OMB Form 10-900 PROPERTY NAME United States Department of the Interior

1. Name of Property

historic name Spring Grove Cemetery

other names/site number NA

2. Location

street & number 2035 Main Street

city or town Hartford

state Connecticut

code CT county Hartford

1203

3. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

<u>x</u> private

____ public-local

____ public-State

____ public-Federal

Category of Property (Check only one box)

_____ building(s)

x district

site

_____ structure

____ object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing Noncontributing

- objects
- _____ Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register NA



not for publication NA vicinity NA

code 003 zip code 06120

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United States Department of the Interior		

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this \checkmark 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 \checkmark meets ______ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally ______ statewide \checkmark locally. (______ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

45

Signature of certifying official

CCT / SHP⊳ 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.)

11-5-08 Date

Date

Signature of commenting or other official

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this 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	
removed from the National Register	

other (explain):

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

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6. Function or Use		
Historic Functions (Enter catego Cat: <u>FUNERARY</u>	ories from instructions) Sub: <u>cemetery</u>	-
Current Functions (Enter catego	ries from instructions)	
Cat: <u>FUNERARY</u>	Sub: <u>cemetery</u> ,	

7. Description

Architectural Classification MID 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS

Materials

BRICK, STONE, BRONZE

Present and Historic Appearance

Spring Grove Cemetery's 33 acres fill the interior of most of a square block in the north end of Hartford, Connecticut. The land is flat to gently rolling and is well covered by a variety of monuments set in individual or family plots. (Figure 6) The landscape presents a wide panorama of memorial stones and monuments unbroken by open spaces. Photographs 2, 3, and 4 give a good sense of the overall appearance of the grounds. The cemetery's monuments and structures, dating from 1845 when the cemetery was opened as a for profit enterprise, demonstrate the progression over time in materials from brownstone and marble to granite, and in design from simple tablets to artistically significant figures and elaborate designs.

The cemetery is roughly bounded by Main Street on the east, Capen Street on the north, Garden Street on the west, and Mahl Avenue on the south. (Figure 1) The premises are entered from Main Street¹ through an arch and narrow drive (Photograph 1) to the office and flagpole² and then on to the extended flat and rolling ground dotted with monuments. (Section H, Photograph 2; Section 1, Photograph 3; Section B, Photograph 4) Parallel roadways at right angles to one another, some paved

¹ Next door to the north on Main Street is the Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on July 22, 1994, while the Windsor Avenue Congregational Church, listed April 3, 1993, is across the street.

² The office, on the right, is a 10/15-year old building, one story brick. The flagpole and its surrounding paving and planting on the left are new, about three years old.

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with macadam, some with crushed stone, and some simply with grassy turf, divide the grounds into numbered sections. (Figure 2) The numbered sections in turn are divided into individual single-grave plots and larger family plots. (Figure 6)

Founded in 1845 and filled with significant interments, Spring Grove Cemetery has suffered from severe lack of maintenance in recent decades, but now is experiencing a renaissance of basic care and community use.

In terms of <u>Historic Appearance</u>, the principal architectural resource at Spring Grove Cemetery was the former Allyn Memorial Chapel, which was a significant example of late-19th-century Romanesque Revival architecture, built in 1884 at a cost of \$40,000.³ (Photograph 5) It was located at the front of the grounds on the site of the present office.⁴

Other historic resources (see Contributing Resources) in the cemetery include the brownstone vault of 1869 (Holding Building, Section 2, Photograph 6), once used to hold caskets in the winter awaiting spring burial. The front gable of the vault rises to a Gothic Revival tower and tall cross-shaped finial, all in brownstone.⁵ (Photograph 7)

The majority of objects in the landscape are conventionally sized grave markers and monuments whose materials evolved over the years from brownstone to marble to sandstone and granite. Many of the brownstone examples have delaminated over the years and the marble has sugared while those in the harder sandstone and granite materials are mostly in good condition. The obelisk was a preferred shape for early larger monuments, mostly in brownstone. The seated female figure predominates in later marble and granite examples.

Contributing Resources

1. Page Family Memorial. The first monument to be erected soon after Stephen Page opened the cemetery in 1845 is in the Page family plot. It has a kneeling female figure on a high base. Initially, it memorialized Mary Balch Page, wife of Stephen Page. Mary died October 17, 1845. There is an inscription to Stephen Page on the back. (Photograph 8) The monument is a short square sandstone column with a molded flat top. Several other family names are also inscribed on the monument and rows of head stones have been added on both sides, following the usual practice in family plots.

2. Hillyer Monument. Many other large monuments also are centerpieces for family plots. An example is the Hillyer sarcophagus-shaped pedestal of tan Westerly granite with steeled finish. The pedestal supports a seated female figure of the same stone. (Section A, Photograph 9) A row of six head stones runs along one side of the monument and five on the other side. The letterings on the tops of the stones on the east side, front to back are:

³ The chapel was the gift of Timothy M. Allyn (1800-1882), proprietor of the Allyn House, which was the principal hotel downtown.

⁴ The Allyn Chapel was featured with a full-page photograph in an article by Arnold Lewis, with Keith Morgan, in American Victorian Architecture, New York: Dover Publications, 1975, p. 34.

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Charles T. Hillyer, 1800-1891
Catherine Robbins, wife of Charles T. Hillyer, 1801-1890
Catherine C., daughter of C.T. and C.R. Hillyer, 1821-1851
Alice L., daughter of C.T. and C.R. Hillyer, 1831-1891
Clara E., daughter of C.T. and C.R. Hillyer, 1837-1906
And on the west side:
Appleton R. Hillyer, 1833-1915
Dotha Bushnell, wife of Appleton R. Hillyer, 1843-1932
Catherine R., daughter of A.R and D.B. Hillyer, 1881-1884
Lucy Tudor, daughter of A.R and D.B. Hillyer, 1885-1912
Appleton H. Seaverns, 1916-2007 (small iron plaque)
Mary Bushnell Hillyer, wife of Charles F.T. Seaverns, 1881-1947
Charles F.T. Seaverns, 1878-1956

The Hillyer monument is one of the few in the cemetery to carry the name of the supplier incised at one corner of the base -- "N E Granite Works/Hartford, CT." The prominence of the Hillyer family in Hartford history is remembered today by the presence of Hillyer College at the University of Harford and the Bushnell Memorial, which was the gift of Dotha Bushnell Hillyer (1843-1932), daughter of Horace Bushnell and donor of Hartford's. Bushnell concert hall. Her grandson, Appleton Severance, long time headmaster of Suffield Academy, joined his family here in 2007.

3. Parish Family Plot. Family plots are often enclosed by iron railings which run between iron or stone posts The Parish plot is a case in point. The Parish plot is unusual because in addition to the central sandstone obelisk, Sara Jane is memorialized at one side of the plot by a separate marble pedestal and seated female figure. (Section C, Photograph 10) The lot has a simple but carefully designed cast-iron gate. (Photograph 11)

4. Larrabee Brownstone Obelisk. The central Larrabee brownstone obelisk with pyramidal top has a long list of names on one side, but there are no headstones in the plot. (Section B, Photograph 12) The Larabee family was long prominent in philanthropy in Hartford through the Larabee Fund Association.

5. Larabee Indigent Women plot. In front of the fence surrounding the Larrabee brownstone obelisk is a row of small headstones on a separate parcel donated to the City of Hartford by the will of Major Charles Larrabee (d. 1863) for interment of indigent women. (Section B, Photograph 13)

6. The Pratt/Allyn family plot. The central feature here is a mid-19th-century brownstone obelisk which is unusual for its Gothic Revival spire (Section F, Photograph 13), thus moving with the times in mixing Classical and Renaissance motifs. The monument is also unusual for the great length of the list of names and dates inscribed in the obelisk. The Pratt family gave its name to Pratt Street, a major block in downtown Hartford, while Timothy Allyn donated the Allyn Chapel.

7. The Henry Kirke Morgan⁶ Celtic cross. (Photograph 15) The steeled textured granite cross is

⁶ Henry K. Morgan was part of the New London Morgan family, whereas Hartford's J.P. Morgan family came from Springfield., MA.

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12.

thought by cemetery management to be the second largest Celtic cross in New England. Its front is covered with interlacing fretwork and knotwork decoration. Five small Celtic crosses are among the headstones in the plot. One name on the monument is Emily Malbone Morgan (1862-1905). She carried on a prolific correspondence leading to the founding of the Society of the Companions of Holy Cross. Her letters were privately printed in 1944. On the fiftieth anniversary of the Society of Companions of the Holy Cross, Father J.O.S. Huntington, O.H.C., conducted a Retreat on which occasion he recalled the last breakfast at which Emily Malbone Morgan, Founder, had been present.

8. The Church family plot. In a more sylvan setting than others, its obelisk, which is unusually tall, again combines a Gothic Revival pointed-arch panel in the pedestal with the classical obelisk form. (Section F, Photograph 16) Frederick Edwin Church's headstone (a replacement) is at the foot of the obelisk. (Photograph 17) Frederick Edwin Church (1826-1900) was an acknowledged leader in the Hudson River school of painting.

9. The Springer monument. Erected in memory of Enos Springer (1854-1915), the Springer monument is one of the few in the cemetery of contemporary design. It is a polished granite cube balanced in what appears to be a precarious position on the tip of one corner over a smaller round stone base. (Section 8, Photograph 18) Related biographical and design information has not come to hand.

10. Laurent Clerc plot. Laurent Clerc (1785-1869) was co-founder of the American School for the Deaf in 1871. With his wife he is buried in a small enclosed plot. The two stones are identical, except for the lettering, composed in a stylized Gothic pattern in an unusual slanted position. The site is listed on the American School for the Deaf Heritage Trail.

11. Pond mausoleum. The Pond mausoleum is completely covered by earth, in a large raised rounded shape, except for its over scaled brownstone entrance which features massive half columns flanking the doorway under unifying apex roof. (Photograph 19) The Pond mausoleum is one of two contributing buildings in he cemetery.⁷ Elizabeth Aldrich Pond, wife of Charles M. Pond, donor of Elizabeth Park, who named the park for his wife, is interred here with her husband.

12. Sigourney obelisk and plot. The name of Lydia Sigourney (1791-1865), "The Sweet Singer of Hartford," whose poetry sold better than Mark Twain's works, is on the obelisk and her initials in raised letters are on the segmental top of one of the surrounding conventional individual stones. (Photograph 20)

13. Henry Clay Work obelisk. Henry Clay Work (1832-1884) composed *Marching Through Georgia*. His obelisk is unusual for several reasons: it is gray granite rather than dark brownstone, is truncated, and bears a prominent bronze plaque. Lettering on the plaque reads, in part, "erected by popular subscription MCMIX.⁸"

14. Burnham, Enders, Seymour monument. In 1885, Harriet Sloan Burnham, the mother of two sisters, Caroline Louisa (Mrs. Thomas O.) Enders and Harriet Adelaide (Mrs. Charles L) Seymour, put

⁷ The other is the Holding Building.

⁸ 1919.

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up a granite monument with raised lettering reading Burnham, Enders, and Seymour for the family. The monument is one of the few, perhaps the only one, in Spring Grove for which the identity of the designer is known. He was Chester D. Burnham, who for 35 years had a "marble works" on Windsor (Main) Street.⁹ He was a director of the Association, died in 1909, and is buried in Spring Grove, Section A.

15, Holding Building. Other historic resources in the cemetery include the brownstone vault (Holding Building) of 1866 (Section 2, Photograph 6), once used to store caskets in the winter awaiting spring burial. The front gable of the vault rises to a Gothic Revival tower and tall cross-shaped finial. (Photograph 7) The interior of the building contains free standing shelves for casket storage. The shelves are large pieces of slate, resting on vertical supports of brick.

The map of the cemetery (Figure 2) shows the front sections identified with letters and the back sections with numbers. The front of the cemetery, from the Page monument to Main Street, was developed first with sections identified by letters, but when the back of the cemetery was developed a change was made to numbers.

350 Civil War veterans are interred at Spring Grove, in Sections C, F, G, H, I, and J. (Section C, Figure 6) Their names are recorded at the Connecticut State Library. Spanish-American and World War I veterans are in Section H.

At the Main Street entrance Gothic Revival front iron gates were added in the 1870s, with a wall and posts of massive rough-finished posts. The wall and posts remain but the gates are wrought-iron replacements installed with the overhead arch, post-1988. (Photograph 1)

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⁹ Hartford Courant, June 20, 1885

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8. Statement of Significance

A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.

Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. x. B

Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of . x . C 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.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- x D a cemetery.
 - E a reconstructed building, object or structure.
 - F a commemorative property.
- . G less than 50 years of age, in part.

Areas of Significance

Social History Landscape Architecture Period of Significance 1844 - 2007

Significant Dates 1844/46, became a for-profit public cemetery 1864/67, Spring Grove Cemetery Association formed

Significant Persons See text

Cultural Affiliation NA

Architect/Builder Thomas M. Clunnie

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Summary

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Spring Grove Cemetery was an active late-19th/mid-20th century burial ground, the place of final rest for many prominent Hartford family names, as well as African Americans and indigent women. The most prominent individual with a headstone at Spring Grove is Hartford native Frederick Edwin Church (1826-1900), a leader in the Hudson River school of painting. The major monuments and gravestones are good examples of the materials, artistic quality, and sentiment of their times. Spring Grove Cemetery (1846) is one of the oldest cemeteries in the city,¹⁰ and one of only two Hartford cemeteries without religious group or government ownership Instead, Spring Grove is owned and managed by a private association.¹¹ The grounds layout displays typical division into sections and of sections into individual burial plots. Because of these factors, the cemetery meets Criteria Consideration D.

History

The history of Spring Grove Cemetery starts as land, perhaps a farm, owned by Stephen Page on Main Street in north Hartford. Stephen Page began using the land for occasional interments in the early 1800s (Figure 3)¹², opening it to the public in 1845. After his death, c.1846, his sons, J. Belden Page and William Henry Page, continued as proprietors, in 1846 placing small advertisements in the Hartford Courant. (Figure 4) Their motivation is unknown. Perhaps they were driven by civic mindedness; perhaps they simply saw the cemetery as a profit-making opportunity. They did not sell burial rights (with the cemetery retaining actual ownership if the land), which is the usual cemetery procedure. Instead, they sold lots in fee simple. As time marched on, a group of gentlemen who owned lots in Spring Grove met on the evening of September 27, 1864, to consider forming an association with capital of \$50,000 to purchase the entire cemetery in the expectation that in a few years the capital expenditure would be returned to the stockholders from sale of lots. Among those in attendance were Roland Mather, J.S. Niles, and Austin Dunham.¹³

The project went forward. Articles of Association of Spring Grove Cemetery were filed with the Secretary of State on June 14, 1867, providing for capital stock of \$20,000 divided into 800 shares of \$25.00 each. The purposes of the Association included "enclosing, improving [and] adorning" the premises. At the end of the document the names of 38 men were listed, with the number of shares, ranging up to 24 (\$600.00), taken by each. The names of S.B. Page and Wm. H. Page were there. Also the name of Timothy M(ather) Allyn, who was to build the Allyn Memorial Chapel. Title to the property was transferred the following day for a consideration of \$12,430.¹⁴

¹⁰ The Ancient Burying Ground (1640) and Old North Cemetery (1807) are older, while Zion Hill and Spring Grove started in at the same time. (1846).

¹¹ The other is Cedar Hill Cemetery.

¹² City directories of the time also list the Pages with a downtown address, probably an office.

¹³ Hartford Courant, Sept. 29, 1864.

¹⁴ Hartford Land Records, volume 124, page 91, June 15, 1867.

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	rove Cemetery, Hartford, CT

The Association retained a professional landscape architect to lay out the northwest section of the cemetery (Photographs 2, 3, 4) in July of 1881. He was Thomas M. Clunnie, of Hartford, who had been one of the participants in the design competition for Bushnell Park. The sections he laid out have not been changed.

By 1897, when the chapel building and land already had been given by the Allyn family to the Association, condition of the chapel was of sufficient concern to lead Mrs. Robert Allyn to hire an architect, George H. Gilbert (1829-1911),¹⁵ to evaluate what should be done. Gilbert made a number of recommendations which included repointing, removing efflorescence, resetting the turrets, regrading to encourage water to drain away from the foundation, filling in the crypts (never used), cleaning and repairing the interior, and installing a heating system — for an estimated cost of \$3,500. Whether these recommendations were executed is unknown.

At some unknown date the practice of selling lots in fee simple was given up for the usual arrangement of selling burial rights. Some evidence of timing is suggested by the fact that Allyn's estate gave the chapel and its land to the Association in the 1880s.

In 1904 Spring Grove took a further step forward by setting aside portions of Sections 5 and 6 for sale of lots for African Americans. The resolution was passed at a September 25, 1904, meeting of the executive committee. (Figure 5) The action was prescient in that North Hartford in recent decades has become home to a majority of minorities. The Association took action appropriate to the social change. Notable African Americans buried at Spring Grove include the first black fire fighter, William Henry Jacklyn, and the first black to build a church in the north end of the city (the adjoining Mount Calvary Baptist Church), Frederick D. Oates, who also became its first minister.

Spring Grove continues as an active cemetery, accepting interments at a cost of \$1,300 (compared with \$88 in 1898). Figure 3 lists the number of interments each year since the beginning, now totaling some 19,000, including 360 Civil War veteraus. The annual number reached more than 100 in 1870, 200 in 1888, fell to single digits in the late 1970s. and is now increasing again. Names indicating that the interred are Catholics are conspicuously missing. The reason for this condition is unknown.

¹⁵Gilbert practiced in Hartford for decades. Among his commissions was the Noah Webster School (1900).

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Significance

Spring Grove Cemetery is significant because of its unaltered original layout, its demonstration of changes in style and material of cemetery monuments, and because of the prominent role in Hartford history played by many of the people buried there.

The layout is that of a standard grid of parallel lines at right angles to one another. It works well here because the land is flat with no rock ledges, streams, or other archaeological components to deal with, and no areas are heavily planted. The northwest sections laid out by Clunnie adhere to this basic scheme.¹⁶ The practical advantage of the scheme is that all plots are easily accessed.

The style and material of Spring Grove Cemetery monuments did not progress in a straight line. It may be that the Page monument (Photograph 8), judging by its lettering, is the oldest. On the other hand, the actual date of its erection is unknown. In any event, its sculpted female figure (usually imported from Italy) on a tall heavy base was used for many prominent people throughout the history of the cemetery. In the early years, brownstone was more commonly used. Examples abound, including the Church and Sigourney obelisks. With the coming of steam power which made sawing hard stones possible, brownstone gave way to sandstone and granite. Marble, always unsatisfactory because it sugars but desirable for its light color, also declined in use as hard stones of light color became workable.

Spring Grove also is significant for the importance of some of the people buried there. Charles Edwin Church and Lydia Sigourney were national leaders in their respective fields. Timothy M. Allyn was a wealthy man whose estate value was exceeded only by those of Colonel Sam Colt and James Goodwin.¹⁷ Hillyer, Burnham, Larabee, Parish, and Pond are some of the other names prominent in Harford commerce and philanthropy.

6.40

9. Major Bibliographical References

Andrews, Gregory E., and David F. Ransom, Structures and Styles, Hartford: Connecticut Historical Society, 1988.

Grant, Marion Hepburn. In and About Hartford, Connecticut Historical Society, 1978.

Hartford City Directory. Hartford: Geers Publishing Company. Various years.

Hartford Land Records. Various entries.

Kummer, Merle, ed. Hartford Architecture, Volume Three: North and West Neighborhoods. Hartford: Hartford Architecture Conservancy, 1980.

Morgan, Emily Malbone. Letters to Her Companions, privately printed, 1944.

¹⁶ The benefit that Clunnie's work brought to the cemetery is not clear.

¹⁷ Hartford Courant, September 12, 1882.

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Previous documentation on file	(NPS)	
	f individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested	
previously listed in the Nati		
previously determined eligit	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
designated a National Histo		
<pre> recorded by Historic Americ recorded by Historic Americ</pre>		
	an Engineering Record #	
Primary Location of Additional	Data	
State Historic Preservation (
Other State agency		
Federal agency		
Local government		
University		
<u>x</u> .Other		
Name of repository: <u>Spring G</u>		

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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 et seq.). Estimated Burden Statement; Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the 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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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List of Photographs

Credits:

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Photograph 1, City of Hartford Assessor Photographs 19 and 20, courtesy of Connecticut Historical Society Other photographs by David F. Ransom

- Photograph 1. Main Street entry
- Photograph 2. Section H
- Photograph 3. Section 1
- Photograph 4. Section B
- Photograph 5. Allyn Memorial Chapel
- Photograph 6. Vault/holding building
- Photograph 7. Vault gable end and finial
- Photograph 8. Stephen Page lettering
- Photograph 9. Hillyer monument
- Photograph 10. Sarah Jane (Parish)
- Photograph 11. Parish plot gate
- Photograph 12. Larrabee obelisk
- Photograph 13. Graves of indigent women
- Photograph 14. Pratt/Allen spire
- Photograph 15. Celtic cross.
- Photograph 16. Church Family plot
- Photograph 17. Frederick Edwin Church headstone
- Photograph 18. Springer monument
- Photograph 19. Pond Mausoleum
- Photograph 20 Sigourney family obelisk

List of Figures

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USGS map Hartford North

Figure 1. Site plan

- Figure 2. Sections identities and photo key
- Figure 3. Annual number of interments
- Figure 4. 1840 newspaper advertisement, much enlarged
- Figure 5. 1904 resolution on African Americans
- Figure 6. Graves of Civil War veterans

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10. Geographical Data

USGS map, Quadrangle - Hartford North, Conn,

UTM References

. 4

Zone Easting Northing	Zone Easting Northing				
A 18 992998 4628260	B 18 992800 4627970				
C18 992540 4628560	D 18 992580 4628310				

Acreage of Property 33.70

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary is shown by the heavy line on Figure 1, Site Map.

Boundary Justification

Soon after the Spring Grove Cemetery Association took title to the property in 1867, 25 acres at the rear, along Garden Street and Mahl Avenue were sold off. There has been no such activity in recent decades. The cemetery entranceway leads in from Main Street (east boundary) in a section of north Hartford devoted to churches and commercial activity. The north boundary, in part, is Capen Street and , in part, the rear lot lines of houses fronting on Capen Street. The west (rear) boundary is the rear lot lines of houses fronting on Garden Street. The south boundry is the rear lot lines of small Jewish cemeteries, Mount Calvary Baptist Church, and houses fronting on Mahl Avenue (a/k/a T.D. Oates Avenue).

11. Form Prepared by	
name/title David F. Ransom	
organization <u>Architectural Historian</u>	date_July 2007
street & number_ 83 Avery Heights	telephone860 953-8626
city or town <u>Hartford</u>	state <u>CT</u> zip code <u>06106</u>



Figure								
Spring	Grove Cei	metery				8.40		4
Annua	l number o	fburials			×.		· . · .	
	2 J.P.	1876	100	1	1926	161	4	1975
- a. 180	100	1877	94	1	1927	.166	£ × .	1976
1803	. 1	1878	86	i	1928	155	1	1977
1813	1	1879	. 94		1929	163 :		1978
1822	1	1880	95	1	1930	134	1	1979
1823	1	1881	121	(+	1931	168	4	1980
1826	1	1882	132	6	1932	136		1981
1831	- 1	1883	153		1933	164	1	1982
1833	1	1884	162	8	1934	119		1983
1836	. 11	1885	171		1935	112	1 .	1984 2
1837	. 1	1886	190		1936	141		1985
1838	2	1887	185		1937	128		1986
1839	2	1888	218		1938	109	1	1987
1840	1	1889	211		1939	113		1988
1841	1	1890	200		1940	108		1989
1842	1	1891	260	-	1941	116	1	1990
1843	2	1892	240		1942	124	1	1991
1844	1	1893	264		1943	116	1.2	.1992
1845	13	1895	210		1944	114		1993
1846	16	1896	256	÷	1945	112	18	1994
1847	22	1897	245		1946	78	17	1995
1848	17	1898	235	61	1947	98		1996
1849	26	1899	255		1948	103	100	1997 . 1
1850	37	1900	265		1949	73		1998 1
1851	44	1901	219		1950	88	4	1999
1852	54	1902	214		1951	82	1	2000 1
1853	48	1903	216	1.4	1952	82	1	2001
1854	50	1904	283		1953	84	1-	2002
1855	41	1905	255	- · ·	1954	67		2003
1856	52	1906	246		1955	72	4 - I - I - I - I - I - I - I - I - I -	2004
1857	52	1907	271		1956	69	1	2005
1858	44	1908	237		1957	78	1	2006
1859	50	1909	237		1958	71	1	2007
1860	58	1910	240		1959	63	1 .	
1861	54	1911	255		1960		1 6 F	
1862	86	1912	256		1.961	61		
1863	85	1913	233	· · · · ·	1962	72		
1864	65	1914	223		1963	56		
1865	74	1915	231		1964	62		Sec. 25.
1866	43	1916	222		1965	54	1	
1867	67	1917	243		•	65	i	
1868	79	1918	226		1966	10	134 1	
1869	73		and the second se		1967	54		
		1919	180		1968	60	1	
1870	109	1920	215		1969	36	1	
1871	95	1921	151		1970	44	1	÷
1872	108	1922	173		-1971	40	1 .	
1873	135	1923	152		1972	.26		
1874	86	1924	145		1973	25	1	
1875	121	1925	150		1974	24	i — — —	13

Monday, May 14, 2007

Figure 3. Annual number of burials





TARTFORD NEW CEMETERT. THE public are respectfully informed that the new burial place, called

SPRING GROVE CEMETERY,

is now ready for the selection of lots. Improvements are being made, and will continue until this place equals any other of its size in "New England"-many lots are taken, and monuments erected. The subscriber has some lots in the "North Burying Ground" to dispose of, which were taken in exchange.

A plan of the ground may be seen and lots selected by applying to

25 TRUMBULL STREET,

(between Pratt and Asylum,) to which place the subscriber has removed, and will continue his business as usual upril 6 dtf STEPHEN PAGE & SONS.

Figure 4. 1840s advertisements, much enlarged

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Spring Grove Cemetery Association held at the cemtery September 25th at 3 P. M. there were present Cuiggle, Graves, Williams and Andrews. The matt of setting apart a certain portion of the grounds for the intermen and use of colored people was considered, and it was voted

1904

To set apart the Northwestern section of lot #5 immediately west of that portion of said lot now used for single graves, for the use and sale to colored people. Same to be divided from the single grave section by a roadway six feet wide, to be plotted and disposed of as may be, from time to time, required.

It was also voted to reserve the western portion of lot "6 for the same purpose. This portion of aforesaid lot to correspond with the portion set apart to be disposed of as aforesaid in previous vote, or for single graves as may hereafter be determine It was also voted to close all entrances to the cemetery grounds except the <u>main entrance on Windsor Avenue</u>, on and after April 15th, 1904, and to post notices conspicuously on both side of the fence on all entrances, or places that have been used as such around the grounds except the main entrance, two months pri to the date above mentioned namely, April 15th, 1904, giving the public due notice of the date that said entrances will be closed This notice to be given to the superintendent of cemetery with intructions to carry into effect the same.

Figure 5. 1904 resolution on African Americana

J.M. andray

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

EOUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

ROPERTY Spring Grove Cemetery JAME:

1ULTIPLE JAME:

STATE & COUNTY: CONNECTICUT, Hartford

DATE RECEIVED:11/12/08DATE OF PENDING LIST:12/02/08DATE OF 16TH DAY:12/17/08DATE OF 45TH DAY:12/26/08DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:12/26/0812/26/08

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08001203

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL:NDATA PROBLEM:NLANDSCAPE:NLESS THAN 50 YEARS:YDTHER:YPDIL:NPERIOD:NPROGRAM UNAPPROVED:NREQUEST:YSAMPLE:NSLR DRAFT:YNATIONAL:N

COMMENT WAIVER:

13/24/0 BATE REJECT RETURN ACCEPT

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Sex actached Comments

Return - Patick Arduls	
RECOM./CRITERIA A.C.	
REVIEWER 4 on Deline	DISCIPLINE ASTMAN
TELEPHONE	DATE 12/2408

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE 1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20240

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service National Register of Historic Places Comments Evaluation/Return Sheet

Property Name:	Spring Grove Cemetery
Property Location:	Hartford County, CT
Reference Number:	08001203
Date of Return:	December 24, 2008

Reason for Return: The Spring Grove Cemetery nomination is being returned for clarifications and for technical corrections. The following must be addressed for this nomination to be considered acceptable:

Classification.

On page 1, the nomination lists contributing "structures/monuments" but no sites or objects. The overall landscape design of a cemetery should be counted as a contributing site. Grave markers having artistic merit are considered contributing objects. Cast-iron fencing, stone retaining walls and the front entrance posts should also be considered as contributing structures. Are the post-1988 wrought-iron entrance gates and overhead arch replacements of historic features original to Spring Grove? What is the approximate date of the Springer monument? If it pre-dates 1958, it should be considered a contributing object.

Please revise resource count and refer to National Register (NR) Bulletin, *Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places*, pages, 24-25 for further explanation of contributing features.

Section 7. Narrative Description.

On page 3, the narrative indicates Stephen Page opened the cemetery in 1845. On page 8, the nomination indicates the beginning Period of Significance is 1844 when Spring Grove became a for profit cemetery. Please clarify in the description which date is correct and when did the first burials occur?

The district map indicates another area south of Spring Grove as "Saint Patrick's Cemetery." A reference is made on page 10, "Names indicating that the interred are Catholics are

conspicuously missing. The reason for this condition is unknown." Does this have some bearing on the fact that the Catholic cemetery was just across Mahl Avenue from the Spring Grove Cemetery and perhaps buried there? Also, how does the "small Jewish cemetery" fit within this context of Spring Grove? Were lands set aside for both the Jewish and Catholic cemeteries at the same time as Spring Grove?

The cemetery description references the former Allyn Memorial Chapel (photograph 5) but doesn't indicate what happened to this building. Please explain. The cemetery also contains graves of indigent women and African-American plots; however, the district map doesn't contain the cemetery sections to identify where these are located. Please describe the landscape defining features of these sections.

Additional information is needed about the development of this for profit cemetery. Describe the burial patterns used from the cemetery's inception to 1881. Did it originally contain all 33 acres or was it added to over the years? Why was this area in the north end of Hartford selected? On page 10, the nomination's history mentions the 1881 layout work of landscape architect, Thomas M. Clunnie, in the northwest section. Further describe his design work. How did it fit within late 19th-century cemetery landscape design practices, such as the "rural" cemetery movement? Did this layout carry over into other areas of the cemetery in later developments? Please refer to National Register Cemetery Bulletin, page 6, for an explanation on landscape designs, and pages 20-24 for information regarding cemetery descriptions.

Section 8. Statement of Significance.

On page 8, the nomination, indicates an Area of Significance of Social History but doesn't provide a summary paragraph or context statement under Criterion A. The nomination hasn't justified Criterion B. It is unclear who is being documented, is it for Frederick Edwin Church or Thomas M. Clunnie? Criterion B should be dropped unless a context can be established in which to evaluate the significance of the person. Please refer to NR Cemetery Bulletin, pages 9-17 for information regarding applying the NR Criteria for Evaluation and revise this section.

Please provide further context for the nominations eligibility under Criterion C. How does this cemetery fit within the local or regional landscape designs during this time period? Provide additional context for Hartford landscape designer, Thomas M. Clunnie. How extensive was his work? Did he design other cemeteries? Where did this layout for Spring Grove fall within his career span? What did the newspaper accounts or critiques say of his work? Was he known for advocating and working with any particular landscape design movements?

Please clarify the beginning Period of Significance (POS) as referenced above under Section 7. The ending POS should be to 1958, the 50-year cut-off date. Ordinarily, the POS would not extend up to the present day unless specially justified under Criteria Consideration G.

On page 10, another reference is made to the Allyn family chapel building but it is unclear how this fits within the cemetery context. The nomination indicates at an unknown date, "...the practice of selling lots in fee simple was given up for the usual arrangement of selling burial rights." Define further the significance of this change and how it fits within the Social History of

2

the Association's management of Spring Grove. If the Allyn chapel is no longer extant, what happened? How much additional land was donated with the chapel? Is this in addition to the 33 acres?

District Map. The district map does not contain a legend with a scale. For a line on a map to serve as the boundary, the map must be drawn at a scale of 1 inch = 200 feet. Please refer to the NR Bulletin *How to Complete the National Register Registration Form*, page 62 for map guidelines.

Note: Any additional documentation needs to be labeled with the historic name, county, and state.

National Register Nomination Form. The Spring Grove Cemetery nomination was also submitted on an expired (1986) National Register Form. Please prepare the nomination on the current NR form which can be found at: http://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/forms.htm

Please call me at 202-354-2239, or e-mail at <lisa_deline@nps.gov> if you have any questions.

Lisa Deline, Historian National Register of Historic Places December 24, 2008

NPS Form 10-900	OMB No. 102	24-0018	18		(Expires 5/31/2012)
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service	1	158	1	5	
National Register of Hist	toric P	laces	1	D	CG 0 8 201)
Registration Form		luces	ŀ		
This form is for use in nominating or requesting determ to Complete the National Register of Historic Places I 'not applicable." For functions, architectural classific instructions. Place additional certification comment	Registration Fo	orm. If any item or als, and areas of	does not apply to significance, en	o the prop nter only c	erty being documented, enter "N/A" categories and subcategories from
1. Name of Property					
historic name Spring Grove Cemetery					
other names/site number N/A					
2. Location				_	
Charles and the state of the state of the					
street & number 2035 Main Street					not for publication
city or town Hartford					vicinity
state CT code CT	county	Hartford	code	003	zip code 06120
3. State/Federal Agency Certification					
I hereby certify that this <u>x</u> nomination for registering properties in the National Re requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property <u>x</u> meets	gister of His	storic Places a	ind meets the	procedu	ural and professional
for registering properties in the National Re requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property <u>x</u> meets <u>be</u> considered significant at the following let	gister of His does not r	storic Places a meet the Natio	nd meets the	procedu Criteria.	ural and professional
for registering properties in the National Re requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property <u>x</u> meets <u>be</u> considered significant at the following let	gister of His _ does not r vel(s) of sig	storic Places a meet the Natio	nd meets the	procedu	ural and professional I recommend that this prope
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Spring Grove Cemetery Name of Property Hartford County, CT County and State

5. Classification				
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Reso (Do not include previo	urces within Pr usly listed resource	operty s in the count.)
		Contributing	Noncontributi	ng
x private	building(s)	1	1	buildings
public - Local	x district			district
public - State	site	1		site
public - Federal	structure		1	structure
	object	14		object
		16	2	Total
Name of related multiple po (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of	roperty listing f a multiple property listing)	Number of contr listed in the Nati		ces previousl
N/A			N/A	
6. Function or Use				
o. Function of ose		the second se		
Historic Functions		Current Function		
Historic Functions	0	Current Function (Enter categories from		
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) FUNERARY: cemetery			n instructions)	
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		(Enter categories from	n instructions)	
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		(Enter categories from	n instructions)	
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Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		(Enter categories from FUNERARY: cerr	n instructions) netery	

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a summary paragraph that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

Spring Grove Cemetery contains thirty-three acres of flat-to-gently rolling land within a square block in the north end of Hartford, Connecticut. The land is divided by a series of perpendicular roadways set roughly in a grid pattern. The property is well-covered by a variety of monuments arranged in individual or family plots (Figure 6). The landscape presents a wide panorama of memorial stones and monuments unbroken by open spaces (Photographs 2, 3, and 4). The cemetery's monuments and structures, dating from 1845 when the cemetery was first opened, demonstrate the progression over time in materials from brownstone and marble to granite, an in design from simple tablets to artistically significant figures and elaborate monuments.

Narrative Description

Founded in 1845, and filled with significant internments, Spring Grove Cemetery has suffered from deferred maintenance in recent decades, but is now experiencing a renaissance of basic care and community use. The cemetery is roughly bounded by Main Street on the east; Capen Street on the north; Garden Street on the west; and Mahl Avenue on the south (Figure 1). The grounds are entered via Main Street beneath an arched wrought iron gate set with the street number and the words "Spring Grove Cemetery" (ca. 1986, NC)¹. A narrow driveway leads to the office and a memorial flagpole (Photograph 1). The office, on the north, is a ca. 1995 one story brick building (NC). The flagpole and its surrounding paving and planting on the south date from ca. 2005. The driveway continues on to the extended flat and rolling grounds dotted with monuments (Section H, Photograph 2; Section 1, Photograph 3; Section B, Photograph 4). Parallel roadways at right angles to one another, some paved with macadam, some with crushed stone, and some simply with grassy turf, divide the grounds into numbered sections (Figure 2). The numbered sections in turn are divided into individual singlegrave plots and larger family plots (Figure 6). The landscape plan for this cemetery is a simple grid and is noteworthy for its simplicity.

In terms of <u>Historic Appearance</u>, the principal architectural resource at Spring Grove Cemetery was the Allyn Memorial Chapel, which was a significant example of late-nineteenth century Romanesque Revival-style architecture. Completed in 1884 at a cost of \$40,000², it was located at the front of the grounds on the site of the present office (Photograph 5).³ The Chapel was built as both a memorial to the Allyn Family and as a site to hold funeral services. ⁴ In 1897, the Chapel was given to Spring Grove Cemetery Association and in 1904 it was struck by lightening during a storm and destroyed.⁵

Despite the loss of this important feature, numerous historic resources remain extant (see Contributing Resources). These include the brownstone vault also known as the Holding Building, dating from 1869 (Section 2, Photograph 6). This building once held caskets in the winter while awaiting spring burial. The front gable of the vault rises to a Gothic Revival-style tower and a tall cross-shaped finial, all in brownstone (Photograph 7).

The majority of objects in the landscape are conventionally-sized grave markers and monuments whose materials evolved over the years from brownstone to marble to sandstone to granite. Many of the brownstone examples have delaminated over the years and the marble has sugared while those in the harder sandstone and granite materials are mostly in good condition. The obelisk was a preferred shape for early larger monuments, mostly in brownstone. The seated female figure predominates in later marble and granite examples.

¹ Next door to the north on Main Street is the Metroploitan African Methodist Epsicopal Zion Church, which was lisetd in the National Register of Historic Places on July 22, 1994, while the Windsor Avenue Congregational Church, listed in the National Register on April 3, 1993, is across the street.

² The chapel was the gift of Timothy M. Allyn (1800-1882), proprietor of the Allyn House, which was the principal hotel downtown.

³ The Allyn Chapel was featuerd with a full-page photograph in an artickle by Arnold lewis, with Keith Morgan, in *American Victorian Architecture*, New York: Dover Publications, 1975, p. 34.

⁴ Hartford Daily Courant, "A Municifant Gift" January 11, 1881.

⁵ The Hartford Courant "Lightening Struck Chapel Cupola", September 14, 1904.

Hartford County, CT County and State

Contributing Resources

1. <u>Page Family Memorial</u> The first internment at Spring Grove Cemetery (1845) and the first monument to be erected shortly after can be found in the Page family plot. The monument, initially built to honor Mary Balch Page, wife of Stephen Page, is a short, square sandstone column with a molded, flat top surmounted by a kneeling female figure on a high horse. Mary died on October 17, 1845. There is an inscription to Stephen Page on the back along with several other family names (Photograph 8). It is flanked by rows of head stones, following the usual practice in family plots.

2. <u>Hillyer Monument</u> Throughout the cemetery other large pedestal monuments serve as centerpieces for family plots. An example is the sarcophagus-shaped pedestal of tan Westerly granite with steeled finish, built for the Hillyer family. The pedestal supports a seated female figure of the same stone (Section A, Photograph 9). A row of six headstones runs along one side of the monument and five on the other side. The letterings on the tops of the stones on the east side, front to back are:

Charles T. Hillyer, 1800-1891 Catherine Robbins, wife of Charles T. Hillyer, 1801-1851 Catherine C., daughter of C. T. and C. R. Hillyer, 1821-1851 Alice L. daughter of C. T. and C. R. Hillyer, 1831-1891 Clara E., daughter of C. T. and C. R. Hillyer, 1837-1906

And on the west side:

Appleton R. Hillyer, 1833-1915

Dotha Bushnell, wife of Appleton R. Hillyer, 1843-1932 Catherine R., daughter of A. R. and D. B. Hillyer, 1881-1884 Lucy Tudor, daughter of A. R. and D. B. Hillyer, 1885-1912 Appleton H. Seaverns, 1916-2007 (small iron plaque) Mary Bushnell Hillyer, wife of Charles F. T. Seaverns, 1881-1947 Charles F. T. Seaverns, 1878-1956

The Hillyer monument is one of the few in the cemetery to carry the name of the supplier incised at one corner of the base – "N. E. Granite Works/Hartford, CT." The prominence of the Hillyer family in Hartford history is remembered today by the presence of Hillyer College at the University of Hartford and the Bushnell Memorial, which was the gift of Dotha Bushnell Hillyer (1843-1932), daughter of Horace Bushnell and donor of Hartford's Bushnell concert hall. Her grandson, Appleton Severance, long time headmaster of Suffield Academy, joined his family here in 2007.

3. <u>Parish Family Plot</u> Family plots are often enclosed by iron railings which run between iron or stone posts. The Parish plot is a case in point. The Parish plot is unusual because in addition to the central sandstone obelisk, Sara Jane Parish is memorialized at one side of the plot by a separate marble pedestal and seated female figure (Section C, Photograph 10). The plot has a simple but carefully designed cast-iron gate (Photograph 11).

4. <u>Larrabee Brownstone Obelisk</u> The central Larrabee brownstone obelisk with pyramidal top has a long list of names on one side, but there are no headstones in the plot (Section B, Photograph 12). The Larabee family was long prominent in philanthropy in Hartford through the Larabee Fund Association.

5. <u>Larabee Indigent Women Plot</u> In front of the fence surrounding the Larrabee brownstone obelisk is a row of small headstones on a separate parcel donated to the City of Hartford by the will of Major Charles Larabee (d. 1863) for indigent women. (Section B, Photograph 13).

6. <u>Pratt/Allyn Family Plot</u> The central feature here is a mid-nineteenth-century brownstone obelisk which is unusual for its Gothic Revival spire (Section F, Photograph 14), thus moving with the times in mixing Classical and Renaissance motifs. The monument is also unusual for the great length of the list of names and dates inscribed in the obelisk. The Pratt family gave its name to Pratt Street, a major block in downtown Hartford. Timothy Allyn donated the Allyn Chapel (no longer extant) to the Association.

4

Spring Grove Cemetery Name of Property Hartford County, CT County and State

7. <u>Henry Kirke Morgan Monument.</u>⁶ The steeled textured granite cross is thought by cemetery management to be the second largest Celtic cross in New England (Photograph 15). Its front is covered with interlacing fretwork and knot work decoration. Five small Celtic crosses are among the headstones in the plot. One name on the monument is Emily Malbone Morgan (1862-1905). She carried on a prolific correspondence leading to the founding of the Society of Companions of Holy Cross. Her letters were privately printed in 1944.

8. <u>Church Family Plot</u> In a more sylvan setting than others, its obelisk, which is unusually tall, again combines a Gothic Revival-style pointed-arch panel in the pedestal with the classical obelisk form (Section F, Photograph 16). Frederick Edwin Church's headstone (a replacement) is at the foot of the obelisk (Photograph 17). Frederick Edwin Church (1826-1900) was an acknowledged leader in the Hudson River School of painting.

9. <u>Springer Monument</u> Erected in memory of Enos Springer (1854-1915), the Springer monument is one of the few in the cemetery of contemporary design. It is a polished granite cube balanced in what appears to be a precarious position on the tip of one corner over a smaller round stone base (Section 8, Photograph 18). Related biographical and design information has not come to hand, but cemetery management believes that the monument dates from the ca. 1920.

10. <u>Laurent Clerc Plot</u> Laurent Clerc (1785-1869) co-founded the American School for the Deaf in 1871. He is buried alongside his wife in a small enclosed plot. The two stones are identical, except for the lettering, composed in a stylized Gothic pattern in an unusual slanted position. The site is listed on the American School for the Deaf Heritage Trail.

11 <u>Pond Mausoleum</u> The Pond Mausoleum is completely covered by earth, in a large raised, rounded shape, except for the over scaled brownstone facade which features massive half columns flanking the doorway under the unifying apex roof (Photograph 19). This mausoleum is one of two contributing buildings in the cemetery.⁷ Elizabeth Aldrich Pond, wife of Charles Pond, donor of Elizabeth Park, who named the park for his wife, is interred here with her husband.

12. <u>Sigourney Obelisk and Plot</u> The name Lydia Sigourney (1791-1865), "The Sweet Singer of Hartford", whose poetry sold better than Mark Twain's works, is on the obelisk and her initials in raised letters are on the segmental top of one of the surrounding conventional individual stones (Photograph 20).

13. <u>Henry Clay Work Obelisk</u> Henry Clay Work (1832-1884) composed *Marching through Georgia*. His obelisk is unusual for several reasons: it is gray granite rather than dark brownstone, is truncated, and bears a prominent bronze plaque. Lettering on the plaque reads, in part, "erected by popular subscription MCMIX."⁸

14. <u>Burnham, Enders, Seymour Monument.</u> In 1885, Harriet Sloan Burnham, the mother of two sisters; Carolina Louisa (Mrs. Thomas) Enders and Harriet Adelaide (Mrs. Charles L.) Seymour; put up a granite monument with raised lettering reading *Burnham, Enders and Seymour* for the family. The monument is one of the few in Spring Grove for with the identity of the designer is known. He was Chester D. Burnham, who for 35 years had a "marble works" on Windsor (Main) Street.⁹ He was director of the Spring Grove Cemetery Association, died in 1909, and is buried in Spring Grove, Section A.

15. <u>Holding Building</u>. The second contributing building in the cemetery is the brownstone vault (Holding Building) of 1866 (Section 2, Photograph 6). It was used to store caskets in the winter while awaiting spring burials. The front gable of the vault rises to a Gothic Revival tower topped by a tall, cross-shaped finial (Photograph 7). The interior of the building contains free-standing shelves for casket storage. The shelves are large pieces of slate, resting on vertical supports of brick.

The map of the cemetery (Figure 2) shows the front sections identified with letters and the back sections with numbers. The front of the cemetery, from the Page Monument to Main Street, was developed first with sections identified by letters, but when the back of the cemetery was developed, the change was made to numbers.

⁶ Henry K. Morgan was part of the New London Morgan family, whereas Hartford's J. P. Morgan family came from Springfield, MA.

⁷ The other is the Holding Building.

⁸ 1919

⁹ Hartford Courant, June 20, 1885

Spring Grove Cemetery Name of Property Hartford County, CT County and State

Three Hundred and fifty Civil War Veterans are interred at Spring Grove, in Sections C, F, G, H, I and J (Section C, Figure 6). Their names are recorded at the Connecticut State Library. Spanish-American and World War I veterans are in Section H.

At the Main Street entrance, Gothic Revival front gates were added in the 1870s with a wall and posts of massive rough-finished posts. The wall and posts remain but the gates are wrought-iron replacements installed with the overhead arch, post-1988 (Photograph 1). The wrought iron arch above the gate was added after 1988 and does not replicate any earlier signage.

Hartford County, CT 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 National Register listing)

L			
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	_		

x

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.

Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social History

Landscape Architecture

Period of Significance

1845-2007

Significant Dates

1845 First burial

1867 Spring Grove Cemetery Association formed

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

D

	A	owed by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
	в	removed from its original location.
_	c	a birthplace or grave.

x D a cemetery.

E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.

F a commemorative property.

G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Thomas M. McClunnie - Landscape Architect

Period of Significance (justification)

The period of significance was chosen to reflect the period of historic burials within the cemetery.

Criteria Consideratons (explanation, if necessary)

Spring Grove Cemetery Name of Property Hartford County, CT County and State

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

Spring Grove Cemetery was an active late-19th/mid-20th century burial ground, the place of final rest for many prominent Hartford family names, as well as African-Americans and indigent women. The most prominent individual with a headstone at Spring Grove is Hartford native Frederick Edwin Church (1826-1900), a leader in the Hudson River School of painting. The major monuments and gravestones are good examples of the materials, artistic quality, and sentiment of their ties (Criterion C). Spring Grove Cemetery (1846) is one of the oldest cemeteries in the city,¹⁰ and one of only two Hartford cemeteries without religious group or government ownership. Instead, Spring Grove is owned and managed by a private association.¹¹ The grounds layout displays typical division into sections and of sections into individual burial plots. Because of these factors, the cemetery meets Criteria Consideration D.

Narrative Statement of Significance (provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance)

The history of Spring Grove Cemetery starts as land, perhaps a farm, owned by Stephen Page on Main Street in north Hartford.¹² Stephen Page first buried his wife here in 1845 and opened it to the public that same year (Figure 3).¹³. After his death, c. 1845, his sons, J. Belden Page and William Henry Page, continued as proprietors, in 1846 placing small advertisements in the Hartford Courant (Figure 4). Their motivation is unknown. Perhaps they were driven by civic mindedness; perhaps they simply saw the cemetery as a profit-making opportunity. They did not sell burial rights which is the usual cemetery procedure, but instead sold the actual plots of land. After almost a decade of this practice, a group of gentlemen who owned lots in Spring Grove met on the evening of September 27, 1864, to consider forming an association with capital of \$50,000 to purchase the entire cemetery. Their expectation was that in a few years the capital expenditure would be returned to the stockholders from the sale of lots. Among those in attendance were Roland Mather, J. S. Niles, and Austin Dunham.¹⁴

Articles of Association of Spring Grove Cemetery were filed with the Secretary of State on June 14, 1867, providing for capital stock of \$20,000 divided into 800 shares of \$25.00 each. The mission of the Association included "enclosing, improving [and] adorning" the premises. At the end of the document the names of 38 men were listed, with the number of shares (ranging up to 24 worth \$600.00), taken by each. The names of S. B. Page and Wm. H. Page were there. Also included was the name of Timothy (Mather) Allyn, who was to build the Allyn Memorial Chapel. Title to the property was transferred the following day for a consideration of \$12,430.¹⁵

The Association retained a professional landscape architect, Thomas Brown McClunie (1826-1903) to lay out the northwest section of the cemetery (Photographs 2, 3, 4) in July 1881 McClunnie was born in Edinburgh, Scotland and came to the United States in 1851, after studying at Edinburgh University and subsequently participating in an early survey on the Panama Canal. He moved to Hartford in 1857 and that same year submitted and entry in a competition to design Bushnell Park. Although his design was not chosen, he was awarded a prize and went on to design some prominent grounds in Hartford, including the estate of C. M. Pond (now Elizabeth Park) and the Capital Building at 210 Capital Avenue. McClunie was advertising "plans for parks, cemeteries and private residences in 1889. His sons Joseph A. McClunie (1854-1919) and Thomas R. McClunie (1858-1920) were both active in floral and landscape design in Hartford¹⁶. McClunie's design of the grounds were typical this type of park cemetery laid out during the early to mid-nineteenth century. Interspersed with trees and bushes, the monuments are placed within a simple grid of intersecting roadways.

¹⁰ The ancient Burying Ground (1640) and the Old North cemetery (1807) are older, while Zion Hill and Spring Grove started at the same time (1846).

¹¹ The other is Cedar Hill Cemtery.

¹² The original site was 55 acres sold by Page's sons to the Spring Grove Cemetery Association in 1867. The Association, in turn, sold, twenty acres, including the Garden Street frontage and parcels on Matthew Street and Oates Avenue, reducing the size to the current 35 acres.

¹³ City directories of the time also list the Pages with a downtown address, probably an office.

¹⁴ Hartford Courant, September 29, 1864.

¹⁵ Hartford Land Records, Volume 124, page 91, June 15, 1867.

¹⁶ "Thomas Brown McClunie", Connecticut Historical Society Bulletin, Volume 54, Hartford, Connecticut Historical Commission, Winter-Spring 1989, p. 72-73.

Spring Grove Cemetery Name of Property Hartford County, CT County and State

By 1897, when the Allyn Chapel had been given by the Allyn family to the Association, the condition of the chapel was of sufficient concern to lead Mrs. Robert Allyn to hire an architect; George H. Gilbert (1829-1911),¹⁷ to evaluate what should be done. Gilbert made a number of recommendations which included repointing, removing efflorescence, resetting the turrets, re-grading to encourage water to drain away from the foundation, filling in the crypts (never used), cleaning and repairing the interior, and installing a heating system – for an estimated cost of \$3,500. Whether these recommendations were executed or not is unknown.

In 1904, the Spring Grove Association opened Sections 5 and 6 for sale to African Americans. The resolution to do so was passed at a September 25, 2004, meeting of the Executive Committee (Figure 5). The action was prescient in that North Hartford in recent decades has become home to a majority of minorities. The Association took action appropriate to the social change. Notable African Americans buried at Spring Grove include the first black fire fighter, William Henry Jacklyn and the first black to build a church in the north end of the city (the adjoining Mount Calvary Baptist Church), Frederick D. Oates, who later became its first minister.

Spring Grove continues as an active cemetery, accepting internments at a cost of \$1,300 (compared with \$88 in 1898). Figure 3 lists the number of internments each year since the beginning, now totaling some 19,000 including 360 Civil War veterans. The annual number reached more than 100 in 1870, 200 in 1888, fell to single digits in the late 1970s, and is now increasing again.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Spring Grove Cemetery is significant because of its unaltered original layout, its demonstration of changes in style and material of cemetery monuments, and because of the prominent role in Hartford history played by many of the people buried there.

The layout is that of at standard grid of parallel lines at right angles to one another. It works well here because the land is flat with no rock ledges, streams, or other archaeological components to deal with, and no areas are heavily planted. The northwest sections laid out by McClunie adhere to this basic scheme¹⁸ the practical advantage of which is that all plots are easily accessed.

The style and material of Spring Grove Cemetery's monuments did not progress in a straight line. It is likely that the Page monument (Photograph 8), judging by its lettering, is one of the oldest. One the other hand, the actual date of its erection is unknown. In any event, its sculpted female figure (usually imported from Italy) on a tall heavy base was used for many prominent people throughout the history of the cemetery. In the early years, brownstone was more commonly used. Examples abound, including the Church and Sigourney obelisks. With the coming of steam power which made sawing hard stones possible, brownstone gave way to sandstone and granite. Marble, always unsatisfactory because it sugars but is desirable for its light color, also declined in use as hard stones of light color became workable.

Spring Grove also is significant for the importance of some of the people buried there. Charles Edwin Church and Lydia Sigourney were national leaders in their respective fields. Timothy M. Allyn was a wealthy man whose estate value was exceeded only by those of Colonel Samuel Colt and James Goodwin.¹⁹ Hillyer, Burnham, Larabee, Parish and Pond are some of the other names prominent in Hartford Commerce and philanthropy.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Andrews, Gregory E., and David F. Ransom, *Structures and Styles*, Hartford: Connecticut Historical Society, 1988. Grant, Marion Hepburn. *In and About Hartford*, Connecticut Historical Society, 1978.

¹⁷ Gilbert practiced in Hartford for decades. Among his commission was the Noah Webster Schoo (1900).

¹⁸ The benefit that Clunniie's work brought to the cemtery is not clear.

¹⁹ Hartford Courant, September 12, 1882,

Spring Grove Cemetery	
Name of Property	

Hartford County, CT County and State

Hartford City Directory. Hartford: Geers Publishing Company. Various years.

Hartford Land Records. Various entires.

Kummer, Merle, ed. Hartford Architecture, Volume Three: North and West Neighborhoods. Hartford: Hartford Architecture Conservancy, 1980.

Morgan, Emily Malbone. Letters to Her Companions, privately printed, 1944.

"Thomas Brown McClunie", Connecticut Historical Society Bulletin, Volume 54, Hartford, Connecticut Historical Commission, Winter-Spring 1989

Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:		
preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been	State Historic Preservation Office		
Requested)	Other State agency		
previously listed in the National Register	Federal agency		
previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark	Local government		
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #	x Other		
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	Name of repository: Spring Grove Cemetery		

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 33.70

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	18	992998	4628260	3	18	992540	4628560	
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing	
2	18	992800	4627970	4	18	992580	4628310	
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing	

Verbal Boundary Description (describe the boundaries of the property)

The boundary is shown by the heavy line on Figure 1, Site Map. The cemetery entranceway leads in from Main Street (east boundary) in a section of north Hartford devoted to churches and commercial activity. The north boundary, in part, is Capen Street and in part, the rear lot lines of houses fronting on Capen Street. The west (rear) boundary is the rear lot lines of houses fronting on Garden Street. The south boundary is the rear lot lines of small Jewish cemetery, Mount Calvary Baptist Church, and houses fronting on Mahl Avenue (a/k/a T. D. Oates Avenue).

Boundary Justification (explain why the boundaries were selected)

Soon after the Spring Grove Cemetery Association took title to the property in 1867, 25 acres at the rear, along Garden Street and Mahl Avenue were sold off. There has been no such activity in recent decades. The boundary encompasses all of the historic burial ground.

11. Form Prepared By	
name/title David F. Ransom	
organization Architectural Historian	date July 2009
street & number 83 Avery Heights	telephone 860-953-8626
city or town Hartford	state CT zip code 06106

Hartford County, CT County and State

e-mail

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

• Maps: A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

- Continuation Sheets
- Additional items: (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Spring Grove Cemetery	
Hartford, CT	
State: CT	
Ransom	
uly 2007	
raph(s) and number:	
Main Street Entry	
Section H	
Church Munument	
Section B	
Allyn Memorial Chapel	
Section 2, Holding Building	
Holding Building Spire	
Sephen Page Monument	
Hillyer Monument	
Parish Plot	
Parish Gate	

Spring Grove Cemetery	Hartford County, CT
Name of Property	County and State
Photograph 12: Larrabee Obelisk	
Photograph 13: Indignet Womens' Graves	
Photograph 14: Pratt/Allyn Obelisk	
Photograph 15: Morgan Cross	
Photograph 16: Church Plot	
Photograph 17: Frederick Edwin Church Monument	
Photograph 18:Springer Monument	
Photograph 19: Pond Mauseleum	
Photograph 20:Siguorney Obelisk	
Property Owner:	
name Spring Grove Cemetery Association	
street & number 2035 Main Street	telephone
city or town Hartford	state CT zip code 06120

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. fo the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.




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1813	1	1879	94		1928	155		1977	2
1822	1	1880	95		1929	163	Ŧ	1978	
1823	1	1881	121		1930	134	· · · ·	1979	
1826	1	1882	132		1931	168	í.	1980	
1831	1	1883	153		1932	136		1981	4
1833	1	1884	162		1933	164	'	1982	
1836	11	1885	171		1934	119		1983	3
1837	1	1886	190		1935	112		1984	22
1838	2	1887	185		1936	141		1985	19
1839	2				1937	128		1986	2
1840	1	1888	218		1938	109		1987	10
1841	1	1889	211		1939	113		1988	1:
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1843	2	1891	260		1941	116		1990	4
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1845	13	1893	264		1943	116		.1992	1:
1846	16	1895	210		1944	114		1993	1
1847	22	1896	256		1945	112 .		1994	15
1848	17	1897	245		1946	78		1995	28
1849	26	1898	235		1947	98		1996	33
1850		1899	255		1948	103		1997	106
1851	37	1900	265		1949	73		1998	125
1852	44	1901	219		1950	88		1999	82
1853	54	1902	214		1951	82		2000	101
1854	48	1903	216		1952	82	1	2001	92
	50	1904	283		1953	84		2002	81
1855	41	1905	255		1954	67		2003	54
1856	52	1906	246		1955	72	7 *	2004	87
1857	52	1907	271		1956	69		2005	85
1858	44	1908	237		1957	78		2006	82
1859	50	1909	237		1958	71		2007	30
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1865	74	1915	231		1964	62			
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1867	67	1917	243		1966	65			
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872	108	1922	173		1971	40			
873	135	1923	152		1972	26			
874	86	1924	145		1972	25			
875	121	1925	150		1973	24			

Monday, May 14, 2007

Figure 3. Annual number of burials





Figure 4. 1840s advertisements, much enlarged

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Spring Grove Cemetery Association held at the cemtery September 25th at 3 P. M. there were present Cuiggle, Graves, Williams and Andrews. The matt of setting apart a certain portion of the grounds for the intermen and use of colored people was considered, and it was voted

1904

To set apart the Northwestern section of lot $\frac{4}{7}5$ immediately west of that portion of said lot now used for single graves, for the use and sale to colored people. Same to be divided from the single grave section by a roadway six feet wide, to be plotted and disposed of as may be, from time to time, required.

It was also voted to reserve the western portion of lot ...6 for the same purpose. This portion of aforesaid lot to correspond with the portion set apart to be disposed of as aforesaid in previous vote, or for single graves as may hereafter be determine

It was also voted to close all entrances to the cemetery grounds except the <u>main entrance on Windsor Avenue</u>, on and after April 15th, 1904, and to post notices conspicuously on both side of the fence on all entrances, or places that have been used as such around the grounds except the main entrance, two months pri to the date above mentioned namely, April 15th, 1904, giving the public due notice of the date that said entrances will be closed This notice to be given to the superintendent of cemetery with intructions to carry into effect the same.

J.M. andraug



B

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

National Register of Historic Places **Continuation Sheet**

Section number

-	0		
	ac	10	
	a	-	

Spring Grove Cemetery	
Name of Property	
Hartford County, CT	
County and State	

Name of multiple property listing (if applicable)

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 08001203

Property Name: Spring Grove Cemetery

State: CT County: Hartford County

Multiple Name:

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

hature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Amended Item in Nomination

This SLR is issued to make the following technical and substantive corrections:

Section 5

The number of contributing buildings is listed as 1, whereas the text makes it clear that there are 2 contributing buildings (Pond Mausoleum and Holden Building).

Section 8

The Period of Significance give is 1845-2007. No justification has been provided to extend the period of significance to the date the nomination was prepared. The end date should be 1960.

The State Historic Preservation Office was notified of this amendment.

Distribution

National Register property file Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY Spring Grove Cemetery NAME:

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: CONNECTICUT, Hartford

DATE RECEIVED: 12/08/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/23/11 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 08001203

DETAILED EVALUATION:

VACCEPT RETURN REJECT DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Revised nonivertice addressed comparents, except the two items noted in SLN.

RECOM, /CRITERIA C	-
REVIEWER XIM	DISCIPLINE Historia
TELEPHONE	DATE 1/20/2011

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

2035 SRING GROVE CEMET













































RE	CEIVED 22	280
	NOV 1 2 2008	
NAT, RE	GISTER OF HISTORIC P ATIONAL PARK SERVICE	LACES

FROM: Stacey Vairo, National Register Coordinator

National Register of Historic Places

J. Paul Loether, Chief

SUBJECT: National Register Nomination

The following materials are submitted on this 6th day of November

2008, for nomination of the <u>Spring Grove Cemetery</u>, <u>Hartford County</u>, <u>Connecticut</u>

to the National Register of Historic Places:

- X Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form
- Multiple Property Nomination form
- X Photographs
- X Original USGS maps
- X Sketch map(s)/figure(s)/exhibit(s)
- Pieces of correspondence
- X Other Letter of Support

COMMENTS:

TO:

- X Please insure that this nomination is reviewed
- This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67
- _____ The enclosed owner objections do _____ do not _____ constitute a majority of property owners.
- _____ Other: _____



Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism

MEMORANDUM

DEC 0 8 2010

Arts Tourism Film History

One Constitution Plaza Second Floor Hartford, Connecticut 06103

860.256.2800 860.256.2811 (f)

TO:	J. Paul Loether, Chief National Register of Historic Places
FROM:	Stacey Vairo, National Register Coordinator
DATE:	December 7, 2010
SUBJECT:	National Register Nomination

The following materials are submitted on this <u>7</u> day of <u>December</u>

2010, for nomination of the <u>Spring Grove Cemetery, Hartford, CT</u> to the National Register of Historic Places:

- ____x___ Original National Register of Historic Places nomination form Multiple Property Nomination form
- ____x Photographs
- ____x___ Original USGS maps
 - ____x ___ Sketch map(s)/figure(s)/exhibit(s)
 - Pieces of correspondence
 - Other _______ This is a resubmitted return

COMMENTS:

Please insure that this nomination is reviewed

This property has been certified under 36 CFR 67

CONNECTICUT	THE CONTRACT OF A STREET OF A	10.55	
www.cultureandtourism.org	The enclosed owner objections do	do not	_
	constitute a majority of property owner	s.	

An Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employer

MINICOTIONIT

Other:

Recommendation: SLR_Return

+

Action:__SLR_Return_None

Documentation Issues-Discussion Sheet

Solution: Majn Jordslemo - Die Nether Commenty. Problem: Vodich "focal " from norrative Coded Mid 5 Late 19th Con R (court 30 550) Signit. for "B" not not appropriate as there would be graver. Not coder of Consideration "C" would be applicable 250 yrs. Should be Area of Signit A for Social History VDISC IS UNMARKEY Resolution: SLR: Voc. No.	Reference No. 08-1203 Multi	iple Name
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