

PH 0669253

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAY 22 1978
DATE ENTERED NOV 24 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Paris Cemetery Gatehouse
AND/OR COMMON Same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER U.S. Highway 68 South
CITY, TOWN Paris VICINITY OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6
STATE Kentucky CODE 021 COUNTY Bourbon CODE 017 ✓

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Cemetery Gatehouse

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Paris Cemetery Company ✓
STREET & NUMBER South Main
CITY, TOWN Paris VICINITY OF STATE Kentucky 40361

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Bourbon County Courthouse
STREET & NUMBER Main Street
CITY, TOWN Paris STATE Kentucky

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky
DATE 1971 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Kentucky Heritage Commission
CITY, TOWN Frankfort STATE Kentucky

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Paris Cemetery Gatehouse is located on the west side of U.S. Highway 68 on the southern fringe of Paris, the seat of Bourbon County. Several late-19th-century and early-20th-century dwellings remain in the neighborhood of the gatehouse, but commercial establishments are rapidly encroaching upon the area.

The structure was built ca. 1847, and was designed by John McMurtry of Lexington. Essentially, this brick construction is composed of a three-bay Tudor arcade connecting two 1½-story cubiform lodges. The southern block houses the superintendent's office, and the other was meant to be a reception room, but is currently used for storage.

The central and larger arch, corbelled in an expert manner, was used as a passage for carriages, and is wide enough to accommodate automobiles; the smaller arches are used by pedestrians visiting the cemetery grounds. Supporting the arcade are four piers that rise above the battlemented parapet with beveled merlons. These piers are capped with cast-iron pinnacles of two designs. A rectangular marble plaque is set into the wall over each of the two smaller arches. One bears the inscription: "Paris Cemetery, Incorporated, January 30, 1837"; while the other reads: "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgement. Heb. IX, 27."

The main facades of the cubiform lodges are treated identically. Piercing the first level of each is a pair of rectangular windows, and in the upper level is a pair of square windows. Originally, Tudor label moldings were above, but these have been removed in recent years. Brick pilasters are at the corners, corbel tables are on all sides, and there is a continuous wooden boxed cornice below the parapets.

The lodges' sides are unfenestrated except for a small window near the street corner of each, and the rear is fenestrated in the same manner as the front. The entrances to these blocks are from the inner sides past the arches. Their interiors have been altered through the application of wood paneling on the walls, but a small mantel with an arched opening in the superintendent's office appears to be original.

The arches contain iron gates that are pristine in comparison with a fine, late Victorian iron fence that stretches for over 100 feet south of the gatehouse. This brick structure continues to serve its intended function, and is in a good state of preservation.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
—PREHISTORIC	—ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	—COMMUNITY PLANNING	—LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	—RELIGION	
—1400-1499	—ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	—CONSERVATION	—LAW	—SCIENCE	
—1500-1599	—AGRICULTURE	—ECONOMICS	—LITERATURE	—SCULPTURE	
—1600-1699	XARCHITECTURE	—EDUCATION	—MILITARY	—SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
—1700-1799	—ART	—ENGINEERING	—MUSIC	—THEATER	
X1800-1899	—COMMERCE	—EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	—PHILOSOPHY	—TRANSPORTATION	
—1900-	—COMMUNICATIONS	—INDUSTRY	—POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	—OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		—INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES ca. 1847

BUILDER/ARCHITECT John McMurtry

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Paris Cemetery Gatehouse, built ca. 1847, is significant in being among the very few Gothic Revival structures, as opposed to buildings, in Kentucky. It exemplifies high qualities of design and workmanship, and is the product of Kentucky's leading proponent of the Gothic style, John McMurtry.

The Paris Cemetery Company was incorporated on January 30, 1847--shortly afterwards commissioning McMurtry to design an entrance gatehouse for the cemetery grounds. McMurtry (1812-1890), a native of Lexington, had no formal architectural education. However, in 1833 he apprenticed himself to Gideon Shryock who had studied for a year under William Strickland, (Clay Lancaster, Back Streets and Pine Trees, p. 2). It is Shryock who is credited for having introduced the Greek Revival to the West.

In the mid-1840s, a second architect with conventional training appeared in Lexington, Major Thomas Lewinski, a Polish emigré who had studied engineering in London. Many large commissions around Lexington went to Lewinski, and McMurtry "filled the humbler position of contractor on some of them" (Ibid., p. 23). Through his associations with this master, McMurtry fully profited--learning much about the Gothic Revival which would become his forte.

Both Shryock and Lewinski moved elsewhere, leaving McMurtry as the person "whose work is most representative of the 19th-century architecture in central Kentucky" (Ibid., vii). His design for the Paris Cemetery Gatehouse remains both visually pleasing and very functional. McMurtry was careful to provide separate access for pedestrian and vehicular traffic, along with utilitarian areas necessary for the cemetery company's activities--all parts being well integrated. Although the structure is of no large dimensions, it possesses a conspicuous dignity and a quiet charm. In addition, the gatehouse's notable masonry workmanship renders it a sound construction that remains viable.

Apparently, McMurtry's product met with high approval, for several years later he was commissioned by the Lexington Cemetery to design a similar gatehouse. For the latter, he employed a same Tudor arcade, but substituted octagonal piers in two rows with no pinnacles (Patrick Snadon, Bargeboards and Bluegrass, p. 39). The Lexington gatehouse, however, was dismantled in 1890 and replaced with a more substantial structure in the Romanesque style.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lancaster, Clay. Back Streets and Pine Trees. Lexington, Kentucky :
Bur Press, 1956.

Snadon, Patrick. Bargeboards and Bluegrass. Unpublished Master's Thesis,
The University of Kentucky, 1974.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1/4 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,6	7,3,9	5,6,0	4,2,3,1	6,9,0	B					
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		
C						D					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The property nominated is a rectangular lot 75 x 25 feet, bounded on the east by a sidewalk running parallel to U.S. Highway 68, one mile south of the Bourbon County Courthouse in Paris, Kentucky.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Daniel Kidd, Architectural Historian

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

April, 1978..

STREET & NUMBER

104 Bridge Street

TELEPHONE

502-564-3741

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky 40601

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Cedric W. Meeter

TITLE

DATE

5/15/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

11/29/78

ATTEST: *Bill Laboriel*

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

Nov 22, 1978

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