NPS Form 10-900 (January 1992) Wisconsin Word Processing Format (Approved 1/92)



United States Department of 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 or by entering the information requested. If an 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 Losey Memorial Arch other names/site number N/A

2. Location

street	& number	1407 La Cros	sse Str	eet			N/A	not for p	ublication
city or	town	La Crosse					N/A	vicinity	
state	Wisconsin	code	WI	county	La Crosse	code	63	zip code	54601

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this \underline{X} nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property \underline{X} meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

<u>Hucia</u> <u>Coch</u> Signature of certifying official/Title Apr. / 17,2002

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 commenting official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau



Losey Memorial Arch		La Crosse	Wisconsin		
Name of Property		County and State			
4. Mational Park Servi	ce Certification	Λ	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
hereby certify that the property is: See continuation sheet. See continuation sheet. determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. determined not eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet. See continuation sheet. See continuation sheet. removed from the National Register. other, (explain:)	Loloc 	n A. Beall	<u>5/30/02</u>		
	Signature of th	e Keeper	Date of Action		
5. Classification					
Ownership of Property (check as many boxes as as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resources within (Do not include previously list in the count)	ed resources		
X private	building(s)	contributing noncor	ntributing		
public-local	district	bui	ldings		
public-State	X structure	site	S		
public-Federal	site	1 0 struct	ures		
	object		ects		
		<u>1</u> 0 total			
Name of related multiple pr (Enter "N/A" if property not listing. N/A		Number of contributing reso is previously listed in the Na <u>0</u>			
6. Function or Use					
Historic Functions		Current Functions			
(Enter categories from instru	uctions)	(Enter categories from instructions)			
RECREATION/CULTURE		RECREATION/CULTURE/monum	ent		
7. Description					
Architectural Classification		Materials			
(Enter categories from instru	uctions)	(Enter categories from instructions)			
Classical Revival		Foundation Stone			
		walls Stone			
•	······································	roof N/A			
		other Bronze			

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

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>7</u> Page <u>1</u> Losey Memorial Arch, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

Description

The Losey Memorial Arch is a Classical Revival style commemorative arch, built in 1901 and dedicated in 1902 as the entry to the city of La Crosse's Oak Grove Cemetery. Joseph W. Losey was an early benefactor of the city, giving much effort and money toward the beautification of Oak Grove Cemetery in the decades previous to his death in March 1901. The arch is considered to be the primary entrance into Oak Grove Cemetery.

The arch is on the city of La Crosse's south side, immediately south of the La Crosse River marsh, at the southwest corner of Oak Grove Cemetery, the city's largest municipal cemetery. North of the cemetery, which is separated toward its eastern edge by East Avenue, is Myrick Park. La Crosse Street runs east/west in front/south of the arch, with a small driveway leading off the street, under the arch and into the cemetery. Immediately south of La Crosse Street, and facing the arch and most of the cemetery's southern edge is the northern-most edge of the University of Wisconsin – La Crosse campus. West of the arch and the western-most edge of the cemetery is the newly constructed Oak Grove Mausoleum and Crematorium, and the administrative offices of the Oak Grove Cemetery Association.

The arch, which was designed by La Crosse architect Hugo Schick of the prominent local architecture firm Schick and Roth, is a stone structure, designed symmetrically with one large center arch designed for carriage traffic to pass through, and two smaller pedestrian arches flanking either side of the center arch. Above the center arch are the words "LOSEY MEMORIAL." The framed large arch is punctuated with a decorative keystone at the top, which is decorated with an acanthus motif. The base/foundation of the arch is a red stone which is rough cut, and the upper portion of the structure is Bedford limestone, smooth cut and precisely laid. The top is flat, with modillions accenting the cornice.

The three arches are separated by four Corinthian capped squared pilasters that extend from the red stone foundations to the entablature. The two outer arches are smaller, pedestrian arches, with the large vehicular arch in the center. Above each of the smaller arches are bronze plaques that state the commemorative purpose of the arch.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>7</u> Page <u>2</u> Losey Memorial Arch, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

The left/western plaque reads as follows:

JOSEPH W. LOSEY HE FOUND THIS CEMETERY NEGLECTED AND DESOLATE. HE TRANSFORMED IT INTO A PLACE OF CHARM AND BEAUTY. HE MADE THE WILDERNESS TO BLOSSOM AS THE ROSE.

The right/eastern plaque reads as follows:

TO COMMEMORATE THE CHARACTER AND VIRTUES OF ONE WHO ENDEARED HIMSELF TO ALL BY AN UNBROKEN RECORD OF PRIVATE CHARITIES AND UNSELFISH PUBLIC SERVICES, THIS MONUMENT IS ERECTED BY CITIZENS OF LA CROSSE A.D. 1901

The entablature is simple, with flat, simple architrave and frieze, and a cornice supported by modillions with a flat top to the overall structure. The entablature is broken over the central arch at the location of the long horizontal panel with the lettering "LOSEY MEMORIAL."

The back, north side of the arch structure is identical to the front, except for the lack of bronze plaques and the inscription in the central panel.

Though the arch structure, at one hundred years of age, is in relatively good condition, and has not been altered at all since its original construction, the red stone foundation is exhibiting some natural deterioration through spalling of surface material, leaving the surface irregular and exposed to the elements (see Photo 12 of 13). Nonetheless, the overall presence of the Losey Memorial Arch, in its original location at the entrance of the Oak Grove Cemetery, and on the heavily traveled La Crosse Street, is a monument which has decorated the city of La Crosse for a century, and is known by virtually all residents of the city.

La Crosse

Wisconsin

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for the 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.
- \underline{X} 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.
- \underline{X} F a commemorative property.
 - G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1901

Significant Dates

1901

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked)

N/A_____

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Schick, Hugo

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>8</u> Page <u>1</u> Losey Memorial Arch, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

Statement of Significance

The Losey Memorial Arch is locally significant under National Register Criterion C as an exemplary example of the Classical Revival style articulated in a commemorative monument arch. The Losey Memorial Arch, designed by locally prominent architect Hugo Schick, was dedicated on Memorial Day in 1902 as the entrance to the Oak Grove Cemetery. The cemetery was brought from an unattractive, unkempt municipal cemetery to a well-planned, park-like garden and cemetery through the volunteer and monetary efforts of Joseph W. Losey, a local prominent attorney. The Losey Memorial Arch meets Criterion Consideration F as a property which is primarily commemorative in intent, yet is superceded by the artistic articulation of the arch structure. Losey Memorial Arch's design and importance has spanned through one hundred years as one of the city's most recognizable and cherished public landmarks.

Historical Background

The city of La Crosse, Wisconsin finds its origins with the first permanent Euro-American settler in the winter of 1841-42 when Nathan Myrick built a trading post on the island in the main channel of the Mississippi across from present-day downtown La Crosse. The following spring, Myrick moved his trading post to the mainland and shortly thereafter other people began settling on the La Crosse prairie, just south of the La Crosse River at its confluence with the Mississippi (Sanford, 1951: 20-26).

The first decade or so of La Crosse's existence was slow. Though the river traffic was steady, there was not an easy nor an efficient way to reach La Crosse prior to 1855, when the first railroad, the La Crosse and Milwaukee Railroad, terminated from the east in La Crosse. Where there were only a few hundred settlers prior to 1855, there were several thousand within a short period after the coming of the railroad. The city chartered municipal boundaries in 1856 which encompassed the area between the Mississippi River to the west, the La Crosse River marsh to the north, present-day Losey Boulevard to the east, and present-day Ward Avenue to the south (Sanford, 1951: 55, 87).

The city's population grew from 1,637 in 1855 to 11,012 by 1875 and 28,769 by 1895. This rapid growth put additional burdens on the city government and its people. With the expansion of population and neighborhoods, the necessity to improve the image and appearance of the city were important. As early as the 1860s the city made improvements to street pavements as well as sidewalks. However, the young city was too burdened with public works, road improvements

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>8</u> Page <u>2</u> Losey Memorial Arch, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

and other more pressing matters of city government to be concerned with parks and trees (Sanford, 1951: 206).

The city's first cemetery, which was located on high ground near the north end of Third Street, south of the La Crosse River marsh, had its burials moved to Oak Grove Cemetery. A cemetery was first located on the site of present-day Oak Grove Cemetery in 1852, when an eight-acre tract was set aside by Deacon S. T. Smith in that year. This cemetery was first known as Watonga Cemetery, which is a Native American word meaning "oak forest or oak grove." On 30 November 1872, the Oak Grove Cemetery Association was formed taking over the city cemetery. The earlier cemetery had been neglected, with neighbors ravaging the grounds for firewood, and animals grazing freely among the graves (*LaCrosse Tribune*, 10 April 1938; Sanford, 1951: 201).

Joseph W. Losey

Joseph Losey was born in Honesdale, Pennsylvania on 30 December 1834. He received his education at Honesdale Academy and Amherst College, where he studied from 1854-1855. He came to La Crosse, Wisconsin in May 1856, where he began work and studied law in the office of Denison & Lyndes. Losey was admitted to the bar in October 1857. Within a month of passing the bar, he was elected as the La Crosse County district attorney, and in 1860 was elected as city of La Crosse's attorney. In 1861, Losey partnered with Senator Cameron, to form the firm Cameron and Losey. Cameron shortly thereafter retired, and the firm Losey and Woodward was formed.

In 1856 Joseph Losey married Miss Florence T. Lehman, who had four children with him. Losey continued his distinguished public service by being a member of the La Crosse city council for twelve years beginning in 1876, and for which a time he served as the council president. During his tenure on city council, Losey was instrumental in seeing that the city built a modern water system.

Joseph Losey, having come to La Crosse during its pioneer days, was interested and instrumental in the beautification of the city. He took interest in the Oak Grove Cemetery, which had been neglected and was considered an eyesore to the community. He helped raise both private and municipal funds to have the cemetery platted and laid out with decorative plantings and picturesque roadways, bringing a landscape architect from Chicago to lay out the grounds, and paying for evergreens, elms, hard maples, wild ivy, and bittersweet vines for the grounds' improvement. Joseph Losey is also credited, along with B.L. Strouse, for the improvement and

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>8</u> Page <u>3</u> Losey Memorial Arch, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

layout of Losey Boulevard, which is the primary north/south roadway in the eastern portion of the city of La Crosse. Joseph Losey died on March 11th, 1901, in his home in La Crosse (*La Crosse Daily Republican & Leader*, 11 March 1901; Sanford, 1951: 201).

Losey Memorial Arch

The Oak Grove Cemetery Association, along with other civic minded individuals in the city of La Crosse, felt that a memorial in the Oak Grove Cemetery would be a fitting tribute to Joseph Losey, who had so much to do with its beautification and improvement. Within a month or so after his March 1901 death, a group formed to solicit designs for a memorial or monument, which would be at the southwest entrance of the cemetery. Local La Crosse architect Hugo Schick, who had been practicing architecture in the La Crosse area since 1885, prepared the successful design. By June 1901 the newspaper announced that the final design was to be built of Bedford stone, and the design drawings were to be exhibited in one of the downtown stores. A special organization was formed to take care of the business of raising money and making contracts with the architect (*La Crosse Daily Republican & Leader*, 3 June 1901).

The local newspapers reported the near-completion of the memorial arch in early October 1901. Three carloads of cut stone were shipped into the city, and construction work began immediately. By November 24, 1901, the arch's construction was completed, though the dedication ceremony was delayed until spring (*La Crosse Morning Chronicle*, 10 October 1901, 24 November 1901).

The dedication ceremony was a large affair, held on Memorial Day on May 30th, 1902. According to newspaper accounts, thousands of people attended the exercises held at the entrance of Oak Grove Cemetery, where the Losey Memorial Association formally transferred ownership of the arch to the Oak Grove Cemetery Association prior to dissolving their existence. The dedication began with a prayer by Reverend C.N. Moller of Christ Episcopal Church, then was followed by a musical selection performed by a local band. Mr. E.C. Higbee made a presentation on behalf of the Losey Memorial Association, then turned the floor over to Judge B. F. Bryant who extolled Joseph Losey's virtues on behalf of the Oak Grove Cemetery Association. C. L. Hood finally gave an address also referring to Joseph Losey's many accomplishments on behalf of the city (*La Crosse Morning Chronicle*, 31 May 1902).

The Oak Grove Cemetery Association, at that dedication ceremony, agreed to keep the arch "as a sacred trust and upon condition that it be forever kept and maintained to the end of our posterity may know that we were not unmindful or unappreciative of noble work and character." The Cemetery Association pledged to care for and maintain the memorial arch perpetually (*La Crosse*

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>8</u> Page <u>4</u> Losey Memorial Arch, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

Morning Chronicle, 31 May 1902).

Hugo Schick, of Schick and Roth, Architects

Hugo Schick, who is credited with the design of the Losey Memorial Arch according to contemporary newspaper articles, designed numerous residences, commercial buildings and structures in the city of La Crosse during his career in the city between 1886 and 1909.

Hugo Schick, a native of Austria, had graduated from the Polytechnical School and Academy of Arts in Vienna, with significant coursework in architecture. He arrived in America in 1880, working in New York City, Chicago and St. Paul before coming to La Crosse in 1886. He formed a partnership with architect Gustav Stoltze until about 1899. Schick worked alone for a period prior to beginning a new partnership with Andrew Roth in late 1901. Though Roth was initially considered to be a carpenter, he advertised himself as an architect as early as 1893. Though the two prepared many designs together, Andrew Roth undoubtedly relied on the academic training of his well-educated partner Hugo Schick.

Other La Crosse buildings designed by Hugo Schick include the interior remodeling of the McMillan Building at 401 Main Street, the Harry Hirschheimer House at 218 N. 8th Street (1900), the John P. Salser House at 133 S. 14th St. (1900), and the Hirschheimer Plow Company Building at 3rd and Pine streets (1900). Schick and Roth are also known for the design of the Pettibone Park Gazebo, which was built in 1902-03 (Rausch, 1996: 63, 64, 102, 103).

Crosby and Hynne Granite Company, Monument Works

The Crosby and Hynne Company, which was established circa 1896, operated a local workshop at 321-323 Jay Street in La Crosse. As specialists in monumental works, they were equipped with all of the latest machinery for working with marble and granite. The firm utilized a team of eight traveling salesmen who sold many of the company's monuments in a territory that extended in a one hundred mile radius from La Crosse. They are credited with erecting the Losey Memorial Arch, completing construction in November 1901 (*La Crosse Daily Press*, 16 August 1901).

Commemorative and Monumental Architecture

Probably one of the most compelling reasons why the classical revival styles were popular during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century for memorial architecture was because they were

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>8</u> Page <u>5</u> Losey Memorial Arch, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

seen as a reflection of a timeless ideal and a divine logic which blended intellectual with aesthetic appeal. In other words, the Classical Revival style was not a whimsical fad, rather an enduring tribute to the honored individual. Though the classical revival memorial was often replicated through the execution of temples, sarcophagi, altars, columns, and exedra, the triumphal arch was often used as well, as a public memorial. (McDowell & Meyer, 1994: 24). The use of the classical styles for large institutional and governmental buildings was popularized by the World's Columbian Exposition held in Chicago in 1893, where monumental classical facades lined the Court of Honor. The Exposition and subsequent fairs popularized the City Beautiful movement, which brought classical order and architecture to cities throughout the country. As noted above, the movement was important for both its planning ideals and for the associations conveyed to the citizen.

The Losey Memorial Arch exemplifies the Classical Revival style with its use of the Roman arches, the smooth cut stone, the symmetrical design, and the Corinthian capitals on the pilasters. It is likely that the Losey Memorial Association selected Mr. Schick's design for its enduring Classical Revival theme, knowing that it would blend well with the prominent cemetery monuments already in Oak Grove Cemetery by this time.

In summary, the Losey Memorial Arch is an excellent example of the Classical Revival style of architecture articulated in a commemorative monument in the city of La Crosse. There is no comparable structure which exists in the city, and its one hundred year existence has ensured its importance and impact on the residents of the city of La Crosse.

Los	ey Memo	orial Arch			La (Crosse	Wisconsin	
Name of Property					County and State			
). N	lajor B	ibliographic Re	ferences					
Cite	the book	s, articles, and othe	r sources used in preparing t	his form o	on one or i	nore continuatio	on sheets.)	
 Previous Documentation on File (National Park Service): 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 # 					dditional data: vation Office itory:			
0. (Geogra	phical Data						
cre	age of Pr	operty under one a	cre					
JTM	[Referen	aces (Place additiona	al UTM references on a cont	inuation s	heet.)			
1	1/5	6/4/1/9/3/0	4/8/5/2/9/8/0	3				
-	Zone	Easting	Northing	_	Zone	Easting	Northing	
2				4				
•	Zone	Easting	Northing	-	Zone	Easting	Northing	

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	Barbara Kooiman, Architectur	al Historian					
organization	Mississippi Valley Archaeolog	ical Center		date	January 2002		
street & number	1725 State Street			telephone	608 785-6783		
city or town	La Crosse	state	WI	zip code	54601		

See Continuation Sheet

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section 9 Page 1 Losey Memorial Arch, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

Bibliography

La Crosse Daily Press, 16 August 1901

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- Rausch, Joan, Architectural Researches, Inc. City of L aCrosse, Wisconsin Intensive Survey Report, Architectural and Historical Survey Project. Prepared for the City of La Crosse, Wisconsin, 1996.
- Sanford, Albert J. and H.J. Hirshheimer. A History of L aCrosse County, Wisconsin, 1841-1900. La Crosse, Wisconsin: La Crosse County Historical Society, 1951.
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United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>10</u> Page <u>1</u> Losey Memorial Arch, LaCrosse County, Wisconsin

Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary for the Losey Memorial Arch is drawn in an approximate rectangle with La Crosse street curb being the southern boundary and landscape features, specifically a driveway on the west and north sides and plantings on the east side. East/west the boundary is 36 meters wide and north/south the boundary is 28 meters wide. Using the center point under the middle or main arch, the boundary is located: 15 meters to the north, 15 meters to the east, 13 meters to the south curb line, 21 meters to the west. The boundary encloses the arch, its associated landscaping, including grass, shrubs and trees, as well as the immediate paved driveway that goes through the arch. See the attached site map for the general location of the boundaries.

Boundary Justification

The Losey Memorial Arch encompasses the area on which it stands and the immediate surroundings of the arch structure itself including its associated landscaping, which is its historic and current location.

Losey Memorial Arch	La Crosse	Wisconsin
Name of Property	County and State	

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

MapsA 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/title	Val Reinke, Executive Director							
organization	Oak Grove Cemetery Association			date	January 2002			
street&number	1407 La Crosse St.			telephone	608 796-9719			
city or town	La Crosse	state	WI	zip code	54601			

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. 470 <u>et seq</u>.).

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 <u>Photos</u> Page <u>1</u> Losey Memorial Arch, LaCrosse County, Wisconsin

Photographs

The following information pertains to all of the photos for this submission:

Losey Memorial Arch LaCrosse, LaCrosse County, Wisconsin Photographs taken by Barbara Kooiman, Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center Taken 8 December 2001 Negatives located at Wisconsin Historical Society

Photo #1 of 13 Losey Memorial Arch, south façade, photographer facing northeast

Photo #2 of 13 Losey Memorial Arch detail, south façade, west (left) bronze plaque

Photo #3 of 13 Losey Memorial Arch detail, south façade, east (right) bronze plaque

Photo #4 of 13 Losey Memorial Arch detail, south façade, name plate

Photo #5 of 13

Losey Memorial Arch, south façade, facing northwest, showing relation to LaCrosse Street and adjacent Oak Grove Crematorium and offices.

Photo #6 of 13

Losey Memorial Arch, south façade, facing north, showing relationship to street, cemetery driveway, and Oak Grove Cemetery.

Photo #7 of 13 Losey Memorial Arch, north façade, facing southeast

Photo #8 of 13 Losey Memorial Arch, north façade, facing south

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section <u>Photos</u> Page 2 Losey Memorial Arch, LaCrosse County, Wisconsin

Photo #9 of 13 Losey Memorial Arch, north and east facades, facing west

Photo #10 of 13 Oak Grove Cemetery, from Arch, facing northeast

Photo #11 of 13 Oak Grove Cemetery, from Arch, facing east

Photo #12 of 13

Losey Memorial Arch, red sandstone pedestal foundation on southwest corner, showing deterioration of stone

Photo #13 of 13 Losey Memorial Arch, southwest cornice detail

