

JUL 31 2007

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

AUG 14 2007

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" on the appropriate line or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name LINCOLN TOWNSHIP MAUSOLEUM  
other names/site number Zearing Mausoleum

2. Location

street & number County Road E18, north end of Pearl Street N/A not for publication  
city or town Zearing N/A vicinity  
state Iowa code IA county Story code 169 zip code 50278

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

Debra G. Sipe, Deputy SHPO August 10, 2007  
Signature STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

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

Signature of certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

- I hereby certify that the 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) \_\_\_\_\_

for  
Signature of Keeper Edson H. Beall Date of Action 9.27.07

Lincoln Township Mausoleum  
Name of Property

Story County, Iowa  
County and State

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
(Check as many lines as apply)

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

**Category of Property**  
(Check only one line)

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1		buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
1		Total

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

N/A

**Number of contributing resources  
previously listed in the National Register**

0

**6. Function or Use**

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

FUNERARY

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

FUNERARY

**7. Description**

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

LATE 19<sup>TH</sup> & 20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY REVIVALS

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Concrete  
walls Stucco  
roof Ceramic Tile  
other

**Narrative Description**

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

Lincoln Township Mausoleum  
Name of Property

Story County, Iowa  
County and State

**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

- 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" on all the lines 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

**Period of Significance**

1912

**Significant Dates**

1912

**Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Unknown

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

**9. Major Bibliography References**

**Bibliography**

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

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

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

**Primary location of additional data:**

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

Lincoln Township Mausoleum  
Name of Property

Story County, Iowa  
County and State

### 10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Less than one acre

#### UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 | 15 | 475 | 590 | 4667880 |

Zone Easting Northing

2 | | | | |

Zone Easting Northing

3 | | | | |

Zone Easting Northing

4 | | | | |

#### 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 William C. Page, Public Historian

organization Lincoln Township Cemetery Trustees date October 22, 2006

street & number 520 East Sheridan Ave. (Page) telephone 515-243-5740

city or town Des Moines state IA zip code 50313-5017

### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

#### Continuation Sheets

#### Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

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

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

### Property Owner

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

name Lincoln Township Cemetery Trustees c/o Dennis Anderson

street & number 12229 US Highway 65 telephone 641-487-7576

city or town Zearing state IA zip code 50278

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

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

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Lincoln Township Mausoleum, Story County, Iowa.

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

Site

The Lincoln Township Mausoleum is located in the Zearing Cemetery. This cemetery is situated in an unincorporated portion of Story County. The cemetery directly abuts the north corporation line of the town of Zearing, Iowa. In 1990, Zearing's population numbered 614. County Road E18 forms the south boundary of the cemetery. The land in the cemetery is generally level, but the surroundings to the north are hilly. North Pearl Street leads to the cemetery from town center. Many mature maple trees are planted along both sides of North Pearl along this route. These trees were likely planted to develop North Pearl into a ceremonial corridor for Memorial Day parades from town center to the cemetery.

Zearing Cemetery

Although the Zearing Cemetery is not part of this application, the following thumbnail sketch provides a description of the physical setting of the mausoleum. Two vehicular entrances to the cemetery provide access to it—one on its eastern edge and one slightly east of the mausoleum. Many individual grave markers are situated throughout the cemetery. A stand of about a dozen mature spruce trees line the western edge of the cemetery. They form a windbreak to the mausoleum, define the western boundary of the cemetery, and provide a visually appealing landscape amenity.

The trustees of the cemetery chose to limit the extent of the property's National Register boundaries at the present time because they have focused on the immediate financial responsibility to preserve the mausoleum. The cost and time to explore an historic district nomination rank as a later priority.

**EXTERIOR OF MAUSOLEUM**

The Lincoln Township Mausoleum is situated near the western edge of the cemetery. Its primary façade faces south and forms a terminus to a vista opened up to pedestrians and motorists who approach it by North Pearl Street from Zearing's town center.

The mausoleum is a one-story building of monolithic concrete construction. It forms the focal point of the Zearing Cemetery and was constructed in 1911-1912. The building continues to serve its original purpose to the present day.

The footprint of the mausoleum is a rectangle measuring about 93 x 33 feet. The shorter dimension is that of the front façade. A front gable roof covers the main portion of the building, while several flat roofs cover front portions of the building.

The mausoleum likely rests on a concrete slab. The exterior walls of the mausoleum are of monolithic concrete. This means that the walls were built

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Lincoln Township Mausoleum, Story County, Iowa.

by planking up both sides and filling in between the sides with concrete. When the plank is removed at the proper time the entire wall is left as a single block, or 'one stone,' as the word implies. (Radford: 43)

The roof is of clay tile with a dark green-colored glaze. Several rows of tile have been replaced on the west slope of the roof at the eaves. The roof appears to be good condition. Little settling of the building is evident in spite of the heavy weight of the tile and the concrete walls.

A series of poured concrete buttresses are situated on the east, south, and west elevations of the building. These provide structural support for the walls to carry the weight of the roof, in addition to being decorative features.

The exterior wall finishes are of stucco, now painted white. Historic photographs show that the buttresses supporting the exterior walls, as well as the cornices and other architectural details, originally were left in their natural concrete color, although they too are now painted white. (See Continuation Sheets 7-6 and 7-7.)

The front façade of the building faces south and is the most architecturally developed elevation of the building. It features double, wooden doors, surmounted by a lattice-designed transom, flanked by lancet windows with frosted glass in lead comes also worked in lattice designs.

The east and west sides of the building are without windows. The rear elevation possesses a second access door. The present, single, metal door has replaced the original double doors, repeating the front façade configuration.

The exterior of the building is generally in good condition with several exceptions. A portion of the rear parapet is beginning to separate from the main block and needs to be repaired. The flat roofs over the front portions of the building have failed and allowed water to penetrate the interior. The repair of these flat roofs is critical to the preservation of the building and should be undertaken as soon as possible.

**INTERIOR OF MAUSOLEUM**

The floorplan of the Mausoleum is a double-loaded hall with crypts situated on each of its sides and two rooms flanking the front entrance. (See Continuation Sheet 7-10.)

Double doors on the primary façade access the main hall. The hall runs north and south, the entire length of the building.

The front portion of the main hall is littered with plaster debris from the water-damaged ceiling. A tarpaulin has been stretched across this area to separate it from the rest of the hall. A gurney with a raising and lower device is temporarily stored in this area. It is used to raise coffins in place for internment into the crypts and likely dates from the construction of the Mausoleum.

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Lincoln Township Mausoleum, Story County, Iowa.

The walls of the main hall are faced with white marble. Many of these panels feature light-gray striations. The uppermost-sections of the walls are plastered, as is the ceiling. A series of marble-faced pilasters of reinforced concrete are situated along each of the sidewalls. They correspond to the concrete buttresses on the exterior sidewalls of the mausoleum and support its roof.

The east wall possesses 100 crypts, and the west wall possesses 100 crypts. The crypts are stacked on each side of the main hall in four horizontal rows separated by vertical columns. Marble ledges are situated horizontally at the base of each of the crypts for mourners to place flowers or other tributes to the departed.

The crypts are identified in Arabic numbers and Roman letters for locational purposes, somewhat like longitude and latitude. Each of the horizontal rows is given a letter of the alphabet and each of the vertical rows is given a number. On the south end of the east wall, the vertical rows begin at "1" and increase to "25" at the north end of the wall. The horizontal rows begin at "A" near the floor and increase upward to "D."

A similar locational system applies to the west wall. The vertical rows begin at the north end of the hall with the number "1" and increase numerically to "25" at the south end of the hall. Here, however, the horizontal rows begin near the ceiling with the letter "E" and increase to "H" as they move toward the floor. For example, "1A" is the lower-most crypt at the southeast corner of the east wall (the "first" crypt in the series). The lower-most crypt at the south end of the west wall (the "last" crypt in the series) is indexed "25H." The index letters and numbers are engraved into the marble walls at convenient points to locate specific crypts.

Fifty-seven crypts are occupied. Most of the occupied crypts are located at eye-level rather than those higher or lower and more difficult to see.

The crypts are faced with marble panels. Simple inscriptions are engraved on these panels, with the name of the departed and vital statistics, and sometimes a simple memorial message.

Crypts for the Golly Family are prominently sited on the east wall near the middle of the main hall.

The southwest room at the front of the building provided, according to an historical account, "one receiving vault for the temporary care of bodies." (*Nevada Journal*) Its ceiling has failed in places. Water has penetrated from the roof, and plaster and debris litter the floor.

The southeast room at the front of the building, which is smaller than the southwest room, was intended to serve as a family compartment. It contains eight crypts and is "distinct and independent of the remainder of the building." (*Ibid.*) These spaces remain unoccupied, so this room evidently never served its original purpose. Water has also penetrated the ceiling of this room, and debris lies about on the floor.

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Lincoln Township Mausoleum, Story County, Iowa.

The floor of the main hall and the two front rooms is laid in mosaic tiles. The floor is edged with a border of Greek key design, laid in black and white tiles, while the main floor is entirely white. The floor is in good condition, although a few of the tiles have come loose along its edge.

The Lincoln Township Mausoleum continues in active service to the present day. Crypts are still available for purchase. The last interment is said to have taken place in 1997.

**INTEGRITY AND PRESENT CONDITION**

The integrity of the Lincoln Township Mausoleum is excellent. The building is located on its original site with its architectural design unimpaired except for the need for the repairs noted above. The building's setting has been preserved with no encroachments to its original tract of land or visual intrusions on the agricultural land surrounding the cemetery. The land in front of the property remains, as in the past, an open lawn. The building's original materials remain intact, along with the workmanship, which fashioned them into the built structure. Modern development has not encroached on the agricultural land surrounding the property, so it retains the feeling of a rural mausoleum in a country cemetery.

The condition of the Lincoln Township Mausoleum is mostly fine. The exterior walls have settled very little, if at all; no cracks appear in the floor; the condition of the terra cotta tiles on the roof of the building is excellent and no sagging of the roof is noticeable. The flat roofs above the entrance to the building need to be repaired as soon as possible, followed by the repair of the rear parapet.



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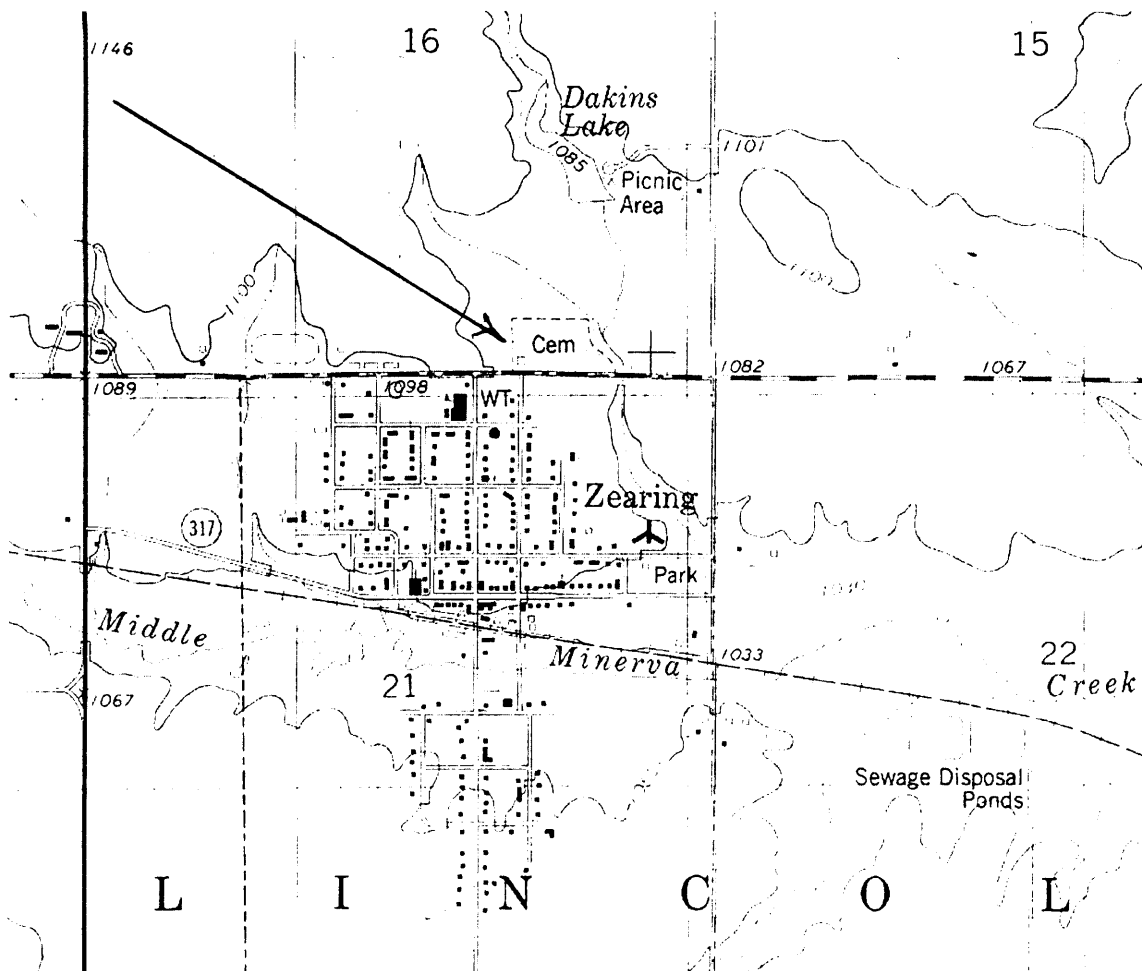
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Lincoln Township Mausoleum, Story County, Iowa.

## SITE MAP

ARROW LOCATES PROPERTY



Source: USGS Map, Zearing Quadrangle, 1975.

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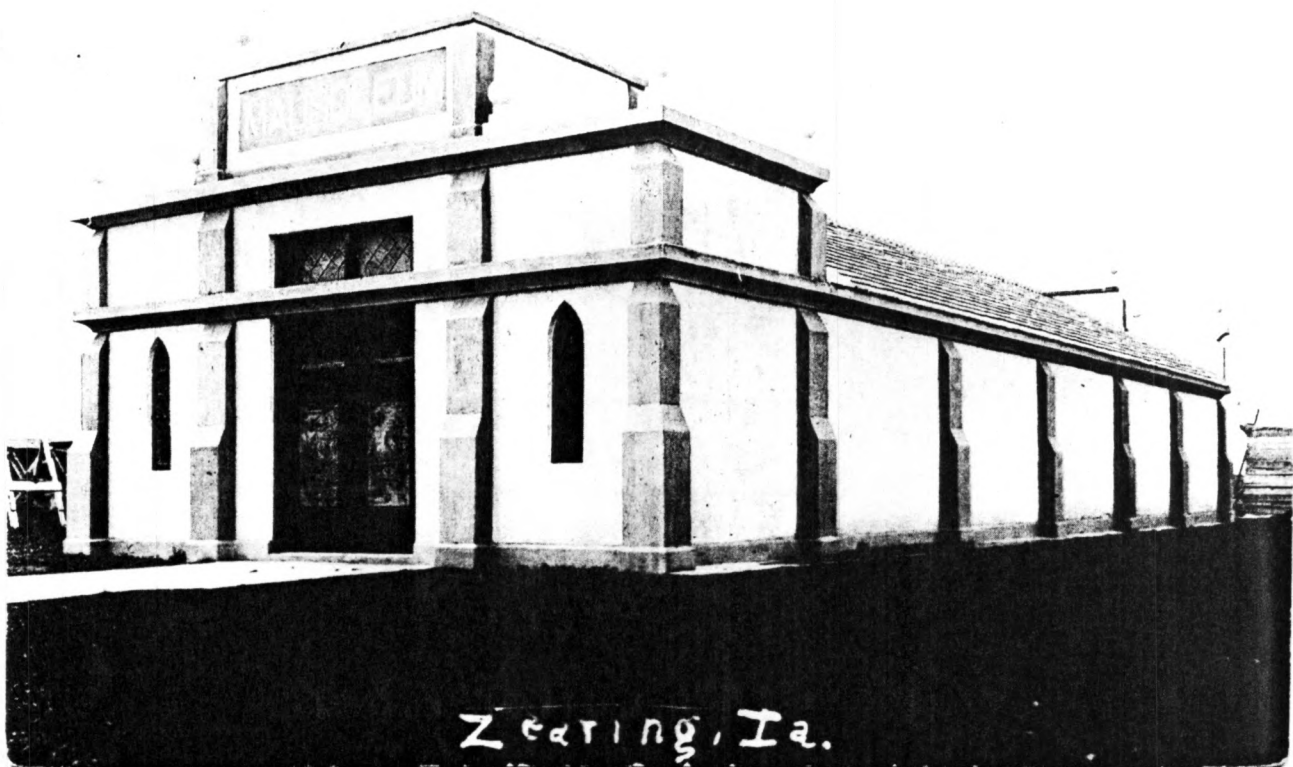
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Lincoln Township Mausoleum, Story County, Iowa.

### HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPH

Circa 1912



This circa 1912 photograph pictures the mausoleum soon after its completion. The buttresses and cornices were likely left the natural color of the poured concrete, and the stuccoed walls painted white.

Source: Courtesy Dennis and Pat Anderson, Zearing, Iowa.

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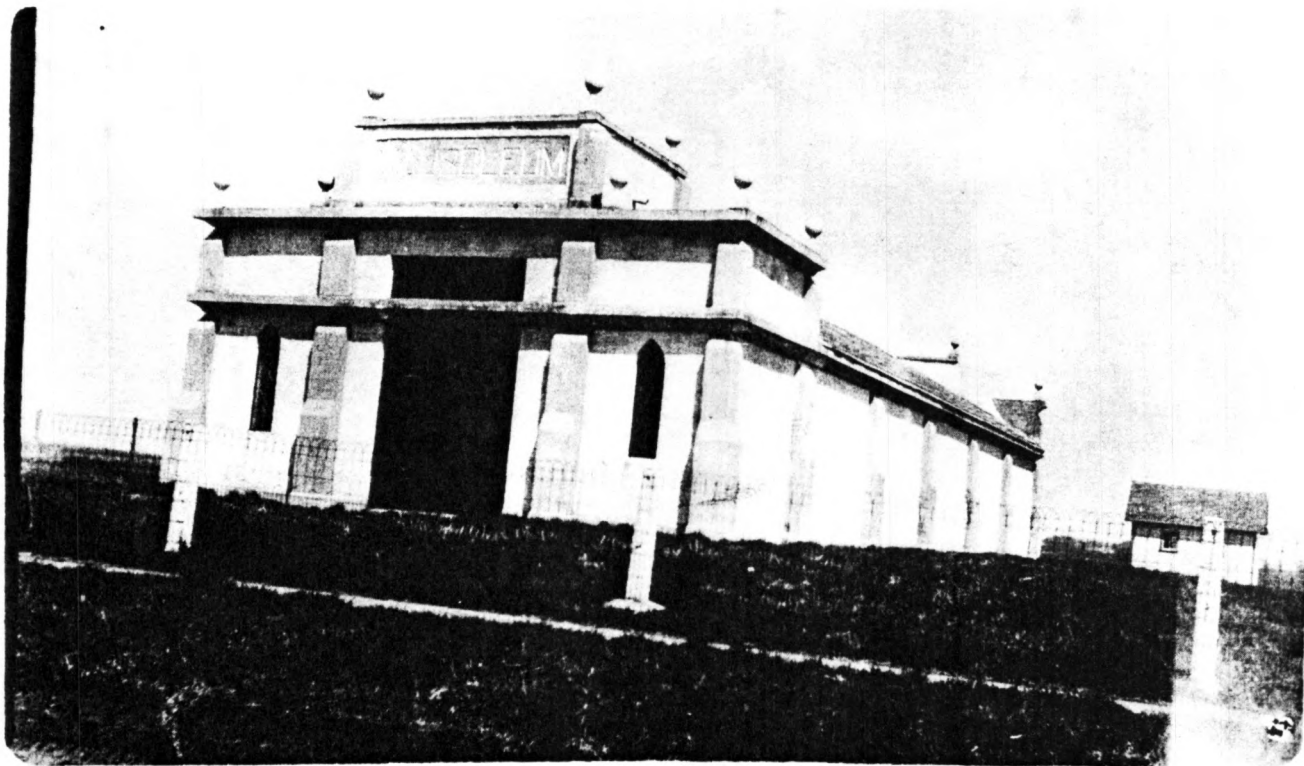
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Lincoln Township Mausoleum, Story County, Iowa.

**HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPH**

**Circa 1912**



This circa 1912 photograph pictures the mausoleum soon after its completion, along with a nonextant groundskeeper shed at the rear and a pedestrian walk and woven wire fence supported by cast concrete posts across the front facade of the building.

Source: Courtesy Dennis and Pat Anderson, Zearing, Iowa.

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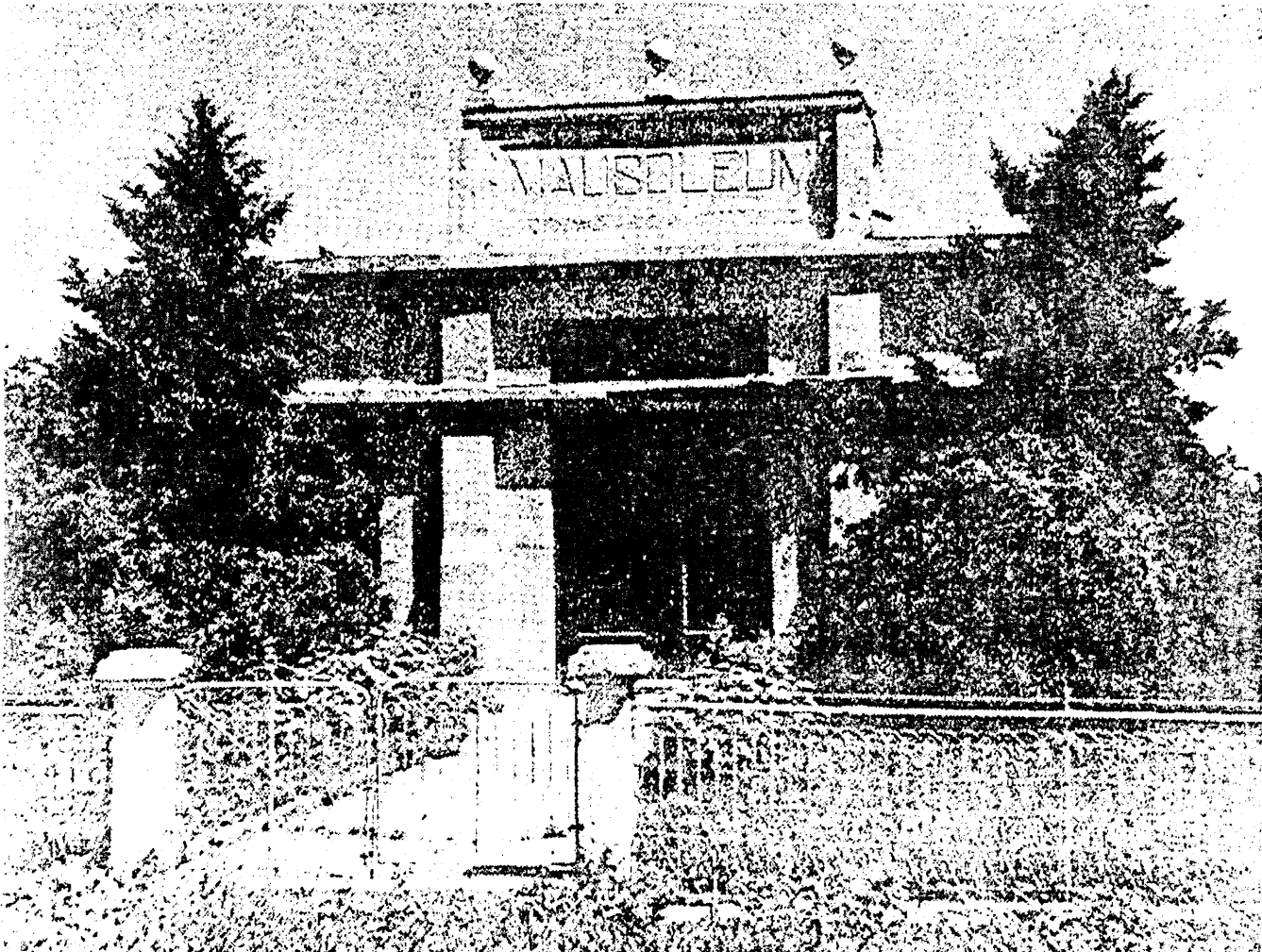
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Lincoln Township Mausoleum, Story County, Iowa.

### HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPH

Circa 1959



This circa 1959 photograph pictures the mausoleum along with plantings, fence, gateposts and pedestrian walk. By this time, it appears that all of the building's exterior walls had been painted white.

Source: Grimm: 72.

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National Park Service

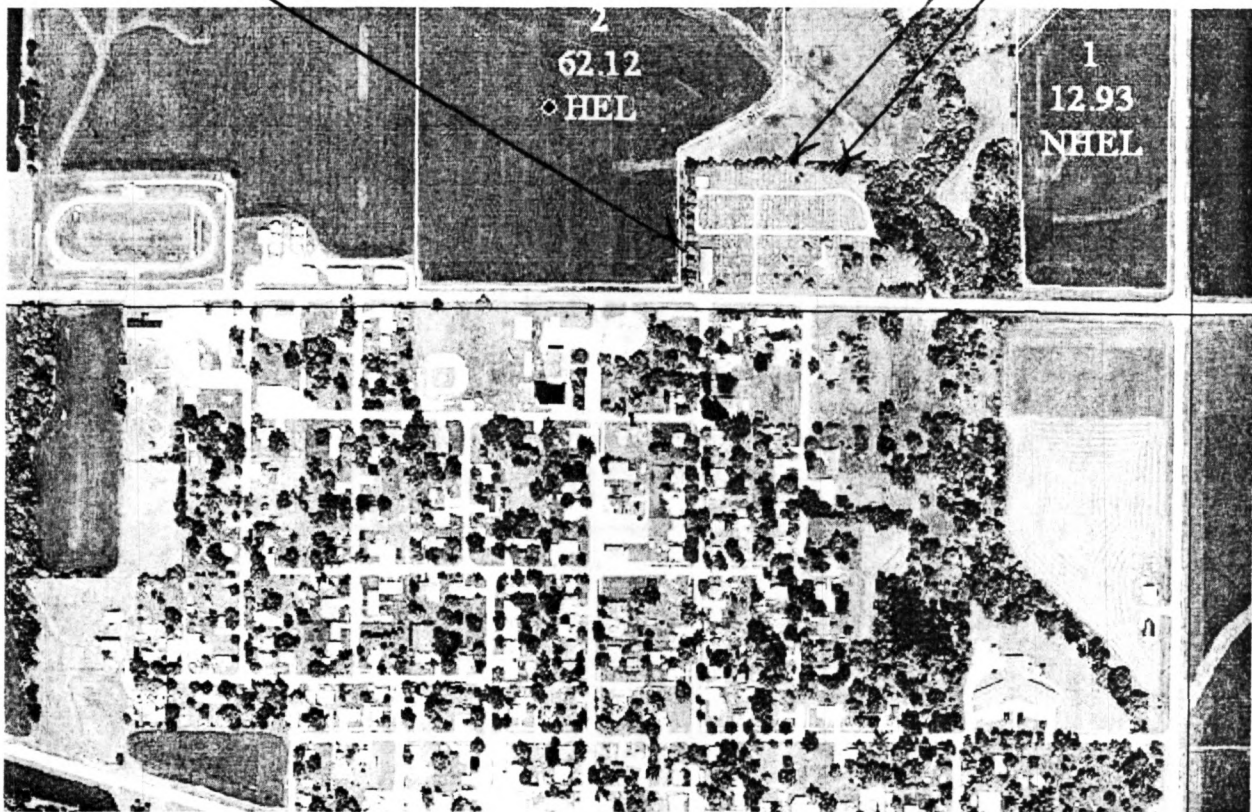
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Lincoln Township Mausoleum, Story County, Iowa.

## MAP OF VICINITY



This map locates the Lincoln Township Mausoleum (arrow) in the southwest corner of the Zearing Cemetery (double arrow). County Road E18, immediately south of the cemetery, forms the northern corporate limit of Zearing, Iowa.

Source: USDA Story County Farm Service Agency, 2007.

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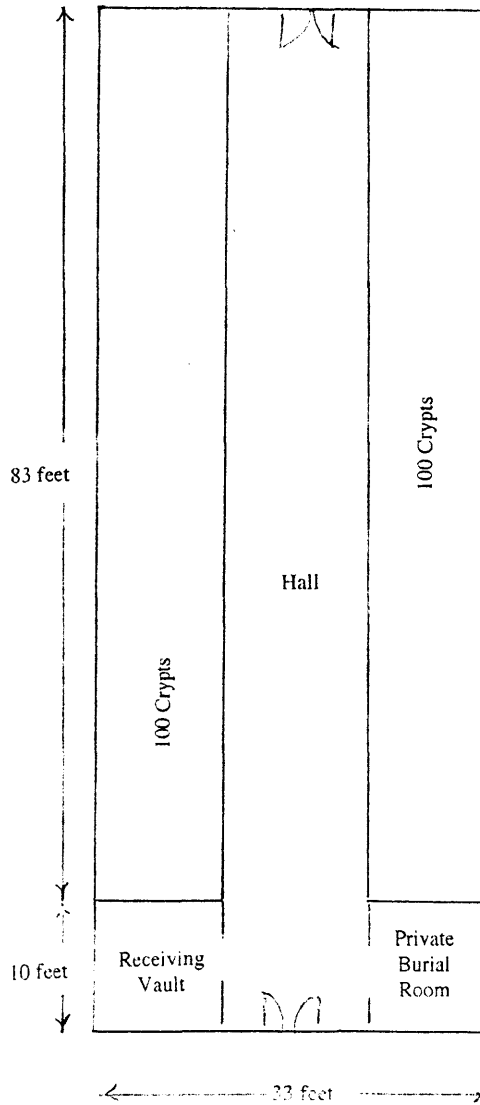
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Lincoln Township Mausoleum, Story County, Iowa.

## FLOOR PLAN SKETCH



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Lincoln Township Mausoleum, Story County, Iowa.

**SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Built between 1911 and 1912, the Lincoln Township Mausoleum is National Register eligible, under Criterion C, as an outstanding example of monolithic concrete construction used to build a public mausoleum—an architectural form rarely constructed in Iowa in such a fashion. It is possible that the Iowa Mausoleum Company of Waterloo, Iowa, designed the building. The Lincoln Township Mausoleum is also significant because of its architectural styling. The building successfully blends together Mission, Late Gothic Revival, and Classical Revival influences in its design.

The period of significance, under Criterion C, is 1912, the time when the building was completed and first placed in service.

The property contains one resource for this nomination, the mausoleum itself, which is contributing and classified as a building.

Although not exactly a cemetery, Criteria Exception D is checked for this nomination. This exception is satisfied because the building is significant for its architectural design.

**BACKGROUND**

The Lincoln Township Mausoleum forms the centerpiece of the Zearing Cemetery, a property located in Lincoln Township, Story County, Iowa, and directly abutting the town of Zearing. The construction of the mausoleum postdates that of the cemetery.

Cemetery

The establishment of the Zearing Cemetery dates to the 1880s. Solomon Dakins donated the land for this cemetery. (Celebration Committee: 40) According to one local history:

After the founding of Zearing in 1881, the need for a community cemetery gradually became acute. Several years after the founding, Soloman [*sic*] W. Dakins donated the land for a community cemetery. In 1956, the cemetery borders the town of Zearing on the north. It is located at the north end of Pearl Street.

The first records of the Zearing Cemetery are as difficult to interpret as the bulk of pioneer records are. Albert F. Rahfeldt said that he was certain that Henry Orthmann was the first person buried in the Zearing Cemetery. . .

According to a local official, additions to the original cemetery were made in 1894, 1914, 1927, and 1942. The Zearing Cemetery is a beautiful place in 1956. Hugh R. Good, the custodian, does an excellent job. The Zearing Cemetery Society assists in every way possible. The O[rder of the] E[astern] S[tar] maintains a large flower bed in the cemetery. The township trustees are always alert to the cemetery needs. (Grimm: 72-73)

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Lincoln Township Mausoleum, Story County, Iowa.

The Story County Recorder's Office shows that an addition to the cemetery occurred in 1911 where the mausoleum is located. (Warranty Deed 1911)

Mausoleum

The Lincoln Township Mausoleum was the creation of the Lincoln Township Mausoleum Association. A bronze plaque inside the mausoleum records that:

This mausoleum was constructed A.D. 1911-1912.  
Through the enterprise and energy of  
Lincoln Township Mausoleum Association.

The plaque also lists the following officers of the association: W. H. Golly, President; I. H. Clay, Vice President; E. M. Hedges, Secretary; J. S. Smith, Treasurer; and W. J. Leroy, Trustee.

The president of the association, W. H. Golly, was a pillar of the Zearing community. According to one local history:

William H. Golly lived in our community for seventy-eight years. He was one of the leading citizens in the history of our community. William was a pioneer teacher, pioneer insurance man, pioneer Mason, farmer, and banker.

William H. Golly, the son of John S. and Catherine, was eighteen when he came to this community in 1864. He was born in Oneida county, New York, on October 25, 1846. William H. married Jane Perry on November 18, 1869. Jane was a native of England. She was the daughter of William and Mary Menhennet Perry.

William H. and Jane were the parents of ten children. They were Fred H., Lillian M., Myrtle, Claude E., Clarence Ray, Walter S., William H. Jr., Catherine, Perry, and Russell L.

None of the children live in this community in 1956. Russell L. Golly has been the Story county treasurer since 1944. He was reelected on November 2, 1954. Russell lives at Nevada, Iowa. Catherine Golly Jessen lives at Story City, Iowa.

William H. died on February 22, 1942. Jane died on February 5, 1915. (Grimm: 138-139)

Under W. H. Golly's leadership, the Lincoln Township Mausoleum Association



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Lincoln Township Mausoleum, Story County, Iowa.

raised [the money for the mausoleum] by the advance sale of vaults. Many families bought vaults for future use. Many prominent residents of our community were buried in the Lincoln Township Mausoleum.

The Lincoln Township Mausoleum was dedicated in June 1912. Rev. Charles H. Stauffacher gave the dedication speech. (*Ibid.*: 73)

The construction of this monumental building is all the more remarkable given the fact that the population of Zearing, in 1910, just one year before the mausoleum's construction began, numbered only 461.

The construction of a mausoleum at Fairfield, Iowa, occurred contemporaneously with that at Zearing. The story of this facility gives another insight into the changing funerary customs at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. In Fairfield, too, one individual provided the original motive force behind the project. In 1913, local undertaker Frank D. Kerrick and his wife attended a convention of undertakers in New Orleans and were impressed by the above ground burials there. According to one newspaper account:

When the Kerricks returned home, they had representatives of different mausoleum companies come to Fairfield to discuss erecting a burial building here. The Iowa Mausoleum Co. of Waterloo undertook the job, and Perry King of Fairfield, Mrs. Kerrick's father, and a representative of the company sold crypts with the condition that one-third of the purchase price should be paid when the foundation for the building was in, one-third when the roof was on the building, and the balance when the building was completed. About 90 crypts were sold at \$150 each and work was begun. (Quoted in Baird: h)

This mausoleum was said to be of stone block construction, one story high, with a footprint of 30 x 90 feet. (Baird: i) From a photograph of the building, it appears that this block was actually cast concrete with a rusticated finish.

As it happened, the Iowa Mausoleum Company declared bankruptcy and went into receivership before the building was completed. It was subsequently sold at a sheriff's sale to settle claims against the company, and a Kansas mausoleum company purchased it. Entombments in the mausoleum eventually numbered about 90 among its 219 crypts. Following World War II, the mausoleum began to deteriorate from lack of maintenance. It was razed in 1975. (*Ibid.*)

Historian Ralph J. Christian of the State Historical Society of Iowa recent uncovered a series of newspaper articles from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, which provide important new information concerning the Iowa Mausoleum Company. The Primary Sources section of the bibliography for this nomination lists them. This information makes clear that this Waterloo firm was well known in Iowa at the time, having, by 1913, erecting 24 such buildings with four in progress in that state. (*The Evening Tribune*, January 14, 1913) This documentation also makes clear that the International Mausoleum Company of Chicago held certain patents for the construction and sanitation systems of mausolea and that the Iowa

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Mausoleum Company had purchased these rights for the construction of such buildings west of the Mississippi River. (*The Evening Tribune*, October 30, 1912) Unfortunately, the Lincoln Township Mausoleum is not mentioned in any of these articles, so the possible link between this building and the Waterloo firm remain the subject of conjecture.

Still, it remains certain that, as a specialized property type, the construction of a mausoleum required more than common building expertise and that a firm, such as the Iowa Mausoleum Company, participated in its erection. Waterloo played a leading role in the manufacturing and promotion of concrete products at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in Iowa. This, coupled with the some 60 miles proximity of Zearing to Waterloo, lends further credence to the possible link between the Iowa Mausoleum Company and the Lincoln Township Mausoleum.

#### ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Lincoln Township Mausoleum is National Register eligible under Criterion C, locally, and is a rare architectural form constructed of monolithic concrete, which successfully blends together the influences of Mission, Late Gothic Revival, and Classical Revival styling.

During the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, concrete was widely hailed as a new and versatile building material. National architectural firms and Portland cement trade associations touted concrete for many applications, not just the paving of roads and sidewalks. The Radford Architectural Company, a firm based in Chicago, for example, popularized the use of concrete through publications like *Cement Houses and How to Build Them* (1909). This book included information about waterproofing, coloring, paving, reinforcing, foundations, walls, steps, sewer pipe, tile, chimneys, porches, floors, and uses of concrete on the farm. The book included specific plans for cement cottages, bungalows, residences, farm buildings, public buildings, steps and stairs, tanks and cisterns, and other practical applications. *Cement World*, a monthly magazine devoted to the cement, engineering, and allied industries, was published from the Radford headquarters in Chicago. (*Ibid.*: 169) The magazine touted 18,000 satisfied subscribers.

Within this context, the use of concrete for funerary purposes was not ignored.

**Concrete Graves.** It has been the practice many years in the larger cemeteries to build concrete graves. They should be made the day before the casket is to be deposited so that the cement will be set when interment takes place. The walls usually are three inches thick and the top is a concrete slab that fits over the walls. (Radford: 73)

Concrete products could also be used for other funerary purposes, as the stucco finish on the Lincoln Township Mausoleum demonstrates. Stucco could smooth over the form-seamed faces of poured concrete surfaces and provide a finished look to them. Stucco and its associations with Mediterranean culture and Old California were ideal complements to the then-popular Mission styling.

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Furthermore, retailers claimed that stucco could be finished to resemble marble. According to one advertisement on a circa 1910 postcard distributed by the Century Lumber Co. of Des Moines, Iowa:

**Medusa** is the first pure white Portland ever manufactured, and with it results rivaling that of the best white marble can be obtained. (Sandusky Portland Cement Co.)

This property of stucco lent acceptability to it as an ersatz for expensive white marble. Had stucco not clad the alabaster city of Chicago's World's Columbian Exposition in 1893? The use of white stucco on the exterior and white marble on the interior of the Lincoln Township Mausoleum shows how such a blend of materials could cost-effectively confer a feeling of unity to an architectural design.

The Lincoln Township Mausoleum is an eclectic blend of stylistic influences. The exterior shows the influence of Mission and Late Gothic Revival styling. The stucco cladding on the exterior walls, the pronounced parapets on the south and north elevations, and prominent tile roof are indicative of this influence. Late Gothic Revival is also noticeable on the exterior in the lancet windows on the south facade and the buttresses, which support all the exterior walls. The interior shows the influence of Classical Revival styling in its extensive use of white marble for wall cladding, pilasters, and cornices, and in its use of Roman-style lettering to identify the crypts. As noted above, the use of white as the dominant palette throughout the building's exterior and interior unifies its architectural design.

Architectural Context

The mausoleum is a little studied property type in Iowa. To date, the State Historical Society of Iowa has inventoried the mausolea listed on the following table.

INVENTORY OF KNOWN IOWA MAUSOLEA

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Evaluation</u>
Melson [ <i>sic</i> ] Grave Marker	Elmwood Cemetery, Mason City	OE
Leslie M. Shaw Mausoleum	Denison	N
A. A. & Sarah H. Call Mausoleum	Phillips St., Algona	NE
Mausoleum	New Sharon	NE
Mrs. C. C. Sheppard Mausoleum	634 N 9 <sup>th</sup> St., Oskaloosa	OE
William Hutting Mausoleum	Muscatine	N/A
Woodland Cemetery (3 mausolea)	Woodland Cemetery, Des Moines	N
Hubbell Mausoleum	Woodland Cemetery, Des Moines	N

- continued on next page -

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INVENTORY OF KNOWN IOWA MAUSOLEA (CONTINUED)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Evaluation</u>
Hatch, Casady, Bowman & Sangerman Mausoleum	Woodland Cemetery, Des Moines	N
Morris Mausoleum	Woodland Cemetery, Des Moines	N
Savery Mausoleum	Woodland Cemetery, Des Moines	N
Hansen Mausoleum	Woodland Cemetery, Des Moines	N
Polk City Cemetery Burial Vault Mausoleum	Polk City Zearing	NE N, CPD
Lewis Family Mausoleum	Ottumwa Cemetery, Ottumwa	CPD
Bonnifield Family Vault Mausoleum	Ottumwa Cemetery, Ottumwa	CPD
Mausoleum	Graceland Park Cemetery, Sioux City	OE
Mausoleum	Calvary Cemetery, Sioux City	NE

Key: OE – Opinion of Eligibility; N – Not Evaluated; NE – Not Eligible;  
CPD – Contributing in Potential District

The mausoleum at Glendale Cemetery in Des Moines should be added to this list. The Iowa Mausoleum Company of Waterloo also constructed this building. The City of Des Moines has designated it a local historic landmark. It should be noted that the evaluations shown above have been provided, in an *ad hoc* fashion, by consultants over the course of more than thirty years. These evaluations may or may not remain valid today.

Although this information is sketchy, some conclusions can tentatively be drawn from them. Most Iowa mausolea appear to have been built in cities. Of the 20 examples listed above, twelve are located in large cities. Six are in smaller cities. Only two are in towns (Polk City and Zearing). Surprisingly, Davenport, with its large and well-to-do Germanic population—always respectful of funerary customs—is unrepresented. Perhaps this just reflects the incomplete status of the inventory.

Most Iowa mausolea appear to have been constructed by families for private use. Of the examples listed above, more than one-half of those listed (12) are family properties.

These tentative conclusions place the Lincoln Township Mausoleum in an architectural context. Most mausolea in Iowa were built in the first quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Lincoln Township Mausoleum is one of the few identified to date located in a small community. It is one of the few mausolea constructed as a public edifice. These conclusions corroborate the claim, voiced throughout this nomination, that the Lincoln Township Mausoleum is a rare example of the mausoleum as a property

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type in rural Iowa. The Lincoln Township Mausoleum is the first mausoleum in Iowa to be nominated individually to the National Register of Historic Places.

### **REPRESENTATION IN OTHER CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEYS AND METHODOLOGY**

In 2005, William C. Page, Public Historian, undertook a Technical Advisory Network (TAN) consultation to determine the potential National Register eligibility of the Lincoln Township Mausoleum in conjunction with its trustees. Until this time, the Lincoln Township Mausoleum had never been included in a cultural resources survey. The TAN project determined that the Lincoln Township Mausoleum was potentially eligible for nomination to the National Register under Criterion C.

### **POTENTIAL FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY**

The site's potential for archaeological significance is, as yet, unevaluated. Historical archaeological investigations may uncover traces of previous construction on the site—such as a privy—but the potential significance of such a discovery would likely be minimal, given the fact that the site remained uninhabited during its historical era. The potential for the site's pre-historic archaeological significance remains unassessed.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND REGISTRATION**

The Zearing Cemetery is likely eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places as an historic district. The Lincoln Township Mausoleum forms the centerpiece of this district. Its employment of concrete finds further expression in other cast concrete amenities sited throughout the property. These include a pedestrian walk, the edge of a well for water, borders for flower beds, and deteriorated fence posts, all of which provide additional witness to the employment of concrete for the construction of this rural cemetery.

The trustees of the cemetery chose to limit the extent of the property's boundaries at the present time because they have focused on the immediate financial responsibility to preserve the mausoleum. The cost and time to prepare an historic district nomination rank as a later priority.

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Sandusky Portland Cement Co.

- c. 1910 "Medusa, White Portland Cement." Historic postcard, featuring the E. W. Lepanto Residence in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and disturbed locally by the Century Lumber Co., of Des Moines, Iowa. Collection William C. Page.

Warranty Deed

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**ORAL HISTORY**

Johnson, LuAnn, with Pat Anderson, 2006. Johnson, who is director of Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, Illinois, shared information about the mausoleum in that cemetery.

McBride, Phil, interview with William C. Page, May 10, 2005. McBride, who is one of three Lincoln Township Cemetery Trustees, opened the building for the consultant's inspection and shared information about the Zearing Mausoleum.

Perry, David, interview with William C. Page, May 10, 2005. Perry, who is one of three Lincoln Township Cemetery Trustees, opened the building for the consultant's inspection and shared information about the Zearing Mausoleum.

**MAPS**

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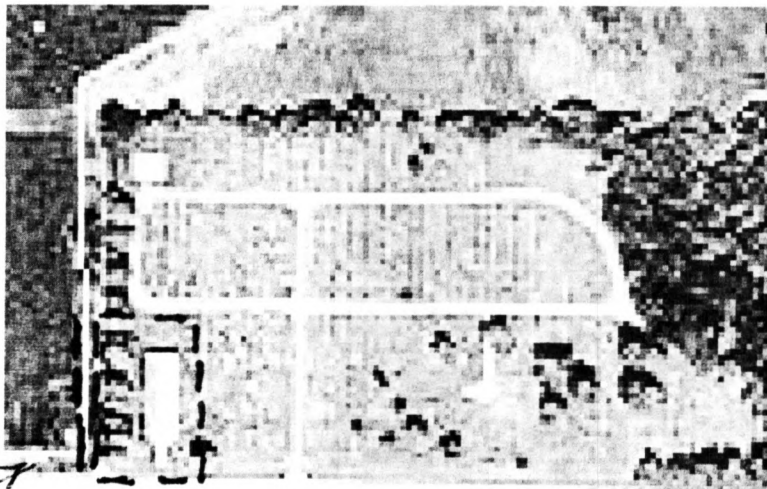
Lincoln Township Mausoleum, Story County, Iowa.

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

Commencing thirty-three (33 +/-) feet north and fifteen hundred and seventy-five (1,575 +/-) feet west of the southeast corner of Section 16 in Lincoln Township, Story County, Iowa, to the point of beginning, thence 175 feet north, 100 feet west, 175 feet south, and 100 feet east to the point of beginning.

**BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

Contains all land historically associated with the mausoleum.



County Road E18



National Register boundary shown in heavy dashed line. 1 inch equals 660 feet.

Source: USDA Story County Farm Service Agency, 2007.

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**LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS**

1. Lincoln Township Mausoleum  
County Road E18, North End of Pearl Street  
Zearing, IA 50278  
Looking north  
William C. Page, Photographer  
May 10, 2005
2. Lincoln Township Mausoleum  
County Road E18, North End of Pearl Street  
Zearing, IA 50278  
Looking northwest  
William C. Page, Photographer  
May 10, 2005
3. Lincoln Township Mausoleum  
County Road E18, North End of Pearl Street  
Zearing, IA 50278  
Looking southwest  
William C. Page, Photographer  
May 10, 2005
4. Lincoln Township Mausoleum  
County Road E18, North End of Pearl Street  
Zearing, IA 50278  
Looking southeast  
William C. Page, Photographer  
May 10, 2005
5. Lincoln Township Mausoleum  
County Road E18, North End of Pearl Street  
Zearing, IA 50278  
Interior  
Looking south  
William C. Page, Photographer  
May 10, 2005