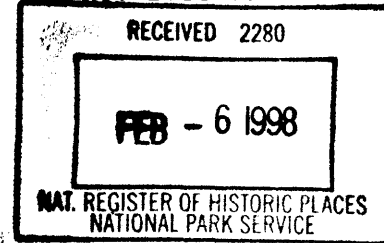


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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service



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 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 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 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: Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery

other names/site number: Cemetery at Lebanon, City Cemetery, Methodist Cemetery

2. Location

street & number 200 Dodge Street not for publication N/A
city or town Lebanon vicinity of N/A
state Oregon code OR county Linn code 043 zip code 97355

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

James Hannah January 16, 1998
Signature of certifying official Deputy SHPO Date

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria. (___ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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Continuation Sheet**Section number 3 Page 1

LEBANON PIONEER CEMETERY (1850-1920)

200 Dodge Street

Lebanon, Linn County, Oregon

COMMENTS OF THE STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery is a rectangular grid of 2.62 acres on level ground in the northeast section of Lebanon, an agricultural trading and community and mill town on the east edge of Oregon's Willamette Valley. The cemetery extends its long axis west to east, with street frontages on Dodge and Grove Streets. The cemetery is divided longitudinally by a wide central aisle 18 feet in width. The central aisle is intersected by a perpendicular secondary aisle worn wide by customary use rather than plat designation, since it is centered on the Park Street alignment, which the cemetery interrupts. The city-owned cemetery is surrounded on the west and south by mixed-use development, and residential subdivisions lie across the streets to the north and south. The perimeter is lined by a non-historic wire fence, and the current main entrance is on Dodge Street, at the north end of the cross axial aisle. A secondary gateway is found at the south end of the cross axial [north-south] aisle.

The earliest known burial at this location is that of Sarah Settle, who was laid to rest in 1850 in the southwest corner of what later would become the formal plat. The last burial occurred in 1938. The cemetery is maintained by the City and community volunteers. The landscape is informal, characterized as a diffusion of makers separated by open expanses of lawn and, at its heart, an overstory of mature trees, most notably Oregon white oaks and several cedars. Despite the attrition of gravemarkers due to weathering, decay, and vandalism of past years, the cemetery retains the visual character of a vernacular rural cemetery of the historic period of use, 1850 to 1920. During that seventy-year span, many of Lebanon's first generation settlers were buried in the cemetery established and maintained under auspices of the Methodist Church. There were 300 recorded burials at this place before it became inactive.

It was in 1873 that Methodist minister Luther T. Woodward deeded from his claim a two-acre parcel to the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church for community burial purposes. The deeded area contained the small cluster of preexisting burials. Following customary practice, the plat was drawn for sale of new lots. The original entrance was at the west end, centered on the longitudinal aisle. As the land adjacent to the cemetery boundary on the west and south developed, the entrance was shifted to its present location on Dodge Street. The other major

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evolutionary change was the additional platting of a half-acre strip along the easternmost edge of the cemetery, along Grove Street, which occurred in 1888.

The nomination makes good use of primary material to provide context for evaluating the significance of the property. It adequately portrays the layout and character of the gravemarkers which consist of assorted obelisks for the affluent individuals, many traditional tablets, and a variety of other smaller headstones. The surviving monuments of marble, granite, and cast zinc, 100 in all, are mapped and make a good representative array of marker types, accessories, and symbolic motifs, including a rare, intact Gothic Revival tablet and several cast-iron family plot railings. Some of the markers have been gathered under the shelter of one of the large cedar trees as they have become disassociated from their bases and plots over time. Records are lacking to allow resetting a sound proposition at the present time. This document contains a good discussion of cast zinc markers, a type marketed as "white bronze" and which reached the height of its popularity around the turn of the century. Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery holds seven such monuments, a large percentage in proportion to the size of the cemetery and the number of markers remaining. A. O. Sturm is identified as a local source for zinc markers which were shipped nationwide by rail from manufacturing sites in the East and Mid West

Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery is the earliest of the town's cemeteries to be established in the 19th century, and it is historically significant as the final resting place of many of the overland trail immigrants who settled in Lebanon and were involved in the founding businesses and institutions. Historically, the house of town founder Jeremiah Ralston, a Methodist, the first and second churches, the cemetery, and the Santiam Academy made up an enclave of Methodist denominational sites in north Lebanon. The school was chartered in 1854 after Jeremiah Ralston and Morgan Kees gave land from their adjoining claims for the purpose. Ralston and Kees and other founders of the Academy were buried in the Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery, as were Luther Elkins, a representative to the Territorial Legislature, and several civic officials. The list of notable pioneers whose graves are located at this place includes the Reverend Daniel Leedy, a founder of the German Baptist Brethren Church locally, and incorporators of the Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountain Wagon Road Company, such as John Settle, who pioneered road construction through the Santiam Pass to central Oregon. The Methodist Church continued as owner of the cemetery to 1958, at which time title was transferred to the City.

Because of the property's significance under A and C, excepting Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery from the normal exclusion of burying places and properties once owned by religious institutions [Criteria Considerations A and D] is justified. The gravemarkers and their accessory features are counted collectively as a single contributing object in addition to the site itself.

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the
National Register
See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the
National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain): _____

Edson H. Beall 3.5.98

Signature of Keeper

Date
of Action

beall

5. Classification

Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property (Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<u>1</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<u>2</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
	<u>0</u> Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

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

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: FUNERARY Sub: cemetery

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)

Cat: VACANT/NOT IN USE Sub: _____

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)

MID-19TH CENTURY
LATE VICTORIAN
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____
roof _____
walls _____
other STONE
METAL

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

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.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
 B removed from its original location.
 C a birthplace or a grave.
 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.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

ART

Period of Significance 1850-1920

Significant Dates 1850, 1873

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above) N/A

Cultural Affiliation N/A

Architect/Builder N/A

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

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Continuation Sheet**

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**Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery
Linn County, OR**

Property Description

Summary Description

The Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery, established ca. 1850, is located in a residential area in northeast Lebanon, Linn County, Oregon. It is bordered on the north by Dodge Street, Carolina Street on the south, and Grove Street on the east perimeter. With an area of slightly greater than two and a half acres, the cemetery retains much of its original grid plan, with a large eighteen foot wide aisle bisecting the center of the cemetery on an east-west axial alignment. Running perpendicular to this larger aisle and separating the various plots are smaller aisles measuring six feet wide. The Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery contains over 300 individual burials with monuments surviving for approximately 100 of these interments. The earliest known burial in the Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery is that of Sarah Settle, who died August 7, 1850. Her stone is situated in the southwestern corner, the oldest part of the cemetery. The cemetery retains integrity in its location, plan, setting, vegetation, monumentation, feeling and association. The Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery conveys many of the characteristics of its period of use, from 1850 to 1920, when many of Lebanon's first generation of settlers were buried here. The cemetery has significant association with the early settlement of this portion of the Willamette Valley, and was the primary burial place of many of the persons notable for their contributions to the development of the city of Lebanon.

Setting

The Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery is located on a level site in the city of Lebanon in Linn County, Oregon. It is located in Township 12 South, Range 2 West, Section 11 on Tax Lot 1400 and consists of 2.62 acres surrounded by a wire fence. It is currently under the ownership of the City of Lebanon and has been surrounded by residential and small commercial developments.

Although there is no formal landscape design, the cemetery retains some older plantings and vegetation. Trees within the cemetery include incense cedars, one of which appears quite ancient and several old Oregon white oaks. At the west end, flanking the original entrance was a pair of Cedar of Lebanon, only one of which survives. These were planted in the 1930s by Mrs. Joel Mayer.¹ At the east end, the main alley is flanked by two mature Arbor Vitae.

Description

What is now the city of Lebanon was settled in 1847 by Jeremiah Ralston, a Methodist born near Lebanon, Tennessee. In ca. 1850, a log building was erected as a Methodist church on what is currently Main Street followed by a frame structure in ca. 1853.² The Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery is believed to be associated with this early church. The house of Methodist minister Luther T. Woodward appears just to the southwest of the cemetery on the General Land Office map of 1853. In 1873, Woodward deeded the

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Continuation Sheet

Section Number 7 Page 2

Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery
Linn County, OR

Property Description (continued)

cemetery grounds to the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church and though it already contained many burials, a plat map was drawn up for selling individual plots. The cemetery grid was platted around the nucleus of the earliest burials in the southwest corner of the cemetery. The plan consisted of an 18 foot wide roadway with plots on either side and the entrance at the west end of the property. On the north side of the roadway were 77 rectangular plots, averaging approximately 24 feet by 16 feet. Sixty-four rectangular plots were laid out on the south side, measuring approximately 26 by 16 feet.

An addition to the cemetery of "two acres more or less" was deeded to the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church by Rebecca Jones in 1888.³ A plat map was made for this acquisition in 1889. However, due to neighborhood protest, only about 1/2 acre of the addition was retained with the remaining two acres deeded to A. Dodge. It is believed that this 1/2 acre strip along the easternmost edge of the cemetery contains no burials.

The level topography of the cemetery site conveys the original grid plan. The monuments are arranged primarily along a north-south axis, with the majority of the headstones facing west. Plots are square or rectangular in shape, and were generally used for family burials. The shapes of Lebanon's stones clearly depict nineteenth century trends in mortuary sculpture and the tastes of Victorian Oregonians. Commonly found forms include obelisks, cross-gable obelisks, gothicized tablets, and scrolls. The obelisks seem to have been reserved for the more prominent citizens of Lebanon (undoubtedly because of their higher cost) and are found on the Elkins, Kees, and Ralston plots. Most common in Lebanon are tablets, which, although modified somewhat over the centuries, have their roots in Colonial America and before that throughout western Europe.

The monuments also contain many of the typical motifs found in the mortuary art of mid- to late nineteenth century America. There are several examples of fingers pointing heavenward, hands clasping, and flowers with broken stems. Other common Victorian motifs repeated in Lebanon include willow trees, urns draped with cloth, and figures with bent heads, all recognized symbols of grief.⁴ These designs are incorporated quite artistically in the stone of Elizabeth Burkhart, who died at the age of 40 in 1862. In the north gable of a cross-gable obelisk, two female figures with heads in hands weep over an urn while a willow tree encloses the scene. The monument of Morgan and Mary Kees, two of Lebanon's earliest and most influential founders, also employs an urn. Their grand octagonal marble obelisk was carved by Monroe and Mellen of Salem, Oregon for the magnificent sum of \$900. Rising to a height of about 12 feet, it is mounted on a sandstone pedestal and encircled with carved roses. Although now damaged, the ensemble was originally capped by an urn draped with cloth.

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Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery
Linn County, OR

Property Description (continued)

The marker dedicated to Angeline Robinett (d. 1861) is the only intact example of four stones in the cemetery that were executed in a Gothic revival style. The Gothic revival was a popular style in the mid-nineteenth century. The monument incorporates a rectangular relief panel with a triple arch motif topped by a trefoil. This is capped by a gable shaped top. The lettering is done in both relief block letters and cursive carving. This marker is flanked by the two identically carved stones of her parents, John and Mary Robinett. These stones are signed “---(unreadable) & Jeffries, Salem”. All three of these stones currently lie flat on the ground, and the markers to John and Mary Robinett are in several pieces.

Another interesting stone in the Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery is that of Daniel Simons, who died in 1875. His original marker has been set into concrete alongside a newer one carved by descendent Lavon Simons. This newer work depicts a covered wagon and team of oxen with the epitaph, “Men like these conquered the West” and evidences the pride and respect Lebanon residents felt for their forebears.

Most of the gravestones at Lebanon are of marble, although there are some of granite and cast zinc. Many of the pedestals for the older monuments are of hand-tooled local sandstone. Some monuments were imported from nearby stone carvers such as Monroe and Mellen in Salem and P. Miller in Albany. As early as 1886, cast zinc markers appear in the Lebanon Cemetery. These monuments were marketed as “white bronze” and were touted as being virtually indestructible. Cast zinc monuments gained national popularity in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century because many marble tombstones, especially in industrialized areas, were showing signs of deterioration. Although Lebanon was not such an industrial community, its citizens followed the trend of the rest of the country by erecting zinc markers. The overall forms for these monuments were mass produced and could be selected from catalogs. Individualized name plates were then bolted on. These items gained popularity after the arrival of the railroad in Lebanon in 1880.⁵ Cast zinc monuments were available in Lebanon at the turn of the century through dealer A.O. Sturm. A 1907 advertisement for Sturm’s company boasted that white bronze was “the only material that will withstand the weather for all time and will not crack, moss-grow, or discolor and excels in artistic beauty any monument made”.⁶

The cemetery contains seven cast zinc monuments, among them are Charley Roland’s (d. 1886), whose monument bears the name “American White Bronze Company, Chicago, Ill.”, Elizabeth Sherfy (d. 1891), J.B. Parrish (d. 1898), and Betsy Mills (d.1905). A white bronze monument was erected to the Nickerson family, but the zinc name plates do not survive intact. The cast zinc monument to Etta and Julia Settle probably dates to the time of Julia’s death in 1903, rather than Etta’s in 1867. Most notable of the cast zinc monuments is that of George H. Bland (d. 1905). The monument is obelisk shaped, incorporating Odd Fellows symbols, drapery, and other decorative details, including a broken chain, a frequently found emblem of death.

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**Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery
Linn County, OR**

Property Description (continued)

Another significant feature at Lebanon is the presence of cast iron fences around family plots. Although quite common in Victorian cemeteries, many of these fences have since been removed and their intact existence is rare today. Lebanon possesses a complete fence around the Bland plot and partial fencing around the Morgan Kees and Saltmarsh plots. These fences indicate the importance placed on the family at this time by demarcating the individual family plots and emphasizing them by their very separation. Many other plots, such as the Smith, Ballard, and William Ralston plots are marked by low concrete or stone enclosures.

Various fraternal organizations are well represented in the Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery. Grange, Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F), Elks and Masonic symbols are common. Most notable is Owen Kees' obelisk depicting a mason's tools, broken column, and other emblems of that organization all surmounting a Bible.

Integrity

The entrance of the Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery has changed from the 1873 plat. Due to twentieth century residential and commercial developments on the western border of the cemetery along Main Street, the west entrance was no longer located on a main thoroughfare and fell out of use. The Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery is surrounded by a modern wire fence on all four sides, with signage at the northwest and northeast corners. Currently, access is gained through openings in the fence at the northwest along Dodge Street and on the south where Park Street comes to an end. The pedestrian traffic along this north-south axis has widened the original six foot width of the aisle shown on the 1873 plat map to approximately ten feet, and monuments along this path have suffered increased damage and vandalism. Other changes to the cemetery include typical deterioration of the stones due to weathering and neglect. Vandalism is a distinct problem at this cemetery and many of the stones have been damaged or stolen. There have been efforts in the past to repair some of the monuments, but the stones have broken again along the same cracks. Some once vertical tablets have been set horizontally in concrete. Additionally, many fallen markers have been moved from their original locations to save them from mowers and are now propped against trees or scattered within walled family plots. These stones could be returned to their original plots and the repairs conducted in a more effective manner to improve the condition of the cemetery.

The lack of paved roadways, such as those a few miles north at the I.O.O.F. Cemetery in Lebanon, is one of the primary characteristics of the Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery that allows it to convey the feeling of a rural pioneer cemetery. This cemetery also maintains many of its plot defining features with its low stone and concrete enclosures and cast iron fences. The irregular arrangement of stones and lack of designed landscaping also contribute the historic integrity of this cemetery. Moreover, there is little in the way of non-historic developments and infill; the last interment occurred in 1938 and this burial has been relocated

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Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery
Linn County, OR

7. Property Description (continued)

to another cemetery. Overall, the Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery retains much of its original character, feeling, and association. The integrity of the layout, landscape, and materials has changed little over its 150 years of existence.

8. Statement of Significance

Summary

The Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery, located in Linn County, Oregon, is the earliest cemetery in Lebanon and contains the burials of many of the town's earliest settlers. The two and a half acre cemetery is currently located in a residential area but maintains its integrity of feeling, association, location and design. Eligible under Criterion A, the Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery is significant for its association with Lebanon's earliest settlement. The settlers, many of whom made the journey over the Oregon Trail, are important to the city's history for their involvement in early commerce, transportation, industry, religion, education and politics. The cemetery is also eligible under Criterion C, for its contributions to art, specifically mortuary art. The Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery imparts the distinctive characteristics of a rural pioneer cemetery in its landscape and monumentation. The cemetery meets Criterion Consideration D because of its significant association with the settlement of the City of Lebanon and because of its representative qualities. Because of its early association with the Methodist Episcopal Church in Lebanon, the property also meets the special requirements of Criterion Consideration A for these same reasons. In use from 1850 to 1938, with only several burials occurring after 1920, it was the earliest official burial ground in the Lebanon area and is an exemplary example of early pioneer cemeteries in Oregon.

Background

The earliest known burial in the Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery is that of Sarah Settle, who died August 7, 1850. It is likely that the cemetery was associated with the Methodist Episcopal Church, which was located in the immediate vicinity. Church services had been held in the home of Jeremiah and Jemimah Ralston until a log structure was erected in ca. 1850 on Main Street. The Methodist community was served by circuit rider Rev. James H. Wilbur, the town's first Methodist minister.⁷ This structure was replaced in ca. 1853 by a wooden frame building nearby. In 1851, Rev. Luther T. Woodward arrived and took up a Donation Land Claim of 134 acres adjacent to the church and encompassing the cemetery, as evidenced on the 1863 Donation Land Claim map. The General Land Office map of 1853 shows Woodward's house to the immediate southwest of the cemetery and just southeast of a church building. It appears to have been located at the present-day intersection of Main and Isabella Streets. In 1873, Woodward deeded the cemetery to the Trustees of the M.E. Church⁸, who owned the site until 1958 when it became the property of the City of Lebanon.⁹

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Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery
Linn County, OR

Statement of Significance (continued)

As early as the 1930s, the cemetery had fallen into disrepair and was considered a "civic blot" by many of its residents¹⁰. Plans were underway by the Lebanon Garden club to clear blackberry brambles, install a water system and establish an entrance from Main Street.¹¹ In the 1950s, a discussion evolved on whether to extend Park Street through the cemetery. These plans were abandoned most likely because of the high cost of disinterment and relocation of burials.¹² Since acquiring the title to the cemetery, the city of Lebanon has kept the grounds in fair condition and is currently on a regular schedule for mowing and maintenance.

National Register Criterion A

Closely related to the M.E. Church in Lebanon is the Santiam Academy which was established in 1854 by an act of the Territorial Legislature. The Church was charged with nominating members to and conferring with the Board of Trustees.¹³ The school was erected 1857 on land donated that year by Morgan Kees and Jeremiah Ralston. Each of these men gave five acres of land adjacent to the church and cemetery on which to construct the school, which had been taught in the church.¹⁴ In around 1861, Owen Kees established an \$1800 endowment for the Academy. Ralston, the Kees brothers and several other Trustees and founders of the Santiam Academy are buried at the Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery, including Luther Elkins, Owen Kees, John Settle, David Ballard, and Moses Bland. Until the early 1860s, the Santiam Academy was the only school of its kind in Linn County.¹⁵

As early as 1847, Lebanon had become a trading center in the Santiam Valley. In this year, Jeremiah Ralston and his son William opened a store with goods brought on their overland journey from Iowa. In 1852, the store was moved to one of Lebanon's first wood frame constructions.¹⁶ Other early business ventures included a pottery (established prior to 1853), Simon Nickerson's sash and door factory (1874), and several lumber mills established in the 1850s. All of the aforementioned individuals are buried in the Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery.

Politics were also an important part of the early settlement of Lebanon and the west in general. Among those interred at the Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery are such politicians as Luther Elkins, who served as a member of Oregon's Constitutional Convention and was a representative to the Territorial Legislature. The first elections in Lebanon were held in the home of prominent citizen Morgan Kees. John W. Bell acted as Justice of the Peace and Postmaster of Lebanon. Dr. David W. Ballard, former Governor of the Idaho Territory, is also buried here.

Although it may have originally been associated with the Methodist faith, the Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery is the final resting place of the first German Baptist Brethren minister to settle in the Pacific Northwest, as well as several other members of the German Baptist Brethren Church. The first sect of the Brethren

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Section Number 8 Page 7

Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery
Linn County, OR

Statement of Significance (continued)

Church west of the Rocky Mountains was organized by Rev. Daniel Leedy in 1855. This church was formed on the Phillip Baltimore donation land claim northwest of Lebanon. A church building, called the Willamette Valley Church, was erected in 1878.¹⁷ Daniel Leedy served the Brethren Church from 1856 to until his death in 1898.¹⁸ German Baptist Brethren families buried at the Pioneer Cemetery include the Leedys, the Ritters, the Backuses, and the Hardmans.

In 1859, a group of Lebanon area residents, including John Brandenburg (among the interred), discovered the Santiam Pass through the Cascade Range. In 1864, the Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountain Wagon Road Company was incorporated to construct an east-west road through the Cascades. This early route provided a means of transporting supplies and stock between the Willamette Valley and Central Oregon, and contributed significantly to settlement east of the Cascade Mountains. The Linn County section of this road began in the city of Albany and passed Lebanon and Sweet Home before following the South Fork of the Santiam River into the Cascade Range. The eastward construction of the road began in 1865 at Wiley Creek, near present-day Sweet Home, and had reached the Deschutes River by 1866. The route incorporated existing country roads from Wiley Creek west to Albany. In September 1866, the Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountain Wagon Road Company moved its offices from Lebanon to Albany and filed additional articles of incorporation which altered the path of the road. This was probably in anticipation of receiving a land grant, which the company did receive in 1866. In 1871, having achieved their goal of constructing a road through the Cascade Range, the incorporators sold their stock in the company to T. Egerton Hogg and other investors with interest in the Oregon and Pacific Railroad.¹⁹ Today this route is U.S. Highway 20, one of the only all-year passes over the Cascade Mountains. Incorporators of the Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountain Wagon Road Company buried in Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery include Luther Elkins, David Ballard, John Settle, Morgan Kees, and Jacob Kees. Suttle Lake, high in the Cascades along U.S. Highway 20, is named for John Settle.

National Register Criterion C

The Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery is also eligible under Criterion C because of its significance as a valuable vernacular representative of late nineteenth and early twentieth century funerary art. Because of the height of the monuments and the variety of their shapes and styles, the Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery typifies a small scale Victorian cemetery. Through their materials, craftsmanship, and ornamentation, these stones embody the nineteenth century vision of life, death, and the afterlife.

Through numerous design elements, emotions such as grief and hope are expressed on individual markers, as are beliefs in the existence of life after death and the brevity of human life. These common themes, manifested in cemeteries across the United States and internationally, are well represented in Lebanon. There are several examples of fingers pointing to heaven, indicating where the soul of the deceased is believed to be, and quite a few "clasping hands," which denotes a farewell to earthly existence. Another

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Continuation Sheet**

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**Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery
Linn County, OR**

Statement of Significance (continued)

frequently found subject on stones in Lebanon is the inevitable mortality of humans also interpreted as a life cut short, as seen in the broken links of a chain on the George Bland monument, a broken column on Owen Kees' stone, and the numerous examples of flowers with broken stems. Other common Victorian motifs repeated in Lebanon include lambs, representing innocence (found on children's stones), and willow trees, urns draped with cloth, and figures with bent heads, all recognized symbols of grief.

The shapes of Lebanon's stones also show the trends in mortuary sculpture and tastes of Victorian Oregonians. Obelisks, cross-gable obelisks, and gothicized tablets became popular in the nineteenth century as part of an international Revivalist trend. The obelisk, derived from an ancient Egyptian form, is well represented in the Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery. Cross-gable motifs, pointed arches, and trefoils also appear, indicating an adaptation of the Gothic Revival style to Oregon mortuary art.

These forms and decorations indicate not only a connection to traditions established in the states of the pioneers' origin, but also the ability of these settlers to remain abreast of current national trends in mortuary art. A change in materials also indicates this strong communication Lebanon had with other parts of the country. Beginning in the 1870s, cast zinc became a widely used material for cemetery markers in America.²⁰ These monuments were marketed as "white bronze" and were touted as being virtually indestructible. Cast zinc monuments were also believed to be resistant to the deterioration that plagued marble tombstones in industrialized areas. Although Lebanon was not such an industrial community, its citizens followed the trend of the rest of the country by erecting zinc markers. These monuments came in a variety of sizes and shapes that could be ordered from catalogs. Individualized name plates were then bolted on. These items became fashionable after the arrival of the railroad in Lebanon in the 1880s, and were available locally through cast zinc purveyor A.O. Sturm around the turn of the century.

Another significant feature at Lebanon is the presence of cast iron fences around family plots. Although quite common in Victorian cemeteries, many of these fences have since been removed and their intact existence is rare today. Lebanon possesses one complete fence and evidence of two others. These fences indicate the importance placed on the family at this time by demarcating the individual family plots and emphasizing them by their very separation.

Because of its association with the earliest settlers of Lebanon and their impact on the growth of the town, the Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery is a significant site in the history of this community. Adding to its link with business, political, religious, and educational developments is the cemetery's ability to convey its significance as a regional representative of nineteenth century funerary art. Moreover, the cemetery possesses the unique quality of having retained its purity as a small pioneer burial ground. Despite its current surroundings of houses and small businesses, the integrity of the cemetery has not been

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

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

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 2.62 acres

Lebanon, Oregon 1:24000

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

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	<u>10</u>	<u>507640</u>	<u>4932140</u>	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____

_____ See continuation sheet.

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

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

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Anne Brockett, Dawn Mankowski
organization University of Oregon School of Architecture and Allied Arts

date 6/09/97

street & number 170 E. 12th Ave. #1 telephone (541) 334-4483
city or town Eugene state OR zip code 97401

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

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Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery
Linn County, OR

8. Statement of Significance (continued)

compromised. It retains its original design with family plots demarcated by low stone and concrete barriers and cast iron fences. Many early plantings survive, as does the central alleyway as platted in 1873. Although vandalism has been a problem for individual stones, efforts by concerned local citizens to reset moved markers and repair broken stones are ongoing. Despite this damage, the feeling that this cemetery imparts as the one remaining tie to Lebanon's pioneer roots is inescapable.

9. Endnotes

- 1 *Albany Democrat*, 5/30/55.
- 2 Gallagher, Mary. *City of Lebanon Historic Context Statement*, p. 10, 25.
- 3 Linn County Deed Records, Book 33, p. 280.
- 4 For additional information about Victorian mortuary art, see Ames, Kenneth. "Ideologies in Stone: Meanings in Victorian Gravestones," *Journal of Popular Culture*, vol. XIV, no. 4, Spring 1981.
- 5 For additional information about cast zinc monuments, refer to Rotunda, Barbara. "Monumental Bronze: A Representative American Company," in Meyer, Richard, ed. *Cemeteries and Gravemarkers: Voices of American Culture*, Ann Arbor, MI: UMI Research Press, 1989.
- 6 *Lebanon Express-Advance*, 11/26/07.
- 7 Wheeler, L.M.. *History of Linn County, Oregon*, p. 78.
- 8 Linn County Deed Records, Book M, p. 37.
- 9 Linn County Deed Records, Book 260, p. 28.
- 10 *The Lebanon Express* 9/30/37.
- 11 *The Lebanon Express* 2/3/38.
- 12 *The Lebanon Express* 3/5/54.
- 13 Gallagher, Mary. *City of Lebanon Historic Context Statement*, p. 11.

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Section Number 9 Page 10

Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery
Linn County, OR

9. Endnotes (continued)

- 14 Gallagher, Mary. *City of Lebanon Historic Context Statement*, p. 25.
- 15 Ibid, p. 26.
- 16 Ibid, p. 9.
- 17 Ibid, p. 27.
- 18 *Brethren Encyclopedia*, Vol. 2, p.734.
- 19 *The Lebanon Express* 2/8/38.
- 20 Rotundo, Barbara. "Monumental Bronze: A Representative American Company," in Meyer, Richard, ed. *Cemeteries and Gravemarkers: Voices of American Culture*, p. 263.

Bibliography

- Ames, Kenneth L. "Ideologies in Stone: Meanings in Victorian Gravestones." *Journal of Popular Culture* XIV:4, 1981.
- Atwood, Kay. *National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form: Fernwood Pioneer Cemetery*, November 27, 1993.
- Boyce, Lois M., ed. *Linn County, Oregon: Early 1850 Records*. Portland: Boyce-Wheeler Publishing, 1983.
- Brethren Encyclopedia*. Philadelphia: Brethren Encyclopedia, Inc., 1983.
- "City Sets April 13 Date for Public Hearing on Cemetery Condemnation." *The Lebanon Express*, March 5, 1954.
- Curl, James Stevens. *A Celebration of Death*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1980.
- Dunn, Patricia and Gentry, Jeanne, eds. *Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery, Linn County, Oregon*. Lebanon: City of Lebanon, Oregon, 1991, rev. 1995.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section Number 9 Page 11

Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery
Linn County, OR

9. Bibliography (continued)

Gallagher, Mary. *City of Lebanon Historic Context Statement*. Lebanon, OR: City of Lebanon, 1994.

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(unpublished).

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Miles, John and Milligan, Richard. *Oregon Territory Donation Land Claim Families to 1855*. Lebanon, OR: J. Miles, 1983.

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"Neglected Lebanon Graveyard Marks Resting Place of Pioneer Founders." *Albany Democrat*, May 30, 1955.

Potter, Elizabeth and Boland, Beth M. *National Register Bulletin 41: Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Cemeteries and Burial Places*. Washington, D.C.: National Park Service, 1992.

Pratt, Anna D.S. "History of the First Methodist Church of Lebanon, and of its Associate, Santiam Academy." In *Yesterday and Today in the First Methodist Church, Lebanon, Oregon 1850-1950*.

Riddle, Claude. "Recalling Early History." *The Lebanon Express*. September 30, 1937.

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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Section Number 9, 10 Page 12

Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery
Linn County, OR

9. Bibliography (continued)

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Welsh, William D. *A Brief Historical Sketch of Lebanon, Oregon*. Brownsville, OR: Lebanon Historic Commission, 1990.

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10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

Township 12S, Range 2W, Section 11, Tax Lot 1400, beginning south of Dodge Street 290.19' east of Main Street then south 265' to a point 436' west of Grove Street, then east 436' to Grove Street, then north 265' to Dodge, then west 430' to the point of beginning, all in the City of Lebanon, Linn County, Oregon.

Verbal Boundary Justification

The nominated property corresponds to the original cemetery as platted in 1873, plus a 1/2 acre parcel which was part of the lands deeded to the Methodist Episcopal Church by Rebecca Jones in 1888.

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

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

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

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

Property Owner

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

name City of Lebanon

street & number 925 Main Street telephone (541) 451-7471

city or town Lebanon state OR zip code 97355-3200

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery
Linn County, Oregon**

SITE PLAN KEY

MONUMENTS

1. John O. & Hannah Boyd
2. Eugene Rice
3. Philotheta & Luther Elkins
4. Alfred Reel
5. J.H.P. Hope
6. Rebecca Hope
7. Jeremiah & Jemima Ralston
8. Ballard family plot
9. Saltmarsh family plot
10. Eliza & Christen Denney
11. Etta & Julia Settle
12. Sarah Settle
13. John & Martha Settle
- 14-18. Clymer family
19. Mary & Jacob Kees
20. Guy family
21. Dr. Clara Montague-Davidson
22. Nellie Kees, B.F. Carter, Ora Bell Kees
23. John Marks
24. Marks family plot
25. Leedy family plot
26. Ada Burkhart Elkins
27. Bland family plot
28. Mary Ann & Henry Welch
29. William & Laura Ann Ralston
30. Aley B. & Sarah Griggs
31. Sarah & Charley Roland
32. Daniel & Margy Ann Simons
33. Morgan Kees family plot
34. Saltmarsh family plot
35. John Ralston family plot
36. Isaac Kees
37. Rev. Richmond & Mary Cheadle
38. Ritter family plot
39. Hardman family plot
40. Smith family plot
41. Hudelson family plot
42. Owen Kees
43. Julia Ridgeway

TREES

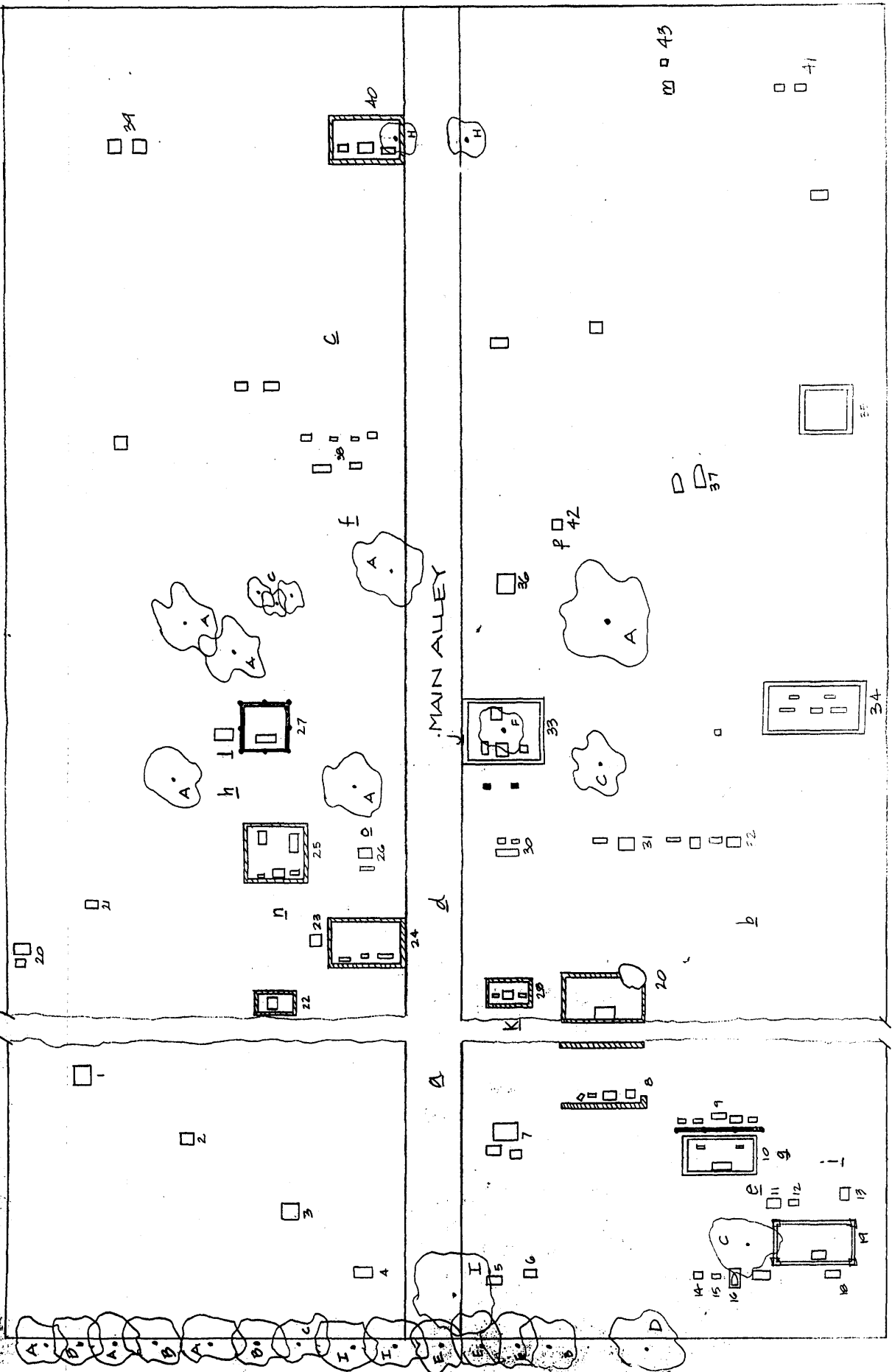
- A. Incense Cedar
- B. Ponderosa Pine
- C. Oregon White Oak
- D. Honey Locust
- E. Western Red Cedar
- F. Elderberry
- G. Grand Fir
- H. Arbor Vitae
- I. Cedar of Lebanon

PHOTOGRAPHS

- a. Central aisle of cemetery,
looking East (1 of 16)
- b. Cemetery looking Northeast (2 of 16)
- c. View of cemetery, looking
Southwest (3 of 16)
- d. View of cemetery, looking
North (4 of 16)
- e. View of cemetery, looking
Northeast (5 of 16)
- f. View of cemetery, looking
Northeast (6 of 16)
- g. View of cemetery, looking
Northeast (7 of 16)
- h. View of Bland family plot,
(8 of 16)
- i. View of Sarah Settle monument
(9 of 16)
- j. Mary & Morgan Kees monument
(10 of 16)
- k. View of Henry Welch monument
(11 of 16)
- l. View of George Bland monument
(12 of 16)
- m. View of Julia Ridgeway monument
(13 of 16)
- n. View of Leedy monument (14 of 16)
- o. View of Elizabeth Burkart monument
(15 of 16)
- p. View of Owen Kees monument (16 of 16)

DODGE STREET

GROVE STREET



PRIVATE PROPERTY

LEBANON PIONEER
CEMETERY
200 DODGE STREET
TAX LOT 1400

NOT TO SCALE

PRIVATE PROPERTY

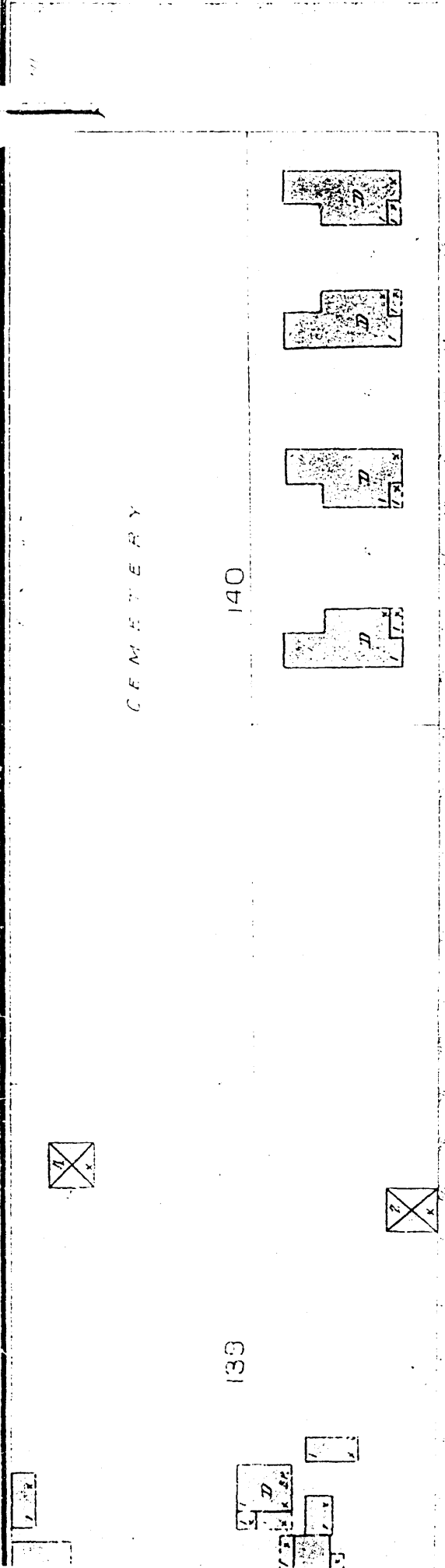
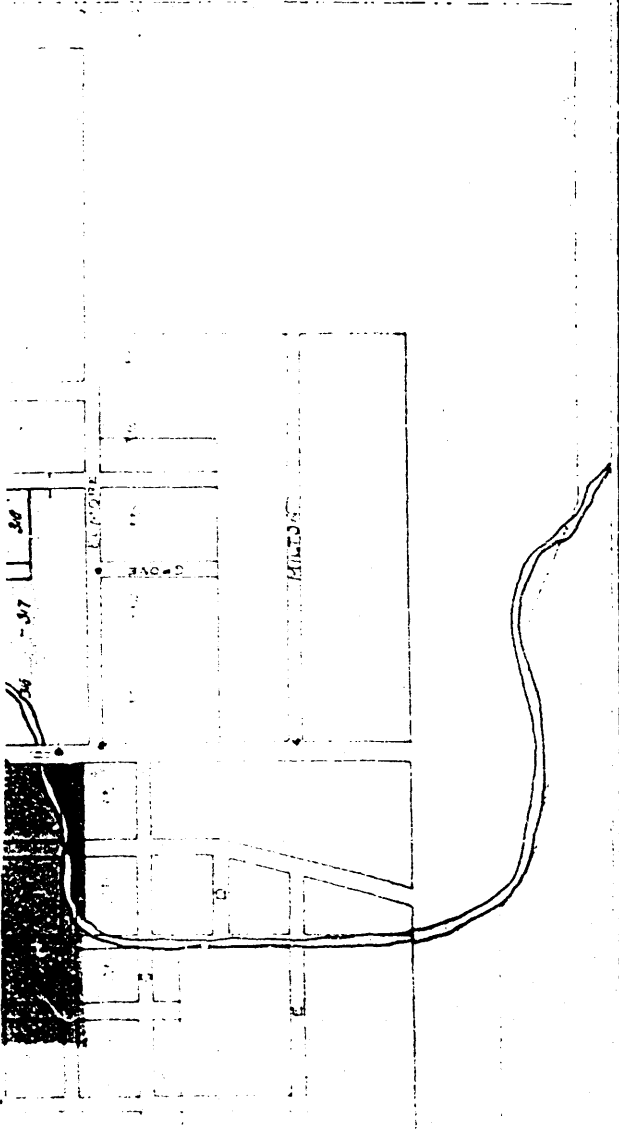
1913 Samborn Fire Insurance Map



KEY

YELLOW: HIGHWAYS
 BLUE: WATER
 GRAY: BRICK
 BROWN: WOOD
 BUFF: PLASTER
 ALUM: ALUMINUM
 IRON: IRON
 STEEL: STEEL
 CEMENT: CEMENT
 CONCRETE: CONCRETE
 ASPHALT: ASPHALT
 SAND: SAND
 GRAVEL: GRAVEL
 CLAY: CLAY
 SLATE: SLATE
 MARBLE: MARBLE
 GRANITE: GRANITE
 GNEISS: GNEISS
 QUARTZITE: QUARTZITE
 SLIC: SLIC
 SANDSTONE: SANDSTONE
 LIMESTONE: LIMESTONE
 SHALE: SHALE
 SLATE: SLATE
 GRANITE: GRANITE
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 SHALE: SHALE

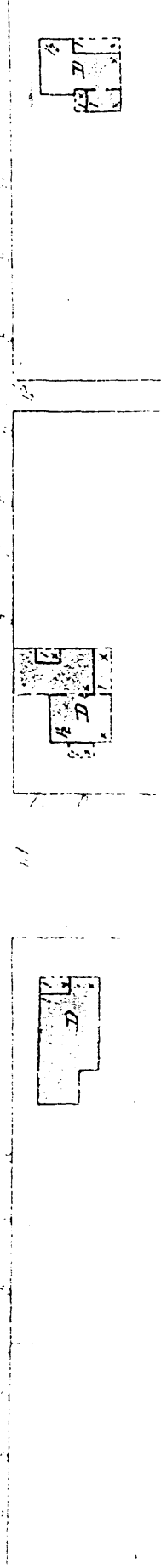
+ FIRE STATION
 * ALTERNATE STREET LIGHTS
 ○ CEMETERY



140

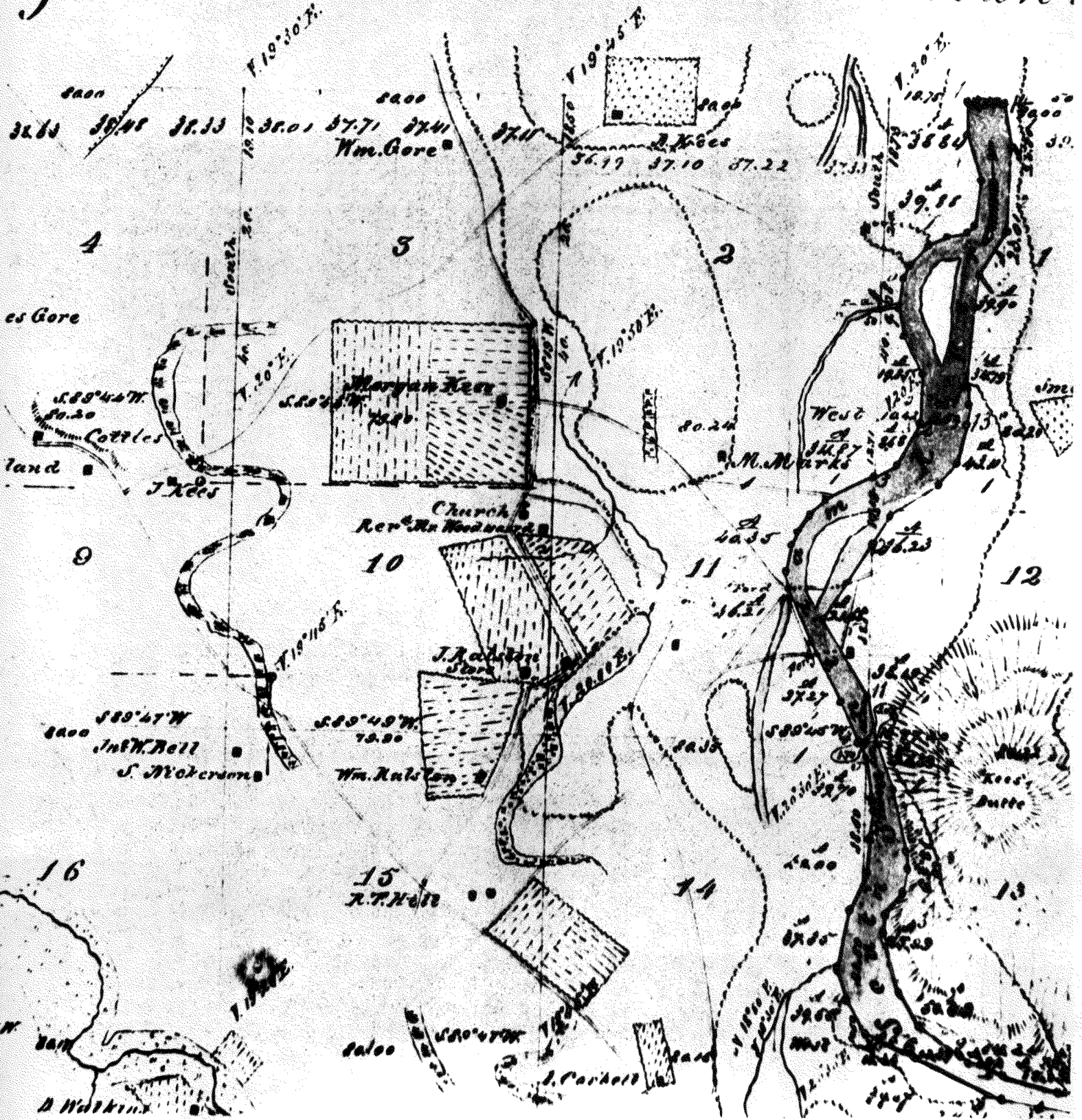
139

CAROLINE



drawn 1853

Range No 2 West Willamette Meridian.



DODGE STREET

Pioneer Cemetery

GROVE STREET

CAROLINA STREET

Aerial photo date: March 3, 1997
Source data: City of Lebanon's GIS
Plot designer: Patrick Campagna