NPS Fo	rm 10-900	
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OMB No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places **Registration Form**

RECEIVED2280 Expires 5/31/2015) 1010 2 AT REGISTEROFHISTORICPLACES NATIONALPARKSERVICE

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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 Albany Hebrew Cemetery	
other names/site number St. John's Cemetery, V	Waverly Jewish Cemetery, Waverly Memorial Cemetery/Park
Name of Multiple Property Listing <u>N/A</u>	
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)	
2. Location	
street & number 3165 Salem Avenue SE	not for publication
city or town Albany	vicinity
state Oregon code OR county I	Linn code 043 zip code 97321
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
As the designated authority under the National Historic I	Preservation Act, as amended,
	or determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards
In my opinion, the property <u>X</u> meets <u>does not make the considered significant at the following level(s) of sign</u>	eet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property ificance:nationalstatewideXlocal
Applicable National Register Griteria: <u>X</u> A <u>B</u>	CD 3-25-15- n Officer Date
Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation	n Officer Date
Oregon State Historic Preservation Office	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	
In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National	al Register criteria.
Signature of commenting official	Date
Title	tate 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
1 - other (explain:)	5.19.15
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
	E die officient

structure

object

Albany Hebrew Cemetery

Ownership of Property

private

public - Local

public - State

public - Federal

Name of Property

5. Classification

Х

Category of Property Number of Resources within Property (Check as many boxes as apply.) (Check only one box.) (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.) Contributing Noncontributing building(s) 1 buildings 1 district site Х site

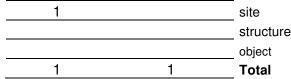
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY/cemetery



Linn County, Oregon

County and State

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

FUNERARY/cemetery

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

N/A

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

N/A foundation:

walls: N/A

N/A roof:

STONE/marble; STONE/granite;

STONE/sandstone; METAL/zinc;

other: CONCRETE

Name of Property

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with **a summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity).

Summary Paragraph

Albany Hebrew Cemetery, at 3165 Salem Avenue SE in Albany, Oregon, is now known as Waverly Jewish Cemetery. It occupies approximately two acres in the southwest corner of the ten-acre Waverly Memorial Park owned by St. John's Lodge No. 17, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons (AF & AM). The nomination pertains to this two-acre site containing 34 burials from the period of significance. An active burial ground, Waverly Jewish Cemetery is the only Jewish cemetery between Portland and Eugene. An agreement with the Masonic Lodge confers exclusive responsibility for the Jewish section of Waverly Memorial Park to the Willamette Valley Jewish Community Burial Society. Although established as a burial ground in 1877, and deeded to the First Hebrew Congregation of Albany in 1878, the cemetery was not officially platted until after ownership was conveyed from the First Hebrew Congregation of Albany to St. John's Lodge No. 17 AF & AM in 1924. As mapped on the reverse of the congregation's cemetery lot Certificate of Ownership, the original 4.17-acre parcel was laid out in a grid pattern. Blocks of two lots each were separated by four-foot alleys that ran both north-south and east-west. While these alleys did appear on the 1930 plat map from the office of the Linn County Recorder, there is no evidence of them at the time of nomination. Although both maps oriented the lots on a north-south axis, actual burials are on an east-west axis, with stones facing both east and west. The property retains historic integrity.

Narrative Description

Waverly Jewish Cemetery is northeast of Albany on the north side of Old Salem Road, in Township 11 South, Range 3 West, Section 4.¹ The combined Jewish and Masonic cemeteries have been known as Waverly Memorial Park since the 1950s, taking the name from Waverly Lake across the road to the southwest. East of the lake and directly across the road from the entrance to the Jewish Cemetery is the Houston (also known as East Albany) Cemetery, established in 1851 and located within the City of Albany's Waverly Park. The Jewish cemetery is bordered by Old Salem Road to the south, Cox Creek to the west, the railroad tracks to the north, and the Masonic cemetery to the east. Historically the Jewish section was delineated by a row of maple trees and a wooden fence, both gone by the time a feature article on the cemetery was published in the *Albany Democrat Herald* 29 July 1980. When the Jewish cemetery was rededicated in or about 1988, a boxwood hedge was planted to visually separate the Jewish cemetery from the adjacent Masonic cemetery.

Mature cypress and maple trees grow primarily along the southern and western perimeter of the two-acre site and are mixed with pine trees in a thick stand that shield the memorial park from the railroad tracks to the north. Interior landscaping is minimal. A boxwood hedge separates the Jewish and Masonic cemeteries. Two family groupings are edged with concrete curbing. Both of these are affiliated with the Senders family, who deeded the original land to the First Hebrew Congregation of Albany. Within the curbed area of the more northerly grouping are two mature laurel trees in the southwest and northwest corners. The only single gravestone edged with concrete curbing is also the only single gravesite to include

Linn County, Oregon County and State

¹ Old Salem Road is the historic name for Salem Avenue SE. The property description at the time of ownership transfer in 1924 referred to it as the county road leading from Albany to Jefferson.

a tree. This burial site is that of the earliest born occupant of Albany Hebrew Cemetery, Saling Salinger, and the grave is centrally positioned in the Jewish section.

Entrance to the cemetery is via a paved driveway perpendicular to Old Salem Road that curves to the northeast beyond the Jewish section. The sign at the entrance reads "Waverly Jewish Cemetery" and there is no gate. West of the entrance, a chain link fence parallels Old Salem Road, and turns north at Cox Creek, then east at the railroad tracks. East of the entrance an open fence of horizontal metal pipe rail intersected by capped concrete posts parallels Old Salem Road.

A walkway of rectangular concrete pavers laid end to end parallel to the entrance drive separates the Jewish cemetery into two sections—halachic and non-halachic—distinguished by degree of adherence to *halachah*, or Jewish law. Only Jews as defined by Jewish law may be buried in the Orthodox section south of the walkway. In the non-halachic, more liberal section, non-Orthodox Jews may have non-Jewish spouses or children buried alongside.

Gravestones placed prior to the 1924 transfer of ownership are primarily marble or granite and in the form of tablets, obelisks, blocks, and raised-top inscriptions. Hebrew inscriptions were common on memorials to those interred through the early years of the twentieth century. While some markers bear a verse in Hebrew that may or may not be translated into English completely or in part, all gravestones with any Hebrew include a traditional opening and closing abbreviation.

The two letters at the top, *pay nun*, stand for *po nikbar* meaning "here lies." The five letters at the end are *tav nun tzade bet hay*. This is an abbreviation of a verse from the Bible, the first book of Samuel, 25:29, "May his soul be bound up in the bond of eternal life." Up until the early years of the twentieth century inscriptions frequently included place of birth. Many of Albany's Jews were immigrants, and gravestones include references to Bavaria, France, Germany, Poland, Prussia, and Russia.

Masonic symbols and references are evident on several gravestones, including the three connected links of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and two different interpretations of clasped hands. Jewish merchants of the American West actively participated in non-denominational Masonry, attracted in part by the civic acceptance conferred by such membership. These symbols predate and are independent of the Masonic ownership of Waverly Jewish Cemetery. The six-pointed Star of David appears primarily on gravestones set after the Second World War. The traditional symbol of Judaism had been the *menorah*, a seven-branched candelabra. After European Jews were forced to wear the star intended as a mark of shame, the State of Israel and Jews throughout the world proudly claimed the symbol as an emblem of nationality and religious affiliation.

The majority of the gravestones placed after the conveyance of ownership in 1924 are lawn-type, flushmount in accordance with Masonic Cemetery Association guidelines. Some exceptions were made, in most cases where other family members already had tablet or block gravestones of significant size. The later use of flush-mount markers helps retain the visual appearance of the historic cemetery, decreases vandalism, and facilitates cemetery maintenance. Burials since 1924 are spread throughout the grounds.

Small stones or pebbles are left at the gravesite as an indication of remembrance and respect. In biblical times graves were sometimes marked by a pile of stones. Some scholars suggest this may explain the custom for which there is no religious basis. Recent burials are marked with a small plastic coated card

4

Linn County, Oregon County and State

flush with the ground. In the Jewish tradition, the gravestone is set in a ceremony that takes place at the end of a year of mourning.

Cemetery records provided by St. John's Lodge, scanned and formatted for the internet, and posted on the Linn County Roots website (copyright 2001), indicated 78 burials: 32 pre-1924 contributing features and 46 post-1924 noncontributing features. Albany Hebrew Cemetery archivist and historian Daniel Eliezer Froehlich has been compiling records on the First Hebrew Congregation of Albany and Albany Hebrew Cemetery for many years. He was interested as a teenager, and began actively researching in 1989.² In a 1996 handwritten record he accounted for 88 burials including some not presently marked due to either a missing or badly broken gravestone. Per Mr. Froehlich's list, 34 graves are pre-1924 contributing features (two not identified on the Linn County Roots website) and 54 graves are post-1924 noncontributing features (eight not identified on the Linn County Roots website).

While no documentation could be found on the origin of the markers or the artists who carved them, Mr. Froehlich believes a San Francisco firm is likely. Frequent ship traffic between San Francisco and Portland with riverboat traffic to Albany and Corvallis would have facilitated delivery. With regard to the carving, in Mr. Froehlich's opinion, "The Hebrew is too good on almost all stones with Hebrew wording to have been carved by a firm not familiar with engraving Hebrew. I am nearly certain no one in Oregon (i.e., Portland) could have undertaken the carving."³

A non-historic, noncontributing building is located on the western periphery of the site. This small service building is cement block with a metal roof and has a single door and adjacent rolling garage-type loading door on the east side. Assessor records indicate the building dates to 1984.

Although there have been a few changes to the site, including the removal of the row of maple trees and wood fence, Albany Hebrew Cemetery retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association with the early history of Albany's, as well as Oregon's, immigrant merchant Jewish population. For many years, Albany was the site of the only Jewish cemetery between Portland in the north, and Jacksonville in the south, and historically served residents of Albany, Brownsville, Corvallis, Eugene, Harrisburg, Independence, and Junction City.

The form of the cemetery's gravestones shows the evolution from nineteenth century tablet, obelisk, and raised top inscriptions to the twentieth century block and flush-mount markers, the latter reflecting the desire to simplify cemetery care and discourage vandalism. The inscriptions tell the story of an ethnic community that over time experienced a diffusion of identity and yet still proudly maintains a distinction. Waverly Jewish Cemetery retains its park-like setting and is in good condition.

² Personal correspondence with Mr. Daniel Eliezer Froehlich, March 2015.

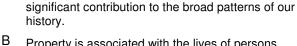
³ Ibid.

Name of Property

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.) **X** A Property is associated with events that have made a



Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.

С	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.



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:

Α	Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
В	removed from its original location.
С	a birthplace or grave.

- X 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.

Period of Significance (justification)

The earliest marked grave in Albany Hebrew Cemetery dates from 1877. In 1924, the Jewish community deeded the cemetery to the Masons in exchange for perpetual care.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Albany Hebrew Cemetery is the most visible and emotive reminder of the Jewish contribution to the early commercial, social, and political development of Albany and vicinity.

Linn County, Oregon

County and State

Significant Dates 1877, 1878, 1924 Significant Person (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Areas of Significance

Period of Significance

1877-1924

(Enter categories from instructions.)

ETHNIC HERITAGE/European

Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation (if applicable)

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Name of Property

Linn County, Oregon County and State

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations).

Albany Hebrew Cemetery is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A in the area of Ethnic Heritage for its role in recording the history of an ethnic immigrant population in Albany around the turn of the twentieth century. The earliest marked grave in Albany Hebrew Cemetery dates from 1877. In 1878, the property owner deeded surrounding land to the newly organized First Hebrew Congregation of Albany. By 1924, the trustees acknowledged the congregation no longer had the numbers or the means to care for the property, and looked to the Masons for assistance. In exchange for the deed, St. John's Lodge No. 17 AF & AM agreed to maintain the cemetery in perpetuity as a Jewish burial ground. Albany Hebrew Cemetery meets Criteria Consideration D for its distinctive symbolism and association with Western American Jewish history. The Jewish community of Albany, Oregon played an important role in the early commercial, social, and political development of Albany and vicinity. Albany Hebrew Cemetery, as the most visible and emotive reminder of this contribution,⁴ reflects important aspects of both community and regional history. These include the diversity of immigrants, the creation of a market system of related storekeepers and peddlers in the western United States, and the preparation of the next generation for a more integrated and sophisticated economy. The cemetery also embodies the burial customs of an ethnic and cultural group whose impact on the community was significant and not well documented in other resources.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

Jews in the American West achieved a more significant degree of assimilation, integration, and acceptance than that experienced by their associates in the East.⁵ Actively involved in commerce, politics, fraternal societies, and charitable organizations, virtually the only areas where western Jews did not mix freely with their Gentile neighbors were in the house of worship and in the burial ground. One striking feature may distinguish western Jewish history from the Jewish experience farther east. Confirmed by his own life experience as a westerner and historian, at a 1986 conference devoted to western Jewish history, Marc Lee Raphael restated Mordecai Kaplan's 1960 argument that, "Jews came West in the first place to start a new life, not to repeat the patterns of the past."⁶ The degree of continuity with Old World life is much less evident in the West than in the East.

As equal citizens under American law, Jewish immigrants were entitled to a full range of civil and political rights never previously available in the countries from which they came. This equality meant that in America Jews could be recognized as individuals, rather than members of a corporate body. Corporate membership had previously required that Jews belong to a synagogue. The synagogue was the self-governing community (*Kehillah* in Hebrew) that, in addition to providing the religious framework, apportioned taxes in order to provide: education, including the rabbi's salary and construction of the building; medical care; employment for vagrants; support for widows, orphans, and the poor; and burial services. The Kehillah also assumed responsibility for enforcement of household religious issues, e.g., compliance with dietary laws, and for monitoring the morals and behavior of the community members.

⁴ As the cemetery historically served residents of Albany, Brownsville, Corvallis, Eugene, Harrisburg, Independence, and Junction City, extant buildings associated with individuals buried in Albany Hebrew Cemetery can be found in communities outside of Albany. Albany Hebrew Cemetery is the best visual reminder of those individuals' collective presence.

⁵ See Bibliography for a representative selection of academic research documenting this development.

⁶ Marc Lee Raphael, "Beyond New York," in *Jews of the American West*, ed. Moses Rischin and John Livingston, (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1991), 58.

Linn County, Oregon County and State

Individual recognition under the law meant that a Jew was no longer obligated to remain a member of the synagogue in which his circumstances placed him, because he had the freedom to change his circumstances. He could join another synagogue, or forego regular attendance at religious services without civil penalty. This civil and religious freedom meant that Jews could participate equally in the nineteenth century westward expansion of the United States.

Regardless of changes in religious observance during one's lifetime, and the degree of assimilation into American culture in the nineteenth century West, most Jewish men and women expressed the desire to return to their traditional identity as the end of life approached. Distinct burial customs and a desire to rest among others of the faith led to the creation of separate sacred space for Jews, in some cases simply a corner of an existing cemetery. Throughout the West, a number of Jewish cemeteries have been identified, frequently affiliated with towns affected by the gold rush and subsequent development. As Jewish populations declined in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, many of the cemeteries were abandoned, or turned over to other organizations for care, as was the case with Albany Hebrew Cemetery.

Among the earliest settlers in Albany were Walter and Thomas Monteith in 1847 who named the town for their home state capital, Albany, New York. By 1851, Albany was designated the county seat of Linn County. By 1871, the railroad reached Albany, local businessmen having raised \$50,000 to ensure that the train would come through town rather than bypassing it a few miles to the east. Within a few years, Albany's downtown included Jewish merchants connected through family relationships to merchants in San Francisco and Portland. Within five years after the 1849 discovery of gold in California, San Francisco became almost an instant city of 35,000, whose businesses included 117 dry goods stores, many owned by Jews.⁷ In the late 1870s, after New York, San Francisco had the second largest Jewish population, estimated at 16,000. By comparison, Stockton had 200; Santa Cruz, 100; Portland, 625; Helena, 112; Salt Lake City, 180; Virginia City, NV, 305; and Denver had 260.⁸

Jewish merchants who set up shop in San Francisco brought relatives to the West to run branch businesses in other commercial centers, frequently mining towns, and those relatives in turn brought in others to peddle goods out into rural areas. This chain migration method of keeping business in the family provided a ready supply of trusted employees, and allowed younger relatives the opportunity to establish themselves in smaller communities while learning the merchant trade. Business connections among Jewish merchants were further strengthened by marriage, which resulted in additional interrelated firms.

In "The Jewish Merchant and Civic Order in the Urban West," William Toll explores the role of Jewish merchants in migration patterns, family relationships, and religious practices in several small towns of the West, including Albany.⁹ By the 1870s, Albany was one of several Western towns to have a cluster of Jewish stores selling dry goods and provisions, while other Jews were in business as watchmakers and saloon keepers. Fourteen businesses along First Street were owned by Jews, with another four around the corner on Second Street. Sons worked for their fathers or uncles or friends, and daughters frequently married into other merchant families.¹⁰

⁷ Kenneth Libo and Irving Howe, We Lived There, Too: In Their Own Words and Pictures–Pioneer Jews and the Westward Movement of America, 1630-1930 (New York: St. Martin's/Marek, 1984), 172.

⁸ Robert E. Levinson, *The Jews in the California Gold Rush* (New York: Ktav Publishing House, 1978; Berkeley, CA: Commission for the Preservation of Pioneer Jewish Cemeteries and Landmarks of the Judah L. Magnes Memorial Museum, 1978), 31.

⁹ Ava F. Kahn, ed., *Jewish Life in the American West: Perspectives on Migration, Settlement, and Community* (Los Angeles: Autry Museum of Western Heritage; Seattle and London: University of Washington Press, 2002), 27-28.

¹⁰ William Toll, "The Jewish Merchant and Civic Order in the Urban West," in *Jewish Life in the American West: Perspectives on Migration, Settlement, and Community*, Ava F. Kahn, ed., (Los Angeles: Autry Museum of Western Heritage; Seattle and London: University of Washington Press, 2002), 83, 98.

Linn County, Oregon County and State

By cross-referencing the 1878 Albany City Directory, the Minutes of the First Hebrew Congregation of Albany beginning in 1878, and the 1880 Federal Manuscript Census, it is possible to identify several Jewish merchants in Albany during this period. The 1878 Albany City Directory includes in the business section Julius Gradwohl under Hardware (also listed under Stoves and Tinware), Jacob Zuckerman under Jewelry and Silverware (also listed under Watchmakers), and six names under General Merchandise, including Nathan Baum, Philip Cohen, Samuel Cohen, Fox & Brother (Ignatz and Otto Fox), Lewis Kline, and (Leon) Senders and (Moses) Sternberg. Albany's Jewish population, including twenty-six adult males in 1880, came from throughout Central Europe including Alsace, Austria, Bavaria, France, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Posen, and Prussia.¹¹

In his history of Portland, Oregon's Jewish community, Rabbi Julius Nodel briefly commented on the Jewish presence in Albany. "The report of the Oregon Secretary of State mentions in 1878 the incorporation of the First Hebrew Cemetery Association and of the First Hebrew Congregation of Albany. Julius, Joseph, [sic] and Leon Senders figure as incorporators of both. Albert Senders was later Mayor of Albany. The cemetery is the second oldest [Jewish cemetery] in the state."¹² The future Mayor Albert Senders was Leon's son, age five years at the time of the 1880 census.¹³

The earliest marked grave in Albany Hebrew Cemetery predates the founding of both the congregation and the cemetery. When the infant daughter of Isaac and Bertha Senders, Clara, died on 9 December 1877 she was buried on private land owned by a member of the Senders family. On 18 April 1878, the Israelites of Albany and Vicinity, as they referred to themselves, met at the business of Senders and Sternberg to organize as a congregation, elect officers, and adopt a constitution and bylaws. Officers elected were Leon Senders, President; Julius Gradwohl, Vice President; Julius Joseph, Secretary; Edward Baum, Treasurer. Trustees were Moses Sternberg of Albany, Samuel Cohen of Albany, M. Jacobs of Corvallis, Seymour Friendly of Eugene, and Samuel May of Harrisburg.¹⁴ On 11 May 1878 M. Senders deeded land around Clara's grave to the newly organized First Hebrew Congregation of Albany.¹⁵

In reading through the *Minutes and Miscellaneous Correspondence* of the congregation, establishment and maintenance of a cemetery appears to be the congregation's main concern. A special meeting was called on 21 July 1878, only three months after incorporating as a congregation, to determine the chances of building a house at the cemetery. The Secretary was charged with finding out if each member of the congregation would be willing to contribute ten dollars, with the total cost of the house not to exceed three hundred dollars. Later meetings included references to beautification, the provision of a team and vehicle for officers to attend each burial, necessary improvements, and long-term plans for permanent care.¹⁶

In his personal records, Daniel Eliezer Froehlich, historian and archivist for the Albany Jewish community, indicated conversations with family members confirmed the building was used for storage of burial supplies including the traditional white shrouds and special wooden coffins with no nails, as well as for ritual preparation of the body. The house was shown just east of the cemetery's center on the map printed on the reverse of the

¹⁵ Jones, Lisa L. "Waverly Jewish Cemetery Records," Linn County Cemeteries

http://www.linncountyroots.com/Cemeteries/waverly_jewish.htm (accessed 12 June 2006).

¹¹ U.S. Federal Manuscript Census 1880, Albany, Oregon.

¹² Rabbi Julius J. Nodel, *The Ties Between: A Century of Judaism on America's Last Frontier; the Human Story of Congregation Beth Israel, Portland, Oregon, the Oldest Jewish Congregation in the Pacific Northwest 1858-1958* (Portland, OR: Temple Beth Israel, 1959), 65.

¹³ Census.

¹⁴ *The Minutes and Miscellaneous Correspondence of Albany, Oregon's First Hebrew Congregation 1878 to 1924*, Manuscript and Typescript, (Cincinnati: American Jewish Archives, Hebrew Union College, 1963), Microfilm Reel #584.

¹⁶ Minutes.

Linn County, Oregon County and State

cemetery lot Certificate of Ownership issued by the congregation. A fifteen foot-wide wagonway encircled the house, widening to twenty feet across in the straightaway connecting to Old Salem Road. Albany historian Lee Rohrbough recalled the house and wagonway in a feature article on the cemetery published in the *Albany Democrat Herald* 29 July 1980.¹⁷ Rohrbough first visited the cemetery as a boy accompanying his father. The senior Rohrbough's job included making coffins for the Fortmiller Funeral Home and Furniture Store. Rohrbough remembered the circular wagonway and a small house in the circle. He recalled benches and open rafters, and a body-shaped casket suspended from the ceiling that drew him to climb up for a closer look.

At the annual meeting 29 April 1883, the bylaws were changed to assign each member a whole block of 20 x 24 feet in the cemetery, rather than the previously assigned half-block of 10 x 24 feet. Members who were already assigned a half-block were entitled to the adjoining half, or if already assigned, were invited to select another.¹⁸ As the size of the average cemetery plot was 5 x 10 feet, according to the Oregon Department of Transportation Cemetery Survey published in 1978,¹⁹ it seems a member's block was intended for multiple family members. At this time, congregational membership was only available to men.

At the next year's annual meeting, 27 April 1884, an increased application fee for married men extended membership indirectly to those men's wives: "Application for membership shall be accompanied by an admission fee of \$25 for a single man and \$40 for a married man." At the annual meeting on 25 April 1886, annual dues of \$2 were established, and the Board of Trustees were "ordered to look after and secure such improvements at cemetery as are necessary, and beautify the [illegible, possibly 'place']."²⁰

While not all Jewish men in the community were members of the congregation, if one wished burial in the Hebrew Cemetery for oneself or one's family, membership was required. A special meeting of the congregation was called on 21 January 1888 when Aaron Senders wished to bury his wife. He was granted membership, and assigned cemetery lots 28 and 29.²¹

In 1888, Albany had fifteen Jewish families, a cemetery, benevolent society, and B'nai Brith lodge, a Jewish fraternal society. It was the largest Jewish community outside Portland at this time, Eugene having six Jewish families by comparison.²² Nine years later, in 1897, charter members of the congregation were already concerned about declining membership and long term care for the cemetery, concerns that arose again in 1908 and 1924. Few new families were moving into Albany, the birth rate declined, and merchants were being pressured by their wives to move to larger cities for greater Jewish social and educational opportunities.

In 1908, the congregation discussed and dismissed the possibility of selling their surplus land to the city of Albany, and instead worked on raising additional membership and financial support. By 1924, the trustees acknowledged that the congregation no longer had the numbers or the means to care for the property, and looked to the Masons for assistance. In exchange for the deed to the 4.17 acres owned by the congregation, St. John's Lodge No. 17 Ancient Free and Accepted Masons agreed to maintain the cemetery in perpetuity as a Jewish burial ground.

¹⁷ "Few in number' lie in Israelites' cemetery," Albany Democrat-Herald, 29 July 1980.

¹⁸ Minutes.

¹⁹ Oregon Department of Transportation, *A Cemetery Survey for the State of Oregon* (Salem, OR: Department of Transportation, 1978).

²⁰ Minutes.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Norton B. Stern, ed., "Pacific Northwest Jewry in 1888," *Western States Jewish Historical Quarterly* XII No. 4 (July 1980): 370-372. Article originally published in *The Jewish Messenger*, New York, February 10, 1888, page 5.

Linn County, Oregon County and State

In preparation for the transfer, the congregational trustees confirmed "a Deed to the First Hebrew Congregation was recorded in Vol. S, of Deeds at Page 230, and conveying 4.17 acres...." In the same communication with the Linn County Abstract Company, the trustees discovered that no "plat of a Cemetery or any other subdivision of Lots was ever made...and filed for record."²³

A special meeting of the congregation was called for 2 November 1924 to consider and vote upon a resolution that itemized the details of the transfer.²⁴ The resolution included, in part:

WHEREAS St. John's Lodge No. 17 A.F. & A.M. has agreed if all the land owned by the First Hebrew Congregation, a corporation, be deeded to said St. John's Lodge No. 17 A.F & A.M. that said lodge will perpetually maintain a suitable fence around said property or the portion thereof which shall be platted and also repair and maintain the present water system on the premises and will at least once a year cut the grass and remove all debris on the vacant lots; and

WHEREAS a plat has been made of said cemetery on the backs of the certificates, but there is nothing to show where said land lies and no plat has been filed of record with the Recorder of Conveyances in Linn County, Oregon and a deed to any lot according to said plat would not convey anything; and

WHEREAS said St. John's Lodge No. 17 A.F. & A.M. has agreed if said land is deeded to it, to plat and dedicate a cemetery on all or a portion of said land and after the plat is filed with the Recorder of Linn County, Oregon to deed to the proper parties in interest the land which shall be found by a survey to include Lots 69, 71, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 106, 107, 104, 105, 102, 103, 100, 101, 97, 87, 88, 89, 90, 65, 66, 63, 64, 59, 60, 53, 49, 50, 28, 29, 32 and 33.

The resolution also included a detailed description of the property as follows:

Land beginning at the center of Cox's Creek and 30 feet south of the center of the Oregon & California Railroad, said point being in the Donation Land Claim of Anderson Cox, Notification No. 696, Claim No. 49 in Township 11, South, Range 3 West of the Willamette Meridian in Linn County, Oregon, running thence up the center of the main channel of said Cox's Creek 5 chains more or less to the center of the county road leading from Albany to Jefferson, running thence North 57 deg. 22' East 6.87 chains in the center of said road to a stone from which a fir tree 22 inches in diameter bears South 57 deg. 22' West 185 links, thence North 50 deg. West 8.68 chains to a stone 30 feet south of the center of said railroad, whence Westerly with the curve of said railroad 30 feet from the center 4.80 chains to the place of beginning, containing 4.17 acres, more or less, in Linn County, Oregon.

In 1930, the Masons platted the cemetery as promised, and Plat 1 of St. John's Cemetery was received and recorded in the Linn County Records Book of Plats Vol. 7 Page 29 on 5 November. The Masons were pleased to acquire additional land, as their own cemetery, established in 1853 on the west side of town at SW Broadway and SW 7th Avenue, was becoming crowded. Of the 4.17 acres conveyed to St. John's, approximately two acres were set apart as the Jewish burial ground. The Masons later purchased an additional six and a quarter acres from the city of Albany for a nominal sum to increase the acreage of their portion of the cemetery to approximately eight. The combined property of 10.44 acres was known as St. John's from 1934 until the 1950s when it was renamed Waverly Memorial Park, taking the name from Waverly Lake across the road.²⁵

²³ Minutes.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Waverly Jewish Cemetery Records.

Linn County, Oregon County and State

Jewish burials continued to take place in the cemetery even after the First Hebrew Congregation of Albany disbanded in 1924, in part because the cemetery was the only dedicated Jewish burial ground in Oregon outside Portland for many years. In the 1950s and 1960s, a new Jewish community established itself in the mid-Willamette Valley around Albany and Corvallis, and by the 1980s desired more control over Jewish burials. With the consent of St. John's Lodge No. 17 AF & AM, access to the Jewish section of Waverly Cemetery is provided through the Willamette Valley Jewish Community Burial Society.

The traditional Jewish funeral honors the deceased with a simple, dignified burial. Orthodox Jews are buried in white shrouds that are symbolic of the equality of all men and women in death. A corpse is regarded as holy, and as such autopsy, embalming, and cremation are seen as a desecration of the body. Burial is to take place as soon as possible, and the sooner the body returns to the earth, it is believed, the sooner atonement for sins can be completed. Orthodoxy prescribes the use of a plain wooden box as a casket, made without nails or any metal that might delay the process of decomposition. The Jewish emphasis on bodily remains returning to the earth comes from Genesis 3:19, "For dust you are and to dust you shall return." Waverly Memorial Park and the Willamette Valley Jewish Community Burial Society have agreed that all Jewish burials may have the bottom left off the cement liner of the grave.

The story of the congregation and its concern for the cemetery, told through congregational Minutes and correspondence, offers a unique perspective on the role of cemeteries in memorializing culture. Gravestones, while associated with death, are just as much about life. Through the medium of the gravestone itself, size, style, symbols, text, and placement communicate something of the life passed to those living who take the time to notice. The congregation's efforts to preserve the cemetery by arranging for perpetual care contributed to its renewed use as a dedicated Jewish burial ground. In an interesting reversal of the early twentieth century urban migration that led to the transfer of the cemetery out of Jewish ownership, a resurgence of Jewish life in the Willamette Valley led to new use of Albany's Jewish cemetery by congregations in Salem and Corvallis.

Name of Property

Linn County, Oregon County and State

(Expires 5/31/2015)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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<u>Newspapers</u> <u>Albany Democrat-Herald</u> "'Few in number' lie in Israelites' cemetery." 29 July 1980. "Cemetery damage raises questions." 21 November 2002.

Websites

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- Willamette Valley Jewish Community Burial Society. Available from <u>http://www.beitam.org/burial.html</u>. Internet; accessed 12 June 2006.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been	State Historic Preservation Office
requested)	Other State agency
previously listed in the National Register	Federal agency
previously determined eligible by the National Register	Local government
designated a National Historic Landmark	University
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #	X Other
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	Name of repositories: Located in Corvallis, Oregon:
recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey #	Personal archive of Daniel Eliezer Froehlich
	<u>Villamette Valley Jewish Community Burial Society</u>

Primary location of additional data:

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

Name of Property

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approx. 2 acres

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage; enter "Less than one" if the acreage is .99 or less)

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: (enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1	44.642681	-123.067247	3		
	Latitude	Longitude	Latitude	Longitude	
2			4		
	Latitude	Longitude	Latitude	Longitude	

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

Two acres in the southwest corner of Lot 3500 in Township 11 South, Range 3 West, Section 4, bordered by Old Salem Road to the south, Cox Creek to the west, railroad tracks to the north, and the Masonic cemetery to the east.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary contains the two-acre site rededicated in or about 1988. A boxwood hedge was planted at that time to replace the row of maple trees and wooden fence that historically separated the Jewish cemetery from the adjacent Masonic cemetery.

11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Amy H. Crain	date June 2006; updated 2014
organization	telephone (541) 556-0913
street & number2021 23 rd Street	email venezia18@comcast.net
city or town Sacramento	state CA zip code 95818

Additional Documentation

....

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Regional Location Map

. .

- Local Location Map
- Tax Lot Map
- Site Plan
- Floor Plans (As Applicable)
- Photo Location Map (Include for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map and insert immediately after the photo log and before the list of figures).

County and State

Name of Property

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 3000x2000 pixels, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property:	Albany Hebrew Cemetery		
City or Vicinity:	Albany		
County:	Linn	State:	Oregon
Photographer:	Diana Painter		
Date Photographed:	April 25, 2014		

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

Photo 1 of 18:	Waverly Lake, across the road from Albany Hebrew Cemetery now
	known as Waverly Jewish Cemetery; camera facing south
Photo 2 of 18:	West end of cemetery seen from across Salem Ave SE, noncontributing service building at periphery; camera facing west
Photo 3 of 18:	Entrance with Waverly Jewish Cemetery sign; camera facing northwest
Photo 4 of 18:	Driveway just past sign; camera facing northwest
Photo 5 of 18:	Boxwood hedge in the northeast corner visually separates Jewish cemetery from adjacent Masonic cemetery; a related family grouping includes Kline family gravestones at left, Rosenthal family gravestones at right (Sarah Rosenthal was Paulina Kline's sister); camera facing north
Photo 6 of 18:	Rosenthal family gravestones—Sarah's originally had an angel on top, and the flat gravestones to either side are for infant children; Emanuel's includes Hebrew and Odd Fellows emblem; camera facing northeast
Photo 7 of 18:	Adaline Kline (mother) has one of the most substantial monuments, includes Hebrew and English; camera facing southwest
Photo 8 of 18:	Lewis Kline (father) has the tallest gravestone, includes Hebrew, English, and two Masonic emblems: clasped hands and the three connected links of the Odd Fellows; camera facing southwest
Photo 9 of 18:	Paulina Kline (daughter) was one of the last members of the First Hebrew Congregation of Albany; camera facing southwest
Photo 10 of 18:	Small tablet gravestone for Sophia Joseph, detached from and leaning against base; camera facing southwest
Photo 11 of 18:	Senders family plot, one of two family groupings edged with concrete curbing; camera facing south

Linn County, Oregon

County and State

Albany Hebrew Ceme	tery Linn County, Oreg	gon
Name of Property	County and State	
Photo 12 of 18:	Obelisk gravestone with Masonic square and compass for Leon Senders founding President of the First Hebrew Congregation of Albany; camera facing southeast	, ,
Photo 13 of 18:	Block gravestone for multiple Senders family members, includes inscription on top and side; camera facing down, grave located west of Senders family plot	
Photo 14 of 18:	Obelisk gravestone for three Senders family members with Hebrew inscription on fourth side, missing upper element; camera facing east	
Photo 15 of 18:	Flat gravestone set in concrete with cement curbing and tree for Saling Salinger who had the oldest birth date recorded in the cemetery, 1805; camera facing northwest	
Photo 16 of 18:	Obelisk gravestone for Sarah Zuckerman with extensive Hebrew text at macadam covered gravesite, the second burial after the land was deeded for cemetery use; camera facing southwest	d
Photo 17 of 18:	West corner includes pre-1924 tablet gravestones and post-1924 flush- mount gravestones; camera facing west	
Photo 18 of 18:	Sternberg family grouping, including some vertical gravestones placed after the period of significance, permitted where other family members already had tablet or block gravestones of significant size; camera facing east	}

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 100 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.

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Linn County, Oregon

Name of Property

County and State

N/A

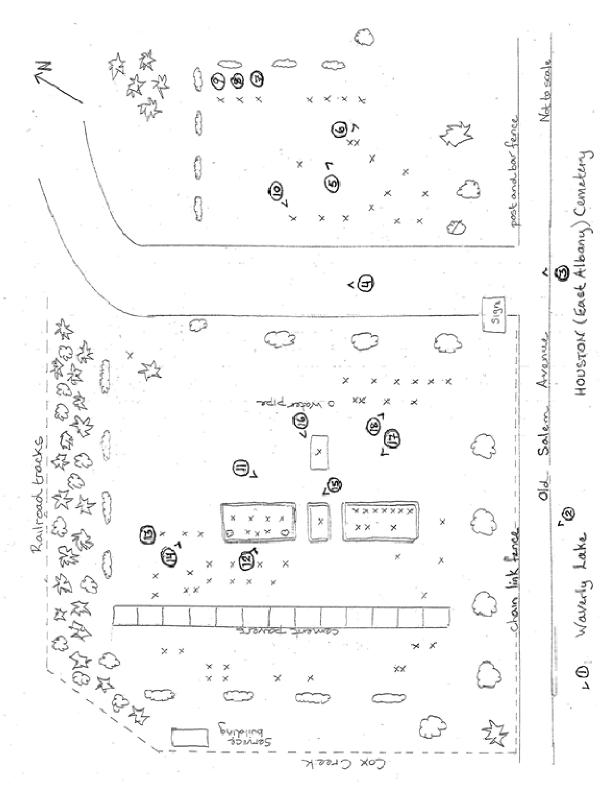
United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 18

Photo Location Map



National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Albany Hebrew Cemetery Name of Property Linn County, Oregon County and State N/A Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 19

List of Figures

- Figure 1: General location map
- Figure 2: Local location map
- Figure 3: Tax lot map
- Figure 4: Site aerial
- Figure 5: Certificate of Ownership
- Figure 6: Hebrew inscription for Emanuel Rosenthal
- Figure 7: Hebrew inscription for Hirsch Joseph
- Figure 8: Clasped hands Masonic emblem for Abraham Wachenheimer
- Figure 9: Albany Hebrew Cemetery, circa 1901

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

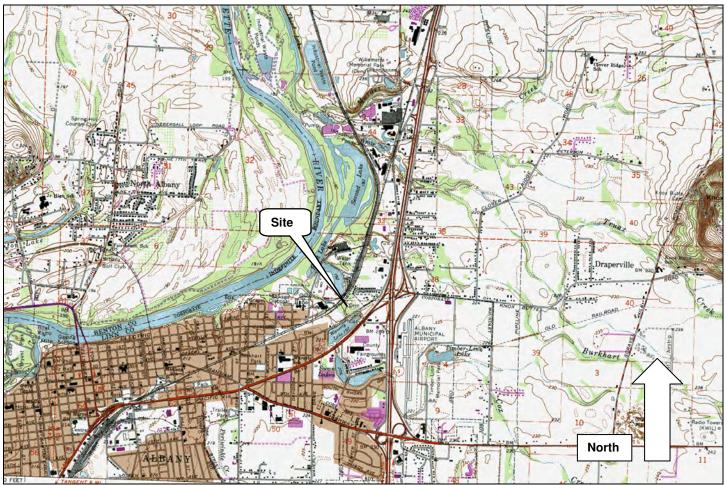
Albany Hebrew Cemetery
Name of Property
Linn County, Oregon
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

OMB No. 1024-0018

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 20

Figure 1. General location map, Latitude: 44.642681; Longitude: -123.067247



Scale: 1:24,000

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Albany Hebrew Cemetery
Name of Property
Linn County, Oregon
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 21

Figure 2. Local location map, Latitude: 44.642681; Longitude: -123.067247



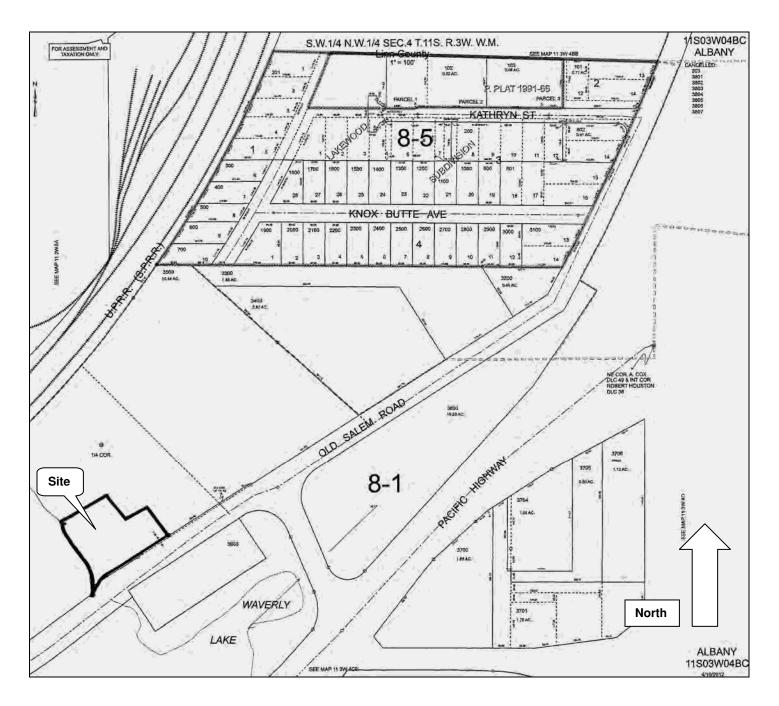
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Albany Hebrew Cemetery
Name of Property
Linn County, Oregon
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 22

Figure 3. Tax lot map



National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 23

Figure 4. Site aerial



National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Albany Hebrew Cemetery
Name of Property
Linn County, Oregon
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 24

Figure 5. Certificate of Ownership

No% C	Ertificate o	f ownershil) (
	+++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++		2 1 - j - 1 j
First B	ebrew Cong	regation, of	Elibany, Oregon.
THIS CEDT	IFIES That		
THIS CERI	IFIES Inat	·····	
is the owner of Lot I	Number conta	ining feet in	the nemotory situated
bout one mile East	of Albany, more particula	rly designated and desor	the cemetery situated
plats of same now	on file in the office of th	e County Recorder for 1	inn County Oregand
and being the proper	ty owned by the First H	lebrew Congregation of A	lhany Oregon a true
map and plat of whi	ch is hereon printed and m	ade a part of this certific	ate.
The ownership	is conditioned that the ov	wner herein named shall	stand to and abide by
the rules, regulation:	s and by-laws of said cong	regation.	
	uppe our hands and the		A
J. Wirms		seal of the Congregation,	
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fan dina saasisa	÷		thisday of
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WITH ATTEST :	÷		thisday of

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Albany Hebrew Cemetery
Name of Property
Linn County, Oregon
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 25

Figure 6. Hebrew inscription for Emanuel Rosenthal, photograph by Steven Crain, 2006



National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Albany Hebrew Cemetery
Name of Property
Linn County, Oregon
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 26

Figure 7. Hebrew inscription for Hirsch Joseph, photograph by Steven Crain, 2006



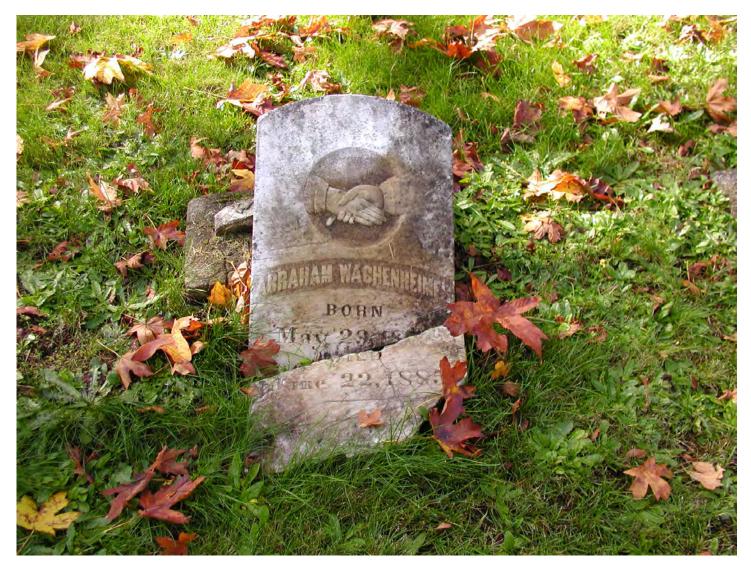
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Albany Hebrew Cemetery
Name of Property
Linn County, Oregon
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 27

Figure 8. Clasped hands Masonic emblem for Abraham Wachenheimer, photograph by Steven Crain, 2006



National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Albany Hebrew Cemetery
Name of Property
Linn County, Oregon
County and State
N/A
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation F

Page 28

Figure 9. Albany Hebrew Cemetery, circa 1901

Image courtesy Oregon Jewish Museum; used with permission of Daniel Eliezer Froehlich, donor of original double image glass plate used to create a locally produced stereoscope view















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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Albany Hebrew Cemetery NAME:

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: OREGON, Linn

DATE RECEIVED: 4/03/15 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/11/15 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST: DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/24/15 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/19/15

DATE

REFERENCE NUMBER: 15000240

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

REJECT

ACCEPT ____RETURN

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.





March 26, 2015

Mr. J. Paul Loether National Register of Historic Places USDOI National Park Service - Cultural Resources 1201 Eye Street NW, 8th Floor Washington, D.C. 20005

Re: National Register Nomination

Dear Mr. Loether:

At the recommendation of the Oregon State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation, I hereby nominate the following historic property to the National Register of Historic Places:

ALBANY HEBREW CEMETERY 3165 SALEM AVE SE ALBANY, LINN COUNTY

The enclosed disk contains the true and correct copy of the nomination listed above to the National Register of Historic Places.

We appreciate your consideration of this nomination. If questions arise, please contact Diana Painter, Architectural Historian, at (503) 986-0668.

Sincerely,

Christine Curran Interim Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Encl.