

1514

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 18). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Wing Family Cemetery

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number East Side of Pond Road

N/A not for publication

city, town Wayne,

vicinity

state Maine code Me county Kennebec code 011 zip code 04284

3. Classification

Ownership of Property

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
_____	_____ buildings
<u>1</u>	_____ sites
_____	_____ structures
_____	_____ objects
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: _____

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official _____

Maine Historic Preservation Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

Date 9/3/91

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official _____

Date _____

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): _____

entered in the
National Register

Alvina Byer

10/16/91

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Funerary/Cemetery

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Funerary/Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

No Style

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation N/A

walls N/A

roof N/A

other Laid out with concentric rings
of plots

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

Located in a rural setting along the east side of Pond Road, the Wing Cemetery consists of a square plot of land containing concentric circles of graves. A row of tall Maple trees stand between the road and the granite walled cemetery, and a wooden frame receiving tomb is located outside of the southwest corner.

The cemetery is framed by a cut granite block wall that supports an intact, low, wrought iron fence. Urn-shaped cast iron bollards with acorn caps are located in this fence at each corner and at the ends flanking the granite gate posts. The posts bear cast iron urns and adjoin the ornamental gate and its overarching panel bearing the name WING CEMETERY.

A description of the cemetery published in the December 1904 edition of The Owl is repeated here in its entirety:

It is by the roadside, on a rise of ground overlooking the Wing Pond, and a large portion of the town. It is one hundred and four feet square, with a slight inclination toward the rising sun and the lake. It is surrounded by a nice embankment wall built of split granite. The ground has been dug over three feet in depth, the stones have been all removed, and the entire area graded. In the center is a circular plat, fourteen feet in diameter, on which stands a monument of cut granite which cost four hundred dollars. It is an octagon with a base four feet in diameter and sixteen inches in height, and having a wash around the upper edge. Upon this rests a plinth three feet two inches in diameter and twelve inches in height, with a tasteful moulding around the top. Above this is the die, which is two feet and four inches in diameter at the base, and two feet in diameter at the top. Above this is the shaft, eighteen inches in diameter at the bottom, and rising seven feet, making the full height of the whole twelve feet. The lettering is in raised capitals. On the side of the die fronting the entrance is the name 'Wing,' and beneath it, on the plinth, the date '1871.' On the other seven sides, facing the lots of the seven sons of Simeon, are their names in the following order, passing around to the right: Simeon, Allen, Ebenezer, Aaron, Moses, Thomas, and William. Around the central plat is a circular walk five and a half feet wide, outside of which is a burial plat nine feet wide, divided into seven lots, occupied by the seven sons of

See continuation sheet

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National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetSection number 7 Page 2

Simeon. Next is another circular walk six feet wide, beyond which is another circular burial plat, seven feet wide, designed for two tiers of graves for the descendants of the original Wing family. Outside of this plat is a third circular walk, seven feet wide, touching the four sides of the cemetery. There is likewise a walk from the entrance to the monument plat, cutting the other walks. The plats are graded one foot above the walks, and many of the lots are curbed with cut granite, the remainder being sodded at the edges. The walks are all graveled, and kept clear of weeds and grass. There is also a lot in each corner of the cemetery outside the outer walk. The curbings of the lots next to the walks are of cut granite, curved to the circle, fourteen inches wide and ten inches high. Upon this curbing rests the marble headstones giving the names of the descendants from the first family. Thus a stranger may easily trace the genealogy.

The existence of two published historic photographs show that while the basic configuration of the site was in place at an early date, appurtenances such as the fence, receiving tomb and gate were added later. The earliest of these photographs shows the granite wall without its existing iron fence. By the time of the second one (published in History of the Town of Wayne, Maine, 1898), the fence, gate, bollards, and urn are evident. This source also makes note of the receiving tomb (visible in the photo) having been erected "recently." Sometime after this second photograph was made the arched gate was installed.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1867
c.1900

Significant Dates

1867
c.1900

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

Located in 1867, the Wing Family Cemetery is among the most unusual rural burying grounds in the State. Framed by a row of tall Maple trees, the cemetery is notable for its unusual design in which concentric rings of burial plots are organized around a central raised obelisk. This unusual configuration is accompanied by an intact boundary fence, gate, and receiving tomb added after the cemetery was first developed. Because of its notable design characteristics, the cemetery is eligible for nomination to the Register under criterion C and criteria consideration D.

According to local historians and Wing family genealogists, the cemetery was organized in such a fashion that the inner plat of lots was set off for the seven male siblings of Simeon Wing, all of whom had settled around nearby Wing's Pond in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Their names are engraved on the central obelisk along with the date 1871, apparently indicating the year in which it was erected. Inspection of the stones located here, however, reveals that only Aaron, Allen, and Simeon appear to have been interred (a number of sections are unmarked by stones). Furthermore, they were removed from an older unidentified cemetery since all three died in the 1840s. This suggests that their children (or possibly grandchildren) were responsible for developing this cemetery. Subsequent generations of the family are buried in this and the outer rings.

It is unfortunate that no documentary record has been discovered that provides a clue as to how the Wing family adopted this design. However, it cannot be considered a mere chance event. In fact, contextual evidence indicates that the scheme is clearly based upon contemporary trends in cemetery design as had been carried out in major urban settings. In Maine, Bangor's Mount Hope Cemetery (1834-36, NR 12/4/74) - the state's first "rural" or "garden" cemetery - employed a number of circular burying areas in the naturalistic design. Likewise, when Portland's Evergreen Cemetery was planned in 1852 it also incorporated a circular feature.

See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Walton, George W. History of the Town of Wayne. Augusta: Maine Farmers Publishing Co. 1898.

"A Wing Family Cemetery." The Owl. December, 1904. Wisconsin: A Publication of the Wing Family.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository: _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property Less than 1

UTM References

A

1	9
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4	1	5	0	0	0
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4	9	1	3	3	6	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--

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--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--

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--	--	--	--	--	--	--

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

The Wing Family Cemetery is located on the Town of Wayne tax map 11 between lots 15 & 16. (No specific lot numbered is assigned to cemeteries in the town.)

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

The boundary embraces the entire rural lot historically associated with the cemetery.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk F. Mohny, Architectural Historian

organization Maine Historic Preservation Commission date July, 1991

street & number 55 Capitol Street telephone (207) 289-2132

city or town Augusta, state Maine zip code 04333

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

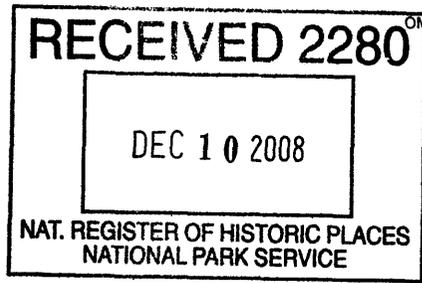
**National Register of Historic Places
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The design of the Wing cemetery is clearly linked to the otherwise urban phenomenon of the "rural cemetery." David Charles Sloane, writing in his history of American cemeteries entitled The Last Great Necessity, states that the elements of a rural cemetery were "the family monument, planned landscape, picturesque vistas, rolling roadways, and location outside the city" (p. 66). In its own small way the Wing cemetery embodies these general principles in the placement and scale of the obelisk, the carefully planned concentric burial plots and curbing, its rural location, and the picturesque vistas. The latter feature in particular was noted in the opening of a nineteenth century description: "It is by the roadside, on a rise of ground overlooking the Wing Pond, and a large portion of the town." The author further remarked that "It is a beautiful resting place for the dead," and that "Such a cemetery is indicative of the moral and religious sentiments of the people, and proves that they highly esteem the memory of their fathers."

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National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Wing Family Cemetery Additional Documentation
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number _____ N/A not for publication
city or town Wayne N/A vicinity
state Maine code ME county Kennebec code 011 zip code 04284

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
[Signature] 11/25/08
Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
Maine Historic Preservation Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)
Signature of certifying official/Title _____ Date _____
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

[Signature]
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

- 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]
Signature of the Keeper

1-14-09
Date of Action

~~Additional Documentation Attached~~

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private, public-local, public-State, public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- building(s), district, site, structure, object

Number of Resources within Property

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

Table with columns for Contributing and Noncontributing resources, and rows for buildings, sites, structures, objects, and Total.

Name of related multiple property listing

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

One

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Blank lines for entering historic functions.

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Blank lines for entering current functions.

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Blank lines for architectural classification.

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

Blank lines for materials: foundation, walls, roof, other.

Narrative Description

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

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WING FAMILY CEMETERY ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

KENNEBEC COUNTY, MAINE

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

At the time of the 1991 nomination little was known regarding the history of the Wing Family Cemetery, and its designer was unknown. Since then, the Wayne Historical Society has conducted ongoing research into both the Wing family and the Wing Cemetery. In 2002 the Wayne Historical Society received as a donation a collection of letters, account books, deeds, bill and receipts dating between 1837 and 1864 which had been saved by Llewellyn Wing (1817 - 1881) of Maine. Among the papers was a roll marked "Wing Cemetery Record." Examination of these records, along with the later acquisition of a copy of an undated early blueprint depicting the layout of the cemetery and annotated with the names of family plots and those already interred therein, have led local historians to conclude that the cemetery was designed by Alonzo A. Wing, (1807 - 1893) and that it was built by James Norris Wing (1818 - 1899).

The following paragraphs summarize the recent research into the Wing Family Cemetery, and are excerpted from the Wayne historian Eloise R. Ault's 2008 article "Wayne's "Wing Ring": Unraveling a Historic Puzzle" and published this year by the Wayne Historical Society in A Happy Abundance: Tales, Memories and More, Past and Present in Wayne, Maine.

The historical collection [Wayne Historical Society] maintains a Wing Cemetery file, in which are a number of photocopied articles written at various times during the 20th century, and which give similar descriptions of the design and unique layout of the several graves. All of these authors bemoan the fact that "no one then living knew the story of the burial ground's beginning, or who built the 'Wing Ring'." The oldest account was found in Conway Wing's *Genealogical Book* published in 1881, in which Gancelo J. Wing (1838-1923) of Wayne, without naming any individuals involved in the making of the cemetery, gives the following description:

The ground for the cemetery had been dug over three feet in depth, the stones had all been removed, and the entire area graded. , , [and] the granite obelisk was made by West & Wing of Lewiston and cost \$400.

The *Maine Register* for 1873, under Lewiston, lists S.H. West and William Wing as being engaged in "Marble and Granite Works," a listing for that year only. Gancelo Wing's account continues:

The cost of curbing for one lot was \$140 and that walling and grading the cemetery, including the Iron Gate was a little over \$700. There is a permanent fund of \$200 deposited in the town treasury, the interest of which keeps the cemetery in repair. A row of maple trees run along the roadside for thirty or forty rods and another of elm runs around the other outside walls.

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WING FAMILY CEMETERY ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

KENNEBEC COUNTY, MAINE

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This treasured burial ground was laid out in 1867, to be constructed in circular configurations. At the precise center of the grounds stands a 12-foot-high granite obelisk, which is the focal point of an elevated circular mound of earth 14 feet in diameter, which in turn is surrounded by a three-foot-deep dry moat. On the monument's octagonal base, facing the gate and entrance walk, is inscribed the name "WING" and the date 1871. On each of the other seven sides, facing the lots, is inscribed the name of one of the original seven brothers, all of whom came to Wayne in the 1780s. Proceeding in the circle, to the right, going counter clockwise around the monument they are: Simeon Jr., Allen, Ebenezer, Aaron, Moses, Thomas, and William.

Circling this impressive center are concentric rings, each ring separated by graveled walks and curbed with cut granite which serves as a base for the headstones, thus assuring they are arranged in a perfect circle. Intended to provide a family genealogy, each ring includes the graves of members of succeeding generations descended from whichever of the seven brothers the headstones face.

Entering the yard through its handsome wrought iron gate one cannot help but be impressed by the neat and orderly placement of the headstones. On reading the inscriptions on some of the stones it becomes apparent that dates of death in many cases occurred years before the present cemetery came into being. Using a copy of a 1973 Maine Old Cemetery Association inventory of burials, there appear to be at least 39 graves predating 1867 which had to have been moved from somewhere else. How is this explained? Is this history lost? The 1898 *History of Wayne* provides no answer to these questions, but states only that it cost \$700 to build, and that there was room for 224 graves. An 1856 map of Wayne, however, shows a burial ground on the same approximate site of the present-day cemetery.

The sketchy, half legible penciled roll of Wing Cemetery Records consists of pages, some undated, that seem to indicate that the participants were proceeding in a legal fashion to establish a "Cemetery Company." What appears to be the first meeting was recorded as "Wayne Sept 27, 186_[year missing]." They chose a Moderator, Samuel W. Frost; a Clerk, Llewellyn Wing; and as Treasurer/Collector was Samuel W. Frost. Then all three were elected as a committee to supervise the construction of the cemetery. Other business:

Moved to instruct the Committee to procure good and sufficient titles of Loran and Allen Wing of the land for the Wing Cemetery.

Moved to Adjourn to the second Monday in Nov 1867

Written by Llewellyn, as Clerk, the various notations can present problems regarding their interpretation. As example, on one page he writes:

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WING FAMILY CEMETERY ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

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Wayne Nov 12th (year illegible), voted to instruct the collector to collect \$200, and pay J.M. Wing (James Norris Wing) Contractor in the Month of November 1866.

Was this date an error? If not it seemed to indicate that work on preparation of the new burial site had taken place in the Fall of 1866. Another page appears to be a list of the first family members who had donated money in support of the construction project, written under the heading *Amts Paid by the Several Subscribers:*

Alden Wing.....\$100.	
A A Wing.....\$125.	Alonzo Aaron Wing
Leon Wing.....\$50.	
S W Frost.....\$10.	Samuel W. Frost
B C Wing.....\$10.	Benjamin C. Wing
Loran Wing.....\$50.	Loren Wing
Allen Wing.....\$25.	
L C Wing.....\$25.	Llewellyn Calvin Wing
J M[N] Wing.....\$100.	James Norris Wing
Thomas Wing.....\$5.	

At a meeting on November 15, 1867, they voted to deed the "7 center Lotts to the original proprietors (the seven buried brothers) of the Wing Cemetery, each one owning a Lott Shall Control their Father's Lott." This appears to establish the plan of future burials for each brother's descendants to fall within their 1/8th of the circle, as their names had been inscribed on the octagonal base of the obelisk. They also voted to sell lots in the outside tier for \$37 each. Judging from the words used in the foregoing record it appears that the use of the concentric circle design had already been accepted at some earlier meeting.

The Maine State Archives, a repository for early incorporation records, has no record of incorporation for the "Wing Cemetery Company." The handwritten instruction "to procure good and sufficient titles of Loren and Allen Wing of the land for the Wing Cemetery" led us to the Kennebec County Registry of Deeds. There we found a second major breakthrough in the language of the deeds themselves. It answers the question of how the existing 39 graves in the original family burial ground were to be exhumed and moved. According to the deed, the sale of the land took place on September 28, 1868. It further states that "S.W. Frost, Llewellyn Wing, and Thomas Wing, Executive Committee of the 'Wing Cemetery Company,' a corporation created by the Laws of this State," paid Loren \$50 for his plot of land. The plot contained the original family burial ground which bordered the boundary line between Loren and Allen Wing's respective properties.

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WING FAMILY CEMETERY ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

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Translating the lot dimensions into feet; it was 82 feet across the front, 112 feet along the sides, and the back line measuring 89 feet. The deed directs that existing graves situated within the southern half of the old family cemetery are to be exhumed and moved temporarily to the northern half of the lot, thus freeing the southern half to become part of the new cemetery, and the ground made ready for the newly designed layout. The deed also stipulates that ownership of the old northern area would revert back to Loren when all the bodies were reburied in the new cemetery. A second deed signed on the same date paid Allen Wing \$25 for the plot of land located adjacent to his boundary line with Loren's land [old cemetery]. The dimensions were 54 feet across the front, 112 feet along the sides, and 47 feet along the back. With these two lots joined, work could begin on the new cemetery.

There is no doubt that Samuel W. Frost, as chairman of the Wing Cemetery executive committee as well as collector/treasurer, must have been responsible for a considerable amount of organizational correspondence in seeking approval and financial support from Wing descendants. He was born in Monmouth in 1800 and in 1831 he married Parintha Wing, sister of Alonzo, and settled on a farm located on what is today Walton Road. The 1898 *History of Wayne* describes him as having been an "industrious, practical, thrifty, and successful farmer. He was a man of sound judgment, of sterling integrity and was respected and esteemed by his fellow citizens." Samuel died in 1879 and is buried in the cemetery that he had labored so hard to make a reality.

Llewellyn Wing, son of Calvin and the second member of the executive board, was born in 1817 and the grandson of Simeon Jr.... Simeon Jr. was one of the seven brothers whose name is inscribed on the octagonal base of the obelisk. Through study of his letters found in the garbage bag we learned that in the 1840s Llewellyn was in Lowell, Massachusetts and employed in construction of the city's textile mills. During the decade of the 1850s he was in partnership with a cousin, Benjamin Wing, in the manufacture of windows in Bangor, a business which failed because of a dispute over waterpower rights. Llewellyn returned to Wayne, and to agriculture, on a farm located on the Walton Road just east of Samuel Frost's property. His father, first wife, and son would have been buried in the old family burying ground long before 1867, and their remains would have required exhumation before being reburied in the new cemetery.

At age 50 Llewellyn, being the youngest member of the committee, would probably have been involved in layout and supervision of site preparation and construction of the project. The 1898 *History of Wayne* lists Llewellyn as serving on the board of selectmen in 1866 and 1867, during the time when remains were being dug up and moved temporarily to the north end of the old family burying ground. As selectman, he was in a position to ensure that appropriate authorization was granted. He died in 1881 and is buried in the outer, third ring of the Cemetery. Llewellyn is credited with planting the column of beautiful maple trees along the roadside in front of the cemetery.

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WING FAMILY CEMETERY ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

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There is little information in *Wayne Families*, an unpublished genealogical work now in the town library. But from other sources we learned about Thomas Wing, son of William, grandson of Simeon Jr. and the third member of the executive committee. He was born in Wayne on November 16, 1810. At some point during his life he moved to Fayette where he had a farm, which is shown on the 1856 map as being at the end of the Richmond Mills Road across from the still standing brick schoolhouse. Thomas, however, remained active in Wayne, and in 1865 was involved in forming the Asylum Lodge of Freemasons, which he served as Master for a number of years. At the time of its publication, the 1898 *History of Wayne* names him as Wing Cemetery President. He died at age 96 in 1906 and is buried in the Wing Cemetery.

James Norris Wing, son of James, and grandson of Simeon Jr. was noted in Wing Cemetery Records as the cemetery's contractor. He was born in Wayne, October 18, 1818. According to *Wayne Families* he left home at age twenty and learned the stonecutter's trade while working in Quincy, Massachusetts. He returned to Wayne in the Fall of 1860 to run the family farm because his father's health was failing. Wayne's Annual Reports of the 1860s indicate that the town paid him for "road work and the building of a bridge." He died on November 12, 1899 and is buried in the Wing Cemetery.

Research of this subject over the past ten years supports the case that [the design of the cemetery] was the work of Alonzo A. Wing, son of Aaron who was one of the seven brothers, and grandson of Simeon, the patriarchal father.

During the 1920s a brief biographical sketch appeared in *The Owl*, a genealogical magazine of the Wing Family, published annually and with a nationwide distribution, and which may contain another clue. It states that Alonzo was born in Wayne in 1807, the son of Aaron of the original generation of seven Wing brothers. He was educated at Wesleyan Seminary, now Kents Hill School, and Waterville (Colby) College. Alonzo later moved to Jefferson, Wisconsin where for many years he was Jefferson's Superintendent of Schools, later County Superintendent of Schools and a Regent of the State University of Wisconsin. In 1850 Wing was elected a member of the Wisconsin State Legislature. In addition to these accomplishments he was also a civil engineer, surveyor of public lands, and county surveyor. He was a true entrepreneur and successful in his many business ventures.

After the death of his wife Jane, on December 24, 1884, Alonzo had the bodies of his wife and daughter sent home for burial in the Wing Cemetery. Returning to live permanently in Maine, he helped establish Wayne's first library, in charge of what until 1895 was called "The Alonzo Wing Library Association."

In conclusion, *The Owl* article notes, "in 1867 at his suggestion and through his efforts the Wing Cemetery was established."

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WING FAMILY CEMETERY ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

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To confirm the above information, the Jefferson Historical Society was contacted. Elmer Waldman, responding for the Society, prepared and sent a transcript of numerous notices concerning Alonzo's business dealings, notices found in the *Jeffersonian*, the local newspaper first published in 1838, and which support *The Owl* account. ...The following are transcribed abstracts of interest found in the *Jeffersonian*:

1859\03\10 Married: Alonzo Wing of Jeff. & Miss Jane A daughter of Hon. J H. Underwood of Fayette Mills, Me., 2/23/1859, & came back to Jeff. a few days ago.

1860\09\12 Died: Lucy Ellen, infant daughter of Alonzo & Jane Wing.

1865/11/22: Alonzo Wing & Wife visited friends in Maine a couple of months & now returned home

This transcript provides...evidence that Alonzo was present [in Maine], as well as very much involved, during the initial cemetery planning. During this period he had opportunity to present this design and persuade his peers to adopt it. It is likely that Alonzo made subsequent "quick" visits, at the time possible via railroad, during the construction in 1867-71, visits which may not have been noticed by the *Jefferson* press, or notices perhaps overlooked by their transcriber.

His education for that time was impressive, and the two institutions he attended unquestionably support *The Owl's* biographical sketch. At Kents Hill School, with the help of Archivist Marjorie Gordon, was found a well preserved catalog from 1826 which listed the 19-year-old Alonzo Wing as attending the school that year. Even more interesting is that included in the curriculum was a course for the study of surveying

Colby College Librarian for Special Collections, Patricia Burdick, could verify from the College's *Centennial Catalogue 1820-1920* that in 1838-39 – at that time Colby was known as Waterville College – Alonzo was enrolled as a student, and listed as Class of 1842 although as "non-graduate".

The University of Wisconsin reported that Alonzo had served on the university board of regents from 1851 to 1857. They also forwarded a copy of a letter Alonzo had written while serving on the board, in which he urges the university to offer a technical course of study for its students, and in which he reveals his deep passion for the subject:

I would like to say to the learner of the surveyor's art also, and to the young Engineer to go up to the University by all means, because you can there receive the best possible instruction – all drafting, plotting, mapping, and in whatever else may be thought essential

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WING FAMILY CEMETERY ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

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to the Study, besides a very considerable portion of instruction in the outdoor or field practice, with such instruments as you will hereafter have occasion to employ. The benefits of such instruction, to this class of learners must be inestimable. Through this means great good will be done in removing the prejudices against the University from the public mind, for the occupations of these young men will lead them to an equal association with the masses in all parts of the State.

One could reasonably conclude that as his life work centered around surveying, and having prospered in his other business enterprises, he would be the logical person to provide plans, as well as major financing for the cemetery, and his Will documents this conclusion. But for our research, the most interesting was his request:

that my remains be buried in my own lot which I have prepared for my last resting place, near to the graves of my father and mother and by the side of my son, Howard A. Wing, and his mother, Mrs. J.A.U. Wing, in the Wing Cemetery and to defray the necessary expense incident thereto, and to procure and set up at my grave suitable head stones, I hereby set apart the sum of \$1000 for the purpose of improving and beautifying my said cemetery lot, and the Wing Cemetery from year to year. I direct that the sum of \$1000 out of my estate be invested by or under the direction of the officers of the said Wing Cemetery Company, the interest thereon to be applied to the improvement and preservation of the said Wing Cemetery.

Wing's obituary as published on December 12, 1893 in the *Jeffersonian*:

December 9, 1893, Died: Alonzo Wing, 86 years and ten months, at Fayette, Maine, at the Underwood homestead, the old home of his wife. He was a native of Wayne, Maine. After graduation at Waterville College, now Colby University, he went to Wisconsin and settled in Jefferson where he spent many years of his youthful life. After the death of Mrs. Wing he returned to his native state to pass the remainder of his life among old friends and relatives. His sickness was short, lasting about a week. His death was due to exhaustion or general breaking up of the vital forces. He retained his mental faculties to the last.

The second fact gleaned from transcripts sent us was the information found in Alonzo's obituary, which states he spent the last four years of his life at the childhood homestead in Fayette of his wife, Jane Underwood, and where he died at age 85. He had, indeed, remained active and "retained his mental faculties to the last."

The third major breakthrough came as the consequence of Raymond Wing, genealogist for the Wing Family of America, writing an article about the Wing Cemetery that appeared in *The Owl*. The end result was that Raymond put us in touch with Nancy

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Otis of Manchester, Vermont, who had an early blueprint plan of the cemetery and who very generously provided a 22 x 22 inch photocopy, which even when reduced in size is remarkable legible. Having this visual aid in hand had greatly enhanced our ability to communicate while making inquiries for information, and as a result we have received very helpful responses....

On closer study of the blueprint plan, could the argument be made that when he drafted "Alonzo Wing" in the walkway between the first and the second ring of graves, Alonzo Wing used an unobtrusive way to claim authorship of his *Wing Cemetery Plan*? Such tagging of graves is not repeated anywhere else on that side of the walkway, and it definitely appears to be a departure from the model he had established.

Could it be that in 1893 the retired 85/86-year-old Alonzo amused himself by filling in the names on the graves, as then occupied, as a check to see if his design was working? Perhaps if he had lived another decade there would have been a sufficient number of interred bodies to prove that his design was indeed accurate. The fact that Alonzo's grave was already labeled is not surprising because he definitely knew where he was going to be buried....Unraveling the complex puzzle has revealed it as the elaborate plan it is, unrecognizable at first sight, but unquestionably unique in Wayne, and perhaps anywhere else. And to Alonzo Wing can now be granted long overdue recognition as the family genius responsible for its creation.

It is interesting to note that a second, circular cemetery has been located in Kennebec County. As the bird flies, the Kent Cemetery in Fayette is located approximately 3.4 miles north of the Wing Family Cemetery, or about five miles by road. In addition, the final home of Alonzo Wing, at the Underwood House in Fayette, is only about 2.3 miles distant over a now discontinued, dirt road leading east from the Kent Cemetery. As Elias H. Kent designed and dedicated this burial ground between 1880 and 1884 (during the lifetime of Alonzo Wing) it is possible that he did so either with the assistance of Wing (an extant plot plan for the Kent Cemetery is almost identical to that of the Wing Cemetery), or that it was more generally based on the nearby Wing Family Cemetery.

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Blank lines for entering Areas of Significance.

Period of Significance

Blank lines for entering Period of Significance.

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Significant Dates

Blank lines for entering Significant Dates.

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Blank line for entering Significant Person.

Cultural Affiliation

Blank lines for entering Cultural Affiliation.

Architect/Builder

Wing, Alonzo A. (1807-1893), designer, attributed

Wing, James Norris (11818 - 1899), builder

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
Local government
University
Other
Name of repository:

Blank line for repository name.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

Ault, Eloise R. "Wane's "Wing Ring": Unraveling a Historic Puzzle" in Eloise R. Ault and Edward L. Kallop, Jr. A Happy Abundance: Tales, Memories and More, Past and Present in Wayne, Maine. (Wayne, Maine: Wayne Historical Society), 2008. Pages 82-96.

"Llewellyn Wing Collection." Town of Wayne Historical Collection, Cary Memorial Library, Wayne, Maine.

Bibliographic Note: Copies of *The Owl*, the genealogical publication of the Wing Family, were consulted by author Eloise R. Ault at the Farmington Public Library, Farmington, Maine. Bibliographic citations for the Owl were not provided in the Ault paper.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property .44 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

UTM grid with 4 quadrants (1-4) for Zone, Easting, and Northing coordinates.

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title CHRISTI A. MITCHELL, ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN
organization MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION date 14 July 2008
street & number 55 CAPITOL STREET, STATION 65 telephone (207) 287-2132
city or town AUGUSTA state ME zip code 04333 -0065

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

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

Property Owner

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

name
street & number telephone
city or town state zip code

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 Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundaries of this property have not changed.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION