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 of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See Instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name   Highland Lawn Cemetery
other names/site number   167-579-30024 (chapel), 167-597-30025 (gate)

2. Location

street & number   4520 Wabash Avenue   N/A not for publication
city, town   Terre Haute   N/A vicinity
state   In   code   In   county   Vigo   code   167   zip code   47803

3. Classification

Ownership of Property
- [ ] private
- [X] public-local
- [ ] public-State
- [ ] public-Federal

Category of Property
- [ ] building(s)
- [X] district
- [ ] site
- [ ] structure
- [ ] object

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4	1	buildings
1		sites
1		structures
		objects
6	1	Total

Name of related multiple property listing:
  N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register ___0___

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this [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. [ ] See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official   Date   7-13-90
    Indiana Department of Natural Resources

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of commenting or other official   Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

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

Entered in the
National Register

Signature of the Keeper   Date of Action   11/29/90

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)
    FUNERARY: cemetery

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)
    FUNERARY: cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(enter categories from instructions)

    OTHER: Romantic landscape
    Romanesque
    Classical Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation STONE: limestone
walls   STONE: limestone

roof   ASPHALT
other   STONE: marble
         STONE: granite

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

    SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

[X] See continuation sheet

8. Statement of Significance

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

☐ nationally   ☐ statewide   ☒ locally

Applicable National Register Criteria   ☐ A   ☐ B   ☒ C   ☐ D

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

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	1884-1940	1884
ARCHITECTURE		1892
		1894

Cultural Affiliation
N/A

Significant Person
N/A

Architect/Builder
Earnshaw, Joseph; Vrydaugh, Josse; Leitz, Paul; Floyd, William

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

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

☒ See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

[X] See continuation sheet

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:
- [X] State historic preservation office
- [ ] Other State agency
- [ ] Federal agency
- [ ] Local government
- [ ] University
- [ ] Other

Specify repository:
Indiana Historic Sites and Structures Inventory

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property __137__

UTM References

A [1,6] [4,6,9,8,2,0] [4,3,7,0,0,7,0]
   Zone   Easting   Northing

B [1,6] [4,7,0,7,4,0] [4,3,7,0,2,4,0]
   Zone   Easting   Northing

C [1,6] [4,7,0,5,6,0] [4,3,6,9,4,8,0]

D [1,6] [4,6,9,8,1,0] [4,3,6,9,3,9,0]

[ ] See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

All that part of the South West Quarter (SW 1/4) of Section Number 18 in Township 12 North (T12N) and Range Number 8 West which lies south of the Terre Haute and Indianapolis Railroad. ALSO: All that part of the North West Quarter (NW 1/4) of Section Number 19 in Township Number 12 North (T12N) and Range Number 8 West which lies north of the north right of way of U.S. 40.

[ ] See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

This is the historic property boundary, corresponding to the original parcel purchased, landscaped, and maintained as Highland Lawn Cemetery since its inception in 1884.

[ ] See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title __Susan Allen and Nicholas Kalogeresis / Rita Kendall__

organization __DHPA/Highland Lawn Cemetery__ date __July 12, 1990__

street & number __251 E. Ohio St., Suite 880__ telephone __317-232-1646__

city or town __Indianapolis__ state __In__ zip code __46204__

NPS Form 10-900-a
(8-86)

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

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Highland Lawn Cemetery is located on the eastern edge of Terre Haute, Lost Creek Township, in Vigo County, on the north side of U.S. 40 (the Old National Road). The Cemetery comprises approximately 137 acres of gently rolling and undulating hills, lakes, curvilinear roads, and twenty-four platted burial sections. There is also a Romanesque Revival entrance gate and chapel, a Classical Revival waiting room (now cemetery offices), maintenance sheds, and a caretaker's house. In all there are four contributing buildings (1894 gatehouse and attached 1910 waiting station, a c. 1920 caretaker's cottage (photo #24), and a c. 1920 shed), one non-contributing building (a recent pole barn), one contributing site (the cemetery itself and its monuments), no non-contibuting sites, one contributing structure (iron fence along Wabash Avenue), no non-contributing structures, and no objects.

When entering Highland Lawn, one passes through the triumphal Romanesque entrance gate, the waiting station, and onto Main Avenue which is the central thoroughfare of the cemetery (photo #2). Main Avenue runs from the entrance to the northern boundary of the cemetery where it curves to the east forming Cascade Avenue (see map). Cascade Avenue eventually connects back into Main Avenue back toward the southern boundary. The western perimeter road is Prospect Avenue which connects to Main Avenue via Birch Avenue on the north and Lawn Avenue on the south. Cascade, Prospect, and Main Avenues intersects with a series of gracefully curving offshoots to create a network of winding drives (photo #'s 13 & 23). East of Cascade Avenue are the cemetery's two lakes and additional curvilinear paths. Chestnut Avenue is the easternmost path in the cemetery. All of section 10 contains the most prominent artificial lake in the cemetery (photo #22), south in Section 19 contains a much smaller lake.

The higher points in the cemetery are located in section 6, where the cemetery chapel is situated; section 9, Circle Avenue and the Soldiers and Sailors burial plats (photo #20); and sections 11, 12, and 20 where a ridge commands a view of the lake just west. Maintenance and storage sheds as well as the caretaker's house are located behind the lake southeast in section 19 toward the Old National Road. Views of the sheds and the caretaker's house are obstructed by the trees and dense foliage around the lake. The rest of the cemetery consists of rolling hills dotted with mausoleums, tombstones, sculptures, and obelisks (photos #'s 7-10, 12, 18-19). Though there are no potter's fields in Highland Lawn, indigent graves are located in Section 7 and the southwest corner of Section 10.

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Designed in 1884 by Cincinnati landscape architect and civil engineer
Joseph Earnshaw, Highland Lawn is an example of Romantic-Victorian
landscape design of intact typography, curvilinear roads and paths,
lush and extensive plantings of trees and shrubs, lakes, and open
spaces. Earnshaw's design concept for the Cemetery was the "lawn plan"
in which the existing landscape took precedence over the erection of
large monuments. In several of the Cemetery's open spaces, ground-
hugging headstones are in predominance which, in turn, emphasizes and
enhances the rolling and changing landscape (photo #'s 11 & 18-19).
The 1884 design plat called for a series of three artificial lakes in
the eastern and southeastern portions of the cemetery; two of the lakes
were constructed after the original platting, however, the third lake,
located in section 18, was not constructed until 1910. A stone foot
bridge over the lake was also built at that time. In the 1970's, the
lake was filled in and the stone bridge removed. The original plan
also called for extensive plantings of over seventy different types of
trees and shrubs alongside the paths and lakes. Tree and shrub types
range from ash, azalea, beech, birch, cherry, elm, larch, oak, pine,
pounna, spruce, summach, yew, and yucca.

The original landscape design of the cemetery has remained very intact
in the more than one-hundred years of its operation. The only major
modification to the plan occurred in 1893 when the chapel, originally
to be placed on the hilltop in Section 9, was built in Section 6. The
placement of the chapel in this section necessitated the construction
of two new roads south and north of the building. The tree and shrub
planting scheme has largely been followed and the majority of the ex-
isting trees date back to the first platting. The cemetery loses ap-
proximately one or two trees a year due to weather, age, and lightning.

Highland Lawn possesses a rich collection of sepulcher art and archi-
tecture, a collection that also reflects the social and economic stand-
ing of the people interred in its grounds. Mausoleums and obelisks are
the most distinctive funerary structures one sees when visiting the
cemetery; in fact, several mausoleums are immediately visible along
Main Avenue in styles ranging from the Classical, Egyptian, and Gothic
Revivals, and placed in settings that emanate a feeling of the pictur-
esque (photos #6, #17, #19). Many of the mausoleums contain magnifi-
cent stain glass windows depicting images of angels, serene landscapes,
and other religious images. Statuary headstones throughout the
cemetery are sculpted in a variety of forms from grieving women and

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angels to crucifixes and decorative columns and freizes (photo #21).
In contrast, small and simple metal plates adorn the graves of the in-
digent. One unique statue is the bronze elk, located right across the
waiting station in section 2, that commemorates the organization plot
for the local chapter of the Fraternal Order of the Elks. Another
unique site is the authentic Civil War cannon located on the Soldiers
and Sailors circle hilltop (section 9). It is here where soldiers and
sailors from the Civil War to the Vietnam Conflict are interred.

Chapel, Entrance Gate, and Waiting Room

The triumphal Romanesque entrance gate was designed by Chicago archi-
tect Paul S. Lietz and was constructed in 1894 (photo #2). The con-
tractor was the Heidenreich and Company with the stonework being done
by the Terre Haute Stone Company.

The span of the main arch is approximately twenty feet with its gates
leading to Main Avenue measuring eighteen feet (photo #3). Built in
rusticated limestone throughout, the arch is flanked by the main circu-
lar clock tower on the east and a smaller tower with a conical roof on
the west. The main tower is sixty feet in height. Originally, the
main tower had four top corner turrets of unequal height and thickness
and a four-sided arched roofed enclosure (photo #1, c. 1895); the
turrets were removed in the 1970's and replaced with a pitched roof of
asphalt shingle. The west tower is roofed in tile. The letters
"Highland Lawn" on the south side of the entry arch are made in wrought
iron. Above the lettering is the sign "A.D. 1891", the date of the
Cemetery's official year of operation. The fence leading to the gate
is of wrought iron with stone piers at given intervals. Adjoining the
main tower is the lodge which was once the cemetery office (photos #2 &
#4). Its entrance facade consists of two four-foot arches though the
stonework is not identical. The entire frontage of the gate and the
lodge is seventy-two feet. The interior of the lodging house consists
of red brick with a working fireplace. Near the entrance way, located
on the west and next to the main tower, hangs the original design plat
of the Cemetery by Joseph Earnshaw.

The cemetery waiting room is immediately north of the lodging house and
was once the waiting room for funeral corteges and for the interurban
which had Highland Lawn as a stop from downtown Terre Haute to
Indianapolis (photo #5). The waiting room was designed by Terre Haute
architect William Floyd and constructed in 1910 for a cost of 6,325.00.

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Again, as in the entrance gate, the construction material is rusticated limestone with the walls being laid in buff Bedford limestone and trimework in blue Bedford limestone. The west facade consist of a recessed entrance way with Tuscan-pillared columns on stone pedestals, the nothernmost being triple pillared and the rest being double-pillared. On the north facade there are three one over one double-hun windows. The waiting room interior now houses the cemetery offices and is faced with white glazed brick. The roof is of asphalt shingle and is moderately pitched.

The cemetery chapel is situated on a crest of a high hill with a commanding view of the entire surrounding county. Designed by Terre Haute architect Josse Vrydaugh in 1892, the chapel is an excellent example of the Romanesque architecture style (photo #14). The plan of the building is a simple cruciform with the exterior forms being simple shapes. The main body is a massive square with a pyramidal roof rising over it and three roof projections protruding from the main mass with a round apse on the rear. The mass is further articulated by a round bell tower with a stone domical roof inserted on another corner of the main square.

The interior plan is derived from a simple church cruciform pattern but adopted to the needs of a cemetery chapel. From the port-cochere the doors open into a square vaulted sanctuary with a raised platform or altar area. In one transcept is an extra seating space for the sanctuary (photo #15). The apse where the choir and altar would normally be located is the chapel's mortuary casket area where there are receptacles (photo #16) for six coffins. The holding area is not in use and is shut off from the chapel by large double doors. The windows were all stain glass but were replaced with layered glass in large floral motifs during the chapel rehabilitation in 1988.

The building was heated with a hot air coal furnace in the basement. The basement has a domed brick ceiling. The actual building was built around the basement after the furnace was installed. The floor of the basement is also brick. The coal room is 7'6" high with the north and south walls built with Bedford stone up to 5'2" high, the east and west walls have Bedford stone up to 7'6" high with the rest of the walls and ceiling constructed of vaulted red brick. The furnace room is 7'3" high, the north and south walls are 5'7" high with Bedford stone, the east and west walls are 6'5" high with Bedford stone and the remaining walls and ceiling are red brick. The interior dome at the center of

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the Chapel is 26' high with a chandelier for lighting. The original
wooden spiral staircase, built in 1894, going from the chapel to the
bell tower is still in perfect condition. A spiral cement staircase
leads from the chapel floor to the basement.

Again as stated before, much of the original Earnshaw landscape design
remains intact and is well respected and maintained by the City of
Terre Haute. The various mausoleums, tombstones, and statuary as well
is also well-maintained. The chapel was rehabilitated in 1988 through
private funds and plans are underway to reconstruct and restore the
original turrets on top of the main entrance gate clock tower. Highland
Lawn has exceptional integrity not only in the care taken to maintain
the original landscape design, the chapel, the funerary art and archi-
tecture, and the entrance gate, but also its membership to the
Victorian-Romantic landscape architecture tradition.

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Architect/Builder continued:

Gardner & Courtner
Heidenreich Company (both contractors)

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Highland Lawn Cemetery, Terre Haute, Indiana, is significant under Criterion C as an outstanding example of late nineteenth century Romantic (Victorian) landscape design. Highland Lawn exhibits the typical characteristics and details of Romantic landscapes: graceful, meandering paths, extensive plantings and groupings of trees and shrubs, and the selective placement of lakes, vistas, and open spaces. It is the earliest known example of landscape architecture in Terre Haute. The prime feature of Romantic landscapes is the emphasis and the respect for the natural terrain and topography of cemetery areas. Romantic landscape architecture had its origins in eighteenth century England and was later popularized in America by landscape architects such as A.J. Downing and Frederick Law Olmsted. Victorian cemeteries in America were the precursors of the public park movement of the early twentieth century.

Highland Lawn is also significant for its architecture. The entrance gate and chapel, both constructed in the 1890's, are good examples of the Romanesque Revival. The cemetery also contains a number of remarkable examples of sepulcher architecture and sculpture that reflect a nineteenth century use of funerary art as a demonstration of social standing. For these reasons, Highland Lawn Cemetery is eligible for National Register through satisfaction of criterion consideration D. The cemetery's period of significance is from 1884, the date of its founding, to 1940, the last of year of eligibility to the National Register.

Historic Context

The nineteenth century American Victorian cemetery developed in part from two antecedents: the rise of Romanticism in England and in Europe during the late eighteenth century, and the need for new cemetery grounds as a result of public health concerns due to overcrowded urban church and synagogue cemeteries. The design of Romantic cemeteries took place in England and Europe from the late eighteenth century and in America from the early nineteenth century.

Romanticism is chiefly characterized as as reaction against Neoclassicism with a stress on emotion, the picturesque, the Gothic, and the desire for the sublime. Due emphasis was also given for the sacredness of nature, time, and place. In eighteenth century England, Romanticism was manifested in all art forms from literature, painting,

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sculpture, and to architecture. A.W.N. Pugin and John Nash were the
foremost practitioners of a Romantic picturesque architectural style
with Norman or Gothic detailing. There was also at that time the rise
is Classical Romantic architecture. The Picturesque and Gothic Revival
architecture respected and incorporated the surrounding landscape to
promote a sense of sentimentalism, primitivism, and medievalism. Amer-
ican exponents and practitioners of this type of architecture were the
architect and landscape architect Andrew Jackson Downing. Downing's
ideas and philosophy of Romantic architecture and landscape design
would reach a wide-ranging audience in America through pattern books
and critical writings in newspapers. A central tenet of the philosophy
was that landscapes should be kept intact or enhanced with added trees
and plants to create an environment of the "sublime". Monuments,
chapels, obelisks, and mausoleums were deliberately placed in Victorian
cemeteries on hills and in shady areas to produce the most picturesque
effect.

The first English Victorian cemeteries were Kensal Green, established
in 1831, and Highgate, chartered in 1839, both in London. The most
prominent continental cemetery, Pere-Lachaise, founded in 1804 in
Paris, would particularly influence the layout of Mount Auburn in the
United States. Both Highgate and Kensal Green were answers to the
recent problems of overcrowding at urban church and synagogue grave-
yards. A.C. Pugin was a member of the committee responsible for layout
and administration of Kensal Green. An architect named Liddell, a
protege of John Nash, submitted ground plans and was later in charge of
design implementation. Highgate was one of the very first commercial
cemeteries in the Old World, the London Cemetery Company being the ad-
ministrators. Picturesque and formally planned areas were common char-
acteristics the two cemeteries shared. Circular drives, curvilinear
paths, lakes, canals, and Gothic chapels were the main features of the
landscape plans. Highgate was more innovative in its approach to the
landscape layout with the deliberate design of subterranean catacombs.
Highgate is also widely known for its Egyptian Revival mausoleums, a
revival that would influence the design of entrance gates to Mount
Auburn and Grove Street cemeteries in the United States.

Chartered in 1831, Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts,
became the first planned and commercial non-sectarian Victorian ceme-
tery in the United States. Mount Auburn is considered the first Ameri-
can "garden" or "rural" cemetery; the first Victorian cemeteries were
platted on the outskirts of rapidly growing nineteenth century American

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metropolises. The founder of Mount Auburn, Jacob Bigelow, wanted to devote the purpose of his endeavor as a rural cemetery and experimental gardens. Mount Auburn would become the model for Victorian cemeteries across the nation. The design for Mount Auburn took advantage of the landscape's great diversity: grassy knolls and hills, small woods, pools, ponds, dells, and groves. Victorian cemeteries of this era and influenced by Mount Auburn include Laurel Hills in Philadelphia (1838), Green-Wood in Brooklyn, New York (1838), Green Mount in Baltimore (1839), Spring Grove in Cincinnati (1845), Graceland in Chicago (1860), and Crown Hill in Indianapolis (1864). The earliest cemeteries were either designed by architects, surveyors, or civil engineers; the latter ones were designed by the first landscape architects. Highland Lawn (1884) can be considered a latter example of Victorian cemetery landscape architecture and certainly a link to the public park movement of the early twentieth century.

During the nineteenth century, Victorian cemeteries became much more than resting places for the dead. They became first, showcases for the social and economic standing of citizens, expressed through sepulcher architecture and art; secondly, such cemeteries were the only outlets for recreation in the growing mid-nineteenth century American metropolis. American Victorian and rural cemeteries were for the wealthy in nature; spaciously designed plots were conducive for elaborate and large monuments, tombstones, mausoleums and statuary. Citizens of more modest means could not afford such plots and monuments and were buried on the fringes of the cemetery away from the prominent hills and lakes. Wealthy families employed well-known architects and sculptors such as Louis Sullivan; McKim, Mead and White; and Lorado Taft to design mausoleums, tombstones, entrance gates, and chapels. With the growth and crowding of American cities, Victorian cemeteries became a haven for Sunday strollers, picnickers, and just simply visitors and admirers of the sculptured tombs. There were in essence the first American public parks. These cemeteries provided the inspiration to the growing public park movement that flowered with the works of Frederick Law Olmsted and later that of Jens Jensen. Romantic landscape architecture would also find its way into suburban town plans such as Riverside, Illinois by Olmsted in 1869.

Highland Lawn Cemetery, Terre Haute, Indiana

Laid out in 1884, Highland Lawn became Terre Haute's second municipal cemetery after the founding of Woodlawn in 1839. In a time when

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cemeteries were increasingly chartered by secular commercial companies,
Woodlawn and Highland Lawn are unique in that they are municipal enter-
prises. Woodlawn was created by the Common Council of the Town of
Terre Haute when the first burial sites became inadequate. The first
burial in Woodlawn occurred in July, 1839. However, towards the end of
the 1800's, it again became apparent to the city that additional land
was needed for burials. On March 11th, 1884, prior to the purchase of
the land for the new cemetery, the City of Terre Haute adopted an ordi-
nance for the governance of the city's cemeteries. Section One of the
Ordinance provided that the cemeteries would be under the control of
the Board of Cemetery Commissioners which would consist of the mayor,
who acted ex-officio, and six citizens. The Board would later become
the Board of Cemetery Regents which is still in existence today with an
appointed superintendant in charge of administration. The City ulti-
mately purchased 138 acres east of the town along the Old National Road
(U.S. 40) on March 13th, 1884.

According to Highland Lawn's cemetery records, on the same day as the
adoption of the ordinance, the newly established commission's secretary
was instructed to "invite Joseph Earnshaw (1831-1906), an eminent Sur-
veyor and Civil Engineer in Cincinnati, Ohio, to come to Terre Haute at
his earliest convenience for the purpose of examining the ground se-
lected by the city for a cemetery." The Commissioners held a special
meeting on Saturday, March 15th, 1884 at which Earnshaw was present.
He made an inspection of the land and proposed to survey and lay out
the ground plat which would include 800 lots and 300 single graves and
to furnish all drawings and maps for the sum of three thousand dollars.

Earnshaw's design for the cemetery follows in the Victorian-Romantic
landscape tradition. The design relied on a plan that emphasized the
natural terrain and grouped plantings of deciduous and coniferous
trees. Earnshaw was exposed to the tradition as a young man through
his association with the Spring Grove Cemetery in Cincinnati, Ohio.
Established in 1844 and designed by Howard Daniels, Spring Grove intro-
duced the concept of the "lawn plan" in which the landscape took prece-
dence over monuments. Originally modeled after Mount Auburn, Green-
Wood, and Laurel Hills, the cemetery gradually grew in size to 733
acres, the largest cemetery in the United States at the time. In 1855,
Aldolph Strauch, a Prussian-born gardener, became superintendant of
Spring Grove and soon introduced his own lawn plan that stressed the
cemetery as an arboretum. Strauch re-routed roads to follow the
natural contours of the land and dotted the ground with lakes, islands,

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and foot bridges. Encouraging the use of low monuments and large lots
to lot owners, Strauch wanted to enhance existing landscapes and
vistas. During an official visit, a French government committee on
parks and recreation declared Spring Grove "the most beautiful of all
cemeteries." In the late 1850's Joseph Earnshaw did some surveying and
platting for Spring Grove. By This time, he was a practicing profes-
sional surveyor and civil engineer.

Earnshaw's experience with Spring Grove undoubtedly influenced his
design for Highland Lawn. The landscape lawn approach can be seen in
his later works as well. These include the Prospect Cemetery in
Toronto, Canada, 1889; Southern Indiana Hospital for the Insane,
Evansville, Indiana, 1890; Columbia Park, Lafayette, Indiana, 1892; and
the Crapo Park, Burlington, Iowa, 1895. The latter three and the sub-
sequent commission for the platting for the City of Oakland, Califor-
nia, were designed after Earnshaw had added Thomas Punchon as his
partner in 1890. Besides similar physical features between Spring
Grove, Highland Lawn, and other Earnshaw works, many of the landscape
design features share common avenue names: Linden, Hemlock, Oak, and
Laurel. This is due to Earnshaw's deliberate extensive group planting
of trees of the same kind. Earnshaw included in Highland Lawn a series
of three artificial lakes in its eastern portion. The third lake,
however, was not constructed until 1910 from a ditch conversion east of
the entrance. A stone foot bridge was added over the lake at approxi-
mately the same time. According to the minutes of Common Council of
January 3rd, 1910, the city was intent on realizing the original 1884
landscape, especially the artificial lakes.

Highland Lawn appears to be the earliest planned landscape in Terre
Haute. Other planned urban or landscape designs in Terre Haute were
not built until the 1900's. In 1911, the Edgewood Grove subdivision
was platted using curving streets. During the 1920's, George Kessler
developed a park and boulevard plan for Terre Haute, which was only
partly realized. Compared to these, Highland Lawn appears to be the
city's only Romantic Victorian landscape design.

Chapel and Entrance Gate

By November 1884, Earnshaw had completed his work at Highland Lawn,
although he would return as late as 1897 to plat other sections. Other
improvements to the cemetery during the first few years included the
erection of a wood fence along the southern boundary, which was origi

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nally formed by the Old National Road, and the construction of a
"rustic gate" for the entrance. By early 1890, the Cemetery Commis-
sioners also began construction of a chapel and receiving vault. The
Commissioners again corresponded with Earnshaw who recommended, accord-
ing to the Commissioner's minutes of April 2, 1892, that a local archi-
tect be chosen.

The Commissioners followed Earnshaw's advice and on October of 1892
accepted a "pyramid plan" submitted by the architectural firm of J.A.
Vrydaugh and Sons from Terre Haute, Indiana. The Commissioners only
stipulated to the architect that the cost of the building was not to
exceed $8,000.00. Vrydaugh was a prolific architect who designed nu-
merous churches, residential, commercial, and public buildings in Terre
Haute, Evansville, Greencastle, Bedford, and Sullivan, Indiana, and
Paris, Illinois. However, several of his Terre Haute commercial struc-
tures have been demolished. From 1881 to 1882, he worked in Washington
D.C., in the office of the supervising architect of the U.S. Treasury
Department. A native Belgian (b. 1833), he studied in Paris as a civil
engineer and later emigrated to the United States where he settled in
Terre Haute around 1866. He was elected a fellow in the American In-
stitute of Architects in 1870. He died in 1898.

While most Victorian cemeteries of the 19th century included Gothic
Revival chapels and vault rooms, Highland Lawn is unusual in its
Romanesque Revival version. The chapel's stone composition, pyramidal
roof, three-story roof projections, and round apse are strong charac-
teristics of this Romanesque Revival. The roof and the apse are par-
ticular reflections of Trinity Church in Boston, the masterwork of
Henry Hobson Richardson, America's most prolific and famous practitio-
ner of Romanesque Revival architecture in the latter half of the nine-
teenth century. Built between 1874-7, Trinity Church became the model
for many Romanesque churches especially in the Midwest. The existing
entrance gate and tower is also in the Romanesque Revival style, again
unusual as compared to the Tudor and Gothic Revival styles used in
other American Victorian cemeteries.

In October 28th, 1892, the Cemetery Commissioners awarded the construc-
tion contract for the chapel to the firm of Gardner and Cortner. The
firm entered the low bid of $8,681.50. Vrydaugh agreed to supervise
the construction of the chapel for a fee of five percent of the cost of
the building. The Cemetery Commissioners chose the location for the
chapel on a hilltop in Section 6. It is interesting to note that

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Earnshaw's landscape plan from 1884 depicted the location of the hilltop in Section 9. The placement of the chapel in Section 6 resulted in the creation of two additional roads which were not in Earnshaw's original plan, Chapel Avenue and Grandview Avenue.

In September 1894, the Cemetery Commissioners accepted the plans for the entrance gate submitted by Paul S. Lietz, an architect from Chicago. The Commissioners awarded the construction contract to the local Heidenreich Company; the firm won the job with the low bid of $6,500, with the stipulation that the gate be completed by December 15th, 1894. A waiting room was added north and adjacent to the entrance gate in 1910. It was designed in the Classical Revival style by Terre Haute architect William H. Floyd for a contract price of $6,325.00. Though no exact date can be approximated, Highland Lawn was added as an interurban train stop sometime around 1910 when the waiting room was completed. A 1920 train schedule of the Terre Haute, Indianapolis and Eastern Traction Company listed sixteen different daily arrivals and departures, westbound and eastbound to downtown Terre Haute and Indianapolis. It was customary at the time in Terre Haute, and perhaps in other parts of the country, to have funeral corteges via the interurban.

The landscape and plantings have not changed much since the first platting of the cemetery. The original plan of the tree-lined drives while leaving plat areas open has been largely followed. However, the third artificial lake, constructed in 1910, was filled in the 1970's; the stone bridge was also subsequently removed. At the same time, the waiting station was converted into cemetery office space and the four turrets on top of the main entrance tower were removed. The chapel has been rehabilitated in 1988; only donated funds were used for the rehabilitation and was undertaken by the Terre Haute Park and Recreation Department, the department that operates the two city cemeteries.

Highland Lawn contains a magnificent array of sepulcher architecture and a list of interesting and famous people buried within its grounds. Classical, Gothic, and Egyptian Revival mausoleums dot the landscape and several are situated on prime hills and bends that afford a picturesque viewpoint. Sculptures of angels and grieving women adorn many of the headstones and monuments. Among the graves at Highland Lawn include those of Senator Daniel Wolsey Voorhees (1827-97) and Colonel Richard W. Thompson, Secretary of the Navy under President Rutherford B. Hayes. There is also a Soldiers and Sailor's section (Section 9)

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which contains the graves of soldiers and sailors from the Civil War,
Spanish-American, the two World Wars, the Korean War, and the Vietnam
Conflict.

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<u>Art Souvenirs of Representative Men, Public Buildings, Private Residence, Business Hours, and Points of Interest in Terre Haute, Indiana</u>. Prepared for the Terre Haute Gazette. Terre Haute, IN: Kelley Brothers Publishers, 1894.

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Oakley, C.C. <u>Greater Terre Haute and Vigo County</u>. Chicago: Lewis Publishing Company, 1908.

<u>Ordinance and Rules Governing the Cemeteries</u>. Terre Haute, In.: C.W. Brown, 1886.

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<u>The Terre Haute Gazette</u>. Untitled articles: November 5th, 1892; December 22nd, 1894.

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<u>Terre Haute Up-to-Date</u>. Compiled by Mercantile Advancement Company under the auspices of the Business Men's Association. Terre Haute, IN: Moore and Langer, no date given.

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The following information is common to all photographs:

1) Highland Lawn Cemetery
2) Terre Haute (Vigo County), Indiana
5) Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology, 251 East Ohio Street, Suite 880, Indianapolis, IN 46204

Items 3, 4, 6, and 7 vary as described below, starting with the photo number:

#1   photographer unknown, c.1895, historic view of gatehouse shortly after construction showing original tower detailing, looking northeast.

#2   Nicholas Kalogeresis, June 1990, gatehouse and fence, looking northeast.

#3   Rita Kendall, October 1989, detail of gatehouse arch, looking northeast.

#4   Rita Kendall, October 1989, detail of main gatehouse tower, looking southeast.

#5   Frank Hurdis, Jr., March 1990, rear of gatehouse showing interurban/waiting station, looking southeast.

#6   Nicholas Kalogeresis, June 1990, view from corner of Maple and Main Avenues, Charles Sheets masoleum in foreground, looking north/northwest.

#7   Frank Hurdis, Jr., March 1990, view of section 2 from Prospect Avenue, looking east.

#8   Frank Hurdis, Jr., March 1990, view of section 3 from Prospect and Maple Avenues, looking east/southeast.

#9   Frank Hurdis, Jr., March 1990, view down Summit Avenue, Crawford masoleums in foreground, looking northwest.

#10 Frank Hurdis, Jr., March 1990, Mahaney rustic bench monument in section 3 near Main Avenue, looking west.

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#11   Nicholas Kalogeresis, June 1990, view of sections 15 and 14,
       looking north.

#12   Frank Hurdis, Jr., March 1990, view toward chapel from
       Prospect Avenue, looking east.

#13   Frank Hurdis, Jr., March 1990, view toward section 6, looking
       west/southwest.

#14   Rita Kendall, October 1989, Chapel, looking west.

#15   Rita Kendall, October 1989, interior of chapel, looking east.

#16   Rita Kendall, October 1989, interior of chapel, burial vault
       room, looking north.

#17   Nicholas Kalogeresis, June 1990, view in section 9, Fuller
       masoluem in foreground, looking northeast.

#18   Nicholas Kalogeresis, June 1990, view along Glenway Avenue,
       looking east/southeast.

#19   Nicholas Kolageresis, June 1990, view from hilltop of section
       9, looking south/southwest.

#20   Nicholas Kalogeresis, June 1990, view from hilltop of section
       9, toward large lake, looking southeast.

#21   Frank Hurdis, Jr., March 1990, view from hilltop of section 9,
       Hyde memorial in foreground, large lake in background, looking
       east/southeast.

#22   Nicholas Kalogeresis, June 1990, view of largest lake, looking
       towards hilltop of section 9, looking northwest.

#23   Nicholas Kalogeresis, June 1990, view along Linden Avenue,
       looking east/northeast.

#24   Paul C. Diebold, June 1990, caretaker's cottage, contributing
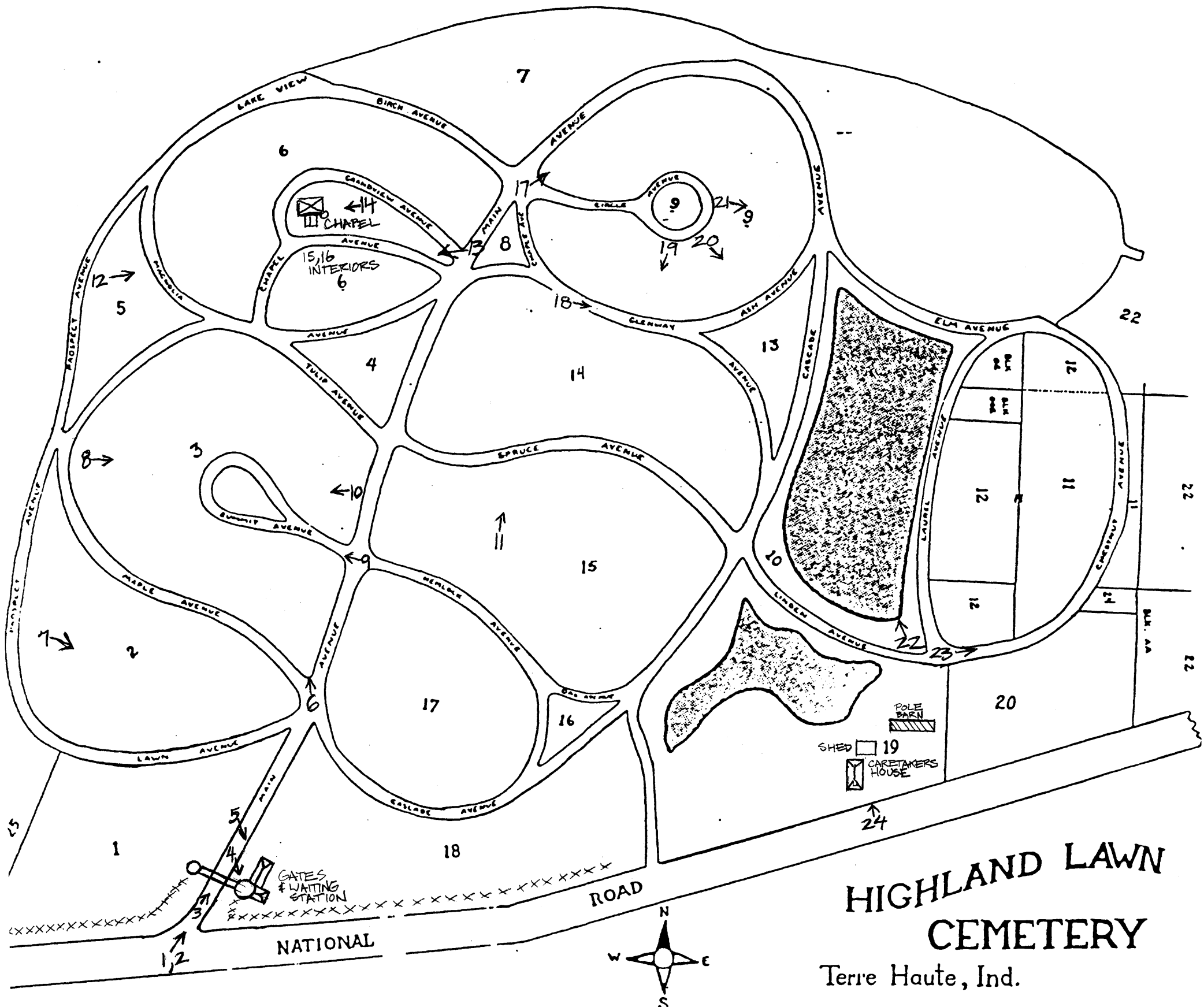   shed just behind, non-contributing pole barn to far right,

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looking north.

HIGHLAND LAWN
CEMETERY
Terre Haute, Ind.

Mayor P. Pete Chalos

1↗ PHOTO
10 CEMETERY SECTION #
▭ CONTRIBUTING BUILDING
▨ NON-CONTRIBUTING BUILDING
xxx CONTRIBUTING FENCE