

Meeting Packet

OREGON COMMISSION ON HISTORIC CEMETERIES, OREGON HERITAGE

Packet Items:

- Agenda - Action
- National Register of Historic Places – Heritage Bulletin
- Marshfield Cemetery – Nomination
- Lone Fir Cemetery - Nomination
- 2024 Oregon Historic Cemeteries Awards List

Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries

MEMBERS

- Lisa Sears, Cloverdale (Chair)
- Johnny Edwards, McMinnville (Vice Chair)
- Sarah Baylinson, Prineville
- Peggy Drake, Sutherlin
- Milo Reed, Portland
- Sarah Silbernagel, Pendleton
- Shawn Steinmetz, La Grande

WORK

The members of the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries meet four times a year in communities around the state. The purpose of the commission is to document and support the preservation of historic cemeteries in Oregon. Any cemetery that includes the burial of at least one person who died before the date that is 75 years before the current date and is listed with the Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries is considered historic.

CONTACT

Kuri Gill Kuri.Gill@opr.d.oregon.gov 503-986-0685





Oregon Commission on Historic Cemeteries

Thursday, July 24, 2025

Chachalu Museum and Cultural Center

8720 Grand Ronde Road

Grand Ronde, Oregon

Online

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AGENDA

Thursday, July 24, 2025

Zoom Meeting - https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CR6l2lGRQm6GpLtNoCTOCw

Business Meeting: 9:00am

1. Commission Business

- a) Welcome and Introductions (Information)
- b) Approval of July 24, 2025 Agenda (**Action**)

2. Public Comment: *This is the time for the public to address the Commission. If you wish to make public comment on an item on the agenda you can choose to make your comment either when the item is heard, or during this allotted time. **Speaking time is limited to 3 minutes.***

3. OPRD & Oregon Heritage Update

- a) Oregon Heritage Update (Information)

4. National Register of Historic Places (Information)

- a) National Register and Cemeteries in Oregon – Caitlyn Abrahms, SHPO, Oregon Heritage
- b) Marshfield Cemetery – Becky Soules, Marshfield Cemetery
- c) Lone Fir Cemetery – Karen Vitkay, METRO

5. Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (Information)

- a) CTGR perspectives on cemeteries, burial records, information that can be found by the public and how to work with the Tribes.

6. Oregon Historic Cemeteries Grant Report (Information) – Kuri Gill

- a) The results of the 2024 Oregon Historic Cemeteries grants will be presented.

7. Project Updates (Information)

- a) Cemetery Stories – Themes between now and the next meeting. Hispanic Heritage Month, Archives Month, Historic Cemeteries Month, Indigenous People's Day.
- b) Remote Sensing Project – Shawn Steinmetz
- c) SOLVE Historic Cemetery Cleanup Days follow up discussion

d) Oregon Heritage Conference content input

8. Upcoming Cemetery Resources (Information)

- a) Oregon Heritage MentorCorps – Applications are open now to be connected with a mentor to assist with priority setting, volunteer management planning, project planning, etc.
<https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/OH/pages/mentorcorps.aspx>

9. Items for Future Meetings (Discussion)

10. Reports: Commissioner Actions and Issues (Information)

11. Thanks to Outgoing Commissioners

- a) Milo Reed
b) Sarah Silbernagel

12. Commission Planning Calendar (Information)

- a) October 16 & 17, 2025 – Canby, joint commission/committee meeting
b) February 6, 2026 – Online
c) April 29, 2026 – Woodburn with Oregon Heritage Conference
d) May TBA, online grant approval
e) July 16-17, 2026 – TBA, somewhere in the gorge

Lunch: 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm Discussion: Developing Relationships

Tour: 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Cultural Resources

The services, programs and activities of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department are covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need special accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact Mary Newcomb at (503) 986-0609 or Jayme.Jones@oprd.oregon.gov at least 72 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

National Register of Historic Places

The National Register of Historic Places is the nation's official list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture. The records are maintained in Washington, D.C. by the National Park Service. Over 2,000 properties located in all 36 counties of Oregon are listed in the National Register. Oregon listings presently include over 150 historic districts.

The State Historic Preservation Office

Each state has a designated State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). In Oregon, the State Historic Preservation Office operates within the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. A nine-member, governor-appointed State Advisory Committee on Historic Preservation (SACHP) is responsible for reviewing and making recommendations on all nominations to the National Register. Academic disciplines represented by the SHPO staff and the SACHP include history, archaeology, architecture, architectural history and a Native American culture.



Hayden Bridge, Benton County

How are properties listed in the National Register?

Properties are listed in the National Register through a public nomination process. The property owner often initiates a nomination. Any individual, local historical society, other community group, or even the state of Oregon, however, may prepare a nomination. The first step is a phone call to the SHPO to get a preliminary eligibility evaluation of the property from National Register staff. The next step is completion of the nomination form that describes the property and documents its significance. The property owner decides whether to prepare the form independently or engage a consultant to conduct the research and assemble the materials required to complete the form. About 50 percent of applicants conduct their own research and prepare their own nomination forms.

When a technically complete nomination form is received by the SHPO, it is placed on the calendar for review by the SACHP during one of three public meetings held each year. The SACHP decides whether the property proposed for nomination meets the National Register criteria and makes its recommendations to the SHPO accordingly. If approved by the SACHP and the SHPO, the form is sent to Washington, D.C. The Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places decides whether to accept the nomination and list the property. The majority of properties nominated to the National Register are accepted for listing. Sometimes a nomination is returned for correction and resubmitted to the Keeper.



Emil and Otilie Wienecke House, Deschutes County



Oregon Heritage

www.OregonHeritage.org

oregon.heritage@oprd.oregon.gov

(503) 986-0690

What are the benefits of listing a property in the National Register?

Listing in the National Register of Historic Places honors the property and recognizes its importance to the community, the state, and/or the nation. Owners of listed properties may apply for Preserving Oregon grants. The SHPO administers a federal tax credit program that can save building owners 20 percent of the cost of rehabilitating their listed income-producing building. In addition, Oregon has a Special Assessment of Historic Property Program that specially assesses a property's assessed value for 10 years. It is most effective when the program is in place prior to any substantial rehabilitation of the property.

Are properties listed in the National Register subject to restrictions and regulations?

Owners of properties listed in the National Register choosing to take advantage of federal and state tax benefits and grant programs must comply with federal standards. Oregon State law requires local governments to review proposals to demolish or relocate properties listed in the National Register. Local governments have the authority to form local historic districts and landmarks, and may also create additional protections for properties listed in the National Register through a separate local process.

To find out more about how your local government may regulate National Register listed properties, contact your local planning office.

Private owners of National Register properties have no obligation to admit the public to their properties or restore them unless they have voluntarily agreed to this as a condition of receiving federal, state, or local economic benefits.

Listing a property in the National Register does not prevent the owner from selling the property or adapting it to a compatible new use. In making changes to a listed property, owners are advised to follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.



Depot Bay Ocean Wayside, Lincoln County

Listed properties can be removed from the Register only under specific circumstances: If the decision regarding eligibility for listing was made in error, or was based on information subsequently proven incorrect; if a procedural error was made in the nomination process; or if the qualities that made the property eligible for listing in the National Register no longer exist.

Can a property be listed without permission of the owner?

PRIVATE PROPERTY:

A property in private ownership that is proposed for nomination as an individual listing in the National Register cannot be listed if an owner with fee simple absolute or

fee simple defeasible estate title to real property formally objects to the listing. If a historic district is being proposed for nomination, the district cannot be listed if the majority of owners with fee simple absolute or fee simple defeasible estate title to real property within the boundary of the proposed district object to the listing.

PUBLICLY OWNED PROPERTY:

Although the Keeper of the National Register will take the agency's comments into consideration, a public owner's objection does not preclude the listing of a property in public ownership.

How difficult is it to prepare a nomination to the National Register?

One should expect to spend between 100 and 150 hours preparing a nomination for an individual property. If the property is a historic district or a complex of several buildings, it will take longer. The narrative of the nomination form is divided into two sections: a description of the property, and a discussion of why it is significant.

One should expect to spend between 100 and 150 hours preparing a nomination for an individual property.



Oregon Heritage

www.OregonHeritage.org
oregon.heritage@oprd.oregon.gov
(503) 986-0690

The key to preparing a successful nomination form is staying focused on the applicable criteria and demonstrating how the property meets those criteria. Appendices include maps and photographs. The process for an individual listing takes approximately one year from start to finish.



Kam Wah Chung, Grant County

What determines whether a property qualifies for listing in the National Register?

The National Park Service provides excellent guidance on applying the National Register criteria for evaluation. While there can be exceptions, properties likely to meet the criteria of the National Register are at least 50 years old, and are well preserved and distinctive examples of an architectural or engineering type or style. The property may also be important for its association with persons, events, or broad patterns in local, state, or national history; or, in the case of archaeological sites, because it has the potential to yield significant information in American history or prehistory.

Additional Information:

- State Historic Preservation Office, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
725 Summer Street NE, Suite C
Salem, Oregon 97301
- Oregon Heritage website:
www.oregonheritage.org
- National Register website:
<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/index.htm>
- For general information about the National Register of Historic Places contact Kellie Mingus:
(503) 986-0690
kellie.mingus@oprds.oregon.gov
- National Register Program Staff:
Robert Olguin, National Register Program Coordinator
(503) 602-2468
Robert.Olguin@oprds.oregon.gov



Oregon Heritage

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

National Register of Historic Places
Date listed Aug. 17, 2012
NRIS No. 12000483
Oregon SHPO

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 Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

other names/site number Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery; Odd Fellows Cemetery

2. Location

street & number 750 Ingersoll Ave

city or town Coos Bay

state Oregon code OR county Coos code 011 zip code 97420

☐ not for publication

☐ vicinity

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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

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

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

national statewide X local

Signature of certifying official/Title: Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Date 6/14/12

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office

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):

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Private |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | public – Local |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | public – State |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | public – Federal |

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | building(s) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | district |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | site |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | structure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | object |

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
		buildings
1		district
		site
1		structure
3		object
5	0	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

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

N/A

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.)

LATE VICTORIAN

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: N/A

walls: N/A

roof: N/A

other: STONE/marble, STONE/granite,
STONE/sandstone, METAL/zinc,
CONCRETE

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

Narrative Description

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

Summary Paragraph

The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery is located on a hillside within the city limits of Coos Bay, Oregon, approximately 0.4 miles from the city hall, on Tax Lot 2900 in Township 25 South, Range 13 West, Section 34, Willamette Meridian. The 3.86-acre district contains approximately 2,024 burials. There are approximately 1,098 headstones, reflecting late nineteenth-century Victorian and subsequent stylistic trends, and erected primarily between 1888 and 1945. Upright marble and granite headstones, with curbing around individual and family plots, predominate. The southern side of the cemetery is bounded by a contributing structure in the form of a rock retaining wall topped with arches. The cemetery also has three contributing objects. In 1915, a monument commemorating the local Civil War dead was erected on a highly visible plot near the cemetery's center. On the private family plot of the original owner of the cemetery property there is an elaborate, 15-ft. tall granite monument, with the marble statue of an angel. The third contributing object is a family mausoleum built for a wealthy local businessman, constructed of gray granite.

Narrative Description

Setting

The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery is located on a hillside in close proximity to the city of Coos Bay's central downtown.¹ The cemetery property adjoins that of Marshfield High School, the city's only public high school. The cemetery is bordered to the north and west by the high school's parking lot and gymnasium; Ingersoll Avenue and South Seventh Street define the cemetery's south and east property lines. The surrounding neighborhood is primarily single-family residential, with structures dating back to the early twentieth century. The neighborhood was platted as part of the "Railroad Addition" in 1890.²

Cemetery Layout

The cemetery has two perpendicular roadways aligned with the cemetery's access points on the south and west sides. The roadway was graveled, but it has not been maintained or re-graveled in recent years. West of the north-south driveway, the cemetery is generally level, with little noticeable artificial alterations to the terrain. The eastern section of the cemetery, however, is steeply sloped. When surveying this portion of the cemetery visually, the cemetery's terraced layout becomes visible. Each of the walkways is level, cut slightly into the hillside, with the cemetery plots following the contours of the hill.

Due to the steep hillside on the eastern half of the cemetery, the lower section of the east-west roadway is not accessible by motorized vehicles. Vehicular traffic within the cemetery is generally discouraged. Currently, visitors access the cemetery through the western entrance adjoining the high school parking lot. Framed by sections of the rock wall leading up into the cemetery, the second entrance, off Ingersoll Avenue, was the

¹ Before 1944, "Coos Bay" was used to refer to the entire region adjacent to Coos Bay, containing the incorporated towns of Empire, Marshfield, and North Bend. In 1944, a consolidation vote between all three of the towns failed as a result of North Bend's negative vote, but Empire and Marshfield decided to consolidate anyway, adopting the name of "Coos Bay" for the new municipality. In November of 1944, the City of Marshfield officially revised the city charter and changed the city's name.

² Local booster C. H. Merchant named the new development the "Railroad Addition," including streets named for prominent California businessmen involved with railroad development. The new development was platted to promote interest and bring rail connections to the area, but the optimistic plans were never fully realized. In 1916, rail connections finally came to the Coos Bay region. Streets were renamed in 1930.

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Coos Co., OR

Name of Property

County and State

primary vehicular entrance during the cemetery's period of active use. In 1983, chain-link fencing was erected around the three sides of the cemetery not enclosed by the rock wall; the two entrances were fitted with padlocked gates of chain-link fencing, and the gates are generally kept locked.³

The usage of this property as a burial ground by the family of C. H. Merchant, the original property owner, predates the official establishment of the cemetery in 1891. This family's plot remains as the Merchant Reserve, a 40 ft. by 53 ft. area surrounded by chain-link fencing near the center of the cemetery. The remainder of the cemetery is laid out in a grid pattern with cemetery blocks separated from each other by 8 ft. wide pedestrian walkways. The earliest extant cemetery map dates from September 5, 1921. Comparisons between this map and the cemetery logbooks that began to be used in 1891 support the assertion that that cemetery was platted in three sections. The first plat consisted of Blocks 1 through 108 -- the main portion of the cemetery. The rectangular blocks contain sixteen 5 ft. by 8 ft. plots, arranged in two rows of eight plots with the exception of blocks along the northern periphery which are limited to ten plots. The eastern hillside, where the cemetery abuts S. Seventh Street, was platted at a later date, with the first burial in that section occurring in 1901. These blocks are numbered 207 through 223, similarly sized to the first plat. Some blocks in this area were removed or resized as the result of the widening of S. Seventh Avenue. The third section of the cemetery is a north-south row of blocks, numbered A through G that consists of plots 5 ft. by 10 ft. in dimension. This section divides the two previously platted sections and was probably used as a secondary roadway before being platted circa 1916. There are no indications that blocks within the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery were allocated for the burial of members of specific religious or fraternal organizations; some community organizations did purchase individual plots, and Coos County purchased a whole block as well some separate individual plots.

The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery retains much of its original curbing and coping. Families surrounded their plots with marble, granite, concrete, and sandstone coping, often accented with distinctive corner posts. Two examples of curbing ornamented with mosaic tile remain in the cemetery. A single plot has iron fencing. Surrounding the Merchant Reserve is a 2 ft. high wall of sizable gray granite blocks. The top course of the three-course surround is laid with 7 ft. long blocks with 3 ft. tall posts at each junction. Two wide granite steps and 4 ft. tall granite posts with a carved "M" define the 5 ft. wide entrance.

Landscape

The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery has a very open landscape, with limited trees and plantings. Historically, numerous Monterey cypress trees (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) were planted within the cemetery, including nine trees in an east-west line following the main driveway, a row of trees along the cemetery's western edge, and several more trees in the southeastern corner of the cemetery. Four prominent Monterey cypress trees remain in the cemetery today -- one in the southwest corner and three along the eastern border of the cemetery. Three mature cedar trees also grow along the eastern boundary. In addition, there is a maple tree on the cemetery's western border.

In the 1960s, a Marshfield High School science teacher organized the planting of wax myrtles to replace the hedge along the cemetery's western edge.⁴ Without proper maintenance the original hedge of wax myrtle quickly developed into a line of wax myrtle trees. Safety concerns have prompted the removal of many of these short-lived trees, but a section of the original plantings will be maintained as a hedge. More recently, three flowering plum trees were planted along the southern edge of the cemetery. During the 1950s-1960s, high school students often chose to eat their lunch in the cemetery, and a castoff apple core resulted in the cemetery's single apple tree. There is also an unusual specimen of a windmill palm tree approximately 20 ft. in height in the southwest quadrant.

³ *City of Coos Bay Cemetery Management Plan* (Coos Bay, OR: City of Coos Bay, 1983).

⁴ Email correspondence with Lois Humphrey, 1950s Marshfield High School graduate, September 2011.

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Coos Co., OR

Name of Property

County and State

Within the cemetery are several different types of heritage roses growing on individual plots, including *Rosa gallica* "Officinalis" (Apothecary's Rose), *Rosa gallica* "Versicolor" (Rosa Mundi), *Rosa sempervirens* (Félicité et Perpétue), *Rosa spinosissima* (Scots Rose), and *Rosa rugosa*. Other flowering plants include ixia and irises. The cemetery's natural ground cover is a mix of grass interspersed with bellis perennis, vinca minor, everlasting pea, bracken fern, Queen Anne's lace, and other local native species.

Gravemarkers

The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery contains a diverse collection of headstones and monuments that reflect the Victorian and post-Victorian funerary trends fashionable in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The graves are oriented in an east-west direction, with the majority of the headstones facing east. Cemetery monuments in a variety of sizes and styles reflect individuals' wealth and status within the community. Family burial plots typically have large monuments located near of the center of the plot, with smaller headstones used to represent individual burials. There are 789 upright headstones out of the total 1,098 headstones in the cemetery. The majority of bases in the cemetery are either hand-tooled out of local sandstone or cast from concrete. Marble is the most widely used material for monuments. Prevalent among the 698 marble markers are tablets, blocks, obelisks, columns, and small pillow markers. There are also approximately 242 gray granite headstones, 69 red granite headstones, and 19 black granite headstones. Granite markers include horizontal cylinders, large blocks, and low pillow and flush-mount markers. The cemetery also contains four examples of zinc (white bronze) headstones, a few bronze plaques, and several sandstone monuments.

The allegorical funerary imagery used on the headstones includes flowers, open books, drapery, scrolls, clasped or pointing hands, crosses, ivy, trees, doves, stars, and the gates of heaven. With the preponderance of child and infant mortality during this period, there are a significant number of children's graves within the cemetery, many marked with a small headstone surmounted by a carved lamb. Membership in fraternal organizations was common during this time period, and many individuals have headstones that indicate their affiliations. Symbols representative of the Odd Fellows organization -- particularly three links of a chain inscribed with "F," "L," and "T", representing the words friendship, love, and truth -- are common motifs on the headstones. Other affiliations that can be identified by the group's imagery or symbolism include the Baker Post No. 8 of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.), Blanco Lodge No. 48 of the Masonic Temple, the Knights of Pythias, Koos Tribe No. 33 of the Improved Order of Red Men, Mammoth Lodge No. 87 of the Ancient Order of United Workmen (A.O.U.W.), Marshfield Aerie No. 538 of the Eagles, and the Woodmen of the World No. 196. Both the Woodmen of the World and the associated women's auxiliary, Women of Woodcraft Circle No. 164, used a tree trunk motif on the headstones for their members. The most distinctive example of this is a 6 ft. tall marble monument sculpted to resemble an upright tree trunk with a carving of the Woodmen of the World seal prominently displayed. Symbols of organizations that promoted Scandinavian heritage such as the Suomi Lodge, the Knights of Finland, and the Martha Association, are also visible on cemetery headstones.

Headstone inscriptions typically include the individual's dates of birth and death, place of birth, and important family relationships. A poem or religious inscription included either directly on the headstone or on the plinth is common on the marble monuments. Some extant headstones include inscriptions in languages other than English -- examples in Finnish, Swedish, French, and Greek have been noted. Several of the monuments within the cemetery serve as cenotaphs for individuals who drowned and whose bodies were never recovered. One unique monument notes that it was "erected by his shipmates" in memory of a young sailor "who died from injuries received on S. S. Breakwater in the performance of his duties."⁵

⁵ In 1908, the Breakwater, one of the steamers that made regularly scheduled runs between Coos Bay and the Columbia River, was hit by a large wave as she crossed Coos Bay bar, and the cabin boy was fatally injured by flying timbers. A monument was purchased in Portland by the captain with monies collected from the crew. "One Fatality Result of Breakwater Accident," *Coos Bay Times*, January 6, 1908 (Marshfield, OR.); "Crew's Token to Breakwater Victim," *Coos Bay Times*, April *, 1908 (Marshfield, OR.)

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

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Many of the graves within the cemetery were also marked with a small footstone at the bottom of the plot. Fabricated out of marble and usually inscribed with the deceased's initials, these footstones are much smaller than the early nineteenth-century examples found in burial grounds in the eastern United States. Measuring approximately an inch thick and 6 inches in width, many excellent examples remain extant.

Significant Features

Sailor-Soldier Monument (contributing object): One of the unique features in the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery is the 10 ft. tall Civil War monument located near the intersection of the two perpendicular roadways. A bronze plaque on the north-facing side of the base reads: "DEDICATED TO THE SAILOR-SOLDIER DEAD ERECTED BY THE EVENING RECORD 1915." This monument was constructed locally and consists of a 4 ft. tall base of cast concrete topped with a 4 ft. square block of gray granite. An 1861, 3 in. ordnance rifle is set vertically in the granite with five ft. of the barrel exposed.¹ Originally, the ordnance rifle was topped by an 8 in. seacoast Howitzer ball, and a Howitzer ball was located at each corner of the granite block; only two of the projectiles remain.

Merchant Family Angel (contributing object): The 15 ft. tall Merchant family monument is the most sophisticated artistic display within the cemetery. The monument consists of a gray granite base approximately 4 ft. square and 5 ft. tall, surmounted by a 4 ft. tall marble statue of a winged angel. Surrounding the angel are four red granite Corinthian columns that support an elaborate granite top embellished with arches and decorative finials. The monument was most likely erected some time before Charles H. Merchant's death in 1906; it may have been erected during the early 1880s, following the death of several of C.H. Merchant's young daughters. E. F. Dicken's U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey notebook from 1889, which notes the "Odd Fellows Cemetery" and a "monument" in the center of it, may be referencing the Merchant Family Angel.⁶

Hirst Mausoleum (contributing object): The 10 ft. by 12 ft. Hirst Mausoleum, constructed of rusticated granite blocks, was built in 1911 at the behest of Louisa Hirst. Louisa Hirst was the widow of Thomas Hirst, an early settler in the region who later became a prominent Marshfield businessman. As the structure neared completion, the local newspaper described it as follows: "The exterior walls are of the finest gray granite, with two fine red granite columns at the entrance doors. The interior is finished with the finest gray Vermont marble, brilliantly polished. Catacombs are provided for two bodies. The doors are of solid standard bronze. A fine colored art glass window arranged at the west end gives light to the interior."⁷ The bodies of Thomas and Louisa Hirst, as well as several other family members, were interred within the mausoleum.⁸ In 1951, as a result of cemetery vandalism, the family barricaded the entrance with cinderblocks and installed a protective grating over the window on the western end of the structure.

Rock Wall (contributing structure): The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery's rock retaining wall is a well-preserved example of mid-twentieth-century masonry work in the region and an important feature of the cemetery that enhances its character and appearance. The wall was constructed as a public works project during the 1930s. The wall is roughly 400 ft. in length, and between 5 ft. and 10 ft. in height, encompassing the cemetery's southern border and stretching around the western corner. A single tier of arches, with each arch approximately 60 in. in length and 20 in. high, tops the rubble masonry structure. Recently, stress from the Monterey cypress tree in the southwest corner of the cemetery has resulted in damage to two of the arch sections along this small portion of the wall; the majority of the wall remains structurally sound and in good condition.

⁶ Living members of the Merchant family have limited information regarding the monument, and, although they believe that the angel was imported from Italy some time in the late-nineteenth or early-twentieth century, there are no further records regarding its purchase and erection.

⁷ "Mausoleum is Fine One," *Coos Bay Times*, March 27, 1911 (Marshfield, OR.)

⁸ Conversation with Andy Nasburg, Hirst family relative on a visit to the cemetery, October 2005.

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

Integrity

The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery successfully retains its appearance as a community cemetery, representative of late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century funerary practices. The cemetery was spared from any major beautification or alteration projects, since focus shifted to other cemeteries that were subsequently established to handle the needs of a growing community. The lack of intensive maintenance over the years has also prevented the cemetery from being reinvented as a pristine lawn cemetery. The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery is unique among Oregon cemeteries in the amount of curbing/coping that it retains.⁹ Less than four percent of the cemetery's burials took place after the cemetery ceased to be actively used in 1945, and the limited number of later headstones have not compromised the cemetery's integrity.

Vandalism, particularly problematic since the cemetery is located close to a high school, has taken its toll on the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery. Most of the major alterations to the cemetery are related to its protection. Although the cemetery was historically unfenced, the erection of chain-link fencing around the cemetery perimeter and the Merchant Reserve was a necessary response to incidents of vandalism in the 1980s. Modifications to the Hirst mausoleum were also a response to vandalism. Additionally, some of the headstones have toppled as the mortar aged; the hillside location and ground movement have exacerbated the problem. Nonetheless, the majority of headstones remain intact and undamaged, and most of the ones in need of repair are undamaged, having separated along old mortar joints.

The integrity of the cemetery has also been affected by the removal of most of the original Monterey cypress trees along the main driveway and in other locations, leaving the stumps along the driveway. Four prominent Monterey cypress trees remain in the cemetery today. While the removal of the line of trees is unfortunate, as has been discussed, the landscaping, including trees and plantings, is not the most significant aspects of this resource, with its dramatic topography and monuments.

⁹ "I.O.O.F. Cemetery to be maintained by the City," City of Coos Bay City Council Minutes, March 19, 1945 (Coos Bay, OR.)

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

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

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

Criteria Considerations

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

Property is:

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1888-1945

Significant Dates

1888: Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation formed

1891: official dedication of I.O.O.F. Cemetery

1915: erection of Sailor-Soldier Monument

1921: unsold properties deeded to city

1938: rock wall constructed as WPA project

1944: city acquires cemetery by Marshal's deed

1945: state cemetery legislation passed

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Period of Significance (justification)

The Period of Significance begins on July 14, 1888, when the cemetery property passed from the private ownership of C. H. and Mary Merchant to the newly formed Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation, establishing the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery as the community burying ground for the citizens of Marshfield, North Bend, and Empire, Oregon. The cemetery's period of active use and Period of Significance ended in 1945, after the City of Coos Bay, which had become the nominal property owners of the cemetery the year previously, orchestrated the passage of several bills in the Oregon State Legislature that allowed municipalities to allocate public funds for the maintenance and care of cemeteries. With the passage of the legislation, the city was

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essentially able to treat the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery as a public park or green space and it ceased to be used as an active cemetery. Only 82 people have been buried in the cemetery since 1945.

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery meets the special requirements for National Register listing under Criterion Consideration D because of its important historic associations with the growth and development of the Coos Bay region in the late nineteenth century. At this time, the Coos Bay region was a flourishing community of individuals from around the world, connected internationally by a complex maritime network. A limited number of sites, primarily private houses, have survived from this period and are representative of only a small portion of the people who lived and worked in the region. The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery is the final resting place for people from twenty-seven countries, representing all socio-economic classes, who collectively succeeded in making Coos Bay the principal port between San Francisco, California and Portland, Oregon, establishing strong maritime and cultural ties worldwide.

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

The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery, located in Coos Bay, Oregon, is locally significant for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, Community Planning and Development and Social History, and meets the special registration requirements for cemeteries under Criteria Consideration D, because of its connections with the settlement and development of the City of Marshfield, and the larger Coos Bay region, during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The purchase of the cemetery property by the newly formed Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation in 1888 corresponded with the region's development from a rural outpost into an urban center with international connections. Although Coos Bay was discovered as early as 1852, the bay's isolation precluded the region's economic expansion until the late nineteenth century. Immigrants, disillusioned gold seekers, displaced Civil War veterans, and other entrepreneurs found opportunities in the Coos Bay region during the last decades of the nineteenth century. The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery served as the community cemetery for the residents in the Coos Bay region, regardless of their ethnicity or socioeconomic status. The period of significance begins in 1888 with the establishment of the cemetery by the Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation and ends in 1945 when the City of Coos Bay took active possession of the cemetery following the passage of state legislation that assured city officials that they would be able to use public funds for the cemetery's upkeep, just as if it was a city park.

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

Community Planning and Development

Although the Coos Bay region developed later than other port cities along the Pacific coast, its prime location between San Francisco, California, and Portland, Oregon, as well as its bountiful natural resources, facilitated its rapid development and success. With Marshfield's incorporation as the first city in the county in 1874, and the granting of charters for several local fraternal organizations including the I.O.O.F. Sunset Lodge No. 51 on March 24, 1875, it was evident that the Coos Bay region was no longer an isolated frontier settlement.¹⁰ In 1888, not long before the I.O.O.F. members authorized the construction of their own lodge hall in downtown Marshfield, they formed a subsidiary corporation. Led by a board of directors of prominent businessmen and with a respected Marshfield lawyer as president, the corporation was charged with establishing and operating a community cemetery.¹¹

¹⁰ "Celebrate Anniversary: Sunset Lodge of Odd Fellows Observe Important Event of Its Life," *Coos Bay Times*, April 27, 1907 (Marshfield, OR.)

¹¹ Alice Ernst, *Trouping in the Oregon country: a history of frontier theatre* (Portland, OR: Oregon Historical Society, 1961), 80. "Local News" *Coast Mail*, June 12, 1890 (Marshfield, OR.)

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The development of the cemetery over time mirrored the increasing need for social services in the community and corresponded with the rise of fraternal organizations and associated population growth in the surrounding community. The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery's establishment under the Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation signaled a change in local attitudes towards death and the increasing urbanism and international connections of the region. Situated on eight acres of prime real estate within the new development of South Marshfield in what was known as the "Railroad Addition," the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery was a highly visible symbol of the region's development. Predating the shift towards sterile lawn cemeteries that developed in the early-twentieth century, the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery had its antecedents in the rural cemetery movement of the mid-nineteenth century. Although not executed on the same scale as such exemplars of the rural cemetery movement as Mount Auburn Cemetery outside of Boston, Massachusetts, or Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland, California, the founders of the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery drew on the same precedents. Initially wooded, the entire plot of cemetery was cleared of timber and the sloping eastern hillside was terraced. Monterey cypress trees, traditionally associated with cemeteries and funerary rites, were also planted to provide a stately border for the cemetery.

Social History

The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery is the final resting place for people from a diverse range of cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. One group is representative of the region's Native American inhabitants and the earliest Euro-American pioneers of the area. Some native women intermarried with Euro-American men and, although many of the local Native Americans were displaced and removed to the Siletz Reservation, some chose to return to the region when the reservation was terminated. Favorable reports generated by the earliest settlers highlighted the region's mild climate and substantial resources, creating a boom-town atmosphere that attracted entrepreneurs, adventurers, unsuccessful gold miners, failed businessmen, and others in search of opportunities. In the aftermath of the Civil War, the region also lured disabled and displaced veterans. Capitalizing on the region's maritime connections and ready availability of jobs, immigrants arrived in Coos Bay with the necessary skills to find employment in the region's primary industries of shipbuilding, logging, farming, and coal mining. Because of the inherent nature of a port city, there were also a number of itinerant workers, travelers, and other transients who are buried in the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

The people named in italics are representative of the people buried in the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery associated with the developmental patterns of the Coos Bay region's history. Short biographical sketches can be found at the end of this section.

Early Euro-American Settlement in the Coos Bay Region

In 1853, Euro-Americans established a permanent settlement along the Oregon Coast in the region now known as "Coos Bay," roughly 110 miles north of the Oregon-California border. The unique layout of the bay, and the treacherous bar, had precluded the region's discovery until several chance encounters during 1852.¹² With glowing initial reports, a joint-stock company -- the Coos Bay Commercial Company -- quickly formed and made plans for settlement. By autumn of 1853, over fifty Euro-Americans, including three women (*Esther Lockhart*) and a number of children, had settled on the bay in a small community named "Empire City."¹³

As the Euro-American population of the region expanded (*Emma O. Saunders*), two more towns, Marshfield and North Bend, were incorporated on the bay. Although Marshfield was identified as a prime spot for future

¹² Stephen Dow Beckham, *Coos Bay; The Pioneer Period, 1851-1890* (Coos Bay, OR: Arago Books, 1973), 1-3.

¹³ Beckham, 11. Agnes Ruth Lockhart, *Destination, West! A pioneer woman on the Oregon Trail*, (Portland, OR: Binford & Mort, 1972).

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settlement as early as 1853, Congressional changes in the Donation Land Claim Act and conflict over property ownership forestalled development. These issues were resolved, and in 1867, John Pershbaker arrived in Marshfield and quickly established a sawmill, shipyard, and a store. In 1874, Marshfield became the first community in Coos or Curry County to become an incorporated city. (*Edmund A. Anderson*)

Through these early years of settlement on Coos Bay, the majority of residents were native-born Americans (*Jake Evans*) or naturalized citizens. The discovery of gold in California in 1848 had lured many easterners, particularly young men, to the west coast; failing to find their fortune in the gold fields of California, settling on the Oregon coast began to look like a more attractive prospect. (*Wentworth V. Baker*) Other early residents reached the Coos Bay region after a long journey from the east coast around Cape Horn. (*John Nasburg*) Oregonians from other parts of the state, particularly the Willamette Valley and southern Oregon, were drawn to the region by the Coos Bay Commercial Company's avid promotion. For many of these people, the move to the Coos Bay region was the last stage of a long journey that had started in the 1840s or 1850s in the Midwest.

Growth and Development in the Region

Early boosters of the Coos Bay region touted the region's rich resources, particularly the old-growth forests, coal deposits, and prime agricultural land in the river valleys that drained into the bay. From the region's first settlement in 1853 until approximately the 1880s, residents utilized all of these natural resources in order to create a diverse, mixed economy. Local entrepreneurs started logging camps and small-scale coal mining operations, often recruiting laborers from the growing immigrant population attracted to the region. Other residents purchased property upriver from Marshfield and established successful farms and agricultural ventures. (*Charles D. McFarlin*) The isolation imposed by the lack of transportation forced many families to develop creative solutions. A number of women were left alone with their children to manage the family homestead while their husbands pursued employment in the logging and shipbuilding industries. (*Elizabeth Schapers Ott Tyberg*)

By 1860, the first federal census conducted of the area's population revealed that out of the total population of 445 people, 139 were born outside of the United States. With more than 31 percent of the population born outside the U.S., the percentage of foreign-born residents in Coos County was nearly three times that of the state average.¹⁴ Scandinavians accounted for the largest percentage of the foreign-born population, typically numbering between 42-45 percent of the overall foreign-born population from 1890 to 1940. Although Swedish-speaking Finns were in the majority, Swedes, Norwegians, and Danes were also well represented in the community. Many of the immigrants who arrived in Coos Bay brought with them skills and experience in the region's prevailing industries. After extensive deforestation virtually ended logging operations in the east, Scandinavian loggers from the woodland Great Lakes region moved west and eventually reached Coos Bay. (*Alexander Matson*) Other Scandinavians arrived directly from Europe on the ships that frequented the port of Coos Bay. As the region became recognized as a center of shipbuilding, skilled shipbuilders, primarily Scandinavians who had learned their trade in Europe, immigrated to the region.¹⁵ Many of these men had first been employed in San Francisco shipyards before being encouraged to move north to run the developing Coos Bay shipbuilding industry. With their expertise and San Francisco's ready demand for ships, more ships were constructed in the Coos Bay region than in any other area of Oregon during the nineteenth century.¹⁶ (*Emil Heuckendorff; John Kruse; Hans Reed*)

The second-most prominent foreign-born group in the region, as represented in federal census records, consisted of English-speaking people from Canada, England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales.¹⁷ Many of these

¹⁴ Jean Sandine Monsebroten, "The Swedish-Finn Settlement in Coos Bay," (unpublished manuscript, 1974), 13-14.

¹⁵ Hans Reed, *Overland Monthly* (San Francisco, CA: Overland Monthly Publishing Company, 1895). 295-296.

¹⁶ Jim Gibbs, *West Coast Windjammers in Story and Pictures* (Seattle: Superior Pub. Co, 1968).

¹⁷ Nathan Douthit, *The Coos Bay Region, 1890-1944: Life on a Coastal Frontier* (Coos Bay, OR: River West Books, 1981),

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people established themselves as farmers or businessmen in the growing towns of Empire City, Marshfield, and North Bend. (*Joseph W. Bennett*) Other emigrants from the British Isles arrived in Coos Bay with mining experience, and joined miners from Italy and France in the local coalmines. Many of those who found jobs in the coal mines of Coos County in the 1880s and 1890s had come to the region after working their way across the United States, moving from mining community to mining community. (*Philip Brynn*) Coal mining was a dangerous occupation, and many miners were killed in mine accidents or died as a result of the hazardous conditions under which they worked.

German-speaking peoples from continental western Europe were the third largest foreign-born population group in the Coos Bay region. Like other emigrants arriving in the region, these people typically found jobs suited to their skills and experiences; several early German residents in Marshfield were involved in starting the city's first businesses. (*Henry Sengstacken*) Other European countries were also well represented among the diverse citizens of Marshfield. In particular, the region had a sizeable population of Greeks, most of whom immigrated before the resumption of hostilities between Greece and the Ottoman Empire in 1897.

Beginning in the mid-1860s, the towns of Empire City, Marshfield, and North Bend expanded rapidly, developing commercial districts offering a range of goods and services. Marshfield quickly outstripped the other towns as the region's commercial and civic center; by 1880, Marshfield boasted two hotels, (*James Ferrey*) a post office, a weekly newspaper, (*Thomas G. Owen; Jacob M. Siglin*) and an academy offering high-school level instruction. Many of the men who became involved in local business ventures were first enticed to the region by the prospect of easy opportunities for success in an area with such a flourishing economy.

As a major port, the Coos Bay region had a substantial transient population consisting of unskilled laborers and crewmembers from the ships that plied the local waters. In 1912, an article on "Coos Bay Commerce," with data based on the *Report of the Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army*, appeared in the local newspaper. The previous year, 6,074 passengers arrived by sea, while 5,801 were outbound. This number is significant when considering the total population for Empire City, Marshfield, and North Bend was less than 5,000 residents at the time.¹⁸ The region's flourishing economy made it relatively easy to find employment in the local coal mines, logging camps, or shipyards, but the work was dangerous and the pay was low. Population turnover in the logging camps and hardscrabble settlements around the bay was common as workers died or left in search of brighter opportunities. (*William Borland*) Short-term residents as well as locals frequented the numerous saloons and drinking establishments and sought out other entertainments. (*George Kerwin*) Marshfield was also the home of the region's notorious red-light district. (*Ti Ti*)

Residents of Coos Bay actively promoted the region, and following the Civil War, there were a number of displaced or disabled veterans who eventually found their way to the West Coast. Many veterans came for health reasons, while others were in search of fortune or adventure. (*Charles W. Tower; Morton Tower*) As a result of the area's relatively late development, newcomers still had the opportunity to become key participants in the cities' continuing growth. Civil War veterans founded the first successful local newspaper, opened businesses and hotels, and served in local government positions, such as sheriff and customs clerk. Some veterans also adapted the skills developed while serving in the military to civilian trades. (*Thomas Wyman*)

The region's growth and development in the 1870s corresponded with the formation of many local chapters of fraternal and social organizations. These organizations served differing roles in the community, offering opportunities for fellowship and gathering, undertaking projects for the good of the community, and giving members a chance to maintain cultural ties. Freemasonry was introduced to the region in 1870, with the chartering of the Blanco Lodge No. 48 of the Masonic Lodge. (*Andrew Nasburg*) In 1875, both the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias established a presence in the region with the creation of the Sunset Lodge No. 51 of the I.O.O.F. and the Myrtle Lodge No. 3 of the Knights of Pythias. By

¹⁸ "Coos Bay Commerce," *Coos Bay Times*, March 23, 1912 (Marshfield, OR).

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the 1930s, the Coos Bay lodge of the Knights of Pythias was recognized as the oldest lodge in Oregon.¹⁹ The growing presence of Civil War veterans in the area resulted in the formation of Baker Post No. 8 of the Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) in Marshfield in 1882, followed two years later by the establishment of Leeland Post No. 30 in Empire City. Membership in fraternal and social organizations continued to grow during the first decades of the twentieth century, leading to one local newspaper's claim: "upon Coos Bay one may find practically every organization that charters branches throughout the nation."²⁰ Many of lodges maintained their own halls, ranging from the modest, wood-framed building used first by the Knights of Finland and later by the Order of Runeberg, to the elegant buildings constructed for the I.O.O.F. lodges in both Marshfield and North Bend. In 1889, the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Lodge, "acutely conscious of civic need, built an aspiring structure with an opera house on its second floor" that was used for plays and theatrical presentations, community dances, and political gatherings until it burned in 1920.²¹

Maritime Connections

The Coos Bay region was dependent on a complex system of marine transportation and developed in some unique ways. This maritime dependency persisted until 1916, long past the time when most other communities had efficient land transportation, as situation the press noted, "Coos Bay is the largest community in the United States without railway connections to the outside world."²² A railroad finally connected the region with the Willamette Valley in 1916. The Roosevelt Highway (U.S. 101), connecting coastal communities, was not completed until 1936.

As early as 1873, several vessels were plying the bay, offering transport for both passengers and supplies. (*Eugene O'Connell*) By the turn of the century, Coos Bay's "Mosquito Fleet" of steam and gasoline powered vessels, primarily built at local shipyards, was an established and necessary part of life in the region. (*A. J. M. Campbell, A. Clifton Campbell*) Regularly scheduled milk boats traversed the Coos River watershed twice daily in order to pick up milk from the upriver dairies and deliver it to the creamery. (*H.E. Bessey*) Local citizens used the network of boats to visit friends, attend social events, and shop at Marshfield businesses. Schoolchildren also rode the boat to and from school each day. Although several riverboats continued to offer service through 1948, most of the Mosquito Fleet ceased operation in the 1930s.²³

The Coos Bay region's connection with the West Coast lumber trade and shipbuilding also made it one of the segments in the "triangle trade" that developed between the Pacific Northwest, Australia, and Hawaii. Ships departed from the region with a cargo of lumber bound for Australia, picked up a load of coal or other supplies in Australia, exchanged the supplies for Hawaiian sugar, and delivered the sugar cargo to San Francisco on the return trip.²⁴ Several local residents captained ships that were part of this network, establishing close connections with Australia. The opportunities for travel between the Coos Bay region and Australia also resulted in a small but steady pattern of immigration both to and from Australia. (*Thomas Hirst*)

Economic and Social Links to San Francisco

Although initial commercial enterprises in the Coos Bay region, particularly logging and coal mining, often lacked the capital to operate successfully on a large scale, by the 1890s, California businessmen were promoting the development of area industries and providing the capital to establish true industrial operations.

¹⁹ "Fraternal Organization," *New Era Edition of Coos Bay Times*, December 31, 1937 (Marshfield, OR), 41.

²⁰ "Fraternal Organization," *New Era Edition of Coos Bay Times*, December 31, 1937 (Marshfield, OR), 49.

²¹ Ernst, 80.

²² "Coos Bay Commerce," *Coos Bay Times*, March 23, 1912 (Marshfield, OR.)

²³ Gordon R. Newell, ed., *H.W. McCurdy Marine History of the Pacific Northwest* (Seattle, WA: Superior Publishing, 1966), 119. Victor West, *Southern Oregon mosquito fleet: Stories about Coos County boats, 1853 to 1948* (North Bend, OR: Victor West, 1986.)

²⁴ Hewitt R. Jackson, "West Coast lumber vessels were a radical departure from the New England built ships," *48 degrees North* (November 2001.)

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Coos Bay shipped the majority of its exports directly to San Francisco: Coos Bay coal heated San Francisco homes, Coos Bay lumber rebuilt the city after the 1906 earthquake, and Coos Bay shipyards produced sailing vessels and other ships that were later outfitted in San Francisco and were utilized in the international maritime trade.²⁵ By 1890, Coos Bay had four commercial sawmills; lumber production in the region dramatically increased in 1908 with the opening of C.A. Smith Lumber Co.'s "Big Mill," which could produce 500,000 board feet of lumber per day. In addition, the Coos Bay region's twelve significant coal mines were shipping out an average of 40,000 tons of coal annually to San Francisco.²⁶ Facilitated by the construction of sheltering jetties on either side of the harbor mouth, Coos Bay became the principal port between San Francisco, California, and Portland, Oregon.

The region was also socially and culturally connected to San Francisco, leading one historian of the area to classify the Coos Bay region as a suburb of "The City."²⁷ Regularly scheduled service between Marshfield and San Francisco allowed Coos Bay residents to visit San Francisco more frequently and with greater ease than cities in Oregon. As a result, Coos Bay developed into a remarkably cultured and worldly, cosmopolitan community. For middle and upper class residents of Coos Bay, San Francisco was seen as the center for shopping and education; Coos Bay residents saw nothing out of the ordinary in taking a three-day trip down to the San Francisco "shopping center."²⁸ Coos Bay's emulation of cultured San Francisco was also evident in the development of many local clubs and associations. The Coos Bay Literary Society discussed such topics as "Is capital punishment ever justifiable?" and "Should women exercise the elective franchise?" at their weekly meetings, while the Empire City Amateur Drama Society produced full-scale theatrical productions, including a 1879 production of a French play complete with silk and velvet costumes trimmed in gold lace.²⁹ (*Agnes Sengstacken*) In addition, before the development of quality schooling in Coos Bay, children might be sent away to San Francisco, or possibly Portland, to receive a more complete education. Many residents also had family members living in San Francisco, as evidenced by Marshfield's concerned response to the 1906 San Francisco earthquake.

Early Burying Grounds

As the original Euro-American settlement at Empire City grew in the 1850s, burials were conducted on the bluffs overlooking the bay, in what was commonly known as the "Empire Pioneer Cemetery." The cemetery was primarily accessible by water, which limited its usage. The last known burial occurred in January of 1908.³⁰ As the region's population expanded in the 1870s and 1880s, the need for a more accessible burial site became pressing. Marshfield's central location and undeveloped hillsides made it the prime location for a new cemetery for the three main communities on the bay. Although burials were conducted on several undeveloped parcels within the city of Marshfield, in 1883, the Knowles family ceded property southwest of what is now Park Avenue and Fifth Street to the city of Marshfield by for use as a public burying ground.³¹ This site, the Old Marshfield Cemetery, quickly fell into disuse with the establishment of a cemetery by the local Odd Fellows lodge in 1888.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows (I.O.O.F.) began in England in the late eighteenth century, as a working-class alternative to Freemasonry. Membership in the I.O.O.F. provided support and structure for urban industrial workers, particularly those without families, who were moving from job to job and city to city. In

²⁵ William G. Robbins, *Hard Times in Paradise: Coos Bay, Oregon, 1850-1986* (Seattle, WA: University of Washington Press, 1988), 19.

²⁶ Robbins, 15 and 21.

²⁷ Ernst, 35.

²⁸ Robbins, 38-39.

²⁹ Beckham, 57-59. See also Coos Historical and Maritime Museum textile collection (North Bend, OR.)

³⁰ "Funeral Held Saturday," *Coos Bay Times*, January 17, 1908 (Marshfield, OR.)

³¹ "City Rights Are Contested," *Coos Bay Times*, December 1, 1909 (Marshfield, OR.)

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1809, the many independent lodges across England were consolidated with the formation of the Manchester Unity of the I.O.O.F. At this time, the Odd Fellows adopted a constitution, articulated the duties of membership, and chose friendship, love, and truth as the three symbolic links of the I.O.O.F. The four central duties of membership were to “move modestly, quietly and without ostentation, obeying the injunction of the ritual to visit the sick, to relieve the distressed, to bury the dead and to educate the orphan.”³²

Washington Lodge No. 1, the first I.O.O.F. lodge in the United States, was organized on April 26, 1819. Over the subsequent decades, the I.O.O.F. spread out across the United States, forming lodges in most large cities and becoming one of the most successful of the fraternal orders introduced to America in the nineteenth century. In 1852, Chemeketa Lodge 1, of Salem, Oregon, became the first lodge chartered in the Pacific Northwest. By 1899, there were 125 lodges in Oregon with a membership of approximately 5,781 men. The first Odd Fellows lodge in the Coos Bay region was chartered in Empire City as Arago Lodge No. 28. Sunset Lodge No. 51 of Marshfield was granted dispensation for its charter by I.O.O.F. Grand Master Henry G. Streve on March 24, 1875.³³ The ten charter members of the lodge were Isaac Hacker, Thomas Hirst, R.M. Hutcheson, John Kenyon, A. Lobree, Thomas G. Owen, William Saunders, L. Simpkins, F.S. Webber, and W.S. Wheeler -- all prominent citizens of Marshfield, six of whom are buried in the I. O. O. F. cemetery. By 1907, the lodge had over 180 members in good standing as well as a women’s auxiliary, Western Star Rebekah Lodge No. 27.

In order to finance their charitable services, the I.O.O.F. often leased space in their buildings for commercial purposes or established cemeteries that could bring in revenue. Cemeteries served the dual purpose of providing a place for the burial of members as well as generating modest funds for the lodge by the sale of plots to non-members. The Odd Fellows quickly became synonymous with establishment of local cemeteries in the late 1800s: “The ‘duty’ most apparent to non-members was the building of cemeteries, and, as soon as they were able, almost every Odd Fellows lodge obtained property and established a cemetery so that members and their families could have decent burial.”³⁴ For members in good standing, local lodges covered the costs of burial and provided for the deceased members’ widows and orphans.

Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation

On June 8, 1888, the Sunset Lodge No. 51 of the I.O.O.F. formed a private corporation, the Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation, for the purposes of establishing and operating a cemetery in the Coos Bay region. A board of directors, consisting of a president, secretary/treasurer, and three other board members, was elected annually from the lodge’s membership to run the corporation. John F. Hall, a respected Marshfield attorney and prominent member of the I.O.O.F., served as the secretary/treasurer for a number of years and was responsible for much of the corporation’s bookkeeping.³⁵ Hall was elected to the position in 1890 and served until health problems forced him to retire some twenty years later.³⁶ (*John F. Hall*)

The Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation’s first act was to acquire suitable property for the establishment of the cemetery. Much of downtown Marshfield was built on marshland where the water table was quite high -- not a suitable place for burying the dead. In the years since the property on Knob Hill had been used as a burying ground, numerous residences had been erected on neighboring lots, making this site also unsuitable for continued use as a cemetery. Instead, the corporation turned to a prominent hillside in the largely undeveloped “Railroad Addition” of South Marshfield. The wooded property was at the time removed from the development of Marshfield’s downtown area, while still in close enough proximity that to be easily accessed by residents. The decision to site the cemetery on a prominent hillside also reflected the influences of the rural cemetery

³² “Early Oregon Odd Fellowship,” *Pacific Odd Fellow*, No. 4, Vol. 10 (April 1901), 8.

³³ “Celebrate Anniversary: Sunset Lodge of Odd Fellows Observe Important Event of Its Life,” *Coos Bay Times*, April 27, 1907 (Marshfield, OR.)

³⁴ Correspondence with James A. Eddy, Grand Secretary of the Oregon Grant Lodge of the I.O.O.F., May 2, 1988.

³⁵ “Notice to Contractors,” *Coos Bay Times*, August 16, 1909 (Marshfield, OR.)

³⁶ “Local News” *Coast Mail*, June 12, 1890 (Marshfield, OR.)

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movement and a growing emphasis on the remembrance of the dead.

The property selected by the corporation was part of the 560 acres of South Marshfield owned by the wealthy Marshfield businessman and landowner, Charles H. Merchant and his wife, Mary. (*Charles H. Merchant*) A factor in the corporation's decision to purchase this property may have been that Merchant had used a portion of the property as a family burying ground for several of his daughters who had died young. On July 14, 1888, in the presence of A.M. Crawford and Fred Bischoff, Charles H. and Mary L. Merchant deeded approximately eight acres of the hillside property to the Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation for the sum of \$350.³⁷ Merchant exempted from the sale the eight hundredths of an acre in the center of the property where his daughters were buried, retaining it for his family's use as "C.H. Merchant's Reserve."

The corporation proceeded with their plans and had approximately four acres of the wooded property cleared. Predating the shift towards sterile lawn cemeteries that developed in the early-twentieth century, the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery had its antecedents in the rural cemetery movement of the mid-nineteenth century. Although not executed on the same scale as such exemplars of the rural cemetery movement as Mount Auburn Cemetery outside of Boston, Massachusetts, or Mountain View Cemetery in Oakland, California, the founders of the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery drew on the same precedents in their quest to create a peaceful resting place for the dead that was also welcoming to the living. The rise of the rural cemetery movement in the nineteenth century corresponded with the widespread replacement of the traditional term of a "burying ground" with the new term of "cemetery," derived from the Greek "put to sleep." Unlike earlier burying grounds, which were often affiliated with specific religious denominations and squeezed into small churchyards, the founders of rural cemeteries purchased extensive properties removed from cities' central downtowns where the dead could be "put to sleep." The small burial plots and overcrowding that had plagued churchyard burying grounds was no longer an issue with such large parcels of undeveloped land. Cemetery founders, often fraternal or civic groups, also placed equal focus on making rural cemeteries welcoming places to the living, accomplishing this task by platting the property and laying out ordered graves that could be easily located by grieving relatives, planting trees and shrubbery associated with death, mourning, and remembrance, and encouraging the erection of monuments and markers to commemorate the dead and educate the living.³⁸

In the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery, the eastern hillside was altered to create artificial terraces, producing a sculpted environment that would be more easily traversed by visitors. Numerous Monterey cypress trees, likely imported by local ship captains from their native location on the central coast of California, were planted in the cemetery. The cypress tree was strongly associated with death and mourning in classical antiquity, and, during the Victorian era, it was frequently planted in cemeteries because of its connections with funerary traditions. Also reflecting the rural cemetery movement's focus on honoring and memorializing the dead and educating and enlightening the living, is the Sailor-Soldier Monument erected within the cemetery, as well as the numerous examples of outstanding individual grave markers and headstones.

Organization of the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Initially, each member of the I.O.O.F. lodge was given one lot, with the price of lots for other community members set at \$5.00 each.³⁹ In January of 1890, the first deed of sale by the Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation was recorded at the Coos County Courthouse. By the end of 1890, the cemetery was already in active use, although it was not officially dedicated until 1891. With the official dedication in 1891, the Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation began their practice of recording burial information in two logbooks kept by the corporation's secretary; the first burial entry was on August 16, 1891.⁴⁰ Families at this time also began to

³⁷ "Oddfellows Cemetery Association," Deeds of Coos County, Oregon, Coos County Public Records (Coquille, OR.)

³⁸ Blanche M.G. Linden, *Silent City on a Hill: Picturesque Landscapes of Memory and Boston's Mount Auburn Cemetery* (Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts Press, 2007).

³⁹ Gail A. Anderson, "Pioneer Cemetery," *The Bay News Weekly*, October 9, 1985 (Coos Bay, OR.)

⁴⁰ Becky Soules, *Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery Database: Record of Known Burials* (Coos Bay, OR: Marshfield Pioneer

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disinter relatives from the Empire Pioneer Cemetery and Old Marshfield Cemetery on Knob Hill, reburying the deceased on family plots within the I.O.O.F. Cemetery. (*Frederick Schetter*)

Although the cemetery was operated by the I.O.O.F. for the benefit of its membership, it was also intended to serve as the community burying ground for all local citizens. Membership in fraternal and social organizations was common among Coos Bay region residents, and local lodges such as the Knights of Pythias, Suomi Lodge, Foresters of America, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and Longshoreman's Union frequently oversaw the purchase of a plot for a deceased member, coordinated the funeral, and ensured that a headstone was later erected on the plot. There are no indications that blocks within the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery were allocated for the burial of members of specific religious or fraternal organizations. Several local companies -- including the Beaver Hill Coal Co., C. A. Smith Lumber & Manufacturing Co., and Simpson Lumber Co. (*Dalouse Jackson*) -- did purchase portions of blocks where company employees were buried, particularly in the case of fatal accidents incurred while on the job. Block 13, "Owned and paid by Coos County," was the sole block within the cemetery purchased by a single entity.⁴¹ The county used the block as a "potter's field" for the burial of indigents and others without relatives to claim their bodies -- Block 13 is also the only block in the cemetery without any headstones or grave markers. (*Czarina, victims of the shipwreck*)

Despite the cemetery's relative proximity to central Marshfield, a visit to the cemetery in the early years of its operation could be a challenging process. Typically, visitors on foot accessed the cemetery either by climbing up the eastern hillside or walking in from the wooded area behind the cemetery where the high school now stands.⁴² The difficult conditions faced in getting to the hillside location, especially in a region where people were accustomed to water transport, were exacerbated during wet winters: "If you have any idea of dying, the Mail suggests that you put it off until Spring, when your friends can get out to the cemetery without wading 300 yards of muddy road."⁴³ By 1903, rock was being obtained from an upriver quarry by Abe Tenbrook, brother-in-law of the cemetery association's secretary, and C. W. Paterson, stonecutter and monument proprietor, in order to construct a wall along the cemetery's southern border and create a designated entrance for vehicles.⁴⁴

The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery quickly became a point of pride for local Marshfield citizens, especially in light of the fact that Marshfield was the only one of the three communities that had an active cemetery. By 1908, the burial of so many residents of Empire and North Bend within the cemetery led to concerns that all of the plots would soon be filled. These concerns prompted the Marshfield City Council to discuss whether a local ordinance should be enacted that would require non-residents to pay a \$2.00 burial permit on corpses to be buried within the cemetery.⁴⁵ Ultimately, this proposal was never adopted, and people from all over the Coos Bay region continued to be buried within the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery. The cemetery's prominence also meant that many residents of upriver communities chose to be buried in Marshfield rather than in the smaller burial grounds of the Coos River and Allegany cemeteries.

Cemetery Monuments and Gravemarkers

The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery contains a diverse collection of monuments and gravemarkers that attest to the region's economic prosperity and the region's trading connections with other cities across the United States as well as the skillful craftsmen who produced headstones locally. By the turn of the century, numerous varieties of marble and granite headstones, as well headstones of various metal alloys, were available to the

Cemetery, 2009).

⁴¹ Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery logbooks, Block 13 (Coos Bay City Hall: Coos Bay, OR).

⁴² Conversation with Elinor Jorgensen, lifetime resident of Coos Bay, who remembers visiting relatives in the cemetery as a child, December 9, 2010.

⁴³ "Local News," *Coast Mail*, October 8, 1903 (Marshfield, OR.)

⁴⁴ Charlotte L. Mahaffy, *Coos River Echoes: A Story of the Coos River Valley* (Portland, Or: Interstate Press, 1965), 26-27.

⁴⁵ "Will Charge for Burial Permits Here," *Coos Bay Times*, July 10, 1908 (Marshfield, OR.)

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residents of the Coos Bay region. The region's prosperity ensured that most residents of the area were able to afford some kind of memorial -- membership in local fraternal or social organizations, particularly the Woodmen of the World or their women's auxiliary, would also ensure that one's grave would be marked with a monument.

Thus far, no markings or insignia have been found on cemetery headstones that would allow a definitive determination of how much of the stone carving was done locally. In 1888, C. W. Paterson, a Massachusetts-trained marble and stone worker, incorporated the Coos Bay Stone & Marble Company.⁴⁶ (*Charles W. Paterson*) Paterson worked in Marshfield until his death in 1903, at which time he was buried in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery. Other local companies providing headstones were the Coos Bay Monumental Works, which advertised "all kinds of cemetery work," and the Pacific Monumental Works, which had in its "employ the only practical marble and granite cutter in Coos county."⁴⁷

For those who did not purchase a headstone from one of the local stonecutters, the beginning of mass-produced headstones available for purchase through mail-order catalogues or branch agents offered another option. The strong similarity between certain headstones in the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery and those pictured in the Vermont Marble Co.'s 1899 catalogue indicate that some local residents may have ordered their headstones from this company. The Vermont Marble Co. had a branch office in San Francisco, California, with which Coos Bay had close business and leisure ties.⁴⁸ Frederick Schetter, of Empire City, also worked as the region's agent for "white bronze" monuments. Cast out of zinc, these monuments were touted as the new, indestructible, scientific alternative to traditional headstones. Although these monuments were never widely adopted as an alternative to marble or granite, there are several well-preserved examples in the I.O.O.F. Cemetery, including one inscribed with "Detroit Bronze Co." The presence of these headstones -- coming from as far away as Vermont or Michigan -- in the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery attests to the Coos Bay region's strong water connections that allowed residents access to objects that would reach Coos Bay only after a long journey around Cape Horn or across the Panama Isthmus and up the Pacific Coast.

Memorial Day Exercises at the Cemetery

The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery also served as the community focal point for the annual Memorial Day exercises held in Marshfield. Until membership began to decline in the 1920s, Marshfield's active Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) post held services each May; they were joined by the local Owen Sumners' Camp No. 7 of Spanish War Veterans and the area's other fraternal and social organizations. The Memorial Day exercises were an important annual event -- businesses closed and the entire community gathered for speeches and music, typically at the Marshfield I.O.O.F. or Masonic Hall, before everyone marched in procession up to the I.O.O.F. Cemetery. At the cemetery, the G.A.R. read their "ritualistic ceremonies" and honored their deceased members with a floral tribute and firing salute. By 1906, these ceremonies were held at the "Monument to the Unknown Dead," located on what are now blocks 224 and 225.⁴⁹

In 1915, as the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Civil War approached, both the G.A.R. and Spanish War Veterans decided that the cemetery needed a new veterans monument. The "Monument to the Unknown Dead" "was a shame and disgrace to civilization" that was quite unacceptable as the focus for the upcoming exercises to be held at the cemetery.⁵⁰ By this time, declining membership in the G.A.R. -- Baker Post had only fifteen members still living -- prompted the Spanish War Veterans to take over the task of

⁴⁶ Mahaffy, 26-27.

⁴⁷ "Coos Bay Monumental Works," *Coos Bay Harbor*, July 4, 1903 (Marshfield, OR.) "Pacific Monumental Works," *Coos Bay News*, October 28, 1891 (Marshfield, OR.)

⁴⁸ Peggy B. Perazzo, "Stone Quarries and Beyond" < <http://quarriesandbeyond.org/> >.

⁴⁹ "Memorial Day Program is Fine," *Coos Bay Times*, May 31, 1911 (Marshfield, OR.) "Memorial Day Observances," *Coos Bay Times*, May 28, 1906 (Marshfield, OR.) "Stores Will Close Monday," *Coos Bay Times*, May 28, 1910 (Marshfield, OR.) "Large Crowd at Exercises," *Coos Bay Times*, May 31, 1910 (Marshfield, OR.)

⁵⁰ "War Veterans Hold Elections," *Coos Bay Times*, January 23, 1914 (Marshfield, OR.)

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organizing the Memorial Day exercises and coordinating the erection of a new monument. At a January 1914 meeting, the Spanish War Veterans first began to plan for a new monument, discussing the potential of raising funds by popular subscription. Ultimately, *The Evening Record*, a short-lived evening edition of a local newspaper, provided most of the necessary funds. The time constraints of finishing the project by May of 1915, as well as the desire to do all of the work locally in Marshfield, resulted in a unique monument. The region prided itself on its self-sufficiency, and the monument's construction attest to that. "Coos county is an empire in itself. That observation has been made before, and it is profoundly true," was a statement professed several years earlier in a special edition the *Coos Bay Times* designed to promote the area.⁵¹

Unlike many other Civil War monuments, where the central feature might be the statue of an archetypal soldier, the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery's monument features a Civil War-era artillery piece donated by the state of Oregon. The 1861 3 in. ordnance rifle arrived without a field carriage -- the veterans solved the issue of how to mount it by setting it vertically in a concrete base. The bronze plaque set into the base, noting the sponsorship of *The Evening Record* and dedicating the monument to all of the "Sailor-Soldier Dead," was cast locally, probably at the Coos Bay Ironworks. A closer examination of the plaque reveals certain hand-made characteristics. The letters are straight-sided with variations in size and form, such as the prominence of serifs, indicative of letters cut individually by hand from wood. Also, the background does not show the stippling that would be more typical of a commercially produced item. Although the number of Army veterans outnumbered the Navy veterans buried in the cemetery, it is interesting that "Sailor" precedes "Soldier," perhaps as a nod to the area's maritime connections. Despite the advance planning, finishing the monument before Memorial Day was difficult as the ordnance rifle only arrived the Wednesday before the dedication was to take place. The hurriedly completed monument was unveiled on May 30, 1915, serving as the centerpiece of Marshfield's Memorial Day exercises.⁵²

While the local newspapers reported many details of the Sailor-Soldier monument, records regarding the monument located on the Merchant Reserve are sparse. The refined style of the Merchant monument is also in direct contrast to the veterans' monument. The Vermont Marble Co., which was the likely provider of many headstones within the Merchant Reserve, also sold monuments, including ones with imported features. Similar elements can be found in the catalogue, but this monument appears to be unique both in its size and composition.⁵³ Merchant family members recalled that elements of the monument were imported from Italy.⁵⁴ They have also recounted the legend that if one stares at the angel long enough, the names that she is recording in the book will become visible. The monument was erected before C. H. Merchant's death in 1906.

Sale to School District

The Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation's choice of prime property for situating the cemetery became especially apparent in 1908. At that time, the Coos Bay School District began looking for a suitable site for the construction of a new school building, quickly determining that the four undeveloped acres owned by the cemetery corporation was the optimal location. These four acres of land were part of the original parcel bought in 1888, and the corporation had originally planned to clear and plat these acres, as needed, to expand the cemetery. By 1908, residential development around the cemetery had grown extensively, and roads facilitating travel to outlying areas were being developed. The cemetery corporation decided to sell the four acres to the school district in order to generate enough funds to purchase property outside of the city limits that could later be developed as a new cemetery.⁵⁵ On January 4, 1909, the Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation relinquished

⁵¹ "Great Chances for Newcomers," *Coos Bay Times*, March 23, 1912 (Marshfield, OR.)

⁵² "Remember G.A.R.: All Coos Bay to Join in Decoration Day Service," *Coos Bay Times*, May 26, 1915 (Marshfield, OR).

⁵³ *1899 Price List: Rutland, Sutherland Falls, and Mountain Dark Marble* (Rutland, VT: Vermont Marble Co., 1899), courtesy of Peggy B. Perazzo.

⁵⁴ Conversation with Maxine Merchant, Merchant family relative on a visit to the cemetery, May 2006.

⁵⁵ "New School for Marshfield is Now a Certainty," *Coos Bay Times*, February 20, 1908 (Marshfield, OR.)

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the four acres adjoining the cemetery to the Coos Bay School District 9, for \$12,000.⁵⁶ The school district began construction of the city's first public high school on the property in 1909.

With the funds received from the school district, the cemetery corporation paid \$16,000 for approximately five acres of property belonging to the Lobree family, and located along Beaver Slough about three miles from Marshfield's downtown.⁵⁷ Marshfield's population had continued to grow rapidly; the population for Marshfield, as reported in the U. S. Census, increased 110 percent from 1900 to 1910. In 1913, "it was decided to fence and plat five acres of the new cemetery southeast of town as the old cemetery is pretty well filled or rather sold."⁵⁸ In 1914, the new Sunset Memorial Park was dedicated by the I.O.O.F. lodge and began to sell burial lots. By this time, advances in transportation had eliminated the difficulties that had plagued early visitors to the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery, and the Sunset Memorial Park's distance from downtown Marshfield was not a problem. Funerary practices had also changed. Cemeteries were moving away from the deliberate "naturalness" of the rural cemetery movement in favor of immaculately kept lawns of grass. In addition, new technology and machinery was quickly replacing the tradition of hand-carved marble headstones and funerary monuments. Durable, granite stones set flush with the ground reinforced new notions about cemeteries as pristine, park-like areas. Perpetual care -- where the cemetery management took responsibility for maintaining the graves -- also began to eliminate community involvement in caring for family plots or gathering for annual remembrances at cemeteries.

Cemetery Corporation Relinquishes Ownership

By the early 1920s, the majority of plots in the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery had been sold. Since the opening of the Sunset Memorial Park, sale of new plots in the older cemetery had slowly declined as new residents in the Coos Bay region chose to purchase plots in the more modern lawn cemetery. Families did continue to bury deceased relatives on already-purchased family plots; no restriction was placed on the site's continuing use as a burying ground. On November 8, 1921, the Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation deeded all of the unsold plots, as well as the public walkways and driveways, of the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery to the City of Marshfield. Neither the corporation -- still the nominal property owner -- nor the City of Marshfield, devoted resources to the cemetery's upkeep.

Throughout the 1930s, plans for improving the cemetery, including the potential of converting it into a memorial park sans headstones, were discussed, but projects stalled due to a lack of funds and confusion over the property's ownership. The only major project completed at the cemetery during the 1930s was the construction of a new wall along the cemetery's southern border with Ingersoll Street. In January of 1938, the city of Marshfield received over \$9,000 in federal funding through the Works Project Administration (WPA) to improve and widen Ingersoll Avenue.⁵⁹ Funds were also allocated to replace the cemetery's 1903 wall, and in February, the project received final approval and the wall construction began.⁶⁰

New Deal funds from the federal government also provided for the construction of a complex of new buildings, including a gymnasium and auditorium, on the school district site adjoining the cemetery. The expansion of the school resulted in several major changes to the cemetery. The trees along the cemetery's western edge were cut down in 1939 after School District 9 petitioned to the Marshfield City Council -- suggesting that removing the trees and establishing a new hedge "could conceal the cemetery from the High School, and would also provide a wider roadway along the High School grounds."⁶¹ In place of the Monterey cypress trees a hedge of cedar trees was planted; the sole mature cedar tree in that section of the cemetery is likely a remnant. In the 1950s, the nine Monterey cypress trees growing in an east-west line along the driveway were also cut down,

⁵⁶ Oddfellows Cemetery Association, D-52, 561 Deeds of Coos County, Oregon, Coos County Public Records (Coquille, OR.)

⁵⁷ "Real Estate Transfers," *Coos Bay Times*, December 22, 1908 (Marshfield, OR.)

⁵⁸ "Cemetery Plans Talked Over," *Coos Bay Times*, June 11, 1913 (Marshfield, OR.)

⁵⁹ "Ingersoll Avenue Improvement to commence," City of Coos Bay City Council Minutes, February 12, 1938 (Coos Bay, OR.)

⁶⁰ "Ingersoll Avenue is Approved for \$9000 Improvement by WPA," *Coos Bay Times*, January 13, 1938 (Marshfield, OR.)

⁶¹ City of Coos Bay City Council Minutes, October 2, 1939 (Coos Bay, OR.)

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when their presence blocked the light available through the windows of the newly constructed gymnasium. The windows have since been boarded up; a prominent row of large stumps still clearly delineates where the trees once stood.

Concerned citizens began to push for complete ownership of the cemetery by the city, noting that with the Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation in steady decline and only limited municipal ownership, no entity would take responsibility for the cemetery's upkeep. During this period, both the City of Coos Bay and local cemetery supporters were optimistic about the cemetery's future, not as an active burying ground, however, but as a "memorial park" and public green. As early as 1939, when the City of Marshfield first discussed the acquisition of the cemetery for public purposes, it was proposed "that it would probably be necessary to have the Legislature enact a law or the cemetery to become a memorial park. Thereupon, said matter was discussed, and motion was duly made, seconded and carried that the City Attorney be and he is hereby directed to investigate and report on the method and advisability of securing said cemetery for a park."⁶² Several well intentioned, although short-lived community groups, such as the "Pioneer Memorial Park Association," supported this move, even raising funds to donate towards to cemetery.

Burials in the cemetery, which had been steadily declining as a result of both the sale of most of the plots as well as the popularity of the newer Sunset Memorial Park, dropped even further in the 1940s. In November of 1944, the City of Coos Bay, renamed from Marshfield at that time, acquired complete cemetery ownership by filing a Marshal's deed. Unsure of the legality of utilizing city funds for the cemetery, the City Attorney was subsequently directed to draft a bill to be presented at the 1945 state legislative session that would enable cities to use public funds for the maintenance and upkeep of cemeteries. With the advocacy of the local state legislators, both SB 150 and SB 181 were signed into law; Oregon cities were now legally able to expend city funds on municipally owned cemeteries.⁶³ The city was essentially able to treat the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery as a public park or green space, and it ceased to be used as an active cemetery. Future burials would be allowed only in plots already owned by community members.

In 1945, the city also discussed the idea of removing "all curbs, obstructions, shrubs, trees, brush and debris" from the cemetery, but nothing ever came of the proposal to completely reinvent the old I.O.O.F. Cemetery as the "Marshfield Pioneer Memorial Park." The City of Marshfield's grand plans for the cemetery quickly faltered as funds failed to be allocated for its maintenance, let alone its transformation into the "Marshfield Pioneer Memorial Park." When the \$3000 donated by the "Pioneer Memorial Park Association" was exhausted, the cemetery was virtually ignored by the city. Only eighty-two people, generally spouses or other relatives buried in already established family plots, have been interred there since the acquisition by the city; this represents only four percent of the total number of people buried in the cemetery. The cemetery has virtually been preserved in stasis.

By the late 1940s, despite the economic boost that World War II brought to the area, the Coos Bay region could not longer compete socially and economically with San Francisco, California, and Portland, Oregon. Times had changed significantly since the Odd Fellows had first envisioned a community cemetery for the region in 1888. The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery represented a high point in the Coos Bay region's cultural development and economic prosperity. A more mobile population, changing funerary traditions, and the decline of strong social and fraternal organizations within the community signaled an end to the rural cemetery movement and establishment of community cemeteries.

⁶² City of Coos Bay City Council Minutes, February 27, 1939 (Coos Bay, OR.)

⁶³ City of Coos Bay City Council Minutes, November 13, 1944 and March 14, 1945 (Coos Bay, OR.)

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Representative People Buried in the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

The following are some of the people associated with the history of the Coos Bay region and the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery:

Edmund A. Anderson (b. Canada, 1842; d. 1924)

Row G, Block 78, Plot 5

E. A. Anderson arrived in Marshfield in 1868, after a long journey across Panama Isthmus. He was first employed at the Simpson shipyard as a shipbuilder, a trade he had learned from his father while living on Prince Edward Island in Canada. In 1878, he opened a livery stable that became very successful. He was a member of all the prominent fraternal organizations in Marshfield, serving as a delegate to many of their statewide conventions. In addition to holding many other political positions, he served as the first mayor of Marshfield.

Joseph W. Bennett (b. Ireland, 1855; d. 1916)

Row D, Block 53, Plot 3

J. W. Bennett came to the Coos Bay region in 1873, where he first pursued ranching, and later offered private banking services and studied law. Admitted to the state bar in 1880, he continued to practice law and serve as a private banker until the two careers became too demanding. To ease his workload, he partnered with Patrick Flanagan in 1889 to found the first commercial bank in Coos and Curry counties. The *Coos Bay Times*, on March 23, 1912, noted the importance of the bank: "There has been no more important factor in the upbuilding of Coos Bay and Coos County, than the development of the country surrounding the Flanagan & Bennett Bank." He also helped to establish the Coos County Bar Association and was honored as "the Nestor of the Coos County Bar," a reference to the wise counselor in Homer's Iliad. In 1910, two years after its founding, he served as president of the association. The law firm that he started continues to this day and is one of the oldest in Oregon.

Wentworth V. Baker (b. Maine, 1830; d. 1912)

Row K, Block 99, Plot 10

W. V. Baker traveled from his birthplace in Maine to California, perhaps in search of gold. He mustered into service in October 1861, with the 4th California Infantry, Company D, organized at Auburn, Placer County, California. Although members of his unit might have aspired to serve their country on the eastern Civil War battlefields, they were instead ordered to garrison duty at Fort Vancouver, Washington and Fort Yamhill, Oregon. The company was charged with "maintaining peace" with the natives. A particularly unfortunate aspect of their duties was to remove Coos Indians from their homeland and relocate them to the Siletz Reservation. Reference is made to Baker as he pursued Indians in the Coos Bay area in the spring of 1864. In 1868, after mustering out of the army, he chose to marry a native Tutuni woman, an illegal act at that time in the State of Oregon. Accompanied by another couple and a Justice of the Peace, he rowed beyond the three-mile limit and was married in international waters.⁶⁴

Hansard E. Bessey (b. Massachusetts, 1860; d. 1923)

Row JJ, Block 21, Plot 14

H. E. Bessey arrived in the Coos Bay region in 1885, after a stint working in the sawmills of California. He purchased 420 acres of land on the Coos River and ran a farm and dairy for approximately thirteen years. In 1892, he organized the Coos Bay Creamery Company and was made the general manager. The cheeses produced at the creamery were extremely popular in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

⁶⁴ Bensell, Royal A.; Barth, Gunther, ed. *All Quiet on the Yamhill: The Civil War in Oregon*: Eugene : University of Oregon Books, 1959.

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William Borland (b. Scotland; d. 1907)

Row N, Block 13, Plot 13

There is no better example of the international nature of the port of Coos Bay, than the story of William (Milliam) Borland, a Scottish sailor. In 1907, he was aboard the four-masted barkentine *Echo*, built in 1896 at the Simpson shipyard, that had just returned from a trip to Australia by way of the Hawaiian Islands. The ship had stopped at the port of Coos Bay to load lumber for California. Borland, who ran the ship's donkey engine, went ashore to go drinking with a Dutch shipmate and the Finnish crew of a steam schooner docked nearby. He never returned to the *Echo*. After several more days of loading lumber, the ship was moved, and Borland's body was found floating near the dock. The coroner decided that Borland, inebriated, had fallen off the gangplank, drowned, and had been pressed into the mud by the ship, surfacing only after the ship moved. His wages due were insufficient to cover funeral expenses, so his clothing and personal effects were sold to his shipmates. Assisting his sister-in-law in the Netherlands with the publication of her grandfather's memoir, Coos Bay resident, Wim de Vriend, was able to share details of Borland's demise revealed in the journal of his Dutch friend nearly 100 years after his death.

Philip P. Brynn (b. Wales, 1842; d. 1887)

Row D, Block 84, Plot 10

Philip Brynn emigrated from Wales in 1880 and worked as a mining engineer in Illinois. Worried that Brynn would move on and that his expertise would be lost, his boss conspired to retain his services. Jailed on charges of unpaid debt, Brynn plotted his escape. Naked and greased well, Brynn squeezed through the bars of the jail window, making his escape. Nearby, his wife waited with their loaded wagon. The Brynns traveled on to Arizona where Philip found work in the mines. Still fearful of the ramifications of the Illinois escape, the family then proceeded to British Columbia, Canada. After a few months work there, the family moved again, with Philip finding work in the local mines in the Coos Bay area.

Campbell, James Madison Campbell (b. New York City, 1815; d. 1889)

Row DD, Block 29, Plot 11

Campbell, Abraham Clifton (b. New York City, 1845; d. 1902)

Row C, Block 212, Plot 1

Arriving at Coos Bay in 1869, A. J. Campbell and his sons built the steamers Juno, Comet, and Fawn and were owner of the Mink, and part owner of the steamer Coos. These boats were part of the so-called "Mosquito Fleet" and made regular runs throughout the bay and up Coos River, picking up the daily milk production, school children, and passengers. His son, "Cliff," often served as the engineer of these family-operated boats as well as other boats in the fleet.

Czarina, Victims of the shipwreck (d. 1910)

Row O, Block 14

On January 12, 1910, the steamship *Czarina*, loaded with a cargo of cement, coal and 40,000 feet of lumber worth over \$100,000, left Marshfield with a crew of 23 and a single passenger. Heavy surf and bad weather, and perhaps poor judgment, forced the ship towards the North Spit, out of reach of any rescue attempt by the Life Saving Service, but within view of area residents. For more than 24 hours, people on shore watched helplessly as the stranded men clung to the rigging -- each one eventually dropping off, exhausted. There was only a single survivor. Bodies of the victims continued to wash ashore for over a week. The event is still denoted as one of the most tragic shipwrecks of the Pacific coast. Six *Czarina* crewmembers, not all positively identified, are buried in the unmarked southwest corner of the cemetery.

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

Jacob Evans (b. Ohio, 1833; d. 1912)

Row N, Block 16, Plot 3

It is not known how Jake Evans made his way to Oregon, but he is often noted as an early pioneer of the area. As early as 1854, he was engaged in black sand gold mining south of Coos Bay. Stories mention his skirmishes with Indians and the mule pack trains that he operated. He lived with a native wife on acreage along the coast. In 1905, Evans sold 320 acres of his wife's allotment to Louis J. Simpson, who would establish his Shore Acres Estate, constructing a mansion, formal gardens, and tennis courts on the site. Evans accumulated a substantial amount of money, but was quite eccentric in his later years. He was murdered, and the Grand Jury conducted an extensive investigation of the incident.

James L. Ferrey (b. Pennsylvania, 1841; d. 1913)

Row D, Block 56, Plot 14

As a young man, J. L. Ferrey began to work as a carpenter. Serving his country during the Civil War, he enlisted in Company A, 136th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, and fought in several major battles. He was eventually transferred to the construction corps of the Western Army. After the war, he continued his trade as a carpenter back East. His brother, who had already been to the West Coast, convinced James to go to Oregon in 1871. They initially prospected for gold, unsuccessfully. He resumed work as a carpenter, and two years later, he began his long career as a noted hotel proprietor in the Coos Bay region. Always known to be industrious, he started in hotel business by leasing a small, two-room building and eventually becoming a major landowner in the county.

John F. Hall (b. Oregon, 1856; d. 1923)

Row I, Block 76, Plot 13

As a young man, John F. Hall tried his hand at several professions – farming, sawmilling, seafaring, and surveying. Whenever he was able, he studied law and was finally admitted in the bar in 1887. He was civically and politically active, serving in many appointed and elected positions, including District Attorney, District Judge, and State Representative. Hall was also the long-time secretary/treasurer of the Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation.

Emil Heuckendorff (b. Denmark, 1851; d. 1908)

Row G, Block 5, Plot 13

Emil Heuckendorff emigrated from Denmark in 1880, and at the turn of the century, established a shipyard in Prosper, Oregon, on the Coquille River. Heuckendorff then worked at the Simpson shipyard in the drafting loft, designing many of the ships that John Kruse built. In 1895, after the death of Kruse, Heuckendorff took over as the master of the yard. He finished Kruse's last ship, the *Addenda*, and built five more ships at the Simpson shipyards. In 1903, after a disagreement with Simpson, he left his employ and returned to running his own shipyard, first in North Bend, and later in Prosper. Before his death, he built 11 more ships, including schooners, both sail and steam, and barkentines, several that represented the first of their kind.

Thomas Hirst (b. England, 1835; d. 1903)

Row H, Block 77, Plot 1

Thomas Hirst arrived in Coos County, Oregon, in January of 1859. Before coming to Oregon, he resided for five years in Australia, where he met and married his wife, Louisa. Upon moving to Marshfield, he purchased agricultural land for stock raising and lumbering pursuits. He also invested in Andrew Nasburg's mercantile business. In 1875, the newly constructed 40' x 60' two-story building was a prominent store on Front Street with ads proclaiming "New goods with every steamer." Hirst is credited with the naming of Sunset Beach as well as Golden and Silver Falls. Following his death, his wife arranged to have a mausoleum erected as a memorial to "one of Coos county's oldest and most esteemed citizens."

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

Daloose Jackson (b. Oregon, c. 1827; d. 1907)

Row M, Block 66, Plot 12

Daloose Jackson was a member of the branch of the Coos Indians who spoke the Hanis dialect and whose ancestral home was the Coos Bay region. As a chief of the peaceful Coos, he signed a treaty proffered by Indian agent Joel Palmer in 1855. In response to fear induced by the Rogue Indian War, however, the Coos were forcibly removed to the Siletz Indian Reservation. After attempts to return to his homeland brought complaints from the local whites, he resettled along the Siuslaw for a time. Eventually, his family returned to the Coos Bay area and lived in a float house on the bay just south of the Simpson sawmill, near what is now downtown North Bend. Despite his experiences, he maintained an agreeable disposition and was well thought of by other residents of the area. His burial plot was purchased for him by the Simpson Lumber Co.

George D. Kerwin (b. unknown; d. 1909)

Row M Block 40 Plot 12

George Kerwin was a well liked North Bend phrenologist and fortuneteller who met a sudden and peculiar death. Returning home to North Bend, he was laughing with friends while seated on the deck of the launch *Eagle* following his initiation into the Owls social club in Marshfield. The launch lurched, and he fell overboard and drowned. After his burial, it was determined that Kerwin was actually J. Hobart Deane -- who also used the alias Jack Coker while posing as a retired lumber dealer and U. S. Secret Service agent -- and who had been asked by the authorities to leave San Francisco. A year before his death, Deane/Kerwin made headlines in the San Francisco newspapers that detailed his psychic endeavors including his use of a specially-built desk that he used to deceive unsuspecting "clients." He duped many "believers" and prominent society members, enticing them to buy worthless stock.

John Kruse (b. Denmark, 1835; d. 1896)

Row DD, Block 55, Plot 2

Serving as a cabin boy on a German schooner, John Kruse arrived at San Francisco in 1854. Moving first to Gardiner, Oregon, and then North Bend, he was the master shipbuilder for the Simpson shipyards. Kruse oversaw the building of 32 ships. His most notable ship was the *Western Shore*, which set numerous speed records. Rigged as a clipper-style ship, it was the only one of its kind built on the West Coast and, at the time of its construction, was the largest and fastest clipper ship in the world.

Esther M. Lockhart (b. New York, 1825; d. 1916)

Row G, Block 59, Plot 11

The story of Esther Lockhart's arrival and her earliest adventures in the Coos Bay area is chronicled in the book, *Destination West!*, written by her daughter, Agnes Sengstacken. The family came to Oregon in 1851, traveling by wagon train from Thompsons County, New York. One of the first three Euro-American women to settle in the Coos Bay area in 1853, she came with her husband, Freeman Lockhart, an original member of the Coos Bay Commercial Company. The following fall, she started the first school in Coos County.

Alexander Matson (b. Finland, 1845; d. 1922)

Row J, Block 100, Plot 5

Alexander Matson grew up in a Swedish-speaking town in Finland, as did many other immigrants who later settled in the Coos Bay region, and immigrated to the United States in 1872. After arriving in New York City, he moved to the Great Lakes region where he worked as a logger for two years in Michigan. He then moved to the Coos Bay region, finding work as a ship's carpenter. He saved his earnings, and in about 1890, he was finally able to purchase a 500-acre farm on Coos River.

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

The Matson family specialized in dairying, employing "the most progressive and scientific method in his dairy and also in the cultivation of crops."

Charles Dexter McFarlin (b. Massachusetts, 1835; d. 1908)

Row O, Block 43, Plot 1

After failing in his attempt to strike it rich mining gold in California, C. D. McFarlin settled in the Coos Bay area and experimented with the "red gold" that his family had cultivated back east. He requested his brother to pack and send cranberry vines from their family's bogs in Massachusetts. Planting the vines near what is now Hauser, McFarlin began the first commercial cranberry bogs on the west coast. The McFarlin cranberry is still one of the most widely planted varieties and has been used to develop a large number of crosses.

Charles Henry Merchant (b. New York, 1838; d. 1906)

Merchant Reserve

C. H. Merchant is often referred to as the "Father of Marshfield." He started out independently at the age of fourteen as a clerk in a hardware store in New York City. He moved to California and spent a short time working with a mining company. He then moved to Oregon where he again worked in the hardware business. In 1860, Merchant was recruited to manage the store for the Simpson shipyard in North Bend. Upon his arrival, he was dismayed to notice that liquor was being sold at the company store. He immediately demanded that the sale of liquor be banned. His demand was met, and the policy was enacted at North Bend. The positive results were so encouraging that a similar policy was instituted at all other Simpson company operations. Merchant eventually handled all business aspects for the shipyard, serving as superintendent for 13 years. Following his tenure with Simpson, he served as the business manager of the E. B. Dean Lumber Co. He later retired but returned to active management of the company when it experienced a financial crisis; he is credited with resolving the situation with his outstanding management acumen. His obituary indicates that he laid out the original town of Marshfield. He also owned 360 acres in the Railroad Addition and platted both South and West Marshfield.

Andrew Nasburg (b. Sweden, 1839; d. 1891)

Row F, Block 79, Plot 3

At the age of ten, Andrew Nasburg came to the United States with his widowed mother, living in Illinois for ten years. In 1859, he joined his brother in southern Oregon where he was employed at a sawmill for several years, yet still attending school during the winter. He was eventually able to stock and operate his own store in the area. Moving to Marshfield, he purchased a farm. He is, however, most noted for the very successful store he operated for many years in partnership with Thomas Hirst. Nasburg served as the first postmaster of Marshfield with a salary of \$12 per month. He was the first person initiated as a Mason in Coos County and served as the Grand Master of the state of Oregon in the 1880s.

John Nasburg (b. Sweden, 1840; d. 1891)

Row G, Block 87, Plot 11

Scholars have identified John Nasburg as one of the first two Swedish-born settlers in Oregon. Nasburg made his way to the United States in 1850, first residing in Illinois. Two years later, he journeyed cross-country, working as a boatman on the Columbia for another two years until drawn to southern Oregon by the excitement and potential of gold mining. Arriving in Coos county in 1872, he worked for many years in the coal mining industry. He also convinced his brother Andrew to go west, and together they traveled to Oregon across the Panama Isthmus.

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

Charles W. Paterson (b. Canada, 1854; d. 1903)

Row C, Block 212, Plot 8

At the age of fifteen, C. W. Paterson left his home in Ingersoll, Ontario, and went to Massachusetts to learn the trade of marble and stone cutting. He came to the Pacific coast in 1878 and tried his hand at many different occupations, living in a number of areas. He finally settled in Marshfield in 1888, and operated the Coos Bay Monument Works until his death. In addition to grave markers, he fabricated much of the other marble work, such as thresholds, sills, and mantles, used in prominent residences and civic buildings of the area. He also served as chief of the Marshfield Fire Department.

Eugene O'Connell (b. Ireland, 1844, d. 1908)

Row E, Block 85, Plot 15

Leaving Ireland at the age of 17, Eugene O'Connell arrived at Empire City eight years after first coming to the United States. He initially ran a "butcher boat" that made tri-weekly calls at the mining settlements around the bay; he is credited with starting the first meat market in 1869 in Marshfield. In 1875, he started the first hardware store west of Roseburg, Oregon, which he ran for 33 years. He also constructed the first modern apartment building in Coos Bay. A long-time member of the I.O.O.F., he served as the Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation's first president in 1888.

Thomas G. Owen (b. Missouri, 1845; d. 1891)

Row E, Block 80, Plot 2

Born in Missouri, T. G. Owen reported on the *1890 Veterans & Widows Enumeration* that he served as a lieutenant in the 8th Missouri Cavalry for the Confederate States. Following the Civil War, he moved with many family members to Jacksonville, Oregon, and served as a deputy sheriff there. He moved to Marshfield in 1873, and started the *Coos Bay News*, the first weekly newspaper published in Coos County. The following year he also filled the position of Coos County sheriff. His main occupation was that of a lawyer, and he is described by Orville Dodge as "a brilliant attorney of Marshfield;" he was involved with many landmark legal cases of the area. He was also the assistant Adjutant General of the Oregon National Guard.

Hans R. Reed (b. Denmark, 1840; d. 1923)

Row CC, Block E, Plot 1

Hans Reed was a Scandinavian shipbuilder who eventually established an operation on Coos Bay. Reed built one ship for the Simpson shipyards and also worked for E. B. Dean and Co. for a period, but primarily ran his own yard. He built approximately 15 ships while living in Marshfield and also spent time working in Bandon and Prosper, Oregon. Because Reed did not build ships exclusively for the San Francisco lumber trade, many of his vessels were unique and have interesting histories. One of the most famous was the *Silver Wave*, an Arctic steam schooner built by Reed in 1889. In 1921, the Stefansson expedition chartered the *Silver Wave* to transport the expedition members to Wrangel Island off the coast of Russia.

Emma O. (Noble) Saunders (b. Oregon, 1854; d. 1929)

Row H, Block 224, Plot 1

Emma's parents, Curtis and Margaret Ann Noble, came to the area as part of the Coos Bay Commercial Company in 1853. Born on April 26, 1854, Emma has the distinction of being the first white child born in Coos County. She grew up in the region and later married William Saunders, a Civil War veteran who had moved to the area in 1873 and worked as a tinsmith for the Pioneer Hardware Store.

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

Frederick Schetter (b. Maryland, 1831; d. 1902)

Row F, Block 58, Plot 5

Frederick Schetter lived for a number of years in San Francisco, and then, in the late 1860s, he and his wife moved to Oregon to take charge of the store at the Eastport coal mine. In 1876, he began operating the Western Union telegraph service in Empire City, and continued to do so until his death. Utilizing a subscription service and his own funds, he was able to keep the service available until it became self-supporting. He also served as an agent for the O. C. & N. Co. line that regularly handled freight and passengers from Coos Bay to San Francisco. Prior to the establishment of a bank in the Coos Bay area, he offered financial services. He was a member of the Arago I.O.O.F. Lodge and served as Coos County treasurer for two years.

Agnes Ruth (Lockhart) Sengstacken (b. Oregon, 1859; d. 1948)

Row G, Block 59, Plot 12

Agnes Sengstacken was one of the six children of Freeman and Esther Lockhart, early settlers of the Coos Bay region and members of the Coos Bay Commercial Company. Growing up in Empire City, she and her sisters were active members of the local amateur drama society and other social clubs. In 1891, she became the second wife of Henry Sengstacken; her sister Lillias, his first wife, died in childbirth the previous year. According to historian Stephen Dow Beckham, Agnes Sengstacken, "embraced progress and used it as a lever to improve the quality of life on Oregon's southwest coast." A noted lecturer and author, she devoted substantial time and effort to forming a public library in Marshfield. In 1910, she succeeded in establishing a public library housed in her husband's office building until more permanent arrangements could be made. In 1915, after Sengstacken was successful in securing funds from the Carnegie Foundation, a dedicated library building was finally constructed. Sengstacken was also one of the founding members of the Progress Club, "a literary society and civic betterment organization" that still exists in Coos Bay today. In 1942, Sengstacken wrote and published *Destination West!*, an account of her mother's journey to Oregon and life in a frontier settlement.

Henry Sengstacken (b. Germany, 1851; d. 1922)

Row G, Block 59, Plot 13

Arriving from Germany in San Francisco at the age of fifteen, Henry Sengstacken studied at Heald's Business College. In 1874, he moved to Coos county and established himself in the general merchandising business, which included the Sengstacken Drug Store and Pharmacy, with stores in both Empire and Marshfield. Sengstacken also served as the local Wells Fargo Express Company agent for many years. Around 1905, he sold his businesses and turned his interest to real estate and insurance, opening an office in Marshfield. At one time, he owned over 6,000 acres of property in Coos County. He also served as mayor of Marshfield and was an active member of the port commission of Coos Bay.

Jacob M. Siglin (b. Pennsylvania, 1840; d.1896)

Row DD, Block 29, Plot 14

At the age of twelve, J. M. Siglin moved to Illinois with his parents. Following his meritorious service as a young lieutenant with the Illinois cavalry during the Civil War, he studied law. He moved west, settling briefly in both Nebraska and Missouri where he practiced law. In 1872, he arrived in Marshfield where he co-founded the *Coos Bay News* with T. G. Owen and served as the editor for eight years. In 1880, he was elected to the Oregon Senate, representing both Coos and Curry counties. In 1886, he is credited with introducing Senate Bill 50, landmark legislation that would permit women to practice law in the courts of the State of Oregon. In 1886, the governor appointed him Brigadier General to head the Oregon National Guard. Again in 1890, he became involved in the newspaper business, founding the *Marshfield Sun* with his law partner, William Luse.

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

Ti Ti (b. California, 1865; d. 1913)

Row O, Block 95, Plot 9

Little is known about the majority of Chinese who came to the area to work at the logging camps or in the mines, or of more permanent residents who served as cooks, provided laundry services, or performed other manual labor. From the time Ti Ti (also Ti Ty) arrived in Marshfield in 1884, however, she became the focus of several sensational news stories. Supposedly fleeing San Francisco where her parents had arranged a marriage, she planned instead to marry a local Chinese man, Quong. Because of her young age, the two most prominent attorneys in town, Owen & Siglin, whose services may have been procured by her father, sought to forestall the marriage. There was potential financial gain for all of the parties involved. A court case ensued, but she eventually was allowed to marry Quong. Three years later, Quong shot and killed "Billy," a Chinese cook at the Blanco Hotel. Again, there was talk of a substantial amount of money being exchanged. Her obituary lists her as "a rather notorious character."

Charles W. Tower (b. Massachusetts, 1842; d. 1920)

Row DD, Block 55, Plot 12

C. W. Tower, the younger brother of Morton Tower, served with the 4th Massachusetts Volunteers during the Civil War. Following the war, he attended Harvard College and then went on to study at the Harvard Medical School, graduating in 1867. Health problems resulting from his service in the war prompted his move to a more temperate climate, and in 1868, he settled in Empire City. Dr. Tower served as the company doctor at the Newport coalmines, and he also practiced in Marshfield for many years. In 1874, he married Miss Minnie Burrell, an aspiring opera singer from San Francisco who possessed "extraordinary vocal talents." Dr. Tower was actively involved in civic affairs and served as the first president of the Chamber of Commerce.

Morton Tower (b. Massachusetts, 1840; d. 1914)

Row E, Block 52, Plot 13

While serving with the 13th Massachusetts Volunteers during the Civil War, Morton Tower was wounded in the battles of Bull Run and Fredericksburg before being captured by Confederate forces during the battle of Gettysburg. With other Union officers, he was taken to Libby Prison in Richmond, Virginia. The imprisoned officers devised a plan to construct a tunnel for escape. After nine months of imprisonment and diligent work on the tunnel, over one hundred prisoners escaped through the tunnel, but Tower was one of only 53 that succeeded in reaching the safety of a Union camp. He then travelled by ship to Washington where he was unable to receive his back pay until Walt Whitman intervened. Moving west to Oregon in 1874 for health reasons, he became a prominent citizen of Empire City and stalwart member of the local G.A.R. posts. Tower also served as the collector of customs for Coos Bay.

Elizabeth Schapers Ott Tyberg (b. Missouri, 1864; d. 1939)

Row CC, Block D, Plot 3

"Lizzie" Tyberg was the driving force behind the Tyberg homestead along the Allegany River. Married in Missouri, with sons Samuel and Jesse born in 1881 and 1886 respectively, she divorced her husband in the Dalles and moved to Allegany in 1890. Her second marriage was to Alfred Tyberg, who was so crippled with rheumatism that he could hardly walk. With her efficient management, they produced nearly all their own food, a necessity since basic, inexpensive transportation to town was not an option. In addition, they also produced a cash crop by separating their milk and hauling the cream to Allegany once a week where it would be delivered by boat to the Marshfield creamery.

Thomas C. Wyman (b. Maine, 1844; d. 1916)

Row A, Block 215, Plot 7

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

Thomas Wyman enlisted in the 2nd Maine Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War. To complete his term, he was forced to transfer to the 20th Maine, serving with it when the regiment so courageously defended Little Round Top with bayonets when it ran short of ammunition at the Battle of Gettysburg. He also served in the Navy during the Civil War as a substitute for his married brother who had been drafted. After moving west to Oregon, he worked at the Cape Arago Lighthouse as the assistant lighthouse keeper for many years.

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

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Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Coos Co., OR

Name of Property

County and State

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Coos Bay Harbor (North Bend, OR) 1905-1950

Coos Bay News (Marshfield, OR) 1906-1957

Coos Bay times (Marshfield, OR) 1906-1957

Daily Coast Mail (Marshfield, OR) 1902-1906

Some editions were also accessed through the Oregon Digital Newspaper Program (ODNP)
<http://oregonnews.uoregon.edu/>

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: **Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery Archives**
Coos Historical and Maritime Museum

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

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 3.86

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	10N Zone	401150 Easting	4801527 Northing	3	_____ Zone	_____ Easting	_____ Northing
2	_____ Zone	_____ Easting	_____ Northing	4	_____ Zone	_____ Easting	_____ Northing

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

The Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery is situated on Tax Lot 2900 as part of the Railroad Addition to Marshfield within Section 34, Township 25 South, Range 13 West, Willamette Meridian.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary includes the land purchased by the Odd Fellows Cemetery Corporation in 1888 and platted for development as a cemetery according to the 1921 map of the cemetery.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Becky Soules

organization Marshfield Pioneer Cemetery Coordinator

date December 2010

street & number 62170 Ross Inlet Rd

telephone (541) 269-7832

city or town Coos Bay

state Oregon zip code 97420

e-mail cbcemetry@gmail.com

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.

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

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Coos Co., OR

Name of Property

County and State

Photographs:

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

Name of Property: Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

City or Vicinity: Coos Bay

County: Coos **State:** Oregon

Photographer: Becky Soules

Date Photographed: August 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Photo 1 of 9 (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0001.tif)
From cemetery entrance; looking east

Photo 2 of 9: (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0002.tif)
From cemetery entrance; looking southeast

Photo 3 of 9: (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0003.tif)
From Sailor-Solider monument; looking southwest

Photo 4 of 9: (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0004.tif)
View of cemetery showing downtown Coos Bay; looking northeast

Photo 5 of 9 (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0005.tif)
Cemetery rock wall from Ingersoll Avenue; looking east

Photo 6 of 9: (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0006.tif)
Hirst mausoleum; looking northwest

Photo 7 of 9: (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0007.tif)
Aerial view of cemetery from high school roof; looking southeast

Photo 8 of 9 (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0008.tif)
Sailor-Soldier monument; looking southeast

Photo 9 of 9 (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0009.tif)
Close-up of Merchant family angel monument; looking west

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

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

name City of Coos Bay

street & number 500 Central Ave

telephone (541) 269-8912

city or town Coos Bay

state Oregon

zip code 97420

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, D

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Marshfield I.O.O.F Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Documents Page 36

Documents

- Figure 1:** General Location Map
- Figure 2:** Tax Assessor Map 25 13 34AD, Coos Bay, for the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery
- Figure 3:** Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery Map, 1921 (original), 1983, (redrawn)
- Figure 4:** Aerial photo of Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery, September 3, 1947
- Figure 5:** Aerial photo of Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery, 1955
- Figure 6:** Photo of the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery looking northwest, taken by John Bacher, post-1939 (University of Oregon, Digital Archives, #pna_21859.jpg)
- Figure 7:** Photo of the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery looking west, taken by John Bacher, post-1939 (University of Oregon, Digital Archives, #pna_01077.jpg)
- Figure 8:** Photo of the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery looking west, taken by John Bacher, post-1939 (University of Oregon, Digital Archives, #pna_01078.jpg)
- Figure 9:** E. F. Dicken's notebook map of Marsh Station, U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, 1889
- Figure 10:** Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery logbook (Sunset Memorial Park volume), Page 2, Block 2
- Figure 11:** Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery logbook (Sunset Memorial Park volume), Page 13, Block 13
- Figure 12:** Photo of seven oldest Civil War veterans at the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery, G.A.R. State Convention, 1926 (Coos Historical & Maritime Museum #988-P312, #988-P135)

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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Marshfield I.O.O.F Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Documents Page 37

Figure 1: General Location Map, Site of Marshfield I.O.O.F Cemetery marked with arrow.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Marshfield I.O.O.F Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

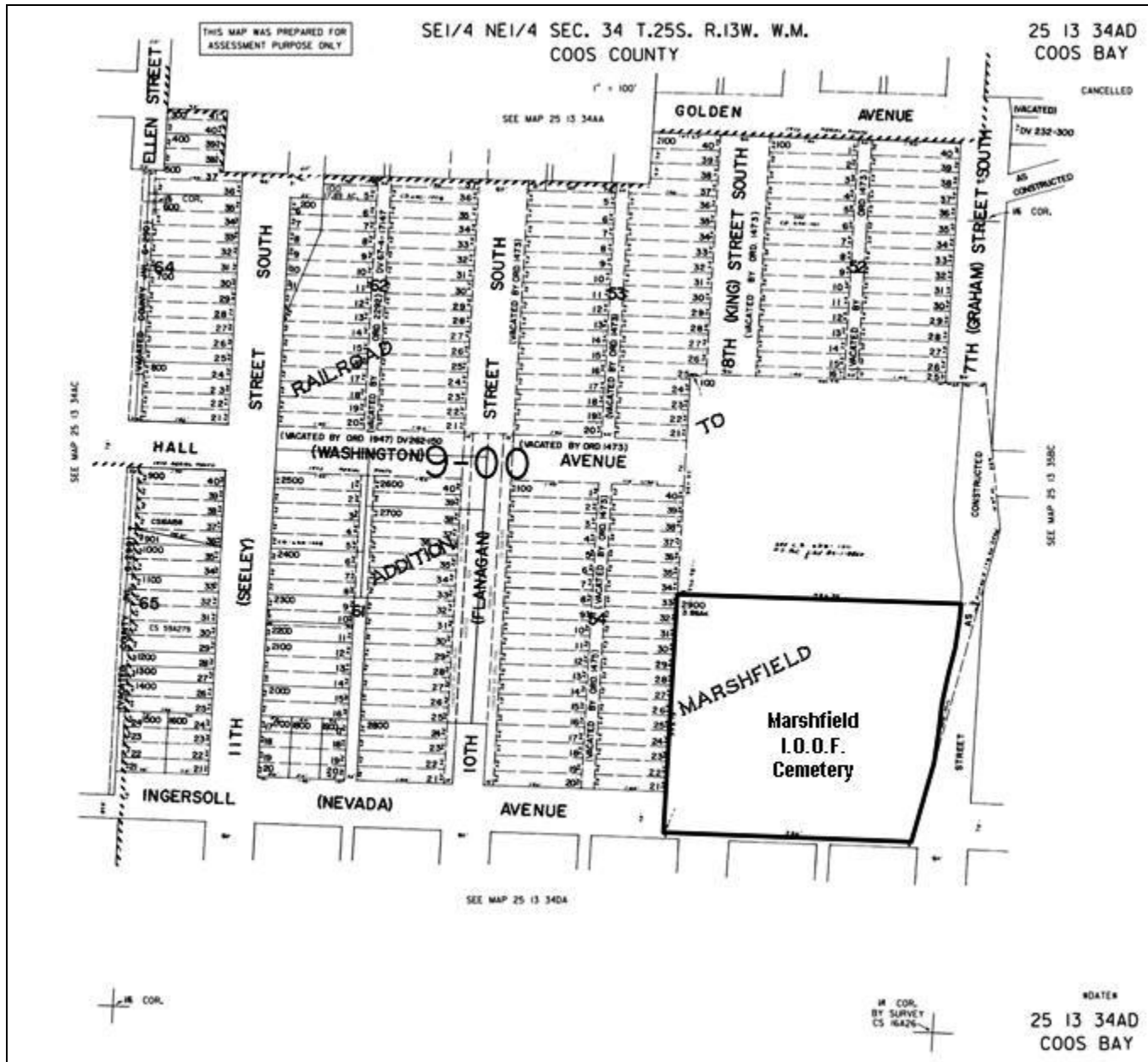
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Documents Page 38

Figure 2: Tax Assessor Map 25 13 34AD, Coos Bay, for the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery
Boundary of nominated property marked with black line.



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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

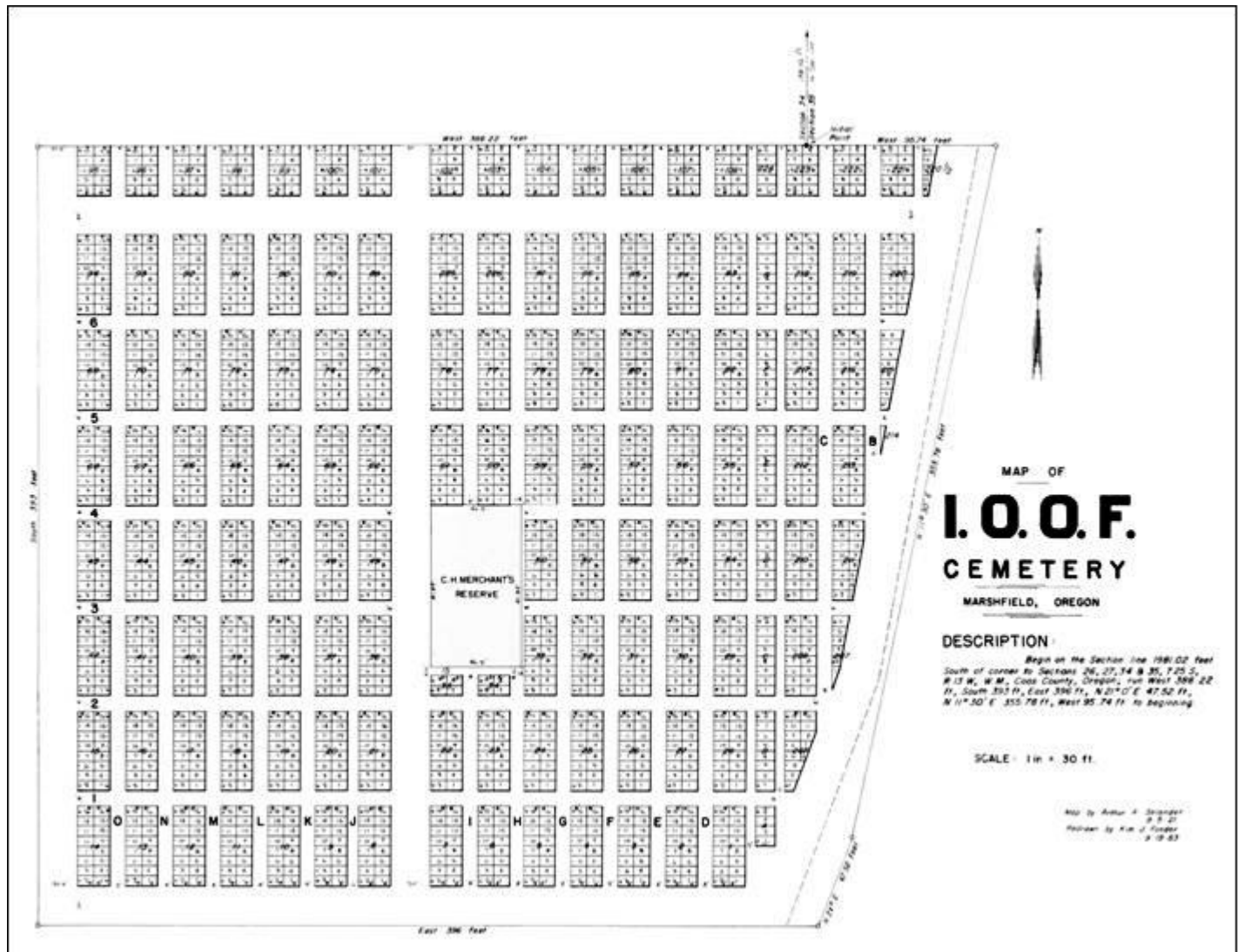
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Documents Page 39

Figure 3: Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery Map, 1921 (original), 1983, (redrawn)



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National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

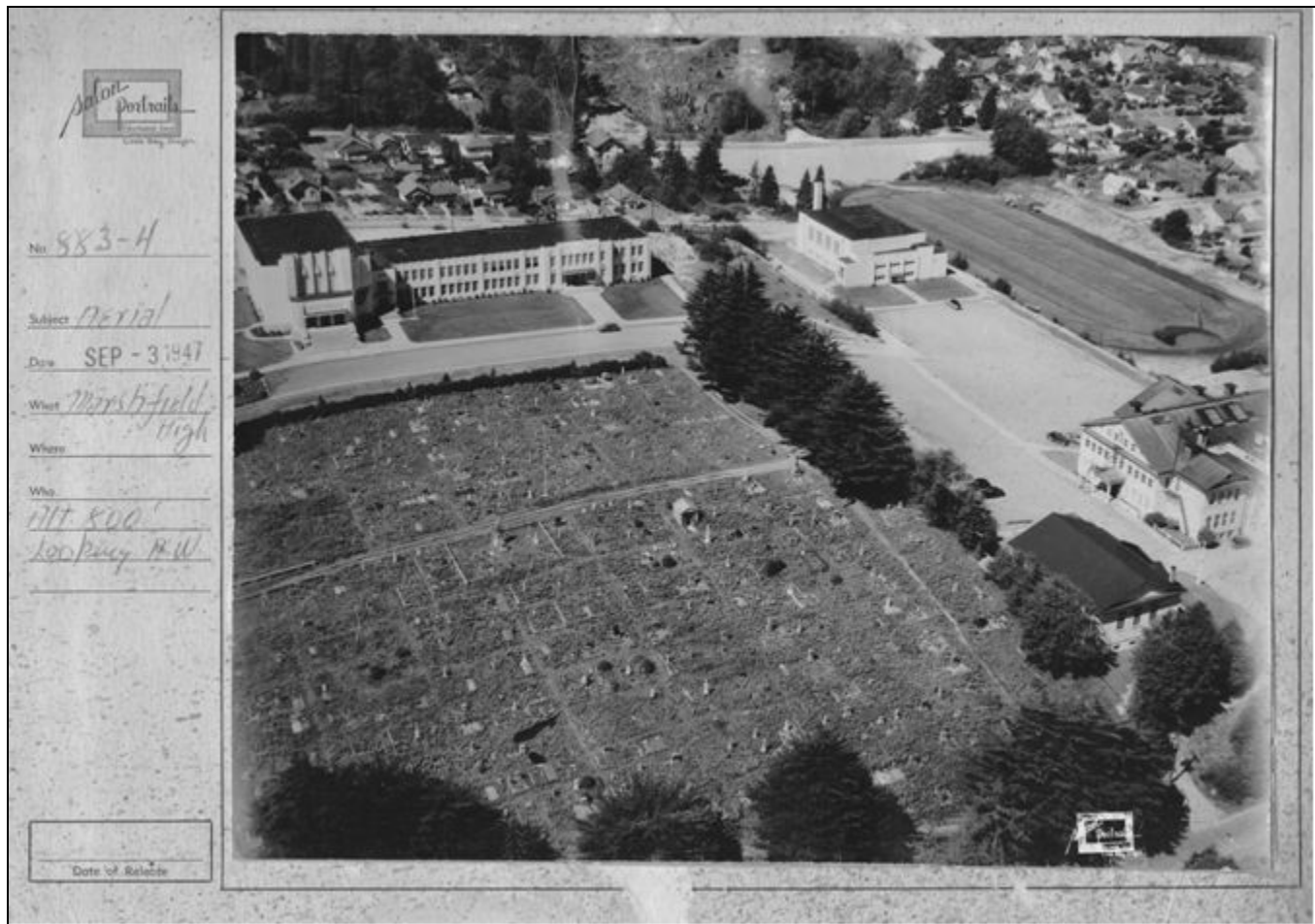
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Documents Page 40

Figure 4: Aerial photo of Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery, September 3, 1947



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National Park Service

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Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Documents Page 41

Figure 5: Aerial photo of Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery, 1955



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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Marshfield I.O.O.F Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Documents Page 42

Figure 6: Photo of the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery looking northwest, taken by John Bacher, post-1939
(University of Oregon, Digital Archives, #pna_21859.jpg)



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National Park Service

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Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Documents Page 43

Figure 7: Photo of the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery looking west, taken by John Bacher, post-1939
(University of Oregon, Digital Archives, #pna_01077.jpg)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Documents Page 44

Figure 8: Photo of the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery looking west, taken by John Bacher, post-1939
(University of Oregon, Digital Archives, #pna_01078.jpg)



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Marshfield I.O.O.F Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

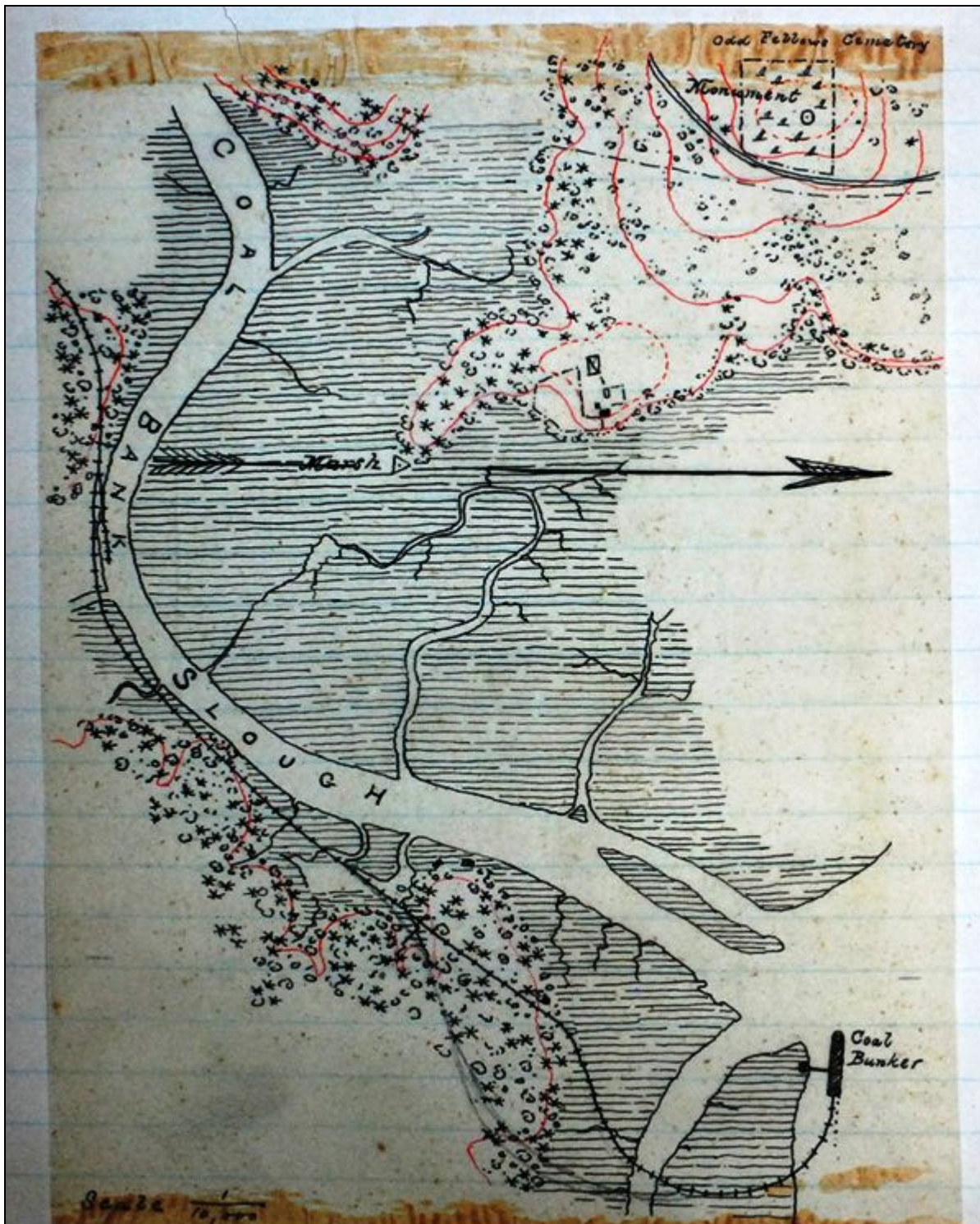
County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Documents Page 45

Figure 9: E. F. Dicken's notebook map of Marsh Station, U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, 1889



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Marshfield I.O.O.F Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number DocumentsPage 46

Figure 10: Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery logbook (Sunset Memorial Park volume), Page 2, Block 2

Block 2 I. O. O. F. Cemetery, Marshfield, Oregon.

Lot No.	NAME	No. of Dead	Date of Death		
			Year	Month	Day
1	Carl Weber	767	1917	Mar	27
2	(B. Barnett) F. E. Wilson	782	1917	May	24
3	Hennetta Robinson	415	1907	June	10
4	Marshfield Acire No. 538 F.O.E.	818	1919	July	27
5	Hennetta Robinson	415	1907	June	10
6	John T. Smith	428	1907	June	10
7	Mrs John Polars	1471	1907	May	24
8	"	1491	1907	May	24
9	Mrs Blanchfield	260	1907	June	8

DIAGRAM OF BLOCK

16	13	12	9	8	5	4	1
15	14	11	10	7	6	3	2

LOTS
5x8 FT.

Lot No.	NAME	NATIVITY	AGE	CAUSE OF DEATH	Date of Burial		
					Month	Day	Year
1	Drugg Johnson	Oregon	87	Phylis of Ovaria	Mar	25	1917
2	EDWARD T. BAZZ	Wash	43	TUBERCULOSIS	FEB	10	1917
3	KATE WEBER	GERMANY	36	COMPLICATIONS	FEB	11	1917
4	Infant of A.A. Sorenson	Oregon			Mar	4	1916
5	Charles Esterbeck	Ireland	69	COMPLICATIONS	Sept	9	1921
6	M. A. Sorenson			Consumption	April	20	1911
7	PETER BLAIR	Canada	78	Heart failure	Jan	20	1912
8	James C. Robinson		68	Consumption	Nov	25	1909
9	Thomas M. Gorman	Ireland	76	Ulcer in stomach	Feb	1	1912
10	Hattie Thomas	England	46	Cancer	Mar	19	1907
11	Caroline Robinson	Oregon	70	Consumption	Feb	23	1909
12	Mrs. Smith	Oregon	70	Consumption	Feb	23	1909
13	Laura H. Smithgall		79		Feb	13	1948
14	John Dale	Canada	47	Drowned	Jan	18	1908
15	WILLIAM BLANCHFIELD	"	50	Suicide	July	18	1909

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Continuation Sheet

Marshfield I.O.O.F Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number DocumentsPage 47

Figure 11: Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery logbook (Sunset Memorial Park volume), Page 13, Block 13

13

Block 13 I. O. O. F. Cemetery, Marshfield, Oregon.

Lot No.	NAME	No of Deeds	Date of Deed		
			Year	Month	Day
1	Paid by Coos County				
2	Paid by Coos County				
3	Paid by Coos County				
4					
5	Paid by Coos County				
6					
7					
8	Paid by Coos County				
9					
10					
11	This Block Owned and				
12	Paid for by Coos Co.				
13					
14					
15					
16					

Diagram of Block

16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

LOTS
5X8 FT.

This Block is full

Lot No.	NAME	NATIVITY	AGE	CAUSE OF DEATH	Date of Burial
1	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
2	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
3	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
4	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
5	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
6	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
7	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
8	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
9	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
10	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
11	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
12	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
13	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
14	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
15	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
16	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
17	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
18	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
19	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
20	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
21	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
22	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
23	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
24	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
25	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
26	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
27	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
28	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
29	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
30	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
31	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
32	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
33	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
34	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
35	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
36	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
37	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
38	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
39	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
40	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
41	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
42	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
43	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
44	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
45	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
46	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
47	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
48	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
49	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904
50	John Aho	Finland	17	Accident	Dec 29 1904

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery

Name of Property

Coos Co., OR

County and State

N/A

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Documents Page 48

Figure 12 Photo of seven oldest Civil War veterans at the Marshfield I.O.O.F. Cemetery, G.A.R. State Convention, 1926 (Coos Historical & Maritime Museum #988-P312, #988-P135)



Marshfield I.O.O.F Cemetery

Coos Bay, Coos Co., OR
National Register Photos

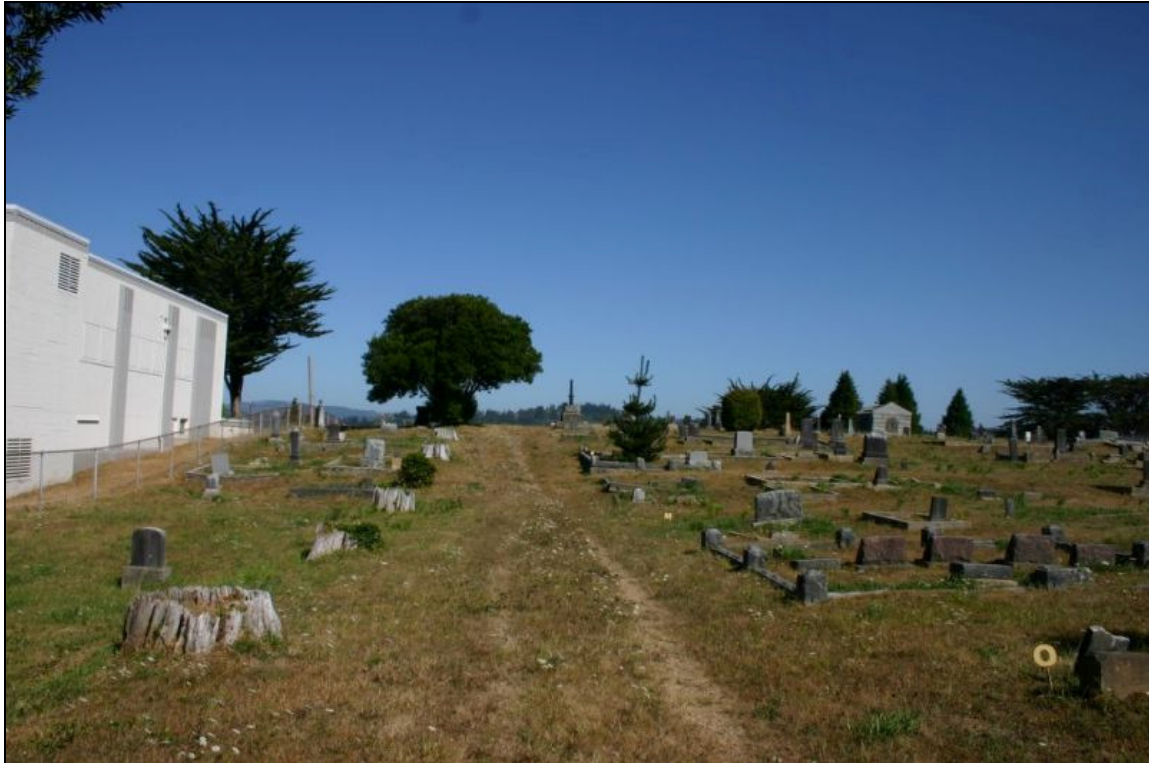


Photo 1 of 9: (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0001)
From cemetery entrance; looking east

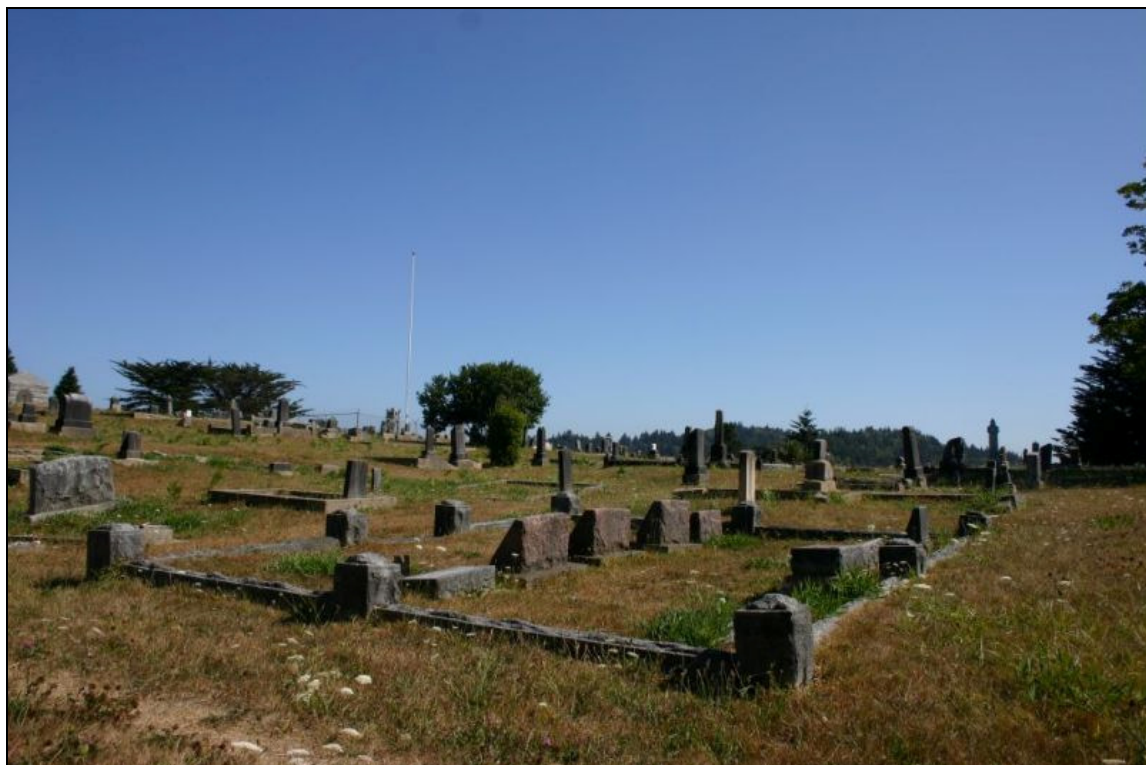


Photo 2 of 9: (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0002)
From cemetery entrance; looking southeast

Marshfield I.O.O.F Cemetery

Coos Bay, Coos Co., OR
National Register Photos

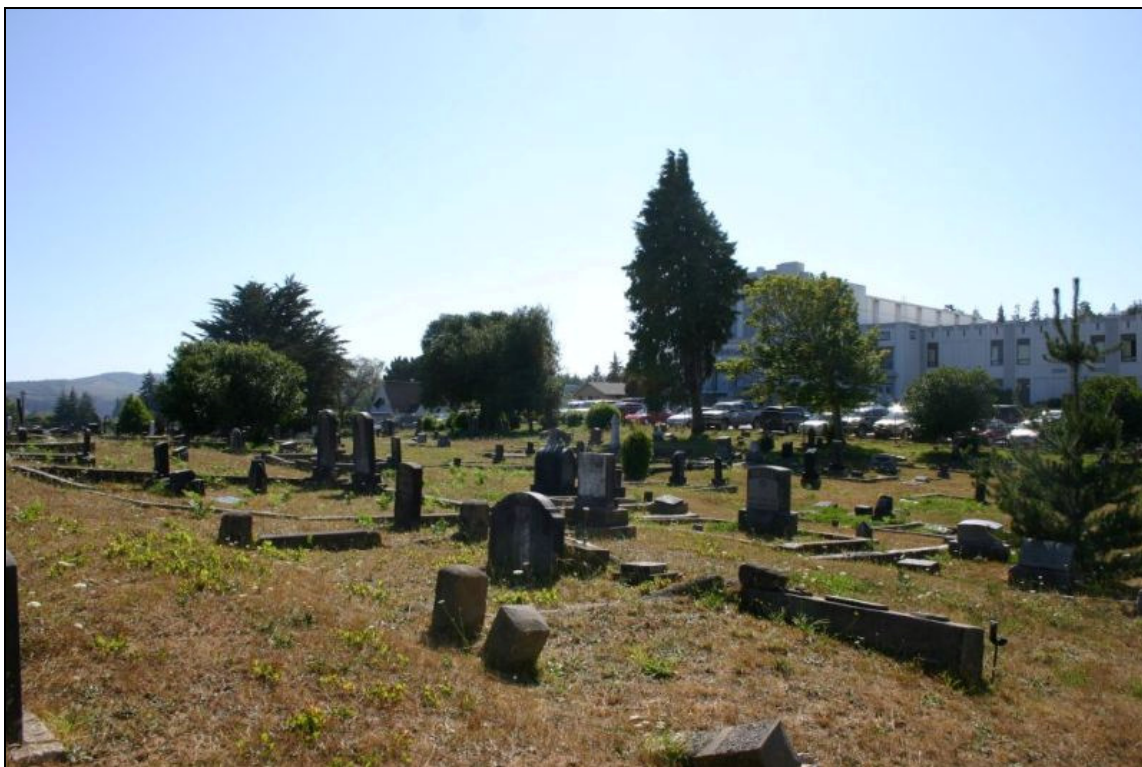


Photo 3 of 9: (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0003)
from Sailor-Solider monument; looking southwest

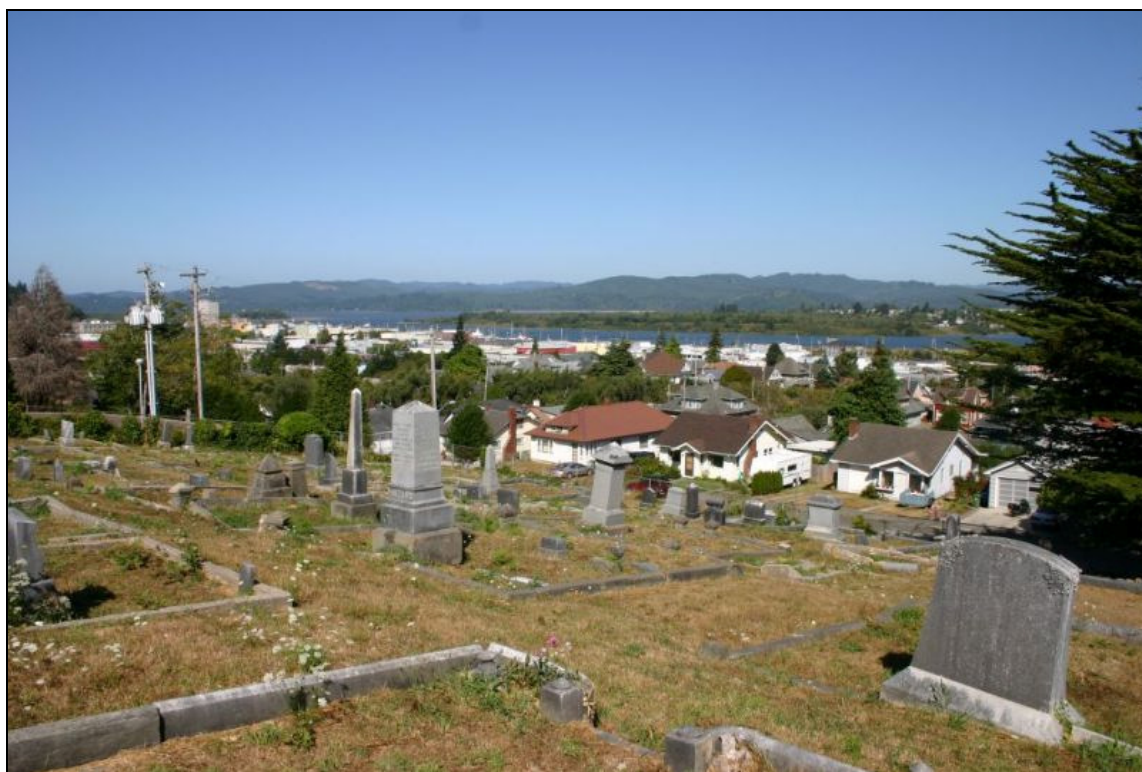


Photo 4 of 9: (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0004)
View of cemetery showing downtown Coos Bay; looking northeast

Marshfield I.O.O.F Cemetery

Coos Bay, Coos Co., OR
National Register Photos



Photo 5 of 9: (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0005)
Cemetery rock wall from Ingersoll Avenue; looking east



Photo 6 of 9: (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0006)
Hirst mausoleum; looking northwest

Marshfield I.O.O.F Cemetery

Coos Bay, Coos Co., OR
National Register Photos



Photo 7 of 9: (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0007)
Aerial view of cemetery from high school roof; looking southeast

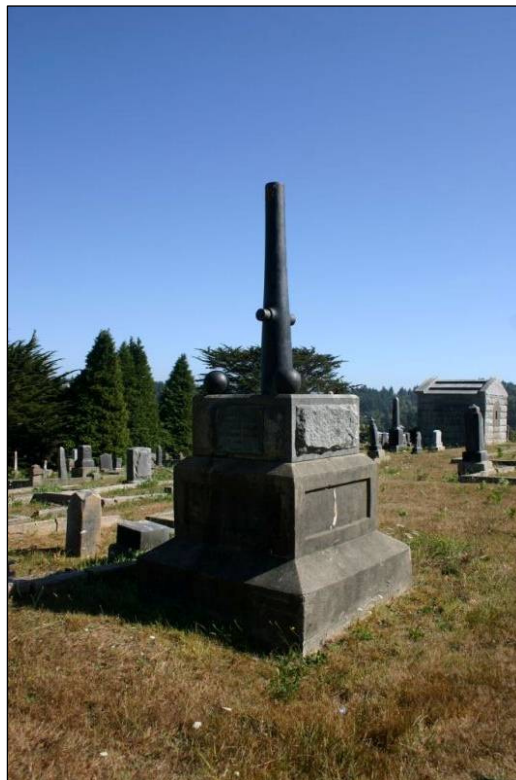


Photo 8 of 9: (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0008)
Sailor-Soldier monument; looking southeast

Marshfield I.O.O.F Cemetery

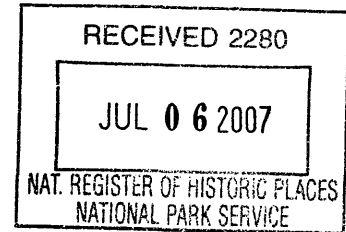
Coos Bay, Coos Co., OR
National Register Photos



Photo 9 of 9: (OR_CoosCounty_MarshfieldCemetery_0009)
Close-up of Merchant family angel monument; looking west

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instruction in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classifications, materials and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Lone Fir Cemetery

other names/site number Mount Crawford Cemetery

2. Location

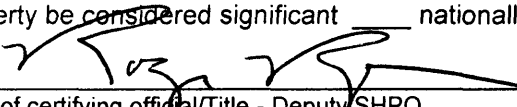
street & number 2115 SE Morrison St. ☐ not for publication

city or town Portland ☐ vicinity

state Oregon code OR county Multnomah code 051 zip code 97214

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

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


Signature of certifying official/Title - Deputy SHPO

6.26.07
Date

Oregon State Historic Preservation Office
State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:
Action

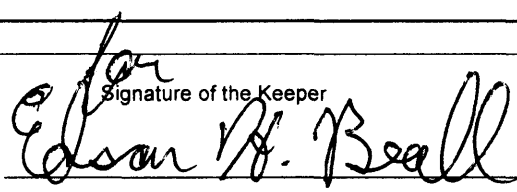
☒ entered in the National Register
See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the National Register
See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the National Register

☐ removed from the National Register

☐ other (explain):


Signature of the Keeper

Date of

8.16.07

Lone Fir Cemetery
Name of Property

Multnomah Co., OR
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property
(check as many 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	
<u>1</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u>2</u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u>2</u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u>5</u>	<u> </u>	objects
	<u> </u>	Total

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously
listed in the National Register

None

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)

Mausoleum
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY
REVIVALS: Late Gothic Revival

Materials
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation: BRICK, STONE
walls: STONE

roof: METAL
Other: STONE, CONCRETE

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

See continuation sheets.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

SUMMARY:

The 30.5 acre Lone Fir Cemetery is located atop a prominent hill in the Buckman Neighborhood of Southeast Portland, Oregon overlooking the Willamette River and downtown Portland. Opened in 1846 Lone Fir is the city's oldest continuously-used cemetery. Approximately 25,000 people are now interred there. The cemetery is laid out in a grid pattern of fifty mostly rectangular blocks set in a park-like setting, and it is punctuated by many groupings of late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century plantings. Over 500 individual trees representing sixty-seven differing species and numerous varieties of shrubs are planted throughout the property. The "lone fir," for which the cemetery was named, still stands in the northwest corner of the property. Reflecting trends in burial practices throughout its operation, the types of monuments throughout the site gradually change from marble tablet markers to more elaborately carved nineteenth-century Victorian memorials. Blocks developed in the early-twentieth century feature simple granite markers. Within the cemetery there are three notable and contributing features: the Macleay Mausoleum, the Soldiers' Memorial, and the Pioneer Rose Garden. Portland financier Donald Macleay built the Gothic Revival style Macleay Mausoleum in 1877 to commemorate his wife Martha Macleay. The structure remains a prominent feature within the cemetery. Another important monument is the Soldiers' Memorial, which was dedicated in 1903 in remembrance of the veterans of four wars. In 1943 the Pioneer Rose Association planted the "Pioneer Rose Garden" to commemorate the women of the Oregon Trail. The garden is one of the few formally arranged plantings on the property.

SETTING:

The 30.5-acre Lone Fir Cemetery is located approximately twenty blocks east of downtown in the Buckman Neighborhood of southeast Portland. The area is a densely populated multi-and single-family residential neighborhood with pockets of commercial development. The cemetery is roughly bounded by SE 20th Avenue on the west, SE Morrison Street on the south, SE Stark Street on the north, and SE 26th Avenue on the east. The rear lot lines of single and multi-family residences and commercial businesses border the cemetery on the west boundary along SE 20th Avenue. This seventy-five foot strip is zoned storefront commercial (CS) and residential (R-1). See map.

The residences on the north, east, and south sides of the cemetery date from the late 1800s to the early 1900s. Central Catholic High School is directly north of Lone Fir at SE Stark and SE 24th Avenue.¹ Buckman Elementary School is also located in the neighborhood. Two planned neighborhoods, Ladds Addition and Laurelhurst Neighborhood/Park, are located near the cemetery.

¹ Established in 1858, St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery once stood on the site of the current Central Catholic School. The cemetery was closed in the 1930s and the human remains were disinterred and reburied in other cemeteries. The high school was built in 1939.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2

Platted in 1891, Ladds Addition is one of the oldest planned residential neighborhoods in Portland. Laurelhurst Neighborhood and Park were laid out in 1909-1911.

CEMETERY LAYOUT:

The primary entrance is on the south side of the cemetery along SE Morrison Street near the southwest corner of the site near SE 20th Avenue.² Originally, the main entrance was in the northwest corner of the cemetery at Base Line Road, now SE Stark Street.³ On SE 20th Avenue there are two stone columns that measure approximately two-feet square and six-feet tall that mark either side of the driveway. Brass plates on each column acknowledge their donation by David Stearns. Former entrances at SE 26th Avenue, SE Alder, and SE Stark Streets are marked by two-foot square and six-inch tall basalt bases and chain-link gates.

A concrete retaining wall with a chain-link fence on top borders the north boundary. The retaining wall is higher at the west end of Stark Street at SE 20th Avenue and tapers down to ground level starting at about SE 24th Avenue. A stone mile marker placed in 1855 on the wall bears the inscription "P2." The marker indicates that it is two miles to downtown Portland from that point on Stark Street, originally Base Line Road, and it marks the Willamette Meridian. Another retaining wall constructed of basalt in 1912 lies along the south end of the east boundary and the east end of south boundary near the corner of SE Morrison Street and SE 26th Avenue. The chain-link fence extends around the entire perimeter of the cemetery with gates along the east and south sides of the cemetery. The southwest corner of the cemetery has been partially paved.

Although the total acreage of 30.5 acres was established by 1866, the cemetery was not fully platted until several decades latter. The earliest development of the cemetery is along the west side of the acreage. The cemetery plat is laid out in a grid pattern made up of mostly rectangular blocks and includes blocks numbered one through thirty-nine, Blocks A through E, and seven smaller blocks denoted as 5M through 11M are part of the Free Mason section of the cemetery. The blocks are divided into smaller lots that have multiple individual grave plots within each. Lots were generally twenty feet by ten feet and ran from north to south. Each lot contained six grave plots each, which were orientated to the east.⁴ Additional plats added to the original cemetery include the 1874 Plat — Blocks One through Fourteen, and A and B (some blocks/lots were previously laid out but the earlier plat map from 1866, but have not been found); 1882 Plat — Blocks Fifteen through Eighteen; 1892

² In the late-nineteenth century the City and Suburban Railway built the Mount Tabor Streetcar Line along Morrison St. with a cemetery stop at 23rd Avenue.

³ An early brochure from 1900 shows a picture of a wooden arched gate at this entrance that has since been demolished.

⁴ Blocks 17 and 18 are larger blocks measuring 43'4" by 49'. Some of the lots along the perimeter of the cemetery are irregular in shape.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 3

Plat — Blocks Nineteen through Twenty-Five, and Block C; 1894 Plat — Blocks Thirty through Thirty-Four, and Block D; and 1901 Plat — Blocks Thirty-Five through Thirty-Nine, and Block E.

The majority of the roads separating the various cemetery blocks are approximately twenty-feet wide with the exception of the fifteen-foot road along the west side of the cemetery. Originally graveled, the roads are now paved with asphalt. The walkways between the lots are approximately five-feet to six-feet wide. The irregular road pattern resulted from the addition of new blocks to the original plat. A revised 1944 plat map shows the removal of some roads to accommodate the additional lots.

LANDSCAPE:

The park-like cemetery is on a fairly-flat lot that slopes gently up towards the northwest corner of the site. A well-maintained lawn covers the majority of the grounds. There are some concrete and basalt curbs that edge the roadways in order to accommodate the slope of the site. One retaining wall near Block One is made of rock and pieces of headstones stacked on top of one another. The construction date of this wall is unknown.

A prominent feature of the cemetery is its eclectic plantings of native and imported trees. For over 150 years family members of the deceased planted native and imported species of shrubs and trees creating a large green space. There are over 500 individual trees in the cemetery representing sixty-seven different species.⁵ Douglas-fir, western red cedar, numerous species of maple (red, norway, ribbon leaf and Oregon big leaf), weeping cherries, buckeye, birch, cypress, ginkgo, chestnut, locust, Pacific weeping willows, tulip trees, oaks, hemlock, and English variegated holly are trees found in the cemetery.⁶ Some of these trees have small plaques identifying the species. Most of the trees are planted in association with graves rather than in the larger context of a planned landscape. A row of cedar trees line the fence along SE 26th Avenue, and another planted before 1936 is along the east third of the north boundary. Mature maples line the southern edge of the east boundary. The "lone fir," for which the cemetery was renamed by Aurelia Barrell in 1866, still stands in the northwest section of the cemetery. On 14 February 1937 the Pioneer Rose Association marked the tree with a bronze plaque. Other landmark trees include four California redwoods planted in 1873 on each of the corners of the grave of Daniel Wright. The variety of trees is reflected in a similar diversity of shrubs and other plantings. These include traditional cemetery plants such as roses, lilacs, boxwoods, hydrangea, azaleas, rhododendrons, laurels, and tulips.

⁵ Peter G. Scheidman, *Tree Survey for Lone Fir Cemetery, 1978, updated in 1981.*

⁶ See map of tree (partial coverage) in the supplemental material.

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FEATURES:

Gravemarkers and Monuments

Lone Fir Cemetery has a wide variety of monument types and styles. A number of these markers date from the Victorian and post-Victorian periods and reveal the artistic trends of the era in their carving, shapes, and funerary imagery. The marker styles often reveal the status and wealth of the individual. Larger family monuments often are positioned in the center of a family plot and are surrounded by smaller headstones that represent individual burials.

The pre-1900 gravemarkers are generally marble headstones in the form of tablets, obelisks, crosses, scrolls, and columns that often rest on raised hand-tooled sandstone bases. Although historically some of these early markers were wooden, only one wood marker survives. The markers usually include the deceased name, the birth and death dates, and expressions about the life lived. There are also several zinc or white bronze markers in the cemetery. Popular in the late 1800s and early 1900s, these markers had removable panels that could be inscribed at later dates for other family members.

Marker styles started changing in the early 1900s as new carving techniques and machinery enabled harder stones such as granite to be used. In the cemetery these later stones are usually in the shape of rectangular blocks, cylindrical pillows, flush or slant markers and are simple in design. They are made of different colors of granite, usually pinks and grays, and have simple block lettering. These markers usually have concrete foundations, and were more durable in the Northwest climate than the earlier marble markers.

Other monuments are reflective of the practices of fraternal organizations. The Free Masons of the Willamette and Harmony Lodges, many of whom were founders of Portland, bought Blocks Seven and Eight from the cemetery in 1862. The monuments include the use of the "All Seeing Eye," a symbol of the watchfulness of God; the three pillars representing Wisdom, Strength, and Beauty; and tools used by the masons including the gavel, square, level, plumb, compass, trowel, mallet, picket, crowbar, and shovel. The monuments of the Woodsmen of the World feature the organizational tree trunk symbol.

Distinct Burial Plots

A fire fighter's section is located in Block Five, and the Masonic sections include Blocks 5M to 11M.

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Pioneer Rose Garden: Block 22 (Contributing Site)

The Pioneer Rose Garden at Lone Fir Cemetery is one of three such gardens, and the only existent, created by the Pioneer Rose Association to identify the old roses carried west by pioneer women and to honor their memory. Located in Block Twenty-Two, the rectangular plan garden includes twenty-three different roses planted in rows as well as birdbaths, a flagstaff, rose markers, racks, and a wooden pergola.

Macleay Mausoleum and associated maintenance building (Contributing Structures)

The McLeay Mausoleum was commissioned by successful businessman Donald Macleay in honor of his wife Martha who died at age of thirty-one on 22 November 1876. Located in Block Seventeen, Lot Three, Portland stone masons Trenavas & Ballentyne contracted to build the memorial for a cost of \$13,500, and completed it in September 1877. Designed in the high Gothic Revival style, the mausoleum has a chapel on the main floor and catacombs underneath for burials. The building is constructed of ashlar sandstone blocks. It measures twenty-by-eighteen feet, and is fifty-feet high. The building has a steeply pitched cross-gable roof covered with metal-seamed roofing, cross-shaped finials, square-corner stone pilasters set at a diagonal with truncated pinnacle caps, and pointed arched stained-glass windows with a projecting label molding finished with a decorative stop. A projecting stringcourse with a slanted cap molding extends around the perimeter below the windows and at the base of the building. "Macleay" is carved in raised letters in a scroll banner above the pointed arched door on the west façade. The wrought-iron gate on this façade opens into the burial crypt below. A mahogany door on the east facade, recessed in a pointed arched opening, leads into the chapel, which has black and white marble floor and highly polished stonewalls. A small brick shed with a medium-pitch side-gabled roof was constructed near the building to store equipment for the mausoleum's upkeep. The building has a single door on the south side and no windows.

Soldiers' Memorial (Contributing Object)

Located in the center of the cemetery near Block Eight and a designated public square, the Soldiers' Memorial was constructed in 1902 and dedicated on 16 October 1903. Designed by D.D. Neer, the seventeen-foot seven-inch monument is made of granite and has a square base that measures eleven-feet by four-inches square. Three twelve-inch high tiered steps form the base. The south face of the upper-most tier has an inscription that states, "Erected by Citizens and Soldiers of the Wars, A.D. 1902." The inscription on the plinth above these steps reads, "Sacred to the memory of Veterans of the Indian Wars," "To the Memory of the Veterans of the Mexican War," "To the Memory of the Veterans of the Civil War," and "To the Memory of the Veterans of the Spanish-American War." Plaques on each face of the plinth have the badges of the veterans of these wars. The base below

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the statue is embellished with corner pilasters with decorative carved cornices. On top of the elaborate base is a six-foot four-inch statue of a skirmish line soldier holding a flag.

Stone Entrance Columns: (Contributing Object)

Originally, the main entrance of the cemetery, the stone columns are located on former 20th Avenue.⁷ The two stone columns that measure approximately two-feet square and six-feet tall that mark either side of the driveway. Brass plates on each column acknowledge their donation by David Stearns. Chain link swinging gates with barb wire are now attached to the columns.

OWNERSHIP

For a brief period of time the ownership of the Lone Fir Cemetery was divided. Between 1891 and 1928 over 1,131 Chinese persons were buried in Block Fourteen located in the southwest corner of the cemetery. In 1928 and again 1948 remains were disinterred and shipped in containers back to China. A total of almost 800 burials were disinterred. In 1952 the Portland City Council issued a special permit to Multnomah County that allowed the construction of a two-story concrete office building on Block Fourteen called the Morrison Building, thus effectively separating Block Fourteen from Lone Fir Cemetery.

Multnomah County transferred the Lone Fir Cemetery property to METRO in 1997 as part of the Parks and Greenspace Program, but retained Block Fourteen and the Morrison Building. In 2003, the Morrison Building was condemned and plans were made to demolish the building and sell the land. Members of the public, the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA), the Buckman Neighborhood Association, and the Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery banded together to save Block Fourteen from development because of evidence that not all the remains had been removed.⁸ An archaeological study indicated that human remains were still present, which caused the County to abandon its plan to sell the block. The Morrison Building was demolished and Block Fourteen was deeded back to METRO as part of the cemetery on 4 January 2007, thus re-establishing the original cemetery boundaries.

ALTERATIONS:

Once in a rural location, Lone Fir Cemetery is now a green space in the densely urban Buckman neighborhood of Southeast Portland. Even with its evolving setting, the Lone Fir Cemetery maintains

⁷ An early brochure from 1900 shows a picture of a wooden arched gate at this entrance that has since been demolished.

⁸ Members of the Chinese community and patients from the "Insane Asylum" were most likely buried in Block 14.

Lone Fir Cemetery
Name of Property

Multnomah Co., OR
County and State

NPS Form 10-900-a

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

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a high-degree of integrity, which was first recognized by the City of Portland when the City named Lone Fir Cemetery a Historical Landmark on 4 September 1975.

Most alterations to Lone Fir Cemetery are related to the property's ongoing maintenance. The entrances were changed due to security concerns and changing traffic patterns. Most of the original curbs around the plots have been removed or partially were removed during the historic period to ease mowing. Caretakers repaired several of the Cemetery's main features over time. For instance, the Macleay Mausoleum was the subject of repeated vandalism. In 1957 two months of work was required to repair the structure's stained glass windows and place metal mesh over the windows for protection. In 2003 a wrought iron fence was placed around the mausoleum to deter vandals. In 1990 The Soldiers' Memorial was badly damaged and moved inside the Morrison Building on the grounds. On Memorial Day 2002, the restored statue was reinstalled on the monument and rededicated.

The only section of the cemetery that has been modified is Block Fourteen, described above. The Morrison Building was removed in 2005, leaving behind a partially paved parking area above ground. Although many of the bodies have been removed in accordance with Chinese customs and the original markers are no longer present, the block still has many burials. The Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery currently plan to restore Block 14 by reestablishing the lawn, and are considering appropriate memorials to be placed in the area.

Lone Fir Cemetery
Name of Property

Multnomah Co., OR
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 of age or achieved significance Within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND
DEVELOPMENT
SOCIAL HISTORY
EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT

Period of Significance

1855-1952

Significant Dates

1855, 1874, 1882, 1892, 1894, 1901,
Dates of cemetery expansion

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite books, articles, and other sources used in preparing the form on one or more continuation sheets) See continuation sheets

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36CFR67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository: See bibliography, Section 10

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SUMMARY:

Lone Fir Cemetery is locally significant for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and meets the special registration requirements for cemeteries under Criteria Consideration D because of its strong historic association with the settlement of Portland and its historic growth and development, and the representative cross section of individuals buried there. The areas of significance associated with the Lone Fir Cemetery community planning and development, social history, and exploration and settlement. The period of significance dates from 1855 to 1952. The beginning date represents when the cemetery was first platted, and the end date corresponds to the date when Multnomah County removed Block Fourteen from the cemetery boundary.

Originally known as the Mt. Crawford Cemetery, the Lone Fir Cemetery was platted in 1855 by Colburn Barrell after he buried a friend, Crawford Dobbins, who died in a steamship accident on the Willamette River. The cemetery was located on a slight knoll on the east side of the Willamette River in what would later become known as East Portland. Mt. Crawford became one of the primary burial grounds for the first settlers of Portland, especially after the City of Portland closed cemeteries in 1854 because of their marshy locations. In 1866 the cemetery was sold to a group of prominent business people who renamed the site the "Lone Fir Cemetery."

Lone Fir Cemetery has been, and continues to be, a burial ground for people from different social, economic, and ethnic backgrounds. Many of the region's most prominent citizens are buried in Lone Fir including pioneers, governmental leaders, business people, as well as indigents and patients of the first mental asylum. Well-known citizens interred in the cemetery include William Chapman, the founder of *The Weekly Oregonian* (1850) as well as the first publisher, Thomas Dryer; Donald Macleay, Portland financier and investor; Asa Lovejoy, activist in establishing the Oregon Territorial government; Daniel Lownsdale, creator of the downtown Park Blocks; George L. Curry and William Thayer, Oregon governors; Dr. J.A. Chapman, Dr. Harry Lane, and Earl Riley, Portland mayors; Dr. John Hawthorne, founder of the first mental hospital; and James and Elizabeth Stephens and Seldon Murray, claimants of Donation Land Claims (DLC) where the cemetery is located. The cemetery also represents the struggles and customs of different immigrant groups from the British Isles, Germany, France, and Italy, and the many Chinese who came to the Pacific Northwest to help construct the railroads, work in the canneries, and build roads and bridges.

The expansion of the cemetery grounds to the east with the platting of the various sections from 1855 to 1901 reflect the growth of East Portland and Portland. Cemetery blocks and new roads were added to the original property as the demand for burial plots increased with the growth of the city. The land around the cemetery grounds slowly developed from farmland to dense residential development.

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The property is the oldest continuously operating cemetery in the immediate Portland area that was laid out in the initial Euro-American settlement period. Despite the transition from a rural to an urban setting, Lone Fir Cemetery retains a high degree of physical integrity and its rural feeling within the park.

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Native Americans

The region surrounding the confluence of the Lower Columbia and Willamette Rivers is known to have been inhabited and intensively used by Native Americans in prehistoric times. The area now known as Lone Fir Cemetery would have been near the boundary between the territories inhabited by the Multnomah and Clackamas divisions of the Chinookans, whose villages were located along the Columbia and Willamette Rivers and their tributaries. Chinookans traded extensively with Euroamericans following the 1825 establishment of Fort Vancouver on the north shore of the Columbia. By the early 1830s, Euroamerican diseases had decimated the area's native populations, particularly the Multnomah and Clackamas Chinookans. Many of the survivors intermarried with Kalapuya and Molala survivors and ultimately ended up residing on the Grand Ronde Reservation and in the towns along the Lower Willamette. When Portland was founded on the west bank of the Willamette River in the early 1840s most of the area's native population was gone, leaving it open to Euroamerican settlement."¹

Settlement of Portland and East Portland

In 1804, Lewis & Clark left on their two-year expedition of the Oregon Country. After returning to Washington D.C. in 1806 reports of the mild climate, the lush green forests, fertile land, and abundance of lakes and streams generated great interest in the region. Forty years later, hundreds of immigrants traveled to the Oregon Territory. Many stopped at present-day Portland, a clearing on the west bank of the Willamette River about halfway between the territorial capital of Oregon City and Fort Vancouver.²

William Overton was one of these early emigrants who arrived in present-day Oregon in 1843. Overton recognized the commercial potential of the land, but lacked the funds required to file a land

¹ Archaeological Investigations Northwest Inc. *Archaeological Exploration of Multnomah County's Morrison Property at SE 20th and Morrison, Portland, Oregon*, Report #1443, March 8, 2005.

² In 1829, John McLoughlin claimed the area around Oregon City and nearby bank of Columbia River for the Hudson Bay Company in 1829. He then surveyed and platted Oregon City. Oregon City became the capital of the Oregon Country in 1843.

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claim. He struck a bargain with his partner Asa Lovejoy of Boston, Massachusetts: for 25¢, Overton would share his claim to the 640-acres. The two men began to develop the land, but only after a few months the penniless Overton decided to move. He traded his half-interest to storeowner Francis Pettygrove, originally of Portland, Maine. Pettygrove and Lovejoy platted the new town, but when it came time to choose a name they both had the same idea: to name the new community after their hometowns. The two men flipped a coin to decide and Pettygrove won — Portland was named. By Summer 1845 the town was surveyed and lots began to sell.

By 1848, Portland had about a dozen occupied houses and a population of approximately sixty people. More importantly, a good deep-water wharf was built. Navigation of the Willamette River was the key to the growth of the new town. The wheat and timber shipped south to San Francisco during the 1849 California Gold Rush boosted the local economy and population. The enactment of the Donation Land Claim Act (DLC) of 1850 also brought hundreds of people into the Portland area. By 1851 Portland had its own territorial city charter and its own newspaper, *The Weekly Oregonian*, published by Thomas Dryer. On the other side of the river the town of East Portland developed.

The Development of East Portland

Originally held by John McLoughlin of the Hudson Bay Trading Co., much of the land that would become East Portland was owned by James B. Stephens and Seldon Murray. Stephens purchased rights to the acreage from the Hudson Bay Company and in 1850 secured a DLC (#53) of 641-acres. His claim extended from present-day SE Stark to SE Division Streets, and from the Willamette River to SE 20th Avenue. Stephens then laid out the town of East Portland in the 1850s and established the first ferry across the Willamette River, first from Jefferson Street (1846) and later from Stark Street (1850). Stephens, known for his generous spirit, donated land for a school and hospital as a way to promote East Portland.

Seldon Murray's DLC (#54) of 641-acres was adjacent to Stephens claim along SE 20th Avenue and included the land between what is now SE 20th and SE 38th Avenues and between SE Stark and SE Division streets, including part of the land that would become the Lone Fir Cemetery. The two claims were in excellent locations near two wagon roads and the river — the Road to the Sandy River and another wagon road that extended east from the river (SE Hawthorne Blvd.) The Sandy River Road was one of the major transportation routes used by early settlers traveling on the Oregon Trail.

Stephens and Murray sold some of their land to Colburn Barrell in the early 1850s. As part of the Stephen's transaction, Barrell agreed to maintain the grave of Emmor Stephens, James Stephen's father who had been buried on the property in 1846. Following the death of Barrell's business partner, Crawford Dobbins, Barrell set aside ten acres of his property in 1855 for cemetery use. He named the new cemetery Mt. Crawford after his friend.

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The founding of Mt. Crawford Cemetery coincides with the Portland City Council's decision in 1854 to close the existing graveyards within confines of the city because of health concerns. The marshy lands where the cemeteries were located were unsuitable for burials. These burial grounds included cemeteries at Ankeny and Front Streets, Washington and Stark Streets at SW 10th Avenue, and Alder and Burnside Streets at SW 11th Avenue. In November 1857, the City Council provided funds to remove bodies from city graveyard. Many of these were re-interred in the Mt. Crawford Cemetery.

At the same time, the area continued to grow and develop. Farms and orchards dotted the landscape of East Portland as more people settled in the region. Farmers sold their produce to businesses and individuals on both sides of the Willamette River using Stephen's Stark Street Ferry to ship their produce and wares across the river. A year before Oregon became a state in 1859, Dr. J.C. Hawthorne arrived in Portland to care for the area's indigent patients. In 1862, James Stephens, impressed by the new doctor's abilities, donated seven acres of prime land around present-day SE 9th Avenue and SE Hawthorne Boulevard to build the Oregon Hospital for the Insane. Dr. Hawthorne and his son-in-law, Dr. A.M. Loryea, operated the new hospital, which employed about a fifth of the residents of East Portland by 1873.³ Patients that died while in the care of the hospital were buried near the southwest corner of the cemetery in Block Fourteen. The burial records indicate that at least 132 patients were buried at Lone Fir.⁴

The Railroad Era

With the introduction of the railroad, East Portland grew in importance as a shipping and agricultural center. In 1868 the Oregon Central Railroad broke ground and became the first railroad on the east side of the river. As the new terminus of the railroad developed, the town limits were extended to present-day SE 24th Avenue. East Portland was officially incorporated in 1871 as a result of the development. The same time, Chinatown was established in Portland as many Chinese were employed on the railroad and on road-building projects. Portland had one of the largest Chinese populations in the Pacific Northwest. Lone Fir became one of the main burial grounds for the Chinese community.

In May 1882 east side land owners Henry Prettyman, W.W. Watson and John Campbell incorporated the East Portland Railway Company. Although no solid plans existed for the railroad's construction, the news caused a flurry of land speculations in the community. The completion of the transcontinental railroad in 1883 further stimulated growth in the region.⁵ As farmers anticipated

³ City of Portland, OR. *Historic Context-Hawthorne Boulevard from SE 20th to SE 55th Avenues*, 2003, p. 6.

⁴ Portland, Lone Fir Cemetery Collection Number B147, Special Collections Division, University of Oregon Library, Eugene, Oregon.

⁵ Ibid, p. 7.

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better routes to Portland and easier access to markets, the nature of the community began changing from rural to suburban. Nearby Mt. Tabor farmland was subdivided into small tracts and sold for housing.

The east side community changed once again when William Beck, a Portland gunsmith, agreed to manage the construction of the first bridge linking Portland with East Portland. Over the objections of ferry operators and with the support of J.C. Hawthorne and other investors, Beck helped finance and construct the Morrison Street Bridge. The bridge was completed in 1887, further connecting the two river communities. Other public projects were begun including improvements to the road and water systems.

East Portland challenged Portland in industrial development and new growth as land developers looked to the east side of the river for opportunities. The Hospital for the Insane closed in 1883 when the new state hospital opened in Salem. Asylum Avenue was renamed Hawthorne Boulevard after the doctor who started the facility. Improvements in transit-related businesses in the 1880s gave a boost to the local economy. In 1888 the Mt. Tabor Street Railway Co. built a steam-powered streetcar line on Hawthorne Boulevard between present-day SE 5th and SE 54th Avenues. Until then, the street had been a country road with a number of adjacent orchards and berry fields. The new route proved popular and was eventually extended south along SE 50th Avenue to the Lents Neighborhood. The steel bridge was completed in 1888, and the Madison Street Bridge, the predecessor of today's Hawthorne Bridge, was completed in January 1891. Streetcars now stretched from Mt. Tabor to downtown Portland. Street car service was established along SE Morrison Street in the early 1890s, including a stop at the Lone Fir Cemetery. Anticipating that better access to the Cemetery would increase business, the cemetery association platted new sections to the existing cemetery grounds in 1892 and 1894. This expansion also corresponds to deaths of many of the early developers of Portland who died during this period and were buried at Lone Fir. Others were buried at "newer" cemeteries that were platted in the 1880s, such the elaborately landscaped River View Cemetery in southwest Portland.

East Portland continued to change from a rural agricultural community to streetcar suburb. The city expanded to the east, and services such as telephones and electricity were brought to new housing developments. Ladd's Addition was platted south of SE Hawthorne Boulevard, and small specialty stores such as grocers, butchers, hardware stores, and beauty parlors opened along transit routes. East Portland and Albina were annexed into the City of Portland in 1891. By the turn of twentieth century Portland had a population of over 90,000, and new business and residential developments were constructed on both sides of the river. The 1905 Lewis and Clark Exposition in Portland accelerated the city's growth. Thousands of people came into Portland for the fair, and hundreds

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decided to stay. Smaller, affordable housing continued to be developed on the east side of the river; six percent of the west side families owned their homes compared with thirty percent of the east side.⁶ The streetcar system expanded bringing more people into the urban areas, and public facilities were improved including the road systems. Reflecting the city's ongoing growth, In 1901 Lone Fir Cemetery was platted to SE 26th Avenue in response to the expansion of transportation in the area and the growing need to accommodate the needs of a growing city.

As a growing and ambitious young city, Portland sought to make the city both more functional and beautiful. These efforts were influenced by the ideals of the City Beautiful Movement and the American middle and upper-class Progressive-Era ideals that drove it. The trend was greatly influenced by the aesthetics and philosophy of the British Garden City Movement and the work and philosophies of landscape architect Frederick Law Olmstead. The City Beautiful Movement in the United States sought to remedy perceived nineteenth century urban evils such as poverty, drunkenness, violence, crowding, and general filth by manipulating the urban environment. The belief was that one's surroundings profoundly influenced individual behavior. Proponents of this idea focused on creating monuments, large classically inspired buildings, green spaces, and municipal art in order to reinvent urban space. "The aesthetic goals of the improvement societies . . . blended images of small town beauty with order, cleanliness, and moral uplift."⁷ The trend received widespread recognition in the Chicago World's Fair in 1893 with the exhibition of the Great White City, which featured classically inspired monumental architectures, wide tree-lined boulevards, and large public spaces. The Garden City Movement also emphasized modernity, including municipal utilities such as water, sewer, and electricity, and services such as garbage collection and public transportation. This blending of attractive space and city services was termed "Beautility" and expressed the idea that modern cities should be both attractive and functional.⁸

In Portland, this movement manifested itself in a number of municipal projects. In 1903 the State government in cooperation with the City of Portland sponsored a parks plan, authored by Frederick Law Olmstead himself, in anticipation of the 1905 Lewis and Clark Exposition. Although little came of the plan initially, many aspects of it were reinvigorated by Portland Mayor Harry Lane who served from 1905 to 1909. Lane also established the annual Rose Festival and sponsored many beautification and infrastructure projects. The trend continued through the early twentieth century as city parks were established and rose gardens planted.⁹ Beautification initiatives were undertaken in

⁶ Carl Abbott, *Portland: Planning, Politics, and Growth in the Twentieth Century*. (University of Nebraska Press, 1983), p. 55.

⁷ Jon A. Peterson, "The City Beautiful Movement: Forgotten Origins and Lost Meanings," *Journal of Urban History* 2:4 (August 1976), 416.

⁸ Peterson, 416-417, 424, 427-429, 430; Anthony Sutcliffe, *The Rise of Modern Urban Planning* (New York: St. Martins Press, 1980), 172.

⁹ Mansel G. Blackford, "The Lost Dream: Businessmen and City Planning in Portland, Oregon, 1903-1914," *The Western Historical Quarterly* 15:1 (January 1984), 42-43.

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Lone fir as well, and throughout the early twentieth century there were several efforts to improve the grounds.

As the Progressive Era slowly gave way to the Automobile Era, the face of Portland once again changed. More bridges were built across the Willamette River to accommodate the increase in traffic, trade, and commerce. The Interstate Bridge was completed in 1917, thus connecting Oregon and Washington. City-wide zoning ordinances were enacted in the 1920s, and still more bridges were completed up and down the river. Service and gas stations were constructed, and car dealerships proliferated. New subdivisions were built with small Bungalow-Style residences lining the streets. Because of increased development in the southeast Portland, business people started pushing for the cession of Lone Fir Cemetery. Despite their effort, the cemetery was deeded to Multnomah County in 1928 in an effort to help preserve the historical burial ground for future generations.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF LONE FIR CEMETERY

Mt. Crawford Cemetery

Colburn Barrell officially filed the Mt. Crawford Cemetery plat on 9 August 1855. Barrell paid \$100 to Seldon and Hiantha Murray for a ten-acre parcel that was part of the Murray's original 642-acre DLC that was bounded by present-day SE 20th to SE 38th Avenues from SE Stark to SE Division Streets. After the death of his best friend Crawford Dobbins in an explosion of the steamship *Gazelle*, Barrell wanted a place to bury his friend near the 1846 grave of Emmor Stephens.¹⁰ Surveyor A.B. Hallock laid out the new cemetery, and Barrell named the burial ground Mt. Crawford after this friend. A small portion of the cemetery land had been used in 1846 to bury Emmor Stephens, the father of James B. Stephens, who owned an adjacent DLC.¹¹ Colburn assured Stephens he would take care of this father's grave. He also placed the first cemetery monument on the grave of this friend, Crawford Dobbins. Barrell purchased additional land for the cemetery from Seldon and Hiantha Murray on 4 August 1855 and from George Bagby on 28 May 1856. The stipulation was that the land be used for cemetery purpose forever.

The cemetery plat was laid out in rectangular blocks with twenty-by-ten foot lots containing six individual grave plots; this acreage was in the western portion of the current cemetery grounds. Two-hundred feet above the river, the property was well-drained, fairly-level and lightly-treed, a good location for a cemetery. Barrell began to sell lots for ten dollars for half lots and twenty dollars for whole lots. He purchased Lot One in Block One for his family. Two blocks were quickly filled because of the lack of other burial grounds in the immediate area. Many Portland families ferried their family members across the Willamette River to the east side to attend funerals and to bury their loved ones

¹⁰ Barrell was part owner in the steamship and felt responsible for his friend's death.

¹¹ Stephens purchased his donation land claim from John McLoughlin.

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in the Mt. Crawford Cemetery. Barrell, known for his generosity, often provided burial places for the less fortunate who had few resources or family. Many of the patients at the first "Insane Asylum" were buried in Mt. Crawford Cemetery.

Many remains were re-interred in the Mt. Crawford Cemetery in the mid-1850s after the Portland City Council passed an ordinance requiring that the early Portland burial grounds be vacated because they were built on marshy land. During the next few years many burial plots in Lone Fir were sold. In 1862 Barrell sold the Masonic Harmony and Willamette Lodges two blocks. Later the group purchased another two blocks. He donated Block Five to the City Volunteer Fire Department. The first burial in the lot was fire fighter, J.F. Dennison in 1864. In 1865 and 1866 Barrell purchased the final acres for the cemetery, now including 30.5 acres. Much of the land would not be platted until latter.

Name Change: The Lone Fir Cemetery

The cemetery was increasingly difficult to manage for Barrell because of the number of burials and the invasiveness of native plants. In the mid-1860s Barrell offered to sell the cemetery to the City of Portland. The City refused the offer because the cemetery was too far away from the developing Portland town center. After the City declined the offer, Barrell sold the property to a group of Portland business people for \$4,000. The new private group incorporated on 26 July 1866 under the new name of the Portland Lone Fir Cemetery Company, and the Cemetery became known as "Lone Fir Cemetery." The new name was suggested by Barrell's wife, Aurelia, for the lone fir that stood on the grounds. In 1867 the company included Byron Cardwell, Levi Anderson, and Robert Pittock. The group raised over \$350 to help clean up the cemetery and mark some of the graves with wooden markers. In 1874 a new section of the cemetery was platted pushing the developed portion of the property further east.

In 1877, the community once again took action to clean up the cemetery. Many people planted shrubs and trees to enhance the grounds and a lawn was planted. A wooden-plank fence was installed around the cemetery grounds, and the fire fighters erected a wrought-iron fence around their dedicated blocks. Scottish immigrant and Portland businessman Donald Macleay completed the beautiful Gothic-style mausoleum for his wife Martha who died at the age of 31 in Block Seventeen, Lot Three.

In the late 1800s, the cemetery continued to grow as the cities of Portland and East Portland expanded. Another section of the cemetery was platted in 1882 on the east side. The Portland Lone Fir Cemetery Company continued to manage the cemetery, and in 1888 the group hired Sexton Wilson Benefiel to care for the grounds. He continued as the caretaker until 1928. Benefiel not only made an effort to record all the burials, but also began a daily log of the cemetery operations. An effort was made to plant more lawn around the plots and manage the vegetation that was prevalent in

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the cemetery. A branch of the Mt. Tabor Streetcar Line of the City and Suburban Railway was constructed in the 1890s along SE Morrison Street. It provided better access to the cemetery with a stop at SE 23rd Avenue and SE Morrison Street. The cemetery blocks once again expanded when more acreage was platted in 1892 and 1894. The expansion may have partially been the results of the annexation of East Portland by Portland in 1891.

The need to bury a burgeoning population of Chinese laborers also spurred the growth of the Cemetery. In the late-nineteenth century Portland's Chinese community was second in size only to San Francisco's. Between 1870 and 1890, Multnomah County's Chinese population grew from 508 to 5,184 people. Young Chinese men, primarily from the Guangdong province (also known as the Kwangtung or Canton province) of southern China were recruited to work in the western United States as miners, as workers in fish canneries and textile mills, and as laborers building railroads, bridges, and tunnels. The majority of these men hoped to save money and eventually return to China to support their families. Due to the hazardous nature of industrial work and illness, many laborers passed away while in the U.S. Recognizing a need for its own workers, the Suburban Railroad Company purchased Block 14 in 1891, the southwest corner of the cemetery, for burying immigrant Chinese employees. Most of those buried there would be disinterred and sent to China for reburial according to Chinese custom.¹²

In the early twentieth century, Lone Fir Cemetery physically demonstrated Portland's growth and the city's self-improvement efforts. In 1901 Lone Fir Cemetery achieved its current size as it was platted to SE 26th Avenue in response to the expansion of transportation in the area and the growing need to accommodate the needs of a growing city. As the cemetery grew in size, there was a renewed effort to improve the grounds. Reflecting both an effort to raise awareness about the past and honor war veterans and the desire to make the cemetery more attractive by installing grand statuary, the Soliders' Memorial was dedicated in the cemetery in 1903. The project was began in 1901 and drew great support from the Portland area. The expected subscription was \$1; however, the sum of \$3500 was raised from 500 persons. The Sumner Women's Relief Corps raised \$100 and the largest subscription of \$200 was received from Henry W. Corbett, a leader in the business and civic affairs of Portland and one of the developers of River View Cemetery on the west side of the Willamette River. People from all neighborhoods of Portland contributed to the memorial. Due to the outpouring of public support funds for the memorial were raised in one year instead of the expected five years. The monument became a focal point of the public square, and was a source of community pride. Improvements were also suggested for Block 14, which by the 1910s had fallen into disrepair. Beautification efforts included replacing the existing markers with cement monuments placed in the

¹² Archaeological Exploration of Multnomah County's Morrison Property at SE 20th and Morrison, Portland, Oregon, Report #1443, March 8, 2005.

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ground and seeding the entire area with grass.¹³ Discontent with the condition of the cemetery eventually prompted a new group, the Lone Fir Lot Owners' Association, to take over management of the cemetery in 1912 in an attempt to "beautify" the grounds and honor the early settlers buried there. The new association, headed by community leaders S.E. Josephi and J. A. Strowbridge, realized the historical importance of the grounds and established a subscription for the perpetual care of the cemetery. The group called on the community and lot owners to help improve the grounds. In their brochure the new association stated that they wanted to maintain the cemetery in a park-like setting as "a Portland beauty spot." As part of the effort, the grounds were cleaned, roads graveled, grass and roses planted, and the entrance formally moved to the south side of the cemetery. Many of the curbs and fences were removed to make maintenance easier. Removing curbs was a common practice in the memorial park cemetery movement of the early 1900s.

In 1922, local Eastside businesspeople pushed for the cession of Lone Fir Cemetery. In a letter from the archives at the Pioneer Cemeteries Office, David Stearns wrote to State Senator Joseph Dunne on 3 February 1927 expressing his strong feelings about preserving Lone Fir Cemetery:

I have talked with both Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Bennett, quite a while back, and believe I appreciate their views in a matter that concerns as many people as does this and in such a sacred way; it would be a physical impossibility for all to be of one mind, even though we all wish to reach the same end to preserve Lone Fir Cemetery from future desecration, not for fifty nor for one hundred years or for any lesser period, but for all time to come, has been my thought in advocating some legislative action.

To ensure its preservation, Lone Fir Cemetery was deeded to Multnomah County on 9 April 1928. A special tax was established for the care of the cemetery and a new sexton was hired. The grounds were cleaned and some of the older markers were laid flat and curbs removed or cut down to ground level to facilitate maintenance.¹⁴ This same year the remains of 526 Chinese were exhumed and, in accordance with Chinese custom, returned to their homeland. In 1934, the County hired a new sexton, N.O. Lundberg, who cared for the grounds and buildings. A second exhumation of Chinese burials occurred in 1948. The Pioneer Rose Association planted a rose garden in the cemetery in 1943, which included varieties of pioneer roses. The cemetery continued to be maintained by the County during the Depression and WWII.

In 1952 the Portland City Council issued a special permit to Multnomah County for the construction of the Morrison Building, a two-story concrete office building, to be located in the cemetery on Block 14.

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ This corresponds to the perpetual care movement in cemetery management that started in the early 1900s that promoted lawn-like grounds and reduced maintenance through low monuments and no curbs.

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This permit separated Block 14 from Lone Fir Cemetery. At this time it was believed that all the bodies had been removed from the area. Multnomah County transferred the Lone Fir Cemetery property to METRO in 1997 as part of the Parks and Greenspace Program, but retained the Morrison Building and related parking space for County use. After the demolition of the building the County deeded back Block Fourteen to the cemetery on 4 January 2007.

LONE FIR AND THE RURAL CEMETERY MOVEMENT

Rural Cemetery Movement

In the late-seventeenth and eighteenth centuries American burials were in town centers on greens, next to meeting halls, or in churchyards. Outside towns, burials or domestic graves were on private land set aside for future family burials. These small-town graveyards were sometimes laid out in a rectangular pattern with rows of burials marked by wooden or stone markers carved with the deceased birth and death dates and imagery of death including the skull and cross bones. By the end of the eighteenth century, many of these town-burial grounds were overcrowded and in disarray as the urban population grew.

Epidemics of small pox and other contagious diseases spread through many American communities. While the cause of these epidemics was unknown, many pointed to burial grounds as a source of spreading disease through the ground, water, and air. In response Connecticut established the New Haven Burying Ground in 1796, which was the first cemetery to be set outside the town center. The cemetery was laid out in a geometric grid and divided into blocks and lots that could be purchased for family use.

The idea for the rural cemeteries gained popularity as the cities grew and the Romantic Movement in art and architecture spread throughout the country in the early to mid-1800s. Mt. Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts was one of the first large-scale rural cemetery that emphasized the landscape. The property was a beautiful place for Bostonians to commemorate the dead. The natural landscape ornamental plantings, monuments, fences, fountains, and chapels enhanced the landscape. This inspired concept was copied widely throughout the United States, giving birth to the rural cemetery movement and the tradition of garden cemeteries. Their popularity led, in turn, to the establishment of America's public parks. Other examples of this rural style are Laurel Hill in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, founded in 1836, and Spring Grove in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1844.

The concepts of the rural cemetery movement crossed the country with pioneers traveling to the Oregon Territory. Early Oregon cemeteries were usually laid out in blocks and lots and located

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outside the community center in scenic locations such as hilltops.¹⁵ Although these cemeteries were not as elaborately designed landscapes like Mt. Auburn, the idea of making the grounds a place of pride and beauty was important. By the 1880s and 1890s, many of these early cemeteries that were once in the rural landscape became part of the urban landscape as communities expanded. For some of the older cemeteries, community members formed cemetery associations that often instigated enhancement and clean-up projects and established endowment funds to help maintain the grounds. Other communities abandoned the early cemeteries and started new cemeteries that were planned landscapes much like the East Coast predecessors. The first three decades of the twentieth century brought changes in cemetery management and care, ushering in the memorial park or lawn cemetery.

Extensive landscaping and use of the natural topography were still emphasized with the memorial park cemetery. Often sections of the cemeteries were developed and platted as needed, and an endowment fund was established from the sale of each plot to help offset the cost of maintenance. The roads were often planned with a central boulevard with extensions of shorter circular or linear drives. Many memorial parks included crematoriums as part of their burial services and interment in mausoleums became an option. Cemetery lot holders were more restricted than before in the use of their plots. Rules regulated planting of flowers and shrubs and the location and size of the headstones. Flush type monuments were favored as a way to simplify lawn maintenance. Many of the caretakers of the older cemeteries removed curbs and fences during this time and planted more of the grounds in lawn.

Lone Fir Cemetery and the Rural Cemetery Movement

Throughout its long history Lone Fir Cemetery maintained its original simple rectangular design, geometric road configuration, and informal landscaping. Even though the cemetery was not originally laid out like many of the rural cemeteries on the East Coast, the cemetery shares some of the same characteristics with these more highly designed landscapes. When the grounds were platted, Lone Fir was in a rural setting, far away from any settlement. Colburn Barrell, originally from Boston, sited the cemetery on a slight knoll with views and chose acreage with excellent drainage; these were similar to choices made by planners of the larger East Coast rural cemeteries.

As Portland and East Portland changed and became more settled public attitudes towards burial grounds changed. In the late 1800s, the idea that a cemetery should be more park-like grew in popularity. From the late 1870s into the early 1900s caretakers of Lone Fir improved the grounds by cleaning up the site, planting trees and shrubs, marking graves, and establishing more lawn areas. Many of the curbs and fences were removed creating a more open park-like setting as well as cutting

¹⁵ The exception were cemeteries associated with churches; however, some of the churches were in rural settings.

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down on maintenance around the graves. The dedication of the Soldiers' Memorial in 1903 occurred as memorial parks were developed with sculpture often as an important part of the grounds. In 1912, J.A. Strowbridge, secretary of the Lone Fir Lot Owners' Association contracted with Harold F. Wold, a landscape engineer, to oversee the restoration of the grounds to create a park-like area. In the period following the transfer of the cemetery to Multnomah County in 1928, many gravemarkers were set into the ground to facilitate maintenance and to increase lawn area following the trends of the lawn cemetery movement. Although Lone Fir Cemetery has maintained its original platting, it has incorporated the changing developments of cemetery design. The cemetery today is a Portland green space with a park-like setting filled with over 500 trees open to the surrounding neighborhoods.

The takeover of the cemetery by the Lone Fir Lot Owners' Association in 1912 signaled a shift toward the management policies and aesthetic sensibilities of the memorial park cemetery movement, which sought to lower maintenance costs and enhance the visual experience of cemeteries by creating open and unobstructed vistas in the park. This was accomplished by doing away with the personalized markers, gardens, fencing associated with the rural cemeteries in favor of flush-placed markers and master-planned landscaping that emphasizes wide expanses of manicured lawn. The Lone Fir Lot Owners' Association did attempt to ease maintenance by removing curbs and other obstructions and emphasized the use of lawns as a design element. The group left most of the cemetery's features intact, and thus the cemetery shows the transition period between the two practices.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS:

Lone Fir Cemetery is the oldest continuously operating cemetery in the immediate Portland area. It reflects the initial settlement of Portland and the subsequent growth and expansion of the city. Lone Fir has been continuously chosen by Portlanders for the burials of their family members. From the beginning families purchased lots for future use. James B. Stephens' lot in Block One has burials from 1846, the earliest in Lone Fir, to 2003. The family of Thomas Holmes, an early Portland mayor, is remembered on the marker with deaths recorded from 1867 to 1928. The Strowbridge family, active in Lone Fir restoration in 1912, has burials from 1852 to 1958. The Firemen's Block has been used since 1864 and is part of the annual Memorial Day services. Families are the core groups maintaining and continuing the history of Lone Fir.

As Portland grew out to the east and west from the Willamette River, Lone Fir remained easily accessible from within the city and continued to be chosen as the Portland cemetery. The Morrison Bridge opened in 1887, and the subsequent bridges built made travel across the river easier. The street car lines brought visitors directly to the cemetery from all parts of the city and developing suburbs.

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In the late nineteenth century, new cemeteries were established outside the Portland city limits. These cemeteries were usually smaller and served the new suburban neighborhoods. Examples are Brainard Pioneer Cemetery at NE 89th and Glisan Street with 1.1 acre, Columbia Pioneer Cemetery at NE 99th and Sandy Boulevard with 2.4 acres and Multnomah Park Pioneer Cemetery at SE 82nd and Holgate Street with 9.3 acres. These cemeteries are now managed by the METRO Pioneer Cemeteries Office.

Cemeteries No Longer in Existence¹⁶

<u>Date Est.</u>	<u>Cemetery Name</u>
------------------	----------------------

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 1847-1854 | City Cemetery #1 located at SW 4 th and W Burnside once covered 2.5 acres. Closed in 1854. |
| 1854-1854 | City Cemetery #2 located at SW 11 th and Washington. Closed in 1854. |
| 1854-1854 | City Cemetery #3 located at Corbett Avenue and Abernathy Street. Closed in 1854. |
| 1858-1873 | Beth Israel Jewish Cemetery located at Hood Avenue and Hooker Street covered one acre. Closed in 1873. |
| 1858-1937 | St. Mary's Cemetery, adjacent to Lone Fir Cemetery on the north side of SE Stark Street at 26 th Avenue, was established under Archbishop F.N. Blanchet in 1858. Timothy and Margaret Sullivan donated four acres of their land claim for the cemetery. By the 1930s the grounds were overcrowded and the church closed the cemetery. Many of the remains were re-interred in the Mt. Calvary Cemetery, a Catholic cemetery established by the archdiocese on SW Skyline Road in 1888. Central Catholic High School is presently located on this site of the old St. Mary's Cemetery. Closed in 1937. |

Inner Portland Cemeteries: Pre-1900

<u>Date Est.</u>	<u>Cemetery Name</u>
------------------	----------------------

- | | |
|------|---|
| 1854 | Lone Fir Cemetery. |
| 1854 | Jones Pioneer Cemetery, located at SW Hewett and Scholls Ferry Road, has 217 recorded burials. Nathan Jones established the cemetery on his Donation Land Claim |

¹⁶ Note: Number of burial are based on the Oregon Burial Site Guide and are not exact numbers.

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Act after the death of his father in 1854. Jones donated the land for cemetery use to ensure the grave of his father was protected. This cemetery is 3.25 acres in size and includes Havurah Shalom, which was started in 1986.

- 1869 Ahavai Shalom located at 44 SW Alice Street also contains the B'nai B'rith Cemetery with five acres and has over 2,000 burials.
- 1872 Beth Israel Cemetery (new) located at 26 SW Taylors Ferry Road covers fourteen acres with 2,000 burials. This is the second cemetery of this name and is the oldest continuously operating Jewish cemetery in the nation.
- 1882 River View Cemetery located at 8421 SW Macadam Avenue contains covers 350 acres with 2,000 burials. Henry Corbett, William Ladd and Henry Failing, early settlers in the Willamette Valley and prominent Portland business people founded the River View Cemetery Association. An endowment fund for the perpetual care of the cemetery was set aside from thirty percent of the revenue received from the sale of the lots. The planning and landscaping of the property took three years and included curved roadways, view of the Cascade mountains, and an array of trees and shrubs. The first burial was the infant daughter, May Belle, of John Blazee in 1882. About sixty burials were removed from Lone Fir Cemetery and moved to River View after it opened.
- 1884-88 Greenwood Hills, I.O.O.F., and G.A.R. cemeteries located at 9002 SE Boones Ferry Road covers 12.5 acres with over 2,000 burials. This Greenwood Hills cemetery began with fourty acres; soon 2.35 acres were sold to the I.O.O.F (now part of Riverview Cemetery). In 1888, 2.06 acres were sold to the G.A.R. and more land was granted for use by River View Cemetery. Later, still more was sold for residential use.

Outer Portland Area Cemeteries

<u>Date Est.</u>	<u>Cemetery Name</u>
------------------	----------------------

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1857 | Columbian Cemetery, located at 1100 N. Columbia Boulevard in the Kenton/St. Johns area of Portland, is a ten acre cemetery with over 5,000 burials. Capt. Lewis Love, one of the first settlers of the area, founded the Columbian Cemetery as the Love Cemetery. Many of the burials are those of veterans of wars since the Civil War. |
| 1867 | Brainard Pioneer Cemetery located at NE 89 th and Glisan streets is 1.1 acres with less than 500 burials. |

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- 1877 Columbia Pioneer located at NE 99th and Sandy Boulevard covers 2.4 acres with over 2,000 burials. The cemetery was platted in 1877, but it is thought to contain older burials.
- 1888 Multnomah Park Pioneer Cemetery located SE 82nd and SE Holgate with 9.3 acres and over 2,000 burials.
- 1888 Mt. Cavalry Catholic Cemetery located at 333 SW Skyline Boulevard covers over 85 acres with over 2,000 burials. The site contains 135 acres. The first Catholic cemetery was in East Portland. The westsiders wanted a cemetery on "their" side of the river to bury their loved ones. Consequently, the Archdiocese of Portland located and purchased one-hundred acres on a site in the southwest hills of Portland. The archdiocese purchased land from Nathan B. Jones and William and Levina Naylor, who had donation land claims in the area.

THE PEOPLE OF LONE FIR

People from different social, political, ethnic, religious, and cultural backgrounds were buried in Lone Fir Cemetery. Mayors, business leaders, politicians, governors, first settlers of the Oregon Territory, educators, ministers, criminals, health care professionals, and government officials and workers were all buried in the cemetery. Different ethnic groups are identified by their headstones which were sometimes inscribed in their native languages of Spanish, Hebrew, German, Japanese, Chinese, and French. Indigent, mental patients and people from some of the more colorful Portland businessmen are buried in the cemetery. In a 1928 interview with journalist Fred Lockley, sexton Wilson Benefiel, caretaker from 1888 to 1928, describes the people buried at the Lone Fir Cemetery. He states:

There is no line of social cleavage among the dead. For forty years I have sold lots here and I never inquire as the character or lack of it of those who buy the lots. If you come to me, I will show you the graves of several men who were hanged and whose relatives or friends had them buried here. I can show you graves of prominent early day saloonkeepers and gamblers, and scores of graves of girls from the 'North End,' ... A man may consider himself of much finer clay when he is alive, but when he is dies, the general does not outrank the private, nor the judge the prisoner upon whom he has passed sentence. We all find oblivion and equality in the grave.¹⁷

¹⁷ Fred Lockley. *History of the Columbia River Valley from The Dalles to the Sea*. (Chicago: The S.J. Clarke Publishing Co, 1928), p. 649.

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The following are some of the people with strong ties to the Lone Fir Cemetery and the history of Portland:

J. S. Backenstos (1811 – 1857): Block 8M, Lot 47

Born in Illinois and a veteran of the Mexican War, Lt. Col. Jacob Backenstos came to Fort Vancouver with the "Mounted Rifles" calvary unit. He took out a donation land claim in what is now Northeast Portland.

Aurelia (d. 1889) & Colburn Barrell (d. 1902): Block 1, Lot 1

Founders of Mt. Crawford Cemetery, later renamed Lone Fir. Barrell, a partner in a Portland steamship company, buried the victims of a steamship explosion near the grave of Emmor Stephens, and set aside ten acres as the Mt. Crawford Cemetery to honor his friend Crawford Dobbins who died in a steamship explosion.

William Beck (1817 – 1889): Block 1, Lot 47

William Beck, born in Pennsylvania in 1817, arrived in Portland in November 1852. Beck, a gunsmith by trade, opened a gun shop, and over the years, became a successful businessperson. Beck served as one of the first Justices of the Peace in Multnomah County and helped finance and plan the construction of Morrison Street Bridge in 1887.

Archie Brown (d. 1878) & James Johnson (na – 1878): Block 9, Lot 36

On 23 August 1878 Brown and Johnson robbed a pawn shop, knocked out the owner, and then ran. Although they initially escaped, the two men were tried, convicted, and hung.

Julius Ceaser: Block 19, Lot 231

An avid baseball player who greeted people with his familiar refrain "Play Ball." This response is on his gravestone and is written up in "Ripley's Believe It or Not" column.

J.A. Chapman, MD (1820 – 1885): Block 7M, Lot 35

Dr. James Chapman, a native New Yorker, came to Oregon following his enlistment as a Union Army surgeon. Chapman was elected mayor for three non-consecutive terms. He gained notoriety during his last term in 1882 for buying the election and promising jobs to friends. The *Oregonian* called Chapman "The Corrupt Mayor" and called for a grand jury investigation. Chapman finished his term without any formal charges and died in a buggy accident.

William Chapman (1800-1892): Block 7M, Lot 7

William Chapman, born in Virginia, was appointed to U.S. Attorney for the Iowa Territory, a member of U.S. Congress in 1834 and helped write the Iowa constitution in 1844. The Colonel,

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his wife, and seven children left Iowa and journeyed by wagon train to the present-day Oregon arriving in November 1847. He was named chair of the State Committee in 1848 to protect the early land claims. Chapman opposed the extension of slavery to the Oregon Territory, calling it evil. Many turned against him and barred him from the Oregon Constitution Convention. He proposed construction of the Oregon and California Railroad and presented a set of resolutions for the railroads to the United States Congress on 25 July 1866. He also served in the State Legislature in 1868.

Abigail Clarke (1832 – 1914) and Byron P. Cardwell (1832 - 1903): Block 6, Lot 56

Abigail Clarke, a native of Massachusetts, arrived in Oregon in September 1852 at the age of twenty. Educated at Mount Holyoke College, she started teaching at the Portland Academy and Female Seminary and then at the first Free School. In 1855, she moved to Corvallis, married Byron Cardwell, and in 1858 they returned to Portland. Cardwell, part of the Portland Lone Fir Cemetery Company that purchased the cemetery from Colburn Barrell, served as Portland Police Commissioner, was a member of the State Legislature, and was appointed Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue in 1861.

George Edward Cole (1826-1906)

Cole was born in Trenton Falls, Oneida County, New York on December 23, 1826. He was a member of Oregon Territorial Legislature from 1851-53; Delegate to U.S. Congress from Washington Territory, 1863-65; and Governor of Washington Territory, 1866-67.

George Law Curry (1820 – 1878): Block 6, Lot 75

George Law Curry was a newspaper publisher who was involved in the early politics of the Oregon Territory. Born in Pennsylvania, Curry came West in 1846 and started working at the *Oregon Spectator* newspaper owned by George Abernethy. Because of his strong opinions he left the paper and started the Oregon Free Press in Oregon City. He later served as the Secretary of the Oregon Territory, and twice stepped in as Acting Territorial Governor. He was later appointed Governor and held the position until statehood in 1859.

Frank Dekum (d. 1894): Block 18, Lot 2H

The Dekum Building in downtown Portland was built by financier Frank Dekum. He was a prominent business person who helped establish the Bull Run Water System, Portland's first extensive water system.

Crawford Dobbins (d. 1854): Block 1, Lot 1

Crawford Dobbins was the business partner of Colburn Barrell, founder of the Mt. Crawford Cemetery. Dobbins was killed in a steamboat explosion and was one of the first to be interred in the Mt. Crawford Cemetery named for him.

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Thomas Jefferson Dryer (1808 – 1879): Block 3, Lot 19

Thomas J. Dryer, a New Yorker, moved to Portland from San Francisco and started publishing the *Weekly Oregonian* on December 4, 1850. An outspoken person in both his editorials and reporting, Dryer served in the Territorial Legislature and organized the volunteer fire brigade for the city.

W. H. Frush (d. 1865): Block 2, Lot 16

Frush was a saloonkeeper in a bar on 1st Street; Colburn Barrell, founder of Mt. Crawford Cemetery, owned the bar.

Dr. James C. Hawthorne (1806 – 1881): Block 8m, Lot 44

John Hawthorne was born in Mercer, Pennsylvania on March 12, 1819. His early medical education was as a student in the office of Dr. Bascom in Mercer. After this study, he matriculated at the medical university at Louisville, Kentucky. In 1850, he came to the Pacific Coast and set up general practice in Auburn, California with additional hospital work. In 1859 Hawthorne came to East Portland and took charge of the County Hospital because of his experience in the study mental and nervous diseases. He founded a private hospital on the east side of the Willamette River for the insane in 1860, which was partially funded by the State of Oregon. In his contract with the state board and shelter, clothing, and medical treatment were to be provided to indigent persons sent by the county court system. Dr. Hawthorne died on 12 February 1881.

Thomas J. Holmes (1819 – 1867): Block X, Lot 24

A native of Norfolk, England, Holmes' family immigrated to New York. After traveling to California during the Gold Rush Holmes moved to Portland and opened a shoemaker's shop. He served three years on the School Board. In 1866 the Mayor Henry Failing resigned and the City Council chose Thomas Holmes to fill the term. Holmes was re-elected in 1867 despite an aggressive campaign against him. The next day he returned to his office and died suddenly of a stroke at the age of forty-eight.

William Hume (1830 – 1902): Block 12, Lot 45

Father of the salmon canning industry along the Columbia River.

Harry Lane (1855 – 1917): Block 9, Lot 51

Born in Corvallis on 28 August 1855, Harry Lane was the grandson of Joseph Lane, Oregon's first territorial governor from 1848 to 1851. Harry Lane graduated from Willamette University in 1876 and received a medical degree in 1878. Oregon Governor Sylvester Pennoyer appointed him as superintendent of the state asylum in Salem. By 1905 corruption in Portland was so

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pervasive that reformers decided that Harry Lane was the possible "cleansing agent" for the city. As mayor from 1905 to 1909 Lane fought shoddy construction work on city projects, such as sidewalks and curbs, and forced the police to raid gambling and prostitution houses. He ran for US Senate in 1912 and won. Senator Lane died on his way home to Oregon in San Francisco on May 23, 1917.

Asa Lovejoy (1808 – 1882): Block 8M, Lot 50

Asa Lovejoy, a native of Massachusetts, graduated from Amherst College where he studied law. In 1843, Lovejoy came west for the third time and on the wagon train met his wife Elizabeth. Lovejoy established a joint 640-acre land claim and laid-out the new town site on the west banks of the Willamette River. Asa flipped a coin with partner F. W. Pettygrove, a native of Portland, Maine, to name the city. Lovejoy lost and the city was named Portland instead of Boston. He served as the first speaker of the Provisional Legislature in 1846 and 1848 and continued to serve in the Territorial legislature until 1856.

Daniel H. Lownsdale (1803 – 1862): Block 1, Lot 24

Daniel Lownsdale, born in Kentucky in 1803, arrived in Portland in 1845. Lownsdale, William Chapman and Stephen Coffin constructed a plank road that connected the Portland waterfront with the rich agricultural lands of the Tualatin Valley. Lownsdale added 100 additional blocks to the city plat map, with two public squares between Third and Fourth Streets and eleven park blocks at the western edge of the city. The idea for the park blocks came from his visits to the capitals of Europe; however, since ownership of the city property was in question the park blocks were contested. The Park Blocks that survived the legal battles are an integral part of downtown Portland today.

Eloisa McLoughlin Rae Harvey (1818 – 1884): Block 8, Lot 3

Eloisa, favorite daughter of John McLoughlin, known as the "Father of Oregon", was part of the expansion of the Hudson Bay Company moving with her family to establish trading posts in Alaska and San Francisco. She moved with her parents from Fort Vancouver to Oregon City in 1846 to establish American citizenship with her family.

John Marshall (1837 – 1924): Block 10M, Lot 6

John Marshall was born in London, England on 6 May 1837. His widowed mother brought her family to Chicago. She married again and the family came west to Oregon by ox team. In the winter of 1852, John Marshall arrived in Oregon City and worked at Smith and Moffett's Machine Shop. After two years, John became chief engineer on the streamships of the Willamette Transportation Company. He also was employed by Jacob Kamm and J. C. Ainsworth, both active in Portland transportation on the Willamette and the Columbia

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Rivers. He spent forty-seven continuous years engineering steamships on the Willamette. He retired in 1903 but continued his interest with a steamship in Newport, Oregon.

Michael Mitchell: Block West, Lot 64

He was a jig dancer who was thrown out of his rooming house. He was found the next morning, frozen. Friends erected the grave marker that states, "Here lies one who has taken steps that won the applause of men."

Seldon Murray (d. 1883): Block 22, Lot 42

Seldon came overland to the Oregon Country in 1844 and married Hiantha Caples in 1851. The couple claimed 641-acres on the east side of the Willamette River bounded today by SE 20th, SE 38th, SE Stark, and SE Division streets. The Murrays were the original owners of the cemetery land.

Robert "Earl" Riley (d. 1965): Block 8, Lot 47

Robert Riley was Multnomah County Commissioner from 1930 to 1940 and served as Mayor of Portland from 1940 to 1948.

Henry S. Rowe (1851 – 1914): Block 8M, Lot 69

Henry Rowe arrived in Portland in 1880 to continue his work on the railroads as superintendent for the Oregon Railroad and Navigation Company. Once in Portland, he invested in real estate. He served on the Board of Fire Commissioners and the Water Committee. After being elected mayor in 1900, Rowe wanted to control the cost of running the city. In his address in 1902, he reported that the city government had spent less money, down twenty-three percent from previous councils.

Samuel L. Simpson (1846 – 1899): Block 13, Lot 21

The Simpson Family arrived in Oregon in 1846. Benjamin Simpson, Sam's father, was a successful business person. At fifteen, Sam worked as a bartender in his father's store at Fort Yamhill. He attended Willamette University in Salem and then became a journalist in 1870. He wrote for the *Salem Oregon Statesman*, *Corvallis Gazette*, *Oregon Statesman* and *Eugene City Oregon State Journal*. Following his death in 1899, his collected works were published; into the 1920s, schoolchildren memorized his "Beautiful Willamette."

Emmor Stephens (1777 – 1846): Block 1, Lot 18

Father to James B. Stephens, Emmor died in 1846 and was buried on his son's DCL. The land later became the Mt. Crawford Cemetery and he was the first burial.

James B. (1807 – 1889) & Elizabeth Stephens (1805-1887): Block 1, Lot 18, Photos 1 & 2

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James B. and Elizabeth Stephens were one of the first settlers on what would become East Portland. James started the first ferry across the Willamette River, donated land for a hospital and school, incorporated East Portland in 1871, and served on the City Council. The Stephens' house was a landmark on the east side of the Willamette River.

William Wallace Thayer (1827 – 1899): Block 22, Lot 47

William Thayer, an attorney, was voted in as the sixth governor of Oregon in 1878 to 1882 and served as Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court from 1888 to 1889.

Ralph Wilcox (1818 – 1877): Block 7M, Lot 18

Ralph Wilcox, born in New York on 9 July 1818, became a physician. In 1845, Ralph arrived in Linnton, Oregon. On 15 November 1845, Ralph Wilcox claimed land in Yamhill County west of the Willamette River. He tried farming, but the land was difficult to work. Deciding to go back east, the departing family stopped in Portland at Francis Pettygrove's store where Mrs. Pettygrove was ill. Her husband asked for Dr. Wilcox's medical help. Pettygrove persuaded Wilcox to stay in Portland offering him a job at the store. Wilcox built a cabin and became the first physician in the settlement. When money was appropriated for the first school, he also was appointed the first teacher. In 1865, Wilcox was clerk of the U.S. State Custom House and of the State Legislature.

CONCLUSION:

Laid out during the initial Anglo-settlement period, the Lone Fir Cemetery is the oldest continuously operating cemetery in the immediate Portland area. Originally known as the Mt. Crawford Cemetery, Lone Fir was platted in 1855 on a slight knoll on the east side of the Willamette River in what would later become known as East Portland. Mt. Crawford became one of the primary burial grounds for the first settlers of Portland, especially after the City of Portland closed its cemeteries in 1854. During its operation people from different social, economic, and ethnic backgrounds were buried in the cemetery, and many of the region's prominent citizens are buried there. The cemetery also represents the struggles and customs of different immigrant groups from Europe, especially the Chinese, who contributed to the development of the region. The expansion of the cemetery grounds and the continuously developing setting and landscape elements reflect the growth of Portland and changing burial practices between 1855 and 1952.

The Lone Fir Cemetery is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as a locally significant resource under Criterion A because of its strong historic association with broad local development patterns and the representative cross section of individuals buried there. The property

Lone Fir Cemetery
Name of Property

Multnomah Co., OR
County and State

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successfully meets the requirements under Criteria Consideration D because of its significance in the areas of social history, community planning and development, and settlement. Lone Fir Cemetery retains a high degree of physical integrity and its rural feeling within the park.

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Lone Fir Cemetery
Name of Property

Multnomah Co., OR
County and State

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Walsh, Christina. President, Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery. Portland, Oregon. Personal interview, March-June 2005.

Lone Fir Cemetery
Name of Property

Multnomah Co., OR
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 30.5 Acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1 10 527813 5040492
Zone Easting Northing

2 10 528276 5040493

3 10 528277 5040249
Zone Easting Northing

4 10 527790 5040259

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Mary Glenn, Treasurer
Assisted by Sally Donovan, Donovan and Associates

organization Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery date June 2006

street & number 3317 SE Morrison St. telephone (503) 236-5057

city or town Portland state OR zip code 97215

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation sheets

Maps: A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs: Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

name METRO Pioneer Cemeteries

street & number 600 NE Grand Ave. telephone (503) 979-1709

city or town Portland state OR zip code 97232

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 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

Lone Fir Cemetery
Name of Property

Multnomah Co., OR
County and State

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Section number 10 Page 1

Verbal Boundary Description:

Lone Fir Cemetery is located in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, Township 1 South, Range 1 East, Sections 1 and 2, Willamette Meridian. Encompassing Tax Lot 1997-197, the cemetery is bounded by the south side of SE Stark Street on the north, the west side of SE 26th Avenue on the east, the north side of SE Morrison Street on the south, and the east line of the row of tax lots that border SE 29th Avenue. The total acreage is 30.5 acres (map attached).

Boundary Justification:

The proposed boundary includes all 30.5 acres purchased by Colburn Barrett for cemetery between 1855 and 1866; including Block Fourteen, which was temporarily separated from the property from 1952 to 2005.

Lone Fir Cemetery
Name of Property

Multnomah Co., OR
County and State

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Section number Maps Page 1

SUPPLEMENTAL MAPS

1. Portland, OR USGS 7.5 Series
2. Portland, OR Lone Fir Cemetery Tax Map
3. Lone Fir Cemetery Site Plan
4. Lone Fir Cemetery Plat Maps

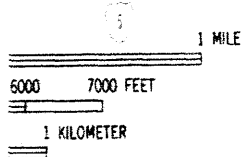
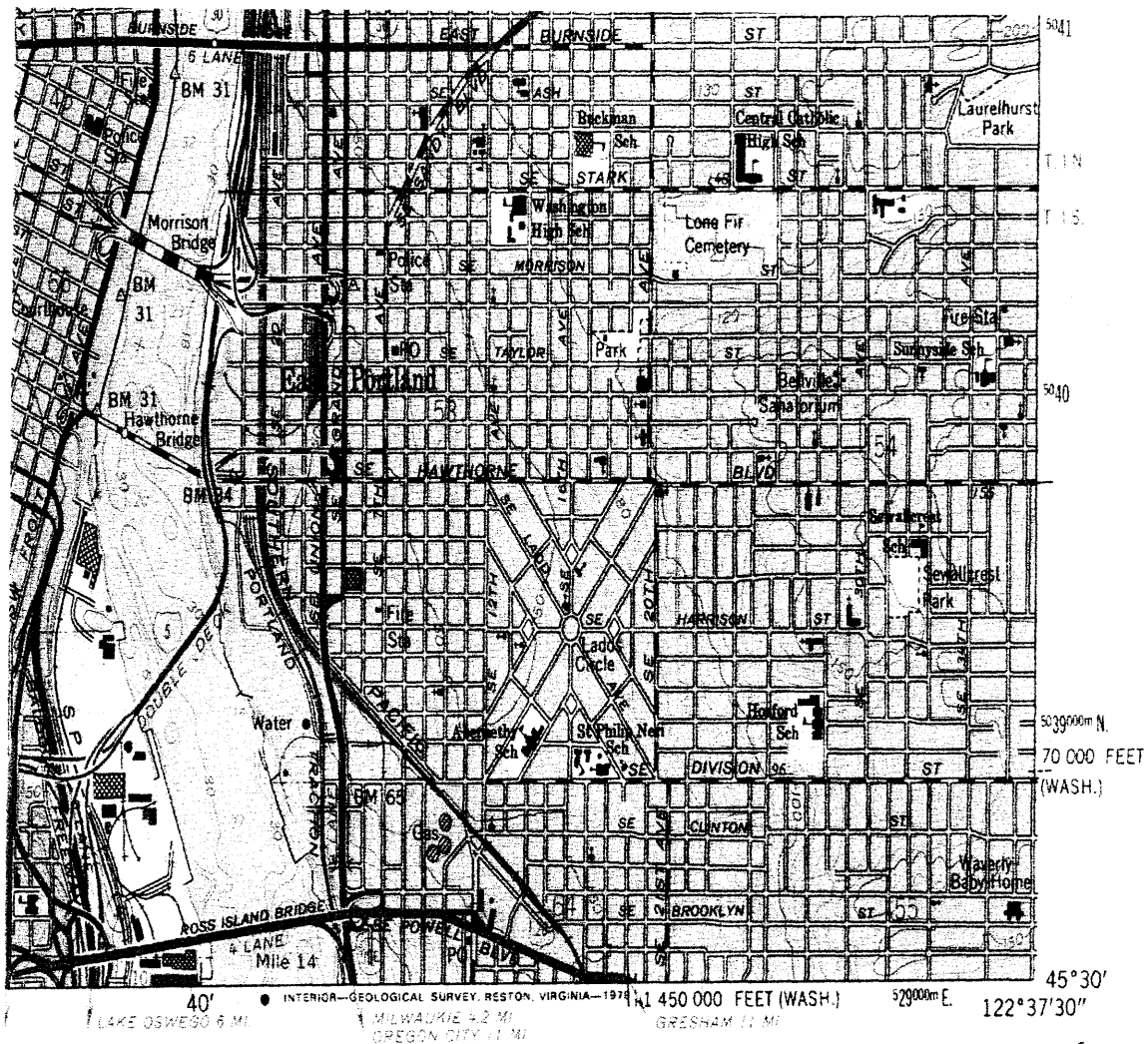
1874	Blocks 1 -13, A & B
1882	Blocks 15 - 18
1892	Blocks 19 - 29
1894	Blocks 30 - 34
1901	Blocks 35 - 39
1944	Blocks 1 - 39, A & B
1958	Blocks 1 – 13, 15 - 39, A & B, Block 14 to Multnomah County

5. Arboretum

Aerial Map
Tree Site Map, Blocks A-1,6 & 7

6. Historic Maps

GLO Map-1852
GIO Map-1860
Metsker's Atlas of Multnomah County, 19237



R DATUM
WATER



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
Interstate Route U.S. Route State Route

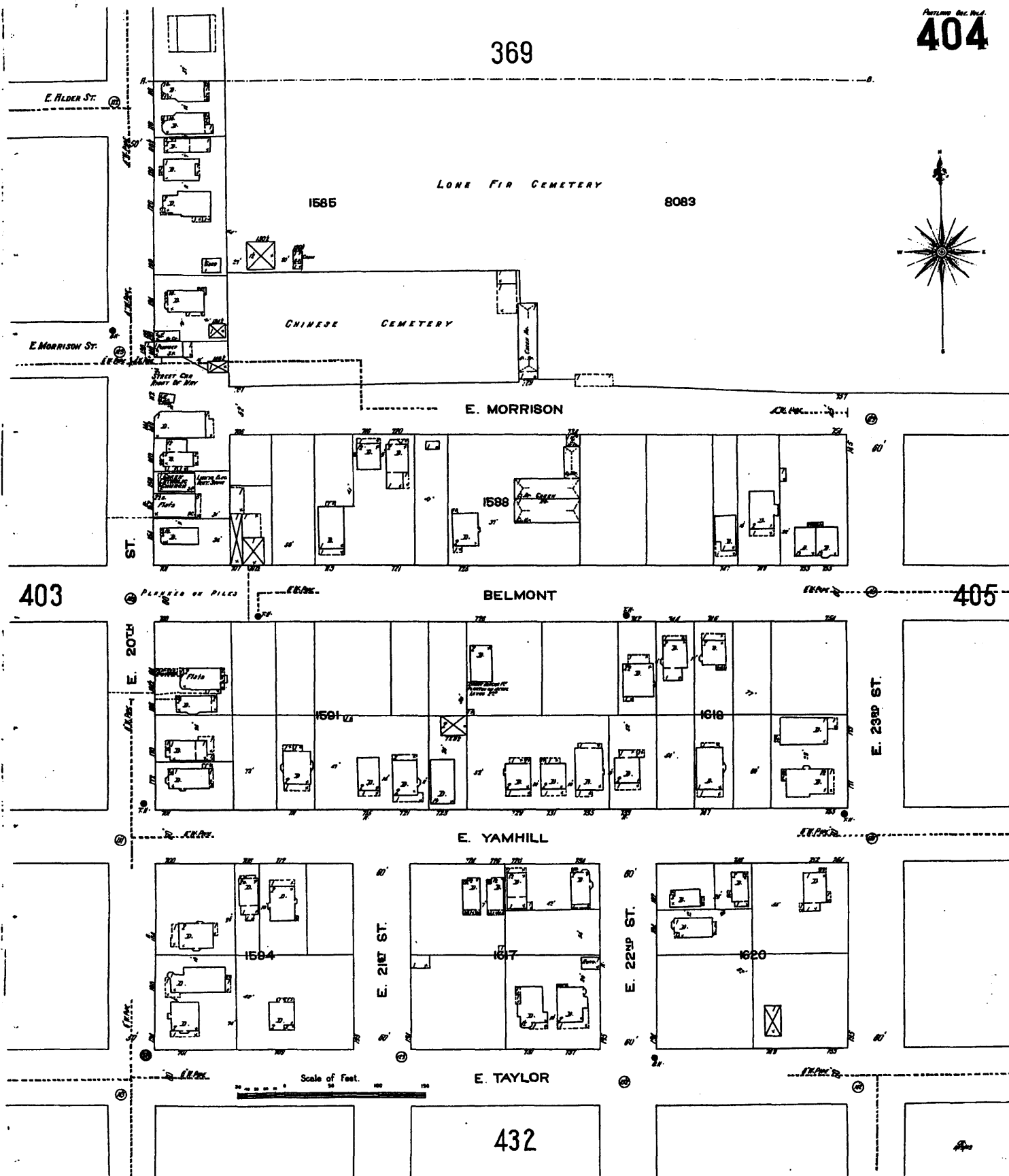
PORTLAND, OREG.—WASH.

SW/4 PORTLAND 15' QUADRANGLE

N4530—W12237.5/7.5

(GLADSTONE)
14-74-1 NE

369



403

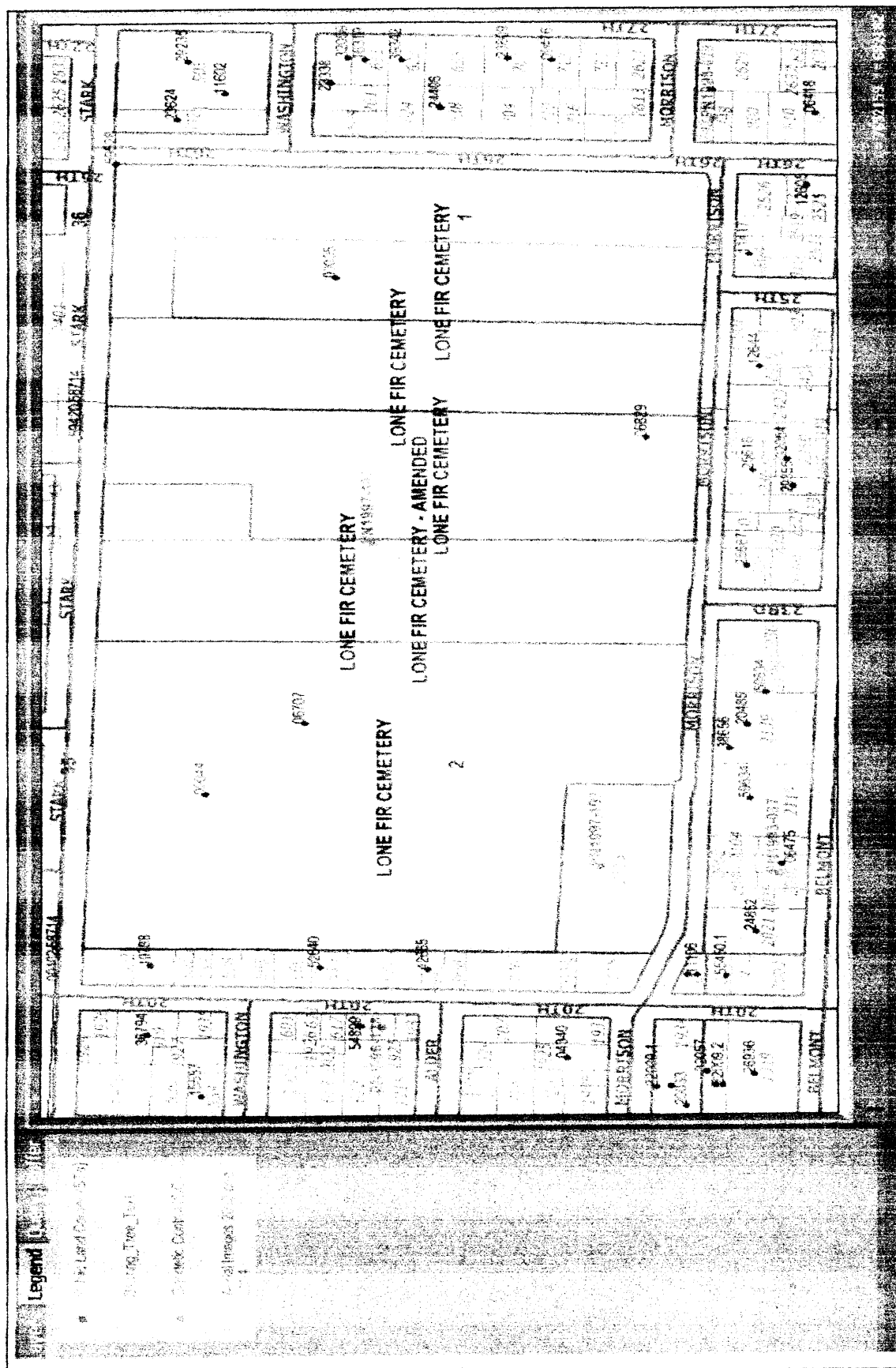
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BELMONT

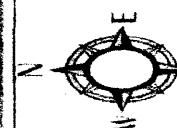
E. YAMHILL

E. TAYLOR

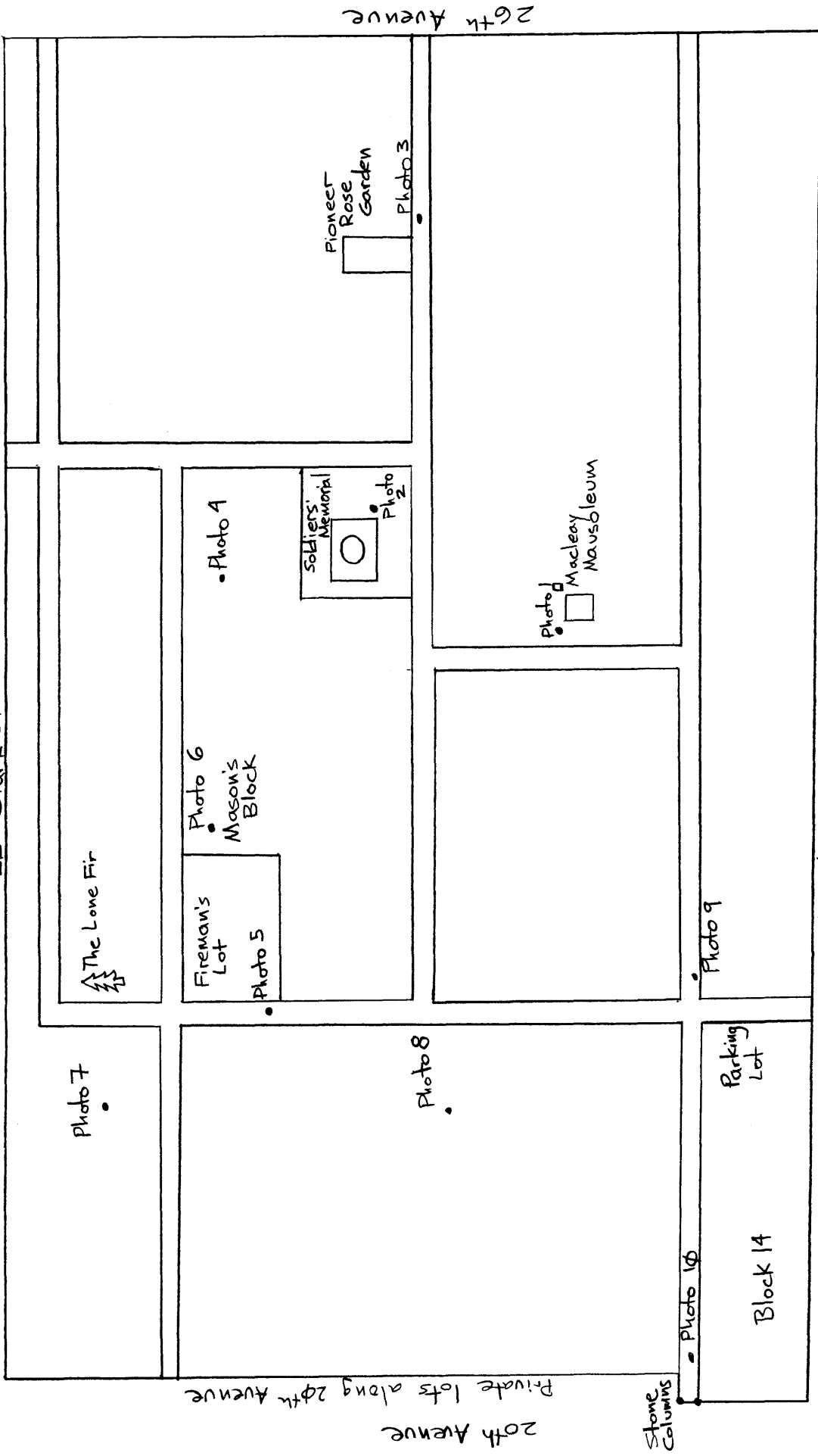
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LOCATION MAP

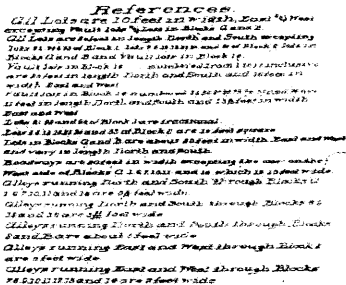


LONE FIR CEMETERY* SE Stark St



* Not field measured

For amended Plat. see back of this page.



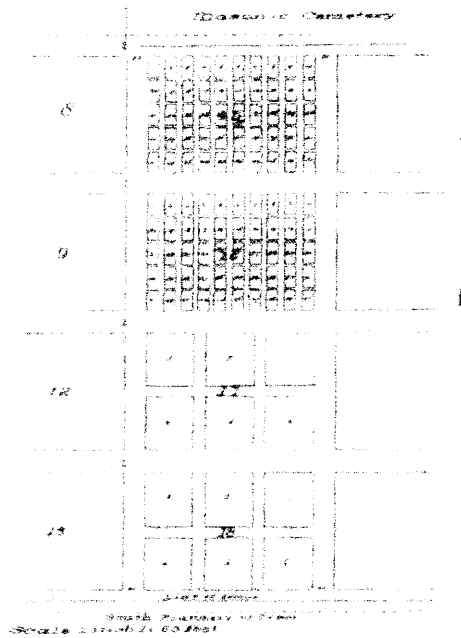
Interim where I've been haven't official name for the purpose of the company the 9th day of June 1890.

to the President
Guthrie, for the Secretary to
the American Society
Guthrie, for the Secretary to

Original Filed in NY Page 204

*Plan of
Blocks 12, 16, 17 & 18 Long Fir Cemetery
as laid out by the Portland Long Fir
Cemetery Company*

I announced that we were up
the page



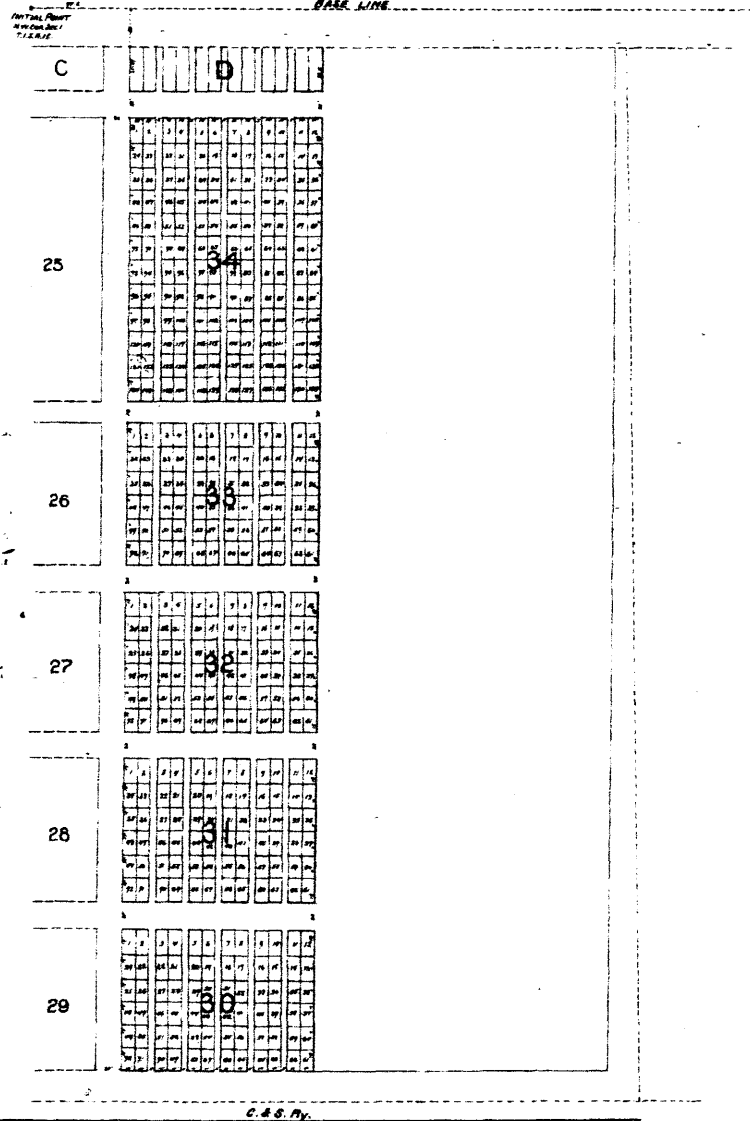
Plat of *31, 32, 33 & 34* in
BLOCKS D. 30, 31, 32, 33 & 34 in
LONE FIR CEMETERY

SCALE 1 INCH = 50 FT.

SEC. 17, T. 1 S., R. 1 E.

A. E. HAMMOND, C.E.

*For amended Plat see back of
 this page*



Dedication on Page 30

PLAT MAP 1894

Know all men by these presents, that we B. O. Cardwell, President, and Emma H. Anderson, Secretary, of the Portland Lone Fir Cemetery Company, a company organized and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Oregon, do hereby declare the accompanying map to be the true map showing Block D and Blocks 30 to 34, both inclusive, in Lone Fir Cemetery, the same being a second addition to the original tract as laid out by said Portland Lone Fir Cemetery Company. Said addition is situated in section one (1) Township one (1) South range one (1) east of the Willamette Meridian. And we do hereby dedicate to the use of the public all roadways and alleyways as shown on said map. In witness whereof we have hereunto affixed our signatures and the corporate seal of the company this 19th day of November A.D. 1894.

In presence of: H. F. Borden - H. K. Hunsacker

State of Oregon }
County of Multnomah }

B. O. Cardwell President
Emma H. Anderson Secretary

Be it remembered that on this 21st day of November A.D. 1894 before me, the undersigned a Notary Public in and for said County and State personally appeared the within named B. O. Cardwell, President and Emma H. Anderson, Secretary of the Portland Lone Fir Cemetery Company, a corporation who are known to me to be the identical individuals described in and who executed the within instrument and acknowledged to me that they executed the same freely and voluntarily and for the uses and purposes therein mentioned, and as the President and Secretary of and for and on behalf of, said corporation, and caused the seal of said corporation to be affixed thereto by virtue of authority in them vested, so to do. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and notarial seal the day and year last above written.

State of Oregon }
County of Multnomah }

I B. Thompson
Notary Public for Oregon

Be it remembered that on this 19th day of November A.D. 1894 before me, the undersigned a Notary Public in and for said County and State personally appeared the within named D. E. Hammond being first duly sworn depose and say, that he has accurately surveyed and marked with proper monuments the land as represented on the accompanying plat of Block D and Blocks 30 to 34, both inclusive, of Lone Fir Cemetery, said blocks are situated in section one Township one South and range one east of the Willamette Meridian, using as my initial point the northwest corner of said section one, at which point there was already a stone monument about 10 inches square, on top of which is a small marble slab said slab lies on a 75 to 80 feet west, and 30 feet north of the N.W. cor. of Block D.

State of Oregon }
County of Multnomah }

D. E. Hammond
H. K. Hunsacker

I M. Hinchburn City Surveyor
H. O. Grady Asst. of Clerk

Approved Nov 26th 1894 at 1st clock P.M.

For amended Plat, see
back of this page

Know all men by these presents, that we B. P. Chavess, President and Emma H. Anderson, Secretary of the Portland Lone Fir Cemetery Company a Company organized and doing business under and by virtue of the laws of the State of Oregon, do hereby declare the accompanying map to be the true map showing Block E. 35, 36, 37 and 38 in Section 11, Township 11 North, Range 1 East of the Willamette Meridian, and we do hereby dedicate to the use of the public all the roadways and alleyways as shown on said map. In witness whereof we have hereunto affixed our signatures and corporate seals of the Company this 16th day of March, A.D. 1901.

In Presence of
J. J. SCHNEIDERMAN
Corporal Seal of the Portland Lone Fir Cemetery Company
B. P. Chavess, President
Emma H. Anderson, Secretary

State of Oregon } ss.
County of Multnomah }
Be it remembered that on this 16th day of March, A.D. 1901, before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said County and State personally appeared the within named B. P. Chavess, President, and Emma H. Anderson, Secretary of the Portland Lone Fir Cemetery Company, a corporation, who are known to me to be the identical individuals described in and who executed the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that they executed the same freely and voluntarily and for the uses and purposes therein mentioned, and as the President and Secretary of and for and on behalf of said corporation and caused the Seal of said corporation to be affixed thereto by virtue of authority in them vested to do.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this day and year last above mentioned.

Notary Seal
H. J. SCHNEIDERMAN
Notary Public for Oregon.

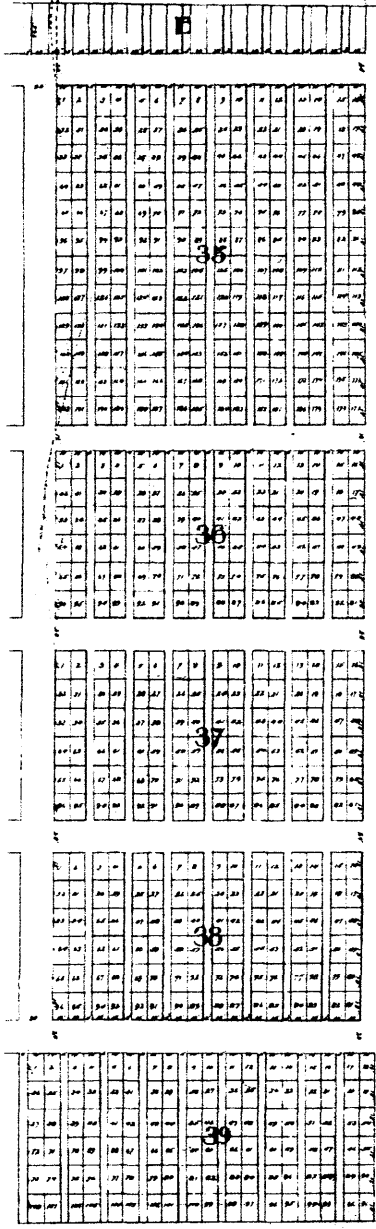
State of Oregon } ss.
County of Multnomah }
I, Wm. C. Elliott, being first duly sworn, depose and say that I have accurately surveyed and marked with proper monuments the land so represented on the accompanying map of Blocks E. 35, 36, 37 and 38 of Lone Fir Cemetery, said Blocks are situated in Section 11 Township 11 North Range 1 East of Willamette Meridian, using as a point the North-west Corner of Section 11, T. 11 N. R. 1 E. at which point was a stone monument 10 inches square, said Section Corner is 160.6 feet West, and 82.6 feet North of the North-west Corner of Block 35.

Wm. C. Elliott.

State of Oregon } ss.
County of Multnomah }
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 16th day of March, 1901.

Notary Seal
T. H. WARD
Notary Public for Oregon.

Filed for Record
March 20, 1901, at 9:00 AM



AMENDED

OF

LONG RIVER

SCALE 40 FEET

100 FEET

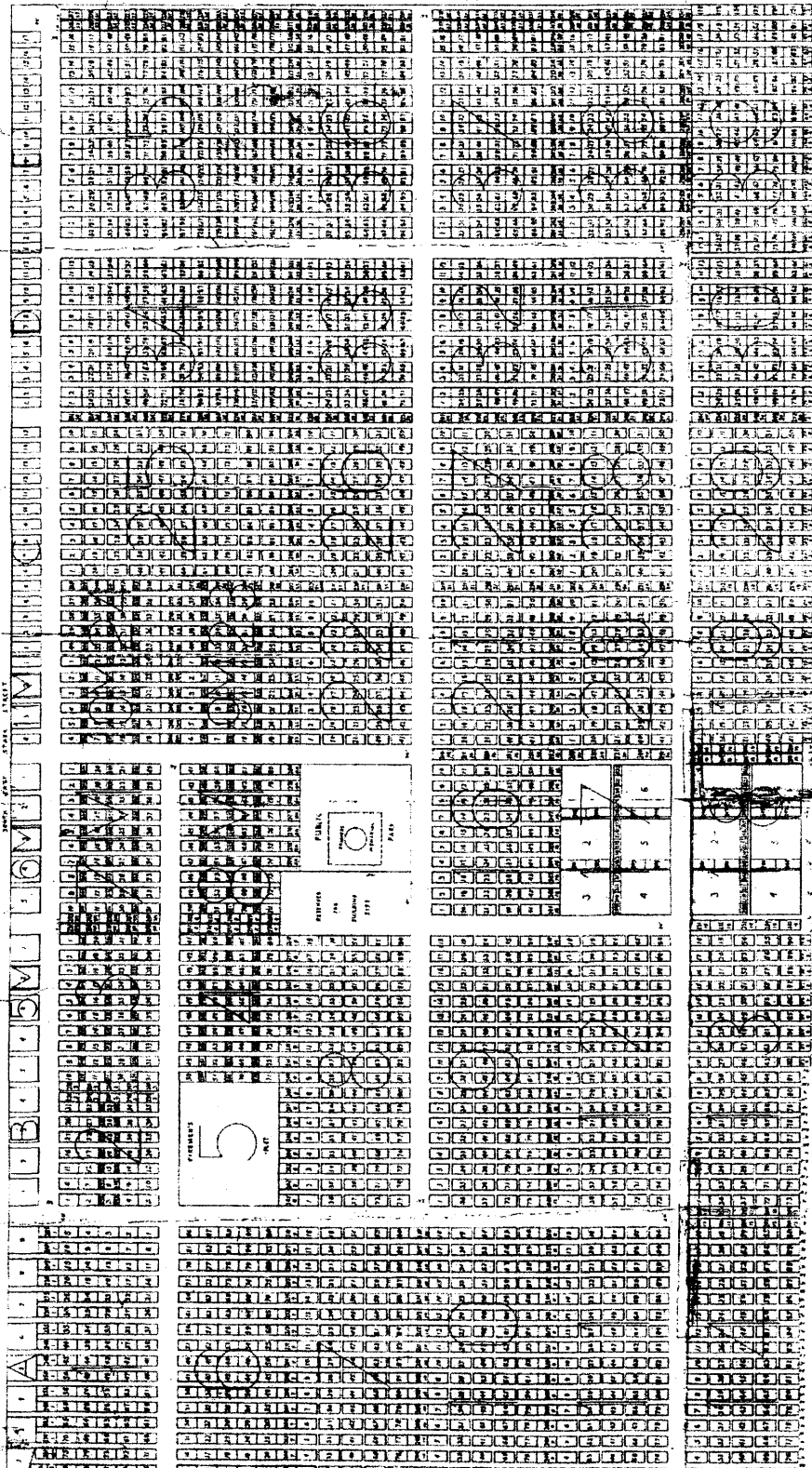
300000 1000 1000 1000

APPROVED

RECORDED

INDEXED

FILED



Plat Map 1944

S.E. STARK ST

S.E. HARRISON ST

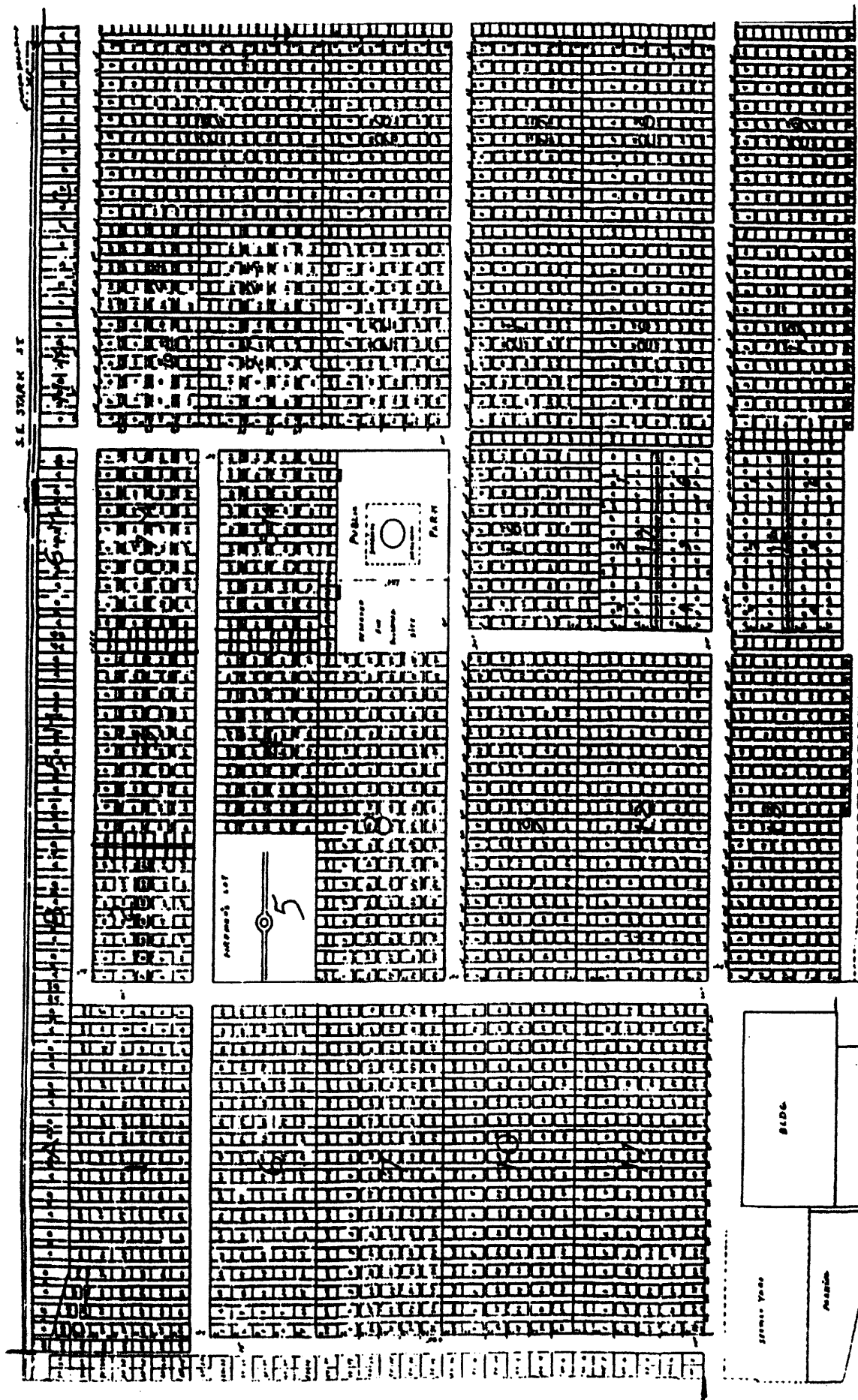


LONE FIR CEMETERY

January 1900

AMENDED PLAT 1859-1880

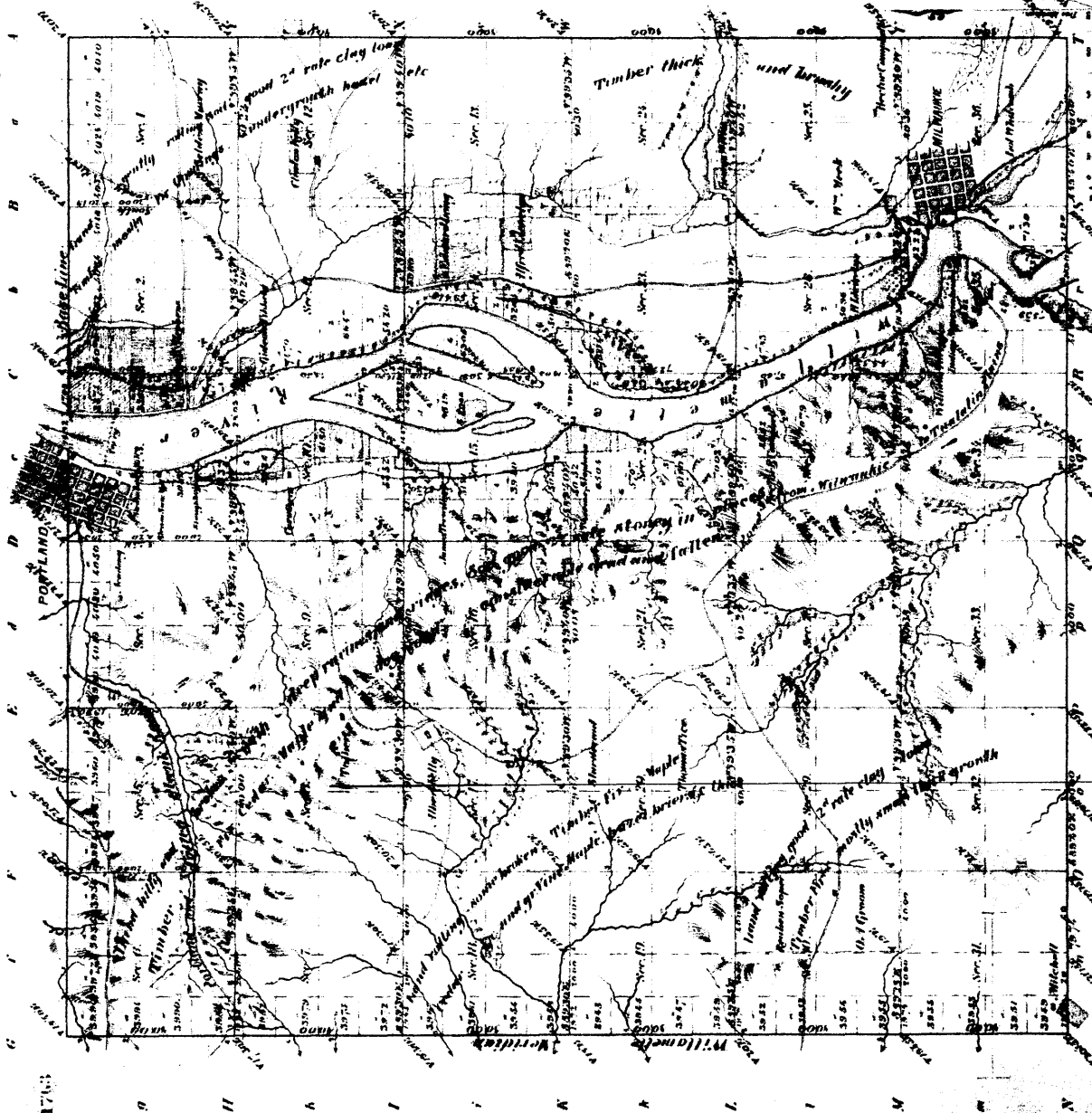
SCALE 1"=40'
NE 15.8 E 12





**ARBORETUM
LONE FIR CEMETERY**

Township No 1 South Range No 1 East of the Willamette Meridian, Oregon.

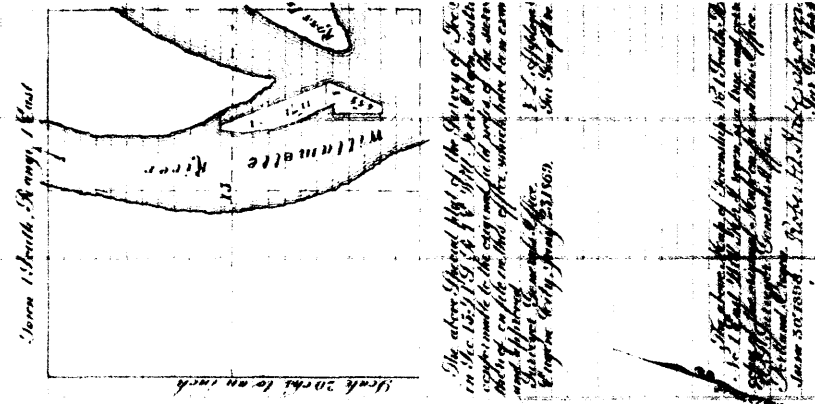


Range	Section	Area of Section	Area of Township	Area of Range	Area of County
1	1	36.00	36.00	36.00	36.00
1	2	36.00	72.00	72.00	72.00
1	3	36.00	108.00	108.00	108.00
1	4	36.00	144.00	144.00	144.00
1	5	36.00	180.00	180.00	180.00
1	6	36.00	216.00	216.00	216.00
1	7	36.00	252.00	252.00	252.00
1	8	36.00	288.00	288.00	288.00
1	9	36.00	324.00	324.00	324.00
1	10	36.00	360.00	360.00	360.00
1	11	36.00	396.00	396.00	396.00
1	12	36.00	432.00	432.00	432.00
1	13	36.00	468.00	468.00	468.00
1	14	36.00	504.00	504.00	504.00
1	15	36.00	540.00	540.00	540.00
1	16	36.00	576.00	576.00	576.00
1	17	36.00	612.00	612.00	612.00
1	18	36.00	648.00	648.00	648.00
1	19	36.00	684.00	684.00	684.00
1	20	36.00	720.00	720.00	720.00
1	21	36.00	756.00	756.00	756.00
1	22	36.00	792.00	792.00	792.00
1	23	36.00	828.00	828.00	828.00
1	24	36.00	864.00	864.00	864.00
1	25	36.00	900.00	900.00	900.00
1	26	36.00	936.00	936.00	936.00
1	27	36.00	972.00	972.00	972.00
1	28	36.00	1008.00	1008.00	1008.00
1	29	36.00	1044.00	1044.00	1044.00
1	30	36.00	1080.00	1080.00	1080.00
1	31	36.00	1116.00	1116.00	1116.00
1	32	36.00	1152.00	1152.00	1152.00
1	33	36.00	1188.00	1188.00	1188.00
1	34	36.00	1224.00	1224.00	1224.00
1	35	36.00	1260.00	1260.00	1260.00
1	36	36.00	1296.00	1296.00	1296.00
1	37	36.00	1332.00	1332.00	1332.00
1	38	36.00	1368.00	1368.00	1368.00
1	39	36.00	1404.00	1404.00	1404.00
1	40	36.00	1440.00	1440.00	1440.00
1	41	36.00	1476.00	1476.00	1476.00
1	42	36.00	1512.00	1512.00	1512.00
1	43	36.00	1548.00	1548.00	1548.00
1	44	36.00	1584.00	1584.00	1584.00
1	45	36.00	1620.00	1620.00	1620.00
1	46	36.00	1656.00	1656.00	1656.00
1	47	36.00	1692.00	1692.00	1692.00
1	48	36.00	1728.00	1728.00	1728.00
1	49	36.00	1764.00	1764.00	1764.00
1	50	36.00	1800.00	1800.00	1800.00

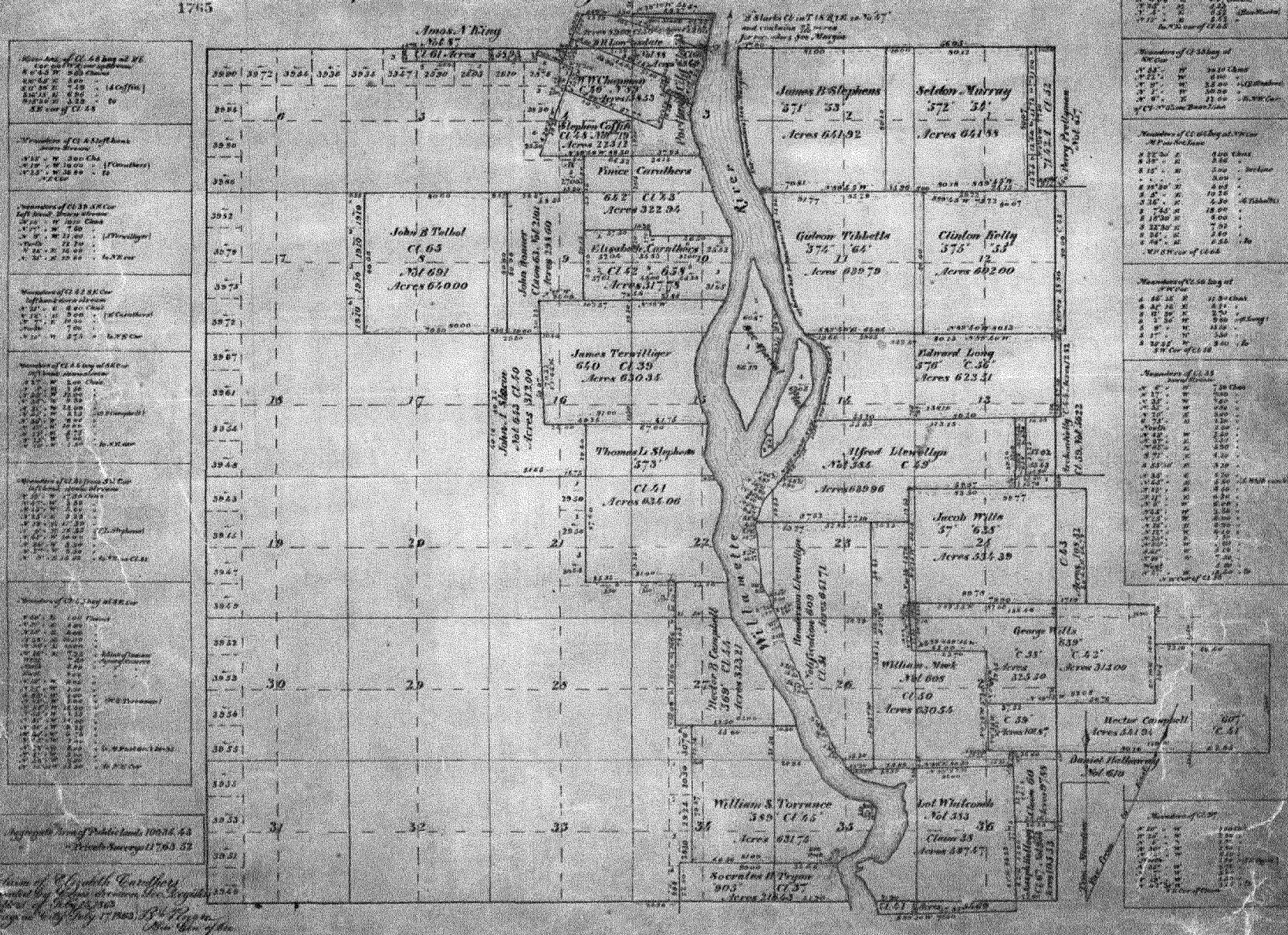
The above map of Township No 1 South Range No 1 East of the Willamette Meridian is a true and correct copy of the original map on file in this office, which has been examined and approved.

Surveyor General's Office
Oregon City, May 20 - 1922

Wm. B. B. B. B.



Ministers of
Peace, Oregon, 1915-1916. Peace, Oregon, 1915-1916. Peace, Oregon, 1915-1916.



The above is a copy of the Survey of 46 farms in Township
No. 3 South Range, No. 1 East Will. This is a
true and correct copy of the original on file in this office.
Respectfully Submitted, Robert J. McLaughlin
Deputy Assessor

The above, being of the Garrison of Colma in November 1848, is
deposited in the office of the District Attorney, and is strictly
confidential. To the public notice of the Garrison is hereby given
that all those who have been examined and approved
by the District Attorney, are
Sergeant General of the
Garrison of Colma, 1848.

1927

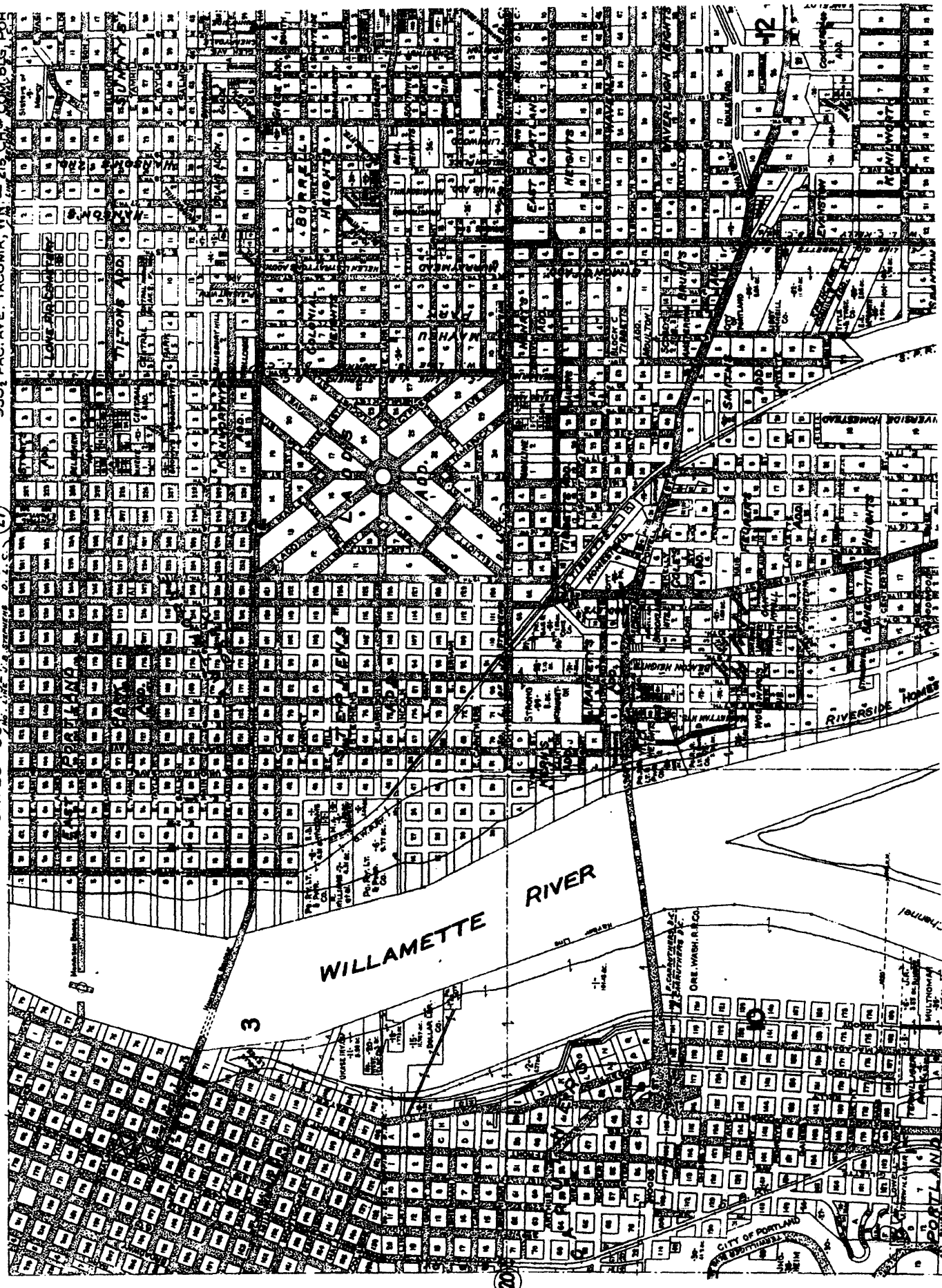
METSKER'S ATLAS OF MULTNOMAH CO. ORE.

T. I. S. R. I. E.

SCALE 1 IN. = 1000 FT.
DATED OCT. 1927.

(11)

"METSKER THE MAP MAN"
930 1/2 PAC. AVE. TACOMA, W.N. — 215 CH. COM. B'G. POR



Lone Fir Cemetery
Name of Property

Multnomah Co., OR
County and State

NPS Form 10-900-a

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number Photographs Page 1

Photograph information:

Location: 2115 SE Morrison St, Portland, OR.
District Name: Lone Fir Cemetery
Photographer: Ian P. Johnson, Oregon SHPO staff
Date of Photographs: 8 June 2007
Printing Materials
 Paper: Epson Premium Glossy
 Ink: Epson UltraChrome pigmented ink

Photo log:

1 of 10	Macleay Mausoleum and brick maintenance shed (background), looking SW at north and east facades
2 of 10	Soilders' Memorial, looking NW
3 of 10	Pioneer Rose Garden, looking NE
4 of 10	Overview of park grounds, looking S
5 of 10	Fireman's block, looking NE
6 of 10	Fraternal Order of Masons block, looking SE
7 of 10	Lone Fir Cemetery's namesake lone fir, looking E
8 of 10	Block 14 (background) looking S through the cemetery
9 of 10	Overview of park grounds and circulation, looking NE
10 of 10	Stone entrance Pillars off original Stark Street entrance, looking W (structure to right of frame is outside the boundary described in Section 10)



Lone Fir Cemetery
Multnomah Co, OR
1 of 10



Lone Fir Cemetery
Multnomah Co, OR
2 of 10



Lone Fir Cemetery
Multnomah Co., OR

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Lone Fir Cemetery
Multnomah Co., OR
4 of 10.



Lone Fir Cemetery
Multnomah Co., OR
5 of 10



Lone Fir Cemetery
Multnomah, Co., OR
6 of 10



Lone Fir Cemetery
Multnomah, Co., OR
7 of 10



Lone Fir Cemetery
Multhornah Co., OR

8 of 10



Lone Fir Cemetery
Multnomah Co., OR

9 of 10



Lone Fir Cemetery
Multnomah Co., OR
10 of 10

2024 Cemetery Grants

Heritage and Community Programs, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department

Approved

Applicant	Project Description	County	Grant Request	Grant Award	Match
Antelope Community Church	Install a secure entry gate and at 4-foot person gate and repair markers at the Antelope Cemetery in Wasco County.	Wasco	\$10,900	\$10,900	\$5,800
Blue Mountain Kees Cemetery	Complete Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) survey interpretation and complete the annexation of the private cemetery to public tax district ownership at Blue Mountain Kees Cemetery in Umatilla County.	Umatilla	\$2,500	\$2,000	\$1,500
City of Lebanon	Repair nine headstones and purchase materials for headstone cleaning at Lebanon Pioneer Cemetery in Linn County.	Linn	\$8,000	\$5,025	\$300
City of Medford	Repair, restore and level about 22 monuments at the IOOF Eastwood Cemetery in Medford.	Jackson	\$4,300	\$4,300	\$4,300
Jordan Cemetery Association	Install a fence at the Shelton Jordan Cemetery in Linn County.	Linn	\$6,515	\$6,515	\$6,049
Lee Mission Cemetery Association	Repair and/or level 25 headstones in Lee Mission Cemetery in Salem.	Marion	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$1,884
Logtown Cemetery Association	Trim or remove dead or dying trees at Logtown Cemetery in Jackson County.	Jackson	\$9,000	\$9,000	\$1,000
Luper Cemetery, Inc	Complete marker repair and hold a cleaning workshop at the Luper Cemetery in Lane.	Lane	\$3,476	\$3,476	\$1,738
North Powder Cemetery Maintenance District	Survey the North Powder Cemetery in Union County.	Union	\$2,500	\$2,500	\$1,900
Phoenix Pioneer Cemetery	Remove up to 12 hazardous trees in the Phoenix Cemetery in Jascckson County.	Jackson	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$5,645
Rock Creek Cemetery Association	Repair about 22 headstones at Rock Creek Cemetery in Clackamas County.	Clackamas	\$3,840	\$3,840	\$1,500
Number of Applications: 11			\$64,031	\$60,556	\$31,616
Grand Totals: (all applications)			\$64,031	\$60,556	\$31,616