

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

RECEIVED 2280

AUG 19 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

## 1. Name of Property

Historic name: Woodlawn Cemetery Gates and Shelter

Other names/site number: City Cemetery

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

## 2. Location

Street & number: 501 W. Adams

City or town: Washington State: Iowa County: Washington

Not For Publication:  N/A

Vicinity:  N/A

## 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

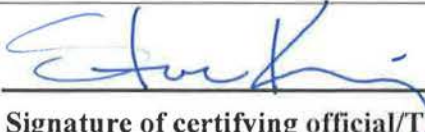
I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A  B  C  D

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
|  | 11 Aug 2016 |
| Signature of certifying official/Title:   | Date        |
| State Historical Society of Iowa  |             |
| State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government                                 |             |

|   |   |
|---|---|
| In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria. |   |
| Signature of commenting official:   | Date  |
| Title :   | State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government |

**4. National Park Service Certification**

I hereby certify that this property is:

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

Joe Edson H. Beall  
Signature of the Keeper

10.4.16  
Date of Action

**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

**Category of Property**

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

**Number of Resources within Property**

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

| Contributing | Noncontributing |            |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| <u>1</u>     | _____           | buildings  |
| _____        | _____           | sites      |
| <u>1</u>     | _____           | structures |
| _____        | _____           | objects    |
| <u>2</u>     | _____           | Total      |

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

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## 6. Function or Use

### Historic Functions

Funerary - Cemetery

### Current Functions

Funerary - Cemetery

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## 7. Description

### Architectural Classification

Mid – 19<sup>th</sup> century Exotic Revival

### Materials:

Principal exterior materials of the property: Stone, Stucco, metal / iron

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## 8. Statement of Significance

### Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

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

**Areas of Significance**

Architecture

**Period of Significance**

1917 - 1926

**Significant Dates**

1917

1926

**Significant Person**

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

**Architect/Builder**

unknown

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## 9. Major Bibliographic References

### \_\_\_\_ Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

### Primary location of additional data:

State Historic Preservation Office

\_\_\_\_ Other State agency

\_\_\_\_ Federal agency

\_\_\_\_ Local government

\_\_\_\_ University

\_\_\_\_ Other

Name of repository: \_\_\_\_\_

**Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned):** N/A

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## 10. Geographical Data

**Acreege of Property** less than 1 acre

### UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or  NAD 1983

1. Zone: 83 - 15                      Easting: 609056.05                      Northing: 4572142.34

### Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary is a rectangle, beginning at the extreme northeast corner of the cemetery it is 80 feet west and 20 feet south. It is within parcel 1120102003, which is S WASHINGTON PT LOT 25 / WOODLAWN CEMETERY.

### Boundary Justification

This is the part of the cemetery in which the gates and shelter nominated are historically located.

## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Michael Kramme  
organization: City of Washington Historic Preservation Commission  
street & number: 103A South Marion  
city or town: Washington state: Iowa zip code: 52353  
e-mail: mkramme@culver.edu  
telephone: 319 653-3341  
date: March 16, 2016

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### Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

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

### Property Owner

name City of Washington; attention Brent Hinson, City Administrator  
street & number 215 East Washington telephone (319) 635-6584  
city or town Washington state IA zip code 52353

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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Woodlawn Cemetery Gates and Shelter

Name of Property

Washington IA

County and State

**Narrative Description**

Site Description

Washington County, established in 1836, is in the lower third layer of counties in southeast Iowa. The city of Washington became the county seat in 1839. Woodlawn Cemetery is located in the southwest section of Washington (city) in a residential neighborhood.

Woodlawn Cemetery in Washington County, Iowa was placed into service in 1840 and was developed with grave markers arranged in rows. The Washington Improvement League raised money to build the entrance gates, and fence in 1917 and a shelter building in 1926. The fence pillars and the shelter are of the relatively rare Egyptian Revival style.

**The Woodlawn Gates and Shelter**



**Fig. 1 Entrance to Woodlawn Cemetery showing fence, gates and shelter to the right (Michael Kramme, photographer, 9/8/2015)**

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The fence and gates consist of six obelisk fence posts and three iron gates. The fence posts are made of river rock and capped by a square concrete slab with a flat pyramid top.

A pair of smaller tapered partially engaged columns is at the east and west ends. They are 73 inches high with a 40-inch square base. Separating them is a 74-inch wide iron gate and a sidewalk intended for pedestrian traffic. The two center tapered partially engaged columns are larger, have a square base of 43 inches and are 95 inches tall. They are separated by a double iron gate, which is 16 feet 6 inches wide. This gate leads to the main driveway to the cemetery.

The Woodlawn shelter, constructed in 1926, served as a place where those who traveled great distances could freshen up. It had a waiting area as well as a lavatory and toilet. The building is almost square, with stone obelisks extending out about six inches on each corner. The obelisks, tapered similar to the temples of Egypt, have square concrete caps. A plain concrete cornice also caps the building's walls. The doors and windows are inset. The windows having plain concrete sills. The doorways have plain original stucco pillars topped by a plain lintel. Original stucco covers the building. The same type of stones as used in the pilasters cover the foundation. The building has no overt Egyptian motif decorations.

The outer walls are constructed of hollow clay tile covered with stucco.

The south façade (facing the cemetery) has a double-door entrance. The original doors and windows remain under plywood. The doors have simple lintel and all windows have simple lintels and sills.

The west façade has two doors, north one slightly smaller than the other. The larger door led to a small storage room, and the smaller was an entrance to the restroom

The main room of the building is 12' by 11'. The walls to the rafters are 8 1/2' tall. The bathroom, located to the northwest of the main room, is 6' by 5 1/2'. A storage room, accessible from the outside, is located to the southwest of the main room. It has the same dimensions as the bathroom. The interior walls are made of hollow clay tiles covered with plaster. The ceiling is open to the rafters. All original windows remain, covered by plywood covers.



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### Integrity Statement

The gates and shelter are well-preserved examples of the relatively rare Egyptian Revival style.

The overall integrity of the gates and shelter is excellent. The shelter has had no additions or alterations. Plywood covers the doors (except in the south façade) and windows due to continued vandalism. The original windows (minus glass) remain beneath the plywood coverings.

The gates and shelter maintain a very high degree of all seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

- The property is in its original location.
- All major design elements remain, including the use of partially engaged columns with pyramidal caps, of the building, the window treatments.
- The setting remains as it was when the nominated property was built. It is still located in a residential area typical of a small town, late nineteenth and early twentieth century neighborhood.
- Most of the original materials remain intact. The original stucco is missing in some places and there is plaster loss on the interior walls.
- The workmanship is excellent. The stonework remains in excellent condition after over ninety years.
  - Both the sense of feeling and association remain. The City of Washington maintains the property.

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### Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Woodlawn Cemetery Gates and Shelter property is locally significant under Criterion C as a rare example of the Egyptian Revival architecture. The style was used in the design of grave markers and mausoleums, however is rarer in other property types. Criteria consideration D is met by nominating the gates and shelter for their architectural significance.

### History of the Cemetery

What is now known as Woodlawn Cemetery was established in 1840 when one of the county residents, Jonathan H. Wilson, donated the land to the city. The first interment was of Benjamin Conley who froze to death while walking home from a friend's farm. Interment was on December 10, 1840. The first stone (non-extant) was erected for R. R. Walker in the following year.

Originally named City Cemetery, the name was later changed to Woodlawn Cemetery. Mrs. J. B. Crail is credited for the name change. It was the primary burial ground for the City of Washington until the establishment of Elm Grove Cemetery in 1887. Woodlawn Cemetery is still the location of occasional burials.

Located at the corner of South Adams Street and D Avenue, Woodlawn Cemetery was originally outside the city to the southwest. Since the establishment of the cemetery, the city has grown to join the west, north and east of the cemetery's borders.

### Washington Improvement League

Mrs. Hiram Scofield, the wife of a prominent Washington attorney, founded the first women's improvement organization in Washington. The Washington Improvement League, founded on April 24, 1915, met sporadically from then until the mid-1920s. The Woodlawn shelter project was the last of the group's projects.

Mrs. J. B. Crail became president of the organization at the time of the Woodlawn Cemetery project. Mrs. Crail was also responsible in convincing the state legislature to pass legislation allowing cities the right to set aside enough money each year to care properly for city cemeteries. Her husband was a businessman who from 1883 until the 1920s who owned a dry goods store on the west side of the town square. In 1916, the League formed a

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committee to oversee the Woodlawn Cemetery improvements. The other committee members were Mrs. H. F. Steck, Mrs. A. Anderson, and Mrs. W. W. Wilson. Joining them were Councilman O. E. Hetwick and Park Commissioner Wilber Miller, both appointed by the City Council. The League raised the funds for several civic projects. Much of their work was the improvement of the city cemetery.

They helped landscape the cemetery including construction of two ponds (non-extant) and a roadway. Their last two projects were the gate, fence and shelter. They raised necessary funds for the projects through several fundraising events. For the gate and fence project, they raised \$400 by canvassing the cemetery's lot owners and a \$250 grant from the city council.

The League members voted to end the organization in January 1926.

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| Woodlawn Cemetery Gates and Shelter<br>Name of Property |
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### The Egyptian Revival Style

The Egyptian Revival, like the Gothic and Classical Revival styles, was among the architectural styles throughout the nineteenth century. It provided an exotic alternative to the more traditional styles of the day, however, it was less popular than the other revival styles.

The first Egyptian revival period in the United States occurred after Napoleon's Egyptian Campaign of 1798-1799. Structures in the United States during this revival included Henry Latrobe's original Library of Congress (a room within the U.S. Capitol that was not executed) (1808) and the Washington Monument (begun in 1848).

A second revival occurred around 1870. The third major revival was after the discovery of King Tutankhamen's tomb in 1922.

Few homes used the Egyptian Revival style. Architects used the Egyptian Revival style more often for public buildings and funerary structures. As historian Richard Carrott noted:

Although there is a wide range of building types in the United States which employs the Egyptian style, - domestic architecture being the notable exception - the most popular categories are cemetery gates and prisons. In both the roots appear to be iconographic. With the former the age-old funerary tradition of the pharaonic civilization comes to mind; and with the latter, the image of the land of eternal wisdom. (Carrott, pgs.81-82)

Notable cemetery gates in the style include the Mount Auburn Cemetery (1831) near Boston, Massachusetts, and the Grove Street Cemetery in New Haven, Connecticut (1848). A gate was designed but not constructed at the Laurel Hill Cemetery Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (1836). Instead a classical revival design was submitted and remains extant.

As architectural historian Marcus Whiffen notes in *American Architecture Since 1780*, "In the 1920s there was a second Egyptian Revival whose architects took advantage of the decorative potential of concrete". (Whiffen, page 50) While the Washington Cemetery shelter is not of concrete, it did utilize hollow clay block, a common building material in the 1920s, which was then coated with stucco. Iowa has only two other recorded Egyptian Revival buildings the Dubuque County Jail (NHRP and National Historic Landmark) and the Ottumwa Daily Courier Buildings.

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### Major Bibliographic References

Carrott, Richard G., *Egyptian Revival Its Sources, Monuments, and Meaning*, 1978, University of California Press, Berkeley, Los Angeles, London

Ching, Francis D. K., *A Visual Dictionary of Architecture*, A VNR book, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York, 1995.

McAlester, Virginia & Lee, *A Field Guide to American Houses*, 2003, Alfred A. Knopf, New York, pgs. 230, 231, 233.

Whiffen, Marcus, *American Architecture Since 1780 A Guide to the Styles*, 1969, M.I.T. Press, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts and London, England.

Woodlawn Cemetery, Shelter donor list, located in the Genealogy Society Collection located in the Washington Iowa Public Library

### Newspapers

“Entrance to Woodlawn Cemetery”, *The Washington Democrat*, June 26, 1917. Pg. 3, col. 4-6.

“Improvement Body Formed by Women”, *Washington Evening Journal*, April 26, 1915 pg. 8, col. 5, 6.

Jones, Edna, “History of Local Cemeteries”, *Washington Evening Journal*, August 18, 1996, pg. 2, col. 1-3.

*Washington Evening Journal*, Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Edition, 1926, Pg. J, Cols. 4 & 5

“Washington Improvement League” Twenty-fifth Anniversary Edition of the *Washington Evening Journal*, April 3, 1926, Pg. 14, col. 3.

“Woodlawn Being Made Beautiful”, *Washington Evening Journal*, September 21, 1916, Pg. 6, col. 3-6.

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Washington IA

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**Internet Resources:**

[www.cityofdubuque.com](http://www.cityofdubuque.com)

[www.fotofeed.com](http://www.fotofeed.com)

Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History / The Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2014  
[www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/erev.htm](http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/erev.htm)

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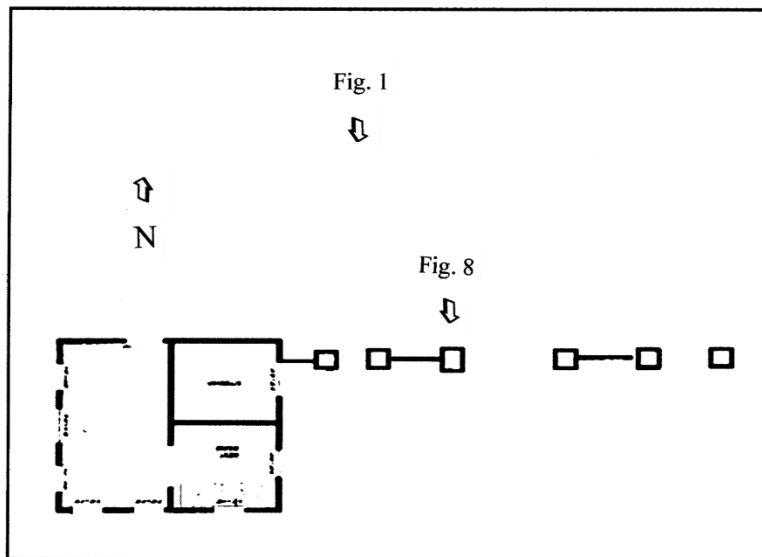
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## Photographs

Photos taken on September 8, 2015 by Michael Kramme. Location of originals: 103 S. Marion, Washington, Iowa

| Photo number | Camera facing | Subject          |
|--------------|---------------|------------------|
| Fig. 1       | South         | Gate and shelter |
| Fig. 8       | South         | Plaque           |



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#### Additional Documentation

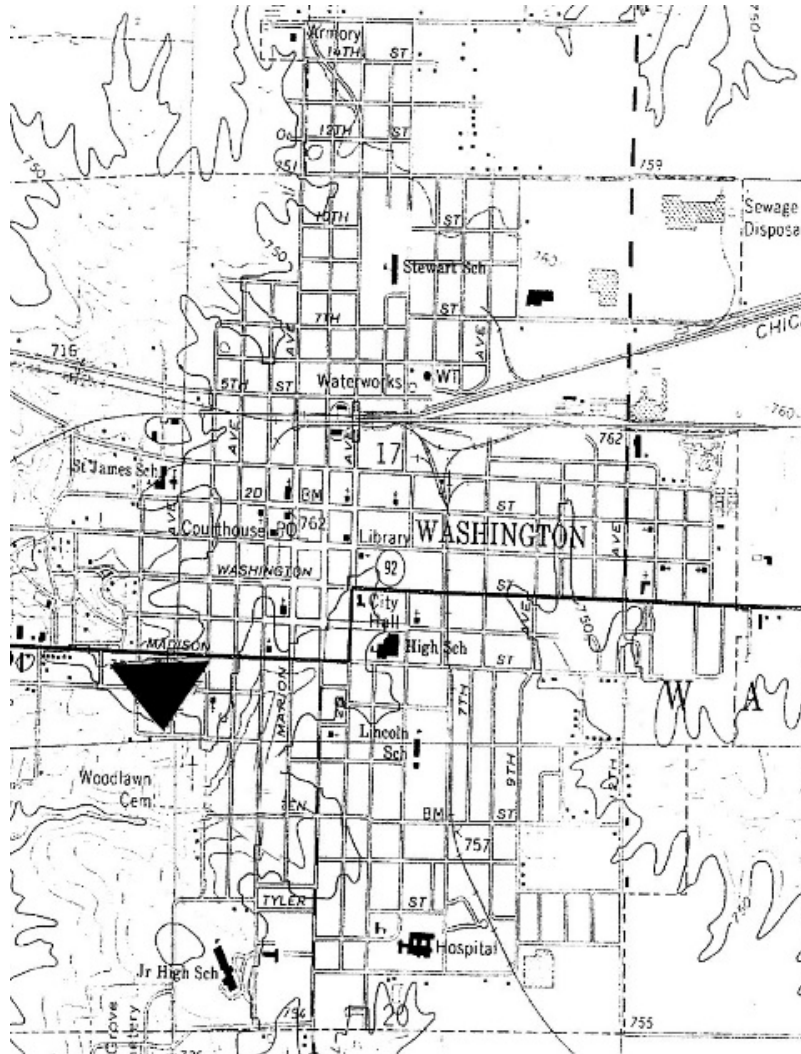


Fig. 2 USGS Map (1969), 7.5 Minute Series, Washington Quadrangle, arrow indicates location of the entrance to Woodlawn Cemetery



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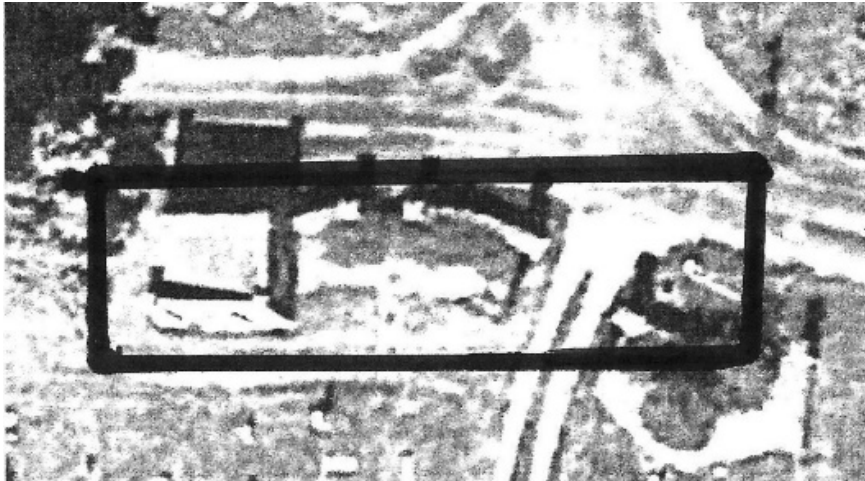


Fig. 3 Boundary site plan (source Googleearth.com)

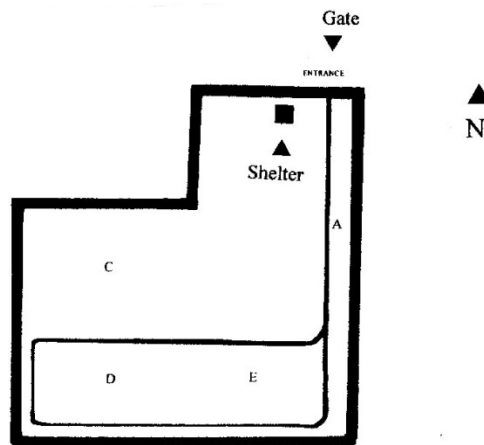


Fig. 4 Map of Woodlawn Cemetery showing location of gate and shelter. The letters A through E represent section letters of the cemetery used to identify grave plots, they do not indicated chronological additions to the cemetery. (Not to Scale) Drawn by Michael Kramme, December 15, 2015.

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Woodlawn Cemetery Gates and Shelter

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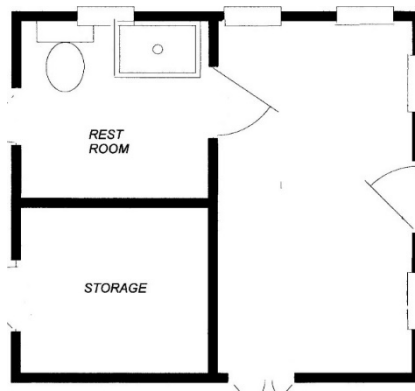
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**Fig. 5 Plan of Woodlawn Cemetery shelter (Not to scale) Drawn by Michael Kramme, December 15, 2015.**

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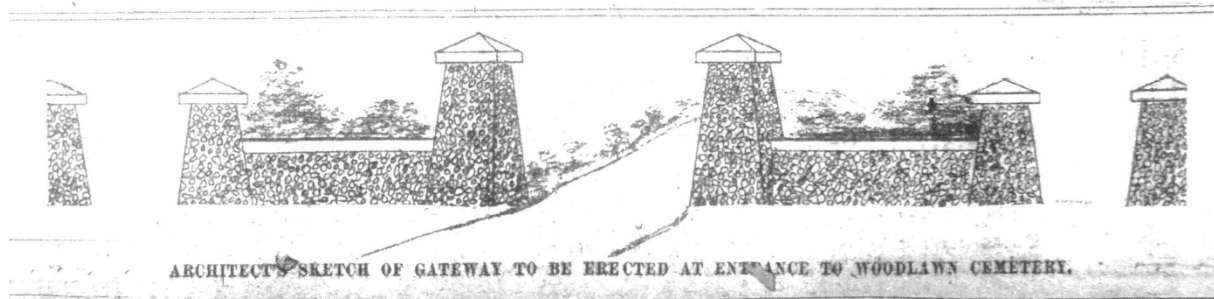
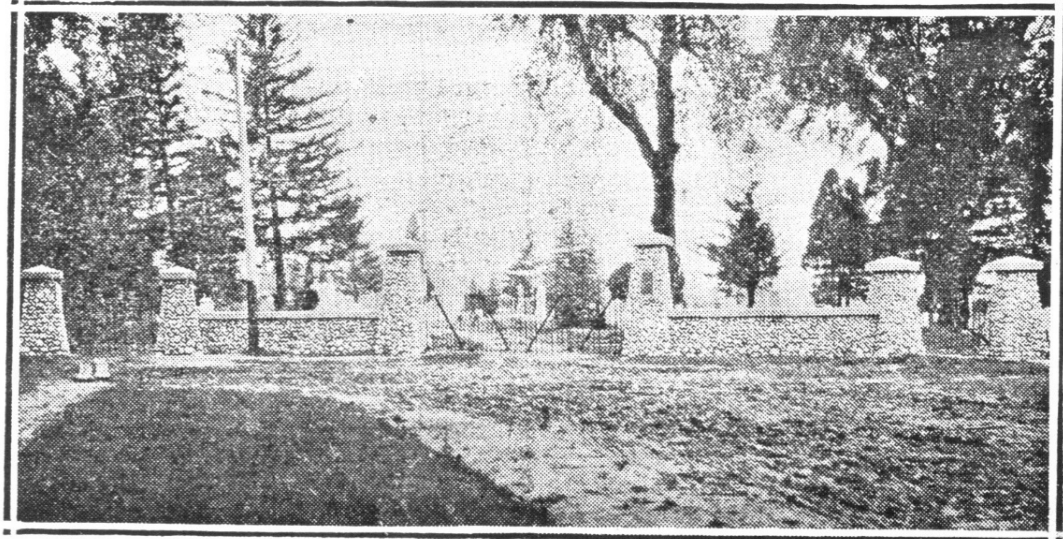


Fig. 6 Architect's rendering of the proposed entrance gate. Published in the *Washington Evening Journal*, September 21, 1916.



ENTRANCE TO WOODLAWN CEMETERY

Fig. 7 Photo from *Washington Democrat*, June 26, 1917

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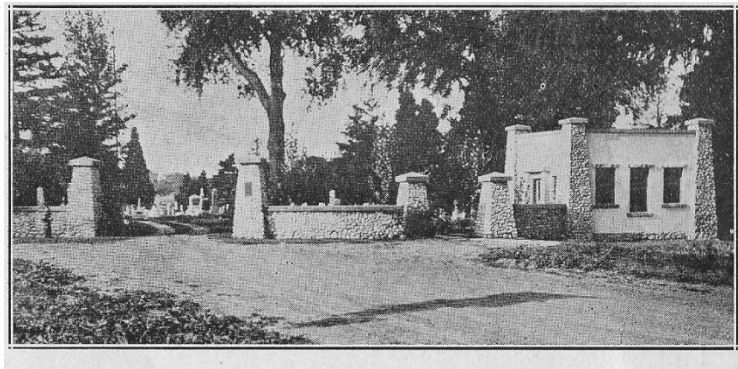
Washington IA

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**Fig. 8** Plaque located on post. The April 24, 1915 date is that of the founding of the Washington Improvement League, not the construction of the gatepost. The gate project began in 1916, but was not completed until 1917.



**Fig. 9** Earliest known photograph of the structure (at right), *Washington Evening Journal*, Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Edition, 1926.

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**Fig. 10 Temple of Isis at Philae, Egypt (380-362 BC) Source: Heilbrunn Source: Timeline of Art History, Metropolitan Museum web site Dec 30, 2015**

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**Fig. 11** Dubuque County Jail (NRHP and National Historic Landmark) also in Egyptian Revival style  
Source: City of Dubuque website Dec. 30, 2015



**Fig. 12** Ottumwa Daily Courier also in Egyptian Revival style  
Source: Foto Feed website Dec. 30, 2015





W. MAIN ST.



1916  
PRESENTED TO  
WOODLAWN CEMETERY  
BY THE  
WASHINGTON IMPROVEMENT LEAGUE  
ORGANIZED BY THE WOMEN OF  
WASHINGTON  
APRIL 24, 1915.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Woodlawn Cemetery Gates and Shelter  
NAME:

MULTIPLE  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: IOWA, Washington

DATE RECEIVED: 8/19/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/19/16  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/04/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/04/16  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000688

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 10.4.16 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in  
The National Register  
of  
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF  
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

MARY COWNIE, DIRECTOR  
CHRIS KRAMER, DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR  
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

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AUG 19 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service

IOWA  
ARTS  
COUNCIL

August 12, 2016

PRODUCE  
IOWA

J. Paul Loether, Deputy Keeper and Chief  
National Register and National Historic Landmarks  
1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Fl.  
Washington D.C. 20005

STATE HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY OF IOWA

Dear Mr. Loether:

The following National Register nomination(s) from Iowa are enclosed for your review and listing if acceptable.

STATE HISTORICAL  
MUSEUM OF IOWA

- Lewis System Armored Car & Detective Service Building, 700 Nebraska Street, Sioux City, Woodbury County
- Woodlawn Cemetery Gates and Shelter, 501 W. Adams, Washington, Washington County
- Polk County Homestead & Trust Co. Addition Historic District, Both sides 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> streets south of Franklin Ave. & north of College Ave., Des Moines, Polk County

STATE HISTORICAL  
LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

Thank you for your consideration.

STATE  
HISTORIC  
SITES

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Foster  
National Register Coordinator  
State Historical Society of Iowa

STATE HISTORICAL  
PRESERVATION  
OFFICE OF IOWA

IOWA  
HISTORICAL  
FOUNDATION