

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 instruction 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 classifications, 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 Crystal Lake Cemetery

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1945 SE Crystal Lake Drive not for publication

city or town Corvallis vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Benton code 003 zip code 97333

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.

James Hamrick
Signature of certifying official/Title Deputy SHPO

April 19, 2004
Date

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
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): _____

Edson H. Ball
Signature of the Keeper
6/16/04
Date of

Crystal Lake Cemetery
Name of Property

Benton County, Oregon
City, County, and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply)

Category of Property
(Check only one box)

Number of Resources within Property
(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Non-contributing	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district		3	buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	1		sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure			structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>1</u>		objects
		2	3	Total

Name of related multiple property listing
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)
None

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register
None

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions)

FUNERARY: Cemetery

FUNERARY: Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

N/A

N/A
foundation
walls
roof
other

Narrative Description

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

See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 7

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

SOCIAL HISTORY
EXPLORATION AND SETTLEMENT

Period of Significance
1850-1953

Significant Dates
1850, 1860, 1897, 1907

Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" on all that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
X 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 Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Architect/Builder
N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 8

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
X Local government
X University
X Other

Name of repository:

Benton County Deeds and Records
Oregon State University
Corvallis Masonic Lodge #14

X See continuation sheet(s) for Section No. 9

Crystal Lake Cemetery
Name of Property

Benton, Oregon
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 13.59 acres

UMT References
(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	<u>10</u>	<u>479925</u>	<u>4932609</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
2	<u>10</u>	<u>479935</u>	<u>4932436</u>

3	<u>10</u>	<u>479833</u>	<u>4932441</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing
4	<u>10</u>	<u>479833</u>	<u>4932604</u>

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 Sally Donovan

organization Donovan and Associates date July 2003

street & number 1615 Taylor St. telephone 541-386-6461

city or town Hood River state OR zip code 97031

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

name Benton County, c/o Parks Department & Community Development Department

street & number 360 Avery Ave. telephone 541-766-6819

city or town Corvallis state OR zip code 97333

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Summary Description

Located in Benton County, the Crystal Lake Cemetery is adjacent to the city limits of Corvallis, Oregon, in Township 12 South, Range 5 West, Sections 2 and 11, Willamette Meridian. The cemetery, founded in 1860, was later platted (officially mapped and recorded) by Corvallis Masonic Lodge #14 in 1897. Including the 1907 addition, the Crystal Lake Cemetery encompasses approximately 13.59-acres, containing more than 3,900 burials. The earliest marked grave in the cemetery (1850) predates the Masonic Lodge's 1860 founding date of the cemetery (this often occurred when a person is re-interred or commemorated, or the land was used previously as a small private burial ground).

Mature fir and deciduous trees line portions of the cemetery's west and north boundaries while the interior grounds have minimal landscaping and are more open in nature. The headstones show an evolution of monument designs and materials dating from the Victorian era to the modern period indicative of the perpetual cemetery care movement. The pre-1900 and early twentieth century markers are usually made of marble, more ornately designed, and are in the form of tablets, obelisks, shafts, or columns. Generally, markers placed after the 1910s are manufactured of granite or metal, and are in the form of block, slant, or flush-mount monuments. Headstone regulations in the newer section (southern half) of the cemetery require flush mount markers; this section has an open park-like setting. The cemetery grounds and objects are in good condition, and maintain a high degree of historic integrity.

Currently, three buildings are on the site: a pole storage shed, the caretaker's manufactured home, and a mausoleum. The pole shed and caretaker's home are non-historic, non-contributing features to the site. The mausoleum, a good example of a modern style building, is considered a non-historic, non-contributing resource only because of its construction date that post-dates the period of significance (1850 to 1953). The Civil War Statue is considered a contributing resource to the site for its historic significance and rarity of type. The cemetery, an active burial ground, is currently owned and maintained by Benton County under the supervision of the Parks Department.

Setting

Located south of downtown Corvallis, the Crystal Lake Cemetery is east of U.S. Highway 99W (Third Street) along the east side of Crystal Lake Drive. The cemetery is bordered by Willamette Park and a ravine on the east, undeveloped land on the south, Crystal Lake Drive and single and multi-family housing on the west, and a ravine and a light industrial area to the north. A high chain link fence lines the west and south property lines, and a section of the north boundary.

The current entrance is at the south end of the cemetery. Historically, the entrance was at the north end and connected to a county road. The entrance was moved in the early 1950s when Crystal Lake Drive was established. A gravel road extends east from Crystal Lake Drive along the south cemetery border and leads to the cemetery's entrance. A double gate, made of looped woven wire on a pole frame, extends across the entrance that is flanked by tiered, brick planter boxes built in 1955.

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The original north entrance still exists and is closed off with a chain-link gate. The original county road alignment is visible at the north end of the cemetery and currently connects to a trail leading to Willamette Park. A pedestrian gate, located near the middle of the west fence line, leads to bike lanes along Crystal Lake Drive. This pedestrian entrance is generally locked. The main driveway in the cemetery extends north-south from the south entrance, through the cemetery, and terminates at the original north entrance. This road bisects an oval drive in the original plat. A secondary east-west road, divides the two plats (1897 and 1907), and leads to the maintenance shed, mausoleum, and caretaker's home. Currently, the roads are covered with gravel.

Landscape Features

Sweet gum trees line the east-west road between the two plats, and mature trees line portions of the cemetery boundary. A row of mature fir trees along the northern boundary defines the original alignment of the county road. The northern section, encompassing the original plat, has more historic plantings. Characterized by flush mount markers and park-like setting, the newer section (south half) has fewer plantings. Other landscape features include shrubs and flowers in the brick entrance planter boxes, and vegetative screening around the caretaker's manufactured home in the southeast corner of the cemetery.

The interior grounds have a variety of shrubs planted sporadically throughout the cemetery in association with headstones or plots. Historic plantings in the cemetery include rhododendrons, azaleas, hollies, roses, snowballs, lilacs, periwinkle, laurels, flowering cherries, and boxwoods. Mature yews, near the central east-west drive, are notable for their age and size. Sweet gums and firs are the dominant species in the cemetery with other types of trees on site including elms, birches, sycamores, a tulip tree, pin and red oaks, cedars, and pines.

Aerial photographs indicate that trees lined the central east-west driveway and the southern portion of the main entrance drive; these were planted between 1955 and 1965. Only the sweet gums survive along the central east-west road. The Parks Department's juvenile work crew planted wildflowers along portion of the west property line for use as a visitor's cutting garden.

Cemetery Layout

Although founded as a burial ground in 1860, the Crystal Lake Cemetery was officially platted (mapped and recorded) in two major phases; 1897 and 1907 (filed in 1909). The original 5.31-acre parcel was laid out in a formal grid pattern centered on an oval drive centered on the main north-south road. This original section was platted into 663 blocks divided into five plots each measuring 4' x 9.5'. Blocks 564 to 689, in the newer section, were platted the same size as the original section, and blocks 690 through 1149 are larger blocks divided into ten plots each. Over 3,900 interments have been made in the cemetery.

Originally, concrete, stone, or wood curbs enclosed many of the blocks in the cemetery. These curbs were removed for maintenance reasons in the 1930s as the perpetual care cemetery movement became popular throughout cemeteries in the United States. A few masonry flush square markers designating block corners are still intact.

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Monuments

Monument Types: The Crystal Lake Cemetery displays an array of markers and monuments ranging from simple marble tablets to ornately carved statuary. A number of these markers date from the Victorian and post-Victorian periods, and reveal the styles of the era in their carving types, shapes, and funerary imagery. These markers often convey the status and wealth of the individual within the community. The large central family monuments are surrounded by headstones representing individual family members.

The monument types in the cemetery include marble tablets, simple block and slant markers, obelisks, shaft markers with decorative finials, low pillow markers, columns, horizontal cylinders, and newer flush-mount markers. These headstones are made of marble, granite, sandstone, concrete, copper, and bronze. Several markers, such as boulders, are rustic in style. There are several cast zinc markers, also known as White Bronze monuments that are well preserved in the cemetery. Most of the zinc markers were produced by the Western White Bronze Company of Des Moines, Iowa; however, one was manufactured by the American White Bronze Company of Chicago. John R. Scrafford, local stonecutter and owner of the Corvallis Marble Works, may have carved many of the early stones in the cemetery. Scrafford is buried in the cemetery (Block 203).

Symbolism/Emblems: The markers display a wide variety of funerary symbolism and emblems that tell stories through their imagery. These include an array of carved flowers, ferns and ivy, pine cones, religious symbols, military shields, monograms, anchors, geometric designs, mountains, garlands, open books, drapery, clasped hands, hearts, lambs, birds, scrolls, rose buds, trees, doves, swans, stars, gates of heaven, and many more. Often hobbies or professions are symbolized on the stones such as a plow pulled by a horse, bus, bulldozer, and biplane. Children's headstones have imagery depicting lambs, teddy bears, blocks, and baby shoes.

One of the missions of the Masonic Order was to help bury the dead. This mission is evident in the Crystal Lake Cemetery as many of the emblems adorning the markers are associated with the fraternal order: the "All-Seeing Eye", a symbol of watchfulness and of God; the three pillars representing Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty; the beehive, a symbol of industry; and a sprig of evergreen representing the resurrection and eternal life. Various working tools used by the masons represent the Masonic Craft degrees: the gavel, square, level, plumb, compass, trowel, mallet, pickaxe, crowbar, and shovel. The most common emblem of the Master Mason is the interlaced square (mortality) and compass (spirituality) with the letter "G" commonly found in the center (Geometry or God). A five-pointed star represents the Masonic organization for women, the Order of the Eastern Star (O.E.S.). The O.E.S. star has a central pentagon around an altar and open book. Each star point also contains an emblem. Symbols representing the various fraternal organizations are common in the cemetery and include emblems for Masonic and Eastern Star, I.O.O.F. (three interlocking chains), B.P.O.E (elk's head), American Legion, VFW, Moose Lodge, Grand Army of the Republic, and Woodsmen of the World.

The numerous veterans buried in the cemetery are from many different divisions of the military. These include members of the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, Air Corps/Force, Navy, National Guard, Corps of Engineers, Cavalry, Dental Corps, Mechanic/Artillery Division, Medical Department, Wagoner, Depot Brigade, and Ambulance Company. These veterans fought in the Civil War, Spanish-American War, World War I and II, Korean War, and

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Vietnam. Traditional military tablet markers made of white marble or granite mark many of the veteran's graves. A notable military headstone is that of Edward Allworth who was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his service in World War I.

Epitaphs: Epitaphs reveal social and cultural history, identifying plagues, diseases, wars, family tragedies, personal history, and hobbies or skills. The most common epitaphs in the Crystal Lake Cemetery state the birth and death dates of the interred, and sometimes this is accompanied by the birth or death place. Death dates of children and babies reveal epidemics and diseases that often took several children from a single family within days, months, or years of one another. Some stones state the cause of death, "Drowned" or "Lost at Sea" while others cite religious passages reflecting the family beliefs.

Phrases such as "only sleeping" or "gone home" speak to perceptions of death, and epitaphs written in other languages impart strong cultural ties. Birth places, often noted on the stones, show the ethnic backgrounds of the interred including people from Germany, India, China, Scotland, Iceland, Holland, Denmark, Prussia, England, and Ireland. Louis Alexander Southworth, one of Corvallis' early African-American settlers, is memorialized on a recently placed commemorative stone bearing an image of Louis playing his fiddle. The Look and Wong interments represent the small Chinese community that resided in Corvallis (burial records indicate that Look's remains were most likely exhumed and sent back to China, a common practice in the Chinese culture).

Other types of historical information are written on the stones. The Thayer headstone states, "Oregon Pioneer of 1853", and Joseph Avery's stone states that he was the founder of Corvallis (Marysville). Napoleon Avery's monument shows a relationship with Daniel Murphy; the two men share a headstone representing their friendship in life. Joseph Alexander's stone states that he donated the land for the Crystal Lake Cemetery.

Condition: The headstones in the Crystal Lake Cemetery are in good condition with only a few markers damaged due to natural weathering, erosion, and/or vandalism.

Objects

Civil War Veteran's Statue: One of the cemetery's most impressive monuments is the Civil War Veteran's commemorative statue. Dedicated on 30 May 1908, the 15' high monument was sited in a prominent location in the oval of the original cemetery plat. The figure of a Union soldier with a rifle at rest, one of few in the state, is made of Barre Vermont granite. The statue, in good condition, is classified as a historic contributing feature to the site.

Buildings

Mausoleum: The Western Mausoleum Construction Company of Eugene erected a "modern" mausoleum along the east edge of the cemetery in 1959. Named "Haven of St. John," the building was constructed for \$22,000. The concrete mausoleum has a flat roof, brick trim around the central glass entry, brick planter boxes, and large metal frame doors and windows. Exterior niches and crypts are on the north and south ends of the building. The interior has niches for cremains and crypts. All of the original interior fixtures are intact. In good condition with minor alterations, the mausoleum is considered a non-historic, non-contributing building to the site because it post-dates the period of significance and is less than 50 years old.

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Caretaker's House: Historically, a wood-frame caretaker's cabin stood on the grounds near the north entrance. A new cottage was erected in the 1930s at the central east end of the east-west cemetery road. This cottage was demolished in the 1980s. Currently, the caretaker's manufactured home is in the southeast corner of the cemetery (placed in 1992). The one-story home is set back from the road, and is screened by trees and shrubs. The building is a non-historic, non-contributing feature to the site.

Storage Shed: A large pole frame storage shed (erected 1982) is north of the mausoleum. The 24' x 84' building has a gable roof covered with vertical seamed metal siding, a large loading door on the west side, and a door on the north elevation. The building is a non-historic, non-contributing feature to the site.

Integrity

The Crystal Lake Cemetery retains integrity of location, layout, setting, principal design, feeling, landscape features, and association with the development of Benton County, the City of Corvallis, and Corvallis Masonic Lodge #14. Historically, the cemetery also had close ties to the founders of Oregon State University. Many of the early settlers, and community and college developers are buried in the cemetery. Historically, the Crystal Lake Cemetery was the primary burial ground for the community of Corvallis.

The cemetery's monuments show an evolution of monument design from nineteenth century tablet and obelisk makers to twentieth century block and flush mount markers. The older section of the cemetery is characterized by all types of markers from tablets to blocks while the newer section (southern section) reflects the perpetual care movement of the early twentieth century when flush-mount monuments were the only types of markers allowed in the cemetery. The Crystal Lake Cemetery retains its original grid pattern, road configuration, and secluded park-like setting despite the encroachment of more modern development. The cemetery is in good condition.

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Statement of Significance

Near Corvallis, Oregon, the Crystal Lake Cemetery is locally significant for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, for its strong association with the settlement and development of the City of Corvallis and Benton County, and its historic association with Corvallis Masonic Lodge #14 and Oregon State University. Founded by Corvallis Masonic Lodge #14, the cemetery was established in 1860 and is one of the oldest continuously used cemeteries in Benton County. The cemetery, an integral part of the community, represents an important aspect of the region's history in its ties to the development the city, county, university, and the Masonic Lodge #14.

Many of the region's most prominent citizens including pioneers, business people, government leaders, and Oregon State University faculty and staff were buried in the Crystal Lake Cemetery. Some of the more well-known people interred in the cemetery include the founder of Corvallis, Joseph C. Avery; Benton County pioneers and donors of the land for the cemetery, Joseph and Sarah Alexander; Oregon State University presidents, Benjamin L. Arnold and William Jasper Kerr; Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, Edward Allworth; honored botanist, Helen Gilkey; prominent judge and state senator, John Burnett; pioneer and businesswomen, Mary Scott Stewart; well-known Benton County Attorney, Eddy Wilson; and one of the first African-American couples to settle in Benton County, Louis A. and Maria Southworth. The interment of these prominent individuals in the Crystal Lake Cemetery reflect the community's settlement and early development as the town, county, and university were founded and established.

The cemetery also meets the special registration requirements under Criteria Consideration D for its strong historic associations with the region's earliest Euroamerican settlement to the later development of Corvallis and Benton County, and for being the final resting place for many citizens that made outstanding contributions to the growth of the area and regional government, and Oregon State University.

The areas of significance associated with the Crystal Lake Cemetery include social history and settlement, and the period of significance dates from 1850 to 1953. The beginning date of the period of significance represents the first marked burial in the cemetery, and the end date represents the National Register fifty-year cut-off date.

Historic Context: Benton County and Corvallis

Once part of the lands inhabited by bands of Kalapuyas, Benton County is located in central Willamette Valley. Created from Polk County by the Territorial Government of Oregon on 23 December 1847, the county was named for Senator Thomas Hart Benton (1782-1858) who was an advocate for the development of the Oregon Territory. From 1851 to 1893 several other counties were created from Benton County; the county now encompasses 679 square miles.

Joseph C. Avery, a Pennsylvania native, established one of the earliest donation land claims in what would become Benton County. In 1845 Avery claimed 568.35-acres at the confluence of the Marys and Willamette rivers, a strategic location along what became a major north-south transportation route. The discovery of gold in California lured Avery to the mines in 1848 and 1849. Upon his return, he bought stock in a general merchandising business, opening a store in a granary located near his cabin. Avery then platted the town of Marysville in 1851 and renamed the community Corvallis in 1853. Prominent merchant and state senator, Avery

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served as the first postmaster, and general postal agent for Oregon and Washington. One of the incorporators of Corvallis College, Avery platted several additions to the original plat of Marysville and supported the construction of the railroad through Corvallis. Several of Avery's eleven children stayed in the area and continued his legacy after his death in 1876. Many members of the Avery family are buried in the Crystal Lake Cemetery.

The small community of Corvallis grew as businesses developed and the west side territorial road was constructed in the early 1850s. The territorial road extended south through Corvallis and provided one of the overland routes to southern Oregon and California. This became one of the major north-south roads in Western Oregon and further solidified Corvallis as a major trading center for agricultural products and local goods. In 1855 Corvallis became the county seat of Benton County and the state capital of Oregon; however, the legislature moved the capital back to Salem later that same year. Corvallis was officially incorporated as a city in 1857. Oregon's statehood followed on 14 February 1859; Oregon was admitted to the Union as the 33rd state. At that time, Corvallis had a bustling population of about 500. Hotels, stables, saloons, saddle shops, meat markets, pharmacies, and general merchandising stores lined the dirt streets of Corvallis in the 1850s and 1860s. The small community was supported primarily by the surrounding agricultural industry. Small subsistence farms of the initial developmental period soon gave way to larger commercial agricultural pursuits.

Besides its agricultural base, Corvallis was supported by other industries including sawmills, cabinet manufacturers, planing mills, a brickyard, tannery, door and sash factory, and wagon shop. Churches, houses, and schools were built to support the growing population. Corvallis College, chartered in 1857-58 by the Methodist Episcopal Church South and erected in 1859, was the first school building associated with the college. Based on the provisions of the 1862 Morrill Act, the college was designated as the State Agricultural College in 1868; the logical name for a college that was surrounded by rich agricultural lands. By 1870 Corvallis' population had reached 1,200.

Plans to construct a railroad through Corvallis began in 1870. Ten years later, the Western Oregon Railway Company, a subsidiary of the Oregon and California Railroad, arrived in Corvallis. The railroad's completion brought new businesses and organizations to the city. The railroad opened up new markets for the local agricultural industry in the Willamette Valley. Wheat, fruit, and livestock were the mainstay of the county. Corvallis' population also increased as a result of the improved transportation system. By 1890 the city had grown to 1,527.

The first two decades of the 1900s were a period of growth and prosperity as evident in the population increase. By 1910 the population reached 4,552. New plats were filed as the city continued to expand and its reputation grew as a popular "college town." The wooden commercial buildings of the late 1800s gradually yielded to more substantial masonry structures. The automobile changed the face of the town as new auto-related businesses including gas stations and car dealerships replaced wagon shops and stables. With the automobile came expansion outside the traditional business core. Commercial businesses developed along major arterials especially near the college campus. The rural areas also benefited from the road improvements as market roads were upgraded making it easier transport goods.

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The Great Depression of the 1930s slowed construction in Corvallis with the exception of housing and several large-scale public facilities. Despite the Depression, the lumber and agricultural industries remained stable. By the end of the 1930s the economy began to improve, and in 1940 the population had increased to 8,392. Development of Corvallis during World War II continued, in large part, due to the need for military housing near Camp Adair. After World War II, Corvallis experienced another period of growth; the population increased from 8,392 in 1940 to 16,000 in 1950. The city had recovered from the Depression, weathered World War II, and moved into the modern era.

Crystal Lake Cemetery

Joseph C. Alexander deeded land for the Crystal Lake Cemetery to Corvallis Masonic Lodge #14 in 1860. Born in Maryland, Alexander grew up in Ohio before crossing the continent on the Oregon Trail. On 1 November 1849, Alexander claimed 639.73 acres (Claim No. 46) on the south side of the Marys River near its confluence with the Willamette River and adjacent to Joseph Avery's land claim. Much of his claim is now within the city limits of Corvallis. Alexander became the first county commissioner, and was a justice of the peace, sheriff, and state legislator. He remained in Corvallis on his claim until 1876. At that time, Alexander traded farms with S.N. Lilly and moved to the south end of King's Valley.

Alexander deeded the 5.31-acre parcel to officers of Corvallis Lodge #14 of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons (A.F. and A.M.) of Benton County on 30 January 1860 (recorded 3 February 1860, Book E, Page 481). On behalf of the lodge, Jacob Walter, William Kaufman, and T.B. Odeneal purchased the parcel for one dollar. The Alexanders reserved five cemetery blocks (340, 363, 364, 365, and 366) for family use. Joseph's first wife, Sarah, died on 27 July 1850 and was buried on the land prior to its official designation as a cemetery (other interments may also have occurred prior to the Masons' involvement).

On 20 January 1866 the lodge officially named the cemetery "Crystal Lake", most likely after the small lake that bordered the cemetery on the east. The official cemetery plat was filed in October 1897 (Book 2, Page 19 of the Town and Cemetery Plat Book). The plat showed 563 blocks platted with five plots in each block. At that time, the cemetery had 363 recorded interments. The layout of the cemetery included a central oval bisected by the main north-south roadway that terminated at a gate at its north end. Another private road skirted the west boundary of the cemetery and accessed an adjacent owner's property (Alexander's, and later, Lilly's property).

Prior to 1900 a cemetery association helped the Masons maintain the cemetery. According to an early newspaper account, this group was primarily made up of women (*Corvallis Gazette*, 17 August 1906). The cemetery association disbanded after many years of service due to financial difficulty. By the early twentieth century, the cemetery was badly overgrown. Headlines in the 17 August 1906 *Corvallis Gazette* states, "A Disgraceful Condition: At Crystal Lake Cemetery — Who Will Clean It Up?" The article describes the cemetery as covered with "wild scotch broom and rank ivy." The article called for the immediate clean-up of the cemetery and possibly hiring a sexton to care for the grounds if the relatives of the interred would not take responsibility for its maintenance. This call for reform seemed to stimulate interest. A year later the Masons added more acreage to the cemetery, purchasing another 8.286 acres directly south of the original cemetery plat (purchased on 6 August 1907 and filed 26 April 1909). Silas N. Lilly, a widower, sold the parcel of land to the Masons for \$825. An endowment fund was established for the care of the cemetery.

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The Grand Army of the Republic Monument Association erected the Civil War Veteran Monument in the oval of the original cemetery plat, dedicating the statue on 30 May 1908. Constructed by the Blaesing Granite Company of Portland, the \$1,000 monument is about 15 feet high and depicted a life-size soldier in a Civil War uniform standing at parade rest. The inscription on the pedestal stated, "Dedicated May 30, 1908, by the Grand Army of the Republic Monument Association to Ellsworth W.R.C. No. 7 in Memory of the Men Who Bared Their Bosoms to the Storm of Battle '61 - 65'."

Early twentieth century photographs of the cemetery show a white wood rail fence enclosing the cemetery grounds on the west and a tall wooden flag pole south of the Civil War memorial. According to a circa 1898 photograph, concrete, wood, or stone curbing enclosed a number of the family plots. Cemetery minutes, dated 13 May 1936, indicate that plot curbs were being removed from the cemetery for maintenance reasons. This was a common practice in burial grounds throughout the United States as the perpetual care movement in cemetery management became more popular.

Sometime in the late 1800s or early 1900s, the Masons constructed a small building at the entrance to the cemetery. The 1936 minutes of the meeting state that the "old building now standing at the entrance of the cemetery" be replaced (Masonic Cemetery minutes, 14 January 1936). Located mid-way along the eastern edge of the grounds, the Masons erected a new cottage (demolished in the 1980s) for a cost of about \$1,500. Other improvements during this time included construction of new tool and pump houses, additional blocks laid out in the newer section, extension of the cemetery road to the south and east, crushed gravel added to the roads, and a water system added. In 1939 a permanent caretaker was hired for \$1,000 a year, and, in 1944, an area was replatted into smaller 24" x 40" lots to accommodate baby burials (Blocks 82 and 83).

The Masonic Lodge purchased another tract of undeveloped land in 1948 adding 4.49-acres to the Lodge's holdings (currently undeveloped-not included in the nominated area). This acreage, purchased from Mary E. Lilly, is south of the cemetery plat and was never platted for cemetery use. In 1952 Benton County purchased a 60-foot strip of land along the west boundary for use as a county road (now Crystal Lake Road) from the Masonic Lodge and Mary E. Lilly. The purchase allowed the Cemetery Board to change the entrance from the original north end to the south end. The new entrance was enhanced by the construction of brick entrance planter boxes and a gate in 1955 (cost \$3,600). At this time, burial plots sold for \$50 with a charge of \$25 to open the grave. The Masons allotted a portion of this money to an endowment fund. The Crystal Lake Cemetery, Inc. further expanded the cemetery's holdings in 1959 when construction began on a mausoleum along the east edge of the cemetery. The Western Mausoleum Construction Company of Eugene erected the "Haven of St. John" for \$22,000.

In the 1960s the Masons laid out more cemetery plots in the southern section, and a "Planting Plan" was drawn by I.B. Solberg, Landscape Architect (dated 22 January 1963). At that time only three structures existed in the cemetery; the caretaker's residence, a shed, and the mausoleum. A mobile home, used as an office, was placed on site in 1974 (removed), and a maintenance shed was added to the grounds in 1982 for a cost of \$6,142.

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The current caretaker's manufactured home was moved to the grounds in 1992. Corvallis Masonic Lodge #14 maintained the cemetery until deeded to Benton County in 2001. The county currently owns the cemetery under the management of Benton County Parks Department.

Corvallis Masonic Lodge #14

Freemasonry is one of the oldest and largest fraternal organizations in the world and can be traced back nearly 800 years as builders banded together forming what would later be called "guilds." These builders or "Masons" were responsible for the construction of cathedrals and other great structures throughout western Europe in the middle ages. Each guild formed a lodge that appointed officers and had three degrees of membership. The first membership group was the apprentice or bearers of burden, the second group was the craftsman or skilled workers, and the third group was the Masters or superintendents of the construction project.

These builders, called Freemasons, traveled freely where construction projects took them. During the sixteenth century, after many of these structures were completed, the demands for skilled masons declined and the lodges struggled for their existence. To preserve their organizations, some lodges began to accept other members not in the building trade. These Masons were referred to as "Accepted Masons" and later "Speculative Masons." The term, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons (A.F. & A.M.) usually follows the lodge name. The basic ideology of the Masons are brotherly love, relief, and truth, and to teach moral philosophy.

The modern Masonic lodges in the United States, based on this ancient principle, are governed by the Grand Lodge located in every state. Each Grand Lodge is the authority in its own geographic area, governs the lodges and Masons within its own jurisdiction, complies with the Ancient Masonic usage, and sets its own laws, rituals, standards, and operations. The first Masonic lodge in the American colonies was established in 1733 in Boston. The Grand Lodge of Oregon was organized in 1851; however, the first lodge in Oregon was established five years earlier when Oregon City's Multnomah Lodge #1 formed in 1846.

An initial meeting was held in Corvallis for the purpose of forming a Masonic lodge on 15 December 1856 with David G. Clark presiding. The group petitioned to form and open a lodge in Corvallis; Jenning Lodge No. 9 of The Dalles sponsored the new lodge. The Grand Lodge formally accepted the request and Corvallis Lodge #14, A.F. & A.M. was chartered on 8 June 1857 with 18 members. The first Worshipful Master of the lodge was David G. Clark, who was a merchant in Corvallis.

By 1860 Corvallis Lodge #14 had 37 members active in community affairs. That same year, the lodge purchased land from Joseph Alexander for use as a cemetery. Many of the headstones in the cemetery display various Masonic emblems such as the compass and square, and the Eastern Star. By 1876 the lodge had grown to 75 members that included prominent business people, and Oregon Agricultural College faculty and supporters.

Members of Corvallis Masonic Lodge #14 dissatisfied with some aspects of the lodge formed the Rocky Lodge #75. The new lodge had a charter membership of 20 in 1880, several of whom were past Masters of Corvallis Lodge #14 and Grand Masters of Oregon. The first Master of Lodge #75 was James R. Bayley. Rocky Lodge #75 only existed until 16 June 1893 when the lodge was consolidated with Corvallis Lodge #14.

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On 2 March 1898 the lodge adopted a resolution to authorize the construction of a new lodge building on Second Street in Corvallis. John Huffman and W.O. Heckart received the \$4,827 contract for the construction and completed the building in 1898. This building served as the lodge hall until 1911 when plans for a new Temple building were made under Master E.L. Strange. Two lots were purchased on the southwest corner of Third and Madison streets for the new building. Grand Master George H. Burnett dedicated the new \$50,000 building on 6 June 1912. The Lodge Room in the new building was one of the most decorative halls in the United States. Egyptian scenes, stenciled throughout the room, depicted the various degrees in Masonry, and the carpet design represented the tile of King Solomon's Temple. The lodge building and hall also served as a social gathering place.

The 1920s were prosperous times for the lodge with membership increasing to over 500 despite an initiation fee of \$75. By the time the lodge celebrated its twenty-fifth year in the new Temple in December 1937, the building was paid for and the lodge was in good financial condition. An \$1,700 electric organ was purchased in 1940, making the lodge room one of the most complete in Oregon.

During World War II, Corvallis Lodge #14 assisted military personnel enlisted at Camp Adair, ten miles north of Corvallis. Lodge members established an extensive library so the enlisted men could complete high school and go to college. Many of these enlisted men joined the Masons after the war ended. Other auxiliary organizations formed including the Order of Eastern Star, Job's Daughters, DeMolay Chapter, Rainbow Girls, and York Rite Bodies. These groups often included women and children of the Masons.

A devastating fire struck the lodge building in 1956 almost completely destroying the structure. The Masons decided to rebuild the Temple, awarding the contract to Robert C. Wilson who finished the restoration in 1957. The lodge hall was restored to its original splendor using photographs of the hall and professional help from Oregon State University's art department. In 1958, another Masonic lodge formed; Marys River Lodge #221. Both lodges, still active in the community, share the Masonic building in downtown Corvallis at Third and Madison streets.

The Oregon State University Connection

The Crystal Lake Cemetery is the final resting-place for many of Oregon State University's founders, supporters, faculty, staff, alumni, and regents. The 1857-58 legislature issued the charter for the Corvallis College. Members of the community initially erected a college building in downtown Corvallis. But due to financial difficulties, the building was sold in an auction in 1859. The Reverend Orcenith Fisher of the Methodist Episcopal Church South (M.E. Church South) purchased the building, business, and the school. On 1 January 1861 Corvallis College passed into the hands of the M.E. Church South. This began the school's long affiliation with the church.

In the beginning, the college only offered primary and preparatory courses. William A. Finley appointed president of the college in 1865, converted Corvallis College into a "real" college of higher learning. After Finley's term, the school added a college level curriculum.

Corvallis College became Oregon's official agricultural college under the provisions of the Morrill Act of 1862 in October 1868. Under this provisions, the State of Oregon made arrangements with the M.E. Church South to use

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the Corvallis College building and faculty. Thirty-five acres, purchased with donations from local citizens, became the college farm. President Finley, remembered for ushering Corvallis College into an institution of higher learning, resigned from his position in 1872.

Benjamin L. Arnold became the college's second president in 1872 and began building the college programs. The curriculum was divided into two sections, the literary and scientific departments. The College had established a Department of Agriculture by 1883, the first in the Pacific Northwest. The State of Oregon acquired full control of the Methodist operated school in 1885, changing the name to the State Agricultural College. In 1888 the school received funding through the Hatch Act of 1887 to establish agricultural experiment stations throughout the state.

The school expanded once again in 1887-88 when Corvallis and Benton County citizens donated \$25,000 to erect a new administration building (Benton Hall). The building was constructed on college farmland acreage designated for the new campus. Other appropriations funded the construction of several other campus buildings in the 1890s. President Arnold's tenure as head of the college ended with his death in 1892.

Under William Jasper Kerr's presidency from 1907 to 1932, the college grew and prospered offering four major schools of study in 1907: Agriculture, Engineering, Home Economics, and Commerce. In 1908 the name of the college changed to the Oregon Agricultural College with an enrollment of 1,400 students on a 24-building campus. Kerr added more departments in the teens, and in the 1918-19 academic year, over 2,800 students attended the college. Sorority and fraternity houses were constructed. Oregon Agricultural College was the second largest agricultural college in the nation by 1921, and by 1927, over 3,400 students attended the college. That same year the college was renamed the Oregon State Agricultural College.

The newly established State Board of Higher Education questioned having two universities during the 1930s depression; the Oregon State Agricultural College and the University of Oregon in Eugene. In 1932 a plan eliminated duplication in courses, equipment, departments, and publications. Oregon State College (renamed again in 1937) would focus on physical and biological sciences while the University of Oregon would concentrate on the liberal arts.

The Depression caused a drop in the student population in the early years; however, by 1936, enrollment surpassed pre-Depression enrollment. World War II brought another fluctuation of enrollment, but by the end of the 1940s, the student body was at an all time high of 7,133. The school continued to grow as Oregon State University gained a reputation as a sea, land, and space grant university; only ten institutions in the United States have all three designations. Today, Oregon State University maintains a strong connection with Crystal Lake Cemetery as many of the early promoters, educators, administrators, and students are buried in the cemetery. Many of these Oregon Staters also had strong ties to the Corvallis Lodge #14 and the M.E. Church South.

Prominent People Interred

Although the cemetery is not being nominated under Criterion B, there are numerous people who made significant contributions to the settlement and early development of Benton County, the City of Corvallis, and

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Oregon State University. The following are brief biographies of these important local figures that add to the historic significance of the Crystal Lake Cemetery.

Prominent Governmental and Community Leaders, and Pioneers

Alexander, Joseph C. (Block 363): Pioneer and donor of the cemetery land, Joseph Alexander was born 27 December 1809 in Frederick, Maryland. His father, William Alexander, moved the family to Stark County, Ohio in 1818. Joseph worked as a cooper before operating a canal boat on the Erie and Ohio canals. He married Sarah Ann Payne on 14 May 1839 and the couple had four children born in three states (Ohio, Missouri, and Oregon).

Joseph, Sarah Ann, and their three sons left Missouri for Oregon in 1846. Upon their arrival, the Avery family claimed 639.7 acres (Donation Land Claim #848) on 1 November 1849 along the south bank of the Marys River near the Willamette River. Sarah Ann, Joseph's first wife, died in 1850 and was buried on their donation land claim. Alexander later married another woman named Sarah (1851) who died 13 years later in a wagon accident. He then married Lucinda Allen on 10 July 1869. Lucinda was the widow of Hiram Allen who had another Donation Land Claim in the area. Lucinda died on 10 July 1894.

Active in community affairs and an ardent supporter of public education, Alexander was an early Benton County commissioner and justice of the peace. In 1860 he donated a portion of his land to create the Crystal Lake Cemetery. He was appointed sheriff in 1862 and elected to the state legislature in 1868. In 1876 Alexander traded farms with S.N. Lilly and moved to the south end of King's Valley. Joseph died on 11 February 1892.

Avery, Joseph Conant (Block 274): The founder of Corvallis, Joseph Avery was born in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania on 9 June 1817 to Cyrus and Lydia Avery. Joseph moved to Illinois in 1834 where he farmed until 1845. He married Martha Marsh on 13 March 1841 near Wyoming, Pennsylvania. Joseph traveled west with the wagon train under command of Captain John Stewart in 1845. He claimed 568.35-acres at the confluence of the Willamette and Marys rivers, which he believed would be a prime transportation route. Joseph boarded with John and Mary Stewart until he built a log cabin, reportedly the first house in what is now Corvallis. His wife and children came to Oregon from Illinois on a second wagon train under command of Captain Sawyer (Martha's uncle). Joseph met them on the east side of the Cascade Mountains and guided them over the Barlow Trail. In 1847 Avery platted the town of Marysville. To avoid confusion with a California town of the same name, the state legislature later voted to rename the community Corvallis.

After two trips to California gold fields, Joseph returned in 1850 and started a merchandise store, the first store in Corvallis. Wanting to promote the location, Joseph donated 50 acres to serve as the county seat and laid out additions to the town. After establishing a post office, he became the postmaster and general postal agent for Oregon and Washington. He owned the "Occidental Messenger," the first newspaper in Corvallis, and for a time, the state capital was moved to Corvallis something for which Joseph Avery was largely responsible.

Avery served the public for two terms in the Oregon legislature and served on the committee that decided the site of the Oregon Agricultural College. Active in the Corvallis Lodge #14, Joseph was the first treasurer of the lodge in 1857 serving as Master in 1862 and 1863. He had eight children; Charles, James, Punderson, Napoleon, George, Florence, Frances, and Gertrude. Joseph died from a goiter in 1876 and Martha died in 1911.

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Bryson, J. R. (Block 52): J. R. Bryson was born in 1854 and became a prominent judge in Corvallis. He and his wife, Mary, had two children who died during an outbreak of diphtheria in May 1882: Bertha, 10 years old; and Roy, 2 years old. A prominent member of Corvallis business community, he was the lawyer for a local bank. Bryson built an Italianate style house (listed in the National Register) that remained in the family until 1906. J. R. Bryson died at age 43 in 1897.

Burnett, John (Block 539): A prominent Corvallis citizen for fifty years and a self-taught advocate of the law, John Burnett was born in Pike County, Missouri, on 4 July 1831. John's father died in a steamboat accident when he was fifteen, leaving John to help support his mother and four siblings. Before his eighteenth birthday, Burnett left for the California gold mines, returned two years later, and then ventured back to California. Injured in the mines, John returned to Missouri in 1855. In 1858, he drove horses to Benton County and decided to settle there. Burnett married Martha Hinton in 1859. John studied law, then established a law practice, and became a county judge, state senator, and justice of the State Supreme Court. Burnett was a member of Corvallis Lodge #14 and also was involved in farming. John died 1 March 1901.

Farra, Dr. George R. (Block 387): A prominent community leader and doctor, George R. Farra was the son of Martha J. and John R. Farra. He was born in Woodford County, Kentucky, on 13 September 1843. His father, a farmer, moved his family to Platte County, Missouri, after George's birth. This father died when George was only nine years old. George worked at a grocery and lived in Humbolt, Kansas, until 1872 when he returned to Platte County to work in a pharmaceutical business. He married Anna Hamilton on 9 February 1873. The couple had two children who died in infancy. In 1875 he began at the University of Louisville's medical department and graduated in 1877. With his new skill, George moved to Corvallis and practiced medicine.

Farra was active in medical, political, and economic affairs. These activities included serving on the city council in 1887, on the Committee on Streets and Public Improvements in 1888, consulting on city ordinances; presiding over the Corvallis Water Company; directing of the Willamette Land and Loan Association; and being an active members of the Blue Lodge of Masons, Woodsmen of the World, Ancient Order of United Workmen, and the Oregon Medical Society. George constructed two residences in Corvallis. His second house, built in 1903, is listed in the National Register. George died 27 December 1925 and Anna died in 1931.

Southworth, Louis Alexander (Block 371): Louis A. Southworth was born in Tennessee on 4 July circa 1830 to Louis and Pauline Hunter who were slaves of James Southworth (Louis was given Southworth's name). After Louis' father died of smallpox, he traveled to Oregon with his mother and James Southworth circa 1851. Southworth became a miner in Jacksonville, fought in the Rogue Indian War, and played the fiddle to earn money in the gold towns of California and Nevada after persuading his owner to let him venture out of state. In 1868 he worked as a blacksmith in Buena Vista, Polk County (near Albany) after having bought his freedom with the money earned mining and fiddling.. Southworth also learned to read and write during this period.

Southworth married Maria Cooper in June 1874 in Salem who had an adopted son named Alvin McCleary (Louis' stepson). The family moved to Tidewater, near Waldport, Oregon around 1880. Louis homesteaded along Alsea Bay five miles east of Walport and donated a half-acre of his land for Waldport's new school building.. He worked ferrying passengers and cargo on the river, worked in Corvallis and Philomath in the summers to pay for

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winter supplies, and also used his land as a seining ground for a local cannery owner. He served on the local school board and was civic minded, voting in every presidential election after his move to Walport. After being chastised for playing his fiddle at Walport's local Baptist church, Louis quit the church. His love of fiddling remained with him throughout his life.

In 1901, after Maria Southworth's death, Louis moved to Corvallis. He married Josephine Jackson of Portland in 1903 and the couple lived at the corner of Fourth and Adams streets in Corvallis. Louis Southworth died on 24 June 1917 at the age of 86, and was remembered as a respected member of the community in a time when racial prejudices were common. Louis A. Southworth was buried next to Maria Southworth in the Crystal Lake Cemetery. A commemorative headstone was placed on Memorial Day 2000 on Southworth's grave as a tribute to his life in Oregon.

Stewart, John (Block 326): A Benton County pioneer, John Stewart was born on 12 February 1799 in Virginia. John was a widower with four children in 1842 when he wedded Mary Scott of Indiana. They lived in Holt County, Missouri, until traveling to Oregon on 1 May 1845. He was elected captain of the wagon train to Oregon, which included many of the early citizens of Benton County such as Joseph Avery. In August 1846 Stewart established a donation land claim of 640-acres, which is now north of Corvallis.

Stewart worked as a blacksmith, eventually raised a variety of stock, especially draft horses. The Stewart home, built for \$4,000, burned down two years before John's death, and he built a new home at 209 North Second Street in the midst of the Corvallis business district. John died 28 February 1885 and Mary continued to live at the Second Street residence. At the time of his death, John owned three sections of land and was one of the most prominent citizens of Benton County.

Stewart, Mary Scott (Block 326): The second recorded Euroamerican woman to settle in Benton County, Mary Scott Stewart was born on 2 June 1821 in Switzerland County, Indiana, and was the daughter of William and Rachael Mounts Scott. In 1842, after the death of her parents, Mary Scott married John Stewart. They lived in Holt County, Missouri, until traveling to Oregon in 1845. In August 1846 they established a donation land claim, which now is now near the north end of Corvallis. Their first daughter Cerinda was born in 1846; the couple had five more children. John died 28 February 1885. Mary, one of Corvallis' first women settlers and self-proclaimed businesswoman, died in 1913 in Corvallis.

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Allworth, Edward C. (Block 736): Only one of eleven Oregonians awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for combat service during World War I, Edward C. Allworth was born 5 July 1895 to a farming family near Battle Ground, Washington. He attended Portland Academy from 1904 to 1906. Allworth completed eighth grade in 1909, and pursued an interest in music at Tualatin Academy and at Pacific University. In 1911 Allworth attended Oregon Agricultural College, first in mechanical engineering then in the School of Commerce. He edited *The Commercial Print* in his senior year, and was active in the Cadets student corps while attending college. Allworth graduated from Oregon Agricultural College in 1916. America was at war by April 1917 when Edward enrolled in Officer's Training School. Allworth was promoted to major during his time in the service. He received the

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Medal of Honor for his leadership and bravery while crossing the Meuse River under enemy fire, capturing a hundred prisoners during the battle at Clery-le-Petit in France.

After the war, Allworth married Ethel (Peggy) Walker on 10 August 1919. He left the Army in 1922, and in 1925 Oregon State College hired Allworth as a fund raiser for the proposed Memorial Union. After raising funds and supervising construction, Edward managed the college's Memorial Union until retiring in 1963. A leader in community and civic affairs, Edward was Benton County Red Cross president, Rotary Club president, Chamber of Commerce Treasurer, Commander of Corvallis Post No.11 of the American Legion, and Chair of Benton County Civil Defense during World War II. Allworth died at age 71 on 25 June 1966.

Arnold, Benjamin L. (Block 36): The second President of Oregon State University's historical beginning as Corvallis College, Benjamin Arnold was born in Leaburg, Virginia in 1830 where he married Addie Lea in 1866. The couple had a son, Harry. Addie died before Benjamin came to Corvallis to replace President William Finley at Corvallis College in 1872. Four year-old Harry stayed behind with his grandparents. Eight years later, Harry came to Oregon to join his father who had by then remarried; Harry had a new mother, Minnie, and a half-brother, Earnest White Arnold. Both boys eventually graduate from Oregon State University. Minnie's father, T. B. White, was a Methodist minister and worked with Arnold to fund-raise and recruit students for the college.

Benjamin established the Oregon State University Alumni Association during his first year as the college president. By 1874 President Arnold had moved the college physically and financially into a new era. Arnold was responsible for dividing the college into two departments, Literary and Science, and first to add new classrooms to the campus. He also oversaw the beginning of intercollegiate athletics. Benjamin was president of the college until his death in January 1892. At the funeral, a eulogy noted, "To the high character and thorough scholarship of this gentleman, the college owes much."

Cauthorn, Thomas E. (Block 118): Thomas Cauthorn was born in Missouri in 1849, and traveled to Benton County with his wife and five sons in 1865. One of the incorporators of the Oregon Pacific Railroad, Cauthorn also was a large contributor to Corvallis College. A residence hall was named in his honor on campus. He was Benton County State Senator from 1882 to 1886, and introduced the bill establishing Corvallis College as a state institution and to keep the college permanently in Corvallis. An college regent, member of Corvallis Lodge #14, prominent Corvallis merchant, and mayor in 1883, Cauthorn died 5 July 1891.

Gilkey, Helen M. (Block 40): Well-known botanist, Helen Margaret Gilkey was born in Montesano, Washington, in 1886. At age 21, she graduated from Oregon Agriculture College and received her masters in 1911. Helen was the first woman to receive a Ph.D. in botany from the University of California at Berkeley. She returned to Oregon State University in 1918 as a faculty member. She served for 33 years as the first curator of the college's herbarium, one of the largest and best in the Pacific Northwest. Gilkey was an American authority on truffles, noxious weeds, and flowering plants. Her pioneering work on Tuberales and other fungi helped establish Oregon State University as a center for taxonomic and systematic research of hypogeous fungi. Her collection is actively used in North American fungi research.

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During her career she named six genera and over forty species, and published both scientific illustrations and writings. She received the Oregon Academy of Sciences Citation for Outstanding Achievement, the Oregon State University Distinguished Service Award, and has been inducted into the Berkeley Women's Hall of Fame. Helen was devoted to friends, family, and church, and supported the NAACP, the international peace movement, and environmental protection. Gilkey retired in 1951 but remained active as Professor Emerita until she died in 1972.

Kerr, William Jasper (Block 220A): William Jasper Kerr, born in Richmond, Utah, on 17 November 1863 was integral to the development of Oregon State University during the first half of the twentieth century. As a young man, William worked as a bookkeeper for his father's business. A member of the Latter Day Saints Church (LDS), Kerr married Leonora Hamilton and had six children, then married a second wife and had two more children. This second marriage was dissolved in 1898 when William renounced his LDS Church membership. William became involved in education by 1886. From 1892 until 1907, he served as President of Brigham Young College and the Agricultural College of Utah.

At the age of 43, William Kerr arrived in Corvallis with his family in 1907 to become President of Oregon Agricultural College. At that time, the campus included 225-acres and was valued at \$229,000. William changed Oregon Agricultural College's reputation from farming school to one that included professional education. Kerr achieved national accreditation for the college, supervised the construction of 23 buildings, and established the KOAC radio station. When he left in 1932, the 555-acre campus was valued at \$7.5 million. He then served as Oregon's first chancellor of the state system of higher education until retiring in 1935. Kerr was active in Corvallis Lodge #14 and served as master in 1917, and as grand master in 1920. William died in Portland in 1947 at age of 83. Paul Kelly, editor of the *Oregonian*, said of Kerr in 1954, "No man has done more for the land-grant college system than Dr. Kerr."

Nash, Wallis (Block 34): Wallis Nash, born in 1837, was a prominent leader in Corvallis and Oregon State University's history. In 1866 he married Annie Budget, who died giving birth to their son Wallis Gifford. Wallis married Louisa A'Humity Desborough in 1871, and the couple had nine children, three girls and six boys. A successful lawyer and business leader in London, Wallis was Charles Darwin's lawyer and neighbor. Wallis came to the Willamette Valley in 1877 to review a railroad project for international investors. Upon his return, he published a book called *Oregon, There and Back in 1877*, praising Oregon and Benton County as the 'promised land.' Tragedy struck the Nash family when four of their children died of scarlet fever within a week. After the tragedy, Nash moved to Oregon to start a new life.

The family settled in Corvallis in 1879. Wallis bought 1,800 acres and renewed the British habit of town-and-country living. His country acreage became the site of the small town of Nashville, Oregon. For five years, Wallis worked with Colonel Hogg to develop the Oregon Pacific Railroad from Corvallis to Newport, planning eventually to connect this line with a transcontinental line in Idaho. This enterprise failed by 1896; the unfinished railroad became part of the Southern Pacific line.

In 1885, Wallis was named to the first Board of Regents for Oregon Agricultural College and secretary of the board, a position he held for 13 years. The state legislature required new facilities be built near the College Farm as soon as possible. Nash, President Arnold, and others made generous contributions for these new structures. As

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secretary of the new Oregon Agricultural College, Nash was responsible for restructuring the school's faculty. He and his wife actively pursued professional faculty members for the college.

Nash was well known in Benton County, not only as a prime mover at the college, but as an attorney influential in laws dealing with worker's compensation and farmer's uniform railroad freight rates. Wallis retired in 1898 and moved with Louisa to Portland where he wrote editorials for the two major papers before returning to his Rock Creek Ranch near Nashville. He died on 13 March 1926.

Wilson, Eddy Elbridge (Block 641): A prominent Benton County attorney, Eddy E. Wilson was born on 23 October 1869. He was an only child and never married. Wilson was one of fourteen students to graduate from Oregon State University in 1889. He then attended law school at University of Oregon, being admitted to the bar in 1893. Wilson became Corvallis' city attorney in 1910 and again in 1917. He set the assessment procedures as Corvallis began installing paved roads and sewers, and authored books on property law in Oregon. Wilson remained active in the college, twice serving on the board of regents, and as governor of the Memorial Union (1925). At the same time, he became president of the First National Bank of Corvallis, and served on the Corvallis Planning Commission from 1931 to 1941. Wilson served on the Oregon State Game Commission for 14 years, a pioneer in game preservation. Land north of Corvallis once occupied by Camp Adair during World War II is now known as the E. E. Wilson Wildlife Area. He established an undergraduate scholarship at Oregon State University for Benton County residents. Eddy Wilson died on 3 April 1961; Wilson Hall was named in his honor that same year.

Eddy's parents were Oregon pioneers. Rozella (Rose) Jane Russell was born in Missouri on 19 January 1850. The Russell family came to Oregon in the early 1850s and settled on a land claim four miles northeast of Corvallis. Lewis and Rose married in 1868. Lewis was the first brick maker in Benton County, and Rose helped establish the Corvallis library and was a charter member of the Women's Club and the Folk Club. Both Lewis and Rose were active in the Corvallis Lodge #14; Rose served as grand matron. Lewis died in 1927 and Rose died in 1938.

Summary

The Crystal Lake Cemetery, founded in 1860, meets National Register Criterion A and Criterion Consideration D for its historic associations with the settlement and development of Benton County and Corvallis, and its strong affiliation with Corvallis Masonic Lodge #14 and Oregon State University. An integral part of the community, the cemetery represents an important aspect of the region's history. Many of the area's most prominent citizens including pioneers, business people, government leaders, and Oregon State University faculty and staff are buried in the cemetery. The Crystal Lake Cemetery is one of the oldest continuously used cemeteries in Benton County.

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Verbal Boundary Description

The nominated area is located in Sections 2 and 11, Township 12 South, Range 5 West, Willamette Meridian, Benton County, Oregon. The Crystal Lake Cemetery encompasses 13.59-acres in the north part of Tax Lot 200, Map No. 12 5 11 and 12 5 2, further described as beginning at the most Northerly corner of the Plat of the Crystal Lake Cemetery; thence along the Easterly, Southerly, Westerly, and Northwesterly boundary lines of that certain parcel described in deed to the Corvallis Lodge No. 14 of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, recorded February 3, 1860, in Book E, Page 481, Benton County Deed Records, the South 27 degrees 30 minutes East 9.58 chains, West 8.20 chains, North 6.00 chains, and North 38 degrees East 5.06 chains to the point of beginning, all in Benton County. Also, beginning at the Southwest corner of the cemetery, a plat of which is recorded on Page 19 of Book 2 of records of Town Plats and Cemetery Plats in the office of County Records for Benton County, Oregon; thence South 0 degrees 20 minutes East 695.1 feet in prolongation of the West line of said cemetery to a point marked by a piece of galvanized iron pipe; thence 450.4 feet to a point marked by a piece of iron pipe; thence North 85 degrees East 115.4 feet to a point marked by a galvanized pipe, thence North 7 degrees 44 minutes West 687.1 feet to the South boundary line of said cemetery; thence North 89 degrees 30 minutes West along the South boundary line 476.9 feet to a place of beginning and all in Benton County.

Boundary Justification

The boundary for the Crystal Lake Cemetery encompasses the historic boundaries of the cemetery including the 1897 and 1907 plat as described in the verbal description above. These plats include over 3,900 burials, the Civil War Veteran's statue, the 1959 mausoleum, a maintenance shed, and the caretaker's home. Both plats contribute to the history of the cemetery and were laid out during the period of significance that spans from 1850 to 1953.

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Photographic Log Continuation Sheet

Location

Crystal Lake Cemetery
Near Corvallis, Benton County, Oregon

Name of Photographer and Location of Negatives

Sally Donovan
Donovan and Associates
1615 Taylor Street
Hood River, Oregon
97031

Date of Photograph

June 2003

Photographic Number

- 1 of 17 General view of original cemetery plat (north section), looking northwest.
- 2 of 17 General view of central oval in original plat of cemetery (north section), looking north.
- 3 of 17 General view of west side of cemetery, looking north on 1897 and 1907 plats.
- 4 of 17 General view of 1907 cemetery plat, looking southwest from central east-west road.
- 5 of 17 Southern entrance gate and north-south road, looking north.
- 6 of 17 View of original entrance gate location at north end of cemetery, looking north.
- 7 of 17 View of central east-west road dividing two plats.
- 8 of 17 View of Avery plot, looking east.
- 9 of 17 Civil War Veteran's statue, looking west.
- 10 of 17 William Jasper Kerr headstone, President of OSU, looking east.
- 11 of 17 View of Mary Ann Horning's headstone, beautiful marble marker, looking northeast.
- 12 of 17 Louis and Maria Southworth headstones, looking west.
- 13 of 17 Wallis Nash's cross headstone, looking east.
- 14 of 17 Clarke's decorative headstone, looking east.
- 15 of 17 Front elevation of mausoleum, looking east.
- 16 of 17 Storage shed, looking northeast.
- 17 of 17 Caretaker's manufactured home, looking southeast.



Topographic Map (Corvallis Quadrangle, 7.5 Series)

Location Map

COUNTY

100'

BETHEL ST.

SEE MAP

2 5 IAB

HW COP D.L.C 45
 N89°55'E
 580.77'
 100
 156.00Ac.

(A) 200
 18.13Ac.

1897 Plat

CRYSTAL LAKE CEMETERY

DRIVE N00°20'W

N89°57'W
 150.4'

200

ZONE	10
BATHING	NORTHING
(A) 7980	3274
(B) 7984	3280
(C) 7996	3242
(D) 7980	3242



This print is made solely for the purpose of assisting in locating said premises and the company assumes no liability for variations, if any, in dimensions and location ascertained by actual survey.
 ORDER NO. 12-5-11 #200
 FIRST AMERICAN TITLE OF WILLAMETTE VALLEY
 582 N.W. VAN BUREN - CORVALLIS

S. R4. 13-08

STREET

SEE MAP

12 5 AC

RICHLAND AVE.

CRYSTAL LAKE

Co. R4. 13-09

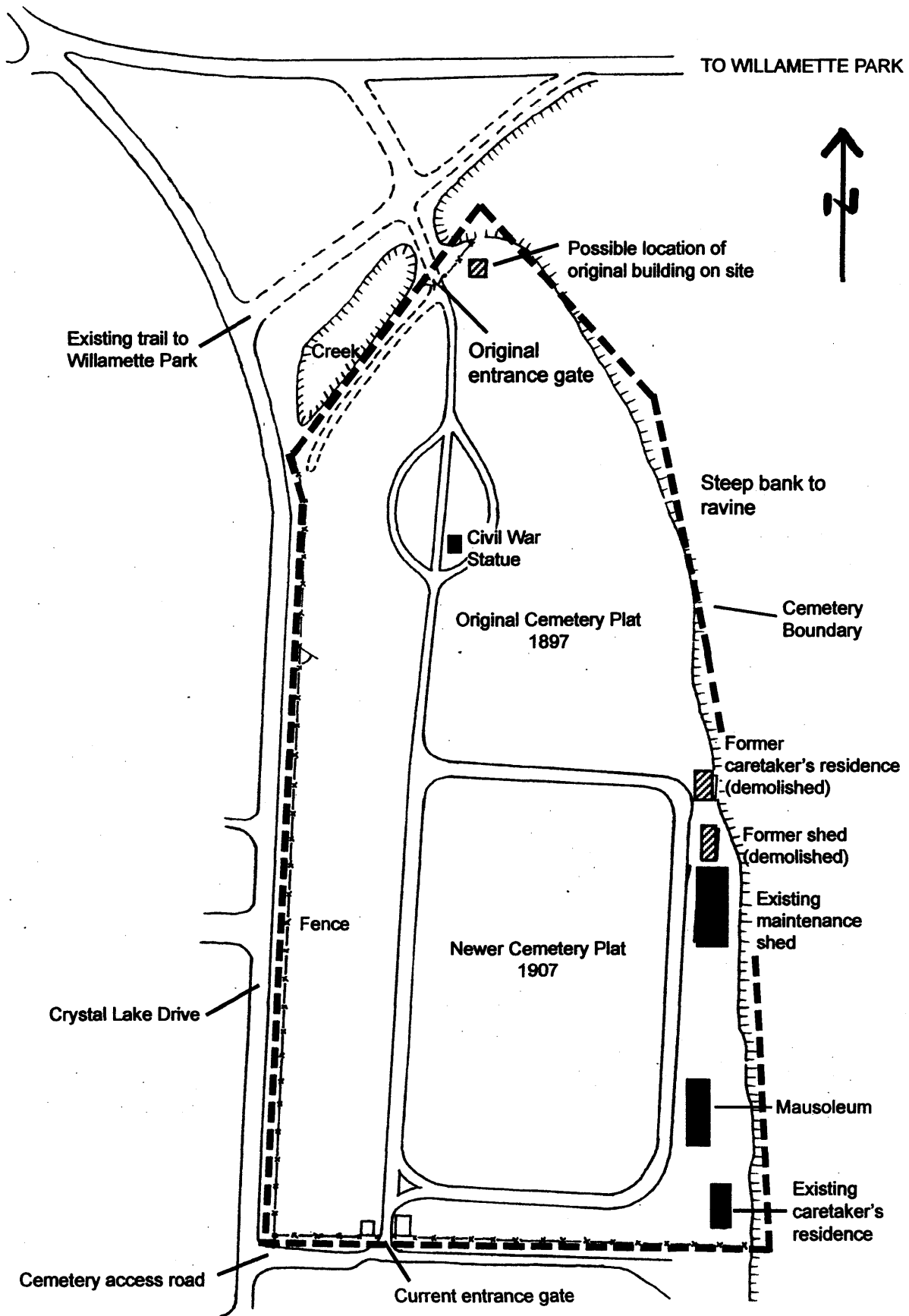
SEE MAP

CRYSTAL

9-05

JOSEPH

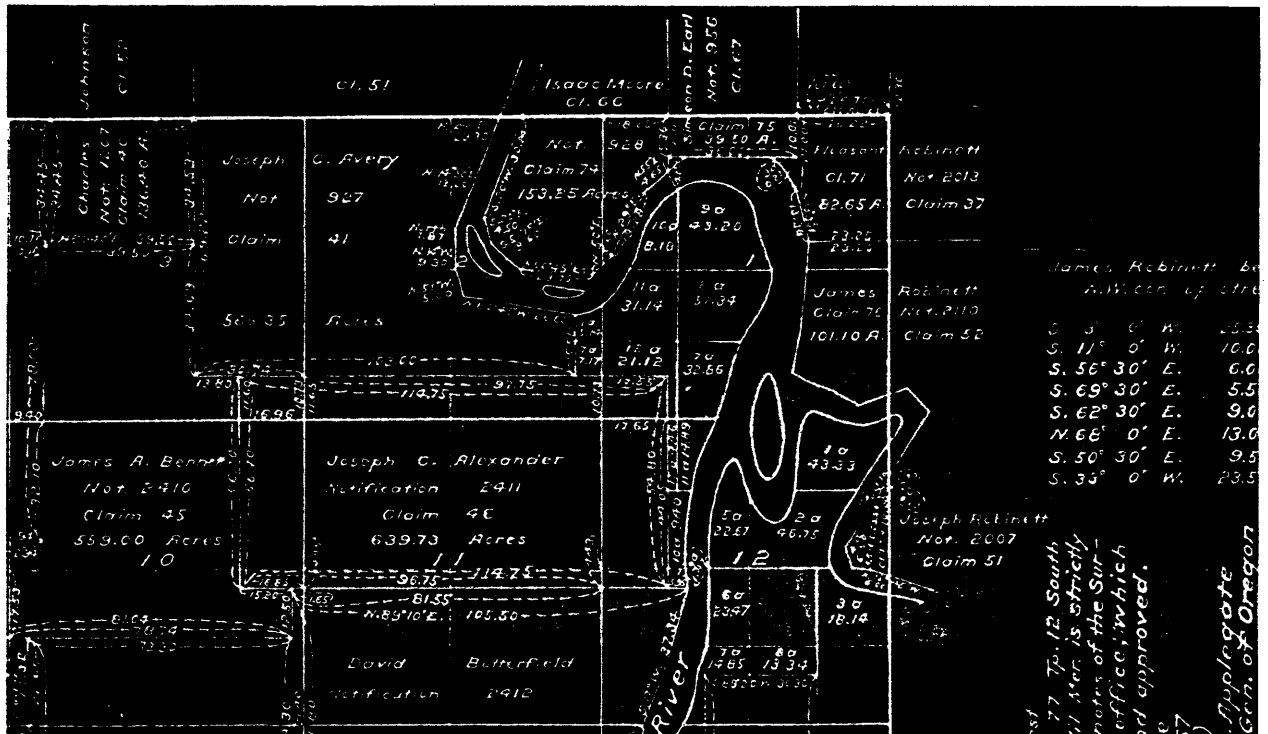
N08°55'30"E 27.27 CH (2013)
 1896'



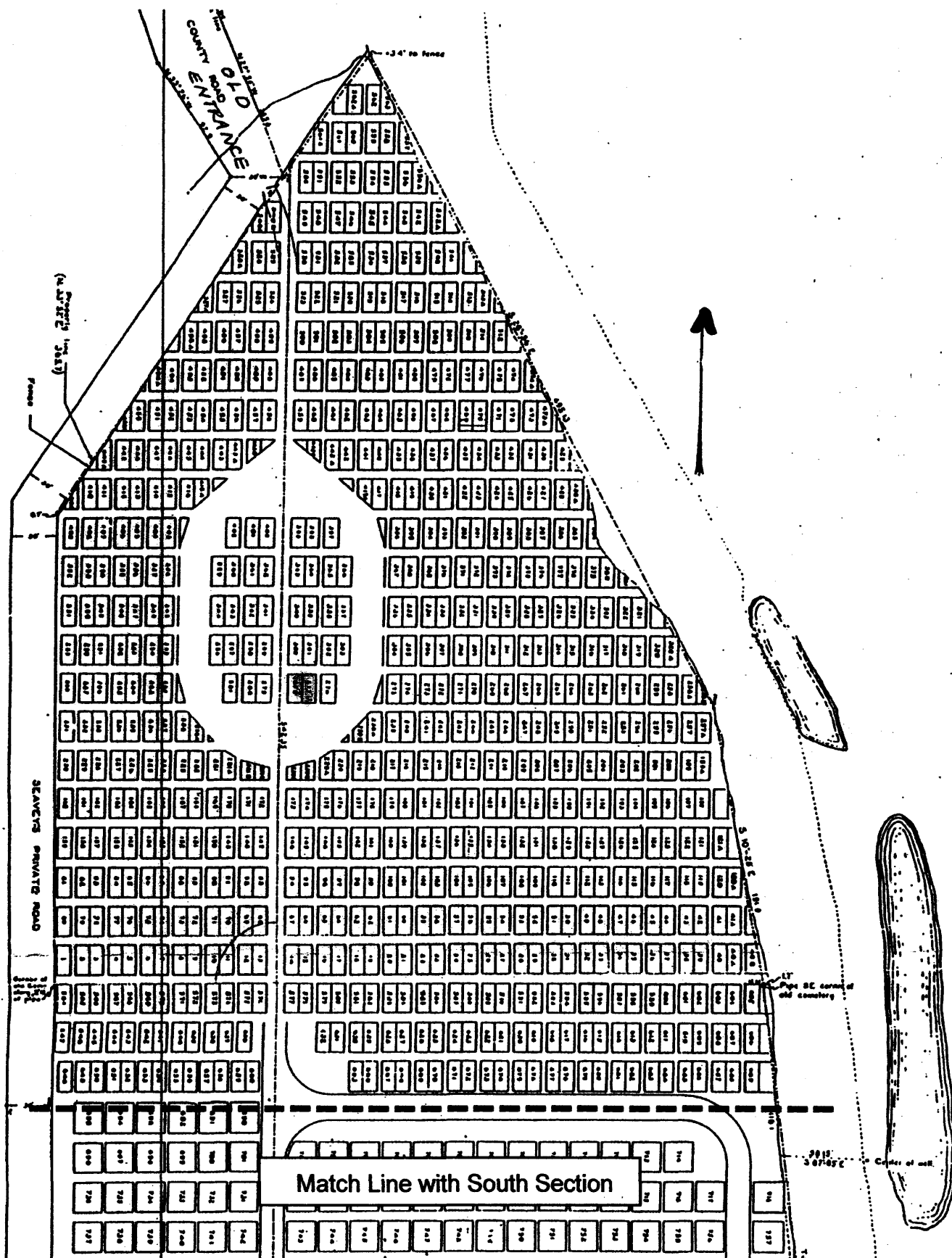
SITE PLAN



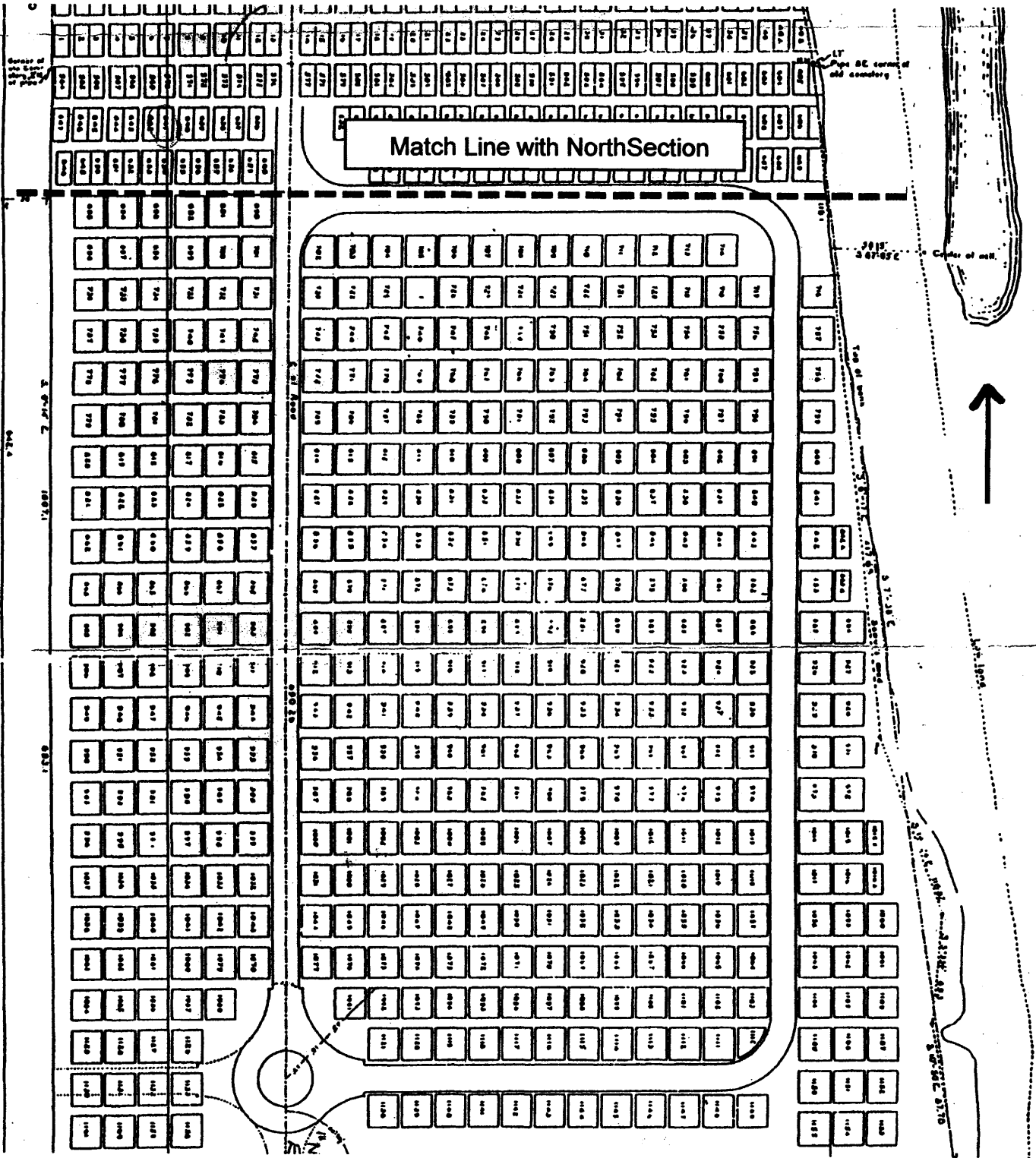
Map of claims in Township No. 12 South, Range 5 West, Surveyor's General Office, May 5, 1853. Claims of Joseph C. Alexander and Joseph C. Avery (Benton County Community Development Department Collection).



Survey map of claims in Township No. 12 South, Range 5 West, Surveyor's General Office, October 19, 1859. Claims of Joseph C. Alexander and Joseph C. Avery (Benton County Community Development Dept Collection).



North Section (1897)
 Crystal Lake Masonic Cemetery, Plat Map 1932



South Section (1907)
Crystal Lake Masonic Cemetery, Plat Map 1932

Burial Locations of Historically Significant Individuals

- A Alexander
- B Avery
- C Allworth
- D Arnold
- E Bryson
- F Burnett
- G Cauthorn
- H Farra
- I Gilkey
- J Kerr
- K Nash
- L Southworth
- M Stewarts
- N Wilson

