OMB Form 10-900 PROPERTY NAME		stration Form (Rev. 8-86) tery, Hartford,	OMB 1024-0018 CT Page 1
			of Historic Places Registration Form
1. NAME OF PROPERTY			MAR
Historic Name: <u>Cedar Hill Ce</u>	emetery		NAL RUBSED COL NATIONAL PARA BURNES
Other Name/Site Number: <u>NA</u>			
2. LOCATION			
Street & Number: <u>453 Fairfie</u>	ld Avenue	Not for publica	tion: <u>NA</u>
City/Town: <u>Hartford</u> , Wethers	sield, Newington	Vicin	ity: <u>NA</u>
State: <u>CT</u> County: <u>Hartford</u>	<u>.</u> C	ode: <u>003</u> Zip Code	:06114
3. CLASSIFICATION			
Ownership of Property	Category o		
Private: <u>x</u>		ng(s):	
Public-local:	Dis	trict: <u>x</u>	
Public-State:	0.	Site:	
Public-Federal:		cture: bject:	
Number of Resources within P	roperty		
Contributing	Nonco	ntributing	
7	3_	buildings	
		sites	
		structures	
5		objects	
12	3_	Total	
Number of Contributing Resou Register:_2	rces Previously L	isted in the Nation	3]

Name of related multiple property listing: <u>NA</u>

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Date

4. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this <u>X</u> nomination <u>request</u> 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 <u>X</u> meets <u>does not meet the National Register Criteria</u>.

3/3/97

Signature of Certifying Official Date Joan W. Shannahan, Director, Connecticut Historical Commission

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

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

Signature of Commenting or Other Official

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- ${\cal V}_{-}$ 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):

avail

 \Im Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

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6. FUNCTION OR USE		
Historic: <u>FUNERARY</u>	_ Sub:	_cemetery
Current: FUNERARY	_ _ Sub: _	cemetery, mortuary

DESCRIPTION

Architectural Classification:
LATE VICTORIAN/Gothic, Queen
Anne
MODERN MOVEMENT

Materials:	
Foundation: <u>STONE/</u>	granite
Walls: STONE/grani	te
CONCRETE	
Roof:_STONE/slate;	ASPHALT
Other Description:	
·	

Describe Present and Historic Physical Appearance.

Cedar Hill is a rural cemetery designed by Jacob Weidenmann (1829-1893) in the open lawn plan. Established in 1864, it occupies 270 acres of rolling terrain in the southwestern corner of the city of Hartford and the adjoining towns of Wethersfield and Newington (see district map). While most of the acreage is in Wethersfield, the main entrance, at the property's northeast corner, is in Hartford where Fairfield Avenue, Maple Street, and the Berlin Turnpike converge (see U.S.G.S. map). The cemetery has about 25,000 interments. To the north of Cedar Hill Cemetery is a Hartford residential neighborhood. Goodwin Park is across the street to the east, while to the south lie Emanuel Cemetery, wetlands, and a quarry. A residential area of Newington lies to the west.

The main entrance consists of a wrought-iron gate flanked by two small Gothic Revival granite buildings, the Waiting Room and the Office, collectively known as the Gallup Memorial Gateway (1889). The Northrup Memorial Chapel (1882), a larger Gothic Revival granite building, is south of the Waiting Room, connected to it by a wall. The gateway and chapel, both designed by George Keller (1842-1935), were listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1982. To the north of the gateway is the frame Gothig Revival Superintendent's House (ca.1875, Photograph 1).

The roadway through the gate leads west for about one-quarter mile through Cedar Hill's ornamental foreground, a park-like area of 40 acres which includes bodies of water and trees (Photograph 5). The ornamental foreground in Weidenmann's thinking was an important part of the open lawn plan for the purpose of creating an initial sense of

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United States Department of the Interior National Register of Historic Places Registration For	PROPERTY NAME	Cedar Hill Cemetery, Hartford, CT	Page 4
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dignity, tranquility, and grandeur at the main approach to the cemetery. From the point where the burying grounds begin the terrain is rolling, in general rising to the west through two ridges to an elevation 173 feet above the eastern boundary. The cemetery is laid out in sections, numbered in the order they were developed (see Sections map). About 140 acres are laid out, while about 90 acres, mostly to the west where elevation rises, remain to be developed.

Cedar Hill was designed by Jacob Weidenmann as a rural cemetery (see client presentation watercolor). Roadways are undulating as they make their way through and around the hilly terrain. Individual burial lots in the 19th-century sections tend to be large, without perimeter fences or curbs, in the essence of the open lawn plan, each lot with major central monument surrounded by low individual grave markers. This arrangement, stipulated by Weidenmann, ensures relatively open views through the cemetery, giving a sense of unobstructed space enhanced by shade trees and other plantings (Photographs 6, 7, 16, 17). Sections developed in the mid-20th century tend to have multiple low monuments closer together with less planting (Photographs 14, 15). These sections are in a relatively flat valley which divides the 19th-century area from the uplands remaining to be developed.

The thousands of monuments in Cedar Hill are made of marble, brownstone, and granite, some with bronze figures and plaques. Many are of individual architectural and artistic merit, notably the George Beach, Sr., Samuel Colt, and J.P. Morgan monuments (Photographs 9, 10). For the past 20 years the marble and brownstone monuments have undergone an annual program of conservation during summer months. The stones have been cleaned, treated with a consolidant, and occasionally restored by a competent technician. Work has been well documented by the technician with photographs, sketches showing areas treated, and text giving products used, degree of dilution, and method of application. The work and the documentation continue.

Cedar Hill has 12 mausoleums, which are small buildings, most with identifiable architectural styles (Photograph 11). Two of the outstanding designs are the Governor Edward Denison Morgan and Caine-Marvin mausoleums (Photographs 12, 13; see Inventory below). A large communal mausoleum was dedicated in 1991 (Photograph 8).

The Cedar Hill landscape contains many specimen trees, which have been inventoried. Species include <u>Carya cordiformid</u> (Bitternut hickory, largest in state), <u>Quercus rubra</u> (red oak), <u>Acer palmatum 'Dissectum"</u> (Theadleaf Japanese red maple, second largest in state), <u>Stewartia pseudocamellia</u> (Japanese Stewartia), <u>Ginko biloba</u> (Ginkgo, Maidenhair tree), fourth argest in state, <u>(Tsuga canadensis "Hussii"</u> (Huss Canada hemlock), Ulmus glabra "Camperdowni" (Camperdown elm, seventh largest in state), and <u>Malus x Royalty</u> (Royalty crabapple).

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Inventory

C and NC in the first column indicate whether the resources are considered to be contributing or non-contributing to the historical and architectural significance of Cedar Hill.

C/ <u>NC</u>	Address Year	Description
С	Northrup Memorial Chapel 1882	George Keller, architect. Gothic Revival granite chapel. Listed on National Register of Historic Places 1982.
С	Gallup Memorial Gateway 1889	George Keller, architect. Small Gothic Revival granite buildings flanking wrought-iron two-leaf gate. Listed on National Register of Historic Places 1982.
С	Superintendent's ca.1875 House	1-story frame L-shaped Gothic Revival house with gable roofs on brick foundation. Steeply pitched gable-roofed dormers. Tripartite 2nd-floor window under hipped and pointed hood supported by angular braces. (Photograph 1)
С	443-445 Fairfield Ave. 1924	Staff Residence. 2-story 2-family frame Colonial Revival double house covered with shingles. 2-story front porch with shingled corner posts. 1-over-1 windows. (Photograph 2)
NC	Maintenance garage ca.1940s	1-story cinder-block utility building.
NC	Crematory 1983	Roger Clarke, architect. 1-story poured-concrete building. Granite ashlar front with round-arched entrance salvaged from former receiving vault. (Photograph 3)
С	Greenhouse ca.1930	Glass and wood frame building. (Photograph 4)
С	George Beach, Sr., ca.1866 Monument	Richard M. Upjohn, architect. Marble and red granite catafalque. Raised anthemia bands flank bas-relief panels on die. Trefoil-shaped openings and crockets embellish pyramidal roof. Planned center sculpture never put in place. (Photograph 9)
С	Samuel Colt Monument 1860s	Randolph Rogers, sculptor; James G. Batterson, supplier. Tall Egyptian Revival battered pedestal and column of Scottish red granite with acanthus leaf capital surmounted by bronze classical female figure. (Photograph 9)

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С	J.P. Morgan Monument	1892	George Keller, architect. Massive Scottish red granite monument in shape of sarcophagus incised with stylized foliate bands symbolic of ecclesiastical stole. (Photograph 10)
С	Other monuments 1866	-1946	Charles Conrads, John M. Moffitt, and others, sculptors. Brownstone obelisks, polished and quarry- finished granite, elaborately carved marble, and bronze figures in wide variety of sizes and designs.
С	Gov. Morgan Mausoleum	1883	Stanford White (1853-1906), architect. Memorial to Edward Denison Morgan (1811-1883), governor of New York. Sculpture by Augustus Saint Gaudens (1848-1907) destroyed by fire on eve of interment ceremony. Large solid granite ashlar building with buttress-like supports at corners and flanking entrance. Stepped cornice line. Low pyramidal roof with bulky rounded finial above four central triangular gables. (Photograph 12)
С	Caine-Marvin Mausoleum	1941	Guardian Mausoleum (trade catalog) Design #1433. Chaste white marble classical building with four Doric columns <u>in antis</u> . Large bronze door. (Photograph 13)
С	Other mausoleums ca.186?-	-1946	Variety of small granite and marble buildings, most in classical mode. (Photograph 11)
NC	Mausoleum	1991	Allen Hoogs, architect. 1-story poured-concrete U- shaped slate gable-roofed building faced with granite ashlar. Front of U is closed with wall pierced by pointed-arch openings to the central courtyard. (Photograph 8)

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8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFI	CANCE				
Certifying official has c relation to other propert					
Applicable National Register Criteria:	A <u>×</u> B	C_x_ D			
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions):	А В	C D_x_ E_	F G		
Areas of Significance:	Period(s)	of Significance	e Significant	Dates	
<u>Social history</u> Landscape architecture	<u>1864</u> <u>1866</u>	<u>1946</u> 1946			
Significant Person(s): <u>Se</u>	e Item 8				
Cultural Affiliation: <u>Non</u>	e				
Architect/Builder: <u>Jacob</u>			_		

State Significance of Property, and Justify Criteria, Criteria Considerations, and Areas and Periods of Significance Noted Above.

<u>Summary</u>

Cedar Hill, formed in the 1860s, embodies the characteristics of a rural cemetery designed in the distinctive open lawn system. It has maintained its historic integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association for more than a century. It is the only example in the United States of a 19th-century open lawn system cemetery to be well-preserved. Laid out by the Swiss-trained Jacob Weidenmann (1829-1893), whose design survives, it demonstrates his expertise as one of the three men named by Frederick Law Olmsted as worthy of the title landscape architect.

Cedar Hill was put in place by a non-sectarian private corporation, the cemetery association, which was a vehicle of the social pressures of its day. From the start the association was independent, not-for-profit, non-sectarian, and without public financial support. The cemetery association has continued to function within these parameters to

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the present time. Both the governance structure and the historic landscape architecture of Cedar Hill have continued to follow closely the traditions established at time of origin.

<u>Historical Note</u>

In 1863 a group of Hartford citizens led by William L. Collins, a prominent merchant, investigated the possibility of establishing a rural cemetery. A site committee was formed consisting of James C. Jackson, a physician, Hiram Bissell, a masonry contractor, and Jacob Weidenmann, superintendent of construction of Hartford's Bushnell Park. The group was motivated by the need for more cemetery space, the Ancient Burying Ground in center city and North and South Cemeteries having reached capacity. Hartford's situation was not unique among cities; a general movement to locate cemeteries in outlying areas was in progress.

Having identified a desirable location, the Hartford group was incorporated as the Cedar Hill Cemetery Association in May 1864 by Special Act of the General Assembly. Acquisition of the desired site required purchase of nine parcels, some of whose owners did not wish to sell. Therefore, four parcels were acquired by eminent domain as authorized in the Special Act. By June 1866 the nine parcels had been assembled, constituting the 270 acres as they exist today save for the 1917 purchase of a small piece of land at the southwest corner. The purchased land consisted of fields and pastures divided by two north-south ridges. Cedar trees grew along the ridge tops in profusion, giving rise to the selection of the name Cedar Hill.

Cedar Hill Cemetery Association was and is governed by a board of directors. The form of organization has not changed. The board employed Weidenmann as the first superintendent and continues actively to manage the cemetery through an executive director and superintendent. There have been no interruptions or changes in the ownership/management structure. The cemetery is private, non-sectarian, not affiliated with any other group, and not supported by public funding of any kind. Its private endowment has grown gradually over the years, with the stated objective being the ability to provide perpetual care to the resource at the time in the future when, full development having been completed, annual income from lot sales will cease.

Landscape Architecture

The rural cemetery movement commenced with the establishment of Mount Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1831. The essence of this movement was the breaking away from the rigid graveyard style, where graves were dug row-on-row and the cemetery was tightly enclosed by a wall or fence, in favor of a landscape where the dominance of nature prevailed. Roads and paths were laid out to follow varied topography, distant views and vistas were featured, and trees and shrubs were planted not in avenues but in natural groupings. Cedar Hill displays these character-defining features in an excellent state of preservation.

While many cities emulated Mount Auburn over the next 30 years, Cedar Hill was one of the first cemeteries to employ the "open lawn system" of cemetery design. The open lawn system opposed the use of fencing of any kind, except along boundaries, and eschewed

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curbs or walls as well. A sweeping lawn of green, uninterrupted except by meandering roads and paths canopied by arching trees and punctuated by funeral monuments and restrained shrub planting, was the program advocated by Weidenmann in his presentation watercolor and in his writings (see Bibliography). The program formed the basis for the Cedar Hill layout which continues in place today.

Two rural cemeteries, Spring Grove in Cincinnati, Ohio (1858), and Cedar Hill, were first to utilize the open lawn plan. They were designed by good friends, Adolph Strauch and Jacob Weidenmann. Strauch, a German immigrant who settled in Cincinnati, advised the committee there on layout; Weidenmann did so in Hartford. In addition, at Weidenmann's suggestion Strauch was brought to Hartford to consult on the development of Cedar Hill. The two cemeteries share an outstanding characteristic:

These two cemeteries are significant because they were the forerunners of the lawn system concept of cemetery design, based on uninterrupted beauty with its sweeping lawns, and one where maintenance was greatly decreased from that in earlier rural cemeteries. This point is critical in today's world and contributes greatly to the fact that lawn system cemeteries, in general, have not suffered from lack of maintenance to the extent that others have (Favretti, p. 2).

Both also employ the device of an ornamental foreground to establish a sense of tranquility in making the transition into the burying ground area. The ornamental foreground and other aspects of the cemetery at Spring Grove, Cincinnati, have been somewhat impaired in recent years, leaving Cedar Hill as the only example of an early open lawn plan to be well maintained.

Weidenmann's design for Cedar Hill draped a verdant lawn over the rolling terrain, reserving and enhancing natural features such as rocks, water, and trees, while adding gently curving roads and paths which worked in concert with the natural contours. Sections of ground between the paths and roads were sensitively divided into burial lots, leaving ample room between them for trees. To each lot, which could provide as many as a dozen or more family graves, was added a central monument. Weidenmann's concept was not new, having been articulated by William Kent (1685-1748) and Lancelot Brown (1716-1783), the great English 18th-century landscape gardeners (Favretti, p. 7), but its application to cemeteries in the 1860s was quite new, thereby establishing the historical significance of Cedar Hill's landscape architecture.

As Favretti points out (pp. 5,6), Cedar Hill possesses documentation matched by few other cultural landscapes. The documentation includes the conceptual plan drawn by Weidenmann and lengthy descriptions of the early years in the annual reports of 1886 and 1882. A succinct description of how to organize a lawn system cemetery is set forth in Weidenmann's book <u>Beautifying Country Homes</u>, written right after he left Cedar Hill as superintendent, while his <u>Modern Cemeteries</u> is a 113-page manual based on his work at Cedar Hill on how to create cemeteries in the open lawn system. In <u>Modern Cemeteries</u> Weidenmann cited Cedar Hill many times as the model for description of various principles of planning and implementation. The book influenced the design of cemeteries throughout the nation in the late 19th century.

Born in Winterthur, Switzerland, Jacob Weidenmann as a youth was both technically and artistically trained. After a brief apprenticeship with a Winterthur architect, he

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went to Munich for formal study before working as an engineer and architect in Panama and South America, where he was planner for the large Hacienda Molina in Lima, Peru, which still exists as an agricultural college. He came to Hartford on the recommendation of Frederick Law Olmsted to Horace Bushnell as first superintendent of parks. Weidenmann pulled together the Bushnell Park plans of the three competition winners to make the single workable plan which exists today. His presence in the city, where he also designed South Green, made him available to the Cedar Hill group. After leaving Hartford, he was invited by Frederick Law Olmsted to enter into a working arrangement by which they shared office space in New York City. Olmsted wrote to the Rochester, New York, park commissioners in 1888 advising that there were but three men in the country worthy of the title landscape architect, Weidenmann being one of them. (The other two were Calvert Vaux and H.W.S. Cleveland.) Other works by Weidenmann include the grounds of Hot Springs resort, Arkansas; Schuykill Arsenal, Philadelphia; State Capitol, Des Moines, Iowa; Empire and Congress Parks, Saratoga, New York; and many private estates and residences. At the time of his death, he was laying out Pope Park, Hartford. Cedar Hill is the only extant work that remains completely faithful to his original design.

The many monuments in Cedar Hill, an integral part of Weidenmann's plan, include a variety of materials and designs. In some instances design by a well-known architect, memorial to a man of historical importance, and creation of an aesthetically handsome artifact converge in a single monument. A case in point is the George Beach monument. George Beach (1788-1860, re-interred in Cedar Hill) was a highly successful trader and investor, scion of a family powerful in Hartford for decades. The architect was Richard M. Upjohn (1827-1903), who was assisted in his successful campaign to become architect for the Connecticut State Capitol by George Beach, Jr. (1812-1899). The artifact is a wellproportioned example of the High Victorian Gothic style, resembling the Prince Albert Memorial in London on a smaller scale. Another is the J.P. Morgan (1837-1913) monument, a massive sarcophagus shape in polished Scottish red granite by George Keller (1842-1935). A third is the tall Samuel Colt (1814-1862) Egyptian Revival column, also in Scottish red granite, with a Randolph Rogers (1825-1892) bronze figure on top. The Colt monument was supplied by James G. Batterson (1823-1901), who long was proprietor of a Hartford monument business as well as founder of the Travelers Insurance Company. Batterson employed the sculptor Charles (Carl) Conrads (1839-1920), half a dozen of whose works are in Cedar Hill. The roster of monuments involving important people, artists, and works of art is long.

Plantings, especially trees, are prominent in Weidenmann's presentation watercolor. Trees today at Cedar Hill include award-winning specimens recognized in five certificates of commendation from the Connecticut Botanical Association. Its Notable Trees Registry lists Cedar Hill's purple cut-leaf Japanese maple and bitternut hickory as the largest in the state and a common pear, Scots pine, and Japanese red pine as co-state champions.

In the 1860s when Cedar Hill was begun, the concept of the natural landscape was not new, but its application to cemeteries as the open lawn system was quite new. The concept was well executed and has been sensitively maintained for 130 years.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Cedar Hill Cemetery, Hartford, Connecticut. Hartford: Cedar Hill Cemetery, 1996.

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ____ Preliminary Determination of Individual Listing (36 CFR 67) has
 - been requested.
- <u>x</u> Previously Listed in the National Register. Gateway and Chapel.
- ____ Previously Determined Eligible by the National Register.
- ____ Designated a National Historic Landmark.
- ____ **Re**corded by Historic American Buildings Survey: #_____
- ____ Recorded by Historic American Engineering Record: #_____

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- ____ State Historic Preservation Office
- ____ Other State Agency
- ____ Federal Agency
- ____ Local Government
- ____ University
- <u>x</u> Other: Specify Repository: <u>Stowe-Day Library, Harriet Beecher Stowe Center</u>, Hartford, CT

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of Property: <u>270</u>

UTM References: Zone Northing Easting Zone Northing Easting

A <u>18</u>	<u>4621850</u>	692000	B <u>18</u>	4621020	<u>691760</u>
C 18	4620680	690700	D <u>18</u>	4621160	690250
E <u>18</u>	<u>4621420</u>	<u>690410</u>	F <u>18</u>	4621560	<u>690820</u>

Verbal Boundary Description:

The district boundary is shown by the dotted line on the accompanying district map.

Boundary Justification:

The boundary is drawn to encompass the land originally acquired in the 1860s plus a small 1917 purchase.

11. FORM PREPARED BY

- Name/Title: David F. Ransom, reviewed by John F.A. Herzan, National Register Coordinator
- Org.: Architectural Historian

Date: July 1996

- Street/#: 33 Sunrise Hill Drive
- City/Town: West Hartford
- State: CT
- ZIP: 06107
- Telephone: 860 521-3387

List of Photographs

Photographs were taken by D.F. Ransom in April and June 1996. Negatives are on file at the Connecticut Historical Commission.

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Photograph 1
Superintendent's House
      View southeast
Photograph 2
Staff Residence
      View west
Photograph 3
Crematory
      View southeast
Photograph 4
Greenhouse
      View north
Photograph 5
Ornamental Foreground
      View southwest
Photograph 6
Section 4
      View northwest
Photograph 7
Section 1
      View northwest
Photograph 8
1991 Mausoleum
      View east
Photograph 9
George Beach and
Samuel Colt Monuments
      View northwest
Photograph 10
Morgan and Goodwin
 Family Monuments
      View north
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Photograph 11 Mausoleums, various View northwest				
Photograph 12 Governor Morgan Mausoleum View northwest				
Photograph 13 Caine-Marvin Mausoleum View northeast				
Photograph 14 Section 20 View northeast				
Photograph 15 Section 32 View west				
Photograph 16 Section 5 View northeast				
Photograph 17 Section 2 View east				



CEDAR HILL CEMETERY

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Photograph 2 Staff Residence View west





Photograph 4 Greenhouse View north



Photograph 5 Ornamental Foreground View southwest



Photograph 6 Section 4 View northwest





Photograph 8 1991 Mausoleum View east



Photograph 9 George Beach and Samuel Colt Monuments View northwest



Photograph 10 Morgan and Goodwin Family Monuments · View north



Photograph 11 Mausoleums, various View northwest



Photograph 12 Governor Morgan Mausoleum View northwest



Photograph 13 Caine-Marvin Mausoleum View northeast



Photograph 14 Section 20 View northeast





Photograph 16 Section 5 View northeast

