

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If 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 Chariton Cemetery Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 929 South Main Street [N/A] not for publication

city or town Chariton [N/A] vicinity

state Iowa code IA county Lucas code 117 zip code 50049

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).

Beverly A. Mitchell DSHB January 11, 2010
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF IOWA

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:)

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson H. Beall 3-2-10

Chariton Cemetery Historic District

Name of Property

Lucas County, IA

County and State

5. Classification**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☐ private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

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

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u>2</u>		sites
<u>1</u>		structures
		objects
<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	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**N/A**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)

LATE 19th & EARLY 20th CENTURY AMERICANMOVEMENTS/Bungalow/Craftsman**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETEwalls BRICKSTONEroof ASPHALTother STONE**Narrative Description**

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

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**Chariton Cemetery Historic District
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NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION:

The Chariton Cemetery is located on the south edge of Chariton, at the southwest corner of the intersection of U.S. Highway 34 and Iowa Highway 14. (Figure 1, page 15) Chariton is the county seat of Lucas County which is the second county north of the Missouri border and has the distinction of being both the sixth county west of the Mississippi River and the sixth county east of the Missouri River.

The Chariton Cemetery encompasses 45 acres of gently rolling hills, a typical Iowa landscape. The entire cemetery is included in this historic district nomination. It includes the "old cemetery" along the northern edge, and the "new" (post 1924) cemetery to the south. The district includes five resources, four of which are contributing under Criterion C and fall within the period of significance, 1924-1960.

There are two entrances to the cemetery and both are from Iowa Highway 14 on the east side of the cemetery. The main entrance is the north one, being closest to town. This is a cobblestone entrance that was built by WPA workers in 1937. The vehicular entrance is flanked by massive piers measuring four feet square by nine feet six inches high. These are located sixteen feet six inches apart, allowing for a paved roadway. Cobblestone walls measuring approximately three feet high curve away from these piers to gated pedestrian entrances and then extend both north and south defining the east boundary of the cemetery. The wall on the south is thirty-one feet long, while the north wall extends forty-two and one-half feet. The wrought iron gates of the pedestrian entrances measure four feet three inches wide and are hung between cobblestone piers that are four foot four inches high by thirty six inches square. A concrete sidewalk leads to the north gate, but the south gate has no sidewalk. The cobblestones used in the construction of this massive stone entrance range from approximately twelve inches in diameter to three inches in diameter. Larger stones are set in the corners acting as quoins for stability. The mortar joints are deeply recessed, creating a highly textured surface. The top of the stone gates and wall have all been capped with a thin coat of concrete in the recent past. This was probably done to "protect" the wall from deterioration due to moisture. The curving sections of the wall on each side of the vehicular entrance are covered with ivy during the warm weather months.

The south entrance has gained importance as more graves in the southern part of the cemetery are opened. The Cemetery Board has identified the need for a new entrance gateway at that location and is currently discussing plans for the new gateway.

The roadway from the cobblestone entrance runs due west, dividing the "old cemetery" in half. A single roadway runs due south approximately half way between the entrance and the western boundary of the cemetery. These are the only roads laid out to the cardinal points in the cemetery except for a short roadway near the southeast corner. (Figure 2, page 16) The other east/west road in the old section of the cemetery has a slight southerly curve. This north entrance roadway is the only one that is paved; all others having a gravel surface. The linear quality of the north (old) part of the cemetery gives way to a curvilinear pattern of roads through the new part of the cemetery. These curves are dictated in part by the gently rolling hillside, but are also part of a plan to visually soften the landscape. It has not been determined how much of the overall plan for this curvilinear design for the cemetery was developed by landscape architect Ray F. Wyrick shortly after the city bought the cemetery in 1924. He spent the next four decades refining this plan with subdivisions of each section as expansion was necessary. (Figure 3, page 17)

The lots in the old cemetery were laid out twenty feet square. Wyrick continued this pattern in some of the early sections he designed, but later sections varied in size and sometimes even in orientation. A current map of the complete cemetery illustrates the different sizes and shapes and exactly

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where these sections are located. (Figure 4, page 18) In general the cemetery grounds slope from the northeast corner down to the southwest corner, with the roads curving around hillsides and following a watercourse that defines the southeast quarter of the cemetery.

Near the center of the cemetery, just southwest of Section E on the south side of the roadway, there is a single story brick cottage from 1929. Designed by E.H. Best, it is rectangular in shape, measuring twenty feet by thirty feet with a front gable entrance on the northeast elevation. The cottage exterior is of variegated red/brown/gray striated brick laid in a Flemish bond with deep charcoal mortar joints. A broad, ten foot deep porch extends across the façade. The heavy brick porch posts are twenty-two inches in diameter, as are the two shorter brick piers that flank the entrance steps. Matching brick piers are located in front of the cottage at the edge of the gravel road. All four piers have concrete caps and cast concrete urns. The porch railing is of lattice, as are the two end panels with round "windows." The main block of the house is twenty feet square with two steel casement windows on each elevation. All windows measure thirty-four by fifty-two inches except the one at the west end of the rear (southwest) elevation which is only seventeen inches wide. The entrance door is centered on the façade. The gable ends are half-timbered with pebble dash stucco cladding, creating a feeling of an English cottage. The asphalt shingled roof extends beyond the side walls with exposed rafter ends. A brick chimney is located in the rear wall. A red brick cross was included in the design of this chimney. A concrete watertable divides the brick walls from a pebble dash stucco-covered foundation that opens at ground level on the rear. Each side wall features two basement windows. A single story gable roof addition to the rear features a pebble dash stucco exterior and half-timbered gable end to match the original cottage. This addition has exposed rafter ends and side windows that echo those in the basement of the cottage. The gable end of the addition features an entrance door to the right with a broad garage door in the center. This addition houses equipment and an office. To the west of the cottage is a non-contributing metal pole building that houses large pieces of cemetery equipment.

The interior of the cottage is one large room with a small restroom located in the west corner (the narrow seventeen inch window is in this room). Walls and ceiling are of plaster on lath and all trim, including the front door and the flooring, is of oak. A brick fireplace is centered on the rear wall. It features an oak mantle and terrazzo hearth. The interior demonstrates that this cottage was built as a place that families could use as a chapel for a small service or as a place to rest.

Immediately southeast of the house is a section of graves measuring approximately forty-five feet by fifty feet in the shape of a heart. Named "Babyland," this section for infant burials was laid out by Wyrick in 1930. It consists of three concentric heart-shaped rows, with the outer row providing space for one hundred graves. All are marked by simple stone tablets. In the center of the heart is a large stone monument with a statue of a mother and child in front.

Each section of the cemetery contains plantings specifically selected to enhance the natural contours. In many areas the roadways are defined by rows of trees, including some that were planted in the early 1930s. The cemetery has a strong feeling of the "rural cemetery" concept that developed in the late nineteenth century and continued into the twentieth in many communities. However, Wyrick made changes to the Chariton design as new ideas came into being. A good example was the decision to make Section F (immediately north of the cottage) into a "no monument" section, following the idea that cemeteries should look like parks, with vast expanses of green unbroken by monuments except for small ground level markers identifying each grave. This was a trend that never gained popularity in Chariton.

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Integrity:

All seven aspects of integrity of the Chariton Cemetery have been maintained at a high level. Obviously, the location south of town on Iowa Highway 14 remains the same. The setting has been altered only by the relocation of U.S. Highway 34 from downtown Chariton to a location immediately north of the cemetery. Although this creates more traffic noise, it is not noticeable in the cemetery and does not have a negative impact. The design created by, and the materials selected by, Wyrick remain highly visible and these create the tranquil feeling associated with a rural or small town cemetery. The workmanship of the projects approved by Wyrick was of high quality to begin with and that workmanship is still visible in the entrance gateway and the cottage.

The City of Chariton, the Chariton Cemetery Board, and the Chariton Historic Preservation Commission are committed to maintaining the Chariton Cemetery not only for burial purposes, but also as an important part of the community's history.

Figure 5, page 19 shows the boundaries of the Chariton Cemetery Historic District and the location of the five resources.

LIST OF CHARITON CEMETERY RESOURCES

1	Design of Chariton Cemetery	Contributing
2	Cobblestone Entrance Gate and Walls	Contributing
3	English Cottage/Chapel	Contributing
4	"Babyland" Design	Contributing
5	Steel Maintenance Building	Non-Contributing

Chariton Cemetery Historic District

Name of Property

Lucas County, IA

County and State

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.)

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.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical 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):

- ☐ 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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**ARCHITECTURE****Period of Significance****1924-1960****Significant Dates****1929****1937****Significant Person**

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A**Cultural Affiliation****Architect/Builder****Wyrick, Ray F.****Best, E.H.****Primary location of additional data:**

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

Name of repository:

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The Chariton Cemetery Historic District is locally significant under Criterion C as a complete landscape design overseen (managed) for over forty years by landscape architect Ray F. Wyrick. In addition, it has architectural significance due to the rustic WPA-constructed cobblestone entrance gateway designed by Wyrick and the English cottage designed by E.H. Best to serve as a combination rest house/shelter and chapel. The distinctive design of the cemetery and its resources meets the requirement under Criteria Consideration D. The period of significance begins with 1924, the year that the city purchased the cemetery and hired Ray F. Wyrick, and ends with 1960, meeting the 50 year requirement for significance. However, Wyrick's known association with the cemetery extended to 1967.

History:

The Chariton Cemetery Company was incorporated in 1864. The first cemetery was located one block west of the Chariton Square on the site of the present Columbus School and that is the location shown on the map of Lucas County on page 62 of the 1875 Andreas atlas. However, the history of Chariton on page 495 of the Atlas reads,

The Chariton Cemetery contains thirty acres situated about half a mile southwest of the town on a high rolling prairie. The entire grounds are enclosed with a fine Osage Orange hedge, and planted with maples set in regular order along the streets and avenues. The grounds are well taken care of, and this cemetery is a model that many other towns might well imitate.

The location described in the Atlas is the present site of the Chariton Cemetery. This was a privately owned cemetery. In 1890 the Chariton Cemetery Company was purchased by the Stanton Family. Unfortunately, all early cemetery records were destroyed by a 1902 fire. In 1924 Stanton's widow, Gertrude, and his four daughters sold the cemetery to the City of Chariton for \$10,000.

The city immediately appointed a Cemetery Board of Trustees which met for the first time on July 15, 1924. Chairman of the Board was J.H. Darrah, Vice Chairman, George Carpenter, Secretary Treasurer, L.L. Guernsey, and other board members included J.H. Curtis and Samuel McKlveen. Their first order of business was to hire Orren Lamb as caretaker and overseer for two months at a salary of \$75.00 per month. As the second order of business, "The secretary was instructed to work with Mr. Weirick (that is the way he spelled his name at that time) of Des Moines asking a visit from him at his earliest convenience." (Board of Trustees' minutes, July 15, 1924)

On August 1, 1924 the Cemetery Board met again, with the object of the meeting being to consider the two applications they had received from landscape architects, one from Mr. Fogelsong, and one from Mr. Weirick of Des Moines. "After some discussion it was moved by Carpenter and seconded by Curtis that we employ Mr. R.F. Weirick as our landscape architect subject to a further agreement between the contracting parties, as to the details and methods of carrying out the work." (Board minutes, August 1, 1924) The proposal that they received from Weirick was brief and to the point.

To the Cemetery Commission
Chariton, Iowa

July 21, 1924

Gentlemen:

For the following fees I will make a thorough study of your present

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cemeterly situation, make topographical survey and map of same, make plan for the future development of the cemetery proper, both platted and unplatted, stake out the revised and new lots, mark out the general landscape work (such as removal of old trees, planting of new trees and shrubbery, etc.) and serve your commission in an advisory capacity for a period of five years.

July 1, 1925	\$200.00
July 1, 1926	150.00
July 1, 1927	100.00
July 1, 1928	100.00
July 1, 1929	100.00

Yours respectfully,

(signed) Ray F. Weirick
Landscape Engineer
1503 West 28th St.,
Des Moines

Thus began a relationship that would last for over four decades.

Ray F. Wyrick (Weirick) was well-known in Iowa landscape circles. Born and raised in Iowa, he worked in the Kansas City area prior to 1909 when he established his office in Des Moines. In her 1988 Multiple Property Document "The City Beautiful Movement in Iowa: 1892-1939," p E-10, Barbara Beving Long noted that he served on the Des Moines Boulevard Committee with architects Frank Wetherell and Ralph Sawyer for a number of years. The Des Moines Parks Department files contain plans drawn by Wyrick for several parks in the city including:

Plans for Civic Center Coliseum Park, 1912
Plan for Development of Grounds about Public Library, undated
Plan for Fountains, Before Municipal Building, 1911
Plan for Grounds about New Municipal Building, 1911

One of Wyrick's later parks, Edmundson Park in Oskaloosa (1936), is now a National Register historic district.

In addition to park designs Wyrick was deeply involved with cemetery landscaping. He drew plans for additions to the following:

Union Cemetery in Newton (nd)
St. Joseph and Oakland Cemeteries in Iowa City (1917)
Ottumwa Cemetery in Ottumwa (circa 1930)
Forest Cemetery in Oskaloosa (1949)

He also designed cemetery entrances:

The Powell Gate for the Ottumwa Cemetery (circa 1930)
The Eleventh Street Gate in Forest Cemetery in Oskaloosa (1949).

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His writings were often quoted in professional publications in the first half of the 20th century, and eight of his articles were included in the Second Edition of The Cemetery Hand-Book (early 1930s). His skill and experience apparently spread across the country, because he was contacted after World War II by Saint Joseph Cemetery in Manchester, New Hampshire.

In 1946, Monsignor Edward A. Clark, the longest serving rector of the Cathedral, entered into discussion with Ray F. Wyrick, at that time the country's only professional cemetery landscape engineer, concerning the tired appearance of the Old Cemetery and the need to expand the New. Wyrick suggested several sweeping changes which, once they were adopted, made Saint Joseph Cemetery a regional model.
(www.saintjosephcathedralcemetery.org/history.htm)

It appears that the Chariton Cemetery was the only one with which he had a long term association.

Chariton Cemetery Landscape:

Like many late nineteenth century cemeteries, the Chariton Cemetery falls within the "rural" cemetery tradition. Rural cemeteries were originally influenced by the romantic movement, an interest in nature, naturally wooded areas that could be enhanced by selective plantings to create serene and spacious grounds. The rigid design of formal gardens was replaced by the gently curving roadways and waterways that were closer to nature. It is unknown just how much of the cemetery had actually been laid out, and how much was still primarily open land when the city purchased it in 1924 but according to Orren Lamb "only about half of the ground had been sold as lots." (*Chariton Herald-Patriot*, October 16, 1930, p 1 c 3-6) As late as 1928 the south part of the cemetery was unoccupied and the board gave Lamb permission to rent it out "for hay purpose not to be pastured." (Board minutes October 26, 1928) What is known is that from the very beginning, the Cemetery Board was ready to upgrade the cemetery grounds and was willing to hire Ray F. Wyrick to assist them with this.

NEW SHRUBBERY AT CEMETERY

R.F. Wyrick, of Des Moines, architect, will arrive within a few days to supervise the setting out in the local cemetery of various shrubs, young trees, and other decorative growths ordered recently by the cemetery board. A number of hard maple trees, slow growing pines and other varieties will be planted, while various shrubberies will be set out along the plats made for the redesigning and beautifying of the local burial place. It is stated by members of the cemetery board that plans are under way this spring for the relocation of several of the roads and driveways through the grounds. It is the intention to make the most of the possibilities at the south end site and to eventually have at Chariton one of the cleanest, best kept cemeteries in this section of the state. (*Chariton Leader*, May 5, 1925, np)

In an article titled "Remodeling and Redeveloping the Old Cemetery," Wyrick explained his rationale for redesigning cemeteries:

To rehabilitate an old cemetery means just that...to reinstate it in its proper place in the community, to restore the old cemetery to its former position of esteem among the citizens, to return it to its former rights and ranks and (sad words!) to enable it to somehow get back again the privileges it has forfeited. (The Cemetery Hand-Book, p 266)

A front page newspaper article in 1928 addressed the financial problems that the Cemetery Board was facing and noted that part of the sale price from new lots was being invested to provide for annual maintenance. New board members included E.W. Drake, E.H. Best, and A.C. Riebel. The newspaper listed some of the changes that had been made since 1924.

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The work of landscaping and beautifying the cemetery began a few years back following the time the city took over the property. At the start some four hundred large trees were removed from the grounds and probably one thousand smaller ones cut down and brush removed from the premises. A landscape gardener directed the work, and a great deal has already been accomplished.

..... Just last month the cemetery board completed the work of graveling the main roads of the cemetery. Eleven cars of gravel have been put on the roads at a cost of \$1100. This gives an all-weather roadway through the grounds and will make it possible for cars to enter the grounds at any time when necessary. (*Chariton Herald-Leader*, June 7, 1928 p 1, c 7)

In August 1928 the Board appointed Best, Guernsey and Riebel to meet with representatives of the IOOF in regard to a building in the cemetery. By the following spring the Cemetery Board was ready to proceed with construction of a building (use not specified) and they asked Board member E.H. Best to draw plans and specifications for it. There was no further mention of the IOOF. In June 1929 Best's plans were approved and he was told to proceed with construction. (Board minutes 1928 and 1929) This building will be discussed in more detail later in the nomination.

In July 1929 Wyrick was given another five year contract. This pattern was repeated through the mid-1960s. Although Board minutes have no mention of it, in an article Orren Lamb wrote for the *Chariton Herald* in October 1930 he mentioned not only "a fireproof shelter building" but also

This spring a special plot for babies has been staked off. It follows the lines of the famous "Babyland" in Forest Lawn Cemetery near Los Angeles, and is in the shape of a mother's heart. It is intended that a statue of a mother and babe shall stand in this plot, and it will be the only monument above the grass level.

An unsigned and undated partial drawing (that is very similar to signed drawings by Wyrick and is probably by his hand) shows the location of the shelter/rest house and "Babyland." (Figure 6, p 20) In his article Lamb also discussed the "redesign of Chariton cemetery, after it was turned over to the Board..." He explained that lots were redesigned to a more proper size and unnecessary alleys and driveways were eliminated.

During a meeting with the Cemetery Board in early 1932 Wyrick recommended making some new maps. After discussion it was decided to have a large wall map made and that plans for a lily pond should be included. The lily pond was to serve as a focus for one of the "vistas" that Wyrick felt were so important to the beauty of a cemetery. He felt that the curving roads should open to a view that was special to that one place. Sometimes this was accomplished by natural elements such as a stream or valley, while in others it was created by the plantings used. In this way his approach to cemetery design was very similar to the approach he used in the design of Edmundson Park in Oskaloosa with its gently curving roadways providing different views, but ultimately guiding your eye to the valley below or the cluster of trees on a hilltop.

Wyrick's association with the Chariton Cemetery included working very closely with the first superintendent, Orren Lamb. In his articles Wyrick often spoke of the importance of the cemetery superintendent or sexton, and the need for him to not only know his cemetery and the people he served, but also to have a basic curiosity about how other cemeteries and other superintendents approached their responsibilities. He was a firm believer in what we now refer to as "professional development" opportunities. When Lamb died in 1933, Wyrick sent a letter to the Board saying:

He was loyal to you, and he was ever ready to cooperate with me. He had imagined some very attractive improvement for your cemetery for the future, which I hope you will sometime

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realize. I want to carry on, for his sake. When I met him at your cemetery, he used to throw his arm around my shoulder, and we would walk away to see what progress he had been making, and to think of problems yet to solve. I shall miss him on future visits, but will surely feel that his presence is there, stronger than before. (Letter in the Cemetery Board minutes)

Theo Rosa was hired to replace Lamb, and he and Wyrick worked to continue the redesign and updating of the cemetery. In 1937 the Board decided to make application to the WPA for the construction of a new entrance gateway. The project was approved and construction began on the cobblestone gateway now at the north entrance off of Highway 14. In November 1937 "Mr. Guernsey stated that as Ray Wyrick, Landscape Architect, had rendered service in designing and supervising the new WPA entrance at the cemetery, he moved that Mr. Wyrick be paid \$50 for this extra service. This is to be in addition to his yearly fee." Motion carried. (Board minutes November 24, 1937)

Board minutes reveal that Wyrick continued to meet with them on at least an annual basis, and was involved in the redesigning of sections throughout his association with them. To this day, a large map of the cemetery is located on the wall of the cemetery's room in City Hall. However, it is not one large piece, it is made up of a number of individual maps of sections. It appears that each time Wyrick revised a section of the cemetery that part of the old map was thrown away and the new map was inserted in the proper location on the wall. For that reason, there are no extant drawings by Wyrick prior to 1952. A drawing of Section L from 1952 shows the location of the lily pond that was proposed in 1932. (Figure 7, page 21) It was never built. Two years later, October 1934, Wyrick recommended that the Board should establish a "No Monument" section, showing the influence of the Memorial Park type of cemetery design. However, it took almost twenty years for this to happen, as a 1953 Wyrick drawing shows the redesign of Section F to serve as the No Monument section. (Figure 8, page 22) This No Monument section was never really accepted by the people of Chariton, and today that section includes a number of monuments, lower in design than those in the other sections, but still stone monuments. Another drawing, this one from 1954, shows the redesign of Section K (Figure 9, page 23), and a much later drawing shows the design of Section N (Figure 10, page 24). Note that on the Section N drawing the monuments are shown to be located at the west end of the lots. This east facing orientation is commonly found in early cemeteries in this country. This is an important fact to remember, because Wyrick's later designs, such as the plan for the "new" part of Section P (Figure 11, page 25) has the monuments located on the east end of the lots facing west. As cemetery design changed over the years, and sections were replatted, the direction of the graves, and the location of the monuments became based less on compass orientation and more on taking advantage of the natural contours of the land. (Conversation with Robert Swanson, June 26, 2009) Also noteworthy is that the new design for Section P alternated monument rows with "marker only" rows. This redesign of Section P in 1967 is the last of the known drawings by Wyrick for the Chariton Cemetery.

By the late 1960s, Wyrick had designed, or redesigned almost all sections of the Chariton Cemetery, leaving his imprint on all 45 acres. In his 40+ years with the cemetery he had met the standard he set in an article in the early 1930s:

Any cemetery that continues to fill its place in the community must keep up to date. Our standards are changing all the time, and usually for the better. There will always be fads in cemetery planning, as in everything else, but those who follow a sensible policy of steady development, sticking to the dignified principles on which a real cemetery is founded, need have no fear of competition or loss of loyalty of the patrons. (*The Cemetery Handbook*, p 273)

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Architecture:

The brick English cottage (1929) that was built to serve as a rest house/chapel followed in the style of a number of English cottages that were being built in Chariton about the same time. These cottages were designed by Chariton architect William L. Perkins (1886-1957) and many of them were constructed by the E.H. Best Company. When research began on the cemetery cottage it was anticipated that records would show that it too had been designed by Perkins and the cottage could be associated with the Multiple Property Document "The Architectural Career of William L. Perkins in Iowa: 1917-1957." However, minutes from the Cemetery Board of Trustees meetings definitely state that the plans and specifications were drawn by E.H. Best, and that he was also responsible for the construction of the cottage.

The cottage is a good example of the English cottage type that was popular in the late 1920s and early 1930s. It is an adaptation of the popular Tudor Revival style that was used for many large residences and was sometimes referred to as "Stockbroker Tudor." English cottages were much more affordable for middle class Americans and still retained the feeling of the revival style. Key Tudor elements found on the cemetery cottage include a brick exterior with stucco trim, and half-timbering in the gable end. The use of steel casement windows was also common in this style. The cottage also exhibits a major design element of Craftsman design, the exposed rafter ends. The English cottage type was used not only for residences, but for gas stations, neighborhood shopping areas, and yes, cemetery buildings.

The cobblestone entrance gateway from 1937 is another good example of Craftsman influence in the Chariton Cemetery. The Depression Era programs of the 1930s were closely related to the "rustic" architecture that had been developed and used by the National Park Service. This influence filtered down to the design of community parks such as Edmundson Park in Oskaloosa, and influenced the design of other public improvements such as the Chariton entrance gate. Wyrick had designed the two entrance gates for Edmundson Park in 1936, shortly before the Chariton project was planned. He used the same concept of massive stone piers on each side of a vehicle entryway, with curving stone walls projecting to each side. In the Edmundson design the stone used was coursed limestone, while cobblestone was used in Chariton. In the Edmundson design the curve of the walls is convex, while in the Chariton design the curve is concave. In both cases, the gates serve as a monumental entrance to a well designed landscape. In the case of the cemetery, the entrance is seen as the separation of the everyday world from the peaceful world of the hereafter.

Conclusion:

The Chariton Cemetery has local significance under Criterion C as a very good example of a planned landscape design created by a noted landscape architect, Ray F. Wyrick. The evolution of the design over the decades reflects changing ideas in cemetery design that could be incorporated into a small town cemetery. The addition of a No Monument section and the inclusion of a "Babyland" are two examples of these changing ideas. The decisions by the Cemetery Board to add a rest house to the grounds, and to build a new, monumental entrance illustrate the involvement of the board and their awareness of changing attitudes toward cemetery design and use. Both the cottage and the gateway are fine examples of their specific building type and period and both retain a very high degree of integrity. These two resources have Criterion C significance in their own right and add greatly to the overall significance of the Chariton Cemetery. The distinctive design of the cemetery meets the requirement under Criteria Consideration D.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA

Section number 9 Page 10

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National Park Service**

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Continuation Sheet**

**Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA**

Section number **9** Page **11**

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- "Development of Catholic Cemeteries," pp 33-39. (RFW, Cemetery Architect)
- "Duties of A Sexton," pp 48 & 49. (RFW, Landscape Engineer)
- "Forty Year Development of the Modern Cemetery," A Critical Digest of the First Book on 'Modern Cemeteries,' pp 246-262. (RFW, Landscape Engineer)
- "Remodeling & Redeveloping the Old Cemetery," pp 266-273. (RFW, Landscape Engineer)
- "The Economy of Replatting," pp 276-279. (RFW, Landscape Engineer)
- "Cemetery Entrance Construction," pp 322-330. (RFW, Cemetery Architect)
- "Evergreens in the Cemetery," pp 359-365. (RFW, Landscape Engineer)

Maps & Drawings

Chariton Cemetery maps, courtesy City of Chariton.

Wyrick, Ray F. A series of drawings of individual sections of the cemetery signed and dated between 1952 and 1967.

Interviews

McSparen, Sandy. Superintendent of Chariton Cemetery, by Molly Myers Naumann, June 23, 2009.

Ryun, Jim. Superintendent of Chariton Cemetery from 1972 to 1994, by Molly Myers Naumann, September 8, 2008.

Swanson, Robert. Former Superintendent of Ottumwa Cemetery, by Molly Myers Naumann, June 26, 2009.

Chariton Cemetery Historic District

Name of Property

Lucas County, IA

County and State

10. Geographical Data**Acreage of Property** 45 acres**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 [115] [4713161911] [415319121415]

Zone Easting Northing

3 [115] [4714101817] [415318171915]2 [115] [4714101817] [415319121415]

Zone Easting Northing

4 [115] [4713161911] [415318171915]☐ See continuation sheet**Verbal Boundary Description**

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

Boundary Justification

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

11. Form Prepared Byname/title Molly Myers Naumann, Consultant mollynaumann@pcsia.netorganization _____ date December 2009street & number 167 West Alta Vista telephone 641-682-2743city or town Ottumwa state IA zip code 52501-1437**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the complete 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 City of Charitonstreet & number 115 South Main Street telephone 641-774-5991city or town Chariton State IA zip code 50049**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 Reduction Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA**

Section number **10** Page **12**

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Verbal Boundary Description:

T72 R21W Sec 30 SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, and the S 5 acres NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$

Boundary Justification:

This is the parcel of land which contains the 45 acres of the Chariton Cemetery that was purchased by the City of Chariton from Mrs. John Stanton in 1924.

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National Park Service**

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Continuation Sheet**

**Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA**

Section number **Photos** Page 13

All photographs submitted with this nomination were taken by Molly Myers Naumann in July 2008 except for #0016, which was taken by Shawn Garton in December 2009.

IA_LucasCounty_CharitonCemetery

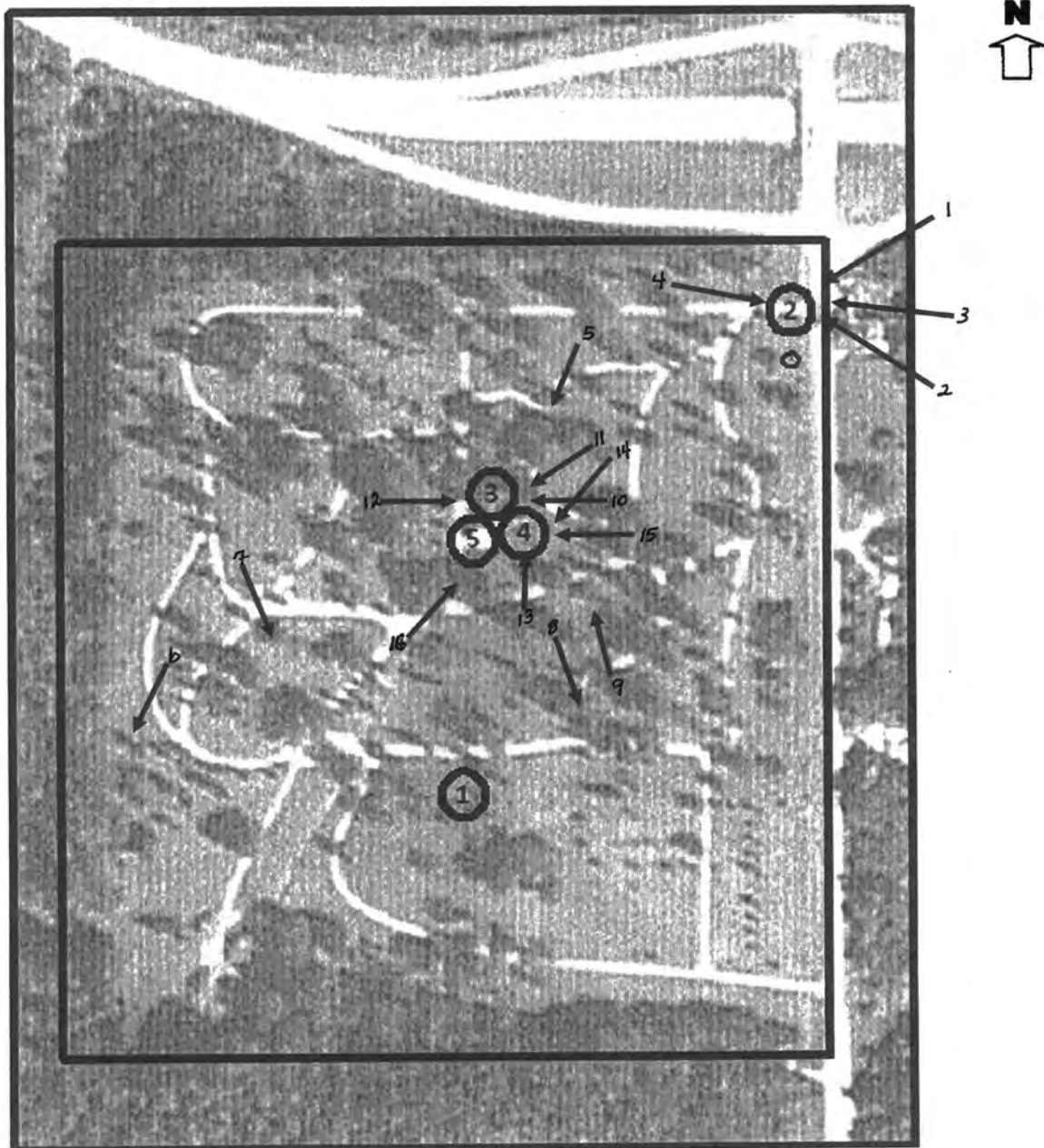
0001	Entrance Gateway looking southwest
0002	North side of entrance gateway and north wall looking northwest
0003	Detail: north pedestrian gate and stone pier
0004	Entrance gate from inside cemetery looking east
0005	Looking southwest from north roadway across Section E toward Sections F & B
0006	Potter's Field looking southwest from roadway
0007	Looking southeast across Section L
0008	Looking south southeast across Section A, Section P in background
0009	Looking north across Section B with English Cottage and Babyland in left center
0010	Cottage/Chapel looking west
0011	Facade of cottage with concrete urns looking southwest
0012	Cottage side elevation with rear addition looking east
0013	Cottage with "Babyland" in foreground looking north
0014	"Babyland" heart design looking southwest
0015	Monument and Angel in center of "Babyland" looking west
0016	Non-contributing metal building looking northeast toward cottage & "Babyland"

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National Park Service

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Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA

Section number Photos Page 14



Map with arrows showing photo angles

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National Park Service

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Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA

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Figure 1
U.S.G.S. Map of Chariton (1982)
Arrow indicates location of Chariton Cemetery

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA

Section number Illustrations Page 16

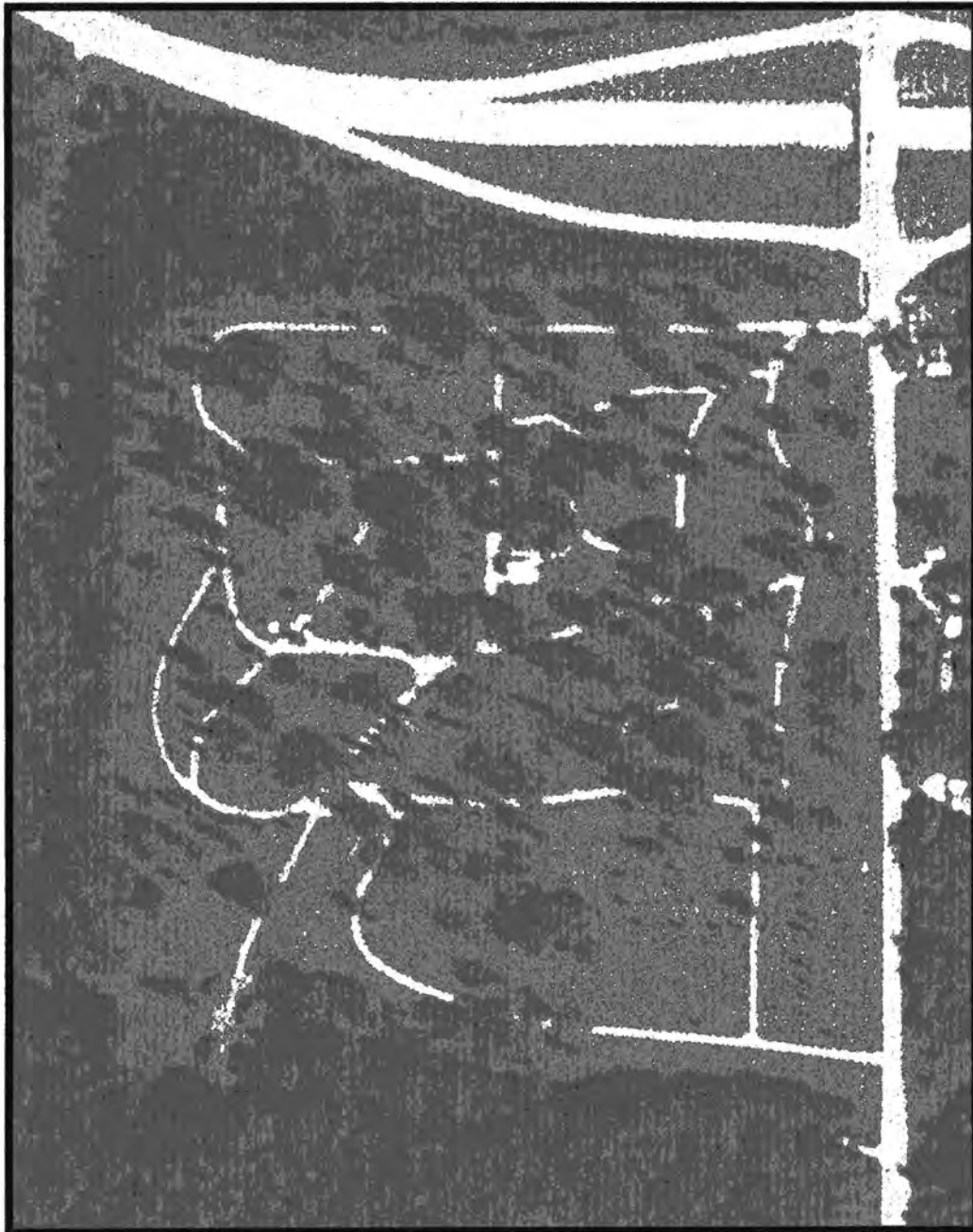


Figure 2
2008 aerial photograph of cemetery
(Iowa Geographic Map Server)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA

Section number Illustrations Page 17

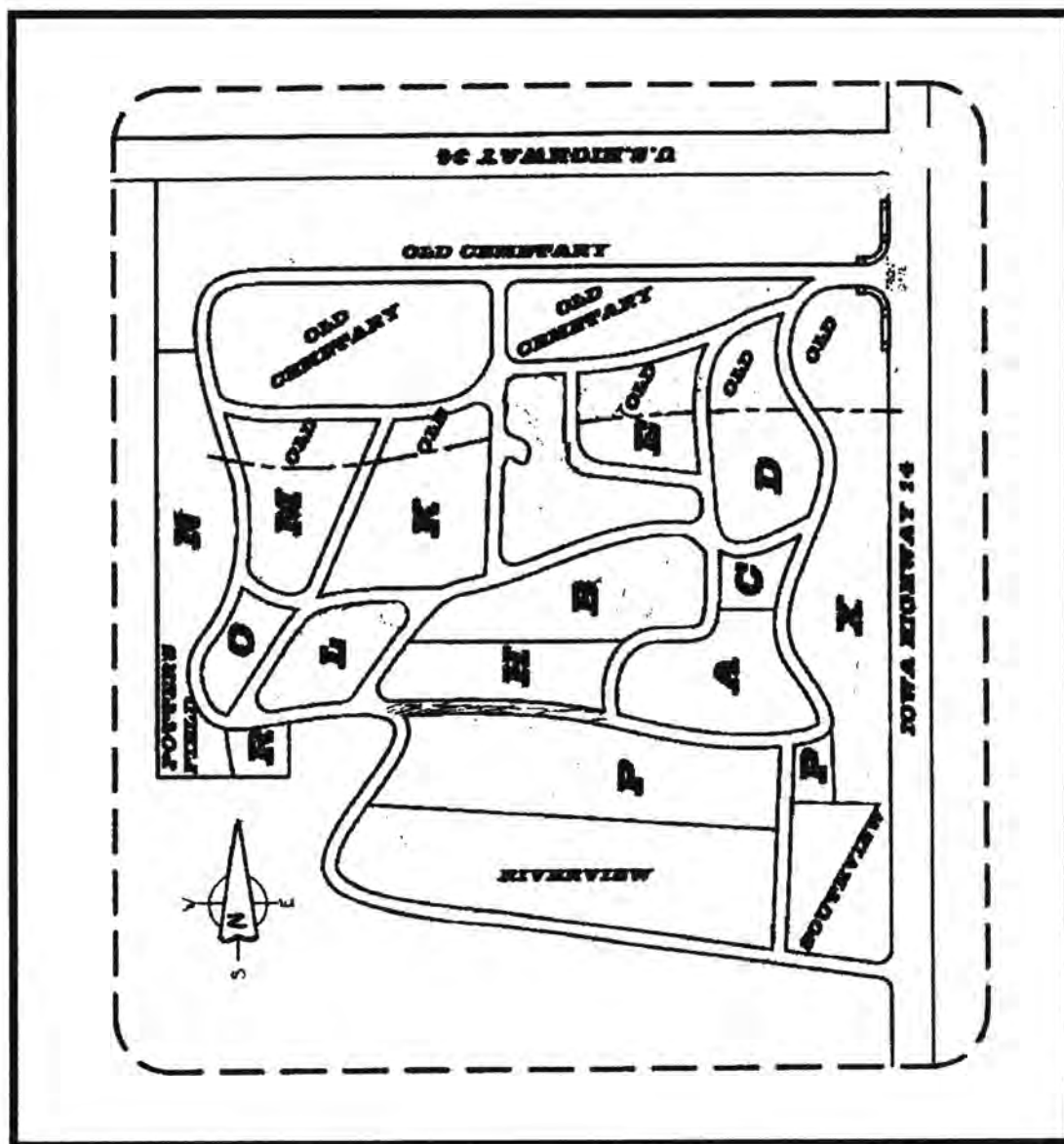


Figure 3
Sketch plan of cemetery
Section F is at the top of the unmarked section between K and E
(Courtesy of City of Chariton)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA

Section number Illustrations Page 18

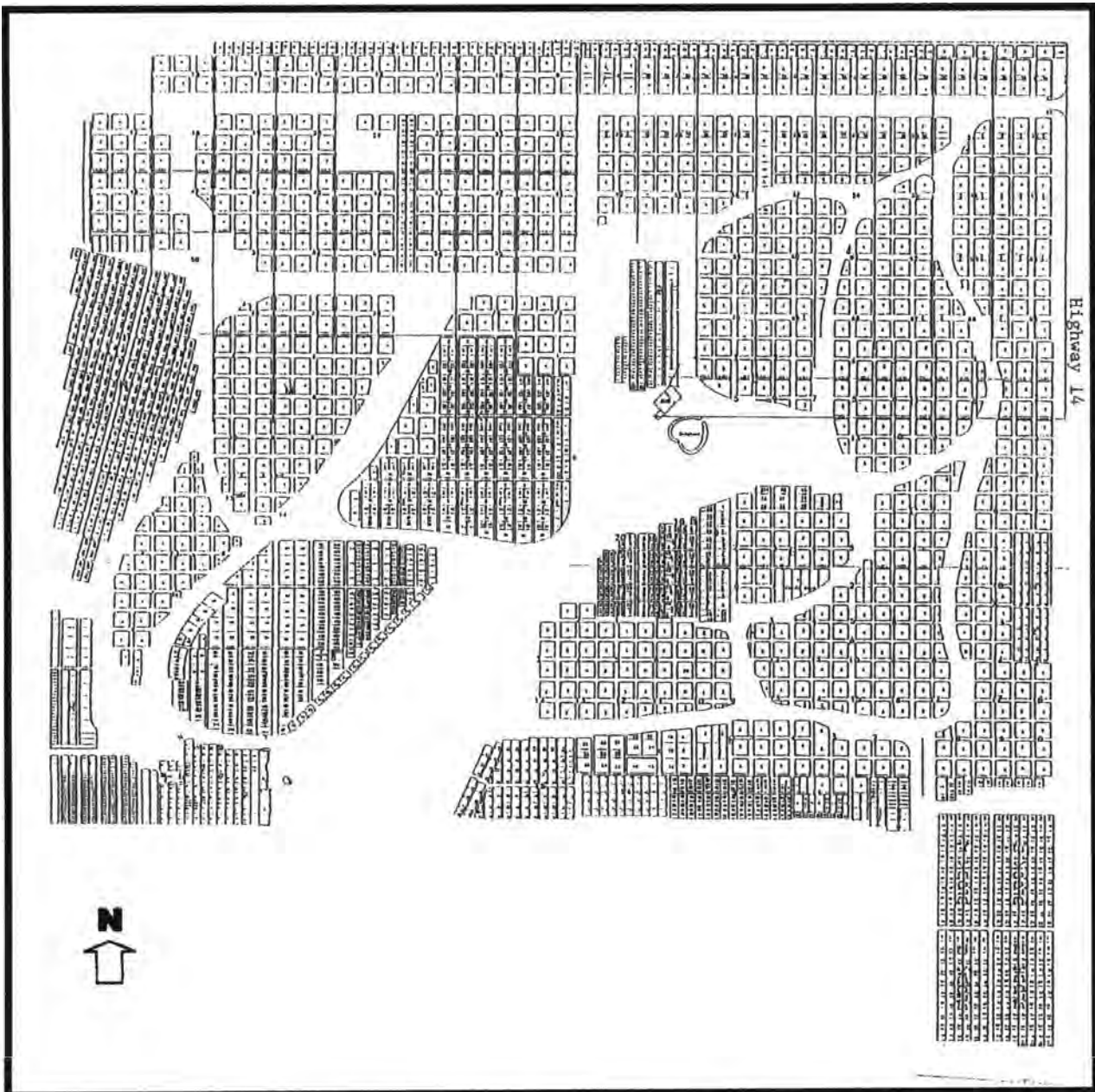


Figure 4
Complete plat of cemetery
(Courtesy of City of Chariton)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA

Section number Illustrations Page 19

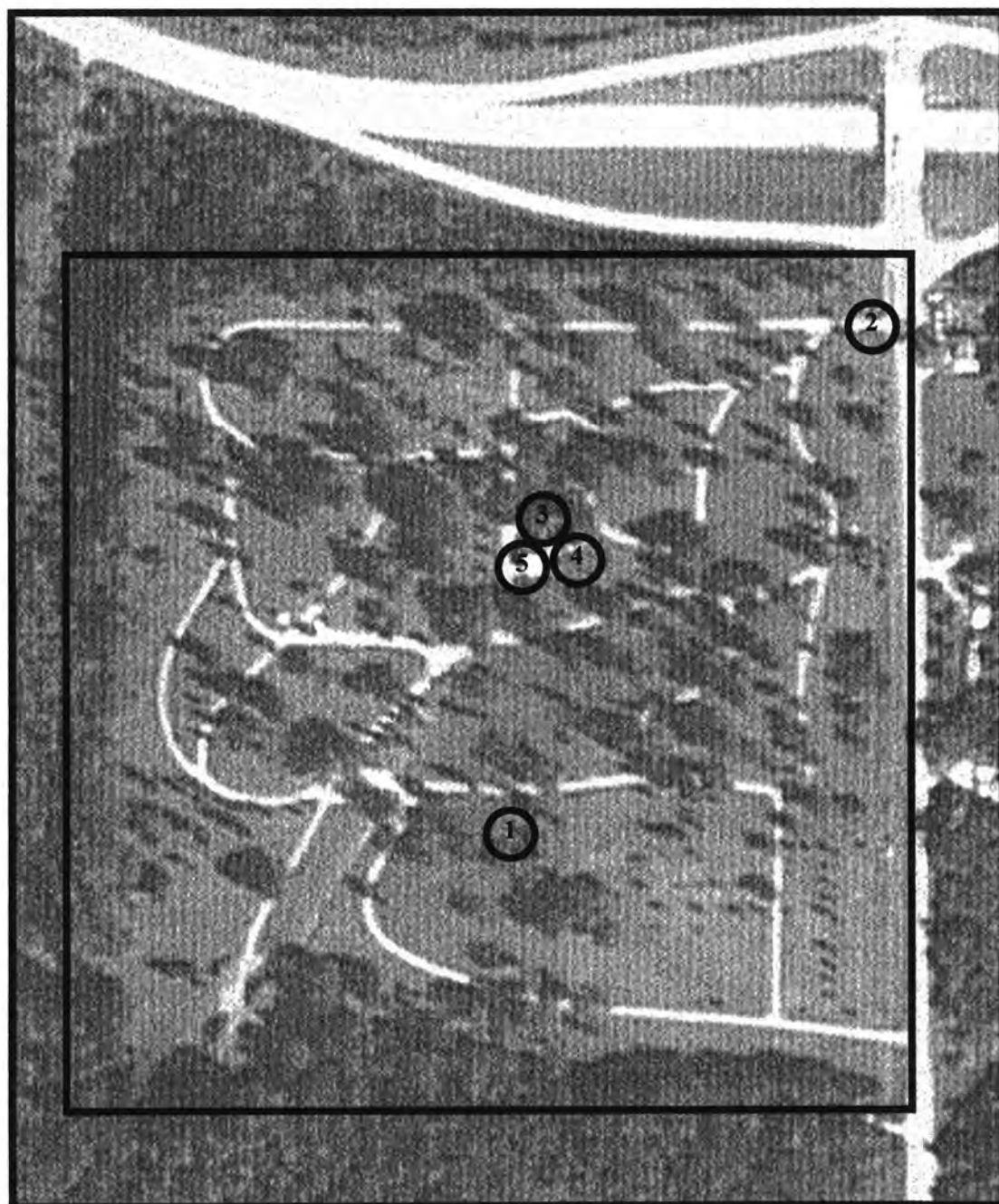


Figure 5
Chariton Cemetery Historic District Boundaries
Contributing and Non-contributing Resources

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA

Section number Illustrations Page 20

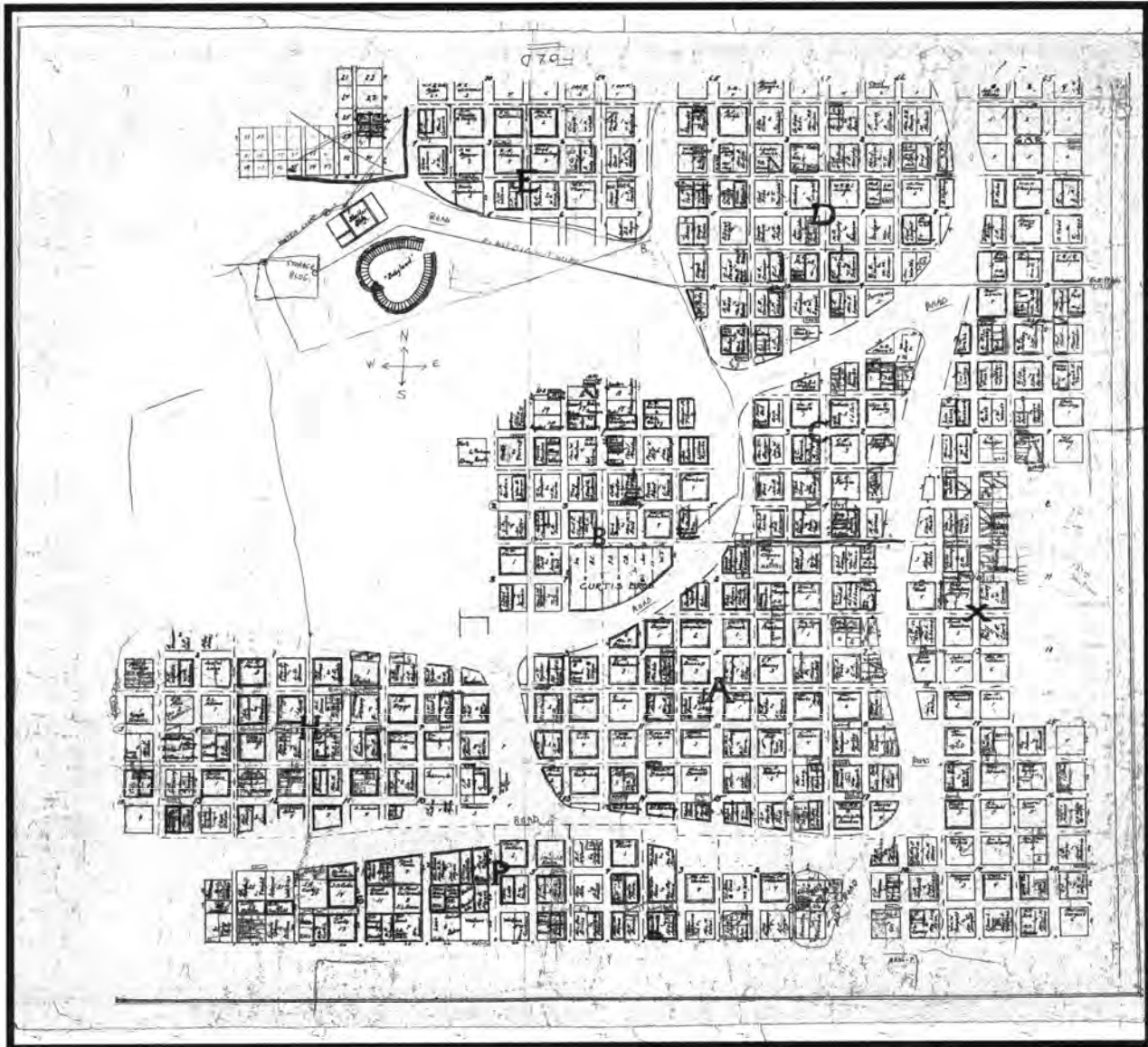


Figure 6
Partial map of east part of cemetery showing location of
Rest house and "Babyland" in northwest quarter.
Unsigned and undated but in the style of Ray F. Wyrick

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA

Section number Illustrations Page 21

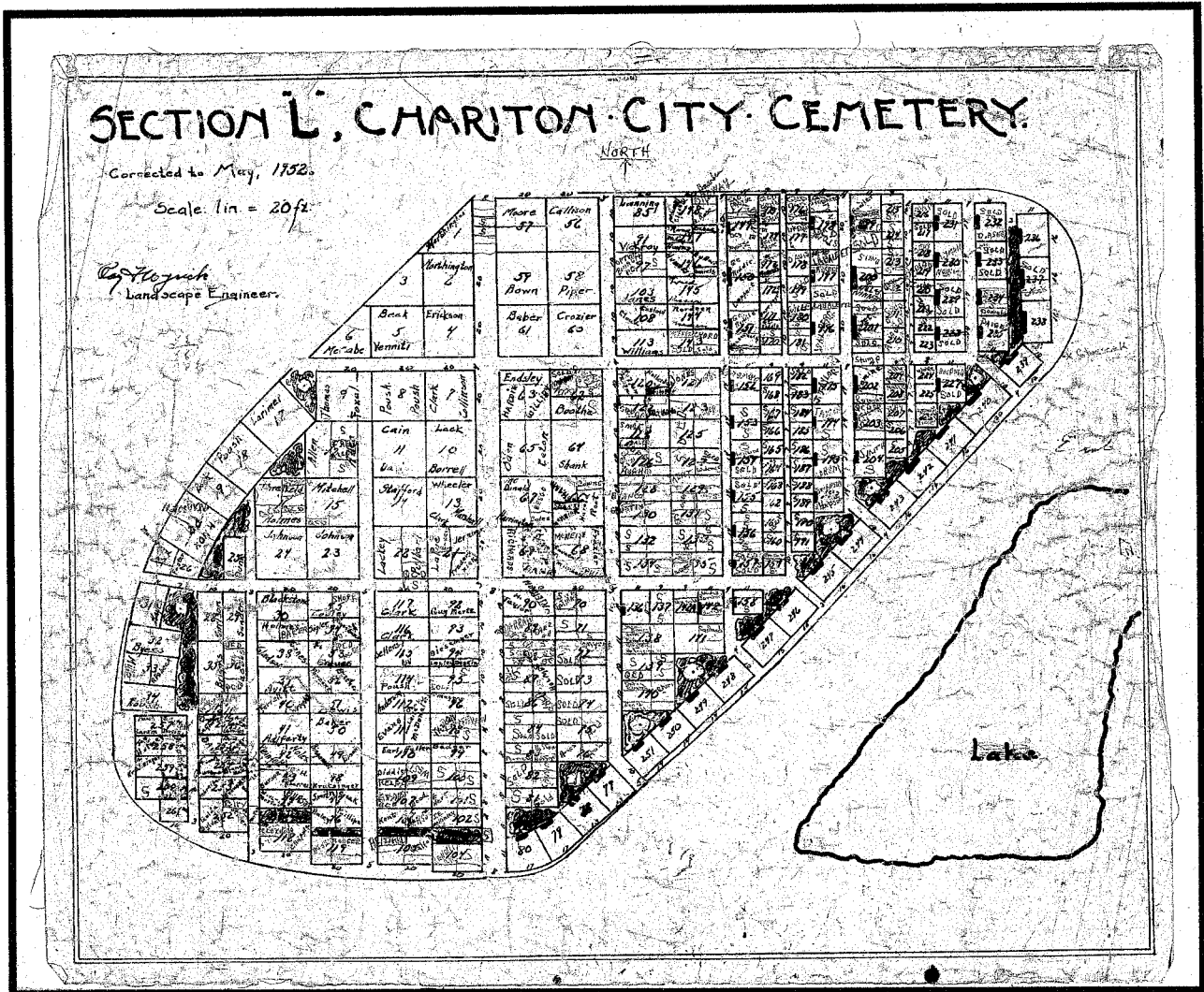


Figure 7
Section L with pond
(Signed and dated Ray F. Wyrick, May 1952)

Figure 8
Redesign of Section F for No Monument Section
(Signed and Dated Ray F. Wyrick, Nov 1953)

Figure 9
Redesign of Section K
(Signed and dated RFW, April 1954)

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Continuation Sheet

Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA

Section number Illustrations Page 24

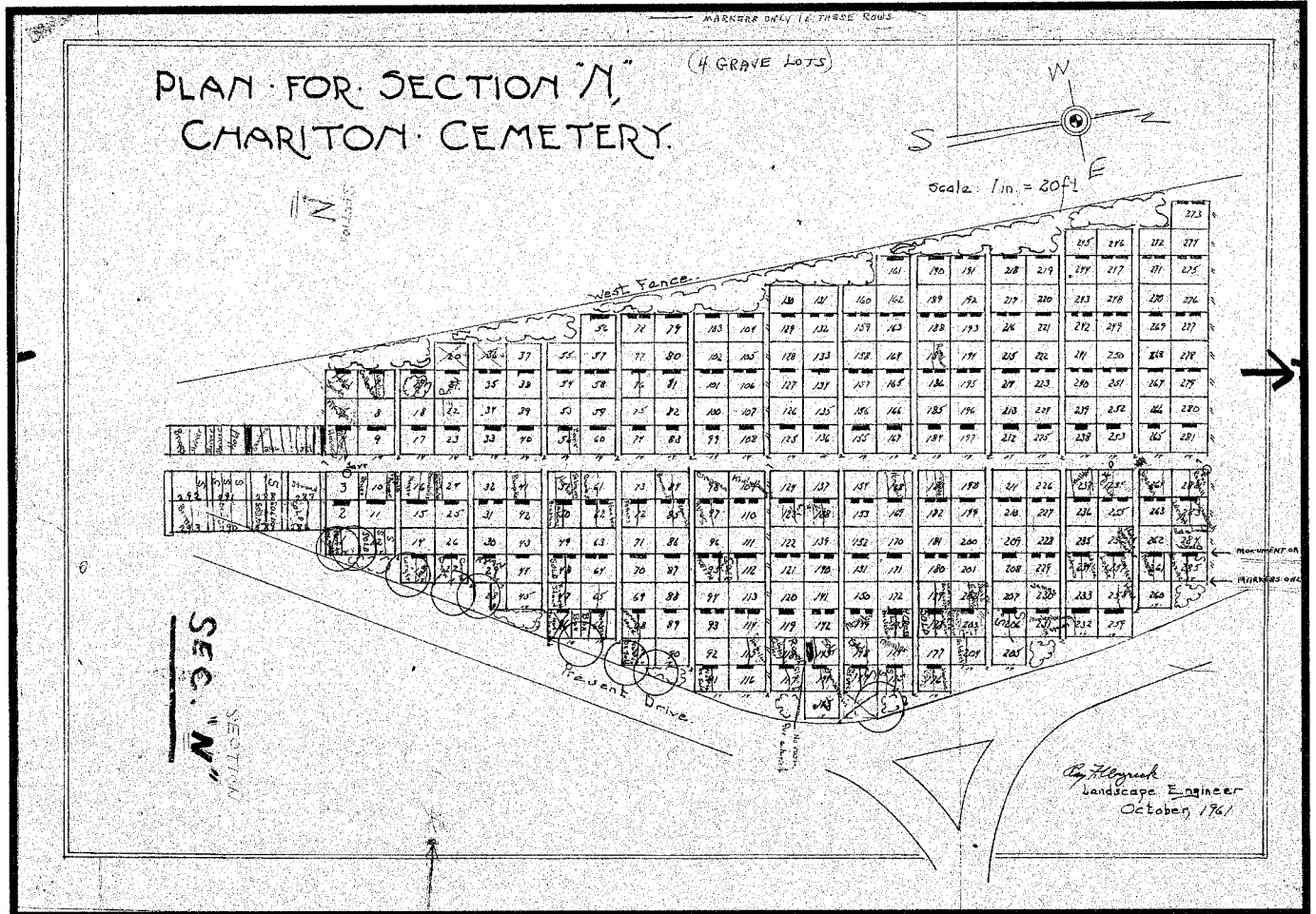


Figure 10
Redesign of Section N
Note monuments located at west end of lots
(Signed and dated Ray F. Wyrick, October 1961)

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National Park Service

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Continuation Sheet

Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA

Section number Illustrations Page 25

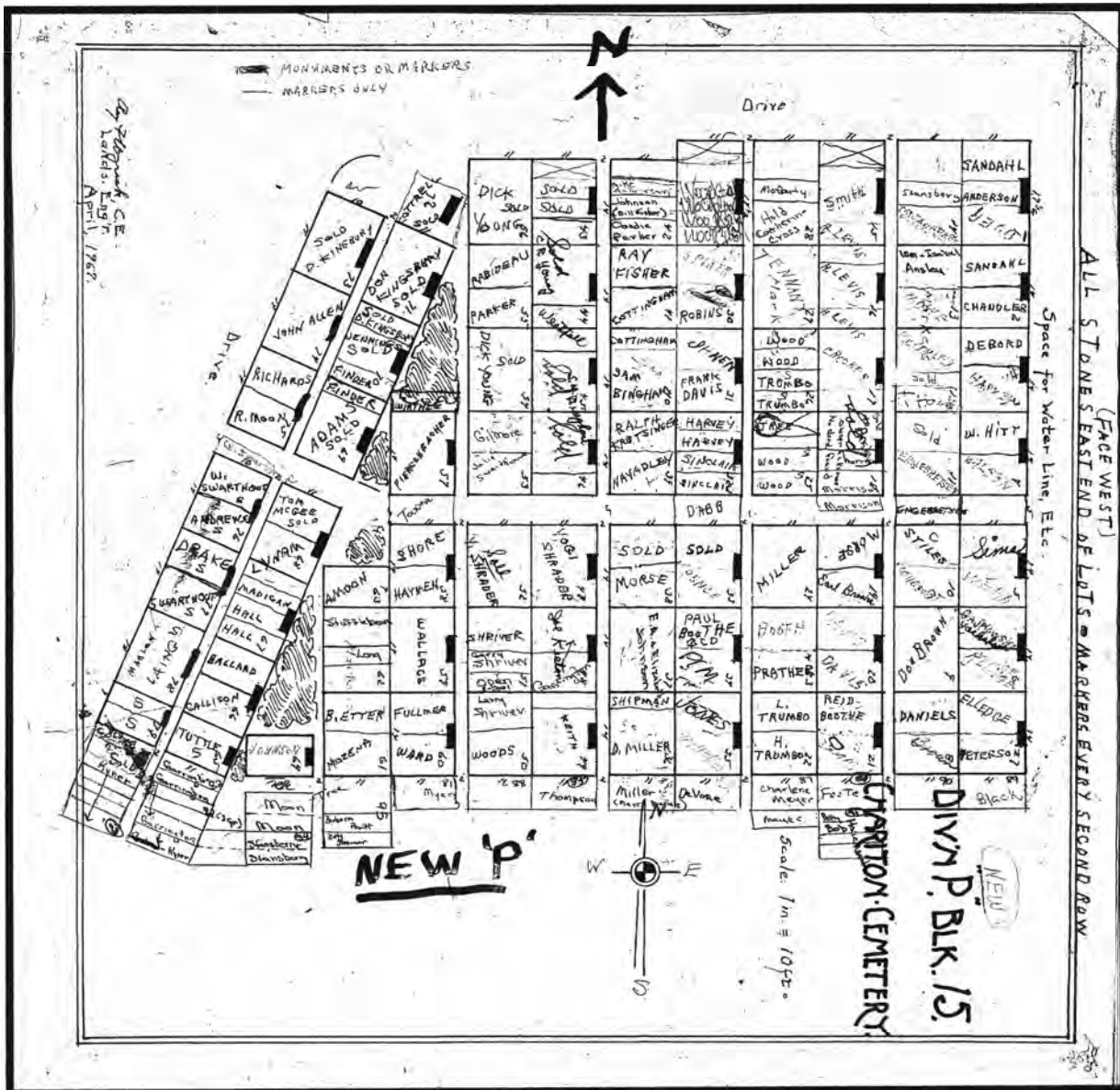


Figure 11
Redesign of "new" part of Section P
Note monuments located at east end of lots
Marker rows in between
(Signed and dated Ray F. Wyrick, April 1967)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Chariton Cemetery Historic District
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: IOWA, Lucas

DATE RECEIVED: 1/22/10 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/09/10
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/24/10 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/08/10
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 10000054

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 3.2.10 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.

SEP 23 2009

CLG NATIONAL REGISTER REVIEW

CLG Name Chariton Date of Public Meeting

Property Name Chariton Cemetery Historic District
929 South Main Street, Chariton, Lucas County

1. For Historic Preservation Commission:

- ☒ Recommendation of National Register eligibility
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Alyse Hunter
Print Name Alyse Hunter
Title Chairman, CHPC

Date 9/22/2009

Public meeting held
9/17/2009 at the
Chariton Cemetery

Reason(s) for recommendation:

The Chariton Cemetery has contributed to and retains the history of the Chariton Community. The influence of our city's founders and generations following is evident throughout the cemetery.

2. For Chief Elected Local Official:

- ☒ Recommendation of National Register eligibility
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature John P. Braida
Print Name John P. Braida
Title Mayor, City of Chariton

Date 9/21/2009

Reason(s) for recommendation:

The Chariton Cemetery is an important part of our city, its past, present and future.

3. Professional Evaluation:

- ☒ Recommendation of National Register eligibility
☐ Recommendation of National Register ineligibility

Signature Ralph J. Christian
Print Name Ralph J. Christian
Title HISTORIAN

Date

9/29/09

Reason(s) for recommendation:



Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA Photo #0001



Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA Photo #0002



Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA Photo #0003



Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA Photo #0004



Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA Photo #0005



Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas county, IA Photo #0006



Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA Photo #7



Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA Photo #0008



Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA Photo #0009



Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA Photo #0010



Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA Photo #0011



Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA Photo #0012



Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA Photo #0013



Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA Photo #0014



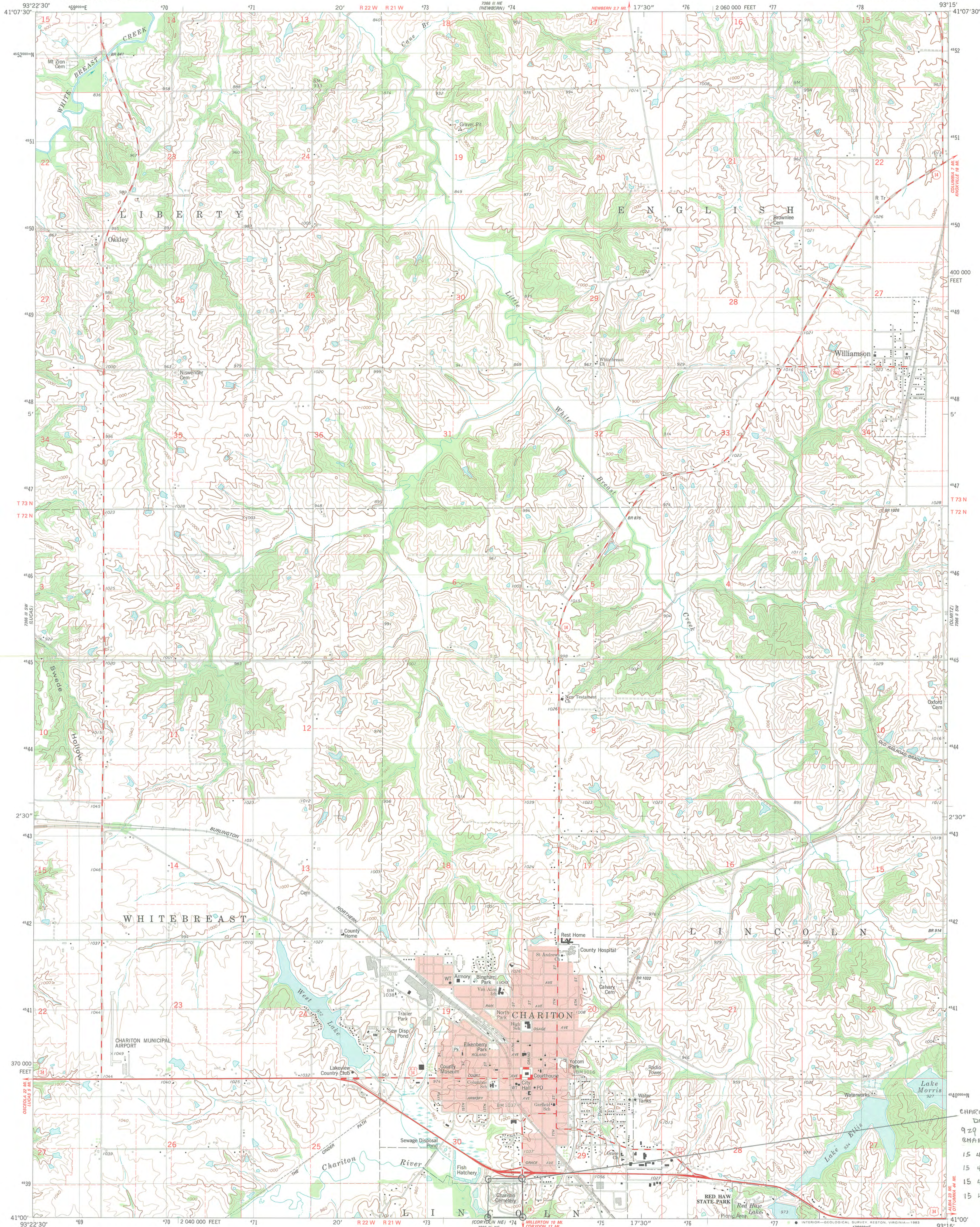
Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA Photo #0015



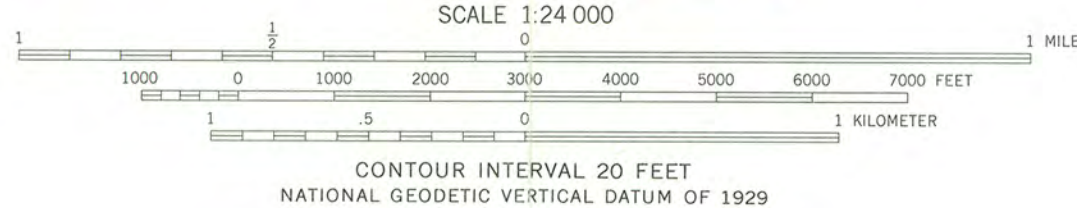
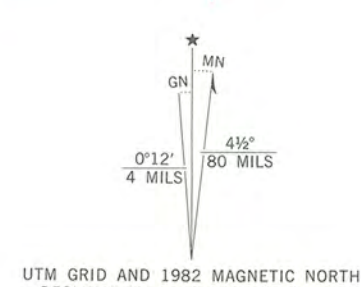
Chariton Cemetery Historic District
Lucas County, IA Photo #0016

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

CHARITON QUADRANGLE
IOWA-LUCAS CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
SE/4 CHARITON 15' QUADRANGLE



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA
Topography by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1975 and 1980. Field checked 1977. Map edited 1982
Projection and 10,000-foot grid ticks: Iowa coordinate
system, south zone (Lambert conformal conic)
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid, zone 15
1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983
move the projection lines 3 meters north and
17 meters east as shown by dashed corner ticks
There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of
the National or State reservations shown on this map
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Unimproved road
Interstate Route
U. S. Route
State Route

CHARITON, IOWA
SE/4 CHARITON 15' QUADRANGLE
N4100-W9315/7.5

1982

DMA 7366 III SE-SERIES V876

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
AND BY THE IOWA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



January 12, 2010

Carol Shull, Chief
National Park Service
National Register of Historic Places
1201 Eye Street, N.W.-- 8th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

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

- Chariton Cemetery Historic District, 929 South Main Street, Chariton, Lucas County, Iowa
- Roosevelt School, 921 9th Street, Ames, Story County, Iowa

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Foster Hill

Elizabeth Foster Hill
Tax Incentive Programs Manager/
National Register Coordinator