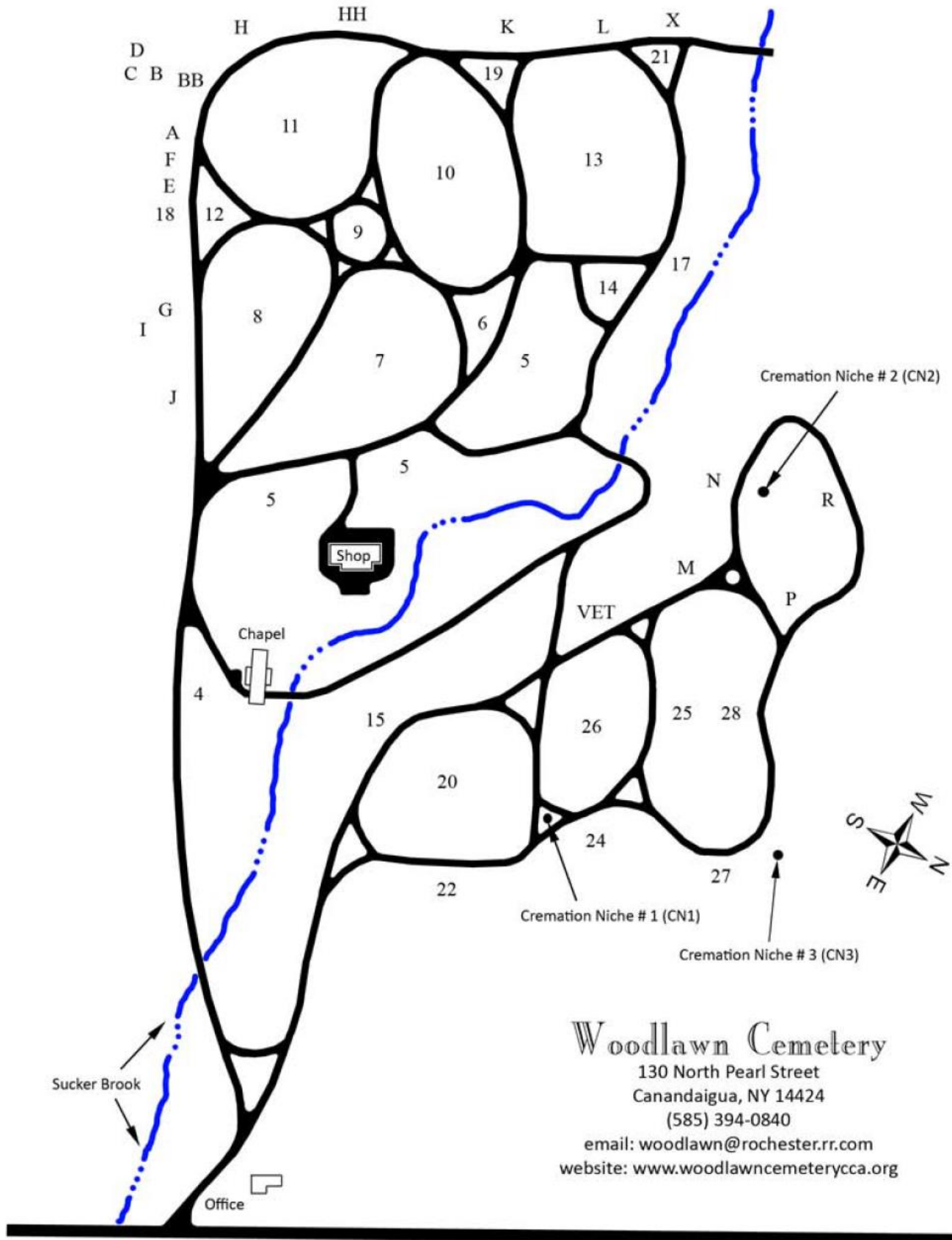
**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to 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.

Woodlawn Cemetery  
Name of Property

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Ontario County, NY  
County and State



**Woodlawn Cemetery**  
130 North Pearl Street  
Canandaigua, NY 14424  
(585) 394-0840  
email: woodlawn@rochester.rr.com  
website: www.woodlawncemeterycca.org



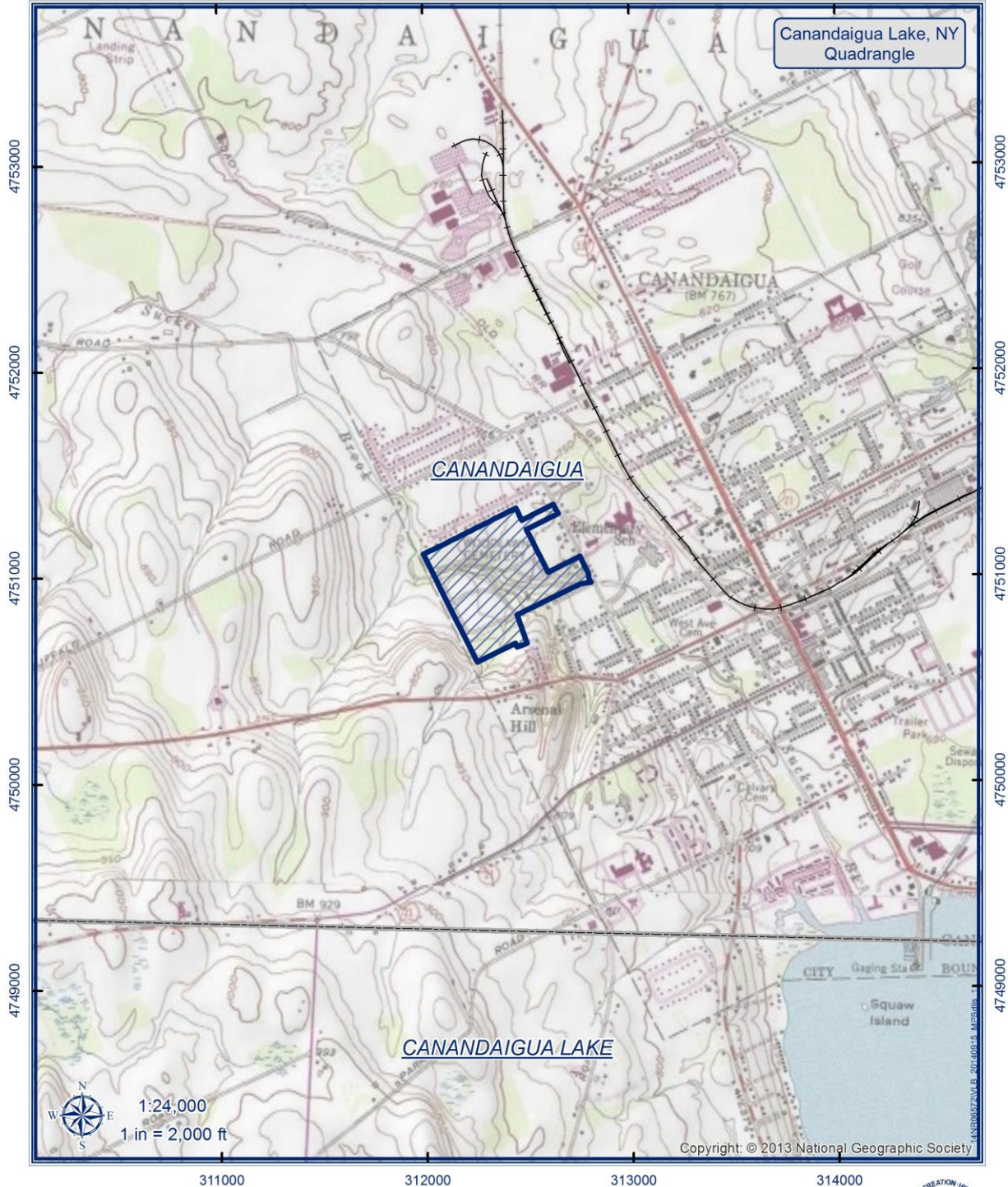
Woodlawn Cemetery  
Name of Property

**DRAFT**

Ontario County, NY  
County and State



Woodlawn Cemetery  
Canandaigua, Ontario Co., NY

130 North Pearl Street  
Canandaigua, NY 14424



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N  
Projection: Transverse Mercator  
Datum: North American 1983  
Units: Meter



 Woodlawn Cemetery  
 USGS quad index

Tax Parcel Data:  
Ontario Co. RPS  
[oncor.co.ontario.ny.us](http://oncor.co.ontario.ny.us)





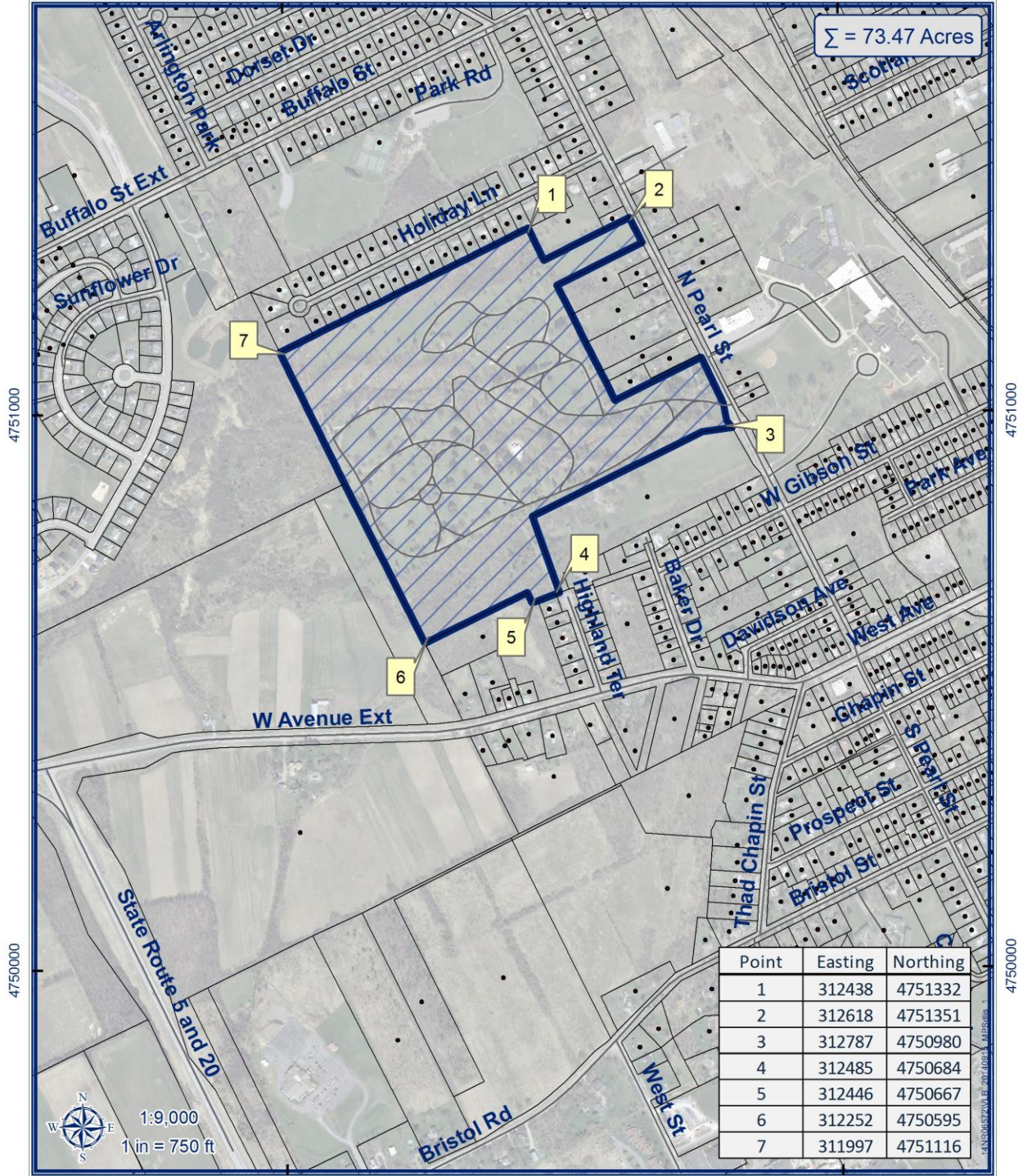
Woodlawn Cemetery  
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DRAFT

Ontario County, NY  
 County and State

Woodlawn Cemetery  
 Canandaigua, Ontario Co., NY

130 North Pearl Street  
 Canandaigua, NY 14424



Point	Easting	Northing
1	312438	4751332
2	312618	4751351
3	312787	4750980
4	312485	4750684
5	312446	4750667
6	312252	4750595
7	311997	4751116

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N  
 Projection: Transverse Mercator  
 Datum: North American 1983  
 Units: Meter



Tax Parcel Data:  
 Ontario Co. RPS  
[oncor.co.ontario.ny.us](http://oncor.co.ontario.ny.us)





WOODLAWN

NO  
PARKING



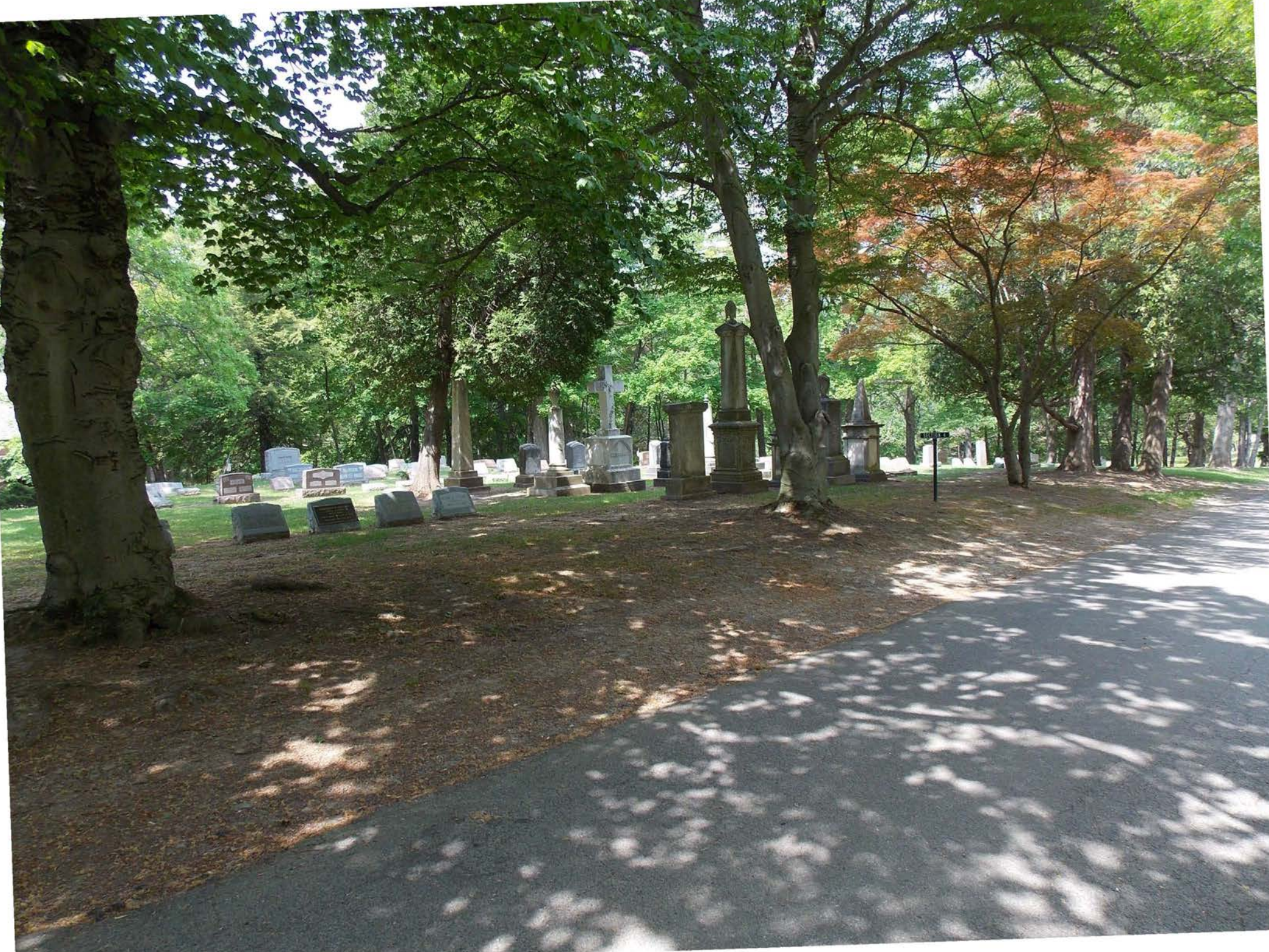
















The memory of  
**GIDEON GRANGER**  
AUGUST 30 1821  
DIED  
SEPTEMBER 3 1898









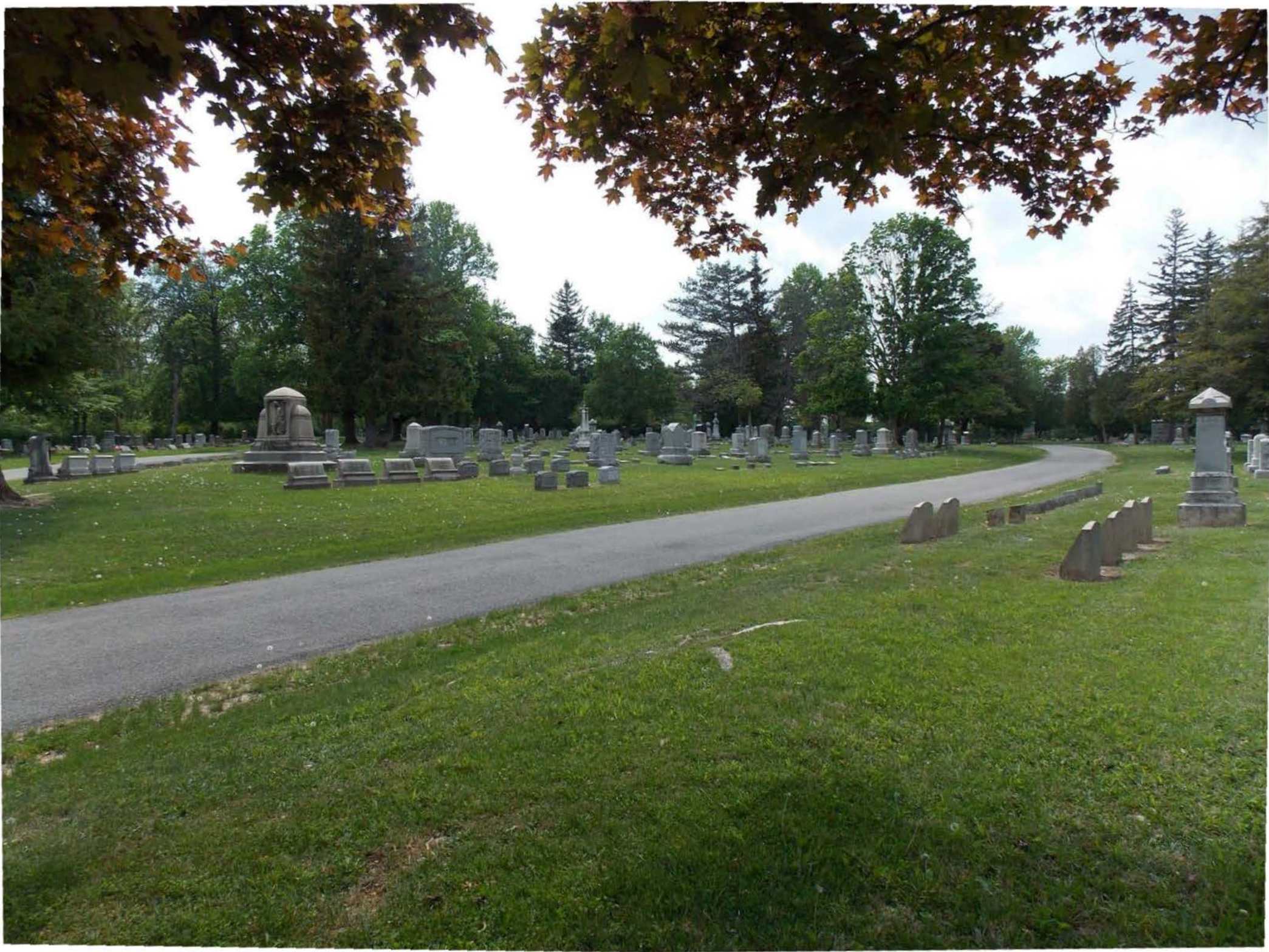




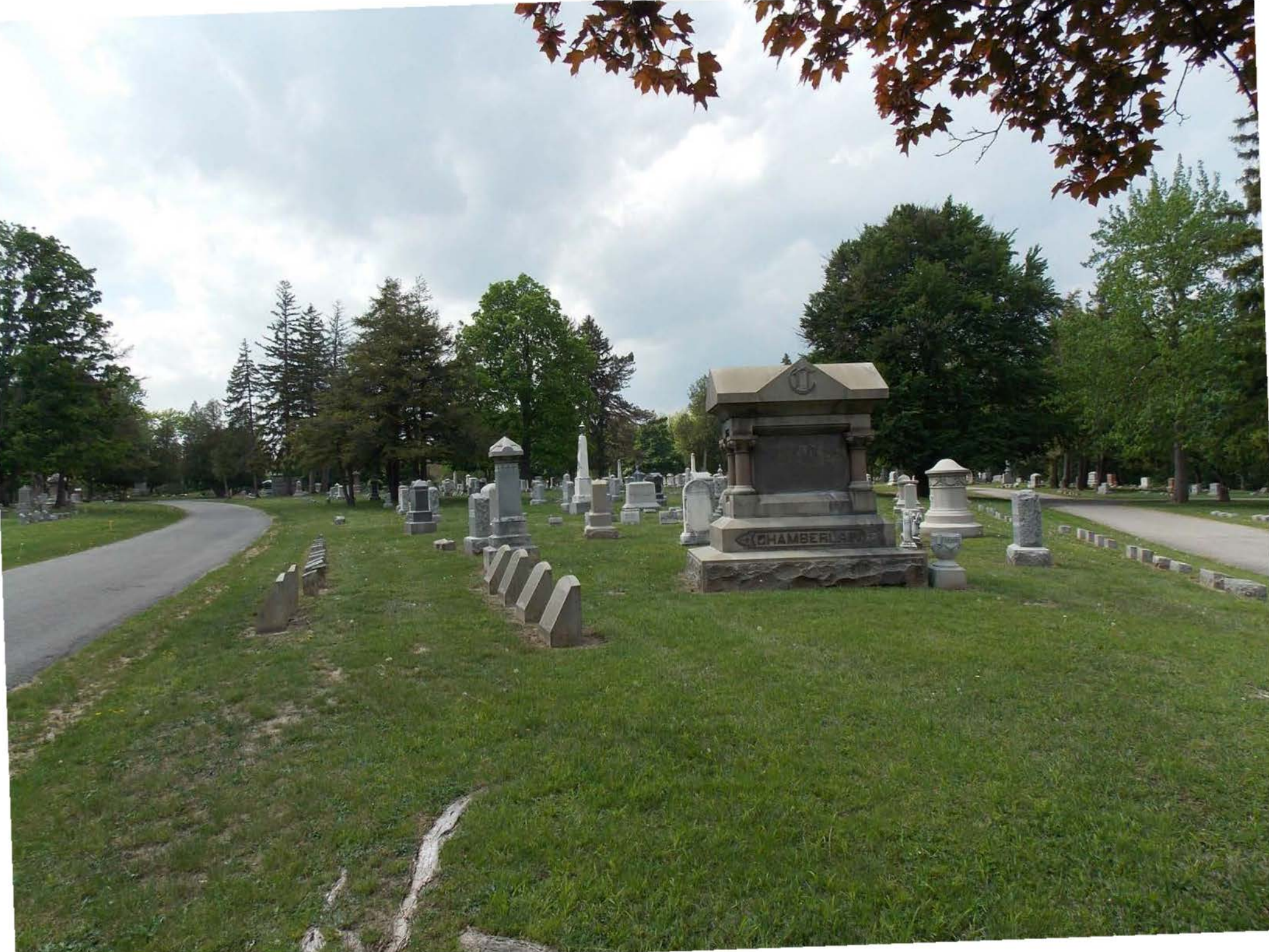
















ESTHER C  
DAUGHTER OF  
SARGENT SUTHERLAND  
AND  
ESTER  
SUTHERLAND  
BORN  
MAY 15 1845  
DIED  
MAY 15 1915

SUTHERLAND

PAGE

POOL

ESTER SUTHERLAND

SUTHERLAND

ESTER SUTHERLAND

JOHN W. SUTHERLAND

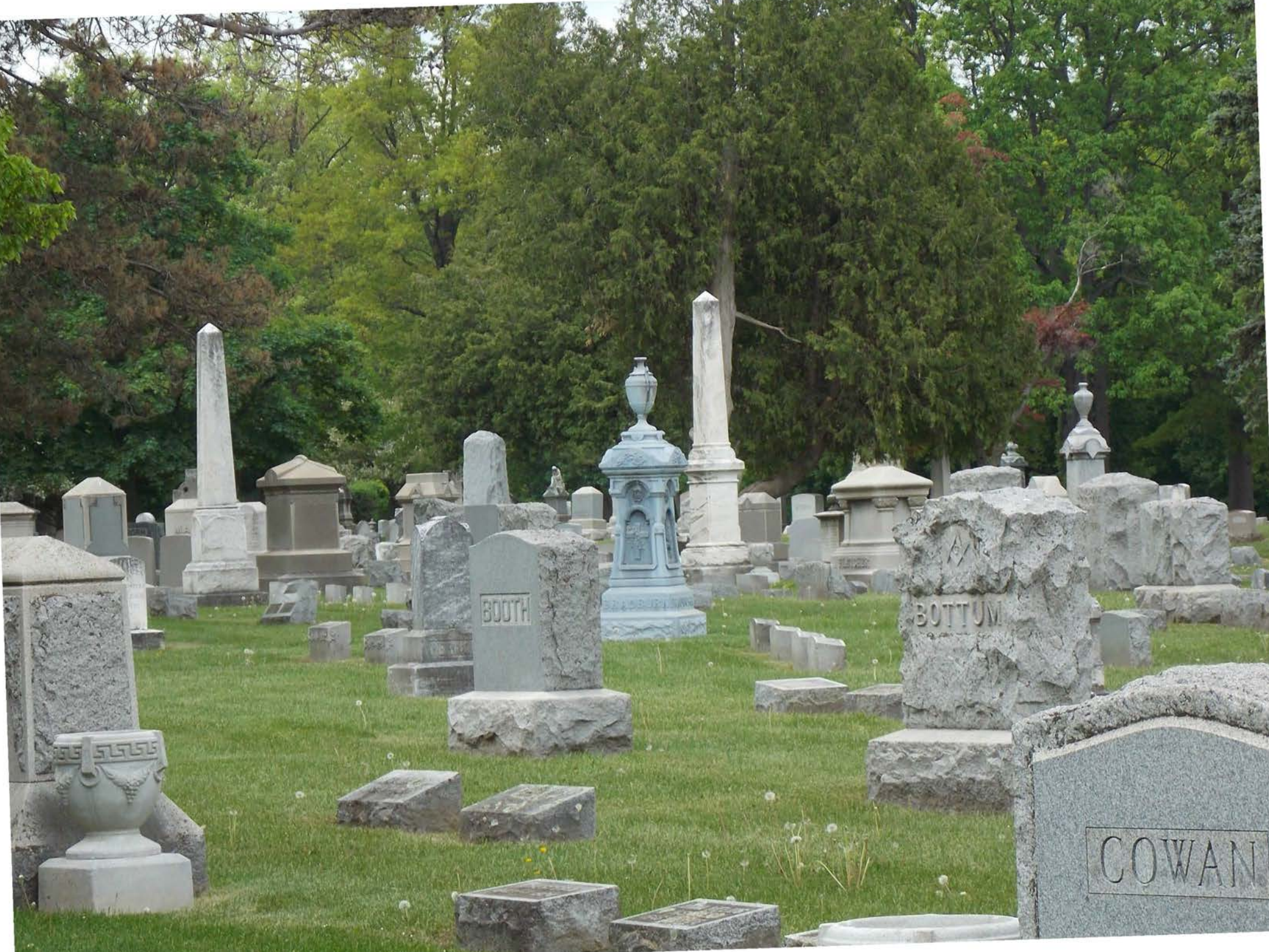
ESTER SUTHERLAND

JOHN W.

THOMPSON

CORREY





BOOTH

BOTTUM

COWAN

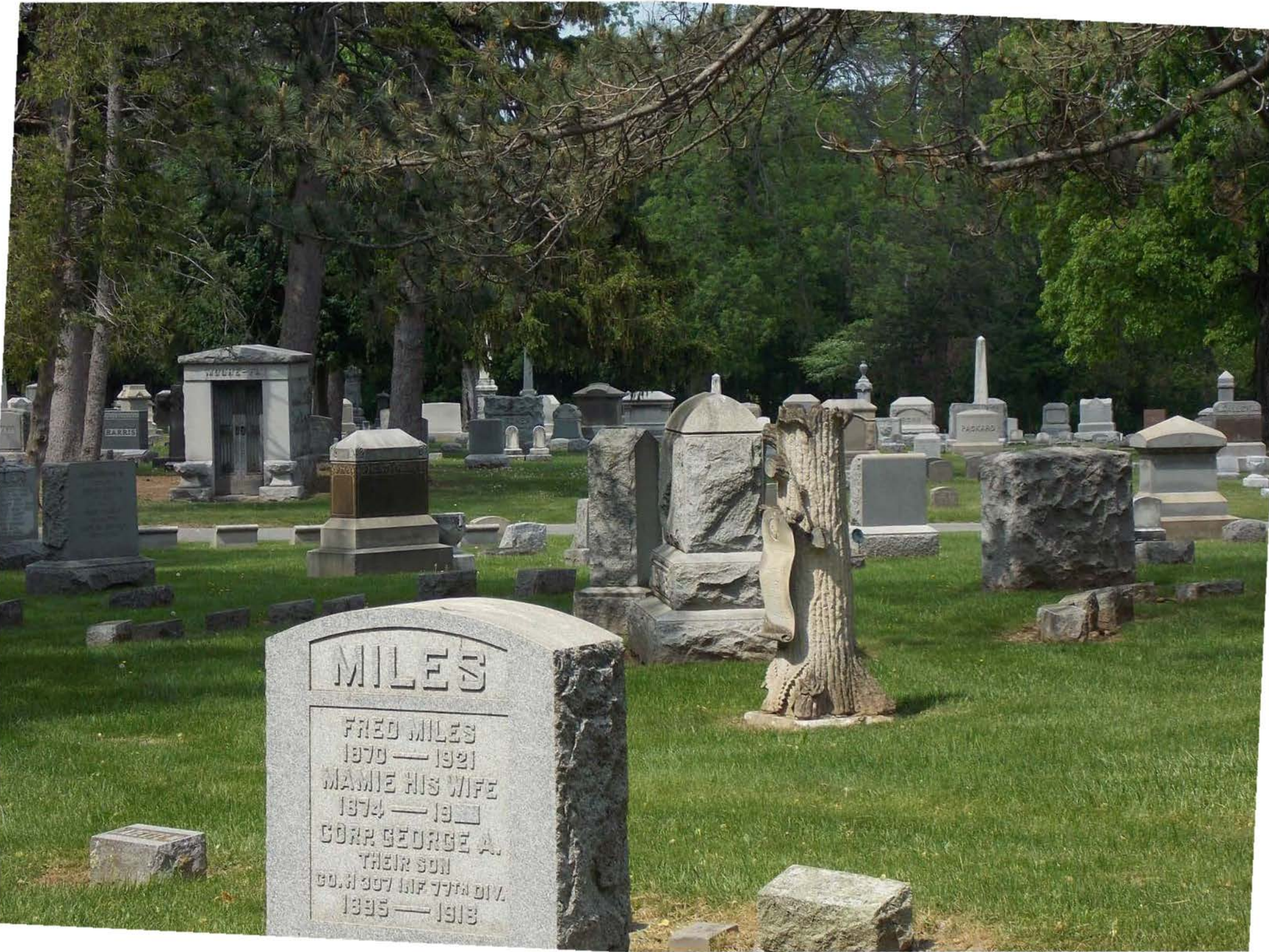




SECTION 18

HOFFMAN





MILES

FRED MILES  
1870 — 1921  
MAMIE HIS WIFE  
1874 — 19  
CORP GEORGE A.  
THEIR SON  
CORP 307 INF 77TH DIV.  
1895 — 1918

























KERSHAW

Small rectangular gravestone with illegible text.

CAMERON

Small rectangular gravestone with illegible text.

Small rectangular gravestone with illegible text.

Large monument with a pyramidal top. The name "TRAFT" is visible at the base. The upper part of the monument contains several lines of illegible text.

Small rectangular gravestone with illegible text.

Decorative stone urn with a classical design.

Small rectangular gravestone with illegible text.

WELDON KERSHAW  
1870 — 1943

GEORGIA KERSHAW  
1863 — 1892

Small rectangular gravestone with illegible text.

Small rectangular gravestone with illegible text.

ELIZABETH KERSHAW  
1843 — 1917

Small rectangular gravestone with illegible text.



MYRON HOLLEY CLARK  
GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK STATE 1855-1858  
OCT. 29. 1806 — AUG. 23. 1892  
ZILPHA WATKINS  
HIS WIFE  
SEPT. 17. 1806 — DEC. 12. 1877  
CHARLOTTE ELIZABETH CLARK  
THEIR DAUGHTER  
NOV. 21. 1838 — NOV. 16. 1929

CLARK

M.H.C.

M.H.C.





AS MUCH AS  
LIFE ONE OF THE  
MORTALS  
TWO ME

HE FEAR  
LEAST OF  
HE WIFE  
SISTER

FREDERICK FERRIS THOMPSON  
BORN IN NEW YORK  
JUNE 14, 1836  
DIED IN NEW YORK  
APRIL 10, 1879  
SON OF JOHN THOMPSON AND  
ELECTRA FERRIS HIS WIFE

MARY CLARK THOMPSON  
WIFE OF  
FREDERICK FERRIS THOMPSON  
BORN IN NAPLES N.Y.  
DECEMBER 27, 1825  
DIED IN CAMBRIDGE N.Y.  
JULY 28, 1823  
DAUGHTER OF GOVERNOR  
MYRON HOLLEY CLARK  
AND ZILPHA WATKINS HIS WIFE



FREDERICK F. THOMPSON

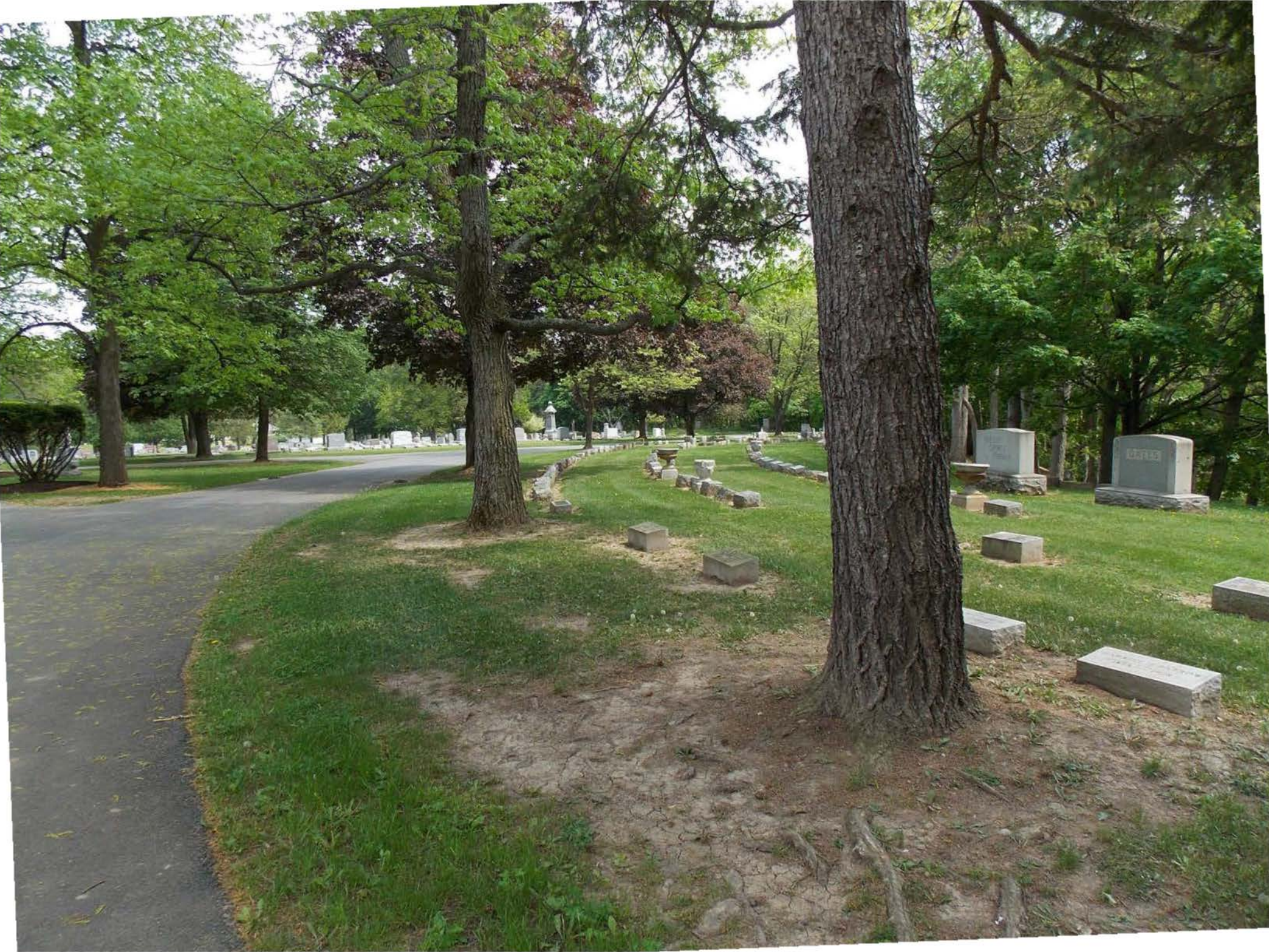
MARY C. CLARK THOMPSON





STANLEY DAVIS  
BORN FEBRUARY 18, 1880  
DIED FEBRUARY 1958  
MAY 21, 1910  
STANLEY DAVIS  
BORN FEBRUARY 18, 1880  
DIED APRIL 10, 1910





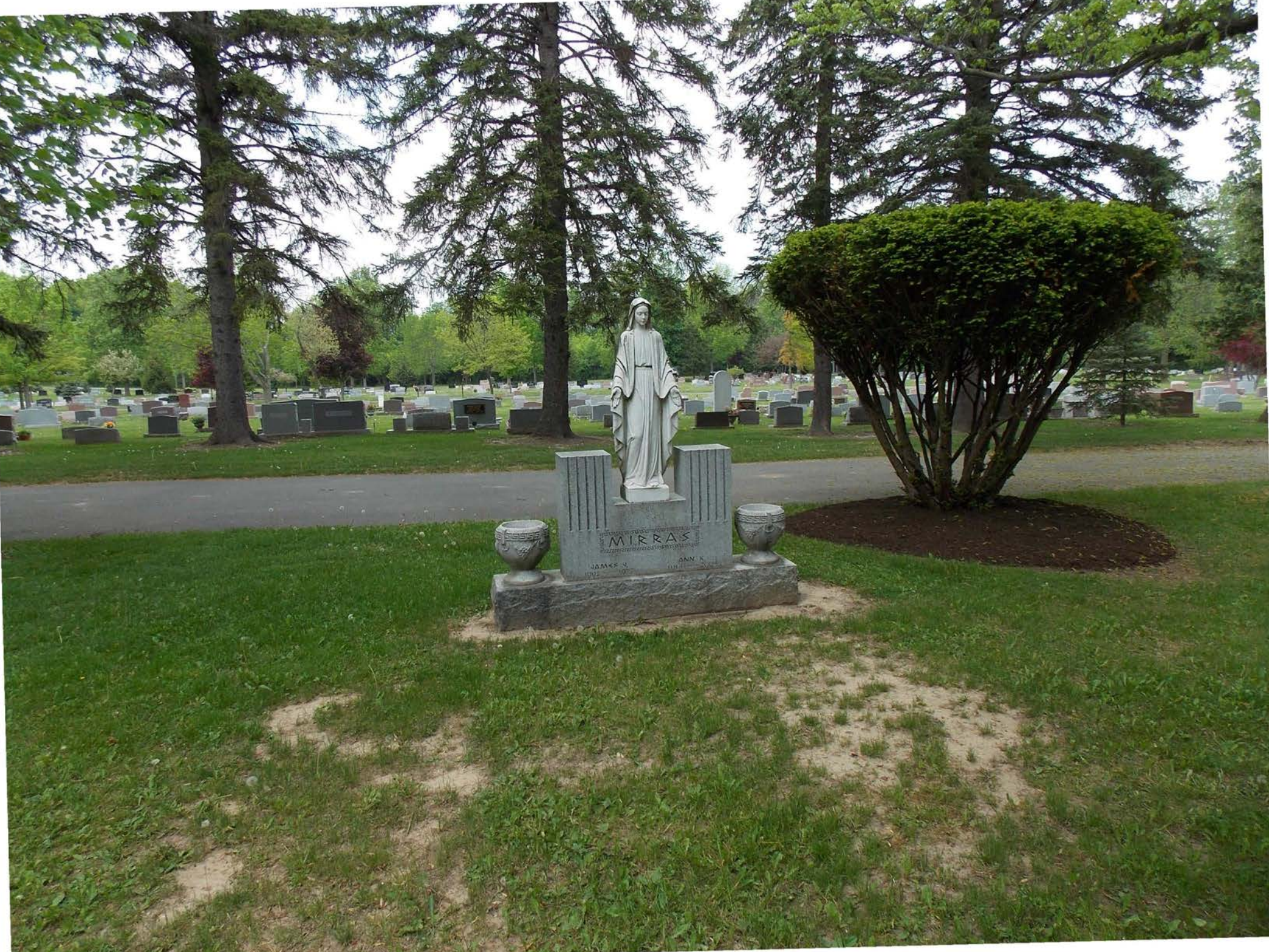












MIRRAS  
JAMES J.  
JANN K.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Woodlawn Cemetery  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Ontario

DATE RECEIVED: 9/26/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST:  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 11/12/14  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000914

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: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 11.12.14 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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.

# Town of Canandaigua

5440 Routes 5 & 20 West  
Canandaigua, NY 14424

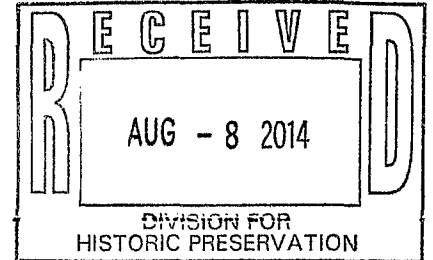
(585) 394-1120

Fax (585) 394-9476

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

**Established 1789**

August 5, 2014



Ruth Pierpont  
Deputy Director for Historic Preservation  
DHP-NYSOPRHP  
Peebles Island State Park PO Box 189  
Waterford, NY 12188

I have been a resident of Canandaigua for nearly 60 years, having spent all of my school years here, lived in six different homes here, and have enjoyed the lifestyle of Canandaigua throughout my life, including now, in my retirement years. Throughout all those years, I have been thoroughly entranced by the beauty and serenity of Woodlawn Cemetery.

After a career in Engineering and Management, I retired to pursue one of my greatest loves, that of local history. I am now the Town of Canandaigua Historian and enjoy researching the lives of the many people interred here at Woodlawn, as well as enjoying the beautiful grounds.

The Canandaigua Cemetery Association's efforts to pursue the listing of Woodlawn Cemetery on the State and National Registry of Historic Places is an important step in further recognizing the beauty, history, notables interred and connection that the cemetery has had with this community for 130 years. The landscape architecture, the historic cobblestone bridges and limestone chapel (much the work of well known architect, John J. Handrahan), are all exceptional details that contribute greatly to the overall ambiance of the cemetery. Less noticeable historical aspects include the many notables that are interred from Governors, Senators and Congressman to Civil War Generals, Postmaster Generals, famous musicians (such as family member Barney Kesel, jazz guitarist extraordinaire) and silent movie actors.

Being listed on the Historic Registry is not only an honor for Woodlawn Cemetery, but it is also well deserved. The efforts of the staff in maintaining the beauty of this Canandaigua asset cannot be overly stressed, and I fully endorse their desire to obtain historical registry status for the entire Cemetery.

Respectfully,

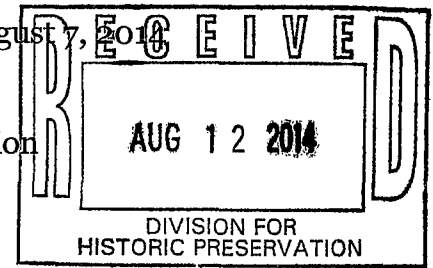
Roy Henry,  
Town of Canandaigua Historian, and  
New York State Registered Public Historian, APHNYS

Cc: Mr. Doug Stone, Superintendant, Woodlawn Cemetery



Ruth Pierpont, Deputy Director for Historic Preservation  
DHP-New York State Office of Parks & Recreation & Historic Preservation  
Peebles Island State Park  
PO Box 189  
Waterford, New York 12188

August 7, 2014



Dear Ms. Pierpont:

I understand that the Canandaigua Cemetery Association has submitted an application for Woodlawn Cemetery (Chapel and Grounds) to be listed on the State and National Registry of Historic Places. My feeling is that this designation is well deserved. The cemetery has served our local community for 130 years. The grounds are majestic and the association has been recognized for rare trees that have grown on the grounds for years and years. Mary Clark Thompson, who built the Sonnenberg Gardens estate located in Canandaigua, hired John Handrahan in 1909 to help with the design and building of the chapel located at the cemetery. Mary and her husband, Frederick Ferris Thompson are interred at Woodlawn. Fred was a New York City banker and the Thompson's summer home was the Sonnenberg estate.

Taking a walk thru the grounds of the cemetery you see family names connected to local history and businesses - many dating back to the late 1800's and early 1900's:

The Ball Family - connected with Ball Canning jars

The Boyce Family - owners of the former Roseland Amusement Park on Canandaigua Lake

The Kershaw Family - Canandaigua Lake Waterfront Park named in their honor

Judge Joseph Cribb - who helped to save the local Granger Homestead

Gideon Granger family - the former US Postmaster General

The McKechnie Family - owners of the former McKechnie Brewing Company

All of the above families played an important part in the local history - and that history is part of Woodlawn Cemetery.

I also marvel at the family surnames on headstones that are now attached to local streets and roads - these people were early settlers who helped to establish our heritage in Canandaigua. A few of those names are: Bemis, Chapin, Clark, Cribb, DeSeyn, Deuel, Emerson, Freshour, Herendeen, Hicks, Holcomb, Moore and Purdy.

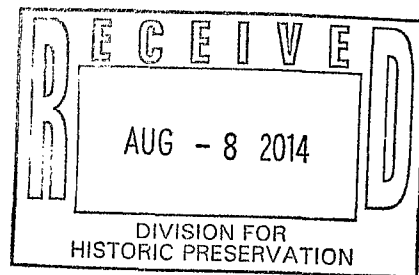
I've also been told that there are many other notables buried at Woodlawn - Governors, Senators, Civil War Generals, famous musicians and movie actors. This all adds to the long history of the Woodlawn Cemetery grounds.

Thank you for reviewing this letter of support - I do hope that it will be beneficial in helping to approve the application from Canandaigua Cemetery Association.

Sincerely yours,

Donna Moore Miller  
11 Coy Street  
Canandaigua, NY 14424

Mark & Bonnie Vahey  
3305 W Lake Rd  
Canandaigua, NY 14424-2442  
August 4, 2014



Ms Ruth Pierpont  
Deputy Director for Historic Preservation  
DHP-NYSOPRHP  
Peebles Island State Park  
PO Box 189  
Waterford, NY 12188

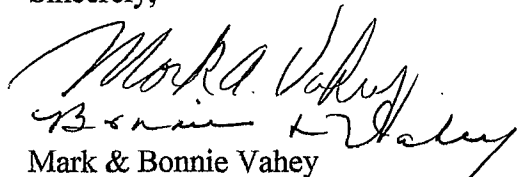
Dear Ms Ruth Pierpont:

We are writing in support of Woodlawn Cemetery's application for being listed in the National Registry of Historic Places. The City and Town of Canandaigua, though small in size, have played a significant role in the history of New York State. Located in the Finger Lakes Region Canandaigua is blessed with natural beauty and a strong community that takes its stewardship responsibility seriously. The Canandaigua Historic District is a national historic district located at Canandaigua in Ontario County, New York.

The Canandaigua Historic District includes the historic core of the city of Canandaigua, New York. It encompasses the North Main Street Historic District, listed on the National Register in 1973. The areas adjacent to the North Main Street Historic District possess similar visual qualities in terms of style, scale, materials, and integrity and are united to the existing district by similar associations with the history and development of Canandaigua. Hence, the existing district has been incorporated into the Canandaigua Historic District. The expanded district includes the entire historic core of the city.

Woodlawn Cemetery is considered to be one of the most beautiful cemeteries in western New York, and perhaps beyond. For 130 years the Trustees have exercised excellent judgment in carrying on, and making additions and improvements which have been in harmony with the historic significance of the Canandaigua community. The peaceful and reverent grounds of Woodlawn Cemetery serve as a compliment to the historic core of the city.

Sincerely,

  
Mark & Bonnie Vahey





## New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Division for Historic Preservation  
P.O. Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189  
518-237-8643



Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor  
Rose Harvey  
Commissioner

9 September 2014

Alexis Abernathy  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
1201 Eye St. NW, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: National Register Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to enclose the following five nominations, all on disc, to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register:

- Denton Homestead, East Rockaway, Nassau County
- Woodlawn Cemetery, Canandaigua, Ontario County
- Wayne and Waldorf Apartments, Buffalo, Erie County
- Valhalla Highlands, Cold Spring Vicinity, Putnam County
- Central Avenue Historic District, Lancaster, Erie County

Please feel free to call me at 518.237.8643 x 3261 if you have any questions.

Sincerely:

Kathleen LaFrank  
National Register Coordinator  
New York State Historic Preservation Office