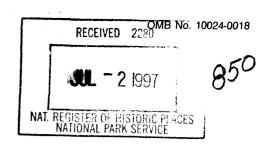
NPS Form 10-900 (Oct. 1990)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box 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.

nistoric name	Independen	it-Order of-Odd Fel	lows (I.O.O.F.)	Cemetery
ther names/site number	Eugene Pio	neer Cemetery (pre	ferred title for	·listing)
. Location				
treet & number	University	Street at East Ei	ghteenth Avenuel	¶/Aot for publication
ity or town	Eugene			_NZAvicinity
tate Oregon		ounty <u>Lane</u>	code _039	zip code <u>97403</u>
. State/Federal Agency Cert	tification			7.00
Oregon State Historics State of Federal agency and but In my opinion, the property Comments.)	ureau		a. (See continuation she	eet for additional
Signature of certifying official/Ti	itle	Date	· .	
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State or Federal agency and bu	ıreau			
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State or Federal agency and bu	tification ter.		Beall	Date/of Action
State or Federal agency and but National Park Service Cert nereby certify that the property is: See continuation sheet determined eligible for the National Register	tification ter. et.	Signature of the Keep	Beall	1 .

Eugene	Pioneer	Cemetery
Name of F		

Lane County, Oregon County and State

5. Classification				
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply) Category of F (Check only one	Property box)	Number of Res (Do not include prev	ources within Property viously listed resources in the count.)	
	g(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing	
□ public-local □ district	,	-	buildings	
☐ public-State ☐ structu☐ public-Federal ☐ structu☐	ıre	1	sites	
□ object			structures	
			objects	
		1		
Name of related multiple property listing (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.) N/A		Number of contributing resources previously I in the National Register		
6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions) Funerary: cemetery		Current Functions (Enter categories from Funerary:	instructions)	
7 Description				
7. Description Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions) No style: cemetery				

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

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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EUGENE PIONEER CEMETERY (1872-1930) (Eugene I. O. O. F. Cemetery)
University Street at East Eighteenth Avenue
Eugene, Lane County, Oregon

COMMENTS OF THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

The cemetery founded in Eugene, Oregon in 1872 by Spencer Butte Lodge No. 9 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was formally platted in 1892. It holds the distinction of being the second oldest community burial ground in the Lane County seat. With a founding date of 1859, only the Masonic Cemetery is older.

Following the pattern typical of such development, the cemetery was established on well-drained high ground on the periphery of the downtown. The location is three blocks south of the original buildings of the University of Oregon campus, Deady and Villard Halls, which make up an National Historic Landmark. The cemetery fronts on University Street, roughly between East 5th and 18th Avenues. Along University and 18th Avenue street frontages, the cemetery stands above street grade and is lined by a retaining wall.

The plat follows strict gridiron convention. The original holding of 10 acres is quartered by unpaved cross axial driveways, at the intersection of which is a square of turn-around space. In 1908, the cemetery was enlarged by five and a half acres and platted at the south end as four smaller blocks separated by narrow lanes. The ultimate amendment in the 15.52-acre plat configuration came in 1930, when, in an effort to gain additional saleable lots, the Odd Fellows platted a single row of lots in a 35-foot perimeter strip to encircle nearly the entire grid layout. It was at this time too that the central open space was designated "Memorial Square," and the avenues and lanes were named for prominent members of the founding lodge. The demand for additional burial space had prompted the Odd Fellows to establish a second cemetery in Eugene on the perpetual care model in which all ground was held in common. In due course, the Odd Fellows ceased to maintain the old cemetery, which fell into disrepair. Families who held title to their lots in the original cemetery formed the Odd Fellows Cemetery Lot Owners' Association, which group evolved as the present-day Eugene Pioneer Cemetery Association. The latter shares stewardship responsibilities with the Pioneer Memorial Park Association, current administrator

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and legal title holder of the cemetery. Controversy over which group would gain control of the cemetery deed started in the 1950s and was not finally resolved until 20 years later.

Eugene's old Odd Fellows cemetery meets National Register Criterion A as a tangible expression of high purpose on the part of a fraternal order whose members were early settlers and who led the community during Eugene's period of great upbuilding. It meets Criterion C as a good, well-preserved and characteristic example of cemetery layout and monumentation combining in its separate plattings both 19th century and early 20th century approaches to the burial landscape.

With regard to the normal exclusion of cemeteries for listing in the National Register, Criteria Exception D is applicable since the place is significant in the areas of settlement, social history, and community planning and development. Although it is not nominated under Criterion B, the cemetery is noteworthy for containing the graves of a significant number of historical figures of importance to Eugene. For at least a few, there remain no places of more immediate association in the community. The noteworthy figures include Benjamin F. Dorris, Judge Joshua J. Walton, and Judge David Risdon, leaders of the Union University Association, which was formed in the same year as the cemetery with the objective of establishing a public college at Eugene. Risdon is noted also as a co-platter of the town with Eugene Skinner. Dorris, Walton, and Risdon are among those commemorated in the naming of the cemetery's lanes and avenues. In short, the list of interred includes the community's earliest settlers, officers of the formative government of Lane County, and leaders of business, industry, and the professions.

The application provides good detail on plat characteristics, landscape features and plantings, and statistics on burials. It is pointed out, for example, that within this bural ground of 4,000 spaces, 20 are dedicated to veterans of the Spanish American War, and over 100 belong to Civil War veterans, more than are to be found in any other cemetery in the county.

Gravemarkers reflect the full spectrum of the historic period, beginning with Victorian family plots of vertical markers enclosed with cast iron railings and concrere curbs. In the section platted in 1908, the gravemarkers reflect the growing influence of the lawn cemetery movement, which eliminated strong plot definition and encouraged compact, horizontal gravemarkers. There are two non-contributing features in the nominated area, a pumice-block maintenance building of 1956 and a frame shelter for a caretaker's mobile home that was added in the 1990s.

The social significance of this, the second oldest of Eugene's community cemeteries is embodied in the initiative of Spencer Butte Lodge No. 9, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. The

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Independent Order of Odd Fellows is an international, secret and benevolent organization with its roots in the English society that was formed during the 18th century Enlightenment period as a splinter of Freemasonry. A distinguishing feature of the American version of Odd Fellowship is the explicit obligation to care for the sick, distressed or dependent members and their families. Establishing and maintaining burial grounds was but one form of relief work undertaken by I. O. O. F. lodges during westward expansion in the 19th century. Such undertakings were at once benevolent and a business enterprise. Proceeds for cemetery expansion and general improvements were realized from the sale of burial lots. In Oregon, the mother lodge, Chemeketa Lodge No. 1, was founded at Salem in 1852.

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Eugene Pioneer Cemetery Name of Property	Lane, Oregon County and State

Description

The Eugene Pioneer Cemetery is located on a 15.52 acre, rectangular lot situated on a slight rise at the northwest corner of East 18th Avenue and University Street in Eugene, Oregon. It is bounded by the University of Oregon campus to the north and west, by University Street to the east and by East 18th Avenue to the south.

The cemetery was established in 1872 by the Spencer Butte Lodge No. 9 of the Independent Order of Oddfellows (I.O.O.F). It includes 752 plots and approximately 4,000 burial spaces with gravestones primarily facing east and west. It holds the remains of twenty veterans of the Spanish American War. One hundred and nineteen Civil War veterans are interred there, more than any other Lane County cemetery. Fifty-one are buried in the Civil War veterans plot. The remaining 68 are buried in family plots within the cemetery.

The cemetery was originally laid out on a grid pattern and included 10 acres in the northernmost portion of the current lot (see attached 1892 plat). In 1908 it was extended to the south by 5.52 acres to form its present southern boundary at East 18th Avenue. A second plat amendment was made in 1930 which did not increase the cemetery's area but added plots along its perimeter (see attached plat amendments).

The cemetery's grid pattern dominates the design and is defined by a series of very broad unpaved avenues and narrower alleys (eight feet wide) which run north-south and east-west. The entire cemetery is circumscribed by roadways: Shelly Lane along the north, Rankin Lane along the South (both 22.5 feet wide), Risdon Lane along the east and Conger Lane along the west (both 20 feet wide). A central north-south roadway, Kelley Drive, intersects the east-west oriented Dorris Avenue (both 36 feet wide), to form the four square symmetrical quadrants that make up the original ten acre cemetery. These gravel avenues intersect at the approximately 120 foot Memorial Square which marks the center of the original cemetery. This focal point is on axis with the cemetery's main entrances at either end of Dorris Lane. It is likewise on axis with

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the west entry door on the south elevation of Gerlinger Hall, which terminates the view looking north up Kelley Drive. Walton Avenue (33 feet wide) runs east-west forming the southern boundary of the original cemetery and the northern boundary of the area added in 1908. Cherry Avenue (36 feet wide) runs east-west in this latter addition.

Although the cemetery forms only a slight rise, it rests on the two highest points in the general vicinity. From the surrounding streets and campus lawns, the cemetery ascends gradually to a point in the original northeast quadrant near Dorris Lane which is approximately 15 feet above University Street and to a point in the original southwest quadrant near Walton Avenue approximately 30 feet above University Street.

The landscape's most dramatic features are the large straight double rows of Douglas firs which line the roadways. The firs dominate the original portion of the cemetery but are concentrated to the northwest. They provide a formal order to the landscape and frame dramatic views while clearly defining one's progression along the wide and heavily shaded roadways. The shade and the formality gradually dissipate toward the south in the areas added in 1908. More casual plantings of Port Orford cedar, ash, big leaf maple and various mature shrubs dot the landscape in this portion of the cemetery. The area is more open and sunny with sparser plantings and a less discernible rectilinear pattern, exemplifying a shift in aesthetic tastes from the more ordered community cemeteries of the nineteenth century to the more open lawn cemeteries of the twentieth century.

The funerary monuments mark similar stylistic trends. The earliest nineteenth century plots reflect the concern for order and definition suggested by the rectilinear tree-lined avenues. Most grave plots are clearly delineated by low, relatively simple curbs, some with modest corner embellishments and/or a low step marking the plot "entrance." Some exceptional Victorian plots include the Shelton-McMurpheyfamily plot, at the southeast corner of memorial square. Its curb is made from large sections of basalt from the quarry at Skinner Butte, owned by the Shelton family. Likewise, the Houston family plot, (in the original plat's southeast quadrant) the Griffin family plot (in the

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original plat's northeast quadrant) and the Warfel plot (in the original plat's northwest quadrant) are entirely enclosed within low iron fences, exemplifying the Victorian era penchant to distinguish socio-economic class as much in death as in life.

These late nineteenth century plots are dominated by highly embellished monuments which emphasize verticality. Many are ornately carved Vermont blue or white marble, and Norwegian and Swedish granite. The grave of prominent Eugene Judge, J.J. Walton is a limestone obelisk approximately ten feet high atop a square limestone base. The grave of H. C. Humphrey, a prominent Eugene banker is marked by an approximately 13 foot cylindrical monument of carved marble topped with a large carved urn. There are numerous monuments which integrate carved marble and cast zinc. The zinc grave markers are not only among the most ornate but have endured the elements better than many other early monuments.

The cemetery's most commemorative monument, a 25 foot Vermont blue marble statue of a Union soldier with rifle at rest, marks the Civil War Veterans plot which lies southwest of Memorial Square. The statue was provided in the 1902 will of John S. Covell, a Civil War veteran who died in Eugene on January 28, 1903. It was erected in 1903, the year of his death. Like the Civil War Memorial, most of the earliest burial plots are located near the Memorial Square. More recent plots are interspersed in this area but tend to dominate southern portions of the cemetery. Many of the new plots include mass produced contemporary markers, which are generally lower to the ground and less imposing.

The grave plot of the family of John Straub, Dean of the University of Oregon College of Liberal Arts, contrasts with other recent grave markers. Constructed in 1975 following a trip to Scandinavia where Straub's son was impressed by similar grave plots, the markers consist of overlapping horizontal planes constructed from concrete and aggregate, with a central bronze plaque on each to identify the interred. The concrete planes - presumably intended to provide subsequent university students an area for reading, conversation and contemplation - contributes another stylistic layer to a landscape which exemplifies over one-hundred and twenty years of Eugene's history. The

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minimalist horizontal lines contrast starkly in an area of the cemetery dominated by Victorian ornamentation. However, like the generous tree-lined roadways and heavily shaded slopes of the original cemetery plat, this modernist plot encourages visitors to view the cemetery as a place of leisure as well as reverence.

The Eugene Pioneer Cemetery retains its historic character, especially in regard to plantings and late nineteenth and early twentieth century grave markers. Changes which have occurred do not have a substantial impact on the historic character of the cemetery. The boundaries have remained constant, but at the northwest corner of the cemetery an easement agreement was established between the Pioneer Memorial Park Association, and the University of Oregon, which formalized what had been an informal arrangement relating to this roadway (Conger Lane). The University of Oregon paved this area which is adjacent to the grave plots along this portion of the roadway. (The existing curbing of one unmarked burial plot is close to this pedestrian right-of-way.) In 1994 during pedestrian improvements of the University Street/18th Avenue intersection, a retaining wall was built where the cemetery's southeast corner abuts the sidewalk.

A concrete block maintenance building was constructed by the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery Association in 1956 and a frame shelter for the grounds keeper's mobile home was constructed in the early 1990s. The maintenance building is square in plan with a hipped, standing seam metal roof, and houses public restrooms in addition to a work room for the grounds keeper. The mobile home and shelter act as a unit located east of the maintenance building; the exposed 4x4 wood frame shelter covers the mobile home with a sanding seam metal, gable roof. Both stand in the southwest corner of Memorial Square and facilitate improved maintenance and twenty-four hour security. The Columbus Day storm of 1962 destroyed several fir trees which were then more dense in the southeast corner of the original cemetery and in Memorial Square. Despite these alterations, the cemetery retains its grid pattern and the majority of its early fir trees. The level of vandalism has been marginal, especially since the introduction of the on-site grounds keeper. Most of the early monuments are in remarkably good condition.

Due to the high integrity of the landscape, the large number of intact monuments from the historic

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period (1872-1930), and the cemetery's association with numerous prominent individuals, it provides a clear and tangible link to a critical period in the development of Eugene, and is a fine example of a late nineteenth-century cemetery established during the westward expansion of the United States.

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.)	'Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
M A Dranauty is associated with avents that have made	Exploration/settlement
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of	Social history
our history.	Community planning and development
☐ 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.	Period of Significance 1872 - 1930
☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	stati takka a
Criteria Considerations	Significant Dates
(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)	_
Property is:	1872 - first burial 1892 - platting
☐ A owned by a religious institution or used for	1908 - plat addition
religious purposes.	_
	1930 - plat amendment Significant Person
☐ B removed from its original location.	(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
☐ C a birthplace or grave.	N/A
	Cultural Affiliation
K D a cemetery.	N/A
\square E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.	
☐ F a commemorative property.	
☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance	Architect/Builder
within the past 50 years.	N/A
Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets	·.)
9. Major Bibliographical References Bibliography	
(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on o	one or more continuation sheets.)
Previous documentation on file (NPS):	Primary location of additional data:
\square preliminary determination of individual listing (36	☐ State Historic Preservation Office
CFR 67) has been requested	☐ Other State agency
previously listed in the National Register	☐ Federal agency
previously determined eligible by the National	☐ Local government☐ University
Register designated a National Historic Landmark	☐ Officersity ☐ Other
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey	Name of repository:
#	Eugene Pioneer Cemetery Association
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	

Eugene Pioneer Cemetery	Lane County, Oregon
Name of Property	County and State
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property15.52 acres	Eugene East, Oregon 1:24000
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)	
$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	Gee continuation sheet
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)	
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Jonathan Smith, with assistance of Kenne Eugene Pioneer Cemetery Association organization Pioneer Memorial Park Association	
street & number3481 Western Drive	telephone 541/686-0619
city or town Eugene	state OR zip code 97401
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets	
Maps	
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the proper	erty's location,
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having la	arge acreage or numerous resources.
Photographs	
Representative black and white photographs of the proper	orty.
Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)	
Property Owner	
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.) Pioneer Memorial Park Association	
namec/o Frank R. Lacey	
street & number1976 University Street	
city or townEugene	state OR zip code 97403

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 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.

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Period of Significance 1872 - 1930

The Eugene Pioneer Cemetery is locally significant as the burial ground for many of Eugene's early settlers and as a landscape which is representative of a late nineteenth century community cemetery laid out and maintained under auspices of the L.O.O.F.It was established and developed during the historic period of 1872-1930; it has retained its integrity and those features which link it to the historic period and which define it as a good example of a late nineteenth-century community cemetery. It is noteworthy, but not nominated as the location of the remains of some of the most influential individuals in Eugene's political, economic and intellectual development from the settlement period to the 1930s. The cemetery meets Criteria A and C under settlement, social history and community development. As required, the cemetery meets Criterion Consideration D, because it derives its primary significance from its characteristic plat and array of monuments and as a community endeavor sponsored by a fraternal order that was closely associated with Eugene's settlement and orderly development.

Early Settlement of Eugene

Euro-American settlement in Lane County began in 1846. In June of that year, four white men, Eugene Skinner, Elijah Bristow, Felix Scott and William Dodson arrived and scouted for their land claims from what would become known as Skinner Butte, north of present downtown Eugene, Oregon. Skinner built his cabin on the west slope of the butte and was followed by other early settlers such as Daniel Christian who established an early Land Claim and built the first house within the Eugene city limits. In 1851, the first survey and plat of the city was completed by Skinner and David M. Risdon, a young lawyer. The city was laid out on a grid pattern extending south from Skinner Butte. Skinner also established a post office that year, Hilyard Shaw completed the millrace which allowed for the development of early industry, and Lane County was created with Eugene named as its County Seat in the following year, 1852.

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The millrace formed the industrial nucleus of the town. As the town grew, (its population was 200 by 1855) a territorial road was built on the west side of the valley and the first stage coaches started arriving in town once a week. In the same year, Columbia College was established on College Hill by E. P. Henderson. The first public school was established in 1856 and the first newspaper "The News" in 1858. Eugene grew rapidly with increasing western migrations. Organizations such as the Board of Trade were publishing pamphlets which extolled the virtues of life in Eugene and the Willamette Valley, helping to stimulate migration to the area.

From the 1870s to the early 1900s the population swelled from 861 to 3,236 and major institutions developed which laid the foundation for continued growth and determined the character of Eugene, with the establishment of such long term institutions as University of Oregon (1872), Lane County Fair (1884), Water Works (1884), Mercy Hospital (1898), Eugene Public Library (1908), and the Eugene Water and Electric Board (1911).

By 1872, 26 years after the arrival of Skinner, the Union University Association was formed, in hopes of bringing Oregon's first public college to Eugene. Association members included William H. Abrams, Benjamin F. Dorris, Enoch P. Henderson, Judge J.J. Walton, S. H. Spencer, John Thompson and John C. Arnold. The same year, they were successful in securing Eugene as the location of the first state university. The members, especially Judge Risdon, worked indefatigably to ensure that sufficient funding would be secured for the completion of the University's first building, Deady Hall, now a National Historic Landmark. That same year, the first body was interred in the I.O.O.F. cemetery, approximately two blocks from Deady Hall.

The I.O.O.F. cemetery in Eugene is one of many throughout the state which was established by this fraternal organization. "Most were established between 1852 when the first I.O.O.F. lodge was organized in Oregon, and the early 1920's when the extensive development of memorial parks began. . . . An early issue of the Pacific Oddfellow cited the four duties expected of

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members"

Move modestly, quietly and without ostentation, obeying the injunction of the ritual to visit the sick, to relieve the distressed, to bury the dead and to educate the orphan.¹

Cemetery Development: Historic Period to the Present

While burials began in 1872, the cemetery was not officially platted until 1892. It was laid out on a grid pattern and included 10 acres in the northernmost portion of the current lot (see attached 1892 plat). In 1907 it was extended to the south by 5.52 acres to form its present southern boundary at East 18th Avenue. A second plat amendment was made in 1932 which did not increases the cemetery's area but added plots along its perimeter (see attached plat amendments).

The I.O.O.F. lodge dedicated the roadways and alleyways to the public and sold grave lots to individuals. Unlike contemporary cemeteries, the owner held a clear title to the property rather than an easement for burial. Therefore, as grave lots sold, the land was gradually dispersed among numerous owners and Lane County, which owned the roads and alleys. Income from lot sales provided for the cemetery's maintenance. Lots sold rapidly between 1872 and 1930. The cemetery was filled with finely carved monuments typical of late nineteenth and early twentieth century community cemeteries. Much of the blue and white marble came from Vermont quarries.

The cemetery's most prominent monument, a 25 foot Vermont blue marble statue of a Union soldier with rifle at rest, marks the Civil War Veterans plot which lies southwest of Memorial Square. The monument was provided in the 1902 will of John S. Covell as follows:

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I hereby give and bequeath all the rest and residue of my property, real and personal, to John Ingham, A. Yerington, and H.D. Wiley, trustees, for the purpose of purchasing and erecting a marble monument to the memory of the Veterans of the Civil War in the United States of 1861 to 1865, in the plot of ground belonging to J.W. Geary Post No. 7, G.A.R. in the Cemetery belonging to Spencer Butte Lodge No. 9 I.O.O.F at Eugene, Oregon.

The executors of the will ordered the statue from Vermont Marble Company (nationally known at the time for its fine craftsmanship) through Eugene Granite and Marble Works (an institution in Eugene until 1996, when it was acquired by a national cemetery corporation). The Eugene <u>Daily Guard</u>, on December 9, 1903, stated

E.C. Lake, the Marble worker, yesterday received a carload and a half of fine marble and granite from Vermont. Included in the shipment was a 7-ton statue of a Union Soldier to be placed on the G.A.R. plot in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery, provision for which was made in the will of the late John Covell.

The following inscriptions mark the monument:

I bequeath this monument in memory of all of my comrades of the Civil War from 1861-1865.

John S. Covell Co. C., 8th Regiment Michigan Volunteer Infantry

Soldiers rest Thy war is o'er

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Sleep that sleep that knows no waking, Dream of battlefields no more.

The monument, erected in 1903 testifies to the cemetery's continuing prominence during the early part of the century. Prominent early settlers and community leaders were buried there until the 1930s when most lots had been sold and perpetual care cemeteries started to become popular in the United States. Like modern buildings of the period, monuments was stripped of its ornament and emphasized horizontality over nineteenth century verticality. Grave markers with simpler lines and flush with the ground reflected modernist stylistic trends and facilitated easy maintenance and a well kept appearance which made the new cemeteries attractive to consumers.

Corresponding to these national trends in cemetery development, by 1930 all of the lots had sold in the I.O.O.F. cemetery and its income for maintenance had therefore ceased. The Oddfellows Lodge established the I.O.O.F. Cemetery #2 as a perpetual care cemetery on West Eleventh (now West Lawn Cemetery). At that point, they stopped maintaining the original cemetery and it fell into disrepair. This shift in the fraternal organization's priorities prompted the organization of the Oddfellows Cemetery Lot Owners' Association. Made up of family members who held title to lots in the cemetery, this group organized to raise funds and provide maintenance to the deteriorating grounds. In addition to providing volunteer labor they negotiated with the I.O.O.F. Lodge #9 and with Lane County to vacate the east-west alleys, thus providing more burial space and income. Additional lots sales were made to establish an irreducible care fund for cemetery maintenance. A vacation was ordered on May 17, 1930. The order vested interest in the alleyway lots in the Oddfellows Cemetery Association, with the trust fund stipulation. However, no alley lots were sold due to the increasing popularity of perpetual care cemeteries Like I.O.O.F. cemetery #2 and Rest Haven. Therefore, the cemetery has continued to be maintained primarily through dues and volunteer work on the part of the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery Association.

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Prominent Associated Individuals

Numerous individuals who played a prominent role in Eugene's early history are buried in the cemetery, including:

William H. Abrams: Abrams was a member of and on the first Board of Directors for the Union University Association (Benjamin F. Dorris, Enoch P. Henderson, Judge J.J. Walton, S. H. Spencer, John Thompson and John C. Arnold) the group which first organized to bring the University of Oregon to Eugene. The Board of Directors presented a bill to the September 1872 session of the State Legislature for authorization of a \$50,000 site purchase and building erection which, after completion would be turned over to the state. Their efforts resulted in the construction of Deady Hall, the University of Oregon's first building, now a National Historic Landmark.

Lot #221 Paul Brattain (1801-1883): Signed Oregon statehood constitution in 1857. He was Lane County Auditor from 1854-1856 and Justice of the Peace from 1874-1876.

Lot #179 <u>Ira Cambell</u> (1858-1904): Bought the <u>Eugene Daily Guard</u> in the 1880s at age 20. He increased its size and notoriety in the 30 years he served as its editor. The Guard eventually merged with the Eugene Register to form the contemporary <u>Register-Guard</u> which superseded Harrison Kincaid's <u>Oregon State Journal</u> as Eugene's most prominent newspaper in the early twentieth century.

Lot #184 <u>Daniel R. Christian</u> (1818-1891): owned one of Eugene's earliest donation land claims which extended from 11th Street to about 20th Street and eastward from Willamette to High.

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Lot #183 <u>Benjamin F. Dorris</u> (1829-1915): Dorris was born in Tennessee in 1829 and came to Eugene in 1868. He was an important figure in the Union University Association, was the mayor of Eugene from 1875-1877 and from 1879-1881 and was a State Representative from 1878-1880.

Stewart B. Eakin (1846-1912): Eakin was born in Illinois in 1846 and traveled to Oregon in 1866 with his parents. He served three terms as Sheriff in Eugene beginning in 1874. He was a state representative in 1882 and a Senator in 1888. In 1884 he founded the Hendricks-Eakin Bank, along with T.G. Hendricks (who came to Oregon in 1848, also from Illinois). Hendricks and Eakin eventually chartered the First National Bank of Eugene.

<u>Louisa Hanchett</u>: Very active in the women's suffragette movement. She donated enough money to make the first St. Mary's Church Building possible in 1889 at 13th and Pearl.

Dr. William H. Hanchett: Hanchett was Eugene's first physician. Husband of Louisa Hanchett.

<u>Prof. Enoch P. Henderson</u>: Henderson established and served as the first president of the private Columbia College which was open from 1855-1859. The college's buildings burned twice and the institution was discontinued. He was a member of the Union University Association and was chief clerk of the Oregon State Senate in 1864.

Rev. James Henderson: Henderson recommended the site which was selected for the University of Oregon in 1873. He was one of the incorporators of the Oregon and California Railroad and was instrumental in bringing the Southern Pacific Railroad up the Willamette Valley to Eugene. He was a U.S. Congressman from 1865 to 1867.

A. G. Hovey: Hovey came to Oregon in 1850 and was Eugene's first banker. He was a school teacher and farmer before establishing the Hovey and Humphrey Bank which became the Lane

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County Bank and eventually merged with the First National Bank. He was an officer of the precursor to the Chamber of Commerce, the "Board of Trade," which promoted settlement in Lane County. He served as Eugene mayor from 1889-1891, and served as State Senator.

Lot #302 <u>Lester Hulin</u> (1823-1897): Hulin was born in Saratoga County New York in 1823. He settled a land claim on the Long Tom River in 1847. His family was the second group of whites in Lane County after Skinner. Hulin also fought in the Cayuse Indian War (January - July 1848).

Lot #219 <u>Henry Clay Humphrey</u> (1856-1895): Humphrey, along with A.G. Hovey, established the Lane County Bank, the first in Eugene and Lane County. The bank financed much of Eugene and Lane County's early economic expansion.

Harrison R. Kincaid (1836-1920): One of the most prominent journalists in Eugene's history, Kincaid came to Eugene in 1853 from Indiana. He wrote for The People's Press, an early paper in Eugene. He was the editor, at age 26, of the State Republican, a pro-Union paper owned by Hilyard Shaw. In 1864 he established the weekly pro-Union Oregon State Journal with Joel Ware and served as its editor for more than 45 years. Under Kincaid's direction the Oregon State Journal remained the city's most prominent and consistent newspaper for most of its forty-five years. Kincaid was also one of six Oregon delegates to the Republican National Convention in 1868, a delegate to Philadelphia in 1872 and a Clerk for United States Senate.

Lot #178 <u>Dr. William Kuykendall</u> (1855-1934): Kuykendall headed Eugene's first Hospital, Mercy Hospital (est. 1898), located on College Hill. He was the mayor of Eugene from 1897-1899 and a Lane County Representative in the State Legislature in 1901.

Lot #214 Robert McMurphey (1866-1921): formed the forerunner of the Chamber of Commerce, the Eugene Commercial Club, on March 1, 1902 and served as its vice-president. He was

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Secretary of the Eugene Water Company in 1902 and an agent for the Southern Pacific Railroad.

Elizabeth McNett: Civil War Nurse

Lot #199 Judge David M. Risdon (1821-1905): Risdon arrived in Eugene in 1851. His was the second white family in Eugene after Skinner's. He received his license to practice law at the first convening of the district court in Eugene and became the city's first lawyer. He was a legislator for the Oregon Territory before statehood was granted. He and Skinner platted and surveyed the city. Risdon was the local school superintendent from 1856-1857. He hired Hilyard Shaw to build the first house within the Eugene corporate limit.

Lot #214 <u>Dr. Thomas W. Shelton</u> (1844-1893): Shelton graduated from medical school in San Francisco, was one of the two first doctors in Eugene and established the city's first pharmacy. He bought Skinner Butte from Eugene Skinner and founded the Eugene Water Company which built the reservoir atop Skinner Butte. He hired Nels Roney to construct the Shelton-McMurphey House on the south side of the butte. Shelton donated much of the butte and the land for Skinner Butte Park, which lies north of the butte along the Willamette River, to the City of Eugene.

Lot #223 John Straub (1853-1932): The University Oregon Dean of Men, and later Dean of College of Liberal Arts.

Lot #182 Judge J.J. Walton (1838-1909): Walton was a prominent Lane County Judge from 1866 to 1880 and a member of the Union University Association. He was instrumental in ensuring the completion of the University's first building, Deady Hall. When construction funding was depleted Walton arranged for labor and supply costs to be paid in installments. He solicited donations from merchants and citizens of Eugene and Lane County for the building's completion.

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<u>Joel Ware</u>: Ware was the editor of <u>The People's Press</u> and co-founder of the <u>Oregon State Journal</u> with Harrison Kincaid. Ware was also the County Clerk from 1870 to 1884 and County Treasurer from 1869-1872.

Minnie Lockwood Washburn: Washburn chartered and was president of Fortnightly Club, the organization which was instrumental in establishing first Eugene Public Library 1908.

Mitchell Wilkins (1818-1904): Wilkins was born in 1818 in Orange County, North Carolina. He came to Oregon in 1847 and took up a donation land claim north of what is now Coburg. There he established a three thousand acre ranch which became one of the most successful stock farms in Oregon. He raised Hereford and Devonshire cattle as well as blooded sheep. He served the State Legislature in 1862, managed the State Fair for many years and was an important figure in the Oregon State Agricultural Association. Wilkins was the Commissioner for Oregon to the Philadelphia Exposition of 1876, the New Orleans Exposition in 1884 and the Chicago World's Fair in 1893.

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Cemetery History Since the Historic Period

The increasing value of the cemetery property in the postwar era, due to its proximity to the University, is reflected in the ownership battle which arose in the 1950s. Since that time, the history of the cemetery has been less about interments and monument design than legal battles. Since the 1950s several law suits have been filed by the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery Association or its supporters and the Pioneer Memorial Park Association, a group which tends to reflect the interests of the University.

Before the 1950s, ownership of the cemetery was clearly defined (although somewhat confusing). It was broken down as follows: lot owners received full title to their cemetery plot upon purchase and therefore owned the actual land, rather than simply an easement for burial; alleyways and roadways remained in the public domain, although the sale of lots therein was to fund the cemetery's maintenance; the I.O.O.F. Lodge #9 held the official title to the cemetery, although they had sold all of the plots and therefore owned no actual property. They were required to file burial licenses with the State and were recognized as the administrators of the cemetery although they had abandoned its maintenance. The I.O.O.F. by the 1950s, therefore, owned the cemetery in name only. It was this tenuous ownership which eventually became a point of contention between the Lot Owner's Association, which expected to retain it, and the Memorial Park Association which succeeded in doing so.

The Eugene Pioneer Cemetery Association negotiated with the I.O.O.F. Lodge for title to the cemetery which they expected to retain. However, the title was transferred instead to the "Pioneer Memorial Park Association." The Eugene Pioneer Cemetery Association filed suit in district court to challenge the transfer and won the case. The Memorial Park Association challenged the ruling in 1961. On August 29, 1961, the County Court ruling was appealed by the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon. The Pioneer Memorial Park Association was awarded all

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right, title, and interest in the cemetery. They were also awarded "All rights to the management and control of . . . cemetery and all rights as cemetery authority." Since that time the Pioneer Memorial Park Association has been recognized as the Cemetery Administrator but the Lot Owners' Association has continued to provide cemetery maintenance. At present, the cemetery is still an active burial ground.

The University has considered plans to substantially alter the cemetery, and in 1977 opposed official recognition of the cemetery's historic status². Lawrence Lackey's "University of Oregon Campus Planing Studies," 1962, suggested the cemetery could be developed for campus use, including a surface parking lot. A 1963 study titled "Relocation and Development Studies for the Pioneer Memorial Cemetery" was completed by Lutes & Amundson. This document enumerated five options for either relocating the cemetery or developing the air space above it. The report includes an option that would have resulted in buildings and elevated walkways being constructed over the cemetery. When the concept of developing the cemetery met with resistance from the community, and the Lot Owners' Association, the University never moved forward with the proposals.³

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Endnotes

- ^{1.} Atwood, section 8 page 4.
- ^{2.} Ed Cone, President Memorial Park Association, letter to William B. Boyd, University of Oregon president, October 20, 1977.
- 3. Chris Ramey, Director & Architect University Planning, Memorandum to Ken Guzowski, dated March 26, 1997. Mr. Ramey explains that three studies were completed that reference possible redevelopment of the cemetery. Lawrence Lackey, "University of Oregon Campus Planning Studies," 1962. Lutes & Amundson, "Relocation and Development Studies for the Pioneer Memorial Cemetery," 1963. Ralph W. Leighton, "Report on Odd Fellows Cemetery-Studies and Developments," 1956.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Beginning at the Southeast corner of Hilyard Shaw's Donation Land Claim; thence North 10 chains; thence West 10 chains; thence South 10 chains; thence East 10 chains to the place of beginning, containing 10 acres, and also the right of way over the following premises, 40 feet wide, commencing at a point in the County Road running South from Eugene City to Masonic Graveyard in the center of a tract of land of 10 acres lying immediately West and adjoining the above-described premises; thence due East 10 chains to said premises above described, in Lane County, Oregon. ALSO:

Beginning at the Northwest corner of tract lettered "K" in University Addition to Eugene, according to the amended plat of said addition; thence easterly along the North side line of tracts "K", "J", and "I" in said addition 721 feet, more or less, to the Southeast corner of the cemetery heretofore conveyed to Spencer Butte Lodge No. 9, Independent Order of Odd Fellow by deed recorded in Book 1, page 419, Lane County, Oregon Deed Records; thence southerly and parallel with the dividing line between tracts "J" and "I" 364 feet along said line to the southwest corner of said tract "K" 721 feet more or less; thence northerly along the West side line of said tract "K" 364 feet to the place of beginning containing 6 and 2/100 acres of land more or less in Lane County, Oregon. EXCEPTION THEREFROM the following:

Commencing at a point on the South line of the Hilyard Shaw Donation Land Claim No. 56 Township No. 17, South, Range 3 West, 660 ½ feet West of the Southeast corner thereof; thence running South 364 feet to the South line of Lot "I" Amended Plat of University Addition to Eugene, Oregon; thence West 63 ½ feet to Southwest corner of said Lot "I"; thence North 364 feet to Northwest corner thereof; thence East 63 ½ feet to place of beginning, containing 53/100 of an acre, in Township 17 South, Range 3 West, Lane County, Oregon.

AND ALSO EXCEPTING:

Beginning at the Northwest corner of Lot, Block or tract"K" of University Addition to Eugene as platted and recorded on page 22 of Plat Book No. 2 of the records of Lane County, Oregon, and running thence South 364 feet to the North line of Eighteenth Street of the City of Eugene; thence East along North line of said street 63 ½ feet of said lot or tract "K" and being in the City of Eugene, in Lane County, State of Oregon.

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BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery have been chosen, as described under the verbal boundary justification, because they are consistent with the property lines established on the City of Eugene Assessor's Map 17 - 03 - 32, Tax Lot #600.

(Rev. 10-96)

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Eugene Pioneer Cemetery

Name of Property

Lane, Oregon County and State

OMB

Photograph Number 1

- 1.) Eugene Pioneer Cemetery
- 2.) Eugene, Lane County, Oregon
- 3.) Photographer: Ken Guzowski
- 4.) Date of Photograph: February, 1997
- 5.) Negative Holder: Planning Division

City of Eugene

99 West 10th Avenue, Suite 240

Eugene, Oregon 97401

- 6.) View south on Kelley Drive towards the Memorial Square, which is centrally located in the center of the 1892 plat map. Magnificent Douglas firs line the Drive.
- 7.) Photograph 1 of 14

With the exception of Item 6 and Item 7 above, this information is the same for each of the photographs submitted.

Photograph Number 2

- 6.) View north on University Street, with MacArthur Court to the east, and the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery to the west. The uphill slope on the west side is planted in English ivy.
- 7.) Photograph 2 of 14

Photograph Number 3

- 6.) View east along Rankin Lane with row of European white birch. This is the southernmost road in the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery. Rankin Lane is directly north of East 18th Avenue.
- 7.) Photograph 3 of 14

Photograph Number 4

- 6.) View south along Conger Lane with stately Douglas firs along the east edge. Photograph taken from the west intersection of Dorris Avenue.
- 7.) Photograph 4 of 14

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Eugene Pioneer Cemetery

Name of Property

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Photograph Number 5

- 6.) View north along Conger Lane, with the new addition to Knight Library on the University of Oregon campus terminating the view. Photograph taken just south of Dorris Avenue.
- 7.) Photograph 5 of 14

Photograph Number 6

- 6.) Internal view towards the west of the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery, along an alley south of Dorris Avenue and west of Kelley Drive.
- 7.) Photograph 6 of 14

Photograph Number 7

- 6.) Image of the Vermont blue marble statue of a Union soldier with rifle at rest, centrally located in the Civil War Veterans plot, which is located south of Memorial Square, and west of Kelley Drive
- 7.) Photograph 7 of 14

Photograph Number 8

- 6.) View to the northeast illustrating a typical internal scene in the 1892 section of the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery. Notice the concrete curbs delineating the burial plots and typical markers and vegetation.
- 7.) Photograph 8 of 14

Photograph Number 9

- 6.) View to the northwest illustrating a typical internal scene in the 1892 section of the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery. Knight Library on the University of Oregon campus provides a terminus to the view.
- 7.) Photograph 9 of 14

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Eugene Pioneer Cemetery

Name of Property

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Photograph Number 10

- 6.) Image of the monumental family marker for the Shelton and McMurphey families. The view is to the west and the burial plot is surrounded by basalt columns laid horizontally. This plot is prominently located as burial plot #214, southeast of the Memorial Square.
- 7.) Photograph 10 of 14

Photograph Number 11

- 6.) View east of the Davies family burial plot. The image illustrates a typical example of a simple concrete step and corner stones that are found on numerous burial plots in the Eugene Pioneer Cemetery.
- 7.) Photograph 11 of 14

Photograph Number 12

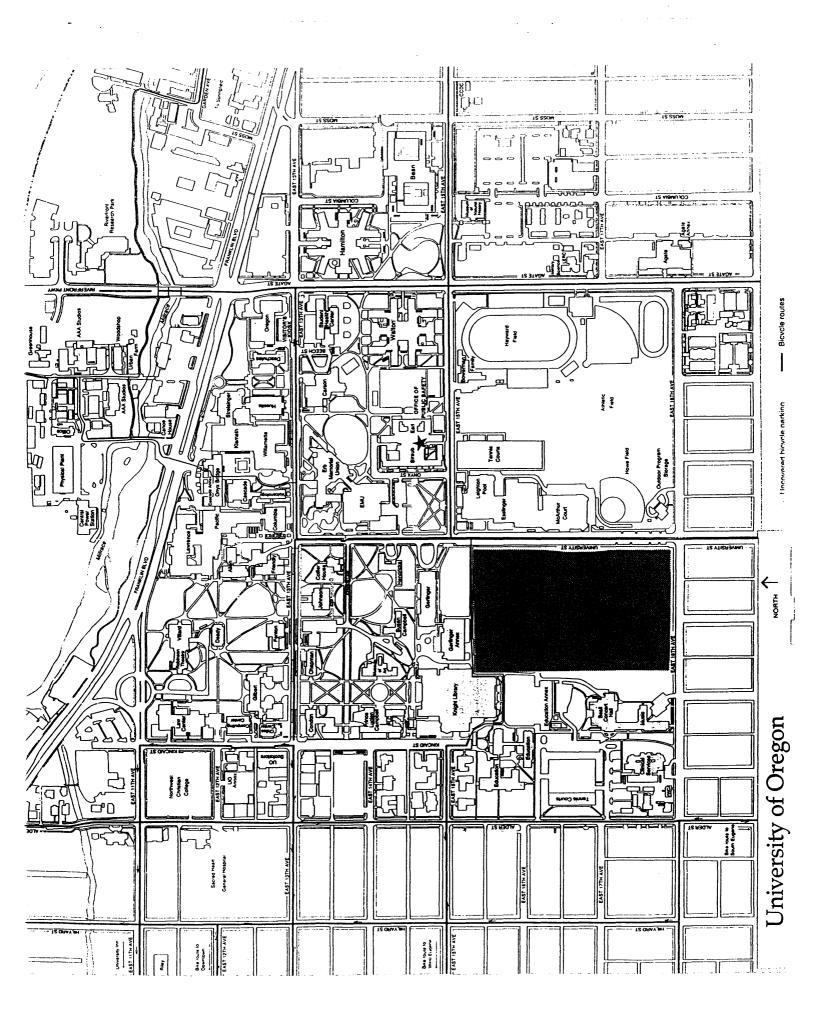
- 6.) Image of an unusual family burial plot with a simple cast iron fence and gate surrounding the burial space.
- 7.) Photograph 12 of 14

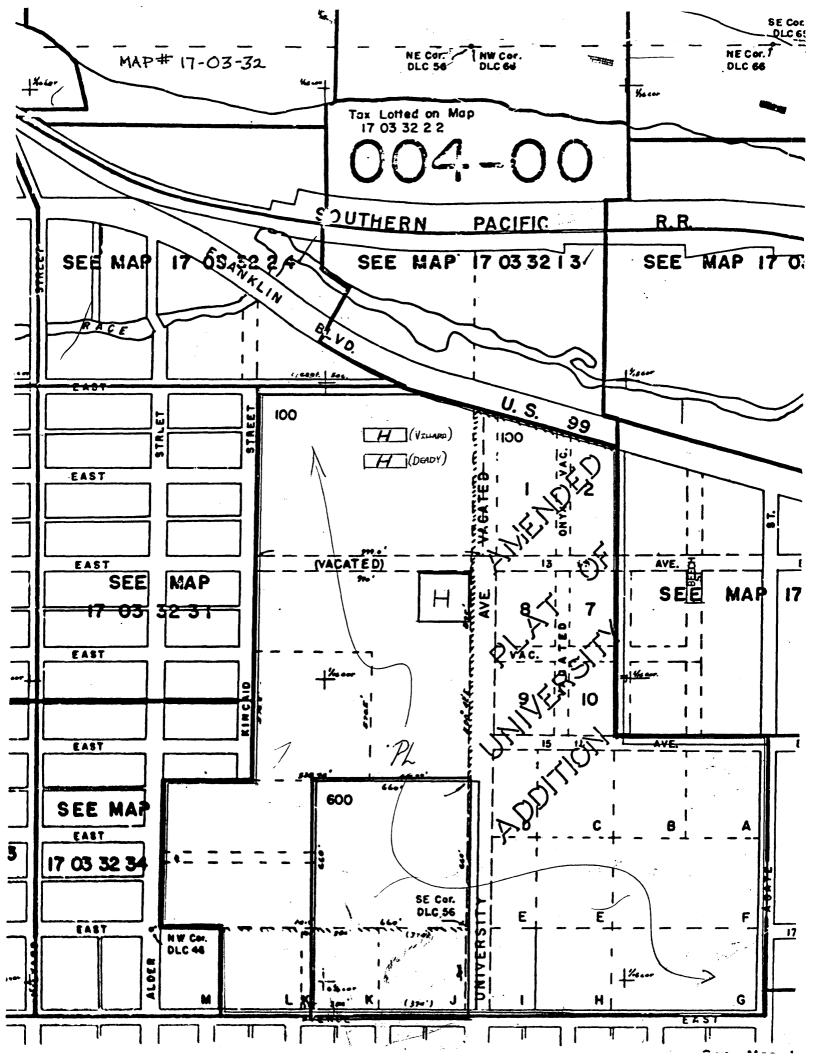
Photograph Number 13

- 6.) Image of two zinc markers utilizing the symbol of the lamb to memorialize the loss of two children.
- 7.) Photograph 1 of 14

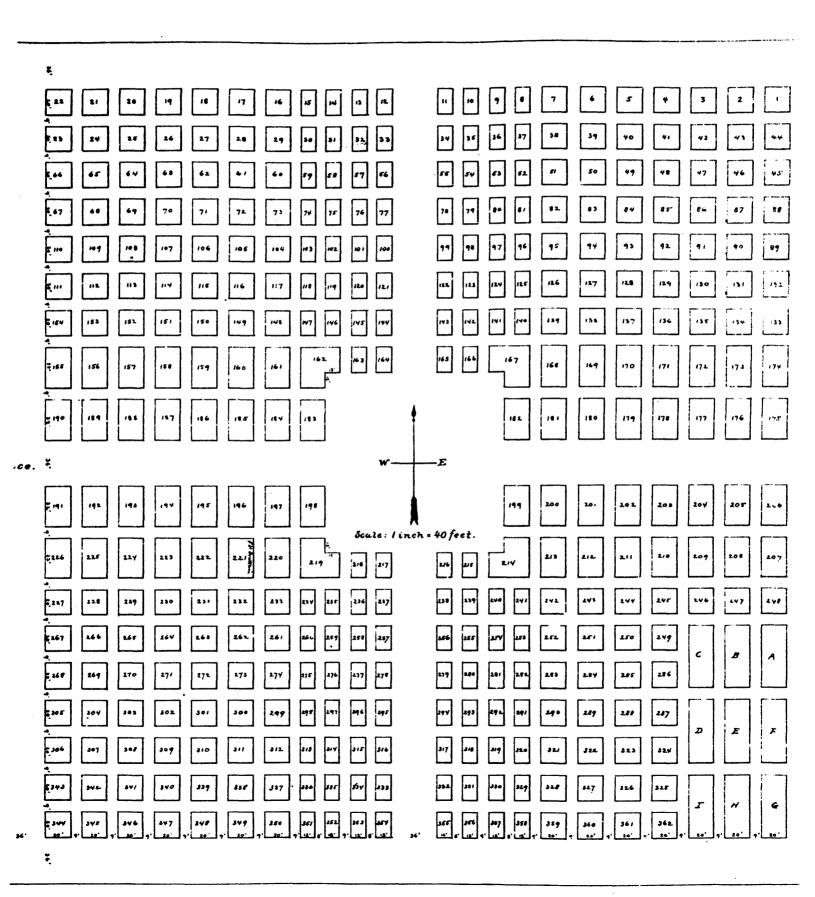
Photograph Number 14

- 6.) Image of a marble burial marker that is utilizing the unusual paired column form. The I.O.O.F. symbol embellishes the monument.
- 7.) Photograph 1 of 14

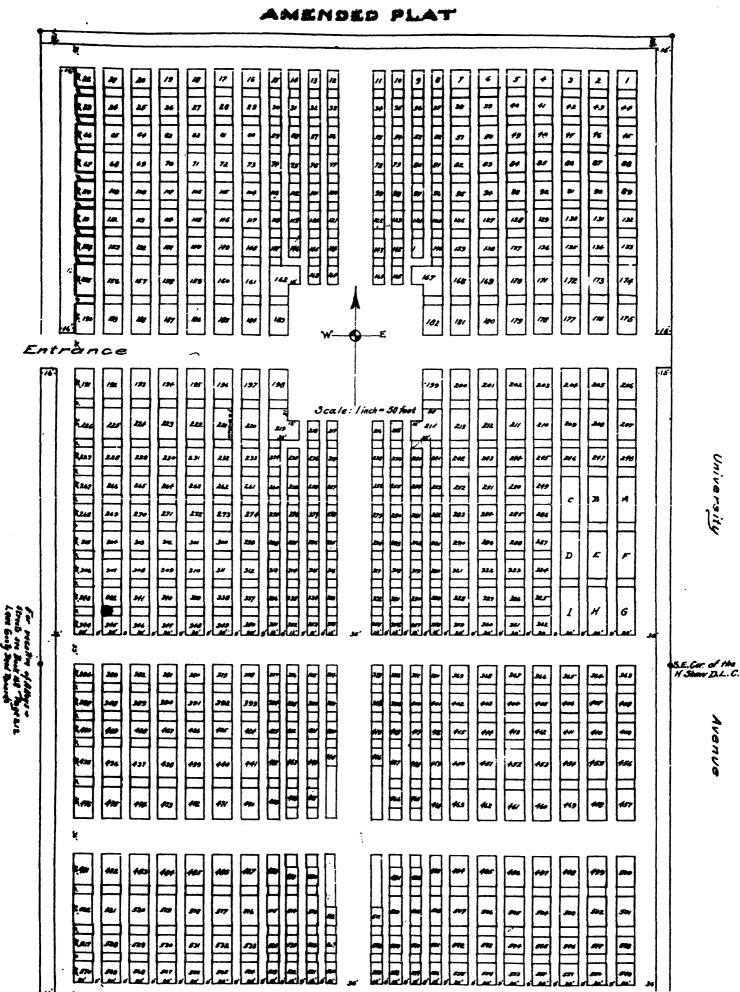




ODD FELLOWS' CEMETERY.



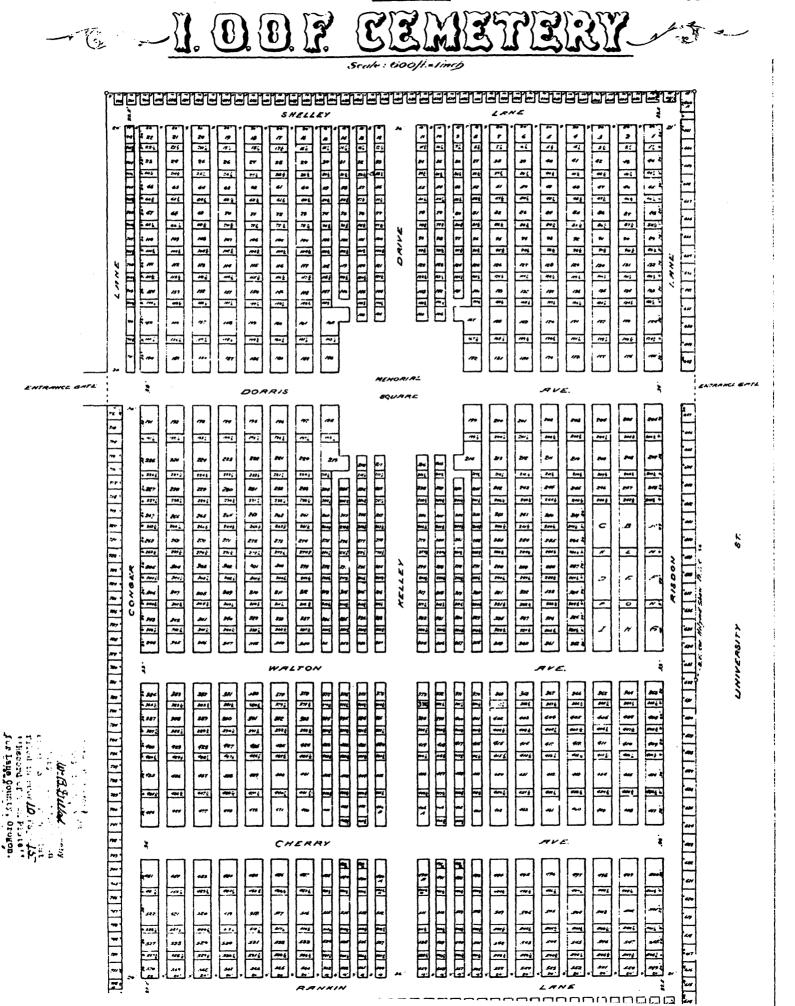
MAP DATED 1908



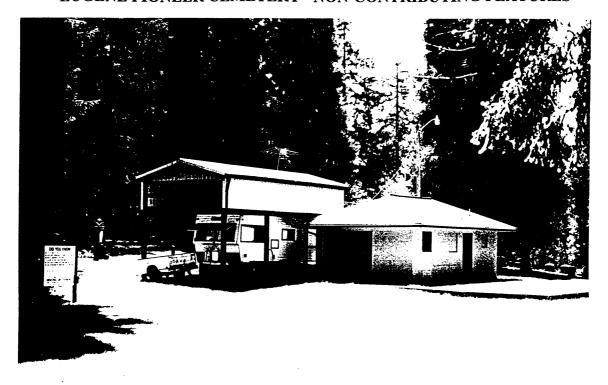
SECOND AMENDED PLAT

OF THE

MAP DATED 1930



EUGENE PIONEER CEMETERY - NON-CONTRIBUTING FEATURES



Caretaker's mobile home shelter and concrete block maintenance building, looking southeast.



Concrete block maintenance building (1956), looking northeast at west and south elevations.