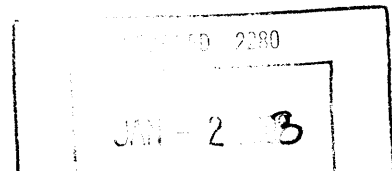


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box. By entering the information requested. 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 entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name OAK HILL CEMETERY

other names/site number FMSF #8PO4110

2. Location

street & number _____ N/A not for publication

city or town Bartow N/A vicinity

state Florida code FL county Polk code 105 zip code 33830

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 nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Barbara C. Mattick, DSHPO 12/23/02
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Bureau of Historic Preservation, Division of Historic Resources
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain) _____

Edson R. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

2/12/03
Date of Action

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)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include any previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	total

Name of related multiple property listings

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

"Architectural Resources of Bartow, Florida"

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY: cemetery

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY: cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

No Style

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____
walls _____
roof _____
other MARBLE _____
GRANITE _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

ART

Period of Significance

1860-1952

Significant Dates

1860

1885

Significant Person

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 36) 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

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State Agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other

Name of Repository

#

Oak Hill Cemetery
Name of Property

Polk Co., FL
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approx. 2 acres

UTM References

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 7	4 1 6 5 4 0	3 0 8 5 5 0 0
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2			

3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Johnston, Sidney/Odell Robinson/Robert O. Jones, Historic Sites Specialist

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date December 2002

street & number 500 S. Bronough Street telephone 850-245-6333

city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-0250

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

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.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

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

name City of Bartow

street & number 450 Wilson Street telephone 863-534-0100

city or town Bartow state Florida zip code 33830

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 amend 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. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 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 Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

SUMMARY

Oak Hill Cemetery is located in the 300 block of West Parker Street several blocks southwest of downtown Bartow, Polk County, Florida. Measuring approximately two acres, the cemetery contains five hundred ten grave markers. Of those, four hundred thirty-three, or eighty-five percent, are for historic burials and date before 1953. There are seventy-seven non-historic markers. In addition, the cemetery contains three unmarked and unidentified burials. Formally platted in 1885, the cemetery has a rectangular plan with a rough-face cast block privacy wall that extends across the front, or north, elevation, and along the east elevation. An asymmetrical system of grass paths wind through the cemetery. The blocks are divided into an irregular plan of rectangular lots that range in number between four and sixty. The graves have an east/west orientation. Various types of commercially manufactured grave markers mark the graves, including table-stone, columns, obelisks, cradles, ledgers, and vaults. Ranging in size from several inches to fifteen feet in height, the markers are of a variety of materials, including cast iron, concrete, granite, marble, and zinc, also known as white bronze. The historic markers are largely products of the industrial age, when mortuaries and monument companies hired artists to prepare images that became standardized forms available on a variety of markers. The site retains its historic circulation pattern, design, scale, setting, planting, and integrity to a high degree. It contributes to the sense of time, place, and historical development of Bartow through its location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The historic grave markers united by their planned setting, illustrate a continuity of physical development, and provides an important architectural and cultural link to the heritage of Bartow.

SETTING

Polk County lies in south central Florida with Bartow serving as the county seat of government. The population of the county is 483,924, and Bartow is the third largest municipality with 15,340 residents. Located forty miles east of Tampa and sixty miles southwest of Orlando, Bartow is in the heart of Florida's citrus and phosphate industries. The headwaters of the Peace River run to the east of the city, and Bartow's primary thoroughfares include State Road 60 and U. S. Highway 17/98. Primary streets through the historic downtown include Main Street (east/west) and Broadway Avenue (north/south). Bartow historically served as a rail center for the Atlantic Coast Line and Seaboard Air Line companies, but most of the tracks have been dismantled in the city. A historic building survey conducted in 1991 identified 551 buildings in Bartow.

Oak Hill Cemetery is south of the intersection of West Parker Street and Dudley Avenue, occupying approximately two acres. Main Street lies two blocks to the north, and Broadway Avenue is four blocks to the east. Bartow's Downtown Historic District (NR 1992) is five blocks to the northeast, and the western edge of the South Bartow Historic District (NR 1992) lies two blocks east.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 2 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

On the north, main access side of the cemetery, along West Parker Street, is an undeveloped half-acre parcel historically associated with the site, but never developed. Farther north, across Parker Street, is an industrial site operated by Florida Rock Industries, Incorporated. Several small homes stand along Dudley Avenue northwest of the cemetery. Residential neighborhoods with relatively small, one-story modern homes occupy property to the west and south of the cemetery. To the east, having a northwest-to-southeast alignment, lies a former railroad grade. Undeveloped property lies farther east between the abandoned railroad grade and Mill Avenue.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The layout of the cemetery is based on a rectangular plan measuring 188 feet by 415 feet with the length running north/south. Within the regular overall plan, the cemetery has an irregular plan of walkways and blocks. Radiating throughout the cemetery through a series of dog-leg turns and jogs, six-foot wide grass paths provide access from the north entrance to the sides, and to the rear/south elevation. The cemetery contains twenty-seven blocks, each varying in its number of lots for a total of one thousand ninety-five burying spaces. The blocks range from as few as four lots to as many as sixty lots. Fairly regular in size and arrangement, the average size of a lot is five-and-one-half feet wide by nine feet long. Despite some irregularities, the block, lot, and walkway systems are predicated on a traditional orthogonal design. There are various types of vegetation, including azaleas, crepe myrtles, ligustrum, and sago palms, and oak, red cedar, magnolia, and sabal palm trees. Mature cedar and oak trees are planted in linear patterns.

Oak Hill Cemetery is protected on the north and east by a four-foot high wall comprised of rough-face cast blocks with gable-cap cement coping (Photo #1). To help anchor the walls, square columns assembled with cast blocks and hip caps stand at the entrance, each corner, and along the east elevation (Photo #2). Defined by sweeping curvilinear walls that terminate in square columns with hip caps, the entrance to the cemetery is centrally located on the north elevation. Historically, only the north and east elevations of the site were protected by masonry walls, which obscured the cemetery from view in older neighborhoods that lie farther east. The south and west boundaries are defined by chain link fences.

Markers in the cemetery are of various ages, sizes, materials, and architectural influences. The vast majority are relatively small, commercially fabricated headstones comprised of granite. Common, but fewer in number are markers executed of marble, and a few examples of cast zinc markers. Several large marble monuments rise between twelve and fifteen feet in height. Headstones and tablets on bases represent the largest number of marker types. A few small cradles and several vaults, are fabricated with brick, granite, or marble. Art Deco, Classical Revival, and Egyptian Revival design influences appear on some markers.

The earliest known grave (1860) belongs to William Owen Parker. Twelve markers date from the 1860s. One hundred thirty-seven markers date to the nineteenth century with the most active period of burials and marker

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 3 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

installation (fifty-six) occurring during the decade of the 1880s. Burials gradually decreased during the twentieth century, falling from fifty-four in the opening decade to thirty-four during the 1940s. The non-historic resources include two simple markers dated 1859 and 1860, which were originally located twelve miles east of Tampa in Hillsborough County. The markers were relocated to Oak Hill in the 1960s, but the remains were not re-interred. As depicted on the inventory of resources, multiple grave markers on some lots indicate an intriguing burial pattern. Variations of double burials reflect interments of infants and children; a parent and child; sisters; husband and wife; and several decades separating the burials of family members.

The grave markers in Oak Hill Cemetery have a broad range of materials and designs, typical of Florida's rural frontier environment and the industrial age. Representative of these eras are carved marble, granite, zinc (white bronze), and concrete markers. Columns, obelisks, and an unusual Woodmen of the World marker stand in the cemetery, evidence of the work of monument and mortuary companies and foundries. Condolences, devotion, faith, grief, and hope are expressed in commonly understood symbols and themes, including cherubs, clasped hands, crosses, death's head, flowers, lambs, urns, and willow trees.

Specific Markers

There are several commercially manufactured columns inspired by Roman classical influences. Other classical themes are portrayed by the use of columns, laurel wreaths, and urns. Executed in marble, the Parker family column stands twelve feet high (Photo #3). Manufactured in the 1890s, it rests on a series of rectangular bases that support a pedestal inscribed with the names of the deceased. The east/front side has a carved bouquet of flowers. A column rises from the pedestal, and is embellished with a scroll inscribed with the word husband. The crown of the column is draped with a tasseled cloak, a popular theme of Confederate monuments of the late-nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries symbolic of the weary soldier and traveler at rest. The base is inscribed with the name J. S. Clarke & Co. of Louisville, Kentucky, the monument manufacturer or distributor.

The J. O'Connell Blount family memorial column stands near the front of the cemetery (Photo #4). Fabricated with marble in the 1890s, it rises ten feet with a stepped base, square shaft with beveled corners, crown capital, and urn cap. The signature of "F. C. Brown, St. Augustine" is carved near the base. An examination of 1890s issues of the *Bartow Polk County News* revealed Brown's advertisements, conducting business as St. Augustine Marble and Stone Works, which specialized in marble and granite headstones and monuments, concrete vases, curbing, and wire fences.

Obelisks are a prevalent form of Egyptian funerary art in the nation's cemeteries. A small example of an obelisk marks the grave of Readding Blount (Photo #5). Rising five feet, the marble object has a pointed top, tapered shaft with beveled corners, and a square base. A larger obelisk stands in the Nathan S. Blount family plot (Photo #6). Standing approximately ten feet high, the monument has a pointed top, tapered segmental shaft with alternating beveled and squared corners, face plates with pointed arches, and a square base.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 4 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

A Woodmen of the World marker, near the southwest corner of the cemetery (Photo #7), identifies the grave of Louis J. Marquis, died 1903. The five-foot marker is fabricated with Vermont marble. At the crown is a facsimile of a section of a tree carved in high relief. Entwining branches embellish the face, on which is engraved an arch supported by columns, open gates along a fence, and the words "Woodmen of the World," and "Dun Tacet Clamat." The marker rests on a white marble base that is at the head of a concrete ledger slab. The Woodmen of the World was founded in 1890, by Joseph Cullen Root in Iowa, and became one of the nation's largest fraternal benefit societies in America. Notwithstanding its life-insurance associations, the organization is perhaps known best for its distinctive markers and monuments in America's cemeteries. The *Bartow Courier-Informant* indicated that Marquis' monument was a "facsimile of the one recommended and contemplated in the by-laws of the order."¹ The 1903 monument was one of the early Woodmen designs.

Several cradles and vaults contain the remains of infants. The infant son of the Snell family is buried in a vault fabricated with brick in 1889 (Photo #8). It has a gable roof and side walls with a small rectangular marble marker inset on the west face. To the north lies the cradle of another child, Lillian M. Snell. The marble object has a headstone, straight sidewalls, and an arched foot stone.

A large vault stone covers the grave of James William Boyd (Photo #9). Installed in 1919, the granite ledger slab bears a smooth, polished name plate, but rough-hewn and undulating characteristics elsewhere on its face and sides.

Typical of zinc, or white bronze markers is the Smith family marker (Photo #10). Rising four feet with a rectangular profile, the marker is trimmed with acanthus leaves, bar-and-tassel moldings, and rough-face cast surfaces that simulate stone. The name Smith is prominently displayed on the west elevation and the date of 1908 on the east face. Inset panels contain an anchor and the names of J. N. Smith's deceased wife, Mela Smith, and daughter Shiela E. Smith.

Cast in a classical theme, the Summerlin marker is also fabricated with white bronze (Photo #11). It has a pair of heavy arched moldings supported by Corinthian columns that bracket a central statuary niche. A wheat sheath adorns the nameplate of Kate Summerlin, and the Masonic symbol stands over S. Summerlin. The marker's base has simulated rough-hewn stone; a brick foundation supports the marker.

Typical of large marble tablet-on-base markers are those in the Stuart family plot (Photo #12). The markers rest on horizontal bases and rise four feet above grade. In addition to the epitaphs, names and dates of the deceased, floral designs adorn the uppermost panels.

¹Bartow *Courier-Informant*, 21 January 1903; Hetherington, *Polk County*, 31; *New York Times*, 26 December 1913.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 5 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

In contrast to relatively elaborate thematic markers are simple headstones from the 1860s memorials, such as the markers for Elizabeth Blount (1861), first wife of Readding Blount (Photo #5); Aaron Blount (1863) (Photo #13); Elizabeth Blount (1866), the second wife of Readding Blount (Photo #14); and Frederick and Sarah Varn (1867) (Photo #15).

Several markers have various common nineteenth-century motifs associated with devotion, grief, and heaven. Installed in 1886, the Abi Blount headstone is fabricated with marble and has a weeping willow tree, an expression of sorrow (Photo #16). Clasped hands reflect devotion that extends beyond the grave on the 1890 marker of Mrs. W. F. Britt (Photo #17). A broken ring in the chain of life removed by the hand of heaven is symbolized in the Edward Webster marker of 1885 (Photo #18). A small white bronze marker cast in 1880, the Jennie Zipperer marker displays a lamb, a Christian theme often associated with children and the Messiah (Photo #19). Also having a Christian theme of hope and resurrection, the granite marker of A. V. Mann (1869) has a rising sun and open Bible (Photo #20). A crown, Bible, and gates in a classical surround motif adorn the 1903 stone of William H. Pearce, who formally platted the cemetery in 1885 (Photo #21). Julia Carpenter's marker (1868) is draped by a tasseled cloak and a tulip with a broken stem, symbols suggestive of life cut short, but eternal rest (Photo #22).

Funerary art extends to botanical themes, which include pine cones embossed on the 1889 marker of Georgia Boyd (Photo #23); floral designs on the Stuart markers (Photo #12); trunk-and-branches on the Marquis marker (Photo #7); and Art-Deco derived geometric floral designs on the Hooker marker (Photo #24).

Themes in Confederate and southern history are portrayed through a "Southern Cross of Honor" etched on the 1920 Evander McIver Law marker (Photo #25). This is a good example of a large granite table stone. Also based on the design of the Southern Cross of Honor are forty-two cast-iron markers shaped as Maltese crosses at the graves of Confederate veterans. They have a symmetrical profile and measure approximately fifteen inches square. Symbols and words cast on the markers include "CSA" with a Confederate battle flag contained in a wreath on one side, and "1861-1865" and "deo vindice" within a wreath on the reverse (Photos #26&27). A metal post anchors the markers in concrete mounts.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 6

**OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Oak Hill Historic Burial Inventory by Name

Name	Block	Lot
Armistead, J. A. A.	15	20
Armistead, J. A. A. (CSA marker)	15	20
Armistead, J. W. Daniel	15	28
Armistead, Ola	15	27
Armstrong, M. G.	11	9
Armstrong, W. E.	11	10
Barkwill, R. H.	4	8
Bishop, John	20	7
Bivins, Daniel Baxter	19	3
Bivins, Daniel Baxter (CSA marker)	19	3
Bivins, Eugenia J.	19	2
Bivins, Howard Read	19	4
Bivins, John Shepherd	20	2
Blount, Aaron K.	5	56
Blount, Abi	5	26
Blount, B. F.	9	34
Blount, B. F. (CSA marker)	9	34
Blount, Bertha	10	32
Blount, Charlie	10	34
Blount, Dexter	5	31
Blount, E. B.	10	16
Blount, Elijah	10	15
Blount, Elizabeth	9	33
Blount, Elizabeth	9	31
Blount, Eula Anna	5	34
Blount, Frances M.	15	15
Blount, Hendry B.	10	31
Blount, J. O'C.	6	3
Blount, J. O'C. family monument	6	3
Blount, Jane	5	18
Blount, John Churchill	4	36
Blount, L. O.	9	35
Blount, Lydia Elizabeth	5	33
Blount, Martha A. C.	5	25

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 7

**OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Blount, Nathan S.	5	25
Blount, Nathan S. Maj.	5	24
Blount, Readding	9	32
Blount, Readding family monument	9	31
Blount, Riley R.	5	19
Blount, Riley R. (CSA marker)	5	19
Blount, Rubie	6	4
Blount, Rubie	6	2
Blount, S. E.	9	20
Blount, Wever	9	30
Bohde, Billie Booth	9	13
Booth, Elizabeth Parker	9	12
Booth, Strother	9	14
Bostwick, James Farohand	1	25
Boswell, Clarence A.	7	7
Boswell, Louis Tiffany	7	6
Boyd, Anna Elizabeth R.	16	1
Boyd, Georgia Jewel	16	2
Boyd, James William	16	3
Boyd, James William (CSA marker)	16	3
Boyd family monument	16	3
Boynton, Lennard O.	26	29
Boynton, Lennard O. Jr.	26	28
Britt, W. F.	1	21
Brook, Edward George	26	15
Brown, Fannie T.	3	38
Brown, Martha Olivia L.	3	45
Brown, Maude L.	5	21
Brown, Slygh Wheeler	23	2
Brown, William R. Maj.	3	44
Brown family monument	3	44
Brown, W. R. Maj. (CSA marker)	3	44
Burrows, Ruby Lee	5	20
Carpenter, Edward Lee	21	10
Carpenter, Hattie Blanche	21	17
Carpenter, Hattie Blanche	21	15
Carpenter, Jasper S.	21	22
Carpenter, Julia A.	21	16

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 8

**OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Carpenter, Julian Armour	21	6
Carpenter, Mary Ann	22	7
Carpenter, Thomas Pasco	21	17
Carpenter, William Thomas	21	18
Carpenter, William T.	21	12
Carpenter, William T. family mon.	21	12
Chase, Gamaliel	19	20
Cheatham, Deloga Page	9	21
Clement, A. E.	1	29
Clement, Cornelia N.	1	30
Clement, John W. M.D.	1	31
Clement, J. W. M.D. (CSA marker)	1	31
Crossland, W. A.	6	19
Crossland, W. A. (CSA marker)	6	19
Dalton, Ollie May	4	19
Davidson, Eva	5	42
Davidson, John	9	26
Day, Elizabeth Watson	3	28
Day, H. N.	3	27
DeSaussure, Ida B.	20	1
Dudley, Christopher W.	6	57
Dudley, Ellen Jane	6	59
Dudley, Evelyn Trena	6	52
Dudley, Guilford Lord	6	59
Dudley, Infant	6	56
Dudley, Pauline Pelot	6	50
Dudley, Robert L.	6	54
Dudley, Stuart	6	58
Dunlap, E. O.	1	10
Dunlap, Henrietta	1	14
Dunlap, J. Z.	1	11
Dunlap, S. J. C. Col.	1	15
Dunlap, S. J. C. Col. (CSA marker)	1	15
Enwright, Georgia Marquis	22	49
Fagler, A. M.	2	39
Ferguson, A. B.	2	30
Ferguson, D. C. Dr.	2	25
Ferguson, D. C. Dr. (CSA marker)	2	25

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 9

**OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Ferguson, Emma. H	2	32
Ferguson, Lila Crosland	2	29
Ferguson, Melissa B.	2	25
Ferguson, William T.	2	31
Ferrell, Asberine	15	40
Ferrell, Ellen A.	15	41
Ferrell, Infant	15	42
Ferrell, Jasper C.	15	33
Ferrell, William P.	15	39
Ferrell, William P. (CSA marker)	15	39
Fewell, Edward Gidden	14	2
Flowers, B. J.	23	6
Flowers, B. J. (CSA marker)	23	6
Flowers, Martha S.	23	5
Fulwood, Mary Stanley	22	9
Garrard, Hettie Lorie	6	36
Garrard, J. A. Jr.	6	42
Garrard, J. A. M.D.	6	35
Garrett, Lula Zipper	22	41
Goode, T. Allie	3	56
Granger, Joseph F.	17	10
Granger, Joseph F. (CSA marker)	17	10
Granger, Rebecca A.	17	9
Gresham, Christopher C.	6	18
Gresham, Christopher (CSA marker)	6	18
Gresham, Nancy C.	6	17
Griffin, Daisy	20	35
Griffin, Elizabeth	15	47
Griffin, Georgia Anna	15	56
Griffin, James Harrison	15	56
Griffin, Warren	20	34
Griffin, Zipperer	20	36
Haddock, Blanche Blount	9	19
Hadenfore, J.	15	38
Hair, Samuel C.	2	1
Hayman, Diane McNair	4	48
Hayman, Edgar L.	4	42
Hayman, J. M. Rev.	4	46

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 10

**OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Hayman, James	4	42
Hayman, M. J.	4	45
Hayman, Susan R.	5	43
Hayman, William C.	4	47
Hicks, Infant	12	16
Hood, F. J.	7	11
Hood, Martha McCaughrin	7	11
Hood, William	7	12
Hood, William (CSA marker)	7	12
Hooker, James N. III	22	24
Hooker, James Newton	22	23
Hooker, Rosa Carpenter	22	23
Hughes, Bertha	15	3
Hughes, David	1	1
Hughes, David (CSA marker)	1	1
Hughes, Robin	15	5
Hughes, Thomas Jr.	15	4
Hughes, Thomas Wilson	15	4
Hull, Mary Bell	4	21
Humphries, Emma C. Blount	10	27
Humphries, Joseph H.	10	28
Humphries, Marvin Blount	10	26
Hyman, John Patton Jr.	19	9
Johnson, Lassie Munsey	3	13
Johnson, Laura F.	3	19
Johnson, Luther C.	3	13
Johnson, Sarah A.	3	20
Johnson, William Hampton	3	14
Johnson, William H. (CSA marker)	3	14
Johnston, Medora Small	18	18
Johnston, Philip B.	18	17
Johnston, W. B.	18	17
Jordan, Charles Lee	20	47
Jordan, Emory M.	20	46
Jordan, Frances C. L.	6	5
Jordan, L. Mitchell	20	42
Jordan, Susan E.	23	43
Jordan, W. C.	20	48

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 11

**OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Jordan, W. C. Rev.	23	43
Jordan, W. C. Rev. (CSA marker)	23	43
Kemp, Daniel A.	20	12
Kemp, Daniel A. (CSA marker)	20	12
Kemp, Lee B.	20	18
Kemp, UNKNOWN	20	12
Kilpatrick, Robert T.	20	8
Kilpatrick, Robert T. (CSA marker)	20	8
King, Alfred	2	8
King, Charity C.	2	7
King, Infant	2	4
King, Infant	2	4
King, John D.	2	7
Lamar, Margaret Johnson	2	16
Lamaroux, Emma E. Rogers	10	24
Lamaroux, Fred B.	10	23
Lamaroux, Jules	10	25
Lamaroux, Kate	15	29
Lamaroux, Ouida	10	30
Lamaroux, Stella	10	24
Lanier, A. J.	18	12
Lanier, H. M.	18	12
Lanier, Oakley Spencer	22	25
Law, E. M. Maj. Gen.	18	14
Law, E. M. Maj. Gen. (CSA marker)	18	14
Law, E. McIvor	18	16
Law, Jane E.	18	13
Law, Robert Latta	18	13
Law, William Latta	21	43
Legler, Fredericka	1	2
Leonard, A. H.	2	6
Leonard, Mary E.	2	5
Lewis, Asa James	3	36
Lewis, Infant	3	33
Lewis, Infant	3	32
Lewis, Isabelle E.	6	32
Lewis, Isabelle V.	3	34
Lewis, Ivah Epperson	6	31

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 12

**OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Lewis, Lillian Ada	6	60
Lewis, Myrtle	6	32
Lewis, T. Mourice	7	31
Logan, Harrie P.	2	40
Lybass, Sarah E. Mann	25	2
Lybass, Thomas Mountain	25	1
Lytle, Jessie C.	13	30
Lytle, Maude	13	36
Lytle, Stella	13	42
Lytle, Zeb	13	36
Mann, A. V. Dr.	18	6
Mann, A. V. Dr. (CSA marker)	18	6
Mann, Americus Tappin	25	16
Mann, Blanche	25	15
Mann, George W.	26	14
Mann, Georgia E.	18	6
Mann, Jas. A.	24	26
Mann, John L.	25	14
Mann, Joseph A.	18	5
Mann, Lucille	25	18
Mann, Margaret E.	18	5
Mann, Thyrsa	25	18
Mann, UNKNOWN	21	14
Mann, Virginia Varn	24	25
Marquis, Emma Melisse	22	43
Marquis, Louis J.	21	58
Marquis, Thomas Littleton	22	55
McBride, Claud Lee	4	26
McBride, Infant	4	20
McBride, Robert	23	47
McCall, Naomi	9	16
McKinney, Thomas L.	4	44
McKinney, Thomas (CSA marker)	4	44
Mendenhall, Clara S	15	2
Mills, C. R.	21	56
Mills, Flora	21	56
Minshall, Cyrus B.	12	5
Minshall, Elizabeth B.	12	3

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 13

**OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Minshall, Hattie C.	12	10
Minshall, J. Wesley	12	12
Minshall, Lucy A.	12	5
Minshall, Robert Wesley	12	11
Minshall, Wilber F.	12	4
Mitchell, Charles Lucian	1	19
Mitchell, Charles L. (CSA marker)	1	19
Mitchell, Jennie Perry	4	25
Moore, Elizabeth D.	2	9
Mull, May	6	46
Mull, Samuel P.	6	47
Niblack, Ashley Z.	22	38
Niblack, Louisa	22	45
Niblack, Mary Frances	22	39
Niblack, Silas S.	22	40
Oeland, A. Vernon	10	37
Oeland, Benjamin J.	10	38
Oeland, Dollie Blount	4	23
Oppenheimer, Eugene	1	5
Page, Beersheba	9	22
Page, Bulah Olean	5	41
Page, Elizabeth Jane	9	28
Page family monument	9	22-23
Page, John Davidson	5	41
Page, Pearl	9	27
Page, Solomon H.	9	29
Page, Solomon H. (CSA marker)	9	29
Page, Solomon Lee	9	23
Palmer, Clayton A.	15	26
Palmer, O. Lucile	15	26
Parker, Howell A.	7	18
Parker, Howell A. (CSA marker)	7	18
Parker, John M.	9	7
Parker, Lulitia L. Sharpe	5	21
Parker, Mary E.	9	6
Parker, Mary Eve	9	12
Parker, Mary G. Verdier	7	17
Parker, Robert Lee	5	13

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 14

**OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Parker, Streaty	5	14
Parker, Streaty family monument	5	14
Parker, Streaty (CSA marker)	5	14
Parker, William Owen	9	11
Pearce, Adine	22	32
Pearce, Infant	21	35
Pearce, Susan Jane	21	29
Pearce, Thomas C.	8	5
Pearce, Thomas C. (CSA marker)	8	5
Pearce, William Orton Jr.	21	36
Pearce, William Orton Sr.	22	31
Pearce, William H.	21	28
Pearce, William H. (CSA marker)	21	28
Prince, Dora	15	36
Read, J. W.	19	1
Read, J. W. (CSA marker)	19	1
Roux, Charles Albert	15	17
Skipper, Infant	5	23
Skipper, Infant	5	23
Skipper, Martha E.	5	24
Small, Lula Johnson	2	11
Smith, J. Newton M.D.	4	11
Smith, John N. M.D. (CSA marker)	4	11
Smith, Marvin H.	15	50
Smith, Mela M.	4	13
Smith, Shiela E.	4	12
Smith family monument	4	12
Snedigar, Frances D.	7	20
Snedigar, Gloria	12	13
Snedigar, James M.	7	20
Snell, Infant	5	4
Snell, Lillian M.	5	3
Stafford, William C.	6	10
Stanford, Daniel Dr.	1	18
Stanford, Daniel Dr. (CSA marker)	1	18
Stanley, D. W.	22	10
Stanley, D. W. family monument	22	10
Stanley, Danial	22	15

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 15

**OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Stanley, Earl McCarly	21	8
Stanley, Hattie L.	21	9
Stanley, Raymond	22	15
Stanley, Sallie J. C.	22	11
Steadman, Henrietta A.	15	23
Steadman, William A.	15	24
Steadman, William A. (CSA marker)	15	24
Steele, James Henry	22	34
Steele, Maude Hooker	22	33
Stienmeyer, Floy Lamaroux	15	22
Stone, Hubert Griffith	2	22
Stuart, Ann Eliza.	3	24
Stuart, Edward Crosland	3	18
Stuart, Edward Crosland	3	16
Stuart, James Kolb	3	23
Stuart, John C.	3	24
Stuart, John C. (CSA marker)	3	24
Stuart, Laura E.	3	22
Stuart, Margaret E. Hood	3	17
Stuart, Margaret Eliza	6	13
Summerlin, Agnes D.	15	53
Summerlin, Dexter	15	53
Summerlin, Frances	14	12
Summerlin, George	14	11
Summerlin, Jacob	14	13
Summerlin family monument	14	13
Summerlin, Jacob (CSA marker)	14	13
Summerlin, Jacob	14	6
Summerlin, Jasper	15	45
Summerlin, Jennie Griffin	15	46
Summerlin, Kate	15	9
Summerlin, Lela A.	15	48
Summerlin, Mabel	15	55
Summerlin, Margaret W.	21	37
Summerlin, Mary Ann	14	4
Summerlin, Robert	15	54
Summerlin, S.	15	8
Thomas, Daniel R.	6	29

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 16

**OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Thurston, Bert R.	8	7
Tiller, Thomas E.	4	33
Trask, Dollie	18	8
Trask, Dollie	18	8
Trask, Georgia E.	21	13
Trask, Georgia Ellen	18	8
Trask, Georgia Eunice M.	18	8
Trask, Infant	18	8
Trask, Infant	18	8
Trask, Jane	18	8
Trask, Janie	18	8
Trask, Jennie E. Griffin	21	25
Trask, UNKNOWN	21	20
Trask, William A.	21	25
Trask, William Robert	18	8
Tyler, J. H.	7	10
UNKNOWN	10	17
UNKNOWN	7	8
UNKNOWN	7	1
Varn, Ellen S.	24	44
Varn, Frederick	9	37
Varn, Jefferson	1	28
Varn, Jefferson Torrey	1	32
Varn, Josiah	24	39
Varn, Louise W.	24	46
Varn, Melba Bryan	24	38
Varn, Monroe L.	24	43
Varn, Sarah Hires	9	36
Varn, Walter L.	24	48
Varn, William A.	24	38
Varn, William B.	24	45
Varn, William B. (CSA marker)	24	45
Varn family monument	24	45
Varn, William Edward	1	32
Verdier, J. H. Dr.	7	16
Verdier, J. H. Dr. (CSA marker)	7	16
Walker, Myra Hooker	22	21
Walker, William Flowers	22	22

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 17

**OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Watkins, Irene	6	20
Watkins, John W. Captain	6	21
Watkins, John W. (CSA marker)	6	21
Webster, Edward	2	28
Webster, Edward (CSA marker)	2	28
Willis, Nellie Mae	2	19
Wilson, William Hampton	2	15
Winthrop, Annie Law	21	50
Winthrop, Francis Parker	21	49
Woodfin, Henry Clay	13	37
Woodfin, Henry Clay (CSA marker)	13	37
Wright, Lillian Forsyth	2	27
Zipperer, Aaron Gideon	22	42
Zipperer, Aaron (CSA marker)	22	42
Zipperer, Ann E. Carpenter	22	41
Zipprer, Gideon Barnett	22	47
Zipprer, Jennie S.	21	18
Zipprer, Laura B.	21	17

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 1 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

SUMMARY

Oak Hill Cemetery is nominated to the National Register under Criteria A and C at the local level in the areas of Community Planning and Development, and Art. Under Criterion Consideration D, the cemetery derives its primary significance for its association with the development of the community, and for the distinctive design features of the memorial markers. The cemetery was informally begun in 1860 as a burying ground on public lands adjacent to the plantation of Readding Blount, and several blocks to the southwest of what is now downtown Bartow. The cemetery came into private ownership in 1880 and was formally platted in 1885. Transitions in ownership and maintenance from an informal burying ground (1860-1880), to a private business (1880-1894), to a board of trustees (1894-1960), and finally municipal possession illustrates an unusual historical pattern in the development of an early Florida cemetery. A large number of veterans of the Confederate army are individually interred, and have been the subject of public commemoration ceremonies. The cemetery contains an outstanding cross-section of funerary art from the 1860s until today. Constructed of marble, granite, white bronze, and concrete, the monuments reflect various artistic styles and cultural beliefs. Commercially manufactured monuments from Louisville, Kentucky; St. Augustine, Florida; the Monumental Bronze Company of Bridgeport, Connecticut; and a Woodmen of the World monument carved by the Bartow Monument Works, are present. The Oak Hill Cemetery is nominated under the Architectural Resources of Bartow, Florida Multiple Property Submission, under all of the historic contexts, and the F.5 property type.

CONTEXT

Among America's most enduring landscape features are cemeteries that are associated with religious rites and burial patterns derived from Christian and Jewish customs. Relatively resistant to change, some cemeteries have yielded to neglect, intentional destruction, and relocation. Still, they evoke a fascination as sacred grounds that contain the remains of our ancestors, and reminders of our frailty and life's ultimate mysteries. Cemeteries display various cultural influences in the design of memorial markers, landscape arrangements, and individual plantings. Etymological forms of the word cemetery, such as churchyards, burying-grounds, and graveyards, yielded to the designation cemetery in the 1830s. Americans embraced the word, in part, to soften the association of the place with death, and, in part, in recognition of the religious belief in resurrection. A revision in religious doctrines, romantic affections for nature, and commercial growth prompted citizens, churches, and municipal governments to develop alternatives to older, overcrowded, and, often, unhealthy burying grounds. During the interval, garden or rural cemeteries were developed by professional landscape architects in tandem with the public parks movement. Refinements often included broad walkways, elaborate entrances, lawns, and

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 2 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

gardens, and even extended to their names, such as Greenwood, Laurel Hill, and Spring Grove. Established in 1831, Mount Auburn in Boston heralded the age of new rural cemetery designs.¹

Industrialization, increasing wealth of America's middle class, and the professionalization of undertakers and cemetery superintendents prompted the creation of the lawn-park cemetery, which began to replace the garden or rural cemetery in the late nineteenth century. Organized in 1887, the Association of American Cemetery Superintendents began to direct the stylistic influences of cemeteries. Superintendents often blamed the "personal selfishness and bad taste" of the public for the "disorder" of older cemeteries, and advocated organizing cemeteries more as a business enterprise and less for rest and recreation. They placed emphasis on providing for the care of lawns and a unified landscape uncluttered by irregular markers, iron fences, and cement or stone coping outlining family plots. The lawn cemetery of the early twentieth century emerged from this marriage of aesthetic ideals and the pursuit of efficiency.²

Undertaking became a profession in the 1850s, and began to free families from their reliance on the community and made "funeral preparation and ritual a matter of cash rather than custom." Undertakers arranged for a grave to be dug, purchased central funeral wreaths, assembled or purchased a casket, ordered or cut the headstone, and some times supplied food for a wake. Some undertakers began their careers as monument manufacturers and later learned the skills of undertaking.³

The most tangible vestiges of cemeteries are its headstones and memorial markers. Early headstones and markers consisted of a variety of materials, including metal, stone, and wood. Expensive and elaborate markers in Florida were usually fabricated in marble and brought into the area. Poorer families, and that included most, relied on wood markers. Durable stone markers were placed at a later date when they became more available. In the mid-nineteenth century, middle-class Americans increasingly turned to large memorials to recognize family members on one marker, a luxury previously available only to the wealthy. The use of the more durable, but more difficult to work, granite, began in the 1890s, and gained broad use in the early twentieth-century. A new trade emerged that used various metals, including aluminum, bronze, iron, and zinc. The Monumental Bronze Company of Bridgeport, Connecticut, manufactured the vast majority of the zinc monuments and grave markers in America's cemeteries. The company employed the term white bronze to help popularize its products, which it sold between the 1870s and the 1930s. Typically displaying a bluish-gray color, these markers were fabricated with hollow cores and pure zinc skins coated with a film that helped oxidize the

¹James Farrell, *Inventing the American Way of Death, 1830-1920* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1980), 101-102, 111; Richard Meyer, ed., *Cemeteries and Gravemarkers: Voices of American Culture* (Ann Arbor and London: UMI Research Press, 1989), 107-108.

²Farrell, *Inventing the American Way of Death*, 119-120.

³Martha Pike and Janice Armstrong, *A Time to Mourn: Expression of Grief in Nineteenth Century America* (New York: Museums at Stoney Brook, 1980), 116.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 3 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

surface. The coating changed the color of the metal from white to blue, and helped protect the metal from deterioration.⁴

Popular journalism and a public interest in honoring fallen political and military leaders helped make funerary memorial objects derived from architectural antiquity studies fashionable in the nineteenth century. In 1881, the *American Architect and Building News* contrasted two of the most popular memorial forms--columns and obelisks. An arbiter of taste and style, T. H. Bartlett associated classical columns with great significance, which struck a close relationship between human sentiment and modern monumental art. Classical columns offered designers a product with good presence, height, and stability using simple construction techniques. Early examples from the 1860s include civic memorials marking the graves of Henry Clay and Stephen A. Douglas. Their popularity soared in the post-Civil War era, and the majority of columns in America's cemeteries were manufactured between 1870 and 1900. By contrast, the first obelisk used as a monument in America was installed on the estate of the French consulate in 1792. Derived from Egyptian influences, obelisks possessed an austere purity and solid lines, characteristics that made the objects popular with designers. Some critics believed obelisks were "the easiest and cheapest for grave-yard purposes, a convenient excuse for want of thought and an accepted apology for ignorance." Still, the obelisk possessed appeal for its universal interest, peculiar in its origin and purpose. Like classical columns, obelisks were easily adapted to small solid shafts to large hollow structures, such as the Washington Monument. Installed in 1833, the Thomas Jefferson obelisk at Monticello was among the earliest and best known examples of the burial monument type in America. Dedicated in 1874, the grave of Abraham Lincoln was topped with a large obelisk. Elevated on a square base, the obelisk was a monument type installed in America's cemeteries with great frequency during the nineteenth century. Both types of markers could memorialize many members of the same family.⁵

Most of America's oldest cemeteries are along the eastern Seaboard. Some of Florida's oldest burying grounds are in Key West, Pensacola, and St. Augustine, dating from the second Spanish period. Municipal governments in some of Florida's oldest cities have maintained public graveyards for over one hundred seventy years, testimony to a sacred obligation and social responsibility. In some cases, private cemeteries developed into public burying grounds, such as Jacksonville's Old City Cemetery, which began as Willey's Cemetery. Florida's Territorial Council established Tallahassee's Old City Cemetery in 1829, and then turned it over to the city government several years later. In some smaller communities, cemeteries were operated privately until the owner sold the site to an association or the local municipal government. In some cases, poor burial practices and lack of maintenance prompted changes in ownership and management. In rural regions, family graveyards

⁴Pike and Armstrong, *A Time to Mourn*, 116; Meyer, *Cemeteries and Gravemarkers*, 263-288.

⁵Peggy McDowell and Richard E. Meyer, *The Revival Styles in American Memorial Art* (Bowling Green: Bowling Green State University Popular Press, 1994), 72-74, 135-139.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 4 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

became integral parts of farms, plantations, and settlements. Rural churches often dedicated burying grounds adjacent to the sanctuary.⁶

Florida's rural burying grounds often reflected extended family relationships, frontier kinship patterns, and the functions of a larger rural setting or community. Evolutionary in form, rural cemeteries are often defined by ornamental plantings, mounded or depressed burial sites with few markers, an east-west orientation of graves, and some have an absence of grass. These cemeteries are sometimes associated with churches. A number of southern rural cemeteries have been documented in most Florida counties. In its modern form, or those that continued into periods of greater populations, the rural cemetery often contains commercially-manufactured markers, family plot borders, fences or walls, and ornamental planting. These cemeteries mirrored kinship patterns and family ties. In Florida, Polk County lies near the southern tip of the area defined as the upland south cemetery culture by Richard Meyer.⁷

Oak Hill Cemetery contains the burials of several persons well known on the local, state, and national level. Jacob Summerlin was born in 1820 in Lake City, Florida, (Photo #28). His father, also named Jacob Summerlin, was a prominent planter in northeast Florida, served in Florida's Legislative Council in 1843 and 1845. Young Summerlin moved to the area that became Bartow in the 1830s, and fought in the Second Seminole War. Using Bartow as his center of operations he then acquired lands that extended to Hillsborough County, and started in the cattle business by leveraging his slaves for six thousand head of cattle. On the eve of the Civil War, he managed nearly one hundred thousand cows, and earned the title of "cattle king" of south Florida. He and his cowboys would drive herds across the state from Fernandina or St. Augustine, to Tampa, Fort Myers, or Punta Rassa.⁸ Summerlin served the Confederate Commissary Department as Chief Beef Quartermaster. He was the primary supplier of beef to the southern armies. His cowboys drove the cattle to Baldwin, where they were loaded onto rail cars and transported to Charleston.⁹

In 1873, Summerlin relocated to Orlando, and built the Summerlin Hotel, the first substantial hotel in the nascent town. In 1875, voters elected him alderman to the newly incorporated City of Orlando. His offer of ten thousand dollars to the Orange County's Board of County Commissioners to build a new courthouse in Orlando kept the county court in Orlando. He opened several subdivisions in Orlando, and a major north/south thoroughfare is named in his honor. In 1883, he gave the City of Orlando the downtown Lake Eola and a strip around the lake for a public park.¹⁰

⁶Sharyn Thompson, *Florida's Historic Cemeteries* (Tallahassee: Historic Tallahassee Preservation Board, 1989), 3-4, 20; Meyer, *Cemeteries and Gravemarkers*, 109, 113; Lucy Ames Edwards, "Stories in Stone," *Florida Historical Quarterly* 35 (October 1956), 127.

⁷Meyer, *Cemeteries and Gravemarkers*, 107-115.

⁸Blackman, *Orange County*, 37-39; Akerman, *Florida Cowman*, 40, 55.

⁹Akerman, *Florida Cowman*, 85-87.

¹⁰*Ibid.*, 40; Blackman, *Orange County*, 37-39, 90, 94, 97.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 5 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

In the 1870s, Summerlin bought and developed a major shipping port and cattle pens at Punta Rassa, the largest port in Florida for the shipment of cattle. He was one of Florida's richest men but lived like a poor man, giving to the poor and orphans, and was known as "King of Crackers," which pleased him. The *Savannah News* in 1879, stated that Summerlin shipped nearly ten thousand head of cattle out of Punta Rassa each year.¹¹

Summerlin established an educational center at Bartow in 1881, on land he had donated in the 1860s for educational purposes. It was known as the Summerlin Institute. About 1910, the Institute was merged into the county's public school system. Both of the original school buildings constructed while Summerlin was a trustee have been demolished.¹² Summerlin died in Orlando on 4 November 1893. He had resided in Orange County for two decades, but his body was interned at Bartow's Oak Hill Cemetery

Readding Blount (1791-1879) (Photo #5) was significant to the history of Bartow and Polk County. Acknowledged as one of Bartow's earliest settlers, Blount helped define the political climate of Polk County and insured that Bartow would serve as the seat of government.¹³ Blount migrated from Georgia into Florida during the second Spanish period, and fought with a Florida volunteer company during the Second Seminole War. He moved his family from Lake City in 1851 and resettled near the Peace River with his wife, Elizabeth, four children, son-in-law Streaty Parker, and about twelve slaves. Blount established a farmstead immediately west of the present site of downtown Bartow, and adjacent to what became Oak Hill Cemetery. Streaty Parker's son, William Owen Parker (Photo #28), and Blount's first wife, Elizabeth (Photo #5), were the earliest recorded burials at the cemetery. He served on the first Board of County Commissioners for Polk County, and voters returned him to political office for several additional terms. Blount suggested in 1861, the name of the former president James Knox Polk, for the newly organized Polk County. Blount opposed secession during the Civil War. His son Riley in 1853 built Fort Blount in what is now downtown as community protection against Indian raids.

A native of Darlington, South Carolina, Evander McIver Law (Photo #25) is best remembered as a Brigadier-General in the Confederate army during the Civil War, who organized an Alabama regiment, and commanded engagements in many of the major battles of the war, including Gettysburg.¹⁴ In 1881, he returned to education, serving as assistant superintendent and an instructor at King's Mountain Academy in South

¹¹Ibid., 108, 112.

¹²Hetherington, *Polk County*, 168-169.

¹³Brown, *Peace River*, 135, 138, 140, 143, 182, 197, 349, 354; Akerman, *Florida Cowman*, 49.

¹⁴Johnson, *Makers of America*, 3:78-81; Edwin Coddington, *The Gettysburg Campaign* (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1968), 387, 391-392, 402; Douglas Southall Freeman, *Lee's Lieutenants*, 3 vols., (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1944), 2: 64, 80, 120, 206-207, 345, 395, 485-490; 3: 361, 508, 513, 634, 751, 775, 778; Richard McMurry, *John Bell Hood and the War for Southern Independence* (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1982), 74-75, 85; "Gen. E. M. Law," *Confederate Veteran*, 28 (December 1920), 1; Laine and Morris, *Law's Alabama Brigade*; Laine and Morris, *Struggle for the Round Tops*.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 6 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Carolina,¹⁵ and in 1893, founded the South Florida Military Institute in Bartow. In 1903, he became editor of the *Bartow Courier-Informant*, until his retirement in 1915. As the ranking former Confederate general in Florida, Law served as the commander of the Florida Division of the United Confederate Veterans (UCV) between 1899 - 1903, and in 1910, the UCV convened its annual convention in Bartow. He helped organize the Francis S. Bartow Camp of the UCV. The Florida Division of the UCV established its by-laws during Law's administration. In 1914, Law was listed in *Who's Who in America*. Upon his death, the *New York Times* published Law's obituary, which substantiated Law's prominence. The *Confederate Veteran* eulogized Law, ruminating that he "reflected the dignity of character and loyalty to country and our free institutions which should ever be traits of the Confederate veteran as he passes away.... Our diminishing ranks have lost one of its distinguished soldiers."¹⁶

At Law's funeral on 2 November 1920, a public and military procession began at his residence on Broadway, and moved to Oak Hill, led by a drum and rifle team. Complete with taps and a gun salute, the military funeral included veterans of the War Between the States, the Spanish-American War, and the American Legion. Hundreds of mourners attended, and all of Polk County's businesses and schools were closed.¹⁷

A native of South Carolina, William Hood (Photo #29) was a college professor who served in the Confederate Army and was wounded and captured at Gettysburg. The South Carolina General Assembly elected him state treasurer, a post he held until between 1864 and 1868. He again taught schools, and in 1893, the Summerlin Institute in Bartow hired him as principal. He helped organize the Bartow Library Association, and was editor of the *Courier-Informant*, for which he contributed articles until his death in 1917.¹⁸

A native of Hillsborough County, Florida, James N. Hooker (Photo #24) was a businessman who opened general stores in Fort Meade, and Bartow. He and two associates laid out Fort Mead's town's plan. In Bartow he opened a real estate business and acquired property for phosphate companies. He was elected to the Florida senate, Polk County Commission, and Bartow City Commission. and was a trustee of Summerlin Institute for many years. He helped organize the Polk County National Bank, the State Bank, and in 1907 organized the Bank of Bartow.¹⁹

¹⁵Marquis, *Who's Who in America, 1915*, 1376; *New York Times*, 1 November 1920; Rerick, *Memoirs of Florida*, 2: 587-588; Johnson, *Makers of America*, 3:80; Hetherington, *Polk County*, 62; Brown, *Peace River*, 333-334.

¹⁶"Gen. E. M. Law," *Confederate Veteran* 28 (December 1920), 1; Marquis, *Who's Who in America, 1915*, 1376; *New York Times*, 1 November 1920; Rerick, *Memoirs of Florida*, 2: 587-588; Johnson, *Makers of America*, 3:80; Hetherington, *Polk County*, 62; Brown, *Peace River*, 333-334.

¹⁷*Polk County Record*, 2 November 1920.

¹⁸*Bartow Courier-Informant*, 24 April 1913, 27 February 1917; Hetherington, *Polk County*, 49, 71.

¹⁹Brown, *Florida*, 277-278, 281, 310, 418; Chapin, *Florida*, 2: 389; Hetherington, *Polk County*, 263.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 7 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Born in North Carolina in 1823, Streaty Parker (Photo #3) married Mary Blount, a daughter of Readding Blount in 1831. The Parkers moved to Polk County with Readding Blount in 1851. He participated in the first recorded election in the Peace River valley (1852), and was a lieutenant in Lesley's Company during the third Seminole war, leading his troops in the Battle of Peace River in 1856. For a brief period, Parker lived north of Bartow, and Lakeland's large Lake Parker was named for him. Streets are named for him in Lakeland and Bartow. His son, William Owen Parker, is the earliest recorded burial at Oak Hill Cemetery (1860). During the Civil War, Parker served in the Confederate army. After the war his involvement with cattle greatly expanded so that by 1872, Parker had become one of Florida's prominent cowmen, managing a herd of seven thousand cattle that extended into Brevard County. In 1882, to help prevent cattle rustling and officially document his property, Parker recorded seven different brands and marks with the Clerk of Court in Brevard County. Bartow's residents elected him to the organizing town council in 1882. He died in 1884.²⁰

A native of Bennettsville, South Carolina, Edward Crossland Stuart (Photo #12) arrived in Bartow in 1887. He was a prominent politician and businessman who promoted the political and economic fortunes of Bartow, Lake Wales, and Polk County during the early twentieth century. Stuart invested in real estate, developed and owned businesses, hotels, banks, phosphate mines, and citrus groves. He, in partnership with others, founded the City of Lake Wales.²¹

SIGNIFICANCE

Historic

Oak Hill Cemetery is the oldest existing man-made construction in the City of Bartow, and the oldest planned landscape within the city. For its first twenty-five years of existence, Oak Hill Cemetery was an unregulated burying ground on public lands. Early settlers selected the site, in part, because of its relatively close proximity to adjacent farmsteads and plantations, and, in part, because of its picturesque setting in a canopy of live oak trees. The cemetery was already well established in the decades before the Town of Bartow was surveyed and laid out, and ownership remained in the public domain until the 1880s.

The Blount and Parker families are identified with the earliest documented burials. William Owen Parker (Photo #28), a son of Streaty and Mary Parker, is the oldest recorded burial (1860). The Parkers arrived in Polk County in 1851 with the Readding Blount party. By 1870, Streaty Parker had become one of Florida's prominent cowmen. Another early burial occurred in 1861 with the interment Elizabeth Blount, the first wife of Readding Blount (Photo #5). She and her grandson, William Owen Blount, were among the first to die in the nascent settlement. From its earliest stages the cemetery was associated with patterns of family and kinship. Ten additional documented graves date to the 1860s, including Readding Blount's second wife, also named

²⁰Brown, *Peace River*, 91, 113-115, 163, 175, 294, 386-387; Akerman, *Florida Cowman*, 53, 146, 211, 225; Hetherington, *Polk County*, 40, 43, 118, 304-305.

²¹Hetherington, *Polk County*, 340; George Chapin, *Florida: Past, Present, and Future*, 2 vols., (Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1914), 2: 268; Johnson, *Makers of America*, 1:337-339.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 8 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Elizabeth (1866) (Photo #14), and Americus V. Mann (Photo #20), who died in 1869, three years after his arrival, and Bartow's earliest recorded physician. A native of Georgia, Mann graduated from Emory College in 1854 and the Medical College in Atlanta in 1859, and then served as a physician in the Confederate Army during the Civil War.²²

Twenty-one additional recorded interments were made during the 1870s. Prominent among the people buried during the interval was Readding Blount (Photo #5) (1791-1879). For nearly three decades, the bodies of early settlers were interred in this public land west of the nascent settlement. In 1880, after fulfilling his homestead requirements, William H. Pearce (Photo #21) acquired the burying ground as part of an eighty-acre tract. Growth in the town and news of an approaching railroad motivated some people to improve the cemetery. The editor of the *Bartow Informant* in July 1883 mused whether "Bartow is ever to have a cemetery, properly so named." A burial in December 1883 evoked further criticism from the editor, who was "forcibly impressed with the importance of some action looking to the securing and setting apart of a suitable grave yard." He lamented the condition of the "so-called unkempt plot now used as a burial place." He reminded them of the "many gray heads that were seen there Thursday of last week," and that "our wonderful health cannot give immortality to the body, and our people ought to be prepared for the end."²³

Less than a month later, in a letter to the editor, J. M. Hayman suggested that the property owner of the cemetery, William H. Pearce, either "sell two acres for a certain price, or sell small lots to all who wish to buy." More importantly, Hayman urged Pearce to consider developing the cemetery either individually, through a company, or by incorporating. Pearce largely turned a deaf ear on the public outcries for cemetery improvements. An adjacent landowner, William T. Carpenter, conveyed to the newly organized town council a one-acre tract in April 1884 "for and in consideration of the Public need of a grave yard, and the sum of \$5.00." Despite Carpenter's good intentions and conveyance, and further urging by the newspaper for Pearce to make improvements, the city council deferred on developing its own cemetery and townspeople continued to rely on Oak Hill for burials, which residents and later legal documents also called "Bartow's Old Cemetery."²⁴

Pearce maintained his reluctance to make any improvements to the burying ground. He had arrived in Bartow in the 1860s, where he briefly taught public school, and began work about 1870 as a telegraph operator, a job he held for eighteen years. He invested in real estate, and eventually his holdings extended into DeSoto County. In the 1880s, he offered the Board of County Commissioners of DeSoto County forty acres to relocate the courthouse to Mare's Branch, but the offer was rejected in favor of a site in Arcadia. Pearce participated in Polk County's politics. In 1881, Bartow's residents appointed him to a committee assigned to designate the

²²Brown, *Peace River*, 91-92, 96, 406; Tampa *Florida Peninsular*, 20 February 1869; Akerman, *Florida Cowman*, 146.

²³*Bartow Informant*, 28 July, 22 December 1883.

²⁴*Bartow Informant*, 5 January 1884; Deed Book D, p. 82, Deed Book H, p. 468, Clerk of Court, Polk County Courthouse, Bartow, Florida.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 9 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

boundaries of the town's limits, and to arrange for an election to incorporate the town. Pearce planted citrus, and a newspaper described his grove outside of Bartow as "one of the most vigorous and symmetrical in the State." His wife, Susan J. Pearce, opened a small residential subdivision in the town in the mid-1880s. In 1884, Pearce acquired downtown property where he established a feed store. The same year, in association with attorney G. A. Hanson and his brother, S. I. Pearce, William Pearce opened a real estate company.²⁵

Oak Hill Cemetery became one of Pearce's early real estate enterprises. In 1885, he contracted with James W. Boyd, the county surveyor, to plat the cemetery. By then, approximately forty interments had been made. Pearce and Boyd incorporated the existing burials into a design that consisted of two acres containing twenty-seven blocks divided into one thousand ninety-five lots. In 1886, on the heels of Pearce's formal division of Oak Hill, the town council created Wildwood Cemetery about one mile west of the downtown. Undaunted by being outmaneuvered by the town council, Pearce attempted to turn Bartow's old public burying ground into a small-scale money-making enterprise. By 1890, he had sold one hundred seventy-eight lots for which he had collected nearly three hundred fifty dollars. Initially, Pearce sold lots for two dollars each; by 1894, he increased the price to five dollars. The decade of the 1880s was among the most active for sales and burials at Oak Hill. Between 1885 and 1889, nearly sixty bodies were interred, and, by 1899, another forty-nine recorded burials were made.²⁶

Despite the public clamoring about the unsightly burying ground, Pearce made few improvements to the cemetery. In 1894, the editors of the *Courier-Informant* lamented, "This spot, so sacred to the memories of many has been much neglected, very much to the regret of those who have departed loved ones interred therein. We cannot suggest a more laudable cause than for our people to devote more attention to their cemeteries. They need more attention than has been heretofore bestowed upon them. The condition of a community cemetery is a noteworthy index to the sentiments of the people... Let us beautify our cemeteries and redeem ourselves from the reproach of past neglect."²⁷

Sustained pressure for beautification compelled Pearce to sell the cemetery. Executed in July 1894, a conveyance transferred the cemetery to a board of trustees of civic leaders comprised of J. W. Boyd (Photo #9), the surveyor who had laid out the cemetery; D. W. Stanley (Photo #30), a real estate agent and clerk of the city council; and businessman E. C. Stuart (Photo #12). Transferred for one hundred dollars, the deed also established policies for the operation and maintenance of the site. It stipulated the cemetery was only for "white persons," and that all proceeds from lot sales "be used for the maintenance and embellishment of said Oak Hill

²⁵Brown, *Polk County*, 204, 217-218, 224, 300, 307; *Bartow Informant*, 12 April, 31 May 1884; *Bartow Courier-Informant*, 20 May 1903; Map Book L, p. 352, Polk County Courthouse.

²⁶Deed Book M, p. 399, Deed Book N, p. 83, 433, 487, 519, Deed Book S, p. 16, 217, 303, 515, Deed Book Y, p. 96, 109, 181, 207, 346, 364, 514, 547, Deed Book 29, p. 90, 575, Deed Book 31, p. 138, Deed Book 34, p. 213, 247, 347, Deed Book 46, page 581, Deed Book 202, p. 207, 214, 304, Deed Book 456, p. 598, Polk County Courthouse.

²⁷*Bartow Courier-Informant*, 11 July 1894.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 10 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Cemetery.” Its covenants provided for the election of officers and survivorship in cases of “death, resignation, change of residence, or otherwise of a trustee.”²⁸

The trustees continued to sell lots, but also encouraged the organization of a cemetery association to beautify and maintain the site. In April 1899, several of Bartow’s prominent women formed the Oak Hill Cemetery Association. They collected one dollar for membership fees and small monthly dues. In May 1899, they organized the first, formally recorded cemetery beautification project. They cleared walkways, weeds, vines, and small trees, assembled a gate, and secured an existing fence to keep out roaming cattle. Arrangements were made to extend a city water main into the site, which was completed in 1901. The *Courier-Informant* reported that “the old cemetery is now the pride of home folks and the wonder is why it went so long neglected.”²⁹

To help raise funds for future plantings and beautification projects, the Association hosted several events, including an oyster supper and an ice cream social in front of a local church, where “gypsies” entertained with songs and fortune telling. By April 1900, the Association had collected \$125.33, and paid out nearly ninety dollars for cleaning the cemetery. In the wake of the initial beautification project it became apparent that some graves had never been marked. The Association urged descendants of those interred to mark the graves of their ancestors and not “neglect this duty you owe your departed ones too long.” They recommended contacting S. A. McBride, a local dealer in borders, headstones, markers, monuments, and wrought-iron fencing. Although the Association’s efforts had the desired effect of identifying unmarked sites, some people acquired lots from previous owners without gaining the consent of the trustees. In 1899, the trustees persuaded the city council to levy a fine of fifty dollars on anyone using Oak Hill without authorization. Following the installation of the water system in 1901, cemetery beautification and fund raising events declined. In June 1902, the Association reported, “plants, flowers, etc. are being removed from the cemetery. To any who are thus desecrating this sacred ‘City of the dead,’ we speak the word of warning, for this must be stopped.”³⁰ The Association’s monthly meetings yielded to quarterly gatherings, and, by 1905, members only met to conduct annual business and collect dues.

Into the 1920s, the trustees maintained the cost of a cemetery lot at five dollars. About 1925, the trustees arranged for the construction of a rough-face cast block privacy wall along the north and east elevations of the site. Sales and interments gradually decreased with the passing decades. Interments fell from fifty-four (1900-1909), to fifty-one (1910-1919), and thirty-four (1920-1929).³¹ Activities of the cemetery’s trustees during the 1930s included several beautification projects. Between 1936 and 1940, they planted azaleas, gardenias,

²⁸Deed Book 47, p. 399, Polk County Courthouse; Bartow *Courier-Informant*, 11 July 1894.

²⁹Bartow *Courier-Informant*, 19 April, 24 May, 14 June 1899.

³⁰Bartow *Courier-Informant*, 26 July, 29 November 1899, 2, 11 April 1900, 23 January 1901, 12 February, 11 June 1902, 28 January 1903, 1 February 1905.

³¹Bartow *Courier-Informant*, 19 November 1902; Deed Book 41, p. 482, Deed Book 136, p. 235, Deed Book 176, p. 531, Deed Book 215, p. 1, Deed Book 218, p. 134, Polk County Courthouse; Brown, *Peace River*, 282, 333; Hetherington, *Polk County*, 47.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 11 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

junipers, and ligustrums, and laid sod and grass seed in areas with thin grass cover. Incidental maintenance items included fertilizer, garden hoses, sprinklers, and mowing. In April 1938, citing insufficient revenues for maintenance, the cemetery's board of trustees prepared a deed and a petition to convey ownership to the city. The city was already managing Wildwood Cemetery and refused to accept the deed. In 1942, the last of the original trustees, E.C. Stuart died, and was buried at Oak Hill. Subsequent trustees included Thomas Carpenter, N. E. Jordan, Dudley Putnam, and William H. Stuart. In 1955, the local chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy urged the City to accept title and maintenance responsibilities for Oak Hill. Finally, in December 1960, the City accepted the perpetual care of the cemetery by ordinance.³²

One of the largest cemetery ceremonies was in 1903 with the interment of Polk County's tax collector Louis J. Marquis (Photo #7). A native of Alabama, Marquis had helped build the Florida Southern Railway south of Bartow to Punta Gorda in the 1880s. Appointed Bartow's postmaster by President Cleveland in the 1890s, he later served two terms as Polk County's tax collector. A train consisting of fourteen coaches, and nearly six hundred people arrived in Bartow for the funeral. Another large ceremony occurred in November 1920, when Major-General Evander McIver Law (Photo #25) was interred. His marker was adorned with a Southern Cross of Honor.³³

Between 1869 and 1928, the bodies of fifty-seven former Confederates were interred at Oak Hill. Burials included most of the ranks from major general through private, and a military musician, several physicians, and a quartermaster. Servicemen from most of the Confederate states and even one border state were represented, including Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia. Partly because of the prominence of General Law and the relatively high concentration of former Confederates residing in Bartow, the city hosted the statewide UCV convention in 1910. Various activities to commemorate fallen comrades included ceremonies, speeches, and the installation of Confederate Cross of Honor cast-iron markers at Oak Hill (Photos #26&27). One popular model of a cross endorsed by the UCV and used at Oak Hill Cemetery came from the Attalla Foundry in Attalla, Alabama.³⁴

³²Ordinance 576-A, City of Bartow, 5 December 1960, Clerk's Office, City of Bartow; Oak Hill Cemetery File, Clerk's Office, City of Bartow; Official Record Book 1317, p. 434, 435, Clerk's Office, Polk County Courthouse.

³³Albert N. Marquis, comp., *Who's Who in America* (Chicago: A. N. Marquis Company, 1915), 1376; *New York Times*, 1 November 1920; Rowland Rerick, comp., *Memoirs of Florida*, 2 vols., (Atlanta: Southern Historical Association, 1902), 2: 587-588; B. F. Johnson, comp., *Makers of America: Florida Edition*, 4 vols., (Atlanta: A. B. Caldwell, 1909), 3:80; Hetherington, *Polk County*, 62; Brown, *Peace River*, 333-334; J. Gary Laine and Penny Morris, *Law's Alabama Brigade in the War Between the Union and the Confederacy* (Shippensburg, PA: White Main, 1996); J. Gary Laine and Penny Morris, *Struggle for the Round Tops: Law's Alabama Brigade at the Battle of Gettysburg, July 2-3, 1863* (Shippensburg, PA: White Main, 1999).

³⁴"Lest We Forget," *Confederate Veteran* 37 (February 1924), 42; Lloyd Harris, "Confederate Veteran Burials, Oak Hill Cemetery, Bartow, FL," unpub. mss., Bartow, 1988, 1-2.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 12 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Art
Although Oak Hill Cemetery does not contain “high style” master works of funerary art, it possesses significance for its broad collection of commercial markers and monuments representative of popular materials, assembly, and artistic values of the historic period. The common use of marble in the 19th century was supplemented by the occasional use of zinc (white bronze) in the later part of the century. Granite markers became commonplace for commercial uses in the early 20th century, and the use of concrete was used for local, more personalized productions. Concrete markers with 19th century dates probably represent the 1900 effort to mark unmarked graves. Obelisks, vaults, and cradle forms of memorials are present. Fine examples of 19th century symbolism and marble carvers’ art are represented in the Parker column (Photo #3), and Webster tablet (Photo #18). Elaborate, excellent examples of zinc markers are seen in the Smith (Photo #10), and Summerlin families (Photo #11) memorials. Many examples of iron Maltese crosses mark the graves of Confederate veterans.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 9 Page 1 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Akerman, Joe. *Florida Cowman: A History of Florida Cattle Raising*. Kissimmee: Florida Cattleman's Association, 1976.
- Blackman, William. *History of Orange County, Florida*. DeLand: E. O. Painter Printing Company, 1927.
- Brown, Canter, Jr. *Florida's Peace River Frontier*. Orlando: Central Florida Press, 1991.
- _____. *In the Midst of All That Makes Life Worth Living: Polk County, Florida to 1940*. Tallahassee: Sentry Press, 2001.
- _____. "Tampa's James McKay and the Frustration of Confederate Cattle-Supply Operations in South Florida." *Florida Historical Quarterly*. 70 (April 1992):409-433.
- City of Bartow. Clerk's Office. Bartow, Florida.
Oak Hill Cemetery File.
Ordinance 576-A, 5 December 1960.
- Coddington, Edwin. *The Gettysburg Campaign*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1968.
- Covington, James. "An Episode in the Third Seminole War." *Florida Historical Quarterly*. 45 (July 1966):45-59.
- Davis, Stephen. "Empty Eyes, Marble Hand: The Confederate Monument and the South." *Journal of Popular Culture*. 16 (Winter 1982):2-21.
- Deetz, James, and Edwin S. Dethlefsen. "Death's Head: Cherub, Urn, and Willow." *Natural History*. 76 (March 1967):28-37.
- Freeman, Douglas Southall. *Lee's Lieutenants*. 3 vols. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1944.
- Hetherington, M. F. *History of Polk County, Florida*. Lakeland: M. F. Hetherington, 1928.
- Johnson, B. F. comp. *Makers of America: Florida Edition*. 4 vols. Atlanta: A. B. Caldwell, 1909.
- Laine, J. Gary, and Penny Morris. *Law's Alabama Brigade in the War between the Union and the Confederacy*. Shippensburg, PA: White Main, 1996.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 9 Page 2 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

_____. *Struggle for the Round Tops: Law's Alabama Brigade at the Battle of Gettysburg, July 2-3, 1863.* Shippensburg, PA: White Main, 1999.

Mahon, John. *History of the Second Seminole War.* Gainesville: University Presses of Florida, 1967.

Marquis, Albert N. comp. *Who's Who in America.* Chicago: A. N. Marquis Company, 1915.

McDowell, Peggy, and Richard E. Meyer. *The Revival Styles in American Memorial Art.* Bowling Green: Bowling Green State University Popular Press, 1994.

McMurry, Richard *John Bell Hood and the War for Southern Independence.* Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1982).

Meyer, Richard E. ed. *Cemeteries and Gravemarkers: Voices of American Culture.* Ann Arbor and London: UMI Research Press.

New York Times, 1 November 1920.

Polk County Courthouse. Clerk of Courts Office. Bartow, Florida.

Deed Book M, p. 399; Deed Book N, p. 83, 433, 487, 519; Deed Book S, p. 16, 217, 303, 515; Deed Book Y, p. 96, 109, 181, 207, 346, 364, 514, 547; Deed Book 29, p. 90, 575; Deed Book 31, p. 138; Deed Book 34, p. 213, 247, 347; Deed Book 41, p. 482; Deed Book 46, page 581; Deed Book 47, p. 399; Deed Book 136, p. 235; Deed Book 176, p. 531; Deed Book 202, p. 207, 214, 304; Deed Book 215, p. 1; Deed Book 218, p. 134; Deed Book 456, p. 598; Map Book L, p. 352; Official Record Book 1317, p. 434, 435.

Rerick, Rowland. comp. *Memoirs of Florida.* 2 vols. Atlanta: Southern Historical Association, 1902.

Strangstad, Lynette. *A Graveyard Preservation Primer.* Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1988.

Taylor, Robert A. "Rebel Beef: Florida Cattle and the Confederate Army, 1862-1864." *Florida Historical Quarterly.* 67 (July 1988):15-31.

Tebeau, Charlton. *A History of Florida.* Coral Gables: University of Miami Press, 1971

Thompson, Sharyn. *Florida's Historic Cemeteries.* Tallahassee: Historic Tallahassee Preservation Board, 1989.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 9 Page 2 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

_____. *Struggle for the Round Tops: Law's Alabama Brigade at the Battle of Gettysburg, July 2-3, 1863.* Shippensburg, PA: White Main, 1999.

Mahon, John. *History of the Second Seminole War.* Gainesville: University Presses of Florida, 1967.

Marquis, Albert N. comp. *Who's Who in America.* Chicago: A. N. Marquis Company, 1915.

McDowell, Peggy, and Richard E. Meyer. *The Revival Styles in American Memorial Art.* Bowling Green: Bowling Green State University Popular Press, 1994.

McMurry, Richard *John Bell Hood and the War for Southern Independence.* Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1982).

Meyer, Richard E. ed. *Cemeteries and Gravemarkers: Voices of American Culture.* Ann Arbor and London: UMI Research Press.

New York Times, 1 November 1920.

Polk County Courthouse. Clerk of Courts Office. Bartow, Florida.

Deed Book M, p. 399; Deed Book N, p. 83, 433, 487, 519; Deed Book S, p. 16, 217, 303, 515; Deed Book Y, p. 96, 109, 181, 207, 346, 364, 514, 547; Deed Book 29, p. 90, 575; Deed Book 31, p. 138; Deed Book 34, p. 213, 247, 347; Deed Book 41, p. 482; Deed Book 46, page 581; Deed Book 47, p. 399; Deed Book 136, p. 235; Deed Book 176, p. 531; Deed Book 202, p. 207, 214, 304; Deed Book 215, p. 1; Deed Book 218, p. 134; Deed Book 456, p. 598; Map Book L, p. 352; Official Record Book 1317, p. 434, 435.

Rerick, Rowland. comp. *Memoirs of Florida.* 2 vols. Atlanta: Southern Historical Association, 1902.

Strangstad, Lynette. *A Graveyard Preservation Primer.* Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1988.

Taylor, Robert A. "Rebel Beef: Florida Cattle and the Confederate Army, 1862-1864." *Florida Historical Quarterly.* 67 (July 1988):15-31.

Tebeau, Charlton. *A History of Florida.* Coral Gables: University of Miami Press, 1971

Thompson, Sharyn. *Florida's Historic Cemeteries.* Tallahassee: Historic Tallahassee Preservation Board, 1989.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 10 Page 1

**OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Polk County Property Appraiser's number 253006000000024080. Oak Hill Cemetery is in the 300 block of West Parker Street, Bartow. See scaled site plan.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundary encompasses the property historically associated with the Oak Hill Cemetery.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number _____ Photo _____ Page 1 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

PHOTOGRAPHIC LIST

1. Oak Hill Cemetery, Bartow
2. Polk County, Florida
3. Sidney Johnston
4. 2001
5. Johnston
6. General view of north (main) entrance and walls, facing south
7. Photo #1 of 30

Numbers 1-5 are the same for the remaining photographs.

6. Northeast corner and walls, facing north
7. Photo #2 of 30

6. Streaty Parker memorial marker, facing southwest
7. Photo #3 of 30

6. J. O'Connell Blount memorial marker, facing northwest
7. Photo #4 of 30

6. Readding and Elizabeth Blount memorial and tablestone markers, facing west
7. Photo #5 of 30

6. Nathan S. Blount memorial marker, facing northeast
7. Photo #6 of 30

6. Louis Marquis, Woodmen of the World marker, facing southwest
7. Photo #7 of 30

6. Snell children cradle & crypt, facing southwest
7. Photo #8 of 30

6. James William Boyd ledger, facing west
7. Photo #9 of 30

6. Smith family memorial marker, facing northeast
7. Photo #10 of 30

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number _____ Photo _____ Page 2 **OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

6. Kate and S. Summerlin marker, facing northwest
7. Photo #11 of 30

6. Stuart family markers, facing west
7. Photo #12 of 30

6. Aaron Blount marker, facing west
7. Photo #13 of 30

6. Elizabeth Blount (second wife of Readding Blount) marker, facing west
7. Photo #14 of 30

6. Frederick and Sarah Varn marker, facing west
7. Photo #15 of 30

6. Abi Blount marker, facing west
7. Photo #16 of 30

6. Mrs. W. F. Britt marker, facing west
7. Photo #17 of 30

6. Edward Webster marker, facing west
7. Photo #18 of 30

6. Jennie Zipprer marker, facing west
7. Photo #19 of 30

6. A. V. Mann marker, facing southwest
7. Photo #20 of 30

6. William Pearce marker, facing west
7. Photo #21 of 30

6. Julia Carpenter marker, facing west
7. Photo #22 of 30

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number _____ Photo _____ Page 3

**OAK HILL CEMETERY, BARTOW, POLK
COUNTY, FLORIDA**

6. Georgia Boyd cradle, facing northwest

7. Photo #23 of 30

6. James and Rosa Hooker marker, facing west

7. Photo #24 of 30

6. Maj.-Gen. E. M. Law and Jane Law marker, facing northwest

7. Photo #25 of 30

6. Southern Cross of Honor marker, facing west

7. Photo #26 of 30

6. Southern Cross of Honor marker, facing east

7. Photo #27 of 30

6. Jacob and Frances Summerlin memorial marker, facing southwest

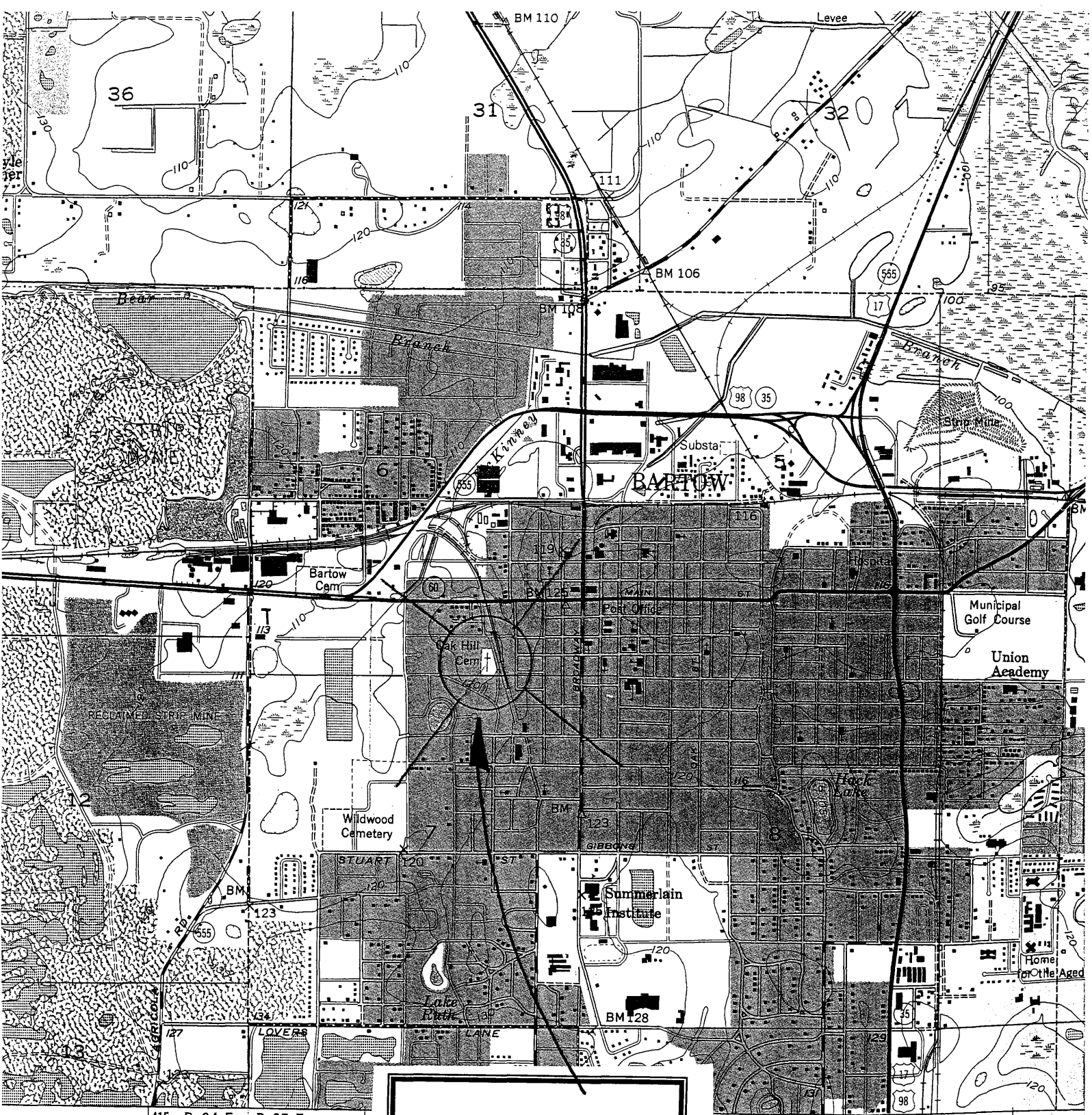
7. Photo #28 of 30

6. William and Martha Hood marker, facing west

7. Photo #29 of 30

6. D. W. Stanley marker, facing southwest

7. Photo #30 of 30



OAK HILL CEMETERY
Bartow, Polk Co., Florida

ed, and published by the Geological Survey
 S, USC&GS, and Florida Geodetic Survey

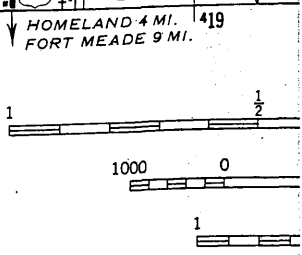
image in part compiled from
 photos taken 1941 and 1947
 plane-table methods 1949

ation. 1927 North American datum
 1 based on Florida coordinate system,

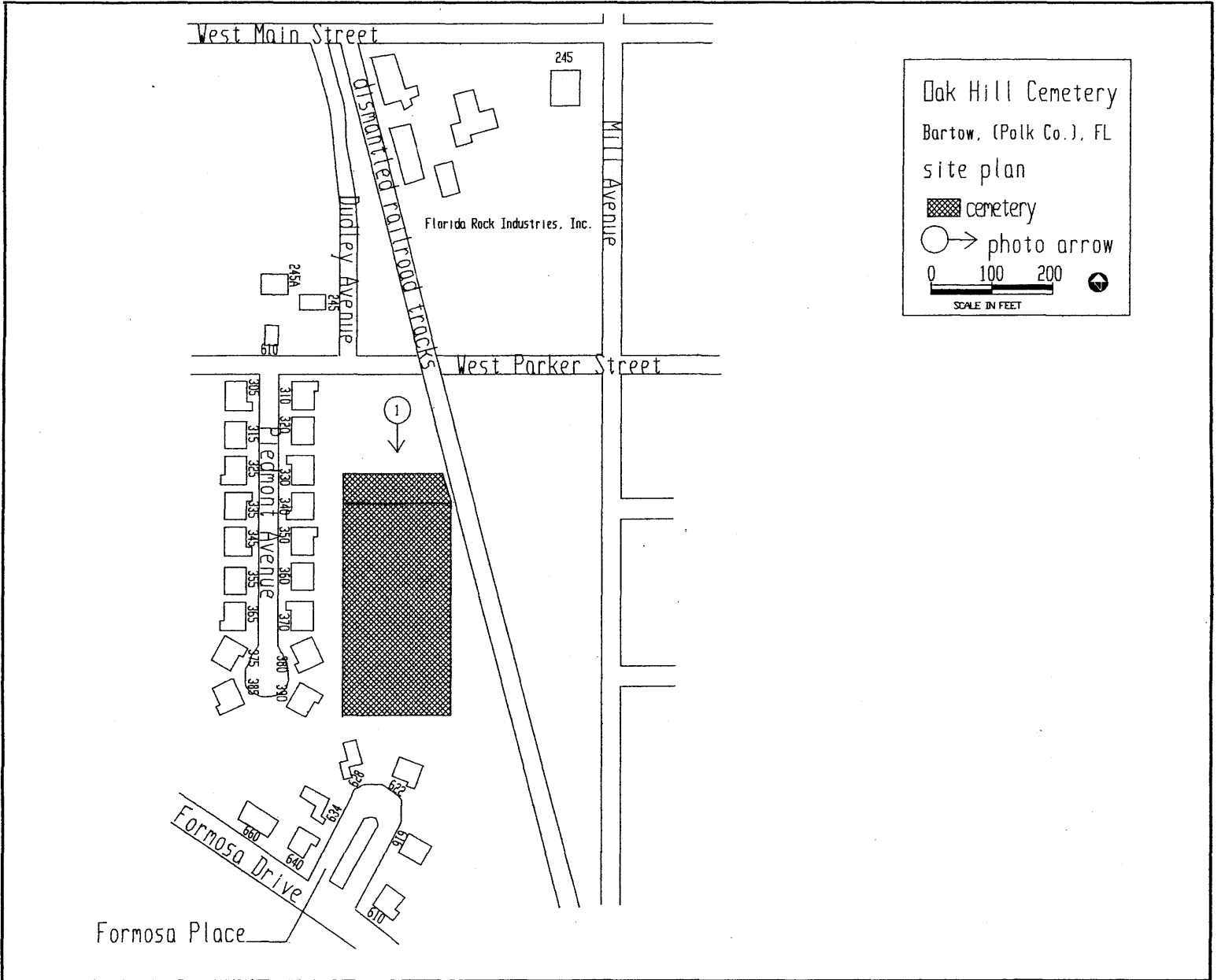
versal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
 in blue
 predicted North American Datum 1983
 ion lines 29 meters south and
 as shown by dashed corner ticks

UTM GRID AND 1987 MAGNETIC NORTH
 DECLINATION AT CENTER OF SHEET



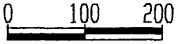

Revisions shown in purple and woodland compiled in cooperation
 with State of Florida agencies from aerial photographs taken 1984
 and other sources. This map is a revision of the map of Bartow, Florida,
 published by the Geological Survey, U.S. Geological Survey, and Florida
 Geodetic Survey, 1955.

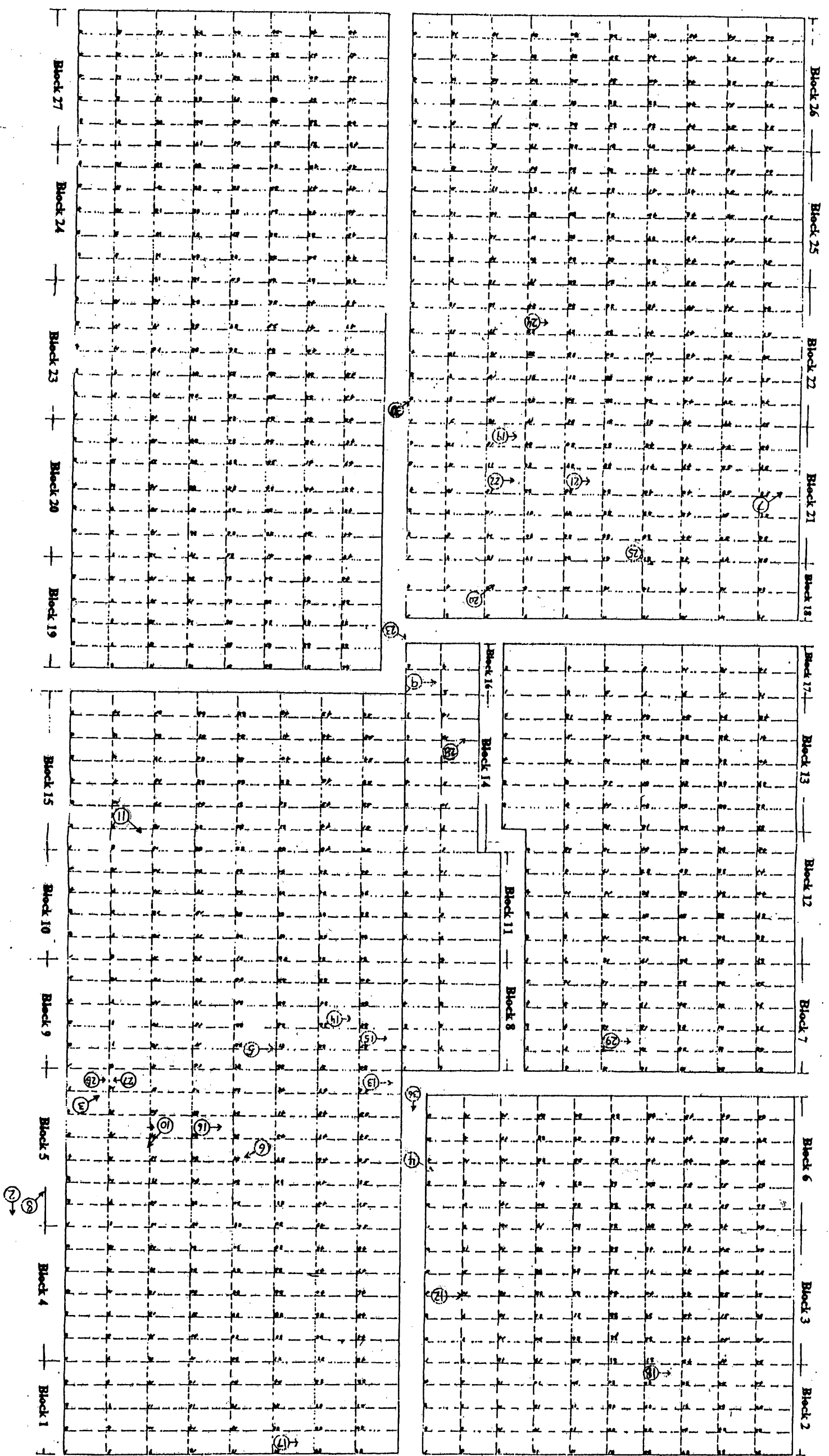


THIS MAP
 DENVER,



Oak Hill Cemetery
 Bartow, (Polk Co.), FL
 site plan

 cemetery
 photo arrow
 0 100 200
SCALE IN FEET




OAK HILL CEMETERY
 Bartow, Polk Co., Florida
 Photo Diagram
 0 5 10

Prepared by Sidney Johnson

