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United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

### 1. Name of Property

historic name MOOERS RIVERSIDE CEMETERY  
other names/site number OLD RIVERSIDE CEMETERY  
name of related multiple property listing N/A

### Location

street & number U.S. ROUTE 11/MILL STREET INTERSECTION  not for publication  
city or town MOOERS  vicinity  
state NEW YORK code NY county CLINTON code 019 zip code 12958

### 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 at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

R. Daniel Muly 7/10/2018  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date  
DSUP  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of commenting official Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register  determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register  removed from the National Register
- other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature] 9/14/2018  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
1	0	sites
1	0	structures
0	0	objects
2	0	<b>Total</b>

**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**

N/A

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

**Current Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY: cemetery

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FUNERARY: cemetery

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**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

**Materials**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

N/A

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foundation: \_\_\_\_\_

walls: \_\_\_\_\_

roof: \_\_\_\_\_

other: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Narrative Description**

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**Summary Paragraph**

The Mooers Riverside Cemetery is located in the Town of Mooers, Clinton County, New York, within the unincorporated hamlet of the same name. The nominated historic cemetery, the largest located within the town, occupies a well-defined and roughly rectangular-shaped parcel of land, and it is entered via a formal point of access from the north side, off of the east-to-west alignment of U.S. Route 11, which forms the northern boundary of the site. The cemetery is in large measure representative of a traditional early nineteenth century community burial yard which remained in continuous use for nearly 200 years before it ceased active use as a cemetery, due to spatial constraints; it continues to visually convey this early established appearance without significant deviation, in terms of the introduction of conspicuous manipulated naturalistic landscape or circulation features. Included within the bounds of the cemetery is a broad and diverse array of funerary art which portrays salient themes and tastes in that context during the course of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, ranging from the relatively chaste and simple (and in one particular instance noticeably crude) grave markers characteristic of the early to mid-nineteenth century to examples of greater elaboration and scale such as those more typically corresponding with subsequent historic eras. The Mooers Riverside Cemetery, the active use of which spanned the period from 1805 to 1997—at which time its space for new interments was completely exhausted and burials ceased—serves as the final resting place for a total of 1,058 individuals. Since falling into disuse in more recent times the cemetery has suffered to some extent from deferred maintenance activities but it nevertheless remains an important and salient touchstone to the community of Mooers, its earliest history and that of its various citizens and prominent families. It remains a conspicuous and notable landmark within the town.

**Narrative Description**

**Location & Setting Overview**

The Mooers Riverside Cemetery is located in the hamlet of Mooers, in the town of the same name, in the very northern reaches of Clinton County, New York. Mooers is among the northern range of towns in northeastern New York State in the upper Champlain Valley, bordering as it does the Province of Quebec, Canada, and is situated northwest of the City of Plattsburgh and west of the I-87 Northway travel corridor and the west shore of Lake Champlain. The nominated site corresponds with a roughly rectangular-shaped parcel of land oriented with its parallel longer sides on a north-to-south axis, and it consists of a total of 3.30 acres of historically associated property. It is bounded on its north by the U.S. Route 11 corridor; on the west by Mill Street and residential properties; on the south by a strip of land associated with an adjacent residential parcel, a short distance beyond which flows the Great Chazy River; and on its east perimeter by an expanse of open space and a residential property which fronts on U.S. Route 11. Dense stands of deciduous trees are present along portions of the west,

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south, and east sides, both within and outside of the cemetery's perimeter fencing, and these serve to frame particular vignettes within the grounds. The cemetery occupies a relatively flat but nevertheless gently undulating expanse of land which is conspicuously checkered by stands of cedar trees; headstones and their corresponding interments are arranged largely in north-to-south rows, parallel to the longer east and west sides of the cemetery parcel; some of the grave markers are set within distinctive family groupings with stone or concrete borders. Formal access to the site is via the main gate on the north side, which is set back from Route 11 behind a flat, unadorned expanse of manicured lawn. A wood sign, positioned roughly halfway between the road and the entrance gate, carries the name "MOOERS RIVERSIDE CEMETERY" painted in simple black lettering against a white background. The cemetery's one entrance is marked by two pairs of cast stone piers to which the metal perimeter fencing—consisting of slender round posts with decorative finials, horizontal pipe railing and delicate metal lattice—was anchored. The larger inner piers frame a vehicular entranceway, the gate of which has been removed, while the narrower opening between these piers and the shorter outer ones accommodate smaller gates for the use of pedestrian traffic. These piers were designed in a rusticated fashion and contrast alternating expanses of receding faux coursed brick and projecting elements, the projecting blocks being either paneled or striated as the two beveled uppermost courses are. The terminal element of the piers are small panels upon which the founding date of the cemetery, 1805, is rendered. These piers have suffered from considerable deterioration over time as has much of the metal perimeter fencing.

Funerary Art Overview

The collection of funerary art contained within the Mooers Riverside Cemetery exhibits the expected variation of conception, scale and execution of the various headstones and markers which identify the interments made therein, spanning from the first years of the nineteenth century and extending through the twentieth century. The earliest grave markers are typical of the early nineteenth century and in large measure reflect prevailing period tastes and customs in contemporary funerary art; these stones are generally of the simple tablet type, lacking a base, with either flat or single-lobed heads, and in most instances these were crafted from marble, a material in keeping with the Neoclassical design origins of the various decorative and iconographic motifs employed, among them urns, willow trees and fan patterns. Pertinent information such as the name of the interred and birth and death dates were carved into the stone's surface. A number of stones from this period appear to have been crafted from Chazy limestone, a particularly hard limestone the relative durability of which led to it being referred to at times, historically, as Champlain marble, this material likely accounting for the exceedingly low relief manner in which the decorative carved work was executed; the carving work in these instances might better be described as "etched" than "carved," given its extremely shallow nature.

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This general type of tablet marker continued to be used into the middle decades of the nineteenth century, though by that period in time both the lobed head motif and characteristic Neoclassical vocabulary had for the most part given way to more chastely conceived and executed markers. Among the observable changes which attended stones crafted in the mid-nineteenth century period, many of which continued to use the flat-headed tablet format, was the rendering of the inscriptions in raised lettering against a low-relief background with corresponding moulded border. Some stones of this type feature decorative embellishment above this recessed panel, with the “fallen columns” motif being among the symbolic devices employed at this time on a number of stones in the Mooers cemetery. A variation of the flat-headed tablet is to be found in those which instead employed a pediment or peaked head as the terminal feature. Stones of this mid-century period were also increasingly set on single or multi-part bases unlike those of the preceding era, during which time the tablet was often secured directly in the ground. Nevertheless, the older traditions of the earlier-century taste at times clearly lingered on among stone cutters and their clientele in the area. This can be observed on a number of stones which date from the early to mid-1860s which were executed in the simplest of terms on square-headed tablets with simple carved inscriptions, little or no decorative embellishment, and which carry concise epitaphs of a type more common in the preceding period. It is also to be seen clearly in at least one stone from the early 1860s which employed the willow motif of the earlier Neoclassical period, and a number of stones from the later 1840s which continued the use of the single-lobed head, which had largely fallen from popular use. A few stones dating to this period also employ a single-lobed head though stylized with chamfering or otherwise treated in a manner which distinguishes them from their early nineteenth century predecessors.

The Mooers Riverside Cemetery also contains a number of stones of the obelisk type, which were common in the middle decades of the nineteenth century and which correspond with mid-nineteenth century American interest in Egyptian architecture, particularly for funerary purposes such as tombs and cemetery entrances; these typically rise from a multi-part base and are conspicuous both in regards to their distinctive form and their relative height in comparison with other marker types. Also dating from this period are related but distinctive variants of the obelisk type, including those of relatively squat conception, and markers which are terminated at their head by sculpted in-the-round motifs such as carved urns and spherical forms.

More characteristic of the later nineteenth century are the larger and blockier markers which are typified by, among other features, their execution in polished granite, among other materials, and an overall austerity of conception typified by judiciously employed low-relief carved foliate carving. These markers assume a variety of forms within the nominated cemetery. This austerity of conception continued to guide stone design into the early twentieth

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century as illustrated by examples which rely in large measure on their scale, chaste lines and minimal embellishment for overall effect.

Elaboration: Specific Examples

Gravestone of Mary Tripp (d. 1804)

This marker is the most anomalous one within the Mooers cemetery, given that Tripp's death date predates the formal establishment of the cemetery and since it was rendered in a relatively crude, forthright and direct manner. The marker is a largely undressed rectangular slab of stone that was fashioned at its head into a steeply pointed arch, thus mimicking the effect of a Gothic arch. Executed in the simplest fashion is the limited inscription, which reads "MARY, W. OF R. TRIPP, 1804," and which was rendered by what would appear an untrained hand and is otherwise lacking in any other appreciable embellishment.

Gravestone of Eliza Churchill (d. 1829)

An excellent example of the Neoclassically inspired tablet-type marker popular during the first few decades of the nineteenth century, in this instance having a flat and not lobed head. This gravestone was not crafted from marble, but instead appears to be fashioned from Chazy limestone or another such hard stone, this condition presumably accounting for the "etched" manner in which the marker's rich decorative program, consisting of an urn, willow tree, foliate motifs, and bands of intersecting arcs, diamonds, and other such motifs—was executed in very low relief.

Gravestone of Katherine E. Eliot (d. 1855)

This gravestone forms a modest representation of a characteristic mid-nineteenth century type in the Mooers cemetery, consisting as it does of a square-headed marble tablet-type marker with the name of the interred and other information executed in raised lettering against a recessed panel which is in turn defined by a carved, moulded border. Above this panel, at the head of the stone, is a low relief rectangular panel within which a series of fallen columns is aligned as a symbolic representation of death; this motif appears on other stones within the Mooers cemetery, including that of Mary H.W. Seaton (d. 1847), indicating its local popularity.

Gravestone of Asa Angell (d. 1857)

An example of a more fully developed mid-nineteenth century grave marker, in this instance rendered in marble. The main section of the marker, which is square in plan, rises above a two-part base and is terminated by a heavy peaked cap, the transition from body to cap being marked by a simplified cavetto cornice. This stone lacks

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significant decorative articulation and instead primarily relies on its architectonic character for visual effect. Angell's name is rendered in bold lettering against a low-relief panel at the top of the main section, while the remaining information is more simply inscribed, including at base level.

Gravestone of Harriet Huntley (d. 1858)

A marker which again speaks to mid-nineteenth century tastes and which exhibits a relatively chaste design program with restrained low-relief floral embellishment. The stone is of the tablet type and has a low pediment serving as the terminal feature. The name and other information were rendered in raised lettering and contained within a recessed panel which is framed by a simple carved moulding; both the upper and lower portions of the recessed panel have foliate enrichment in low relief which relieves the otherwise austere character of the design.

Gravestone of Robert R. Rood (d. 1866)

An example of lingering tastes in grave marker execution in the Mooers cemetery, this post-Civil War stone is of the square-headed tablet type and was rendered with considerable austerity and without appreciable decorative embellishment, save for a brief epitaph. The adjacent stone of Rood's widow, Elizabeth Holden (d. 1862), was rendered in all but identical fashion though in that instance with her name carved along an arch and not in a straight line as was the case with her husband's stone.

Gravestone of Zelinda Huntley (d. 1862)

This marker, crafted from marble and of the flat-headed tablet type, illustrates the continued use of symbolic motifs more characteristic of the early nineteenth century into the Civil War period. Conspicuous at this late date is the continued use of the urn and willow motifs which were established as characteristic design features during the first years of the nineteenth century.

Gravestone of Alonzo F. Stacy (d. 1898) & Harriet Churchill Stacy (d. 1888)

A truncated variant of the standard obelisk type, this marker consists of a two-part marble base, each of which is beveled at the top, and an upper main section that on each facet rises to a peaked head. Names and other information were inscribed on the main section in low relief with only minimal decoration; the surname "STACY" also appears in raised lettering on the upper section of the base, in a recessed panel of rectangular shape with pointed ends. There are many examples of this general type of marker in the cemetery along with other sub-variants, such as those which have urns or crockets as their terminal features, or later examples the upper sections of which batter inwards and which are terminated by crowns of an architectonic nature.

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**Gravestone of Henry Boardman Taylor (d. 1893) & Julia M. Shedden (d. 1905)**

This rectangular-shaped marker, which is set within a larger family plot that is marked by low stone obelisks which receive sections of pipe railing, is of straightforward tripartite form, consisting of two bases with beveled tops, upon which is set the main section, which terminates in a hipped feature. Restrained in design, this stone was crafted from polished pink-gray granite with crisply rendered inscriptions; carved in large lettering on the upper base section is the surname "TAYLOR," in raised lettering against a rectangular low-relief panel, while the remaining information is carved into the face of the upper section, against a smoothly polished background.



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**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.)

**ART**

**SETTLEMENT/EXPLORATION**

**Period of Significance**

ca. 1804- 1968

**Significant Dates**

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

**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 grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The cited period of significance, ca. 1804-1968, begins with the formal establishment of the cemetery and is carried through to the 50-year cut off point, given the cemetery's continued use to that time. Although traditional accounts indicate the cemetery was first established in 1805, there is one burial which dates to 1804.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

The nominated resource is a cemetery, and thus Criteria Consideration D has been cited.

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph**

**Synopsis**

The Mooers Riverside Cemetery, located in the Town of Mooers, Clinton County, remains an important and visible touchstone to the early history of this northern New York State community. Established as a dedicated burial yard in 1805, and used throughout that century and the following one until space for new burials was finally exhausted, the nominated cemetery serves as the final resting place for over 1,000 individuals, many of whom contributed to the settlement, development and growth of this immediate part of the upper Champlain Valley. Mooers, which took its name from Maj. General Benjamin Mooers (1758-1838), a New England native and Revolutionary War veteran who settled in Clinton County after the cessation of hostilities, was first settled in the mid-1790s and in large measure by pioneers who hailed from New England, in addition to New Yorkers and others. Many individuals from these founding families, among them members of the Churchill, Shedden, Bosworth, Southwick and Fitch families, are interred in the nominated cemetery, which collectively celebrates and portrays this community's early history through the interments of any number of notable community members. In addition to its historical significance, the cemetery is also significant for its sizeable collection of historic funerary art, a vast array of gravestones and markers which speaks to any number of periods, themes and fashions beginning in the earliest years of the nineteenth century, when burials were first made there. The Mooers Riverside Cemetery is being nominated in association with NRHP Criterion A, in the area of Settlement/Exploration, given the significant number of early and important families and individuals who are interred there, and the role these individuals collectively played in Mooers's history from the time of settlement forward. It is additionally being nominated in association with NRHP Criterion C, in the area of Art, given the remarkable collection of funerary art contained therein, and the information this collection retains relative to local and regional patterns relative to gravestone customs and design. The cemetery is being nominated at the local significance level.

**Historical Context**

Mooers is one of a tier of three towns, along with Champlain to the east and Clinton to the west, which form Clinton County, New York's northern boundary with Canada. European-American settlement of this portion of the upper Champlain Valley was not initiated until the very late years of the eighteenth century, with the first recorded settlements generally dated to the year 1796. Previous to this time, to borrow the words of the nineteenth century historian Duane Hurd, "the town was one vast wilderness, its virgin quietude alone broken by the wild cries of the numerous animals that infest its forests, its rich soil alone trodden by the stealthy savage..."<sup>1</sup> Those who ventured into the region for the purpose of permanent settlement, and who were willing to endure the region's harsh winters and isolated frontier location, were largely pioneers who hailed from New England, and more

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<sup>1</sup> Duane Hamilton Hurd, *History of Clinton & Franklin Counties, New York* (Philadelphia: J.W. Lewis & Co., 1880), 327.

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specifically Vermont, Massachusetts and Connecticut. Joshua Chapell Bosworth is generally credited as the town's first permanent settler, having established himself and a homestead on the "flats" near Mooer's village, where he erected a log dwelling and was joined soon thereafter by his brother, Ichabod T. Bosworth.<sup>2</sup> Joshua C. Bosworth (1775-1860) was, like his brother, a native of Lebanon, Connecticut, and he wed his wife, Elizabeth Downing of New Salem, Massachusetts, in Mooers in 1806. Among the other earliest settlers of Mooers was George Perry, who arrived around 1800 not from New England but from Washington County, New York, the northern reaches of which communicate with Lake Champlain; for him the locale within the town known as Perry's Mills took its name, as it was there that Perry established a sawmill, grist mill and also came to manufacture cloth.<sup>3</sup> Others who came to Mooers around 1800 included the preacher Andrew Blackman [Blackmun variously] and his son, Luke S. Blackman; brothers David and Daniel Southwick; John, Joseph, Samuel and Jeremiah Churchill, all native sons of Salem, Massachusetts; and John Shedden, of Scotch ancestry, whose direct descendants came to figure prominently in later town affairs, along with those of the settling Churchill family and others. Capt. Jabez Fitch, a Connecticut native and Revolutionary War veteran, came to Mooers around 1802 as a well-established master builder and joiner, having erected public buildings in Claverack and Spencertown in Columbia County, in addition to a church in Washington County and the old Presbyterian meetinghouse in Plattsburgh.<sup>4</sup>

As noted by Hurd as among the town's early milestones was the birth of the first child born in Mooers, that being William Hollenbeck, in 1801. The first marriage was that of David Anderson and Rhoda Perry, which occurred in December 1805. The first adult death was that of Joshua C. Bosworth's wife in September 1802. Andrew Blackman was the first preacher, arriving there in 1800, with Rev. Martin Powell being the first settled minister, arriving in 1807 to serve the spiritual needs of the Congregational Church.<sup>5</sup>

Mooers was officially raised as a township within Clinton County by an act of the New York State Legislature in 1804. At that time Mooers still included those lands which would come to form the Town of Ellenburgh, which was not set off as its own municipal entity until later, in 1830. The town was named for Maj. General Benjamin Mooers (1758-1838), a native of Haverhill, Massachusetts, who served in the Continental Army during the American Revolution and who settled in Clinton County following the cessation of hostilities. Major General Mooers subsequently commanded the New York State Militia at the Battle of Plattsburgh in September 1814, during the War of 1812, a time of significant instability for the entire Lake Champlain region and adjacent areas. The first Mooers town meeting was conducted in April 1804 at the home of early settler John Shedden, at which

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid

<sup>3</sup> Ibid

<sup>4</sup> Ibid, 328.

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time William Beaumont, another early settler, was chosen as the first town supervisor. Unfortunately, many of the town's earliest records were destroyed by fire in 1867, leaving significant gaps in historian's understanding of the earliest period of the town's settlement and development.<sup>6</sup> Agriculture was a prominent aspect of the town's development, along with modest industrial and extractive pursuits; Lake Champlain, particularly following the completion of the Champlain Canal in the 1820s, formed a significant outlet for the transportation of goods and farm products. As for the hamlet of Mooers, it was described in the later nineteenth century as being the location of the first settlements, and the principal population center in the town. There a Presbyterian and Methodist church were located, in addition to a school, grist, saw and shingles mills, a sash and blind factory, a number of stores, and about 60 dwellings.

As noted in Hurd's history the nominated cemetery was one of two principal ones located in the town, along with that at Mooers Forks, and "both were in use at an early day."

The cemetery at Mooers village is the largest in the town, and occupies several acres of land on the corner of Mill and Main Streets. It is well fenced, in good condition, and contains many fine monuments. In the long rows of silent dead are the remains of many of the first settlers of the town. A number of the oldest graves have sunk nearly out of sight. On a small, rough stone, in the extreme south end of the cemetery, is rudely carved the following oldest inscription which the yard contains: "Mary, w. of R. Tripp, 1804."<sup>7</sup>

Among those graves which Hurd further noted, in addition to Tripps, were those of Jeremiah Churchill, Robert R. Rood, Joshua C. Bosworth, Luke S. Blackmun [sic], Andrew Blackmun [sic], Ichabod Bosworth, Asa Angell, John Shedden, Ichabod Fitch and Isaac Fitch.

Notable Interments in the Context of Early Mooers History

Joshua Chappell Bosworth (1775-1860) & Ichabod Truman Bosworth (1780-1859).

Joshua C. Bosworth, a native of Lebanon, New London County, Connecticut, came to Mooers from that state as one of Mooer's earliest New England pioneers, around 1796. He established a homestead on the "flats" near the present-day hamlet of Mooers, and was soon thereafter joined by a brother, Ichabod Truman Bosworth (1780-1859). The latter's gravestone carries the notation that "He was one of the first white men that winter'd in this town," and he was known by the name Truman in order to distinguish him from his father, Ichabod, a veteran of the American Revolution. Ichabod T. Bosworth wed Lydia Fitch, a daughter of Capt. Jabez Fitch, in 1802 and the couple had 12 children. Also interred in the cemetery are the mother and father of the Bosworth brothers, Lieut.

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<sup>5</sup> Ibid, 335.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid, 331.

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Ichabod Bosworth (1748-1818) and Abigail Bosworth (1757-1830). The elder Ichabod served the entire seven years of the American Revolution and was a Mayflower descendant.

Capt. Jabez Fitch (1752-1838)

Fitch was a native of Lebanon, New London County, Connecticut; he had wed Mary Bosworth, also a native of Lebanon, in Connecticut in 1779, and the family came to Mooers from Champlain, Clinton County, where they arrived around 1800 after leaving Spencertown, Columbia County, New York. During the Revolutionary War, Fitch enlisted as a private in Capt. Hobby's Company in Gen. Wooster's 9th Regiment. He was discharged as a corporal in January 1777 but reenlisted for additional service and was active through December 1780 in Col. Will's Regiment. Following this Fitch organized and drilled a company volunteers and was commissioned as captain in command of the company, serving until March 1783. Fitch was a carpenter builder and master joiner, having learned this trade from his father, Isaac; he is credited with constructing several public buildings in Columbia and Washington counties and additionally erected the old Presbyterian Church at Plattsburgh. He died at the age of 85; his wife died in 1830, at the age of 76, and is also interred in the Mooers Riverside Cemetery. Two of the couple's children, Ichabod Bosworth Fitch (1782-1861) and Lydia Fitch Bosworth (1783-1832) are also interred at the cemetery. The former resided both Mooers and Plattsburgh and was a merchant, lumber dealer, and the Clinton County sheriff from 1834 to 1837.

David Southwick (1756-1841) & Daniel Southwick (1773-1839).

David Southwick, a veteran of the Revolution and British prisoner for two years, was born in Adams, Berkshire County, Massachusetts in the mid-1750s, the son of Samuel and Abigail Warner Southwick, and came to Mooers with his brother, Daniel. Both men are counted among the first of the town's founding pioneers, this family being well represented by their descendants, many of whom are also interred there. David Southwick was in New York State by 1780, as in January of that year he enlisted as a private in Capt. John Chipman's Company, Colonel Seth Warner's Regiment, at Whitehall. David Southwick was taken prisoner in October 1780 after leaving on a mission from Fort Ann, and he was held in Canada for 2 years and 2 months; after managing to escape, he was recaptured and taken back to prison prior to being exchanged, released and sent back to Boston by way of the St. Lawrence River. After his return from imprisonment he enlisted again in the spring of 1783, serving as a private in Captain Williams's Company, Colonel Mellen's Massachusetts Regiment, and was discharged in June. He wed Betsey Stacey, a native of Benson, Vermont, and the couple moved to Mooers after purchasing 400 acres of land from General Mooers; she later died while the couple was in route to visit a daughter in Lafayette, Indiana, and he

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<sup>7</sup> Ibid, 335.

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subsequently married the widow of his wife's brother. As noted in one source, David Southwick "was fond of relating his many adventures as a soldier, and afterwards as a hunter. He was a very independent and religious man, but not a sectarian, which was a prominent characteristic of so many of his ancestors."

George Perry (1777-1859)

Perry was, like the Bosworth and Southwick brothers, one of the town's early settlers as noted in Hurd's 1880 history. Unlike many of his fellow early settlers, he did not come to Clinton County from New England, but instead came from Washington County, New York around 1800. The location within the town known as Perry's Mills took its name from George Perry, as it was there that he established milling and manufacturing operations. Perry's wife and Rutland County, Vermont native, Phebe Pattison Perry (1780-1863) is also interred in the cemetery, as are five of the couple's children, Lucian (1805-1864); Ann (1808-1876); Morace (1810-1862); Lucinda (1816-1892); and Titus (1818-1857).

John Shedden (1767-1850)

John Shedden was unusual among the early settlers of Mooers, being that he was not a native of New England or New York, but was instead of Scottish ancestry, a fact which is noted on Shedden's grave marker. The town's first meeting was conducted at Shedden's house on April 3, 1804, and Shedden served as the supervisor of Mooers for terms in 1812, 1814, 1816, and 1825-26. Also interred in the cemetery are Shedden's first wife, Mary Polly Love Shedden (1787-1806), and his second wife, Esther Pattison Shedden (1778-1843). Four children of John Shedden's are also interred there, Bushrod (1804-1872); James (1806-1874); John Shedden Jr. (1813-1864), who served a term as supervisor between 1847 and 1849; and Esther (1818-1840). As noted by Hurd, Shedden, who had settled at an early date near the homestead of Joshua C. Bosworth, "...was a farmer and miller, and bought the mill property which bears the name of a man by the name of Beaumont, who built it." His sons were prominent in the affairs of the town, and noted by Hurd as "among its most substantial citizens."

Abel Knapp Jr. (1803-1892)

Knapp was born in Berlin, Washington County, Vermont, the son of Abel Knapp (1769-1845), a native of Wilmington, Connecticut, and Miriam Hawks Knapp, who wed in Berlin in 1799. He came to Mooers in 1823 with little resources in hand, first working as a clerk in the store of J.T. Andrus, and came in time to commence his own business with his opening of a store in Mooers in 1825, a business which continued successfully for half a century. He was involved with the manufacture and sale of timber, shingles, and pot and pearl ash, and was also a large land owner and farmer. He wed Maria Southwick, the daughter of the early settler Daniel Southwick, in 1826. As noted

**MOOERS RIVERSIDE CEMETERY**

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County and State

by Hurd in his 1880s history, "It will be seen that Mr. Knapp began life poor, and by his industry and frugality became the leading man, financially, of Mooers."

Funerary Art Overview

The Mooers Riverside Cemetery contains a characteristic array of funerary art spanning the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The earliest extant gravestones, those dating to the first decade of the nineteenth century, exhibit Neoclassical-inspired design vocabulary, which found full expression in American material culture at this time, such as in the Roman-inspired architecture and decorative arts of the Federal style. Stones from this period are of the rectangular tablet type with either flat, single lobed or three-lobed heads and were typically fashioned from marble. Characteristic is the conspicuous use of urn and willow motifs—the willow was an ancient mourning symbol, while the urn was a symbol borrowed from the Romans and one with specific funerary connotations. Gravestone art of this period portrays an evolving view of death in contemporary culture, differing in many aspects from earlier views and stark messages of life and death, it being instead of a more reflective and contemplative nature; it was this impulse towards sentimentality which would later drive the Rural Cemetery Movement. By the mid-nineteenth century, by which time the three-lobed headstone and witty epitaphs had in large measure faded from fashion, the willow and urn motifs continued to find application in funerary art. The earliest stone in the cemetery, that of Mary Tripp, is somewhat of an outlier, being crudely crafted and not in keeping with the remaining stones of this period.

The mid-nineteenth century period is marked by cut-stone markers featuring raised inscriptions rendered on square or rectangular backgrounds and having squared heads; slightly later, during the third quarter of the nineteenth century, tablets with peaked and rounded heads came into more common usage, as did moulded and chamfered edges and the increasing use of bases upon which the tablets rest; the earlier stones were typically anchored directly into the ground, without bases. While the shift from the earlier period is apparent, both in the design of the stones themselves and the nature of the detailing, among the noteworthy aspects of the Mooers cemetery is the continued appearance of older motifs. Inscriptions are typically bolder in nature but there is nevertheless a greater austerity to the overall design composition. Examples of the Egyptian-inspired obelisk form, along with related variants, are also present in the cemetery, though to a limited extent, and these also relate to mid-nineteenth century developments and Romanticized interest in the ancient architecture and culture of Egypt.

Stones from the latter stages of the nineteenth century and into the twentieth century are markedly different in many aspects from those of the first three quarters of the nineteenth century. Many of the stones from this period

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**CLINTON COUNTY, NY**

County and State

are more considerable in size and were often crafted from granite, with both polished and rough-hewn surfaces. Bases, consisting of both one and two parts, became a standard feature by this time, and detailing when present is often rendered in a controlled manner or otherwise with highly stylistic foliate motifs.

Conclusion

The Mooers Riverside Cemetery is a noteworthy historic resource which contains the remains of many prominent town residents, some of whom were among the first wave of settlement in the later eighteenth century, and among them a number of veterans who served the American cause during the Revolution. The cemetery, while modest in overall design conception, nevertheless enjoys considerable and salient connections to the historic development of Mooers, and it retains a representative collection of funerary art spanning its active usage.

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**Developmental history/additional historic context information** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)



**MOOERS RIVERSIDE CEMETERY**

**CLINTON COUNTY, NY**

Name of Property

County and State

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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

Hurd, Duane Hamilton. *History of Clinton & Franklin Counties, New York*. Philadelphia: J.W. Lewis & Co., 1880.

**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 # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 3.30 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>18</u> Zone	<u>611474</u> Easting	<u>4979431</u> Northing	3	_____	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____	_____

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary for this NRHP nomination is depicted on the enclosed mapping, four maps total, which was drawn at a scale of 1: 24,000, 1: 12,000 and 1: 4,000. The property is roughly rectangular in shape, with its longer east and west sides aligned on a north-to-south axis; the northern boundary corresponds with the east-west route of Main Street (U.S. Route 11/State Route 22). All maps are entitled "Mooers Riverside Cemetery, Mooers, Clinton Co., New York."

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes only land which is historically related to the cemetery's development; no additional or "buffer" land has been included.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title William E. Krattinger

organization NYS Division for Historic Preservation date April 2018

street & number PO Box 189 telephone (518) 268-2167

city or town Waterford state NY zip code 12866

e-mail william.krattinger@parks.ny.gov

**MOOERS RIVERSIDE CEMETERY**

Name of Property

**CLINTON COUNTY, NY**

County and State

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**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

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**Photographs:**

Photographs by William E. Krattinger, August 2017, TIFF file format  
Original digital files at NYS Division for Historic Preservation, Waterford, NY 12188.

- 001 General view looking to southeast from northern edge of cemetery property
- 002 General view, looking to east from central portion of cemetery
- 003 General view, looking to south east from central portion of cemetery
- 004 General view, looking southwest towards Mill Street from central portion of cemetery
- 005 General view, looking to northwest from central portion of cemetery; Main Street in background right
- 006 Western perimeter of cemetery, view to southwest with Mill Street in background
- 007 Western perimeter of cemetery, view to northwest towards Mill Street
- 008 Gravestone of Mary Tripp, d. 1804
- 009 Gravestone of Eliza Churchill, d. 1829
- 010 Gravestones of Robert and Elizabeth Rood, d. 1866/1862
- 011 Gravestone of Katharine Eliot, d. 1855

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**Property Owner:**

(Complete this item at the request of the 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.460 et seq.).

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



Mooers, NY  
Quadrangle

Mooers Riverside  
Cemetery

1:24,000  
1 in = 2,000 ft

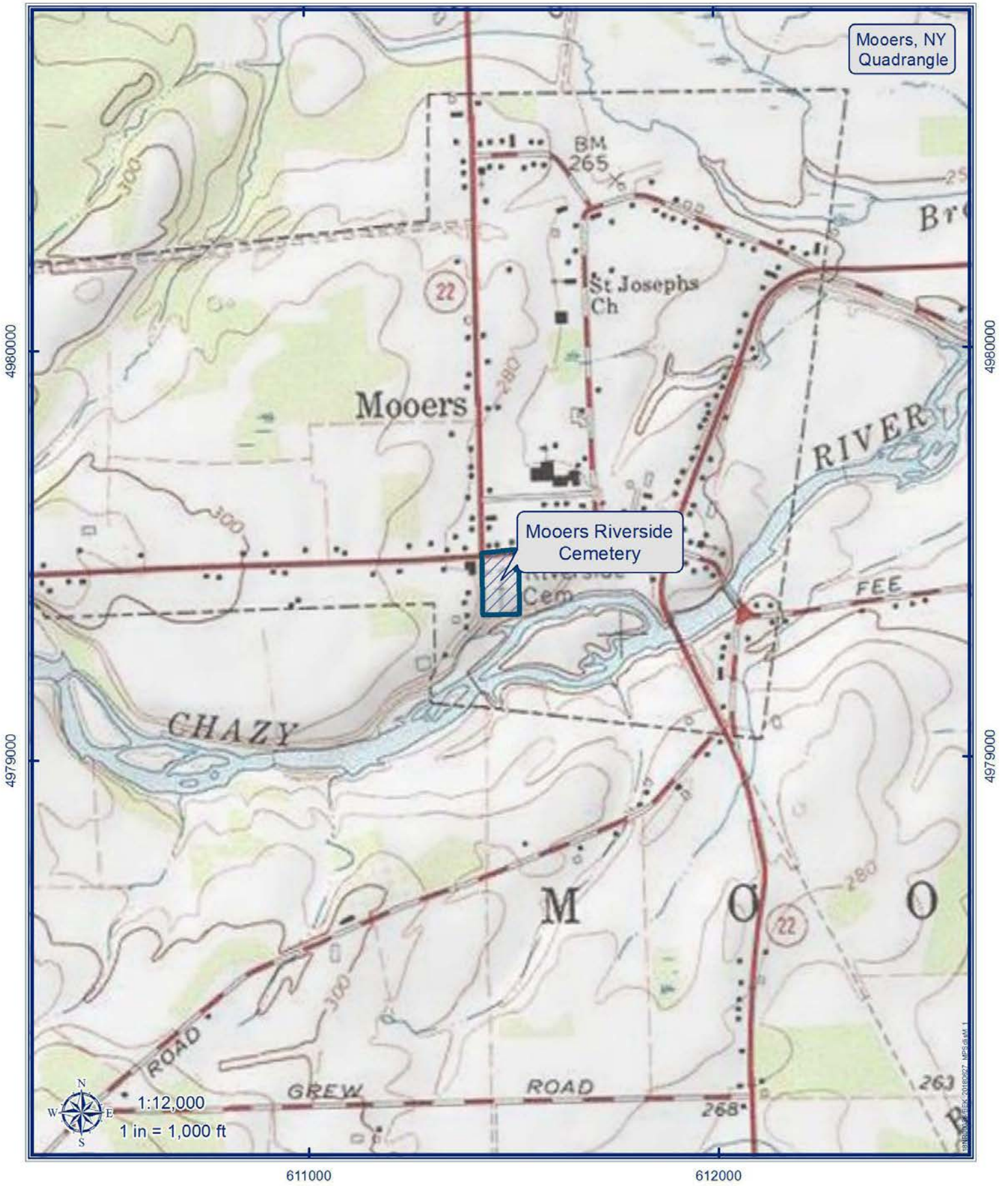
Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N  
Projection: Transverse Mercator  
Datum: North American 1983  
Units: Meter



Mooers  
Riverside  
Cemetery



Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N  
Projection: Transverse Mercator  
Datum: North American 1983  
Units: Meter



 Mooers  
Riverside  
Cemetery



**Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation**



4979000

4979000

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N  
Projection: Transverse Mercator  
Datum: North American 1983  
Units: Meter



Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation



Σ = 3.30 Acres

611474E 4979431N

State Route 11

Hemmingford Rd

School St

Maple St

Higgins St

Mill St

1:4,000  
1 in = 333 ft

0 110 220 440 Feet

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N  
Projection: Transverse Mercator  
Datum: North American 1983  
Units: Meter

Mooers Riverside Cemetery



Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation



NORTH HAVEN  
CEMETERY  
EST. 1888

EST. 1888

















MARY  
WIFE OF  
W. TRIPP  
1804



ELIZA CHURCHILL.

daughter of

Joseph &

Susanna Churchill.

died Oct. 29,

1825.

ELIZABETH HOLDEN  
wife of  
Robert R Rood  
died Dec 2 1862  
aged 77 1/2  
A m 15 d  
In the presence of her  
family and friends  
she departed this life  
at the age of 77 1/2  
years

ROBERT R. ROOD  
died July 13  
1866  
aged 86 years  
I am that overcomer that will make conquest  
of the tempter of the world

[Faded gravestone with illegible text]



KATHARINE E.

daughter of

JACOB & AMY

ELLIOT.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Requested Action:

Property Name:

Multiple Name:

State & County:

Date Received: 7/30/2018      Date of Pending List: 8/27/2018      Date of 16th Day: 9/11/2018      Date of 45th Day: 9/13/2018      Date of Weekly List: 9/14/2018

Reference number:

Nominator:

Reason For Review:

Accept       Return       Reject      9/14/2018 Date

Abstract/Summary  
Comments:

Recommendation/  
Criteria

Reviewer Alexis Abernathy      Discipline Historian

Telephone (202)354-2236      Date \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION:    see attached comments : No    see attached SLR : No

If a nomination is returned to the nomination authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the National Park Service.



**Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation**

ANDREW M. CUOMO  
Governor

ROSE HARVEY  
Commissioner



25 July 2018

Alexis Abernathy  
National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places

Mail Stop 7228

1849 C Street NW  
Washington DC 20240

Re: National Register Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to submit the following three nominations, all on disc, to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register:

Mooers Riverside Cemetery, Clinton County  
Queensbury Hotel, Warren County  
Fiddlers Green Historic District, Erie County (4 owners of newly added properties,  
0 objections)

Please feel free to call me at 518.268.2165 if you have any questions.

Sincerely:

Kathleen LaFrank  
National Register Coordinator  
New York State Historic Preservation Office