

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

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 Old Lowville Cemetery

other names/site number Jackson Street Cemetery

2. Location

street & number 5515 Jackson Street and 5575 River Street

N/A

not for publication

city or town Lowville

N/A

vicinity

state NY

code 36

county Lewis

code 049

zip code 13367

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

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

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

national

statewide

local

Ruth A. Purpurt
Signature of certifying official/Title

DSHPO

6/29/16
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)

Jan Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

8-22-16
Date of Action

Second Walton Armory
Name of Property

Delaware County, NY
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

Category of Property
(Check only **one** box.)

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

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
0	0	buildings
1	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

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

NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY: Cemetery

Current Functions
(Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY: Cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification
(Enter categories from instructions.)

NA

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: NA

walls: NA

roof: NA

other:

Second Walton Armory
Name of Property

Delaware County, NY
County and State

Narrative Description

The Old Lowville Cemetery is a trapezium of 1.5 acres at the apex of Jackson and River Streets in the Village of Lowville, county seat of Lewis County, NY. Because the village was not chartered until 1854 (and re-chartered in 1858), the Town of Lowville (founded in 1800) is the owner of this cemetery.¹ The town and village nestle between the Adirondacks and Tug Hill Plateau in the Black River Valley. Mill Creek, a west to east-flowing tributary of the Black River (south to north), parallels River Street on the north of the cemetery and was the site of early settlement and commercial activity in the town and village. Outside the village, River Street becomes the Number 4 Road, one of the earliest land routes between Lowville and the Black River.

The area around the cemetery is residential. Three houses immediately adjoin it (one in the apex of the triangle), and several more houses sit on the opposite sides of the two streets. However, it is also only one block from commercial developments on Route 12, such as Nortz and Virkler's Ford dealership (incorporated, 1916; third-oldest in New York State).

The cemetery parcel (tax no. 212.12-07-11.000) gently slopes from north to southwest, with a recently rebuilt stone wall along its north edge. This 300-foot wall is five feet tall near the center; its height gradually decreases until it reaches the east and west property lines. In addition, the parcel is bounded along Jackson and River Streets by sidewalks. The Jackson Street sidewalk was added in 2013, at the same time that the River Street wall was rebuilt and the adjoining sidewalk replaced.² The rail bed of the 1868 Utica and Black River Railroad runs through the triangle of Jackson and River Streets on the east; the tracks were removed in 2015.³

A bird's eye map of Lowville from 1885 (see larger image in Section 11) shows the fenced cemetery surrounded on three sides (and divided into two parts) by trees.⁴ However, in 2016, the cemetery has lost its fence, and only a stump and four large maple trees (three along the wall) remain in the interior. On the south side are three newly planted maple trees.

¹ The Town of Lowville was formed in 1800, out of Mexico, Oswego County. It was absorbed into Lewis County in 1806, when it was chartered.

² The Town and Village of Lowville cooperate on the maintenance of the Old Lowville Cemetery. Both contributed to the work on the sidewalks. In addition, the wall was rebuilt in part with two George Davis grants (Northern New York Community Foundation). The Town of Lowville mows when needed.

³ Over the years, the railroad was absorbed into the Rome Watertown & Ogdensburg, New York Central and Hudson River Railroad, New York Central System, Penn Central, Conrail, and finally Mohawk Adirondack & Northern. The land is now owned by the county IDA.

⁴ L.R. (Lucien R.) Burleigh, *Lowville, N.Y., 1884 Bird's Eye View* (Troy, NY: Burleigh Litho. Co, 1884).

Second Walton Armory

Name of Property

Delaware County, NY

County and State

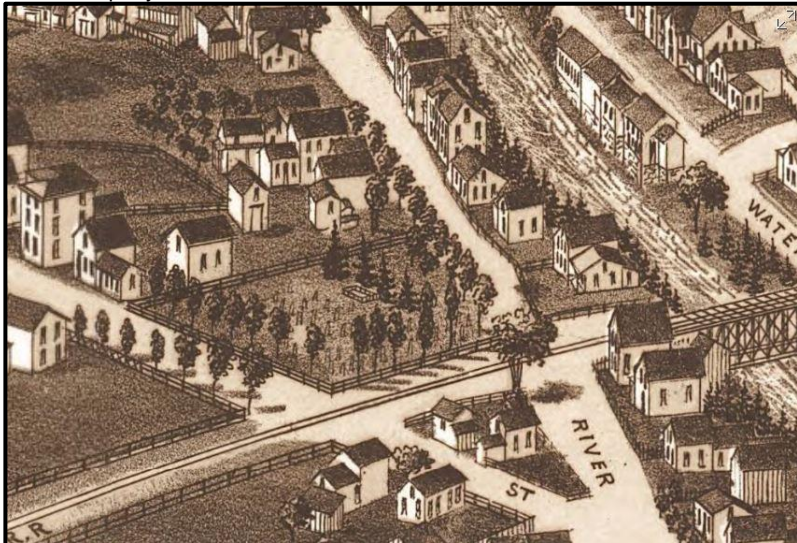


Fig. 1: Detail from L.R. (Lucien R.) Burleigh, *Lowville, N.Y., 1884 Bird's Eye View*. Troy, NY: Burleigh Litho. Co, 1884.



Fig. 2: Bing Aerial View, 2015. Most of the interior trees have been removed.

Over 200 grave stones are located in the cemetery and approximately 50 graves are unmarked. Four family plots are fenced. There are no formal paths, but the stones are laid in roughly parallel lines, with the oldest burials at the east end and several Civil War burials at the west end. Most of the stones are marble tablets from the early to mid-nineteenth century. About half have some form of funerary art – images, shaped tops, or decorative borders. Later burials used both marble and granite stones. The graves of about fifteen veterans are marked with standardized markers erected in the 1920s.

As a result of its design, setting, materials and feeling, the Old Lowville Cemetery retains strong integrity as one of the first burial places in Lewis County and the oldest in the town and village of Lowville.

Old Lowville Cemetery
Name of Property

Lewis County, NY
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ART
SETTLEMENT/EXPLORATION
SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1810-1933

Significant Dates

1810, 1933

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

NA

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

NA

Period of Significance (justification): Date of earliest-known internment (1810) to last-known internment (1933).

Old Lowville Cemetery

Name of Property

Lewis County, NY

County and State

Criteria Considerations – Criterion D: The Old Lowville Cemetery is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places because it derives its primary significance from age, funerary art, and association with the early settlement of Lowville, the principal town in Lewis County, New York. It contains the graves of many of the first settlers in the area, as well as those of Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War veterans – including a brief survivor of the Andersonville Prison and one African-American member of the New York Infantry/ New York Volunteers.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Old Lowville Cemetery in Lowville, Lewis County, New York is locally significant under **Criterion A: Settlement/Exploration** and **Social History** and **Criterion C: Art** as one of the earliest, intact cemeteries in Lewis County and the oldest in the Town of Lowville. Its burials provide evidence of the social structure of the community from the beginning of the nineteenth century through 1933, and its collection of distinctive funerary art illuminates personal, civic, and religious identities and beliefs.

After the Revolutionary War, the area was opened to settlement as part of Macomb's Purchase; the township was surveyed in 1796, and lots sold to settlers from Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Vermont. The first families arrived in 1798. Two years later, the Town of Lowville was incorporated on March 14, 1800, as part of Oswego County (Lewis County was created six years later); one of the first actions of the new town board was to appoint a committee to select cemetery sites. The Old Lowville Cemetery has never been associated with any denomination or specific church.

The land for the cemetery may have been donated by David Kelley (first superintendent of the Town of Lowville and a county judge) sometime before the first marked burial in 1810. That grave belongs to Isaac Perry, father of a Revolutionary War captain (also apparently named Isaac Perry). Another Revolutionary War officer's father was buried in the Old Lowville Cemetery the following year – and thirty years later, so was his son, Captain Jonathan Rogers (1756-1841). Rogers arrived with the first group of families from Westfield, Massachusetts, built the first frame house in the community, and opened the first inn. Other notable graves include those of Ela Collins (1786-1848, NY State Assemblyman and US Congressman), Dr. David Perry (1775-1862, early doctor), Milo Tuttle (c. 1846-1865, brief survivor of the Andersonville prison), Henry Diefendorf (c.1824-1869, African-American Civil War veteran), and William H. Thompson (1884-1914, African-American tuberculosis fatality). Burials slowed in number and changed in character soon after the Civil War, when the Lowville Rural Cemetery Association was organized in 1867. The new cemetery became the resting place of the civic and social leadership of the community, while the old cemetery was used only by those who already had family plots or those with fewer resources. By the beginning of the twentieth century, it was almost full. Herman Hayt (1850-1933) is the last recorded burial.

Most of the Old Lowville Cemetery's funerary art is relatively modest – early to mid-nineteenth century expressions of piety and/or trust in a hereafter. Many tablets from that period are inscribed with weeping willow trees or flowers. Some stones hold epitaphs that describe family relationships, personal characteristics, or the contributions of the deceased to the community of Lowville. A few of the late nineteenth-century burials are marked with obelisks or located in family plots surrounded with wrought-iron fences.

Overall, the Old Lowville Cemetery is an excellent historic resource that can provide much information about the early settlement of Lowville and the evolution of the town and village through the beginning of the twentieth century. It provides evidence of a range of religious beliefs and personal identities within the community, including the prevalence of military service. It also conveys unique information on the

Old Lowville Cemetery

Name of Property

Lewis County, NY

County and State

relationships of African-Americans in rural northern New York, as Henry Diefendorf and William H. Thompson are buried amongst late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century European-American graves. Finally, the art and epitaphs of the stones record regional tastes and funerary customs through time.

Developmental history/additional historic context information

The civil administration and plan of the Old Lowville Cemetery is a direct result of the settlement of this part of Lewis County by New Englanders in the late eighteenth century. Before the American Revolution, the resources of the northern and western Adirondacks were exploited by the Haudenosaunee, but they had no permanent communities in the Black River Valley. After the war, two events opened the area to European-American settlers. In 1784, the New York State Legislature established a land commission to pay off state war debts by selling patents and, in 1788, the Oneida Nation's title to most of its territorial lands was extinguished through the Treaty of Fort Stanwix.⁵ Three years later, Alexander Macomb, William Constable, and Daniel McCormick purchased more than 3.6 million acres of land in northern New York State (one-eighth of the state) at the bargain price of 8 pence per acre. However, Macomb's Purchase bankrupted Macomb, and his interest in the land was acquired by William Constable in 1792. Within the next few years, the Black River Tract – containing the Town of Lowville – was sold to Thomas Boylston, repurchased by Constable (after surveys showed it to be larger and more valuable than expected), and sold again to a consortium of Nicholas Low, William Henderson, Richard Harrison and Josiah Ogden Hoffman. After survey by Benjamin Wright in 1796 and division of the land into the "Eleven Black River Towns," the partners drew lots. Nicholas Low received Number Eleven.⁶

Surveyor Benjamin Wright described each of the eleven towns in his report of the Black River Tract. He reported favorably on Number Eleven:

... this town is very good, especially in the south part, the soil excellent, and timber, bass, maple, beech, birch, ash, elm, and butternut and some few hemlock. Along the river there is a very fine interval in many places, which has very fine soil, and is exceedingly handsome....⁷

In 1797, Nicholas Low appointed 24-year old Silas Stow as his land agent, and lots in Number Eleven were made available for sale. Coincidentally, a party of New Englanders from Westfield, Massachusetts, was searching for land in western New York. Enoch Lee, Russell Pond, Ehud Stephens, and Captain Jonathan Rogers were unimpressed by the area around the Genesee and, on their way back home, met Charles C. Broadhead, then just beginning his surveying career along the Black River. He recommended that the New Englanders go north, flowing a line of blazed trees from the Mohawk to the Black. They met up with Silas Stow, and Stephens bought Lot 38 at \$3 per acre. Rogers and Pond (plus Daniel Kelley and Moses Waters) selected their own lots, partially cleared some of the land, and built log cabins in preparation for arriving with their families in 1798. The following spring, at least five families left Westfield with furniture, tools, and livestock. They arrived at Castorland (Lyons Falls) – already occupied by French settlers escaping the chaos in France – borrowed tools to build a flatboat, and set sail down the Black River on April 8, two days after the ice went out. The boat contained Jonathan Rogers and three children, Ehud Stephens with wife and three children, Zebulon Rogers, Jessie Wilcox, and three others. Before nightfall, the party managed to maneuver their boat up Mill Creek (Lowville Creek). Within a week, they had brought up the rest of their cargo and their cattle.

⁵ The remaining Oneida title to lands on both sides of Fish Creek (from its source to its mouth) were extinguished in June 1802 in a "sale" validated by United States Commissioner John Taylor. Franklin B. Hough, *History of Lewis County, New York*, Second Edition, (Syracuse, NY: D. Mason & Co., 1883), 25-28.

⁶ Hough, 28-31.

⁷ Hough, 301-302.

Old Lowville Cemetery

Name of Property

Lewis County, NY

County and State

Johnathan Roger's wife arrived the following week and, by summer, a number of families were settled near the landing site or further north at Stows Square, in the center of what became the Town of Lowville.⁸

Within two years, the area had sufficient population for the Towns of Lowville, Redfield, Watertown, and Turin to be created out of the town of Mexico, Oswego County, by legislative act on March 18, 1800. Two weeks later, the first town meeting for Lowville took place at the home of Silas Stow in Stows Square. Initial business included election of a supervisor (Daniel Kelley, who also developed the first mills on Mill Creek), town clerk, assessors (Jonathan Rogers and two others), commissioners of highways, overseers of the poor (Isaac Perry and two others), constable (Ehud Stephens), pathmasters (Ehud Stephens, Asa Newton, David Porter, Jonathan Rogers, and one other), and poundmasters and fence-viewers (Jonathan Rogers and Elisha Stephens). In addition, Adam Wilcox, Benjamin Hillman, Jonathan Rogers, Daniel Kelley, Asa Newton, and John Bush were selected for a committee to identify one or more burial grounds.⁹ With the exception of Daniel Kelley, who initially owned the land where the cemetery is located, some of these individuals and all of these family names show up in the list of burials in the Old Lowville Cemetery.

The need for a public burying place was imperative. The first birth in the town was Harriet Stephens (daughter of Ehud and Mercy Stephens) on February 24, 1799, and the first death was that of a child (Cooley family, date unknown). The first adult death seems to have taken place sometime later, when there was more of a village at Lowville. Aaron Hovey was killed by a falling tree while working on the Sabbath. It is recorded that:

He was the first person buried in the old cemetery on the East road, then a lonely spot in the woods, and long since discontinued as a place of burial, although still owned by the town, and kept enclosed as a burial ground.¹⁰

This is probably not the Old Lowville Cemetery, as it remained in use after Franklin B. Hough's 1883 reference to it in his *History of Lewis County, New York*. However, these deaths point out the need for a community burial place soon after settlement, especially as the first church in Lowville was not established for another three years.¹¹

Old Lowville Cemetery

It is unclear when the cemetery was actually established. Judge George Davis, town and village of Lowville historian in 1990, believed that James Henry donated the land.¹² However, that would date the cemetery to the second decade of the nineteenth century; David Kelley first owned the lot, and he did not sell out to Henry until 1813, when he left the area for Cleveland.¹³ The first burial – as recorded on a surviving stone – is that of Isaac A. Perry, who died November 19, 1810, aged 81; Perry appears to have been the father of a Revolutionary War

⁸ Hough, 302-304. Rogers and Stephens settled with their families along Mill Creek; Jessie Wilcox was one of the first settlers in Stows Square.

⁹ William R. Breen, *Lowville, Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow – History and Directory of Both Town and Village* (Lowville, NY: Lowville Times Printer, 1902), 3-4.

¹⁰ Hough 398.

¹¹ In the meantime, Breen (pp. 21-24) reports that Judge Kelley used to preach to the people at Stows Square, beginning in 1798. A Congregational Church was organized at Stows Square in December 1803, and a Methodist Episcopal Church west of the village in 1895.

¹² "Lowville Cemetery Full of Local History," *Lowville Journal and Republican*, July 18, 1990, 2.

¹³ "Lewis County Historical Society," *Lowville Journal and Republican*, July 14, 1935, 5.

Old Lowville Cemetery

Name of Property

Lewis County, NY

County and State

officer of the same name who was elected overseer of the poor at the first town meeting in 1800.¹⁴ William H. Clark, the ten-year-old son of the Charles and Pauline Clark, died on April 12, 1811, followed within the week by 85-year-old Jonathan Rogers (c. 1726-April 16, 1811). The elder Rogers seems to have been the father of another Revolutionary War officer, settler Jonathan Rogers, who was a captain.¹⁵

These burials date the cemetery to at least 1810-11. But it is probably older. Lowville lacked marble so the earliest graves may have been marked with wooden posts or tablets that decayed. The Minutes of the Town of Lowville include several early references that suggest that the Old Lowville Cemetery may have been in existence by 1804. In that year, at the March annual meeting, a resolution passed regarding two burial grounds:

*Resolved that Jas. Bailey, Martha Bosworth, and Moses Waters [be] a committee to carry into effect any measures that are necessary relative to the Burying Ground in the north district. Resolved that Rufus Benjamin with William and Preserved Finch be a committee for the same Purpose in the Southern district.*¹⁶

In March 1810, two resolutions were passed:

*Resolved that the district for each Public Burying yard shall be instilled as having money raised to purchase a Pall [a cloth covering for a coffin]. Resolved that Paul Abbot be hereby appointed to purchase said pall or palls on the application of the People of the districts of said Burying grounds into squares for each family.*¹⁷

Analysis of subsequent burials with death dates and ages (or birth dates) shows that the cemetery was heavily used for the next fifty years. Despite the development of a wide variety of Protestant churches in Lowville, people continued to be buried in the secular, civic cemetery – including at least four Protestant ministers and church elders.

The population of the town and unincorporated village grew steadily in the same period. The US Census of 1820 recorded a population of 1,943 in the Town of Lowville. That number increased 20 percent to 2,334 in 1830, dropped to 2,047 in 1840, and returned to 2,377 in 1850. An election was held on June, 19, 1854, to decide whether to incorporate the village. The measure passed – 109 to 33 – and the first election of village officers took place August 1. Thereafter, the town and village cooperated in the management of the Old Lowville Cemetery, which continued to be owned by the town but was located within the village limits.

The February 15, 1859 town minutes included a resolution for the supervisor to issue funds to build “a good substantial fence” around the burying ground, with the job to go to the lowest bidder. A second resolution stated that \$50 be raised for the fence around the burying ground “at or near the mill.” A third resolution deeded all the burying grounds in the town to the town supervisor, who should take charge and fence these

¹⁴ Mrs. Melvin McCue, Mrs. Louis Archer, Mrs. Abel Boshart, and Mrs. Robert McCue. “Survey of Old Lowville Cemetery” [Unpublished Manuscript]. June 1965. By contrast, Hough (p. 311) writes that Captain Isaac Perry was one of the first settlers in Stows Square in the fall of 1797 and that he died at age 81 in 1840. This is impossible if he was also a Revolutionary soldier as claimed.

¹⁵ There is uncertainty about the date of the death of William H. Clark. He is identified as the son of the Reverend Charles Clark, who was born in 1805 and preached during the 1830s for the Lowville Baptist Church. It is more likely that he was a brother.

¹⁶ *Town Minutes*, 1804 [Available at the Town Clerk’s Office]. The location of the North District Cemetery is unknown, but current Village and Town Historian Charlotte Beagle believes it may be the East State Street Cemetery where Paul Abbot is buried; he purchased the palls for both cemeteries in 1810.

¹⁷ *Town Minutes*, 1810 [Available at the Town Clerk’s Office].

Old Lowville Cemetery

Name of Property

Lewis County, NY

County and State

cemeteries at the expense of the town.¹⁸ These resolutions led to action. In a survey of muddy foot paths and dangerous streets, the April 21 *Lewis County Banner* noted that construction of a new wall and fence around the burying ground would begin soon and be paid for (at least in part) by the town.¹⁹

These improvements to the cemetery (and to the village streets) show that the community was beginning to see its cemetery as a civic resource in the context of the Rural Cemetery movement sweeping the northeast United States. The redefinition of burial grounds as public parks for contemplation and commemoration had begun with the development of Mount Auburn Cemetery near Boston in 1831. Many new cemeteries were built following its model. The Old Lowville Cemetery was small and already densely developed – despite the addition of trees, the wall along River Street, and fencing, it could not be improved very much. In addition, in 1864, Lowville became the new county seat (replacing Martinsburg), and civic pride required civic improvement. As a result, after the Civil War, a new purpose-built rural cemetery was developed on one of the hills outside the village to properly commemorate the community dead. Comparison of the old and new cemeteries provides interesting contrasts.

The Lowville Rural Cemetery was organized at a meeting held January 26, 1867 and incorporated two days later.²⁰ The project was initiated by James L. Leonard (who died the day of the meeting) and Dr. Franklin B. Hough, a medical doctor and naturalist born in the Lewis County who was the superintendent of the 1855 and 1865 New York Census. Hough had recently returned to Lowville and published the first edition of his *History of Lewis County*. His study of census returns identified declines in the availability of timber and, in the 1870s, he promoted government legislation to prevent deforestation. As a result of his advocacy, he became, first, Special Agent and, later, first chief of the Division of Forestry within the US Department of Agriculture.²¹ Hough's interests in local history and forestry were perfectly aligned with the rural cemetery movement with its focus on specimen trees, natural landscaping, and utilization of the natural contours of terrain.²²

By contrast with the Old Lowville Cemetery, the Lowville Rural Cemetery was spacious and park-like. The October 21, 1867, *Lewis County Democrat* praised the work of the cemetery association.

*Where but a few days since the eye beheld nothing but rough, unbroken ground, covered with hollows and water-ruts, with rotten stumps and crumbling, decayed tree-tops, whose falling limbs said "beware," now, under the impulse of genius and energy properly directed, we look out upon one of the most beautiful spots the heart could wish to enter upon. A beautifully graded roadway winding easily up the ascent and running circuitously about the more elevated portions of the grounds, gives ready access to all the main divisions of the premises, while meandering pathways are running hither and thither in every conceivable direction...*²³

The pattern of burials in the Old Lowville Cemetery changed with the successful development of the Lowville Rural Cemetery. Up to the late 1860s, many prominent town figures were buried in the village; after that, burials slowed down and only those with family plots or more modest means chose to be interred there. The

¹⁸ *Town Minutes*, 1859 [Available at the Town Clerk's Office].

¹⁹ "Around the Village," *Lewis County Banner*, April 21, 1859, 2.

²⁰ George Allen, "Lowville Rural Cemetery: A Sacred Place of Affectionate Remembrance," *Lowville Rural Cemetery Newsletter*, Summer 2014, 3-4.

²¹ Richard Greenwood, *Franklin B. Hough House* [National Historic Landmark Nomination, 90NR01194], Waterford, NY: NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation, 1976. [Available through CRIS (NYS Cultural Resource Information System) at <http://nysparks.com/shpo/online-tools/>]

²² Breen (p. 51.) described the mature landscape in 1902 as the fulfillment of Hough's vision.

²³ "Cemetery Improvements," *Lewis County Democrat*, October 21, 1867, 2.

Old Lowville Cemetery

Name of Property

Lewis County, NY

County and State

new rural cemetery also created a special area for Civil War veterans with lots overlooking the Black River Valley; this decreased burials further. So quickly did the importance of Old Lowville Cemetery decline that the Utica & Black River Railroad Company was allowed to run its rail bed across the east end of the site in October 1868, when the railroad finally reached the village.²⁴

By 1900, the Old Lowville Cemetery was almost full; only about a dozen more burials are reported through 1933, when Herman Hayt died. In the 1920s, as part of a county-wide effort, stones for veterans buried in the cemetery were erected at public expense, but apparently the site was also becoming neglected. The October 16, 1922 Town Minutes note a resolution appointing C. E. Butts, George O. Jeffers, Charles Slowly, Mrs. Bernard Donohue and Mrs. C. E. Butts to a committee to properly supervise and maintain the Jackson St. Old Cemetery. The supervisor was instructed to provide resources “for the preservation, care and fencing of said cemetery” and the committee was given \$50 to work with.²⁵ Six years later, the work needed to be redone. The *Lowville Journal and Republic* reported that:

*A commendable work is being done by the Lowville Home Bureau unit in materially improving conditions in the old cemetery on River and Jackson streets in this village, the unit having raised by food sales, entertainments, etc., more than \$160 for that purpose.*²⁶

Some of the 204 known markers were tipped over or broken. People with relatives or friends buried in the cemetery – or those “who seek the interest of the town” – were asked to assist in “beautifying the cemetery.”

After the last burial in 1933, the town continued to nominally maintain the grounds, but little effort was expended to repair stones or plant new trees. The fence that had been erected around the site in the 1850s and repaired in the 1920s, disappeared. Lowville Grange No. 71 surveyed the inactive cemeteries in the town of Lowville in 1965. Fifty members compiled a list of eight cemeteries. Mrs. Melvin McCue, Mrs. Louis Archer, Mrs. Abel Boshart, and Mrs. Robert McCue researched the burials in the old cemetery on Jackson St. and compiled the most accurate list of burials then available.

Thus, for 130 years, the Old Lowville Cemetery fulfilled its function as a civic, secular burial place for the founders and leading citizens of the Town and Village of Lowville. In the late 19th century, it was superseded by the Lowville Rural Cemetery and became somewhat neglected. Finally, in the 1960s, it began to be recognized as an important historical resource for learning about the early social and military history of the community.

Social History

Two different social histories can be gleaned from the burials listed in the Old Lowville Cemetery. The first is the history of the first families of the community and those who built Lowville into the county seat of Lewis County in the early to mid-nineteenth century. The second is the history of those buried after the development of the Lowville Rural Cemetery in 1868; it is, in some ways, a more interesting story of respectable people outside the upper ranks of the community receiving honorable burial on Jackson and River Streets.

Founding Families: The New Englanders who settled the Town of Lowville include at least two Revolutionary War veterans associated with the Old Lowville Cemetery – Captain Isaac Perry (c.1729-1810)

²⁴ Hough (pp. 123-4) notes that the continuation of the railroad past Boonville was attempted several times, and did not reach Ogdensburg until 1878.

²⁵ *Town Minutes*, 1822 [Available at the Town Clerk’s Office].

²⁶ “Resting Place of Many Prominent Lowville Men,” *Lowville Journal and Republican*, May 24, 1928, 10.

Old Lowville Cemetery

Name of Property

Lewis County, NY

County and State

and Captain Jonathan Rogers (1756-1847). Perry is said to have named the “Tug Hill” Plateau on his first trip to the area, after an arduous climb on the road from Turin.²⁷ He came from Rhode Island by way of western Massachusetts and Washington, Saratoga, and Oneida Counties in New York and settled on a farm south of Stows Square in the fall of 1797. (This part of the township is a few miles north of the village of Lowville; it was the first to develop into a community, but little is left now except a recently replaced monument honoring the first Presbyterian Church north of Utica.) Perry was elected overseer of the poor at the first town meeting in 1800 and was among the first subscribers to the Lowville Academy when it applied for a charter in 1808. On July 4, 1826, he was one of fifty-five Revolutionary War veterans who attended a county dinner during the National Semi-Centennial Celebration. His age was given then as 66. This chronology makes it likely that the first person buried in the Old Lowville Cemetery – Isaac A. Perry (died November 19, 1810, aged 81) – is his father.²⁸

One of the next burials is 85-year-old Jonathan Rogers (c. 1726-April 16, 1811) who seems to have been the father of Captain Jonathan (or John) Rogers, also a Revolutionary War officer.²⁹ Given the father’s age, it was probably the son who was in the initial survey team from Westfield, Massachusetts and selected Lowville for settlement after an unsuccessful reconnaissance of the Genesee area in spring 1797.³⁰ And, it was probably the son who helped build and navigate the flat-bottomed boat that brought the first families down the Black River and up Mill Creek in 1798, opened the first inn, and built the first frame building. At the first town meeting in April 1800, Jonathan Rogers took on a variety of offices, including the cemetery committee. A few months later, his son Samuel became the first male child born in the town. On April 20, 1801, Rogers received a deed for Lot 29 (412 ½ acres); in 1804, he represented the Town of Lowville in a convention that called for the creation of Lewis County out of Oneida County; and, in 1808, he (like Perry) was involved in founding the Lowville Academy. As most of his farm later became the site of the village of Lowville, it is appropriate that he was buried in the Old Lowville Cemetery after his death on April 16, 1841.³¹

James Henry, whose land adjoined the cemetery, was buried in it in 1827. Another early founder is Lemuel Wood (1787-1850), one of the first settlers to arrive in the township from Lanesboro, Massachusetts, and a friend of land agent Silas Stow. (Stow gave his name to Stows Square and died at Wood’s house on January 19, 1827.) Wood was a veteran of the War of 1812 but little is known of his service. He is buried with the names of his wife Hannah and child Edward Cornelius on the same stone.³²

One of the first doctors in Lewis County was Dr. David Perry (1775-1863), buried with his second wife Ann (1780-1872). Perry was born in Princeton, Massachusetts, studied medicine in New York, and arrived in Denmark, Lewis County, in August, 1806. He married Nancy Hulburt of Holland Patent in fall 1808, and they relocated to Lowville the following year. She died in 1812 and he remarried sometime after. At first Dr. Perry practiced with Dr. Samuel Allen, who moved to Copenhagen, Lewis County, in 1811. Perry continued in sole practice from 1811 to 1858, when he suffered a stroke. Throughout his career, he was known for his medical expertise and his experiments with apple-growing – his orchard contained almost seventy varieties. He died in

²⁷ Hough, 45. Isaac Perry was accompanied by a man named Buell who Hough also credits for the name.

²⁸ Hough, 45, 141-142, 296, 310-311, 332.

²⁹ This may be false; Hough (p. 303) says that the Revolutionary War veteran was the son of Jonathan Rogers who was born in 1715 and died in Westfield in March, 1805.

³⁰ He was connected by marriage to Ehud Stephens, another of the original Westfield settlers; it appears Mercy Stephens was probably his sister.

³¹ Hough, 13, 296, 302-393, 306, 308, 331-333.

³² Hough, 300, 306, 363. Find a Grave, *Lemuel Wood*. <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=107097057>

Old Lowville Cemetery

Name of Property

1862.³³

Lewis County, NY

County and State

A number of ministers and church elders are also buried in the cemetery – Noah Durrin (1774-1853), Chandler Lambert (1805-1852), and Charles Clark (1805-1852) – as well as revered Methodist Episcopal Church Sunday School Superintendent Luke Wilder (c. 1792-1852). Durrin settled in 1799 near the Mill Creek Landing. His father had died as a prisoner of war during the Revolution, and the son received a minimal education in the common schools. In 1802, Hough says, “he experienced religion under the preaching of Lorenzo Dow,” and he later served two local congregations.³⁴ Chandler Lambert was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, serving in the New York, Genesee, Oneida, and Black River Conferences.³⁵ Charles Clark served as third rector of the Lowville Baptist Church at Stowe Square from 1833-1835. He was born in Lewis County in 1805, studied at the Lowville Academy, read theology and was ordained at Boonville in 1830, and preached at Boonville and Martinsburg before coming to Lowville. He left Lowville after conducting a successful revival at Copenhagen and, thereafter, preached throughout the North County and western Mohawk Valley. After dying in Rome, NY, he too was buried in Lowville.³⁶ Last but not least is Luke Wilder, whose stone was erected by “the Children of the M.E.C. Sunday School in memory of their Lamented Superintendent.” Wilder ran a brick yard and helped construct two buildings for the Lowville Academy building in 1824 and 1836. He was one of the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1822 when it decided to build a church in Lowville and served the church until his death in 1852. He also explored a broad area of northern New York looking for mineral resources.³⁷

Ela Collins (1786-1848) is probably the most notable lawyer and public official buried in the Old Lowville Cemetery. He was born in Meriden, Connecticut, but came to northern New York with his father, Oliver Collins, who became a militia general during the War of 1812 and helped defend Sackets Harbor. The son studied at the Clinton Academy, read law at Whitesboro, and began his law practice in 1807 in Lowville. He was an original trustee of the Lowville Franklin Society (which set up the first library in 1808) and an original trustee of the Lowville Academy, selling them the land on which the first building was erected. He served as Town Supervisor for two years before serving in the New York State Assembly from 1814-1815. Thereafter, he became District Attorney of the Eighth District (Lewis, Jefferson, and St. Lawrence Counties, 1815-1818) and, after the District was split up, of Lewis County alone (1818-1840). In 1821, he was a delegate to the state constitutional conference and was elected to the US House in 1822 for one term. He backed the wrong side in the 1824 Presidential Election which was decided by the House of Representatives and returned to Lewis County, serving again as Town Supervisor (1827-1828, 1829-1831) and Chair of the Lewis County Board of Supervisors in 1830. In 1841, Collins became chair of the first county-wide Agricultural Society (sponsor of the annual county fair.). He married Maria Clinton in 1811 and they had eleven children, many of whom moved west to seek their own fortunes. William Collins became a District Attorney for Lewis County and Congressman before moving to Cleveland, Ohio; Francis Collins attended West Point and served in the Mexican War before moving to Columbus, Ohio; Isaac Clinton Collins became an Ohio state legislator and judge; and Harriet Anne Collins Herrin married John Williamson Herron of Cincinnati and became the mother of First Lady Helen Herron Taft.³⁸ Seven family members are buried with Ela Collins, among them Caroline

³³ Hough, 320-321, 324. The 1990 newspaper article, “Lowville Cemetery Full of Local History,” notes that Perry had a constant problem with being repaid; the *Black River Gazette* regularly ran a notice to “Pay the DOCTOR.”

³⁴ Hough, 307.

³⁵ Find a Grave, *Rev. Chandler Lambert*. <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GSsr=81&GScid=1252198&GRid=45050942&>

³⁶ Breen, 27; Hough, 365.

³⁷ Hough, 323, 336, 338, 365.

³⁸ Find a Grave, *Ela Collins*. <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GScid=1252198&GRid=6394801&>. Hough, 59, 62, 64, 70, 110, 317-318, 324.

Old Lowville Cemetery

Name of Property

Lewis County, NY

County and State

Clinton Collins (c.1811-1832), Edward Cowles Collins (1814-1835), Maria Collins (1816-1840), Emily Collins (1829-1853), Henry Collins (infant son, 1831), and a daughter married to D.P. Mayhew, principal of the Lowville Academy in 1837.³⁹

Military Burials: At least 15 veterans of the Revolution, War of 1812, and Civil War are buried in the Old Lowville Cemetery. In 1909, the Gilford D. Bailey Post, Grand Army of the Republic, took on the task of commemorating war veterans on Memorial Day. A newspaper article identified 15 burials they planned to honor in the Old Lowville Cemetery:

War of the Revolution: Jonathan Rogers

War of 1812: Ira Stevens, Anchon Shorr, Joseph Webb and Leumel Wood

Civil War: George Woodward, Hiram Porter, Henry B. Sabine, Edward Lewis, Charles Simons, Milo Tuttle, Luther Woodruff, Alexander LaVine, Frank Porter, Henry Diefendorf and James Barker.⁴⁰

Interestingly, of the 177 county veterans in the 1909 article, the vast majority were buried in the Lowville Rural Cemetery – two veterans of the Revolutionary War, twenty-four veterans of the War of 1812, and ninety-four veterans of the Civil War. Since the rural cemetery was not opened until 1868, the number of early burials suggests that a large number of graves were moved to the rural cemetery after that date, including (perhaps) many from the Old Lowville Cemetery.

Three additional Civil War graves are known.⁴¹ Nelson McCauley of Company A, 186th Regiment, New York Infantry, died May 14, 1913, aged 77, and is buried under a military gravestone. Charles Plopper (c.1840-1910) of Company L, 5th Heavy Artillery Regiment is buried under a similar stone. By contrast, George W. Hubbard (1829-1917), captain in command of Company D, 5th Heavy Artillery Regiment, is buried under a more massive monument in his family plot. His company was mostly made up of men from Brooklyn, but approximately 140 men from Lewis County served in other companies of the regiment (including Company L) at New York harbor and West Virginia.⁴²

Two of these Civil War burials are of special note. Milo Tuttle (1846-1865) is listed in the 1855 NY Census as the nine year-old son of Milo and Marrah Tuttle, both in their 50s.⁴³ He enlisted in Company D of the 59th New York Infantry as a 15-year old drummer boy weighing 185 pounds. He later transferred to the 6th Michigan Cavalry and was captured near Harper's Ferry. He spent eleven months in the Andersonville Prison, where he slowly starved. He was released to the Annapolis Naval School Hospital before his mother brought him home by train to Lowville. A week later he was dead. His military gravestone reads, "Died of starvation at Andersonville, March 27, 1865."

The second notable Civil War grave is that of Henry Diefendorf (1824-1869). He is listed in the 1850 Census (under the name Defendorf) as living in Lowville with his wife Phebe (aged 22) and child Joseph (aged 1).⁴⁴ He

³⁹ "Resting Place."

⁴⁰ "177 Deceased Veterans," *Lowville Journal and Republican*, May 27, 1909.

⁴¹ Abe Narrows erected a dozen military headstones in the 1920s, and these two of these graves (which are not listed in the 1909 newspaper article) may reflect his work.

⁴² New York State Military Museum and Veterans Research Center, "5th Heavy Artillery Regiment," *Unit History Project*. [Online]

⁴³ *New York State Census*, 1855. [Online at FamilySearch.com]

⁴⁴ *US Census*, 1850. [Online at FamilySearch.com] Another Henry Defendorf (aged 70, born in Connecticut and living in Harrisburg), listed in the same census, may be his father.

Old Lowville Cemetery

Name of Property

Lewis County, NY

County and State

is also listed as African-American and enlisted in Company G of the 97th New York Volunteers before Lincoln authorized the development of separate African-American units. This regiment was organized at Boonville and fought with various units and the Army of the Potomac at the Battles of Cedar Mountain, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Bristoe Station, Mine Run, the Wilderness, Spottsylvania, and Appomattox. Diefendorf's service record is not listed, but he is buried under another military gravestone.

There is connection between these two burials. In the 1850 US Census, Henry and Phebe Diefendorf lived in the same household with a young Irish woman and two children, at a time when there were only fourteen African-Americans (of a total population of 2277) lived in Lowville. Henry apparently had a brother (as well as a son) named Joseph. Ten years later, the 1860 census lists the white Tuttle family in the same household as the African-American Joseph Diefendorf family.⁴⁵

Finally, Helen Sawyer, the wife of P.R.H. Sawyer, Assistant Surgeon of the 142nd Regiment of New York Volunteers apparently died while her husband was deployed and his service is marked on her stone.

Later Burials: After the Lowville Rural Cemetery opened in 1868, fewer people were buried in the Old Lowville Cemetery, and some of the graves of those who were seem a little unusual. When Polly Dorwin died in 1869, her stone identified her as the wife of William Dorwin and "relict" of Isaac Sherwood (died 1840); bizarrely, her stone has been cut down, perhaps to remove the name of her survivor who is not buried in the cemetery (though Isaac Sherwood is). A small stone obelisk was erected for Richard Cummins when he died in 1888. The name of his wife Frances is also inscribed on the monument but no death date – either she remarried or no one was left to pay for adding her date to the stone.

The most well-known – and saddest – burial from this period is that of William Herbert Thompson, which rated front-page coverage on the *Black River Democrat* on June 25, 1914.⁴⁶ The multilevel headline reads:

Fight Against Time To Die In Old Home

Young Colored Man Dying of Tuberculosis Battles with Death for Five Days – Was in Phoenix, Arizona – Bound to Come Back to Boyhood Home and Mother – Doctors Doubted His Reaching Here.

***Came On Canvas Cot
Died In Mother's Arms***

Was the son of the Late Lewis Thompson – Born in the Village Where He Grew to Manhood – Was Educated in the Public Schools – Well Liked by Associates – Went West to Find Work – Visited Here a Year Ago.

The biography of Thompson is particularly interesting because it reflects the level of inclusion that his family had achieved in Lowville. He was buried from the Baptist Church, his casket covered with flowers given by his "many friends in this village" who paid tribute to "one whom they remembered as a schoolmate and companion." His family were the only African-Americans in the community for many years.

The family has always been held in the highest respect by our citizens. They were people of excellent character, honest, industrious, possessing those qualities in abundance which are essential to good citizenship.

⁴⁵ Both Milo Tuttle and Henry Diefendorf are also named on the Lewis County Sailors and Soldiers monument (erected 1883, NR listed 2009).

⁴⁶ "Fight Against Time to Die in Old Home," *Black River Democrat*, June 25, 1914, 1.

Old Lowville Cemetery

Name of Property

Lewis County, NY

County and State

Given this praise, it is unclear why the family chose to bury William in the Old Lowville Cemetery rather than in the more popular rural cemetery. The answer may be, in part, financial. William's father had died and his mother was living alone in the family home north of the village. A married sister living in Boston was William H. Thompson's only other living relative.

In the 1920s – perhaps as a result of the patriotism aroused by the World War – Lewis County made an effort to mark the burial sites of deceased veterans and their widows. Abe Narrows of the Lowville Memorial Works received several contracts to erect standardized stones in their honor; about a dozen graves were located and marked in the Old Lowville Cemetery, along with many others throughout the village, town, and county.

The last person to be buried in the cemetery was Herman Hayt, who died on February 17, 1933. Town and Village Historian George Davis described his life during a cemetery tour in 1990.

Mr. Hayt was a familiar character in the village. He and Mrs. Hayt lived in a well-worn house on State St. where the school driveway now enters. The school board bought the property for \$4000 in 1923 and gave the Hayts life use. The rear roof was held down by long wooden planks which in turn were weighted with flat stones. A fanciful story surrounded Mr. Hayt. He was said to have medical training and was a homeopathic physician, but never practiced his profession because of the loss of his first patient. Mr. Hayt was 83 when he died. He survived his wife by exactly 31 days.⁴⁷

After Hayt's death, the cemetery became inactive. One stone was added to the site sometime before 1990 when the monument for Malina Collins was found on Shady Street in a lot being paved for village parking. Her actual burial place is not known, but she was probably buried with the rest of her family in the Collins lot in the Old Lowville Cemetery.

Funerary Art and Epitaphs

An estimated fifty-six graves in the Old Lowville Cemetery are unmarked. Many of these may reflect very early burials using wooden posts or tablets. Others may reflect the burial of children or people without the means for elaborate headstones. At the beginning of the nineteenth century, it must have been difficult to acquire monuments; good-quality marble and slate were not available locally and needed to be brought by road up the Tug Hill Plateau from Utica or Rome. There is at least one marked stone in the Old Lowville Cemetery from outside New York State – Emily Collins's stone from 1853 is marked, "Jones & Sons, Cleveland, O." (It appears that one of her siblings who had moved to Ohio may have provided a stone after her death.)

The extension of the railroad (to Boonville in 1855 and to Lowville in 1868) enabled easier importation and less expensive stones. Thereafter, advertisements began to appear from Simmons & Day in Utica (for granite monuments and tombs manufactured in Massachusetts) and from Sawyer & Fassell at the Black River Marble Works in Boonville. In 1862, a local marble works joined these firms in running ads – M.J. Morton promised to sell "monuments and gravestones of every description, manufactured in Lowville, thirty percent cheaper than competitors." A subsequent marble company was named Puffer & Hurd, and Hough notes that Isaac N. Puffer was still running a marble shop in 1882.⁴⁸ Burleigh's 1885 bird's eye view of Lowville locates a marble business in the center of town on State Street, and Abe Narrows did business at the corner of Cascade and Dayan Streets in the 1920s and 1930s.

⁴⁷ "Lowville Cemetery Full of Local History."

⁴⁸ Hough, 327.

Old Lowville Cemetery

Name of Property

Lewis County, NY

County and State

Most of the stones in the Old Lowville Cemetery reflect the art and religious and popular sentiments of the early to mid-nineteenth century. Death heads and cherubs had dominated eighteenth-century gravestones in New England, but apparently never made their way to Lewis County. Weeping willow trees and urns began to appear in New England at the turn of the nineteenth century, but the earliest stones found in Lowville from the decade of 1810-1820 are extremely simple rectangular stone tablets with the name, date of death, and age of the deceased.⁴⁹ Mary Ann Harding's death in 1822 is one of the first marked with a willow tree (popularized by the death of George Washington in 1799). (Her sister's stone eighteen years later appears identical though they were not twins.) A stone from 1828 combines the willow tree motif with a somber epitaph:

*Life is uncertain.
Death is sure
Sin is the wound.*

A child's stone from 1837 has the willow tree but no verse, while a stone from 1840 has a more hopeful verse adapted from the *Book of Revelation* 14:13:

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord for they shall rest from their labor.



Fig. 3: Mary Ann Harding, 1822.

Fig. 4: Phebe (last name illegible), 1828

Fig. 5: Edward Arthur, 1837.

Fig. 6: Isaac Sherwood, 1840.

A verse for Electra D. Comstock, died December 10, 1836, also looks forward to heaven:

*In here shall rest my sleeping day
Till the great resurrection day.
When God shall say rise, rise' To judgement come and take your prize
Then burst these bonds which now enclose
This harmless day in sweet repose
Let the immortal captive go
To distant worlds, where pleasures flow.*

⁴⁹ James Deetz and Edwin S. Dethlefsen, "Death's Head, Cherub, Urn and Willow," *Natural History*, 76(3), 1967, 29-37. [Online]

Old Lowville Cemetery

Name of Property

Lewis County, NY

County and State

There is an explanation for this change. Christian theology was losing some of its Puritan overtones in the second and third quarters of the nineteenth century, and gravestones began to focus more on the character of the deceased and their hope of heaven than on fear of the judgement day. For example, a stone from 1819 marks the grave of a child and holds a heaven-pointing finger. Four decades later, the position of the hand is reversed – a hand from heaven holds out a lily to the deceased on the grave of Helen B. Sawyer (1835-1863). Her stone includes the deserving epitaph:

Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all.

With more pictorial art and verses, the shape of stones also changed. Rectangular stones continued to dominate but many stones were shaped. The top of the 1828 weeping willow stone is cut in the shape of the tree. Other stones have rounded, triangular, or ogee tops.

More elaborate monuments appear by mid to late-century. There are at least two obelisks in the Old Lowville Cemetery. This form was adopted as a symbol of eternity after the publication of *Description de l'Égypte* (1809-1828), based on Napoleon's conquest of Egypt (1798-1799).

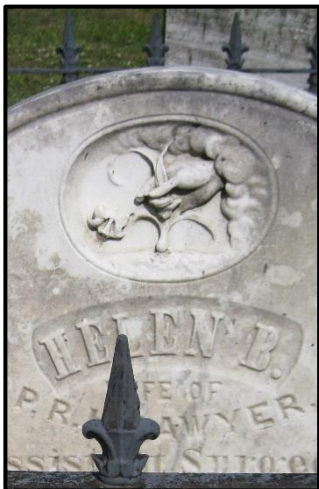


Fig. 7: Helen Sawyer,
1863.



Fig. 8: Richard Cummins,
1888.

As previously mentioned, the development of rural cemeteries was a general movement to recast burial grounds as urban parks for the contemplation of eternity. As such, it affected the evolution of older cemeteries as well. Those who chose to retain their family plots in the Old Lowville Cemetery added some of the same design elements as found in the Lowville Rural Cemetery. In particular, at least three families demarcated their bounds with cast iron fences and gates – Collins, Hubbard, and Sawyer. (Stones belonging to the family of Revolutionary War veteran Captain Jonathan Rogers appear to have been enclosed in a pipe-iron fence at a later date.) The wrought-iron fence around the Hubbard plot is dated 1882.

Throughout the 1920s, Lewis County made an effort to mark the graves of local veterans, and Abe Narrows of the Lowville Monumental Works won several contracts to do the work.⁵⁰ In the Old Lowville Cemetery, he erected about a dozen headstones with an incised American flags, each three feet high, one and a half feet wide, and four inches thick.

The last burial in 1933 is a modest slanted stone for Herman Hayt, in keeping with the fashion for small granite monuments during the Depression.

⁵⁰ "Dependent Children," *Lowville Journal and Republican*, Dec. 16, 1920; "Lewis County Budget, 1930, Aggregates \$189,138.41," *Lowville Journal and Republican*, Dec. 12, 1929.

Old Lowville Cemetery

Name of Property

Lewis County, NY

County and State

Since 1966

In the late twentieth century, Judge George Davis (town historian for 18 years) worked on cleaning and straightening stones in the Old Lowville Cemetery. In 1989, twelve inmates from the public safety building cleared out overgrown bushes, and Judge Davis ran a tour in 1990 to engage the community with the history of the burial ground.

A flag pole was donated to the site in 1994 by VFW Post #6912. The village public works crew and the town highway crew prepared a concrete base for the pole and helped align the pole.

Maintenance continues to be the responsibility of the Town of Lowville, as it has since the town was created in 1800.

Old Lowville Cemetery
Name of Property

Lewis County, NY
County and State

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Old Lowville Cemetery
Name of Property

Lewis County, NY
County and State

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

Old Lowville Cemetery
Name of Property

Lewis County, NY
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 1.56 acre
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1 18N 460844E 4847909N
Zone Easting Northing

3 _____
Zone Easting Northing

2 _____
Zone Easting Northing

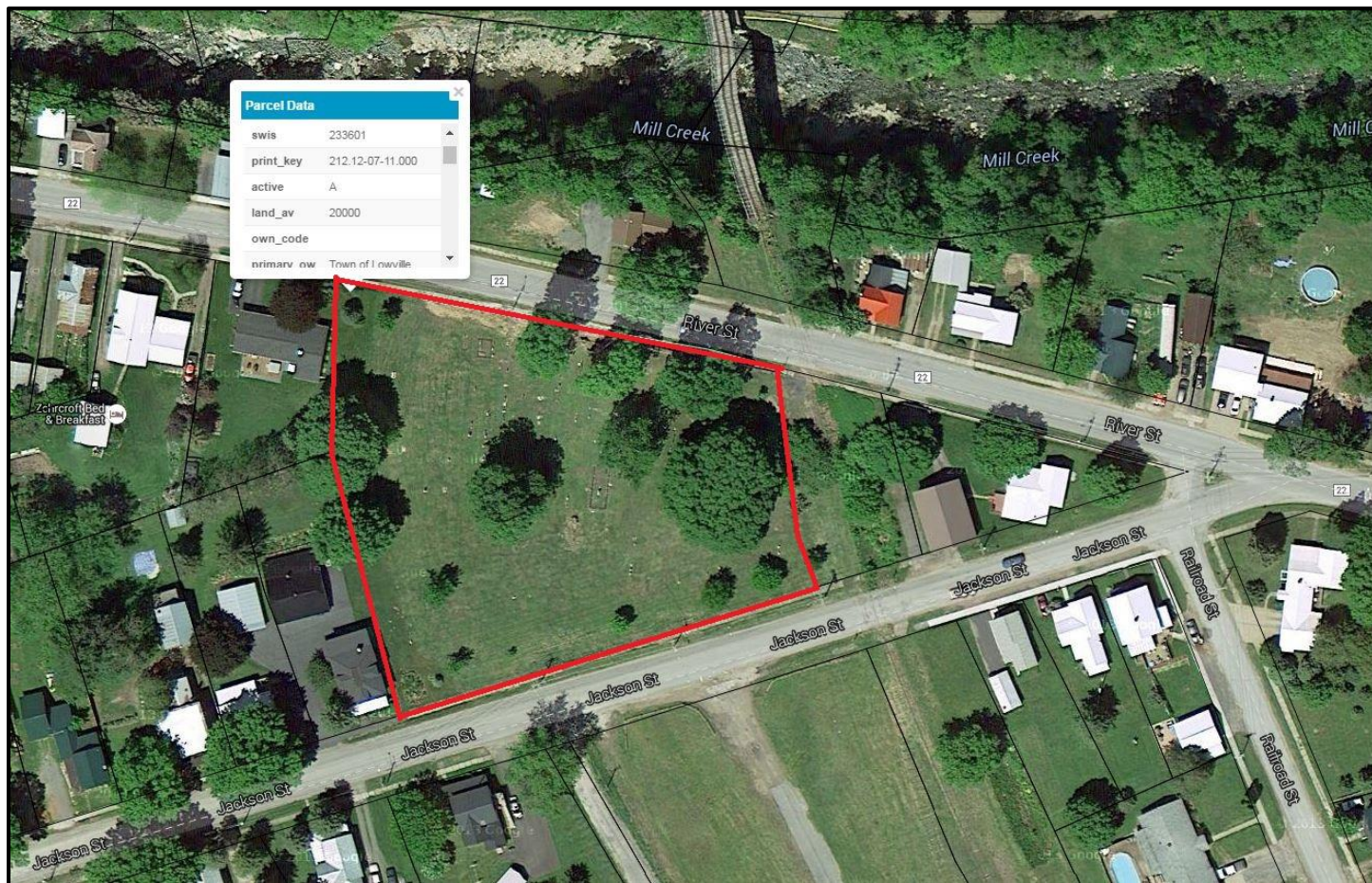
4 _____
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary coincides with the legal lot lines of the nominated parcel, as identified on the attached county tax map (212.12-07-11) and as indicated by a heavy line on the enclosed map.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the lot historically and currently associated with the nominated cemetery.

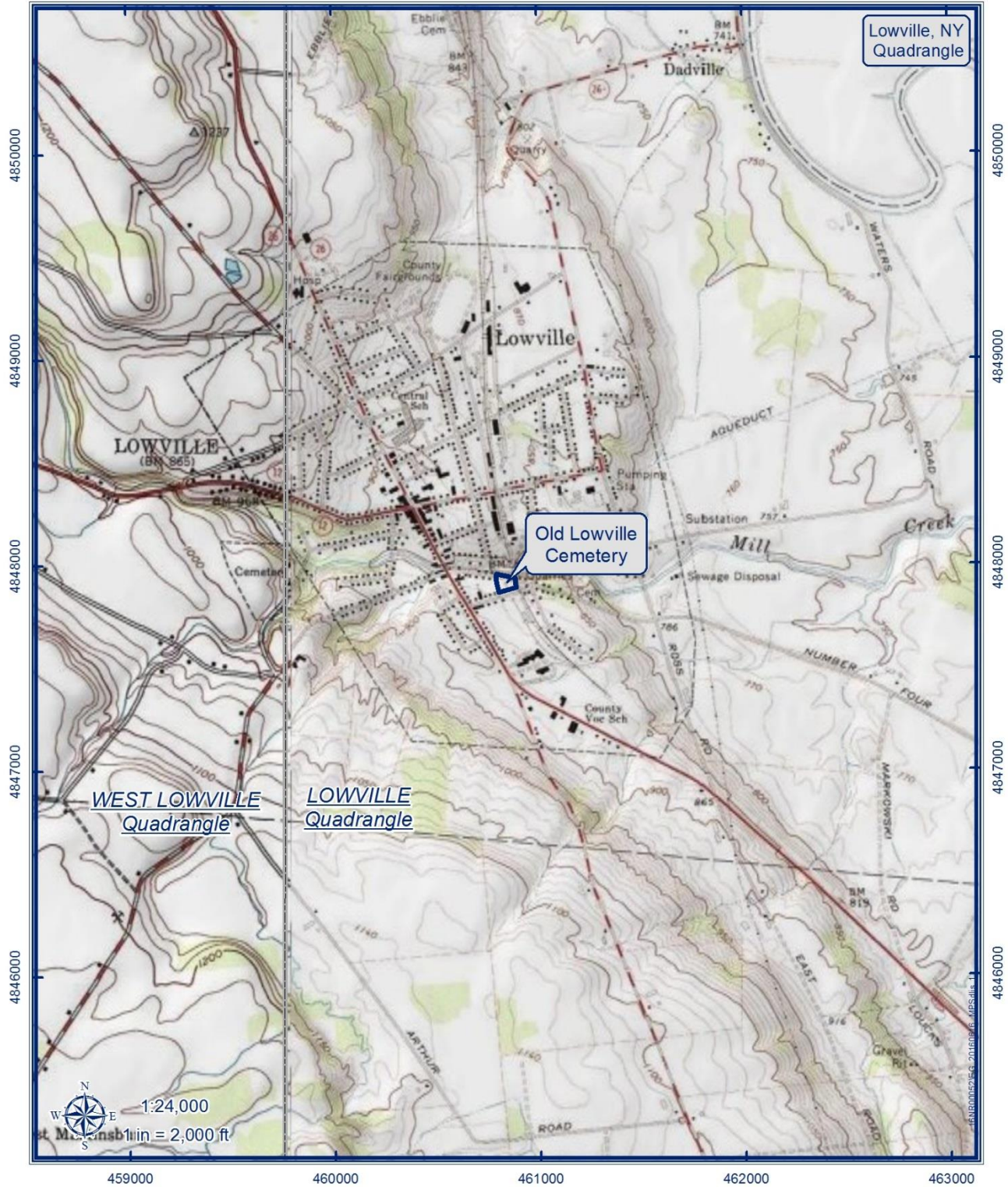


Old Lowville Cemetery
Name of Property

Lewis County, NY
County and State

Old Lowville Cemetery
Lowville, Lewis Co., NY

5515 Jackson St. & 5575 River St.
Lowville, NY 13367



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



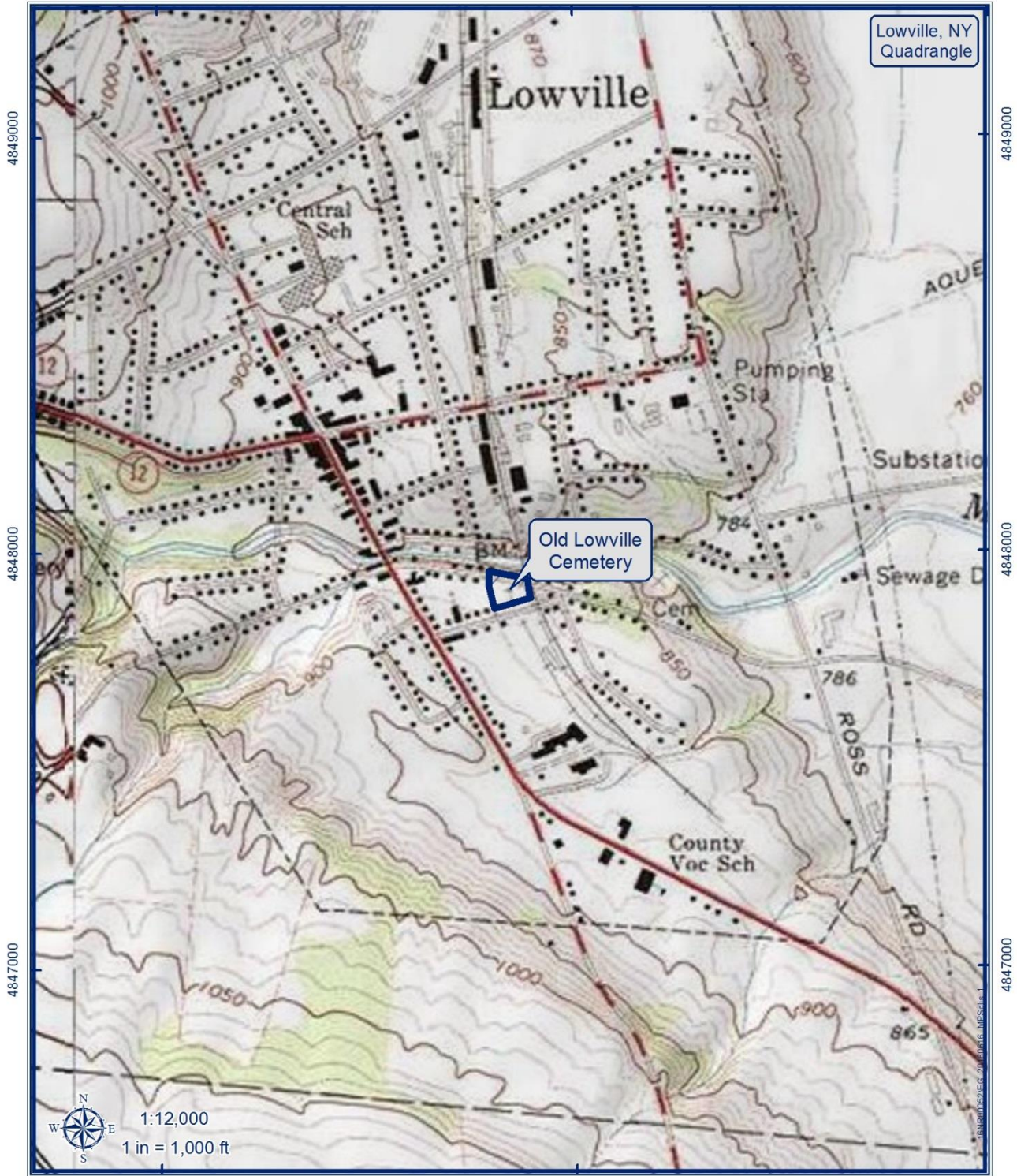
**Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation**

Old Lowville Cemetery
Name of Property

Lewis County, NY
County and State

Old Lowville Cemetery
Lowville, Lewis Co., NY

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**Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation**

Old Lowville Cemetery
Name of Property

Lewis County, NY
County and State

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



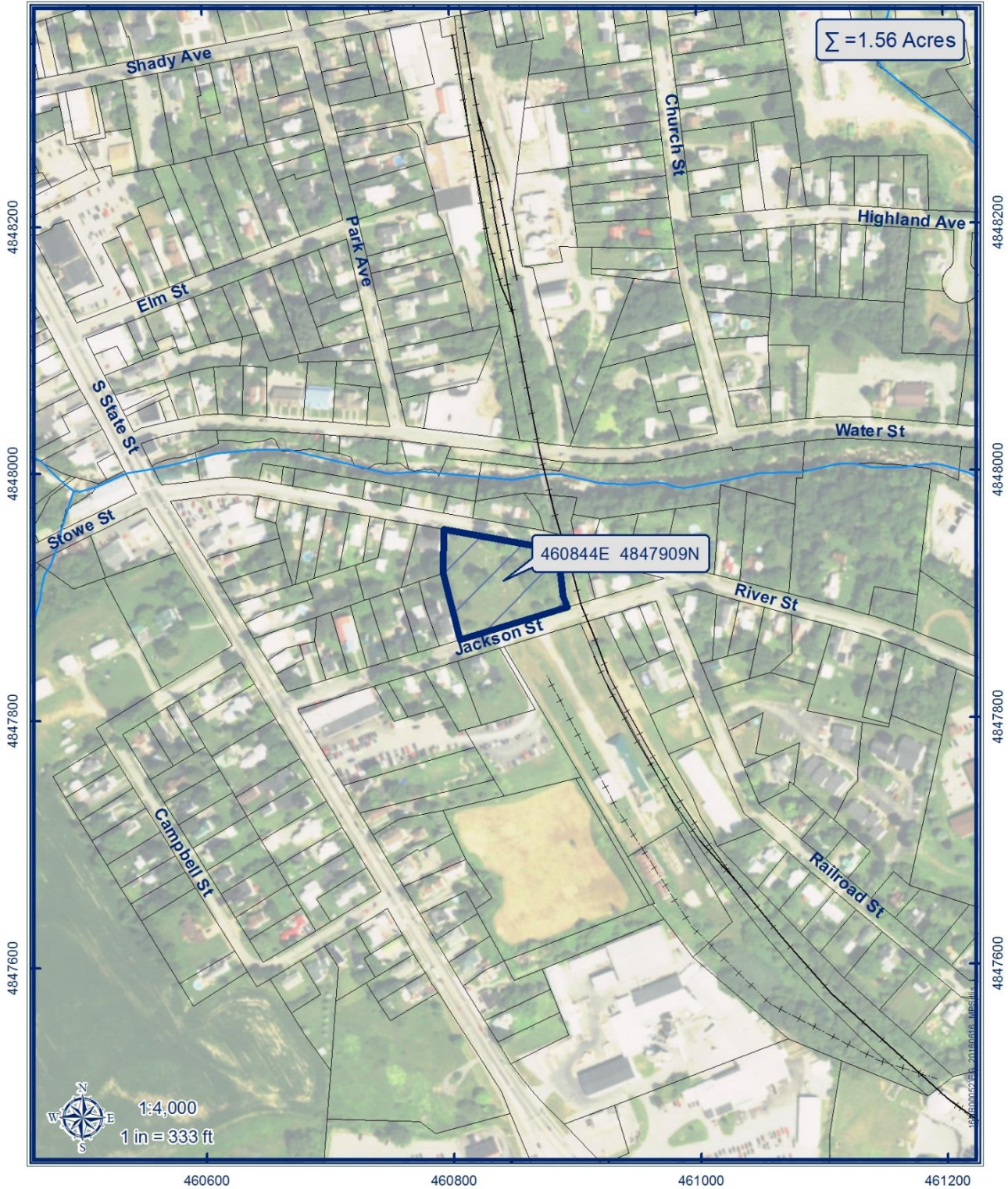
Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation

Old Lowville Cemetery
Name of Property

Lewis County, NY
County and State

Old Lowville Cemetery
Lowville, Lewis Co., NY

5515 Jackson St. & 5575 River St.
Lowville, NY 13367



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



**Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation**

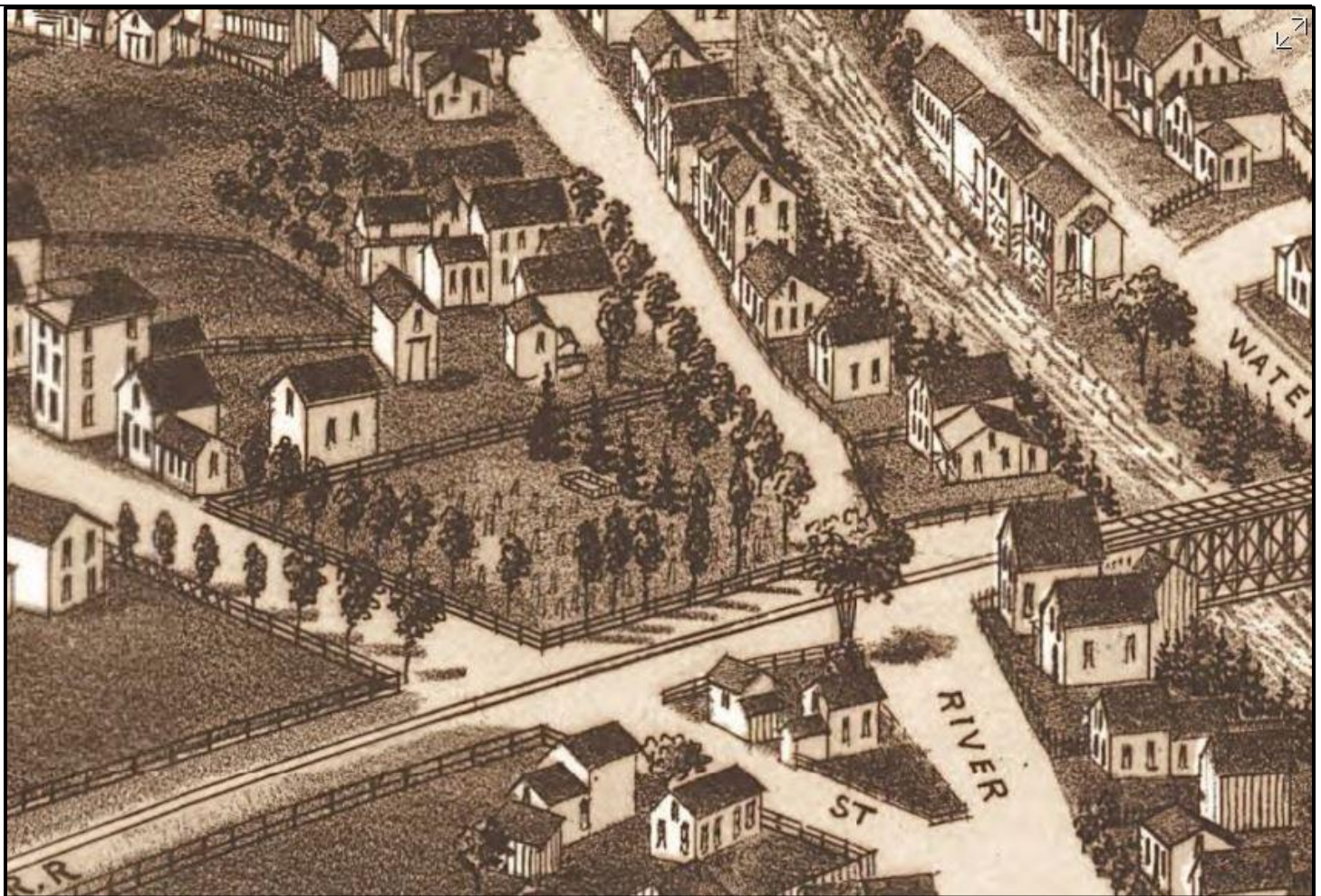
Old Lowville Cemetery
Name of Property

Lewis County, NY
County and State

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Charlotte Beagle (with edits by Emilie Gould, Historic Preservation Program Analyst, New York SHPO)
organization Town/Village Historian, Lowville, NY date May 1, 2016
street & number 7468 Railroad Street telephone 315-376-7403
city or town Lowville state NY zip code 13367
e-mail cbeagle@frontier.com

Additional Documentation



Detail from L.R. (Lucien R.) Burleigh, *Lowville, N.Y., 1884 Bird's Eye View*. Troy, NY: Burleigh Litho. Co, 1884.

Old Lowville Cemetery
Name of Property

Lewis County, NY
County and State

Photographs:

Name of Property: Old Lowville Cemetery

City or Vicinity: Lowville

County: Lewis County State: New York

Photographer: Charlotte Beagle (Photos 1-2); Emilie Gould (Photos 3-6); Kathy Manning (Photo 7)

Date Photographed: February 28, 2016 (Photos 1-2); May 11, 2016 (Photos 3-6); April 4, 1015 (Photo 7)

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- NY_Lewis County_Old Lowville Cemetery_00001: East side view – Jackson Street on right.
- NY_Lewis County_Old Lowville Cemetery_00002: North side view – River Street on left.
- NY_Lewis County_Old Lowville Cemetery_00003: Reconstructed stone wall along River Street.
- NY_Lewis County_Old Lowville Cemetery_00004: Rogers Family Plot, adjoining River Street.
- NY_Lewis County_Old Lowville Cemetery_00005: Collins Family Plot, with grave of US Congressman Ela Collins.
- NY_Lewis County_Old Lowville Cemetery_00006: Grave of Milo Tuttle, 1865.
- NY_Lewis County_Old Lowville Cemetery_00007: Grave of Henry Diefenbach, 1869.
- NY_Lewis County_Old Lowville Cemetery_00008: Grave of Polly Dorwin, 1869.
- NY_Lewis County_Old Lowville Cemetery_00009: Grave of William H. Thompson, 1914.

Photo Key



Old Lowville Cemetery
Name of Property

Lewis County, NY
County and State

Property Owner:

name _____
street & number _____ telephone _____
city or town _____ state NY zip code _____

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.



JOHN
BORN FEB 22 1918
DIED DEC 15 1988

ELLANOR
BORN SEPT 23 1921
AGED 70 YEARS
DIED MARCH 4 1988

02/28/2016



02/28/2016





ELA COLLINS

BORN

FEB. 11, 1876

DIED

NOV. 23, 1948

EMILY COLLINS

BORN

JANUARY 20, 1929

DIED

OCTOBER 26, 1953

IN MEMORY OF

WENDA COLLINS

DIED

June 30, 1867

Age 62 Yrs.

WALTER
WALTER TUTTLE
DIED MARCH 14 1915
AGE 72

BORN
August 11 1842
Died Mar 14 1915
Age 72



HENRY DIEFENDORF

Co. G

97 Reg. N. Y. Vol.

Died

Apr 4, 1869

A. 45 yrs



POLLY

WIFE OF

Wm. DORRIS

Former Bellhop of

Franc. Sherman

DIED

OCT. 1859



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Old Lowville Cemetery
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: NEW YORK, Lewis

DATE RECEIVED: 7/08/16 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 7/26/16
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/10/16 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/23/16
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 16000553

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 8.22.16 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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

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



**Parks, Recreation
and Historic Preservation**

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

ROSE HARVEY
Commissioner

RECEIVED 2280

JUL - 8 2016

Nat. Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

5 July 2016

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 submit the following nine nominations, all on disc, to be considered for listing by the Keeper of the National Register:

Alton B. Parker Estate, Ulster County
Hepburn Library of Lisbon, St. Lawrence County
Benner-Foos-Ceparano Estate, Suffolk County
Fort Independence Historic District, Bronx County
Old Lowville Cemetery, Lewis County
Haxtun-Tower House, Dutchess County
Orator F. Woodward Cottage, Wyoming County
Webster Grange No. 436, Monroe County
Austin R. Conant House, Monroe County

Please feel free to call me at 518.268.2165 if you have any questions.

Sincerely:

Kathleen LaFrank
National Register Coordinator
New York State Historic Preservation Office