NPS Form 10-900 (Oct. 1990)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



1093

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 listed in 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 Riverside Cemetery other names/site number 2. Location not for publication street & number Marshland Rd. X vicinity city or town Apalachin code 107 state New York code NY county Tioga zip code 13732 3. State/Federal Agency Certification x nomination As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I certify that this 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 does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. See continuation sheet for additional comments. Signature of certifying official/Title State or Federal agency and bureau does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet for In my opinion, the property meets additional comments. Signature of certifying official/Title Date State or Federal agency and bureau 4. National Park Service Certification Date of Action I hereby certify that this property is: Signature of the Keepe 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:)

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of

Riverside Cemetery	
Name of Property	

Tioga County, New York County and State

5. Classification				
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)		Number of Resources within Property (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)	
private	building(s)	Contributing Noncontril	buting	
X public-local	X district	01	buildings	
public-State	site	10	sites	
public-Federal	structure	10	structures	
	object	0	objects	
		21	Total	
Name of related multiple property (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a m		Number of contributing res		
N/A		_ 0		
6. Function or Use				
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Functions Enter categories from instructions)		
	·	UNERARY: Cemetery		
	<u> </u>			
7. Description				
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials Enter categories from instructions)		
N/A		oundation <u>N/A</u>		
		valls N/A		
	r	oof N/A		
	C	ther		

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

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Name of Property

Tioga County, New York County and State

8 State	ement of Significance	
Applic (Mark ":	able National Register Criteria x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the y for National Register listing.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
X A	Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	ART EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
В	Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.	
X 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.	Period of Significance 1802-1963
D	Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.	Significant Dates 1802, 1888, 1892, 1939
	a considerations x" in all the boxes that apply.)	Significant Person
Proper	ty is:	(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
A	owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	N/A
B	removed from its original location.	Cultural Affiliation N/A
С	a birthplace or grave.	
X D	a cemetery.	
E	a reconstructed building, object or structure.	Architect/Builder John Brewster (1939 Entrance gates)
F	a commemorative property.	
	less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.	
	ive Statement of Significance n the significance of the property on one or more continuation	n sheets.)
9. Majo	or Bibliographical References	
	graphy books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this for	rm on one or more continuation sheets.)
	us documentation on file (NPS): preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	Primary location of additional data x State Historic Preservation Office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University Other Name of repository:

Riverside Cemetery	<u> </u>	
Name of Property	County and State	
10. Geographical Data		
Acreage of property $\underline{6.09}$		
UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)		
1 18 404099 4659925 Zone Easting Northing 2	3 Zone Easting Northing 4 X See continuation sheet	
Verbal Barradam Bassrintian	A See continuation sheet	
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)		
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)		
11. Form Prepared By		
name/title Travis Bowman, Historic Preservation Program Ana	ılyst	
organization New York State Parks and Recreation and Historic	c Preservation date 3/18/2013	
street & number PO Box 189	telephone <u>518-237-8643 x 3259</u>	
city or town Waterford	state New York zip code 12188	
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 hav	ving large acreage or numerous resources.	
Photographs		
Representative black and white photographs of the	property.	
Additional items	p. 5p. 51.3y.	
(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)		
Property Owner		
(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)		
name Riverside Cemetery Association		
street & number	telephone	
city or town Apalachin	state <u>NY</u> zip code13732	

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 from 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.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET Section number 7 Page 1 Riverside Cemetery Tioga County, New York

Narrative Description:

Riverside Cemetery occupies an irregularly shaped parcel northwest of the community of Apalachin, Town of Owego, Tioga County, NY. Located on a bluff, to the west the cemetery is bordered by Marshland Road and to the east it drops sharply towards the Susquehanna River. Riverside contains approximately 3600 burials (many unmarked), dating from 1802 until the present day. The cemetery developed in three sections, expanding north and northwestward, beginning with the original burying ground (1802), several late nineteenth century additions, and finally the Catlin section (1939), farthest north-northwest. Interments in the earliest section of the cemetery are informally arranged, reflecting the settlement-era development of the cemetery, but those in the later sections are more formally arranged around a plan. Vegetation varies slightly by section as well; the oldest section consists of open lawns, punctuated by large pines and cedars that have been allowed to develop in situ. The middle section is also composed of open lawns, but with more formal arrangements of planted cedar, including a row of cedars marking what was previously the northern border of the cemetery (before the Catlin addition). The northernmost section has no large trees. Except for Marshland road and portions of the river bluff that were damaged in 2011 by tropical storm Lee, the borders of the cemetery on all sides are marked by secondary growth deciduous forest. Each of the sections is separated by gravel, and a path once ran along the rear (east) of the cemetery, but this was also damaged by the 2011 storm. Both interments and paths take advantage of the natural topography. Formal entrance gates, marked by CMU pillars (erected 1939) mark the entries to the cemetery, but the pillars are freestanding, not part of a fence or wall.

As noted, there are approximately 3600 burials in the cemetery and it is still actively used for burials. The individual plots exhibit a great deal of variety in terms of grave placement, headstone style, age, and funerary art, and a large range of styles, from the early national period onward, are represented. Most of the graves are organized by family groupings rather than by distinct phases of development or time period, so there are often great variations in period and design of the tombstones in adjacent burials; it is not unusual to find three or more generations, with interment dates separated by almost a century. Only the northernmost section of the cemetery is limited temporally; this section contains only twentieth century burials, though many date to the early decades of the century and there are several World War I and World War II veterans interred in the section.

Maintenance Shed (early 20th century, non-contributing).

A maintenance shed is located on the northern border of the property. The building is concrete block construction with a gable roof and large overhead door.

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Statement of Significance:

Riverside Cemetery is historically significant for its association with the history and development of the satellite communities that make up the present area of the town of Owego, specifically Apalachin, but also Campville, Flemingville, Gaskill's Corners, South Owego, Gibson Corners, and Waits. Apalachin, located on the south bank of the Susquehanna River, was early farming and milling community settled by immigrants from New England and eastern New York during the decades immediately following the Revolution. The area was uninhabited by a permanent civilian population of Europeans prior to the American Revolution, but after the war, land sales and bounties to war veterans attracted homesteaders. Riverside Cemetery records the lives of the immigrant families who settled the region and who were prominent in its early history. These settlers brought their ideals towards death and cemeteries with them and the earliest burials in the cemetery clearly reflect this New England influence. The area's fertile fields and growing industry continued to attract immigrants during the nineteenth century and the nominated cemetery catalogs the collective social, religious and ethnic identity of Apalachin and its development as a community. Not only is the cemetery an expression of the inhabitants collective community identity, it provides a primary source of genealogical and biographical data that is not available in other sources; information about their origins, intermarriages, ethnicity and religious affiliations are all preserved in the epitaphs of the tombstones. Riverside Cemetery is an extant physical resource, with known integrity to the historic period, which can relay information about the settlement and development of the community.

As an active cemetery from 1802 until the present day, Riverside Cemetery presents an opportunity to study changing styles of tombstone design and funeral art over more than two centuries of continuous use. From simple, New England-inspired rectangular stones to elaborate obelisks to twentieth century machine-cut granite stones, the cemetery records changing tastes and practices through time. The fine collection of grave markers includes several prominent examples of nineteenth and twentieth century markers.

The management of Riverside Cemetery was increasingly professionalized throughout its history. Initially the cemetery was supervised only by individual lot owners, and burials were subject only to individual tastes. After an expansion in the late nineteenth century, a cemetery association, with a board of trustees was incorporated, a formal plan for burials was established, and bylaws strictly governed what could and could not be done at Riverside. In this way, Riverside represents a transition from a settlement era burying ground, to an organized nineteenth century cemetery to a twentieth century "lawn park" ideal—low, uniform markers arranged in easy to mow and maintain rows.

The period of significance, 1806-1963, has been framed to include the earliest recorded interment to a fifty year cutoff to reflect the longest period of active use of the cemetery.

Colonial and Revolutionary History of Owego

The history of European settlement in region that became the town of Owego is intricately connected to the American Revolution, as it was not legally accessible for European settlement prior to the conflict. Although parts of the upper Susquehanna River Valley in Pennsylvania were being occupied by Colonial British subjects, the area on the New York side of the border was situated west of both the Royal Proclamation line and the subsequent boundary line established by the 1768 Ft. Stanwix Treaty. The area was home to a series of Native villages and settlements, occupied by varying groupings of Six Nations/League Haudenosaunee (Iroquois), and confederated Peoples and refugees, all under the umbrella of the Six Nations covenant chain. Owego (with a multitude of spellings) was itself the name of a nearby village, noted in the historic period as being occupied by the Delawares, Mahicans, Nanticokes and Wappingers, among others.

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The American Revolution, however, split the loyalties of Native Peoples in the Northeast, including the previously impregnable alliance of the League Iroquois. Neither the Six Nations, nor other confederated Peoples in the region, were full nation states in the European understanding of the term—individual warriors, headmen, and villages had a tremendous amount of autonomy and they could fight, or not fight, as they saw fit. Many Oneida and Tuscarora sided with the Patriots, many Seneca and Mohawk warriors fought with the Tories, and many warriors chose to remain neutral. At the Battle of Oriskany, in August of 1777, the Great Peace of the Six Nations was shattered when League Iroquois fought League Iroquois for the first time since its formation. In February of 1778, the British government learned of the American-French alliance, and concerns for a worldwide conflict where the rest of the empire was at risk from French attacks helped lead to change in British policy in North America. Despite vocal opposition from prominent members of Parliament like William Pitt, the British government decided to officially encourage and support Tory colonists and Native American allies to attack frontier settlements. The attacks began that campaigning season and the upper Susquehanna region quickly became a warzone.

In July, Major John Butler and the Seneca headmen Sayenqueraghta (old Smoke) and Cornplanter led a force of Tory rangers and allied Natives from Tioga and attacked the Susquehanna settlements in the Wyoming Valley, on the Pennsylvania side of the border; the raid left more than 300 patriot soldiers dead, and by Butler's estimate, 1,000 homes destroyed. That same month, Mohawk headman Joseph Brant assembled warriors and rangers at Oquaga and attacked and burned Springfield (at the north end of Otsego Lake in modern day Otsego County), Andrustown (modern day Herkimer County) and some outlying farmsteads at German Flatts (modern day Herkimer County); in September, Brant and 300 loyalists under Capt. William Caldwell returned to effect a more complete destruction at German Flatts. Raids provoked counter-raids and reprisal killings—the violence escalated and became more personal as the region erupted into a civil war. While Brant was burning German Flatts, a fast-moving party of Oneida and Tuscarora warriors attacked and burned swaths of Unadilla and Butternuts in Brandt's rear. In October, while Brant was raiding in the lower Hudson Valley, Col. William Butler of the 4th Pennsylvania completed the destruction of Unadilla and burned Oquaga to deny Brandt his base of operations. The next month, the Tory Walter Butler joined his 150 rangers, 50 troops of the 8th Regiment of Foot to over 300 warriors under Brandt and the Seneca headman Cornplanter and attacked Cherry Valley (modern-day Otsego County); although Butler and Brandt claimed they attempted to restrain their men, twenty-six soldiers and thirty-two non-combatants were killed in the ensuing violence. Both sides contended the other committed atrocities during the 1778 raids and sensational reports of the violence committed spread quickly.²

For centuries, the specter of Indian raids on the frontier had left a deep and enduring impression in the minds of the public, and the 1778 raids caused many New York communities to panic. George Washington and the Continental Congress had resolved to destroy the League Iroquois' ability to wage war, and the attacks on Wyoming and Cherry Valley only intensified the pressure to invade Iroquoia with a major offensive expedition. The main target of such an attack would be the settlements of the Senecas and Cayugas, along with refugee Loyalists who had fled to the region; the Onondagas (the majority of who had remained effectively neutral in the conflict) and the Alleghany Seneca were also to be attacked in parallel campaigns. The purpose of the expeditions was clear. Washington's orders to Major General John Sullivan specifically called for a campaign against the "hostile tribes of the Six Nations" to produce "total destruction and devastation of their settlements." Washington added that to carry out the mission successfully, "the country may not be merely overrun, but destroyed."

¹ Joseph Glatthaar and James Kirby Martin, Forgotten Allies: The Oneida Indians and the American Revolution. (Hill and Wang: New York, 2006), 224-5.

² Author A.J. Berry has noted in *A Time of Terror* (2005 Trafford Publishing) the high percentage of the Revolutionary War fought in New York. Of the 302 documented battles of the Revolution, 92 were fought in New York, and a majority of those in Tyron County.

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The resulting Clinton-Sullivan Campaign, executed from July 31 to October 15, 1779, was one of the largest of the entire Revolutionary War, with forces totaling approximately 5,000 Continental soldiers. MG Sullivan led his force up the Susquehanna River from Pennsylvania, while Brigadier General James Clinton simultaneously led a smaller force down the Susquehanna from its source at Lake Otsego (in modern-day Otsego County). Sullivan's force reached the rendezvous point at Tioga (modern-day Athens, PA) before Clinton so on August 16th a detachment of Sullivan's army under Brigadier General Enoch Poor moved east along the Susquehanna to find Clinton. Poor's detachment burned settlements as they progressed, as witnessed and recorded in the journals and diaries of several men on the campaign. At the time of the campaign, the Iroquois settlement of Owego was located at the junction of the Owego Creek and the Susquehanna River; this village was among the several burned by Poor. Several diarists commented on the quality of the land. Major Jeremiah Fogg of the 2nd New Hampshire the area around Owego was "exceedingly good land," and Dr. Jabez Campfield of the 5th New Jersey described it as being situated on "a beautiful plain covered with grass." Major James Norris of the 3rd NH noted the "many fruit trees" near the village, which was situated on a large "body of clear intervale [sic] covered with grass." Capt. Daniel Livermore of the 3rd New Hampshire called Owego a "considerable Indian town" with a "very good tract of land on both sides of the river;" the town was abandoned so its "twenty houses...along with considerable Indian corn" were destroyed on August 17th. In addition to Owego, Poor's men burned the settlements at Mauckatawangum (variously referred to as Red Bank or Fitzgerald's Farm) and Chugnutt (variously Choconut, Tschochnot, Chugnut) ~12 miles west and ~14 miles east of Owego, respectively. Clinton's forces had also burned settlements as it moved south and west. Albout, a Tory settlement above Unadilla, was burned along with Native villages at Swahiangto, Chenango, and Inagaren; Clinton sent a detachment to burn Otsiningo, but according to Lt. Erkuries Beatty, of the 4th Pennsylvania, the settlement had already been burned by its former inhabitants when they abandoned it earlier in the year. Poor and Clinton effected a linkage on August 19th at the future site of Union, NY (Broome County) and marched back to Owego where they held a celebration. Multiple diarists mention that the remnants of Owego were used for a "bonfire," which including dancing and many congratulations among the two forces. 6th Massachusetts Lt. William McKendry, who accompanied Clinton's army, noted the lands of the region were a "fine large Flatt [sic]" and that Owego specifically was "fine land." McKendry, who had been stationed at Cherry Valley during the previous' years attack there, also noted in his journal that Owego was the village where Sgt. Adam Hunter and his scouting party had been carried to after being captured the morning of the raid.

The only major battle of the campaign occurred on August 29, 1779, when Sullivan's army defeated about 600 Native American warriors, 200 loyalists, and a handful of British soldiers from the 8th Regiment of Foot who had made a stand on mountain near the village of Newtown. When Washington received Sullivan's August 30th report on the Battle of Newtown and the progress the expedition had made, he responded by reemphasizing the need for a total war against Iroquoia:

The advantages we have already gained over the Indians, in the destruction of so many of their settlements, is very flattering to the expedition. But to make it as conclusive as the state of your provisions and the safety of your army will countenance, I would mention two points which I may not have sufficiently expressed in my general instructions, or if I have, which I wish to repeat. The one is the necessity of pushing the Indians to the greatest practicable distance from their own settlements and our frontiers; to the throwing them wholly on the British enemy. The other is the making the destruction of their settlements so final and

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complete as to put it out of their power to derive the smallest succor from them in case they should attempt to return this season.³

With the collapse of organized resistance after Newtown, Sullivan's army proceeded through Iroquoia, destroying villages and burning vast quantities of crops. All told, over forty villages were destroyed by the expedition, and as envisaged, thousands of refugees from the destroyed settlements sought relief at British held Fort Niagara, and that winter many died of starvation and exposure. The huge cost of caring for so many displaced Native Americans increased the war's growing unpopularity in Great Britain.

One of the lasting effects of the Sullivan-Clinton campaign was the demystification of Iroquoia and (from the standpoint of many Europeans) the former frontier. As noted, diarists described the fertile land in great detail, as did the countless numbers of word-of-mouth descriptions that came home with the thousands of New Yorkers and New Englanders who participated in the campaign. Surveyors and mapmakers marked the terrain and important locations, priming the land for American settlement after the war. Amos Draper, a trapper, is noted in some histories as arriving in the former village of Chugnutt in 1782, only three years after the Sullivan campaign. ⁴ Draper was joined two years later by James McMaster, a soldier with Clinton's expedition; McMaster used Draper's connections with the remaining Six Nations inhabitants to secure a tract of land at present-day Owego. The cases of Draper and McMaster, however, were isolated instances in a larger trend. Rather than individual homesteading occurring gradually in small numbers, the entire upper Susquehanna region would be quickly re-populated by Euro-Americans before the turn of the nineteenth century.

Early settlement of Owego

As evidenced by the Stanwix treaty line, the Six Nations had been too important to the political, military and economic affairs of the British crown to allow homesteading in the region around Apalachin, but the war and (more importantly) the Sullivan-Clinton campaign shattered that ideal. Although the war heavily depopulated the Native inhabitants, the legal status of the land was incredibly murky. Under the British imperial system, the Six Nations controlled title, but in practical terms securing Indian title required negotiations with multiple headmen and representatives. Immediately after the war, however, the victorious America was in a position to force hegemonic land concessions on the Six Nations via peace negotiations. Adding to the confusion was the fact that both New York State and the Continental Congress felt such negotiations were in under their respective purviews and the two political entities sent separate negotiators to the Six Nations to deal with land issues. The pre-war and post-war political structure of the Iroquois League added to the murkiness—the Oneida and Tuscarora felt no need to send representatives to peace negotiations with the state or federal governments, because they had not been at war with the Americans. Finally, the Susquehanna region had yet another stumbling block to homesteading because ambiguous boundaries in colonial charters and a lack of intensive surveying led to competing land claims between New York, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts. The massive potential revenue for cash-strapped and debt-heavy governments, however, trumped all the legal logiams and post-war western migration to former Indian homelands happened rapidly.

New York State negotiated the purchase of 300,000 acres from the American-allied Oneidas and Tuscaroras at the 1785 Fort Herkimer Treaty; for the sum of \$11,000, the Nations sold the lands between the Unadilla and Chenango

³ As quoted in Frederick Cook, Journals of the Military Expedition of Major General John Sullivan Against the Six Nations of Indians in 1779: With Records of Centennial Celebrations; Prepared Pursuant to Chapter 361, Laws of the State of New York, of 1885 (Knapp, Peck & Thompson Printers: Auburn, NY, 1887) facsimile reprint Heritage Books, 2004, 382.

⁴ William Foote ed., Binghamton and Broome County, NY, A History. Lewis Publishing Co.: New York, 1924). http://history.rays-place.com/ny/union-ny.htm.

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Rivers from their sources to where they empty into the Susquehanna River.⁵ By the late 1790s, the Six Nations had been divested of all of their lands in New York State, excepting reservations. Lands in the area around Owego were dealt with in 1786 at the Hartford treaty, which settled the boundary dispute between New York and Massachusetts; profits from the sale of 230,400 acres, north of the Susquehanna, between the Chenango River and the Owego Creek (west of the Fort Herkimer Treaty lands) were ceded to Massachusetts, but became part of New York State. The townships north of the river became known as the "Boston ten townships" and they were sold to speculators as soon as Massachusetts extinguished the Indian title the following year. When Massachusetts sold the Boston Ten Townships, James McMaster was granted a half-township (three miles by six miles) because his Indian title predated the Hartford treaty. Apalachin and the region south of the Susquehanna also went to New York, which sold the land to investors or parceled out military land warrants. In June of 1786 New York State granted Robert Lettis Hooper, James Wilson and William Bingham a 30,630 acre tract on both sides of the Susquehanna; this patent included parts at least of the present towns of Union, Vestal, Binghamton, Conklin and Kirkwood.

West of the Hopper, Wilson & Bingham patent was the land that would become the nominated cemetery; Simeon Dewitt's 1790 map of New York State showed most of present-day Apalachin in Township No. 7, "Hambden" (see continuation sheet), except for a small portion reserved under "D Coxe." The nominated cemetery is located in Lot No. 78 of Coxe's Patent. The British crown awarded Col. Daniel Coxe 100,000 acres of non-contiguous tracts in New York in consideration for his relinquishing of claims in the province of Carolana-Florida, and these lands passed to his descendants upon his death in 1739. Although Coxe's Patent (also known as Coxe's Manor) was a royal grant, its title was reaffirmed after the war by New York and Pennsylvania; Daniel's grandson, Tench Coxe (1755-1824), was initially attained for high treason by Pennsylvania, but nothing came of the allegations of toryism—in fact Coxe seems to have survived the war with an intact reputation and was even elected to the Continental Congress in 1788; later Coxe served in Hamilton's Treasury Department in the first Washington administration. Lands in the township of Hambden and Coxe's Patent (including the nominated cemetery) were sold to speculators, including Robert Morris, Alexander Macomb, Nicholas Fish, William Butler, John Reid and Richard Crowe. Although these speculators often resold the land as soon as possible to other speculators or to individual homesteaders at a profit, the land was still relatively inexpensive. The lure of cheap and available land in New York was the perfect outlet for New Englanders who had been running low on land for generations. It was this combination of circumstances that led to the largest migration of people in US history to that point. The possibility of homesteading in upstate and western New York turned out to be particularly appealing to Revolutionary War veterans who had been rewarded with bounties or service payments at the exact right moment to take advantage of obtainable lands. As noted, descriptions of the fertility of the region made their way east with veterans of the Sullivan-Clinton campaign, attracting settlers from all over New England and New York. Many of the early settlers of the Apalachin region were veterans, and many of them were buried in the nominated cemetery.

The county of Tioga was set off from Montgomery County in 1791, and the massive township of Union was formed that same year. Union's boundaries in 1791 ran west from the Chenango River to the Owego Creek and south from the Military Tract boundary to the Pennsylvania state line and included all of the present day town of Owego. Later, the towns of Owego and Tioga were taken off from Union, but the process created much confusion because the settlement at the Indian village of Owego was put in the town of Tioga, rather than its own namesake. In 1813 the Legislature ended the confusion by statute when it officially switched the names. When the switch occurred, the nominated property, formerly in the town of Tioga, became permanently part of the town of Owego.

⁵ Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, "Complete Time Line of Oneida History." <u>http://www.oneidanation.org</u>.

⁶ History of Tioga, Chemung, Tompkins, and Schuyler Counties, New York: With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers. (Everts & Ensign/J. B. Lippincott: Philadelphia, 1879), 23-25.

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63 settlers were listed as available to work on roads in the town of Union in 1791, including some on or near the "Big Island" (present day Hiawatha Island) near Apalachin, although authors of the histories admit that some of these may have been squatters without title. By the time of the federal census in 1800, there was more than double that number—just in the town of Tioga; more than 1200 persons were enumerated in the entire county. Satellite communities like Apalachin, Campville, Flemingville, Gaskill's Corners and Wait grew along the river at various points, mostly related to the locations of early settlers.

Early Settlers interred in Riverside Cemetery

Riverside contains the graves of individuals who were significant in determining the course of the community's political and economic history and who had outstanding impacts on the nature and direction of the development of Apalachin and other surrounding communities. The earliest interments date to the first decade of the nineteenth century and document the lives of the earliest settlers and founders of the town. According to cemetery records, the earliest interment was likely Oliver Camp, age twenty-one, who was buried in 1802. Oliver was the son of Revolutionary War veteran Colonel Asa Camp; buried at Riverside Cemetery near his son, Col. Asa Camp (1759-1848) was born in Massachusetts and enlisted as a private in Colonel Daniel Brewer's Regiment of Massachusetts Troops in 1775. His was service for Massachusetts included the battles of Bunker Hill and White Plains, NY; upon his discharge, Camp moved to New Concord, NY (modern day Columbia County) and spent the rest of his war service with New York regiments. Camp wintered with the American army at Valley Forge, served garrison duty at the frontier post Fort New Petersburg (modern-day Herkimer County), and was part of the burial detail for Major John André after the latter's execution. While Camp does not appear to have participated in the Sullivan-Clinton campaign, he did serve for years under Colonel Marinus Willett, who commanded all NY troops on the western frontier, and he undoubtedly would have spent a considerable amount of time interacting with veterans of that campaign and residents who knew the upper Susquehanna region well. Camp moved his family to the region in 1789 and to Apalachin in 1792; in 1800 he moved to the north bank of the Susquehanna, where he operated a tavern and his homestead became the future hamlet of Campville. Camp was not only the founder of Campville, he was an important early settler of the town of Owego—between his 1792 immigration and his death in 1848, Camp was involved in several important events in the formation, development and history of the town of Owego and its hamlets; he held the offices of poundmaster, assessor, commissioner of highways, and overseer of the poor, and was supervisor of the town of Owego, in 1817 and 1818.8

Another early settler of Apalachin was Amariah Yates, who built one of the earliest permanent structures in the region, and helped build one of the earliest roads in the county. Like Asa Camp, Yates was a Revolutionary War veteran from New England. His tombstone at Riverside Cemetery reads "R.I. Rangers/Rev. War." Yates (1749-1813) was born in Uxbridge, Mass, moved to Smithfield, RI in 1773 and joined the Smithfield & Cumberland Rangers as a private in May, 1776. Sometime after the war, he moved his family to the Apalachin Creek; he was enumerated on a 1791 list of persons eligible to work on highways in the newly-formed town of Union. In 1799, Yates purchased part of lot 84 in the McMaster Half Township from his Son-in-law, Jehu Barney, for \$500. Amariah's son Alexander (1784-1866) married Asa Camp's daughter Polly (1791-1867) in 1807.

Other early settlers buried in Riverside Cemetery include Caleb Nichols and his son, Simeon Nichols, both revolutionary soldiers, who came from Rhode Island in 1791. Caleb died in 1804, and his son in 1856, aged ninety-three years. A biography of Simeon in Leroy Kingman's Our County and its People: A Memorial History of Tioga County,

⁷ William Burton Gay, ed., Historical gazetteer of Tioga County, New York, 1785-1888. (W.B. Gay & Co.: Syracuse, NY, 1888), 317-400.

⁸ Gay, *Historical gazetteer of Tioga County*; Ken D. Johnson, "Additional Partisans Discovered Since the Bloodied Mohawk was Published." http://www.fort-plank.com/Additional_Partisans_A_G.html; Johnson, *The Bloodied Mohawk The American Revolution in the Words of Fort Plank's Defenders and Other Mohawk Valley Partisans*. (Picton Press: Rockport, ME, 2000).

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NY noted that Simeon was also a veteran of the War of 1812 and that although a squatter, he "became firmly established and was one of the solid men of Owego in later years."9 At age ninety-one, Simeon applied for a land bounty under the bounty-land act of 1855, and he stated on his application that he had not previously received land warrants for his service. John Jewett [Jewitt], a Revolutionary War soldier from Putnam County, NY immigrated to Apalachin in 1817; although he immigrated later than the earliest interments, Riverside Cemetery was often referred to in deeds as the "Old Jewett family burying ground." Jewett's son Asa (1788-1819) married Bathsheba Wooden (1793-1866) and he was buried in Riverside. After his death, his widow Bathsheba married Benjamin Tracy, son of Thomas, an early (1790) settler of the town—Tracy Creek in the town is named for him. Several generations of the Tracy family are buried in Riverside, including Bathsheba and Benjamin; their son, Gen. Benjamin F. Tracy won the Medal of Honor during the Civil War and became a Cabinet Member when President Benjamin Harrison named him Secretary of the Navy. Although born in Apalachin, Gen. Tracy was interred in Greenwood Cemetery in Brooklyn, in recognition of his national service (during his Cabinet tenure, he modernized the Navy and, oversaw the construction of world-class capital ships, making the US a legitimate naval power). Joel Bills immigrated to Apalachin with his father John and his cousin Abel Bills in the early 1790s from New Lebanon, NY (modern-day Columbia County); Joel is buried in Riverside. The Bills are noted as some of the earliest settlers of the Apalachin in many published nineteenth century histories; John, Joel and Abel are all interred at Riverside. Wilder Gaskill (1765-1822) was born in Richmond, Cheshire Co., New Hampshire, and is buried at Riverside. The Gaskills were the founders of Gaskill Corners, another hamlet/center in the Town of Owego. The individuals in these plots are not just the early settlers, but also the founders of the communities, as evident by the large number of geographic locales named after them. Lucy Gaskill (1768-1802) is one of the earliest interments at Riverside Cemetery.

Other interments at Riverside Cemetery

Although settlers arrived in the former Indian lands as early as the 1790s, the village of Apalachin was not founded until more extensive milling and mercantile operations began in the 1830s. Several families associated with the founding of the village of Apalachin are interred at Riverside. William S. Pearsall and Ransom Steele arrived in Apalachin in 1836, and published histories point to his arrival as the founding date of the village. William Pearsall and his three brothers, Thomas, Nathaniel and Gilbert, built saw mills at Apalachin, Hooper's Valley (southwest of Apalachin, near the village of Nichols) and Pea Island (south of Apalachin, 2 miles from the Pennsylvania state line). The Panic of 1837 caused a serious financial loss to the brothers, but William and Gilbert were able to rebuild the business; by 1840, the two Pearsall brothers added grist mills to their operations at Apalachin and Hooper's Valley. There are several Pearsall family members interred at Riverside, including William's son Ransom; Ransom took over the family milling operations at Apalachin and went on to hold several important offices, including postmaster, and justice of the peace. 10 Mercantile operations at Apalachin began in 1836 with the arrival of Ransom Steele. Steele opened and managed a branch store for John Hollenback, the latter of whom operated dry goods stores across the upper Susquehanna region. Steele eventually started his own store and became engaged in the lumbering business with William Pearsall; by the mid nineteenth century, Steele was noted as being one of the two leading businessmen of Apalachin. In 1849, Steele and Pearsall were the major financiers of a \$75,000 bridge across the Susquehanna River at Apalachin. The bridge was part of an agreement with the New York and Erie railroad and to bring a depot to Apalachin, but despite the new bridge, the railroad decided to build a depot at Campville. In 1854 a massive freshet on the Susquehanna carried away the bridge and another bridge would not be built at Apalachin until 2002. Steele and several members of his family are interred at Riverside. Members of both the Steele and Pearsall families were original Trustees on the incorporation papers for Riverside and served later terms on the Board of Trustees as well.

10 Ibid

⁹ Leroy Kingman, Our County and its People: A Memorial History of Tioga County, NY (W.A. Fergusson: Elmira, NY, 1897).

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By the time of the publishing of Hamilton Child's 1872 Gazetteer and Business Directory of Broome and Tioga Counties, NY, thriving mercantile and manufacturing enterprises had developed all over the town of Owego, notably in the village of Owego and in the various smaller population centers like Apalachin and Campville. Apalachin, for example, had "two hotels, four general stores, one drug store, two shoe shops, two grist and saw mills, one rake factory, two wagon shops, two blacksmith shops and three churches"—all with a population of only 300. 11 The core economic activity in the region, however, remained farming. Individual family farms typically pursued a wide variety of strategies, like dairying and fruit growing, and regional markets took advantage of major transportation links in the southern tier. In 1837 the Chenango Canal was built from the Erie Canal at Utica to Binghamton. A 38 mile extension was planned during the 1860s, but rising costs of labor and materials during the war delayed construction and enthusiasm for the project waned. Parts of the extension were built in Apalachin, but the whole project was abandoned in the 1870s; by that time the New York and Erie Railroad (and its subsequent iterations) already had several stops in the town of Owego. The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad built a station in Apalachin in 1882, widening the range of agricultural and mercantile exports and passenger service to the town. For a brief period in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, Owego's Hiawatha Island even became a tourist attraction; in 1874 a steamboat was built to ferry passengers to the island, and the Hiawatha Hotel was built two years later. Economically, the region went through periods of growth and retraction throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, culminating in the 1950s when IBM established a plant at Owego; one of IBM's founding companies, The Computing Tabulating Recording Company, was established in nearby Endicott, Broome County, in 1911 and eventually IBM would employ over 15,000 people across the Southern Tier region of New York. IBM Owego developed the onboard avionics computers for NASA's shuttle missions. IBM's presence at Owego would bring professional, technical and managerial positions and modest wealth to the area.

Several important community leaders are interred at Riverside. Dr. Isaac Lewis was a prominent regional physician, who was born in Owego and returned there to practice medicine in 1852. The Tracy family, already mentioned, owned and operated B.F. Tracy & Sons Marshland Stock farm, which had a national reputation for horse breeding in the nineteenth century. Henry Billings opened a well-known tavern in Apalachin in 1822, and several Billings family members buried at Riverside, including Valeria, who was married to Ransom Pearsall. Others buried in the nominated cemetery represent the earliest town supervisors, assessors, highway commissioners, school founders, and several other town offices. They were the men and women who operated the taverns, shops, mills and the farms that made Owego and its hamlets a community.

Apalachin resident May Louise Davison Rhodes (1871-1957) started a romance with New Mexico author and poet Eugene Manlove Rhodes (1869-1934); eventually Rhodes moved to Apalachin with May, and there he had his greatest period of literary productivity. Rhodes's fiction included a dozen novels, over one hundred short stories and several dozen poems, and chronicled the working, or everyday cowboy, rather than the romanticized and sensationalized version of the west. Rhodes chose to be buried in what is now Rhodes Pass in the San Andres Mountains of Otero County, New Mexico, but his wife (and biographer), children and step children are buried in Riverside. The epitaph of May Louise Davison Rhodes reveals a sense of humor—"May Davison / Wife of / Eugene Manlove Rhodes / 1871 - 1957 / She was wild and sweet and witty / lets not say dull things about her"

Military Burials

Riverside cemetery contains the remains of military personnel who have served the country throughout the ages, both in times of peace and war. Given the age and the continuing use, it is not surprising that there are veterans of practically every major US conflict buried in the cemetery. As noted, there are several Revolutionary War veterans

¹¹ Child, Hamilton, Gazetteer and Business Directory of Broome and Tioga Counties, NY, (Journal Office: Syracuse, 1873), 196-E. www.archive.org.

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interred, but a survey of the epitaphs reveals veterans of the Civil War, World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam. The markers, allegorical symbolism and epitaphs for these individuals reflect a continuing conviction of the noble character and valor of war service through the ages and are a clear expression of cultural and patriotic values—Riverside contains a large number of government-funded veteran's headstones. In 1873 Secretary of War William W. Belknap adopted a standardized 4in thick stone for use in national cemeteries; the stone would stand 12in high and be 10in, wide, slightly rounded on top and the deceased's name would appear in bas-relief on a sunken shield. Often referred to as the "Civil War" type, these stones were almost always done in white marble. Six years later, Congress authorized the funding of stones for veterans in private cemeteries and eventually authorized furnishing stones for the eligible deceased of the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, Mexican War, Indian Campaigns and the Spanish-American War. The stone of Revolutionary War veteran Amariah Yates (1749-1813) dates to this period between 1879 and 1929, when the design changed. In 1936, Congress authorized a flat marker type, as many private cemeteries had moved to regulated, lower, more uniform monument size and the former design was not permitted. The new flat markers, usually bronze, were 24 x 12 in with raised lettering indicating the name of the deceased, state, rank, organization, dates of death and religious emblem above the inscription; during WWII the Sec. of War authorized the addition of the date of birth and the conflict to the inscription.

More than 500 men from the town and village of Owego enlisted in the army and navy during the Civil War, and several are buried at Riverside including Capt. Silas John Giles and Corporal Fredrick K. Dean—members of Company H, 109th Infantry. The 109th was organized in July of 1862 at nearby Binghamton, Broome County, NY by Apalachin native Col. Benj. F. Tracy. The regiment was attached to the Army of the Potomac in March of 1864, and participated in the Battle of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Petersburg, Weldon Railroad and the Boydton Plank Road before being mustered out of service in June of 1865. During the 11 months of hard fighting, the unit lost 1 in 12, including 5 officers and 160 men killed in action and 164 men lost to disease and other causes. Other Civil War veterans include James Forkner (1842-1905) and twenty-five year old David Brown, a soldier with 51st New York was killed in action on December 13, 1862 at the Battle of Fredericksburg, VA.

Brothers PFC Rosman R. Chamberlain and PFC Willard Chamberlain both served in combat units overseas during WWI—Rosman in the 18th infantry of 1st Division/First Expeditionary Division and Willard in the 303rd Engineers, 78th Division; both brothers were awarded Purple Hearts, Rosman also received an Oak Leaf Cluster, indicating a subsequent additional award of the Purple Heart. Riverside has a large number of World War II veterans, including many officers and decorated individuals. Lawrence W. Hill served with the 941st Field Artillery Battalion, which entered the war in Normandy, France on D-day + 6 and participated in the battles across Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes-Alsace, the Rhineland and Central Europe; Hill was awarded a Purple Heart for his service. Other World War II Purple Heart recipients interred at Riverside include Sgt Edric R. Howell, US Army and PFC Paul V. Leonti, US Army. Decorated individuals include PFC Morris B. Corson, US army, who was awarded the Silver Star and a Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, 1st Sgt Andrew P. Honnick, US Army, who was awarded a Silver Star and a Purple Heart, and PFC Chester W. Shultz, US Army, who was awarded a Bronze Star. Staff Sgt Clarence J. Gray, of the US Army Air Corps, was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters for gallantry and courage shown in more than twenty-five missions over enemy territory as an aerial gunner. Lieutenant Colonel Herbert C. Schmeller, US army served in both WWII and Korea. One of the several Korean War veterans interred at Riverside is 1st Lieutenant Eugene Barno, Battery A, 49th Field, Artillery Battalion, US Army. In November of 1952 Lt. Barno was trapped alone in a collapsed bunker where he

13 Ibid

¹² National Cemetery Administration, "History of Government Furnished Headstones and Markers." (US Dept of Veterans Affairs, Washington, DC) http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/history/hmhist.asp.

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had been sent as a forward observer; for six hours, despite being wounded multiple times, Barno continued to direct artillery fire—often directly onto his own position. Barno survived the assault and was awarded both a Silver Star and a Bronze Star, and a Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Clusters. Veterans of later wars include Sgt David J. Edwards, who was awarded the Air Force Commendation Medal and Specialist Duane Clark Romeo; twenty-one year old Spec. Romero was posthumously awarded the Army Commendation Medal and a Purple Heart when he was killed in February of 1969 in Binh Dinh Province, South Vietnam.

Funerary Art, Settlement Period

Riverside cemetery contains a large variety of styles, shapes and trends in tombstone design, sculpture, epitaphs and mourning furniture from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The earliest tombstones tend towards plainer styles, mostly simple rectangular forms, although there are examples of both arched styles and New Englandinspired vertical stones with curved tops and side pillars/border. These earliest graves are carved of locally quarried fieldstone and face to the west; there is great variation in terms of height, size and epitaph, and they tend to be grouped together fairly closely. Typically the rectangular stones have long epitaphs of incised Roman lettering, with variations in upper and lower cases, and little ornamentation, although some markers do have more stylized basrelief lettering. The stone of Lucy Gaskill, is an example of an early (1802) stone; it is a squarer form with an arched top, and a simple chiseled inscription, all caps, spaced evenly across the stone in a classic New England style: "Heer [sic] lies the last remains of Lucy Gaskill who died August the 14h 1802." The stone is locally quarried and ornamentation is limited to the epitaph and a small craved abstract motif that could be a pinwheel or a star. The stone of Lucy's husband, Wilder Gaskill, shows a clear evolution of changes in mortuary furniture in the twenty years between Lucy's and Wilder's deaths. The tombstone for Wilder Gaskill (1767-1822) is the distinctive New England form consisting of three-part rounded tympanum and shouldered shape; ornamentation is more elaborate, with a bas-relief neoclassical stylized willow and urn in the tympanum, incised pinwheels on the shoulders and incised vines on the edges. Wilder's epitaph is incised in simple Roman lettering with proper capitalization. Other stones from the 1820s and 1830s show similar neoclassical influences like swags, draperies, and fluted architectural columns. This ornamentation is seen both at the tops of rectangular stones and in the tympanums of the shouldered forms, and is usually done in bas-relief. As a Jewett's (1788-1819) tombstone is a flat, rectangular locally quarried stone with an arched top and squared sides; his epitaph was incised in a raised bas-relief circle, with swag and vines incised on the sides, and a bas-relief neoclassical stylized willow and urn in the tympanum. There is also evidence of multiple carvers working in the region in this early period. The tombstone of Rachel Camp (c1748-1826), the wife of Col. Asa Camp, is virtually identical to Asa Jewett's in terms of size, shape, and even inscription, but the stylized urn and willow on its tympanum of the former was almost assuredly not done by the same artist as the latter; both are well executed and show the artists' skill, but stylistically they differ greatly, despite being only seven years apart.

Funerary Art, mid to late nineteenth century and twentieth century

By the 1850s, many tombstones began to show as much emphasis on the epitaph as the iconography. These stones frequently contain the same neoclassical influences as stones from the earlier decades (most notably the willow tree), alongside long epitaphs, often poetic, that feature a mixture of typefaces, carving types, combinations of small and capital letters and a blending of fonts, script and italics. Examples of such stones include Ruth Camp (c 1773-1851), Col. Asa Camp's second wife, Joel Bills (1782-1855) and Ransom Steele (1799-1859); all three are typical flat, rectangular, locally quarried stone with bas-relief willow art (including a willow tree and a tower on Steele's tombstone), long epitaphs, and array of bas-relief and incised lettering, fonts and scripts, and capital and small letters.

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Although there are multiple examples of the traditional rectangular shape, grave furniture in this mid-nineteenth century period began to radically change. The relatively consistent, flat, earlier gravestones of New England gave way to three-dimensional and sculptural forms that exhibited great variation in terms of height, size, epitaph and materials. Monuments began to vary greatly in style and ornamentation, and individual stones could now be square, oval, round, ogee, splayed, checked or shouldered in an array of combinations, allowing for more variability and individual expression in grave furniture. In the area of funerary art, Riverside Cemetery is especially strong in this period. Notable examples include several large, medium and small obelisks, urns, gothic-arched forms, stelae, columns. The funerary art on these differing canvases is mostly allegorical in nature. A sampling of examples of funerary art from the stones of this period include waving flags, open books, clasped hands, flowers, upturned scrolls, arched gates, lambs, wreaths, acanthus leaves, pedimented temples, scrollwork and angels; this list is by no means exclusive. Limestone continued to be the main choice for stones, but there are a large number of other materials such as white marble, sandstone, schist or polished granite.

By the twentieth century, tastes had begun to change again. Several pre-WWII monuments are of polished granite or cast concrete, but in nineteenth century forms like obelisks, draped and undraped urns and sculptural forms like angels and lambs. These monuments sometimes even incorporated older ornamentation like vines, Greek frets, and classical columns that required mechanized, industrial granite polishing and cutting tools or advancements in concrete casting technologies. By the early twentieth century advances in concrete and the introduction of powered machine carvers changed headstone designs in keeping with the new, more formalized trends in cemetery aesthetics. ¹⁴ Grave furniture of post-World War II interments at Oak Hill has undergone a significant change; although not specifically imposed or regulated upon individuals by the cemetery, the nature of period aesthetics, cost, and the changing expertise of tombstone retailers dictate that more recent burials are marked differently than in the past. These monuments typically are upright or slanted three-dimensional markers, rectangular with flat or semi-circular tops, constructed of either polished granite or marble with minimal bas relief epitaphs and artwork. Although the monuments vary in size and color, they are generally low, and few feature custom shapes. Taken as a whole, the markers in the cemetery catalog types and styles of funerary art over more than two centuries.

Development of the cemetery, mid-late nineteenth century

Grave placement began to change in the mid-nineteenth period as well. The older, settlement era, section of the cemetery had grown organically, and traditional tight, linear grave emplacement had been the norm. As new families immigrated to the area and changes in attitudes towards death and cemeteries began to take shape, this older model was often altered. Deeds to lots in Riverside were originally owned by individual families, so large central monuments often marked a family plot, while smaller stones marked individual burials; typically the central monument was a large obelisk with multiple plinths inscribed with epitaphs for the deceased. Both family lots and individual burials were grouped into a formal plan, blended into the natural topography, and often were sited to take advantage of the landscape.

In 1888 Riverside Cemetery was expanded with the purchase land from Sarah Stilson (referred to in deeds as the Stilson addition), and it continued to expand thought the early 1890s with more purchases and gifts. Even though burials had taken place since 1802, the Riverside Cemetery Association was established a formal organization in 1892. The association was responsible for the maintenance and improvement of the grounds under a formal set of bylaws. That year, the cemetery was surveyed by C.L. Hand, and his resulting map (see continuation sheet) shows a formal arrangement or burial plots in the Stilson addition. It is unknown if CL Hand was the designer of new plan,

¹⁴ Peckenschneider, "The Story and Development of Greenwood Cemetery"; David Charles Sloane, *The Last Great Necessity: Cemeteries in American History*, (John Hopkins Press: Baltimore, MD, 1991).

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or just the surveyor as no information about Hand could be found. Plots were laid out in eight sections and for the first time the cemetery was set off from its surroundings with a row of cedars marking the northern boundary. All of this was done in an effort to create a sense of peacefulness surrounded by nature, where the landscape itself formed an integral part of the cemetery. 15 The natural topography of the landscape was maintained and grave emplacement was planned around nature's design. Two examples are the Reeve-Miller and the Giles family plots, situated on slight rises and flanked by plantings of cedar trees. Unlike other cemeteries of the era, however, Riverside resisted the trend of allowing truly elaborate family plots—the bylaws prohibited building a "fence of any description around any lot in the Cemetery," and although lot owners were encouraged to "ornament their lots in accordance to their own taste," such ornamentation must not "mar the general beauty of the grounds"—the executive committee was tasked with judging the latter. The general beauty of the cemetery was accomplished through natural means. Mature older deciduous trees were allowed to grow, and were augmented with plantings of groupings of cedars and large pines—the whole provided a shade canopy and form numerous glades and open spaces. Vegetation was allowed to grow, creating a park-like setting and the bylaws prohibited lot owners from altering or planting any trees unless the action was approved by the executive committe. It is likely the carriage paths date to this period as well. Trends in cemetery design at this time called for such paths to flow with the landscaping, allowing access to plots in the rear of the cemetery and providing specific views in the cemetery for visitors and families. The 1893 bylaws prohibited lot owners from altering "in any manner any drive or walk," indicating such paths were probably in place, or planned by then.

Development of the cemetery, Twentieth Century

At the turn of the twentieth century cemetery design began to transition from natural, picturesque settings to what is termed the "lawn-park" movement. Cemeteries of this type featured formal landscaping choices, made by the incorporated board of trustees. Management of the period generally regulated monument size and type—calling for more uniform, lower, and less sculptural markers and a more formal arrangement of graves. This movement, coupled with changes in technology altered the look of cemeteries. Landscaping staff used power mowers to give the cemetery an uncluttered, close-cut lawn look, and maintaining flat, level grasslands with uniform markers proved to be considerably less expensive than rolling hilly terrain with less-regulated burial emplacements. ¹⁶ In some portions of the cemetery, the Riverside Cemetery Association took this ideal to the extreme. During the 1930s a large section of burials in the Stilson section was bulldozed to create a flatter landscape that was easier to maintain.

By the 1930s, plot owners on the western edge of the Stilson section were beginning to adopt the new aesthetics and placement. Many of the monuments are of polished granite and, although there is some individual variation, the markers and are of a low, relatively uniform size, organized in formal rows of individual burials. As noted, the graves of veterans document this shift, as the graves of all veterans in Riverside from twentieth century conflicts are marked by the low bronze plaque style monument. When the Catlin section of the cemetery was added in 1939, the lawn park ideal was carried into practice further. In this way, the newest portions of Riverside Cemetery represent a transition from older, nineteenth century burying practices to a more modern approach, chronicling the ideals, values and changing attitudes towards death in the twentieth century.

The year of the Catlin addition also saw changes to Riverside overall. Formal entrance gates, constructed out of concrete masonry units were added; a bronze plaque was set into on the western set of gates. The plaque noted the

¹⁵ Grant Peckenschneider, "The Story and Development of Greenwood Cemetery" http://www.uni.edu/connors/history.html; Colleen McDannell, "The Religious Symbolism of Laurel Hill Cemetery" Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography, (The Historical Society of Pennsylvania), Vol. 111, No. 3 (Jul., 1987), pp. 275-303 http://www.jstor.org.

¹⁶ Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, "Developmental History of Pennsylvania Cemeteries." www.portal.state.pa.us.

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date of establishment (1802), the date of incorporation (1892) and the date of the Catlin addition (1939), along with the board of trustees (as then constituted) and the builder of the gates to the driveways (John Brewster).

Social History

The epitaphs and vital data (birth, death, familial relationships, etc.) included on the stones document the lives of the residents of the town from the early nineteenth century through the current day. The cemetery is an excellent means of obtaining genealogical data about the residents of the region; although some information is available in documentary records, a study of information on the stones can impart additional and more detailed information about the residents that is not available anywhere else. Riverside is one of the largest cemeteries in the Town of Owego and the surrounding communities; as such, Riverside contains the graves of individuals who were significant in determining the region's political and economic history and who had outstanding impacts on the area's nature and direction of development.

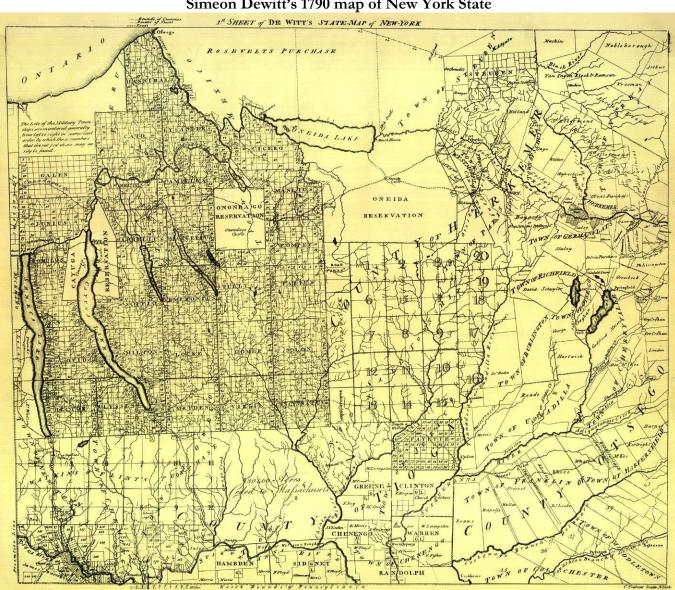
Integrity

The cemetery retains high integrity. The setting of a plateau high above the river is intact; although the surrounding domestic architecture has certainly changed since 1802, it is still relatively rural in character. All of the stones appear to be in their original placement and configuration, except for the portion bulldozed in the 1930s. Marshland Road, the road adjoining the property, appears to be in the same alignment as on historic maps. The paths within the cemetery do not appear to have been realigned, based on aerial photographs of the site. The largest loss to integrity was caused in September, 2011, when Tropical Storm Lee hit the area; Lee caused considerable flooding and eroded from 30 to 42 feet of the cemetery along the riverbank, exposing several graves.

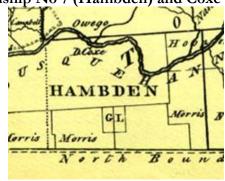
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Simeon Dewitt's 1790 map of New York State

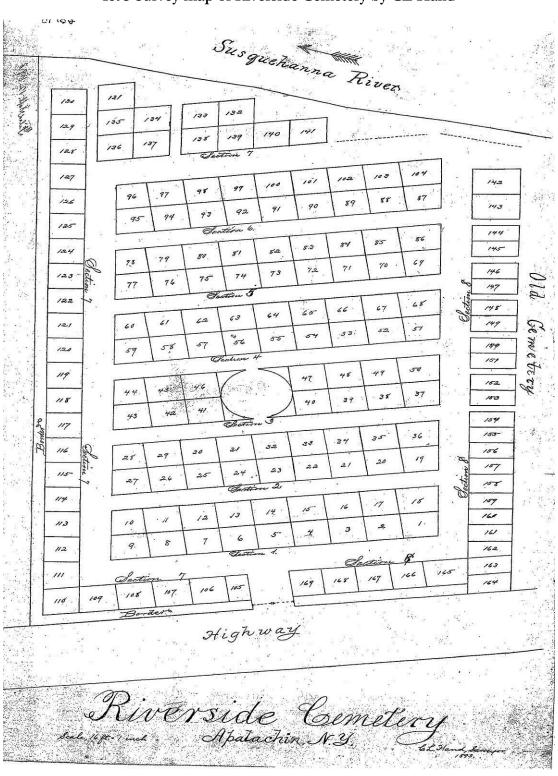


Township No 7 (Hambden) and Coxe Patent



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1893 Survey map of Riverside Cemetery by CL Hand



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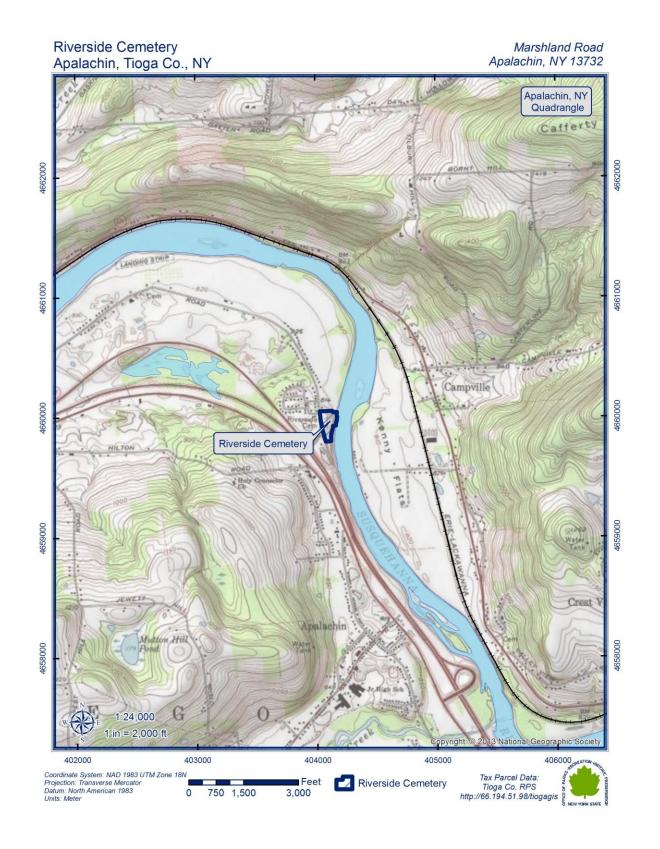
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET Section number 10 Page 1 Riverside Cemetery Tioga County, New York

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

As indicated by the heavy black line on the attached boundary map, the nominated property consists entirely of tax parcel lot number 142.05-1-5 in the Town of Owego, Tioga County, NY.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION:

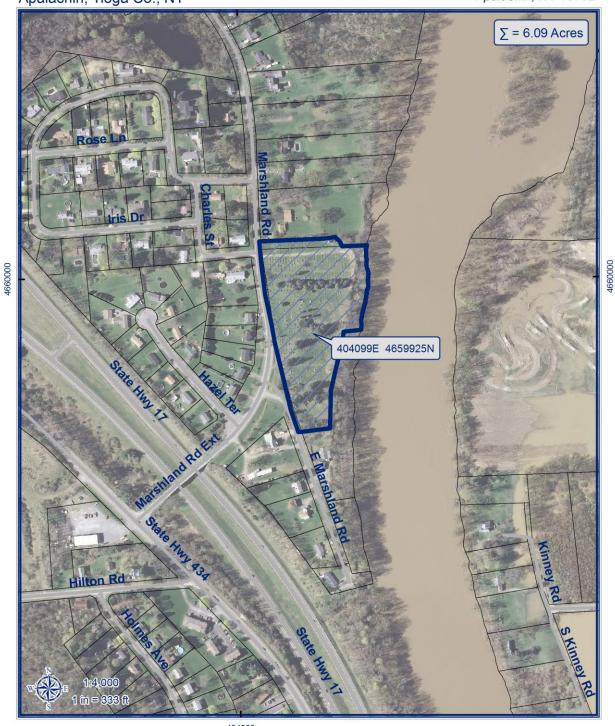
The nominated property includes the entire parcel (6.09 acres) under current ownership and historical ownership, including all of the contributing site and the non-contributing building.



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET Section number 10 Page 3 Riverside Cemetery Tioga County, New York

Riverside Cemetery Apalachin, Tioga Co., NY

Marshland Road Apalachin, NY 13732



404000





NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Riverside Cemetery Tioga County, New York

Photo Log (Digital Photos on disk)

Name of Property: Riverside Cemetery

Location: Apalachin, Tioga County, New York

Photographer: Travis Bowman (0001-0003; 0006-0010); JoAnn Walter (0004-0005).

Date: April 26, 2013 (0001-0003; 0006-0010); February 9, 2012 (0004-0005).

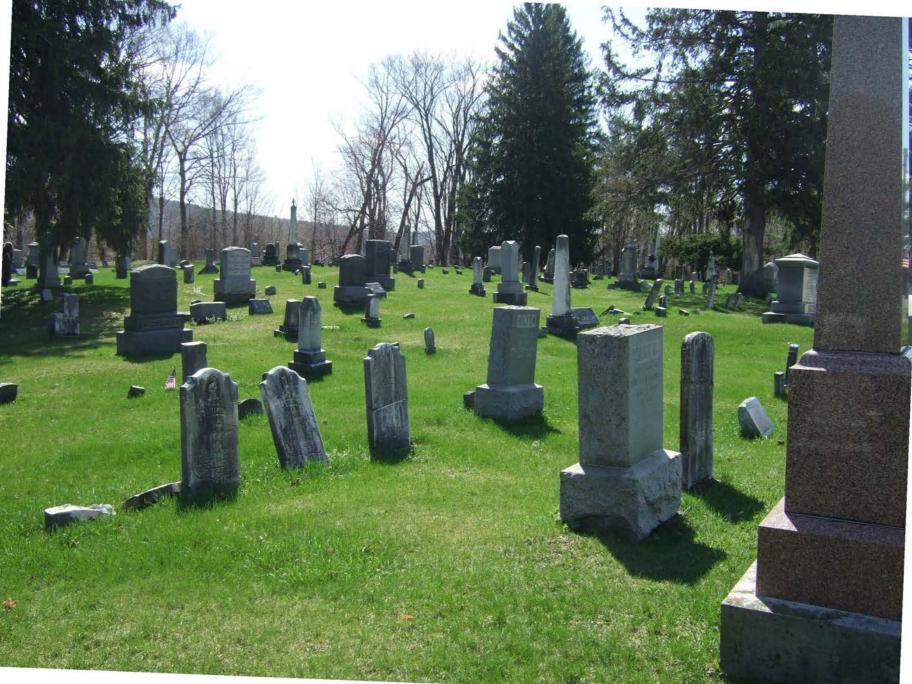
Location of Negatives: CD-R Included

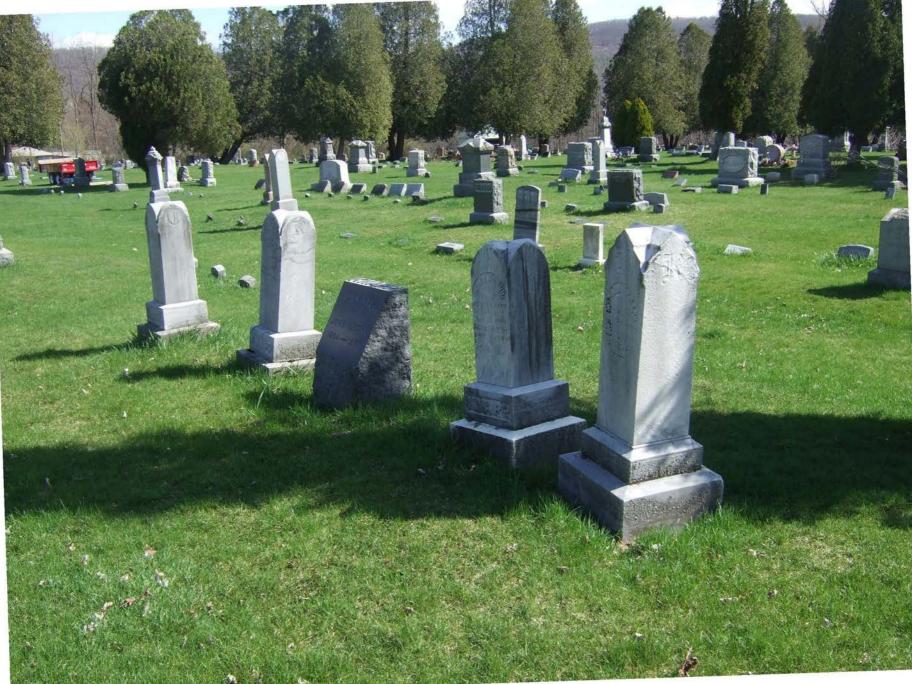
NY_TiogCo_RvrsCm

PHOTO LOG

РНОТО	DESCRIPTION
0001	View of Original cemetery section
0002	View of Middle (1893) section, towards original section
0003	View of Middle (1893) section, towards Catlin addition.
0004	Stone of Lucy Gaskill, 1802
0005	Stone of Asa Camp, 1842.
0006	Stone of Joel Bills, 1859
0007	Various examples, funerary art.
0008	Various examples, funerary art.
0009	Various examples, funerary art.
0010	Various examples, funerary art.









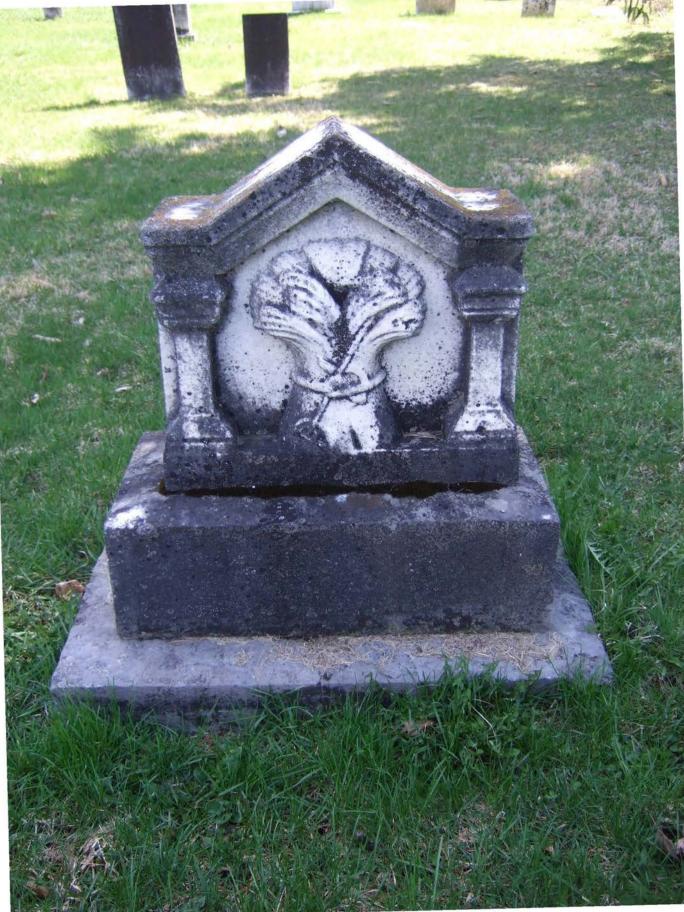












UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION
PROPERTY Riverside Cemetery NAME:
MULTIPLE NAME:
STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Tioga
DATE RECEIVED: 11/29/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST: DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/15/14 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:
REFERENCE NUMBER: 13001093
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 1.15.14 DATE
ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:
The National Register of Historic Piaces
RECOM./CRITERIA
REVIEWERDISCIPLINE
TELEPHONEDATE
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.



New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

Division for Historic Preservation P.O. Box 189, Waterford, New York 12188-0189 518-237-8643



21 November 2013

Alexis Abernathy National Park Service National Register of Historic Places 1201 Eye St. NW, 8th Floor Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: National Register Nomination

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to enclose seven National Register nominations to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register: All are submitted on discs:

John and Chauncey White House, Monroe County
Leon Grange #795, Cattaraugus County
Riverside Cemetery, Tioga County
James Keith House and Brown-Morey-Davis Farm, Herkimer County
Textile Factory Buildings in Troy, New York, 1880-1920, Multiple Property Cover
Document – and one individual nomination under this cover:
Searle, Gardner and Company Cuff and Collar Factory, Rensselaer County
Irvington Historic District, Westchester County

I have also enclosed 45 notarized objections to the Irvington nomination. This is a relatively small percentage of the 316 property owners in the district. Please feel free to call me at $518.237.8643 \times 3261$ if you have any questions.

Sincerely:

Kathleen LaFrank

National Register Coordinator

New York State Historic Preservation Office