

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any 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 certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Oakwood Cemetery

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number 763 Portage Road

N/A	not for publication
N/A	vicinity

city or town Niagara Falls

state New York code NY county Niagara code 063 zip code 14301

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,  
I hereby certify that this X nomination        request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.  
In my opinion, the property X meets        does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

       national        statewide   X   local

Ruth A. Purpant DSHPO 6/27/14  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property        meets        does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official Date

Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register        determined eligible for the National Register

       determined not eligible for the National Register        removed from the National Register

       other (explain:)

Joe Edison H. Beall 9.10.14  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**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
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
4	2	buildings
1	0	sites
1	0	structures
1	0	objects
8	2	<b>Total</b>

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

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

N/A

0

**6. Function or Use**

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

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

FUNERARY/cemetery  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

FUNERARY/cemetery  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

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

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Gothic Revival (vault/crematorium)  
Classical Revival (1913 mausoleum)  
Arts & Crafts (Office building)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

foundation: stone  
walls: stone, concrete, wood, brick  
roof: slate, concrete, asphalt  
other: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Narrative Description**

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

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## Summary Paragraph

Oakwood Cemetery encompasses 18.5 acres near the center of the city of Niagara Falls, Niagara County, New York, and is a short distance east of the Niagara River and north of the famous falls. The cemetery occupies a rectangular plot of land that is adjacent to a smaller cemetery on the north, owned by the Roman Catholic Diocese, and is surrounded by residential streets to the south and east. The cemetery is still active and currently contains roughly 22,000 burials. Laid out in 1852 by engineer T.D. Judah, the cemetery followed the design philosophy of the Rural Cemetery Movement through the use of the existing topography, curving roadways and planned landscaping, which is still evident. The current boundaries include the former Town of Niagara burial ground, maintained by Oakwood since 1926. Only one family mausoleum (1910) is on the grounds and a large, Green and Wicks designed mausoleum building (1913) is in the east end of property. The cemetery also contains a mid nineteenth century caretaker's house, a historic stone gateway (1922), gate house (1922), vault/crematorium (1877/1956), and garage (1928/1944). Except for the caretaker's house and maintenance garage, the gateway and buildings are contributing to the nomination as they were built during the period of significance and retain their historic and architectural integrity. The caretaker's house is noncontributing due to loss of integrity and the maintenance garage is noncontributing due to alterations. In addition to the buildings, the cemetery contains a wide variety of late nineteenth to late twentieth century family monuments and markers of various styles and materials, and the graves of a number of the most famous historic inhabitants of Niagara Falls. The cemetery also contains a section dedicated to successful and failed daredevils who braved the falls and rapids, including Annie Edson Taylor, the first person to survive going over Niagara Falls in a barrel (1901).

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## Narrative Description

A 2011 landscape report described Oakwood Cemetery as follows:

Oakwood Cemetery is a significant piece of green space within the urban context of Niagara Falls. The cemetery is located only a little over one mile from the falls themselves, one of the world's top natural attractions and top tourist destinations... [It] is strategically situated along Portage Road, only a few blocks from Main Street and the historic business district. It is also in close proximity to the Pine Avenue Business District, which is better known as Niagara Falls' "Little Italy." Other notable open spaces are the Niagara Reservation State Park and Robert Moses Parkway corridor along the Niagara Gorge, and major Hyde Park Recreation Area.<sup>1</sup>

When it was established in 1852, Oakwood Cemetery was north of the village of Niagara Falls, but as the village grew into a city, it also grew to surround the cemetery. Currently, the cemetery is bounded by Portage Road and its commercial establishments on the west. To the north is St. Mary's Cemetery, a separately owned and operated cemetery since 1867 and the Temple Beth el Jewish Reformed Cemetery (1864), which is currently negotiating with Oakwood to assume its care and maintenance. To the east and south are densely packed residential streets with a variety of houses dating from the early to late twentieth century. The largest, most identifiable of these residential areas is the Little Italy section of the city between the cemetery and Pine Avenue. Past Portage Road (to the west) is the historic neighborhood of Armenian immigrants and their descendents. A large section of the cemetery along Portage Road contains the burials of a number of Armenian family members and several more are found throughout the newer sections of Oakwood, recognizable by the

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characteristic Armenian lettering on the markers.

Aerial views indicate that the original 1852 layout of the grounds remains in spite of changes in funerary customs and expansion of the grounds. Four named roads extend east from the main entrance gateway on Portage Road, with Evergreen Avenue and Greenwood Avenue veering along the north and south sides of the property before connecting with East Avenue near the 1913 Mausoleum at the east end of the grounds. Two inner roads bend north and east between the two outer roads and are known as Ivy and Oak Avenues. Ivy Avenue divides to the north and south at the east end, while Oak eventually curves to intersect with Evergreen on the north. Most of the lots are laid out in a grid pattern between the main roads. Smaller roads follow the grid lines and are given scenic names such as Hazel, Willow, Holly, and Chestnut Path. A few pathways cut across the lots at angles, the longest being Sweet Briar Walk which extends from the west end of Evergreen Avenue across Ivy and Oak where it ends near the southeast section of the cemetery at Greenwood Ave. Sweet Briar Walk ends in front of the Judge Augustus Porter Family lot, which is appropriate since it was this family that donated the land for the cemetery. Lot boundaries follow the curves of the roadways with a large oval section near the center of the cemetery, bounded by Sweet Briar, Hazel, Sycamore and Repose Paths. The main roads are ten feet wide and covered with hard-packed gravel as planned in 1852, except for a small asphalt paved section near the main gate, crematorium and gate house/office.

Oakwood's topography is rather flat and is devoid of the manipulative landscapes common to Rural Cemeteries, nor does the cemetery contain any water features. The rural character of the cemetery is conveyed through plantings of trees and shrubs and conscious attempts to retain much of Judah's original design. The 2011 landscape report described the existing foliage as "a random scattering of large canopy (deciduous) interrupted by a few evergreen trees." The report continues:

The extensive lawns amidst the headstones still give the cemetery a very pleasing park-like appearance. While the exact make-up of the original vegetation is unknown, assumptions can be made based upon limited historic accounts and the large trees found on site today. While the age of many of the largest trees has not been verified, there are a handful of trees within Oakwood Cemetery that may have existed or been planted in the earliest years of the cemetery development. Nevertheless, it is highly likely that some of these trees date back to the early part of the twentieth century, including a few Oaks and Sycamores."<sup>2</sup>

A tree census conducted by Cornell University Cooperative Extension in 2011 documented over 25 varieties or species among the 200 existing trees spread throughout the 18.5 acre property.

As previously mentioned, lots are generally laid out on a grid pattern except for sections bordered by curved paths, which result in wedge-shaped lots. Two large lots on the north side of Greenwood Avenue contain two branches of the Porter Family. The west portion with the Peter B. Porter family members retains its historic iron fencing. The size and prominent location of the Porter families indicate their importance to the history of Niagara Falls and the founding of the cemetery. The center section of the cemetery is the most historic and has the most uniform lots, nearly square, and averaging 30-feet by 20-feet. As the roadways curve and intersect, the lot sizes in the older sections range from triangular shaped lots, half of the size of the larger standard lots, to densely packed rectangular lots in the edges averaging twelve feet by ten feet. The east end of the grounds contains more uniform rectangular lots of 17-feet by 12-feet. Areas outside of the curved

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<sup>1</sup> Dean W. Gowen, *Oakwood Cemetery Historic Landscape Report* (Snyder, NY: DWG Planning & Design, 2011), 3-1.



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roads are the result of cemetery expansion and contain larger divisions with single graves, reflective of the lawn-park era of cemetery design. The town burying ground on the south side of Greenwood Avenue also lacks lot divisions and has burials arranged in widely spaced rows running north to south with single graves.

Older portions of the cemetery are clearly indicated by the abundance of mid to late nineteenth century monuments and markers, mostly of granite, but some marble, sandstone and a few white bronze. Most visible are the obelisk style markers indicating a family group and smaller head and/or footstones for the burials around the monument. A majority of these obelisks are marble and show the effects of weathering. Several of the earlier (mid nineteenth century) monuments are ornate and include popular features and iconography of the period, such as the marble ascending angel relief on the Chesboro monument and the ornate sandstone marker for Theodore Hulett and family. Hulett was an inventor and prominent judge and the marker includes corner columns, ivy wreath relief sculptures and an ornate, cathedral style finial. Mid nineteenth century sarcophagus style markers indicate important persons, such as the marker for General Peter B. Porter, one of the founders of Niagara Falls, who is memorialized with a Gothic style sarcophagus with metal plaques. Newer sections of the cemetery are mostly along the north and west fences and contain a majority of lower stones typical of the mid to late twentieth century and are mostly granite. Very little iconography is associated with these burials with inscriptions filling the faces of the markers.

## **BUILDINGS/STRUCTURES IN OAKWOOD CEMETERY**

### **Vault/Crematorium, 1877/1956, contributing.**

**Architect: George W. Wright. Crematorium conversion by Wright & Kremers, Inc.**

Single story, one room ashlar masonry construction in the Gothic Revival style. Building has pitched slate roof with two decorative stone chimneys set on the ridgeline and low stone buttresses at the corners. An additional buttress is between two deep-set Gothic arched windows on the north and south elevations. Windows have arched stone lintels and sloping stone sills. The east elevation has a tall chimney and the entrance to the building is through a set of wood batten double doors in the east elevation. The entrance is set into a projecting vestibule with a pitched roof set lower than the main roof. The interior space is occupied by the cremation chamber and equipment.

### **Gate House/office, 1922, contributing.**

**Architect: Wright & Kremers, Inc.**

One story, two room building of random ashlar in the Arts & Crafts style. Building has overhanging hipped roof with rafter tails under the eaves and a tall stone chimney on the north side of the roof. The entrance is in the east elevation, flanked by two six-over-one double hung sash windows. The entrance is protected by a hipped porch roof supported by square wood posts. Like the main roof, the porch roof has wood rafter tails. The main door is wood paneled with a six-light upper window and is protected by a metal and glass screen door. The north side has another double hung window and two narrower doors. The west side has a paired double hung window in the center of the elevation and the south side has another narrow door and double-hung window. The interior is divided into two rooms and retains its historic finishes of plaster walls, doors, moldings and flooring.

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid, 3-16.

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**Oakwood House (Superintendent's House), ca. 1850.**

**Non-contributing due to substantial loss of integrity**

L-shaped one and one-half story wood frame house on a masonry foundation, clad with vinyl siding and with an asphalt roof. Windows are non-historic replacements. Layout of interior remains as it was built but was substantially rehabilitated due to deterioration. Building was formerly the cemetery superintendents' residence and is currently used for meetings and social gatherings.

**Maintenance Garage, 1928/1944, non contributing due to loss of integrity**

**Builder: C. C. Bremer & Co.**

Single story, shed roofed building, brick and vinyl exterior. Façade of the building appears historic since it retains its ca. 1944 doors but the interior has been significantly altered, as was the rear of the building when windows were in-filled and a large addition added and clad in vinyl. The east two bays of the building were originally built in 1928 and the west bay added in 1944.

**Entrance Gate (1922) and Fencing (1936), Portage Road, contributing.**

**Builder: Wright & Kremers, Inc.**

Four square random Ashlar stone piers with poured concrete caps and bases; two being eleven-feet high and two seven-feet high. The shorter piers flank the taller and hold two fixed decorative iron gates that were part of the 1917 gate installation. The main gates were damaged in 1969 and are in storage awaiting restoration. Historic iron fencing is along the Portage Road section of the cemetery and replaced earlier iron fencing.

**Brundage Mausoleum, 1910, contributing.**

Individual granite mausoleum on stone base/foundation; front gabled with pitched roof (also granite). Entrance has pair of decorative bronze doors that feature inverted Roman torches. Either side of entrance has wide, flat pilasters with stylized floral capitals. The name Brundage is over the door and above it is a half ellipse with a palm leaf relief. Two more pilasters are at the rear corners. The north and south sides have a small rectangular window and the east elevation has a centrally placed half-round window. This is the only individual mausoleum in Oakwood.

**Stone Mausoleum, 1912-1913, contributing**

**Architect: Green and Wicks. Builder: Eastern Mausoleum Company**

Large, rectangular Vermont marble building with entrance through a projecting center vestibule of Neoclassic design with four Doric order columns supporting a plain, rectangular frieze, creating a narrow portico for the entrance. Portico base has three steps into the building and space on either side for urns. Low roof is hidden by a stone parapet. Both ends of the façade have a blind arcade set into the stone. The entrance has two large bronze paneled doors with a large glass transom of closely placed narrow strips of glass. Interior is divided into three main spaces: a center area that functions as a chapel and two crypt wings. The center section also has two vaults on the east side and a non-historic columbarium in the southeast corner. Each crypt wing features a clerestory with small decorative windows of a circle set into a square. Sets of paired windows in the north and south elevations allow light to enter the crypt areas, which provides sufficient natural light along with the clerestory. Crypt capacity is 350 and names and dates are inscribed on the marble crypt coverings.

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1913 Mausoleum



1881 plan of Oakwood Cemetery

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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

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

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

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Community Planning/Development

Landscape architecture

**Period of Significance**

1852-1944

**Significant Dates**

1852, 1877, 1913, 1922, 1942, 1944

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

T. D. Judah (cemetery); Green & Wicks

(mausoleum); George Wright (vault);

Wright & Kremers (office & stone gates)

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance begins with the founding of the Oakwood Cemetery Association and the first layout of the grounds by engineer T. D. Judah, and ends with the final expansion of the historic cemetery in 1944.

**Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)**

Oakwood Cemetery is significant due to its age and for being the only known cemetery designed by civil engineer T. D. Judah. It also contains the graves of those of significant to the early history and development of the city of Niagara Falls as well as a number of daredevils, including Annie Edson Taylor, the first person to survive going over Niagara Falls in a barrel.

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

When is was designated as a local city landmark in 2012, Oakwood Cemetery in Niagara Falls, New York was described as one of the oldest surviving remnants from the early years of the Niagara Falls community and that it was the largest extant built resource from the mid nineteenth century, predating the city's incorporation by 40 years. Plans were drawn up for the cemetery in 1852 by civil engineer T. D. Judah, placing it along the well-known Portage Road on land donated by Lavinia Porter, daughter of Judge Augustus Porter, who was one of the founders of the village. Following planning practices of the time, Oakwood was on the outskirts of the community surrounded by farmland. As explained in the landmark designation report:

Oakwood was established during a period of significant growth and expansion in Niagara Falls. During this time, the burgeoning railroads and water-related industrial development spurred new visions of grandeur for the growing community... Similarly, this was also a time period when perceptions, use, and character of burial grounds were shifting dramatically from small church-side burial yards to larger and more scenic cemeteries. This shift in character, known as the Rural Cemetery Movement, began in the 1830s, with many of the major population centers along the east coast rethinking their approach to urban burial grounds and many of them adopting the new rural cemetery approach. Oakwood followed this movement which established numerous Victorian Cemeteries throughout the United States and ... sought open land away from the urban core to establish a cemetery that embodied the character and feel of the emerging rural cemetery type."<sup>3</sup>

As the cemetery expanded throughout the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the cemetery association made a conscious effort to retain Judah's design by adding newer areas around the original plan, which included the 1855 Town Burial grounds to the south and a former lumber yard, also on the south. The cemetery association also responded to demands of the community by increasing interment capacity with a large stone mausoleum in 1913 and a section dedicated to "stunters" or daredevils (successful and failed) who were drawn to Niagara Falls. All demands were met and continue to be met while adhering to Judah's 1852 plan. For these reasons, Oakwood Cemetery is historically significant in the area of community planning and development and for landscape design as a variation of a rural cemetery type.

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**Developmental history/additional historic context information** (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

## **HISTORICAL CONTEXT: DEVELOPMENT OF NIAGARA FALLS**

In 1806, Augustus Porter settled with his family near Niagara Falls, an area he had visited as surveyor years earlier when he was struck by the dramatic landscape and recognized the importance of the falls as source of water power. He purchased land from an earlier settler named John Stedman who had a gristmill along the water and raised goats on an island near the brink of the falls. In addition to buying the island and Stedman's other lands, Porter joined with his brother Peter and their business partner Benjamin Barton to purchase the rights to the Mile Strip. This one mile area was held in reserve by the State of New York and ran along the Niagara River between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. Any one who

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<sup>3</sup> Tom Yots, *Oakwood Cemetery Historic Landmark Designation Application*, Niagara Falls Historic Preservation Commission, 2012.

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owned the mile strip had control of the portage path, an overland route along the New York side of the river that was first controlled by the Seneca Indians, followed by the French and finally the British, who relinquished control thirteen years after the end of the American Revolution.

Porter's settlement was originally called Manchester, but the developing village was commonly referred to as Niagara Falls and was the name selected when the village formally incorporated in 1848. Porter served as the settlement's first postmaster and later, the first judge for Niagara County. He also served in the New York State legislature in 1802. In spite of Porter's efforts, settlement languished and the few settlers in the village were driven away by the War of 1812. In December 1813, British forces captured Fort Niagara and burned almost all buildings in settlements along the portage road and including Augustus's house, which he rebuilt in 1818. The portage became a major road through the village of Niagara Falls and it was land along this road that Porter's daughter, Lavinia, donated land for a cemetery.

According to French's 1860 *Gazetteer of New York State*, the village of Niagara Falls "owes its existence to the cataract," presumably as being a natural attraction.<sup>4</sup> Augustus Porter entertained a number of important guests at his house near the falls, including President James Monroe and General Lafayette. As more visitors came to see the falls, hotels appeared along both sides of the border, the most notable being the Cataract House on the American side, built in 1825. By 1860, the village had a population of nearly 3,000 and was reported to have eleven hotels and "several manufacturing establishments." As more manufacturing developed and people traveled to the village, railroads gradually replaced the stage lines and the reliance on overland shipping by wagon. In the late 1840s, plans were made for a railroad along the Niagara Gorge and Theodore. D. Judah (1826-1863) was hired to layout the new railway. Judah was a civil engineer, trained at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, who had laid out railroad lines in New England before being hired to plan and build the Niagara Gorge Railway that was to link Niagara Falls with Youngstown to the north. By the time Judah left Niagara Falls to continue his railroad work in California, Niagara Falls had lines connecting it to the Rochester area. Consolidated into the New York Central in 1855, these railroads had a profound impact on Niagara Falls, or as one historian stated, "The opening of these railroads changed the conditions of trade, made communication between distant points more easy and frequent, and broadened the social life of the community."<sup>5</sup> The railroad brought an economic boom that lasted throughout the late nineteenth century and allowed the village to merge with the village of Suspension Bridge to become the city of Niagara Falls in 1892.

## ORIGINS OF OAKWOOD CEMETERY

With the growth of Niagara Falls came the problem of the old burying ground that served the community since 1820 and was officially deeded to the town of Niagara in 1828 by Judge Porter. The old burial ground was cramped, at capacity and, following the current opinions of the time, believed to harbor illnesses such as cholera and typhus. Influenced by the Rural Cemetery Movement, communities throughout Western New York considered establishing grounds with a dual purpose: a

<sup>4</sup> J. H. French, *Historical & Statistical Gazetteer of New York State* (Syracuse, NY: R. P. Smith, Publisher, 1860), 455.

<sup>5</sup> William Pool, ed., *Landmarks of Niagara County* (Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Company, 1897), 71.

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park-like setting that would invoke peaceful rest for the dead and a place for the living to respectfully mourn surrounded by the beauty of nature. The grounds were given names reflective of green spaces and nature, such as the recently opened Forest Lawn Cemetery in Buffalo (1849) and the older Mount Hope Cemetery in Rochester (1838). Burial grounds were renamed "cemeteries," derived from the Greek word *koimeterion* that translated as sleeping chamber. Attitudes towards death evolved from the harsh Puritan view of final judgment to the sentimental Victorian view of being reunited with loved ones, in life and eventually in death. Cemeteries were now divided into family plots, with burials less densely organized around a family monument. Markers were adorned in stone with flowers, wreaths, urns, drapery and other romantic symbols rather than fearsome angels and dire warnings. Cemeteries were also placed outside of village and city lines to capitalize on peaceful, park-like surrounding, maximizing on cleaner, healthier, less crowded grounds.

In Niagara Falls, discussions began in 1851 about what to do with the crowded town burial ground and the need for a better place that would show proper respect for the deceased. A group of citizens, many of them leaders in the village, formed a cemetery association and the first order of business was to select a name. After considering thirteen suggestions, a vote was taken and the name Oakwood gathered the most votes. The next order of business was to establish a regular meeting time for the association and then seek out a suitable site for the new Oakwood Cemetery. One of the trustees was A.S. Porter, son of Judge Porter, who had a sister that held title to a large property roughly halfway between the villages of Niagara Falls and Suspension Bridge (also known as Bellevue). The land was actually owned by the heirs of Judge Porter but it was Lavinia who held the title. Lavinia E. Porter (1810-1863) was known for her charity. She offered the house her father built for her just before his death as a rent free parsonage to the First Presbyterian Church, since she was residing with and keeping house for her bachelor brother, Peter. After being approached by the trustees, Lavinia stated that she would donate the land, provided that the local community raised \$1,000 to be used for improvements to the lands. The bond raised per her request included the costs to erect fencing around the property and to hire T. D. Judah to prepare a map of the grounds and the new layout for the cemetery.

As a civil engineer, Judah was more familiar with the layout of roads and pathways than designing landscapes, which was reflected in his plans for Oakwood Cemetery. He utilized the flat terrain to focus on the organization of the grounds and roadways, rather than deal with designing hills, lakes and other elements common to the manipulated landscapes of rural cemeteries. The flat terrain also allowed a blank canvas and allowed him full reign on where to place roads and the focal points of the cemetery, rather than skirt around or include existing hills and other features that could be perceived as obstructions. Judah devised a plan of four major roads, two skirting the edge of the property and two running east to west through the heart of the property. Minor pathways crossed the roads at key focal points where prominent families chose to be buried, such as the Porters, or tree-lined groves provided restful green spaces within the grounds. The very center of the cemetery was a large grouping of plots organized into a large oval with narrow paths separating the sections that were named after trees. All roads entered and exited the grounds through a main gate at Portage Road, with views of the road obscured by two large groves along the west fence. Over time, these groves were divided and sold as plots, but Judah's plan remained largely the same as it was in 1852.



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Shortly after Oakwood Cemetery was established, the old town burial ground was in the way of the planned expansion of the Canandaigua Railroad Company. In 1855, the town purchased the land on the south side of Oakwood Cemetery and began the process of removing and relocating the burials. The two cemeteries coexisted under separate management for years until 1876 when complaints from the local community over conditions at the town site forced the town to consider a new approach. It contracted with Oakwood Cemetery to assume the maintenance of the grounds and associated buildings. The agreement was renewed in 1926 and again in 1967. Two other cemeteries were attracted to available land north of the cemetery: St. Mary's Roman Catholic Cemetery (1867) and Temple Beth El Jewish Reformed Cemetery (1864). Both cemeteries were operated independently throughout their history and are now physically separated from Oakwood and each other by modern fencing. Oakwood is currently negotiating with Temple Beth El Cemetery to assume its maintenance and operations.

Plans drawn by Drake Whitney in 1881 indicated that Oakwood was facing pressures from being land locked and from the needs of a growing population. Judah's roadways remained intact, but a heart-shaped lot where Ivy and Sweet Briar crossed disappeared and the triangular shaped land was divided into small plots. Judah reserved two spaces for cemetery vaults but only one was kept. In 1860, an underground vault was built on the reserved space nearest to the main entrance, which was replaced in 1877 by a Gothic Revival red Medina sandstone above-ground vault. This vault was designed by George W. Wright (1830-1908), who also designed the chapel for First Presbyterian Church in the village. The vault was one of the first buildings designed by Wright who settled in Niagara Falls in 1859 after living in Canada. He also designed the Prospect House (ca. 1887), a well known hotel near the falls. In addition to being an architect, Wright was a politician, serving as the last president of Niagara Falls village and the first mayor of the city of Niagara Falls (1892). George's grandson, Chester (1889-1980), served at times as a cemetery trustee. He also was a builder and his firm, Wright & Kremers, designed and built a new office building, gates and gate posts in 1922. The firm also converted the stone vault that Chester's grandfather designed into a crematory in 1956.

Oakwood trustees added a large, 350 crypt mausoleum to the east end of the grounds in 1913 to alleviate some of the pressure that the cemetery was facing as demand for space increased. Only one family mausoleum was ever built on the grounds (Brundage, 1910) due largely to the expense required for construction. A survey of the grounds discovered that a fence on the east end of the grounds was built in the wrong place and that the "rediscovered" property would be an excellent location for a large mausoleum with more affordable interment space. The cemetery contracted with the Eastern Mausoleum Company for the project and the Buffalo architectural firm of Green and Wicks was hired for the design. The firm was well known for its Beaux-Arts and Neoclassical Revival designs, seen in the Buffalo Savings Bank Building (1901), the Albright Art Gallery (1905) and the Toledo Museum of Art (1912). The mausoleum building was a large rectangular cut stone building with a neoclassic entrance marked by a stone parapet and marble columns. The center of the building allowed for chapel services and two large family vaults were placed in the east wall. One of these was purchased by the Schoellkopf family and a Tiffany designed window was added. By 1943, all crypts in the mausoleum were sold.

Oakwood Cemetery

Name of Property

Niagara County, NY

County and State

Oakwood's trustees continued to make improvements to the grounds. In 1884, a section of the cemetery was cleaned up and reserved for burials for those without friends or relatives in Niagara Falls. This section quickly grew to include a number of stunters or daredevils who braved the falls. In 1921, Annie Edson Taylor died in Lockport and the trustees of Oakwood reserved a place for her in "Strangers Rest." Taylor was the first person to survive going over the falls in a barrel in 1901. Afterwards, she went on the lecture circuit but died in poverty, having been cheated by her managers. The people of Niagara Falls raised money for her burial in Oakwood and in 1933, a new headstone was added to her gravesite. Other stunters included Matthew Webb who died in 1883 in an attempt to swim the Niagara rapids and Carlisle Graham, who survived a trip through the rapids in a barrel in 1886.

Further improvements included new offices in 1922 and a maintenance garage in 1928, which was replaced in 1944. In 1936, the cemetery purchased three lots along Haerberle Avenue and bought four more in 1944. The earlier purchase included a building that may have been associated with the Town Burial Ground and used for housing until 2010 when it was renovated as meeting space. The 1944 purchase marked the final expansion of the cemetery grounds which added additional space to the east and west ends of the Town Burial Ground. Additional improvements to the grounds since 1944 included a new water line from street, the grading of roads (1970), a new roof and renovations to the garage (1972), protective coverings for the Mausoleum windows (1981), crematory repairs (1989), and the roof on Mausoleum repaired (1989).

In 1965, the cemetery needed to make improvements to the two largest family lots in the cemetery belonging to the Porters. Both were surrounded by iron picket fences, and unfortunately, the effects of age and weather exacted a toll on the fence around Judge Porter's plot. After considering the cost of replacing the iron fence, the fence was removed after discussions with the Porter family. Fencing still surrounds General Porter and his descendents, while Judge Porter's family graves are more readily accessible with the absence of the fence. One of these graves is a simple marble column on a square base for Lavinia Porter, the donor of the land for Oakwood. Next to her is her brother Peter, a successful lawyer. Other family members in these two plots include Colonel Peter Augustus Porter, who died in the Civil War at the Battle of Cold Harbor in June, 1864. His monument is the tallest and is in the section with General Peter Buel Porter, one of the founders of Niagara Falls.

Oakwood Cemetery contains the graves of a number of Niagara Fall's prominent men and women from its past, and it has always responded to newer members of the larger community. In the late 1890s, Armenian immigrants began settling in Niagara Falls, driven out of their homeland by oppression and the Armenian Genocide (1915-1923). They found work in the city's newly developing chemical industry. As more Armenians settled in the city, the area directly across from Oakwood's main gate became the core of their community. It developed along Ninth, Tenth, and Eleventh streets in an area known as Tunnel Town. Two areas in Oakwood Cemetery hold a number of burials from the community, the first being in the section east of the Town Burial Ground and another along the Portage Road fence on the north side of the gate. To date, over 400 members of the Armenian community are buried in Oakwood and the cemetery is the host site for a regular solemn genocide memorial ceremony.

Oakwood Cemetery

Name of Property

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County and State

## CONCLUSION

Established in 1852, Oakwood Cemetery was a professionally designed landscape on land donated by one of Niagara Falls' most prominent families. Shortly after he completed his work on the cemetery and the local railroad lines, T. D. Judah left for California where he continued his railroad work and promoted his idea of a transcontinental railroad.<sup>6</sup> His cemetery in Niagara Falls became a significant green space within the middle of an urban/industrial setting and still serves as an active cemetery for the local community. To date, the cemetery contains nearly 22,000 burials and averages roughly 360 cremations and 72 burials per year.

Recent planning efforts by the Oakwood Cemetery Association have re-energized the association and increased the awareness of the historic resource within the Niagara Falls community. The association commissioned a historic landscape report in 2011 that identified a number of areas of concern, such as maintenance of historic buildings and identifying and replacing trees and other flora. The report summarized the cemetery's efforts as follows:

Renewed interest in Oakwood Cemetery over the past few years has given new hope to this icon of the mid-nineteenth century. The current Oakwood Cemetery Association has been challenged with two major issues facing the board today; preserving Oakwood's historic legacy while trying to stay in business. The fact that Oakwood is "running out of room" is now a key discussion piece, and this Historic Landscape Report will help to give options for the future. While preservation and restoration are important to Oakwood's future, economic realities and fundraising will be needed before any of that can happen. Luckily Oakwood's small size and dedicated following will allow for much more focused efforts and deliberate actions than some of the other rural cemeteries that have exponentially larger preservation issues and hundreds of acres of property.<sup>7</sup>

While addressing the concerns identified in the report, the Oakwood Cemetery Association has also renewed its commitment to preserving the historic character of T. D. Judah's expanded cemetery. The Oakwood Cemetery Association is partnering with the Niagara Falls Heritage Area organization to promote the history of the region through recognizing persons of historic significance buried in Oakwood from all walks of life. The cemetery recently initiated a marker program that highlights several grave sites and a self guided walking tour covering the areas of military, civic, arts and humanitarian achievements along with local history and human interest stories.

<sup>6</sup>Judah died in 1863 before his idea became a reality. He is buried in his wife's family plot in Greenfield, Massachusetts.

<sup>7</sup>Gowen, *Oakwood Cemetery*, 2011, 3-16.

Oakwood Cemetery

Name of Property

Niagara County, NY

County and State

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## 9. Major Bibliographical References

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- \_\_\_\_\_. *A Brief History of Niagara Falls*. Niagara Falls, NY: Fose Printing, Inc., 1972.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pageant—Lavinia Porter*. Niagara Falls, NY: First Presbyterian Church, 1949.

Oakwood Cemetery  
Name of Property

Niagara County, NY  
County and State

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

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

**Primary location of additional data:**

State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other  
Name of repository: Oakwood Cemetery Association

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): \_\_\_\_\_

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 18.5 acres  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>170837</u> Easting	<u>4779620</u> Northing	4	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>170451</u> Easting	<u>4779409</u> Northing
2	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>170828</u> Easting	<u>4779450</u> Northing	5	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>170366</u> Easting	<u>4779649</u> Northing
3	<u>18N</u> Zone	<u>170484</u> Easting	<u>4779408</u> Northing				

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary is indicated by a heavy line on the enclosed map with scale.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The property boundary is the same as during the period of significance.

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Virginia L. Bartos, Ph.D., Historic Preservation Program Analyst  
organization NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation date June 2014  
street & number Peebles Island State Park—PO Box 189 telephone 518-237-8643  
city or town Waterford state NY zip code 12188  
e-mail virginia.bartos@parks.ny.gov

**Additional Documentation**

Oakwood Cemetery

Name of Property

Niagara County, NY

County and State

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **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. Key all photographs to this map.

- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

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**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Oakwood Cemetery

City or Vicinity: Niagara Falls

County: Niagara State: New York

Photographer: Virginia L. Bartos

Date Photographed: 31 October 2013

Description of Photograph(s) and number: see attached pages.

- 0001 of 0030. Main entrance gates at Porter Road, view looking northeast.
- 0002 of 0030. West façade of vault/crematorium, view looking east.
- 0003 of 0030. Looking south from entrance, showing gate house. Superintendent's house and garage in background.
- 0004 of 0030. Greenwood Avenue showing bend at Myrtle (southeast side of cemetery).
- 0005 of 0030. Burials at Rose and Brier Walk (near south central section of cemetery).
- 0006 of 0030. View of old Town Burial Ground, view looking southeast.
- 0007 of 0030. General view of burials near center of cemetery, view looking southeast.
- 0008 of 0030. View looking west along Greenwood Avenue from east end of cemetery.
- 0009 of 0030. General view of northeast end of cemetery near Mausoleum, view looking northwest.
- 0010 of 0030. Another view looking east of the northeast end of the cemetery showing the bend at Evergreen Ave.
- 0011 of 0030. Mausoleum at east end of cemetery, view looking northeast.
- 0012 of 0030. Interior view of mausoleum showing crypts.
- 0013 of 0030. Interior view showing center chapel area of mausoleum.
- 0014 of 0030. General view of northeast section of cemetery looking northwest.
- 0015 of 0030. General view of cemetery looking west from mausoleum.
- 0016 of 0030. General view of cemetery near north central side looking southeast.
- 0017 of 0030. General view near center of cemetery, view looking south.
- 0018 of 0030. General view of northwest section of cemetery looking toward Portage Road (west).
- 0019 of 0030. General view near center of cemetery looking east.
- 0020 of 0030. General view from near center of cemetery looking east with Oak Avenue on right.
- 0021 of 0030. General view of cemetery looking southwest from Oak Avenue near Sweet Briar.
- 0022 of 0030. View of Chesbrough family plot, looking north toward Catholic cemetery.
- 0023 of 0030. Holley monument near General Porter lot (Holly Path, south of Oak).
- 0024 of 0030. Hulett monument, west end of cemetery, view looking southwest.
- 0025 of 0030. General Porter family group, lot 141.

Oakwood Cemetery  
Name of Property

Niagara County, NY  
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- 0026 of 0030. Judge Porter family group with new plaque indicating Lavinia Porter's burial.
- 0027 of 0030. General view of central section of cemetery looking north, showing Brundage mausoleum.
- 0028 of 0030. Detail view of Brundage mausoleum, view looking northeast.
- 0029 of 0030. View of former Strangers' Rest, now Stunters' Rest, view looking east.
- 0030 of 0030. Detail view of General Peter B. Porter monument.

---

**Property Owner:**

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

name Oakwood Cemetery Association  
street & number 763 Portage Rd telephone 716-284-5131  
city or town Niagara Falls state NY zip code 14301

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

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

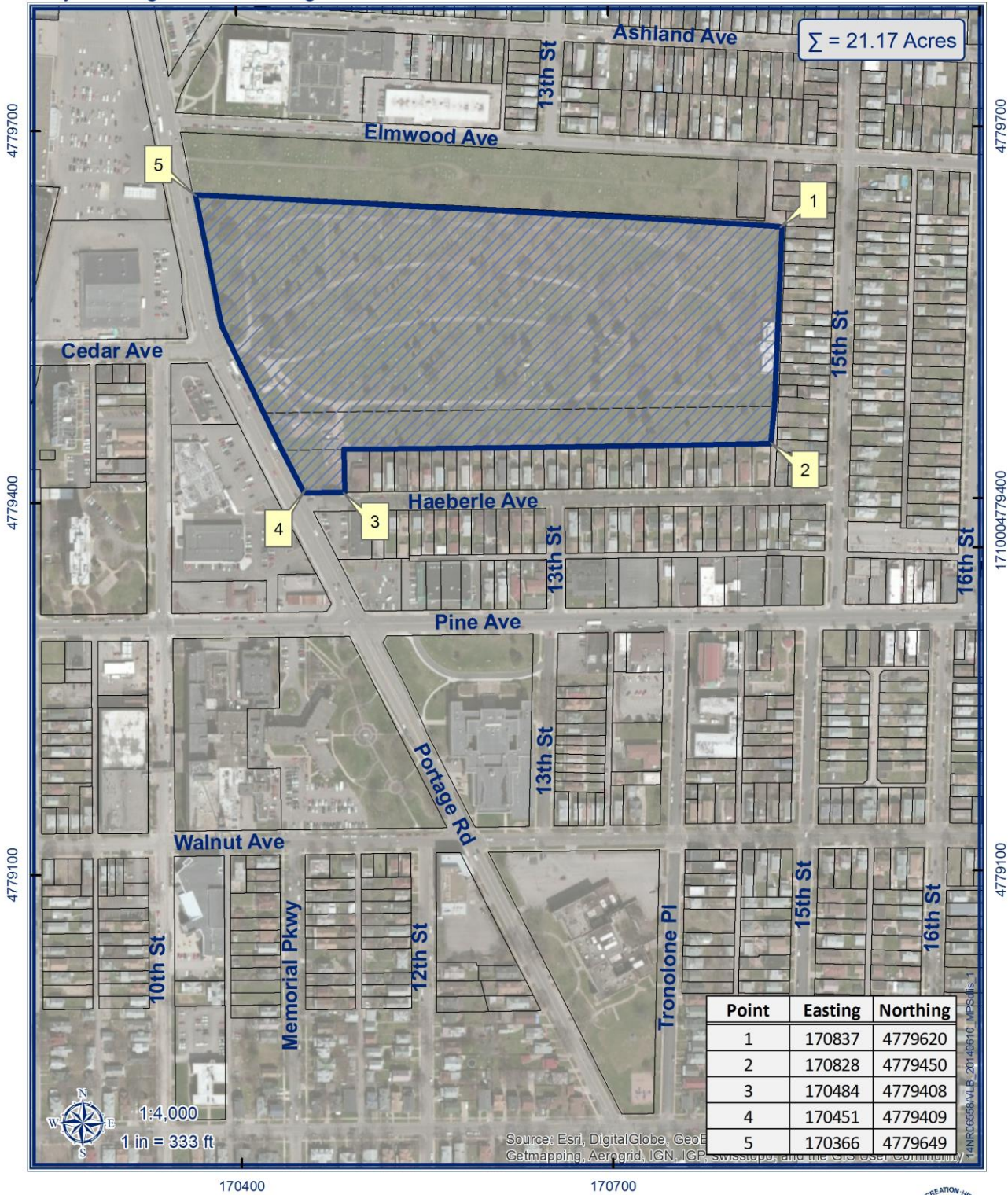


Oakwood Cemetery  
 Name of Property

Niagara County, NY  
 County and State

Oakwood Cemetery ( City of Niagara Falls)  
 City of Niagara Falls, Niagara Co., NY

763 Portage Road  
 Niagara Falls, NY 14301



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N  
 Projection: Transverse Mercator  
 Datum: North American 1983  
 Units: Meter



Oakwood Cemetery  
 RR

Tax Parcel Data:  
 Niagara Co. RPS  
[gis1.erie.gov/GC/NiagaraCountyNY](http://gis1.erie.gov/GC/NiagaraCountyNY)



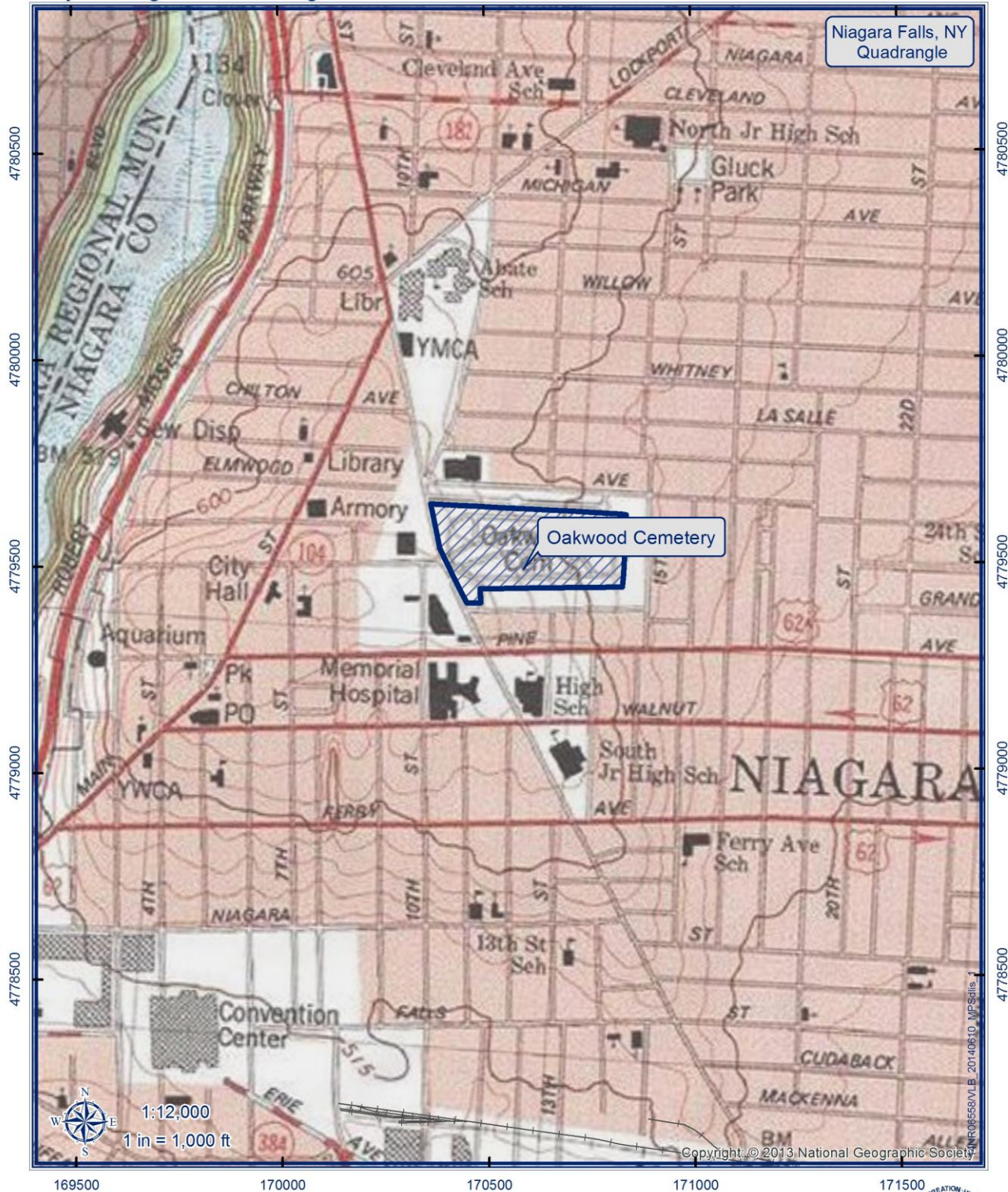


Oakwood Cemetery  
Name of Property

Niagara County, NY  
County and State

Oakwood Cemetery ( City of Niagara Falls)  
City of Niagara Falls, Niagara Co., NY

763 Portage Road  
Niagara Falls, NY 14301



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N  
Projection: Transverse Mercator  
Datum: North American 1983  
Units: Meter



Oakwood\_Cemetery  
+ RR

Tax Parcel Data:  
Niagara Co. RPS  
[gis1.erie.gov/GC/NiagaraCountyNY](http://gis1.erie.gov/GC/NiagaraCountyNY)





# OAKWOOD CEMETERY

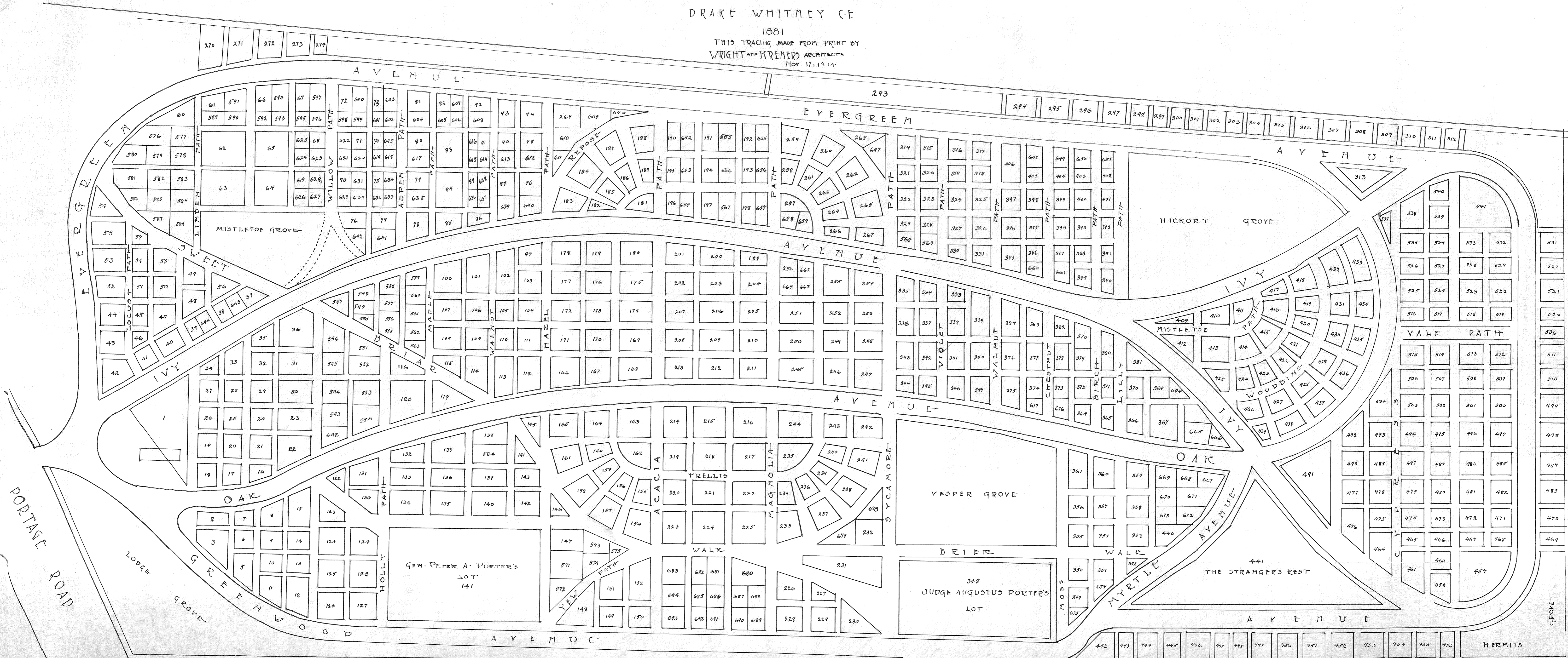
NIAGARA FALLS

DRAWN BY

DRAKE WHITNEY CO

1881

THIS TRACING MADE FROM PRINT BY  
WRIGHT AND KREMER ARCHITECTS  
Nov 17, 1914















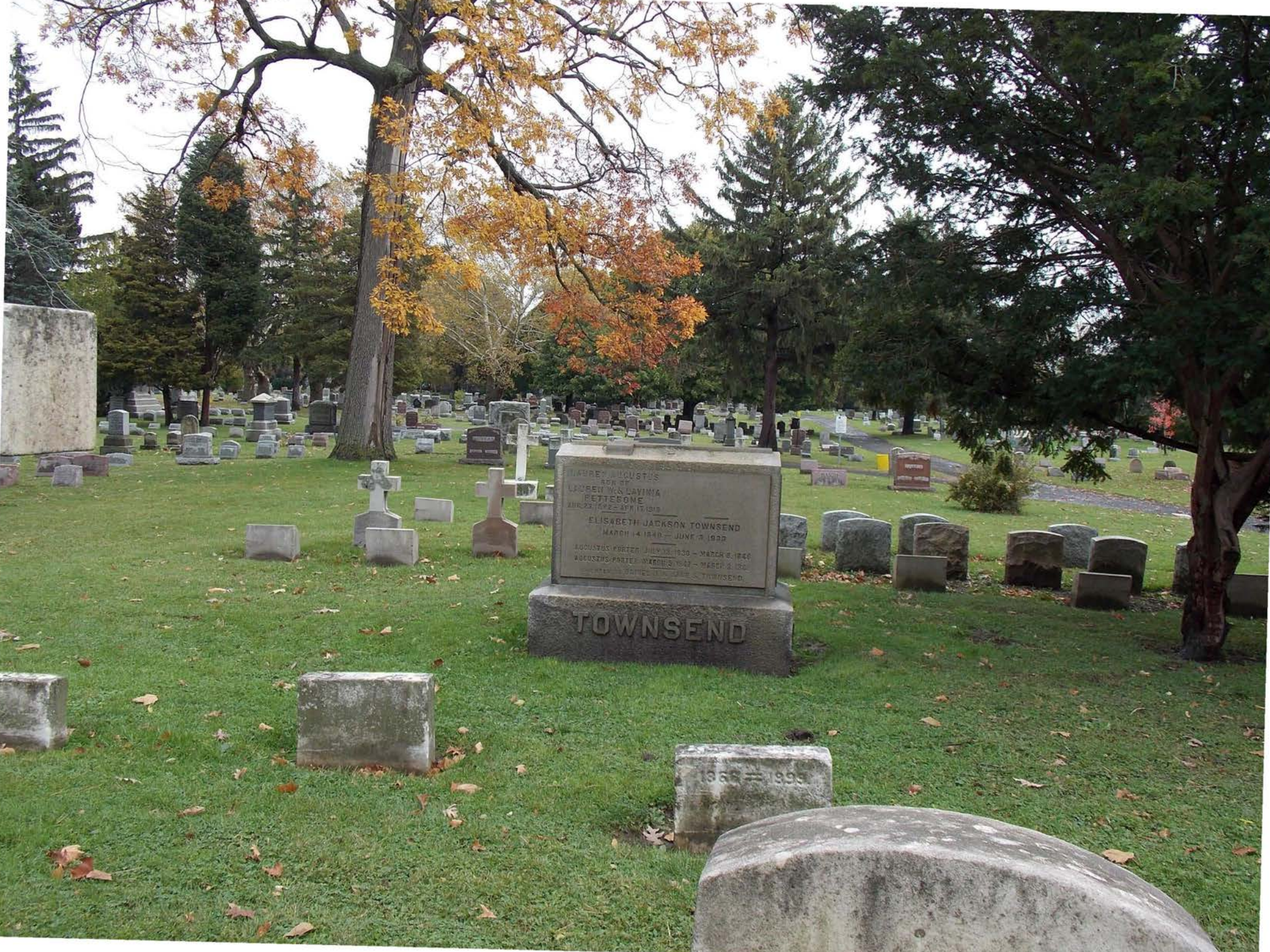
OFFICE

WEEKDAY 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM









AUGUSTUS  
SON OF  
LAUREN W. & LAVINIA  
PETTESONE  
AUG. 22, 1842 - APR. 17, 1910  
ELISABETH JACKSON TOWNSEND  
MARCH 14, 1840 - JUNE 3, 1922  
AUGUSTUS PRATER JULY 12, 1830 - MARCH 8, 1866  
AUGUSTUS PRATER MARCH 5, 1847 - MARCH 3, 1862  
WIFE OF DANIEL BURNHAM S. TOWNSEND

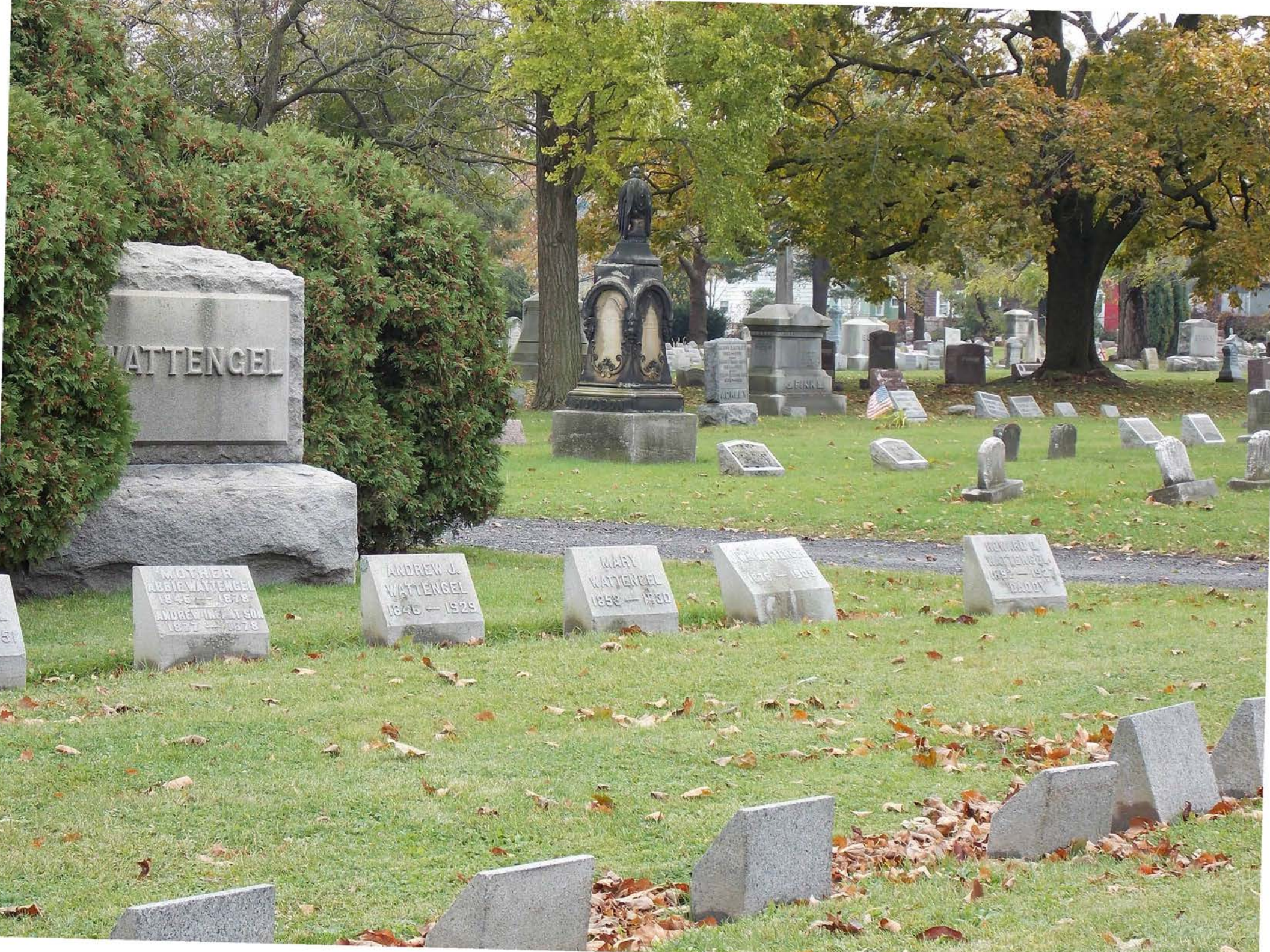
TOWNSEND

1862 - 1893









WATTENGE

MOTHER  
ROBBIE WATTENGE  
1845 - 1878  
ANDREW WATTENGE AT SON  
1877 - 1878

ANDREW J.  
WATTENGE  
1846 - 1928

MARY  
WATTENGE  
1858 - 1930

J. WATTENGE  
1815 - 1898

HOWARD L.  
WATTENGE  
1882 - 1932  
DADDY





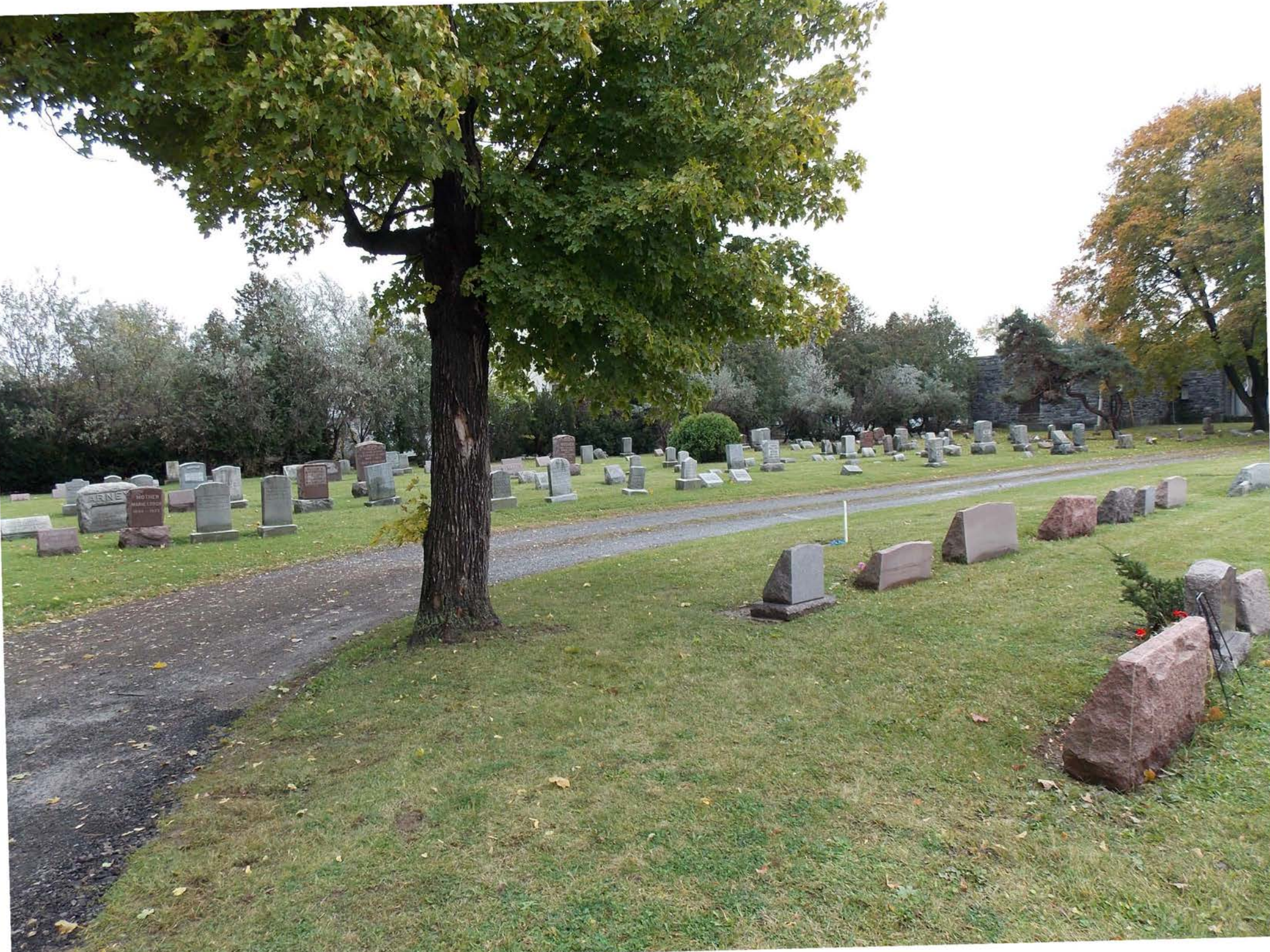




MASLEN

MAY 18  
1850  
1910  
MOCAN









REID

REID

DISERER

MERCEY  
MORAN  
1855

MORAN  
1855

HAMSCHER  
FATHER  
FREDERICK J.  
1882 - 1956

MOTHER  
PAULINE PENNER  
GATES  
1896 - 1982

PROV. GED.  
CHARLES H.  
PENNER  
1874 - 1919

WYLLIE L. STEWART  
1898 - 1988





GEORGE C. HAEBERLE  
APRIL 12, 1853  
MAY 26, 1946

GEORGE HAEBERLE  
MAY 22, 1832 - OCT. 18, 1899

ELISE HAEBERLE  
MAY 25, 1868 - OCT. 25, 1955

RUTH M. HAEBERLE  
1894 - 19

MOTHER  
ANNA KOCH  
MAY 19, 1859 - MAY 15

STEPHEN MORSE R  
AUGUST 12, 1853  
AUGUST 31, 194

FRANK PITTS RY  
FEBRUARY 17, 18  
MARCH 3, 195

FRANK R. JEN  
MAY 18, 1859 - 1919

FRANK PITTS RY  
MARCH 24, 1853  
SEPTEMBER 5, 193

FRANK PITTS RY  
OCTOBER 17, 1851  
OCTOBER 4, 1925

Light from skylights

Light from window at end of hallway







HANNAM

LAMBERT

BISHARA

HAWKS

NEIGHT

MARCO ARBUSTI  
MAY 2 1885  
MAY 2 1955





WILLIAM E. STROCHER  
1877 - 1954  
AMELIA J. STROCHER  
1877 - 1960  
JOHN K. STROCHER  
1900 - 1929  
WIFE OF WILLIAM E. STROCHER  
1898 - 1990 1920 - 1970

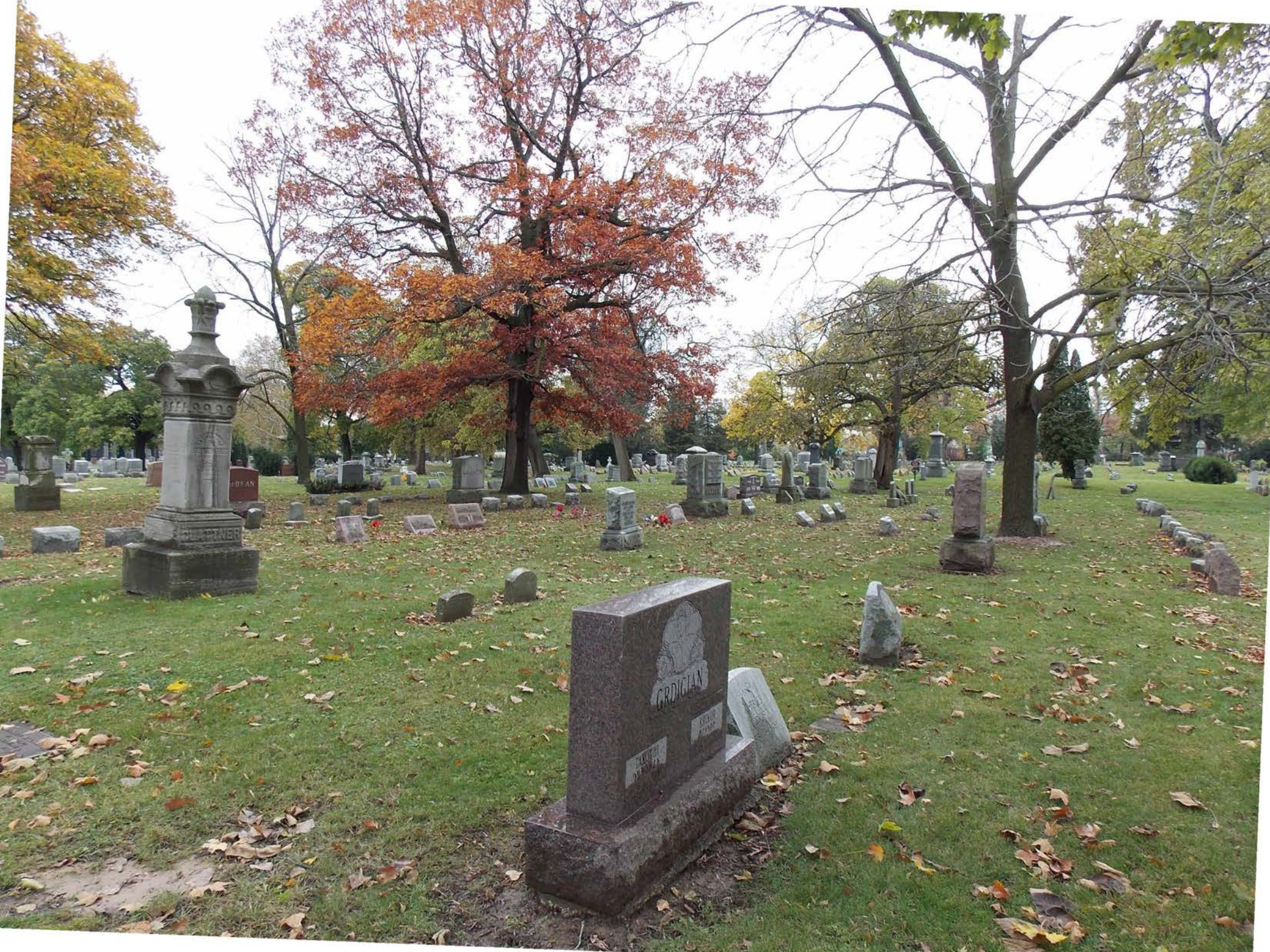
WIFE OF  
ALEXANDER STELL  
1871 - 1888  
MARY HER WIFE  
1878 - 1971

WOOLCUTT

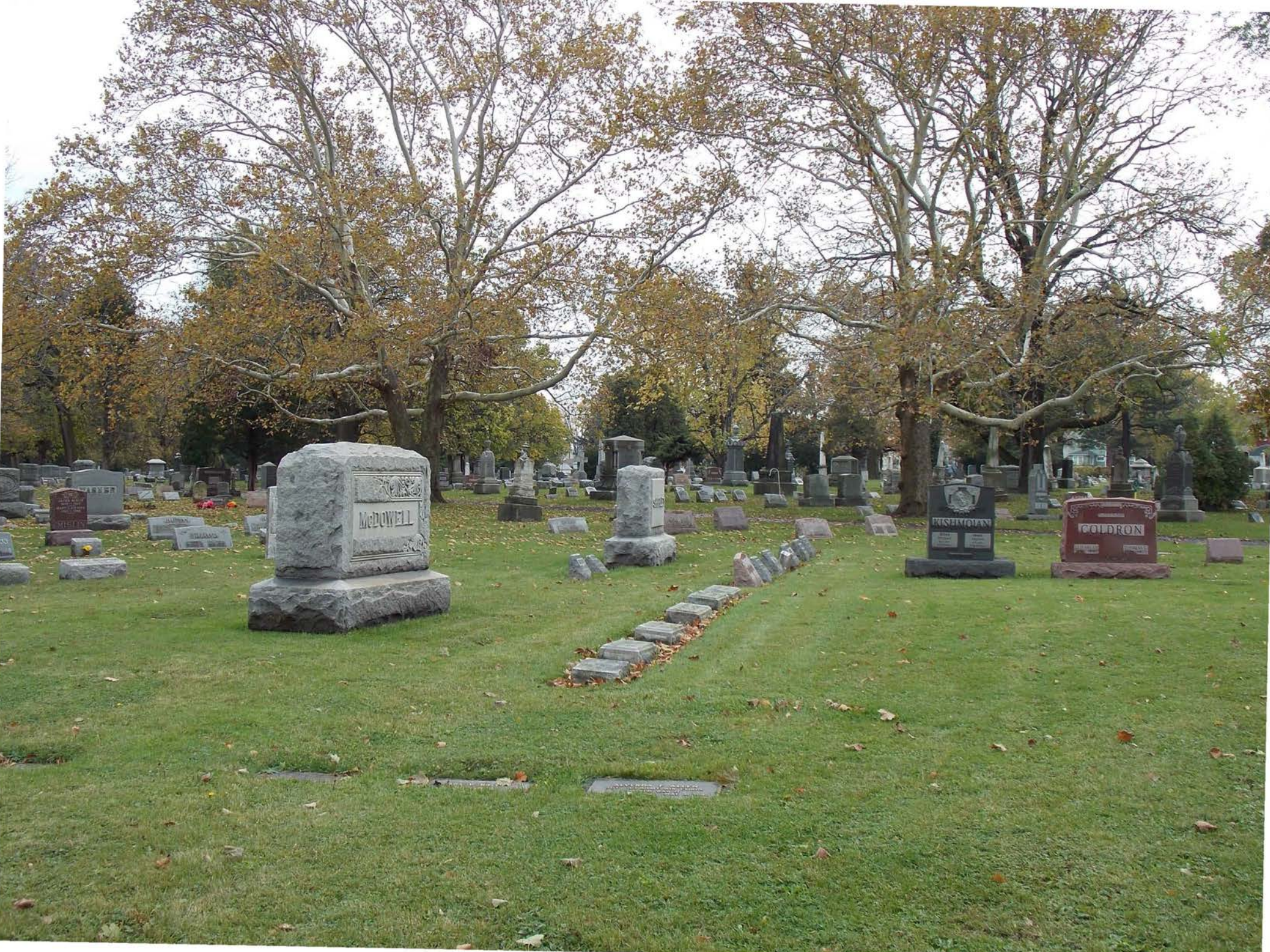
WIFE OF  
ALEXIS  
MAY 18 1857  
1857 - 1907

WESTERFIELD  
HARRY W. 1852 - 1915









McDOWELL

RISHMOLAN

GOLDRON

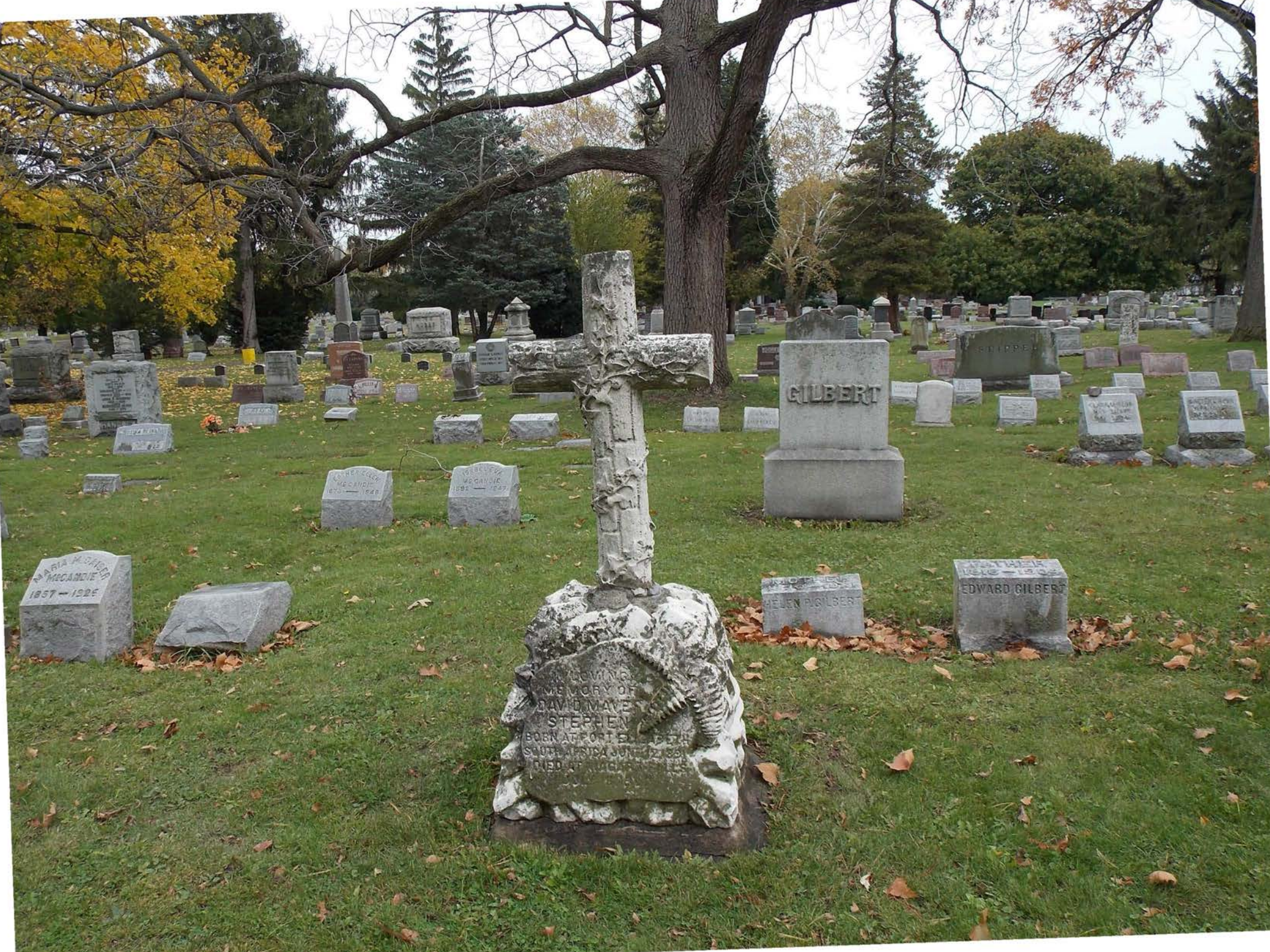




GIROUX

1868





LOVING  
MEMORY OF  
DAVID MAVE  
STEPHEN  
BORN AT FORT BENTON  
SOUTH AFRICA JUNE 12 1831  
DIED AT FORT BENTON

GILBERT

FATHER  
1818 - 1868  
EDWARD GILBERT

HELEN GILBERT

MARIA M. GILBERT  
MCGARRIE  
1857 - 1925

MARY ELLEN  
MCGARRIE  
1870 - 1948

MARY ELLEN  
MCGARRIE  
1870 - 1948





GEORGE LYALL  
1841 - 1915  
MAY 20 1877  
1928 - 1928  
LYALL

ESTHER WATSON  
1818 - 1898

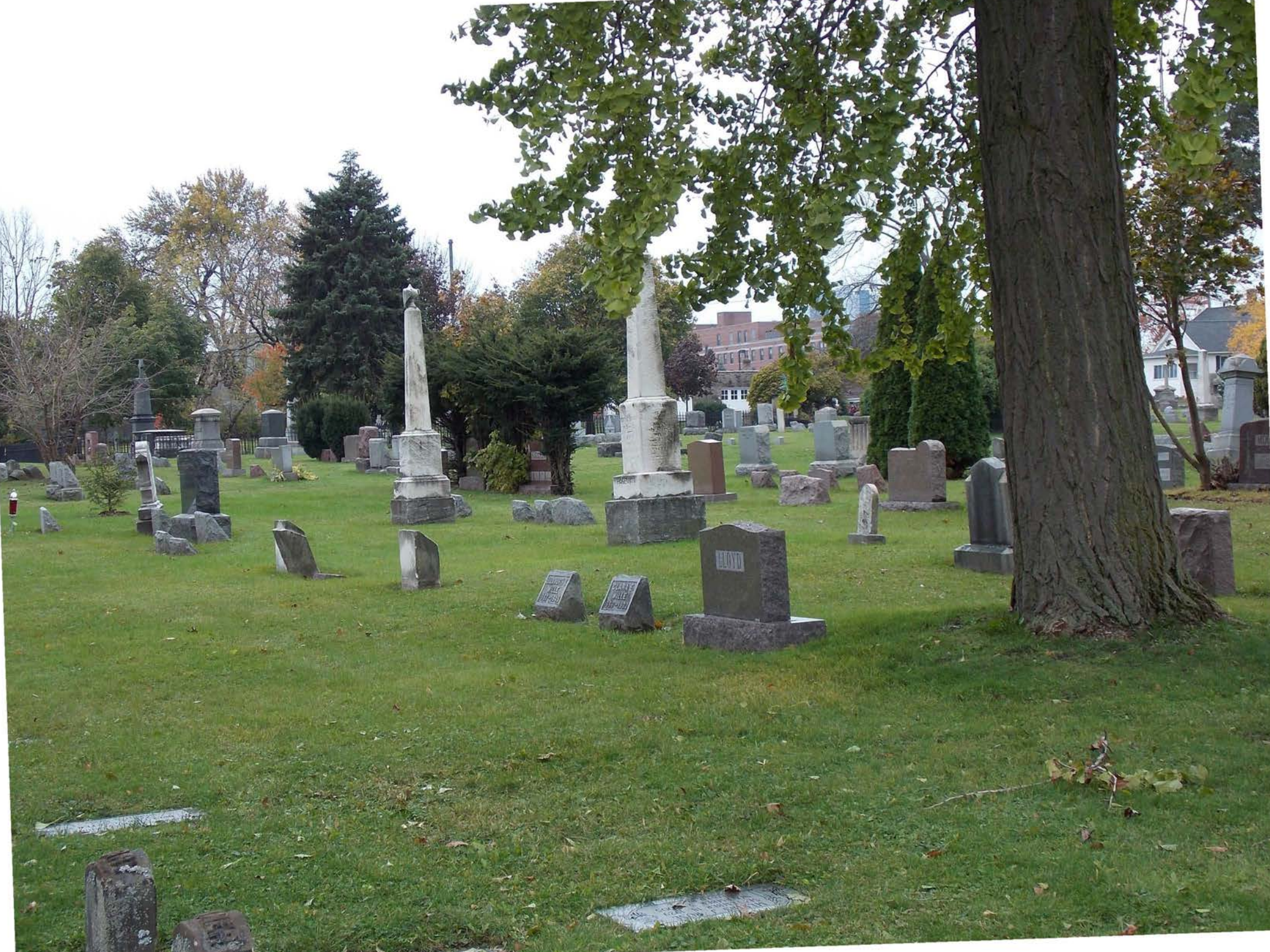
WALTER WATSON  
1818 - 1898  
MAY 20 1877  
1928 - 1928

MARIE SULLERS  
1816 - 1916  
MAY 20 1877  
1928 - 1928  
SULLERS

J. KANE  
1853 - 1884

WALTER WATSON  
1818 - 1898









CHESBROUGH

John F.  
Merritt  
May 11, 1850  
Nov. 25, 1910

DAVE





WHEN WE HAVE AS AN  
ANCHOR OF THE SOUL BOTH  
FORE AND AFT

HOLLEY





THEODORE E. ROULEY  
1853-1902

PEARSON





MERCY JESU  
ELIZABETH LEWIS PORTER  
BORN [illegible]  
DIED [illegible]

[Illegible text on a large monument with a decorative top]

PORTER

[Illegible text on three small rectangular gravestones]





LAVINA E.  
PORTER  
1800-1880

PETER BUEL  
PORTER

BORN AT CANANDAIGUA N.Y.  
MARCH 27, 1796  
DIED AT NIAGARA FALLS  
JUNE 18, 1871





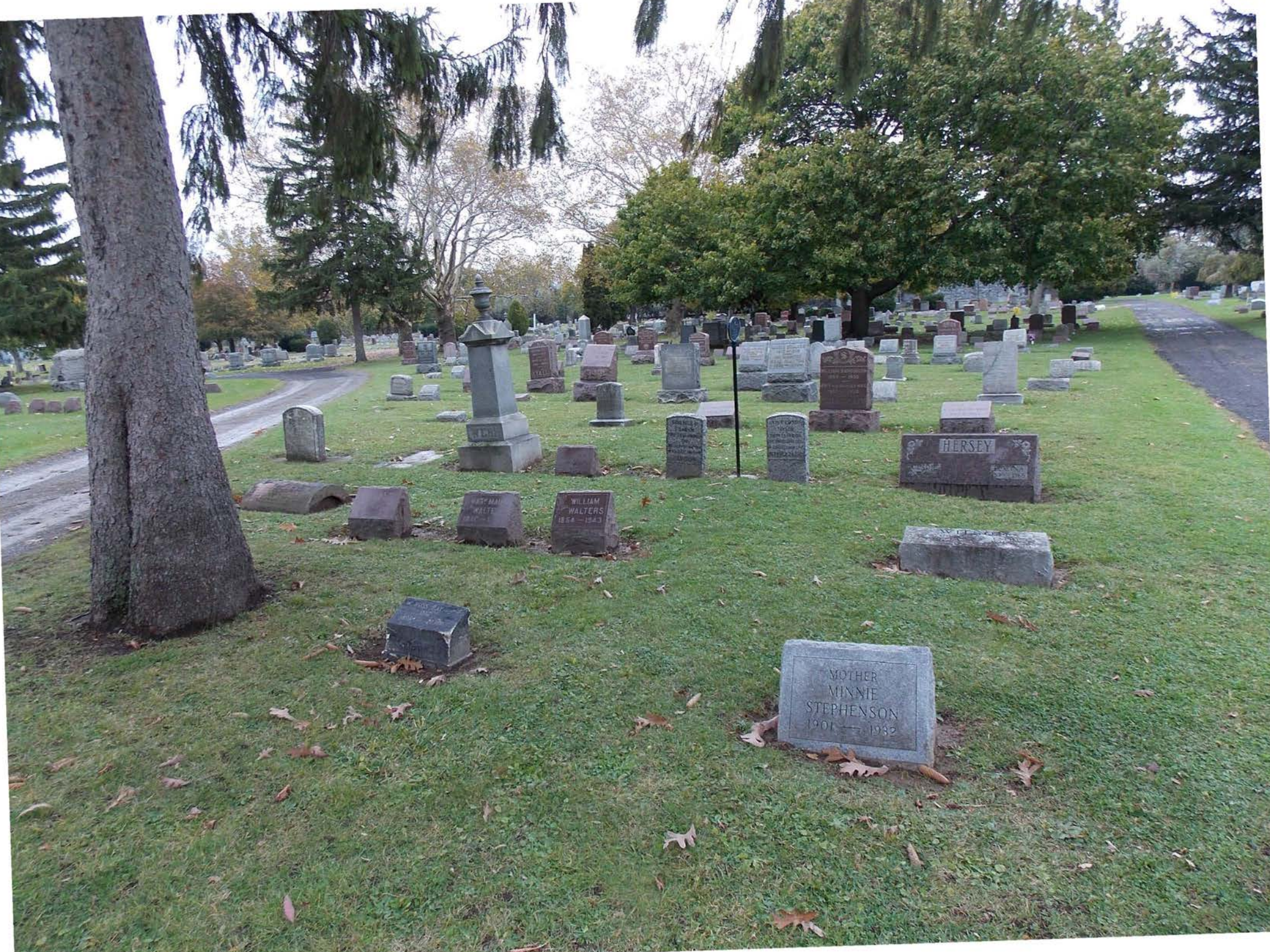




BRUNDAGE

GESCHWENDER





W. H. HILL

W. H. HILL

W. H. HILL

W. H. HILL

MARSHALL  
WALTERS  
1854 - 1943

WILLIAM  
WALTERS  
1854 - 1943

EDWARD  
1848 - 1918

EDWARD  
1848 - 1918

HERSEY

HERSEY

HERSEY

MOTHER  
MINNIE  
STEPHENSON  
1901 - 1982





PORTER

THE BROTHERS AND SISTERS  
OF THE PORTER  
FAMILY  
WISH TO BE BURIED  
HERE

PETER B. PORTER  
BORN IN THE TOWN  
OF PORTER  
COUNTY OF THE STATE  
OF NEW YORK  
DIED IN THE CITY  
OF NEW YORK  
MAY 10 1871  
AGED 71 YEARS

THE BROTHER AND SISTERS  
OF THE PORTER  
FAMILY  
WISH TO BE BURIED  
HERE



National Register of Historic Places  
Memo to File

# Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Oakwood Cemetery

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Niagara

DATE RECEIVED: 7/25/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/22/14  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/08/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/10/14  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000581

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 9.10.14 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.





# City of Niagara Falls, New York

P.O. Box 69, Niagara Falls, NY 14302-0069

City Hall  
745 Main Street

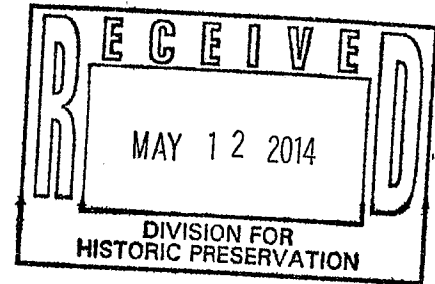
Paul A. Dyster  
Mayor

Website: [www.niagarafallsusa.org](http://www.niagarafallsusa.org)  
e-mail: [paul.dyster@niagarafallsny.gov](mailto:paul.dyster@niagarafallsny.gov)

Phone: (716) 286-4310  
Fax: (716) 286-4349

May 8, 2014

Ruth L. Pierpont  
Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation  
Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau – Peebles Island  
PO Box 189  
Waterford, New York 12188-08189



**RE: Oakwood Cemetery**

Dear Ms. Pierpont,

On May 7, the City of Niagara Falls Historic Preservation Commission reviewed the Oakwood Cemetery application for the State and National Registers of Historic Places. In review of the application, the Historic Preservation Commission concluded that Oakwood Cemetery embodies distinctive characteristics and represents a significant and distinguishable entity that should be preserved and protected. Consequently, it's with great enthusiasm that the City of Niagara Falls wholeheartedly supports Oakwood Cemetery's application to be on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Located in the heart of the City of Niagara Falls, Oakwood Cemetery is a hidden treasure which is a vital connection to some of the Niagara Frontier's most notable residents. As the final resting place for close to 20,000 people on 18 acres, this cemetery is home to significant architectural features including unique headstones, iconic buildings and a Green & Wicks designed mausoleum which houses an original Tiffany window. Despite its contemporary urban setting, the cemetery is a classic example of the rural cemetery movement that began in the 1830s. Oakwood Cemetery was designed in 1852 by noted railroad designer and Niagara Falls civil engineer Theodore Dehone Judah; the cemetery has not deviated from its original layout with mature trees and shrubbery.

Following periods of rapid growth in Niagara Falls between 1910 and the 1930s, the once rural scenery were transformed in an urban setting. The period from 1990-2005 was a very difficult period for the cemetery. Reflective of economic disinvestment in the city, Oakwood began to deteriorate. Buildings began to fall into disrepair. The cemetery board rarely met and the grounds began to deteriorate. Conditions became so dire that





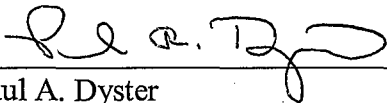
the New York State Department of State, Division of Cemeteries warned that insolvency was imminent.

In 2009, a group of dedicated individuals began a reorganization of the cemetery association. The new organized board was determined to not only resurrect the physical grounds to its past grandeur but also actively organizing programming that promoted the cemetery as an outdoor museum. In a short period, the new board injected not just new energy but a sense of hope in a city that has had its heart broken one too many times.

Oakwood is a direct link to the lives of abolitionists, Civil War heroes and even daredevils who challenged the mighty Niagara. The association has actively recruited the youth of the community to assist in the preservation and promotion of the cemetery. The Young Archeologists of Niagara Wheatfield School District, the Girls Scouts and the Boys Scouts have been vigorously involved in the restoration of grave markers and the preservation of landscape features. The association is currently in the process of digitalizing burial records and not long ago became the archival home of the Niagara County Odd Fellow Records. Of late, the cemetery has completed a landscape survey/inventory, developed a 5 year master plan and was listed as a local landmark. In 2013, Preservation Buffalo Niagara granted Oakwood Cemetery Association with a group Achievement Award.

Oakwood Cemetery Association has proven that the preservation and promotion of cultural resources is not just important but is possible even in a city where there are many demands but few financial resources. Oakwood is an excellent example of the rural cemetery movement that has retained Theodore Dehone Judah's original design. Consequently, the City of Niagara Falls applauds your office's efforts to advance Oakwood Cemetery site to the State and National Register.

Sincerely,



---

Paul A. Dyster  
Mayor



**TOWN OF NIAGARA**  
**COUNTY OF NIAGARA, STATE OF NEW YORK**  
NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y.

7105 LOCKPORT ROAD  
NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14305



PHONE: (716) 297-2150  
FAX: (716) 297-9262  
[www.townofniagara.com](http://www.townofniagara.com)

May 9, 2014

Ms. Ruth Pierpont, Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation  
DHP-NYSOPRHP  
Peebles Island State park  
P.O. Box 189  
Waterford, New York 12188

Dear Ms. Pierpont:

I support Oakwood Cemetery Association's nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

The Town owns a portion of the cemetery which is the final resting place for many of our residents and is a heritage treasure representing the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century Rural Cemetery Movement. The Cemetery sits on the historic portage route between the Upper Niagara and Lower Niagara River which served as the primary route of by passing Niagara Falls by people such as merchants and soldiers, including those who had contracts with the Federal Government to haul ammunition, food, fuel and soldiers to Fort Niagara on the Lower Niagara River.

The property is associated with many events that made significant contributions to our rich history in the Niagara region embodying the distinctive type of construction characteristics of that period in time. The Cemetery's unique headstones and mausoleum make architectural statements reflective of their time in history and in many ways the Cemetery provides a living story of our history.

Thank you for your consideration, the Town truly values the historical value of Oakwood Cemetery.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Danny Sklarski".

Danny Sklarski  
Deputy Supervisor



**Dean W Gowen**  
*Registered Landscape Architect*  
193 Mt. Vernon Road  
Amherst, New York 14226

May 10, 2014

Ruth Pierpont, Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation  
DHP – NYSOPRHP  
Peebles Island State Park  
P.O. Box 189  
Waterford, New York 12188

Dear Deputy Commissioner Pierpont,

**I fully support Oakwood Cemetery's nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places.**

As the author of the Oakwood Cemetery Association's recent Historic Landscape Report and Master Plan, I am thrilled that the property is receiving its just reward and finally earning the respect that it deserves in the world of historic properties and unique cultural landscapes. While doing research and preparing the historic landscape document, I found it hard to believe that such a significant historic property had gone unnoticed for this long. Oakwood Cemetery is truly a hidden Jewel in Western New York, if not nationally, and offers special treasures around every bend throughout the grounds.

As I am aware that the Historic Register review process often looks for unique or one-of-a-kind attributes for the nominations, you will see that Oakwood Cemetery has numerous special attributes and connections that are significant within Niagara Falls, Western New York and even on a National level. Among these wonderful historic attributes, one of the greatest confirmations that was made during the research phase of the report was that Theodore Dehone Judah designed the original cemetery layout that we still see very well-preserved today. While Judah was an engineer and railroad designer during his very short life, and a significant national figure of the time, his modest 1852 layout of Oakwood has attributes similar to other Rural Cemetery designs and Romantic Landscapes of the period, but more uniquely it is more similar in character to what would've been designed by Frederick Law Olmsted many years later.

As is evidenced in the Historic Landscape Report, few properties represent such significance to a city or region, and to the development of a city that surrounds one of the natural wonders of the world. This includes:

- a unique layout by the person who was the inspiration behind and later responsible for the development of the Transcontinental Railroad (which opened the United States up to western expansion and an economic boom)



- a design that may have actually influenced other designs of that period and later,
- a layout in the Rural Cemetery style of the day that is largely intact today
- a site located along the historic Portage Road, which connected Lake Ontario to Lake Erie in the earliest frontier days
- Significant burials representing a who's who in the historic development of Niagara Falls, including the Porter family, and those involved in the development of the county's earliest hydro-power, etc., to mention just a couple
- Burials of many notable daredevils, including Annie Edson Taylor, the first person to travel over the falls in a barrel
- Relocated burials from a site close to the falls which was "cleared" to make way for railroad expansions and tourist development in that vicinity
- distinct architectural treasures by famed architects, including the Green & Wicks Mausoleum

These attributes, as well as many others, make Oakwood Cemetery a logical choice for the nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places. It was truly a pleasure being a part of this unique and special place.

Thanks you for your consideration.

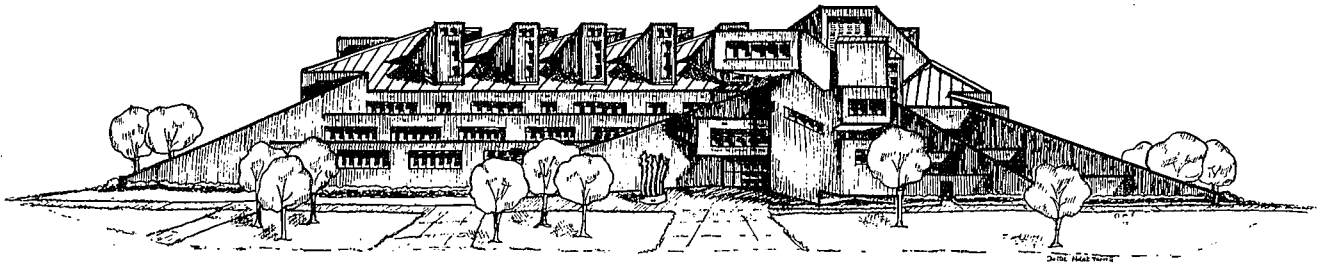
Sincerely,



Dean W. Gowen

Registered Landscape Architect





NIAGARA FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY  
*Earl W. Brydges Library Building*

May 1, 2014

Dear Ms. Pierpont,

The Niagara Falls Public Library supports Oakwood Cemetery's nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places. Purchased by Augustus and Peter Porter in 1805, the cemetery sits on the historic portage route between Upper Niagara River and Youngstown, N.Y. Among those buried at Oakwood are Annie Edson Taylor, the first person to travel over the falls in a barrel, Homan Walsh, the young kite flyer whose kite and progressively larger ropes sent the cable across the gorge for the suspension bridge and the famed "Hermit of Goat Island".

The cemetery, built in 1852 was designed by noted civil engineer, T.D. Judah, who went on to convince Abraham Lincoln and the United States Congress to build the Transcontinental Railroad. Significant architectural statements are found throughout the cemetery with unique headstones and iconic buildings, including the Green and Wicks designed mausoleum with its noted Tiffany stained glass window.

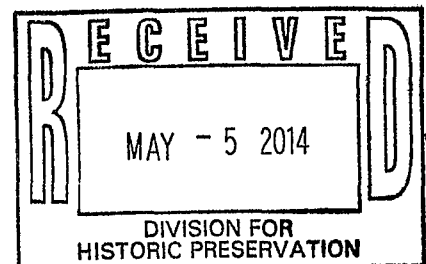
Oakwood Cemetery is one of the oldest surviving remnants from the early years of the Niagara Falls community and represents an important social, historic and architectural link to the past. Please consider and accept their application. Placing the cemetery on the State and National Registers of Historic Places would be an honor and recognition that is highly suitable and well deserved.

Sincerely,

Michelle Petrazzoulo

Executive Director

Niagara Falls Public Library





# PRESERVATION *Buffalo Niagara* *Building on the past for our FUTURE*

May 1, 2014

Virginia L. Bartos, Ph.D.  
Historic Preservation Program Analyst  
NYSOPRHP  
PO Box 189  
Waterford, NY 12188

Dear Virginia,

I am writing to express the support of Preservation Buffalo Niagara (PBN) for the nomination of Oakwood Cemetery in Niagara Falls to the State and National Registers of Historic Places. Oakwood is one of the most significant historic resources in the City of Niagara Falls, dating back to 40 years before the founding of the city. Oakwood has within its grounds treasures of historic buildings and monuments and a landscape plan that is nearly intact since its design by T.D. Judah in 1852. The Oakwood Mausoleum is of special note having been designed by the firm of renowned local architect E.B. Green and built of beautiful limestone and marble with a notable window by Louis Comfort Tiffany. Oakwood Cemetery is of significance in the history of Niagara Falls as the final resting place of the city's most prominent families, including the Jenss, Porter, Whitney and Schoellkopf families along with important figures in history including Annie Edson Taylor and Homan Walsh. Furthermore, it is one of the most densely treed sites within the city limits with many plantings dating back for decades.

Since its founding in 2008, Preservation Buffalo Niagara has worked to promote historic preservation in the region, including the city of Niagara Falls. The designation of Oakwood Cemetery on the State and National Registers would be an important recognition of the importance of preservation in the community.

PBN is proud to support this nomination for Oakwood Cemetery.

Regards,



Tom Yots  
Executive Director

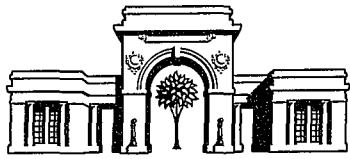
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April 29, 2014

Ruth Pierpont  
Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation  
NHP-NYSOPRHP  
Peebles Island State Park  
PO Box 189  
Waterford NY 12188

Re: In Support of Oakwood Cemetery Association's Nomination to the State and  
National Registers of Historic Places  
763 Portage Road, Niagara Falls, NY 14301

Dear Ms. Pierpont:

I support Oakwood Cemetery's nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Founded in 1852, Oakwood Cemetery ably represents the Rural Cemetery Movement of the mid-1800's. The cemetery contains architecturally significant structures of the period, such as a mausoleum designed by the firm of Green & Wicks (Architect Edward B. Green was prolific in his work, and his firm was world-renowned.) The crematory and office were designed by Wright and Kremers Architects of Niagara Falls, NY.

The cemetery contains the graves of individuals of distinction. Annie Edson Taylor was the first person to travel over Niagara Falls in a barrel and survive. Homan Walsh was the young kite flyer whose kite and progressively larger ropes sent the cable across the gorge for the suspension bridge. The famed "hermit of Goat Island" is also interred at Oakwood.

As a fellow cemeterian, President of both The Forest Lawn Group and the Forest Lawn Heritage Foundation, and past board member of the New York State Association of Cemeteries, it is my honor to recommend that you strongly consider Oakwood Cemetery for placement on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

I remain sincerely yours,

Joseph P. Dispenza  
President

JPD:jb

AFFILIATED CEMETERIES

- Williamsville Cemetery  
*Amherst, NY*
- St. Matthew's Cemetery  
*West Seneca, NY*
- Lakeside Cemetery  
*Hamburg, NY*
- Forest Lawn Cemetery  
*Buffalo, NY*

OFFICERS

- Joseph P. Dispenza, President
- William M. Murray, Esq.,  
Vice President
- Donald A. DeMeo, Treasurer
- Janice M. Burnett, Secretary
- Nancy A. Kirsch, Assistant Secretary





**Niagara Falls Historic Preservation Society, Inc.**

**1201 Pine Avenue (Third Floor-Alumni Room)**

**Niagara Falls, New York 14301**

**(716) 807-6754**

**[www.nfhps.org](http://www.nfhps.org)**

Ruth Pierpont, Deputy Commissioner  
for Historic Preservation  
DHP-NYSOPRHP  
Peebles Island State Park  
P.O. Box 189  
Waterford, New York 12188

Dear Ms. Pierpont:

The Niagara Falls Historic Preservation Society, Inc. fully supports Oakwood Cemetery's nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places. Oakwood Cemetery is an important heritage link to the Rural Cemetery Movement of the mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century that is in keeping with the original design of T.D. Judah.

The Cemetery is a surviving remnant of the early days in the development of the City of Niagara Falls and contains many graves of wealthy industrialists, founders of the City such as the Porter Family, and daredevils such as Annie Edson Taylor.

It is said that the history of Niagara Falls rests in this place. Architects such as Green & Wicks designed the iconic Mausoleum that contains an original Tiffany window. The crematorium and office buildings were designed by the well-known local architectural firm of Wright and Kremers.

This cemetery embodies distinctive and significant features that are well worth designation as National Register eligible. The Society is delighted to support the nomination of Oakwood Cemetery.

Sincerely yours,

*Marjorie E. Gillies*

Marjorie E. Gillies  
President  
Niagara Falls Historic Preservation Society, Inc.



# STEELE DEVELOPMENTAL ENTERPRISES, INC.

---

May 2, 2014

Ms. Ruth Pierpont  
Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation  
DHP- NYSOPRHP  
Peebles Island State Park  
P.O.Box 189  
Waterford, New York 12188

Dear Ms. Pierpont:

I support Oakwood Cemetery's nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Today, Oakwood Cemetery has maintained its original and unique character with its mature trees and shrubbery, numerous examples of fine funerary art and unique architecture which embodies the Rural Cemetery movement of the mid-nineteenth century.

I believe Oakwood Cemetery has a strong historic credential. I would like to lend my support, advancing the plan to designate Oakwood Cemetery as a New York State and National Historic Site.

Sincerely yours,



Carol J. Steele

Vice-President and Treasurer





# Westburne Electric Supply

*"Our Accent is on Service!"*

May 4, 2014

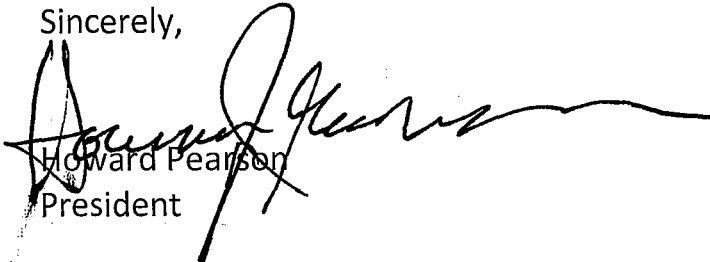
Ms. Ruth Pierpont  
Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation  
DHP- NYSOPRHP  
Peebles Island State Park  
P.O.Box 189  
Waterford, New York 12188

Dear Ms. Pierpont:

Oakwood Cemetery is the only cemetery in the world with a special section set forth for those intrepid souls that have battled Niagara Falls. Towards the back in Section C5, Lot 687, in a unique triangle, lie the famous stunters as well as the body parts that have been found following tragic encounters with the mighty Niagara.

I support Oakwood Cemetery's nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Sincerely,



Howard Pearson  
President

**SYRACUSE**  
110 Hiawatha Place  
PO Box 39  
Syracuse, NY 13208  
Phone: 315-476-2181  
Fax: 315-476-2172

**ALBANY**  
156 Railroad Ave.  
Albany, NY 12205  
Phone: 518-438-6891  
1-800-447-3748  
Fax: 518-438-5898

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341 East Orvis St.  
Massena, NY 13662  
Phone: 315-764-0518  
Fax 315-764-0618

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2699 Broadway  
Schenectady, NY 12306  
Phone: 518-346-9137  
Fax: 518-346-9141

**UTICA**  
472 Columbia St.  
Utica, NY 13502  
Phone: 315-733-2326  
1-800-442-1311  
Fax: 315-733-2329

**WATERTOWN**  
23072 State Route #12  
Watertown, NY 13601-5001  
Phone: 315-779-8563  
1-800-844-5778  
Fax: 315-779-8749



# BROWN & COMPANY, LLP

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

May 1, 2014

Ms. Ruth Pierpont, Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation  
DHP-NYSOPRHP  
Peebles Island State park  
P.O. Box 189  
Waterford, New York 12188

Dear Ms. Pierpont:

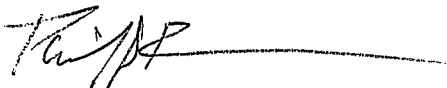
I support Oakwood Cemetery Association's nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places. The property is associated with many events that made significant contributions to our rich history in the Niagara region embodying the distinctive type of construction characteristics of that period in time. The Cemetery's unique headstones and mausoleum make architectural statements reflective of their time in history and in many ways the Cemetery provides a living story of our history.

The Cemetery is a heritage treasure in the City of Niagara Falls, NY representing the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century Rural Cemetery Movement. It is one of the oldest surviving remnants from the early years of Niagara Falls and represents an important social, historic and architectural link to the past. The Cemetery sits on the historic portage route between the Upper Niagara and Lower Niagara River which served as the primary route of by passing Niagara Falls by people such as merchants and soldiers, including those who had contracts with the Federal Government to haul ammunition, food, fuel and soldiers to Fort Niagara on the Lower Niagara River. It also was the beginning of the hydraulic canal to generate electricity by the Scheollkopf family, who is among the buried at Oakwood.

The Cemetery is also the final resting place for names long associated with Niagara Falls such as Annie Edison Taylor, the first person to travel over the falls in a barrel, Homan Walsh, the young kite flyer whose kite assisted in sending cables across the gorge for the suspension bridge, founders of Niagara Falls, the Porter family and the famed "Hermit of Goat Island". Numerous other people, influential in Niagara Falls' history are also buried there, many who have City streets named for them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Patrick D. Brown, CPA



November 17, 2013

Mrs. Virginia Bartos  
New York State Office of Parks Recreation & Historic Preservation  
National Registers of Historic Places Programs  
P.O. Box 189  
Waterford, New York 12188

Re: State Registers of Historic Places  
The Oakwood Cemetery  
Niagara Falls, New York 14301


The purpose of this letter is to support The Oakwood Cemetery, designated as a historic State Park site.

The City of Niagara Falls, New York, gradually emerged into a bustling City, with world fame created by the Falls. The Cemetery has significant historical importance to the City of Niagara Falls, New York. Many of the early founding settlers of Niagara Falls, New York are interred there.

Prior to the incorporation of the City, founders of the City, proposed the development of the Cemetery in Niagara Falls. The Porter Family donated their land for that purpose. The design of the Oakwood Cemetery is by noted Civil Engineer, Thomas D. Judah, in 1852 and in 1881 Civil Engineer Drake Whitney. An important focal point of the cemetery is the Porter Family Mausoleum, designed by E. B. Green in 1912. The Mausoleum is made of fine hand cut blue Vermont Marble. Louis Comfort Tiffany designed the Mausoleum's windows. The interior floors are made of beautiful white marble. Also, several monuments designed by noted craftsman remain, bearing the names of noted figures and personalities.

The Cemetery has significant historic representation by those who developed the City proper. The cemetery is worthy of viewing by visitors, interested in learning more about the City of Niagara Falls and who lived here.

I believe The Oakwood Cemetery has a strong historic credential. I would like to lend my support, advancing the plan to designate the Oakwood Cemetery, as a New York State Parks Historic site.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Marchelos   
Preservation Buffalo Niagara Trustee  
710 Orchard Parkway #2  
Niagara Falls, New York 14301





Niagara Arts and Cultural Center  
1201 Pine Avenue  
Niagara Falls, NY 14301  
P: 716-282-7530 F: 716-282-7533  
Email: [info@thenacc.org](mailto:info@thenacc.org)  
Website: [www.thenacc.org](http://www.thenacc.org)

May 6, 2014

Ruth Pierpont, Deputy Commissioner for Historic Preservation  
DHP-NYSOPRHP  
Peebles Island State Park  
PO Box 189  
Waterford NY 12188

Dear Ms. Pierpont:

Please consider this a letter of recommendation for Oakwood Cemetery's nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places. Oakwood Cemetery is located at 763 Portage Road, Niagara Falls NY and is one short block from the Niagara Arts and Cultural Center (NACC) which is located on the corner of Pine Avenue and Portage Road. Because of this proximity we are very aware of the significant historic contributions made by Oakwood Cemetery.

The two organizations shared history includes the location on historic Portage Road. This is one of the oldest highways in the country and was used to bypass the Falls for centuries. Many of the earliest settlers and people instrumental to the development of the region are buried in Oakwood Cemetery. These include Augustus and Peter Porter founders of the city of Niagara Falls, Annie Edson Taylor the first person to survive going over the falls in a barrel, and Homan Walsh the kite flyer whose kite allowed a cable to cross the gorge to allow the building of the Suspension Bridge.

Oakwood Cemetery is one of the oldest surviving remnants from the early years of the Niagara Falls community and represents an important social, historic and architectural link to the past. Significant architectural statements are found throughout the cemetery with unique headstones and iconic buildings, including the Green & Wicks designed Mausoleum that houses an original Tiffany window.

With this exceptional history kept in mind, we wholeheartedly support Oakwood Cemetery's nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Sincerely,

Kathie Kudela  
Executive Director





Ruth Pierpont, Dep Commissioner for Historic Preservation  
DHP-NYSOPRHP  
Peebles Island State Park  
PO Box 189  
Waterford, New York 12188

May 14, 2014

Dear Ms. Pierpont,

It is with our greatest pleasure that we offer our support for Oakwood Cemetery's nomination to the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Dating back to 1852, Oakwood has been the final resting place for some of our areas' most prominent individuals and families. From the Porter's who were founding fathers and early industrialists to the infamous daredevils who sought their fame and fortune through less 'socially acceptable' means.

We have been a part of several historic reenactments, during which a strict code of authenticity and verifiable facts was always in effect. The board of directors of Oakwood Cemetery take their jobs very seriously and are dedicated and loving stewards and view the cemetery as a sacred place.

Oakwood Cemetery represents an important social, historic and architectural link to Niagara's rich past. From unique gravestones and markers to the original Tiffany window in the Green and Wicks designed mausoleum, the hallowed grounds of Oakwood are a natural for the State and National Registers of Historic Places. We urge the Historic Preservation Commission to make this designation to this very deserving place.

Respectfully yours,

Eva Nicklas  
LCA Artistic Director

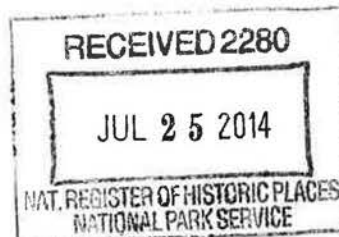
Timothy P. Henderson  
Historical Author/Marble Orchard





**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



**Andrew M. Cuomo**  
Governor  
**Rose Harvey**  
Commissioner

9 July 2014

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

Re: National Register Nominations

Dear Ms. Abernathy:

I am pleased to enclose the following five National Register nominations, all on discs, to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register:

Oakwood Cemetery, Niagara County  
First Presbyterian Church of Le Roy, Genesee County  
North Star School District # 11, Monroe County  
Western New York Wine Company, Steuben County  
Hopkinton Green Historic District, St. Lawrence County

Please feel free to call me at 518.237.8643 x 3261 if you have any questions.

Sincerely:

Kathleen LaFrank  
National Register Coordinator  
New York State Historic Preservation Office